



# The Mathematisation of society: rethinking basic skills for adults

Twelfth Congress of the European Society for Research in  
Mathematics Education  
February, 2-, 2022 | Online (Bozen-Bolzano, Italy)

Kees Hoogland (HU) & Javier Díez-Palomar (UB);  
4 Feb. 2022



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



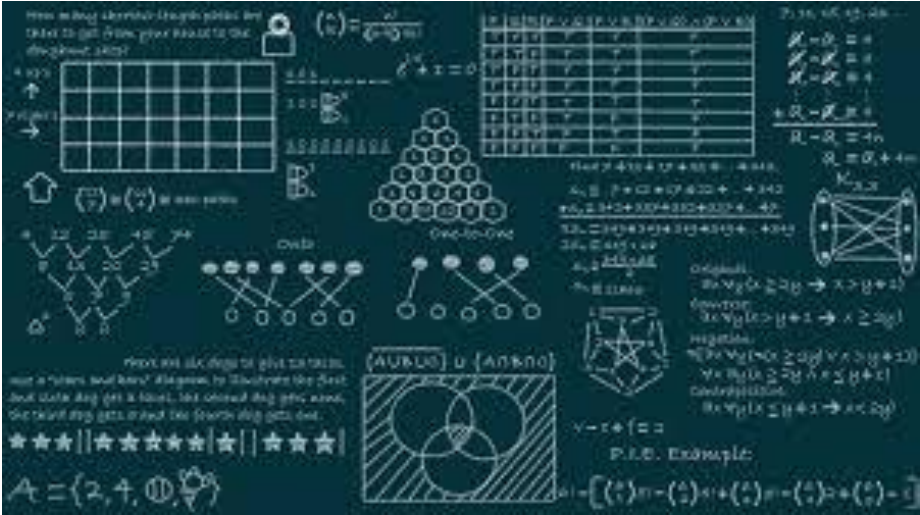


# The Mathematisation of Society

## Situations



	Renogy Wanderer 30A Li PWM Charge Controller	Renogy Rover 20A Li MPPT Charge Controller	Renogy Rover 40A Li MPPT Charge Controller
Battery Type	Sealed, gel, flooded, and lithium	Sealed, gel, flooded, and lithium	Sealed, gel, flooded, and lithium
Charge Stage	4	4	4
LCD Display	-	✓	✓
Grounding Type	Negative	Negative	Negative
Nominal system voltage	12 VDC	12V/24V DC	12V/24V DC
System Capacity	400W	200W (12 Volt) / 400W (24 Volt)	400W (12 Volt) / 800W (24 Volt)
Bluetooth Module Compatible	✓	✓	✓
Dimensions	6.5 x 4.3 x 1.8 in.	5.9 x 8.3 x 2.3 in.	6.8 x 9.4 x 2.8 in.



Microsoft Excel - Book1					
File Edit View Insert Format Tools Data Window Help Adobe PDF					
A1		Expense			
	A	B	C	D	E
1	Expense	Jan	Feb	Mar	
2	Phone	\$45.65	\$56.83	\$42.58	
3	Insurance	\$75.80	\$75.80	\$75.80	
4	Rent	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$750.00	
5	Totals	\$871.45	\$882.63	\$868.38	
6					

### Wallpaper Calculator

Wall width (m)

Wall height (m)

Wallpaper width (cm)

Roll length (m)

Pattern Repeat (cm)





# The Mathematisation of Society

Individuals acting in numeracy/mathematical situations



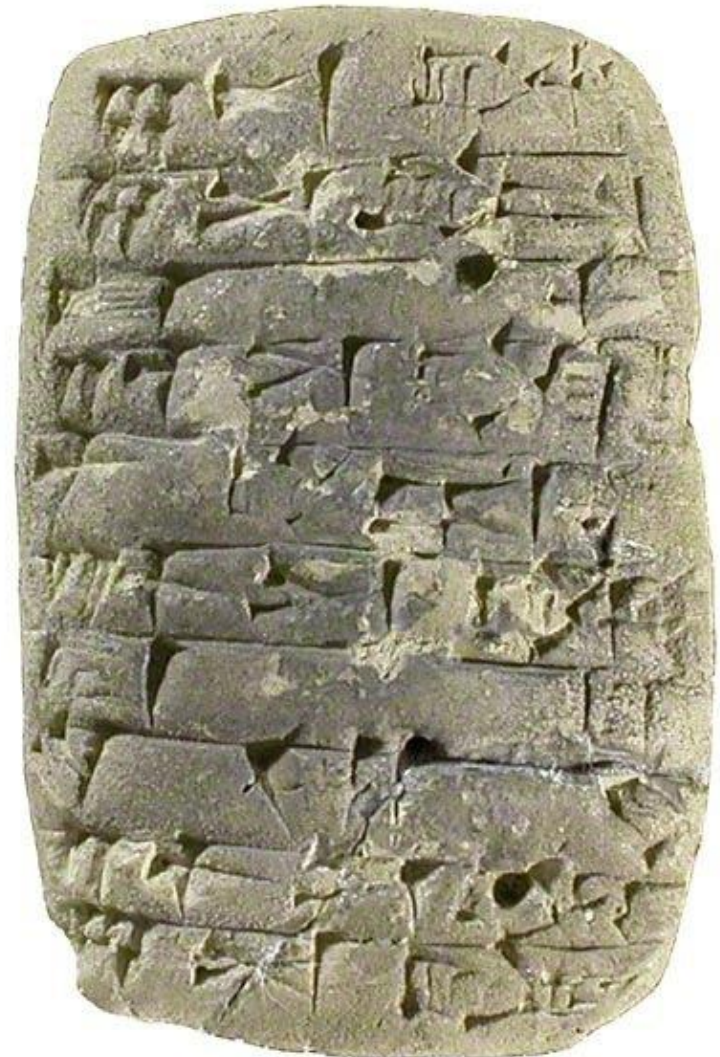
Mathematisation of Society - minidoc as part of Inaugural Lecture  
Kees Hoogland (2nd June 2021)

Numeracy • 10 weergaven • 1 week geleden

Mathematisation of Society - minidoc as part of Inaugural Lecture Kees Hoogland (2nd June, 2021)  
Producer: Marleen Stoker at Mokermmedia marleenstoker.com

15:52

- RECORD OF BEER DISTRIBUTED FROM THE OFFICIAL STORES ON THE 12TH AND 13TH DAYS OF A MONTH, MENTIONING BEST BEER AND ORDINARY BEER, FOR THE TEMPLE, FOR THE STORE AND FOR THE HOUSE OF LU-DINGIRRA



MS 1952/39  
Beer distributed from the official stores.  
Sumer, 2080-2010 BC



# The Numerate world 21st c. AD

## Examples in literature



- Zevenbergen (1996) Boat Building
- Evans (2000) Numeracy practices and emotions
- Coben (...) Nursing practices
- Bakker c.s (...): Airplane pilots, Bank personnel,  
• Laboratory workers
- Keogh (2018) Looking at numeracy at work
- Yasukawa e.a (Eds.) (2018): Kiwifruit orchards, Building stone walls, Managing debts
- Saló i Nevado (2021): Problem solving (cabinetmakers and farmers)



# Numeracy

1950



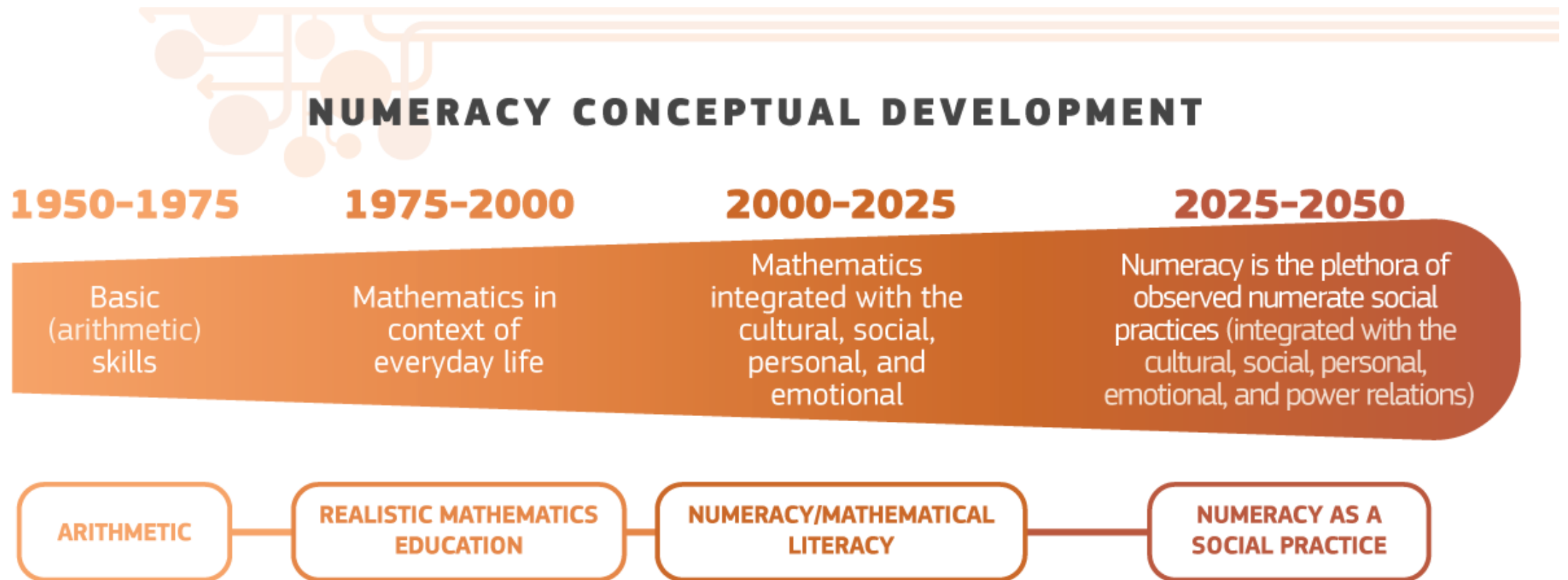
2050

- Numeracy is basic skills in operations with numbers;
- Numeracy is functional mathematics, a subset of mathematics;
- Numeracy is defined by numerate behaviour of individuals;
- Numeracy is a social practice (regarding the quantitative aspects of life);

Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



# Numeracy Conceptual development



# Numeracy as social practice (NSP)

A **social practice view of numeracy** not only takes into account the different contexts in which numeracy is practised, such as school, college, work and home, but also how people's life and histories, goals, values and attitudes will influence the way they carry out numeracy.

- (See Oughton, 2013)

## HOW ??

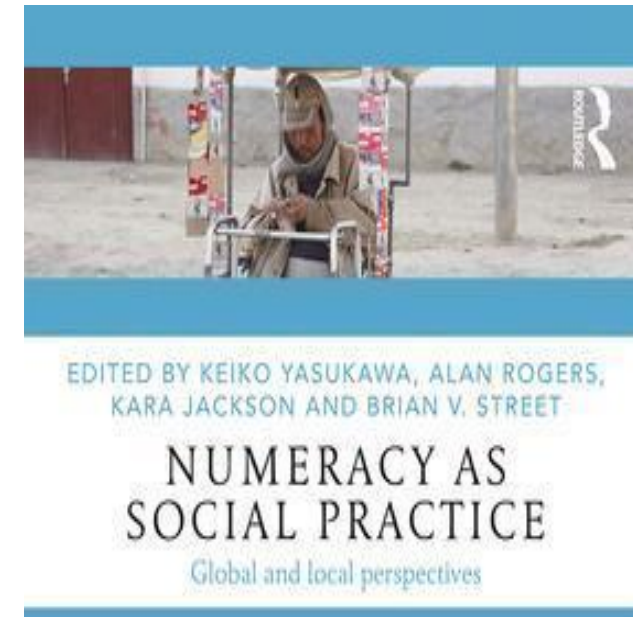
- Research-informed by
  - Situated cognition (Lave, 1988)
  - Cultural-historical activity theory (CHAT, ...)
  - Literacy as social practice (LSP, ...)
  - Ethnomathematics (D'Ambrosio )

(See Yasukawa et al.(Eds), 2018)

- Pedagogy of the oppressed (Freire)

(see Freire, 1970, 1996)

Discussed in numerous articles e.g., by Coben Yasukawa





# The Numerate world 21<sup>st</sup> c.AD

## Numerate behaviour and practices

### *Cognitive processes*

Interpretation

Understanding of hidden  
algorithms

Valuating

Measuring

Estimating

Critical thinking

Knowing reference  
numbers

...

...

...

### *Manifestations*

Product labels,  
advertisements, brochures, ....

Apps, websites, ...

Money, prices, ...

Length, weight, ...

Ubiquitous, ....

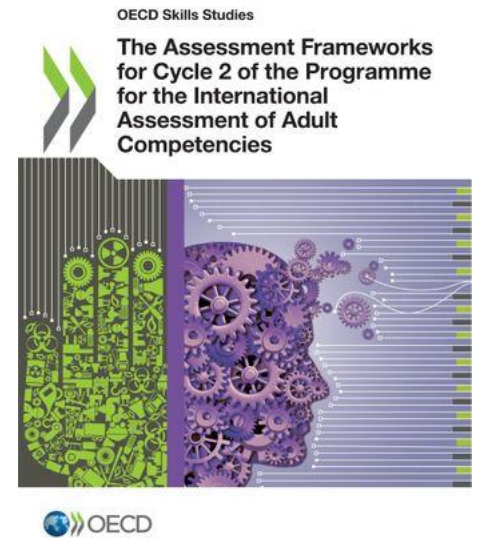
Politics, intimidation with  
numbers

Body, country, world

...

...

...



Redefining  
basic skills



Acknowledging that power relations play a role: exploitation, gate keeping and selection, inclusion and exclusion, gender stereotypes about handling numbers, formatting power (or terror) of school mathematics, ...

Implies:

- Explicitly take into account in developing education
- Explicitly take into account in assessing and measuring
- Explicitly discuss such topics with learners: they are after all adult citizen

# CENF

Common European Numeracy Framework

## Integral (integrative, holistic,) perspective

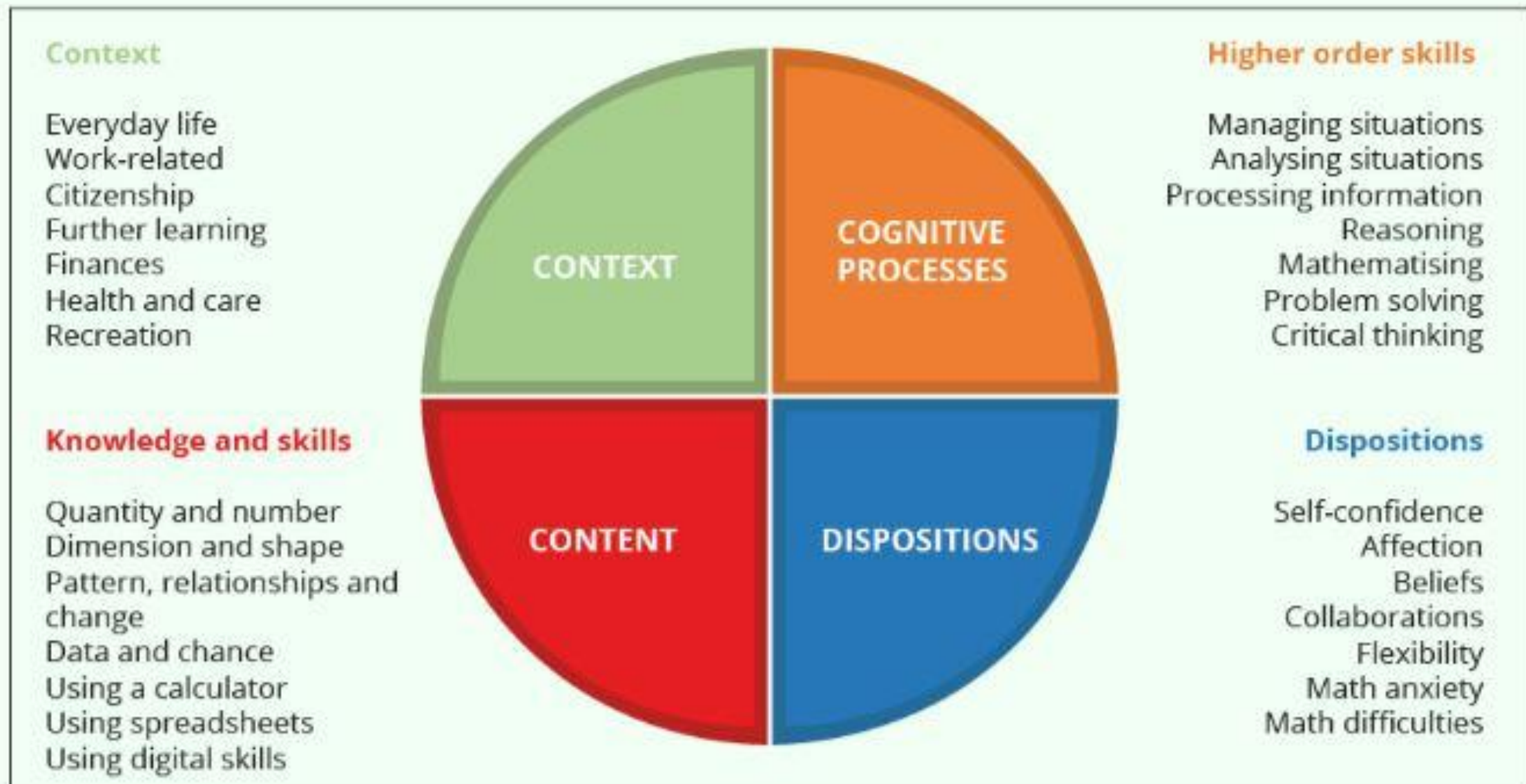
Acknowledging “Numeracy as a social practice”

Implies: Multidimensional aspects

- cognitive and psychological aspects
- multidimensional individual profiles



# What matters to improve numerate behavior



# Professional development modules

C	E
N	F

+ Challenges of the 21st century

+ Aspects of Numeracy

+ Prior knowledge (Teachers and Participants)

+ Modeling problems in everyday life

+ Analysing situations

+ Managing situations

+ Reasoning

+ Problem Solving

+ Further Learning

+ Motivation and affection

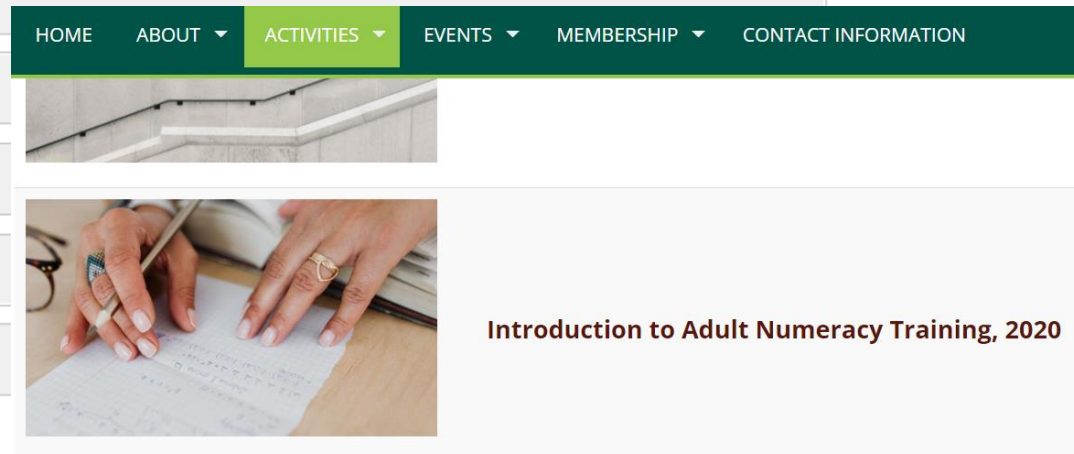
+ Math anxiety

+ Vulnerable groups

Can be  
used as a  
MOOCs

Set up:

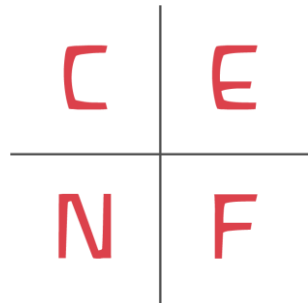
- Introduction
- Relation to CENF
- Key issues
- Suggestion for PDM meetings
- Self study
- Resources
- Literature / References



<https://epale.ec.europa.eu/en/blog/oer-introduction-adult-numeracy-training-landing-page>



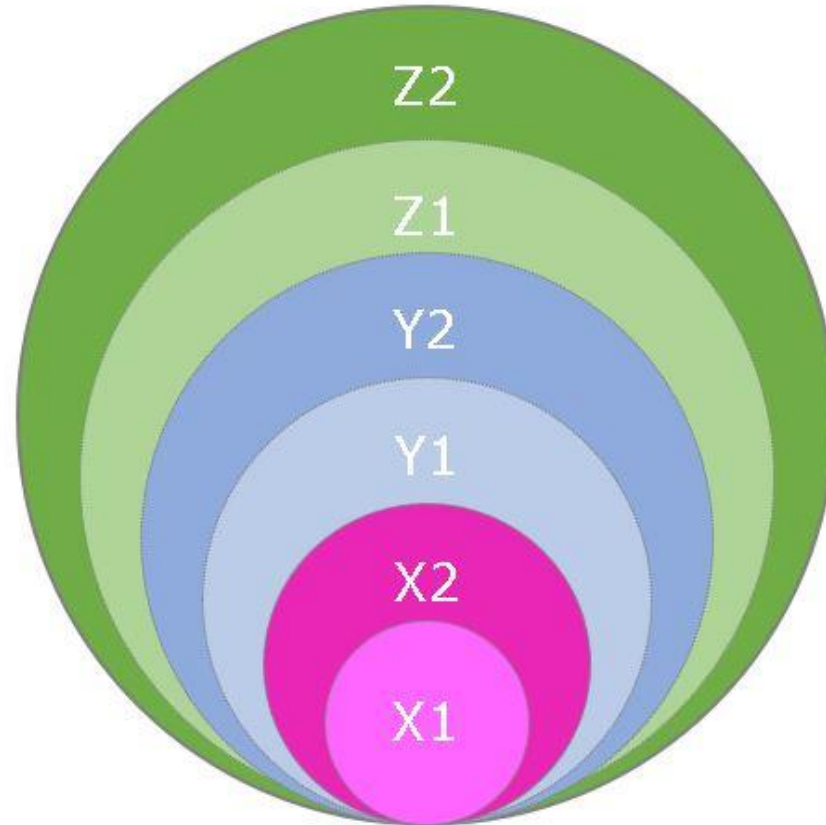
# CENF - Overall levels (= categories $\neq$ thresholds)



Z  
Specialized  
societal and  
work situations

Y  
Societal and  
regular work  
situations

X  
Daily-life  
situations



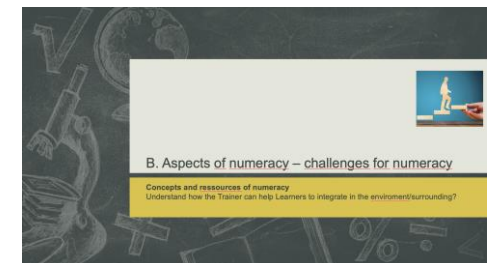
©CENF, 2021

Z2	... Manage situations which require integrating multiple types of mathematical information where considerable translation or interpretation is required to come to decisions, draw inferences, and develop or work with mathematical arguments or models. ... Understand and use complex representations and abstract form mathematical and statistical ideas, possibly embedded in applications, tools and texts. ... Justify, evaluate, and critically reflect upon problem assumptions, solutions, and choices ... Use sophisticated statistical and mathematical software in complex professional situations
Z1	... Manage situations which require analysis and more complex reasoning about quantities and data; statistic and chance; spatial relationship; and change, proportions, and formulas ... Understand and use a broad range of mathematical information that maybe complex, abstract, or embedded in unfamiliar contexts. These tasks involve undertaking multiple steps and choosing relevant problem -solving strategies and processes ... Communicate arguments and well-reasoned explanations for answers or choices. ... Use standard statistical and mathematical applications for all kind of work situations.
Y2	... Manage situations which require several steps to interpret the situation and involves the choice of problem -solving strategies and relevant processes, such as the application of number sense and spatial sense; recognizing and working with mathematical relationships, patterns, and proportions expressed in verbal or numerical form. ... Identify and act on mathematical information that maybe less explicit, embedded in familiar and unfamiliar contexts, tools and applications and use them to decide and actively communicate. ... Use various applications for work, householding, and leisure
Y1	... Manage situations which require the application of two or more steps or processes involving calculation with whole numbers and common decimals, percentages, and fractions; simple measurement and spatial representation; estimation. ... Identify and act on mathematical information and ideas embedded in a range of familiar contexts, tools, and applications consisting of relatively simple data and statistics in texts, tables and graphs and use them to decide and further communicate. ... Use some standard applications for work, householding, and leisure
X2	... Manage everyday life situations which require one-stop or simple processes involving counting, sorting, performing basic arithmetic operations required to decide and further communicate. ... Interpret elements of simple or common numerical, graphical, or spatial representations and use them to decide and further communicate. ... Use familiar and common digital devices, like mobile phones and some default applications.
X1	... Manage concrete, familiar situations where the mathematical problem is explicit with little or no processes required to decide. ... Interpret elements or simple numerical representations and use the to decide. ... Perform processes involving either counting, sorting, and basic arithmetic operations with whole numbers or money ... Use some digital devices occasionally

[www.cenf.eu](http://www.cenf.eu)

# Common European Numeracy Framework

- Content
  - Domains (as in PIAAC, PISA; as in mathematics curricula)
  - Big ideas in Mathematics
- Cognitive processes (higher order skills / 21st century skills)
  - Problem solving, reasoning, modelling, ....
- Affective aspects
  - Attitudes / qualities: self-efficacy, self-confidence, no math anxiety, critical interpretation, ...
- Contexts / Themes /Life
  - Work, daily-life, in house, in society, public domain (politics, media), private domain (shopping, economic domain (money, rent & mortgage, ...)





# Challenges for the adult numeracy community (and beyond)



- Redefine basic skills in (more) relevant cognitive processes and their manifestations (See e.g., PIAAC second cycle)
- Connect research and development with some common framework and ideas.
- Systematically acknowledge multidimensionality when dealing with numeracy (research, teaching, professional development, ....)

