Exercise 1 - Running LaTeX, Editing & Compiling LaTeX Documents

UGC 'LaTeX: An Introduction (Part 1)' Training Course

February 10th 2014

> The USB drive you have been given contains a portable distribution of MiKTeX for Windows, which can be run directly from the USB drive with no installation required. *Please return the drive at the end of the day, it is needed for another course!*

In order to run MiKTeX, open the folder on the USB drive entitled `Miktex` and run (double click) on the file named `miktex-portable.cmd`. This will place a MiKTeX icon in the system notification tray, as in Figure 1. From this icon you can set MiKTeX options, open a command prompt to compile LaTeX files from the command line, or start TeXworks – the text editor provided with MiKTeX for editing LaTeX.

Figure 1: MiKTeX icon in System Tray

1. Right-click on the MiKTeX tray icon and select '`TeXworks`'. After a short time, the `TeXworks` editor should open as in Figure 2.

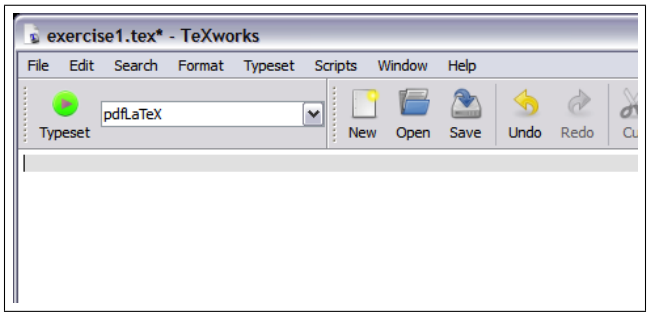

Figure 2: TeXworks window

The green icon in the top-left corner of the window will compile and display your LaTeX files. The drop-down box next to it allows you to select the LaTeX compilation method you wish to use. We are creating simple LaTeX documents, so there is no need to run `makeindex` or `bibtex` when compiling our documents.

2. If it is not already selected, choose '`pdflatex`' in the drop down box.
3. Save your file somewhere in your filespace with a suitable name (something like `exercise1.tex` perhaps?).

We are now ready to start creating our first LaTeX document.

4. Enter the LaTeX code below:

```
1  \documentclass{article}
2  \begin{document}
3    Hello World!
4  \end{document}
```

5. Click the green arrow to compile your document. The console output window will show you the process of LaTeX compilation, then the resulting `.pdf` file will be displayed. Hopefully, it should look like Figure 3

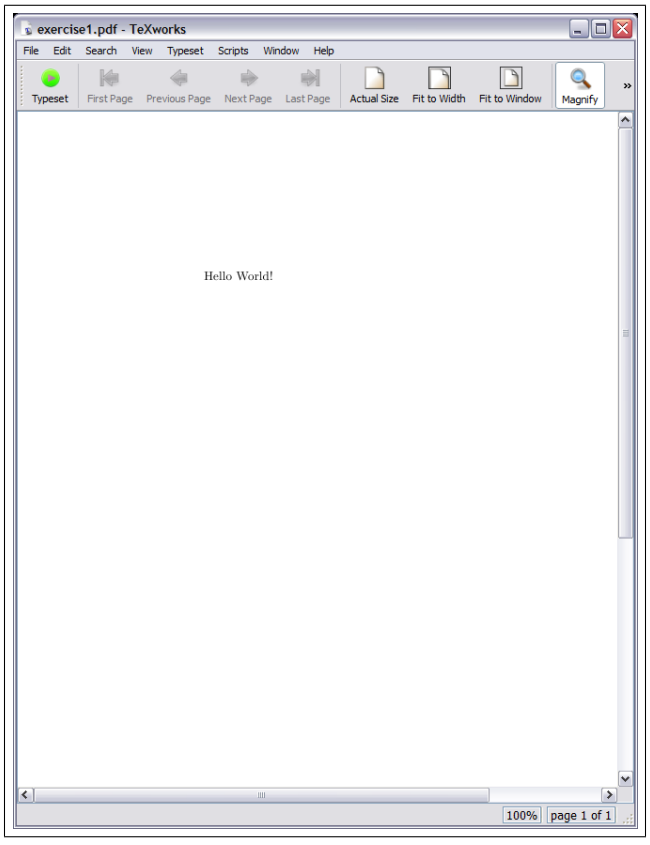

Figure 3: Completed Output

Congratulations! You just edited and compiled your first LaTeX document!