

# HOMOLOGICAL INVARIANTS OF LOCAL RINGS

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## Introduction

In this paper  $R$  is a commutative noetherian local ring with unit element 1 and  $M$  is its maximal ideal. Let  $K$  be the residue field  $R/M$  and let  $\{t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n\}$  be a minimal system of generators for  $M$ . By a complex  $R\langle T_1, \dots, T_p \rangle$  we mean an  $R$ -algebra\* obtained by the adjunction of the variables  $T_1, \dots, T_p$  of degree 1 which kill  $t_1, \dots, t_p$ . The main purpose of this paper is, among other things, to construct an  $R$ -algebra resolution of the field  $K$ , so that we can investigate the relationship between the homology algebra  $H(R\langle T_1, \dots, T_n \rangle)$  and the homological invariants of  $R$  such as the algebra  $\text{Tor}^R(K, K)$  and the Betti numbers  $B_p = \dim_K \text{Tor}_p^R(K, K)$  of the local ring  $R$ . The relationship was initially studied by Serre [5]. Then Tate [6] gave the correct lower bound for the Betti numbers of a nonregular local ring. In his M. I. T. lecture (See a footnote of [6]) Eilenberg proves that

$$B_2 = \binom{n}{2} + \binom{n}{0}b_1 \text{ and } B_3 \geq \binom{n}{3} + \binom{n}{1}b_1,$$

where  $b_1 = \dim_K H_1(R\langle T_1, \dots, T_n \rangle)$ . In this paper these results of Eilenberg are generalized as follows:

$$B_3 = \binom{n}{3} + \binom{n}{1}b_1 + \varepsilon_2,$$

$$B_4 = \binom{n}{4} + \binom{n}{2}b_1 + \binom{n}{0}b_1^2 - \binom{b_1}{2} + \varepsilon_2 \binom{n}{1} + \varepsilon_3 \binom{n}{0},$$

and so forth, where  $\varepsilon_2 = \dim_K H_2(\Lambda)/H_1(\Lambda)^2$ ,  $\varepsilon_3 = \dim_K H_3(\Lambda)/H_1(\Lambda) \cdot H_2(\Lambda)$ , and  $\Lambda = R\langle T_1, \dots, T_n \rangle$ . As corollaries of the above computation we obtain part of the results by Tate [6],

$$B_\rho \geq \binom{n}{\rho} + \binom{n}{\rho-2} + \binom{n}{\rho-4} + \dots, \text{ for } \rho \leq 4,$$

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\* For definition, see a paper of Tate [6]. Throughout the paper the numbers in square brackets refer to the papers of the bibliography at the end of the paper.

if  $R$  is not regular.

If  $R$  is a complete intersection, we have

$$B_3 = \binom{n}{3} + \binom{n}{1}b_1,$$

$$B_4 = \binom{n}{4} + \binom{n}{2}b_1 + \binom{n}{0}b_1^2 - \binom{b_1}{2}.$$

§ 1. The complex  $R \langle T_1, \dots, T_p \rangle$

Let us consider a filtered complex  $A = R \langle T_1, \dots, T_n \rangle$  with an increasing sequence of subcomplexes  $R \subset R \langle T_1 \rangle \subset R \langle T_1, T_2 \rangle \subset \dots \subset R \langle T_1, \dots, T_p \rangle \subset \dots \subset A$ .

Then the graded differential algebra  $A$  over  $R$  (in the sequel we shall call it simply " $R$ -algebra" in the sense of Tate) has the increasing filtration  $\{R \langle T_1, \dots, T_p \rangle\}$  such that  $R \langle T_1, \dots, T_p \rangle$  is an  $R$ -subalgebra. Defining  $R$ -modules

$$D_{p,q} = H_{p+q}(R \langle T_1, \dots, T_p \rangle)$$

$$E_{p,q} = H_{p+q}(R \langle T_1, \dots, T_p \rangle / R \langle T_1, \dots, T_{p-1} \rangle),$$

we have the usual exact sequence

$$\dots \xrightarrow{k} D_{p-1, q+1} \xrightarrow{i} D_{p, q} \xrightarrow{j} E_{p, q} \xrightarrow{k} D_{p-1, q} \xrightarrow{i} \dots$$

for each pair  $(R \langle T_1, \dots, T_p \rangle, R \langle T_1, \dots, T_{p-1} \rangle)$ .

Thus the exact couple  $C(A) = \langle D, E; i, j, k \rangle$  is associated with  $R$ -algebra  $A$ , where

$$D = \sum_{p, q} D_{p, q} \quad \text{and} \quad E = \sum_{p, q} E_{p, q}.$$

LEMMA 1.1.

$$E_{p, q} \simeq D_{p-1, q}$$

*Proof.* It is sufficient to show chain equivalences  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$

$$R \langle T_1, \dots, T_p \rangle / R \langle T_1, \dots, T_{p-1} \rangle \xrightleftharpoons[\mu]{\lambda} R \langle T_1, \dots, T_{p-1} \rangle$$

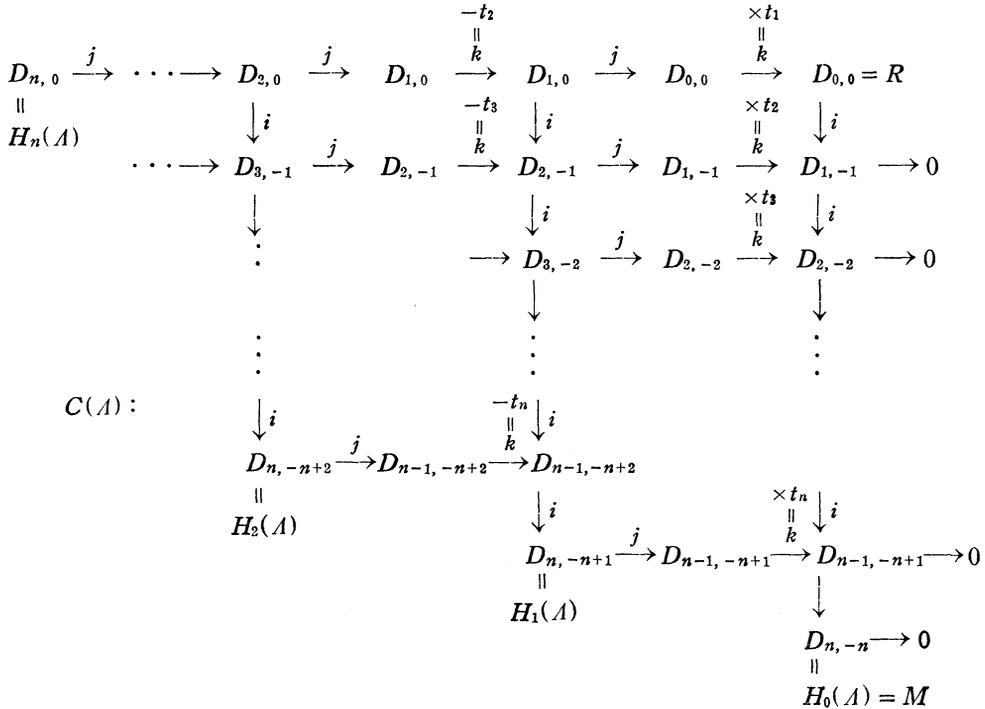
such that  $\lambda\mu = 1$  and  $\mu\lambda = 1$ . Let  $x$  be a homogeneous element of degree  $p+q$  in  $R \langle T_1, \dots, T_p \rangle$ . Then  $x = x_1 + x_2 \cdot T_p$ , where  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are homogeneous elements of  $R \langle T_1, \dots, T_{p-1} \rangle$  with degrees  $p+q$  and  $p+q-1$  respectively.

Obviously the residue class  $\bar{x}$  is represented by  $x_2 \cdot T_p$ . Define  $\lambda(\bar{x}) = x_2$ . It is immediate to verify that  $\lambda$  is well defined and is a chain mapping. Defining  $\mu$  by

$$\mu(y) = \overline{y \cdot T_p},$$

we see by straightforward computation that  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$  are chain equivalences. This completes the proof.

By replacing the  $E$ -terms by the corresponding isomorphic  $D$ -terms, the exact couple  $C(A)$  can be developed into a "lattice-like" diagram



The steps from upper left to lower right are exact sequences. It is easy to see that  $k_{p,q}; D_{p,q} \rightarrow D_{p,q}$  is the multiplication by  $(-1)^{p+q}t_{p+1}$ . This diagram provides us with the whole story about the following known results which have been proved by several authors [2], [6].

PROPOSITION 1.2. *The following statements are equivalent.*

- i)  $H_1(A) = 0$
- ii)  $H_p(R \langle T_1, \dots, T_p \rangle) = 0$  for any  $\rho \geq 1$  and for any  $p(n \geq p \geq 0)$ .

iii)  $\{t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n\}$  is an  $R$ -sequence.

iv)  $R$  is regular.

*Proofs.* i)  $\rightarrow$  ii) Since  $H_1(A) = 0$ ,  $k_{n-1, -n+2}$  which is the multiplication by  $-t_n$ , is onto. It follows that any element  $x \in D_{n-1, -n+2}$  belongs to  $\bigcap_{\rho=0}^{\infty} M^\rho \cdot D_{n-1, -n+2}$ . By virtue of Krull (for example see [7])  $x$  vanishes, because  $D_{n-1, -n+2} = H_1(R \langle T_1, \dots, T_{n-1} \rangle)$  is a noetherian module over  $R$ . By the repeated use of the same argument, we can prove that  $H_1(R \langle T_1, \dots, T_p \rangle) = D_{p, -p+1}$  vanishes for all  $p (n \geq p \geq 1)$ . Then  $i_{p, -p+2}: D_{p, -p+2} \rightarrow D_{p+1, -p+1}$  are all onto, because of the exactness of the diagram  $C(A)$ . Since  $D_{2,0}$  vanishes\*, all  $H_2(R \langle T_1, \dots, T_p \rangle)$  vanish. By repeating this process the proof of i)  $\rightarrow$  ii) is established. ii)  $\rightarrow$  iii) It is immediate by definition that  $D_{p, -p} = H_0(R \langle T_1, \dots, T_p \rangle) = R/(t_1, \dots, t_p)$ . Since  $k_{p, -p}$  is isomorphic,  $t_{p+1}$  is a non zero divisor for  $R/(t_1, \dots, t_p)$ . This completes the proof.

iii)  $\rightarrow$  iv) It is immediate by definition.

iv)  $\rightarrow$  i) Without loss of generality we may assume that  $\{t_1, \dots, t_n\}$  is an  $R$ -sequence. Then all  $k_{p, -p}$  are isomorphic so that all  $i_{p, -p+1}$  are onto. Since  $D_{1,0} = 0$  in this case, we have  $H_1(A) = 0$ .

**§ 2. Construction of a minimal algebra resolution**

Let us denote by  $b_p \dim_K H_p(A)$  and let 1-cycles  $\mathfrak{B}_1^1, \dots, \mathfrak{B}_{b_1}^1$  represent the homology classes  $Z_1^1, \dots, Z_{b_1}^1 \in H_1(A)$  respectively. Then by adjoining  $S_1, \dots, S_{b_1}$  of degree 2 which kill the cycles  $\mathfrak{B}_1^1, \dots, \mathfrak{B}_{b_1}^1$  we obtain an  $R$ -algebra

$$A^{(2)} = A \langle S_1, \dots, S_{b_1} \rangle ; \partial_i^{(2)} S_i = \mathfrak{B}_i^1,$$

satisfying the following conditions :

- a)  $A^{(2)} \supset A = A^{(1)}$ , and  $A_\lambda^{(2)} = A_\lambda$  for  $\lambda < 2$ ,
- b)  $H_1(A^{(2)}) = 0$ .

Let

$$V_\rho = H_\rho(A) / (H_{\rho-1}(A) \cdot H_1(A) + H_{\rho-2}(A) \cdot H_2(A) + \dots + H_{\rho-\lambda}(A) \cdot H_\lambda(A))$$

for  $\rho \geq 2$ , where  $\lambda = \frac{\rho}{2}$  if  $\rho$  is even and  $\lambda = \frac{\rho-1}{2}$  if  $\rho$  is odd, and let  $\varepsilon_\rho = \dim_K V_\rho$ . Selecting  $\rho$ -cycles  $\mathfrak{B}_1^\rho, \dots, \mathfrak{B}_{\varepsilon_\rho}^\rho$  representing the homology classes  $Z_1^\rho, \dots, Z_{\varepsilon_\rho}^\rho \in V_\rho$  and adjoining  $U_1^{\rho+1}, \dots, U_{\varepsilon_\rho}^{\rho+1}$  of degree  $\rho+1$ , we have an  $R$ -algebra

\* For  $t_1$  is a non-zero divisor for  $R$ .



LEMMA 2.2.

$i_{11}$ ,  $i_{21}$  and  $i_{12}$  are onto.

LEMMA 2.3.

- a)  $k_{21}(E_{2,1}) \simeq H_1(A)^2$ ,  
 b)  $k_{22}(E_{2,2}) + i_{12}^{-1}k_{31}(E_{3,1}) \simeq H_2(A) \cdot H_1(A)$ .

*Proof* of Proposition 2.1.

It is immediate from the exactness of the spectral sequence and the above two lemmas.

*Proof* of Lemma 2.2.

Let  $Z \in D_{2,0}$ , then  $Z$  is represented by a cycle

$$\mathfrak{Z} = c + \sum_{i=1}^{b_1} \lambda^i S_i,$$

where  $c \in A_2$  and  $\lambda^i \in R$ . Since  $0 = \partial_2 \mathfrak{Z} = \partial_2 c + \sum_{i=1}^{b_1} \lambda^i \mathfrak{Z}_i^1$ , we have  $\sum_{i=1}^{b_1} \bar{\lambda}^i Z_i^1 = 0$  where  $\bar{\lambda}^i \in K$ . Therefore  $\lambda^i \in M$  for all  $i$ . Let  $\lambda^i = \sum_{j=1}^n r^{ij} \cdot t_j$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{Z} &= c + \sum_{i,j} r^{ij} t_j S_i \\ &= (c + \sum_{i,j} r^{ij} T_j \mathfrak{Z}_i^1) + \partial_3 (\sum_{i,j} r^{ij} T_j S_i). \end{aligned}$$

The cycle  $\mathfrak{Z}' = (c + \sum_{i,j} r^{ij} T_j \mathfrak{Z}_i^1)$  represents an element  $Z' \in D_{1,1}$  whose image under  $i_{11}$  is  $Z$ . Therefore  $i_{11}$  is onto.

Secondly we wish to show that  $i_{21}$  and  $i_{12}$  are onto. Let  $y \in X_3$  represent an element  $Y \in D_{3,0}$ . Then

$$y = d + \sum_{j=1}^{b_1} \sum_{i=1}^n \mu^{ij} (T_i \cdot S_j) + \sum_{k=1}^{\varepsilon_2} v^k U_k^3,$$

where  $d \in A_3$ .

$$0 = \partial_3 y = \sum_{j=1}^{b_1} (\sum_{i=1}^n \mu^{ij} t_i) S_j + (\partial_3 d - \sum_{i,j} \mu^{ij} T_i \mathfrak{Z}_j^1 + \sum_k v^k \mathfrak{Z}_k^2).$$

Thus we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \mu^{ij} t_i = 0 \quad \text{for all } j,$$

so that  $\sum_i \mu^{ij} T_i$  is 1-cycle of  $A$  and  $\sum_j (\sum_i \mu^{ij} T_i) \mathfrak{Z}_j^1$  represents an element  $Z'' \in$

$H_1(A)^2$ . From this  $Z' = \sum_{k=1}^{\varepsilon_2} \bar{\nu}^k Z_k^2$ , and hence  $\nu^k \in M$ . Letting  $\nu^k = \sum_{l=1}^n \nu^{kl} t_l$  and considering  $\partial_4(\sum_{k,l} \nu^{kl} T_l U_k^2) = \sum_k \nu^k U_k^3 - \sum_{k,l} \nu^{kl} T_l \mathcal{B}_k^2$ , we find 2-cycle of  $A^{(2)}$ ,

$$d + \sum_{j,i} \mu^{ij} (T_i \cdot S_j) + \sum_{k,l} \nu^{kl} T_l \mathcal{B}_k^2,$$

whose homology class  $Y'$  is mapped onto  $Y$  under  $i_{21}$ . From the analogous argument it is easy to see that  $i_{12}$  is onto. Thus the proof is omitted. This completes the proof of the Lemma.

*Proof of Lemma 2.3.*

Select 3-relative cycle  $\mathcal{B}$  of  $A^{(2)}/A$  representing an element  $Z \in E_{2,1}$ . Then  $\mathcal{B} = x + \sum_{i,j} \lambda^{ij} T_i \cdot S_j$ , where  $x \in A_2$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda^{ij} T_i$  is 1-cycle of  $A$ . Since  $k_{21}(Z)$  is represented by 2-cycle of  $\sum_{j=1}^{b_1} (\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda^{ij} T_i) \mathcal{B}_j^1$ , we have  $k_{21}(Z) \in H_1(A)^2$ . Conversely it is obvious that  $H_1(A)^2 \subset k_{21}(E_{2,1})$ , because  $\mathcal{B}_i^1 \mathcal{B}_j^1 = \partial_3(-\mathcal{B}_i^1 S_j)$  for any pair  $(i, j)$ . This completes the proof of Lemma 2.3. a).

Let  $Y \in E_{3,1}$  and  $y$  be 4-relative cycle of  $A^{(3)}/A^{(2)}$  representing  $Y$ . Then we have

$$y = c + \sum_{i,j} \lambda^{ij} T_i U_j^3,$$

where  $c \in A_3^{(2)}$  and  $\sum_i \lambda^{ij} T_i$  is 1-cycle of  $A$ . By considering  $k_{31}$  and  $i_{12}$ ,  $i_{12}^{-1} k_{31}(Y)$  is represented by 3-cycle of  $A$ ,  $\sum_{j=1}^{\varepsilon_2} (\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda^{ij} T_i) \mathcal{B}_j^2$ , whose homology class is in  $H_1(A) \cdot V_2 \subset H_1(A) \cdot H_2(A)$ .

Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a relative 4-cycle representing an element  $Z \in E_{2,2}$ , and let

$$\mathcal{B} = a + \sum_{b_1 \geq k > i \geq 1} \lambda^{ik} S_i \cdot S_k + \sum_{b_1 \geq k \geq 1} \lambda^{kk} S_k^{(2)} + \sum_{\substack{n \geq j > i \geq 1 \\ b_1 \geq k \geq 1}} \mu^{ijk} (T_i T_j S_k),$$

where  $a \in A_4$  and  $1 \cdot S_k^{(2)}$  is a generator of  $A_4^{(2)}$ , whose boundary is defined by  $\mathcal{B}_k^1 S_k$  (refer to [6]). Considering the boundary of  $\mathcal{B}$ , we have

$$A_3 \ni \partial_4 \mathcal{B} = (\partial_4 a + \sum_{i,j,k} \mu^{ijk} (T_i \cdot T_j) \mathcal{B}_k^1) + \sum_{k=1}^{b_1} \{ \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda^{ik} \mathcal{B}_i^1 + \sum_{i=k+1}^{b_1} \lambda^{ki} \mathcal{B}_i^1 + \partial_2(\sum_{i,j} \mu^{ijk} T_i \cdot T_j) \} S_k,$$

so that

$$\sum_{j=1}^k \lambda^{ik} \mathcal{B}_i^1 + \sum_{i=k+1}^{b_1} \lambda^{ki} \mathcal{B}_i^1 + \partial_2(\sum \mu^{ijk} T_i \cdot T_j) = 0 \text{ for each } k.$$

Therefore all  $\lambda^{ik} \in M$  for any pair  $(i, k)$  satisfying  $b_1 \geq k \geq i \geq 1$ . Letting  $\lambda^{ik} = \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda^{ijk} t_j$ , considering  $\xi_k = \sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda^{ijk} T_j \mathcal{B}_i^1 + \sum_{i=k+1}^{b_1} \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda^{kji} T_j \mathcal{B}_i^1$ , we obtain a 2-cycle  $\eta_k$

of  $A$  by

$$\eta_k - \xi_k = \sum_{i,j} \mu^{ijk}(T_i \cdot T_j),$$

because  $\partial_2(\xi_k) = \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda^{ik} \mathfrak{Z}_i^1 + \sum_{i=k+1}^{b_1} \lambda^{ki} \mathfrak{Z}_i^1$ . The straightforward computation shows  $\sum_{k=1}^{b_1} \xi_k \mathfrak{Z}_k^1 = 0$ , so that we have

$$\sum_{i,j,k} \mu^{ijk}(T_i \cdot T_j) \mathfrak{Z}_k^1 = \sum_{k=1}^{b_1} \eta_k \mathfrak{Z}_k^1.$$

Since  $k_{22}(Z)$  is represented by  $\sum_{k=1}^{b_1} \eta_k \mathfrak{Z}_k^1$ ,  $k_{22}(E_{2,2}) \subset H_2(A) \cdot H_1(A)$ . It is immediate to show that  $H_2(A) \cdot H_1(A) \subset k_{22}(E_{2,2})$ , because  $\partial_4(\eta \cdot S_k) = \eta \cdot \mathfrak{Z}_k^1$  for any 2-cycle  $\eta$  of  $A$ . This completes the proof of Lemma 2.3.

### §3. Computation of $B_\rho$ ( $\rho \leq 4$ )

PROPOSITION 3.1.

- i)  $B_1 = \binom{n}{1}$ ,  $B_2 = \binom{n}{2} + b_1$ ,
- ii)  $B_3 = \binom{n}{3} + \binom{n}{1} \cdot b_1 + \varepsilon_2$
- iii)  $B_4 = \binom{n}{4} + \binom{n}{2} \cdot b_1 + \binom{n}{0} b_1^2 - \binom{b_1}{2} + \binom{n}{1} \varepsilon_2 + \binom{n}{0} \varepsilon_3$ .

*Proof.*

In the previous section we have proved that the sequence

$$X_4 \xrightarrow{\partial_4} X_3 \xrightarrow{\partial_3} X_2 \xrightarrow{\partial_2} X_1 \xrightarrow{\partial_1} X_0 \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} K \longrightarrow 0$$

is exact. By definition  $\text{Tor}_\rho^R(K, K)$  is computed by  $X_\rho \otimes_R K$  for all  $\rho \leq 3$ . Therefore we get i) and ii). From a general theory (for example, see [5] or [4]) we know that there exists  $\tilde{X}_5$  such that  $\tilde{X}_5 \xrightarrow{\tilde{\partial}_5} X_4 \xrightarrow{\partial_4} X_3$  is exact and  $\tilde{\partial}_5(\tilde{X}_5) \subset MX_4$ . Therefore  $B_4$  can be computed as stated in 3.1. iii) without knowing explicitly a system of generators for  $\tilde{X}_5$ .

Note that  $\tilde{X}_5$  may be considered as  $X_5$  which we constructed in §2.

### §4. Corollaries and a conjecture

COROLLARY 4.1.

*If  $R$  is a complete intersection, we have*

$$B_3 = \binom{n}{3} + \binom{n}{1} b_1$$

$$B_4 = \binom{n}{4} + \binom{n}{2} b_1 + \binom{n}{0} b_1^2 - \binom{b_1}{2}$$

COROLLARY 4.2.

$$B_\rho \geq \binom{n}{\rho} + \binom{n}{\rho-2} + \binom{n}{\rho-4} + \dots$$

for  $\rho \leq 4$ , if  $R$  is not regular.

*Proofs*

By a Theorem of Assmus [1]  $R$  is a local complete intersection if and only if  $H(\mathcal{A})$  is the exterior algebra on  $H_1(\mathcal{A})$ . Therefore we have  $\varepsilon_2 = \varepsilon_3 = 0$  in this case. The corollary 4.1. coincides with a result of Tate [6]. The special case when  $b_1 = 1$ ,  $b_2 = b_3 = 0$ , provides us with the proof of Corollary 4.2., which is the estimation of Tate [6].

Tate said in [6] that it is doubtful whether minimal  $R$ -algebra resolutions exist in all cases. It seems to the author that such resolution may be probable in view of the construction we consider in this paper.

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