NAME
latex, pdflatex, xelatex, lualatex, dvilualatex, cslatex, pdfcslatex, platex, uplatex, lamed – structured text formatting and typesetting

SYNOPSIS
latex [first-line]

DESCRIPTION
This manual page is a mere skeleton.

The \LaTeX\ language is described in the book \LaTeX{} – A Document Preparation System. \LaTeX{} is a \TeX{} macro package, not a modification to the \TeX{} source program, so all the capabilities described in \TeX{}(1) are present.

The \LaTeX\ macros encourage writers to think about the content of their documents, rather than the form. The ideal, very difficult to realize, is to have no formatting commands (like “switch to italic” or “skip 2 picas”) in the document at all; instead, everything is done by specific markup instructions: “emphasize”, “start a section”.

The primary source of documentation for \LaTeX{} is the \LaTeX{} manual referenced below.

lualatex, pdflatex, pdfcslatex, xelatex are \LaTeX{} formats based on the respective engines. All output PDF by default.

platex, uplatex are Japanese \LaTeX{} formats based on e-p\TeX{} and e-up\TeX{} (DVI output).
lamed is the Aleph-based \LaTeX{} format (DVI output).
dvilualatex is Lua\TeX{-}based and outputs DVI.
cslatex is cs\TeX{-}based (primitives integrated into pdf\TeX{}) and outputs DVI.

On some systems latex209 and slitex may still be available for compatibility with older versions of \LaTeX{}. These should not be used for new texts.

SEE ALSO
amstex(1), luatex(1), pdftex(1), ptext(1), tex(1), xetex(1).

Leslie Lamport, \LaTeX{} – A Document Preparation System, Addison-Wesley, 1985, ISBN 020115790X.


The \LaTeX{} home page is http://latex-project.org.
A list of some \LaTeX{} tutorials is at http://www.tex.ac.uk/cgi-bin/texfaq2html?label=man-latex.
An unofficial reference manual for \LaTeX{} is at https://ctan.org/pkg/latex2e-help-texinfo.