An Introduction to LaTeX

ACM

New York University

2019

Why the f*** does this exist?

Most of us begin our word processing journey with huble intentions

Get the thing typed!

So why bother with LaTeX?

Why the f*** does this exist?

1. It's beautiful.
   - *Especially* for math.
   - Try and find a paper on Arxiv not written in LaTeX.
2. It was created by scientists, for scientists.
   - Large and active community.
   - Online support is readily found.
3. It's powerful; extremely rich package community.

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   - Journal articles and theses, with or without complex math notation.
   - The technical publishing industry.
   - Your professors when cooking up problem sets to torture you with.

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3. "You take care of writing, and we'll take care of presentation."

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How does this work?

1. You specify the input in a source file.
   - Vi/Vim, Emacs, Sublime, . . .
   - TeXMaker, TeXStudio, . . .
2. LaTeX processes the content and decides how best to typeset it.

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I have a Latin test \textbf {tomorrow}, but here I am \dots
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> I have a Latin test **tomorrow**, but here I am . . .