

# Proper Stacks

By

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## Abstract

We generalize the notion of proper stack introduced by Kashiwara and Schapira to the case of a general site, and we prove that a proper stack is a stack.

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## Introduction

In [3] Kashiwara and Schapira defined the notion of proper stack on a locally compact topological space  $X$ . A proper stack is a separated prestack  $\mathcal{S}$  satisfying suitable hypothesis. They proved that a proper stack is a stack. In this paper, we generalize the notion of proper stack to the case of a site  $X$  associated to a small category  $\mathcal{C}_X$  and we prove that a proper stack is a stack.

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Communicated by M. Kashiwara. Received June 27, 2006.  
2000 Mathematics Subject Classification(s): 14A20, 18D30, 18F10.

Key words: Stacks, Grothendieck topologies

Reserch supported in part by grant CPDA061823 of Padova University.

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### §1. Review on Grothendieck Topologies and Sheaves

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a category<sup>1</sup>. As usual we denote by  $\mathcal{C}^\wedge$  the category of functors from  $\mathcal{C}^{op}$  to **Set** and we identify  $\mathcal{C}$  with its image in  $\mathcal{C}^\wedge$  via the Yoneda embedding. If  $A \in \mathcal{C}^\wedge$ , we will denote by  $\mathcal{C}_A$  the category of arrows  $U \rightarrow A$  with  $U \in \mathcal{C}$ . When taking inductive and projective limits on a category  $I$  we will always assume that  $I$  is small.

We recall here some classical definitions (see [2]), following the presentation of [4].

**Definition 1.1.** A Grothendieck topology on a small category  $\mathcal{C}_X$  is a collection of morphisms in  $\mathcal{C}_X^\wedge$  called local epimorphisms, satisfying the following conditions:

LE1 For any  $U \in \mathcal{C}_X$ ,  $\text{id}_U : U \rightarrow U$  is a local epimorphism.

LE2 Let  $A_1 \xrightarrow{u} A_2 \xrightarrow{v} A_3$  be morphisms in  $\mathcal{C}_X^\wedge$ . If  $u$  and  $v$  are local epimorphisms, then  $v \circ u$  is a local epimorphism.

LE3 Let  $A_1 \xrightarrow{u} A_2 \xrightarrow{v} A_3$  be morphisms in  $\mathcal{C}_X^\wedge$ . If  $v \circ u$  is a local epimorphism, then  $v$  is a local epimorphism.

LE4 A morphism  $u : A \rightarrow B$  in  $\mathcal{C}_X^\wedge$  is a local epimorphism if and only if for any  $U \in \mathcal{C}_X$  and any morphism  $U \rightarrow B$ , the morphism  $A \times_B U \rightarrow U$  is a local epimorphism.

**Definition 1.2.** A morphism  $A \rightarrow B$  in  $\mathcal{C}_X^\wedge$  is a local monomorphism if  $A \rightarrow A \times_B A$  is a local epimorphism.

A morphism  $A \rightarrow B$  in  $\mathcal{C}_X^\wedge$  is a local isomorphism if it is both a local epimorphism and a local monomorphism.

**Definition 1.3.** A site  $X$  is a category  $\mathcal{C}_X$  endowed with a Grothendieck topology.

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a category admitting small inductive and projective limits.

**Definition 1.4.** An  $\mathcal{A}$ -valued presheaf on  $X$  is a functor  $\mathcal{C}_X^{op} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ . A morphism of presheaves is a morphism of such functors. One denotes by  $\text{Psh}(X, \mathcal{A})$  the category of  $\mathcal{A}$ -valued presheaves on  $X$ .

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<sup>1</sup>We shall work in a given universe  $\mathcal{U}$ , small means  $\mathcal{U}$ -small (i.e. a set is  $\mathcal{U}$ -small if it is isomorphic to a set belonging to  $\mathcal{U}$ ) and a category  $\mathcal{C}$  means a  $\mathcal{U}$ -category (i.e.  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y)$  is  $\mathcal{U}$ -small for any  $X, Y \in \mathcal{C}$ ).

If  $F \in \text{Psh}(X, \mathcal{A})$ , it extends naturally to  $\mathcal{C}_X^\wedge$  by setting

$$F(A) = \varprojlim_{(U \rightarrow A) \in \mathcal{C}_A} F(U),$$

where  $A \in \mathcal{C}_X^\wedge$  and  $U \in \mathcal{C}_X$ .

**Definition 1.5.** Let  $X$  be a site.

- One says that  $F \in \text{Psh}(X, \mathcal{A})$  is separated, if for any local isomorphism  $A \rightarrow U$  with  $U \in \mathcal{C}_X$  and  $A \in \mathcal{C}_X^\wedge$ ,  $F(U) \rightarrow F(A)$  is a monomorphism.
- One says that  $F \in \text{Psh}(X, \mathcal{A})$  is a sheaf, if for any local isomorphism  $A \rightarrow U$  with  $U \in \mathcal{C}_X$  and  $A \in \mathcal{C}_X^\wedge$ ,  $F(U) \rightarrow F(A)$  is an isomorphism.

### §2. Review on Stacks

Let  $\mathcal{C}_X$  be a small category. We suppose that a Grothendieck topology on  $\mathcal{C}_X$  is defined and we denote by  $X$  the associated site. We recall some classical definitions (see [1]), following the presentation of [4].

**Definition 2.1.** A prestack  $\mathcal{S}$  on  $X$  is the data of:

- for each  $U \in \mathcal{C}_X$ , a category  $\mathcal{S}(U)$ ,
- for each  $V \rightarrow U \in \mathcal{C}_U$ , a functor  $j_{VU*} : \mathcal{S}(U) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}(V)$ ,
- given  $U, V, W \in \mathcal{C}_X$  and  $W \rightarrow V \rightarrow U$ , an isomorphism of functors  $\lambda_{WVU} : j_{WV*} \circ j_{VU*} \xrightarrow{\sim} j_{WU*}$ ,

such that

- $j_{UU*} = \text{id}_{\mathcal{S}(U)}$ ,
- given  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I} \in \mathcal{C}_X$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$  and  $U_1 \rightarrow U_2 \rightarrow U_3 \rightarrow U_4$ , the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} j_{12*} \circ j_{23*} \circ j_{34*} & \xrightarrow{\lambda_{234}} & j_{12*} \circ j_{24*} \\ \downarrow \lambda_{123} & & \downarrow \lambda_{124} \\ j_{13*} \circ j_{34*} & \xrightarrow{\lambda_{134}} & j_{14*} \end{array}$$

Let  $\varprojlim_{U \in \mathcal{C}_X} \mathcal{S}(U)$  denote a category defined as follows. An object  $F$  of  $\varprojlim_{U \in \mathcal{C}_X} \mathcal{S}(U)$  is a family  $\{(F_U)_U, (\psi_u)_u\}$  where

- for any  $U \in \mathcal{C}_X$ ,  $F_U \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{S}(U))$ ,
- for any morphism  $U_1 \rightarrow U_2$  in  $\mathcal{C}_X$ ,  $\psi_{12} : j_{12*}F_{U_2} \rightarrow F_{U_1}$  is an isomorphism, such that for any sequence  $U_1 \rightarrow U_2 \rightarrow U_3$  the following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} j_{12*}j_{23*}F_{U_3} & \xrightarrow{\psi_{23}} & j_{12*}F_{U_2} \\ \lambda_{123} \downarrow & & \downarrow \psi_{12} \\ j_{13*}F_{U_3} & \xrightarrow{\psi_{13}} & F_{U_1}. \end{array}$$

Note that  $\psi_{\text{id}_U} = \text{id}_{F_U}$  for any  $U \in \mathcal{C}_X$ .

The morphisms are defined in natural way. Let  $F, G \in \varprojlim_{U \in \mathcal{C}_X} \mathcal{S}(U)$ . Then

$$\text{Hom} \varprojlim_{U \in \mathcal{C}_X} \mathcal{S}(U)(F, G) \simeq \varprojlim_{U \in \mathcal{C}_X} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{S}(U)}(F_U, G_U).$$

For any  $A \in \mathcal{C}_X^\wedge$ , we set

$$\mathcal{S}(A) = \varprojlim_{(U \rightarrow A) \in \mathcal{C}_A} \mathcal{S}(U).$$

A morphism  $\varphi : A \rightarrow B$  in  $\mathcal{C}_X^\wedge$  defines a functor  $j_{AB*} : \mathcal{S}(B) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}(A)$ , therefore a prestack on  $\mathcal{C}_X$  extends naturally to a prestack on  $\mathcal{C}_X^\wedge$ .

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $X$  be a site.

- A prestack  $\mathcal{S}$  on  $X$  is called separated if for any  $U \in \mathcal{C}_X$ , and for any local isomorphism  $A \rightarrow U$  in  $\mathcal{C}_X^\wedge$ ,  $j_{AU*} : \mathcal{S}(U) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}(A)$  is fully faithful.
- A prestack  $\mathcal{S}$  on  $X$  is called a stack if for any  $U \in \mathcal{C}_X$ , and for any local isomorphism  $A \rightarrow U$  in  $\mathcal{C}_X^\wedge$ ,  $j_{AU*} : \mathcal{S}(U) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}(A)$  is an equivalence.

**Proposition 2.3.** Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a prestack on  $X$ . Then  $\mathcal{S}$  is a stack if and only if  $\mathcal{S}$  satisfies the following conditions:

- $\mathcal{S}$  is separated,
- for any  $U \in \mathcal{C}_X$  and for any local isomorphism  $A \rightarrow U$  the restriction functor  $j_{AU*} : \mathcal{S}(U) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}(A)$  admits a left adjoint  $j_{AU}^{-1}$  satisfying  $j_{AU*} \circ j_{AU}^{-1} \simeq \text{id}$  (or, equivalently, the functor  $j_{AU}^{-1}$  is fully faithful).

*Proof.* The result follows from the fact that two categories are equivalent if and only if they admit a pair of fully faithful adjoint functors.  $\square$

### §3. Proper Stacks

Let  $\mathcal{C}_X$  be a small category. In this section we extend a result of [3] to the case of a site  $X$  associated to a small category  $\mathcal{C}_X$ .

Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a prestack on  $X$  and assume the following hypothesis

- (1)  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{- for any } U, V \in \mathcal{C}_X \text{ and any morphism } U \rightarrow V \text{ in } \mathcal{C}_X^\wedge, \text{ the functor} \\ \quad j_{UV*} : \mathcal{S}(V) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}(U) \text{ admits a left adjoint } j_{UV}^{-1} \text{ satisfying} \\ \quad \text{id}_{\mathcal{S}(U)} \xrightarrow{\sim} j_{UV*} \circ j_{UV}^{-1} \text{ (or, equivalently, } j_{UV}^{-1} \text{ is fully faithful),} \\ \text{- for all } U \in \mathcal{C}_X \text{ the category } \mathcal{S}(U) \text{ admits small inductive limits.} \end{array} \right.$

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a prestack and assume (1). Let  $A \in \mathcal{C}_X^\wedge, V \in \mathcal{C}_X$  and  $A \rightarrow V$ . Then the functor  $j_{AV*}$  admits a left adjoint, denoted by  $j_{AV}^{-1}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $F = \{F_U\}_{(U \rightarrow A) \in \mathcal{C}_A} \in \mathcal{S}(A)$ , and let  $j_{AV}^{-1}F := \varinjlim_{(U \rightarrow A) \in \mathcal{C}_A} j_{UV}^{-1}F_U$ .

This defines a functor  $j_{AV}^{-1} : \mathcal{S}(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}(V)$ . Let  $G \in \mathcal{S}(V)$ . We have the chain of isomorphisms

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{S}(V)}(j_{AV}^{-1}F, G) &= \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{S}(V)}\left(\varinjlim_{(U \rightarrow A) \in \mathcal{C}_A} j_{UV}^{-1}F_U, G\right) \\ &\simeq \varprojlim_{(U \rightarrow A) \in \mathcal{C}_A} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{S}(V)}(j_{UV}^{-1}F_U, G) \\ &\simeq \varprojlim_{(U \rightarrow A) \in \mathcal{C}_A} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{S}(U)}(F_U, j_{UV*}G) \\ &\simeq \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{S}(A)}(F, j_{AV*}G). \end{aligned}$$

□

**Lemma 3.2.** *Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a prestack on  $X$  satisfying (1), let  $U', U, V \in \mathcal{C}_X$  and  $U' \rightarrow U \rightarrow V$ . Then*

- (i) *there exists a canonical morphism  $j_{U'V}^{-1} \circ j_{U'V*} \rightarrow j_{UV}^{-1} \circ j_{UV*}$ ,*
- (ii) *we have  $j_{U'V}^{-1} \circ j_{U'V*} \simeq j_{UV}^{-1} \circ j_{U'V*} \circ j_{UV}^{-1} \circ j_{UV*}$ .*

*Proof.* (i) The adjunction morphism  $j_{U'U}^{-1} \circ j_{U'U*} \rightarrow \text{id}_{\mathcal{S}(U)}$  defines

$$j_{U'V}^{-1} \circ j_{U'V*} \simeq j_{UV}^{-1} \circ j_{U'U}^{-1} \circ j_{U'U*} \circ j_{UV*} \rightarrow j_{UV}^{-1} \circ j_{UV*}.$$

(ii) We have  $j_{U'V*} \simeq j_{U'U*} \circ j_{UV*}$ , and then

$$j_{U'V*} \circ j_{UV}^{-1} \simeq j_{U'U*} \circ j_{UV*} \circ j_{UV}^{-1} \simeq j_{U'U*}.$$

Hence we have the chain of isomorphisms

$$j_{U'V}^{-1} \circ j_{U'V*} \circ j_{UV}^{-1} \circ j_{UV*} \simeq j_{U'V}^{-1} \circ j_{U'U*} \circ j_{UV*} \simeq j_{U'V}^{-1} \circ j_{U'V*}.$$

□

**Lemma 3.3.** *Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a prestack on  $X$  satisfying (1). Let  $U, V, W \in \mathcal{C}_X$  and let  $U \rightarrow W, V \rightarrow W$  be morphisms. Consider the diagram*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U \times_W V & \longrightarrow & V \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ U & \longrightarrow & W \end{array}$$

where  $U \times_W V \in \mathcal{C}_X^\wedge$ . Then there exists a canonical morphism

$$(2) \quad j_{U \times_W V}^{-1} \circ j_{U \times_W V*} \rightarrow j_{UW}^{-1} \circ j_{UW*} \circ j_{VW}^{-1} \circ j_{VW*}.$$

*Proof.* Since  $U \times_W V \in \mathcal{C}_X^\wedge$  for each  $F \in \mathcal{S}(W)$  we have

$$j_{U \times_W V*} F = \{j_{W'W*} F\}_{(W' \rightarrow U \times_W V) \in \mathcal{C}_{U \times_W V}} \in \mathcal{S}(U \times_W V)$$

hence as in Lemma 3.1

$$j_{U \times_W V}^{-1} \circ j_{U \times_W V*} F \simeq \varinjlim_{(W' \rightarrow U \times_W V) \in \mathcal{C}_{U \times_W V}} j_{W'W}^{-1} \circ j_{W'W*} F.$$

By Lemma 3.2 we have  $j_{W'W}^{-1} \circ j_{W'W*} \circ j_{VW}^{-1} \circ j_{VW*} \simeq j_{W'W}^{-1} \circ j_{W'W*}$  for each  $(W' \rightarrow U \times_W V) \in \mathcal{C}_{U \times_W V}$ . We have natural morphisms

$$\begin{aligned} j_{U \times_W V}^{-1} \circ j_{U \times_W V*} &\xrightarrow{\sim} j_{U \times_W V}^{-1} \circ j_{U \times_W V*} \circ j_{VW}^{-1} \circ j_{VW*} \\ &\rightarrow j_{UW}^{-1} \circ j_{UW*} \circ j_{VW}^{-1} \circ j_{VW*}. \end{aligned}$$

□

Let  $U, V, W \in \mathcal{C}_X$  and let  $U \rightarrow W, V \rightarrow W$  be morphisms. The morphism (2) induces a natural arrow

$$j_{U \times_W V}^{-1} \circ j_{U \times_W V*} \xrightarrow{\sim} j_{VW*} \circ j_{U \times_W V}^{-1} \circ j_{U \times_W V*} \circ j_{UW}^{-1} \rightarrow j_{VW*} \circ j_{UW}^{-1}.$$

**Definition 3.4.** A proper stack  $\mathcal{S}$  on  $X$  is a prestack satisfying

PRS1  $\mathcal{S}$  is separated,

PRS2 for each  $U \in \mathcal{C}_X$ ,  $\mathcal{S}(U)$  admits small inductive limits,

PRS3 for all  $U, V \in \mathcal{C}_X$  and  $U \rightarrow V$  the functor  $j_{UV*} : \mathcal{S}(V) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}(U)$  commutes with  $\varinjlim$ ,

PRS4 for all  $U, V \in \mathcal{C}_X$  and  $U \rightarrow V$  the functor  $j_{UV*} : \mathcal{S}(V) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}(U)$  admits a left adjoint  $j_{UV}^{-1}$ , satisfying  $\text{id}_{\mathcal{S}(U)} \xrightarrow{\sim} j_{UV*} \circ j_{UV}^{-1}$  (or, equivalently, the functor  $j_{UV}^{-1}$  is fully faithful),

PRS5 for all  $V, U, W \in \mathcal{C}_X$ ,  $U \rightarrow W$  and  $V \rightarrow W$ , the morphism

$$j_{U \times_W V}^{-1} \circ j_{U \times_W V U*} \rightarrow j_{V W*} \circ j_{U W}^{-1}$$

is an isomorphism.

*Remark 3.5.* Here  $U \times_W V \in \mathcal{C}_X^\wedge$ , since we have not assumed that  $\mathcal{C}_X$  admits fiber products.

**Lemma 3.6.** *Let us consider the following diagram*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A \times_V U & \longrightarrow & A \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ U & \longrightarrow & V \end{array}$$

where  $U, V \in \mathcal{C}_X$  and  $A \in \mathcal{C}_X^\wedge$ . Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a proper stack on  $X$ . Then we have

$$j_{UV*} \circ j_{AV}^{-1} \simeq j_{A \times_V U}^{-1} \circ j_{A \times_V U A*}.$$

*Proof.* Let  $F = \{F_W\}_{(W \rightarrow A) \in \mathcal{C}_A} \in \mathcal{S}(A)$ . We have the chain of isomorphisms

$$\begin{aligned} j_{UV*} \circ j_{AV}^{-1} F &\simeq j_{UV*} \varinjlim_{(W \rightarrow A) \in \mathcal{C}_A} j_{WV}^{-1} F_W \\ &\simeq \varinjlim_{(W \rightarrow A) \in \mathcal{C}_A} j_{UV*} j_{WV}^{-1} F_W \\ &\simeq \varinjlim_{(W \rightarrow A) \in \mathcal{C}_A} j_{U \times_V W U}^{-1} j_{U \times_V W W*} F_W \\ &\simeq \varinjlim_{(W \rightarrow A) \in \mathcal{C}_A} \varinjlim_{(W' \rightarrow W \times_V U) \in \mathcal{C}_{W \times_V U}} j_{W'U}^{-1} F_{W'} \\ &\simeq \varinjlim_{(W'' \rightarrow A \times_V U) \in \mathcal{C}_{A \times_V U}} j_{W''U}^{-1} F_{W''}, \end{aligned}$$

where the second and the third isomorphism follow from PRS3 and PRS5 respectively. The fourth isomorphism follows since  $W \times_V U \in \mathcal{C}_X^\wedge$  and we have

$$\begin{aligned} j_{U \times_V W} F_W &\simeq \{j_{W'W} F_W\}_{(W' \rightarrow W \times_V U) \in \mathcal{C}_{W \times_V U}} \\ &\simeq \{F_{W'}\}_{(W' \rightarrow W \times_V U) \in \mathcal{C}_{W \times_V U}}. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand we have  $j_{A \times_V U} F \simeq \{F_{W''}\}_{(W'' \rightarrow A \times_V U) \in \mathcal{C}_{A \times_V U}}$ , hence

$$j_{A \times_V U}^{-1} \circ j_{A \times_V U} F \simeq \varinjlim_{(W'' \rightarrow A \times_V U) \in \mathcal{C}_{A \times_V U}} j_{W''U}^{-1} F_{W''}.$$

□

**Theorem 3.7.** *Let  $X$  be a site associated to a small category  $\mathcal{C}_X$ . Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a proper stack on  $X$ . Then  $\mathcal{S}$  is a stack.*

*Proof.* Let  $A \rightarrow V$  be a local isomorphism. By Proposition 2.3 it is enough to show that  $j_{AV} \circ j_{AV}^{-1} \simeq \text{id}$ . Let  $F = \{F_{V_i}\}_{(V_i \rightarrow A) \in \mathcal{C}_A} \in \mathcal{S}(A)$ . It satisfies, for each  $V_i \rightarrow V_j$

$$(3) \quad j_{V_i V_j} F_{V_j} \xrightarrow{\sim} F_{V_i}.$$

We have to show that  $j_{V_i V} j_{AV}^{-1} F \simeq F_{V_i}$  for each  $V_i \rightarrow A$ . Let us consider  $V_{i_0} \rightarrow A$ . By PRS5 and (3), for each  $V_k \rightarrow A$  we have the chain of isomorphisms

$$j_{V_{i_0} V} j_{V_k V}^{-1} F_{V_k} \simeq j_{V_k \times_V V_{i_0} V_{i_0}}^{-1} j_{V_k \times_V V_{i_0} V_k} F_{V_k} \simeq j_{V_k \times_V V_{i_0} V_{i_0}}^{-1} j_{V_k \times_V V_{i_0} V_{i_0}} F_{V_{i_0}}.$$

Hence we obtain the isomorphism

$$j_{V_{i_0} V} j_{AV}^{-1} F \simeq j_{A \times_V V_{i_0} V_{i_0}}^{-1} j_{A \times_V V_{i_0} V_{i_0}} F_{V_{i_0}},$$

and  $j_{A \times_V V_{i_0} V_{i_0}} j_{A \times_V V_{i_0} V_{i_0}}^{-1} F_{V_{i_0}} \simeq F_{V_{i_0}}$  since  $\mathcal{S}$  is separated and  $A \times_V V_{i_0} \rightarrow V_{i_0}$  is a local isomorphism. □

**Example 3.8.** Let  $k$  be a field, and  $X$  a topological space (or, more generally, let  $X$  be a site associated to an ordered-set category). The prestack associating to an open set  $U$  of  $X$  the category of sheaves of  $k$ -vector spaces<sup>2</sup> on  $U$  is a proper stack.

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<sup>2</sup>More generally, one can consider sheaves with values in a category  $\mathcal{A}$  admitting small inductive and projective limits, such that filtrant inductive limits are exact and satisfying the ICP property (see [4] for a detailed exposition).



### Acknowledgements

We thank Pierre Schapira who encouraged us to generalize the notion of proper stack. We thank Stéphane Guillermou and Pietro Polesello for their useful remarks.

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