962-16-898 Shane P Redmond\* (sredmond@math.utk.edu), University of Tennessee, Department of Mathematics, Knoxville, TN 37996. The Zero-Divisor Graph of a Noncommutative Ring. Preliminary report.

Let R be a commutative ring with 1 and let Z(R) be its set of zero-divisors. The zero-divisor graph G(R) of R is the (simple) graph with vertices Z(R)-0, where distinct vertices x and y are adjacent if and only if xy = 0. In this talk, we will discuss several possible ways of generalizing this concept to the context of noncommutative rings. (Received September 28, 2000)