

# Connected Matchings in Graphs with Independence Number 2

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In our everyday lives, networks play an important role: networks like the internet, the road system of a society, the atoms of a molecule or the neurons of a brain. The mathematical discipline for understanding networks is graph theory. In order to improve our knowledge on graph theory, Hadwiger's conjecture is crucial and yet, it is still not solved. Although I have not proved the Hadwiger's conjecture, I came up with the idea that will benefit our knowledge in graph theory, more specifically, on connected matchings. In this research, I study the size of the largest connected matching in graphs with largest independent set of size 2. I conjecture that if the graph has at least  $4n-1$  vertices then it contains a connected matching of size  $n$ . I prove my conjecture holds for  $n$  less than or equal to 13.