

# SMARANDACHE NUMERICAL FUNCTIONS

by

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*F. Smarandache defines [1] a numerical function  $S : \mathbb{N}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ .  $S(n)$  is the smallest integer  $m$  such that  $m!$  is divisible by  $n$ . Using certain results on standardised structures, three kinds of Smarandache functions are defined and are established some compatibility relations between these functions.*

1. Standardising functions. Let  $X$  be a nonvoid set,  $r \subset X \times X$  an equivalence relation,  $\hat{X}$  the corresponding quotient set and  $(I, \leq)$  a totally ordered set.

1.1 Definition. If  $g : \hat{X} \rightarrow I$  is an arbitrarily injective function, then  $f : X \rightarrow I$  defined by  $f(x) = g(\hat{x})$  is a standardising function. In this case the set  $X$  is said to be  $[r, (I, \leq), f]$  standardised. If  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  are two equivalence relations on  $X$ , then  $r = r_1 \wedge r_2$  is defined as  $x r y$  if and only if  $x r_1 y$  and  $x r_2 y$ . Of course  $r$  is an equivalence relation.

In the following theorem we consider functions having the same monotonicity. The functions  $f_i : X \rightarrow I$ ,  $i = \overline{1, s}$  are of the same monotonicity if for every  $x, y$  from  $X$  it results

$$f_k(x) \leq f_k(y) \quad \text{if and only if} \quad f_j(x) \leq f_j(y) \quad \text{for} \quad k, j = \overline{1, s}$$

1.2 Theorem. If the standardising functions  $f_i : X \longrightarrow I$  corresponding to the equivalence relations  $r_i, i = \overline{1, s}$ , are of the same monotonicity then  $f = \max_i (f_i)$  is a standardising function corresponding to  $r = \bigwedge_i r_i$ , having the same monotonicity as  $f_i$ .

Proof. We give the proof of theorem in case  $s = 2$ . Let  $\hat{x}_{r_1}, \hat{x}_{r_2}, \hat{x}_r$  be the equivalence classes of  $x$  corresponding to  $r_1, r_2$  and to  $r = r_1 \wedge r_2$  respectively and  $\hat{X}_{r_1}, \hat{X}_{r_2}, \hat{X}_r$  the quotient sets on  $X$ .

We have  $f_1(x) = g_1(\hat{x}_{r_1})$  and  $f_2(x) = g_2(\hat{x}_{r_2})$ , where

$g_i : \hat{X}_{r_i} \longrightarrow I, i=1,2$  are injective functions. The function  $g : \hat{X}_r \longrightarrow I$  defined by  $g(\hat{x}_r) = \max\{g_1(\hat{x}_{r_1}), g_2(\hat{x}_{r_2})\}$  is injective.

Indeed, if  $\hat{x}_r^1 \neq \hat{x}_r^2$  and  $\max\{g_1(\hat{x}_{r_1}^1), g_2(\hat{x}_{r_2}^1)\} = \max\{g_1(\hat{x}_{r_1}^2), g_2(\hat{x}_{r_2}^2)\}$ , then because of the injectivity of  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  we have for example  $\max\{g_1(\hat{x}_{r_1}^1), g_2(\hat{x}_{r_2}^1)\} = g_1(\hat{x}_{r_1}^1) = g_2(\hat{x}_{r_2}^2) = \max\{g_1(\hat{x}_{r_1}^2), g_2(\hat{x}_{r_2}^2)\}$  and we obtain a

contradiction because  $f_1(x^2) = g_1(\hat{x}_{r_1}^2) < g_1(\hat{x}_{r_1}^1) = f_1(x^1)$

$f_2(x^1) = g_2(\hat{x}_{r_2}^1) < g_2(\hat{x}_{r_2}^2) = f_2(x^2)$ , that is

$f_1$  and  $f_2$  are not of the same monotonicity. From the injectivity of  $g$  it results that  $f : X \longrightarrow I$  defined by  $f(x) = g(\hat{x}_r)$  is a standardising function. In addition we have  $f(x^1) \leq f(x^2) \iff g(\hat{x}_r^1) \leq g(\hat{x}_r^2) \iff \max\{g_1(\hat{x}_{r_1}^1), g_2(\hat{x}_{r_2}^1)\} \leq \max\{g_1(\hat{x}_{r_1}^2), g_2(\hat{x}_{r_2}^2)\} \iff \max\{f_1(x^1), f_2(x^1)\} \leq \max\{f_1(x^2), f_2(x^2)\} \iff f_1(x^1) \leq f_1(x^2)$  and  $f_2(x^1) \leq f_2(x^2)$  because  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  are of the same monotonicity.

Let us suppose now that  $\tau$  and  $\perp$  are two algebraic laws on  $X$  and  $I$  respectively.

1.3. Definition. The standardising function  $f: X \rightarrow I$  is said to be  $\Sigma$ -compatible with  $\tau$  and  $\perp$  if for every  $x, y$  in  $X$  the triplet  $(f(x), f(y), f(x\tau y))$  satisfies the condition  $\Sigma$ . In this case it is said that the function  $f$   $\Sigma$ -standardise the structure  $(X, \tau)$  in the structure  $(I, \leq, \perp)$ .

For example, if  $f$  is the Smarandache function  $S: \mathbb{N}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ , ( $S(n)$  is the smallest integer such that  $(S(n))!$  is divisible by  $n$ ) then we get the following  $\Sigma$ -standardisations:

a)  $S$   $\Sigma_1$ -standardise  $(\mathbb{N}^*, \cdot)$  in  $(\mathbb{N}^*, \leq, +)$  because we have

$$\Sigma_1: S(a \cdot b) \leq S(a) + S(b)$$

b) but  $S$  verifies also the relation

$$\Sigma_2: \max(S(a), S(b)) \leq S(a \cdot b) \leq S(a) \cdot S(b)$$

so  $S$   $\Sigma_2$ -standardise the structure  $(\mathbb{N}^*, \cdot)$  in  $(\mathbb{N}^*, \leq, \cdot)$

2. Smarandache functions of first kind. The Smarandache

function  $S$  is defined by means of the following

functions  $S_p$ ; for every prime number  $p$  let  $S_p: \mathbb{N}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^*$  having the property that  $(S_p(n))!$  is divisible by  $p^n$  and is the smallest positive integer with this property. Using the notion of standardising functions in this section we give some generalisation of  $S_p$ .

2.1. Definition. For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$  the relation  $r_n \subset \mathbb{N}^* \times \mathbb{N}^*$  is defined as follows: i) if  $n = u^l$  ( $u=1$  or  $u=p$  number prime,  $l \in \mathbb{N}^*$ ) and  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}^*$  then  $a r_n b$  if and only if it exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}^*$  such that  $k! = M u^{ia}$ ,  $k! = M u^{ib}$  and  $k$  is the smallest positive integer with this property.

ii) if  $n = p_1^{i_1} \cdot p_2^{i_2} \cdot \dots \cdot p_s^{i_s}$ , then

$$r_n = r_{p_1^{i_1}} \wedge r_{p_2^{i_2}} \wedge \dots \wedge r_{p_s^{i_s}}$$

2.2. Definition. For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$  the Smarandache function of first kind is the numerical function  $S_n: \mathbb{N}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^*$  defined as follows

i) if  $n = u$  ( $u=1$  or  $u=p$  number prime) then  $S_n(a) = k$ ,  $k$  being the smallest positive integer with the property that  $k! = M u^{ia}$

ii) if  $n = p_1^{i_1} \cdot p_2^{i_2} \cdot \dots \cdot p_s^{i_s}$ , then  $S_n(a) = \max_{1 \leq j \leq s} S_{p_j^{i_j}}(a)$

Let us observe that :

- a) the functions  $S_n$  are standardising functions corresponding to the equivalence relations  $r_n$  and for  $n=1$  we get  $\bar{x}_r = \mathbb{N}^*$  for every  $x \in \mathbb{N}^*$  and  $S_1(n) = 1$  for every  $n$ .
- b) if  $n=p$  then  $S_n$  is the function  $S_p$  defined by Smarandache.
- c) the functions  $S_n$  are increasing and so, are of the same monotonicity in the sense given in the above section.

2.3. Theorem. The functions  $S_n$ , for  $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ ,  $\Sigma_1$ -standardise  $(\mathbb{N}^*, +)$  in  $(\mathbb{N}^*, \leq, +)$  by  $\Sigma_1: \max(S_n(a), S_n(b)) \leq S_n(a+b) \leq S_n(a) + S_n(b)$  for every  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}^*$  and  $\Sigma_2$ -standardise  $(\mathbb{N}^*, +)$  in  $(\mathbb{N}^*, \leq, \cdot)$  by

$$\Sigma_2: \max(S_n(a), S_n(b)) \leq S_n(a+b) \leq S_n(a) \cdot S_n(b), \text{ for every } a, b \in \mathbb{N}^*$$

Proof. Let, for instance,  $p$  be a prime number,  $n = p^i$ ,  $i \in \mathbb{N}^*$  and  $a^* = S_{p^i}(a)$ ,  $b^* = S_{p^i}(b)$ ,  $k = S_{p^i}(a+b)$ . Then by the definition of  $S_n$

(Definition 2.2.) the numbers  $a^*, b^*, k$  are the smallest positive integers such that  $a^*! = M p^{ia}$ ,  $b^*! = M p^{ib}$  and  $k! = M p^{i(a+b)}$ .

Because  $k! = M p^{ia} = M p^{ib}$  we get  $a^* \leq k$  and  $b^* \leq k$ , so  $\max(a^*, b^*) \leq k$

That is the first inequalities in  $\Sigma_1$  and  $\Sigma_2$  holds.

Now,  $(a^* + b^*)! = a^*!(a^* + 1) \cdot \dots \cdot (a^* + b^*) = M a^*! b^*! = M p^{i(a+b)}$  and

so  $k \leq a^* + b^*$  which implies that  $\Sigma_1$  is valide.

If  $n = p_1^{i_1} \cdot p_2^{i_2} \cdot \dots \cdot p_s^{i_s}$ , from the first case we have

$$\Sigma_1: \max\{S_{p_j}^{i_j}(a), S_{p_j}^{i_j}(b)\} \leq S_{p_j}^{i_j}(a+b) \leq S_{p_j}^{i_j}(a) + S_{p_j}^{i_j}(b), j=\bar{1}, \bar{s}$$

in consequence

$$\max\{\max_{p_j} S_{p_j}^{i_j}(a), \max_{p_j} S_{p_j}^{i_j}(b)\} \leq \max_{p_j} \{S_{p_j}^{i_j}(a+b)\} \leq \max_{p_j} \{S_{p_j}^{i_j}(a)\} +$$

$$\max_{p_j} \{S_{p_j}^{i_j}(b)\}, j = \bar{1}, \bar{s}. \quad \text{That is}$$

$$\max\{S_n(a), S_n(b)\} \leq S_n(a+b) \leq S_n(a) + S_n(b)$$

For the proof of the second part in  $\Sigma_2$  let us notice that

$(a+b)! \leq (ab)! \iff a+b \leq ab \iff a > 1$  and  $b > 1$  and that ours inequality is satisfied for  $n=1$  because  $S_1(a+b)=S_1(a)=S_1(b)=1$ .

Let now  $n > 1$ . It results that for  $a^* = S_n(a)$  we have  $a^* > 1$ . Indeed, if  $n = p_1^{i_1} \cdot p_2^{i_2} \cdot \dots \cdot p_s^{i_s}$  then  $a^* = 1$  if and only if  $S_n(a) = \max_{p_j} \{S_{p_j}^{i_j}(a)\} = 1$  which implies that  $p_1 = p_2 = \dots = p_s = 1$ ,

so  $n=1$ . It results that for every  $n > 1$  we have  $S_n(a) = a^* > 1$  and  $S_n(b) = b^* > 1$ . Then  $(a^* + b^*)! \leq (a^* \cdot b^*)!$  we obtain

$$S_n(a+b) \leq S_n(a) + S_n(b) \leq S_n(a) \cdot S_n(b) \quad \text{from } n > 1.$$

3. Smarandache functions of the second kind. For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ , let  $S_n$  by the Smarandache function of the first kind defined above.

3.1. Definition. The Smarandache functions of the second kind are the functions  $S^k : \mathbb{N}^* \longrightarrow \mathbb{N}^*$  defined by  $S^k(n) = S_n(k)$ , for  $k \in \mathbb{N}^*$ .

We observe that for  $k=1$  the function  $S^k$  is the Smarandache function  $S$  defined in [1], with the modify  $S(1) = 1$ . Indeed for.

$$n > 1 \quad S^1(n) = S_n(1) = \max_{p_j} \{S_{p_j}^{i_j}(1)\} = \max_{p_j} \{S_{p_j}^{i_j}\} = S(n).$$

3.2. Theorem. The Smarandache functions of the second kind  $\Sigma_3$ -standardise  $(\mathbb{N}^*, \cdot)$  in  $(\mathbb{N}^*, \leq, +)$  by

$$\Sigma_3: \max\{S^k(a), S^k(b)\} \leq S^k(a \cdot b) \leq S^k(a) + S^k(b), \text{ for every } a, b \in \mathbb{N}^*$$

and  $\Sigma_4$ -standardise  $(\mathbb{N}^*, \cdot)$  in  $(\mathbb{N}^*, \leq, \cdot)$  by

$$\Sigma_4: \max\{S^k(a), S^k(b)\} \leq S^k(a \cdot b) \leq S^k(a) \cdot S^k(b), \text{ for every } a, b \in \mathbb{N}^*$$

Proof. The equivalence relation corresponding to  $S^k$  is  $r^k$ , defined by  $a r^k b$  if and only if there exists  $a^* \in \mathbb{N}^*$  such that  $a^* ! = Ma^k$ ,  $a^* ! = Mb^k$  and  $a^*$  is the smallest integer with this property.

That is, the functions  $S^k$  are standardising functions attached to the equivalence relations  $r^k$ .

These functions are not of the same monotonicity because, for example,  $S^2(a) \leq S^2(b) \iff S(a^2) \leq S(b^2)$  and from these inequalities  $S^1(a) \leq S^1(b)$  does not result.

Now for every  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}^*$  let  $S^k(a) = a^*$ ,  $S^k(b) = b^*$ ,  $S^k(a \cdot b) = s$ .

Then  $a^*$ ,  $b^*$ ,  $s$  are respectively these smallest positive integers such that  $a^* ! = Ma^k$ ,  $b^* ! = Mb^k$ ,  $s ! = M(a^k b^k)$  and so  $s ! = Ma^k = Mb^k$ , that is,  $a^* \leq s$  and  $b^* \leq s$ , which implies that  $\max\{a^*, b^*\} \leq s$

$$\text{or} \quad \max\{S^k(a), S^k(b)\} \leq S^k(a \cdot b) \quad (3.1)$$

Because of the fact that  $(a^* + b^*) ! = M(a^* ! b^* !) = M(a^k b^k)$ , it results that  $s \leq a^* + b^*$ , so

$$S^k(a \cdot b) \leq S^k(a) + S^k(b) \quad (3.2)$$

From (3.1) and (3.2) it results that

$$\max\{S^k(a), S^k(b)\} \leq S^k(a) + S^k(b) \quad (3.3)$$

which is the relation  $\Sigma_3$ .

From  $(a^* b^*) ! = M(a^* ! \cdot b^* !)$  it results that  $S^k(a \cdot b) \leq S^k(a) \cdot S^k(b)$

and thus the relation  $\Sigma_4$ .

4. The Smarandache functions of the third kind.

We consider two arbitrary sequences (a)  $1=a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, \dots$   
 (b)  $1=b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n, \dots$

with the properties that  $a_{kn} = a_k \cdot a_n$ ,  $b_{kn} = b_k \cdot b_n$ . Obviously, there are infinitely many such sequences; because choosing an arbitrary value for  $a_2$ , the next terms in the net can be easily determined by the imposed condition.

Let now the function  $f_a^b: \mathbb{N}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^*$  defined by  $f_a^b(n) = S_{a_n}^b(b_n)$ ,  $S_{a_n}^b$  is the Smarandache function of the first kind. Then it is easily to see that :

- (i) for  $a_n = 1$  and  $b_n = n, n \in \mathbb{N}^*$  it results that  $f_a^b = S_1$
- (ii) for  $a_n = n$  and  $b_n = 1, n \in \mathbb{N}^*$  it results that  $f_a^b = S^1$

4.1. Definition. The Smarandache functions of the third kind are the functions  $S_a^b = f_a^b$  in the case that the sequences (a) and (b) are different from those concerned in the situation (i) and (ii) from above.

4.2. Theorem. The functions  $f_a^b$   $\Sigma_3$ -standardise  $(\mathbb{N}^*, \cdot)$  in  $(\mathbb{N}^*, \leq, +, \cdot)$  by

$$\Sigma_3: \max \{f_a^b(k), f_a^b(n)\} \leq f_a^b(k \cdot n) \leq b_n \cdot f_a^b(k) + b_k \cdot f_a^b(n)$$

Proof. Let  $f_a^b(k) = S_{a_k}^b(b_k) = k^*$ ,  $f_a^b(n) = S_{a_n}^b(b_n) = n^*$  and  $f_a^b(kn) =$

$= S_{a_{kn}}^b(b_{kn}) = t$ . Then  $k^*, n^*$  and  $t$  are the smallest positive in-

tegers such that  $k^*! = M a_k^{b_k}$ ,  $n^*! = M a_n^{b_n}$  and  $t! = M a_{kn}^{b_{kn}} =$

$= M(a_k \cdot a_n)^{b_k b_n}$ . Of course,

$$\max\{k^*, n^*\} \leq t \tag{4.1}$$

Now, because  $(b_k \cdot n^*)! = M(n^*!)^{b_k}$ ,  $(b_n \cdot k^*)! = M(k^*!)^{b_n}$  and  
 $(b_k n^* + b_n k^*)! = M[(b_k n^*)! \cdot (b_n k^*)!] = M[(n^*!)^{b_k} \cdot (k^*!)^{b_n}] =$   
 $= M[(a_n^{b_n})^{b_k} \cdot (a_k^{b_k})^{b_n}] = M[(a_k \cdot a_n)^{b_k b_n}]$  it results that

$$t \leq b_n k^* + b_k n^* \quad (4.2)$$

From (4.1) and (4.2) we obtain

$$\max\{k^*, n^*\} \leq t \leq b_n k^* + b_k n^* \quad (4.3)$$

From (4.3) we get  $\Sigma_g$ , so the Smarandache functions of the third kind satisfy

$$\Sigma_g: \max\{S_a^b(k), S_a^b(n)\} \leq S_a^b(kn) \leq b_n S_a^b(k) + b_k S_a^b(n), \text{ for every } k, n \in \mathbb{N}^*$$

4.3. Example. Let the sequences (a) and (b) defined by  $a_n = b_n = n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ .

The corresponding Smarandache function of the third kind is

$$S_a^a: \mathbb{N}^* \longrightarrow \mathbb{N}^*, \quad S_a^a(n) = S_n(n) \quad \text{and} \quad \Sigma_g \text{ becomes}$$

$$\max\{S_k(k), S_n(n)\} \leq S_{kn}(kn) \leq n S_k(k) + k S_n(n), \text{ for every } k, n \in \mathbb{N}^*$$

This relation is equivalent with the following relation written by means with the Smarandache function:

$$\max\{S(k^k), S(n^n)\} \leq S[(kn)^{kn}] \leq n \cdot S(k^k) + k \cdot S(n^n).$$

#### References

- [1] F. Smarandache, A Function in the Number Theory, An. Univ. Timisoara, seria st. mat Vol. XVIII, fasc.1, pp.79-88.1980.
- [2] Smarandache Function-Journal-Vol.1 No.1, December 1990.