

Precision Electroweak Experiments and Heavy Physics: A Global Analysis

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(Received 12 September 1990)

The radiative corrections of heavy degenerate and nondegenerate electroweak multiplets do not decouple from low-energy experiments. Their effects can be parametrized in a general renormalization-scheme-independent way. For isospin-breaking h_V and chiral-breaking h_{AZ} and h_{AW} , derived from the Z and W self-energies, a global analysis of existing neutral-current and Z and W data yields $-1.2 < h_V < 0.9$, $-3.5 < h_{AZ} < 1.0$, $-4.4 < h_{AW} < 2.4$ (90% C.L.). The expectations for future experiments are described, and the implications for the top-quark and Higgs-boson masses, new generations, supersymmetry, and technicolor are discussed.

PACS numbers: 12.15.-y, 12.50.-d, 14.80.Er, 14.80.Gt

One of the consequences of electroweak symmetry breaking is that radiative corrections due to heavy particles with weak isospin do not decouple from low-energy interactions. Such processes thus constrain the possible types and masses of particles heavier than the Z . The generic effects of this "nondecoupling" have been known for some time.¹ The analysis of heavy-top-quark and -Higgs-boson corrections was presented in Ref. 2, while more recently important partial analyses have been applied to technicolor theories in the papers of Peskin and Takeuchi³ and Golden and Randall.⁴

The constraints on heavy physics are actually better than previously believed, as pointed out by Marciano and Rosner, because of recent improvements in atomic parity-violation experiments.⁵ We present a new global analysis of heavy physics, incorporating the best current data and parametrizing the nondecoupling in a general renormalization-scheme-invariant way, derived from the formalism of Kennedy and Lynn.⁶ We represent the heavy physics in a general three-parameter form and fit to all three independently without constraints.

Our analysis includes the complete one-loop standard-model (SM) contributions with variable top-quark and Higgs-boson masses. The effects of nonstandard (NS) physics are considered here *only* insofar as they appear in the gauge-boson self-energies ("oblique" in Ref. 3), as these occur universally in all electroweak processes. Let J_A, J_Z, J_W be the electroweak gauge currents. Thus $J_A = eJ_Q$, $J_Z = (e/sc)(J_3 - s^2 J_q)$, and $J_W = (e/s) \times J_1$, where 1 and 3 refer to weak isospin. Defining the scalars Π as the transverse parts of the self-energies (proportional to $g_{\mu\nu}$) then

$$\Pi_{QQ} = \langle J_Q J_Q \rangle, \quad \Pi_{3Q} = \langle J_3 J_Q \rangle, \quad (1)$$

$$\Pi_{33} = \langle J_3 J_3 \rangle, \quad \Pi_{11} = \langle J_1 J_1 \rangle.$$

Ward identities require $\Pi_{QQ} = q^2 \Pi'_{QQ}$ and (ignoring the gauge-boson loops) $\Pi_{3Q} = q^2 \Pi'_{3Q}$. Nondecoupling of heavy physics occurs in three independent finite combinations of Π 's. The first is due to the breaking of custodial $SU(2)_V$ isospin (ρ parameter):

$$\Delta_\rho(q^2) \equiv \Pi_{11}(q^2) - \Pi_{33}(q^2). \quad (2)$$

A second and third arise from the breaking of chiral $SU(2)_A$ isospin. One occurs in the neutral current,

$$\Delta_3(q^2) \equiv \Pi_{33}(0) + q^2 \Pi'_{3Q} - \Pi_{33}; \quad (3)$$

and the other in the charged current,

$$\Delta_1(q^2) \equiv \Pi_{11}(0) + q^2 \Pi'_{3Q} - \Pi_{11}. \quad (4)$$

$\Delta_\rho(q^2)$ receives contributions from any isomultiplet with mass splittings. $\Delta_3(q^2)$ and $\Delta_1(q^2)$ arise from chiral symmetry breaking, e.g., fermion masses or technicolor. Π is the proper self-energy, computable perturbatively to any order, or nonperturbatively.⁷

The natural choice of measurables occurs at low energies ($q^2=0$: α, G_F, ρ) and at the gauge-boson poles ($q^2 = M_Z^2, M_W^2$: $M_Z, M_W, \Gamma_Z, \Gamma_W, Z$ asymmetries). G_F here refers to the universal Fermi constant with the nonelectromagnetic vertex and box corrections specific to given initial and final states removed; e.g.,

$$G_F = G_\mu \left\{ 1 + \frac{\alpha(M_Z)}{2\pi s_\theta^2} \left[3 - \left(\frac{1}{2} c_\theta^2 - 3 \frac{c_\theta^2}{s_\theta^2} \right) \text{In} c_\theta^2 \right] - \frac{\alpha(M_Z)}{8\pi} \left[5 \frac{c_\theta^4}{s_\theta^4} - 3 \right] \text{In} c_\theta^2 \right\}^{-1}, \quad (5)$$

where $c_\theta^2 \equiv M_W^2/M_Z^2$, and $G_\mu = 1.16637 \times 10^{-5} \text{ GeV}^{-2}$ is the standard muon decay constant.^{6,8} Dimensionless heavy physics parameters are then h_V, h_{AZ}, h_{AW} :⁹

$$ah_V \equiv 4\sqrt{2}G_F \Delta_\rho(0),$$

$$h_{AZ} \equiv -16\pi \Delta_3(Z)/M_Z^2, \quad (6)$$

$$h_{AW} \equiv -16\pi \Delta_1(W)/M_W^2.$$

Our SM reference point is $m_t = M_H = M_Z$, and we display explicitly only deviations from this reference; i.e.,

$$h = h^{\text{NS}} + \Delta h^{\text{SM}}, \quad (7)$$

where h^{NS} represents the contributions of nonstandard physics, and keeping only the leading quadratic and log-

arithmetic terms,

$$\Delta h_V^{\text{SM}} = \frac{3G_F M_Z^2}{8\sqrt{2}\alpha\pi^2} \left[\left(\frac{m_t}{M_Z} \right)^2 - 1 \right] - \frac{3G_F}{8\sqrt{2}\alpha\pi^2} (M_Z^2 - M_W^2) \ln(M_H^2/M_Z^2), \quad (8a)$$

$$\Delta h_{AZ}^{\text{SM}} = -\frac{1}{6\pi} \ln(m_t^2/M_Z^2) + \frac{1}{12\pi} \ln(m_H^2/M_Z^2), \quad (8b)$$

$$\Delta h_{AW}^{\text{SM}} = +\frac{1}{3\pi} \ln(m_t^2/M_Z^2) + \frac{1}{12\pi} \ln(m_H^2/M_Z^2). \quad (8c)$$

Let M_{Z0} and M_{W0} be the gauge-boson masses with $h_V = h_{AZ} = h_{AW} \equiv 0$. Then the physical masses are

$$M_Z^2 = M_{Z0}^2 \left(\frac{1 - ah_V}{1 - 4\sqrt{2}G_F M_{Z0}^2 (h_{AZ}/16\pi)} \right), \quad (9a)$$

$$M_W^2 = M_{W0}^2 \left(\frac{1}{1 - 4\sqrt{2}G_F M_{W0}^2 (h_{AW}/16\pi)} \right). \quad (9b)$$

Here and below, $\alpha \equiv \alpha(0) \approx 1/137$. Next, define $\Gamma_{Z,W}$ as the gauge-boson widths renormalized by the pole residues:^{3,6} $\Gamma \equiv \Gamma^0/\text{residue}$. Then

$$\Gamma_Z = G_F M_Z^3 \gamma_Z / (1 - ah_V), \quad (10a)$$

$$\Gamma_W = G_F M_W^3 \gamma_W, \quad (10b)$$

a convenient representation that incorporates all of the nonheavy SM physics into $\gamma_{Z,W}$ in a renormalization-scheme-invariant way. M_{Z0} , M_{W0} , and γ_Z are the canonical functions of the weak mixing angle s_R^2 , which is taken to be $s_*^2(M_Z^2)$ in the scheme of Ref. 6 or $\sin^2\theta(M_Z^2)_{\overline{\text{MS}}}$ in that of Ref. 10. ($\overline{\text{MS}}$ denotes the modified minimal-subtraction scheme.) All ordinary (i.e., due to light physics) radiative corrections are incorporated into these expressions and into γ_W .¹¹

Finally, the low-energy neutral-current matrix element is

$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{NC}} = \frac{4\sqrt{2}G_F}{1 - ah_V} (I_{3L} - s_R^2 Q) (I_{3L}' - s_R^2 Q'). \quad (11)$$

Equation (11) is schematic only. The ordinary (light-physics) radiative corrections, including the running of s_R^2 to $q^2=0$ and vertex and box corrections should be included in \mathcal{M}_{NC} even though they are not displayed.

The observables of Eqs. (9)-(11) depend on h_V , h_{AZ} , and h_{AW} in a simple way, provided M_{Z0} , M_{W0} , γ_Z , γ_W , and \mathcal{M}_{NC} are written in terms of s_R^2 . We leave s_R^2 as a free parameter to be determined in a simultaneous fit of h_V , h_{AZ} , h_{AW} , and s_R^2 . An alternative would be to express the observables in terms of s_Z^2 , which is the apparent value of the weak mixing angle calculated from M_Z assuming $h_{V,A} \equiv 0$ (e.g., $s_Z^2 = 0.2333 \pm 0.0004$ in the $\overline{\text{MS}}$ scheme, $s_Z^2 = 0.2330 \pm 0.0004$ in the * scheme). From Eq. (9a),

$$s_R^2 = s_Z^2 - \frac{s_R^2 c_R^2}{1 - 2s_R^2} \left(ah_V - 4\sqrt{2}G_F M_{Z0}^2 \frac{h_{AZ}}{16\pi} \right). \quad (12)$$

One then fits with $h_{V,A}$ as free parameters.⁵ Although the apparent dependence of Eqs. (9)-(11) on $h_{V,A}$ would be different, the two approaches are equivalent.

For the data set, we take (a) the low-energy neutral-current results of Ref. 2; (b) the CERN LEP Z -pole measurements ($M_Z = 91.172 \pm 0.031$ GeV, $\Gamma_Z = 2.498 \pm 0.020$ GeV, $\Gamma_{l+l-} = 84.0 \pm 0.9$ MeV, and $R = \Gamma_{\text{had}}/\Gamma_{l+l-} = 20.89 \pm 0.27$, where Γ_{l+l-} is the average width for $Z \rightarrow e^+e^-$, $\mu^+\mu^-$, $\tau^+\tau^-$, and Γ_{had} is the total width to hadrons);¹² (c) the weak charge $Q_W = -71.04 \pm 1.58(\text{expt}) \pm 0.88(\text{th})$ for atomic parity violation in cesium, based on the data of Noecker *et al.*¹³ and the new atomic calculation of Blundell, Johnson, and Sapirstein;¹⁴ (d) the combined $M_W/M_Z = 0.880 \pm 0.004$ ($M_W = 80.2 \pm 0.3$ GeV) from UA2 and CDF;¹⁵ and (e) the preliminary CHARM-II measurement of $\sigma(\nu_\mu e)/\sigma(\bar{\nu}_\mu e)$,¹⁶ yielding

$$\sin^2\theta_W^0 = 0.240 \pm 0.009(\text{stat}) \pm 0.008(\text{syst})$$

in the tree-level formula.

Figure 1 displays the sensitivity of various experimental results to h_V , h_{AW} , and h_{AZ} . In particular, Q_W^{CS} combined with M_Z strongly restricts h_{AZ} , as was emphasized in Ref. 5. Similarly, deep-inelastic neutrino scattering and M_Z , or Γ_Z and Γ_{l+l-} combined with M_Z , each separately yield a correlated region in the (h_V, h_{AZ}) plane. The combination of M_W/M_Z with M_Z does also, if we assume $h_{AW} = h_{AZ} \equiv h_A$. The combination of M_W , M_Z , and the other quantities allow a simultaneous determination of h_V , h_{AW} , h_{AZ} , and s_R^2 . One obtains the following:

$$\begin{aligned} h_V &= -0.1 \pm 0.8, & h_{AZ} &= -1.1 \pm 1.7, \\ h_{AW} &= -0.8 \pm 2.6, \\ \sin^2\theta(M_Z^2)_{\overline{\text{MS}}} &= 0.230 \pm 0.004, \\ s_*^2(M_Z^2) &= 0.230 \pm 0.004. \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

The corresponding upper limits on the h 's are $h_V < 0.9$ (1.2), $h_{AZ} < 1.0$ (1.6), $h_{AW} < 2.4$ (3.3) at 90% (95%) C.L.¹⁷ The results are hardly changed if, as in Ref. 3, we constrain $h_{AW} = h_{AZ} \equiv h_A$, for which $h_A < 0.7$ (1.2). Similarly, $h_V > -1.2$, $h_{AZ} > -3.5$, $h_{AW} > -4.4$ at 90% C.L. These results can be regarded as direct constraints on new heavy physics h^{NS} for the reference value $m_t = M_H = M_Z$. For arbitrary m_t, M_H , they apply to $h^{\text{NS}} + \Delta h^{\text{SM}}$, where the Δh^{SM} are given in (8). For $m_t \gg M_Z$ the dominant modification is the positive $(m_t/M_Z)^2$ contribution to Δh_V^{SM} , so that the upper limit on h_V^{NS} is more stringent: e.g., $h_V^{\text{NS}} < -0.5$ (-0.2) for $m_t = 200$ GeV, $M_H = M_Z$.

In Fig. 2 we display the sensitivity of expected future measurements of M_W , A_{LR} , and Q_W . It is clear that these future measurements will significantly improve the determination of h_{AZ} , an improvement mainly due to the polarization asymmetry A_{LR} . In fact, A_{LR} alone, combined with present data, would improve the 1σ uncertainty in h_{AZ} in Eq. (13) to approximately ± 0.5 . The

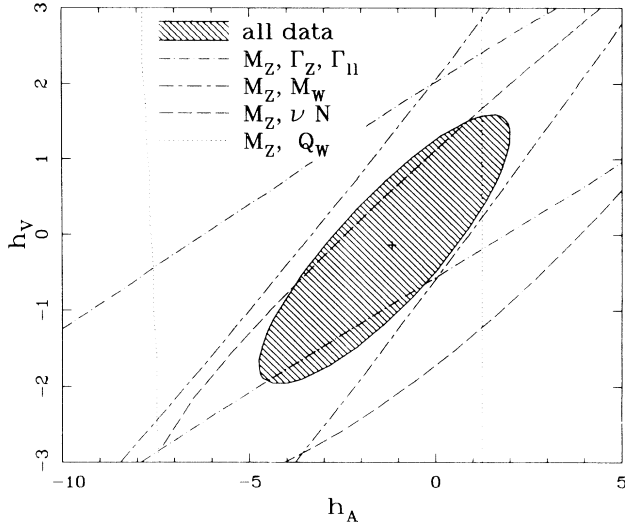


FIG. 1. 90%-C.L. regions in (h_A, h_V) from simultaneous fits of (Q_W, M_Z) , $(\nu N, M_Z)$, $(\Gamma_Z, \Gamma_{1+1-}, M_Z)$, (M_W, M_Z) , and *(all data)*. The first three fits are to $h_A \equiv h_{AZ}$, h_V , and $s\hat{k}$, and do not constrain h_{AW} . The last two are for the special case $h_{AW} = h_{AZ}$.

combination of A_{LR} , M_W , and Q_W will lower the error in h_V to about ± 0.4 , while not essentially changing the uncertainty in h_{AZ} .

Within the context of the standard model ($h^{NS} = 0$) the upper limit on h_V reproduces the limits $m_t < 172$ GeV (190 GeV) at 90% (95%) C.L. for $M_H = M_Z$, or $m_t < 196$ GeV (212 GeV) for $M_H = 1$ TeV. There are no useful constraints on M_H .

Our analysis places important restrictions on new physics even with the loosest conditions, $m_t = M_H = M_Z$. (All limits are quoted at 90% C.L.) Each member of an isomultiplet of degenerate heavy fermions contributes to h_{AZ} :

$$h_{AZ} = (L_3 - R_3)^2 N_C / 3\pi, \quad (14)$$

where L_3 , R_3 are the left- and right-handed couplings to the isocurrent J_3 , and $N_C = 1$ (3) for leptons (quarks) is the color factor. For ordinary fermions, $L_3 = I_{3L}$ and $R_3 = 0$; i.e., $1/6\pi$ for a lepton doublet and $2/3\pi$ for a complete generation. The upper limit on h_{AZ} then allows no more than four degenerate heavy generations. A split fermion doublet contributes

$$h_{AZ} = \frac{N_C}{6\pi} \left[1 - 4\bar{Q} \ln \left(\frac{m_u}{m_d} \right) \right], \quad (15)$$

for $m_u \geq m_d \gg M_Z$, where $\bar{Q} = \frac{1}{2}(Q_u + Q_d)$. Mass splittings are constrained by h_V . The general contribution to h_V from a split doublet of scalars or fermions is¹

$$ah_V = \frac{N_C G_F}{8\sqrt{2}\pi^2} \left[m_u^2 + m_d^2 - \frac{2m_u^2 m_d^2}{m_u^2 - m_d^2} \ln \left(\frac{m_u^2}{m_d^2} \right) \right]. \quad (16)$$

Let $ah_V \equiv N_C G_F \Delta m^2 / 8\sqrt{2}\pi^2$. Then $\Delta m^2 < [(250$

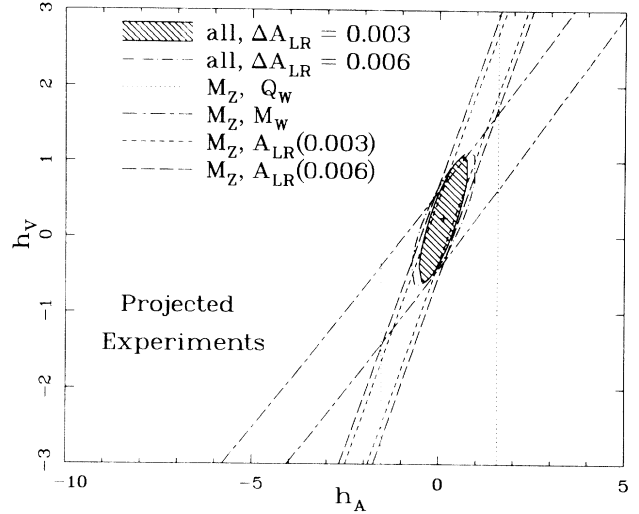


FIG. 2. 90%-C.L. regions in (h_A, h_V) from projected future experiments: (Q_W, M_Z) , (M_W, M_Z) , (A_{LR}, M_Z) , and *(all data)*, where A_{LR} is the polarization asymmetry of $e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ at the Z pole. $\Delta Q_W/Q_W = 1\%$, $\Delta M_W = 100$ MeV, and $\Delta A_{LR} = 0.003$ (0.006) for LEP (SLAC Linear Collider) are assumed.

GeV)/ $N_C^{1/2}]^2$.

Supersymmetry¹⁸ (SUSY) and technicolor¹⁹ (TC) theories are also constrained by our analysis. The only significant source of nondecoupled radiative corrections in SUSY arises from the top/bottom squark doublet:

$$ah_V \cong \frac{3G_F}{8\sqrt{2}\pi^2} m_t^2 \times \begin{cases} 1, & m_{3/2} < m_t, \\ \mathcal{O}(m_t/m_{3/2}), & m_{3/2} > m_t, \end{cases} \quad (17)$$

where $m_{3/2}$ is the soft SUSY-breaking scale. If $m_{3/2} \gg m_t$, the stop decouples; for $m_{3/2} < m_t$, the SM upper limit on the top-quark mass is reduced by $\sqrt{2}$; i.e., $m_t < 122$ GeV. The gauginos and Higgsinos decouple from the h 's in the heavy limit as they become degenerate and their gauge couplings become pure vector [Eq. (14)].¹⁸ Simple TC theories have been presented in Refs. 3 and 4, using "scaled-up" QCD analyses based on sum rules and chiral perturbation theory. In Ref. 3,

$$h_{AZ} \cong N_{TG} \times \begin{cases} 0.4 + 0.08(N_{TC} - 4), \\ 2.1 + 0.4(N_{TC} - 4), \end{cases} \quad (18)$$

where N_{TC} and N_{TG} are the number of technicolors and technigenerations; and the first and second lines refer to doublets of techniquarks and full technigenerations, respectively. Even a single full TG is ruled out at 90% C.L., while $N_{TG} < 2.5$ for doublets of techniquarks. The constraint on h_{AZ} clearly favors theories with the fewest possible number of technicolors and technigenerations. As stressed in Refs. 3 and 4, however, such scaled-up QCD models are not viable, while the radiative corrections from realistic ("walking") technicolor theories have not been reliably calculated.¹⁹ The isospin breaking in TC is usually stated in terms of the pseudo-Goldstone

decay constants:

$$ah_V = (F_{\pm}^2 - F_0^2)/F_0^2 < 0.007, \quad (19)$$

where $F_0 = 246$ GeV.

Our formulation can easily be extended to allow higher-dimensional Higgs representations with symmetry-breaking vacuum expectation values (VEVs). Define

$$\rho_0 \equiv \frac{\sum_i (L_i^2 - L_{3i}^2 + L_{3i}) |\langle \phi_i \rangle|^2}{\sum_i 2L_{3i}^2 |\langle \phi_i \rangle|^2}, \quad (20)$$

where L_i is the weak isospin of the VEV $\langle \phi_i \rangle$. Then the expressions for Γ_Z and \mathcal{M}_{NC} in Eqs. (10a) and (11) are multiplied by ρ_0 , while the right-hand side of Eq. (9a) is divided by ρ_0 . Clearly, ρ_0 and h_V always occur in the combination $\rho_0/(1 - ah_V)$, so that the limits on h_V translate into $0.991 < \rho_0/(1 - ah_V) < 1.007$. This universal combination of ρ_0 and h_V means that the effects of $\rho_0 \neq 1$ and $h_V \neq 0$ are not separable with gauge-boson self-energy measurements alone. Even with $\rho_0 \neq 1$, however, in the special case of large top-quark mass, there is still an upper limit of $m_t < 350$ GeV (90% C.L.) that arises from the logarithmic top-quark-mass dependence of $h_{AZ,W}$ [Eqs. (8b) and (8c)] and of the vertex corrections to the $Z \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ partial width.²⁰

In closing, we stress that the formalism of Eqs. (1)–(4), (6), (9)–(11) is specific to the $SU(2) \times U(1)$ gauge group and cannot be applied to the effect of new gauge bosons (e.g., a Z') without fundamental modifications. In models with extra neutral gauge bosons, the Z - Z' mixing lowers the predicted value of M_Z and mimics a negative value for h_{AZ} , an attractive possibility given the central value of h_{AZ} obtained in Eq. (13). Nevertheless, the effect of a Z' in Γ_Z and \mathcal{M}_{NC} cannot be so described, because of the Z - Z' mixing in the Z couplings and the Z' exchange. Analysis of new-gauge-boson interactions requires additional independent parameters in the global fit, the effects of which cannot be subsumed into the h 's.

This work was supported by the Aspen Center for Physics and by the Department of Energy Contract No. DE-AC02-76-ERO-3071.

Note added.—A new analysis by Altarelli and Barbieri of electroweak radiative corrections due to heavy physics has appeared recently, with a treatment similar to that given above.²¹

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¹¹Equations (8a), (8b), and (8c) are derived using the scheme of Ref. 6. In the \overline{MS} scheme of Ref. 10, the equivalent h 's in Eqs. (9a) and (9b) have a different logarithmic dependence on m_t : $(2/3\pi)(\frac{1}{3} + 2s_{\bar{R}}^2 - 16s_{\bar{R}}^2 c_{\bar{R}}^2)$ (instead of $-1/6\pi$) in Eq. (8b) and $(2/\pi)(-8s_{\bar{R}}^2/9 + \frac{1}{2})$ (instead of $+1/3\pi$) in Eq. (8c), where $c_{\bar{R}}^2 = 1 - s_{\bar{R}}^2$. This difference arises from the different dependences of $\sin^2\theta(M_Z^2)_{\overline{MS}}$ and $s_{\bar{R}}^2(M_Z^2)$ on the top-quark threshold.

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¹⁷Most types of new physics yield positive contributions to the h 's. If one imposes the extra restriction $h_{V,A} > 0$, then one obtains the weaker limits $h_V < 1.3$, $h_{AZ} < 2.1$, $h_{AW} < 3.7$ at 90% C.L.

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