

Egyptian Division

- Demonstrate Egyptian division by dividing:

- $9/4$
- $13/7$

Try these using the same sort of "doubling/halving" table that we use for multiplication.

- Demonstrate Egyptian division by dividing:

- $4/9$
- $7/13$

Try these using the unit fractions table method, and Fraudini's trick (writing a number as a sum of distinct powers of 2).

$9/4$:

$$\boxed{9/4 = 2 + 1/4}$$

of course!

1	4	
2	8	*
$1/2$	2	
$1/4$	1	*

$9 = 8 + 1$

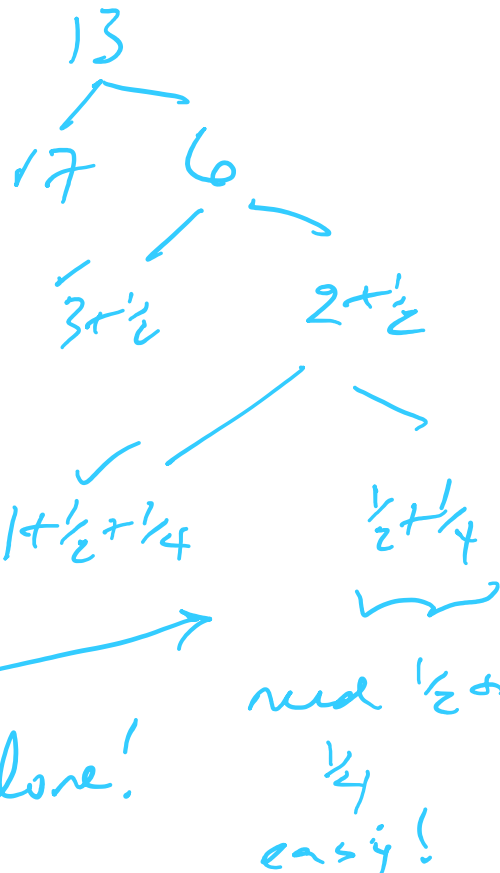
By the Fraudini method:

$$\frac{9}{4} = \frac{8+1}{4} = \frac{8}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = 2 + \frac{1}{4}$$

$13/7$:

1	7	*
$1/2$	$3 + 1/2$	*
$1/4$	$1 + 1/2 + 1/4$	*
$1/7$	1	
$1/14$	$1/2$	*
$1/28$	$1/4$	*

switch gears to get to 1:



Check:

$$13 = 7 + (3 + \frac{1}{2}) + (1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4}) + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} \checkmark$$

$$\text{So } \frac{13}{7} = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{28}$$

1,857...

1,857... ✓

Check
with
calculator

Faster by Fractions?

$$\frac{13}{7} = \frac{7+6}{7} = 1 + \frac{6}{7} = 1 + \frac{4+2}{7} = 1 + \frac{4}{7} + \frac{2}{7}$$

$$= 1 + 2(\frac{2}{7}) + \frac{2}{7}$$

$$= 1 + 2(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{28}) + (\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{28})$$

$$= 1 + \frac{2}{4} + \frac{2}{28} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{28}$$

$$= 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{14} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{28}$$

Same

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Try these using the unit fractions table method, and Fraudini's trick (writing a number as a sum of distinct powers of 2).

Now using the Fraudini approach.

4 ← already a power of 2!

$$\frac{4}{9} = 2\left(\frac{2}{9}\right)$$

$$= 2\left(\frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{18}\right)$$

$$= \frac{2}{6} + \frac{2}{18}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{4}{9} = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{9}}$$

of course!

$$\frac{7}{13} = \frac{4+2+1}{13} = \frac{4}{13} + \frac{2}{13} + \frac{1}{13}$$

$$= 2\left(\frac{2}{13}\right) + \frac{2}{13} + \frac{1}{13}$$

$$= 2\left(\frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{52} + \frac{1}{104}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{52} + \frac{1}{104}\right) + \frac{1}{13}$$

$$= \frac{2}{8} + \frac{2}{52} + \frac{2}{104} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{52} + \frac{1}{104} + \frac{1}{13}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{26} + \frac{1}{52} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{52} + \frac{1}{104} + \frac{1}{13}$$

can't repeat fraction
 so combine into $\frac{2}{52}$
 $= \frac{1}{26}$

$$= \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{26} + \frac{1}{26} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{104} + \frac{1}{13}$$

repeated $\frac{1}{26} + \frac{1}{26} = \frac{2}{26} = \frac{1}{13}$

$$= \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{13} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{104} + \frac{1}{13}$$

$\frac{2}{13} = \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{52} + \frac{1}{104}$

$$= \frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{8} + \frac{1}{52} + \frac{1}{104} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{104}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{8} + \frac{1}{52} + \frac{2}{104}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{52} + \frac{1}{52}$$

$$= \frac{2}{4} + \frac{2}{52}$$

$$\frac{7}{13} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{26}$$

yikes!

$$\boxed{7 = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 13}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c|c} 1 & 13 & \\ \hline \frac{1}{2} & 6 + \frac{1}{2} & * \\ \hline \frac{1}{13} & 1 & \\ \hline \frac{1}{26} & \frac{1}{2} & * \end{array}$$

$7 =$
 $\swarrow \quad \searrow$
 $6 + \frac{1}{2} \quad \frac{1}{2}$

Wow! Lots easier by the doubling/halving table...

Erwan found a better way:

$$\frac{7}{13} = \frac{14}{26} = \frac{13+1}{26}$$

$$= \frac{13}{26} + \frac{1}{26}$$

Nice.

$$\approx \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{26} !$$