

Counting in Base 10

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1 Diagonalizing the Count

1.1 Sublation in Counting: From Tallies to Base Systems

Counting is not merely an accumulation of marks – it is a process that both *preserves* and *transforms* prior determinations. In Hegelian terms, this movement is called *sublation* (Aufhebung), the simultaneous *negation*, *preservation*, and *uplift* of what came before. In mathematical practice, sublation is most clearly seen in the way base systems reorganize quantities into new structural units.

Consider a simple act of tally counting. If one were to count to nine using tally marks, the representation would appear as:

|||||||

Each tally stands independently as a discrete marker of a counted object that mirrors the “world of ones” reflected in von Neumann ordinals. They could just go on and on, accumulating indefinitely. While it is more normal to represent a transformation at 5 units, let us instead live in base ten. When ten is reached, the representation undergoes an important transformation:

|||||||

The previous nine marks are not erased. They are not ‘gone.’ But they are *negated* and *uplifted* into a new structural form. Out of the many ones, there is now one ten. This is a mathematical instance of sublation. The prior elements are not discarded. They are reorganized in a higher-level composition. The transition from loose tallies to a single “ten” does not merely introduce a new symbol; it alters how the prior marks are understood. They are still ‘present,’ but they no longer function as isolated entities.

So, using base systems involves “two views” of a number - but under the hood is very basic version of a diagonalizing function, δ , that lets an element reference the whole system it’s part of. Ten loose ones is a "many", one 10 is a "one". Diagonalization is, therefore, a way of thinking about the problem of the one and the many.

2 Understanding the Recursive Nature of Counting

Counting in base 10 involves incrementing digits and managing composition across multiple place values:

- **Units (Ones):** $10^0 = 1$
- **Tens:** $10^1 = 10$

- **Hundreds:** $10^2 = 100$
- **Thousands:** $10^3 = 1,000$, etc.

The recursive process for counting follows these steps:

1. Increment the units digit.
2. If the units digit reaches 10, reset it to 0 and increment the tens digit.
3. Repeat this process recursively for higher place values as needed.

This recursive nature allows for counting indefinitely by reusing the same increment and composition logic for each digit.

3 Why Use a Pushdown Automaton (PDA)?

A Pushdown Automaton (PDA) is suitable for modeling recursive counting due to its ability to use a stack for memory. Here's why:

- **Finite State Automaton (FSA):** Lacks the memory to handle arbitrary-length counts and composition.
- **Pushdown Automaton (PDA):** Uses a stack to provide additional memory, enabling nested operations like composition in counting.
- **Turing Machine:** While capable, it is more complex than needed for this task.

A PDA's stack can represent digit states and manage composition recursively, making it an appropriate choice.

4 Designing the Pushdown Automaton for Recursive Counting

4.1 Components of the PDA

The PDA is defined by the following components:

- **States:**
 1. q_{start} : Start state.
 2. q_{count} : Handles incrementing and composition.
 3. q_{output} : Outputs the current count.
 4. q_{accept} : Accepting state (optional for finite counting).
- **Input Alphabet:** $\Sigma = \{\emptyset\}$ (each \emptyset represents a unit to count).
- **Stack Alphabet:** $\Gamma = \{\#, D_0, D_1, D_2, \dots\}$:
 - $\#$ is the bottom-of-stack marker.
 - D_n represents the digit at the n^{th} place (e.g., D_0 for units, D_1 for tens).

4.2 Automaton Behavior

The PDA operates with the following behavior:

1. **Initialization:**

- Start in q_{start} , push $\#$ onto the stack as a marker.
- Push D_0 onto the stack to represent the initial digit (0).
- Transition to q_{count} to begin counting.

2. **Counting and Handling composition:**

- In q_{count} , increment the current digit D_n .
- If $D_n < 9$, replace it with D_{n+1} to represent the incremented value.
- If $D_n = 9$, reset it to D_0 and handle the composition by incrementing or pushing D_{n+1} onto the stack.

3. **Output the Current Count:**

- In q_{output} , traverse the stack to read the current count from top to bottom.
- Transition back to q_{count} for the next input.

5 Conceptual State Diagram

The diagram below illustrates the key states and transitions for recursive counting using a PDA.

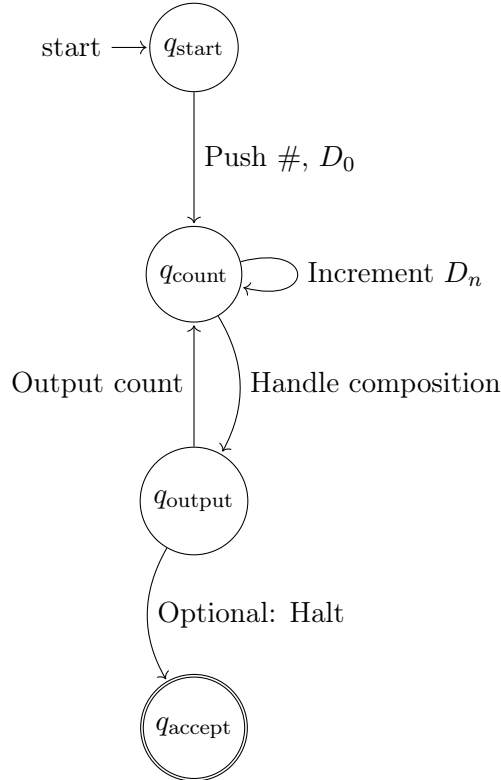


Figure 1: Conceptual State Diagram for Recursive Counting with a PDA

6 Detailed Example Execution: Counting from 0 to 12

This section demonstrates how the PDA counts from 0 to 12.

1. **Start:** Stack = $\#D_0$ (represents 0)
2. **Input 1 (\emptyset):**
 - Increment D_0 to D_1 .
 - Stack = $\#D_1$ (represents 1)
3. **Input 2 (\emptyset):**
 - Increment D_1 to D_2 .
 - Stack = $\#D_2$ (represents 2)
4. **... Continue up to Input 9 (\emptyset):**
 - Increment D_8 to D_9 .
 - Stack = $\#D_9$ (represents 9)
5. **Input 10 (\emptyset):**
 - D_0 resets to D_0 , representing composition.
 - Push D_1 onto the stack to increment the tens place.
 - Stack = $\#D_0D_1$ (represents 10)
6. **Input 11 (\emptyset):**
 - Increment D_0 to D_1 .
 - Stack = $\#D_1D_1$ (represents 11)
7. **Input 12 (\emptyset):**
 - Increment D_0 to D_2 .
 - Stack = $\#D_2D_1$ (represents 12)

7 Recursive Handling of composition

To manage composition:

1. If a digit reaches 9, reset it to 0 and increment the next higher digit.
2. If no higher digit exists, push a new digit onto the stack to represent a new place value.
3. Repeat this process recursively as needed for higher digits.

8 Formal Transition Function

The transition function δ for the PDA is defined as follows:

- $\delta(q_{\text{start}}, \epsilon, \epsilon) = (q_{\text{count}}, \#D_0)$
- $\delta(q_{\text{count}}, \emptyset, D_n) = \begin{cases} (q_{\text{output}}, D_{n+1}), & \text{if } n < 9 \\ (q_{\text{count}}, D_0), & \text{if } n = 9 \text{ (reset and composition)} \end{cases}$
- $\delta(q_{\text{output}}, \epsilon, \gamma) = (q_{\text{count}}, \gamma)$

9 Modeling Recursion in the PDA

The stack in a PDA enables recursion by storing the current state of each digit:

- The top of the stack represents the least significant digit.
- As digits are incremented, composition operations recursively modify higher digits.

9.1 Recursive Handling Mechanism

When a digit is incremented and reaches 9:

1. The PDA resets it to 0.
2. The composition is handled by incrementing or adding the next higher digit.
3. If all digits require resetting (e.g., from 999 to 1000), a new digit is pushed onto the stack.

10 Example: Counting from 999 to 1000

1. **Initial Stack:** $\#D_9D_9D_9$ (represents 999)
2. **Input (\emptyset):**
 - Reset D_0 to D_0 .
 - Increment D_1 , resulting in D_0D_0 .
 - Increment D_2 similarly until pushing a new digit D_1 .

11 Modeling the Recursive Aspect in Detail

The PDA uses the stack to simulate recursion by representing each digit's state in a Last-In-First-Out (LIFO) order. This section provides a deeper explanation of how the PDA can manage an unbounded number of digits using recursive composition and stack operations.

11.1 Recursive Counting Mechanism

1. ****Digit Incrementation:****

- The PDA increments the current top digit on the stack, which represents the units place.
- If the digit is less than 9, it simply replaces the current stack symbol with the incremented value (e.g., $D_n \rightarrow D_{n+1}$).
- If the digit equals 9, it resets the digit to D_0 and triggers a composition to the next higher place value.

2. ****Handling composition:****

- When a composition occurs, the PDA checks if there is a higher digit already on the stack.
- If there is an existing higher digit, the PDA increments it.
- If no higher digit exists (only the bottom marker $\#$ is present), the PDA pushes a new digit D_1 onto the stack, representing the tens place.
- This process continues recursively, allowing the PDA to manage arbitrarily large numbers by dynamically expanding the stack.

11.2 State Reusability and Recursive Simulation

The PDA uses a finite set of states (q_{count} , q_{output} , etc.) repeatedly for each digit operation:

- ****State Reusability:**** The same states handle different digit positions due to the stack's dynamic nature.
- ****Recursive Simulation:**** The stack's LIFO behavior enables the PDA to handle the composition and increment operations recursively without needing new states for each digit position.
- ****Infinite Counting Capability:**** Despite having a finite number of states, the PDA can count infinitely by pushing more digits onto the stack as needed.

12 Formal Transition Function for Recursive Counting

The transition function δ encapsulates the recursive logic required for counting in base 10. Here is the detailed definition:

1. ****Initialization:****

$$\delta(q_{\text{start}}, \epsilon, \epsilon) = (q_{\text{count}}, \#D_0)$$

This pushes the bottom marker $\#$ and the initial digit D_0 onto the stack.

2. ****Counting State (q_{count}):****

$$\delta(q_{\text{count}}, \emptyset, D_n) = \begin{cases} (q_{\text{output}}, D_{n+1}), & \text{if } n < 9 \\ (q_{\text{count}}, D_0), & \text{if } n = 9 \text{ (reset and composition)} \end{cases}$$

This transition increments the top digit or resets it and initiates a composition if needed.

3. ****composition Handling (q_{compose}):****

- ****If there is a higher digit on the stack:**** Increment it.

$$\delta(q_{\text{compose}}, \epsilon, D_m) = (q_{\text{output}}, D_{m+1})$$

- ****If no higher digit exists (only # is present):**** Push a new digit D_1 onto the stack.

$$\delta(q_{\text{compose}}, \epsilon, \#) = (q_{\text{output}}, D_1\#)$$

4. ****Output State (q_{output}):****

$$\delta(q_{\text{output}}, \epsilon, \gamma) = (q_{\text{count}}, \gamma)$$

This transition reads the current stack configuration to output the count and returns to the counting state.

13 Illustrative Example: Counting from 999 to 1000

The PDA handles multi-digit composition using the stack to simulate recursive behavior. Here is a step-by-step illustration of counting from 999 to 1000.

1. **Initial Stack Configuration:** $\#D_9D_9D_9$ (represents 999)

2. **Input 1 (\emptyset):**

- Increment D_0 from 9 to 0 (reset).
- Trigger composition to the next digit.

3. **composition to Next Digit:**

- Increment D_1 from 9 to 0 (reset).
- Continue the composition process to D_2 .

4. **composition to D_2 :**

- Increment D_2 from 9 to 0 (reset).
- Since no higher digit exists, push a new digit D_1 onto the stack.

5. **Final Stack Configuration:** $\#D_0D_0D_0D_1$ (represents 1000)

The PDA successfully manages the transition from 999 to 1000 by recursively applying composition operations through the stack.

14 Recursive Handling for Arbitrarily Large Numbers

The PDA is designed to handle an unbounded number of digits. Here's how it achieves this:

1. ****Stack as Dynamic Memory:****

- The stack grows to accommodate additional digits as the number increases.
- Each digit is pushed onto the stack, simulating a new recursive level.

2. ****composition Across Multiple Digits:****

- composition is handled recursively from the least significant to the most significant digit.
- If all digits are at their maximum value (e.g., $999 \dots 9$), new stack symbols are pushed to extend the number (e.g., $1000 \dots 0$).

3. ****Infinite Loop for Counting:****

- The PDA can loop between q_{count} and q_{output} indefinitely, enabling it to count an infinite sequence of inputs.
- The recursive nature of the stack allows the PDA to manage numbers of any size without requiring additional states.

15 Practical Considerations and Limitations

While the theoretical PDA can handle an infinite counting sequence, practical implementations have limitations:

- **Stack Limitations:** In real-world applications, memory constraints may limit the size of the stack.
- **Abstract Output Mechanism:** The output of the PDA is conceptualized as reading the stack's state; in practice, a mechanism would be needed to convert the stack symbols into readable numerical output.
- **Finite Resources:** Although the PDA theoretically counts infinitely, actual implementations are restricted by finite computational resources.

16 Conclusion

This Pushdown Automaton model demonstrates how recursion and stack memory can be used to simulate counting in base 10. By leveraging the stack for dynamic digit handling and composition management, the PDA can handle numbers of arbitrary length using a finite set of states.

16.1 Key Takeaways

- **Recursion via Stack Operations:** The stack's LIFO structure enables recursive operations for digit incrementation and composition.
- **Finite State Reusability:** A finite number of states can support infinite counting when combined with stack memory.
- **Theoretical and Practical Implications:** Understanding the PDA model provides insights into computational theory and number systems, while practical limitations highlight the challenges of implementing infinite processes.

HTML Implementation

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html>
3 <head>
4   <meta charset="utf-8" />
5   <title>Counting with Two Representations</title>
6   <style>
7     body { font-family: sans-serif; line-height: 1.6; }
8     .representation-section { margin-bottom: 20px; padding-bottom: 10px; border-bottom
9       : 1px solid #eee; }
10    .box { /* Style for individual box */
11      display: inline-block;
12      width: 18px; height: 18px; margin: 1px;
13      background-color: lightblue; border: 1px solid #666;
14      vertical-align: middle;
15    }
16    .rectangle-10 { /* Style for composed ten rectangle */
17      display: inline-block;
18      width: 198px; height: 18px; margin: 1px;
19      background-color: lightgreen; border: 1px solid #333;
20      vertical-align: middle;
21      text-align: center; line-height: 18px;
22      font-size: 12px; font-weight: bold;
23    }
24    .clickable { cursor: pointer; } /* Indicate clickable */
25    .clickable:hover { border-color: red; outline: 1px solid red; /* Add outline on
26      hover */ }
27
28    .tally-svg-group { /* Style for the SVG container */
29      display: inline-block; /* Allow spacing */
30      vertical-align: middle;
31      margin-right: 5px; /* Space between tally groups */
32      height: 30px; /* Set height for alignment */
33    }
34    .tally-svg-group line { /* Style for lines within SVG */
35      stroke: black;
36      stroke-width: 2;
37    }
38
39    .button-row { margin: 10px 0; }
40    button { padding: 5px 10px; font-size: 1em; margin-right: 5px; }
41    #numericValue { font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: darkblue; }
42  </style>
43 </head>
44 <body>
45   <h1>Counting in Base 10 with Two Representations</h1>
46   <p>Illustrating sublation: how 10 individual 'ones' become 1 'ten'.</p>
47
48   <div class="button-row">
49     <button onclick="decrementCount()" id="decrementBtn">- Decrement</button>
50     <button onclick="incrementCount()">+ Increment</button>
```

```

51 </div>
52
53 <p><strong>Numerical Value:</strong> <span id="numericValue">0</span></p>
54
55 <div class="representation-section">
56   <strong>Boxes Representation:</strong> (Click on '10' representations to toggle)<
57     br />
58   <span id="boxesDisplay"></span>
59 </div>
60
61 <div class="representation-section">
62   <strong>Tally Representation:</strong> (Click on '10' representations to toggle)<
63     br />
64   <span id="tallyDisplay"></span>
65 </div>
66
67 <script>
68   let count = 0;
69   let tenAsSingleBox = false;
70   let tenAsSlashTally = false; // Use this state for the diagonal slash tally
71
72   const numericValueSpan = document.getElementById("numericValue");
73   const boxesContainer = document.getElementById("boxesDisplay");
74   const tallyContainer = document.getElementById("tallyDisplay");
75   const decrementBtn = document.getElementById("decrementBtn");
76
77   function incrementCount() { count++; updateDisplay(); }
78   function decrementCount() { if (count > 0) { count--; updateDisplay(); } }
79
80   function toggleTenBoxRepresentation() {
81     if (count === 10) { tenAsSingleBox = !tenAsSingleBox; updateDisplay(); }
82   }
83   function toggleTenTallyRepresentation() {
84     if (count === 10) { tenAsSlashTally = !tenAsSlashTally; updateDisplay(); } //
85       Toggle new state
86   }
87
88   // --- SVG Tally Group Drawing Function ---
89   function drawTallyGroupSVG(parentContainer, isSlashed = true, isClickable = false)
90   {
91     const svgNS = "http://www.w3.org/2000/svg";
92     const svg = document.createElementNS(svgNS, "svg");
93     const verticalBarHeight = 25;
94     const verticalBarSpacing = 4;
95     const groupWidth = (verticalBarSpacing + 2) * 9 + 2; // 9 bars + spacing +
96       stroke width
97     const svgWidth = groupWidth + (isSlashed ? 10 : 0); // Extra width for slash
98       overhang? Adjust as needed
99     const svgHeight = 30;
100
101     svg.setAttribute("width", svgWidth);
102     svg.setAttribute("height", svgHeight);

```

```

98     svg.setAttribute("class", "tally-svg-group" + (isClickable ? "_clickable" : ""
99         ));
100     if (isClickable) {
101         svg.onclick = toggleTenTallyRepresentation;
102         svg.setAttribute("title", isSlashed ? "1_Ten_(Composed_Click_to_decompose)" : "10_Ones_(Click_to_compose)");
103     } else {
104         svg.setAttribute("title", isSlashed ? "1_Ten_(Composed)" : "10_Ones");
105     }
106
107     // Draw 10 vertical bars if NOT slashed
108     if (!isSlashed) {
109         for (let i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
110             const line = document.createElementNS(svgNS, "line");
111             const x = i * (verticalBarSpacing + 2) + 1; // +1 for stroke width
112                 offset
113             line.setAttribute("x1", x); line.setAttribute("y1", (svgHeight -
114                 verticalBarHeight) / 2);
115             line.setAttribute("x2", x); line.setAttribute("y2", (svgHeight +
116                 verticalBarHeight) / 2);
117             svg.appendChild(line);
118         }
119     } else { // Draw 9 vertical + 1 diagonal slash
120         for (let i = 0; i < 9; i++) {
121             const line = document.createElementNS(svgNS, "line");
122             const x = i * (verticalBarSpacing + 2) + 1;
123             line.setAttribute("x1", x); line.setAttribute("y1", (svgHeight -
124                 verticalBarHeight) / 2);
125             line.setAttribute("x2", x); line.setAttribute("y2", (svgHeight +
126                 verticalBarHeight) / 2);
127             svg.appendChild(line);
128         }
129         // Draw diagonal slash
130         const slash = document.createElementNS(svgNS, "line");
131         const startX = 0; // Start slightly before first bar
132         const startY = (svgHeight + verticalBarHeight) / 2 + 2; // Start lower left
133         const endX = groupWidth + 4; // End slightly after last bar
134         const endY = (svgHeight - verticalBarHeight) / 2 - 2; // End upper right
135         slash.setAttribute("x1", startX); slash.setAttribute("y1", startY);
136         slash.setAttribute("x2", endX); slash.setAttribute("y2", endY);
137         svg.appendChild(slash);
138     }
139
140     parentContainer.appendChild(svg);
141 }
142 // --- End SVG Tally Group ---
143
144 function updateDisplay() {
145     numericValueSpan.textContent = count;
146     decrementBtn.disabled = (count === 0);
147
148     // --- Update Boxes ---
149     boxesContainer.innerHTML = ""; // Clear previous

```

```

145     const boxTens = Math.floor(count / 10);
146     const boxOnes = count % 10;
147
148     for (let t = 0; t < boxTens; t++) {
149         const isToggleable = (count === 10 && t === 0); // Only clickable at
150             EXACTLY 10
151         if (isToggleable && tenAsSingleBox) {
152             const rect = document.createElement("div");
153             rect.className = "rectangle-10_clickable";
154             rect.title = "1_Ten_Click_to_decompose";
155             rect.onclick = toggleTenBoxRepresentation;
156             boxesContainer.appendChild(rect);
157         } else if (isToggleable && !tenAsSingleBox) {
158             for (let i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
159                 const box = document.createElement("div");
160                 box.className = "box_clickable";
161                 box.title = "1_One_Click_to_compose";
162                 box.onclick = toggleTenBoxRepresentation;
163                 boxesContainer.appendChild(box);
164             }
165         } else { // For tens groups when count > 10 or default state at 10
166             if (tenAsSingleBox) { // Use the *current* toggle state for display
167                 const rect = document.createElement("div");
168                 rect.className = "rectangle-10";
169                 rect.title = "1_Ten";
170                 boxesContainer.appendChild(rect);
171             } else {
172                 for (let i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
173                     const box = document.createElement("div");
174                     box.className = "box";
175                     box.title = "1_One";
176                     boxesContainer.appendChild(box);
177                 }
178             }
179         }
180         // Add spacer between tens groups or before ones
181         if (boxTens > 0 && boxOnes > 0 || t < boxTens - 1) {
182             const spacer = document.createElement("span");
183             spacer.style.display = "inline-block"; spacer.style.width = "8px";
184             boxesContainer.appendChild(spacer);
185         }
186         // Draw ones boxes
187         for (let i = 0; i < boxOnes; i++) {
188             const box = document.createElement("div");
189             box.className = "box";
190             boxesContainer.appendChild(box);
191         }
192
193         // --- Update Tallies ---
194         tallyContainer.innerHTML = ""; // Clear previous
195         const tallyTens = Math.floor(count / 10);
196         const tallyOnes = count % 10;
197

```

```

198      // Draw tens groups using SVG
199      for (let t = 0; t < tallyTens; t++) {
200          const isToggleable = (count === 10 && t === 0); // Clickable only at count
201              10
202          const useSlashed = isToggleable ? tenAsSlashTally : tenAsSlashTally; //
203              Draw based on toggle state
204          drawTallyGroupSVG(tallyContainer, useSlashed, isToggleable);
205
206          // No extra spacer needed, margin on SVG handles it
207      }
208
209      // Draw remainder (ones) tallies as simple text /
210      if (tallyOnes > 0) {
211          const onesSpan = document.createElement("span");
212          onesSpan.className = "tally-mark";
213          onesSpan.textContent = "|".repeat(tallyOnes);
214          tallyContainer.appendChild(onesSpan);
215      }
216
217      } // End of updateDisplay
218
219      // Initialize the display on page load
220      updateDisplay();
221
222      </script>
223
224      </body>
225      </html>

```

Addition Strategies: Chunking by Bases and Ones

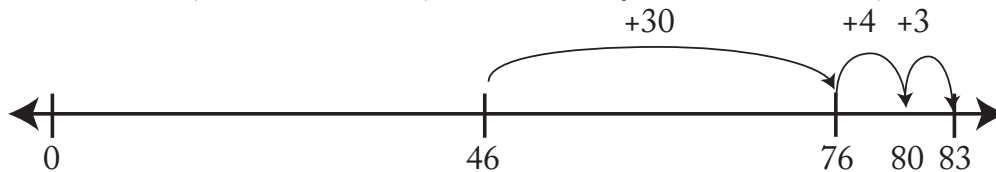
Compiled by: Theodore M. Savich

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Transcript

Strategy descriptions and examples adapted from Hackenberg (2025). Problem: Max has 46 comic books. For his birthday, his father gives him 37 more comic books. How many comic books does Max have now?

Dionne's solution: "He has 46. Then 37 more. [She writes down 46, 76.] That's the 30. And then 7 more. Well, 4 more makes 80, and then I only need to do 3 more, 83."



Notation Representing Sarah's Solution:

$$46 + 37 = \square$$

$$46 + 30 = 76$$

$$76 + 4 = 80$$

$$80 + 3 = 83$$

Description of Strategy:

Objective: Begin with one number. Then, break the other number down into bases and units. In COBO, you count on each base individually - then the ones. With Chunking, instead of adding each base individually, add them in well-chosen, larger groups. Likewise, combine the units in groups rather than one by one—though there are instances when adding a single base or unit makes strategic sense. The overall goal is to create larger, intentional groupings, and it's important to clarify why each grouping is considered strategic. Usually, the goal with chunking on ones is to make a base first, then you can chunk on the rest of the ones. Usually when chunking on the bases, the goal is to make a base-of-bases first (so, in base ten, the goal would be to try and make one hundred), because then you can chunk on the rest of the bases (and ones) all at once.

Description of Strategy

- **Objective:** Similar to COBO but add bases and ones in larger, strategic chunks.
- **Example:** $46 + 37$
 - Start at 46.

- Add all tens at once: $46 + 30 = 76$.
- Add ones strategically: $76 + 4 = 80$, then $80 + 3 = 83$.

Automaton Type

Finite State Automaton (FSA) with basic arithmetic capability.

Formal Description of the Automaton

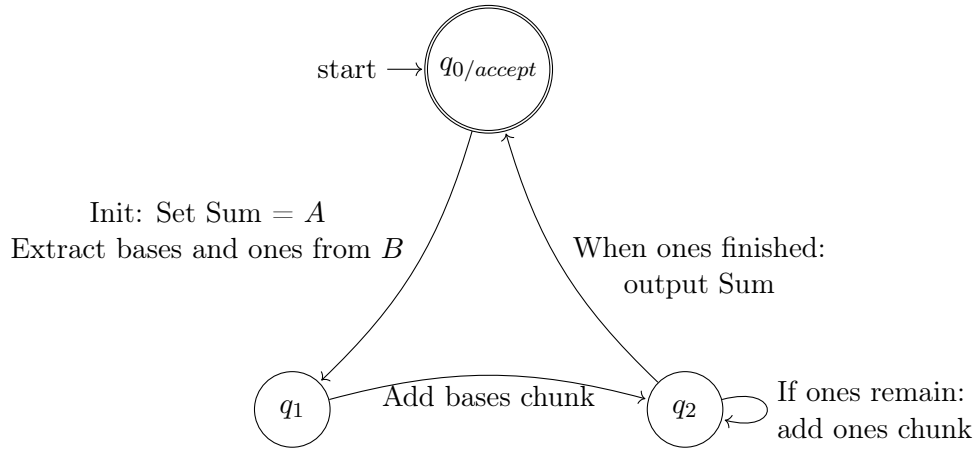
We define the automaton as the tuple

$$M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_{0/accept}, F)$$

where:

- $Q = \{q_{0/accept}, q_1, q_2\}$ is the set of states.
- $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, +\}$ is the input alphabet.
- $q_{0/accept}$ is the start state, which is also the accept state.
- $F = \{q_{0/accept}\}$ is the set of accepting states.
- The transition function δ is defined as:
 1. $\delta(q_{0/accept}, "A, B") = q_1$ with the action: set $\text{Sum} \leftarrow A$ and extract the base and ones chunks from B .
 2. $\delta(q_1, \varepsilon) = q_2$ with the action: update $\text{Sum} \leftarrow \text{Sum} +$ (the bases chunk from B).
 3. $\delta(q_2, \varepsilon) = q_2$ with the action: if ones remain, add a strategic ones chunk to Sum (loop as needed).
 4. $\delta(q_2, \varepsilon) = q_{0/accept}$ with the action: when ones are finished, output Sum .

Automaton Diagram for Chunking by Bases and Ones



HTML Implementation

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html>
3 <head>
4   <title>Addition Strategies: Chunking by Bases and Ones</title>
5   <style>
6     body { font-family: sans-serif; }
7     #diagramChunkingSVG { border: 1px solid #d3d3d3; }
8     #outputContainer { margin-top: 20px; }
9     .number-line-tick { stroke: black; stroke-width: 1; }
10    .number-line-break { stroke: black; stroke-width: 1; stroke-dasharray: 5 5;} /*
11      For scale break */
12    .number-line-label { font-size: 12px; text-anchor: middle; } /* Centered labels */
13    .jump-arrow { fill: none; stroke: green; stroke-width: 2; } /* Changed color */
14    .jump-arrow-head { fill: green; stroke: green; } /* Changed color */
15    .jump-label { font-size: 12px; text-anchor: middle; fill: green; } /* Changed
16      color */
17    .stopping-point { fill: red; stroke: black; stroke-width: 1; }
18    /* Number line arrowhead */
19    .number-line-arrow { fill: black; stroke: black;}
20  </style>
21 </head>
22 <body>
23
24 <h1>Addition Strategies: Chunking by Bases and Then Ones</h1>
25
26 <div>
27   <label for="chunkingAddend1">Addend 1:</label>
28   <input type="number" id="chunkingAddend1" value="46">
29 </div>
30 <div>
31   <label for="chunkingAddend2">Addend 2:</label>
32   <input type="number" id="chunkingAddend2" value="37">
33 </div>
34
35 <button onclick="runChunkingAutomaton()">Calculate and Visualize</button>
36
37 <div id="outputContainer">
38   <h2>Explanation:</h2>
39   <div id="chunkingOutput">
40     <!-- Text output will be displayed here -->
41   </div>
42 </div>
43
44 <h2>Diagram:</h2>
45 <svg id="diagramChunkingSVG" width="700" height="350"></svg>
46
47 <script>
48 document.addEventListener('DOMContentLoaded', function() {
49   const outputElement = document.getElementById('chunkingOutput');
50   const chunkingAddend1Input = document.getElementById('chunkingAddend1');
51   const chunkingAddend2Input = document.getElementById('chunkingAddend2');
52   const diagramChunkingSVG = document.getElementById('diagramChunkingSVG');
```



```

51
52 if (!outputElement || !diagramChunkingSVG) {
53     console.warn('Element_chunkingOutput_or_diagramChunkingSVG_not_found');
54     return;
55 }
56
57 window.runChunkingAutomaton = function() {
58     try {
59         const addend1 = parseInt(chunkingAddend1Input.value);
60         const addend2 = parseInt(chunkingAddend2Input.value);
61         if (isNaN(addend1) || isNaN(addend2)) {
62             outputElement.textContent = 'Please_enter_valid_numbers_for_both_addends';
63             return;
64         }
65
66         let output = '<h2>Chunking by Bases and Ones (Flexible)</h2>\n\n';
67         output += '<p><strong>Problem:</strong> ${addend1} + ${addend2}</p>\n\n';
68
69         let tensToAddTotal = Math.floor(addend2 / 10) * 10;
70         let onesToAddTotal = addend2 % 10;
71
72         output += 'Step 1: Split ${addend2} into ${tensToAddTotal} (tens) + ${
73             onesToAddTotal} (ones)\n\n';
74
75         let currentSum = addend1;
76         const chunkSteps = [];
77         let stepCounter = 2;
78
79         // --- Strategy Decision: Add Ones First or Tens First? ---
80         const addOnesFirstDecision = Math.random() < 0.3; // 30% chance to add ones
81             first (if possible)
82         let onesAddedFirst = false;
83
84         if (addOnesFirstDecision && onesToAddTotal > 0) {
85             // Try adding ones first to make the next ten
86             const onesToNextTenInitial = (10 - (currentSum % 10)) % 10;
87             if (onesToNextTenInitial > 0 && onesToAddTotal >= onesToNextTenInitial) {
88                 output += 'Step ${stepCounter}: Add ones chunk first to make a ten\n';
89                 stepCounter++;
90                 chunkSteps.push({
91                     from: currentSum,
92                     to: currentSum + onesToNextTenInitial,
93                     label: '+${onesToNextTenInitial}'
94                 });
95                 output += '<p>${currentSum} + ${onesToNextTenInitial} = ${currentSum +
96                     onesToNextTenInitial} (Making the next ten)</p>\n';
97                 currentSum += onesToNextTenInitial;
98                 onesToAddTotal -= onesToNextTenInitial;
99                 onesAddedFirst = true; // Flag that we adjusted ones already
100                 output += '\n';
101             }
102         }
103
104         // --- Tens Chunking (Potentially after adding some ones) ---

```

```

102 if (tensToAddTotal > 0) {
103   output += 'Step ${stepCounter}: Add tens chunk(s)\n';
104   stepCounter++;
105
106   while (tensToAddTotal > 0) {
107     // Calculate tens needed to reach the *next* hundred
108     let amountToNextHundred = (currentSum % 100 === 0) ? 0 : 100 - (
109       currentSum % 100);
110     let tensToNextHundred = Math.floor(amountToNextHundred / 10) * 10;
111
112     let tensChunk = 0;
113
114     if (tensToNextHundred > 0 && tensToAddTotal >= tensToNextHundred) {
115       // Option 1: Chunk exactly to the next hundred
116       tensChunk = tensToNextHundred;
117       output += '<p>${currentSum} + ${tensChunk} = ${currentSum +
118         tensChunk} (Making the next hundred)</p>\n';
119     } else {
120       // Option 2: Add remaining tens, or a smaller "honest" chunk if
121       // large amount remains
122       if (tensToAddTotal <= 30 || Math.random() < 0.6) { // More likely
123         // to add all if 30 or less, or 60% chance otherwise
124         tensChunk = tensToAddTotal; // Add all remaining tens
125         output += '<p>${currentSum} + ${tensChunk} = ${currentSum +
126           tensChunk}</p>\n';
127       } else {
128         // Add a smaller "honest" chunk (e.g., 10, 20, or 30) - more
129         // random choices possible here
130         tensChunk = (Math.floor(Math.random() * 3) + 1) * 10; //
131         // Randomly 10, 20, or 30
132         tensChunk = Math.min(tensChunk, tensToAddTotal); // Don't add
133         // more than available
134         output += '<p>${currentSum} + ${tensChunk} = ${currentSum +
135           tensChunk}</p>\n';
136       }
137     }
138
139     if (tensChunk > 0) {
140       chunkSteps.push({
141         from: currentSum,
142         to: currentSum + tensChunk,
143         label: '+${tensChunk}'
144       });
145       currentSum += tensChunk;
146       tensToAddTotal -= tensChunk;
147     } else {
148       // Safety break if something went wrong
149       break;
150     }
151   }
152   output += '\n';
153 }
154
155 // --- Remaining Ones Chunking (If not added first or some left over) ---

```

```

147 if (onesToAddTotal > 0) {
148     output += 'Step ${stepCounter}: Add remaining ones chunk(s)\n';
149
150     // Strategic ones (make next ten) - might happen again if tens landed
151     // awkwardly
152     const onesToNextTen = (10 - (currentSum % 10)) % 10;
153
154     if (onesToNextTen > 0 && onesToAddTotal >= onesToNextTen) {
155         // Chunk 1: Reach the next ten
156         chunkSteps.push({
157             from: currentSum,
158             to: currentSum + onesToNextTen,
159             label: '+${onesToNextTen}'
160         });
161         output += '<p>${currentSum} + ${onesToNextTen} = ${currentSum +
162             onesToNextTen} (Making the next ten)</p>\n';
163         currentSum += onesToNextTen;
164         onesToAddTotal -= onesToNextTen;
165
166         // Chunk 2: Add the rest
167         if (onesToAddTotal > 0) {
168             chunkSteps.push({
169                 from: currentSum,
170                 to: currentSum + onesToAddTotal,
171                 label: '+${onesToAddTotal}'
172             });
173             output += '<p>${currentSum} + ${onesToAddTotal} = ${currentSum +
174                 onesToAddTotal}</p>\n';
175             currentSum += onesToAddTotal;
176             onesToAddTotal = 0;
177         }
178     } else if (onesToAddTotal > 0) {
179         // Add all remaining ones
180         chunkSteps.push({
181             from: currentSum,
182             to: currentSum + onesToAddTotal,
183             label: '+${onesToAddTotal}'
184         });
185         output += '<p>${currentSum} + ${onesToAddTotal} = ${currentSum +
186             onesToAddTotal}</p>\n';
187         currentSum += onesToAddTotal;
188         onesToAddTotal = 0;
189     }
190     output += '\n';
191 }
192
193 output += 'Result: ${addend1} + ${addend2} = ${currentSum}';
194 outputElement.innerHTML = output;
195 typesetMath();
196
197 drawChunkingNumberLineDiagram('diagramChunkingSVG', addend1, addend2,
198     chunkSteps, currentSum);

```

```

196     } catch (error) {
197         outputElement.textContent = `Error: ${error.message}`;
198     }
199 };
200
201 // drawChunkingNumberLineDiagram function remains the same
202 // ... (Keep the FULL drawChunkingNumberLineDiagram function and its helpers from
203 previous responses) ...
204 function drawChunkingNumberLineDiagram(svgId, addend1, addend2, chunkSteps, finalSum)
205 {
206     const svg = document.getElementById(svgId);
207     if (!svg) return;
208     svg.innerHTML = '';
209
210     const svgWidth = parseFloat(svg.getAttribute('width'));
211     const svgHeight = parseFloat(svg.getAttribute('height'));
212     const startX = 50;
213     const endX = svgWidth - 50;
214     const numberLineY = svgHeight / 2 + 30; // Lower number line slightly
215     const tickHeight = 10;
216     const labelOffsetBase = 20;
217     const jumpHeightLarge = 60; // Increased height for larger jumps
218     const jumpHeightSmall = 40; // Height for smaller jumps (ones chunks)
219     const jumpLabelOffset = 15;
220     const arrowSize = 5;
221     const scaleBreakThreshold = 40; // Adjust if needed
222
223     // Draw Number Line & 0 Tick
224     const numberLine = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', 'line');
225     numberLine.setAttribute('x1', startX);
226     numberLine.setAttribute('y1', numberLineY);
227     numberLine.setAttribute('x2', endX);
228     numberLine.setAttribute('y2', numberLineY);
229     numberLine.setAttribute('class', 'number-line-tick');
230     svg.appendChild(numberLine);
231
232     const zeroTick = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', 'line');
233     zeroTick.setAttribute('x1', startX);
234     zeroTick.setAttribute('y1', numberLineY - tickHeight / 2);
235     zeroTick.setAttribute('x2', startX);
236     zeroTick.setAttribute('y2', numberLineY + tickHeight / 2);
237     zeroTick.setAttribute('class', 'number-line-tick');
238     svg.appendChild(zeroTick);
239     createText(svg, startX, numberLineY + labelOffsetBase, '0', 'number-line-label');
240
241     // Calculate scale and handle potential break
242     let displayRangeStart = 0;
243     let scaleStartX = startX;
244     let drawScaleBreak = false;
245
246     // Determine the actual min and max values shown *after* the break
247     let minValAfterBreak = addend1;
248     let maxValAfterBreak = finalSum;
249     chunkSteps.forEach(step => {

```

```

248     minValAfterBreak = Math.min(minValAfterBreak, step.from, step.to);
249     maxValAfterBreak = Math.max(maxValAfterBreak, step.from, step.to);
250 });
251
252
253 if (addend1 > scaleBreakThreshold) {
254     displayRangeStart = minValAfterBreak - 10; // Start range slightly before min
255         value shown after break
256     scaleStartX = startX + 30; // Leave space for break symbol
257     drawScaleBreak = true;
258     drawScaleBreakSymbol(svg, scaleStartX - 15, numberLineY); // Draw break symbol
259 } else {
260     displayRangeStart = 0; // Start from 0 if no break
261 }
262
263 const displayRangeEnd = maxValAfterBreak + 10; // End range slightly after max
264     value shown
265 const displayRange = Math.max(displayRangeEnd - displayRangeStart, 1); // Avoid
266     division by zero if range is 0
267 const scale = (endX - scaleStartX) / displayRange;
268
269 // Function to convert value to X coordinate based on scale
270 function valueToX(value) {
271     if (value < displayRangeStart && drawScaleBreak) {
272         // Values before the effective start are compressed near the break symbol
273         return scaleStartX - 10; // Place them just before the break starts
274         visually
275     }
276     // Ensure values stay within the visible range after the break starts
277     const scaledValue = scaleStartX + (value - displayRangeStart) * scale;
278     return Math.min(scaledValue, endX); // Cap at endX
279 }
280
281 // Draw Ticks and Labels for relevant points
282 function drawTickAndLabel(value, index) {
283     const x = valueToX(value);
284     if (x < scaleStartX - 5 && value !== 0) return; // Don't draw ticks in
285         compressed area unless it's 0 or very close to break
286
287     const tick = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', 'line');
288     tick.setAttribute('x1', x);
289     tick.setAttribute('y1', numberLineY - tickHeight / 2);
290     tick.setAttribute('x2', x);
291     tick.setAttribute('y2', numberLineY + tickHeight / 2);
292     tick.setAttribute('class', 'number-line-tick');
293     svg.appendChild(tick);
294     const labelOffset = labelOffsetBase * (index % 2 === 0 ? 1 : -1.5);
295     createText(svg, x, numberLineY + labelOffset, value.toString(), 'number-line-
    label');
296 }
297
298 drawTickAndLabel(addend1, 0); // Starting addend
299 let lastToValue = addend1;
300

```

```

296 // Draw chunk jumps
297 chunkSteps.forEach((step, index) => {
298     const x1 = valueToX(step.from);
299     const x2 = valueToX(step.to);
300     // Check if both start and end points are significantly beyond the SVG width
301     if(x1 >= endX - 1 && x2 >= endX - 1) return;
302
303     // Determine jump height based on chunk size (e.g., tens vs ones)
304     const isLargeChunk = Math.abs(step.to - step.from) >= 10; // Define what
        constitutes a "large" chunk
305     const currentJumpHeight = isLargeChunk ? jumpHeightLarge : jumpHeightSmall;
306     const staggerOffset = index % 2 === 0 ? 0 : currentJumpHeight * 0.5; //
        Stagger jump height slightly
307
308     createJumpArrow(svg, x1, numberLineY, x2, numberLineY, currentJumpHeight +
        staggerOffset);
309     createText(svg, (x1 + x2) / 2, numberLineY - (currentJumpHeight +
        staggerOffset) - jumpLabelOffset, step.label, 'jump-label');
310     drawTickAndLabel(step.to, index + 1);
311     lastToValue = step.to;
312 });
313
314 // Ensure final sum tick is drawn if it wasn't the last 'to' value and is within
        range
315 if (finalSum !== lastToValue && valueToX(finalSum) <= endX) {
316     drawTickAndLabel(finalSum, chunkSteps.length + 1);
317 }
318
319 // Add arrowhead to the right end of the visible number line segment
320 const endLineX = valueToX(displayRangeEnd); // Use the calculated end based on
        scaling
321 const mainArrowHead = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', 'path
        ');
322 mainArrowHead.setAttribute('d', 'M ${endLineX - arrowSize} ${numberLineY -
        arrowSize/2} L ${endLineX} ${numberLineY} L ${endLineX - arrowSize} ${
        numberLineY + arrowSize/2} Z');
323 mainArrowHead.setAttribute('class', 'number-line-arrow');
324 svg.appendChild(mainArrowHead);
325
326 // Start point marker
327 drawStoppingPoint(svg, valueToX(addend1), numberLineY, 'Start');
328
329
330 // --- Helper SVG drawing functions --- (Keep these the same) ---
331 function createText(svg, x, y, textContent, className) {
332     const text = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', 'text');
333     text.setAttribute('x', x);
334     text.setAttribute('y', y);
335     text.setAttribute('class', className);
336     text.setAttribute('text-anchor', 'middle'); // Keep middle align for labels
337     text.setAttribute('font-size', '12px');
338     text.textContent = textContent;
339     svg.appendChild(text);
340 }

```

```

341
342 function drawScaleBreakSymbol(svg, x, y) {
343     const breakOffset = 4; // How far apart the lines are
344     const breakHeight = 8; // How tall the zig-zag is
345     const breakLine1 = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', '
        line');
346     breakLine1.setAttribute('x1', x - breakOffset);
347     breakLine1.setAttribute('y1', y - breakHeight);
348     breakLine1.setAttribute('x2', x + breakOffset);
349     breakLine1.setAttribute('y2', y + breakHeight);
350     breakLine1.setAttribute('class', 'number-line-break');
351     svg.appendChild(breakLine1);
352     const breakLine2 = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', '
        line');
353     breakLine2.setAttribute('x1', x + breakOffset); // Swapped x1/x2
354     breakLine2.setAttribute('y1', y - breakHeight);
355     breakLine2.setAttribute('x2', x - breakOffset); // Swapped x1/x2
356     breakLine2.setAttribute('y2', y + breakHeight);
357     breakLine2.setAttribute('class', 'number-line-break');
358     svg.appendChild(breakLine2);
359 }
360
361 function createJumpArrow(svg, x1, y1, x2, y2, jumpArcHeight) {
362     const path = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', 'path');
363     const cx = (x1 + x2) / 2;
364     const cy = y1 - jumpArcHeight; // Arc is above the line
365     path.setAttribute('d', 'M ${x1} ${y1} Q ${cx} ${cy} ${x2} ${y1}');
366     path.setAttribute('class', 'jump-arrow');
367     svg.appendChild(path);
368
369     // Arrowhead
370     const jumpArrowHead = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', '
        path');
371     const dx = x2 - cx; // Approx direction vector
372     const dy = y1 - cy;
373     const angleRad = Math.atan2(dy, dx);
374     const angleDeg = angleRad * (180 / Math.PI);
375     jumpArrowHead.setAttribute('class', 'jump-arrow-head');
376     jumpArrowHead.setAttribute('d', 'M 0 0 L ${arrowSize} ${arrowSize/2} L ${
        arrowSize} ${-arrowSize/2} Z');
377     jumpArrowHead.setAttribute('transform', 'translate(${x2}, ${y1}) rotate(${
        angleDeg + 180})');
378     svg.appendChild(jumpArrowHead);
379 }
380
381 function drawStoppingPoint(svg, x, y, labelText, labelOffsetBase = 20, index = 0)
382 {
383     const circle = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', 'circle'
    );
384     circle.setAttribute('cx', x);
385     circle.setAttribute('cy', y);
386     circle.setAttribute('r', 4);
387     circle.setAttribute('class', 'stopping-point');
388     svg.appendChild(circle);

```

```

388
389      // Use the provided y parameter instead of numberLineY
390      if (labelText) {
391          // Add staggering based on index to prevent overlap with large values
392          const labelOffset = labelOffsetBase * (index % 2 === 0 ? 1.5 : -1.8);
393          createText(svg, x, y + labelOffset, labelText, 'number-line-label');
394      }
395  }
396  }
397
398  function typesetMath() {
399      // Placeholder
400  }
401
402  });
403 </script>
404
405 </body>
406 <!-- New button for viewing PDF documentation -->
407 <button onclick="openPdfViewer()">Want to learn more about this strategy? Click here.</
    button>
408
409 <script>
410     function openPdfViewer() {
411         // Opens the PDF documentation for the strategy.
412         window.open('../SAR_ADD_CHUNKING.pdf', '_blank');
413     }
414 </script>
415 </html>

```

References

Hackenberg, A. (2025). *Course notes* [Unpublished course notes].

Addition Strategies: Rearranging to Make Bases (RMB)

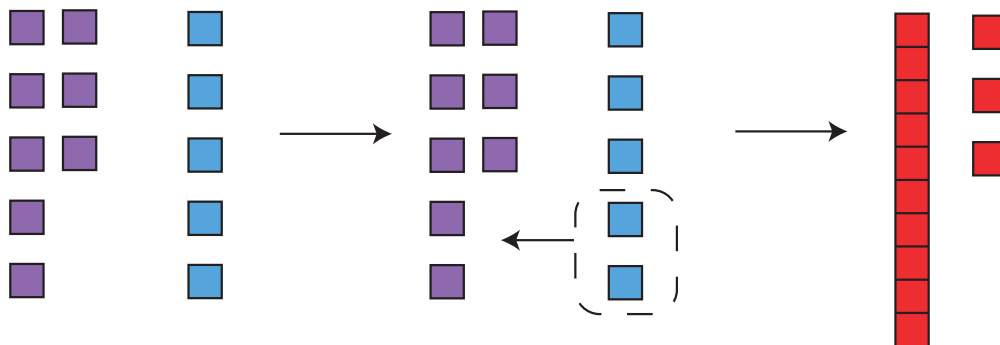
Compiled by: Theodore M. Savich

March 31, 2025

Transcript

Video from Carpenter et al. (1999). Strategy descriptions and examples adapted from Hackenberg (2025).

- **Teacher:** Lucy is eight fish. She buys five more fish. How many fish will Lucy have then?
- **Sarah:** 13.
- **Teacher:** How'd you get 13?
- **Sarah:** Well, because eight plus two is ten, but then two plus three is five. And she wants to buy five more fish. So you take care of two, and you need to add three more. And so I add three more, and you get 13.



Notation Representing Sarah's Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}8 + 5 &= \square \\8 + 2 &= 10 \\2 + 3 &= 5 \\8 + 5 &= 10 + 3 \\8 + 5 &= 13\end{aligned}$$

Description of Strategy:

Objective: Rearranging to Make Bases (RMB) means shifting the extra ones from one addend over to the other so that one of the numbers becomes a complete multiple of the base (a whole “group” of that base). This rearrangement simplifies the addition process because there are established

patterns for adding an exact multiple of the base. In other words, when you add a full group of base units to a number, the ones digit stays the same while only the digit representing the base (like the tens place) increases.

Rearranging to Make Bases (RMB)

Description of Strategy

- **Objective:** Make one of the addends a whole number of bases by moving ones from the other addend.
- **Example:** $8 + 5$
 - Move 2 ones from 5 to 8 to make 10.
 - Remaining ones in the second addend: $5 - 2 = 3$.
 - Add the adjusted numbers: $10 + 3 = 13$.

Automaton Type

Pushdown Automaton (PDA): Needed to handle digits and to remember the number of ones moved via the stack.

Formal Description of the Automaton

We define the PDA as the 7-tuple

$$M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_{0/accept}, Z_0, F)$$

where

- $Q = \{q_{0/accept}, q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4, q_5\}$ is the finite set of states.
- $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, +\}$ is the input alphabet (suitable for representing addends).
- $\Gamma = \{Z_0\} \cup \{x \mid x \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is the stack alphabet, where:
 - Z_0 is the initial (bottom) stack symbol.
 - A symbol x represents the number of ones moved.
- $q_{0/accept}$ is the start state, which is also the accept state.
- Z_0 is the initial stack symbol.
- $F = \{q_{0/accept}\}$ is the set of accepting states.

The transition function

$$\delta : Q \times (\Sigma \cup \{\varepsilon\}) \times \Gamma \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q \times \Gamma^*)$$

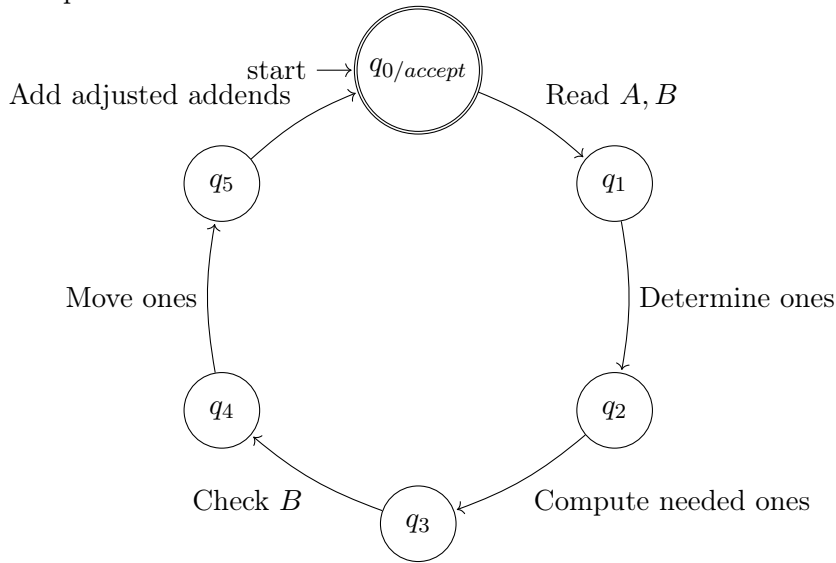
is defined by the following key transitions:

1. $\delta(q_{0/accept}, "A, B", Z_0) = \{(q_1, Z_0)\}$ (Read inputs A and B).
2. $\delta(q_1, \varepsilon, Z_0) = \{(q_2, Z_0)\}$ (Determine the ones digits of A and B).

3. $\delta(q_2, \varepsilon, Z_0) = \{(q_3, Z_0)\}$ (Compute the number of ones needed to make A a full base).
4. $\delta(q_3, \varepsilon, Z_0) = \{(q_4, k Z_0)\}$ (If B has at least k ones, push k onto the stack).
5. $\delta(q_4, \varepsilon, k) = \{(q_5, k)\}$ (Move k ones from B to A and adjust the addends).
6. $\delta(q_5, \varepsilon, k) = \{(q_0/accept, Z_0)\}$ (Add the adjusted numbers, output the result, and pop k from the stack).

Automaton Diagram for RMB

The following TikZ picture arranges the 6 states on a circle, with $q_0/accept$ serving as both the start and accept state.



HTML Implementation

```

1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html>
3 <head>
4   <title>Rearranging to Make Bases (RMB) Addition</title>
5   <style>
6     body { font-family: sans-serif; }
7     #diagramRMBSVG { border: 1px solid #d3d3d3; } /* Style SVG like canvas */
8     #outputContainer { margin-top: 20px; }
9     .diagram-label { font-size: 14px; display: block; margin-bottom: 5px; } /*
      Improved label styling */
10  </style>
11 </head>
12 <body>
13
14   <h1>Addition Strategies: Rearranging to Make Bases (RMB)</h1>
15
16   <div>
17     <label for="addend1">Addend 1:</label>
18     <input type="number" id="addend1" value="18">
19   </div>

```

```

20 <div>
21   <label for="addend2">Addend 2:</label>
22   <input type="number" id="addend2" value="15">
23 </div>
24
25 <button onclick="runRMBAutomaton()">Calculate and Visualize</button>
26
27 <div id="outputContainer">
28   <h2>Explanation:</h2>
29   <div id="rmbOutput">
30     <!-- Text output will be displayed here -->
31   </div>
32 </div>
33
34 <h2>Diagram:</h2>
35 <svg id="diagramRMBSVG" width="600" height="700"></svg> <!-- Increased height -->
36
37 <script>
38 document.addEventListener('DOMContentLoaded', function() {
39   const rmbOutputElement = document.getElementById('rmbOutput');
40   const rmbAddend1Input = document.getElementById('addend1');
41   const rmbAddend2Input = document.getElementById('addend2');
42   const diagramRMBSVG = document.getElementById('diagramRMBSVG');
43
44   if (!rmbOutputElement || !diagramRMBSVG) {
45     console.warn("Element_rmbOutput_or_diagramRMBSVG_not_found");
46     return;
47   }
48
49   window.runRMBAutomaton = function() {
50     try {
51       const addend1 = parseInt(rmbAddend1Input.value);
52       const addend2 = parseInt(rmbAddend2Input.value);
53
54       if (isNaN(addend1) || isNaN(addend2)) {
55         rmbOutputElement.textContent = "Please_enter_valid_numbers_for_both_addends";
56         return;
57       }
58
59       let output = '';
60       output += '<h2>Rearranging to Make Bases (RMB)</h2><br><br>';
61       output += '<p><strong>Problem:</strong> ${addend1} + ${addend2}</p><br><br>';
62
63       const toMakeBase = (10 - (addend1 % 10)) % 10;
64
65       if (toMakeBase === 0) {
66         output += '${addend1} is already a multiple of 10.<br>';
67         output += 'Directly_add:${addend1}+${addend2}=${addend1+addend2}';
68         rmbOutputElement.textContent = output;
69         drawRMBDiagram('diagramRMBSVG', addend1, addend2, toMakeBase, addend1,
70           addend2, addend1 + addend2);
71         return;
72       }

```

```

72
73     if (addend2 < toMakeBase) {
74         output += 'Cannot make a base from ${addend1} because ${addend2} is too
75             small to provide the needed ${toMakeBase} units.<br>';
76         output += 'Directly add: ${addend1} + ${addend2} = ${addend1 + addend2}';
77         rmbOutputElement.textContent = output;
78         drawRMBDiagram('diagramRMBSVG', addend1, addend2, toMakeBase, addend1,
79             addend2, addend1 + addend2);
80         return;
81     }
82
83     // Apply RMB strategy
84     const newAddend1 = addend1 + toMakeBase;
85     const newAddend2 = addend2 - toMakeBase;
86     const result = newAddend1 + newAddend2;
87
88     output += 'Step 1: Move ${toMakeBase} from ${addend2} to ${addend1}<br>';
89     output += ' ${addend1} + ${toMakeBase} = ${newAddend1} (now a multiple of 10)<
90         br>';
91     output += ' ${addend2} - ${toMakeBase} = ${newAddend2}<br><br>';
92     output += 'Step 2: Add the rearranged numbers<br>';
93     output += '${newAddend1} + ${newAddend2} = ${result}<br><br>';
94     output += 'Result: ${addend1} + ${addend2} = ${result}';
95
96     rmbOutputElement.innerHTML = output;
97
98     // Draw RMB Diagram
99     drawRMBDiagram('diagramRMBSVG', addend1, addend2, toMakeBase, newAddend1,
100         newAddend2, result);
101
102 } catch (error) {
103     rmbOutputElement.textContent = 'Error: ${error.message}';
104 }
105 };
106
107 function drawRMBDiagram(svgId, addend1, addend2, toMakeBase, newAddend1, newAddend2,
108     result) {
109     const svg = document.getElementById(svgId);
110     if (!svg) return;
111     svg.innerHTML = ''; // Clear SVG
112
113     const svgWidth = parseFloat(svg.getAttribute('width'));
114     const svgHeight = parseFloat(svg.getAttribute('height'));
115     const blockUnitSize = 15; // Size of individual unit block
116     const tenBlockWidth = blockUnitSize; // Width of 10-block rectangle
117     const tenBlockHeight = blockUnitSize * 10; // Height of 10-block rectangle
118     const blockSpacing = 5;
119     const sectionSpacingY = 120; // Vertical spacing between sections
120     const startX = 50;
121     let currentY = 50;
122     const colors = ['lightblue', 'lightcoral']; // Colors for addend blocks

```

```

121 // --- Original Addends (Horizontal Layout) ---
122 createText(svg, startX, currentY, 'Original Addends: ${addend1} + ${addend2}'); //
    Label
123 currentY += 30; // Space after label
124
125 // Draw Addend 1 (purple) on left
126 let addend1X = startX;
127 const a1_tens = Math.floor(addend1 / 10);
128 const a1_ones = addend1 % 10;
129 for (let i = 0; i < a1_tens; i++) {
130     drawTenBlock(svg, addend1X, currentY, tenBlockWidth, tenBlockHeight, 'purple')
        ;
131     addend1X += tenBlockWidth + blockSpacing;
132 }
133 let a1_onesX = addend1X;
134 for (let i = 0; i < a1_ones; i++) {
135     drawBlock(svg, a1_onesX, currentY + i*(blockUnitSize + blockSpacing),
        blockUnitSize, blockUnitSize, 'purple');
136 }
137 const addend1Width = (a1_tens > 0 ? (a1_tens*(tenBlockWidth + blockSpacing)) : 0)
    + (a1_ones > 0 ? blockUnitSize : 0);
138
139 // Draw Addend 2 (blue) to the right of Addend 1
140 let addend2X = startX + addend1Width + 50; // 50px horizontal spacing between
    addend groups
141 const a2_tens = Math.floor(addend2 / 10);
142 const a2_ones = addend2 % 10;
143 for (let i = 0; i < a2_tens; i++) {
144     drawTenBlock(svg, addend2X, currentY, tenBlockWidth, tenBlockHeight, 'blue');
145     addend2X += tenBlockWidth + blockSpacing;
146 }
147 const addend2OnesX = addend2X;
148 let movedBlockTopY = null, movedBlockBottomY = null;
149 for (let i = 0; i < a2_ones; i++) {
150     drawBlock(svg, addend2OnesX, currentY + i*(blockUnitSize + blockSpacing),
        blockUnitSize, blockUnitSize, 'blue');
151     if (i < toMakeBase) {
152         if (movedBlockTopY === null) {
153             movedBlockTopY = currentY + i*(blockUnitSize + blockSpacing);
154         }
155         movedBlockBottomY = currentY + i*(blockUnitSize + blockSpacing) +
            blockUnitSize;
156     }
157 }
158 currentY += tenBlockHeight + sectionSpacingY; // Move down for the rearranged
    addends section
159
160 // --- Rearranged Addends ---
161 createText(svg, startX+20, currentY, 'Rearranged to Make Base: ${newAddend1} + ${
    newAddend2}'); // Label
162 currentY += 30; // Space after label
163
164 // Draw Rearranged Addend 1 Blocks (Tens only, since newAddend1 is a multiple of
    10)

```

```

165     let currentX_newAddend1 = startX;
166     const newAddend1_tens = Math.floor(newAddend1 / 10);
167     for (let i = 0; i < newAddend1_tens; i++) {
168         drawTenBlock(svg, currentX_newAddend1, currentY, tenBlockWidth,
169             tenBlockHeight, 'red');
170         currentX_newAddend1 += tenBlockWidth + blockSpacing;
171     }
172     // Draw Rearranged Addend 2 Blocks (Split into tens and ones)
173     const newAddend2_tens = Math.floor(newAddend2 / 10);
174     const newAddend2_ones = newAddend2 % 10;
175     let currentX_newAddend2 = currentX_newAddend1 + 40; // Horizontal spacing after
176         newAddend1 blocks
177     for (let i = 0; i < newAddend2_tens; i++) {
178         drawTenBlock(svg, currentX_newAddend2, currentY, tenBlockWidth, tenBlockHeight
179             , 'blue');
180         currentX_newAddend2 += tenBlockWidth + blockSpacing;
181     }
182     for (let i = 0; i < newAddend2_ones; i++) {
183         drawBlock(svg, currentX_newAddend2, currentY + i*(blockUnitSize + blockSpacing
184             ), blockUnitSize, blockUnitSize, 'blue');
185     }
186
187     // --- Curved Arrow ---
188     if (toMakeBase > 0 && addend2 >= toMakeBase && movedBlockTopY !== null) {
189         // Arrow from center of moved (vertical) ones in addend2 to the rearranged
190         // tens block assembly
191         const arrowStartX = addend2OnesX + blockUnitSize/2;
192         const arrowStartY = movedBlockTopY + (movedBlockBottomY - movedBlockTopY) / 2;
193         const arrowEndX = startX + tenBlockWidth/2;
194         const arrowEndY = currentY; // top of rearranged addend1 blocks
195         // Use control point midway vertically between arrowStartY and arrowEndY
196         const controlY = (arrowStartY + arrowEndY) / 2;
197         createCurvedArrow(svg, arrowStartX, arrowStartY, arrowEndX, arrowEndY,
198             arrowEndX, controlY);
199         createText(svg, arrowEndX + 30, controlY + 35, `${toMakeBase} moved`);
200     }
201
202     // --- Helper SVG drawing functions ---
203     function drawBlock(svg, x, y, width, height, fill) {
204         const rect = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'rect');
205         rect.setAttribute('x', x);
206         rect.setAttribute('y', y);
207         rect.setAttribute('width', width);
208         rect.setAttribute('height', height);
209         rect.setAttribute('fill', fill);
210         rect.setAttribute('stroke', 'black');
211         rect.setAttribute('stroke-width', '1');
212         svg.appendChild(rect);
213     }
214
215     function drawTenBlock(svg, x, y, width, height, fill) {
216         const group = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'g'); //
217             Group for 10-block

```

```

211     const backgroundRect = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg",
212         'rect');
213     backgroundRect.setAttribute('x', x);
214     backgroundRect.setAttribute('y', y);
215     backgroundRect.setAttribute('width', width);
216     backgroundRect.setAttribute('height', height);
217     backgroundRect.setAttribute('fill', fill);
218     backgroundRect.setAttribute('stroke', 'black');
219     backgroundRect.setAttribute('stroke-width', '1');
220     group.appendChild(backgroundRect);
221
222     // Draw 10 unit blocks inside - vertical column
223     for (let i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
224         const unitBlock = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", '
225             rect');
226         unitBlock.setAttribute('x', x ); // Same x for vertical column
227         unitBlock.setAttribute('y', y + i * blockUnitSize); // Stacked vertically
228         unitBlock.setAttribute('width', blockUnitSize);
229         unitBlock.setAttribute('height', blockUnitSize);
230         unitBlock.setAttribute('fill', fill); // Same fill as outer rect
231         unitBlock.setAttribute('stroke', 'lightgrey'); // Lighter border for units
232         unitBlock.setAttribute('stroke-width', '0.5');
233         group.appendChild(unitBlock);
234     }
235     svg.appendChild(group);
236
237     function drawGroupRect(svg, x, y, width, height) {
238         const rect = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'rect');
239         rect.setAttribute('x', x);
240         rect.setAttribute('y', y);
241         rect.setAttribute('width', width);
242         rect.setAttribute('height', height);
243         rect.setAttribute('fill', 'none'); // No fill for group rect
244         rect.setAttribute('stroke', 'black');
245         rect.setAttribute('stroke-dasharray', '5_5'); // Dashed border for grouping
246         rect.setAttribute('stroke-width', '1');
247         svg.appendChild(rect);
248     }
249
250     function createText(svg, x, y, textContent) {
251         const text = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'text');
252         text.setAttribute('x', x);
253         text.setAttribute('y', y);
254         text.setAttribute('class', 'diagram-label');
255         text.setAttribute('text-anchor', 'start');
256         text.setAttribute('font-size', '14px');
257         text.textContent = textContent;
258         svg.appendChild(text);
259     }
260
261     function createCurvedArrow(svg, x1, y1, x2, y2, cx, cy) {
262

```



```

263     const path = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'path');
264     path.setAttribute('d', 'M ${x1} ${y1} Q ${cx} ${cy} ${x2} ${y2}');
265     path.setAttribute('fill', 'none');
266     path.setAttribute('stroke', 'black');
267     path.setAttribute('stroke-width', '2');
268     svg.appendChild(path);
269
270     // Arrowhead
271     const arrowHead = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'path');
272     const arrowSize = 5;
273     arrowHead.setAttribute('d', 'M ${x2} ${y2} L ${x2 - arrowSize} ${y2 - arrowSize} L ${x2 + arrowSize} ${y2 - arrowSize} Z');
274     arrowHead.setAttribute('fill', 'black');
275     svg.appendChild(arrowHead);
276 }
277
278 }
279
280 });
281 </script>
282
283 </body>
284 </html>

```

References

- Carpenter, T. P., Fennema, E., Franke, M. L., Levi, L., & Empson, S. B. (1999). Children's mathematics: Cognitively guided instruction – videotape logs [supplementary material]. In *Children's mathematics: Cognitively guided instruction*. Heinemann, in association with The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Inc.
- Hackenberg, A. (2025). *Course notes* [Unpublished course notes].

Subtraction Strategies: Counting On/Back By Bases and then Ones (CBBO)

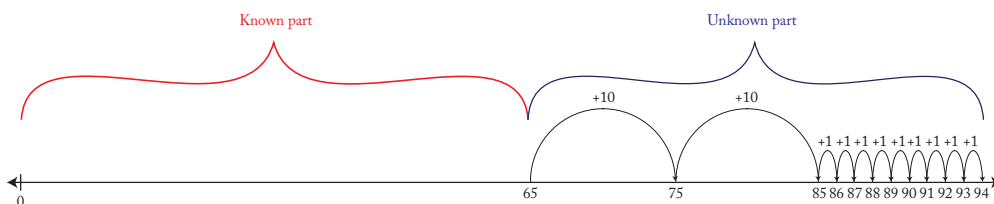
Compiled by: Theodore M. Savich

March 28, 2025

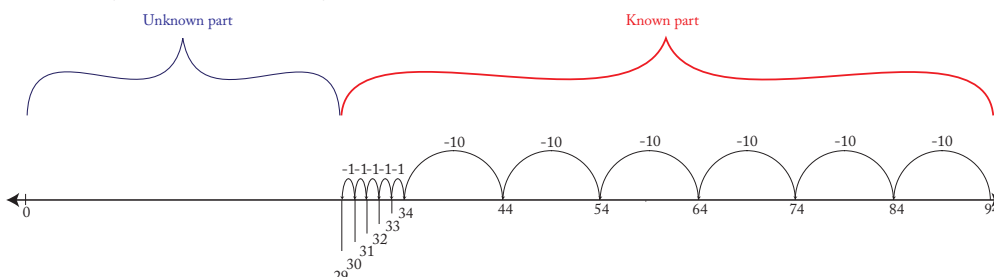
Transcript

Video from Carpenter et al. (1999). Strategy descriptions and examples adapted from Hackenberg (2025).

- **Teacher:** Earl had a collection of 65 bird feathers, on a trip to a marsh he found lots more feathers to put in his collection. Now he has 94 feathers in his collection. How many feathers did Earl find at the marsh?
- **Rita** So he had what?
- **Teacher:** He started off with, 65 feathers.
- **Rita:** 1,2,3,4,5,6 1,2,3,4,5. And then he had how many?
- **Teacher:** Well, he had 65 bird feathers. On a trip to a marsh, he found lots more and he put them in his collection. Now he has 94.
- **Rita:** Well, I can 65, 75, 85. How many did he find?
- **Teacher:** Well, that's my question for you. How many did he find? He ends up with 94.
- **Rita:** And 85,86,87,88,89,90, 91,92,93,94 and so the answer is 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29.
- **Teacher** Nice work.



Alternatively, Rita could have Counted Back by Bases and Ones (CBBO)



Notation Representing Rita's Solution:

$$65 + (10) = 75$$

$$75 + (10) = 85$$

$$85 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 = 94$$

$$10 + 10 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 = 29$$

Description of Strategy:

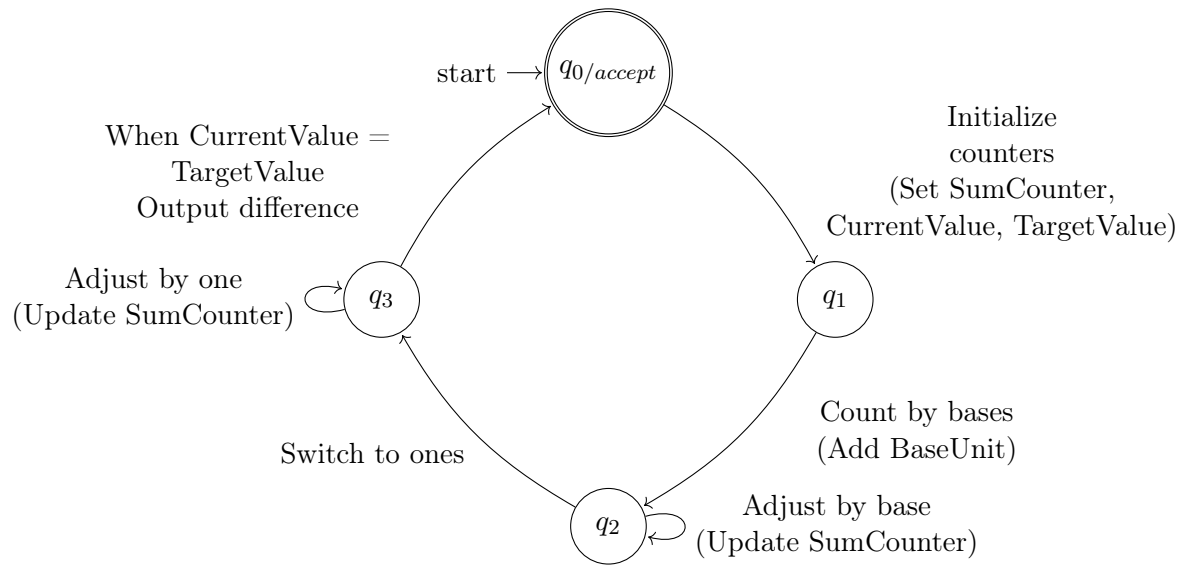
Objective: Description of Counting On by Bases and Then Ones (COBO) Begin with one of the numbers. Break the other number into its base units and its ones. Then, “count on” by adding each base unit one at a time, followed by each individual one.

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.

Automaton Diagram for Counting On or Back by Bases and Then Ones



HTML Implementation

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html>
3 <head>
4   <title>Subtraction Strategies: Counting Back By Bases and Ones (CBBO)</title>
5   <style>
6     body { font-family: sans-serif; }
7     #diagramCBBOSVG { border: 1px solid #d3d3d3; }
8     #outputContainer { margin-top: 20px; }
9     .number-line-tick { stroke: black; stroke-width: 1; }
10    .number-line-break { stroke: black; stroke-width: 1; } /* Solid for zig-zag */
11    .number-line-label { font-size: 12px; text-anchor: middle; }
12    .jump-arrow { fill: none; stroke: purple; stroke-width: 1.5; } /* CBBO color */
13    .jump-arrow-head { fill: purple; stroke: purple; } /* CBBO color */
14    .jump-label { font-size: 10px; text-anchor: middle; fill: purple; } /* CBBO color
        */
15    .tens-jump-label { font-size: 12px; text-anchor: middle; fill: purple; }
16    .stopping-point { fill: red; stroke: black; stroke-width: 1; }
17    .number-line-arrow { fill: black; stroke: black; }
18    .extended-tick { stroke: black; stroke-width: 1; } /* Reuse COBO style */
19  </style>
20 </head>
21 <body>
22
23 <h1>Subtraction Strategies: Counting Back By Bases and Then Ones (CBBO)</h1>
24
25 <div>
26   <label for="cbboMinuend">Minuend:</label>
27   <input type="number" id="cbboMinuend" value="94"> <!-- Example from PDF -->
28 </div>
29 <div>
30   <label for="cbboSubtrahend">Subtrahend:</label>
31   <input type="number" id="cbboSubtrahend" value="29"> <!-- 94 - 65 = 29 -->
32 </div>
33
34 <button onclick="runCBBOAutomaton()">Calculate and Visualize</button>
35
36 <div id="outputContainer">
37   <h2>Explanation:</h2>
38   <div id="cbboOutput">
39     <!-- Text output will be displayed here -->
40   </div>
41 </div>
42
43 <h2>Diagram:</h2>
44 <svg id="diagramCBBOSVG" width="700" height="350"></svg>
45
46 <script>
47 document.addEventListener('DOMContentLoaded', function() {
48   const outputElement = document.getElementById('cbboOutput');
49   const cbboMinuendInput = document.getElementById('cbboMinuend');
50   const cbboSubtrahendInput = document.getElementById('cbboSubtrahend');
51   const diagramCBBOSVG = document.getElementById('diagramCBBOSVG');
```

```

52
53 // --- Helper Functions (Keep createText, drawTick, drawScaleBreakSymbol,
54 // createJumpArrow, drawStoppingPoint from previous corrected versions) ---
55 function createText(svg, x, y, textContent, className = 'number-line-label') {
56     const text = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'text');
57     text.setAttribute('x', x);
58     text.setAttribute('y', y);
59     text.setAttribute('class', className);
60     text.setAttribute('text-anchor', 'middle'); // Center labels
61     text.textContent = textContent;
62     svg.appendChild(text);
63 }
64
65 function drawTick(svg, x, y, size) {
66     const tick = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', 'line');
67     tick.setAttribute('x1', x);
68     tick.setAttribute('y1', y - size / 2);
69     tick.setAttribute('x2', x);
70     tick.setAttribute('y2', y + size / 2);
71     tick.setAttribute('class', 'number-line-tick');
72     svg.appendChild(tick);
73 }
74
75 function drawScaleBreakSymbol(svg, x, y) {
76     const breakOffset = 4;
77     const breakHeight = 8;
78     const breakLine1 = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', 'line');
79     breakLine1.setAttribute('x1', x - breakOffset);
80     breakLine1.setAttribute('y1', y - breakHeight);
81     breakLine1.setAttribute('x2', x + breakOffset);
82     breakLine1.setAttribute('y2', y + breakHeight);
83     breakLine1.setAttribute('class', 'number-line-break');
84     svg.appendChild(breakLine1);
85     const breakLine2 = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', 'line');
86     breakLine2.setAttribute('x1', x + breakOffset);
87     breakLine2.setAttribute('y1', y - breakHeight);
88     breakLine2.setAttribute('x2', x - breakOffset);
89     breakLine2.setAttribute('y2', y + breakHeight);
90     breakLine2.setAttribute('class', 'number-line-break');
91     svg.appendChild(breakLine2);
92 }
93
94 function createJumpArrow(svg, x1, y1, x2, y2, jumpArcHeight, direction = 'forward',
95     arrowSize = 5) { // Removed default color, use CSS
96     const path = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', 'path');
97     const cx = (x1 + x2) / 2;
98     const cy = y1 - jumpArcHeight; // Arc is above the line
99     path.setAttribute('d', 'M ${x1} ${y1} Q ${cx} ${cy} ${x2} ${y1}'); // Use y1 for
100     // end point to land on line
101     path.setAttribute('class', 'jump-arrow'); // Rely on CSS for color
102     svg.appendChild(path);

```

```

103     const dx = x2 - cx;
104     const dy = y1 - cy; // Use y1 for angle calculation
105     const angleRad = Math.atan2(dy, dx);
106     let angleDeg = angleRad * (180 / Math.PI);
107     arrowHead.setAttribute('class', 'jump-arrow-head'); // Rely on CSS for color
108
109     if (direction === 'forward') {
110         angleDeg += 180; // Point right
111         arrowHead.setAttribute('d', 'M 0 0 L ${arrowSize} ${arrowSize/2} L ${
112             arrowSize} ${-arrowSize/2} Z');
113         arrowHead.setAttribute('transform', 'translate(${x2}, ${y1}) rotate(${
114             angleDeg})');
115     } else { // backward
116         // angleDeg already points left-ish from Q curve end
117         arrowHead.setAttribute('d', 'M 0 0 L ${-arrowSize} ${arrowSize/2} L ${-
118             arrowSize} ${-arrowSize/2} Z'); // Pointy part is at (0,0)
119         // We want to rotate to align with the curve's end direction
120         arrowHead.setAttribute('transform', 'translate(${x2}, ${y1}) rotate(${
121             angleDeg})');
122     }
123     svg.appendChild(arrowHead);
124 }
125
126 function drawStoppingPoint(svg, x, y, labelText, labelOffsetBase) {
127     const circle = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', 'circle');
128     circle.setAttribute('cx', x);
129     circle.setAttribute('cy', y);
130     circle.setAttribute('r', 5);
131     circle.setAttribute('class', 'stopping-point');
132     svg.appendChild(circle);
133     createText(svg, x, y + labelOffsetBase * 1.5, labelText, 'number-line-label');
134 }
135
136 // --- End Helper Functions ---
137
138 // --- Main CBBO Automaton Function ---
139 window.runCBBOAutomaton = function() {
140     try {
141         const minuend = parseInt(cbboMinuendInput.value);
142         const subtrahend = parseInt(cbboSubtrahendInput.value); // Amount to subtract
143         if (isNaN(minuend) || isNaN(subtrahend)) {
144             outputElement.textContent = 'Please enter valid numbers for Minuend and
145                 Subtrahend';
146             diagramCBBOSVG.innerHTML = '';
147             return;
148         }
149         if (subtrahend > minuend) {
150             outputElement.textContent = 'Subtrahend cannot be greater than Minuend for
151                 CBBO.';
152             diagramCBBOSVG.innerHTML = '';
153             return;
154         }
155
156         let output = '<h2>Counting Back by Bases and Ones (CBBO)</h2>\n\n';
157         output += '<p><strong>Problem:</strong> ${minuend} - ${subtrahend}</p>\n\n';

```

```

151     const tensToSubtract = Math.floor(subtrahend / 10) * 10;
152     const onesToSubtract = subtrahend % 10;
153
154
155     output += 'Step 1: Split subtrahend ${subtrahend} into ${tensToSubtract} + ${
        onesToSubtract}\n\n';
156
157     let currentVal = minuend;
158     const tensSteps = [];
159     if (tensToSubtract > 0) {
160         output += 'Step 2: Count back by tens\n';
161         for (let i = 10; i <= tensToSubtract; i += 10) {
162             tensSteps.push({ from: currentVal, to: currentVal - 10, action: '
                Subtract 10' });
163             currentVal -= 10;
164         }
165         tensSteps.forEach(step => {
166             output += '<p>${step.from} - 10 = ${step.to}</p>\n'; // Simplified text
167         });
168         output += '\n';
169     }
170
171     const onesSteps = [];
172     if (onesToSubtract > 0) {
173         output += 'Step ${tensToSubtract > 0 ? '3' : '2'}: Count back by ones\n';
174         for (let i = 1; i <= onesToSubtract; i++) {
175             onesSteps.push({ from: currentVal, to: currentVal - 1, action: '
                Subtract 1' });
176             currentVal -= 1;
177         }
178         onesSteps.forEach(step => {
179             output += '<p>${step.from} - 1 = ${step.to}</p>\n'; // Simplified text
180         });
181         output += '\n';
182     }
183
184     const finalDifference = currentVal; // The final landing spot IS the
        difference
185     output += 'Result: ${minuend} - ${subtrahend} = ${finalDifference}';
186     outputElement.innerHTML = output;
187     typesetMath();
188
189     // Draw the diagram
190     drawCBBONumberLineDiagram(diagramCBBOSVG, minuend, subtrahend, tensSteps,
        onesSteps, finalDifference);
191
192
193     } catch (error) {
194         console.error("Error in runCBBAutomaton:", error);
195         outputElement.textContent = 'Error: ${error.message}';
196     }
197 };
198

```



```

199 function drawCBBONumberLineDiagram(svg, minuend, subtrahend, tensSteps, onesSteps,
200   finalDifference) {
201   if (!svg || typeof svg.setAttribute !== 'function') { return; }
202   svg.innerHTML = '';
203
204   const svgWidth = parseFloat(svg.getAttribute('width'));
205   const svgHeight = parseFloat(svg.getAttribute('height'));
206   const startX = 50;
207   const endX = svgWidth - 50;
208   const numberLineY = svgHeight / 2; // Center vertically
209   const tickHeight = 10;
210   const labelOffsetBase = 20;
211   const jumpHeight = 30; // Consistent jump height for CBBO
212   const jumpLabelOffset = 15;
213   const arrowSize = 5;
214   const scaleBreakThreshold = 40;
215
216   // Determine range for scaling
217   let diagramMin = finalDifference;
218   let diagramMax = minuend;
219
220   // Calculate scale and handle potential break (near 0, before diagramMin)
221   let displayRangeStart = diagramMin;
222   let scaleStartX = startX;
223   let drawScaleBreak = false;
224
225   if (diagramMin > scaleBreakThreshold) {
226     displayRangeStart = diagramMin - 10;
227     scaleStartX = startX + 30;
228     drawScaleBreak = true;
229     drawScaleBreakSymbol(svg, scaleStartX - 15, numberLineY);
230     drawTick(svg, startX, numberLineY, tickHeight);
231     createText(svg, startX, numberLineY + labelOffsetBase, '0', 'number-line-label');
232   } else {
233     displayRangeStart = 0;
234     drawTick(svg, startX, numberLineY, tickHeight);
235     createText(svg, startX, numberLineY + labelOffsetBase, '0', 'number-line-label');
236   }
237
238   const displayRangeEnd = diagramMax + 10;
239   const displayRange = Math.max(displayRangeEnd - displayRangeStart, 1);
240   const scale = (endX - scaleStartX) / displayRange;
241
242   // Function to convert value to X coordinate
243   function valueToX(value) {
244     if (value < displayRangeStart && drawScaleBreak) { return scaleStartX - 10; }
245     const scaledValue = scaleStartX + (value - displayRangeStart) * scale;
246     return Math.max(scaleStartX, Math.min(scaledValue, endX));
247   }
248
249   // Draw the main visible segment of the number line
250   const mainLineStartX = valueToX(displayRangeStart);

```

```

250     const mainLineEndX = valueToX(displayRangeEnd);
251     const numberLine = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', 'line')
252     ;
253     numberLine.setAttribute('x1', mainLineStartX);
254     numberLine.setAttribute('y1', numberLineY);
255     numberLine.setAttribute('x2', mainLineEndX);
256     numberLine.setAttribute('y2', numberLineY);
257     numberLine.setAttribute('class', 'number-line-tick');
258     svg.appendChild(numberLine);
259
260     // Add arrowhead to the right end
261     const mainArrowHead = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', '
262     path');
263     mainArrowHead.setAttribute('d', 'M ${mainLineEndX - arrowSize} ${numberLineY -
264     arrowSize/2} L ${mainLineEndX} ${numberLineY} L ${mainLineEndX - arrowSize} $
265     {numberLineY + arrowSize/2} Z');
266     mainArrowHead.setAttribute('class', 'number-line-arrow');
267     svg.appendChild(mainArrowHead);
268
269     // Draw Ticks and Labels
270     function drawTickAndLabel(value, index) {
271         const x = valueToX(value);
272         if (x < scaleStartX - 5 && value !== 0) return;
273
274         drawTick(svg, x, numberLineY, tickHeight);
275         const labelOffset = labelOffsetBase * (index % 2 === 0 ? 1 : -1.5); // Stagger
276         createText(svg, x, numberLineY + labelOffset, value.toString(), 'number-line-
277         label');
278     }
279
280     // Collect all points to draw ticks for
281     let allPoints = new Set([minuend, finalDifference]); // Start and end
282     tensSteps.forEach(step => allPoints.add(step.to));
283     onesSteps.forEach(step => allPoints.add(step.to));
284     let sortedPoints = Array.from(allPoints).sort((a, b) => a - b);
285     let pointIndexMap = {};
286     let currentIndex = 0;
287     sortedPoints.forEach(point => {
288         if (point >= displayRangeStart || (point === 0 && !drawScaleBreak)) {
289             if (!(point < displayRangeStart && drawScaleBreak)) {
290                 pointIndexMap[point] = currentIndex++;
291                 drawTickAndLabel(point, pointIndexMap[point]);
292             }
293         }
294     });
295
296     // Draw tens jumps (Backward)
297     tensSteps.forEach((step, index) => {
298         const x1 = valueToX(step.from);
299         const x2 = valueToX(step.to);
300         if (x1 <= scaleStartX || x2 < scaleStartX) return; // Skip if outside visible
301         range

```

```

298     const staggerOffset = index % 2 === 0 ? 0 : jumpHeight * 0.5;
299     createJumpArrow(svg, x1, numberLineY, x2, numberLineY, jumpHeight +
        staggerOffset, 'backward', arrowSize);
300     createText(svg, (x1 + x2) / 2, numberLineY - (jumpHeight + staggerOffset) -
        jumpLabelOffset, '-10', 'tens-jump-label');
301 });
302
303     // Draw ones jumps (Backward)
304     onesSteps.forEach((step, index) => {
305         const x1 = valueToX(step.from);
306         const x2 = valueToX(step.to);
307         if (x1 <= scaleStartX || x2 < scaleStartX) return; // Skip if outside visible
            range
308
309         const staggerOffset = (tensSteps.length + index) % 2 === 0 ? 0 : jumpHeight *
            0.5; // Continue staggering
310         createJumpArrow(svg, x1, numberLineY, x2, numberLineY, jumpHeight +
            staggerOffset, 'backward', arrowSize);
311         createText(svg, (x1 + x2) / 2, numberLineY - (jumpHeight + staggerOffset) -
            jumpLabelOffset, '-1', 'jump-label');
312     });
313
314     // Start point marker
315     if (valueToX(minuend) >= scaleStartX) {
316         drawStoppingPoint(svg, valueToX(minuend), numberLineY, 'Start',
            labelOffsetBase);
317     }
318 }
319
320 function typesetMath() { /* Placeholder */ }
321
322 // Initial run on page load
323 runCBBOAutomaton();
324
325 });
326 </script>
327
328 </body>
329 <!-- New button for viewing PDF documentation -->
330 <button onclick="openPdfViewer()">Want to learn more about this strategy? Click here.</
    button>
331
332 <script>
333     function openPdfViewer() {
334         // Opens the PDF documentation for the strategy.
335         window.open('../PDF_Documentation_Of_Strategies/SAR_SUB_COBO.pdf', '_blank');
336     }
337 </script></html>
338 </html>

```

References

- Carpenter, T. P., Fennema, E., Franke, M. L., Levi, L., & Empson, S. B. (1999). Children's mathematics: Cognitively guided instruction – videotape logs [supplementary material]. In *Children's mathematics: Cognitively guided instruction*. Heinemann, in association with The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Inc.
- Hackenberg, A. (2025). *Course notes* [Unpublished course notes].

Subtraction Strategies: Decomposition

Compiled by: Theodore M. Savich

March 30, 2025

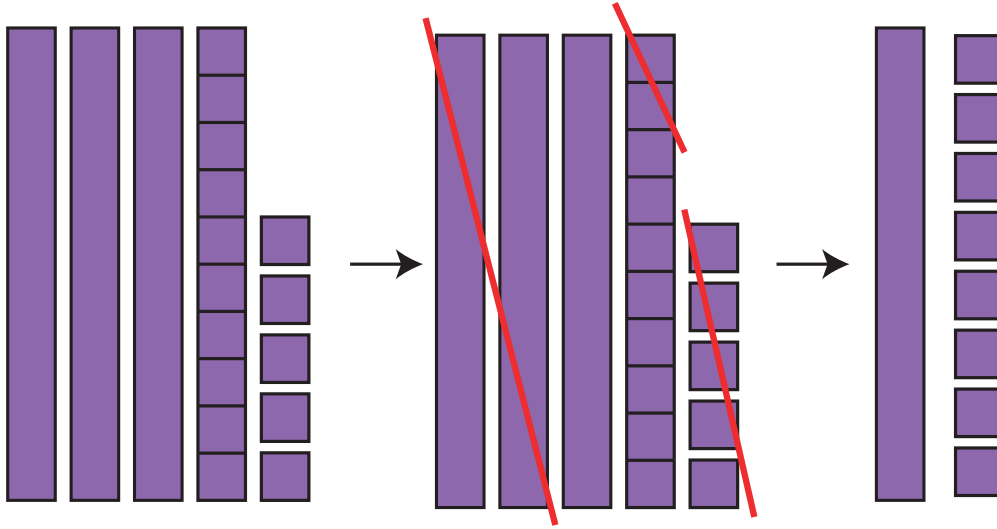
Transcript

Video from Carpenter et al. (1999). Strategy descriptions and examples adapted from Hackenberg (2025)

- **Teacher:** Lucy ordered 45 cupcakes for her birthday. At the party, her guests ate 27 cupcakes, how many cupcakes did she have left? [BACKGROUND]
- **Joel:** This is 10, this is 10, this is 10, this is 10 and this is five. 18.
- **Teacher:** Explain to us what you did there.
- **Joel:** I have, this is 10, this is 10, this is 10, and this is five. So I take away 20 and I take away five. I take away two more. So they enter and then I counted these and those, and so the answer was 18.
- **Teacher:** Nice work

Notation Representing Joel's Solution:

$$\begin{array}{l} 47 - 27 \\ 45 - 20 = 25 \\ 25 - 7 = ? \\ \quad 2 \text{ tens} + 5 \text{ ones} - 7 \text{ ones} \\ 1 \text{ ten} + 1 \text{ ten} + 5 \text{ ones} - 7 \text{ ones} \\ \quad \downarrow \text{DECOMPOSE} \\ 1 \text{ ten} + 10 \text{ ones} + 5 \text{ ones} - 7 \text{ ones} \\ \quad 1 \text{ ten} + 8 \text{ ones} + \underbrace{7 \text{ ones} - 7 \text{ ones}}_{=0} \\ \quad 1 \text{ ten} + 8 \text{ ones} \end{array}$$



Notation Representing Joel's Solution: Imagine representing both numbers by their base units and ones. Begin by subtracting the base components, then subtract the ones. If there aren't enough ones available in the larger number to subtract the ones from the smaller number (while keeping the result positive), break one base unit into its individual ones. Finally, remove only the exact number of ones required to complete the subtraction.

Decomposition

Description of Strategy

- **Objective:** Decompose a base unit from the minuend into ones to have enough ones to subtract the ones in the subtrahend.

Automaton Type

Pushdown Automaton (PDA): Needed to handle the decomposition process and keep track of base units.

Formal Description of the Automaton

We define the PDA as the 7-tuple

$$M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_{0/accept}, Z_0, F)$$

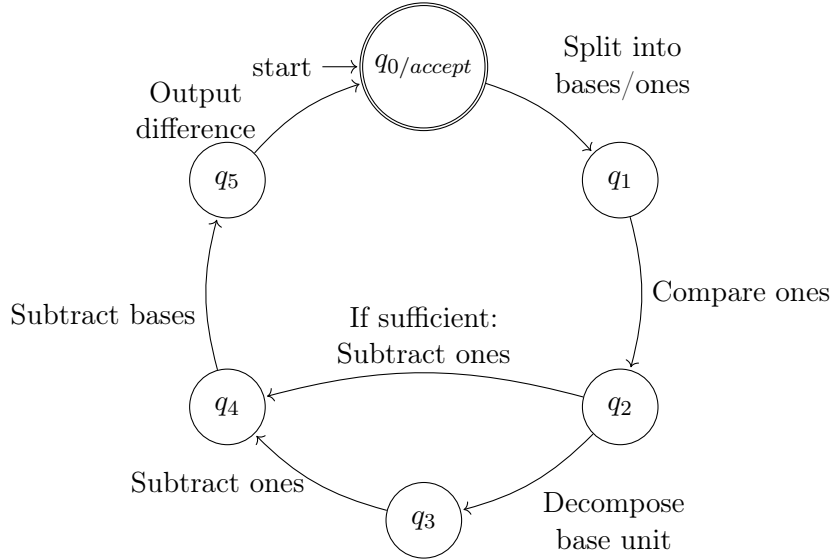
where:

- $Q = \{q_{0/accept}, q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4, q_5\}$ is the set of states.
- $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$ is the input alphabet.
- $\Gamma = \{Z_0\} \cup \{b \mid b \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is the stack alphabet, where Z_0 is the initial stack symbol and b represents a base unit (e.g., 10 in base-ten).
- $q_{0/accept}$ is the start state, which is also the accept state.
- $F = \{q_{0/accept}\}$ is the set of accepting states.

The transition function δ is defined as:

1. $\delta(q_{0/accept}, "M, S", Z_0) = \{(q_1, Z_0)\}$
(Split the minuend M and subtrahend S into their base and ones components.)
2. $\delta(q_1, \varepsilon, Z_0) = \{(q_2, Z_0)\}$
(Compare the ones in M and S .)
3. $\delta(q_2, \varepsilon, Z_0) = \{(q_3, b Z_0)\}$
(If the ones in M are insufficient, decompose a base unit b into ones.)
4. $\delta(q_2, \varepsilon, Z_0) = \{(q_4, Z_0)\}$
(If the ones in M are sufficient, proceed to subtract ones.)
5. $\delta(q_3, \varepsilon, b) = \{(q_4, b)\}$
(After decomposition, subtract the ones.)
6. $\delta(q_4, \varepsilon, Z_0) = \{(q_5, Z_0)\}$
(Subtract the bases.)
7. $\delta(q_5, \varepsilon, Z_0) = \{(q_{0/accept}, Z_0)\}$
(Output the final difference.)

Automaton Diagram for Decomposition



HTML Implementation

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml" lang="" xml:lang="">
3 <head>
4   <meta charset="utf-8" />
5   <meta name="generator" content="pandoc" />
6   <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0, user-scalable=yes" />
7   <meta name="author" content="Theodore M. Savich" />
8   <title>Subtraction Strategies: Decomposition</title>
9   <style>
10    html {
11      color: #1a1a1a;
12      background-color: #fdfdfd;
13    }
14    body {
15      margin: 0 auto;
16      max-width: 36em;
17      padding-left: 50px;
18      padding-right: 50px;
19      padding-top: 50px;
20      padding-bottom: 50px;
21      hyphens: auto;
22      overflow-wrap: break-word;
23      text-rendering: optimizeLegibility;
24      font-kerning: normal;
25    }
26    @media (max-width: 600px) {
27      body {
28        font-size: 0.9em;
29        padding: 12px;
30      }
31      h1 {
32        font-size: 1.8em;
33      }
34    }
35    @media print {
36      html {
37        background-color: white;
38      }
39      body {
40        background-color: transparent;
41        color: black;
42        font-size: 12pt;
43      }
44      p, h2, h3 {
45        orphans: 3;
46        widows: 3;
47      }
48      h2, h3, h4 {
49        page-break-after: avoid;
50      }
51    }
```



```

52 p {
53     margin: 1em 0;
54 }
55 a {
56     color: #1a1a1a;
57 }
58 a:visited {
59     color: #1a1a1a;
60 }
61 img {
62     max-width: 100%;
63 }
64 svg {
65     height: auto;
66     max-width: 100%;
67 }
68 h1, h2, h3, h4, h5, h6 {
69     margin-top: 1.4em;
70 }
71 h5, h6 {
72     font-size: 1em;
73     font-style: italic;
74 }
75 h6 {
76     font-weight: normal;
77 }
78 ol, ul {
79     padding-left: 1.7em;
80     margin-top: 1em;
81 }
82 li > ol, li > ul {
83     margin-top: 0;
84 }
85 blockquote {
86     margin: 1em 0 1em 1.7em;
87     padding-left: 1em;
88     border-left: 2px solid #e6e6e6;
89     color: #606060;
90 }
91 code {
92     font-family: Menlo, Monaco, Consolas, 'Lucida Console', monospace;
93     font-size: 85%;
94     margin: 0;
95     hyphens: manual;
96 }
97 pre {
98     margin: 1em 0;
99     overflow: auto;
100 }
101 pre code {
102     padding: 0;
103     overflow: visible;
104     overflow-wrap: normal;
105 }

```

```

106 .sourceCode {
107     background-color: transparent;
108     overflow: visible;
109 }
110 hr {
111     background-color: #1a1a1a;
112     border: none;
113     height: 1px;
114     margin: 1em 0;
115 }
116 table {
117     margin: 1em 0;
118     border-collapse: collapse;
119     width: 100%;
120     overflow-x: auto;
121     display: block;
122     font-variant-numeric: lining-nums tabular-nums;
123 }
124 table caption {
125     margin-bottom: 0.75em;
126 }
127 tbody {
128     margin-top: 0.5em;
129     border-top: 1px solid #1a1a1a;
130     border-bottom: 1px solid #1a1a1a;
131 }
132 th {
133     border-top: 1px solid #1a1a1a;
134     padding: 0.25em 0.5em 0.25em 0.5em;
135 }
136 td {
137     padding: 0.125em 0.5em 0.25em 0.5em;
138 }
139 header {
140     margin-bottom: 4em;
141     text-align: center;
142 }
143 #TOC li {
144     list-style: none;
145 }
146 #TOC ul {
147     padding-left: 1.3em;
148 }
149 #TOC > ul {
150     padding-left: 0;
151 }
152 #TOC a:not(:hover) {
153     text-decoration: none;
154 }
155 code{white-space: pre-wrap;}
156 span.smallcaps{font-variant: small-caps;}
157 div.columns{display: flex; gap: min(4vw, 1.5em);}
158 div.column{flex: auto; overflow-x: auto;}
159 div.hanging-indent{margin-left: 1.5em; text-indent: -1.5em;}

```

```

160  /* The extra [class] is a hack that increases specificity enough to
161     override a similar rule in reveal.js */
162  ul.task-list[class]{list-style: none;}
163  ul.task-list li input[type="checkbox"] {
164      font-size: inherit;
165      width: 0.8em;
166      margin: 0 0.8em 0.2em -1.6em;
167      vertical-align: middle;
168  }
169  </style>
170  <script
171  src="https://cdn.jsdelivr.net/npm/mathjax@3/es5/tex-ctml-full.js"
172  type="text/javascript"></script>
173  </head>
174  <body>
175  <header id="title-block-header">
176  <h1 class="title">Subtraction Strategies: Decomposition</h1>
177  <p class="author">Theodore M. Savich</p>
178  </header>
179  <h2 class="unnumbered" id="decomposition">Decomposition</h2>
180  <h3 class="unnumbered" id="description-of-strategy">Description of
181  Strategy</h3>
182  <ul>
183  <li><p><strong>Objective:</strong> Decompose a base unit from the
184  minuend into ones to have enough ones to subtract the ones in the
185  subtrahend.</p></li>
186  </ul>
187  <h3 class="unnumbered" id="automaton-type">Automaton Type</h3>
188  <p><strong>Pushdown Automaton (PDA)</strong>: Needed to handle the
189  borrowing (decomposition) process and keep track of base units.</p>
190  <h3 class="unnumbered" id="formal-description-of-the-automaton">Formal
191  Description of the Automaton</h3>
192  <p>We define the PDA as the 7-tuple <span class="math_display">\[M =
193  (Q, \, \Sigma, \, \Gamma, \, \delta, \, q_{0/accept}, \, Z_0, \, F)\]</span>
194  where:</p>
195  <ul>
196  <li><p><span class="math_inline">\(Q = \{q_{0/accept}, \, q_1, \, q_2, \,
197  q_3, \, q_4, \, q_5\})</span> is the set of states.</p></li>
198  <li><p><span class="math_inline">\(\Sigma =
199  \{0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9\})</span> is the input alphabet.</p></li>
200  <li><p><span class="math_inline">\(\Gamma = \{Z_0\} \cup \{b \mid b \in
201  \mathbb{N}\})</span> is the stack alphabet, where <span
202  class="math_inline">\(Z_0)</span> is the initial stack symbol and <span
203  class="math_inline">\(b)</span> represents a base unit (e.g., 10 in
204  base-ten).</p></li>
205  <li><p><span class="math_inline">\(q_{0/accept})</span> is the start
206  state, which is also the accept state.</p></li>
207  <li><p><span class="math_inline">\(F = \{q_{0/accept}\})</span> is the
208  set of accepting states.</p></li>
209  </ul>
210  <p>The transition function <span class="math_inline">\(\delta)</span>
211  is defined as:</p>
212  <ol>
213  <li><p><span class="math_inline">\(\delta(q_{0/accept}, \,

```

```

214 \text{'M,S\text{&\#39;\&\#39;},\, Z_0) = \{(q_1,\, Z_0)\}\}</span><br />
215 (Split the minuend \,(M\)</span> and subtrahend
216 \,(S\)</span> into their base and ones
217 components.)</p></li>
218 <li><p><span class="math_{\text{inline}}">\,(\delta(q_1,\, \text{\varepsilon},\, Z_0) =
219 \{(q_2,\, Z_0)\}\}</span><br />
220 (Compare the ones in \,(M\)</span> and \,(S\)</span>.)</p></li>
221 <li><p><span class="math_{\text{inline}}">\,(\delta(q_2,\, \text{\varepsilon},\, Z_0) =
222 \{(q_3,\, b,Z_0)\}\}</span><br />
223 (If the ones in \,(M\)</span> are insufficient,
224 decompose a base unit \,(b\)</span> into
225 ones.)</p></li>
226 <li><p><span class="math_{\text{inline}}">\,(\delta(q_2,\, \text{\varepsilon},\, Z_0) =
227 \{(q_4,\, Z_0)\}\}</span><br />
228 (If the ones in \,(M\)</span> are sufficient,
229 proceed to subtract ones.)</p></li>
230 <li><p><span class="math_{\text{inline}}">\,(\delta(q_3,\, \text{\varepsilon},\, b) =
231 \{(q_4,\, b)\}\}</span><br />
232 (After decomposition, subtract the ones.)</p></li>
233 <li><p><span class="math_{\text{inline}}">\,(\delta(q_4,\, \text{\varepsilon},\, Z_0) =
234 \{(q_5,\, Z_0)\}\}</span><br />
235 (Subtract the bases.)</p></li>
236 <li><p><span class="math_{\text{inline}}">\,(\delta(q_5,\, \text{\varepsilon},\, Z_0) =
237 \{(q_{\text{0/accept}},\, Z_0)\}\}</span><br />
238 (Output the final difference.)</p></li>
239 </ol>
240 </div>
241 <h3 class="unnumbered"
242 id="automaton-diagram-for-decomposition">Automaton Diagram for
243 Decomposition</h3>
244 <div style="text-align:center;">
245 
246 </div>
247 </body>
248 </html>

```

References

- Carpenter, T. P., Fennema, E., Franke, M. L., Levi, L., & Empson, S. B. (1999). Children's mathematics: Cognitively guided instruction – videotape logs [supplementary material]. In *Children's mathematics: Cognitively guided instruction*. Heinemann, in association with The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Inc.
- Hackenberg, A. (2025). *Course notes* [Unpublished course notes].

Subtraction Strategies: Sliding to Make Bases

Compiled by: Theodore M. Savich

March 30, 2025

Transcript

Strategy descriptions and examples adapted from Hackenberg (2025). This is not based on a CGI video. I fake a student example.

- Teacher: John had 73 pieces of halloween candy. He gave 47 pieces to his friend. How many pieces of candy does John have left?
- Student: I can pretend I gave away 50 pieces and also pretend I had three more than I did. So that's like $76 - 50$, which is 26.

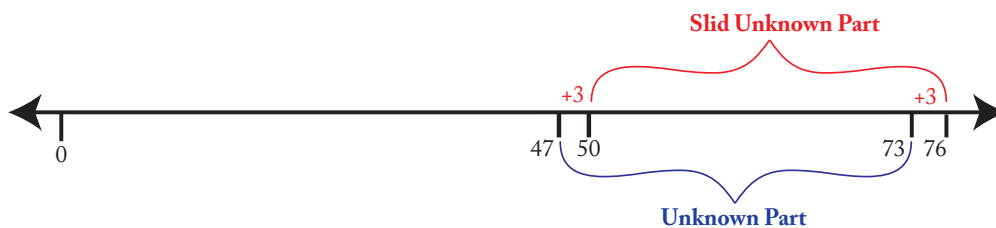
Notation Representing Rita's Solution:

$$73 - 47 = \square$$

$$73 + 3 = 76$$

$$47 + 3 = 50$$

$$\begin{aligned} 73 - 47 &= 76 - 50 \\ &= 26 \end{aligned}$$



In the sliding strategy, you adjust both the number you're subtracting from (the whole) and the number being subtracted (the part) by the same amount. The goal is to shift the subtrahend into a 'friendly' number (usually a multiple of a base). By doing this, the difference between the adjusted values remains identical to the original difference, simplifying the subtraction process.

Description of Strategy

- **Objective:** Adjust both the minuend (known whole) and subtrahend (known part) by the same amount to make the subtraction easier, keeping the difference the same.

Automaton Type

Finite State Automaton (FSA): Adjustments are made consistently and can be tracked without additional memory.

Formal Description of the Automaton

We define the automaton as the tuple

$$M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_{0/accept}, F)$$

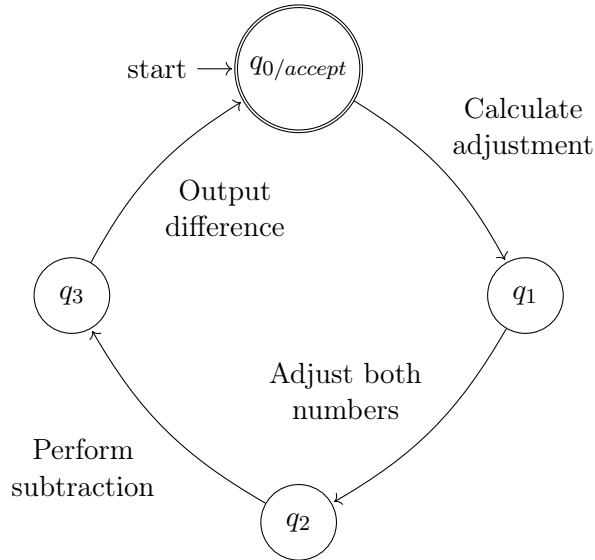
where:

- $Q = \{q_{0/accept}, q_1, q_2, q_3\}$ is the set of states.
- $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$ is the input alphabet (representing the digits of the minuend M and subtrahend S).
- $q_{0/accept}$ is the start state, which is also the accept state.
- $F = \{q_{0/accept}\}$ is the set of accepting states.

The transition function δ is defined as follows:

1. $\delta(q_{0/accept}, "M, S") = q_1$ (Calculate the adjustment needed to make the subtrahend a base multiple.)
2. $\delta(q_1, \varepsilon) = q_2$ (Adjust both the minuend and subtrahend by the same amount.)
3. $\delta(q_2, \varepsilon) = q_3$ (Perform the subtraction on the adjusted numbers.)
4. $\delta(q_3, \varepsilon) = q_{0/accept}$ (Output the final difference.)

Automaton Diagram for Sliding to Make Bases



HTML Implementation

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html>
3 <head>
4   <title>Subtraction Strategies: Sliding to Make Bases</title>
5   <style>
6     body { font-family: sans-serif; }
7     #diagramSlidingSVG { border: 1px solid #d3d3d3; }
8     #outputContainer { margin-top: 20px; }
9     .number-line-tick { stroke: black; stroke-width: 1; }
10    .number-line-break { stroke: black; stroke-width: 1; } /* Solid for zig-zag */
11    .number-line-label { font-size: 12px; text-anchor: middle; }
12    .original-marker { fill: blue; }
13    .adjusted-marker { fill: green; }
14    .slide-arrow { fill: none; stroke: darkorange; stroke-width: 1.5; }
15    .slide-arrow-head { fill: darkorange; stroke: darkorange; }
16    .slide-label { font-size: 10px; fill: darkorange; text-anchor: middle; }
17    .difference-bracket { stroke: red; stroke-width: 1.5; fill: none; }
18    .difference-label { font-size: 12px; fill: red; text-anchor: middle; }
19    .number-line-arrow { fill: black; stroke: black; } /* Arrowhead for the main line
20      */
21  </style>
22 </head>
23 <body>
24   <h1>Subtraction Strategies: Sliding to Make Bases</h1>
25
26   <div>
27     <label for="slideMinuend">Minuend:</label>
28     <input type="number" id="slideMinuend" value="73">
29   </div>
30   <div>
31     <label for="slideSubtrahend">Subtrahend:</label>
32     <input type="number" id="slideSubtrahend" value="47">
33   </div>
34
35   <button onclick="runSlidingAutomaton()">Calculate and Visualize</button>
36
37   <div id="outputContainer">
38     <h2>Explanation:</h2>
39     <div id="slidingOutput">
40       <!-- Text output will be displayed here -->
41     </div>
42   </div>
43
44   <h2>Diagram:</h2>
45   <svg id="diagramSlidingSVG" width="700" height="300"></svg>
46
47   <script>
48   document.addEventListener('DOMContentLoaded', function() {
49     const outputElement = document.getElementById('slidingOutput');
50     const minuendInput = document.getElementById('slideMinuend');
51     const subtrahendInput = document.getElementById('slideSubtrahend');
```

```

52 const diagramSVG = document.getElementById('diagramSlidingSVG');
53
54 // --- Helper SVG Functions ---
55 function createText(svg, x, y, textContent, className = 'number-line-label') {
56     const text = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'text');
57     text.setAttribute('x', x);
58     text.setAttribute('y', y);
59     text.setAttribute('class', className);
60     text.setAttribute('text-anchor', 'middle');
61     text.textContent = textContent;
62     svg.appendChild(text);
63 }
64
65 function drawTick(svg, x, y, size, colorClass = '') { // Added colorClass option
66     const tick = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', 'line');
67     tick.setAttribute('x1', x);
68     tick.setAttribute('y1', y - size / 2);
69     tick.setAttribute('x2', x);
70     tick.setAttribute('y2', y + size / 2);
71     tick.setAttribute('class', 'number-line-tick ${colorClass}'.trim()); // Apply
        color class if provided
72     tick.setAttribute('stroke', colorClass ? 'currentColor' : 'black'); // Use CSS
        color or default black
73     svg.appendChild(tick);
74 }
75
76 function drawScaleBreakSymbol(svg, x, y) {
77     const breakOffset = 4;
78     const breakHeight = 8;
79     const breakLine1 = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', 'line');
80     breakLine1.setAttribute('x1', x - breakOffset); breakLine1.setAttribute('y1', y -
        breakHeight);
81     breakLine1.setAttribute('x2', x + breakOffset); breakLine1.setAttribute('y2', y +
        breakHeight);
82     breakLine1.setAttribute('class', 'number-line-break'); svg.appendChild(breakLine1)
        ;
83     const breakLine2 = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', 'line');
84     breakLine2.setAttribute('x1', x + breakOffset); breakLine2.setAttribute('y1', y -
        breakHeight);
85     breakLine2.setAttribute('x2', x - breakOffset); breakLine2.setAttribute('y2', y +
        breakHeight);
86     breakLine2.setAttribute('class', 'number-line-break'); svg.appendChild(breakLine2)
        ;
87 }
88
89 function createStraightArrow(svg, x1, y1, x2, y2, arrowClass = 'slide-arrow',
    headClass = 'slide-arrow-head', arrowSize = 5) {
90     const line = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'line');
91     line.setAttribute('x1', x1); line.setAttribute('y1', y1);
92     line.setAttribute('x2', x2); line.setAttribute('y2', y2);
93     line.setAttribute('class', arrowClass);
94     svg.appendChild(line);
95
96     // Arrowhead pointing right assumed for slide

```



```

97     const arrowHead = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'path');
98     arrowHead.setAttribute('d', 'M ${x2 - arrowSize} ${y2 - arrowSize/2} L ${x2} ${y2}
    L ${x2 - arrowSize} ${y2 + arrowSize/2} Z');
99     arrowHead.setAttribute('class', headClass);
100     svg.appendChild(arrowHead);
101 }
102
103 function drawDifferenceBracket(svg, x1, x2, y, label, colorClass = 'difference-') {
104     const bracketHeight = 10;
105     const path = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'path');
106     path.setAttribute('d', 'M ${x1} ${y - bracketHeight} L ${x1} ${y} L ${x2} ${y} L $
    ${x2} ${y - bracketHeight}');
107     path.setAttribute('class', `${colorClass}bracket`);
108     svg.appendChild(path);
109     createText(svg, (x1 + x2) / 2, y + 15, label, `${colorClass}label`);
110 }
111 // --- End Helper Functions ---
112
113
114 // --- Main Sliding Automaton Function ---
115 window.runSlidingAutomaton = function() {
116     try {
117         const minuend = parseInt(minuendInput.value);
118         const subtrahend = parseInt(subtrahendInput.value);
119
120         if (isNaN(minuend) || isNaN(subtrahend)) {
121             outputElement.textContent = 'Please enter valid numbers for Minuend and
    Subtrahend';
122             diagramSVG.innerHTML = ''; return;
123         }
124         if (subtrahend > minuend) {
125             outputElement.textContent = 'Subtrahend cannot be greater than Minuend.';
126             diagramSVG.innerHTML = ''; return;
127         }
128
129         let output = '<h2>Sliding to Make Bases</h2>\n\n';
130         output += '<p><strong>Problem:</strong> ${minuend} - ${subtrahend}</p>\n\n';
131
132         // Calculate adjustment (usually round subtrahend UP)
133         const adjustment = (10 - (subtrahend % 10)) % 10;
134
135         const adjustedMinuend = minuend + adjustment;
136         const adjustedSubtrahend = subtrahend + adjustment;
137         const difference = adjustedMinuend - adjustedSubtrahend; // Should equal
    minuend - subtrahend
138
139         if (adjustment > 0) {
140             output += 'Step 1: Calculate adjustment to make ${subtrahend} a multiple
    of 10.\n';
141             output += '<p>Adjustment = +${adjustment}</p>\n';
142             output += 'Step 2: Adjust (slide) both numbers by +${adjustment}.\n';
143             output += '<p>New Minuend: ${minuend} + ${adjustment} = ${adjustedMinuend}
    </p>\n';

```

```

144         output += '<p>New Subtrahend: ${subtrahend} + ${adjustment} = ${
            adjustedSubtrahend}</p>\n';
145         output += 'Step 3: Subtract adjusted numbers.\n';
146         output += '<p>${adjustedMinuend} - ${adjustedSubtrahend} = ${difference}</
            p>\n\n';
147     } else {
148         output += 'Subtrahend ${subtrahend} is already a multiple of 10. No slide
            needed.\n';
149         output += '<p>Direct Subtraction: ${minuend} - ${subtrahend} = ${
            difference}</p>\n\n';
150     }
151
152     output += '<strong>Result:</strong> ${difference}';
153     outputElement.innerHTML = output;
154     typesetMath();
155
156     // Draw Diagram
157     drawSlidingNumberLine(diagramSVG, minuend, subtrahend, adjustedMinuend,
158         adjustedSubtrahend, adjustment, difference);
159
160     } catch (error) {
161         console.error("Error_in_runSlidingAutomaton:", error);
162         outputElement.textContent = 'Error: ${error.message}';
163     }
164 };
165
166 function drawSlidingNumberLine(svg, M, S, M_adj, S_adj, adj, diff) {
167     if (!svg || typeof svg.setAttribute !== 'function') { console.error("Invalid_SVG_
        element..."); return; }
168     svg.innerHTML = '';
169
170     const svgWidth = parseFloat(svg.getAttribute('width'));
171     const svgHeight = parseFloat(svg.getAttribute('height'));
172     const startX = 50;
173     const endX = svgWidth - 50;
174     const numberLineY = svgHeight * 0.6; // Position number line lower
175     const tickHeight = 10;
176     const labelOffsetY = 20; // Offset for labels below line
177     const slideArrowY = numberLineY - 40; // Y position for slide arrows
178     const diffBracketY = numberLineY + 40; // Y position for difference bracket
179     const arrowSize = 5;
180     const scaleBreakThreshold = 40;
181
182     // Determine range for scaling
183     let diagramMin = Math.min(0, S);
184     let diagramMax = M_adj; // Need to show the adjusted minuend
185
186     // Calculate scale and handle potential break
187     let displayRangeStart = diagramMin;
188     let scaleStartX = startX;
189     let drawScaleBreak = false;
190
191     if (diagramMin > scaleBreakThreshold) { // Break logic focuses on start

```

```

192     displayRangeStart = diagramMin - 10;
193     scaleStartX = startX + 30;
194     drawScaleBreak = true;
195     drawScaleBreakSymbol(svg, scaleStartX - 15, numberLineY);
196     drawTick(svg, startX, numberLineY, tickHeight);
197     createText(svg, startX, numberLineY + labelOffsetY, '0');
198 } else {
199     displayRangeStart = 0; // Include 0
200     drawTick(svg, startX, numberLineY, tickHeight);
201     createText(svg, startX, numberLineY + labelOffsetY, '0');
202 }
203
204 const displayRangeEnd = diagramMax + 10;
205 const displayRange = Math.max(displayRangeEnd - displayRangeStart, 1);
206 const scale = (endX - scaleStartX) / displayRange;
207
208 // Function to convert value to X coordinate
209 function valueToX(value) {
210     if (value < displayRangeStart && drawScaleBreak) { return scaleStartX - 10; }
211     const scaledValue = scaleStartX + (value - displayRangeStart) * scale;
212     return Math.max(scaleStartX, Math.min(scaledValue, endX));
213 }
214
215 // Draw main line segment
216 const mainLineStartX = valueToX(displayRangeStart);
217 const mainLineEndX = valueToX(displayRangeEnd);
218 const numberLine = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', 'line')
219     ;
220 numberLine.setAttribute('x1', mainLineStartX); numberLine.setAttribute('y1',
221     numberLineY);
222 numberLine.setAttribute('x2', mainLineEndX); numberLine.setAttribute('y2',
223     numberLineY);
224 numberLine.setAttribute('class', 'number-line-tick'); svg.appendChild(numberLine)
225     ;
226 // Add arrowhead
227 const mainArrowHead = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', '
228     path');
229 mainArrowHead.setAttribute('d', 'M ${mainLineEndX - arrowSize} ${numberLineY -
230     arrowSize/2} L ${mainLineEndX} ${numberLineY} L ${mainLineEndX - arrowSize} $
231     {numberLineY + arrowSize/2} Z');
232 mainArrowHead.setAttribute('class', 'number-line-arrow'); svg.appendChild(
233     mainArrowHead);
234
235 // Mark Original Points (Blue)
236 const xS = valueToX(S);
237 const xM = valueToX(M);
238 drawTick(svg, xS, numberLineY, tickHeight, 'original-marker');
239 createText(svg, xS, numberLineY + labelOffsetY, S.toString(), 'original-marker');
240 drawTick(svg, xM, numberLineY, tickHeight, 'original-marker');
241 createText(svg, xM, numberLineY + labelOffsetY, M.toString(), 'original-marker');
242
243 if (adj > 0) { // Only draw adjusted points and arrows if there was a slide
244     // Mark Adjusted Points (Green)

```

```

238     const xS_adj = valueToX(S_adj);
239     const xM_adj = valueToX(M_adj);
240     drawTick(svg, xS_adj, numberLineY, tickHeight, 'adjusted-marker');
241     createText(svg, xS_adj, numberLineY + labelOffsetY + 15, S_adj.toString(), '
    adjusted-marker'); // Offset adjusted label slightly more
242     drawTick(svg, xM_adj, numberLineY, tickHeight, 'adjusted-marker');
243     createText(svg, xM_adj, numberLineY + labelOffsetY + 15, M_adj.toString(), '
    adjusted-marker'); // Offset adjusted label
244
245     // Draw Slide Arrows (Orange)
246     createStraightArrow(svg, xS, slideArrowY, xS_adj, slideArrowY);
247     createText(svg, (xS + xS_adj) / 2, slideArrowY - 10, '+${adj}', 'slide-label'
    );
248     createStraightArrow(svg, xM, slideArrowY, xM_adj, slideArrowY);
249     createText(svg, (xM + xM_adj) / 2, slideArrowY - 10, '+${adj}', 'slide-label'
    );
250
251     // Draw Difference Bracket (Red) below adjusted points
252     drawDifferenceBracket(svg, xS_adj, xM_adj, diffBracketY, 'Difference = ${
    diff}');
253   } else {
254     // Draw Difference Bracket (Red) below original points if no slide
255     drawDifferenceBracket(svg, xS, xM, diffBracketY, 'Difference = ${diff}');
256   }
257
258 }
259
260 function typesetMath() { /* Placeholder */ }
261
262 // Initial run on page load
263 runSlidingAutomaton();
264
265 });
266 </script>
267
268 </body>
269 </html>

```

References

Hackenberg, A. (2025). *Course notes* [Unpublished course notes].

Strategic Multiplicative Reasoning - Coordinating Two Counts

Compiled by: Theodore M. Savich

March 30, 2025

Transcript

Video from Carpenter et al. (1999). Strategy descriptions and examples adapted from Hackenberg (2025)

- **Teacher:** Jason has three bags of cookies. There are six cookies in each bag. How many cookies does Jason have altogether?
- **Alex:** There are three bags, right? Six are in each bag. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, will go in this bag. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. Six will go into this bag. And 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, will go into this bag. So 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18. Eighteen cookies are in each bag
- **Teacher:** Nice, thank you. Put those aside.

Alex started by arranging three unifix cubes. Soon, he realized that he needed to count cookies. He initially counted in groups of six cubes, even exceeding three complete groups. Recognizing this approach was inefficient, he began again—this time, he placed one cube to represent a bag and then added six cubes to stand for the cookies that would fill that bag. He repeated this process three times. Finally, by counting all the cubes (each standing in for a cookie), he determined there were 18 cookies in total.

In general, count incrementally by ones, but keep track of how many groups you are counting to coordinate the two distinct types of units involved.

Coordinating Two Counts by Ones (C2C)

Description of Strategy:

- **Objective:** Count the total number of items by counting each item one by one, while keeping track of both the number of groups and the number of items in each group.
- **Method:** For each group, count the items in that group by ones, and repeat this for each group, incrementing the total count.

Automaton Type:

Finite State Automaton (FSA) with counters.

Formal Description of the Automaton

We define the automaton as the tuple

$$M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_{0/accept}, F, V),$$

where:

- $Q = \{q_{0/accept}, q_{count_items}, q_{next_group}\}$ is the set of states.
- Σ is the input alphabet (used, for example, to read the initial values for the problem).
- $q_{0/accept}$ is the start state, which is also the accept state.
- $F = \{q_{0/accept}\}$ is the set of accepting states.
- $V = \{\text{GroupCounter (G), ItemCounter (I), TotalCounter (T), GroupSize (S), TotalGroups (N)}\}$ is the set of variables.

Key Transitions:

1. **Initialization:** From $q_{0/accept}$, on reading the input (e.g., the values of S and N), set $G = 0$, $I = 0$, and $T = 0$, then move to q_{count_items} .
2. **Counting Items:** In q_{count_items} , for each item in the current group, increment I and T (looping until $I = S$).
3. **Moving to Next Group:** When $I = S$ (the current group is complete), transition to q_{next_group} where G is incremented and I is reset to 0.
4. **Completion:** In q_{next_group} , if $G = N$ (all groups have been counted), transition back to $q_{0/accept}$ to output the total count T ; otherwise, return to q_{count_items} for the next group.

Automaton Diagram for C2C

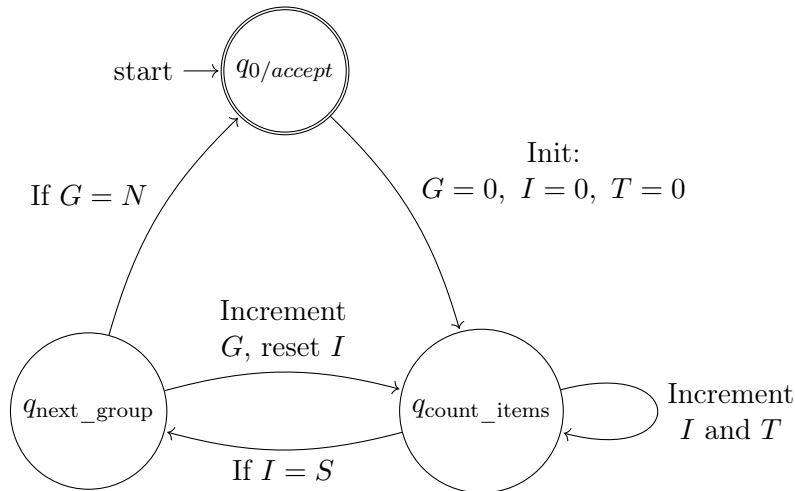


Figure 1: FSA with counters to coordinate item and group counting by ones.

Extending to a Two-Stack Automaton (2-PDA)

While the above FSA captures the essence of coordinating two types of counts (items and groups), it does not explicitly illustrate the use of a stack. If one requires *unbounded* counting or more advanced structure (e.g., repeated addition for multiplication in a more formal sense), a single-stack PDA can be designed. However, to **compose two distinct PDAs**—one for the item count and one for the group count—and retain each one’s push/pop operations, we can move to a **two-stack pushdown automaton (2-PDA)**. This sort of machine:

- Uses two independent stacks, Stack_1 and Stack_2 , each manipulated by transitions in its own sub-automaton.
- Has states that combine the “local states” of the separate PDAs. A state in the 2-PDA is effectively a pair (q_1, q_2) , where q_1 is from the item-counting PDA and q_2 is from the group-counting PDA.
- Pushes and pops symbols from either (or both) stacks, depending on which sub-automaton’s transition is activated.

Formal 2-PDA Composition

Let:

$$P_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \Gamma_1, \delta_1, q_{1,0}, F_1) \quad \text{and} \quad P_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma, \Gamma_2, \delta_2, q_{2,0}, F_2)$$

be two PDAs (each with its own stack alphabet, Γ_1 and Γ_2 , and transition functions δ_1 and δ_2). The **two-stack automaton** P_\times that composes them is:

$$P_\times = (Q_1 \times Q_2, \Sigma, \Gamma_1, \Gamma_2, \delta_\times, (q_{1,0}, q_{2,0}), F_1 \times F_2),$$

where

$$\delta_\times((q_1, q_2), a, X, Y) = \{((q'_1, q'_2), \alpha, \beta) \mid (q'_1, \alpha) \in \delta_1(q_1, a, X) \text{ and } (q'_2, \beta) \in \delta_2(q_2, \epsilon, Y)\},$$

and similarly for transitions where P_2 processes input a while P_1 processes ϵ . The notation means:

- On input symbol a , with the top of Stack_1 being X and the top of Stack_2 being Y , the composite automaton transitions to (q'_1, q'_2) .
- It replaces X with α in Stack_1 (possibly pushing or popping multiple symbols) and Y with β in Stack_2 .

Interpreting the Two Stacks for Multiplication - **Stack₁**: Manages the state of counting items in one group (similar to your single-stack counting idea, but restricted to item-level detail). - **Stack₂**: Manages the state of counting how many groups have been multiplied so far (e.g., for repeated addition).

During each “repeated addition” cycle: 1. The item-counting sub-automaton (PDA_1) increments the partial total by the group size, pushing/popping from Stack_1 . 2. The group-counting sub-automaton (PDA_2) tracks how many times this addition has been done, pushing/popping from Stack_2 .

Once PDA_2 indicates all groups have been accounted for, the 2-PDA halts or transitions to an accepting state.

Example of Counting Three Groups of Six (High-Level 2-PDA)

1. Stacks Initialization:

- Stack_1 starts with the necessary markers/symbols to begin item counting.
- Stack_2 starts with a symbolic representation of how many groups remain (e.g., 3).

2. Item Counting Process (Stack_1):

- Each time the automaton processes the addition of 6 items to the partial total, it pushes/pops in Stack_1 to record digits in base- b or some other scheme.

3. Group Countdown (Stack_2):

- After finishing one addition cycle for 6 items, pop one “group token” from Stack_2 .
- If Stack_2 is not empty, move on to add another 6.
- If Stack_2 becomes empty, the multiplication is complete.

Why a 2-PDA? Composing two separate single-stack PDAs *in parallel* effectively yields a machine with two stacks. The 2-PDA formalism lets each “sub-automaton” maintain its independent pushdown memory, which can be advantageous if you conceptually want to keep the logic of item-counting and group-counting separate. In theoretical terms, a 2-PDA is already as powerful as a Turing machine, so it can handle the entire repeated-addition multiplication process without additional resources.

Conclusion on the Two-Stack Approach

Using a two-stack automaton is a straightforward way to **combine** two independently designed PDAs so that each retains its own stack-based memory management. This might be done for instructional clarity or for theoretical completeness when demonstrating that distinct counting mechanisms can be kept separate. In practice, a single-stack PDA can also implement multiplication by carefully interleaving the logic in one stack. However, splitting the tasks across two separate stacks can simplify the conceptual breakdown of item counting versus group counting.

HTML Implementation

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html>
3 <head>
4   <title>Multiplication: Coordinating Two Counts by Ones (C2C)</title>
5   <style>
6     body { font-family: sans-serif; line-height: 1.6; }
7     .representation-section { margin-bottom: 20px; padding: 10px; border: 1px solid #
8       eee; min-height: 50px;}
9     .control-section { margin-bottom: 20px; }
10    label { margin-right: 5px;}
11    input[type=number] { width: 60px; margin-right: 15px;}
12    .box { /* Style for individual item box */
13      display: inline-block;
14      width: 15px; height: 15px; margin: 1px;
15      background-color: lightblue; border: 1px solid #666;
16      vertical-align: middle;
17    }
18    .tally-mark { /* Style for group tally */
19      font-family: monospace;
20      font-size: 24px;
21      margin-right: 4px; /* Spacing between tallies */
22      display: inline-block;
23      vertical-align: middle;
24      color: darkgreen;
25    }
26    .group-spacer { /* Visual space between groups of boxes */
27      display: inline-block;
28      width: 10px;
29      height: 15px;
30      vertical-align: middle;
31    }
32    button { padding: 5px 10px; font-size: 1em; margin-right: 5px; }
33    #numericValue { font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: darkblue; }
34    #statusMessage { color: red; font-weight: bold; }
35  </style>
36 </head>
37 <body>
38
39   <h1>Strategic Multiplicative Reasoning - Coordinating Two Counts by Ones (C2C)</h1>
40
41   <div class="control-section">
42     <label for="groupSizeInput">Group Size (S):</label>
43     <input type="number" id="groupSizeInput" value="6" min="1">
44     <label for="numGroupsInput">Number of Groups (N):</label>
45     <input type="number" id="numGroupsInput" value="3" min="1">
46     <button onclick="resetSimulation()">Start/Reset</button>
47     <button onclick="countNextItem()" id="incrementBtn">Count Next Item</button>
48     <span id="statusMessage"></span>
49   </div>
50
51   <p><strong>Total Items Counted:</strong> <span id="numericValue">0</span></p>
```

```

52
53 <div class="representation-section">
54   <strong>Groups Tracked (Tallies represent completed groups):</strong><br />
55   <span id="tallyDisplay"></span>
56 </div>
57
58 <div class="representation-section">
59   <strong>Items Counted (Boxes grouped by Group Size):</strong><br />
60   <span id="boxesDisplay"></span>
61 </div>
62
63
64 <script>
65   // --- Simulation State Variables ---
66   let groupSize = 6;
67   let numGroups = 3;
68   let currentGroupNum = 0; // How many groups *completed*
69   let currentItemInGroup = 0; // How many items counted *in the current group*
70   let currentTotalCount = 0; // Total items overall
71   let isComplete = true; // Start in a non-counting state
72
73   // --- DOM Element References ---
74   const numericValueSpan = document.getElementById("numericValue");
75   const boxesContainer = document.getElementById("boxesDisplay");
76   const tallyContainer = document.getElementById("tallyDisplay");
77   const incrementBtn = document.getElementById("incrementBtn");
78   const statusMessage = document.getElementById("statusMessage");
79   const groupSizeInput = document.getElementById("groupSizeInput");
80   const numGroupsInput = document.getElementById("numGroupsInput");
81
82   // --- Simulation Functions ---
83   function resetSimulation() {
84     groupSize = parseInt(groupSizeInput.value) || 1; // Ensure at least 1
85     numGroups = parseInt(numGroupsInput.value) || 1; // Ensure at least 1
86     groupSizeInput.value = groupSize; // Update input in case of default
87     numGroupsInput.value = numGroups;
88
89     currentGroupNum = 0;
90     currentItemInGroup = 0;
91     currentTotalCount = 0;
92     isComplete = (numGroups <= 0 || groupSize <= 0); // Complete if invalid input
93
94     updateDisplay();
95     statusMessage.textContent = isComplete ? "Set Group Size and Num Groups > 0, then Reset." : "Ready to count.";
96   }
97
98   function countNextItem() {
99     if (isComplete) {
100       statusMessage.textContent = "Counting complete! Press Reset to start again."
101       ";
102       return;
103     }

```

```

104     statusMessage.textContent = ""; // Clear message
105
106     // Increment total count (State q_count_items: Increment T)
107     currentTotalCount++;
108
109     // Increment item within the current group (State q_count_items: Increment I)
110     currentItemInGroup++;
111
112     // Check if current group is finished (State q_count_items -> q_next_group
113     // transition check: I == S?)
114     if (currentItemInGroup === groupSize) {
115         currentGroupNum++; // Increment completed group count (Action: G = G + 1)
116         currentItemInGroup = 0; // Reset item count for next group (Action: I = 0)
117
118         // Check if all groups are finished (State q_next_group -> q0/accept check:
119         // G == N?)
120         if (currentGroupNum === numGroups) {
121             isComplete = true; // All groups done
122             statusMessage.textContent = "Counting complete!";
123         } else {
124             // Transition back to q_count_items conceptually for the next group
125             statusMessage.textContent = 'Finished Group ${currentGroupNum}.
126             Starting Group ${currentGroupNum + 1}...';
127         }
128     } else {
129         statusMessage.textContent = 'Counting item ${currentItemInGroup} in Group
130         ${currentGroupNum + 1}...';
131     }
132
133     updateDisplay();
134 }
135
136 function updateDisplay() {
137     // Update numeric display
138     numericValueSpan.textContent = currentTotalCount;
139
140     // Enable/Disable Increment Button
141     incrementBtn.disabled = isComplete;
142
143     // --- Update Tallies (Groups Tracked) ---
144     tallyContainer.innerHTML = ""; // Clear previous
145     // Draw one tally for each *completed* group
146     tallyContainer.textContent = "|".repeat(currentGroupNum);
147     tallyContainer.className = 'tally-mark'; // Apply class
148
149     // --- Update Boxes (Items Counted) ---
150     boxesContainer.innerHTML = ""; // Clear previous
151     for (let i = 1; i <= currentTotalCount; i++) {
152         const box = document.createElement("div");
153         box.className = "box";
154         boxesContainer.appendChild(box);

```

```

154
155         // Add a visual spacer after each completed group (except the last item)
156         if (i % groupSize === 0 && i < currentTotalCount) {
157             const spacer = document.createElement("span");
158             spacer.className = "group-spacer";
159             boxesContainer.appendChild(spacer);
160         }
161     }
162
163     } // End of updateDisplay
164
165     // Initialize the display on page load
166     resetSimulation(); // Start with defaults loaded
167
168     </script>
169
170 </body>
171 </html>

```

References

- Carpenter, T. P., Fennema, E., Franke, M. L., Levi, L., & Empson, S. B. (1999). Children's mathematics: Cognitively guided instruction – videotape logs [supplementary material]. In *Children's mathematics: Cognitively guided instruction*. Heinemann, in association with The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Inc.
- Hackenberg, A. (2025). *Course notes* [Unpublished course notes].

Strategic Multiplicative Reasoning: Conversion to Bases and Ones (CBO)

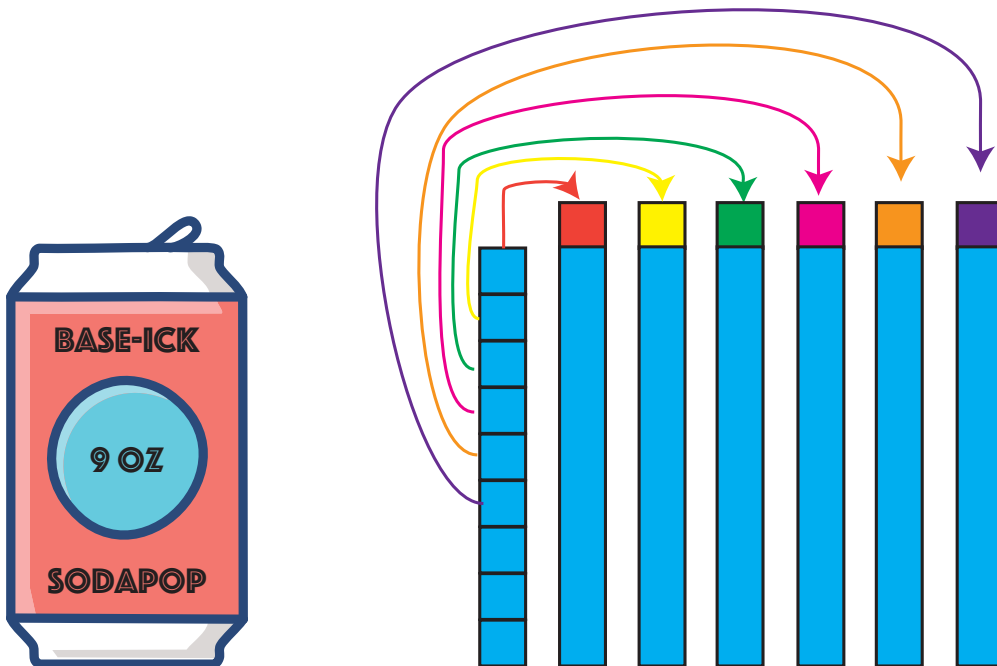
Compiled by: Theodore M. Savich

March 30, 2025

Transcript

Strategy descriptions and examples adapted from Hackenberg (2025).

- **Teacher:** You have 7 mini cans of soda. Each can has 9 ounces of soda in it. How many ounces of soda do you have total?
- **George:** Well, you could take one of the 9 ounces and put an extra ounce into all other cans. That would give you 6 tens with 3 ounces leftover. So, 63.
- **Teacher:** Great!



$$\begin{aligned}\text{Seven} \times 9 &= \text{Six} \times 9 + 9 \\ &= \text{Six} \times 9 + 6 + 3 \\ &= \text{Six} \times (9 + 1) + 3 \\ &= \text{Six} \times 10 + 3 \\ &= 63\end{aligned}$$

Begin with groups of a known size. The objective is to form groups that equal the base size. To achieve this, break one group apart and redistribute its individual units to other groups until they form complete bases; repeat with additional groups if necessary. Typically, some units will remain ungrouped. The total count is then the sum of the complete bases and any leftover units.

Conversion to Bases and Ones (CBO)

Description of Strategy:

- **Objective:** Rearrange the items from groups to make complete base units by combining ones from different groups.
- **Method:** Break apart groups and redistribute ones to form full base units (e.g., tens).

Automaton Type:

Pushdown Automaton (PDA): The stack is used to represent the redistribution of ones in order to form complete base units.

Formal Description of the Automaton

We define the PDA as the 7-tuple

$$M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_{0/accept}, Z_0, F)$$

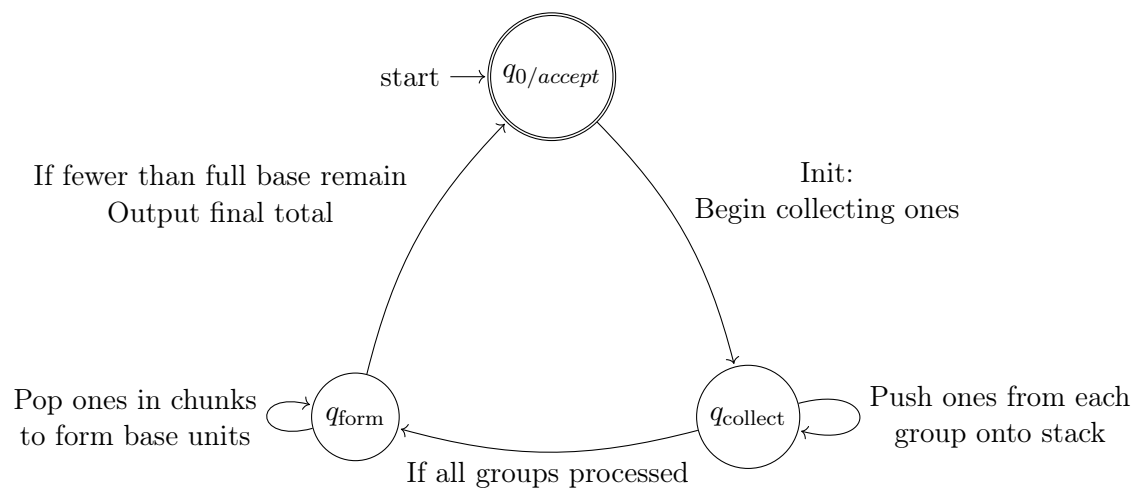
where:

- $Q = \{q_{0/accept}, q_{collect}, q_{form}\}$ is the set of states. Here, $q_{0/accept}$ serves as both the start and accept state.
- Σ is the input alphabet (encoding the group information, e.g., number of groups and ones per group).
- $\Gamma = \{Z_0\} \cup \{1\}$ is the stack alphabet, where Z_0 is the initial stack symbol and the symbol 1 represents a single one.
- $q_{0/accept}$ is the start state, which is also the accept state.
- $F = \{q_{0/accept}\}$ is the set of accepting states.

The transition function δ is defined by:

1. $\delta(q_{0/accept}, \text{"init"}, Z_0) = \{(q_{collect}, Z_0)\}$
(Initialize the process to collect ones from the groups.)
2. In state $q_{collect}$: $\delta(q_{collect}, \varepsilon, x) = \{(q_{collect}, 1x)\}$ for any $x \in \Gamma$
(For each group, push the ones (e.g., S ones) onto the stack.)
Additionally, when all groups have been processed (i.e. a designated input symbol signals that the count of groups equals N), we have: $\delta(q_{collect}, \varepsilon, Z_0) = \{(q_{form}, Z_0)\}$.
3. In state q_{form} : $\delta(q_{form}, \varepsilon, 1) = \{(q_{form}, \varepsilon)\}$ (simulate popping a one) repeated until fewer than $BSize$ symbols remain on the stack. When fewer than $BSize$ ones remain (i.e., a full base unit cannot be formed), $\delta(q_{form}, \varepsilon, Z_0) = \{(q_{0/accept}, Z_0)\}$
(Output the final result, which is implicitly represented by the distribution of ones on the stack.)

Automaton Diagram for Conversion to Bases and Ones



HTML Implementation

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html>
3 <head>
4   <title>Multiplication: Conversion to Bases and Ones (CBO - Redistribution)</title>
5   <style>
6     body { font-family: sans-serif; }
7     #cboDiagram { border: 1px solid #d3d3d3; min-height: 500px; }
8     #outputContainer { margin-top: 20px; }
9     .diagram-label { font-size: 14px; display: block; margin-bottom: 10px; font-weight
10      : bold;}
11     .notation-line { margin: 0.2em 0; margin-left: 1em; font-family: monospace;}
12     .notation-line.problem { font-weight: bold; margin-left: 0;}
13     /* Block Styles */
14     .block { stroke: black; stroke-width: 0.5; }
15     .ten-block-bg { stroke: black; stroke-width: 1; }
16     .hundred-block-bg { stroke: black; stroke-width: 1; }
17     .unit-block-inner { stroke: lightgrey; stroke-width: 0.5; }
18     .initial-group-item { fill: teal; } /* Color for items in initial groups */
19     .final-ten { fill: lightgreen; } /* Color for final ten blocks */
20     .final-one { fill: gold; } /* Color for final one blocks */
21     .redistribute-arrow { /* Style for arrows showing redistribution */
22       fill: none;
23       stroke: orange;
24       stroke-width: 1.5;
25       stroke-dasharray: 4 2;
26     }
27     .redistribute-arrow-head {
28       fill: orange;
29       stroke: orange;
30     }
31   </style>
32 </head>
33 <body>
34
35 <h1>Strategic Multiplicative Reasoning: Conversion to Bases and Ones (CBO -
36   Redistribution)</h1>
37
38 <div>
39   <label for="cboGroups">Number of Groups (N):</label>
40   <input type="number" id="cboGroups" value="7" min="1"> <!-- George's Example -->
41 </div>
42 <div>
43   <label for="cboItems">Items per Group (S):</label>
44   <input type="number" id="cboItems" value="9" min="1"> <!-- George's Example -->
45 </div>
46
47 <button onclick="runCBOAutomaton()">Calculate and Visualize</button>
48
49 <div id="outputContainer">
50   <h2>Explanation (Notation):</h2>
51   <div id="cboOutput">
```



```

51     <!-- Text output will be displayed here -->
52 </div>
53 </div>
54
55 <h2>Diagram:</h2>
56 <svg id="cboDiagram" width="700" height="600"></svg>
57
58 <script>
59     // --- Helper SVG Functions --- (Include drawBlock, drawTenBlock, createText from
        previous examples) ---
60     // Simplified drawBlock for this viz
61     function drawBlock(svg, x, y, size, fill, className = 'block') {
62         const rect = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'rect');
63         rect.setAttribute('x', x); rect.setAttribute('y', y);
64         rect.setAttribute('width', size); rect.setAttribute('height', size);
65         rect.setAttribute('fill', fill);
66         rect.setAttribute('class', className);
67         svg.appendChild(rect);
68         return { x, y, width: size, height: size, type: 'o', cx: x + size/2, cy: y + size
            /2 }; // Add center point
69     }
70
71     function drawTenBlock(svg, x, y, width, height, fill, unitBlockSize) { // Keep
        vertical ten block
72         const group = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'g');
73         const backgroundRect = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", '
            rect');
74         backgroundRect.setAttribute('x', x); backgroundRect.setAttribute('y', y);
75         backgroundRect.setAttribute('width', width); backgroundRect.setAttribute('height',
            height);
76         backgroundRect.setAttribute('fill', fill);
77         backgroundRect.setAttribute('class', 'ten-block-bg_block');
78         group.appendChild(backgroundRect);
79
80         for (let i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
81             const unitBlock = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'rect
                ');
82             unitBlock.setAttribute('x', x); unitBlock.setAttribute('y', y + i *
                unitBlockSize);
83             unitBlock.setAttribute('width', unitBlockSize); unitBlock.setAttribute('height
                ', unitBlockSize);
84             unitBlock.setAttribute('fill', fill);
85             unitBlock.setAttribute('class', 'unit-block-inner');
86             group.appendChild(unitBlock);
87         }
88         svg.appendChild(group);
89         return { x, y, width, height, type: 't', cx: x + width/2, cy: y + height/2};
90     }
91
92     function createText(svg, x, y, textContent, className = 'diagram-label', anchor = '
        start') {
93         const text = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'text');
94         text.setAttribute('x', x); text.setAttribute('y', y);
95         text.setAttribute('class', className);

```

```

96     text.setAttribute('text-anchor', anchor);
97     text.textContent = textContent;
98     svg.appendChild(text);
99 }
100
101 function createCurvedArrow(svg, x1, y1, x2, y2, cx, cy, arrowClass='redistribute-
    arrow', headClass='redistribute-arrow-head', arrowSize=4) {
102     const path = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'path');
103     path.setAttribute('d', 'M ${x1} ${y1} Q ${cx} ${cy} ${x2} ${y2}');
104     path.setAttribute('class', arrowClass);
105     svg.appendChild(path);
106
107     const arrowHead = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'path');
108     const dx = x2 - cx; const dy = y2 - cy;
109     const angleRad = Math.atan2(dy, dx);
110     const angleDeg = angleRad * (180 / Math.PI);
111     arrowHead.setAttribute('d', 'M 0 0 L ${arrowSize} ${arrowSize/2} L ${arrowSize} $
        {-arrowSize/2} Z');
112     arrowHead.setAttribute('class', headClass);
113     arrowHead.setAttribute('transform', 'translate(${x2}, ${y2}) rotate(${angleDeg +
        180})');
114     svg.appendChild(arrowHead);
115 }
116 // --- End Helper Functions ---
117
118 // --- Main CBO Automaton Function ---
119 document.addEventListener('DOMContentLoaded', function() {
120     const outputElement = document.getElementById('cboOutput');
121     const groupsInput = document.getElementById('cboGroups');
122     const itemsInput = document.getElementById('cboItems');
123     const diagramSVG = document.getElementById('cboDiagram');
124
125     if (!outputElement || !groupsInput || !itemsInput || !diagramSVG) {
126         console.error("Required HTML elements not found!");
127         return;
128     }
129
130     // Function to convert number to word (simple version)
131     function numberToWord(num) {
132         const words = ["Zero", "One", "Two", "Three", "Four", "Five", "Six", "Seven",
            "Eight", "Nine", "Ten", "Eleven", "Twelve"];
133         if (num >= 0 && num < words.length) {
134             return words[num];
135         }
136         return num.toString(); // Fallback to numeral if > 12
137     }
138
139
140     window.runCBOAutomaton = function() {
141         try {
142             const numGroups = parseInt(groupsInput.value);
143             const itemsPerGroup = parseInt(itemsInput.value);
144

```

```

145     if (isNaN(numGroups) || isNaN(itemsPerGroup) || numGroups <= 0 ||
146         itemsPerGroup <= 0) {
147         outputElement.textContent = "Please_enter_valid_positive_numbers";
148         diagramSVG.innerHTML = ''; return;
149     }
150
151     const totalItems = numGroups * itemsPerGroup;
152     const finalTensCount = Math.floor(totalItems / 10);
153     const finalOnesCount = totalItems % 10;
154     const numGroupsWord = numberToWord(numGroups); // Get word for groups
155
156     // --- Generate Text Notation (Matching PDF) ---
157     let output = '<h2>Conversion to Bases and Ones (CBO) - Notation</h2>\n\n';
158     output += '<p class="notation-line_problem">${numGroupsWord} ${
159         itemsPerGroup} = ?</p>\n';
160
161     if (itemsPerGroup < 10 && numGroups > 1) {
162         const neededPerGroup = 10 - itemsPerGroup;
163         const groupsToComplete = numGroups - 1; // Try to complete all but one
164             group
165         const totalNeeded = groupsToComplete * neededPerGroup;
166         // Find how many ones are left in the last group after donating
167         const onesLeftInLastGroup = itemsPerGroup - totalNeeded;
168
169         if (onesLeftInLastGroup >= 0) { // Check if the last group had enough
170             output += '<p class="notation-line">= ${numberToWord(
171                 groupsToComplete)} ${itemsPerGroup} + ${itemsPerGroup}</p>\n';
172             output += '<p class="notation-line">= ${numberToWord(
173                 groupsToComplete)} ${itemsPerGroup} + ${totalNeeded} + ${
174                 onesLeftInLastGroup}</p>\n'; // Show split of last group
175             output += '<p class="notation-line">= ${numberToWord(
176                 groupsToComplete)} (${itemsPerGroup} + ${neededPerGroup}) + ${
177                 onesLeftInLastGroup}</p>\n'; // Show distribution
178             output += '<p class="notation-line">= ${numberToWord(
179                 groupsToComplete)} 10 + ${onesLeftInLastGroup}</p>\n';
180             output += '<p class="notation-line">= ${groupsToComplete * 10} + $
181                 {onesLeftInLastGroup}</p>\n';
182             output += '<p class="notation-line">= ${totalItems}</p>\n';
183         } else {
184             // Logic for needing more than one group to decompose is more
185             complex
186             // For simplicity, just show the direct calculation result for text
187             if simple decomp fails
188             output += '<p class="notation-line">= ${totalItems} (Direct
189                 Calculation)</p>\n';
190         }
191     } else {
192         // If itemsPerGroup >= 10 or only one group, direct calculation is
193         simpler notation
194         output += '<p class="notation-line">= ${totalItems} (Direct
195             Calculation)</p>\n';
196     }
197 }

```

```

184     outputElement.innerHTML = output;
185     typesetMath();
186
187     // --- Draw Diagram ---
188     drawCBODiagram('cboDiagram', numGroups, itemsPerGroup, finalTensCount,
189                     finalOnesCount);
189
190     } catch (error) {
191         console.error("Error_in_runCBOAutomaton:", error);
192         outputElement.textContent = 'Error: ${error.message}';
193     }
194 };
195
196 function drawCBODiagram(svgId, numGroups, itemsPerGroup, finalTensCount,
197                         finalOnesCount) {
198     const svg = document.getElementById(svgId);
199     if (!svg) return;
200     svg.innerHTML = '';
201
202     const svgWidth = parseFloat(svg.getAttribute('width'));
203     const svgHeight = parseFloat(svg.getAttribute('height'));
204     const blockUnitSize = 10;
205     const tenBlockWidth = blockUnitSize;
206     const tenBlockHeight = blockUnitSize * 10;
207     const blockSpacing = 4;
208     const groupSpacingX = 30; // Increase spacing between initial groups
209     const sectionSpacingY = 150; // Increased vertical space
210     const startX = 30;
211     let currentY = 40;
212     const colorGroup = 'teal';
213     const colorResultTen = 'lightgreen';
214     const colorResultOne = 'gold';
215     const arrowOffsetY = -15; // Y offset for arrow start/end above blocks
216     const arrowControlOffsetY = -60; // How high the arrow arc goes
217
218     // --- 1. Initial Groups Visualization ---
219     createText(svg, startX, currentY, 'Initial State: ${numberToWord(numGroups)}
220     groups of ${itemsPerGroup}');
221     currentY += 30;
222     let currentX = startX;
223     let section1MaxY = currentY;
224     let initialGroupsData = []; // Store positions of initial blocks [{group: g,
225     item: i, x, y, size}]
226
227     for (let g = 0; g < numGroups; g++) {
228         let groupStartX = currentX;
229         let itemYOffset = 0;
230         // Draw items vertically within the group
231         for (let i = 0; i < itemsPerGroup; i++) {
232             let blockInfo = drawBlock(svg, currentX, currentY + itemYOffset,
233                                     blockUnitSize, blockUnitSize, colorGroup);
234             initialGroupsData.push({ group: g, item: i, x: blockInfo.x, y:
235                                     blockInfo.y, size: blockUnitSize, cx: blockInfo.cx, cy: blockInfo.
236                                     cy });

```

```

231         itemYOffset += blockUnitSize + blockSpacing;
232     }
233     currentX = groupStartX + blockUnitSize + groupSpacingX; // Next group
234         starts after one block width + spacing
235     section1MaxY = Math.max(section1MaxY, currentY + itemYOffset);
236 }
237
238 // --- 2. Redistribution Arrows (Conceptual) ---
239 // Only draw if redistribution is feasible (S<10, N>1, and last group has
240 enough)
241 const neededPerGroup = (itemsPerGroup < 10) ? 10 - itemsPerGroup : 0;
242 const groupsToComplete = numGroups - 1;
243 const totalNeeded = groupsToComplete * neededPerGroup;
244 const onesLeftInLastGroup = itemsPerGroup - totalNeeded;
245
246 if (neededPerGroup > 0 && onesLeftInLastGroup >= 0 && numGroups > 1) {
247     // Find blocks in the last group to be the source
248     let sourceBlocks = initialGroupsData.filter(d => d.group === numGroups -
249         1).slice(0, totalNeeded); // Get the first 'totalNeeded' blocks from
250         the last group
251     let targetGroups = initialGroupsData.filter(d => d.group < numGroups - 1)
252         ;
253
254     let sourceIndex = 0;
255     for (let g = 0; g < groupsToComplete; g++) {
256         // Find the top-most block of the target group 'g'
257         let targetBlock = targetGroups.find(d => d.group === g && d.item ===
258             itemsPerGroup - 1); // Top item in the target group
259         if (targetBlock && sourceIndex < sourceBlocks.length) {
260             let sourceBlock = sourceBlocks[sourceIndex];
261             // Draw arrow from source block to above target block
262             createCurvedArrow(svg,
263                 sourceBlock.cx, sourceBlock.cy, // Start center of source
264                 block
265                 targetBlock.cx, targetBlock.y + arrowOffsetY, // End
266                 slightly above target block
267                 (sourceBlock.cx + targetBlock.cx) / 2, sourceBlock.cy +
268                 arrowControlOffsetY // Control point for arc
269             );
270             sourceIndex++;
271         }
272     }
273     // We need to distribute 'neededPerGroup' to each target group
274     // This loop just draws one arrow per target group for simplicity
275     // A more complex viz could draw neededPerGroup arrows per target
276     group
277 }
278
279 currentY = section1MaxY + sectionSpacingY;
280
281 // --- 3. Final Result Visualization (Base-10 Blocks) ---
282 let finalSum = numGroups * itemsPerGroup; // Recalculate for safety

```

```

275     createText(svg, startX, currentY, 'Final Result (Converted to Base-10): ${
        finalSum}');
276     currentY += 30;
277     currentX = startX;
278     let section2MaxY = currentY;
279
280     for (let i = 0; i < finalTensCount; i++) { drawTenBlock(svg, currentX,
        currentY, tenBlockWidth, tenBlockHeight, colorResultTen, blockUnitSize);
        currentX += tenBlockWidth + blockSpacing; section2MaxY = Math.max(
            section2MaxY, currentY + tenBlockHeight); }
281     // Align final ones vertically
282     let finalOnesY = currentY + Math.max(0, tenBlockHeight - (finalOnesCount * (
        blockUnitSize + blockSpacing))); // Align bottom or top? Align top here.
283     for (let i = 0; i < finalOnesCount; i++) { drawBlock(svg, currentX,
        finalOnesY + i * (blockUnitSize + blockSpacing), blockUnitSize,
        blockUnitSize, colorResultOne); section2MaxY = Math.max(section2MaxY,
        finalOnesY + (i+1)*(blockUnitSize+blockSpacing)); }
284     currentX += blockUnitSize + blockSpacing; // Add spacing after ones
285
286     } // End drawCBODDiagram
287
288
289     function typesetMath() { /* Placeholder */ }
290
291     // Initialize on page load
292     runCBOAutomaton();
293
294     }); // End DOMContentLoaded
295 </script>
296
297 </body>
298 </html>

```

References

Hackenberg, A. (2025). *Course notes* [Unpublished course notes].

Multiplication Strategies: Commutative Reasoning

Compiled by: Theodore M. Savich

April 1, 2025

Commutative Action for Multiplication

Imagine a situation where we have six chocolate chip cookies with 4 chocolate chips in each cookie. That's 24 chocolate chips. Instead, we imagine we have four chocolate chip cookies, and each cookie has 6 chocolate chips. That's still 24 chocolate chips, but not enough cookies to feed 4 kids! The commutative property of multiplication,

- Definition: For any two natural numbers a and b ,

$$a \cdot b = b \cdot a:$$

- Example: $3 \cdot 4 = 4 \cdot 3$.

is fine for purely abstract mathematical contexts, but in *equal groups multiplication problems* – the sort of problems that most people encounter when learning about multiplication for the first time – the order of the factors can make a big difference.

However, there is a big difference between recognizing the commutative property holds for the number of chocolate chips and the fact that you would have two crying kids if there were 6 kids and you only had 4 cookies.

For equal groups multiplication:

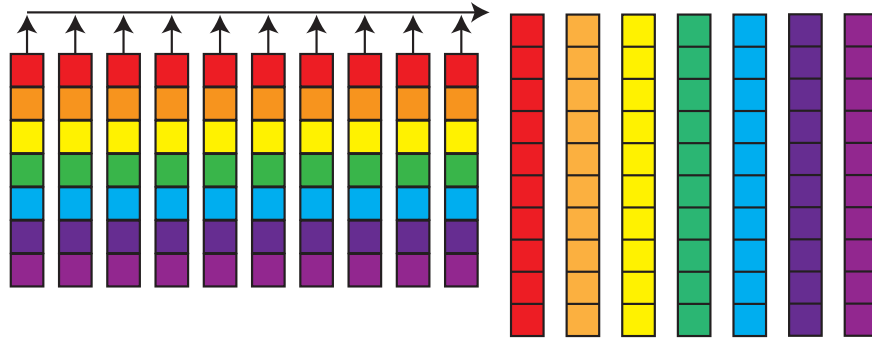
$$\boxed{\text{number of groups}} \cdot \boxed{\text{number of items in each group}} = \boxed{\text{total number of items}}$$

To act (or reason) commutatively, the number of items in a group needs to be repackaged as the number of groups, while the number of groups transforms into the number of items in each group.

Definition and Example

Imagine this situation, from Hackenberg (2025): we have ten packages of rainbow flavored candies, and each package contains the 7 candies, one of each of the 'colors of the rainbow': red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet.

It can be hard to count 7 objects ten times. $7 + 7 + 7 + 7 + 7 + 7 + 7 + 7 + 7 + 7$ is a lot of work! We can *repackage* the candies into seven packages of 10 candies each - all the reds together, all the oranges together, and so on. The result is seven 10s, which is a lot easier to count: $10 + 10 + 10 + 10 + 10 + 10 + 10 = 70$.



Objective of the Automaton

- Input: A multiplication expression $a \cdot b$.
- Output: The transformed expression $b \cdot a$.
- Functionality: Recognize when a multiplication expression is presented and apply the commutative property to reorder the operands.

Automaton Type Selection

Finite State Transducer (FST)

- Transduction Capability: Unlike finite state automata (FSA) that merely recognize languages, an FST can transform input strings into output strings.
- Suitability: Ideal for tasks involving input-output transformations, such as repackaging operands in a multiplication expression.

Designing the FST for Commutative Reasoning

Components of the FST

1. States (Q):

- q_0 : Start state.
- q_1 : Reading the first operand.
- q_2 : Reading the multiplication symbol (\cdot).
- q_3 : Reading the second operand.
- q_4 : Applying the commutative transformation.
- q_{accept} : Accepting state; transformation complete.

2. Input Alphabet (Σ):

- Digits: $\{0;1;2;3;4;5;6;7;8;9\}$
- Multiplication symbol:

3. Output Alphabet (Δ):

- Digits: $\{0;1;2;3;4;5;6;7;8;9\}$

- Multiplication symbol:
4. Transition Function (): Defines how the FST transitions between states based on input symbols and produces corresponding output symbols.
 5. Start State: q_0
 6. Accepting State: q_{accept}

Transition Function Details (Single-Digit Operands)

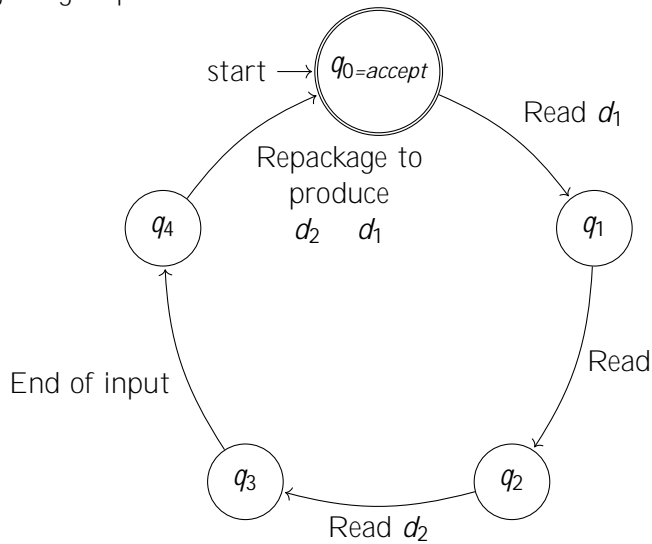
For simplicity, assume operands are single digits. The FST behaves as follows:

Current State	Input Symbol	Read Symbol	Next State	Output Symbol
q_0	Any digit d_1	d_1	q_1	d_1
q_1			q_2	
q_2	Any digit d_2	d_2	q_3	d_2
q_3	End of input	—	q_4	—
q_4	—	—	q_{accept}	Output repackaged expression: $d_2 d_1$

Automaton Diagrams

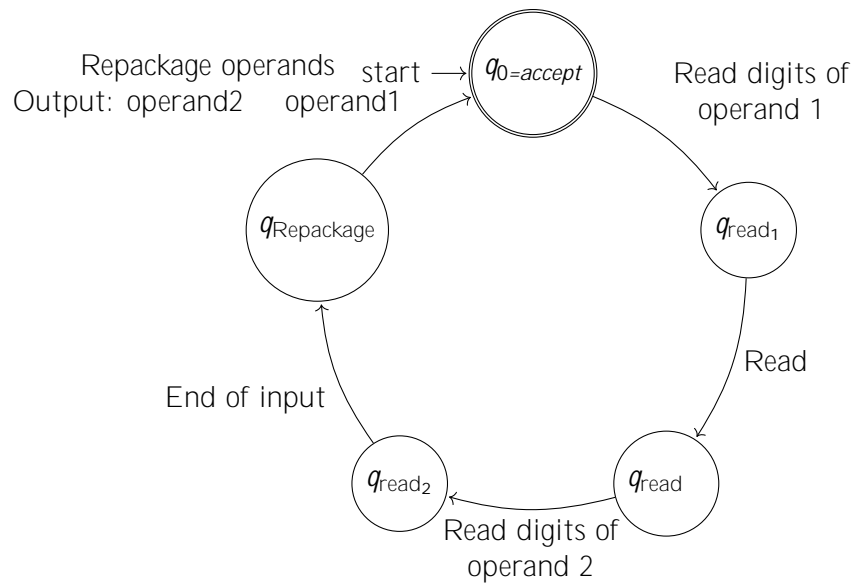
Circular Diagram for Single-Digit Operands

Below is the circular state diagram for the FST (with the start and accept states merged) for single-digit operands.



Circular Diagram for Multi-Digit Operands

For multi-digit operands, the FST buffers digits until the entire operand is read, then repackages the operands. The following circular diagram represents an enhanced FST:



Example Execution

Problem:

3 4

Execution Steps:

1. q_0 : Reads the digit '3', outputs '3', then moves to q_1 .
2. q_1 : Reads ' ', outputs ' ', then moves to q_2 .
3. q_2 : Reads the digit '4', outputs '4', then moves to q_3 .
4. q_3 : End of input is detected; transition to q_4 .
5. q_4 : Repackages the operands to produce '4 3', and transitions back to $q_0=accept$ (accepting state).

Output:

4 3

Conclusion

By designing this Finite State Transducer (FST), we effectively model the commutative property of multiplication as a transformation process. The single-digit version demonstrates the basic concept, while the multi-digit version shows how the automaton can be extended to handle more complex expressions by buffering entire operands before applying the repackage.

HTML Implementation

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html >
2 <html >
3 <head>
4   <title>Commutative Multiplication</title>
5 <style>
6   body { font-family: sans-serif; }
7   .cube-row { display: flex; margin-bottom: 2px; } /* Arrange cubes in a row */
8   .cube {
9     width: 15px; /* Cube size */
10    height: 15px;
11    border: 1px solid #ccc; /* Cube border */
12    margin-right: 2px; /* Spacing between cubes */
13    display: inline-block; /* Ensure inline display for flexbox */
14  }
15  /* Rainbow colors for cubes - you can customize these */
16  .cube.red { background-color: red; }
17  .cube.orange { background-color: orange; }
18  .cube.yellow { background-color: yellow; }
19  .cube.green { background-color: green; }
20  .cube.blue { background-color: blue; }
21  .cube.indigo { background-color: indigo; }
22  .cube.violet { background-color: violet; }
23
24 </style>
25 </head>
26 <body>
27   <h1>Commutative Reasoning for Multiplication</h1>
28
29   <div>
30     <label for="commuteA">Factor 1:</label>
31     <input type="number" id="commuteA" value="10">
32   </div>
33   <div>
34     <label for="commuteB">Factor 2:</label>
35     <input type="number" id="commuteB" value="7">
36   </div>
37
38   <button onclick="runCommutativeAutomaton()">Repackage and Visualize</button>
39
40   <div id="commuteOutput">
41     <!-- Output will be displayed here -->
42   </div>
43
44   <!-- New button for viewing PDF documentation -->
45   <button onclick="openPdfViewer()">Want to learn more about this strategy? Click here
46     .</button>
47
48   <script>
49     function openPdfViewer() {
50       // Opens the PDF documentation for the strategy.
51       window.open('.. /SMR_MULT_Commutative_Reasoning.pdf', '_blank');
```

```

52 </scri pt>
53
54 <scri pt>
55     document.addEventListener(' DOMContentLoaded', function() {
56         const commuteOutputElement = document.getElementById(' commuteOutput');
57         const commuteAInput = document.getElementById(' commuteA');
58         const commuteBInput = document.getElementById(' commuteB');
59
60         window.runCommutativeAutomaton = function() {
61             try {
62                 const factorA = commuteAInput.value;
63                 const factorB = commuteBInput.value;
64
65                 if (isNaN(parseInt(factorA)) || isNaN(parseInt(factorB)) || parseInt(
66                     factorA) <= 0 || parseInt(factorB) <= 0) {
67                     commuteOutputElement.textContent = "Please enter valid positive
68                         numbers for both factors";
69                     return;
70                 }
71
72                 let output = '';
73                 output += '<h2>Commutative Repackaging for Multiplication</h2>\n\n';
74                 output += '<p><strong>Original Expression: </strong> ${factorA} &times;
75                     ${factorB}</p>\n'; // Updated to display the multiplication symbol
76                     correctly
77
78                 // --- Simulate FST Transformation ---
79                 const transformedFactorA = factorB;
80                 const transformedFactorB = factorA;
81
82                 output += '<p><strong>Applying Commutative Repackaging...</strong></p>\n';
83                 output += '<p>We transform the expression by swapping the order of the
84                     factors.</p>\n';
85                 output += '<p><strong>Repackaged Expression: </strong> ${
86                     transformedFactorA} &times; ${transformedFactorB}</p>\n\n';
87
88                 // --- Visualize with Colorful Cubes ---
89                 const numFactorA = parseInt(factorA);
90                 const numFactorB = parseInt(factorB);
91                 const productAB = numFactorA * numFactorB;
92                 const productBA = parseInt(transformedFactorA) * parseInt(
93                     transformedFactorB);
94
95                 output += '<p><strong>Visualizing the Repackaging:</strong></p>\n';
96
97                 // Arrangement 1 (Original: A x B) - Cubes
98                 output += '<p><strong>Arrangement 1: ${factorA} groups of ${factorB}
99                     items each</strong></p>\n';
100                 output += '<p>Visual representation:</p>\n';
101                 for (let i = 0; i < numFactorA; i++) {
102                     output += '<div class=' cube-row' >'; // Start a new row for cubes
103                     for (let j = 0; j < numFactorB; j++) {

```

```

96         const rainbowColors = ['red', 'orange', 'yellow', 'green', 'blue',
97             'indigo', 'violet'];
98         const colorClass = rainbowColors[j % rainbowColors.length]; //
           Cycle through rainbow colors
99         output += '<span class='cube ${colorClass}'></span>'; // Create
           a cube with color class
100     }
101     output += '</div>'; // End the cube row
102 }
103 output += '<p>Total: ${productAB} items</p>\n\n';
104
105 // Arrangement 2 (Repackaged: B x A) - Cubes
106 output += '<p><strong>Arrangement 2: ${transformedFactorA} groups of ${
           transformedFactorB} items each</strong></p>\n';
107 output += '<p>Visual representation:</p>\n';
108 for (let i = 0; i < parseInt(transformedFactorA); i++) {
109     output += '<div class='cube-row'>'; // Start a new row
110     for (let j = 0; j < parseInt(transformedFactorB); j++) {
111         const rainbowColors = ['red', 'orange', 'yellow', 'green', 'blue',
112             'indigo', 'violet'];
113         const colorClass = rainbowColors[j % rainbowColors.length];
114         output += '<span class='cube ${colorClass}'></span>'; // Create
           colored cube
115     }
116     output += '</div>'; // End row
117 }
118 output += '<p>Total: ${productBA} items</p>\n\n';
119
120 output += '<p><strong>Conclusion:</strong></p>\n';
121 output += '<p>By commutatively repackaging ${factorA} &times; ${factorB}
           into ${transformedFactorA} &times; ${transformedFactorB}, we
           change the grouping but maintain the same total quantity (${
           productAB} = ${productBA}).</p>\n';
122
123 commuteOutputElement.innerHTML = output;
124
125 } catch (error) {
126     commuteOutputElement.textContent = 'Error: ${error.message}';
127 }
128 };
129 });
130 </script>
131 </body>
132 </html>

```

Multiplication Strategies: Doubling

Theodore M. Savich

March 9, 2025

Doubling

Description of Strategy:

- **Objective:** Use doubling to quickly reach the total number of items by doubling group sizes or totals.
- **Method:** Double the number of items (and the number of groups) repeatedly until reaching or surpassing the target total, then adjust as needed.

Automaton Type:

Finite State Automaton with Registers (Counters): Counters are used to track the current total and the number of groups.

Formal Description of the Automaton

We define the automaton as the tuple

$$M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_{0/accept}, F, V)$$

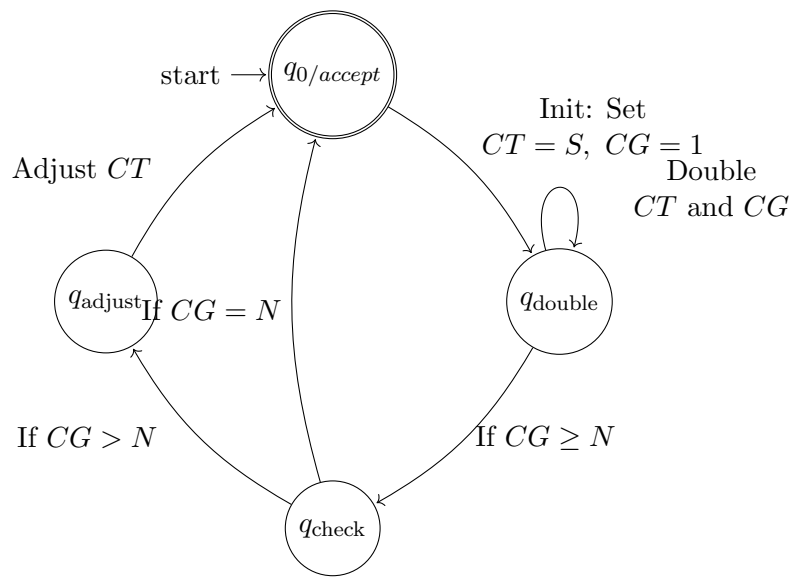
where:

- $Q = \{q_{0/accept}, q_{double}, q_{check}, q_{adjust}\}$ is the set of states. Here, $q_{0/accept}$ serves as both the start and accept state.
- Σ is the input alphabet (used to initialize the problem parameters).
- $F = \{q_{0/accept}\}$ is the set of accepting states.
- $V = \{\text{CurrentTotal (CT)}, \text{CurrentGroups (CG)}, \text{GroupSize (S)}, \text{TotalGroups (N)}\}$ is the set of registers.

The key transitions are as follows:

1. **Initialization:** From $q_{0/accept}$, on reading the input values (with S and N), initialize $CT \leftarrow S$ and $CG \leftarrow 1$, then transition to q_{double} .
2. **Doubling:** In q_{double} , repeatedly double both CT and CG (i.e., update $CT \leftarrow 2 \times CT$ and $CG \leftarrow 2 \times CG$) until $CG \geq N$.
3. **Checking:** In q_{check} , if $CG = N$ then the target total is reached, and the automaton transitions to the accept state. If $CG > N$, transition to q_{adjust} to fine-tune CT .
4. **Adjustment:** In q_{adjust} , adjust CT appropriately (e.g., subtract the excess) before outputting the final total.

Automaton Diagram for Doubling



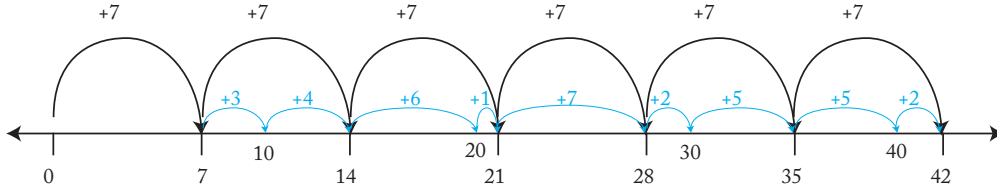
Multiplication Strategies: Strategic Counting

Theodore M. Savich

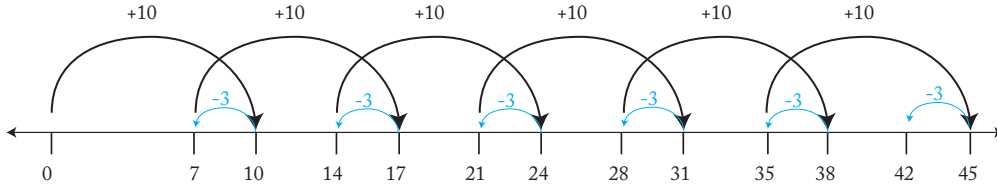
Strategy descriptions and examples adapted from Hackenberg (2025).

This method uses additive techniques—like Rearranging Ones to Make Bases (RMB), Chunking, or Rounding—to manage two distinct types of units while calculating the total number of items. The goal isn't to count one by one but to employ a more efficient grouping strategy. Nonetheless, each group is still added sequentially, one at a time.

For example, if you have six groups of 7, you could use rearranging to make bases several times – keeping track of the number of groups and the total number of items in each group – to obtain 42.



Or, for the same problem, you could pretend to add 10, then adjust back by three, over and over again until you reach the total.



Description of Strategy

- **Objective:** Use any of several **additive** strategies (for example, rearranging ones to make bases, chunking, rounding, etc.) to add the group size without counting each item by ones.
- **Method:** Instead of incrementing one by one, interpret the multiplication problem as repeated addition of the group size, then apply one of the **efficient** addition strategies for each step.

Automaton Type

Finite State Automaton with Registers (Counters). Below is a high-level representation. A two-stack automaton approach is described later.

Formal Description of a High-Level FSA

We define the automaton as:

$$M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_{0/accept}, F, V)$$

where:

- $Q = \{q_{0/accept}, q_{add_group}, q_{next_group}\}$.
 - $q_{0/accept}$ is both the start and accept state.
 - $F = \{q_{0/accept}\}$.
 - $V = \{\text{GroupCounter}(G), \text{Total}(T), \text{GroupSize}(S), \text{TotalGroups}(N)\}$.
1. **Initialization:** From $q_{0/accept}$, read S and N . Set $G = 0$ and $T = 0$, then transition to q_{add_group} .
 2. **Add the Group Size:** In q_{add_group} , add S to T . (This step uses a chosen addition strategy like chunking or rearranging.)
 3. **Next Group:** If $G < N$, transition to q_{next_group} , increment G , and return to q_{add_group} . If $G = N$, move back to $q_{0/accept}$.

Automaton Diagram for Strategic Counting (High-Level)

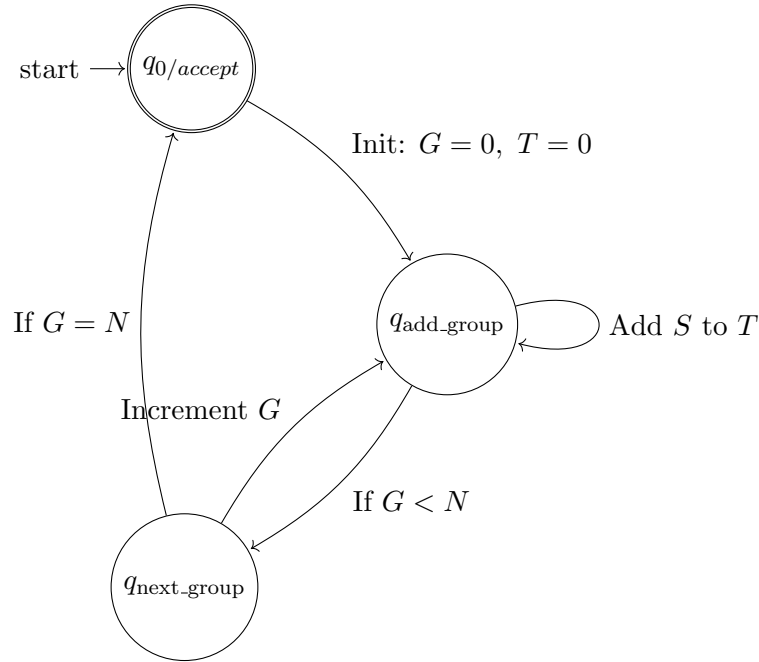


Figure 1: High-level FSA for Multiplying via Strategic Counting

Two-Stack Automaton (2-PDA) for Strategic Counting

Rather than a single FSA, we can compose two distinct Pushdown Automata:

- **Sub-PDA₁:** Manages how many groups are left to process.
- **Sub-PDA₂:** Implements one of the sophisticated addition strategies for adding the group size to the running total.

A single-stack PDA cannot hold both sub-automata memories separately. Therefore, we move to a **two-stack automaton** (2-PDA), which formally:

$$P_{\times} = (Q_1 \times Q_2, \Sigma, \Gamma_1, \Gamma_2, \delta_{\times}, (q_{1,0}, q_{2,0}), F_1 \times F_2).$$

Here, Γ_1 is the stack alphabet for the group-counting sub-PDA, and Γ_2 is the alphabet for the addition-strategy sub-PDA.

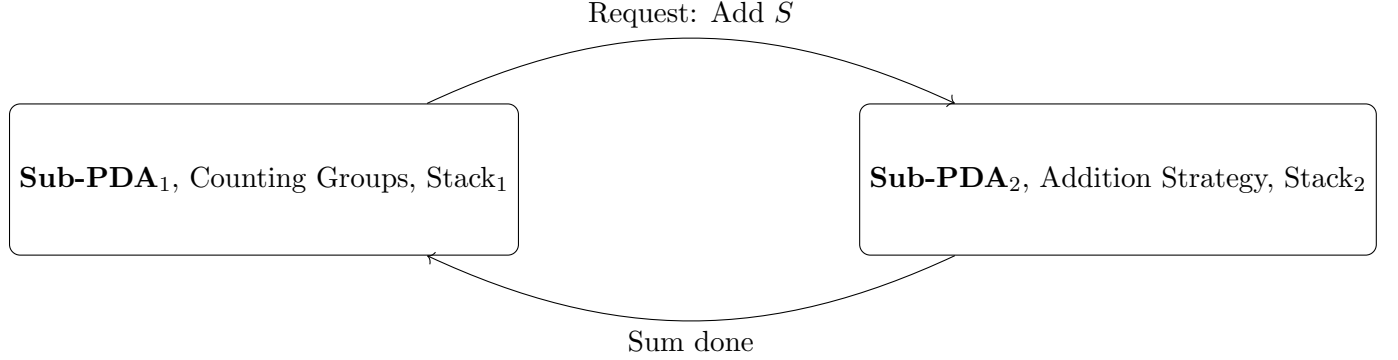


Figure 2: Two-Stack Composition for Strategic Counting

How it Works:

1. **Initialize:** Sub-PDA₁ stores the total number of groups N in Stack₁. Sub-PDA₂ sets up partial sum $T = 0$ in Stack₂.
2. **Repeated Addition:**
 - Sub-PDA₁ checks if there is another group left (e.g., by decrementing N).
 - If yes, it triggers Sub-PDA₂ to add S to T using a more advanced approach (chunking, rearranging to make bases, etc.).
 - Once Sub-PDA₂ completes the addition, control goes back to Sub-PDA₁.
3. **Accept:** When Sub-PDA₁ has processed all groups, the 2-PDA enters an accepting pair of states with the final sum in Sub-PDA₂.

Conclusion

- **High-Level FSA:** Useful for illustrating repeated addition of group sizes without specifying the internal steps of addition.
- **Two-Stack Automaton:** A precise way to compose a simple group-counting sub-PDA and a more sophisticated sub-PDA for strategic addition.

References

Hackenberg, A. (2025). *Course notes* [Unpublished course notes].

Strategic Multiplicative Reasoning: Division - Conversion to Groups Other than Bases (CBO)

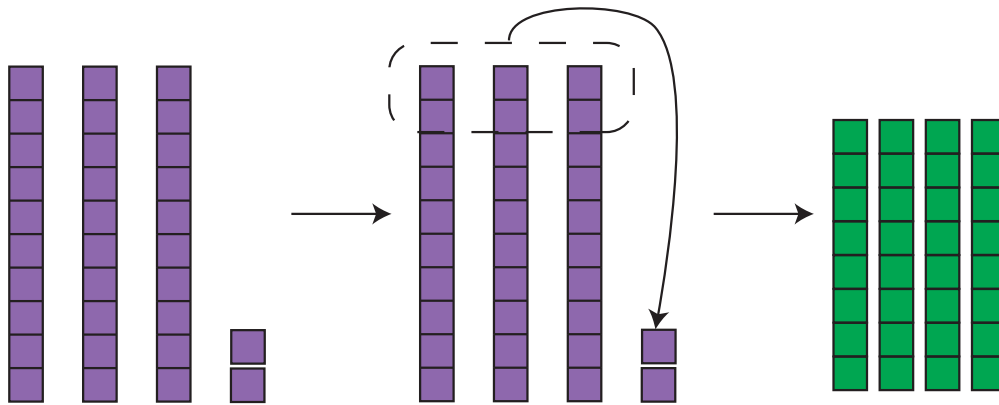
Compiled by: Theodore M. Savich

March 31, 2025

Transcript

Strategy descriptions and examples adapted from Hackenberg (2025).

- **Teacher:** There are 8 pencils in a package. You buy some packages at the store, and have a total of 32 pencils. Determine the total number of packages you bought.
- **Student:** Well, I know that there are 3 groups of ten pencils in 32 pencils. I could make 3 packages of 8 pencils from the 3 groups of ten. Then I would be left with 8 pencils (2 from each ten and 2 more from the units), which would make a fourth package of 8.
- **Teacher:** Great!



$$\begin{aligned} 32 &= 3 \times 10 + 2 \\ &= 3 \times 8 + 3 \times 2 + 2 \\ &= 3 \times 8 + 8 \\ &= 4 \times 8 \\ 32 \div 8 &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the total number of packages bought is 4.

Begin with a collection of bases and individual ones—this represents the total number of items. Identify the fixed group size contained within each base. Then, remove an equal number of individual ones from every base to form complete groups of that size, and combine any leftover ones to create additional groups.

For CGOB, using block diagrams works well because they illustrate how an equal number of ones is taken from each base to form groups of the predetermined size, and how those ones can be rearranged to complete the groups.

Conversion to Groups Other than Bases

Strategy Overview

Conversion to Groups Other than Bases involves reorganizing the total number of items into groups that are not aligned with the base system (e.g., base twelve). This strategy is useful when the group size does not neatly fit into the base units, requiring a flexible approach to grouping.

Automaton Design

We design a **Pushdown Automaton (PDA)** that converts a total number of items into groups of a specified size (which is different from the standard base). The PDA uses two stacks: one for tracking the total items and another for forming the new groups.

Components of the PDA

- **States:**
 1. q_{start} : Start state.
 2. q_{read} : Reads the total number of items.
 3. q_{group} : Forms new groups.
 4. q_{output} : Outputs the new grouping.
 5. q_{accept} : Accepting state.
- **Input Alphabet:** $\Sigma = \{E\}$, where E represents an element.
- **Stack Alphabet:** $\Gamma = \{\#, G, E_1, E_2, \dots\}$, where:
 - $\#$ is the bottom-of-stack marker.
 - G represents a group identifier.
 - E_n represents an element (or the count of elements in a group).
- **Initial Stack Symbol:** $\#$

Automaton Behavior

1. **Initialization:**
 - Begin in q_{start} and push $\#$ onto the stack.
 - Transition to q_{read} to start reading the total number of items.
2. **Reading Total Items:**
 - In q_{read} , for each element E read from the input, push E onto the stack.
 - When all inputs have been read, transition to q_{group} .
3. **Forming New Groups:**

- In q_{group} , pop a fixed number n of E symbols (representing the desired group size) and then push a group identifier G onto the stack.
- Repeat this process until all elements have been grouped.

4. Outputting New Grouping:

- In q_{output} , traverse the stack to read the new grouping.
- Transition to q_{accept} when the grouping is complete.

Automaton Diagram

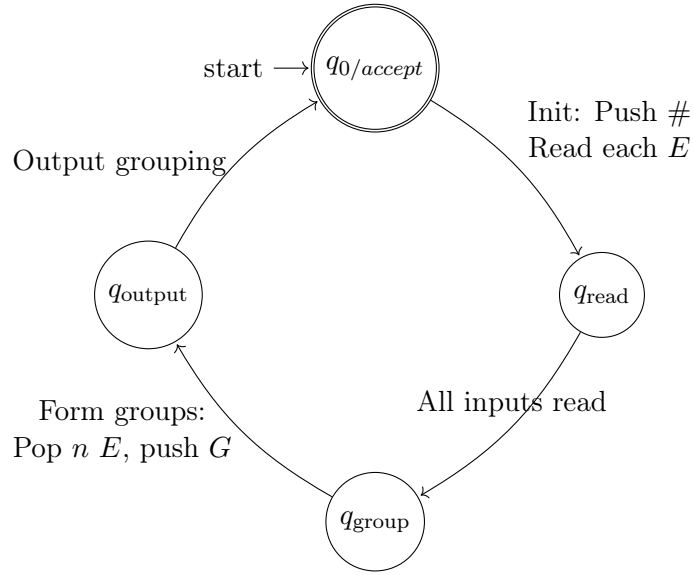


Figure 1: PDA for Conversion to Groups Other than Bases

Example Execution

Problem: Convert 32 items into groups of 8 in base ten.

1. Initialization:

- Start with the stack: $\#$.

2. Reading Total Items:

- Read 32 elements, pushing 32 E symbols onto the stack.

3. Forming Groups of 8:

- Pop 8 E symbols and push G onto the stack.
- Repeat this process 4 times to form 4 groups.

4. Final Stack Configuration: $\# G G G G$

Recursive Handling of Group Formation

The PDA recursively forms groups by repeatedly popping a fixed number of elements and pushing a group identifier until all elements are grouped. This ensures the conversion of the total into groups that are not aligned with the standard base system.

HTML Implementation

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html>
3 <head>
4   <title>Division: Conversion to Groups Other than Bases (CJOB)</title>
5   <style>
6     body { font-family: sans-serif; }
7     #cjobDiagram { border: 1px solid #d3d3d3; min-height: 500px; width: 100%; }
8     #outputContainer { margin-top: 20px; }
9     .diagram-label { font-size: 14px; display: block; margin-bottom: 10px; font-weight
10      : bold;}
11     .notation-line { margin: 0.2em 0; margin-left: 1em; font-family: monospace;}
12     .notation-line.problem { font-weight: bold; margin-left: 0;}
13     .notation-step { margin-bottom: 0.5em; }
14     /* Block Styles */
15     .block { stroke: black; stroke-width: 0.5; }
16     .ten-block-bg { stroke: black; stroke-width: 1; }
17     .hundred-block-bg { stroke: black; stroke-width: 1; }
18     .unit-block-inner { stroke: lightgrey; stroke-width: 0.5; }
19     .initial-total-block { fill: purple; } /* Color for initial total */
20     .final-group-block { fill: lightgreen; } /* Color for final groups */
21     .regrouped-block { fill: orange; opacity: 0.7; }
22     .remainder-block { fill: lightblue; }
23     .regroup-arrow {
24       fill: none; stroke: orange; stroke-width: 1.5;
25       marker-end: url(#arrowhead-orange);
26     }
27     .regroup-grouping {
28       fill: none; stroke: #555; stroke-width: 1;
29       stroke-dasharray: 4 4;
30     }
31     .section-container {
32       margin-bottom: 20px;
33       padding: 10px;
34       border-radius: 5px;
35       background-color: #f9f9f9;
36     }
37     .final-group {
38       stroke: blue;
39       stroke-width: 1;
40       fill: none;
41       stroke-dasharray: 5 3;
42     }
43   </style>
44 </head>
45 <body>
46 <h1>Strategic Multiplicative Reasoning: Division - Conversion to Groups Other than Bases
47   (CJOB)</h1>
48 <div>
49   <label for="cjobTotal">Total Items (Dividend):</label>
50   <input type="number" id="cjobTotal" value="32" min="1">
```

```

51 </div>
52 <div>
53   <label for="cgobGroupSize">Items per Group (Divisor):</label>
54   <input type="number" id="cgobGroupSize" value="8" min="1">
55 </div>
56
57 <button onclick="runCGOBAutomaton()">Calculate and Visualize</button>
58
59 <div id="outputContainer">
60   <h2>Explanation (Notation):</h2>
61   <div id="cgobOutput">
62     <!-- Text output will be displayed here -->
63   </div>
64 </div>
65
66 <h2>Diagram:</h2>
67 <div style="overflow-x:auto;overflow-y:auto;max-height:800px;">
68   <svg id="cgobDiagram" preserveAspectRatio="xMinYMin meet">
69     <defs>
70       <marker id="arrowhead-orange" markerWidth="10" markerHeight="7" refX="9" refY=
71         "3.5" orient="auto">
72         <polygon points="0,0,10,3.5,0,7" fill="orange" />
73       </marker>
74     </defs>
75   </svg>
76 </div>
77 <script>
78   // --- Helper SVG Functions ---
79   function drawBlock(svg, x, y, size, fill, className = 'block') {
80     const rect = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'rect');
81     rect.setAttribute('x', x); rect.setAttribute('y', y);
82     rect.setAttribute('width', size); rect.setAttribute('height', size);
83     rect.setAttribute('fill', fill);
84     rect.setAttribute('class', className);
85     svg.appendChild(rect);
86     return { x, y, width: size, height: size, type: 'o', cx: x + size/2, cy: y + size
87       /2 };
88   }
89   function drawTenBlock(svg, x, y, width, height, fill, unitBlockSize) {
90     const group = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'g');
91     const backgroundRect = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", '
92       rect');
93     backgroundRect.setAttribute('x', x); backgroundRect.setAttribute('y', y);
94     backgroundRect.setAttribute('width', width); backgroundRect.setAttribute('height',
95       height);
96     backgroundRect.setAttribute('fill', fill);
97     backgroundRect.setAttribute('class', 'ten-block-bg_block');
98     group.appendChild(backgroundRect);
99     for (let i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
100       const unitBlock = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'rect
101         ');

```



```

100     unitBlock.setAttribute('x', x); unitBlock.setAttribute('y', y + i *
        unitBlockSize);
101     unitBlock.setAttribute('width', unitBlockSize); unitBlock.setAttribute('height
        ', unitBlockSize);
102     unitBlock.setAttribute('fill', fill);
103     unitBlock.setAttribute('class', 'unit-block-inner');
104     group.appendChild(unitBlock);
105 }
106 svg.appendChild(group);
107 return { x, y, width, height, type: 't', cx: x + width/2, cy: y + height/2};
108 }
109
110 function drawHundredBlock(svg, x, y, size, fill, unitBlockSize) {
111     const group = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'g');
112     const backgroundRect = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", '
        rect');
113     backgroundRect.setAttribute('x', x); backgroundRect.setAttribute('y', y);
114     backgroundRect.setAttribute('width', size); backgroundRect.setAttribute('height',
        size);
115     backgroundRect.setAttribute('fill', fill);
116     backgroundRect.setAttribute('class', 'hundred-block-bg_block');
117     group.appendChild(backgroundRect);
118
119     for (let row = 0; row < 10; row++) {
120         for (let col = 0; col < 10; col++) {
121             const unitBlock = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", '
                rect');
122             unitBlock.setAttribute('x', x + col * unitBlockSize);
123             unitBlock.setAttribute('y', y + row * unitBlockSize);
124             unitBlock.setAttribute('width', unitBlockSize);
125             unitBlock.setAttribute('height', unitBlockSize);
126             unitBlock.setAttribute('fill', fill);
127             unitBlock.setAttribute('class', 'unit-block-inner');
128             group.appendChild(unitBlock);
129         }
130     }
131     svg.appendChild(group);
132     return { x, y, width: size, height: size, type: 'h', cx: x + size/2, cy: y + size
        /2};
133 }
134
135 function createText(svg, x, y, textContent, className = 'diagram-label', anchor = '
    start') {
136     const uniqueId = 'text-' + Math.random().toString(36).substr(2, 9);
137
138     const text = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'text');
139     text.setAttribute('x', x);
140     text.setAttribute('y', y);
141     text.setAttribute('class', className);
142     text.setAttribute('text-anchor', anchor);
143     text.setAttribute('id', uniqueId);
144     text.textContent = textContent;
145
146     if (className === 'diagram-label') {

```

```

147     const background = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", '
148         rect');
149     const padding = 3;
150     const estimatedWidth = Math.max(7 * textContent.length, 30);
151     const estimatedHeight = 16;
152
153     let bgX = x - padding;
154     if (anchor === 'middle') {
155         bgX = x - (estimatedWidth / 2) - padding;
156     } else if (anchor === 'end') {
157         bgX = x - estimatedWidth - padding;
158     }
159
160     background.setAttribute('x', bgX);
161     background.setAttribute('y', y - estimatedHeight + padding);
162     background.setAttribute('width', estimatedWidth + (padding * 2));
163     background.setAttribute('height', estimatedHeight + padding);
164     background.setAttribute('fill', 'white');
165     background.setAttribute('fill-opacity', '0.9');
166     background.setAttribute('rx', '3');
167     svg.appendChild(background);
168
169     svg.appendChild(text);
170     return uniqueId;
171 }
172
173 function createCurvedArrow(svg, x1, y1, x2, y2, cx, cy, arrowClass='regroup-arrow',
174     headId='arrowhead-orange') {
175     const path = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'path');
176     path.setAttribute('d', 'M ${x1} ${y1} Q ${cx} ${cy} ${x2} ${y2}');
177     path.setAttribute('class', arrowClass);
178     path.setAttribute('marker-end', 'url(#${headId})');
179     svg.appendChild(path);
180 }
181
182 document.addEventListener('DOMContentLoaded', function() {
183     const outputElement = document.getElementById('cgobOutput');
184     const totalInput = document.getElementById('cgobTotal');
185     const groupSizeInput = document.getElementById('cgobGroupSize');
186     const diagramSVG = document.getElementById('cgobDiagram');
187
188     if (!outputElement || !totalInput || !groupSizeInput || !diagramSVG) {
189         console.error("Required HTML elements not found!");
190         return;
191     }
192
193     window.runCGOBAutomaton = function() {
194         try {
195             const totalItems = parseInt(totalInput.value);
196             const groupSize = parseInt(groupSizeInput.value);
197
198             if (isNaN(totalItems) || isNaN(groupSize) || totalItems <= 0 || groupSize
199                 <= 0) {

```

```

198         outputElement.textContent = "Please enter valid positive numbers";
199         diagramSVG.innerHTML = ''; return;
200     }
201
202     const numGroups = Math.floor(totalItems / groupSize);
203     const remainder = totalItems % groupSize;
204
205     generateCGBNotation(outputElement, totalItems, groupSize, numGroups,
206         remainder);
207     drawCGBDiagram('cgbDiagram', totalItems, groupSize, numGroups, remainder)
208         ;
209
210     } catch (error) {
211         console.error("Error in runCGBAutomaton:", error);
212         outputElement.textContent = 'Error: ${error.message}';
213     }
214 };
215
216 function generateCGBNotation(outputElement, totalItems, groupSize, numGroups,
217     remainder) {
218     let output = '<h2>Conversion to Groups Other than Bases (CGB) - Notation</h2>';
219     output += '<div class="notation-step"><p class="notation-line_problem">${
220         totalItems}  ${groupSize} = ?</p></div>';
221
222     const placeValues = decomposeNumber(totalItems);
223     output += '<div class="notation-step"><p class="notation-line">Start with ${
224         totalItems} = ${placeValues.join(' + ')}</p></div>';
225
226     let steps = [];
227     let remainders = [];
228     let regroupedItems = 0;
229     let runningTotal = totalItems;
230
231     let completeGroups = 0;
232
233     for (let i = 0; i < placeValues.length; i++) {
234         const placeValue = parseInt(placeValues[i]);
235         if (placeValue === 0) continue;
236
237         const base = Math.pow(10, placeValues.length - i - 1);
238         const count = placeValue / base;
239
240         if (base > 1) {
241             const wholeGroups = Math.floor(base / groupSize);
242             const leftover = base % groupSize;
243
244             steps.push(`${count}  ${base} = ${count}  (${wholeGroups}  ${groupSize}
245                 + ${leftover})`);
246             steps.push(`= ${count * wholeGroups}  ${groupSize} + ${count}  ${
247                 leftover}`);
248
249             const newGroups = count * wholeGroups;
250             completeGroups += newGroups;

```

```

244         regroupedItems += newGroups * groupSize;
245
246         if (i > 0 || count * leftover > 0) {
247             steps.push(' = ${completeGroups} ${groupSize} + ${count * leftover}
248                 ${remainders.length > 0 ? '␣' + remainders.join('␣') : ''} =
249                 ${totalItems}');
250         } else {
251             steps.push(' = ${completeGroups} ${groupSize} = ${regroupedItems}');
252         };
253
254         if (leftover > 0) {
255             remainders.push(count * leftover);
256         }
257     } else {
258         remainders.push(placeValue);
259     }
260
261     if (remainders.length > 0) {
262         const totalRemainder = remainders.reduce((sum, val) => sum + val, 0);
263         steps.push('Combined leftovers: ${remainders.join('␣')} = ${
264             totalRemainder}');
265
266         const additionalGroups = Math.floor(totalRemainder / groupSize);
267         const finalRemainder = totalRemainder % groupSize;
268
269         if (additionalGroups > 0) {
270             steps.push('Leftovers form ${additionalGroups} more group${
271                 additionalGroups > 1 ? 's' : ''} of ${groupSize}${finalRemainder >
272                 0 ? ' with ${finalRemainder} remaining' : ''}');
273
274             completeGroups += additionalGroups;
275             steps.push(' = ${completeGroups} ${groupSize}${finalRemainder > 0 ? ' +
276                 ${finalRemainder}' : ''} = ${totalItems}');
277         } else if (totalRemainder > 0) {
278             steps.push(' = ${completeGroups} ${groupSize} + ${totalRemainder} = ${
279                 totalItems}');
280         }
281     }
282
283     steps.forEach(step => {
284         output += '<div class="notation-step"><p class="notation-line">${step}</p>
285             </div>';
286     });
287
288     output += '<div class="notation-step"><p class="notation-line␣problem">Result:
289         ${numGroups} groups${remainder > 0 ? ' with ${remainder} remaining' : ''}
290     </p></div>';
291     outputElement.innerHTML = output;
292 }
293
294 function decomposeNumber(num) {
295     const result = [];

```

```

287     let tempNum = num;
288     let placeValue = Math.pow(10, Math.floor(Math.log10(num)));
289
290     while (placeValue >= 1) {
291         const digit = Math.floor(tempNum / placeValue);
292         if (digit > 0) {
293             result.push(digit * placeValue);
294         }
295         tempNum %= placeValue;
296         placeValue /= 10;
297     }
298
299     return result;
300 }
301
302 function drawCGOBDiagram(svgId, totalItems, groupSize, numGroups, remainder) {
303     const svg = document.getElementById(svgId);
304     if (!svg) return;
305
306     svg.innerHTML = '';
307
308     const defs = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'defs');
309     defs.innerHTML = '<marker id="arrowhead-orange" markerWidth="10" markerHeight=
        "7"
310                     refX="9" refY="3.5" orient="auto">
311                     <polygon points="0,0,10,3.5,0,7" fill="orange" /></marker>';
312     svg.appendChild(defs);
313
314     const blockUnitSize = totalItems > 100 ? 8 : 10;
315     const tenBlockWidth = blockUnitSize;
316     const tenBlockHeight = blockUnitSize * 10;
317     const hundredBlockSize = blockUnitSize * 10;
318     const blockSpacing = 4;
319     const groupSpacingX = 20;
320     const sectionSpacingY = 150;
321     const startX = 30;
322     let currentY = 40;
323
324     const colorInitial = 'purple';
325     const colorFinal = 'lightgreen';
326     const colorRemainder = 'lightblue';
327     const colorRegrouped = 'orange';
328
329     const maxBlockHeight = Math.max(tenBlockHeight, hundredBlockSize,
        blockUnitSize);
330
331     createText(svg, startX, currentY, 'Initial Total: ${totalItems}');
332     currentY += 30;
333     let currentX = startX;
334     let section1MaxY = currentY;
335
336     let hundreds = Math.floor(totalItems / 100);
337     let tens = Math.floor((totalItems % 100) / 10);
338     let ones = totalItems % 10;

```

```

339     let initialBlocksData = [];
340
341
342     for (let i = 0; i < hundreds; i++) {
343         let info = drawHundredBlock(svg, currentX, currentY, hundredBlockSize,
344             colorInitial, blockUnitSize);
345         initialBlocksData.push(info);
346         currentX += hundredBlockSize + groupSpacingX;
347         section1MaxY = Math.max(section1MaxY, currentY + hundredBlockSize);
348     }
349
350     for (let i = 0; i < tens; i++) {
351         let info = drawTenBlock(svg, currentX, currentY, tenBlockWidth,
352             tenBlockHeight, colorInitial, blockUnitSize);
353         initialBlocksData.push(info);
354         currentX += tenBlockWidth + blockSpacing;
355         section1MaxY = Math.max(section1MaxY, currentY + tenBlockHeight);
356     }
357
358     for (let i = 0; i < ones; i++) {
359         let info = drawBlock(svg, currentX, currentY + maxBlockHeight -
360             blockUnitSize, blockUnitSize, colorInitial);
361         initialBlocksData.push(info);
362         currentX += blockUnitSize + blockSpacing;
363         section1MaxY = Math.max(section1MaxY, currentY + blockUnitSize);
364     }
365
366     currentY = section1MaxY + sectionSpacingY;
367
368     createText(svg, startX, currentY, 'Regrouping into groups of ${groupSize}');
369     currentY += 30;
370
371     let allRegroupData = visualizeRegrouping(svg, startX, currentY, totalItems,
372         groupSize,
373         blockUnitSize, blockSpacing, groupSpacingX
374         ,
375         colorRegrouped, colorRemainder);
376
377     let section2MaxY = allRegroupData.maxY;
378
379     currentY = section2MaxY + sectionSpacingY;
380
381     createText(svg, startX, currentY, 'Final Result: ${numGroups} groups of ${
382         groupSize}${remainder > 0 ? ' with ${remainder} remaining' : ''});
383     currentY += 30;
384
385     let section3MaxY = drawFinalGroups(svg, startX, currentY, numGroups, groupSize
386         , remainder,
387         blockUnitSize, blockSpacing, groupSpacingX,
388         colorFinal, colorRemainder);
389
390     if (allRegroupData.groups && allRegroupData.groups.length > 0) {
391         drawConnectionArrows(svg, allRegroupData.groups, startX, currentY,

```

```

384         numGroups, groupSize, blockUnitSize, blockSpacing,
385         groupSpacingX);
386     }
387     let itemsPerRow = Math.min(groupSize, 8);
388     let finalGroupWidth = (itemsPerRow * (blockUnitSize + blockSpacing)) -
389         blockSpacing + 8;
390     let finalGroupHeight = (Math.ceil(groupSize / itemsPerRow) * (blockUnitSize +
391         blockSpacing)) - blockSpacing + 8;
392     let labelOffset = Math.min(25, finalGroupHeight / 3);
393
394     let svgWidth = Math.max(800, currentX + 100);
395     let svgHeight = Math.max(section3MaxY + 50, currentY + finalGroupHeight);
396
397     const maxGroupsPerRow = Math.floor((650 - 50) / (finalGroupWidth +
398         groupSpacingX));
399     const numFinalRows = Math.ceil(numGroups / maxGroupsPerRow);
400     if (numFinalRows > 1) {
401         svgHeight += (numFinalRows - 1) * (finalGroupHeight + groupSpacingX +
402             labelOffset);
403     }
404     svg.setAttribute('width', svgWidth);
405     svg.setAttribute('height', svgHeight);
406     svg.setAttribute('viewBox', '0 0 ${svgWidth} ${svgHeight}');
407 }
408
409 function visualizeRegrouping(svg, startX, startY, totalItems, groupSize,
410     blockSize, blockSpacing, groupSpacing,
411     regroupColor, remainderColor) {
412     let currentX = startX;
413     let currentY = startY;
414     let maxY = currentY;
415
416     let hundreds = Math.floor(totalItems / 100);
417     let tens = Math.floor((totalItems % 100) / 10);
418     let ones = totalItems % 10;
419
420     let allRegroupedGroups = [];
421     let allLeftovers = [];
422
423     for (let h = 0; h < hundreds; h++) {
424         let groupsPerHundred = Math.floor(100 / groupSize);
425         let leftoverPerHundred = 100 % groupSize;
426
427         const hundredSize = 10 * blockSize;
428
429         const hundredOutline = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'rect');
430         hundredOutline.setAttribute('x', currentX);
431         hundredOutline.setAttribute('y', currentY);
432         hundredOutline.setAttribute('width', hundredSize);
433         hundredOutline.setAttribute('height', hundredSize);
434         hundredOutline.setAttribute('fill', 'none');

```

```

432 hundredOutline.setAttribute('stroke', 'gray');
433 hundredOutline.setAttribute('stroke-dasharray', '4_4');
434 svg.appendChild(hundredOutline);
435
436 const unitsPerRow = 10;
437 const unitsPerCol = 10;
438 const fullRows = Math.floor(groupSize / unitsPerRow);
439 const remainingInLastRow = groupSize % unitsPerRow;
440
441 for (let g = 0; g < groupsPerHundred; g++) {
442   let startRow = Math.floor((g * groupSize) / unitsPerRow);
443   let startCol = (g * groupSize) % unitsPerRow;
444
445   for (let i = 0; i < groupSize; i++) {
446     let row = startRow + Math.floor((startCol + i) / unitsPerRow);
447     let col = (startCol + i) % unitsPerRow;
448
449     if (row < unitsPerCol) {
450       const unitRect = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org
451         /2000/svg", 'rect');
452       unitRect.setAttribute('x', currentX + col * blockSize);
453       unitRect.setAttribute('y', currentY + row * blockSize);
454       unitRect.setAttribute('width', blockSize);
455       unitRect.setAttribute('height', blockSize);
456       unitRect.setAttribute('fill', regroupColor);
457       unitRect.setAttribute('opacity', '0.7');
458       svg.appendChild(unitRect);
459     }
460   }
461
462   let groupStartRow = Math.floor((g * groupSize) / unitsPerRow);
463   let groupStartCol = (g * groupSize) % unitsPerRow;
464   let groupEndRow = Math.floor((g+1) * groupSize - 1) / unitsPerRow);
465   let groupEndCol = ((g+1) * groupSize - 1) % unitsPerRow;
466
467   if (groupStartRow === groupEndRow) {
468     const groupOutline = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org
469       /2000/svg", 'rect');
470     groupOutline.setAttribute('x', currentX + groupStartCol * blockSize
471       - 1);
472     groupOutline.setAttribute('y', currentY + groupStartRow * blockSize
473       - 1);
474     groupOutline.setAttribute('width', (groupEndCol - groupStartCol +
475       1) * blockSize + 2);
476     groupOutline.setAttribute('height', blockSize + 2);
477     groupOutline.setAttribute('fill', 'none');
478     groupOutline.setAttribute('stroke', '#555');
479     groupOutline.setAttribute('stroke-dasharray', '4_4');
480     svg.appendChild(groupOutline);
481
482     allRegroupedGroups.push({
483       x: currentX + groupStartCol * blockSize,
484       y: currentY + groupStartRow * blockSize,
485       width: (groupEndCol - groupStartCol + 1) * blockSize,

```



```

481         height: blockSize,
482         cx: currentX + (groupStartCol + (groupEndCol - groupStartCol)/2)
           * blockSize,
483         cy: currentY + (groupStartRow + 0.5) * blockSize,
484         isBaseGroup: true
485     });
486 } else {
487     const firstRowWidth = (unitsPerRow - groupStartCol) * blockSize;
488     const firstRowOutline = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org
           /2000/svg", 'rect');
489     firstRowOutline.setAttribute('x', currentX + groupStartCol *
           blockSize - 1);
490     firstRowOutline.setAttribute('y', currentY + groupStartRow *
           blockSize - 1);
491     firstRowOutline.setAttribute('width', firstRowWidth + 2);
492     firstRowOutline.setAttribute('height', blockSize + 2);
493     firstRowOutline.setAttribute('fill', 'none');
494     firstRowOutline.setAttribute('stroke', '#555');
495     firstRowOutline.setAttribute('stroke-dasharray', '4_4');
496     svg.appendChild(firstRowOutline);
497
498     for (let r = groupStartRow + 1; r < groupEndRow; r++) {
499         const rowOutline = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org
           /2000/svg", 'rect');
500         rowOutline.setAttribute('x', currentX - 1);
501         rowOutline.setAttribute('y', currentY + r * blockSize - 1);
502         rowOutline.setAttribute('width', unitsPerRow * blockSize + 2);
503         rowOutline.setAttribute('height', blockSize + 2);
504         rowOutline.setAttribute('fill', 'none');
505         rowOutline.setAttribute('stroke', '#555');
506         rowOutline.setAttribute('stroke-dasharray', '4_4');
507         svg.appendChild(rowOutline);
508     }
509
510     const lastRowWidth = (groupEndCol + 1) * blockSize;
511     const lastRowOutline = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org
           /2000/svg", 'rect');
512     lastRowOutline.setAttribute('x', currentX - 1);
513     lastRowOutline.setAttribute('y', currentY + groupEndRow * blockSize
           - 1);
514     lastRowOutline.setAttribute('width', lastRowWidth + 2);
515     lastRowOutline.setAttribute('height', blockSize + 2);
516     lastRowOutline.setAttribute('fill', 'none');
517     lastRowOutline.setAttribute('stroke', '#555');
518     lastRowOutline.setAttribute('stroke-dasharray', '4_4');
519     svg.appendChild(lastRowOutline);
520
521     allRegroupedGroups.push({
522         x: currentX,
523         y: currentY + groupStartRow * blockSize,
524         width: hundredSize,
525         height: (groupEndRow - groupStartRow + 1) * blockSize,
526         cx: currentX + hundredSize/2,

```

```

527         cy: currentY + (groupStartRow + (groupEndRow - groupStartRow)/2)
528             * blockSize,
529         isBaseGroup: true
530     });
531 }
532
533 if (leftoverPerHundred > 0) {
534     let leftoverStartRow = Math.floor((groupsPerHundred * groupSize) /
535         unitsPerRow);
536     let leftoverStartCol = (groupsPerHundred * groupSize) % unitsPerRow;
537
538     for (let i = 0; i < leftoverPerHundred; i++) {
539         let row = leftoverStartRow + Math.floor((leftoverStartCol + i) /
540             unitsPerRow);
541         let col = (leftoverStartCol + i) % unitsPerRow;
542
543         if (row < unitsPerCol) {
544             const unitRect = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org
545                 /2000/svg", 'rect');
546             unitRect.setAttribute('x', currentX + col * blockSize);
547             unitRect.setAttribute('y', currentY + row * blockSize);
548             unitRect.setAttribute('width', blockSize);
549             unitRect.setAttribute('height', blockSize);
550             unitRect.setAttribute('fill', remainderColor);
551             svg.appendChild(unitRect);
552         }
553     }
554
555     let leftoverEndRow = Math.floor(((groupsPerHundred * groupSize) +
556         leftoverPerHundred - 1) / unitsPerRow);
557     let leftoverEndCol = ((groupsPerHundred * groupSize) +
558         leftoverPerHundred - 1) % unitsPerRow;
559
560     if (leftoverStartRow === leftoverEndRow) {
561         const leftoverOutline = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org
562             /2000/svg", 'rect');
563         leftoverOutline.setAttribute('x', currentX + leftoverStartCol *
564             blockSize - 1);
565         leftoverOutline.setAttribute('y', currentY + leftoverStartRow *
566             blockSize - 1);
567         leftoverOutline.setAttribute('width', (leftoverEndCol -
568             leftoverStartCol + 1) * blockSize + 2);
569         leftoverOutline.setAttribute('height', blockSize + 2);
570         leftoverOutline.setAttribute('fill', 'none');
571         leftoverOutline.setAttribute('stroke', '#555');
572         leftoverOutline.setAttribute('stroke-dasharray', '4 4');
573         svg.appendChild(leftoverOutline);
574
575         allLeftovers.push({
576             count: leftoverPerHundred,
577             info: {
578                 x: currentX + leftoverStartCol * blockSize,
579                 y: currentY + leftoverStartRow * blockSize,

```

```

571         width: (leftoverEndCol - leftoverStartCol + 1) * blockSize,
572         height: blockSize,
573         cx: currentX + (leftoverStartCol + (leftoverEndCol -
                    leftoverStartCol)/2) * blockSize,
574         cy: currentY + (leftoverStartRow + 0.5) * blockSize
575     }
576 });
577 } else {
578     allLeftovers.push({
579         count: leftoverPerHundred,
580         info: {
581             x: currentX,
582             y: currentY + leftoverStartRow * blockSize,
583             width: hundredSize,
584             height: (leftoverEndRow - leftoverStartRow + 1) * blockSize,
585             cx: currentX + hundredSize/2,
586             cy: currentY + (leftoverStartRow + (leftoverEndRow -
                    leftoverStartRow)/2) * blockSize
587         }
588     });
589 }
590 }
591
592 currentX += hundredSize + groupSpacing;
593 maxY = Math.max(maxY, currentY + hundredSize);
594 }
595
596 for (let t = 0; t < tens; t++) {
597     let groupsPerTen = Math.floor(10 / groupSize);
598     let leftoverPerTen = 10 % groupSize;
599
600     const tenHeight = 10 * blockSize;
601     const tenWidth = blockSize;
602
603     const tenOutline = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", '
        rect');
604     tenOutline.setAttribute('x', currentX);
605     tenOutline.setAttribute('y', currentY);
606     tenOutline.setAttribute('width', tenWidth);
607     tenOutline.setAttribute('height', tenHeight);
608     tenOutline.setAttribute('fill', 'none');
609     tenOutline.setAttribute('stroke', 'gray');
610     tenOutline.setAttribute('stroke-dasharray', '4 4');
611     svg.appendChild(tenOutline);
612
613     if (groupsPerTen > 0) {
614         for (let g = 0; g < groupsPerTen; g++) {
615             const groupRect = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/
                svg", 'rect');
616             groupRect.setAttribute('x', currentX);
617             groupRect.setAttribute('y', currentY + g * groupSize * blockSize);
618             groupRect.setAttribute('width', tenWidth);
619             groupRect.setAttribute('height', groupSize * blockSize);
620             groupRect.setAttribute('fill', regroupColor);

```

```

621     groupRect.setAttribute('opacity', '0.7');
622     svg.appendChild(groupRect);
623
624     const groupOutline = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org
        /2000/svg", 'rect');
625     groupOutline.setAttribute('x', currentX - 1);
626     groupOutline.setAttribute('y', currentY + g * groupSize * blockSize
        - 1);
627     groupOutline.setAttribute('width', tenWidth + 2);
628     groupOutline.setAttribute('height', groupSize * blockSize + 2);
629     groupOutline.setAttribute('fill', 'none');
630     groupOutline.setAttribute('stroke', '#555');
631     groupOutline.setAttribute('stroke-dasharray', '4_4');
632     svg.appendChild(groupOutline);
633
634     allRegroupedGroups.push({
635         x: currentX,
636         y: currentY + g * groupSize * blockSize,
637         width: tenWidth,
638         height: groupSize * blockSize,
639         cx: currentX + tenWidth/2,
640         cy: currentY + (g * groupSize + groupSize/2) * blockSize,
641         isBaseGroup: true
642     });
643 }
644 }
645
646 if (leftoverPerTen > 0) {
647     const leftoverY = currentY + groupsPerTen * groupSize * blockSize;
648
649     const leftoverRect = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/
        svg", 'rect');
650     leftoverRect.setAttribute('x', currentX);
651     leftoverRect.setAttribute('y', leftoverY);
652     leftoverRect.setAttribute('width', tenWidth);
653     leftoverRect.setAttribute('height', leftoverPerTen * blockSize);
654     leftoverRect.setAttribute('fill', remainderColor);
655     svg.appendChild(leftoverRect);
656
657     const leftoverOutline = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org
        /2000/svg", 'rect');
658     leftoverOutline.setAttribute('x', currentX - 1);
659     leftoverOutline.setAttribute('y', leftoverY - 1);
660     leftoverOutline.setAttribute('width', tenWidth + 2);
661     leftoverOutline.setAttribute('height', leftoverPerTen * blockSize + 2);
662     leftoverOutline.setAttribute('fill', 'none');
663     leftoverOutline.setAttribute('stroke', '#555');
664     leftoverOutline.setAttribute('stroke-dasharray', '4_4');
665     svg.appendChild(leftoverOutline);
666
667     allLeftovers.push({
668         count: leftoverPerTen,
669         info: {
670             x: currentX,

```

```

671         y: leftoverY,
672         width: tenWidth,
673         height: leftoverPerTen * blockSize,
674         cx: currentX + tenWidth/2,
675         cy: leftoverY + leftoverPerTen * blockSize/2
676     }
677 });
678 }
679
680 currentX += tenWidth + blockSpacing;
681 maxY = Math.max(maxY, currentY + tenHeight);
682 }
683
684 if (ones > 0) {
685     let onesStartX = currentX;
686
687     for (let i = 0; i < ones; i++) {
688         let oneBlock = drawBlock(svg, currentX, currentY, blockSize,
689             remainderColor);
689
690         allLeftovers.push({
691             count: 1,
692             info: oneBlock
693         });
694
695         currentX += blockSize + blockSpacing;
696     }
697
698     if (ones > 1) {
699         const onesOutline = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/
700             svg", 'rect');
701         onesOutline.setAttribute('x', onesStartX - 1);
702         onesOutline.setAttribute('y', currentY - 1);
703         onesOutline.setAttribute('width', ones * (blockSize + blockSpacing) -
704             blockSpacing + 2);
705         onesOutline.setAttribute('height', blockSize + 2);
706         onesOutline.setAttribute('fill', 'none');
707         onesOutline.setAttribute('stroke', '#555');
708         onesOutline.setAttribute('stroke-dasharray', '4 4');
709         svg.appendChild(onesOutline);
710     }
711
712     maxY = Math.max(maxY, currentY + blockSize);
713 }
714
715 if (allLeftovers.length > 0) {
716     let totalLeftover = allLeftovers.reduce((sum, item) => sum + item.count, 0)
717     ;
718
719     if (totalLeftover >= groupSize) {
720         let additionalGroups = Math.floor(totalLeftover / groupSize);
721         let finalRemainder = totalLeftover % groupSize;
722
723         currentY = maxY + 40;

```

```

721         createText(svg, startX, currentY, 'Combined Leftovers: ${totalLeftover}
              items');
722         currentY += 30;
723         currentX = startX;
724
725         let combinedGroupsInfo = [];
726
727         for (let g = 0; g < additionalGroups; g++) {
728             let groupInfo = drawRegroupBlock(svg, currentX, currentY, groupSize
              , blockSize,
729                                     blockSize, regroupColor, true);
730
731             createText(svg, currentX + groupInfo.width/2, currentY - 15,
732                 'Group ${g+1} from Leftovers', 'diagram-label', 'middle');
733
734             combinedGroupsInfo.push(groupInfo);
735             currentX += groupInfo.width + groupSpacing * 1.5;
736         }
737
738         if (finalRemainder > 0) {
739             let remainderInfo = drawRegroupBlock(svg, currentX, currentY,
              finalRemainder,
740                                     blockSize, blockSize,
              remainderColor, false);
741
742             createText(svg, currentX + remainderInfo.width/2, currentY - 15,
743                 'Final Remainder', 'diagram-label', 'middle');
744
745             maxY = Math.max(maxY, currentY + remainderInfo.height);
746         } else {
747             maxY = Math.max(maxY, currentY + (Math.ceil(groupSize/8) * (
              blockSize + blockSize)));
748         }
749
750         let targetX = startX + (additionalGroups * groupSize * blockSize / 4);
751         let targetY = currentY - 25;
752
753         for (let leftover of allLeftovers) {
754             let source = leftover.info;
755
756             createCurvedArrow(svg, source.cx, source.cy,
757                 targetX, targetY,
758                 (source.cx + targetX)/2, (source.cy + targetY)/2 -
              20);
759         }
760
761         allRegroupedGroups.push(...combinedGroupsInfo);
762     }
763 }
764
765 return {
766     maxY: maxY,
767     groups: allRegroupedGroups,
768     leftovers: allLeftovers

```

```

769     };
770 }
771
772 function drawRegroupBlock(svg, x, y, count, blockSize, blockSpacing, color,
773     addOutline = true) {
774     let itemsPerRow = Math.min(count, 8);
775     let rows = Math.ceil(count / itemsPerRow);
776
777     let groupWidth = (itemsPerRow * (blockSize + blockSpacing)) - blockSpacing;
778     let groupHeight = (rows * (blockSize + blockSpacing)) - blockSpacing;
779
780     for (let i = 0; i < count; i++) {
781         let row = Math.floor(i / itemsPerRow);
782         let col = i % itemsPerRow;
783
784         drawBlock(svg,
785             x + col * (blockSize + blockSpacing),
786             y + row * (blockSize + blockSpacing),
787             blockSize, color);
788     }
789
790     if (addOutline) {
791         const outline = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", '
792             rect');
793         outline.setAttribute('x', x - 2);
794         outline.setAttribute('y', y - 2);
795         outline.setAttribute('width', groupWidth + 4);
796         outline.setAttribute('height', groupHeight + 4);
797         outline.setAttribute('fill', 'none');
798         outline.setAttribute('stroke', '#555');
799         outline.setAttribute('stroke-dasharray', '4 4');
800         svg.appendChild(outline);
801     }
802
803     return {
804         x: x,
805         y: y,
806         width: groupWidth,
807         height: groupHeight,
808         cx: x + groupWidth/2,
809         cy: y + groupHeight/2
810     };
811 }
812
813 function drawConnectionArrows(svg, sourceGroups, targetStartX, targetStartY,
814     numGroups, groupSize, blockSize, blockSpacing,
815     groupSpacing) {
816     const combinedGroups = sourceGroups.filter(group => !group.isBaseGroup);
817     if (combinedGroups.length === 0) return;
818
819     const baseGroupCount = sourceGroups.filter(group => group.isBaseGroup).length;
820
821     let itemsPerRow = Math.min(groupSize, 8);

```

```

819     let groupWidth = (itemsPerRow * (blockSize + blockSpacing)) - blockSpacing +
820         8;
821     let groupHeight = (Math.ceil(groupSize / itemsPerRow) * (blockSize +
822         blockSpacing)) - blockSpacing + 8;
823     let labelOffset = Math.min(25, groupHeight / 3);
824
825     const svgContainerWidth = 650;
826     const maxGroupsPerRow = Math.max(1, Math.floor((svgContainerWidth - 50) / (
827         groupWidth + groupSpacing)));
828
829     for (let i = 0; i < combinedGroups.length; i++) {
830         let source = combinedGroups[i];
831
832         const targetGroupIndex = baseGroupCount + i;
833
834         const targetRow = Math.floor(targetGroupIndex / maxGroupsPerRow);
835         const targetCol = targetGroupIndex % maxGroupsPerRow;
836
837         let targetX = targetStartX + (targetCol * (groupWidth + groupSpacing)) +
838             groupWidth/2;
839         let arrowEndY = targetStartY + (targetRow * (groupHeight + groupSpacing +
840             labelOffset));
841
842         let controlY = (source.cy + arrowEndY)/2;
843         if (arrowEndY < source.cy) {
844             controlY = arrowEndY + (source.cy - arrowEndY)/2;
845         }
846
847         createCurvedArrow(
848             svg,
849             source.cx, source.cy + source.height/2 + 5,
850             targetX, arrowEndY + 10,
851             source.cx, controlY
852         );
853     }
854 }
855
856 function drawFinalGroups(svg, startX, startY, numGroups, groupSize, remainder,
857     blockSize, blockSpacing, groupSpacing, groupColor,
858     remainderColor) {
859     let maxY = startY;
860
861     let itemsPerRow = Math.min(groupSize, 8);
862     let groupWidth = (itemsPerRow * (blockSize + blockSpacing)) - blockSpacing +
863         8;
864     let groupHeight = (Math.ceil(groupSize / itemsPerRow) * (blockSize +
865         blockSpacing)) - blockSpacing + 8;
866
867     const svgContainerWidth = 650;
868     const maxGroupsPerRow = Math.max(1, Math.floor((svgContainerWidth - 60) / (
869         groupWidth + groupSpacing)));
870     const labelOffset = Math.min(25, groupHeight / 3);
871
872     const numRows = Math.ceil(numGroups / maxGroupsPerRow);

```



```

864
865 for (let row = 0; row < numRows; row++) {
866     let currentY = startY + row * (groupHeight + groupSpacing + labelOffset);
867     let currentX = startX;
868
869     const startGroup = row * maxGroupsPerRow;
870     const endGroup = Math.min(numGroups, (row + 1) * maxGroupsPerRow);
871
872     for (let g = startGroup; g < endGroup; g++) {
873         let groupStartX = currentX;
874
875         const groupRect = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg"
            , 'rect');
876         groupRect.setAttribute('x', groupStartX - 4);
877         groupRect.setAttribute('y', currentY - 4);
878         groupRect.setAttribute('width', groupWidth);
879         groupRect.setAttribute('height', groupHeight);
880         groupRect.setAttribute('class', 'final-group');
881         svg.appendChild(groupRect);
882
883         createText(svg, groupStartX + groupWidth/2, currentY - labelOffset/2,
884             'Group ${g+1}', 'diagram-label', 'middle');
885
886         for (let r = 0; r < Math.ceil(groupSize / itemsPerRow); r++) {
887             for (let c = 0; c < itemsPerRow; c++) {
888                 const index = r * itemsPerRow + c;
889                 if (index < groupSize) {
890                     drawBlock(svg,
891                         groupStartX + c * (blockSize + blockSpacing),
892                         currentY + r * (blockSize + blockSpacing),
893                         blockSize, groupColor, 'final-group-block');
894                 }
895             }
896         }
897
898         currentX += groupWidth + groupSpacing;
899         maxY = Math.max(maxY, currentY + groupHeight);
900     }
901 }
902
903 if (remainder > 0) {
904     let remainderY, remainderX;
905
906     if (numRows === 1 && numGroups * (groupWidth + groupSpacing) + remainder *
        (blockSize + blockSpacing) < svgContainerWidth - 60) {
907         remainderY = startY;
908         remainderX = startX + numGroups * (groupWidth + groupSpacing);
909     } else {
910         const lastRowGroups = numGroups % maxGroupsPerRow || maxGroupsPerRow;
911         const remainderWidth = remainder * (blockSize + blockSpacing);
912
913         if (lastRowGroups * (groupWidth + groupSpacing) + remainderWidth <
            svgContainerWidth - 60) {

```

```

914         remainderY = startY + (numRows - 1) * (groupHeight + groupSpacing +
915             labelOffset);
916         remainderX = startX + lastRowGroups * (groupWidth + groupSpacing);
917     } else {
918         remainderY = startY + numRows * (groupHeight + groupSpacing +
919             labelOffset);
920         remainderX = startX;
921     }
922 }
923
924 createText(svg, remainderX + (remainder * (blockSize + blockSpacing))/2,
925     remainderY - labelOffset/2,
926     'Remainder: ${remainder}', 'diagram-label', 'middle');
927
928 for (let r = 0; r < remainder; r++) {
929     drawBlock(svg,
930         remainderX + r * (blockSize + blockSpacing),
931         remainderY,
932         blockSize, remainderColor, 'remainder-block');
933 }
934
935 maxY = Math.max(maxY, remainderY + blockSize);
936 }
937
938 return maxY;
939 }
940 runCGOBAutomaton();
941 });
942 </script>
943 </body>
944 </html>

```

References

Hackenberg, A. (2025). *Course notes* [Unpublished course notes].

Division Strategies - Dealing by Ones

Compiled by: Theodore M. Savich

March 31, 2025

This is a sharing division problem. With sharing division problems, the number of items in each group is unknown, while the number of groups and the total number of items are both known.

$$\boxed{\text{Number of groups}} \times \boxed{\text{Unknown Number of items in each group}} = \boxed{\text{Total number of items}}$$

Transcript

Video from Carpenter et al. (1999). Strategy descriptions and examples adapted from Hackenberg (2025).

- **Teacher:** Mr. Gomez has 12 cupcakes. He wants to put the cupcakes into four boxes, so that there's the same number in each box. How many cupcakes can go in each box?
- **Student:** Okay, 1, 2, 3, 4. I got four boxes, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12. Now, one will go in this box, one will go in this box, one will go in this box, one will go in this box. Two will go in this box, two will go in this box, two will go in this box, two will go in this box. Three will go in this box, three will go in this box, three will go in this box, and three, will go in this box. Three cupcakes can go in each box.
- **Teacher:** Nice. Thank you, Alex.

Alex began by placing 4 unifix cubes of the same color on the table, each one standing in for a different box. He then selected 12 additional cubes to represent 12 cupcakes. One by one, he distributed a cube from this pile to each box, repeating the process until he had used all the cupcake cubes. When he finished, he observed that each box contained 3 cubes, so the answer is 3 cupcakes per box.

Dealing by Ones

Strategy Overview

Dealing by Ones is a foundational division strategy where the division is performed by incrementally removing one item at a time and counting the number of groups formed. This method is particularly useful for simple division problems and serves as the basis for more advanced strategies.

Automaton Design

We design a **Pushdown Automaton (PDA)** that systematically removes one element from the total and increments the group count until all elements have been distributed.

Automaton Tuple

The PDA is defined as the 7-tuple

$$M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_{0/accept}, \#, F)$$

where:

- $Q = \{q_{0/accept}, q_{remove}, q_{output}\}$ is the set of states. Here, $q_{0/accept}$ is the merged start and accepting state.
- $\Sigma = \{E\}$ is the input alphabet, where E represents an element.
- $\Gamma = \{\#, G, E\}$ is the stack alphabet:
 - $\#$ is the bottom-of-stack marker.
 - G represents a group identifier.
 - E represents an element.
- $q_{0/accept}$ is the start (and accepting) state.
- $\#$ is the initial stack symbol.
- $F = \{q_{0/accept}\}$ is the set of accepting states.

Transition Function

The key transitions of the PDA are as follows:

1. Initialization:

$$\delta(q_{0/accept}, \varepsilon, \varepsilon) = (q_{remove}, \#)$$

(Push the bottom marker $\#$ and move to the removal phase.)

2. Removing Elements:

$$\delta(q_{remove}, \varepsilon, E) = (q_{remove}, \varepsilon \text{ (pop } E) \text{ followed by pushing } G)$$

(For each E encountered on the stack, pop it and push G to record one completed group.)

3. Transition when no E remains:

$$\delta(q_{remove}, \varepsilon, \#) = (q_{output}, \#)$$

(When no E is left (only the bottom marker remains), move to the output phase.)

4. Outputting the Result:

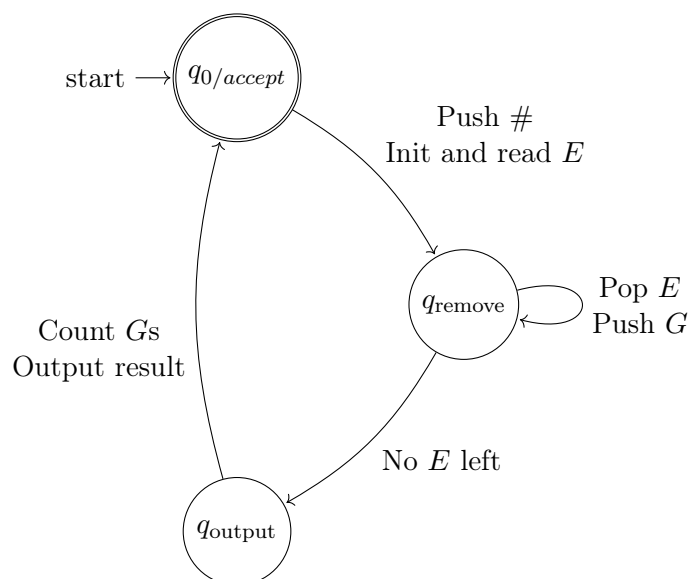
$$\delta(q_{output}, \varepsilon, x) = (q_{0/accept}, x)$$

(Count the number of G symbols to determine the quotient; output the final count and return to the merged start/accept state.)

State Transition Table

Current State	Input Symbol	Stack Top	Next State	Stack Operation	Description
$q_0/accept$	ε	—	q_{remove}	Push #	Initialization
q_{remove}	ε	E	q_{remove}	Pop E , push G	Remove one element, increment group count
q_{remove}	ε	#	q_{output}	No change	All E 's removed
q_{output}	ε	(Any)	$q_0/accept$	Output final count	Output quotient (number of G 's)

Circular PDA Diagram



Example Execution

Problem: Divide 7 items into groups of 1.

1. Start:

- Initial Stack: # $E E E E E E E$ (7 E 's representing 7 items).

2. Removing Elements:

- For each E popped, a G is pushed. After 7 removals, the stack becomes: # $G G G G G G G$.

3. Outputting the Result:

- The automaton counts the 7 G 's and outputs the result (7 groups of 1).

HTML Implementation

```

1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html>
3 <head>

```

```

4 <title>Division: Dealing by Ones</title>
5 <style>
6   body { font-family: sans-serif; line-height: 1.6; }
7   .container { max-width: 800px; margin: 10px auto; padding: 10px;}
8   .control-section, .pile-section, .groups-section, .result-section {
9     margin-bottom: 20px; padding: 10px; border: 1px solid #eee;
10    background-color: #f9f9f9; border-radius: 5px;
11  }
12  label { margin-right: 5px;}
13  input[type=number] { width: 60px; margin-right: 15px;}
14  button { padding: 5px 10px; font-size: 1em; margin-right: 5px; }
15  #statusMessage { color: #e65c00; font-weight: bold; margin-left: 15px;}
16  .pile-container, .groups-container {
17    min-height: 40px; padding: 5px; background-color: #fff; border: 1px dashed #
18    ccc;
19    margin-top: 5px;
20  }
21  .group-box {
22    display: inline-block; /* Changed from flex */
23    vertical-align: top; /* Align boxes at the top */
24    width: 100px; /* Fixed width for each group box */
25    min-height: 80px;
26    border: 1px solid #999;
27    padding: 5px;
28    margin: 5px;
29    background-color: #e8f4ff;
30    text-align: center;
31  }
32  .group-box-label {
33    font-size: 0.9em;
34    color: #555;
35    margin-bottom: 5px;
36    display: block;
37    min-height: 1.2em; /* Ensure space even if empty */
38  }
39  .item-block { /* Renamed from .box for clarity */
40    display: inline-block;
41    width: 12px; height: 12px; margin: 1px;
42    background-color: dodgerblue; border: 1px solid #666;
43    vertical-align: middle;
44  }
45  #resultValue { font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: darkgreen; }
46 </style>
47 </head>
48 <body>
49 <div class="container">
50
51   <h1>Division Strategies - Dealing by Ones</h1>
52
53   <div class="control-section">
54     <label for="dealTotalInput">Total Items:</label>
55     <input type="number" id="dealTotalInput" value="12" min="0">
56     <label for="dealGroupsInput">Number of Groups:</label>

```

```

57     <input type="number" id="dealGroupsInput" value="4" min="1">
58     <!-- Ensure onclick calls the globally exposed functions -->
59     <button onclick="setupSimulation()">Set Up / Reset</button>
60     <button onclick="dealOneItem()" id="dealBtn" disabled>Deal One Item</button>
61     <span id="statusMessage"></span>
62 </div>
63
64 <div class="pile-section">
65     <strong>Items Remaining in Pile:</strong> <span id="pileCount">0</span>
66     <div id="pileDisplay" class="pile-container"></div>
67 </div>
68
69 <div class="groups-section">
70     <strong>Groups (Dealing items into these):</strong>
71     <div id="groupsDisplay" class="groups-container">
72         <!-- Group boxes will be added here -->
73     </div>
74 </div>
75
76 <div class="result-section">
77     <strong>Result (Items per group):</strong> <span id="resultValue">?</span>
78 </div>
79
80
81 <script>
82     // --- Simulation State Variables (Global in this simple example) ---
83     let initialTotalItems = 0;
84     let numGroups = 0;
85     let itemsRemaining = 0;
86     let groupsData = []; // Stores item count for each group: [3, 3, 3, 3]
87     let nextGroupIndex = 0;
88     let isDealingComplete = true;
89
90     // --- DOM Element References (Get them once DOM is loaded) ---
91     let numericValueSpan, resultValueSpan, pileDisplay, pileCountSpan, groupsDisplay,
92         dealBtn, statusMessage, totalInput, groupsInput;
93
94     // --- Simulation Functions ---
95     // Note: These are defined globally OR attached to window inside DOMContentLoaded
96
97     function updatePileDisplay() {
98         if (!pileDisplay || !pileCountSpan) return; // Check if elements exist
99         pileCountSpan.textContent = itemsRemaining;
100         pileDisplay.innerHTML = ""; // Clear previous
101         for (let i = 0; i < itemsRemaining; i++) {
102             const item = document.createElement("div");
103             item.className = "item-block";
104             pileDisplay.appendChild(item);
105         }
106
107     function drawGroupContainers() {
108         if (!groupsDisplay) return; // Check if element exists
109         groupsDisplay.innerHTML = ""; // Clear previous

```

```

110     for (let i = 0; i < numGroups; i++) {
111         const groupBox = document.createElement("div");
112         groupBox.className = "group-box";
113         groupBox.id = `group-${i}`;
114
115         const label = document.createElement("div");
116         label.className = "group-box-label";
117         label.textContent = `Group ${i + 1}`;
118         groupBox.appendChild(label);
119
120         const itemContainer = document.createElement("div");
121         itemContainer.id = `group-items-${i}`;
122         groupBox.appendChild(itemContainer);
123
124         groupsDisplay.appendChild(groupBox);
125     }
126 }
127
128 function updateSpecificGroupBox(groupIndex) {
129     const itemContainer = document.getElementById(`group-items-${groupIndex}`);
130     if(itemContainer) {
131         const item = document.createElement("div");
132         item.className = "item-block";
133         itemContainer.appendChild(item);
134     }
135 }
136
137 function setupSimulation() {
138     // Get elements again in case they weren't ready before DOM load
139     totalInput = totalInput || document.getElementById("dealTotalInput");
140     groupsInput = groupsInput || document.getElementById("dealGroupsInput");
141     resultValueSpan = resultValueSpan || document.getElementById("resultValue");
142     pileCountSpan = pileCountSpan || document.getElementById("pileCount");
143     pileDisplay = pileDisplay || document.getElementById("pileDisplay");
144     groupsDisplay = groupsDisplay || document.getElementById("groupsDisplay");
145     dealBtn = dealBtn || document.getElementById("dealBtn");
146     statusMessage = statusMessage || document.getElementById("statusMessage");
147
148     if (!totalInput || !groupsInput || !resultValueSpan || !pileCountSpan || !
149         pileDisplay || !groupsDisplay || !dealBtn || !statusMessage) {
150         console.error("One or more required elements not found during setup!");
151         return;
152     }
153
154     initialTotalItems = parseInt(totalInput.value);
155     numGroups = parseInt(groupsInput.value);
156
157     if (isNaN(initialTotalItems) || isNaN(numGroups) || numGroups <= 0 ||
158         initialTotalItems < 0) {
159         statusMessage.textContent = "Please enter valid positive numbers (Groups >
160             0).";
161         dealBtn.disabled = true;
162         isDealingComplete = true;

```



```

161         resultValueSpan.textContent = "?";
162         pileCountSpan.textContent = "0";
163         pileDisplay.innerHTML = "";
164         groupsDisplay.innerHTML = "";
165         return;
166     }
167
168     itemsRemaining = initialTotalItems;
169     groupsData = Array(numGroups).fill(0); // Initialize group counts to 0
170     nextGroupIndex = 0;
171     isDealingComplete = (itemsRemaining === 0); // Complete if starting with 0
172         items
173
174     statusMessage.textContent = itemsRemaining > 0 ? "Ready_to_deal." : "No_items_
175         to_deal.";
176     resultValueSpan.textContent = "?";
177     updatePileDisplay();
178     drawGroupContainers(); // Draw the empty boxes
179     dealBtn.disabled = isDealingComplete;
180 }
181
182 function dealOneItem() {
183     if (!dealBtn || !statusMessage || !resultValueSpan) { // Check elements exist
184         console.error("Button_or_status_element_not_found_during_deal!");
185         return;
186     }
187
188     if (isDealingComplete || itemsRemaining <= 0) {
189         statusMessage.textContent = "Dealing_complete!";
190         dealBtn.disabled = true;
191         return;
192     }
193
194     statusMessage.textContent = ""; // Clear message
195
196     // 1. Decrement remaining items
197     itemsRemaining--;
198
199     // 2. Increment count for the target group
200     groupsData[nextGroupIndex]++;
201
202     // 3. Visually update pile and target group
203     updatePileDisplay();
204     updateSpecificGroupBox(nextGroupIndex);
205
206     // 4. Move to next group index (cycle)
207     nextGroupIndex = (nextGroupIndex + 1) % numGroups;
208
209     // 5. Check for completion
210     if (itemsRemaining === 0) {
211         isDealingComplete = true;
212         dealBtn.disabled = true;
213         statusMessage.textContent = "Dealing_complete!";

```

```

212         resultValueSpan.textContent = groupsData[0]; // Show result (items in first
           group)
213     } else {
214         statusMessage.textContent = 'Dealt 1 item to Group ${nextGroupIndex === 0
           ? numGroups : nextGroupIndex}. ${itemsRemaining} left.';
215     }
216 }
217
218
219 // --- Initialize after DOM is loaded ---
220 document.addEventListener('DOMContentLoaded', function() {
221     // Assign elements to variables now that DOM is ready
222     resultValueSpan = document.getElementById("resultValue");
223     pileDisplay = document.getElementById("pileDisplay");
224     pileCountSpan = document.getElementById("pileCount");
225     groupsDisplay = document.getElementById("groupsDisplay");
226     dealBtn = document.getElementById("dealBtn");
227     statusMessage = document.getElementById("statusMessage");
228     totalInput = document.getElementById("dealTotalInput");
229     groupsInput = document.getElementById("dealGroupsInput");
230
231     // Now that functions are defined, attach to window if needed by HTML onclick
232     // Alternatively, add event listeners here instead of using onclick in HTML
233     window.setupSimulation = setupSimulation;
234     window.dealOneItem = dealOneItem;
235
236
237     // Initialize the display on page load
238     setupSimulation();
239
240     }); // <<< --- THIS was the likely extra '}' or missing scope boundary ---
241
242 </script>
243
244 </div> <!-- End Container -->
245 </body>
246 </html>

```

References

- Carpenter, T. P., Fennema, E., Franke, M. L., Levi, L., & Empson, S. B. (1999). Children's mathematics: Cognitively guided instruction – videotape logs [supplementary material]. In *Children's mathematics: Cognitively guided instruction*. Heinemann, in association with The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Inc.
- Hackenberg, A. (2025). *Course notes* [Unpublished course notes].

Strategic Multiplicative Reasoning: Division - Inverse of Distributive Reasoning

Compiled by: Theodore M. Savich

March 31, 2025

Transcript

Strategy descriptions and examples adapted from Hackenberg (2025).

- **Teacher:** A man purchases a 56-inch party sub. Each guest at the party receives 8 inches of sub. How many guests can he feed?
- **Student:** I got 7 subs.
- **Teacher:** How did you get 7?
- **Student:** Well I broke 56 inches into 40 inches and 16 inches. I knew that you could make 5 subs with 40 inches, and 2 subs with 16 inches, which would give me a total of 7 subs.

To work on this strategy, it is helpful to list out “easily known multiples” of the known number of items in a group. Then you can use this to build up to the multiple that you don’t know.

For example, the student likely knew the following:

two 8s = 16

five 8s = 40

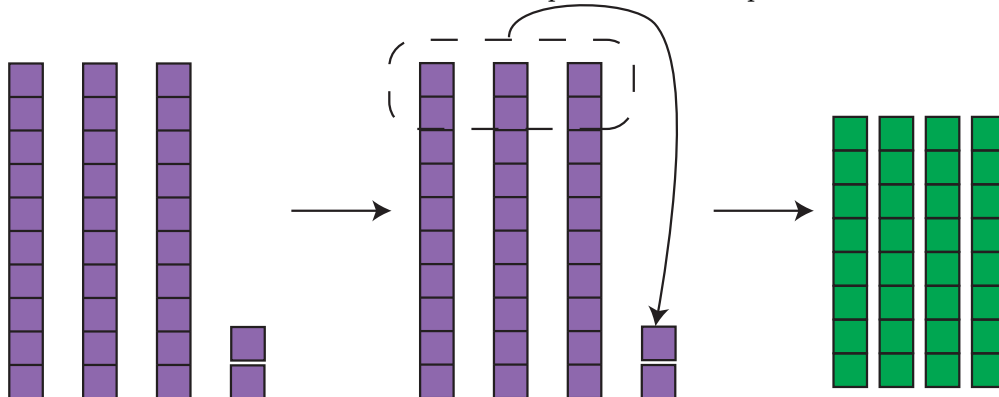
He might have also known other 8s, like:

three 8s = 24

eight 8s = 64

ten 8s = 80

But then he used the two 8s and five 8s to help him solve his problem.



$$\begin{aligned}
56 &= ? \times 8 \\
56 &= 40 + 16 \\
&= \text{five } 8\text{s} + \text{two } 8\text{s} \\
&= 5 \times 8 + 2 \times 8 \\
&= 8(5 + 2) \\
&= 8 \times 7
\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So, } 56 \div 8 = 7$$

Break the total number of items into multiples that are easier to work with. In other words, view the total as an unknown multiple of a given group size, then express it in terms of familiar or easily calculated multiples. This method essentially involves working backwards, highlighting the fact that division is the inverse of multiplication.

Inverse of the Distributive Property

Strategy Overview

The **Inverse of the Distributive Property** involves reversing the distributive property used in multiplication to aid in solving division problems. This strategy breaks down the total number of items into known multiples, facilitating easier division by calculating the quotient based on these decompositions.

Automaton Design

We design a **Transducing Automaton** (modeled here as a Pushdown Automaton with transduction capabilities) that applies the inverse distributive property by:

- Decomposing the total into known multiples M .
- Calculating the quotient Q by counting the number of times M fits into the total.

Components of the Automaton

- **States:**
 1. q_{start} : Start state.
 2. $q_{\text{Decompose}}$: Decomposes the total into known multiples.
 3. $q_{\text{calculate}}$: Calculates the quotient by counting multiples.
 4. q_{output} : Outputs the calculated quotient.
- **Input Alphabet:** $\Sigma = \{M\}$, where M represents a known multiple.
- **Stack Alphabet:** $\Gamma = \{\#, Q, M_n\}$:
 - $\#$ is the bottom-of-stack marker.
 - Q represents the quotient.
 - M_n represents an instance of the multiple M decomposed.
- **Initial Stack Symbol:** $\#$

Automaton Behavior

1. Initialization:

- Start in q_{start} ; push $\#$ onto the stack.
- Transition to $q_{\text{decompose}}$ to begin decomposition.

2. Decomposing Total:

- In $q_{\text{decompose}}$, for each known multiple M that fits into the remaining total, push M onto the stack.
- Repeat until the total is fully decomposed.
- Then transition to $q_{\text{calculate}}$.

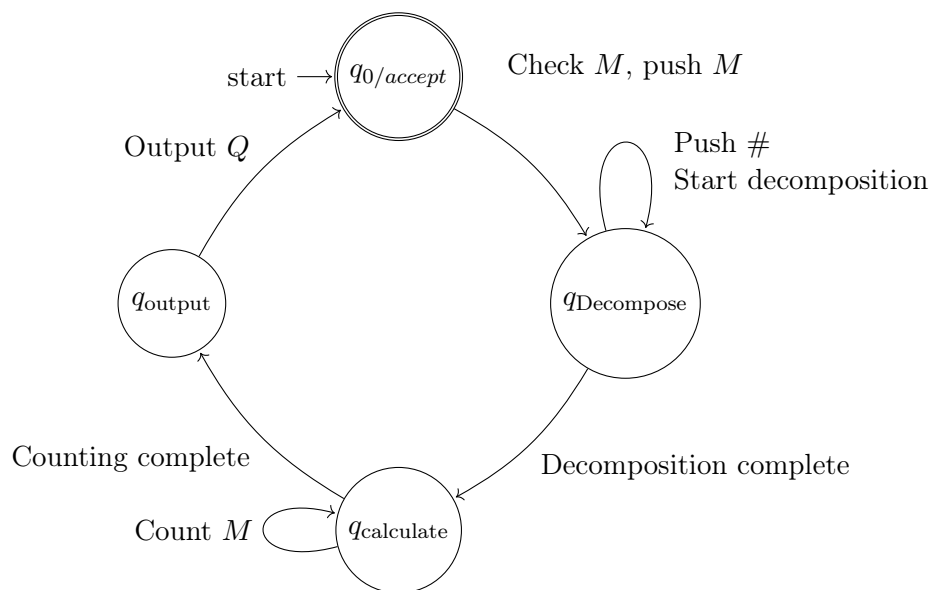
3. Calculating Quotient:

- In $q_{\text{calculate}}$, count the number of M symbols on the stack.
- Push the count as Q onto the stack.
- Transition to q_{output} .

4. Outputting the Result:

- In q_{output} , read Q from the stack and output it as the quotient.

Circular Automaton Diagram



Example Execution

Problem: Divide 56 items by groups of 8 using the inverse distributive property.

1. Start:

- Stack: $\#$

2. Decompose:

- 56 can be decomposed as 8×7 .
- Push 7 multiples of 8 onto the stack.

3. Calculate Quotient:

- Count the 7 occurrences of M .
- Push $Q = 7$ onto the stack.

4. Output:

- The automaton outputs 7, meaning 7 groups of 8.

Recursive Handling of Decomposition

The automaton recursively checks for the largest multiple M that fits into the remaining total, ensuring an efficient decomposition and accurate quotient calculation.

HTML Implementation

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html>
3 <head>
4   <title>Division: Inverse of Distributive Property</title>
5   <style>
6     body { font-family: sans-serif; }
7     #invDistDiagram { border: 1px solid #d3d3d3; width: 100%; }
8     #outputContainer { margin-top: 20px; }
9     .diagram-label { font-size: 14px; display: block; margin-bottom: 5px; font-weight:
10      bold;}
11     .notation-line { margin: 0.2em 0; margin-left: 1em; font-family: monospace;}
12     .notation-line.problem { font-weight: bold; margin-left: 0;}
13     .notation-step { margin-bottom: 0.5em; }
14     /* SVG Styles */
15     .total-bar { fill: lightblue; stroke: black; stroke-width: 1; }
16     .multiple-segment { stroke: black; stroke-width: 1; }
17     .segment-label { font-size: 12px; text-anchor: middle; }
18     .factor-label { font-size: 10px; text-anchor: middle; fill: #555; }
19     .remainder-segment { fill: lightcoral; stroke: black; stroke-width: 1; }
20     .quotient-calc { font-size: 14px; font-weight: bold; }
21   </style>
22 </head>
23 <body>
24   <h1>Strategic Multiplicative Reasoning: Division - Inverse of Distributive Property</h1>
25
26   <div>
27     <label for="invDistTotal">Total (Dividend):</label>
28     <input type="number" id="invDistTotal" value="56" min="1"> <!-- Example -->
29   </div>
30   <div>
31     <label for="invDistGroupSize">Group Size (Divisor):</label>
```

```

32     <input type="number" id="invDistGroupSize" value="8" min="1"> <!-- Example -->
33 </div>
34
35 <button onclick="runInvDistAutomaton()">Calculate and Visualize</button>
36
37 <div id="outputContainer">
38     <h2>Explanation (Notation):</h2>
39     <div id="invDistOutput">
40         <!-- Text output will be displayed here -->
41     </div>
42 </div>
43
44 <h2>Diagram:</h2>
45 <svg id="invDistDiagram" preserveAspectRatio="xMinYMin_meet" viewBox="0_0_700_300"></svg>
46     <!-- Viewbox for scaling -->
47
48 <script>
49     // --- Helper SVG Functions ---
50     function createText(svg, x, y, textContent, className = 'diagram-label', anchor = '
51         start') {
52         const text = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'text');
53         text.setAttribute('x', x); text.setAttribute('y', y);
54         text.setAttribute('class', className);
55         text.setAttribute('text-anchor', anchor);
56         text.textContent = textContent;
57         svg.appendChild(text);
58     }
59
60     function drawRect(svg, x, y, width, height, fill, className = '') {
61         const rect = document.createElementNS("http://www.w3.org/2000/svg", 'rect');
62         rect.setAttribute('x', x); rect.setAttribute('y', y);
63         rect.setAttribute('width', Math.max(0, width)); // Ensure width is not negative
64         rect.setAttribute('height', height);
65         rect.setAttribute('fill', fill);
66         rect.setAttribute('class', className);
67         svg.appendChild(rect);
68     }
69
70     // --- End Helper Functions ---
71
72     // --- Main Inverse Distributive Automaton Function ---
73     document.addEventListener('DOMContentLoaded', function() {
74         const outputElement = document.getElementById('invDistOutput');
75         const totalInput = document.getElementById('invDistTotal');
76         const groupSizeInput = document.getElementById('invDistGroupSize');
77         const diagramSVG = document.getElementById('invDistDiagram');
78
79         if (!outputElement || !totalInput || !groupSizeInput || !diagramSVG) {
80             console.error("Required HTML elements not found!");
81             return;
82         }
83
84         window.runInvDistAutomaton = function() {

```

```

84     try {
85         const total = parseInt(totalInput.value);
86         const divisor = parseInt(groupSizeInput.value);
87
88         if (isNaN(total) || isNaN(divisor) || total <= 0 || divisor <= 0) {
89             outputElement.textContent = "Please_enter_valid_positive_numbers";
90             diagramSVG.innerHTML = ''; return;
91         }
92
93         let output = '<h2>Inverse of Distributive Property</h2>\n\n';
94         output += '<p class="notation-line_problem">${total}  ${divisor} = ?</p>\n
95             '
96
97         // --- Decomposition Logic ---
98         // Define "known" factors (could be dynamic later)
99         const knownFactors = [10, 5, 2, 1]; // Prioritize larger factors
100        let remainingTotal = total;
101        let decomposition = []; // Stores { multiple: M, factor: k }
102        let quotientFactors = []; // Stores k values
103
104        output += '<p class="notation-line">Decompose ${total} into known multiples
105            of ${divisor}:</p>\n';
106
107        while (remainingTotal >= divisor) {
108            let foundMultiple = false;
109            for (const factor of knownFactors) {
110                let multiple = divisor * factor;
111                if (multiple > 0 && multiple <= remainingTotal) {
112                    decomposition.push({ multiple: multiple, factor: factor });
113                    quotientFactors.push(factor);
114                    remainingTotal -= multiple;
115                    output += '<p class="notation-line_indent-1">- Found ${multiple
116                        } (${factor}  ${divisor}). Remainder: ${remainingTotal}</p>
117                        >\n';
118                    foundMultiple = true;
119                    break; // Move to next iteration with reduced remainingTotal
120                }
121            }
122
123            // Safety break if no known multiple fits but remainder >= divisor
124            if (!foundMultiple) {
125                // This might happen if divisor itself is the only option left
126                if (divisor <= remainingTotal) {
127                    let factor = 1;
128                    let multiple = divisor;
129                    decomposition.push({ multiple: multiple, factor: factor });
130                    quotientFactors.push(factor);
131                    remainingTotal -= multiple;
132                    output += '<p class="notation-line_indent-1">- Found ${
133                        multiple} (${factor}  ${divisor}). Remainder: ${
134                            remainingTotal}</p>\n';
135                } else {
136                    console.warn("Could_not_decompose_further,_remainder:",
137                        remainingTotal);
138                    break; // Exit loop
139                }
140            }
141        }
142    }

```



```

131     }
132   }
133 }
134
135 const quotient = quotientFactors.reduce((sum, factor) => sum + factor, 0);
136 const remainder = remainingTotal;
137
138 output += '<br><p class="notation-line">Sum the factors of the multiples
139           :</p>\n';
140 output += '<p class="notation-line_indent-1">${quotientFactors.join(' + ')}
141           } = ${quotient}</p>\n';
142 output += '<br><p class="notation-line_problem">Result: ${quotient}${
143           remainder > 0 ? ' Remainder ${remainder}' : ''></p>';
144
145 outputElement.innerHTML = output;
146 typesetMath();
147
148 // --- Draw Diagram ---
149 drawInverseDistributiveDiagram('invDistDiagram', total, divisor,
150                               decomposition, quotient, remainder);
151
152 } catch (error) {
153   console.error("Error_in_runInvDistAutomaton:", error);
154   outputElement.textContent = 'Error: ${error.message}';
155 }
156
157 };
158
159 function drawInverseDistributiveDiagram(svgId, total, divisor, decomposition,
160 quotient, remainder) {
161   const svg = document.getElementById(svgId);
162   if (!svg) return;
163   svg.innerHTML = '';
164
165   const svgWidth = 700; // Use fixed width from viewBox
166   const svgHeight = 300; // Use fixed height from viewBox
167   const startX = 30;
168   const endX = svgWidth - 30;
169   const totalBarY = 50;
170   const totalBarHeight = 30;
171   const decompBarY = totalBarY + totalBarHeight + 40;
172   const decompBarHeight = 30;
173   const labelOffsetY = -10; // Above bars
174   const factorLabelOffsetY = 15; // Below decomp bars
175
176   // --- Scaling ---
177   const availableWidth = endX - startX;
178   const scale = availableWidth / total; // Scale based on total value
179
180   // --- Draw Total Bar ---
181   createText(svg, startX, totalBarY + labelOffsetY, 'Total: ${total}', 'diagram
182     -label');
183   drawRect(svg, startX, totalBarY, total * scale, totalBarHeight, 'lightblue',
184     'total-bar');

```

```

178 // --- Draw Decomposition Segments ---
179 createText(svg, startX, decompBarY + labelOffsetY, 'Decomposition into
180 Multiples of ${divisor}');
181 let currentX = startX;
182 decomposition.forEach(part => {
183   const segmentWidth = part.multiple * scale;
184   drawRect(svg, currentX, decompBarY, segmentWidth, decompBarHeight, 'hsl(${
185     part.factor * 25}, 70%, 70%)', 'multiple-segment'); // Vary color by
186     factor
187   // Label with the multiple value
188   createText(svg, currentX + segmentWidth / 2, decompBarY + decompBarHeight
189     / 2 + 5, `${part.multiple}`, 'segment-label', 'middle');
190   // Label with the multiplication fact
191   createText(svg, currentX + segmentWidth / 2, decompBarY + decompBarHeight
192     + factorLabelOffsetY, `(${part.factor} ${divisor})`, 'factor-label',
193     'middle');
194   currentX += segmentWidth;
195 });
196
197 // --- Draw Remainder Segment ---
198 if (remainder > 0) {
199   const segmentWidth = remainder * scale;
200   drawRect(svg, currentX, decompBarY, segmentWidth, decompBarHeight, '
201     lightcoral', 'remainder-segment');
202   createText(svg, currentX + segmentWidth / 2, decompBarY + decompBarHeight
203     / 2 + 5, `${remainder}`, 'segment-label', 'middle');
204   createText(svg, currentX + segmentWidth / 2, decompBarY + decompBarHeight
205     + factorLabelOffsetY, '(Rem)', 'factor-label', 'middle');
206   currentX += segmentWidth;
207 }
208
209 // --- Display Quotient Calculation ---
210 let quotientY = decompBarY + decompBarHeight + factorLabelOffsetY + 40;
211 createText(svg, startX, quotientY, 'Quotient = ${decomposition.map(p => p.
212   factor).join(' + ')} = ${quotient}', 'quotient-calc');
213
214 // --- Adjust ViewBox ---
215 // No need to adjust height dynamically for this layout if 300 is enough
216 // svg.setAttribute('viewBox', '0 0 ${svgWidth} ${svgHeight}');
217
218 }
219
220 function typesetMath() { /* Placeholder */ }
221
222 // Initialize on page load
223 runInvDistAutomaton();
224
225 }); // End DOMContentLoaded
226 </script>
227
228 </body>
229 </html>

```

References

Hackenberg, A. (2025). *Course notes* [Unpublished course notes].

Division Strategies - Strategic Trials

Compiled by: Theodore M. Savich

March 31, 2025

This is a sharing division strategy. With sharing division problems, the number of items in each group is unknown, while the number of groups and the total number of items are both known.

$$\boxed{\text{Number of groups}} \times \boxed{\text{Unknown Number of items in each group}} = \boxed{\text{Total number of items}}$$

Transcript

Video from Carpenter et al. (1999). Strategy descriptions and examples adapted from Hackenberg (2025).

- **Teacher:** Mrs. Carpenter made 56 cupcakes for a birthday party. She has eight boxes to carry the cupcakes to his party. How many cupcakes should she put in each box if she wants to put the same number of cupcakes in each box?
- **Student:** [inaudible] Put seven in. Seven.
- **Teacher:** I can tell just tell you did that. Thank you very much, Victoria.

This strategy is more sophisticated than Dealing by Ones because it involves selecting an initial, reasonable group size, testing it, and then logically refining that choice as needed.

Description of Strategic Trials:

Begin with an initial trial number for the items per group. **Utilize a multiplication strategy** to calculate the total number of items and verify it against the given total. Adjust your trial number upward or downward as necessary, and recalculate until you arrive at the correct result.

Notation and Visual Representations for Strategic Trials: Use clear notation and diagrams to illustrate the equal groups multiplication strategy you have chosen.

For example, second-grade student Victoria was tasked with determining how many cupcakes should be placed in each of 8 boxes, given a total of 56 cupcakes. She initially assumed 8 cupcakes per box and employed a doubling method to compute the total:

$$8 + 8 = 16$$

$$16 + 16 = 32$$

$$32 + 32 = 64$$

Seeing that 64 exceeded the given total, she then tried 6 cupcakes per box:

$$6 + 6 = 12$$

$$12 + 12 = 24$$

$$24 + 24 = 48$$

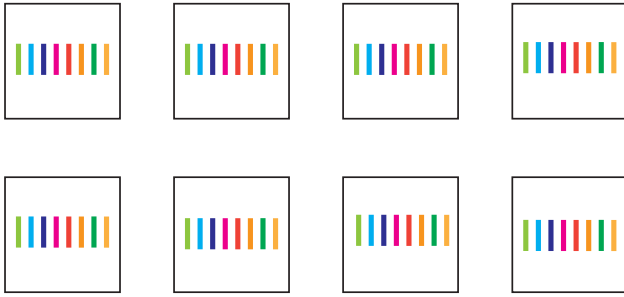
Realizing 48 was too low, Victoria understood she was estimating the number of cupcakes per box. After trying 8 (which was too high) and 6 (which was too low), she decided to test 7 cupcakes per box:

$$7 + 7 = 14$$

$$14 + 14 = 28$$

$$28 + 28 = 56 \quad (\text{using her addition strategy})$$

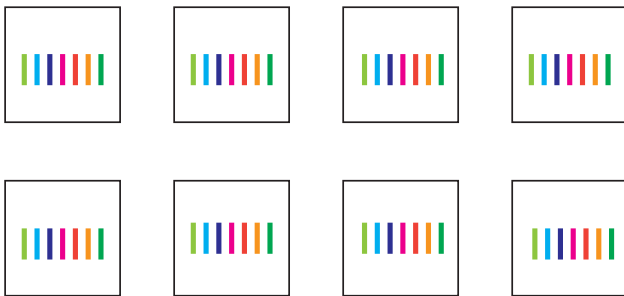
Eight 8s = 64



Eight 6s = 48



Eight 7s = 56



She concluded that each box should contain 7 cupcakes. In class, we highlighted that her method was not merely “trial and error,” but a thoughtful process of strategic adjustment. When the initial guess was too high, she adjusted downward, and when it was too low, she adjusted upward. This iterative process is a hallmark of strategic trials.

Strategic Trials

Strategy Overview

Strategic Trials involves testing different grouping configurations to find the correct division outcome. This strategy is iterative and relies on trial-and-error to determine the appropriate number of groups or the group size required for division.

Automaton Design

We design a **Pushdown Automaton (PDA)** that systematically:

1. Attempts a trial grouping by pushing a trial marker T and assigning a set of elements.
2. Checks whether the trial group meets the required size.
3. Adjusts the trial group if the size is incorrect.
4. Upon a correct trial, confirms the group by pushing a group identifier G and then outputs the final grouping.

Automaton Tuple

The PDA is defined as the 7-tuple

$$M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_{0/accept}, \#, F)$$

where:

- $Q = \{q_{0/accept}, q_{trial}, q_{check}, q_{adjust}, q_{output}\}$ is the set of states. (Here, $q_{0/accept}$ serves as both the start and the accepting state.)
- $\Sigma = \{E\}$ is the input alphabet (with E representing an element).
- $\Gamma = \{\#, T, G\}$ is the stack alphabet:
 - $\#$ is the bottom-of-stack marker.
 - T represents a trial grouping.
 - G represents a confirmed group.
- $q_{0/accept}$ is the start (and accept) state.
- $\#$ is the initial stack symbol.
- $F = \{q_{0/accept}\}$ is the set of accepting states.

State Transition Table

Current State	Input Symbol	Stack Top	Next State	Stack Operation	Description
$q_{0/accept}$	ε	—	q_{trial}	Push $\#$	Initialize
q_{trial}	ε	any	q_{check}	Push T ; assign a trial group	Attempt trial
q_{check}	ε	any	q_{output}	(If trial correct: push G)	Trial correct
q_{check}	ε	any	q_{adjust}	—	Trial incorrect
q_{adjust}	ε	any	q_{trial}	Adjust trial	Modify trial group
q_{output}	ε	any	$q_{0/accept}$	Count G 's	Output final grouping

Automaton Behavior

1. Initialization:

- Start in $q_{0/accept}$, push $\#$ onto the stack.
- Transition to q_{trial} to begin the trial process.

2. Attempting a Trial:

- In q_{trial} , push T to represent a trial group and assign a set of elements to it.
- Transition to q_{check} .

3. Checking the Trial:

- In q_{check} , evaluate if the trial group meets the required size.
- If the trial is correct, push a confirmed group G and transition to q_{output} .
- If the trial is incorrect, transition to q_{adjust} .

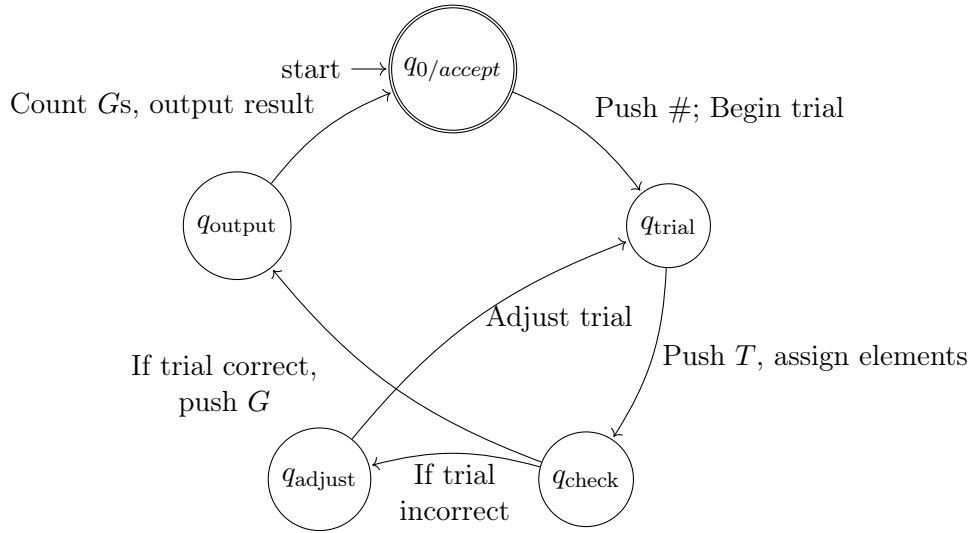
4. Adjusting the Trial:

- In q_{adjust} , modify the trial group size (by adding or removing elements).
- Return to q_{trial} to try again.

5. Outputting the Result:

- In q_{output} , count the number of confirmed groups (G symbols) on the stack.
- Output the final grouping and transition back to q_0/accept (the merged start/accept state).

Circular PDA Diagram



Example Execution

Problem: Divide 24 items into groups of 8 using strategic trials.

1. Start:

- The initial stack contains: # followed by 24 E symbols.

2. Trial 1:

- In q_{trial} , a trial group of 7 elements is attempted (push T , assign 7 E symbols).
- In q_{check} , the trial is evaluated: $7 \neq 8$, so transition to q_{adjust} .

3. Adjust Trial:

- In q_{adjust} , the trial is modified (e.g., increase group size to 8).
- Return to q_{trial} for a new attempt.

4. Trial 2:

- In q_{trial} , attempt a trial group of 8 elements.
- In q_{check} , the trial is correct ($8 = 8$); a confirmed group G is pushed.

5. Repeat:

- Continue trials until all 24 items are grouped.
- Final output: 3 groups of 8.

Iterative Handling of Trials

The PDA iteratively attempts different group sizes, adjusting the trial configuration as needed based on feedback from the check phase. This iterative process continues until the correct grouping is achieved, ensuring an accurate division.

HTML Implementation

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html>
3 <head>
4   <title>Division: Strategic Trials</title>
5   <style>
6     body { font-family: sans-serif; }
7     .container { max-width: 800px; margin: 10px auto; padding: 10px;}
8     .control-section, .trials-section, .result-section {
9       margin-bottom: 20px; padding: 10px; border: 1px solid #eee;
10      background-color: #f9f9f9; border-radius: 5px;
11    }
12    label { margin-right: 5px;}
13    input[type=number] { width: 60px; margin-right: 15px;}
14    button { padding: 5px 10px; font-size: 1em; margin-right: 5px; }
15    #statusMessage { color: #e65c00; font-weight: bold; margin-left: 15px;}
16
17    .trial-visualization {
18      margin-top: 15px;
19      padding-top: 10px;
20      border-top: 1px dashed #ccc;
21    }
22    .group-container { /* Container for all groups in a trial */
23      display: flex;
24      flex-wrap: wrap; /* Allow groups to wrap */
25      gap: 10px; /* Space between groups */
26      margin-bottom: 5px;
27    }
28    .group-box {
29      display: inline-block; /* Display groups inline */
30      border: 1px solid #999;
31      padding: 4px;
32      background-color: #e8f4ff;
33      min-width: 40px; /* Minimum width */
34      text-align: center; /* Center items */
35    }
36    .group-box-label { font-size: 0.8em; color: #555; margin-bottom: 3px; display:
37      block;}
38    .item-block {
39      display: inline-block; /* Items side-by-side */
40      width: 8px; height: 8px; margin: 1px; /* Smaller items */
41      background-color: #6495ED; /* Cornflower blue */
42      border: 1px solid #444;
43    }
44    .trial-summary { font-weight: bold; margin-top: 5px; }
45    .trial-correct { color: darkgreen; }
46    .trial-incorrect { color: darkred; }
47    #finalResultValue { font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: darkgreen; }
48  </style>
49 </head>
50 <body>
51 <div class="container">
```

```

52 <h1>Division Strategies - Strategic Trials</h1>
53
54 <div class="control-section">
55   <label for="stratTotalInput">Total Items:</label>
56   <input type="number" id="stratTotalInput" value="56" min="1"> <!-- Example -->
57   <label for="stratGroupsInput">Number of Groups:</label>
58   <input type="number" id="stratGroupsInput" value="8" min="1"> <!-- Example -->
59   <button onclick="setupTrialSimulation()">Set Up / Reset</button>
60   <button onclick="performNextTrial()" id="trialBtn" disabled>Perform Next Trial</button>
61   <span id="statusMessage"></span>
62 </div>
63
64 <div class="trials-section">
65   <strong>Trials:</strong>
66   <div id="trialsDisplay">
67     <!-- Trial visualizations will be added here -->
68   </div>
69 </div>
70
71 <div class="result-section">
72   <strong>Result (Items per group):</strong> <span id="finalResultValue">?</span>
73 </div>
74
75
76 <script>
77   // --- Simulation State Variables ---
78   let totalItems = 0;
79   let numGroups = 0;
80   let currentTrialSize = -1; // -1 indicates simulation not started or needs initial
      guess
81   let attempts = []; // Stores history: { trialSize: number, trialResult: number,
      outcome: string }
82   let finalGroupSize = null; // The correct answer when found
83   let isTrialComplete = true;
84
85   // --- DOM Element References ---
86   const totalInput = document.getElementById("stratTotalInput");
87   const groupsInput = document.getElementById("stratGroupsInput");
88   const finalResultValueSpan = document.getElementById("finalResultValue");
89   const trialsDisplay = document.getElementById("trialsDisplay");
90   const trialBtn = document.getElementById("trialBtn");
91   const statusMessage = document.getElementById("statusMessage");
92
93   // --- Simulation Functions ---
94   function setupTrialSimulation() {
95     totalItems = parseInt(totalInput.value);
96     numGroups = parseInt(groupsInput.value);
97
98     if (isNaN(totalItems) || isNaN(numGroups) || numGroups <= 0 || totalItems < 0)
99       {
100         statusMessage.textContent = "Please enter valid positive numbers (Groups > 0).";
101         trialBtn.disabled = true;

```

```

101         isTrialComplete = true;
102         finalResultValueSpan.textContent = "?";
103         trialsDisplay.innerHTML = ""; // Clear previous trials
104         return;
105     }
106
107     // Make the first guess intentionally off (e.g., +/- 1 or 2 from rough
108     // estimate)
109     let roughEstimate = Math.max(1, Math.round(totalItems / numGroups)); // Ensure
110     // guess is at least 1
111     let randomOffset = Math.random() < 0.5 ? (roughEstimate > 1 ? -1 : 1) : 1; //
112     // Offset by +/- 1
113     currentTrialSize = roughEstimate + randomOffset;
114     // Ensure guess isn't accidentally correct if estimate was close
115     if (currentTrialSize * numGroups === totalItems && currentTrialSize > 1) {
116         currentTrialSize--; // Adjust if first guess happens to be right
117     }
118     if (currentTrialSize <= 0) currentTrialSize = 1; // Ensure guess is at least
119     // 1
120
121     attempts = []; // Clear history
122     finalGroupSize = null;
123     isTrialComplete = false;
124
125     statusMessage.textContent = 'Ready. Initial trial guess: ${currentTrialSize}
126     items per group.';
127     finalResultValueSpan.textContent = "?";
128     trialsDisplay.innerHTML = ""; // Clear previous trials visually
129     trialBtn.disabled = false;
130 }
131
132 function performNextTrial() {
133     if (isTrialComplete) {
134         statusMessage.textContent = "Found correct group size! Press Reset to start
135         again.";
136         trialBtn.disabled = true;
137         return;
138     }
139
140     statusMessage.textContent = 'Trying ${currentTrialSize} items per group...';
141
142     // 1. Multiply to get trial total
143     const trialResult = currentTrialSize * numGroups;
144
145     // 2. Check against actual total
146     let outcome = "";
147     let outcomeClass = "";
148     if (trialResult === totalItems) {
149         outcome = "Correct!";
150         outcomeClass = "trial-correct";
151         finalGroupSize = currentTrialSize;
152         isTrialComplete = true;
153         trialBtn.disabled = true; // Disable button once correct

```

```

149         statusMessage.textContent = 'Found correct group size: ${finalGroupSize
            }!';
150         finalResultValueSpan.textContent = finalGroupSize;
151     } else if (trialResult < totalItems) {
152         outcome = 'Too Low (${trialResult} < ${totalItems})';
153         outcomeClass = "trial-incorrect";
154     } else { // trialResult > totalItems
155         outcome = 'Too High (${trialResult} > ${totalItems})';
156         outcomeClass = "trial-incorrect";
157     }
158
159     // 3. Store attempt
160     attempts.push({
161         trialSize: currentTrialSize,
162         trialResult: trialResult,
163         outcome: outcome,
164         outcomeClass: outcomeClass
165     });
166
167     // 4. Draw this attempt
168     drawTrialVisualization(currentTrialSize, numGroups, trialResult, outcome,
        outcomeClass);
169
170
171     // 5. Adjust for next trial (if not correct)
172     if (!isTrialComplete) {
173         if (trialResult < totalItems) {
174             // Increase guess (could be smarter, e.g., based on how far off)
175             currentTrialSize++;
176         } else {
177             // Decrease guess
178             currentTrialSize--;
179             if (currentTrialSize <= 0) currentTrialSize = 1; // Don't guess 0 or
                negative
180         }
181         statusMessage.textContent += ' Adjusting guess to ${currentTrialSize}.';
182     }
183 }
184
185 function drawTrialVisualization(trialSize, groups, result, outcome, outcomeClass)
    {
186     const trialDiv = document.createElement('div');
187     trialDiv.className = 'trial-visualization';
188
189     const groupContainer = document.createElement('div');
190     groupContainer.className = 'group-container';
191
192     for (let g = 0; g < groups; g++) {
193         const groupBox = document.createElement("div");
194         groupBox.className = "group-box";
195         // groupBox.innerHTML = '<span class="group-box-label">Group ${g + 1}</span
            >'; // Optional label
196
197         // Arrange items within the box (e.g., simple horizontal flow)

```

```

198     let itemsHtml = '';
199     let itemsPerRow = Math.max(5, Math.ceil(Math.sqrt(trialSize))); // Simple
    layout heuristic
200     for(let i = 0; i < trialSize; i++) {
201         itemsHtml += '<span class="item-block"></span>';
202         if ((i + 1) % itemsPerRow === 0) itemsHtml += '<br>'; // Add line
    break
203     }
204     groupBox.innerHTML += itemsHtml;
205     groupContainer.appendChild(groupBox);
206 }
207 trialDiv.appendChild(groupContainer);
208
209     const summary = document.createElement('div');
210     summary.className = 'trial-summary';
211     summary.innerHTML = `Trial: ${groups} groups  ${trialSize} items/group = ${
    result}. <span class="${outcomeClass}">${outcome}</span>`;
212     trialDiv.appendChild(summary);
213
214
215     trialsDisplay.appendChild(trialDiv);
216     trialsDisplay.scrollTop = trialsDisplay.scrollHeight; // Scroll to bottom
217 }
218
219
220 // --- Helper SVG/Typeset Functions (Not needed for this block viz) ---
221 function typesetMath() { /* Placeholder */ }
222
223 // --- Initialize ---
224 setupTrialSimulation(); // Initialize state on load
225
226
227 </script>
228
229 </div> <!-- End Container -->
230 </body>
231 </html>

```

References

- Carpenter, T. P., Fennema, E., Franke, M. L., Levi, L., & Empson, S. B. (1999). Children's mathematics: Cognitively guided instruction – videotape logs [supplementary material]. In *Children's mathematics: Cognitively guided instruction*. Heinemann, in association with The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Inc.
- Hackenberg, A. (2025). *Course notes* [Unpublished course notes].

Division Strategies - Using Commutative Reasoning

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Strategy descriptions and examples adapted from Hackenberg (2025).

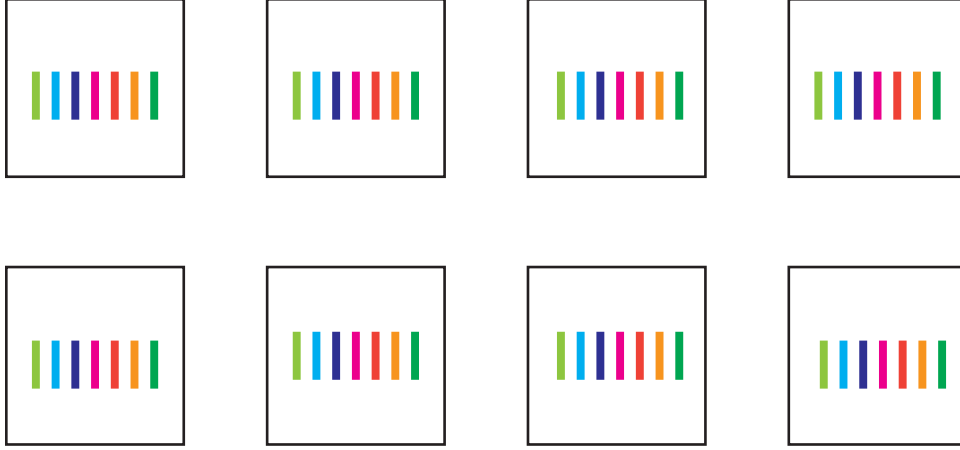
This is a strategy for transforming the context of a sharing division problem (where the number of items in each group is unknown) into one where measurement division strategies can be used. Measurement division strategies are generally easier to use because students can count something.

$$\boxed{\text{Number of groups}} \times \boxed{\text{Unknown Number of items in each group}} = \boxed{\text{Total number of items}}$$

The idea of **Using Commutative Reasoning** is to reframe N — the number of groups — as the act of placing one item into each group simultaneously. So, when you count one N , you're putting one item into every group; counting three N s means each group receives three items. This new interpretation of N enables us to apply measurement division strategies, since our goal becomes finding how many times N fits into the total number of items. This method is incredibly useful—but first, we need to clarify this shift in how we view N ! You might create a chart that illustrates distributing items one round at a time across the groups as you count by N . When you're learning this strategy, using such visual representations can be very beneficial. The problem remains a sharing division problem, but we can now effectively apply measurement division strategies to solve it.

Example: There are 56 cupcakes and 8 boxes. If we are going to put an equal number of cupcakes in each box, how many will go in each box?

The original meaning of 8 in the problem is # of boxes, or # of groups. The meaning Victoria gave to 8 when she wrote down eight 8s (see above) was that 8 meant the # of items in a group. Neither of these meanings for 8 would allow her to count by repeatedly by 8 until she reaches 56, and then to know she has solved the problem. In other words, neither of these meanings for 8 will allow her to count seven 8s as a meaningful solution to the problem. WHY?



Number of cupcakes given out	Number of cupcakes in each box
One 8 = 8	1
Two 8s = 16	2
Three 8s = 24	3
Four 8s = 32	4
Five 8s = 40	5
Six 8s = 48	6
Seven 8s = 56	7

Using Commutative Reasoning

Strategy Overview

Using Commutative Reasoning leverages the commutative property of multiplication to facilitate division. By repackaging the number of groups and the number of items in each group, this strategy simplifies the division process and aligns it with multiplication reasoning.

Automaton as a 7-Tuple

$$M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, \#, F),$$

where:

- $Q = \{q_0, q_{\text{read}}, q_{\text{calculate}}, q_{\text{output}}, q_{\text{accept}}\}$.
- $\Sigma = \{G, E\}$ is the input alphabet (G = group information, E = total items).
- $\Gamma = \{\#, G, E, Q\}$ is the stack alphabet, with $\#$ the bottom marker.
- q_0 is the start state;
- $\#$ is the initial stack symbol.

- $F = \{q_{\text{accept}}\}$ is the set of accepting states.

State Transition Table (Corrected)

Current State	Input Symbol	Stack Top	Next State	Stack Operation	Action / Interpretation
q_0	ε	(empty)	q_{read}	Push $\#$	Initialize stack with $\#$.
q_{read}	G	$\#$	q_{read}	Push G	Read group info.
q_{read}	E	G	$q_{\text{calculate}}$	Push E	Read total elements.
$q_{\text{calculate}}$	ε	E	q_{output}	Pop E , Pop G , Push $Q = E/G$	Perform division $E \div G$.
q_{output}	ε	Q	q_{accept}	Output Q	Show result (quotient).
q_{accept}	ε	$\#$	q_{accept}	No change	Accept.

Automaton Behavior (Step-by-Step)

1. **Initialization:** In state q_0 , push the bottom-of-stack marker $\#$, then move to q_{read} .
2. **Reading the Inputs:**
 - Reading G (e.g. 8): push G onto the stack.
 - Reading E (e.g. 56): push E onto the stack, then move to $q_{\text{calculate}}$.
3. **Calculation:** In $q_{\text{calculate}}$, pop both E and G , compute the quotient $Q = \frac{E}{G}$, and push Q .
4. **Output:** Transition to q_{output} , output Q , then move to q_{accept} to finish.

Corrected Example Execution

Problem: Divide 56 items into 8 groups.

1. **Inputs Read:**

$$G = 8, \quad E = 56.$$

2. **Stored on Stack:** $\#$ at the bottom, then G , then E .

3. **Calculation Step:**

$$Q = \frac{E}{G} = \frac{56}{8} = 7.$$

4. **Output:** The automaton pushes $Q = 7$ and transitions to q_{output} .

No contradictory “ $\frac{8}{56}$ ” arises here, because we never literally swap the roles of G and E . Instead, the “commutative” viewpoint is *conceptual*: we regard “8 groups” as “counting by eights” out of 56, which is the usual measurement-division approach.

HTML Implementation

References

Hackenberg, A. (2025). *Course notes* [Unpublished course notes].