1003-51-1162   **Tara E. Brendle*** (`brendle@math.cornell.edu`), Department of Mathematics, 310 Malott Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853, and **Dan Margalit** (`margalit@math.utah.edu`), Department of Mathematics, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT 84112-0090.
Commensurations of the Johnson kernel.

We show that Comm(K) = Aut(K) = Mod(S), where K is the subgroup of the mapping class group Mod(S) generated by twists about separating simple closed curves. In particular, this verifies a conjecture of Farb. (Received October 04, 2004)