

# Do First-Year Science Undergraduates Know The Mathematics That They Are Supposed To Know?

(Poster)

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As is well known, all (natural) sciences use a fair amount of mathematics. The higher mathematics required to finish undergraduate studies in some of the sciences vary, but virtually all undergraduate study programs in sciences include mathematics courses covering calculus, vector algebra and other higher math topics. Obviously, it is expected that students who enrol science studies have a more developed mathematical literacy than students who enrol in, say, humanities. In particular, one should expect that students enrolling such studies have no problems with basic arithmetics, elementary algebra and geometry. Unfortunately, this is not necessarily the case, as shall be demonstrated by examples obtained from first-year chemistry and biology undergraduates in a Croatian university.

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