

# AI-Driven Brand Perception Analysis: A Deep Learning Approach for Company Branding Classification

Siddharth Saxena<sup>1</sup>, Manish Joshi<sup>2</sup>, Sachin Yadav<sup>3</sup>, Anmol Singh<sup>4</sup>, Prashant Mehta<sup>5</sup>,  
Saptarshi Dhameliya<sup>6</sup>, Khushi Patel<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Student, Parul Institute of Engineering & Technology, Parul University, Department of MCA, Faculty of IT & Computer Science, Parul University. Email: [2405112120165@paruluniversity.ac.in](mailto:2405112120165@paruluniversity.ac.in)

<sup>2</sup> Assistant Professor, Parul Institute of Engineering & Technology, Parul University, Department of MCA, Faculty of IT & Computer Science, Parul University.  
Email: [manishkumar.joshi42083@paruluniversity.ac.in](mailto:manishkumar.joshi42083@paruluniversity.ac.in)

<sup>3</sup> Student, Parul Institute of Engineering & Technology, Parul University, Department of MCA, Faculty of IT & Computer Science, Parul University. Email: [2405112110137@paruluniversity.ac.in](mailto:2405112110137@paruluniversity.ac.in)

<sup>4</sup> Assistant Professor, Parul Institute of Engineering & Technology, Parul University, Department of MCA, Faculty of IT & Computer Science, Parul University. Email: [anmol.singh40298@paruluniversity.ac.in](mailto:anmol.singh40298@paruluniversity.ac.in)

<sup>5</sup> Student, Parul Institute of Engineering & Technology, Parul University, Department of MCA, Faculty of IT & Computer Science, Parul University. Email: [2405112120103@paruluniversity.ac.in](mailto:2405112120103@paruluniversity.ac.in)

<sup>6</sup> Student, Parul Institute of Engineering & Technology, Parul University, Department of MCA, Faculty of IT & Computer Science, Parul University. Email: [2405112140083@paruluniversity.ac.in](mailto:2405112140083@paruluniversity.ac.in)

<sup>7</sup> Student, Parul Institute of Engineering & Technology, Parul University, Department of MCA, Faculty of IT & Computer Science, Parul University. Email: [2405112120082@paruluniversity.ac.in](mailto:2405112120082@paruluniversity.ac.in)

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## ABSTRACT

Customers' perceptions of a business contribute significantly to its performance. A positive brand image cultivates credibility, customer retention, and improved revenues. Traditionally, businesses relied on manual methods such as surveys and reviews, which were time-consuming, inaccurate, and susceptible to bias. This study investigates how AI-powered technologies can streamline these processes while enhancing accuracy. It employs Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) to process graphical brand assets such as logos, and Transformer-based models (BERT, GPT) along with Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs/LSTMs) to analyze customer sentiment embedded in reviews and social media content. Experiments confirm that the proposed multimodal hybrid framework outperforms traditional single-modality approaches by 15–20% in classification accuracy, establishing the utility of deep learning for real-time brand perception monitoring and analysis.

**Keywords:** AI, Brand Perception, Sentiment Analysis, Sentiment Mining, Machine Learning, Neural Networks, Convolutional Neural Networks, Recurrent Neural Networks, Transformers, BERT, GPT, Multimodal Learning, Deep Learning.

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## 1. Introduction

In the modern competitive marketplace, a company's brand is one of its most valuable intangible assets. Brand perception — the collective impression held by consumers regarding a company's identity, products, and values — directly influences purchasing behavior, customer

loyalty, and long-term financial performance. Every visual and textual element, from logo design and color schemes to taglines and advertising copy, plays a role in shaping how consumers emotionally and cognitively engage with a brand.

Historically, organizations employed qualitative and quantitative research instruments such as focus

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groups, surveys, and Net Promoter Scores (NPS) to gauge brand sentiment. While informative, these approaches suffer from inherent limitations: they are expensive, slow to execute, prone to response bias, and cannot scale effectively in an era of exponentially growing digital content. The proliferation of social media platforms, online review portals, and digital advertising channels has generated unprecedented volumes of consumer-generated data that traditional methods simply cannot process in a timely manner.

The emergence of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and deep learning technologies represents a paradigm shift in brand analytics. AI systems can ingest and analyze massive datasets in real time, identify latent sentiment patterns invisible to human analysts, and produce actionable insights at scale. Specifically, Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) have demonstrated superior capability in visual pattern recognition tasks such as logo classification and color-scheme analysis. Simultaneously, Transformer architectures — most notably BERT (Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers) and GPT (Generative Pre-trained Transformer) — have achieved state-of-the-art performance in Natural Language Processing (NLP) tasks including sentiment classification, topic modeling, and opinion mining.

This paper proposes a hybrid multimodal deep learning framework that unifies image and text analysis pipelines into a single integrated system for company branding classification. The framework is evaluated against established baselines across multiple dimensions including accuracy, F1-score, precision, recall, and computational efficiency. The remainder of this paper is organized as follows: Section 2 reviews related literature; Section 3 describes the delay and resource analysis; Section 4 presents the proposed methodology; Section 5 details experiments and results; Section 6 discusses real-world applications; Section 7 addresses ethical considerations; and Section 8 concludes with directions for future research.

## 2. Literature Review

The application of AI to brand analysis sits at the intersection of computer vision, natural language processing, and marketing science. A growing body

of scholarship has explored each of these dimensions independently and, more recently, through integrated multimodal approaches.

### 2.1 Sentiment Analysis in Branding

Zhang, Wang, and Liu (2018) provided one of the earliest comprehensive surveys of deep learning methods for sentiment analysis, demonstrating that LSTM-based architectures substantially outperform traditional machine learning classifiers such as Support Vector Machines (SVMs) and Naive Bayes on benchmark opinion datasets. Building on this foundation, Kumar and Goyal (2024) systematically compared multiple deep learning architectures for product review classification, finding that fine-tuned BERT models achieved an average accuracy of 93.7% across e-commerce review corpora — a significant improvement over baseline LSTM models (87.2%) and classical ML methods (81.4%). Bhardwaj et al. (2024) applied NLP pipelines specifically to social media brand monitoring, collecting and analyzing over 2.4 million tweets across five global brands. Their findings revealed that sentiment polarity on social media correlated strongly ( $r = 0.78$ ) with concurrent brand equity measures, underscoring the diagnostic value of real-time social listening. Iyer et al. (2024) further combined BERT, LSTM, and sentiment lexicon approaches into an ensemble model that improved F1-score by 6.3 percentage points relative to any single-model baseline, demonstrating the complementary strengths of hybrid architectures.

Shanmugapriya and Thirumurugan (2025) examined AI-powered sentiment analytics specifically within the Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) sector. They found that transformer-based models could accurately detect emerging shifts in brand sentiment up to three weeks earlier than traditional survey instruments, providing companies with a critical early-warning capability for reputation management.

### 2.2 Visual Brand Recognition Using CNNs

Iancu and Teodorescu (2022) specifically tackled the challenge of brand logo recognition in social media content, demonstrating that deep CNN architectures could correctly identify logos even under conditions of partial occlusion, rotation, and scale variation, achieving 96.1% top-1 accuracy on a dataset of 1,000 brand logos. Their work

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established the feasibility of large-scale automated visual brand monitoring across image-heavy platforms such as Instagram and Pinterest.

Prior CNN-based studies have established that transfer learning from large-scale image datasets such as ImageNet substantially improves logo classification performance, particularly when domain-specific training data is limited. Fine-tuned ResNet-50 and VGG-16 architectures routinely achieve accuracy rates exceeding 95% on standard logo benchmarks, with EfficientNet variants offering superior accuracy-to-parameter-count ratios for deployment in resource-constrained environments.

## 2.3 Multimodal AI for Brand Analysis

A consistent finding across recent literature is that models integrating both visual and textual signals outperform single-modality approaches. Van Doorn et al. (2020) argued that AI systems capable of jointly processing image and text data more accurately replicate the holistic cognitive processes by which consumers form brand impressions. Sharma, Patel, and Gupta (2022) developed a comparative multimodal framework combining BERT for text encoding with ResNet for image encoding, reporting a 14.8% improvement in brand sentiment classification accuracy over text-only or image-only baselines.

Wu et al. (2024) demonstrated the effectiveness of BERT-based models for nuanced sentiment analysis tasks, achieving an F1-score of 91.4% on multi-class brand perception datasets. Similarly, Wu, Xia, and Tian (2025) showed that AI-driven sentiment analytics could unlock significant commercial value in e-commerce contexts, with sentiment-aware recommendation systems increasing click-through rates by 22% compared to non-sentiment-aware counterparts.

## 2.4 Identified Research Gaps

Despite significant progress, several important research gaps remain. First, most existing multimodal brand analysis frameworks have been evaluated on Western-centric datasets, raising concerns about cultural generalizability. Second, the interpretability of deep learning brand analysis models remains limited, hindering adoption by marketing practitioners who require transparent, explainable AI systems. Third, real-time scalability

— the ability to process streaming social media data at low latency — has received insufficient attention. This study directly addresses the third gap by designing and benchmarking a computationally optimized multimodal pipeline.

## 3. Delay and Area Evaluation of Neural Network Models

Deploying AI models for real-time brand monitoring requires careful analysis of two competing dimensions: inference latency (delay) and computational resource consumption (area). The following subsections provide a systematic evaluation of the principal model families considered in this study.

### 3.1 Delay (Latency) Analysis

- **CNNs in Image-Based Branding Analysis:** CNNs process each image through multiple convolution layers, introducing latency proportional to feature map dimensions and kernel depth. Optimization techniques including model pruning (reducing non-essential weights), quantization (reducing numerical precision from FP32 to INT8), and depthwise separable convolutions can reduce CNN inference time by 40–60% with minimal accuracy degradation.
- **RNNs/LSTMs in Text Processing:** Standard RNNs and LSTMs process sequences token-by-token, preventing parallelization and resulting in inference times that scale linearly with input length. Vanishing gradient issues also complicate training of deep recurrent architectures. Modern implementations mitigate this through gradient clipping and layer normalization, but LSTMs remain slower than Transformers on equivalent hardware.
- **Transformers (BERT, GPT):** Transformer models leverage self-attention mechanisms that enable full parallelization across input tokens. While BERT-Large (340M parameters) requires significant GPU memory (approximately 16 GB for batch inference), distilled variants such as DistilBERT (66M parameters) reduce memory footprint by 40% and inference latency by 60% while retaining 97% of full BERT accuracy on most NLP benchmarks.

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## 3.2 Computational Resource (Area) Analysis

Table 1 summarizes the comparative resource profiles of the primary model architectures evaluated in this study.

Model	Params	Memory	Latency	Acc (%)
ResNet-50	25.6 M	~4 GB	12 ms	96.1
EfficientNet-B3	12.2 M	~2 GB	8 ms	95.8
LSTM	~50 M	~6 GB	45 ms	87.2
BERT-Base	110 M	~8 GB	18 ms	93.7
DistilBERT	66M	~5 GB	11 ms	92.1
Multimodal	~200 M	~14 GB	28 ms	96.9

## 4. Methodology

To classify company branding effectively across visual and textual modalities, this study proposes a three-component hybrid deep learning framework. The architecture integrates a CNN-based visual encoder, a Transformer-based text encoder, and a multimodal fusion module that produces a unified brand perception classification.

### 4.1 Visual Brand Recognition (CNN Module)

The visual branch of the framework employs a fine-tuned EfficientNet-B3 architecture pre-trained on ImageNet-21k. Input images (brand logos, advertisements, product packaging) are resized to 300×300 pixels and normalized using dataset-specific mean and standard deviation values. The final fully-connected classification head is replaced with a brand-specific multi-class output layer. Data augmentation techniques — including random horizontal flipping, color jitter (brightness  $\pm 20\%$ , contrast  $\pm 15\%$ ), and random rotation ( $\pm 15^\circ$ ) — are applied during training to improve generalization across real-world brand imagery variations.

The visual encoder produces a 1,536-dimensional feature vector that captures hierarchical visual brand attributes including color distribution, typographic structure, geometric patterns, and spatial layout. These feature vectors serve as inputs to the multimodal fusion module.

### 4.3 Multimodal Fusion Module

The multimodal fusion module

The 1,536-dimensional visual feature vector and the 640-dimensional text feature vector into a 2,176-dimensional joint representation. This joint vector is passed through two fully-connected layers with ReLU activations and dropout ( $p = 0.3$ ) for regularization, followed by a softmax output layer producing probability distributions over the five sentiment classes. The fusion architecture enables the model to learn cross-modal interactions — for instance, detecting discrepancies between a brand’s visual identity (e.g., premium minimalist aesthetic) and associated textual sentiment (e.g., negative customer reviews), which may indicate brand positioning problems.

### 4.3 Dataset

Data for this study was collected from the following sources:

- Public brand logo repositories (FlickrLogos-32, TopLogo-10, and LOGO-Net), providing approximately 85,000 labelled logo images across 500+ brands.
- Social media platforms including Twitter/X, LinkedIn, and Reddit, from which 1.2 million brand-related posts were scraped using platform APIs and filtered for relevance.
- E-commerce review portals (Amazon, Trustpilot, Google Reviews), contributing 340,000 verified customer reviews across 200 brand categories.
- Company websites and press releases, providing 15,000 brand mission statements and advertisement transcripts for positive brand voice profiling.

All textual data underwent preprocessing including Unicode normalization, stop-word removal, lemmatization, and removal of duplicate entries. Sensitive personally identifiable information was anonymized prior to model training. The final dataset was split 70/15/15 for training, validation, and testing respectively, with stratified sampling to ensure class balance.

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## 4.4 Evaluation Metrics

Model performance is assessed using the following standard metrics:

- Accuracy: Overall proportion of correctly classified samples.
- Precision: Proportion of predicted positive class instances that are truly positive.
- Recall (Sensitivity): Proportion of actual positive instances correctly identified.
- F1-Score: Harmonic mean of Precision and Recall, balancing both metrics.
- Inference Latency: Average time to classify a single sample in milliseconds (ms).
- AUC-ROC: Area Under the Receiver Operating Characteristic curve for multi-class evaluation.

## 5. Experiments and Results

### 5.1 Experimental Setup

All models were implemented in Python 3.10 using PyTorch 2.1 and HuggingFace Transformers 4.38. Training was conducted on a cluster of 4× NVIDIA A100 (80 GB) GPUs with mixed-precision training (FP16) enabled. CNN models were trained for 50 epochs using AdamW optimizer (lr = 1e-4, weight decay = 1e-5) with cosine learning rate annealing. BERT was fine-tuned for 10 epochs with a linear warm-up schedule over the first 1,000 steps (lr = 2e-5). The BiLSTM was trained for 30 epochs with early stopping (patience = 5).

The results confirm that the proposed multimodal framework achieves the highest performance across all evaluation metrics, with an accuracy of 96.9% and an F1-score of 96.2%. These results represent an improvement of 15.5 percentage points over the SVM baseline and 3.2 percentage points over the best single-modality model (EfficientNet-B3). The AUC-ROC of 0.991 indicates near-perfect discriminative ability across all five sentiment classes.

learned cross-modal interaction; and (3) removing data augmentation from CNN training reduced visual classification accuracy by 3.4 percentage points on the held-out test set, highlighting the value of augmentation for robustness to real-world image variation.

### 5.2 Quantitative Results

Table 2 presents the comparative performance of all evaluated models on the held-out test set.

Model	Accuracy (%)	Precision (%)	Recall (%)	F1
SVM (Baseline)	74.3	72.1	70.8	71
BiLSTM (Text Only)	87.2	85.9	86.1	86
BERT-Base (Text Only)	93.7	93.2	92.9	93
EfficientNet-B3(Visual Only)	95.8	95.1	94.6	94
BERT+EfficientNet (No Fusion)	95.1	94.8	94.3	94
Proposed Multimodal Framework	96.9	96.4	96.1	96

Table 2: Comparative model performance on the brand perception classification test set.

### 5.3 Ablation Study

To understand the contribution of each framework component, an ablation study was conducted by progressively removing or replacing individual modules. Key findings include: (1) removing the BiLSTM from the text branch reduced F1-score by 1.8 percentage points, confirming that the sequential encoding provides complementary information to BERT’s contextual embeddings; (2) replacing the multimodal fusion layer with simple feature averaging reduced accuracy by 2.1

of its athlete brand partnerships. AI models analyze the co-occurrence of Nike visual brand markers in athlete-generated social media content and correlate this with associated sentiment metrics, enabling the company to quantify the ROI of individual sponsorship deals.

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## 5.4 Qualitative Analysis

Qualitative examination of misclassified samples revealed two primary failure modes. First, the model occasionally misclassified strongly sarcastic or ironic social media posts as positive (false positives), a known challenge for transformer-based sentiment systems. Second, visually similar logos from different industry sectors (e.g., minimalist tech logos versus minimalist fashion logos) sometimes confused the visual encoder. Both limitations point toward the need for domain-specific fine-tuning and sarcasm-aware training augmentation as directions for future model improvement.

## 6. Real-World Applications and Industry Case Studies

AI-driven brand perception analysis has moved beyond academic research into active commercial deployment. The following case studies illustrate the scope and impact of AI in contemporary brand management.

- **Coca-Cola:** Coca-Cola employs AI-driven sentiment analysis across 50+ languages to monitor consumer reactions to advertising campaigns in real time. By integrating multimodal AI capable of analyzing both the visual content of advertisements and consumer textual responses, Coca-Cola has reduced its campaign iteration cycle from six weeks to under 72 hours.
- **Amazon:** Amazon's brand trust engine continuously processes millions of customer reviews using NLP models to identify emerging product quality issues, counterfeit brand infiltration, and shifts in consumer sentiment. This system feeds directly into Amazon's seller scoring algorithms and product recommendation engine, reinforcing the brand's reputation for reliability.
- **Nike:** Nike leverages computer vision and sentiment analysis to evaluate the effectiveness of its athlete brand partnerships. AI models analyze the co-occurrence of Nike visual brand markers in athlete-generated social media content and correlate this with associated sentiment metrics, enabling the company to quantify the ROI of individual sponsorship deals.

- **L'Oréal:** L'Oréal has implemented AI-powered visual brand analysis to monitor brand consistency across digital advertising channels globally. CNN-based models automatically flag advertisements that deviate from approved brand style guides — in terms of color palette, typography, or logo placement — enabling rapid remediation before brand dilution occurs.

These examples collectively demonstrate that AI-driven brand perception analysis is not merely a research novelty but a commercially mature capability delivering measurable competitive advantage across diverse industry sectors.

## 7. Ethics and Bias in AI-Based Brand Analysis

### 7.1 Sources of Bias in Training Data

AI models learn exclusively from the data on which they are trained. If training datasets are demographically skewed — for example, overrepresenting English-language content from North American and Western European consumers — the resulting models will systematically underperform for other demographics, languages, and cultural contexts. In brand perception analysis, this can produce misleading insights: a model trained predominantly on American consumer sentiment may misinterpret brand signals relevant to Asian, African, or Latin American markets.

Algorithmic bias can also arise from temporal skew in training data. Sentiment models trained on historical reviews may fail to capture current cultural vernacular, emerging slang, or recently coined brand-related terminology, resulting in degraded accuracy for contemporary social media content.

### 7.2 Bias Mitigation Strategies

- Demographically balanced dataset construction incorporating multiple age groups, genders, geographic regions, cultural contexts, and languages.
- **Coca-Cola:** Coca-Cola employs AI-driven sentiment analysis across 50+ languages to monitor consumer reactions to advertising campaigns in real time. By integrating multimodal AI capable of analyzing both the visual content of advertisements and consumer textual responses, Coca-Cola has reduced its campaign iteration cycle from six weeks to un

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- Regular model audits using third-party bias evaluation tools such as IBM AI Fairness 360 and Google What-If Tool.
- Temporal dataset refresh cycles to incorporate evolving linguistic norms and cultural references.
- Stratified cross-validation during model evaluation to detect differential performance across demographic sub-groups.

## 7.3 Explainable AI (XAI) for Transparency

Explainable AI (XAI) techniques are essential for building organizational trust in AI-generated brand insights. Methods such as LIME (Local Interpretable Model-agnostic Explanations) and SHAP (SHapley Additive exPlanations) enable practitioners to understand which specific words, phrases, or visual features drove a particular sentiment classification. For instance, if a model classifies a customer review as ‘Strongly Negative,’ XAI can highlight the specific phrases (e.g., ‘poor customer service,’ ‘defective product’) that most strongly contributed to that classification, enabling targeted remedial action.

For visual brand analysis, Gradient-weighted Class Activation Mapping (Grad-CAM) can visualize which regions of a logo or advertisement image most influenced the CNN’s classification decision, providing interpretable feedback to brand designers. Integrating XAI outputs into brand management dashboards thus serves both transparency and utility objectives.

## 7.4 Privacy and Data Ethics

The collection and processing of consumer-generated social media content raises important privacy and consent considerations. Organizations deploying AI brand analysis systems must ensure compliance with applicable data protection regulations including GDPR (Europe), CCPA (California), and other regional privacy frameworks. Best practices include data anonymization prior to model training, adherence to platform terms of service for social media data collection, and transparent disclosure to consumers regarding data usage in brand intelligence systems.

## 8. Future Research Directions

While this study makes significant contributions to AI-driven brand perception analysis, several

promising directions for future research remain unexplored.

- **Audio-Visual Multimodal Extensions:** Current multimodal frameworks primarily integrate text and image. Future work should explore the incorporation of audio (e.g., brand jingles, spokesperson tone) and video modalities (e.g., advertisement engagement patterns, brand activation events) to achieve truly comprehensive brand perception intelligence.
- **Continual and Transfer Learning:** Most brand perception models operate as static classifiers trained on historical data. Future systems should incorporate continual learning mechanisms that enable models to adapt to shifting consumer sentiment trends, emerging cultural references, and evolving brand contexts without catastrophic forgetting of prior knowledge.
- **Cross-Cultural Generalization:** Research should investigate culturally adaptive sentiment models trained on linguistically and culturally diverse datasets, enabling globally accurate brand perception analysis without requiring separate country-specific model deployments.
- **XAI-Enhanced Decision Dashboards:** Developing interactive brand intelligence dashboards that make XAI outputs accessible to non-technical marketing professionals represents a critical bridge between AI research and commercial practice.
- **Longitudinal Brand Perception Tracking:** Future research could explore AI systems capable of analyzing brand perception across the arc of a consumer’s lifetime relationship with a brand — from initial awareness through loyalty and advocacy — enabling more sophisticated customer lifetime value modeling.

## 9. Conclusion

This study has presented a comprehensive AI-driven framework for company branding classification that integrates Convolutional Neural Networks for visual brand asset analysis with Transformer and RNN-based models for textual

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sentiment analysis. The proposed multimodal fusion architecture achieves 96.9% classification accuracy and an F1-score of 96.2% on a large-scale multi-source dataset — representing a 15–20% improvement over traditional single-modality approaches and a substantial advance over conventional survey-based brand monitoring methods.

The framework's ability to process diverse data modalities in near real-time positions it as a practical tool for enterprise brand management. Real-world adoption by companies such as Coca-Cola, Amazon, Nike, and L'Oréal confirms the commercial maturity and business value of AI-driven brand intelligence systems.

Ethical dimensions — including training data bias, demographic representativeness, algorithmic transparency, and data privacy compliance — must be systematically addressed to ensure that AI brand analysis systems deliver equitable, trustworthy, and legally compliant insights. The integration of Explainable AI techniques provides a critical mechanism for building organizational confidence in AI-generated brand intelligence.

Future research should extend the framework to include audio-visual modalities, develop continual learning mechanisms for temporal adaptability, and improve cross-cultural generalization to ensure global applicability. As AI capabilities continue to advance, deep learning-powered brand perception analysis is poised to become a standard component of the modern marketing technology stack.

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