New records of *Sylvicola* (Diptera: Anisopodidae) from Romania

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Abstract

Background

Anisopodidae (window gnats or wood gnats) is a small family of nematocerous Diptera. Until now only *Sylvicola* (*Anisopus*) *punctatus* (Fabricius, 1787) and *Sylvicola* (*Sylvicola*) *fenestralis* (Scopoli, 1763) were reported from Romania.

New information

New faunistic records of *Sylvicola* (Diptera: Anisopodidae) are presented. *Sylvicola* (*Sylvicola*) *cinctus* (Fabricius, 1787) and *S. (Anisopus)* *fuscatus* (Fabricius, 1775) are recorded from Romania for the first time. An identification key and illustrations of Romanian *Sylvicola* species are presented.

Keywords

identification key, window gnats, wood gnats

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Introduction

Anisopodidae (window gnats or wood gnats) is a small family of nematocerous Diptera. Only the genus *Sylvicola* comprising ten species is known from Europe (de Jong 2014). Adults are often collected in forests, but several species are also frequent in semi-opened habitats like bushes, gardens and orchards (Dvořák and Oboňa 2014). The larvae feed in various decaying organic materials, while the adults feed on nectar or similar artificial liquids, like syrup, beer or even meat (Kovář and Barták 2001). These liquids can be used in traps for effective collecting of *Sylvicola* species (Dvořák 2014a, Dvořák 2014b, Kurina 2006, Dvořák and Oboňa 2014).

Until now only two *Sylvicola* species were reported from Romania (Pârvu 2003, Pârvu 2004, Thalhammer 1900). In this study we present an additional two species for the Romanian fauna. An identification key to the Romanian *Sylvicola* species, illustrations of male and female genitalia, phenology and distribution maps of each species also are presented.

Materials and methods

The Romanian material was collected using different methods. The material deposited in Municipal Museum Mariánské Lázně, Czech Republic (MML) was collected by Gavril Marius Berchi using a beer trap in Caraş-Severin during the period 02-26.06.2014. Material collected by Alexandru Pintilioaie deposited in Maastricht Natural History Museum, Netherlands (NHMM). The remaining material was mainly collected by the first author using an insect net, a Malaise trap or an elderberry (*Sambucus nigr*a) syrup trap and finały stored in 70% ethanol and deposited in the Diptera Collection of the Faculty of Biology and Geology, Cluj-Napoca, Romania (DCBBU). The remainder was collected using different methods (banana trap, hand collecting) by third parties.

The material was identified and the identification key created based on the papers of Haarto (2011), Haenni (1997), Krivosheina and Menzel (1998) and Söli and Rindal (2014).

Taxon treatments

*Sylvicola (Anisopus) punctatus* (Fabricius, 1787)

Materials

a. genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Anisopus*; specificEpithet: *punctatus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1787); country: Romania; stateProvince: Bacău; municipality: Comăneşti; verbatimElevation: 407 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 46.426079; decimalLongitude: 26.443042; eventDate: 28/6/2010; habitat: house garden; individualCount: 1; sex: female; recordedBy: Pintilioaie Alexandru; institutionCode: NHMM
b. genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Anisopus*; specificEpithet: *punctatus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1787); country: Romania; stateProvince: Caraș-Severin; municipality: Semenic; locality: Poiana Goznei; verbatimElevation: 1382 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 45.192222; decimalLongitude: 22.071667; samplingProtocol: beer trap; eventDate: 02-25/06/2014; habitat: meadow, edge with beech forest; individualCount: 29; sex: females; recordedBy: Gavril Marius Berchi; institutionCode: MML

c. genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Anisopus*; specificEpithet: *punctatus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1787); country: Romania; stateProvince: Caraș-Severin; municipality: Văliug; locality: Valea Râului Bârzava; verbatimElevation: 681 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 45.178056; decimalLongitude: 22.003333; samplingProtocol: beer trap; eventDate: 02-25/06/2014; habitat: marsh, edge with beech forest; individualCount: 1; sex: female; recordedBy: Gavril Marius Berchi; institutionCode: MML

d. genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Anisopus*; specificEpithet: *punctatus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1787); country: Romania; stateProvince: Cluj; municipality: Cluj-Napoca; locality: Alexandru Borza Botanical Garden; verbatimElevation: 395 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 46.761322; decimalLongitude: 23.586521; samplingProtocol: elderberry syrup trap; eventDate: 18-25.06.2015; habitat: garden; individualCount: 1; sex: male; recordedBy: Levente-Péter Kolcsár; institutionCode: DCBBU

Distribution

A very common species, widespread in Europe. Known distribution of species in the Romania illustrated in Fig. 1.

Figure 1.

Collecting sites of *Sylvicola punctatus* in Romania. White dots represent new data, black dots are data from literature.
Pârvu (2003), Pârvu (2004) listed it incorrectly as *Sylvicola punctata* (Fabricius, 1787).

**Sylvicola (Anisopus) fuscatus** (Fabricius, 1775)

**Materials**

a. genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Anisopus*; specificEpithet: *fuscatus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1775); country: Romania; stateProvince: Harghita; municipality: Brădești; locality: Târnava Mare River; verbatimElevation: 487 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 46.331427; decimalLongitude: 25.331074; samplingProtocol: insect net; eventDate: 01.05.2010; habitat: willow (*Salix*) forest along river; individualCount: 1; sex: male; recordedBy: Levente-Péter Kolcsár; institutionCode: DCBBU

b. genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Anisopus*; specificEpithet: *fuscatus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1775); country: Romania; stateProvince: Caraș-Severin; municipality: Vâlău; locality: Valea Râului Bârzava; verbatimElevation: 681 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 45.178056; decimalLongitude: 22.003333; samplingProtocol: beer trap; eventDate: 02-25/06/2014; habitat: marsh, edge with beech forest; individualCount: 1; sex: female; recordedBy: Gavril Marius Berchi; institutionCode: MML

c. genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Anisopus*; specificEpithet: *fuscatus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1775); country: Romania; stateProvince: Cluj; municipality: Cluj-Napoca; locality: Mikó Garden; verbatimElevation: 370 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 46.763666; decimalLongitude: 23.58018; samplingProtocol: elderberry syrup trap; eventDate: 18-25.06.2015; habitat: garden; individualCount: 7; sex: females; recordedBy: Levente-Péter Kolcsár; institutionCode: DCBBU

d. genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Anisopus*; specificEpithet: *fuscatus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1775); country: Romania; stateProvince: Cluj; municipality: Cluj-Napoca; locality: Mikó Garden; verbatimElevation: 370 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 46.763666; decimalLongitude: 23.58018; samplingProtocol: elderberry syrup trap; eventDate: 01-03.06.2015; habitat: garden; individualCount: 1; sex: female; recordedBy: Levente-Péter Kolcsár; institutionCode: DCBBU

e. genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Anisopus*; specificEpithet: *fuscatus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1775); country: Romania; stateProvince: Cluj; municipality: Cluj-Napoca; locality: Mikó Garden; verbatimElevation: 395 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 46.761322; decimalLongitude: 23.586521; samplingProtocol: elderberry syrup trap; eventDate: 18-25.06.2015; habitat: garden; individualCount: 11; sex: 2 males, 9 females; recordedBy: Levente-Péter Kolcsár; institutionCode: DCBBU
g. genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Anisopus*; specificEpithet: *fuscatus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1775); country: Romania; stateProvince: Cluj; municipality: Cluj-Napoca; locality: Mikó Garden; verbatimElevation: 370 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 46.763666; decimalLongitude: 23.58018; samplingProtocol: insect net; eventDate: 16.05.2015; habitat: garden; individualCount: 1; sex: female; recordedBy: Edina Török; institutionCode: DCBBU

**Distribution**

Known distribution of species in the Romania illustrated in Fig. 2.

![Map of Romania highlighting collection sites of *Sylvicola fuscatus*.](linked-image)

*Figure 2.* Collecting sites of *Sylvicola fuscatus* in Romania.

**Notes**

First records from Romania.

*Sylvicola (Sylvicola) cinctus* (Fabricius, 1787)

**Materials**

a. genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Sylvicola*; specificEpithet: *cinctus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1787); country: Romania; stateProvince: Bacău; municipality: Comănești; verbatimElevation: 413 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 46.426082; decimalLongitude: 26.442495; samplingProtocol: Banana trap; eventDate: 28.03.2010; habitat: house garden; individualCount: 3; sex: 1 male, 2 females; recordedBy: Pintilioaie Alexandru; institutionCode: NHMM

b. genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Sylvicola*; specificEpithet: *cinctus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1787); country: Romania; stateProvince: Bacău; municipality: Comănești; verbatimElevation: 413 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 46.426082; decimalLongitude: 26.442495; samplingProtocol:
Banana trap; eventDate: 31.03.2010; habitat: house garden; individualCount: 5; sex: 3 males, 2 females; recordedBy: Pintilioaei Alexandru; institutionCode: NHMM
genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Sylvicola*; specificEpithet: *cinctus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1787); country: Romania; stateProvince: Harghita; municipality: Brădești; locality: Târnava Mare River; verbatimElevation: 487 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 46.331427; decimalLongitude: 25.331074; samplingProtocol: insect net; eventDate: 01.05.2010; habitat: willow (*Salix*) forest along river; individualCount: 1; sex: male; recordedBy: Levente-Péter Kolcsár; institutionCode: DCBBU
genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Sylvicola*; specificEpithet: *cinctus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1787); country: Romania; stateProvince: Bacău; municipality: Comănești; verbatimElevation: 413 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 46.426082; decimalLongitude: 26.442495; samplingProtocol: at light; eventDate: 20.10.2010; habitat: house garden; individualCount: 3; sex: 2 males, 1 females; recordedBy: Pintilioaei Alexandru; institutionCode: NHMM
genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Sylvicola*; specificEpithet: *cinctus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1787); country: Romania; stateProvince: Caraș-Severin; municipality: Semenic; locality: Poiana Muntelui; verbatimElevation: 1381 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 45.17500; decimalLongitude: 22.062778; samplingProtocol: beer trap; eventDate: 02-25/06/2014; habitat: peat bog; individualCount: 1; sex: female; recordedBy: Gavril Marius Berchi; institutionCode: MML
genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Sylvicola*; specificEpithet: *cinctus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1787); country: Romania; stateProvince: Caraș-Severin; municipality: Semenic; locality: Poiana Goznei; verbatimElevation: 1382 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 45.192222; decimalLongitude: 22.071667; samplingProtocol: beer trap; eventDate: 02-25/06/2014; habitat: meadow, edge with beech forest; individualCount: 29; sex: females; recordedBy: Gavril Marius Berchi; institutionCode: MML
genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Sylvicola*; specificEpithet: *cinctus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1787); country: Romania; stateProvince: Caraș-Severin; municipality: Vâlciu; locality: Valea Râului Bârzava; verbatimElevation: 681 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 45.178056; decimalLongitude: 22.003333; samplingProtocol: beer trap; eventDate: 02-25/06/2014; habitat: marsh, edge with beech forest; individualCount: 1; sex: female; recordedBy: Gavril Marius Berchi; institutionCode: MML
gen: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Sylvicola*; specificEpithet: *cinctus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1787); country: Romania; stateProvince: Cluj; municipality: Cluj-Napoca; locality: Alexandru Borza Botanical Garden; verbatimElevation: 395 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 46.761322; decimalLongitude: 23.586521; samplingProtocol: Malaise trap; eventDate: 18-25.06.2015; habitat: garden; individualCount: 2; sex: females; recordedBy: Levente-Péter Kolcsár; institutionCode: DCBBU
gen: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Sylvicola*; specificEpithet: *cinctus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1787); country: Romania; stateProvince: Harghita; municipality: Sâmartin; locality: Rugat Valley; verbatimElevation: 950 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 46.26702; decimalLongitude: 26.010467; samplingProtocol: insect net; eventDate: 25.08.2014; habitat: spruce (*Picea*) forest; individualCount: 1; sex: female; recordedBy: Levente-Péter Kolcsár; institutionCode: DCBBU
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j. genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Sylvicola*; specificEpithet: *cinctus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1787); country: Romania; stateProvince: Sâlaj; municipality: Gâlgâu Almașului; locality: Grădina Zmeilor; verbatimElevation: 290 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 47.199465; decimalLongitude: 23.304763; samplingProtocol: insect net; eventDate: 21.02.2015; habitat: oak (Quercus) forest; individualCount: 1; sex: male; recordedBy: Edina Török; institutionCode: DCBBU

k. genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Sylvicola*; specificEpithet: *cinctus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1787); country: Romania; stateProvince: Caraș-Severin; municipality: Poiana Mărului; locality: Valea Bistra Mărului; verbatimElevation: 1444 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 45.348317; decimalLongitude: 22.646293; samplingProtocol: insect net; eventDate: 02.05.2015; habitat: spruce (Picea) forest; individualCount: 2; sex: females; recordedBy: Levente-Péter Kolcsár; institutionCode: DCBBU

l. genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Sylvicola*; specificEpithet: *cinctus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1787); country: Romania; stateProvince: Cluj; municipality: Cluj-Napoca; locality: Mikó Garden; verbatimElevation: 370 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 46.763666; decimalLongitude: 23.58018; samplingProtocol: insect net; eventDate: 16.05.2015; habitat: garden; individualCount: 1; sex: female; recordedBy: Levente-Péter Kolcsár; institutionCode: DCBBU

m. genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Sylvicola*; specificEpithet: *cinctus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1787); country: Romania; stateProvince: Cluj; municipality: Cluj-Napoca; locality: Mikó Garden; verbatimElevation: 370 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 46.763666; decimalLongitude: 23.58018; samplingProtocol: insect net; eventDate: 26.04.2015; habitat: garden; individualCount: 1; sex: female; recordedBy: Levente-Péter Kolcsár; institutionCode: DCBBU

n. genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Sylvicola*; specificEpithet: *cinctus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1787); country: Romania; stateProvince: Brașov; municipality: Sâmbăta de Sus; locality: Sâmbăta Valley; verbatimElevation: 1092 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 45.646639; decimalLongitude: 24.791212; samplingProtocol: insect net; eventDate: 29.05.2014; habitat: spruce (Picea) forest; individualCount: 1; sex: female; recordedBy: Levente-Péter Kolcsár; institutionCode: DCBBU

o. genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Sylvicola*; specificEpithet: *cinctus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1787); country: Romania; stateProvince: Cluj; municipality: Cluj-Napoca; locality: Alexandru Borza Botanical Garden; verbatimElevation: 395 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 46.761322; decimalLongitude: 23.586521; samplingProtocol: Malaise trap; eventDate: 11.12.2015; habitat: garden; individualCount: 1; sex: female; recordedBy: Levente-Péter Kolcsár; institutionCode: DCBBU

p. genus: *Sylvicola*; subgenus: *Sylvicola*; specificEpithet: *cinctus*; scientificNameAuthorship: (Fabricius, 1787); country: Romania; stateProvince: Brașov; municipality: Zarnesti; locality: Plaiul Foii hut; verbatimElevation: 875 m; verbatimCoordinateSystem: decimal degrees; verbatimSRS: WGS84; decimalLatitude: 45.560103; decimalLongitude: 25.197629; samplingProtocol: Malaise trap; eventDate: 18-25.06.2015; habitat: garden; individualCount: 1; sex: male; recordedBy: Levente-Péter Kolcsár; institutionCode: DCBBU
Distribution

Common species, known from almost Europe. Known distribution of the species in the Romania illustrated on Fig. 3.

![Map of Romania with collecting sites of Sylvicola cinctus.](image)

Figure 3.
Collecting sites of *Sylvicola cinctus* in Romania.

Notes

The record of *S. fenestralis* (Scopoli, 1763) published by Thalhammer (1900) probably refers to this species. Both species were often confused in the past (Haenni 1997). Our data represent the first reliable records of *S. cinctus* from Romania.

*Sylvicola (Sylvicola) fenestralis* (Scopoli, 1763)

Distribution

Species distributed in almost all of European countries, but it is rarely collected. There is only a single literature record from the Maramures region (Fig. 4) (Pârvu 2003), which probably also refer to *S. cinctus*. This record waiting for confirmation.

![Map of Romania with collecting site of Sylvicola fenestralis.](image)

Figure 4.
Collecting site of *Sylvicola fenestralis* in Romania based on literature (black dot).
Identification keys

**Key to Romanian *Sylvicola* Harris species**

| Key | Description | Sub-group |
|-----|-------------|-----------|
| 1   | Medial veins $M_1$ and $M_2$ arising from the discal cell at or almost at the same point and wing without dark spot at the apex (Fig. 5a). | 2 subg. *Anisopus* |
| -   | Medial vein $M_2$ arising from the discal cell separately between veins $M_1$ and $M_3$ and wing with dark spot at the apex (Fig. 5b). | 3 subg. *Sylvicola* |
| 2   | Wing with dark band posterior of $R_{2+3}$ (Fig. 5a). Hypoproct of male at apex shaped with two broad diverging lobes, gonocoxites at apex broadly rounded with a bulb on postero-lateral margin, parameres simply curved (Fig. 6a). Hypoproct of female almost triangular shaped with notch at its apex (Fig. 7a). | *S. (A.) punctatus* (Fabricius, 1787) |
| -   | Wing without dark marking posterior of $R_{2+3}$. Hypoproct of male at apex shaped with two broad and short lobes, gonocoxites at apex narrowly rounded, parameres two times curved (Fig. 6b) and inside apex of gonocoxite with short and broad projection. Hypoproct of female short (Fig. 7b). | *S. (A.) fuscatus* (Fabricius, 1775) |
| 3   | Hypoproct broadly rounded, wider than high and with distal pubescent lobes; gonostyles with thickened base and without laterobasal projection; gonocoxites slightly diverging with angular projecting inwards (Fig. 8a). Hypoproct of female short, genital fork with two median, well sclerotized rods (Fig. 9a). | *S. (S.) cinctus* (Fabricius, 1787) |
| -   | Hypoproct not such broadly rounded, equally wide as high, with posterior emargination and with median pubescent lobes; gonostyles narrower and with short laterobasal projection; gonocoxites clearly diverging with rounded projecting inwards (Fig. 8b). Hypoproct of female distinctly extended posteromedially, genital fork without median sclerotized rods (Fig. 9b). | *S. (S.) fenestralis* (Scopoli, 1763) |
Figure 5.
Wing pattern

a: *Sylvicola (Anisopus) punctatus* (Fabricius, 1787)
b: *Sylvicola (Sylvicola) cinctus* (Fabricius, 1787)

Figure 6.
Dorsal view of the male terminalia. Abbreviations: c=cercus, hyprct=hypoproct, goncx=gonocoxite, pm=paramere.
a: *Sylvicola (Anisopus) punctatus* (Fabricius, 1787)
b: *Sylvicola (Anisopus) fuscatus* (Fabricius, 1775)
Figure 7.
Ventral view of the female terminalia. Abbreviations: hg. va=hypogynal valves, hyprct=hypoproct.

a: *Sylvicola* (*Anisopus*) *punctatus* (Fabricius, 1787)

b: *Sylvicola* (*Anisopus*) *fuscatus* (Fabricius, 1775)

Figure 8.
Ventral view of the male terminalia. Abbreviations: gonst=, hyprct=hypoproct, goncx=gonocoxite, pm=paramere.

a: *Sylvicola* (*Sylvicola*) *cinctus* (Fabricius, 1787)

b: *Sylvicola* (*Sylvicola*) *fenestralis* (Scopoli, 1763)
Discussion

In total 109 *Sylvicola* specimens were collected that belong to three species of which *Sylvicola cinctus* and *S. fuscatus* are new to the Romanian fauna. Four species of *Sylvicola* are now known from Romania. The occurrence of *Sylvicola zetterstedti* (Edwards, 1923) is to be excepted.

Romanian collection data, phenology and illustrations of male and female genitalia of the *Sylvicola* species are also available on the webpage of the Transylvanian Dipterological Working Group (www.transdiptera.com).

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