

of sight by a peaked formation, it considers diffraction in obstacle knife edge with or without reflection. With obstructed line of sight by convex formation, it considers diffraction in rounded obstacle with or without reflection. With an obstructed line of sight by a sequence of obstacles, it considers diffraction by the terrain. Longley-Rice also considers climate correction curves [13].

Okumura-Hata is a model of propagation curves developed by Okumura and synthesized in equation by Hata. It has propagation curves for different levels of urbanization [20].

Deygout-Assis is a propagation model based on calculations of losses in the path of the electromagnetic wave developed by Deygout. With line of sight, it considers calculation of scattering of electromagnetic energy. With a view obstructed by one or more peaked formations, it considers diffraction in knife edge obstacles [14]. Assis extended the Deygout model to a line of sight obstructed by convex obstacles and considered diffraction in a rounded obstacle [21].

ITU-R P.370-7 is a model of propagation curves drawn from data obtained in the Mediterranean and North Sea regions for field strengths exceeded by 50% of locations for different percentages of time. It has correction curves of variation of terrain heights [18].

ITU-R GE06 is a model of propagation curves for field strengths exceeded by 50% of locations for different percentages of time. It has propagation curves for different climatic regions [22].

ITU-R P.526-11 is a propagation model based on calculations of losses in the path of the electromagnetic wave. With line of sight, it considers calculation of scattering of electromagnetic energy. With a line of sight obstructed by one or more convex formations, it considers diffraction in a rounded obstacle. With obstructed line of sight by a peaked formation, it considers diffraction in obstacle knife edge. With obstructed line of site by two peaked formations or obstruction in smooth terrain, it considers diffraction by the terrain. With a line of sight obstructed by a sequence of obstacles, it considers Delta Bullington [15].

ITU-R P.1546-5 is a model of propagation curves for field strengths exceeded by 50% of locations for different percentages of time. It has correction curves for obstruction and curves for correction of wide differences between the transmission and reception antenna heights [17].

CRC-Predict is a model that calculates losses in the clutter. Each polygon results in losses by refraction, reflection and diffraction. It has curves of location variability of the receiving antenna in relation to the height of the clutter. For regions with clutter data with very small obstacles, consider the dispersion, refraction and climatic correction curves of the Longley-Rice propagation model and the localization variability of the Okumura-Hata propagation model [19].

ITU-R P.1812-3 is a propagation model based on calculations of losses in the path of the electromagnetic wave and losses in the clutter. With line of sight it considers refraction in the troposphere. With obstructed line of sight by smooth formation, it considers diffraction by the terrain. With obstructed line of sight by irregular formation, it considers Delta Bullington. The calculations consider losses in the clutter. Each polygon results in losses by refraction, reflection and diffraction. It has curves of location variability of the

receiving antenna in relation to the height of the clutter [16].

V. PROPAGATION MODELS COMPARISON

The best method for comparing propagation models is to analyze the mean field measurement error with each of the available propagation models.

For the field measurement, RecordTV Rio was chosen in the metropolitan region of Rio de Janeiro. The metropolitan area of Rio de Janeiro has a very varied predominant terrain, with high cliffs, seas of hills, hills and valleys, representing the most complex situation of propagation and of great challenge for propagation models. The complexity of the propagation is enhanced by RecordTV Rio operating in massive SFN, in the most varied transmission situations, with Special Class main station, 2 Class A retransmitters stations and 11 auxiliary stations.

RecordTV Rio provided 41 field measurements for this work. 19 measurements from the main station transmission, 14 measurements from the retransmitter stations and 8 measurements from the auxiliary stations. The field measurement sites were distributed in the metropolitan region of Rio de Janeiro to represent the maximum diversity of propagation characteristics.

The field measurement used a measurement instrument with a resolution of 10 kHz and a measurement range of 130 dBμV. The antenna used has a gain of 14 dBi at the center frequency of 623 MHz, corresponding to the television channel 39, realized at 10 meters of height in relation to the ground and attenuation of cable and connectors of 2 dB.

The software used to predict the coverage area was Progira, [23]. Progira offers 10 propagation models. The propagation models have selectable options of climate, population density or terrain type, thus all models with all selectable options were considered, totaling 37 variations of propagation models.

There is no single criterion for deciding the best method for comparing propagation models, but the mean error should be as small as possible [24].

DMA (Absolute Mean Deviation) calculates the arithmetic mean of the absolute deviations of each measure, does not take into account whether it was overestimated or underestimated, and it is important to analyze which model of propagation that approximates the field measurement by simple mean, according to Equation 1.

σ (Standard Deviation) computes the square root of the ratio of the sum of the squares of the deviations and is important to analyze if the results obtained by the propagation models are scattered over a wide range of values, according to Equation 2.

RMS (Root Mean Square) is a statistical measure of the magnitude of a variable quantity of discrete values, where the mean error is low by canceling positive and negative errors when added and it is important to designate if the errors are additive and tend to more or less, according to Equation 3 [25].

$$DMA = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{na} |VM - VP| \quad (1)$$

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{i=1}^{na} (VM - VP)^2 - N \times \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{na} (VM - VP)^2} \quad (2)$$

$$RMS = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{na} (VM - VP)^2 + \sigma^2} \quad (3)$$

Where:

DMA = Absolute Mean Deviation;

σ = Standard Deviation;

N = Number of samples;

na = sample;

RMS = Root Mean Square;

VM = Measured value in field;

VP = Measured value in software.

VI. RESULTS

When comparing the values measured in the field with the simulated values in the software, it was possible to calculate DMA, σ and RMS of each propagation model, according to Table I.

When analyzing each model in isolation, Table I concludes that the ITUR 1812-3 propagation model, in the dense urban geographic region option, presents the smallest mean error and is the most reliable to be used in the Rio de Janeiro study. In analyzing the techniques of propagation models, Table I concludes that the models that employ losses in the clutter, present better efficiency.

Table I - Average error of all paths compared to field measurement.

Average (dB)				
Propagation Model	Selectable Option	DMA	σ	RMS
ITUR 1812-3	Dense Urban	6,9	1,4	7,2
ITUR 526-13	General Method	7,6	1,5	7,9
ITUR 1812-3	Forest / Urban	8,1	1,6	8,5
CRC -Predict	Continental / Great Lakes / Maritime Overland / Maritime Oversea	8,9	2,4	9,4
ITUR 1812-3	Suburban	9,1	1,7	9,5
ITUR 1812-3	Database	9,1	1,7	9,5
Deygout-Assis	Knife Edge	9,6	2,2	10,1
ITUR G06	Rural / Open / Suburban	9,6	2,2	10,1
Okumura - Hata	Quasi Open	10,3	2,1	10,8
ITUR 370-7	Rural	10,5	1,9	10,9
ITUR 370-7	Suburban / Urban	10,5	1,9	11,0
Deygout-Assis	Main Rounded	10,5	3,0	11,2
Okumura - Hata	Open	10,9	2,3	11,5
ITUR 1546-5	Rural / Open	11,0	2,8	11,6
ITUR 1546-5	Suburban	11,1	2,9	11,7
Longley-Rice	Equatorial	11,8	2,4	12,3
Longley-Rice	Maritime Temperate Oversea	11,8	2,4	12,3
Longley-Rice	Desert	11,8	2,4	12,3
Longley-Rice	Maritime Temperate Overland	11,8	2,4	12,3
Longley-Rice	Continental Subtropical	11,8	2,4	12,3
Longley-Rice	Maritime Tropical	11,9	2,4	12,4
Deygout-Assis	Rounded	12,3	4,0	13,3
Longley-Rice	Continental Temperate	12,6	2,7	13,1
ITUR 526-13	Rounded	12,9	3,4	13,6

Free Space	---	15,9	3,2	16,6
Okumura - Hata	Suburban	15,9	2,8	16,6
ITUR G06	Urban	16,6	3,2	17,3
ITUR 1546-5	Urban	18,8	3,9	19,7
ITUR G06	Dense Urban	21,5	3,9	22,4
ITUR 1546-5	Dense Urban	22,3	4,2	23,2
Okumura - Hata	Urban	22,7	3,9	23,6

When analyzing the terrain and environmental characteristics of each path, there is a heterogeneous distribution of propagation conditions. When comparing the terrain geometry of each path with the techniques described in Section III, it is possible to categorize the path by the propagation characteristic.

21 paths have a line of sight with very high transmission heights in relation to the terrain, in which the HNMT exceeds 400 meters. Under these conditions, the Fresnel zone travels a high distance from the ground and clutter, reducing the effects of propagation on the terrain. 6 paths have a line of sight with low transmission heights in relation to the terrain, in which the HNMT is lower than 150 meters. Under these conditions, the Fresnel zone travels very close to the ground and clutter, increasing the effects of propagation on the terrain.

9 paths are obstructed by a knife-shaped elevation. Under these conditions, propagation diffraction predominates in the knife edge obstacle.

3 paths are obstructed by two or more knife-edged elevations. Under these conditions, diffraction propagation predominates in knife edge obstacles, which can be calculated by systematically repeating a knife edge algorithm or Delta Bullington algorithm.

2 paths are totally obstructed in all their extension. Under these conditions, predominates propagation by diffraction of the terrain.

Table II compares the values measured in the field with the simulated values by software, only in the line of sight paths, with HNMT above 400 meters.

Table II - Medium error of line of sight and HNMT links above 400 meters compared to field measurement.

Average (dB)				
Propagation Model	Selectable Option	DMA	σ	RMS
ITUR 1546-5	Rural / Open	3,6	0,8	3,8
ITUR 1546-5	Suburban	3,6	0,8	3,8
ITUR G06	Rural / Open / Suburban	4,0	0,9	4,3
ITUR 1812-3	Clutter Dense Urban	5,3	1,5	5,8
Okumura -Hata	Open	5,8	1,4	6,3
ITUR 1812-3	Forest / Urban	6,2	1,8	6,8
Okumura - Hata	Quasi Open	6,8	1,9	7,4
CRC -Predict	Continental / Great Lakes / Maritime Overland / Maritime Oversea	6,9	1,8	7,5
Deygout-Assis	Rounded	7,0	2,0	7,6
Deygout-Assis	Knife Edge	7,0	2,0	7,6
ITUR 526-13	General Method	7,4	2,1	8,1
ITUR 1812-3	Clutter Database	7,7	2,1	8,4
ITUR 1812-3	Clutter Suburban	7,8	2,1	8,4

Longley-Rice	Equatorial	7,9	2,1	8,6
Longley-Rice	Maritime Temperate Oversea	8,0	2,1	8,6
Longley-Rice	Maritime Temperate Overland	8,0	2,1	8,6
Longley-Rice	Maritime Tropical	8,0	2,1	8,6
Longley-Rice	Continental Temperate	8,0	2,1	8,6
Longley-Rice	Continental Subtropical	8,0	2,1	8,6
Longley-Rice	Desert	8,0	2,1	8,6
ITUR 526-13	Rounded	8,1	2,2	8,8
ITUR 370-7	Rural	8,1	2,1	8,8
ITUR 370-7	Suburban / Urban	8,1	2,1	8,8
Free Space	---	8,2	2,2	8,8
ITUR G06	Urban	15,1	3,5	16,2
ITUR 1546-5	Urban	15,1	3,5	16,3
Okumura-Hata	Suburban	18,3	4,4	19,7
ITUR G06	Dense Urban	20,7	4,8	22,2
ITUR 1546-5	Dense Urban	21,0	4,8	22,6
Okumura-Hata	Urban	27,0	6,3	29,0

When analyzing each model separately, Table II concludes that the ITUR 1546-3 propagation model, in the rural, open or suburban geographic region option, presents the smallest mean error and is the most reliable to be used in the study of Rio de Janeiro in situations with line of sight in very high HNMT. When analyzing the techniques of propagation models, Table II concludes that the models that use propagation curves, present better efficiency.

Table III compares the values measured in the field with the simulated values by software, only in the line of sight paths, with HNMT below 150 meters.

Table III - Medium error of line of sight and HNMT links below 150 meters compared to field measurement.

Average (dB)				
Propagation Model	Selectable Option	DMA	σ	RMS
CRC-Predict	Continental / Great Lakes / Maritime Overland / Maritime Oversea	3,9	2,0	5,1
ITUR G06	Rural / Open / Suburban	4,3	2,4	5,7
ITUR 1812-3	Dense Urban	6,4	3,7	8,5
Okumura-Hata	Quasi Open	7,5	4,2	10,0
Okumura-Hata	Open	7,7	4,7	10,4
ITUR 370-7	Rural	9,1	5,0	11,9
ITUR 370-7	Suburban / Urban	9,1	33,9	80,2
Deygout-Assis	Knife Edge	9,6	5,0	12,6
Deygout-Assis	Main Rounded	9,6	5,0	12,6
Deygout-Assis	Rounded	9,6	5,0	12,6
ITUR 526-13	General Method	9,7	5,1	12,7
ITUR 526-13	Rounded	10,4	5,3	13,6
Free Space	---	11,1	5,5	14,4
ITUR 1812-3	Clutter Forest / Urban	11,6	7,0	15,5
Longley-Rice	Continental Subtropical	11,6	5,8	15,1
Longley-Rice	Desert	11,6	5,8	15,1
Longley-Rice	Equatorial	11,6	5,8	15,1

Longley-Rice	Maritime Temperate Overland	11,6	5,8	15,1
Longley-Rice	Maritime Temperate Oversea	11,6	5,8	15,1
Longley-Rice	Maritime Tropical	11,6	5,8	15,1
ITUR 1546-5	Rural / Open	11,8	10,9	17,9
ITUR 1546-5	Suburban	11,9	11,0	18,0
ITUR 1812-3	Clutter Database	13,2	7,2	17,3
ITUR 1812-3	Clutter Suburban	13,2	7,2	17,3
Okumura-Hata	Suburban	13,9	7,9	18,5
Longley-Rice	Continental Temperate	16,7	10,7	22,7
ITUR G06	Urban	17,9	8,9	23,3
ITUR 1546-5	Dense Urban	23,7	11,6	30,7
ITUR G06	Dense Urban	23,7	11,6	30,7
Okumura-Hata	Urban	23,9	12,3	31,2
ITUR 1546-5	Urban	28,6	17,0	38,3

When analyzing each model in isolation, Table III concludes that the CRC-Predict propagation model has the lowest mean error and is the most reliable to be used in the study of Rio de Janeiro in situations with line of sight in lowers HNMT. In analyzing the techniques of propagation models, Table III concludes that the models that use propagation curves and losses in the clutter, present better efficiency.

Table IV compares the values measured in the field with the simulated values by software, only in the links obstructed by a single knife edge obstacle.

Table IV - Medium error of the obstructed paths by a single knife edge obstacle, compared to field measurement.

Average (dB)				
Propagation Model	Selectable Option	DMA	σ	RMS
CRC-Predict	Continental / Great Lakes / Maritime Overland / Maritime Oversea	4,1	2,1	5,1
ITUR 526-13	General Method	5,4	2,0	6,4
Deygout-Assis	Rounded	5,7	2,1	6,8
Deygout-Assis	Main Rounded	5,7	2,1	6,8
ITUR 1812-3	Forest / Urban	7,2	2,9	8,6
ITUR 1812-3	Suburban	7,4	2,8	8,8
ITUR 1546-5	Urban	7,4	3,3	8,9
ITUR G06	Urban	7,4	3,3	9,0
ITUR 1812-3	Database	7,5	2,9	8,9
ITUR 1812-3	Dense Urban	7,5	3,2	9,0
ITUR 526-13	Rounded	8,2	3,9	10,0
Deygout-Assis	Knife Edge	9,2	3,8	11,0
Longley-Rice	Desert	10,8	4,2	12,8
Longley-Rice	Continental Temperate	10,9	4,2	13,0
Longley-Rice	Continental Subtropical	11,0	4,3	13,1
Longley-Rice	Maritime Temperate Overland	11,0	4,3	13,1
Longley-Rice	Maritime Temperate Oversea	11,0	4,2	13,1
Longley-Rice	Equatorial	11,0	4,3	13,1
Longley-Rice	Maritime Tropical	11,3	4,3	13,5
ITUR 1546-5	Dense Urban	11,7	4,7	14,0
ITUR G06	Dense Urban	11,7	4,7	14,0
ITUR 370-7	Rural	12,0	4,9	14,4

ITUR 370-7	Suburban / Urban	12,0	4,9	14,4
Okumura-Hata	Suburban	13,1	5,5	15,7
Okumura-Hata	Quasi Open	13,4	6,1	16,2
ITUR 1546-5	Rural / Open	13,4	5,6	16,1
ITUR 1546-5	Suburban	13,4	5,6	16,1
ITUR G06	Rural / Open / Suburban	13,8	5,8	16,6
Okumura-Hata	Open	16,4	7,3	19,8
Okumura-Hata	Urban	16,4	7,2	19,8
Free Space	---	24,0	9,4	28,6

In analyzing each model in isolation, Table IV concludes that the CRC-Predict propagation model presents the smallest mean error and is the most reliable to be used in the Rio de Janeiro study in situations obstructed by a single knife-edge obstacle. In analyzing the techniques of propagation models, Table IV concludes that the models that use calculations of losses in the path of the electromagnetic wave and losses in the clutter, present better efficiency.

Table V compares the values measured in the field with the simulated values by software, only on paths obstructed by a sequence of knife-edge obstacles.

Table V - Mean error of the paths obstructed by a sequence of knife-edge obstacles, compared to field measurement.

Average (dB)				
Propagation Model	Selectable Option	DMA	σ	RMS
Deygout-Assis	Knife Edge	3,3	2,5	5,5
ITUR 526-13	General Method	5,7	5,2	10,0
Deygout-Assis	Main Rounded	8,1	8,4	14,8
ITUR 1546-5	Dense Urban	10,9	10,9	19,6
ITUR G06	Dense Urban	10,9	11,0	19,7
ITUR 1812-3	Dense Urban	11,2	11,3	20,2
Okumura-Hata	Urban	11,5	11,5	20,8
ITUR 1812-3	Forest / Urban	12,4	11,9	22,0
ITUR 1812-3	Suburban	12,4	11,3	21,8
CRC-Predict	Continental / Great Lakes / Maritime Overland / Maritime Oversea	12,5	13,3	23,0
ITUR1 812-3	Clutter Database	12,5	11,5	22,0
ITUR 1546-5	Urban	12,8	11,2	22,3
Deygout-Assis	Rounded	12,9	13,6	23,6
ITUR G06	Urban	12,9	11,2	22,3
Okumura-Hata	Suburban	14,6	15,4	26,8
Longley-Rice	Equatorial	18,1	16,1	31,6
Longley-Rice	Maritime Tropical	18,1	16,0	31,6
Longley-Rice	Maritime Temperate Oversea	18,2	16,1	31,7
Longley-Rice	Continental Subtropical	18,3	16,3	31,9
Longley-Rice	Desert	18,3	16,5	32,0
Longley-Rice	Maritime Temperate Overland	18,3	16,3	31,9
Longley-Rice	Continental Temperate	18,3	16,4	32,0
ITUR 526-13	Rounded	18,7	19,0	33,9
ITUR 370-7	Rural	18,9	17,1	33,0
ITUR 370-7	Suburban / Urban	18,9	17,1	33,0
ITUR 1546-5	Rural / Open	21,7	21,4	39,0

ITUR 1546-5	Suburban	21,7	21,4	39,0
ITUR G06	Rural / Open / Suburban	22,0	21,7	39,5
Okumura-Hata	Quasi Open	25,5	24,5	45,4
Okumura-Hata	Open	30,5	28,4	53,8
Free Space	---	39,9	35,9	69,8

When analyzing each model in isolation, Table V concludes that the Deygout-Assis propagation model, with obstacle type selected for knife edge, presents the smallest mean error and is the most reliable to be used in the Rio de Janeiro study in situations obstructed by a sequence of knife-edge obstacles. When analyzing the techniques of propagation models, Table IV concludes that the models that use calculations of losses in the path of the electromagnetic wave and Delta Bullington algorithms, present better efficiency, however, the Deygout-Assis propagation model obtained a great advantage.

Table VI compares the values measured in the field with the simulated values by software, only in the paths with total obstruction in the course of the electromagnetic wave.

Tabela VI - Average error of the paths with total obstruction in the course of the electromagnetic wave, compared to field measurement.

Average (dB)				
Propagation Model	Selectable Option	DMA	σ	RMS
Okumura-Hata	Suburban	2,8	3,3	6,5
Okumura-Hata	Urban	6,2	8,1	14,8
ITUR 1812-3	Suburban	14,0	19,1	33,9
ITUR 526-13	General Method	14,1	19,3	34,3
ITUR1 812-3	Database	14,4	19,7	34,9
ITUR 370-7	Rural	15,7	21,8	38,3
ITUR 370-7	Suburban / Urban	15,7	21,8	38,3
Okumura-Hata	Quasi Open	15,8	21,7	38,3
ITUR 1812-3	Forest / Urban	16,1	22,1	39,1
ITUR 1812-3	Dense Urban	18,1	25,0	44,0
Okumura-Hata	Open	20,8	28,7	50,6
ITUR G06	Rural / Open / Suburban	39,6	55,4	96,6
Free Space	---	41,4	57,9	101,0
Longley-Rice	Maritime Tropical	46,5	65,1	113,6
Longley-Rice	Equatorial	46,7	65,4	114,1
Longley-Rice	Maritime Temperate Oversea	46,8	65,5	114,3
Longley-Rice	Continental Subtropical	47,2	66,1	115,3
Longley-Rice	Maritime Temperate Overland	47,2	66,1	115,3
Longley-Rice	Continental Temperate	47,4	66,4	115,8
Longley-Rice	Desert	47,7	66,8	116,5
Deygout-Assis	Knife Edge	47,9	67,8	117,4
ITUR 1546-5	Rural / Open	52,1	73,0	127,2
ITUR 1546-5	Suburban	53,3	74,7	130,1
ITUR G06	Urban	57,2	80,2	139,7
CRC-Predict	Continental / Great Lakes / Maritime Overland / Maritime Oversea	58,5	82,0	142,8
ITUR G06	Dense Urban	62,6	87,9	152,9

ITUR 1546-5	Urban	70,9	99,6	173,2
Deygout-Assis	Main Rounded	75,6	106,3	184,8
ITUR 1546-5	Dense Urban	76,3	107,2	186,5
ITUR 526-13	Rounded	82,8	116,4	202,4
Deygout-Assis	Rounded	105,0	149,2	257,7

In analyzing each model in isolation, Table VI concludes that the Okumura-Hata propagation model, in the suburban geographic region option, presents the lowest average error and is the most reliable to be used in the Rio de Janeiro study in situations of total obstruction in the path of the electromagnetic wave. The high errors of the other models of propagation, make it difficult to interpret which model of propagation technique is most efficient in situation of total obstruction.

VII. CONCLUSION

When comparing field measurements with a prediction of coverage of a massive SFN in the city of Rio de Janeiro, it is concluded that the ITUR P.1812-3 propagation model in the dense urban geographic region option presents the smallest average error and is what more adequate to the characteristics of the Rio de Janeiro terrain. It is also concluded that the models that employ losses in the clutter, present better efficiency.

The SFN added a greater complexity in coverage prediction. The possibility of installing auxiliary retransmitter stations in shaded areas, maximizes the need for prediction of reliable coverage in micro-regions.

For line of sight paths with very high HNMT, the propagation model ITUR 1546-3, in the in the rural, open or suburban geographic region option, presents the smallest average error and the techniques that use propagation curves, present better efficiency in line of sight with very high HNMT.

For line of sight paths with low HNMT, the CRC-Predict propagation model has the smallest average error, and the techniques that employ propagation curves and losses in the clutter have the best efficiency in line of sight with low HNMT.

For links obstructed by a single knife-edge obstacle, the CRC-Predict propagation model presents the smallest average error and the techniques that employ calculations of losses in the path of the electromagnetic wave and losses in the clutter, present better efficiency in a single knife edge obstruction.

For links obstructed by a sequence of knife-edge obstacles, the Deygout-Assis propagation model, with obstacle type selected for knife-edge, presents the smallest mean error. Even though models that use calculations of losses in the path of the electromagnetic wave and Delta Bullington algorithms have presented better efficiency, Deygout-Assis, with type of obstacle selected for knife-edge presented wide advantage of other models in a sequence of knife edge obstructions.

For paths in situations of total obstruction in the course of the electromagnetic wave, the Okumura-Hata propagation model, with suburban geographic region option, presents the smallest average error. The high errors of the other models of propagation, make it difficult to interpret the efficiency of which model of propagation in situation of total obstruction.

The results presented contribute to a better interpretation

of which propagation model or propagation model technique may be more efficient in a micro region. This contribution can optimize the planning of an auxiliary station.

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