

FEBRUARY 2025

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
					8	9
3	4	5	6	7	13	14
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

JANUARY

3rd Week • 013-352

2  
0  
2  
5

13

MONDAY

# 1. The distinction: procedure vs structure

• Ancient mathematicians (Egyptians, Babylonians, Greeks, Indians, Arabs) often worked with procedures tied to particular problems.

• Subtract 7, then subtract 9, then subtract 13. Each subtraction was just a step.

• What Euler (and algebra in general) does is highlight the structural law: subtraction distributes over addition. This shift is a move from calculation to axiomatization.

• So, it's not that they couldn't realize it — they just didn't frame arithmetic as a general symbolic system where such laws had to be spelled out.

IMPORTANT NOTES

I have many problems in my life. But my lips don't know that. They just keep smiling. — Charlie Chaplin