

# BITA

## Index Methodology Guidebook

### BITA US 500 ex Magnificent 7 Index

2<sup>nd</sup> of October, 2024

Version #1.0

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# Log of Amendments

1. **02.10.2024** - v.1.0. First publication of methodology guide.



# Introduction and Background

## ABOUT THE INDEX

The **BITA US 500 ex Magnificent 7 Index** aims to provide a comprehensive and balanced representation of the U.S. equity market by including the largest 500 publicly traded securities, while specifically excluding the seven largest technology giants commonly referred to as the "Magnificent 7." This approach ensures more diversified exposure, mitigating the overconcentration risks associated with the market's most dominant firms. The index constituents are weighted based on free-float market capitalization and rebalanced quarterly. Index values are disseminated on an end-of-day basis.

## ABOUT BITA

BITA is a Germany-based Fintech that provides enterprise-grade indexes, data and infrastructure to institutions operating in the passive and quantitative investment spaces. Thanks to its innovative index management infrastructure, designed to outperform other existing solutions in terms of flexibility and speed, BITA can provide independent, methodologically sound indexes that are both investable and replicable by customers and stakeholders. BITA's methodologies and processes are completely transparent and available publicly.

## ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

This document is published to serve as a guidebook of the methodologies adopted in the construction, calculation, and management of the index.

Any methodological changes or alterations to this document are performed by the BITA Index Management Board (BIMB) and authorized by the BITA Oversight Function, following the directives of both the "BITA Index Methodology Policy" and the Regulation (EU) 2016/2011 "Benchmark Regulation" (BMR). The index is owned, calculated, administered, and disseminated by BITA GmbH.



# Index Characteristics and Specifications

## 1. GENERAL INFORMATION AND INDEX OBJECTIVES

The **BITA US 500 ex Magnificent 7 Index** aims to provide a comprehensive and balanced representation of the U.S. equity market by including the largest 500 publicly traded securities, while specifically excluding the seven largest technology giants commonly referred to as the "Magnificent 7." This approach ensures more diversified exposure, mitigating the overconcentration risks associated with the market's most dominant firms. The index constituents are weighted based on free-float market capitalization and rebalanced quarterly. Index values are disseminated on an end-of-day basis.

- **Inception Date: 04.10.2024**
- **Index value at inception: 1,000**
- **Return Calculation: Gross Total Return**
- **Weighting Mechanism: Free-Float Market Capitalization**
- **Rebalancing Frequency: Quarterly**
- **Reconstitution: Quarterly**
- **Number of Constituents: 493**

The base currency of the index is USD. Index values may also be published in other currencies when applicable.

## 2. SHORT NAME AND IDENTIFIERS

The index is distributed under the following identifiers

Name	Type	FIGI	Ticker
<b>BITA US 500 ex Magnificent 7 Index</b>	Equity		BUS5X7

## 3. EU BENCHMARKS REGULATION CONSIDERATIONS AND STATEMENT

BITA GmbH is the benchmark "administrator" of the BITA US 500 ex Magnificent 7 Index, the "Benchmark" or "Index"<sup>1</sup>.

The Index is calculated based on readily available data and does not use any contributed input data (as defined in Article 3(1)(8) of the BMR). The Index is classified as a non-significant benchmark (as defined in Article 3(1)(27) of the BMR).

The Index does not pursue Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) objectives and does not take into account ESG factors. The Index is not classified as EU Climate Transition Benchmark (as defined

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<sup>1</sup>The term administrator is used in this document in the same sense as it is defined in Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016 on indices used as benchmarks in financial instruments and financial contracts or to measure the performance of investment funds (the "Benchmarks Regulation" or "BMR").



in Article 3(1) (23a) of the BMR) or EU Paris-aligned Benchmark (as defined in article 3(1) (23b) of the BMR).

For the complete Benchmark Statement on the Index, please refer to the "[Index website page](#)".

This Methodology guide should be read in conjunction with the Index's Benchmark Statement and other associated BITA Governance policies and methodology documents. These documents are highlighted whenever referenced in this Methodology guide. They are also available on BITA's website (<https://bita.io/governance>).

## 4. INPUT DATA

In line with the input data requirements under the Article 11 of the Regulation (EU) No 596/2014 (the "Benchmarks Regulation" or "BMR"), the Index does not use contributions of input data, which may be prone to contributor discretion. A contribution of input data is defined as such data not readily available to an administrator or to another person for the purposes of passing to an administrator that is required in connection with the determination of a benchmark and is provided for that purpose. See Article 3(1)(8) of the EU Regulation 2016/1011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016.

At each calculation point, the index value is calculated based on the constituents' individual quotes on the respective regulated exchanges. The constituents' most recent prices are used. When the constituents are quoted in a different currency, quotes are translated using the most recent spot FX rates. The daily index closing value is calculated using the spot FX rates as of the 16.00 hrs London (UTC + 01:00) WM fixing quoted by Reuters. If no 16:00 London WM Fixing is available, an alternative 16:00 London spot rate will be used.

For more detailed information on specific guidelines regarding the types of Input data, the procedures for the control of input data and the exercise of expert judgement please refer to the "[BITA Input Data Policy](#)".

## 5. INDEX CALCULATION AND DISSEMINATION FREQUENCY

### **5.1. Calculation Methodology**

The index is based on the Laspeyres formula, which links each successive weighted basket of securities in the index with the preceding basket. This translates into a unique index "Divisor" for each index, which is adjusted to maintain the continuity of the index's values across changes due to corporate actions.

### **5.2. Calculation Frequency**

The official index closing level is calculated once a day, every Business Day (EoD calculation). Historical "EoD" index data is available as backtested data starting on the index backtesting date, and as calculated and maintained data starting on the index inception date.

### **5.3. Index Dissemination**

Official index EOD levels are calculated and disseminated after the close of all exchanges on which the index constituents are listed (EoD calculation). A day is considered to be a Business Day if at least one of the exchanges considered in the Index is open for trading.



The index is distributed via BITA's direct dissemination channels and a variety of data vendors when applicable.

# Index Methodology

## 1. UNIVERSE CONSTRUCTION

### 1.1. Initial Universe

The Initial Universe is composed of all securities classified in the United States of America according to the "BITA Assigned Country" methodology.

### 1.2. Eligible Universe

The final eligible universe is constructed after the application of the following screens and filters:

- A. Exchange Requirement:** Only securities listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) or the NASDAQ Stock Market are included.
- B. Security Considerations:** Only Ordinary Shares are eligible.
- C. Average Daily Traded Value:** Securities with a three-month average daily traded value of less than USD 1,000,000 are excluded.
- D. Size Requirements:** Only the 700 largest securities by market capitalization are eligible.

## 2. INDEX CONSTITUENT SELECTION

### 2.1. Index Ranking

All securities in the Eligible Universe are ranked by free float market capitalization in descending order. The top 500 securities are selected for inclusion in the Index, subject to the observation of entry and exit buffers. In the case of a tie at the same ranking position, the security with the highest 3-month average daily traded value (ADTV) is ranked higher.

**Exit buffer:** 30%

**Fast entry/exit mechanisms:** 30%

### 2.2 Security Considerations

If a company has more than one share class that qualifies for membership on a stand-alone basis in the index, only the highest ranked share class will be considered for composition, as ranked by ADTV.

IPOs should be traded on an eligible exchange for at least 12 months before being considered for addition to an index.

ADRs are not eligible.



## 2.3 Exclusion List

After applying the Index Ranking, any of the following securities that has been selected, is excluded:

Security Name	Ticker	ISIN	Stock Market
Alphabet Inc. "Class A"	GOOGL	US02079K3059	NASDAQ
Alphabet Inc. "Class C"	GOOG	US02079K1079	NASDAQ
Amazon.com Inc.	AMZN	US0231351067	NASDAQ
Apple Inc.	AAPL	US0378331005	NASDAQ
Meta Platforms Inc.	META	US30303M1027	NASDAQ
Microsoft Corp.	MSFT	US5949181045	NASDAQ
Nvidia Corp.	NVDA	US67066G1040	NASDAQ
Tesla Inc.	TSLA	US88160R1014	NASDAQ

## 3. INDEX WEIGHTING

On the Determination Day, index constituents are weighted according to their free-float market capitalization.

## 4. INDEX CAPPING

No caps are applied to the index.

## 5. INDEX REVIEW SCHEDULE

### 5.1. Ordinary Adjustments

The Index is reconstituted and rebalanced quarterly in March, June, September and December at the Close of Business (COB) on the 3rd Friday of the rebalancing month after market close.

The Determination Date for ordinary adjustments occurs at the COB on the 1st Friday of the rebalancing / reconstitution month.

BITA provides constituent pro-forma files each time the Index rebalances. Pro-forma files are normally released daily, covering the period between the Determination and Effective dates (proforma period).

**Deletion Replacement rules:** Deleted securities are replaced in next reconstitution.

### 5.2. Extraordinary Adjustments

BIMB may decide to substitute an index constituent or perform an extraordinary adjustment to the index upon the occurrence of an extraordinary event as deemed by BIMB or according to the "[BITA Corporate Actions Treatment Guide](#)". In such cases, BITA will announce the index adjustment with a notice period of at least 2 trading days (with respect to the affected constituent) on BITA's website and proceed to its implementation after the close of business on the effective date as specified in the aforementioned announcement.



# Index Calculation

## 1. INDEX FORMULA

The index value is calculated every 1 second with the updated price from its constituents using the following formula:

$$Index\ Value_t = \sum_i \frac{P_{i,t} * IWF_{i,t} * TOS_{i,t} * AWF_{i,t} * F_{i,t}}{D_t}$$

Where:

**P<sub>i,t</sub>**= Price of the constituent ‘i’ at time t

**IWF<sub>i,t</sub>**= Investable Weighting Factor of constituent ‘i’ at time ‘t’

**TOS<sub>i,t</sub>**= Total no. of Shares Outstanding of constituent ‘i’ at time ‘t’

**AWF<sub>i,t</sub>**= Adjustable Weighting Factor for constituent ‘i’ at time ‘t’

**F<sub>i,t</sub>**= Foreign exchange Rate for constituent ‘i’ at time ‘t’

**D<sub>t</sub>**= Divisor Value at time ‘t’

The initial divisor (at inception **t = t<sub>0</sub>**) value is calculated according to the following formula:

$$D_{t_0} = \frac{\sum_i (P_{i,t_0} * IWF_{i,t_0} * TOS_{i,t_0} * AWF_{i,t_0} * F_{i,t_0})}{Initial\ Index\ Value}$$

On each Adjustment Day t, the divisor is adjusted to keep the index value constant. The new divisor is calculated as:

$$D_{t+1} = D_t + \frac{Change\ in\ Market\ Cap\ of\ the\ Index}{Index\ Value_t}$$

The new divisor is then used in the calculation of the following day’s index open.

## 2. COMPUTATIONAL ACCURACY

The index will be calculated to 13 decimal figures.

Index values will be rounded to 2 decimal places for dissemination.

## 3. INDEX DIVISOR ADJUSTMENTS

The market capitalization of the index is affected by numerous events other than daily security price changes. At the company level, market capitalizations are affected by share changes caused by corporate actions such as takeovers, acquisitions and spin-offs. Changes also result from company additions and deletions to the index.



In order to insulate the members of the index from the effects of index constituent changes and corporate actions, the index's market capitalization is divided by an adjustment factor called the index divisor. During the trading day, the index is computed by dividing the index's current market capitalization by the divisor value. If there are no corporate actions or constituent changes, the divisor remains unchanged for the next trading day. If there is an event resulting in a capitalization change, the index's new adjusted base market cap is calculated after the close using the adjusted prices and adjusted share figures. Then, a new divisor is calculated for use at the opening on the next trading day. The new divisor links the closing index value to the new adjusted base market capitalization of the index.

## 4. DIVIDENDS AND OTHER DISTRIBUTIONS

For the purposes of the index adjustment, BITA distinguishes between Cash dividends and Special dividends. Cash dividends are treated differently depending on the type of Index.

In a Price Return Index, regular Cash dividends are neglected and only the Special dividends are considered.

In a Gross Total Return Index, reinvestments of Cash and Special dividend distributions are considered without performing deductions due to withholding taxes.

In a Net Total Return Index, reinvestments of Cash and Special dividend distributions are considered after deducting the withholding tax.

Dividend payments and other distributions will lead to a change in the value of the divisor. The new Divisor is calculated as follows:

$$D_{t+1} = \frac{\text{Index Market Cap Open}_{t+1}}{\text{Index Value at Close}_t}$$

For detailed information on dividends treatment, please refer to the "BITA's Corporate Action Treatment Guide".

## 5. CORPORATE ACTIONS AND OTHER ADJUSTMENTS

All corporate actions and events will be monitored and processed as per the rules and methodologies explicit in "[BITA's Corporate Action Treatment Guide](#)".

Shares outstanding for constituents change regularly due to a variety of events and corporate actions. Share changes of less than 10% are implemented at the Ordinary Index Reviews.

If the number of outstanding shares for an index constituent change by more than 10% due to a corporate action, such as those listed in BITA's Corporate Actions Treatment Guide, the company's share outstanding will be updated after the close of trading on the day prior to the ex-date of the corporate action.

In case of constituents from different countries and/or regions, it is possible that a business day in one country would be a public holiday in the other. In all such cases, the business day is considered valid and the index is calculated and disseminated just like in the normal index days. For the constituents that have a public holiday (i.e. no price movement) on index business day, the real-time forex rate is the only



factor contributing to changes in the value of such constituents. In case that the public holiday is in the base currency of the index, then the constituent's prices are kept constant throughout the day.

## 6. CORRECTION AND RECALCULATION

To ensure accuracy, timeliness and consistency of indexes that accurately reflect economic realities, BITA has implemented an Index Correction and Recalculation Policy. Our policy has been drafted in accordance with the IOSCO Principles and the EU Benchmark Regulation directives.

As per our Index Correction and Recalculation Policy, processes are in place to reduce error likelihood, ensure timeliness of identification, avoid subjectivity of corrective decisions and mitigate impact to clients.

While every effort is taken to ensure the accuracy of the index inputs, information and calculation, there is no guarantee that the index will be error-proof. Errors may occur due to data input errors, technology errors, application errors or other reasons.

Any Correction or Restatement made to an Index will be normally communicated to clients via email channels. The communication is done in a standardized format including an explanation of the error, the proposed rectification, and the effective date of implementation. BITA's customer service and product development teams stand always available for any additional clarification if necessary. Upon request, error reports are made available to clients.

For detailed information on specific errors, implementation timing and correction processes, please refer to the ["BITA Correction and Recalculation Policy"](#).

## 7. MARKET DISRUPTION

In periods of market stress, that might result in inaccurate market prices, delayed data inputs, illiquid constituents or fragmented markets, BITA calculates the Index following predetermined procedures as set out in its ["BITA Index Termination and Business Continuity Policy"](#), available at BITA's website.



# Index Governance and Miscellaneous

## 1. METHODOLOGY ADJUSTMENTS AND REVIEWS

The Index Methodology is reviewed on an annual basis by both the BITA Index Management Board and the BITA Oversight Committee, to make sure the Index continues to reflect the economic realities of the market and is not based on obsolete inputs or assumptions.

In case an adjustment to the Methodology is required, a detailed written “[BITA Index Methodology Policy](#)” outlines the steps and approvals required to develop, document and approve the Index and its Methodology. The purpose of the BITA Index Methodology Policy is to ensure that the methodology of the Index meets the requirements of Article 12 of the BMR and is implemented according to a robust and reliable process.

## 2. INDEX TERMINATION

When designing an index, BITA puts significant efforts in ensuring that its indexes are sustainable and can stay relevant over time. However, there might be situations (cases where an index ceases to reflect the economic reality of the market it represents, needs data that can no longer be obtained, or fails to keep achieving its objectives) where a cessation of the index may be indicated. For such cases, BITA has developed and adopted an “[Index Termination Business Continuity Policy](#)”, that includes the specific processes to identify such events, communicate and consult stakeholders, and setup potential transition plans to reduce the impact for customers and stakeholders.

## 3. INDEX GOVERNANCE BODIES

### **3.1. BITA Oversight Function**

The BITA Oversight Function is responsible for the oversight of all aspects related to the provision of benchmarks administered by BITA. The Oversight Function will receive updates from first-line internal governance bodies where appropriate.

### **3.2. BITA Index Management Board (BIMB)**

The BITA Index Management Board (BIMB) is responsible for decisions regarding the index composition as well as any changes to the rulebooks and methodology guides. The board also decides about the future composition of the index if any “Extraordinary Event” occurs and requires necessary adjustments.



## 4. ESG FACTORS DISCLOSURE

Explanation of how ESG Factors are reflected in the key elements of the benchmark methodology

Name of the benchmark administrator.	BITA GmbH
Type of benchmark or family of benchmarks. Choose the relevant underlying asset from the list provided in Annex II to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/1816.	Equity
Name of the benchmark or family of benchmarks.	BITA US 500 ex Magnificent 7 Index
Does the benchmark methodology for the benchmark or family of benchmarks take into account ESG factors?	No

Please explain how those ESG factors are used for the selection, weighting or exclusion of underlying assets.

(a) List of environmental factors considered:	By Exclusion: None By Selection: None By Weighting: None
(b) List of social factors considered:	By Exclusion: None By Selection: None By Weighting: None
(c) List of governance factors considered:	By Exclusion: None By Selection: None By Weighting: None

Data and standards used:

(a) Data input. (i) Describe whether the data are reported, modelled, or sourced internally or externally. (ii) Where the data are reported, modelled, or sourced externally, please name the third-party data provider.	Not Applicable.
(b) Verification and quality of data. (i) Describe how data are verified and how the quality of those data is ensured.	When external ESG and Impact Data vendors are used, a verification process is conducted to ensure that the provider has implemented processes and procedures that: i) are in line with established market



	<p>standards and, ii) ensure the representativeness and reliability of the submitted data.</p> <p>When necessary, additional checks for abrupt changes or inconsistent data points are conducted, and when applicable, a further request for clarification is submitted to the vendor.</p>
<p>c) Reference standards.  (i) Describe the international standards used in the benchmark methodology.</p>	<p>The index methodology is constructed in line with the IOSCO standards for financial benchmarking, as well as market standards required by the Regulation (EU) 2016/2011 “Benchmark Regulation” (BMR).</p>
<p>Information updated on:</p>	<p>02.10.2024</p>
<p>Reason for update:</p>	<p>Initial document creation.</p>



## 5. TERMINOLOGY

**Adjustable Weighting Factor (AWF)** is the adjustment factor introduced in the index calculation formula so that the index constituent weight capping factor is satisfied. No AWF changes occur due to corporate actions between rebalancing.

The AWF for each constituent on the determination date is calculated as:

$$AWF = \frac{CW}{W}$$

Where CW is the Capped Weight of that index constituent calculated on the determination date, and W is the uncapped weight (based on the free-float market capitalization) of that index constituent calculated on the determination date.

**Adjustment Day** is the day in which adjustments to the index divisor are performed. This could be days where reconstitution and rebalancing happen, or alternatively days before the ex-date of a corporate action.

**Average Daily Traded Value** of a stock is the sum of the Daily Traded Value over a specified period divided by the number of trading days over that specified period.

**BITA Assigned Country** is a composite country flag, determined by BITA, based on publicly available information regarding the companies' country of incorporation, country of headquarters and country of primary operations.

**Benchmark Regulation (BMR):** Regulatory regime for benchmark administrators that ensures the accuracy and integrity of benchmarks. Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016 governing Indices used as benchmarks in financial instruments and financial contracts or to measure the performance of investment funds and amending Directives 2008/48/EC and 2014/17/EU and Regulation (EU) No 596/2014.

**Business Day** is a day on which an exchange is open for the buying and selling of securities, generally occurring on weekdays between normal business hours.

**Capping Factor** is the factor that limits the weight of any index constituent to a maximum pre-defined limit.

**Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)** is the primary time standard by which the world regulates clocks and time.

**Daily Traded Value** of a stock is the product of the closing price of that stock and the number of shares traded on the exchange on that business day.

**Determination Date** is the date (at end of day) used as a reference for the determination of index constituents, as well as index shares and parameters, which are to be applied at rebalancing/reconstitution.



**End of Day (EoD) Index Values** are the official index close levels calculated and stored, using official exchange close prices, at the end of each business day.

**ET time:** Eastern Time is five hours behind the Coordinated Universal Time standard, written as an offset of UTC - 5:00. That means to find the standard time in the zone one must subtract five hours from Coordinated Universal Time. During the daylight-saving adjustment period (March-October), the difference is four hours.

**CET time:** Central European Time is one hour ahead of the Coordinated Universal Time standard, written as an offset of UTC + 1:00. That means to find the standard time in the zone one must add one hour to Coordinated Universal Time. During the daylight-saving adjustment period (March-October), the difference is two hours.

**Extraordinary events** are extreme market events that make index adjustments necessary. These events include:

- Merger
- Takeover bid
- Delisting
- Insolvency

For an exhaustive list, please refer to [BITA Equity Corporate Actions Treatment Guide](#).

**Gross Total Return Index** is obtained by reinvesting in the ordinary gross dividends declared by the index constituents, and assumes that any cash distributions, such as dividends, are reinvested assuming zero tax rate applicability on such cash distributions.

**Net Total Return Indexes** is obtained by reinvesting in the index the ordinary net dividends (i.e less withholding taxes) declared by the index constituents, and assumes that any cash distributions, such as dividends, are reinvested with the corresponding tax rate applied on such cash distributions.

**Price Return Indexes** is obtained by tracking the plain prices of the index constituent instruments, unadjusted with the respect to any possible dividends or other cash payouts from the instruments.

**Inception Date** refers to the official start date of the index, with the index base value as close value.

**Investable Weighting Factor (IWF)** is the percentage of shares outstanding that are included in the index calculation. In the case of Float-Adjusted Market Cap Weighted Indexes, the total shares outstanding are adjusted so that they exclude from the index calculation all shares not freely available to investors.

BITA uses fundamental data from a variety of recognized data vendors to calculate the IWF for each of its index constituents.

The **IWF** is calculated as:

$$IWF = \frac{TOS - SCH}{TOS}$$

Where **TOS** is the total number of shares outstanding, **SCH** is the number of shares restricted to investors.



Free float factors are reviewed on a regular basis in line with the rebalancing/reconstitution schedule using the most recent available data.

Changes to the number of shares due to stock dividends, splits, rights issues etc. are implemented immediately and effective the next trading day.

In case of other corporate actions and events, if there is a change of more than 10% in the SOC, BITA will announce the update in SOC immediately and the adjustment comes into effect two trading days after the announcement. All other applicable changes are announced on the next underlying data announcement date, implemented on the index review date and effective the next trading day after implementation.

**Market Capitalization** is calculated as the product of the number of shares outstanding of the share class and the share price.

The index **Divisor** is an arbitrary number that is first defined when an index is first published. Its initial use is to divide the total value of the index to produce an index value that is easy to handle. Subsequently, the index divisor remains constant and requires adjustments, either when rebalancing and reconstituting or through corporate action treatments.

**Pro-forma Files** distributed to Index subscribers during the Pro-forma Period (i.e. the period between the determination date and the effective date of the upcoming rebalancing/reconstitution) contain the preliminary index weights, index shares and other relevant parameters for the upcoming rebalancing/reconstitution. While the index shares remain constant (unless affected by corporate actions) during the Pro-forma Period, the index weights will move along with the market.

**Total Number of Shares Outstanding (TOS)** of an index constituent on any given business day refers to a company's stock currently held by all its shareholders, including share blocks held by institutional investors and restricted shares owned by the company's officers and insiders.



## 6. DISCLAIMER

All information is provided for information purposes only. All information and data contained in this publication are obtained by BITA from sources believed by it to be accurate and reliable. Because of the possibility of human and mechanical error as well as other factors such information and data are provided “as is” without warranty of any kind.

BITA does not offer any explicit or tacit guarantee or assurance, neither pertaining to the results from the use of the Index nor the level of the Index at any certain point in time. Customers should consider obtaining independent advice before making any financial decision.

The publication of the Index by BITA does not constitute a recommendation for capital investment and does not contain any assurance or opinion of BITA regarding a possible investment in a financial instrument based on this Index.

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**For information regarding the index methodology or concepts:**

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