



Presentation of the IT tool of STARTEC project

Taran Skjerdal
on behalf of the STARTEC team



The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under **grant agreement n°289262**. Coordinator: Norwegian Veterinary Institute, Oslo, Norway.



Decision support tools for food producers to ensure safe, tasty and nutritious ready-to-eat products for healthy and vulnerable consumers

KBBE.2011.2.4-01: Safety and quality of ready-to-eat foods



MatBørsen



Advisory board: Dr Annie Beaufort, ANSES, Dr Knut Framstad, Nortura, Dr Petra Luber, BfR,
External expert: Dr Matthias Filter, BfR



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Project background and idea

- **Ready-to-eat and convenient products are very common.**
- **Some consumers have no other choice**, even though some of them like to cook.
- **Food producing industry must make a lot of choices**, including trade-offs between quality, safety and costs.
 - Difficult and complicated decisions, particularly for combined RTE and convenient products
 - Decisions have to be done quickly
 - Large consequences of wrong decisions, both for company and consumers





Objectives of STARTEC (summary)

- Develop decision support tools to make relevant trade-offs between food safety, food quality and costs without compromising consumer health.
- Develop processes and strategies for «extra safety level», «extra quality level» and «extra nutrition level» situations

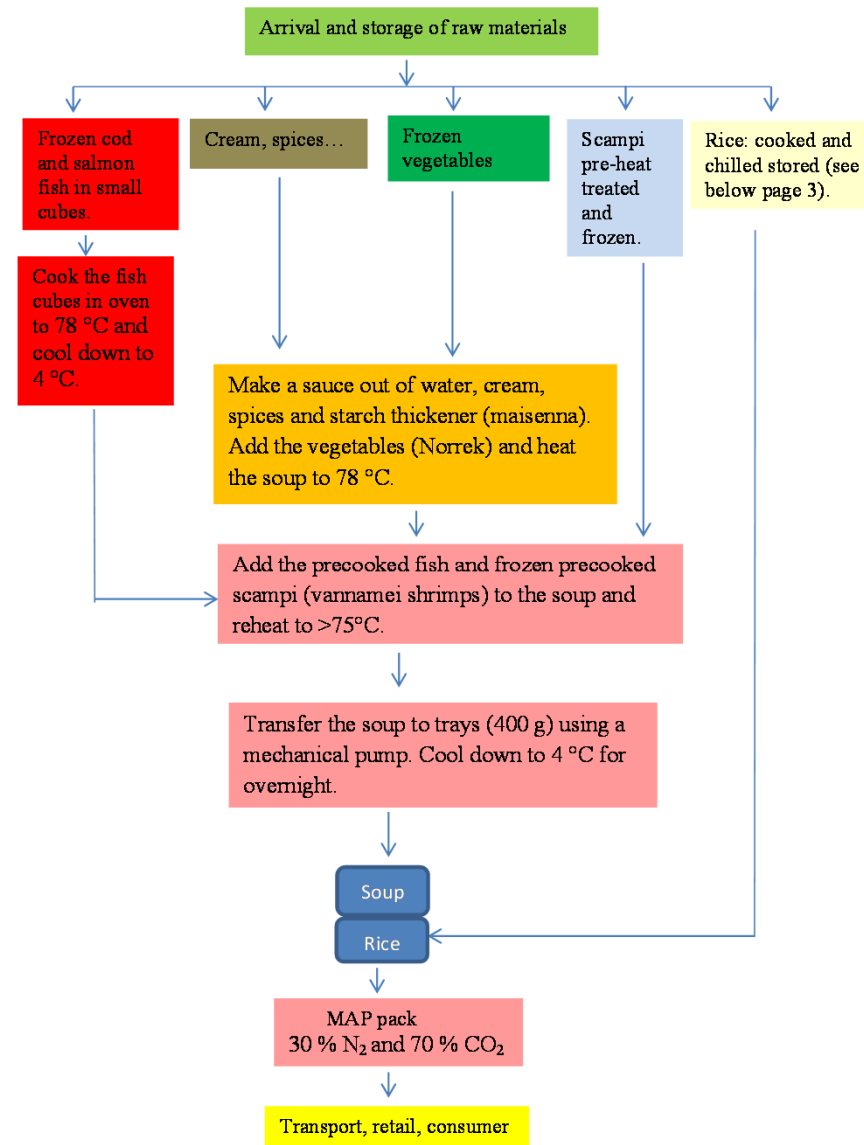


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Process maps may be very complex

- Logistics
- Material flow
- cross contaminations
- *New information: learned how industry dealt with the complexity and when decision support is needed*

Processes map for fish soup production process





Main output: decision support tool

Based on an overview of the *real options* the industry can use to manage the complexity, food safety, quality, nutrition and cost challenges, it is possible to

- Categorise in good, marginal, poor rather than very detailed results
- Make multidisciplinary tradeoffs based on research based models developed within STARTEC
- Give examples of corrective actions based on research in STARTEC

We have a prototype with high potential for further development



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Tool developed for pasta salad

- Cooked pasta, meat, vegetables, two styles
- Growth of *L. monocytogenes*
 - Primary model: Barany no-lag
 - Secondary model: Rosso, gamma concept

In addition:

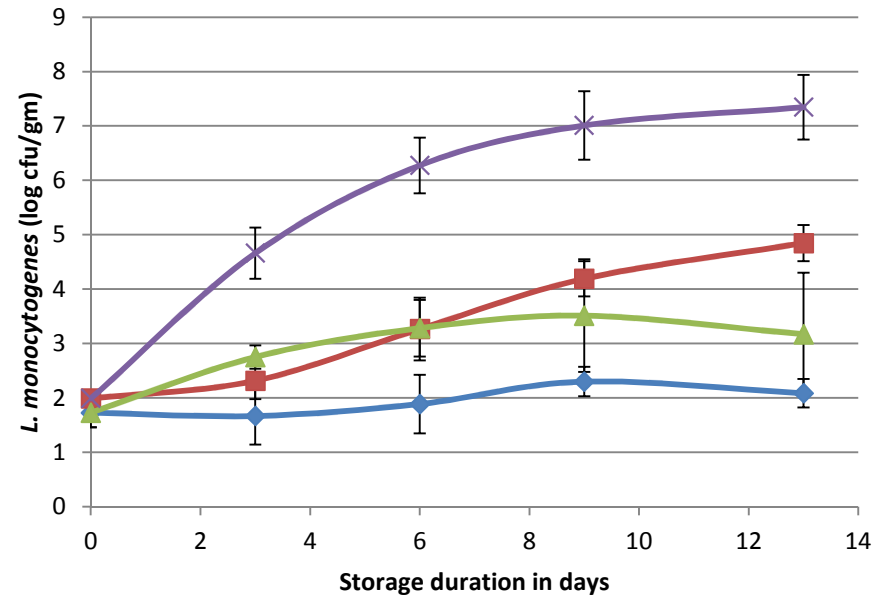
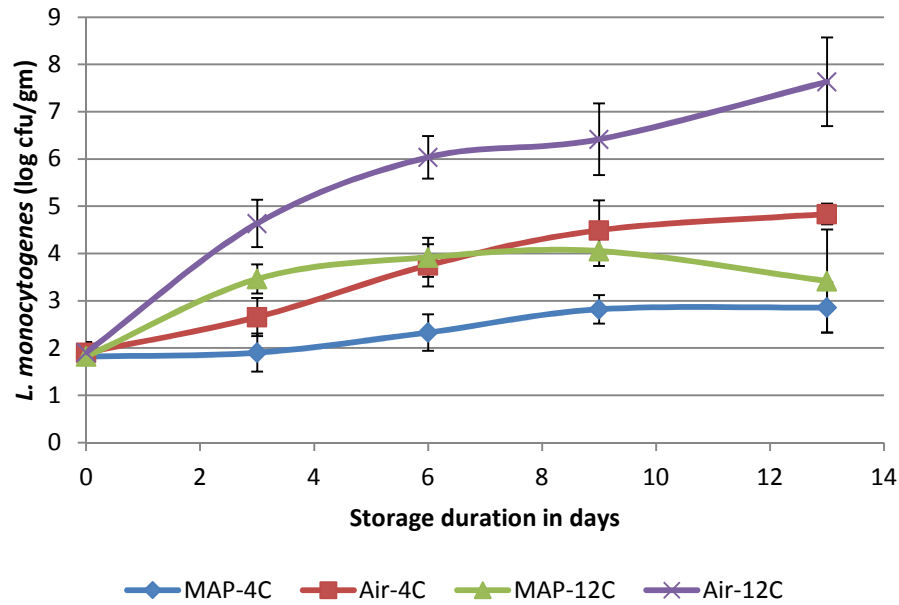
- Guidelines built on growth potentials

Multidisciplinary approach partly implemented, can be further developed



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Growth of *L. monocytogenes* in two types of pasta salads under different packaging and storage scenarios





21.1.2015

STARTEC IT-Tool



Food producers Decision Support Tool



Welcome, tsjgerdal (1.10.0)
Change password / Log out

PRODUCTS

DATABASE

SIMULATIONS

HELP

PREFERENCES

Salad



Back



< Pasta salad Provance style

< Spelt Salad

< Pasta Salad, Norwegian

< Potato Salad

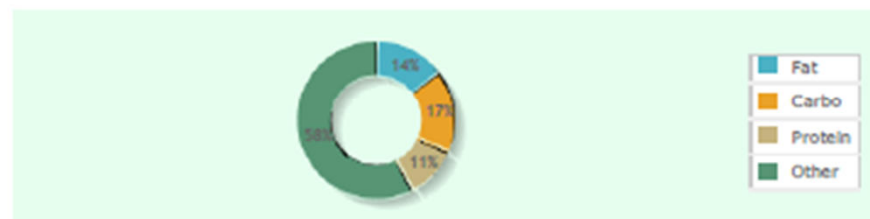
< Pasta Salad, Italian

Pasta Salad, Italian – Italian 4C

Product Image



Nutrition Facts

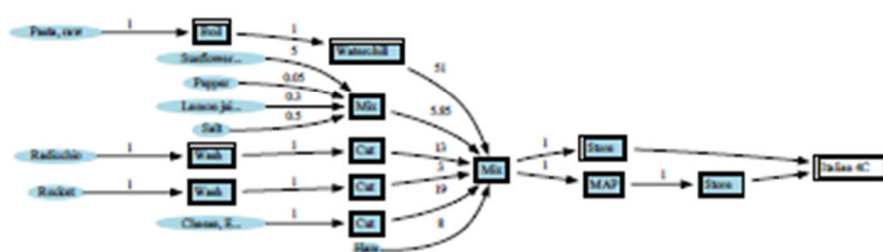


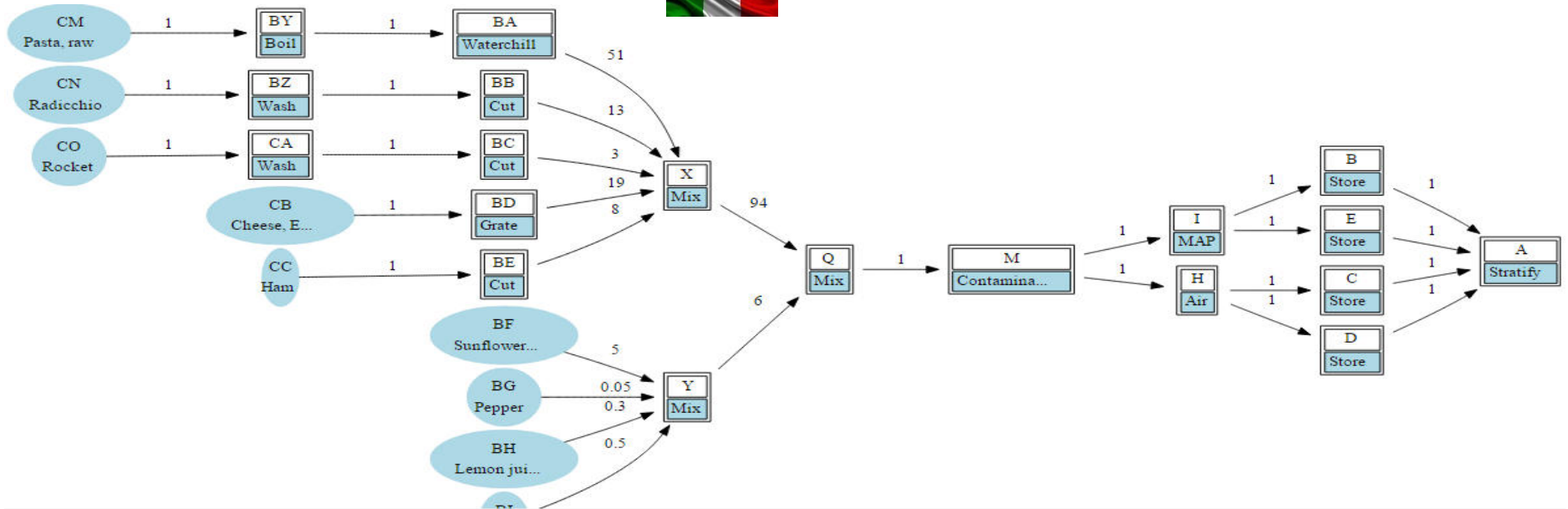
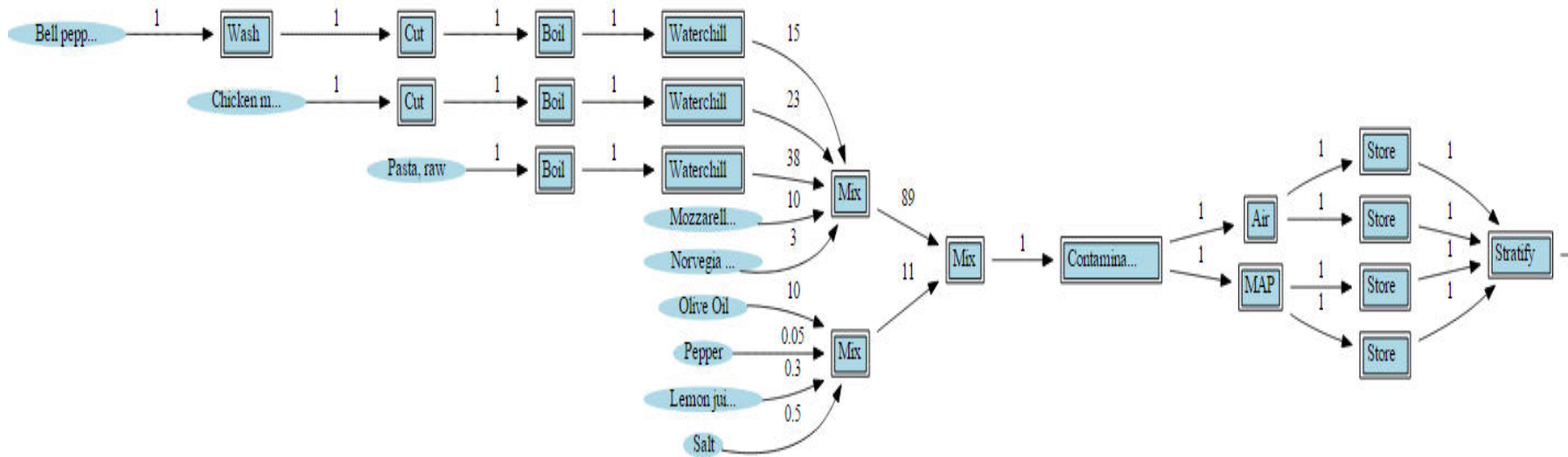
Product Description

Shelf Life: 35 days**Handling & Storage:** Shipping Temperature: 4-6 °C**Storage Temperature:** 4-6 °C

Once opened, product should be used within 4 days.

Product flowchart







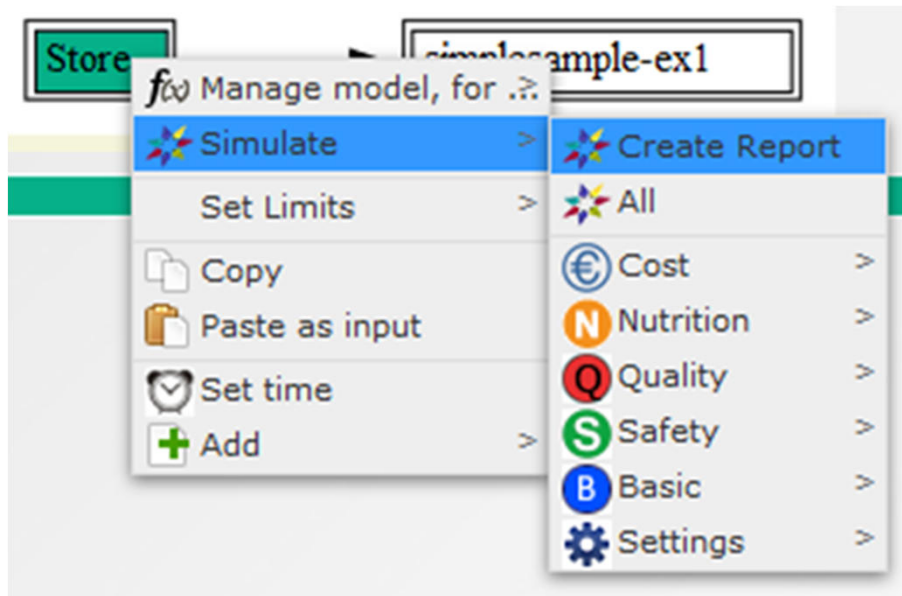
Data, models and categories can be inserted by the user

	name	formula	Author
1	Constant	OUTPUT = c	Unknown
2	baranyi_no_lag	$m = 1; b = \log(1 + (e^{(m \cdot \mu_{\max} \cdot \text{time})} - 1) / (e^{(m \cdot (x_{\max} - \text{INPUT}))}))$; OUTPUT = INPUT + $\mu_{\max} \cdot \text{time} - 1/m \cdot b$	Silvia Vitali
3	gamma_T_pH	$\text{num} = (T - T_{\max}) \cdot (T - T_{\min})^{**2}$; $\text{den} = (T_{\text{opt}} - T_{\min}) \cdot (T_{\text{opt}} - T_{\min}) \cdot (T - T_{\text{opt}}) - (T_{\text{opt}} - T_{\max}) \cdot (T_{\text{opt}} + T_{\min} - 2 \cdot T)$; $\text{gamma}_T = \text{num} / \text{den}$; $\text{num}_{\text{pH}} = (\text{pH} - \text{pH}_{\min}) \cdot (\text{pH} - \text{pH}_{\max})$; $\text{den}_{\text{pH}} = (\text{pH} - \text{pH}_{\min}) \cdot (\text{pH} - \text{pH}_{\max}) - (\text{pH} - \text{pH}_{\text{opt}})^{**2}$; $\text{gamma}_{\text{pH}} = \text{num}_{\text{pH}} / \text{den}_{\text{pH}}$; OUTPUT = $\mu_{\text{opt}} \cdot \text{gamma}_T \cdot \text{gamma}_{\text{pH}}$	Silvia Vitali
4	gamma_0	$\text{num} = (X - X_{\max}) \cdot (X - X_{\min})^{**n}$; $\text{den} = ((X_{\text{opt}} - X_{\min})^{**n} - 1) \cdot (X_{\text{opt}} - X_{\min}) \cdot (X - X_{\text{opt}}) - (X_{\text{opt}} - X_{\max}) \cdot (X_{\text{opt}} - X_{\min}) \cdot (X - X_{\text{opt}})$; $\text{gamma} = \text{num} / \text{den}$; OUTPUT = $\text{gamma} \cdot (X > X_{\min}) \cdot (X < X_{\max})$	Silvia Vitali
5	gamma_m	OUTPUT = $\mu_{\text{opt}} \cdot \text{gamma}_T \cdot \text{gamma}_{\text{pH}}$	Silvia Vitali
6	linear	OUTPUT = INPUT + c * time	Silvia Vitali
7	LAB-LM stop	OUTPUT = $\mu \cdot (\text{LAB} < \text{limit})$	Taran Skjerdal
8	lower_better	OUTPUT = 'GREEN' if (X	Andras Gefferth
9	Energy (kcal)	OUTPUT = $4 \cdot \text{P} + 4 \cdot \text{C} + 9 \cdot \text{F}$	Gonzalo Delgado
10	Quality Index - Pasta Salad, I - noMAP 12C	OUTPUT = $-0.0002 \cdot \text{time}^2 - 0.0137 \cdot \text{time} + 5$	Konstantia Georgouli
11	Quality Index - Pasta Salad, I - MAP 12C	OUTPUT = $-6 \cdot 10^{-5} \cdot \text{time}^2 - 0.0013 \cdot \text{time} + 5$	Konstantia Georgouli
12	quadratic	OUTPUT = maximum(1, $A \cdot \text{time}^2 + B \cdot \text{time} + C$)	Andras Gefferth
13	higher_better	OUTPUT = 'GREEN' if (X > GREEN_LIMIT) else 'YELLOW' if (X > YELLOW_LIMIT) else 'RED'	Andras Gefferth
14	gamma_X	OUTPUT = $\mu_{\text{opt}} \cdot \text{gamma}_T \cdot \text{gamma}_{\text{pH}} \cdot \text{gamma}_{\text{LAB}} \cdot \text{gamma}_{\text{CO2}}$	Andras Gefferth
15	gamma_LAB	OUTPUT = maximum(0, $1 - \text{LAB} / \text{LAB}_{\max}$)	Andras Gefferth
16	Product	OUTPUT = A * B	Andras Gefferth
17	Product2	OUTPUT = INPUT * c	Andras Gefferth
18	Store	OUTPUT = cost_DAY * store * time	Marco Boeri
19	fixed increase	OUTPUT = INPUT0 + c	Marco Boeri
20	TimeTemp	OUTPUT = Temp1 if time0 < t1 else Temp2 if time0 < t2 else Temp3 if time0 < t3 else Temp4	Andras Gefferth
21	Sine	OUTPUT = $c1 + c2 \cdot \sin(\text{time}^2 \cdot \pi \cdot \text{freq})$	Andras Gefferth
22	sum_of_5	OUTPUT = A + B + C + D + E	Marco Boeri
23	Vit C Retention	$k = 18533.907 \cdot e^{(-3221 / (273.15 + T))}$; OUTPUT = $100 - k \cdot \text{time}^0$	Gonzalo Delgado

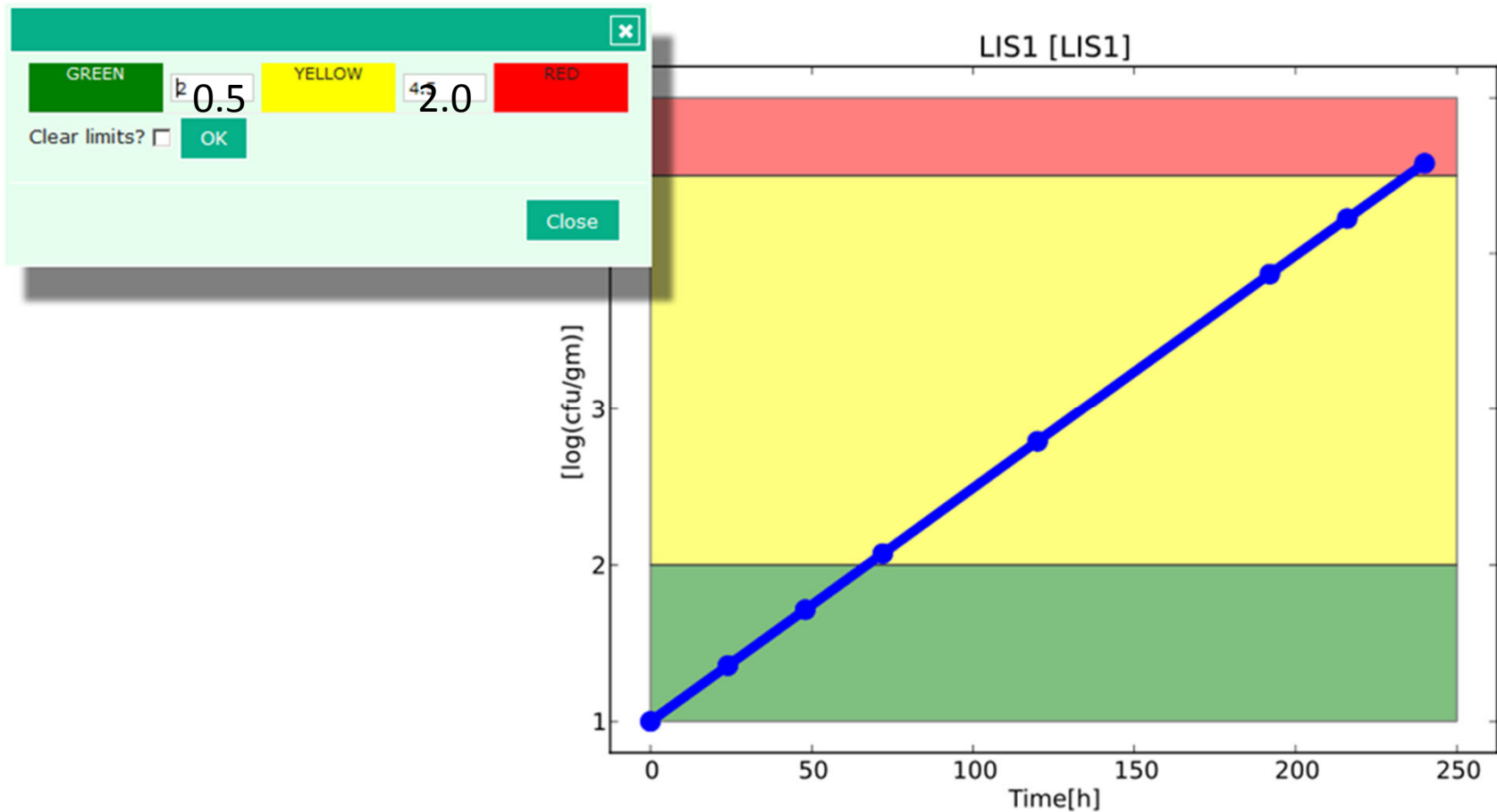


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Customised models and support information



Simulation outputs

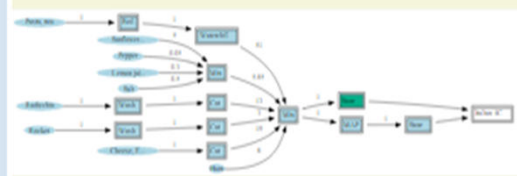


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STARTEC Food producers
Decision Support Tool

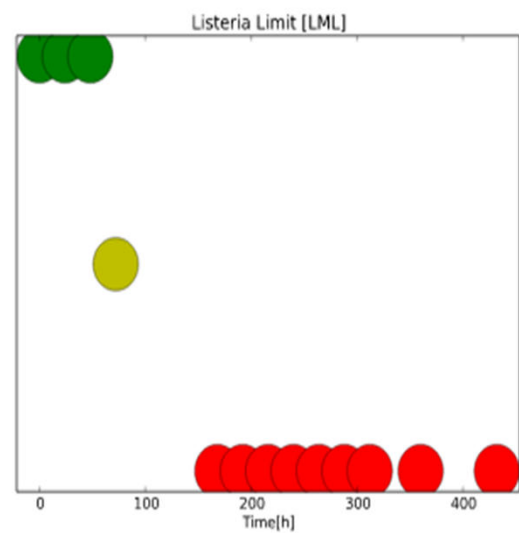
PRODU

Simulations Menu

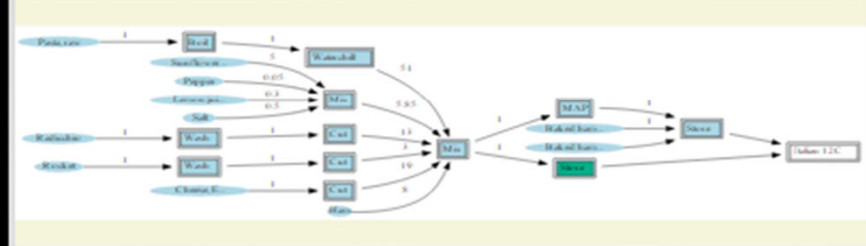


Cost Nutrition Quality Safety Basic Settings Summary Support Benefit

- LIST
- SE
- PSY
- ENT
- Sapp
- Lapp
- VTEC
- Ecoli
- molAB
- muLAB
- LMH
- qLAB
- SET
- SA
- TBC
- LML**
- LM
- muO
- ppH
- qT
- Ma
- LAB
- BC



Simulations Menu



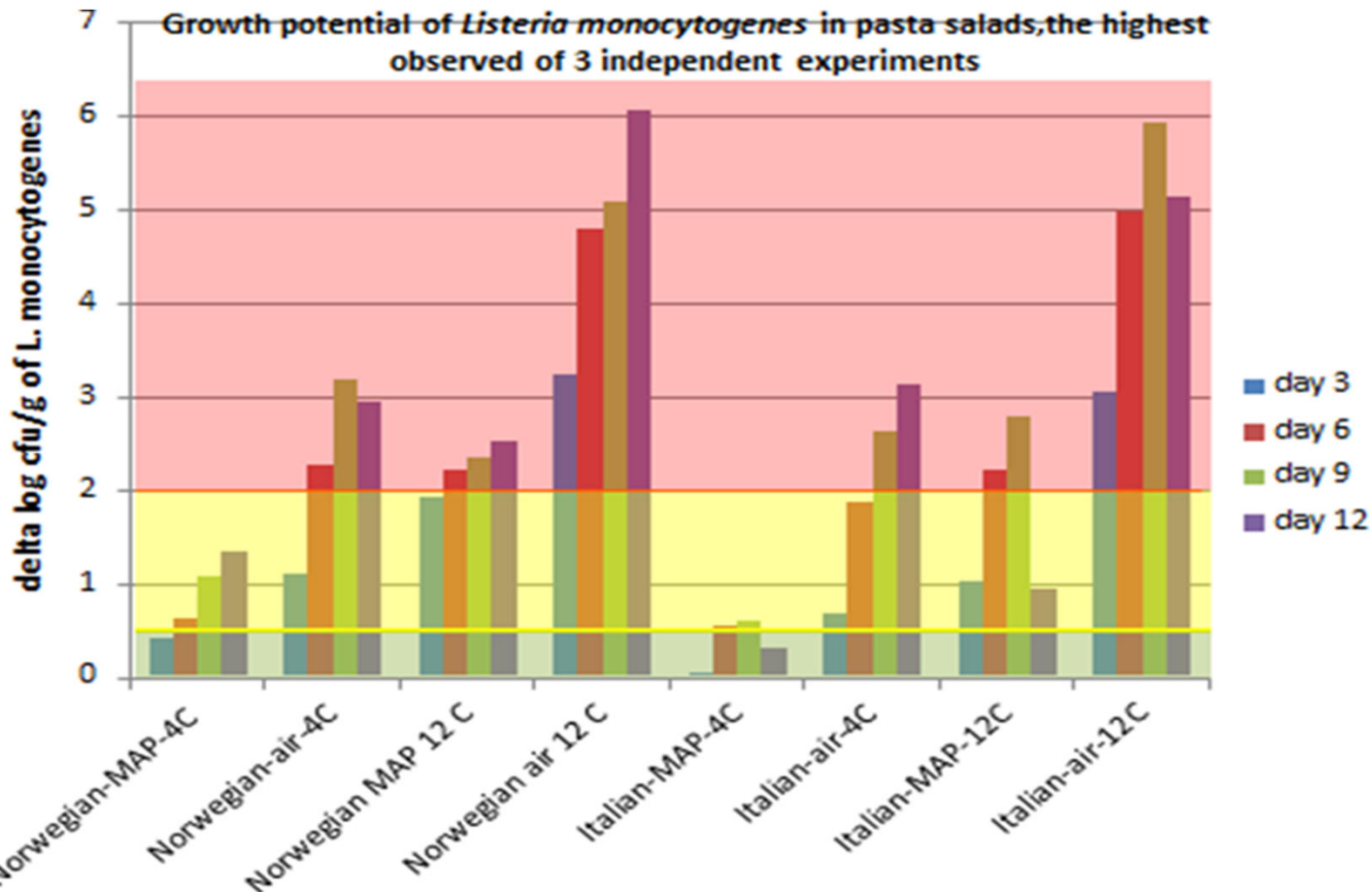
Pasta Salad, Italian - Italian 12C

Cost Nutrition Quality Safety Basic Settings Summary Support Benefit

Summary

Parameter	Start	End	Unit
Cost			
Costs - traffic light	YELLOW	YELLOW	
Cost - TOTAL	6.15	6.15	EUR/Kg
Cost of Salary	0.95	0.95	EUR/Kg
Cost of Energy	0.29	0.29	EUR/Kg
cost of distribution	2.56	2.56	EUR/Kg
cost Packaging	0.10	0.10	EUR/Kg
cost recipe	2.25	2.25	EUR
Nutrition			
Energy	239.60	239.60	kcal/100g
Protein	10.85	10.85	%
Fat	14.29	14.29	%
Carbo	16.89	16.89	%
Quality			
QualityTest1	2.0	GREEN	
Quality Index Traffic Light	GREEN	RED	
Quality Index	5.00	1.00	1
Safety			
Listeria Limit	GREEN	RED	
Listeria monocytogenes	-0.10	8.00	log(cfu/gm)
muO for LM	0.05	0.05	1
Gamma_pH	0.93	0.96	1
gamma_T	0.14	0.14	1
Basic			
pH	6.41	6.55	1
Settings			

Simpler approach based on growth potentials included in the guideline documents



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Maximum initial limit values to avoid 100 cfu/g during shelf life

Maximum initial <i>L. monocytogenes</i> level (cfu/g) to avoid levels above 100 cfu/g on the last day of shelf life				
salad formulation, packing and storage condition	shelf life on label			
	3 days	6 days	9 days	12 days
Norwegian-MAP-4C	37	23	8	5
Norwegian-air-4C	8	0,5	0,06	
Norwegian MAP 12 C	1	0,6	0,4	0,3
Norwegian air 12 C	0,06	absence	absence	absence
Italian-MAP-4C	85	28	24	
Italian-air-4C	20	1	0,2	0,07
Italian-MAP-12C	9	0,6	0,2	
Italian-air-12C	0,085	absence	absence	absence



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Possible corrective actions to improve the food safety (I)

- Small changes:
 - Shorter shelf life, lower storage temperature, pack in modified atmosphere
- Change processes and formulations:
 - Additives like lactate and acetate
 - Additional preservation techniques, High pressure treatment and lactic acid bacteria. Some dairy products can be used instead of protective cultures



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Possible corrective actions to improve the food safety (II)

- Internal control system: Sample where it is likely to find *Listeria*.
- Recalls may not be needed if the growth potential under reasonable foreseeable conditions is low and the initial *L. monocytogenes* level below the one in the performance objective



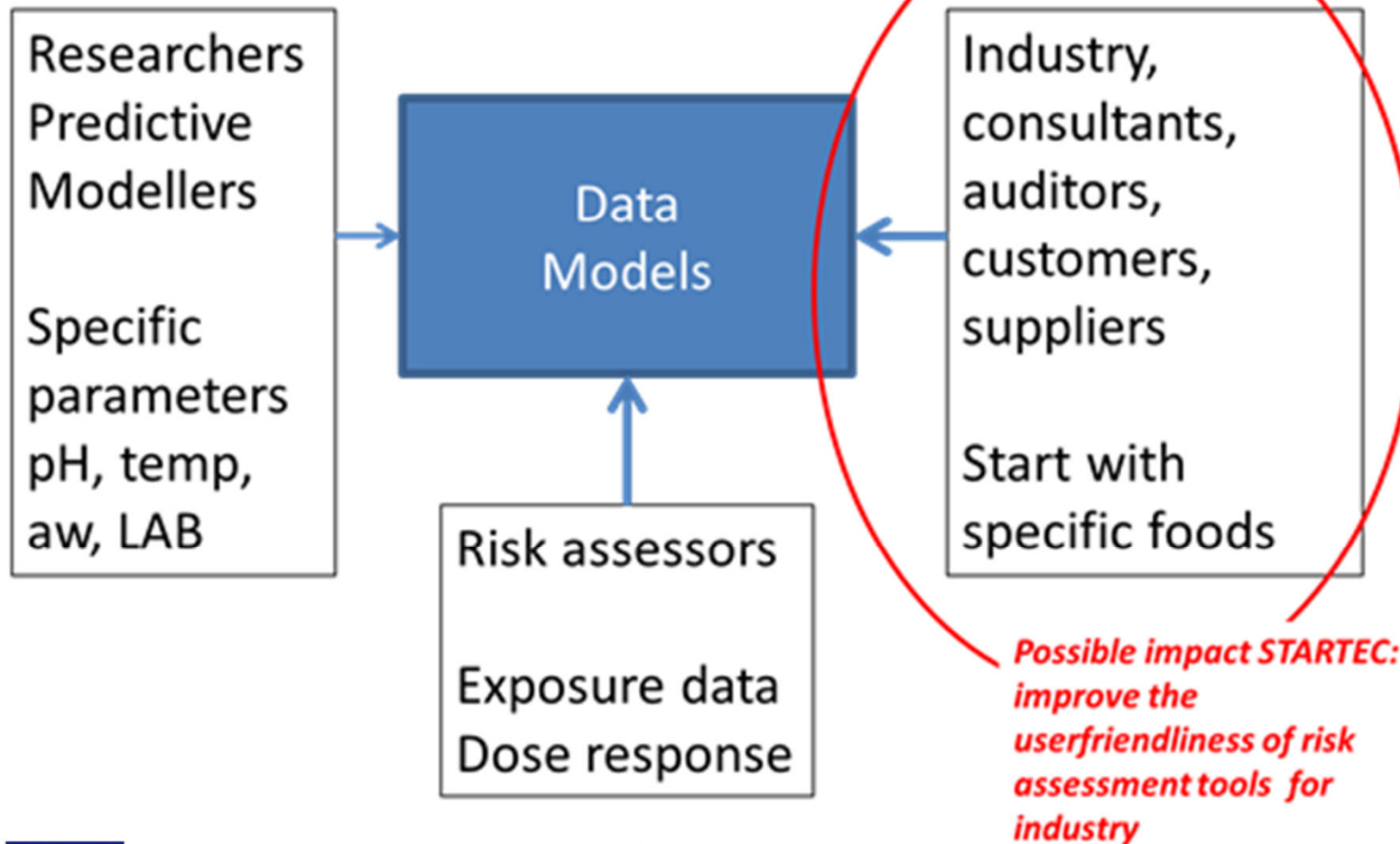


Possible ways forward to obtain a really useful tool



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User interface





Relevance of the STARTEC tool (II)

Multidisciplinarity – specific functionalities

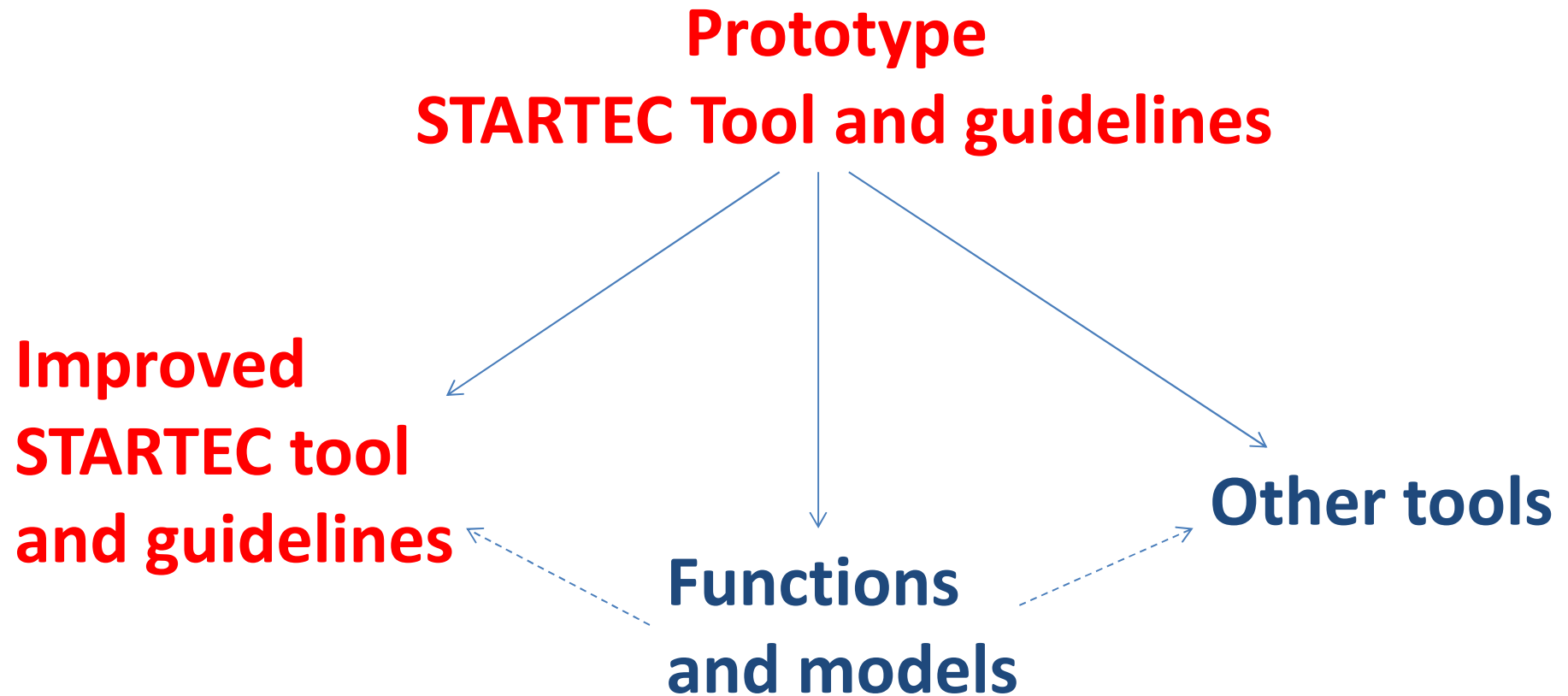
Customised flow charts
Conditions
Specific models
...
...

Tradeoffs for specific foods and scenarios based on categorisation, trendanalyses etc



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More ways forward





In NRL/EURL challenge study context

Question from industry: How different must a sausage be from another before a new challenge test is needed?

1. Data for single and mixed products can be collected in the database in the STARTEC tool, and new data be compared
2. Two suitable test products found in STARTEC: secondary models valid in one, but not the other. Sausages are different if they overrule the known growth pattern in mixed products

Good ideas or not?



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Our web site: www.STARTEC-net.info

The tool: www.startec-tool.iris.cat

If you want to try it, ask for a password
taran.skjerdal@vetinst.no



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