

**THE UPPER CONNECTED EDGE DETOUR NUMBER OF AN EDGE DETOUR GRAPH**

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**ABSTRACT**

For any two vertices  $u$  and  $v$  in a connected graph  $G$ , the detour distance  $D(u, v)$  is the length of a longest  $u - v$  path in  $G$ . A  $u - v$  path of length  $D(u, v)$  is called a  $u - v$  detour. A set  $S \subseteq V$  is called an edge detour set of  $G$  if every edge in  $G$  lies on a detour joining a pair of vertices of  $S$ . A connected edge detour set of a graph  $G$  is a edge detour set  $S$  such that the sub graph  $\langle S \rangle$  induced by  $S$  is connected. The minimum cardinality of a connected edge detour set of  $G$  is a connected edge detour number, denoted by  $cdn_1(G)$  of  $G$  and any connected edge detour set of order  $cdn_1(G)$  is called a connected edge detour basis of  $G$ . A connected edge detour set  $S$  in a connected graph  $G$  is called a minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$  if no proper subset of  $S$  is a connected edge detour set of  $G$ . The upper connected edge detour number  $cdn_1^+(G)$  of  $G$  is the maximum cardinality of a minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$ . In this paper the upper connected edge detour number of certain classes of graphs is determined. It is proved that for each pair  $a, b$  of integers with  $5 \leq a \leq b$ , there is a connected graph  $G$  with  $cdn_1(G) = a$  and  $cdn_1^+(G) = b$ . It is also proved that for every pair  $a, b$  of integers with  $2 < a < b$ , there exists a connected graph  $G$  with  $cdn_1(G) = a$  and  $cdn_1^+(G) = b$ .

**Keywords:** detour, edge detour number, connected edge detour number, upper connected edge detour number.

**AMS Subject Classification:** 05C12.

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**INTRODUCTION**

By a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , we mean a finite undirected connected simple graph. The order and size of  $G$  are denoted by  $n$  and  $m$  respectively. For basic definitions and terminologies, we refer to [1, 4].

For vertices  $u$  and  $v$  in a connected graph  $G$ , the distance  $d(u, v)$  is the length of a shortest  $u - v$  path in  $G$ . A  $u - v$  path of length  $d(u, v)$  is called a  $u - v$  geodesic. For a vertex  $v$  of  $G$ , the eccentricity  $e(v)$  is the distance between  $v$  and a vertex farthest from  $v$ .

The minimum eccentricity among the vertices of  $G$  is the radius,  $rad(G)$  of  $G$  and the maximum eccentricity is its diameter,  $diam(G)$  of  $G$ .

A vertex  $x$  is said to lie on a  $u - v$  detour  $P$  if  $x$  is a vertex of  $P$  including the vertices  $u$  and  $v$ . A set  $S \subseteq V$  is called a detour set if every vertex  $v$  in  $G$  lies on a detour joining a pair of vertices of  $S$ . The detour number  $dn(G)$  of  $G$  is the minimum cardinality of a detour set and any detour set of order  $dn(G)$  is called a detour basis of  $G$ . A detour set  $S$  in a connected graph  $G$  is called a minimal detour set if no proper subset of  $S$  is a detour set. The upper

detour number  $dn^+(G)$  is the maximum cardinality of a minimal detour set of  $G$ . The upper detour number of a graph was introduced and studied by Chartrand *et.al* [3].

A set  $S \subseteq V$  is called a *connected detour set* of  $G$  if  $S$  is a detour set of  $G$  and the subgraph  $G \langle S \rangle$  induced by  $S$  is connected. The *connected detour number*  $cdn(G)$  of  $G$  is the minimum cardinality of its connected detour set and any connected detour set of order  $cdn(G)$  is called a *connected detour basis* of  $G$ . A connected detour set  $S$  in a connected graph  $G$  is called a *minimal connected detour set* of  $G$  if no proper subset of  $S$  is a connected detour set of  $G$ . The *upper connected detour number*  $cdn^+(G)$  of  $G$  is the maximum cardinality of a minimal connected detour set of  $G$ . In 2009, the upper connected detour number of a graph was introduced and studied by Santhakumaran and Athisayanathan [5].

A set  $S \subseteq V$  is called an *edge detour set* of  $G$  if every edge in  $G$  lies on detour joining a pair of vertices of  $S$ . The *edge detour number*  $dn_1(G)$  of  $G$  is the minimum cardinality of its edge detour sets and any edge set of order  $dn_1(G)$  is an *edge detour basis* of  $G$ . An edge detour set  $S$  in a connected graph  $G$  is called a *minimal edge detour set* of  $G$  if no proper subset of  $S$  is an edge detour set of  $G$ . The *upper edge detour number*  $dn_1^+(G)$  of  $G$  as the maximum cardinality of a minimal edge detour set of  $G$ . In 2011, the upper edge detour number of a graph was introduced and studied by Santhakumaran and Athisayanathan [6, 7].

A set  $S \subseteq V$  is called a *connected edge detour set* of  $G$  if  $S$  is an edge detour set of  $G$  and the subgraph  $\langle S \rangle$  induced by  $S$  is connected. The *connected edge detour number*  $cdn_1(G)$ , of  $G$  is the minimum order of its connected edge detour sets and any connected edge detour set of order  $cdn_1(G)$  is called a *connected edge detour basis* of  $G$ . These concepts were studied by Prabakar and Athisayanathan [8].

The following theorems are used in sequel.

**Theorem 1.1[7]:** All the end-vertices and the cut-vertices of an edge detour graph  $G$  belong to every connected edge detour set of  $G$ .

**Theorem 1.2[7]:** Let  $G$  be the complete graph  $K_n$  ( $n \geq 3$ ) or cycle  $C_n$  ( $n \geq 3$ ). Then a set  $S \subseteq V$  is a connected edge detour basis of  $G$  if and only if  $S$  consists of any three adjacent vertices of  $G$ .

**Theorem 1.3[7]:** Let  $G$  be the complete bipartite graph  $K_{m,n}$  ( $2 \leq m \leq n$ ). Then a set  $S \subseteq V$  is a connected edge detour basis of  $G$  if and only if  $S$  consists of any three vertices of  $G$  such that two vertices from one partition and one from other partition of  $G$ .

**Theorem 1.4[7]:** If  $T$  is a tree of order  $n \geq 2$ , then  $cdn_1(T) = n$ .

**Theorem 1.5[7]:**

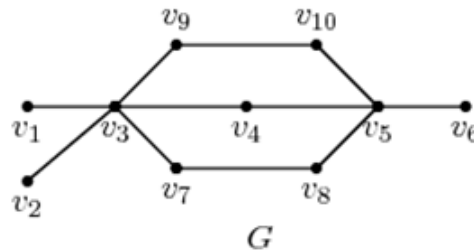
- (a) If  $G$  is the complete graph  $K_n$ , then  $cdn_1(G) = 3$ .
- (b) If  $G$  is the complete bipartite graph  $K_{m,n}$  ( $2 \leq m \leq n$ ), then  $cdn_1(G) = 3$ .
- (c) If  $G$  is the cycle  $C_n$ , then  $cdn_1(G) = 3$ .

Throughout this paper  $G$  denotes an edge detour graph with at least two vertices.

## 2. UPPER CONNECTED EDGE DETOUR NUMBER

**Definition 2.1:** A connected edge detour set  $S$  in an edge detour graph  $G$  is called a *minimal connected edge detour set* of  $G$  if no proper subset of  $S$  is a connected edge detour set of  $G$ . The upper connected edge detour number  $cdn_1(G)$  of  $G$  is the maximum cardinality of a minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$ .

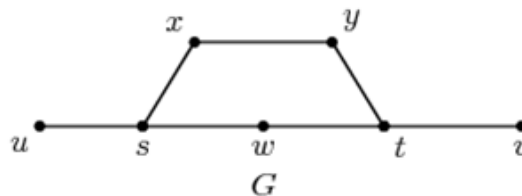
**Example 2.2:** For the edge detour graph  $G$  given in Figure 2.1,  $S_1 = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, v_5, v_6\}$ ,  $S_2 = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_9, v_{10}, v_5, v_6\}$ ,  $S_3 = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_7, v_8, v_4, v_5, v_6\}$  are the minimal connected edge detour sets of  $G$  so that  $cdn_1(G) = 7$ . Moreover, the sets  $S_1, S_2$  and  $S_3$  contain the cut-vertices  $v_3$  and  $v_5$  of  $G$  and end-vertices  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  of  $G$ . Thus, every minimal connected edge detour sets of an edge detour graph must contain cut-vertex and end-vertex of an edge detour graph  $G$ .



**Figure-2.1**

**Example 2.3:** For the edge detour graph  $G$  given in Figure 2.1, it is clear that the set  $S_1 = \{v_1, v_2, v_7, v_4, v_9\}$  is a minimal connected detour set of  $G$  so that  $dn_1(G) = 5$ . Also the set  $S_1 = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, v_5, v_6\}$  is the minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$  so that  $cdn_1(G) = 7$ . Hence the minimal edge detour set and minimal connected edge detour set of an edge detour graph  $G$  are different.

**Example 2.3:** For the edge detour graph  $G$  given in Figure 2.2,  $S_1 = \{u, s, x, y, t, v\}$  and  $S_1 = \{u, s, w, t, v\}$  are the minimal connected edge detour sets of  $G$  so that  $cdn_1(G) = 5$  and  $cdn_1^+(G) = 6$ .



**Figure-2.2**

**Remark 2.4:** Every minimum connected edge detour set is a minimal connected edge detour set, but the converse is not true. For the edge detour graph  $G$  given in Figure 2.2,  $S_1 = \{u, v, s, t, x, y\}$  is a minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$  but not a minimum connected edge detour set of  $G$ .

**Theorem 2.5:** For any edge detour graph  $G$  of order  $n \geq 2$ ,  $2 \leq cdn_1(G) \leq cdn_1^+(G) \leq n$ .

**Proof:** A connected edge detour set needs at least two vertices so that  $cdn_1(G) \geq 2$ . Let  $S$  be any connected edge detour basis of  $G$ . Then  $S$  is also a minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$  and hence the result follows.

**Corollary 2.6:** Let  $G$  be an edge detour graph  $G$  of order  $n$ . If  $cdn_1(G) = n$ , then  $cdn_1^+(G) = n$ .

**Remark 2.7:** The bounds in Theorem 2.5 are sharp. For the complete graph  $K_n (n \geq 2)$  and the cycle  $C_n (n \geq 3)$ ,  $cdn_1(G) = cdn_1^+(G) = 3$ . Also for the edge detour graph  $G$  given in the Figure 2.2,  $cdn_1(G) < cdn_1^+(G)$ .

Now, we proceed to determine  $cdn_1^+(G)$  for some classes of an edge detour graphs.

**Theorem 2.8:** Let  $G$  be the complete graph  $K_n (n \geq 2)$  or cycle  $C_n (n \geq 3)$ . Then a set  $S \subseteq V$  is a minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$  if and only if  $S$  consists of any three adjacent vertices of  $G$ .

**Proof:** If  $S$  consists of any three adjacent vertices of  $G$ , then by Theorem 1.2,  $S$  is a connected edge detour basis of  $G$  so that  $S$  is minimal. Conversely, assume that  $S \subseteq V$  be a minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$ . If  $|S| = 2$ , then  $S$  is not a connected edge detour set of  $G$ . Let  $|S| \geq 4$ . Let  $S_1$  be any subset of  $S$  with  $|S_1| = 3$ . Then by Theorem 1.2,  $|S_1|$  is a connected edge detour set of  $G$  so that  $S$  is not a minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$ , which is contradiction. Thus  $S$  consists of any three adjacent vertices of  $G$ .

**Theorem 2.9:** Let  $G$  be the complete bipartite graph  $K_{n,m} (2 \leq n \leq m)$ . Then a set  $S \subseteq V$  is a minimal connected weak edge detour set of  $G$  if and only if  $S$  consists of any three vertices of  $G$  such that two vertices from one partition and one from other partition of  $G$ .

**Proof:** If  $S$  consists of any three vertices of  $G$  such that two vertices from one partition and one from other partition of  $G$ , then by Theorem 1.3,  $S$  is a connected edge detour basis of  $G$  so that  $S$  is minimal. Conversely, assume that  $S \subseteq V$  be a minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$  such that  $|S| = 4$ . Then there exists a subset  $S_1 = \{u, v, w\}$  of  $S$  such that two vertices from one partition and one from other partition of  $G$ . Then by Theorem 1.3,  $S_1$  is a connected edge detour set of  $G$ , which is a contradiction.

**Theorem 2.10:** Let  $G$  be an edge detour graph of order  $n$ .

- (a) If  $G$  is the complete graph  $K_n (n \geq 2)$  then  $cdn_1(G) = cdn_1^+(G) = 3$ .
- (b) If  $G$  is the complete bipartite graph  $K_{n,m} (2 \leq n \leq m)$ , then  $cdn_1(G) = cdn_1^+(G) = 3$ .
- (c) If  $G$  is the cycle  $C_n (n \geq 3)$  then  $cdn_1(G) = cdn_1^+(G) = 3$ .
- (d) If  $G$  is any tree of order  $n \geq 2$ , then  $cdn_1(G) = cdn_1^+(G) = n$ .

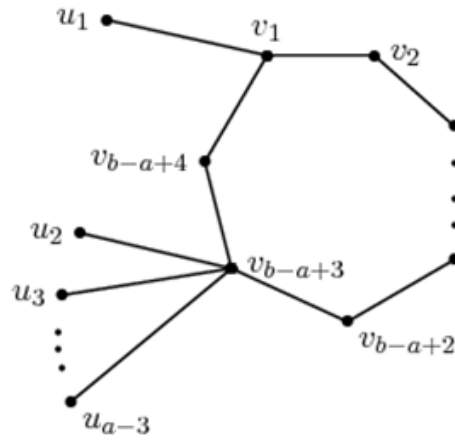
**Proof:**

- (a) This follows from Theorem 1.5(a) and Theorem 2.8.
- (b) This follows from Theorem 1.5(b) and Theorem 2.9.
- (c) This follows from Theorem 1.5(c) and Theorem 2.8.
- (d) This follows from Theorem 1.4 and Corollary 2.6.

The following theorem gives a realization result.

**Theorem 2.1:** For every pair  $a, b$  of integers with  $5 < a < b$ , there exists an edge detour graph  $G$  with  $cdn_1(G) = a$  and  $cdn_1^+(G) = b$ .

**Proof:** Let  $5 < a < b$ . Let  $G$  be an edge detour graph obtained from the cycle  $C : v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{b-a+4}, v_1$  of order  $b - a + 4$  by adding  $a - 3$  new vertices  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{a-3}$  and joining  $u_1$  to  $v_1$  and each  $u_i (2 < i < (a - 3))$  to  $v_{b-a+3}$  of  $C$ . The edge detour graph  $G$  is connected of order  $b + 1$  and is shown in Figure 2.4. Let  $X = \{v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{b-a+2}\}$ ,  $Y = \{u_2, u_3, \dots, u_{a-3}, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{b-a+3}\}$  and  $Z = \{v_{b-a+4}\}$ .



$G$   
**Figure-2.4**

First, we show that  $cdn_1(G) = a$ . By Corollary 1.1, every connected edge detour set of  $G$  contains  $Y$ . Clearly  $Y$  is not a connected edge detour set of  $G$  and so  $cdn_1(G) \geq |Y| + 1 = a$ . On the other hand, let  $S = Y \cup Z$ . Then every edge of  $G$  lies on detour joining a pair of vertices  $S$ . Also,  $G \langle S \rangle$  is connected. Hence  $S$  is a connected edge detour set of  $G$  and so  $cdn_1(G) \leq |S| = a$ . Therefore  $cdn_1(G) = a$ .

Now, we show that  $cdn^+(G) = b$ . Let  $S' = X \cup Y$ . Then it is clear that  $S'$  is a connected edge detour set of  $G$ . We show that  $S'$  is a minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$ . Assume, to the contrary, that  $S'$  is not a minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$ . Then there is a proper subset  $T$  of such that  $T$  is a connected edge detour set of  $G$ . Since  $T$  is a proper subset of  $S'$ , there exists a vertex  $v \in S'$  and  $v \notin T$ . By Theorem 1.1, every connected edge detour set contains  $Y$  and so we must have  $v = v_i \in X$  for some  $i (2 < i < (b - a + 2))$ . Then it is clear that  $G \langle T \rangle$  is not connected and so  $T$  is not a connected edge detour set of  $G$ , which is a contradiction. Thus  $S'$  is a minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$  and so  $cdn^+(G) = |S'| = b$ . Now, if  $cdn^+(G) > b$ , then let  $M$  be a minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$  with  $|M| \geq b + 1$ . Since  $G$  has  $b + 1$  elements and  $S'$  is a minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$ , it follows that  $M$  is not a minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore  $cdn^+(G) = b$ .

**Theorem 2.12:** For every pair  $a, b$  of integers with  $3 < a < b$ , there exists an edge detour graph  $G$  with  $dn_1(G) = a$  and  $cdn^+(G) = b$ .

**Proof:** For any tree of order  $b$  with  $a$  end-vertices is the desired graph.

**Theorem 2.13:** For every pair  $a, b$  of integers with  $2 < a < b$ , there exists an edge detour graph  $G$  with  $dn^+(G) = a$  and  $cdn^+(G) = b$ .

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be an edge detour graph obtained from the path  $P: v_1, v_2, \dots, v_a$  of order  $a$  by adding  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_{b-a}$  of order  $b - a$  new vertices joining  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ . Let  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{b-a}$  of order  $b - a$  new vertices joining  $v_1$  and  $w_{b-a}$ . The edge detour graph  $G$  is connected of order  $2b - a$  and shown in the Figure 2.5. Let  $X = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_a\}$ ,  $Y = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_{b-a}\}$ ,  $Z = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{b-a}\}$ . For we show that  $cdn^+(G) = a$ . By Corollary 1.8,  $S = X$  is connected detour set of  $G$ . Clearly  $S$  is also a minimal connected detour number of  $G$ .

Now, we show that  $cdn^+(G) = b$ . Let  $S' = \{X \cup Y\}$ . Then it is clear that  $S'$  is a connected edge detour set of  $G$ . We show that  $S'$  is a minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$ . Assume, to the contrary, that  $S'$  is not a minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$ . Then there is a proper subset  $T$  of  $S'$  such that  $T$  is a connected edge detour set of  $G$ . Since  $T$  is a proper subset of  $S'$ , there exists a vertex  $v \in S'$  and  $v \notin T$ . By Theorem 1.1, every connected edge detour set contains  $Y$  and so we must have  $v = v_i \in X$  for some  $i (1 < i < a)$ . Then it is clear that  $G \setminus T$  is not connected and so  $T$  is not a connected edge detour set of  $G$ , which is a contradiction. Thus  $S'$  is a minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$  and so  $cdn^+(G) \geq |S'| = b$ . Now, if  $cdn^+(G) > b$ , then let  $M$  be a minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$  with  $|M| \geq b + 1$ . Since  $G$  has  $b + 1$  elements and  $S'$  is a minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$ , it follows that  $M$  is not a minimal connected edge detour set of  $G$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore,  $cdn^+(G) = b$ .

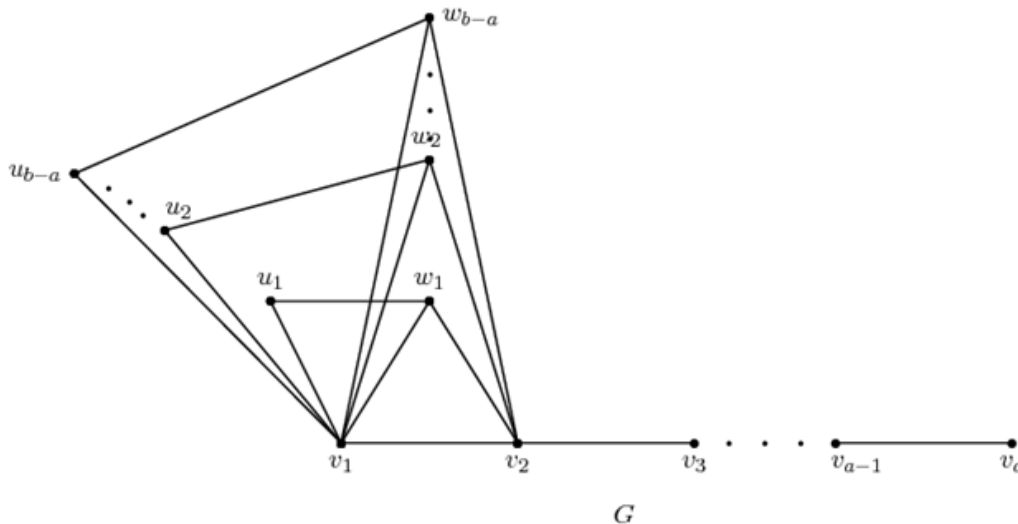
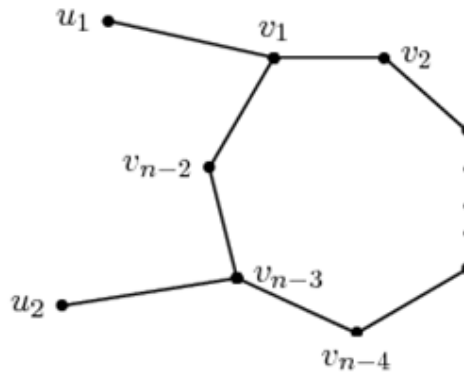


Figure-2.5

**Remark 2.14:** The edge detour graph  $G$  in Figure 2.6 contains exactly 2 minimal connected edge detour sets namely  $X \cup Y$  and  $Y \cup Z$ . Hence this example shows that there is no "Intermediate Value Theorem" for minimal connected edge detour sets, that is, if  $k$  is an integer such that  $cdn_1(G) < k < cdn_1^+(G)$ , then there need not exist a minimal connected edge detour set of cardinality  $k$  in  $G$ .

Using the structure of the graph  $G$  constructed in the proof of Theorem 2.12, we can obtain a graph  $H_n$  of order  $n$  with  $cdn_1(G) = 5$  and  $cdn^+(G) = n - 1$  for all  $n > 6$ . Thus we have the following. There is an infinite sequence  $H_n$  of edge detour graphs  $H_n G$  of order  $n > 6$  such that  $cdn_1(H_n) = 5$ ,  $cdn^+(H_n) = n - 1$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{cdn_1(H_n)}{n} = 0$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{cdn^+(H_n)}{n} = 1$ .

Let  $H_n$  be the graph obtained from the cycle  $C : v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-1}, v_1$  of order  $n - 2$  by adding two new vertices  $u_1, u_2$  and joining  $u_1$  to  $v_1$  and each  $u_2$  to  $v_{n-3}$  of  $C$ . The graph  $H_n$  is connected and is shown in Figure 2.6. Let  $X = \{v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{n-4}\}$ ,  $Y = \{u_2, v_1, \dots, v_{n-3}\}$  and  $Z = \{v_{n-2}\}$ . It is clear from the proof of Theorem 2.12 that the graph  $H_n$  contains exactly 2 minimal connected edge detour sets namely  $X \cup Y$  and  $Y \cup Z$  so that  $cdn^+(H_n) = n - 1$  and  $cdn_1(G) = 5$ . Hence the theorem follows.



*G*

**Figure-2.6**

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