

Package ‘mclgfit’

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Type Package

Title Multinomial Logit Models, with or without Random Effects or Overdispersion

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Description Provides estimators for multinomial logit models in their conditional logit and baseline logit variants, with or without random effects, with or without overdispersion. Random effects models are estimated using the PQL technique (based on a Laplace approximation) or the MQL technique (based on a Solomon-Cox approximation). Estimates should be treated with caution if the group sizes are small.

License GPL-2

Depends stats, Matrix

Imports memisc, methods

Suggests MASS, nnet

LazyLoad Yes

URL <http://mclgfit.elff.eu>,<https://github.com/melff/mclgfit/>

BugReports <https://github.com/melff/mclgfit/issues>

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dispersion	<i>Overdispersion in Multinomial Logit Models</i>
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Description

The function `dispersion()` extracts the dispersion parameter from a multinomial logit model or computes a dispersion parameter estimate based on a given method. This dispersion parameter can be attached to a model using `update()`. It can also given as an argument to `summary()`.

Usage

```
dispersion(object,method, ...)
## S3 method for class 'mclgit'
dispersion(object,method=NULL, ...)
```

Arguments

object	an object that inherits class "mclgit". When passed to <code>dispersion()</code> , it should be the result of a call of <code>mclgit()</code> or <code>mblogit()</code> , <i>without</i> random effects.
method	a character string, either "Afroz", "Fletcher", "Pearson", or "Deviance", that specifies the estimator of the dispersion; or NULL, in which case the default estimator, "Afroz" is used. The estimators are discussed in Afroz et al. (2019).
...	other arguments, ignored or passed to other methods.

References

Afroz, Farzana, Matt Parry, and David Fletcher. (2020). "Estimating Overdispersion in Sparse Multinomial Data." *Biometrics* 76(3): 834-842. doi: [10.1111/biom.13194](https://doi.org/10.1111/biom.13194).

Examples

```

library(MASS) # For 'housing' data

# Note that with a factor response and frequency weighted data,
# Overdispersion will be overestimated:
house.mblogit <- mblogit(Sat ~ Infl + Type + Cont, weights = Freq,
                        data = housing)

dispersion(house.mblogit,method="Afroz")
dispersion(house.mblogit,method="Deviance")

summary(house.mblogit)

phi.Afroz <- dispersion(house.mblogit,method="Afroz")
summary(house.mblogit, dispersion=phi.Afroz)

summary(update(house.mblogit, dispersion="Afroz"))

# In order to be able to estimate overdispersion accurately,
# data like the above (which usually comes from applying
# 'as.data.frame' to a contingency table) the model has to be
# fitted with the optional argument 'from.table=TRUE':
house.mblogit.corrected <- mblogit(Sat ~ Infl + Type + Cont, weights = Freq,
                                  data = housing, from.table=TRUE,
                                  dispersion="Afroz")

# Now the estimated dispersion parameter is no longer larger than 20,
# but just bit over 1.0.
summary(house.mblogit.corrected)

```

electors

Class, Party Position, and Electoral Choice

Description

This is an artificial data set on electoral choice as influenced by class and party positions.

Usage

```
data(electors)
```

Format

A data frame containing the following variables:

class class position of voters

party party that runs for election

Freq frequency by which each party list is chosen by members of each class

time time variable, runs from zero to one

econ.left economic-policy "leftness" of each party
welfare emphasis of welfare expansion of each party
auth position on authoritarian issues

Examples

```
data(electors)

summary(mclogit(
  cbind(Freq,interaction(time,class))~econ.left+welfare+auth,
  data=electors))

summary(mclogit(
  cbind(Freq,interaction(time,class))~econ.left/class+welfare/class+auth/class,
  data=electors))

# This takes a bit longer.
summary(mclogit(
  cbind(Freq,interaction(time,class))~econ.left/class+welfare/class+auth/class,
  random=~1|party.time,
  data=within(electors,party.time<-interaction(party,time))))

summary(mclogit(
  cbind(Freq,interaction(time,class))~econ.left/(class*time)+welfare/class+auth/class,
  random=~1|party.time,
  data=within(electors,{
    party.time <-interaction(party,time)
    econ.left.sq <- (econ.left-mean(econ.left))^2
  })))
```

getSummary-methods *'getSummary' Methods*

Description

[getSummary](#) methods for use by [mtable](#)

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'mblogit'
getSummary(obj,
  alpha=.05,
  ...)
## S3 method for class 'mclogit'
getSummary(obj,
  alpha=.05,
  rearrange=NULL,
```

```

    ...)
## S3 method for class 'mmblogit'
getSummary(obj,
            alpha=.05,
            ...)
## S3 method for class 'mmclogit'
getSummary(obj,
            alpha=.05,
            rearrange=NULL,
            ...)

```

Arguments

obj	an object returned by <code>mblogit</code> or <code>mclogit</code>
alpha	level of the confidence intervals; their coverage should be $1-\alpha/2$
rearrange	an optional named list of character vectors. Each element of the list designates a column in the table of estimates, and each element of a character vector refers to a coefficient. Names of list elements become column heads and names of the character vector elements become coefficient labels.
...	further arguments; ignored.

Examples

```

## Not run:
summary(classd.model <- mclogit(cbind(Freq,choice.set)~
                                (econdim1.sq+nonmatdim1.sq+nonmatdim2.sq)+
                                (econdim1+nonmatdim1+nonmatdim2)+
                                (econdim1+nonmatdim1+nonmatdim2):classd,
                                data=mvoteint.classd,random=~1|mvoteint/eb,
                                subset=classd!="Farmers"))
myGetSummary.classd <- function(x)getSummary.mclogit(x,rearrange=list(
  "Econ. Left/Right"=c(
    "Squared effect"="econdim1.sq",
    "Linear effect"="econdim1",
    " x Intermediate/Manual worker"="econdim1:classdIntermediate",
    " x Service class/Manual worker"="econdim1:classdService class",
    " x Self-employed/Manual worker"="econdim1:classdSelf-employed"
  ),
  "Lib./Auth."=c(
    "Squared effect"="nonmatdim1.sq",
    "Linear effect"="nonmatdim1",
    " x Intermediate/Manual worker"="nonmatdim1:classdIntermediate",
    " x Service class/Manual worker"="nonmatdim1:classdService class",
    " x Self-employed/Manual worker"="nonmatdim1:classdSelf-employed"
  ),
  "Mod./Trad."=c(
    "Squared effect"="nonmatdim2.sq",
    "Linear effect"="nonmatdim2",
    " x Intermediate/Manual worker"="nonmatdim2:classdIntermediate",

```

```

" x Service class/Manual worker"="nonmatdim2:classdService class",
" x Self-employed/Manual worker"="nonmatdim2:classdSelf-employed"
)
))

library(memisc)
mtable(classd.model,getSummary=myGetSummary.classd)
# Output would look like so:
# =====
#                               Econ. Left/Right   Lib./Auth.   Mod./Trad.
# -----
# Squared effect                0.030           0.008           -0.129**
#                               (0.081)          (0.041)          (0.047)
# Linear effect                 -0.583***        -0.038           0.137**
#                               (0.063)          (0.041)          (0.045)
# x Intermediate/Manual worker  0.632***        -0.029           -0.015
#                               (0.026)          (0.020)          (0.019)
# x Service class/Manual worker 1.158***         0.084**          0.000
#                               (0.040)          (0.032)          (0.030)
# x Self-employed/Manual worker 1.140***         0.363***         0.112***
#                               (0.035)          (0.027)          (0.026)
# Var(mvoteint)                 1.080***
#                               (0.000)
# Var(mvoteint x eb)           0.118***
#                               (0.000)
# -----
# Dispersion                    1.561
# Deviance                      15007.0
# N                             173445
# =====

## End(Not run)

```

mblogit

Baseline-Category Logit Models for Categorical and Multinomial Responses

Description

The function `mblogit` fits baseline-category logit models for categorical and multinomial count responses with fixed alternatives.

Usage

```

mblogit(
  formula,
  data = parent.frame(),
  random = NULL,
  subset,
  weights = NULL,

```

```

na.action = getOption("na.action"),
model = TRUE,
x = FALSE,
y = TRUE,
contrasts = NULL,
method = NULL,
estimator = c("ML", "REML"),
dispersion = FALSE,
from.table = FALSE,
groups = NULL,
control = if (length(random)) mmclogit.control(...) else mclogit.control(...),
...
)

```

Arguments

formula	the model formula. The response must be a factor or a matrix of counts.
data	an optional data frame, list or environment (or object coercible by as.data.frame to a data frame) containing the variables in the model. If not found in data, the variables are taken from <code>environment(formula)</code> , typically the environment from which <code>glm</code> is called.
random	an optional formula that specifies the random-effects structure or <code>NULL</code> .
subset	an optional vector specifying a subset of observations to be used in the fitting process.
weights	an optional vector of weights to be used in the fitting process. Should be <code>NULL</code> or a numeric vector.
na.action	a function which indicates what should happen when the data contain NAs. The default is set by the <code>na.action</code> setting of options , and is <code>na.fail</code> if that is unset. The ‘factory-fresh’ default is <code>na.omit</code> . Another possible value is <code>NULL</code> , no action. Value <code>na.exclude</code> can be useful.
model	a logical value indicating whether <i>model frame</i> should be included as a component of the returned value.
x, y	logical values indicating whether the response vector and model matrix used in the fitting process should be returned as components of the returned value.
contrasts	an optional list. See the <code>contrasts.arg</code> of <code>model.matrix.default</code> .
method	<code>NULL</code> or a character string, either "PQL" or "MQL", specifies the type of the quasiliikelihood approximation to be used if a random-effects model is to be estimated.
estimator	a character string; either "ML" or "REML", specifies which estimator is to be used/approximated.
dispersion	a logical value or a character string; whether and how a dispersion parameter should be estimated. For details see dispersion .
from.table	a logical value; do the data represent a contingency table, e.g. were created by applying <code>as.data.frame()</code> a the result of <code>table()</code> or <code>xtabs()</code> . This relevant only if the response is a factor. This argument should be set to <code>TRUE</code> if the data do


```
summary(house.mblogit)
```

```
mtable(house.mblogit)
```

mclgfit

Conditional Logit Models and Mixed Conditional Logit Models

Description

mclgfit fits conditional logit models and mixed conditional logit models to count data and individual choice data, where the choice set may vary across choice occasions.

Conditional logit models without random effects are fitted by Fisher-scoring/IWLS. Models with random effects (mixed conditional logit models) are estimated via maximum likelihood with a simple Laplace approximation (aka PQL).

Usage

```
mclgfit(formula, data=parent.frame(), random=NULL,
        subset, weights = NULL, offset=NULL, na.action = getOption("na.action"),
        model = TRUE, x = FALSE, y = TRUE, contrasts=NULL,
        method = NULL, estimator=c("ML", "REML"),
        dispersion = FALSE,
        start=NULL,
        control=if(length(random))
                mmclogit.control(...)
                else mclgfit.control(...), ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'mclgfit'
update(object, formula., dispersion, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'mclgfit'
summary(object, dispersion = NULL, correlation = FALSE,
        symbolic.cor = FALSE, ...)
```

Arguments

formula a model formula: a symbolic description of the model to be fitted. The left-hand side contains is expected to be a two-column matrix. The first column contains the choice counts or choice indicators (alternative is chosen=1, is not chosen=0). The second column contains unique numbers for each choice set. If individual-level data is used, choice sets correspond to the individuals, if aggregated data with choice counts are used, choice sets may e.g. correspond to covariate classes within clusters. The right-hand of the formula contains choice predictors. It should be noted that constants are deleted from the formula as are predictors that do not vary within choice sets.

data	an optional data frame, list or environment (or object coercible by <code>as.data.frame</code> to a data frame) containing the variables in the model. If not found in data, the variables are taken from <code>environment(formula)</code> , typically the environment from which <code>glm</code> is called.
random	an optional formula that specifies the random-effects structure or <code>NULL</code> .
weights	an optional vector of weights to be used in the fitting process. Should be <code>NULL</code> or a numeric vector.
offset	an optional model offset. Currently only supported for models without random effects.
subset	an optional vector specifying a subset of observations to be used in the fitting process.
na.action	a function which indicates what should happen when the data contain NAs. The default is set by the <code>na.action</code> setting of <code>options</code> , and is <code>na.fail</code> if that is unset. The ‘factory-fresh’ default is <code>na.omit</code> . Another possible value is <code>NULL</code> , no action. Value <code>na.exclude</code> can be useful.
start	an optional numerical vector of starting values for the conditional logit parameters.
model	a logical value indicating whether <i>model frame</i> should be included as a component of the returned value.
x, y	logical values indicating whether the response vector and model matrix used in the fitting process should be returned as components of the returned value.
contrasts	an optional list. See the <code>contrasts.arg</code> of <code>model.matrix.default</code> .
method	<code>NULL</code> or a character string, either "PQL" or "MQL", specifies the type of the quasiliikelihood approximation to be used if a random-effects model is to be estimated.
estimator	a character string; either "ML" or "REML", specifies which estimator is to be used/approximated.
dispersion	a real number used as dispersion parameter; a character vector that specifies the method to compute the dispersion; a logical value – if <code>TRUE</code> the default method ("Afroz") is used, if <code>FALSE</code> , the dispersion parameter is set to 1, that is, no dispersion. For details see dispersion .
control	a list of parameters for the fitting process. See <code>mclgfit.control</code>
...	arguments to be passed to <code>mclgfit.control</code> or <code>mmclgfit.control</code>
object	an object that inherits class "mclgfit". When passed to <code>dispersion()</code> , it should be the result of a call of <code>mclgfit()</code> or <code>mblogit()</code> , <i>without</i> random effects.
formula.	a changes to the model formula, see update.default and update.formula .
correlation	logical; see summary.lm .
symbolic.cor	logical; see summary.lm .

Value

`mclgfit` returns an object of class "mclgfit", which has almost the same structure as an object of class "[glm](#)".

Note

Covariates that are constant within choice sets are automatically dropped from the model formula specified by the `formula` argument of `mclgit`.

If the model contains random effects, these should

- either vary within choice sets (e.g. the levels of a factor that defines the choice sets should not be nested within the levels of factor)
- or be random coefficients of covariates that vary within choice sets.

In earlier versions of the package (prior to 0.6) it will lead to a failure of the model fitting algorithm if these conditions are not satisfied. Since version 0.6 of the package, the function `mclgit` will complain about such model a misspecification explicitly.

References

- Agresti, Alan (2002). *Categorical Data Analysis*. 2nd ed, Hoboken, NJ: Wiley. doi: [10.1002/0471249688](https://doi.org/10.1002/0471249688)
- Breslow, N.E. and D.G. Clayton (1993). "Approximate Inference in Generalized Linear Mixed Models". *Journal of the American Statistical Association* 88 (421): 9-25. doi: [10.1080/01621459.1993.10594284](https://doi.org/10.1080/01621459.1993.10594284)
- Elff, Martin (2009). "Social Divisions, Party Positions, and Electoral Behaviour". *Electoral Studies* 28(2): 297-308. doi: [10.1016/j.electstud.2009.02.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.electstud.2009.02.002)
- McFadden, D. (1973). "Conditional Logit Analysis of Qualitative Choice Behavior". Pp. 105-135 in P. Zarembka (ed.). *Frontiers in Econometrics*. New York: Wiley. <https://eml.berkeley.edu/reprints/mcfadden/zarembka.pdf>

See Also

Conditional logit models are also supported by **gmm**, **mlogit**, and **survival**. **survival** supports conditional logit models for binary panel data and case-control studies. **mlogit** and **gmm** treat conditional logit models from an econometric perspective. Unlike the present package, they focus on the random utility interpretation of discrete choice models and support generalisations of conditional logit models, such as nested logit models, that are intended to overcome the IIA (independence from irrelevant alternatives) assumption. Mixed multinomial models are also supported and estimated using simulation-based techniques. Unlike the present package, mixed or random-effects extensions are mainly intended to fit repeated choices of the same individuals and not aggregated choices of many individuals facing identical alternatives.

Examples

```
data(Transport)

summary(mclgit(
  cbind(resp,suburb)~distance+cost,
  data=Transport
))

# This takes a bit longer.
data(electors)
```

```
summary(mclgit(
  cbind(Freq,interaction(time,class))~econ.left/class+welfare/class+auth/class,
  random=~1|party.time,
  data=within(electors,party.time<-interaction(party,time))))
```

mclgit.control

Control Parameters for the Fitting Process

Description

mclgit.control returns a list of default parameters that control the fitting process of mclgit.

Usage

```
mclgit.control(epsilon = 1e-08,
               maxit = 25, trace=TRUE)
mmclgit.control(epsilon = 1e-08,
               maxit = 25, trace=TRUE,
               trace.inner=FALSE,
               avoid.increase = FALSE,
               break.on.increase = FALSE,
               break.on.infinite = FALSE,
               break.on.negative = FALSE)
```

Arguments

epsilon	positive convergence tolerance ϵ ; the iterations converge when $ dev - dev_{old} / (dev + 0.1) < \epsilon$.
maxit	integer giving the maximal number of IWLS or PQL iterations.
trace	logical indicating if output should be produced for each iteration.
trace.inner	logical; indicating if output should be produced for each inner iteration of the PQL method.
avoid.increase	logical; should an increase of the deviance be avoided by step truncation?
break.on.increase	logical; should an increase of the deviance be avoided by stopping the algorithm?
break.on.infinite	logical; should an infinite deviance stop the algorithm instead of leading to step truncation?
break.on.negative	logical; should a negative deviance stop the algorithm?

Value

A list.

mclgfit *Internal functions used for model fit.*

Description

These functions are exported and documented for use by other packages. They are not intended for end users.

Usage

```
mclgfit(y, s, w, X,
        dispersion=FALSE,
        start = NULL, offset = NULL,
        control = mclgfit.control())

mmclgfitPQLMQL(y, s, w, X, Z, d, start,
               offset = NULL, method=c("PQL", "MQL"),
               estimator = c("ML", "REML"),
               control = mmclgfit.control())
```

Arguments

y	a response vector. Should be binary.
s	a vector identifying individuals or covariate strata
w	a vector with observation weights.
X	a model matrix; required.
dispersion	a logical value or a character string; whether and how a dispersion parameter should be estimated. For details see dispersion .
Z	the random effects design matrix.
d	dimension of random effects. Typically $d=1$ for random intercepts only, $d>1$ for models with random intercepts.
start	an optional numerical vector of starting values for the coefficients.
offset	an optional model offset. Currently only supported for models without random effects.
method	a character string, either "PQL" or "MQL", specifies the type of the quasiliikelihood approximation.
estimator	a character string; either "ML" or "REML", specifies which estimator is to be used/approximated.
control	a list of parameters for the fitting process. See mclgfit.control

Value

A list with components describing the fitted model.

predict	<i>Predicting responses or linear parts of the baseline-category and conditional logit models</i>
---------	---

Description

The `predict()` methods allow to obtain within-sample and out-of-sample predictions from models fitted with `mclogit()` and `mblogit()`.

For models with random effects fitted using the PQL-method, it is possible to obtain responses that are conditional on the reconstructed random effects.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'mblogit'
predict(object, newdata=NULL, type=c("link", "response"), se.fit=FALSE, ...)
## S3 method for class 'mclogit'
predict(object, newdata=NULL, type=c("link", "response"), se.fit=FALSE, ...)
## S3 method for class 'mmblogit'
predict(object, newdata=NULL, type=c("link", "response"), se.fit=FALSE,
        conditional=TRUE, ...)
## S3 method for class 'mmclogit'
predict(object, newdata=NULL, type=c("link", "response"), se.fit=FALSE,
        conditional=TRUE, ...)
```

Arguments

<code>object</code>	an object in class "mblogit", "mmblogit", "mclogit", or "mmclogit"
<code>newdata</code>	an optional data frame with new data
<code>type</code>	a character string specifying the kind of prediction
<code>se.fit</code>	a logical value; whether predictions should be accompanied with standard errors
<code>conditional</code>	a logical value; whether predictions should be made conditional on the random effects (or whether they are set to zero, i.e. their expectation). This argument is consequential only if the "mmblogit" or "mmclogit" object was created with <code>method="PQL"</code> .
<code>...</code>	other arguments, ignored.

Value

The `predict` methods return either a matrix (unless called with `se.fit=TRUE`) or a list with two matrix-valued elements `"fit"` and `"se.fit"`.

Examples

```

library(MASS)
(house.mblogit <- mblogit(Sat ~ Infl + Type + Cont,
                        data = housing,
                        weights=Freq))

head(pred.house.mblogit <- predict(house.mblogit))
str(pred.house.mblogit <- predict(house.mblogit,se=TRUE))

head(pred.house.mblogit <- predict(house.mblogit,
                                  type="response"))
str(pred.house.mblogit <- predict(house.mblogit,se=TRUE,
                                  type="response"))

# This takes a bit longer.
data(electors)
(mcre <- mclogit(
  cbind(Freq,interaction(time,class))~econ.left/class+welfare/class+auth/class,
  random=~1|party.time,
  data=within(electors,party.time<-interaction(party,time))))

str(predict(mcre))
str(predict(mcre,type="response"))

str(predict(mcre,se.fit=TRUE))
str(predict(mcre,type="response",se.fit=TRUE))

```

simulate.mclgit	<i>Simulating responses from baseline-category and conditional logit models</i>
-----------------	---

Description

The `simulate()` methods allow to simulate responses from models fitted with `mclogit()` and `mblogit()`. Currently only models *without* random effects are supported for this.

Usage

```

## S3 method for class 'mblogit'
simulate(object, nsim = 1, seed = NULL, ...)
## S3 method for class 'mclogit'
simulate(object, nsim = 1, seed = NULL, ...)

# These methods are currently just 'stubs', causing an error
# message stating that simulation from models with random
# effects are not supported yet
## S3 method for class 'mmblogit'
simulate(object, nsim = 1, seed = NULL, ...)
## S3 method for class 'mmclogit'
simulate(object, nsim = 1, seed = NULL, ...)

```

Arguments

object	an object from the relevant class
nsim	a number, specifying the number of simulated responses for each observation.
seed	an object specifying if and how the random number generator should be initialized ('seeded'). The interpretation of this argument follows the default method, see <code>link[stats]{simulate}</code>
...	other arguments, ignored.

Value

The result of the `simulate` method for objects created by `mclgit` is a data frame with one variable for each requested simulation run (their number is given by the `nsim=` argument). The contents of the columns are counts (or zero-one values), with group-wise multinomial distribution (within choice sets) just like it is assumed for the original response.

The shape of the result of the `simulate` method for objects created by `mblogit` is also a data frame. The variables within the data frame have a mode or shape that corresponds to the response to which the model was fitted. If the response is a matrix of counts, then the variables in the data frame are also matrices of counts. If the response is a factor and `mblogit` was called with an argument `from.table=FALSE`, the variables in the data frame are factors with the same factor levels as the response to which the model was fitted. If instead the function was called with `from.table=TRUE`, the variables in the data frame are counts, which represent frequency weights that would result from applying `as.data.frame` to a contingency table of simulated frequency counts.

Examples

```
library(MASS)
(house.mblogit <- mblogit(Sat ~ Infl + Type + Cont,
                        data = housing,
                        weights=Freq,
                        from.table=TRUE))
sm <- simulate(house.mblogit,nsim=7)

housing.long <- housing[rep(seq.int(nrow(housing)),housing$Freq),]
(house1.mblogit <- mblogit(Sat ~ Infl + Type + Cont,
                          data=housing.long))
sm1 <- simulate(house1.mblogit,nsim=7)

housing.table <- xtabs(Freq~.,data=housing)
housing.mat <- memisc::to.data.frame(housing.table)
head(housing.mat)

(housem.mblogit <- mblogit(cbind(Low,Medium,High) ~
                          Infl + Type + Cont,
                          data=housing.mat))
smm <- simulate(housem.mblogit,nsim=7)

str(sm)
str(sm1)
str(smm)
```



```
head(smm[[1]])
```

Transport

Choice of Means of Transport

Description

This is an artificial data set on choice of means of transport based on cost and walking distance.

Usage

```
data(Transport)
```

Format

A data frame containing the following variables:

transport means of transportation that can be chosen.

suburb identifying number for each suburb

distance walking distance to bus or train station

cost cost of each means of transportation

working size of working population of each suburb

prop.true true choice probabilities

resp choice frequencies of means of transportation

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