Research Article

A New Exceptional Family of Elements and Solvability of General Order Complementarity Problems

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By using the concept of exceptional family, we propose a sufficient condition of a solution to general order complementarity problems (denoted by GOCP) in Banach space, which is weaker than that in Németh, 2010 (Theorem 3.1). Then we study some sufficient conditions for the nonexistence of exceptional family for GOCP in Hilbert space. Moreover, we prove that without exceptional family is a sufficient and necessary condition for the solvability of pseudomonotone general order complementarity problems.

1. Introduction

There are several types of order complementarity problems in real world applications. Among them, the linear order complementarity problem was systematically studied (see [1]). The problem was extended to the general linear order complementarity problem and some interesting results have been presented (see [2–4]). In [4], Sznajder extended the linear order complementarity problem to the nonlinear order complementarity problem. The notion of the general order complementarity problem considered in this paper is taken from [3, 5, 6].

There are many problems in engineering, management science, and other fields which can be reformulated as general order complementarity problems. But we are interested in the solvability of the problem. The concept of exceptional family is a powerful tool to study existence theorems of the solution to nonlinear complementarity problems and variational inequality problems (see [7–15]). Smith first introduced in [16] the notion of exceptional sequence of elements for continuous functions in order to investigate the solution existence of nonlinear complementarity problems. In 1997, Zhao first extended the concept of exceptional family for variational inequalities (see [17]). Several years later, Isac and Zhao extended the concept of exceptional family to variational inequalities in $\mathbb{R}^n$ to general Hilbert space (see [18]). Using the more general notion of exceptional family of elements introduced by Isac et al. (see [19]) and Kalashnikov (see [20]), some existence theorems for complementarity problems are presented (see [19, 21]). In 2008, Zhang proposed an existence theorem for semidefinite complementarity problem (denoted by SDCP). He introduced generalizations of Isac-Carbone's condition and proved that Isac-Carbone’s condition is the sufficient conditions for the solvability of SDCP (see [22]). In 2012, Hu et al. proposed an existence theorem for copositive complementarity problem (denoted by CCP) and extended the property of coercivity, $p$-order coercivity, monotone, and (strictly) weakly proper to CCP (see [23]). In 2010, Németh first introduced the notion of exceptional family for general order complementarity problems in Banach space and used the notion to study the solvability of general order complementarity problems (see [6]).

Motivated and inspired by the works mentioned above, in this paper, by using the concept of exceptional family in [6], we propose a sufficient condition of a solution to general order complementarity problems (denoted by GOCP) in Banach space, which is weaker than that in [6, Theorem 3.1]. Then we study some sufficient conditions for the nonexistence of exceptional family for GOCP in Hilbert space. Moreover, we prove that the nonexistence of exceptional family is a sufficient and necessary condition for the solvability of pseudomonotone general order complementarity problems.
The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. The preliminary results which will be used in this paper are stated in Section 2. In Section 3, we recall the definition of general order complementarity problems (see [3, 5, 6]) and introduced the concept of exceptional family for the general order complementarity problems (see [6]), then we prove an essential result. In Section 4, we discuss the conditions for the nonexistence of exceptional family. Conclusions are drawn in Section 5.

2. Preliminaries

In this section, we recall some background materials and preliminary results used in the subsequent sections. Firstly, we give some concepts from [6].

Let $X$ be a Banach space whose norm is denoted by $\| \cdot \|$. Let $K \subset H$ be a closed set. $K$ is called a wedge, if for any $\lambda \geq 0$ and $x, y \in K$, $\lambda x \in K$ and $x + y \in K$. A wedge $K$ is called a cone if $K \cap (-K) = \{0\}$.

Definition 1 (see [6]). A relation $\leq$ on $X$ is called an order if it meets

(1) reflexivity; that is, $x \leq x$ for all $x \in X$;

(2) antisymmetry; that is, if $x \leq y$ and $y \leq x$, then $x = y$;

(3) transitivity; that is, if $x \leq y$ and $y \leq z$, then $x \leq z$.

We say a relation $\leq$ on $X$ is induced by a cone $K \subset X$; that is, $x \leq y$ if and only if $y-x \in K$. Hence $K = \{x \in X : 0 \leq x\}$ by using the relation $\leq$ on $X$. Then we denote an ordered Banach space by $(X, \| \cdot \|, K)$.

Property 1 (see [6]). A relation $\leq$ on $X$ is induced by a cone $K \subset X$ if and only if it is

(1) translation invariant; that is, if $x \leq y$, then $x+z \leq y+z$ for all $z \in X$;

(2) scale invariant; that is, if $x \leq y$, then $\lambda x \leq \lambda y$ for any $\lambda > 0$;

(3) continuous; that is, if for any two convergent sequences $\{x_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ and $\{y_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ in $X$ with $x_n \leq y_n$ for all $n > 0$, then $x^* \leq y^*$, where $x^*$ and $y^*$ are the limits of $\{x_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ and $\{y_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$, respectively.

The ordered Banach space $(X, \| \cdot \|, K)$ is called a vector lattice if for every $x, y \in X$ there exists $x \wedge y := \inf\{x, y\}$ with respect to the order induced by $K$. In this case we say that the cone $K$ is latticial. By the above concepts, we give the following property from [6].

Property 2. Let $(X, \| \cdot \|)$ be a Banach space ordered by the latticial cone $K \subset X$. For each $x \in X$ we denote $x_+ = -0 \wedge (-x)$; then the following two equalities hold for all $x, y, z \in X$:

\begin{align*}
(1) \quad & (x + z) \wedge (y + z) = x \wedge y + z; \\
(2) \quad & x \wedge y = y - (y - x)_+.
\end{align*}

A continuous mapping $F : \Omega \subseteq X \rightarrow X$ is called completely continuous mapping if for every bounded set $\Delta \subseteq \Omega$ the set $F(\Delta)$ is relatively compact. The notation $\text{deg}(F, \Omega, y)$ is the topological degree associated with $F$, $\Omega$, and $y$ (see [24, 25]). Now we recall briefly the notation and some key properties of topological degree that will be used below.

Theorem 2 (see [8, Theorem 1.1]). Let $\Omega \subseteq X$ be an open bounded subset, and let $I : X \rightarrow X$ be an identity mapping; that is, $I(x) = x$, $\forall x \in X$. Then $\text{deg}(I, \Omega, p) = 1$, $\forall p \in \Omega$.

Theorem 3 (Poincaré-Bolth theorem, see [26]). Let $\Omega \subseteq X$ be an open bounded subset, and let $H : [0, 1] \times \Omega \rightarrow X$ be a completely continuous mapping, if $y \neq h_t(\partial \Omega)$, then $\text{deg}(h_t, \Omega, y)$ is a constant for $0 \leq t \leq 1$, where $h_t(x) = x - H(t, x)$.

Theorem 4 (Kronecker theorem, see [27]). Let $\Omega \subseteq X$ be an open bounded subset, $I : X \rightarrow X$ an identity mapping, and $f : \Omega \rightarrow X$ a completely continuous mapping. If $\text{deg}(I - f, \Omega, y) \neq 0$, then equation $x - f(x) = y$ has at least one solution in $\Omega$.

3. Exceptional Family for GOCP

First we recall the definition of general order complementarity problems (see [3, 5, 6]) and next we recall the concept of exceptional family for general order complementarity problems (GOCPs) (see [6]).

Definition 5. Let $(X, \| \cdot \|)$ be a Banach space ordered by the latticial cone $K \subset X$ and $D \subset X$ a nonempty closed convex set. Consider $m$ mappings $f_1, f_2, \ldots, f_m : X \rightarrow X$. The general order complementarity problem defined by the family of mappings $\{f_i\}_{i=1}^{m}$ and the set $D$ is

\begin{equation}
\text{GOCP}\left(\{f_i\}_{i=1}^{m}, D\right) : \left\{ \begin{array}{l}
\text{find } x^* \in D \text{ such that } \forall i \in \{1, 2, \ldots, m\}, f_i(x^*) \wedge \cdots \wedge f_m(x^*) = 0.
\end{array} \right.
\end{equation}

Definition 6. Let $(X, \| \cdot \|)$ be a Banach space ordered by the latticial cone $K \subset X$ and $D \subset X$ a nonempty closed convex set. Consider $m$ mappings $f_1, f_2, \ldots, f_m : X \rightarrow X$. A sequence $\{x^r\}_{r \geq 0} \subseteq D$ is said to be an exceptional family for GOCP $\text{GOCP}(\{f_i\}_{i=1}^{m}, D)$ if the following conditions are satisfied:

\begin{align*}
(1) \quad & \|x^r\| \rightarrow +\infty \text{ as } r \rightarrow +\infty, \\
(2) \quad & \text{for every real number } r > 0, \text{there exists a real number } \mu_r > 0 \text{ such that } u_i^r \cdot \cdots \cdot u_m^r = 0, \text{with } u_i^r = \mu_r x^r + f_i(x^r), \text{for } i = 1, 2, \ldots, m.
\end{align*}

The following lemma comes from the property proved in [6, Theorem 3.1]. Here we recall the property and the proof which are the same as the proof in [6, Theorem 3.1].

Lemma 7. Let $\phi(x) = x - f_1(x) \wedge \cdots \wedge f_m(x)$. If $f_i$ and $S_i = I - f_i$ are completely continuous for all $i = 1, 2, \ldots, m$, so is $\phi(x)$.

Proof. Let

\begin{equation}
\phi_k(x) := x - f_1(x) \wedge \cdots \wedge f_k(x), \quad (2)
\end{equation}

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for all $x \in H$ and $k = 1, 2, \ldots, m$. We will prove by induction that $\phi_k$ are completely continuous mappings for all $k = 1, 2, \ldots, m$. If $k = 1$, then $\phi_1(x) = x - f_1(x) = S_1(x)$. From the condition we see that $\phi_1$ is a completely continuous mapping immediately. Suppose that $\phi_k$ is a completely continuous mapping where $k \in \{1, 2, \ldots, m-1\}$. By (2), the definition of $S_{k+1}(x)$, and Property 2(2), we have

$$
\phi_{k+1}(x) = x - f_1(x) \wedge \cdots \wedge f_k(x) \wedge f_{k+1}(x) \\
= x - (x - \phi_k(x)) \wedge f_{k+1}(x) \\
= x - (x - \phi_k(x)) \wedge (x - S_{k+1}(x)) \\
= x - [(x - S_{k+1}(x)) - (x - S_{k+1}(x) - x + \phi_k(x))] \\
= S_{k+1}(x) + (\phi_k(x) - S_{k+1}(x)).
$$

(3)

Hence, $\phi_k$ are completely continuous mappings, for all $k = 1, 2, \ldots, m$. In particular, $\phi(x) = \phi_m(x)$ is a completely continuous mapping.

In what follows, we will establish an important theorem for $GOCP(\{f_i\}_{i=1}^m, D)$.

**Theorem 8.** Let $(X, \| \cdot \|)$ be a Banach space ordered by the lattice cone $K \subset X$ and $D \subset X$ an unbounded closed convex set. If $f_i$ and $S_i = I - f_i$ are completely continuous for all $i = 1, 2, \ldots, m$, then $GOCP(\{f_i\}_{i=1}^m, D)$ has either a solution or an exceptional family.

**Proof.** From Definition 5 we know that the solvability of the problem GOC is equivalent to the problem of finding an $x \in D$ such that $\phi(x) = x$. Let $H(t, x) = (1 - t)\phi(x), 0 \leq t \leq 1$. We get that $H(t, x)$ is completely continuous mapping from Lemma 7. Consider a family of spheres $B_r$ and open balls $U_r$:

$$
B_r = \{x \in D : \|x\| = r\}, \quad U_r = \{x \in D : \|x\| < r\}.
$$

(4)

Since $D$ is unbounded, we have $B_r \neq \emptyset$ and $U_r \neq \emptyset$ for all $r > 0$. We consider the mapping $h_l(x) = x - H(t, x), t \in [0, 1]$. If there exists an $r > 0$ such that

$$
0 \notin \{h_l(x) : x \in B_r, t \in [0, 1]\}.
$$

(5)

It follows from Theorem 3 that $\deg(h_l(x), U_r, 0)$ is constant for $t \in [0, 1]$. This together with Theorem 2 implies that $\deg(x - \phi(x), U_r, 0) = \deg(x, U_r, 0) = 1$. Therefore, we know that the problem $\phi(x) = x$ is solvable from Theorem 4; that is, the problem GOC is solvable.

On the other hand, for every $r > 0$, there exist a vector $x_r \in B_r$ and a scalar $t_r \in [0, 1]$ such that $h_{t_r}(x_r) = 0$; that is, $x_r - (1 - t_r)\phi(x_r) = 0$. If $t_r = 0$, then $x_r - \phi(x_r) = 0$, which again implies solvability of the problem GOC. If $r = 1$, then $x^* = 0$, which contradict with the fact $x_r \in B_r$. Hence $t_r \neq 1$. If $0 < t_r < 1$, then from the definition of $\phi(x)$ we get

$$
x_r - (1 - t_r)(x_r - f_1(x_r) \wedge \cdots \wedge f_m(x_r)) = 0;
$$

(6)

that is,

$$
t_r x_r + (1 - t_r) f_1(x_r) \wedge \cdots \wedge f_m(x_r) = 0.
$$

(7)

Dividing both parts by $1 - t_r$, we obtain

$$
\mu_r x_r + f_1(x_r) \wedge \cdots \wedge f_m(x_r) = 0,
$$

(8)

where $\mu_r = t_r(1 - t_r)$. Let $u^1_i = \mu_r x_r + f_1(x_r), i = 1, 2, \ldots, m$; then

$$
u^1_i \wedge \cdots \wedge u^m_i = (\mu_r x_r + f_1(x_r)) \wedge \cdots \wedge (\mu_r x_r + f_m(x_r))
$$

= $\mu_r x_r + f_1(x_r) \wedge \cdots \wedge f_m(x_r) = 0,

(9)

where the second equality follows from Property 2(1). Thus, $\{x_r\}_{r>0}$ is an exceptional family for GOCP. The proof is complete. \Box

**Remark 9.** Notice that, in [6], they used the condition of completely continuous field instead of $f_i$ and $S_i = I - f_i$ being completely continuous operators for all $i = 1, 2, \ldots, m$. Moreover, [6, Theorem 3.1] required that the condition $S_m(D) + K \subset D$ holds, which does not need this condition in Theorem 8 in our paper. Hence, our condition in Theorem 8 is weaker than the condition of [6, Theorem 3.1].

4. Existence Conditions of a Solution to GOCP

In this section, we consider the general order complementarity problems in Hilbert space $H$ whose inner product and norm are denoted by $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ and $\| \cdot \|$, respectively. We propose some sufficient conditions and prove that they guarantee existence of solutions to the general order complementarity problem. Firstly, we give the condition as follows.

**Condition 1.** Let $(H, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ be a Hilbert space ordered by the lattice cone $K \subset H$ and $D \subset H$ a nonempty set. $f_1, f_2, \ldots, f_m : H \rightarrow H$ satisfy the following condition: there exists $\rho > 0$ such that for all $x \in D$ with $\|x\| > \rho$, there exists $y \in H$ with $\|y\| < \|x\|$ such that

$$
\langle x - y, f_i(x) \wedge \cdots \wedge f_m(x) \rangle \geq 0.
$$

(10)

**Theorem 10.** Let $(H, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ be a Hilbert space ordered by the lattice cone $K \subset H, D \subset H$ an unbounded closed convex set and $f_i, S_i = I - f_i$ are completely continuous for all $i = 1, 2, \ldots, m$. If Condition 1 holds, then there exists no exceptional family for $GOCP(\{f_i\}_{i=1}^m, D)$ and hence, $GOCP(\{f_i\}_{i=1}^m, D)$ is solvable.

**Proof.** Suppose that $GOCP(\{f_i\}_{i=1}^m, D)$ has an exceptional family $\{x_r\}_{r>0} \subset D$. By Definition 6, we have

$$
u^1_i = \mu_r x_r + f_i(x_r), \mu_r > 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \ldots, m \quad (\forall r > 0),
$$

$$
u^1_i \wedge \cdots \wedge u^m_i = 0 \quad (\forall r > 0),
$$

(11)

$$
\|x_r\| \rightarrow +\infty \quad \text{as} \quad r \rightarrow +\infty.
$$
Take \( r > 0 \) such that \( ||x|| > r \). Since \( f_1, f_2, \ldots, f_m \) satisfy Condition 1, there exists \( y_i \in H \) with \( ||y_i|| < ||x|| \) such that \( \langle x_i - y_i, f_1(x_i) \land \cdots \land f_m(x_i) \rangle \geq 0 \). We have

\[
0 \leq \langle x_i - y_i, f_1(x_i) \land \cdots \land f_m(x_i) \rangle = \langle x_i - y_i, -\mu x_i \rangle - \mu \mu \|x_i\|^2 + \mu_x|x_i| \leq -\mu \mu \|x_i\|^2 + \mu_x \|y_i\| \|x_i\| = -\mu \mu \|x_i\| \|x_i - y_i\| < 0,
\]

which is impossible. Hence, there exists no exceptional family for \( GOCP(\{f_i\}_{i=1}^m, D) \). Then the problem is solvable. \( \square \)

**Condition 2.** Let \( (H, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle) \) be a Hilbert space ordered by the lattice cone \( K \subset H \) and \( D \subset H \) an unbounded closed convex set and \( f_1, f_2, \ldots, f_m : H \rightarrow H \) satisfy the following condition: there exists a nonempty bounded subset \( C \subset D \) such that for every \( x \in D \setminus C \), there exists \( y \in C \) such that

\[
\langle x - y, f_1(x) \land \cdots \land f_m(x) \rangle \geq 0. \tag{13}
\]

**Corollary 11.** Let \( (H, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle) \) be a Hilbert space ordered by the lattice cone \( K \subset H \) and \( D \subset H \) an unbounded closed convex set and \( f_1, S_i = 1 - f_i \) are completely continuous for all \( i = 1, 2, \ldots, m \). If Condition 2 holds, then there exists no exceptional family for \( GOCP(\{f_i\}_{i=1}^m, D) \) and hence, \( GOCP(\{f_i\}_{i=1}^m, D) \) is solvable.

**Proof.** Let \( C \subset D \) be the set defined by Condition 2. Since \( C \) is bounded, then there exists \( \rho > 0 \) such that \( C \subset U_{\rho} \cap D \), where \( U_{\rho} = \{x \in H : \|x\| \leq \rho\} \). For any \( x \) such that \( \|x\| > \rho \), there exists \( y \in C \) such that \( \|y\| \leq \rho < \|x\| \) such that \( \langle x - y, f_1(x) \land \cdots \land f_m(x) \rangle \geq 0 \). Hence Condition 1 is satisfied. This together with Theorem 10 completes the proof. \( \square \)

We extend the coercivity condition and \( p \)-order coercivity condition (see [15, 23]) to \( GOCP \) as follows.

**Definition 12.** Let \( (H, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle) \) be a Hilbert space ordered by the lattice cone \( K \subset H \) and \( D \subset H \) an unbounded closed convex set and \( f_1, S_i = 1 - f_i \) are completely continuous for all \( i = 1, 2, \ldots, m \). If there exists a nonempty bounded subset \( C \subset D \) such that \( \langle x - y, f_1(x) \land \cdots \land f_m(x) \rangle \geq 0 \), then \( C \) is said to be \( p \)-order coercive with respect to \( D \), if there exists \( \rho > 0 \) and \( \rho < \|x\| \) such that for sufficiently large \( \rho \) and \( \|x\| > \rho \). Hence Condition 1 is satisfied. This together with Theorem 10 completes the proof. \( \square \)

The following results extend monotone property and (strictly) weakly proper to \( GOCP \).

**Definition 14.** Let \( (H, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle) \) be a Hilbert space ordered by the lattice cone \( K \subset H \) and \( D \subset H \) an unbounded closed convex set and \( f_1, f_2, \ldots, f_m : H \rightarrow H \) satisfy the following condition: there exists a nonempty bounded subset \( C \subset D \) such that for every \( x \in D \setminus C \), there exists \( y \in C \) such that

\[
\langle x - y, f_1(x) \land \cdots \land f_m(x) \rangle \geq 0,
\]

for sufficiently large \( \rho \) and \( \|x\| > \rho \). Hence Condition 1 is satisfied. This together with Theorem 10 completes the proof. \( \square \)

**Theorem 15.** Let \( (H, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle) \) be a Hilbert space ordered by the lattice cone \( K \subset H \) and \( D \subset H \) an unbounded closed convex set and \( f_1, S_i = 1 - f_i \) are completely continuous for all \( i = 1, 2, \ldots, m \). If \( f_1(x) \land \cdots \land f_m(x) \) is pseudomonotone on \( D \), then the following conditions are equivalent:

1. \( GOCP(\{f_i\}_{i=1}^m, D) \) has no exceptional family;
2. \( GOCP(\{f_i\}_{i=1}^m, D) \) has at least a solution;
3. \( f_1(x) \land \cdots \land f_m(x) \) is weakly proper on \( D \).
Proof. (1) ⇒ (2) follows from Theorem 13.

(2) ⇒ (3). Since GOCP\(\{f_i\}_{i=1}^m, D\) has at least a solution, there exists \(x^* \in D\) such that \(f_1(x^*) \land \cdots \land f_m(x^*) = 0\). Then for every sequence \(\{x_i\} \subset D\) with \(\lim_{i \to +\infty} \|x_i\| = +\infty\), we have
\[
\langle x_i - x^* , f_1(x^*) \land \cdots \land f_m(x^*) \rangle = 0,
\]
which implies that \(f_1(x) \land \cdots \land f_m(x)\) is weakly proper on \(D\).

(3) ⇒ (1). Suppose that GOCP\(\{f_i\}_{i=1}^m, D\) has an exceptional family. Then there exists \(\{x^*_i\}_{i=0}^\infty \subseteq D\), \(\|x^*_i\| \to +\infty\) \((r \to +\infty)\), and \(\mu > 0\) such that
\[
u^i = \mu x^*_i + f_i(x^*_i), \quad i = 1, 2, \ldots, m,
\]
\[
u^i \land \cdots \land \nu^m = 0.
\]
From Property 2(1), we obtain
\[
u_1 \land \cdots \land \nu_m = (\mu x^*_1 + f_1(x^*_1)) \land \cdots \land (\mu x^*_m + f_m(x^*_m)) = \mu x^*_1 + f_1(x^*_1) \land \cdots \land f_m(x^*_m) = 0;
\]
namely,
\[
f_1(x^*_1) \land \cdots \land f_m(x^*_m) = -\mu x^*_1.
\]
Since \(f_1(x) \land \cdots \land f_m(x)\) is weakly proper on \(D\), then there exists a \(y \in H\) and some \(r\) such that
\[
\langle x_i - y , f_1(y) \land \cdots \land f_m(y) \rangle \geq 0, \quad \|x_i\| > \|y\|.
\]
This together with the fact that \(f_1(x) \land \cdots \land f_m(x)\) is pseudomonotone on \(D\) yields
\[
\langle x_i - y , f_1(x_i) \land \cdots \land f_m(x_i) \rangle \geq 0.
\]
By (24) we get
\[
0 \leq \langle x_i - y , f_1(x_i) \land \cdots \land f_m(x_i) \rangle
= \langle x_i - y , -\mu x_i \rangle
= -\mu \|x_i\|^2 + \mu \langle y , x_i \rangle
\leq -\mu \|x_i\|^2 + \mu \|y\| \|x_i\| = -\mu \|x_i\| (\|x_i\| - \|y\|) < 0,
\]
which is impossible. Hence GOCP\(\{f_i\}_{i=1}^m, D\) has no exceptional family. From the above, we complete the proof. 

5. Conclusion
In this paper, by using the concept of exceptional family in [6], we propose an existence theorem of a solution to general order complementarity problems in Banach space. Then we study some sufficient conditions for the nonexistence of exceptional family in Hilbert space. Moreover, we prove that nonexistence of exceptional family is a sufficient and necessary condition for the solvability of pseudomonotone general order complementarity problems.

Conflict of Interests
The authors declare that there is no conflict of interests regarding the publication of this paper.

Authors’ Contribution
All authors contributed equally and significantly in writing this paper. All authors read and approved the final paper.

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