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**Hailong Dao\*** (hdao@ku.edu), 405 Snow Hall, 1460 Jayhawk Blvd, Lawrence, KS 66045, and  
**Justin Lyle** and **Joseph Doolittle**. *Minimal Cohen-Macaulay complexes*.

We define and study the notion of a minimal Cohen-Macaulay simplicial complex. We prove that any Cohen-Macaulay complex is shelled over a minimal one in our sense, and we give sufficient conditions for a complex to be minimal Cohen-Macaulay. We show that many interesting examples of Cohen-Macaulay complexes in combinatorics are minimal, including Rudin's ball, Ziegler's ball, the dunce hat, and recently discovered non-partitionable Cohen-Macaulay complexes. We further provide various ways to construct such complexes (Received August 04, 2020)