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Alexandra Pettet* (apettet@math.stanford.edu), Department of Mathematics, Stanford University, 450 Serra Mall, Bldg 380, Stanford, CA 94305, and **Frederick Cohen** and **Aaron Heap**. *On the Johnson filtration of the automorphism group of a free group*. Preliminary report.

The Johnson filtration of the automorphism group of a free group is composed of those automorphisms which act trivially on nilpotent quotients of the free group. We describe some progress in the study of this filtration; in particular we explain and implement some methods for computing cohomology classes. (Received February 03, 2008)