Introduction to LATEX

Lecture 2: Text in LATEX

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Use UTF-8 encoding in LATEX

UTF-8 encoding is widely used in modern computer applications, so it's useful to include the inputenc package and use UTF-8 encoding.

Command

\usepackage[utf-8]{inputenc}

Example

café

However, different operating systems and compiling engines have different support on UTF-8 encoding, some UTF-8 codes that work on your computer may not work on others, so it is recommended to use commands (will be introduced later) instead of directly copy and paste the UTF-8 codes from the Internet.

(This part is not important)

If you want to use a language other than English, another package babel in needed.

Command

\usepackage[languages]{babel}

languages - a list of languages, the last one to be the default language

Example

```
\usepackage[greek,english]{babel}
\textgreek{abcdefgABCDEFG}
```

Then LATEX will print αβςδεφγΑΒ"ΔΕΦΓ

Of course, you can use some commands these greek letters, such as \alpha, \beta and etc, which is more convenient when you only need to print few of them, and it doesn't need any package listed above.

Special symbols

Some special symbols can't be directly used since they are reserved by **MTFX**

```
\# # \$ $ \% % \& & \~ ~ \` ` \{ { \} } \_ _ \textbackslash \
```

Many LATEX starters are confused with how to correctly print quotes, hyphens and dots.

- prints a left single quote, 'prints a right single quote.
- `` prints a left double quote, " prints a right double quote.
- one hyphen (-) print like -
- two hyphens (--) print like -
- three hyphens (---) print like —

\dots prints the dots with a correct format (...) instead of directly use three dots (...)

4 D > 4 B > 4 E > 4 E > 9 Q P

Accent on letters

Sometimes you may need an accent form of a letter, here is an example of letter o

Something interesting

You may be curious about how to print words like LATEX, actually it's defined as a command.

- \LaTeX LATEX
- \LaTeXe \prescript{LaTeXe} \LaTeXe \prescript{LaTeXe}

↓□▶ ←□▶ ←□▶ ←□▶ □ ♥Q♥

Spaces may be confusing

There are defined command of spaces in different width and usages.

- _ the basic space in LATEX (printed in yellow since it's transparent). Note that any number of spaces or tabs is equal to one space, and the space after a command is ignored. If you want to add an extra space, use \setminus which makes a 1/3 em space (1 em is approximately the width of an M in the current font)
- ~ If two words can't be separated on two lines, you can tell LATEX about it using a tie (~), such as Prof. Hamade (Prof. Hamade).
- \bullet \, makes a 1/6 em space, commonly used before units (notice the space before em on this page)
- \; makes a 2/7 em space
- \quad makes a 1 em space
- \qquad makes a 2 em space
- makes actually the space of text, but text will be invisible. 4 D > 4 A > 4 B > 4 B >

Separate contents into lines and pages

Here are some basic commands about lines and pages in LATEX, you will use them everywhere.

- \newline begin a new line
- \\ begin a new line
- \\[offset] begin a new line with an offset
- \linebreak begin a new line with the words discrete
- \newpage begin a new page
- % begin a line comment

Basic commands about fonts

First, lets start with some commands that transform font types

- \bf Sample Text
- \it Sample Text
- \rm Sample Text
- \sc Sample Text
- \sf Sample Text
- \sl Sample Text
- \tt Sample Text

Note that the commands that transform font types influence the text in the whole scope $(\{...\})$ until another font type is specified. For example, how to use the first command $\$ bf is shown below

```
{\bf Sample Text}
```



Sometimes we don't want to transform the font types, instead, we can only change the font type of some specified text, then the following commands are used (you can similarly use all font types on the previous page)

- \textbf Sample Text
- \textit Sample Text
- \textsc Sample Text

However, in a math environment (will be introduced later), some other commands should be used

- \mathbf Sample Text
- \mathit Sample Text
- \mathsf Sample Text

Note that the math environment doesn't include all of the font types on the previous page. More information about font types can be found here.

Font size can also be easily modified

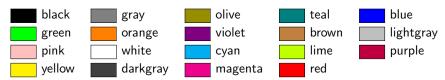
- tiny Sample Text
- \scriptsize Sample Text
- \footnotesize Sample Text
- \small Sample Text
- \normalsize Sample Text
- \large Sample Text
- \Large Sample Text
- \LARGE Sample Text
- \huge Sample Text
- \Huge Sample Text

Build a colorful document

Changing the color is similar to changing font types.

If you want to transform to a color (like \bf), you can use \color{name} Similarly, you can use \textcolor{name} like \textbf
The background color of the whole page can be set using \pagecolor{name}

There are some defined color name in the xcolor package.



You can find more information in the documentation of xcolor (texdoc xcolor)

Enumerate and Item

When you need to enumerate some items as a list, you may use the enumerate package.

Command

```
\usepackage{enumerate}
\begin{enumerate}[style]
    \item ...
    \item ...
    \item ...
\end{enumerate}
```

This will generate a normal list with the serial numbers in the specified style, which could be the following (as example)

- 1 1, 2, 3, 4, ...
- (i) (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), ...
- [1.] [1.], [2.], [3.], [4.], ...

If you want to generate an unordered list, use itemize instead of enumerate.

Command

```
\usepackage{enumerate}
\begin{itemize}
    \item[style] ...
    \item[style] ...
    \item[style] ...
\end{itemize}
```

In this case, the position of style is different from that in enumerate, and the symbol displayed in the beginning of each item will be exactly same as the style. If style is not added, a default style will be used.

Ulem package

If you want to add some lines on the text, use the ulem package.

Command

```
\usepackage{ulem} \uline{Sample Text}
```

There are different kinds of lines supported:

- \uline Sample Text
- \uuline Sample Text
- \uwave Sample Text
- \sout Sample Text
- \dashuline Sample Text
- \dotuline Sample Text

Text align

If you want to align a paragraph of text, use these three environments for left/center/right align.

Command

```
\begin{flushleft/center/flushright}
\end{flushleft/center/flushright}
```

However, if only a single line needs to be aligned, use these three commands.

Command

```
\leftline
\centerline
\rightline
```

Usage of scope in LATEX

First, you should realize the meaning of "scope" in programming. Let's start with a simple example in C/C++ (assuming you know that):

```
int main()
    { // The scope "main" of function main
      int a = 1; // int a is defined in scope "main"
3
      for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++)
      { // The scope "for" of the for loop
        int b = i; // int b and i are both defined in scope "for"
6
        a += b; // int a can be visited here!
8
      { // The scope "other", we can directly define a scope like this
9
        int c; // int c is defined in scope "other"
10
11
        c = a; // int a can be visited here!
12
      a -= c // error: c is not in scope "main", can't be visited!
13
14
```

In the example of C/C++, we use brackets $\{\}$ to define a scope, which is just the same in \LaTeX . In addition, notice that an environment or a command also defines a scope.

Example

```
black (default) text
    black (default) text \\
    \color{blue}
                                      blue text
    blue text \\
                                      brown text
    { \color{brown} brown text }
    \begin{center}
      \color{red}
                                                centered red text.
      centered red text
    \end{center}
    \textbf{ \color{brown}
                                       bold brown text
    bold brown text } \\
10
                                      blue text
    blue text
11
```

With the usage of scopes, you can flexibly change the color, font and anything else in a self-defined range of document.