

## **Bayes Prediction limits of Pareto distribution when observations are mid type II censored**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This paper deals with the two sample Bayesian prediction problem for Pareto distribution when observations are mid-type II censored. Bayesian predictive distribution and corresponding prediction limits are obtained for a general  $k^{\text{th}}$  ordered future observation. Finally performances of the proposed prediction limits have been studied for the smallest ordered future observation on the basis of Monte Carlo simulation study of 1000 randomly generated samples.

### **1. Introduction**

Pareto family started getting its applicability in the context of modelling and predicting tools in wide variety of socio-economic and naturally occurring phenomenon with observations in very long right tail. Later it has been pointed out that the family has potential for modelling and predicting in reliability and life time data as well especially in the situation where product or system development results in an improved performance as the development proceeds. Hsu et. al. (2011), Ahmadi and Doostparast (2019) and Smadi et. al. (2019) among others have studied the Pareto distribution extensively in the context of analysing life testing and reliability data.

Several forms and extensions of the Pareto distribution have been studied and a systematic literature is available in Arnold (2015). Among the various members of Pareto family, the simplest is known as classical Pareto distribution with probability density function (pdf).

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$$f(x|\tau, \vartheta) = (\tau\vartheta)(\tau x)^{-(\vartheta+1)} \quad ; (\tau x) > 1, \vartheta > 0 \quad (1.1)$$

with shape or inequality parameter  $\vartheta$  and precision parameter  $\tau$ .

Its cumulative distribution function is given by

$$F(x|\tau, \vartheta) = 1 - (\tau x)^{-\vartheta} \quad ; (\tau x) > 1, \vartheta > 0 \quad (1.2)$$

Bayesian analysis of above distribution was done by Upadhyay and Shastri (1997) for doubly type II censored observations using sample based approach. Notable work on the classical Pareto distribution has been made by Arnold and Press (1983), which includes Bayesian inferences about the inequality and precision parameter along with prediction about the behaviour of future observation.

Prediction problems are widely used in life testing and reliability theory where we infer the value of unknown future variable using current available information. The prediction of future ordered observation(s) shows how long a sample of units might run until all fail in life testing. For making inferences about future sample characteristics, its predictive density is determined by combining the posterior distribution with the pdf of future characteristics given parameter(s). Integration with respect to each of parameter of this combination yields the predictive distribution for the future characteristics which summarizes the knowledge about future sample in the light of information provided by the data in hand (see, Aitchison and Dunsmore (1975)).

Bayes prediction in Pareto distribution was studied by Soliman (2000) when sample size is random variable. Prediction interval for Pareto distribution was obtained by Ali Mousa (2003) for doubly type II censored data. Raqab et. al. (2010) studied predictive inference for Pareto distribution for progressively type-II censored sample. El-Din et. al (2017) drew Bayesian inference and prediction for Pareto distribution based on ordered ranked set sampling. Shafay et. al. (2017) considered the problem of Bayesian prediction of order statistics when sample size is both fixed and random for Pareto distribution. For Pareto distribution several authors have focused on the Bayesian prediction problem of future observations based on various types of censoring, but there appears to be nothing in the literature of prediction of Pareto observables for mid type II censoring scheme which is reverse of doubly type II censoring scheme.

A mid censored data could be advocated in distribution where early failures or late failures are more significant. In this situation inferences based on left

censored or right censored observations could not give clear picture. Mid censoring arises when an experimenter while recording some data, find hurdles in observing some middle observations due to some unforeseen event and thereafter he records remaining data. Let  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  be  $n$  items put on test, experimenter records first  $r$  observations  $x_1 < \dots < x_r$ . Due to some unforeseen event he is not able to record some  $l$  middle observations, namely  $x_{r+1} < \dots < x_{r+l}$  and then he records the last  $(n-r-l)$  observations  $x_{r+l+1} < \dots < x_n$ . Shastri et. al. (2020) obtained Bayes predictive inference for inverse Weibull distribution for mid type II censored observations. This censoring scheme, as a special case of multiply type II censoring, was discussed by Upadhyay et. al. (1996), Shastri and Pamari (2014) among others.

In next section, Bayes predictive density and prediction limits are derived for a general  $k^{\text{th}}$  ordered future observation from a Pareto distribution under mid type II censoring scheme. Three different cases on parameters are considered, namely case (i) when parameter  $\vartheta$  is known, case (ii) when parameter  $\tau$  is known and case (iii) when both the parameters  $\vartheta$  and  $\tau$  are unknown. In section 3, prediction limits for the smallest future observation are obtained for all three cases. Results are tabulated and discussed in section 4 and concluded in the last section.

## 2. Prediction limits

Let us assume that  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  be an informative sample of size  $n$  drawn from a Pareto distribution given in (1.1). Consider the mid type II censoring scheme as described in previous section and let  $x_1 < \dots < x_r$  and  $x_{r+l+1} < \dots < x_n$  be the observed life times where  $l$  middle observations are censored.

The likelihood function (LF) for this situation can be written as

$$L(\underline{x}; \tau, \vartheta) = \frac{n!}{l!} [F(x_{r+l+1}) - F(x_r)]^l \prod_{i=1}^r f(x_i | \tau, \vartheta) \prod_{i=r+l+1}^n f(x_i | \tau, \vartheta) \quad (2.1)$$

On substituting (1.1) and (1.2), and simplifying, it reduces to

$$L(\underline{x}; \tau, \vartheta) = \frac{n!}{l!} \tau^{-\vartheta n} \vartheta^{(n-l)} \sum_{g=0}^l \Omega_g x_r^{-\vartheta(l-g)} x_{r+l+1}^{-\vartheta g} \prod_{i=1}^r x_i^{-(\vartheta+1)} \prod_{i=r+l+1}^n x_i^{-(\vartheta+1)} \quad (2.2)$$

where

$$\Omega_g = (-1)^g \binom{l}{g}$$

**Case I : When parameter  $\vartheta$  is known**

Consider a Pareto prior for the parameter  $\tau$ , when other parameter  $\vartheta$  is known

$$g_1(\tau|a_0, b_0) = b_0 a_0 (b_0 \tau)^{-(a_0+1)}; \quad b_0 \tau > 1, a_0 > 0 \quad (2.3)$$

Combining LF (2.2) with prior (2.3) via Bayes theorem, the posterior distribution is defined and obtained as

$$p_1(\tau|\vartheta, \underline{x}) = \frac{L(\underline{x}; \tau, \vartheta) g_1(\tau)}{\int L(\underline{x}; \tau, \vartheta) g_1(\tau) d\tau}$$

$$p_1(\tau|\vartheta, \underline{x}) = (n\vartheta + a_0) b_0^{-(n\vartheta+a_0)} \tau^{-(n\vartheta+a_0+1)} \quad (2.4)$$

Let  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m$  be the second independent random sample of size  $m$  of future observations from the model (1.1), then the density of a general  $k^{\text{th}}$  ordered future observation, where  $1 \leq k \leq m$  will be obtained by

$$f(y_{(k)}|\tau, \vartheta) = \frac{m!}{(k-1)!(m-k)!} [F(y_{(k)})]^{k-1} f(y_{(k)}) [1 - F(y_{(k)})]^{m-k}$$

Substituting from (1.1), (1.2) and solving

$$f(y_{(k)}|\tau, \vartheta) = \beta^{-1}(k, M) \vartheta \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \Omega_i \tau^{-(M+i)\vartheta} y_{(k)}^{-(M+i)\vartheta-1} \quad (2.5)$$

where

$$\Omega_i = (-1)^i \binom{k-1}{i}$$

$$M = m - k + 1$$

and

$$\beta^{-1}(k, M) = \frac{m!}{(k-1)!(m-k)!}$$

Then the Bayes predictive density for future  $k^{\text{th}}$  ordered observation will be

$$h(y_{(k)}|\underline{x}) = \int f(y_{(k)}|\tau, \vartheta) p_1(\tau|\vartheta, \underline{x}) d\tau$$

On substituting the values

$$h(y_{(k)}|\underline{x}) = \beta^{-1}(k, M) \vartheta(n\vartheta + a_0) \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \Omega_i y_{(k)}^{-(M+i)\vartheta-1} \frac{b_0^{\vartheta(M+i)}}{\vartheta(M+i+n) + a_0} \quad (2.6)$$

In the context of Bayes prediction, we say here that  $(t_{1k}, t_{2k})$  is a  $100(1 - \alpha)\%$  limit for  $k^{\text{th}}$  ordered future observation, if

$$P_r[t_{1k} \leq y_{(k)} \leq t_{2k}] = 1 - \alpha$$

Here  $t_{1k}$  and  $t_{2k}$  are said to be lower and upper Bayes prediction limits for  $k^{\text{th}}$  ordered future observation  $y_{(k)}$ . One-sided Bayes prediction limits are obtained by solving

$$\begin{aligned} P_r[y_{(k)} \geq t_{1k}] &= 1 - \frac{\alpha}{2} \\ P_r[y_{(k)} > t_{2k}] &= \frac{\alpha}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Above can be rewritten as

$$\int_{t_{1k}}^{\infty} h(y_{(k)}|\underline{x}) dy = 1 - \frac{\alpha}{2} \quad (2.7)$$

and

$$\int_{t_{2k}}^{\infty} h(y_{(k)}|\underline{x}) dy = \frac{\alpha}{2} \quad (2.8)$$

Using (2.6), (2.7) and (2.8), the one sided Bayes prediction limits are obtained by solving

$$\beta^{-1}(k, M)(n\vartheta + a_0) \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \Omega_i \frac{b_0^{\vartheta(M+i)}}{\vartheta(M+n+i)+a_0} \left\{ \frac{t_{1k}^{-(M+i)\vartheta}}{(M+i)} \right\} = 1 - \alpha/2 \quad (2.9)$$

and

$$\beta^{-1}(k, M)(n\vartheta + a_0) \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \Omega_i \frac{b_0^{\vartheta(M+i)}}{\vartheta(M+n+i)+a_0} \left\{ \frac{t_{2k}^{-(M+i)\vartheta}}{(M+i)} \right\} = \alpha/2 \quad (2.10)$$

### Case II : When parameter $\tau$ is known

Consider a gamma prior for the parameter  $\vartheta$ , when other parameter  $\tau$  is known as suggested by Arnold and Press (1989)

$$g_2(\vartheta|c_0, d_0) = \frac{d_0^{c_0}}{\Gamma c_0} \vartheta^{c_0-1} e^{-d_0\vartheta}; \quad \vartheta > 0, c_0, d_0 > 0 \quad (2.11)$$

Combining LF (2.5) with prior (2.11) via Bayes theorem, the posterior distribution is defined and obtained as

$$p_2(\vartheta|\tau, \underline{x}) = \frac{L(\underline{x}, \tau, \vartheta)g_2(\vartheta)}{\int L(\underline{x}, \tau, \vartheta)g_2(\vartheta)d\vartheta}$$

$$p_2(\vartheta|\tau, \underline{x}) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(n-l+c_0)\sum_{g=0}^l \Omega_g (S_x + n\log\tau)^{-(n-l+c_0)}} \sum_{g=0}^l \Omega_g \vartheta^{n-l+c_0-1}$$

$$\cdot \exp[-\vartheta(S_x + n\log\tau)] \quad (2.12)$$

where

$$S_x = d_0 + (l-g)\log x_r + g\log x_{r+l+1} + \sum_{i=1}^r \log x_i + \sum_{i=r+l+1}^n \log x_i$$

Then the Bayes predictive density for the  $k^{\text{th}}$  ordered future observation will be

$$h(y_{(k)}|\underline{x}) = \int f(y_{(k)}|\tau, \vartheta)p_2(\vartheta|\tau, \underline{x}) d\vartheta$$

where  $f(y_{(k)}|\tau, \vartheta)$  is pdf of  $k^{\text{th}}$  ordered future observation as discussed in case I.

On substituting the values from (2.5) and (2.12), and on simplification we get

$$h(y_{(k)}|\underline{x}) = \frac{\beta^{-1}(k, M)(n-l+c_0)}{\sum_{g=0}^l \Omega_g (S_x + n\log\tau)^{-(n-l+c_0)}} \sum_{g=0}^l \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \Omega_g \Omega_i \frac{1}{y_{(k)}}$$

$$\{(S_x + n\log\tau) + (M+i)\log\tau + (M+i)\log y_{(k)}\}^{-(n-l+c_0+1)} \quad (2.13)$$

Using (2.7) and (2.8), the one sided Bayes prediction limits are obtained by solving

$$\frac{\beta^{-1}(k, M)}{\sum_{g=0}^l \Omega_g (S_x + n\log\tau)^{-(n-l+c_0)}} \sum_{g=0}^l \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \frac{\Omega_g \Omega_i}{(M+i)} \{(S_x + n\log\tau) + (M+i)\log\tau$$

$$+ (M+i)\log t_{1k}\}^{-(n-l+c_0)} = 1 - \alpha/2 \quad (2.14)$$

and

$$\frac{\beta^{-1}(k, M)}{\sum_{g=0}^l \Omega_g (S_x + n \log \tau)^{-(n-l+c_0)}} \sum_{g=0}^l \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \frac{\Omega_g \Omega_i}{(M+i)} \{(S_x + n \log \tau) + (M+i) \log \tau + (M+i) \log t_{2k}\}^{-(n-l+c_0)} = \alpha/2$$

(2.15)

**Case III : When both parameters  $\tau$  and  $\vartheta$  are unknown**

As suggested by Arnold and Press (1989), we consider a gamma prior for the parameter  $\vartheta$  and Pareto prior for parameter  $\tau$  given  $\vartheta$

$$g_3(\vartheta) = \frac{d_0^{c_0}}{\Gamma c_0} \vartheta^{c_0-1} e^{-d_0 \vartheta}; \quad \vartheta > 0, c_0, d_0 > 0$$

(2.16)

$$g_4(\tau|\vartheta) = \vartheta b_0 a_0 (b_0 \tau)^{-(\vartheta a_0 + 1)}; \quad b_0 \tau > 1, a_0 > 0$$

(2.17)

Combining LF (4) with priors (2.16), (2.17) via Bayes theorem, the posterior distribution is defined and obtained as

$$p_3(\vartheta|\tau, \underline{x}) = \frac{L(\underline{x}, \tau, \vartheta) g_3(\vartheta) g_4(\tau|\vartheta)}{\int \int L(\underline{x}, \tau, \vartheta) g_3(\vartheta) g_4(\tau|\vartheta) d\tau d\vartheta}$$

$$p_3(\vartheta, \tau|\underline{x}) = \frac{(n + a_0)}{\Gamma(n - l + c_0) \sum_{g=0}^l \Omega_g (S_x - n \log b_0)^{-(n-l+c_0)}} \sum_{g=0}^l \Omega_g \vartheta^{n-l+c_0} \cdot \tau^{-\vartheta n - \vartheta a_0 - 1} \exp[-\vartheta(S_x + a_0 \log b_0)]$$

(2.18)

If  $f(y_{(k)}|\tau, \vartheta)$  is the pdf of  $k^{\text{th}}$  ordered future observation as discussed in case I, then the Bayes predictive density for  $k^{\text{th}}$  ordered future observation will be

$$h(y_{(k)}|\underline{x}) = \int \int f(y_{(k)}|\tau, \vartheta) p_3(\vartheta, \tau|\underline{x}) d\vartheta d\tau$$

On substituting the values from (2.5) and (2.18), and on simplification we get

$$h(y_{(k)}|\underline{x}) = \frac{\beta^{-1}(k, M)(n + a_0)(n - l + c_0)}{\sum_{g=0}^l \Omega_g (S_x - n \log b_0)^{-(n-l+c_0)}} \sum_{g=0}^l \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \Omega_g \Omega_i \frac{1}{y_{(k)}(M + n + a_0 + i)} \{(S_x + (M+i) \log y_{(k)} - (M+n+i) \log b_0)\}^{-(n-l+c_0+1)}$$

(2.19)

Using (2.7) and (2.8), the one sided Bayes prediction bound limits are obtained by solving

$$\frac{\beta^{-1}(k, M)(n + a_0)}{\sum_{g=0}^l \Omega_g (S_x - n \log b_0)^{-(n-l+c_0)}} \sum_{g=0}^l \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \frac{\Omega_g \Omega_i}{(M + n + a_0 + i)(M + i)}$$

$$\cdot \{(S_x + (M + i) \log t_{1k} - (M + n + i) \log b_0)^{-(n-l+c_0)} = 1 - \alpha/2 \quad (2.20)$$

and

$$\frac{\beta^{-1}(k, M)(n + a_0)}{\sum_{g=0}^l \Omega_g (S_x - n \log b_0)^{-(n-l+c_0)}} \sum_{g=0}^l \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \frac{\Omega_g \Omega_i}{(M + n + a_0 + i)(M + i)}$$

$$\{S_x + (M + i) \log t_{2k} - (M + n + i) \log b_0\}^{-(n-l+c_0)} = \alpha/2 \quad (2.21)$$

### 3. Prediction limits for the future order smallest observation

Prediction limits for the smallest observation can be obtained by substituting  $k=1$  in all three cases on parameters discussed in previous section.

#### Case I : When parameter $\vartheta$ is known

Prediction limits obtained from (2.9) and (2.10) reduces to

$$t_{11} = b_0 \left[ (1 - \alpha/2) \frac{\{\vartheta(m + n) + a_0\}}{(n\vartheta + a_0)} \right]^{-1/m\vartheta} \quad (3.1)$$

$$t_{21} = b_0 \left[ (\alpha/2) \frac{\{\vartheta(m + n) + a_0\}}{(n\vartheta + a_0)} \right]^{-1/m\vartheta} \quad (3.2)$$

which are in nice closed form.

#### Case II: When parameter $\tau$ is known

Prediction limits obtained from (2.14) and (2.15) reduces to

$$\frac{\sum_{g=0}^l \Omega_g \{S_x + (m + n) \log \tau + m \log t_{11}\}^{-(n-l+c_0)}}{\sum_{g=0}^l \Omega_g (S_x + n \log \tau)^{-(n-l+c_0)}} = 1 - \alpha/2 \quad (3.3)$$

and

$$\frac{\sum_{g=0}^l \Omega_g \{S_x + (m + n) \log \tau + m \log t_{21}\}^{-(n-l+c_0)}}{\sum_{g=0}^l \Omega_g (S_x + n \log \tau)^{-(n-l+c_0)}} = \alpha/2 \quad (3.4)$$



It can be seen that the above equations cannot be solved explicitly for  $t_{21}$  and  $t_{21}$ , one needs iterative method to solve them.

**Case III: When both parameters  $\tau$  and  $\vartheta$  are unknown**

Prediction limits obtained from (2.20) and (2.21) reduces to

$$\frac{(n + a_0) \sum_{g=0}^l \Omega_g \{(S_x + m \log t_{11} - (m + n) \log b_0\}^{-(n-l+c_0)}}{(m + n + a_0) \sum_{g=0}^l \Omega_g (S_x - n \log b_0)^{-(n-l+c_0)}} = 1 - \alpha/2 \quad (3.5)$$

and

$$\frac{(n + a_0) \sum_{g=0}^l \Omega_g \{(S_x + m \log t_{21} - (m + n) \log b_0\}^{-(n-l+c_0)}}{(m + n + a_0) \sum_{g=0}^l \Omega_g (S_x - n \log b_0)^{-(n-l+c_0)}} = \alpha/2 \quad (3.6)$$

Since above equation are not in explicit form therefore bisection method is used for finding the prediction limits  $t_{11}$  and  $t_{21}$ .

**4. Discussion**

The present section computes proposed Bayes prediction intervals for the smallest ordered future observation on the basis of Monte Carlo simulation technique of 1000 randomly generated samples from Pareto distribution by taking parameters  $\tau=1$  and  $\vartheta =0.5$ . Two different sample sizes namely 6 and 20 were considered for both informative and future samples i.e.  $n=m=6$  and  $n=m=20$ . During computation we have considered two levels of  $\alpha$  namely 5% and 1%, while on reporting we found similar behaviour of proposed prediction limits. Therefore due to paucity of space we have reported 95% coverage probability of prediction intervals for all the three cases.

**Case I: When parameter  $\vartheta$  is known**

Bayes prediction limits are computed for two different values of parameter  $\vartheta$  ( $=0.5, 2.0$ ) and Bayes prediction intervals are tabulated in the tables 1 and 2. Number of values, namely 0.5, 1.0, 2.0, 3.0 are assigned to the hyperparameter  $a_0$  and 0.5(0.5)3.0 to the hyperparameter  $b_0$ . In this case prediction intervals are independent to censoring fraction so no variation in censoring fraction is reported. From both the tables, it may be noted that prediction intervals increase with the increase in hyperparameters  $a_0$  and  $b_0$ . It is obvious that as value of parameter  $\vartheta$  increases prediction intervals also increases. Prediction interval decreases with the increase in sample size.

### **Case II: When parameter $\tau$ is known**

In this case parameter  $\tau$  is known and kept fixed at 0.5, 1.0, 2.0, 4.0. Three different values 2.0, 3.0, 4.0 are assigned to hyperparameter  $c_0$  and four different values 0.5, 1.0, 2.0, 3.0 are assigned to the hyperparameter  $d_0$ . Different censoring fractions are also considered for the study. For  $n=m=6$ , 33% and 66% observations are censored and hence resulted in  $l=2$  and 4. Where as in case of  $n=m=20$ , values of  $l$  has been taken as 4, 8, 12, 16 so as 20%, 40%, 60%, 80% observations are censored. For the case results are reported in tables 3 and 4. It is evident from the results that the prediction intervals increase with the increase in hyperparameter  $d_0$  but reverse is the case with the effect of hyperparameter  $c_0$ . As  $c_0$  increases, prediction intervals decrease. It may be deduced that with the increase in parameter  $\tau$ , prediction intervals decrease. Similar is the case with the parameter  $\vartheta$ , prediction intervals decrease with the increase in the value of  $\vartheta$ . As far as censoring fraction is concerned, as we increase number of censored observations, results are found to be better i.e. if  $l$  increases prediction intervals decrease. Same trend may be noted when size of samples is 20, with shorter prediction intervals everywhere. Moreover large sample size and large numbers of censored observations, provide the shortest width of prediction intervals.

### **Case III : When parameter $\tau$ and $\vartheta$ both are unknown**

Tables 5 to 8 report prediction intervals for the case when  $\tau$  and  $\vartheta$  both are unknown. As it may be deduced from tables 1 and 2, prediction interval is shorter for  $a_0=0.5$ , so by keeping value of hyperparameter  $a_0$  fixed at 0.5 and considering  $b_0=1.0$ , effect of other hyperparameters and parameters on prediction interval is studied and reported in tables 5 and 6.

For the purpose three different values namely 2.0, 3.0, 4.0 are assigned to the hyperparameter  $c_0$  and four different values 0.5, 1.0, 2.0, 3.0 to hyperparameter  $d_0$ . Effect of censored observations is also studied by taking 33% and 66% of observations censored at  $n=m=6$  and 20%, 40%, 60% and 80% of observations censored when  $n=m=20$  which yields  $l=2, 4$  and  $l=4, 8, 12$  respectively.

For small sample sizes i.e.  $n=m=6$ , prediction intervals increase everywhere with the increase in the value of hyperparameter  $d_0$ . As far as effect of hyperparameter  $c_0$  is concerned, for smaller choices of  $\vartheta$ , prediction intervals decrease with the increase in  $c_0$ . As we increase  $\vartheta$ , prediction intervals decrease everywhere with smaller values of  $\tau$  i.e.  $\tau \leq 2$ . For  $\tau > 2$ , with the increase in  $c_0$ , prediction intervals first decrease then increase. In this range, it can be minimized with the proper

choices of hyperparameters  $c_0$  and  $d_0$ . As far as the effect of parameter  $\tau$  is concerned, prediction intervals decrease as  $\tau$  increases. In case as we increase number of censored observations, prediction intervals increase for  $\tau \leq 2$  and then decreases for  $\tau > 2$ . It has been studied and reported that as we increase sample sizes i.e. (informative and future)  $n=m=20$ , prediction intervals decrease everywhere. It may be further shortened by increasing the value of parameter  $\vartheta$ .

Similarly, it is obvious from the results of previous case that prediction intervals found to be shorter with minimum value of hyperparameter  $d_0$  and maximum value of hyperparameter  $c_0$ . So keeping  $c_0$  fixed at 4.0 and  $d_0$  at 0.5 effect of other hyperparameters have studied and reported in tables 7 and 8. Four different values are assigned to the hyperparameter  $b_0$  namely 0.5, 1.0, 2.0, 3.0 and three different values 2.0, 3.0 and 4.0 are assigned to the hyperparameter  $a_0$ . Results are studied and reported for  $\vartheta = 0.5, 2.0$  and  $\tau = 0.5, 1.0, 2.0, 4.0$ . Effect of censored observations has also been studied by increasing the number of censored observations.

It can be deduced from the table 7 that for  $n=m=6$  and for  $\vartheta = 0.5$  prediction intervals increase with the increase in the value of hyperparameter  $b_0$ . While trend is reverse in the majority of the cases with the hyperparameter  $a_0$ . With less number of observations censored i.e. for  $l=2$  and  $b_0 \leq 1$ , prediction intervals decrease with increase in  $a_0$ . For  $b_0 > 1$ , prediction intervals can be minimized with the proper selection of hyperparameters  $a_0$ ,  $b_0$  and parameters  $\tau$  and  $\vartheta$ . With the increase in the value of  $\tau$ , prediction intervals decrease for majority of cases except for  $l=4$ ,  $\tau=4$  and  $b_0=2$ . As we increase number of censored observations prediction intervals first decrease for  $\tau \leq 1$  and  $c > 1$  then it increase. If size of informative and future samples increase, prediction intervals decrease everywhere i.e. for  $n=m=20$ , it is found and reported shorter. It can further be minimized at larger number of observation censored.

## **5. Conclusion**

Under the mid censoring, prediction interval for future observation is obtained in nice closed form in the case when inequality parameter is known. For other two cases i.e. when precision parameter is known and when both the parameters are unknown, even though Bayes prediction limits cannot be obtained in explicit form, it can be computed using iterative methods. From the computation and discussion, it is clear that proposed limits perform better almost everywhere, especially for small values of hyperparameters except  $c_0$ . However for other values of hyperparameters, one can still consider proposed limits with proper

choice of parameters. For mid censoring with large number of observations are censored in middle, prediction interval is found to be shortest. When size of both informative and future sample is large proposed prediction intervals are shorter everywhere. A similar study can be performed for any other future observation/characteristic of interest which will be useful to the situation where such type of life test is needed.

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**Table 1 :** Prediction intervals when parameter  $\vartheta$  is known for  $m=n=6$  and  $\tau =1$ .

$b_0$	$\vartheta =0.5$				$\vartheta =2.0$			
	$a_0=0.5$	$a_0=1.0$	$a_0=2.0$	$a_0=3.0$	$a_0=0.5$	$a_0=1.0$	$a_0=2.0$	$a_0=3.0$
0.5	0.16990	0.17074	0.17252	0.17295	0.96310	0.96950	0.98090	0.99120
1.0	0.33979	0.34148	0.34404	0.34504	1.92690	1.93910	1.96180	1.98240
1.5	0.50969	0.51222	0.51606	0.51755	2.89030	2.90870	2.94270	2.97361
2.0	0.67959	0.68296	0.68808	0.69179	3.85380	3.87830	3.92370	3.96481
2.5	0.84948	0.85370	0.86259	0.86474	4.81730	4.84794	4.90465	4.95601
3.0	1.01938	1.02444	1.03212	1.03768	5.78077	5.81753	5.88558	5.94721

**Table 2 :** Prediction intervals when parameter  $\vartheta$  is known for  $m=n=20$  and  $\tau =1$ .

$b_0$	$\vartheta =0.5$				$\vartheta =2.0$			
	$a_0=0.5$	$a_0=1.0$	$a_0=2.0$	$a_0=3.0$	$a_0=0.5$	$a_0=1.0$	$a_0=2.0$	$a_0=3.0$
0.5	0.04719	0.04722	0.04727	0.04731	0.20707	0.20720	0.20744	0.20768
1.0	0.09438	0.09444	0.09453	0.09462	0.41414	0.41439	0.41488	0.41536
1.5	0.14157	0.14165	0.14180	0.14192	0.62121	0.62159	0.62232	0.62304

2.0	0.18877	0.18887	0.18906	0.18923	0.82828	0.82879	0.82977	0.83071
2.5	0.23596	0.23609	0.23633	0.23654	1.03535	1.03598	1.03721	1.03839
3.0	0.28315	0.28331	0.28360	0.28385	1.24242	1.24318	1.24465	1.24607

**Table 3 :** Prediction intervals when parameter  $\tau$  is known for  $m=n=6$ .

l	$\tau$	$c_0$	$\vartheta = 0.5$				$\vartheta = 2.0$			
			$d_0=0.5$	$d_0=1.0$	$d_0=2.0$	$d_0=3.0$	$d_0=0.5$	$d_0=1.0$	$d_0=2.0$	$d_0=3.0$
2	0.5	2.0	5.66303	6.43009	6.63947	7.82495	0.83529	0.97120	1.29380	1.61053
		3.0	4.38005	4.61511	5.19989	5.81399	0.70589	0.80454	1.06533	1.34397
		4.0	3.37272	3.73158	4.11115	4.62659	0.60952	0.69358	0.90573	1.12939
	1.0	2.0	2.72667	3.14047	3.58390	3.90281	0.41342	0.47968	0.62341	0.80753
		3.0	2.23518	2.25965	2.63084	2.75828	0.34756	0.40542	0.53336	0.67616
		4.0	1.73492	1.77359	1.79430	2.24217	0.30235	0.34752	0.46385	0.57243
	2.0	2.0	1.44070	1.54508	1.73939	1.96591	0.20188	0.24519	0.32482	0.40599
		3.0	1.07733	1.14132	1.34698	1.49042	0.17563	0.20828	0.26657	0.33625
		4.0	0.85683	0.88623	1.00009	1.09158	0.15223	0.17382	0.22869	0.28375
	4.0	2.0	0.69012	0.78171	0.84583	1.02633	0.10537	0.12333	0.16094	0.20600
		3.0	0.56427	0.57586	0.66718	0.73279	0.08634	0.10288	0.13322	0.16676
		4.0	0.42310	0.46473	0.50415	0.56691	0.07801	0.08690	0.11358	0.14010
4	0.5	2.0	4.53206	4.62070	6.19499	8.16095	0.86312	0.97076	1.32416	1.72214
		3.0	4.40764	4.27823	5.05713	6.34378	0.67476	0.80555	1.04288	1.61831
		4.0	2.85346	3.67336	3.29189	4.72130	0.57097	0.69599	0.98533	1.31029
	1.0	2.0	2.59581	2.50160	3.07945	4.43347	0.45132	0.52388	0.70029	0.87752
		3.0	1.74106	2.04434	2.20787	2.90352	0.43074	0.42200	0.56363	0.71445
		4.0	1.54268	1.43221	2.19217	2.32049	0.25209	0.35357	0.47338	0.60547
	2.0	2.0	1.61396	1.46542	2.40068	2.32416	0.21460	0.26276	0.34841	0.44213
		3.0	1.15978	1.30764	1.54580	1.58656	0.17358	0.21099	0.27902	0.36232
		4.0	0.69657	0.86281	1.02332	1.15333	0.14301	0.17458	0.23641	0.30094
	4.0	2.0	0.70576	0.62206	0.95193	1.07388	0.10926	0.13203	0.17391	0.27896
		3.0	0.40886	0.54915	0.59253	0.79721	0.08866	0.10500	0.13835	0.21974
		4.0	0.38741	0.44179	0.46491	0.51306	0.07174	0.08712	0.11611	0.18664

**Table 4 :** Prediction intervals when parameter  $\tau$  is known for  $m=n=20$ .

$l$	$\tau$	$c_0$	$\vartheta = 0.5$			$\vartheta = 2.0$		
			$d_0=0.5$	$d_0=1.0$	$d_0=2.0$	$d_0=0.5$	$d_0=1.0$	$d_0=2.0$
4	1.0	2.0	0.451196	0.453198	0.474154	0.099664	0.10421	0.115369
		3.0	0.423244	0.429316	0.446797	0.094586	0.099705	0.109419
		4.0	0.401248	0.408118	0.42409	0.090405	0.096374	0.104443
	2.0	2.0	0.224298	0.228444	0.238965	0.05031	0.05326	0.056897
		3.0	0.212954	0.21714	0.221512	0.047017	0.049927	0.055018
		4.0	0.201088	0.204603	0.208688	0.045507	0.047701	0.0522
	4.0	2.0	0.112364	0.112553	0.119609	0.024579	0.026251	0.029005
		3.0	0.105874	0.107927	0.111554	0.024101	0.024974	0.027345
		4.0	0.100726	0.101568	0.105022	0.022758	0.023533	0.026328
8	1.0	2.0	0.445294	0.45638	0.465305	0.100021	0.10491	0.117171
		3.0	0.429159	0.432017	0.435532	0.09443	0.099583	0.109127
		4.0	0.402052	0.405125	0.419655	0.091487	0.093909	0.104506
	2.0	2.0	0.227388	0.227039	0.237566	0.050665	0.052184	0.05834
		3.0	0.214047	0.215791	0.223301	0.047624	0.050203	0.05509
		4.0	0.200976	0.203682	0.209185	0.045559	0.047058	0.052478
	4.0	2.0	0.112495	0.114568	0.116942	0.025046	0.02626	0.02876
		3.0	0.106734	0.107871	0.112903	0.023661	0.024902	0.02759
		4.0	0.100618	0.101535	0.10201	0.022566	0.023741	0.026115
12	1.0	2.0	0.45443	0.466234	0.474122	0.100718	0.106292	0.117014
		3.0	0.420134	0.430005	0.446309	0.096126	0.099996	0.111539
		4.0	0.404082	0.406177	0.416849	0.089833	0.094846	0.104226
	2.0	2.0	0.224756	0.232225	0.235167	0.050414	0.053371	0.058483
		3.0	0.212241	0.215365	0.221023	0.047134	0.049749	0.05508
		4.0	0.200566	0.202317	0.207435	0.045453	0.046743	0.052319
	4.0	2.0	0.111415	0.115047	0.117129	0.025217	0.026296	0.029139
		3.0	0.104605	0.107334	0.111855	0.023829	0.024922	0.02786
		4.0	0.099434	0.101381	0.10356	0.022585	0.023686	0.026418
16	1.0	2.0	0.45355	0.460161	0.476216	0.100637	0.108551	0.120915
		3.0	0.424737	0.425809	0.444282	0.094885	0.101282	0.111579
		4.0	0.389229	0.397408	0.412419	0.08922	0.095096	0.106168
	2.0	2.0	0.222924	0.228039	0.24014	0.04995	0.054207	0.060668
		3.0	0.206473	0.213065	0.220481	0.047421	0.050551	0.056485
		4.0	0.196482	0.195984	0.207882	0.044992	0.048189	0.053585
	4	2.0	0.113646	0.114541	0.118267	0.02524	0.027119	0.030037
		3.0	0.106134	0.107232	0.109192	0.023883	0.025154	0.028129
		4.0	0.096297	0.09835	0.101961	0.022276	0.02403	0.026673

**Table 5 :** Prediction intervals in case when  $\tau$  and  $\vartheta$  are unknown for  $m=n=6$  when hyperparameters are fixed at  $a_0=0.5, b_0=1$ .

$l$	$\tau$	$c_0$	$\vartheta = 0.5$				$\vartheta = 2.0$			
			$d_0=0.5$	$d_0=1.0$	$d_0=2.0$	$d_0=3.0$	$d_0=0.5$	$d_0=1.0$	$d_0=2.0$	$d_0=3.0$
2	0.5	2.0	6.95391	7.23282	8.31669	10.5588	1.42823	1.57483	1.90505	2.27777
		3.0	4.28715	4.54354	5.10018	6.90627	1.12745	1.23117	1.46966	1.74699
		4.0	3.10286	3.12596	3.48365	5.35045	0.93160	1.01734	1.20103	1.40970
	1.0	2.0	3.72554	4.09322	4.77209	6.16856	0.48456	0.57254	0.77445	0.99549
		3.0	2.60764	2.84564	3.05976	4.28751	0.40119	0.47361	0.61968	0.79019
		4.0	1.87416	2.04744	2.31245	3.06325	0.33849	0.39362	0.52170	0.66501
	2.0	2.0	2.13783	2.24409	2.79970	3.41258	0.20767	0.14402	0.13158	0.22580
		3.0	1.54376	1.60085	1.91373	2.55734	0.03119	0.03809	0.09534	0.19289
		4.0	1.17426	1.14839	1.33348	1.81913	0.15610	0.09333	0.08741	0.16315
	4.0	2.0	1.08235	1.14238	1.33601	1.66818	4.02542	3.09332	1.62442	0.81804
		3.0	0.82714	0.73057	0.99202	1.11649	0.00056	0.00291	0.00382	0.01326
		4.0	0.61719	0.66003	0.76396	0.89479	2.95076	2.13356	1.08730	0.57603
4	0.5	2.0	9.40787	9.56240	11.1654	14.0259	1.57160	1.75174	2.13330	2.58013
		3.0	5.67120	5.75143	5.76514	8.62259	1.22045	1.35046	1.63402	1.91534
		4.0	3.37940	3.48355	4.06119	5.46208	0.98370	1.09317	1.29994	1.52801
	1.0	2.0	4.56065	5.21781	5.76076	7.92455	0.51485	0.62453	0.85733	1.11481
		3.0	2.97922	3.22213	3.56845	4.36560	0.40215	0.48935	0.68163	0.87209
		4.0	2.08593	2.07668	2.38031	3.40277	0.32658	0.41216	0.55388	0.69991
	2.0	2.0	2.31314	2.78697	3.09971	3.51486	0.18115	0.13013	0.09403	0.16838
		3.0	1.62198	1.83350	2.09129	2.34375	0.06321	0.09275	0.05194	0.12734
		4.0	1.01485	1.12792	1.28405	1.51306	0.11780	0.09644	0.06142	0.09835
	4.0	2.0	0.92293	0.81173	0.84106	1.18094	2.88684	2.17589	1.04636	0.56508
		3.0	0.58330	0.49090	0.55294	0.73923	0.16607	0.21540	0.10080	0.18657
		4.0	0.42121	0.35369	0.48485	0.59185	1.97158	1.46553	0.75271	0.42230

**Table 6 :** Prediction intervals in case when  $\tau$  and  $\vartheta$  are unknown for  $m=n=20$  when hyperparameters are fixed at  $a_0=0.5, b_0=1$ .

$l$	$\tau$	$c_0$	$\vartheta = 0.5$			$\vartheta = 2.0$		
			$d_0=0.5$	$d_0=1.0$	$d_0=2.0$	$d_0=0.5$	$d_0=1.0$	$d_0=2.0$
4	1.0	2.0	0.52694	0.50525	0.52389	0.10377	0.11191	0.12040
		3.0	0.46947	0.47516	0.48977	0.09954	0.10448	0.11579
		4.0	0.44454	0.44974	0.45716	0.09574	0.09943	0.10917
	2.0	2.0	0.30352	0.31415	0.32134	0.05135	0.04522	0.03328
		3.0	0.29190	0.29101	0.30040	0.00080	0.00118	0.00236
		4.0	0.27365	0.27077	0.28378	0.04702	0.04403	0.02857
	4.0	2.0	0.14528	0.14315	0.15574	1.07013	0.98489	0.83630
		3.0	0.13017	0.13571	0.14441	0.00182	0.00053	0.00146
		4.0	0.12496	0.12890	0.13480	0.96338	0.86641	0.74824
8	1.0	2.0	0.49490	0.50402	0.52891	0.10481	0.11051	0.12137
		3.0	0.46352	0.47795	0.49338	0.10041	0.10536	0.11607
		4.0	0.44204	0.44918	0.46581	0.09534	0.09998	0.11047
	2.0	2.0	0.29706	0.30993	0.31904	0.05206	0.04457	0.03313
		3.0	0.27759	0.27881	0.30488	0.00442	0.00270	0.00109
		4.0	0.26403	0.27170	0.28682	0.05205	0.03513	0.02823
	4.0	2.0	0.12688	0.12965	0.14169	1.05190	0.95048	0.79949
		3.0	0.11367	0.12417	0.13362	0.00664	0.00446	0.00211
		4.0	0.11199	0.11301	0.13062	0.93174	0.84313	0.73739
12	1.0	2.0	0.50546	0.50973	0.52964	0.10532	0.11116	0.12303
		3.0	0.46525	0.47239	0.49140	0.10025	0.10592	0.11522
		4.0	0.42933	0.44900	0.46565	0.09451	0.09997	0.11053
	2.0	2.0	0.28701	0.29595	0.30241	0.05091	0.04179	0.03423
		3.0	0.26303	0.27801	0.28610	0.01744	0.02056	0.01480
		4.0	0.25122	0.25806	0.26728	0.03826	0.03845	0.02528
	4.0	2.0	0.09465	0.10066	0.10520	0.96560	0.86766	0.74833
		3.0	0.08614	0.09150	0.10262	0.02275	0.02156	0.01012
		4.0	0.07437	0.08505	0.09129	0.85060	0.77955	0.66969
16	1.0	2.0	0.50948	0.51743	0.54193	0.10775	0.11341	0.12772
		3.0	0.46892	0.47046	0.49465	0.10029	0.10550	0.11913
		4.0	0.43808	0.44150	0.45817	0.09427	0.09941	0.11349
	2.0	2.0	0.20475	0.21118	0.23090	0.07323	0.08352	0.05690
		3.0	0.18088	0.18808	0.21067	0.07284	0.05975	0.05367
		4.0	0.15575	0.16097	0.18674	0.06505	0.06537	0.04252
	4.0	2.0	0.13261	0.11379	0.10837	0.71716	0.78154	0.48872
		3.0	0.11899	0.11703	0.09211	0.02241	0.00777	0.08663
		4.0	0.09708	0.08942	0.08761	0.66133	0.61651	0.43978



**Table 7 :** Prediction intervals in case when  $\tau$  and  $\vartheta$  are unknown for  $m=n=6$  when hyperparameters are fixed at  $c_0=4.0, d_0=0.5$ .

$l$	$\tau$	$a_0$	$\vartheta = 0.5$				$\vartheta = 2.0$			
			$b_0=0.5$	$b_0=1.0$	$b_0=2.0$	$b_0=3.0$	$b_0=0.5$	$b_0=1.0$	$b_0=2.0$	$b_0=3.0$
2	0.5	2.0	2.89923	3.67808	4.56569	4.54574	0.86989	0.90243	0.66485	0.29367
		3.0	2.85579	3.63365	4.06994	4.40978	0.85753	0.89541	0.66677	0.31116
		4.0	2.70825	3.47267	4.21462	4.41737	0.83630	0.88249	0.66737	0.30594
	1.0	2.0	1.76666	2.23910	2.42854	2.43962	0.45241	0.33697	0.30809	2.94867
		3.0	1.77028	2.19781	2.55068	2.35374	0.44307	0.33008	0.29456	2.89736
		4.0	1.71682	2.10410	2.39688	2.05740	0.44042	0.32873	0.31173	2.84030
	2.0	2.0	1.08842	1.18242	1.22549	2.10063	0.17004	0.15594	5.59664	32.26520
		3.0	1.07617	1.09714	1.16706	2.17885	0.16163	0.15206	5.50171	30.9033
		4.0	1.04078	1.12065	1.22529	2.18518	0.16219	0.15415	5.53248	29.8935
	4.0	2.0	0.59330	0.61632	2.37780	11.6053	0.07365	2.78058	51.8639	239.409
		3.0	0.57636	0.60494	2.56295	11.7049	0.07628	2.75093	50.0863	237.652
		4.0	0.57230	0.59932	2.71474	13.1023	0.07895	2.72058	48.3788	235.002
4	0.5	2.0	3.15878	3.93152	3.95519	3.70790	0.93643	0.97216	0.65047	0.17820
		3.0	3.16161	3.71684	4.10240	3.56338	0.92564	0.96248	0.65483	0.18298
		4.0	2.97815	3.64155	3.64102	3.50379	0.92036	0.94810	0.64955	0.17476
	1.0	2.0	1.88752	1.98395	1.61382	1.27626	0.49038	0.32031	0.29494	2.33874
		3.0	1.92816	1.93296	1.66081	1.31953	0.47910	0.31686	0.28352	2.16819
		4.0	1.84333	2.05281	1.51384	1.39888	0.47372	0.32363	0.28015	2.27032
	2.0	2.0	0.99000	0.86457	0.77980	1.55826	0.16383	0.15216	3.87679	21.8476
		3.0	0.96594	0.83242	0.82123	1.50368	0.16044	0.14519	3.55415	21.0422
		4.0	0.98708	0.70654	0.74195	1.65006	0.16005	0.18348	4.07462	23.1010
	4.0	2.0	0.41313	0.38909	2.12880	7.66565	0.07275	1.99216	36.4821	178.391
		3.0	0.40469	0.34711	1.95703	8.08074	0.08594	1.83492	35.4190	179.387
		4.0	0.40414	0.34756	2.07894	7.42498	0.08690	2.22407	35.7629	167.478

**Table 8 :** Prediction intervals in case when  $\tau$  and  $\vartheta$  are unknown for  $m=n=20$  when hyperparameters are fixed at  $c_0=4.0, d_0=0.5$ .

$l$	$\tau$	$a_0$	$\vartheta = 0.5$			$\vartheta = 2.0$		
			$b_0=0.5$	$b_0=1.0$	$b_0=2.0$	$b_0=0.5$	$b_0=1.0$	$b_0=2.0$
4	1.0	2.0	0.32119	0.43494	0.53778	0.11873	0.09407	0.10027
		3.0	0.32017	0.43810	0.54210	0.11851	0.09367	0.09988
		4.0	0.31677	0.43570	0.54206	0.11905	0.09493	0.10490
	2.0	2.0	0.22345	0.26653	0.23852	0.04748	0.05125	1.87926
		3.0	0.21760	0.27064	0.24356	0.04776	0.05066	1.92943
		4.0	0.21751	0.26814	0.24720	0.04734	0.05034	1.92786
	4.0	2.0	0.13495	0.12478	0.30862	0.02335	0.97099	14.66358
		3.0	0.13631	0.12497	0.29593	0.02464	0.94535	14.54831
		4.0	0.13328	0.12277	0.30150	0.02654	0.93695	15.02869
8	1.0	2.0	0.32073	0.42925	0.53076	0.12007	0.09574	0.09921
		3.0	0.31871	0.44007	0.53596	0.11930	0.09520	0.10138
		4.0	0.31966	0.43291	0.52470	0.11905	0.09484	0.10071
	2.0	2.0	0.21829	0.26363	0.23248	0.04766	0.05476	1.88354
		3.0	0.22037	0.26869	0.22676	0.04668	0.05267	1.86468
		4.0	0.22080	0.26621	0.21828	0.04746	0.05460	1.86430
	4.0	2.0	0.13174	0.11414	0.28343	0.03041	0.92715	14.42667
		3.0	0.13005	0.11243	0.24576	0.02512	0.92574	14.43300
		4.0	0.12972	0.11051	0.27357	0.02164	0.93458	14.30841
12	1.0	2.0	0.32579	0.44422	0.49581	0.11972	0.09401	0.11915
		3.0	0.32672	0.43941	0.50235	0.12048	0.09322	0.14279
		4.0	0.32564	0.43153	0.49150	0.11963	0.09346	0.13302
	2.0	2.0	0.22019	0.25027	0.16479	0.04746	0.05986	1.64937
		3.0	0.21929	0.25046	0.15221	0.04722	0.07770	1.70250
		4.0	0.21435	0.25420	0.16180	0.04751	0.05565	1.71430
	4.0	2.0	0.12488	0.08247	0.19056	0.03452	0.81954	13.42364
		3.0	0.12556	0.08555	0.26569	0.03817	0.82815	13.74385
		4.0	0.12272	0.08331	0.32852	0.02706	0.83784	13.51744
16	1.0	2.0	0.33771	0.43528	0.30544	0.12805	0.09338	0.10183
		3.0	0.34035	0.43466	0.30460	0.12724	0.09235	0.11441
		4.0	0.33509	0.43128	0.31314	0.12679	0.09369	0.12327
	2.0	2.0	0.21121	0.16015	0.20468	0.04624	0.03383	1.14430
		3.0	0.21515	0.15189	0.15949	0.04729	0.05318	1.57977
		4.0	0.21203	0.15384	0.18171	0.04662	0.04590	2.19337
	4.0	2.0	0.07692	0.09852	0.47418	0.02876	0.57736	10.88102
		3.0	0.07672	0.08459	0.58430	0.02633	0.88034	10.88151
		4.0	0.07696	0.07358	0.49681	0.02704	0.92697	11.93747

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