A SELF CONSISTENT FIELD MOLECULAR ORBITAL INVESTIGATION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF d ORBITAL PARTICIPATION IN THE GROUND STATE OF **THIOPHENE**

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Abstract-The electronic structure of thiophene has been investigated using the Pople Segal Complete-Neglect of Differential overlap self consistent field theory and including all valence electrons. The effect of including 3d, 4s and 4p orbitals on sulphur is discussed in relation to calculated and experimental dipole moments and spin-spin coupling constants. The evidence is that inclusion of 3d, 4s and 4p orbitals has a very small effect on the calculated total energy of thiophene, but a significant effect on the relative magnitude of proton-proton and directly bonded carbon 13-proton coupling constants, and calculated dipole moments.

INTRODUCTION

THE role of d orbital participation in the ground state of thiophene (Fig. 1) has interested chemists for many years.

FIG. 1 Numbering system and co-ordinate system for thiophene.

The first suggestion that d orbitals might be important in thiophene was put forward by Schomaker and Pauling,¹ who on the basis of dipole moment and bond length data, inferred a 10% contribution from resonance canonicals involving d orbital participation on sulphur. This is based mostly on speculation, however, and cannot be considered as serious evidence for the importance of d orbital participation.

Longuet-Higgins showed² theoretically that an analogy might be drawn between $-CH=CH$ ---- and $\overline{}$ using 3p-3d hybrids of the latter, and this model has been extensively used³ in Hückel type calculations on heterocyclic sulphur compounds. This model has been severely criticized by Zauli and his co-workers, who pointed out⁴ that hybrid oribtals built with $3p_n 3d_{1n}$ and $3d_{1n}$ orbitals to give the required bond angle. would have too high an energy to contribute effectively.

Several SCF Pariser-Parr Pople calculations have been carried out⁵ on thiophene, and with one notable exception* all have neglected participation of d orbitals on sulphur, and all to some extent or another agree with experimental data. The striking feature about these calculations, is the wide variation in charge distribution and calculated dipole moments. For example there is even disagreement as to the relative magnitudes of electron densities at the ring carbon atoms.⁵⁻⁸ On the other hand the calculated electronic spectra are all very similar.⁵⁻⁸

The paper by Bielefeld and Fitts⁸ is of considerable interest as it is the first to explicitly consider d orbital participation in thiophene. and raises some interesting points. Firstly the pi overlap integral between a 3d orbital on sulphur and a $2p_x$ orbital on carbon adjacent was calculated to be 0.473, at a distance of 1.714 Å . The distance to the non nearest neighbour carbon (2.556 Å) is still short enough for the overlap integral to have an appreciable value. Recent calculations' have shown that inclusion of non nearest neighbour β 's has a substantial effect on charge distribution. Secondly in common with all the previous SCF treatments of thiophene, only the pi electrons were considered, this poses the question, if d orbitals have a significant effect on the pi electron distribution can the effect on σ electrons be ignored?

The importance of d orbital participation in neutral sulphur compounds has been discussed by Craig et al.^{10, 11} on the basis of overlap integrals calculated using Slater orbitals. The effective nuclear charge calculated using Slater's rules¹² for a sulphur 3d orbital is small, and hence overlap integrals involving this orbital are also calculated to be small. This led Craig et $al^{10, 11}$ to suggest that sulphur needs to be attached to electronegative groups to allow suficient contraction of the d orbitals for effective overlap. However this result rests on the false premise that overlap integrals calculated using Slater orbitals are a good approximation to integrals calculated using SCF orbitals, i/Slater's rules are used to obtain effective nuclear charges. These rules were devised to yield orbitals with reasonable energies. For orbitals with high principal quantum number, the energy is largely determined by the wave function close to the nucleus, whereas overlap integrals are determined by the magnitude of the wave function at distances further from the nucleus. This has led Burns¹³ to produce a set of modified Slater's rules, which give overlap integrals very similar to those obtained using SCF orbitals.

Figures 2 4 show overlap integrals involving S and H and C using Slater orbitals and Bums modified Slater rules. The striking feature in Fig. 2 is the high value of the H(ls)-S(3d) overlap integral and its slow tailing off. The dotted lines indicate the overlap integrals involved in thiophene, for comparison C C overlaps involved are also included. Figures 2-4 show quite clearly that d orbital participation on S cannot be rejected on the grounds of overlap integrals being too small.

It is the purpose of this paper to try and shed some new light on the electronic structure of thiophene and the importance of d orbitals therein, considering all the valence electrons in a Pople-Segal¹⁴⁻¹⁶ type SCF calculation. Since the energies¹⁷

FIG. 2 Overlap integrals involving a hydrogen 1s orbital and 3s, 3p and 3d orbitals on sulphur.

FiG. 3 Overlap integrals involving a carbon 2s orbital and 3s, 3p and 3d orbitals on sulphur.

FIG. 4 Overlap integrals involving a carbon 2p orbital and 3s, 3p and 3d orbitals on sulphur.

of the 4s and 4p orbitals of sulphur are very similar to those of the 3d orbitals, calculations were also carried out including the latter;

Method of calculation

In a recent series of papers Pople et al ¹⁴⁻¹⁶ have produced a new approximate method for calculating self-consistent molecular orbitals for all valence electrons, for molecules containing no atoms heavier than fluorine, i.e. excluding d orbitals, the so called Complete Neglect of Differential Overlap Method II¹⁶ The theory has been applied to numerous small molecules with spectacular success and it is therefore of considerable interest to apply this method to larger molecules, and to investigate the inclusion of d orbitals.

The elements of the *F* matrix are given by Eqs (I) and (2) (notation Ref. 15).

$$
F_{\mu\mu} = U_{\mu\mu} + (P_{AA} - \frac{1}{2}P_{\mu\mu})\gamma_{AA} + \sum_{\mathbf{B}\neq\mathbf{A}} (P_{\mathbf{B}\mathbf{B}} - Z_{\mathbf{B}})\gamma_{AB}
$$
(1)
where $U_{\mu\mu} = -I_{\mu} - (Z_{\mathbf{A}} - 1)\gamma_{AA}$

$$
F_{\mu\nu} = \beta_{AB}^0 S_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}P_{\mu\nu}\gamma_{AB}
$$
(2)

Eq (I) neglects the penetration terms, the equations are formally similar to those used in the highly successful Pariser-Parr-Pople SCF theory^{18.19} of pi electronic structure of molecules.

As in the latter theory, the main problem is the estimation of the core and repulsion integrals and the β 's which occur in the off diagonal elements of the F matrix. Pople et al.¹⁶ have estimated the one centre core integrals from the average of valence state ionization potentials and electron affinities, however, valence state ionization potentials are in general more accurately known than electron affinities so we have approximated the core integrals as the average of valence state ionization potentials in the manner described by Sichel and Whitehead.²⁰ For the 3d, 4s and 4p orbitals of sulphur, the core integrals were approximated to the ionization potentials¹⁷ for the processes

$$
(3d) s2p33d \rightarrow s2p3
$$

$$
(4s) s2p34s \rightarrow s2p3
$$

$$
(4p) s2p34p \rightarrow s2p3
$$

The 3d orbitals are highly directional giving rise to ligand perturbation effects, however for neutral compounds with elements in their normal covalency such a perturbation by the ligands is expected to be small, hence we have neglected this factor.

In their original paper Pople and Segal¹⁴⁻¹⁶ assigned to y_{AA} the analytic value of the electrostatic repulsion energy of two electrons in a Slater s orbital. This does not allow for correlation energy, and hence we prefer to use the method due to Pariser,²¹ which has been applied so successfully in the P-P-P SCF method, of evaluating the y_{AA} from Eq. (3).

$$
y_{AA} = I_{AA} - A_{AA} \tag{3}
$$

where I_{AA} is the valence state ionization potentials of atom A.

 A_{AA} is the valence state electron affinity of atom A. Whitehead²⁰ has investigated this method in detail and the parameters used here are taken from this paper.

If the results of the CNDO approximation are to be invariant to local transformations of the atomic orbital basis functions, then the same value of y_{4A} must be taken for s, p and d orbitals on atom A. The 3s and 3p orbitals on sulphur will undoubtedly be more important as far as bonding is concerned than either the 3d or 4s and 4p orbitals, so that the average repulsion energy should approximate the average for the former orbitals (9.21 eV). This is probably not too serious an approximation to make as the one centre repulsion integral for a 3d orbital on S, for example, may be estimated as around 7 eV.

The two centre repulsion integrals y_{AB} were calculated from the corresponding one centre repulsion integrals using the refined Mataga²² procedure Eq (4)

$$
\gamma_{AB} = \frac{14 \cdot 397}{(\alpha_{AB}^2 + r_{AB}^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \quad \text{where} \quad \alpha_{AB} = \frac{(2 \times 14 \cdot 397)}{\gamma_{AA} + \gamma_{BB}} \tag{4}
$$

Since this work was essentially completed a publication has appeared in which Santry and Segal,²³ have included d orbitals on sulphur in the CNDO II method. Their approach differs from ours mainly in the evaluation of overlap integrals and y 's. They divide their γ_{AB} 's into three sets γ_{AB} (s,s), $\gamma_{AB}(s,d)$ and $\gamma_{AB}(d,d)$ and approximate each as the analytic value of the electrostatic repulsion energy of the two electrons in appropriate Slater s orbitals. This is necessary since the electron repulsion terms calculated in this way for the three sets differ considerably, so that a single value is no longer adequate. Their calculations therefore are not invariant to local transformations of the atomic orbital basis functions. The electron repulsion integrals calculated using Pariser's approximation as modified by Sichel and Whitehead²⁰ give electron repulsion integrals which are much smalkr. and hence difierences are smaller. The calculations reported here correspond most closely to those using the basis set spd¹ reported by Santry and Segal.²³

The first term in the off diagonal elements of the F matrix (β') were made proportional to overlap integrals (Eq 2) in the original Pople papers, $14-16$ in order to maintain the invariance to the transformation of atomic orbital basis functions. However, the core potential experienced by an electron in a d orbital is quite different from that experienced by an s or p electron, so that direct proportionality of the β 's to overlap integrals is likely to seriously overestimate the importance of d orbitals, because of the relatively large overlap integrals involved. In one of the first treatments of compounds in which d orbitals are important Wolfsberg and Helmholtz²⁴ proposed the relationship Eq. (5).

$$
\beta_{\mu\nu} = \frac{-K(I_{\mu\nu} + I_{\nu\nu})S_{\mu\nu}}{2} \tag{5}
$$

where $I_{\mu\mu}$ and $I_{\nu\nu}$ are appropriate valence state ionization potentials of atoms μ and v. K is a constant and S_{uv} is the overlap integral between atoms μ and v. This relationship has also been used extensively in calculations using extended Hückel theory,²⁵ and more recently in detailed calculations²⁶ using a modified CNDO II method on transition metal compounds Eq (5) has been employed with considerable success with $K = 1$. In the latter paper²⁶ the $U_{\mu\nu}$ and $\gamma_{\mu\nu}$ were also calculated from

spectroscopic data, in a manner analagous to that proposed by Whitehead²⁰ and hence we feel justified in using equation (5) at least as a starting point for estimating B 's. The values of β obtained using Eq (5) are quite close in magnitude on the average for $C-C$ and $C-H$ bonds to those used by Pople so the effect of introducing Eq (5) is to reduce quite drastically the β 's involving d (and 4s, 4p) orbitals whilst giving values of β 's for the other overlaps in line with those predicted using the Pople relationship. It has been pointed out¹⁴ that strictly speaking Eq (5) is not invariant to a transformation of atomic orbital basis functions. However, preliminary calculations showed that this effect is negligible compared with the total energy calculated for the molecule, and the latter should be reliable to the 2nd place of decimals. This is in line with calculations carried out using extended Hückel theory.²⁷

Table 1 lists the parameters employed in these calculations. Calculations were carried out according to three models.

Model I 3s and 3p orbitals on sulphur

Model II 3s, 3p and 3d orbitals on sulphur

Model III 3s, 3p, 3d and 4s, 4p orbitals on sulphur.

D orbital transformations were carried out according to the method described by Ballhausen.²⁸ Bond lengths and bond angles were taken from Ref. 29.

The calculations were carried out on the University of Newcastle's KDF9 computer using a program kindly supplied by Drs. P. G. Perkins and D. H. Wall. Limitations of storage capacity (16K) dictated that the initial H matrices should be calculated previously and used as input data, together with atomic co-ordinates, gammas and core charges. 25 iterations were sufficient to obtain density matrix elements self-consistent to seven decimal places. For the largest number of orbitals (33) Method III, the time taken was 45 min. For the calculation of atom-atom polarizabilities and spin-spin coupling constants (see later) a separate program was written for the University of Durham's Elliott 803 Computer. Overlap integrals were calculated from a compilation of master formulae kindly made available by Dr. P. G. **Perkins**

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Since the eigenfunctions are expected to be markedly dependent on the model chosen (I, II or III), two ground state properties have been investigated, dipole moments and proton-proton and directly bonded carbon 13-proton coupling constants. In the latter case it was not expected that quantitative agreement between observed and calculated coupling constants would be obtained, but rather that relative magnitude and trends would be discernible. By investigating these properties and the total energy of the molecule it was hoped that it would be possible to determine whether the effect of d orbital participation was being over or underestimated and hence allow reasonable conclusions to be drawn as to the relative importance of d orbital participation in the ground state of thiophene.

The co-ordinate axes adopted are shown in Fig. 1. The orbitals available for bonding on sulphur are 3s, $3p_x$, $3p_y$, $3d_{xy}$, $3d_{x^2}$, $3d_{x^2-y^2}$, 4s, 4p, 4p, for σ bonds and $3p_r$, $3d_{rr}$, $3d_{yz}$ and $4p_z$ for π bonds.

A. Dipole moments and charge distributions

Tables 2 and 3 show the distribution of charge between the atomic orbitals in thiophene, and the total σ and π charge distributions for Methods I, II and III.

		Model				
Atom and orbital		I	\mathbf{H}	Ш		
$H_1(H_4)$	ts	0-9655	0-9477	09455		
H ₂ (H ₃)	1s	0-9716	0-9662	09649		
$C_{1}(C_{4})$	2s	10171	1.0145	1-0129		
	2p ₁	0.9499	0-9724	0-9691		
	2p,	10056	0-9994	10009		
	2p.	1.0848	10678	10682		
$C_2(C_3)$	2s	1-0153	0.9980	0-9932		
	2p ₁	0-9912	0-9884	09885		
	2p,	0-9949	0-9698	0.9692		
	2p _n	10710	10579	10619		
S	3s	1.5689	1.5626	1.5618		
	3p ₁	11434	10616	10552		
	3p.	1.4657	1.4241	1.4219		
	3p.	16884	16108	16024		
	3d.,		01296	0-1288		
	3d?		00345	00333		
	$3d_{17}^{22}$		0-0750	0-0746		
	3d.,		0-0918	00907		
	$3d_{72}$		0-0458	0-0451		
	45			00285		
	4p.			0-0030		
	4p,			0-0046		
	4p,			00015		

TABLE 2. THE DISTRIBUTION OF CHARGE BETWEEN THE ATOMIC ORBITALS IN THIOPHENE (THE Z AXIS IS PERPENDICULAR TO THE MOLECULAR PLANE).

Reference to Table 3, Method I shows that S is a σ electron acceptor and π electron donor and overall is positively charged. The sigma inductive effect is relayed to the adjacent C atoms (C_1, C_4) both of which are σ electron deficient, the non nearest neighbour C atoms (C_2, C_3) being approximately neutral as far as the σ electrons are concerned. All the carbons carry an excess of pi electrons, the electron density being highest for the C atoms (C_1, C_4) adjacent to S. An interesting point to note here is that the *total* electron density ($\sigma + \pi$) is largest for the C₂, C₃ carbon atoms. As far as the hydrogcns arc concerned all carry a net positive charge, that for the hydrogens (H_1, H_4) adjacent to S being the largest.

Inclusion of d orbitals has a dramatic effect (Method II, Table 3). the S atom now becoming overall negatively charged. This is a result of both σ and pi electron drift towards the S atom, the former being roughly twice as important as the latter. This in part answers one of the queries we started with concerning the importance of d orbitals in sigma and pi bonding. The evidence here is that d orbitals are at least as important in σ bonding as in pi bonding. Reference to Table 2 shows that the σ charge migration to S results largely from the mixing of $3p_u$, $3p_u$ and $3d_{uv}$ orbitals with smaller contributions from $3d_{n}$, and $3d_{n}$. The 3s orbital population remains roughly the same in all three models, this is to be expected since this orbital is much lower in energy than the other orbitals involved. Table 2 shows quite clearly that the increased σ electron charge on sulphur is largely at the expense of H₁, H₄ and C₂ and C₃.

The increased pi electron density on sulphur is at the expense of $C_1(C_4)$ and $C_2(C_3)$ the point of interest here being that the charge migration is much smaller than that obtained by Bielefeld and Fitts.⁸ Indeed the charge migration found by the latter authors was solely at the expense of $C_2(C_1)$, the electron densities actually being increased at C_1 and C_4 . This large discrepancy can be traced to the neglect of non nearest neighbour β 's, some of which are quite large.

The introduction of 4s and 4p orbitals Method III shows very little change in charge distribution to Method II. The orbital populations (4s, 4p) are quite small (Tabk 2). Hence although the core potential experienced by the 4s and 4p electrons is larger than that for the d orbitals their contribution is very small because of the small overlap integrals.

The molecular dipole moment has three major contributions from :

(a) The net atomic charge densities;

(b) The atomic (sp) polarizations resulting from mixing of s and p orbitals on each atom ;

(c) From the atomic (pd) polarization resulting from mixing of 3p and 3d orbitals on S.

These three contributions and their total are listed for the three model calculations in Tabk 4. Thcsc calculations reprcscnt a rather crude approximation to the molecular dipole moment, nonetheless Pople^{15, 16} has shown that the method gives useful results.

The experimental absolute value of the total dipole moment is $0.550 + 0.040$ Debye as determined in the gas phase by Harris, Le Fevre and Sullivan.³⁰ Convincing arguments that the dipole moment is $+ve$ in the sense defined above have been presented.6 The dipole moment calculated using Method I is fortuitously good. The dipole moments calculated for Methods II and 111 are considerably larger

largely because of the charge migration to S. This suggests that the participation of d orbitals may be overestimated in this treatment, however, for such a large molecule as this it is perhaps good enough that the predicted dipole moments have the correct sign and order of magnitude.

Model	Charge density	\$D. polarization	pd	Total
	-1.153	$+2.048$		0895
Ħ	$+0.582$	$+2.258$	-0.947	2.258
Ш	$+0.706$	$+2104$	-0.974	1.836
			Exptl	$0.550 + 0.040$

TABLE 4. CALCULATED CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MOLECULAR DIPOLE MOMENT OF THROPHENE (DEBYES)

* Positive dipole moment contribution is in the sense

B. NMR spin coupling constants

The Pople-Santry theory³¹ of nuclear spin-spin coupling based on delocalized molecular orbitals has been used³²⁻³⁶ to estimate numerical values of couplings with a good deal of success. In general proton-proton and proton-carbon 13 couplings constants are predicted to have the correct sign but are generally smaller than those observed.³²⁻³⁶ Most previous treatments have been based on extended Hückel theory or the Pople-Santry theory both of which are less sophisticated than the Pople-Segal SCF CNDO II method.

For spin-spin couplings involving hydrogen the most important term is the Fermi contact contribution, the terms involving the orbital and spin dipolar contributions being relatively unimportant.³¹⁻³⁶ Eq (6) gives the Pople-Santry formula³¹ for the Fermi contact contribution to the spin-spin coupling constants.

$$
J_{AB} = \left(\frac{\gamma_A \gamma_B \hbar}{2\pi}\right) \left(\frac{64\pi^2}{9}\right) \beta^2 S_A(O)^2 S_B(O)^2 \pi_{S_A \dots S_B}
$$
 (6)

where $S_A(O)^2$ and $S_B(O)^2$ are the spin densities at the nuclei A and B of the valence s orbitals π_{s_1} , s_2 ³⁷ is the mutual polarizability of the s valence orbitals defined by Eq

$$
\pi_{\mu\nu} = 4 \sum_{i}^{\text{occ}} \sum_{j}^{\text{succ}} (\varepsilon_{i} - \varepsilon_{j})^{-1} C_{i\mu} C_{i\nu} C_{j\mu} C_{j\nu}
$$
 (7)

 y_A and y_B are the magnetogyric ratios for nuclei A and B β is the Bohr magneton.

Using the conversion factors based on $Z_{\text{eff}} = 1.2$ for hydrogen, calculated by Murrell³⁵ and the s orbital population numbers, eigenvalues and eigenfunction TABLE 5. CALCULATED AND OBSERVED PROTON. PROTON AND DIRECTLY BOMBEON CARBON I.3 PROTON COUPLING CONSTANTS FOR THIOPHENE (IN CAS)

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 $\overline{1}$

calculated according to the three models, the coupling constants are calculated to be as shown in Table 5.

The couplings are all predicted to have a positive sign, as is found experimentally,³⁸ and for the H-H couplings the trends are satisfactorily reproduced particularly by Model I. This is best illustrated by a graph (Fig. 5). Inclusion of d orbitals reverses the

FIG. 5 Calculated and observed proton-proton spin coupling constants in thiophene.

orders of the C-H coupling constants and the H_2-H_3 couplings. This again would seem to suggest that the effect of d orbital participation is being overestimated. It can be seen that a smaller contribution from the d orbitals would reduce the magnitude of the H₂ \cdot H₃ and H₁ - H₃ couplings relative to H₁ - H₄ and give improved agreement with the experimental results. This also applies to the C-H coupling constants.

C. *Totol* **energies**

Table 6 shows how the total energy varies as 3d. 4s and 4p orbitals arc included on S. The interesting feature here is the small extent to which inclusion of 3d. 4s and 4p orbitals contribute to the total energy. This is in marked contrast to the effect of these orbitals on dipole moments, charge distribution and coupling constants.

This emphasizes the fact that one must define carefully which property one is referring to, when discussing the importance of d orbital participation on sulphur. The dipole moment and coupling constant data taken together would seem to indicate that d orbital participation has been slightly overestimated in Method II. so that the percentage energy change (1.77%) probably represents an upper limit to the energy lowering on inclusion of these orbitals.

In the light of the foregoing discussion it seems worthwhile to modify the extent of the 3d, 4s and 4p orbital participation to obtain the best fit to the dipole moment and coupling constant data. This is most readily brought about by varying the parameter K Eq (5) for β 's involving 3d, 4s and 4p orbitals.

TABLE 6. TOTAL ENERGY OF THIOPHENE ACCORDING TO THE THREE MODELS IN EV AND PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN ENERGY ON INCLUDING 3d, 4s and 4p ORBITALS I II III -. -_ . -_. - _-.. -. $-507.1483 - 516.1492 - 517.3881$ ²/₂ change 0 1.77 2.02

A value of $K = 0.5$ (Method IV) gives a good overall fit to the dipole moment (calculated μ 0-69 Debye) and coupling constants (see Fig. 5) $J_{H_1-H_2}$ 2.29 c/s J_{H_1,H_2} 0.71 c/s $JJ_{H_1-H_4}$ 0.45 c/s $J_{H_1-H_3}$ 0.18 c/s $\Delta(C_1-H_1) - (C_2-H_2) + 3.4$ c/s. Fig. 6 shows the σ and π charge distribution.

The percentage energy change on inclusion of 3d and 4s and 4p orbitals relative to Method I is 0.62% .

FIG. 6 Sigma and pi electron distribution on thiophene according to Model IV.

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CONCLUSIONS

The extent of 3d. 4s and 4p orbital participation in the ground state of thiophene has been investigated by the Pople-Segal SCF CNDO II Method. A good overall fit to the experimental dipole moment and relative magnitude of H-H and 13 C-H coupling constants is obtained when 3d, 4s and 4p orbitals are neglected. Inclusion of the latter orbitals using the constant $K = 1$ in the Wolfsberg-Helmholtz equation leads to an overestimate of the importance of these orbitals, however reducing the extent of participation $(K = 0.5)$ leads to a significant improvement in the overall fit to experimental dipole moment and relative magnitude of coupling constants Inclusion of 3d. 4s and 4p orbitals on sulphur has a very small effect on the total energy of the molecule. As far as the electron distribution is concerned, inclusion of 3d. 4s and 4p orbitals has a larger effect on the sigma system than on the pi system of thiophene.

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