

SPiRiT Maths ExTrA: The Journey Continues ...



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SPiRiT Maths ExTrA - Students' Perceptions Informing and Redefining Innovative Teaching of Mathematics in Higher Education – ExTending Targeted Resources aimed at University wide Adoption



SPiRiT
Maths

- NF 2019 SATLE funding
- Rolled over in MTU 2019-2020

SPiRiT
Maths ExTrA

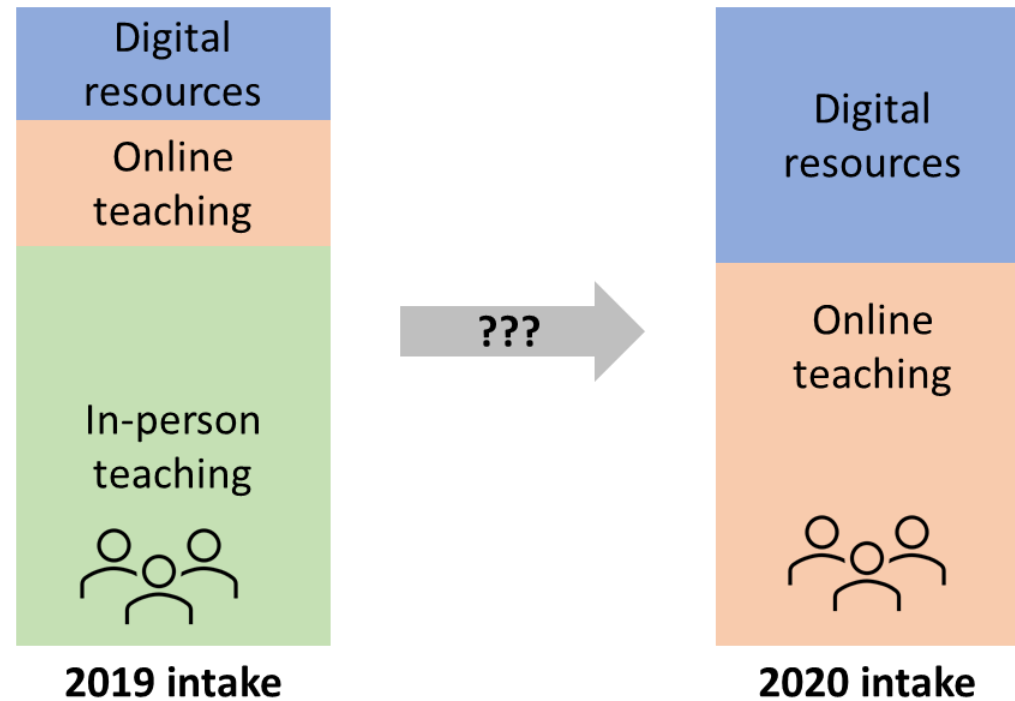
- NF 2020 SATLE funding
- Started in MTU in September 2021

SPiRiT
Maths
2023

- Work in Progress

Student survey

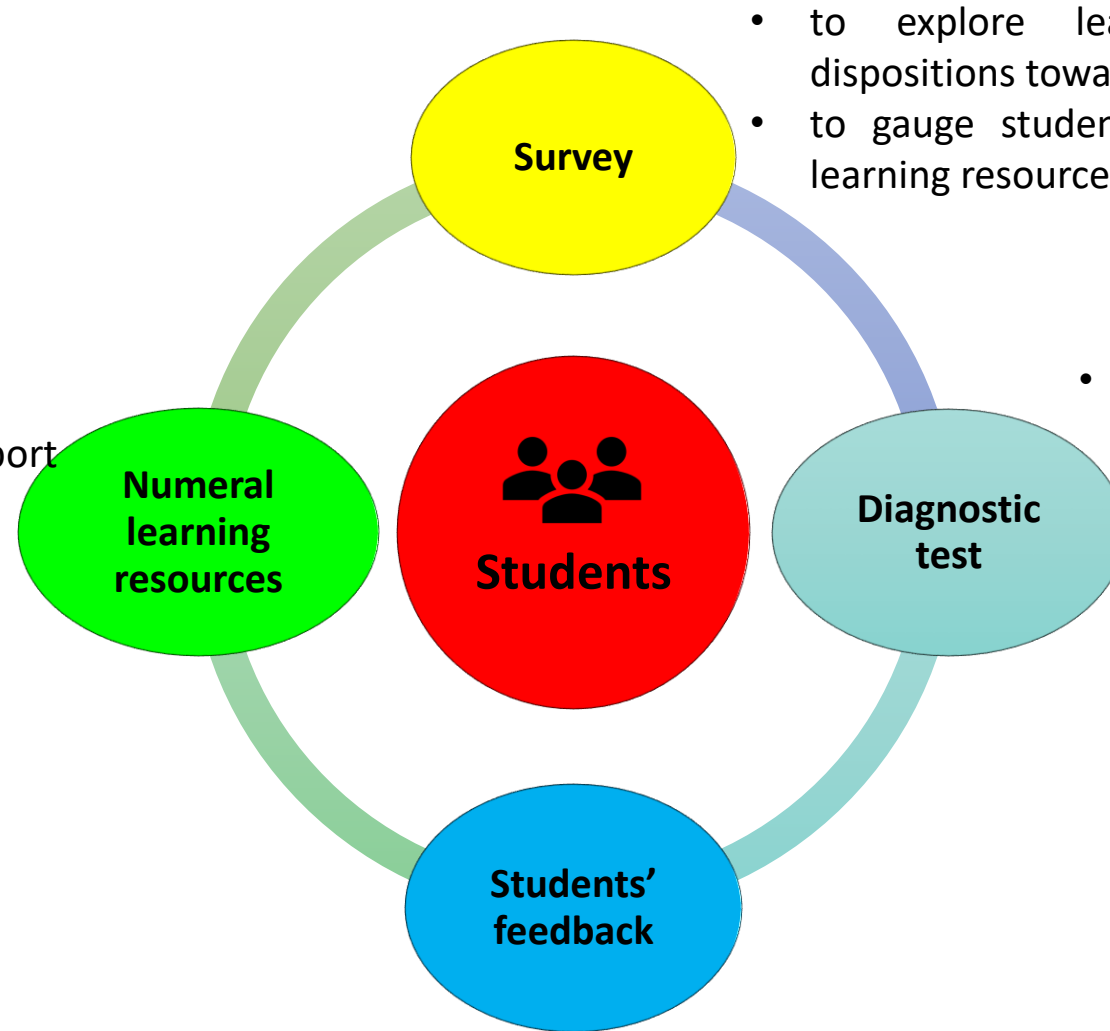
- Online survey was administered twice, in June 2020 (2019 intake) and February 2021 (2020 intake);
- First year Business degree and Engineering students (N=1633 students)
- 310 respondents



- No statistically significant difference between two surveys.
- This allowed us to combine the data from two surveys.



Several strands of SPIRIT Maths Project:



- to explore learners' perceptions and dispositions towards mathematics;
- to gauge students' preferences for digital learning resources

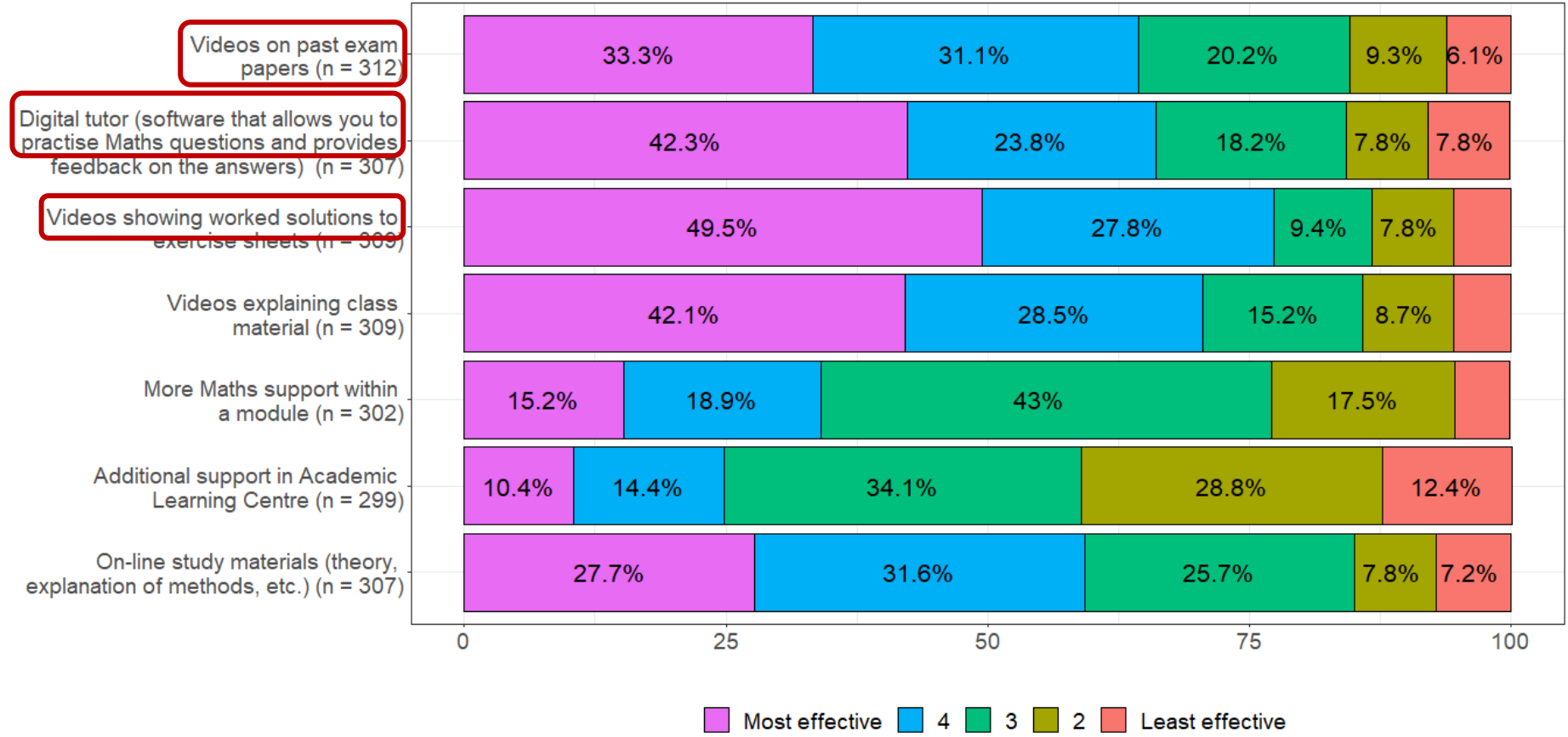
- to identify students at risk of failing first year maths; to alert and direct them to targeted resources

- to develop digital tools to support learning of mathematics

- to gather students' feedback on resources and inform the rollout

What students want

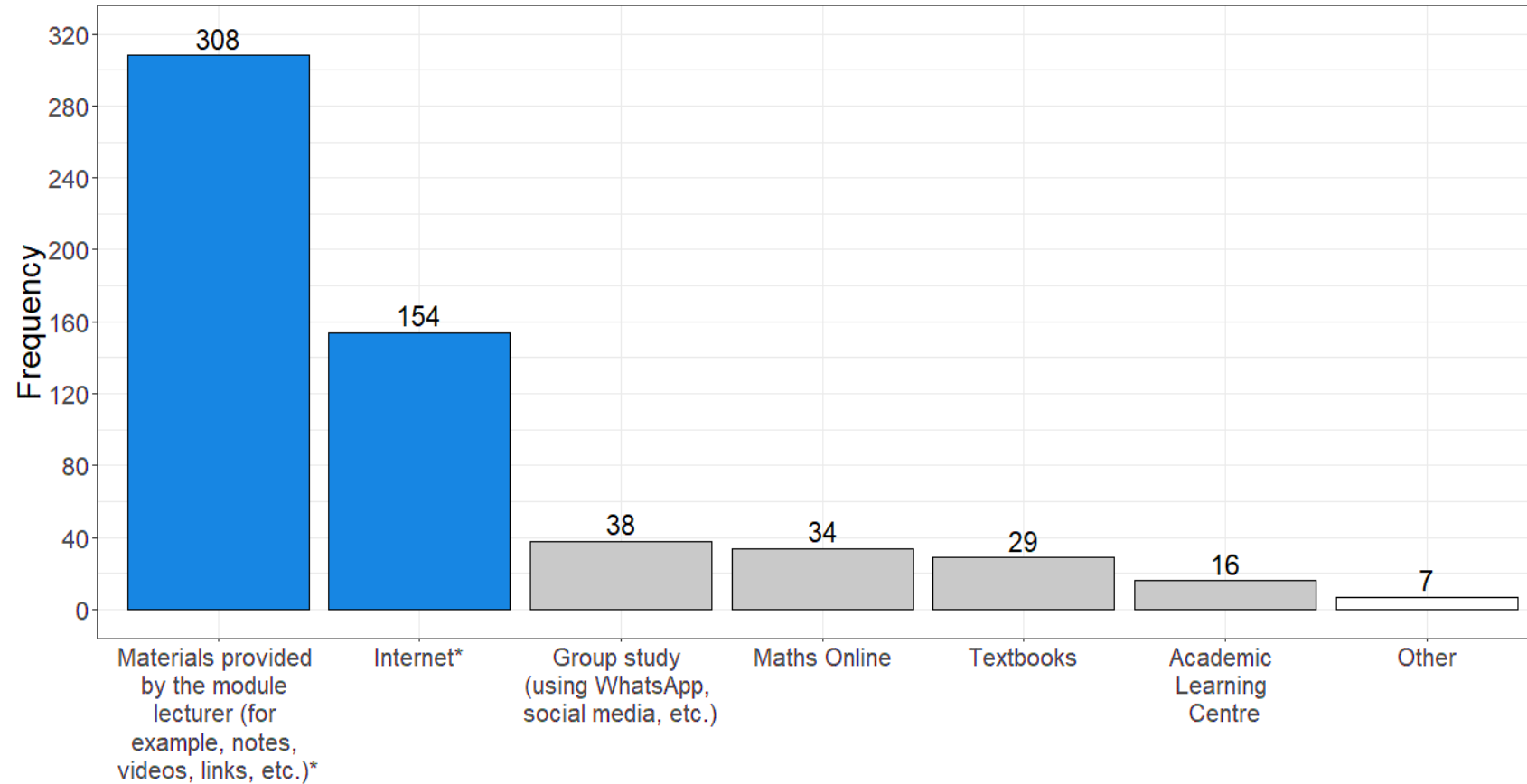
Most effective resources to help you master your Maths at MTU



- Students want digital practice resources
- Videos explaining worked solutions



How students use available materials and resources



- Students are very focused on using lecturers' material.
- Any new resources have to be linked from the platform used by the lecturer.



Interlinked Digital Resources

1. H5P: Work out your answer and check if it's correct.

Exercise : Solve for x in the following equation, rounding your answer to 3 decimal places:

$$6e^{3.1x} = 23$$

Write in your answer below.

x =

Interlinked Digital Resources

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Exercise : Solve for x in the following equation, rounding your answer to 3 decimal places:

$$6e^{3.1x} = 23$$

Write in your answer below.

x =

Check



2. Video: Watch a video of a worked solution.

Solve for x in the following equation, rounding your answer to 3 decimal places:

$$3e^{-2.7x} = 8$$

$$3e^{-2.7x} = 8$$

$$\frac{\cancel{3}e^{-2.7x}}{\cancel{3}} = \frac{8}{3}$$

{Divide both sides by 3}

MULTIPLICATION by 3
cancels
DIVISION by 3

Interlinked Digital Resources

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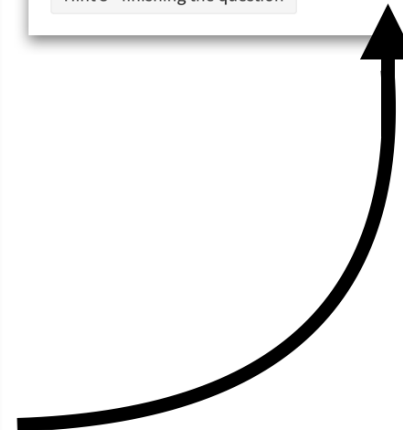
3. NUMBAS: Practise more questions of this type, get hints and instant feedback.

Solve for x in the following equation, giving your answer to 3 decimal places:

$$5e^{-8.8x} = 4$$

x = Round your answer to 3 decimal places.

Or, you could:



H5P animations

We designed silent animated videos of a detailed written solution.

Solve for x in the following equation:

$$\log_x(64) = 3$$

$\log_x(64) = 3$

KEY POINT:
A power cancels a log.

$3 \log_3(7) = 3 \log_3(7) = 7$
 $6 \log_6(x) = 6 \log_6(x) = x$

Solve for x in the following equation:

To cancel out LOG base x
we must take both sides as
a POWER base x

$$\log_x(64) = 3$$

$\log_x(64) = 3$

KEY POINT:
A power cancels a log.

$3 \log_3(7) = 3 \log_3(7) = 7$
 $6 \log_6(x) = 6 \log_6(x) = x$

~~$\log_x(64)$~~ = x^3

Solve for x in the following equation:

$$\log_x(64) = 3$$

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KEY POINT:
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$3 \log_3(7) = 3 \log_3(7) = 7$
 $6 \log_6(x) = 6 \log_6(x) = x$

~~$\log_x(64)$~~ = x^3
 $64 = x^3$

$\sqrt[3]{64} = \sqrt[3]{x^3}$
 $\sqrt[3]{64} = x$
 $4 = x$

Calculator Work



Videos

Videos were kept short and focused on key problem solving steps.

Question 1

(a) Employees at a company hold qualifications in levels 6, 7, 8 and 9. The ratio of employees with these qualifications is 3 : 8 : 11 : 2, respectively.

i) If there are 36 employees who hold a level 9 qualification, how many employees are in the company?

ii) What percent of employees hold a qualification less than level 8 (i.e. level 6 or level 7)?

(4 marks)

(i) $3 : 8 : 11 : 2$
↓ multiply by 18
 $= 54 : 144 : 198 : 36$
So total number of employees is
 $54 + 144 + 198 + 36 = 432$

i)



NUMBAS

- ❑ Numbas questions created to match videos.
- ❑ Student can enter their answer to see if they are correct.
- ❑ If they require help, they can click on one of a number of hints.
- ❑ Hints follow the steps from the video solution.
- ❑ At each stage, the student can choose to return to answer the question or request another hint.
- ❑ The student can also reveal a fully worked solution.
- ❑ For further practice, the student can select “Try another question like this one”.



Question progress: *Solve for x*

Solve for x in the following equation, giving your answer to 3 decimal places:

$$9e^{8.4x} = 4$$

$x =$ *Round your answer to 3 decimal places.*

Submit part

Or, you could:

- Hint 1 - how to start
- Hint 2 - a little more help
- Hint 3 - finishing the question

Solve for x	0/2
Total	0/2

Try another question like this one

Reveal answers



SPiRiT Maths - Digital Learning Resources



Work out your answer and enter it to check if it's correct

Exercise: Solve for x in the following equation, rounding your answer to 3 decimal places:

$$6e^{3.1x} = 23$$

Write in your answer below.

$x =$

Q1 (b)

A car was purchased for €17,500. It depreciates at a rate of 1.2% per month. Calculate the value of the car after 4 years. Round your answer to the nearest cent.

€

H5P

Practise more questions of this type, get hints and instant feedback

Question progress: **Solve for x**

Solve for x in the following equation, giving your answer to 3 decimal places:

$$3e^{0.8x} = 5$$

$x =$ Round your answer to 3 decimal places.

Or, you could:

Solve for x	0/2
Total	0/2

A car was purchased for €28500. It depreciates at a rate of 2.25% per month.

Calculate the value of the car after 3 years. Round your answer to the nearest cent.

Value of the car after 3 years: €

Advice

The formula for depreciation is:

$$A = P(1 - i)^n$$

where:

- A represents the value of the asset after n months
- P represents the original value of the asset
- i represents the rate of depreciation per month
- n represents the number of months

In this example:

$P = €28500$

$i = 0.0225$

$n = 12 \times 3 = 36$

then

$$A = €28500(1 - 0.0225)^{36} = €12561.7$$

Watch a video of worked solution

Worked Example Video:

Solve for x in the following equation, rounding your answer to 3 decimal places:

$$3e^{-2.7x} = 8$$

$$\frac{3e^{-2.7x}}{3} = \frac{8}{3}$$

MULTIPLICATION by 3
cancels
DIVISION by 3

Video

(b) A car was purchased for €17,500. It depreciates at a rate of 1.2% per month. Calculate the value of the car after 4 years? Round your answer to the nearest cent. (4 marks)

$A = P(1 - i)^n$ → age of asset (in months)

In this example,

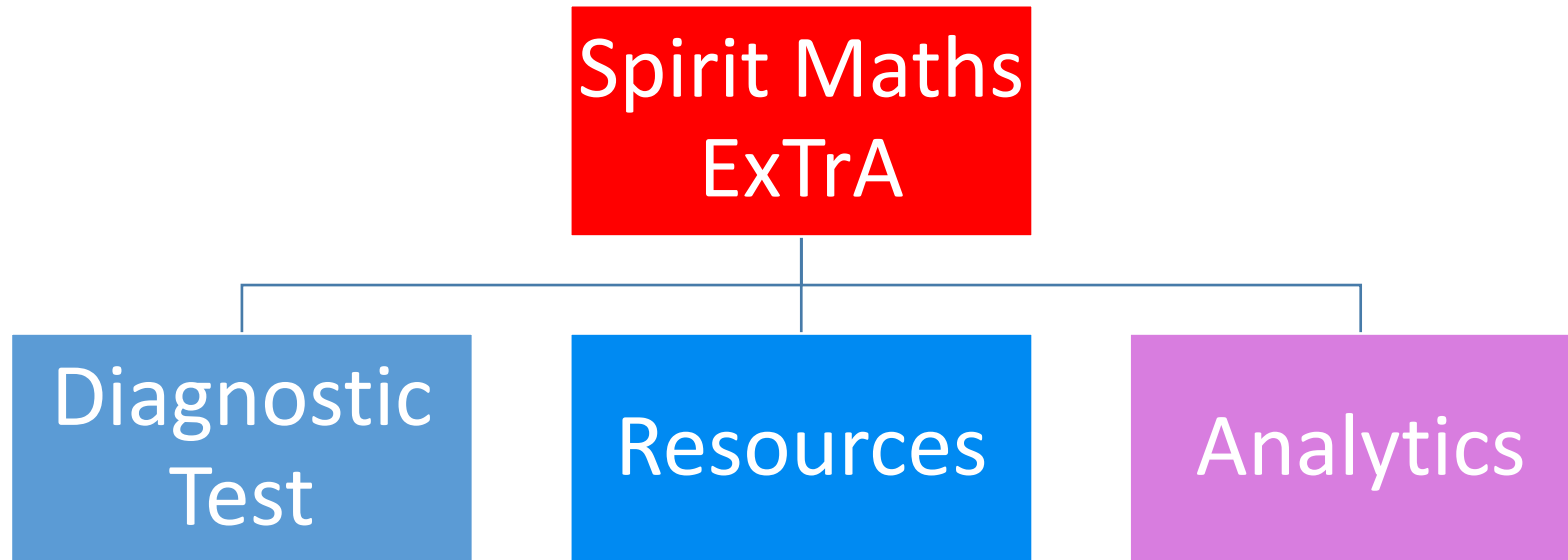
$P = 17500$

$i = 1.2\% = 0.012$

Current value of asset (after 4 months)

NUMBAS

SPiRiT Maths ExTrA Outputs



SPIRIT Maths ExTrA Essential Toolkit Quiz

- 15 questions
- 30 minutes to complete
- No calculator allowed

➤ Accessed through **Maths Online** module on Canvas, a hub for all things maths-related at MTU.

➤ All first-year students that have a maths or stats module are automatically enrolled.



Search Maths Resources by...

Module Code/Name

Topic

Other Useful Resources

Download Mathematical Software

Stay on Top of your Maths!



SPIRIT Maths ExTrA Essential Toolkit Quiz



- Based on core skills and knowledge.
- Helps students identify areas they need help with.
- Points them towards helpful resources.
- Invite the students to book a session in ALC

Feedback

Based on answering incorrectly

You might need some help with expanding products. If you would like some help with this, the Academic Learning Centre can help.

General Feedback

[Academic Learning Centre](#)

9 1 point

Solve for a and b :

$$4a - 2b = 10$$

$$6a + 3b = 9$$

$a =$ and $b =$

10 1 point

To factor is to write a sum as a product. For example,

$$2x^2 + 9x - 5 = (x + 5) \cdot (2x - 1).$$

Factor $x^2 - x - 20$:

$=$

11 1 point

(Without the use of a calculator) simplify the expression on the left, and hence find the value of p :

$$\frac{492^{84} \times 492^7}{492^{13}} = 492^p$$

$p =$



SPIRIT Maths ExTrA Essential Toolkit Quiz

1 1 point



Calculate, without the use of a calculator:

$$5 + 5 \times 4 - 6 \div 3$$

Type your answer...

2 1 point



Put the following numbers in order from smallest to largest:

1

2



SPIRIT Maths ExTrA Essential Toolkit Quiz

Questions that students answer incorrectly have associated resources:

Feedback

Based on answering incorrectly

You might need some help with simultaneous equations. Below find a resource to help you get up to speed on simultaneous equations.

General Feedback

[Simultaneous Equations Tool](#)

e.g. NUMBAS

a)

Find the x and y values that satisfy both of the following equations.

$$y = 3 - 5x \quad (1)$$

$$y = -4x \quad (2)$$

$x =$, $y =$

Show steps *(Your score will not be affected.)*

Submit part

Score: 0/2
Unanswered



SPIRIT Maths ExTrA Essential Toolkit Quiz



- The resources and the diagnostic test itself can be developed organically all the time.
- Diagnostic Test will go live in Semester 1 2022
- The quiz can also be imported into modules by lecturers in order to help them identify areas the class as a whole might need help with.



SPIRIT Maths ExTrA Essential Toolkit Quiz



IMSLN tutorials:

Feedback

Based on answering incorrectly

You might need some help with fractions. Below find a resource to help you get up to speed on fractions.

General Feedback

[Fractions tutorial](#)

Equivalent Fractions

Simplifying Fractions

Adding and Subtracting Fractions

Videos

Notes

Interactive Exercises

Multiplying Fractions and Mixed Numbers

Dividing Fractions and Mixed Numbers

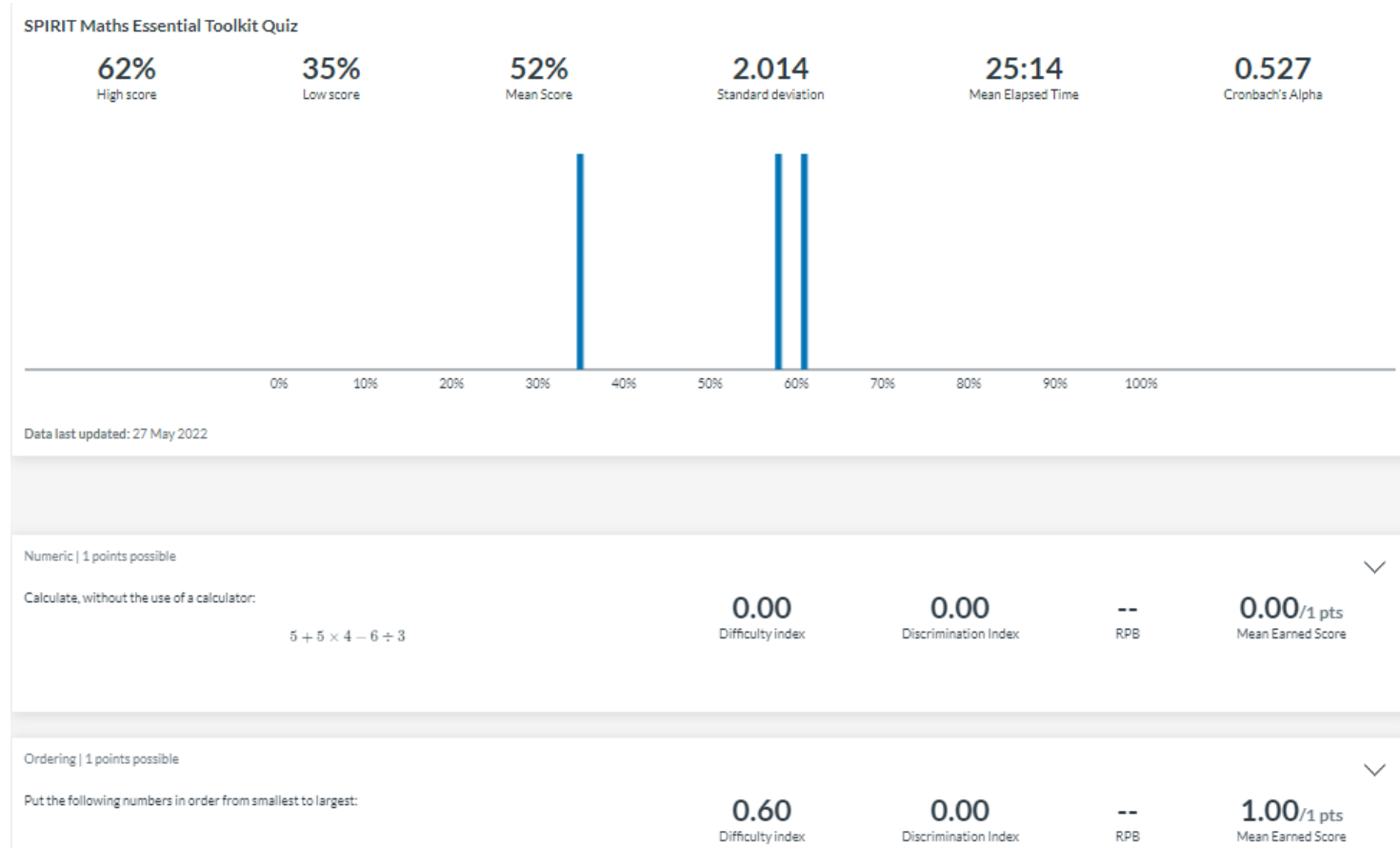
Converting between Mixed Numbers and Improper Fractions



SPIRIT Maths ExTrA Essential Toolkit Quiz



- Lecturers can import the quiz into a module and use Quiz Analytics on Canvas to see the areas that the class have issues with.
- Lecturers can initiate an intervention, be it in ordinary class time or perhaps in consultation with the Academic Learning Centre.



SPIRIT Maths ExTrA Resources – PILOT

MATH 6051 - Essential Maths and Stats for Business



- Department of Management and Marketing - MTU Cork
- 227 First Year Students in the 2021-2022 academic year
- 6 Academic Staff from Maths Department



2021/22 Semester 1

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SPIRIT Maths Resources

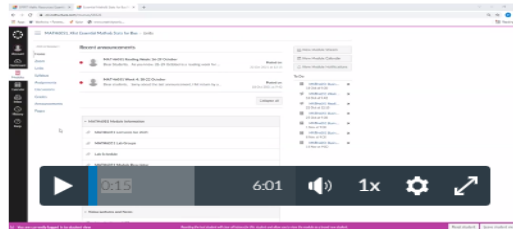
As part of the SPIRIT maths project, solutions and accompanying exercises were made out for the MATH6051 2019/2020 Semester 1 paper.

These resources can be accessed by clicking the links in this [pdf version](#) of the paper. Alternatively, you can click on the following direct links: [Q1](#) , [Q2](#) , [Q3](#) .

The resources for each question consist of three parts:

1. An interactive version of the question where you can type in your answer and check whether or not it is correct.
2. A video solution to the question.
3. Additional practice questions which are similar in form to the exam question.

The following video explains how to find the SPIRIT Maths resources on the MATH6051 Canvas page and also how to utilize the resources.



◀ Previous

Next ▶

- ❑ Canvas announcement with links sent out before reading week
- ❑ Lecturers gave an overview of the resources during class time

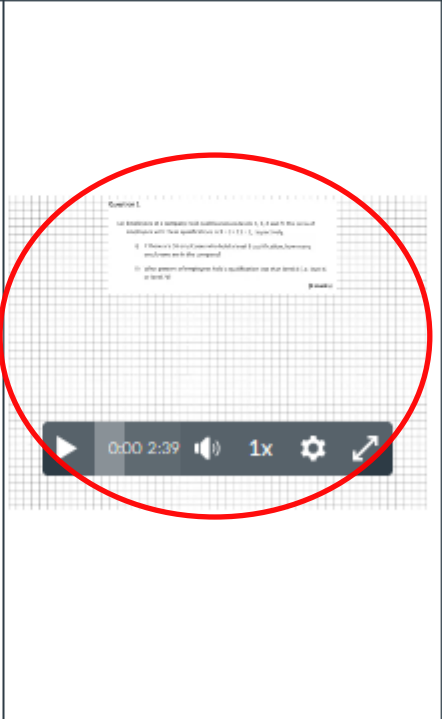
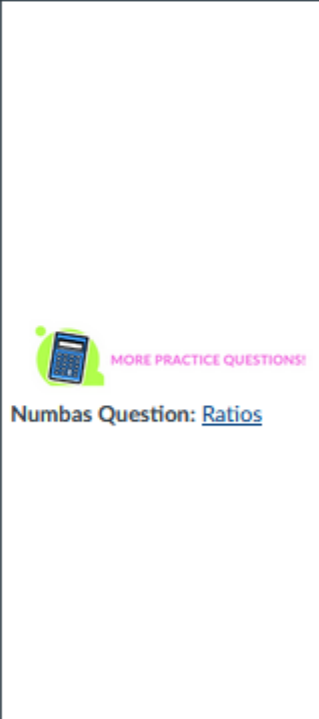


Videos

- For each part of the exam question, there is a video demonstrating how to solve the question.
- Videos created using Explain Everything.
- The videos are embedded in the web page, but can be viewed in full screen mode.

MATH6051 Past Paper Winter 2019 Q1

Instructions: The following materials consist of **exercise + worked example pairs**. You should begin by attempting the exercise yourself and if you are stuck then refer to the worked example video below it. Links to additional practice questions using Numbas are provided in the third column of the table.

Question	Video Solution	Link to a Similar Practice Question in Numbas
<p>Q1 (a)</p> <p>Employees at a company hold qualifications in levels 6, 7, 8 and 9. The ratio of employees with these qualifications is 3:8:11:2, respectively.</p> <p>(i) If there are 36 employees who hold a level 9 qualification, how many employees are in the company?</p> <p>(ii) What percent of employees hold a qualification less than level 8 (i.e. level 6 or level 7)?</p> <p>(i) <input type="text"/></p> <p>(ii) <input type="text"/> %</p> <p><input type="button" value="Check"/></p>		

Measuring engagement with the resources for MATH6051

- ❑ 226 students in total
- ❑ 71 (31.4%) students used SPIRIT Maths resources
- ❑ 48 (21.2%) students used SPIRIT Maths **Numbas** resources
- ❑ 42 (18.6%) students used SPIRIT Maths **video** resources
- ❑ 19 (8.4%) students used **both** SPIRIT Maths Numbas and video resources



SPiRiT Maths ExTrA

MATH 6051 - Essential Maths and Stats for Business



n=226	Average Module Mark Semester 1 2021	Average LC Points **	Average Lecture Views *
MATH 6051 students that USED SPiRiT Maths resources	51.0	32.4	67.7
MATH 6051 students that DID NOT USE SPiRiT Maths resources	43.4	34.9	42.6

* Lecture views are average views of the pre-recorded lectures on Canvas – 22 lectures in total

** [Leaving Cert Points Conversion](#)



Measuring impact of resources for MATH 6051

☐ Response variable

- Students final grade for MATH 6051 (%)
- proxy for mathematics understanding

☐ Explanatory variables

- Students leaving certificate points
- Video lectures views
- Written notes views
- Exercise sheets views
- SPIRIT Maths Numbas grade
- SPIRIT Maths videos views



Linear Model

Variable	Coefficient Estimate	Standard Error	t-value	P-value
Points	0.677	0.082	8.209	<0.001
Lecture Videos	0.067	0.025	2.664	0.008
Notes	0.060	0.085	0.705	0.482
Exercises	0.138	0.091	1.511	0.133
SPIRIT Numbas	0.021	0.01	2.107	0.037
SPIRIT Videos	-0.030	0.289	-0.102	0.917



SPIRIT Maths ExTrA



www.spiritmaths.com



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