

## GROWTH NORM ESTIMATES FOR $\bar{\delta}$ ON CONVEX DOMAINS

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ABSTRACT. We consider the growth norm of a measurable function  $f$  defined by

$$\|f\|_{-\sigma} = \text{ess sup}\{\delta_D(z)^\sigma |f(z)| : z \in D\},$$

where  $\delta_D(z)$  denote the distance from  $z$  to  $\partial D$ . We prove some kind of optimal growth norm estimates for  $\bar{\delta}$  on convex domains.

### 1. Introduction and statement of results

Let  $D$  be a bounded domain in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  with  $C^2$  boundary. For  $z \in D$  let  $\delta_D(z)$  denote the distance from  $z$  to  $\partial D$ . For  $\alpha > 0$  we define a measure  $dV_\alpha$  on  $D$  by  $dV_\alpha(z) = \delta_D(z)^{\alpha-1}dV(z)$  where  $dV(z)$  is the volume element. For  $0 < p, \alpha < \infty$  let  $\|f\|_{p,\alpha}$  be the  $L^p$ -norm with respect to the measure  $dV_\alpha$  and we define  $L^{p,\alpha}(D) = \{f : \|f\|_{p,\alpha} < \infty\}$ . Let  $A^{p,\alpha}(D) = L^{p,\alpha}(D) \cap \mathcal{O}(D)$ , where  $\mathcal{O}(D)$  is the space of holomorphic functions on  $D$ . We will denote the usual Hardy space  $H^p(D)$  by  $A^{p,0}(D)$ , and the associated norm by  $\|f\|_{p,0}$ . We can identify  $A^{p,0}(D)$  in the usual way with a subspace of  $L^p(\partial D : d\sigma)$ . For  $\alpha \geq 0$  and  $0 < p < \infty$  we have (see [6])

$$(1.1) \quad \sup\{\delta_D(z)^{(n+\alpha)/p}|f(z)| : z \in D\} \lesssim \|f\|_{p,\alpha} \quad \text{for } f \in A^{p,\alpha}(D).$$

By using the estimate (1.1) we can prove embedding theorems among the weighted Bergman spaces (see [2], [3], [5], [7], and [6]). The estimate (1.1) motivated the author to consider the growth norm for general measurable functions.

Let  $0 < \sigma < \infty$ . For a measurable function  $f$  on  $D$  we define the growth norm

$$\|f\|_{-\sigma} = \text{ess sup}\{\delta_D(z)^\sigma |f(z)| : z \in D\}.$$

Let

$$L^{-\sigma}(D) = \{f : f \text{ measurable, } \|f\|_{-\sigma} < \infty\}.$$

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For  $\sigma = 0$  we let  $L^{-0}(D) = L^\infty(D)$ . Then growth spaces  $L^{-\sigma}(D)$  are Banach spaces, and we have the inclusion

$$L^{-\sigma}(D) \subset L^{-\sigma'}(D) \quad \text{for } \sigma \leq \sigma'.$$

Sobolev type growth spaces  $L_k^{-\sigma}(D)$ ,  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  are defined by

$$L_k^{-\sigma}(D) = \{f \in L^{-\sigma}(D) : D^\alpha f \in L^{-\sigma}(D) \quad \text{for } |\alpha| \leq k\}.$$

The corresponding norm is given by

$$\|f\|_{-\sigma, k} = \sum_{|\alpha| \leq k} \|D^\alpha f\|_{-\sigma}.$$

We denote by  $\Lambda_\alpha(D)$  the Lipschitz space of order  $0 < \alpha < 1$  and by  $BMO(D)$  the BMO-space on  $D$ . By the classical Hardy-Littlewood lemma, we have

$$(1.2) \quad \begin{aligned} L_1^{-\sigma}(D) &\subset \Lambda_{1-\sigma}(D), \quad 0 < \sigma < 1, \\ L_1^{-1}(D) &\subset BMO(D). \end{aligned}$$

Let  $L_{(0,1)}^{-\sigma}(D)$  be the Banach space of  $(0, 1)$ -forms whose coefficients belong to the  $L^{-\sigma}(D)$  space.

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $D = \{\rho < 0\}$  be the bounded convex domain of  $C^2$  class in  $\mathbb{C}^2$ . There is a bounded linear operator  $S$  such that  $\bar{\partial}(Sf) = f$  for all  $f \in L_{(0,1)}^{-\sigma}(D) \cap C_{(0,1)}^1(D) \cap L_{(0,1)}^1(D)$  with  $\bar{\partial}f = 0$  and this operator satisfies the following estimates.*

(i) For  $\sigma = 0$ ,

$$\|Sf\|_{BMO(D)} \lesssim \|f\|_{L^\infty(D)}.$$

(ii) For  $0 < \sigma < \infty$ ,

$$\|Sf\|_{-\sigma} \lesssim \|f\|_{-\sigma}.$$

*Remark 1.2.* The same estimate (i) in Theorem 1.1 was proved by Range (see [10]). For  $1 < p < \infty$ ,  $L^p$  estimates for  $\bar{\partial}$  on convex domains in  $\mathbb{C}^2$  was proved by Polking [8]. Moreover, Ahn-Cho [1] proved  $L^1$  estimate and by using the estimate they characterized zero sets of holomorphic functions in the Nevanlinna type class on convex domains in  $\mathbb{C}^2$ .

## 2. Construction of the integral solution formula

One of the crucial points to prove Theorem 1.1 is to construct a certain weighted solution formula. We define

$$\tilde{\phi}(\zeta, z) = \sum_{j=1}^2 \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial \zeta_j}(\zeta)(\zeta_j - z_j) - \rho(\zeta).$$

The following is a well-known consequence of the convexity of  $D$  :

$$2\text{Re } \tilde{\phi}(\zeta, z) \geq -\rho(\zeta) - \rho(z) \quad \text{for all } \zeta, z \in \bar{D}.$$

For any  $r > 1$  we can define a kernel

$$\begin{aligned} K^r(\zeta, z) = & c_{0,r} \frac{\rho(\zeta)^r}{|\zeta - z|^4 \tilde{\phi}(\zeta, z)^r} \partial_\zeta |\zeta - z|^2 \wedge \bar{\partial}_\zeta \partial_\zeta |\zeta - z|^2 \\ & + c_{1,r} \frac{\rho(\zeta)^{r+1}}{|\zeta - z|^2 \tilde{\phi}(\zeta, z)^{r+1}} \partial_\zeta |\zeta - z|^2 \wedge \partial \bar{\partial} \log \frac{1}{-\rho(\zeta)} \end{aligned}$$

which induces a solution operator

$$Sf(z) = \int_{\zeta \in D} f(\zeta) \wedge K^r(\zeta, z), \quad z \in D$$

such that

$$f = \bar{\partial}(Sf),$$

for a continuous  $(0,1)$ -form  $f$  in  $\bar{D}$  with  $\bar{\partial}f = 0$  (see [4]). For a smooth form  $f$ , this formula holds for any  $r > 0$ . Note that

$$\partial \bar{\partial} \log \frac{1}{-\rho} = \frac{\partial \rho \wedge \bar{\partial} \rho}{\rho^2} - \frac{\partial \bar{\partial} \rho}{\rho}.$$

Thus

$$K^r(\zeta, z) = K_1^r(\zeta, z) + K_2^r(\zeta, z),$$

where

$$|K_1^r(\zeta, z)| \lesssim \frac{1}{|\zeta - z|^3} \frac{|\rho(\zeta)|^r}{|\tilde{\phi}(\zeta, z)|^r}$$

and

$$|K_2^r(\zeta, z)| \lesssim \frac{1}{|\zeta - z|} \frac{|\rho(\zeta)|^{r-1}}{|\tilde{\phi}(\zeta, z)|^{r+1}}.$$

**Lemma 2.1** ([10]). *Let  $(\zeta_0, z_0) \in \partial D \times \partial D$  such that  $\tilde{\phi}(\zeta_0, z_0) = 0$ . Then there exist neighborhoods  $V$  of  $\zeta_0$  and  $W$  of  $z_0$  such that for each  $z \in W$ , there exists a  $C^1$  local coordinate system  $\zeta \mapsto t^{(z)}(\zeta) = (t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4)$  on  $V$  with the following properties:*

$$t_1(\zeta) = \rho(\zeta), \quad t_2(\zeta) = \text{Im} \tilde{\phi}(\zeta, z), \quad t_3(z) = t_4(z) = 0;$$

$$|t^{(z)}(\zeta) - t^{(z)}(\zeta')| \sim |\zeta - \zeta'|$$

for all  $\zeta, \zeta' \in V$  with the constants in (2.3) independent of  $z \in W$ .

For  $j = 1, 2$  we define

$$I_j^r f(z) = \int_{\zeta \in D} f(\zeta) \wedge K_j^r(\zeta, z).$$

Then Theorem 1.1 can be induced by the integral estimates for  $I_1^r f$  and  $I_2^r f$  in Theorem 4.1 and Theorem 4.2, respectively.

### 3. Integral estimates for $I_1^r f(z)$

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $f \in L_{(0,1)}^{-\sigma}(D)$ . Let  $r > 0$  be sufficiently large.*

(i) For  $0 < \sigma < 1$ ,

$$\|I_1^r f\|_{\Lambda_{1-\sigma}(D)} \lesssim \|f\|_{-\sigma}.$$

(ii) For  $\sigma > 1$ ,

$$\|I_1^r f\|_{-(\sigma-1)} \lesssim \|f\|_{-\sigma}.$$

*Proof.* (i) By (1.2), we prove that

$$\|I_1^r f\|_{-\sigma,1} \lesssim \|f\|_{-\sigma}.$$

Thus it is enough to prove that

$$\int_{\zeta \in D} |\rho(\zeta)|^{-\sigma} |\nabla_z K_1^r(z, \zeta)| dV(\zeta) \lesssim |\rho(z)|^{-\sigma} \quad \text{for all } z \in D.$$

We have

$$|\nabla_z K_1^r(\zeta, z)| \lesssim \left| \frac{\rho(\zeta)}{\tilde{\phi}(\zeta, z)} \right|^{r+1} \frac{1}{|\rho(\zeta)| |\zeta - z|^3} + \left| \frac{\rho(\zeta)}{\tilde{\phi}(\zeta, z)} \right|^r \frac{1}{|\zeta - z|^4}.$$

Since  $|\tilde{\phi}(\zeta, z)| \lesssim |\zeta - z|$ , it follows that

$$(3.1) \quad |\nabla_z K_1^r(\zeta, z)| \lesssim \left| \frac{\rho(\zeta)}{\tilde{\phi}(\zeta, z)} \right|^{r+1} \frac{1}{|\rho(\zeta)| |\zeta - z|^3}.$$

Note that

$$(3.2) \quad |\tilde{\phi}(\zeta, z)| \lesssim \operatorname{Re} \tilde{\phi}(\zeta, z) - \rho(\zeta) - \rho(z) \quad \text{for all } \zeta, z \in \bar{D}.$$

From (3.1) and (3.2) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} A_1(z) &= \int_{\zeta \in D \cap V} \frac{|\rho(\zeta)|^{-\sigma+r}}{|\tilde{\phi}(\zeta, z)|^{r+1} |\zeta - z|^3} dV(\zeta) \\ &\lesssim \int_{\zeta \in D \cap V} \frac{|\rho(\zeta)|^{-\sigma+r}}{(|\operatorname{Im} \tilde{\phi}(\zeta, z)| + |\rho(\zeta)| + |\rho(z)|)^{r+1} |\zeta - z|^3} dV(\zeta) \\ &\lesssim \int_{|(t_1, t_2, t')| < 1} \frac{|t_1|^{r-\sigma} dt_1 dt_2 dt'}{(|t_1| + |t_2| + |\rho(z)|)^{r+1} |t|^3} \\ &\lesssim \int_{|(t_1, t_2)| < 1} \frac{|t_1|^{r-\sigma} dt_1 dt_2}{(|t_1| + |t_2| + |\rho(z)|)^{r+1} (|t_1| + |t_2|)}. \end{aligned}$$

If we make the change of variables  $t_1 = |\rho|t'_1$  and  $t_2 = |\rho|t'_2$ , and omit the primes, this becomes

$$\begin{aligned} A_1(z) &\lesssim |\rho(z)|^{-\sigma} \int_{(t_1, t_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2} \frac{|t_1|^{r-\sigma} dt_1 dt_2}{(|t_1| + |t_2| + 1)^{r+1} (|t_1| + |t_2|)} \\ &\lesssim |\rho(z)|^{-\sigma} \int_0^\infty \frac{t_1^{r-1-\sigma}}{(t_1 + 1)^r} dt_1 \lesssim |\rho(z)|^{-\sigma}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus we get

$$|\nabla_z I_1^r f(z)| \lesssim \|f\|_{-\sigma} |\rho(z)|^{-\sigma} \quad \text{for all } z \in D.$$

(ii) We have

$$\begin{aligned} |I_1^r f(z)| &\lesssim \int_{\zeta \in D} |f(\zeta)| |K_1^r(\zeta, z)| dV(\zeta) \\ &\lesssim \|f\|_{-\sigma} \int_{\zeta \in D} |\rho(\zeta)|^{-\sigma} |K_1^r(\zeta, z)| dV(\zeta). \end{aligned}$$

From (3.2) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} B_1(z) &= \int_{\zeta \in D \cap V} |\rho(\zeta)|^{-\sigma} |K_1^r(\zeta, z)| dV(\zeta) \\ &\lesssim \int_{\zeta \in D \cap V} \frac{|\rho(\zeta)|^{r-\sigma}}{|\tilde{\phi}(\zeta, z)|^r |\zeta - z|^3} dV(\zeta) \\ &\lesssim \int_{\zeta \in D \cap V} \frac{|\rho(\zeta)|^{r-\sigma}}{(|\operatorname{Im} \tilde{\phi}(\zeta, z)| + |\rho(\zeta)| + |\rho(z)|)^r |\zeta - z|^3} dV(\zeta) \\ &\lesssim \int_{|(t_1, t_2, t')| < 1} \frac{|t_1|^{r-\sigma} dt_1 dt_2 dt'}{(|t_1| + |t_2| + |\rho(z)|)^r |t|^3} \\ &\lesssim \int_{|(t_1, t_2)| < 1} \frac{|t_1|^{r-\sigma} dt_1 dt_2}{(|t_1| + |t_2| + |\rho(z)|)^r (|t_1| + |t_2|)}. \end{aligned}$$

If we make the change of variables  $t_1 = |\rho|t'_1$  and  $t_2 = |\rho|t'_2$ , and omit the primes, this becomes

$$\begin{aligned} B_1(z) &\lesssim |\rho(z)|^{-(\sigma-1)} \int_{(t_1, t_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2} \frac{|t_1|^{r-\sigma} dt_1 dt_2}{(|t_1| + |t_2| + 1)^r (|t_1| + |t_2|)} \\ &\lesssim |\rho(z)|^{-(\sigma-1)} \int_0^\infty \frac{t_1^{r-1-\sigma}}{(t_1 + 1)^{r-1}} dt_1 \lesssim |\rho(z)|^{-(\sigma-1)}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus we get the result (ii). □

#### 4. Integral estimates for $I_2^r f(z)$

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $f \in L_{(0,1)}^{-\sigma}(D)$ . Let  $r > 0$  be sufficiently large.*

(i) For  $\sigma = 0$ ,

$$\|I_2^r f\|_{BMO(D)} \lesssim \|f\|_{L^\infty(D)}.$$

(ii) For  $0 < \sigma < \infty$ ,

$$\|I_2^r f\|_{-\sigma} \lesssim \|f\|_{-\sigma}.$$

*Proof.* (i) By (1.2), we prove that

$$\|I_2^r f\|_{-1,1} \lesssim \|f\|_{L^\infty(D)}.$$

Thus it is enough to prove

$$|\nabla I_2^r f(z)| \lesssim \|f\|_{L^\infty(D)} \frac{1}{|\rho(z)|} \quad \text{for all } z \in D.$$

We have that

$$\begin{aligned} A_2(z) &= \int_{\zeta \in D \cap V} |\nabla K_2^r(\zeta, z)| dV(\zeta) \\ &\lesssim \int_{\zeta \in D \cap V} \frac{|\rho(\zeta)|^{r-1}}{|\zeta - z|} |\zeta - z|^2 |\tilde{\phi}(\zeta, z)|^{r+1} dV(\zeta) \\ &\lesssim \int_{|w| < R} \int_{-T_2}^{T_2} \int_0^{T_1} \frac{t_1^{r-1} dw dt_1 dt_2}{(|w| + t_1)^2 (t_1 + |t_2| + |\rho(z)|)^{r+1}} \\ &\lesssim \int_{|w| < R} \int_{-T_2}^{T_2} \frac{dt_2 dw}{|w| (|t_2| + |\rho(z)|)^2} \\ &\lesssim \int_{T_2}^{T_2} \frac{dt_2}{(|t_2| + |\rho(z)|)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

If we change of variables  $t_2 = |\rho|t'_2$ , and omit the prime, this becomes

$$A_2(z) \lesssim \frac{1}{|\rho(z)|} \int_0^\infty \frac{dt_2}{(t_2 + 1)^2} \lesssim \frac{1}{|\rho(z)|}.$$

Thus we get the result.

(ii) Now for the case  $\sigma > 0$  we have

$$|I_2^\sigma f(z)| \lesssim \|f\|_{-\sigma} \int_{\zeta \in D} |\rho(\zeta)|^{-\sigma} |K_2^r(\zeta, z)| dV.$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} B_2(z) &= \int_{\zeta \in D \cap V} |\rho(\zeta)|^{-\sigma} |K_2^r(\zeta, z)| dV(\zeta) \\ &\lesssim \int_{\zeta \in D \cap V} |\rho(\zeta)|^{-\sigma} \frac{|\rho(\zeta)|^{r-1}}{|\zeta - z| |\tilde{\phi}(\zeta, z)|^{r+1}} dV(\zeta) \\ &\lesssim \int_{|w| < R} \int_{-T_2}^{T_2} \int_0^{T_1} \frac{t_1^{r-1-\sigma} dw dt_1 dt_2}{|w| (t_1 + |t_2| + |\rho(z)|)^{r+1}} \\ &\lesssim \int_{-T_2}^{T_2} \int_0^{T_1} \frac{t_1^{r-1-\sigma} dt_1 dt_2}{(t_1 + |t_2| + |\rho(z)|)^{r+1}} \\ &\lesssim |\rho(z)|^{-\sigma} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \int_0^\infty \frac{t_1^{r-1-\sigma} dt_1 dt_2}{t_1 + |t_2| + 1)^{r+1}} \\ &\lesssim |\rho(z)|^{-\sigma} \int_0^\infty \frac{t_1^{r-1-\sigma} dt_1}{(t_1 + 1)^r}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{t_1^{r-1-\sigma} dt_1}{(t_1+1)^r} \lesssim \int_0^1 \frac{dt_1}{(t_1+1)^r} + \int_1^\infty \frac{dt_1}{t_1^{1+\sigma}} \lesssim 1.$$

Thus we get the result.  $\square$

### 5. Sharpness of the estimates

In this section we give an example to show that the estimates in Theorem 1.1 are sharp in some sense.

Let  $D = \{(z_1, z_2) \in \mathbb{C}^2; \rho(z) = |z_1|^2 + ce^{-1/|z_2|^2} - 1 < 0\}$  where  $c$  is a constant such that the domain  $D$  is convex.

- *Sharpness of the case  $\sigma = 0$ .*

Define  $v : D \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  by  $v(z) = \bar{z}_2 / \log(1 - z_1)$ , where we use the principal branch  $+2\pi i$  for the logarithm. It follows that the  $(0,1)$ -form

$$f = \bar{\partial}v = d\bar{z}_2 / \log(1 - z_1)$$

is  $\bar{\partial}$ -closed and bounded on  $D$ .

We have

$$|\nabla v| \lesssim \frac{|z_2|}{|1 - z_1|} + |\log(1 - z_1)| \lesssim \frac{1}{|1 - z_1|} \lesssim \frac{1}{|\rho(z)|}.$$

By Hardy-Littlewood's lemma,  $v \in BMO(D)$  (see [10]).

**Proposition 5.1.** *Suppose  $u$  satisfies  $\bar{\partial}u = f$  on  $D$ . Then  $u \notin \Lambda_\epsilon(D)$  for any  $\epsilon > 0$ .*

*Proof.* For any small  $d > 0$ , we consider the integral

$$(5.1) \quad I(d) = \int_{|z_2|=1/\sqrt{|\log(d)|}} [u(1-d, z_2) - u(1-2d, z_2)] dz_2.$$

If  $u \in \Lambda_\epsilon(D)$  for some  $\epsilon > 0$ , we see that

$$(5.2) \quad |I(d)| \lesssim d^\epsilon \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{|\log(d)|}}$$

by direct estimation. On the other hand,  $\bar{\partial}(u - v) = 0$ , so  $u = v + h$ , with  $h \in \mathcal{O}(D)$ . By Cauchy's theorem we can replace  $u$  by  $v$  in the integral (5.1). Therefore

$$(5.3) \quad \begin{aligned} I(d) &= \left[ \frac{1}{\log(d)} - \frac{1}{\log(2d)} \right] \int_{|z_2|=1/\sqrt{|\log(d)|}} \bar{z}_2 dz_2 \\ &= \left[ \frac{1}{\log(d)} - \frac{1}{\log(2d)} \right] 2\pi i \cdot \frac{1}{|\log(d)|}. \end{aligned}$$

If  $\epsilon > 0$ , (5.2) and (5.3) lead to a contradiction as  $d \rightarrow 0$ .  $\square$

- *Sharpness of the case  $0 < \sigma < \infty$ .*

Let  $\sigma > 0$ . Define  $v : D \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  by  $v(z) = \bar{z}_2/(1 - z_1)^\sigma$ , where we use the principal branch  $+2\pi i$  for the  $(1 - z_1)^\sigma$ . It follows that the  $(0,1)$ -form

$$f = \bar{\partial}v = d\bar{z}_2/(1 - z_1)^\sigma$$

is  $\bar{\partial}$ -closed on  $D$ . We have

$$|\rho(z)|^\sigma |f(z)| \lesssim (1 - |z_1|^2 - ce^{-1/|z_2|^2})^\sigma \frac{1}{|1 - z_1|^\sigma} \lesssim 1.$$

Thus we have  $f \in L_{(0,1)}^{-\sigma}(D)$ .

**Proposition 5.2.** *Suppose  $u \in L^{-\alpha}(D)$  satisfies  $\bar{\partial}u = f$  on  $D$ . Then  $\alpha \geq \sigma$ .*

*Proof.* For any small  $d > 0$ , we consider the integral

$$J(d) = \int_{|z_2|=1/\sqrt{|\log(d)|}} u(1-d, z_2) dz_2.$$

If  $u \in L^{-\alpha}(D)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} |J(d)| &\lesssim \int_{|z_2|=1/\sqrt{|\log(d)|}} |u(1-d, z_2)| |dz_2| \\ &\lesssim \int_{|z_2|=1/\sqrt{|\log(d)|}} \frac{1}{|\rho(1-d, z_2)|^\alpha} |dz_2|. \end{aligned}$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} |\rho(1-d, z_2)| &= 1 - (1-d)^2 - ce^{-1/|z_2|^2} \\ &\geq 1 - (1-d)^2 \geq d. \end{aligned}$$

Thus we have

$$(5.4) \quad |J(d)| \lesssim \frac{1}{d^\alpha} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{|\log(d)|}}.$$

On the other hand,  $\bar{\partial}(u - v) = 0$ , so  $u = v + h$ , with  $h \in \mathcal{O}(D)$ . By Cauchy's theorem we can replace  $u$  by  $v$  in the integral (5.1). Therefore

$$(5.5) \quad J(d) = \frac{1}{d^\sigma} \cdot 2\pi i \frac{1}{|\log(d)|}.$$

If  $\alpha < \sigma$ , (5.4) and (5.5) lead to a contradiction as  $d \rightarrow 0$ . □

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