Plagioclase-saturated melt hygrothermobarometry and plagioclase-melt equilibria using machine learning

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Key Points:

- Investigation into whether existing plagioclase-based hygrothermobarometers can be refined using random forest regression.
- Algorithm highlights that only melt composition is required to estimate intensive parameters (P-T-H$_2$O) of plagioclase-saturated magmas.
- New melt models show improvement in errors compared to thermodynamic-based plagioclase-melt hygrothermobarometers and equilibria models.
Abstract

Compositions of plagioclase-melt pairs are commonly used to constrain temperatures (T), water contents (H$_2$O) and pressures (P) of pre-eruptive magma storage. However, previous plagioclase-based thermometers, hygrometers, and barometers can have significant uncertainties, mainly resulting from the lack of error propagation of independently-constrained input variables (i.e., T/ H$_2$O/P), leading to imprecise pre-eruptive storage reconstructions. Here, we explore whether we can refine existing plagioclase-based hygrothermobarometers with either plagioclase-melt or melt-only chemistry (± T/H$_2$O), calibrated using random forest machine learning on experimental petrology data (n= 1152). We find that both the plagioclase-melt and melt-only models return similar cross-validation root-mean-square errors, as the melt holds most P-T-H$_2$O information rather than the plagioclase. T/H$_2$O-dependent melt models have test set errors of 25.9°C, 0.69 wt.% and 76.2 MPa for temperature, H$_2$O content and pressure, respectively, while T/H$_2$O-independent models have errors of 37.5°C, 0.97 wt.% and 91.3 MPa. The melt thermometer and hygrometer are applicable to a wide range of plagioclase-bearing melts with temperatures between 664 and 1355 °C, and H$_2$O concentrations up to 11.20 wt.%, while the melt barometer is suitable for ≤500 MPa pressures. Furthermore, an updated plagioclase-melt equilibrium model has been calibrated, allowing equilibrium anorthite content to be predicted with an error of 5.8 mol%. The new P-T-H$_2$O-An models were applied to matrix glasses and melt inclusions from the 1980 Mount St Helens (USA) and 2014-2015 Holuhraun (Iceland) eruptions, corroborating previous independent estimates and observations. Models are available at: https://github.com/kyra-cutler/Plag-saturated-melt-P-T-H2O-An, enabling assessment of plagioclase-melt equilibrium and characterisation of last-equilibrated P-T-H$_2$O conditions of plagioclase-saturated magmas.

Plain Language Summary

Thermobarometry and hygrometry are common methods for reconstructing magma crystallisation conditions (pressure (P), temperature (T) and water contents (H$_2$O) prior to eruption. Plagioclase is a ubiquitous mineral found in a wide range of volcanic rocks
and is often used to define P-T-H₂O conditions. Here, we use machine learning-based regression to calibrate new models, based on either plagioclase-melt or melt chemistry, to test whether we can improve the existing range of plagioclase-based thermobarometers and hygrometers. We also develop an updated model to determine the equilibrium composition of a plagioclase crystal with a given melt composition. We find that the plagioclase-melt and melt-only thermobarometers and hygrometers return very similar model errors due to the melt holding nearly all the P-T-H₂O information. The models can be applied to a wide range of plagioclase-bearing melts except for the barometer, which is only appropriate for upper crustal pressures of ≤500 MPa (≤13.8 km depth). Models are available to use at: https://github.com/kyra-cutler/Plag-saturated-melt-P-T-H2O-An, enabling assessment of plagioclase-melt equilibrium and characterisation of last-equilibrated P-T-H₂O conditions of plagioclase-saturated magmas.

1 Introduction

Temperature (T), pressure (P) and melt water contents (H₂O) collectively control various physiochemical properties of magmas by influencing the crystallisation and stability of mineral phases (e.g., Feig et al., 2010; Krawczynski et al., 2012), as well as the density and viscosity of melts (e.g., Giordano et al., 2008). Placing constraints on the thermal state, volatile concentration, and depths of magma crystallisation thereby enables a critical insight into pre-eruptive storage conditions, informing our understanding of controls on eruption dynamics and the crustal architecture of sub-volcanic systems (e.g., Cassidy et al., 2018; Bamber et al., 2020; Caricchi et al., 2021; Giordano and Caricchi et al., 2022). Furthermore, integrating petrological constraints with potential signs of volcanic unrest (i.e., seismicity, surface deformation, gas emissions; e.g., Saunders et al., 2012; Stock et al., 2018; Cassidy et al., 2019; Liu et al., 2020; Yip et al., 2022) can facilitate monitoring and hazard management at restless volcanoes (i.e., Pritchard et al., 2019).

Plagioclase is an abundant mineral found in volcanic rocks across a wide compositional range, with its chemistry sensitive to temperature, melt composition – including water content – and pressure (e.g., Housh and Luhr, 1991; Longhi et al., 1993;
Panjasawatong et al., 1995; Lange et al., 2009; Namur et al., 2012). This has led to the development of a range of plagioclase-melt thermometers, hygrometers and barometers (e.g., Putirka, 2005; Putirka, 2008; Lange et al., 2009; Waters and Lange, 2015; Masotta and Mollo, 2019), with expressions based on the equilibrium exchange of albite (Ab; NaAlSi$_3$O$_8$) and anorthite (An; CaAl$_2$Si$_2$O$_8$) components between plagioclase and melt (Eq. 1):

$$\text{CaAl}_2\text{Si}_2\text{O}_8^{\text{crystal}} + \text{NaAlSi}_3\text{O}_8^{\text{melt}} = \text{CaAl}_2\text{Si}_2\text{O}_8^{\text{melt}} + \text{NaAlSi}_3\text{O}_8^{\text{crystal}} $$  \hspace{1cm} (1)

Temperature and melt water contents recovered with plagioclase-melt thermometers and hygrometers have relatively small errors (e.g., Equation 24a, ± 36 °C; Putirka, 2008; ± 0.29 wt.% (trachyte-specific) Masotta and Mollo, 2019; 0.35 wt.%, Waters and Lange, 2015; 1.1 wt.%, Putirka, 2008 (Equation 25b)), although such models are dependent on at least one independently-constrained intensive parameter (i.e., T, H$_2$O or P), yielding higher errors when errors are propagated or iterative calculations are performed (Wieser et al., 2023a). The only plagioclase-melt barometer available is a formulation by Putirka (2005, 2008), which returns a significantly large Standard Error Estimate (SEE: 380 MPa; which is equivalent to ± 10.5 km depth uncertainty using a 2700 kg/m$^3$ crustal density), resulting from the negligible effect of pressure on reaction (1) at low pressures (c.f. ≤300 MPa; Lange et al., 2009). Similarly, other mineral-based barometer calibrations are associated with comparably poor accuracy and precision (e.g., clinopyroxene: 200–500 MPa, ± 5.5–14 km depth, Wieser et al., 2023b; amphibole: 300–400 MPa, ± 8–11 km, Putirka, 2016), sufficient only for outlining broad depth ranges of magma crystallisation. Establishing a precise and accurate barometer is thus a key petrological target for obtaining high-resolution images of magmatic systems, as identified by the SZ4 initiative (Hilley et al., 2022). The poor performance prevalent in the current scope of barometers may derive from various factors, including low precision electron microprobe measurements on pressure-sensitive analytes (i.e., Na$_2$O in clinopyroxene; Wieser et al., 2022a), disequilibrium textures in experimental products (e.g., clinopyroxene sector zoning; Neave et al., 2017), or a weak pressure dependency on compositional variables (e.g., Putirka, 2016). Another factor that can contribute to the large uncertainty of pressure estimates is the regression strategy used to calibrate barometric models (Higgins et al., 2021). Recently,
ensemble machine learning (ML) algorithms have proven to be a successful regression approach (e.g., Petrelli et al., 2020; Higgins et al., 2021; Thomson et al., 2021; Jorgenson et al., 2022), as the algorithms are not reliant on any a priori thermodynamic knowledge and can capture non-linearity between variables.

Over the past 50 years, several empirical or thermodynamic-based models have been developed to predict the equilibrium compositions of plagioclase \((\text{An} = \text{[molar Ca/(Ca + Na + K)]})\) crystallising from silicate melts. Although the majority of plagioclase-melt equilibria models primarily look at the effect of \(\text{H}_2\text{O}\) and pressure on plagioclase composition (e.g., Panjasawatong et al., 1995; Housh and Luhr, 1991), limited studies have focussed on anhydrous systems (i.e., Fuhrman and Lindsley, 1988; Namur et al., 2012). This necessitates creating an updated plagioclase-melt equilibria model, applicable to modelling an extensive range of differentiated liquids irrespective of the melt water content.

In this study, our aims are two-fold. With the large number of plagioclase-bearing experiments available, we first use machine learning (ML) to test whether we can refine the existing range (i.e., Putirka, 2005; Putirka, 2008; Waters and Lange, 2015; Masotta and Mollo, 2019) of plagioclase-based hygrothermobarometers, either by using plagioclase-melt or melt chemistry. Secondly, we aim to create an ML model for predicting equilibrium plagioclase compositions solely as a function of melt chemistry. We then test the capability of the models to recover magma crystallisation conditions at two well-studied volcanic systems, comparing P-T-H\(_2\)O-\text{An} estimates with melt inclusion analyses, geophysical data, and independent hygrothermobarometric and plagioclase-melt equilibria calculations.

2 Developing hygrothermobarometric and anorthite content models

2.1 Dataset compilation and filtering

Experimental plagioclase-melt pairs were extracted from the Library of Experimental Phase Relations (LEPR) database (Hirschmann et al. 2008) and supplemented by an extensive literature search to calibrate all plagioclase-melt and melt-only versions of models. The final dataset \((n=1152)\) includes anhydrous/nominally
anhydrous, fluid-saturated and fluid-undersaturated experiments; the full calibration dataset can be accessed in Table S1. We applied a set of filters to the experimental data to ensure coexisting plagioclase-melt pairs were in equilibrium (e.g., Lange et al., 2009; Namur et al., 2012; Waters and Lange, 2015): (1) only experiments with a quenched liquid (i.e. glass) fraction of ≥50% were selected, as high crystallinity charges are subject to slower diffusion rates in minerals compared to the melt, requiring longer timescales to reach equilibrium. Experiments were excluded if phase or crystallinity proportions were not reported. (2) Experiments with compositional electron microprobe totals between 97 and 101.5 wt.% (including H$_2$O) were incorporated. This filter ensures that any potential analytical errors are minimised. (3) Experiments were removed if papers reported evidence for significant sodium and/or iron loss (≥10 wt.% relative Na$_2$O or FeO$_t$). It must be noted that some plagioclase-saturated melt compositions do not report compositions of coexisting plagioclases. For the hygrometry models, only experiments with well-constrained water analyses (i.e., Fourier-Transform InfraRed spectroscopy, Secondary Ion Mass Spectroscopy, Raman spectroscopy) were used as the water content values for calibration. However, only ~35% of hydrous experiments have measured water content estimates. Therefore, MagmaSat (Ghiorso and Gualda, 2015) in VESIcal (Iacovino et al. 2021) was used to calculate the water content in all water-saturated and undersaturated (if the $X$H$_2$O value was reported) experiments.

2.2. Calibration range

In general, the calibration dataset covers a range of terrestrial and non-terrestrial analogue melts (SiO$_2$: 37.1–79.9 wt.%; Na$_2$O + K$_2$O: 0.3–14.6 wt.%) that crystallised plagioclase (An$_{16-100}$) at conditions from 0–2000 MPa, 664–1355 °C, and H$_2$O concentrations up to 11.2 wt.% (Figure 1). Temperature displays a bimodal distribution with peaks at 850–900 °C (felsic melts) and 1100–1200 °C (mafic melts), whereas plagioclase compositions are symmetrically distributed. Pressure and H$_2$O have strong positively-skewed distributions. Excluding the experiments undertaken at 1 atm, 85% of the experiments occur at pressures below ≤500 MPa. There is minimal variation in T and H$_2$O at pressures >500 MPa within the overall P range, except for the 700 MPa experiments (Figure 1b). From all the hydrous experimental data, there is an evident
lack of experiments with higher $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (>7 wt.%) contents, although 9 ± 1 wt.% represents the maximum limit to which $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ in experimental products can be quenched to mafic glass (Gavrilenko et al., 2019). Experiments with lower $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (<2 wt.%) are also underrepresented, reflecting limited studies that measure the water content in near-anhydrous experimental glasses (i.e., Whittaker et al., 2007; Husen et al., 2016) and/or undertaking water-saturated runs at low pressures.
2.3. Model training and cross-validation

A type of random forest machine learning algorithm, Extremely Randomised Forest, was used to train all the models using the package ‘ranger’ and the splitrule ‘extratrees’ (Wright and Ziegler, 2017) in R (R Core Team, 2013), as it has been shown to have the highest predictive capability among a selection of regression algorithms (e.g. Petrelli et al., 2020, Li and Zhang, 2022). In short, random forest algorithms are an ensemble machine learning approach involving multiple decision trees, where the output of all individual trees is aggregated to form an averaged prediction. Each target variable (P-T-H$_2$O-An) was regressed using normalised major element oxide compositions as dependent variables (melt: SiO$_2$, TiO$_2$, Al$_2$O$_3$, FeO$_t$, MgO, CaO, Na$_2$O, K$_2$O; plagioclase: SiO$_2$, Al$_2$O$_3$, FeO$_t$, CaO, Na$_2$O, K$_2$O) for the plagioclase-melt or melt-only models. MnO in the melt and MnO, TiO$_2$ and MgO in plagioclase were not considered as input variables since numerous experiments do not report one or more of these oxides. The whole dataset was split into training and testing sets using an 80/20 ratio, with the test set held back and never used during model calibration. The training/testing sets were split using a stratified sampling function to ensure a balanced distribution of the models’ target variable (i.e. H$_2$O, temperature, pressure and An content) in both the training and testing sets. Models can be optimised by tuning hyperparameters, but studies have shown that it has little impact on model performance (e.g., Petrelli et al., 2020; Jorgenson et al., 2022). Therefore, we used the default hyperparameter tuning (i.e., mtry) within the Caret package (Kuhn, 2008) to optimise
each model while keeping the number of the decision trees small \((\text{num.trees} = 200)\) to minimise computational time. We use the median to average the final prediction from the 200 individual decision trees (Figure S1a), which has been shown to return slightly lower RMSEs (Root Mean Square Errors) than the mean (Jorgenson et al., 2022; Weber and Blundy, 2023).

Model errors were assessed using two approaches. First, stratified 10-fold cross-validation was used on the training set using the Caret package, where the training set was split into ten subsets or folds (Figure S1b). One of the folds is left out for testing, while the remainder is used to train the model. This process is repeated until all ten rows of folds are processed, generating a median \(R^2\) (coefficient of determination) and RMSE value. All folds were again stratified to remove an imbalanced distribution of the models' target variable. The models were also examined using the testing sets, providing independent metric values. The model RMSE and \(R^2\) values during cross-validation (CV) may differ slightly depending on how the training and testing sets are split. We thus repeated the workflow of random training/testing set splitting and 10-fold cross-validation ten times (Figure S1b). After model cross-validation and evaluation, the final saved models were trained on the full calibration dataset (i.e., Petrelli et al., 2020; Thomson et al., 2021).

3 P-T-H\(_2\)O-An models

3.1 Model calibration and validation

Figure 2 highlights the overall variation and median RMSE values from the cross-validation of both plagioclase-melt and melt hygrothermobarometry models. The plagioclase-melt and melt models for each parameter (P-T-H\(_2\)O) depict a remarkably similar performance. The similarity across all models results from the predictive capability of the algorithm predominantly using the melt rather than the plagioclase compositional components (Figure S2), effectively making the plagioclase information redundant. This is unlike other random forest-calibrated models using mineral-melt pairs (clinopyroxene, Petrelli et al., 2020; biotite, Li and Zhang et al., 2022), where both the crystal and melt chemistry information improve the RMSE and \(R^2\) scores. The melt
model RMSEs also reaffirm the utility of silicate melt composition in recovering key magmatic variables. This finding results from the low thermodynamic variance of natural magmatic compositions whose overall chemical variability can be described with a relatively limited number of independent compositional variables, significantly fewer than the total number of constituent oxides, as determined using Principal Components Analysis (c.f. Weber and Blundy, 2023). In this section, we will thus focus on the melt models, which are appropriate for use with compositions of quenched and entrapped liquid (i.e. matrix glass or plagioclase-hosted melt inclusions). We will also examine limitations affecting model accuracy (i.e., model calibration) and precision (i.e., analytical uncertainties) to obtain P-T-H2O estimates and compositions of plagioclase.
Figure 2. Raincloud comparison plots of cross-validation RMSEs from the plagioclase-melt and melt thermometer (a), hygrometer (b) and barometer (c) models, as well as the plagioclase anorthite content model (d).
3.2 Thermometry

Temperature and H$_2$O in the experimental dataset display a strong inverse correlation (Figure 1d), leading us to test an H$_2$O-independent and dependent thermometer. In both instances, the H$_2$O-independent and H$_2$O-dependent thermometers yield low mean cross-validation and test set RMSE values of (35.3 °C and 37.5 °C) and (24.5 °C and 25.9 °C), respectively (Figure 2). Systematic model errors were assessed by calculating the Mean Bias Error (MBE), as well as checking the regression gradients and intercepts (Wieser et al., 2023a). Both thermometers have relatively low intercept and MBE values with high gradients close to 1 (Figure 3b and Figure 4b), indicating no systematic offsets across the wide temperature range. Figures 3b and 4b display the test set residual distribution from all workflow replications and illustrate that 74% and 83% of residuals are within ± 30 °C of the actual experimental temperature for the H$_2$O-independent and H$_2$O-dependent thermometer, respectively. The accuracy of the thermometers primarily results from the strong non-linearity of MgO, SiO$_2$, FeO$_t$ and CaO in the melt when plotted against temperature (Figure S3). This is consistent with other liquid thermometers that prioritise MgO, FeO$_t$ and CaO within their parameterisations (e.g., Helz and Thornber, 1987). To further validate the ML models, we compare all our ML test set predictions (P-T-H$_2$O-An) with estimates generated by previous hygrothermobarometric and plagioclase-melt equilibria models (Figure 5). We use Thermobar (version 1.011; Wieser et al., 2023c) to calculate estimates from previous models but limit ourselves to models calibrated for a wide compositional range to ensure comparison across similar experimental conditions. We only compare our H$_2$O-dependent thermometer with the plagioclase-saturated liquid thermometer of Putirka (2008) (Equation 26; calibrated for T in the range 850–1350 °C), as both models require H$_2$O inputs. The ML H$_2$O-dependent thermometer performs better than Equation 26 with a lower RMSE (25.9 °C vs. 36.3 °C), MBE (-0.94 °C vs. -
9.6 °C) and intercept (40.6 °C vs. 112.4 °C) value, as well as a gradient and $R^2$ value closer to 1 (Figure 4b, Figure 5a).

3.2 Hygrometry

We tested a T-dependent (Figure 4c, 4d) and independent hygrometer (Figure 3c, 3d), as temperature is not always a well-constrained parameter in petrological studies. The T-dependent hygrometer (Figure 4c) returns median cross-validation and test set RMSE values of 0.68 wt.% and 0.69 wt.%, respectively, while the T-independent hygrometer (Figure 3c) gives reasonable cross-validation (0.97 wt.%) and test set (0.95 wt.%) RMSEs scores. No systematic offsets across the range of $H_2O$ contents are apparent in the test data for both hygrometers, as they each have low intercept and MBE values and gradients close to 1 (Figure 3d, 4d). Temperature is an important parameter in predicting melt water content, with 70% of the residuals for the T-dependent hygrometer within 0.5 wt.% of the actual water content value (Figure 4d) compared to 58% of the residuals for the T-independent hygrometer (Fig. 3d). Aside from temperature, FeOt, SiO$_2$ and MgO play a key role in water content predictions, in which the algorithm appears to use these three oxides to characterise H$_2$O content depending on the level of melt differentiation (Figure S4). These results broadly correspond with the findings of Zimmer et al. (2010), who show an inverse correlation exists between the level of Fe enrichment in melts (i.e., tholeiitic index) and their water content. We use the Putirka (2008; calibrated for liquids with <9 wt.% H$_2$O) and Waters and Lange (2015; calibrated for liquids with 0–8.3 wt.% H$_2$O)) plagioclase-melt hygrometers to make a comparison with the T-dependent hygrometer, as all models require temperature inputs. The T-dependent hygrometer outperforms the Putirka (2008) and Waters and Lange (2015) plagioclase-melt hygrometers with a lower overall RMSE (0.69 wt.%), MBE (-0.02 wt.%) and high gradient (0.94) and $R^2$ value (0.93; Figure 4d, Figure 5b).
**Figure 3.** Examples of testing set performance for the melt-only models and residual (difference between experimental value and predicted value) histograms. Only the best-performing testing set is shown for each model. Testing set statistics in the histograms reflect the average RSME, $R^2$, MBE, intercept and gradient values across all ten testing sets. 

a) Comparison of experimental vs. predicted temperature (°C) showing a 1:1 correspondence line. 

b) Histogram for temperature residuals for all test sets. 

c) Comparison of experimental vs. predicted water content (wt.%). 

d) Histogram of water content residuals for all test sets. 

e) Comparison of experimental vs. predicted pressure (MPa). 

f) Histogram of pressure residuals for all test sets. 

g) Comparison of experimental vs. predicted anorthite content (mol%). 

h) Histogram of anorthite content residuals for all test sets.
Figure 4. Examples of testing set performance for the melt models with additional input parameters (T or H$_2$O) and residual histograms. Only the best-performing testing set is shown for each model. Testing set statistics in the histograms reflect the average RSME, $R^2$, MBE, intercept and gradient values across all ten testing sets. a) Comparison of experimental vs. predicted temperature (°C) using a 1:1 correspondence line. b) Histogram for temperature residuals for all test sets. c) Comparison of experimental vs. predicted water content (wt.%). d) Histogram of water content residuals for all test sets. e) Comparison of experimental vs. predicted pressure (MPa). f) Histogram of pressure residuals for all test sets.
3.3 Barometry

We tested an H$_2$O-dependent (Figure 4e, 4f) and an H$_2$O-independent barometer (Figure 3e, f), as H$_2$O contents are not always well-constrained for natural systems, especially for lavas lacking glassy melt inclusions suitable for direct H$_2$O analysis. The barometers are calibrated using a reduced dataset by removing all high-pressure experiments (>500 MPa) due to the low number and narrow compositional range of experiments undertaken at higher pressures (Figure 1b). Atmospheric pressure experiments were also removed, as the pressure output for nominally anhydrous natural samples is likely to skew towards 0.1 MPa when H$_2$O is used as an additional input variable. Both barometers perform surprisingly well with 10-fold cross-validation (H$_2$O-dependent RMSE: 76.3 MPa; Figure 4e, f, H$_2$O-independent RMSE: 91.5 MPa, Figure 3e, f), which is confirmed by their predictive performance in the test set (H$_2$O-dependent RMSE: 76.2 MPa, H$_2$O-independent RMSE: 91.3 MPa; Figure 3e and 4e), although the R$^2$ values for both barometers are low (H$_2$O-dependent R$^2$: 0.60; H$_2$O-independent R$^2$: 0.42; Table S2). In terms of residuals, the addition of H$_2$O as an input enables 85% of the predictions to be within 100 MPa of the actual experimental pressure for the H$_2$O-dependent barometer (Figure 4f), compared to 76% for the H$_2$O-independent (Figure 3f) barometer. None of the melt components has a dominant control on the pressure predictions, where it would be expected that Al$_2$O$_3$ and Na$_2$O would correlate with pressure (Blundy, 2022). Instead, the algorithm mainly uses SiO$_2$, TiO$_2$, FeO, MgO and CaO, suggesting that, like the hygrometers, the extent of differentiation helps constrain pressure values in a hypothetical P-T(-H$_2$O) space. The test set regressions for both barometers are systematically slightly offset as predictions <300 MPa tend to slightly overestimate pressures, while the barometers underestimate pressures >300 MPa, evident from the low gradient values and higher intercepts (Figure 3e and 4e). However, this pattern is similar to other melt and clinopyroxene-based barometer regressions (e.g., Weber and Blundy, 2023; Wieser et al., 2023b), likely amplified by the significant data gaps present at higher pressures in calibration datasets and the weak pressure trends with compositional variables. This highlights a crucial objective to conduct
systematic experiments >300 MPa for a wide array of melt compositions to explore
pressure correlations fully. To compare our H$_2$O-dependent barometer performance, we
use the Putirka (2008) plagioclase-liquid barometer (Equation 25a; calibrated for P
<2000 MPa) due to both barometers requiring an H$_2$O input. Comparison of model
performance statistics (Figure 4f, Figure 5c) for the ML barometer and plagioclase-liquid
barometer highlights that the ML barometer represents a significant improvement in
reducing pressure estimate errors.

3.4 Anorthite content

We tested a model to estimate the composition of plagioclase (An content) as a
function of the melt composition. The An model performs well without incorporating
temperature and H$_2$O as additional input variables (Figure 3g, 3h), with a median 5.8
mol\% RMSE during cross-validation (Figure 2d) and a 5.8 mol\% RMSE for the test set
data (Figure 3g). The test data show no overall systematic offset across the An content
range with low intercept and MBE values and a gradient close to 1 (Figure 3g), attesting
to the model's high accuracy of anorthite predictions. Furthermore, 69\% of the
predictions have residuals within ± 5 mol\% of the measured values and 91\% within ± 10
mol\%. CaO, SiO$_2$ and MgO in the melt are the dominant controls on plagioclase
anorthite content (Figure S5), consistent with thermodynamic and experimental studies
(e.g., Panjasawatong et al., 1995; Namur et al., 2012; Neave and Namur, 2022). With
temperature exerting a primary control on plagioclase composition (e.g., Kudo and
Weill, 1970; Lange et al., 2009; Figure 1c), the combination of CaO, SiO$_2$ and MgO also
likely acts as an indirect proxy for temperature aiding anorthite predictions. We test our
ML anorthite model against model E of Putirka (2005), calibrated on experiments with
SiO$_2$ contents of 42–73 wt.\% and plagioclase compositions of An$_{40-95}$ (Figure 5d). We
also compare the anhydrous test set experiments with the T-independent models (Eq.
33–35) of Namur et al. (2012) that are all calibrated on 0.1 MPa experiments with SiO$_2$
contents of 43–78 wt.\% and plagioclase compositions of An$_{39-100}$. The ability of the ML
model to predict equilibrium plagioclase compositions is greater than that of model E
(Figure 5d; e.g., RMSE: 14 mol\%), whereas, for the subset of anhydrous experiments,
Namur et al.'s (2012) T-independent empirical models (Eq. 33–35) have comparable
RMSE, intercept and gradient values to the ML model, although the latter has a lower MBE and a higher $R^2$ value (Figure 3h, Figure 5d).

### 3.5 Plagioclase saturation

Before using any of the models, melt compositions must first be checked for plagioclase saturation to avoid erroneous model predictions, which may prove difficult if petrographic or microanalytical analyses cannot be carried out on samples, for example, in cases where only bulk rock data are available. We have thus developed a classifier model to screen matrix glass compositions for plagioclase saturation. We compiled an approximately equal amount of non-plagioclase to plagioclase-saturated experimental data ($n_{total} = 2206$) for calibration (Table S3) and used the classification mode of the algorithm to train the model. The classifier cross-validation process is the same as all the regression models outlined in Section 2.2, but 5-fold cross-validation was used instead. We use the classification accuracy metric to evaluate the classifier's performance, which is a ratio describing the number of correct predictions to the total number of predictions. The mean accuracy from cross-validation and test sets is 87% and 90%, respectively. Table S4 presents an average test set confusion matrix, which summarises all sets of classification results (i.e., false positive, false negative, true positive, true negative) from all test set replications and indicates low rates of false positive (~4%) and false negative (~5%) classifications. SiO$_2$, MgO and Al$_2$O$_3$ are the main melt oxides used to classify plagioclase saturation, corresponding to SiO$_2$ and MgO acting as differentiation and temperature proxies and Al$_2$O$_3$ indicating the onset of plagioclase crystallisation.
Figure 5. Testing set performance using other plagioclase-melt or melt models. Only the best-performing testing set is shown for each model, but the testing set statistics reflect the average RSME, $R^2$, MBE, intercept and gradient values across all ten testing sets. a) Plot of experimental temperature vs. the predicted temperature (°C) derived from liquid thermometer (Equation 26) of Putirka (2008). b) Plot of experimental water contents vs. the predicted water contents (wt.%) resulting from plagioclase-melt hygrometers of Putirka (Model H; 2008) and Waters and Lange (2015). c) Plot of experimental pressure vs. the predicted pressure (MPa) resulting from the plagioclase-melt barometer (Equation 25) of Putirka (2008). d) Plot of experimental anorthite content vs. the predicted anorthite content (mol%) derived from the plagioclase-melt equilibria model of Putirka (Model E; 2008) and Namur et al. (Equations 33–35; 2012).
Figure 6. Monte Carlo simulations of electron microprobe analytical errors and their effect on resulting temperatures (a, H$_2$O-independent thermometer; b, H$_2$O-dependent thermometer), water contents (c, T-independent hygrometer; d, T-dependent hygrometer), pressures (e, H$_2$O-independent barometer; f, H$_2$O-dependent barometer), and anorthite content estimates (g).
Figure 7. Investigation of appropriate filters for all testing set P-T-H₂O-An estimates using the standard deviation. Dashed lines highlight the 50th or 75th standard deviation quartile, where estimates (light grey points) greater than this value should be removed. The testing set statistics reflect the average RSME, R², MBE, intercept and gradient values across all ten testing sets after filtering. a) Median temperature residuals vs. temperature SD (°C) for the H₂O-independent thermometer. b) Median temperature residuals vs. temperature SD (°C) for the H₂O-dependent thermometer. c) Median water content residuals vs. water content SD (wt.%) for the T-independent hygrometer. d) Median water content residuals vs. water content SD (wt.%) for the T-dependent hygrometer. e) Median pressure residuals vs. pressure SD (MPa) for the H₂O-independent barometer. f) Median pressure residuals vs. pressure SD (MPa) for the H₂O-dependent barometer. g) Median anorthite content residuals vs. anorthite content SD (mol%) for the plagioclase-melt equilibria model.
3.6 Further model limitations

The P-T-H₂O bounds of the calibration dataset represent one major limitation of all models. The models presented here should *never* be used outside the calibration range since the ML algorithm is unsuited for extrapolation. Additional experimental constraints covering key calibration dataset gaps will help to increase model accuracy (i.e., Figure 1). Furthermore, hygrometer RMSEs could be improved if more experimental glasses were analysed for H₂O to increase the number of direct H₂O measurements within the calibration dataset, rather than using indirect H₂O estimates from solubility models (e.g., Papale et al., 2006; Zhang et al., 2007; Ghiorso and Gualda, 2015) or the 'volatiles by difference' method (e.g., Devine et al., 1995) that can have large uncertainties (e.g., Hughes et al., 2019). This is particularly true for low-H₂O melts.

The precision of P-T-H₂O-An predictions is controlled by the analytical error of the melt composition itself (e.g., Gualda and Ghiorso, 2014; Wieser et al., 2023d). To evaluate the impact of analytical (i.e. electron microprobe; EPMA) uncertainties on P-T-H₂O-An predictions, we used a series of Monte Carlo simulations to create major element oxide variation based on ten melt compositions (Table S5). These ten melts were chosen to represent the compositional range and experimental conditions throughout the calibration dataset. For each melt, new compositions are generated from its original oxide values with noise added from a normal distribution, with the variation deriving from a weighted mean of one sigma standard deviation EPMA values (Table S5) from a subset of experiments (n=400). The ten melts generated 2000 melt compositions by running a 200-time simulation per composition and subsequently used as inputs for each melt model. The simulations for the melt-only models highlight that analytical errors impose a limit on precision of ±43.7 MPa for pressure, ±22.9°C for temperature, ±0.56 wt.% for H₂O (with temperature), ±0.88 wt.% for H₂O (without temperature) and ±4.6 mol % for anorthite content (Figure 6a, 6c, 6e, 6g). In addition, analytical uncertainties associated with H₂O content inputs measured by SIMS or FTIR/Raman spectroscopy were also tested using a pessimistic averaged standard deviation of 0.5 wt.% (Ulmer et al., 2018), as few studies provide sufficient information.
(e.g., the number of analyses, standard deviations of water measurements) to calculate a reliable weighted mean. The simulations indicate that melt and water analytical errors can limit H$_2$O-dependent model precision to ±55.3 MPa for pressure and ±12.4°C for temperature (Figure 6b, 6f). Both sets of simulations indicate the sensitivity of our hygrothermobarometers to analytical uncertainty. The simulations emphasise the need to undertake careful preparation (i.e., tephra extraction, Cooper et al., 2019; glass alteration recognition) and analytical procedures (i.e. EPMA; Hayward, 2012) of matrix glass and inclusions to minimise the chemical variability of susceptible oxides (e.g., MgO, SiO$_2$) that would affect subsequent predictions.

4 Model application

To test the calibrations of our melt models, we have applied them to two tectonically contrasting, well-constrained volcanic systems (Mount St Helens, USA; Bárðarbunga, Iceland). We compare the predicted values to previous estimates calculated from various thermobarometers, direct H$_2$O measurements from melt inclusions and seismic information about the sub-volcanic systems. For each application, we also discuss the different ways the models can be used depending on whether the melt H$_2$O contents are known, along with suggestions on P-T-H$_2$O-An and plagioclase saturation prediction filtering.

4.1 May–October 1980 eruption, Mount St Helens, USA

On May 18$^{th}$ 1980, the north flank of Mount St Helens' edifice collapsed, depressurising the shallow magmatic ‘cryptodome’ and causing a lateral blast. Eruption of a 24 km Plinian column ensued later that day as depressurisation reached the deeper magmatic system. Smaller explosive eruptions characterise the following activity from May to October 1980; a series of dome-forming extrusions within the crater followed through to October 1986. Here, we apply the models to matrix glass and plagioclase-hosted melt inclusion data (n=151) in Blundy et al. (2008) from the 1980 eruptive activity of Mount St Helens. The erupted magma was a porphyritic dacite (or silicic andesite) with ~63 wt.% SiO$_2$ and ~35 vol% phenocrysts. The melt phase, both as inclusions and matrix glass, was uniformly rhyolitic and thought to be saturated in plagioclase,
orthopyroxene, magnetite and ilmenite (Rutherford et al., 1985). Amphibole also occurs as a phenocryst phase but shows some evidence of resorption, notably in the dome-forming magmas. Clinopyroxene is a rare phenocryst phase in some samples.

In cases where constraints for all parameters (P-T-H$_2$O-An) are unknown, the parameters should be recovered sequentially in the following order: An → T → H$_2$O → P (Figure S6). Before using the P-T-H$_2$O models, glass compositions must demonstrate that they represent a melt in equilibrium with plagioclase, which can be achieved by comparing An predictions from the plagioclase-equilibria model with natural plagioclase rim compositions. The uncertainty of a prediction is given as the standard deviation and can be used to filter model predictions to further reduce errors. This has been shown by Weber and Blundy (2023), where their model test set predictions from random forest regression display higher residual variance as the standard deviation (SD) increases. Figure 7 represents our melt model test set residuals against the SD and shows most of the divergence begins from the 75th quartile of SD values. In addition, our test set statistics display an improvement with overall lower RMSE, intercept, and MBE values with higher gradients and R$^2$ values, especially in the case of the barometers (Figure 7e, f). Therefore, we recommend filtering values by removing the top 25% SD values. However, for the hygrometers, removing values above the 50th quartile is more effective at reducing the variance (Figure 7). Although filtering will lead to fewer predictions, removing predictions with the highest variance will ensure more robust estimates. Accordingly, we only report the filtered estimates from all models with both applications (Table S6).

The plagioclase composition in equilibrium with the plagioclase-hosted melt inclusions and matrix glasses is estimated at An$_{21-51}$ (matrix mode: 45 mol%; MI mode: 39 mol%), which corresponds within error to the dominant plagioclase rim composition (An$_{47}$; Berlo et al., 2007), suggesting that the plagioclase rims were in equilibrium with the host melt.

The H$_2$O-independent thermometer returns mean melt inclusion and matrix glass temperatures of 892 ± 55°C (SD) and 885 ± 49°C (Fig. 8a), respectively, in which the
former is consistent with melt inclusion temperatures (853–941 °C; Blundy et al. 2006) calculated using the plagioclase-liquid thermometer of Putirka (2005). Fe-Ti oxide thermometry estimates (816–958 °C; Blundy et al., 2008), calculated using the oxide recalculation procedure of Spencer and Lindsley (1981) and the thermometer of Andersen and Lindsley (1988), extend the range to slightly higher temperatures. This slight magma heating may reflect latent heat release due to crystallisation or magma recharge (Blundy and Cashman, 2006) and the ability of Fe-Ti oxides to re-equilibrate chemically on short timescales (Venezky & Rutherford, 1999).

We next use the predicted melt temperatures as inputs for the T-dependent hygrometer, yielding H$_2$O estimates between 2.6 and 6.5 wt.%. We also performed Monte Carlo error propagation using the temperature SD from the thermometer outputs (Figure 8a), and the mean uncertainty for H$_2$O predictions across all samples is ± 1.4 wt.%. A full description of the error propagation method is presented in Text S1. The majority of melt inclusion H$_2$O estimates are broadly similar to measured analyses by SIMS (Blundy et al., 2006). In contrast, the estimated H$_2$O contents for the groundmass and the highly silicic (>75 wt.% SiO$_2$) melt inclusions are significantly higher than measured (Figure 8b) values, reflecting extensive degassing upon eruption and the failure of the melt to evolve chemically in response (Blundy and Cashman, 2005). The comparison could also signify a deficit of highly silicic calibration experiments with low dissolved water concentrations where the H$_2$O estimates diverge more profoundly from the 1:1 line. Furthermore, Figure 8b highlights that H$_2$O content negatively correlates with SiO$_2$, consistent with Blundy and Cashman (2005) suggesting decompression crystallisation of the groundmass and plagioclase phenocryst hosts during ascent.

Finally, using the predicted H$_2$O contents as inputs for the H$_2$O-dependent barometer, the pressure predictions returned values between 50 and 250 MPa (matrix mean: 117 ± 44 MPa, melt inclusion mean: 98 ± 41 MPa; Figure 8a). We again performed error propagation using the water uncertainty from the hygrometer resulting in a mean uncertainty of ± 38 MPa across all samples. The mean uncertainties for both H$_2$O and pressure highlight that even with two unknown parameters for a system, the accumulated errors are still low enough to obtain informative interpretations; we include
the error propagation capability within the provided R scripts. The H$_2$O-independent barometer returns similar pressures of 44–225 MPa (matrix mean: 113 ± 59 MPa, melt inclusion mean: 109 ± 61 MPa; Figure 8a). The pressures, particularly from melt inclusions, overlap with saturation pressure values (melt inclusion range: 7–282 MPa; mean: 97 MPa, matrix range: 3.2–20.6 MPa; matrix mean: 8.3 MPa; Figure 8a) from Blundy et al. (2010) estimated using Papale’s et al. (2006) H$_2$O-CO$_2$ solubility model. Overall, the main pressure range (44–250 MPa) resulting from both barometers convert to depths of 1.2–6.9 km using a 2700 kg/m$^3$ average crustal density. Scandone and Malone (1985) estimated a reservoir depth of 7–9 km using net edifice subsidence measured from electronic tiltmeters. An aseismic zone was also mapped at 7 km extending vertically for 6+ km from earthquake hypocentres, and interpreted as a reservoir connected to the surface (Scandone and Malone, 1985). Although our mean melt inclusion and matrix glass crystallisation depths are shallower than geophysical estimates, the glass compositions likely record crystallisation conditions during pre-eruptive ascent from the top of the storage region, consistent with the H$_2$O vs. SiO$_2$ relationship in Figure 8b.

4.2 2014-2015 Holuhraun eruption, Bárðarbunga, Iceland

In mid-August 2014, a dyke propagated laterally NE from Bárðarbunga volcano, and by the end of August, the dyke caused a fissure eruption at the Holuhraun lava field (Ágústsdóttir et al., 2016). The Holuhraun magma was a phenocryst poor (≤5 vol%) but highly vesicular olivine tholeiite (Halldórsson et al. 2018). Here, we use the basaltic matrix glass and plagioclase-hosted melt inclusion (with post-entrapment crystallisation corrections) data (n=251) from Hartley et al. (2018) and Halldórsson et al. (2018). Matrix glass data points with <6 wt.% MgO were removed, as they represent syn-emplacement crystallisation conditions (Halldórsson et al., 2018). We tested the plagioclase-saturation classifier on the matrix glasses (n=175), and 174 compositions are predicted to be plagioclase-saturated, which agrees with the petrography of the samples (plagioclase-olivine-clinopyroxene-Fe-Ti oxides; Halldórsson et al., 2018). Although the one matrix glass composition that failed the classifier test could be, in fact, plagioclase-saturated (i.e., false negative), the main objective of the classifier approach is to eliminate any
false positives that may generate inaccurate pressure estimates. We thus removed that single matrix glass composition for subsequent P-T-H$_2$O-An estimations.

The modal equilibrium plagioclase compositions predicted for matrix glasses and melt inclusions are An$_{70}$ and An$_{79}$, respectively, which are consistent with the estimated equilibrium plagioclase phenocryst rims and microphenocrysts using the plagioclase-melt equilibria model of Namur et al. (2012) (An$_{64.5-75}$; Halldórsson et al., 2018; Figure 9a). A subset of melt inclusions with higher MgO contents (>8 wt.%) have higher An$_{75-82}$ contents, which likely represent the entrainment of plagioclase phenocrysts from mush horizons (Hartley et al., 2018) now in disequilibrium with the surrounding melt.

Temperature reconstructions for matrix glasses and melt inclusions (<8 wt.% MgO) with the H$_2$O-independent thermometer yield mean temperatures of 1157 ± 14 °C and 1176 ± 13.5 °C (Figure 9b), respectively, consistent with clinopyroxene-liquid thermometry (1161 ± 11 °C; Neave et al., 2019) using Eq. 33 of Putirka (2008), whereas the primitive melt inclusions (higher MgO) record a higher mean temperature of 1203 ± 13 °C (Figure 9b). Water contents in matrix glasses and melt inclusions have been measured by FTIR and calculated, accounting for diffusive re-equilibration of melt inclusions, to be in the range of 0.13–0.7 wt.% (Bali et al., 2018; Hartley et al., 2018). If water contents are constrained to a specific range, we can use the H$_2$O-dependent barometer differently by testing various water values as inputs. We use values of 0.0, 0.3, 0.6 and 0.9 wt.% (Figure 9b), and the barometer returns matrix glass pressures of 151–296 MPa (mean: 185 ± 94 MPa) and melt inclusion pressures of 116–300 MPa (mean: 164 ± 99 MPa) for all water contents; varying the water content results in only minor pressure differences (~10–25 MPa). The H$_2$O-independent barometer gives similar matrix glass and melt inclusion pressures ranging between 191–202 MPa (mean: 191 ± 97 MPa) and 176–300 MPa (mean: 176 ± 91 MPa), respectively. All mean pressure predictions are in good agreement (Figure 9c) with pressures estimated by clinopyroxene-liquid barometry (232 ± 86 MPa, Neave et al., 2019; using iterative thermobarometric calculations including Eq. 1 of Neave and Putirka, 2017 and Eq. 33 of Putirka, 2008), plagioclase-liquid barometry (141 ± 247 MPa, Geiger et al., 2014; using Eq. 25a of Putirka, 2008), and OPAM thermal minima (matrix glass: 210 ± 70 MPa, melt
inclusion: 350 ± 170 MPa) with OPAM pressures for primitive melt inclusions returning values of 300–350 MPa (Hartley et al., 2018). Using a crustal density of 2860 kg/m$^3$ (Carlson and Herrick, 1990), the ML barometer pressures convert to depths of 3.4–8.8 km. These depths correspond well with the location of earthquake hypocentres (5–7 km; Figure 9c) associated with dyke propagation prior to the eruption (Sigmundsson et al., 2015; Ágústsdóttir et al., 2019).

Overall, the plagioclase-saturated melt models are effective at identifying the last-equilibrated composition of plagioclase crystals with the host melt and characterising key intensive parameters at Mount St Helens and Bárðarbunga. This is shown by the generally good agreement of predictions with previous petrological estimates using different models (e.g., volatile solubility and mineral ± melt thermobarometry) and geophysical data. Comparison of direct H$_2$O measurements with hygrometer predictions may also provide insight into which melt inclusions have likely lost water during ascent and their original water contents. The models offer the additional benefit of not requiring saturation of a specific mineral assemblage, which can often restrict the application of many melt-based models (e.g., olivine-plagioclase-augite, OPAM, Yang et al., 1996; Rhyolite-MELTS; Ghiorso et al., 2014).
**Figure 8.** a) Filtered temperature (°C) vs. pressure (MPa) predictions of melt inclusions and matrix glasses (n=113) for the 1980 Mount St Helens eruption, estimated using the H$_2$O-independent melt thermometer, H$_2$O-dependent melt barometer, and H$_2$O-independent melt barometer. The histogram on the right displays the saturation pressures of matrix glass (n=29) and melt inclusions (n=45) from Blundy et al. (2010), estimated using the Papale et al. (2006) solubility model. b) SIMS water contents vs. predicted water contents using the T-dependent hygrometer. Colour coding reflects SiO$_2$ content (wt.%) in melt.
Figure 9. a) Stacked histogram displaying the composition of plagioclase phenocrysts and microphenocryst crystals from the 2014-2015 Holuhraun eruption (data from Halldórsson et al. (2018), with the light grey field representing the plagioclase compositions predicted to be in equilibrium with the carrier liquid and inclusions. b) Filtered temperature (°C) vs. pressure (MPa) predictions of melt inclusions and matrix glasses (n=248) for the 2014-2015 Holuhraun eruption, calculated using the H2O-independent melt thermometer, H2O-dependent melt barometer, and H2O-independent melt barometer. Colour coding depicts the H2O content (wt.%) used as H2O-dependent barometer input. c) Density distribution of dyke seismicity (15th August 2014–30th August 2014; n=273) prior to the eruption. Data taken from Ágústsdóttir et al. (2019). Dashed lines represent mean depths estimated from plagioclase-liquid barometry (Geiger et al., 2014) using Eq. 25a (Putirka, 2008), plagioclase-saturated melt barometry (mean of both matrix glass and melt inclusion pressures estimated from both H2O-dependent and H2O-independent melt barometers), OPAM barometry (Hartley et al., 2018), and clinopyroxene-liquid barometry (Neave et al., 2019) using iterative thermobarometric calculations of Eq. 1 of Neave and Putirka (2017) and Eq. 33 of Putirka (2008).
5 Conclusions

We have tested various plagioclase-based hygrothermobarometric models using either plagioclase-melt or melt chemistry and developed an updated plagioclase-melt equilibria model, with all models calibrated using random forest machine learning. Our results show that the melt compositional information holds nearly all the P-T-H$_2$O information rather than the plagioclase, resulting in the melt and plagioclase-melt models returning incredibly similar cross-validation RMSE values. Test set RMSEs for the melt + T/H$_2$O and melt-only models are 25°C–35°C, 0.65–1.00 wt.%, 74–88 MPa and 5.8 mol% for temperature, water content, pressure and anorthite content, respectively. In general, the models provide an enhanced prediction accuracy for P-T-H$_2$O and anorthite content values. Furthermore, the T and H$_2$O-independent melt hygrothermobarometers allow predictions to be obtained without requiring additional inputs (P/T/H$_2$O) that are inherent within all previous plagioclase-based hygrothermobarometer formulations (Putirka, 2008; Waters and Lange, 2015; Masotta and Mollo, 2019), introducing further uncertainties that are often not propagated. For the T and H$_2$O-dependent melt hygrothermobarometers, there are dedicated R scripts to perform error propagation (for either measured H$_2$O contents, independent T values, or calculated T/ H$_2$O estimates from melt-only models) or to generate predictions with T or H$_2$O values in a given range.

Application of the melt thermometers and hygrometers is suitable for a wide range of plagioclase-bearing melts across temperatures of 664–1355 °C and H$_2$O contents ≤11.20 wt.%; the melt barometer is only appropriate for pressures of ≤500 MPa. The plagioclase-saturated melt models were applied to melt inclusions and matrix glass from the 1980 Mount St Helens eruption and 2014-2015 Holuhraun eruption, with P-T-H$_2$O-An predictions returning consistent constraints comparable to estimates and observations from melt inclusion analyses, geophysical data, and previous hygrothermobarometric and plagioclase-equilibria models. The new set of models enables an assessment of plagioclase-melt equilibrium and an insight into the last-equilibrated P-T-H$_2$O conditions of plagioclase-bearing magmas in the upper crust.
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Data Availability Statement

All experiments in the calibration datasets are listed in Table S1 and Table S3. Figures were made with R Studio version 4.3.1 (available under the license AGPL version 3 or later: https://posit.co/downloads/) and edited in Affinity Designer 2. The R scripts (version 1.0.0) associated with this manuscript are licensed under MIT and published on GitHub https://github.com/kyra-cutler/Plag-saturated-melt-P-T-H2O-An. Updates to the models will be found on the GitHub page.

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