

INDEX GUIDELINE

LOOMIS SAYLES FR2 INDEX

Version 1.0

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INTRODUCTION

This document (the "GUIDELINE") is to be used as a guideline with regard to the composition, calculation and maintenance of the Loomis Sayles FR2 Index (the "INDEX"). Any amendments to the rules made to the GUIDELINE are approved by the OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE specified in Section 4.5. The INDEX is owned by Loomis Sayles (the "INDEX SPONSOR") and calculated, administered and published by Solactive AG ("SOLACTIVE") assuming the role as administrator (the "INDEX ADMINISTRATOR") under the Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 (the "BENCHMARK REGULATION" or "BMR"). The name "Solactive" is trademarked.

The text uses defined terms which are formatted with "SMALL CAPS". Such Terms shall have the meaning assigned to them as specified in Section 6 (Definitions).

The GUIDELINE and the policies and methodology documents referenced herein contain the underlying principles and rules regarding the structure and operation of the INDEX. SOLACTIVE does not offer any explicit or tacit guarantee or assurance, neither pertaining to the results from the use of the INDEX nor the level of the INDEX at any certain point in time nor in any other respect. SOLACTIVE strives to the best of its ability to ensure the correctness of the calculation. There is no obligation for SOLACTIVE – irrespective of possible obligations to issuers – to advise third parties, including investors and/or financial intermediaries, of any errors in the INDEX. The publication of the INDEX by SOLACTIVE does not constitute a recommendation for capital investment and does not contain any assurance or opinion of SOLACTIVE regarding a possible investment in a financial instrument based on this INDEX.



1. INDEX SPECIFICATIONS

1.1. SCOPE OF THE INDEX

Category	Description
Asset Class	Equity
Strategy	The index represents a standardized metric which is based on the
	returns of US securities.
Regional Allocation	Developed Markets [Global]
Rebalancing Fee	3%
Rebalancing Frequency	Quarterly

1.2. IDENTIFIERS AND PUBLICATION

The INDEX is published under the following identifiers:

Name	ISIN	Currency	RIC	BBG ticker
Loomis Sayles FR2 Index	DE000SL0L6Z4	USD	.CSRFR	CSRFR Index

The INDEX is published on the website of the INDEX ADMINISTRATOR (www.solactive.com) and is, in addition, available via the price marketing services of Boerse Stuttgart GmbH and may be distributed to all of its affiliated vendors. Each vendor decides on an individual basis as to whether it will distribute or display the INDEX via its information systems.

Any publication in relation to the INDEX (e.g. notices, amendments to the GUIDELINE) will be available at the website of the INDEX ADMINISTRATOR: https://www.solactive.com/news/announcements/.

1.3. INITIAL LEVEL OF THE INDEX

The initial level of the INDEX on the 02/01/2003, the START DATE, is -1.19391. Historical values from the 10/05/2024, the LIVE DATE, will be recorded in accordance with Article 8 of the BMR. Levels of the INDEX published for a period prior to the LIVE DATE have been back-tested

1.4. PRICES AND CALCULATION FREQUENCY

The level of the INDEX is calculated for each TRADING DAY on the following weekday at 5:00pm CET based on the TRADING PRICES on the EXCHANGES on which the REFERENCE CONSTITUENTS are listed. TRADING PRICES of REFERENCE CONSTITUENTS not listed in the INDEX CURRENCY are converted using the current Intercontinental



Exchange (ICE) spot foreign exchange rate. Should there be no current TRADING PRICE for an INDEX COMPONENT, the later of: (i) the most recent CLOSING PRICE; or (ii) the last available TRADING PRICE for the preceding TRADING DAY is used in the calculation.

1.5. LICENSING

Licenses to use the INDEX as the underlying value for financial instruments, investment funds and financial contracts may be issued to stock exchanges, banks, financial services providers and investment houses by LOOMIS SAYLES.



2. INDEX SELECTION

2.1. CALCULATION OF EXPONENTIALLY WEIGHTED RETURNS

The Index Calculation Agent reviews the constituent stocks of the Solactive US Large Cap Index (GTR) (the "Reference Index"). The Reference Index is calculated and distributed by Solactive AG. The objective of the Reference Index is to track the large capitalization segment of the U.S. stock market and to serve as a starting universe for smart beta indices, including the INDEX. The components of the Reference Index are the 500 largest companies by market capitalization from the eligible universe of common stocks and real estate investment trusts with their primary listing on a regulated U.S. exchange that also meet certain additional criteria. More information regarding the Reference Index is available at https://www.solactive.com/indices/?se=1&index=DE000SLA0Q47. Information on such website is not part of, or incorporated by reference in, this document.

The Index Calculation Agent selects only those constituents with a published closing price over the previous 504 Trading Days (such selected constituents, the "Reference Constituents"). A "Trading Day" means each day on which both the New York Stock Exchange and NASDAQ Stock Market are open for trading.

In respect of each Trading Day, the Index Calculation Agent then calculates the exponentially weighted return of each Reference Constituent based on such Reference Constituent's daily returns over the previous 503 Trading Days (including Trading Day t) according to the formula below. Specifically, the Index Calculation Agent multiplies the daily percentage return of each Reference Constituent by the exponential weighting variable (as set forth below), resulting in the exponentially weighted return vector for the applicable Reference Constituent and Trading Day. The exponential weighting variable allows each daily return to have a different weight in the realized variance calculation and allows the more recent returns to be weighted more heavily than less recent returns.

The degree of time decay to which less recent returns have a lower effect than more recent returns is dictated by the exponential weighting variable used in the calculation of the exponentially weighted returns.

Accordingly, the exponential weighting variable used in the calculation of the exponentially weighted returns is equal to approximately 99.9006% (rounded for ease of reference). The weight of the return on the Trading Day that is one Trading Day prior to Trading Day t is 99.9006% of the weight of return on Trading Day t.

The weight of return on the Trading Day that is 502 Trading Days prior to Trading Day t is approximately 60.7134% of the weight of return on the Trading Day t.

$$\tilde{R}_i(s,t) = R_i(s) * e^{-\lambda \times (1+TDay(s,t))}$$



Where, in respect of a Trading Day t:

- \tilde{R}_i = the exponentially weighted return vector for each Reference Constituent i;
- $\tilde{R}_i(s,t)$ = the exponentially weighted return of Reference Constituent i on Trading Day s with the exponential weighting based on Trading Day t;
- s = each Trading Day starting 502 Trading Days before Trading Day t to, and including, Trading Day t:
- $e^{-\lambda \times (1+TDay(s,t))}$ = the exponential weighting variable;
- $\lambda = 0.5/503$;
- TDay(s,t) = the number of TRADING DAYS between TRADING DAYS (inclusive) and TRADING DAYS (exclusive). For the avoidance of doubt, TDay(t,t) = 0;
- R_i = the return vector for each Reference Constituent i; and
- $R_i(s)$ = the return of Reference Constituent i on TRADING DAY s, calculated according to the following formula:

$$R_{i}(s) = \frac{Equity \ Level_{i}(s)}{Equity \ Level_{i}(s-1)} \times \left(1 + \frac{DIV_{i}(s)}{Equity \ Level_{i}(s)}\right) - 1$$

where:

- \circ Equity Level_i(s) = the closing level of Reference Constituent i on Trading Day s,
- o $Equity Level_i(s-1)$ = the closing level of Reference Constituent /on the TRADING DAY prior to TRADING DAY s, and
- o $D/V_i(s)$ = the sum of all gross, ordinary or special dividends of Reference Constituent i detached between the Trading Day s (included) and the prior Trading Day (excluded).

2.2. THE VARIANCE OF PRINCIPAL COMPONENTS

The exponentially weighted return vectors for all of the Reference Constituents form the exponentially weighted return matrix \tilde{R} . The Index Calculation Agent then uses principal component analysis, a method summarizing the variation of return series, to convert the returns into linearly uncorrelated variables ("**Principal Components**").

The variance of each Principal Component and exponentially weighted return vector of each Reference Constituent (as calculated below) is then calculated as a fraction. The numerator of the fraction is calculated in three steps. First, for each Trading Day in the 503 Trading Day review period, the value of each Principal Component or exponentially weighted return vector of each Reference Constituent, as the case may be, on such Trading Day (the "Daily Value") and the average value of each Principal Component or exponentially weighted return vector of each Reference Constituent, as the case may be, over the



previous 503 Trading Days (the "Average Value") are determined. Then, the Calculation Agent subtracts the Average Value from the corresponding Daily Value and raises the result to the second power. Finally, the results for all of the Trading Days are summed and then divided by 502.

The variance of each Principal Component is calculated according to the following formula:

$$\sigma_{Comp,i}^{2}(t) = \frac{\sum_{k=t-502}^{t} \left(Comp_{i}(k,t) - \overline{Comp_{i}}(t)\right)^{2}}{502}$$

Where:

- $\sigma^2_{Comp,i}(t)$ = the variance of Principal Component i on Trading Day t;
- **i** = each Principal Component;
- $Comp_i(k, t)$: the value of Principal Component i on Trading Day k calculated on Trading Day t;
- k = each Trading Day starting 502 Trading Days prior to Trading Day t to, and including, Trading Day t: and
- $\overline{\textit{Comp}_i(t)}$ = the average of the values of Principal Component i calculated on Trading Day t over the 503 Trading Days immediately preceding on Trading Day t (included), calculated according to the following formula:

$$\overline{Comp}_i(t) = \frac{\sum_{k=t-502}^{t} comp_i(k,t)}{503}$$

2.3. THE VARIANCE OF EXPONENTIALLY WEIGHTED RETURNS

The variance of each exponentially weighted return vector of each Reference Constituent is calculated according to the following formula:

$$\sigma_{Equity,j}^{2}(t) = \frac{\sum_{k=t-502}^{t} (\widetilde{R}_{j}(k,t) - \bar{R}_{j}(t))^{2}}{502}$$

Where:

- $\sigma_{Equity,j}^2(t)$ = the variance of the exponentially weighted return vector of Reference Constituent j on Trading Day t;
- j = each Reference Constituent;



- $\widetilde{R}_{j}(k,t)$ = the variance of the exponentially weighted return vector of Reference Constituent j on Trading Day k with the exponential weighting based on Trading Day t; and
- $\overline{\mathbf{R}}_{\mathbf{j}}(\mathbf{t})$ = the average of the variance of the exponentially weighted returns of Reference Constituent j calculated on Trading Day t over the previous 503 TRADING DAYS immediately preceding TRADING DAY t (included), calculated according to the following formula:

$$\bar{R}_{j}(t) = \frac{\sum_{k=t-502}^{t} \tilde{R}_{j}(k,t)}{503}$$

o k = each Trading Day starting 502 Trading Days before Trading Day t to, and including, Trading Day t.

2.4. THE FRAGILITY RATIO

After the Index Calculation Agent has calculated the variance of each Principal Component and exponentially weighted return vector of each Reference Constituent, the Principal Components are ranked from greatest variance to least variance. The Index Calculation Agent then takes the square root of the number of Reference Constituents (rounded up to the nearest whole number) and retains only that number of Principal Components. The Principal Components with the highest variance will be retained first (the retained Principal Components, the "Eligible Principal Components"). For example, if there were 64 Reference Constituents, only the 8 Principal Components with the greatest variance would be retained. Those 8 Principal Components would be deemed the Eligible Principal Components.

The Index Calculation Agent will then calculate the fragility ratio based on the variance of the Eligible Principal Components and the exponentially weighted return vectors of the Reference Constituents.

First, the Index Calculation Agent will (i) sum the variances of the Eligible Principal Components (such sum, the "**Aggregate Eligible Principal Component Variance**") and (ii) sum the variances of the exponentially weighted return vectors of the Reference Constituents (such sum, the "**Aggregate Reference Constituent Variance**"). The fragility ratio is equal to the quotient of the Aggregate Eligible Principal Component Variance divided by the Aggregate Reference Constituent Variance and represents the portion of the variance that is explained by the Eligible Principal Components.

The Fragility Ratio is calculated according to the following formula:

$$FR(t) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \sigma_{Comp,i}^{2}(t)}{\sum_{j=1}^{N} \sigma_{Equity,j}^{2}(t)}$$

Where:

- FR(t) = the fragility ratio on TRADING DAY t;



- $n = \sqrt{N}$, rounded up to the nearest whole number;
- N = the number of Reference Constituents;
- i = each Eligible Principal Component;
- j =each Reference Constituent;
- $\sigma^2_{Comp,i}(t)$ = the variance of Eligible Principal Component i on Trading Day t; and
- $\sigma^2_{Equity,j}(t)$ = the variance of the exponentially weighted return vector of Reference Constituent j on Trading Day t.



3. REBALANCE

The selection of constituent stocks used in Section 2 is based on the "REFERENCE INDEX"

3.1. EXTRAORDINARY REBALANCE

The INDEX is not rebalanced extraordinarily.



4. CALCULATION OF THE INDEX

4.1. INDEX FORMULA

The Index Calculation Agent will then calculate the fragility ratio (as per Section 2.4) in the same manner for each of the prior 252 Trading Days and will calculate two average fragility ratios, a 15 Trading Day average fragility ratio and a one year (252 Trading Day) average fragility ratio. The Index Calculation Agent will then calculate the standard deviation of the fragility ratios over the previous 252 Trading Days. This standard deviation is calculated in several steps. First, the Index Calculation Agent will calculate the fragility ratio on each of the previous 252 Trading Days. After the Index Calculation Agent has collected these fragility ratios, it will then calculate the average of these fragility ratios. For each of the applicable Trading Days, the Index Calculation Agent will then subtract the average fragility ratio from each day's fragility ratio and square the result. Finally, the results for each applicable Trading Day are summed and such sum is divided by 251 (equal to the 252 Trading Day review period minus 1). The standard deviation is equal to the square root of this quotient.

The standard deviation of the one-year fragility ratio is then used to calculate the z-score estimate. The previously calculated 252 Trading Day fragility ratio is subtracted from the previously calculated 15 Trading Day Fragility Ratio. The difference is then divided by the 252 Trading Day standard deviation, normalizing the fragility ratio, and resulting in the z-score estimate.

The INDEX is calculated according to the following formula:

$$Index(t) = \frac{\left(FR_{15 Day}(t) - FR_{1 year}(t)\right)}{\sigma(t)}$$

Where:

- Index(t) = the INDEX on TRADING DAY t;
- $FR_{15\,Day}(t)$ = the 15 TRADING DAY average of the fragility ratio on TRADING DAY t, calculated according to the following formula:

$$FR_{15 Day}(t) = \frac{\sum_{k=t-14}^{t} FR(k)}{15}$$

- o FR(k) = the fragility ratio on TRADING DAY k;
- o k = each Trading Day starting 14 Trading Days before Trading Day t to, and including, Trading Day t;



 $FR_{1\,year}(t)$ = the 252 Trading Day average of the fragility ratio on Trading Day t, calculated according to the following formula:

$$FR_{1 year}(t) = \frac{\sum_{k=t-251}^{t} FR(k)}{252}$$

- o FR(k) = the fragility ratio on TRADING DAY k;
- k = each Trading Day starting 251 Trading Days before Trading Day t to, and including, Trading Day t;
- $\sigma(t)$ = the standard deviation of the fragility ratio over the immediately preceding 252 TRADING DAYS on TRADING DAY t, calculated according to the following formula:

$$\sigma(t) = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{k=t-251}^{t} (FR(k) - \overline{FR}(t))^2}{251}}$$

- o FR(k) = the fragility ratio on TRADING DAY k;
- o k = each Trading Day starting 251 TRADING DAYS before TRADING DAY t to, and including, TRADING DAY t:
- \circ $\overline{FR}(t)$ = the average fragility ratio over 252 TRADING DAYs on TRADING DAY t, calculated according to the following formula:

$$\overline{FR}(t) = \frac{\sum_{k=t-251}^{t} FR(k)}{252}$$

4.2. ACCURACY

The level of the INDEX will be rounded to 5 decimal places.

4.3. CORPORATE ACTIONS

As part of the INDEX maintenance Solactive will consider various events — also referred to as corporate actions — which result in an adjustment to the INDEX between two regular REBALANCE DAYS. Such events have a material impact on the price, weighting or overall integrity of INDEX COMPONENTS. Therefore, they need to be accounted for in the calculation of the INDEX. Corporate actions will be implemented from the cum-day to the ex-day of the corporate action, so that the adjustment to the INDEX coincides with the occurrence of the price effect of the respective corporate action.

Adjustments to the INDEX to account for corporate actions will be made in compliance with the Equity Index Methodology, which is available on the SOLACTIVE website: https://www.solactive.com/documents/equity-index-methodology/. This document contains for each corporate action a brief definition and specifies the relevant adjustment to the INDEX variables.



While Solactive aims at creating and maintaining its methodology for the treatment of corporate actions as generic and transparent as possible and in line with regulatory requirements, it retains the right in accordance with the Equity Index Methodology to deviate from these standard procedures in case of any unusual or complex corporate action or if such a deviation is made to preserve the comparability and representativeness of the INDEX over time.

SOLACTIVE considers the following, but not conclusive, list of corporate actions as relevant for the INDEX maintenance:

- Cash Distributions (e.g. payment of a dividend)
- Stock distributions (e.g. payment of a dividend in form of additional shares)
- > Stock distributions of another company (e.g. payment of a dividend in form of additional shares of another company (e.g. of a subsidiary))
- > Share splits (company's present shares are divided and therefore multiplied by a given factor)
- Reverse splits (company's present shares are effectively merged)
- Capital increases (such as issuing additional shares)
- > Share repurchases (a company offer its shareholders the option to sell their shares to a fixed price)
- > Spin-offs (the company splits its business activities into two or more entities and distributes new equity shares in the created entities to the shareholders of the former entity)
- Mergers & Acquisitions (transaction in which the ownership of a company (or other business organizations) are transferred or consolidated with other entities, e.g. fusion of two or more separate companies into one entity)
- Delistings (company's shares are no longer publicly traded at a stock exchange)
- Nationalization of a company (effective control of a legal entity is taken over by a state)
- > Insolvency

4.4. RECALCULATION

SOLACTIVE makes the greatest possible efforts to accurately calculate and maintain its indices. However, errors in the determination process may occur from time to time for variety reasons (internal or external) and therefore, cannot be completely ruled out. SOLACTIVE endeavors to correct all errors that have been identified within a reasonable period of time. The understanding of "a reasonable period of time" as well as the general measures to be taken are generally depending on the underlying and is specified in the Solactive Correction Policy, which is incorporated by reference and available on the SOLACTIVE website: https://www.solactive.com/documents/correction-policy/.



4.5. MARKET DISRUPTION

In periods of market stress Solactive calculates its indices following predefined and exhaustive arrangements as described in the Solactive Disruption Policy, which is incorporated by reference and available on the Solactive website: https://www.solactive.com/documents/disruption-policy/. Such market stress can arise due to a variety of reasons, but generally results in inaccurate or delayed prices for one or more INDEX COMPONENTS. The determination of the INDEX may be limited or impaired at times of illiquid or fragmented markets and market stress.



5. MISCELLANEOUS

5.1. DISCRETION

Any discretion which may need to be exercised in relation to the determination of the INDEX (for example the determination of the INDEX UNIVERSE (if applicable), the selection of the INDEX COMPONENTS (if applicable) or any other relevant decisions in relation to the INDEX) shall be made in accordance with strict rules regarding the exercise of discretion or expert judgement.

5.2. METHODOLOGY REVIEW

The methodology of the INDEX is subject to regular review, at least annually. In case a need of a change of the methodology has been identified within such review (e.g. if the underlying market or economic reality has changed since the launch of the INDEX, i.e. if the present methodology is based on obsolete assumptions and factors and no longer reflects the reality as accurately, reliably and appropriately as before), such change will be made in accordance with the Solactive Methodology Policy_which is incorporated by reference and available on the SOLACTIVE website: https://www.solactive.com/documents/methodology-policy/.

Such change in the methodology will be announced on the SOLACTIVE website under the Section "Announcement", which is available at https://www.solactive.com/news/announcements/. The date of the last amendment of this INDEX is contained in this GUIDELINE.

5.3. CHANGES IN CALCULATION METHOD

The INDEX ADMINISTRATOR shall apply the method described above for the composition and calculation of the INDEX. However, it cannot be excluded that the market environment, supervisory, legal and financial or tax reasons may require changes to be made to this method. The INDEX ADMINISTRATOR may also make changes to the terms and conditions of the INDEX and the method applied to calculate the INDEX that it deems to be necessary and desirable in order to prevent obvious or demonstrable error or to remedy, correct or supplement incorrect terms and conditions. The INDEX ADMINISTRATOR is not obliged to provide information on any such modifications or changes. Despite the modifications and changes, the INDEX ADMINISTRATOR will take the appropriate steps to ensure a calculation method is applied that is consistent with the method described above.



5.4. TERMINATION

Solactive makes the greatest possible efforts to ensure the resilience and continued integrity of its indices over time. Where necessary, Solactive follows a clearly defined and transparent procedure to adapt Index methodologies to changing underlying markets (see Section 5.2 "Methodology Review") in order to maintain continued reliability and comparability of the indices. Nevertheless, if no other options are available the orderly cessation of the INDEX may be indicated. This is usually the case when the underlying market or economic reality, which an index is set to measure or to reflect, changes substantially and in a way not foreseeable at the time of inception of the index, the index rules, and particularly the selection criteria, can no longer be applied coherently or the index is no longer used as the underlying value for financial instruments, investment funds and financial contracts.

SOLACTIVE has established and maintains clear guidelines on how to identify situations in which the cessation of an index is unavoidable, how stakeholders are to be informed and consulted and the procedures to be followed for a termination or the transition to an alternative index. Details are specified in the Solactive Termination Policy, which is incorporated by reference and available on the Solactive website: https://www.solactive.com/documents/termination-policy/.

5.5. INDEX COMMITTEE

An index committee composed of staff from SOLACTIVE and its subsidiaries (the "INDEX COMMITTEE") is responsible for decisions regarding any amendments to the rules of the INDEX. Any such amendment, which may result in an amendment of the GUIDELINE, must be submitted to the INDEX COMMITTEE for prior approval and will be made in compliance with the Methodology Policy, which is available on the SOLACTIVE website: https://www.solactive.com/documents/methodology-policy/.



6. DEFINITIONS

"BENCHMARK REGULATION" shall have the meaning as defined in Section "Introduction".

"BMR" shall have the meaning as defined in Section "Introduction".

"CALCULATION DAY" shall have the meaning of the TRADING DAY

"CLOSE OF BUSINESS" is the calculation time of the closing level of the INDEX as outlined in Section 1.4.

The "CLOSING PRICE" in respect of an INDEX COMPONENT and a TRADING DAY is a security's final regular-hours TRADING PRICE published by the EXCHANGE and determined in accordance with the EXCHANGE regulations. If the EXCHANGE has no or has not published a CLOSING PRICE in accordance with the EXCHANGE rules for an INDEX COMPONENT, the last TRADING PRICE will be used.

"GUIDELINE" shall have the meaning as defined in Section "Introduction".

"INDEX" shall have the meaning as defined in Section "Introduction".

"INDEX ADMINISTRATOR" shall have the meaning as defined in Section "Introduction".

"INDEX COMPONENT" is each security reflected in the INDEX.

"INDEX COMPONENT REQUIREMENTS" shall have the meaning as defined in Section 2.2.

"INDEX CURRENCY" is the currency specified in the column "Currency" in the table in Section 1.2.

"INDEX UNIVERSE REQUIREMENTS" shall have the meaning as defined in Section 2.1.

"INDEX UNIVERSE" is the sum of all financial instruments which fulfill the INDEX UNIVERSE REQUIREMENTS.

"LIVE DATE" shall have the meaning as defined in Section 1.3.

"INDEX COMMITTEE" shall have the meaning as defined in Section 5.5.

"REFERENCE CONSTITUENTS" means the constituent stocks of the "REFERENCE INDEX"

"REFERENCE INDEX" means Solactive US Large Cap Index (GTR). More information regarding the Reference Index is available at https://www.solactive.com/indices/?se=1&index=DE000SLA0Q47

"SOLACTIVE" shall have the meaning as defined in Section "Introduction".

"START DATE" shall have the meaning as defined in Section 1.3.

"TRADING DAY" is every weekday from Monday to Friday which New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) is open for trading.

The "TRADING PRICE" in respect of an INDEX COMPONENT and a TRADING DAY is the most recent published price at which the INDEX COMPONENT was traded on the respective EXCHANGE.

"WM / REFINITIV RATE" shall have the meaning as defined in Section 1.4.



7. HISTORY OF INDEX CHANGES

Version	Date	Description
1.0	28 May 2024	Index Guideline creation (<i>initial version</i>)



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