

E-assessment tools for mathematical study courses

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Motivation

- mathematics is integrated in many courses of studies
- many students have difficulties to pass the math examinations
- Goal: integrate electronic exercises in mathematical courses at university (in addition to lectures, seminars etc.)
 - → additional possibility to exercise (without correction effort)
 - → continuous (individual) feedback about level of knowledge
 - → assistance in preparation of the exam

Tools:

- electronic exercises are provided via OPAL
- Cooperation with BPS (Bildungsportal Sachsen) GmbH
- new tools suitable for mathematical exercises have been developed

Onyx-Editor

Single exercises and tests are created with the E-Assessment tool Onyx.

Features:

- · formulas can be integrated via the standard ŁTFX syntax
- · various types of exercises:
 - · single choice, multiple choice
 - cloze questions
 - calculation tasks
 - · matching tasks
- usage of the computer algebra system MAXIMA
 - definition and connection of parameters \rightarrow create random based exercises
 - interpretation of formulas \rightarrow ask for mathematical expressions
- individual feedback, show sample solutions

Parameterized exercises - some examples

Exercise of a certain type \rightarrow multiple individual exercises:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{p}{q}\right)^n = ?$$

Berechnen Sie die folgende Summe!

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{7}{8}\right)^n = \checkmark 8$$

Berechnen Sie die folgende Summe!

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{11}{12}\right)^n =$$

Berechnen Sie die folgende Summe!

$$(a + bi) \cdot (c + di) = ?$$

multiplikation 01 | Erreicht: 1 von 1 Punkt(en)

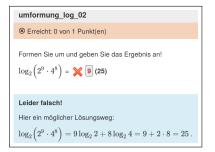
$$(4 + 2i) \cdot (3 + 3i) = 6 + 18 i$$

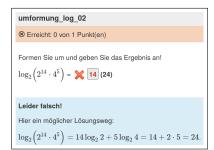
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Rerechnen Siel

Feedback

Implement feedback/ show sample solution, depending on the chosen parameters:





Motivation:

Mathematical symbols/expressions are needed for most mathematical questions:

- Solve the following equation for x: 13x = 5Correct answer: $x = \frac{5}{13}$ (instead of x = 0.384615...)
- Solve the following equation for x > 0: $(2x)^2 = 2$ Correct answer: $x = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$ (instead of x = 0.7071068...)
- Solve the following equation for x: $e^x = a$. Correct answer: $x = \log(a)$

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- Differentiate the function $f(x) = \sin(3x)$ with respect to x. Correct answer: $f'(x) = 3*\cos(3*x)$
- Which function fulfills the initial value Problem y'(x) = 3y(x), y(0) = 2. Correct answer: $y(x) = 2 \times (3 \times x)$

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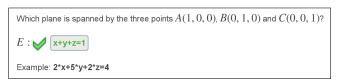
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- Which plane is spanned by the three points A(1,0,0), B(0,1,0), C(0,0,1)? Insert one possible solution.

Possible answers: x+y+z=1 or -x-y-z=-1 or 2*x+2*y+2*z=2 ...

Validation of formulas - Principle

- student types in a solution using Maxima notation
- formula is validated
- 3 the system checks
 - if learner response == correct solution (as indicated by the author)
 is(equal (LEARNERRESPONSE, CORRECTRESPONSE))
 - or: if the learner response fulfills a certain condition (specified by the author)



check if the entered equation is equivalent to the sample solution

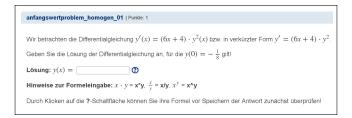
→ each possible representation of the plane is accepted as a correct answer:



$$E: \bigvee [x=1-y-z]$$

Syntax validation

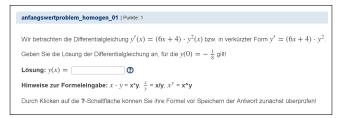
How to type in the answer? Provide the necessary syntax!

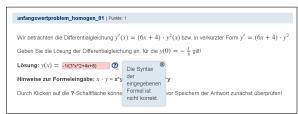




Syntax validation

- How to type in the answer? Provide the necessary syntax!
- Syntax of the students answer is validated before submit.



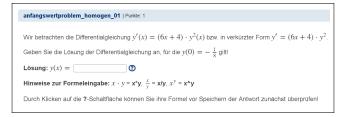


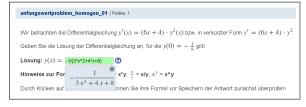
Syntax is not correct

 \rightarrow warning

Syntax validation

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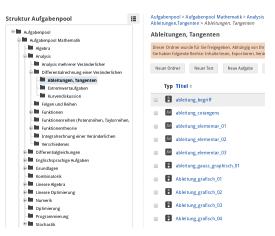




 $\begin{array}{l} \text{Correct syntax} \\ \rightarrow \text{ gap is colored green,} \\ \text{preview of formula} \end{array}$

Library of exercises

- created a library of mathematical exercises in ONYX, which is used by lecturers of different Saxon academies
- corporate administration, frequent exchange
- possibility to specify meta data (subject area, description of exercise, key words, ...)
- exercises are already integrated in different mathematical courses



Ongoing Projects

- · OPAL course on complex analysis for students in Africa (Ghana, Senegal)
- math course for students in the area of mechanical engineering: lecture accompanying electronic exercises and tests
- · usage of electronic exercises in the scope of refresher courses



Thank you for your attention!

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