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**Kimberly Cervello** and **Vadim Ponomarenko\*** (vadim123@gmail.com), Department of Mathematics, Trinity University, One Trinity Place, San Antonio, TX 78212, and **Denise Terry** and **Liya Zhu**. *Block Monoid Extraction Degrees*.

In a commutative monoid, the extraction degree measures the factorization commonality between two elements. We consider the important special case of block monoids – monoids whose elements are sequences of finite abelian group elements with zero sum. In this context, we compute various properties of the extraction degree. (Received July 29, 2005)