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**David Bachman** (bachman@pitzer.edu), **Ryan Derby-Talbot\*** (rdt@questu.ca) and **Eric Sedgwick** (esedgwick@cdm.depaul.edu). *Heegaard surfaces in toroidal 3-manifolds.*

We prove a finiteness result for a class of surfaces that includes almost normal surfaces in 3-manifolds with multiple torus boundary components, generalizing a result of Jaco and Segwick. A consequence of this is that in 3-manifolds with “sufficiently complicated” JSJ decompositions, every Heegaard splitting is an amalgamation along the JSJ tori. (Received January 25, 2011)