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David Whitehouse* (dw@math.mit.edu), Department of Mathematics, MIT, 2-171, 77
Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139. *Periods and central values of quadratic base change
L-functions.*

An important result of Waldspurger relates the central value of quadratic base change L-functions for $GL(2)$ to period integrals over tori. Subsequently this result was reproved by Jacquet using the relative trace formula. We will explain some progress on extending Waldspurger's result to higher rank via a generalization of Jacquet's approach. (Received September 11, 2009)