

Generalized Tetranacci Sequence and Its Period

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Abstract: Every Tetranacci Sequence starting with an arbitrary quadruple of integers is periodic modulo m for any modulus $m > 1$. In this paper we derive relations between $h(p^e)[a, b, c, d]$ and $h(p)[a, b, c, d]$ which also depend on the form of the factorization of polynomial $g(x)$ over the field \mathbb{F}_p .

Keywords — Modular periodicity, Periodic sequence, Tetranacci sequence,

I. INTRODUCTION

Let $(t_n)_{n=0}^\infty$ be a Tetranacci sequence 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 2, 4, 8, 15, 29, 56, 108, 208, 401, 773,..... defined by the recurrence relation $t_{n+4} = t_{n+3} + t_{n+2} + t_{n+1} + t_n$ and with initial values $[t_0, t_1, t_2, t_3] = [0, 0, 0, 1]$ and let $(T_n)_{n=0}^\infty$ be a Tetranacci sequence defined by the recurrence relation $T_{n+4} = T_{n+3} + T_{n+2} + T_{n+1} + T_n$ with an arbitrary quadruple of integers $[a, b, c, d]$. Mansi & Dr. Patel [5] has proved that both the above sequences are periodic for any arbitrary modulus $m > 1$. We denote $h(m)$ and $h(m)[a, b, c, d]$ the primitive periods of these sequences respectively. Let L be the splitting field of the Tetranacci polynomial $g(x) = x^4 - x^3 - x^2 - x - 1$ over the field \mathbb{F}_p . Here, we derive relationship between $h(p)[a, b, c, d]$ and $h(p^e)[a, b, c, d]$, where p is an arbitrary prime, and $e \in \mathbb{N}$.

II. TETRANACCI SEQUENCE – CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

Let Tetranacci matrix T be defined by

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and}$$

$$T^n = \begin{bmatrix} t_{n-1} & s_{n-1} & m_{n-1} & t_n \\ t_n & s_n & m_n & t_{n+1} \\ t_{n+1} & s_{n+1} & m_{n+1} & t_{n+2} \\ t_{n+2} & s_{n+2} & m_{n+2} & t_{n+3} \end{bmatrix} \text{ for } n > 1$$

The Tetranacci sequence $\{t_n\}$ is defined by:

$$t_{n+4} = t_{n+3} + t_{n+2} + t_{n+1} + t_n$$

$$t_0 = t_1 = t_2 = 0, t_3 = 1$$

Two companion sequences $\{s_n\}$ and $\{m_n\}$ are defined as:

$$s_{n+4} = s_{n+3} + s_{n+2} + s_{n+1} + s_n$$

$$s_0 = s_3 = 1, s_1 = s_2 = 0$$

$$m_{n+4} = m_{n+3} + m_{n+2} + m_{n+1} + m_n$$

$$m_0 = m_2 = 0, m_1 = m_3 = 1$$

For any arbitrary $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and an arbitrary modulus m , T^n assumes a unique form $T^n = B + mA$, where $A = [a_{ij}]$ and $B = [b_{ij}]$ are integer matrices such that $0 \leq b_{ij} \leq m - 1$ and $[a_{ij}]$ are nonnegative integers. If $n = h(m)$, then $T^{h(m)} \equiv E \pmod{m}$, where E is an identity matrix. Therefore, we can express $T^{h(m)}$ as $T^{h(m)} = E + mA$. ([3], [5])

III. RELATION BETWEEN TETRANACCI SEQUENCE $(T_n)_{n=0}^\infty$ AND GENERALIZED TETRANACCI SEQUENCE $(T_n)_{n=0}^\infty$

A formula for the n^{th} term of generalized Tetranacci sequence $(T_n)_{n=0}^\infty$ was derived from the given terms designated as T_0, T_1, T_2, T_3 only.

To find the general formula for the n^{th} term T_n of the generalized Tetranacci sequence, a following pattern is recognized. All the equations derived are listed to find recognizable patterns easily.

$$T_4 = T_0 + T_1 + T_2 + T_3$$

$$T_5 = T_0 + 2T_1 + 2T_2 + 2T_3$$

$$T_6 = 2T_0 + 3T_1 + 4T_2 + 4T_3$$

$$T_7 = 4T_0 + 6T_1 + 7T_2 + 8T_3$$

$$T_8 = 8T_0 + 12T_1 + 14T_2 + 15T_3$$

$$T_9 = 15T_0 + 23T_1 + 27T_2 + 29T_3$$

After careful observation and investigation, all the numerical coefficients of T_0, T_1, T_2 and T_3 are as shown in the Table.

A. Table 3.1

Number of terms	n th term of Tetranacci Sequence	Coefficients			
		T_0	T_1	T_2	T_3
4	T_4	1	1	1	1
5	T_5	1	2	2	2
6	T_6	2	3	4	4
7	T_7	4	6	7	8
8	T_8	8	12	14	15
9	T_9	15	23	27	29
.....
			t_{n-2}	t_{n-2}	
n	T_n	t_{n-1}	$+ t_{n-1}$	$+ t_{n-1}$	t_n

It can be noted that coefficients of T_0, T_1, T_2 and T_3 follows the given Tetranacci sequence [1].

B. Table 3.2

n th term	t_0	t_1	t_2	t_3	t_4	t_5	t_6	t_7	t_8	t_9, \dots
Tetranacci Number	0	0	0	1	1	2	4	8	15	29,.....

From these observations we have the following Theorem.

Theorem 3.3: For any real numbers T_0, T_1, T_2 and T_3 the formula for finding nth term T_n of generalized Tetranacci sequence is:

$$T_n = t_{n-1}(T_0 + T_1 + T_2) + t_{n-2}(T_1 + T_2) + t_{n-3}T_2 + t_nT_3$$

Proof: We will prove the Theorem by Induction on $n \geq 3$ From Table (3.2), we get, $T_3 = T_3$ (Which is easy to verify). For $n = 4, T_4 = T_0 + T_1 + T_2 + T_3$ which is true from the definition of Tetranacci sequence.

Next, we will show that the formula is valid for $n > 4$.

Assuming that

$$(3.3.1) \quad P(k) = T_k = t_{k-1}(T_0 + T_1 + T_2) + t_{k-2}(T_1 + T_2) + t_{k-3}T_2 + t_kT_3 \text{ is true.}$$

We shall find the $(k + 1)^{th}$ term of the sequence, i.e. we shall prove that

$$(3.3.2) \quad P(k + 1) = T_{k+1} = t_k(T_0 + T_1 + T_2) + t_{k-1}(T_1 + T_2) + t_{k-2}T_2 + t_{k+1}T_3$$

We will add t_{k-1}, t_{k-2} and t_{k-3} to both sides of $P(k)$. The left side of $P(k)$ will become,

$t_{k-3} + t_{k-2} + t_{k-1} + t_k$, Which is equal to t_{k+1} , that is the left side of $P(k + 1)$.

After adding t_{k-1}, t_{k-2} and t_{k-3} the right side of $P(k)$ will become,

$$(3.3.3) \quad t_{k-1}(T_0 + T_1 + T_2) + t_{k-2}(T_1 + T_2) + t_{k-3}T_2 + t_kT_3 + t_{k-1} + t_{k-2} + t_{k-3}$$

But from (3.3.1),

$$T_{k-1} = t_{k-2}(T_0 + T_1 + T_2) + t_{k-3}(T_1 + T_2) + t_{k-4}T_2 + t_{k-1}T_3$$

$$T_{k-2} = t_{k-3}(T_0 + T_1 + T_2) + t_{k-4}(T_1 + T_2) + t_{k-5}T_2 + t_{k-2}T_3$$

$$T_{k-3} = t_{k-4}(T_0 + T_1 + T_2) + t_{k-5}(T_1 + T_2) + t_{k-6}T_2 + t_{k-3}T_3$$

The equation (3.3.3) becomes,

$$\begin{aligned} &(t_{k-1} + t_{k-2} + t_{k-3} + t_{k-4})(T_0 + T_1 + T_2) \\ &+ (t_{k-2} + t_{k-3} + t_{k-4} + t_{k-5})(T_1 + T_2) \\ &+ (t_{k-3} + t_{k-4} + t_{k-5} + t_{k-6})(T_2) \\ &+ (t_k + t_{k-1} + t_{k-2} + t_{k-3})(T_3) \end{aligned}$$

$$= (t_k)(T_0 + T_1 + T_2) + (t_{k-1})(T_1 + T_2) + (t_{k-2})(T_2) + (t_{k+1})(T_3)$$

Which is equal to the right side of $P(k + 1)$.

Therefore through Mathematical induction conclusion follows.

Remark 3.4: Replace n by $n + 4$, in the result of Theorem (3.3) we get,

$$T_{n+4} = t_{n+3}(T_0 + T_1 + T_2) + t_{n+2}(T_1 + T_2) + t_{n+1}T_2 + t_{n+4}T_3$$

Let, $T_0 = a, T_1 = b, T_2 = c, T_3 = d$, in above result, we get,

$$T_{n+4} = (a + b + c)t_{n+3} + (b + c)t_{n+2} + c.t_{n+1} + d.t_{n+4}$$

IV. IRREDUCIBLE CASE

In this case we define quartic form to investigate the primitive periods of Tetranacci sequences beginning with the arbitrary quadruples $[a, b, c, d]$. Here we define integer representation by a quartic form associated with a fourth order recurrence known as the Tetranacci recurrence. The technique of derived sequences is used to define an invariant quartic forms, computed as third derived sequences ([4], [9]) of a fourth order linear recurrence sequences defined by

$$T_{n+4} = T_{n+3} + T_{n+2} + T_{n+1} + T_n, \quad n \geq 0.$$

$$T_n^{(3)} = \begin{vmatrix} T_n & T_{n+1} & T_{n+2} & T_{n+3} \\ T_{n+1} & T_{n+2} & T_{n+3} & T_{n+4} \\ T_{n+2} & T_{n+3} & T_{n+4} & T_{n+5} \\ T_{n+3} & T_{n+4} & T_{n+5} & T_{n+6} \end{vmatrix}$$

Let, $T_n = a, T_{n+1} = b, T_{n+2} = c$ and $T_{n+3} = d$,

we get,

$$T_n^{(3)} = \begin{vmatrix} a & b & c & d \\ b & c & d & a + b + c + d \\ c & d & a + b + c + d & a + 2b + 2c + 2d \\ d & a + b + c + d & a + 2b + 2c + 2d & 2a + 3b + 4c + 4d \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= -a^4 - 2ab^3 - 4a^2b^2 - 3a^3b - ac^3 - 8abc^2 - 2a^3c - \\ &12ab^2c - 7a^2bc - ad^3 + a^2d^2 + 4abd^2 - 2acd^2 - \\ &a^3d + 3ab^2d + 5ac^2d + 2a^2cd + 3abcd + b^4 - 5bc^3 - \\ &3b^3c - 2bd^3 + bcd^2 + 2a^2bd + 3b^3d + 8bc^2d + 2b^2cd - \\ &3c^4 - 7b^2c^2 - 3cd^3 + 2c^2d^2 + 2c^3d + d^4 \end{aligned}$$

$= D(a, b, c, d)$ (say)

Theorem 4.1.: If a quadruple of initial values $[a, b, c, d]$ of a Tetranacci sequence $\{T_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$ satisfies $(D(a, b, c, d), m) = 1$ then $h(m)[a, b, c, d] = h(m)$.

Proof. For $n \geq 0$, the sequences $\{t_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$ and $\{T_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$ satisfy the relation by Theorem 3.3,

$$(4.1.1) \quad T_n = t_{n-1}(T_0 + T_1 + T_2) + t_{n-2}(T_1 + T_2) + t_{n-3}T_2 + t_nT_3$$

Put, $T_0 = a, T_1 = b, T_2 = c, T_3 = d$, we get,

$$(4.1.2) \quad T_n = (a + b + c)t_{n-1} + (b + c)t_{n-2} + c.t_{n-3} + d.t_n$$

Let $h(m)[a, b, c, d] = h$ and therefore,

$$[T_h, T_{h+1}, T_{h+2}, T_{h+3}] \equiv [a, b, c, d](mod\ m)$$

Case 1: Put $n = h$ in equation (4.1.2) we get,

$$(4.1.3) \quad T_h = (a + b + c)t_{h-1} + (b + c)t_{h-2} + c.t_{h-3} + d.t_h$$

We know that, $t_{h-1} = t_{h+3} - t_h - t_{h+1} - t_{h+2}$

$$t_{h-2} = 2t_{h+2} - t_{h+3}$$

Also we have, $t_{h-3} = 2t_{h+1} - t_{h+2}$

From equation (4.1.3) we get,

$$T_h = (a + b + c)(t_{h+3} - t_h - t_{h+1} - t_{h+2}) + (b + c)(2t_{h+2} - t_{h+3}) + c.(2t_{h+1} - t_{h+2}) + d.t_h$$

$$(4.1.4) \quad T_h = (d - a - b - c)t_h + (c - a - b)t_{h+1} + (b - a)t_{h+2} + at_{h+3}$$

Case 2: Take, $n = h + 1$, we get,

$$\begin{aligned} T_{h+1} &= (a + b + c)t_h + (b + c)t_{h-1} + c.t_{h-2} + d.t_{h+1} \\ &= (a + b + c)t_h + (b + c)(t_{h+3} - t_h - t_{h+1} - t_{h+2}) \\ &\quad + c.(2t_{h+2} - t_{h+3}) + d.t_{h+1} \end{aligned}$$

$$(4.1.5) \quad T_{h+1} = a.t_h + (d - b - c)t_{h+1} + (c - b).t_{h+2} + b.t_{h+3}$$

Case 3: Put $n = h + 2$ we get,

$$T_{h+2} = (a + b + c)t_{h+1} + (b + c)t_h + c.t_{h-1} + d.t_{h+2}$$

$$(4.1.6) \quad T_{h+2} = bt_h + (a + b)t_{h+1} + (d - c)t_{h+2} + c.t_{h+3}$$

Case 4: Put $n = h + 3$, we get,

$$(4.1.7) \quad T_{h+3} = (a + b + c)t_{h+2} + (b + c)t_{h+1} + c.t_h + d.t_{h+3}$$

The equations (4.1.4), (4.1.5), (4.1.6) and (4.1.7) can be written in the matrix form as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_h \\ T_{h+1} \\ T_{h+2} \\ T_{h+3} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} d - a - b - c & c - a - b & b - a & a \\ a & d - b - c & c - b & b \\ b & a + b & d - c & c \\ c & b + c & a + b + c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} t_h \\ t_{h+1} \\ t_{h+2} \\ t_{h+3} \end{bmatrix}$$

We have, $[T_h, T_{h+1}, T_{h+2}, T_{h+3}] \equiv [a, b, c, d](mod\ m)$

By above equation, we can write,

$$\begin{bmatrix} d - a - b - c & c - a - b & b - a & a \\ a & d - b - c & c - b & b \\ b & a + b & d - c & c \\ c & b + c & a + b + c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} t_h \\ t_{h+1} \\ t_{h+2} \\ t_{h+3} \end{bmatrix} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \\ d \end{bmatrix} (mod\ m)$$

which can be modified into the form

$$(4.1.8) \quad \begin{bmatrix} d - a - b - c & c - a - b & b - a & a \\ a & d - b - c & c - b & b \\ b & a + b & d - c & c \\ c & b + c & a + b + c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} t_h \\ t_{h+1} \\ t_{h+2} \\ t_{h+3} - 1 \end{bmatrix} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} (mod\ m)$$

Here the determinant of the matrix (4.1.8) depends only on a, b, c , and d and is equal to $D(a, b, c, d)$. System has only one solution if and only if the numbers $D(a, b, c, d)$, m are coprime. In this case we have

$[t_h, t_{h+1}, t_{h+2}, t_{h+3}] \equiv [0, 0, 0, 1](mod\ m)$ and hence $h(m)|h$. since also $h|h(m)$.

Therefore $h = h(m)$ follows.

Theorem 4.2: let $v_1 = [a, b, c, d]$, $v_2 = [b, c, d, a + b + c + d]$, $v_3 = [c, d, a + b + c + d, a + 2b + 2c + 2d]$, $v_4 = [d, a + b + c + d, a + 2b + 2c + 2d, 2a + 3b + 4c + 4d]$. Then v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4 are linearly independent over \mathbb{F}_p if and only if $D(a, b, c, d) \not\equiv 0 \pmod p$. Moreover, the linear independence of v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4 implies $h \mid p, a, b, c, d = hp$.

Proof: From the above result (4.1.8) we have a matrix,

$$\begin{bmatrix} d - a - b - c & c - a - b & b - a & a \\ a & d - b - c & c - b & b \\ b & a + b & d - c & c \\ c & b + c & a + b + c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

By applying elementary column transformation, the matrix can be converted the form:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c & d \\ b & c & d & a + b + c + d \\ c & d & a + b + c + d & a + 2b + 2c + 2d \\ d & a + b + c + d & a + 2b + 2c + 2d & 2a + 3b + 4c + 4d \end{bmatrix}$$

Where $\det A = D(a, b, c, d)$. Hence it follows that the rows of A are linearly independent over \mathbb{F}_p if and only if $D(a, b, c, d) \not\equiv 0 \pmod p$. Therefore from Theorem (4.1) it follows that $h(p)[a, b, c, d] = h(p)$.

Remark 4.3

Generally the equality of periods $h(p)[a, b, c, d] = h(p)$ does not imply linear independence of v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4 over \mathbb{F}_p . For example, $h(3)[1, 2, 3, 4] = h(3)[0, 0, 0, 1] = 26$ and $D(1, 2, 3, 4) = 111 \equiv 0 \pmod 3$. Therefore, the rows of $A = D(1, 2, 3, 4)$ are not linearly independent over \mathbb{F}_p .

Theorem 4.4

A quadruple $[a, b, c, d]$ satisfies the congruence $D(a, b, c, d) \equiv 0 \pmod p$ if and only if the sequence

$\{T_n \text{ mod } p\}_{n=0}^\infty$ with beginning value $[a, b, c, d]$ can be defined as a first, second or third order recurrence formula.

Proof. If $D(a, b, c, d) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ then from the Theorem (4.2) it follows that v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4 are linearly dependent.

Let v_1 and v_2 are linearly dependent. Therefore there exist an integer $k \in Z$ such that

$$(4.4.1) \quad k[a, b, c, d] \equiv [b, c, d, a + b + c + d] \pmod{p}$$

By matching the terms, we get, $T_n \equiv ak^n \pmod{p}$, from (4.4.1) by induction. This means that $\{T_n \text{ mod } p\}_{n=0}^\infty$ can be defined over \mathbb{F}_p by the first order recurrence formula,

$$T_{n+1} \equiv kT_n \pmod{p}, \quad \text{Where } T_0 = a$$

Suppose that, v_1, v_2 are linearly independent and v_1, v_2, v_3 are linearly dependent. This means that there exists integers $k_1, k_2 \in Z$ such that

$$(4.4.2) \quad k_1[a, b, c, d] + k_2[b, c, d, a + b + c + d] \\ \equiv [c, d, a + b + c + d, a + 2b + 2c + 2d] \pmod{p}$$

By analogy it follows from (4.4.2) that

$$T_{n+2} \equiv k_1T_n + k_2T_{n+1} \pmod{p},$$

$$\text{Where } T_0 = a \text{ and } T_1 = b.$$

Suppose that v_1, v_2, v_3 are linearly independent and v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4 are linearly dependent. This means that there exists integers $k_1, k_2, k_3 \in Z$ such that

$$(4.4.3) \quad k_1[a, b, c, d] + k_2[b, c, d, a + b + c + d] + \\ k_3[c, d, a + b + c + d, a + 2b + 2c + 2d] \\ \equiv [d, a + b + c + d, a + 2b + 2c + 2d, 2a + 3b + 4c + 4d] \pmod{p}$$

Using analogy, (4.4.3) can be written in the form as,

$$T_{n+3} \equiv k_1T_n + k_2T_{n+1} + k_3T_{n+2} \pmod{p}$$

$$\text{Where } T_0 = a, T_1 = b \text{ and } T_2 = c.$$

Conversely suppose that $\{T_n \text{ mod } p\}_{n=0}^\infty$ can be defined by a recurrence of at most three. This means that v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4 are linearly dependent over \mathbb{F}_p and by Theorem (4.2) we can write,

$$(4.4.4) \quad D(a, b, c, d) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}.$$

Let us now investigate the number of all solutions of the congruence (4.4.4).

We know that the number of solutions of (4.4.4) depends on the form of factorization of $g(x) = x^4 - x^3 - x^2 - x - 1$ over the field \mathbb{F}_p .

Lemma 4.5 Let $g(x)$ be irreducible over \mathbb{F}_p . Then the only solution of (4.4.4) is $(a, b, c, d) \equiv [0, 0, 0, 0] \pmod{p}$

Proof: Let L be the splitting field of $g(x)$ over \mathbb{F}_p . The irreducibility of $g(x)$ gives that $[L: \mathbb{F}_p] = 4$. The Galois

group of L/\mathbb{F}_p is generated by the Frobenius Automorphism $\sigma: L \rightarrow L$ determined by $\sigma(t) = t^p$, for any $t \in L$.

Let $\alpha \in L$ be a root of $g(x)$. Then $\beta = \sigma(\alpha)$, $\gamma = \sigma(\beta)$, $\delta = \sigma(\gamma)$ are the other roots of $g(x)$ and we have $\alpha^p = \beta$, $\beta^p = \gamma$, $\gamma^p = \delta$, $\delta^p = \alpha$. There are unique $A, B, C, D \in L$ such that

$$(4.5.1) \quad T_n \text{ mod } p = A\alpha^n + B\beta^n + C\gamma^n + D\delta^n$$

For each $n \in N$, $A\alpha^n + B\beta^n + C\gamma^n + D\delta^n = \sigma(A\alpha^n + B\beta^n + C\gamma^n + D\delta^n) = \sigma A\beta^n + \sigma B\gamma^n + \sigma C\delta^n + \sigma D\alpha^n$, which gives

$$(4.5.2) \quad B = \sigma(A) = A^p, \quad c = \sigma(B) = B^p, \quad D = \sigma(C) = C^p, \quad A = \sigma(D) = D^p,$$

It follows from (4.5.2) that A, B, C, D are either all non zero or $A = B = C = D = 0$. Hence by (4.5.1) the sequence $(T_n \text{ mod } p)_{n=0}^\infty$ cannot be, with the exception of the sequence beginning with $[0, 0, 0, 0]$, defined by a recurrence formula of first, second or third order. Lemma (4.5) now follows from 4.4.

Lemma 4.6. Let $g(x)$ be factorized over \mathbb{F}_p , ($p \neq 563$) into the product of linear factor and an irreducible cubic factor, two linear factors and one irreducible quadratic factor, or four linear factors then (4.4.4) has exactly $p^3 + p - 1$, $2p^3 - 2p + 1$, $4p^3 - 6p^2 + 4p - 1$ solutions respectively.

Proof: If $p \neq 563$ then $g(x)$ has only simple roots in the splitting field L of $g(x)$ over \mathbb{F}_p . And so a Tetranacci sequence can be expressed in the form

$$T_n = k_1\alpha^n + k_2\beta^n + k_3\gamma^n + k_4\delta^n$$

Where $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$ are the roots of $g(x)$ in L and $k_i \in L$. It is evident that $D(a, b, c, d) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ if and only if $k_i = 0$, for $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$. The assertion of lemma can now be proved by a suitable use of inclusion exclusion principle.

Remark 4.7. Two irreducible quadratic factors of $g(x)$ are not possible.

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