



ε - Ω

**a step towards the future
with a look on the past**

Brothers in arms

- * ε - $\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$ extensions are prerequisites for modern formats (Con $\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$ t, L $\text{A}\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$ 3)
- * Ω is a *conditio sine qua non* for typesetting in non-latin scripts

Why give up one when choosing the other?

Goals for ε - Ω

- * support ε - $\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$'s macro extensions;
- * support Ω 's typesetting features;
- * stable;
- * fast;
- * lean;
- * solid and lasting supporting utilities.

Choices & reasons

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| develop on a separate branch | independence from Ω experimental development |
| work on the 1.15 series | faster and leaner; closer to proclaimed goals; changefiles can be adapted to later series |
| drop some Ω features (SGML) | incompatibility with some ε -TeX extensions (<code>\middle</code>); priority of the features and development speed |

Watch your step

The importance of TRIP: the major bug that affected the Ω 1.15 series was detectable by TRIPping, and yet was not that obscure that it would not affect normal production use.

We need a test suite for ε - Ω . And we need to differentiate between program and implementation bugs (see Adams' example).

Status and future

ε - Ω is now ready for production use. There are known bugs, but these are somewhat obscure and do not affect normal use. Some of them are Ω specific, others depend (or seem to depend) on the interaction between ε - $\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$ and Ω .

Future steps include

- * ironing out remaining known bugs in main executable;
- * fixing what is broken in support utilities (and keep them!);
- * forward-porting to next Ω release, if necessary and feasible.