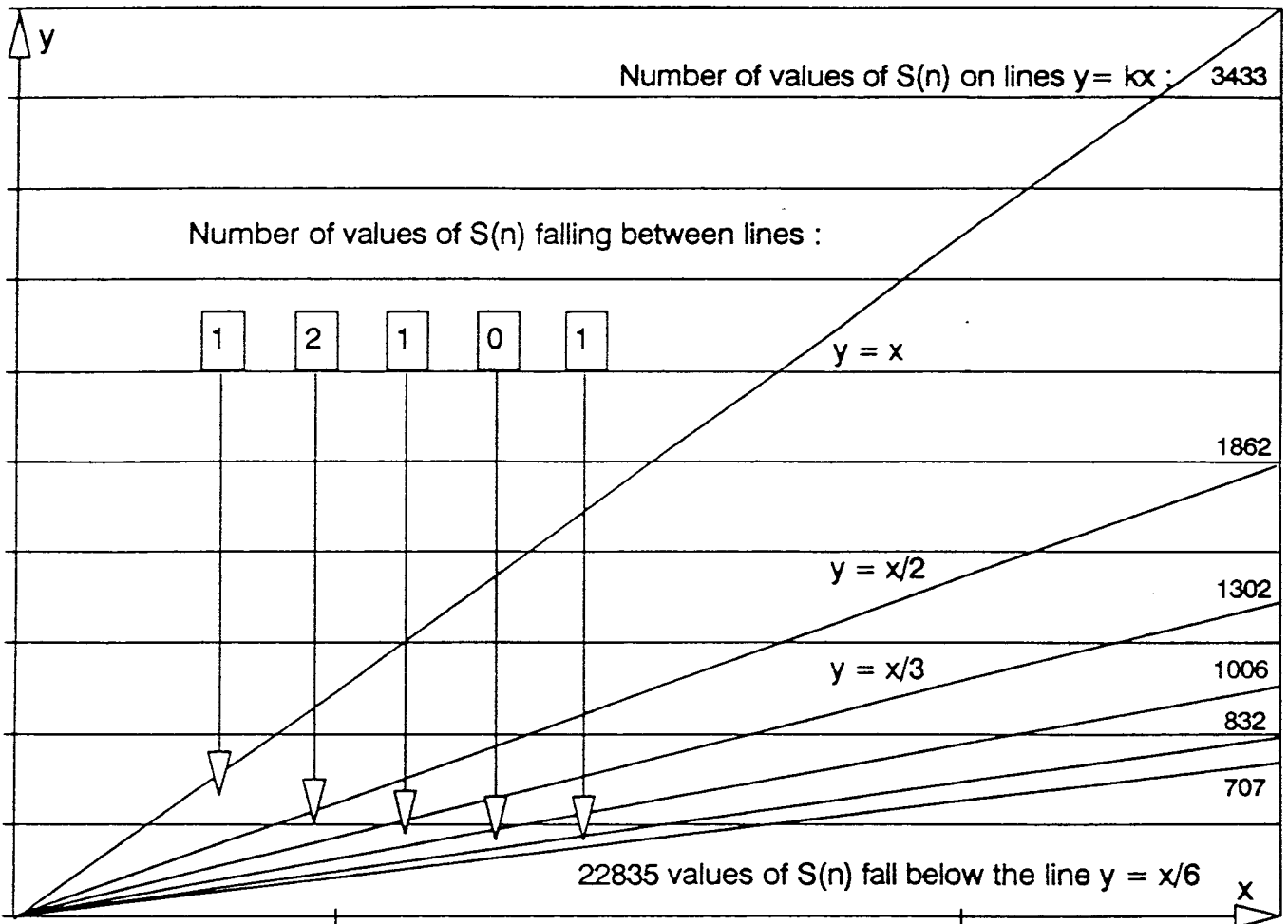


An Illustration of the Distribution of the Smarandache Function

by Henry Ibstedt

The cover illustration is a representation of the values of the Smarandache function for $n \leq 53$. The group at the back of the diagram essentially corresponds to $S(p) = p$, the middle group to $S(2p) = p$ ($p \neq 2$) while the front group represents all the other values of $S(n)$ for $n \leq 53$.

Diagram 1. Distribution of $S(n)$ up to $n = 32000$ (not to scale)



It may be interesting to take this graphical presentation a bit further. All the values of $S(n)$ for $n \leq 32000$ (conveniently chosen in order to use short integers only) have been sorted as shown in table 1. Of the 19114 points $(n, S(n))$ situated above the line $y = x/50$ only 61 points fall between lines. All of these of course correspond to cases where n is not square free. Diagram 1 illustrates this for the lines $y = x$, $y = x/2$, $y = x/3$, $y = x/4$, $y = x/5$ and $y = x/6$. The top line contains 3433 points $(n, S(n))$ although there are only 3432 primes less than 32000. This is because $(4, S(4))$ belongs to this line.

TABLE 1. On the distribution of the Smarandache Function $S(n)$ for $n \leq 32000$.

N = number of values of $S(n)$ on the line $y=x/k$, i.e. $S(n)=n/k$. The points $(n,S(n))$ are the only ones between lines $y=x/k$ and $y=x/(k+1)$ for $k < 50$.

| k | N | Points $(n,S(n))$ between lines: |
|----|------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | 3433 | (9, 6) |
| 2 | 1862 | (16, 6) (25, 10) |
| 3 | 1302 | (49, 14) |
| 4 | 1006 | |
| 5 | 832 | (121, 22) |
| 6 | 707 | (169, 26) |
| 7 | 616 | (45, 6) (75, 10) |
| 8 | 550 | (125, 15) (289, 34) |
| 9 | 495 | (361, 38) |
| 10 | 450 | (147, 14) |
| 11 | 417 | (529, 46) |
| 12 | 387 | |
| 13 | 359 | (80, 6) |
| 14 | 336 | (841, 58) |
| 15 | 321 | (961, 62) |
| 16 | 301 | (250, 15) (343, 21) (363, 22) |
| 17 | 283 | (175, 10) (245, 14) |
| 18 | 273 | (1369, 74) |
| 19 | 256 | (507, 26) |
| 20 | 250 | (243, 12) (1681, 82) |
| 21 | 239 | (1849, 86) |
| 22 | 227 | (225, 10) |
| 23 | 213 | (2209, 94) |
| 24 | 218 | |
| 25 | 204 | (256, 10) (867, 34) |
| 26 | 196 | (2809,106) |
| 27 | 190 | (605, 22) |
| 28 | 187 | (1083, 38) |
| 29 | 176 | (3481,118) |
| 30 | 179 | (3721,122) |
| 31 | 163 | (441, 14) (625, 20) |
| 32 | 164 | (686, 21) (845, 26) |
| 33 | 159 | (500, 15) (4489,134) |
| 34 | 154 | (1587, 46) |
| 35 | 154 | (5041,142) |
| 36 | 153 | (5329,146) |
| 37 | 139 | |
| 38 | 139 | (539, 14) (847, 22) |
| 39 | 136 | (6241,158) |
| 40 | 139 | (486, 12) (1331, 33) |
| 41 | 125 | (6889,166) |
| 42 | 133 | (512, 12) (1445, 34) |
| 43 | 119 | (2523, 58) |
| 44 | 125 | (7921,178) |
| 45 | 126 | (637, 14) (1183, 26) |
| 46 | 117 | (2883, 62) |
| 47 | 109 | (1805, 38) |
| 48 | 120 | (729, 15) (9409,194) |
| 49 | 114 | (1089, 22) |
| 50 | 112 | |

Number of elements below $y = x/50$: 12774 .