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*Minimal Braces*

A *brace* is a 2-extendable bipartite graph. A brace is *minimal* if the deletion of any edge results in a graph that is not a brace. We deduce a generation theorem for minimal braces from McCuaig's simple brace generation theorem. As a corollary, we obtain an upper bound of  $5n - 10$  on the number of edges of a minimal brace of order  $2n$ , and we provide a complete characterisation of minimal braces that achieve this upper bound. This is joint work with Marcelo H. de Carvalho and Nishad Kothari.