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Wybo Dekker, Redactioneel [From the editor]; p. 1
Overview of the issue’s contents and an introduction of the new editorial team.

Frans Goddijn, 32e NTG-bijeenkomst [32nd NTG meeting]; pp. 2–5

Erik Frambach, \TeX\ user groups worldwide — what’s cooking?; pp. 6–9
This article is based on a presentation given at the UK TUG meeting in Oxford in October 2002. It describes some current problems that \TeX\ user groups face and it attempts to distill lessons learned and recommendations from almost 25 years of \TeX\ user group history. [Author’s abstract]

Koen Wybo, \LaTeX: een newbie-ervaring [\LaTeX: a newbie’s experience]; pp. 10–14
How I became a \LaTeX\ convert; arguments for \LaTeX\ and against its GUI competitors: Word and OpenOffice. [Translation of author’s abstract]

Kees van der Laan, BachoT\TeX\ 2003 [BachoT\TeX\ 2003]; pp. 15–23
A (partial) report of GUST’s 11th meeting at Bachotek, Poland, is given. It is incomplete because I could not understand most of the Polish contributions, and I skipped the \BTeX\ day. It reflects just one of the threads through Bacho\TeX\’03’s life. A question is raised: can the T\TeX\-world follow the evolving PDF standard with pdf\TeX\? [Author’s abstract (edited)]

Wybo Dekker, Toolbox; pp. 24–25
New adventures in \TeX\-land. [Translation of author’s abstract]

Simon Pepping, Docbook In Con\TeX\xt, a Con\TeX\xt-XML mapping for DocBook documents; pp. 26–37
Docbook In Con\TeX\xt combines two technologies that are widely used by authors of technical literature: the Docbook DTD and the Con\TeX\xt macro package for \TeX\. It is a Con\TeX\xt module that allows one to produce a typeset version of a Docbook XML file, in DVI or PDF format. [Author’s abstract]

Sjouke Mauw and Victor Bos, Drawing Message Sequence Charts with \BTeX\; pp. 38–43
The MSC macro package facilitates \BTeX\ users easily including Message Sequence Charts in their texts. This article describes the motivation for developing the MSC macro package, its features, and its design. [Author’s abstract (edited)]

Roland Smith, Labels voor gevaarlijke stoffen met \BTeX\ [Labels for dangerous materials with \BTeX\]; pp. 44–49
European legislation (67/548/EEC) requires packaging for dangerous materials to have labels that must contain certain information. Using the labels package and a number of pictograms written in PostScript, it is possible to make these labels yourself. [Translation of author’s abstract]

Karel H. Wesseling, Aligning METAPOST graphs in Con\TeX\xt combinations; pp. 50–52
For scientific plotting I like to use the Graph package by John Hobby within Con\TeX\xt, and when I have two or more separate graphs made I combine them into one figure with one figure caption. Combining is easy but aligning the graphs in a pleasing way required a trick. [Author’s abstract]

Willi Egger, Drawing a type-case in Con\TeX\xt; pp. 53–59
There are different environments with which one can typeset tables; all of them have their advantages and disadvantages. One of the recent problems I had to solve was to draw a typesetter’s type-case from the lead-type era. Since it looks like a table, I built the drawing in the \bTABLE ... \eTABLE environment. [Author’s abstract (edited)]

Siep Kroonenberg, Optisch uitvullen in de MAPS [Optical justification in MAPS]; p. 60
This issue of MAPS features for the first time optical justification via protruding characters. This means that the right margin is aligned optically by allowing characters that have horizontal projections, among others the hyphen, to stick out into the margin. This is a PDF option that does not exist in classic \TeX\. [Author’s abstract]

Ferdy Hanssen, Installing fonts in \BTeX\: a user’s experience; pp. 61–64
This paper presents a user’s experience with installing fonts for use in \BTeX\. It will be shown that it is not hard to make a standard Type 1 font work, if you use modern font installation software for \BTeX\. All the steps necessary to install the example fonts will be shown. The fonts used are Adobe Garamond from Adobe and Mrs. Eaves from Emigre. [Author’s abstract]
Philipp Lehman, The font installation guide; pp. 65–160
This guide is an unmodified printout of Philip Lehman’s original guide, which is available from CTAN. [Editor’s abstract]

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Wybo Dekker, Redactioneel [From the editor]; p. 1
Overview of the issue’s contents.

Siep Kroonenberg, The MAPS style; pp. 2–4
This paper introduces the renewed MAPS classfile and includes some usage notes.
[Author’s abstract]

Piet van Oostrum, Een uittreksel uit de recente bijdragen in het CTAN archief [Extracts from recent contributions to the CTAN archive]; pp. 5–7
This article describes a number of recent contributions to the CTAN archive. The selection is based on what I find interesting and what I think others will find interesting. It is thus a personal choice. There is no intention of giving a complete overview. Consider this a kind of menu to whet the appetite of the curious.
[Translation of author’s abstract]

Siep Kroonenberg, Schatgraven op T EX Live [TEX Live treasure chest]; pp. 8–9
This piece brings to the attention of the reader the rich contents of the T EX Live CD.
[Translation of author’s abstract]

Hans Hagen, T EX Live Collection; pp. 10–12
Past and future of the T EX Live Collection is described.
[Author’s abstract]

Taco Hoekwater, De CXT EX distributie [The CXT EX distribution]; pp. 13–20
The aim of the CXT EX project is to be able to execute a complete texexec call from beginning to end within a single, as efficient as possible, system process. The first components of this distribution are presented in this article: traditional as well as C-language versions of texexec, texutil and pdfetex.
[Translation of author’s abstract]

Hans Hagen, The SciTE-T EX integration; pp. 21–24
Text editors are a sensitive, often emotional subject. Some editors have exactly the properties a software designer or a writer desires and one gets attached to it. Still, most computer experts such as T EX users often use three or more different editors each day. SciTE is a modern programmer’s editor which is very flexible, very configurable, and easily extended. We integrated SciTE with T EX, ConT EXt, I T EX, METAPOST and viewers and succeeded, in that it is now possible to design and write your texts, manuscripts, reports, manuals and books with the SciTE editor without having to leave the editor to compile and view your work. The article describes what is available and what you need with special emphasis on highlighting commands with lexers.
[Author’s abstract (edited)]

Wybo Dekker, Woordafbreking op ¨ e en ¨ ı [Hyphenation at ¨ e and ¨ i]; p. 49
I T EX has issues hyphenating words that contain ¨ e. This article shows how to solve that problem: use \e or \{e} instead of ¨ e for a unitary ¨ e, and "e for all others. Analogously for i.
[Translation of author’s abstract]

R. F. Smith, I T EX uitvoer genereren vanuit C programma’s [Generating I T EX output from C programs]; pp. 50–51
This article describes a simple way to generate I T EX output from C programs.
[Author’s abstract]

Willi Egger, Help! — the typesetting area; pp. 52–59
Typesetting (large) documents presents significant challenges that have to be resolved before a satisfactory printed result is achieved; e.g. the internal structure of the document should be clear, and the document’s typographical layout should match its content. This article, based on a presentation
given at the NTG meeting in Arnhem on 13 November 2003, describes a traditional design technique known as the harmonic proportion.

 Siep Kroonenberg, \TeX\ and prepress; pp. 60–65

This article discusses preparing documents for professional printing with \TeX\ and \pdfTeX, including color printing and prepress standards.

 Piet van Oostrum, Een tutorial over het gebruik van Bib\TeX\ [A tutorial on the use of Bib\TeX]; pp. 66–86

This article describes the use of Bib\TeX, with particular emphasis on aspects that present problems to inexperienced users. It is based on a presentation the author gave at the NTG meeting in Arnhem on 13 November 2003.

Maarten Sneep, Producing graphs with Meta\POST\; pp. 12–18

Karel Wesseling described in MAPS 29 how several Meta\POST\ graphs can be aligned relative to each other, by including them in a Con\TEX\t command \texttt{\startcombination[1*2]}. Here I describe a different approach to the same problem: aligning multiple graphs in a single figure. As a bonus, a description is added on how to create error-bars in a Meta\POST\ generated graph.

Frans Goddijn, Een briefhoofd maken [Making a letterhead]; pp. 25–31

Shortly after successfully compiling my first \TeX\ document, I wanted to switch over as many documents as possible to \TeX. And the notion of being able to typeset the letterhead at the same time as the text of the document seemed to me to be very nice. It seemed best not to clutter the individual letter files with code, so I put all the necessary commands into a separate style file. I also created a simpler letterhead to put on following pages if the letter is longer than one page. Thanks to the tips of Henk de Haan, I have been able to help others in the course of time to make their own letterhead.

Brooks Moses, MetaPlot, MetaContour, and other collaborations with Meta\POST; pp. 32–39

Most methods of creating plots in Meta\POST work by doing all of their calculations in Meta\POST, or by doing all of their calculations in a preprocessing program. There are advantages to dividing the work more equitably by doing the mathematical and data-visualization calculations in a preprocessing program and doing the graphical and layout calculations in Meta\POST. The MetaPlot package
provides a standard, flexible, interface for accomplishing such a collaboration between programs, and includes a general-purpose set of formatting macros that are applicable to a wide range of plot types. Examples are shown of linear plots with idiosyncratic annotation and two-dimensional contour plots with lines and filled contours on a non-Cartesian mesh.

Willi Egger and Hans Hagen, Support for typesetting Greek in Con\TeX; pp. 40–45

There are situations where one needs to typeset pieces of text in Greek. Until recently there was no direct support to do this in Con\TeX. With the integration of the module greek this has changed. The basics were built by Giuseppe Bilotta (Italy). The module uses a subset of the cb-greek fonts. The article describes the module and the way Greek text is coded. Several examples of Greek text are given.

Steve Grathwohl, A simple book design in Con\TeX; pp. 46–51

I show how a simple book design can be implemented in Con\TeX.

Adam Lindsay, OpenType in Con\TeX; pp. 52–58

This is a summary of issues encountered and solutions implemented in order to support some advanced OpenType features in Con\TeX. This article describes an accompanying set of support files that address installation (using \TeXfont), accommodating extended optical families, and some “pro” font features. The extended character set afforded by pro fonts enables support for comprehensive small caps and old-style figures. Although the typescripts and commands are described together, certain features (like variant encodings for \TeXfont and optical typescripts) can be used independently of the other features described.

Hans Hagen, Fontgebruik [Font usage]; pp. 59–61

Hans Hagen presents a very extravagant title: a back page from an 1899 handbook. The editors of MAPS offer a prize for the best and most elegant \TeX-recreation of this layout.

Patrick Gundlach, contextgarden.net; pp. 87–90

The project contextgarden.net was started to enhance the documentation of Con\TeX. It consists of several web services that provide the technical base for documentation. A large amount of the content is provided by the visitors to the web site.

Hans Hagen, Fonts, more than a sample; pp. 91–94

Some time ago the NTG members received a colorful little booklet showing a lot of fonts. Since these fonts come with \TeX Live, a Con\TeX user may be tempted to use them. The bad news is that fonts are always a bit troublesome in \TeX distributions and recent changes in the \TeX directory structure haven’t made life easier. However, the good news is that it is doable to get these fonts working for you. Here I will present a few recipes, but I avoid discussing the ‘dirty details’. These are covered in the manuals.

Willi Egger and Frans Goddijn, Bloei der decadence [Flowering of decadence]; pp. 95–98

The book Flowering of decadence by Johan Polak has been out of print for many years, but it is now available as a PDF, freely downloadable via
the Internet. For those who want to read on the computer screen there is an interactive screen version, and another version is suitable for print. Both new editions of the book have been created via Con\TeX t. This article describes some aspects of setting up this project. It was a complicated matter, due to the huge quantity of references to books, magazines, persons, place names and other terms. Our goal was to keep the process as simple as possible. Therefore we used no Plain \TeX hacks, but rather simple methods typical of Con\TeX t. Also we wanted a screen version of the book with a relatively small number of navigation files that could also be compiled as a paper version. A particular challenge was a piece of Greek text in a footnote.

[Translation of author’s abstract]

HENDRI ADRIAENS and UWE KERN, Keys and values; pp. 99–103

This article introduces the \texttt{xkeyval} package as an extension of the well-known \texttt{keyval} package. The package provides more flexible commands, syntax enhancements, and a new option processing mechanism for class and package options using the general \texttt{key=value} syntax. [Author’s abstract]

TACO HOEKWATER, Boekbespreking vormwijzer [Book review]; pp. 104–105

Book review of \textit{Display: A guide to creating and (re)producing printed matter}, by K. F. Treebus. [From the author’s introduction]

[Compiled by Steve Peter]