ε-Ω: a step towards the future with a look on the past

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Abstract In recent times, a topic of increasing relevance in discussions on the future of TEX has been the number of different extensions to Knuth's orginal work, and the possibility of bringing them all together in a single program. In particular, on the one hand we have the features introduced in ε-TEX which are almost essential to developers of modern formats (ConTEXt, LATEX3); on the other hand, the advanced multilingual typesetting features present in Ω are of vital importance, especially for TEX users using non-Latin scripts.

This talk presents ε-Ω, a project whose aim is to provide a stable, fast variant of Ω supporting the ε-TEX extensions. We will present a short history of the project (focusing in particular on the reasons behind some debatable choices), its current status and the ideas for the project's future.