

JSH: Math society against amateurs

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My latest research is on factoring integers.

But if you do much of an Internet search you will be told that I am a math crank claiming to have proven Fermat's Last Theorem.

Also, consider that as of now I have a paper, and a really basic Java program implementing my factoring research showing that it DOES factor, though at this point my program doesn't factor everything, and I don't know exactly why.

Basic research is needed.

Now what do you think the reaction of math society will be?

My guess is, quiet. While you'll see a few people on sci.math who will berate my research or me, and act like it's all just crap.

And, oh yeah, the webpages will just keep saying I'm a math crank who claims to have proven Fermat's Last Theorem!!!

Math society cheats. Some of you may believe that it's just me. You may rationalize that mathematicians don't like me because of nasty things I've said about them and their society, like in this post, so they ignore me for that reason and it's my fault.

But I've checked. Most mathematicians haven't even heard of me. Or couldn't care less about what I say on Usenet. They just don't keep up with sci.math, as it's not like they think much of Usenet or this newsgroup.

They ignore my research when I send it to them, just the same. I'll get a polite reply, or maybe an offer of help, and then quiet.

That's easy to explain with ideas that have no practical value, but here we're talking about factoring.

Supposedly, mathematicians care about factoring, and you should if you have any sense as THEY claim it's such a hard problem to factor large

numbers that the world's security can be built on it, but THEY also claim to value pure and basic research, but if you'll look around you can't find a single amateur mathematician being noted.

The professional mathematicians claim that's because there are none worth noting.

They claim that all the mathematics reachable by an amateur has been found and that only the professionals can now make major results.

It's very convenient for them, now isn't it?

You believe in them, so if professional mathematicians ignore a result, and some guy whining about it is labeled a "crank", "kook" or "crackpot" you just chuckle to yourself about the nut, if anything, and go on your way, confident in your faith in the real geniuses...the professional mathematicians.

But I have an idea I call surrogate factoring which you won't find in a textbook. It mostly uses basic algebra, and I have a program that at least it does at times work:

See <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sufactor/>

Notice that I make claims with proof: a math paper outlining a theory, and a program with a quick implementation of it to check that theory.

If you are naive you will still believe that mathematicians would welcome an amateur with interesting discoveries, but notice what happens here.

Discoveries from amateurs threaten the professionals, so they ignore them, no matter what they may be, unless they can downplay them as hardly worth mentioning.

Professional mathematicians protect their long and arduous system for getting a math Ph.D, by asserting that only people who go through it can make math discoveries of note, and then they simply squash any results that disprove their assertion, while continuing to take public funds.

It's about the money. Professional mathematicians for the most part LIVE off public funds, while quite a few do work at private companies, but they are usually there primarily because of their degrees.

Amateurs able to make major discoveries, add to the body of mathematics at a basic level, without those degrees, are a threat, and their research is ignored.

Time will tell here with this research as factoring IS a major area.

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But I want you to see how math society behaves, as my guess is that they will be dragged kicking and screaming—at the end as for now they are doing their passive–aggressive stay quiet routine—into acknowledging ANY math research by a modern amateur mathematician, including mine.

Leaving me stuck with those who think it fun to kick at me in posts or on webpages, which will claim that I'm pestering the sci.math newsgroup about, you guessed it, Fermat's Last Theorem.

These people aren't even trying, but you people BELIEVE in mathematicians.

You are true believers so they keep getting away with it.
And we all pay the price.

James Harris