A large body of literature assumes that Ancient Egypt’s economy and society were tightly and hierarchically coupled. However, a detailed understanding of complexity in Ancient Egypt eludes us. Widening the scope of business History towards ancient eras, this article intends to showcase a paradoxical view: using Orton and Weick’s reconceptualization of loose coupling theory, we aim to nuance the traditional view of Ancient Egypt’s economy by providing examples of its looseness. This paper examines the role of the discursive power of counting, accounting numbers and inscriptions in the creation and promotion of ‘order’ in society. This theme is explored by examining the link between accounting and order in the New Kingdom (1552-1080 BC), ancient Egypt. In Ancient Egypt Fiscal Vocabulary of the New Kingdom, University Press Fribourg Switzerland. Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht.

This book is the first economic history of ancient Egypt covering the entire pharaonic period, 3000-30 BCE, and employing a New Institutional Economics approach. It argues that the ancient Egyptian state encouraged an increasingly widespread and sophisticated use of writing through time, primarily in order to better document and more efficiently exact taxes for redistribution. The increased use of writing, however, also resulted in increased documentation and enforcement of private property titles and transfers, gradually lowering their transaction costs relative to redistribution. Four - The New Kingdom (c. 1550-1069 BCE), pp 92-141. Get access.

Horses existed in ancient Egypt and never held an important economic as they were only employed by the aristocracy and the military for riding and pulling of chariots. The usage of vehicles with light wheels came into use in the new kingdom (15570-1070 BC). Thermal energy was also quite efficient as the heat of the sun was very good in the production of mud bricks, the fire was used in cooking and baking food, smelting, casting metal, glassmaking, and pottery, the fire was produced using charcoal as coal and wood weren’t plentiful. Combining philological investigation and theoretical reasoning, this book offers a completely new interpretation of the economic role of the state in ancient Egypt. The first part provides background outlining the relevance of Keynes General Theory to the ancient Egyptian economy. The central part uses ancient Egyptian texts as the foundation of an analysis of words commonly assumed to relate to taxation during the New Kingdom (c. 15401070 B.C.E.). The conclusions summarize the philological results and explore the role of the temples in the ancient Egyptian state during the New Kingdom.