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**Lucas Sabalka\*** ([sabalka@math.binghamton.edu](mailto:sabalka@math.binghamton.edu)) and **Dmytro Savchuk**  
([dsavchuk@math.binghamton.edu](mailto:dsavchuk@math.binghamton.edu)). *On restricting free factors in relatively free groups.*

Let  $G$  be a free, free nilpotent, or free metabelian group, and let  $A = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  be a basis for  $G$ . We will show that if  $S$  is a subset of a basis for  $G$  which may be expressed without the element  $a_n$  then, with small restrictions on the size of  $S$ , the set  $S$  is a subset of a basis for the relatively free group on  $A - \{a_n\}$ . (Received September 16, 2011)