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David F. Anderson* (anderson@math.utk.edu), Mathematics Department, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-1320. *Zero-divisor graphs*. Preliminary report.

Let R be a commutative ring with identity. The zero-divisor graph of R , denoted by $\Gamma(R)$, is the (simple) graph with vertices $Z(R) \setminus \{0\}$, the set of nonzero zero-divisors of R , and two distinct vertices x and y are adjacent if and only if $xy = 0$. We will discuss the history, some of the main results, and several variants of the zero-divisor graph. (Received August 06, 2015)