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*Unavoidable Minors of 3-Connected Matroids.* Preliminary report.

Let  $M$  be a 3-connected matroid. Ding, Oporowski, Oxley, and Vertigan proved that if  $M$  has a huge number of elements, then  $M$  contains a large minor isomorphic to a line or its dual, a wheel, a whirl, a spike, or the cycle or bond matroid of a  $K_{3,n}$  graph. We will discuss results related to and extending this theorem. (Received September 14, 2010)