# LaTeX

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07-131 Great Practical Ideas in CS

#### LaTeX



- LaTeX is a high-quality typesetting system.
- Pronunciation: LAH tekh.
- Standard for communication and publication of scientific documents.
- Free software. \o/
- Why not Word? (or another WYSIWYG\* document tool)
  - Typing math in Word is annoying.
  - Easy to get typesetting wrong.
  - Managing references is hard.

<sup>\*</sup> What you see is what you get.

### Do I really need to?

- Be nice to your reader (that can be your future self).
- Create clear and readable documents (i.e. pretty is better than ugly).
- Some courses at CMU require your homework to be typeset (for good reason!).
- Many (most?) conferences and journals require LaTeX files to publish papers.
- Take time to learn once, and save time for the rest of your life (which should really be the slogan of this course).

$$\frac{5}{6} \sum_{v \in V} (A^2[v][v] - (A^2[v][v])^2)$$

#### Installation

#### Local installation:

- You need to install TeX Live by hand\*.
- Files are kept locally on your machine.
- Edit the files on your favorite IDE.
- You can work from a plane.
- Compilation is faster.
- Collaboration requires another tool (e.g. git).

#### **Using Overleaf:**

- You need to create a user in overleaf.com.
- Files are kept online.
- Edit the files on the website.
- You need to be online to work.
- Compilation is slower.
- Collaboration is easier.

Choose wisely... or try both if you are unsure.

<sup>\*</sup> For Ubuntu-based distributions, the command is apt-get install texlive-full

## Basics

\end{document}

This part is called the *preamble*. \documentclass[a4paper, 11pt]{article} Indicates which kind of document this is. \usepackage{...} Imported packages.  $\mathbf{newcommand}\{\ldots\}$ Your defined commands. \title{...} \_\_\_\_\_ Self-explanatory. \author{...} \begin{document} \maketitle Most of your stuff goes inside the *document* block. % Comments start with % Starts a new section. \section{...} ·

### **Typing Text**

- Bold text: \textbf{...} Italic text: \textit{...} Emphasized text: \emph { . . . } (because italic inside italic is invisible) Underlined text: \underline{...} New paragraph: two line breaks New line: \newline (I rarely use this...) New page: \newpage Quotation marks: `` ... '' (two backticks, two single quotes) Sections: \section{...}, \subsection{...},
- Escape special characters: \ { and \ } for { and }, etc.

\subsubsection{...}, ...

### **Typing Math**

Math has to be written in "math-mode" in LaTeX. That means:

- Between \$...\$ for *inline* math:
  - $\circ$  The fraction  $\frac{1}{2}$  is equivalent to 0.5.
- Between \[ ... \] (or \$\$...\$\$) for a centered equation:
  - O Bhaskara's formula is:
     \[ x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 4ac}}{2a} \]
- Inside an equation environment for numbered equations:
  - o \begin{equation} \label{pyth}
     a^2 + b^2 = c^2
     \end{equation}
     Equation~\ref{pyth} is Pythagoras' theorem.

### Typing Really Long Math

Math expressions can be split into multiple lines and aligned for better visualization.

Use the *align\** environment (in the amsmath package), separating columns with &:

```
\begin{align*}
  \Delta &= \sqrt{5^2 - 4 \times 2 \times 2} \\
       &= \sqrt{25 - 16} \\
       &= \sqrt{25 - 16} \\
       &= \sqrt{9} \\
       &= 3
\end{align*}
```

$$\Delta = \sqrt{5^2 - 4 \times 2 \times 2}$$

$$= \sqrt{25 - 16}$$

$$= \sqrt{25 - 16}$$

$$= \sqrt{9}$$

$$= 3$$

### Typing Code

• The verbatim environment ignores LaTeX commands and respect spaces:

```
\begin{verbatim} ... \end{verbatim}
```

But for pretty code, better use package listings

#### Typing Code: Listings

#### Configuration in Preamble

```
\usepackage[usenames,dvipsnames]{color}
\usepackage{listings}
% Listings setting for Python code
\usepackage{listings}
  basicstyle=\small\ttfamily,
  breakatwhitespace=true,
  breaklines=true,
  language=Python,
 otherkeywords={self},
 commentstyle=\itshape,
 xleftmargin=10pt,
 rangeprefix=/*\,
  rangesuffix=\ */,
  includerangemarker=false,
  keywordstyle=\color{Red},
  commentstyle=\color{Gray},
  stringstyle=\color{Green}
```

#### Code in Text

```
\begin{lstlisting}
def f(pairs):
      d = dict()
      for pair in pairs:
      p1 = pair[0]
      p2 = pair[1]
      if p1 in d:
            d[p1] += 1
            d[p1] = 1
      if p2 in d:
            d[p2] += 1
            d[p2] = 1
      return d
\end{lstlisting}
```

#### Output

```
def f(pairs):
    d = dict()
    for pair in pairs:
        p1 = pair[0]
        p2 = pair[1]
        if p1 in d:
            d[p1] += 1
        else:
            d[p1] = 1
        if p2 in d:
            d[p2] += 1
        else:
            d[p2] = 1
    return d
```

### Creating your own LaTeX macros

• If you find yourself typing a sequence of commands a lot, you can abbreviate them with a macro:

```
    Macro definition: \newcommand {\pyth} [3] {#1^2 + #2^2 = #3^2}
    Macro usage: $\pyth {a} {b} {c} $
    Rendering: a² + b² = c²
```

- Define macros in the preamble so not to lose them or redefine things.
- Be careful if the command needs to be used inside math mode or not.
- Some people have their own macros file that they use for every LaTeX project.
   You can do that for your CMU homeworks:)

Final fun fact: LaTeX is a programming language ;)

## LaTeX References

Links on the right

- <u>LaTeX Cheat Sheet</u>
- Homework Template
- The Comprehensive LaTeXSymbol List
- <u>LaTeX tutorial by Overleaf</u>

# It's smashlab time!

### Lab tips

- Read the instructions before starting.
- Each task is a file describing how to modify it.
- Uncomment each task in main.tex to work on it.
- There may be hints around to help you.
- You must submit the final pdf and source tex files!
- The makefile will only work if you have a local LaTeX installation.