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TEX Users Group

Memberships and Subscriptions
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Membership in the TEX Users Group is for the calendar year, and includes all issues of TUGboat for the year in which membership begins or is renewed. Individual membership is open only to named individuals, and carries with it such rights and responsibilities as voting in TUG elections. For membership information, visit the TUG web site: http://www.tug.org.

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Problems not resolved?
The TUG Board wants to hear from you:
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[printing date: July 2003]
One of the great ironies of the information age is that, while the late twentieth century will undoubtedly have recorded more data than any other period in history, it will also almost certainly have lost more information than any previous era.

Alexander Stille

The Future of the Past (2002)
For the 2002 membership year, the communications of the \TeX Users Group will be published as one double issue and two regular issues. The first issue (Vol. 23, No. 1) contains the Proceedings of the TUG 2002 Annual Meeting.

For 2003, three issues will be published. The first issue (Vol. 24, No. 1) is expected to contain the Proceedings of Euro\TeX 2003, and the second issue, the Proceedings of the 2003 TUG Annual Meeting. The third issue will be a regular issue.

We are unfortunately not able to set a definitive schedule for the appearance of the next few issues.

\textit{TUGboat} is distributed as a benefit of membership to all members.

Submissions to \textit{TUGboat} are reviewed by volunteers and checked by the Editor before publication. However, the authors are still assumed to be the experts. Questions regarding content or accuracy should therefore be directed to the authors, with an information copy to the Editor.

\section*{Submitting Items for Publication}
Owing to the lateness of the present issue, and the scarcity of material submitted for future issues, items will be processed as received.

Manuscripts may be submitted to a member of the \textit{TUGboat} Editorial Board, as listed at the top of this page (see addresses on p. 259). Articles of general interest or those not covered by any of the editorial departments listed should be sent by electronic mail to \texttt{TUGboat@tug.org}

All items submitted on magnetic media or as camera-ready copy should be addressed to the Editor-in-Chief, Barbara Beeton, to the Managing Editor, Robin Laakso, or to the Production Manager, Mimi Burbank, with an e-mail notice to the \textit{TUGboat} address.

The \textit{TUGboat} “style files”, for use with either \texttt{plain TeX} or \texttt{I\TeX}, are available from CTAN and are on the \TeX Live CD. For authors who have no network access (browser or FTP), they will be sent on request; please specify which is preferred. Send e-mail to the \textit{TUGboat} address above, or write or call the TUG office.

\section*{Reviewers}
Additional reviewers are needed, to assist in checking new articles for completeness, accuracy, and presentation. Volunteers are invited to submit their names and interests for consideration; write to \texttt{TUGboat@tug.org} or to the Editor, Barbara Beeton (see address on p. 259).

\section*{Other TUG Publications}
TUG is interested in considering additional manuscripts for publication. These might include manuals, instructional materials, documentation, or works on any other topic that might be useful to the \TeX community in general. Provision can be made for including macro packages or software in computer-readable form. If you have any such items or know of any that you would like considered for publication, send the information to the attention of the Publications Committee at \texttt{tug-pub@tug.org} or in care of the TUG office.

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General Delivery

From the Board of Directors

Arthur Ogawa
TUG Vice President

Editor’s note: Although this issue of TUGboat has a cover date of December 2001, we’re including this news as of the printing date, June 2003, in the interest of timely communication.

Greetings!

As of June 2003 the \TeX Users Group has made significant progress working on problems of long standing, yet the changing times have brought us new challenges.

Here are some of the matters that have been effectively addressed.

- The TUG office is now competently run.

  In July 1997, the TUG office was moved to its present location in Portland, Oregon, from San Francisco, California. Changes in location were stressful, but far more disruptive were four complete changes in office staff in the period March 1997–September 1998.

  A further change was made at the beginning of 2000, when our managing consultant Richard Detwiler hired the current office manager, Robin Laakso. By dint of hard work, volunteer help, and aided by part-time employee Janice Carter, our accounting books are up to date, our member database is correct, and needed reports are being provided to the Board of Directors. In short, the office is well run.

  It has long been recognized that the office manager, as the sole person paid to be concerned full time with TUG affairs, is at the heart of TUG. The Board is very pleased with Robin’s performance and is committed to supporting her. It is a pleasure to work with her.

- The \TeX Live and the Dante CTAN CD-ROMs now ship on time.

  TUG’s software offerings, updated yearly, used to be inserted into TUGboat, but are now shipped separately as they become available. The change reflects the fact that TUG members now perceive the CDs as a primary benefit of membership.

- TUG is a key player in \TeX’s Internet presence.

  Thanks to a generous donation by Dante e.V. in 1996, TUG reinstated a North American node of the Comprehensive \TeX Archive Network (CTAN), first created by TUG member George Greenwade at Sam Houston State University, joining those in the UK (cam.ctan.org) and Germany (dante.ctan.org). TUG purchased new hardware for tug.ctan.org, since 2001 run by volunteer and TUG member Jim Hefferson (Saint Michael’s College, Colchester, Vermont).

  TUG also participates in the creation of \TeX Live through its host tug.org (run by volunteer and TUG director Kaja Christiansen, University of Arhus), as well as substantial efforts by many individual TUG members.

  TUG hosts a number of \TeX-related email lists by means of which volunteers coordinate their efforts in projects such as \TeX Live, Web2C, \LaTeX2HTML, tex2dvi, pdflatex. In 2003, the original and still very much living \TeX list texhax moved to tug.org. Archives and subscription information reside at http://tug.org/mailman/listinfo/texhax.

  Finally, TUG supports \TeX user groups worldwide by selling to them, at cost, the \TeX Live CD-ROM. TUG provides this service to anyone wishing to purchase the CD in bulk.

  In the future, your TUG membership will continue to support these activities with needed hardware purchases. And TUG is pleased to note that TUG members are among the many volunteers who work on CTAN, \TeX Live, and the many other \TeX-oriented projects and mailing lists, all devoted to helping \TeX users.

- TUG membership has recovered from its decline.

  TUG members numbered about 1400 in 1997, the culmination of a gradually increasing slide starting about 1990. TUG membership has been stable for the last few years at about 2000.

  The cause of the decline is not well understood, but my belief is that the cause of its reversal is the \TeX Live CD-ROM. TUG shipped \TeX Live 2 to all members in 1997 and has continued to do so each year since. The Dante CTAN CD-ROM was added as a benefit of membership in 1998.

- TUGboat now has a paid Managing Editor.

  At its meeting in 2001, the TUG Board of Directors designated Robin Laakso as the TUGboat Managing Editor. As such, she assists Editor Barbara Beeton and the TUGboat Production Team in producing our journal. The hope is that TUGboat operations will benefit from the involvement of a designated managing editor, at the same time being more accountable and visible to the board.

  This has proven to be the case, as three issues (counting this one) have shipped since February
New challenges face TUGboat in March 2003; a report will be printed in a future issue. The TUG Development Fund awarded its first round of grants in 2001, and now approved by the Board, the Fund’s Technical Council has decided to incorporate an attempt to change our IRS status. Working with an attorney, we successfully applied to the IRS for the change; as of February 25, 2003, TUG was granted 501(C)(3) status, retroactive to September 10, 2002, to be reviewed in five years. (Please see http://tug.org/tax-exempt.)

The expected benefits are high: as a charitable organization, TUG is now much more likely to receive donations in money or in kind, since such donations would generally be tax-deductible. The new status also makes it easier for corporate employees to attend our conferences.

Expect to see more about this in future TUGboat columns.

• TUGboat columns.
• TEX Users Group now supports technical development financially.

A recent initiative by TUG’s Technical Council was to propose the formation of a TEX Development Fund. Now approved by the TUG Board, the Fund will award stipends to projects that will benefit TUG users; see http://tug.org/tc/devfund/. The Development Fund awarded its first round of grants in March 2003; a report will be printed in a future TUGboat.

New challenges face TUG

• TUGboat articles and conference papers are increasingly difficult to get.

Reports from both TUGboat editors and conference program committees agree that it is much more difficult to find the material to publish or present.

TUGboat had noted the developing problem as early as 1997. And as recently as 2000, conference papers seemed to be in abundance, but there appears to have been a shift here as well.

Notwithstanding, our efforts at soliciting material have had some success. About half the articles in this issue come from solicitations to authors making CTAN uploads. Volunteers to help with this (and other TUGboat work) would be most welcome, please email tugboat@tug.org if you’d like to help.

• TUGboat continues to publish, but about 12 months late.

Over the past five years, TUGboat’s production schedule has slipped to the point where it now ships about 12 months late. Some attribute the problem to the lack of papers submitted.

The TUG Business Committee recently approved a plan to combine TUGboat issues 1 and 2 into one printed issue; the first of these was Volume 21, Number 1/2, mailed out earlier this year. The expected benefit of this decision was to help bring TUGboat back on schedule. The TUG Board has recently passed on a motion to reduce the number of TUGboat issues from four to three, formalizing this change.

We expect the second and third TUGboat issues of 2002 to also be combined into a double issue, and we are now printing conference issues as they are produced (out of sequence). We hope that prompt publication of conference proceedings will be welcomed by our members.

• TUG membership has stagnated.

I noted above that TUG’s membership has remained steady at about 2000 for a few years. This is better than a decline, but by comparison to, e.g., the German users group (at about 2200 members), it is certainly nothing to be complacent about.

In many respects, TUG is at an understandable disadvantage relative to some of the other user groups. But I think that TUG can improve its membership numbers. The Board has discussed forming a Membership Committee to do further work along these lines.

Earlier in 2003, we mailed a survey to 2001 members who did not renew in 2002. The results indicated that the biggest reason for non-renewal was lateness of TUGboat, which we are addressing as best we can, as indicated above.

• Relations with European TEX groups must be reviewed.

Volker Schaa, president of our sister organization in Germany, Dante e.V., wrote in May 2002 and again in October 2002 to the TUG Board of Directors with concerns shared by TEX users groups in Europe. He questioned the value of joint memberships and notified us of the European groups’ intention to cooperate with each other on TEX conferences in future.

Also, Volker tells us that the European user groups have formulated a plan to hold joint conferences in Europe (EuroTEX) every year for the next five years. In the recent past, TUG has held conferences in Europe at Dubna (1996), Toruń (1998),
and Oxford (2000). The arrangement in future will probably have to change, given that the EU funding agency will require the conference to be that of a European group, not TUG.

Since fall 2002, we have been in communication with the European (and other) user groups, and have established grounds for cooperation on conference scheduling, technical development, and other matters.

**TUG 2003 elections**


The TUG Board is the steward of the organization, overseeing operations, addressing problems, implementing solutions, donating labor, expertise, enthusiasm, and support. At all times, we bear in mind the charter of the \TeX\ Users Group: to encourage the use of \TeX\ (and related programs) and to support \TeX\ users.

**TUG 2003 in Hawai’i**

The 25th annual TUG Conference and Annual General Meeting will be held July 20–24, 2003, at the Outrigger Waikoloa Beach Resort, Hawai’i. This event is already shaping up to be one of the most memorable conferences we have ever held, with special guest Duane Bibby, other eminent speakers, and exciting talks, all taking place at what must be the most lovely location around, the Kohala Coast of the Big Island of Hawai’i.


Are you interested in presenting your work in \TeX\ at one of our conferences? Please see [http://tug.org/tug2004](http://tug.org/tug2004).

**Your help is needed**

Because TUG is an organization of volunteers, all of the benefits to our members come through the actions of people like you. Please consider how you can help the \TeX\ community!

- If you know of or have helped develop an application of \TeX\ software, please consider writing a paper for *TUGboat* or presenting a paper at a \TeX\-related conference.
- Consider donating some of your time to helping TUG put on conferences and training classes or publish *TUGboat*.
- If you are writing or producing a book using \TeX, please mention that fact in the colophon or acknowledgements, to help spread the word.
- For those with a technical bent, please help with the \TeX\ Live ([texlive@tug.org](mailto:texlive@tug.org)) and CTAN projects. While not TUG-specific activities, both CTAN and \TeX\ Live are run entirely by volunteers, most of them members of \TeX\ user groups, and we support them wholeheartedly. \TeX\ Live in particular needs help with its installer and its documentation.
- If you have any ideas for encouraging the use of \TeX\ or developing TUG membership, please bring them forward.

The TUG board welcomes your input or questions at any time. Please contact us by email at [board@tug.org](mailto:board@tug.org).

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Editorial Comments
Barbara Beeton

The status of TUGboat

This is the final issue of TUGboat for 2001. Thanks to everyone on the TUGboat production team for their hard work to make it happen.

Beginning with 2003, TUGboat will comprise three issues per year. This possibility was mentioned in my comments in the first 2001 issue (22:1/2). We hope that with fewer issues, we can attract articles of the high quality we strive for, and get the boat back on schedule.

The first 2002 issue has already appeared; it contains the proceedings of the 2002 TUG meeting. The next issue will be a combined issue (23:2/3); for this, we are planning on publishing two manuals: one about document creation, and the other on font installation. The last issue will be a “regular” issue (like this one), with articles on a variety of topics.
For 2003, the first issue will contain the proceedings of EuroT\TeX{} 2003. The second issue will contain the proceedings of the 2003 TUG meeting. And the third will again be a “regular” issue.

Glitches in TUGboat 22:1/2

Two articles in this year’s first issue had problems that escaped the notice of your editor.

In the first case, the glitch made it into print: a preliminary version of the translation of the “Laundatio for Professor Hermann Zapf” (pages 24–26) was published instead of the final version. Apologies to Frank Mittelbach. We also failed to identify the occasion for this presentation; it was delivered at the March 2000 meeting of Dante e.V., when Hermann Zapf was made an honorary member of the organization. The original, in German, appeared in Die T\Exnische Komödie 1/2000, pages 31–36. The final version of the translation is posted on the TUGboat web site; look for the March/June 2001 issue linked from http://www.tug.org/tugboat/contents.html.

The second case is something that wasn’t printed: the table of contents entry for “Drawing message sequence charts with L\TeX{}”, by Sjouke Mauw and Victor Bos (pages 87–92) was omitted. Please write it in on your copy of the issue.

Zapfest exhibition, honoring Hermann Zapf

The opening of an exhibition in September 2001 at the San Francisco Public Library, “Calligraphic Type Design in the Digital Age: An Exhibition in Honor of the Contributions of Hermann and Gudrun Zapf”, was attended by both Hermann Zapf and his wife, Gudrun Zapf von Hesse, as well as by various TUG members in the area. The \TeX{} Live CD and drawings for the Euler fonts were among the items exhibited.

Several photos of exhibited material, including the CD, can be seen at http://www.cds.caltech.edu/~wgm/zapfest/. Thanks to Cal Jackson (Caltech) for the photos.

Mordecai Richler font

The late Canadian author Mordecai Richler, whose best-known work is probably The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz, has been honored by the creation of a typeface to be known by his name. The font was commissioned by The Giller Prize and Random House of Canada, in consultation with the Richler family. The font will become the official typeface of The Giller Prize and has been used to set Richler’s last book, Dispatches from the Sporting Life.

The font was created by Canadian type designer Nick Shinn. It is a classic book typeface, but with strong modern characteristics, including distinctive letters “M” and “R” that will serve to identify it. The typeface was announced both on CBC radio and in the Toronto Globe & Mail, an unusual recognition for a new font.

Details of the commission, Richler’s association with The Giller Prize, and the font can be found at http://www.randomhouse.ca/richler.

References for \TeX{} and Friends

Peter Karp and Michael Wiedmann have announced the initial release of their ongoing documentation project, “References for \TeX{} and Friends”. The purpose of this project is to provide help/reference files for \LaTeX{} (and friends like Con\TeX{}, \METAFONT, \METAPOST, etc.) using the DocBook/XML format.

Various outputs can be generated from these source files, including formats for use with browsers and PDAs.

Contributions to this project in the form of either additional formats or documentation source are encouraged and welcome.

For information, see http://www.miwie.org/tex-refs/.

Institut d’Histoire du Livre


More historic books online at the British Library

Joining the copies of the Gutenberg Bible mentioned previously in this column (22:1/2) are a number of other treasures, including the Lindisfarne Gospels (a manuscript from the early 8th century), Sultan Baybars’ Qur’an (from the early 14th century), and the Tyndale New Testament (the first printed New Testament in English). Find them at http://www.bl.uk/collections/treasures/digitisation.html.

(An up-to-date installation of Shockwave is required in order to “turn the pages”.)
Web document analysis

The first International Workshop on Document Analysis was held in Seattle on 8 September 2001. The proceedings can be found online at http://www.csc.liv.ac.uk/~wda2001/.

The little tugboat that could

The photos at http://koti.mbnet.fi/~soldier/towboat.htm tell the truly amazing saga of a “real” tugboat that got itself into rough water. Don’t try this at home!

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execJS: A new technique for introducing discardable JavaScript into a \LaTeX{} file from a \LaTeX{} source

D. P. Story

1 Introduction

This article describes a technique, referred to as \texttt{execJS}\(^1\), for writing JavaScript from within a \LaTeX{} source file that will be executed once when the document is first opened, then discarded. The \texttt{execJS} technique allows you to execute JavaScript methods, even ones that have their use restricted for security reasons. The discardable code and the ability to execute even security-restricted methods are the distinguishing features of \texttt{execJS}.

The method requires Acrobat 5.0 or later (the full application, not the Acrobat Reader), or Acrobat Approval 5.0 or later. You can, though not required, use the Acrobat Distiller to create the PDF document; or, as so many do, you can use either the \texttt{pdftex} or \texttt{dvipdfm} applications. Once the PDF document is completed, it can be viewed by the Acrobat Reader 4.0 or higher.\(^2\)

The technique is meant to be used in document development, preparation and assembly for authors who want to tap into the power methods of JavaScript.

2 Summary of the technique

The \texttt{execJS} technique consists to two parts:

1. A new \LaTeX{} environment, the \texttt{execJS} environment

2. A few lines of folder-level JavaScript

The \texttt{execJS} environment is implemented as part of the \texttt{insdljs Package}\(^3\), which was written in preparation for the \TeX{} Users Group 2001 Conference.

Within the \texttt{execJS} environment the “discardable” JavaScript is written to an auxiliary file with an extension of \texttt{.fdf}. When the newly created PDF document is opened for the first time in the viewer (either Acrobat or Approval) the \texttt{.fdf} file is imported into the document, and the JavaScript contained within the file is executed.

The second part of the technique, the folder-level JavaScript, gives the “discardable” JavaScript the right to execute security-restricted JavaScript methods.

3 Animated motivation

In the past few years, document authors who are producing interactive PDF documents from a \LaTeX{} source have grown significantly in number.\(^4\) Many authors, myself included, crave to have the ability to use Acrobat’s powerful JavaScript interpreter to its fullest, all from a \LaTeX{} source. The development of the \texttt{execJS} technique is a significant step in that direction. The \texttt{execJS} method came about by my pursuit of a holy grail of \LaTeX{}/PDF production, animation. One of the examples that appears in this article is a PDF animation created entirely within a \LaTeX{} source file!

4 The \texttt{execJS} technique

Acrobat Version 5.0 comes with an extended FDF (Forms Data Format) specification. This specification creates a new \texttt{Doc} key, the value of which refers to JavaScript contained within the FDF file that is

\(^1\) execute JavaScript

\(^2\) Version 5.0 or later of Reader is required if JavaScript objects, properties or methods are used not available in version 4.0.

\(^3\) The \texttt{insdljs Package}, a standalone package, is distributed as a component package of the AcroTeX eDucation Bundle: \texttt{http://www.math.uakron.edu/~dpstory/webeq.html}

\(^4\) For links to and descriptions of some of the many authors doing quality work on the Web, see the AcroTeX web site: \texttt{http://www.math.uakron.edu/~dpstory/acrotex.html}
be imported into the document as Document Level JavaScript (DLJS). See the paper (Story, 2001) for
details of how to use this specification to insert DLJS from a \LaTeX{} source. DLJS can be inserted from
your \LaTeX{} source file using the insdljs Package. The specification also defines an \texttt{After} key, the value of
which is an indirect reference to JavaScript code also contained in the FDF file.

The \texttt{After} key is the one of interest in this paper. The JavaScript referenced by the \texttt{After} key is
executed after the FDF is imported into the document. The JavaScript is executed \textit{but not saved}, it is
"discardable".

Consider the following FDF file containing both the \texttt{Doc} and \texttt{After} keys.

\begin{verbatim}
%FDF-1.2
1 0 obj
<< /PDF
  /JavaScript
    /Doc 2 0 R /After 3 0 R
>>
endobj
2 0 obj
[ (ExecJS execjs) (var _execjs = true;) ]
endobj
3 0 obj
<<
stream
app.alert("Discardable" code executed!);
endstream
endobj
trailer
<< /Root 1 0 R >>
%%EOF
\end{verbatim}

When this file is imported into Acrobat (or Approval), one line of code will be placed at the docu-
ment level, \texttt{var execjs = true}, and one line of code
\begin{verbatim}
app.alert("Discardable" code executed!);
\end{verbatim}
will be executed, but not saved.

4.1 The \texttt{execJS} environment

It was a simple modification of the insdljs Package to implement an \texttt{execJS} environment that writes a
FDF file containing the \texttt{After} key. Thus,
\begin{verbatim}
\usepackage[execJS]{insdljs}
\begin{execJS}{execjs}
\texttt{app.alert("Discardable" code executed!)};
\end{execJS}
\end{verbatim}
writes the file seen in the FDF above. The required argument for this environment is the base file name
of the FDF to be written.

The environment not only writes the FDF file, if the \texttt{execJS} option of the insdljs Package is spec-
ified, it also adds an open page action to the first page of the document:

\begin{verbatim}
if (typeof _execjs == "undefined")
this.importAnFDF("execjs.fdf");
\end{verbatim}

This is a point in the whole technique where Acrobat or Approval is required. The JavaScript method
\texttt{this.importAnFDF()} is not available for the Acrobat Reader.

When the document is opened for the first time, the file \texttt{execjs.fdf} gets imported into the PDF document. The FDF also inserts the DLJS \texttt{var execjs = true} (which will be saved with the document). This variable declaration prevents the FDF from be-
ning repeatedly imported each time the first page is viewed.

4.2 Folder JavaScript

The \texttt{execJS} environment writes the FDF file which, in turn, is imported into the newly created PDF, the
JavaScript is executed, and is "discarded" (not saved); however, security-restricted JavaScript still
cannot be executed. An additional trick is needed.

Many of the restricted methods can be used only during, what Acrobat calls, menu, console or
batch events. The approach taken here is to execute JavaScript through a menu event. To do this, create a file, called \texttt{myJS.js} (or any name with an extension of \texttt{js}). The contents of this file are the lines:

\begin{verbatim}
_menuProc = function () {};
app.addMenuItem({
  cName: "MenuProc",
  cUser: "Menu Procedure",
  cParent: "Tools",
  cExec: "._MenuProc()",
  nPos: 0
});
\end{verbatim}

The first line defines \texttt{MenuProc}, a JavaScript function which does nothing. The rest of the lines define
a new menu item under the "Tools" menu. Additional menu items can only be created through a folder level JavaScript file.

Place \texttt{myJS.js} in the \texttt{JavaScripts} folder, follow the path Acrobat 5.0/Acrobat/JavaScripts.
This is the folder in which \texttt{aform.js}, the folder level JavaScript for the forms plugin, is kept.

The trick for executing JavaScript methods that are restricted to a menu event is to redefine the
Folder level function \texttt{MenuProc}. Consider the following code withing the \texttt{execJS} environment:

\begin{verbatim}
\begin{execJS}{execjs}
function importMyIcons () {
  for ( var i=0; i < 36; i++)
    this.importIcon("rotate"+i,"animation.pdf",i);
\end{execJS}
\end{verbatim}
A function importMyIcons is defined that imports a series of named icons using the this.importIcon(). The use of this method is restricted to menu, console or batch events if a file name is given as the second argument. The first argument is the name of the icon newly embedded in the document.

Following the function definition, we make the assignment

(MenuProc = importMyIcons;

Then execute the menu item named "MenuProc", which, in turn, causes MenuProc (now assigned as importMyIcons) to be executed. (Multiple function definitions and assignments can be made in this way.) Finally, the MenuProc function is reassigned its default definition (optional).

Important: After the document is assembled, save the document (as you can with Acrobat and Approval), this will save the DLJS, but not the "discardable" code.

See the Acrobat JavaScript Object Specification, Version 5.0 or later, for details of the JavaScript methods just illustrated.

5.1 animation.tex

In this section, an animation example is presented. The animation is done completely within the \LaTeX source file. After the PDF document is finally assembled, the animation is ready to run.

The animation was done using two \LaTeX files, execjstst.tex and animation.tex. The Acrobat Education Bundle\(^6\) was used. The Acrobat Bundle includes the following packages:

- The Web Package: For creating good looking PDF documents for the Web.
- The Exerquiz Package: For creating online exercises and quizzes. (In the animation, the form field macros only were used.) Exerquiz loads the insdljs Package and passes the options of insdljs to it.
- The insdljs Package: A package used to insert Document Level JavaScripts, to create open actions, and to create immediately executable and “discardable” JavaScript.

- The djlslib Package: A library of useful JavaScript functions that can be “checked out” for use.

5.2 ExecJStst.tex

The file execjstst.tex is actually the animation demo. Here is the verbatim listing of this file.

---

---
\section*{An Animation}

Many of the above commands come from the \texttt{exerquiz Package}. The macros \texttt{\backslash jsR} and \texttt{\backslash jsT} expand to \texttt{\char11 r} and \texttt{\char11 t}, which are escape sequences in JavaScript for newline and tab; \texttt{\backslash eqIcon} makes it easy to create a button field set up for displaying a (PDF) icon as its face appearance; \texttt{\backslash eqGenButton} is a general command for creating push buttons.

The JavaScript action defined by \LaTeX{} command, \texttt{\backslash aniCtrlAction}, first defines a JavaScript function called \texttt{ShowIt}, which gets the \texttt{icon object} using the \texttt{getIcon} method, sets the button appearance of the \texttt{myAnimation} field using the field method \texttt{buttonSetIcon} method, and increments a counter; at the top-level, the script gets the \texttt{field object} for the \texttt{myAnimation} field, starts a timing event which calls the function \texttt{ShowIt} every 100 milliseconds, initializes the counter, and sets the timeout interval.

\section*{Another example}

Recently, I produced a PDF version of an \texttt{html} online survey for the \textit{Seybold PDF Conference 2002}. The online version was an “intelligent” survey: the answer to one question determined what question would next be posed to the respondent.

\LaTeX{} and the Acro\TeX{} Bundle were used to duplicate the questions and the functionality of the \texttt{html} version in PDF. A short macro package was written, \texttt{\backslash insdljs} was automatically introduced into the document using the \texttt{\backslash insdljs} package which supported the “logic” of the survey.

The PDF version uses form templates. (A form template is a special type of page that can be hidden or made visible, a copy of a template can be spawned, Acrobat viewer or Acrobat Approval required.) Templates were used to reveal the next page, based on the answers given on the current page by the respondent.

Templates cannot be created using the \texttt{pdfmark} operator (\texttt{pdftex} and \texttt{dvi2pdf} do not support their creation), but can be created using certain security-restricted JavaScript methods. The \texttt{execJS} technique was used to create the templates. As a result, a fairly complex PDF document was assembled entirely from the content and commands in the \LaTeX{} source file.

Read the article “Seybold PDF survey in PDF also worthy of study”\footnote{www.planetpdf.com/mainpage.asp?webpageid=2130} by Kurt Foss, Planet PDF Editor\footnote{Planet PDF: www.planetpdf.com}, for more details of the operational capability of the PDF version of the survey.

\section*{7 In conclusion}

\LaTeX{} has become a powerful markup language for creating interactive PDF documents; in my opinion, the \LaTeX{} system is the premier system for building, debugging, modifying and assembling complex PDF documents. The \texttt{hyperref} and \texttt{exerquiz} packages can be used to create links and form fields with JavaScript actions attached, the \texttt{\backslash insdljs} package allows for the insertion of document level JavaScript into a \LaTeX{} document, open actions, and now executable, “discordable” JavaScript that can be used in a post-creation setting.

\section*{References}


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Abstract
After giving a short overview of SVG, pointing out its advantages for describing in a portable way the graphics content of electronic documents, we show how we converted \TeX font outlines (the Type 1 variant) into SVG outlines and explain how these SVG font glyphs can be used in SVG instances of documents typeset with \TeX.

1 Introduction
The increasing affordability of the personal computer drastically reduces the production cost of electronic documents. The World Wide Web makes distributing these documents worldwide cheap, easy, and fast. Taken together, these two developments have considerably changed the economic factors controlling the generation, maintenance, and dissemination of electronic documents. More recently, the development of the XML family of standards and the ubiquity of the platform-independent Java language make it possible to have a unified approach to handle the huge amount of information stored electronically and to transform it into various customizable presentation forms.

Given the severe financial constraints in many parts of the world, where it is often out of the question to even consider printing multiple copies of a (highly technical) document, electronic dissemination via the Web is the only way to publish. Thus, the Web is not only an additional medium for the traditional publishing industry, but a necessary complement in large parts of the world to participate in sharing scientific and technical information and benefit from the wealth and progress it creates.

Various techniques are now available to transform \TeX documents into PDF, HTML (XHTML), or XML so that the information can be made available on the Web. Thus, \TeX will continue to play a major role in the integrated worldwide cyberspace, especially in the area of scientific documents. However, it is clear that \TeX’s greatest impact will remain in the area of typesetting, with \TeX remaining an important intermediate format for generating high-quality printable PDF output.

The present article explores ways of transforming \TeX-encoded information globally into a Scalable Vector Graphics (SVG) format, in particular by exploiting the use of the SVG font machinery. A further step, to be described in a forthcoming article, will be to transform the \TeX document into various XML vocabularies, thus saving as much semantic information as possible.\footnote{For instance, the hierarchical structure of the document is encoded in XML by using one of DocBook, TEI or, to a certain extent, XHTML, while other specific XML vocabularies are used for their given application domain, such as MathML for mathematics, SVG for two-dimensional graphics, CML for chemistry, BSML for bioinformatics, GeneXML or GEML for gene expression, and many others.}

Such a modular approach makes optimal document reuse possible.

2 SVG for portable graphics on the Web
As the Web has grown in popularity and complexity, users and content providers wanted ever better and more precise graphical rendering, as well as dynamic Web sites. Today, only drop shadows, rudimentary animations, and low-resolution GIF or PNG images are commonly used in Web pages. Moreover, that technology is not really scalable.

The publication of the SVG Recommendation was the result of more than two years of collaborative effort by major players in the computer industry\footnote{Among the companies represented on W3C’s SVG committee were IBM, Microsoft, Apple, Xerox, Sun Microsystems, Hewlett-Packard, Netscape, Corel, Adobe, Quark, and Macromedia.} to find a workable cross-platform solution to Web imaging. Version 1.0 of the SVG specification was published as a W3C Recommendation on 4 September 2001 and it represents a genuine advance for portable graphics on the Web. The current version of SVG is 1.1, and it became a W3C Recommendation on 14 January 2003.\footnote{Scalable Vector Graphics (SVG) 1.1 Specification, available at http://www.w3.org/TR/SVG11/} Nowadays many software vendors support SVG in their products, while more and more free viewing and editing tools capable of handling SVG become available.

SVG is an open-standard vector graphics language for describing two-dimensional graphics using XML syntax. It lets you produce Web pages containing high-resolution computer graphics.

SVG has the usual vector graphics functions. Its fundamental primitive is the \textit{graphics object}, whose model contains the following:

\begin{itemize}
  \item graphics paths consisting of polylines, Bézier curves, etc.:
    \begin{itemize}
      \item simple or compound, closed or open;
      \item (gradient) filled, (gradient) stroked;
      \item can be used for clipping;
      \item can be used for building common geometric shapes;
    \end{itemize}
  \item patterns and markers;
  \item templates and symbol libraries;
\end{itemize}
transformation:
  - default coordinate system: \( x \) is right, \( y \) is down, one unit is one pixel;
  - viewport maps an area in world coordinates to an area on screen;
  - transformations alter the coordinate system (2 \times 3 transformation matrix for computers; translate, rotate, scale, skew for humans);
  - can be nested;
- inclusion of bitmap or raster images;
- clipping, filter and raster effects, alpha masks;
- animations, scripts, and extensions;
- groupings and styles;
- SVG fonts (independent from fonts installed on the system).

SVG consists of Unicode text in any XML namespace. The use of Unicode throughout enhances searchability and accessibility of the SVG graphics.

SVG drawings can be dynamic and interactive. The Document Object Model (DOM) for SVG allows for efficient vector graphics animation via scripting, which can be performed on SVG elements and other XML elements from different namespaces simultaneously within the same Web page. Event handlers can be assigned to any SVG graphical object.

A major source of information on SVG is the W3C SVG site, which describes the latest developments in the area of SVG, the status of current implementations. It also has a reference list of articles, books, software announcements, and pointers to other interesting SVG sites.

2.1 Inside an SVG document

As described earlier, the basis of SVG is a Unicode text document, usually identified with a file extension \( .svg \) and a mime-type (for the server) \( image/svg+xml \). Thus it is rather straightforward to create and edit SVG documents with your favorite text editor.

The top part of Figure 1 shows a small SVG file \( svgexa.svg \), which is an example of the static graphics possibilities of SVG. After the comment on line 1 we declare that we work in the SVG namespace (line 2) and define the size of the display area (line 3). We write a title (lines 5 and 6), draw a row of four rectangles (lines 7–14), followed by a row of four rectangles with rounded corners (lines 17–23), and finally a row of four ellipses (lines 25–29). The origin of SVG’s \( x-y \) coordinate system is the upper left hand side of the display area. The semantics of the various arguments of the SVG elements should be rather easy to guess (the SVG Specification contains detailed definitions). Notice the similarity between the PostScript and SVG languages.

If we want to view our file \( svgexa.svg \) we must use an application that understands the SVG language, such as Apache’s Batik\(^6\) or Adobe’s Browser plugin \( svgview.\) \(^7\) W3C’s browser Amaya, \(^8\) which provides an interesting development environment for viewing and editing MathML and HTML code, also supports part of SVG. The recent default distributions (1.3 or later) of the Mozilla browser\(^9\) have built-in support for presentation MathML but to be able to interpret SVG natively you need to download a special SVG-enabled executable.\(^10\) The middle row of Figure 1 represents at the left our example file as displayed by Batik, with a zoom on part of the graphics at its right. This shows that regions of an image can be magnified without loss of quality (this is because of the vector nature of SVG’s graphics model).\(^11\) The bottom row of Figure 1 shows at the left the same file as displayed by Microsoft’s Internet Explorer using Adobe’s \( svgview \) plugin installed (left) and at the right as shown by the Amaya browser.

3 Generating SVG instances from \( \LaTeX \) fonts

Many scientific documents, especially in physics and mathematics, are marked up with \( \LaTeX \). On the other hand XML has become a \textit{lingua franca} of the Internet and XML-aware tools are becoming ubiquitous. Therefore, it becomes important to integrate \( \LaTeX \) and XML in an optimal way.

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\(^4\) The target application must be able to interpret the specific XML vocabulary to make this useful. A forthcoming article will show how one can use XHTML, MathML and SVG together.

\(^5\) The W3C SVG site is at [http://www.w3.org/Graphics/SVG/](http://www.w3.org/Graphics/SVG/). An SVG Tutorial site is at [http://www.svgtutorial.com/](http://www.svgtutorial.com/). The Batik distribution ([http://xml.apache.org/batik](http://xml.apache.org/batik)) comes with many SVG examples, including quasi 3D scenes, animations, complex languages, such as Arabic, etc. The Adobe SVG site ([http://www.adobe.com/svg](http://www.adobe.com/svg)) features some interesting SVG files. Interactive geometry, statistical charts, cartographic material and much more is at Michel Pilat’s site ([http://pilat.free.fr/english](http://pilat.free.fr/english)).


\(^7\) Available from [http://www.adobe.com/svg](http://www.adobe.com/svg).

\(^8\) See [http://www.w3.org/Amaya/](http://www.w3.org/Amaya/).


\(^11\) The Batik Squiggle SVG viewer and Adobe’s Browser plugin \( svgview \) offer convenient ways to navigate an image. You can zoom in and out, move in the two-dimensional plane (in \( svgview \) hold down the Alt or in Squiggle the Shift key and move the mouse with the left button pressed) or rotate over a given angle.
Figure 1: Browsing an SVG file
SVG is a static declarative XML vocabulary; it provides only a final-form two-dimensional representation of a graphics image. Thus paragraphs or pages must be formatted by upstream application programs (e.g., \TeX, drawing tools, Java) or by in-line escaping to scripting (in Perl, Python, Ruby, JavaScript, etc.)

Various tools exist to translate EPS files to SVG, e.g., Adobe’s Illustrator (commercial) or Wolfgang Glunz’ pstoedit\(^{13}\) (the SVG translator option is shareware). For direct translation from \TeX there is Adrian Frischauß’s dvi2svg.\(^{14}\)

The translations work quite well as long as one uses standard fonts, such as Times, Helvetica and Courier. However, these applications have problems with \TeX’s non-standard character font encodings.

This problem of font encoding is closely related to the fact that SVG, being an XML language, uses Unicode as basic character encoding. So if one wants to go from \TeX (DVI) to SVG the driver has to map each \TeX character to its Unicode code-point and use a large corresponding SVG font that encodes all the needed characters.\(^{15}\) Such a full mapping, although not impossible, is far from trivial. Hence, in coordination with Glunz, we have opted for a temporary hack, where we use a special ad-hoc option for pstoedit, where we map for each font instance the 256 hexadecimal codes 00 to FF in the \TeX font encoding into Unicode’s “Private Use Area” (PUA) using (hexadecimal) code positions E000 to E0FF.

3.1 Producing SVG font instances

If we want to work with Computer Modern METAfont sources we can use Szabó Péter’s TeXtrace program.\(^{16}\) It is a collection of Unix scripts that convert any \TeX font into a Type 1 .pfb outline font\(^{17}\) that is immediately suitable for use with dvips, pdftex, Adobe’s acroread, etc. It now also has an option to generate SVG, but this did not directly do what we needed. In fact, we preferred to use TeXtrace only to generate Type 1 pfb files, and fall back on the second approach, that we describe next.

Working from Type 1 pfa/pfb font sources it is rather straightforward to generate the corresponding SVG font. A Perl script, tisvg.pl, was developed to achieve this translation, where the only (minor) difficulty is the correct handling of the position of the current point.\(^{18}\)

Table 1 shows the correspondence between the PostScript Type 1 operators (left column) and the SVG equivalent (middle column), with the arguments for each command expressed in function of those of the corresponding Type 1 ones (a1, a2, etc.). The right column shows the \(x\) (cx) and \(y\) (cy) coordinates of the current point expressed in function of the Type 1 arguments.

3.2 Disassembling Type 1 font sources

Type 1 fonts are often commercial and should not be converted into SVG without the permission of the rights holder. \TeX fonts, however, are publicly available. For \TeX fonts that are not yet available in Type 1 format one can use Szabó Péter’s TeXtrace program mentioned previously. Our Perl script needs the binary compressed pfb outline font to be disassembled with Lee Hetherington’s and Eddie Kohler’s t1disasm program into human-readable form.\(^{19}\)

3.3 The conversion script

The Perl script tisvg.pl, which converts Type 1 fonts to SVG fonts, is relatively short and simple. It does not require any special modules and should run with any Perl version.

\texttt{tisvg.pl} reads the disassembled pfb file as input and translates the Type 1 operators into their SVG equivalents according to the correspondences of Table 1. Section A provides a detailed description of the SVG commands used in that Table.

The example of Table 2 shows the Type 1 source (left) and the SVG source (right) of the glyph of a contour integral. Line 1 of the SVG instance specifies the Unicode code position of the glyph (hexadecimal E049, i.e., in the PUA) and its name, which we copied from line 1 of the Type 1 source at the left (contintegraldisplay). Line 2 of the SVG specifies the horizontal width of the glyph (555.6). It was calculated by taking the second argument of the hsbw operator on line 2 of the Type 1 source, i.e., 5000 \texttt{9 div}, which divides 5000 by 9.\(^{20}\) Then, on

\(^{12}\) This is unlike the PostScript language, which allows for inline computations.

\(^{13}\) See \url{http://www.pstoedit.net/pstoedit}.

\(^{14}\) See \url{http://www.activemath.org/~adrianf/dvi2svg/}.

\(^{15}\) In fact, some mathematical \TeX characters are still absent from and thus not yet encodable in Unicode 3.2.

\(^{16}\) See \url{http://www.inf.bme.hu/~pts/textrace/}.

\(^{17}\) See \url{http://partners.adobe.com/asn/developer/pdfs/tn/T1_SPEC.PDF} for a description of the Type 1 font format.

\(^{18}\) This is needed since the SVG \texttt{z} operator sets the current point to the point that closes the path (after the operation), while the Type 1 \texttt{closepath} operator leaves it untouched, i.e., the current point remains at the value it had before the call. Therefore our Perl script has to keep track of the current point to restore it to the correct value with respect to the Type 1 coordinates after each \texttt{z} operator, at which point we insert an absolute \texttt{moveto} (\texttt{9}) to the required (saved) current point coordinates before continuing.

\(^{19}\) See \url{http://www.lcdf.org/eddietwo/type/#t1utils}.

\(^{20}\) Remember that PostScript uses reverse Polish notation, with arguments preceding the operator to which they belong.
Table 1: Correspondence between Type 1 and SVG commands

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type 1</th>
<th>SVG</th>
<th>Current point</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a1 a2 hsbw</td>
<td>horiz-adv-x = a2</td>
<td>cx = a1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a1 hlineto h a1</td>
<td></td>
<td>cx = cx + a1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a1 hmoveto m a1</td>
<td></td>
<td>cx = cx + a1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a1 a2 a3 a4 hcurveto c a1 (a1+a2) a3 (a1+a2) (a3+a4)</td>
<td></td>
<td>cx = cx + a1 + a2,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a1 a2 rlineto l a1 a2</td>
<td></td>
<td>cy = cy + a3 + a4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a1 a2 rmoveto m a1 a2</td>
<td></td>
<td>cx = cx + a1,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a1 a2 a3 a4 a5 a6 rrcurveto c a1 a2 (a1+a3) (a2+a4) (a1+a3+a5) (a2+a4+a6)</td>
<td></td>
<td>cy = cy + a2 + a4 + a6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a1 a2 a3 a4 a5 a6 vhcurveto c 0 a1 a2 (a1+a3) (a2+a4) (a1+a3)</td>
<td></td>
<td>cx = cx + a2 + a4,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>closepath z</td>
<td></td>
<td>cy = cy + a1 + a3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Type 1 and SVG sources compared

```
1 /contintegraldisplay {
2 56 5000 9 div hsbw
3 -2222 22 hstem -2173 94 hstem -1381 40 hstem
4 -881 40 hstem -143 40 hstem -22 22 hstem
5 0 97 vstem 195 40 vstem 694 40 vstem 790 97 vstem
6 48 -2177 rmoveto 32 2 17 22 0 25 rrcurveto
7 33 -25 16 -23 hcurveto -24 -25 15 -35 hvcurveto
8 -51 50 -62 61 hcurveto 155 0 58 242 76 322 rrcurveto
9 15 61 35 154 14 62 rrcurveto 151 119 122 148 hcurveto
10 0 76 -35 117 -132 57 rrcurveto 30 179 111 93 -35 117 rrcurveto
11 22 100 44 203 49 0 rrcurveto 31 0 25 -19 4 -4 rrcurveto
12 -33 -2 -17 22 0 -25 rrcurveto -33 25 -49 49 c 0 -33 25 -49 49 c
13 24 25 15 35 hcurveto 64 -54 39 -55 vcurveto
14 -79 0 -55 -117 -53 -197 hcurveto
15 -22 -81 -34 -144 -6 -25 rrcurveto
16 -15 -61 -35 -154 -14 -62 rrcurveto
17 -151 -119 -122 -148 hcurveto
18 0 -76 35 -117 132 -57 rrcurveto
19 -42 -253 -35 -196 -30 -123 rrcurveto
21 closepath
22 320 857 rmoveto -79 37 -54 80 0 92 rrcurveto
23 0 113 84 109 137 8 rrcurveto
24 closepath
25 104 -21 rmoveto 78 -35 56 -80 0 -94 rrcurveto
26 0 -113 -84 -109 -137 -8 rrcurveto
27 closepath
28 endchar
29 }  
```

line 4 of the SVG we have an absolute move (M 56 0), which corresponds to the first argument of the hsbw operator on line 2 of the Type 1 source. We ignore all of hints in the Type 1 source (lines 3 to 5) and continue with the rmoveto operator and its two arguments (line 6) which we find back in the SVG instance on line 5. We leave it as an exercise to the reader to walk through the remaining lines of the Type 1 source and verify, referring to Table 1 as necessary, that you indeed obtain the result shown at the right. Note in particular how we have to reset the current point after each SVG z operator (i.e., the absolute move M on lines 22 and 25) to where it was before the z operator was executed.

Figure 2 shows the contour integral as viewed with ghostview (the PostScript Type 1 image) and with Batik (rendering the calculated SVG instance).

Rather than use the temporary hack to map the \TeX code positions into the Unicode PUA it might...
be useful to map the \TeX\ characters to their correct position in the Unicode character space to obtain a large Unicode-encoded font. This would allow other applications to use the available glyphs, but a straightforward translation from a DVI file would become impossible since \TeX\ codes are hardwired in such a file.

4 Transforming a \LaTeX\ document into an SVG document

Note that SVG fonts are not needed if one is content with having the complete EPS figure, including the text, translated into SVG as pure paths descriptors (the text characters are treated merely as graphics paths). Use \texttt{pstoedit}'s \texttt{-dt} option in that case. This allows for fast rendering but loses the structural information about the graphics, making it more difficult to update. Moreover, when zooming, the quality of the rendering with SVG fonts (left part of Figure 3) is much better than when the \TeX\ characters are simply translated into SVG paths (right part of Figure 3, where it is seen that the letters of the text are much coarser than at the left).

4.1 Using pstoedit

When using \texttt{pstoedit} to generate SVG from a PostScript source one needs to include the SVG font instances of the character glyphs referenced. For this we developed an XSLT stylesheet \texttt{ins-saxon6.xsl}.

\footnote{Version of the stylesheet are available for Microsoft's msxml (part of their MSDN XML Developer Center \url{http://msdn.microsoft.com/library/}) and for the Saxon (\url{http://saxon.sourceforge.net/}) and Xalan (\url{http://xml.apache.org/xalan-j}) Java XSLT processors.}

21

In the following example we transform the PostScript input file \texttt{in.ps} into the corresponding SVG instance \texttt{out.svg}. Since the latter file does not include the SVG source of the fonts we need to include these by transforming it with the help of an XSLT stylesheet to finally obtain \texttt{out1.svg}, which we can view with an SVG capable browser.

\texttt{pstoedit -f svg:-texmode -nfr in.ps out.svg}

\texttt{saxon6.sh out.svg ~/www/svg/ins-saxon6.xsl out1.svg}

Figure 4 shows a series of Feynman diagrams. The graphics at the left are generated with the help
of PostScript commands interfaced to \LaTeX, the right part shows their corresponding propagators and are prepared as \LaTeX\ math. The source is run through \LaTeX, turned into PostScript with dvips, before translating it into SVG with pstoedit. After including the SVG fonts with the XSLT script we display the result with Batik (top) and with Microsoft Internet Explorer and the Adobe \textit{svgview} plugin (bottom).

4.2 Using \textit{dvi2svg}

We interfaced the \textit{dvi2svg} Java library via a small Unix script \textit{dvi2svg.sh}, whose use is as follows:

```
> dvi2svg.sh
Usage: dvi2svg.sh [options] [DVIFILE]
Options:
-o [FILENAME] : Specify an output filename prefix. If not set, dvi2svg will take the input filename.
-d : set the debug mode to on(1)/off(0 default)
```

An example of the use of the \textit{dvi2svg} program is the translation of the font table of the American Mathematical Society font \texttt{msbm10} from the DVI format into SVG. In contrast to pstoedit, the \textit{dvi2svg} program includes itself the SVG font outlines for the needed characters (font sub-setting is used). It is however impossible to deal with non-\TeX\ material, such as EPS or PDF graphics, in which case pstoedit should be used.

Below we first generate the DVI file using the fonttable utility \texttt{nfssfont.tex} that comes with the \LaTeX\ distribution. Then we run \textit{dvi2svg.sh} on the generated \texttt{nfssfont.dvi} DVI file and obtain the SVG file \texttt{msbm1.svg}.

```
> latex nfssfont
This is TeX, Version 3.14159 (Web2C 7.3.7x)
(\TeXlive/tl7/texmf/tex/latex/base/nfssfont.tex
LaTeX2e <2001/06/01>
... 
***************
* NFSS font test program version <v2.0e>
* Follow the instructions
***************
Name of the font to test = msbm10
Now type a test command (\help for help):)
*table
*bye
[1]
Output written on nfssfont.dvi (1 page, 5940 bytes).
> dvi2svg.sh nfssfont.dvi -o msbm
DEBUG from converter.DviToSvg => Converting file: nfssfont.dvi
DEBUG from converter.DviToSvg => Writing result to: msbm
DEBUG from converter.DviToSvg => Reader has been created
Converting ................FINISHED
> ls -l msbm*.svg
-rw-rw-r-- 1 goossens 161252 Jan 2 10:08 msbm1.svg
```

Figure 5 shows in its bottom part the font table of the font \texttt{msbm10} as viewed with xdvi, while its top part shows the SVG rendering with Batik of the SVG file \texttt{msbm1.svg} prepared with \textit{dvi2svg} from the original DVI file, as shown above.

4.3 More complex examples

Figure 6 displays the result of translating \LaTeX\ text and a complex use of its \textit{picture} environment into SVG in various ways. At the left we show the file as viewed with \textit{dvips} (PostScript version), in the middle the SVG file created with the \textit{pstoedit} program from the PostScript output, at the right the SVG file as generated directly from the DVI file with \textit{dvi2svg}. Both SVG files were displayed with the help of Microsoft’s Internet Explorer (with Adobe’s \textit{svgview} plugin). Figure 7 shows part of the SVG source file that was generated by \textit{dvi2svg}. We shall study its basic structure later (see Section B.2).

We also looked at \LaTeX\ sources that use non-standard fonts, such as the MusiXTEX and XY-pic packages. We first generated the SVG instances for the Type 1 versions of the needed fonts and then selected a few examples that are typical for these packages. For completeness we also include examples of chemistry and algebra. We generated the

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=0.8\textwidth]{example6}
\caption{T\(\LaTeX\)’s msbm10 font table}
\end{figure}

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=0.8\textwidth]{example7}
\caption{A more complex example}
\end{figure}

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=0.8\textwidth]{example8}
\caption{SVG source of \textit{dvi2svg}}
\end{figure}

\textsuperscript{22} We took our inspiration from chapters 5 “The \textit{Xy-pic} package” and 7 “Preparing music scores” of \textit{The \LaTeX\ Graphics Companion, Illustrating Documents with \TeX\ and PostScript}, by Michel Goossens, Sebastian Rahtz, and Frank Mittelbach, Addison-Wesley, 1997, ISBN 0201854694.
Figure 6: \LaTeX{} and its \texttt{picture} environment: PostScript and SVG renderings

Figure 7: \LaTeX{} and its \texttt{picture} environment: Generated SVG instance
SVG from the DVI files as follows (we show only one run, the others are similar).

dvi2svg.sh xytest.dvi
DEBUG from converter.DviToSvg => Converting file: xytest.dvi
DEBUG from converter.DviToSvg => Reader has been created
DEBUG from converter.DviToSvg => Writer has been created
Converting ................

We display the resulting SVG files with Batik’s Squiggle SVG viewer. Figure 8 corresponds to example 7–2–5 of The \LaTeX Graphics Companion. It represents a moderately complex part of a music piece typeset with MusiX\TeX. Figure 9 is the structural formula of adonitoxin as typeset with the \XYM\TeX package (see page 221 of the same book). \XYM\TeX is an advanced application based on \LaTeX’s picture environment. Figure 10 which combines complex mathematical formulae with a graphical representation of a Dynkin diagram generated with the help of the picture environment, is based on an entry in a dictionary of Lie superalgebras.²³

Figure 11 shows complex examples from the “Links and knots” Section 5.5.8 of The \LaTeX Graphics Companion. In particular the display is an enlarged view of the bottom parts of examples 5–5–28 and 5–5–29, as well as of examples 5–5–34 and 5–5–35. The display shows that SVG can be nicely scaled for better viewing and is thus a perfect complement for PDF output.

5 Conclusion

We have explained how SVG is a truly scalable two-dimensional XML-based graphics language for the Web. Since graphics representations are at the heart of many scientific, technical and other documents,

although this may prove useful in itself, the existence of PDF and its use inside browsers on the Web makes SVG somewhat redundant in this respect.

However, the more important use of SVG with \LaTeX will be to translate the graphics images contained in a \LaTeX document or parts of single pages of \LaTeX documents from EPS, etc. into SVG so that they can be included in XML instances generated from \LaTeX sources with the help of \LaTeX to XML converters, such as tex4ht.\footnote{See \url{http://www.cis.ohio-state.edu/~gurari/Tex4ht} and references therein.} This will become extremely useful once the major browsers are able to handle XML namespaces, making it possible to combine different XML vocabularies. We look forward to the not too distant future when we will be able to generate and edit XHTML (DocBook), MathML and SVG directly and have the result displayed correctly.\footnote{See \url{http://www.w3.org/TR/XHTMLplusMathMLplusSVG/} for some work that is been done in this area.}

6 Acknowledgments and distribution

One of us (VS) would like to acknowledge the funding of a fellowship to work at CERN that he received from the “Tools for Innovative Publishing in Science” (TIPS) Project, part of the Information Society Technologies Programme of the 5th Framework of the European Union.\footnote{See \url{http://www.cordis.lu/ist/ist-fp5.html}.}

The latest version of the utilities developed for this project is available as a ZIP file on the Web.\footnote{See \url{http://home.cern.ch/goossens/svgfonts.html}.}

The fonts also come with the \texttt{dvi2svg} distribution.

Figure 11: Xy-pic example viewed with Batik Squiggle
A  SVG graphics path commands

Paths (defined in SVG using the path element) specify the geometry of the outline of an object. Path operators can set the current point (moveto), draw a straight line (lineto), draw a cubic Bézier curve (curveto), and close the current shape (closepath). Details on a subset of the SVG path commands that are used in SVG fonts follow. Command names in lowercase are for relative coordinates, uppercase names for absolute coordinates.

[m|M] (x y)+
Start a new sub-path at the given (x, y) coordinate. A relative moveto (m) appearing as the first element of a path is treated as a pair of absolute coordinates. If a moveto is followed by multiple pairs of coordinates, the subsequent pairs are treated as implicit lineto commands.

[z|Z]
Closes the current subpath by drawing a straight line from the current point to the current subpath’s initial point.\textsuperscript{28}

The various lineto commands draw straight lines from the current point to a new point:

[l|L] (x y)+
Draws a line from the current point to the given (x, y) coordinate which becomes the new current point. A number of coordinate pairs may be specified to draw a polyline. At the end of the command, the new current point is set to the final coordinate provided.

[h|H] x+
Draws a horizontal line from the current point (cpx, cpy) to (x, cpy), which becomes the new current point.

[v|V] y+
Draws a vertical line from the current point (cpx, cpy) to (cpx, y), which becomes the new current point.

There are three groups of commands to draw curves. Here we only look at one of the cubic Bézier commands, since it is used in the translation of the Type 1 fonts. Further information on the other commands are in the SVG Specification.

[c|C] (x1 y1 x2 y2 x y)+
Draws a cubic Bézier curve from the current point to (x, y) using (x1, y1) as the control point at the beginning of the curve and (x2, y2) as the control point at the end of the curve. Multiple sets of coordinates may be specified to draw a polybézier. The new current point is set to the final (x, y) coordinate pair used in the polybézier.

B  SVG Fonts

Graphics designers creating SVG content using arbitrary fonts need to be sure that the same graphical result will be displayed when the content is viewed by all end users, even those who do not have the necessary fonts installed on their computers. Therefore, to guarantee reliable font delivery the SVG Specification defines a common “SVG font” format that all conforming SVG viewers must support.

B.1 Overview

SVG fonts contain unhinted font outlines. Because of this, on many implementations there will be limitations regarding the quality and legibility of text in small font sizes. For increased quality and legibility in small font sizes, or for faster delivery of Web pages (SVG fonts are expressed using SVG elements and attributes, so that they can be quite verbose compared to other formats) alternate font technology might be considered on some systems.\textsuperscript{29}

SVG fonts and their associated glyphs do not specify bounding box information, so that it is up to the applications to calculate bounding box and overhang based on an analysis of the graphics elements contained within the glyph outlines.

B.2 The font element

An SVG font is defined using a font element.\textsuperscript{30} The characteristics and attributes of SVG fonts follow closely the font model of the CSS level 2 Specification.\textsuperscript{31}
An font element can contain the following elements: font-face (provides further typographic information about the font, including the name of the font), hkern and vkern (kerning information between Unicode characters), missing-glyph (defines the representation to be used for all Unicode characters that have no explicit glyph element defining their outline in the present font), and finally glyph.

The glyph element defines the graphics for a given glyph. The coordinate system for the glyph is defined by the various attributes in the font element. The graphics that make up the glyph can be either a single path data specification within the d attribute (see below) or arbitrary SVG as content within the glyph element.

Important attributes of the glyph element are described below.

\[ \text{unicode} = "<\text{string}>" \]

If a single character is provided, then this glyph corresponds to the given Unicode character. If multiple characters are provided (e.g., for ligatures) then this glyph corresponds to the given sequence of Unicode characters. For example see line 1 of Table 2 and lines 7, 12, and 20 of Figure 7.

\[ \text{glyph-name} = <\text{name}> [,<\text{name}>]* \]

A glyph name should be unique within a font. Glyph names are used when Unicode character numbers do not provide sufficient information to access the correct glyph (e.g., when there are multiple glyphs per Unicode character). Glyph names are referenced in kerning definitions. For example see line 1 of Table 2 and lines 7, 12, and 20 of Figure 7.

\[ \text{d} = "\text{path data}" \]

Definition of the outline of a glyph. Uses the same syntax as the d attribute on a path element, which is often used instead. For example see lines 4–27 of Table 2 or lines 10, 14, 22 of Figure 7.

\[ \text{horiz-adv-x} = "<\text{number}>" \]

The default horizontal advance after rendering a glyph in horizontal orientation. Glyph widths must be non-negative, even if the glyph is rendered right-to-left, as in Hebrew and Arabic scripts. An attribute horiz-adv-y exists for specifying the vertical advance for glyphs rendered in vertical orientation. For example see line 2 of Table 2 and lines 8, 13, and 21 of Figure 7.

For increasing portability it is advisable to embed all SVG fonts that are referenced inside an SVG document. As an example, Figure 7 shows how all the fonts needed to render the given SVG graphics image are first included (inside a defs element, lines 4 to 32) and later referenced (e.g., line 34 calls for a character of font CMR whose definition is on lines 5–17).

On the other hand, it is also possible, e.g., for convenience, to save SVG font sources in external files and reference characters in these fonts via CSS style directives from inside SVG images. In this case one must, however, make sure that the needed fonts are installed on the client’s system or are shipped together with the referencing SVG file to the client.

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32 Similar to CSS2’s @font-face font descriptor, see http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-CSS2/fonts.html.
**mimeTeX announcement**

John Forkosh

**Introduction**

This short note announces the availability of mimeTeX, a small GPL-ed program that facilitates the preparation of HTML documents containing math. mimeTeX parses \( \LaTeX \)–like math expressions, emitting either MIME xbitmaps or GIF images of them, which can be used in HTML documents e.g.,

\[
<\text{img src="../cgi-bin/mimetex.cgi?f(x)=x^2" border=0 align=absmiddle}>
\]

This allows you to embed math directly in HTML, reducing the need for external GIF images, and making your HTML documents more readable and easily maintained.

You can see detailed documentation and examples online at [http://www.forkosh.com/mimetex.html](http://www.forkosh.com/mimetex.html), and the entire package can be downloaded from /tex-archive/support/mimetex/mimetex.zip at any CTAN mirror.
mimeTeX isn’t primarily meant for latex2html-like tasks where you’re maintaining native \LaTeX documents that are later redistributed in several formats, including HTML. Rather, mimeTeX is primarily meant to help maintain native HTML documents containing math. In this sense, it’s a kind of “lightweight” alternative to MathML, with the advantage that mimeTeX preserves easy-to-use \LaTeX syntax. And mimeTeX works with any graphical browser.

**mimeTeX’s objectives**

Widespread use of MathML by HTML/XML authors will eventually begin to dilute the population of \LaTeX-aware users, muddying \LaTeX’s future. \LaTeX is more than “\TeX The Program”; \LaTeX is its syntax. Knuth produced a test suite that validates any program claiming to be \TeX, so no one version of the code is crucial. It’s the syntax that’s crucial. \LaTeX will survive so long as a significant user population continues to use this syntax.

MathML poses a threat to the future of \LaTeX’s syntax in the large and growing HTML/XML market, so it’s useful and important to provide some \LaTeX-compliant alternative. mimeTeX is meant to be a prototype alternative. It’s probably too small and kludgey for a final solution. But it demonstrates feasibility, and is full-featured enough to measure potential interest in \LaTeX-compliant alternatives to MathML.

Such alternatives provide a choice to new users, who will hopefully conclude that \LaTeX is the easier and more intuitive syntax. And old users can continue using \LaTeX syntax when they have to prepare native HTML/XML documents, i.e., when it’s not adequate to run latex2html against native \LaTeX documents.

**Similar tools**

Other non-MathML solutions besides mimeTeX that embed \LaTeX-like math into HTML are discussed in the \TeX FAQ. Two that you might want to look at are textogif at [http://www.fourmilab.ch/webtools/textogif/textogif.html](http://www.fourmilab.ch/webtools/textogif/textogif.html) and gladTeX at [http://www.math.uio.no/~martingu/gladtex](http://www.math.uio.no/~martingu/gladtex). Both require separate setup procedures that use \TeX to help generate external GIF (or PNG) images of your equations, which are later included in your HTML document as it’s being rendered.

mimeTeX, as far as I know, is the only such non-MathML package that has its own built-in parser and rendering engine, entirely independent of \TeX, and therefore requires no setup procedure or external images whatsoever. It renders realtime, on-the-fly images directly from your \LaTeX math embedded in HTML documents. This makes your HTML source documents more readable and easily maintained. textogif, gladTeX, or similar tools may be modifiable to work as easily, or mimeTeX’s ease-of-use features may not prove compelling. In any case, mimeTeX becomes one more available tool in your toolbox.

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Fonts

Making outline fonts from bitmap images

Karl Berry

Abstract

Tools for creating outline fonts from bitmaps have matured significantly in past years. Our purpose here is to describe those tools and how they fit together in a \TeX context, in a practical way.

1 Introduction

I recently had occasion to create outline fonts (PostScript Type 1 or TrueType; see [24]) from a scanned bitmap image of a type specimen. I was pleasantly surprised to find that the tools for doing this conversion produce considerably better results than the last time I worked in this area. This note describes one procedure for putting the programs together, culminating in using the result from \TeX.

Happily, all of the programs mentioned here can be compiled and installed with only minor variations on the standard procedure [18] first specified for the GNU project:

```
configure \& make \& make install
```

Web addresses for the programs are given in the references.

We should at least touch on legal questions [4], although a thorough discussion is far beyond the scope of this paper—or my knowledge, for that
matter. My understanding is that font designs, as opposed to font programs, are still not copyrightable in the United States (a few have been patented, notably Lucida), but that designs are protected in most European countries. As a result, in today’s world of widespread file sharing, especially in the \TeX{} community, it would be unwise to attempt to create or distribute fonts for any design created after approximately the early 1900’s, without specific knowledge for a specific design.

On the other hand, I did receive legal advice (from the Free Software Foundation’s lawyer) that scanning old type specimen images, even when they are embedded in a book still under copyright, is defensible. Not any of the text or illustrations prepared specifically for the book, of course, but actual old specimens may be copied.

2 Scanned image to bitmap font: \texttt{imageto}

For our purposes, we will start with a single black and white image of a font specimen of a Baskerville type at a fairly large size (24 pt), scanned at a fairly high resolution (1200 dpi). The image includes the upper and lowercase alphabets, digits, and other principal characters. The first task is to extract these characters from the image into a bitmap font.

Not coincidentally, one of the programs in the GNU font utilities [3], written a decade or so ago by Kathryn Hargreaves and myself, does precisely this. This program is called \texttt{imageto}. There may be other programs to accomplish the same task, but since I knew about this one (for obvious reasons), I just used it.

The output from the scanner (a Xerox 9700) is in an unusual image format that can’t be read directly by any modern program. (The scanning was also done a decade ago.) So, to see the image I was working with, I converted it to Encapsulated PostScript (EPSF [24]) and viewed it with \texttt{gv} [13], at its smallest scale factor (0.1):

\begin{verbatim}
imageto --epsf gbvr
\end{verbatim}

\begin{verbatim}
gv gbvr.eps
\end{verbatim}

Here’s the resulting picture of the starting image (clipped to approximately the left half due to the small \texttt{TUG} boat column width), so we can see what we’re dealing with:

\begin{verbatim}
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
1234567890 \&\,;\:!?*
\end{verbatim}

The font name \texttt{gbvr}, by the way, stands for GNU Baskerville roman, according to the Fontname scheme [2]. (This whole project started under the aegis of GNU [19].)

\texttt{imageto} considers the input image as a series of ‘image rows’. Each image row consists of all the scanlines between a nonblank scanline and the next entirely blank scanline. (A ‘scanline’ is a single horizontal row of pixels in the image.) Within each image row, \texttt{imageto} looks top-to-bottom, left-to-right, for ‘bounding boxes’: closed contours, i.e., an area whose edge you can trace with a pencil without lifting it. For example, an ‘i’ has two bounding boxes, while an ‘a’ has one.

In practice, scanned images have plenty of imperfections; for instance, a small printing blotch is seen as a bounding box which we have to ignore. Baselines jump up and down due to the printing process, as well as the natural baseline adjustments for characters with descendents or o-corrections (curved characters such as ‘o’ whose bottom point is slightly below the baseline). So we have to describe all of these special cases.

To extract characters from the bitmap, it’s necessary to supply all of this descriptive information to \texttt{imageto} in a simple line-oriented text file, called an \texttt{ifi} file (image font information). The details of this file’s syntax aren’t important here—the full manual (and source code) for Fontutils are available at the url given in the references.

For the sake of example, the final command line to process this image ended up being:

\begin{verbatim}
imageto --designsize=24 \ 
--encoding=8r \ 
--baselines=72,59,58 \ 
--print-guidelines \ 
--print-clean-info \ 
\texttt{gbvr}
mv gbvr24.1200gf gbvr.1200gf
\end{verbatim}

The result is a bitmap font in GF format [9] (same as METAFONT). So, from \texttt{gbvr.img}, we now have \texttt{gbvr.1200gf}. We explicitly remove the 24 in the filename because we want to make an outline font, named without a design size.

3 Bitmap font to outlines: \texttt{autotrace}

The best program I know of to fit outlines (i.e., Bézier curves) to bitmaps is \texttt{autotrace} [23]. (I found an alternative program \texttt{ttf2pt1} [1], but it did not seem as well developed). Some fairly intense mathematics is involved in doing the fitting [17]; fortunately, we don’t need to go into that in order to use the program effectively.
The main barrier to using `autotrace` to convert fonts is that it reads images (such as PBM files [14]), and writes EPSF (among other formats); it has no knowledge of font formats. So our basic strategy is:

1. Convert each character in the bitmap font to an image in PBM format.

2. Run `autotrace` on that image.

3. Convert the PostScript output, which uses standard graphics operators such as `rmoveto` and `rrcurveto`, to Type 1 opcodes.

4. Reassemble the characters into a font.

This procedure is implemented by `mftrace` [11], a Python [22] program which pulls the pieces together: it uses `gf2pmb` [12] to convert individual characters from the GF font to bitmap images; calls `autotrace` with assorted options to do the fitting; and finally uses `t1asm` from `t1utils` [7] to assemble the output into a font again.

`mftrace` requires an encoding file to run, and since it does not do path searching, the encoding file must be present in the current directory. The default encoding is `tex256.enc`, and can be changed with the `-e` option. (If you don’t happen to have `tex256.enc` on your system, it’s available at `http://tug.org/fontname/tex256.enc`. It is another name for the T1 (Cork) encoding.)

Type 1 fonts have two equivalent formats: pfa (printer font ASCII), which uses only normal plain text characters; and pfb (printer font binary), which is partly binary. As you might expect, pfb files are noticeably smaller, since the font shapes can be compressed more when all eight bits can be used. \TeX{} and friends are happy with either one, so we might as well use pfb.¹

Here is a first approximation to our command line:

```
   mftrace --pfb \n   --gffile=gbvr.1200gf gbvr
```

The result is `gbvr.pfb`. Here are two of the resulting outline characters showing the main control points:

There is an alternative program `textrace` [20], which seems equally worthy. I worked with `mftrace` only because it was easier for me to install and understand. Each program has its own drawbacks and benefits.

Historical aside: I was happy to see that `autotrace` is partially based on `limn`, another of the old Fontutils programs; so that work wasn’t entirely wasted. It does a vastly better job than `limn` ever did, which I am even happier to see!

## 4 Testing the new font from \TeX{}

The above does the real work of converting bitmaps to outlines. Now, to use the result in \TeX{}, we have many configuration details to work out.

### 4.1 Scaling: `mftrace`

First, we need metrics to go along with the outlines, which `mftrace` will generate as an afm file (Adobe Font Metrics [24]), if we specify the `--afm` option.

We also have to convert between different coordinate systems. When we create a Type 1 font, the so-called ‘character coordinate space’ uses a 1000 to 1 scaling matrix. That is, 1000 character space units transform into one user space unit (one PostScript point, usually). Put another way, Type 1 expects a resolution of 1000 pixels in the design size, and the PostScript design size is simply 1. This is a much higher resolution than our scanned images have.

It’s easiest to explain the scaling factor by looking at a concrete example. Our example image was scanned at a resolution of 1200 dpi, which comes to about 16.6 pixels per point (1200/72.27). Our design size is 24 pt. Therefore, we have about 399 pixels per design size (16.6 * 24). We give this value to the `mftrace` as the magnification (same concept of magnification as in \TeX{}).

`mftrace` will then scale all the numbers in the outlines by 1000/399 = 2.506. For example, the image of our capital ‘A’ is 275 pixels wide. This becomes about 690 in character space coordinates. As a check, the device-independent width in \TeX{} terms turns out to be 6.9 on a 10 pt designsize; yay.

¹ Warning: I found out to my sorrow that it does not work to directly edit the contents of a pfb file in any way, including the header comments; it becomes internally inconsistent and `dvips` will complain about a a ‘non-MSDOS header’.
Bottom line, the magic number is the image design size multiplied by the image resolution in pixels per point. Here’s the resulting `mftrace` command line (this is the real one, no approximation):

```
mftrace --pfb \
   --afm --magnification=399 \
   --gffile=gbvr.1200gf gbvr
```

We now have two files: `gbvr.pfb` and `gbvr.afm`.

### 4.2 Metrics: `afm2tfm`

Our next job is to convert `gbvr.afm` into TeX font metric files. The easiest way I know of to do this is to use `afm2tfm`’s `-T` option, which lets us get away without using virtual fonts [26]:

```
afm2tfm gbvr.afm -v gbvr.vpl \
   -T tex256.enc >gbvr.xmap
```

Pile off will issue warnings about unknown `VTITLE` and `MAPFONT` properties, but no harm is done. We don’t need all the TeX virtual font machinery [5], since we’re not actually combining multiple fonts, just reencoding a single font.

### 4.3 Running TeX and dvips

Ok, let’s run TeX (`testfont.tex` is a standard file from Knuth):

```
tex testfont
...
Name of the font to test = gbvr at 24pt
Now type a test command...
*\text\bye
...
Output written on testfont.dvi...
Transcript written on testfont.log.
```

We’re almost ready to look at some output. Our last preliminary step is to specify downloading `gbvr.pfb` when the font is used. For dvips [15], this is done in a one-line `.map` file. `afm2tfm` gave us the initial line, we just append the download instruction:

```
sed -e 's/\$/ <gbvr.pfb/ gbvr.xmap \
   >gbvr.map
```

Finally, we tell `dvips` [15] to use that map file and process the document:

```
dvips -u +gbvr.map testfont.dvi -o
```

The output is `testfont.ps`:

```
```

On November 14, 1885, Senator & Mrs. Leland Stanford called together at their San Francisco mansion the

There are some artifacts in that image due to the conversion process from the screen capture. My apologies, but the main point is the process, after all, not the particular image we used for an example.

The most obvious other problem is that there is no letter spacing. Some methods for addressing that are mentioned in the next section.

### 5 Final outline output: frontline, pfaedit

We’ve gone through the process of making a new outline font and typesetting with it in TeX. Now comes the truly hard part: actually making the font as good as it can be. Although `autotrace` does a very respectable job with its default settings, it’s inevitable that hand editing of the outlines will be required for best results.

One method for doing this is to change the (numerous) parameters to `autotrace` itself. This can be done from the command line (use `--help` to get a list of options). In addition, a graphical frontend to `autotrace` named `frontline` exists to make experimenting with the option setting easier; it is available from the `autotrace` home page [23].

The other method is to use an outline font editor; the best one I know of is `pfaedit` [25]. As well as straightforward outline editing, `pfaedit` has numerous other significant features:

- Bitmap editing (supports GF and PK [16] formats).
- TrueType output. The option `--truetype` to `mftrace` will call `pfaedit` to get TrueType output, if that’s desired.
- Metrics editing: getting the character spacing is as important to the final outcome as the character shapes [8, 21]. `pfaedit` can supply initial side bearings and kerns via the `Auto Width` and `Auto Kern` options on the `Metrics` menu. This is nice, since scanned images generally lack any useful side bearing specifications. (Alternatively, the Fontutils program `charspace` is a non-interactive way of preparing initial side bearings.)
- Autohinting.

As it turns out, the `mftrace --afm` option that we used above also implies `--simplify`, which runs the font through `pfaedit` in order to simplify and autohint the outlines. Thus, no additional options are needed to take advantage of those features.

Additional files and procedures are needed to use new fonts with `lmodern` [6, 10]. Those articles also describe creating oblique, small caps, and other variants.

Happy fontmaking!
References

[24] George Williams. Font file formats. http://pfaedit.sourceforge.net/index.html#Formats. This contains links to PostScript Type 1 and AFM documents, and both the Apple and Microsoft TrueType and OpenType standards documents, among many others.

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Software & Tools

Size reduction of chemical structural formulas in $\texttt{XMTeX}$ (Version 3.00)

Shinsaku Fujita$^*$ and Nobuya Tanaka

1 Introduction

The $\texttt{XMTeX}$ system (Version 2.00) [1], which we released as an implementation of the $\texttt{XM}$ Notation [2] and the $\texttt{XM}$ Markup Language [3], has provided a convenient method for drawing complicated structural formulas. The $\texttt{XMTeX}$ system has been designed to assure maximal portability within the scope of $\texttt{LATEX}/\texttt{LATEX} 2\varepsilon$ [4, 5]. The version 2.00

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has, however, suffered from a drawback that the size reduction of structural formulas has not been permitted. This has come from the fact that the X\TeX system has depended on the L\TeX picture environment that has been incapable of drawing short bonds (lines). Although the epic system [6] has been used to draw short lines so as to maintain such portability, it has occasionally given a split line. For example, the commands of the epic system, 
\begin{verbatim}
\drawline(0,0)(171,103) and 
\drawline(0,0)(171,-103),
\end{verbatim}
are necessary to draw a benzene ring but give the following split lines:

\begin{verbatim}
\begin{picture}(171,103)
\line(0,0)(171,103)
\end{picture}
\end{verbatim}

when we encounter the worst-case situation (e.g., under \unitlength=0.08pt). If we lay stress on the portability of a drawing system [7], one of the most promising ways is to rely on the epic system after we analyze and revise the mechanism of giving split lines. Hence, the aim of this paper is to show how the X\TeX system (Version 3.00) [8] provides a method for permitting the size reduction of structural formulas within the scope of the L\TeX picture environment and the epic system.

2 Basic functions for size reduction

2.1 sizeredc package

The command \lineslope of epic has been used to convert the command \drawline of epic into the command \line of the L\TeX picture environment. In the process of obtaining the slope of a line, the command \lineslope has occasionally provided a rounding error, which has been found to cause such split lines as described above. A simple remedy for this phenomenon has been given in the sizeredc package (file name: sizeredc.sty) distributed as a part of the present version of X\TeX. According to this remedy, the drawing mechanism of the X\TeX system can be safely switched into the mechanism of epic, if \unitlength is set to be smaller than 0.1pt. Note that the unit length of the X\TeX system is stored by the command \unitlength, the standard value of which is 0.1pt.

2.2 Changing unit lengths

The unit length of X\TeX can be changed by the command \changeunitlength, which is defined in the sizeredc package. As shown in the following code, the setting by \changeunitlength can be done in the preamble of a document if the value is used in the whole document.

\begin{verbatim}
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage{carom}
\usepackage{sizeredc}
\changeunitlength{0.08pt}
\begin{document}
\begin{verbatim}
\脚notesize
\bzdrv{1==OH;4==OH}
\end{verbatim}
\end{document}
\end{verbatim}

The font size of substituents can be changed by such a command as \footnotesize, as shown in the above formula. This should be compared with the counterpart drawn with the standard unit length (0.1pt) and the font size of \normalsize.

The command \changeunitlength can be declared at anywhere in a document; the setting of the command is effective after the declaration, until an alternative declaration is carried out. The grouping technique can be used to limit the effect of the setting within a pair of braces. For example, the codes represented by

\begin{verbatim}
{\%grouping by braces
\changeunitlength{0.06pt}
\footnotesize
\bzdrv{1==OH;4==OH}}
\qquad \bzdrh{1==OH;4==OH}
\end{verbatim}

produce the following size-reduced formula and the corresponding formula of the standard dimension:

\begin{verbatim}
OH
\end{verbatim}

\begin{verbatim}
OH
\end{verbatim}

The command \changeunitlength sets a unit length given as an argument and declares a flag represented by \sizereductiontrue if the argument is less than 0.1pt. The flag is used to substitute the \drawline command of epic for the \line command.
of \LaTeX{} \textit{2e}. Hence, the following setting is equivalent to the setting derived from the declaration command \texttt{\textbackslash changeunitlength\{0.05pt\}}.

\ [
\begin{verbatim}
{\scriptsize
\unitlength=0.05pt
\sizereductiontrue
\bzdrv\{1==$OH;4==$OH\}
\}
\end{verbatim}
\]

3 Examples of size reduction

3.1 Size reduction of carbocycles

When \texttt{\sizereductiontrue} is not specified (i.e., \texttt{\sizereductionfalse}), the original picture environment of \LaTeX{} \textit{2e} works. Table 1 shows the comparison between cases with and without the use of \texttt{sizeredc.sty}, which simulates the difference between \texttt{XMP\LaTeX} Version 3.00 and Version 2.00.

Without using the \texttt{sizeredc} package, \texttt{XMP\LaTeX} commands such as

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\{\unitlength=0.07pt \bzdrv{}\}\text{ and } \\
\{\unitlength=0.06pt \bzdrv{}\}
\end{array}
\]

give incomplete formulas of benzene that have no inner double bonds (slanted lines), as found in the left column of Table 1. The disappearance of the inner bonds are in agreement with the original specification of the \LaTeX{} picture environment. In fact, the \texttt{\line} command with slopes \((5,3)\) and \((5,-3)\) cannot draw extremely short lines, although it is promised to draw longer lines under usual conditions (e.g., \texttt{\unitlength=0.1pt} or \texttt{0.08pt} without using the \texttt{sizeredc} package). By using the commands of \texttt{sizeredc} such as

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\{\texttt{changeunitlength\{0.07pt\}}\}\texttt{\bzdrv{}},
\end{array}
\]

the slanted lines are revived to give complete formulas of benzene, as shown in the right column of Table 1.

3.2 Size Reduction of heterocycles

Table 2 shows the effect of size reduction to the drawing of 4-chloropyridine, where \texttt{\unitlength} is changed from 0.1pt (default value) to 0.04pt by using \texttt{\changeunitlength}.

3.3 Nested substitution

Formulas with nested substitution can be completely reduced in size by the following code:

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\{\texttt{\changeunitlength\{0.07pt\}}\}\texttt{\scriptsize}
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\texttt{decahetero{}\{}4a==$N\}4D==$O;7B==$H0;\%
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\{10\}A==$H;\%
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\texttt{\decaheterov{}\{4a==$N\}4D==$O;7B==$H0;\%}
\end{array}
\]

\[
\{10\}A==$H;\%}
\]

Table 1: With and without \texttt{sizeredc.sty}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Without \texttt{sizeredc.sty}</th>
<th>With \texttt{sizeredc.sty}</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Version 2.00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.08pt</td>
<td>0.08pt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="left" alt="image" /></td>
<td><img src="right" alt="image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.07pt\textsuperscript{a}</td>
<td>0.07pt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="left" alt="image" /></td>
<td><img src="right" alt="image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.06pt\textsuperscript{a}</td>
<td>0.06pt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="left" alt="image" /></td>
<td><img src="right" alt="image" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\textsuperscript{a}Slanted inner bonds disappear.

Table 2: Size reduction of 4-Chloropyridine

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>\texttt{\changeunitlength{0.07pt}}</th>
<th>0.08pt\textsuperscript{b}</th>
<th>0.07pt\textsuperscript{c}</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="left" alt="image" /></td>
<td><img src="right" alt="image" /></td>
<td><img src="right" alt="image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.06pt\textsuperscript{c}</td>
<td>0.05pt\textsuperscript{d}</td>
<td>0.04pt\textsuperscript{d}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="left" alt="image" /></td>
<td><img src="right" alt="image" /></td>
<td><img src="right" alt="image" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\textsuperscript{a}A standard size.
\textsuperscript{b}The font size is set by \texttt{\small}
\textsuperscript{c}The font size is set by \texttt{\scriptsize}
\textsuperscript{d}The font size is set by \texttt{\tiny}
Figure 1: A cyan dye releaser drawn at unit lengths 0.07pt and 0.1pt
This code produces the formula shown below:

The formula of the standard dimension is drawn by the same code after returning to the default condition or by declaring \changeunitlength{0.1pt} explicitly.

A cyan dye releaser [9] has been drawn by using two or more \ry1 and \ly1 commands, as shown in the on-line manual of \textit{XyMTeX} Version 2.00 and has also been depicted in different ways (see Chapters 14 and 15 of the \textit{XyMTeX}book [10]). By virtue of the present version of \textit{XyMTeX}, the size of the formula can be reduced with the code shown in Fig. 1. It should be emphasized that the portability of the XyMTeX system is still maintained in Version 3.00, where it is assured by the reliance on the L\LaTEX picture environment and the \texttt{sizeredc} package (a revision of \texttt{epic}).

References

[1] Fujita S. & Tanaka N., "X\LaTEX (Version 2.00) as Implementation of the X\LaM Notation and the X\LaM Markup Language", \textit{TUGboat}, 21 (1), 7–14 (2000).


[8] The system is now available from Fujita’s homepage via the Internet: http://int.chem.kit.ac.jp/fujita/fujitas/fujita.html
A detailed manual is also available from this homepage.


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The package ps4pdf: from PostScript to PDF

Rolf Niepraschk and Herbert Voß

Abstract
The only graphic object which \ tex\ can handle internally is the \texttt{picture} environment, which is on the one hand very easy to use, but on the other hand very restrictive. All other graphical material must be encapsulated in \texttt{special} commands and later extracted by the DVI processor, for example, \texttt{dvips} into PostScript code. Packages like \texttt{pstricks} (and its extensions \texttt{pst-xxxx}) and \texttt{psfrag} can create such \texttt{special} commands. Unfortunately, \texttt{pdflatex} cannot work when one of these packages is part of the document file. The new package \texttt{ps4pdf} makes it possible to collect all PostScript-related parts and convert them to PDF in a single run.

1 Introduction

PDF output can be created in several different ways:

- traditional: dvi→ps→pdf using the commands \texttt{latex} to create the DVI file, \texttt{dvips} for the ps file and \texttt{ps2pdf} for the PDF file.
- using \texttt{dvipdfm} to skip the ps step—but have a look at the manual page of \texttt{dvipdfm} for some restrictions.
- using \texttt{pdf\LaTeX} to skip the dvi step and generate PDF directly—but this has the problem stated in the abstract.
- using V\TeX\ as an alternative to \texttt{pdf\LaTeX\}—but this is available without charge only for Linux and OS/2 [2].
- using the package \texttt{pdftricks} [5, 6]—but in some PostScript environments, a bounding box is difficult to determine.
- using the package introduced here, \texttt{ps4pdf} [4].

This new package \texttt{ps4pdf} works very differently from \texttt{pdftricks}. It uses the package \texttt{preview}, which is part of the \texttt{latex-preview} [1, 3] bundle, available at any CTAN server. \texttt{preview} extracts all ‘marked’ parts of a complete \LaTeX\ document to a DVI file, in which each such part is saved on a separate page. This makes it easy to convert this DVI file into PDF format and then include these parts in a last \texttt{pdf\LaTeX}\ run.

2 Package options

Table 1 shows the available package options. Specifying \texttt{inactive} causes all the \texttt{ps4pdf} macros disables everything except the trimming functionality, so that \texttt{latex} runs in the usual way. This makes direct PostScript output possible, so that the other methods listed above can be used.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>name</th>
<th>meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>active</td>
<td>enables the \texttt{ps4pdf} macros (default)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inactive</td>
<td>disables the \texttt{ps4pdf} macros, making direct PostScript output possible; this is the default if V\TeX\ is detected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>trim</td>
<td>modify the internal bounding box (similar to the \texttt{trim} option from \texttt{includegraphics})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>draft</td>
<td>suppresses the content of the \texttt{PSforPDF} macros (do not influence the content of the graphics container)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>final</td>
<td>shows the content of the \texttt{PSforPDF} macros (default)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 Usage

3.1 Usage in preamble

Assume that we have the small \LaTeX\ file shown in listing 1; the output is shown in figure 1. To use the \texttt{ps4pdf} package, we must pass all PostScript-related parts through the \texttt{PSforPDF} macro, beginning with the preamble. And of course we must use the \texttt{ps4pdf} package itself.

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{figure1}
\caption{Output of listing 1}
\end{figure}

\texttt{ps4pdf} must know every package that the PostScript images depend upon, otherwise it cannot create the images and convert them to PDF. For our example here, listing 2 shows how this is done.

Listing 1: Demonstration of a \texttt{pstricks} object
Table 2: The command sequence from PostScript to PDF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>graphics container creation:</th>
<th>\LaTeX{} run</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>latex file.tex</td>
<td>dvips run to convert the DVI file to PostScript</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dvips -Ppdf -o file-pics.ps file.dvi</td>
<td>ps2pdf run to convert the PostScript file to PDF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ps2pdf file-pics.ps file-pics.pdf</td>
<td>ps2pdf run to convert the PostScript file to PDF</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>document creation:</th>
<th>first \LaTeX{} run</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>pdflatex file.tex</td>
<td>BibTeX run</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bibtex file</td>
<td>any other additional runs (for example: glossary)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[ ... ]</td>
<td>second (and last) \LaTeX{} run</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pdflatex file.tex</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

```
1 \documentclass{article}
2 \usepackage{pst-plot}
3 \usepackage{pst-text}
4 \begin{document}
5 \psset{unit=1cm}
6 \begin{pspicture}(-0.25,-2.25)(6.25,2.25)
7 \psplot[linestyle=none,\%
8 \linewidth=1pt,\%
9 linestyle=dotted,\%
10 plotpoints=300,\%
11 xunit=0.015,\%
12 yunit=2]{0}{400}{x sin}
13 {\LARGE TUGboat, the journal
14 of the \TeX{} Users Group}
15 \end{pspicture}%
16 \end{document}
```

**Listing 2: Using \texttt{PSforPDF} in the preamble**

```
1 \documentclass{article}
2 \usepackage{ps4pdf}
3 \texttt{PSforPDF}{\%
4 \begin{pspicture}(-0.25,-2.25)(6.25,2.25)
5 \psplot[linestyle=none,\%
6 \linewidth=1pt,\%
7 linestyle=dotted,\%
8 plotpoints=300,\%
9 xunit=0.015,\%
10 yunit=2]{0}{400}{x sin}}
11 \texttt{LARGE TUGboat, the journal
12 of the \TeX{} Users Group}
13 \end{pspicture}%
14 \texttt{END PSforPDF}
```

3.2 Usage in document body

For the user, there is no difference between using \texttt{ps4pdf} in the preamble or in the text part of the document: any PostScript-related material must be passed to the \texttt{PSforPDF} macro. Only internally are these separate parts of the document handled in different ways. Thus, listing 1 is changed to what we have in listing 3.

**Listing 3: Using \texttt{PSforPDF} in the body**

```
1 \documentclass{article}
2 \usepackage{ps4pdf}
3 \texttt{PSforPDF}{\%
4 \begin{pspicture}(-0.25,-2.25)(6.25,2.25)
5 \psplot[linestyle=none,\%
6 \linewidth=1pt,\%
7 linestyle=dotted,\%
8 plotpoints=300,\%
9 xunit=0.015,\%
10 yunit=2]{0}{400}{x sin}}
11 {\LARGE TUGboat, the journal
12 of the \TeX{} Users Group}
13 \end{pspicture}%
14 \texttt{END PSforPDF}
```

4 Implementation

\texttt{ps4pdf} is part of the process shown in table 2, which can also be encapsulated as a shell script (listing 4).

**Listing 4: Shell script implementing table 2**

```
1 #!/bin/sh
2 # build a pdf file with PostScript code
3 # Herbert Voss 2003-03-10
4 # usage: ps4pdf.sh file (without suffix tex)
5 latex $1$.tex
6 dvips -Ppdf -o $1$-pics.ps $1$.dvi
7 ps2pdf $1$-pics.ps $1$-pics.pdf
8 pdflatex $1$.tex
9 bibtex $1$
10 pdflatex $1$.tex
```

- In the first \LaTeX{} run, \texttt{preview-latex} extracts all objects which are included as a argument to \texttt{PSforPDF}, and saves them into \texttt{<file>.dvi}. Each object is on its own page.
- This object file is then converted into a PostScript file with \texttt{dvips}. The \texttt{-Ppdf} option tells \texttt{dvips} to load the config file for PDF-related output. \texttt{dvips} creates the new file \texttt{<file>-pics.ps}.
- This PostScript file \texttt{<file>-pics.ps} is then converted into the corresponding PDF file with \texttt{ps2pdf} (a front end to Ghostscript).
At this point the important work of ps4pdf is done, and the usual pdflatex runs can be done, as well as additional runs for BiB\TeX{} or other post-processors.

If all worked well, then the final PDF file includes all PostScript-related code as PDF images!

The meaning of the macro \texttt{\textbackslash PSforPDF} changes for the pdflatex runs. It now becomes:
\begin{verbatim}
\includegraphics[page=<n>]{<file>-pics.pdf}
\end{verbatim}
which inserts the \texttt{n}th page of the object file. An internal counter is used to get the right object at the right place. This implies that the whole command sequence in table 2 has to be repeated if the sequence of the objects changes.

## Saving the images

Saving all graphical objects from the PDF graphic container as single files is very easy and can be done with the small script shown in listing 5. After running this script with \texttt{<file>-pics.pdf} as parameter, the images are saved as \texttt{picture<n>.eps}. This may be useful for other purposes.

### Listing 5: Script to convert PDF images to PostScript

```bash
#!/bin/sh

File=$1
n=`pdftops -f1 -l1 $File | awk '{print $2}';`
for i in `seq $n`; do
done

```

### References

CTAN:/support/preview-latex/, 2003.


---


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Instant Preview and the \TeX{} daemon

Jonathan Fine

Abstract
Instant Preview is a new package, for use with Emacs and xdvi, that allows the user to preview instantly the file being edited. At normal typing speed, and on a 225MHz machine, it refreshes the preview screen with every keystroke.

Instant Preview uses a new program, dvichop, that allows \TeX{} to process small files over 20 times quicker than usual. It avoids the overhead of starting \TeX{}. This combination of \TeX{} and dvichop is the \TeX{} daemon.

One instance of the \TeX{} daemon can serve many programs. It can make \TeX{} available as a callable function. It can be used as the formatting engine of a WYSIWYG editor.

This paper will demonstrate Instant Preview, describe its implementation, discuss its use with \LaTeX{}, sketch the architecture of a WYSIWYG \TeX{}, and call for volunteers to take the project forward.

Instant Preview at present is known to run only under GNU/Linux, and is released under the GPL. It is available at: \url{http://www.activetex.org}.
the normal time. This allows \TeX{} to be used in interactive programs. This section describes Instant Preview. See figure 1 for a screen-shot.

**Types of users** Almost all users of \TeX{} are familiar with the edit-compile-preview cycle that is part of the customary way of using \TeX{}. Previewing is very useful. It helps avoid wasting paper, and it saves time. In the early days, it could take several seconds to compile and preview a file, and perhaps minutes to print it. Today it takes perhaps about a quarter of a second to compile and preview a file.

Many of today’s newcomers to computing, and most users of WYSIWYG word processors, expect to have instant feedback, when they are editing a document. Users of \TeX{} expect the same instant feedback, when they are editing a source file in a text editor. Because they have absorbed the meaning of the markup codes, they can usually imagine without difficulty the printed form of the document. They know when the markup is right.

Beginners tend to compile the document frequently, because they are uncertain, and wish to have the positive reinforcement of success. Instant Preview, again under favourable circumstances, can reduce to a twentieth the time take to compile and preview a file. This makes it practical to offer preview after every keystroke. Beginners will be able to see their failures and successes as they happen.

Experienced users do not need such a high level of feedback, and prefer to devote the whole screen to the document being edited. However, even experts have the same need for positive reinforcement, when they use a package that is new to them.

**Modus operandi** Here we describe three possible ways of using Instant Preview. At the time of writing, only the last has been implemented. We assume that the document is in the editing stage of its life cycle, or in other words the location of page breaks and the like is not of interest.

1. **Instant Preview Screen Shot**

   Instant Preview is an add-on for \TeX{}. It works with almost all macro packages. Here we see it being used with \LaTeX{}.

   \begin{figure}
   \centering
   \includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{screenshot.png}
   \caption{Screen shot of Instant Preview.}
   \end{figure}

2. **Components**

   On the left, Emacs. On the right, \verb|xdvi|. Behind the scenes, \TeX{} the program, \verb|xdvi| the program, \verb|xdvi| and \verb|dvichop| (a new program). We’re running GNU/Linux.

3. **Using it**

   Type into the Emacs window. As you type, the display in the \verb|xdvi| window is refreshed, in real time.

4. **How it works**

   Speed is of the essence. We start \TeX{} once, and its output goes to a pipe. \verb|\verb|This| avoids start-up costs.\verb|

   Each keystroke feeds \TeX{}, and \verb|xdvi| breaks the output up into small pieces, which it sends to \verb|xdvi|.

5. **Error recovery**

   To prevent \TeX{} from stalling on errors, \verb|\verb|break\verb| with \verb|xdvi|; \verb|xdvi| breaks the output up into small pieces, which it sends to \verb|xdvi|.

   When doing something tricky, the user might wish to focus on a part of the document, and for this part have Instant Preview after every keystroke. The tuning of math spacing in a formula is an example. Few if any users invariably know, without looking, what tuning should be applied to a moderately complicated formula. This applies particularly to displayed equations wider than the measure,
multi-line equations, and commutative diagrams. It also applies to the picture environment (for which the special tool \TeXcad was written).

For the beginner, everything is tricky, even straight text. The beginner hardly knows that `\{` # `\}_` % `\$` are all special characters, and that `''` and `'''` are the way to get open and close double quotes. Even experts, who know full well the rules for spaces after control sequences, sometimes make a mistake\textsuperscript{1}. The absolute beginner is likely to want Instant Preview of everything, absolutely all the time. Later, with experience, the training wheels can be removed.

**Implementation** Instant Preview has been implemented using Emacs and \texttt{xdvi}. There seems to be no reason why another editor and previewer should not be used, provided the editor is sufficiently programmable, and the previewer can be told to refresh the file it is previewing.

Instant Preview works by writing the region to be previewed, together with suitable preamble and postamble, to a special place. From there, the \TeX daemon picks it up, typesets it, and writes it out as a \texttt{dvi} file. Once written, the previewer is told to refresh its view of the \texttt{dvi} file.

The main difference between the three modes is what is written out, and when. Absolute beginner mode writes out the whole buffer, after every keystroke. Confident expert mode writes out a selected region, but only on demand.

At the time of writing (mid-June 2001), only absolute beginner mode has been implemented. Further progress requires above all clear goals and Emacs programming skills.

**The \texttt{dvichop} program**

For interactive programs, speed is of the essence. Therefore, we will look at \TeX’s performance. The author’s computer has a 225MHz Cyrix CPU. So that we have a definite figure, we will say that on this machine a response time of 1/10 seconds is acceptable.

**Typesetting story.tex** There is a file, \texttt{story.tex}, that is part of every \TeX distribution. It is described in *The \TeXbook*. On the author’s computer, the command

\begin{verbatim}
time tex \end
\end{verbatim}

takes .245 seconds to execute\textsuperscript{2}. This seems to make Instant Preview impossible.

However, the command

\begin{verbatim}
time tex \end
\end{verbatim}

takes only .240 seconds to execute. Therefore, it takes \TeX almost 1/4 of a second to load and exit, while typesetting the two short paragraphs in \texttt{story.tex} can be done about 20 times in the target time of a tenth of a second.

Thus, provided the overhead of loading (and exiting) \TeX can be avoided, Instant Preview is possible.

**Remarks on performance** The simple tests earlier in this article show that it takes \TeX about 0.005 seconds to typeset the file \texttt{story.tex}. This subsection gives a more precise result. It also show some of the factors that can influence apparent performance.

The file \texttt{100story.tex} is as below.

\begin{verbatim}
\def\0{\input ./story }
\def\1{\0\0\0\0\0\0\0\0\0\0}
\def\2{\1\1\1\1\1\1\1\1\1\1}
\2 \end
\end{verbatim}

Table 1 gives the time taken to process this file, in the various modes. It shows that on the author’s machine and in the best conditions, it takes about 0.0025 \textasciitilde (0.492 – 0.240)/100 seconds to process \texttt{story.tex} once.

Note that the time taken can be quite sensitive to the mode, particularly X-windows. We also note that using \texttt{\textbackslash input story} (so that kpathsea looks for the file) adds about 0.025 seconds to the total time taken.

Starting \TeX once The solution is to start \TeX once, and use it to typeset multiple documents. Once \TeX has typeset a page, it uses the \texttt{\shipout} command to write it to the \texttt{dvi} file. The new page now exists on the file system, and can be used by other programs. Actually, this is not always true.

\textsuperscript{1} In the first draft, the allegedly expert author forgot that & is also special, and also that \texttt{\verb} cannot be used in a \TeX footnote.

\textsuperscript{2} To avoid the overhead of X-windows, this command was executed in a virtual console. The same goes for the other timing data. The input file is placed in the current directory to reduce kpathsea overheads.
To improve performance, the system dependent part of \TeX{} usually buffers the output dvi stream. However, this can be turned off. We assume that dvi output is unbuffered.

Most dvi-reading applications are unable to process such an ill-formed dvi file. For example, most immediately seek to the end of the file, to obtain a list of fonts used. To bridge this gap, and thereby enable Instant Preview, the author wrote a utility program called dvichop.

This program takes as input a dvi file, perhaps of thousands of pages, and produces from it perhaps thousands of tiny dvi files. The little files are the ones that the previewer is asked to reload.

More exactly, dvichop looks for special marker pages in the output dvi-stream produced by \TeX{} the program. The marker pages delimit the material that is to be written to the small dvi files. The marker pages also control where the output of dvichop is to be written, and which process is to be informed once the output page is ready.

**Implementation** The program dvichop is written in the $C$ programming language. It occupies about 800 lines of code, and calls in a header file dviop.h to define the opcodes. A shell program texd starts \TeX{} and sends its dvi output to dvichop. More exactly, \TeX{} writes to a named pipe (a FIFO), which is then read by dvichop.

**More on performance** In the abstract it is claimed that \TeX{} together with dvichop is over 20 times quicker that ordinary \TeX{}, when applied to small files. Here is some test data to support this bold claim.

Normally, dvichop is run using a pipe. To simplify matters, we will create the input stream as an ordinary file. The plain input file listed below does this. It also illustrates the interface to dvichop.

```
% 100chop.tex
\begingroup % say hello to dvichop
  \count0 \maxdimen \count1 1
  \count2 1 \shipout \hbox{}
\endgroup
\2 % ask dvichop to produce 100 files
\begingroup % say goodbye to dvichop
  \count0 \maxdimen \count1 2
  \count2 0 \shipout \hbox{}
\endgroup
\end
```

Typesetting story.tex 100 times in the conventional way takes approximately 24.5 seconds. Running \TeX{} on 100chop.tex takes about 0.510 seconds. This typesets the story for us 100 times. Running dvichop on the output file 100chop.dvi takes 0.135 seconds. Its execution creates files 1.dvi through to 100.dvi that are for practical purposes identical to those obtained in the conventional way. The conventional route takes 24.5 seconds. The dvichop route took $0.510 + 0.135 = 0.645$ seconds.

This indicates that on story.tex using dvichop is 24.5/0.645 = 38 times quicker. Some qualifying remarks are in order. In practice, using the pipeline will add overhead, but this seems to be less than 0.01 seconds. On the other hand, the present version of dvichop is not optimised.

**The \TeX{} daemon**

A this point we assume the reader has some basic familiarity with client-server architecture. A server is a program that is running more or less continually, waiting for requests from clients. Clients can come and go, but servers are expected to persist. An operating system is a classic example of a server, while an application is a client.

**Thanks for the memory** Normally, \TeX{} is run as an application or client program. It is loaded into memory to do its job, it does its job, and then it exits. In the mid-1980s, when the author started using a personal computer, having more than a megabyte of memory was uncommon. \TeX{} is uncomfortable on less than 512Kb of memory. Thus running \TeX{} as a server would consume perhaps half of the available memory. For all but the most rabid \TeX{}-ophile, this is clearly not an option.

Today \TeX{} requires perhaps 2Mb of memory, and personal computers typically have at least 32Mb of memory. Letting \TeX{} remain in memory on a more or less permanent basis, much as Emacs and other programs remain loaded even when not used, is clearly practical. However, even today, for most
users there is probably not room to have more than a handful of instances of \TeX{} resident in memory.

**Sockets** The present implementation of Instant Preview uses a named pipe. Sockets provide a more reliable and flexible interface. In particular, sockets can handle contention (requests to the same server from several clients). Applications communicate to the X-server provided by X-windows by means of a socket.

Providing a socket interface to the \TeX{} daemon will greatly increase its usefulness. The author hopes that by the end of the year he or someone else will have done this.

**\TeX{} as a callable function** Over the years, many people have complained that the batch nature of \TeX{} makes it unsuitable for today’s new computing world. They have wanted \TeX{} to be a callable function. However, to make \TeX{} a callable function, all that is required is a suitable wrapper, that communicates with the \TeX{} daemon.

At present the \TeX{} daemon is capable of returning only a dvi file. To do this, it must parse the output dvi stream. Suppose, for example, that the caller wants to convert the output dvi into a bitmap, say for inclusion in an HTML page. The present set-up would result in the dvi pages being parsed twice. Although this is not expensive, compared to starting up a whole new \TeX{} process, it is still far from optimal.

If the \TeX{} daemon could be made to load page-handling modules, then the calling function could then ask for the bitmap conversion module to handle the pages produced by the function call. This would be more efficient. However, as we shall soon see, premature optimisation can be a source of problems.

**\TeX{} forever** An errant application does not bring down the operating system. Strange keystrokes and mouse movements do not freeze X-windows. In the same way, applications should never be able to kill the \TeX{} daemon. To achieve this level of reliability is something of a programming problem.

One thing is clear: The application cannot be allowed to send arbitrary raw \TeX{} to the \TeX{} daemon. \TeX{} is much too sensitive. All it takes is something like

\[
\texttt{\global\let\maketitle\relax}
\]

and the \TeX{} daemon will be rendered useless.

A more subtle form of this problem is when a client’s call to the daemon results in an unintended, unwelcome, and not readily reversible change of state. For example, the \LaTeX{} macro \texttt{\maketitle} executes

\[
\texttt{\global\let\maketitle\relax}
\]

which is an example of such a command. (Doing this frees tokens from \TeX{}’s main memory. When \TeX{}, macros and all, is shoe-horned into 512Kb, this may be a good idea.)

**Protecting \TeX{}** \TeX{} can be made a callable function by providing an interface to the \TeX{} daemon. Most applications will want an interface that is safe to use. In other words, input syntax errors are reported before they get to \TeX{}, and it is not possible to accidentally kill the \TeX{} daemon. To provide this, the interface must be well defined. For example, the input might be an XML-document (say as a string) together with style parameters, and the output would be say a dvi file. Alternatively, the input might be a pointer to an already parsed data structure.

In the long run, this interface is probably best implemented using compiled code, rather than \TeX{} macros. Once a function is used to translate source document into \TeX{} input, there is far less need for developers to write complicated \TeX{} macros whose main purpose is to provide users with a comfortable input syntax. Instead, the interface function can do this.

When carried out in a systematic manner, this will remove the problem that in general \LaTeX{} is the only program that can understand a \LaTeX{} input file. The same holds for other \TeX{} macros formats, of course. Note that Don Knuth’s \texttt{WEAVE} (part of his literate programming system) is similarly compiled code that avoids the need to write complicated \TeX{} macros.

**Visual \TeX{}**

This article uses the term visual \TeX{} to mean programs and other resources that allow the user to interact with a document through a formatted representation, typically a previewed dvi file. We use it in preference to WYSIWYG (what you see is what you get) for two reasons. The first is today many documents are formatted only for screen, and never get printed. Help files and web pages are examples of this. The second is that even when editing a document for print, the user may prefer a representation that is not WYSIWYG.

In most cases the author will benefit from interacting with a suitably formatted view of the underlying document. The benefits of readability and use of space that typesetting provides in print also manifest on the screen. But to insist on WYSIWYG
is to ignore the differences between the two media. Hence our use of the term Visual \TeX{}.

Whatever term is used, the technical problems are much the same, which is how to enable user interaction with the \texttt{dvi} file.

**Richer \texttt{dvi} files** In Visual \TeX{}, the resulting \texttt{dvi} file is a view on the underlying document. For it to be possible to edit the document through the view, the view must allow the access to the underlying document. Editing changes applied to the view, such as insertion and deletion, can then be applied to the document.

Placing large numbers of \texttt{\textbackslash special} commands in the \texttt{dvi} file is probably the best (and perhaps the only) way to make this work. Doing this is the responsibility of the macro package (here taken to include the input filter function described in the previous section). It is unlikely that any existing macro package, used in its intended manner, will support the generation of such enriched \texttt{dvi} files. The author’s Active \TeX{} macro package[2] is designed to allow this.

**Better \texttt{dvi} previewers** Most \texttt{dvi} previewers convert the \texttt{dvi} into a graphics file, such as a bitmap. Some retain information about the font and position of each glyph. A text editor or word processor has a cursor (called point in Emacs), and by moving the cursor text can be marked. This is a basic property of such programs. So far as the author knows, no \texttt{dvi} previewer allows such marking of text.

**Further reading** This section is based on the author’s article [1].

The Lyx editor for L\TeX{} adopts a visual approach to the generation of files that can be typeset using L\TeX{}. It does not support WYSIWYG interaction. Understanding the capabilities and limitations of Lyx is probably a good way to learn more about this area.

**The next steps**

This section discusses some of the opportunities and problems in this general area, likely to present themselves over the next year or two.

**Applications** Two areas are likely to be the focus of development in the next year or so. The first is the refinement of Instant Preview, as a tool for use with existing \TeX{} formats. Part of this is the creation of material for interactive (La)\TeX{} training. Instant Preview provides an attractive showcase for the abilities of \TeX{} and its various macro packages.

The second is \TeX{} as a callable function. This is required for Visual \TeX{}. One of the important missing components are libraries that allow rich interaction with \texttt{dvi} files. This will lay the foundation for \TeX{} being embedded in desktop applications.

**Licence** The work described this article is at present released under the General Public Licence of the Free Software Foundation (the GPL). Roughly speaking, this means that any derived work that contains say the author’s implementation of the \TeX{} daemon must also be released under the GPL.

However, the \TeX{} daemon is the basis for \TeX{} as a callable function, and for good reason library functions are usually released under the Lesser (or Library) General Public Licence (the LGPL), or something similar. This means that the library as is can be linked into proprietary programs, but that any enhancement to the library must be released under the LGPL.

**Porting** \TeX{} runs on almost all computers, and where it runs, it gives essentially identical results. The same applies, of course, to \TeX{} macros. By and large, it is desirable that the tools used with \TeX{} run can be made to run identically on all platforms. This is not to say that the special features of any particular platform should be ignored. Nor is it to say that advances (such as Instant Preview itself) should not first manifest on a more suitable platform.

Cross-platform portability is one of the great strengths of \TeX{}. What is desirable is that programs that run with \TeX{} have a similar portability. Many people cannot freely choose their computing platform. If \TeX{} and friends are available everywhere, this make \TeX{} a more attractive choice.

In the 1980s, in the early days of \TeX{}, many pioneers ported \TeX{} to diverse platforms. This work established deep roots that even today continue to nourish the community. Although Instant Preview, even when fully developed, is not on the same scale as \TeX{}, it being ported will similarly nourish the community.

**\TeX{} macros** Visual \TeX{} requires a stable \TeX{} daemon, which in turn will require a macro package (or a pre-loaded format). This new use of \TeX{} places new demands on the macros. Here, we include in macros any input filter functions used to protect the \TeX{} daemon from errant applications.

These new demands include protection against change of state, reporting and recovery from errors, ability to typeset document fragments, support for rich \texttt{dvi} file, and the ability for a single daemon...
to support round-robin processing of multiple documents. Once tools are in place, much of the input is likely to be XML, and much of the output will be for screen rather than paper.

The existing macros packages (such as plain, \texttt{I\TeX} and \texttt{Con\TeX}) were not written with these new requirements in mind. Although they are useful now, in the longer term it may be better to write a new macro package from scratch, for use in conjunction with suitable input filters.

**Summary**

By running \TeX\ within a client-server architecture, many of the problems traditionally associated with it are removed. At the same time, new demands are placed on macro packages, device drivers (such as \texttt{dvichop} and \texttt{xdvi}) and a new category of software, input filters (such as \texttt{WEAVE}).

This new architecture allows Instant Preview, and opens the door to Visual \TeX. All this is possible without making any changes to \TeX\ the program, other than in the system dependent part.

**Don Knuth** In 1990, when he told us \cite{Knuth90} that his work on developing \TeX\ had come to an end, Don Knuth went on to say:

> Of course I do not claim to have found the best solution to every problem. I simply claim that it is a great advantage to have a fixed point as a building block. Improved macro packages can be added on the input side; improved device drivers can be added on the output side.

The work described in this article has taken its direction from this statement. One of the most obvious characteristics of today’s computer monitors (not to be confused with the chalk monitor in classrooms of old) is their widespread use of colour. \TeX\ is clumsy with colour. \TeX\ was not designed with Visual \TeX\ in mind. However, we still have our hands full making the best of what we have with \TeX. If our labours bear fruit, then in time a place and a need for a successor will arise.

Again, this possibility was foretold by Don Knuth \cite{Knuth89}:

> Of course I don’t mean to imply that all problems of computational typography have been solved. Far from it! There are still countless important issues to be studied, relating especially to the many classes of documents that go far beyond what I ever intended \TeX\ to handle.

**References**

\begin{itemize}
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Space geometry with METAPOST∗

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Abstract
METAPOST is a tool especially well-suited for the inclusion of technical drawings in a document. In this article, we show how METAPOST can be used to represent objects in space and especially how it can be used for drawing geometric constructions involving lines, planes, as well as their intersections, orthogonal planes, etc. All the features belong to a new METAPOST package aimed at all those who teach and study geometry.

This article is dedicated to Donald Knuth whose PhD dissertation was on projective geometry.

1 Introduction
METAPOST (Hobby, 1992; Goossens, Rahtz, and Mittelbach, 1997; Hoenig, 1998; Hagen, 2002) is a graphical description language created by John Hobby from the METAFONT system (Knuth, 1986).

A two-dimensional drawing is represented as a program which is compiled into a PostScript file. A drawing can be described in a very precise and compact fashion by taking advantage of the declarative nature of the language. For instance, linear constraints between the coordinates of several points, such as those of a central symmetry, are expressed very naturally by equations. Furthermore, it is possible to manipulate equations involving values that are not completely known. For instance, in order to express that \( p_3 \) is the middle of \([p_1, p_2]\), it suffices to write: \( p_3 - p_1 = p_2 - p_3 \), or \( p_3 = \frac{1}{2}[p_1, p_2] \).

When this equation is given, some and possibly all of the coordinates of the three points may be unknown. Taking the equation into account represents the addition of a constraint. Constraints are added until the values involved are precisely known. In the previous example, the three points can be completely determined by positioning \( p_1 \) and \( p_2 \). A value can remain indeterminate as long as it is not involved in a drawing. Finally, METAPOST alerts the user if there are redundant or inconsistent equations.

2 A first example in plane geometry

In order to get a good understanding of how METAPOST can naturally express a geometric problem, let us study the representation of a triangle property, such as the existence of the nine points circle (first stated by Poncelet and Brianchon in 1821). Figure 1 shows the result produced by METAPOST. This example will also serve as an introduction to METAPOST for the reader discovering the language here.

![Figure 1: The nine points circle.](image)

In this figure, we have first defined the points, then we set the three vertices of the triangle as functions of the origin (\texttt{origin}) and an arbitrary unit \( u \) enabling us to easily change the size of the graphics later on:\footnote{For the points, we could also have used \texttt{z0}, \texttt{z1}, etc., which are predefined variables.}

\begin{verbatim}
numeric u; u=1cm;
A=origin; B-A=(7u,0); C-A=(u,5u);
D=.5[A,B]; E=.5[B,C]; F=.5[A,C];
G=whatever[B,C]=whatever[A,A+((C-B) rotated 90)];
H=whatever[A,C]=whatever[B,B+((C-A) rotated 90)];
I=whatever[A,B]=whatever[C,C+((B-A) rotated 90)];
X=(A--G) intersectionpoint (C--I);
J=.5[A,X]; K=.5[B,X]; L=.5[C,X];
N=whatever[.5[D,I],(.5[D,I]+((D-I) rotated 90))]
  =whatever[.5[D,H],(.5[D,H]+((D-H) rotated 90))];
r=arclength(I--N);

draw A--B--C--cycle;
draw A--G; draw B--H; draw C--I;
draw fullcircle scaled 2r shifted N;
\end{verbatim}

The points are marked with \texttt{drawdot} after the line width has been increased. Finally, the annotations are all obtained on the model of:
The label instruction allows for the inclusion of TeX labels.

This example reveals the natural expression of geometric constraints for problems in plane geometry. All the constructions we have used are absolutely standard in METAPOST. Of course, if we had many such figures, we would introduce functions for the computation of the heights, the perpendicular bisectors, etc.

3 METAPOST extensions

METAPOST is an extensible system. At the basis, it is a program which loads an initial set of macros. It is then possible to add new domain-specific definitions. For instance, when we worked on the plane representation of objects in space, we developed a 3d package, initially in order to manipulate polyhedra (Roegel, 1997). We have recently developed other extensions resting on the 3d package. We view these extensions as “modules” of the 3d package. In particular, we wanted to manipulate objects other than polyhedra, such as curves defined by equations, or given by a sequence of points. Among the extensions created, we have created a module providing various functionalities adapted to space geometry. This module, introduced here, is the 3dgeom module (see figure 2).

Figure 2: Structure of the 3d package and of modules.

Some of the modules automatically load other modules. The 3dgeom module loads for instance 3d. A module is loaded only once.

A program using 3dgeom will therefore start with input 3dgeom.

4 Space geometry

4.1 A simple example

We will start by representing an elementary object, the cube (figure 3). For that, we will give the coordinates of its eight vertices.

The 3d package defines a concept of point or vector as a triple of numerical values. The points must be defined by an allocation mechanism and must be freed when they are no longer used. The allocation of a point (resp. a vector) is done with new_point (resp. new_vec). This is a macro taking a point (resp. vector) name and allocating a memory area to store it. Freeing a point or a vector is done with free_point or free_vec, by giving the point or vector identification as a parameter. Hence, a program that wishes to use a vector v will look like this:

\begin{verbatim}
new_vec(v);
...
free_vec(v);
\end{verbatim}

The set of all points and vectors is stored internally in a stack. Allocating or freeing a vector merely changes the stack pointer. As a consequence, points and vectors must be freed in the reverse order of their allocation. If that order is not respected, an unallocation error is raised.

\begin{verbatim}
new_point(pa); new_point(pb);
...
free_point(pb); free_point(pa);
\end{verbatim}

It is not compulsory to free vectors or points, but not doing so will often have dramatic consequences if the allocations are within loops.

In order to ease the manipulation of sets of points, arrays can be allocated with new_points and freed with free_points. An array defined in that way has a name and a number of elements $n$. The elements are numbered from 1 to $n$. In our example, in order to create a cube, we declare a vertex array of eight points:

\begin{verbatim}
new_points(vertex)(8);
...
free_points(vertex)(8);
\end{verbatim}

Each vertex is declared with the set_point_ command, for instance:

\begin{verbatim}
set_point_(vertex1)(0,0,0);
\end{verbatim}

By default, the perspective is linear (or central) and we have a camera witnessing the scene (figure 4). The camera must also be set. It corresponds to the predefined point Obs. Its position can be defined in space with set_point_. Moving the camera is done by expressing its coordinates in a parametric way, for instance:

\begin{verbatim}
set_point_(vertex1)(0,0,0);
\end{verbatim}

In the code, cosd and sind represent the trigonometric functions with arguments in degrees.
set_point_(Obs)(20*cosd(3.6*i),20*sind(3.6*i),6);

By varying i, the camera goes through points of the circle C(t) = (20 cos(3.6t), 20 sin(3.6t), 6). Figure 5 shows five views of that sequence, for i = 0, 5, 10, 15 and 20. An animation can be obtained by creating a sufficient amount of close views and by transforming the METAPOST outputs into GIF files. The procedure is explained in detail in our first article (Roegel, 1997).

Besides the camera position, it is necessary to define its orientation. It can be specified by three angles, but also in a simpler way by indicating a point towards which the camera is oriented and an angle. In order for the camera to be constantly focused on vertex 8, with the angle 90 (this angle corresponds to the degree of freedom of a rotation around the direction of view), it suffices to write:

Obs_phi:=90;
point_of_view_abs(vertex8,Obs_phi);

The “:=” assignment is used because it makes it possible to change the value of a variable when this variable already has a value. Writing Obs_phi=90 can produce an error if Obs_phi is already set, and in particular if it has a value different from 90.

Finally, in order to define the view completely, the position of the screen must be given. In linear perspective, the screen is a plane orthogonal to the viewing direction. It is on the screen that the points in space are projected. Figure 4 shows that the focused point lies in the middle of the screen. The screen is determined by its distance to the camera. This distance should also be that from which the computed scene is looked at (provided the scene is not scaled). We take for instance:

Obs_dist:=2;

At the time of projection, this value as well as the other coordinate values are multiplied by the value of drawing_scale, which defaults to 2 cm. The above value of Obs_dist therefore corresponds to a camera located at a distance of 4 cm from the screen.

Once the cube’s vertices and the camera are in place, the points must be projected on the screen with the project_point command. To each point in space corresponds a point in the plane. With project_point(3,vertex3), point z_3 of the plane is associated to vertex 3 of the cube. Once the points have been projected, the edges can be drawn:

draw z1--z2--z4--z3--cycle;
draw z5--z6--z8--z7--cycle;
draw z1--z5; draw z2--z6;
draw z3--z7; draw z4--z8;

The complete program, with a few more initializations as well as the loop creating the animation, is given in figure 6. (This example didn’t make use of the geometry module.)

4.2 Improvements to the previous example

The source code producing the cube is rather simple, but it is easy to come up with drawings that
input 3danim; drawing_scale:=10cm;
new_points(vertex)(8);
for i:=0 upto 20:
  beginfig(100+i);
  % Cube
  set_point_(vertex1)(0,0,0); set_point_(vertex2)(0,0,1);
  set_point_(vertex3)(0,1,0); set_point_(vertex4)(0,1,1);
  set_point_(vertex5)(1,0,0); set_point_(vertex6)(1,0,1);
  set_point_(vertex7)(1,1,0); set_point_(vertex8)(1,1,1);
  % Observer/camera
  set_point_(Obs)(20*cosd(3.6*i),20*sind(3.6*i),6);
  Obs_phi:=90; Obs_dist:=2; point_of_view_abs(vertex8,Obs_phi);
  % Projections
  for j:=1 upto 8:
    project_point(j,vertex[j]);
  endfor;
  % Lines
  draw z1--z2--z4--z3--cycle; draw z5--z6--z8--z7--cycle;
  draw z1--z5; draw z2--z6; draw z3--z7; draw z4--z8;
  endfig;
endfor;
free_points(vertex)(8);
end.

Figure 6: Program producing the cube animation.

are more complex and very difficult to handle, be it only because of the large amount of points involved. Moreover, the points do not necessarily belong to the same objects (we can have a cube, a tetrahedron, or other objects all present at the same time) and they may be subject to different treatments. It is in this spirit that we have introduced in the 3d package notions of classes and objects making it possible to group a number of points, in order to manipulate them globally, or in order to instantiate certain classes several times (see (Meyer, 1997) for more details on object-oriented programming). We will therefore redefine the cube, as a class, and then instantiate it.

The new code (figure 7) shows the definition of a “C” class. All the objects of that class are cubes. The class definition is split in three parts, which have to be called def_C, set_C_points and draw_C:

- The general definition function is def_C: This function takes as a parameter an object name and instantiates it. Specifically, this function defines the number n of points making up the object (they will be numbered 1 to n) and calls the function defining the points. Depending on the nature of the defined objects, it may perform other initializations; in particular, though it is not the case here, the initialization can depend on the object name, that is, on the parameter.

- set_C_points, the function defining the points, takes the calls to set_point_ but replaces them with set_point. Calling set_point(1)(0,0,0) means that point 1 of that object is defined. Thus, we have now a local point notion.

- Finally, a drawing function draw_C indicating how the object must be drawn.

The instantiation itself, that is the operation associating an object to a class, is done with a call to assign_obj("cube","C"). The latter operation defines the cube object as an instance of the C class. It leads in particular to the call of the def_C function, hence to the computation of the cube’s points. It should be noted that in this example the points of the cube are set before the camera is set. In more complex drawings (like in figure 21), it is sometimes necessary to have points of an object depending on the position of the camera. In that case, besides the call to the assign_obj function (which must only occur once per object), the object positions can be recomputed with reset_obj (set_C_points cannot be used directly since this function doesn’t state how the absolute point numbers should be computed).
input 3danim; drawing.scale:=10cm;

vardef def_C(expr inst)=
    new_obj_points(inst,8); set_C_points(inst);
enddef;

vardef set_C_points(expr inst)=
    set_point(1)(0,0,0); set_point(2)(0,0,1); set_point(3)(0,1,0); set_point(4)(0,1,1);
    set_point(5)(1,0,0); set_point(6)(1,0,1); set_point(7)(1,1,0); set_point(8)(1,1,1);
enddef;

vardef draw_C(expr inst)=
    draw_lines(1,2,4,3,1); draw_lines(5,6,8,7,5); draw_line(1,5);
    draw_line(2,6); draw_line(3,7); draw_line(4,8);
enddef;

assign_obj("cube","C");

for i:=0 upto 20:
    beginfig(100+i);
    % Camera
    set_point(Obs)(20*cosd(3.6*i),20*sind(3.6*i),6);
    Obs_phi:=90; Obs_dist:=2; point_of_view_obj("cube",8,Obs_phi);
    draw_obj("cube");
    endfig;
endfor;

The main loop is now almost empty. The definitions concerning the camera have not been modified, except that concerning the focused point. The point_of_view_obj function is now used to aim an object point, here the cube point 8, and not an absolute point.

Finally, the cube is drawn with draw_obj. This command does both the projection and calls the draw_C command (with the "cube" parameter) and it is therefore not sufficient to call draw_C("cube"). The projection imposes a correlation between an object’s local points and those of the plane. It is no longer possible to automatically associate point 7 of an object to $z_2$, for instance.

In the sequel, we will always encapsulate our constructions in classes, even if (like here) we instantiate the class only once. The table below summarizes the main functions acting on objects.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definition of C class</th>
<th>def_C et set_C_points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drawing definition of C class</td>
<td>draw_C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Object instantiation</td>
<td>assign_obj</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations</td>
<td>translate_obj</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>rotate_obj</td>
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<td></td>
<td>scale_obj</td>
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<td></td>
<td>reset_obj</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Object drawing</td>
<td>draw_obj</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.3 Perspective

By default, all representations are done in linear (or central) perspective, that is the perspective corresponding to what a camera sees when its field of view is projected on a plane orthogonal to the viewing direction (Le Goff, 2000). The legitimate construction
rules of a linear perspective drawing have been codified by the Quattrocento painters and architects. This perspective is not very apparent on figure 3, because the camera is far from the cube (we are more than 2 meters away from a cube with a 10 cm side). If the camera gets close (and if $\text{drawing\_scale}$ is decreased to prevent the drawing from becoming too large) we obtain (with no changes to the cube) figure 8. The linear perspective shows clearly the vanishing lines.

In this example, the hidden edges have been dashed. The cube being defined as in the figure 7, it is not possible to determine automatically what is visible and what is not, since nothing has been said about the faces. But if the cube is defined as a polyhedron with the $\text{3dpoly}$ extension (Roegel, 1997), the removal of hidden faces can be done automatically. However, this removal is for the moment only implemented for isolated convex objects. In the present article, all dashed lines are inserted manually.

Other perspectives are provided when the value of $\text{projection\_type}$ is changed. 0 corresponds to the linear perspective. 1 corresponds to a parallel perspective, where all projections are done parallel to the viewing direction and orthogonally to the projection plane. This perspective is different from the cavalier drawing. It corresponds to a camera set at an infinite distance, but looking at the scene with a telescope of infinite power. Since this perspective doesn’t change the sizes, it is usually necessary to reduce the size of the projection by decreasing $\text{drawing\_scale}$.

A first category of parallel projections are the isometric (also called military) perspective, dimetric and trimetric projections, all usually grouped under the axonometric perspectives. However, according to Krikke (Krikke, 2000), these projections are misnamed. Whereas the isometric perspective was invented by William Farish in 1822 to fulfill needs created by the industrial revolution, the real axonometric perspective is a perspective that originated in China and Japan, in particular because it is well suited to a presentation in rolls. In all parallel perspectives, the appearance of an object depends only on its orientation, not on its distance. A distant object doesn’t appear smaller than a close object.

A value of 2 for $\text{projection\_type}$ corresponds to the oblique perspectives (which are parallel perspectives), but where the projection plane is not necessarily orthogonal to the projection direction. In general, the projection plane is chosen parallel to one of the object’s faces. The most common oblique perspectives are the cavalier drawing and the cabinet drawing. The $\text{asian\ axonometry}$, where an horizontal axis is orthogonal to the viewing direction, also seems to be an oblique perspective.

The $\text{3d}$ package makes it possible to obtain any of these perspectives. In the case of parallel perspectives, the camera position is only used to find the viewing direction, not how close the view is. In the case of oblique projections, the projection plane being distinct from the camera, it is necessary to give it explicitly.

Figure 9 summarizes the various parallel perspectives.

Another type of representation uses orthogonal (or orthographic) projections that are complementary. An object is described by several orthogonal projections on planes which are themselves orthogonal (see figure 10). The use of several orthogonal views and their crosschecking is known since antiquity, but have been expounded geometrically for the first time by Piero della Francesca in the Renaissance (cf. (Le Goff, 2000, p. 70)). The crosschecking of orthogonal views can be used to build a linear perspective view. For instance, in figure 10, if the two projections on planes $F$ and $G$ are represented in the same plane, the central projection on the plane $H$ can be determined by crosscheckings. Albrecht Dürer used this technique to build the intersection of a cone and a plane in a famous engraving (Dürer, 1525).

Later on, Gaspard Monge systematically studied the method of double projection and codified it.
Figure 9: Parallel or perspective projections. The projections in the first row are projections where the projection plane is orthogonal to the projection direction. These projections are also named axonometric by certain authors (Gourret, 1994). The projections in the second row are oblique projections, where the projection plane is not orthogonal to the projection direction. The trimetric projection is the usual case of axonometric projection. In the dimetric projection, two of the axes are at the same scale and in the isometric projection, the three axes are represented at the same scale.

In the oblique projections, one of the faces of the object is in general parallel to the projection plane and appears therefore without deformation. In the three cases shown, one of the faces of the projected cube is indeed a square. The angle of the vanishing lines varies. In the cavalier projection, the vanishing lines are represented at the same scale as the lines in the projection plane, which confers a non-natural aspect to that projection (even though it is a genuine oblique projection with no deformation). In order to get a natural feeling, one should observe the drawing from the right. In the cabinet projection, the vanishing lines are represented at 1/2 scale which gives a more natural representation, even though there is no vanishing point. Certain oblique projections are also called planometric, for instance when the face parallel to the projection plane represents a floor plan and when the vertical lines appear vertical in projection.

in his *Géométrie descriptive* (1799). His construction method is sometimes called Monge construction or Monge projection. The developments of this technique led to the standard representation in technical drawings in France, where a front face of an object is displayed, to its left the view on the right, to its right the view on the left, below the view seen from the top, etc. (In the U.S, the order is reversed, and the left-side view is on the left, the right-side view is on the right, etc.) The 3d package currently does not provide an automatic means of representing these perspectives, but they can be simulated easily.

4.4 Local and absolute point indices

We have seen that each point or vector defined with `new_point` or `new_vec` corresponds to a stack element. A point is then given by its index in that stack. The local index of a point is that point’s number as it appears in the object definition, if it has been defined as an object point. When we defined the point 2 of our cube with `set_point`, 2 was not this point’s index in the stack, but an index relative to the beginning of that object in the stack.

In certain cases, it is necessary to know the absolute index of a point, for instance because certain functions need it. This absolute index is obtained by the `pnt` function. For instance, in order to compute the middle of two points 1 and 2 and put the value in point 3, all these points being local points of an object, one way is to write:

```plaintext
vec_sum_(pnt(3),pnt(1),pnt(2));
vec_mult_(pnt(3),pnt(3),.5);
```

This is because `vec_sum_` (sum of two vectors) and `vec_mult_` (scalar multiplication of a vector)
(see figure 11) take as parameters absolute indices. It is not sufficient to create variants of these functions for the cases where these points (vectors) are local (these variants do exist and are called here vec_sum and vec_mult) because there are often intermediate cases involving local points from one or several objects, as well as points given by their absolute index (like for instance Obs). As a consequence, we have provided variants for the most common functions, but not for all of them. In certain cases, one has to resort to the pnt function. However, for the previous example, the mid_point function can be used:

```plaintext
mid_point(3,1,2);
```

The non-local (absolute) variant of mid_point is mid_point_. The more “internal” functions from the 3d package have this final “_” Thus, making the call mid_point_(3,1,2) is equivalent to calling mid_point_(pnt(3),pnt(1),pnt(2)).

If we had wanted to define a non-local point p (defined outside an object) as being the middle of two local points, we would have written:

```plaintext
mid_point_(p,pnt(1),pnt(2));
```

In all cases, we should be careful to use pnt only inside an object (this makes it possible not to mention the object explicitly in the above examples) and more precisely only in the functions def and draw of that object.

### 4.5 Space structures

The objects definable with the 3d package are in general rather complex objects which will end up being projected and drawn. These objects are not specially suited for a mathematical treatment. However, geometrical constructions, be it in the plane or in space, involve simple concepts such as lines, planes and other mathematically defined surfaces or volumes. These concepts, which we call here structures, are often used as intermediates for finding new points or new curves. The structures are seldom drawn. We will never draw a line, but only a segment of a line. We will never draw a plane, but only for instance a rectangle in that plane, or merely a few points in that plane.

In order to facilitate the manipulation of these structures, we have created them in a different and simpler fashion than the objects. These structures bear some similarities to the primitive types of Java. Each structure could be wrapped in an object or associated with an object, but we don’t do it here.

The structures are defined in the 3dgeom module. They must also be allocated and freed.

#### 4.5.1 Lines

The simplest of the structures we define is the line. A line is defined with two points. For instance, in order to define the line $l$ going through local points 4 and 6, we write:

```plaintext
new_line(l)(4,6);
```

This function (abs. vers. new_line_) memorizes the two points, so that a later modification of these points does not modify the line. The line is therefore only initially attached to the points. However, this is seldom a problem for the structures are often introduced locally in a construction. Moreover, it is possible to create a version of new_line that does not duplicate the points.

Sometimes we want to define a line whose points have not yet been computed. Sometimes also, we would like to define a line using another pair of points, in order to start a different construction. The set_line (or set_line_) command can then be used:

```plaintext
set_line(l)(4,8);
```

Finally, when a line is no longer needed, it can be freed with free_line (which has only one version):

```plaintext
free_line(l);
```

It should be observed that the structures defined in an object must always be freed within that object and, as with the points, in the reverse order of their allocation.
4.5.2 Planes
A plane is defined in a manner analogous to a line, but using three points:

\[
\text{new\_plane}(p)(i,j,k);
\]

\[
\text{set\_plane}(p)(i,j,k);
\]

\[
\text{free\_plane}(p);
\]

\text{new\_plane} and \text{set\_plane} are the absolute versions of these functions.

4.5.3 Other structures
Other structures (in the plane or not, such as circles, spheres, etc.) are defined in 3dgeom, but they have not yet all been developed. It is very easy to add new structures and functions manipulating them.

4.6 Elementary constructions

4.6.1 Plane definitions
The use of structures tremendously simplifies geometric constructions in space. For instance, in order to draw the projections of the tetrahedron vertices in figure 10, we have defined the three projection planes with \text{new\_plane}:

\[
\text{new\_plane}(f)(9,10,11);
\]

\[
\text{new\_plane}(g)(13,14,15);
\]

\[
\text{new\_plane}(h)(5,6,7);
\]

4.6.2 Perpendiculars of a plane
We have then obtained the perpendiculars of these planes going through the object points, using the \text{def\_vert\_pl} function:

\[
\text{def\_vert\_pl}(17)(1)(h);
\]

\[
\text{def\_vert\_pl}(18)(2)(h);
\]

\[
\text{def\_vert\_pl}(19)(3)(h);
\]

\[
\text{def\_vert\_pl}(20)(4)(h);
\]

This function takes a point and a plane and determines the foot of the perpendicular to the plane going through the point given as parameter (here the second parameter).

4.6.3 Intersections between lines and planes
One of 3dgeom’s functions computes the intersection of a line and a plane:

\[
\text{boolean } b;
\]

\[
b\text{=}\text{def\_inter\_p\_l\_pl}(i)(1)(p);
\]

The intersection of the line \(l\) and of the plane \(p\), if it exists, is computed. If there is an intersection reduced to a point, the function returns \text{true}, otherwise \text{false}. The returned point is \(i\) (local index).

This function will be illustrated with a high school plane geometry problem: \(ABCD\) is a tetrahedron such that \(AB = 3\), \(AC = 6\), \(AD = 4.5\). \(I\) is the point of \([AB]\) such that \(AI = 1\) and \(J\) is the point of \([AC]\) such that \(AJ = 4\). We must determine the intersection of the line \((IJ)\) with the plane \((BCD)\). We start by constructing the tetrahedron (figure 12).

We should first notice that several tetrahedra are fulfilling the requirements: \(B\), \(C\) and \(D\) are independent. In order to obtain a rather general construction, we must parameterize it. \(A\) can for instance be set in \((0,0,0)\), \(B\) in \((3\cos\beta,3\sin\beta,0)\), \(C\) in \((6\cos\gamma,6\sin\gamma,0)\) and \(D\) obtained by the means of two rotations, one around \(\vec{k}\), the other around a vector orthogonal to \(\vec{k}\). In METAPOST, this is done with the commands given in figure 13.

On figure 12, the numbers of the points have been added as indices. This figure is of course not well suited to this problem, because \((BCD)\) is facing the observer. We will therefore move the observer, for instance to \(C + 5 \cdot \vec{DC}\) (figure 14). In order to achieve this shift, we have reached to tetrahedra points outside of the tetrahedron with the \text{pnt\_obj} function (this function makes it also possible to define points of an object using points from another object):

\[
\text{new\_vec}(v_a);
\]

\[
\text{new\_vec}(v_b);
\]

\[
\text{new\_vec}(v_c);
\]

\[
\text{vec\_diff}_a(v_a,\text{pnt\_obj}("tetra",3),\text{pnt\_obj}("tetra",4)); \% \vec{DC}
\]

\[
\text{vec\_mult}_a(v_a,v_a,5); \% 5 \cdot \vec{DC}
\]

\[
\text{vec\_diff}_b(v_b,\text{pnt\_obj}("tetra",3),\text{pnt\_obj}("tetra",2)); \% \vec{BC}
\]

\[
\text{vec\_mult}_b(v_b,v_b,5); \% 5 \cdot \vec{BC}
\]

\[
\text{vec\_diff}_c(v_c,\text{pnt\_obj}("tetra",3),\text{pnt\_obj}("tetra",1)); \% \vec{CA}
\]

\[
\text{vec\_mult}_c(v_c,v_c,3); \% 3 \cdot \vec{CA}
\]

\[
\% C + 5 \cdot \vec{DC}
\]

\[
\% C + 5 \cdot \vec{BC}
\]

\[
\text{vec\_sum}_a(\text{Obs},\text{pnt\_obj}("tetra",3),v_a); \% C + 5 \cdot \vec{DC} + 5 \cdot \vec{BC}
\]

\[
\% C + 5 \cdot \vec{DC} + 5 \cdot \vec{BC} + 3 \cdot \vec{CA}
\]

\[
\text{vec\_sum}_b(\text{Obs},v_b); \% C + 5 \cdot \vec{DC} + 5 \cdot \vec{BC} + 3 \cdot \vec{CA}
\]

\[
\text{free\_vec}(v_c);
\]

\[
\text{free\_vec}(v_b);
\]

\[
\text{free\_vec}(v_a);
\]

\[
\text{vec\_diff}_b(\text{Obs},v_b,v_a); \% C + 5 \cdot \vec{DC} + 5 \cdot \vec{BC}
\]

\[
\% C + 5 \cdot \vec{DC} + 5 \cdot \vec{BC} + 3 \cdot \vec{CA}
\]

\[
\text{vec\_sum}_a(\text{Obs},v_a,v_b,v_c); \% C + 5 \cdot \vec{DC} + 5 \cdot \vec{BC} + 3 \cdot \vec{CA}
\]

\[
\text{free\_vec}(v_c);
\]

\[
\text{free\_vec}(v_b);
\]

\[
\text{free\_vec}(v_a);
\]
\texttt{set_point(1)(0,0,0); \% A}
\texttt{set_point(2)(3*cosd(b),3*sind(b),0); \% B}
\texttt{set_point(3)(6*cosd(c),6*sind(c),0); \% C}
\texttt{new_vec(v_a); new_vec(v_b);}
\texttt{vec_def_vec(v_a,vec_I); \% \vec{v}_a \leftarrow \vec{i}}
\texttt{vec_rotate(v_a,vec_K,d); \% \text{rot. of } \vec{v}_a \text{ around } \vec{k} \text{ by an angle } d}
\texttt{vec_prod(v_b,v_a,vec_K); \% \vec{v}_b \leftarrow \vec{v}_a \wedge \vec{k}}
\texttt{vec_rotate(v_a,v_b,e); \% \text{rot. of } \vec{v}_a \text{ around } \vec{v}_b \text{ by an angle } e}
\texttt{vec_mult(v_a,v_a,4.5);}
\texttt{vec_sum(pnt(4),pnt(1),v_a); \% D}
\texttt{free_vec(v_b); free_vec(v_a);}
\texttt{\% Determination of I and J:}
\texttt{\% I = A + \frac{AB}{\|AB\|}}
\texttt{vec_diff(5,2,1); \% \vec{V}_5' \leftarrow \vec{A} \vec{B}}
\texttt{vec_unit(5,5); \% \vec{V}_5 \leftarrow \vec{A} \vec{B} / \|\vec{A} \vec{B}\|}
\texttt{vec_sum(5,5,1); \% \vec{I} \leftarrow A + \frac{AB}{\|AB\|}}
\texttt{\% J = A + 4 \cdot \frac{AC}{\|AC\|}}
\texttt{vec_diff(6,3,1); \% \vec{V}_6' \leftarrow \vec{A} \vec{C}}
\texttt{vec_unit(6,6); \% \vec{V}_6 \leftarrow \vec{A} \vec{C} / \|\vec{A} \vec{C}\|}
\texttt{vec_mult(6,6,4); \% \vec{V}_6'' \leftarrow 4 \cdot \vec{A} \vec{C} / \|\vec{A} \vec{C}\|}
\texttt{vec_sum(6,6,1); \% J \leftarrow A + 4 \cdot \vec{A} \vec{C} / \|\vec{A} \vec{C}\|}

\textbf{Figure 13}: Code for figure 12.

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=0.4\textwidth]{figure13.png}
\caption{Tetrahedron: second construction.}
\end{figure}

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=0.4\textwidth]{figure14.png}
\caption{Tetrahedron: third construction.}
\end{figure}

We now come to the computation of the intersection of the \((IJ)\) line with the \((BCD)\) plane (figure 15).
\texttt{new_plane(bcd)(2,3,4);}
\texttt{new_line(ij)(5,6);}
\texttt{boolean b;}
\texttt{b:=def_inter_p_l_pl(7)(ij)(bcd);}
\texttt{if not b: message "no intersection"; fi;}
\texttt{free_line(ij); free_plane(bcd);}

Two other intersections can be computed using \(K\), the middle of \([AD]\) (figure 16). The three intersections are then aligned. (We can see that \(L, M\) and \(N\) are as a matter of fact on the intersection of the planes \((IK)\) and \((BCD)\).) We have shown the alignment with a segment slightly extending on each side, using
\texttt{draw_line_extra(9,10)(-0.1,1.1);}

The second pair of parameters indicates how much the segment extends on each side. \((0,1)\) corresponds to no extension and a smaller (or larger) value for the first (or second) parameter produces an extension.

Figure 16 also illustrates the famous theorem by Girard Desargues (1639), which is the cornerstone of projective geometry. According to this theorem, two triangles \(BCD\) and \(IJK\) being given in the plane, the lines \((BI)\), \((CJ)\), \((DK)\) have an intersection if and only if the intersections of \((IK)\) and \((BD)\), of \((IJ)\) and \((BC)\), and of \((KJ)\) and \((DC)\) are aligned. In our case, the lines \((BI)\), \((CJ)\), \((DK)\) have indeed an intersection, namely \(A\), and the intersections \(L\),
$M$ and $N$ are aligned. The theorem states that the converse also holds. Seen in space, the theorem is very simple, but a purely plane proof is difficult.

Another function of 3dgeom allows for the direct computation of the intersection between two planes:

```plaintext
b:=def_inter_l_pl_pl(l)(p)(q);
```

where $b$ is a boolean. If the intersection between the planes $p$ and $q$ is a line, the function yields true and the line is stored in $l$. Otherwise, the function yields false. Let us see on an example how this function can be used. Consider the drawing of a tetrahedron $SABC$ whose edges $SA$, $SB$ et $SC$ are known, as well as the angles $\angle ASC$, $\angle ASB$ and $\angle BSC$. Figure 17 shows such a tetrahedron with $SA = 9$, $SB = 8$, $SC = 4$, $\angle ASC = 60^\circ$, $\angle ASB = 40^\circ$ and $\angle BSC = 30^\circ$. Contrary to the previous example, here we do not have a wide margin to place the points. We can of course start to construct the $SAC$ triangle. It then only remains to place the $B$ vertex.

The function

```plaintext
def_orth_pl_l_p(p)(l)(i);
```

constructs the plane $p$ orthogonal to the line $l$ and going through the local point $i$.

The intersection between the two constructed planes can then be computed. This intersection is a line orthogonal to the plane of the triangle $SAC$. On this line, we look for a point $B$ at a given distance from $S$. The function call

```plaintext
b:=def_point_at(i)(d)(j)(l);
```

where $b$ is a boolean variable, defines the local point $i$ as being a point of the line $l$ at a distance $|d|$ from the local point $j$ if such a point can be found. In that case, the return value of the function is true, otherwise it is false. In general, two points satisfy the condition and the function will return either one depending on the sign of $d$.

Essentially, the figure is thus produced by the commands in figure 18.

The whole construction is given in figure 19. In order to draw it, we have “unlocalized” points such as the heights’ feet and the intersection between the perpendicular in $B$ to the $(SAC)$ plane. In order to produce the right angles, we have used the commands def_right_angle for the definition and draw_double_right_angle for the drawing. Each

---

**Figure 16:** Tetrahedron: fourth construction.

**Figure 17:** A tetrahedron specified by three lengths and three angles.

**Figure 19:** A tetrahedron specified by three lengths and three angles (construction).
new_point(h); new_point(k);
set_point(1)(0,0,0); % S
set_point(2)(lsa,0,0); % A
set_point(4)(lsc*cosd(aasc),lsc*sind(aasc),0); % C
vec_diff_(h,pnt(2),pnt(1));
vec_unit_(h,h);
vec_mult_(h,h,lsb*cosd(aasb));
vec_sum_(h,h,pnt(1)); % H
vec_diff_(k,pnt(4),pnt(1));
vec_unit_(k,k);
vec_mult_(k,k,lsb*cosd(absc));
vec_sum_(k,k,pnt(1)); % K
new_plane(hp)(1,1,1); % initialization to three points
new_plane(kp)(1,1,1); % ditto
new_line(sa)(1,2); % (SA)
new_line(sc)(1,4); % (SC)
new_line(inter)(1,1); % intersection line of the two planes
def_orth_pl_l_p_(hp)(sa)(h); % plane orthogonal to (SA) in H
def_orth_pl_l_p_(kp)(sc)(k); % plane orthogonal to (SC) in K
if def_inter_l_pl_pl(inter)(hp)(kp): % there is an intersection
if not def_point_at(3)(-lsb,1)(inter): % B
message "Should not happen";
fi;
else:
message "PROBLEM (probably the angle ASC too small)"
set_point(3)(1,1,1);
fi;
free_line(inter); free_line(sc); free_line(sa);
free_plane(kp); free_plane(hp);
free_point(k); free_point(h);

Figure 18: Code for figure 19.

right angle is made of two segments, defined using three points. These three points are new object points. For instance, one of the right angles is created with

\texttt{def_right_angle(7,8,9,5,1,3);} 

This means that three points (numbered locally 7, 8, and 9) are introduced and that they are set according to the angle determined by the triangle of points (5,1,3).

The drawing, on the other hand, is simpler:

\texttt{draw_double_right_angle(7,8,9,5);} 

4.7 Visual complements

4.7.1 Representation of planes

A plane is often represented using four particular points making a rectangle. These points must be defined. The drawing of an horizontal rectangle corresponding to the (SAC) plane in figure 19 can be obtained as follows (see figure 20):

\texttt{set_point(14)(-2,-2,0); % p1}
\texttt{set_point(15)(11,-2,0); % p2}
\texttt{set_point(16)(11,10,0); % p3}
\texttt{set_point(17)(-2,10,0); % p4}

The points are connected with \texttt{draw_lines}.

4.7.2 Hidden parts and visual intersections

As shown on figure 20, there is (currently) no automatic hidden parts removal or a special treatment of those parts. It is necessary to handle the dashed lines by hand and this is only practical in the case of non-moving images. With animations, the perspective can be subjected to such variations that it is advisable to have an automatic solution of the problem.

However, on a non-moving image, the problem of removing (or handling in a special way) hidden parts is rather simple to express and solve. It is actually a matter of determining “apparent” intersections between two curves. In the previous example,
sides of the tetrahedron seem to meet sides of the rectangle representing the plane, even though they do not meet in space.

If the plane had to be represented in a clearer way, the apparent (or visual) intersections of the sides $[BA]$ and $[BC]$ with the most distant side of the rectangle would have to be determined. How can this be done?

One way is to construct a point of the segment $[p_2 p_3]$, but as a function of the observer’s position. The intersection between $(Obs, p_2, p_3)$ and $(Obs, A, B)$ is a line going through the observer and through the point of $(p_2 p_3)$ of interest to us. It is then sufficient to determine the intersection between this line and the $(p_2 p_3)$ line. This intersection being computed in space, care must be taken that rounding errors can prevent the intersection of two lines which should otherwise intersect. The $\text{def\_inter\_p\_1\_l}$ function finds the middle of the two points of each line where the line is closest to the other line. This function also returns the distance between the two points. This makes it possible to find a point of $(p_2 p_3)$ corresponding to the visual interruption caused by the $[BA]$ segment. Similarly, it is possible to find the point corresponding to the visual interruption caused by the $[BC]$ segment. These two points, with $p_2$ and $p_3$, make it possible to draw a more natural plane. This is what is done in figure 21.

The $\text{def\_visual\_inter}$ function takes care of this procedure. It takes four local points and computes a fifth one:

```plaintext
boolean b;
b:=def_visual_inter(i)(j,k,l,m);
```

If the function returns $\text{true}$, point $i$ is located on $(jk)$ at the apparent intersection of $(jk)$ and $(lm)$.

It should be noted that in a central perspective, the computed intersections depend on the observer’s position. If this position changes, the intersections must be recomputed. As a consequence, as we already indicated it, it is necessary to call the $\text{reset\_obj}$ function after the redefinition of the observer’s position.

In a parallel projection, the observer is not used in the computation of the visual intersection, but the interface remains the same. The intersections
are almost computed in the same way, except that the planes whose intersection is computed are not determined by the observer and a segment, but by the projection direction and a segment.

4.7.3 Vanishing points

Figure 22: The three classical vanishing points of a cube.

The representation of an object containing parallel segments in a central perspective shows vanishing lines and points. The projected lines are usually no longer parallel and intersect. An example of a cube representation with three vanishing points is given in figure 22. The classical representations often distinguish the drawings with one, two or three vanishing points. The drawings with one or two vanishing points are special cases corresponding to lines which are parallel to the projection plane. In figure 22, none of the cube’s sides are parallel to the projection plane, and this leads to vanishing points. If the projection plane had been parallel to the vertical segments of the cube, these segments wouldn’t have exhibited vanishing points. If it is a whole face which is parallel to the projection plane, there is only one vanishing point left.

The vanishing points correspond to points located at the infinite in space, along a direction going through the observer and directed by a vector corresponding to the object’s segment. Very often, some of the vanishing points will be quite distant on the drawing, and possibly outside the drawing.

The classical representations in architecture or in painting put two vanishing points on an horizontal line and a third vanishing point corresponding to the vertical vanishing lines. Figure 22 differs from that representation because the observer is not oriented along a vertical axis.

A different number of vanishing points do not correspond to different projections, but on the one hand to objects which are positioned differently in space with respect to the projection plane, and on the other hand to objects of different nature. A sphere will of course have no vanishing point! The number of vanishing points can actually be any number, including a number greater than three. It suffices to choose a pair of parallel lines on the object. Figure 23 shows that besides the three classical vanishing points, the six vanishing points stemming from the diagonal segments of the cube can be considered. One of those is represented on the figure. (It should be remarked that vanishing points being very sensitive to the location of the observer, it is rather difficult to find by hand a location where the nine vanishing points are simultaneously visible in a restricted space.) More complex objects would have even more vanishing points.

A vanishing point can be determined in a simple way by computing the intersection between the projection plane and the line going through the observer and oriented by a vector of the object. The following lines find the vanishing point of the segment connecting two points numbered 1 and 5:

```%
defines the projection plane
def_screen_pl(screen);
new_line(l)(1,5);
if not
  def_vanishing_point_p_l_pl(11)(l)(screen):
    message "no vanishing point";
  set_point(11)(0,0,0);
fi;
...
```

Like for the visual intersections, the vanishing points depend on the observer’s position and each time the point of view changes (either because the observer moves, or because the object moves), the object points must be recomputed with `reset_obj`.

It would also be possible to recompute the vanishing points directly in the plane. This would be a mere application of `whatever` (see section 2).

4.7.4 Shadows

The shadows corresponding to projections are simulated by shading the projected part. An example is given in figure 24. In that example, a triangle is projected on a plane. We have merely computed the projections of the three vertices of the triangle and we have then shaded the projection. This technique works for each projection, as long as the projection is made along a line and on a plane or a set of planes.
5 Modifications with respect to the first distribution

When we worked on the new version of the \texttt{3dpackage}, we made various changes which seemed to go in the direction of a greater homogeneity. A number of elementary functions have been renamed in order to respect our new function naming conventions. Hence, our first article (Roegel, 1997) on that matter is now no longer strictly correct because functions such as \texttt{vect\_sum} must be replaced by \texttt{vec\_sum\_}. All the “\texttt{vect}” have been replaced by “\texttt{vec}.” Finally, the creation of vectors and points has slightly changed. The differences are not especially important, but in order to make the transition easier for the reader, we have put on CTAN a corrected version of the original article, with differences highlighted.

6 Conclusion and limits

This package contains numerous features which have not been mentioned and it is easy to add new ones, in particular concerning the manipulation of new structures. We silently omitted drawing curves such as circles which involve another module that will be described elsewhere. More comprehensive documentation comes with the package.

A study of this article also reveals that the coordinates of a point have only explicitly been used for a few points constructed directly with \texttt{set\_point} or \texttt{set\_point}. All other points have been obtained through various geometric operations. It doesn’t mean that the coordinates are not accessible! They are given by the functions \texttt{xval}, \texttt{yval} and \texttt{zval} applied to a vector or point reference.

This package is of course not perfect and has limits. Besides \texttt{METAPOST}’s limits, in particular in numerical capacity (the dimensions are bounded to 4096 PostScript points, at least for a normal use), our package lacks automatic computations. Still many manual interventions are needed. Other limitations concern (currently) the absence of a decent and automatic hidden parts removal algorithm. Finally, error handling in \texttt{METAPOST} will not be simple for who is not somewhat accustomed with the language.

This work can of course be compared to other works going in the same direction. First, it should be clear that we do not claim to compete with professional CAD or computer algebra tools. We want above all to provide a light and powerful system helping the creation of geometric constructions, in particular suited for a geometry class in high school. In the \TeX\ world, there are to our knowledge only few works integrating space. \texttt{METAGRAF} (http:\!/w3.mecanica.upm.es/metapost), also based on \texttt{METAPOST}, is an interactive system with a notion of space, but which doesn’t seem to provide possibilities of geometric constructions, animations, changes of perspective, etc. The PSTricks system has a 3D module, but it is relatively undeveloped. The computations are done with \TeX\ and extending the system is tedious. Outside the \TeX\ world, various 3D languages are available, in particular OpenGLE, which goes much beyond our system with respect to rendering. As a teaching tool for geometry, we should also mention the \texttt{Cabri-Géomètre} software (cf. http:\!/www.cabri.net).

7 Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Nicolas Kisselhoff who led me to develop the \texttt{3dgeom} module by providing me with figures from his geometry course, Sami Alex Zaimi who developed the notion of an object and has indirectly influenced this work and Pablo Argon who convinced me many years ago of the usefulness of \texttt{METAPOST} for the geometry of the ruler and the compass. Hans Hagen proofread the French version of the article and pushed me to clarify it even further, in particular through the introduction of new figures. Finally, Jean-Michel Hulffen and Damien Wyart have made corrections and suggested various improvements.

References

Dürer, Albrecht. Underweysung der messung mit dem zirckel und richtscheyt in Linien ebnen und gantzen corporen durch Albrecht Dürer zu sammen getzogen und zu nutz aller kunstliebhabenden mit zu gehörigen figuren in truck gebracht im jar. M.D.X.X.V. 1525. Facsimile (Portland, Or.: Collegium Graphicum, c1972.).


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The plot functions of \texttt{pst-plot}*

Jana Voß and Herbert Voß

Abstract

Plotting of external data records is one of the standard problems of technical and industrial publications. One common approach is importing the data files into an external program, such as \texttt{gnuplot}, provided with axes of coordinates and further references, and finally exported to \LaTeX. By contrast, in this article we explain ways to get proper data plotting without using external applications.

1 Introduction

The history and the meaning of PostScript have been covered sufficiently in many articles. For the programming language PostScript have a look at [3, 4]. The package \texttt{pst-plot} [8] under consideration here is part of the \texttt{pstricks} project. It must be loaded into a \LaTeX document as usual with \texttt{\usepackage{pst-plot}} or alternatively, for documents written in plain \TeX, with \texttt{\input pst-plot.tex}.

\texttt{pst-plot} provides three plot macros for the representation of external data, with the following syntax:

\begin{verbatim}
\listplot*[<parameter>]{<data macro>}
\dataplot*[<parameter>]{<data macro>}
\fileplot*[<parameter>]{<file name>}
\end{verbatim}

The starred forms have the same meaning as with all macros of \texttt{pstricks}: to plot the data in a reversed mode. Thus, for a default black-on-white diagram one produces the negative with the starred command form, namely white-on-black. Additionally, a negative plot implies that PostScript closes the path of the points from the last to the first one and fills all points inside this closed path with the actual fillcolor. For our purposes in this article there will be no real sense in this negative view; therefore, all of the following examples are plotted with the normal (unstarred) form only.

For further information about \texttt{pstricks}, have a look at the (more or less) official documentation [6], or the extensive description in the “standard \LaTeX” book [2] or in [1, 9]. Altogether, however, these do not fully describe the substantial differences between these three plot macros.

For all of the examples in this article, the complete \texttt{pspicture} environment is indicated, so that the examples may be directly copied. The documentation for the \texttt{multido} macro used here can be found in the package itself [7]; macros not otherwise mentioned are described in the \texttt{pstricks} documentation [6].

Table 1: Possible options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>style option</th>
<th>meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>plotstyle=dots</td>
<td>plot ((x, y)) as a dot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>=line</td>
<td>draw a line from a dot to the following one</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>=polygon</td>
<td>nearly the same as line, but with a line from the last to the first dot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>=curve</td>
<td>interpolation between three dots, whereby the curve can go beyond the point of origin and/or termination point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>=ecurve</td>
<td>like curve, but ends at the first/last dot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>=ccurve</td>
<td>like curve, but closed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The general `plotstyle` parameter is particularly important, and can take the values shown in table 1.

By default, the `line` option is selected.

The following general commands are also useful in conjunction with the plot commands. They are also defined by the `pst-plot` package:

\begin{verbatim}
\readdata{<data macro name>}{<file name>}
\savedata{<data macro name>}{<file name>}
\end{verbatim}

In the following examples only the `\readdata` macro is used, but it would be straightforward to create examples with `\savedata`.

2 Examples for `\listplot`

The syntax of `\listplot` is:

\begin{verbatim}
\listplot{<data macro name>}
\end{verbatim}

The data macro may contain any additional \LaTeX- or PostScript-commands. The \LaTeX-macros are expanded first before they are passed as a list of \(x|y\) values to PostScript. The data records can be defined inside the document like

\begin{verbatim}
\newcommand{\dataA}{
  1.00000000 1.00000000
  0.56000000 0.31000000
  0.85841600 0.17360000
  ...
}
\end{verbatim}

or can be read from an external data file with `\readdata`:

\begin{verbatim}
\readdata{\dataA}{/anyPath/data.dat}
\end{verbatim}

The example in figure 1 shows the Henon attractor, a typical graphic of a system with chaotic behavior[5].

Figure 2 is nearly the same as figure 1, with the addition of PostScript code to get the "Draft" watermark. (Some familiarity with PostScript is needed to fully understand its operation.) To save space, listing 2 does not contain the data, which is nothing more than a sequence of pairs of floats, each value separated by a space, as shown above.

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=0.5\textwidth]{henon.png}
\caption{Example for `\listplot`}
\end{figure}

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=0.5\textwidth]{modified_henon.png}
\caption{Example for modified `\listplot`}
\end{figure}

Listing 1: \LaTeX source for figure 1
\begin{verbatim}
\readdata{\henon}{henon.dat}
\psset{xunit=1.5cm, yunit=3cm}
\begin{pspicture}(-3,-0.5)(2.25,1.25)
\psaxes{->}(0,0)(-2,-0.5)(1.5,1.25)
\listplot[showpoints=true, linecolor=red, plotstyle=curve]{\dataA}
\end{pspicture}
\end{verbatim}

Listing 2: \LaTeX source for figure 2
\begin{verbatim}
\newcommand{\DataA}{
  \[ ... data ... \]}
\gsave% save graphic status
\Helvetica findfont 40 scalefont setfont
\listplot[showpoints=true, linecolor=red, plotstyle=curve]{\dataA}
\end{pspicture}
\end{verbatim}
 naturally, [... data ...] is replaced by all the x|y-values; they’re omitted here only to save space.

As an alternative to direct modification of the data set passed to \texttt{listplot}, one can redefine the macro \texttt{defScalePoints} from \texttt{pst-plot}. For example, to change the x|y values and then rotate the whole plotted graphic (don’t ask why!), the redefinition is as shown in listing 3.

**Listing 3: \LaTeX \texttt{source for figure 3}**

\begin{verbatim}
\makeatletter
\pst@def{ScalePoints}{
\psaxes{-}{0,0}(-2,-0.5)(2.25,1.25)
\listplot[
showpoints=true,
plotstyle=curve]{\dataA}
\end{pspicture}
\makeatother
\end{verbatim}

This gives figure 3.

Thus, the advantage of \texttt{\textit{listplot}} is that one can easily modify the data values without any external program. Here is one more example—suppose you have the following data records:

\begin{verbatim}
1050, 0.368
1100, 0.371
1200, 0.471
1250, 0.428
1300, 0.391
1350, 0.456
1400, 0.499
1500, 1.712
1550, 0.475
1600, 0.497
\end{verbatim}

which perhaps came automatically from a technical device. The unit of the x-values is micrometer but it makes more sense to use millimeter for the plot. A redefinition of \texttt{ScalePoints} makes it very easy to plot the data with this change of scale:

**Listing 4: \textit{Rescale all x values}**

\begin{verbatim}
\makeatletter
\pst@def{ScalePoints}{
\psaxes{-}{0,0}(-2,-0.5)(2.25,1.25)
\listplot[
showpoints=true,
plotstyle=curve]{\dataA}
\end{pspicture}
\makeatother
\end{verbatim}

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=0.4\textwidth]{fig3}
\caption{Example for \texttt{\textit{listplot}} with a redefined \texttt{ScalePoints}}
\end{figure}

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=0.4\textwidth]{fig4}
\caption{Example for modified data values with a redefined ScalePoints}
\end{figure}

3 Examples for \texttt{\textit{dataplot}}

\texttt{\textit{dataplot}} has the same syntax as \texttt{\textit{listplot}}, so the first question is, what is the difference between the two?
\listplot builds a list of all the data and then multiplies all values with the length unit. This takes some time, so you may prefer a so-called "quick plot", where the data can be passed more quickly to PostScript, depending on the plotstyle and especially the option showpoints. Table 2 shows whether this is possible. A quick plot is not possible with \listplot, whereas \dataplot uses it whenever possible. When it is not possible, \dataplot simply calls \listplot.

Table 2: Possible options for a "quick plot"

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>plotstyle</th>
<th>options</th>
<th>macro</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>line</td>
<td>all, except linearc, showpoints, arrows,</td>
<td>quick plot \listplot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>polygon</td>
<td>all, except</td>
<td>quick plot \listplot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dots</td>
<td>all</td>
<td>\listplot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bezier</td>
<td>all, except arrows, showpoints</td>
<td>quick plot \listplot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cbeziers</td>
<td>all, except showpoints</td>
<td>quick plot \listplot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>curve</td>
<td>all</td>
<td>\listplot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ecurve</td>
<td>all</td>
<td>\listplot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ccurve</td>
<td>all</td>
<td>\listplot</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\dataplot needs to be passed a macro holding the data. The data is typically saved in an external file, which can be read by (for instance) the \readdata macro, as follows:
\readdata{<object name>}{<data file>}

For example:
\readdata{\feigenbaum}{feigenbaum.data}

The amount of data is limited only by \TeX's memory. The above example can be plotted with:
\dataplot{\feigenbaum}

Overlays with different data files are also possible. For example, figure 5 shows the use of two different data files which are plotted using one coordinate system. It shows the sorting time for "Bubble-Sort" and "Select-Sort" as a function of the number of the elements.

Listing 5: \LaTeX source for figure 5
1 \psset{xunit=0.0005cm,yunit=0.005cm}
2 \begin{pspicture}(0,-50)(10000,1100)
3 \readdata{\bubble}{bubble.data}
4 \readdata{\select}{select.data}
5 \dataplot[1]
6 plotstyle=line,\% linecolor=blue{\bubble}
7 \dataplot[1]
8 plotstyle=line,\% linecolor=red{\select}
9 \end{pspicture}

In short, the advantage of \dataplot is the possibility of a "quick plot", and the advantage of \listplot is that it is easy to manipulate the data values before they are plotted.

4 Examples for \fileplot
\fileplot can be used whenever (x|y) data that is saved in a file is to be plotted. The values must be given as pure numerical values in pairs, one pair on each line, and may have spaces, commas, parentheses, and braces as punctuation, as follows:

\begin{verbatim}
x y
x,y
(x,y)
\end{verbatim}

The tab character (\tt or ASCII 009) is often used as a separator, but tab is not valid here. Tabs may be converted to spaces in many ways, for example with the standard Unix utility tr:

tr 't' ' ' <inFile >outFile

The data files may also contain % characters, but no other characters are allowed.

Our first example for \fileplot is shown in figure 6, which is an UV/VIS absorber spectrum $A = \lg \frac{I_0}{I}$ as a function of the wavelength. The second example (figure 7) shows the evolution of a population as a function of the spawn factor (Feigenbaum diagram [5]). The source code for these images is shown in listings 6 and 7.
As you may see in listing 8, \texttt{fileplot} does little of its own. It first calls \texttt{readdata} to read the data, and then, depending on the kind of data and specified options, \texttt{fileplot} uses \texttt{dataplot} for a quick plot if possible. Otherwise, it falls back to \texttt{listplot}.

Listing 8: The source of the \texttt{fileplot} macro

\begin{verbatim}
def \fileplot{\def\ps@par{}\pst@object{fileplot}}
def \fileplot@i#1{
\pst@killglue
begingroup
\use@par
@pstfalse
@nameuse{testqp@\psplotstyle}\
\if@pst
\dataplot@ii{\pst@readfile{#1}}\else\listplot@ii{\pst@altreadfile{#1}}\fi
endgroup
ignorespaces}
\end{verbatim}

\texttt{fileplot} has the advantage of being easy to use, but the disadvantage of needing a lot of memory: \TeX{} has to read the all the data values before it can process anything. As a rule of thumb, when there are more than 1000 data entries \TeX{}’s main memory must be increased. Furthermore, the running time may be enormous, especially on slow machines.

To prevent such problems, one can use the macro \texttt{PSTtoEPS} to create an \texttt{eps} file. For more information, see the documentation of \texttt{pstricks} [6].

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Three dimensional plots with \texttt{pst-3dplot}  
Herbert Vöß

\textbf{Abstract}

The well-known \texttt{pstricks} package [7] offers excellent macros for creating more or less complex graphics which could be inserted into the document without having it exported to \texttt{EPS} or \texttt{PDF}. \texttt{pstricks} itself is the base for several other additional packages, which are typically named \texttt{pst-xxxx}, such as \texttt{pst-3dplot}.

There exist several packages for plotting three dimensional graphical objects. \texttt{pst-3dplot} handles three dimensional objects, mathematical functions, and data files similarly to \texttt{pst-plot} in two dimensions.

\section{Introduction}

The \texttt{pstricks} packages are available as usual from any possible CTAN server. The base parts are located at \texttt{CTAN:graphics/pstricks/generic/} and most of the additional packages at \texttt{CTAN:graphics/pstricks/contrib/} [7].

All \texttt{psgrid} commands are only for a better view of the examples, they are not really necessary for the 3D-plots. They are always used with the globally defined options
\begin{verbatim}
\psset{subgriddiv=0,griddots=5,gridlabels=7pt}
\end{verbatim}

\section{The parallel projection}

Figure 1 shows a point $P(x,y,z)$ in a three dimensional cartesian coordinate system $(x,y,z)$ with a transformation into $P^*(x^*,y^*)$, the point in the two dimensional system $(x_E,y_E)$.

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=0.5\textwidth]{figure1.png}
\caption{Lengths in a three dimensional system}
\end{figure}

The angle $\alpha$ is the horizontal rotation with positive values for anti-clockwise rotations of the 3D coordinates. The angle $\beta$ is the vertical rotation (orthogonal to the paper plane). In figure 2 we have $\alpha = \beta = 0$. The y-axis comes perpendicularly out of the paper plane. Figure 3 shows the same for another angle with a view from the side, where the x-axis shows into the paper plane and the angle $\beta$ is greater than 0 degrees.

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=0.5\textwidth]{figure2.png}
\caption{Coordinate system for $\alpha = \beta = 0$ (y-axis comes out of the paper plane)}
\end{figure}

The two dimensional x coordinate $x^*$ is the difference of the two horizontal lengths $y \cdot \sin \alpha$ and $x \cdot \cos \alpha$ (figure 1):

$$x^* = -x \cdot \cos \alpha + y \cdot \sin \alpha$$

The z-coordinate is unimportant, because the rotation comes out of the paper plane, so we have only a
different \( y^* \) value for the two dimensional coordinate but no other \( x^* \) value. The \( \beta \) angle is well seen in figure 3 which derives from figure 2, if the coordinate system is rotated by 90\( \text{deg} \) horizontally to the left and vertically by \( \beta \) also to the left.

\[
z_1^* = z \cdot \cos \beta
\]

\[-(y \cdot \cos \alpha + x \cdot \sin \alpha) \cdot \sin \beta \]  \[y \cdot \cos \alpha + x \cdot \sin \alpha \]

**Figure 3:** Coordinate system for \( \alpha = 0 \) and \( \beta > 0 \) (\( x \)-axis goes into the paper plane)

The value of the perpendicular projected \( z \) coordinate is \( z^* = z \cdot \cos \beta \). With figure 3 we see that the point \( P(x,y,z) \) runs on an elliptic curve when \( \beta \) is constant and \( \alpha \) changes continuously. The vertical alteration of \( P \) is the difference of the two “perpendicular” lines \( y \cdot \cos \alpha \) and \( x \cdot \sin \alpha \). These lines are rotated by the angle \( \beta \), so we have to multiply them with \( \sin \beta \) to get the vertical part. We get the following transformation equations:

\[
\begin{align*}
x_E &= -x \cdot \cos \alpha + y \cdot \sin \alpha \\
y_E &= -(x \cdot \sin \alpha + y \cdot \cos \alpha) \cdot \sin \beta + z \cdot \cos \beta
\end{align*}
\]

or the same written in matrix form:

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
x_E \\
y_E
\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}
-cos \alpha & sin \alpha & 0 \\
-sin \alpha \sin \beta & -cos \alpha \sin \beta & cos \beta
\end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix}
x \\
y \\
z
\end{pmatrix} \tag{3}
\]

**3 Coordinate axes**

The syntax for drawing the coordinate axes is

\[\texttt{\pstThreeDCoor[<options>]}\]

Without any options, we get the default view seen in figure 4 with the predefined values:

\[\begin{align*}
x\text{Min} &= -1, x\text{Max} = 4, \\
y\text{Min} &= -1, y\text{Max} = 4, \\
z\text{Min} &= -1, z\text{Max} = 4, \\
\text{Alpha} &= 45, \text{Beta} = 30
\end{align*}\]

There are no restrictions for the angles and the max and min values for the axes; all \texttt{pstricks} options are possible as well. The following example (5) changes the color and the width of the axes. The angles \texttt{Alpha} and \texttt{Beta} are important to all macros and should always be set with \texttt{psset} to make them global to all other macros. Otherwise they are only local inside the macro to which they are passed.

\[
\begin{align*}
\texttt{begin(pspicture)} \{-2,-1\}(1,2.25) \\
\texttt{\psgrid} \\
\texttt{\psset{Alpha=-60,Beta=30}} \\
\texttt{\psset{linewidth=1.5pt,linecolor=blue}} \\
\texttt{\psset{xMin=-1,xMax=2,yMin=-1,yMax=2,zMin=-1,zMax=2}} \\
\texttt{\end(pspicture)}
\end{align*}
\]

**4 \texttt{put} command**

The syntax is similar to the \texttt{\rput} macro from the package \texttt{pst-plot}:

\[\texttt{\psThreeDPut[<options>]\{<any material>}}\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\texttt{\begin{pspicture}(-2,-1)(1,2.25) \\
\texttt{\psgrid} \\
\texttt{\psset{Alpha=-60,Beta=30}} \\
\texttt{\psset{linewidth=1.5pt,linecolor=blue}} \\
\texttt{\psset{xMin=-1,xMax=2,yMin=-1,yMax=2,zMin=-1,zMax=2}} \\
\end(pspicture)
\end{align*}
\]

**Figure 6:** Example for the \texttt{\psThreeDPut} macro
Figure 7: 3D dots with marked coordinates

Internally, the \pstThreeDPut macro defines a two dimensional node temp@pstNode and then uses the default \rput macro from pstricks. Because of the perspective from which the coordinate system is viewed, the 3D dot will not be seen as the center of the printed material when this is also a three dimensional one. This does not happen for figure 6, because the text is only a two dimensional object.

5 Nodes
The syntax is \pstThreeDNode(x,y,z){<node name>}

This node is internally transformed into a two dimensional node, so it cannot be used as a replacement for the parameters (x,y,z) of the 3D dot which is possible with the macros from pst-plot. If A and B are two nodes, then \psline(A){B} draws a line from A to B. Doing the same with pst-3dplot is not yet implemented. On the other hand, it is not a problem to define two 3D nodes C and D and then draw a two dimensional line from C to D.

6 Dots
The syntax for a dot is \pstThreeDDot[<options>](x,y,z)

Dots can be drawn with dashed lines for the three coordinates, when the option drawCoor is set to true (figure 7).

7 Lines
The syntax for a three dimensional line is \pstThreeDLine[<options>](x1,y1,z1)(x2,y2,z2)

All options for lines from pst-plot are possible, there are no special ones for a 3D line. The only difference in drawing a line or a vector is that the first one has an arrow of type - and the second type -> (figure 9).
8 Triangle

A triangle is given by its three points:
\pstThreeDTriangle[<options>](P1)(P2)(P3)

When the option fillstyle is set to value other than none, the triangle is filled with the active color or with the one which is set with the option fillcolor (figure 10).

9 Squares

The syntax for a 3D square is:
\pstThreeDSquare% 
[<options>] 
(<vector o>)% 
(<vector u>)(<vector v>)

Squares are nothing more than a polygon with the starting point \( P_0 \) given with the origin vector \( \vec{o} \) and the two direction vectors \( \vec{u} \) and \( \vec{v} \), which build the sides of the square as shown in figure 12. With the fillstyle option the square can be filled with the in pst-plot defined styles, for example solid like in figure 13. All the options of pstricks are allowed for this macro.

For triangles especially, the option linejoin is important. Its value is passed to the PostScript command setlinejoin. The default value is 1, which gives rounded edges (figure 11).

\begin{verbatim}
\begin{pspicture}(-3,-4)(4,3.25)
\psgrid
\pstThreeDCoor[xMin=-3,xMax=5,yMin=-3,yMax=4,zMin=-1,zMax=4]
\pstThreeDSquare[fillcolor=blue,fillstyle=solid,drawCoor=true,dotstyle=*](-2,2,3)(4,0,0)(0,1,0)
\end{pspicture}
\end{verbatim}

\begin{verbatim}
\begin{pspicture}(-3,-4)(4,3.25)
\psgrid
\pstThreeDCoor[xMin=-4,xMax=5,yMin=-3,zMin=-4,zMax=3]
\pstThreeDTriangle[linecolor=blue,linewidth=1.5pt](5,1,2)(3,4,-1)(-1,-2,2)
\end{pspicture}
\end{verbatim}
10 Boxes

A box is a special case of a square and has the syntax

```
pstThreeDBox% [options>
<vector u>{<vector v>}{<vector w>}
```

All options from pstricks are possible here. The other parameters are the origin vector \( \vec{o} \) and the three direction vectors \( \vec{u}, \vec{v} \) and \( \vec{w} \). The figure 14 shows a box together with these four vectors. In this example the three direction vectors are perpendicular to each other.

```
\begin{pspicture}(-2,-1)(3,4.25)
\psgrid
\setkeys{psset}{Alpha=30,Beta=30}
pstThreeDCoor[xMin=-3,xMax=1,yMin=-1,yMax=2,zMin=-1,zMax=4]
pstThreeDPut(-1,1,2){pstThreeDBox(0,0,2)(2,0,0)(0,1,0)}
pstThreeDDot[drawCoor=true](-1,1,2)
\setkeys{psset}{arrows=->,arrowsize=0.2}
\uput[0](0.5,0.5){\textcolor{red}{$\vec{o}$}}
\uput[0](0.9,2.25){\textcolor{blue}{$\vec{u}$}}
\uput[0](0.5,1.25){\textcolor{green}{$\vec{v}$}}
\uput[90](2,1.){\textcolor{blue}{$\vec{w}$}}
\pstThreeDLine[linecolor=green](0,0,0)(-1,1,2)
\pstThreeDLine[linecolor=blue](-1,1,2)(-1,1,4)
\pstThreeDLine[linecolor=blue](-1,1,2)(1,1,2)
\pstThreeDLine[linecolor=blue](-1,1,2)(-1,2,2)
\end{pspicture}
```

11 Ellipses and circles

The equation for a two dimensional ellipse (figure 15) is:

\[
e: \frac{(x-x_M)^2}{a^2} + \frac{(y-y_M)^2}{b^2} = 1
\]

(4)

\((x_M,y_M)\) is the center, \(a\) and \(b\) the eccentricity. For \(a = b = 1\) in equation 4 we get the “one” for the circle, which is nothing more than a special case of an ellipse. The equation written in parametric form is

\[
x = a \cdot \cos \alpha
\]

\[
y = b \cdot \sin \alpha
\]

(5)

or the same with vectors to get an ellipse in a 3D system:

\[
e: \vec{x} = \vec{c} + \cos \alpha \cdot \vec{u} + \sin \alpha \cdot \vec{v}
\]

\[0 \leq \alpha \leq 360\]  

(6)

where \(\vec{c}\) is the center, \(\vec{u}\) and \(\vec{v}\) the directions vectors which must be perpendicular to each other.

11.1 Options

In addition to all possible options from the package pstr-plot, we have two special ones for the drawing of an arc (with predefined values for a full ellipse or circle):

```
beginAngle=0
endAngle=360
```

Using the parametricplotThreeD macro (described in section 13.2, ellipses and circles are drawn with a default setting of 50 points for the ellipse or circle.

11.2 Ellipse

In a 3D coordinate system, it is very difficult to see the difference between an ellipse and a circle. Depending on the point of view an ellipse may be seen as a circle and vice versa (figure 16). The syntax of the ellipse macro is:
Figure 16: Drawing ellipses

```
\pstThreeDEllipse[
    <options>]
(cx,cy,cz)
(ux,uy,uz)(vx,vy,vz)
```

where \( c \) is for center and \( u \) and \( v \) for the two direction vectors (eq. 6).

1 \begin{pspicture}(-2,-2)(2,2)
2 \psgrid
3 \pstThreeDCoor
4 \pstThreeDDot[linecolor=red,drawCoor=true](1,0.5,0.5)
5 \pstThreeDEllipse[linecolor=blue,linewidth=1.5pt](1,0.5,0.5)(-0.5,1,0.5)(1,-0.5,-1)
6 \end{pspicture}

11.3 Circle

The circle is a special case of an ellipse (eq. 6) with the vectors \( \vec{u} \) and \( \vec{v} \) which are perpendicular to each other: 
\[
|\vec{u}| = |\vec{v}| = r \quad \text{with} \quad \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 0
\]

The macro \texttt{\textbackslash pstThreeDCircle} is nothing more than a synonym for \texttt{\textbackslash pstThreeDEllipse}. In the following example the circle is drawn with only 20 plotpoints and the option \texttt{showpoints=true}.

1 \begin{pspicture}(-2,-1)(2,2)
2 \psgrid
3 \pstThreeDCoor
4 \pstThreeDCircle[linecolor=red,linewidth=2pt,plotpoints=20,showpoints=true](1.6,+0.6,1.7)(0.8,0.4,0.8)(0.8,-0.8,-0.4)
5 \pstThreeDDot[dotstyle=x,linecolor=red,drawCoor=true](1.6,+0.6,1.7)
6 \end{pspicture}

12 Spheres

Internally, \texttt{\textbackslash pst-3dplot} uses the macro from the \texttt{\textbackslash pst-vue3d} package\footnote{\url{CTAN:graphics/pstricks/contrib/pst-vue3d}, and from Manuel Luque's homepage[3]. The documentation is in French, but it is mostly self-explanatory.} to draw spheres, and places it with the \texttt{\textbackslash rput} macro at the right place. The syntax for this macro is

\[
\texttt{\textbackslash pstThreeDSphere[<options>](x,y,z){Radius}}
\]

\( (x,y,z) \) is the center of the sphere. For all the other possible options or the possibility to draw demi-spheres, refer to the documentation.[3]

1 \begin{pspicture}(-4,-2)(2,4)
2 \psgrid
3 \pstThreeDCoor[xMin=-3,xMax=4,yMin=-1,yMax=2,zMin=-1,zMax=4]
4 \pstThreeDSphere[linecolor=blue](1,-1,2){2}
5 \pstThreeDDot[dotstyle=x,linecolor=red,drawCoor=true](1,-1,2)
6 \end{pspicture}

Figure 17: Drawing a circle with the option showpoints

Figure 18: Drawing a sphere with package \texttt{\textbackslash pst-vue3d}
13 Mathematical functions

There exist two macros for plotting mathematical functions \( f(x,y) \), which work similarly to the one from \texttt{pst-plot}.

13.1 Function \( f(x,y) \)

The macro for plotting functions does not have the same syntax as the one from \texttt{pst-plot}[5], but it is used in the same way:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{\texttt{psplotThreeD}} & \left[ \text{<options>\%} \right] \\
& \left( x_{\text{Min}}, x_{\text{Max}} \right) \left( y_{\text{Min}}, y_{\text{Max}} \right) \% \\
& \{ \text{<the function>} \}
\end{align*}
\]

The function has to be written in PostScript code and the only valid variable names are \( x \) and \( y \). For example, \( \{ x \text{ dup mul } y \text{ dup mul add } \text{ sqrt} \} \) represents the math expression \( \sqrt{x^2+y^2} \). The macro \texttt{psplotThreeD} has the same plotstyle options as \texttt{psplot}, except the plotpoints-option which is split into one for \( x \) and one for \( y \) (table 1).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option name</th>
<th>value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>plotstyle</td>
<td>dots, line, polygon, curve, ecurve, ccurve, none (default)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>showpoints</td>
<td>default is false</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xPlotpoints</td>
<td>default is 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yPlotpoints</td>
<td>default is 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hiddenLine</td>
<td>default is false</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Options for the plot macros

Equation 7 is plotted with the following parameters and seen in figure 19.

\[
z = 10 \left( x^3 + xy^4 - \frac{x}{5} \right) e^{-\left( x^2+y^2 \right)} + e^{-\left( (x-1.225)^2+y^2 \right)} \tag{7}
\]

The function is calculated within two loops:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{for (float } y=y_{\text{Min}}; y<y_{\text{Max}}; y+=d_{y} \text{)} \\
& \text{for (float } x=x_{\text{Min}}; x<x_{\text{Max}}; x+=d_{x} \text{)} \\
& z = f(x,y);
\end{align*}
\]

Because of the inner loop it is only possible to get a closed curve in \( x \) direction. Therefore fewer \( y \text{Plotpoints} \) are not a real problem, but too few \( x \text{Plotpoints} \) results in a bad drawing of the mathematical function, especially for the plotstyle option \texttt{line}.

Drawing three dimensional mathematical functions with curves which are transparent makes it difficult to see if a point is before or behind another one. \texttt{psplotThreeD} has an option \texttt{hiddenLine} for a primitive hidden line mode, which only works well when the \( y \)-interval is defined such that \( y_2 > y_1 \). Then, every new curve is plotted over the previous one and filled with the color \texttt{white}. Figure 20 is the same as figure 19, only with the option \texttt{hiddenLine=true}.

13.2 Parametric plots

Parametric plots are possible for drawing curves or areas. The syntax for this plot macro is:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{\texttt{parametricplotThreeD}} & \left[ \text{<options>\%} \right] \\
& \left( t_{1}, t_{2} \right) \left( u_{1}, u_{2} \right) \% \\
& \{ \text{<three parametric functions } x \text{ } y \text{ } z \}
\end{align*}
\]

The only possible variables are \( t \) and \( u \) with \( t_{1}, t_{2} \) and \( u_{1}, u_{2} \) as the range for the parameters. The order for the functions is not important and \( u \) may be optional when having only a three dimensional curve and not an area.

\[
\begin{align*}
x &= f(t,u) \tag{8} \\
y &= f(t,u) \\
z &= f(t,u)
\end{align*}
\]

To draw a spiral we have the parametric functions:

\[
\begin{align*}
x &= r \cos t \\
y &= r \sin t \\
z &= t/600
\end{align*}
\]

In the example, the \( t \) value is divided by 600 for the \( z \) coordinate, because we have the values for \( t \) in degrees, here with a range of \( 0^\circ \ldots 2160^\circ \). Drawing a curve in a three dimensional coordinate system does only require one parameter, which is by default \( t \). In this case we do not need all parameters, so that we can write

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{\texttt{parametricplotThreeD}} & \left[ \text{<options>\%} \right] \\
& \left( t_{1}, t_{2} \right) \% \\
& \{ \text{<three parametric functions } x \text{ } y \text{ } z \}
\end{align*}
\]

which is the same as \( (0,0) \) for the parameter \( u \). Figure 21 shows a three dimensional curve.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{\texttt{begin\{pspicture\}} \left( -3,-2 \right) \left( 3,5 \right) \\
& \text{\texttt{psgrid}} \\
& \text{\texttt{parametricplotThreeD}\%} \\
& \left( x_{\text{Min}}=-1,x_{\text{Max}}=5,y_{\text{Min}}=-1,y_{\text{Max}}=5, \\
& z_{\text{Min}}=-1,z_{\text{Max}}=5 \right) \\
& \text{\texttt{xPlotpoints}=200,\%} \\
& \text{\texttt{linewidth}=blue,\%} \\
& \text{\texttt{end\{pspicture\}}}
\end{align*}
\]
Figure 19: Plot of equation 7

Figure 20: Plot of equation 7 with the hiddenLine=true option
Instead of using the \pstThreeDSphere macro (see section 12) it is also possible to use parametric functions for a sphere. The macro plots continuous lines only for the \( t \) parameter, so a sphere plotted with the longitudes needs the parametric equations as

\[
\begin{align*}
 x &= \cos t \cdot \sin u \\
 y &= \cos t \cdot \cos u \\
 z &= \sin t
\end{align*}
\]

(10)

The same is possible for a sphere drawn with the latitudes:

\[
\begin{align*}
 x &= \cos u \cdot \sin t \\
 y &= \cos u \cdot \cos t \\
 z &= \sin u
\end{align*}
\]

(11)

and lastly, we can have both of these parametric functions together in one \pspicture environment (figure 22).

14 Plotting data files

We have the same conventions for data files which hold 3D coordinates as for 2D. For example:

\[
\begin{align*}
 0.0000 & & 1.0000 & & 0.0000 \\
-0.4207 & & 0.9972 & & 0.0191 \\
\& & \cdots \\
0.0000 & & 1.0000 & & 0.0000 \\
-0.4207 & & 0.9972 & & 0.0191 \\
\& & \cdots \\
(0.0000,1.0000,0.0000) & & (-0.4207,0.9972,0.0191) & & \cdots \\
\& & \cdots \\
(0.0000,1.0000,0.0000) & & (-0.4207,0.9972,0.0191) & & \cdots \\
\& & \cdots 
\end{align*}
\]

There are the same three plot functions:

\[
\begin{align*}
 \text{\texttt{fileplotThreeD\{<options>\}\{<datafile>\}}} \\
 \text{\texttt{dataplotThreeD\{<options>\}\{<data object>\}}} \\
 \text{\texttt{listplotThreeD\{<options>\}\{<data object>\}}}
\end{align*}
\]

The data file used in the following examples has 446 entries like

\[
6.26093349\ldots, 2.55876582\ldots, 8.131984\ldots
\]
Using the listplotThreeD macro with many data entries may take considerable time on slow machines. The possible options for the lines are the same as earlier, given in table 1.

14.1 \texttt{fileplotThreeD}

The syntax is straightforward:
\begin{verbatim}
\texttt{fileplotThreeD[<options>]{<datafile>}}
\end{verbatim}

If the data file is not in the same directory as the document, use the file name with the full path. Figure 23 shows a file plot with the option linestyle=line.

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=0.8\textwidth]{fileplotThreeD.png}
\caption{Demonstration of \texttt{fileplotThreeD} with Alpha=30 and Beta=15}
\end{figure}

14.2 \texttt{dataplotThreeD}

The syntax is:
\begin{verbatim}
\texttt{dataplotThreeD[<options>]{<data object>}}
\end{verbatim}

In contrast to \texttt{fileplotThreeD}, the second macro \texttt{dataplotThreeD} reads the data entries from another macro. Using \texttt{\readdata}, external data can be read from a file and saved in a macro, to be passed to \texttt{\dataThreeD[1]}. \texttt{\readdata{<data object>}{<datafile>}}

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=0.8\textwidth]{dataplotThreeD.png}
\caption{Demonstration of \texttt{dataplotThreeD} with Alpha=-30 and Beta=30}
\end{figure}

14.3 \texttt{listplotThreeD}

The syntax is:
\begin{verbatim}
\texttt{listplotThreeD[<options>]{<data object>}}
\end{verbatim}

There is no essential difference between the macros \texttt{listplotThreeD} and \texttt{dataplotThreeD}. With \texttt{listplotThreeD}, one can pass additional PostScript code, which is appended to the data object. For example:
newcommand\{\dataThreeDDraft\}{% 
  \data \space
  \gsave \% save graphic state
  /Helvetica findfont 40 scalefont setfont
  45 rotate \% rotate 45 degrees
  0.9 setgray \% 1 ist white
  -60 30 moveto (DRAFT) show
  \grestore
}%
}

Figure 25: Demonstration of \listplotThreeD with a view from above (Alpha=0 and Beta=90) and some additional PostScript code

Figure 25 shows what happens with this additional PostScript code. Another example can be found in [5], where ScalePoints is redefined. For pst-3dplot, the equivalent macro is named ScalePointsThreeD.

15 PDF output

pst-3dplot is based on the popular pstricks package and writes pure PostScript code[2], so it is not possible to run \TeX\ files with pdflat\TeX\ when there are pstricks macros in the document. If you need PDF output, there are the following possibilities:

- the package pdftricks.sty [6]
- the free (for Linux only) program \VTeX/Lnx (http://www.micropress-inc.com/linux/
- the ps2pdf (dvi→ps→pdf) or dvipdfm utilities
- the ps4pdf package [4].

If you need package graphicx.sty, load it before any pstricks package. You do not need to load pstricks.sty, as this will be done by pst-3dplot.

References


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Axis alignment in \texttt{xy}-pic diagrams

Alexander R. Perlis

Abstract

By default, \texttt{xy}-pic aligns diagrams according to the center of each object. For many types of diagrams, such center alignment is the preferred choice; however, axis alignment is sometimes better. For example, compare $A \to A^2$ (center-aligned) with $A \to A^2$ (axis-aligned); the arrow stayed in the same place, but the $A$ moved up a little, and the $A^2$ moved up a little. Note that the simple \TeX{} code $\$A \ \to A^2\$ uses axis alignment: $A \to A^2$.

This article studies attempts to instruct \texttt{xy}-pic to use axis alignment and presents a concise solution to the problem. Enhancements to \texttt{xy}-pic are proposed.

1 Preliminaries

The version of \texttt{xy}-pic used here is 3.7 (16Feb1999). The \texttt{XY-pic User’s Guide} will be cited as [XY GUIDE], and the \texttt{XY-pic Reference Manual} as [XY MANUAL]. These documents are part of the \texttt{XY-pic} distribution available on CTAN.

This article’s abstract already defined center alignment and exhibited the subtle differences between that and axis alignment, but the latter was left undefined. For now, it means “the alignment used by the simplest of \TeX{} code”. Matters will make more sense after section 5, where the alignment practices of \TeX{} and \texttt{xy}-pic are explained in detail.

For most of this article, we will study attempts at axis alignment using the \texttt{\ymatrix} feature of \texttt{xy}-pic. (It is introduced nicely in [XY GUIDE].) The one-line solution to our alignment problem appears in section 7. Solutions for the \texttt{\xymatrix} feature and for \texttt{xy}-pic kernel code appear there as well.

2 The problem

We are (happily) compelled to use \texttt{xy}-pic because it produces fantastic diagrams we cannot otherwise obtain, yet we recognize that many of our center-aligned diagrams ought to be axis-aligned. We wish to instruct \texttt{xy}-pic to use the preferred alignment.

To study the matter, we need a toy example that exhibits a wide gulf between the two types of alignment, yet fits in this article’s columns.

```latex
\def\toyone{c} \def\toytwo{a\frac{x}{y}} \def\toythree{\hat{\underline{\underline{g}}}} \def\toytwo{a\frac{x}{y}} \def\toyfour{\hat{\hat{\overline{\overline{h^2}}}}}
\def\toyexample{\%}
```

What a monstrosity! To shirk responsibility, let’s take the viewpoint that a famous mathematician has hired us to typeset this bewildering diagram as part of her new book. The notation is beyond our control.

A quick peek (go ahead!) at the end of section 7 shows what we’re after. To get a sense of the difference, compare the top rows of the two diagrams without the arrows:

$$
\begin{align*}
ca \frac{z}{y} \frac{z}{h^2} & \text{ versus } \frac{ca \frac{z}{y} \frac{z}{h^2}}{h^2}.
\end{align*}
$$

The reader interested merely in the solution to our problem should skip directly to section 7, or to section 5 for some background on that solution.

The material below in sections 3 and 4 has nothing to do with the ultimate solution, and is included mainly for the \texttt{XY-pic} enthusiast interested in why \texttt{\ymatrix} and variations on that theme do not solve our problem.

3 Using \texttt{\ymatrix}

The first idea is to try \texttt{\ymatrix} in place of \texttt{\xymatrix}. This gives

```latex
\begin{align*}
\text{The top row is } \frac{ca \frac{z}{y} \frac{z}{h^2}}{h^2}.
\end{align*}
```

That’s neither center-aligned nor axis-aligned! To be fair, [XY GUIDE, §1.4, p.3] only encourages use of \texttt{\ymatrix} with one-line diagrams. Leaving our toy example aside for the rest of this section, let’s
experiment a bit with one-line diagrams:\footnote{The diagrams in \$...\$ were made smaller by setting up \texttt{\textbackslash xymatrix} with \texttt{0-1.25pc\textbackslash cm-1pt}. The sample code does not reflect this.}

$\xymatrix{A \ar[r] & A'}$ \hspace{1cm} $A \to A'$

$\xymatrix{A \ar[r] & A'}$ \hspace{1cm} $A \to A'$

Hoorah! The latter is axis-aligned! But if we replace $A'$ with $A^2$, we get:

$\xymatrix{A \ar[r] & A^2}$ \hspace{1cm} $A \to A^2$

$\xymatrix{A \ar[r] & A^2}$ \hspace{1cm} $A \to A^2$

Unhoorah. This time the result is neither center-aligned nor axis-aligned: the placement of $A^2$ is too low. The mistake is easier to spot by enlarging and putting all the diagrams on a rule:

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
A \to A' & A \to A' & A \to A' \\
A \to A^2 & A \to A^2 & A \to A^2
\end{array}
$$

Left: \texttt{xymatrix}. Middle: \texttt{xymatrix@1}. For comparison, \texttt{\$A \to A'$} and \texttt{\$A \to A^2\$} are included on the right—being the simplest of \TeX code, they are axis-aligned by definition!

In one case of a one-line diagram, \texttt{xymatrix@1} succeeds, yet in another, it fails. Why did that happen? The difference between \texttt{xymatrix} and \texttt{xymatrix@1} is that the latter inserts a zero-width left parenthesis at the start of every entry, and doing so affects the vertical spacing.\footnote{There is another difference between \texttt{xymatrix} and \texttt{xymatrix@1}, not documented in \texttt{[XY MANUAL]: 01 implies 0\textbackslash m-1pt}. This explains why, in comparing the diagram at the start of section 3 to the one at the end of section 2, the arrows are closer to the entries.}

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
A \to A' & (A \to A') & A \to A' \\
A \to A^2 & (A \to A^2) & A \to A^2
\end{array}
$$

An entry’s center is determined by its bounding box, which in turn is determined by the parts of the entry that stick out the most. Both $A$ and $A'$ are dwarfed by the parenthesis, but $A^2$ is not: the superscript sticks out more than the parenthesis. Consequently, the center of $(A^2)$ is slightly higher than that of $(A)$ or $(A')$; thus, to align entries by their center, \texttt{XY-pic} must lower $(A^2)$ slightly. (Why doesn’t it instead raise everything else? We’ll answer this question in section 5.)

In summary, \texttt{xymatrix@1} gives an axis-aligned result only when the diagram’s entries fit inside regular parentheses. Otherwise, the result likely will be neither center-aligned nor axis-aligned.

\section{Mimicking \texttt{xymatrix@1}}

Ah ha! With large entries, the zero-width left parenthesis inserted by \texttt{xymatrix@1} is not tall enough, so let’s use a taller one. Since \texttt{xymatrix@1{\toyexample}} is equivalent\footnote{Evidently, the promising approach of inserting zero-width material to affect vertical alignment, which is used by \texttt{xymatrix@1}, is \textit{fundamentally flawed}: important height information gets lost! It’s time to step back and study the alignment algorithms in \TeX and \texttt{XY-pic}.} to \texttt{\everyentry={\vphantom{\bigl(}} \texttt{xymatrix{\toyexample}} \texttt{\everyentry={\vphantom(}} \texttt{\left(\toyexample}} \texttt{\right.)}}

we might first try \texttt{\everyentry={\vphantom{\bigl(}} \texttt{\everyentry={\vphantom(}} \texttt{\left(\toyexample}} \texttt{\right.)}}

but discover this isn’t enough, and after running out of named sizes, we might try letting \TeX make the precise calculation:

\texttt{\everyentry={\vphantom{\bigl(}} \texttt{\everyentry={\vphantom(}} \texttt{\left(\toyexample}} \texttt{\right.)}}

\texttt{xymatrix{\toyexample}}

\begin{center}
\begin{tikzpicture}
\begin{scope}[scale=0.75]
\node at (0,0) {$c$};
\node at (1,0) {$a \frac{z}{y}$};
\node at (2,0) {$g$};
\node at (2,-1) {$\frac{z}{h^2}$};
\node at (2,-2) {$c$};
\node at (3,-2) {$a \frac{z}{y}$};
\node at (4,-2) {$g$};
\node at (1,-2) {$\frac{z}{h^2}$};
\node at (-2,-2) {$x$};
\node at (-2,-3) {$y$};
\node at (-2,-4) {$m$};
\node at (1,-3) {$\frac{x}{ca-gh^2}$};
\node at (1,-4) {$\frac{y}{m}$};
\end{scope}
\end{tikzpicture}
\end{center}

Hey, this is axis-aligned! Unfortunately, many of the arrows now appear to be afraid of the entries. To understand what went wrong, take a look at the size of the delimiter we inserted around each entry:

\texttt{\left(\toyone}\texttt{\toytwo}
\texttt{\toythee}\texttt{\toytfour}\texttt{\right.)}}

Each entry’s vertical size is determined by the delimiter, and then, as usual, \texttt{xymatrix} adds an additional margin:

\begin{center}
\begin{tikzpicture}
\begin{scope}[scale=0.75]
\node at (0,0) {$\frac{z}{h^2}$};
\node at (1,0) {$c$};
\node at (2,0) {$a \frac{z}{y}$};
\node at (3,0) {$g$};
\node at (1,-1) {$\frac{z}{h^2}$};
\node at (1,-2) {$c$};
\node at (2,-2) {$a \frac{z}{y}$};
\node at (3,-2) {$g$};
\node at (1,-3) {$\frac{z}{h^2}$};
\node at (-2,-3) {$x$};
\node at (-2,-4) {$y$};
\node at (-2,-5) {$m$};
\node at (1,-4) {$\frac{x}{ca-gh^2}$};
\node at (1,-5) {$\frac{y}{m}$};
\end{scope}
\end{tikzpicture}
\end{center}
5 How \TeX{} and XY-pic align objects

Earlier we asked: in going from \( A \rightarrow A' \) to \( A \rightarrow A' \), why does the arrow stay put and the \( A \) and \( A' \) move up, instead of, say, the \( A \) staying put, the arrow moving down, and the \( A' \) moving (slightly) up?

Inside math mode, \TeX{} maintains two reference lines for alignment purposes: the baseline and the axis. These lines are not part of the characters being typeset; rather, they depend only on the current font and thus should be thought of as being part of the underlying canvas. As for the characters, each one has a bounding box and a reference point (obtained from the font’s \texttt{tfm} file).

In horizontal mode and in math mode, \TeX{} positions each character so that the character’s reference point lands on the canvas’s baseline. The axis comes into play when \TeX{} builds a fraction: the numerator and denominator are positioned so that the bar of the fraction lands on the canvas’s axis. Each delimiter, such as the left parenthesis, is designed to involve both lines: as with all characters, \TeX{} positions the delimiter so that its reference point lands on the canvas’s baseline; however, in so doing, due to the shape of the delimiter, the middle of the delimiter lands precisely on the canvas’s axis. In other words, after placement, each delimiter has equal height and depth when measured from the axis, but not when measured from the baseline.

XY-pic, on the other hand, maintains its own reference point for each object, which starts out in the center of the object. When XY-pic hands a finished object to \TeX{} for placement, it does so in such a way that the object’s XY-pic reference point lands on the canvas’s axis.\footnote{As explained in \texttt{xy manual}, \S 2.1, p.6, that’s true only when XY-pic was entered inside math mode. Otherwise there is no axis, and so the canvas’s baseline is used. This affects \texttt{entrymodifiers} \texttt{ modifiers}. The net effect is to shift the entire diagram, arrows and all, by a fixed amount.}

Let’s summarize. When \TeX{} is in charge, the \TeX{} reference point lands on the baseline. When XY-pic is in charge, the XY-pic reference point lands on the axis.

Let’s illustrate. On the left, we see how \TeX{} positions an \( A \): the \TeX{} reference point ⋅ lands on the baseline.

Next we see how XY-pic positions \( A \), \( (A) \), and \( (A^2) \); the XY-pic reference point ◦, which defaults to the object’s center, lands on the axis. In the case of \( (A) \), the \TeX{} reference point happens to land on the base-

\[ A \quad (A) \quad (A^2) \]

\[ (A) \quad (A^2) \]

The XY-pic reference point should be positioned away from the center in such a way that when it lands on the axis, the \TeX{} reference point will land on the baseline. The crucial measurement is easy to spot: the vertical distance between the XY-pic reference point and the \TeX{} reference point should be the same as the distance between the canvas’s baseline and axis. \TeX{} will cough up that distance if you feed it \texttt{\fontdimen22\textfont2}.\footnote{Aside: the term \texttt{axis-aligned} means: objects are aligned with their \TeX{} reference point on the baseline, while diagram arrows point to the axis (because that’s where the XY-pic reference point is). But the following description does a better job justifying the term. Before being dropped on the canvas, each object is typeset in its own box and thus has its own axis. Getting the object’s \TeX{} reference point onto the canvas’s baseline is equivalent to getting the object’s axis onto the canvas’s axis. Thus \texttt{axis-aligned} means: each object’s axis lies on the canvas’s axis, and each arrow points to that common axis. In short, everything is aligned by the axis!}

By positioning the XY-pic reference point appropriately, we achieve the desired alignment without changing the object’s bounding box. This is the solution we’ve been seeking! The code is presented in section 7.

6 Aside: the term \texttt{axis-aligned}

By the discussion in the previous section, we conclude that \texttt{axis-aligned} means: objects are aligned with their \TeX{} reference point on the baseline, while diagram arrows point to the axis (because that’s where the XY-pic reference point is). But the following description does a better job justifying the term. Before being dropped on the canvas, each object is typeset in its own box and thus has its own axis. Getting the object’s \TeX{} reference point onto the canvas’s baseline is equivalent to getting the object’s axis onto the canvas’s axis. Thus \texttt{axis-aligned} means: each object’s axis lies on the canvas’s axis, and each arrow points to that common axis. In short, everything is aligned by the axis!

7 The solution

We have seen that XY-pic positions an object so that the XY-pic reference point, which defaults to the object’s center, lands on the canvas’s axis. To alter the placement, we either move the object’s center by changing its size, or move the XY-pic reference point away from the center. In section 4 we disposed of the idea of changing the object’s size, because the original size is needed later for drawing arrows. At the end of section 5, we saw that moving the XY-pic reference point appropriately solves our problem.

All said and done, our solution is to put \texttt{\entrymodifiers=\{+!!<0pt,\\fontdimen22\textfont2\}\textfont2} prior to each \texttt{\xymatrix}, or simply once and for all in the document’s preamble.
The + sets up a margin similar to the default margin used by \textstyle. If say, \scriptstyle is used instead, then each use of \textstyle in our solution should be replaced with \scriptstyle. After all, the distance between the baseline and axis depends on the size of the math font.

8 Caveats
8.1 Size

By default, \textstyle. If, say, \scriptstyle is used instead, then each use of \textstyle in our solution should be replaced with \scriptstyle. After all, the distance between the baseline and axis depends on the size of the math font.

8.2 Labels

By default, \textstyle. If say, \scriptstyle is used instead, then each use of \textstyle in our solution should be replaced with \scriptstyle. After all, the distance between the baseline and axis depends on the size of the math font.

Actually, the source code indicates that the default value is \entrymodifiers={+!!<0pt,
fontdimen22	extfont2>} as a setup to have the same effect as setting \everyxytextstyle={+!!}.

A should be shorthand for \textstyle. Actually, the definition should depend on \everyxytextstyle. For example, with \everyxytextstyle={+!!}. A should be shorthand for \textstyle.

2. The \textstyle feature could support \global as a setup to have the same effect as setting \entrymodifiers={+!!}\everyxytextstyle={+!!A}.

Actually, the source code indicates that the default value is \entrymodifiers={+!!<0pt,
fontdimen22	extfont2>} as a setup to have the same effect as setting \everyxytextstyle={+!!}. A should be shorthand for \textstyle. Actually, the definition should depend on \everyxytextstyle. For example, with \everyxytextstyle={+!!}. A should be shorthand for \textstyle.

3. The setup \global could be redefined to simply mean \global=1pt. As discussed in section 3, today’s \global is a buggy construct: the math strut negatively affects vertical spacing and arrows; in particular, today’s \global even fails to properly align simple one-line diagrams like \A\rightarrow\B.

4. The matrix option might support some kind of global \everyxytextstyle={}, so that one can easily specify setups like \global= once and for all in a document’s preamble. The alternative is to put

The + sets up a margin similar to the default margin used by \textstyle. If say, \scriptstyle is used instead, then each use of \textstyle in our solution should be replaced with \scriptstyle. After all, the distance between the baseline and axis depends on the size of the math font.

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4. The matrix option might support some kind of global \everyxytextstyle={}, so that one can easily specify setups like \global= once and for all in a document’s preamble. The alternative is to put
\entrymodifiers={+!!A} in the preamble, but newcomers to \textsc{xy}-pic are likely to master the use of \texttt{xymatrix} setups prior to tackling kernel-level drop modifiers.

5. Similarly, the graph option might support \texttt{\textbackslash everyxygraph={\ldots}}. When missing, the usual defaults \cite[xy manual, p.53]{xy_manual} would apply.

10 Acknowledgments

The problem of aligning objects and arrows appropriately to achieve beautiful diagrams is hardly new. (Just think of \textsc{tex} itself, or all the diagram packages available on \textsc{ctan}.) Within the context of \textsc{xy}-pic, the problem was discussed and solved in 2001 on the \textsc{xy}-pic list by Vadim Radionov, whose solution is essentially identical to the one obtained here.

I thank Ross Moore and Florian Lengyel for commenting on earlier versions of this article, and Michael Abbott for discussing the ideas in section 9.

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As a mathematics teacher in a French high school, I have to compose a rather large number of documents for my students, containing both text and formulas. In my point of view, \LaTeX{} is the best tool in such a situation, combining efficiency and high quality. Very often, these documents should be illustrated with geometric figures. I first used the excellent \textsc{PSTricks} package to draw them. I didn’t want to use WYSIWYG software instead, because I wanted to keep following \LaTeX{}’s philosophy, that is: \textit{What You Mean Is What You Get}. Unfortunately, \textsc{PSTricks} isn’t designed for geometry at all and is rather inappropriate in many situations.

One night, I wanted to draw a triangle with an inscribed circle, so I had to compute by hand the coordinates of the center and the radius of this circle, which is quite boring. During these calculations, I realized that they could easily be done by a computer, and that gave me the idea to create \textsc{Euclides}, a geometry drawing language. My goal was to make it as close as possible to what mathematics teachers would say to describe geometric figures. For instance, the former problem, written as an exercise, could be:

Let $ABC$ be a triangle and $I$ its inscribed circle. Draw $ABC$ and $I$.

In \textsc{Euclides}, it gives:

\begin{verbatim}
A B C triangle I = incircle(A,B,C) draw(A,B,C) ; draw(I)
\end{verbatim}

Which leads to the following graphical result:

\begin{verbatim}
frame(-0.5,-0.5,6.5,4.5) A B C triangle I = incircle(A,B,C) draw(A,B,C) ; draw(I)
\end{verbatim}

Once the design of the language was done, I wrote \texttt{eukleides}, a compiler which translates \textsc{Euclides} code into \textsc{PSTricks} macros. This program can run as a filter. That is, it can take a \LaTeX{} source containing \textsc{Euclides} code, and replace this code with \textsc{PSTricks} macros, producing a ready-to-\LaTeX{} file.

There’s also a graphical interface to the language, with additional interactive features, named \texttt{xeukleides}. It was first meant for classroom presentations, but it can also be seen as a tool to compose and tune some \textsc{Euclides} code for later inclusion in a \LaTeX{} source.

Both programs are released under the GNU Public License. They were developed on a GNU/Linux system, and were ported to several operating systems: NetBSD, FreeBSD, Mac OS X, MS Windows. Their source code is available from CTAN\textsuperscript{2} or the \textsc{Euclides} home page\textsuperscript{3} (which also offers GNU/Linux and Win32 executables).

### Around Morley’s triangle

As a first introduction to the \textsc{Euclides} language, we’ll study the source code which gives the following figure. It illustrates Morley’s theorem: \textit{The points of intersection of the adjacent trisectors of the angles of any triangle are the vertices of an equilateral triangle.}

\begin{verbatim}
frame(-1,-0.5,7,4.5) A B C triangle a = angle(B,A,C) b = angle(C,B,A) c = angle(A,C,B) ab = angle(vector(A,B)) bc = angle(vector(B,C)) ca = angle(vector(C,A)) l1 = line(A,(ab + a/3):) l2 = line(A,(ab + 2*a/3):) l3 = line(B,(bc + b/3):) l4 = line(B,(bc + 2*b/3):) l5 = line(C,(ca + c/3):) l6 = line(C,(ca + 2*c/3):) D =
\end{verbatim}

\textsuperscript{1} It was formerly named \texttt{euklides}, but this name was already given to other geometry software.

\textsuperscript{2} In /\texttt{tex-archive/support/eukleides/}.

\textsuperscript{3} At \url{http://perso.wanadoo.fr/obrecht/}.
of it.

Here is the corresponding code.

```plaintext
1 A B C triangle
2 a = angle(B,A,C)
3 b = angle(C,B,A)
4 c = angle(A,C,B)
5 ab = angle(vector(A,B))
6 bc = angle(vector(B,C))
7 ca = angle(vector(C,A))
8 11 = line(A,(ab + a/3):)
9 12 = line(A,(ab + 2*a/3):)
10 13 = line(B,(bc + b/3):)
11 14 = line(B,(bc + 2*b/3):)
12 15 = line(C,(ca + c/3):)
13 16 = line(C,(ca + 2*c/3):)
14 D = intersection(11,14)
15 E = intersection(13,16)
16 F = intersection(11,14)
17 color(lightgray)
18 draw(11) ; draw(12)
19 draw(13) ; draw(14)
20 draw(15) ; draw(16)
21 color(black)
22 draw(A,B,C) ; draw(D,E,F)
```

In Eukleides source code, a line can contain several commands (in that case, they have to be separated by semicolons). Commands are of two kinds: variable assignments and graphical commands. Among variable assignments are single assignments (see lines 2–16) and multiple assignments (line 1). A variable can store a wide variety of objects used in elementary geometry: numbers, vectors, points, lines, segments, circles, conics.

Multiple assignments are used for definitions of polygons and for some intersection determinations. The statement in line 1 defines an optimal scalene triangle such that segment $AB$ is horizontal and 6 cm long. All these characteristics can be modified by adding some optional parameters to the keyword `triangle'. For instance `A B C triangle(4,5,6)' would define a triangle $ABC$ such that $AB = 4$ cm, $BC = 5$ cm and $AC = 6$ cm.

If the desired triangle has to be of a specific kind, the simplest way is to replace `triangle' with `right', `isosceles' or `equilateral'. For instance `A B C right(5,30::10:)’ would define a triangle $ABC$ with an angle of 30° in $A$, a right angle in $B$ and such that segment $AB$ measures 5 cm and makes an angle of 10° with the horizontal direction. The colon character is used to distinguish angular parameters from others (like lengths).

On lines 2–7, one can see two possible usages of the function `angle'. In the first case (lines 2–4), it simply gives the measures of the angles in triangle $ABC$. In the second case (lines 5–7), it gives the argument of some vectors. As with many functions in Eukleides, `angle' can handle several kinds of arguments.

On lines 8–13 are the definitions of the trisectors of the triangle $ABC$. Since trisectors (unlike bisectors) aren’t very common objects, there’s no built-in function to define them. The function `line' is used instead. Here, the second argument is the angle that the line makes with the horizontal direction. This is not the only way to define a line: the second argument could have been a point or a vector.

Graphical commands are of two kinds: setting commands (see lines 17 and 21) and drawing commands (see lines 18–20 and 22). To draw an object, one simply has to use the function `draw'. This function can take additional arguments in order to modify the aspect of the drawn object (such as `dotted' or `dashed' for lines). On line 22, the arguments of `draw' are a list of points: it’s the way to draw polygons. Since polygons are not considered as specific objects in Eukleides, there’s no need to declare $DEF$ as a triangle before drawing it.

**More graphical commands**

Usually, a geometric figure doesn’t contain only straight and curved lines, but also letters and some conventional marks (used to make some properties obvious). Below is a classical example of such a figure representing a parallelogram.

```plaintext
A B C D parallelogram(5,4,105:) O = barycenter(A,B,C,D) frame(-2,-1,6,4.5)
draw(A,B,C,D) ; draw(O) draw("A",A,-130:)
draw("B",B,-30:) draw("C",C,50:)
draw("D",D,130:) draw(segment(A,C),dotted)
draw(segment(B,D),dotted) mark(segment(A,O))
mark(segment(O,C)) mark(segment(B,O),cross)
mark(segment(O,D),cross) mark(B,A,D)
mark(D,C,B) mark(C,B,A,double)
mark(A,D,C,double)
```

Here is the corresponding code.

```plaintext
1 A B C D parallelogram(5,4,105:)
2 O = barycenter(A,B,C,D)
3 frame(-2,-1,6,4.5)
4 draw(A,B,C,D) ; draw(O)
5 draw("$A$",A,-130:)
```
Since this figure is rather simple (from a geometrical point of view) only two assignments are needed. On line 1 is a multiple assignment which defines a parallelogram $ABCD$ such that $AB = 5$ cm, $AD = 4$ cm and $BAD = 105^\circ$. On line 2, a single assignment defines $O$ as the center of parallelogram $ABCD$.

Even though Eukleides is designed in order to use as few coordinates as possible, the internal representation of the geometrical objects is based on them. By default, figures are drawn in a frame such that the lower left corner has coordinates ($-2,-2$) and the upper right corner ($8;6$). The function ‘frame’ enables one to change these settings.

As one can see on line 4, the function ‘draw’ is useful to represent single points (the default shape is a dot, but it can also be a square or a cross). This function can also be used to give names to points, its content remains the same (if not, the variable is modified while viewing). If you press the escape key, the text area will be replaced by a graphical area containing the following figure:

\[
\text{frame}(-0.5, -0.5, 6.5, 4) \times \\
\text{interactive}(2,.1,0,6,"A",right) \text{ A M I equilateral(x)} \\
\text{M B J equilateral}(6-x) \text{ color(lightgray)} \\
\text{draw(segment(I,J)) color(black) draw(A,M,I)} ; \\
\text{draw(M,B,J) draw(barycenter(I,J))}
\]

If you now press the right arrow key, you’ll see the left triangle becoming bigger and the right one smaller. Pressing the left arrow key performs the opposite transformation. Pressing the escape key again switches back to the text editor.

On line 1 of the source code is an interactive assignment: it allows to modify the value of the numerical variable $x$ (and consequently the figure) by pressing the arrow keys. The first argument is the initial value of $x$, the second the increment which is added to (subtracted from) $x$ every time the right (left) arrow key is pressed. The third and fourth are the optional lower and upper bound. The fifth argument has to be a string containing a single letter. It indicates the key that has to be pressed before modifying the variable. This is useful when more than two variables have to be bound to the keyboard. The sixth argument is either ‘right’ or ‘up’. It indicates which pair of arrow keys (right/left or up/down) is bound to the variable.

In an interactive assignment, the initial value can be modified while viewing. If you press the F1 key, the program replaces the original initial value in the source code by the last value of the variable and switches back to the text editor.

The first multiple assignment on line 2 defines an equilateral triangle $AM$ such that segment $AM$ is horizontal and $x$ cm long. The second assignment defines an equilateral triangle $MBJ$ such that segment $MB$ is horizontal and $6-x$ cm long. A specific feature of polygonal assignments is used here: if the first variable is already in use (and contains a point) its content remains the same (if not, the variable is set to the origin). This implies that segment $AB$ has a constant length of 6 cm and that $M$ belongs to $AB$.

---

5 Or to put any kind of text in a specific place.

6 This code will only be interpreted if you run eukleides and latex. With eukleides it is displayed verbatim.

7 Since the program starts viewing in state “A”, there’s no need here to press this key.
Drawing curves

In elementary geometry, the most usual curves are conics. Eukleides provides a large number of functions to define and handle these objects. For less common curves, there’s the ‘trace’ command. For instance, the figure below illustrates the geometrical definition of a cubic curve known as the Witch of Agnesi.

```plaintext
frame(-4,-1,4,3) O = point(0,0) c = circle(point(0,1),1) l = line(point(0,2),0:) trace(t,.1,179.9) L = line(O,t:) O M intersection(L,c) P = intersection(L,l)
point(abscissa(P),ordinate(M)) t = 50 L = line(O,t:) O M intersection(L,c) P = intersection(L,l) N = point(abscissa(P),ordinate(M)) draw(O)
style(dotted) draw(segment(M,N))
style(dashed) draw(segment(P,N)) draw(L) thickness(.5) ; style(dashed) draw(c) ; draw(l)
```

On lines 2–4 we create the objects which are needed to define the curve. Lines 5–9 are related to the ‘trace’ command. They are based on the geometrical definition above. Line 5 tells variable \( t \) to scan the numbers between 0.1 and 179.9. A line-circle intersection can lead to two points, hence in Eukleides a multiple assignment (like the one at line 7) is used to obtain these points. Since lines are implicitly directed, in the present case the first assigned point will always be \( O \) and the second, the wanted point. The last line (line 9) contains a point valued expression. This is the point which will be drawn for each value of \( t \).

To draw this curve, it would also be possible to use parametric representation. Nevertheless, in the present case the geometrical definition is more appropriate because the same piece of code can be used again (in lines 11–14) to produce an example of the construction.

The last part (lines 15–21) contains the drawing commands. The setting command ‘style’ changes the default aspect of drawn objects. This may sometimes shorten the code.

Conclusion

In my humble opinion, Eukleides is now mature enough to be considered by TeX users as an effective way to create geometric figures. As a matter of fact, the language is sufficiently powerful to describe almost any figure which can be seen in an elementary geometry textbook.

My aim is now to enhance Eukleides with features such as tests, loops, and user-defined functions. Since I did not anticipate this when I started the project, I’ll have to rewrite large parts of the programs. This is a long-term undertaking, so I’ll soon stop working on the present versions of eukleides and xeukleides.

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\(^{8}\) These bounds are chosen in order to avoid 0 and 180, which are invalid and may cause spurious lines to appear.
Book Review

Book review: \TeX\ Reference Manual

Stephen Moye


A new \TeX\ book!

The arrival on the scene of a new book about \TeX\ is always an occasion for great joy. I'm only too happy to have another reference that causes me to look at a problem in a new way.

Teaching by example

A useful approach. Bausum's book is particularly useful in that it covers \TeX\'s primitives. It is therefore of use to anyone who uses any flavor of \TeX. The author asks early on, "Why is \TeX\ so hard to learn?" He asserts that the reason is twofold: It is a large programming language with 325 primitives, and parts of \TeX\ are not intuitive. The purpose of the book, I take it, is to address these issues and to make the learning process more efficient.

The author begins by separating \TeX\ primitives into nineteen "families" such as The Box Family, The Font Family, The Paragraph Family and The Tables Family. This is a useful approach for those starting out because it brings a greater sense of structure to the primitives other than their relevance to vertical and horizontal mode.

The next section — the bulk of the book, about 310 pages — is given over to an annotated listing of \TeX\ primitives, complete with extensive cross references to The \TeX\book and examples for virtually every entry. At the head of each entry is a kind of graphical/shorthand overview of the primitive — be sure that you review the first two pages of this section (pp. 25–26) so that you know how to interpret this. The book concludes with three appendices, "Typesetting Verbatim Material", "Working with PostScript Fonts" and "Typesetting Material in Two columns".

Generally speaking the content is very good. I like lots of examples about how things work — to learn by doing. Each of the \TeX\ primitives is covered in three parts: a description of what the primitive does; examples of how it can be used, accompanied by the output of the examples where appropriate; and finally a commentary to clarify issues that may have been raised by the examples. It is clear that the \TeX\ Reference Manual is not meant to stand on its own. You will want to have a copy of Knuth's The \TeX\book close at hand. Bausum also makes occasional reference to some other of Knuth's books if he thinks the material there explains a given issue better, so you will have to have access to them as well.

Occasionally there is a less-than-ideal turn of phrase. On page 220, Bausum says: "Normally, an output routine has no idea where it is in a document." Hmmmm... Yes and no: The output routine may not know exactly where it is on a given page, but it does know enough to form a decision as to how much of the page it has to fill, and which page it is on — a useful piece of information for formatting that requires different things on even as opposed to odd pages. Still, these failings are generally minor, and, to do the author credit, the appropriate pages in Knuth's books are copiously referenced if there is any question.

One modest grievance I have centers on the clock that adorns the beginning of the discussion of each primitive. The macro for producing it (\makemkclock) is not listed in the index. It is only defined in the course of an example centering on the primitive \special. So obvious a formatting feature should have been better documented, nor is the PostScript file (clock.ps) given. I believe strongly that books about typography should completely elucidate the details of their own creation.

When bad things happen to good books

Given Knuth's exhortation, "Go forth now and create masterpieces of the publishing art," there are some less than masterful touches in evidence here.

Fonts. The choice of font, Caslon 224, is less than happy in my opinion. First, it is a very idiosyncratic version of Caslon. Second, there are the ligatures. Given the discussion of fonts in Appendix B, I am surprised that no ligatures are in evidence here beyond the usual fi and fl particularly in view of the fact that the unligatured ff, ffi and ffl are notably odd looking. But then, there is no "expert set" available for Caslon 224 which would have provided the missing ligatures. Surely, Adobe Caslon or Berthold Caslon (both of which have expert sets) would have provided more attractive type.

To \TeX\ or not to \TeX? And then there is the matter of the logotype: \TeX. The author feels that what he calls the "familiar form" (\TeX) is less distracting than the formal form (\TeX). Oddly,
the formal form is used in the Preface, while the familiar form is used in the rest of the book. First, I think that anyone who is serious about learning \TeX{} had best get used to the formal form in very short order. Indeed, I can think of no serious work about \TeX{} — and typeset using \TeX{} — that does not use the formal form. The use of the familiar form makes the book look as if it were composed using Quark \textit{XPress} rather than \TeX{}. Using ‘\TeX{}’ is just the right thing to do. Second, reverting to a familiar form is no excuse for doing the formal form badly. The half-title, title and back cover have some very unlovely interpretations of the formal form.

**Printing.** The print quality is less than wonderful. The book was apparently mastered on some sort of laser printer of modest resolution. The resulting hard copy was used to make printing materials in such a way that the type occasionally comes close to breaking up: serifs are degraded, thin strokes tending almost to disappear.

**The price tag.** I feel compelled to venture the opinion, given the less-than-stellar production values evidenced in this book, that $100 for it seems excessive — there isn’t even a CD with the macros and examples shown in the book. There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that this is a fine $30–$50 book, but $100 renders it considerably less attractive to a prospective purchaser than it could, and should be.

**The bottom line**

This is a good reference for people who have a bit of plain \TeX{} under their belts, as the examples mix primitives and plain rather freely. If you can find this book for a reasonable price, buy it because it is a useful and informative book. Despite some failings — some superficial, some not — it is worth having in your reference library, particularly if you use plain \TeX{}, or have to delve into \TeX{}’s inards for any reason.

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Hints & Tricks

Glisternings

Peter Wilson

Not all that tempts your wand’ring eyes
And heedless hearts, is lawful prize;
Nor all, that glisters, gold.

\begin{verse}
Ode to a Favourite Cat
\textsc{Thomas Gray}
\end{verse}

For many years Jeremy Gibbons has edited a very successful column in \TeX{} and \textsc{TUG NEWS} and \textsc{TUGboat} called \textit{Hey — It works}![3]. I have learnt much from this but apparently not enough to decline when asked to take over the column. On the other hand I have learnt to my cost that the quickest way to get a correct answer to a question on the \textsc{comp.text.tex} (\textsc{ctt}) newsgroup is to give an incorrect answer. In order not to sully Jeremy’s reputation my first thought was to change the title to \textit{Hey — It might work} but after some consideration the new title is as you see it above — \textit{Glisternings} — implying that there might be some dross among the nuggets.

Corrections, suggestions, and contributions will always be welcome.

Several questions on \textsc{ctt} recently have been related to comparing two words or strings. To my chagrin I gave an incorrect answer to one of the questions, so I’ll now try and redeem myself.

\begin{verse}
If you can meet with triumph and disaster
And treat those two imposters just the same…
\end{verse}

\textsc{If — Rudyard Kipling}

Checking for an optional argument

If you are defining a new command that has an optional argument you often need some way of checking whether or not it is present when the macro is called, especially when it should be ignored if it is not present. One convention is to use the kernel \texttt{@empty} macro as the default for the optional argument.

\begin{verbatim}
\newcommand{\mine}[2][@empty]{%
% if #1 is @empty do nothing else
% do something
\end{verbatim}

To me the obvious way of performing the check was to use \TeX{}’s \texttt{ifx} primitive to compare \texttt{@empty} and the actual value of the argument, as in
\newcommand{\testoptarg}[1][\@empty]{{% 
  \ifx #1\@empty 
    \text{Optional (#1) unused}% 
  \else 
    \text{Optional (#1) present}% 
  \fi}

If you try this you can get some odd results:
\testoptarg\text{Optional () unused}
\testoptarg\text{Optional (full) present}
\testoptarg\text{psOptional (oops) unused}

It was kindly explained to me\footnote{By, among others, Donald Arseneau, Michael Downes and Stephan Lemke.} that \texttt{\ifx} checks the following two tokens and in \TeX{} a token is either a command sequence (e.g., \texttt{\@empty}) or a single character, like ‘o’. In the oops example, \texttt{\ifx} checks ‘o’ and ‘o’, concludes that they are the same, and hence the strange result. Flipping the token ordering works better:
\texttt{\ifx\@empty#1}

Now \texttt{\testoptarg} and \texttt{\testoptarg[\@empty]} will report ‘Optional () unused’. Any other call, for example \texttt{\testoptarg[1]}, will report ‘Optional () present’, and in particular \texttt{\testoptarg[oops]} reports ‘Optional (oops) present’.

\section*{String comparisons}

A more general problem along the same lines is to check if two words, or strings are the same. We can use \texttt{\ifx} for this as well. When \texttt{\ifx} compares two tokens that are macro names, and the result is true if the macros have been defined in the same way, and if their first level replacement texts are the same. So, we define two macros whose replacement texts are the strings, and compare these.

\begin{verbatim}
\newif{\ifsame}
\newcommand{\strcfstr}[2]{{% 
  \@emptyfalse 
  \begingroup 
  \ifx\1\2\@emptytrue \endsametrue 
  \else \endsamefalse \fi}
\end{verbatim}

The two arguments to \texttt{\strcfstr}\footnote{The \texttt{cf} used in the names of macros is the abbreviation \texttt{cf} (from the Latin \textit{confer} = compare).} are the strings to be tested. \texttt{\ifsame} is set true if the two strings match character to character. If the arguments are macro names it checks the characters in the names, not their definitions. If there are any spaces in the arguments, each group is reduced to a single space before the strings are compared. \texttt{\strcfstr{Abc}{Abc}} sets \texttt{\ifsame} false but \texttt{\strcfstr{Abc}{abc}} sets it true.

\begin{verbatim}
\newcommand{\MacroCfStr}[2]{{% 
  \ifsamefalse \if\1\2\@emptytrue \endsametrue \else \endsamefalse \fi}
\end{verbatim}

The \texttt{\strcfstr} macro performs a case insensitive test on two strings. For example, it will set \texttt{\ifsame} true for any of the pairs (abc, abc), (abc, Abc), (abc, aBc), and so on. It uses \texttt{\lowercase} to convert any uppercase letter to a lowercase letter so all the letters will be lowercase at the time \texttt{\strcfstr} does the checking. This will not work if the arguments include differently cased macro names as \texttt{\lowercase} does not touch those.

The \texttt{\strcfstr} and \texttt{\MacroCfStr} macros have provided all the string testing that I have needed, but I’ll show a couple of extensions. One thing is that \texttt{\strcfstr} relies on \texttt{\def} which is not expandable so, for example, it cannot be used in an \texttt{\edef}. Both Victor Eijkhout\footnote{Both Victor Eijkhout\texttt{[2, section 13.8.7]} and David Kastrup\texttt{[4]} have presented solutions for this. The other is that you may want to check if a macro expands to a particular string. David’s expandable macro also provides a solution for this and Michael Downes\texttt{[1]} gives a somewhat different method using \texttt{\expandafter}.} and David Kastrup\texttt{[4]} have presented solutions for this. The other is that you may want to check if a macro expands to a particular string. David’s expandable macro also provides a solution for this and Michael Downes\texttt{[1]} gives a somewhat different method using \texttt{\expandafter}.

We can use \texttt{\strcfstr} as the basis for the macro to string comparison, by using \texttt{\expandafter}.
\begin{verbatim}
\newcommand{\macrocfstr}[2]{{% 
  \expandafter\strcfstr\expandafter{#1}{#2}}
\end{verbatim}

The first argument to \texttt{\macrocfstr} is either a string or a macro that is expected to expand to a string. The second argument is the test string.

We can also do a case insensitive test by using
\begin{verbatim}
\newcommand{\MacroCfStr}[2]{{% 
  \lowercase{\macrocfstr{#1}{#2}}}\lowercase}
\end{verbatim}

The \texttt{\charscfchars} expandable macro below is based on Victor’s code. It is trickier because it uses recursion to perform pairwise comparisons of the individual characters in its two arguments, and it requires two supporting macros.
\begin{verbatim}
\def\IfAllChars#1\Are#2\TheSame{\iffalse % make a letter \lowercase{\macrocfstr{#1}{#2}}
\end{verbatim}

\texttt{\charscfchars} adds a character at the end of its arguments to mark the ends of the strings. Victor used \texttt{$\&$} as the marker which meant that neither argument could include \texttt{$\&$} among the characters. I chose to use \texttt{\^G} (\TeX{}’s notation for the ASCII BEL control character, which is normally invalid \TeX{}). The \texttt{\catcode} changes first make \texttt{\^G} appear to be a letter and then at the end of the macro definitions it is set back to its normal invalid state.

The next macro, which is presented with some interspersed commentary, does most of the work.
\begin{verbatim}
\def\IfAllChars#1\Are#2\TheSame{\iffalse \if\1\^G\if\3\^G\endsametrue \else\endsamefalse \fi
\end{verbatim}
The macro takes two pairs of arguments that are delimited by the tokens \Are and \TheSame. The first pair of arguments are for the first string under test and the second pair for the other string. More specifically, \#1 will be the first character in the first string and \#2 contains the remaining characters (including the "^^G marker), and similarly for \#3 and \#4. If the ends of both strings have been reached, then the strings are the same, but if only the end of the first string has been reached, the strings are different. If we are not at the end of the first string there is more work to be done.

\else\if\#1\#3\IfRest\#2\TheSame\#4\else
\samefalse\fi\fi

If the corresponding characters in the two strings are the same then the rest of the character pairs must be checked, otherwise the characters don't match and we are done.

The last of the macros takes three arguments which are delimited by the tokens \TheSame, \else, and \fi\fi. The first two arguments are strings to be compared, and it throws away the third.

\def\IfRest#1\TheSame#2\else#3\fi\fi{\fi\fi \IfAllChars#1\Are#2\TheSame}
\catcode'\^^G=15 % return to invalid

This macro simply calls \IfAllChars... to compare the strings.

\charscfchars can be used as a basis for case insensitive and macro to string comparisons exactly like \strcfstr.

Apart from \charscfchars being expandable while \strcfstr is not, it also ignores all space characters while \strcfstr does not. For example, \charscfchars{ab}{a␣b} thinks that the arguments are identical but they will be reported as different if \strcfstr{ab}{a␣b} is used.

References


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Packages posted to CTAN

The vast number of available packages is at once a wonderful resource and strength of the \TeX{} community, a veritable embarrassment of riches as well as an awkward political minefield and urban turf war (divisions between (Plain) \TeX{} and \E\TeX{} and other macro packages). Despite extraordinary efforts on the part of volunteers like Graham Williams, the CTAN team and participants in \texttt{comp.text.tex}, and most especially Robin Fairbairns, maintainer of the UK \TeX{} FAQ, available at \url{http://www.tex.ac.uk/faq}, many users find it difficult to find the appropriate package for their needs.

This is a chronological list of packages posted to CTAN between January and June 2001 with descriptive text pulled from the announcement or researched at need and edited for brevity — however, all errors are mine. Packages are in alphabetic order and are listed only in the last month they were updated. Individual files/partial uploads are listed under their own name if so uploaded. If not otherwise noted, packages are in \texttt{macros/latex/contrib/supported/}. Subdirectories (e.g. \texttt{foo}) of \texttt{macros/latex/contrib} are listed as \texttt{.../foo} to save space.

This is my second of three columns for “The Treasure Chest”. Mark LaPlante is scheduled to do the next column (for July – December 2001); my final column will cover the beginning of 2002; and Mark’s tour of duty will then continue without further interference from yours truly. Hopefully this column and those which follow will help to make CTAN a more accessible resource to the \TeX{} community.

Corrections and suggestions are welcome.

January 2001

\texttt{attachfile}  Attach arbitrary files to PDF documents for later extraction. Also adds the ability to modify the file icon.

\texttt{circuit_macros} in \texttt{graphics}  

(V.5.0) A set of macros for drawing high-quality electric circuit diagrams containing fundamental elements, amplifiers, transistors, and basic logic gates. Several tools and examples for other types of diagrams are also included. More robust \texttt{NOT\_gate}, \texttt{Function pmod()}, \texttt{macro shade()}, etc. Examples are now in \texttt{Xfig} version 3.2 format, web-based examples and updated links, new, more robust macros, editorial changes to the manual.
This package can be used to disable all hyphenation in a document or just in selected text. It supports various forms of short and long citations — now more flexible and no longer just for German law students. Changes and improvements in $v.0.5e$ too numerous to mention.

Kto8 in systems/mac
Converts the strangely ASCII-encoded text files often used by $\LaTeX$ into true 8-bit text files. Presently a freeware program realized for Macintosh OS as a tiny drag-and-drop utility.

LATEX2E.BKZ in nonfree/systems/win32/bakoma/fonts
This module includes updated $\E\TeX$ macros related to sections; namely, titles, headers, and contents (upgrade to v.2.4). This version contains the incremental updates in previous releases and bug fixes.

jurabib
Supports various forms of short and long citations — now more flexible and no longer just for German law students. Changes and improvements in $v.0.5e$ too numerous to mention.

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jurabib
Supports various forms of short and long citations — now more flexible and no longer just for German law students. Changes and improvements in $v.0.5e$ too numerous to mention.
PDF files with T1-encoded CMR fonts. New in v.1.3 adds support for the slides fonts.

**ASCII-Cyrillic in language/asci-cyrillic**
A new system for dealing precisely with Cyrillic languages using no more than an ASCII keyboard and screen font.

*babel* in macros/latex/required/babel
(V.3.7) Very much like the later releases of babel 3.6k and later. The concept of language attributes is new in this release and support for a number of languages has been added.

**cd-dvi** in dvivare
(V.0.11) The program is a .dvi-to-plain text translator capable of generating ASCII, Latin-1 and UTF-8 (Unicode) output. It aims to become a superior replacement for the dvi2tty utility. The previous version is usable for previewing (on character-cell displays) .dvi files that contain mostly linear text. The new version includes a much improved layout algorithm which can generate a fairly pleasantly readable text file from a multicolumn .dvi file.

**cd-cover** in .../other
Class for typesetting various forms of CD covers.

**chemarrow** in .../other
Macro and font provide new arrows for chemical reaction schemes. Easy to use and aesthetically more pleasing.

**chngpage** Provides commands to change the page layout in the middle of a document, and to robustly check for typesetting on odd or even pages. V.1.1c fixes odd/even page check problem when used with calc or hyperref.

**epsdice** Scalable dice font, accepts counter values as arguments; v.1.1 works with pdflaTeX.

**epstopdf.sty** in .../supported/oberdiek
Adds support for handling images in eps format to graphic(s,x) with option pdftex.

**euro-ce in fonts**
METAFONT source of the official Euro currency symbol and CE logo including variants, in both solid and outline.

**GenMPPage in .../supported/genmpage**
Generalizes LaTeX's minipages. Keyval options and styles can be used to determine their appearance in an easy and consistent way. V.0.3 introduces options for paragraph indentation and vertical alignment with respect to the visual top and bottom margins.

**hvmaths.ins** in .../supported/psnfssx
Install scripts can be processed with plain or InText.

**JavaBib** in biblio/bibtex/utils
GUI BibTeX reference manager written in Java. Beyond easy reference entry, JavaBib can search a database, and paste citations to the system clipboard.

**jPicEdt in graphics/jpicedt**
Java program that allows you to draw pictures from a menu-driven interface, using LaTeX's picture environment or epic/epic macro packages.

**listings** Source code printer for LaTeX. This update adds support for Visual Basic and removes some bugs.

**ly1.txt in .../supported/psnfssx**
Fixes a misleading typo.

**nomentbi in .../other**
This package is a redefinition of the nomencl package. Instead of the usual makeindex style it uses a longtable environment to put the symbol list in three columns: symbol, description and unit.

**pdflscape.sty** in .../supported/oberdiek
Adds PDF support to the environment landscape of package iscape by setting the page attribute /Rotate. Also works with dvips.

**pdftricks** Helps to include pstricks code in a document to be processed by pdflaTeX.

**prelim2e in .../supported/ms**
(V.1.23) Package to mark preliminary versions of a document. Adds danish and italian options.

**psnfssx** Cleaned up and reorganized. This directory is the home of packages that complement the basic PSNFSS distribution, primarily to support commercial PostScript fonts. The following subdirectories are provided: adobe, lucidabr, mathtime, hvmath, tmmaths, ly1, 8r and obsolete.

**rfc2bib.awk** in biblio/bibtex/utils
gAWK script to automatically generate BibTeX entries from IETF RFCs. The script has been updated to better handle RFCs with periods in the title and to deal with what appears to have been a change in the format of the date for just RFC768.

**sviewer351.exe** in systems/win32/scientificviewer
Scientific Viewer 3.51 is a free program for reading and printing (read-only) documents created with Scientific Notebook, Scientific Word or Scientific WorkPlace by MacKichan Software, Inc. It can also be used to view many native LaTeX documents.

**tmmaths.ins** in .../supported/psnfssx
Install scripts can be processed with plain or InText.

**wp-conv.zip** in help
Updated version of FAQ pages on converters between (La)TeX and wordprocessors.

**March 2001**

**alg** Added support for German. Fixed typo in the French language support. Now uses the language selected for the babel package and has more flexibility in handling marginwidth.

**allrunes in fonts**
Almost all runes ever used in Europe, including not only the main forms, but most variant forms.

**AlProTex.sty** in web/protex
Minor modifications to this literate programming system, for compatibility with TeX4ht.
appendix Provides various ways of formatting the titles of appendices. Also (sub)appendices environments are provided that can be used for per chapter/section appendices.

bophook (V.0.2) Hook for adding material at the beginning of each page. New version adds partial support for hyperref.

boundbox.sty in .../supported/sttools
Calculate T\TeX\ Bounding Box in points.

braille.sty in .../supported/braille
Update of package for typesetting braille.

bundledoc A post-processor for the snapshot package that bundles together all the classes, packages, and files needed to build a given document. Ships with configuration files for \TeX/Linux and \MetaT\TeX/WinNT.

caption Provides continuation captions, unnumbered captions and legends, captions outside float environments, bilingual captions, etc. It also enables the definition of new float environments and their captions. Tools are provided for defining your own captioning styles. V.3.0 provides the same tools as tocloft for styling List of floats.

ccaption in .../supported/misc
Provides a class-independent means of changing the Bibliography/References title.

chngcntnt in .../supported/misc
Provides commands to change the resetting of counters (i.e., it provides wrappers for \addtocounter and \removelastpage).

compactbib.sty in .../supported/compactbib
Enables multiple bibliographies with different names and continuous numbering.

comprehensive in info/symbols
Major update of this list of well over 2,000 symbols available for use in \LaT\Ex. Changes include: T1 fonts used only where absolutely necessary, the addition of a README file and an ASCII symbol list (SYMLIST), and a prebuilt PostScript version. Symbol tables have been categorized into “text”, “math”, “science/technology”, and “other” symbols.

CurVe in .../supported/curve
A class for making CVs (in distinct versions). Provides commands to create rubrics, entries in these rubrics, etc.

cuted.sty, midfloat.sty in .../supported/sttools
Mixing onecolumn and twocolumn modes at any place on a page.

cv A style for a curriculum vitae and an example CV.

dvii in dvipage
Extracts and displays information regarding a dvi file.

eulervm in fonts
(V.2.6) This is a set of virtual math fonts, based on Euler and CM. Included is a \LaT\Ex\ package, which makes them easy to use, particularly in conjunction with Type 1 PostScript text fonts. Should work with the latest amsmath.sty and now has an option to load the fonts at 95% of their nominal size.

excel2latex in support
Exports the current selection of a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet as a file, which can be included in an existing document. Nearly all formatting are supported (bold, italic, border lines, multicolumn cells, etc.). Now works with Excel 97.

fink This package looks over your shoulder and keeps track of files \input or \included in your document and provides a macro to access the name of the file currently being processed.

fixme Provides ‘fixme’ notes in draft documents, includes support for AUC-\TeX.

floatpag.sty in .../supported/sttools
Different pagestyles for text and float pages.

flushend.sty in .../supported/sttools
Columns balancing at last page.

current in language
Light version has a maximum of automatic features: translation, layout, microtypography, etc., but no specific commands are available. Footnotes should no longer generate an “undefined!” error message.

FrenchPourWin in nonfree/language/french
Windows distribution of French Pro V.5.02.

fullpict.sty in .../supported/fullpict
Enhances the previous enviroment scalepicture in that it works properly inside tabular and minipage environments, and also chooses appropriate font size for the scale of the picture.

hanging Facilitates typesetting of hanging paragraphs. It also enables typesetting with hanging punctuation. V.1.2 adds option for less aggressive hanging punctuation.

iso-8859-2.xmt in macros/xmltex/base
Encoding support file.

KTeXShell in systems/unix
A graphical user interface to \TeX, \LaT\Ex, and related programs, running on Linux/UNIX with KDE. It is not another WYSIWYG approach. Instead it provides a document development interface where you can define your files, edit, compose, view, and print them with a mouseclick. V.0.4.0 updates to compile under KDE2.

lcg in .../other/lcg
Writes random numbers (integers) to a counter via a linear congruential generator (Schrage’s method). Corrected docs and implements a key “quiet” to suppress the output to the screen and the log-file.

marginal.sty in .../supported/sttools
Enlarge free and show lost marginal inserts.

MNRAS in .../supported/mnras
Class file that enables authors to produce papers for submission to Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society and to produce references in a suitable format.
MPEdit in graphics/metapost/tools
   METAPOST text editor for Windows 98, 95, NT 4, and 5, and ME. Provides the main possibilities on creation and editing of METAPOST files.

numprint Prints numbers with a separator every three digits and converts numbers given as $123e456$ to $123 \cdot 10^{456}$. If an optional argument is given it is printed upright as a unit.

paralist This style file provides some new list environments. Itemized and enumerated lists can be typeset within paragraphs, as paragraphs and in a compact version. Most environments have optional arguments to format the labels. Additionally, the \LaTeX\ environments itemize and enumerate can be extended to use a similar optional argument.

polynom Implements macros for manipulating polynomials, for example it can typeset long polynomial divisions.

presfull.pdf in \dots supported/sttools
   “Inside \LaTeX\ 2\epsilon kernel” by Sigitais Tolusis.

PSTricks in graphics/pstricks
   New versions of \texttt{pst-gr3d} and \texttt{pst-poly} (to draw for three dimensional grids and to draw polygons) and a new contribution \texttt{pst-lens} to simulate the effect of a lens.

px_patch1.zip in fonts/pxfonts
   Fixes an encoding mistake in Math Italic fonts.

sc3demo.tex in \dots supported/sidecap
   Small example for the package sidecap.

stabular.sty in \dots supported/sttools
   Multipage tabular.

stfloats.sty in \dots supported/sttools
   Floating baselineskip, footnotes below the floats, dbfloats at bottom.

TeXHt in support
   An enhanced version of a system for translating \LaTeX\ sources into hypertext.

texor11.exe/txt in systems/win32/util
   Free Windows front-end with buttons which can be assigned to run specific programs.

TeXProject.sty in graphics/dratex
   An enhanced version of a \LaTeX-based project management system.

TeXshade in \dots supported/texshade
   A macro package for setting shaded nucleotide and protein alignments. It can process multiple sequence alignments in the .MSF and .ALN file formats. Update fixes some bugs and offers new commands for the fine adjustment of feature lines and allows one to add a caption to the alignment.

texsort.sty in \dots supported/sttools
   Sort/compress numerical lists.

TeXTopo in \dots supported/textopo
   Plots topology data of membrane proteins derived from PHD predictions, from SwissProt database files or from manually entered data, and transmembrane domains as seen from above or beneath the cell membrane. Fully compatible with \texttt{TeXshade}—this allows one to apply calculated shading based on sequence conservation and functional aspects of the residue sidechains.

tfmk in fonts/Utilities
   Font viewer for \TeX\ tfm/pk fonts.

thumbpdf in support
   V.2.9 provides support for thumbnail previews in PDF files.

titling Provides control over the typesetting of the \texttt{maketitle} command, and makes the \texttt{title}, \texttt{author} and \texttt{date} information permanently available. V.2.1 adds support for new titling elements, additional controls for the layout of thanks text and a method for centering on the physical page.

tmview in drive\euphoria
   (V.01.03) Fixes a number of bugs and adds some limited support for color specials.

ttf2tex in support
   Bash script which will create all files necessary to use TrueType fonts with \TeX\.

tx_patch1.zip in fonts/txfonts
   Fixes an encoding mistake in math italic fonts.

varindex Provides a convenient front-end for the \texttt{index} command. For example, it allows generation of multiple index entries in almost any form by a single command. Extremely customizable. Works with all versions of \LaTeX\ and most other \TeX\ formats, too.

windows-1250.xmt in macros/xmltex/base
   Encoding support file.

April 2001

aeguill Update to v.1.01 to work properly with the \texttt{frenchle} package. Provides several kinds of guillemets which are useful with the \texttt{AE} font which lacks guillemets.

amsldoc in info/italian/amsldoc
   Italian translation, “Manuale utente per il pacchetto \texttt{amsmath}.”

amsthdoc.it in info/italian/amsthdoc
   Italian translation of \texttt{amsthdoc}, “Utilizzo del pacchetto \texttt{amsthm}.”

authblk in \dots other/preprint
   Allows footnote-style printing of author and affiliation.

balance in \dots other/preprint
   Balances the columns of two-column mode.

dashrule Draws a huge variety of dashed rules in \LaTeX, with parameters for the pattern of dash segments and the space between.

clock Graphical clocks (with a classical 12h dial and two hands) and text clocks (in 24h format) which can show an arbitrary or system time with user expandable appearance.
combine (V.0.42) Bundles individual documents into a single document, such as when preparing a conference proceedings. The auxiliary combine package puts the titles and authors into the main document’s Table of Contents. Update works with \fancyhdr and fixes a pagebreaking problem.

diagnose Provides tools to allow package authors, system administrators or users to determine if everything a given package needs is installed.

diffs-m.it in info/italian/amsmath
Diff files for Italian — “Variate files AMS”.

dingbats in fonts
Provides \LATEX{} names for some of the characters in the dingbat.mf and ark10.mf fonts, including decorations, pointing hands, pencil, anchor, etc.

docindex in macros/latex/extra/xdoc
Reimplementation of the doc mechanisms for sorting and formatting a sorted index with easier configuration.

dpfloat Assists in formatting double-page figures or tables, as two consecutive elements. Ensures that the first of the pair is on a left-hand page.

esp_anleitung.html in info/german/grafik
Describes how to create \eps{} files under Windows.

eqparbox Allows one to define tags for \eqparboxes — all such with the same tag are set to the same width.

examdesign Typesetting of exams (incl. matching and multiple choice) and answer keys.

figcaps in .../other/preprint
Suppresses printing of figures and puts all captions and tables at the end of a manuscript (as is required by some submission guidelines).

fmp Provides a means to include Functional MetaPost, a Haskell front end to the METAPOST language, into \LATEX{}. Includes documentation in PDF format.

Fontmap.cmr in fonts/cm/ps-type1/contrib
Makes certain fonts distributed with \tetex{} available to ghostscript, including \tz{} and \pxfonts{}. Updated for MarVoSym name change.

formular Macros for typesetting forms (formular documents). Supports blank fields to be written in, or predefined contents.

fullpage in .../other/preprint
Sets all margins to be either 1 inch or 1.5 cm, and specifies the page style.

itfancyhdr in info/italian/fancyhdr
Italian translation of the fancyhdr documentation, “Layout di pagina in \LATEX{}”.

import.sty in .../supported/misc
Allow input (with variations) of a file with its own inputs from another directory.

italshort in info/short/italian
Italian translation of The Not So Short Guide to \LATEX{} — Una (mica tanto) breve introduzione a \LATEX{} 2e.


manujtex in language/manju
Package using \LaTeX{} or \LaTeX{} \TeX{} and \METAFONT{} to typeset Manju, a language of North East Asia, belonging to the Tungusic branch of the Altaic languages.

MiKTeX-WinEdt-TrueType-Anleitung in info/german
Describes the co-operation of MiKTeX with WinEdt, and includes a German translation of Damir Rakityansky’s “Using TrueType fonts with \LaTeX{} (\LaTeX{} and pdf\LaTeX{} (pdf\LaTeX{}))”.

multibbl in nonfree/macros/latex/contrib/supported
Nonfree macros\slash latex\slash contrib\slash supported
Facilitates the inclusion of bibliographies written in different scripts, e.g., Greek and Hebrew.

newlfn Integrates the \emph{letter} class with fancyhdr and geometry to produce letters, (standard or business) memos and faxes. Supports stationery, a database for addresses, other languages, tables, figures, Avery address labels and has a full manual.

noTeX in biblio/bibtex/utils
A Bib\TeX{} style that outputs HTML. It can be used to automatically generate bibliographies for the web.

pdfpages Package to enable the inclusion of pages of external PDF documents. V.0.1i enables hypertext features.

pkfix in support/pkfix
Attempts to replace bitmap fonts in \dvips-generated PostScript files with Type 1 outline fonts.

pl-mf in language/polish
\METAFONT{} source for Polish version of Computer Modern.

poligraf in macros/generic/Tex-PS
(V.2.0) Robust set of macros for prepress (CMYK separations, cropmarks, color or grayscale bars, mirror print). Works with Plain and \LaTeX{}; includes sample files and docs in English and Polish.

srclatex Inserts source specials in .dvi files, enabling switching from a particular point in a previewer which supports them (e.g., Yap or xdvi-22.38) to the matching source in an editor which supports external direction to a specific point.

sublabel in .../other/preprint
Enables subnumbering (4a, 4b, 4c...) of even user-defined counters.

texdocck in systems/unix/tex\TeX{}/1.0/contrib/
(V.0.5.1) A Perl\slash Tk-based GUI for easy access to package documentation. Bugfix update allows viewing of compressed files and other enhancements (see the README).

textpos Places boxes (containing text, or graphics, or a table, etc.) at absolute positions on the page. Version 1.1e corrects a spacing bug in 1.1d.
tocbibind A package to add document elements like a bibliography or an index to the Table of Contents. The “List of . . .” headings can also be put into the ToC. V.1.5 no longer needs stdclsdv and fixes problem when used with hyperref.

tocloft The package provides control over the typography of the Table of Contents, List of Figures, and List of Tables. V.2.2 updated to work with hyperref.

ua.dic in systems/win32/winedt/dict
Ukrainian dictionary for WinEdt.

uhzeit Time of day and ranges of time in German and international formats, including ancient formats (minutes superscripted and underlined).

uk-tex-faq in help
Moved from usergroups/uktug/faq.

upquote Modifies \verb and verbatim so that single quotes are vertical/straight, not curly.

xdoc2 in macros/latex/exptl/xdoc
Second prototype for the hypothetical xdoc package. Reimplements some of the features found in the standard \LaTeX doc package. Additionally provides support for defining new commands similar to \DescribeMacro and new environments similar to the macro environment, for two-sided document layouts, for external cross-referencing, for making index entries for invisible characters, and for optionally ignoring certain prefixes (such as © and ®) in macro names when sorting them.

May 2001

dehyphn.tex in language/hyphenation
Version R31 of the “New German” hyphenation patterns. Fixes two bugs.

diagxy in macros/generic/barr
Front end for \xypic to draw commutative diagrams.

everyshi in .../supported/ms
\LaTeX package which provides hooks into \shipout. V.3.0 update adds \AtNextShipout command.

fixmath in .../supported/was
A package to provide italic uppercase Greek letters in math and an additional bold italic math alphabet to be used with Computer Modern.

hvmath in .../supported/psnfssx
V.1.2b bug-fix update of this package for using MicroPress’ HV-Math (Helvetica Math) fonts.

icomma in .../supported/was
An ‘intelligent’ comma, which yields proper spacing in decimal numbers as well as in mathematical expressions which does not depend on a specific encoding, and works with decimal numbers of arbitrary length.

isodate (V.2.03) Tunes the output format of the \today command providing \isodate, \numdate, \shortdate, \TeXdate and \origdate to print a date argument using the actual date format (German (old and new rules; Austrian), US English, French, Danish, and Norwegian) for output. Compatible with \bibgerm style file.

itgfrguide in info/italian
Italian translation of the documentation for the graphics bundle.

itpfsguide in info/italian/psfrag
Italian translation (“Il sistema PSfrag”) of the documentation for PSfrag.

jshort in info/jshort/japanese
Japanese translation of The not so short introduction to \TeX by Tobias Oetiker, version 3.13.

lettre Designed to write letters in French, German, or English. Configurable, through a number of dimensions and macros, these may be grouped in an “institute package” called at initialization. Includes documentation (in French) and examples.

mathlig in macros/generic
Multicharacter ligatures in Math Mode, which can make for much more readable source, e.g., -> could expand to \rightharpoonup, without compromising the normal math mode use of \rightarrow and >.

mdvi in dviware
Previewer for dvi files which supports a wide variety of font formats (PK, GF, VF/OVF, Type 1 and TrueType).

memoir in macros/latex/exptl
Initial (alpha) release of Peter Wilson’s flexible \LaTeX documentclass for typesetting of books such as novels, biographies, histories, etc., with options for trim marks, draft (double-spaced, ragged right, no hyphenation, typewriter font) appearance, various sizes and much more. Note: This package has moved out of alpha and into a highly refined state and is now in memoir.

mftinc Include pretty-printed Metafont source in a \LaTeX document.

mftfonts.fd in .../supported/psnfssx/mathtime
Source for the .fd files for Y&T’s MathTime fonts. All fontnames changed to lowercase, to match the files as now distributed by Y&T (cf. the \LaTeX bug report psnfss/3001).

newcommand.py in support/newcommand
Python program to automatically generate \LaTeX macro definitions for macros which require powerful argument processing.

oesch in fonts/oesch
METAFONT script font (partial T1 encoding) for Austrian School Writing in 10 and 20 point sizes.

pdftex.def in macros/pdftex/graphics
(V.0.03g) Update to handle zero values for paperwidth and paperheight.

petri-nets in macros/generic
Set of \TeX/\LaTeX packages for drawing Petri-nets (and related models) in PostScript documents, with macros related to PBC, M-nets, etc.

psnfss-beta in macros/latex/required
Public test release of the new version 8.2. Integrates the mathpazo package into psnfss.
snapshot Provides a snapshot of the current processing context external dependencies of the document insofar as it can be determined from inside \LaTeX{}.

toolbox (V.2.1) Macros for various tasks often needed in \TeX{} programming.

ukrhyph in language/hyphenation

Update.

upgreek in \texttt{.../supported/was}

A package to provide the upright Greek letters from the Euler or Adobe Symbol fonts as additional math symbols, with proper scaling in super- and subscripts.

varindex Customizable and convenient front end for the \index{} command. Version 2.2 fixes placeholder replacement with commas, adds new variables to control the output, and more. Requires toolbox 2.1.

wp2latex in support

Conversion from Wordperfect 6 – 8 into \LaTeX{}. Update adds ability to extract WPG to PostScript.

\textbf{June 2001}

abstract Gives you control over abstracts, and in particular provides for a one column abstract in a two column paper.

bakoma in \texttt{systems/win32}

Upgrade to BaKoMa \TeX{} system to v.3.50.

BibTexMng in \texttt{biblio/bibtex/utils}

(V.2.0) Easy to use bibliographic software for Windows. Combines online searching, reference management, bibliography making, and information sharing into a single user-friendly environment. It was written to be used with \LaTeX{}, using Bib\TeX{}. Update improves interface, provides for HTML bibliography and bug fixes.

bluesky/pfb in \texttt{fonts/cm/ps-type1}

Updated to fix a typo in \texttt{exec}. Version 2.2 fixes placeholder replacement with commas, adds new variables to control the output, and more. Requires toolbox 2.1.

cbgreek.zip in \texttt{fonts/greek/cb/mf}

Updated version of CB Greek fonts.

chemarr.sty in \texttt{.../supported/oberdiek}

(V.1.1) Chemical reaction arrows with the possibility to put text above and below. Requires \texttt{amsmath}.

dell

emtexTDS/fixed007 in \texttt{systems/os2/emtex-contrib}

Fix pack for em\TeX{}TDS 0.55 (OS/2).

esdiff Typeset derivatives, partial derivatives, multiple derivatives.

footmisc Updated version with improved support for \LaTeX{} code, better hiding of debugging information and improved per-page algorithm (tested on documents in the hundreds of pages).

gtex-letter in support

A Gnome assistant (wizard/druid) to create letters (including list-merges) with support for the Gnome address book, PIM and batch operation and UNIX pipes; features user-selectable interface modes (novice–expert) which access the features of the \LaTeX{} letter class.

ifmslide (V.0.45) Produce printed slides and online presentations from only one source, add buttons for navigation and visual effects.

ifpdf.sty in \texttt{.../supported/oberdiek}

Allows detection of pdf\TeX{} in pdf mode. Works with plain or \LaTeX{} formats.

invoice.sty in \texttt{.../supported/invoice}

A tailor-made, yet expandable solution for invoicing in local and foreign currencies, including multiple assignments for a single client.

l2kurz in \texttt{info/lishort/german}

Slightly updated release of the German \LaTeX{} 2e Kurzbeschreibung.

latex2man in support

V. 1.14. A tool to translate UNIX manual pages written with \LaTeX{} into a format understood by the UNIX man(1)-command (or into TeXinfo or HTML).

lstpatch.sty in \texttt{.../supported/listings}

Patch to the listings package (v.0.2 1h) to fix “warning: destination with the same identifier” error with pdf\TeX{} 3.14159-14f.

makor in \texttt{language/hebrew}

Fonts and macros to typeset Hebrew in a natural manner with a software switch to turn vowels off or on, and examples.

METAOBJ in \texttt{graphics/metapost/contrib/macros}

A large \texttt{METAFONT} source in conjunction with the \texttt{tlasm} program from the \texttt{tlutil} suite.

MiniPlot Typeset eps figures using an easy-to-use interface with options for multiple figures and subfigures — wrapped figures are also supported as are informational frameboxes.

SchemeWEB2 in \texttt{web/schemeweb2}

Literate programming for Lisp and Scheme. Improved version of SchemeWEB, by John D. Ramsdell.

teubner Package for philological typesetting, especially, but not only, Greek.

ushort Updated version of this class for configurable underlining (shorter or longer, multiples) is up to four times faster.

VTex/Free in \texttt{systems/vtex}

Release 7.33 of MicroPress' \TeX{} for OS/2 and Linux-x86. Supports PDF security options and \texttt{pdflatex} source specials.

\begin{center}
\begin{tabular}{l}
\textbf{William F. Adams} \\
75 Utley Drive, Ste. 110 \\
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 \\
USA \\
willadams@aol.com
\end{tabular}
\end{center}
Highlighting in the \LaTeX picture environment

David M. Tulett

Emphasizing text is normally accomplished in typeset text by changing the font, which in \LaTeX is usually done by using the \texttt{\emph} command. However, a popular way for students to emphasize what is important in their textbooks is to use a highlighter. These come in various colours, but a golden shade of yellow is most common. I wanted to create this effect in \LaTeX documents, not only for text (which is simple), but for pictures too.

For text all that is needed is the \texttt{\colorbox} command, with a colour being chosen to mimic the typical highlighter. For this I created a colour which I named \texttt{marygold} (a play on words, it’s a homonym of \texttt{marigold} but named after my wife Mary) by using the following definition:

\begin{verbatim}
\definecolor{marygold}{cmyk}{}{0,0.1,0.5,0}
\end{verbatim}

We can then produce highlighted text (it will appear as a shade of grey in this publication) by using:

\texttt{\colorbox{marygold}{highlighted text}}

So far, everything is easy, but highlighting in the picture environment is not so trivial. I had made a graph in which segments of some of the lines needed to be highlighted (to show the regions of highest expected profit). The graph with the highlighted line segments appears in the figure to the right. The line marked $A_4$ will serve as an example. The black line was created using:

\begin{verbatim}
\put(15,350){\line(3,-2){240}}
\end{verbatim}

This line intercepts the $A_2$ line at coordinate (75,310), hence the highlighter had to run from (15,350) to (75,310). To make highlighting without text, an appropriately-sized \texttt{\hspace} command is used where the text would be in the \texttt{\colorbox} command.

The \texttt{\colorbox} command needs to be embedded within a \texttt{\rotatebox} command. In conjunction with the highlighting commands for the $A_2$ line, there needs to be a bit of trial-and-error in positioning the commands and in specifying the length for the \texttt{\hspace} commands. The four highlighted line segments were created using:

\begin{verbatim}
\% Highlighting
\% A1 line
\put(194,270){\rotatebox{18.435}{{\colorbox{marygold}{\hspace{26pt}}}}}%
\% A2 line
\put(74,310){\rotatebox{-18.435}{{\colorbox{marygold}{\hspace{122pt}}}}}%
\% A3 line
\put(222.5,279.5){\rotatebox{45}{{\colorbox{marygold}{\hspace{37pt}}}}}%
\% A4 line
\put(14,350){\rotatebox{-33.69}{{\colorbox{marygold}{\hspace{66pt}}}}}%
\end{verbatim}

\begin{verbatim}
\begin{picture}(600,300)
\special{psfilename=EV.png}
\special{psfile=EV.png}
\end{picture}
\end{verbatim}

Since the normal use of a highlighter is to superimpose it upon typeset text, one might presume that everything to appear in black would be drawn first, and that the commands to create the highlighting would come afterward. However, doing it this way creates the highlighting with the black lines underneath being removed. Instead, I discovered by experimentation that the commands to perform the highlighting need to come immediately after the \texttt{\begin{picture}} command. When I discovered this, I had incorrectly presumed that there was a special effect caused by the ordering of the commands within the picture environment. I am grateful to an anonymous reviewer for pointing out that this effect is caused instead by the “PostScript/PDF rendering model, which places later elements over previous elements [thereby] obscuring them.”

\begin{verbatim}
\begin{picture}(600,300)
\special{psfilename=EV.png}
\special{psfile=EV.png}
\end{picture}
\end{verbatim}

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Macros

A complement to \smash, \llap, and \rlap
Alexander R. Perlis

Abstract
In both plain \TeX{} and \LaTeX{}, most local alignment issues are addressed using \smash, \phantom, \vphantom, \hphantom, \llap, and \rlap. (\LaTeX{} also provides \makebox. All these macros are reviewed in this article.) However, conspicuously missing is a horizontal version of \smash, which is necessary, for example, to eliminate the excessive whitespace surrounding the large operator in
\[ X = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq j \leq n} X_{ij}. \]

Another snag: whereas \smash and \phantom behave as expected in both horizontal and math mode, \llap, \rlap, and \makebox are not suited for use in math mode.

This article introduces the macro \clap (simultaneously a centered version of \llap/\rlap and a horizontal version of \smash), and the three macros \mathllap, \mathrlap, and \mathclap (versions of \llap, \rlap, and \clap designed for math mode).

1 Think in terms of boxes

To understand how alignment works, we should follow a \TeX{} guru’s mantra: *think in terms of boxes.*

If we ignore some of the details, we are left with:
\[
\phantom{X} = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq j \leq n} \phantom{X_{ij}}
\]

Evidently every item typeset by \TeX{} has two components: the ink component, and the box component. The latter is often called the “boundary box” of the item, but this can be misleading, as the box may differ radically from the tightest one surrounding the ink. \TeX{}’s alignment calculations are performed entirely in terms of box components. In fact, \TeX{} understands nothing about the ink component (such as its shape), and merely passes it along to the output file.

For individual glyphs, the box is part of the font’s design and is encoded in the font’s TFM file. That box may admit a margin or allow ink to spill out: \( \sum \). But when \TeX{} constructs a big box from many small boxes, the new outer box will be the tightest one around all inner boxes:\(^1\)

Finally, \TeX{} composes a line by placing boxes side-by-side without overlap.

Thus, to eliminate the excessive whitespace surrounding the large operator, we must reduce the width of \smash yet preserve the ink. We might as well set the width to 0. In pictures, we want to change
\[
1 \leq i \leq j \leq n
\]
to
\[
1 \leq i \not\leq j \leq n,
\]
which is a box of width 0 (indicated by a line) with ink sticking out equally on either side. The result:
\[
\phantom{X} = \sum_{1 \leq i \not\leq j \leq n} \phantom{X_{ij}}
\]
(What looks like a box surrounding “\(i \not\leq j\)” is actually the bottom portion of the outer box that surrounds the box of the operator and the zero-width box of the subscript.)

In the next section, we’ll review the macros, available in plain \TeX{} and \LaTeX{}, that affect alignment by altering boxes. Then we’ll introduce the new macro for achieving the effect discussed above.

2 Review of existing macros

The macro \smash boxes up its material but sets the height and depth of the box to 0. Thus it is the box itself that gets smashed, not the ink in the box. To smash *both the box and the ink*, i.e., to smash the box and eliminate the ink, use \phantom in place of \smash. Thus \phantom produces no ink: the horizontal phantom remaining after the smashing is an infinitely thin horizontal line segment just as wide as the original material.

\[
\text{align} \quad \text{align} \quad \phantom{a}\phantom{a}\phantom{a}
\]

(By the way: it may be easier to understand these macros by their effect in the context of neighboring
\[
\sum_{i=1}^{n} \quad \sum_{j=1}^{n}
\]
\[^1\text{In the example here, the extra whitespace at the bottom is due to a another box (more precisely: a kern) that lies below the subscript but is not indicated in our image. This mysterious box arises from the elaborate rules \TeX{} follows for generating boxes in math mode. As explained in The \TeX{} Xbook, Appendix G, Rule 13a: additional whitespace below subscripts (and above superscripts) of math operators is determined by \fontdimen13 of the math extension font. Rule 13a furthermore explains how \TeX{} avoids an underfull box: it starts with the two boxes } \sum \text{ and } \sum \text{ repackages them as } \sum \text{ and } \sum \text{ and puts them (along with some kerns) on top of each other.} \]

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**Abstract**

In both plain \TeX{} and \LaTeX{}, most local alignment issues are addressed using \smash, \phantom, \vphantom, \hphantom, \llap, and \rlap. (\LaTeX{} also provides \makebox. All these macros are reviewed in this article.) However, conspicuously missing is a horizontal version of \smash, which is necessary, for example, to eliminate the excessive whitespace surrounding the large operator in
\[
X = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq j \leq n} X_{ij}.
\]

Another snag: whereas \smash and \phantom behave as expected in both horizontal and math mode, \llap, \rlap, and \makebox are not suited for use in math mode.

This article introduces the macro \clap (simultaneously a centered version of \llap/\rlap and a horizontal version of \smash), and the three macros \mathllap, \mathrlap, and \mathclap (versions of \llap, \rlap, and \clap designed for math mode).

**1 Think in terms of boxes**

To understand how alignment works, we should follow a \TeX{} guru’s mantra: *think in terms of boxes.*

If we ignore some of the details, we are left with:
\[
\phantom{X} = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq j \leq n} \phantom{X_{ij}}
\]

Evidently every item typeset by \TeX{} has two components: the ink component, and the box component. The latter is often called the “boundary box” of the item, but this can be misleading, as the box may differ radically from the tightest one surrounding the ink. \TeX{}’s alignment calculations are performed entirely in terms of box components. In fact, \TeX{} understands nothing about the ink component (such as its shape), and merely passes it along to the output file.

For individual glyphs, the box is part of the font’s design and is encoded in the font’s TFM file. That box may admit a margin or allow ink to spill out: \( \sum \). But when \TeX{} constructs a big box from many small boxes, the new outer box will be the tightest one around all inner boxes:\(^1\)

Finally, \TeX{} composes a line by placing boxes side-by-side without overlap.

Thus, to eliminate the excessive whitespace surrounding the large operator, we must reduce the width of \smash yet preserve the ink. We might as well set the width to 0. In pictures, we want to change
\[
1 \leq i \leq j \leq n
\]
to
\[
1 \leq i \not\leq j \leq n,
\]
which is a box of width 0 (indicated by a line) with ink sticking out equally on either side. The result:
\[
\phantom{X} = \sum_{1 \leq i \not\leq j \leq n} \phantom{X_{ij}}
\]
(What looks like a box surrounding “\(i \not\leq j\)” is actually the bottom portion of the outer box that surrounds the box of the operator and the zero-width box of the subscript.)

In the next section, we’ll review the macros, available in plain \TeX{} and \LaTeX{}, that affect alignment by altering boxes. Then we’ll introduce the new macro for achieving the effect discussed above.

**2 Review of existing macros**

The macro \smash boxes up its material but sets the height and depth of the box to 0. Thus it is the box itself that gets smashed, not the ink in the box. To smash *both the box and the ink*, i.e., to smash the box and eliminate the ink, use \phantom in place of \smash. Thus \phantom produces no ink: the horizontal phantom remaining after the smashing is an infinitely thin horizontal line segment just as wide as the original material.

\[
\text{align} \quad \text{align} \quad \phantom{a}\phantom{a}\phantom{a}
\]

(By the way: it may be easier to understand these macros by their effect in the context of neighboring
\[
\sum_{i=1}^{n} \quad \sum_{j=1}^{n}
\]
\[^1\text{In the example here, the extra whitespace at the bottom is due to a another box (more precisely: a kern) that lies below the subscript but is not indicated in our image. This mysterious box arises from the elaborate rules \TeX{} follows for generating boxes in math mode. As explained in The \TeX{} Xbook, Appendix G, Rule 13a: additional whitespace below subscripts (and above superscripts) of math operators is determined by \fontdimen13 of the math extension font. Rule 13a furthermore explains how \TeX{} avoids an underfull box: it starts with the two boxes } \sum \text{ and } \sum \text{ repackages them as } \sum \text{ and } \sum \text{ and puts them (along with some kerns) on top of each other.} \]
material, which is shown in the two tables at the end of this article.) Now compare the above with:

\begin{verbatim}
align  | \phantom
original \phantom \vphantom
\end{verbatim}

Evidently \texttt{\phantom} eliminates the ink without changing the box, while \texttt{\vphantom} eliminates the ink and smashes the box horizontally. (The first letter of \texttt{\phantom} and \texttt{\vphantom} refers not to the direction of smashing but to the shape of the result.)

To smash the box horizontally, without affecting the ink, there are \texttt{\rlap} and \texttt{\llap}. The former aligns the smashed box at the right end of the ink (so that we end up with a “left overlap”), while the latter aligns the smashed box at the left end (resulting in a “right overlap”).

\begin{verbatim}
align  \align  \halign
original \llap \rlap \clap
\end{verbatim}

Finally, plain \TeX and \LaTeX diverge as follows. Missing in plain \TeX is a macro we’ll define in section 4 and call \texttt{\clap}, which aligns the smashed box halfway between the left and right ends of the ink (we might call this a “centered overlap”). \LaTeX already provides it under a different name: \texttt{\makebox[Opt][1]{...}} behaves like \texttt{\llap{...}} \texttt{\makebox[Opt][c]{...}} behaves like \texttt{\rlap{...}} \texttt{\makebox[Opt][r]{...}} behaves like \texttt{\clap{...}}.

3 Concerning math mode

Whereas \texttt{\smash} and the three \texttt{\phantom} macros work correctly both in horizontal mode and in math mode, \texttt{\llap} and \texttt{\rlap} (and the \LaTeX-only \texttt{\makebox}) are suited only for horizontal mode. To use them in math mode, we must resort to monstranigas like

\begin{verbatim}
\rlap{$\mathsurround=0pt#1{#2}$}
\end{verbatim}

Here \texttt{\rlap} exited math mode, so we had to:

- use $\$\$ to get back into math mode,
- use \texttt{\mathsurround} to eliminate whitespace introduced whenever we enter math mode, and
- reintroduce whatever math style was in effect before the \texttt{\rlap}.

With \texttt{\smash} and \texttt{\phantom} such shenanigans are unnecessary (indeed errors) because those macros use \texttt{\ifmmode} to test for the current mode and use \texttt{\mathpalette} to maintain the current math style. Thus where \texttt{\smash} and \texttt{\phantom} are flexible, \texttt{\llap} and \texttt{\rlap} are efficient.\footnote{The \LaTeX macro \texttt{\makebox} is neither flexible (in the sense under discussion) nor efficient, but has the benefit of being consistent with the rest of \LaTeX in its use of optional parameters.}

4 The new macros

Use these macros with plain \TeX or with \LaTeX.\footnote{Concerning names, initially I used \texttt{\hspace} in place of \texttt{\clap}, and had it test for math mode and maintain the current math style. Thus, whereas \texttt{\clap} is like \texttt{\phantom}, my \texttt{\hspace} was like \texttt{\phantom}. Concerned that the names were confusing, I pondered: clapping one’s hands together might be the horizontal analogue of smashing one’s hands on, say, a desk. Thus the name \texttt{\clap} was born, but the definition still mimicked \texttt{\smash}. Only later did I realize the obvious connection (both in name and behavior) with \texttt{\llap}/\texttt{\rlap}. Remembering the separate need for math versions of those macros, I arrived at the design presented in this article: three overlap macros for horizontal mode, and separately three overlap macros for math mode.}

\begin{verbatim}
\def\clapinternal#1#2{...}
\def\llapinternal#1#2{...}
\def\rlapinternal#1#2{...}
\def\clap{\mathpalette\clapinternal}
\def\llap{\mathpalette\llapinternal}
\def\rlap{\mathpalette\rlapinternal}
\end{verbatim}

5 Applications

5.1 Large operators

Excessive whitespace may be eliminated as follows:

\begin{verbatim}
X = \sum_{\mathclap{1\le i\le j\le n}} X_{ij}
\end{verbatim}

5.2 Tabular alignments

Consider a complicated alignment, such as polynomial long division. Fiddling with \texttt{\\align} yields:

\begin{verbatim}
\begin{tabular}{llll}
\hline
\align
\end{verbatim}

With \texttt{\smash} and \texttt{\phantom} such shenanigans are unnecessary (indeed errors) because those macros use \texttt{\ifmmode} to test for the current mode and use \texttt{\mathpalette} to maintain the current math style. Thus where \texttt{\smash} and \texttt{\phantom} are flexible, \texttt{\llap} and \texttt{\rlap} are efficient.\footnote{The \LaTeX macro \texttt{\makebox} is neither flexible (in the sense under discussion) nor efficient, but has the benefit of being consistent with the rest of \LaTeX in its use of optional parameters.}

Why the dichotomy? Perhaps Knuth can explain, but the matter is moot: plain \TeX is essentially frozen, and future versions of \LaTeX are unlikely to deviate. All we can do is introduce new macros to fill in the gaps. They will be called \texttt{\mathllap}, \texttt{\mathrlap}, and \texttt{\mathclap}.\footnote{Concerning names, initially I used \texttt{\hspace} in place of \texttt{\clap}, and had it test for math mode and maintain the current math style. Thus, whereas \texttt{\clap} is like \texttt{\phantom}, my \texttt{\hspace} was like \texttt{\phantom}. Concerned that the names were confusing, I pondered: clapping one’s hands together might be the horizontal analogue of smashing one’s hands on, say, a desk. Thus the name \texttt{\clap} was born, but the definition still mimicked \texttt{\smash}. Only later did I realize the obvious connection (both in name and behavior) with \texttt{\llap}/\texttt{\rlap}. Remembering the separate need for math versions of those macros, I arrived at the design presented in this article: three overlap macros for horizontal mode, and separately three overlap macros for math mode.}
By inserting \mathllap thrice, \mathrlap twice, and \quad once (exercise: determine where), we reduce whitespace and allow $\alpha^2$ to stick out:

$$x + 1 + \alpha$$

$$2 + \alpha + \alpha^2$$

5.3 Commutative diagrams

Consider the alignment of arrows, objects, and arrow labels in commutative diagrams. Because many diagram packages exist, instead of showing the source for the following simple diagrams, the onus is on the reader to reproduce the following effect using the diagram package of choice.

By putting all the primes inside \mathrlap,

$$C \xrightarrow{\phi} C' \quad \xrightarrow{\phi''} C'' \quad \xrightarrow{\phi'''} C'''$$

I wrote \textit{might} because some minor additional fiddling may be necessary due to the difficulty that the box of an entry such as \texttt{C\mathrlap{(')}} surrounds only the “$C$”; consequently, the neighboring arrow may land on top of the primes. Depending on your choice of diagram package, you might work around this problem by demanding some entries to have a wider margin, or by defining a new horizontal arrow that has some extra space at one end. (The diagrams above were produced using \texttt{\mskip thinmuskip.})

6 Conclusion and acknowledgment

The new macros complement the existing ones by filling in the obvious gaps, as is evident from the tables below. My hope is that these macros (along with \texttt{\mathmakebox}—see section 3) will be incorporated into a future version of \LaTeX, or at least become part of the \texttt{amsmath} package of \texttt{AMSLATEX}.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MACRO</th>
<th>MODE</th>
<th>EFFECT</th>
<th>IN CONTEXT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>none</td>
<td>either</td>
<td>align</td>
<td>\align</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\smash</td>
<td>either</td>
<td>align</td>
<td>\align</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\phantom</td>
<td>either</td>
<td></td>
<td>\align</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\phantom</td>
<td>either</td>
<td></td>
<td>\align</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\mathllap</td>
<td>horiz.</td>
<td>\texttt{align}</td>
<td>\align</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\mathrlap</td>
<td>horiz.</td>
<td>\texttt{align}</td>
<td>\align</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\mathclap</td>
<td>horiz.</td>
<td>\texttt{align}</td>
<td>\align</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\mathllap</td>
<td>math</td>
<td>\texttt{align}</td>
<td>\align</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\mathrlap</td>
<td>math</td>
<td>\texttt{align}</td>
<td>\align</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\mathclap</td>
<td>math</td>
<td>\texttt{align}</td>
<td>\align</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Effect of existing macros (first six) and new macros (last four).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMBINATION</th>
<th>MODE</th>
<th>IN CONTEXT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>\mathllap{\smash(\ldots)}</td>
<td>horiz.</td>
<td>\align</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\mathrlap{\smash(\ldots)}</td>
<td>horiz.</td>
<td>\align</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\mathclap{\smash(\ldots)}</td>
<td>horiz.</td>
<td>\align</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\mathllap{\smash(\ldots)}</td>
<td>math</td>
<td>\align</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\mathrlap{\smash(\ldots)}</td>
<td>math</td>
<td>\align</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\mathclap{\smash(\ldots)}</td>
<td>math</td>
<td>\align</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: The remaining effects are achieved using combinations.

For useful comments on an earlier version of this article, and in particular for telling me about \texttt{\makebox}, I thank Michael Downes.

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A critical edition is a special version of a literary work in which the editor has, by collating the manuscripts, typescripts, galleys, or published versions of a text, and by examining other kinds of relevant evidence (such as the author’s correspondence with publishers), attempted to produce a text that accurately represents what the author intended to write. While scholars continue to disagree about what constitutes authorial intentions, about what counts as evidence for authorial intentions, and even about whether the concept of authorial intention is ultimately a meaningful one, critical editions remain essential tools for the study of literary works, making literary works available for the next generation, and giving reasoned accounts of the editor’s views of what the author did or did not actually say.

Every scholarly editor has heard the story about how F. O. Matthiessen, in his pathbreaking book *American Renaissance*, provided an illuminating commentary upon a passage in Melville’s *White-Jacket* in which Melville spoke of a sailor falling from a masthead into the ocean, where he brushes a “soiled fish of the sea.” Matthiessen brooded at length upon how a fish could be soiled, unaware that the line is the work of the composer of the reprint edition he had been reading; in the first edition, it is a coiled fish of the sea that the sailor brushes. Without critical editions, literary critics wind up catching all too many “soiled fish of the sea.”

Critical editing, of course, has a long history, stretching back to Renaissance humanists’ attempts to determine an accurate text of the Bible, but it assumed its modern form in the middle of the last century, as W. W. Greg, Charlton Hinman and others developed methods to establish the texts of Shakespeare’s works. Thomas Tanselle’s *A Rationale of Textual Criticism* provides a thorough, if conservative, treatment of the history and method of the scholarly editing of critical editions.

The importance of critical editions is more than merely scholarly. Only since the appearance in 1955 of Thomas Johnson’s edition of the poetry of Emily Dickinson (recently superseded by Ralph Franklin’s new edition) have readers been able to see how unconventional her poetry is, since only with Johnson’s edition were readers finally able to separate what Dickinson wrote from the various ways her early editors altered the texts of her poems to suit their own literary sensibilities, regularizing Dickinson’s meters and straightening out her slanted rhymes. Critical editions of historical documents are also important, but the canons of editing them are slightly different from those employed for literary texts.

### 1.2 Features of critical editions

Critical editions have a number of features in common, many of them specified by the Committee on Scholarly Editions of the Modern Language Association. These include such things as an essay describing and defending the editor’s choice of copy text (ideally, say, the fair copy of the manuscript that the author sent to the publisher) and an account of the rules the editor employed in emending it, an introduction laying out some of the key literary issues about the text, an index of titles and first lines, and several varieties of notes.

These notes, which may be footnotes or endnotes, typically include several series. Minimally they include a list of emendations, accounting for every instance in which the editor has chosen to depart from the copy text, and a set of explanatory notes, making clear allusions or historical references or other kinds of background information the editor feels to be necessary in order to understand particular passages.

Critical editions also usually include textual collations, sometimes distinguishing what are called
“substantive” variants (which are, roughly speaking, variants in the actual words in the text) and what are called “accidental” variants (which are, roughly speaking, variants in the punctuation of the text). The rule of thumb about substantive and accidental variants is that if a substantive variant appears in a late published version for which the author read proof, it is highly likely to be a considered revision of the text by the author, but an accidental variant in a late version for which the author read proof is less likely to be authorial, since authors are less likely, when reading proof, to notice accidental variants than substantive ones.

In critical editions of proses works, it is the general practice to include an account of hyphenations at the ends of lines, distinguishing between instances in which the hyphen is simply an artifact of a line-ending (whether in the copy text or in one’s own edition) and instances in which the hyphen should be preserved when quoting the text.

1.3 Other critical edition packages

Critical editions are time-consuming to prepare and expensive to publish, and \TeX is ideally suited for automating some of the most tedious (and error-prone) tasks, for lowering the cost of producing a published edition, and for removing the publisher’s typesetter, a possible source of new errors, from the production of the document. There are several packages available for critical edition typesetting on CTAN. Of these, the gold standard is undoubtedly EDMAC, a plain \TeX format by John Lavagnino and Dominik Wujastyk. EDMAC is tremendously flexible and tremendously feature-rich; in addition, it has a long history of actual use among publishers of critical editions. Most of EDMAC’s features have been ported to the \BamTeX world with ledmac, a \BamTeX style package by Peter Wilson. A somewhat different approach has been taken by Uwe Lück in the ednotes package, which combines existing \BamTeX macro packages such as lineno and manyfoot to meet the needs of critical editions.

2 Special markup for poetry

2.1 Verse lines and physical lines

poemscol differs from these other packages in being specifically designed for verse. At first glance, this means only that it does not use the sophisticated paragraph decomposition technique that EDMAC uses in order to attach line numbers to prose paragraphs. But it also means that poemscol pays attention to the key feature that distinguishes prose from verse, which is that a verse line is a unit of versification, not a unit of typesetting, and may run over several physical lines (if the poet writes long lines, as Whitman did), or may be broken over several physical lines (if the poet, say, shifts speakers or subjects in mid-line). The verse line also has a complicated relationship to the stanza or verse paragraph, with some poets breaking a single line across a stanza break, as Robert Penn Warren often does.

poemscol is designed for typesetting lyric and narrative poetry, but it has provisions for poems that interrupt their verse with prose interludes (poemscol will not line-number the prose passages, however, although it will remember what the line number was when the verse picks up again). With a certain amount of fiddling, poemscol could be modified to typeset dramatic verse, although it doesn’t provide markup for the special structures for drama (stage directions, speech tags, act and scene environments, and so on) right now. There are, however, \BamTeX style files and class files with all of the structures for typesetting drama available on CTAN, and there is no reason to assume that poemscol could not work in conjunction with them.

2.2 Marking Logical Units of Poems

With poemscol you mark poem titles, lines, stanzas, textual notes, emendations, explanatory notes, and entire poems up as logical units, and \BamTeX does your formatting, and your counting, for you. Once you have marked out the logical units of the poem, poemscol will take care of the line numbering, and will automatically mark every textual note, emendation, or explanatory note with the line number.

One advantage of this kind of markup is that even if the appearance of the poem on the page may be ambiguous, the editor’s intentions about the logical structure of the poem will be preserved in the \BamTeX source. poemscol is designed so that even readers who know no \BamTeX can understand the editor’s intentions by examining the markup. By manipulating penalties and designing commands even for relatively unusual circumstances, poemscol attempts to make it possible for your source files to contain markup that is almost entirely content-based, marking the nature of the poetic objects to be set, with only a little markup of an explicitly typographical character. Although \BamTeX is a typesetting language, not a content markup language, \BamTeX comes very close to enabling one to realize the ideal of completely separating content markup from formatting, and I have tried to design poemscol with that ideal in mind.

Should you wish later to produce an electronic edition of your work, either using XML or the SGML
markup approved by the Text Encoding Initiative, transforming your texts from \TeX{} to XML would largely (although not entirely) be a matter of performing a series of global search-and-replaces, and could conceivably be done with a perl script.

2.3 Stanza breaks at page turns
In poetry which does not have a regular stanzaic form, it is useful to be able to mark occasions where there is a stanza break at the bottom of a page which the reader might not notice. When poets submit their typescripts to publishers, they often painstakingly mark every occasion in which a stanza break falls on a page turn, since the typesetter might omit the stanza break otherwise. But the publishers themselves mostly do not mark stanza breaks at page turns, leaving it ambiguous for the reader whether there is a stanza break at that point or not. All publishers of poetry should mark stanza breaks at page turns, but few do. Marking such stanza breaks by hand is not only tedious and easy to get wrong, but also a process you will have to start over again if anything about your volume changes, if you add a poem, say, or even decide to break a title across two lines. poemscol automatically marks cases where the page break coincides with a stanza break by placing a symbol in the running footer. To do this, poemscol changes the value of \mark when one is inside a poem environment, but not inside a stanza environment. You can decide to mark cases where there is a stanza break at a page turn, or cases where there is not a stanza break at a page turn, or both, and you can choose what mark to put in the running footer for both cases.

2.4 Titles of poems and poetic sequences
The command names may seem ugly and long. And there are separate commands for many tasks that seem closely related, such as a command to mark the title of a section of a poetic sequence, and a separate command to mark a subsection. But the names do describe pretty much what each macro does, and they do specify exactly what the object they mark is supposed to be.

There are also many commands for special purposes whose necessity may not seem clear until the editor finds him or herself in the jam the command was designed for. If, for instance, a long poem has several sections whose titles are only roman numerals, the ordinary \poemsectiontitle{} command may be inadequate, since there may be other poems in sections that do the same thing, and \poemsectiontitle{} will confuse the cross-references poemscol uses to set the page numbers that refer to the section in the textual notes. The \poemsectiontitlenocontents{} macro solves this problem by having two arguments, the first for the section title, and the second for the poem title, so that every section simply titled “III” will have a unique cross reference.

\poemtitle{} (and a host of related commands such as \sequencetitle{} and \sequencesectiontitle{}) sets the title of the poem. poemscol gives default values for such things as the font size, the separation between the top of the title and the bottom of the previous poem, the separation between the bottom of the title and the first line, and so on. It also sets penalties in order to encourage page breaks just before a title, and to discourage page breaks between a title and a poem. Finally, it sends information about the poem to the external files that manage the table of contents and the various notes sections about the poem.

Tables of contents of collections of poetry are unlike tables of contents of scholarly books, and for that reason I have written macros for making such a table of contents to use in place of the macros from \TeX{}. These macros are rather primitive, and lack many of the better features of tables of contents in \TeX{}, but they do give a consistent look, and some thought has been given to distinguishing volumes, poems, poetic sequences, and sections of poetic sequences in the table of contents.

Every \poemtitle{} will also open a new paragraph entry in the “Textual Notes” section (if compiling textual notes is enabled) headed with the page number and title of the poem, since presumably one will want to give information about the publication history of every poem. The \poemtitle{} command and its fellows, however, only open new paragraph entries in the “Explanatory Notes” and “Emendations” sections (if compiling these is enabled) if there actually are explanatory notes and emendations for that poem in the text that follows.

There are special commands for titles with multiple lines, for titles with italicized words or other formatting, and for poems without formal titles (which may be listed in the table of contents and in the notes sections by their first lines). There is even a special command for poems without formal titles whose first lines include italicized words. By default, the titles of poems with multiple line titles will be broken the same way in the table of contents that they were broken in the body of the text, but this can be changed by using the nocontents or baretitle forms of the title commands together with \literalcontents{}. In the notes sections, the
titles of poems with multi-line titles will be run in
by default, although you could change this using the
nonotes or baretitle forms of the title commands
together with \literaltextnote{} and its siblings.

Sequences of related poems, perhaps with an
over-title, demand special handling in the text, in
the notes sections, and in the table of contents.
(A moment’s thought will show that they are dif-
f erent in some ways from poems in sections. For
one thing, a sequence manifests a different rela-
tionship between part and whole than a poem in
sections does, and often provides stronger expe-
riences of momentary closure between sections.)
\sequencefirstsectiontitle{} gives a little more
vertical space between the main title and the first
section title than \sequencessectiontitle{} gives
between adjacent sections later on in the sequence
(since the over-title for the sequence is in larger
type) and adjusts the page breaking penalties to
reflect the fact that such titles should not occur
near the bottom of a page, since there should be
no page break between the sequence title and the
title of the first section of the sequence (although
page breaks are permissible, indeed even slightly
favored, between later sections). There should also
never be a page break between a section title and
the first or second line of the section. The penalties
poemscol sets should take care of these automati-
cally, but you may still have cases which require
you to specify a page break with \pagebreak or
\newpage. There are a host of other commands,
all with self-explanatory titles, that deal with some
special situations that arise in setting the elements
of poetic sequences. These macros don’t of course
exhaust the dizzying possibilities, but from them
you can construct whatever other macros you may
need. (For long poems in books or cantos, it would
be wise to use \poemtitle for the canto names or
numbers, setting the volume title in some other way,
perhaps with \volumetitle described above.)

Finally, the elegantly named commands
\poemsubtitle{}, \epigraph{}, \dedication{},
and \attribute{} are for, well, subtitles,
epigraphs, dedications and attributions.

2.5 The poem environment

The body of every poem should be placed in a
poem environment. The body of the poem
between \begin{poem} and \end{poem} resets the
line counter to 1, and puts the poem in a verse
environment (to handle run over lines automatically).
poemscol slightly modifies the verse environment
from the standard \LaTeXX definition, increasing the
indentation used for run over lines, in order to make
the difference between the indented run over por-
tion of a long line, on one hand, and an explicitly
indented second line, more obvious in the output.

2.6 No hyphenation in verse

poemscol turns off automatic hyphenation in poetry
environments. The idea here is that every hyphen
in the printed poem is authorial, obviating the need for
you to compile a hyphenated-lines list to distinguish
between authorial hyphens and hyphens added for
lineation purposes. Since poetry is normally not set
with a flush right margin, giving up hyphenation
is no hardship. (You may wish to change this for
your own edition, but if you do so you must keep
track of added hyphens yourself. This list will be
easy to compile, however, because only authorial
hyphens will appear in your source code. Automati-
cally added hyphens will appear only in the output.
You might even modify the output routine so that
automatically added hyphens have a different look.)

poemscol turns automatic hyphenation back on
in prose contexts, so if you wish to keep a hyphen-
ation list for such things as authorial prefaces and
so on, you must do so yourself manually. (Alter-
natively, you can turn automatic hyphenation off
in those contexts as well, by setting the \language
to 255. If you do turn automatic hyphenation off,
it would be wise to restrict the change to some
particular environment, rather than changing the
\language globally.)

2.7 The stanza environment

Every stanza should be placed in its own stanza
environment. Every poem should have at least one
stanza. Marking the beginning and end of every
stanza (with \begin{stanza} and \end{stanza})
provides poemscol with a way of detecting cases in
which a page boundary falls on a stanza break, since
in those cases a page turn happens when one is
inside a poem environment but not inside a stanza
environment. Further, marking the beginning and
end of every stanza makes the logical structure of
the poem (and the editor’s intentions about it) clear
to readers of your source code. poemscol adds
a little bit more white space between stanzas than
the standard \LaTeXX verse environment does. (I
found that the standard stanza breaks did not leap
out on the page as stanza breaks.) \verseline
should mark the end of every line, except the last
line of every stanza (which should be marked with
\end{stanza}).
2.8 Broken lines of various kinds

\texttt{poemscol} automatically runs over long lines, indenting the run over portion on the next physical line. If you are unhappy with where \texttt{poemscol} has run over a particular line, you can “bend” that line by issuing \texttt{\linebend} at the point where you wish it to run over. The run over portion of the line will be indented just as if \texttt{poemscol} had “bent” the line at your selected point. This command only works if you have chosen to bend the line at some point earlier than \texttt{poemscol} would have chosen on its own. If you really do want to extend a line further into the right margin, you can probably do so by using a combination of \texttt{\nobreak} and \texttt{\hbox{}}. or by turning all of the spaces in that line into unbreakable spaces, marked with ~ in your source. But \TeX will complain if you do this, and rightly so, since the result is likely to be ugly. You may also wish to use \texttt{\linebend} to reproduce how your author broke up long lines on the page (if you know that your author cared about such things and did not leave them up to the typesetter).

\texttt{\linebend} should only be used for managing run over lines, not for cases in which a line is to be broken into separate half-lines. For cases in which a line is to be broken into half-lines, use the \texttt{\brokenline} macro. The two macros do similar (but not identical) things. But a “linebend” is a feature of typesetting, and a “broken line” is a feature of versification, and it seems best to distinguish them logically. \texttt{\linebend}, like \texttt{\brokenline}, issues a carriage return without incrementing the line number, but \texttt{\linebend} adds indentation to the next line.

\texttt{\brokenline} is normally used with \texttt{\versephantom{}} which adds white space exactly as long as its argument would have been had it been set in type. \texttt{\versephantom{}} thus provides an easy way of setting the beginning of the second half-line flush with the end of the first, whatever the font size or special formatting of the first line.

The sestet of Yeats’s sonnet “Leda and the Swan,” has such a broken line:

\begin{quote}
A shudder in the loins engenders there
The broken wall, the burning roof and tower
And Agamemnon dead.
\end{quote}

Being so caught up,

\begin{quote}
So mastered by the brute blood of the air,
Did she put on his knowledge with his power
Before the indifferent beak could let her drop?
\end{quote}

To set the broken line properly, issue:
\begin{quote}
And Agamemnon dead. \texttt{\brokenline}
\texttt{\versephantom{And Agamemnon dead.}}
\end{quote}

Some poets occasionally introduce a stanza break in the middle of a broken line, considering the line to be a single metrical unit despite the fact that it straddles a stanza break. To record these cases, mark the end of the first half-line with \texttt{\end{stanza}} as usual. But instead of opening the next stanza with \texttt{\begin{stanza}} issue \texttt{\stanzalinestraddle} instead. This will make sure that the line counter counts the straddling line as only one line, despite the stanza break. \texttt{\stanzalinestraddle} is usually used with \texttt{\versephantom{}}.

3 Collations, emendations, and explanatory notes

3.1 Initialization of endnote sections

\texttt{poemscol} makes textual notes of various kinds. It can set textual collations as footnotes, but it is designed to set collations, emendations, and explanatory notes in separate endnote sections as block paragraphs headed with the page number and title of the poem they concern. \texttt{poemscol} will automatically generate a running header of the form “Emendations to pp. xx–yy” for the notes sections. (To do this, \texttt{poemscol} uses the \texttt{\mark} mechanism. Every time \texttt{poemscol} writes a note to one of the external files for notes, it also writes out a string which, when read back in, is a little program which records the page number of the main text that was being set when the note was written out to the external file, compares it to the page number that was written out for the first note on that page in the notes section, and adjusts the \texttt{\mark} for the running header accordingly.) To collect these textual notes, issue \texttt{\maketextnotes}, \texttt{\makeexplantorynotes}, and \texttt{\makeemendations} in your preamble. The notes sections, and the table of contents section, write external files with characteristic extensions. (The code for doing this is borrowed from John Lavagnino’s endnotes package.) To set these sections in the proper place, you will either need to \texttt{\input} them in your driver file, or use the \texttt{\finish} macro.

3.2 Recording notes

To record information about the copy text, editions and publication history of individual poems, or any information not tied to specific lines in the poem, you should place that information in the argument to the \texttt{\sources{}} macro. Typically, you should issue this macro after you have issued \texttt{\poemtitle{}} and before you issue \texttt{\begin{poem}}. If you wish to send information to the textual notes file (such as to force a page
break), you can do so by using \sources{}. You can send typesetting information to other sections by using \literalemend{}, \literateplain{}, or \literatecontents{}. There is also a \literateextnote{} command, which is equivalent to \sources{}. \textnote{} is used to capture variants and tie them to the correct line number. Issue \textnote{} immediately after the \verseline command which marks the ending of the line you wish to comment upon. Put the text of your note (which may be simply the recording of a variant in the standard notation) into the argument of the macro. You should put both the lemma and the variants or comment in the argument to the \textnote{} macro.

To put the ~ glyph in your note (used for recording places where the variant and the copy text have the same word, as for instance when recording a variation of punctuation) use \sameword. To put the _ glyph into your text (used for recording places where a punctuation mark is missing in a variant), use \missingpunct.

\emendation{} and \explanatory{} are used exactly as \textnote{} is. Issue the emendation or the explanatory note as the argument to the command. Place the command immediately after the \verseline that concludes the line upon which it is a comment.

3.3 Accidentals and typescript variants
\accidental{} behaves exactly like \textnote{}. If you wish to distinguish between accidentals and substantives, this provides a way of doing so. If you wish to include these accidentals in your textual collations, issue \global\includeaccidentals{} in your preamble.

Poemscoll does not provide for a separate back-matter section for accidentals, but it would be trivial to construct one, creating a \makeaccidentals command on the analogy with \maketextnotes and redefining the \accidental{} macro to divert its output into a new, separate external file.

If you wish to exclude accidentals from your printed output, but to mark them in your source files, so that your published collation consists only of substantives, issue \global\includeaccidentalsfalse{} in your preamble. Many publishers are reluctant to publish accidentals, believing that they are, well, less substantive than substantives. Using the \accidental{} command allows you to exclude accidentals from the published version should your publisher insist, while preserving the information about them should the publisher’s mind change.

In the very worst case, if you have marked all the accidentals in this way you can still produce a list of accidentals for later use, and other scholars can search for accidentals in your source files simply by searching for the string \accidental. If you wish to distinguish between published variants and typescript, manuscript, or galley variants, \tsvariant{} provides a way of doing so. If you wish to include these variants in your textual collations, issue \global\includetypescripts{} in your preamble, in which case \tsvariant{} will behave exactly like \textnote{}. To exclude typescript variants, issue \global\includetypescriptsfalse{} in your preamble. (Some publishers may turn up their noses at typescript variants in just the way they turn up their noses at accidentals.)

If you wish to include typescript entries in a single note including those entries in a list with variants from other published versions (as for instance when a comma appears in a typescript but only in the second edition of the published poem), simply issue \textnote{} as usual, marking the relevant variant in the list of variants with the \tsentry{} macro. If \global\includetypescripts{} appears in your preamble, the entry will be included in that textual note. If typescript variants are excluded, the typescript entry will also be excluded. You can mark individual variants with \tsentry{} in the arguments to the \explanatory{} and \emendation{} commands as well.

Here is a typical use of the \tsentry{} command:

[small] Of moonlit desert. A stallion, white and flashing, slips, \verseline \textnote{Of moonlit} Of the moonlit \em NY\} \tsentry{, SP85TS \{revised in black pen to SP85\})

In the example, the version of the poem published The New Yorker includes a variant, and the variant is shared with the typescript for the 1985 Selected Poems, but crossed out on the typescript, and not included in the published version of SP85. If \includetypescripts is set to false, then the note in the output will show the variant from The New Yorker but not the variant from SP85TS. Notice that since the \tsentry{} comes in the middle of the list, it begins with a comma, and there is no white space between that \tsentry{} and the previous entry.
4 Other structures
Editions of collected poetry might also require special structures to reflect the fact that they are made up of the contents of several volumes of poetry. In particular, such editions require special structures for setting up specially formatted divider pages between volumes. They also require tables of contents and other front matter. poemscol provides these structures.

4.1 The main title page and divider pages
The \volumetitlepage environment is an environment for divider pages in collections made up of several volumes. Volume title pages will always appear on recto pages, and the following verso page will be empty. poemscol will also automatically create a blank verso page preceding the volume title page if necessary. \volumeeipigraph{}, \volumeeattribute{}, and \volumededication{} mark out epigraphs, attributions of epigraphs, and dedications on divider pages or on the main title page. The \maintitlepage environment is for the title page of the whole book. The main title page will also automatically always be on a recto page, with an empty verso. These divider pages, and their blank versos, have special page styles, with no page numbers and no running headers.

4.2 Table of contents
poemscol will also create a table of contents. To make a table of contents, issue \makepoemcontents. Generating the information for the table of contents will take three passes; one to generate the cross-reference information for the titles, one after running MakeIndex to include the index of titles and first lines in the table of contents, and one to set the contents. You will need to \input the contents file (with extension .ctn) in the proper place, commenting the line out in your driver file until the final run.

4.3 Index of titles and first lines
The Index of titles and first lines is generated by MakeIndex in the usual way, but poemscol provides formatting information for that index, and automatically provides for adding an entry about the index to the Table of Contents.

5 Example
Figure 1 shows how a poem with a complex publication history might be marked up with poemscol, using the poemscol source for a poem Robert Penn Warren wrote in his first volume, Thirty-Six Poems (1935). The poem is the first poem of his sequence “Kentucky Mountain Farm.” It was included in my edition of The Collected Poems of Robert Penn Warren, which was set using poemscol. For purposes of example, I include the over-title, all necessary package inclusions and other boilerplate (see the poemscol package documentation for more details). Figures 2–5 show the corresponding output.

6 Conclusion
Critical editions with all the trimmings, such as the volumes of Herman Melville produced by the Northwestern University / Newberry Library group, or the Thomas More project at Yale, are ambitious undertakings which require large resources and large measures of patience, and publication of such editions is itself highly expensive. But the production of critical editions plays a crucial role not only in giving shape to the oeuvre of established authors, but also in broadening the literary canon to include authors hitherto neglected. The development of inexpensive software, such as the several packages for critical editions found in the TeX world, can, it is hoped, make critical editions less of a niche product.

References

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Kentucky Mountain Farm

I. Rebuke of the Rocks

Now on you is the hungry equinox,
O little stubborn people of the hill,
The season of the obscene moon whose pull
Disturbs the sod, the rabbit, the lank fox,
Moving the waters, the boar’s dull blood,
And the acrid sap of the ironwood.

But breed no tender thing among the rocks.
Rocks are too old under the mad moon,
Renouncing passion by the strength that locks
The eternal agony of fire in stone.

Then quit yourselves as stone and cease
To break the weary stubble-field for seed;
Let not the naked cattle bear increase,
Let barley wither and the bright milkweed.
Instruct the heart, lean men, of a rocky place
That even the little flesh and fevered bone
May keep the sweet sterility of stone.

Figure 1: poemscol input example for Kentucky Mountain Farm.

Figure 2: Output of Kentucky Mountain Farm.

Figure 3: Table of Contents.
INDEX OF TITLES AND FIRST LINES

Kentucky Mountain Farm, 35

Rebuke of the Rocks, 35

Now on you is the hungry equinox, 35

Figure 4: Listing of first lines.

TEXTUAL NOTES

35 Kentucky Mountain Farm Text: TSP. Variants: SP43, SP66 (Deletes “The Cardinal,” “The Jay,” and “Watershed”), SP75 (Same sections as SP66), SP85 (Restores “Watershed”), Helsinki (includes only “Rebuke of the Rocks” and “At the Hour of the Breaking of the Rocks”). “The Owl” (above) was marked as a section of “Kentucky Mountain Farm” when it first appeared in Poetry, but it was never included in any book version of the entire sequence. The sequence in Poetry included, in this order, “The Owl,” “The Cardinal,” and “Watershed.” TSP uses lower case Roman numerals in the section titles. The typescript drafts in the Beinecke Library do not seem to be setting copies.

35 1. Rebuke of the Rocks Text: TSP. Variants: Nation, 11 Jan. 1928, p. 47, Literary Digest, 28 Jan. 1928, p. 32, Vanderbilt Masquerader, 10 (Dec. 1933), p. 16, SP43, SP66, SP75, SP85, Helsinki, Broadside: The Press at Colorado College, printed on paper handmade by Thomas Leech for the American Poetry Society, April 26, 1985. This poem was not included in SP85 until the second set of galleys, in which a photocopy of the SP75 text is a stapled insert. 2: hill, ∼ Nation, Literary Digest ∼, Vanderbilt (I include the reading from Vanderbilt even though it is the same as in TSP, because Vanderbilt was published after the other magazine versions but before TSP.) 8: old, ∼, Vanderbilt 11: stone, ∼, Vanderbilt 14: milkweed. ∼ milk-weed. Vanderbilt

Figure 5: Textual notes. The ‘35’ which begins each paragraph refers to the page number where the poem appears.
CV formatting with \texttt{CurVe}

Didier Verna

Abstract

\texttt{CurVe} is a \LaTeX{} class package for writing curricula vitae. It provides a set of commands to create headers, rubrics, entries in these rubrics and so on. \texttt{CurVe} will then format your CV with a consistent layout, while you can just concentrate on the contents. \texttt{CurVe} has a very special feature known as the flavor mechanism: it is able to manage different “flavors” (versions) of your CV simultaneously.

\texttt{CurVe} is distributed under the terms of the LPPL license. This paper gives an overview of the features available in version 1.4.

---

1 Yet another CV class?

The first draft of \texttt{CurVe} appeared in 2000, when I was completing my Ph.D. and was starting to look for a job. At that time, several options were available: using a WYSIWYG editor, using plain (\LaTeX{}) (that is, with no particular class), or using an already existing CV class for \LaTeX{}. After some investigation, none of these options turned out to be satisfactory for me.

As the visual aspect of a CV is something very important, one could be tempted to use a WYSIWYG editor, thinking that the layout conception would be faster. For me, this was (and still is) wrong:

• Firstly, WYSIWYG editors are usually far from it: what you see (on screen) is most of the time not what you get (on paper). Hence, WYSIWYG editors often turn out to be a handicap rather than a help.

• Secondly, a good CV requires a very strict layout, of the kind on which you spend hours, unless it is completely automated. Doing this with a WYSIWYG editor would involve a deep knowledge of the editor itself (for instance, knowing
Curriculum Vitae

Sample made with CurVe

Professional Experience

Lecturing

2002-... 
- \LaTeX{} 2ε: an overview. 3 hours conference.

2000-... 
- OpenGL Programming. 15 hours lecture, including workshops.
- Operating Systems. 30 hours lecture.

Development

\LaTeX{} 2ε
- Author of CurVe, FINK and Fixme.

XEmacs
- Member of the review board.

GNU
- Contributor to other free software projects.

Education

1995-1999 
- Ph.D. in computer Science.

1991-1994 
- E.N.S.T. engineering school.

1988 
- Baccalaureus.

Figure 1: CurVe sample output

For an interesting discussion on WYSIWYG solutions for \LaTeX{}, see Kastrup (2002).

The next solution was to use an already existing class or style with \LaTeX{}. For reasons that I won’t mention here, but that can be found in its documentation’s introduction, the only reasonable option was currvita (Reichert, 1999). This solution did not satisfy me, mainly because the layout was too limited for me. Layout is probably something very personal in this context, but I also believe that there are different traditions in different countries, and that CurVe provides a layout that pleases many people, notably in France. The increasing number of people using CurVe tends to show that I am not mistaken.

So I decided to use \LaTeX{} from scratch (some other reasons for this are explained later). Being a lazy kind of person however, I tried not to reinvent the wheel, and I found that David Carlisle’s LTXtable package would do most of the formatting for me. Being also a free software kind of person, I wanted other people to benefit from my work, so I naturally made it a proper class with complete documentation.

The first release of CurVe occurred in February 2001. Today, CurVe is a simple yet powerful class, consisting of only 350 lines of code, probably half of which is devoted to handling user customizations.

2 Layout

The primary purpose of CurVe is to offer a set of predefined commands to specify the contents of your CV, while removing from you the burden of formatting it. This has two important consequences, however: CurVe requires that you conform to its document structuring scheme, and will expect that you like the way it formats the output.

Figure 1 shows the output of CurVe on a very small sample CV. There is no user-level customization in this example.

2.1 Headers

As you can see in the example, a CurVe CV begins with two optional headers (upper left and upper right) in which you usually put your name, address, email, whether you’re married and so on. These headers will respectively be left and right aligned. CurVe also lets you insert a small identity photo in the headers, either on the left, on the right, or between them. After these headers comes an optional title and an optional subtitle, which will be centered on the page.

The headers and titles in this example are specified in the document’s preamble as follows:

```
  \leftheader{%
    \textbf{Didier Verna}\n    Born April 21$^{st}$ 1970\n    French}
  \rightheader{%
    \url{mailto:didier@lrde.epita.fr}\n    \url{http://www.lrde.epita.fr/~didier}}
  \title{Curriculum Vit\ae} 
  \subtitle{Sample made with CurVe}
```

Later on, after the call to \begin{document}, these headers are formatted like this:

```
\makeheaders[t] 
\maketitle
```

This scheme is very traditional in \LaTeX{} classes and should not surprise anybody. The optional argument to \makeheaders specifies the vertical alignment. Here, top is used. Many more commands are available to customize the appearance of the headers (positioning, size, fonts, etc.).
2.1.1 Rubrics

The remainder of the document is composed of sections called “rubrics” in the \texttt{CurVe} terminology. A rubric represents a major topic that you want to detail in your CV. Typical rubrics, as demonstrated in the example, are “Education”, “Professional Experience” and the like. Rubrics have a title (which will be centered) and appear under the form of properly aligned “entries” (see below). If a rubric has to be split across different pages, its title will be repeated automatically.

Here is the code used to generate the “Professional Education” rubric:

\begin{rubric}{Professional Experience}
\subrubric{Lecturing}
\entry*[2002-\ldots] \texttt{\LaTeX}: an overview. 3 hours conference.
\entry*[2000-\ldots] \texttt{OpenGL Programming}. 15 hours lecture, including workshops.
\entry* \texttt{Operating Systems}. 30 hours lecture.
\end{rubric}

\begin{rubric}{Development}
\entry* \texttt{\LaTeX} Author of CurVe, FiNK and FiXme.
\entry* \texttt{XEmacs} Member of the review board.
\entry* \texttt{GNU} Contributor to other free software projects.
\end{rubric}

As you can see, each rubric is made within a \texttt{rubric} environment, which takes the rubric’s title as a mandatory argument. The other commands will be explained below. Please note that for technical reasons due to the use of the \texttt{LTXTable} package, each rubric must be written in a separate file. This is not a heavy burden however, and it even made things easier when I implemented the “flavor” mechanism described in the next section.

2.1.2 Subrubrics

You might want to further split your rubrics into different “subrubrics”. For instance, figure 1 shows two subrubrics named “Lecturing” and “Development” under the “Professional Experience” rubric. Subrubrics’ names are displayed in alignment with the entries’ contents (see below), but are formatted differently so that they remain distinguishable. Subrubrics are created with the \texttt{subrubric} command. For instance:

\begin{rubric}{Development}
\entry*[Lecturing] \texttt{\LaTeX} Author of CurVe, FiNK and FiXme.
\entry*[XEmacs] Member of the review board.
\entry*[GNU] Contributor to other free software projects.
\end{rubric}

2.1.3 Entries

An entry is a final item of information related to the (sub)rubric under which it appears. An entry has a “contents”, and an optional “key” under which it is classified. For instance, consider the “XEmacs” entry in the example:

\entry*[XEmacs] Member of the review board.

The key is “XEmacs” and the entry’s contents is “Member of the review board.”. Keys are usually used to indicate dates. \texttt{CurVe} aligns both keys and contents together. Keys are optional (hence, they should be input within brackets) in order for you to classify several entries together (without repeating the same key over and over again). For instance:

\begin{rubric}{Professional Experience}
\entry*[2000-\ldots] \texttt{OpenGL Programming}. 15 hours lecture, including workshops.
\entry* \texttt{Operating Systems}. 30 hours lecture.
\end{rubric}

Here, the second key is not repeated because the “Operating Systems” course began in the same year as the OpenGL one.

You probably have noticed already that a “starified” version of the \texttt{entry} command is used. Actually, \texttt{entry*} commands in \texttt{rubric} environments are very similar to \texttt{item} commands in \texttt{list} environments. The reason for this “starification” is that the first version of \texttt{CurVe} had a somewhat ill-designed, unstarred \texttt{entry} command that took the whole entry’s contents as a second argument. The new scheme is much more elegant, but backward compatibility has been preserved.

3 The “flavor” mechanism

This is a very nice feature of \texttt{CurVe}, and one of the reasons that made me write it in the first place.

It is often desirable to maintain several slightly divergent versions of one’s CV at the same time. For instance, when I was looking for a job back in 2001, I had a version of my CV emphasizing Artificial Intelligence, and another emphasizing Distributed Virtual Reality. Only the title and some entries in the “Professional Experience” rubric were a bit different; all other parts basically remained the same. \texttt{CurVe} provides an easy-to-use mechanism for maintaining different “flavors” of your CV at the same time. You basically write different versions of (some of) your rubrics in different files (this is needed for technical reasons anyway, as mentioned previously), tell \texttt{CurVe} which flavor you want to format (\texttt{CurVe} can even ask you which one to use directly). \texttt{CurVe} will then use the global skeleton, and whenever it finds a rubric file specialized for that particular flavor, it
will use it. Otherwise, it will simply fall back to the default one (no particular flavor).

With a clever use of Makefiles, you can even manage to compile different flavors at the same time. Suppose you have a mainstream CV (let’s call it cv.tex), with an “education” rubric in a file named education.tex and a “skills” one in skills.tex. Suppose further that you want a slightly divergent version of your CV with an alternate skills rubric.

The normal way to compile the alternate version is to save a new rubric file called, for instance, skills.alt.tex, and tell C_{\LaTeX} to use it by calling \texttt{\textbackslash{}flavor\{alt\}} in your document’s preamble. The only problem is that this alternate version will also compile to cv.dvi because both versions share the same skeleton and other rubric files.

To remedy this problem, you can make C_{\LaTeX} ask you at run-time which flavor to compile (this is done with the \texttt{ask} class option) and use special Makefile rules to answer the question for you, build the different flavors and move the different output files to flavor-specific names. Here is a Makefile example that would allow you to do this for as many different versions of skills.tex as you wish:

\begin{verbatim}
FLAVORS = alt # make other flavors if you want

all: all_flavors cv.dvi

all_flavors:
  for i in $(FLAVORS) ; do
    $(MAKE) cv.$$i.dvi FLAVOR=$$i ;
  done

cv.$(FLAVOR).dvi: cv.tex education.tex \ skills.$(FLAVOR).tex
  echo $(FLAVOR) | latex cv.tex
  mv cv.dvi $@

cv.dvi: cv.tex education.tex skills.tex
  echo | latex cv.dvi
\end{verbatim}

As you can see, the trick is to fork a new \texttt{make} subprocess for each flavor you want to build, and obviously finish with the mainstream version. An \texttt{echo} shell command is used in conjunction with the \texttt{ask} class option to indicate the current flavor to build. For each \texttt{make} subprocess, this flavor is stored in the dynamic variable \texttt{FLAVOR}, and the corresponding \texttt{cv.$(FLAVOR).dvi} rule is used, with the proper dependencies.

An implementation sidenote. In order to implement the flavor mechanism, the \LaTeX\ macro \texttt{\textbackslash{}input} has been redefined to look for flavored files first. This is actually very nice because you can use it to make different flavors of text that do not belong in rubrics. For instance, suppose you want a special version of the subtitle of your CV for the flavor \texttt{alt}. Put your alternate subtitle in a file called \texttt{subtitle.alt.tex}; do something similar for the default subtitle. Now go to the skeleton of your CV, and write \texttt{\textbackslash{}input(subtitle)} in the preamble. That’s it. You’ll have different subtitles in your different CV flavors.

4 Conclusion

In this paper, I preferred to concentrate on special aspects of C_{\LaTeX}’s history or peculiarities rather than on its user interface, because the latter is relatively straightforward and fully described in the package documentation. Although the layout of C_{\LaTeX} is strict, it remains deeply customizable. C_{\LaTeX} also has other features that are worth mentioning, like support for all standard class options, support for the .\texttt{ltx} file extension if, like me, you prefer it over .\texttt{tex} for \LaTeX\ files, support for standard \LaTeX\ bibliographic commands (although I don’t recommend using them), and support for AUC-\TeX. Additionally, C_{\LaTeX} has been translated into six different languages (English, French, Spanish, German, Italian and Danish).

For an example of what you can do with C_{\LaTeX}, get my own CV at \url{http://www.lrde.epita.fr/~didier/perso/cv.php}. You will also find a page describing some formatting tricks I’ve used to make it more eye-catching.

Thanks to different contributors of code or suggestions, C_{\LaTeX} has evolved since its first release, and I hope it will continue to evolve and reach more and more users in the future.

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Abstracts

Les Cahiers GUtenberg
Contents of Double Issue 39/40
(May 2001)


These are the conference proceedings (although not all papers are included here) from GUtenberg’s 2001 annual meeting, held in Metz, France, 14–17 May, 2001. The editor begins by recalling Michel Goossens’ closing words to his editorial introducing the proceedings from EuroTeX’98 in Saint Malo:

To conclude, I would like to stress how the enthusiasm of the participants . . . has transformed EuroTeX’98 into a real TeX fiesta, proving once more that the Lion and Friends are well-prepared and ready to enter the next millenium with confidence and limitless energy! [Cahiers 28/29 March 1998, p. vii]

Flipo then lists the many avenues of ongoing steady progress since that time: pdfTeX, Ω, the annual TeX Live CDs, even a successor to TeX itself.

The remainder of the editorial focuses on the conference and its contributions to that same steady progress. There were three main themes: new TeX developments, electronic documents in education, and back-and-forth conversion between BtTeX and XML/MathML. The volume concludes with an article by Hans Hagen regarding the lessons to be learned from the NTS experience.

FRÉDÉRIC BOULANGER, BtTeX au pays des tableurs [BtTeX in the land of spreadsheets]; pp. 7–16

We show that some spreadsheet-like documents can be handled efficiently with BtTeX. The main advantage of this approach is the ability to design separately the computations and the layout of the document.

We begin with a flight log for private pilots, the layout of which is fixed and normalised. Then, we present a document class for paysheets, where some commands are used to define the structure of a paysheet, and a command allows us to edit it according to an already defined structure. [Author’s abstract (edited)]

 DANIEL TAUPIN, Les polices TTF converties en METAFONT [Converting TTF fonts into METAFONT]; pp. 17–21

Using the ttf2mf program by Oleg Motygin, TTF (TrueType) fonts usually available under Windows 9x/NT were converted to METAFONT. Thus, they are now usable under any environment and any TeX/BtTeX 2ε distribution, provided that the METAFONT generator is available, which is usually the case.

In addition, the availability of a symbolic source makes it possible to correct imperfections and to eventually create some missing characters. [Author’s abstract (edited)]

JEAN-MICHEL HUFFLEN, Vers une extension multilingue de BtTeX [Towards a multilingual BtTeX extension]; pp. 23–38

This paper describes a multilingual extension to BtTeX, and how it was implemented. We aimed to meet such user requirements as having the language used for the bibliographical references of a printed work to be in the work’s language, as well as the option of having the language of each reference to be that of the reference. Our tool will be able to work with any multilingual BtTeX 2ε package. In addition, our extension allows both existing bibliographical files (.bib files) and bibliography style files (.bst files) to be processed compatibly. [Author’s abstract (edited)]

JORIS VAN DER HOEVEN, GNU TeXMACS: A free, structured WYSIWYG and technical text editor; pp. 39–50

There is a common belief that WYSIWYG technical editors are not suited for editing structured texts and generating documents of high typographic quality. In this paper, we analyze the reasons behind this belief. We next discuss the program GNU TeXMACS and some of its innovations in relation to the difficulties of structured, WYSIWYG, technical text editing. [Author’s abstract (edited)]

AZZEDDINE LAZREK, Aspects de la problématique de la confection d’une fonte pour les mathématiques arabes [Aspects to creating a font for mathematics in Arabic texts]; pp. 51–62

A good deal of Arabic mathematics texts contain formulas composed with specific symbols set in a text that runs from right to left. Up till now, as far as we know, there has been no system that makes the typesetting of such documents possible. Millions of scholars throughout Arabic countries use handbooks where symbols are still written in by hand.

The system presented in this paper is an attempt to provide the possibility of typesetting such

documents. The capabilities of both \TeX{} and \input{ArabTeX} will be extended to suit this situation.

The Arabic font Naskh designed by K. Lagally for his package Arab\input{ArabTeX} and the Computer Modern family designed by D.E. Knuth in \input{METAfont} serve as the basic fonts. In math mode, Naskh is adapted to various sizes according to the different positions (normal, super- or subscript, etc.). This font is used to design new signs in different shapes and for abbreviations. The Computer Modern family, especially the Math Symbols and Math Extension fonts, will help build some special symbols via glyph inversion. Many difficulties arise afterwards: heterogeneity of size, bold face level, the position of symbols with respect to the baseline . . . shape changes in Arabic characters when passing from text to math mode, to name a few. These difficulties attest to the limits of systems composed for the needs of typesetting mathematica in a Latin language whenever these systems are to be adapted to foreign language contexts.

[Author’s abstract (edited)]

Jean-Michel Sarlat
Vignault, \TeX{} dans l’enseignement secondaire, une expérience \[\cref{Learning objects ... you said ‘learning objects?’}] pp. 63–69

We present some issues—established facts, thoughts, wishes—with respect to our efforts to introduce \TeX{} to secondary school teachers, as well as providing a server to consolidate various initiatives.

[Translation of French résumé]

Yolaine Bourda, Objets pédagogiques, vous avez dit objets pédagogiques ? \[\cref{Learning objects ... you said ‘learning objects?’}] pp. 71–79

Learning objects are currently the subject of numerous standardization projects. Unfortunately, the definition itself of ‘learning objects’ is still quite fluid.

This article attempts to look at what is meant by learning objects and to ask questions about their level of granularity and structuring.

[Translation of French résumé]

Laurent Romary, Un modèle abstrait pour la représentation de terminologies multilingues informatisées \[\cref{An abstract model for representing computerized multilingual terminological framework}]

We introduce an abstract model for representing computerized multilingual terminologies. This model was developed in XML by Technical Committee 37 of ISO. It relies on a methodology which makes an essential distinction between the general structure of a terminological database and the information units (data categories) that are used to describe the various levels of this structure.

[Author’s abstract (edited)]

Éric-Olivier Lochard and Dominique Taurisson, “Le monde selon Arcane” : un paradigme instrumental pour l’édition électronique [“The world according to Arcane” : An instrumental paradigm for electronic editing]; pp. 89–105

The World According to Arcane is an operating instrumental paradigm for electronic editing of scientifically established texts and knowledge, currently being used in several scholarly edition projects. The world of knowledge is edited in a database, the architecture of which is both generic (so as to be applicable to numerous domains) and simple (any information is a subject of interest): a multimedia document, a relation between subjects or an enrichment. Internal or external documents are enriched with the editing module, independently of the media and the final publication. The reading module offers very powerful procedures to investigate and browse electronic work: typified links inferred by the architecture, sophisticated indexation, dynamic composition of virtual documents, naturally formulated requests, formal treatments, and reading itineraries. The publishing module allows one to export information in various formats (HTML, XML, \TeX{}), to compose paper books, and to produce electronic books in the form of autonomous applications distributed on CD-ROM, DVD-ROM, web site, or database system.

[Author’s abstract (edited)]

Denis Roegel, La géométrie dans l’espace avec \input{MetaPost} \[\cref{Geometry in space with METAPOST}] pp. 107–138

METAPOST is a tool especially well suited for the inclusion of technical drawings in a document. In this article, we show how METAPOST can be used to represent objects in space and especially how it can be used for drawing geometric constructions involving lines, planes, as well as their intersections, orthogonal planes, etc. All the features belong to a new METAPOST package aimed at all those who teach and study geometry. [Author’s abstract]

Yannis Haralambous and John Plaice, Traitement automatique des langues et composition sous Omega \[\cref{Natural language processing and composition under Omega}] pp. 139–166

While \Omega{} continues to evolve and its functionality expand and diversify, one notices that the
methods used to make it possible to typeset Oriental languages can also be used to resolve problems left unanswered in Occidental languages. The same types of tools that break Thai phrases down into words and then syllables can also be used to determine whether a letter ‘s’ in a German word written in Gothic ought to be long or short. In these two cases, the tool in question is a morphological analyzer, often used in a field of study known as Natural Language Processing (traitement automatisque des langues in French). Thanks to Ω’s external OTP (Omega Translation Process), we can integrate such tools into Ω and use them in real time during composition.

In this article we will study six instances where such tools or linguistic methods are used, each varying in complexity and covering a broad range of languages: English, German, Greek, Arabic, Thai and Japanese.

A rather different approach is to publish “dynamically”, directly with XML/MathML — this is possible by using “server-side” technology.

In this presentation, we will present a solution that makes simple XML/MathML generation from RTF files possible, along with quick publication over the Internet (or other) without constraints on the client side. This can be achieved with Cocoon, XSLT and ΤEX. [Author’s abstract (edited)]

CHRIS ROWLEY, XSL FOs and ΤEX: Some data; pp. 201–204

The XSL FO (Formatting Objects) specification is a noble and inventive project that is maturing into a cornucopia of useful insights and intellectual treats. How can it fail to delight when it formally describes basic properties, such as visibility, as ‘magic’!

It is therefore a timely, fascinating and pragmatic exercise to analyse the assumptions made by XSL about the process and results of document formatting. This article provides a small amount of the data needed for this analysis by comparing some aspects of the XSL model with that provided by ΤEX/ΛTEX. [Author’s abstract]

HANS HAGEN, The status quo of the NTS project; pp. 205–220

A report on the NTS project was presented by Phil Taylor at the previous GUTenberg annual meeting in Toulouse [May 2000; report in Cahier 35–36, pp. 53–78]. Hans Hagen, who had been charged by Dante with making an independent audit report on the project, herein presents his views — fairly critical — on the manner in which the project had been conducted; he then proposes to regroup the efforts of the NTS, Ω and pdfTEX developers to give ΤEX the successor it deserves.

[Translation of Editor’s Note]

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Articles from Cahiers issues can be found in PDF format at the following site:

http://www.gutenberg.eu.org/pub/gut/publications

[Compiled by Christina Thiele]
Trumpet loudly TUG 2002’s theme, all ye faithful:
Stand up and be proud of \TeX!

The most exciting \TeX event of 2002, the international conference of \TeX Users Group, is scheduled to be conducted in India during September 4–7, 2002 at Technopark, Trivandrum, the capital of the South Indian State of Kerala, fondly called \textit{God's Own Country} for its wealth of natural charms.

**Themes for Conference**
- Using \TeX to typeset XML
- Multilingual typesetting using Omega
- High quality hyperdocuments using \texttt{pdf\TeX}
- Fonts for non-Latin languages
- New directions for Metafont and Metapost

**Important Dates**
- Jan/Feb 2002: Send in abstracts for papers
- 28 Feb 2002: Notification of acceptance of paper
- 31 Mar 2002: Preliminary program available
- May 2002: Send first version of full paper
- July 2002: send final version of full paper
- 1–3 September 2002: Pre-conference tutorial in India
- 4–7 September 2002: TUG conference in India

**Tutorial (1–3 September 2002)**
- Introduction to \TeX
- \LaTeX to SGML/XML/MathML conversion
- XML and XSL transformation procedures
- TEI XML
- Generation of hyperlinked documents with \texttt{pdf\TeX} and \texttt{Con\TeXt}
- Multilingual typesetting using Omega

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**Abstracts:** papers@tug2002.tug.org.in
## Calendar

### 2002


**Apr 29 – May 3** EuroBacho\TeX\ 2002, 13th meeting of European \TeX\ Users and 10th annual meeting of the Polish \TeX\ Users’ Group (GUST), “\TeX\ and beyond”, Bachotek, Brodica Lake District, Poland. For information, visit [http://www.gust.org.pl/BachoTeX/2002/](http://www.gust.org.pl/BachoTeX/2002/).


### TUG 2002


**Sep 1 – 3** Tutorials: \LaTeX; \LaTeX\ to XML; METAFONT; the Text Encoding Initiative; \TeX\ macro expansion.

**Sep 4 – 7** The 23rd annual meeting of the \TeX\ Users Group, “Stand up and be proud of \TeX\!”! For information, visit [http://www.tug.org/tug2002/](http://www.tug.org/tug2002/).

**Sep 9 – 13** Seybold San Francisco, San Francisco, California. For information, visit [http://www.key3media.com/seyboldseminars/events/events.shtml](http://www.key3media.com/seyboldseminars/events/events.shtml).


**Oct 4 – 5** DANTE 2002, 27th meeting, Zentrum Universität Augsburg, Germany. For information, visit [http://www.stbride.org/conference.htm](http://www.stbride.org/conference.htm).

**Oct 12** UK TUG Autumn meeting, Nottingham University. For information, contact Dick Nickalls, [dicknickalls@compuserve.com](mailto:dicknickalls@compuserve.com).


**Nov 21** NTG 30th meeting, Technische Universität Delft, Netherlands. For information, visit [http://www.ntg.nl/bijeen/bijeen30.html](http://www.ntg.nl/bijeen/bijeen30.html).

### 2003


### Status as of 1 July 2003

For additional information on TUG-sponsored events listed here, contact the TUG office (+1 503 223-9994, fax: +1 503 223-3960, e-mail: office@tug.org). For events sponsored by other organizations, please use the contact address provided.


Owing to the lateness of this issue, please consider that all events shown for 2002 are included only “for the record”.


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<td>DANTE 2003, 28th meeting, Universität Bremen, Germany. For information, visit <a href="http://www.dante.de/dante2003/">http://www.dante.de/dante2003/</a></td>
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<td>May 1–3</td>
<td>BachoTeX 2003, 11th annual meeting of the Polish TeX Users’ Group (GUST), Bachotek, Brodnica Lake District, Poland. For information, visit <a href="http://www.gust.org.pl/BachoTeX/2003/">http://www.gust.org.pl/BachoTeX/2003/</a></td>
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<td>May 15–17</td>
<td>Typo Berlin 2003, the 8th International Design Conference, Berlin, Germany. For information, visit <a href="http://www.typo-berlin.de">http://www.typo-berlin.de</a></td>
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<td>May 22</td>
<td>NTG 31st meeting, Hogeschool Helicon, Zeist, Netherlands. For information, visit <a href="http://www.ntg.nl/bijeen/bijeen31.html">http://www.ntg.nl/bijeen/bijeen31.html</a></td>
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<td>Jul 7–Aug 8</td>
<td>Rare Book School Summer Session, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia. A series of one-week courses on topics concerning rare books, manuscripts, the history of books and printing, and special collections. For information, visit <a href="http://www.virginia.edu/oldbooks">http://www.virginia.edu/oldbooks</a></td>
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<td>Sep 3–5</td>
<td>24th Internationalization and Unicode Conference (IUC24): “Unicode, Internationalization, the Web: Powering Global Business”, Atlanta, Georgia. For information, visit <a href="http://www.unicode.org/iuc/iuc24/">http://www.unicode.org/iuc/iuc24/</a></td>
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<td>Sep 8–9</td>
<td>DANTE 29th meeting, Universität Giessen, Germany. For information, visit <a href="http://www.dante.de/events/">http://www.dante.de/events/</a></td>
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<td>Nov 13</td>
<td>NTG 32nd meeting, Arnhem, Netherlands; no details yet.</td>
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<td>Nov 20–22</td>
<td>ACM Symposium on Document Engineering, Grenoble, France. For information, visit <a href="http://www.documentengineering.org">http://www.documentengineering.org</a></td>
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Themes
- Resurgence of \TeX \& \LaTeX
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- \TeX–XML Symbiosis, TEI, Digital Archiving
- Fonts & Graphics
- Installations & Management, CTAN
- Publisher & Prepress Dilemmas
- MacOS X TeX: New Kid on the Block

Important Dates

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Links

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\TeX Reference Manual has appendices which provide a comprehensive discussion of: verbatim material, PostScript fonts, and two-column material. In particular, one word describes its font macros, elegant. The \TeX Reference Manual is an invaluable tool for both the experienced and new users of \TeX.

**CONTENTS**

Preface
1. Families and Primitive Control Sequences.
2. Reference Pages for the Primitives.
Appendix A. Typesetting Verbatim Material.
Appendix B. Working with PostScript Fonts.
Appendix C. Typesetting Material in Two Columns.
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