



Philosophy & mission statements

VRgil Extended



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Why is this project launched / what will it achieve?

This project will serve as the brick and mortar for the efforts of unifying the human race, introducing concepts such as '*transcendent purpose*' back into the public dialogue. We will provide the scaffolding for future generations moral and philosophical discussions, as the silent majority of the population starts to realize that our spiritual and social guiding mechanisms must evolve. To win the war of tomorrow, the past and the present must work in unison. By merging the knowledge of history and the technology of today we can ascend.

Communication:

Our evolutionary magnum opus, one can argue, is the ability to write. Through the preservation of knowledge, we snuck a conceptual toe outside of our temporal cage, forcefully extending our ability to alter this world, even after death. Though the light of our consciousness may drift far away from this reality, our shadows can be cast back in time, providing the living with guidance from beyond the grave.

Since we developed writing, humans have collected data, information and knowledge about this world that we one day woke up on. Our vast archives have given us unprecedented insights, unmatched by any living organism on this earth. Different lines etched into awkward shapes can trigger chemical reactions in your brain, stimulating neurons and thus creating vivid hallucinations inside your mind. We can imagine scenarios, learning of events millennia ago or acquire knowledge of what is beyond the clouds. Marvel at the fact that you can pull your thoughts from the ether and shackle them to this realm, by the use of words.

The written word is an ancient proto-technology and throughout history civilizations riddled with illiteracy recognized its seemingly magical ability. Today, in France, a multi-national project called *ITER* is in full swing and its goal is to create a neutron star and harvest its unimaginable power by fusing atoms together. We are learning how to create virtual-reality, digital worlds created from ones and zeroes. We have sequenced the entire [human genome](#) and designed [protein-based robots](#) to battle diseases. We are extracting data from parallel universes through [quantum computing](#). We have gazed upon infinity, courtesy of the Hubble telescope.

All of these great achievements were made possible by the word and mathematics. Most of our technologies were for the longest time just enhancements to our senses but now we seek to improve other aspects of ourselves, namely the mind and our culture. If the written word gave us the ability to learn from the past, math gave us the ability to predict the future. With these two tools, we can forge something truly transcendent, whose implications reach every aspect of human life and beyond.

Beyond Power

Knowledge is so much more than just power, a claim that will only strengthen itself as we dive deeper into this text. This project aims to celebrate all that mankind is and the beauty of existence itself, but it will not stop there. VRgil aspire to show everything that we have learned about our universe, and it will become quite evident that not all things are a cause for celebration. You must be brave to seek answers, the gentler souls tend to dissolve once faced with the terror of the unknown, and in this era, the questions outnumber the answers. In the maelstrom of reality, even the most steadfast among us can become disoriented and lose their way. This device we are building can both act as a tool of ascension or create a rift in our collective sanity. So why take this obvious risk with our fragile well-being? As fate would have it, we have reached a critical point in our evolution. We are trying to achieve escape-velocity, as we are experiencing Fermis paradox in real-time. Through some bizarre coincidence or a cruel joke, we seem to be born into this mind-numbingly important glimpse of history.

Unlike the Human Genome Project (HGP) that truly did something near impossible possible, we already have the pieces, we have the knowledge and we have the incentives lined up. We are the citizens of an unbelievable fantasyland where we have solved the problem of instant global communication. We have sophisticated virtual reality and recent breakthroughs in big data storage make it possible to preserve truly massive amounts of data. Most importantly, people are clamoring for a reform of the education system, our species is primed for transformation.

A tool that has true transformative power requires a vast number of safeguards and tutorials before usage. Much like learning how to drive the owner of this technology is expected to have certain capabilities before the keys are handed over. Age-restrictions, warning texts, psychological and spiritual recovering zones, supervision of elders and more must be implemented. Some knowledge cannot be unlocked until certain ethics and moral scenarios have been completed, and so forth. All of this and more is required until trained personnel have developed a rudimentary risk-profile for the user.



We bring forth a device that has the ability/aspire to show you any event, any subject or any aspect of human history up until now, and beyond. This is a project on the scope of HGP, with a multitude of nations involved. Our fractured past will pave the roads of tomorrow. The crippling amnesia of man will be cured. Stories will be turned into experiences, deepening our understanding of who we are. We will remember who we are and understand what we must become. Perspective will bring unity.

Unity

The word unity means a lot of things to a lot of people. Therefore it is important to clarify what we mean when we are using this word. We can begin by clarifying what we do not mean. We do not mean the infantile delusion of utopia, even in a world of peace, perhaps especially in a world of peace, there will be suffering. Though it will not be as hellish, eruptive or concentrated as in times of war, it will have to be more evenly distributed throughout time and throughout the population. However, unlike war, it will not end us.

The type of unity that can benefit mankind tremendously is not strict adherence to certain diktats, but a willingness to look for answers, together. A willingness to cooperate at a large scale to enable the steady improvement of the human experience. A willingness to strive for strength undreamt of, allowing us to seal war within ourselves. A willingness to suffer for each other and a future that we will never inhabit. A willingness to enable the pursuit of knowledge in the spirit of altruism. A willingness to explore new ways of organizing ourselves, in an attempt to maximize human potential. This collectivism might seem like a dystopic hive-mind vision of the future, worry not, we recognize that any society worth having utilizes our inherent differences. The role of culture, institutions and society should enable meritocracy while preserving the equal value of all human life.

The aforementioned description of unity might seem esoteric, vacuous and depending on who you ask; utopic/dystopic. Freedom of interpretation or dogma, none of the models safeguards against corruption. Knowledge, information, truth and transparency seems like the only known forces to eradicate corruption. We chose to side with freedom of interpretation since it is less prone to stagnation, we need to be nimble in order to face new problems.

How one should act in the present is reached through a deep understanding of the past and a clearly defined vision of the future. The current way we navigate the present will at some point cause us to miss the entrance to the future and as a direct consequence, erasing our past. If the fire gets snuffed out, we can wait for the sun to rise. If the sun burns out and dies, we can hopefully one day migrate towards another star system. If the light of consciousness flickers and disappears, our [universe](#) may never see again. The willingness to steadily improve upon ourselves while protecting our flame. This is the type of unity that we are talking about.

The push of a button

A heavy and solemn feeling washes over anyone who contemplates human nature for an extended period of time. Given the fact that there are enough resources to go around for everyone if we choose to, a certain cognitive dissonance arises when looking out at the world. Is the task of creating incentives for continued growth too hard to come up with, if we remove dominance as one of the carrots for the hard-working individual? Are we not ingenious enough to come up with a system that fosters competition even though the prize isn't monetary gain? Surely that is not the case, we are the ones that split the atom, mapped out the entire human genome, put people into space, invented fiber optics, wireless communication and invented quantum computers that taps into dimensions beyond our own.

The fact is that the top 100 wealthiest individuals have more monetary power than entire continents. These people have navigated the systems our predecessors created for themselves and this system brought them much of their wealth. If the most powerful people are benefitting from a status quo, then it is in their interest to keep it that way, stagnation is preferred to change.

Why is it necessary to create a new system? Consider this; it would be well within the power of this cabal of Mammonites to improve upon this world dramatically overnight, if they choose to. They could sponsor or develop entire cities dedicated to the betterment of mankind. They could elevate fields like educational theory, where people try to determine how to maximize the human potential for learning. The societal switch to clean energy could have happened hundred years ago. They could redirect their revenue-streams towards solving obvious [problems](#) looming in the distance, in a display of mild concern for the betterment of mankind.



Secrecy surrounding discoveries that benefit man could have been outlawed, instead, they are swallowed by patents, locked away in vaults and monetized. The very fact that we have allowed the industrial-scale slaughter of humans while extracting money from these hellscape is beyond appalling. We are talking about " the war economy ", such a phenomenon has existed for millennia without halting. It would seem like our current system doesn't select for leaders with altruistic leanings, and we are quickly approaching a moment in time where selflessness and altruism must rise to the top of cultural values. If not, we will join the ranks of the forgotten ones that couldn't pass through [the great filter](#). A civilization that relies on a system that has monetary power as one of the measuring sticks of success cannot break into the potential reality where apotheosis takes place.

A king aims to conquer the world under one banner. A prophet aims to gather the world under one belief system. An ideologue tries to unite the world under one idea. All of these people strive for unity, but the unity that these individuals hope to usher in is not the sort that can act as a road to ascension.

The ideologue is the closest one to the type of unity that can be incredibly powerful and beneficial to the human race. However, ideology serves as a sort of secular messiah and thus falls short, what we need is a less stringent quasi-ideology and more importantly: a transcendent purpose, free of dogma. Increasingly, we must let the collective inform the individual, not the other way around. We must expose ourselves to the distilled knowledge our predecessors, snatched from the stoic universe that they were born into. Each generation is gathering new material and passing it on to the next. This culmination of knowledge is our road to ascension.

In this age of information, one of our greatest tasks is how to handle the sheer volume of data heading our way. We must also develop our ability to utilize the knowledge within the data stream itself, flowing out of books and laboratories throughout the world. Education must take center stage if we hope to be the architects of our own salvation. This project will not herald a future filled with intellectual elitism, it heralds days of empathy, altruism, as well as competition. We will seek to shift the current philosophy of what a worthwhile life entails. If we manage to dethrone monetary power as the primary indicator of a successful life and replace it with knowledge acquisition we may yet stave off the nightfall of man.

This project will show just how much sympathy we owe each other just by virtue of sharing the same glimpse of existence. The absurdity and grandiosity of this universe, and life itself, will collapse the guiding mechanism of the past. The experiences will generate perspective and people will reflexively lock hands with each other. Not bothering to turn their heads to see what color, creed or religion the person next to them has. All eyes will be fixed forward as they'll realize that the true prize we seek is control of tomorrow.

"The pursuit of knowledge in the spirit of altruism", once we select for this extraordinary mutagen, these words, this idea will inform a shift in the zeitgeist and our ascension can begin. Our task moving forward must be what type of knowledge we would like to mine for, and to what extent. This might look like a recipe for factionalization, however, the factions that arise will all seek to improve the lives of all, through true unity even our inherent tribalism won't be able to halt civilizational progress.

In these pages, there have been lots of claims and promises, but we are not the gatekeepers that will open the door. At the end of the day, it is the people with current power, social and monetary, that holds the key. They will be the ones that push the button, activating this machine currently locked away in the ether. Many years ago we convinced ourselves that there must be a combination of words that can unlock the timeline where we as humans strive for unity. We do not know if we have found them, but amidst those blurred out words at the very edge of our cognitive periphery, we see a sentence quite clearly:
"The pursuit of knowledge in the spirit of altruism"



Thought experiment: The two-points argument

In this world, a time of transformative decisions is approaching. Two distinct philosophies of life occupy opposite sides of a spectrum. For this experiment, we will call the respective philosophies; Alfa (A) and Zeta (Z). However, the alfa-node is not a normative opposite to the zeta-node, it simply contains a different set of answers to a series of four questions.

Alfa is modeled after a quasi-scientific framework while zeta is an amalgamation of religious philosophies. To be a sympathizer of the alfa viewpoint is not equivalent to supporting the abolishment of religion. At its core lies altruism, which entails the wish of an empathic kindness towards their fellow humans. Likewise, the zeta viewpoint does not discard scientific thought.

They also each support unique statements:

The alfa statement is as follows: "The individual aspires to manifest the greatest attributes of the collective."

The zeta statement is as follows: "The collective aspires to live up to the idea of a perfect individual."

Other than the previously mentioned statements, the following four questions is all that we have to discern what the followers of these two philosophies believe. We will also be operating under the assumption that their answers to these questions will be the only thing that can inform us of how they will act, other than their respective statements.

The questions are as follows:

1. How important are survival and the continuation of the human project?

A: We have a duty to our ancestors as well as our descendants, to life itself. In this vast cold universe, we find ourselves only recently opening our eyes, awestruck at the mysteries woven into the grand design of our reality. We are made from the stuff of dying stars and cosmic debris, our cogs and wires are made from the universe itself. And now we have gained sufficient mental faculties to start exploring the world around us and beyond. In a very real way, we are the universe exploring itself. This grandiose story we are a part of is our legacy and future, and we must make sure that the pen will be handed over to our children, and that they aren't subject to the horrible chapters of this tale. Survival is paramount.

Z: It is one of the most important things in this life, to ensure a future for our children. But this is also only possible through the will of God. We may struggle and fight all we want, but unless it is part of his plan, it won't come to pass. So for survival, we must struggle, but keep hubris at bay and God within our hearts.

2. How much of a tragedy is the loss of all consciousness in the universe?

A: This is true oblivion, a fate that must come to pass, at all cost. There is no guarantee that evolution will produce another organism with the same mental capabilities as the Homo Sapiens. We don't know if we are at the summit of cognition of all carbon-based life forms or indeed, all lifeforms. As we don't know if we are the most cognizant beings in all of creation, as far as we know, we truly are the custodians of knowledge in this universe. If one accepts this view of reality it becomes clear that we have a duty not only to ourselves but to other lifeforms as well, to protect, remember and grow life itself.

Z: We don't know where the consciousness of living beings travels once its mortal host has passed. We can never hope to know what the end truly means, but we trust in the signs given to us through revelation and scripture. If we can never know the answer while alive, isn't it healthier to live within a framework that assumes that this reality has a merciful design? We might very well live in a reality where the end of all things is nothing but a human notion. Fear and dread are useful from an evolutionary perspective. To fear death and value life may be nothing more than an ascendant evolutionary trait while revealing little of the grander reality we find ourselves in. The torment of not knowing can be purged through the act of faith, there is no guarantee that there is wisdom in your obstinate search for answers, nor in the suffering that you impose upon yourself. Since we can never know, we can not be blamed for not searching. We trust that God's love will find its way into your heart and make you realize that you are not to blame, but in truth, you are forgiven.



3. How important is Happiness in the human experience?

A: Happiness and wellbeing can only be the transcendent values in a reality in which we know the answers. If we truly want to know our purpose, we should find out as much as humanly possible about the reality we have forcefully been manifested in. Expand all of our knowledge in every field, until we can go no longer. If we reach the day where it has become obvious that our minds cannot learn anymore, no further progress can be made, no more insight to be had. Then we can look at our reality and our role within it. At that time it may be revealed what is truly meaningful for a human to pursue, the pursuit of happiness might then prove itself to truly be a righteous way to live your life.

Abundant happiness and wellbeing are not meant for us, we do not have the answers. They are fleeting gifts of untold value, but not transcendent values to be pursued. One day perhaps, but that day is for our descendants to face. We can take solace in the fact that we have done our part to ascend life on this planet and beyond, a heroic act of martyrdom that will be denied the ones that find themselves at the zenith of creation.

Z: Happiness means a lot of different things to different people. Without the moral guidance of a religious framework, happiness can be harmful. But once pursued within the context of a religion, it suddenly becomes one of the most cherished aspects of human life. Happiness is the shield and torch that we wield against the more cruel aspects of this world. It gives us strength and energy to push forward, it is one of the few things that humans tend to fight for, and the willingness to fight for it is understandable.

4. How important is the pursuit of Knowledge?

A: We don't know if we are the most cognizant beings in all of creation, as far as we know, we truly are the custodians of knowledge in this universe. The fact that there are things in this reality that we don't know or understand is greater than any treasure and more terrifying than any hellscape. What we call the unknown brings unspoken promises of apotheosis and nihilistic madness.

The pursuit of Knowledge should be the transcendent value, not happiness. If we don't exert ourselves in the uncovering of secrets, we may find our fate to be sealed by our self-imposed ignorance, even though salvation and happiness were floating in the ether, ready for our taking. By not looking and searching we may doom our future generations, even though it was within our power to save them. No shame could be greater. We must prepare the soil for future generations, usher in an era of free-flowing ideas and learn in the spirit of altruism. By introducing perspective our duty will manifest within the zeitgeist and a transcendent purpose will be bestowed upon all born within our culture.

Z: We have little influence as to what will be revealed to us, what brings about an insight? What is the recipe for cracking a code? Knowledge is given to us, trickling down from another plane. Knowledge is to be respected and feared as we move into the future. To know isn't the anathema to faith, but while the other grows the other is bound to shrink since they occupy the same room within man. One must be careful as to which knowledge they pursue as we are the only one to judge whether the answer we uncover is true or false. By making this judgment, even the most rigorous scientists engage in an act of faith.

Consider this [metaphor of lenses](#). A lens is distorted to compensate for the distorted image produced by a damaged eye, yet together they yield a complete picture. This analogy teaches us two things, there is room for religion even within a scientific paradigm and it also makes us ponder epistemology itself. Two lines of thought may be, by themselves, incorrect. But by joining them together they can reveal truth in unexpected ways. Even if there was no god, many scientists have reported being in dialogue or imagining to embody the creative force that seems to design reality itself. This then faulty line of belief, that there is a god, still proved useful when trying to conceptualize the structure of reality.

Maybe the stronger argument for putting the pursuit of knowledge in the backseat comes from the second lesson. What if we are unaware of our damaged eye and unaware of the lens put in front of it? What if the true lesson of the answers we uncover is hidden between those distortions, where the light doesn't reach? We may very well lack the biological capabilities to comprehend the grander designs. We might be incapable to see this reality for what it is due to missing pieces and distortions that cannot be rectified. Within this framework, the acceptance that man can never truly know makes it so that the only logical alternative left would be faith, once confronted by this possibility.



The 200 worlds argument

Knowing the answers of the two philosophies, we will now start the second part of our thought experiment. Imagine the following; we have an exact copy of our current earth with everything in it exactly as it is now at the moment of reading this text. Instantaneously all human beings become adherents to the alfa philosophy. Now imagine the exact same scenario, the only difference being that all people suddenly adhere to the zeta philosophy. Imagine that you had access to a powerful simulation-software that could make a flawless copy of everything within those worlds.

You now decide to make one hundred copies of each world, one hundred worlds adhering to the alfa philosophy and one hundred following the zeta philosophy. You start the simulation and you watch as life continues on all of the worlds. As you watch the events unfolding on these worlds you become curious what these worlds would look like in two thousand years into the future. You insert the desired time into the software.

Moments before you push the button that lets you skip ahead two thousand years into the future, you stop. What do you expect to see? How many of the different worlds have managed to pass through Fermis great filter? How many have failed, devoid of life? Do you think that the worlds belonging to the alfa philosophy have more surviving worlds or the worlds adhering to the zeta philosophy?

The Ethical turn

As it turns out, we don't have the luxury of running these simulations. We only have one planet, we only have one chance. Now imagine this: every person on this planet has been given the opportunity to read the alfa/zeta philosophies. Everyone is also given a small panel with a sliding button, at one end of the panel is the letter A, representing the alfa philosophy. On the other side of the panel is the letter Z, representing the zeta philosophy.

They are now asked to slide the button somewhere on the panel that closest represents their views. This data will then be collected in real-time and instantly affect policies regarding education, economics, military, research and cultural institutions, in effect altering the course that this planet is taking as we head into the future. This brings us to the crescendo of this thought experiment; What is the ethical direction to push the sliding button?

We argue that, despite the wisdom of the zeta-mindset, we should slide the button all the way towards the alfa-node. Religion the world over has a red thread running throughout them. To adhere to the teachings of any of the four major religions is to have, in a very tangible way, given up on this reality. The believers do not see it as an unspeakable tragedy if the human race were eradicated. Death and extinction is only an all-consuming problem for those who do not believe. All of the knowledge we have amassed, all of the mysteries conquered, all of the answers we pried from the cold hands of the universe are of little importance to the devotee.

It is also fair to assume that being exposed to religious doctrine does affect even those whom reject the faith, in terms of thinking and acting within the world. The inherent exclusivity of religious communities causes a sense of hostility and contempt. For a young individual born into a religious society, it is often more important to be accepted into the community rather than upholding an honest [intellectual expression](#) of one's true beliefs. Religion the world over are in essence robbing us of potential intellectuals, that in theory have the ability to create a better world for all of us.

To indulge in religious beliefs is to have given up in a very important sense. To believe is to alleviate oneself from the responsibilities that we can choose to shoulder, especially when it comes to questions such as the future. To believe is to turn your back to knowledge and the progress of the human race. To believe is to self-indulge in the desire of chasing the approval and love of the unseen eternal parent. These realities of religion can be explained away by the practitioners in a manner of ways: They are humble towards their role in the universe. They have faith that something as complex as the reality we inhabit cannot truly be understood, and even if we find what we perceive to be answers, who is to tell us if we are right? Though many religious communities around the world cherish science and education, the discussion will eventually boil down to the question of primary concerns. Those who do not belong to a religious community have the stronger claim, they do not outsource concepts such as fate, future or destiny to any other being but themselves.



The critiques levied upon religion and its practitioners in the previous section are knowingly too harsh and hyperbolic. However, they might serve as a catalyst for some introspection and help some to put things into perspective. We cannot afford to instill a sense of powerlessness or defeatist attitude in our young, as we need confidence and hope to see us through the coming trials.

For those who truly do not believe, when contemplating reality, they find themselves in a far grimmer place than those who chosen to join hands in faith. At the moment, they are experiencing as if they're being dragged in chains behind the jubilant horde as they march towards the abyss. For those of us whom can't see themselves frolic in dark halls of oblivion, this is a real problem. One can be forgiven for having trouble sleeping at night.

To those whom identify as religious and thinks that it would be a horrible fate if humanity went extinct and all of our knowledge consequently evaporated, consider this: For the followers of Islam, Paradise awaits. For the devout Christian, the pearly gates swing open. The enlightened Buddhist finds solace in Nirvana and the Hindu is returned to the One. If you truly believe, death and lost knowledge are minor in the grand scale of things. That is not the reality of the unbeliever. For us, the stakes could not be higher. Our progress, creations, and knowledge is our only way to leave a mark in what may be called the eternal. Our sense of the divine is fused to the shard of existence granted to us by the toil of our ancestors and the unknown forces of this reality.

We remain fixated on an approaching event, equivalent to the death of God, our unspeakable tragedy is looming. Survival while flourishing is paramount. And if that isn't possible, we will bide our time, being content with survival until the day where we can resume our pursuit of knowledge. The light of consciousness cannot be allowed to be extinguished by a mere gamble on the prospect of an afterlife. A devotee might argue that their way of viewing the world holds higher stakes, since they subscribe, in some cases, to the belief of eternity. Eternal punishment or eternal bliss. If a human decides to bow their head to a being that created such a reality, surely they reveal their own corruption. In a world where the alfa philosophy gets credence, religion will remain, but in a more personal, non-invasive form. Any doctrine promoting holy war, expansionism and acquisition of monetary power must be reformed.

Is it ethical to let those who do not care for the future be at the helm of the ship that is supposed to be taking us there? Even if they claim to care, they must realize their concern doesn't run as deep. For them, the past, present, and future are merely parts of a story, written by a hand that is beyond our control. They have given up on concepts such as destiny and future, claiming it is beyond the reach of mankind. Finally, we can not put the believers in a position where we threaten to exterminate their God and their beliefs, even by pushing the button all the way to the north. Abolishment of religion isn't possible if altruism is to remain the master value. However, the believers are able to force the equivalent of erasing our sense of the divine, by pushing the button towards the zeta-node, thus increasing the risk of planetary destruction.

Happiness: purpose and adulthood.

Emotions are ancestral gifts, biological compasses handed down to us through our DNA.

This compass is designed to navigate this reality, with the needle always pointing towards survival and proliferation. What we call emotions can be likened to a more evolved form of instinct, a phenomenon shared by most lifeforms on this planet. Instinct seems to be phenotypic of a deep genomic desire to push life forward through proliferation, survival, and evolution. Life itself seems to have a will, a monolithic, one-track-minded desire to continue, in whatever form. We are but a form of life, a lifeform, mere children of causality. We have been given life, but life itself will move on, with no nostalgia for our particular form.

It is up to us to prove that we can thrive in this universe.

We are not equipped with the biological hardware to muster appropriate emotional-responses for events that extend into the far future. This is the prime malignancy, the fatal flaw, that reveals itself once society starts navigating this reality through emotions. If we let emotions guide our actions we will not be able to organize ourselves in ways that ensure the survival of our species. Our ability to make abstractions about the far future is disconnected from our ancient biological architecture, our reward-systems, that historically acted as the primary motivator for action.

In modern times, this disconnect reveals itself as a lived lie. Our words do not match our actions, we make claims of concern while partaking in nihilistic negligence. We theorize that the cure for such cognitive dissonance is the open dialogue about where certain aspects of happiness should fall on our hierarchy of values, and to which extent we should allow it to inform our actions.



Suffering, discomfort, and effort have always been essential for us to develop, evolve and progress as a species. It would be most unwise to label these modes of being as strictly "bad" or undesirable. To have people actively trying to minimize such hardships and have it seen as understandable, or even enforcing it as a societal norm is utterly corrosive to human flourishing. It only paves the way for stagnation, meanwhile, we are approaching an all-important crossroads where huge civilizational changes are required, if we wish to survive.

In the coming years, we seek to build a global family where codependence, altruism, and unity are master-values as well as the pursuit of knowledge. The individual's misguided search for happiness must be put in the backseat as we approach societal adulthood. Now is not the time to indulge ourselves. Neurochemicals are the veiled monarchs of the 21st century and this fact should imbue us with a sense of urgency. We need to pursue unity and knowledge if we seek to survive, not Happiness.

However, both hope and optimism are aspects of happiness that can be preserved in the coming years and will, in fact, be crucial to the success of our project of creating a unified human race. Happiness will be an integral part of our discussion moving forward. We must seek to attain a sustainable relationship to it or risk getting our collective priorities wrong, there is no telling what cosmic tragedy might ensue if we fail to take this inconspicuous question seriously.

Questions & Answers

The product

Due to the nature of this enterprise we deemed it necessary to focus on the philosophy and ideas surrounding the product rather than the product itself. Below you will find a straight-to-the-point description of what the prototype would look like plus a link to a separate document which details an introductory experience.

VRgil is an educational virtual reality software designed to showcase significant historical events, important knowledge and philosophical scenarios intended to inspire veneration for knowledge and to cultivate a sense of unity. Though the bulk of experiences will be historical; it will strive towards encompassing all knowledge we wish to preserve throughout the ages.

We are still far from a 1:1 match with reality in terms of graphical fidelity, this means the early versions have to put emphasis on immersion. This means that we need both hardware and general design that tricks the mind that the events taking place are real. This can be achieved with haptic feedback, smells and temperature. By clicking the following link; [Link](#), you will be taken to a document which details the esthetics, hardware and setting. This document also serves as a manuscript for a future video showcasing a fully realised VRgil-experience. All technologies envisioned in this document already exist or have direct analogues available on the market.

Why should one provide financial backing?

This project has every intention of becoming one of the most significant cultural events in our own history. We offer you a chance to secure the future of our species and in doing so making you the most magnificent flower on your family tree, forever. It is a small but venerable number of humans that attained the title of visionary. This project offers an opportunity to join their ranks. If you have paid your due diligence and familiarized yourself with the philosophy behind this endeavor, you will know its significance for the human race. We claim unironically that this project has the potential to grant absolution to all of our predecessors and bestow us powers equal to that of a classical God, through the mechanisms of unity. It would not be a hyperbolic statement to say that we are building a digital gateway that bridges the reality where humans master fate itself, unbound by the whims of chaos. Unity is the key to all of it, and this project will enable such a cultural phenomenon.

I care not for altruism and notions of legacy, what other incentives can you offer?

Why are we here? What are our duties? What do we owe ourselves and the future of our children? Though you may not care about your personal legacy or extend your generosity beyond your own bloodline, this project will bring about such boons that it would be absurd to rob your family of that future. If the only being you are willing to invest in is yourself, then please feel free to remove yourself from the equation.

To embrace individualism to the extent that you only care for yourself is to prostitute oneself before fate, surrendering to the unknown. You become a de facto slave of circumstance and cosmic randomness. A lone individual is truly powerless at the cosmic scale unless they intertwine their existence with others in the form of values and self-imposed rules of conduct. These cultural artifacts serve as information-banks that store generational wisdom which inform the individual how to act in the universe. We bestow upon ourselves an attribute that cannot be affected by the natural forces, "the spirit" of our civilization.



This allows us to break free from the randomness, and grants us a measure of control. If the individual taps into this "spirit", consisting of values and rules, he or she will become a true force in the universe. It is this spirit that our project aims to alter, imbuing it with altruism and a veneration for knowledge. We seek to bring the fertile soil required for true unity which in turn allows for ascension. The individual confined to their singular experience isn't worthy of entering the cosmic stage. If we organize ourselves properly and construct rules based on our current insights, each of us can stride forth into the universe, with the wisdom of a billion lifetimes at our backs. But if these realities are useless to you, monetary gain can be assured, it is all a matter of marketing. This can be a device that you can't afford not to have, on a psychosocial level. But we must warn you, monetary power won't be a measuring stick for success in the world we are building. Other values must reign supreme if we hope to survive.

All of us are individuals, isn't that the reason why we have struggled with collective values in the past?

It's true that the collective is made up of individuals, so how could it be anything other but the sum of the individuals?

Here we must acknowledge the mysteries of [emergence](#). These complex questions require complex answers, and we have given it some thought. This might be a little long winded but a satisfactory answer is out there, here is the proposal: Religion was our first flawed attempt at creating the sort of collective we are referring to. Ironically, or perhaps by design, we might have killed off the one truly divine aspect of reality; the unknown, by creating our Gods.

We think the creation of Gods was a way to fight chaos, the never-ending wheel of life and death. The longing for purpose made manifest. The true individual was a mere slave to impulses and desires, chemical releases and the electrical twitch of neurons. Random events decided our every move, to kill and proliferate without aim, to live was the sole objective of the biological machines we called our ancestors. Survival of the fittest, to live better than those around you, increasing your own chance of dominating the gene pool. A fine acolyte, truly submitted to the true God.

Chaos is God, the unknown is God. It dwells in the things beyond our control. The infinite random collisions between subatomic particles blinking in and out of existence, the firing of electrical impulses in our neurons and the consequent release of chemicals in our body. The churning of a gargantuan black hole, swallowing stars and planets alike, altering time and space with its infinite appetite. This formless glutton in the center of our galaxy is truly divine, for now at least.

As soon as we invented the concept of a soul or spirit, we started to hack away at God. We gave ourselves an attribute which couldn't be affected by the natural forces, and with that came the illusion of control. All of a sudden life wasn't all about living, It was also a proving ground for the afterlife. We started to aspire to greater heights, putting our individual needs in the backseat in order to live in a way that appeased our manufactured Gods. These beings were often a reflection of ourselves and resonated with our collective values and dreams. This behavior naturally bred collectives, and civilization could take root.

A collective aspiring to be like an individual brought about the unity we needed to progress into what we call the middle ages. Now when the collective has morphed into different aspects of the individual, our current religions and beliefs, we need to aspire to be a new form of a collective, true globalization. Unified through empathy, through understanding, through experience. The "spirit" we once granted ourselves must now be transferred to civilization itself. The singular, in this case the civilization, must aspire to become the greatest attributes of the collective. Our environment must reflect selflessness, bravery, curiosity, understanding and our desire to improve upon ourselves.

A new paradigm will be built, crafted through VRgil, forged by the collective. We seek to control our fate.

Unlike Holy texts such as the Bible, where the collective is told by an individual what we should and should not do based on the knowledge he and he alone holds, VRgil should help the collective to tell future individuals what they should do based on the knowledge we amassed. We have struggled with collective values since we had no civilizational blueprint that integrated the greatest attributes of its collective in combination with altruistic meritocracy. People will recognize a true attempt of building a just system and will struggle to manifest it, sadly this has historically ended in bloodshed since the interpretation of words such as *just* and *good* means different things for different people. VRgil seeks to tune people's understanding of the aforementioned concepts, for example:

When two people are looking at an object both may agree upon the colour, but we have no way of discerning the individual interpretation of, for example, "the colour red". These slight variations of nuance can result in a potentially catastrophic loss of information when it comes to inter-human communication. These undocumented gaps in experience grow larger when we consider abstract thinking or the imagination. Some concepts deserve our undivided attention; the future, purpose, duty and truth comes to mind. We need to move these ideas towards the visual, where the loss of information is comparatively mild. VRgil aims to enable this conversion.



Why invoke religious imagery in this discussion?

The reason for using religious rhetoric is to convey the power of VRgil. As previously stated, we truly believe it to be a tool of ascension. A tool able to save us, the planet and its animals from the horrors of tomorrow. We are not saying that people's intelligence or creativity will be a measuring stick for divinity. It may very well become a measuring stick for success, but unlike our current one, monetary power, it will benefit everyone. We may seem far too eager to use words such as God and fate and you may wonder what reaction we are hoping to spur on by using such dubious descriptives. Once again, it is merely a method of conveying the power of the technology.

Personal attributes such as intelligence are merely gifts to the populace, it's a joyous phenomenon that we all can reap the benefits of. What brings about an idea? The tireless pursuit of an answer in the related field? No, there is more to it than dedication, more factors at play. The answer might brew in your subconsciousness, but a certain combination of human interaction, music, food, drugs, and smells might later accumulate in a dream one night. And by dawn, an answer has manifested itself. We all are in this together.

You are not my adversary, you're my teammate. And we are both forced to play. By sharing our skills and attributes we might beat this thing. Or at least increase our knowledge of the rules involved, and one day, when we have collected all the pieces of the rulebook, who is to say that we are any different from its creator?

The concept of Apotheosis, man becoming God. Please elaborate on such a statement.

The philosophy behind this goes deep and is pretty long winded. These lines of thought are weaved together with the previous text: *"We think the creation of Gods was, amongst other things, a way to fight chaos and the never-ending wheel of life and death. Our longing for purpose made manifest. The individual was a mere slave to impulses and desires, chemical releases and the electrical twitch of neurons. Random events decided our every move, to kill and proliferate without aim, to live was the sole objective of the biological machines we called our ancestors. Survival of the fittest, to live better than those around you, increasing your own chance of dominating the gene pool, a fine acolyte, truly submitted to the true God.*

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If we can make the major religions of this world to agree with the statement: "The unknown is God", then we will have planted a seed of salvation. It is possible to see the pursuit of knowledge through a religious lens. This might ease the necessary transition in the coming years. Few people would claim to know God, the supreme being is interlinked with the unknown. That which lies hidden, concealed by Chaos, guarded by time, that too is God. The project of putting education and reverence for knowledge into the public can be rightly painted as a quest for spiritual fulfillment. To acknowledge that we live in a universe where the unknown is a part of the divine has powerful implications.

In that framework, amassing knowledge would be equivalent to getting to know God. Seeking answers and educating oneself would bring you closer to God. *What we understand ceases to be divine, or is the divinity simply transferred to us? To understand ourselves and each other we might lessen the weight of human life, detaching the perceived divinity in a classical sense from ourselves. But in doing so, one can argue, we will receive true divinity, by decreasing the amount of unknown in this reality.* "All will be revealed" in this context, is a promise of apotheosis.

To establish a reverence for knowledge is possible within all major religions using this argument. More monetary means could be siphoned from religion into science and education as the lines begin to blur. Enabling pursuit of knowledge as a part of each practitioner's spiritual journey would change the zeitgeist of the religious world. With all of this in mind, we approach the core of our claim; that this project can trigger apotheosis.

The combined efforts of a mankind united have the potential to bring salvation upon itself. To avert extinction events, to gain mastery of the climate, the terraforming of worlds, grand inventors of biology, beneficiaries of clean energy and the conquerors of disease. If one views all of the human race as a superorganism, that organism will seem to possess the powers of a classical God. True unity taps into the potential reality where we all are the architects of fates, author of destinies, the engineers of worlds.



Therefore, we reject Nietzsche; God isn't dead. *God is yet to be born.*

This is a worthy goal to strive for, an idea that has stalked the dreamscapes of man since time immemorial.

To enable such a transformation; Apotheosis, we must transcend ancient bias towards tribalism and imbue ourselves with the desire to struggle towards unity. Even though each individual can be nothing more than an inconspicuous cell in the divine morphology, we may organize in ways that will give rise to something extraordinary.

What does the cell of a God look like? We argue that it might look like a *Homo Sapiens Sapiens*. At the moment of writing, the unconscious fetus of a true creator may have a little over fourteen billion eyes, yet it will remain blind until the day we give birth to it.

Let the elusive concept of a *transcendent purpose* be anchored to the previous line of text, view it as the ground zero of its conceptualization. There is little doubt that this notion will be expanded upon as time progresses, but it will serve us well as a philosophical baseline. We wager that the proverbial software that a unity-centric civilization runs on will most likely have to reflect ideas such as these. Unsurprisingly, we are laughably far away from that reality. The Darwinian slaughterfest known as capitalism is our current economic model, monetary power is the measuring stick of success. Tribalism, You against me, the crest, slogan, and banner seems to be the eldest heritage of man. The very notion of forgiveness seems naive to the war orphan, the open mind heresy to the fanatic. But this is to be expected. The journey we will embark on is unlike any before it.

The path to unity is riddled with hardship and suffering. Considering the prize, anything else would be counter to the very laws of this universe. Unity is a worthy purpose and a fitting gift to our children. Also, by the courtesy of the VRgil project, they will know the path their ancestors had to walk to grant them apotheosis. As a final promise, attached to the prize itself, we can expect all previous generations to be granted absolution. Since who can determine what lived experiences helped mankind to reach this stage of maturation? If the Gods themselves shed tears of gratitude at our graves, we might even face the reality of death peacefully.

This sounds like an ideology

What is an ideology? A story reduced to post-thinking slogans that promises the answers we seek, the lessons from said story, considered and galvanized, to the ideologue; a truth revealed. However, humanity has been stationary in certain aspects, in particular how we view life and our role within it. We cannot afford to set up camp here, call it home. As our presence seems, at the moment, to be corrosive to the very ground we are standing on. We need momentum, yet we seem to linger. Ideology is great for this purpose, it lights the fires of change within man, making us primed for action.

This world has been built by men and women that are ideologues at heart, believers that cherish action over thought. It has been 70 years since the last world war came to a close. In a mere 3 generations, we have created for the first time a relatively safe environment for people around the world. Our 5000-12,000-year old ideology fostering, war-breeding rampage came to a halt, not entirely of course, but it slowed down to a degree where we could afford to look around for the first time en masse.

And here we are, with the sober realization that we've been running on flat land, heads down, for millennia and now we finally came to a stop. Only, we've stopped three inches from the edge of a cliff. We are a fortunate group of people, we must gather our senses lest the prideful ghosts of the past push us over the edge. We need to forge a set of ideas that can be plugged into the behavioral mechanisms of the human mind, which allow us to act as one. This ideology of altruism and knowledge will draw from the story of all of mankind. We are using the mechanisms of ideology as a delivery system for change while updating the ideas themselves in real-time as new information presents itself.

Isn't this Manipulation?

There is a branch of philosophy that claims that mankind has no free will. This trespasses on a deeply rooted belief that freedom has an unparalleled importance to man. Watching from the outside, proponents of this philosophy have been resisted with baffling amounts of energized vitriol. Their opponents, as the inquisition before them, seems to have a maddening certainty behind their step, once in the pursuit of perceived heretics.

This philosophical sacrilege is closely linked as to why the word manipulation has a sickly aura surrounding it. To manipulate someone is to violate their sovereignty as free acting agents within the world. It is essentially the same as writing a chapter in someone else's book of life. Even if the manipulator creates an objectively net-positive scenario for everyone involved, it is still hard to shake the feeling that something isn't right. To find out that you have been shepherded also implies that you were viewed as a sheep.



It implies that the only useful aspect that you could provide in solving the problem was the metaphorical direction you were headed. They didn't consider your input valuable, neither your emotions. To find out that you have been left to live in a false world only to serve a purpose not your own is horrifying. It also implies a lot about the architect of said world. Someone had tried to usurp the role of God in your life, the audacity, the hubris, the sociopathy exhibited is truly revolting. These are just a few reasons why manipulation has a certain stigma attached to it.

Luckily for us, this project will not need to resort to manipulation, and here is why:

The word itself is the offspring of the Latin word; Manipulus which can be translated into: a handful. A handful, a measure or to select, to pick out. This beautifully describes a subset of manipulation techniques. A selected truth, picked out by hand. We will not provide a handful of truths, in fact, we aspire to share all of the truths uncovered throughout the ages. This is one of the stated goals of this project. We will not take away freedom, we will provide it.

The truth will indeed set you free, however, by doing this we will also invite dangerous elements into everyday life. To truly harness the power of truth we must first equip ourselves with certain tools and systems before diving into the sea of information. Knowledge isn't without weight, it is very much possible to be crushed by thought. Updated and refined ethics, well formulated moral arguments and a pseudo-ideology must serve as the shield, sword, and torch once embarking on the journey of ascension. If you think that these three requirements have the stink of manipulation, consider the alternative:

Standing in the streets of Hiroshima as the nuclear fires melt the flesh from confused citizens. Having to cover your ears as a murderous roar greets Hitler at the plaza. Walking through the streets as a Mongol horde rape and pillage all in sight. Being shoved through the gates of Auschwitz. Being burned at the stake. Sacrificed at the blood-altars of the Aztecs. Floating around in the vacuum of space, looking down on earth. Shrink down to the level of an ant. Watch the pyramids being built. See the burning of Alexandria. Ducking your head as a pack of dinosaurs shambles through the plain before you. Travel inside the human body. Listen to a lecture given by Einstein. Watch the desecration of Jerusalem. Stand in the room as an exorcist proceeds to lobotomize a mentally-ill child with a rusted chisel.

Behold the disbelief in the villager's eyes as soldiers rip metal crosses from churches, only to transform them into projectiles in the very first world war. Stand atop a muddy hill and listen to the cacophony of hell itself as the German artillery-core plows the fields of Verdun with 2 million shells in a mere 24 hours. The groan of the slave, the lamentations of the vanquished, the sobbing of the violated.

It is easy to see that someone can get lost if exposed to everything at once. A truth can seem overwhelming without context or worse, mutate into a lie within the mind of the beholder. We need tools to handle the grandiosity of reality and the truths within it. Remember, knowledge is so much more than just power, and we intend to give it all to you. But make no mistake, we need to be prepared.

How do you expect consensus on these vast numbers of events, with a multitude of angles, that this project will cover?

We do not expect that there will be absolute agreement. Especially when showing parts regarding warfare and more sensitive matters. A vast majority of the experiences will be narrated so at the very end they will inform on who produced it. Links to source material will be obligatory and must be easily accessible after an experience.

If there is an opposing view there must also be an easy step to launch into that experience as well. Since certain courses or trials must be passed before using this device the user will realize that certain aspects of reality will remain clouded in uncertainty. There will also be several control-organs that review each experience prior to activation or uploading. If there is obvious propaganda and blatant falsehoods they will be asked to course correct or be removed from the platform.

Let's say this device is put in the majority of homes, schools or libraries, what will change?

A bit cliché but quite frankly everything. The ordinary human will get a taste of powers only spoken of in legend. They will, in essence, gain the powers of an oracle, traveling through time and space with their mind and examine glimpses of recorded history for themselves. It will be an empowering and overwhelming experience that forces the average human to think in a larger perspective.



Once a certain amount of experiences has been completed changes will manifest in the user. VRgil will provide a reference point in the user's mind when contemplating life, death, right, and wrong. It will also grant them the equivalent of superhuman imagination, being able to conjure up worlds in their minds to visit and ponder. The swelling of our collective referenceframe will eventually harden into what we may call increased perspective. This new asset will enable cooperation on a never before seen scale and so the march towards unity can begin. The realization of the grand story they are apart of will slowly mute the more trivial aspects of everyday life. It will be clear at some point that we have come this far through slogging through suffering and hardship hardly remembered in modern times. They will see peoples struggles with morality, ethics and spirituality and our valiant efforts to find our way in this world.

The difference between reading a text and actually being able to visit the location of said text cannot be overstated. For example; taking to heart what is being written puts a huge emphasis on the reader's imagination to truly consider all of the angles and undertones hidden in the letters. Our brain is designed to remember details about destinations, locations and physical places in a way more vivid way than text. " You weren't there! " has been a retort made by people who feel that what they experienced cannot be put into words. Now comes the time where that argument will lose quite a bit of punching power. The number of people whom will be historically learned and open-minded will be paradigm shifting. A 16-year old that dedicates a lot of time with VRgil can essentially turn into the wisest, most experienced person in his or her entire bloodline before turning twentythree. Since whom among his predecessors stood at the base of the pyramids as they were being constructed, watched earth from space, listened to debates at forum Romanum or shrunk down to marvel at the microcosmos?

Whom among them stood on the walls of ancient Chinese cities as the warcy of the Mongols thundered across the land and in the same day sat down in a lecture hall to listen to a lecture by John von Neumann? Who among his or hers predecessors stood at the center of a star being born? When one's perspective is such that it envelops events from before the stone age until modern times it will be hard to justify our current morals, values, and ethics.

We have engaged in titanic battles with our own biology, suppressing urges and primal tendencies as we desperately try to ascend to what can only be described as godhood. We are worthy of empathy and pity, scorn and praise, cheers of jubilation and cries of despair. Our story is the very definition of grandiose and our action within said story has true, and perhaps, everlasting meaning. VRgil will bring introspection and prepare the soil for altruism and unity. Everything will therefore change, as many things about our current world run anathema towards the insights this device will bring the population of planet earth. It will become unbearably apparent that indifference isn't an option.

This type of perspective demands change, but there will always be those who resist change. Hopefully, we will have established the goals and purpose of this project eloquent enough that those who rise against it defaults into showing their hand on morality and ethics. Only stagnated or nihilistic men and women could muster the energy to resist the coming change. To stand against this project must be equivalent to utterly embarrass oneself, to be seen as an ethical and moral deviant. History has taught us to be sceptical towards naysayers, we must guard against the common agendas that fuel the resistance towards change.

How will this project be funded and how will it generate profit?

The ultimate funding mechanism has to be through government or more precisely, taxpayers.

Since this project is so massively multifaceted it can justifiably tap into current revenue streams from other sectors already supported by taxes. Hopefully, political candidates will bring forth this project as a necessary invention that will change education, mental health and foreign relations among other things. This device may provide a major running point and act as an exciting force of change that politicians can offer the electorate.

Private investors may also gain the possibility to support this project. One can imagine a time when experiences within VRgil will be a showcase for the development teams across the world. Directors, historians, programmers, musicians and many much more will come together to capture the fantastical events of human history. To have your name associated with certain experiences may very well become the equivalent of having a Nobel prize or an Oscar under your belt. This project is destined to be a paradigm-shifting, cultural juggernaut that will directly or indirectly upset the macro-economical order.

We can only hope that we are not too late.



No matter where the revenue stream comes from, it must be made clear to all that put their money behind this project: There will be no price-tag that can alter the spirit of authenticity. Everything will be heavily researched and cross-checked. Evidence and references to sources must be abundant. Counter experiences that show the opposing sides view and so forth. The victorious may have written or history, but it will be the honest amongst us that immortalizes it. We have no choice but to craft these worlds out of dead men's ink, but we will see it for what it is and do our utmost to capture the reality of these moments lost to time. The most likely model for "profit" that makes any sense is a subscription-based "payment".

If this project is funded by taxpayers they will already be paying for it. This whole project is essentially a Promethean effort to forge our own tool of ascension, or more casually put: a gift to ourselves. There will be a continuous revenue stream from taxpayers which one could argue to be the equivalent of subscription-based payment. This project will be a worldwide phenomenon and to be able to work on this project will provide the worker with unprecedented sense of purpose and reason to perform to their utmost. Salaries will be made public and justification for said salary must be specified for all to see.

It is important to clarify: monetary gain is not on the agenda. We see the implementation of this project as a civilizational organ-transplant. Our school-systems needs to be replaced with something far more advanced and adaptive, if we want to face the challenges of tomorrow.

Immortalizing horrible events, the reopening of wounds. It seems just as likely to create further chasms between people.

Yes, the trauma of our predecessors actions might be hard to grapple with. But especially hard facts about our history will be supported by other, easily accessible experiences designed to sooth or explain how such a thing could occur. We will have mechanisms in place to help people cope with the realities of our past. We must not forget lest we risk to lose our way. History is our only reference point when it comes to seeing who we once were, it also helps us conceptualize where we would like to be heading. Before using the VRgil, the user will undergo certain experiences designed to refine their morals and ethics. Age restrictions will also be put on experiences that show the vilest parts of our shared heritage.

How can we assure that corruption and sequencing of facts are kept at bay?

This question is paramount. A transparent, rigorous series of tests and interviews will attempt to distill only the most competent and honest amongst us. We will leave judicial punishment out of the picture, since what punishment can ease the catastrophe of altering history or attempting to shade it forever? This is something we as a society must reach a conclusion about, through the democratic process. Power corrupts, but the corrupt also seek power. There will be a conscious effort to force transparency upon people who end up with nominal positions of power within the organization. All salaries will be publicly shown together with justifications. A complete overview of how VRgil intends to stave off corruption will be published and later opened for modification through democratic voting worldwide.

The beginning at the end

Though we may not believe, we do take comfort in the unknown.

What will the initial phases look like? How does a project of this scale take a single step forward without crumbling beneath its own weight? Ask yourself this; What does the zenith of human culture look like, and how do we get there? We argue that we first need to learn how to organize ourselves at an individual level, while aiming to replicate our progress at increasingly higher social strata. Namely the group, the collective, the society, the civilization and lastly the world itself. VRgil will aim to organize the individual by unprecedented attention to this reality and our experiences within it. And as for the closing words; If you are reading this, know that the journey has already begun.

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