



**SAMARA** UNIVERSITY

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**USING THE ACTOR MODEL FOR FLEXIBLE TASK  
MANAGEMENT IN DISTRIBUTED COMPUTING  
ENVIRONMENTS:**

A REVIEW OF THE TEMPLET PROJECT AND THE POSSIBILITY OF ITS  
INTEGRATION INTO THE SHARED-USE ENVIRONMENT OF THE NICA COMPLEX.

VI SPD Collaboration Meeting and Workshop on Information Technology  
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# OUTLINE

- 1. About the Templet project.**
- 2. The Software Development Kit sub-project features.**
- 3. Use cases of apps for non-dedicated computing environment.**
- 4. Proposals for technical cooperation.**



## ABOUT THE TEMPLET PROJECT

- ✓ Motivation - we learn to use Internet computing power.
- ✓ Main approach. About the name of the project.
- ✓ History of development and web resources of the project.



## Motivation - we learn to use Internet computing power

As the volume of computing (*AI, big data, computer simulation*) **grows**, so does **the need for programs that can effectively use idle computing resources** within the enterprise or on the Internet.

**This kind of programs is practically important because:**

- they can get a **large amount of computing resources**,
- a **lower cost** than using dedicated systems.

**This kind of programs is tricky and fun to develop because:**

- fault tolerance**,
- load balancing** and other issues of distributed systems to be solved.



## Where is the Internet's idle computing power?

- ❑ **Volunteer computers**, as in the *BOINC* project or other voluntary distributed computing projects.
- ❑ Temporarily **idle corporate computers** that are potentially available over the network to solve production problems, as in the *HTCondor* project.
- ❑ Temporarily **free computing nodes** of high performance supercomputer or cluster systems.
- ❑ Free or low cost **virtual machines** (*spot VMs*) or **serverless runtimes** from cloud providers.



## Main approach. About the name of the project.

Unlike projects (*BOINC*, *HTCondor*) that focus on developing infrastructure or middleware, **we focus on how to build programs on top of existing grid and/or cloud infrastructure.**

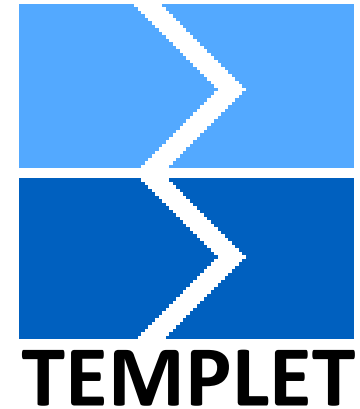
We follow the approach of **isolating the computation engine from the application logic**, called **algorithmic skeletons**, proposed by *Murray Cole*.

This skeleton or template or **Templet** is a **special form of code structure** that we use to program on idle resources.



## History of development and web resources of the Templet project

- ❑ Project **Wiki** ([templet.ssau.ru/wiki](http://templet.ssau.ru/wiki))
  - since August, 2013 (active)
- ❑ Registered **trademark** ([Rospatent](#))
  - since January, 2014 (active)
- ❑ **TempletWeb** service ([templet.ssau.ru/app](http://templet.ssau.ru/app)) –
  - since June, 2015 (retired in 2022)
- ❑ **TempletSDKx2** (<https://github.com/templet-language>)
  - since August, 2016 (retired)
- ❑ **TempletSDKx3** (<https://github.com/the-templet-project>)
  - since August, 2020 (active)



It has been successfully used to **teach courses** and **conduct research** in distributed and parallel computing (with **TempletWeb** >1000 students worked on idle nodes of SK cluster).



## THE SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT KIT SUB-PROJECT FEATURES

- ✓ Using actor model to submit jobs.
- ✓ New kind of actor model with global state.
- ✓ Using a metalanguage to simplify programming.
- ✓ One application - many runtime libraries.





**The basic principle** of computing in a faulty environment is well known – **dividing computation into small portions** (jobs or tasks).

✓ *This is also typical for processing experimental data in various fields, including nuclear physics.*

### Usual approaches for this include:

- creating all tasks beforehand;
- using DAG-based languages for exposing task dependances;
- using frameworks such as BOINC, etc.

We adapt **the actor model** proposed by *Carl Hewitt* to perform tasks at “isolated steps” of actor execution. This is **the key for flexible task management**.



## New kind of actor model with global state

Actor model has a source in functional programming. But we believe that

**the algorithmic representation of actors is more convenient for programmers.**

### Our variant of actors:

- ❑ need no special syntax to isolate actor state;
- ❑ can be considered as an algorithm with a predefined structure;
- ❑ can be thought of as *Cole's algorithmic skeleton*.

The [book](#) shows how to use the programming model for coding applications.



## Using a metalanguage to simplify programming

Maintaining the correct code structure for an actor model is hard even when using the popular Akka actor implementation.

To solve this problem, **we use a metalanguage** to describe the structure of the code.

### The metalanguage processor:

- automatically generates the correct code structure;
- seamlessly integrates the runtime with application code.

The [demonstration](#) shows how to program using the metalanguage processor.



### To date, four runtime libraries have been implemented:

- ❑ sequential execution of tasks for logical debugging (**base**);
- ❑ simulating a time delay to debug the performance (**basesim**);
- ❑ parallel execution of tasks in a shared memory (**omptask**);
- ❑ distributed execution of tasks over the Internet (**everest**).

✓ *Everest platform, developed by IITP RAS, is used as grid middleware.*

Running the same code in different environments allows:

- ❑ to debug a distributed application the same way as a sequential application;
- ❑ to get an earlier idea of possible speedup without running on multiple nodes;
- ❑ to use whatever middleware you prefer with job execution semantics.

- ✓ The computationally intensive application:  
analysis of dynamical system by calculating the Lyapunov exponent
- ✓ The data-intensive application:  
frequency analysis of microblogging



## The computationally intensive application features.

- ❑ Demonstration of interoperability and sharing licenses: calculations of Lyapunov exponents were carried out in the Maple language.
- ❑ There was a group of computers and virtual machines with Maple licensed packages installed.
- ❑ We combined these computers to calculate Lyapunov exponents in parallel and automated the issuance of tasks for them.

**Source:** *Popov S.N. , Vostokin S.V., Doroshin A.V. Dynamical systems analysis using manytask interactive cloud computing // Journal of Physics: Conference Series. 2020. Vol. 1694. Issue 1.*



## The data intensive application features.

- ❑ Demonstration of the ability to process data in non-dedicated computing environments.
- ❑ Demonstration of programming algorithms with complex dependencies between tasks.
- ❑ To store and exchange data between virtual machines in the public cloud of Samara University, access to a distributed file system was used.

**Source:** *Vostokin S., Bobyleva I. V. Implementation of frequency analysis of Twitter microblogging in a hybrid cloud based on the Binder, Everest platform and the Samara University virtual desktop service // CEUR Workshop Proceedings. 2020. Vol. 2667. P. 162-165.*



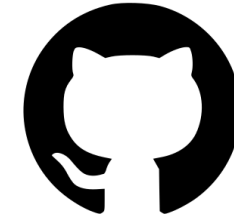
- ✓ Deployment on the JINR MLIT testbed resources.
- ✓ Adding DIRAC job management to the SDK.
- ✓ Development of a runtime/middleware in a pilot-job paradigm.





## Current deployment

- ❑ TempletSDKx3 source code → GitHub.com
- ❑ TempletSDKx3 in JupyterLab → MyBinder.org
- ❑ Distributed execution control → Everest.distcomp.org



## Deployment for testing at JINR

- ❑ TempletSDKx3 source code → HybriLIT/GitLab
- ❑ TempletSDKx3 in JupyterLab → HybriLIT/BinderHub
- ❑ Distributed execution control → Everest.distcomp.org or DIRAC



HybriLIT





## Current job management

- ❑ Job submission - REST, HTTPS/JSON using libcurl (C/C++)
- ❑ Job execution - Everest agent (Python)
- ❑ File transfer - Everest platform, using libcurl (C/C++), Windows Server

Everest

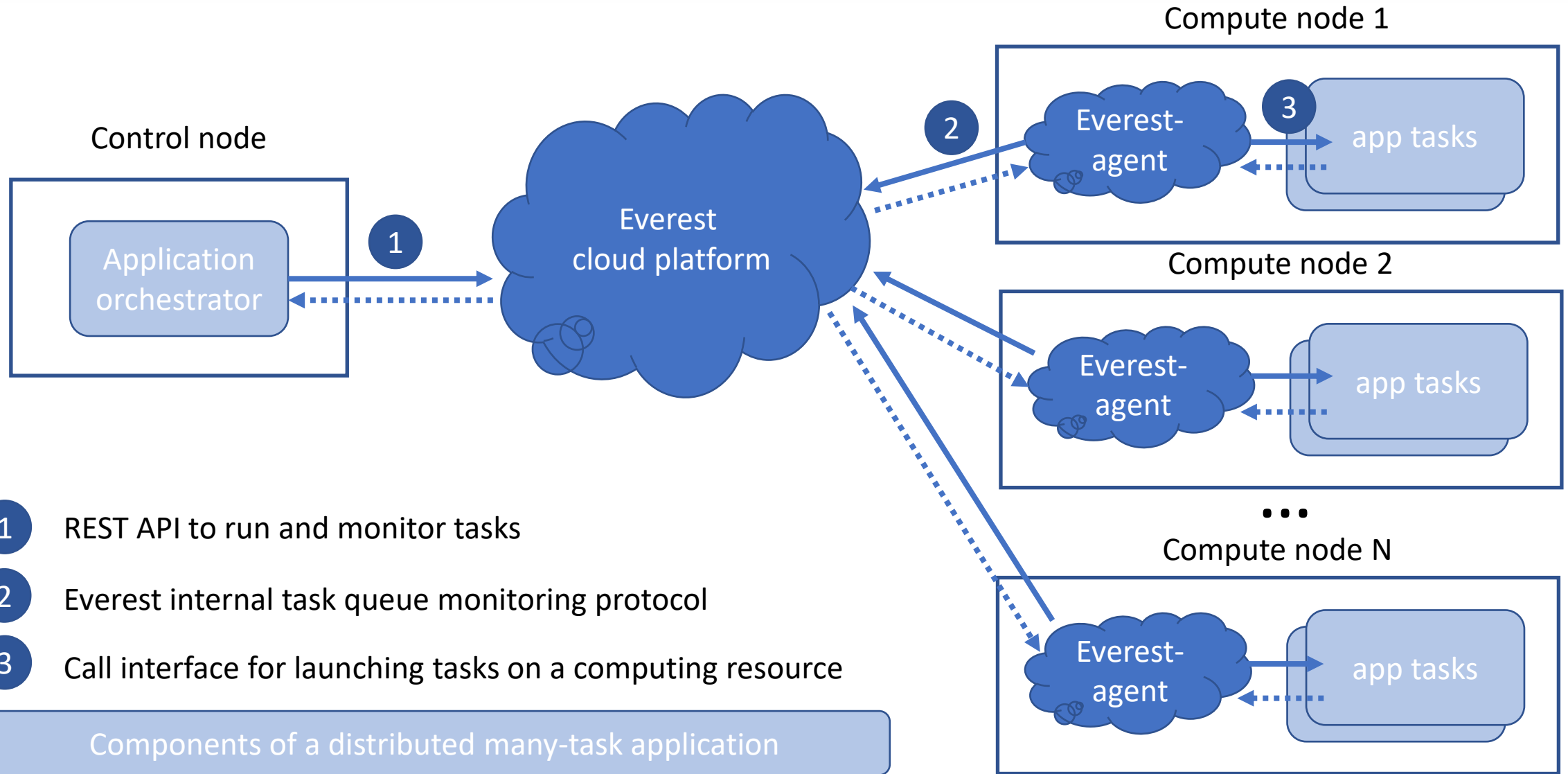
## Job management for testing at JINR

- ❑ DIRAC via REST using libcurl (C/C++)
- ❑ required polling time from 1 to 5 seconds





# Development of a runtime in a pilot-job paradigm (current architecture)

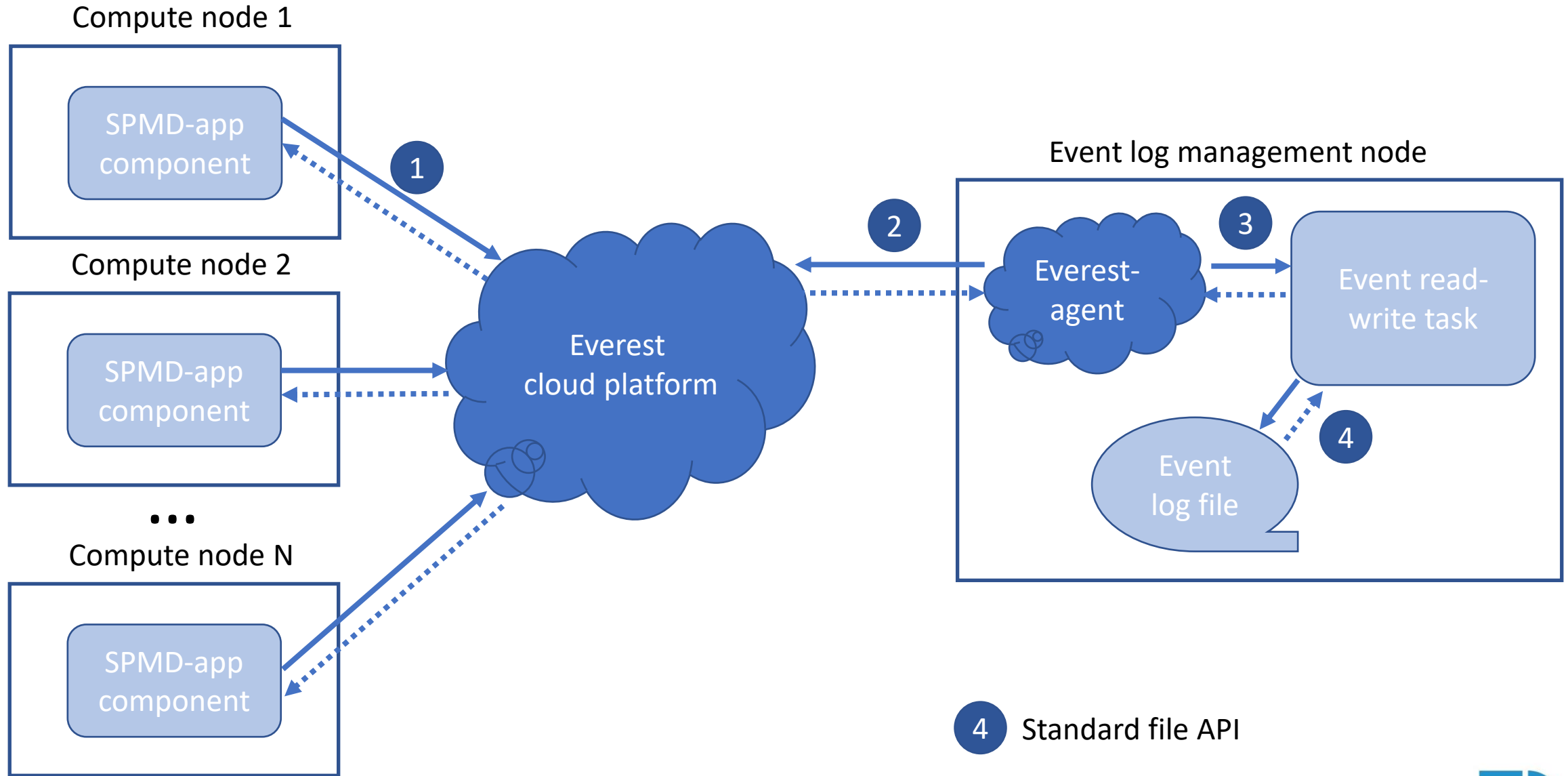


- 1 REST API to run and monitor tasks
- 2 Everest internal task queue monitoring protocol
- 3 Call interface for launching tasks on a computing resource

Components of a distributed many-task application



# Development of a runtime in a pilot-job paradigm (proposed architecture)





THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION !

<http://templet.ssau.ru> - главная страница

<http://templet.ssau.ru/wiki> - вики проекта Templet и образовательные ресурсы

<https://github.com/the-templet-project> - Templet SDK x3 - актуальная версия

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