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**Students' reasoning strategies in proportional reasoning problems. (Õpilaste lahendusstrateegiad proportsionaalse mõtlemise ülesannetes.)**

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Proportional reasoning has been described as a watershed concept, a cornerstone of higher mathematics. Proportionality is a fundamental concept in middle grades mathematics and plays a critical role in students' mathematical development. It has important implications for higher-level mathematics and can be seen as a link between elementary school arithmetic and the more abstract high school mathematics. Furthermore, it is not only important in mathematics but also in our everyday life as many situations revolve around the idea of ratio and proportion. In this paper, we focus on reasoning strategies that middle grades students use when solving proportional word problems. In addition, we discuss the concept of proportional reasoning and briefly describe the developmental trajectory of proportional reasoning. *Lea Lepmann (Tartu)*

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