A prenatal acoustic signal of heat affects thermoregulation capacities at adulthood in an arid-adapted bird.

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Supplementary information

Supplementary materials and methods

Experience from hatching to test at adulthood

After hatching, nestlings were returned to either their parents or foster parents in mixed broods (n=18 birds) or single prenatal playback broods (n=16 birds) in shared outdoor aviaries. Mixed broods allow controlling for shared postnatal environment but cannot occur naturally; incubating parents cannot signal to only half of the clutch and therefore would not normally rear mixed broods). Before sexual maturity, offspring (both control and treatment groups) were moved together to another aviary where they all experienced natural weather conditions (from 2014 to 2018: mean min temperature= 4.7°C, mean max temperature=27.6°C, weather data obtained from Bureau of Meteorology, www.bom.gov.au). There was no difference in survival between treatment and control groups at early stages¹.

At adulthood, birds were tested during daytime, when they would normally experience high air temperatures. To lower the possible stress due to social isolation in the metabolic chamber during the trial, familiar acoustic background from birds in the holding room was broadcast (as routinely done in behavioural experiments² with a Bluetooth speaker (QUDO Splashproof Bluetooth Speaker, officeworks LTD, Australia).

Open flow-through respirometry system and calibration of equipment

We used a pump (Gast DAA-V515-ED, Cole-Parmer) to push dry air (scrubbed with silica gel and Drierite ®) into the metabolic chamber (1.5 L, plastic clip container, 8 x 18 x 11.5 cm). The air in the metabolic chamber was maintained with at low humidity level by regulating the airflow with a mass flow controller (Alicat scientific Inc., USA). Mass flow controller was calibrated and accurate within 0.008 SPLM within the range we used (1 to 3.5 L.min⁻¹). Baseline air was subsampled between each T_a stage for five minutes. Baseline and excurrent

chamber air were subsampled and pulled by a pump (SS4 subsampler, Sable Systems) at 213 mL.min⁻¹ through the H₂O analyser (RH-300, Sable Systems) and CO₂ analyser (CA-10, Sable Systems). H₂O analyser was calibrated daily using the O₂ dilution technique³ and the CO₂ analyser every second day using certified gas with a known CO₂ concentration of 2080 ppm (BOC, Australia). Both of the analysers were zeroed with pure nitrogen (Nitrogen 5.0; 99.999%, Supagas, Australia). Gas concentrations and temperatures were recorded via an analog-digital converter (UI2, Sable Systems) and Expedata software (Sable Systems).

During the trial, body temperature was recorded every 10 sec using a PIT tag reader (HPR plus, Biomark, Boise ID, 172 USA). No aberrant values were recorded; all values during the one-minute measure were thus averaged. A subset of PIT tags were calibrated in a water bath against a type T thermocouple (BAT-12, Physitemp Instruments Inc., USA) at water temperature ranging from 40° C to 48° C. PIT tags were accurate within $0.27 \pm 0.03^{\circ}$ C.

Data processing and statistical analyses

Relative water economy (RWE) was computed as MWP/EWL with MWP calculated from rates of CO₂ production assuming 0.801 mg H₂O mL⁻¹ CO₂ ⁴. We also computed the evaporative cooling capacity (EHL/MHP) as EHL/MR. We converted rates of EWL to heat loss (EHL in W) assuming a latent heat of vaporisation of 2.4 J mg⁻¹ H₂O ⁵.

In all analyses, we did not include clutch or brood ID because the variance for clutch or brood ID was often close to zero. This is likely because over half of the individuals in this experiment did not have siblings (20 individuals without genetic siblings out of 26 clutches, and 14 individuals without foster siblings out of 22 broods), due to normal mortality of embryos, hatchlings and juveniles (as well as adult mortality).

Supplementary tables

	Max T _a re	ached		Complete trial			
Predictors	Est.	SE	p	Est.	SE	p	
Reduced model							
Intercept	17.544	8.997	0.051	-12.181	6.796	0.073	
Playback	13.654	7.540	0.070	-3.057	3.755	0.416	
Mass _{init}	-0.076	1.891	0.968	-1.715	1.820	0.346	
Time	4.256	3.180	0.181	-4.595	3.046	0.132	
Trial	-3.747	3.343	0.262	3.572	2.745	0.193	
Sex	-1.833	3.866	0.636	0.337	3.760	0.929	
Playback x time	-18.718	9.062	0.039				
Full model							
Intercept	17.544	8.997	0.051	-12.163	7.513	0.105	
Playback	13.654	7.540	0.070	-3.052	3.795	0.421	
Mass _{init}	-0.076	1.891	0.968	-1.714	1.861	0.357	
Time	4.256	3.180	0.181	-4.587	3.567	0.198	
Trial	-3.747	3.343	0.262	3.564	3.359	0.289	
Sex	-1.833	3.866	0.636	0.334	3.769	0.929	
Playback x time	-18.718	9.062	0.039	0.001	4.885	1	

Table S1: Outputs of the mixed effect models on heat tolerance variables: maximum T_a reached (42 or 44°C, considering all birds, n=67) and the ability to complete trial (i.e. staid 20 minutes at T_a =44°C) among birds reaching T_a =44°C (n=53). The reference is the control group for playback, morning for time-of-day, here "Time", trial 1 for trial and female for sex. Est. \pm SE corresponds to estimate \pm standard error. Bold font shows significant effect (p<0.05).

	Mass los	SS		Mass recovery post-trial			
Predictors	Est.	SE	p	Est.	SE	p	
Reduced model							
Intercept	0.576	0.073	<0.001	55.301	20.472	0.009	
Playback	-0.045	0.062	0.475	42.007	17.436	0.020	
$Mass_{init}$	0.045	0.028	0.108	-16.049	7.162	0.030	
Time	-0.061	0.029	0.041	5.050	12.373	0.686	
Trial	-0.001	0.030	0.968	18.047	9.748	0.073	
Sex	0.085	0.062	0.180	16.447	14.748	0.273	
Playback x time				-64.761	18.659	0.002	
Full Model							
Intercept	0.565	0.073	<0.001	55.301	20.472	0.009	
Playback	-0.009	0.069	0.901	42.007	17.436	0.020	
$Mass_{init}$	0.046	0.028	0.100	-16.049	7.162	0.030	
Time	-0.029	0.038	0.452	5.050	12.373	0.686	
Trial	-0.005	0.030	0.560	18.047	9.748	0.073	
Sex	0.086	0.062	0.176	16.447	14.748	0.273	
Playback x time	-0.072	0.056	0.208	-64.761	18.659	0.002	

Table S2: Outputs of mixed effect models on mass loss (n=67 for 34 birds) and mass recovery post-trial (n=66 for 34 birds). The reference is the control group for playback, morning for time-of-day, here "Time", trial 1 for trial and female for sex. Est. \pm SE corresponds to estimate \pm standard error. Bold font shows significant effect (p<0.05).

	Sqrt activity _{stage} (3-minutes)										
	Above inflecti	on pt	Max Ta reached		$T_a=35^{\circ}C$		T _a =27°C				
Predictors	Est.±SE	p	Est.±SE	p	Est±SE	p	Est±SE	p			
Reduced m	odel		1				T				
Intercept	1.184±0.131	<0.001	1.733±0.233	<0.001	0.560 ± 0.138	<0.001	0.301±0.135	0.029			
Playback	0.002±0.104	0.985	0.153±0.144	0.296	-0.018±0.089	0.838	-0.045±0.086	0.600			
Mass _{init}	0.031±0.049	0.535	-0.046±0.069	0.501	0.008±0.044	0.862	0.095±0.043	0.032			
Time	0.019±0.056	0.740	0.002±0.094	0.984	-0.010±0.068	0.0889	0.150±0.067	0.032			
Trial	-0.126±0.059	0.039	-0.212±0.095	0.035	-0.097±0.070	0.173	-0.040±0.068	0.565			
Sex	0.014±0.104	0.895	-0.123±0.146	0.408	-0.080±0.089	0.378	0.120±0.086	0.173			
T_a	0.279±0.037	<0.001	-0.033±0.155	0.834	/	/	/	/			
Playb x Time	0.132±0.056	0.021									
Full mode	el										
Intercept	1.184±0.131	<0.001	0.132±0.056	0.021	0.598±0.141	<0.001	0.265±0.132	0.050			
Playback	0.002±0.104	0.985	0.0201±0.173	0.251	-0.044±0.113	0.699	0.083±0.107	0.444			
Mass _{init}	0.031±0.049	0.535	-0.046±0.069	0.509	0.008±0.044	0.858	0.099±0.043	0.026			
Time	0.019±0.056	0.740	0.045±0.129	0.729	-0.032±0.093	0.730	0.262±0.085	0.004			
Trial	-0.126±0.059	0.039	-0.209±0.097	0.040	-0.095±0.071	0.193	-0.055±0.066	0.411			
Sex	0.014±0.104	0.895	-0.123±0.147	0.411	-0.080±0.089	0.375	0.122±0.086	0.165			
T_{a}	0.279±0.037	<0.001	-0.049±0.158	0.759	/	/	/	/			
Playb x Time	0.132±0.056	0.021	-0.094±0.190	0.625	0.051±0.138		-0.253±0.127	0.056			

Table S3: Outputs of mixed effect models on activity_{stage} (during the 3 first minutes at a T_a stage) on all birds tested (unless the stage lasted <3min before trial termination): above inflection point (n=146 observations for 34 birds), at max T_a reached (n=55 for activity_{stage}), T_a =35°C and T_a =27°C (n=67). The reference is the control group for playback, morning for time-of-day, here "Time", trial 1 for trial and female for sex. Est. \pm SE corresponds to estimate \pm standard error. Bold font shows significant effect (p<0.05).

Sqrt activity _{42-end}									
	Reduced	model		Full mo					
Predictors	Est.	SE	p	Est.	SE	р			
Intercept	1.039	0.247	<0.001	0.995	0.256	<0.001			
Playback	0.184	0.160	0.260	0.261	0.191	0.179			
Massinit	0.048	0.079	0.547	0.046	0.079	0.565			
Time	0.143	0.110	0.209	0.218	0.154	0.171			
Trial	-0.0156	0.116	0.192	-0.153	0.119	0.210			
Sex	0.021	0.159	0.897	0.018	0.157	0.911			
Playb x Time				-0.164	0.222	0.468			

Table S4: Outputs of mixed effect models on activity_{42-end} (during the last 3 minutes at a T_a =42°C, on all birds reaching T_a =44°C, n=53). The reference is the control group for playback, morning for time-of-day, here "Time", trial 1 for trial and female for sex. Est. \pm SE corresponds to estimate \pm standard error. Bold font shows significant effect (p<0.05).

	Activitymeas								
	Max T _a rea	ched	$T_a=35$	°C	$T_a=27^\circ$	C.C.			
Predictors	Est.±SE	p	Est.±SE	p	Est±SE	p			
Reduced mod	lel								
Intercept	2.792±0.624	<0.001	0.208±0.057	<0.001	0.625±0.074	<0.001			
Playback	0.201±0.257	0.447	-0.005±0.035	0.879	-0.055±0.049	0.273			
Mass _{init}	-0.066±0.126	0.604	0.025±0.018	0.173	0.012±0.024	0.628			
Time	0.095±0.233	0.689	-0.024±0.028	0.412	-0.006±0.036	0.864			
Trial	-0.706±0.235	0.009	-0.015±0.029	0.616	-0.203±0.037	<0.001			
Sex	-0.008±0.272	0.976	0.014±0.035	0.693	-0.010±0.049	0.842			
T_{a}	-0.433±0.403	0.299	/	/	/	/			
Full model									
Intercept	2.626±0.642	<0.001	0.213±0.058	<0.001	0.626±0.076	<0.001			
Playback	0.390±0.314	0.226	-0.022±0.046	0.641	-0.055±0.061	0.372			
Mass _{init}	-0.063±0.125	0.620	0.025±0.018	0.175	0.012±0.024	0.634			
Time	0.309±0.310	0.341	-0.038±0.039	0.335	-0.007±0.049	0.892			
Trial	-0.647±0.241	0.018	-0.013±0.030	0.664	-0.203±0.038	<0.001			
Sex	-0.046±0.273	0.868	0.014±0.035	0.700	-0.010±0.049	0.841			
T_a	-0.427±0.401	0.303	/	/	/	/			
Playb x Time	-0.507±0.485	0.315	0.032±0.058	0.587	0.001±0.073	0.989			

Table S5: Outputs of mixed effect models on activity_{meas} (10 minutes before and during stable thermoregulatory measurements) at max T_a reached among the calm individuals from which we obtained thermoregulatory values (n=32 for activiy_{meas}), T_a =35°C and T_a =27°C (n=67). The reference is the control group for playback, morning for time-of-day, here "Time", trial 1 for trial and female for sex. Est. \pm SE corresponds to estimate \pm standard error. Bold font shows significant effect (p<0.05).

	MR		EWL		T _b		RWE	
Predictors	Est. \pm SE	p	Est. \pm SE	p			Est. \pm SE	p
Reduced mo	del above infle	ction poir						
Intercept	0.271 ± 0.027	< 0.001	9.200±0.456	< 0.001	43.697 ± 0.209	< 0.001	0.051 ± 0.004	< 0.001
Playback	0.024 ± 0.014	0.088	0.124±0.269	0.648	0.030 ± 0.167	0.860	0.002 ± 0.002	0.286
Massinit	0.007±0.007	0.346	0.257±0.137	0.071	-0.031±0.075	0.685	<0.001±0.001	0.986
Time	0.005 ± 0.014	0.732	-0.230±0.217	0.318	0.171±0.079	0.042	0.003±0.002	0.097
Trial	0.003 ± 0.014	0.852	-0.489±0.233	0.042	-0.113±0.090	0.218	0.004 ± 0.002	0.023
Sex	0.008 ± 0.014	0.561	0.175±0.272	0.525	-0.218±0.169	0.208	<0.001±0.002	0.919
T_a	0.012 ± 0.008	0.138	1.120±0.134	< 0.001	0.380 ± 0.050	< 0.001	-0.004±0.001	< 0.001
Activity _{meas}	0.030 ± 0.007	< 0.001	0.283±0.125	0.027	0.336 ± 0.056	< 0.001	0.004 ± 0.001	<0.001
Playb x Ta	0.040 ± 0.012	0.002	0.396±0.191	0.044				
Full model a	ibove inflection	n points						
Intercept	0.271 ± 0.027	<0.001	9.200±0.456	<0.001	43.690	<0.001	0.051±0.004	<0.001
Playback	0.024±0.014	0.088	0.124±0.269	0.648	±0.207 0.038±0.166	0.820	0.003±0.002	0.236
Massinit	0.007±0.007	0.346	0.257±0.137	0.071	-0.036±0.075	0.631	<-0.001±0.001	0.958
Time	0.005 ± 0.014	0.732	-0.230±0.217	0.318	0.173±0.078	0.037	0.003±0.002	0.078
Trial	0.003 ± 0.014	0.852	-0.489±0.233	0.042	-0.112±0.089	0.217	0.004 ± 0.002	0.021
Sex	0.008 ± 0.014	0.561	0.175±0.272	0.525	-0.221±0.168	0.200	0.001 ± 0.002	0.790
T_{a}	0.012 ± 0.008	0.138	1.120±0.134	<0.001	0.335±0.057	< 0.001	-0.005±0.001	<0.001
Activity _{meas}	0.030 ± 0.007	<0.001	0.283±0.125	0.027	0.330 ± 0.055	<0.001	0.004 ± 0.001	<0.001
Playb. x T _a	0.040 ± 0.012	0.002	0.396±0.191	0.044	0.120±0.073	0.110	0.003 ± 0.002	0.107

Table S6: Outputs of linear mixed models above T_a inflection points (i.e. corresponding mainly to the three T_a stages at 40°C and above) for metabolic rate (i.e. MR, n=83 observations for 32 birds), evaporative water loss (i.e. EWL, n=83 observations for 32 birds), body temperature (i.e. T_b , n=94 observations for 32 birds) and relative water economy (i.e. RWE, n=83 observations for 32 birds) of calm birds (i.e. acitivy_{meas} \leq 3). Bold font corresponds to significant effect (p<0.05). The reference is the control group for playback, morning for time-of-day, here "Time", trial 1 for trial and female for sex. Est. \pm SE corresponds to estimate \pm standard error. Bold font shows significant effect (p<0.05).

Predictors	$Est. \pm SE$	p	$Est. \pm SE$	p	$Est. \pm SE$	p	$Est. \pm SE$	p
	MR		EWL		RWI	Ξ	T _b	
Max T _a (42°	C or 44°C)							
Intercept	0.247±0.092	0.013	9.497±1.201	<0.001	0.049±0.009	< 0.001	44.085±0.489	<0.001
Playback	0.048±0.042	0.268	0.281±0.551	0.615	0.004±0.004	0.307	0.063±0.229	0.785
Mass	0.018±0.016	0.282	0.225±0.218	0.316	0.003±0.002	0.097	-0.018±0.095	0.854
Time	0.006±0.044	0.900	-0.330±0.568	0.572	0.003±0.004	0.415	0.074±0.207	0.726
Trial	0.027±0.038	0.480	-1.011±0.490	0.056	0.010±0.003	0.012	-0.231±0.185	0.230
Activity _{meas}	0.023±0.022	0.313	0.251±0.292	0.399	0.003±0.002	0.182	0.391±0.119	0.003
Sex	0.017±0.034	0.631	0.300±0.461	0.527	0.001±0.004	0.749	-0.603±0.209	0.013
T_a	0.015±0.052	0.775	2.230±0.695	0.006	-0.013±0.005	0.037	0.502±0.309	0.125
Playb. x time	0.038±0.067	0.576	0.826±0.855	0.353	0.002±0.006	0.693	0.304±0.311	0.349
Playb.x act _{meas}	0.076 ± 0.036	0.046	0.474±0.465	0.320	0.007±0.003	0.044	0.055±0.177	0.760
$T_a=35^{\circ}C$					l		<u>l</u>	
Intercept	0.218±0.018	<0.001	0.230±0.431	<0.001	0.181±0.019	<0.001	41.073±0.270	<0.001
Playback	0.005±0.017	0.751	0.153±0.409	0.709	-0.001±0.018	0.941	0.050±0.273	0.855
Mass	0.016±0.007	0.020	0.296±0.164	0.076	-0.003±0.007	0.722	0.152±0.098	0.127
Time	-0.005±0.009	0.554	-0.336±0.222	0.142	0.024±0.09	0.016	0.039±0.115	0.736
Trial	-0.002±0.007	0.789	-0.092±0.174	0.602	0.003±0.007	0.677	0.132±0.091	0.154
Activity _{meas}	-0.007±0.006	0.274	-0.181±0.152	0.240	0.002±0.006	0.750	-0.020±0.078	0.804
Sex	0.012±0.015	0.435	0.798±0.372	0.041	-0.034±0.016	0.044	0.012±0.258	0.962
Playb. x time	0.001±0.013	0.915	-0.204±0327	0.539	-0.004±0.014	0.785	-0.059±0.163	0.722
Playb.x act _{meas}	<-0.001±0.009	0.998	0.285±0.233	0.229	-0.010±0.010	0.299	0.053±0.121	0.664
$T_a = 27^{\circ}C$								
Intercept	0.367±0.024	<0.001	3.099±0.324	<0.001	0.204±0.030	<0.001	41.879±0.369	<0.001
Playback	0.010±0.021	0.649	-0.318±0.276	0.256	0.034±0.021	0.113	0.246±0.326	0.454
Mass	0.020±0.008	0.018	0.133±0.110	0.230	-0.001±0.009	0.928	0.176±0.126	0.168
Time	-0.007±0.010	0.476	-0.061±0.141	0.670	0.006±0.016	0.718	0.127±0.155	0.421
Trial	-0.007±0.010	0.473	-0.425±0.147	0.006	0.039±0.015	0.014	-0.438±0.164	0.011
Activity _{meas}	0.010±0.007	0.171	0.073±0.098	0.460	-0.001±0.010	0.945	0.199±0.109	0.076
Sex	0.002±0.019	0.905	0.433±0.252	0.096	-0.031±0.017	0.090	-0.115±0.296	0.701
Playb. x time	-0.013±0.014	0.376	-0.362±0.210	0.097	0.028±0.024	0.250	-0.322±0.238	0.186
Playb.x act _{meas}	-0.003±0.011	0.805	-0.291±0.156	0.068	0.008±0.015	0.602	-0.115±0.182	0.532
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Table S7: Outputs of the full linear mixed-effects models on metabolic rate (MR), evaporative water loss (EWL), relative water economy (RWE) and T_b of calm birds (i.e. activity_{meas} \leq 3) at the maximal T_a reached (i.e. T_a =42°C or 44°C, n=32 observations for 19 birds), within the thermoneutral zone (T_a =35°C, n=67 for 34 birds) and at mild temperature (T_a =27°C, n=677 for 34 birds). The reference is the control group for playback, morning for time-of-day (here "Time"), trial 1 for trial, and female for sex. Est. \pm SE corresponds to estimate \pm standard error. Bold font shows significant effect (p<0.05).

EHL/MHP		Reduced model			Full model		
	Predictors	Est.	SE	p	Est.	SE	p
Above	Intercept	0.923	0.045	<0.001	0.925	0.045	<0.001
inflection	Playback	-0.013	0.035	0.714	-0.014	0.035	0.693
point*	Mass _{init}	0.007	0.015	0.653	0.008	0.016	0.650
•	Time	-0.058	0.019	0.006	-0.059	0.019	0.005
	Trial	-0.036	0.020	0.081	-0.037	0.020	0.082
	Sex	0.057	0.035	0.117	0.056	0.035	0.124
	T_a	0.340	0.012	< 0.001	0.350	0.014	< 0.001
	Activity _{meas}	-0.044	0.012	< 0.001	-0.044	0.012	0.001
	Playb. x T _a				-0.022	0.017	0.199
Max T _a (42°C	Intercept	1.385	0.182	<0.001	1.366	0.186	<0.001
or 44°C)	Playback	-0.104	0.069	0.164	-0.071	0.086	0.415
,	Mass _{init}	-0.053	0.034	0.145	-0.052	0.034	0.152
	Time	-0.066	0.063	0.326	-0.029	0.085	0.743
	Trial	-0.183	0.073	0.025	-0.179	0.074	0.034
	Activity _{meas}	-0.054	0.044	0.231	-0.060	0.045	0.201
	Sex	0.001	0.072	0.990	-0.005	0.074	0.946
	T_a	0.244	0.109	0.047	0.241	0.110	0.052
	Playb. x time				-0.085	0.129	0.530
	Playb.x act _{meas}	-0.160	0.070	0.037	-0.158	0.071	0.042
T _a =35°C	Intercept	0.422	0.053	< 0.001	0.419	0.053	< 0.001
	Playback	0.002	0.042	0.962	0.019	0.048	0.696
	Mass _{init}	0.019	0.020	0.330	0.020	0.020	0.316
	Time	-0.066	0.022	0.007	-0.053	0.030	0.088
	Trial	-0.008	0.023	0.742	-0.010	0.023	0.670
	Activity _{meas}	0.006	0.015	0.699	-0.008	0.020	0.680
	Sex	0.105	0.042	0.019	0.104	0.042	0.020
	Playb. x time				-0.032	0.044	0.472
	Playb.x act _{meas}				0.035	0.030	0.256
T _a =27°C	Intercept	0.346	0.033	<0.001	0.338	0.032	< 0.001
	Playback	-0.055	0.021	0.016	-0.038	0.025	0.138
	Mass _{init}	-0.003	0.010	0.777	-0.001	0.010	0.941
	Time	-0.018	0.013	0.169	<-0.001	0.016	0.989
	Trial	-0.036	0.017	0.035	-0.39	0.016	0.020
	Activity _{meas}	-0.002	0.010	0.803	0.005	0.011	0.663
	Sex	0.037	0.021	0.093	0.040	0.021	0.075
	Playb. x time				-0.037	0.024	0.135
	Playb.x act _{meas}				-0.025	0.016	0.139

Table S8: Outputs of the reduced and full linear mixed-effects models on evaporative cooling efficiency (EHL/MHP) of calm birds above the inflection point* (n=217 observations for 34 birds), at the maximal T_a reached (i.e. T_a =42°C or 44°C, n=32 observations for 19 birds), within the thermoneutral zone (T_a =35°C, n=67 for 34 birds) and at mild temperature (T_a =27°C, n=677 for 34 birds). The reference is the control group for playback, morning for time-of-day (here "Time"), trial 1 for trial, and female for sex. Est. \pm SE corresponds to estimate \pm standard error. Bold font shows significant effect (p<0.05). * Evaporative cooling efficiency (EHL/MHP) did not show any inflection point as a function of T_a from 35°C (Davies test, p=1).

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