

Heegaard splittings of distance n

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Abstract. Hempel introduced the concept of distance of Heegaard splitting by using curve complex, and showed that there exist Heegaard splittings of closed orientable 3-manifolds with distance $> n$ for any integer n . In this talk, we construct pairs of curves with distance exactly n for any non-negative integer n , and use them to show that there exist Heegaard splittings of 3-manifolds with distance exactly n . (This is a joint work with Ayako Ido and Tsuyoshi Kobayashi.)