DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES



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Researches in TRANSLATION STUDIES

RESEARCH FIELD

1. Cultural problems with the translation of English and German documents: communicational, legal and translation practices

Research in this area aims at exploring, through empirical and theoretical methods, a) the culture specific items in official documents issued in English-speaking countries, i.e. their nature and linguistic realization; b) potentially problematic cultural terms in German documents for the tourism services and strategies for their equivalence. The research resulted in a) a model of legal administrative culture comprising communicational and legal practices as well as cultural values and norms; b) a pool of culture - specific items, which, for some pairs of languages, are cultural problems and potential difficulties, c) a list of process indicators accounting for the equivalence stage and d) strategies for the translation of culture - specific items in the translation of German documents

KEY TERMS

Culture - specific items, cultural model, translation of English documents, translation of German documents, scenes - and – frames strategy

ACTIVITIES

- Identification of the culture specific items in the English official documents.
- Analysis of their nature and linguistic realization.
- Modeling the cultural content of English official documents of vital events.
- Identifying the process indicators solving the translation of culture-specific items.
- Analysis of process indicators in German documents.
- Correlating process indicators with translation strategies.

PUBLISHED PAPERS

- Superceanu, R., Culture-Specific Items in the Translation of Official Documents of Vital Events: A Model of Legal-Administrative Culture, in Romanian Journal of English Studies, Timişoara, University of the West. ISSN 1584-3734 (in print).
- Icobescu, C., Prozessindikatoren: Ein mentales Spiegelbild der Produktion von Übersetzungslösungen, in Professional Communication and Translation Studies, Timişoara, Editura Politehnica, Vol. 2, 2010, ISSN 2065-099X, pp. 87-92.

RESEARCH TEAM

- > Reader Rodica Superceanu, PhD
- Lecturer Claudia Icobescu, PhD
- Lecturer Mirela Pop, PhD
- Assistant Lucia Beică

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2. Approaches, Models and Methods in Translation and Translator Training

The research joins the applied theoretical studies in the field of translation focusing on the application of principles, models and methods identified in fields complementary to translation (linguistics, cognitive psychology, sociology, culture, hermeneutics etc.) in order to explain translation related phenomena and processes. On the other hand, the research aims to identify theoretical, pedagogical and methodological approaches, which can be applied in translator training to improve translation teaching and learning.

KEY-TERMS

Translation studies, applied research, approaches on translation, translation methods, translator training.

ACTIVITIES

- Applying linguistic models for establishing the acceptability of translations;
- Applying models proper to cognitive psychology in order to explain activities associated to translation;
- Identifying methodological approaches which can be applied in translator training.

PUBLISHED PAPERS

- Pop, M., Dynamique de la signification et jeux des reformulations dans la traduction de textes touristiques du roumain vers le français, in Lungu-Badea, G., Pelea, A., Pop, M. (eds.), (En)jeux esthétiques de la traduction. Éthique(s) et pratiques traductionnelles, pp. 193-205, Timisoara, Editura de Vest. ISBN 978-973-125-329-9.
- 2. Pop, M., Une perspective énonciative de la traduction en roumain des modalités le cas des épistémiques, Revue Internationale d'Etudes en langues modernes appliquées (International Review of Studies in

Applied Modern Language) Nr. 3, 2010, pp. 351-361. ISSN 1844-5586.

- Pop, M., Évolution du concept de compétence en traduction à l'heure de la mise en œuvre de l'approche par compétences en éducation et formation, in Les Actes du Colloque international de traduction spécialisée Les compétences des traducteurs et des interprètes en vue de l'intégration sur le marché du travail actuel, Université de l'Ouest de Timisoara, Union Latine, sous le haut patronage de l'Académie Roumaine, Timisoara, 27-28 mai 2010, pp. 108-115. ISBN 978-9-291220-43-4.
- 4. Visky, Mihaela, La compétence extralinguistique de *l'interprète* professionnel, Les Actes du Colloque international de traduction spécialisée Les compétences des traducteurs et des interprètes en vue de l'intégration sur le marché du travail actuel, Université de l'Ouest de Timisoara, Union Latine, sous le haut patronage de l'Académie Roumaine, Timisoara, 27-28 mai 2010, pp. 171-175, ISBN 978-9-291220-43-4.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS

- Identifying models and methods for interpretations and reformulations validation in the translation process;
- Identifying models and methods for source text analysis or for target text quality evaluation;
- Validation of the models and methods in translation teaching process;

RESEARCH TEAM

- Lecturer Mirela Pop, PhD
- Lecturer Claudia Icobescu, PhD
- Assistant Mihaela Visky

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3. Translation as Process

Research in this area focuses on the identification and analysis of salient source text features for translation purposes. The research resulted in the creation of a theoretical pragmatic model for the identification and analysis of information in texts and of a translation method based on this model.

KEY-TERMS

Translation processes, translation methods, source text analysis, pragmatic texts.

ACTIVITIES

- Setting up a pragmatic model for the identification and analysis of salient information in texts;
- Setting up a stepwise translation process;
- Setting up a translation method for the translation of pragmatic texts.

PUBLISHED BOOK

Dejica, D. "*Thematic Management and Information Distribution in Translation*", Editura Politehnica, Timişoara, 2010, ISBN 978-606-554-150-4.

PUBLISHED PAPERS

- 1. Dejica, D., Towards a Methodological Approach for Frame Identification and Analysis in Translation, in Komar, Smiljana and Uroš Mozetič (eds.), Elope -English Language Overseas Perspectives and Enquiries, Volume VII, 1-2/2010, pp. 121-140, ISSN 1581-8918.
- Dejica, D., Approaching the Information Universe for Translation Purposes: the Atomistic Perspective, in Frentiu, Luminita (ed), Romanian Journal of English Studies, 7/2010, pp. 252-264, ISSN 1584-3734.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS

Validation of the model and of the translation method: application on a corpus of pragmatic texts.

RESEARCH TEAM

- > Assistant Daniel Dejica-Cartis, PhD
- Assistant doctoral student Claudia
- Constantin
- Assistant Lucia Beica

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Researches in TERMINOLOGY

RESEARCH FIELD

Research on Public Relations Terminology

The research theme focuses on outlining peculiarities of PR terminology in view of creating a terminological database (TDB) in English and Romanian tailored to the specific needs of its potential users. The TDB is to include the key concepts of PR, outlining the proper concept-term assignment and usage of terms for appropriate communication in the PR environment.

KEY-TERMS

Public relations, key concepts, terminology database, communication.

ACTIVITIES

- Accomplishing thorough documentation
- Selecting representative corpora
- Collaborating with PR experts
- Theoretical update

PUBLISHED PAPERS

- 1. Ciobanu, G., ARGs in Teaching Terminology, Proceedings in of International Conference Terminology and Knowledge Engineering 2010 "Presenting Terminology and Knowledge Engineering Resources Online: Models and Challenges" Dublin: Fiontar – Dublin City University, pp. 279-291, 2010, ISBN 978-0-9566314-0-4.
- Ciobanu, G., *Terminology in Romania*, in Magyar Terminologia (The Journal of Hungarian Terminology) Vol.3, December 2010, Budapest:Akademiai Kiado, ISSN 1789-9486 (Print) 2060-2774 (Online), Online date Tuesday, 1 December, 2010.
- Ciobanu, G., Varga, C., Les compétences du terminologue raportéesau Web 2.0, Proceedings of 6th Realiter Scientific Day, Faro:Universidade do Algarve (in press)

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS

The research aims at processing the corpora in order to provide proper selection of terms. Further consultation of domain experts is in progress.

RESEARCH TEAM

- > Professor Georgeta Ciobanu, PhD
- Assistant doctoral student Annamaria Kilyeni
- PR consultant: Reader Mariana Cernicova Buca, PhD

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Researches in SPECIALIZED DISCOURSE

RESEARCH FIELD

1. Metaphor in Romanian, English and French specialized discourse

The research is set within the wider field of cognitive linguistic studies focusing on the analysis of conceptual metaphors in specialized languages (Vandaele et al. 2006, Jamet 2006, Detienne 2005, Kövecses 2002, Lakoff and Johnson 1980, etc.). Based on the metaphorical terms and expressions present in various news media, this research is an attempt at identifying, analyzing and describing metaphorical conceptualizations specific to English and French specialized Romanian. discourse in general, and to economic and technical discourse in particular.

KEY-TERMS

Conceptual metaphors, metaphorical conceptualization, metaphorical networks, metaphorical terms and expressions, specialized discourse, economic discourse, technical discourse, cognitive linguistics

ACTIVITIES

- Building up the corpus of Romanian, English and French metaphorical terms and expressions present in the economic discourse on the global financial crisis;
- Identifying the corresponding metaphorical networks;
- Comparing conceptualizations of the financial crisis in Romanian, English and French to identify instances of crosslinguistic and cross-cultural variation.

PUBLISHED PAPER

Pop, M., Kilyeni, A., *Les métaphores de la crise en français et en roumain,* in Les Actes du Colloque International Francontraste 2010, Zagreb, Croatie, 2-4 decembre 2010 (in print)

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS

- Extending the corpus of economic metaphors;
- Building up a corpus of metaphors specific to technical discourse;
- Setting up a database of economic and technical metaphorical terms and expressions in Romanian, English and French.

RESEARCH TEAM

- Lecturer Mirela Pop, PhD
- Assistant doctoral student Annamaria Kilyeni
- Assistant Mihaela Visky

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2. Analysis of specialized discourse

The present research is geared to analyze the most distinctive properties of specialized discourse and to identify strategies adequate to investigate its degree of specificity and diversification as compared to general language. Special attention is given to the journalistic, legal and advertising discourses used for didactic purposes. The analyses are based on corpora of printed press texts, juridical texts and advertising texts. Our concern is to delimit and highlight properties characteristic of various journalistic, legal and advertising genres (news report, news analysis, editorial, legal pleading, witness interrogation, advertorial, advertisement) with a view to accessibilizing the concerned discourses for students specializing in Communication and Public Relations and Translation/Interpretation.

KEY-TERMS

Specialized discourse analysis, discursive strategies, stylistic strategies, manipulative language.

ACTIVITIES

- Corpus analysis, data processing, cross fertilization of current ideas/ issues in applied linguistics, sociolinguistics, communication studies, media studies, cultural studies etc.;
- Identifying strategies to investigate the above-mentioned discourse types;
- Printing materials for language professionals and students specializing in Communication and Public Relations, Translation and Interpretation.

PUBLISHED BOOKS

- 1. Tănase, Delia, *Investigating Language Bias and Neutrality – The Case of News Discourse-*, Timișoara, Politehnica Publishing House, 2010, ISBN 978-606-554-166-5.
- 2. Farcaşiu, Marcela, Language in the Courtroom: A Comparative Study of American and Romanian Criminal Trials, unpublished PhD thesis, 2010, University of the West, Timisoara.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS

The research shall be further extended to other specialized discourses and related genres used for didactic purposes.

RESEARCH TEAM

- > Assistant Delia Tănase, PhD
- Reader Mariana Cernicova-Bucă, PhD
- Lecturer Mirela Pop, PhD
- Assistant Daniel Dejica-Cartis, PhD
- Assistant Marcela Farcaşiu, PhD
- Assistant Simona Simon, PhD
- Assistant doctoral student Annamaria Kilyeni

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3. Contrastive approaches of specialized languages in English, French, German and Romanian

Language differences can be an obstacle to communication within organizations. These differences arise due to specialized tasks and status differences between members of the organization. Thus, engineers, economists, PR specialists, etc., use their own terminology to communicate accurately among themselves, but which is jargon for others. Therefore, it is very important during the communication process to try to know the true meanings the interlocutor gives to certain terms and verbal constructions, to make an effort to adapt to this level of training and knowledge and to try to terms appropriate to their level or use understanding. Knowledge of specialized languages and foreign languages is designed to meet specialists' needs in order to facilitate their communication.

KEY-TERMS

Specialized discourse, language for special purposes, terminology, communication.

ACTIVITIES

➤ establishing different types of specialized languages and ways of communication within organizations;

> analyzing languages and establishing the importance of knowing the terminology needed for professional communication;

➤ choosing the most appropriate means of communication within specialized languages;

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establishing changes to be made to achieve the desired results.

PUBLISHED BOOK

Grosseck, Maria-Dana, "Bausteine der Fachsprachen", Editura Politehnica, Timişoara, 2010, ISBN 978-606-554-172-6

PUBLISHED PAPERS

- Grosseck, Maria-Dana, German not only a Foreign Language but also a Language for Special Purposes, Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 2, Issue 2, 2010, pp. 3363-3367, ISSN 1877-0428, published By Elsevier Publishing LTD, indexed at ScienceDirect, Scopus and Thomson Reuters Conference Proceeding Citation Index (Web of Science)
- 2. Grosseck, Maria-Dana, Der Fachsprachenunterricht und seine Rolle zur Verbesserung und Unterstützung der Unternehmenskommunikation, in Studia Germanica Napocensia, Band 3/2010 (in print).

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS

The next step is to communicate the results of this research and publish them in professional journals or volumes, with the aim of disseminating this information to all people interested in professional communication within organizations.

RESEARCH TEAM

- > Assistant Dana Grosseck PhD
- > Assistant Ruxandra Buglea PhD
- > Assistant Anca Dejica-Carțiș PhD
- Assistant Marcela Fărcaşiu PhD

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4. Verbal and Nonverbal Communication in Advertising Discourse

The starting point of our research is the observation that advertising is primarily an act of communication in which several factors are involved: text, image, substance, situation, context, participants and function. The aim of our research is analyze the various ways to in which communication between advertisers/copywriters and target audience is realized through print advertisements in British glossy magazines. Our analysis focuses both verbal/textual on

communication (e.g. headline, slogan, body) and on nonverbal communication (e.g. image, paralanguage).

KEY-TERMS

Advertising discourse, print advertisements, verbal communication, nonverbal communication, linguistic sign, visual sign

ACTIVITIES

- building up the corpus of print advertisements,
- classifying print advertisements according to the way in which they address the reader, i.e. text, image or both,
- identifying the textual and visual signs that make up these print advertisements and analysing the way in which they combine in order to realise and transmit the advertising message.

PUBLISHED PAPER

Kilyeni, A., *The Grammar of Skin in Print Ads* in Proceedings of the 20th International Conference on British and American Studies, 20-22 May 2010, University of the West, Timişoara, Ed. UVT, ISSN 1224-3086 (in print).

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS

The research shall be further extended to print advertisements in Romanian glossy magazines in order to identify differences in communication patterns, especially on the textual level.

RESEARCH TEAM

- Assistant doctoral student Annamaria Kilyeni
- Assistant Simona Şimon, PhD
- Assistant Ruxandra Buglea, PhD

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5. The Ideological Dimension of Advertising Discourse

Although the primary aim of advertising is to promote a wide variety of goods to the public and thus support the free market economy, advertising also fulfills a pronounced ideological function. Many scholars have emphasized the fact that the contemporary advertising discourse has become more involved in promoting and shaping social values and attitudes, and less concerned with communicating essential information about the advertised commodities. Therefore, based on a corpus of print advertisements in British women's glossy magazines, our research aims at identifying and analyzing the ideological aspects of advertising as well as the values print advertisements addressed to women attempt to promote as universal truths.

KEY-TERMS

Advertising discourse, print advertisements, ideology, universal truth, social values

ACTIVITIES

- building up the corpus of print advertisements,
- identifying the ideological elements present in print advertisements targeted at women,
- analyzing these ideological elements according to the social values they put forth and to the way in which they are sent out (both linguistically and visually) as part of the advertising message.

PUBLISHED PAPERS

- Kilyeni, A., *The Tyranny of the Image in Print* Ads and the Construction of Femininity in Hegedus, I. & S. Martsa (eds) CrosSections: Selected Papers in Linguistics from the 9th HUSSE Conference, 1/2010, pp. 249-257, ISBN 978-963-642-323-0, Pecs: Institute of English Studies.
- 2. Kilyeni, A., *Mirror, Mirror on the Wall... Regulated Beauty in Print Ads Targeted at Women* in Romanian Journal of English Studies, 7/2010, pp. 48-59, ISSN 1584-3734, Timisoara, Editura Universitatii de Vest.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS

The next step in our research is to focus on the promotion of gender ideology in advertising discourse. We shall analyze the way in which feminine and masculine are culturally constructed signs.

RESEARCH TEAM

- Assistant Doctoral Student Annamaria Kilyeni
- Assistant Simona Şimon, PhD
- Assistant Ruxandra Buglea, PhD

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Researches in PUBLIC RELATIONS

Public relations in Romanian and Euroregional context

The Euroregional communication combines topics and strategies specific for public authorities of local relevance with international PR. The multiple voices in the region concur to forging a specific types of messages for an emerging cross-border public. The research team attempts to investigate the fascinating process of the emerging euroregional public, public opinion and public message(s).

KEY-TERMS

Public relations, Euroregion, communication strategies

ACTIVITIES

- Developing the theoretical frame for connecting general PR studies to the special case of public communication in Euroregional context;
- Studying the PR strategies used in the selected area (DKMT region) by various stakeholders (public sector, NGOs, business community etc.)
- Developing teaching materials for students in communication studies, enabling them to undertand and work in the Euroregion.

PUBLISHED PAPER

Cernicova - Bucă, Mariana, *PR challenges in promoting the cross-border cooperation Danube-Cris-Mures-Tisa (DKMT)*, published in Professional Communication And Translation Studies, 2010, Editura Politehnica, Timișoara, ISSN 2065-099X, pp. 3-8.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS

The team seeks to investigate to what extent PR activities are understood and applied in the Western part of Romania and in Euroregional context.

RESEARCH TEAM

- > Reader Mariana Cernicova-Bucă, PhD
- Reader Adriana Ritt, PhD
- Lecturer Mugurel Dragomir, PhD
- Asistant doctoral student Adina Palea

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Researches in FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING

RESEARCH FIELD

1. Approaches and Methods in Foreign Language Teaching in Specific Academic Fields

The research aims to approach foreign language teaching in specific academic fields (nonphilological field in particular) in line with the new pedagogical, methodological and technological perspectives, national and international foreign language teaching recommendations and reference tools. The major goal of the research team is to highlight concepts, principles and current academic foreign language teaching approaches, to showcase new methods and new types of activities in specific teaching-learning situations. The teaching-learning process is approached in terms of the triad *learning* (specific competences), teaching (objective specific tasks in given situations - appropriate methods - support) - assessment (achievements proficiency level). The main targeted languages are French, English and German, used both in general communication and specialized communication, and Romanian for foreign students.

KEY-TERMS

Foreign language teaching approaches and methods, specific academic fields, non-philological academic fields, competence-based approach, action-oriented approach, competence-based curricular design, curricular models, specific activities.

ACTIVITIES

- Identifying and applying foreign language teaching approaches and methods in nonphilological field (engineering field);
- Designing intensive language course programs for specific purposes;
- Developing foreign language learning materials within non-philological academic fields.

RESEARCH PROJECT

Erasmus Intensive Language Courses (EILC) 2010-2011, Lifelong Learning Program (LLP). Grant EILC nr. 49104/08.02.2010. Contract no. 5/30.06.2010. Cod Grant: 10-EILC-RO TIMISOA04. Project coordinator: M. Pop, Lecturer PhD. Project Team: L. Dolga, Prof. Eng., PhD, D. Popescu, M. Băluţ, C. Micea.

PUBLISHED BOOKS

 Pop, M., Segers, M.-C., Pratique du français. Deuxième édition révisée. À l'usage des étudiants des sections non linguistiques, Timişoara, 2010, Orizonturi Universitare, ISBN 978-973-638-453-0.

- Pop, M., Pratique du français. Cahier de séminaire. Deuxième édition révisée. À l'usage des étudiants des sections non linguistiques, Timişoara, 2010, Orizonturi Universitare, ISBN 978-973-638-462-2.
- 3. Pop, M., Tănase, D., Popescu, D., Intensive Romanian Course for Beginners. For Erasmus Students, Timișoara, Solness, 2010, ISBN 978-973-729-214-8.

PUBLISHED PAPERS

- Pop, M., Defining training stage objectives for foreign language teaching in higher technical education: a competence-basedapproach, in B. Katalinic (ed.) Annals of DAAAM for 2010 & Proceedings of the 21th International DAAAM Symposium, 20-23rd October 2010, pp. 1517-1518, Zadar, Croatia, published by DAAAM International, Vienna, 2010. ISSN: 1726-9679, ISBN 978-3-901509-73-5.
- Pop, M., Foreign language teaching at Technical Universities: written mediation activities in B. Katalinic (ed.) Annals of DAAAM for 2010 & Proceedings of the 21th International DAAAM Symposium, 20-23rd October 2010, pp. 1519-1520, Zadar, Croatia, published by DAAAM International, Vienna, 2010. ISSN: 1726-9679, ISBN 978-3-901509-73-5.
- Tănase-Robescu, D., Pop, M., Developing a Common Framework for Foreign Language Teaching in Romanian Technical Universities, Procedia-Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 2, Issue 2/2010, Uzunboylu, H. (ed.), pp. 5630-5634, published by Elsevier Publication, ISSN 1877-0428

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS

- Defining and describing competence-based curricular design for foreign language teaching in specific academic fields;
- Designing curricular models;
- Developing foreign language learning/ teaching materials for various specific academic fields.

RESEARCH TEAM

- Lecturer Mirela Pop, PhD
- Lecturer Claudia Icobescu, PhD
- Assistant Delia Tănase-Robescu, PhD
- Assistant Mihaela Visky

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2. Interculturality in specialized discourse and in foreign languages teaching

The birth of the European Union, the fast worldwide technical and economical development and the surprising social changes forced particularly the European countries to a better collaboration regarding science and education. The target is a serious progress towards a complete cultural and political integration into the interdependent European system. Research, education and teaching have to provide a solid foundation for the further development of the modern society, and teachers have to accept their role as "Culture Providers".

KEY-TERMS

Cultural contact, socialization, culture provider, intercultural education, intercultural teaching, cultural and linguistic integration, intercultural exchange

ACTIVITIES

The development of the project implies a parallel approach of the two plans. The observations and the results of the individual analysis are communicated and debated within the regular meetings of the research team in order to ensure the coherence of the project. On the other hand, the individual studies are to be made public, depending on the working stage.

PUBLISHED BOOK

Cartis, Anca, *"Literarische Texte im Deutschunterricht"*, unpublished PhD thesis, 2010, University of the West, Timisoara.

PUBLISHED PAPER

Ruthner, Andreea, *Theoretische und didaktische Konzepte des interkulturellen Phänomens im Bereich der Fremdsprachendidaktik* in Nubert, R. (ed.) Temeswarer Beiträge zur Germanistik, 15-16 October 2010, West - University, Timişoara, Timisoara, Editura Mirton (in print).

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS

The research shall be further extended to other specialised discourses used for didactic purposes.

RESEARCH TEAM

- Assistant Ruxandra Buglea, PhD
- Assistant Anca Dejica-Cartis, PhD
- Assistant Marcela Fărcașiu, PhD
- Assistant Maria Grosseck, PhD
- Assistant doctoral student Andreea Ruthner

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