# Studies on the Parasite Fauna of Thailand

# 3. Mites associated with Thai mammals

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Abstract: Forty five species of mites parasitic or phoretic on Thai small mammals were recorded. Detailed morphology and figures for an anonymous *Laelaps*, the male of *Longolaelaps whartoni* Drumond et Baker and both the sexes of the mite identified as *Hirstionyssus indosinensis* Bregetova et Grohovskaja were presented.

#### INTRODUCTION

During the survey of Thai mammals carried out in 1978 and 1979, the junior author collected acari found on all the catches. Parasitic acari have so far been studied extensively in Indochina region, and, in some genera or even in some families, it is rather difficult to get new records in this region. Collection records of any scale that always yield some valuable informations should, however, be properly presented. On this view, all the parastic acari, exclusive of ticks (Ixodides) and trombiculids (Trombidiformes) that will be dealt with in other papers, collected in the survey are recorded below.

It is usual to find non-parasitic acari on the fur of mammals. Some species are regular phoretic mites, and some others become associated with mammals quite accidentally. Both the groups of mites are expected to be indicative to some extent of environmental conditions of ranges of carrier mammals. Informations of these non-parasitic mites as well as nidicolous mites should be compiled hereafter systematically, improving any occasion. Thus, all the non-parasitic mites will be also recorded in this report.

## HOSTS AND LOCALITIES

The mammals that yielded mites comprized 8 species of 4 orders as shown in Table 1. These hosts were caught at Mae Hongson, Nakorn Nayok and The River Kuwai, Thailand, in September to August, 1978, and at Nakorn Nayok and Doi Inthanon, Thailand, in February, 1979.

Table 1. Hosts that yielded mites

#### Chiroptera

Rousettus leschenaulti Myotis siligorensis

Insectivora

Anourosorex squamipes

#### Rodentia

Eothenomys melanogaster

Mus pahari

Rattus rattus

Rattus sabanus

D . . .

Rattus niviventer

Rattus flavescens

Rattus surifer

Menetes berdmorei

Primates

Tupaia glis

#### MITES RECORDS

The direct mite sampling method employed during survey resulted in the collection of a total of 45 species representing 25 genera, inclusive of some undetermined ones, of 19 families as presented in Table 2. Among these mites, the validity of *Radfordia* (*Radfordia*) sp. nr. *ensifera* (Poppe) (Myobiidae) is not confirmed.

Parasitic Laelapidae were most abundant on an insectivore and rodents. Haemogamasus suncus Allred new to Thailand was originally described as the parasite of Suncus (Pachyura) sp. and Soriculus spp. on Hymalayan high land, Nepal (Allred, 1969). The present record on Doi Inthanon suggests a continuous distribution of H. suncus from the northern high land to Hymalaya, associating with various insectivores. The Thai host, Anourosorex squamipes, was also infested with the 2 mites, Androlaelaps (Haemolaelaps) sorcinus (Jameson) and Placomyobia wilsoni Jameson, both of which occur on the same host on the high altitude of Taiwan (Jameson, 1966, 1970).

The mites of the genus Longolaelaps are endemic to the Oriental region. The three species of the genus have been described based on the females. In the case of L. whartoni Drummond et Baker, the original description was made on the 8 female specimens taken from Rattus rajah (type host) and R. rattus argentiventer in Malaya (Drummond et Baker, 1960). Then, Domrow et Nadchatram (1963) recorded 162 females from 3 hosts together with 206 females of L. longula Vitzthum from Malaya. Despite of abundant occurrence of L. whartoni females, the partner male has not so far been found out. This is also case of L. longula, though the third species, L. traubi Drummond et Baker, is

know from only a small number, that is 9, of the female. In the present survey, the 2 male and 7 female specimens of L. whartoni were fortunately found on the 2 rodents. The detailed morphology of the first Longolaelaps male will be presented later.

The mites of the genus *Laelaps* were most frequently collected from Muridae, and the subgenus *Laelaps* predominated over the subgenus *Echinolaelaps* in number of species and *vice versa* in number of individuals as shown in Table 2. This indicates that the mode of host preference is difference is different in both the subgenera.

With respect to the mites of the subgenus Laelaps, L. (L.) clethrionomydis Lange new to Indochina is slightly deviated morphologically from that described by Russian acarologists in having larger dorsal shield (ca. 0.6mm), stout legs and setae, and adanal setae that are strong and somewhat spiniform and extending to the basal level of the postanal seta. Although further study of both the sexes is necessary, it is thought to be reasonable to relegate the mite to L. (L.) clethrionomydis. An anonymous species taken from Menetes berdmorei was regarded as Laelaps (L.) B in Allred (1970), which was recorded from Rattus sp. in Viet Nam. This mite seems to be identical with Laelaps (L.) sp. nr. thamnomys Taufflieb, 1954, in Hadi et al. (1977) that was taken from M. berdmorei in South Viet Nam. Allred (1970) noted as this "This mite represents an undescribed species". The present authors support Dr. Allred's view. As his description without figure is brief, supplimental morphological accounts will be presented later, expecting an accomplishment of Dr. Allred's work.

Of the 4 species of the subgenus *Echinolaelaps*, *L.* (*E*) traubi Domrow was encountered only on the hailand, Doi Inthanon. This mite was originally described on specimens taken on Cameron Highlands, Malaya (Domrow, 1962), and Strandtman and Mitchell (1963) added the records from high altitudes in Viet Nam and Thailand.

A pretty large number of the mite of the genus Hirstionyssus\* were taken from Rattus sabanus. This mite was tentatively identified as H. indosinensis Bregetova et Grohovskaja despite of some remarkable differences as compared with the original description (Bregetova et Grohovskaja, 1961). Bregetova and Grohovskaja (1961) described H. indochinensis on the specimens found on R. sabanus ssp. ?, R. rattus flavipectus, Suncus murinus from North Viet Nam and on Callosciurus macclellandi and C. swinhoei form southern China. They also presented the closely allied species, H. callosciuri Bregetova et Grohovskaja, as the parasite of Callosciurus erythreus subspp. from the same localities in the same paper. The mites of the genus Hirstionyssus are not so rigidly host species specific, but phylogenetically and ecologically different host species are usually associated with different Hirstionyssus. In this respect, the host records presented in the original description of H. indochinensis as cited above are rather exceptional. Although the present author were not able to examine the type specimens of H. indochinensis, the Hirstionyssus

<sup>\*</sup> The synonymy of the genus *Hirstionyssus* Fonseca, 1948, with the genus *Echinonyssus* Hirst, 1925, was recently suggested by Tenorio et Radovsky (1979)

Table 2. Mite Records - (1) Sub-order Mesostigmata

Family	Species	
Parasitidae	Gen. sp.	
Laelaptidae	Hypoaspis (Cosmolaelaps) sp.	
	Haemogamasus suncus Allred	
	Longolaelaps whartoni Drummond et Baker	
	Androlaelaps (Haemolaelaps) sorcinus (Jameson)	
	Laelaps (Laelaps) algericus Hirst	
	Laejaps (Laelaps) clethrionomydis Lange	
	Laelaps (Laelaps) liberiensis Hirst	
	Laelaps (Laelaps) nuttalli Hirst	
	Laelaps (Laelaps) turkestunicus Lange	
	Laelaps (Laelaps) sp. B Allred	
	Laelaps (Laelaps) sp.	
	Laelaps (Echinolaps) aingworthae Strandtmann et Mitche	
	Laelaps (Echinolaelaps) echidninus Berlese Laelaps (Echinolaelaps) sanguisugus Vitzthum	
	Laelaps (Echinofaelaps) traubi Domrow	
	Hirstionyssus indosinensis Bregetova et Grohovskaja	
Macrochelidae	Macrocheles muscaedomesticae (Scopoli)	
Uropodidae	Gen. sp.	
Spinturnicidae	Meristaspis lateralis (Kolenati)	
	Ancystropus eonycteris Delfinado et Baker	
	Ancystropus zeleborii Kolenati	
	Ancystropus sp.	
Macronyssidae	Steatonyssus sp. nr. afer Radovsky et Ytunker	

Locality: A-Doi Inthanon, B-Nakorn Nayok; C-Mae Hongson

Number	Host	Locality and Date	
D N	Anourosorex squamipes	A, 1979 • II • 22-23	
. <b>♀</b>	A. $squamipes$	A, 1979 • II • 21	
4 å å 35 ♀ ♀ 23DN1PN	A. squamipes	A, $1979 \cdot II \cdot 21 - 24$	
8 81 9	Rattus surifer	B, 1978 • VII • 23	
φ φ	Menetes berdmorei	C, 1978 • VII • 7	
2 ♀ ♀ 4DN1PN	A. squamipes	A, $1979 \cdot II \cdot 21 - 23$	
. 8	Rattus rattus		
3 Q Q	Eothenomys melanogaster	A, 1979 • II • 22	
<b>φ</b>	Mus pahari	A, 1979 • II • 20	
PN	R. rattus	C, 1978 • VIII • 1	
L & 3 P P	Rattus fluvescens	B, 1978 • VII • 23	
18	M. berdmorei	C, 1978 • VIII • 7	
3	Rattus fluvescens	A, 1979 • II • 23	
3	M. berdmorei	C, 1978 • VII • 4	
18	Rattus niriventer	A, 1979 • II • 22	
7 8 8 3PN	R. surifer	B, 1978 • VII • 23	
4 3 3 6 9 P	M. berdmorei	C, 1978 • VII • 7	
10881099	R. surifer	B, 1979 • II • 10	
2	R. rattus	B, 1979 • II • 10	
18999	R. surifer	A, 1979 • II • 24	
3	R. rattus	B, 1979 • II • 10	
2	$M.\ berdmorei$	C, 1978 • VIII • 7	
2 8 8 2 9 9 1DN	R. surifer	B, 1978 • VII • 23	
4 Q Q	R. rattus	B, 1979 • II • 10	
288299	$M.\ berdmorei$	B, 1979 • II • 10	
3 8 8 8 9 9	R. surifer	B, 1979 • II • 10	
3 å å 16 <sub>9</sub> <sub>9</sub>	R. surifer	A, 1979 • II • 24	
13	Rattus niviventer	A, 1979 • II • 21-22	
8	R. flavescens	A, 1979 • II • 23	
19	E. melanogaster	A, 1979 • II • 23	
11 8 83 9 9	R. sabanus	B, 1978 • VII • 23	
2	A. squamipes	A, 1979 • II • 22-23	
1DN	E. melanogaster	A, 1979 • II • 21	
18 å å 24 ♀ ♀21DN	Rousettus leschenaulti	C, 1978 • VII • 31	
19	R. leschenaulti	C, 1978 • VII • 31	
2 å å 2DN	R. leschenaulti	C, 1978 • VII • 31	
19	R. leschenaulti	C, 1978 • VII • 31	
1 º 7PN	Myotis siligarensis	B, 1978 • VIII • 4	

(Continued) mite Records — (2) Sub-order Trombidiformes Locality : A-Doi Inthanon ; B-Nakorn Nayok ; C-Mae Hongson ; D-The River Kuwai

Family	Species	Number	Host	Locality and Date
Cheyletidae	Cheyletus eruditus (Schrank)	1 ♀	M. berdmorei	C, 1978 • VIII • 7
Cheyletiellidae	Nihelia quinta Domrow et Baker	5 Q Q	Tupia glis	П, 1978 • VII • 19
Myobiidae	Placomyobia wilsoni Jameson	288299	A. squamipes	A, 1979 • II • 24
	Radfordia (Radfordia) ensifera (Poppe)	18299	R. rattus	C, 1978 • VIII • 2
	Radfordia (Radfordia) sp. nr. ensifera (Poppe)	1 ♀	R. sabanus	B, 1978 • VII • 23
Pygmephoridae	Pygmephorus sp. nr. fercipatus Willmann	1 ♀	A . $squamipes$	A, 1979 • II • 23
	Rackia sp.	1♀	A. squamipes	A, 1979 • II • 23
	Bakerdania sp. 1	1 ♀	A. squamipes	A, 1979 • II • 23
	Bakerdania sp. 2	1♀	A. squamipes	A, 1979 • II • 24

 $\begin{array}{lll} \hbox{(Continued) Mite Records - (3) Sub-order Sarcopti formes (not enumerated)} \\ \hbox{Locality: A-Doi Inthanon; B-Nakorn Nayok; C-Mae Hongson; D-The River Kuwaii} \end{array}$ 

Family	Species	Host	Locality and Date
Sarcoptidae	Nycteridocoptes asiaticus Fain	R. leschenaulti	C, 1978 • VII • 31
Atopomelidae	Listrophoroides (Meraquesania) cucullatus (Trouessart)	R. rattus	B, 1979 • XI • 10
Listrophoridae	Afrolistrophorus sp. nr. maculotus rattus Fain	R. sabanus	B, 1978 • VII • 23
	Afrolistrophorus sp. (nymph)	R. rattus	B, 1979 • XI • 10
	Afrolistrophorus sp. nr. mediolineatus Fain	M. berdmorei	C, 1978 • VII • 4
	Sciurochirus tailandiae Fain	R. niviventer (transfer?)	A, 1979 • II • 22
	Lynxacarus tupaiae Fain	T. glis	B, 1978 • VII • 23
Acaridae	Psylloglyphus vietnamensis Fain et Beaucourn	R. rattus	B, 1979 • II • 10
		R. surifer	B, 1979 • II • 10
		M. berdmorei	C, 1978 • VII • 4
		A. $squamipes$	A, 1979 • II • 23
Glycyphagidae	Dermacarus sp. nr. novaequineae Pain	R. niviventer	A, 1979 • II • 22
	Alabidopus bipilifer Fain et Uchikawa	A. $squamipes$	A, 1979 • II • 23
	Tupaiopus thailandicus Fain et Uchkawa	R. sabanus	B, 1978 • VII • 23
		T. glis	B, 1978 • VII • 23
		A. squamipes (transfer?)	A, 1979 • II • 23
Suctobelbidae (Oribatei)	Suctobella sp.	R. rattµs	C, 1978 • VIII • 1

mite collected in the present survey was identified as *H. indochinensis* on morphological similarity and host record. A detailed morphology of the prsent mite will be described and figured below.

Macrocheles muscaedomesticae (Scopoli) is a common predacious mite phoretic on the flies. It was interesting to find the mite on the insectivore, which is easy to get composed and to become attractant to flies shortly after death.

The most extensive study of Spinturnicidae parasitic on Thai bats was made by Dr. N. Wilson in Hill and McNeely (1975). He recorded the four species, inclusive of an anonymous one, of *Ancystropus* from *Rousettus leschenaulti*. The present *Ancystropus* that is close to *A. eonycteris* Derfinado et Baker and Dr. Wilson's anonymous *Ancystropus* are possibly conspecific.

A Steatonyssus mite was newly found on Myotis siligarensis. The mite was very close to S. afer Radovsky et Yunker, but 4 pairs of minute posterior setae on the spisthosomal shield of the female differ in size in the present mite and S. afer. The mite is thought to belong to a distinctive taxon, but the description on both the sexes is disirable.

Nine species of Trombidiformes were taken. Nihelia quinta Domrow et Baker, which has been recorded from T. glis on Malaya (Domrow and Nadchatram, 1963) in succession to the original description (Domrow and Baker, 1963), seemed to be common on the host, but male is still unknown. Although Smiley (1970) relegated the mite in the genus Criekeron Volgin, further studies of the genus of the mite are necessary to comfirm his proposal. Placomyobia wilsoni Jameson was originally described from Taiwan as the parasite of Anourosorex (Jameson, 1970). Both the myobiid genus, Placomyobia, and its host genus, Anourosorex, are monotypic, suggesting a phylogenetic distinctiveness of the shrew-mole. As to a single, damaged female of Radfordia taken from R. sabanus, identification was restrained because of its larger size and slightly different setal nature, though the mite was very close to Radfordia (R.) ensifera (Poppe).

With respect to the 12 mites of the sub-order Sarcoptiformes, only Nycteridocoptes asiaticus Fain and Tupaiopus thailandicus Fain et Uchikawa are picked up. The former mite has been known from the male and male tritonymph (Fain, 1959). Female of this mite is still unknown, though some males and a considerable number of immature stages were taken in the present survey. Tupaiopus thailandicus Fain et Uchikawa was recorded from T. glis and A. squamipes, but the latter host record seemed to be dubious. A single mite was probably mislabelled by the senior author.

### DETAILED MORPHOLOGY

1. Longolaelaps whartoni Drummond et Baker, 1960, male (Fig. 1.)

Idiosoma 420-415 $\mu$  long by 230-225 $\mu$  wide. Dorsal shield slightly concave laterally,  $420-410\mu$  long by  $200-200\mu$  wide at narrowest point over coxa IV, striated distinctly and

bearing 39 pairs of setae; 17 pairs of elongate and swollen setae on central part and the other marginal setae, but  $D_5$ , which are conspicuous, being minute and spiniform. About 7 pairs of minute setae on dorsal soft integument. Holoventral shield expanded moderately behind coxae IV, bearing 10 pairs of prominent setae and minute adamal and postanal setae. About 10 pairs of minute setae ventrally on soft integument. Peitreme extending over midpoint of coxa II. Legs as illustrated in Fig. 1-1 and 2; leg setae rather short. Deutosternum with 8 rows of 3 teeth. Chelae as figured; fixed chela weak and membranous, probably with very minute pilus dentilis; spermadactyl  $50-50\mu$  long; arthrodial filaments prominent.

The above description was based on the two specimens in Table 2.

## 2. Laelaps sp. B Allred, 1970, female (Fig. 2.)

Idiosoma  $650\mu$  long by  $430\mu$  wide. Dorsal shield  $650\mu$  long by  $430\mu$  wide, bearing 39 hairs of short setae; setae  $j_2$  and  $Z_5$  being longest and central setae shortest. About 10 pairs of setae marginally on dorsum off the shield. Sternal shield  $95-100\mu$  long by  $135-150\mu$  wide at level of  $st_2$   $st_1$  70-78 $\mu$  long. Genito-ventral shield weakly expanded

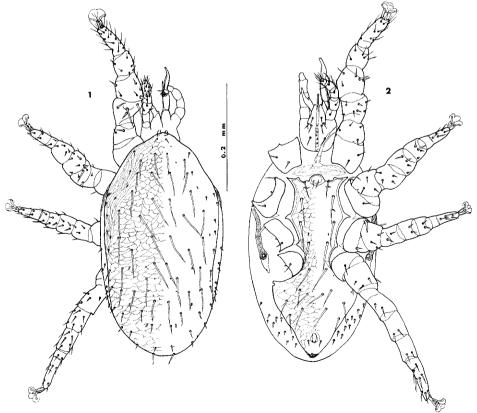


Fig. 1. Longolaelaps whartoni Prumond et Baker, 1960, male. 1-dorsum; 2-venter.

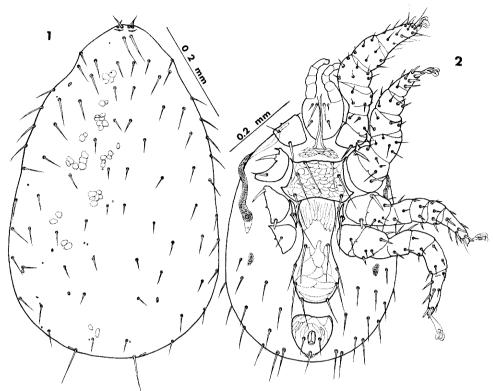


Fig. 2. Laelaps (Laelaps) sp. B Allred, 1970, female. 1-dorsal shield; 2-venter.

between the second and third setae,  $vl_1-vl_2$ . Distance between setae  $g_1$ , first pair of setae on genito-ventral shield,  $58-63\mu$ ;  $vl_3-vl_3$ , forth setae on the shield,  $73-80\mu$ . Anal shield concave anteriorly,  $83-88\mu$  long from anterior margin to base of postanal seta and  $103-103\mu$  wide. Metapodal shield elongate. About 10 pairs of setae on ventral integument. Peritreme terminating over anterior one third of coxa I. Legs stout; coxa I with fine external and thickened internal setae; anterior setae on coxae II and III thickened; posterior seta on coxa III spiniform. Five, 6 and 6 thickened setae on tarsi II, III and IV, respectively. Chaelae minute, about  $28\mu$  long.

The above description was made on a whole mount and 2 dissected specimens, all of which were given in Table 2.

# 3. Hirstionyssus indochinensis Bregetova et Grohovskaja, 1961

Female (Fig. 3). Idiosoma  $480-530\mu$  long by  $330-380\mu$  wide. Dorsal shield 425-450 long  $245-255\mu$  wide, weakly striated marginally and granulated, bering 26 pairs of minute setae. Seventeen pairs of setae marginally on soft integument. Tritosternum with well spinose laciniae. Presternal sculpture weak. Sternal shield  $45-50\mu$  long and  $110-115\mu$  wide

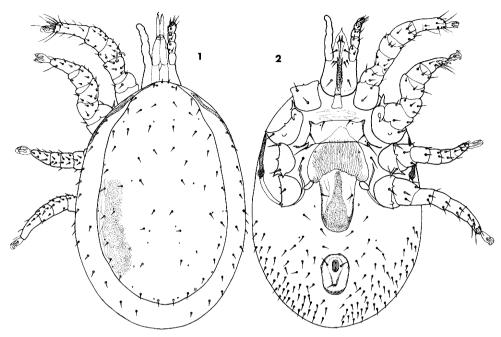


Fig. 3. Hirstionyssus indochinensis Bregetova et Grohovskaja, 1961, female. 1-dorsum; 2-venter.

at level of  $st_2$ ; posterior margin flat; postero-lateral corners waning and setae  $st_3$  almost off the shield; striation lacking on the shield; 2 pairs of small slits, but third pair on soft cuticle. Genito-ventral shield with large anterior membranous structure and posterior tungue-shaped part that bears a pair of genital setae and sclerotized portion. Anal shield longer than wide. About 50 pairs of minute setae ventrally on soft integument. Peritreme ventral at basal 1/3 and, then, extending dorsally over anterior third of coxa I; peritremal shield posteriorly fused to parapodal shield. Coxal spur formula: 0-2-2-1, exclusive of anterior projection on coxa II and inclusive of small protuberance on coxa II; anterior spur on coxa II prominent.  $Av_1$  and  $pv_1$  on tarsus II clawlike and  $av_1$  on tarsus IV spiniform. Gnathosoma as illustrated. Deuto-sternum probably with 11 rows of 1-2 teeth. Palpal tibia bearing 12 setae.

Male (Fig. 4). Idiosoma  $390\text{-}420\mu$  long by  $230\text{-}260\mu$  wide. Dorsal shield covering almost whole dorsum and essentially the same to that of female. Holoventral shield as illustrated in Fig. 4-1 bearing 3 pairs of gastric setae. About 45 pairs of setae ventrally on soft integument. Peritremal shield free from parapodal shield. Chaelae as in Fig. 4-2. Other structures of idiosoma, legs and gnathosoma as in female.

The above description was based on the specimens presented in Table 2, and the measurements were taken from 5 pairs of the male and female specimens.

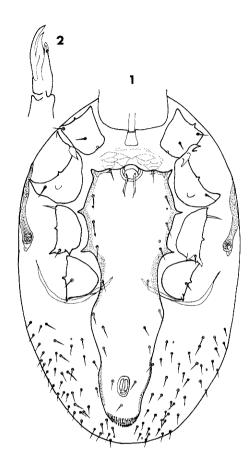


Fig. 4. Hirstionyssus indochinensis Bregetova et Grohovskaja, 1961, male.
1-venter; 2-chelae.

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タイ国の寄生虫相の研究 第3報 タイ国産小哺乳類の寄生ダニ 内川公人(信州大学医学部寄生虫学教室) 鈴木 博(長崎大学熱帯医学研究所ウイルス学部門)

主としてタイ国北部高地産のコウモリ類2種、食虫類1種、ネズミ類8種、ツパイ1種から、4 亜目15科45種(マダニ類、ツツガムシ類を除く)を得た。本文では、寄生性の中気門亜目と ツメダニ上科のダニ類を重点的に取扱った。これらのダニは、トゲダニ科6属16種、コウモリダニ科2属4種、ケモチダニ科2属2種、ツメダニ科1種からなっていた。

以上の23種は米国、ソ連の研究者によって隈無く調べられており、含まれる $1\sim2$ 新種も匿名ですでに報告されている。得られた新知見は、Longolaelaps属もの形態が判ったこと、基産地の標本と形態を異にするヤチトゲダニの分布が確認されたこと、およびこの2種を含む少くとも6種のタイ新記録種が見つかったことである。その外、北部高地の2-3のダニがヒマラヤや台湾高地産の種類と共通し、分布や宿生間関係の上から興味深いことである。

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