

Contributing to Better Mathematics

It might seem like a challenging task to contribute to the Better Mathematics repository. But it really isn't! I'll break down the process into simple steps that you can follow.

Creating content

We use the following structure for the information in each section:

1. Basic information
2. Useful links
3. Exam information
4. Other

It may be that you don't enter all of the above, but you should follow the given order.

If you want to add a new section (for a new course etc.), you will have to create a markdown file. To keep it organised, give it a sensible name – for instance `coursecode.md`. Remember to give it the `.md` suffix.

Markdown

The content of Better Mathematics is written in markdown. If you don't know it already, have a look at this [Markdown reference](#) to get you started.

YAML

The first part of the markdown file (delimited by `--`) is called YAML (stands for YAML Ain't a Markup Language). It provides some information on the content. These are the components that you may want to include in it:

- `year:` typical year of delivery of the course, or what year the content relates to
- `semester:` semester of delivery of the course
- `title:` name of the course / title for the section
- `pinned:` can be either `true` or `false` (default), affects whether the post will appear on the top of the page (only set it to `true` when it's general or important information)
- `archived:` also a boolean, when `true` the section is not shown on the web but remains on GitHub; default is `false`
- `links:` a list of any resources you want link to – each of them needs a `name` and an `url`, for example:

```
1 links:
2   - name: piazza
3     url: https://piazza.com/class/12345678
4   - name: drps
5     url: http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/20-21/dpt/cx_sb_math.htm
```

- `course-acronym:` the acronym of the course should be consistent with the `_data/courses.yml` file (can be found [here](#))

You do **not** have to make use of all of these settings!

GitHub

The code for this website is public and can be accessed on [GitHub](#). That way anyone can contribute to it – you don't even have to know much about git. All you need to do is find the section you want to edit and click on *Edit on GitHub*.

[Introduction to Linear Algebra drps](#) | [drps](#), [info](#) 

 [Edit on GitHub](#)

You will need a GitHub account for this so if you don't have one already, sign up. It is completely free of charge, in fact as a student you get many [benefits](#).

First time editing

Upon logging in, you will be asked to Fork the repository which creates a copy of the code for you to edit. Once you confirm, an editor will appear and you are ready to change or add content. When you're done, give us a brief description of what you did and press the *Propose changes* button.

Propose changes

Fixed typo

Add an optional extended description...

Propose changes Cancel

Next, you will have to create a pull request (PR), and confirm it one more time in the *Open a pull request* form.

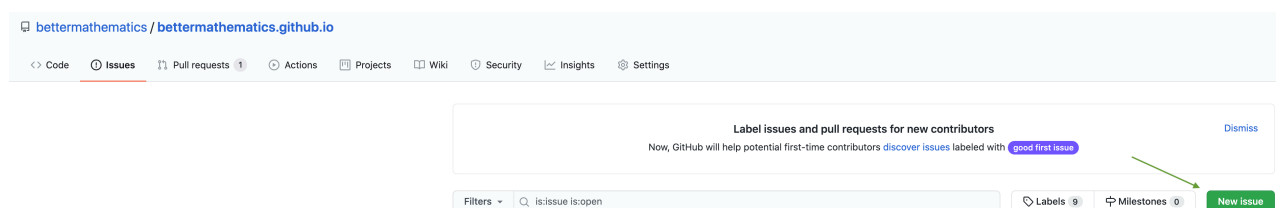
✓ **Able to merge.** These branches can be automatically merged.

Discuss and review the changes in this comparison with others. [Learn about pull requests](#) Create pull request

And that's you done! Someone will review your pull request and merge your changes into the master branch.

Returning editors

If you are an active user, please let us know and we will make it a bit easier for you to edit by adding you as a contributor to the repository. You should do this preferably by raising an *Issue* where you simply ask to be assigned the role.

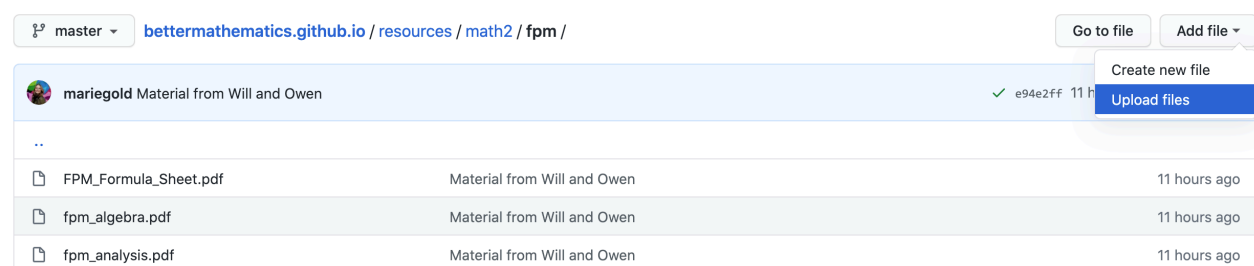


We require that someone reviews your code before it is merged because we don't want anyone to accidentally break the website (it happens to all of us). When you become a contributor, you can start reviewing and approving the code too!

If you are more proficient with git, feel free to use the command line.

Adding files

To add a file, go to the [resources](#) directory and choose the appropriate folder. Each course has its dedicated folder (if it doesn't, make one!) named using the course acronym (lowercase). In there, you can simply upload the files.



To link to a particular file, use the following syntax: `resources/mathX/course-acronym/filename.format`. For instance, the following code will create a hyperlink to the Algebra cheatsheet:

```
[Algebra](resources/math2/fpm/fpm_algebra.pdf)
```

See a typo? Or a broken link? Fix it please! Found a cool video on Laplace transforms? Share it!

If you need any help, drop us an email 😊