Meeting: 998, Houston, Texas, SS 7A, Special Session on Low Dimensional Topology

998-57-313 **Darren Long**, Dept of Mathematics, U.C.S.B, Santa Barbara, CA 93106, and **Alan W. Reid***, Dept of Mathematics, The University of Texas, Austin, TX 78712. *Retractions of groups*. Preliminary report.

We define the notion of a retraction of a group onto subgroup and discuss some applications. This is motivated by separability properties of 3-manifold groups. (Received March 01, 2004)