

introduction to geography 13 getis Full Version

Introduction to Geography 13 Getis

Geography 13 Getis is a vital component of geographic analysis that focuses on spatial statistics and the identification of patterns within geographic data. This course or module is designed to equip students and researchers with the understanding and tools necessary to analyze spatial phenomena effectively. By exploring concepts such as spatial autocorrelation, hot spots, and spatial clustering, Geography 13 Getis offers valuable insights into how geographic features and activities are distributed across space. Whether you're a student studying geography, urban planning, environmental science, or a professional seeking to enhance spatial analysis skills, understanding the fundamentals of Geography 13 Getis is essential for interpreting complex spatial data.

Understanding the Foundations of Geography 13 Getis

What Is Geography 13 Getis?

Geography 13 Getis refers to a specific approach within spatial statistics that emphasizes the identification and analysis of clusters or patterns in geographic data. It often involves the application of Getis-Ord statistics, primarily the Getis-Ord G_i^* statistic, to detect hot spots and cold spots in various spatial datasets.

The Role of Spatial Autocorrelation

Spatial autocorrelation measures the degree to which similar values occur near each other in space. Positive autocorrelation indicates clustering of similar values, while negative autocorrelation suggests dispersion. Geography 13 Getis leverages this concept to identify significant clusters of high or low values, helping researchers understand underlying spatial processes.

Importance of Hot Spot Analysis

Hot spot analysis is a core component of Geography 13 Getis, allowing analysts to pinpoint areas with statistically significant concentrations of high or low data values. These hot spots can reveal critical insights in various fields:

- Crime mapping

- Public health (disease outbreaks)
- Environmental monitoring (pollution levels)
- Urban development patterns

Core Techniques and Concepts in Geography 13 Getis

The Getis-Ord Gi Statistic

The Getis-Ord Gi statistic is a spatial measure used to identify hot spots and cold spots within a dataset. It evaluates whether high or low values are spatially clustered beyond what would be expected by chance.

- **Calculation:** It compares the local sum of feature attribute values within a specified distance to the global sum, standardized to produce a z-score.
- **Interpretation:** High positive z-scores indicate hot spots, while high negative z-scores indicate cold spots.
- **Application:** Widely used in crime analysis, environmental science, and socioeconomic studies.

Spatial Weight Matrices

A spatial weight matrix defines the spatial relationships among features in a dataset. It determines which features are neighbors and influences the calculation of spatial statistics.

- **Types of matrices:**
 - Contiguity-based (sharing borders)
 - Distance-based (within a specified distance)
- **Role in Getis-Ord analysis:** Accurate weighting ensures meaningful identification of spatial clusters.

Hot Spot and Cold Spot Mapping

Mapping hot and cold spots is an effective way to visualize spatial clusters identified through Getis-Ord analysis.

- **Color coding:** Typically, hot spots are shown in red or orange, and cold spots in blue or green.
- **Significance levels:** Maps often include significance indicators to highlight statistically

meaningful clusters.

Applications of Geography 13 Getis

Urban Planning and Development

Urban planners utilize hot spot analysis to identify areas of high activity or concern, such as zones with high crime rates or traffic congestion, enabling targeted interventions.

Public Health and Disease Control

Health officials analyze disease incidence data to locate outbreak clusters, facilitating resource allocation and prevention strategies.

Environmental Conservation

Environmental scientists use Getis-Ord statistics to detect pollution hotspots, aiding in the enforcement of environmental regulations and remediation efforts.

Crime Analysis and Prevention

Law enforcement agencies apply hot spot analysis to identify crime-prone areas, optimizing patrol routes and resource deployment.

Tools and Software for Geography 13 Getis

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

GIS platforms like ArcGIS and QGIS are popular tools for conducting Getis-Ord analyses due to their robust spatial analysis capabilities.

- ArcGIS offers built-in hot spot analysis tools.
- QGIS supports various plugins for spatial statistics.

Statistical Software and Programming Languages

For advanced analysis, researchers often use statistical software such as R or Python.

- In R, packages like "spdep" and "spatial" facilitate spatial autocorrelation and hot spot analysis.

- Python libraries like PySAL provide tools for spatial analysis, including Getis-Ord statistics.

Steps to Perform a Getis-Ord Hot Spot Analysis

- **Data Preparation:** Collect and clean spatial data relevant to the analysis.
- **Define Spatial Relationships:** Create a spatial weight matrix based on contiguity or distance.
- **Select Analysis Parameters:** Choose appropriate distance thresholds or neighborhood definitions.
- **Run the Hot Spot Analysis:** Apply the Getis-Ord Gi statistic using GIS software or programming tools.
- **Interpret Results:** Examine z-scores and p-values to identify significant clusters.
- **Visualize Findings:** Map hot and cold spots for clearer communication and decision-making.

Challenges and Limitations of Geography 13 Getis

Data Quality and Availability

Accurate results depend on high-quality, granular spatial data. Incomplete or coarse data can lead to misleading conclusions.

Choice of Spatial Weights

Selecting inappropriate neighbor definitions can affect the detection of clusters, emphasizing the importance of thoughtful parameter selection.

Statistical Significance and Multiple Testing

Multiple comparisons increase the risk of false positives. Proper correction methods should be applied to maintain statistical validity.

Interpretation of Results

Identified hot spots do not necessarily imply causation; contextual analysis is crucial for meaningful insights.

Conclusion: The Significance of Geography 13 Getis in Spatial Analysis

Understanding Geography 13 Getis and its associated techniques is fundamental for anyone involved in spatial data analysis. By enabling the identification of significant clusters?hot spots and

cold spots?this approach offers invaluable insights across diverse fields such as urban planning, public health, environmental management, and criminology. Through the use of GIS tools and statistical software, analysts can visualize and interpret complex spatial patterns, supporting informed decision-making. Despite some challenges, the robust framework provided by Geography 13 Getis continues to be a cornerstone in the advancement of spatial analysis, helping us better understand the dynamic and interconnected nature of geographic phenomena. Whether for academic research, policy development, or practical applications, mastering the concepts and techniques of Geography 13 Getis is essential for unlocking the full potential of spatial data.

Introduction to Geography 13 Getis: Unlocking Spatial Patterns and Clustering

In the realm of geographic analysis, understanding spatial relationships and patterns is essential for making informed decisions across various disciplines ? from urban planning and environmental management to public health and business logistics. One of the most influential tools in this domain is the Getis-Ord Gi statistic, often referred to simply as Getis. This powerful spatial analysis technique allows researchers and analysts to identify hotspots, cold spots, and clusters within geographic data, revealing insights that traditional methods might overlook. In this article, we'll explore the fundamentals of Introduction to Geography 13 Getis, guiding you through its core principles, applications, and how to effectively utilize this method for spatial pattern analysis.

Understanding the Foundations of Getis-Ord Gi

The Getis-Ord Gi statistic is a local spatial autocorrelation measure developed by Arthur Getis and J. Keith Ord. It helps quantify the degree to which high or low values of a variable are spatially clustered within a geographic area. Essentially, it pinpoints "hotspots" ? regions with significantly high values ? and "cold spots" ? areas with notably low values. This method is particularly valuable because it considers the spatial context of each data point, rather than analyzing points in isolation.

The Significance of Spatial Clustering

Before diving into the specifics of Getis, it's crucial to understand why identifying spatial clusters is important:

- Public Health: Detecting disease outbreaks or environmental hazards.
- Urban Planning: Recognizing areas of high congestion or crime.
- Business Strategy: Locating optimal store placements based on customer density.
- Environmental Conservation: Identifying regions with high or low biodiversity.

Traditional statistical methods may fail to account for spatial dependencies, leading to inaccurate conclusions. The Getis-Ord Gi statistic addresses this gap by explicitly incorporating the spatial

relationships into the analysis.

The Mechanics of Getis-Ord Gi

How it Works

At its core, the Getis-Ord Gi statistic evaluates each feature (or location) in a dataset by comparing the local sum of the attribute with the overall sum across the study area. It considers the values of neighboring features within a specified spatial weight matrix, which defines the neighborhood structure (e.g., distance-based or contiguity-based).

The Formula

While the detailed mathematical formula can be complex, the intuitive explanation is:

- Gi for a feature i measures whether the sum of values in its neighborhood is significantly higher or lower than expected under spatial randomness.
- It produces a z-score for each feature, indicating the strength and significance of clustering.

Features with high positive z-scores are hotspots (clusters of high values), while those with large negative z-scores are cold spots.

Step-by-Step Guide to Applying Getis-Ord Gi

Step 1: Data Preparation

- Collect spatial data, ensuring each feature has an associated attribute value (e.g., crime rate, income level).
- Clean data to remove errors and ensure accurate georeferencing.

Step 2: Define the Spatial Weights Matrix

- Choose a method for defining neighbors:
 - Distance-based: Features within a certain radius.
 - Contiguity-based: Features sharing borders or vertices.
- Decide on the parameters, such as the threshold distance or number of nearest neighbors.

Step 3: Calculate the Gi Statistic

- Use GIS software or statistical tools like ArcGIS, GeoDa, or R packages (e.g., `spdep`).
- Input your data and spatial weights matrix to compute the Gi z-scores.

Step 4: Interpret Results

- Map the z-scores to visualize hotspots and cold spots.
- Establish significance thresholds (e.g., p-values corresponding to z-scores) to identify statistically significant clusters.

Step 5: Validate and Communicate Findings

- Cross-validate results with known patterns or ground-truth data.
- Present findings through maps and reports for decision-making.

Practical Applications of Getis-Ord Gi

The versatility of Getis makes it applicable across diverse fields:

- Crime Analysis: Identifying neighborhoods with persistent high crime rates to inform policing strategies.
- Epidemiology: Detecting clusters of disease outbreaks for targeted interventions.
- Retail Business: Locating areas with high customer density or sales to optimize store placement.
- Environmental Monitoring: Pinpointing regions with high pollution levels or biodiversity hotspots.
- Urban Development: Recognizing zones of urban decay or growth for planning infrastructure.

Limitations and Considerations

While Getis-Ord Gi is a robust tool, users should be aware of its limitations:

- Choice of Spatial Weights: Results heavily depend on how neighbors are defined; inappropriate parameters can lead to misleading clusters.
- Scale Sensitivity: The size of the analysis window influences the detection of clusters.
- Edge Effects: Features on the boundary of the study area may have fewer neighbors, affecting the analysis.
- Data Quality: Accurate and high-resolution data are essential for meaningful results.

Best Practices for Effective Use

- Careful Parameter Selection: Experiment with different neighborhood definitions to ensure meaningful results.
- Multiple Analyses: Use complementary methods, like Moran's I, to validate findings.
- Visualization: Map z-scores with appropriate symbology to clearly communicate hotspots and cold spots.
- Contextual Knowledge: Incorporate domain expertise to interpret clusters within real-world contexts.

Conclusion

The Introduction to Geography 13 Getis provides a vital foundation for anyone interested in spatial analysis and pattern detection. By leveraging the Getis-Ord Gi statistic, analysts can uncover significant clusters within geographic data, revealing insights that are crucial for informed decision-making. Whether applied to public health, urban planning, environmental science, or business, this technique empowers researchers to move beyond simple mapping and into a realm of sophisticated spatial pattern recognition.

As geographic datasets continue to grow in size and complexity, mastering tools like Getis will become increasingly essential. By understanding its mechanics, applications, and limitations, you can harness this powerful method to illuminate hidden spatial relationships and support data-driven strategies across numerous fields.

Question What is the main focus of 'Introduction to Geography 13 Getis' course? The course primarily focuses on understanding spatial patterns, geographic data analysis, and the application of statistical methods to interpret geographic phenomena. **Answer** Who is Getis, and what is their contribution to geography? Getis is a renowned geographer known for his work in spatial analysis and geographic information systems (GIS), particularly for developing methods to identify clusters and patterns in geographic data. What are the key concepts covered in 'Introduction to Geography 13 Getis'? Key concepts include spatial autocorrelation, hot spot analysis, spatial clustering, and the application of statistical tools to geographic data. How does Getis' methodology help in geographic data analysis? Getis' methodology provides techniques to detect and analyze significant spatial clusters or patterns, helping geographers identify areas of high or low activity, risk, or other phenomena. Is 'Introduction to Geography 13 Getis' suitable for beginners? Yes, the course is designed to introduce fundamental concepts of geographic analysis and spatial statistics, making it suitable for beginners interested in geography and GIS. What are some practical applications of Getis' spatial analysis techniques? Applications include urban planning, environmental management, epidemiology, crime analysis, and resource allocation by identifying significant spatial patterns. Where can students access resources or further reading about Getis' methods in

geography? Students can access academic journals, textbooks on spatial analysis, and online GIS tutorials that cover Getis' methods, as well as university course materials and research publications.

Related keywords: geography, introduction, Getis, spatial analysis, geographic information systems, GIS, spatial statistics, Getis-Ord Gi, spatial clustering, geographic data

Introduction to geography

Introduction to Geography

Geography is a fundamental discipline that helps us understand the world around us. It explores the Earth's landscapes, environments, and the relationships between people and their environments. As a field of study, geography bridges the natural sciences and social sciences, offering insights into the physical features of our planet and the ways humans interact with their surroundings. Whether you're a student, a traveler, or simply a curious mind, an introduction to geography provides a comprehensive foundation to appreciate the complexity and beauty of our shared home—the Earth.

In this article, we will delve into the essentials of geography, exploring its definition, scope, history, branches, importance, and how it impacts our daily lives. By understanding the core concepts of geography, you can better grasp global issues such as climate change, urban development, resource management, and cultural diversity.

What is Geography?

Geography is the scientific study of the Earth's physical features and human societies. The word "geography" is derived from the Greek words "geo," meaning Earth, and "graphy," meaning writing or description. Thus, geography can be thought of as "writing about the Earth."

Definition of Geography

The most widely accepted definition of geography is provided by the American Association of Geographers:

"The study of the Earth's landscapes, environments, and the relationships between people and their environments, both natural and built."

Key Aspects of Geography

- Physical Geography: Focuses on natural features such as mountains, rivers, climate, and ecosystems.
- Human Geography: Examines human activities, cultures, economies, and urban development.
- Environmental Geography: Explores the interactions between humans and the environment, emphasizing sustainability.

The Scope of Geography

Geography encompasses a broad range of topics and areas of study, making it a versatile and interdisciplinary field. Its scope can be categorized into several key areas:

Physical Geography

Physical geography studies the natural environment and physical features of the Earth. Topics include:

- Landforms and topography
- Climate and weather patterns
- Vegetation and ecosystems
- Water bodies such as oceans, lakes, and rivers
- Natural hazards like earthquakes, volcanoes, and floods

Human Geography

Human geography investigates the human aspects of the world, including:

- Population distribution and demographics
- Urbanization and city planning
- Cultural landscapes and diversity
- Economic activities and resources
- Political boundaries and geopolitics

Environmental Geography

This branch examines how humans impact the environment and how natural systems function, emphasizing:

- Conservation and sustainability

- Climate change and global warming
- Resource management
- Environmental policies

Geographical Techniques and Tools

Modern geography relies heavily on technology and data analysis, including:

- Maps and cartography
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Remote sensing and satellite imagery
- Spatial analysis

History and Development of Geography

The study of geography has ancient roots, evolving over centuries from early explorations to sophisticated scientific analyses.

Ancient Geography

- Early civilizations like the Babylonians, Greeks, and Romans created rudimentary maps and documented lands.
- Notable figures: Herodotus, Ptolemy, and Strabo contributed to early geographical knowledge.

Medieval and Renaissance Periods

- Increased exploration during the Age of Discovery expanded geographic knowledge.
- Pioneers like Marco Polo and Christopher Columbus mapped new territories.
- Advances in mapmaking and navigation techniques improved accuracy.

Modern Geography

- Emerged as a scientific discipline in the 19th and 20th centuries.
- Development of technological tools like GIS revolutionized spatial analysis.
- Integration of environmental concerns and globalization shaped contemporary geography.

Branches of Geography

Geography is a diverse field with multiple specialized branches, each focusing on specific aspects of the Earth's systems and human activities.

Physical Geography

- Focuses on natural phenomena
- Includes geomorphology, climatology, biogeography, and hydrology

Human Geography

- Analyzes human societies
- Covers cultural, economic, urban, and political geography

Environmental Geography

- Combines physical and human geography
- Addresses environmental issues and sustainability

Geographical Techniques

- Map making (cartography)
- GIS and remote sensing
- Spatial data analysis

Importance of Geography

Understanding geography is vital for numerous reasons, both at individual and societal levels:

- Global Awareness: Helps us understand world issues like climate change, migration, and resource distribution.
- Informed Decision-Making: Aids policymakers in urban planning, disaster management, and environmental conservation.
- Cultural Appreciation: Promotes understanding and appreciation of diverse cultures and societies.
- Career Opportunities: Opens pathways in fields such as urban planning, environmental management, GIS technology, and international relations.

- Enhancing Navigation and Travel: Improves our ability to navigate and explore new places safely.
- Promoting Sustainability: Encourages responsible use of Earth's resources to ensure a healthy planet for future generations.

How Geography Affects Our Daily Lives

Geography influences many aspects of our everyday routines and decisions:

- Transportation and Travel: Knowledge of geography helps us choose optimal routes and modes of transportation.
- Housing and Urban Development: Understanding geographic features guides where to build homes and infrastructure.
- Resource Utilization: Awareness of natural resources influences consumption and conservation practices.
- Disaster Preparedness: Recognizing geographical risks like floods or earthquakes helps communities prepare and respond effectively.
- Cultural Identity: Geography shapes cultural practices, languages, and traditions based on regional environments.

Conclusion

An introduction to geography opens the door to understanding the complex and interconnected systems that shape our world. From the majestic mountain ranges and vast oceans to bustling cities and rural landscapes, geography provides the tools to analyze, interpret, and appreciate our environment and societies.

By studying geography, we become more conscious of our place on Earth and our responsibilities toward sustainable living. Whether through understanding climate patterns, urban development, cultural diversity, or resource management, geography equips us with valuable knowledge to navigate the challenges of the 21st century.

Embracing the principles of geography fosters global awareness, environmental stewardship, and cultural empathy—traits essential for building a more sustainable and inclusive future for all inhabitants of our planet.

Keywords for SEO Optimization: Introduction to geography, what is geography, physical geography, human geography, environmental geography, importance of geography, history of geography, branches of geography, geography techniques, geographic information systems, global understanding, Earth's features, geography careers, sustainable development.

Introduction to Geography: Unlocking the World's Secrets

Geography is often regarded as the study of places, landscapes, and environments, but it encompasses much more than just memorizing maps or knowing country capitals. It is a comprehensive discipline that bridges the natural and social sciences, offering insights into the intricate relationships between humans and their environment. As a foundational field, geography provides the tools to understand the complexities of our world, from climate patterns to cultural diversity, and from urban development to environmental challenges. In this article, we will explore the multifaceted nature of geography, dissect its core components, and examine why it remains an essential discipline for understanding our planet in the 21st century.

What Is Geography? A Broad Perspective

Definition and Scope

At its core, geography can be defined as the study of Earth's landscapes, environments, and the relationships between people and their environments. It is a spatial science that examines the distribution of phenomena across the surface of the Earth and seeks to understand the patterns, processes, and interactions that shape our world.

Scope of Geography

The scope of geography is vast and can be broadly categorized into two main branches: physical geography and human geography. While these branches focus on different aspects of the world, they are interconnected, offering a holistic understanding of geographic phenomena.

Core Branches of Geography

Physical Geography: The Natural World

Physical geography deals with the natural environment—its features, processes, and the forces that shape the Earth's surface.

Key Areas in Physical Geography

- **Geomorphology:** The study of landforms, such as mountains, valleys, and plains, and the processes that form them, including erosion, sedimentation, and tectonic activity.

- Climatology: The analysis of climate patterns, weather systems, and their influence on ecosystems and human activities.

- Biogeography: The distribution of plants and animals across different regions, and how environmental factors influence biodiversity.

- Hydrology: The study of water bodies, including rivers, lakes, aquifers, and the hydrological cycle.

Importance of Physical Geography

Understanding physical geography is crucial for managing natural resources, mitigating natural disasters, and addressing environmental concerns such as climate change and habitat destruction.

Human Geography: The Human Dimension

Human geography focuses on the spatial aspects of human existence?how people live, work, and organize themselves across space.

Key Areas in Human Geography

- Cultural Geography: The study of cultural practices, languages, religions, and social norms and how they vary across regions.

- Economic Geography: Analyzing the distribution of economic activities, industries, and resources.

- Urban Geography: The examination of cities, urbanization processes, and issues related to infrastructure and planning.

- Political Geography: The study of borders, territorial disputes, and the influence of political boundaries on societies.

- Population Geography: Investigating demographic trends, migration patterns, and population

distribution.

Relevance of Human Geography

It helps policymakers, urban planners, and social scientists understand societal dynamics, plan sustainable development, and address issues of inequality and resource distribution.

Tools and Techniques in Geography

Geography is a data-rich discipline, employing a variety of tools and techniques to analyze spatial information.

Maps and Cartography

Maps are fundamental to geography, providing visual representations of spatial data. Advances in cartography, including digital mapping and Geographic Information Systems (GIS), have revolutionized the field.

Remote Sensing

Using satellite imagery and aerial photography, remote sensing allows scientists to observe Earth's surface over large areas and monitor environmental changes in real-time.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

GIS technology enables the collection, analysis, and visualization of spatial data, facilitating complex studies like urban planning, disaster management, and environmental conservation.

Global Positioning System (GPS)

GPS devices provide precise location data, essential for navigation, navigation apps, and spatial analysis.

The Significance of Geography in Today's World

Environmental Challenges

Understanding geography is vital in addressing climate change, deforestation, pollution, and conservation efforts. It helps identify vulnerable regions and develop strategies for resilience.

Urbanization and Development

As urban areas expand, geographic insights guide sustainable city planning, transportation networks, and resource management.

Global Interconnectivity

In an increasingly interconnected world, geography aids in understanding global trade, migration, cultural exchange, and geopolitical issues.

Educational and Career Opportunities

A grounding in geography opens pathways into diverse fields such as environmental science, urban planning, international development, GIS technology, and more.

Why Study Geography? The Benefits

- Enhanced Spatial Awareness: Recognize patterns and relationships across space and time.
- Critical Thinking: Analyze complex issues involving multiple factors and perspectives.
- Problem-Solving Skills: Apply geographic tools to real-world challenges.
- Cultural Appreciation: Understand and respect cultural diversity.
- Environmental Stewardship: Foster sustainable practices and conservation efforts.

Conclusion: The Essential Discipline for Understanding Our World

In an era marked by rapid environmental change, technological advancement, and globalization, geography stands out as an essential discipline that provides the framework to comprehend our world comprehensively. Its integrative approach, combining natural sciences with social sciences, equips individuals and societies with the knowledge to navigate complex issues, make informed decisions, and promote sustainable development.

Whether you're a student, a policymaker, a scientist, or a traveler, understanding geography enriches your perspective, empowering you to see the interconnectedness of all things on Earth. As we continue to face global challenges, the insights derived from geography will be more valuable than ever, guiding us toward a more informed, resilient, and harmonious relationship with our planet.

In essence, geography is not just about knowing where things are; it is about understanding why they are there, how they interact, and what that means for our shared future.

Question What is geography? Geography is the study of the Earth's physical features, environments, and the distribution of human populations and activities across the planet. **Why is geography important?** Geography helps us understand how physical landscapes and human

societies interact, influencing weather patterns, resource distribution, and cultural development, which are essential for planning and sustainable living. What are the main branches of geography? The main branches are physical geography, which studies natural features like mountains and rivers, and human geography, which focuses on human activities, cultures, and settlements. What tools do geographers use? Geographers use tools like maps, globes, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), remote sensing, and satellite imagery to analyze and visualize spatial data. How does geography help in understanding climate change? Geography helps analyze how different regions are affected by climate change, including shifts in weather patterns, sea level rise, and impacts on ecosystems and human communities. What is the significance of physical geography? Physical geography explains natural phenomena such as landforms, climate, ecosystems, and how these features influence human life and environmental processes. How does human geography differ from physical geography? While physical geography focuses on natural features and processes, human geography examines how humans interact with their environment, including culture, economy, and urban development. What role does geography play in urban planning? Geography provides insights into land use, transportation, resource distribution, and population patterns, which are vital for designing sustainable and efficient urban environments. What is the significance of studying world geography? Studying world geography helps us understand global interconnections, cultural diversity, and regional differences, promoting better global awareness and cooperation. How can understanding geography benefit careers? Knowledge of geography is valuable in careers such as urban planning, environmental management, logistics, travel and tourism, and international relations, among others.

Related keywords: geography basics, physical geography, human geography, geographic concepts, maps and cartography, earth sciences, spatial analysis, geographic information systems, environmental geography, world regions

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