

Current position Postdoctoral Associate

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Ph.D. in Near Eastern Studies (2013), University of Michigan

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Website www.alraqmiyyat.org (al-Raqmiyyāt: Digital Islamic History) maximromanov.github.io (alternate link)

Employment

2013-current Postdoctoral Associate

 $\mathit{Tufts}\ \mathit{University},$ Department of Classics & Perseus Project

2006–2012 Graduate Student Instructor

University of Michigan, Department of Near Eastern Studies

2004-2006 Junior Researcher

Institute of Oriental Manuscripts of the Russian Academy of Sciences former: St. Petersburg Branch of the Institute of Oriental Studies St. Petersburg, Russia (SPbIOS/IOM of RAS)

Education

2006-2013 Ph.D. (December 15, 2013) / M.A. (April 29, 2010)

in Near Eastern Studies (Arabic & Islamic Studies),

Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of Michigan, USA.

Dissertation: Computational Reading of Arabic Biographical Collections with Special Reference to Preaching in the Sunnī World (661–1300 CE). *More details online...* (available in open access through the University of Michigan Digital Library).

Dissertation Committee: Alexander Knysh (Chair), Michael Bonner, Richard Bulliet, Sherman Jackson, Andrew Shrvock.

2001–2004 ABD, Post-graduate program in Islamic Studies (Mentor: Stanislav M. Prozorov), Institute of Oriental Manuscripts of the Russian Academy of Sciences

FORMER: St. Petersburg Branch of the Institute of Oriental Studies

St. Petersburg, Russia (SPbIOS/IOM of RAS)

1999–2001 St. Petersburg State University, the School ("Fakultet") of Oriental Studies,

partial completion of the History of the Arab Countries program,

St. Petersburg, Russia.

1998–2001 B.A./M.A. in Sociology,

St. Petersburg State University, the School ("Fakultet") of Sociology,

M.A. Thesis: "The role of religious scholars ('ulamā') in the life of Islamic society";

St. Petersburg, Russia.

1995–1998 The Baltic State Technical University, the School ("Fakultet") of Humanities (concentration in Political Sciences), St. Petersburg, Russia.

most publications can be downloaded from tufts.academia.edu/MaximRomanov

- forthcoming "Toward Abstract Models for Islamic History," in *The Digital Humanities + Islamic & Middle Eastern Studies* [Proceedings of the Conference held at Brown University in 2013] (Download Submitted Version in PDF)
- forthcoming "After the Classical World: the Social Geography of Islam (661-1300 CE)," in Word, Space, and Time: Digital Perspectives on the Classical World. Edited by Neil W. Bernstein and Neil Coffee. A Special Issue of Digital Humanities Quarterly (Draft available upon request)
- 2013, in print "Toward the Digital History of the pre-Modern Muslim World: developing text-mining techniques for the study of Arabic biographical collections," in Methods and means for digital analysis of ancient and medieval texts and manuscripts, Proceedings of the Conference, Leuven, 2012 (Download PDF) DOI: 10.1484/M.LECTIO-EB.5.102573

 Newsletter Version: "Digital Analysis of Arabic Biographic Collections," in Comparative Oriental Manuscript Studies Newsletter, No. 4. (July 2012), 9–11 (Download PDF)
 - 2012 "Dreaming Ḥanbalites: Dream-Tales in Prosopographical Dictionaries," in *Dreams and Visions in Islamic Societies*, edited by Alexander Knysh & Özgen Felek, SUNY Press, 2012, 31–50 (Download PDF)
 - 2007 "The Term Ṣūfī: Spiritualizing Simple Words," in Pismennyie Pamyatniki Vostoka/ Written Monuments of the Orient, issue 5 (2007), 149–159 (Download PDF)
- 2005, in Russian "Electronic Databases on Islam in Arabic, Persian and English: a Review," in Pismennyie Pamyatniki Vostoka/Written Monuments of the Orient, issue 2(3), 2005, 240–257; in cooperation with Dr. Stanislav M. Prozorov; summary in English (Download PDF)
- 2004, in Russian "The Paradigm of the Science of Ḥadīth (*'ilm/'ulūm al-ḥadīth*), in *Oriens/Vostok*, issue 5, 2004, 5–11; summary in English (Download PDF)
- 2003 (2009), in Russian "Ḥadīth Reports in Ibn al-Jawzī's (d. 597/1201) System of Argumentation (Based on His Talbīs Iblīs ["Devil's Delusions"])," in Khristianskii Vostok/Christian Orient, Volume 5 (XI), New Series, Moscow: "Indrik" Press (Published by the Russian Academy of Sciences and the State Hermitage), 2009, 310–316 (Download PDF)

 NB: Submitted for publication in 2003
 - 2003, in Russian "Principles and Procedures of Extracting and Processing Data from Arabic Sources: Historic-and-Biographical Sources," in Oriens/Vostok, issue 4, 2003, 117–127; in cooperation with Dr. Stanislav M. Prozorov; summary in English (Download PDF)

Conference \mathcal{E} workshop papers, presentations, posters

- November, 2014 Exploring Islamic Written Legacy: Computational Reading of Hadiyyat al-ʿārifīn @ Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.
 - March, 2014 Computational Processing of Toponymic Data from classical Arabic Sources @ Working with Text in a Digital Age, A Workshop @ Tufts University (the Perseus Project) (March 29, 2014).
- February, 2014 Visualizing Islamic Geography at Scale @ Data Big and Small: Computer Science, the Humanities and Social Science: Conversations between representatives from Leipzig, Northeastern, Princeton & Tufts, A Workshop @ Tufts University (the Perseus Project) (February 3-4, 2014).

- October, 2013 Islamic World Connected (661–1300 CE) @ Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.
 - April, 2013 Poster (not on program): Toward Abstract Models for Islamic History @ Word, Space, Time: Digital Perspectives on the Classical World, an interdisciplinary conference organized by the Digital Classics Association, University of Buffalo, SUNY, Buffalo, NY (April 5–6, 2013).
- March, 2013 Exploratory Analysis of Arabic Biographical Collections: the Case of al-Dhahabī's (d. 1347 ce) Ta¬rīkh al-islām @ 223rd Meeting of the American Oriental Society (AOS), Portland, OR.
- March, 2013 Exploratory Analysis of Arabic Biographical Collections: the Case of al-Dhahabī's (d. 1347 CE) "History of Islam" @ 8th Annual Pearl Kibre Medieval Study Conference: "New Media and the Middle Ages", The Graduate Center, CUNY, New York, NY.
- February, 2013 'Connectedness' of the Islamic World (600–1300 CE) @ 7th Annual Near Eastern Studies Graduate Student Colloquium, U of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.
- November, 2012 Social History of the Muslim World in the Digital Age: Making Sense of 29,000 Biographies from al-Dhahabī's "History of Islam" @ Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.
- November, 2012 **Poster**: Social History of the Muslim World in the Digital Age: Making Sense of 29,000 Biographies from al-Dhahabī's "History of Islam" @ Cyberinfrastructure Days, U of Michigan, November 7-8, 2012. "People's Choice Award Winner".
 - October, 2012 Writing the Digital History of the Premodern Muslim World, 670-1300 CE: Exploratory Analysis of Primary Sources @ Interdisciplinary Workshop under the rubric "Forum on Research in Medieval Studies" (FoRMS), the Medieval Lunch Series, U of Michigan.
 - August, 2012 Mining pre-Modern Islamic Sources @ "Working with Text in a Digital Age," the summer institute at Tufts U, Medford, MA.
 - April, 2012 Dreaming Ḥanbalites: Dream-Tales in Prosopographical Dictionaries (in Russian) @ The 34th Annual Session of St. Petersburg Arabists, SPbIOS/IOM of RAS.
 - April, 2012 Digital History of the Muslim World: Computer-Aided Analysis of Biographical Dictionaries @ "Methods and means for digital analysis of ancient and medieval texts and manuscripts," the workshop at the Katholieke Universitet, Leuven $\mathcal E$ the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium (KVAB), Brussels.
- November, 2010 "Popular" Preaching in the Sunnī Context and the Legitimization of Wasz in the Late 12th Century CE @ Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- November, 2009 Ahmad b. Ḥanbal's (d. 241/855) Argumentative Strategies @ Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.
 - April, 2009 Dreaming Ḥanbalites @ Dreams and Visions in Islamic Societies, U of Michigan conference.
 - March, 2004 The Origins of the Term $S\bar{u}f\bar{\iota}$ (in Russian) @ 26th Annual Session of St. Petersburg Arabists, SPbIOS/IOM of RAS.

- April. 2003 Argumentation with Hadīth Reports in Ibn al-Jawzī's Talbīs Iblīs ("Devil's Delusions") (in Russian) @ 25th Annual Session of St. Petersburg Arabists, SPbIOS/IOM of RAS.
- December, 2003 The Paradigm of the Science of Ḥadīth ('ilm al-ḥadīth) (in Russian) @ Annual Academic Session, SPbIOS/IOM of RAS.
 - April, 2002 Ibn al-Jawzī's Image in the Western Scholarship (in Russian) @ 24th Annual Session of St. Petersburg Arabists, SPbIOS/IOM of RAS.

Invited talks, guest lectures

- February, 2015 Digital Humanities & the Premodern Islamic World: Of Graphs, Maps, and 30,000 Muslims. Invited public lecture @ the University of California—Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA (February 25, 2015). For more details, see information on the website of The Gustav E. von Grunebaum Center for Near Eastern Studies at UCLA.
 - August, 2014 The Social Geography of the Islamic World (661–1300 CE): on the Method, Invited presentation @ PROSOP Workshop, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL (August 15, 2014). See, www.prosop.org.
 - April, 2014 The Social Geography of the Islamic World (661–1300 CE), Invited talk @ the University of Richmond, Richmond, VA (April 10, 2014)
 - April, 2014 Distant Reading of Arabic Biographical Collections, Guest Lecture @ "Saints and Sinners in Muslim Literature," (Prof. Mimi Hanaoka) @ the University of Richmond, Richmond, VA (April 10, 2014)
 - April, 2014 Future in the Past: Using Digital Methods to Study Medieval Arabic Texts, Presentation for the Students of Arabic @ Tufts University (April 7, 2014).
 - April, 2014 Classical Arabic through the Words of the Prophet: Teaching Classical Arabic in the Digital Age, Brown Bag Presentation for Arabic Instructors @ Tufts University (April 2, 2014).
 - March, 2014 Studying Classical Arabic Sources in the Digital Age: Social Geography and Social History, Invited talk for Holy Cross Manuscripts, Inscriptions and Documents Club the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA (March 14, 2014)
 - March, 2014 Computational Reading of Classical Arabic Sources: the Case of Biographical Collections, Presentation @ the Department of Classics, Tufts University (March 10, 2014).
- February, 2014 Building a Historical Gazetteer, Guest Lecture @ "Computational methods in the humanities," An honors course (Prof. David J. Birnbaum) @ the University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA (February, 21, 2014)
- February, 2014 Connectedness of the Islamic World (661–1300 CE), Invited Talk @ the European Union Center of Excellence & European Studies Center, the University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA (February, 20, 2014)
- February, 2014 Computational Reading of Classical Arabic Sources: the Case of Biographical Collections, Invited Talk @ Bard College, Annadale-on-Hudson, NY (February 11, 2014).
- January, 2014 Computational Reading of Classical Arabic Sources: the Case of Biographical Collections, Invited Talk @ The Center for Digital Research in the Humanities (CDRH) at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), Lincoln, NE (January 30, 2014).

Digital projects

2012—ongoing AL-RAQMIYYĀT: DIGITAL ISLAMIC HISTORY (www.alraqmiyyat.org)

Personal research blog that highlights my digital studies of Islamic historical sources in Arabic. The blog is currently in the stage of technical and conceptual transition. Originally built in WordPress to highlight my dissertation research progress, it will be recreated with Jekyll (www.jekyllrb.com) and will focus on documenting major steps of my digital experiments with 10,000 Arabic texts, highlighting general exploration of both the entire corpus and specific sources. The main goal is to log research progress, share discoveries and provide some guidance to young and senior scholars of Islam and Islamic history interested in employing digital methods in their research.

2013—ongoing KITAB (an acronym that also means "book" in Arabic), a cultural history project treating the history of books and cultural memory. It undertakes a far-reaching evaluation of the classical Arabic textual tradition (750—1200) for the purpose of understanding how cultural memory was negotiated and shaped by authors when they created books. Its ingenuity derives from the application of text reuse methods, which detect the copying of texts into other texts and thus enable study of the form and content of the textual

NB: Collaborative project led by Sarah Savant (Islamic History, Agha Khan University—London); in collaboration with David Smith (Computer Science, Northeastern), and the Perseus Project; my contribution, among other things, includes the study of Arabic Biographical Collections as a genre, with the following main goals:

- to study social and religious groups through the analysis of ample biographical data that Arabic sources provide;
- to provide a detailed overview of biographical collections in Arabic and their authors based on Arabic bio-bibliographical literature; research literature in European languages; surviving manuscripts; printed editions;
- to provide computational overview in the form of graphs, maps and trees of those collections that are available in electronic format;
- to trace inter-dependencies between these collections by studying text re-use.
- 2014—2015 Ṣūrat al-arḍ, THE GEOSPATIAL MODEL OF THE CLASSICAL ISLAMIC WORLD **NB**: In collaboration with Cameron Jackson (Senior, double majoring in Arabic and Computer Science, Tufts University). MAIN GOALS:
 - to develop a digital gazetteer of Islamic places (al-Thurayyā, as a supplement to pleiades.stoa.org); in collaboration with the team of researchers at the ERC project "The Early Islamic Empire at Work: The View from the Regions Toward the Centre" (PI Stefan Heidemann, Universität Hamburg). The working demo version of al-Thurayyā is available at maximromanov.github.io.
 - to adapt computational framework of Orbis, the Stanford geospatial Network Model of the Roman World (developed by Elijah Meeks and Walter Scheidel), for the historical and geographical data classical available for the Islamic world. The "Islamic Orbis" (Sūrat al-ard) will help us to better understand spatial connections within the Islamic world, to visually study geographical and travel literature, and, most importantly, to study ample data from biographical collections by tracing geographies of different social and religious groups.
- 2013-ongoing Islamic History Commons @ islamichistorycommons.org

 Main Goal: to build an online community ('a commons') of scholars of early Islamic history, encourage collaborative research and promote digital methods of studying historical and religious sources.

NB: in collaboration with and under the lead of Chase Robinson, President and Distinguished Professor of History, The Graduate Center of the City University of New York

- 2013-2015 Studying Classical Arabic Legacy @ Tufts University together with Gregory Crane @ Department of Classics & Perseus Project Main goals:
 - to develop a catalog of digitally available sources in classical Arabic (as an Arabic supplement to The Perseus Catalog), to facilitate access to these sources and better understand what Arabic sources are available and what sources have been overlooked.
 - to develop courses for teaching classical Arabic with the use of computational tools (e.g., Alpheios Reading Tools) in order to enhance and speed learning process;
 - to develop courses for studying specific classical sources in Arabic and in English translation in order to generate new knowledge about the Islamic world (research courses / digital projects).
 - 2008 Reviews of/Manuals for Digital Libraries of Arabic and Persian Sources together with Michael Bonner, University of Michigan

MAIN GOAL: to provide scholars of Islam with reviews of/manuals for available digital libraries; to conduct a workshop on how to use these resources.

RESULTS: reviews of over 10 digital libraries have been prepared as instructional materials for the Workshop on Electronic Libraries/Databases of Arabic and Islamic SOURCES (conducted in May 2009 @ University of Michigan), which include:

- al-Mu^cjam al-fighī, Qumm, Iran;†
- al-Mawsū·a al-shi·riyya, Abu Dhabi, OAE (available @ www.alraqmiyyat.org);
- a series of libraries by al-Turāth, Amman, Jordan;
- Jāmi^c, Ahl al-bayt Institute, Iran;†

† based on materials prepared earlier with Stanislav Prozorov, SPbIOS/IOM of RAS. Reviews/Manuals are available upon request.

Teaching: Classes

Classical Language, Religion, DH CLASSICAL ARABIC THROUGH THE WORDS OF THE PROPHET

(Introduction to Classical Arabic through the Corpus of Hadīth) Tufts University, Spring 2015

Digital Humanities, Methods Introduction to Text Mining for the Students of Humanities Tufts University, Spring 2015.

(also as an *independent study* with two students: Tufts University, Fall 2014)

History, Digital Humanities Mapping the Classical Islamic World

Tufts University, Winter 2014; Digital Project: Mapping Data from al-Muqaddasī's geographical treatise (10th century CE)

History, DH THE FIRST MILLENNIUM OF THE ISLAMIC NEAR EAST 600-1600 CE U of Michigan, Fall 2012 (as a teaching assistant); Digital Project: Timemaps

Religion Introduction to Islam

U of Michigan: Spring 2011, Winter 2011 (as a teaching assistant), Spring 2010

Language Elementary Modern Standard Arabic

U of Michigan: Fall 2010, Fall/Winter 2009–2010, Fall/Winter 2008–2009, Fall/Winter 2007 - 2008

Classical Language Elementary Classical Arabic U of Michigan, Fall/Winter 2006–2007

Teaching: Workshops

- February 2015 DIGITAL HUMANITIES & ISLAMIC STUDIES @ the University of California, Los Angeles. Organized by Asma Sayeed & The Gustav E. von Grunebaum Center for Near Eastern Studies at UCLA.
- October 2014 Textual Corpora and the Digital Islamic Humanities @ Brown University as a session leader together with Elli Mylonas; organized by Elias Muhanna. For details: http://islamichumanities.org/workshop-2014/
 - May 2009 Electronic Libraries/Databases of Arabic and Islamic sources a part of the Project "The Reviews of / Manuals for Electronic Databases of Arabic and Islamic Sources," in cooperation with Michael Bonner @ U of Michigan.
 - 2008–2009 detailed reviews and manuals for over 10 different databases / electronic libraries were prepared to be used as instructional materials for the Workshop
 - June 2005 Sources for Research on Islam: Textual, Visual, Digital. in cooperation with Professor Marion Katz (New York University) @ SSRC Summer Institute "Teaching Islam in Eurasia," Kazan, Russia.

Fellowships, grants, awards & honors received

- F2015-W2016 (declined) Research Fellowship (Visiting Fellow) at Islamic Legal Studies Program, Harvard Law School, Harvard University.
 - F2012-S2013 Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation.
 - Summer 2013 Hajja Razia Sharif Sheikh Scholarship Award in Islamic Studies, U of Michigan.
 - Fall 2013 People's Choice Award for the poster "Social History of the Muslim World in the Digital Age: Making Sense of 29,000 Biographies from al-Dhahabī's 'History of Islam' " @ Cyberinfrastructure Days, U of Michigan, November 7-8, 2012.
 - W2012-S2012 Rackham Humanities Research Fellowship, U of Michigan.
 - F2011-W2012 Supplementary Grant for the 2011-2012 academic year, Global Supplementary Grant Program, Open Society Institute.
 - Winter 2011 Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant, U of Michigan.
 - Winter 2011 Radcliffe/Ramsdell Fellowship, U of Michigan.
 - Spring 2008 George and Celeste Hourani Award in Arabic, Armenian, Persian, Turkish, and Islamic Studies, the Department of Near Eastern Studies, U of Michigan.
 - Winter 2005 & 2004 Honorary awards for Website development, SPbIOS/IOM of RAS: www.orientalstudies.ru
 - Winter 2004 Honorary award for the best articles and papers by young scholars (for the article "The Paradigm of the Science of the Hadīth"), SPbIOS/IOM of RAS.

Additional training \mathcal{E} experience

- Summer, 2012 "Working with Text in a Digital Age" 3-week summer institute @ Tufts University (Perseus Project)
 - Winter, 2012 THATCamp @ the Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, Chicago, IL
 - Winter, 2011 Introduction to ArcGIS, a series of workshops @ U of Michigan
 - 2009–2010 Cataloguing Arabic manuscripts @ U of Michigan, Special Collections
 - May, 2009 Introduction to Manuscript Studies, a five-day workshop with Dr. Adam Gacek @ U of Michigan
 - 2005–2006 Digitalization of Manuscripts from the Dunhuang Collection, SPbIOS/IOM of RAS

Other publications in Arabic and Islamic studies

Reference Materials

2006 Girgas, Vladimir. Arabic-Russian Dictionary for the Qur'an and Hadīth (Slovar' k arabskoy khrestomatii i Koranu). Kazan', 1881; Preparation of the improved reprint edition; in cooperation with Dr. Stanislav M. Prozorov. Cover title: Arabsko-Russkiy Slovar' k Koranu I Hadisam, St. Petersburg: Dilya Publishers, 2006, ISBN 978-5-88503-555-2.

Translations from Russian into English

in progress Krachkovskii, Ignatii Yulianovich. Arabic Geographical Literature, translation into English. In cooperation with Michael Bonner @ U of Michigan.

Translations from English into Russian

- 2010 Chittick, William. Sufism: a Beginner's Guide. Oxford, England: Oneworld Publications, 2008 (Moscow: "Vostochnaya Literatura": ISBN 978-5-02-036498-1)
- 2006 Cook, Michael. Forbidding Wrong in Islam. Cambridge University Press, 2003; in print (St. Petersburg: Dilya Publishers: ISBN 978-5-88503-684-9); translation into Russian, editing.
- 2006 Watt, W. Montgomery. Muhammad in Mecca. Oxford, 1956 (St. Petersburg: Dilya Publishers, 2006: ISBN 5-88503-507-5); editing, indices, proof-reading.
- 2006 Burton, John. Introduction to the Hadīth. Edinburgh University Press, 1994, (St. Petersburg: Dilya Publishers, 2006, ISBN 5-88503-461-3); translation into Russian (with a co-translator), editing, indices, proof-reading.
- 2005, not published Leaman, Oliver. Islamic Aesthetic: An Introduction. Edinburgh University Press, 2004, (St. Petersburg: Dilya Publishers); translation into Russian (with a co-translator), editing.
 - 2005 Watt, Montgomery & Richard Bell. Introduction to the Quran. Edinburgh University Press, 1970 (first published), (St. Petersburg: Dilya Publishers, 2005, ISBN 5-88503-385-4); translation into Russian (with a co-translators), pre-editing, indices, proof-reading.
 - 2004 Knysh, Alexander. Islamic Mysticism: a short history. Leiden; Boston; Köln: Brill, 2000; translation into Russian, indices, proof-reading and cover design (St. Petersburg: Dilya Publishers, 2004, ISBN 5-88503-232-7).

Last update: March 3, 2015

Natural languages

Arabic modern standard \mathcal{E} classical

English fluent spoken \mathcal{E} written

Russian native

other reading knowledge of German, French, Indonesian; elementary Persian & Turkish

Formal languages \mathcal{E} computer skills

Actively using Python, R, LATEX, QGIS, Adobe Photoshop & Indesign Learning Javascript, D3

Professional membership

2012–present American Oriental Society (AOS)

2008-present Middle East Studies Association (MESA)

Panels Organized @ MESA

New Orleans, 2013 Digital Humanities in Middle East Studies (organized together with Børre Ludvigsen and Will Hanley), a series of two panels and a round table: "Traditional Sources, Nontraditional Methods," "Digital Communication," and Roundtable.

More details...

San Diego, 2010 Islamic Preaching

References

MICHAEL D. BONNER University of Michigan

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Gregory R. Crane Tufts University & Universität Leipzig

Professor of Classics, Department of Classics

Winnick Family Chair of Technology and Entrepreneurship

Editor-in-Chief, Perseus Digital Library Project

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— & —

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Sherman A. Jackson University of South California

King Faisal Chair in Islamic Thought and Culture

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