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**Leonardo Navarro Carvalho\*** ([leonardo@im.uff.br](mailto:leonardo@im.uff.br)), Dep. Matemática Aplicada, Rua Mário Santos Braga S/N, Centro, Niterói, RJ 22421-020, Brazil, and **Ulrich Oertel**, Dep. of Mathematics & Computer Sciences, Smith Hall 216, 101 Warren Street, Newark, NJ 07102. *A classification of automorphisms of 3-manifolds*. Preliminary report.

We propose a classification, up to isotopy, of automorphisms of compact and orientable 3-manifolds. This project is still incomplete and much remains to be understood about some of these automorphisms. (Received January 21, 2008)