Creating documents in LATEX — a basic tutorial

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Preliminaries Structure Sectioning Formatting Floats Math Cross-references Citations ABNTEX2 Envoi

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LAT_EX — A document preparation system

- LATEX is a *markup* language that allows you to write documents focusing on contents instead of formatting
- You don't have to worry about fonts or section/figures/tables/citation numbering
 - LATEX will do it automatically for you
- All formatting will be taken care of by *packages*, or libraries you can load at the beginning of the document
- ⇒ you can then focus on your text, which is the most important part of your document, leaving all the "makeup" to LATEX
- LATEX follows the WYMIWYG (What you MEAN is what you get) concept
 - instead of the WYSIWYG (what you SEE is what you get) concept used by most word processors
 - which, usually, are more like WYSIWYTYG (what you see is what you THINK you get...)



(trees generated using the tikzsymbols package)

Distributions

- In order to run LATEX in your computer, you need a LATEX distribution
 - There are several options; the two given below are the most widespread

Selected LATEX distributions:

• TeXLive (linux) — https://www.tug.org/texlive



• MikTeX (windows) — https://miktex.org



- All popular Linux distributions (ubuntu, arch, opensuse, fedora, mandriva, etc.) have preset LATEX platforms in their repositories
- MikT_EX is also very easily installed on windows
- There are also, nowadays, online LATEX platforms that you can use without download or install
 - but a very fast internet connection is recommended to avoid frustration and annoyance
- The distributions listed above are free and open source

Editors

• A LATEX IDE (integrated development environment) is highly recommended, especially for newbies

Selected LATEX IDEs:

• TeXStudio — https://www.texstudio.org



• TeXMaker — http://www.xm1math.net/texmaker



• TeXWorks — http://www.tug.org/texworks



• LyX — https://www.lyx.org



• Authorea (online) — https://www.authorea.com



• Overleaf (online) — https://www.overleaf.com



- To use any of them, you MUST first install a LATEX distribution • except the online IDEs, of course
- All editors listed above are free; some are also open source

Preamble and body

- A typical LATEX document: a file with .tex extension
- it has two major parts: a *preamble* and a *body*

```
\documentclass[options]{class type}
  % This is the document PREAMBLE
  % here go configuration packages and commands
  % all LaTeX commands start with a \ (backslash)
  % everything following a % is a comment
  % you can insert comments anywhere in the document
  \% if you want a \% to appear in your text, escape it using \\%
  % the document class is always the first line of your document
  % you can define some options that affect the formatting of the chosen class type
  % some class types: article, book, report
  % common options: 10pt | 11pt | 12pt (font size), oneside | twoside (use one or both sides
     \hookrightarrow of the paper)
15
  \begin{document}
17
  % This is the body of your document
  % Your text, tables, figures, etc. (generically, your content) go here
  \end{document}
```

Packages

- In the preamble are loaded packages (libraries) that affect and provide new commands
 - for instance, font packages, math packages, bibliography packages, etc.
- Packages are loaded with the command \usepackage[options] {package name}

A few useful examples:

- $\usepackage[a4paper, margin=20mm]{geometry} loads the geometry package and sets the paper size to A4 and all margins to 20 mm$
- \usepackage[utf8]{inputenc} allows you to use accented characters (á, ã, ã, ä, ç, etc)
 - the option used (utf8) is for files set up with the unicode encoding (other encodings are also possible)
 - newest versions of LATEX are automatically set up for utf8 encoding (i.e., there is no need to call this package anymore)
- \usepackage{setspace} gives access to interline spacing
 - after loading the package, set the spacing used in the document with one of the following commands:
 - 1 \singlespacing (default)
 - ② \onehalfspacing
 - doublespacing
- \usepackage{graphicx} permits the inclusion of figures (jpg, png, eps, pdf, etc.) in the document

Non-english languages

- LATEX automatically hyphenates your words
- Also, a few words (like chapter, section, page, etc.) and formatted date are sometimes used
 - but the default language is American English
- To change the language of the document, call the babel package in the preamble

```
% to hyphenate and translate keywords to brazilian portuguese (for instance) 
vusepackage[brazil]{babel}
```

Multi-file documents

- Your document can be spread through multiple files
- The master document calls other files with the \input command:

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How to partition a LATEX document Document title

• The title of your document comes from the following commands:

```
1  \title{My article}
2  \author{My name}
3  \date{time I wrote it} % if not given, results in the \today command's output
4
5  \maketitle % format and prints the title for you
6 % optionally, include titlepage among the \documentclass options for a title cover
```

• If you're using the beamer class (as I'm doing right now), you'll get something like this:

A wonderful talk presented by myself 4th March, 2020

```
\title{A wonderful talk}
\author{presented by myself}
\maketitle
```

- title, author and date can be either in the preamble or in the body of the document
- maketitle must be issued from within the body of the document

Chapters, sections and subsections

• Creating headings in your document is straightforward:

- We'll soon learn what is the purpose of the several \label commands
 - they are optional and, for now, see them simply as tags to identify each heading

Tables of contents

• You can add tables of contents and lists of tables and figures:

```
1 \tableofcontents
2
3 \listoffigures
4
5 \listoftables
```

• (Soon we'll see how to insert figures and tables to be shown in the lists above!)

- Basic typesetting:
 - any amount of space between characters will be shortened to just one space character
 - \bullet use ~ to add space (and \textasciitilde{} if you want the ~ character)
- leave any amount of blank lines to start a new paragraph

This is a paragraph.

And this is another. This is still in the same paragraph. One sentence, another sentence.

One sentence, another sentence.

One longer paragraph, in order to see how LATEX breaks lines and keep going in the line below. And just some more text to make the paragraph even larger.

This is a

linebreak.

Finally, this is a

longer linebreak.

```
This is a paragraph.
  And this is another.
  This is still in the same paragraph.
5
  One sentence, another sentence,
  One sentence,
                           another sentence.
  One longer paragraph, in order to see
      \hookrightarrow how \LaTeX{} breaks lines and keep
      \hookrightarrow going in the line below. And just
      \hookrightarrow some more text to make the
      \hookrightarrow paragraph even larger.
  This is a \\ linebreak.
  Finally, this is a \\[20mm] longer
      \hookrightarrow linebreak.
```

Basic formatting

A normal paragraph.

A centered paragraph.

Italics: italicized text.

Bold text: boldface text.

Font sizes:

Notice the use of curly braces as delimiters for the scope of action of a command. If you want them to appear in the text, escape them: { e }

```
A normal paragraph.
\begin{center}
A centered paragraph.
\end{center}
Italics: \emph{italicized text}.
Bold text: \textbf{boldface text}.
Font sizes:
{\tiny text} {\scriptsize text} {\

    footnotesize text} {\small text}

    text} {\Huge text}

Notice the use of curly braces as
  \hookrightarrow delimiters for the scope of action
   \hookrightarrow of a command. If you want them to
   \hookrightarrow appear in the text, escape them:
```

Environments

- Two useful environments:
 - (environments are constructions that format contents. They are invoked with a \begin{env} \end{env} \clause)

4

6

• Bullet lists — itemize environment:

```
    Topic one

     • A subtopic
     and another

    Topic two
```

```
\begin{itemize}
        \item Topic one
        \begin{itemize}
                \item A subtopic
                \item and another
        \end{itemize}
        \item Topic two
\end{itemize}
```

• Enumerated lists — enumerate environment:

```
Topic one
   A subtopic
   and another
2 Topic two
```

```
\begin{enumerate}
        \item Topic one
        \begin{enumerate}
                \item A subtopic
                \item and another
        \end{enumerate}
        \item Topic two
\end{enumerate}
```

• *Note:* you can mix the two kinds of list, if you want

Create your own commands

- Let's say you need to write something several times throughout your document
 - for instance, you have to write "X-ray diffractometry" quite a lot
- It would be nice to create a shortcut:

```
X-ray diffractometry is a an experimental technique...
As we can see from the X-ray diffractometry results, ...
```

```
\newcommand{\XRD}{X-ray diffractometry}
\XRD{} is a an experimental technique\
   \hookrightarrow ldots
   we can see from the \XRD{} results, \
   \hookrightarrow ldots
```

- The "{}" after the call to the command is necessary, otherwise LATEX would not insert a space after it
- Your commands can even have arguments:

```
From the composition of sample 2-5, we see that ...
As we can see, the mechanical properties of sample 4
Ti2.5-Al5 are not as high as...
```

```
\newcommand{\sample}[2]{sample #1-#2}
From the composition of \sum \{2\}{5},
   \hookrightarrow we see that \ldots
As we can see, the mechanical properties
       of \sample{Ti2.5}{Al5} are not as
       high as \ldots
```

- *Note:* The \newcommand command is much more powerful than that!
- There is also a \renewcommand command that can be used to redefine an existing one

Fonts

- There are lots of ways to change the fonts used in your document
- It is usually better to trust a package to do it for you!
- Consult the LATEX Font Catalogue (http://www.tug.dk/FontCatalogue)

The LATEX Font Catalogue

[FRONT PAGE] [SERF FONTS] [SERF FONTS, SUB-ANDEORISED] [SHIS SERF FONTS] [TYPOWRITER FONTS] [ONLIGHMAND. AND HANDWRITTER FONTS] [UNION. FONTS] [BLACKLETT [ABOUT THE PTAKEONT DATALOGUE] [PAGINGES THAT PROVIDE MATH SUPPORT]

Fonts with math support

Antykwa Toruńska [OTF or TTF available]

The quick brown fox jumps over the sleazy dog

The quick brown fox jumps over the sleazy dog

The quick brown fox jumps over the sleazy dog

The quick brown fox jumps over the sleazy dog

The quick brown fox jumps over the sleazy dog

The quick brown fox jumps over the sleazy dog

The quick brown fox jumps over the sleazy dog BaskervilleF [OTF or TTF available]

The quick brown fox jumps over the sleazy dog

The quick brown fox jumps over the sleazy dog

The quick brown fox jumps over the sleazy dog Computer Concrete With Concrete Math

The quick brown fox jumps over the sleazy dog

The quick brown fox jumps over the sleazy dog Computer Modern

The quick brown fox jumps over the sleazy dog Computer Modern Bright

The quick brown fox jumps over the sleazy dog

Computer Modern Sans Serif with Sansmathfonts

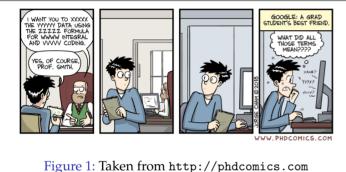
The quick brown fox jumps over the sleazy dog

DRM (Don's Revised Modern) [OTF or TTF available]

Figures

Illustrating your document

- Figures and tables are inserted in the text as *floats*
 - so called because they are not part of the text flux, but are instead positioned as if hovering over the page
 - do not forget to include \usepackage{graphicx} in the preamble if you plan to use figures!



rigure 1. taken from heep.//phacomics.com

- *Note:* \label is just a name you give to the float.
 - you can use it to reference it in the text, as we'll see shortly
- you can also use \begin{figure}[htbp], where h (here), t (top), b (bottom) and p (page) are indications to where LATEX should place your float (it will only follow your suggestion if and when it is possible)
 - you can omit any of the htbp letters, or even change their order
- Notice the command \url{webaddress} to format a clickable link to a webpage. You need to put \usepackage{url} in the preamble to use this feature

Tabular material

- Table floats are set in a table environment
- The tabular environment is used to typeset a table

Table 1: List of equipments and suppliers

Equipment	Year	Vendor	PIC	Location
MO	2015	Zeiss	Joe	A5
MEV	2012	Hitachi	Moe	В3
XRD	2014	Panalytical	Larry	A2

```
\begin{table}
\caption{List of equipments and
   \hookrightarrow suppliers}
\label{tab:dados}
\centering
\begin{tabular}{lcccc}
\hline
Equipment & Year & Vendor & PIC &
   \hookrightarrow Location \\
\hline
MO & 2015 & Zeiss & Joe & A5\\
MEV & 2012 & Hitachi & Moe & B3\\
XRD & 2014 & Panalytical & Larry & A2\\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\end{table}
```

- Notice again the use of \label to tag the table float
- The [htbp] options are also available for tables

• There are inline (using \$ \$) and displayed formulas (with the equation environment):

A sphere of radius R has a volume V given by

$$V = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \int_0^R \rho^2 \sin\theta d\rho d\theta d\phi = \frac{4}{3}\pi R^3.$$
 (1)

It is not difficult to evaluate the integral, if you know what $\begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$ \label{eq:vol} to do.

The sum of the first n terms of an arithmetic progression is

$$S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i = \frac{(a_1 + a_n)n}{2}, \qquad (2)$$

in which $a_i = a_{i-1} + (n-1)r$ (valid for $2 \le i \le n$, with a_1 and r given constants). Legend has it that Gauss discovered this formula while still a schoolboy...

```
A sphere of radius $R$ has a volume $V$

\[
\times \text{given by} \\
\text{begin} \{ \text{equation} \}
\]
\[
V = \int_{0}^{2\pi} \int_{0}^{\pi} \int \\
\times_{0}^{R} \rho^2 \sin \theta d\rho \\
\times d\theta d\phi \\
\text{frac} \{4\}\{3\} \pi R^3 \,. \\
\tabel\{ \text{eq:vol} \\
\text{end}\{ \text{equation} \}
\]
It is not difficult to evaluate the \(
\times \text{integral}, \text{if you know what to do}. \)
```

```
The sum of the first $n$ terms of an

arithmetic progression is

begin{equation}

$\begin{equation} \alpha_{i} = \frac{(a \leftarrow _{1}+a_{n})n}{2} \,,

\end{equation}

in which $a_{i}=a_{i-1} + (n-1) r$ (

valid for $2 \le i \le n$, with $a \leftarrow _{1}$ and $r$ given constants).

Legend has it that Gauss

discovered this formula while

still a schoolboy\ldots
```

Some more options

• If you don't want to number a displayed equation, use \[\], instead of the equation environment

The sum of the first n terms of an arithmetic progression is given by

$$S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i = \frac{(a_1 + a_n)n}{2}$$
,

in which $a_i = a_{i-1} + (n-1)r$ (valid for $2 \le i \le n$, with a_1 and r given constants). Legend has it that Gauss discovered this formula while still a schoolboy...

• The amsmath package (as always, in the preamble) gives you access to lots of new math-related stuff

Referencing internally



Figure 2: Taken from http://phdcomics.com.

The situation we see depicted in Figure 2 happens quite often in some cases...

$$e^{i\pi} = -1 \tag{3}$$

Equation (3) was first derived by Euler.

- The fig:, tab: or eq: prefixes are not mandatory, but they are helpful to differentiate among the several kinds of stuff a label can point to (chapter, section, subsection, equation, list item, figure, table, etc., etc.)
- The \pageref{lab} command gives you the page in which \label{lab} is found

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Render unto Cæsar — Referencing externally

Reference managers

• I strongly recommend you use a reference manager to keep track of your bibliography. Below are two excellent choices that work virtually in any operating system

Selected reference managers:

• JabRef — http://www.jabref.org



• Mendeley — https://www.mendeley.com



How to use BibT_EX

- The most widespread citation tool for LATEX is BibTEX (http://www.bibtex.org)
- all your bibliographical references should be in (one or more) bib files

Put the following commands where you want your list of references to appear:

```
1 \bibliography{mybibfile}
2 \bibliographystyle{plain} % there are dozens of styles to chose from
```

• Then BibT_EX does all the formatting work for you!

A BibT_EX example

• For instance, let's say a file called mybibfile.bib constains the following entry (among others):

```
@article{ferreira2018,
                                                                 author = {Ferreira, P. P. and
                                                                                    \hookrightarrow Santos, F. B. and Machado, A.
                                                                                    \hookrightarrow J. S. and Petrilli, H. M.
                                                                                    \hookrightarrow and Eleno, L. T. F.},
                                                                  journal = {Phys. Rev. B},
3
                                                                pages = \{045126\},
                                                                 title = {Insights into the
                                                                                    \hookrightarrow superconductivity in {HfV$\
                                                                                    \hookrightarrow textcolor{2$Ga$}{4$} and {ScV}
                                                                                    \hookrightarrow $\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$\rightarrow$
                                                                                    \hookrightarrow principles electronic-
                                                                                    \hookrightarrow structure calculations},
                                                                 volume = \{98\},
                                                                year = \{2018\}
```

• You can cite it in your work with the \cite command:

Ferreira et al. [1] have shown that...

References

 P. P. Ferreira, F. B. Santos, A. J. S. Machado, H. M. Petrilli, and L. T. F. Eleno. Insights into the unconventional superconductivity in HfV₂Ga₄ and ScV₂Ga₄ from first-principles electronic-structure calculations. *Phys. Rev.* B, 98:045126, 2018.

ABNTEX2 — ABsurd Norms for LATEX

• Info only relevant to people working/studying in Brazil, mainly universities or research institutes



https://www.abntex.net.br

- ABNTEX2 will take care of all weird formatting required by ABNT (Brazilian Bureau of Standards)
- on their website (link above) you'll find templates and tutorials

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Thank you for the music

Acknowledgements Thank you for your attention!

LATEX is fun.

Find more help on:







https://stackoverflow.com

https://ctan.org https://www.latex-project.org

Acknowledgements:







http://www5.usp.br http://site.eel.usp.br http://www.ppgem.eel.usp.br

Questions, corrections, comments and suggestions: luizeleno@usp.br
http://www.demar.eel.usp.br/en/docentes/luiz-tadeu-fernandes-eleno.html

This is version 1.1 of the tutorial. It can be freely distributed, but please point to the original project on github: https://github.com/luizeleno/LaTeX-tutorial-for-newbies