

MAGIDOR-STYLE EMBEDDING CHARACTERIZATIONS OF LARGE CARDINALS

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ABSTRACT. Motivated by a classical theorem of Magidor, I will present results providing characterizations of important objects from the lower end of the large cardinal hierarchy through the existence of elementary embeddings between set-sized models that map their critical point to the large cardinal in question. Focussing on the characterization of *shrewd cardinals*, introduced by Rathjen in a proof-theoretic context, I will show how these results can be used in the study of the combinatorics of strong chain conditions and the investigation of *principles of structural reflection* formulated by Bagaria.

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