

Lecture 5. The function Γ . Dirichlet series

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In the fifth lecture we arrive in the second part *Complex Analysis Methods* of G. Tenenbaum's book [8]. We cover Chapter II.0. *The Euler Gamma function* and Chapter II.1. *Generating functions: Dirichlet series*, up to page 217.

Chapter II.0. The Euler Gamma function

The following are Theorems 0.1 (Euler) and 0.2 (Functional equation) and Corollary 0.3 in [8]. Two equivalent definitions of the function Γ are due to L. Euler: for complex numbers $s = \sigma + i\tau$,

$$\Gamma(s) = \frac{1}{s} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1 + 1/n)^s}{1 + s/n} \quad (s \notin \mathbb{Z} \setminus \mathbb{N}) \quad \text{and} \quad \Gamma(s) = \int_0^{+\infty} t^{s-1} e^{-t} dt \quad (\sigma > 0).$$

Both by [8, p. 169] and [9, p. 101], the function Γ appeared first in a letter of L. Euler to Ch. Goldbach in 1729.

Theorem 1 For $n \in \mathbb{N}$ let

$$\Gamma_n(s) = \int_0^n (1 - t/n)^n t^{s-1} dt \quad (\sigma > 0).$$

Then we have

$$\Gamma_n(s) = \frac{n^s n!}{s(s+1) \dots (s+n)},$$

and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Gamma_n(s) = \Gamma(s) = \int_0^{+\infty} t^{s-1} e^{-t} dt \quad (\sigma > 0).$$

Theorem 2 We have

$$\Gamma(s+1) = s\Gamma(s) \quad (\sigma > 0).$$

Corollary 3 For all $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$, $\Gamma(n+1) = n!$.

The following is Theorem 0.4 in [8]. Recall that a function $f: I \rightarrow (0, +\infty)$, where $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ is an interval, is *logarithmically convex (on I)* if the composition $\log(f): I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a convex function.

Theorem 4 *The function Γ is logarithmically convex on $(0, +\infty)$.*

The following is Theorem 0.5 (Artin) in [8].

Theorem 5 *Suppose that $\Phi: (0, +\infty) \rightarrow (0, +\infty)$ is differentiable, logarithmically convex and that $x\Phi(x) = \Phi(x+1)$ for any $x > 0$. Then for any $x > 0$,*

$$\Phi(x) = \Phi(1)\Gamma(x).$$

Theorem 5 is due to *Emil Artin (1898–1962)* who grew up in Reichenberg in Böhmen, today Liberec v Čechách (Czechia). In [7, Appendix C] the references given for Artin's theorem are [1, 2].

The following are Theorem 0.6 (Weierstrass) and Corollary 0.7 in [8]. As usual, $s = \sigma + i\tau$ and γ is the Euler constant.

Theorem 6 *For any $\sigma > 0$,*

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma(s)} = se^{\gamma s} \cdot \prod_{j=1}^{\infty} (1 + s/j)e^{-s/j}.$$

The right side defines an entire continuation of $1/\Gamma(s)$.

This theorem is due to *Karl Weierstraß (1815–1897)*. [7, Appendix C] gives the reference [10].

Corollary 7 *We have $\gamma = -\Gamma'(1)$.*

The following are Theorem 0.8 and Corollaries 0.9, 0.10 (Real Stirling's formula) and 0.11 (Legendre duplication formula) in [8].

Theorem 8 *For any real $x, y > 0$ the beta function*

$$B(x, y) := \int_0^1 t^{x-1}(1-t)^{y-1} dt = \frac{\Gamma(x)\Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(x+y)}.$$

Proof. This is the first of two proofs in [8] and goes by change of variables and the Fubini theorem. The second proof uses Artin's theorem. From

$$\Gamma(x)\Gamma(y) = \int_0^{+\infty} \int_0^{+\infty} t^{x-1}e^{-t}u^{y-1}e^{-u} dt du$$

we get by introducing the variable v via $u = tv$ and by using the Fubini theorem that $\Gamma(x)\Gamma(y) = \int_0^{+\infty} \int_0^{+\infty} t^{x-1}e^{-t}tv^{y-1}e^{-vt} dt dv$ indeed equals

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^{+\infty} v^{y-1} \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{(t(v+1))^{x+y-1}e^{-(v+1)t}}{(v+1)^{x+y-1}} dt dv \\ &= \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{v^{y-1}\Gamma(x+y)}{(v+1)^{x+y}} dv = \Gamma(x+y) \int_0^{+\infty} \left(\frac{v}{v+1}\right)^{y-1} \left(\frac{1}{v+1}\right)^{x-1} \frac{dv}{(v+1)^2} \\ &= \Gamma(x+y) \int_0^1 w^{y-1}(1-w)^{x-1} dw = \Gamma(x+y)B(x, y). \end{aligned}$$

□

Corollary 9 For any real $x, y > 0$,

$$\frac{\Gamma(x)\Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(x+y)} = 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} (\sin \vartheta)^{2x-1} (\cos \vartheta)^{2y-1} d\vartheta$$

In particular, $\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) = \sqrt{\pi}$.

Corollary 10 We have ($x \in \mathbb{R}$)

$$\Gamma(x+1) \sim x^x e^{-x} \sqrt{2\pi x} \quad (x \rightarrow +\infty).$$

Corollary 11 For any $x > 0$,

$$\Gamma(x/2) \cdot \Gamma((x+1)/2) = \sqrt{\pi} \cdot 2^{1-x} \Gamma(x).$$

[7, Appendix C] gives for this duplication formula of *Adrien-Marie Legendre* (1752–1833) (for the troubles with his portrait see [6]) the reference [5].

The following are Theorem 0.12 (Complex Stirling's formula) and Corollaries 0.13 (Behavior in vertical strips), 0.14 (Mellin inversion formula), 0.15 (Reflection formula) and 0.16 (Euler) in [8].

Theorem 12 For any $s \in \mathbb{C} \setminus (-\infty, 0]$,

$$\text{Log}(\Gamma(s)) = (s - \frac{1}{2})\text{Log} s - s + \frac{1}{2} \log(2\pi) - \int_0^{+\infty} B_1(t) \frac{dt}{s+t}.$$

Here $\text{Log}: \mathbb{C} \setminus (-\infty, 0] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is the so called *principal branch* of the complex logarithm: $\text{Log}(r \exp(i\varphi)) = \log r + i\varphi$ for any real $r > 0$ and $\varphi \in (-\pi, \pi)$. On $(0, +\infty)$ it coincides with the real logarithm \log . $B_1(t)$ is the 1-periodic extension of the first Bernoulli polynomial $b_1(t) = t - \frac{1}{2}: [0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, see the Euler–Maclaurin summation in Lecture 1.

Corollary 13 Let $\sigma_2 > \sigma_1$ be real and $h_\sigma(\tau) = \tau \log |\tau| - \tau + \frac{1}{2}\pi(\sigma - \frac{1}{2})\text{sgn}\tau$. Then it holds uniformly for $\sigma \in [\sigma_1, \sigma_2]$ and $|\tau| \geq 1$ that

$$\Gamma(s) = (1 + O(1/|\tau|)) \sqrt{2\pi} \cdot |\tau|^{\sigma-1/2} e^{-\pi|\tau|/2} e^{ih_\sigma(\tau)}.$$

Here as usual $s = \sigma + i\tau$.

Corollary 14 For any $x, \sigma > 0$,

$$e^{-x} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\sigma-i\infty}^{\sigma+i\infty} \Gamma(s) x^{-s} ds.$$

Corollary 15 For any $s \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{Z}$,

$$\Gamma(s)\Gamma(1-s) = \frac{\pi}{\sin(\pi s)}.$$

Corollary 16 For any $z \in \mathbb{C}$,

$$\frac{\sin(\pi z)}{\pi z} = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{z^2}{n^2}\right).$$

The following are Theorem 0.17 (Hankel's formula) and Corollary 0.18 in [8]. Hankel's contour $H = H(R)$ for $R \in (0, 1)$ is the submap of

$$(0, +\infty) \times [-\pi, \pi] \ni (r, \varphi) \mapsto r \exp(i\varphi) = s \in \mathbb{C}$$

such that first r runs from $+\infty$ to R and $\varphi = -\pi$, then $r = R$ and φ runs from $-\pi$ to π , and finally r runs from R to $+\infty$ and $\varphi = \pi$. See [8, p. 179] for a picture.

Theorem 17 Let H be a Hankel contour. Then for any $z \in \mathbb{C}$,

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma(z)} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_H s^{-z} e^s ds.$$

Corollary 18 For $X > 1$, let $H(X)$ be the restriction of H obtained by replacing $+\infty$ with X . Then it holds uniformly in $z \in \mathbb{C}$ that

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{H(X)} s^{-z} e^s ds = \frac{1}{\Gamma(z)} + O(47^{|z|} \Gamma(1 + |z|) e^{-X/2}).$$

Chapter II.1. Generating functions: Dirichlet series

Next in [8] come Definition 1.1 and Theorem 1.2. Recall that $*$ is the Dirichlet convolution.

Definition 19 Let $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$. The Dirichlet series of f is the function

$$F(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{f(n)}{n^s}$$

defined for any $s \in \mathbb{C}$ where this series converges.

Here $n^s = \exp(s \log n)$ where $\exp z = \sum_{n \geq 0} z^n / n!$ for any $z \in \mathbb{C}$. The real $\log x: (0, +\infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is the inverse of the real $\exp x: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (0, +\infty)$.

Theorem 20 Let $s \in \mathbb{C}$ and $f, g, h: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, with respective Dirichlet series F, G, H . If $h = f * g$ and both $F(s)$ and $G(s)$ absolutely converge, then so does $H(s)$ and $H(s) = F(s)G(s)$.

Next in [8] come Theorem 1.3 and Proposition 1.4 (Euler's formula). In the latter proposition, $\zeta(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 1/n^s$.

Theorem 21 Let $s \in \mathbb{C}$ and $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be multiplicative, with the Dirichlet series F , and let $\sum_p \sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} |f(p^\nu)/p^{\nu s}| < +\infty$. Then

$$F(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(n)/n^s \text{ absolutely converges and } F(s) = \prod_p \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \frac{f(p^\nu)}{p^{\nu s}}.$$

An important special case is the following famous formula. By [9, p. 211], “In a paper [1] presented in 1737 and published in 1744, Euler reported on his stunning discovery (...).” The reference “[1]” is [3] here.

Proposition 22 For $\sigma > 1$,

$$\zeta(s) = \prod_p \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^s}\right)^{-1}.$$

In the next theorem, which is not in [8], we handle absolutely convergent infinite products more generally.

Theorem 23 Suppose that $(z_n) = (z_1, z_2, \dots) \subset \mathbb{C}$ is a sequence such that $|z_1| + |z_2| + \dots < +\infty$. Then there is a number $z \in \mathbb{C}$ such that for every bijection $\rho: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \prod_{j=1}^n (1 + z_{\rho(j)}) = z.$$

Proof. We set $p_n = \prod_{j=1}^n (1 + z_j)$ and show that the sequence (p_n) is bounded. We may assume that all $p_n \neq 0$ because if $p_n = 0$ then $1 + z_m = 0$ for some $m \leq n$ and the theorem trivially holds with $z = 0$. Since $\log(1 + x) \leq x$ for every real $x \geq 0$, for every n it holds that

$$|p_n| \leq \prod_{j=1}^n (1 + |z_j|) \text{ and } \log(|p_n|) \leq \sum_{j=1}^n \log(1 + |z_j|) \leq \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} |z_j|.$$

Thus $|p_n| \leq c$ for every n and a constant $c > 0$.

We show that the sequence (p_n) is Cauchy. Let an $\varepsilon \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$ be given. We take an n_0 such that $\sum_{n > n_0} \log(1 + |z_n|) \leq \varepsilon$. If $n > m \geq 1$ then by the triangle inequality

$$\left| \frac{p_n}{p_m} - 1 \right| = \left| \prod_{j=m+1}^n (1 + z_j) - 1 \right| \leq \prod_{j=m+1}^n (1 + |z_j|) - 1 =: p(m, n) - 1.$$

If $n > m \geq n_0$ then

$$1 \leq p(m, n) = \exp(\log(p(m, n))) \leq \exp(\varepsilon) \leq 1 + 2\varepsilon.$$

For $n > m \geq n_0$ then $|p_m - p_n| = |p_m| \cdot |1 - p_n/p_m| \leq 2c\varepsilon$. So (p_n) is Cauchy and the limit $\lim p_n = z$ exists.

Let ρ be any permutation of \mathbb{N} . We set $q_n = \prod_{j=1}^n (1 + z_{\rho(j)})$, assume that the above selected n_0 is so large that also $|z - p_{n_0}| \leq \varepsilon$, and take an n_1 such that $[n_0] \subset \{\rho(j) \mid j \in [n_1]\}$. If $n \geq n_1$ then by the triangle inequality

$$\left| \frac{q_n}{p_{n_0}} - 1 \right| = \left| \prod_{j \in X} (1 + z_j) - 1 \right| \leq \prod_{j \in X} (1 + |z_j|) - 1 =: p(X) - 1,$$

for a finite set $X = X(n) \subset \mathbb{N}$ such that $X \cap [n_0] = \emptyset$. Like before $1 \leq p(X) \leq 1 + 2\varepsilon$. Then for any $n \geq n_1$ we have

$$|z - q_n| \leq |z - p_{n_0}| + |p_{n_0} - q_n| \leq \varepsilon + |p_{n_0}| \cdot |1 - q_n/p_{n_0}| \leq (2c + 1)\varepsilon$$

and $\lim q_n = z$ as well. \square

For the following Theorems 1.5 and 1.6 in [8] we need some notation. For $(a_n) \subset \mathbb{C}$ we set $A(t) = \sum_{n \leq \exp t} a_n$. The Dirichlet series of (a_n) then can be expressed as

$$F(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{n^s} = \int_{0-}^{+\infty} e^{-ts} dA(t)$$

— this is the *Laplace–Stieltjes transform* of $A(t)$. By \mathcal{V} we denote the class of functions $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with bounded variation on any bounded interval. See Lecture 1 for the required definitions.

Theorem 24 *Let $A \in \mathcal{V}$ and let*

$$F(s) = \int_{0-}^{+\infty} e^{-st} dA(t)$$

be the Laplace–Stieltjes transform of A . The following hold.

1. *If the integral converges for $s = s_0 = \sigma_0 + i\tau_0$, then it converges on $\sigma > \sigma_0$ and the convergence is uniform in any sector $S(\vartheta) = \{s \in \mathbb{C} \mid |\arg(s - s_0)| \leq \vartheta\}$, $\vartheta \in [0, \pi/2)$.*
2. *If the integral converges absolutely for $s = s_0$, then it converges absolutely and uniformly on $\sigma \geq \sigma_0$.*
3. *$F(s)$ is holomorphic on the domain of convergence of the integral and for any $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$,*

$$F^{(k)}(s) = \int_{0-}^{+\infty} (-t)^k e^{-st} dA(t).$$

Here, as usual, $s = \sigma + i\tau$. Let σ_c (resp. σ_a) be the infimum of $\sigma_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ such that the given Dirichlet series $F(s)$ (resp. absolutely) converges on the half-plane $\sigma > \sigma_0$. We call σ_c (resp. σ_a) the *abscissa of (resp. absolute) convergence* of $F(s)$.

Theorem 25 *If the integral $F(s)$ in the previous theorem has a holomorphic extension $\tilde{F}(s)$ from $\sigma > \sigma_c$ to some points on $\sigma = \sigma_c$, then the equality*

$$\tilde{F}(s) = \int_{0^-}^{+\infty} e^{-st} dA(t)$$

holds at any point where the integral converges.

The following are Theorems 1.7, 1.8 and 1.9 (Phragmén–Landau), Corollary 1.10 and Theorems 1.11 and 1.12 in [8].

Theorem 26 *For any Dirichlet series it holds that $\sigma_c \leq \sigma_a \leq \sigma_c + 1$.*

Theorem 27 *If $F(s) = \sum_{n \geq 1} a_n/n^s$ vanishes for every large σ then $a_n = 0$ for every n .*

Unlike power series which always have a singularity on the boundary of the disc of convergence, Dirichlet series need not have singularity on $\sigma = \sigma_c$ (since this line is not compact). In the following situations there is a singularity.

Theorem 28 *Let $A \in \mathcal{V}$ and let $F(s)$ be the integral in Theorem 24. If A is non-decreasing then $s = \sigma_c$ is a singularity of $F(s)$.*

Corollary 29 *If all a_n are real and all $a_n \geq 0$, then $s = \sigma_c$ is a singularity of $F(s) = \sum_{n \geq 1} a_n/n^s$.*

This corollary is usually called the *Landau theorem*, after the German mathematician *Edmund Landau (1877–1938)*, and is the analogue of the Vivanti–Pringsheim theorem that for any power series with nonnegative coefficients the radius of convergence is a singularity of the associated function. The reference given in [7] for the Landau theorem is [4]. *Lars E. Phragmén (1863–1937)* was a Swedish mathematician. If $U \subset \mathbb{C}$ is an open set, $z_0 \in \partial U$ and $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is holomorphic, then we say that z_0 is a singularity of f if f cannot be holomorphically extended to any neighborhood of z_0 .

From the Phragmén–Landau theorem one deduces the following two oscillation theorems.

Theorem 30 *If $A: (1, +\infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is locally bounded and measurable, the integral*

$$H(s) = \int_1^{+\infty} \frac{A(t)}{t^{s+1}} dt$$

has a finite abscissa of convergence σ_c and $H(s)$ has a holomorphic extension to $s = \sigma_c$, then for each $\varepsilon > 0$ we have

$$A(x) = \Omega_{\pm}(x^{\sigma_c - \varepsilon}).$$

Theorem 31 Let $F(s) = \sum_{n \geq 1} a_n/n^s$ with real a_n have finite abscissa of convergence. Let a real $\sigma_0 > 0$ be such that $F(s)$ has holomorphic extension that includes the half-line $[\sigma_0, +\infty)$ and has a pole on $\sigma = \sigma_0$. Then we have

$$\sum_{n \leq x} a_n = \Omega_{\pm}(x^{\sigma_0}).$$

Here if $f, g: M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, where $M \subset \mathbb{R}$ has the limit point $+\infty$ and $g > 0$ on M , we write that $f = \Omega_+(g)$, resp. $f = \Omega_-(g)$, if $\limsup_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x)/g(x) > 0$, resp. $\liminf_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x)/g(x) < 0$.

The following are Theorems 1.13 and 1.14 in [8]. Let $A \in \mathcal{V}$, $A(0_{\pm}) = 0$ and

$$F(s) = \int_{0^-}^{+\infty} e^{-st} dA(t)$$

Theorem 32 Let σ_c be the abscissa of convergence of the above integral. The following hold.

1. For $\delta \in \mathbb{R}$, $A(x) \ll e^{\delta x} \Rightarrow \sigma_c \leq \delta$.
2. If the above integral converges for $s = s_0$ with $\sigma_0 > 0 \Rightarrow A(x) = o(e^{\sigma_0 x})$ ($x \rightarrow +\infty$).
3. (...) with $\sigma_0 < 0 \Rightarrow A(x) = \alpha + o(e^{\sigma_0 x})$ ($x \rightarrow +\infty$) for some $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$.

Theorem 33 Let $\kappa = \limsup_{x \rightarrow +\infty} x^{-1} \log(|A(x)|)$. The following hold.

1. $\kappa \neq 0 \Rightarrow \sigma_c = \kappa$.
2. If $\kappa = 0$ then either finite $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} A(x)$ does not exist and $\sigma_c = 0$, or this limit is $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\sigma_c = \limsup_{x \rightarrow +\infty} x^{-1} \log(|A(x) - \alpha|) \leq 0$.

The following are Theorems 1.15 and 1.16 in [8].

Theorem 34 For $n \in \mathbb{N}$ we denote by $k(n)$ the product of prime divisors of n . Then for every $\varepsilon > 0$, the bound

$$N(x, y) := |\{n \leq x \mid k(n) \leq y\}| \ll_{\varepsilon} yx^{\varepsilon}$$

holds uniformly for $x \geq y \geq 1$.

Theorem 35 The bound

$$N(x, y) \ll y(\log y) \exp(\sqrt{8 \log(x/y)})$$

holds uniformly for $x \geq y \geq 2$.

The following are Theorem 1.17, Lemma 1.18 (Dirichlet), Theorems 1.19, 1.20 and 1.21, and Corollary 1.22 in [8]. Her $\zeta(s) = \sum_{n \geq 1} 1/n^s$ is the zeta-function.

Theorem 36 For every real $T > 0$ there is a real $\tau > T$ such that

$$\sup (\{|\zeta(\sigma + i\tau)| \mid \sigma > 1\}) \geq \log \log(3 + \tau)/10.$$

This is proven by means of the next lemma.

Lemma 37 Let $N, D \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_N$ be in \mathbb{R} . Then for every $Q \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{1\}$ there exist $q \in \mathbb{N}$ with $D \leq q \leq DQ^N$ such that

$$\max_{1 \leq j \leq N} \|q\alpha_j\| \leq 1/Q.$$

Theorem 38 Let $F(s) = \sum_{n \geq 1} a_n/n^s$ have finite σ_c , and let $\sigma_0 > \sigma_c$ and $\varepsilon > 0$. Then for $|\tau| \geq 1$ the bound $(s = \sigma + i\tau)$

$$F(s) \ll |\tau|^{1-(\sigma-\sigma_c)+\varepsilon}$$

holds uniformly for $\sigma \in [\sigma_0, \sigma_c + 1]$.

If $D \subset \mathbb{C}$ is a domain (an open connected set) and $F: D \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is holomorphic, we say that F is of *finite order on D* if $F(s) \ll |\tau|^A$ ($|\tau| \geq 1$) on D for some $A > 0$ ($s = \sigma + i\tau$). By $\mu(\sigma) = \mu_F(\sigma)$ we then denote the infimum

$$\inf (\{\xi \in \mathbb{R} \mid F(s) \ll |\tau|^\xi \text{ for } s = \sigma + i\tau \in D \text{ and } |\tau| \geq 1\}).$$

Theorem 39 Let $F(s)$ be a function of finite order in the vertical strip $\sigma_1 \leq \sigma \leq \sigma_2$. Then the function $\mu(s)$ is convex in this interval. In particular, it is continuous on (σ_1, σ_2) .

Theorem 40 For any Dirichlet series $F(s)$, $\mu(\sigma) = 0$ for $\sigma > \sigma_a$. Moreover, $\mu(\sigma)$ is non-increasing.

Corollary 41 Let $F(s)$ be a Dirichlet series and let $\sigma_0 < \sigma_a$. If $F(s)$ has finite order for every $\sigma > \sigma_0$ then $\mu(\sigma_a) = 0$.

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