1087-05-32 **Kwang Ju Choi***, Department of Mathematics, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803, and **Bogdan Oporowski**, Department of Mathematics, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. *A Characterization of almost all minimal not nearly planar graphs.* Preliminary report.

In this work, we define *nearly planar* graphs G that are planar graphs or have an edge e such that $G \setminus e$ is planar. The class of nearly planar graphs are closed not under minors but under topological minors. Since we can make a trivial infinite series of planar graphs using an operation, namely parallel subdivision, we define a relation $\precsim$ between two graphs which is an extension of the topological minor relation. We define $\mathcal{M}$ to be the minimal excluded calss of nearly planar graphs under $\precsim$. We prove that all members of $\mathcal{M}$, except finitely many, contain a Möbius ladder and are made by three blocks. (Received November 14, 2012)