# STABLE SHAPE AND BROWN'S REPRESENTATION THEOREM

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This paper is based on a part of my joint paper [10] with Jack Segal. Brown's representation theorem is well-known in algebraic topology, where CW-complexes are the main objects which people look at. Just one example that I know as an application of Brown's theorem to general topological spaces is due to Demers [2]. He used the theorem to study topological spaces that have the shape of CW-complexes. In this paper we inroduce one interesting way of applying Brown's theorem in studying stable shape theory

Stable shape theory was first investigated by Lima [5], and various properties for compacta were obtained by Dold and Puppe [3], Henn [4], Nowak [12, 13] and Mrozik [11]. Miyata and Segal [9] then defined stable shape theory for arbitrary topological spaces, using CW-spectra, and proved the Whitehead theorem, and more recently they proved the Hurewicz theorem in this category in [10].

Throughout the paper we assume that all spaces have base points, maps are pointed maps and homotopy maps preserve base points. A space means a topological space with a base point.

## 1. CW-SPECTRA

Let  $CW_{spec}$  denote the category of CW-spectra and maps of CW-spectra. For each space X, the suspension spectrum E(X) of X is the spectrum defined by

$$(E(X))_n = \begin{cases} S^n X & n \ge 0 \\ * & n < 0 \end{cases}$$

Here  $S: \mathbf{Top} \to \mathbf{Top}$  is the functor defined by  $SX = S^1 \wedge X$  for each space X and  $Sf = 1_{S^1} \wedge f$  for each map  $f: X \to Y$  between

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spaces where Top denotes the category of spaces and maps, and let  $S^k = S \circ S^{k-1}$  for  $k \geq 2$  and  $S^1 = S$ . For each map  $f: X \to Y$  between CW-complexes,  $E(f): E(X) \to E(Y)$  is the map of CW-spectra defined by  $(E(f))_n = S^n f: S^n X \to S^n Y$ . Let  $HCW_{spec}$  denote the homotopy category of  $CW_{spec}$ , i.e., the objects of  $HCW_{spec}$  are all CW-spectra and the morphisms are the homotopy classes of maps between CW-spectra.

For any abelian group G, let H(G) denote an Eilenberg-MacLane spectrum i.e.,

$$H(G)_m = \begin{cases} H(G, m) & \text{for } m \ge 1 \\ * & \text{for } m \le 0 \end{cases}$$

where H(G,m) is an Eilenberg-MacLane complex of type (G,m). Let  $\iota: S^0 \to H(\mathbb{Z})$  be a map representing  $1 \in \mathbb{Z} \cong [S^0, H(\mathbb{Z})] \cong \pi_0(H(\mathbb{Z}))$ . Then  $\iota$  induces a natural transformation of homology theories  $T_*(\iota): \pi_*^S \to H(\mathbb{Z})_* = \tilde{H}(\;;\mathbb{Z})$ , where  $\tilde{H}(\;;\mathbb{Z})$  denotes the reduced singular homology theory with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}$ . We write  $h_*^S$  for  $T_*(\iota)$  and call it the stable Hurewicz homomorphism. A space X is said to be stably n-connected if  $\pi_g^S(X) = 0$  for  $g \leq n$ .

Theorem 1 (Stable Hurewicz theorem). If a CW-complex X is (n-1)-stably connected, then the stable Hurewicz homomorphism  $h_q^S: \pi_q^S(X) \to \tilde{H}_q(X;\mathbb{Z})$  is an isomorphism for  $q \leq n$  and an epimorphism for q = n+1.

Theorem 2 (Whitehead theorem). Let  $n \in Z \cup \{\infty\}$ , let  $f: E \to F$  be a map of CW-spectra, which is an n-equivalence, and suppose dim  $E \le n-1$  and dim  $F \le n$ . Then f is a homotopy equivalence of CW-spectra.

The reader is referred to Switzer [15] and Margolis [8] for details about CW-spectra.

## 2. STABLE SHAPE

In this section we recall the construction of generalized stable shape. The reader is referred to Miyata and Segal [10] for more details.

Let HCW denote the homotopy category of spaces having the homotopy type of CW-complexes and maps. Let  $\mathbf{p} = (p_{\lambda} : \lambda \in \Lambda) : X \to \mathbf{X} = (X_{\lambda}, p_{\lambda\lambda'}, \Lambda)$  be an HCW-expansion of a space X in the sense of Mardešić and Segal [10], and let  $E(\mathbf{X}) = (E(X_{\lambda}), E(p_{\lambda\lambda'}), \Lambda)$  be the inverse system in HCW<sub>spec</sub> induced by the inverse system  $\mathbf{X}$  in HCW. A morphism  $\mathbf{e} : E(\mathbf{X}) \to \mathbf{E} = (E_a, e_{aa'}, A)$  in pro-HCW<sub>spec</sub> is said to be a generalized expansion of X in HCW<sub>spec</sub> provided the following universal property is satisfied:

(U): If  $f: E(X) \to F$  is a morphism in pro-HCW<sub>spec</sub> then there exists a unique morphism  $g: E \to F$  in pro-HCW<sub>spec</sub> such that f = ge.

One should note here that the definition of a generalized expansion does not depend on the choice of the HCW-expansion p. Also note that for any two generalized expansions  $e: E(X) \to E$  and  $e': E(X) \to E'$  in  $HCW_{spec}$  there exists a unique isomorphism  $i: E \to E'$  in  $pro-HCW_{spec}$  (which we call the natural isomorphism) such that ie = e'. It is easy to see that the identity induced morphism  $E(X) \to E(X)$  is a generalized expansion of X in  $HCW_{spec}$ .

Theorem 3. A morphism in pro-HCW<sub>spec</sub>,  $e: E(X) \to E = (E_a, e_{aa'}, A)$ , where  $p = (p_{\lambda}): X \to X = (X_{\lambda}, p_{\lambda\lambda'}, \Lambda)$  is an HCW-expansion of any space X, is a generalized expansion in HCW<sub>spec</sub> if and only if e is an isomorphism in pro-HCW<sub>spec</sub>.

Theorem 4. Let  $e: E(X) \to E = (E_a, e_{aa'}, A)$  be a morphism in pro-HCW<sub>spec</sub> which is represented by a morphism  $(e_a, \varphi)$  of inverse systems where  $p = (p_\lambda): X \to X = (X_\lambda, p_{\lambda\lambda'}, \Lambda)$  is an HCW-expansion of any space X. Then e is a generalized expansion in HCW<sub>spec</sub> if and only if the following two conditions are satisfied:

(GE1): Every morphism  $h: E(X_{\lambda}) \to F$  in  $HCW_{spec}$  admits  $a \in A$  and a morphism  $g_a: E_a \to F$  in  $HCW_{spec}$  such that  $hE(p_{\lambda\lambda'}) = g_a e_a E(p_{\varphi(a)\lambda'})$  for some  $\lambda' \geq \lambda$ ,  $\varphi(a)$ .

(GE2): If  $g_a, h_a : E_a \to F$  are morphisms in HCW<sub>spec</sub> such that  $g_a e_a E(p_{\varphi(a)\lambda}) = h_a e_a E(p_{\varphi(a)\lambda})$  for some  $\lambda \geq \varphi(a)$ , then there exists  $a' \geq a$  such that  $g_a e_{aa'} = h_a e_{aa'}$ .

We use generalized expansions to define the generalized stable shape category  $\operatorname{Sh}_{spec}$  for spaces as follows: Let ob  $\operatorname{Sh}_{spec}$  be the set of all spaces and CW-spectra. For any  $X,Y\in\operatorname{ob}\operatorname{Sh}_{spec}$ , let  $\mathcal{E}_{(X,Y)}$  denote the set of all morphisms  $g:E\to F$  in  $\operatorname{pro-HCW}_{spec}$  where E is either a rudimentary system (X) (if X is a CW-spectrum) or the inverse system of CW-spectra such that  $e:E(X)\to E=(E_a,e_{aa'},A)$  is a generalized expansion of X in  $\operatorname{HCW}_{spec}$  (if X is a space), and similarly for F. We define an equivalence relation  $\sim$  on  $\mathcal{E}_{(X,Y)}$  as follows: for  $g:E\to F$  and  $g':E'\to F'$  in  $\mathcal{E}_{(X,Y)}, g\sim g'$  if and only if jg=g'i in  $\operatorname{pro-HCW}_{spec}$  where  $i:E\to E'$  and  $j:F\to F'$  are the natural isomorphisms. We define a morphism from X to Y as each equivalence class of  $\mathcal{E}_{(X,Y)}$ , and hence the set of morphisms from X to Y,  $\operatorname{Sh}_{spec}(X,Y)=\mathcal{E}_{(X,Y)}/\sim$ . We write  $Sh_{spec}(X)=Sh_{spec}(Y)$  provided X is equivalent to Y in  $\operatorname{Sh}_{spec}$ . The stable shape category for compacta defined by Dold and Puppe [3]

and Henn [4] can be embedded in  $\operatorname{Sh}_{spec}$ . Let  $\operatorname{Sh}$  denote the pointed shape category for spaces in the sense of Mardešić and Segal [10]. We write  $\operatorname{Sh}(X) = \operatorname{Sh}(Y)$  provided X is equivalent to Y in  $\operatorname{Sh}$ . Then there exists a functor  $\Xi: \operatorname{Sh} \to \operatorname{Sh}_{spec}$  and we have

Theorem 5. For any spaces X and Y, if  $Sh(S^kX) = Sh(S^kY)$  for some  $k \geq 0$  then  $Sh_{spec}(X) = Sh_{spec}(Y)$ . Conversely, for any compact Hausdorff spaces X and Y with finite shape dimension (see Mardešić and Segal [10, II, §1]), if  $Sh_{spec}(X) = Sh_{spec}(Y)$ , then  $Sh(S^kX) = Sh(S^kY)$  for some  $k \geq 0$ .

**Example.** There exists a finite polyhedron P with  $\pi_1(P) \neq 0$  but whose suspension SP is contractible. Indeed, let P be the homological 3-sphere with an open 3-simplex removed from its triangulation. Then  $Sh(P) \neq Sh(*)$  but  $Sh_{spec}(P) = Sh_{spec}(*)$ . There is also a non-polyhedral example. Let X be the 1-dimensional acyclic continuum ("figure eight"-like continuum) described by Case and Chamberlin [1]. Then X is non-movable, so that  $Sh(X) \neq Sh(*)$ , but its suspension SX is of trivial shape i.e., Sh(SX) = Sh(\*) (see Mardešić [6]), so that  $Sh_{spec}(X) = Sh_{spec}(*)$ .

## 3. WHITEHEAD AND HUREWICZ THEOREMS

In order to state Whitehead theorems in  $\mathbf{Sh}_{spec}$ , we need notions of dimension in this category. For  $k, n \in Z$  with  $k \leq n$  and for every space X, we say the stable shape dimension  $k \leq \mathrm{sd}_{spec}X \leq n$  if whenever  $e: E(X) \to E = (E_a, e_{aa'}, A)$  is a generalized expansion in  $\mathbf{HCW}_{spec}$ , then every  $a \in A$  admits  $a' \geq a$  such that  $e_{aa'}$  factors in  $\mathbf{HCW}_{spec}$  through a CW-spectrum F such that i) dim  $F \leq n$  and ii) whenever  $e \neq *$  is a cell of F, dim  $e \geq k$ . For  $k, n \in Z$ , we say the stable shape dimension  $k \leq \mathrm{sd}_{spec}X \leq \infty$  (respectively,  $-\infty \leq \mathrm{sd}_{spec}X \leq n$ ) if whenever  $e: E(X) \to E = (E_a, e_{aa'}, A)$  is a generalized expansion in  $HCW_{spec}$ , then every  $a \in A$  admits  $a' \geq a$  such that  $e_{aa'}$  factors in  $\mathbf{HCW}_{spec}$  through a CW-spectrum F such that whenever  $e \neq *$  is a cell of F, dim  $e \geq k$  (respectively, dim  $e \leq a$ ).

For  $-\infty < k \le n < \infty$ , it is obvious that  $k \le \operatorname{sd}_{spec} X \le n$  implies  $k \le \operatorname{sd}_{spec} X \le n+1$  and  $k-1 \le \operatorname{sd}_{spec} X \le n$ , and that  $k \le \operatorname{sd}_{spec} X \le n$  implies  $k \le \operatorname{sd}_{spec} X \le \infty$  and  $-\infty \le \operatorname{sd}_{spec} X \le n$ .

Those notions are invariant in  $\mathbf{Sh}_{spec}$ , and characterizations of stable shape dimension are discussed in [10].

Theorem 6. For every space X of  $sdX < \infty$ ,  $0 \le sd_{spec}X \le sdX$ .

**Example.** Let X be the 1-dimensional acyclic continuum of Case and Chamberlin [1]. Then sdX = 1, but  $0 \le sd_{spec}X \le 0$  as  $Sh_{spec}(X) = Sh_{spec}(*)$ .

There also exists a compactum X such that

$$sdX = \infty$$
 and  $-\infty \leq sd_{spec}X \leq n$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ 

The reader should see [14, p. 46] where a movable continuum X with infinite sd such that the suspension of X has trivial shape is given. More specifically,  $X = \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} P_i$  where  $P_i$  is the complement of an open ball in the Poincaré manifold.

Now we wish to Čech-extend the definition of  $\pi_n$  on  $HCW_{spec}$  over  $Sh_{spec}$ . For each space X, the n-th stable pro-homotopy group  $pro-\pi_n^S(X)$  is defined as the inverse system  $\pi_n(E(X)) = (\pi_n(E_a), \pi_n(e_{aa'}), A)$ , where  $e: E(X) \to E = (E_a, e_{aa'}, A)$  is a generalized  $HCW_{spec}^s$ -expansion of E(X). This is well-defined up to an isomorphism in pro-groups. Then the n-th stable shape group  $\check{\pi}_n^S(X)$  is defined as the limit group  $\lim pro-\pi_n(E)$ .

For each morphism  $G: X \to Y$  in  $\operatorname{Sh}_{spec}$ , we define the morphism in pro-groups  $pro-\pi_n^S(G): pro-\pi_n^S(X) \to pro-\pi_n^S(Y)$  as  $pro-\pi_n(g): \pi_n(E) \to \pi_n(F)$ , where  $e: E(X) \to E$  and  $f: E(Y) \to F$  are  $\operatorname{HCW}_{spec}$ -expansions of X and Y, respectively, and  $g: E \to F$  is a representative of G. This is well-defined up to an isomorphism in pro-groups. It is a routine to check  $pro-\pi_n^S$  is a functor from  $\operatorname{Sh}_{spec}$  to  $\operatorname{pro-Gp}$  and that  $\check{\pi}_n^S$  is a functor from  $\operatorname{Sh}_{spec}$  to  $\operatorname{Gp}$ .

A morphism  $G: X \to Y$  in  $\operatorname{Sh}_{spec}$  is said to be an n-equivalence if the induced morphism in pro-groups  $\operatorname{pro-}\pi_k^S(G): \operatorname{pro-}\pi_k^S(X) \to \operatorname{pro-}\pi_k^S(Y)$  is an isomorphism for  $k=0,\ldots,n-1$  and an epimorphism for k=n.

Now we are ready to state the Whitehead theorems in  $Sh_{spec}$ .

Theorem 7. Let  $G: X \to Y$  be a morphism in  $\operatorname{Sh}_{spec}$ , which is an n-equivalence. Suppose that  $-\infty \leq sd_{spec}X \leq n-1$  and  $k \leq sd_{spec}Y \leq n$   $(k, n \in \mathbb{Z})$ . Then G is an isomorphism in  $\operatorname{Sh}_{spec}$ .

Remark. The infinite-dimensionality of the above theorems cannot be omitted. Recall the example in Mardešić and Segal [7, Example 1, p.153].

For  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , a space X is said to be stable shape n-connected if  $pro-\pi_q^S(X) = 0$  for  $q \leq n$ .

Theorem 8. If a space X is stable shape (n-1)-connected for  $n \geq 1$ , then the stable Hurewicz homomorphism  $\operatorname{pro-h}_q^S: \operatorname{pro-}\pi_q^S(X) \to \operatorname{pro-}\tilde{H}_q(X;\mathbb{Z})$  is an isomorphism for  $q \leq n$  and an epimorphism for q = n + 1.

## 4. Brown's representation theorem

Let  $HCW_{spec}^f$  denote the full subcategory of  $HCW_{spec}$  whose objects are all finite CW-spectra. For each CW-spectrum E, let  $E_*$  and  $E^*$  denote the homology and cohomology theories associated with E, respectively. We now recall the following version of Brown's representation theorem (see Switzer [15, Theorems 14.35 and 14.36] and Margolis [8, Section 4.3]).

- Theorem 9. i) Let  $h_*$  be a homology theory on  $HCW^f_{spec}$ . Then there exist a CW-spectrum E and a natural equivalence  $\tau_f: E_* \to h_*$ .
  - ii) Let  $h_*$  be a homology theory on  $HCW_{spec}$  with the following property:
    - (D): For any CW-spectrum G, the inclusion maps  $i_{\alpha}: G_{\alpha} \hookrightarrow G$  of finite subspectra  $G_{\alpha}$  into G induce the isomorphism:

$$\tau = \underset{\alpha}{\operatorname{colim}} i_{\alpha *} : \underset{\alpha}{\operatorname{colim}} h_q(G_{\alpha}) \longrightarrow h_q(G) \text{ for each } q \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Then there exist a CW-spectrum E and a natural equivalence  $\tau: E_* \to h_*$  which extends the natural equivalence  $\tau_f$  on  $HCW^f_{spec}$  of (i).

iii) Let  $h_*$  and  $h'_*$  be homology theories on  $HCW^f_{spec}$ , and let E and E' be the CW-spectra corresponding to  $h_*$  and  $h'_*$ , respectively. Then each natural transformation  $T:h_0\to h'_0$  admits a map  $f:E\to E'$  such that the following diagram commutes for each finite CW-spectrum G:

$$h_0(G) \xrightarrow{T(G)} h'_0(G)$$

$$\tau(G) \uparrow \qquad \qquad \uparrow \tau'(G)$$

$$[S^0, E \wedge G] \xrightarrow{T_f(G)} [S^0, E' \wedge G]$$

where  $T_f$  is the natural transformation induced by f. Moreover, such an f is unique up to weak homotopy.

- iv) The CW-spectra E in (i) and (ii) are unique up to homotopy.
  - 5. An application of Brown's representation theorem in stable shape

Lemma 10. For any  $X, Y \in \text{ob Sh}_{spec}$ ,  $\text{Sh}_{spec}(X, Y)$  has the structure of an abelian group.

Let  $\Sigma$  also denote the suspension functor on  $\mathbf{Sh}_{spec}$ , and as before, let  $\Sigma^{k+1} = \Sigma \circ \Sigma^k$  and  $\Sigma^1 = \Sigma$ .

Lemma 11. Let  $X, Y \in \text{ob Sh}_{spec}$ . Then there is a natural bijection:

$$\Sigma: \mathbf{Sh}_{spec}(X,Y) \to \mathbf{Sh}_{spec}(\Sigma X, \Sigma Y)$$

Let Ab denote the category of abelian groups and homomorphisms. For each  $q \in \mathbb{Z}$  and for each space Z, we define the covariant functor  $Z_q : \mathbf{HCW}_{spec} \to \mathbf{Ab}$  as follows:

$$Z_{q} = \begin{cases} \mathbf{Sh}_{spec}(\Sigma^{q}Z, \_) & \text{for } q \ge 0\\ \mathbf{Sh}_{spec}(Z, \Sigma^{-q}\_) & \text{for } q < 0 \end{cases}$$

and also define the natural equivalence  $\sigma_q: Z_q \to Z_{q+1} \circ \Sigma$  as follows: for each CW-spectrum G,

$$\sigma_{q}(G): \left\{ \begin{array}{l} Z_{q}(G) \xrightarrow{\Sigma} Z_{q+1}(\Sigma G) & \text{for } q \geq 0 \\ Z_{q}(G) \xrightarrow{=} Z_{q+1}(\Sigma G) & \text{for } q < 0 \end{array} \right.$$

Lemma 12. For each  $Z \in \text{ob Sh}_{spec}$ ,  $Z_* = (Z_q, \sigma_q : q \in \mathbb{Z})$  forms a homology theory on  $HCW_{spec}$ .

**Lemma 13.** For each compact Hausdorff space Z, the homology theory  $Z_*$  has the property D.

Lemma 14. For any Z,  $Z' \in \text{ob Sh}_{spec}$ ,  $Z_*$  is naturally equivalent to  $Z'_*$  on  $HCW_{spec}$  if and only if  $Sh_{spec}(Z) = Sh_{spec}(Z')$ .

Theorem 15. Let  $Comp_{spec}$  denote the full subcategory of  $Sh_{spec}$  whose objects are all compact Hausdorff spaces, and let  $WCW_{spec}$  denote the category of CW-spectra and weak homotopy equivalence classes.

- i) There exists a contravariant functor  $\Pi: \mathbf{Sh}_{spec} \to \mathbf{WCW}_{spec}$ .
- ii) The restriction  $\Pi|\text{Comp}_{spec}: \text{Comp}_{spec} \to \text{WCW}_{spec}$  is a full embedding.

**Proof:** (outline) For each  $Z \in \text{ob Sh}_{spec}$ ,  $Z_*$  forms a homology theory on  $\mathbf{HCW}_{spec}^f$ . Thus there exist a unique (up to homotopy)  $E \in \text{ob } \mathbf{HCW}_{spec}$  and a natural equivalence  $\tau_f : E_* \to Z_*$  on  $\mathbf{HCW}_{spec}^f$ . Let  $\Pi(Z)$  be the CW-spectrum E. For each  $\varphi \in \mathbf{Sh}_{spec}(Z, Z')$ , there exists an induced natural transformation  $\varphi^* : \mathbf{Sh}_{spec}(Z', -) \to \mathbf{Sh}_{spec}(Z, -)$  on  $\mathbf{HCW}_{spec}^f$ . Then Brown's theorem implies that there exists a unique (up to weak homotopy) map  $f : E' \to E$  such that the following diagram commutes

on  $HCW_{spec}^f$ :

$$\mathbf{Sh}_{spec}(Z', \ \_) \xrightarrow{\varphi^*} \mathbf{Sh}_{spec}(Z, \ \_)$$

$$\uparrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \uparrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad \uparrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad$$

Let  $\Pi(\varphi)$  be the map f. Then  $\Pi: \mathbf{Sh}_{spec} \to \mathbf{WCW}_{spec}$  forms a contravariant functor.

Suppose now that  $Z, Z' \in \text{ob } \mathbf{Comp}_{spec}$  are such that  $\Pi(Z) = \Pi(Z')$  in  $\mathbf{WCW}_{spec}$ . Then there is a natural equivalence  $Z_* \to Z'_*$  on  $\mathbf{HCW}_{spec}$ , so  $Sh_{spec}(Z) = Sh_{spec}(Z')$ . Let  $f: E' \to E$  be a map where  $E = \Pi(Z)$  and  $E' = \Pi(Z')$ . Then, since  $Z_*$  and  $Z'_*$  are homology theories on  $\mathbf{HCW}_{spec}$  with property (D), this induces a natural transformation  $T: \mathbf{Sh}_{spec}(Z', -) \to \mathbf{Sh}_{spec}(Z, -)$  on  $\mathbf{HCW}_{spec}$  such that the following diagram commutes on  $\mathbf{HCW}_{spec}$ :

$$\mathbf{Sh}_{spec}(Z', \_) \xrightarrow{T} \mathbf{Sh}_{spec}(Z, \_)$$

$$\uparrow^{\tau} \qquad \qquad \uparrow^{\tau}$$

$$[S^{0}, E' \land \_] \xrightarrow{T_{f}} [S^{0}, E \land \_]$$

So, there is a unique  $\varphi \in \operatorname{Sh}_{spec}(Z,Z')$  such that  $\varphi^* = T : \operatorname{Sh}_{spec}(Z', \_) \to \operatorname{Sh}_{spec}(Z, \_)$  on  $\operatorname{HCW}_{spec}$ . If  $f, f' : E' \to E$  are weakly homotopic to each other, then  $T_f = T_{f'}$ . This shows that there is a contravariant functor  $\Pi'$  from the range of  $\Pi$  onto  $\operatorname{Comp}_{spec}$  which defines the inverse of  $\Pi$ .  $\square$ 

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