MAT188H1F - Linear Algebra - Fall 2017

Solutions to Term Test 1 - September 26, 2017

Time allotted: 100 minutes.

Aids permitted: Casio FX-991 or Sharp EL-520 calculator.

Comments:

- This test was very straightforward. All the questions were very similar to suggested homework problems or to assigned WeBWorK problems.
- The only question that posed a challenge at all was Question 8, the True or False Question.
- There was (only) one perfect paper.

Breakdown of Results: 836 students wrote this test. The marks ranged from 7.5% to 100%, and the average was 79.3%. Some statistics on grade distribution are in the table on the left, and a histogram of the marks (by decade) is on the right.

Grade	%	Decade	%
		90-100%	24.3%
A	60.4%	80-89%	36.1%
В	20.9%	70-79%	20.9%
C	10.1%	60-69%	10.1%
D	3.9%	50-59%	3.9%
F	4.7%	40-49%	2.3%
		30-39%	1.8%
		20-29%	0.2%
		10-19%	0.0%
		0-9%	0.4%



1. [2 marks for each part; avg: 9.47/10] Find the following:

(a) a unit vector in the direction of
$$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$
. Solution: $\frac{\vec{x}}{\|\vec{x}\|} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4}}\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ -1/2 \\ 1/2 \\ -1/2 \end{bmatrix}$

(b) the scalar equation of the plane passing through the point P(4, 1, 3) and orthogonal to the

vector $\vec{n} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ -6 \end{bmatrix}$. Solution: $x_1 + 5x_2 - 6x_3 = 4 + 5 - 18 = -9$.

(c) a vector equation of the line passing through the two points P(1, 3, 0, -1) and Q(0, 1, 1, 1).

Solution:
$$\vec{x} = \overrightarrow{OP} + t \overrightarrow{PQ} = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\ 3\\ 0\\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} -1\\ -2\\ 1\\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

(d)
$$\begin{bmatrix} 2\\-2\\5 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 3\\1\\3 \end{bmatrix}$$
 Solution: $\begin{bmatrix} 2\\-2\\5 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 3\\1\\3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -6-5\\-(6-15)\\2+6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -11\\9\\8 \end{bmatrix}$

(e) the value(s) of c such that the two vectors $\begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ c \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 8 \\ -c \end{bmatrix}$ are orthogonal. $\begin{bmatrix} 10 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 10 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \end{bmatrix}$

Solution:
$$\begin{bmatrix} c \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ -c \end{bmatrix} = 30 + 8c - 5c = 30 + 3c = 0 \Leftrightarrow c = -10$$

- 2. [avg: 8.1/10] Suppose \vec{u} and \vec{v} are two vectors in \mathbb{R}^3 such that the angle between them is $\theta = \frac{\pi}{3}$, and $\|\vec{u}\| = 4$, $\|\vec{v}\| = 7$. Find the exact value of each of the following:
 - (a) [2 marks] $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}$

Solution: $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\| \cos(\pi/3) = 4(7)(1/2) = 14$

(b) [2 marks] $\|\vec{u}\times\vec{v}\|$

Solution: $\|\vec{u} \times \vec{v}\| = \|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\| \sin(\pi/3) = 4(7)(\sqrt{3}/2) = 14\sqrt{3}$

(c) [6 marks] $\| 3\,\vec{u} - 5\,\vec{v} \|$

Solution: use $\|\vec{z}\|^2 = \vec{z} \cdot \vec{z}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \|3\vec{u} - 5\vec{v}\|^2 &= (3\vec{u} - 5\vec{v}) \cdot (3\vec{u} - 5\vec{v}) \\ &= 9\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u} - 15\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} - 15\vec{v} \cdot \vec{u} + 25\vec{v} \cdot \vec{v} \\ &= 9 \|\vec{u}\|^2 - 30\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} + 25\|\vec{v}\|^2 \\ &= 9(16) - 30(14) + 25(49) = 949 \\ \Rightarrow \|3\vec{u} - 5\vec{v}\| &= \sqrt{949} \end{aligned}$$

- 3. [avg: 8.65/10] Consider the four points A(1,3,-1), B(3,4,1), C(5,10,4) and D(3,9,2) in \mathbb{R}^3 .
 - (a) [4 marks] Show that the four points A, B, C and D are the vertices of a parallelogram.

Solution:

$$\overrightarrow{AB} = \begin{bmatrix} 2\\1\\2 \end{bmatrix}, \overrightarrow{AD} = \begin{bmatrix} 2\\6\\3 \end{bmatrix}, \overrightarrow{BC} = \begin{bmatrix} 2\\6\\3 \end{bmatrix}, \overrightarrow{DC} = \begin{bmatrix} 2\\1\\2 \end{bmatrix}, B$$
so AB and DC are parallel sides, as are AD and BC .

(b) [4 marks] Find the area of the parallelogram determined by A, B, C and D.

Solution:

Area
$$= \|\overrightarrow{AB} \times \overrightarrow{AD}\| = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} 3-12\\ -(6-4)\\ 12-2 \end{bmatrix} \right\| = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} -9\\ -2\\ 10 \end{bmatrix} \right\| = \sqrt{81+4+100} = \sqrt{185}$$

(c) [2 marks] To the nearest degree, find the interior angle at the vertex A of the parallelogram. Solution: let θ be the angle between \overrightarrow{AB} and \overrightarrow{AD} . Then

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\overrightarrow{AB} \cdot \overrightarrow{AD}}{\|\overrightarrow{AB}\| \|\overrightarrow{AD}\|} = \frac{4+6+6}{\sqrt{9}\sqrt{49}} = \frac{16}{21};$$

and to the nearest degree, $\theta = \arccos(16/21) \approx 40^\circ.$

4. [avg: 8.11/10] Let \mathcal{L} be the line with vector equation

$$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 4\\1\\-2 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 1\\0\\2 \end{bmatrix},$$

where t is a parameter. Let Q be the point with coordinates (-1, 2, 3).

(a) [6 marks] Find the point on the line \mathcal{L} that is closest to the point Q.



- Let $\vec{d} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ be the direction vector of the line \mathcal{L} . Let P be the point on \mathcal{L} with coordinates (4, 1, -2).

 - Let X be the point on the line \mathcal{L} closest to Q.

• Then
$$\overrightarrow{PX} = \operatorname{proj}_{\overrightarrow{d}}(\overrightarrow{PQ})$$

We have:

$$\overrightarrow{PQ} = \begin{bmatrix} -5\\1\\5 \end{bmatrix}; \ \operatorname{proj}_{\vec{d}}(\overrightarrow{PQ}) = \frac{\overrightarrow{PQ} \cdot \vec{d}}{\vec{d} \cdot \vec{d}} \vec{d} = \frac{-5+0+10}{1+4} \vec{d} = \vec{d}$$

Consequently the point X on \mathcal{L} closest to Q is given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 - 4 \\ x_2 - 1 \\ x_3 + 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(b) [4 marks] What is the minimum distance from the point Q to the line \mathcal{L} ?

Solution: let D be the minimum distance from the point Q to the line \mathcal{L} . One way to find D is

$$D = \|\overrightarrow{QX}\| = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} 5+1\\1-2\\0-3 \end{bmatrix} \right\| = \sqrt{6^2 + (-1)^2 + (-3)^2} = \sqrt{46}.$$

Alternately, you could use

$$D = \|\operatorname{perp}_{\vec{d}}(\vec{PQ})\| = \|\vec{PQ} - \operatorname{proj}_{\vec{d}}(\vec{PQ})\| = \|\vec{PQ} - \vec{d}\| = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} -1 - 5\\ 1 - 0\\ 5 - 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\| = \sqrt{46}.$$

- 5. [avg: 8.85/10]
- 5.(a) [5 marks] Find the scalar equation of the plane that contains the three points P(5, -1, 2), Q(-1, 3, 4)and R(3, 1, 1).

Solution: we have
$$\overrightarrow{PQ} = \begin{bmatrix} -1-5\\3+1\\4-2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -6\\4\\2 \end{bmatrix}$$
 and $\overrightarrow{PR} = \begin{bmatrix} 3-5\\1+1\\1-2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2\\2\\-1 \end{bmatrix}$. For the normal

to the plane, we can take

$$\vec{n} = \overrightarrow{PQ} \times \overrightarrow{PR} = \begin{bmatrix} -6\\4\\2 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} -2\\2\\-1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -4-4\\-(6+4)\\-12+8 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -8\\-10\\-4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Finally, use either given point, P, Q or R, to find the equation. Using the point P we obtain

$$-8x_1 - 10x_2 - 4x_3 = -8(5) - 10(-1) - 4(2) = -38 \Leftrightarrow 4x_1 + 5x_2 + 2x_3 = 19.$$

5.(b) [5 marks] Find a vector equation of the line of intersection of the two planes with scalar equations $x_1 - 3x_2 - 2x_3 = 10$ and $3x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 = 2$.

Solution: let \vec{d} be a direction vector of the line; let \vec{n}_1 be the normal vector to the plane with equation $x_1 - 3x_2 - 2x_3 = 10$; let \vec{n}_2 be the normal vector to the plane with equation $3x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 = 2$. We have

$$\vec{n}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\ -3\\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$$
 and $\vec{n}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 3\\ 2\\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

Since the line of intersection of the two planes must be contained in each plane we know $\vec{d} \cdot \vec{n}_1 = 0$ and $\vec{d} \cdot \vec{n}_2 = 0$. Thus we can take

$$\vec{d} = \vec{n}_1 \times \vec{n}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -3+4\\ -(1+6)\\ 2+9 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\ -7\\ 11 \end{bmatrix}.$$

To find a point on the line we need to find *any* point of intersection of the two planes. For simplicity, let $x_2 = 0$. Then x_1, x_3 must satisfy $x_1 - 2x_3 = 10$ and $3x_1 + x_3 = 2$, for which the solution is $x_1 = 2, x_3 = -4$. Thus a vector equation of the line is

$$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 2\\0\\-4 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 1\\-7\\11 \end{bmatrix},$$

where t is a parameter.

- 6. [avg: 8.18/10] Let \mathcal{P} be the plane with scalar equation $3x_1 4x_2 5x_3 = 6$ and Q the point with coordinates (2, 5, 4). Find both
 - (a) [5 marks] the minimum distance from the point Q to the plane \mathcal{P} , and
 - (b) [5 marks] the point on the plane \mathcal{P} that is closest to the point Q.

You can solve parts (a) and (b) in any order you prefer.

Solution: setting things up.

• The normal vector to
$$\mathcal{P}$$
 is $\vec{n} = \begin{vmatrix} 5 \\ -4 \\ -5 \end{vmatrix}$

- Let R be the point on \mathcal{P} that is closest to Q.
- Suppose P is any point on the plane \mathcal{P} .
- Then

$$\overrightarrow{RQ} = \operatorname{proj}_{\vec{n}} \left(\overrightarrow{PQ} \right)$$

For calculations, pick the point P to be (2,0,0). (But any point on \mathcal{P} would do.)

(a) Then the minimum distance from Q to the plane is given by $D = \|\overrightarrow{RQ}\| = \|\operatorname{proj}_{\vec{n}}\left(\overrightarrow{PQ}\right)\|$. We have

$$\overrightarrow{PQ} = \begin{bmatrix} 2-2\\ 5-0\\ 4-0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\ 5\\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \operatorname{proj}_{\vec{n}}\left(\overrightarrow{PQ}\right) = \frac{0-20-20}{9+16+25} \begin{bmatrix} 3\\ -4\\ -5 \end{bmatrix} = -\frac{4}{5} \begin{bmatrix} 3\\ -4\\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then

$$D = \|\operatorname{proj}_{\vec{n}}\left(\overrightarrow{PQ}\right)\| = \left\| -\frac{4}{5} \begin{bmatrix} 3\\ -4\\ -5 \end{bmatrix} \right\| = \frac{4}{5}\sqrt{9 + 16 + 25} = 4\sqrt{2}.$$

(b) Let R have coordinates (r_1, r_2, r_3) . Then $\overrightarrow{QR} = -\text{proj}_{\vec{n}} \left(\overrightarrow{PQ}\right)$, so that

$$\begin{bmatrix} r_1 \\ r_2 \\ r_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{4}{5} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -4 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{5} \begin{bmatrix} 22 \\ 9 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4.4 \\ 1.8 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

See Page 10 for an easier, Alternate Solution to this question.



7. [avg: 6.57/10]

7.(a) [4 marks] Let $\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 2\\3\\-1 \end{bmatrix}$. By direct calculation, show that $\operatorname{perp}_{\vec{u}}(\operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{x})) = \vec{0}$. Solution: $\operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{x}) = \frac{\vec{x} \cdot \vec{u}}{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}} \vec{u} = \frac{2+3-1}{1+1+1} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{4}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\1 \end{bmatrix}$. Then $\operatorname{perp}_{\vec{u}}\left(\frac{4}{3}\begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\1 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \frac{4}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\1 \end{bmatrix} - \operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}\left(\frac{4}{3}\begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\1 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \frac{4}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\1 \end{bmatrix} - \frac{4}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 3\\3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\0\\0 \end{bmatrix}$.

7.(b) [4 marks] For any non-zero vector $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{R}^3$, prove algebraically that for any $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^3$,

$$\operatorname{perp}_{\vec{u}}\left(\operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{x})\right) = \vec{0}.$$

Solution: $\operatorname{perp}_{\vec{u}}(\operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{x})) = \operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{x}) - \operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{x})) = \operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{x}) - \operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{x}) = \vec{0}$, where we have made use of the **projection property** of the projection map:

$$\operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{x})) = \operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{x}).$$

Or, you can prove this last part directly:

$$\operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}\left(\operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{x})\right) = \operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}\left(\frac{\vec{x}\cdot\vec{u}}{\|\vec{u}\|^2}\vec{u}\right) = \frac{\left(\frac{\vec{x}\cdot\vec{u}}{\|\vec{u}\|^2}(\vec{u}\cdot\vec{u})\right)}{\|\vec{u}\|^2}\vec{u} = \frac{x\cdot\vec{u}}{\|\vec{u}\|^2}\vec{u} = \operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{x})$$

7.(c) [2 marks] For $\vec{u} \neq \vec{0}$, explain geometrically why $\operatorname{perp}_{\vec{u}}(\operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{x})) = \vec{0}$, for every vector $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^3$. (Draw a diagram.)

Solution:



Since $\operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{x})$ is parallel to \vec{u} , its perpendicular part will be $\vec{0}$; that is,

$$\operatorname{perp}_{\vec{u}}(\operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{x})) = \vec{0}.$$

- 8. [avg: 5.54/10] Indicate if the following statements are **True** or **False**, and give a *brief* explanation why.
 - (a) [2 marks] If $\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}$ are non-zero vectors in \mathbb{R}^3 and $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \vec{u} \cdot \vec{w}$, then $\vec{v} = \vec{w}$. \bigcirc True \bigotimes False

Solution: e.g.
$$\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\0\\0 \end{bmatrix}$$
, $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\1\\0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\vec{w} = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\0\\1 \end{bmatrix}$, then $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \vec{u} \cdot \vec{w} = 0$, but $\vec{v} \neq \vec{w}$.

(b) [2 marks] If $\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}$ are non-zero vectors in \mathbb{R}^3 and $\vec{u} \times \vec{v} = \vec{u} \times \vec{w}$, then $\vec{v} = \vec{w}$. \bigcirc True \bigotimes False

Solution: e.g.
$$\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
, $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\vec{w} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, then $\vec{u} \times \vec{v} = \vec{u} \times \vec{w} = \vec{0}$, but $\vec{v} \neq \vec{w}$.

(c) [2 marks] If \vec{u}, \vec{v} are non-zero vectors in \mathbb{R}^3 and $\|\vec{u} \times \vec{v}\| = \|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\|$, then $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$.

 \otimes True \bigcirc False

Solution: since $\|\vec{u} \times \vec{v}\| = \|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\| \sin \theta$, we have $\sin \theta = 1$. Therefore $\theta = \pi/2$, and $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$.

(d) [2 marks] For any two points P, Q in \mathbb{R}^n , and any non-zero vector $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n$,

$$\overrightarrow{OP} + \operatorname{perp}_{\vec{u}}(\overrightarrow{PQ}) = \overrightarrow{OQ} + \operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\overrightarrow{QP}).$$

 \otimes True \bigcirc False

Solution:

$$\overrightarrow{OP} + \operatorname{perp}_{\vec{u}}(\overrightarrow{PQ}) = \overrightarrow{OP} + \overrightarrow{PQ} - \operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\overrightarrow{PQ}) = \overrightarrow{OQ} - \operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}(-\overrightarrow{QP}) = \overrightarrow{OQ} + \operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\overrightarrow{QP})$$

(e) [2 marks] Suppose \mathcal{L} is the line in \mathbb{R}^3 passing through the origin and parallel to the vector $\vec{u} \neq \vec{0}$. Then the equation

$$\operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}\left(\vec{x}\right) = \operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}\left(\overrightarrow{OP}\right)$$

is an equation of the line passing through the point P and orthogonal to the line \mathcal{L} .

 \bigcirc True \otimes False

Solution: simplify the equation.

$$\operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}\left(\vec{x}\right) = \operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}}\left(\overrightarrow{OP}\right) \Leftrightarrow \frac{\vec{x} \cdot \vec{u}}{\|\vec{u}\|^2} \vec{u} = \frac{\overrightarrow{OP} \cdot \vec{u}}{\|\vec{u}\|^2} \vec{u} \Leftrightarrow \vec{x} \cdot \vec{u} = \overrightarrow{OP} \cdot \vec{u},$$

which is the equation of a **plane** in \mathbb{R}^3 passing through the point *P*, with normal vector \vec{u} .

Alternate Solution to Question 6: let \mathcal{L} be the line normal to the plane, passing through the point Q. A vector equation of this line is

$$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -4 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix},$$

for which the parametric equations are

$$x_1 = 2 + 3t, \ x_2 = 5 - 4t, \ x_3 = 4 - 5t.$$

Substitute these into the equation of the plane to obtain the value of t for the intersection point of the line and plane:

$$3(2+3t) - 4(5-4t) - 5(4-5t) = 6 \Leftrightarrow t = \frac{4}{5}.$$

Thus:

(b) the point R on the plane closest to Q has coordinates $\left(\frac{22}{5}, \frac{9}{5}, 0\right)$.

(a) and the minimum distance from the plane \mathcal{P} to the point Q is

$$\|\overrightarrow{RQ}\| = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} 2-22/5\\5-9/5\\4 \end{bmatrix} \right\| = \left\| \frac{1}{5} \begin{bmatrix} -12\\16\\20 \end{bmatrix} \right\| = \frac{4}{5} \left\| \begin{bmatrix} -3\\4\\5 \end{bmatrix} \right\| = \frac{4}{5}\sqrt{50} = 4\sqrt{2},$$

as before.

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