# On Marcinkiewicz Integrals along flat surfaces

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#### Abstract

In this paper, we study Marcinkiewicz integral operators with rough kernels supported by surfaces given by flat curves. Under convexity assumptions on our surfaces, we establish an  $L^p$  boundedness result of such operators. Moreover, we obtain the  $L^p$  boundedness of the corresponding Marcinkiewicz integral operators that are related to area integral and Littlewood-Paley  $g^*_{\lambda}$  functions.

Key Words: Marcinkiewicz integral, rough kernels, flat curves, Fourier transform, area integral, Littlewood-Paley  $g^*_{\lambda}$  functions.

# 1. Introduction and Statement of Results

Let  $\mathbf{R}^n$ ,  $n \ge 2$  be the *n*-dimensional Euclidean space and  $\mathbf{S}^{n-1}$  be the unit sphere in  $\mathbf{R}^n$  equipped with the induced Lebesgue measure  $d\sigma$ . Let  $\Omega$  be a homogeneous function of degree zero on  $\mathbf{R}^n$  that is integrable on  $\mathbf{S}^{n-1}$  and satisfies

$$\int_{\mathbf{S}^{n-1}} \Omega(y') d\sigma(y') = 0, \tag{1.1}$$

where  $y' = \frac{y}{|y|}$  for  $y \neq 0$ .

For a smooth mapping  $\Gamma : \mathbf{R}^n \to \mathbf{R}^d$ , consider the Marcinkiewicz integral operator

$$\mu_{\Omega,\Gamma} f(x) = \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |F_{\Omega,\Gamma,t}(x)|^2 \, 2^{-2t} dt \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \tag{1.2}$$

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where

$$F_{\Omega,\Gamma,t}(x) = \int_{|y| \le 2^t} f(x - \Gamma(y)) |y|^{-n+1} \Omega(y) dy.$$
(1.3)

The problem regarding the operator  $\mu_{\Omega,\Gamma}$  is that under what conditions on  $\Gamma$  and  $\Omega$ , the operator  $\mu_{\Omega,\Gamma}$  maps  $L^p(\mathbf{R}^n)$  into  $L^p(\mathbf{R}^d)$  for some 1 . It is known that if $<math>\Gamma(y) = y$  and  $\Omega \in Lip_{\alpha}(\mathbf{S}^{n-1})$ ,  $(0 < \alpha \leq 1)$ , i.e.,  $\Omega$  in the Lipschitz function class of degree  $\alpha$  on the unit sphere, E. M. Stein ([10]) proved that  $\mu_{\Omega,\Gamma}$  is bounded on  $L^p$  for all  $1 . Subsequently, A. Benedek, A. Calderón, and R. Panzone proved the <math>L^p$ boundedness of  $\mu_{\Omega,\Gamma}$ ,  $\Gamma(y) = y$ , for all  $1 provided that <math>\Omega \in C^1(\mathbf{S}^{n-1})$  ([3]).

In their study of singular integral operators, Grafakos and Stefanov ([9]) introduced the following condition:

$$\sup_{\xi \in \mathbf{S}^{n-1}} \int_{\mathbf{S}^{n-1}} \left| \Omega(y') \right| \left( \log \left| \frac{1}{\xi \cdot y'} \right| \right)^{1+\alpha} d\sigma(y') < \infty.$$
(1.4)

For  $\alpha > 0$ , let  $F_{\alpha}(\mathbf{S}^{n-1})$  be the space of all integrable functions on  $\mathbf{S}^{n-1}$  which satisfy (1.4). Grafakos and Stefanov ([9]) showed that

$$\bigcap_{\alpha>0} F_{\alpha}(\mathbf{S}^{n-1}) \nsubseteq H^{1}(\mathbf{S}^{n-1}) \nsubseteq \bigcup_{\alpha>0} F_{\alpha}(\mathbf{S}^{n-1})$$

and

$$\bigcap_{\alpha>0} F_{\alpha}(\mathbf{S}^{n-1}) \nsubseteq L \log^+ L(\mathbf{S}^{n-1}),$$

where  $H^1(\mathbf{S}^{n-1})$  is the Hardy space on  $\mathbf{S}^{n-1}$  (in the sense of Coifman and Weiss [5]) and  $L \log^+ L(\mathbf{S}^{n-1})$  is the space of all functions  $\Omega$  with  $|\Omega| \log^+ (|\Omega|)$  is integrable on  $\mathbf{S}^{n-1}$ . Recently, when  $\Omega \in F_{\alpha}(\mathbf{S}^{n-1})$  for some  $\alpha > 0$  that satisfies (1.1) and  $\frac{\partial^{\gamma} \Gamma}{\partial y^{\gamma}}(0) \neq 0$  for some multi-index  $\gamma = (\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \ldots, \gamma_n), \gamma_1, \gamma_2, \ldots, \gamma_n$  are non negative integers, there has been a notable progress in obtaining  $L^p$  boundedness results of the operator  $\mu_{\Omega,\Gamma}$  (see [1], [4], among others). In particular, Al-Qassem and Al-Salman ([1]) proved that  $\mu_{\Omega,\Gamma}$ is bounded on  $L^p, \frac{2\alpha+2}{2\alpha+1} , provided that <math>\Omega$  is in a subspace of  $F_{\alpha}(\mathbf{S}^{n-1})$  for some  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\Gamma : \mathbf{R}^n \to \mathbf{R}^d, d \ge 1$  is a polynomial mapping. Our main focus in this paper is investigating the  $L^p$  boundedness of  $\mu_{\Omega,\Gamma}$  if  $\Omega \in F_{\alpha}(\mathbf{S}^{n-1})$  for some  $\alpha > 0$  and

 $\frac{\partial^{\gamma}\Gamma}{\partial y^{\gamma}}(0) = 0$  for all multi-indices  $\gamma$ . More specifically, we let  $\Gamma(y) = \varphi(|y|)y'$ , where  $\varphi$  is a real valued function defined on  $\mathbf{R}^+$ . Here we allow  $\varphi$  to be flat at the origin. In what follows we shall simply denote  $\mu_{\Omega,\Gamma}$  by  $\mu_{\varphi}$ . Also, in this paper, we shall establish an  $L^p$ boundedness result of the corresponding Marcinkiewicz integral operators that are related to area integral and Littlewood-Paley  $g^*_{\lambda}$  functions. More specifically, let  $F_{\Omega,\varphi,t} = F_{\Omega,\Gamma,t}$ be given by (1.3) with  $\Gamma(y) = \varphi(|y|)y'$  and define the operators  $\tilde{\mu}_{\varphi}$  and  $\mu^*_{\varphi,\lambda}$  for  $\lambda > 1$  by

$$\tilde{\mu}_{\varphi}f(x) = \left(\int_{\Upsilon(x)} |F_{\Omega,\varphi,t}(z)|^2 2^{-(2+n)t} dz dt\right)^{\frac{1}{2}},$$
(1.5)

$$\mu_{\varphi,\lambda}^{*}f(x) = \left(\int \int_{\mathbf{R}^{n+1}} \left(\frac{2^{t}}{2^{t}+|x-z|}\right)^{n\lambda} |F_{\Omega,\varphi,t}(z)|^{2} 2^{-(2+n)t} dz dt\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \qquad (1.6)$$

where  $\Upsilon(x) = \{(z,t) \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1} : |x-z| < 2^t\}.$ 

Throughout the rest of this paper, the functions  $\varphi$  in the statements of the results are assumed to be second continuously differentiable, i.e.,  $\varphi \in \mathcal{C}^{-2}$ . Our main results in this paper are the following:

**Theorem 1.1.** Suppose that  $\varphi : \mathbf{R}^+ \to \mathbf{R}$  is an increasing convex function with  $\varphi(0) = 0$ . If  $\Omega \in F_{\alpha}(\mathbf{S}^{n-1})$  for some  $\alpha > 0$  and satisfies (1.1), then  $\mu_{\varphi}$  is bounded on  $L^p(\mathbf{R}^n)$  for  $p \in (\frac{2\alpha+2}{2\alpha+1}, 2+2\alpha)$ .

**Theorem 1.2.** Suppose that  $\varphi : \mathbf{R}^+ \to \mathbf{R}$  is an increasing convex function with  $\varphi(0) = 0$ ,  $\Omega \in F_{\alpha}(\mathbf{S}^{n-1})$  for some  $\alpha > 0$  and satisfies (1.1). Then the operators  $\tilde{\mu}_{\varphi}$  and  $\mu^*_{\varphi,\lambda}$  are bounded on  $L^p(\mathbf{R}^n)$  for  $2 \leq p < 2 + 2\alpha$ .

Throughout this paper, the letter C is a positive constant that may vary at each occurrence but it is independent of the essential variables.

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## 2. Preliminary Estimates

Throughout the rest of this paper, we shall need the following simple observation:

**Proposition 2.1.** Suppose that  $\varphi : \mathbf{R}^+ \to \mathbf{R}$  is second continuously differentiable increasing convex function with  $\varphi(0) = 0$ . Then

(i)  $\varphi(2r) \ge 2\varphi(r)$  for every r > 0.

(ii)  $r\varphi'(r) \ge \varphi(r)$  for every r > 0.

A proof of Proposition 2.1 is straightforward. In fact, the inequality (ii) is an easy consequence of the fact that the function  $g(r) = r\varphi'(r) - \varphi(r)$  is an increasing function (since  $\varphi$  is convex, i.e.,  $\varphi''(r) \ge 0$ ) and the fact that g(0) = 0. The inequality (i) follows by use of the Mean value theorem, the fact that  $\varphi'$  is increasing (since  $\varphi$  is convex), and (ii).

It is interesting to notice that the inequalities (i) and (ii) in Proposition 2.1 may not hold if the convexity of the function  $\varphi$  is dropped. For example, the nonconvex function  $\varphi(r) = \sqrt{r}$  does not satisfy (i) and (ii).

For a smooth mapping  $\varphi : \mathbf{R}^+ \to \mathbf{R}$ , a homogeneous function  $\Omega$  of degree zero on  $\mathbf{R}^n$  that is integrable on  $\mathbf{S}^{n-1}$  and satisfies (1.1), a  $\xi \in \mathbf{R}^n$ , and a nonnegative real number u, let

$$G(\varphi, \Omega, \xi, u) = \int_{\frac{u}{2} \le |y| < u} e^{-i\varphi(|y|)\xi \cdot y'} |y|^{-n+1} \Omega(y) dy.$$

$$(2.1)$$

Then we have the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.2.** If  $\Omega \in F_{\alpha}(\mathbf{S}^{n-1})$  for some  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\varphi$  is an increasing convex function with  $\varphi(0) = 0$ , then there exist a constant C > 0 independent of u and  $\xi$  such that

$$|G(\varphi, \Omega, \xi, u)| \le uC \min\{|\varphi(u)\xi|, (\log\left|\varphi(\frac{u}{2})\xi\right|)^{-1-\alpha}\}.$$
(2.2)

**Proof.** First, by the cancelation property (1.1), we have

$$|G(\varphi, \Omega, \xi, u)| = |G(\varphi, \Omega, \xi, u) - G(\varphi, \Omega, 0, u)| \le uC |\varphi(u)\xi|.$$
(2.3)

Secondly, using polar coordinates, it is easy to see that

$$|G(\varphi,\Omega,\xi,u)| \le u \int_{\mathbf{S}^{n-1}} \left| \Omega(y') \right| J(\varphi,\xi,u) d\sigma(y'), \tag{2.4}$$

where

$$J(\varphi,\xi,u) = \left| \int_{1}^{2} e^{-i\varphi(\frac{u}{2}r)\xi \cdot y'} dr \right|.$$
(2.5)

Now by integration by parts and Proposition 2.1(ii), it follows that

$$J(\varphi,\xi,u) \le \left|\varphi(\frac{u}{2})\xi \cdot y'\right|^{-1}.$$
(2.6)

Therefore, by (2.6) and the trivial estimate  $J(\varphi, \xi, u) \leq 1$ , it is easy to see that

$$J(\varphi,\xi,u) \le C\{\log|\xi' \cdot y'|^{-1}\}^{1+\alpha}\{\log\left|\varphi(\frac{u}{2})\xi\right|\}^{-1-\alpha},$$
(2.7)

where C is a constant independent of  $\xi$ , y', and u. Thus by (2.4) and (2.7), we have

$$\begin{aligned} |G(\varphi, \Omega, \xi, u)| &\leq uC\{ \log \left| \varphi(\frac{u}{2})\xi \right| \}^{-1-\alpha} \int_{\mathbf{S}^{n-1}} \left| \Omega(y^{'}) \right| \{ \log |\xi' \cdot y'|^{-1} \}^{1+\alpha} d\sigma(y') \\ &\leq uC\{ \log \left| \varphi(\frac{u}{2})\xi \right| \}^{-1-\alpha} \sup_{\eta \in \mathbf{S}^{n-1}} \int_{\mathbf{S}^{n-1}} \left| \Omega(y^{'}) \right| \{ \log |\eta' \cdot y'|^{-1} \}^{1+\alpha} d\sigma(y'); \end{aligned}$$

which when combined with the condition (1.4), implies that

$$|G(\varphi,\Omega,\xi,u)| \le uC(\log \left|\varphi(\frac{u}{2})\xi\right|)^{-1-\alpha}.$$

This concludes the proof of lemma.

Now, by following a similar argument as in the proof of Lemma 4.1 in ([7]), we get the following relation between the operators  $\mu_{\varphi}$  and  $\mu_{\varphi,\lambda}^*$ . Lemma 2.3. Let  $\lambda > 1$ . Then for any nonnegative function g, we have

$$\int_{\mathbf{R}^n} (\mu_{\varphi,\lambda}^* f(x))^2 g(x) dx \le C_\lambda \int_{\mathbf{R}^n} (\mu_\varphi f(x))^2 (Hg)(x) dx,$$
(2.8)

where H is the classical Hardy-Littlewood maximal operator on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Proof.** The inequality (2.8) is an immediate consequence of the definition of  $\mu_{\varphi,\lambda}^* f$  in (1.6) and the following simple inequality:

$$\sup_{t \in \mathbf{R}} 2^{-nt} \int_{\mathbf{R}^n} \left( \frac{2^t}{2^t + |x - y|} \right)^{n\lambda} g(x) dx \le C_\lambda(Hg)(y).$$

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## 3. Proof of Main Result

**Proof of Theorem 1.1.** Suppose that  $\Omega \in F_{\alpha}(\mathbf{S}^{n-1})$  for some  $\alpha > 0$  and satisfies (1.1). Let  $\Gamma(y) = \varphi(|y|)y'$ , where  $\varphi : \mathbf{R}^+ \to \mathbf{R}$  is an increasing convex function with  $\varphi(0) = 0$ . We start by writing our operator  $\mu_{\varphi}$  as

$$\mu_{\varphi}(f)(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} 2^{-j} \mu_{\varphi,j}(f)(x), \qquad (3.1)$$

where  $\mu_{\varphi,j}$  is given by

$$\mu_{\varphi,j}(f)(x) = \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left|\Delta_{j,t}(f)(x)\right|^2 dt\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
(3.2)

and

$$\Delta_{j,t}(f)(x) = 2^{-(t-j)} \int_{2^{t-j-1} < |y| \le 2^{t-j}} f(x - \Gamma(y)) |y|^{-n+1} \Omega(y) dy.$$
(3.3)

To prove that  $\left\|\mu_{\varphi}(f)\right\|_{p} \leq \|f\|_{p}$  for all  $p \in (\frac{2\alpha+2}{2\alpha+1}, 2+2\alpha)$ , it suffices to show that

$$\left\|\mu_{\varphi,j}(f)\right\|_{p} \le C \left\|f\right\|_{p} \tag{3.4}$$

for all  $p \in (\frac{2\alpha+2}{2\alpha+1}, 2+2\alpha)$  and  $j \ge 0$  with constant C independent of j. To establish (3.4), we argue as in ([2]).

By an elementary procedure, choose a collection of  $\mathcal{C}^{\infty}$  functions  $\{\omega_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}}$  on  $(0, \infty)$  with the following properties:

$$supp(\omega_k) \subseteq \left[\frac{1}{\varphi(2^{k+1})}, \frac{1}{\varphi(2^{k-1})}\right]; \ 0 \le \omega_k \le 1;$$
$$\left|\frac{d^s \omega_k}{du^s}(u)\right| \le \frac{C_s}{u^s}; \ \sum_{k \in \mathbf{Z}} \omega_k(u) = 1.$$
(3.5)

For  $k \in \mathbf{Z}$ , let  $\psi_k$  be the function defined on  $\mathbf{R}^n$  by  $\hat{\psi}_k(y) = \omega_k(|y|)$ . Then, it is easy to see that

$$\mu_{\varphi,j}(f)(x) \le \sum_{k \in \mathbf{Z}} \mu_{\varphi,j,k}(f)(x), \tag{3.6}$$

where

$$\mu_{\varphi,j,k}(f)(x) = \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left|\Delta_{j,t}(f * \psi_{\lfloor t-j \rfloor + k}(x)\right|^2 dt)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$
(3.7)

Here,  $\lfloor x \rfloor$  is the greatest integer function less than or equal to x.

First, we claim that

$$\left\|\mu_{\varphi,j,k}(f)\right\|_{p} \le C \left\|f\right\|_{p} \tag{3.8}$$

for all  $p \in (1, \infty)$  with constant C independent of j and k. To see this, define the operators  $M_{j,k}$  and  $S_{j,k}$  by

$$M_j(f)(x) = \sup_{t \in \mathbf{R}} |\Delta_{j,t}(f)(x)|$$
(3.9)

$$S_{j,k}f(x) = \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left| f * \psi_{\lfloor t-j \rfloor + k}(x) \right|^2 dt \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$
(3.10)

Then, by a similar justification as in ([2] , see also [12], P. 46 and [11], P. 245-246), it follows that

$$\|S_{j,k}(f)\|_{p} \le C \|f\|_{p} \tag{3.11}$$

for all  $p \in (1, \infty)$  with constant C depends only on p and the dimension of the underlying space  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .

Now, using polar coordinates, we have

$$M_{j}(f)(x) \leq \int_{\mathbf{S}^{n-1}} \left| \Omega(y') \right| \{ \sup_{r>0} \frac{1}{r} \int_{\frac{r}{2}}^{r} |f(x - \varphi(v)y')| \, dv \} d\sigma(y').$$
(3.12)

By convexity of  $\varphi$  and Proposition on page 477 in ([12]), we have

$$\left\| \sup_{r>0} \frac{1}{r} \int_{\frac{r}{2}}^{r} |f(x - \varphi(v)y')| \, dv \right\|_{p} \le C \, \|f\|_{p} \tag{3.13}$$

for all  $p \in (1, \infty)$  with constant C independent of  $y' \in \mathbf{S}^{n-1}$ . Therefore, by (3.12), (3.13), and Minkowski inequality, we obtain

$$\|M_j(f)\|_p \le C \,\|f\|_p \tag{3.14}$$

for all  $p \in (1, \infty)$  with constant *C* independent of *j*. Thus, by (3.11), (3.14), the fact that  $2^{-(t-j)}G(\varphi, |\Omega|, 0, 2^{t-j}) \leq C$  where  $G(\varphi, |\Omega|, 0, 2^{t-j})$  is given by (2.1), and Theorem 3.1 in ([1]), we obtain (3.8).

Secondly, we claim that for  $p \in (\frac{2\alpha+2}{2\alpha+1}, 2+2\alpha)$ , there exist constants  $\theta(p) > 0$  and  $\beta(p) > 1$  such that

$$\|\mu_{\varphi,j,k}(f)\|_{p} \leq A(k) \|f\|_{p},$$
(3.15)

where

$$A(k) = \begin{cases} 2^{-\theta(p)k} , \text{ if } k \ge -1 \\ |k|^{-\beta(p)} , \text{ if } k < -1. \end{cases}$$
(3.16)

To prove (3.15), we proceed as follows.

Notice that

$$(\Delta_{j,t}(f * \psi_{\lfloor t-j \rfloor + k}))(\xi) = 2^{-(t-j)}G(\varphi, \Omega, \xi, 2^{t-j})\omega_{\lfloor t-j \rfloor + k}(|\xi|)\hat{f}(\xi),$$
(3.17)

where  $G(\varphi, \Omega, \xi, 2^{t-j})$  is given by (2.1). Therefore, by Lemma 2.2, we obtain

$$\left| \left( \Delta_{j,t} (f * \psi_{\lfloor t-j \rfloor + k}) \hat{)}(\xi) \right| \leq C \left| \varphi(2^{t-j}) \xi \right| \left| \omega_{\lfloor t-j \rfloor + k}(|\xi|) \right| \left| \hat{f}(\xi) \right|$$

$$\left| \left( \Delta_{j,t} (f * \psi_{\lfloor t-j \rfloor + k}) \hat{)}(\xi) \right| \leq C \left( \log \left| \varphi(2^{t-j-1}) \xi \right| \right)^{-1-\alpha} \left| \omega_{\lfloor t-j \rfloor + k}(|\xi|) \right| \left| \hat{f}(\xi) \right|$$

$$(3.19)$$

with constant C independent of j, k, t, and  $\xi$ . For  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and j > 0, let  $b(k, j, \xi) = \log_2(2^{j-k-1}\varphi^{-1}(|\xi|^{-1}))$  and  $d(k, j, \xi) = \log_2(2^{j-k+2}\varphi^{-1}(|\xi|^{-1}))$ . Thus, if k > 1, by Plancherel's theorem, (3.5), and (3.18), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \mu_{\varphi,j,k}(f) \right\|_{2}^{2} &= C \int_{\mathbf{R}^{n}} \left| \hat{f}(\xi) \right|^{2} \int_{b(k,j,\xi)}^{d(k,j,\xi)} \left| \varphi(2^{t-j})\xi \right|^{2} dt d\xi \\ &\leq \left( \log 2 \right) C 2^{-k} \int_{\mathbf{R}^{n}} \left| \hat{f}(\xi) \right|^{2} \int_{b(k,j,\xi)}^{d(k,j,\xi)} dt d\xi \\ &\leq \left( \log 2 \right) C 2^{-k} \left\| f \right\|_{2}^{2} \end{aligned}$$
(3.20)

Here, in the second inequality in (3.20), we used Proposition 2.1 (i). Thus

$$\left\| \mu_{\varphi,j,k}(f) \right\|_{2} \le C 2^{-k} \left\| f \right\|_{2}.$$
(3.21)

We notice here that by the fact  $2^{-(t-j)}G(\varphi, |\Omega|, 0, 2^{t-j}) \leq C$ , the inequality (3.21) also holds for k = -1, 0, 1. Therefore, by interpolating between (3.8) and (3.21) along with the remark just mentioned for every  $1 , we get (3.15) for <math>k \geq -1$ .

On the other hand, if k < -1, then by Plancherel's theorem, (3.5), (3.19), Proposition 2.2 (i), and similar argument as for the case k > 1, we obtain

$$\left\|\mu_{\varphi,j,k}(f)\right\|_{2} \le C \left|k\right|^{-1-\alpha} \|f\|_{2}.$$
(3.22)

Therefore, if  $p \in (\frac{2\alpha+2}{2\alpha+1}, 2+2\alpha)$ , then by interpolating between (3.22) and (3.8) for any  $1 , there exists a constant <math>\beta(p) > 1$  such that

$$\|\mu_{\varphi,j,k}(f)\|_{p} \leq C |k|^{-\beta} \|f\|_{p}.$$
 (3.23)

This concludes the proof of (3.15).

Hence, (3.4) follows by (3.6), (3.15), and Minkowski inequality. This completes the proof of Theorem 1.1.

Finally, Theorem 1.2 follows by Lemma 2.3, Theorem 1.1, and a similar argument as in ([7]). We omit the details.

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