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Carl Hammarsten* (chammar@gwu.edu). *Strip Diagrams and Combinatorial Heegaard Floer homology.*

Given a 3-dimensional closed manifold Y presented by its branched spine, we construct a canonical Heegaard decomposition for Y . We present this decomposition graphically in the form of a Strip Diagram. Using strip diagrams we combinatorially construct a chain complex we have shown is homotopically equivalent to the Heegaard Floer chain complex \widehat{CF} of Y , yet significantly smaller. Furthermore, we show that strip diagrams have nice properties which greatly simplify the calculation of Heegaard Floer homology. Finally, we consider the presentation of a branched spine by its O -graph and show that reformulating our definition in these terms gives a clock-state type description for \widehat{HF} of Y . (Received January 21, 2015)