

# ON CENTRAL COMMUTATOR GALOIS EXTENSIONS OF RINGS

GEORGE SZETO and LIANYONG XUE

**Abstract.** Let  $B$  be a ring with 1,  $G$  a finite automorphism group of  $B$  of order  $n$  for some integer  $n$ ,  $B^G$  the set of elements in  $B$  fixed under each element in  $G$ , and  $\Delta = V_B(B^G)$ , the commutator subring of  $B^G$  in  $B$ . Then the type of central commutator Galois extensions is studied. This type includes the types of Azumaya Galois extensions and Galois  $H$ -separable extensions. Several characterizations of a central commutator Galois extension are given. Moreover, it is shown that when  $G$  is inner,  $B$  is a central commutator Galois extension of  $B^G$  if and only if  $B$  is a  $H$ -separable projective group ring  $B^G G_f$ . This generalizes the structure theorem for central Galois algebras with an inner Galois group proved by F. R. DeMeyer.

**Keywords:** Azumaya algebras, Galois extensions, central Galois extensions, Azumaya Galois extensions, center Galois extensions, and  $H$ -separable extensions.

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**1. Introduction.** Galois theory for commutative rings were studied in the sixties and seventies ([2], chapter 3), and several Galois extensions of noncommutative rings were also investigated ([3], [5], [6], [8]). Recently, central Galois extensions and the DeMeyer-Kanzaki Galois extensions were generalized to the Azumaya Galois extensions and center Galois extensions respectively ([1], [9], [10], [11]).  $B$  is called an Azumaya Galois extension of  $B^G$  with Galois group  $G$  if  $B$  is a Galois extension of  $B^G$  which is an Azumaya algebra over  $C^G$  where  $C$  is the center of  $B$ , and  $B$  is called a center Galois extension of  $B^G$  if  $C$  is a Galois algebra with Galois group  $G|_C \cong G$ . The purpose of the present paper is to study a type of Galois extensions which is strictly between the types of Azumaya Galois extensions

and Galois  $H$ -separable extensions. Let  $\Delta = V_B(B^G)$ , the commutator subring of  $B^G$  in  $B$ . We call  $B$  a commutator Galois extension of  $B^G$  if  $\Delta$  is a Galois extension with Galois group  $G|_{\Delta} \cong G$ , and  $B$  is a central commutator Galois extension of  $B^G$  if  $\Delta$  is a central Galois algebra with Galois group  $G|_{\Delta} \cong G$ . We shall characterize a central commutator Galois extension in terms of a Galois  $H$ -separable extension  $B$  of  $B^G$  as studied by K. Sugano ([8]) and the  $C$ -modules  $\{J_g \mid g \in G\}$  where  $J_g = \{b \in B \mid ba = g(a)b \text{ for all } a \in B\}$ . Moreover, it will be shown that  $B$  is a central commutator Galois extension of  $B^G$  with an inner Galois group  $G$  if and only if  $B$  is a  $H$ -separable projective group ring  $B^G G_f$  where  $B^G G_f = \sum_{g \in G} B^G U_g$  such that  $\{U_g \mid g \in G\}$  are free over  $B^G$ ,  $bU_g = U_g b$  for all  $b \in B^G$  and  $g \in G$ , and  $U_g U_h = U_{gh} f(g, h)$  where  $f : G \times G \rightarrow \text{units of } C^G$  is a factor set. This generalizes the structure theorem for a central Galois algebra with an inner Galois group proved by F. R. DeMeyer ([4]). This paper was written under the support of a Caterpillar Fellowship at Bradley University. We would like to thank Caterpillar Inc. for the support.

**2. Basic Definitions and Notations.** Throughout this paper,  $B$  will represent a ring with 1,  $C$  the center of  $B$ ,  $G$  a finite automorphism group of  $B$  of order  $n$  for some integer  $n$ ,  $B^G$  the set of elements in  $B$  fixed under each element in  $G$ , and  $\Delta = V_B(B^G)$ , the commutator subring of  $B^G$  in  $B$ .

Let  $A$  be a subring of a ring  $B$  with the same identity 1. We call  $B$  a separable extension of  $A$  if there exist  $\{a_i, b_i \text{ in } B, i = 1, 2, \dots, m \text{ for some integer } m\}$  such that  $\sum a_i b_i = 1$ , and  $\sum b a_i \otimes b_i = \sum a_i \otimes b_i b$  for all  $b$  in  $B$  where  $\otimes$  is over  $A$ , and a ring  $B$  is called a  $H$ -separable extension of  $A$  if  $B \otimes_A B$  is isomorphic to a direct summand of a finite direct sum of  $B$  as a  $B$ -bimodule. An Azumaya algebra is a separable extension of its center.  $B$  is called a Galois extension of  $B^G$  with Galois group  $G$  if there exist elements  $\{c_i, d_i \text{ in } B, i = 1, 2, \dots, m\}$  for some integer  $m$  such that  $\sum_{i=1}^m c_i g(d_i) = \delta_{1,g}$  for  $g \in G$ . The set  $\{c_i, d_i\}$  is called a  $G$ -Galois system for  $B$ .  $B$  is called a DeMeyer-Kanzaki Galois extension of  $B^G$  if  $B$  is an Azumaya  $C$ -algebra and  $C$  is a Galois algebra with Galois group  $G|_C \cong G$ . If  $C$  is a Galois algebra with Galois group  $G|_C \cong G$ , we call  $B$  a center Galois extension of  $B^G$ .  $B$  is called an Azumaya Galois extension if it is a Galois extension of  $B^G$  that is an Azumaya  $C^G$ -algebra, and  $B$  is called a Galois  $H$ -separable extension if it is a Galois and a  $H$ -separable extension of  $B^G$  (see [8]). We call  $B$  a commutator Galois extension of  $B^G$  if  $\Delta$  is a Galois extension with Galois group  $G|_{\Delta} \cong G$ , and  $B$  is a central commutator Galois extension of  $B^G$  if  $\Delta$  is a central Galois algebra with Galois

group  $G|_{\Delta} \cong G$ . For each  $g \in G$ , let  $J_g = \{b \in B \mid bx = g(x)b \text{ for all } x \in B\}$  and  $J_g^A = \{a \in A \mid ax = g(x)a \text{ for all } x \in A\}$  for a subring  $A$  of  $B$ .

**3. Central Commutator Galois Extensions.** In this section, we shall give several characterizations of a central commutator Galois extension in terms of Galois  $H$ -separable extensions and Azumaya Galois extensions respectively, and prove the converse of a theorem for a Galois  $H$ -separable extension as given in [8]. We begin with some properties of a commutator Galois extension.

**Lemma 3.1.** *If  $B$  is a commutator Galois extension of  $B^G$ , then  $\Delta$  is a Galois algebra over  $C^G$ .*

**Proof.** Since  $\Delta$  is a Galois extension of  $\Delta^G$  with Galois group  $G|_{\Delta} \cong G$ ,  $B$  and  $B^G\Delta$  are also Galois extensions of  $B^G$  with Galois group  $G$  and  $G|_{B^G\Delta}$ . But  $B^G\Delta \subset B$  and  $G \cong G|_{B^G\Delta}$ , so  $B = B^G\Delta$ . Thus, the center of  $\Delta$  is  $C$ ; and so  $\Delta^G = B^G \cap \Delta = C^G$ .

**Lemma 3.2.** *If  $B$  is a commutator Galois extension of  $B^G$ , then  $J_g = J_g^{\Delta}$  for each  $g \in G$ .*

**Proof.** Since  $J_g = \{b \in B \mid ba = g(a)b \text{ for all } a \in B\} \subset \{b \in B \mid ba = g(a)b \text{ for all } a \in B^G\} = \Delta$ ,  $J_g \subset J_g^{\Delta}$ .

Conversely, for any  $x \in J_g^{\Delta}$ ,  $xd = g(d)x$  for all  $d \in \Delta$ . Since  $\Delta$  is a Galois extension of  $\Delta^G$  with Galois group  $G|_{\Delta} \cong G$ ,  $B = B^G\Delta$  by the proof of Lemma 3.1. So for any  $b \in B$ ,  $b = \sum_{i=1}^m b_i d_i$  for some  $b_i \in B^G$ ,  $d_i \in \Delta$  and some integer  $m$ , we have that  $xb = x \sum_{i=1}^m b_i d_i = \sum_{i=1}^m b_i x d_i = \sum_{i=1}^m b_i g(d_i)x = g(\sum_{i=1}^m b_i d_i)x = g(b)x$ . Thus,  $J_g^{\Delta} \subset J_g$ ; and so  $J_g = J_g^{\Delta}$ .

**Theorem 3.3.** *The following are equivalent:*

- (1)  $B$  is a central commutator Galois extension of  $B^G$ .
- (2)  $B$  is a commutator Galois extension of  $B^G$  and  $J_g J_{g^{-1}} = C$  for each  $g \in G$ .
- (3)  $B$  is a Galois  $H$ -separable extension of  $B^G$ ,  $B = B^G\Delta$ , and  $n^{-1} \in B$ .

**Proof.** (1)  $\implies$  (2) It is clear.

(2)  $\implies$  (1) By Lemma 3.1,  $\Delta^G = C^G$ , so  $\Delta$  is a Galois algebra with Galois group  $G|_{\Delta} \cong G$ . By hypothesis,  $J_g J_{g^{-1}} = C$  for each  $g \in G$  and by Lemma 3.2,  $J_g = J_g^{\Delta}$  for each  $g \in G$ , so  $\Delta$  is a central Galois algebra ([5], Theorem 1).

(1)  $\implies$  (3) Since  $\Delta$  is a central Galois  $C^G$ -algebra, we have  $B = B^G \Delta$ ,  $J_g = J_g^{\Delta}$  for each  $g \in G$  by Lemma 3.2 and  $J_g^{\Delta} J_{g^{-1}}^{\Delta} = C$  ([6], Lemma 2). Hence  $J_g J_{g^{-1}} = C$  for each  $g \in G$ . But  $B$  is a Galois extension of  $B^G$  with the same Galois system for  $\Delta$ , so  $B$  is a Galois  $H$ -separable extension of  $B^G$  ([8], Theorem 2 (iii) $\implies$ (i)). Moreover,  $n^{-1} \in B$  ([6], Corollary 3), so (3) holds.

(3)  $\implies$  (1) Since  $B = B^G \Delta$ , the group  $H = \{g \in G \mid g|_{\Delta} \text{ is an identity}\} = \{1\}$ . Thus,  $\Delta$  is a central Galois algebra over  $\Delta^G$  ([8], Theorem 6, (3) (ii) $\implies$ (iii)) where  $\Delta^G = C^G$  by Lemma 3.1.

We remark that (1)  $\implies$  (3) in Theorem 3.3 is the converse of Theorem 6 in [8]; that is, if  $\Delta$  is a central Galois algebra with Galois group  $G|_{\Delta} \cong G$ , then (i)  $n^{-1} \in B$ , (ii)  $B = B^G \Delta$ , and (iii)  $B$  is a Galois  $H$ -separable extension of  $B^G$ .

In next theorem, we give a characterization of a central commutator Galois extension in terms of Azumaya Galois extensions

**Theorem 3.4.** *The following are equivalent:*

- (1)  *$B$  is a central commutator Galois extension of  $B^G$  and  $B^G$  is a separable  $C^G$ -algebra.*
- (2)  *$B$  is an Azumaya Galois extension with Galois group  $G$ .*
- (3)  *$B$  is a central commutator Galois extension and a separable extension of  $\Delta$ .*

**Proof.** (1)  $\implies$  (2) Since  $B$  is a central commutator Galois extension,  $B$  is a Galois  $H$ -separable extension of  $B^G$  by Theorem 3.3-(3). Thus,  $V_B(V_B(B^G)) = B^G$  ([8], Proposition 4-(1)). This implies that  $C \subset B^G$ ; and so  $C = C^G$ . Moreover, by Theorem 3.3-(3) again,  $B = B^G \Delta$ , so the center of  $B^G$  is  $C^G$ , the center of  $B$ . Thus,  $B^G$  is an Azumaya  $C^G$ -algebra. By noting that  $B$  is a Galois extension of  $B^G$ , (2) holds.

(2)  $\implies$  (1) is a consequence of Lemma 1 in [1].

(1)  $\implies$  (3) Since  $B$  is a separable extension of  $B^G$  (for it is a Galois extension) and  $B^G$  is a separable  $C^G$ -algebra,  $B$  is a separable  $C^G$ -algebra by the transitivity property of separable extensions. Thus,  $B$  is a separable extension of  $\Delta$  because  $C^G \subset \Delta \subset B$ .

(3)  $\implies$  (1) Since  $\Delta$  is a Galois extension of  $\Delta^G$  with Galois group  $G|_{\Delta} \cong G$ ,  $\Delta$  is a separable extension of  $\Delta^G$ . By Lemma 3.1,  $\Delta^G = C^G = C$  (for  $C$  is the center of  $\Delta$ ). By hypothesis,  $B$  is a separable extension of  $\Delta$ . Hence  $B$  is a separable extension of  $C$ , that is,  $B$  is an Azumaya  $C$ -algebra. By Lemma 3.1 again,  $B = B^G \Delta$  such that  $B^G$  and  $\Delta$  are  $C$ -subalgebras of the Azumaya  $C$ -algebra  $B$ . Hence, they are Azumaya  $C$ -algebras by the commutator theorem for Azumaya algebras ([2], Theorem 4.3, page 57). Since  $\Delta$  is a Galois extension of  $\Delta^G$  with Galois group  $G|_{\Delta} \cong G$ ,  $B$  is a Galois extension of  $B^G$  which is an Azumaya  $C^G$ -algebra. This completes the proof.

**4.  $H$ -separable Projective Group Rings.** In [4], it was shown that  $B$  is a central Galois algebra with an inner Galois group  $G$  if and only if  $B$  is an Azumaya projective group algebra  $C^G G_f$  over  $C^G$  where  $C^G G_f = \sum_{g \in G} C^G U_g$  such that  $\{U_g | g \in G\}$  are free over  $C^G$ ,  $cU_g = U_g c$  for all  $c \in C^G$  and  $g \in G$ , and  $U_g U_h = U_{gh} f(g, h)$ ,  $f : G \times G \rightarrow$  units of  $C^G$  is a factor set ([4]). We shall generalize this fact to a central commutator Galois extension with an inner Galois group.

**Theorem 4.1.**  *$B$  is a central commutator Galois extension of  $B^G$  with an inner Galois group  $G$  if and only if  $B = B^G G_f$  which is a  $H$ -separable extension of  $B^G$  and  $n^{-1} \in B$ .*

**Proof.** ( $\implies$ ) By Theorem 3.3 (1) $\implies$ (3),  $B = B^G \Delta$  which is a Galois  $H$ -separable extension of  $B^G$  and  $n^{-1} \in B$ , so it suffices to show that  $B = B^G G_f$ , a projective group ring with coefficient ring  $B^G$ . Since  $\Delta$  is a central Galois  $C^G$ -algebra, by Theorem 2 in [4],  $\Delta = C^G G_f$ , a projective group algebra over  $C^G$  where  $f : G \times G \rightarrow$  units of  $C^G$  is a factor set such that  $f(g, h) = U_g U_h U_{gh}^{-1}$  for all  $g, h \in G$ . Noting that  $bU_g = U_g b$  for all  $b \in B^G$  and  $g \in G$ , we claim that  $\{U_g | g \in G\}$  are independent over  $B^G$ . Assume  $\sum_{g \in G} b_g U_g = 0$  for some  $b_g \in B^G$  and  $g \in G$ . Since  $\Delta$  is a Galois extension of  $\Delta^G$  with Galois group  $G|_{\Delta} \cong G$ , there exists a  $G$ -Galois system  $\{c_i, d_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, m$  for some integer  $m\}$  for  $\Delta$  such that  $\sum_{i=1}^m c_i g(d_i) = \delta_{1,g}$  for  $g \in G$ . Hence  $b_1 = \sum_{g \in G} \delta_{1,g} b_g U_g = \sum_{g \in G} \sum_{i=1}^m c_i g(d_i) b_g U_g = \sum_{g \in G} \sum_{i=1}^m c_i b_g g(d_i) U_g = \sum_{g \in G} \sum_{i=1}^m c_i b_g U_g d_i = \sum_{i=1}^m c_i (\sum_{g \in G} b_g U_g) d_i = 0$ . So  $\sum_{g \in G} b_g U_g = 0$  for some  $b_g \in B^G$  and  $g \in G$  implies that  $b_1 = 0$ . Now for any  $h \in G$ , since  $\sum_{g \in G} b_g U_g = 0$ ,  $0 = \sum_{g \in G} b_g U_g U_{h^{-1}} = \sum_{g \in G} b_g f(g, h^{-1}) U_{gh^{-1}}$ . Thus,  $b_h f(h, h^{-1}) = 0$ , and so  $b_h = 0$ . This proves that  $\{U_g | g \in G\}$  are independent over  $B^G$ .

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Since  $B^G G_f (\cong B^G \otimes_{C^G} C^G G_f)$  is a  $H$ -separable extension of  $B^G$  and  $B^G$  is a direct summand of  $B^G G_f$  as a left  $B^G$ -module,  $V_{B^G G_f}(V_{B^G G_f}(B^G)) = B^G$ . This implies that the center of  $B^G G_f$  is  $C^G$ . Moreover,  $G$  is inner induced by  $\{U_g \mid g \in G\}$ , so  $J_g = C^G U_g$  for each  $g \in G$ . But then  $C^G G_f = \oplus \sum_{g \in G} C^G U_g = \oplus \sum_{g \in G} J_g$  such that  $J_g J_{g^{-1}} = (C^G U_g)(C^G U_{g^{-1}}) = C^G$  for all  $g \in G$ . By hypothesis,  $n^{-1} \in C^G$ , so  $C^G G_f$  is a separable algebra over  $C^G$ . Thus,  $\Delta (= C^G G_f)$  is a central Galois algebra ([5], Theorem 1) with an inner Galois group  $\bar{G}$  induced by  $\{U_g \mid g \in G\}$ . Thus,  $B$  is a central commutator Galois extension of  $B^G$  with an inner Galois group  $G$ .

By Theorem 1.2 in [7], we derive a one-to-one correspondence between some sets of separable subextensions in a central commutator Galois extension  $B$  of  $B^G$ . Let  $\mathcal{S} = \{\mathcal{A} \mid \mathcal{A} \text{ is a separable subextension of } B \text{ containing } B^G \text{ which is a direct summand of } B \text{ as a bimodule}\}$  and  $\mathcal{T} = \{\mathcal{D} \mid \mathcal{D} \text{ is a separable subalgebra of } \Delta \text{ over } C^G\}$ .

**Theorem 4.2.** *Let  $B$  be a central commutator Galois extension of  $B^G$ . Then, there exists a one-to-one correspondence between  $\mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathcal{T}$  by  $A \rightarrow V_B(A)$ .*

**Proof.** By Theorem 3.3-(4),  $B$  is a  $H$ -separable extension of  $B^G$ , so the correspondence holds by Theorem 1.2 in [7].

We conclude this paper with two examples of Galois extension  $B$  to show that

- (1)  $B$  is a central commutator Galois extension but not an Azumaya Galois extension (see Theorem 3.4), and
- (2)  $B$  is a Galois  $H$ -separable extension but not a central commutator Galois extension (see Theorem 3.3).

**Example 1.** Let  $A = Q[i, j, k]$  be the quaternion algebra over the rational field  $Q$ ,  $B = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ 0 & a_3 \end{pmatrix} \mid a_1, a_2, a_3 \in A \right\}$ , the ring of all 2 by 2 upper triangle matrices over  $A$  and  $G = \{1, g_i, g_j, g_k\}$  where  $g_i(a) = iai^{-1}$ ,  $g_j(a) = jaj^{-1}$ ,  $g_k(a) = kak^{-1}$  for all  $a$  in  $A$  and  $g \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ 0 & a_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} g(a_1) & g(a_2) \\ 0 & g(a_3) \end{pmatrix}$  for  $g \in G$ . Then

- (1)  $A^G = Q$ .
- (2)  $B^G = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} q_1 & q_2 \\ 0 & q_3 \end{pmatrix} \mid q_1, q_2, q_3 \in Q \right\}$ , the ring of all 2 by 2 upper triangle matrices over  $Q$ .

$$(3) \Delta = V_B(B^G) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix} \mid a \in A \right\} \cong A.$$

(4)  $\Delta$  is a Galois extension of  $\Delta^G$  with Galois group  $G|_{\Delta} \cong G$  and a Galois system  $\{1, i, j, k; \frac{1}{4}, -\frac{1}{4}i, -\frac{1}{4}j, -\frac{1}{4}k\}$ .

(5)  $\Delta^G = Q$  is the center of  $\Delta$ .

(6) By (4) and (5),  $B$  is a central commutator Galois extension of  $B^G$ .

(7) The center of  $B^G$  is  $Q$ .

(8)  $B^G$  is not a separable extension of its center  $Q$ , and so  $B^G$  is not an Azumaya algebra. In fact, suppose that  $B^G$  is a separable extension of  $Q$ . Then, there exists a separable idempotent

$$e = \sum_{\substack{1 \leq i \leq j \leq 2 \\ 1 \leq k \leq l \leq 2}} q_{ijkl}(e_{ij} \otimes e_{kl}),$$

where  $e_{11} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $e_{12} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $e_{22} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , and  $q_{ijkl} \in Q$  such that

$\sum_{\substack{1 \leq i \leq j \leq 2 \\ 1 \leq k \leq l \leq 2}} q_{ijkl}e_{ij}e_{kl} = I_2$ , the identity 2 by 2 matrix, and  $be = eb$  for all  $b \in B^G$ . By  $e_{11}e = ee_{11}$ , we have

$$\sum_{\substack{1 \leq j \leq 2 \\ 1 \leq k \leq l \leq 2}} q_{1jkl}(e_{1j} \otimes e_{kl}) = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq j \leq 2} q_{ij11}(e_{ij} \otimes e_{11}).$$

Hence  $q_{2211} = 0$  and  $q_{1jk2} = 0$  for all  $j, k$ , that is,  $q_{1112} = q_{1122} = q_{1212} = q_{1222} = 0$ . By  $e_{12}e = ee_{12}$ , we have

$$\sum_{1 \leq k \leq l \leq 2} q_{22kl}(e_{12} \otimes e_{kl}) = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq j \leq 2} q_{ij11}(e_{ij} \otimes e_{12}).$$

Hence  $q_{22kl} = 0$  if  $(k, l) \neq (1, 2)$  and  $q_{ij11} = 0$  if  $(i, j) \neq (1, 2)$ , that is,  $q_{2211} = q_{2222} = 0$  and  $q_{1111} = q_{2211} = 0$ . Therefore,  $e = q_{1211}(e_{12} \otimes e_{11}) + q_{2212}(e_{22} \otimes e_{12})$ . Thus,  $I_2 = \sum_{\substack{1 \leq i \leq j \leq 2 \\ 1 \leq k \leq l \leq 2}} q_{ijkl}e_{ij}e_{kl} = q_{1211}e_{12}e_{11} + q_{2212}e_{22}e_{12} = 0$ . This contradiction shows that  $B^G$  is not a separable extension of  $Q$ .

**Example 2** Let  $B = Q[i, j, k]$  be the quaternion algebra over the rational field  $Q$  and  $G = \{1, g_i\}$  where  $g_i(x) = ix i^{-1}$  for all  $x$  in  $B$ . Then

(1)  $B$  is a Galois extension of  $B^G$  with Galois group  $G$  and a Galois system  $\{1, i, j, k; \frac{1}{4}, -\frac{1}{4}i, -\frac{1}{4}j, -\frac{1}{4}k\}$ .

- (2) Since  $G$  is inner,  $B$  is a  $H$ -separable extension of  $B^G$ .
- (3) By (1) and (2),  $B$  is a Galois  $H$ -separable extension of  $B^G$ .
- (4)  $\Delta = V_B(B^G) = Q[i]$  is not a Galois extension of  $\Delta^G$  with Galois group  $G|_{\Delta} \cong G$ , and so  $B$  is not a central commutator Galois extension of  $B^G$ .

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