1067-05-1652 **Taylor M Short*** (shorttm@vcu.edu), 4156 Grace E. Harris Hall, 1015 Floyd Avenue, Richmond, VA 23220. *Vertices Belonging to All Maximum Independent Sets.* Preliminary report.

For a graph G, let $\xi(G)$ be the number of vertices belonging to all maximum independent sets. Boros, Golumbic and Levit showed that in connected graphs where the independence number $\alpha(G)$ is greater than the matching number $\mu(G)$, $\xi(G) \geq 1 + \alpha(G) - \mu(G)$. We will show there is a distinguished subgraph X such that, under weaker assumptions, $\xi(G) \geq 1 + \alpha(X) - \mu(X)$. Furthermore $1 + \alpha(X) - \mu(X) \geq 1 + \alpha(G) - \mu(G)$ and the difference between these bounds can be arbitrarily large. (Received September 21, 2010)