1035-97-741

Zengxiang Tong (ztong@otterbein.edu), Department of Mathematical Sciences, Otterbein College, Westerville, OH 43081, and Zhaochi Zhang\* (ztong@otterbein.edu), Department of Applied Mathematics, Northwestern Polytechnical University, Xian, Peoples Rep of China. Why Do Chinese Students Excel on the International Mathematical Olmpiad?

The International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) is the World Championship Mathematics Competition for High School students and is held annually in a different country. It is an important how good a country's math education is. Looking over the past 12 years' result, we see that Chinese students performed the best in IMO. Is it an accident? No. This paper will analyze the phenomenon to reveal that Chinese culture heritage, educational system, philosophy of mathematics education, and their distinct pedagogy all contribute to the production of the extraordinary achievement. (Received September 14, 2007)