THE SEMICONDUCTOR INDUSTRY IN CHINA: COMPETITION WITH THE UNITED STATES FOR MARKET DOMINANCE AND ADVANCEMENT.

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ABSTRACT

The semiconductor industry has become a hot potato in the ongoing global economic conflict, which centres on the US-China relationship. At issue in this conflict is the status of territory inside the United States. This article looks at the economic domination, technological progress, and geopolitical ambitions of the two nations as lenses through which to view their competition. To put it simply, semiconductors are essential to all modern electrical gadgets. These batteries have the potential to power a vast array of electrical equipment, ranging from simple household appliances to advanced military weapons. This is why they need to keep a close eye on the semiconductor industry's supply networks and production procedures. This is very important for the growth of the economy and national security. For this reason, they must vigilantly monitor the supply networks and manufacturing processes of the semiconductor sector. In terms of national security and GDP development, this is crucial. The wide variety of possible applications for semiconductors is a key factor in this. One important component in this is the vast array of potential uses for semiconductors. China has been working hard to achieve its aim of becoming a leading participant in the semiconductor business. The Chinese government has so far allocated large sums of money to programs like "Made in China 2025" and to bolstering the nation's ability to manufacture semiconductors. Political action, supply chain security, and global connectivity are additional factors to think about. This outcome is the product of extensive investigation. It is possible to arrive to this conclusion right now. The main goal of the project is to provide academics, legislators, and industry insiders a better understanding of how changing global economic and technological power affects semiconductor competitiveness. It aims to fill up knowledge gaps in this area. The goal of the research is to provide these individuals with a comprehensive review.

Keywords: Economic domination, technological progress, geopolitical ambitions, legislators, supply chain security.

INTRODUCTION

The semiconductor sector plays a key role in the modern digital economy since it facilitates advancements in several other fields, such as computers, telecommunications, artificial intelligence, and national security systems. The fact that the business bears the brunt of the responsibility for turning promising new ideas into marketable goods is likely to blame. As the

need for processors with more power, reduced power consumption, and smaller form factors continues to rise, semiconductors have become an essential strategic asset. Semiconductors have developed into a very advantageous strategic asset due to this need. Maybe the creation of semiconductors was driven by this need. Because of this finding, there is a lot of debate over how to make and sell semiconductors. American and Chinese tensions have been rising sharply over the last several years. To become world leaders in technical innovation and to become less dependent on foreign suppliers, both nations are making tremendous progress. This disagreement highlights a deeper problem in global politics, as more and more people link leadership in semiconductor technology with economic stability, innovative capacity, and military capability. Specifically, this perspective is what this argument is built upon. Maybe this idea was the one that set off all the fireworks. When it comes to ground-breaking ideas for semiconductor design and development, the United States has consistently been at the front of the pack. Here they are, just as they have been all along; nothing has changed. Many corporations have moved there, including Intel, Qualcomm, and NVIDIA (Sadiq, 2023). Intel is just one more great company in this field. A plethora of smaller businesses also call it their main office. Although foundries may be found in several parts of the globe, the two most common locations are in South Korea and Taiwan. An essential part of making anything is this. It has made the supply chain more vulnerable due to problems with the flow of commodities and delays in shipping things to customers. But China already has a plan to become a semiconductor self-sufficiency country. Things in China have altered significantly. Everything needed to implement a national strategy has now been taken care of. Under this paradigm, large sums of money could be required to construct factories, conduct research, and educate workers. Officials have set two targets for the country: becoming the world's top chip maker and reducing dependency on technology imports. These two goals are part of what the administration has in mind. The "Made in China 2025" project is one of many continuing efforts in this direction in China. It is clear that the nations are capable of accomplishing this goal. This research primarily aims to examine competitive dynamics in the ever-evolving semiconductor industry competition between China and the US. Understanding the nature of competition was the driving force for the research. The main objective of this study is to analyse the relationship between economic, technological, and geopolitical factors within the framework of the current war. The research does this while also looking at how it can affect global innovation, politics, and currency markets. Collectively, it might also affect the ability to generate new ideas. Academics, policymakers, and business executives who are interested in the possible future changes to global power structures and technical capabilities must have a complete grasp of the competition between these two groups. The level of competition has a significant impact on the future impact of these advancements (Park, 2024).

BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Global technological advancement is possible if a number of conditions are met, the most important of which is the expansion of the semiconductor industry. Collaborating across national boundaries, exchanging data across nations, and building complex global supply

networks are all things that help. When it came to semiconductor technology, the US was in the forefront for quite some time. This country has done more than only change the face of architecture and design; it has also created new methods for protecting intellectual property. Plenty of factors point to this being the case. The US is heavily involved in a number of value chain components. Complex chip design, EDA software, and semiconductor equipment are areas where this is especially true. The globalisation of manufacturing is, however, far from over. At now, most manufacturing facilities are located in Asia. To be more specific, it was made by two South Korean companies—Samsung Electronics and TSMC—with headquarters in Taiwan. The United States is strategically exposed due to its dependence on foreign businesses, which has become more apparent in the context of the ongoing global conflicts. This precarious scenario has emerged because these facilities are vital to the American economy. China, on the other hand, has a long history of importing semiconductors and industrial machinery to power its phenomenal economic and technical development. The political and economic history of China confirms this. This is really rather old news. The "Made in China 2025" program and the National Integrated Circuit Industry Development Guidelines are only two examples of the ambitious goals put in place by the Chinese government in its quest for technological independence. China has conveyed these two recommendations to the international community in official statements. Actions were made to resolve the matter once it was determined that this reliance endangered national security (Nguyen et al., 2025). The success of these businesses can have been due to a lot of things. Government funding on a massive scale, smart foreign acquisitions of digital enterprises, and efforts to attract highly talented personnel are all important considerations. Regardless of the accuracy of this, China's manufacturing sector still faces significant challenges when it comes to innovation, particularly in fields like as extreme ultraviolet (EUV) lithography. The Chinese government's intransigence in allowing US companies to transfer technology has set off a domino effect. The United States and China disagree on who should have ultimate authority in technological affairs. Both groups are interested in determining who gets to make technology decisions and who controls the market. As a result of their increased rivalry, the two countries are drawing closer together. Penalties, export limits, and bans on information sharing have all contributed to a higher level of competitiveness. Accordingly, supply chain interruptions in the future might be caused by geopolitical issues. The degree of competition has also been amplified by the tightening of economic rules. In order to assess how national policies affect innovation, international commerce, and power dynamics in the semiconductor sector, it is essential to comprehend the significant role that foreign technology plays. The situation is made more complex by the fact that foreign technology plays a big role (Li, 2024).

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

This study intends to analyse how China's access to foreign technology influences its ability to advance its semiconductor sector, hence enhancing its competitiveness against the US in technical leadership and market leadership. The main goal of this study is to look at how China's access to foreign technology affects its ability to improve its semiconductor sector. The study

can primarily examine the influence of China's access to foreign technology on the nation's ability to develop its semiconductor sector. The research can concentrate on these strategies. In general, China's ability to grow its industrial capacity and expand quicker has been considerably improved by the country's use of foreign technology. This has been true for a long time. This has been true from the beginning of Chinese history. There are a lot of technical advances in this category that have to do with IP. These technologies include software for making semiconductors and advanced manufacturing tools. The main purpose of the research is to find out how this sort of access helps China's IT sector grow and how trade rules and export restrictions slow down tech growth. The investigation can focus on these two traits in particular. This study can use China's pace of technological growth as a case study to analyse the impact of these restraints. The ultimate goal of this study is to provide readers a complete understanding of how foreign technology is important for the future of global semiconductor production. Policymakers, industry stakeholders, and researchers can utilise the study's data to gain insights into how elements such as innovation policies, technological barriers, and the accessibility of new technologies influence the power dynamics between the US and China in their pursuit of technological and market supremacy. The goal of releasing this information is to show how these things change the balance of power. The research team is another party that has a stake in the outcome.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The semiconductor industry's design, equipment, manufacturing, and assembly processes have expanded all over the world because of globalisation. This is because the semiconductor business is set up as a very specialist and internationally connected value chain. Access to foreign technology, such as sophisticated lithography equipment, electronic design automation (EDA) tools, and specialised materials, has a big impact on how rapidly nations and organisations can move up the technological curve. One big reason for this is that people may get technologies from other nations. The fact that this happens is a direct effect of the common practice of dividing up labour. Countries who have a lot of power over that chain are particularly significant because they may affect other countries that are attempting to make their own defences better. The reason is because they have control over what they can change. The research shows that one of the most talked-about ideas is that China's semiconductor sector has always been based on the idea that technology can be shared across countries. This is one of the most essential things that has been looked at. Chinese enterprises have been able to absorb new technologies faster than they would have been able to without local development. Buying assets, getting licenses for design tools, and using equipment from other countries have all helped make this possible. Experts say that this type of dependency is a strategic vulnerability, too. That stated, there are two sides to this coin. Throughout the process, the Chinese government has always provided detailed and quick solutions. Plans for industrial modernisation and national integrated circuits are examples of policy frameworks that set the stage for the government to spend a lot of money on research and development, training workers, building new factories, and big loans (Hyatt et al., 2025). These programs must be

carried out by the government. There is still a paucity of professionals with the right skills when it comes to cutting-edge foreign equipment and the supply chains for these goods, particularly in outdoor settings. This is especially true in the field. There are still certain gaps in cutting-edge capabilities, even if mature-node production has made great strides, as indicated in the literature. Even though Beijing's middle stages depend on other suppliers and taking longer to catch up with technology, scholars think that Beijing's long-term goal is to be self-sufficient. This is the catch, even if Beijing has to put these interim limitations in place. Many studies have looked at the overall impact of limiting the transmission of technology. Limiting access to foreign technology would slow down growth in certain nations, but it might also speed up strategic decoupling, the creation of new innovation ecosystems, and the rearrangement of supply networks. This might help exporters in the short term, but it could also lead to long-term fragmentation, which could stifle innovation throughout the world and raise costs for businesses worldwide. This might help exporters in the near run. This may help exporters in the short run. The literature identifies export limits and access to foreign technology as economic levers that significantly impact both the innovation system and the geopolitical landscape. The reason is because these parts might have an effect on both systems. The research indicates that these features profoundly influence both systems, elucidating the rationale for this phenomenon (Huggins et al., 2023).

RESEARCH QUESTION

What is the effect of foreign technology on competition with the U.S for market leadership?

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research Design: Methodology they used SPSS version 25 to do the quantitative data analysis. The direction and intensity of the statistical association were determined using the 95% confidence interval and odds ratio. At $p < 0.05$, the researchers established a criteria that was considered statistically significant. The data's essential features were extracted using a descriptive analysis. When analysing data transformed by computing tools for statistical analysis or data collected from surveys, polls, or questionnaires, quantitative methods are often used.

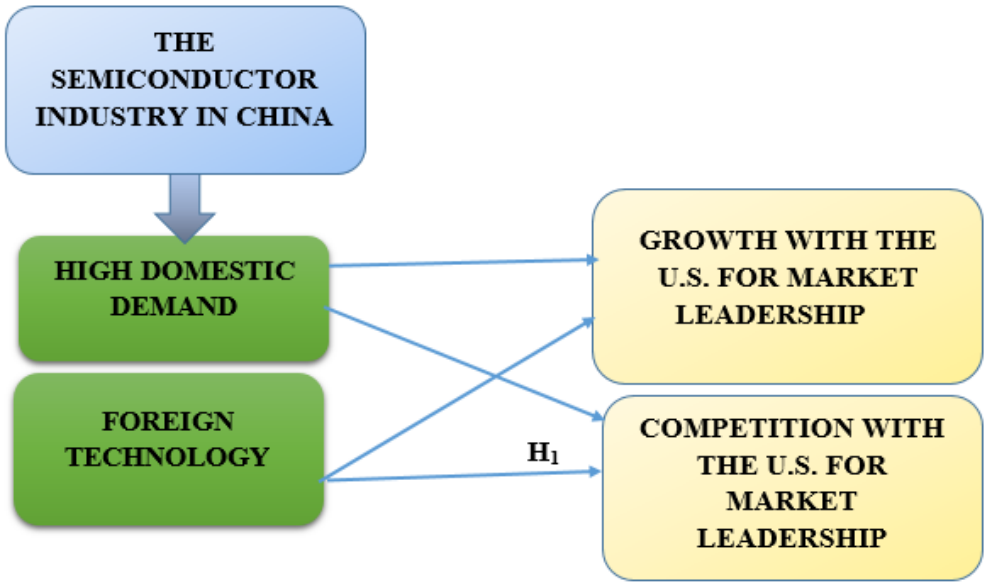
Sampling: Research participants filled out questionnaires to provide information for the research. Using the Rao-soft programme, researchers determined that there were 630 people in the research population, so researchers sent out 730 questionnaires. The researchers got 700 back, and they excluded 30 due to incompleteness, so researchers ended up with a sample size of 670.

Data and Measurement: A questionnaire survey served as the principal tool for data gathering in the study. The survey had two sections: (A) General demographic information and (B) Responses on online and offline channel variables assessed using a 5-point Likert scale. Secondary data was obtained from many sources, mostly on internet databases.

Statistical Software: The statistical analysis was conducted using SPSS 25 and MS-Excel.

Statistical Tools: To grasp the fundamental character of the data, descriptive analysis was used. The researcher is required to analyse the data using ANOVA.

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK



RESULT

Factor Analysis: A common use of Factor Analysis (FA) is to uncover latent variables within observable data. In the absence of definitive visual or diagnostic indicators, it is customary to use regression coefficients for evaluations. In FA, models are crucial for success. The objectives of modeling are to identify errors, intrusions, and discernible correlations. The Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) Test is a method for evaluating datasets generated by multiple regression analyses. The model and sample variables are confirmed to be representative. The data indicates redundancy, as seen by the figures. Reduced proportions improve data comprehension. The KMO output is a numerical value ranging from zero to one. A KMO value ranging from 0.8 to 1 indicates a sufficient sample size. The below quantities are considered suitable, according per Kaiser: The subsequent approval standards established by Kaiser are as follows:

A lamentable 0.050 to 0.059, insufficient 0.60 to 0.69

Middle grades often span from 0.70 to 0.79.

Exhibiting a quality point score between 0.80 and 0.89. They are astonished by the range of 0.90 to 1.00.

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin statistic: 0.957

The outcomes of Bartlett's test of sphericity are as follows: The degrees of freedom for the chi-square test are around 190, with a significance level of 0.000.

Table 1. KMO and Bartlett's Test for Sampling Adequacy.

KMO and Bartlett's Test		
Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		.957
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	3252.968
	df	190
	Sig.	.000

This illustrates that claims made for sampling reasons are valid. Researchers used Bartlett's Test of Sphericity to assess the significance of the correlation matrices. A sample is deemed good based on the Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin criteria when the result is 0.957. The p-value derived from Bartlett's sphericity test is 0.00. The correlation matrix is not an identity matrix, as shown by a statistically significant outcome from Bartlett's sphericity test.

INDEPENDENT VARIABLE

The Semiconductor Industry In China: The semiconductor sector, and more specifically China's, may be the focus of this study's independent variable. This variable can determine the fate of China's domestic semiconductor sector. The industry's trajectory going forward is also dependent on it. In addition, it is responsible for the things that have been spoken before. There are a lot of possible causes for the appearance of this phenomena. Government programs to recruit and retain top talent, rules to decrease dependence on foreign technology, and efforts to boost local manufacturing are all examples of such measures. These are all factors that belong to the same category. The Chinese semiconductor industry has been a major driver of economic development in the nation. Whether China can compete with the US for market supremacy is also dependent on this. Because of the importance of the semiconductor industry to China's economic growth, this is indeed the case. China's capacity to compete with the United States has clearly been severely weakened by this performance. Indirectly or directly, several things influence the nature of global competitiveness. Examples of such factors include the amount of capital invested, the pace of technological innovation, and the effectiveness of measures that foster self-sufficiency. This study's "this variable" is the correlation between China's market share and its technical and engineering competitiveness relative to the United States, as a consequence of the quality and innovation of its semiconductors (Gao et al., 2023).

FACTOR

Foreign Technology: Foreign technology plays a crucial role in China's semiconductor sector, which greatly affects its development and competitiveness. Understanding how the industry may grow and thrive depends on this section. Producing semiconductors relies heavily on this part. Outside of China, it contains information, resources, intellectual property, and production techniques. This encompasses not just the data but also the methods, instruments, and

processes that are essential for production. Due to a lack of necessary materials, Chinese manufacturers are unable to create the aforementioned items. Over the years, China has tailored its economy to meet its own demands by importing chips, specialised equipment (such as lithography machines), and the knowledge and experience of international businesses. In China, this is nothing new. This is the way things have always been in China, ever since records began. The ease or difficulty of China's access to foreign technology determines the extent to which the country can enhance its semiconductor expertise. Companies in China may boost their production efficiency and close the innovation gap by acquiring new technology from international powerhouses. This is because the necessary technology is readily available to them. It may be more challenging to conduct research and develop advanced nodes and high-performance processors due to export restrictions, penalties, and an absence of information flow. It may be more challenging to construct complex nodes due to these factors as well. The difficulty in sharing information might be a direct outcome of these worries. The correlation between China's growing semiconductor industry and its comparative competitiveness with the United States may be heavily impacted by foreign technology, according to this study. Using this strategy, they may deduce how China's dependence on international aid and cooperation—or lack thereof—influences the country's progress towards technical independence and its capacity to contend for market supremacy on a global scale. From this vantage point, they can see the factors influencing China's economic progress (Brundage, 2023).

DEPENDENT VARIABLE

Competition with the U.S. For Market Leadership: This research looks at how much competition there is between the US and China for the top place in the global semiconductor sector. The US and China are both trying to become the most powerful country in the world. The US and China are fighting over who can have the most power over this problem. This variable indicates how China's efforts to enhance its own semiconductor industry have influenced the market and how much China depends on foreign technology and the problems that come with it. Also, importing technology has certain limits. To figure out how competitive the market is, people look at a number of different criteria. Some of the things that make up these classes include global market share, the ability to innovate, control over important technology, and the impact on the structure of the global supply chain. The dependent variable is how changes in China's semiconductor industry, which are caused by limitations or access to foreign technology, affect the balance of power in the global semiconductor market. This approach makes these improvements feasible. The worldwide semiconductor sector is affected by global technology, which is why this is the case. The study's primary objective is to determine the global impact of these specific changes on the semiconductor industry. The study's goal is to find out how these changes affect things. If China were to establish a semiconductor industry that was stronger and more advanced, the competition between China and the US would become worse. This would cause supply chains throughout the world to be reorganised, prices to change, and the technological limits that are presently in place in the sector to be rethought. If this happened, all of these things would happen (Atkinson & Atkinson, 2024).

The relationship between Foreign Technology and Competition with the U.S. For Market Leadership: The quantity of technology China imports has a big effect on how much it can compete with the US for supremacy in the semiconductor industry. This is because suppliers from other nations have a big impact on how quickly China makes advances in technology. The fundamental reason for this is that China is a big player when it comes to getting technology from other countries. Chinese companies may be able to catch up with the best companies in the world by getting access to intellectual property, semiconductor design tools, and advanced production equipment made in other nations. Because of this, Chinese companies may be able to make more goods, come up with new ideas faster, and close the gap. They've been able to blend in among the world's best people, which is one of the reasons they've done so well. That's why they are so successful. China might profit from getting access to foreign technology in order to get a bigger portion of the market, better meet local demand, and make better chips. China would get all the advantages from this. Because of this, competition with the US can be much stronger than it was previously. But if Chinese companies can't get their hands on foreign technology, American semiconductor companies may be able to remain ahead of the game. This is primarily because these rules only apply to technology from other countries. This limitation might be in the form of limits on exports, monetary sanctions, or a prohibition on sharing technical knowledge. China can't expect to get over these problems without putting a lot of money into home-grown technology and making local options. This might lead to a stronger and more independent sector, but it would also make it harder for China to become the world's leader. It doesn't matter if it slows down China's economic growth. It's hardly surprising that foreign technology is both a help and a hindrance in the industry's fight for supremacy. This helps the US stay on top for longer and provides China more of a motive to work on its own scientific and technology skills. New advances in other countries can have a big effect on the future balance of power in the semiconductor sector (Abdıkarov, 2023). On the basis of the above discussion, the researcher formulated the following hypothesis, which was analyse the relationship between Foreign Technology and Competition with the U.S. For Market Leadership.

"H_{01}: There is no significant relationship between Foreign Technology and Competition with the U.S. for Market Leadership."

"H_1: There is a significant relationship between Foreign Technology and Competition with the U.S. for Market Leadership."

Table 2. H1 ANOVA Test.

ANOVA					
Sum					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	39588.620	116	5618.517	1049.013	.000
Within Groups	492.770	553	5.356		
Total	40081.390	669			

This investigation yields remarkable results. The F value is 1049.013, attaining significance with a p-value of .000, which is below the .05 alpha threshold. This signifies the "H_1: There is a significant relationship between Foreign Technology and Competition with the U.S. for Market Leadership." is accepted and the null hypothesis is rejected.

DISCUSSION

This study discovered that foreign technology influences the global semiconductor competition between the US and China. The findings of this investigation support this idea. These figures substantiate the notion that foreign technology is integral to this competition, hence reinforcing the claim. These facts provide further proof that this idea is true. China has been able to grow faster throughout the years by getting better industrial equipment, design tools, and technical know-how from other nations. China has been able to grow its economy more because of this. This is the key reason why China is better than its competitors. This may explain why China's manufacturing capacity has grown so quickly and why its computer chips work better. This has made it harder for the US to stay ahead of the competition, but it has also made the US's technical skills less impressive than those of other nations. These two things occurred at the same time. The installation of export limits and sanctions might exploit this strategic vulnerability, which is typified by dependence on foreign technology. The severity of this vulnerability can depend on the conditions that might lead to its exploitation.

The recent US campaign to stop China from getting cutting-edge lithography equipment, semiconductor design software, and other critical technologies is an excellent illustration of how foreign technology can both help and hurt. These barriers were meant to prevent China from getting technical advantages. By putting these limits in place, the US can stay ahead of China in cutting-edge nodes and innovation. This slows down China's development in making cutting-edge chips. As a direct result of these successes, the Chinese government and private businesses have put a lot of money into research, training workers, and building factories in China. These money costs are a direct result of the development that has been accomplished. These investments were made because of the changes that have happened. Even while this approach could have short-term advantages, it illustrates that technological restrictions might help China reach its long-term goal of self-sufficiency faster. This could lead to a stronger and more competitive industry. This answer is proof of that. The discourse has mostly proven that foreign technology is more than simply an extra in the semiconductor sector; it's a strategic instrument that helps shape the power structure there. Most of the discussion groups have brought it to light. This particular element has come up a lot in the debate.

In the end, the pace and intensity of competition with the US can decide who leads the global market. In the global market, the presence (or absence) of market leadership directly influences the intensity and velocity of rivalry with the US. It doesn't matter whether the market leader is available or not.

CONCLUSION

The findings of this research support the notion that Chinese technical innovation and its rivalry with American giants in the semiconductor sector are significantly affected by external forces. The study's implementation facilitates the achievement of this aim. China has always benefited from having access to important intellectual property, software for designing semiconductors, and cutting-edge manufacturing equipment when it comes to speeding up innovation and boosting production capacity. This has been true in the past. This access has helped both nations improve their levels of technological development. This has made competition in foreign markets stronger, which might ultimately put the United States' existing dominating position at risk. On the other hand, the facts suggest that China's fast economic growth is greatly slowed down by limits on technology that comes from other countries. Some of the restrictions in these limits include prohibitions on sharing information, penalties for breaking them, and limits on exports. But although these rules are helping the US stay ahead in important technologies and advanced nodes, they are also making China spend more on developing its own innovations, supply chains, and skilled workers. Even while America is growing increasingly reliant on these limits, this is the truth. This might lead to a stronger and more autonomous semiconductor ecosystem in China over time. This might lead to a global revaluation of competitiveness when everything is said and done. In other words, the future can depend on how well the two countries can find a balance between competing with each other and working together. If they want to see long-term development in technology, governments and businesses need to come up with rules that protect national security, encourage innovation, and prevent the global semiconductor market from becoming too fragmented. This is necessary to reach the goal of achieving long-term global technological progress. They need to put these ideas into action if they want to reach out aim of promoting long-term technological progress across the globe.

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