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Peter Brinkmann* (brinkman@math.uiuc.edu), Department of Mathematics, 273 Altgeld Hall, 1409 W. Green Street, Urbana, IL 61801. *Splittings of mapping tori of free group automorphisms.* Preliminary report.

I will present necessary and sufficient conditions for the existence of a splitting of a mapping torus G of a free group automorphism (i.e., a semidirect product of a free group F with the infinite cyclic group Z) over Z . Applications include (rather unexpected) examples of such splittings as well as results about the Gromov boundary of G when G is hyperbolic. (Received October 02, 2000)