InfPALS - LaTeX Workshop

InfPALS

University of Edinburgh

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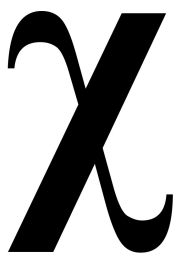
What is LaTeX?

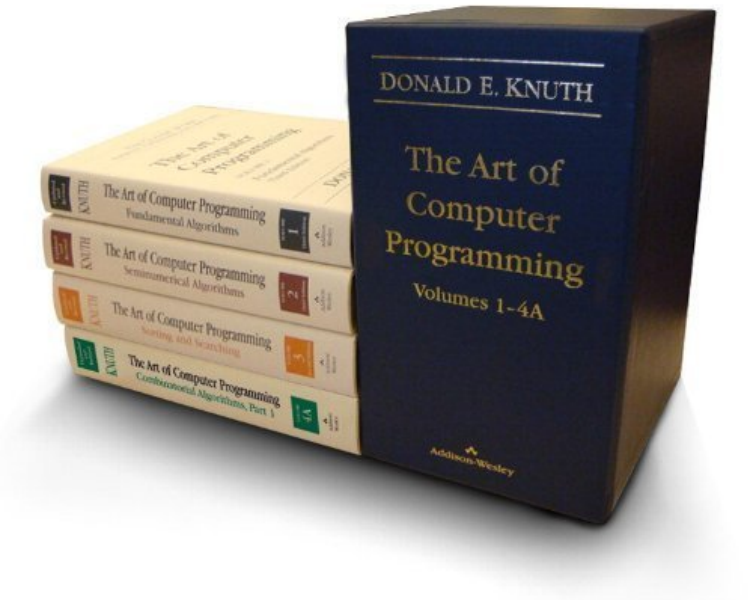
- Typesetting tool commonly used in academia
- **In short:** LaTeX takes descriptive code and outputs a document file (PDF)
- **Why:** Well, have you ever tried to type a maths formula in Word?
- **Common strengths:**
  - Mathematical Notation
  - Separation of Content and Style
  - Document References (clickable links)
  - Bibliography
  - Highlighting programming code in documents

Pitfall Pronunciation

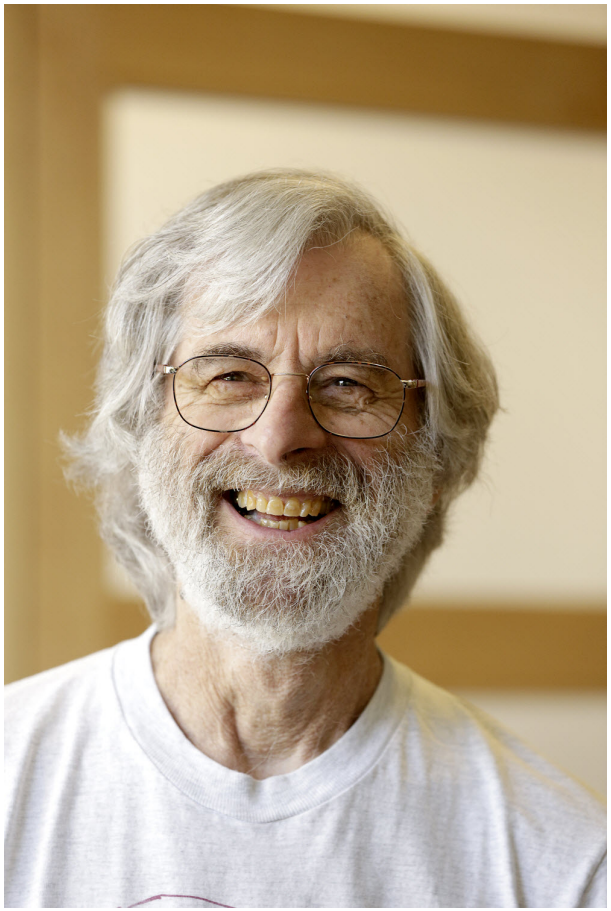
- The X in LaTeX represent the Greek letter Chi χ
- Pronounce **Latech** with tech as in **tech**nology



TEX- The Roots of LATEX



- While writing his book **The Art of Computer Programming** in the 1970s Stanford professor Donald Knuth wasn't satisfied with the typesetting systems available
- He planned to take 6 months out to create his own typesetting system TEX (ultimately it took him around 10 years)



- In an attempt to make the rather complicated TeX system more usable computer scientist Leslie Lamport created a now widely used macro package for TeX known as LaTeX

Overleaf

- Online environment for LaTeX
- "Google Docs for Science"
- Collaboration with UoE
  (sign up with university email)
- `www.overleaf.com`

So what are we doing today?

- Warm Up: the basics of LaTeX
- Activity 1: Lists, Tables and Graphics
- Activity 2: Typesetting Maths and Code
- Activity 3: Macros and BibTeX
- Extension: Build your own template

Let's get to work!

You can find all the materials at:

`https://github.com/pedro-hdt/infpals-latex`

If you are already comfortable with the basics, feel free to skip ahead.

We will be around to help!