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Joe A. Stickles, Jr.* (js298@evansville.edu), Department of Mathematics, University of Evansville, 1800 Lincoln Avenue, Evansville, IN 47546. *Zero-Divisor Graphs of Commutative Rings: A Survey of Recent Results.*

Zero-divisor graphs of commutative rings were first introduced in 1988 by I. Beck in the paper, *Coloring of Commutative Rings*. In this paper, all elements of a commutative ring R are considered as vertices of a graph, and distinct vertices x and y are connected by an edge if and only if $xy = 0$ in R .

The current approach implemented in many of the recently published papers on zero-divisor graphs is to use only the nonzero zero-divisors as vertices of the graph. Many results contained in these papers, as well as some open questions that remain, will be discussed. (Received September 23, 2005)