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**Judith Canner, Lenny Jones and Joseph Purdom\*** (lkjone@ship.edu), Department of Mathematics, Shippensburg University, 1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257. *Sequences of Reducible  $\{0, 1\}$ -Polynomials over  $\mathbb{F}_p$ .*

Let  $p$  be a prime, let  $k \geq 1$  be an integer and let  $f := f(x)$  be a  $\{0, 1\}$ -polynomial with  $f(0) = 1$ . Define a sequence of  $\{0, 1\}$ -polynomials in  $\mathbb{F}_p[x]$ , denoted  $(f, k, p)$ , by:  $f_1 := f$  and  $f_i := f_{i-1} + x^{kn}$ , for  $i \geq 2$ , where  $kn$  is the smallest multiple of  $k$  larger than the degree of  $f_{i-1}$ , such that  $f_{i-1} + x^{kn}$  is reducible over  $\mathbb{F}_p$ . Let  $\mathcal{M}$  denote the set of positive integer multiples of  $k$  larger than the degree of  $f$  that are not degrees of terms in  $(f, k, p)$ . We investigate conditions on  $f$ ,  $k$  and  $p$  which determine whether  $\mathcal{M}$  is empty, finite or infinite, and which guarantee, in the situation when  $\mathcal{M}$  is empty or finite, that the terms of  $(f, k, p)$  are periodic with respect to roots of these terms. In addition, we prove that if  $\mathcal{M}$  is empty for the sequence  $(1, k, p)$ , with  $k \geq 2$ , then this sequence is infinite. Finally, for  $p \geq 5$ , we show that there exists a  $\{0, 1\}$ -polynomial  $f$  such that the sequence  $(f, 1, p)$  is infinite. (Received September 28, 2005)