

# A Study of Some Nonlinear Partial Differential Equations by Using Adomian Decomposition Method and Variational Iteration Method

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## Abstract

In this paper, a numerical solution of nonlinear partial differential equation, Benjamin-Bona-Mahony (BBM) and Cahn-Hilliard equation is presented by using Adomian Decomposition Method (ADM) and Variational Iteration Method (VIM). The results reveal that the two methods are very effective, simple and very close to the exact solution.

## Keywords

Wave Variables, Adomian Decomposition Method (ADM), Variational Iteration Method (VIM), Nonlinear Partial Differential Equation PDEs, BBM and Cahn-Hilliard Equations

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## 1. Introduction

In this paper, we discuss the solution of the nonlinear BBM equation [1]

$$u_t = u_{xx} - u_x - uu_x, \quad (1)$$

subject to the initial condition

$$u(x, 0) = \text{sech}^2(x/4), \quad (2)$$

The Cahn-Hilliard equation [2]:

$$u_t = u_{xx} - u^3 + u, \quad (3)$$

subject to the initial condition

$$u(x, 0) = 1 / (1 + e^{\frac{x}{\sqrt{2}}}) \tag{4}$$

[3] [4] derived a variety of exact travelling wave solutions of distinct physical structures for the BBM equation, where the Tanh and the sine-cosine methods were used. Also [5] is devoted to analyzing the physical structures of the nonlinear dispersive variants of the BBM equation, where new exact solutions with compact and non-compact structures for BBM are derived. [6] applied the decomposition method to obtain explicit and numerical solutions of different types of generalized BBM. Many articles have investigated Cahn-Hilliard equation analytically and numerically, [7] applied the finite difference method to obtain the numerical solution of Cahn-Hilliard equation. [8]-[10] used the Exp-function method to obtain exact solutions of Cahn-Hilliard. [11] solved these equations by Differential Transform Method.

In the beginning of the 1980, a so-called Adomian decomposition method (ADM), which appeared in [12]-[15] used (ADM) to solve coupled kdv equation.

### 2. The Adomian Decomposition (ADM)

In this section, ADM is explained. For this, we consider a general nonlinear partial differential equation in the following form.

$$L(u(x, t)) + N(u(x, t)) = g(x, t) \tag{5}$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x). \tag{6}$$

where  $L = \frac{\partial(\cdot)}{\partial t}$  which is assumed easily invertible,  $N(u(x, t))$  presents the nonlinear term and  $g$  is the source term. Applying the inverse operator  $L^{-1} = \int_0^t (\cdot) ds$  to both sides of (5) and using the given conditions we obtain

$$u(x, t) = f(x) + L^{-1}(g(x, t)) - L^{-1}(N(u(x, t))) \tag{7}$$

using the given conditions, the ADM defines the solution  $u$  by the series in the following form.

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} u_n(x, t) \tag{8}$$

and the nonlinear operator  $N(u)$  presents by an infinite series of the so-called Adomian's

$$N(u(x, t)) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n \tag{9}$$

where  $u_n(x, t), n \geq 0$  are the components of  $u(x, t)$  that will be easy determined and  $A_n$  are called Adomian's polynomials and defined by

$$A_n(u_0, u_1, \dots, u_n) = \frac{1}{n!} \left[ \frac{d^n}{d\lambda^n} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \lambda^i u_i(x, t) \right) \right]_{\lambda=0}, \quad n \geq 0. \tag{10}$$

From the above considerations, the decomposition method defines the components  $u_n(x, t)$  for  $n \geq 0$ , by the following recursive relationships,

$$u_0(x, t) = f(x) + L^{-1}(g(x, t)) \tag{11}$$

$$u_{n+1}(x, t) = -L_t^{-1}[A_n], \quad n \geq 0. \tag{12}$$

Finally, the approximate solution for  $u(x, t)$  is obtained by truncating the series

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} u_n(x, t). \tag{13}$$

For more details about ADM and its convergence, see [12]-[14] [16]  
Now, we first consider a general form of nonlinear equation

$$P(u, u_t, u_x, u_{xx}, u_{xt}, u_{xxx}, u_{xxt}, \dots) = 0. \quad (14)$$

Second, we introduce the wave variable

$$\zeta = \lambda(x - ct), \quad (15)$$

so that

$$u(x, t) = U(\zeta), \quad (16)$$

the PDF (14) convert to an ODE

$$P(U, c\lambda U', \lambda U', \lambda^2 U'', c\lambda^2 U'', \lambda^3 U''', c\lambda^3 U''', \dots) = 0. \quad (17)$$

### 3. Application of ADM

In this article, we investigate some example of the nonlinear partial differential equations

#### 3.1. Benjamin-Bona-Mahony

$$u_t = u_{xx} - u_x - uu_x, \quad (18)$$

subject to the initial condition

$$u(x, 0) = \operatorname{sech}^2(x/4), \quad (19)$$

with the exact solution is

$$u(x, t) = \operatorname{sech}^2\left(\frac{x}{4} - \frac{t}{3}\right). \quad (20)$$

By using (15), Equations (18) and (19) converted to the ODE

$$(1-c)U + c\lambda^2 U'' + \frac{1}{2}U^2 = 0, \quad (21)$$

subject to the initial conditions

$$U(0) = 1, \quad U'(0) = 0. \quad (22)$$

Applying the ADM to (21)-(22), we obtain

$$U'' = -\frac{1}{2c\lambda^2}U^2 - \frac{(1-c)}{c\lambda^2}U, \quad (23)$$

$$L(U) = -\frac{1}{2c\lambda^2}U^2 - \frac{(1-c)}{c\lambda^2}U, \quad (24)$$

we apply the inverse operator  $L^{-1}$  on both sides (24) we get

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} U_k(\zeta) = U(0) + U'(0)\zeta - \frac{1}{2c\lambda^2}L^{-1}\left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_k(\zeta)\right) + \frac{(1-c)}{c\lambda^2}L^{-1}\left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} U_k(\zeta)\right), \quad (25)$$

where the components of  $A_k$  are the so-called Adomian polynomials, for each  $k$ ,  $A_k$  depends on

$$U_0(\zeta), U_1(\zeta), \dots, U_k(\zeta)$$

$$A_0 = (U_0)^2, A_1 = 2U_0U_1, A_2 = (U_1)^2 + 2U_0U_2, \dots \quad (26)$$

The components  $U_k(\zeta)$  can be computed as

$$\begin{aligned}
 U_0(\zeta) &= 1 \\
 U_1(\zeta) &= \frac{(1-c)}{c\lambda^2} L^{-1}(U_0) - \frac{1}{c\lambda^2} L^{-1}(A_0) \\
 U_2(\zeta) &= \frac{(1-c)}{c\lambda^2} L^{-1}(U_1) - \frac{1}{c\lambda^2} L^{-1}(A_1) \\
 &\dots
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{27}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 U_0(\zeta) &= 1 \\
 U_1(\zeta) &= -\zeta^2 \\
 U_2(\zeta) &= \frac{2}{3}\zeta^4 \\
 U_3(\zeta) &= -\frac{1}{9}\zeta^6 \\
 &\dots \\
 U(\zeta) &= \sum_{k=0}^4 U_k(\zeta) = 1 - \zeta^2 + \frac{2}{3}\zeta^4 - \frac{1}{9}\zeta^6,
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{28}$$

Then,

$$u(x,t) = 1 - (\lambda(x-ct))^2 + \frac{2}{3}(\lambda(x-ct))^4 - \frac{1}{9}(\lambda(x-ct))^6
 \tag{29}$$

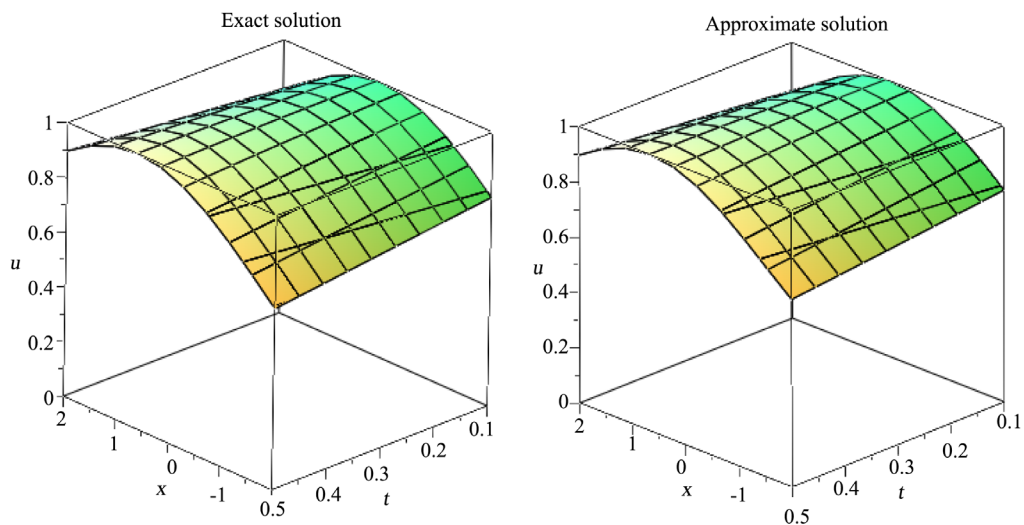
Then approximation solution of Equation (18) is  $u(x,t) = u_0 + u_1 + u_2 + \dots$  with third-order approximation. Now we compare exact solution with Adomian Decomposition Method (ADM) solution in **Figure 1**.

### 3.2. The Cahn-Hilliard Equation

$$u_t = u_{xx} - u^3 + u,
 \tag{30}$$

subject to the initial condition

$$u(x,0) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\frac{x}{\sqrt{2}}}},
 \tag{31}$$



**Figure 1.** Exact and approximate solutions to BBM equation by ADM when  $-2 < x < 2$  and  $t = 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5$ .

where the exact solution is

$$u(x,t) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\frac{x-3t}{\sqrt{2}}}} \tag{32}$$

By using (15), Equations (30) and (31) converted to the ODE

$$-c\lambda U' - \lambda^2 U'' + \frac{1}{2}U^3 - U = 0, \tag{33}$$

subject to the initial conditions

$$U(0) = 1/2, \quad U'(0) = -1/4. \tag{34}$$

Applying the ADM to (33)-(34), we get

$$U'' = -\frac{c}{\lambda}U' + \frac{1}{2\lambda^2}U^3 - \frac{1}{\lambda^2}U, \tag{35}$$

$$L(U) = -\frac{c}{\lambda}U' + \frac{1}{2\lambda^2}U^3 - \frac{1}{\lambda^2}U, \tag{36}$$

we apply the inverse operator  $L^{-1}$  on both sides (36) we have

$$U = U(0) + \zeta U'(0) - L^{-1}\left[\frac{c}{\lambda}U' + \frac{1}{2\lambda^2}U^3 - \frac{1}{\lambda^2}U\right], \tag{37}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} U_k(\zeta) = -\frac{c}{\lambda}L^{-1}\left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (U_k)'\right) + \frac{1}{2\lambda^2}L^{-1}\left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_k\right) - \frac{1}{\lambda^2}L^{-1}\left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} U_k\right). \tag{38}$$

where the components of  $A_k$  are the so-called Adomian polynomials, for each  $k, A_k$  depends on

$$U_0(\zeta), U_1(\zeta), \dots, U_k(\zeta).$$

$$A_0 = (U_0)^3, \quad A_1 = 3(U_0)^2 U_1, \quad A_2 = 3U_0(U_1)^2 + 3(U_0)^2 U_2, \dots \tag{39}$$

The components  $U_k(\zeta)$  can be computed as

$$\begin{aligned} U_0(\zeta) &= \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4}\zeta \\ U_1(\zeta) &= \frac{-c}{\lambda}L^{-1}(U_0)' + \frac{1}{c\lambda^2}L^{-1}(A_0) - \frac{1}{\lambda^2}L^{-1}(U_0) \\ U_2(\zeta) &= \frac{-c}{\lambda}L^{-1}(U_1)' + \frac{1}{c\lambda^2}L^{-1}(A_1) - \frac{1}{\lambda^2}L^{-1}(U_1) \\ &\dots \end{aligned} \tag{40}$$

$$U(\zeta) = \sum_{k=0}^4 U_k(\zeta) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4}\zeta - \frac{1}{16}\zeta^2 + \frac{5}{96}\zeta^3 + \frac{3}{128}\zeta^4 - \frac{1}{1280}\zeta^5 \tag{41}$$

$$u(x,t) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4}(\lambda(x-ct)) - \frac{1}{16}(\lambda(x-ct))^2 + \frac{5}{96}(\lambda(x-ct))^3 + \frac{3}{128}(\lambda(x-ct))^4 - \frac{1}{1280}(\lambda(x-ct))^5 \tag{42}$$

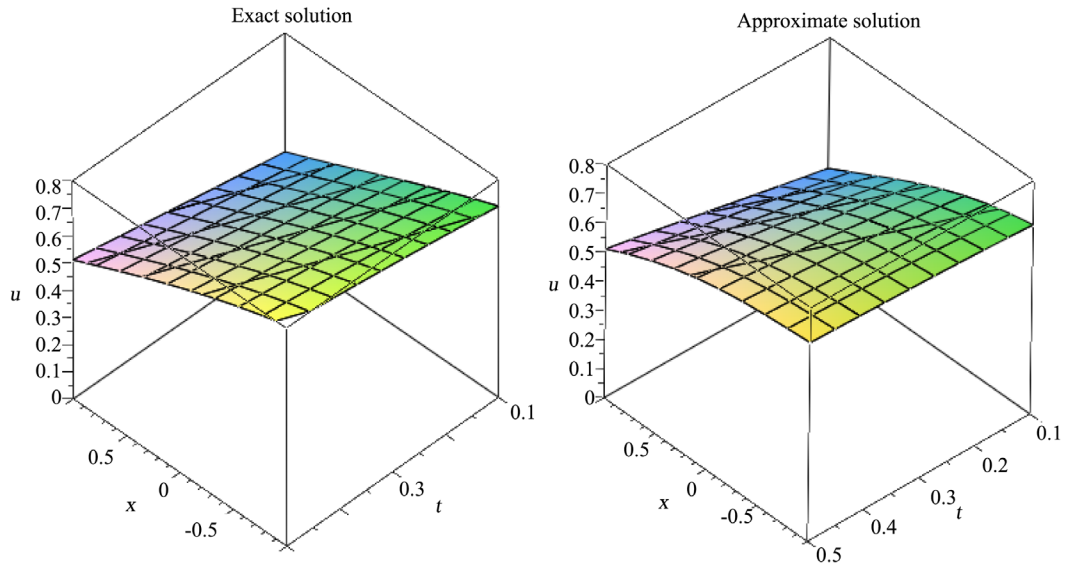
Then approximation solution of Equation (30) is  $u(x,t) = u_0 + u_1 + \dots$ . Now we compare exact solution with Adomian Decomposition Method (ADM) solution in [Figure 2](#).

#### 4. Variational Iteration Method (VIM) [17]

Let consider the differential equation

$$Lu + Nu = f(t) \tag{43}$$

where  $L$  and  $N$  are linear and nonlinear operators, respectively, and  $f(t)$  is the inhomogeneous term. In the



**Figure 2.** Exact and approximate solutions to Cahn-Hilliard equation by ADM when  $-1 < x < 1$  and  $t = 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5$ .

references [18], a correction functional for Equation (43) can be written as

$$Lu + Nu = Nu_{n+1}(t) = u_n(t) + \int_0^t \lambda (Lu_n(s) + Nu_n(s) - f(s)) ds \tag{44}$$

where  $\lambda$  is a general Lagrange’s multiplier [17], which can be identified optimally via the variational theory, and  $\tilde{u}_n$  is a restricted variation which means  $\delta \tilde{u}_n = 0$ . The successive approximations  $u_{n+1}, n > 0$ , of the solution  $u$  will be readily obtained upon using the determined Lagrangian multiplier and any selective function  $u_0$ . Therefore, the solution is given by

$$u = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n$$

### 5. Application of VIM

Considering the BBM Equation (18, 19, 20)

$$u_t = u_{xxt} - u_x - uu_x,$$

The VIM can be applied to Equation (18) in the form

$$u_{n+1}(x, t) = u_n(x, t) + \int_0^t \lambda \left( (u_n)_t(x, s) + (u_n)_x(x, s) + (u_n)(u_n)_x(x, s) - (u_n)_{xxt}(x, s) \right) ds \tag{45}$$

where  $\lambda$  yields to  $-1$ . One can substitute above  $\lambda$  and use the initial approximation as in Equation (45) to get the successive approximation by the following expressions:

$$u_0 = \text{sech}^2(x/4), \tag{46}$$

$$u_1(x, t) = u_0(x, t) + \int_0^t \lambda \left( (u_0)_t + (u_0)_x + (u_0)(u_0)_x - (u_0)_{xxt} \right) ds \tag{47}$$

$$u_1(x, t) = \text{sech}^2\left(\frac{x}{4}\right) + \frac{t}{2} \left\{ \text{sech}^2\left(\frac{x}{4}\right) \cdot \tanh\left(\frac{x}{4}\right) + \text{sech}^4\left(\frac{x}{4}\right) \cdot \tanh\left(\frac{x}{4}\right) \right\} \tag{48}$$

$$u_2(x, t) = u_1(x, t) + \int_0^t \lambda \left( (u_1)_t + (u_1)_x + (u_1)(u_1)_x - (u_1)_{xxt} \right) ds \tag{49}$$

...

The Cahn-Hilliard equation:

$$u_t = u_{xx} - u^3 + u,$$

the VIM can be applied to Equation (30) in the form

$$u_{n+1}(x, t) = u_n(x, t) + \int_0^t \lambda \left( (u_n)_t - (u_n)_{xx} + (u_n)^3 - (u_n) \right) ds \tag{50}$$

where  $\lambda$  yields to  $-1$ . One can substitute above  $\lambda$  and use the initial approximation as in Equation (50) to get the successive approximation by the following expressions:

$$u_0 = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\frac{x}{\sqrt{2}}}}, \tag{51}$$

$$u_1(x, t) = u_0(x, t) + \int_0^t \lambda \left( (u_0)_t - (u_0)_{xx} + (u_0)^3 - (u_0) \right) ds$$

$$u_1(x, t) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{x/\sqrt{2}}} - \int_0^t \left[ \frac{e^{2x/\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{2} e^{x/\sqrt{2}} (1 + e^{x/\sqrt{2}})}{(1 + e^{x/\sqrt{2}})^3} \right] + \left( \frac{1}{1 + e^{x/\sqrt{2}}} \right)^3 - \left( \frac{1}{1 + e^{x/\sqrt{2}}} \right) ds \tag{52}$$

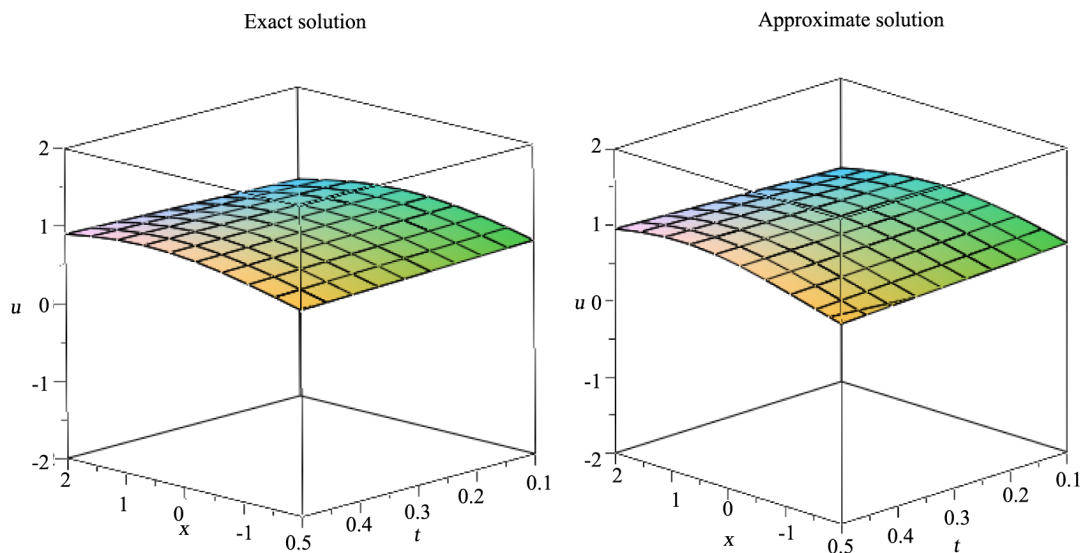
$$u_1(x, t) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{x/\sqrt{2}}} + \frac{3/2}{(1 + e^{x/\sqrt{2}})^2}(t)$$

$$u_2(x, t) = u_1(x, t) + \int_0^t \lambda \left( (u_1)_t - (u_1)_{xx} + (u_1)^3 - (u_1) \right) ds \tag{53}$$

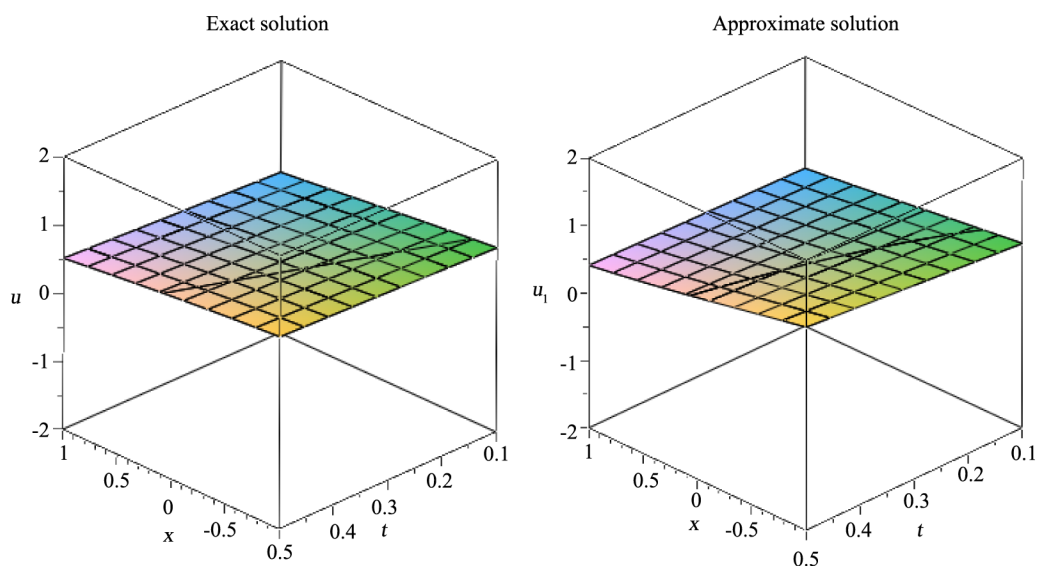
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### 6. Conclusion

In this work, the Adomian Decomposition Method and the Variational Iteration Method have been successfully applied to find the solution of nonlinear Benjamin-Bona-Mahony and Cahn-Hilliard equations are presented in **Figures 1-4**. It was observed that the use of ADM and VIM provides a very good estimation when compared



**Figure 3.** Exact and approximate solutions to BBM equation by VIM when  $-2 < x < 2$  and  $t = 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5$ .



**Figure 4.** Exact and approximate solutions to Cahn-Hilliard equation by VIM when  $-1 < x < 1$  and  $t = 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5$ .

with exact values. These methods convert these equations to recurrences relation whose terms are computed using maple 15. This method is very effective and accelerates the convergent of solution.

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