

# Technical Writing and Presentation

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# Outline

- Technical Writing
- Vector Graphics using Inkscape
- References

# Word Processors

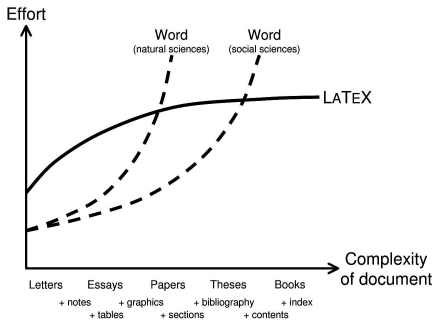
Usually there are two categories of word processing software packages

- ▶ What You See Is What You Get (WYSIWYG)
- ▶ What You See Is What You Mean (WYSIWYM)

WYSIWYG	WYSIWYM
Microsoft Word LibreOffice Writer AbiWord Calligra Words	L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X LyX

**Roughly**, you can compare L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X to Word as you compare Matlab to Excel

# L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X vs Microsoft Word



## Tech. Writing

L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

L<sup>y</sup>X

Beamer

## Inkscape

## References

# Outline

- Technical Writing
  - $\text{\LaTeX}$
  - LyX
  - Presentations using Beamer
- Vector Graphics using Inkscape
- References

L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X is a document markup language.

- ▶ Simply you can think of it as similar to HTML\*
- ▶ In order to create a document in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, a .tex file must be created using some text editor
- ▶ The .tex file is then compiled to produce the document
- ▶ L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X can generate several document formats including “pdf”

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\* (HyperText Markup Language)

Although being free is an advantage, but it is a drawback at the same time

- ▶ Slow download server
- ▶ No clean official documentation
- ▶ Several alternatives to do the same thing

However; L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X is very mature and widely used by professional/enterprise publishers

- ▶ Also it has a big user community
  - ▶ when you encounter a problem, google it. Most likely you will find others had encountered it and found a solution

## Technical Writing and Presentation



AEROSPACE ENGINEERING





### tabular environment

```
\begin{array}[pos]{cols}
\begin{tabular}[pos]{cols}
\begin{tabular*}[width]{pos}{cols}
```

### tabular column specification

1 Left-justified column.  
c Centered column.  
r Right-justified column.  
p[width] Same as \parbox[t]{width}.  
d[dec] Insert dec instead of inter-column space.  
l Inserts a vertical line between columns.

### tabular elements

\hline Horizontal line between rows.  
\cline[r-y] Horizontal line across columns x through y.  
\multicolumn{n}{cols}{text} A cell that spans n columns, with cols column specification.

### Math mode

For inline math, use \(\dots\) or  $\dots$ . For displayed math, use 
$$\dots$$
.

Superscript  $x^y$   $\frac{x}{y}$   $\sum_{k=1}^n x_k$   $\prod_{k=1}^n x_k$

### Math-mode symbols

$\leq$  \leq  $\geq$  \geq  $\neq$  \neq  $\approx$  \approx  
 $\times$  \times  $\div$  \div  $\pm$  \pm  $\cdot$  \cdot  $\cdot$  \cdot  
 $\circ$  \circ  $\circ$  \circ  $\circ$  \circ  $\cdot$  \cdot  
 $\infty$  \infty  $\neg$  \neg  $\wedge$  \wedge  $\vee$  \vee  
 $\subset$  \subset  $\supset$  \supset  $\forall$  \forall  $\forall$  \forall  $\rightarrow$  \rightarrow  
 $\subset$  \subset  $\exists$  \exists  $\exists$  \exists  $\rightarrow$  \rightarrow  
 $\cup$  \cup  $\cap$  \cap  $\mid$  \mid  $\leftrightarrow$  \leftrightarrow  
 $\dot{\alpha}$  \dot{\alpha}  $\hat{\alpha}$  \hat{\alpha}  $\bar{\alpha}$  \bar{\alpha}  $\alpha$  \alpha  
 $\alpha$  \alpha  $\beta$  \beta  $\gamma$  \gamma  $\delta$  \delta  
 $\epsilon$  \epsilon  $\zeta$  \zeta  $\eta$  \eta  $\theta$  \theta  
 $\theta$  \theta  $\iota$  \iota  $\kappa$  \kappa  $\lambda$  \lambda  
 $\lambda$  \lambda  $\mu$  \mu  $\nu$  \nu  $\xi$  \xi  
 $\pi$  \pi  $\rho$  \rho  $\sigma$  \sigma  $\tau$  \tau  
 $\upsilon$  \upsilon  $\phi$  \phi  $\chi$  \chi  $\psi$  \psi  
 $\omega$  \omega  $\Gamma$  \Gamma  $\Delta$  \Delta  $\Theta$  \Theta  
 $\Lambda$  \Lambda  $\Xi$  \Xi  $\Pi$  \Pi  $\Sigma$  \Sigma  
 $\Upsilon$  \Upsilon  $\Phi$  \Phi  $\Psi$  \Psi  $\Omega$  \Omega

### Bibliography and citations

When using BibTeX, you need to run latex, bibtex, and latex twice more to resolve dependencies.

### Citation types

\cite{key} Full author list and year. (Watson and Crick 1953)  
\citea{key} Full author list. (Watson and Crick)  
\citet{key} Full author list and year. Watson and Crick (1953)  
\shortcite{key} Abbreviated author list and year. ?  
\shortcitet{key} Abbreviated author list. ?  
\shortcitea{key} Abbreviated author list and year. ?  
\citeyear{key} Cite year only. (1953)  
All the above have an NP variant without parentheses; Ex. \citetNP.

### BibTeX entry types

@article Journal or magazine article.  
@book Book with publisher.  
@booklet Book without publisher.  
@conference Article in conference proceedings.  
@inbook A part of a book and/or range of pages.  
@incollection A part of book with its own title.  
@misc If nothing else fits.  
@phdthesis PhD. thesis.  
@proceedings Proceedings of a conference.  
@techreport Tech report, usually numbered in series.  
@unpublished Unpublished.

### BibTeX fields

address Address of publisher. Not necessary for major publishers.  
author Names of authors, of format ....  
booktitle Title of book when part of it is cited.  
chapter Chapter or section number.  
edition Edition of a book.  
editor Names of editors.  
institution Sponsoring institution of tech. report.  
journal Journal name.  
key Used for cross ref. when no author.  
month Month published. Use 3-letter abbreviation.  
note Any additional information.  
number Number of journal or magazine.  
organization Organization that sponsors a conference.  
pages Page range (2,6,9-12).  
publisher Publisher's name.  
school Name of school (for thesis).  
series Name of series of books.  
title Title of work.  
type Type of tech. report, ex. "Research Note".  
volume Volume of a journal or book.  
year Year of publication.

Not all fields need to be filled. See example below.

### Common BibTeX style files

abbrv Standard abstract alpha with abstract  
alpha Standard apa APA  
plain Standard unsorted

The LaTeX document should have the following two lines just before \end{document}, where bibfile.bib is the name of the BibTeX file.

```
\bibliographystyle{plain}
\bibliography{bibfile}
```

### BibTeX example

The BibTeX database goes in a file called file.bib, which is processed with BibTeX file.

```
@string{N = {\%a-ture}}
@article{WC:1953,
  author = {James Watson and Francis Crick},
  title = {A structure for Deoxyribonucleic Acid},
  journal = N,
  volume = {171},
  pages = {737},
  year = 1953
}
```

### Sample LaTeX document

```
\documentclass[11pt]{article}
\usepackage{fullpage}
\title{Template}
\author{Name}
\begin{document}
\maketitle

\section{section}
\subsection*{subsection without number}
text \textbf{bold text} text. Some math:  $2+2=5$ 
\subsection{subsection}
text \emph{emphasized text} text. \cite{WC:1953}
discovered the structure of DNA.
```

```
A table:
\begin{table}[t]
\begin{tabular}{|l|c|r|}
\hline
first & row & data \\
second & row & data \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\caption{This is the caption}
\label{ex:table}
\end{table}
```

The table is numbered \ref{ex:table}.

\end{document}

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http://www.stdot.org/~winston/latex/



- ▶ To write C/C++ code, any text editor can be used
  - ▶ But using a good IDE can greatly ease your job
- ▶ L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X is similar
  - ▶ Any text editor is OK, but a dedicated L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X editor/IDE is strongly recommended
- ▶ A dedicated L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X editor/IDE
  - ▶ can highlight and auto complete L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X keywords
  - ▶ has several L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X templates for several types of documents
  - ▶ facilitates compiling and debugging
  - ▶ ...
- ▶ Sample L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X editors are:
  - Texstudio; cross-platform
  - Kile; for Linux
  - and many others



Thanks to the “Arabi”\* package, Arabic and Farsi languages are supported with the “Babel” package.

- ▶ However, since arabic users are few, “Arabi” package is not mature enough and some minor bugs do exist
  - ▶ Googling about these bugs, usually you find the same of similar bugs do exist in other languages, and hence you can infer solutions/workarounds

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\*Thanks to GOD at first of course

# Keep Concentrating



Due to its WYSIWYM nature, I feel more concentrating while using **L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X** as compared to **Ms-Word**.

- ▶ Install L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X implementation. Notable implementations are:
  - ▶ **MiK<sub>T</sub>E<sub>X</sub>** Windows only<sup>\*</sup>
  - ▶ **T<sub>E</sub>X Live** cross-platform<sup>†</sup>
- ▶ Install T<sub>E</sub>X/L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X editor/IDE. Notable examples include:
  - ▶ **Texstudio** cross-platform<sup>†</sup>
  - ▶ **Kile** for Linux
  - ▶ ...

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<sup>\*</sup>Download the full MiK<sub>T</sub>E<sub>X</sub>. This is done using the “**Net Installer**”. First, download the full MiK<sub>T</sub>E<sub>X</sub>. After download completes, run the downloaded installer and install the full MiK<sub>T</sub>E<sub>X</sub>.

<sup>†</sup>Available for MS-Windows, Mac OS and Linux



Usually .tex files often reference other files (images, bibliography databases, ...).

- ▶ Hence, if you want to copy a L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X document to another computer, you have to copy all the referenced files as well

# Outline

- Technical Writing
  - L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X
  - LyX
  - Presentations using Beamer
- Vector Graphics using Inkscape
- References



LyX is a graphical front-end to L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X.

- ▶ You can think of the LyX-L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X relationship as similar to the Visual Studio-C++ compiler relationship
- ▶ Unlike L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, LyX comes with tidy and very good documentation
- ▶ Also it has a big community, i.e.,
  - ▶ it is mature enough
  - ▶ when you encounter a problem, google it. Most likely you will find others had encountered it and found a solution



# Keep your concentration



Due to its WYSIWYM nature, I feel very concentrating while using **LyX** as compared to **Ms-Word**.

# Arabic Support

Arabic is supported in LyX.





The following installation sequence is recommended:

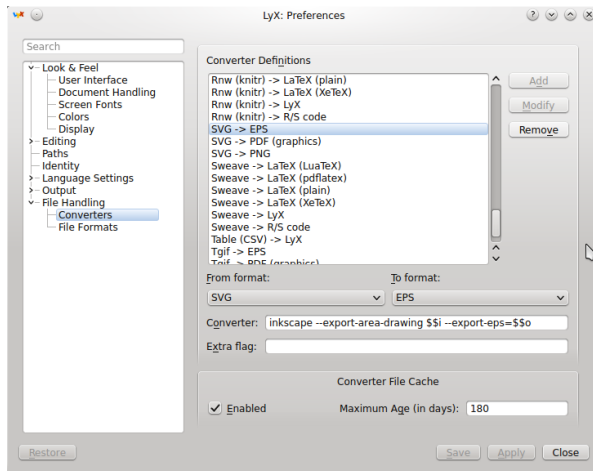
1. Install Inkscape
  - ▶ Confirm path to inkscape.exe is added to the “PATH” environment variable
2. Install the full MiKTeX (or T<sub>E</sub>X Live)
3. Install LyX

# Configuring Converters I

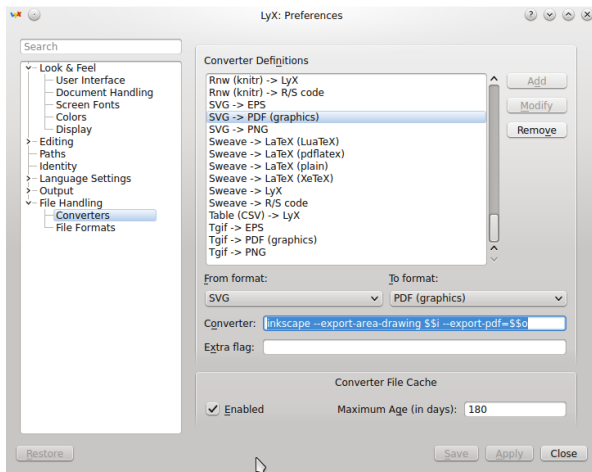
SVG is the file format used by the Inkscape graphing SW. Therefore, confirm that LyX uses Inkscape\* to convert SVG files as follows:

- ▶ Tools > Preferences > File Handling > Converters >†
  - ▶ SVG -> EPS > Converter > inkscape \$\$i  
--export-area-drawing --export-type="eps"
  - ▶ SVG -> PDF > Converter > inkscape \$\$i  
--export-area-drawing --export-type="pdf"
  - ▶ SVG -> PNG > Converter > inkscape \$\$i  
--export-type="png"
  - ▶ GIF -> PNG > Converter > magick convert '\$\$i[0]'  
\$\$o†

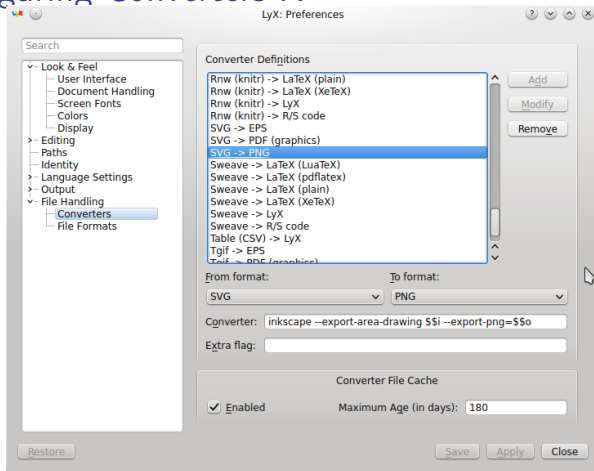
# Configuring Converters II



# Configuring Converters III



# Configuring Converters IV



\* Make sure that the Inkscape is installed, and the path of “inkscape.exe” is added to “path” environment variable. You can test this by executing “inkscape” from the command prompt.

† Note that Inkscape CLI has changed since version 1.0  
[[https://wiki.inkscape.org/wiki/index.php/Using\\_the\\_Command\\_Line#Changes\\_from\\_0.92](https://wiki.inkscape.org/wiki/index.php/Using_the_Command_Line#Changes_from_0.92)]



- ▶ **Explore** style-list, menus and toolbars.
- ▶ **Help menu** includes *very good* manuals.
  - ▶ Manuals themselves are LyX documents
    - ▶ So they are essentially very good LyX examples
  - ▶ You may begin with:
    - ▶ Introduction
    - ▶ Tutorial
- ▶ **C:\Program Files (x86)\LyX 2.3\Resources** folder contains wide variety of very good examples





Similar to L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X documents, .lyx files often reference other files (images, bibliography databases, ...).

- ▶ Hence, if you want to copy a LyX document to another computer, you have to copy all the referenced files as well

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Beamer is a L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X class for creating **professional** presentation slides.

- ▶ Beamer can also be easily used within LyX



Beamer-Article is a L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X class that renders Beamer slides on a standard sized paper\* to create *professional* presentation handouts.

- ▶ Frame titles are used as paragraph titles
- ▶ Slide layout/colors are not rendered
- ▶ Sectioning is kept
- ▶ Beamer-Article can be easily used within LyX

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\*like A4 or letter

# Keep your concentration



Due to its WYSIWYM nature, I feel very very very concentrating while using **LyX-Beamer** as compared to **Ms-Power Point**.

# Installing Beamer



- ▶ Beamer class is usually installed by default with MiKTeX, T<sub>E</sub>XLive
- ▶ Also templates for both Beamer-presentation and Beamer-article are included by default with LyX



- From **LyX**

**Help** > Specific Manuals > Beamer Presentations  
**Explore** the styles list and Insert menu\*

- **Beamer User Guide** explain creating Beamer presentations in plain L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X and LyX as well
- For **customization** of Beamer presentations, check the “BEAMER appearance cheat sheet” at <http://science.thilucmic.fr>
- For various **themes** of Beamer presentation, check <http://www.hartwork.org/beamer-theme-matrix/>
- Also a very good variety of presentations are attached to this course

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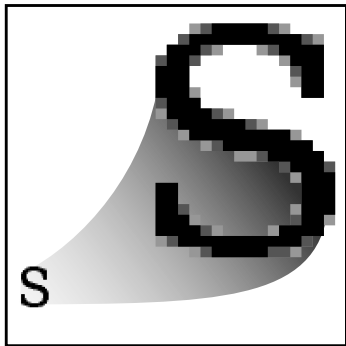
\*Styles will be available after you set the current document type to Beamer. This is done from the menu command “Document>Settings>Document Class>Beamer”

# Outline

- Technical Writing
- Vector Graphics using Inkscape
- References

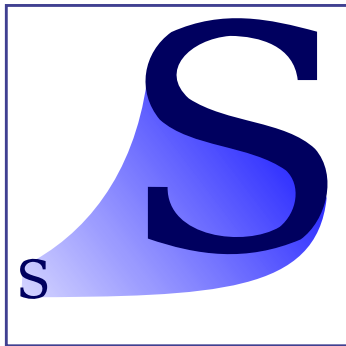


# Raster vs Vector Graphics I



## Raster

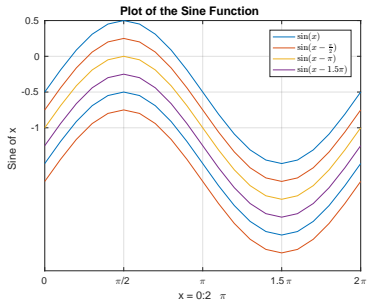
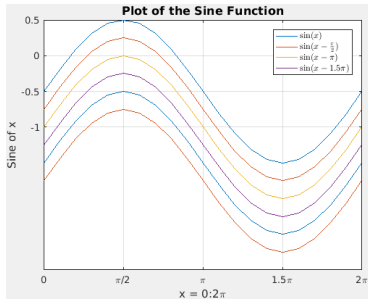
.bmp .jpeg .png



## Vector

.emf .svg .pdf .eps

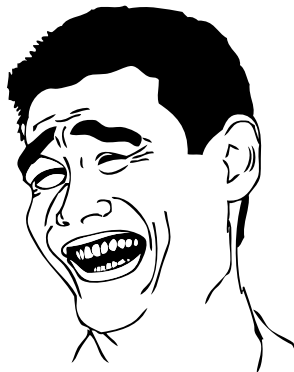
# Raster vs Vector Graphics II



# Raster vs Vector Graphics III



# Raster vs Vector Graphics IV



# Graphics Formats

Raster		Vector	
.bmp	Uncompressed	.pdf	Compressed
.png	Loose-less compression	.eps	
.jpg	Lossy compression	.emf	Compatible with MS office
		.svg	
⋮		⋮	

# Vector Graphics Editors



- ▶ Adobe Illustrator (*de facto* standard; bloated)
- ▶ Corel Draw (bloated)
- ▶ Inkscape (light, open source, free,

cross-platform and popular; my favorite)

- ▶ LibreOffice Draw
- ▶ ...



- ▶ Free
- ▶ Open source
- ▶ Cross platform
- ▶ Has a big community, i.e.,
  - ▶ it is mature enough
  - ▶ when you encounter a problem, google it. Most likely you will find others had encountered it and found a solution
- ▶ Much much powerful than MS-Word or MS-Power point sketching capabilities
- ▶ Has several plugins that greatly expand its capabilities

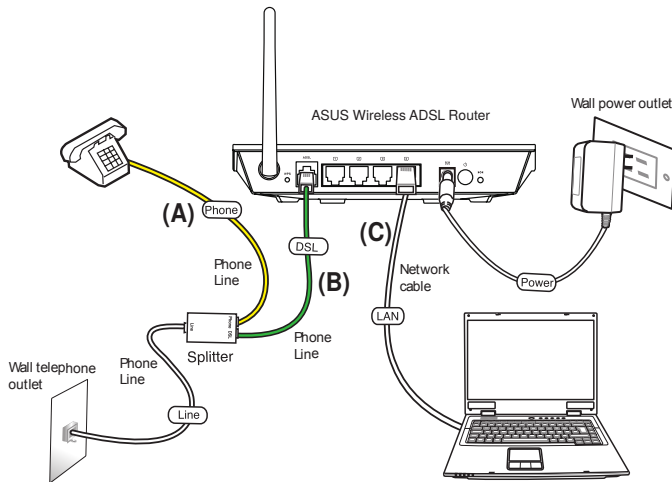


- ▶ Inkscape is based on bezier curves
  - ▶ Defines a curve using four information, start, end, start tangent and end tangent
- ▶ Additionally, you can draw and edit:

▶ straight lines	▶ $\text{\LaTeX}$ formulas
▶ circles/arcs/ellipses	▶ function curves
▶ text	▶ ...



# Import Graphics from pdf



- You can import vector graphics from pdf files, and even edit them

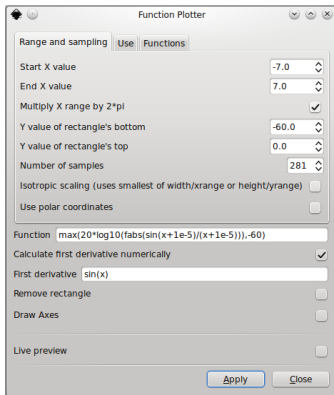
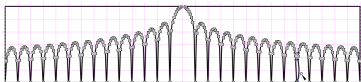
# Outline

- Technical Writing
- Vector Graphics using Inkscape
  - Interesting Plug-ins
  - Learning Inkscape
- References

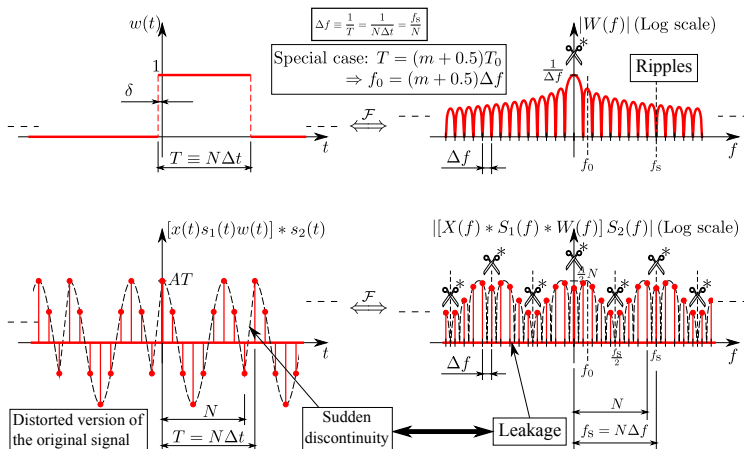
# Function Plotter

Function Plotter is a built in plugin.

- ▶ It uses Bézier curves, same as Inkscape
- ▶ It calculates the function derivative and use it to adjust the curve slope
  - ▶ It produces very smooth curves using much less points than Matlab
  - ▶ You can still modify the end/control points



It allows you to write/edit  $\text{\LaTeX}$  formulas inside Inkscape



# Outline

- Technical Writing
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- References



- ▶ **Explore** menus and toolbars
- ▶ **Official manual** [1] is very good and detailed
  - ▶ Chapters 1 includes 10 examples
    - ▶ The first 3 examples are enough for a good start
  - ▶ Chapters 5 explains editing
    - ▶ Surf it fast
- ▶ **Help menu** includes tutorials, FAQ, ...
- ▶ <http://inkscape.tutorials.org/>

# Outline

- Technical Writing
- Vector Graphics using Inkscape
- References

 T. Bah, *Inkscape*. Prentice Hall, 2011. [Online].  
Available: [http://www.ebook.de/de/product/14765413/tavmjong\\_bah\\_inkscape.html](http://www.ebook.de/de/product/14765413/tavmjong_bah_inkscape.html)