

On The Zero-Free Regions for Polynomials

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Abstract: In this paper we find the zero-free regions for a class of polynomials whose coefficients or their real and imaginary parts are restricted to certain conditions.

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I. INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENT OF RESULTS

The following result, known as the Enestrom-Keakeya Theorem [5], is well-known in the theory of distribution of zeros of polynomials:

Theorem A: Let $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$ be a polynomial of degree n such that

$$a_n \geq a_{n-1} \geq \dots \geq a_1 \geq a_0 > 0.$$

Then $P(z)$ has all its zeros in the closed unit disk $|z| \leq 1$.

In the literature there exist several generalizations and extensions of this result. Recently, Choo and Choi [1] proved the following results:

Theorem B: Let $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$ be a polynomial of degree n such that

either $a_n \geq a_{n-2} \geq \dots \geq a_3 \geq a_1$ and $a_{n-1} \geq a_{n-3} \geq \dots \geq a_2 \geq a_0$, if n is odd, or

$a_n \geq a_{n-2} \geq \dots \geq a_2 \geq a_0$ and $a_{n-1} \geq a_{n-3} \geq \dots \geq a_3 \geq a_1$, if n is even. Then $P(z)$

does not vanish in

$$|z| < \frac{|a_0|}{|a_n| + a_n + |a_{n-1}| + a_{n-1} + |a_1| + a_1 - a_0}.$$

Theorem C: Let $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$ be a polynomial of degree n with $\operatorname{Re}(a_j) = \alpha_j$ and $\operatorname{Im}(a_j) = \beta_j$,

$j=0,1,2,\dots,n$, such that

$$k\alpha_n \geq \alpha_{n-1} \geq \dots \geq \alpha_1 \geq \alpha_0,$$

$$\beta_n \geq \beta_{n-1} \geq \dots \geq \beta_1 \geq \beta_0.$$

Then $P(z)$ does not vanish in

$$|z| < \frac{|a_0|}{|a_n| + (k-1)|\alpha_n| + k\alpha_n - \alpha_0 + \beta_n - \beta_0}.$$

Theorem D: Let $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$ be a polynomial of degree n such that for some β ,

$$|\arg a_j - \beta| \leq \alpha \leq \frac{\pi}{2}, j=0,1,\dots,n,$$

and for some $k \geq 1$,

$$k|a_n| \geq |a_{n-1}| \geq \dots \geq |a_1| \geq |a_0|.$$

Then $P(z)$ does not vanish in

$$|z| < \frac{|a_0|}{k|a_n| + (k|a_n| - |a_0|)\cos\alpha + (k|a_n| + |a_0|)\sin\alpha + 2\sin\alpha \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} |a_j|}.$$

M. H. Gulzar [3,4] proved the following results:

Theorem E: Let $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$ be a polynomial of degree n such that for some $k_1 \geq 1, k_2 \geq 1, 0 < \tau_1 \leq 1, 0 < \tau_2 \leq 1$, either $k_1 a_n \geq a_{n-2} \geq \dots \geq a_3 \geq \tau_1 a_1$ and $k_2 a_{n-1} \geq a_{n-3} \geq \dots \geq a_2 \geq \tau_2 a_0$, if n is odd, or $k_1 a_n \geq a_{n-2} \geq \dots \geq a_2 \geq \tau_1 a_0$ and $k_2 a_{n-1} \geq a_{n-3} \geq \dots \geq a_3 \geq \tau_2 a_1$, if n is even. Then for odd n , $P(z)$ has all its zeros in

$$\left| z + \frac{a_{n-1}}{a_n} \right| \leq \frac{K_1}{|a_n|},$$

where

$$K_1 = k_1(|a_n| + a_n) + k_2(|a_{n-1}| + a_{n-1}) + 2(|a_1| + |a_0|) - (|a_n| + |a_{n-1}|) - \tau_1(a_1 + |a_1|) - \tau_2(a_0 + |a_0|),$$

and for even n , $P(z)$ has all its zeros in

$$\left| z + \frac{a_{n-1}}{a_n} \right| \leq \frac{K_2}{|a_n|},$$

where

$$K_2 = k_1(|a_n| + a_n) + k_2(|a_{n-1}| + a_{n-1}) + 2(|a_1| + |a_0|) - (|a_n| + |a_{n-1}|) - \tau_1(a_0 + |a_0|) - \tau_2(a_1 + |a_1|).$$

Theorem F: Let $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$ be a polynomial of degree n with $\text{Re}(a_j) = \alpha_j$ and $\text{Im}(a_j) = \beta_j$, $j=0,1,2,\dots,n$, such that

$$k\alpha_n \geq \alpha_{n-1} \geq \dots \geq \alpha_1 \geq \tau\alpha_0.$$

Then all the zeros of $P(z)$ lie in

$$\left| z + (k-1)\frac{\alpha_n}{a_n} \right| \leq \frac{k\alpha_n + 2|\alpha_0| - \tau(|\alpha_0| + \alpha_0) + |\beta_n| + 2\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} |\beta_j|}{|a_n|}.$$

Theorem G: Let $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$ be a polynomial of degree n such that for some β ,

$$|\arg a_j - \beta| \leq \alpha \leq \frac{\pi}{2}, j=0,1,\dots,n,$$

and for some $k \geq 1, 0 < \tau \leq 1$

$$k|a_n| \geq |a_{n-1}| \geq \dots \geq |a_1| \geq \tau|a_0|.$$

Then $P(z)$ has all its zeros in

$$|z + k - 1| < \frac{1}{|a_n|} \left[k|a_n|(\cos\alpha + \sin\alpha) + 2|a_0| - \tau(|a_0| + a_0) + 2\sin\alpha \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} |a_j| \right].$$

The aim of this paper is to generalize some of the above-mentioned results. More precisely, we prove the following results:

Theorem 1: Let $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$ be a polynomial of degree n such that for some $k_1 \geq 1, k_2 \geq 1, 0 < \tau_1 \leq 1, 0 < \tau_2 \leq 1$, either $k_1 a_n \geq a_{n-2} \geq \dots \geq a_3 \geq \tau_1 a_1$ and $k_2 a_{n-1} \geq a_{n-3} \geq \dots \geq a_2 \geq \tau_2 a_0$, if n is odd, or $k_1 a_n \geq a_{n-2} \geq \dots \geq a_2 \geq \tau_1 a_0$ and $k_2 a_{n-1} \geq a_{n-3} \geq \dots \geq a_3 \geq \tau_2 a_1$, if n is even. Then $P(z)$ does not vanish in

$$|z| < \frac{|a_0|}{k_1(|a_n| + a_n) + k_2(|a_{n-1}| + a_{n-1}) - \tau_1(|a_1| + a_1) - \tau_2(|a_0| + a_0) + 2|a_1| + |a_0|}, \text{ if } n \text{ is odd,}$$

and in

$$|z| < \frac{|a_0|}{k_1(|a_n| + a_n) + k_2(|a_{n-1}| + a_{n-1}) - \tau_1(|a_0| + a_0) - \tau_2(|a_1| + a_1) + 2|a_1| + |a_0|}, \text{ if } n \text{ is even.}$$

Remark 1: Taking $k_1 = 1, k_2 = 1, \tau_1 = 1, \tau_2 = 1$, Theorem 1 reduces to Theorem B.

If z is a zero of $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$, then

$$|z| = \left| z + \frac{a_{n-1}}{a_n} - \frac{a_{n-1}}{a_n} \right| \leq \left| z + \frac{a_{n-1}}{a_n} \right| + \left| \frac{a_{n-1}}{a_n} \right|.$$

Therefore, combining Theorem E and Theorem 1, we arrive at the following result:

Corollary 1: Let $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$ be a polynomial of degree n such that for some $k_1 \geq 1, k_2 \geq 1, 0 < \tau_1 \leq 1, 0 < \tau_2 \leq 1$, either $k_1 a_n \geq a_{n-2} \geq \dots \geq a_3 \geq \tau_1 a_1$ and $k_2 a_{n-1} \geq a_{n-3} \geq \dots \geq a_2 \geq \tau_2 a_0$, if n is odd, or $k_1 a_n \geq a_{n-2} \geq \dots \geq a_2 \geq \tau_1 a_0$ and $k_2 a_{n-1} \geq a_{n-3} \geq \dots \geq a_3 \geq \tau_2 a_1$, if n is even. Then for odd n , $P(z)$ has all its zeros in

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{|a_0|}{k_1(|a_n| + a_n) + k_2(|a_{n-1}| + a_{n-1}) - \tau_1(|a_1| + a_1) - \tau_2(|a_0| + a_0) + 2|a_1| + |a_0|} \\ & \leq |z| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{|a_n|} \left[k_1(|a_n| + a_n) + k_2(|a_{n-1}| + a_{n-1}) + 2(|a_1| + |a_0|) - (|a_n| + |a_{n-1}|) - \tau_1(a_1 + |a_1|) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \tau_2(a_0 + |a_0|) + |a_{n-1}| \right], \end{aligned}$$

and for even n , $P(z)$ has all its zeros in

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{|a_0|}{k_1(|a_n| + a_n) + k_2(|a_{n-1}| + a_{n-1}) - \tau_1(|a_0| + a_0) - \tau_2(|a_1| + a_1) + 2|a_1| + |a_0|} \\ & \leq |z| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{|a_n|} \left[k_1(|a_n| + a_n) + k_2(|a_{n-1}| + a_{n-1}) + 2(|a_1| + |a_0|) - (|a_n| + |a_{n-1}|) - \tau_1(a_0 + |a_0|) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \tau_2(a_1 + |a_1|) + |a_{n-1}| \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 2: Let $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$ be a polynomial of degree n with $\text{Re}(a_j) = \alpha_j$ and $\text{Im}(a_j) = \beta_j, j=0,1,2,\dots,n$, such that

$$k\alpha_n \geq \alpha_{n-1} \geq \dots \geq \alpha_1 \geq \tau\alpha_0.$$

Then $P(z)$ does not vanish in

$$|z| < \frac{|a_0|}{|a_n| + k(|\alpha_n| + \alpha_n) - \tau(|\alpha_0| + \alpha_0) + |\alpha_0| + |\beta_n| + |\beta_0| + 2\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} |\beta_j|}.$$

Remark 2: If in Theorem 2, we have, in addition,

$$\beta_n \geq \beta_{n-1} \geq \dots \geq \beta_1 \geq \beta_0,$$

then $\sum_{j=1}^n |\beta_j - \beta_{j-1}| = \beta_n - \beta_0$, and we have the following result:

Theorem 3: Let $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$ be a polynomial of degree n with $\operatorname{Re}(a_j) = \alpha_j$ and $\operatorname{Im}(a_j) = \beta_j$,

$j=0,1,2,\dots,n$, such that

$$k\alpha_n \geq \alpha_{n-1} \geq \dots \geq \alpha_1 \geq \tau\alpha_0,$$

$$\beta_n \geq \beta_{n-1} \geq \dots \geq \beta_1 \geq \beta_0.$$

Then $P(z)$ does not vanish in

$$|z| < \frac{|a_0|}{|a_n| + k(|\alpha_n| + \alpha_n) - \tau(|\alpha_0| + \alpha_0) + |\alpha_0| + \beta_n - \beta_0}.$$

Remark 3: Taking $\tau = 1$, Theorem 3 reduces to Theorem C.

Combining Theorem 2 and Theorem F, we get the following result:

Corollary 2: Let $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$ be a polynomial of degree n with $\operatorname{Re}(a_j) = \alpha_j$ and $\operatorname{Im}(a_j) = \beta_j$,

$j=0,1,2,\dots,n$, such that

$$k\alpha_n \geq \alpha_{n-1} \geq \dots \geq \alpha_1 \geq \tau\alpha_0.$$

Then $P(z)$ has all its zeros in

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{|a_0|}{|a_n| + k(|\alpha_n| + \alpha_n) - \tau(|\alpha_0| + \alpha_0) + |\alpha_0| + |\beta_n| + |\beta_0| + 2\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} |\beta_j|} \\ & \leq |z| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{|a_n|} [k\alpha_n + 2|\alpha_0| - \tau(|\alpha_0| + \alpha_0) + |\beta_n| + 2\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} |\beta_j| + (k-1)|a_{n-1}|] \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 4: Let $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$ be a polynomial of degree n such that for some β ,

$$|\arg a_j - \beta| \leq \alpha \leq \frac{\pi}{2}, j=0,1,\dots,n,$$

and for some $k \geq 1$, $0 < \tau \leq 1$

$$k|a_n| \geq |a_{n-1}| \geq \dots \geq |a_1| \geq \tau|a_0|.$$

Then $P(z)$ does not vanish in

$$|z| < \frac{|a_0|}{k|a_n|(\cos\alpha + \sin\alpha + 1) - \tau|a_0|(\cos\alpha - \sin\alpha + 1) + |a_0| + 2\sin\alpha \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} |a_j|}.$$

Remark 4: Taking $\tau = 1$, Theorem 4 reduces to Theorem D.

Combining Theorem 4 and Theorem G, we get the following result:

Corollary 3 : Let $P(z) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j z^j$ be a polynomial of degree n such that for some β ,

$$|\arg a_j - \beta| \leq \alpha \leq \frac{\pi}{2}, j=0,1,\dots,n,$$

and for some $k \geq 1, 0 < \tau \leq 1$

$$k|a_n| \geq |a_{n-1}| \geq \dots \geq |a_1| \geq \tau|a_0|.$$

Then $P(z)$ has all its zeros in

$$\frac{|a_0|}{k|a_n|(\cos\alpha + \sin\alpha + 1) - \tau|a_0|(\cos\alpha - \sin\alpha + 1) + |a_0| + 2\sin\alpha \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} |a_j|} \leq |z| \leq \frac{1}{|a_n|} \left[k|a_n|(\cos\alpha + \sin\alpha) + 2|a_0| - \tau(|a_0| + a_0) + 2\sin\alpha \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} |a_j| + (k-1)|a_n| \right].$$

II. LEMMA

For the proofs of the above results, we need the following lemma:

Lemma: For any two complex numbers b_0 and b_1 such that $|b_0| \geq |b_1|$ and

$$|\arg b_j - \beta| \leq \alpha \leq \frac{\pi}{2}, j = 0,1 \text{ for some real } \beta,$$

$$|b_0 - b_1| \leq (|b_0| - |b_1|)\cos\alpha + (|b_0| + |b_1|)\sin\alpha.$$

The above lemma is due to Govil and Rahman [2].

III. PROOFS OF THE THEOREMS

Proof of Theorem 1: Let n be odd. Consider the polynomial

$$\begin{aligned} F(z) &= (1 - z^2)P(z) \\ &= (1 - z^2)(a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 z + a_0) \\ &= -a_n z^{n+2} - a_{n-1} z^{n+1} + (a_n - a_{n-2})z^n + (a_{n-1} - a_{n-3})z^{n-1} + \dots \\ &\quad + (a_3 - a_1)z^3 + (a_2 - a_0)z^2 + a_1 z + a_0 \\ &= a_0 + q(z), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} q(z) &= -a_n z^{n+2} - a_{n-1} z^{n+1} + (a_n - a_{n-2})z^n + (a_{n-1} - a_{n-3})z^{n-1} + \dots \\ &\quad + (a_3 - a_1)z^3 + (a_2 - a_0)z^2 + a_1 z \\ &= -a_n z^{n+2} - a_{n-1} z^{n+1} + (k_1 a_n - a_{n-2})z^n - (k_1 - 1)a_n z^n + (k_2 a_{n-1} - a_{n-3})z^{n-1} \\ &\quad - (k_2 - 1)a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + (a_3 - \tau_1 a_1)z^3 + (\tau_1 - 1)a_1 z^3 + (a_2 - \tau_2 a_0)z^2 \\ &\quad + (\tau_2 - 1)a_0 z^2 + a_1 z \end{aligned}$$

For $|z| < 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} |q(z)| &\leq |a_n| + |a_{n-1}| + k_1 |a_n - a_{n-1}| + (k_1 - 1)|a_n| + k_2 |a_{n-1} - a_{n-3}| + (k_2 - 1)|a_{n-1}| + \dots \\ &\quad + a_3 - \tau_1 a_1 + (1 - \tau_1)|a_1| + a_2 - \tau_2 a_0 + (1 - \tau_2)|a_0| + |a_1| \\ &= k_1(|a_n| + a_n) + k_2(|a_{n-1}| + a_{n-1}) - \tau_1(|a_1| + a_1) - \tau_2(|a_0| + a_0) + 2|a_1| + |a_0| \\ &= M_1. \end{aligned}$$

Since $q(z)$ is analytic for $|z| < 1$ and $q(0)=0$, it follows , by Rouché's theorem, that

$$|q(z)| \leq M_1 |z| \text{ for } |z| < 1.$$

Hence, it follows that, for $|z| < 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} |F(z)| &= |a_0 + q(z)| \\ &\geq |a_0| - |q(z)| \\ &\geq |a_0| - M_1 |z| \\ &> 0 \end{aligned}$$

if

$$|z| < \frac{|a_0|}{M_1}.$$

It is easy to see that $M_1 \geq |a_0|$ and the proof is complete if n is odd.

The proof for even n is similar.

Proof of Theorem 2: Consider the polynomial

$$\begin{aligned} F(z) &= (1-z)P(z) \\ &= (1-z)(a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 z + a_0) \\ &= -a_n z^{n+1} + (a_n - a_{n-1})z^n + (a_{n-1} - a_{n-2})z^{n-1} + \dots \\ &\quad + (a_2 - a_1)z^2 + (a_1 - a_0)z + a_0 \\ &= -a_n z^{n+1} + (\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1})z^n + (\alpha_{n-1} - \alpha_{n-2})z^{n-1} + \dots + (\alpha_2 - \alpha_1)z^2 \\ &\quad + (\alpha_1 - \alpha_0)z + a_0 + i \sum_{j=1}^n (\beta_j - \beta_{j-1})z^j \\ &= a_0 + q(z), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} q(z) &= -a_n z^{n+1} + (\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1})z^n + (\alpha_{n-1} - \alpha_{n-2})z^{n-1} + \dots + (\alpha_2 - \alpha_1)z^2 \\ &\quad + (\alpha_1 - \alpha_0)z + i \sum_{j=1}^n (\beta_j - \beta_{j-1})z^j \\ &= -a_n z^{n+1} + (k\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1})z^n - (k-1)\alpha_n z^n + (\alpha_{n-1} - \alpha_{n-2})z^{n-1} \\ &\quad + \dots + (\alpha_2 - \alpha_1)z^2 + (\alpha_1 - \tau\alpha_0)z + (\tau-1)\alpha_0 z + i \sum_{j=1}^n (\beta_j - \beta_{j-1})z^j \end{aligned}$$

For $|z| < 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} |q(z)| &\leq |a_n| + k\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1} + (k-1)|\alpha_n| + \alpha_{n-1} - \alpha_{n-2} + \dots + \alpha_2 - \alpha_1 \\ &\quad + \alpha_1 - \tau\alpha_0 + (1-\tau)|\alpha_0| + \sum_{j=1}^n (|\beta_j| + |\beta_{j-1}|) \\ &= |a_n| + k(|\alpha_n| + \alpha_n) - |\alpha_n| - \tau(|\alpha_0| + \alpha_0) + |\alpha_0| + |\beta_0| + |\beta_n| + 2 \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} |\beta_j| \\ &= M_2 \end{aligned}$$

Since $q(z)$ is analytic for $|z| < 1$ and $q(0)=0$, it follows , by Rouché's theorem, that

$$|q(z)| \leq M_2 |z| \text{ for } |z| < 1.$$

Hence, it follows that, for $|z| < 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} |F(z)| &= |a_0 + q(z)| \\ &\geq |a_0| - |q(z)| \\ &\geq |a_0| - M_2|z| \\ &> 0 \end{aligned}$$

if

$$|z| < \frac{|a_0|}{M_2}.$$

It is easy to see that $M_2 \geq |a_0|$ and the proof is complete

Proof of Theorem 4: Consider the polynomial

$$\begin{aligned} F(z) &= (1-z)P(z) \\ &= (1-z)(a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 z + a_0) \\ &= -a_n z^{n+1} + (a_n - a_{n-1})z^n + (a_{n-1} - a_{n-2})z^{n-1} + \dots \\ &\quad + (a_2 - a_1)z^2 + (a_1 - a_0)z + a_0 \\ &= a_0 + q(z), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} q(z) &= -a_n z^{n+1} + (a_n - a_{n-1})z^n + (a_{n-1} - a_{n-2})z^{n-1} + \dots + (a_2 - a_1)z^2 \\ &\quad + (a_1 - a_0)z \\ &= -a_n z^{n+1} + (ka_n - a_{n-1})z^n - (k-1)a_n z^n + (a_{n-1} - a_{n-2})z^{n-1} \\ &\quad + \dots + (a_2 - a_1)z^2 + (a_1 - \tau a_0)z + (\tau - 1)a_0 z. \end{aligned}$$

For $|z| < 1$, we have, by using the lemma,

$$\begin{aligned} |q(z)| &\leq |a_n| + |ka_n - a_{n-1}| + (k-1)|a_n| + |a_{n-1} - a_{n-2}| + \dots + |a_2 - a_1| \\ &\quad + |a_1 - \tau a_0| + (1-\tau)|a_0| \\ &\leq |a_n| + (k|a_n| - |a_{n-1}|)\cos\alpha + (k|a_n| + |a_{n-1}|)\sin\alpha + (k-1)|a_n| \\ &\quad + (|a_{n-1}| - |a_{n-2}|)\cos\alpha + (|a_{n-1}| + |a_{n-2}|)\sin\alpha + \dots \\ &\quad + (|a_2| - |a_1|)\cos\alpha + (|a_2| + |a_1|)\sin\alpha + (|a_1| - \tau|a_0|)\cos\alpha \\ &\quad + (|a_1| + \tau|a_0|)\sin\alpha + (1-\tau)|a_0| \\ &= k|a_n|(\cos\alpha + \sin\alpha + 1) - \tau|a_0|(\cos\alpha - \sin\alpha + 1) + |a_0| + 2\sin\alpha \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} |a_j| \\ &= M_3 \end{aligned}$$

Since $q(z)$ is analytic for $|z| < 1$ and $q(0)=0$, it follows, by Rouché's theorem, that

$$|q(z)| \leq M_3|z| \text{ for } |z| < 1.$$

Hence, it follows that, for $|z| < 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} |F(z)| &= |a_0 + q(z)| \\ &\geq |a_0| - |q(z)| \\ &\geq |a_0| - M_3|z| \\ &> 0 \end{aligned}$$

if

$$|z| < \frac{|a_0|}{M_3}.$$

It is easy to see that $M_3 \geq |a_0|$ and the proof is complete

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