Meeting: 1001, Evanston, Illinois, SS 13A, Special Session on Algebraic Topology: Interactions with Representation Theory and Algebraic Geometry

1001-55-320 **Nathalie Wahl*** (`wahl@imf.au.dk`), Departement of Mathematics, Aarhus University, Ny Munkegade 116, DK-8000 Aarhus, Denmark. *Automorphism groups of free groups with boundaries.*

We define automorphisms of free groups with boundaries and explain their role in studying the usual automorphism groups of free groups. By a joint work with A. Hatcher, these groups have the same stable homology as the automorphisms of free groups, but they have the advantage of admitting gluing operations analogous to those existing for mapping class groups of surfaces. (Received August 30, 2004)