



Member - National Association
of Rocketry ("NAR").

Special points of interest:

- "Ignition!"
- Bill Gee has Something!!!
- Gary Briggs tell us all about the 8th Classic!
- He also gives us plenty of pictures from the Classic!
- The next context "Wingz Over Frisco" is announced!
- Do you want to be in print? Page 17 tells you how!

Ignition! By J. Stuart Powley



Actually, this is not a problem! It is just John Lee's 12 "C" engine cluster firing 12 ejection charges at the same time. If you love fire and smoke (and , really, who doesn't?) this model will make your day! We have more pictures of this historic flight inside!

Inside this issue:

Bill's Something	2	Well, another DARS Fall classic as come and gone. This year was a really good one, as you will see in Gary Briggs' article. Also, he has given us quite a few pictures of the event.	already given me the next installment. Yea, Bill!
The DARS Fall Classic 8	3		At the back of the issue, we have an announcement for the Wingz Over Frisco contest. Go to DARS.org to sign up!
Classic Results	6		
Classic Pictures	8	Bill Gee has the first in a series of articles in this issue. Bill's Something should prove to be both entertaining and informative. By the way, I know it will really be a series because he has	So sit back, relax and take a look at this issue of Shroudlines. Also, if you get any wild ideas about next year's Classic, just let Gary know!
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Bill's Something

By Bill Gee

Your editor, Stuart Powley, would sometimes ask for newsletter content at club meetings by saying, "I've got nothing." Well Stu, here goes something...

This is the first of what I hope will become a regular Shroudlines feature in which I write about a technical tip or discuss some aspect of the hobby which may or may not be controversial. By sheer coincidence, the initials of the name of the column is B.S....fear not. I will endeavor to make each installment worth reading: something informative or at least thought provoking.

A discussion came up recently on Ye Olde Rocket Forum about making your own fin marking guide.

All you need is a pencil, a ruler, your favorite means of drawing a straight line on your body tube, whether a piece of aluminum angle, a door jamb, the lip on a drawer or the new Estes tube marking guide and the key item, a sheet of paper with two perpendicular edges (a square corner for those of you reading this in Rio Linda...); a piece of common printer paper works fine for this purpose.

Wrap the paper around your body tube so that one of the perpendicular edges follows the circumference of the tube. Mark where it overlaps.

Remove the paper and lay it down flat on your table. With your ruler, draw a line from the mark you made at the overlap point to the

other perpendicular edge so that the line is X units long, where X is the number of fins you will be using. The size of the unit is not critical, but I find it convenient to pick it such that the line is around a 30 to 45 degree angle across the perpendicular corner.

Mark the diagonal line at each of the units. Wrap the paper back around the tube the way you had it in the first step and tape it in place.

Using your marking tool, draw a line along the length of the body tube at the overlap point and at each unit mark you made on that diagonal line.

Tada! Now you have X lines on the tube evenly spaced.

If you want a launch lug line between two of the fins, it is trivial to halve a segment by folding the paper in half to bisect one of the units of the diagonal.

Better living through geometry! I did not come up with this; David Schultz told me this one. I could not believe the simplicity of the technique at first. Having taken drafting classes, I still remember how to divide a line into an arbitrary number of equal parts, but that method required a T-square and a drawing board or two triangles - some way to accurately draw parallel lines. Finally, it dawned on me that us-

ing a tube marking guide makes the lines parallel automatically!

If you would like to discuss this further, post your comments to the DARS-General Yahoo group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DARS-General> or Ye Old Rocket Forum at <http://oldrocketforum.com> where I like to hang around.



This picture really has nothing to do with Bill's article, other than the fact that he took it at NARRAM 54 this year. I just happen to think it's a great shot! Look at that cluster!

The DARS Fall Classic 8

By Gary Briggs NAR 76909 L2

Leading up to this year's event, I seemed to have a number of things pulling me back to the 2006 NSL event. What probably got me started was discovering that the 2012 edition of NSL hosted the same format of the event that we had in 2006 based on the article in Sport Rocketry. In looking at that it made me pull out the 2006 [Sport Rocketry issue](#) to see what DARS was up to that year. Certainly the closest parallel with 2006 though, was with the wind. As we did 6 years earlier in McGregor, this year we fought the wind all day, but this time we were better prepared. In 2006 we basically did the event with rockets laid out on tables. That year illustrated the need for something better as there was almost as much blue tape in the pictures as there were rockets. Every year since that time we have had rocket racks to hold the models firm in the wind, and they never paid off like they did this year. We fought 10-15 MPH winds all day with gusts to 20 and beyond. It put a whole new meaning to the phrase "holding down the fort" because at times, that was what was literally required to keep the easy ups on the ground. Luckily, the only things that required holding down on the tables this year were the prizes and the ballot which all attempted to leave at multiple times during the day. Some of the pictures capture the Fall Classic banner sticking straight out from the table. Obviously it also made for some interesting flight conditions, but between the cub scouts, girl scouts, club members and non-members, there were no shortage of flights throughout the day.

I was happy to have my 15 year old daughter, Alyssa, with me for set up and support in the morning. She helped out with getting stuff set up and then helped with the registration, making most of the stickers that go by the rockets on the stands. She saved the prizes from blowing off the table a number of times and even managed to get a launch and recovery in for the day with her Semroc Astro-1. Stuart Powley, John Dyer, and Scott Cook also helped us to set up in the morning with Scott providing some much needed help with heavy tent stakes to keep things on the ground.

This year we had 4 categories, rather than the usual 3. There were two that had been standards in past Classics, (the Classic Classic and the Classic Upscale) and two new categories making their first impression (NASA Space Ships and the Classic Craftsman). The NASA event gave this year's Classic the theme of "DARS salutes the rockets of NASA". The Classic Craftsman was the US Model Rocketry Sporting Code P57 Classic Model event. It is basically judged like sport scale so there is no measuring, just comparison to similarity of outline based on provided pictures. The two new events made for some interesting competition and created some new challenges for the competitors. In addition to the 4 categories of competition, we also had prize drawings throughout the day for the Young Rocketeers in the crowd.

This year's vendor lineup included

5 that had previously supported the Classic. Those were Red River Rocketry, HobbyTown USA Dallas, HobbyTown USA Plano, R/C Zone in Frisco and Sirius Rocketry. All provided prizes for the events, the Young Rocketeers drawings, or both. Joining us for the first time this year was the Rocketarium. I could wax on rhapsodically about each of these establishments as they all carry great supplies and they support the rocket community through events like this. The Fall Classic is a significant investment for these businesses in the DARS community. Please be sure to support them whenever you have a rocketry need.

There were 58 ballots cast this year with all voting for at least 1 category and generally all 4. There were 16 contestant in the events and 49 rockets in total. The Classic Classic garnered the most rockets with 23 spread across 12 contestants. The NASA category was next with 11 rockets and 8 contestants followed by Upscale, 8 rockets 5 participants, and Craftsman with 7 rockets across 6 contestants.

John Lee traveled up from San Antonio to fly with us for this year's Classic. He brought along 9 rockets and competed in every event. Being a fan of clustered launches, the highlight of the day for me was the launch of his NASA Aeroshell on 12 C motors. This would have been challenging on any day, but with the extra challenge of the wind and a very draggy model, it made for an exciting, albeit short flight. The

video of this is lots of fun since Stuart was just about at the point of landing when he took it. John ended up taking home 3rd in the Craftsman competition with his Bal-Rock Rock-a-Chute Mark I (he also entered a Mark II so he had the beginning of model rocketry well covered) winning a Rocketarium Vortico and a poster from Rockets of the World from the Bob Wilson collection, for flying the most rockets in competition for the day. I hope we see more of John at future DARS contests.

I put 3 rockets into 3 categories this year. The USS America was a recycled model which took 2nd in Starship last year and took 2nd in Classic Classic this year, winning the Red River Rocketry HV-308. I could have tied with James Turner for 1st (who won a Red River Rocketry USS Prometheus) if I had flown it, but one Super Kit in the wind was about all I could take that day (see below). I also entered a 30th Anniversary Saturn V that had been sitting on my shelf partially completed for a dozen years. I bought it shortly after I got into high power, but the modeling aspects of it (or my fear of them at the time) kept me from completing it until this year. I added the Mouldin' Oldies capsule and fin fairings to make the rocket a bit more durable in flight and add detail to the front end since the Boost Protective Cover on this is much better than the Estes version. Late in the game I discovered a Service Module wrap decal from Excelsior Rocketry that really added some nice detail that the Estes model lacks there. It was good enough for

2nd place (winning a HobbyTown USA Dallas \$15 gift card), edged out by Bob Melton's very cool ETF-1/Orion Delta IV Heavy model with droppable strap on boosters and printed full body wraps plus a scale launch platform (winning a \$25 HTUSA Dallas gift card). Bob's model started out as the DFR Technologies Delta IV Heavy, which Bob modified to simulate the Exploration Test Flight 1 version. We both agreed early in the day that there would be no flying of our models on this day. My final entry was another Centuri Super Kit, the E.S.S Raven. The hard part to make/acquire on this one is the fiberboard fins. I had inquired to Carl McLawhorn of Semroc what it would take to produce a set after completing my USS America last year. Rather than tell me about it, he sent me out 2 sets. This one also had a Mouldin' Oldies nose cone and Excelsior decals. It was my only flight of the day and I was very glad I opted for a 24mm upgrade and a short delay.. It came off the pad reasonably well in a bit of a lull in the wind, but got hit by strong gust as it climbed, that leaned it over to the west. The 2 parachutes came out on cue but got a bit hotter than I would have liked through the baffle system and some recovery wadding. In the end the rocket came down flat under the chutes with only a minor damage to the engine hook. Since it was in 1st place coming out of static judging, I figured it was good enough for the win, sending me home with the Rocketarium Jayhawk. Unfortunately when tearing down the stands late in the day, the Raven got blown off the table breaking the tail. The disadvantage of fiberboard is that

it isn't really repairable so this part will need to be replaced from the second set.

Adam Amick entered 1 rocket in the Craftsman event, which was last year's Best in Show winning Centuri Buck Rogers Draconian Marauder. It also faired pretty well in static judging and had its challenges with the wind on its flight, also taking the turn to the west and getting the chute out before impacting the ground. For style points, it did a little somersault on landing, but came out no worse for the wear and was good enough for 2nd place in the event. He took home the Rocketarium Little John to add to his build queue.

Stuart Powley won 3rd place in Classic Classic with an Estes Battlestar Galactica Colonial Viper model winning a \$10 gift certificate from Sirius Rocketry. He also won 3rd in Upscale with his often entered, but always just out of the prizes (including one year with a spectacular prang), Estes Pegasus, winning a Rocketarium Mega Vortio. He almost completed his trifecta of thirds in Craftsman, but fell just short with his AAA Model Aviation Fuels Aerobee Hi. I saw him prep the rocket and head to the range head, but didn't realize when it got launched. Next thing I knew it dropped in front of my feet behind the display easy ups, breaking a fin on landing after separating from the nose cone. Was this a plot to take me out of the competition? I think not...

Scott Cook came back with another very nice Estes upscale this year. Last year's entry was a beautiful Starship Vega in white. This year he returned a much lar-

ger and meaner looking USS Andromeda in black. I saw some cool pictures of this one flying and using dual deployment on its maiden flight in Kansas earlier this year. The Andromeda ended up in 2nd in Upscale, netting Scott a 4 full sheet set of decals from Sirius Rocketry.

Robert Vanover brought out the big guns for the Classic. He entered a 9ft tall Iris rocket in the NASA category that took 3rd place and the \$10 HTUSA Dallas gift card that went with it. It is a real beauty, completely finished in Monokote and very striking in the white, black, and red color scheme. It is a high power rocket requiring much more than a G motor to fly it (more like a K or above), but that didn't stop the kids from asking all day if we were going to launch it. In Upscale he decided to build a Der Red Max out of a leftover piece of 3" tube he had from another project. He had a custom nose cone made by the Sandman, Gordon Agnello, also of Excelsior Rocketry. The end result was a real crowd pleaser as it won 1st place in the upscale category (winning a QCC Explorer from HobbyTown USA Plano) and Best in Show, winning the Sirius Rocketry Deimos.

An honorable mention goes out to John Dyer of Red River Rocketry fame, for his trials with the Shari's Hot Rockets Little Joe II that he built for the event. The kit is a real modeling challenge as it does not use the highly finished parts, leaving the modeler to improvise heavily. John soldiered through, taking the kit from a capsule and wrapped body tube at the DARS meeting on October 6, to the completed product on October 20,

working through multiple coats and various brands of silver paint. I look forward to seeing it fly at a future DARS launch.

Also of noteworthy praise was Jack Sprague's Gemini capsule PMC that landed just outside of the prizes in the NASA category. The detail on this one was out of this world from a paint perspective, and I especially liked the gold Mylar on the back end of the model giving it a very authentic look. Look out for this one at the next PMC event. It had very nominal flight characteristics at the last DARS launch but struggled a bit in the wind at the Classic.

Chas Russell entered the Pod Bay Doors beautifully finished Estes Astron Farside X in the Craftsman category but didn't plan to fly it even before he knew how windy it was going to be. It definitely wasn't a great day for a 3 stage rocket. He also had a very nice upscale Estes Ranger and a right-out-of-the-catalog Cineroc/Omega combo in the Classic Classic competition.

Motti Marom and his sons Roy and Yuval entered 6 rockets in the contest and flew most of them. They were building a couple of them at the last club meeting with help from Sam Barone. They all came out to the field nicely painted and decaled. Unfortunately, Roy lost his Red River Rocketry Scorch on the field, but on the positive side, both he and his brother took home new rockets in the Young Rocketeers drawing.

Of final note was Mike Satterfield who put up and recovered more Cochran flights in one launch, let alone one as windy as this as any-

one I know. I don't know if he knew Bob Wilson, but for those of us who did, each one of those flights is a little reminder of him, not to mention that they are completely spectacular with their sound and fury.

So that puts another Fall Classic into the history column. I hope everyone had fun as I know that I did in between all the very hectic moments during the day and leading up to the event. Never in my wildest dreams when Doug Sams, Ted Mahler and I put the ideas together that became the Classic, did I think that the club would still be doing it 8 years later. But I prefer to do this as a caretaker or facilitator as much as an event director. That being said, I am always looking for your feedback and suggestions on whether we want to continue doing this event or evolve it into something else. Times and tastes change, so if there is another event or approach we would like to take, please do let me know.

As for this year, there is always a big THANK YOU list at the end of these articles. Certainly first on the list are all the competitors and spectators who voted. Special support thanks goes to Alyssa Briggs, Stuart Powley, John Dyer, Jack and Suzy Sprague, Scott Cook, Bill Gee, Sam Barone and any others I may be forgetting. As noted above our sponsors are critical to this event so thank them with your patronage.

And just to wrap things up, here is the complete summary of the winners and their prizes. Until next time, thanks. *(Summary on next page)*

Contest Events

Classic Classic			
Place	Winner	Sponsor	Prize
1 st	James Turner – Estes Maxi V2	Red River Rocketry	USS Prometheus
2 nd	Gary Briggs – Centuri USS America	Red River Rocketry	HV-308
3 rd	Stuart Powley – Estes Battlestar Galactic Colonial Viper	Sirius Rocketry	\$10 Gift Certificate
Classic Upscale			
1 st	Robert Vanover – Estes Der Red Max	HobbyTown USA Plano	QCC Explorer
2 nd	Scott Cook – Estes USS Andromeda	Sirius Rocketry	4 full sheet decal set
3 rd	Stuart Powely – Estes Pegasus	Rocketarium	Mega Vertico
NASA Space Ships			
1 st	Bob Melton – DFR Technologies ETF-1 Delta IV Heavy	HobbyTown USA Dallas	\$25 Gift Card
2 nd	Gary Briggs – Estes 30 th Anniversary Saturn V	HobbyTown USA Dallas	\$15 Gift Card
3 rd	Robert Vanover – Scratch built Iris	HobbyTown USA Dallas	\$10 Gift Card
Classic Craftsman			
1 st	Gary Briggs – Centuri E.S.S. Raven	Rocketarium	Jayhawk
2 nd	Adam Amick – Centuri Buck Rogers Draconian Marauder	Rocketarium	Little John
3 rd	John Lee – Bal-Rock Rock-a-Chute Mark I	Rocketarium + DARS/ Bob Wilson	Vortico + Rockets of the World Poster
Best in Show			
	Robert Vanover – Estes Der Red Max	Sirius Rocketry	Deimos



Figure 1 - Stuart Powley's 3rd place winning Colonial Viper. Photo by Frank DiCosimo

Young Rocketeers' Drawing

Tyler Sepelak	Sirius Rocketry + DARS/Bob Wilson	\$10 Gift Certificate + Space Shuttle Poster
Roy Marom	Gary Briggs	Quest Flicks Rubber Band Rocket
Conner Lehman	HobbyTown USA Plano	Estes Mosquito
Vincent Anderson	HobbyTown USA Plano	Estes Dink
Sydney Mlinarich	HobbyTown USA Plano	Estes Swift
Shelby Jennings	R/C Zone	Estes Chrome Domes
Alex Malunowicz	R/C Zone	Estes Chrome Domes
Katherine Moore	R/C Zone	Estes Viking
Yuval Marom	R/C Zone	Estes Viking
Brendon Keating	Red River Rocketry	Mini-Chuter
Ethan Thompson	Red River Rocketry	Lil Scout
Rome Garcia	DARS/Bob Wilson	Estes Gnome
Hayden Loveland	DARS/Bob Wilson	Quest Tracer
Cole Laessle	DARS/Bob Wilson	Estes Athena



Figure 2 - Stuart literally holding down the fort.



Figure 3 - Alyssa Briggs readies her Semroc Astro-1



Figure 4 - Robert Vanover's Best in Show winning Der Red Max, John Lee's upscale Vulcan, the 1st place Craftsman Centuri ESS Raven, and the banner sticking straight out from the table. It was a little windy...



Figure 5 - Robert Vanover's Iris, flanked by Scott Cooks Starship Vega with the prize table in the background.

Figure 6 - Looking back down the line toward the range head. Look at all those rockets and prizes!





Figure 7 - Jack Sprague's NASA PMC Gemini Capsule

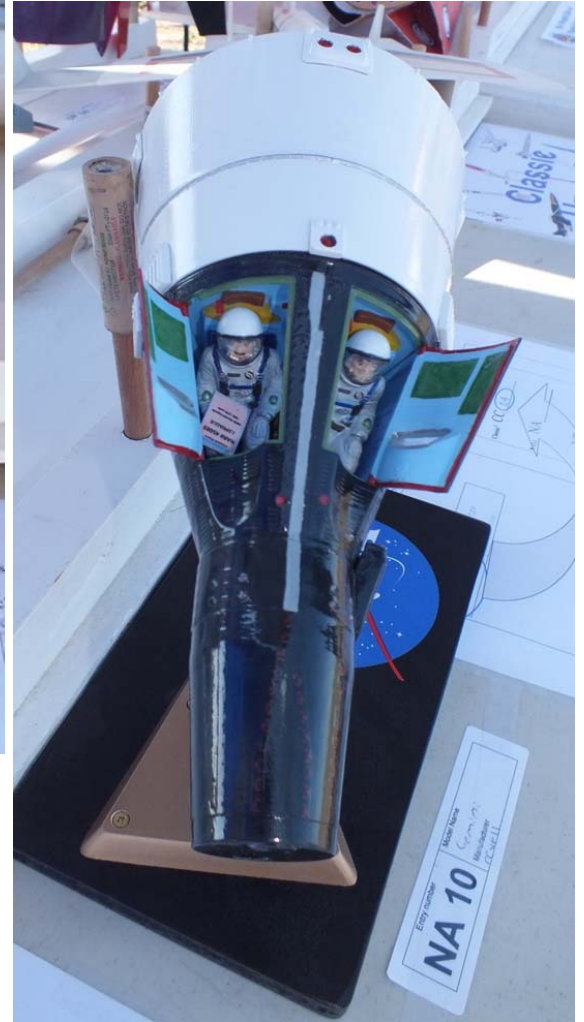


Figure 8 - Scott and John discuss Bob Melton's 1st Place winning ETF-1 Delta IV Heavy



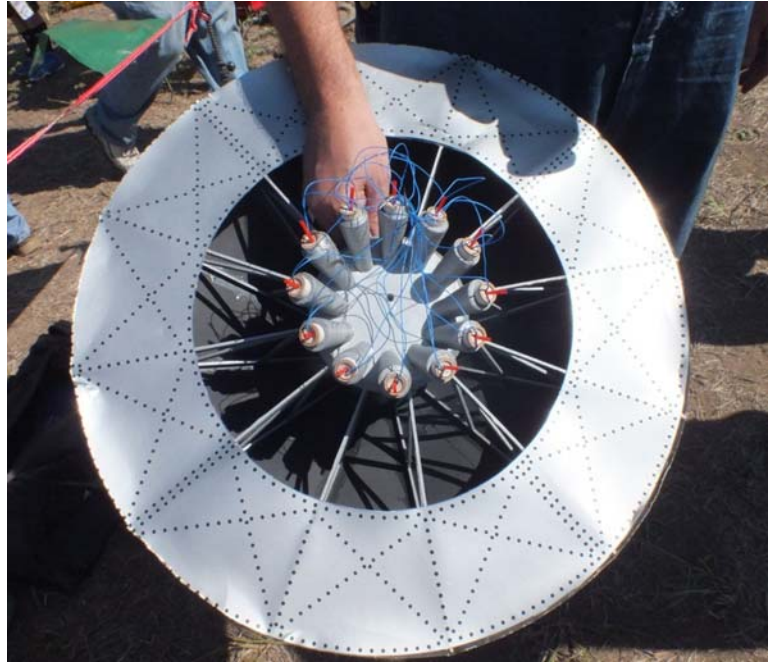


Figure 9 - John Lee and his NASA Aeroshell with 12 C motors.



Figure 10 - The girl scouts enjoyed the rockets.



Figure 11 - John Dyer and his SHR Little Joe II



Figure 12 - Scott Cook's scratch built USS Andromeda.



This page and the next show a frame by frame sequence of John Lee's cluster model. I was closer to the action than I intended as it came right at me! Still, it's beautiful! J.S.P.







**Next Contest-
Wingz Over Frisco!!!!**

**8 December, 2012
10:00am to 5:00pm
Frisco, Texas**

Events:

**A Rocket Glide
C Boost Glide**

**Come and have a glider-litious
time with DARS!**

*Stuart Powley's original Estes Colonial Viper takes to the sky
yet again!*

How to Contribute to Shroudlines

And now for the “last page begging part” of our publication. As I have made clear in the past, without you, we have no newsletter. We all have differing interests and areas of expertise, and that is exactly what this newsletter needs!

Once again, I'd like to thank all of those who have contributed material so far. You are very much appreciated! Still, we need more! Therefore, if you have any kind of article, picture, cartoon, rambling, etc., just send it to stu29573@yahoo.com. I usually work best with Word documents, and JPEG files, but I can make just about anything work if I have to. I can also handle stuff that is written down, but that means I have to type and that can be a bit touch and go... But I'll take it anyway!

You can also give me things at the meetings (which I almost never miss...almost), and I promise to try my best not to lose them. I can return stuff at the next meeting if need be.

As I have said many times in the past, I really want this newsletter to be by the club and for the club. You guys can think up much better stuff than I can (as is evidenced by the articles we've been getting lately). So, stop just thinking about maybe writing something and actually do it! You'll be glad you did! (as will everyone who reads it!)



DARS Officers

President	Jack Sprague
Vice President	Dave Shultz
Treasurer	Suzie Sprague
Secretary	Bill Gee
NAR Senior Advisor	Sam Barone

DARS

The Dallas Area Rocket Society is a non-profit chartered section of the National Association of Rocketry (“NAR”). Its purpose is to promote the hobby of consumer rocketry in the Dallas/Ft. Worth metropolitan area.

Membership in DARS is open to all interested persons. Membership in NAR is encouraged, but not required. Annual dues are \$10.00 for individuals and \$15.00 for families. The entire family, including children, are welcomed to the meetings. Go to the website and fill out and send an application to join or renew your membership.

The club normally meets on the first Saturday of each month at 1:00 p.m.

Visit the DARS website for the meeting location: www.dars.org



Stay connected! All of us will reach greater heights with your attendance at the club meetings.

Vendor Links (* DARS member discount—confirm before ordering)

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[BMI Hobbies \(* 10%\)](#)

[CLE Enterprises](#)

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[Red River Rocketry \(* 8.25% on field\)](#)

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