# Numbers from Cultures 

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## WESTERN

## CONNECTICUT

STATE UNIVERSITY
MACRICOSTAS
SCHOOL OF ARTS
8 SCIENCES

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## Table of Contents

(1) Egyption
(2) Mesopotamian
(3) Greek
(4) Chinese
(5) Roman
(6) Properties
(7) Mayan
(8) Hindu-Arabic

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(1) Egyption
(2) Mesopotamian
(3) Greek
(4) Chinese
(5) Roman
(6) Properties
(7) Mayan
(8) Hindu-Arabic

## Egyptian $\approx 3000$ B.C.E.

- | = 1


## Egyptian $\approx 3000$ B.C.E.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { - } \mid=1 \\
& \text { - } \cap=10
\end{aligned}
$$

## Egyptian $\approx 3000$ B.C.E.

- | = 1
- $\cap=10$
- $\varsigma=100$


## Egyptian $\approx 3000$ B.C.E.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { - } \mid=1 \\
& \text { • } \cap=10 \\
& \text { - } \rho=100
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
. I=1000
$$

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## Egyptian $\approx 3000$ B.C.E.



## Egyptian $\approx 3000$ B.C.E.



## Egyptian $\approx 3000$ B.C.E.

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\cdot I=1 & \cdot \underline{I}=1000 \\
\cdot \hat{}=10 & \cdot \int=10,000 \\
\cdot \varrho=100 & \cdot \Upsilon=100,000
\end{array}
$$

## Egyptian $\approx 3000$ B.C.E.

So now, what does the following represent and why?

## Egyptian $\approx 3000$ B.C.E.

Would this be any different, why or why not?

## Table of Contents

(1) Egyption
(2) Mesopotamian
(3) Greek

4 Chinese
(3) Roman
(6) Properties
(2) Mayan
(8) Hindu-Arabic

## Mesopotamian $\approx 2000-1600 B . C . E$.

- $T=1$
- $\ddagger=2$
- $T \ddagger=3$
- $\mathfrak{F F = 4}$
- TYF=5


## Mesopotamian $\approx 2000-1600 B . C . E$.

－ $\boldsymbol{T}=1$
－$\ddagger=2$
－ $\mid \ddagger=3$
－$\ddagger \downarrow=4$
－$|\ddagger|=5$
－$\ddagger \ddagger \mid=6$

- 僖＝ 7
- 坶取＝8
- イな伸 $=9$
－$<=10$


## Mesopotamian $\approx 2000-1600$ B.C.E.

- $\quad$ = 1
- 7 Fq $=6$
- $=20$
- $\ddagger=2$
- $|\ddagger| \ddagger=7$
- $\ll=30$
- $\mid \ddagger=3$
- $\ddagger \ddagger \ddagger \ddagger=8$
- $\langle\delta=40$
- $\ddagger \ddagger=4$
- $\backslash \ddagger \mid \ddagger \ddagger=9$
- $\langle\{र=50$
- $|\ddagger|=5$
- $<=10$
- $T=60$
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## Mesopotamian $\approx 2000-1600 B . C . E$.

25 or 64 ?
Why does

$$
\langle\ddagger| Y=25
$$

while

$$
I \ddagger \ddagger=64 ?
$$

Then what should $\ddagger\lceil i<$ equal?

## Mesopotamian $\approx 2000-1600 B . C . E$.

## 2525?

The number 2525 would be written

$$
¿ ¿ \ddagger \ddagger \ddagger=2525
$$

why?

## Table of Contents

(1) Egyption
(2) Mesopotamian
(3) Greek
a Chinese
(5) Roman

- Properties
(7) Mayan
(8) Hindu-Arabic


## Greek $\approx 400 B . C . E$.

- $\alpha=1$ (alpha)
- $\beta$ (beta)
- $\gamma$ (gamma)
- $\delta$ (delta)
- $\in$ (epsilon)
- 5 (digamma)
- く (zeta)
- $\eta$ (eta)
- $\theta=9$ (theta)


## Greek $\approx 400 B . C . E$.

- $\alpha=1$ (alpha)
- $\beta$ (beta)
- $\gamma$ (gamma)
- $\delta$ (delta)
- $\epsilon$ (epsilon)
- $\zeta$ (digamma)
- $\zeta$ (zeta)
- $\eta$ (eta)
- $\theta=9$ (theta)
- $l=10$ (iota)
- K (kappa)
- $\lambda$ (lambda)
- $\mu$ (mu)
- $v(n u)$
- $\xi(x i)$
- o (omicron)
- $\pi$ (pi)
- $Q=90$ (koppa)


## Greek $\approx 400 B . C . E$.

- $\alpha=1$ (alpha)
- $\beta$ (beta)
- $\gamma$ (gamma)
- $\delta$ (delta)
- $\epsilon$ (epsilon)
- $\zeta$ (digamma)
- $\zeta$ (zeta)
- $\eta$ (eta)
- $\theta=9$ (theta)
- $l=10$ (iota)
- K (kappa)
- $\lambda$ (lambda)
- $\mu(m u)$
- $v(n u)$
- $\xi(x i)$
- o (omicron)
- $\pi$ (pi)
- $Q=90$ (koppa)
- $\rho=100$ (rho)
- $\sigma$ (sigma)
- $\tau$ (tau)
- U (upsilon)
- $\phi$ (phi)
- X (chi)
- $\psi(p s i)$
- $\omega$ (omega)
- $\geqslant=900$ (sampi)


## Greek $\approx 400 B . C . E$.

It's Greek to me.
With what you know, what would be the value of

$$
\theta \omega \phi ?
$$

## Greek $\approx 400 B . C . E$.

It's Greek to me.
With what you know, what would be the value of

$$
\theta \omega \phi=9+800+500=1309 .
$$

## Greek $\approx 400 B . C . E$.

It's Greek to me.
With what you know, what would be the value of

$$
\theta \omega \phi=9+800+500=1309
$$

Does order necessarily matter?

## Table of Contents

(1) Egyption
(2) Mesopotamian
(3) Greek
(4) Chinese
(5) Roman
(6) Properties
(C) Mayan
(8) Hindu-Arabic

## Chinese $\approx$ 200B.C.E.

## 1

## Chinese $\approx$ 200B.C.E.



## Chinese $\approx$ 200B.C.E.



## Chinese $\approx$ 200B.C.E.



## Chinese $\approx$ 200B.C.E.



## Chinese $\approx$ 200B.C.E.



## Chinese $\approx$ 200B.C.E.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \begin{array}{lllllll}
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7
\end{array} \\
& \mid\| \|\| \| \quad\| \| \|
\end{aligned}
$$

## Chinese $\approx$ 200B.C.E.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \begin{array}{llllllll}
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8
\end{array}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Chinese $\approx$ 200B.C.E.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \begin{array}{lllllllll}
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9
\end{array}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Chinese $\approx$ 200B.C.E.

## Everything in its place

Using the Chinese counting rod numbers there are

$$
\text { III } \perp
$$

degrees in a circle, while six squared would be

$$
\equiv \top
$$

Why are they different and how do we tell them apart?

## Table of Contents

(1) Egyption
(2) Mesopotamian
(3) Greek
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(6) Properties
(7) Mayan
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## Roman $\approx 100 B . C . E$.

- I
- II
- III
- IV
- V


## Roman $\approx 100 B . C . E$.

- I
- II
- III
- IV
- V
- VI
- VII
- VIII
- IX
- X


## Roman $\approx 100 B . C . E$.

- I
- VI
- L
- II
- III
- VIII
- D
- IV
- IX
- M
- V
- X
- C
- VII
- $\overline{\mathrm{X}}$


## Roman $\approx 100 B . C . E$.

## They say it's your birthday!

If I told you that Western Connecticut State University was founded in MCMIII, then when is that?

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(1) Egyption
(2) Mesopotamian
(3) Greek
(4) Chinese
(5) Roman
(6) Properties
(7) Mayan
(8) Hindu-Arabic

## Properties of Number Systems

- Base
- Positional / Additive
- Zero?
- Regular Numbers?


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- Base
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(2) Mesopotamian
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(5) Roman
(6) Properties
(7) Mayan
(8) Hindu-Arabic

## Mayan $\approx 400$ B.C.E.

Dresden Mayan Codex Page $24 \approx 13^{\text {th }}$ Century

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## Mayan $\approx 400$ B.C.E.

Dresden Mayan Codex Page $24 \approx 13^{\text {th }}$ Century


## Patterns in the Numbers


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## Patterns in the Numbers



## Patterns in the Numbers



## Patterns in the Numbers



## Patterns in the Numbers



## Patterns in the Numbers

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 4000000000000 | 00 | 0000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |  |  |

## Mayan Numerals

- is 0


## Mayan Numerals

## Mayan Numerals



## Mayan Numerals

```
- 0
- \(\circ\) is 1
- \(\int\) is 5
- A \({ }^{\circ}\) in row 3 is 18 in row 2
```


## Mayan Numerals

- 0 is 0
- A $\circ$ in row 4 is 20 in row 3
- 0 is 1
- $\int$ is 5
- A $\quad$ in row 3 is 18 in row 2


## Mayan Numerals

- 0
- 0 is 1
- $\int$ is 5
- A $\quad$ in row 3 is 18 in row 2
- A $\circ$ in row 4 is 20 in row 3
- Positional


## Mayan Numerals

- 0
- 0 is 1
- $\int$ is 5
- A $\quad$ in row 3 is 18 in row 2
- A $\circ$ in row 4 is 20 in row 3
- Positional
- Roughly Base 20


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