

# Addition Strategies: Counting On By Bases and then Ones (COBO)

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September 2, 2025

## Transcript

Video from **Carpenter1999**<empty citation>. Strategy descriptions and examples adapted from **HackenbergCourseNotes**<empty citation>.

- **Teacher:** Max has 46 comic books. For his birthday, his father gives him 37 more comic books. How many comic books does Max have now?
- **Lauren:** Forty-six . . .
- **Teacher:** He gets 37 more for his birthday.
- **Lauren:** Ok. 46, 56, 66, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83. It's 83.
- **Teacher:** Good work.

images/Easy\_Pictures/SAR\_ADD\_COBO/PDF/SAR\_ADD\_COBO.pdf

**Notation Representing Sarah's Solution:**

$$46 + 37 = \square$$

$$46 + 10 = 56$$

$$56 + 10 = 66$$

$$66 + 10 = 76$$

$$76 + 1 = 77$$

$$77 + 1 = 78$$

$$78 + 1 = 79$$

$$79 + 1 = 80$$

$$80 + 1 = 81$$

$$81 + 1 = 82$$

$$82 + 1 = 83$$

### Description of Strategy:

**Objective:** Description of Counting On by Bases and Then Ones (COBO) Begin with one of the numbers. Break the other number into its base units and its ones. Then, “count on” by adding each base unit one at a time, followed by each individual one.

Why are number lines useful for demonstrating this strategy? COBO is essentially a jump strategy—you start at one number and make “jumps” equal to the other number’s base units, then add in the remaining ones. Number lines are ideal because they visually display jumps of varying lengths and directions. They serve as a picture of the process: a jump representing a full base is clearly larger (by a factor of the base) than a jump of a single unit.

Good number line illustrations should:

- Clearly represent the relative sizes of the jumps—each base jump should be exactly as many times larger than a single-unit jump as the base indicates, with all base jumps the same size and all one-unit jumps identical.
- Indicate the position of 0, or mark a break if that portion of the line isn’t drawn to scale.
- Use arrows to indicate direction—when adding, the jumps go to the right (or upward); when subtracting, they go to the left (or downward).
- Mark all landing points clearly—the numbers you would speak aloud when counting on by bases and then ones, just as Lauren demonstrated.

### Counting On by Bases and Then Ones (COBO)

#### Description of Strategy

- **Objective:** Start with one addend, add bases from the other addend one by one, then add ones one by one.
- **Example:**  $46 + 37$ 
  - Start at 46.
  - Add tens one by one:  $46 \rightarrow 56 \rightarrow 66 \rightarrow 76$ .
  - Add ones one by one:  $76 \rightarrow 77 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow 83$ .

#### Automaton Type

**Finite State Automaton (FSA) with Counters:** Counters are used to manage the repeated addition:

- **BaseCounter:** Number of base units (e.g., tens) to add.
- **OneCounter:** Number of ones to add.
- **Sum:** The running total.

## Automaton Definition SAR\_ADD\_COBO (Register Machine Model)

To legitimately and deterministically represent the COBO strategy, we define a Register Machine with clearly defined, mutually exclusive conditions.

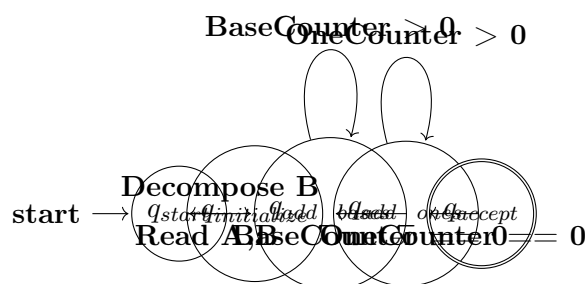
$$M = (Q, V, \delta, q_0, F)$$

- **Q (States):**  $q_{start}, q_{initialize}, q_{add\_bases}, q_{add\_ones}, q_{accept}$
- **V (Registers):** A (Input), B (Input), Sum, BaseCounter, OneCounter
- **Constants:** BaseUnit (e.g., 10)

Transition Function ( $\delta$ ) :

	Current State	Condition	Next State	Action	Interpretation
$q_{start}$	(Input)		$q_{initialize}$	Read A, Read B	
$q_{initialize}$	-		$q_{add\_bases}$	Sum = ABaseCounter = B // BaseUnitOneCounter = 0	
$q_{add\_bases}$	BaseCounter > 0		$q_{add\_bases}$	Sum = Sum + BaseUnit	BaseCounter = BaseCounter - BaseUnit
$q_{add\_bases}$	BaseCounter == 0		$q_{add\_ones}$	-	
$q_{add\_ones}$	OneCounter > 0		$q_{add\_ones}$	Sum = Sum + 1	OneCounter = OneCounter - 1
$q_{add\_ones}$	OneCounter == 0		$q_{accept}$	Output Sum	

## Automaton Diagram for COBO



## Python Implementation and Test

The following Python code implements the corrected COBO automaton.

```

1 import pandas as pd
2
3 class COBOAutomaton:
4     """
5     A Register Machine model simulating the 'Counting On By Bases and then Ones' (COBO)
6     strategy.
7     """
8     def __init__(self, A, B, Base=10):
9         self.A = A
10        self.B = B
11        self.BaseUnit = Base
12
13        # Registers for internal computation
14        self.Sum = 0

```

```

14     self.BaseCounter = 0
15     self.OneCounter = 0
16
17     # State
18     self.state = 'q_start'
19     self.history = []
20
21 def _record_history(self, action, interpretation):
22     self.history.append({
23         'State': self.state,
24         'Sum': self.Sum,
25         'BaseCounter': self.BaseCounter,
26         'OneCounter': self.OneCounter,
27         'Action': action,
28         'Interpretation': interpretation,
29     })
30
31 def transition(self, next_state):
32     self.state = next_state
33
34 def run(self):
35     while self.state not in ['q_accept', 'q_error']:
36         if self.state == 'q_start':
37             self.execute_start()
38         elif self.state == 'q_initialize':
39             self.execute_initialize()
40         elif self.state == 'q_add_bases':
41             self.execute_add_bases()
42         elif self.state == 'q_add_ones':
43             self.execute_add_ones()
44         else:
45             self.transition('q_error')
46         break
47     return self.Sum
48
49 def execute_start(self):
50     """q_start: Read inputs."""
51     self._record_history(f"Read A={self.A}, B={self.B}", "Start.")
52     self.transition('q_initialize')
53
54 def execute_initialize(self):
55     """q_initialize: Initialize Sum and decompose B."""
56     self.Sum = self.A
57     # Decomposition (Assuming this skill is prerequisite for COBO)
58     self.BaseCounter = self.B // self.BaseUnit
59     self.OneCounter = self.B % self.BaseUnit
60
61     action = f"Sum=A; Decompose B ({self.B})"
62     interpretation = f"Initialize Sum to {self.A}. {self.BaseCounter} Bases, {self.
        OneCounter} Ones."
63     self._record_history(action, interpretation)
64     # Proceed to the base addition phase
65     self.transition('q_add_bases')
66

```

```

67 def execute_add_bases(self):
68     """q_add_bases: Iteratively add BaseUnits."""
69     # Condition: BaseCounter > 0 (Loop Iteration)
70     if self.BaseCounter > 0:
71         prev_sum = self.Sum
72         self.Sum += self.BaseUnit
73         self.BaseCounter -= 1
74
75         action = f"Sum+=_{self.BaseUnit}; BaseCounter-=1"
76         interpretation = f"Count on by base:_{prev_sum}->_{self.Sum}."
77         self._record_history(action, interpretation)
78         # Stay in the same state
79     # Condition: BaseCounter == 0 (Loop Exit)
80     else:
81         self._record_history("BaseCounter==0", "All bases added. Transition to adding ones.")
82         self.transition('q_add_ones')
83
84 def execute_add_ones(self):
85     """q_add_ones: Iteratively add Ones."""
86     # Condition: OneCounter > 0 (Loop Iteration)
87     if self.OneCounter > 0:
88         prev_sum = self.Sum
89         self.Sum += 1
90         self.OneCounter -= 1
91
92         action = "Sum+=1; OneCounter-=1"
93         interpretation = f"Count on by one:_{prev_sum}->_{self.Sum}."
94         self._record_history(action, interpretation)
95         # Stay in the same state
96     # Condition: OneCounter == 0 (Loop Exit)
97     else:
98         self._record_history("OneCounter==0", "All ones added. Accept.")
99         self.transition('q_accept')
100
101 def display_history(self):
102     print(f"\n--- COBO Execution History ({self.A}+{self.B}) ---")
103     df = pd.DataFrame(self.history)
104     print(df.to_markdown(index=False))
105
106 # Test the automaton with Lauren's example: 46 + 37.
107 cobo_automaton = COBOAutomaton(A=46, B=37)
108 result = cobo_automaton.run()
109 cobo_automaton.display_history()
110 print(f"\nFinal Result:_{result}")

```

### Execution Trace (46 + 37):

--- COBO Execution History (46 + 37) ---

State	Sum	BaseCounter	OneCounter	Action	Interpr
q_start	0	0	0	Read A=46, B=37	Start.
q_initialize	46	3	7	Sum=A; Decompose B (37)	Initial

q_add_bases		56		2		7		Sum += 10; BaseCounter -= 1		Count o
q_add_bases		66		1		7		Sum += 10; BaseCounter -= 1		Count o
q_add_bases		76		0		7		Sum += 10; BaseCounter -= 1		Count o
q_add_bases		76		0		7		BaseCounter == 0		All bas
q_add_ones		77		0		6		Sum += 1; OneCounter -= 1		Count o
q_add_ones		78		0		5		Sum += 1; OneCounter -= 1		Count o
q_add_ones		79		0		4		Sum += 1; OneCounter -= 1		Count o
q_add_ones		80		0		3		Sum += 1; OneCounter -= 1		Count o
q_add_ones		81		0		2		Sum += 1; OneCounter -= 1		Count o
q_add_ones		82		0		1		Sum += 1; OneCounter -= 1		Count o
q_add_ones		83		0		0		Sum += 1; OneCounter -= 1		Count o
q_add_ones		83		0		0		OneCounter == 0		All one