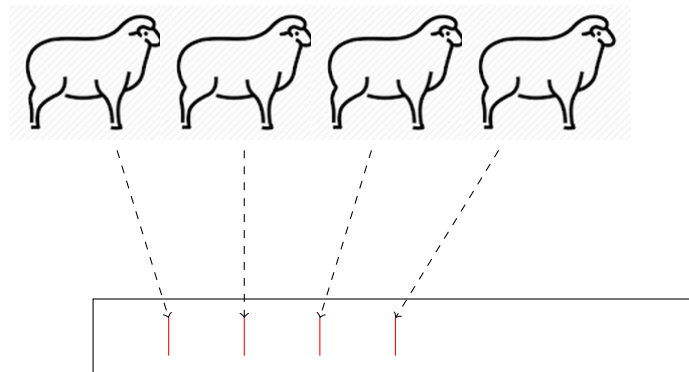


# Counting

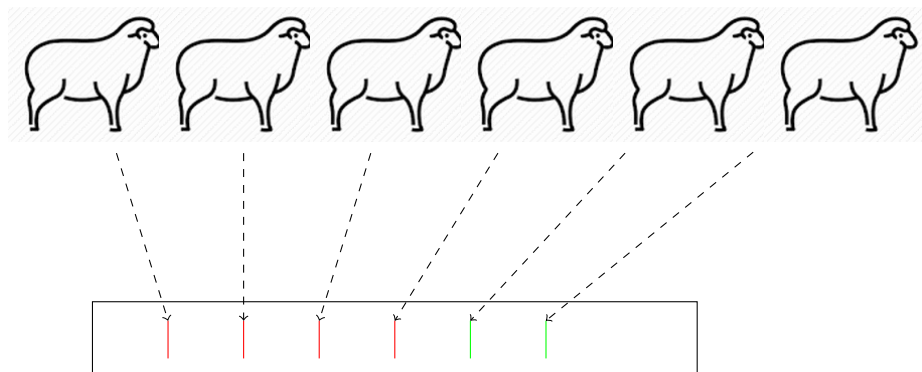
- The archaeological record contains sticks/bones with marks on them, indicating that prehistoric man was counting.



- When counting, each object in the real world is associated with a mark on the tally stick.



- When more objects are added into the group, extra marks are added to the tally stick.



- Thus, the tally stick mirrors reality: operations on the tally stick can be used to describe past and current states and make predictions about future states.
- We use the real number line in the same way, but instead of counting discrete objects we typically measure (seemingly) continuous phenomena (e.g., the height of a falling object, population growth).