

**Sustainable work for all  
in a post-growth society -  
Local currencies as a leverage**

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# Economics is a societal *function*

1. Efficient (= *ascendent & resilient*)



2. allocation



3. of (*limited*) resources



4. to the wellbeing of all  
(humans & other species)



# Economic 'infrastructure' in the Industrial era

*Centralised energy, mass production & financial growth*

1. Political & economic 'laws'



2. Bank issued money



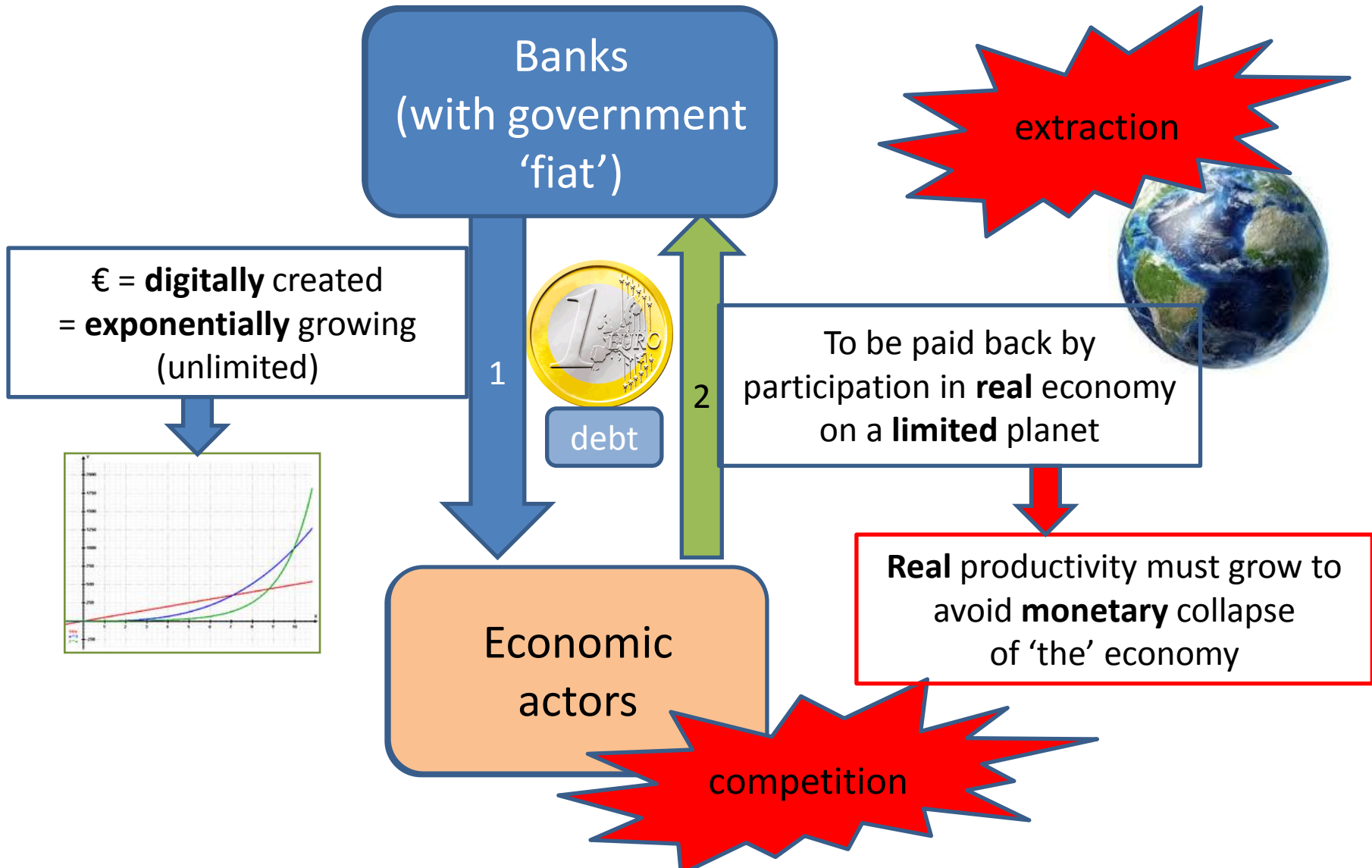
3. Fossil based production



4. Mass consumption



Current bank money creation is structurally imbalanced and artificially scarce → making 'growth' necessary



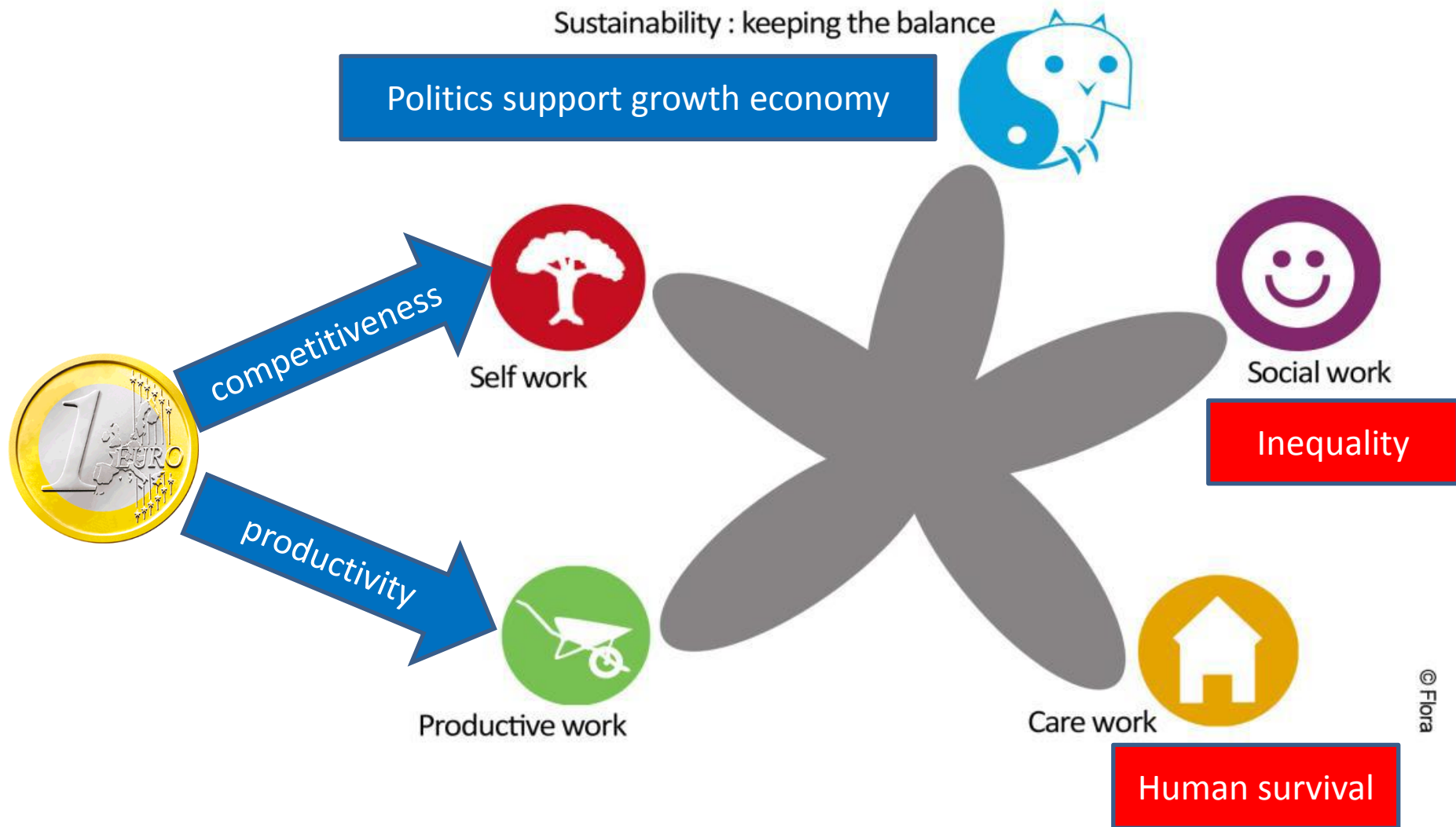
# Consequences of this money scheme

- Means-end reversal:
  - From economics serving the well-being of people & planet
  - To people & planet serving the growth of ‘the’ economy
- Work is defined as being employed for contributing to private profit of a company
- So the solution is to redefine the aim as ‘contributing to thriving communities’
- and then explore means & models to get there (community based with government support)

# Types of work needed for the well-being of all



# Types of work needed (and out of balance in growth economics)



# Classical 'correction' mechanisms

- Social welfare only by government 'redistribution of money' (so reinforces growth logic and public debt)
- Contradictory legislation:
  - Taxes and bills only payable in € (so competition and extraction are necessary)
  - Only *excesses* of extraction & exploitation are curbed
  - Companies *need* € profit to survive, and so... (Dieselgate, planned obsolescence, offshores, etc) = systemic!
- EU support for green, inclusive and circular economy, but without touching € monopoly (so requiring growth, using biomass & trash to 'feed the industry' ...)

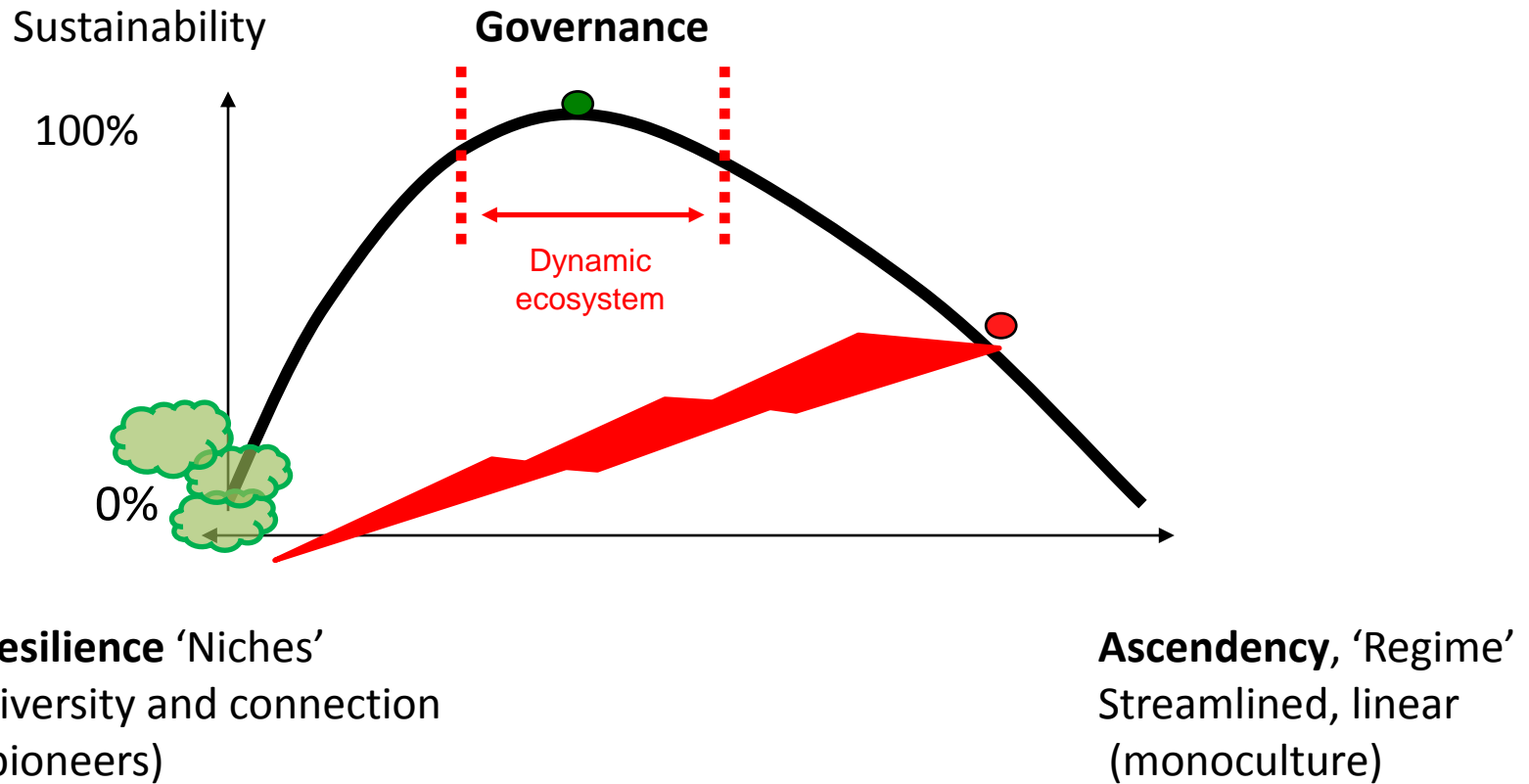




## Gender implications

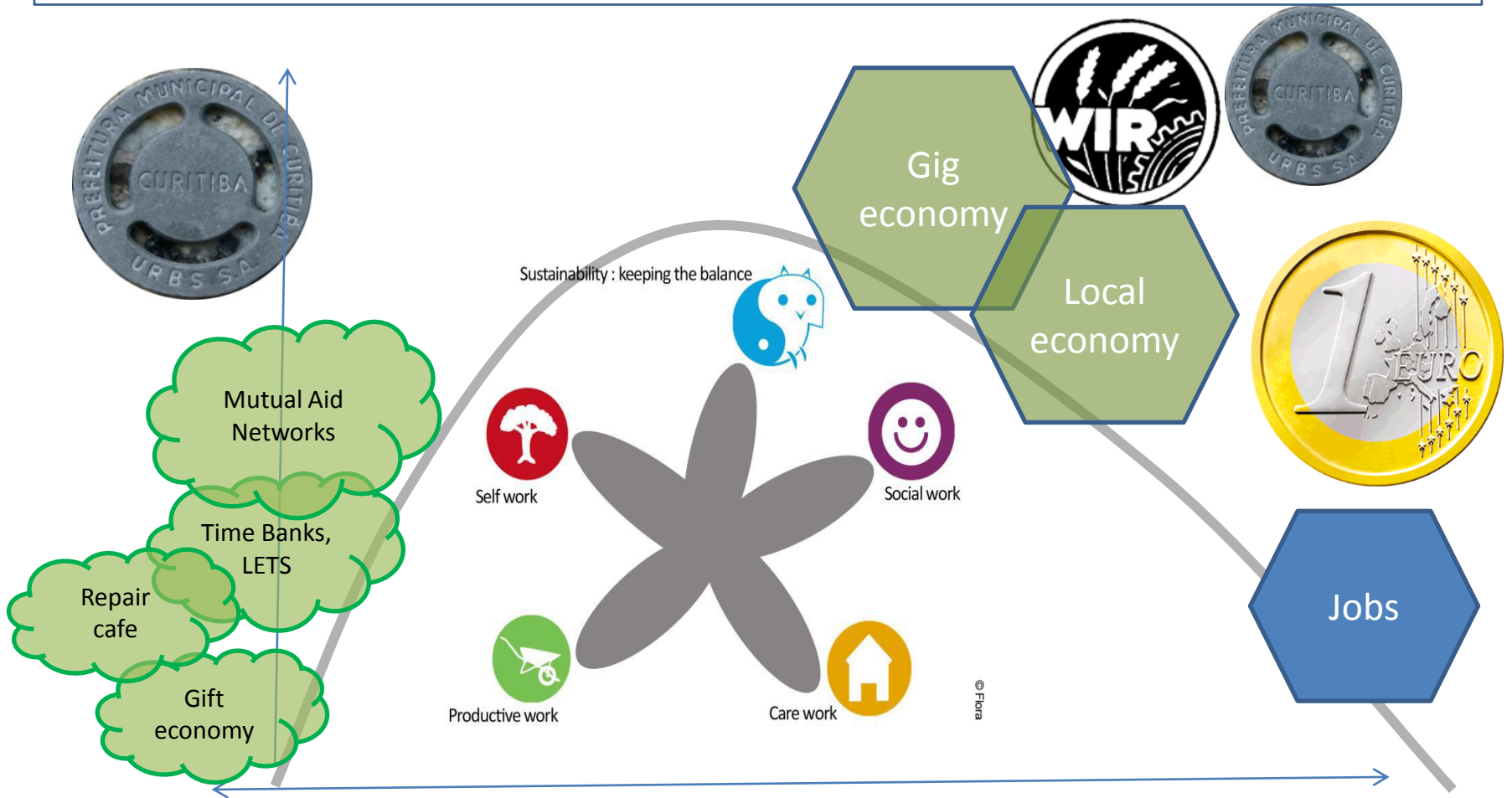
- Men are seen as more productive (less care tasks)
- Technical skills bring more productivity/profit
- Care for future generations = non-productive
  
- Feminism 1st generation = claim same power as men → inequality between classes/ethnic groups
- Eco-feminism = claim re-definition and re-valorisation of all roles (male *and* female)
- Women's definition of work (four roles in balance) as an alternative

# Sustainable systems = two parameters + governance



(Source: Ulanowicz et al, 2009)

Work : from 'being employed'  
to 'contributing to the collective well-being'  
(or : fulfilling the 'economic function')



# Sustainability **governance**: creating legal spaces for (resilient) innovative economic and monetary models



Legislation to facilitate circular & commoning economy



**PRACTICING LAW IN THE SHARING ECONOMY**  
HELPING PEOPLE BUILD COOPERATIVES,  
SOCIAL ENTERPRISE, AND  
LOCAL SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIES  
JANELLE ORSI

Sustainability : keeping the balance



Legislation to limit/repair excesses & externalities of exploitation & extraction



Support use of 'community oriented' *complementary* currencies

End the '*fiat*' monopoly of growth/bank money !

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