

*T<sub>E</sub>Xtacular*

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## Idea

- Make L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X accessible to everyone
- Simplify creation of beautiful documents

## Audience

- Users who prefer point-and-click and simple forms over manual creation of T<sub>E</sub>X source
- Those less technically inclined



## Implementation Details

- Main frame contains a concrete `TemplatePanel` with inputs, a few buttons at the bottom, and a `PreviewPanel` on the right
- A `TeXHandler` class handles compilation of `TeX` source
  - Uses `latexmk` and a script to compile
- `PreviewPanel` updates automatically with the contents of the compiled PDF
- Third party libraries
  - `MiGLayout`
  - `Sun PDF-Renderer`
  - `PgsLookAndFeel`

## Difficulties & Concerns

- How best to handle template types
- Reasonable method of laying out components without a completely different strategy for each template type
- Auto-updating PDF panel and zooming (conversion of PDF to a `BufferedImage` – far from perfect)
- Handling application and `latexmk` compilation errors

## Future

- Improve scrolling inside preview panel
  - Currently click and drag but can be flaky
- More general, approachable way for building templates
- Improve scaling of PDF preview
- Add “Save”, “Load”, “Print” options
- Add Windows support