

Hilbert spaces^{*}

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References: Brockwell and Davis (1991), Chapter 2.

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1. Inner-product spaces

1.1 Definition INNER PRODUCT SPACE. Let \mathcal{H} be a vector space on a set scalars S , where $S = \mathbb{R}$ or $S = \mathbb{C}$. An inner product on H is an application which associates to each pair of elements x and y in \mathcal{H} a complex number $\langle x, y \rangle$ such that, for all $x, y, z \in \mathcal{H}$,

$$(a) \quad \langle x, y \rangle = \overline{\langle y, x \rangle};$$

$$(b) \quad \langle x + y, z \rangle = \langle x, z \rangle + \langle y, z \rangle;$$

$$(c) \quad \langle \alpha x, y \rangle = \alpha \langle x, y \rangle, \text{ for all } \alpha \in S;$$

$$(d) \quad \langle x, x \rangle \geq 0;$$

$$(e) \quad \langle x, x \rangle = 0 \text{ if and only if } x = 0.$$

If $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ is an inner product on \mathcal{H} , the pair $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ is called an inner product space, and the elements of \mathcal{H} are also called elements of the inner-product space $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$. When there is no ambiguity on the definition of the inner product, the inner-product space $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ may simply be denoted \mathcal{H} .

1.2 Remark If $S = \mathbb{R}$, condition (a) reduces to

$$(a)' \quad \langle x, y \rangle = \langle y, x \rangle.$$

1.3 Definition NORM ASSOCIATED WITH AN INNER PRODUCT. The norm of an element x of an inner-product space $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ is defined by

$$\|x\| = \sqrt{\langle x, x \rangle}. \quad (1.1)$$

1.4 Example EUCLIDEAN SPACE. \mathbb{R}^n with the usual scalar product

$$\langle x, y \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i \quad (1.2)$$

where $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)'$, $y = (y_1, \dots, y_n)'$, where $x_i \in \mathbb{R}$ and $y_j \in \mathbb{R}$ for all i and j , is an inner-product space whose norm is the usual Euclidean norm

$$\|x\| = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 \right)^{1/2}. \quad (1.3)$$

1.5 Example COMPLEX EUCLIDEAN SPACE. \mathbb{C}^n with the scalar product

$$\langle x, y \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \bar{y}_i \quad (1.4)$$

where $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)'$ $y = (y_1, \dots, y_n)'$, where $x_i \in \mathbb{C}$ and $y_j \in \mathbb{C}$ for all i and j , is an inner-product space. The associated norm is:

$$\|x\| = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^2 \right)^{1/2}. \quad (1.5)$$

1.6 Example REAL-VALUED SQUARE INTEGRABLE RANDOM VARIABLES. The set $L^2 = L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P)$ of all the random variables $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $E(X^2) < \infty$ with, for any $X, Y \in L^2$,

$$\langle X, Y \rangle = E(XY) \quad (1.6)$$

is an inner-product space. The associated norm is:

$$\|X\| = [E(X^2)]^{1/2}. \quad (1.7)$$

1.7 Example COMPLEX-VALUED SQUARE INTEGRABLE RANDOM VARIABLES. The set $L^2_{\mathbb{C}}(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P)$ of all the random variables $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ such that $E(|X|^2) < \infty$ with

$$\langle X, Y \rangle = E(X\bar{Y}) \quad (1.8)$$

is an inner-product space. The associated norm is:

$$\|X\| = [E(|X|^2)]^{1/2}. \quad (1.9)$$

1.8 Proposition CAUCHY-SCHWARZ INEQUALITY. Let $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ be an inner-product space. Then, for all $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$,

$$|\langle x, y \rangle| \leq \|x\| \|y\| \quad (1.10)$$

and

$$|\langle x, y \rangle| = \|x\| \|y\| \Leftrightarrow x = \left(\frac{\langle x, y \rangle}{\langle y, y \rangle} \right) y. \quad (1.11)$$

1.9 Definition ANGLE AND ORTHOGONALITY. Let x and y be two elements of an inner product space $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$. The angle between the vectors x and y is defined by

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}[\langle x, y \rangle / (\|x\| \|y\|)]. \quad (1.12)$$

x and y are said to be orthogonal (denoted $x \perp y$) if and only if

$$\langle x, y \rangle = 0. \quad (1.13)$$

1.10 Proposition PROPERTIES OF THE NORM. Let $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ be an inner-product space with the norm $\|x\| = \sqrt{\langle x, x \rangle}$. Then the following properties hold for all $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$:

$$(a) \quad \|x + y\|^2 = \|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2 + \langle x, y \rangle + \langle y, x \rangle;$$

$$(b) \quad \|x + y\| \leq \|x\| + \|y\|; \quad (\text{Triangle inequality})$$

$$(c) \quad \|\alpha x\| \leq |\alpha| \|x\|, \text{ for all } \alpha \in \mathbb{C};$$

$$(d) \quad \|x\| \geq 0;$$

$$(e) \quad \|x\| = 0 \text{ if and only if } x = 0;$$

$$(f) \quad \|x + y\|^2 + \|x - y\|^2 = 2\|x\|^2 + 2\|y\|^2. \quad (\text{Parallelogram law})$$

1.11 Proposition CONVERGENCE IN NORM. Let $\{x_n : n = 1, 2, \dots\}$ be a sequence of elements of an inner product space $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$. We say that x_n converges to $x \in \mathcal{H}$ if and only if

$$\|x_n - x\| \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0. \quad (1.14)$$

1.12 Proposition CONTINUITY OF INNER PRODUCT. Let $\{x_n : n = 1, 2, \dots\}$ and $\{y_n : n = 1, 2, \dots\}$ be two sequences of elements of an inner-product space $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ such that $\|x_n - x\| \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$ and $\|y_n - y\| \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$, where $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$. Then

$$\|x_n\| \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x\| \quad (1.15)$$

and

$$\langle x_n, y_n \rangle \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle x, y \rangle. \quad (1.16)$$

1.13 Example MEAN SQUARE CONVERGENCE. Let $\{X_n : n = 1, 2, \dots\}$ a sequence of real random variables in $L^2 \equiv L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P)$. If we define $\langle X, Y \rangle = E(XY)$, then the convergence in norm represents mean-square convergence:

$$\|X_n - X\| \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0 \Leftrightarrow E[(X_n - X)^2] \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0. \quad (1.17)$$

2. Hilbert spaces

2.1 Definition CAUCHY SEQUENCE. Let $\{x_n : n = 1, 2, \dots\}$ be a sequence of elements of an inner-product space $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$. Then x_n is a Cauchy sequence of $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ if and only if

$$\|x_n - x_m\| \xrightarrow{m, n \rightarrow \infty} 0. \quad (2.1)$$

2.2 Definition HILBERT SPACE. Let $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ an inner-product space. Then $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ is a Hilbert space if and only if every Cauchy sequence of $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ converges in norm to an element of \mathcal{H} ,

$$\|x_n - x_m\| \xrightarrow{m, n \rightarrow \infty} 0 \Rightarrow \exists x \in \mathcal{H} \text{ such that } \|x_n - x\| \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0. \quad (2.2)$$

2.3 Proposition NORM CONVERGENCE AND CAUCHY CRITERION. Let $\{x_n : n = 1, 2, \dots\}$ be a sequence of elements of a Hilbert space $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$. Then x_n converges in norm if and only if x_n is a Cauchy sequence.

2.4 Theorem COMPLETENESS OF $L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P)$. The inner-product space $L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P)$ with $\langle X, Y \rangle = E(XY)$ is complete and thus constitutes a Hilbert space.

PROOF. See Brockwell and Davis (1991, Section 2.10). □

3. Projection theorems

3.1 Definition CLOSED SUBSPACE. A linear subspace \mathcal{M} of a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} is a closed subspace of \mathcal{H} if and only if \mathcal{M} contains all its limit points, i.e.

$$x_n \in \mathcal{M}, \forall n, \text{ and } \|x_n - x\| \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0 \Rightarrow x \in \mathcal{M}. \quad (3.1)$$

3.2 Definition ORTHOGONAL COMPLEMENT. The orthogonal complement \mathcal{M}^\perp of a subset \mathcal{M} of \mathcal{H} is the set of all $x \in \mathcal{H}$ which are orthogonal to all the elements of \mathcal{M} , i.e.

$$x \in \mathcal{M}^\perp \Leftrightarrow \langle x, y \rangle = 0, \forall y \in \mathcal{M}. \quad (3.2)$$

3.3 Proposition CLOSURE OF ORTHOGONAL COMPLEMENT. If \mathcal{M} is any subset of a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , then \mathcal{M}^\perp is a closed subspace of \mathcal{H} .

3.4 Theorem PROJECTION THEOREM. Let \mathcal{M} be a closed subspace of a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} . Then, for any $x \in \mathcal{H}$,

(a) there is a unique element $\hat{x} \in \mathcal{M}$ such that

$$\|x - \hat{x}\| = \inf_{y \in \mathcal{M}} \|x - y\| \quad (3.3)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(b)} \quad & \hat{x} \in \mathcal{M} \text{ and } \|x - \hat{x}\| = \inf_{y \in \mathcal{M}} \|x - y\| \\ & \Leftrightarrow \hat{x} \in \mathcal{M} \text{ and } x - \hat{x} \in \mathcal{M}^\perp. \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

3.5 Corollary EXISTENCE OF PROJECTION MAPPING OF \mathcal{H} ONTO \mathcal{M} . Let \mathcal{M} be a closed subspace of a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , and let I be the identity mapping on \mathcal{H} . Then there is a unique mapping $P_{\mathcal{M}}$ of \mathcal{H} onto \mathcal{M} such that $I - P_{\mathcal{M}}$ maps \mathcal{H} onto \mathcal{M}^{\perp} . $P_{\mathcal{M}}$ is called the projection mapping of \mathcal{H} onto \mathcal{M} .

3.6 Theorem PROPERTIES OF PROJECTION MAPPINGS. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and $P_{\mathcal{M}}$ the projection mapping onto the closed subspace \mathcal{M} . Then the following properties hold for all $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$:

(a) each element $x \in \mathcal{H}$ has a unique representation as the sum of an element of \mathcal{M} and an element of \mathcal{M}^{\perp} ,

$$x = P_{\mathcal{M}}x + (I - P_{\mathcal{M}})x; \quad (3.5)$$

(b) $\|x\|^2 = \|P_{\mathcal{M}}x\|^2 + \|(I - P_{\mathcal{M}})x\|^2$;

(c) $P_{\mathcal{M}}(\alpha x + \beta y) = \alpha P_{\mathcal{M}}x + \beta P_{\mathcal{M}}y$, for all $\alpha, \beta \in S$;

(d) $\|x_n - x\| \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0 \Rightarrow P_{\mathcal{M}}x_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} P_{\mathcal{M}}x$;

(e) $x \in \mathcal{M} \Leftrightarrow P_{\mathcal{M}}x = x$;

(f) $x \in \mathcal{M}^{\perp} \Leftrightarrow P_{\mathcal{M}}x = 0$;

(g) if \mathcal{M}_1 and \mathcal{M}_2 are two subspaces of \mathcal{H} such that $\mathcal{M}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{M}_2$, then

$$P_{\mathcal{M}_1}(P_{\mathcal{M}_2}x) = P_{\mathcal{M}_1}x. \quad (3.6)$$

4. Orthonormal sets

4.1 Definition CLOSED SPAN. Let \mathcal{M} be a subset of a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} . The closed span of \mathcal{M} , denoted $\overline{\text{sp}}(\mathcal{M})$, is the smallest closed subspace of \mathcal{H} that contains \mathcal{M} . If $\mathcal{M} = \{e_t : t \in T\}$, we can also denote $\overline{\text{sp}}(\mathcal{M})$ by $\overline{\text{sp}}\{e_t : t \in T\}$.

4.2 Proposition CLOSED SPAN OF A FINITE SET. The closed span of a finite set $\mathcal{M} = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ is the set of all linear combinations

$$y = \alpha_1 x_1 + \dots + \alpha_n x_n, \quad \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in S \quad (4.1)$$

where $S = \mathbb{R}$ or $S = \mathbb{C}$.

4.3 Definition ORTHOGONAL AND ORTHONORMAL SETS. Let $\{e_t : t \in T\}$ be a subset of an inner-product space $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$. Then $\{e_t : t \in T\}$ is said to be orthogonal if and only if

$$\langle e_s, e_t \rangle = 0, \text{ for } s \neq t. \quad (4.2)$$

Further, $\{e_t : t \in T\}$ is said to be orthonormal if and only if it is orthogonal and $\langle e_t, e_t \rangle = 1$ for all $t \in T$.

4.4 Theorem PROJECTIONS ON FINITE ORTHONORMAL SETS. If $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ is an orthonormal subset of a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} and $\mathcal{M} = \overline{\text{span}}\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$, then the following properties hold for all $x \in \mathcal{H}$:

- (a) $P_{\mathcal{M}}x = \sum_{i=1}^n \langle x, e_i \rangle e_i$;
- (b) $\|P_{\mathcal{M}}x\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, e_i \rangle|^2$;
- (c) $\left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^n \langle x, e_i \rangle e_i \right\| \leq \left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^n c_i e_i \right\|$, for all $c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{C}$;
- (d) $\left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^n \langle x, e_i \rangle e_i \right\| = \left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^n c_i e_i \right\| \Leftrightarrow c_i = \langle x, e_i \rangle, i = 1, \dots, n$; (4.3)
- (e) $\sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, e_i \rangle|^2 \leq \|x\|^2$. (Bessel's inequality)

4.5 Remark The coefficients $c_i = \langle x, e_i \rangle$, $i = 1, \dots, n$, are called the *Fourier coefficients* relative to the set $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$.

4.6 Corollary PROJECTION ON A UNIDIMENSIONAL SUBSPACE. Suppose $\mathcal{M} = \overline{\text{span}}\{e_1\}$ where $e_1 \in \mathcal{H}$ and $e_1 \neq 0$. Then

$$P_{\mathcal{M}}x = \frac{\langle x, e_1 \rangle}{\langle e_1, e_1 \rangle} e_1 = \frac{\langle x, e_1 \rangle}{\|e_1\|^2} e_1. \quad (4.4)$$

4.7 Corollary PROJECTIONS ON FINITE ORTHOGONAL SETS. Let $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ be a finite set of non-zero orthogonal vectors in a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , let $\mathcal{M} = \overline{\text{span}}\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$, and let $\beta_i(x) = \langle x, e_i \rangle / \langle e_i, e_i \rangle$, $i = 1, \dots, n$. Then the following properties hold for all $x \in \mathcal{H}$:

- (a) $P_{\mathcal{M}}x = \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i(x) e_i$;
- (b) $\|P_{\mathcal{M}}x\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, e_i \rangle|^2 / \|e_i\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, e_i \rangle|^2 / \langle e_i, e_i \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n |\beta_i(x)|^2 \|e_i\|^2$;

$$\begin{aligned}
(c) \quad & \left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i(x) e_i \right\| \leq \left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^n c_i e_i \right\|, \text{ for all } c_1, \dots, c_n \in S; \\
(d) \quad & \left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i(x) e_i \right\| = \left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^n c_i e_i \right\| \Leftrightarrow c_i = \beta_i, i = 1, \dots, n; \quad (4.5) \\
(e) \quad & \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, e_i \rangle|^2 / \|e_i\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n |\beta_i(x)|^2 \|e_i\|^2 \leq \|x\|^2. \quad (\text{Bessel's inequality})
\end{aligned}$$

4.8 Definition SEPARABILITY. *The Hilbert space \mathcal{H} is separable if and only if $\mathcal{H} = \overline{\text{span}}\{e_t : t \in T\}$ where T is a finite or countable infinite set.*

4.9 Theorem ORTHONORMAL REPRESENTATIONS IN SEPARABLE HILBERT SPACES. *Let $\mathcal{H} = \overline{\text{span}}\{e_1, e_2, \dots\}$ be a separable Hilbert space where $\{e_1, e_2, \dots\}$ is an orthonormal set. Then the following properties hold for all $x \in \mathcal{H}$:*

(a) *the set of all finite linear combinations of $\{e_1, e_2, \dots\}$ is dense in \mathcal{H} , i.e., for any $\varepsilon > 0$, there is an $n > 0$ and constants $c_1, \dots, c_n \in S$ such that*

$$\left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^n c_i e_i \right\| < \varepsilon; \quad (4.6)$$

(b) $x = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \langle x, e_i \rangle e_i$, i.e.

$$\left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^n \langle x, e_i \rangle e_i \right\| \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0; \quad (4.7)$$

(c) $\|x\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |\langle x, e_i \rangle|^2$;

(d) $\langle x, y \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \langle x, e_i \rangle \langle e_i, y \rangle$, $\forall y \in \mathcal{H}$; (Parseval's identity)

(e) $x = 0 \Leftrightarrow \langle x, e_i \rangle = 0$, $i = 1, 2, \dots$.

4.10 Corollary ORTHOGONAL REPRESENTATIONS IN SEPARABLE HILBERT SPACES. *Let $\mathcal{H} = \overline{\text{span}}\{e_1, e_2, \dots\}$ be a separable Hilbert space where $\{e_1, e_2, \dots\}$ is a set of non-zero orthogonal vectors, and let $\beta_i(x) = \langle x, e_i \rangle / \langle e_i, e_i \rangle$, $i = 1, \dots, n$. Then the following properties hold for all $x \in \mathcal{H}$:*

- (a) the set of all finite linear combinations of $\{e_1, e_2, \dots\}$ is dense in \mathcal{H} , i.e., for any $\varepsilon > 0$, there is an $n > 0$ and constants $c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{C}$ such that

$$\left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^n c_i e_i \right\| < \varepsilon ; \quad (4.8)$$

- (b) $x = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \beta_i(x) e_i$, i.e.

$$\left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i(x) e_i \right\| \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0 ; \quad (4.9)$$

$$(c) \quad \|x\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, e_i \rangle|^2 / \|e_i\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, e_i \rangle|^2 / \langle e_i, e_i \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n |\beta_i(x)|^2 \|e_i\|^2 ;$$

$$(d) \quad \begin{aligned} \langle x, y \rangle &= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \langle x, e_i \rangle \langle e_i, y \rangle / \|e_i\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \langle x, e_i \rangle \langle e_i, y \rangle / \langle e_i, e_i \rangle \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \beta_i(x) \overline{\beta_i(y)} \|e_i\|^2, \quad \forall y \in \mathcal{H} ; \end{aligned} \quad (\text{Parseval's identity})$$

$$(e) \quad x = 0 \Leftrightarrow \langle x, e_i \rangle = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots$$

4.11 Corollary PROJECTIONS IN SEPARABLE HILBERT SPACES. Under the assumptions of Theorem 4.9, we have for each $x \in \mathcal{H}$:

- (a) for any $\varepsilon > 0$, there is an $n > 0$ such that

$$\|x - P_{E_n} x\| < \varepsilon \quad (4.10)$$

where $E_n = \overline{\text{span}}\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$;

- (b) $P_{E_n} x \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} x$.

5. Conditional expectations

5.1 Definition CONDITIONAL EXPECTATION WITH RESPECT TO A CLOSED SUBSPACE. Let \mathcal{M} be a closed subspace of $L^2 \equiv L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P)$ containing the constant functions and let $Y \in L^2$. Then the conditional expectation of Y given \mathcal{M} is the projection of Y on \mathcal{M} :

$$E_{\mathcal{M}} Y = P_{\mathcal{M}} Y. \quad (5.1)$$

5.2 Definition CONDITIONAL EXPECTATION WITH RESPECT TO A RANDOM VECTOR. Let $X = (X_1, \dots, X_k)'$ be a vector of random variables in $L^2 \equiv L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P)$ and let $L^2(X)$ be the closed

subspace of $L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P)$ consisting of all the random variables in L^2 of the form $\phi(X)$ for some function ϕ . Then the conditional expectation of Y given X is the projection of Y on $L^2(X)$:

$$E(Y|X) = E(Y|X_1, \dots, X_k) = P_{L^2(X)}Y . \quad (5.2)$$

6. Sources and additional references

A good summary of Hilbert space theory aimed at applications in time series analysis may be found in Brockwell and Davis (1991, Chapter 2). Other good reviews appear in: Debnath and Mikusiński (1990) for general applications, Small and McLeish (1994) for applications in statistical theory, and Young (1988) for a more mathematically oriented presentation.

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