

TEACHING THE SMARANDACHE FUNCTION TO THE AMERICAN COMPETITION STUDENTS

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The Smarandache Function is defined: for all non-null integers, n , to be the smallest integer such that $(S(n))!$ is divisible by n [see 1, 2, 3].

In order to make students from the American competitions to learn and understand better this notion, used in many east - european national mathematical competitions, the author: calculates it for some small numbers, establishes a few proprieties of it, and involves it in relations with other famous functions in the number theory.

It's important for the teachers to familiarize American students with the work done in other countries. (I would call it: multi - scientific exchange.)

References:

1. Mike Mudge, "The Smarandache Function" in <Personal Computer World>, London, July 1992, p.420;
2. Debra Austin, "The Smarandache Function featured" in <Honeywell Pride>, Phoenix, Juin 22, 1993, p.8;
3. R. Muller, "Unsolved Problems related to Smarandache Function", Number Theory Publishing Co., Chicago, 1993.