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SAFER NANOMATERIALS AND NANOMANUFACTURING INITIATIVE



Toward Greener Production of Nanomaterials: Lessons from Functionalized Nanoparticle Synthesis

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Green nanoscience

Greener:

- Synthesis
- Purification
- Fabrication of structures



**Pacific Northwest
National Laboratory**
Operated by Battelle for the
U.S. Department of Energy

**PORTLAND STATE
UNIVERSITY**



Nanotechnology promises exciting breakthroughs for a thriving, sustainable future

A clean, sustainable world for all future generations

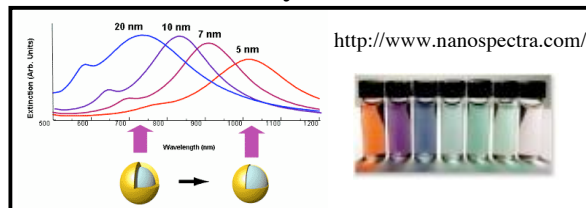
Abundant clean energy from the sun

Drinkable water for everyone around the world

Rapid, point-of-care medical diagnostics and treatment

Phototherapeutics - A cure for cancer by 2020?

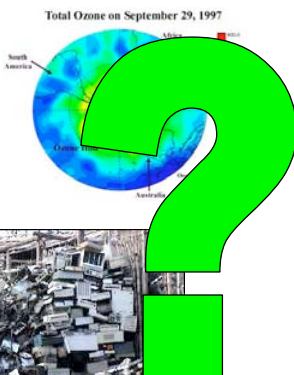
Cleaner, more efficient chemical industry



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Possible health and environmental effects of new materials and products?

Applies to all materials...nano or otherwise!



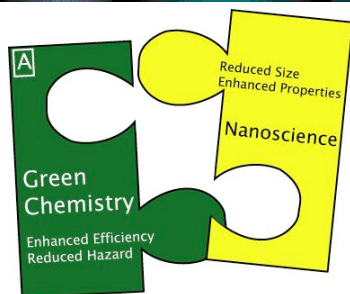
Do the properties contribute to:

- Toxicity?
- Ecotoxicity?
- Persistence?
- Transport?
- Bioavailability?
- Bioaccumulation?



Design for performance and safety

Applying green chemistry to nanomaterials and nanomanufacturing



Higher performance
Cheaper
More convenient
Greener

Green chemistry applied to nanoscience:

Design nanomaterials that provide new properties and performance, but do not pose harm to human health or the environment

Manufacture complex nanomaterials efficiently, without using hazardous substances

Assemble/interface nanomaterials using bottom-up approaches and self-assembly to enhance performance and reduce waste



McKenzie and Hutchison "Green nanoscience,"
Chemistry Today, 2004, 30.

Need for greener approaches in the *production* of nanoscale products

The 1.7 Kilogram Microchip: Energy and Material Use in the Production of Semiconductor Devices

ERIC D. WILLIAMS,^{1,2}
ROBERT U. AYRES,¹ AND
MIRIAM HELLER³

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de Courcouronnes, Fontainebleau, 77305 Cedex, France; and
³National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard,
Arlington, Virginia 22230

For a 2-g DRAM chip:

Chemical input ~72g

Energy (fossil fuels)
~1,600 - 2,300 g

Water ~ 20,000 g

Gases ~ 500 g

Bottom-up manufacturing has potential to improve materials efficiency, however...

“Discovery scale” production of nanoparticle building blocks

Low yields

Toxic reagents

Inefficient functionalization

Wasteful purification

Environ. Sci. Technol. **2002**, *36*, 5504–5510

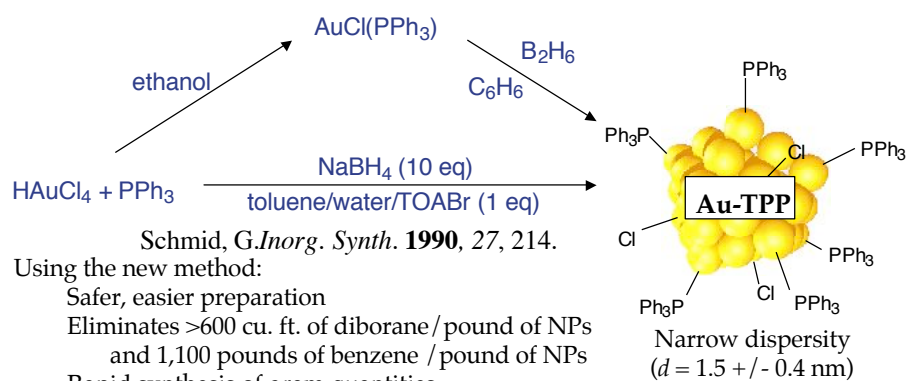


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New ideas are needed to transition from discovery to market

Example 1: A greener synthesis of a key nanoparticle building block



Weare, Reed, Warner, Hutchison *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2000**, *122*, 12890.

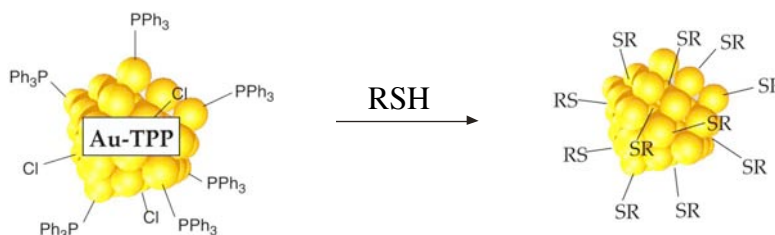
Hutchison, et al. *Inorg. Syn.* **2004**, *34*, 228.



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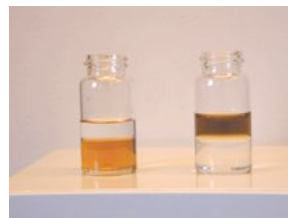
Functionalized nanoparticles prepared by *efficient* ligand exchange reactions



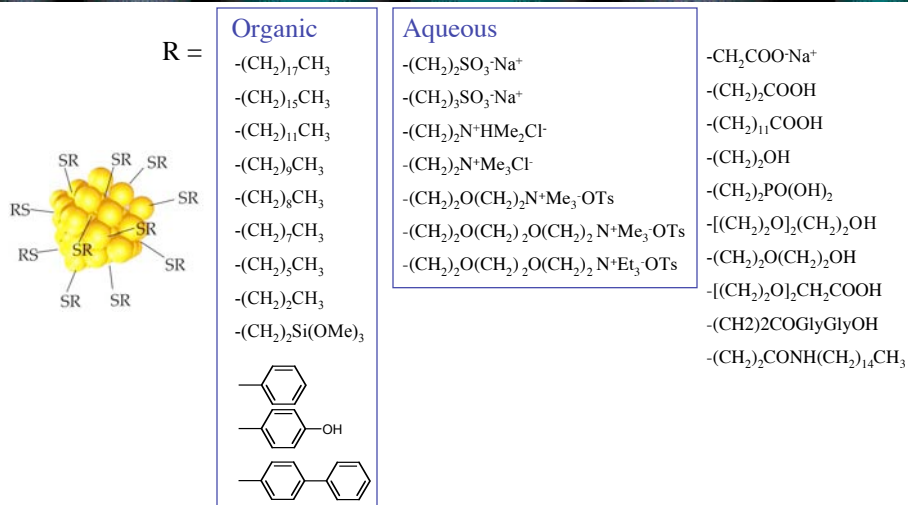
$d_{CORE} = 0.8$ or 1.5 nm

Brown, L. O.; Hutchison, J. E. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1997**, *119*, 12384

Woehrlé, G. H.; Warner, M.G.; Hutchison, J.E. *J. Phys. Chem. B* **2002**, *106*, 9979



A diverse family of functionalized nanoparticles has been prepared for 1.5-nm (and 0.8-nm) core sizes



Solubility

Interparticle spacing

Functionality

J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2005**, *127*, 2172 and *Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, *44*, 6149



Progress and challenges in nanoparticle production

At “discovery” scale we can:

- Control core size and dispersity

- Adjust core and ligand shell composition/functionality

- Use efficient syntheses and ligand exchange methods to produce milligram to gram quantities

Substantial challenges exist regarding:

- Purification

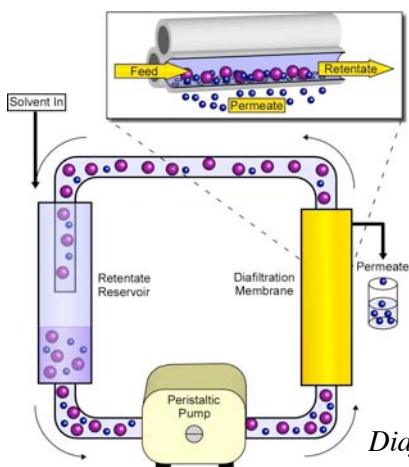
 - Obtaining pure material

 - Reducing solvent use

- Larger scale production



Example 2: Greener purification of functionalized nanoparticles



Nanomaterials purification

Traditional:

- 15L solvent per gram NP

- 3 days work

Diafiltration:

- No organic solvent

 - (eliminates > 10,000

 - pounds/pound NPs)

- 15 minutes work

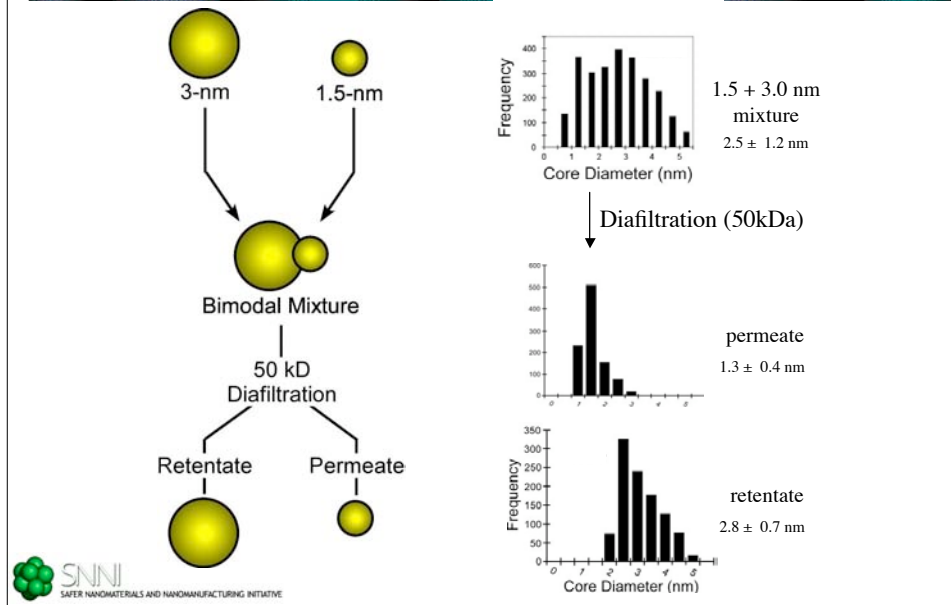
*Diafiltration reduces solvent consumption and provides **cleaner, well-defined building blocks***

Sweeney, Woehrle, Hutchison

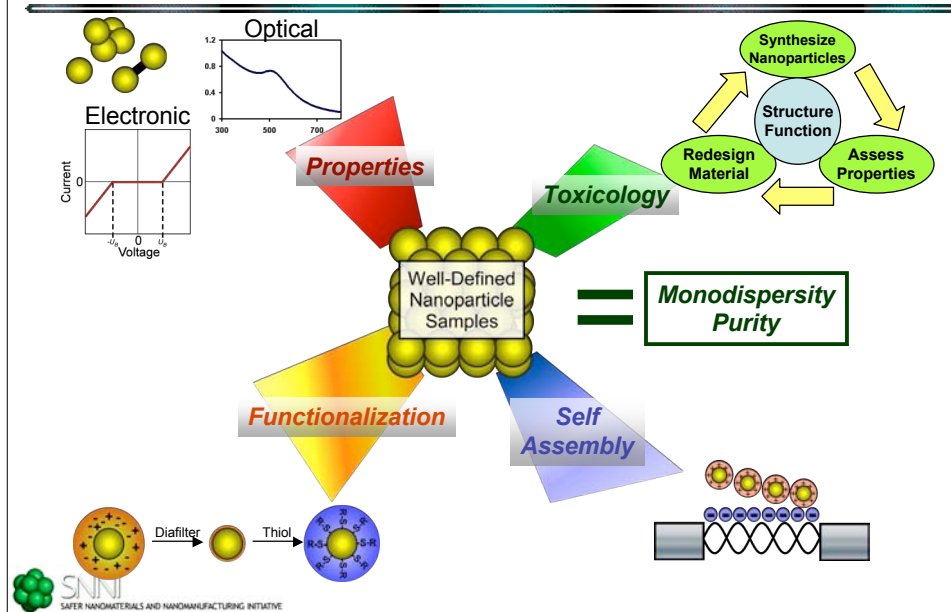
J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2006**, 128, 3190.



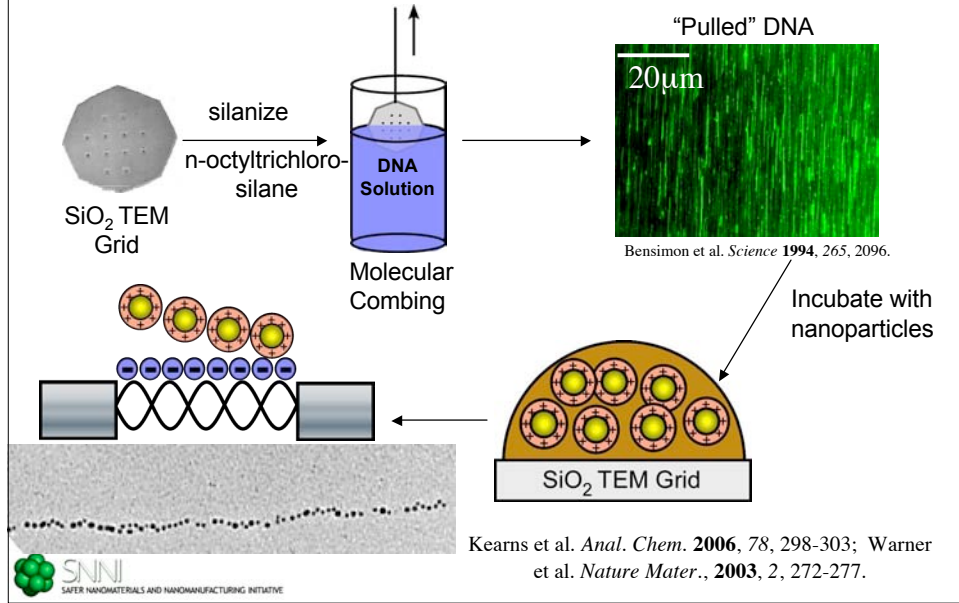
Nanoparticle size selection using diafiltration



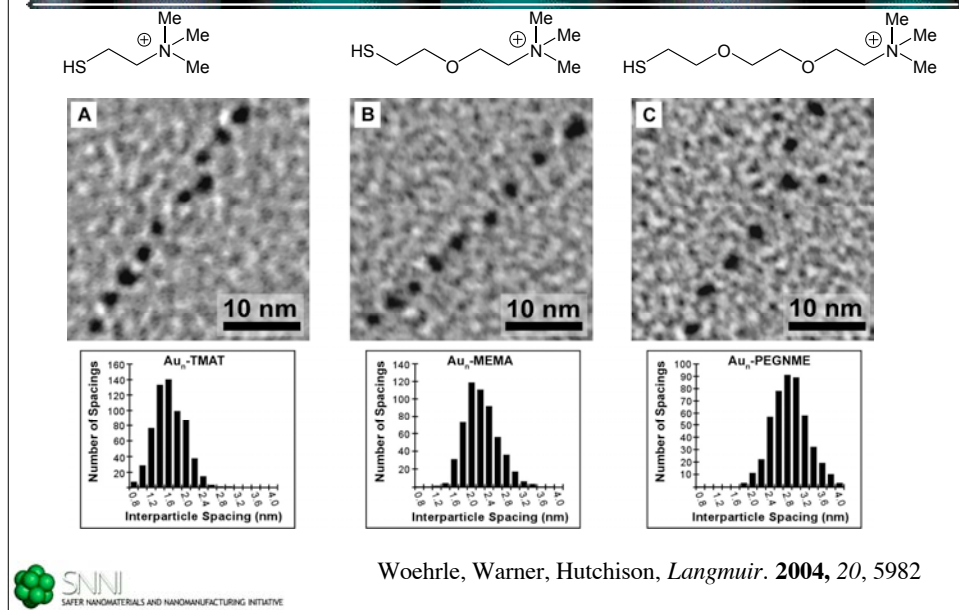
Where has purity influenced performance?



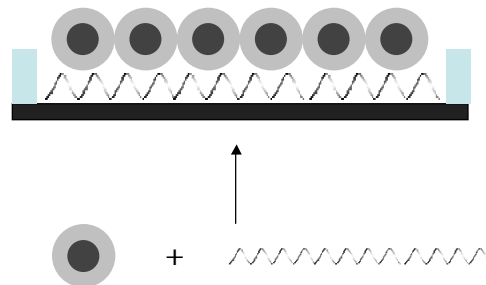
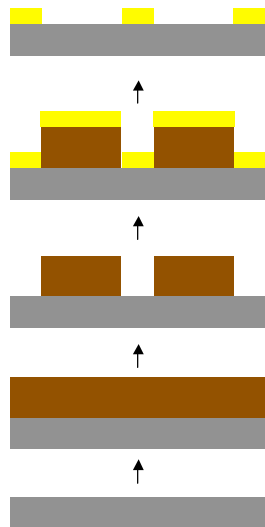
Example 3: Biomolecular Nanolithography



Controlling interparticle spacing along the DNA scaffold



Assembling from the bottom up offers green chemistry advantages

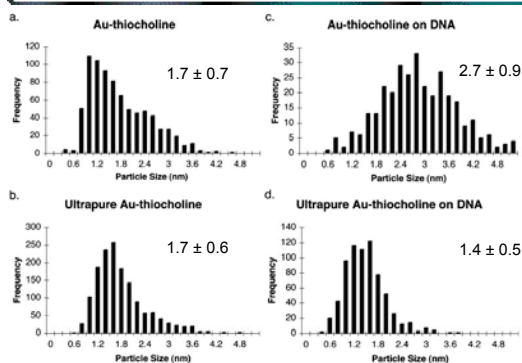


- Eliminates processing steps
- Incorporates more raw materials in product
- Reduces water and solvent use
- Provides access to smaller structures



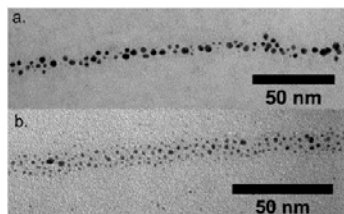
Greener - Higher performance - Cheaper - More convenient

Nanoparticle purity has a strong influence on self-assembly chemistry



“Ultrapure” nanoparticles retain original core size.

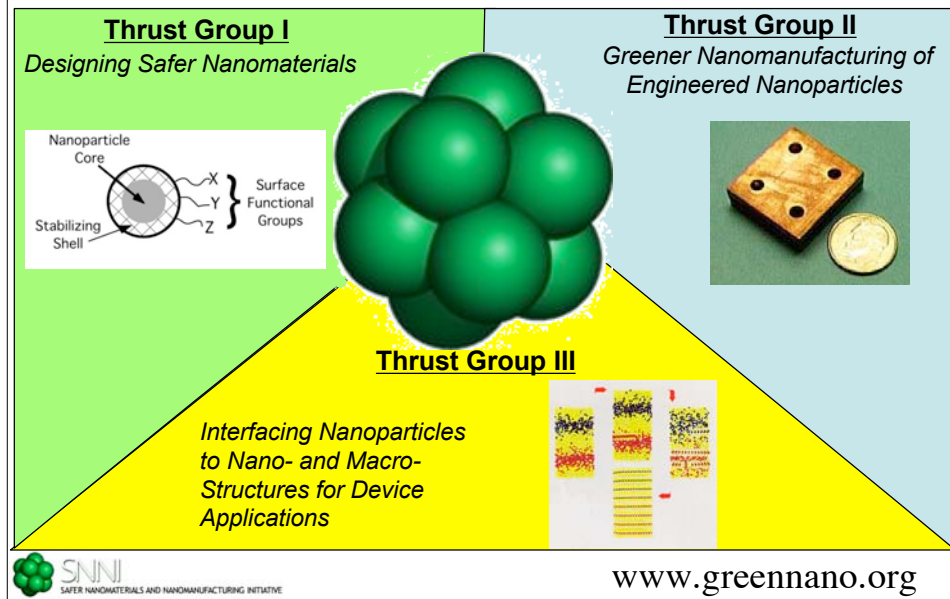
Important for retaining desirable electronic properties.



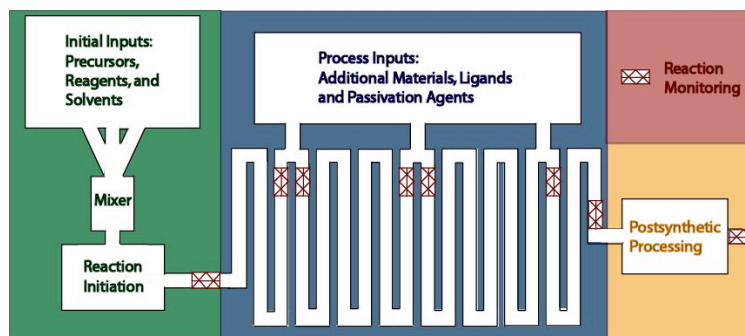
Kearns, G.J.; Foster, E.W.; Hutchison J. E. *Anal. Chem.* **2006**, *78*, 298-303.



ONAMI SNNI Research Thrust Groups

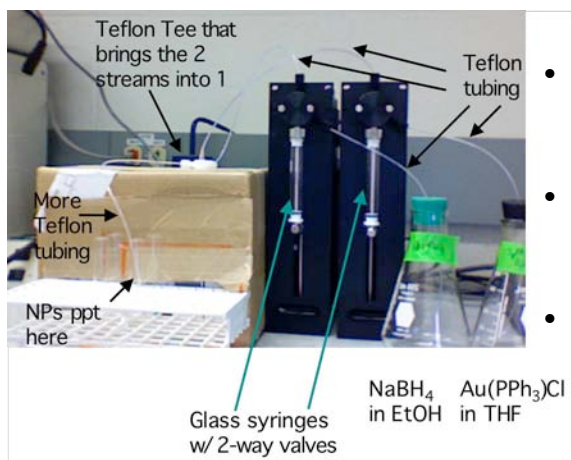


Nanoparticle production in integrated microreactor systems



- Rapid mixing
- Precise process control
- In situ monitoring
- Facile scale-up
- Reduced waste
- Improved yields
- New precursors and approaches
- Point-of-use production

Microcapillary system for continuous production of NPs



- Continuous flow system for Au₁₁(PPh₃)₈Cl₃ synthesis
- At least 10-fold increase in production rate (g/hour)
- At least five-fold decrease in solvent waste

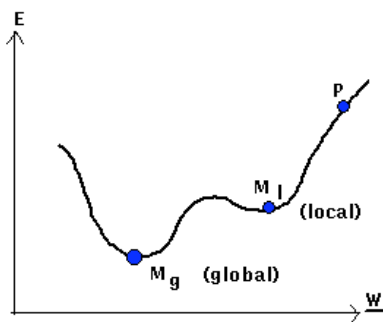


Lessons for greener production of nanoparticles

- Green chemistry applies readily to nanosynthesis
 - Identifying alternative reagents and solvents to reduce hazard
 - Eliminating or reducing solvent use through nanofiltration techniques
 - Harnessing self-assembly methods that enhance material efficiency
- Examples highlight how greener approaches can lead to enhanced performance and lower cost
- Nanoparticle purity impacts a wide range of material properties
- Green nanoscience provides opportunities to:
 - Bring new, beneficial technologies to society
 - Protect the human health and the environment
 - Reduce barriers to commercialization
 - Spur innovation



Green chemistry - A *driver* for innovation?



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ONAMI

