Contributing to SageMath: a guide for mathematicians

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NOSH talk

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Process

Process

Why contributing?

- o Community:
 - · SageMath is used by a wide range of people
 - · Be part of a new community
- Useful:
 - For research (e.g. https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.12618)
 - · For learning
 - · Make your work visible
- Develop valued skills:
 - · Skills applicable to most Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) projects
 - · Diversify your skillset
 - · Contributions are visible
- Have your work recognized (e.g. ISSAC Software Demonstrations)

Why SageMath?

- Free and Open Source Software (FOSS)
- Python-based
- o Widely used
- A lot of computational facilities
- Very active development and community

What to contribute?

Examples:

- Typos and small fixes
- Enhance documentation
- Add an algorithm
- Create a brand new module
- Solve existing issues

Super duper honesty time

- Get your supervisor's approval!
- The process can be frustrating (like peer-review)
- Compiling SageMath = 😥

Process

Starter pack

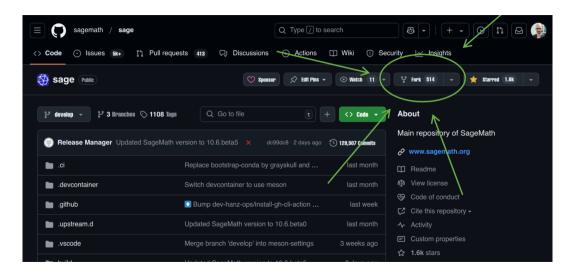
You need:

- \circ Git
- A Github account
- o Python

General principle

Integrate in the community!

1. Fork



2. Compile

Optional but highly recommended:

```
tmux new -s sage
```

Then:

(Type ctrl+b then d to "detach" the tmux session, and run tmux attach -t sage to enter it again.)

3. Code

Some locations:

o Code: src/sage/

o Doc: src/doc/

After modifications, rebuild with

```
./sage -
```

3. Code

Some locations:

o Code: src/sage/

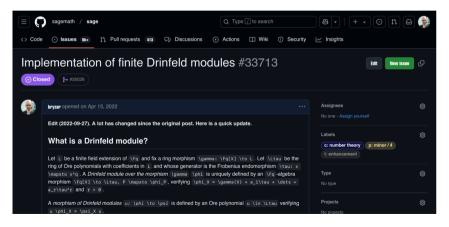
∘ Doc: src/doc/

After modifications, rebuild with:

./sage -b

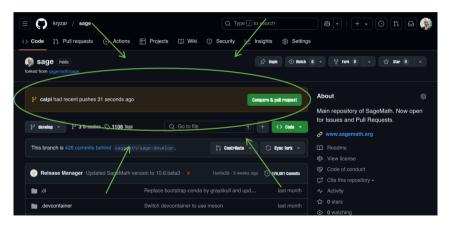
4. Connect with the community

- Open an *Issue* to discuss...
- o If minor modifications, directly open a Pull Request...



5. Open your *Pull Request*

- 1. V You have written and pushed a bunch of commits on your fork!
- 2. You have successfully written tests and documentation!



Process

Basic checklist

Among other things:

- V Does my code respect the standards of the community?
- V Did I write a docstring?
- ✓ Did I write tests?
- Did I cover all cornercases?
- V Did I correctly update the documentation?

Useful links

Tools:

Pro Git: https://git-scm.com/book/en/v2

Pep8: https://pep8.org/

Community:

Mailing list https://groups.google.com/g/Sage-Devel?pli=1

Forum https://ask.sagemath.org/questions/
Sage Days https://wiki.sagemath.org/Workshops

SageMath stuff:

Developer guide https://doc.sagemath.org/html/en/developer/ Documentation https://doc.sagemath.org/html/en/index.html

Main repo https://github.com/sagemath/sage/

Conventions https://doc.sagemath.org/html/en/developer/coding_basics.html