Spring 2019 VT Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT)

Course: ENGE 1216 13948 201901: (13948) Foundations of Engineering-ENGE 1216 13961 201901

Instructor: David Todd Gray *
Response Rate: 60/70 (85.71 %)

1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements: 1A - The instructor was well prepared. **David Todd Gray Response Option** Weight Frequency Percent **Percent Responses** Means Strongly disagree 1.69% 5.42 (1) 5.18 Disagree (2) 0 0.00% Somewhat disagree 1 1.69% (3) Somewhat agree 3 5.08% (4) (5) 20 33.90% Agree Strongly agree (6) 34 57.63% 25 50 100 Question College Department Response Rate Mean STD Median College STD Median Mean STD Median Department Mean 59/70 (84.29%) 5.42 0.89 6.00 20262 5.15 5.00 1923 5.18 1.13 6.00 1.12

1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements: 1B - The instructor presented the subject matter clearly. **David Todd Gray Response Option** Weight Frequency Percent **Percent Responses** Means Strongly disagree 1.72% (1) 1 5.21 5.02 4.89 Disagree (2) 1 1.72% Somewhat disagree (3) 0 0.00% Somewhat agree (4) 5 8.62% (5) 27 46.55% Agree 24 Strongly agree (6) 41.38% 100 Question College Department College Response Rate Mean STD Median STD Median Department STD Median Mean Mean 58/70 (82.86%) 0.95 20149 5.21 5.00 4.89 1.31 5.00 1905 5.02 1.21 5.00

1 - Please indicate the exter	nt to which	you agree	or disag	ree with	each of the	foll	owing sta	tem	ents:							
1C - The instructor provided	d feedback	intended t	o improv	e my co	ourse perforn	nan	ce.									
David Todd Gray																
Response Option		Weig	ght Fred	quency	Percent	Р	ercent Re	espo	nses			Ме	ans			
Strongly disagree		(1))	1	1.72%	1				5.29		4.87	5.06			
Disagree		(2))	0	0.00%							4.67				
Somewhat disagree		(3))	0	0.00%	1										
Somewhat agree		(4))	8	13.79%											
Agree		(5))	20	34.48%											
Strongly agree)	29	50.00%											
			•		•	0	25	50	100	Question	1	College	Departme	nt		
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median		College		Mean		STD	Median		Department	Mean	STE	Me	edian
58/70 (82.86%)	5.29	0.92	5.50		20167		4.87		1.32	5.00		1909	5.06	1.18	5.	5.00

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Instructor: David Todd Gray *
Response Rate: 60/70 (85.71 %)

1D - The instructor foster	ed an atmos _l	phere of mu	tual respec	ct.										
David Todd Gray														
Response Option		Weig	ht Freque	ency Percent	F	Percent Re	espons	ses			Me	eans		
Strongly disagree		(1)	1	1.72%	- 1				5.72		5.26	5.47		
Disagree		(2)	0	0.00%	1									
Somewhat disagree		(3)	0	0.00%	1									
Somewhat agree		(4)	0	0.00%	1									
Agree		(5)	11	18.97%										
Strongly agree		(6)	46	79.31%										
					0	25	50	100	Question	1	College	Departme	nt	
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	ST	D	Median		epartment	Mean	STD	Media
58/70 (82.86%)	5.72	0.74	6.00	20146		5.26	1.1	0	6.00		1908	5.47	0.90	6.00

1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements: 1E - Overall, the instructor's teaching was effective. **David Todd Gray** Percent Responses Means **Response Option** Weight Frequency Percent 1.72% 5.47 Strongly disagree (1) 1 5.05 4.88 0 Disagree (2) 0.00% Somewhat disagree (3) 1 1.72% Somewhat agree (4) 1 1.72% (5) 21 36.21% Agree Strongly agree (6) 34 58.62% 100 Question College Department Response Rate Mean STD STD Median Median College Mean STD Median Department Mean 58/70 (82.86%) 5.47 0.86 6.00 20065 4.88 1.34 5.00 5.05 1.23 5.00 1900

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Response Rate: 60/70 (85.71 %)

2 - 2A - What did the instructor do that most helped in your learning?

David Todd Grav

Response Rate 56/70 (80%)

- He tries to apply what we are learning in class to real life.
- · He made the classroom enjoyable and open for discussion
- He engaged with his students and truly cared about our success.
- · He slowed down when people would get confused and voiced their confusion.
- · Whenever I needed additional help, he was very good to talk to inside and outside of class. He answered all my questions clearly.
- · He was very helpful in class when we had questions and took suggestion that also helped improve class
- Dr. Gray did an amazing job of keeping everyone interested in the class each day. Even if there was a day when the material was fairly boring to learn, he would start and end the class with something entertaining or funny. I loved his style of teaching because it made me excited to come to class each day.
- Mr. Gray tried his best to teach us and make the class enjoyable. Their was some confusion during our drone project, which came from the department.
- Doctor Gray made engineering realistic in the real world that we are going into, which made learning what we are learning far more interesting a valuable to the students eyes.
- · He was understanding of the workload from other classes.
- Makes engineering interesting by using plenty of examples.
- Did well at explaining certain drone building methods and MATLAB code writing
- · Was very "enthusiastic" in his teaching
- · He made class entertaining and fairly enjoyable.
- He was willing to change his original teaching manners when he realized it was creating satisfaction problems.
- He had a really good energy that made me want to do the work instead of simply be obligated to do the work. He was open and approachable with questions and would try and help you as much as nossible
- · He shared with us many of his past experiences from industry to help us understand the uses of some things we were learning.
- He made everything so fur
- He is very relatable and knows how to teach what we are learning about in a certain manner that allows for students to easily understand and hopefully see the practical uses
- Both Engineeringness and Hippobidness made the class fun to come to. I mean sometimes I don't want to go to Calc or to Physics, but I never thought that way about this class-- it's a subject I'm interested in presented in a fun way.
- Dr. Gray walked around a lot during classes to offer help to anyone who needed it. His office hours were also very helpful.
- Dr. Gray was very entertaining to listen to when he lectured, so it was easy to retain the information and pay attention.
- He kept it interesting for the most part.
- · Very funny and entertaining lectures in class.
- I think it's clear to everyone in his class that Dr. Gray deeply cares about us. He allows us to provide feedback, ask questions, or engage with the class in post-class quizzes / exit surveys. Dr. Gray uses this as a jumping board to cater the curriculum around the class and giving us some level of agency over what we cover. This level of mutual respect is effective in keeping the class engaged with and excited about the material.
- · He made sure he talked with every single group and individual one-on-one to improve clarity and answer any questions.
- The Reverent Dr. David Gray is one of the best if not the best instructor I've had at Virginia Tech. Every single class was unique and enjoyable to go to. He was very organized and created an atmosphere of personal learning. I loved all the hands on activities he had us do. One of the most enjoyable parts to his class were his things on Engineeringness, Hippobidness, and all the slide presentation updates. Through Engineeringness we got to learn about his prior experience in the engineering industry and be fascinated by his weird addiction with hippos through hippobidness.
- · Very good office hour
- Humor and time at the beginning of class to get settled in
- He was my friend.
- H e was readily available in every single class and event that we had. He was also ready to answer or find the answer to any questions that we had.
- · Very funny and made the class interesting.
- · Was very laid back as well as understanding of conflicts and was lenient with groups.
- Dr Gray did an amazing job making coming to class fun by always offering a funny attitude, therefore encouraging us to coming to class.
- Dr. Gray did a great job keeping my attention in class every day which can be a problem for me
- Very personable way of teaching compared to my last semester experience. Class was enjoyable with our groups and he made a lot of assignments a small healthy and fun competition, which helped me stay focused on a lot of the work.c
- · He had an exit survey at the end of each class where we could ask questions or report problems we were having and he would address them at the beginning of the next class.
- He was very open to the class and was able to check on how the class found each part of the class. He also took advice on how to better teach the class if we were ever confused. He also related things we learned in class to real world things.
- Dr. Gray made sure to quickly respond to any issues we had with the coursework and was clear with what he wanted with the assignments
- He was very engaging which helped me take in information better.
- very kind and funny teacher who also taught us the material
- · Was understanding and fair with grading
- He made the classroom environment enjoyable and influenced us to want to come to class.
- Gave good feedback throughout our drone project.
- He changed up how he normally would have taught the course based off of our feedback to different assignments

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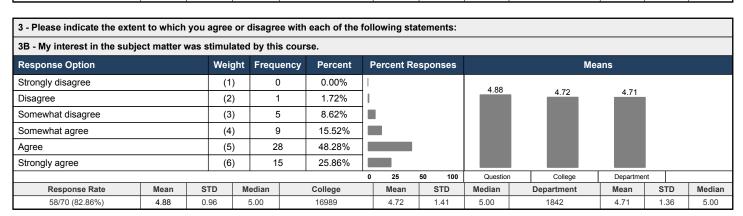
Course: ENGE 1216 13948 201901: (13948) Foundations of Engineering-ENGE 1216 13961 201901

- Dr. Gray is somehow both professional yet casual at the same time. He manages to teach in a professional manner and throws in some jokes that cause his teaching to be both entertaining and educational. He teaches the way classes should be taught.
- He. Made the class very entertaining. He also made sure that we weren't lost in our work
- Dr. Gray always led by example, and practiced what he preached in almost every aspect of the class. He showed us what to do when it came to the online portion of the class by doing it himself, but never gave us the answers rather, he led us to discover the answers ourselves. He pours his time and energy into his job and wants his students to excel and succeed. He graded fairly, and always rewarded those who went above and beyond expectations. He motivated me to do well as a student, something very few teachers have done successfully.
- · He gave constant feedback
- Daily exit surveys allowed Dr. Gray to continuously improve his performance as an instructor. Additionally, starting every class on a light note conditioned me to look forward to each class and want to show up.
- I liked how he related class-activities with real world scenarios.
- · Took our feedback into consideration.
- He was very nice and could relate what we were learning to everyday life.
- Dr. Gray provided a brilliant environment to come to class and learn. Even when the subject was boring or hard to grasp, he was able to recognize and always adapt the lesson to make it more accessible to all students
- Was always active
- Ease the stressful environment of our day, as well as start off the class easy in the intro segment, then gave us the work to do after. This helped us stay motivated through the class period.

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Course: ENGE_1216_13948_201901: (13948) Foundations of Engineering-ENGE_1216_13961_201901

3 - Please indicate the exter	nt to which	you agree	or disagre	ee with ea	ch of the f	ollowing	g sta	tements:						
3A - I have a deeper unders	tanding of	the subject	matter as	a result	of this cou	ırse.								
Response Option		Weig	ht Frequ	iency l	Percent	Percer	nt Re	esponses			Me	ans		
Strongly disagree		(1)	()	0.00%				5.10		5.02	4.87		
Disagree		(2)	()	0.00%						0.02	4.07	1	
Somewhat disagree		(3)	1	1	1.72%									
Somewhat agree		(4)	1	2	20.69%									
Agree		(5)	2	5	43.10%									
Strongly agree		(6)	2	0	34.48%								l	
		,				0 25	i	50 100	Question	n	College	Departme	nt	
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	C	ollege	Mea	an	STD	Median		Department	Mean	STD	Median
58/70 (82.86%)	5.10	0.79	5.00	1	7063	5.0	12	1.17	5.00		1852	4.87	1.20	5.00



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Instructor: David Todd Gray *

Response Rate: 60/70 (85.71 %)

4 - 4A - What could you have done to be a better learner?

Response Rate

51/70 (72.86%)

- I feel I try the hardest I can.
- · Started the projects earlier
- I could have shifted my priorities. I usually focused on other classes before this one.
- · Pay more attention
- To be honest, I think I did as best as I possibly could. I probably did more than I should have in fact.
- · Maybe pay more attention in class
- I could have asked more questions.
- Could have at times paid more attention during class instead of working on other work from other classes.
- Not wait until the last minute to start take home assignments.
- · Research the topics more
- · Not zone out most of the time
- I could have done a better job as project manager.
- · I could have completed write-up assignments with more effort.
- · I could have done work more ahead of time.
- · Pay more attention in class
- I could have gone to office hours more to get help when I needed.
- I could have done assignments (especially MATLAB and SolidWorks) sooner, rather than procrastinating. By doing this I would have been able to go to office hours with any questions I had instead of getting frustrated when I could not figure out how to do something (even with the help of google) and letting my grade (and understanding) suffer.
- I could have pretended to be interested in the subject matter more.
- I could have put more effort into my assignments and pushed myself harder when it came to the projects that we did.
- I could have applied myself more.
- I could have started assignments earlier.
- · Likely ask more questions in class
- I could have done more in-depth research on drones before building.
- The only thing I could've done better in his class is go about and beyond and make sure that I completed everything in his rubrics.
- more communication inside the group
- Been a better friend.
- Have more time to put into MATLAB and solidworks
- N/A
- Attempted to master all tools taught to us such as SolidWorks rather than just doing what I know to help my team
- Tried harder on some of the assigments
- I definitely could have worked harder to understand MatLab and actually apply it
- Spent more time on the earlier assignments in the class
- · I could have given more advice to the teacher
- I could've spent more attention in class. I dozed off a lot due to being tired from cadet life but I should've been more attentive in class
- Been more attentive in class all of the days instead of most.
- I could have been more on top of time management for this class
- · Participated more in class
- I could have definitely put in more effort into my work. As I was not interested in the class itself, I prioritized other classwork in many different cases
- Took notes during the lectures.
- Participate more in out of class group work
- Nothing
- Maybe ask more questions
- I could have put more effort into the assignments, started them earlier and kept better track of my work.
- I could've done more outside of class
- I could have started some assignments earlier.
- I feel that I could've dedicated more time to this course outside of class.
- Started assignments earlier.
- I could have asked more questions and go to more office hours.
- I could've shown up to class more prepared, I did miss a couple classes due to conflicts.
- Some things could have been scheduled differently. For example, I would have preferred if we had started with solidworks then moved to matlab
- Participated more.

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Instructor: David Todd Gray *

Response Rate: 60/70 (85.71 %)

5 - 5A - Please add any additional comments regarding the course and/or instructor here:

David Todd Grav

Response Rate 40/70 (57.14%)

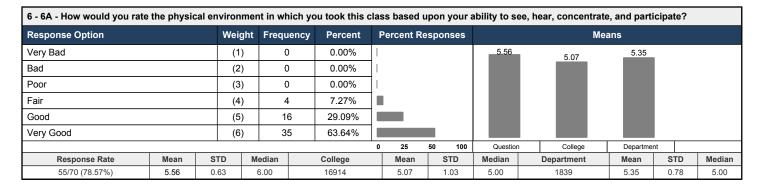
- He is a nice guy, just the course has a lot of loopholes and problems so most of us are always confused on what exactly to do most of the time.
- · He is a great teacher and has a great personality
- · He was really fun, and an awesome instructor
- David Gray was one of my favorite professors this semester. He was interesting, and gave a good introduction into Engineering concepts. I enjoyed having him as a teacher. Not related to the professor, the course could definitely be improved. This course requires you to work with partners on a drone project. It sounds cool when you get a team of 6 people to work on the drone with. But it stops becoming cool when 4 of your partners stop showing up for almost the entire semester, including only 4/6 showing up for class, and 2/6 actually participating on the drone project. David Gray was a great professor and did everything he could to help. But I wish this course did not exist all together because trying to do Solid Works, programming, and building as a two man team is a lot. I was not impressed with most of my partners.
- · I think he was really good and have no problems
- I don't have anything else to add because Dr Gray was an all around amazing teacher.
- The class enjoyed his humor, however, some of the directions could have been clearer
- Cool mustache and effective instructor 1
- Try not to make it too much like a lecture plz
- . This guy needs a raise, VT is shafting him rn.
- I assumed that I would hate 1216 as much as I hated 1215. I loved it and I think it is down to the instructor. He was open with grading and how grades and rubrics were created and what he was going to expect of us. Total god move: he showed us his own evaluation to see how he was doing in the eyes of the department. He talked about his old research which I was super interested in. And the mustache was excellent.
- · Great and humorous teacher. Very fun classes and always in a good mood
- · He is cool
- He is a very cool professor and I like him a lot. He made the classes
- Overall for his first semester teaching 1216, I think Dr. Gray did a very good job. He was always very open to our class and made it clear that he too was learning his way around the course. His work ethic and the amount of effort he puts into job put him above any instructor/professor I've had thus far at Virginia Tech. On the other hand with regards to 1216, I think there is considerable room for improvement, starting with organization. Everything about this class seemed out of order and counter intuitive. We never even built anything until the last 4 weeks of the semester because we spent the first seven weeks working through MATLAB. Also, I think students who know what major they want to go into should be able to pick a project related to that major instead of picking professors and hoping that they're doing the project the student wants.
- Really made the class fun and interesting
- David is awesome. I would recommend him to anyone and everyone.
- The Reverent Dr. Gray really couldn't have done a better job this year. The only thing that he needs to improve on is presenting the rubric and making sure each group understands what needs to get done. But near the end of the semster, the Reverent Dr. Gray was pretty on top of it. He is easily one of the best instructors I've had at Virginia Tech.
- · Very funny and teaches really really well!
- <3
- N/A
- Great teacher- smart, funny, and easy to talk to
- Dr Gray is hilarious and an amazing instructor
- Dr. Gray is my favorite Virginia Tech professor I've had
- He is a good teacher and the class was hurt by the curriculum given to him to teach. This course needs to be changed to encompass engineering in a better way that is still fun and challenging.
- Solid guy who understands what it's like to be a college student
- It was a very fun semester with Rev. Dr. Gray as the instructor.
- Stop teach Matlab, its not a good coding language to be teaching for introductory programming. Its a matrix based programming language that isn't even object oriented. I guarantee if the non-programmers in this class tried their hand at java or python they would be extremely lost as Matlab has not proven much help.
- What a guy
- Dr. Gray is a very enjoyable teacher and made the material as fun and interesting as one could and he really did want the best for all of us.
- Funny guy, kept the class engaged.
- · He did a great job a keeping the class enjoyable while still teaching
- This instructor should be made a professor here at Virginia Tech. He embodies everything that makes a teacher great.
- Dr. Gray is intelligent, witty, and a fantastic teacher. He exceeds expectations, and encourages his students to do the same. It is evident that he cares personally about his students and his job, and that this is more than a day at work for him. He practices what he preaches and leads by example. He is definitely one of my favorite teachers of all time.
- Class was fun
- Dr. Gray is a down-to-earth and relatable person, and he does his best to make sure that everyone actually enjoys being in class. Hearing him talk about his extensive real-world work experience was helpful, because it gave more reason to care about the concepts we were learning.
- He was very helpful during drone testing.
- I hope I have professors who care as much about their students as Dr. Gray does in the rest of my college career.
- Good
- Loved him, great instructor and helped us all enjoy engineering.

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Response Rate: 60/70 (85.71 %)



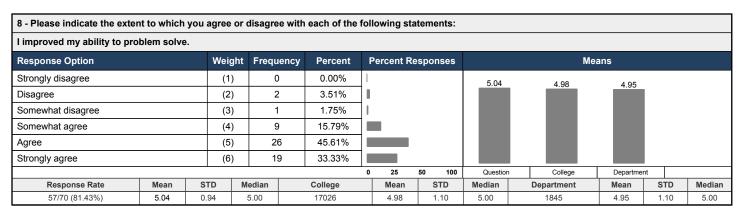
7 - 7A - Please add any comments about the physical environment here:

Response Rate 29/70 (41.43%)

- · Very nice classroom
- The bigger classroom was okay because of the groups we were split up into.
- It was a traditional classroom environment.
- none
- There are far too many tables in that size room. It was hard and/or hazardous to walk around.
- · I like Goodwin. Too bad it's a mile away from my dorm.
- · Goodwin is perfect for study.
- Some of the lectures were a but boring and the way he delivers his lectures can make that even boring. He has a very monotone voice which can make it hard to concentrate. But overall it was very good.
- It's a very nice classroom. Having outlets in the desk is very helpful—there was only one class I didn't have my charger when I needed it whereas I would have been in trouble several times without those outlets.
- The Reverent Dr. Gray created a great environment for students to learn about engineering and encouraged students to continue on their way to what they want to do later on down the road. I also loved learning about Dr. Gray's work and his experience in the industry. I think more instructor should model their class after him.
- $\bullet \ \, \text{The Goodwin classroom was comfortable and had plentiful outlets, by far my favorite classroom this semester } \\$
- Spicy
- I really enjoy the long tables all facing the instructor.
- The environment is good.
- Great environment, very relaxed and anyone is able to talk and ask questions.
- The table power outlets suck. Seriously they didn't work the entire semester. plugs just fall out of the outlets and you have to physically hold them in to work.
- During individual/group work he would play a music from a playlist made by us which was nice.
- Good and comfortable classroom that made it easy to hear whoever was speaking and to see the board.
- The environment was okay, not outstanding but comfortable.
- Dr. Gray created a great environment of learning and entertainment
- · No additional comments
- I liked the way the seating was arranged.
- I want to move the tables but they are rooted for power. This had a significant affect on my learning ability.
- I liked it
- The room in Goodwin was in great condition (far better than Randolph), and even sitting in the back I was able to hear was being said and feel engaged in each lesson.
- · Everyone was friendly
- This classroom was well geared toward the class.
- good
- · Great classroom.

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The textbook or course re	eadings mad	e a valuable	contribution	on to my learning	١.						
Response Option		Weigl	nt Freque	ncy Percent	Percent F	lesponses		Me	ans		
Strongly disagree		(1)	7	12.28%							
Disagree		(2)	7	12.28%			0.75	4.39	3.96		
Somewhat disagree		(3)	8	14.04%			3.75		0.00		
Somewhat agree	Somewhat agree		16	28.07%							
Agree Strongly agree		(5)	9	15.79%							
		(6)	10	17.54%							
		•	•	•	0 25	50 100	Question	College	Department		
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Media
57/70 (81.43%)	3.75	1.61	4.00	16923	4.39	1.52	5.00	1833	3.96	1.64	4.00

The objectives of the cou	rse were clea	rly explain	ed.											
Response Option		Weig	ht Freq	uency	Percent	Р	ercent R	esp	onses		Me	ans		
Strongly disagree		(1)		0	0.00%	1				4.06	4.97	4.04		
Disagree		(2)		3	5.26%					4.86	4.57	4.81		
Somewhat disagree		(3)		2	3.51%									
Somewhat agree		(4)		11	19.30%									
Agree		(5)	- 2	25	43.86%									
Strongly agree		(6)		16	28.07%									
						0	25	50	100	Question	College	Departmer	ıt	
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median		College		Mean		STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Mediar
57/70 (81.43%)	4.86	1.04	5.00		16993		4.97		1.17	5.00	1844	4.81	1.30	5.00

8 - Please indicate the ex	tent to which	you agree	or disagree v	ith each of the	foll	lowing sta	ater	nents:								
The out-of-class assignm	ents were ed	lucationally	valuable.													
Response Option		Weig	ht Frequen	cy Percent	F	Percent R	esp	onses		N	Means					
Strongly disagree		(1)	0	0.00%	1				4.90	4.95						
Disagree		(2)	2	3.45%					4.90	1 4.55	4.70					
Somewhat disagree		(3)	4	6.90%												
Somewhat agree		(4)	11	18.97%												
Agree		(5)	22	37.93%												
Strongly agree		(6)	19	32.76%								l				
		•		•	0	25	50	100	Question	n College	Departme	nt				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean		STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median			
58/70 (82.86%)	4.90	1.05	5.00	16908		4.95		1.22	5.00	1829	4.70	1.30	5.00			

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