

## Supplementary Materials for

### **Visible-light-driven oxygen reduction by an anisotropically crystallized CuBi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> photocathode fabricated using a mixed metal-imidazole casting method**

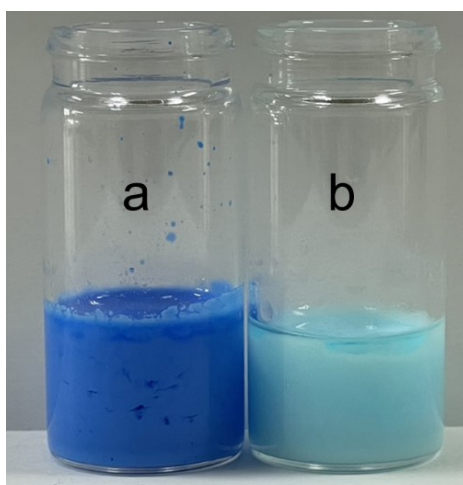
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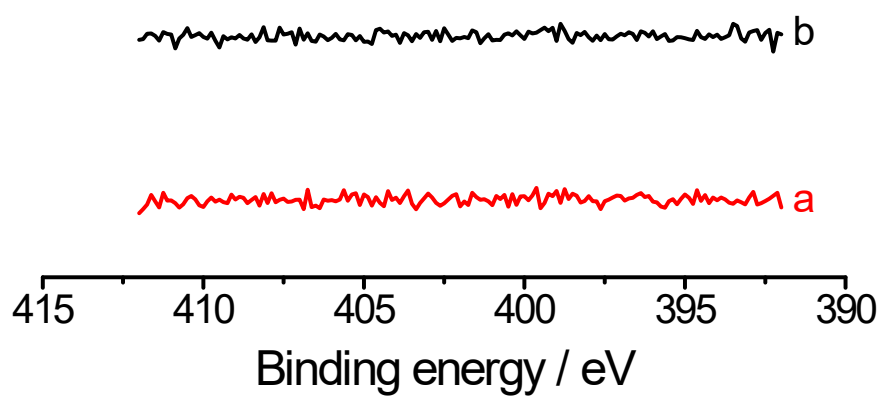
\*Correspondence to: [yagi@eng.niigata-u.ac.jp](mailto:yagi@eng.niigata-u.ac.jp) and [znzahran@eng.niigata-u.ac.jp](mailto:znzahran@eng.niigata-u.ac.jp)

#### **Contents**

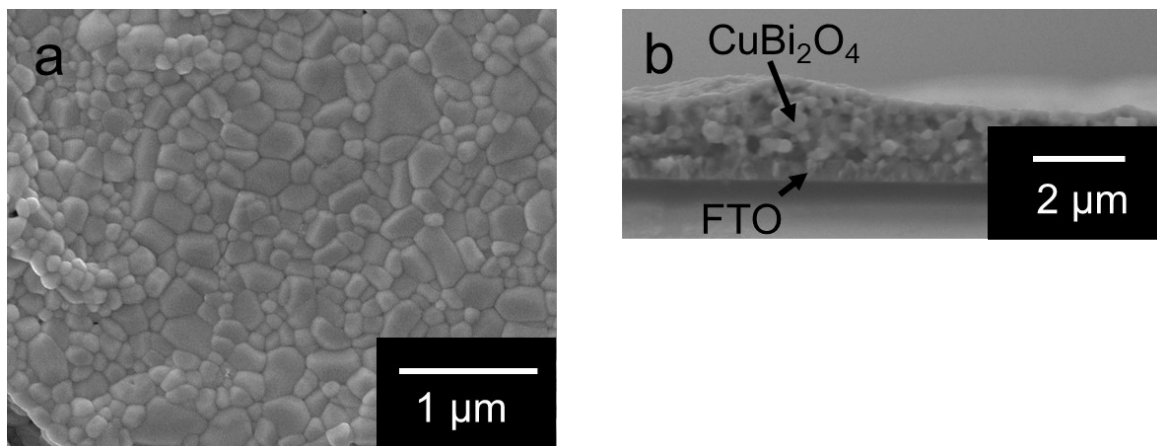
- Figure S1. Photos of precursor suspension.
- Figure S2. XPS spectra in a N 1s region
- Figure S3. SEM images after chronoamperometry (CA) for 1 h.
- Figure S4. XPS spectra after CA for 1 h.
- Figure S5. Photos after CA for 24 h.
- Figure S6. SEM images after CA for 24 h.
- Figure S7. XRD spectra after CA for 24 h.
- Figure S8. Calibration curve of analysis of hydrogen peroxide.
- Figure S9. Analysis of hydrogen peroxide produced in photoelectrolysis for ORR.
- Table S1 Comparison of IPCE values among state-of-the-art CuBi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> photocathodes.



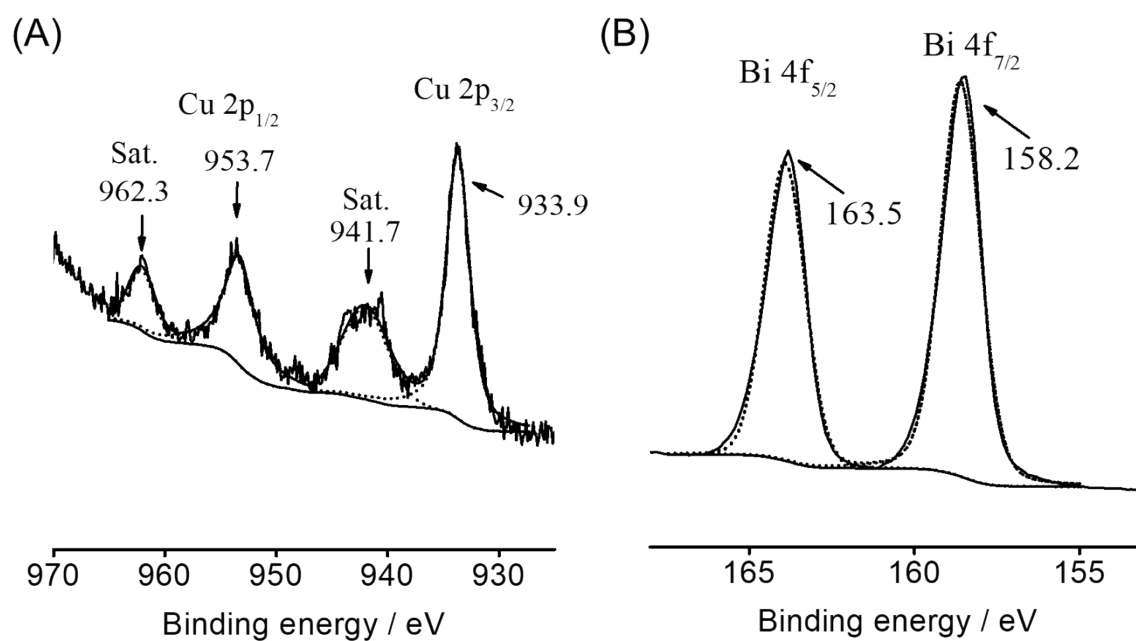
**Figure S1.** Photos of precursor suspensions containing  $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{Bi}(\text{NO}_3)_3$  (a) with and (b) without MeIm.



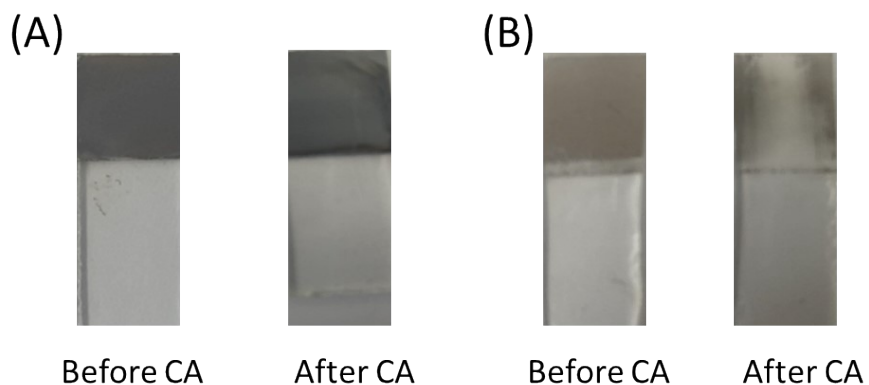
**Figure S2.** XPS spectra of (a)  $\text{CuBi}_2\text{O}_4(w)$  and (b)  $\text{CuBi}_2\text{O}_4(w/o)$  films in a N 1s region.



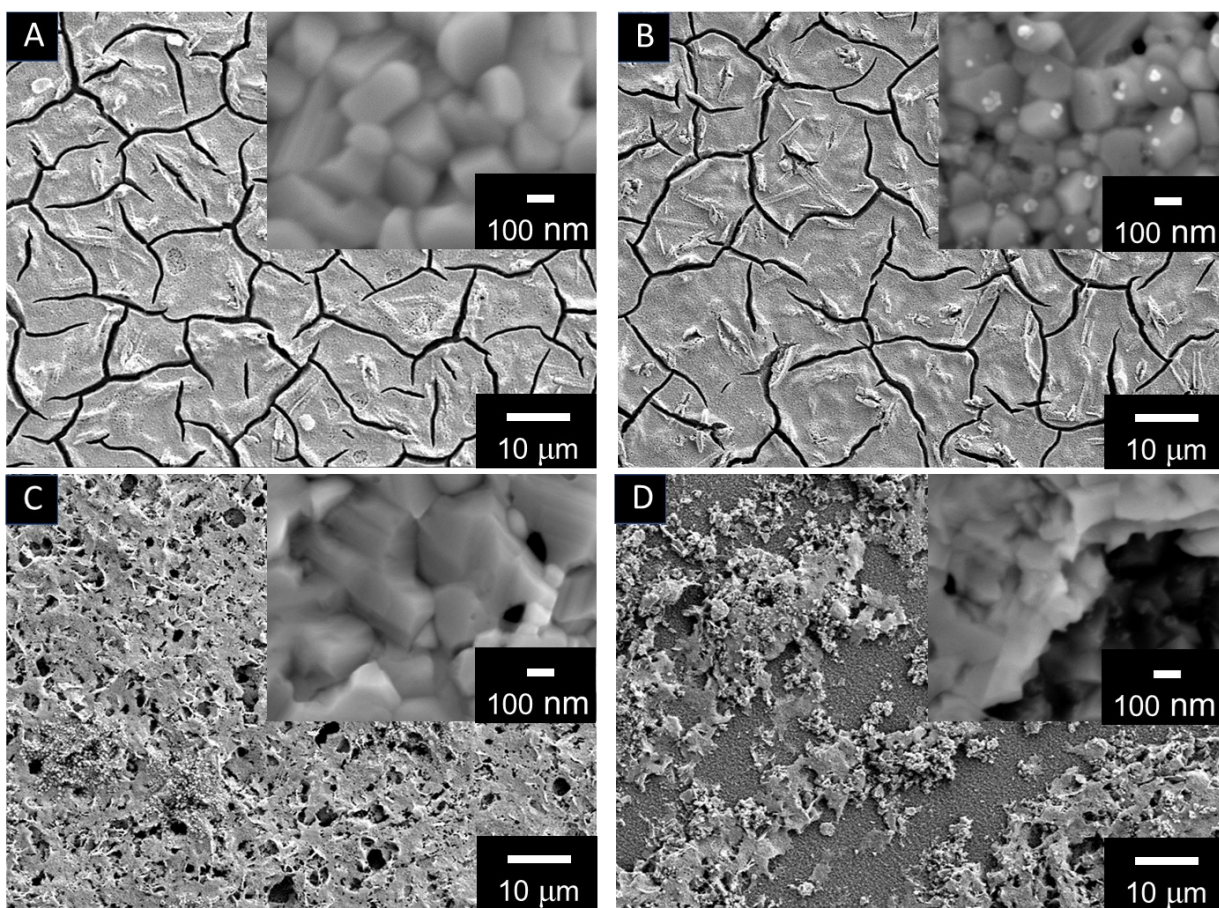
**Figure S3.** Top view SEM images (a) and cross-section view SEM images (b) of  $\text{CuBi}_2\text{O}_4(w)$  after CA at 0.41 V vs. RHE under  $\text{O}_2$  for 1 hour.



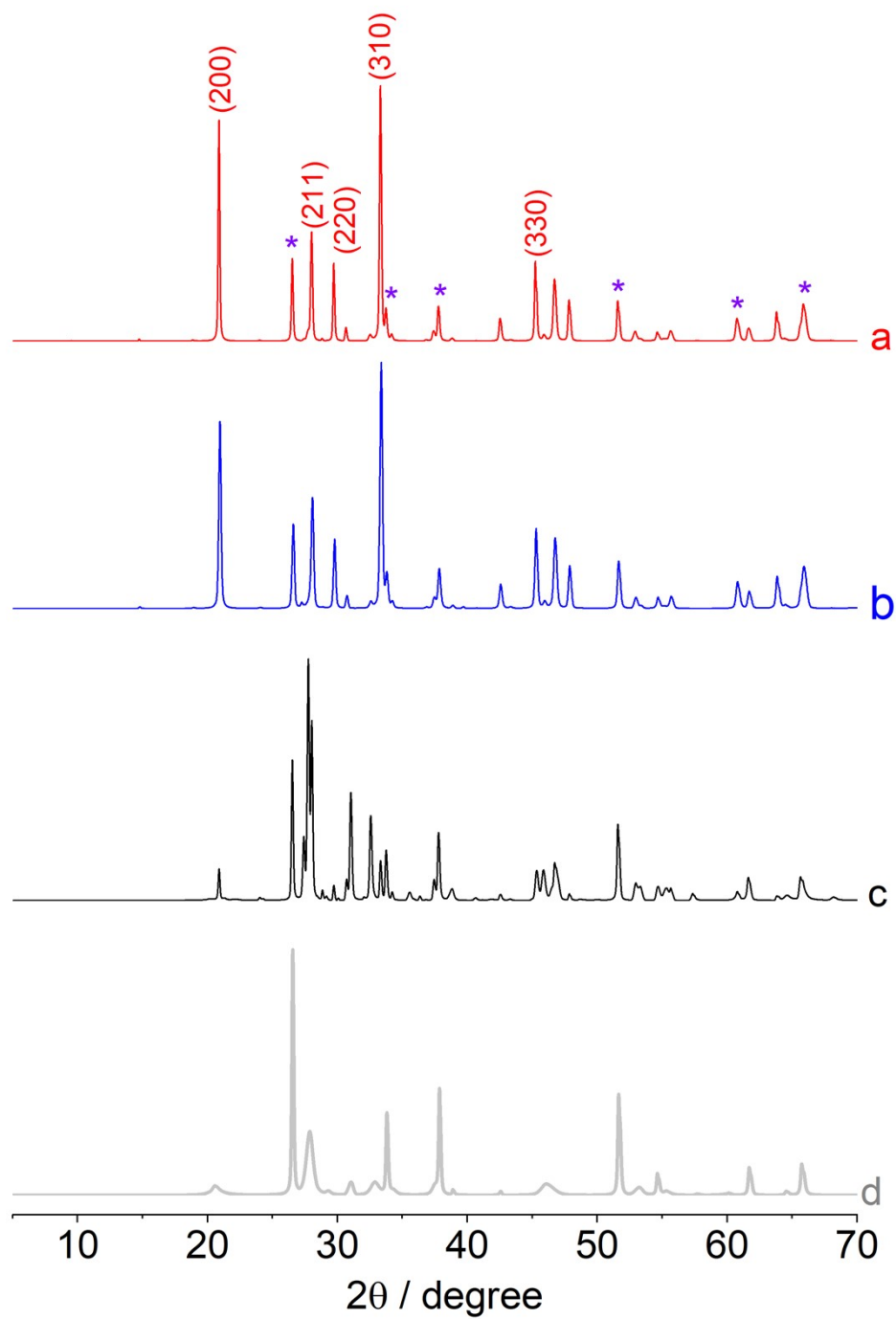
**Figure S4.** XPS spectra of  $\text{CuBi}_2\text{O}_4(w)$  after CA at 0.41 V vs. RHE under  $\text{O}_2$  for 1 hour in (A) Cu 2p and (B) Bi 4f regions. The dotted lines show the deconvoluted bands.



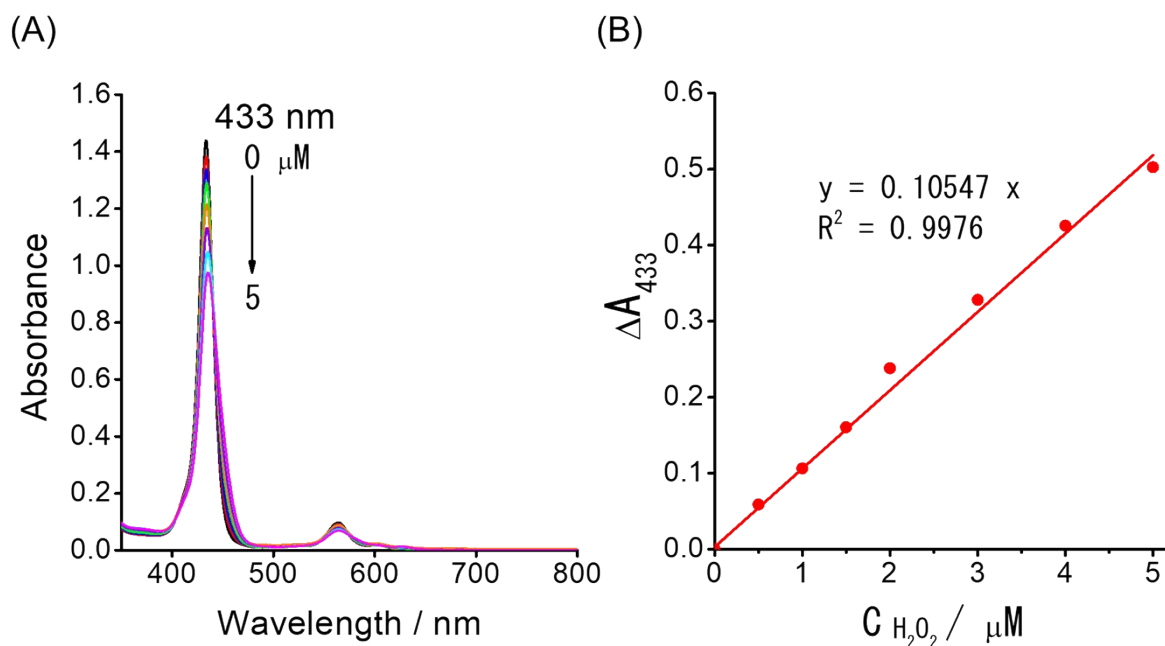
**Figure S5.** Photos of (A)  $\text{CuBi}_2\text{O}_4(w)$  and (B)  $\text{CuBi}_2\text{O}_4(w/o)$  films before (left) and after (right) CA at 0.41 V vs RHE under  $\text{O}_2$  for 24 h.



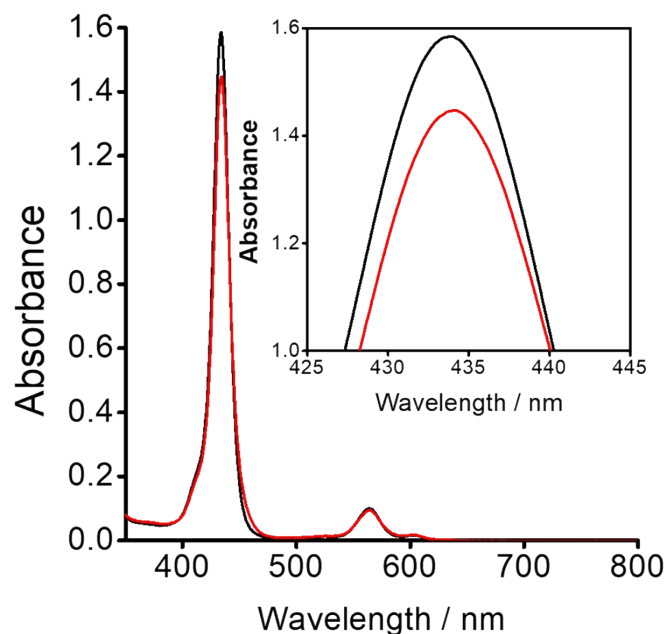
**Figure S6.** Top view SEM images of  $\text{CuBi}_2\text{O}_4(w)$  (A, B) and  $\text{CuBi}_2\text{O}_4(w/o)$  (C, D) films before (A, C) and after (B, D) CA at 0.41 V vs RHE under  $\text{O}_2$  for 24 h.



**Figure S7.** XRD patterns of  $\text{CuBi}_2\text{O}_4(w)$  (a, b) and  $\text{CuBi}_2\text{O}_4(w/o)$  (c, d) films before (a, c) and after (b, d) CA at 0.41 V vs RHE under  $\text{O}_2$  for 24 h. The peaks of the FTO substrate are indicated by the purple asterisks in the spectrum a.



**Figure S8.** Calibration curve of hydrogen peroxide. (A) UV-visible absorption spectra of the aqueous solution (2.5 mL) containing 5  $\mu M$  Ti-TPyP reagent, 5 mM HCl and 0.48 M  $HNO_3$  with the various concentrations ( $c_{H_2O_2}$ ) of hydrogen peroxide. (B) Relationship between the absorbance decrease ( $\Delta A_{433}$ ) at 433 nm and  $c_{H_2O_2}$ .



**Figure S9.** UV-visible absorption spectra of the aqueous solution (2.5 mL) containing 5  $\mu M$  Ti-TPyP reagent, 5 mM HCl and 0.48 M  $HNO_3$  with adding the electrolyte solutions before (black) and after (red) the bulk photoelectrolysis for ORR at 0.41 V vs. RHE under  $O_2$  for 1 hour.

**Table S1.** Comparison of IPCE values among state-of-the-art CuBi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> photocathodes but being not exclusively for ORR.

Photocathodes	Preparation method	Conditions	Applied potential (V vs. RHE)	$\lambda$ (nm)	IPCE (%)	Ref.
FTO/CuBi <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> (w)	MiMIC	0.1 M phosphate buffer solution (pH = 7.0) saturated with O <sub>2</sub>	0.41	440	21	This work
FTO/CuBi <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	Drop cast	0.3 M K <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> and 0.2 M phosphate buffer (pH 6.65) with H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	0.6	440	20	S1
FTO/CuBi <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	Electrodeposition	0.1 M NaOH solution (pH 12.8) saturated with O <sub>2</sub>	0.6	440	5	S2
FTO/CuBi <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /Au/N,Cu-C <sup>a)</sup>	Thermal oxidation	0.3 M K <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> /0.2 M phosphate buffer solution (pH 6.68) under Ar	0.65	440	3	S3
FTO/CuBi <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	Spin coating	0.3 M K <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> and 0.2 M phosphate buffer (pH 6.65) with H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	0	440	27	S4
FTO/CuBi <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /APTES <sup>b)</sup>	Electrodeposition and spin coating	0.1 M KHCO <sub>3</sub> solution (pH = 6.8) saturated with CO <sub>2</sub>	0.4	440	4	S5
FTO/CuBi <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	Electrodeposition	0.1M Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (pH = 10.8) under Ar	0.2	440	0.5	S6
FTO/CuBi <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	Spin coating	0.3 M K <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> and 0.2 M phosphate buffer (pH 6.65) with H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	0.6	440	30	S7

<sup>a)</sup> N, Cu-C : nitrogen/copper co-doped carbon nanosheet, <sup>b)</sup> APTES: 3-aminopropyltriethoxysilane.

## References

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