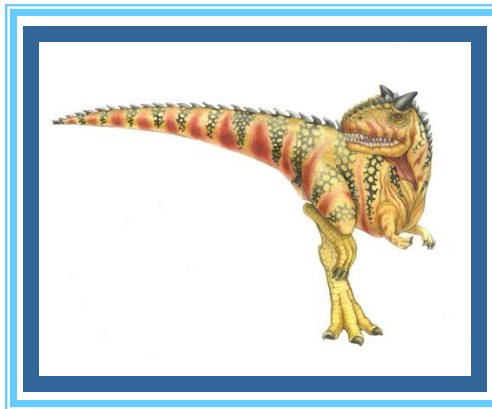


Whether process  
is permitted

# Chapter 17: Protection

How to implement?





# Chapter 17: Protection

- Goals of Protection      Why we need ?
- Principles of Protection      X grab too much
- Protection Rings      ✓ very first, 2 rings
- Domain of Protection      more general, 2<sup>nd</sup> hierarchy structure
- Access Matrix      How to representation domain of protection
- Implementation of Access Matrix





# Objectives

---

- Discuss the goals and principles of protection in modern computer systems
- Explain how **protection domains** combined with **an access matrix** are used to specify the resources that a process may access
- Examine capability-based protection system

↓  
有不同 meaning!





# Goals of Protection

- In a protection model, computer system consists of a collection of **objects**, hardware or software
  - Hardware objects: CPU, memory segments, printers, disks, and tape
  - Software objects: files, programs, and semaphores → process can use objects
- Each object has a unique name and can be accessed through a well-defined set of operations  
例如 only read, write, execution.
- **Protection problem** is to ensure that each object is accessed correctly and only by those processes allowed to do so
- **Mechanisms** are distinct from **policies**, in which mechanisms determine how something will be done, and policies decide what will be done.  
what should be done      how something will be done  
↑ apply some rules
- The separation is important for **flexibility**, as policies are likely to change from place to place or from time to time.  
implemented by OS      不同地点不同时间都可改!  
(Matrix)
- The separation ensures that not every change in policy would require a change in the underlying mechanism.  
what we place in matrix  
policies is defined users!





# Principles of Protection

- The **guiding principle** – **principle of least privilege**
  - Programs, users and systems should be given **just enough privileges** to perform their tasks – as more privileges for users, higher chance for attack
  - In file permissions, for instance, this principle dictates if a user **only have read access but not write or execute access to a file**. The **principle of least privilege** would require that the OS provides a mechanism to only allow read access but not write or execute access
- Properly set **permissions** (i.e., the access rights to an object) can limit damage if entity has a bug or gets abused

↑  
Good !!!

{3.} xD read only,  
① don't involve other files,  
② only grab sec privilege  
↓  
relatively safe!



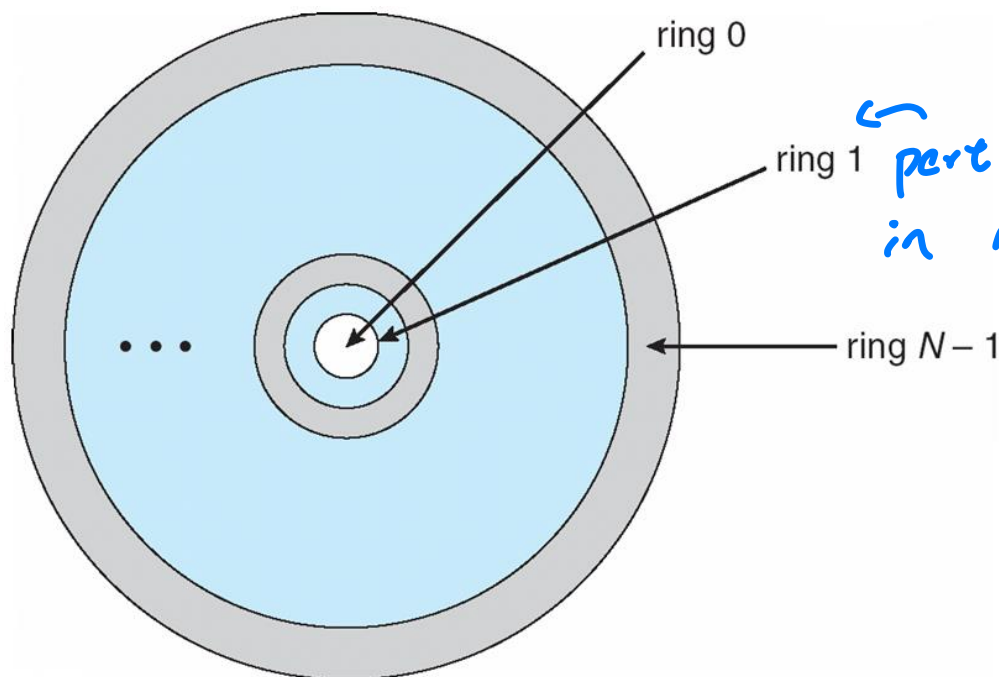


# Protection Rings

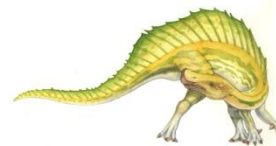
- Extension beyond **user mode** and **kernel mode** – **privilege separation**
- Hardware support required to support the notion of separate execution
- Let  $D_i$  and  $D_j$  be any two domain rings
- If  $j < i \Rightarrow D_i \subseteq D_j$
- The innermost ring, ring 0, provides the full set of privileges

*Revisit!*  
*can do everything! (SYSTEM API!)*

*Important concept*  
*mean something (process/user) in modern OS!*



*part of privileges in ring 0!*





# Protection Rings (Cont.)

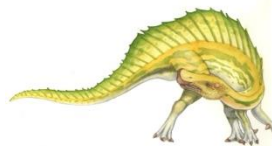
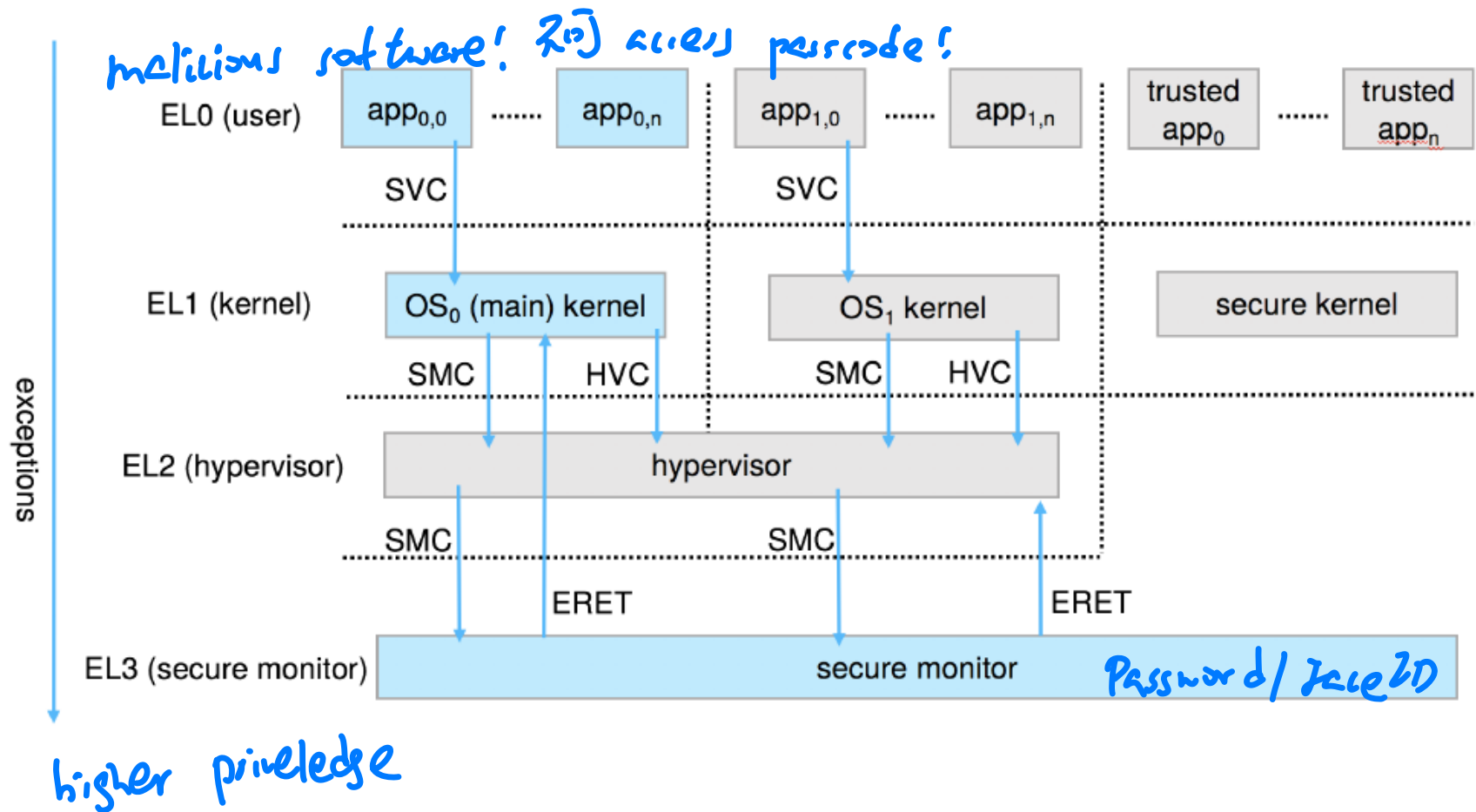
- Components ordered by amount of privilege and protected from each other
  - For example, the kernel is in one ring and user applications in another
  - This privilege separation requires hardware support
  - “Gates” used to transfer between rings, for example the syscall Intel instruction, also traps and interrupts → *involve space change!*
- *→ higher permission than kernel!* **Hypervisors** (Intel) is introduced (another ring) - virtual machine managers, which create and run virtual machines, and have more capabilities than the kernels of the guest operating systems
- ARM processors added **TrustZone** or **TZ** ring *→ another ring* to protect crypto functions with access (more privileged than kernel) *highest privilege!*
  - This most privileged execution environment has exclusive access to hardware-backed cryptographic features, such as the NFC Secure Element and an on-chip cryptographic key, that make handling passwords and sensitive information more secure.

*APPLE : use this to store password, Face ID  
notifications apps: user space*





# ARM CPU Architecture







# Domain of Protection

← More general!

- ❑ Protection rings separate functions into different domains and order them hierarchically ← some times no need!
- ❑ **Domain** can be considered as a generalization of rings without a hierarchy
- ❑ A computer system can be treated as processes and objects
  - ❑ **Hardware objects** (such as CPU, memory, disk) and **software objects** (such as files, programs, semaphores)
- ❑ Process for example should only have access to objects it currently requires to complete its task – the need-to-know principle (policy) ← + least privilege!
- ❑ Implementation can be via process operating in a protection domain ← Artificially define some domains!
  - ❑ Protection domain specifies the set of resources a process may access
  - ❑ Each domain specifies set of objects and types of operations may be invoked on each object

↑  
domain 1 can access all files!  
Implement very well: flexible!





# Domain of Protection (Cont.)

- The ability to execute an operation on an object is an **access right**
- A **domain** is a collection of access rights, each of which is an ordered pair  $\langle \text{object-name, rights-set} \rangle$ 
  - An example: if domain D has the access right  $\langle \text{file F, \{read, write\}} \rangle$ , then a process executing in domain D can both read and write file F. It cannot, however, perform any other operation on that object.  
*file name* (pointing to 'file F')  
*what is allowed to do* (pointing to '{read, write}')
- Domains **may share access rights** *next slide has figure!*
- Associations between processes and domains can be **static** if the set of resources available to the process is fixed throughout the process's lifetime, or can be **dynamic** *→ switch process in different domain!*
- If the association is dynamic, a mechanism is available to allow **domain switching**, enabling the process to switch from one domain to another *↑ during different stage of execution*  
*protected*





# Domain of Protection (Cont.)

---

Domain can be realized in a variety of ways:

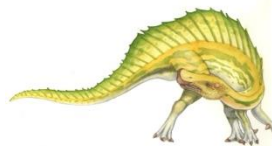
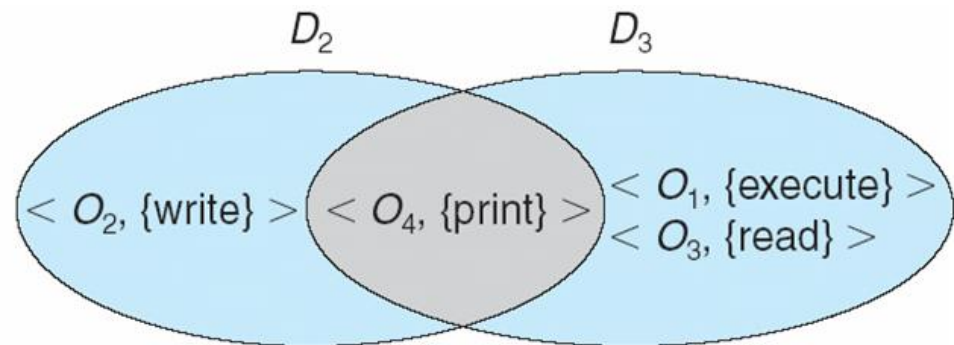
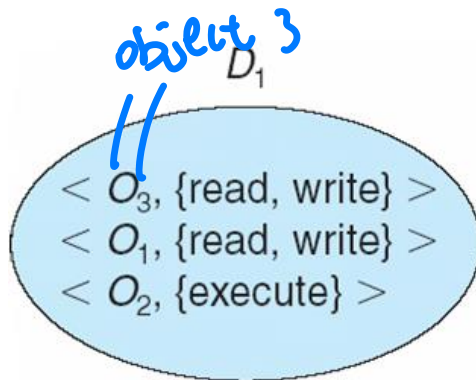
- ❑ Each **user** may be a domain - the set of objects that can be accessed depends on the identity of the user. Domain switching occurs when the user is changed
- ❑ Each **process** may be a domain - the set of objects that can be accessed depends on the identity of the process. Domain switching occurs when one process sends a message to another process and then waits for a response.
- ❑ Each **procedure** may be a domain - the set of objects that can be accessed corresponds to the local variables defined within the procedure. Domain switching occurs when a procedure call is made





# Domain Structure

- **Access-right** =  $\langle \text{object-name}, \text{rights-set} \rangle$   
where rights-set is a subset of all valid operations that can be performed on the object
- **Domain** = set of access-rights *→ can be shared*  
*2 domains mutually exclusive.*
- The access right  $\langle O_4, \{\text{print}\} \rangle$  shared by domains  $D_2$  and  $D_3$ , thus, a process executing in either of these two domains can print object  $O_4$ .





# Access Matrix

- View protection as a matrix (**access matrix**) *Mechanism!*
- **Rows** represent domains, and **columns** represent objects
- **Access(i,j)** consists of a set of access rights - the set of operations that a process executing in Domain<sub>i</sub> can invoke on Object<sub>j</sub>

*Domain* (vertical arrow pointing down)

*Object* (horizontal arrow pointing right)

*order of  $T_2$*  (above the table)

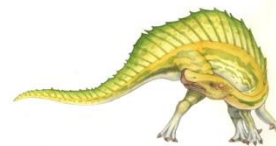
object \ domain	$F_1$	$F_2$	$F_3$	printer
$D_1$	read		read	
$D_2$				print
$D_3$		read	execute	
$D_4$	read write		read write	

*Handwritten notes on the table:*

- An arrow points from the word "Initialization" to the "read" entry in the  $D_3, F_2$  cell.
- Chinese text "可执行" (can execute) is written near the  $D_3, F_2$  cell.

*$D_1$  can read object  $F_1$*

*Policy: define which domain have permission!*





# Use of Access Matrix

- The **access matrix** scheme provides the mechanism for specifying a variety of policies - mechanism and policy separation
- The **mechanism** consists of implementing the access matrix and ensuring that the semantic properties hold.
  - To ensure that a process executing in domain  $D_i$  can access only those objects specified in row  $i$ .
- The **policy** decisions specify which rights should be included in the  $(i,j)$ th entry, and determine the domain in which each process executes
- If a process in Domain  $D_i$  tries to do “op” on object  $O_j$ , then “op” must be in the access matrix *Ensure permission/protection*
- User who creates an object can define access column for that object
  - When a user creates a new object  $O_j$ , the column  $O_j$  is added to the access matrix with the appropriate initialization entries, as dictated by the creator. The user may decide to enter some rights in some entries in column  $j$  and other rights in other entries, as needed.



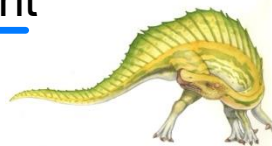


# Use of Access Matrix (Cont.)

This can be expanded to dynamic protection *very flexible tool!*

- ❑ Operations to add, delete access rights
- ❑ Special access rights:
  - ❑ **owner** of  $O_i$  - can add and remove any right in any entry in column
  - ❑ **copy** op from  $O_i$  to  $O_j$  (denoted by “\*”) - only within the column (that is, for the object) *example: copy read only!*
  - ❑ **control** -  $D_i$  can modify  $D_j$  access rights - modify domain objects (a row) *can change*
  - ❑ **transfer** - switch from domain  $D_i$  to  $D_j$
- ❑ **Copy** and **Owner** applicable to an object - change the entries in a column
- ❑ **Control** applicable to domain object - change the entries in a row
- ❑ New objects and new domains can be created dynamically and included in the access-matrix model
- ❑ In a **dynamic** protection system, we may sometimes need to revoke access rights to objects shared by different users - **revocation** of access right

*interesting complicated*





# Access Matrix of Figure A with Domains as Objects

owner

control

can allow to switch to  $D_2$ !

object \ domain	$F_1$	$F_2$	$F_3$	laser printer	$D_1$	$D_2$	$D_3$	$D_4$
$D_1$	read		read			switch		
$D_2$				print			switch	switch
$D_3$		read	execute					
$D_4$	read write		read write		switch			







# Access Matrix with Copy Rights

domain \ object	$F_1$	$F_2$	$F_3$
$D_1$	execute		write*
$D_2$	execute	read*	execute
$D_3$	execute		

(a)

read can copy!  
only can copy in same column

domain \ object	$F_1$	$F_2$	$F_3$
$D_1$	execute	read	write*
$D_2$	execute	read*	execute
$D_3$	execute	read	

(b)

non-copyable  
after copied  
no copy to other column!





# Access Matrix With Owner Rights

object \ domain	$F_1$	$F_2$	$F_3$
$D_1$	owner execute		write
$D_2$		read* owner	read* owner write
$D_3$	<del>execute</del>	<del>write</del>	<del>write</del>

$F_1$  可删 (a) 除这行!

可加

object \ domain	$F_1$	$F_2$	$F_3$
$D_1$	owner execute		write
$D_2$		owner read* write*	read* owner write
$D_3$		write	write

(b)





# Modified Access Matrix of Figure B

其他不可switch完後control!

object domain	$F_1$	$F_2$	$F_3$	laser printer	$D_1$	$D_2$	$D_3$	$D_4$
$D_1$	read		read			switch		
$D_2$				print			switch	switch control
$D_3$		read	execute					
$D_4$	write		write		switch			

add  
control!  
↓  
 $D_2 \rightarrow D_4$   
control  $D_4$ !  
modify  
the role  
of  $D_4$



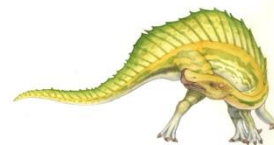


# Implementation of Access Matrix

- 2D array*  
*Complete access matrix 本多 files  $\Rightarrow$  memory  $\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow$*   
*Object-oriented!*
- In general, the access matrix is sparse; that is, most of the entries will be empty
  - **Option 1 – Global Table**  
*1D array! 节省空间,*
    - Store ordered triples <domain, object, rights-set> in table
    - A requested operation  $M$  on object  $O_j$  within domain  $D_i \rightarrow$  search table for  $\langle D_i, O_j, R_k \rangle$  with  $M \in R_k$   
*empty  $\Rightarrow$  X store!*
    - But the table could be large  $\rightarrow$  might not fit in main memory, requires additional I/O – virtual memory techniques are often used
    - ? □ Difficult to group objects - For example, if everyone can read a particular object, this object must have a separate entry in every domain.

*if matrix is full  $\Rightarrow$  table is also large*

*↓ difficult group  $F_i$  together!  
resource  
multiplication!*





# Implementation of Access Matrix (Cont.)

- Each column = **Access-control list** for one object  
Defines who can perform what operation

Domain 1 = Read, Write

Domain 2 = Read

Domain 3 = Read

- ↑ like a key!  
Each row = **Capability List** (like a key)  
For each domain, what operations allowed on what objects

Object F1 – Read

Object F4 – Read, Write, Execute

Object F5 – Read, Write, Delete, Copy

For object  
- make different domain, different access right  
ACL apply in domain, we domain to group!





# Implementation of Access Matrix (Cont.)

- Option 2 – **Access lists for objects** ACL
  - Each column implemented as an access list for one object
  - Resulting per-object list consists of ordered pairs <domain, rights-set> defining all domains with non-empty set of access rights for the object
  - Obviously, the empty entries can be discarded!
  - This can be easily extended to define **default** set of access rights -> If  $M \in \text{default set}$ , also allow access (for all domains)

↓  
can file default to be read!  
default permission!





# Implementation of Access Matrix (Cont.)

## □ Option 3 – Capability list for domains

*domain can access ...*

- Instead of object-based, list is **domain-based**
- A **capability list** for domain is a list of objects together with operations allowed on them
- An object represented by its name or address, called a **capability**  
*→ whether object can do ...*
- To execute operation M on object  $O_j$ , a process requests operation M, specifying the capability (or pointer) for object  $O_j$  as a parameter  
*want to pass object to*
- Possession of capability means access is allowed  
*capability itself should be protected*
- Capability list associated with a domain, but never directly accessible by a process executing in that domain
  - Rather, the **capability list itself is a protected object**, maintained by OS and accessed by users only indirectly
  - This **avoids the possibility of capability list modification by users**
  - If all capabilities are secure, the object they protect is also secure  
against unauthorized access





# Implementation of Access Matrix (Cont.)

## □ Option 4 – Lock-key

*long array, ALL capability list is enough!*

- **Compromise** between access lists and capability lists
- Each object has list of unique bit patterns, called **locks**
- Each domain as list of unique bit patterns called **keys**
- Process in a domain can only access object if domain has key that matches one of the locks of the object *key → open lock!*
- As with capability lists, the list of keys for a domain must be managed by the operating system on behalf of the domain. *Complicated, not in modern OS!*
- Users are not allowed to examine or modify the list of keys (or locks) directly.







# Comparison of Implementations +ve : pros -ve : cons

Choosing a technique for implementing an access matrix involves various trade-offs.

- ❑ Global table is +ve triple! simple, but -ve large, lack of grouping of objects or domains
- ❑ Access lists Good! correspond directly to the needs of users → can define the access list
  - ❑ An access list on an object is specified when a user creates the object
  - ❑ Determining set of access rights for each domain is difficult - every access to the object must be checked, requiring a search of the access list. overhead! :/
- ❑ Capability lists os can help you useful for localizing information for a given process
  - ❑ But revocation capabilities can be inefficient
- ❑ Lock-key need search the table! can be effective and flexible depending on the length of the keys
  - ❑ Keys can be passed freely from domain to domain, easy revocation
- ❑ Most systems use combination of access lists and capabilities ↓  
lots of keys  
lots of overhead



# End of Chapter 17

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