

# *Adapting mathtutor for the life sciences*

*Vicki Tariq*

Faculty of Health, UCLAN



# Maths in Biosciences Project

1. Develop video-led, multimedia e-learning resources to support post-GCSE students in the life sciences
  - adapting the **mathtutor** model & adopting its technologies
  - using a contextual, problem-based learning model
2. Identify & evaluate strategies for integrating their use in learning environments
3. Investigate their impact on mathematical competencies & transferability of skills

## 1. Establish the context

- student presented with a case study/scenario (**video documentary, narration & set of notes**)
- at level appropriate for student's current state of knowledge & understanding of biology
- motivate student to **want** to learn the maths



## 2. Allow reflection & provide additional information

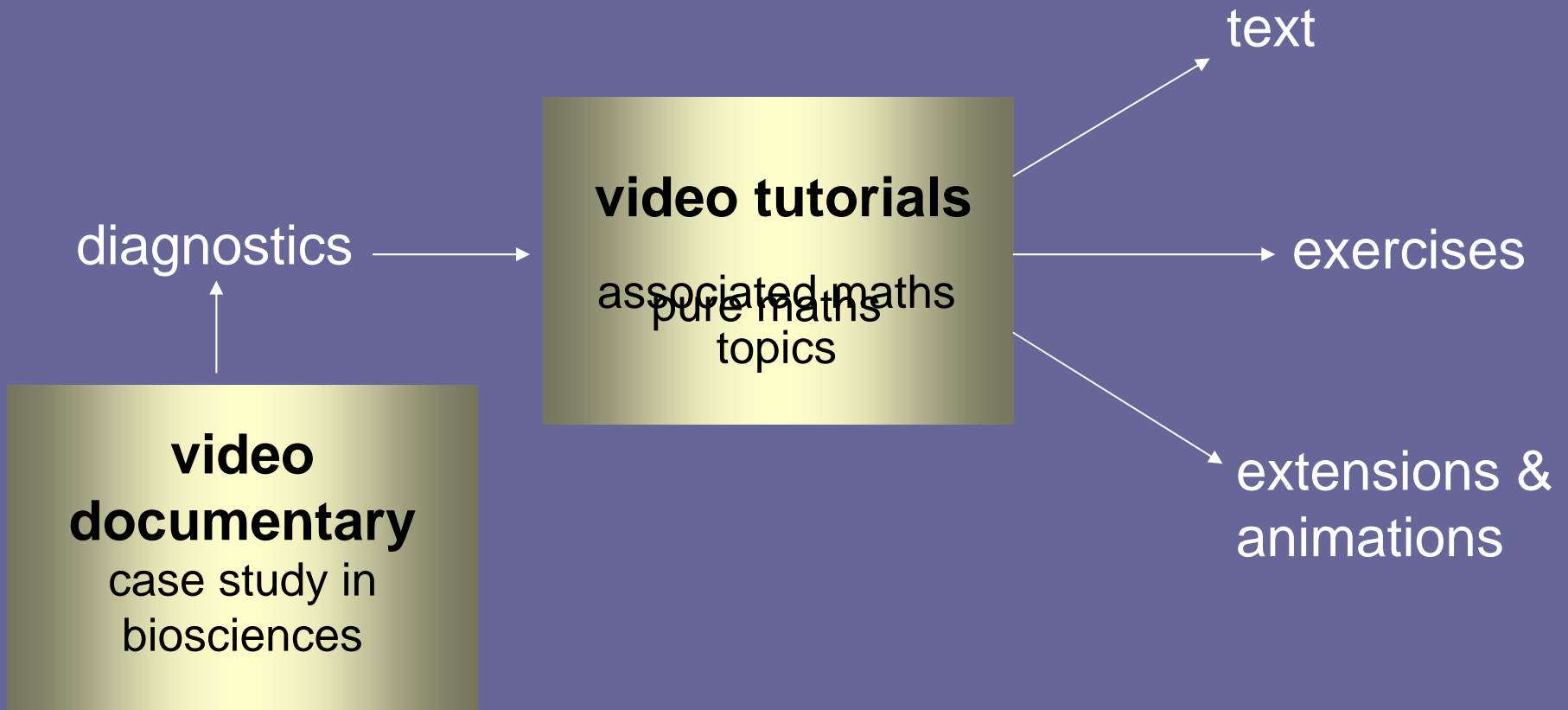
- student reflects on existing knowledge & skills (biological & mathematical)
- uses **diagnostic maths tests**
- receives additional information & help (**video tutorials & extended notes**)



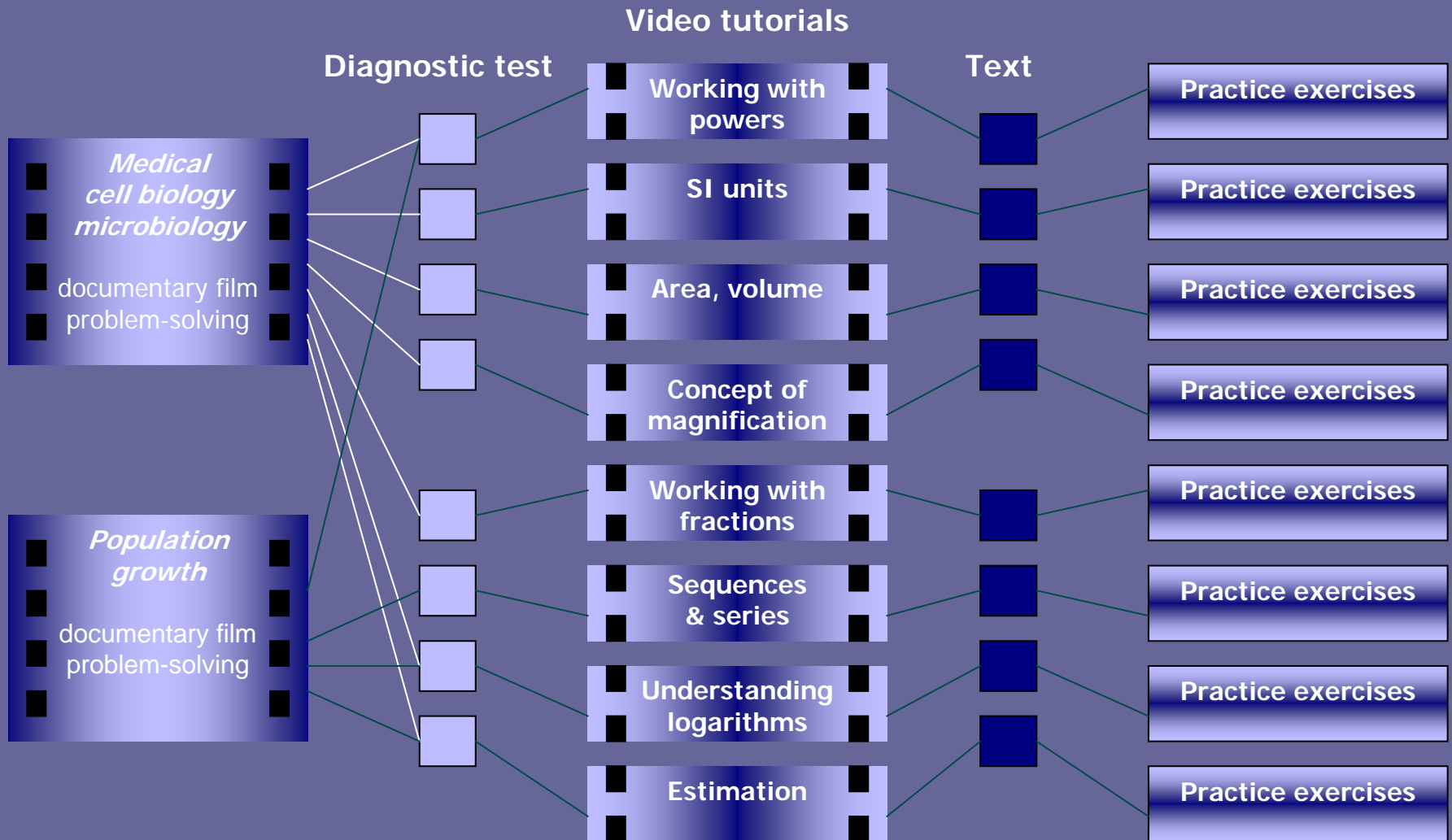
### **3. Provide opportunity to handle information & apply to new contexts**

- student uses knowledge & skills to solve current problem
- applies knowledge & skills in new contexts (**practice exercises & new case studies**)
- student encouraged to make connections & link theory to practice

# Maths in Biosciences



# Maths in Biosciences Pilot



# Collaborations & Funding

- EBS Trust (& its associates)
- 13 colleagues (>80 subscribers to Biomaths list)
  - HE & secondary education (with links to FE)
- HE Academy's Centre for Bioscience
- HEFCE (NTFS)
- Exploring expressions of interest from other funding organisations

[www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/biomaths-ed.html](http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/biomaths-ed.html)

[www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/network/sigs/numeracy/index.htm](http://www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/network/sigs/numeracy/index.htm)