

1117-05-227

Michael D. Plummer* (michael.d.plummer@vanderbilt.edu), Nashville, TN 37240, and
Robert Aldred (raldred@maths.otago.ac.nz), Dunedin, New Zealand. *Matching extension in prism graphs.*

If G is any graph, the *prism graph* of G , denoted $P(G)$, is the cartesian product of G with a single edge, or equivalently, the graph obtained by taking two copies of G , say G_1 and G_2 , with the same vertex labelings and joining each vertex of G_1 to the vertex of G_2 having the same label by an edge. A connected graph G has property $E(m, n)$ (or more briefly “ G is $E(m, n)$ ”) if for every pair of disjoint matchings M and N in G with $|M| = m$ and $|N| = n$ respectively, there is a perfect matching F in G such that $M \subseteq F$ and $N \cap F = \emptyset$. A graph which has the $E(m, 0)$ property is also said to be *m-extendable*. In this paper, we begin the study of the $E(m, n)$ properties of the prism graph $P(G)$ when G is an arbitrary graph as well as the more special situations when, in addition, G is bipartite or bicritical. (Received January 14, 2016)