1154-VU-2283      **Eric Anderson**, **Jonah Amundsen**, **Christopher Davis** and **Daniel Guyer***
(`guyerdm7106@uwec.edu`). *The C-complex clasp number of links.*

In knot theory, a link is a disjoint union of circles, (i.e. components), in 3-dimensional space, and a goal of knot theory is to measure the interaction between the various components of a link. Recently, the surfaces bounded by these components, together referred to as a C-Complex, have been used as one such measure. We ask the question, "Given a link, what is the least number of clasps amongst all C-complexes bounded by that link?" For two-component links, we have found a precise formula for the minimal number of clasps. While in the case of links consisting of three components, we prove a bound in terms of a generalization of the classical linking number called the triple linking number, while relating this problem to minimal perimeter polyominoes. (Received September 17, 2019)