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THERMODYNAMIC LIMIT FOR FINITE DIMENSIONAL CLASSICAL AND QUANTUM DISORDERED SYSTEMS

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Abstract

We provide a very simple proof for the existence of the thermodynamic limit for the quenched specific pressure for classical and quantum disordered systems on a d -dimensional lattice, including spin glasses. We develop a method which relies simply on Jensen's inequality and which works for any disorder distribution with the only condition (stability) that the quenched specific pressure is bounded.

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1 Introduction, definitions and results

In this paper we study the problem of the existence of the thermodynamic limit for a wide class of disordered models defined on finite dimensional lattices. We consider both the classical and quantum case with random two-body or multi-body interaction. The classical case has been studied in various places (see for example [4, 5, 6, 7] and [8]). In [4] and [7] the quantum case with pair interactions has also been considered. Here we deal only with the quenched pressure and using only thermodynamic convexity and a mild stability condition we give a very simple proof of the existence and monotonicity of the quenched specific pressure. A result in the same spirit for classical spin glasses has been obtained in [1] by using an interpolation technique introduced in [2, 3].

We shall treat the classical and quantum cases in parallel. In the classical case to each point of the lattice $i \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ we associate a copy of the *spin space* \mathcal{S} , which is equipped with an a priori probability measure μ . We shall denote this by \mathcal{S}_i . In the quantum analogue we associate to each $i \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ a copy of a finite dimensional Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , denoted by \mathcal{H}_i and a set of self-adjoint operators, *spin operators*, on \mathcal{H}_i .

Following [9], (see also [10]), we define the interaction in the following way. In the classical case for each finite subset of \mathbb{R}^d , X , we let $\mathcal{S}_X := \times_{i \in X} \mathcal{S}_i$ and $\{\Phi_X^{(j)} \mid j \in n_X\}$ is a finite set of bounded function from \mathcal{S}_X to \mathbb{R} . In the quantum case each $\Phi_X^{(j)}$ is a self-adjoint element of the algebra generated by the set of operators, *spin operators* on $\mathcal{H}_X := \otimes_{i \in X} \mathcal{H}_i$. Without loss of generality we set $\Phi_\emptyset = 0$. In both cases we take the interaction to be translation

invariant in the sense that if τ_a is translation by $a \in \mathbb{Z}^d$, then

$$n_{\tau_a X} = n_X \quad \text{and} \quad \Phi_{\tau_a X}^{(j)} = \tau_a \Phi_X^{(j)} \quad \text{for } j \in n_X. \quad (1)$$

We now define the random coefficients. For each X let $\{J_X^{(j)} \mid j \in n_X\}$ be a set of random variables. We assume that the $J_X^{(j)}$'s are independent random variables and that $J_{\tau_a X}^{(j)}$ and $J_X^{(j)}$ have the same distribution for all $a \in \mathbb{Z}^d$. At the end of Section 2 We shall denote the average over the J 's by $\text{Av}[\cdot]$.

Let $\Lambda \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$ be a finite set of a regular lattice in d dimension and denote by $|\Lambda| = N$ its cardinality. We define the *random potential* as

$$U_\Lambda(J, \Phi) := \sum_{X \subset \Lambda} \sum_{j \in n_X} J_X^{(j)} \Phi_X^{(j)}. \quad (2)$$

We stress here that the distributions of the $J_X^{(j)}$'s are independent of the volume Λ . This characterizes the short range case, such as the Edwards-Anderson one. In mean field (long range) models, such as the Sherrington-Kirkpatrick one, the variance of $J_X^{(j)}$ has to decrease with N in order to have finite energy density.

The complete definition of the model we are considering requires that we specify also the interaction on the frontier $\partial\Lambda$, i.e. boundary conditions. However standard surface over volume arguments imply that if the quenched specific pressure for one boundary condition converges, then it also converges for all other boundary conditions. Therefore to prove the convergence of the quenched specific pressure it is sufficient to consider the free boundary condition. Thus in the sequel we shall assume the free boundary condition and prove that in this case the quenched pressure is monotonically increasing in the volume.

We would like to emphasize the fact that though we have used the terminology *spin space* and *spin operators* our results are not restricted to spin systems.

Examples:

1. *Classical Edwards-Anderson model*

$\mathcal{S} = \{-1, 1\}$, $\mu(\sigma_i) = \frac{1}{2}\delta(\sigma_i + 1) + \frac{1}{2}\delta(\sigma_i - 1)$. The interaction is only between nearest neighbours: $\Phi_{i,j}(\sigma_i, \sigma_j) = \sigma_i\sigma_j$ for $|i - j| = 1$, $\Phi_X = 0$ otherwise. To ensure that the specific pressure is bounded it is enough that

$$\text{Av} [|J_{ij}|] < \infty. \quad (3)$$

More generally one may consider a long range interaction with $\Phi_{i,j}(\sigma_i, \sigma_j) = \sigma_i\sigma_j/R(|i - j|)$ with a sufficient condition for boundedness, for example

$$\text{Av} [J_{0i}] = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_i \frac{\text{Av} [|J_{0i}|^2]}{(R(|i|))^2} < \infty, \quad (4)$$

or a many-body interaction with a suitable decay law. One can also add a (random) external field.

We refer the reader to [1] for more classical examples.

2. *Quantum Edward-Anderson model*

$\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{C}^2$. The spin operators are the set of the Pauli matrices: $\sigma_i = (\sigma_i^x, \sigma_i^y, \sigma_i^z)$

$$\sigma^x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \sigma^y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \sigma^z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

which commutation and anticommutation relations

$$[\sigma_i^\alpha, \sigma_i^\beta] = 2i\epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \sigma_i^\gamma \quad (6)$$

$$\{\sigma_i^\alpha, \sigma_i^\beta\} = 2\delta_{\alpha\beta} \quad (7)$$

The interaction is again only between nearest neighbours: $\Phi_{i,j}(\sigma_i, \sigma_j) = \sigma_i \cdot \sigma_j = \sigma_i^x \sigma_j^x + \sigma_i^y \sigma_j^y + \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z$ for $|i - j| = 1$, $\Phi_X = 0$ otherwise. A transverse field $\Phi_i(\sigma_i) = \sigma_i^z$ can also be added. One can have an asymmetric version with local interaction

$$J_{i,j}^x \Phi_{i,j}^x(\sigma_i, \sigma_j) + J_{i,j}^y \Phi_{i,j}^y(\sigma_i, \sigma_j) + J_{i,j}^z \Phi_{i,j}^z(\sigma_i, \sigma_j) \quad (8)$$

where $\Phi_{i,j}^x(\sigma_i, \sigma_j) = \sigma_i^x \sigma_j^x$, $\Phi_{i,j}^y(\sigma_i, \sigma_j) = \sigma_i^y \sigma_j^y$ and $\Phi_{i,j}^z(\sigma_i, \sigma_j) = \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z$. As in Example 1 one may consider a short range interaction with a suitable decay law.

Notation: We shall use the notation Tr to denote both the classical expectation over \mathcal{S}^N with the measure $\mu(d\sigma) = \prod_{i=1}^N \mu(d\sigma_i)$ and the usual trace in quantum mechanics on the Hilbert space $\otimes_{i=1}^N \mathcal{H}$.

Definition 1 *We define in the usual way:*

1. *The random partition function, $Z_\Lambda(J)$, by*

$$Z_\Lambda(J) := \text{Tr} e^{U_\Lambda(J, \Phi)}, \quad (9)$$

2. *The quenched pressure, P_Λ , by*

$$P_\Lambda := \text{Av}[\ln Z_\Lambda(J)], \quad (10)$$

3. The quenched specific pressure, p_Λ , by

$$p_\Lambda := \frac{P_\Lambda}{N}. \quad (11)$$

We are now ready to state our main theorem:

Theorem 1 *If all the $J_X^{(j)}$'s with $|X| > 1$ have zero mean then the quenched pressure is superadditive:*

$$P_\Lambda \geq \sum_{s=1}^n P_{\Lambda_s}. \quad (12)$$

Let $\|\Phi_X^{(j)}\|$ denote the supremum norm in the classical case and the operator norm in quantum case. For the case when the $J_X^{(j)}$'s do not have zero mean we have the following corollary:

Corollary 1 *Let*

$$\bar{P}_\Lambda = P_\Lambda + \sum_{X \subset \Lambda, |X| > 1} \sum_{j \in n_X} |Av[J_X^{(j)}]| \|\Phi_X^{(j)}\|. \quad (13)$$

Then \bar{P}_Λ is superadditive.

Theorem 1 combined with the boundedness of the specific pressure is sufficient to ensure the convergence of the specific pressure in the thermodynamic limit (see for example [9] Chapter IV) in the case when all the $J_X^{(j)}$'s with $|X| > 1$ have zero mean. In the case when the $J_X^{(j)}$'s do not have zero mean we have to add to Corollary 1 the condition

$$C := \sum_{X \ni 0, |X| > 1} \sum_{j \in n_X} \frac{|a_X^{(j)}| \|\Phi_X^{(j)}\|}{|X|} < \infty. \quad (14)$$

This implies that

$$\lim_{\Lambda \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{X \subset \Lambda, |X| > 1} \sum_{j \in n_X} |a_X^{(j)}| \|\Phi_X^{(j)}\| = C \quad (15)$$

and therefore the convergence of the specific pressure

To prove the boundedness of the specific pressure we need the following stability condition (cf [8]). Let

$$\|U\|_1 := \sum_{X \ni 0} \sum_{j \in n_X} \frac{\text{Av} \left[|J_X^{(j)}| \right] \|\Phi_X^{(j)}\|}{|X|} \quad (16)$$

and

$$\|U\|_2 := \left(\sum_{X \ni 0} \sum_{j \in n_X} \frac{\text{Av} \left[|J_X^{(j)}|^2 \right] \|\Phi_X^{(j)}\|^2}{|X|} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}. \quad (17)$$

Definition 2 *We shall say that the random potential $U(J, \Phi)$ is stable if it is of the form*

$$U_\Lambda(J, \Phi) = \tilde{U}_\Lambda(\tilde{J}, \tilde{\Phi}) + \hat{U}_\Lambda(\hat{J}, \hat{\Phi}) \quad (18)$$

where all the $\tilde{J}_X^{(j)}$'s and $\hat{J}_X^{(j)}$'s are independent, the $\hat{J}_X^{(j)}$'s have zero mean and $\|\tilde{U}\|_1$ and $\|\hat{U}\|_2$ are finite.

With this definition we shall prove in the next theorem that the specific pressure is bounded. Note that the stability condition in Definition 2 implies that C as defined in (14) is finite since $C \leq \|U\|_1$.

Theorem 2 *For a stable random potential the quenched specific pressure is bounded.*

In the next section we prove the theorems.

2 Proof of the Theorems

We start with the following definition.

Definition 3 Consider a partition of Λ into n non empty disjoint sets Λ_s :

$$\Lambda = \bigcup_{s=1}^n \Lambda_s, \quad (19)$$

$$\Lambda_s \cap \Lambda_{s'} = \emptyset. \quad (20)$$

For each partition the potential generated by all interactions among different subsets is defined as

$$\tilde{U}_\Lambda := U_\Lambda - \sum_{s=1}^n U_{\Lambda_s}. \quad (21)$$

From (2) it follows that

$$\tilde{U}_\Lambda = \sum_{X \in \mathcal{C}_\Lambda} \sum_{j \in n_X} J_X^{(j)} \Phi_X^{(j)} \quad (22)$$

where \mathcal{C}_Λ is the set of all $X \subset \Lambda$ which are not subsets of any Λ_s .

The idea here is to eliminate \tilde{U}_Λ from the partition function. We shall use the following three lemmas.

Lemma 1 Let X_1, \dots, X_n be independent random variables with zero mean. Let $F : \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ be such that for each $i = 1, \dots, n$ $x_i \mapsto F(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is convex, then

$$\mathbb{E}[F(X_1, \dots, X_n)] \geq F(0, \dots, 0) \quad (23)$$

where \mathbb{E} denotes the expectation with respect to X_1, \dots, X_n .

Proof: This follows by applying Jensen's Inequality to each X_i successively.

□

The following two lemmas are related to the thermodynamic convexity of the pressure.

Lemma 2 *Let μ be a probability measure on a space Ω , and let A and B_1, \dots, B_n be measurable real valued functions on Ω . Then*

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\log \int_{\Omega} \exp \left\{ A(\sigma) + \sum_{i=1}^n X_i B_i(\sigma) \right\} \mu(d\sigma) \right] \geq \log \int_{\Omega} \exp[A(\sigma)] \mu(d\sigma). \quad (24)$$

Proof: We just have to check that if

$$F(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \log \int_{\Omega} \exp \left\{ A(\sigma) + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i B_i(\sigma) \right\} \mu(d\sigma)$$

then $x_i \mapsto F(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is convex. Let

$$\langle C \rangle := \frac{\int_{\Omega} C(\sigma) \exp \{ A(\sigma) + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i B_i(\sigma) \} \mu(d\sigma)}{\int_{\Omega} \exp \{ A(\sigma) + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i B_i(\sigma) \} \mu(d\sigma)}. \quad (25)$$

Then, computing the derivatives, we have

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial x_i} = \langle B_i \rangle \quad (26)$$

and

$$\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_i^2} = \langle B_i^2 \rangle - \langle B_i \rangle^2 = \langle (B_i - \langle B_i \rangle)^2 \rangle \geq 0. \quad (27)$$

□

The next lemma is the quantum analogue of the previous one.

Lemma 3 *Let \mathcal{H} be finite-dimensional Hilbert space, and let A and B_1, \dots, B_n be self-adjoint operators on \mathcal{H} . Then*

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\log \text{Tr} \exp \left(A + \sum_{i=1}^n X_i B_i \right) \right] \geq \log \text{Tr} \exp A. \quad (28)$$

Proof: Again we just have to check that if

$$F(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \log \text{Tr} \exp\left(A + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i B_i\right),$$

then $x_i \mapsto F(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is convex. The first derivative gives

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial x_i} = \langle B_i \rangle \quad (29)$$

where

$$\langle C \rangle := \frac{\text{Tr} C e^{-H}}{\text{Tr} e^{-H}}. \quad (30)$$

with

$$-H = A + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i B_i$$

while, for the second derivative, we have

$$\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_i^2} = (B_i, B_i) - \langle B_i \rangle^2 \quad (31)$$

where (\cdot, \cdot) denotes the Du Hamel inner product (see for example [10]):

$$(C, D) := \frac{\text{Tr} \int_0^1 ds e^{-sH} C^* e^{(1-s)H} D}{\text{Tr} e^{-H}}. \quad (32)$$

By using the fact that $(C, 1) = \overline{\langle C \rangle}$ and $(1, D) = \langle D \rangle$ we see that

$$\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_i^2} = (B_i - \langle B_i \rangle, B_i - \langle B_i \rangle) \geq 0. \quad (33)$$

□

Proof of Theorem 1

Let us assume first that all the $J_X^{(j)}$'s with $|X| > 1$ have zero mean.

$$\begin{aligned} P_\Lambda &= \text{Av} [\ln \text{Tr} \exp U_\Lambda] \\ &= \text{Av} \left[\ln \text{Tr} \exp \left(\sum_{s=1}^n U_{\Lambda_s} + \sum_{X \in \mathcal{C}_\Lambda} \sum_{j \in n_X} J_X^{(j)} \Phi_X^{(j)} \right) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

Note that \mathcal{C}_Λ does not contain any X with $|X| = 1$. Applying Lemma 2 (resp. Lemma 3) for the classical (resp. quantum) case with $A = \sum_{s=1}^n U_{\Lambda_s}$ and $B_i = \Phi_X^{(j)}$, $n = \sum_{X \in \mathcal{C}_\Lambda} n_X$ we get

$$P_\Lambda \geq \text{Av} \left[\ln \text{Tr} \exp \left(\sum_{s=1}^n U_{\Lambda_s} \right) \right] = \sum_{s=1}^n \text{Av} [\ln \text{Tr} \exp U_{\Lambda_s}] = \sum_{s=1}^n P_{\Lambda_s}. \quad (35)$$

□

Proof of Corollary 1

Here relax the condition that all the J 's have zero mean. Let $a_X^{(j)} := \text{Av} [J_X^{(j)}]$ and $\bar{J}_X^{(j)} := J_X^{(j)} - a_X^{(j)}$ for $|X| > 1$ so that $\bar{J}_X^{(j)}$ has zero mean and $\bar{J}_X^{(j)} := J_X^{(j)}$ if $|X| = 1$. Let

$$U_\Lambda^{(1)}(J, \Phi) := \sum_{X \subset \Lambda} \sum_{j \in n_X} \bar{J}_X^{(j)} \Phi_X^{(j)}, \quad (36)$$

$$U_\Lambda^{(2)}(J, \Phi) := \sum_{X \subset \Lambda, |X| > 1} \sum_{j \in n_X} \left(a_X^{(j)} \Phi_X^{(j)} + |a_X^{(j)}| \|\Phi_X^{(j)}\| \right) \quad (37)$$

and

$$\bar{U}_\Lambda(J, \Phi) := U_\Lambda^{(1)}(J, \Phi) + U_\Lambda^{(2)}(J, \Phi). \quad (38)$$

Then

$$\bar{U}_\Lambda(J, \Phi) = U_\Lambda(J, \Phi) + \sum_{X \subset \Lambda, |X| > 1} \sum_{j \in n_X} |a_X^{(j)}| \|\Phi_X^{(j)}\|. \quad (39)$$

Thus \bar{P}_Λ is the pressure corresponding to $\bar{U}_\Lambda(J, \Phi)$. One can then see that \bar{P}_Λ is super-additive by treating the terms in $U_\Lambda^{(1)}(J, \Phi)$ as before since each $\bar{J}_X^{(j)}$ has zero mean, except possibly if $|X| = 1$, and by using the fact that all the terms in $U_\Lambda^{(2)}(J, \Phi)$ are positive (cf [10]). In the quantum case we need the inequality

$$\text{Tr} e^{(A+B)} \geq \text{Tr} e^A \quad (40)$$

if B is a positive operator.

□

Proof of Theorem 2

We shall prove this only in the quantum case. For the classical case see [8].

From the Bogoliubov inequality

$$\frac{\mathrm{Tr}(A - B)e^B}{\mathrm{Tr}e^B} \leq \ln \mathrm{Tr}e^A - \ln \mathrm{Tr}e^B \leq \frac{\mathrm{Tr}(A - B)e^A}{\mathrm{Tr}e^A} \quad (41)$$

with $A = U_\Lambda(J, \Phi)$ and $B = 0$ we get

$$\begin{aligned} \log Z_\Lambda(J) - N \log \dim \mathcal{H} &\leq \frac{\mathrm{Tr} U_\Lambda(J, \Phi) e^{U_\Lambda(J, \Phi)}}{\mathrm{Tr} e^{U_\Lambda(J, \Phi)}} \\ &= \frac{\mathrm{Tr} \tilde{U}_\Lambda(\tilde{J}, \tilde{\Phi}) e^{U_\Lambda(J, \Phi)}}{\mathrm{Tr} e^{U_\Lambda(J, \Phi)}} + \frac{\mathrm{Tr} \hat{U}_\Lambda(\hat{J}, \hat{\Phi}) e^{U_\Lambda(J, \Phi)}}{\mathrm{Tr} e^{U_\Lambda(J, \Phi)}} \\ &\leq \|\tilde{U}_\Lambda(\tilde{J}, \tilde{\Phi})\| + \frac{\mathrm{Tr} \hat{U}_\Lambda(\hat{J}, \hat{\Phi}) e^{U_\Lambda(J, \Phi)}}{\mathrm{Tr} e^{U_\Lambda(J, \Phi)}}. \end{aligned} \quad (42)$$

Now

$$\mathrm{Av} \left[\|\tilde{U}_\Lambda(\tilde{J}, \tilde{\Phi})\| \right] \leq N \|\tilde{U}(\tilde{J}, \tilde{\Phi})\|_1. \quad (43)$$

For the other term we use the identity for A and B self-adjoint

$$\frac{\mathrm{Tr} A e^{A+B}}{\mathrm{Tr} e^{A+B}} - \frac{\mathrm{Tr} A e^B}{\mathrm{Tr} e^B} = \int_0^1 dt (A - \langle A \rangle_t, A - \langle A \rangle_t)_t \quad (44)$$

where $\langle \cdot \rangle_t$ and $(\cdot, \cdot)_t$ denote the mean and the Du Hamel inner product respectively with respect to $H = -(tA + B)$. The Du Hamel inner product satisfies

$$(C, C) \leq \frac{1}{2} \langle C^* C + C C^* \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq \|C\|^2. \quad (45)$$

Therefore

$$\frac{\mathrm{Tr} A e^{A+B}}{\mathrm{Tr} e^{A+B}} - \frac{\mathrm{Tr} A e^B}{\mathrm{Tr} e^B} \leq 4\|A\|^2. \quad (46)$$

With $A = \hat{J}_X^j \hat{\Phi}_X^j$ and $B = U_\Lambda(J, \Phi) - \hat{J}_X^j \hat{\Phi}_X^j$ we get

$$\frac{\mathrm{Tr} \hat{U}_\Lambda(\hat{J}, \hat{\Phi}) e^{U_\Lambda(J, \Phi)}}{\mathrm{Tr} e^{U_\Lambda(J, \Phi)}} = \sum_{X \subset \Lambda} \sum_{j \in \hat{n}_X} \frac{\mathrm{Tr} \hat{J}_X^j \hat{\Phi}_X^j e^{U_\Lambda(J, \Phi)}}{\mathrm{Tr} e^{U_\Lambda(J, \Phi)}}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\leq \sum_{X \subset \Lambda} \sum_{j \in \hat{n}_X} \text{Tr} \hat{J}_X^j \hat{\Phi}_X^j \frac{e^{U_\Lambda(J, \Phi) - \hat{J}_X^j \hat{\Phi}_X^j}}{\text{Tr} e^{U_\Lambda(J, \Phi) - \hat{J}_X^j \hat{\Phi}_X^j}} \\
&\quad + 4 \sum_{X \subset \Lambda} \sum_{j \in \hat{n}_X} |\hat{J}_X^j|^2 \|\hat{\Phi}_X^j\|^2.
\end{aligned} \tag{47}$$

Thus since $U_\Lambda(J, \Phi) - \hat{J}_X^j \hat{\Phi}_X^j$ is independent of \hat{J}_X^j and $\text{Av} [\hat{J}_X^j] = 0$,

$$\text{Av} \left[\frac{\text{Tr} \hat{U}_\Lambda(\hat{J}, \hat{\Phi}) e^{U_\Lambda(J, \Phi)}}{\text{Tr} e^{U_\Lambda(J, \Phi)}} \right] \leq 4 \sum_{X \subset \Lambda} \sum_{j \in \hat{n}_X} \text{Av} [|\hat{J}_X^j|^2] \|\hat{\Phi}_X^j\|^2 \leq 4N \|\hat{U}(\hat{J}, \hat{\Phi})\|_2^2. \tag{48}$$

Therefore

$$P_\Lambda \leq N(\log \dim \mathcal{H} + \|\tilde{U}(\tilde{J}, \tilde{\Phi})\|_1 + 4\|\hat{U}(\hat{J}, \hat{\Phi})\|_2^2). \tag{49}$$

□

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