UBC Forestry

Insert LaTex Math Equation in Canvas Text Field

Table of Contents

LaTex is a typesetting system that allows users to type math equations easily using their keyboards. LaTex equations can be used in any Canvas text fields including calendars, assignment titles and descriptions, discussion titles and descriptions, quiz questions and options, pages, etc. This document provides instructions on how to insert LaTex math equation in Canvas text field.

How does Canvas format LaTex equations

Canvas detects specific symbols such as "$$" or "/(" to identify LaTex equations. There are two formats of LaTex equations: (1) inline equation; and (2) block equation.

1. \(XXXX\) → the equation should be in an inline format
   a. i.e.: \(area = \int_{a}^b f(x)dx\)

   This is an inline equation: $area = \int_a^b f(x)dx$

2. $$XXXX$$ → the equation should be in a block format
   a. $$y = mx + b$$
   b. $$x={-b\pm\sqrt{b^24ac}\over 2a}$$

This is an inline equation: $area = \int_a^b f(x)dx$

Below is a block equation:

$$y = mx + b$$

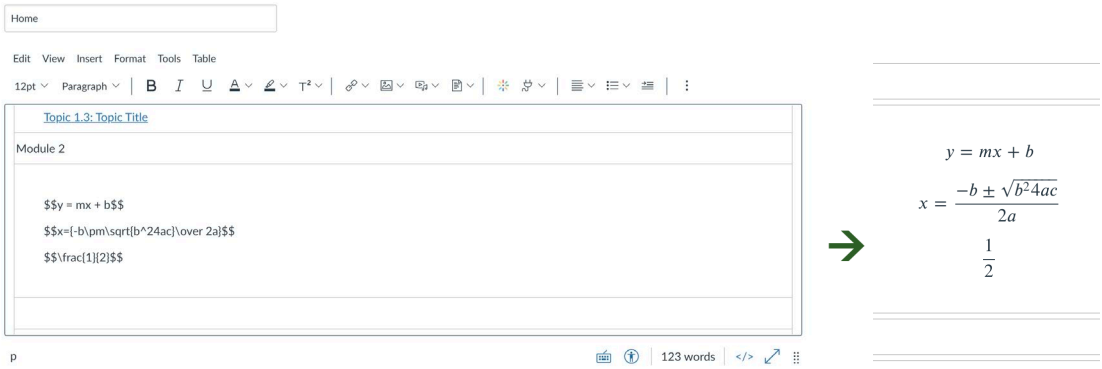
Below is another block equation:

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 4ac}}{2a}$$

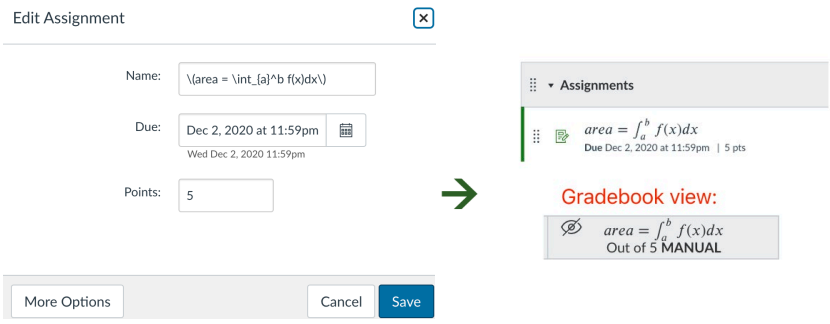
Where can instructors use LaTex in Canvas?

LaTex can now be used in any Canvas Text field. Below is a list of several text fields in which LaTex is typically used.

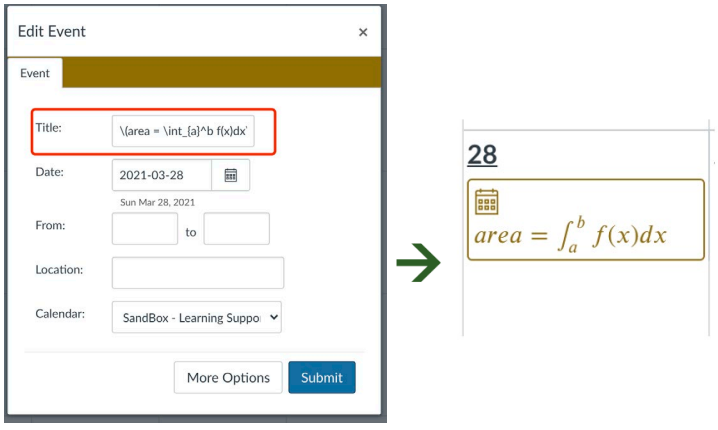
1. Any rich content editor in Canvas



2. Assignment/discussion/quiz titles



3. Calendar titles



LaTex Cheat sheet

Below is a reference table of frequently used LaTex Math symbols:

Name	Symbol	LaTex
Left parenthesis	(	\left(
Right parenthesis	)	\right)
Left bracket	[	\left[
Right bracket	]	\right]
infinity symbol	∞	\infty
negative infinity	$-\infty$	-\infty
multiplied by	$\times$	\times
divided by	$\div$	\div
square root	$\sqrt{x}$	\sqrt{x}
fraction	$\frac{x}{y}$	\frac{x}{y}
is not less than	$\nless$	\nless
is not greater than	$\ngtr$	\ngtr
is less than or equal to	$\leq$	\leq
is greater than or equal to	$\geq$	\geq
is approximately	$\approx$	\approx
is congruent to	$\cong$	\cong
is not equal to	$\neq$	\neq or \ne
plus or minus	$\pm$	\pm

For a more detailed list of LaTeX mathematical symbols, please refer to:

- https://oeis.org/wiki/List_of_LaTeX_mathematical_symbols
- https://s3.amazonaws.com/tr-learncanvas/docs/CanvasEquationEditorAdvanced.pdf