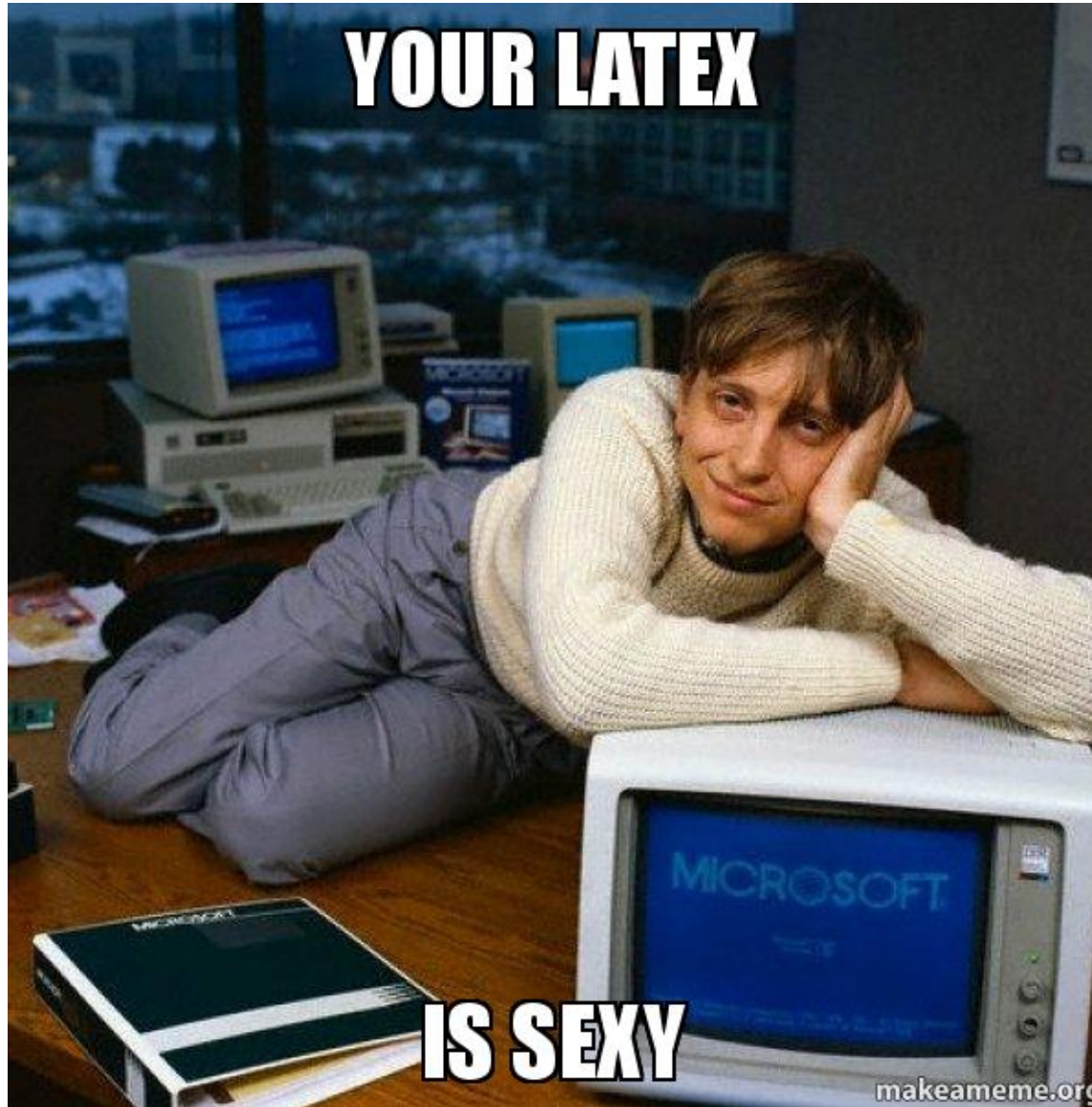


**YOUR LATEX**



**IS SEXY**

makeameme.org


# Intro to L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X


1. Why use LaTeX?
2. What is LaTeX – History and Intro
3. Getting started: Commands, Special characters, Environments, Math, Document Structure, Figures, Tables, Cross-referencing, Bibliographies
4. Project Structure: All the files, `salfordthesis.cls`
5. HELP!

# 1. Why LaTeX?


- It makes beautiful documents
  - Especially mathematics
- It was created by scientists, for scientists
  - A large and active community
- It is powerful & open — you can extend it
  - Packages for papers, presentations, spreadsheets, . . .
  - Ready made classes
- **FREE!**


# 1. Why LaTeX?

PUBLISHABOUTBROWSE

SEARCH 

advanced search

 OPEN ACCESS

 CORRECTION

## Correction: An Efficiency Comparison of Document Preparation Systems Used in Academic Research and Development

The PLOS ONE Staff

Published: April 23, 2015 • <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0125830>

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## 2. What is LaTeX?

English:

*/ˈlɑːtɛx/* LAH-tekh or */ˈleɪtɛx/* LAY-tekh

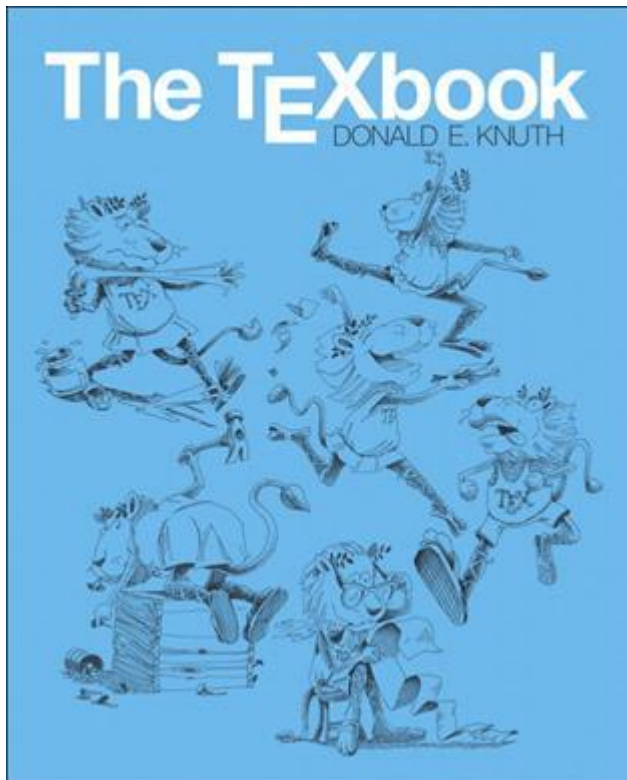
Actually derived from Greek:

τέχνη (skill, art, technique)



## 2. What is LaTeX?

TeX written and developed by Donald Knuth in 1970's as a typesetting system



LaTeX extension by Lamport (and others) throughout the 1980s and 90s

Current version (since 1994) known as LaTeX2e

## 2. What is LaTeX?

### **Separate presentation from content**

- Use commands to describe ‘what it is’, not ‘how it looks’
  - WYSIWYG – MS Word, LibreWriter, Pages...
  - WYMIWW – LaTeX, RMarkdown, HTML...
- Focus on your *content*
- Let LaTeX do its job

## 2. What is LaTeX?

**Distributions:**  
TeXlive, MiKTeX,  
MacTeX, Overleaf...

Editors: TeXstudio, Lyx...

Packages: for everything

Formats: LaTeX2e, Plain TeX, ConTeXt

Engine: pdfTeX, LuaTeX, XeTeX



## 2. What is LaTeX?

- Write documents in plain text with *commands* that describe its structure and meaning.
- LaTeX program processes text and commands to produce a formatted document.

The quick brown fox jumps over the `\textit{lazy}` dog



The quick brown fox jumps over the *lazy* dog

## 2. What is LaTeX?

Hello World.

`\bye`

```
$ pdftex hello.tex
```

`\documentclass{article}`

`\begin{document}`

Hello World.

`\end{document}`

```
$ pdflatex hello.tex
```

`\starttext`

Hello World.

`\stoptext`

```
$ context hello.tex
```

### 3. Getting started

- *Commands* start with a backslash \ .
- Every document starts with a `\documentclass` command.
- The *argument* in curly braces `{ }` tells LaTeX what kind of
- document we are creating: an article.
- *Options* can be passed to *arguments* with square brackets `[]`
- A percent sign `%` starts a comment

OL1\_hello-world.tex

### 3. Getting started

- Type text between `\begin{document}` and `\end{document}`.
- Words are separated by one or more spaces
- Paragraphs are separated by one or more blank lines, or use `\par`.
- Quotations use back tick left, apostrophe right:

`` `text` ``

``text``

`“text”`

`‘text’`

# 3. Getting started

Special (or reserved) Characters:

% : comment

# : designate parameters for macros you create

& : array alignment (e.g. eqns. aligned on '=')

\$ : mathematics

To write these *literally* we can use \ to escape:

\% \# \& \\$

OL2\_escape.tex

# 3. Getting started

Italics:

Your \LaTeX `\textit{sexy}`.

Bold:

Your latex `\textbf{sexy}`.

Underline:

Your latex `\underline{sexy}`.

Combine:

Your latex `\textbf{\textit{sexy}}`.

Emphasise:

`\textit{Your latex \emph{sexy}}`.

Your latex `\emph{sexy}`.

### 3. Getting started

`\begin{itemize}`

`\item` One entry in the list

`\item` Another entry in the list

`\end{itemize}`

`\begin{enumerate}`

`\item` The labels consists of sequential numbers.

`\item` The numbers start at 1 with every call to the enumerate environment.

`\end{enumerate}`

Line breaks and spacing:

`\\`

`\newline`

`\hfill \break`

### 3. Getting started

LaTeX does not indent first paragraph by default:

```
\setlength{\parindent}{10ex} % an "ex" equals the length of the  
"x" in the current font
```

This is the text in first paragraph. This is the text in first  
paragraph. This is the text in first paragraph. \par

```
\noindent %The next paragraph is not indented
```

This is the text in second paragraph

```
\begin{flushleft} % or centre or flushright
```

\LaTeX is a document preparation system and document  
markup language.

```
\end{flushleft}
```



# 3. Getting started

## Environments

- Equation is an *environment* — a context.
- Command can produce different output in different contexts.
- `$ \Omega = \sum_{k=1}^n \omega_k $` % in line text
- `\begin{equation}`
- `\Omega = \sum_{k=1}^n \omega_k` % displayed
- `\end{equation}`
- `\begin{math}...\end{math}`

# 3. Getting started

## Mathematics

Let  $a$  and  $b$  be positive integers, and let  $c = a - b + 1$ .

Let  $y = m x + b$  be  $\dots$

$y = C_2 x^2 + c_1 x + c_0$  %  $\_$  subscript and  $^$  superscript

$F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$  % groups sub/superscripts with  $\{ \}$

$\begin{equation}$

$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

$\end{equation}$

where  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  are  $\dots$

# 3. Getting started

## Mathematics

Greek letters and other symbols:

\_x005F\_x0001\_

[http://www.rpi.edu/dept/arc/training/latex/LaTeX\\_symbols.pdf](http://www.rpi.edu/dept/arc/training/latex/LaTeX_symbols.pdf)

[https://www.overleaf.com/learn/latex/List\\_of\\_Greek\\_letters\\_and\\_math\\_symbols](https://www.overleaf.com/learn/latex/List_of_Greek_letters_and_math_symbols)

OL3\_math.tex

# 3. Getting started

## Structuring a document

```
\begin{abstract}
```

Abstract goes here...

```
\end{abstract}
```

```
\section{Introduction}
```

```
\section{Method}
```

We investigate \ldots

```
\subsection{Sample Preparation}
```

```
\subsection*{Data Collection}
```

```
\section{Results}
```

```
\section{Conclusion}
```

OL4\_structure.tex

# 3. Getting started

## Figures

- Figures and Tables float in LaTeX
- htbp (here, top, bottom, page)
- Float package has an ‘exactly here’ method

```
\begin{figure}[htbp]\centering
  \includegraphics[width=0.8\linewidth]{figs/myimage.pdf}
  \caption[Caption as it appears in ToC]{Long caption
about my beautiful image.}
  \label{fig:myimage}
\end{figure}
```

# 3. Getting started

## Figures

```
\usepackage{rotating}
```

```
\begin{sidewaysfigure}[htbp]\centering  
  \includegraphics[width=0.8\linewidth]  
  {figs/myimage.pdf}  
  \caption[Caption as it appears in ToC]{Long  
caption about my beautiful image.}  
  \label{fig:mysidewaysimage}  
\end{sidewaysfigure}
```

### 3. Getting started

#### Tables

Basically, a nightmare in LaTeX. Use:

<https://www.tablesgenerator.com/>

# 3. Getting started

## Cross-referencing

- Use `\label` and `\ref` for automatic numbering.
- The `amsmath` package provides `\eqref` for referencing equations.

```
\section{Method}  
\label{sec:method}
```

In section `\ref{sec:method}` we defined `\ldots`  
See Figure `\ref{fig:bill}` for a weird picture of Bill Gates.



# 3. Getting started

## Bibliographies

- Most popular package is natbib
- Takes bibtex format - .bib files
  - Can be exported from most citation managers

```
@article{brant2000phylo,  
  title={Phylogeny of species of the genus \textit{Litomosoides}  
(Nematoda: Oncyrocercidae): evidence of rampant host switching},  
  author={Brant, Sara V and Gardner, Scott L},  
  journal={Journal of Parasitology},  
  volume={86},  
  number={3},  
  pages={545--555},  
  year={2000}  
}
```

# 3. Getting started

## Bibliographies

`\citep{brant2000phylo}` (Brant & Gardner, 2000)

`\citet{brant2000phylo}` Brant & Gardner (2000)

`\citealt{brant2000phylo}` Brant & Gardner 2000

`\cites{brant2000phylo}` Brant & Gardner's (2000)

`\citeay{brant2000phylo}` Brant & Gardner, 2000

# 3. Project structure

## Handling a thesis

- School guidelines – `salfordthesis.cls`
  - Sans serif,
  - 12pt,
  - one-sided,
  - Minimum 1.5 line spacing
  -
- Files and directories
- Using a 'main' control file

I'm gonna practice  
my LaTeX... bye!

