Ross Summer Academy Threading the Mentalities #I:aRithmetic

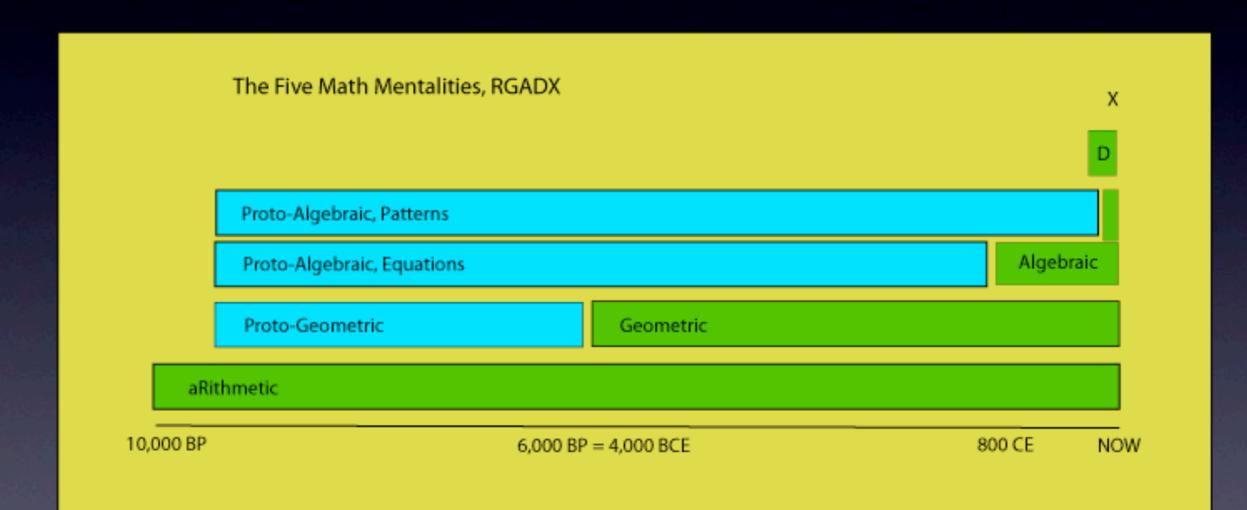
Ralph Abraham University of California at Santa Cruz

Threads

Ross Lexicon:

 A thread is a theme persisting and morphing through all cultures, times, and mentalities.

Histomap



Exemplary Threads

- Five mentalities:
 - R: aRithmetic, from dot
 - G: Geometric, from 3500 BCE (grade 5)
 - A: Algebraic, from 800 CE (grade 8)
 - D: Dynamic, from 1600 (grade 9)
 - X: Chaotic, from 1889 (grade 11)

R threads, all grades

- I. Counting devices
- 2. Number symbols
- 3. Musical arithmetic

I. Counting Devices

• Subitizing:

- Rapid, accurate, and confident judgments of number for small sets.
- E.L. Kauffman, Amer. J. Psych. 1949

Infants Subitize

Prentice Starkey, 1980
Karen Wynn, 1992
Dehaene, p. 49
Butterworth, p. 103
Devlin, p. 32

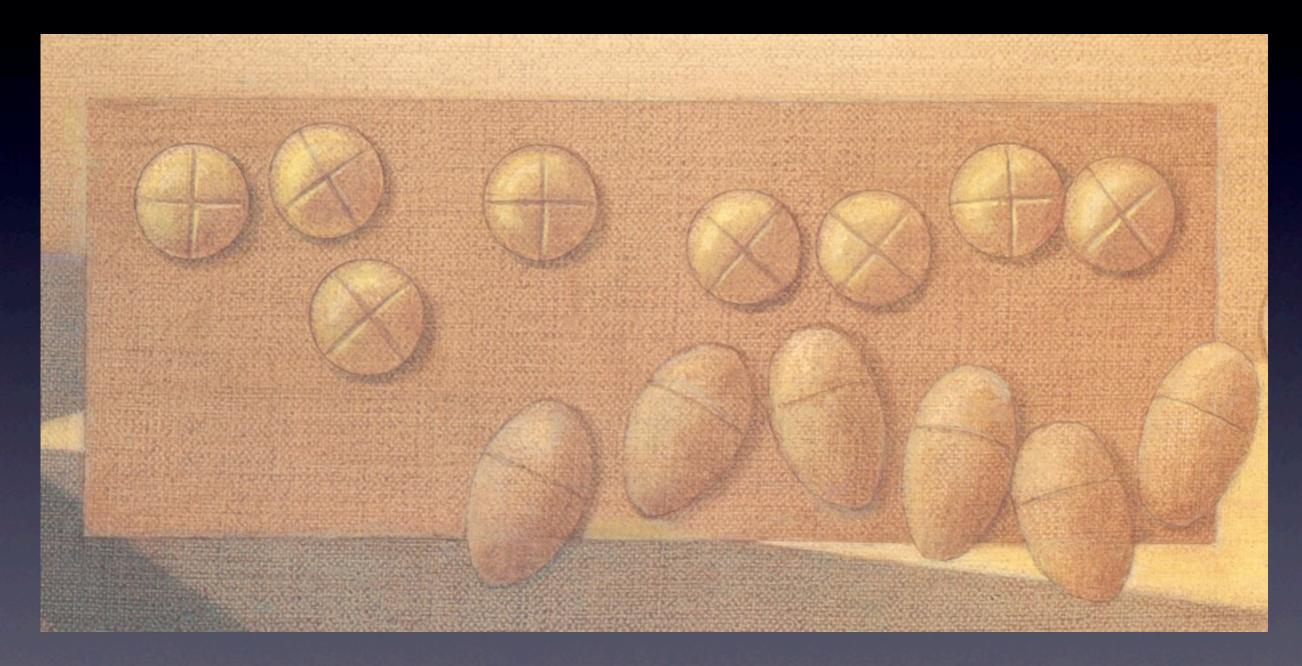
Lunar Tallies

- Blanchard bone, 34,000 BP
- Isturitz bone, 27,000 BP
- Ishango bone, 22,000 BP
- Lascaux cave painting, 20,000 BP

Counting Devices

- Stones (calculi)
- Tokens (clay objects)
- Boards (counters)
- Abaci (suan pan, soroban)

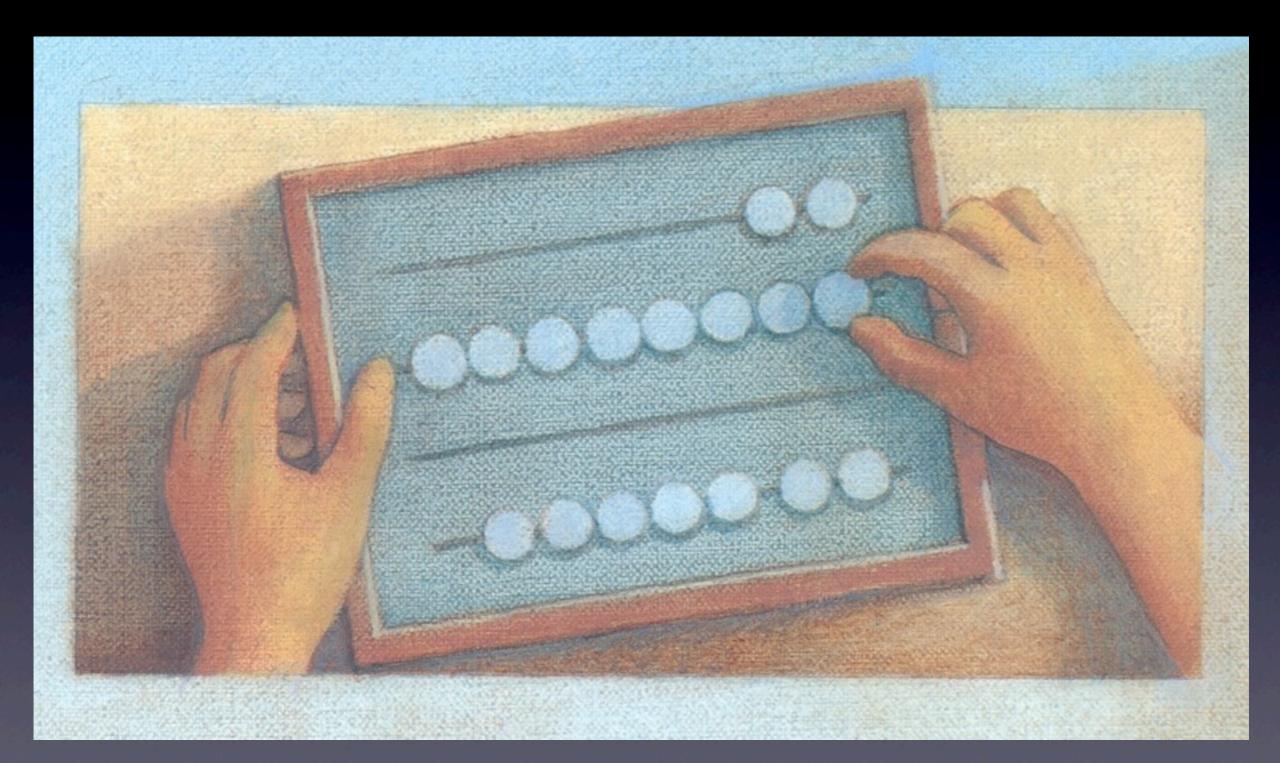
Tokens from Sumer



Schmandt-Besserat, p. 19

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Roman Counter



Schmandt-Besserat, p. 30

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

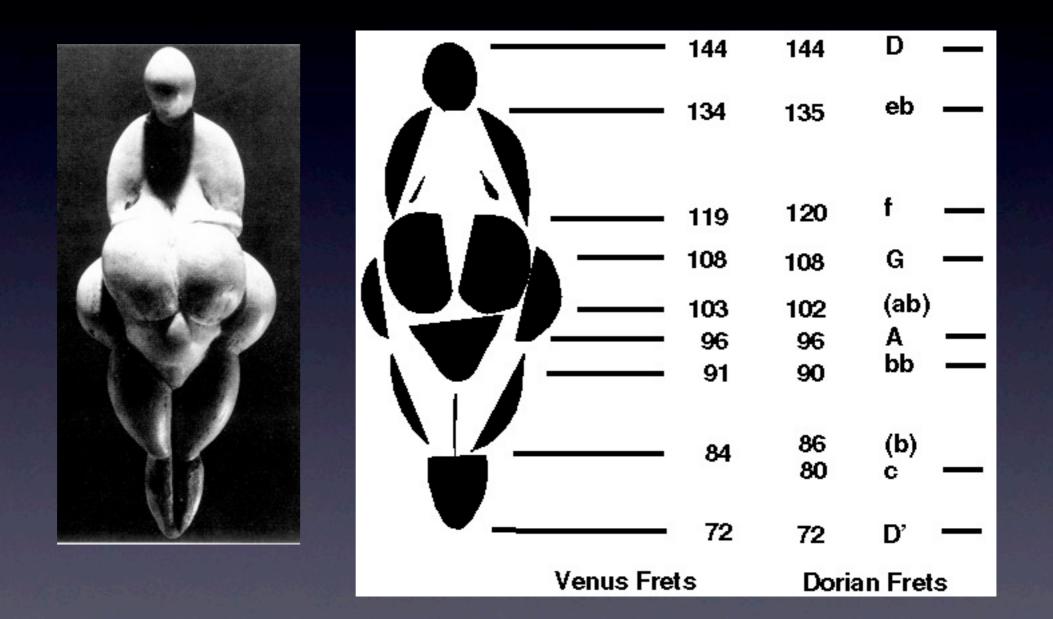
Soroban

Soroban Tutorial 4

2. Number Symbols

	ARABIC						EUROPEAN				
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3. Musical Arithmetic



The Canon of Lespugues

The End

• For more, see:

• www.ralph-abraham.org/ross