



Contents

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Introduction

This manual is not a systematic discussion about math in `CONTEX`T but more a collection of wrap-ups. The file also serves as testcase. The content can change over time and can also serve as a trigger for discussions on the mailing list. Suggestions are welcome.

We discuss high level as well as low level commands. Some of the low level commands (primitives) are wrapped in high level commands but you can of course always revert to bare `TEX`.

I won't go into much detail about typesetting beautiful math, for that I refer to the `TEX`book.¹

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¹ The most beautiful math is not typeset by `TEX` anyway: just search on YouTube for “Mathematics” by Hollie McNish, the Metropole Orkest (conducted by Jules Buckley) and Martin Pyper.

1 Vertical spacing

The low level way to input inline math in \TeX is

```
$ e = mc^2 $
```

while display math can be entered like:

```
$$ e = mc^2 $$
```

The inline method is still valid, but for display math the `$$` method should not be used. This has to do with the fact that we want to control spacing in a consistent way. In \ConTeXt the vertical spacing model is rather stable although in \MkIV the implementation is quite different. It has always been a challenge to let this mechanism work well with space round display formulas. This has to do with the fact that (in the kind of documents that we have to produce) interaction with already present spacing is somewhat tricky.

Of course much can be achieved in \TeX but in \ConTeXt we need to have control over the many mechanisms that can interact. Given the way \TeX handles space around display math there is no real robust solution possible that gives visually consistent space in all cases so that is why we basically disable the existing spacing model. Disabling is easier in \LuaTeX and recent versions of \MkIV have been adapted to that.

In pure \TeX what happens is this:

```
$$ x $$
```

\TeX



A horizontal box (visualized by the thin rule on its baseline) get added which triggers a `baselineskip`. Then the formula is put below it. We can get rid of that box with `\noindent`:

```
\noindent $$ x $$
```



In addition (not shown here) vertical space is added before and after the formula and left- and rightskip on the edges. In fact typesetting display math goes like this:

- typeset the formula using display mode and wrap it in a box
- add an equation number, if possible in the same line, otherwise on a line below
- in the process center the formula using the available display width and required display indentation
- add vertical space above and below (depending also in displays being short in relation to the previous line)
- at the same time also add penalties that determine the break across pages

Apart from the spacing around the formula and the equation number, typesetting is not different from:

```
\hbox {$ \displaystyle x $}
```

So this is what we will use by default in `CONTEX` in order to better control spacing as spacing around math is a sensitive issue. Because math itself can have a narrow band, for instance a lone x , or relative much depth, as with y , or both depth and height as in $(1,2)$ and $x^2 + y_2$ and because a preceding line can have no or little depth and a following line little height, the visual appearance can become inconsistent. The default approach is to force consistent spacing, but when needed we can implement variants.

Spacing around display math is set up with `\setupformulas`:

```
\setupformulas
  [spacebefore=big,
   spaceafter=big]
```

When the whitespace is larger that setting wins because as usual the larger of blanks or whitespace wins.

In figures 1.1, figures 1.2 and 1.3 we see how things interact. We show lines with and without maximum line height and depth (enforced by struts) alongside.

Because we want to have control over the placement of the formula number but also want to be able to align the formula with the left or right edge of the text area, we don't use the native display handler by default. We still have a way to force this, but this is only for testing purposes. By default a formula is placed centered relative to the current text, including left and right margins.

```
\fakewords{20}{40}
```

```
\startitemize
  \startitem
    \fakewords{20}{40}
    \placeformula
      \startformula
        \fakeformula
      \stopformula
    \stopitem
  \startitem
    \fakewords{20}{40}
  \stopitem
\stopitemize
```

```
\fakewords{20}{40}\epar
```



Handwriting practice sheet for the letter 'u' in cursive. The sheet features multiple rows of dashed lines for tracing and solid lines for independent writing. The letter 'u' is shown in various sizes and orientations, including uppercase 'U' and lowercase 'u'. The practice includes the letter 'u' in isolation, as well as in combinations like 'u + a = ua' and 'u + b = ub'. The letter 'u' is written in a cursive style, with a small loop at the top and a tail that curves back to the right.

Handwriting practice sheet for the letter 'u' in cursive. The sheet includes multiple rows of dashed lines for tracing and solid lines for independent writing. The letter 'u' is shown in various sizes and orientations, including lowercase 'u' and uppercase 'U'. The sheet includes a large 'u' at the top, followed by several rows of smaller 'u's for tracing. Below these are rows of 'u's with arrows indicating the stroke direction. The bottom section contains a large 'u' with a box around it, and a row of 'u's with arrows indicating the stroke direction.

Handwriting practice sheet for the letter 'u'.

The sheet is divided into four main sections, each containing a row of 'u' characters for tracing and a row for independent writing.

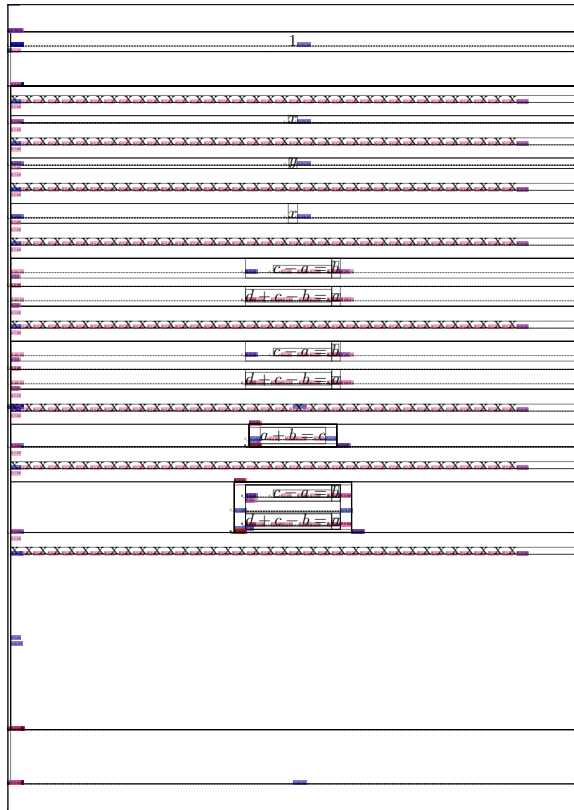
Section 1: The first row shows 'u' characters with numbered arrows indicating stroke order. The second row shows 'u' characters with a small 'u' and an arrow indicating stroke order.

Section 2: The first row shows 'u' characters with numbered arrows indicating stroke order. The second row shows 'u' characters with a small 'u' and an arrow indicating stroke order.

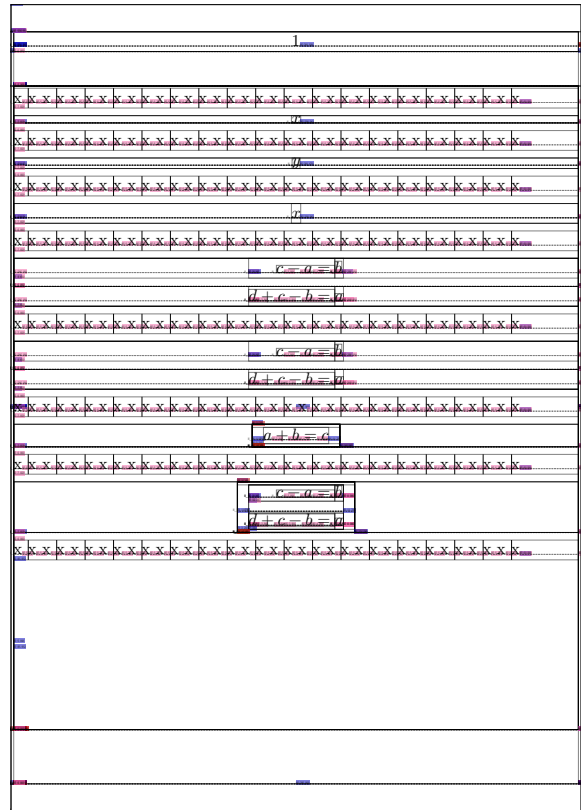
Section 3: The first row shows 'u' characters with numbered arrows indicating stroke order. The second row shows 'u' characters with a small 'u' and an arrow indicating stroke order.

Section 4: The first row shows 'u' characters with numbered arrows indicating stroke order. The second row shows 'u' characters with a small 'u' and an arrow indicating stroke order.

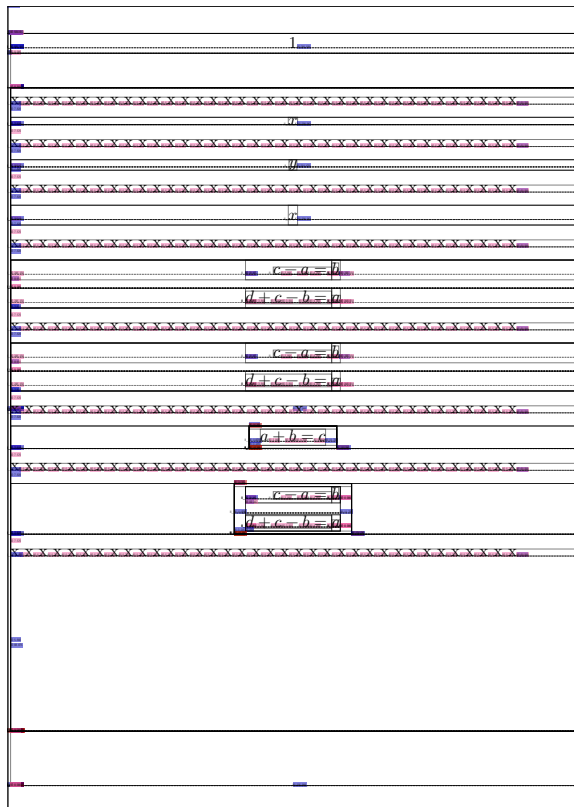
Figure 1.1 No whitespace.



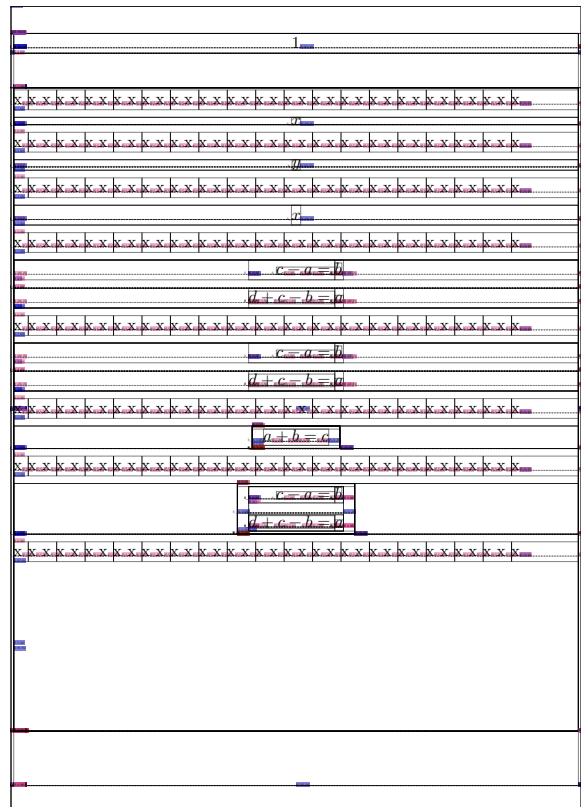
natural + none + ws medium



strut + none + ws medium

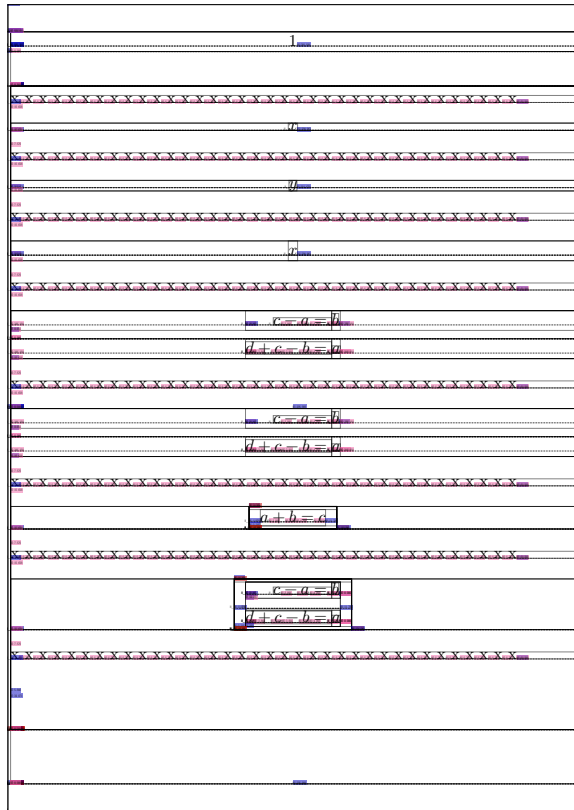


natural + medium + ws medium

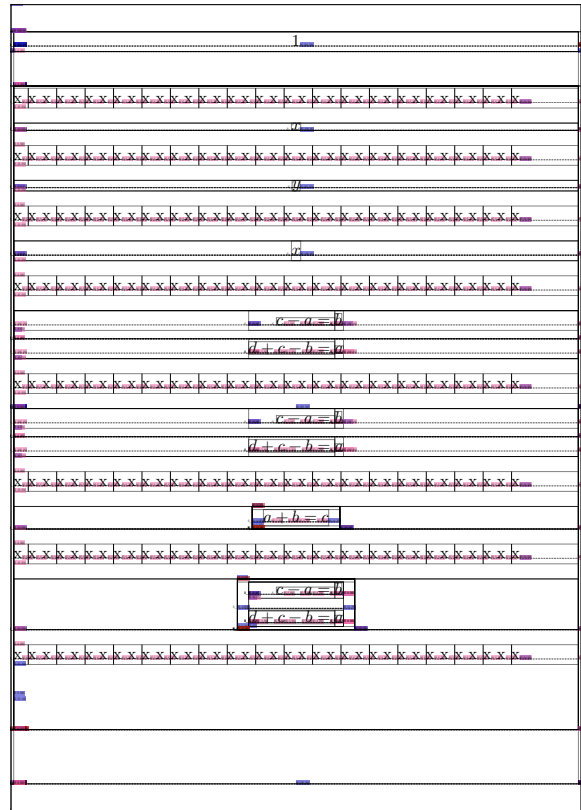


strut + medium + ws medium

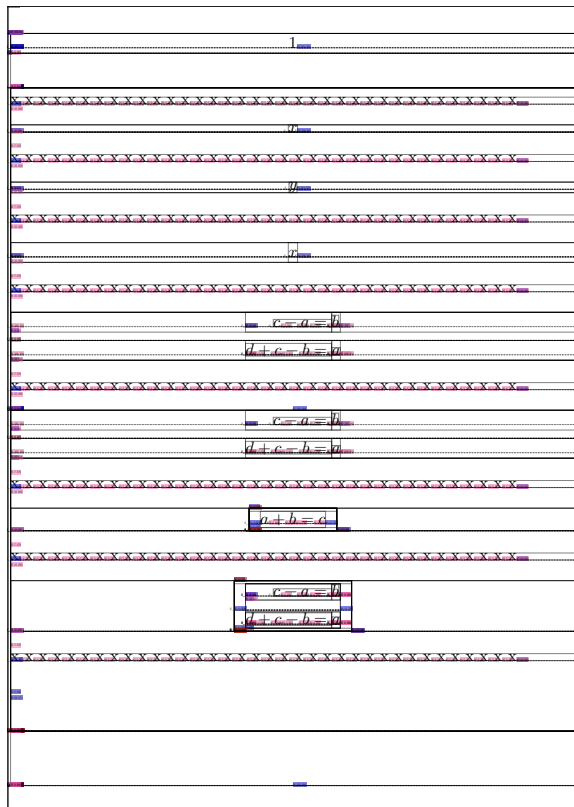
Figure 1.2 Whitespace the same as display spacing.



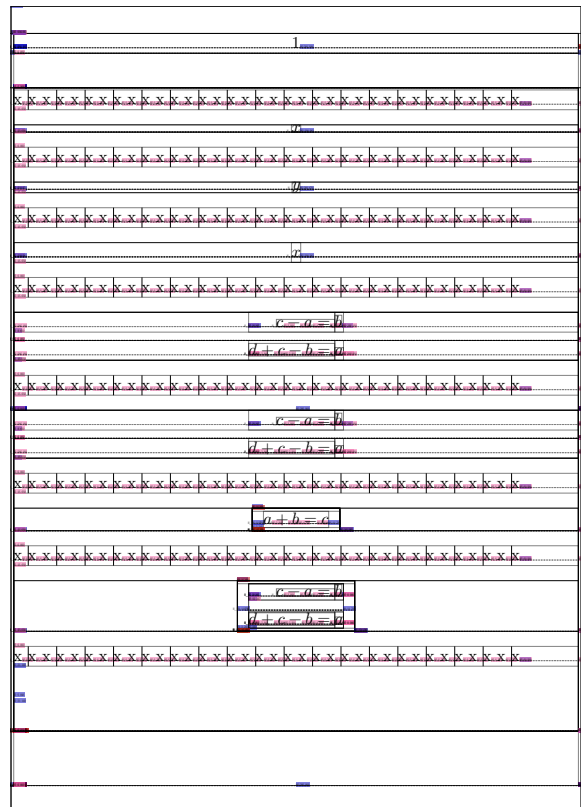
natural + none + ws big



strut + none + ws big



natural + medium + ws big



strut + medium + ws big

Figure 1.3 Whitespace larger than display spacing.

- $$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{10} + \frac{1}{11} + \frac{1}{12} + \frac{1}{13} + \frac{1}{14} + \frac{1}{15} + \frac{1}{16} + \frac{1}{17} + \frac{1}{18} + \frac{1}{19} + \frac{1}{20} + \frac{1}{21} + \frac{1}{22} + \frac{1}{23} + \frac{1}{24} + \frac{1}{25} + \frac{1}{26} + \frac{1}{27} + \frac{1}{28} + \frac{1}{29} + \frac{1}{30} + \frac{1}{31} + \frac{1}{32} + \frac{1}{33} + \frac{1}{34} + \frac{1}{35} + \frac{1}{36} + \frac{1}{37} + \frac{1}{38} + \frac{1}{39} + \frac{1}{40} + \frac{1}{41} + \frac{1}{42} + \frac{1}{43} + \frac{1}{44} + \frac{1}{45} + \frac{1}{46} + \frac{1}{47} + \frac{1}{48} + \frac{1}{49} + \frac{1}{50} + \frac{1}{51} + \frac{1}{52} + \frac{1}{53} + \frac{1}{54} + \frac{1}{55} + \frac{1}{56} + \frac{1}{57} + \frac{1}{58} + \frac{1}{59} + \frac{1}{60} + \frac{1}{61} + \frac{1}{62} + \frac{1}{63} + \frac{1}{64} + \frac{1}{65} + \frac{1}{66} + \frac{1}{67} + \frac{1}{68} + \frac{1}{69} + \frac{1}{70} + \frac{1}{71} + \frac{1}{72} + \frac{1}{73} + \frac{1}{74} + \frac{1}{75} + \frac{1}{76} + \frac{1}{77} + \frac{1}{78} + \frac{1}{79} + \frac{1}{80} + \frac{1}{81} + \frac{1}{82} + \frac{1}{83} + \frac{1}{84} + \frac{1}{85} + \frac{1}{86} + \frac{1}{87} + \frac{1}{88} + \frac{1}{89} + \frac{1}{90} + \frac{1}{91} + \frac{1}{92} + \frac{1}{93} + \frac{1}{94} + \frac{1}{95} + \frac{1}{96} + \frac{1}{97} + \frac{1}{98} + \frac{1}{99} + \frac{1}{100} = \frac{1}{101}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{9} \quad (1.1)$$

- $$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{10} + \frac{1}{11} + \frac{1}{12} + \frac{1}{13} + \frac{1}{14} + \frac{1}{15} + \frac{1}{16} + \frac{1}{17} + \frac{1}{18} + \frac{1}{19} + \frac{1}{20} + \frac{1}{21} + \frac{1}{22} + \frac{1}{23} + \frac{1}{24} + \frac{1}{25} + \frac{1}{26} + \frac{1}{27} + \frac{1}{28} + \frac{1}{29} + \frac{1}{30} + \frac{1}{31} + \frac{1}{32} + \frac{1}{33} + \frac{1}{34} + \frac{1}{35} + \frac{1}{36} + \frac{1}{37} + \frac{1}{38} + \frac{1}{39} + \frac{1}{40} + \frac{1}{41} + \frac{1}{42} + \frac{1}{43} + \frac{1}{44} + \frac{1}{45} + \frac{1}{46} + \frac{1}{47} + \frac{1}{48} + \frac{1}{49} + \frac{1}{50} + \frac{1}{51} + \frac{1}{52} + \frac{1}{53} + \frac{1}{54} + \frac{1}{55} + \frac{1}{56} + \frac{1}{57} + \frac{1}{58} + \frac{1}{59} + \frac{1}{60} + \frac{1}{61} + \frac{1}{62} + \frac{1}{63} + \frac{1}{64} + \frac{1}{65} + \frac{1}{66} + \frac{1}{67} + \frac{1}{68} + \frac{1}{69} + \frac{1}{70} + \frac{1}{71} + \frac{1}{72} + \frac{1}{73} + \frac{1}{74} + \frac{1}{75} + \frac{1}{76} + \frac{1}{77} + \frac{1}{78} + \frac{1}{79} + \frac{1}{80} + \frac{1}{81} + \frac{1}{82} + \frac{1}{83} + \frac{1}{84} + \frac{1}{85} + \frac{1}{86} + \frac{1}{87} + \frac{1}{88} + \frac{1}{89} + \frac{1}{90} + \frac{1}{91} + \frac{1}{92} + \frac{1}{93} + \frac{1}{94} + \frac{1}{95} + \frac{1}{96} + \frac{1}{97} + \frac{1}{98} + \frac{1}{99} + \frac{1}{100} = \frac{1}{101}$$

In the next examples we explicitly align formulas to the left (`flushleft`), center (`middle`) and right (`flushright`):

```
\setupformulas[align=flushleft]
\startformula\fakeformula\stopformula
\setupformulas[align=middle]
\startformula\fakeformula\stopformula
\setupformulas[align=flushright]
\startformula\fakeformula\stopformula
```

The three cases show up as:

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{9}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{9}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{9}$$

You can also set a left and/or right margin:

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{9}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{9}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{9}$$

With formula numbers these formulas look as follows:

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{9} \quad (1.2)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{9} \quad (1.3)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{9} \quad (1.4)$$

and the same with margins:

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{9} \quad (1.5)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{9} \quad (1.6)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{9} \quad (1.7)$$

When the margin option is set to standard or yes the current indentation (when set) or left skip is added to the left side.

```
\setupformulas[align=flushleft]
\startformula \fakeformula \stopformula
\placeformula \startformula \fakeformula \stopformula
```

$$\blacksquare + \blacksquare + \blacksquare + \blacksquare = \blacksquare$$

$$\blacksquare + \blacksquare + \blacksquare + \blacksquare = \blacksquare \quad (1.8)$$

```
\setupformulas[align=flushleft,margin=standard]
\startformula \fakeformula \stopformula
\placeformula \startformula \fakeformula \stopformula
```

$$\blacksquare + \blacksquare + \blacksquare + \blacksquare + \blacksquare = \blacksquare$$

$$\blacksquare + \blacksquare + \blacksquare = \blacksquare \quad (1.9)$$

The distance between the formula and the number is only applied when the formula is left or right aligned.

```
\setupformulas[align=flushright,distance=0pt]
\startformula \fakeformula \stopformula
\placeformula \startformula \fakeformula \stopformula
```

$$\blacksquare + \blacksquare + \blacksquare + \blacksquare = \blacksquare$$

$$\blacksquare + \blacksquare + \blacksquare + \blacksquare = \blacksquare \quad (1.10)$$

```
\setupformulas[align=flushright,distance=2em]
\startformula \fakeformula \stopformula
\placeformula \startformula \fakeformula \stopformula
```

$$\blacksquare + \blacksquare + \blacksquare + \blacksquare + \blacksquare = \blacksquare$$

$$\blacksquare + \blacksquare + \blacksquare + \blacksquare + \blacksquare + \blacksquare = \blacksquare \quad (1.11)$$

1.1 Scripts

Spacing is a trade off because there is no way to predict all usage. Of course a font can be very detailed in where italic correction is to be applied and how advanced stepwise kerns are used, but not many fonts have extensive information. Here are some differences in rendering. In OPENTYPE the super- and subscript of an integral are moved right and left half of the italic correction.

$$F_j = \int_a^b \quad F_j = \int_a^b \quad F_j = \int_a^b \quad F_j = \int_a^b \quad F_j = \int_a^b \quad F_j = \int_a^b$$

Latin	Pagella	Dejavu	Cam-	Lucida	Xits
Mod-			bria	OT	
ern					

1.2 Bad fonts

There might be fonts out there where the italic correction is supposed to be added to the width of a glyph. In that case the following trick can be tried:

```
\definefontfeature[mathextra][italicwidths=yes] % fix latin modern
```

in which case the following might look better:

```
\left|V\right| = \left|W\right|
```

Of course better is to fix the font.

1.3 Multiline

Inline formulas can span lines but display math normally sits on one line unless one uses alignment mechanisms. Take this:

```
\startformula
  x\dorecurse{30}{ + #1x^{#1x}} = 10
\stopformula
```

$$x + 1x^{1x} + 2x^{2x} + 3x^{3x} + 4x^{4x} + 5x^{5x} + 6x^{6x} + 7x^{7x} + 8x^{8x} + 9x^{9x} + 10x^{10x} + 11x^{11x} + 12x^{12x} + 13x^{13x} +$$

You can set `split` to `yes` using `\setupformula` and get the following:

$$x + 1x^{1x} + 2x^{2x} + 3x^{3x} + 4x^{4x} + 5x^{5x} + 6x^{6x} + 7x^{7x} + 8x^{8x} + 9x^{9x} + 10x^{10x} + 11x^{11x} + 12x^{12x} + 13x^{13x} + 14x^{14x} + 15x^{15x} + 16x^{16x} + 17x^{17x} + 18x^{18x} + 19x^{19x} + 20x^{20x} + 21x^{21x} + 22x^{22x} + 23x^{23x} + 24x^{24x} + 25x^{25x} + 26x^{26x} + 27x^{27x} + 28x^{28x} + 29x^{29x} + 30x^{30x} = 10$$

Maybe nicer is to also set `align` to `flushleft`:

$$x + 1x^{1x} + 2x^{2x} + 3x^{3x} + 4x^{4x} + 5x^{5x} + 6x^{6x} + 7x^{7x} + 8x^{8x} + 9x^{9x} + 10x^{10x} + 11x^{11x} + 12x^{12x} + 13x^{13x} + 14x^{14x} + 15x^{15x} + 16x^{16x} + 17x^{17x} + 18x^{18x} + 19x^{19x} + 20x^{20x} + 21x^{21x} + 22x^{22x} + 23x^{23x} + 24x^{24x} + 25x^{25x} + 26x^{26x} + 27x^{27x} + 28x^{28x} + 29x^{29x} + 30x^{30x} = 10$$

If you want the binary operators to start the lines you can set this:

```
\setupmathematics[setups=math:spacing:split]
\setupformulas[split=yes,align=flushleft]
```

$$x + 1x^{1x} + 2x^{2x} + 3x^{3x} + 4x^{4x} + 5x^{5x} + 6x^{6x} + 7x^{7x} + 8x^{8x} + 9x^{9x} + 10x^{10x} + 11x^{11x} + 12x^{12x} + 13x^{13x} + 14x^{14x} + 15x^{15x} + 16x^{16x} + 17x^{17x} + 18x^{18x} + 19x^{19x} + 20x^{20x} + 21x^{21x} + 22x^{22x} + 23x^{23x} + 24x^{24x} + 25x^{25x} + 26x^{26x} + 27x^{27x} + 28x^{28x} + 29x^{29x} + 30x^{30x} = 10$$

You can prevent a split with a large penalty. Here is a test that you can run to play with this feature:

```
\dostepwiserecurse {30} {100} {1} {
  \hsize \dimexpr 40pt + #1pt \relax
  \startformula
    y = a \dorecurse {50} {
      \penalty 10000 {\bf + ##1b}
      + ##1c^2
    }
  \stopformula
  \page
}
```

There is an experimental alignment mechanism available. Watch the following examples:

before

```
\startformula
  z + 3y = \alignhere x
           \dorecurse{20}{ + #1x^{#1x}}
\stopformula
```

inbetween

```
\startformula
  z + 3y \alignhere = 1
           \dorecurse{4}{
             \dorecurse{#1}{+ #1x^{##1x}}
             \ifnum#1<4\breakhere\fi
           }
\stopformula
```

after

```
\setupformula
[split=no]
```

before

$$z + 3y = x + 1x^{1x} + 2x^{2x} + 3x^{3x} + 4x^{4x} + 5x^{5x} + 6x^{6x} + 7x^{7x} + 8x^{8x} + 9x^{9x} + 10x^{10x} + 11x^{11x} + 12x^{12x} +$$

inbetween

$$z + 3y = 1 + 1x^{1x} + 2x^{1x} + 2x^{2x} + 3x^{1x} + 3x^{2x} + 3x^{3x} + 4x^{1x} + 4x^{2x} + 4x^{3x} + 4x^{4x}$$

after

\setupformula
[split=yes,
align=flushleft]

before

$$z + 3y = x + 1x^{1x} + 2x^{2x} + 3x^{3x} + 4x^{4x} + 5x^{5x} + 6x^{6x} + 7x^{7x} + 8x^{8x} + 9x^{9x} + 10x^{10x} + 11x^{11x} + 12x^{12x} + 13x^{13x} + 14x^{14x} + 15x^{15x} + 16x^{16x} + 17x^{17x} + 18x^{18x} + 19x^{19x} + 20x^{20x}$$

inbetween

$$\begin{aligned} z + 3y = & 1 + 1x^{1x} \\ & + 2x^{1x} + 2x^{2x} \\ & + 3x^{1x} + 3x^{2x} + 3x^{3x} \\ & + 4x^{1x} + 4x^{2x} + 4x^{3x} + 4x^{4x} \end{aligned}$$

after

\setupformula
[split=yes,
align=flushleft,
hang=auto]

before

$$z + 3y = x + 1x^{1x} + 2x^{2x} + 3x^{3x} + 4x^{4x} + 5x^{5x} + 6x^{6x} + 7x^{7x} + 8x^{8x} + 9x^{9x} + 10x^{10x} + 11x^{11x} + 12x^{12x} + 13x^{13x} + 14x^{14x} + 15x^{15x} + 16x^{16x} + 17x^{17x} + 18x^{18x} + 19x^{19x} + 20x^{20x}$$

inbetween

$$\begin{aligned} z + 3y = & 1 + 1x^{1x} \\ & + 2x^{1x} + 2x^{2x} \\ & + 3x^{1x} + 3x^{2x} + 3x^{3x} \\ & + 4x^{1x} + 4x^{2x} + 4x^{3x} + 4x^{4x} \end{aligned}$$

after

\setupformula
[split=yes,
align=flushleft,
hang=auto,
distance=1em]

before

$$z + 3y = x + 1x^{1x} + 2x^{2x} + 3x^{3x} + 4x^{4x} + 5x^{5x} + 6x^{6x} + 7x^{7x} + 8x^{8x} + 9x^{9x} + 10x^{10x} + 11x^{11x} + 12x^{12x} + 13x^{13x} + 14x^{14x} + 15x^{15x} + 16x^{16x} + 17x^{17x} + 18x^{18x} + 19x^{19x} + 20x^{20x}$$

inbetween

$$\begin{aligned}
 z + 3y &= 1 + 1x^{1x} \\
 &\quad + 2x^{1x} + 2x^{2x} \\
 &\quad + 3x^{1x} + 3x^{2x} + 3x^{3x} \\
 &\quad + 4x^{1x} + 4x^{2x} + 4x^{3x} + 4x^{4x}
 \end{aligned}$$

after

```

\setupformula
[split=yes,
 align=flushleft,
 hang=yes,
 distance=2em]

```

before

$$\begin{aligned}
 z + 3y &= x + 1x^{1x} + 2x^{2x} + 3x^{3x} + 4x^{4x} + 5x^{5x} + 6x^{6x} + 7x^{7x} + 8x^{8x} + 9x^{9x} + 10x^{10x} + \\
 &\quad 11x^{11x} + 12x^{12x} + 13x^{13x} + 14x^{14x} + 15x^{15x} + 16x^{16x} + 17x^{17x} + 18x^{18x} + 19x^{19x} + \\
 &\quad 20x^{20x}
 \end{aligned}$$

inbetween

$$\begin{aligned}
 z + 3y &= 1 + 1x^{1x} \\
 &\quad + 2x^{1x} + 2x^{2x} \\
 &\quad + 3x^{1x} + 3x^{2x} + 3x^{3x} \\
 &\quad + 4x^{1x} + 4x^{2x} + 4x^{3x} + 4x^{4x}
 \end{aligned}$$

after

```

\setupformula
[split=yes,
 align=flushleft,
 hang=yes,
 distance=2em,
 interlinespace=1.5\lineheight]

```

before

$$\begin{aligned}
 z + 3y &= x + 1x^{1x} + 2x^{2x} + 3x^{3x} + 4x^{4x} + 5x^{5x} + 6x^{6x} + 7x^{7x} + 8x^{8x} + 9x^{9x} + 10x^{10x} + \\
 &\quad 11x^{11x} + 12x^{12x} + 13x^{13x} + 14x^{14x} + 15x^{15x} + 16x^{16x} + 17x^{17x} + 18x^{18x} + 19x^{19x} + \\
 &\quad 20x^{20x}
 \end{aligned}$$

inbetween

$$\begin{aligned}
z + 3y &= 1 + 1x^{1x} \\
&+ 2x^{1x} + 2x^{2x} \\
&+ 3x^{1x} + 3x^{2x} + 3x^{3x} \\
&+ 4x^{1x} + 4x^{2x} + 4x^{3x} + 4x^{4x}
\end{aligned}$$

after

If you want to split over pages, you can say:

```
\setupformula
[split=page,
align=middle]
```

but that is rather experimental (especially in combination with other number placement related options).

1.4 Scripts

Superscripts and subscripts are typeset in a smaller size than their nucleus. You can influence that as follows:

```
\startformula
x^{2} = x^{\textstyle 2}
      = x^{\scriptstyle 2}
      = x^{\scriptscriptstyle 2}
\stopformula
```

$$x^2 = x^2 = x^2 = x^2$$

You can also use macros instead of a `^` and `_`, as in:

```
\startformula
x \superscript {2} =
x \superscript {\textstyle 2} =
x \superscript {\scriptstyle 2} =
x \superscript {\scriptscriptstyle 2} =
x \nosuperscript {2}
\stopformula
```

$$x^2 = x^2 = x^2 = x^2 = x^2$$

The `\nosuperscript` primitive makes sure that we get the same size as the nucleus.

```
\startformula
x \superscript {2} \subscript {i} =
x \nosuperscript {2} \subscript {i} =
```

```
x \superscript {2} \nosubscript {i} =
x \nosuperscript {2} \nosubscript {i}
\stopformula
```

$$x_i^2 = x_i^2 = x_i^2 = x_i^2$$

1.5 Text accents

You can put an accent over a character:

```
$\grave{x} \neq \grave{i} $\quad
$\ddot{x} \neq \ddot{i} $\quad
$\bar{x} \neq \bar{i} $\quad
$\acute{x} \neq \acute{i} $\quad
$\hat{x} \neq \hat{i} $\quad
$\check{x} \neq \check{i} $\quad
$\breve{x} \neq \breve{i} $\quad
$\dot{x} \neq \dot{i} $\quad
$\ring{x} \neq \ring{i} $\quad
$\tilde{x} \neq \tilde{i} $\quad
$\dddot{x} \neq \dddot{i} $\quad
```

This comes out as: $\grave{x} \neq \grave{i}$ $\ddot{x} \neq \ddot{i}$ $\bar{x} \neq \bar{i}$ $\acute{x} \neq \acute{i}$ $\hat{x} \neq \hat{i}$ $\check{x} \neq \check{i}$ $\breve{x} \neq \breve{i}$ $\dot{x} \neq \dot{i}$ $\ring{x} \neq \ring{i}$ $\tilde{x} \neq \tilde{i}$ $\dddot{x} \neq \dddot{i}$. For regular text you can better use proper composed UTF encoded characters.

1.6 Directions

Math has its own direction control:

```
\startcombination[nx=4,ny=2,distance=1cm]
  {\MathTest{TLT}{TLT}{TLT}} {\MathShow1{TLT}{TLT}{TLT}}
  {\MathTest{TLT}{TLT}{TRT}} {\MathShow2{TLT}{TLT}{TRT}}
  {\MathTest{TLT}{TRT}{TLT}} {\MathShow3{TLT}{TRT}{TLT}}
  {\MathTest{TLT}{TRT}{TRT}} {\MathShow4{TLT}{TRT}{TRT}}
  {\MathTest{TRT}{TLT}{TLT}} {\MathShow5{TRT}{TLT}{TLT}}
  {\MathTest{TRT}{TLT}{TRT}} {\MathShow6{TRT}{TLT}{TRT}}
  {\MathTest{TRT}{TRT}{TLT}} {\MathShow7{TRT}{TRT}{TLT}}
  {\MathTest{TRT}{TRT}{TRT}} {\MathShow8{TRT}{TRT}{TRT}}
\stopcombination
```

Normally you will not control directions this way but use the proper parameters in layout related setup commands.

$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$	$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$	$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$	$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$
1 : m=TLT t=TLT p=TLT	2 : m=TLT t=TLT p=TRT	3 : m=TLT t=TRT p=TLT	4 : m=TLT t=TRT p=TRT
$^2c = ^2b + ^2a$	$^2c = ^2b + ^2a$	$^2c = ^2b + ^2a$	$^2c = ^2b + ^2a$
5 : m=TRT t=TLT p=TLT	6 : m=TRT t=TLT p=TRT	7 : m=TRT t=TRT p=TLT	8 : m=TRT t=TRT p=TRT

1.7 Surround

The spacing around inline formulas is consistent with other spacing but it can be enlarged. We just show a few examples:

```
\hsize 20em
We have
\dorecurse {8} {%
  \ifcase#1\or\else and \fi
  $x\+#1$ and $x-\#1$ and $x \times \#1$
}
\removeunwantedspaces .
\par
```

We have $x + 1$ and $x - 1$ and $x \times 1$ and $x + 2$
 and $x - 2$ and $x \times 2$ and $x + 3$ and $x - 3$ and
 $x \times 3$ and $x + 4$ and $x - 4$ and $x \times 4$ and $x + 5$
 and $x - 5$ and $x \times 5$ and $x + 6$ and $x - 6$ and
 $x \times 6$ and $x + 7$ and $x - 7$ and $x \times 7$ and $x + 8$
 and $x - 8$ and $x \times 8$.

```
\setupmathematics
[textdistance=2pt plus 1pt minus 1pt]
```

We have $x + 1$ and $x - 1$ and $x \times 1$ and $x + 2$
 and $x - 2$ and $x \times 2$ and $x + 3$ and $x - 3$ and
 $x \times 3$ and $x + 4$ and $x - 4$ and $x \times 4$ and $x + 5$
 and $x - 5$ and $x \times 5$ and $x + 6$ and $x - 6$ and
 $x \times 6$ and $x + 7$ and $x - 7$ and $x \times 7$ and $x + 8$
 and $x - 8$ and $x \times 8$.

```
\setupmathematics
[textdistance=4pt plus 2pt minus 2pt]
```

We have $x + 1$ and $x - 1$ and $x \times 1$ and $x + 2$
 and $x - 2$ and $x \times 2$ and $x + 3$ and $x - 3$
 and $x \times 3$ and $x + 4$ and $x - 4$ and $x \times 4$

and $x + 5$ and $x - 5$ and $x \times 5$ and $x + 6$
and $x - 6$ and $x \times 6$ and $x + 7$ and $x - 7$
and $x \times 7$ and $x + 8$ and $x - 8$ and $x \times 8$.

2 Framing

The `\framed` macro is one of the core constructors in `CONTEXt` and it's used all over the place. This macro is unlikely to change its behaviour and as it has evolved over years it comes with quite some options and some can interfere with the expectations one has. In general using this macro works out well but you need to keep an eye on using struts and alignment.

```
\framed{$e=mc^2$}
```

The outcome of this is:

$$e = mc^2$$

There is a bit of offset (that you can set) but also struts are added as can be seen when we visualize them:

$$|e = mc^2|$$

These struts can be disabled:

```
\framed[strut=no]{$e=mc^2$}
```

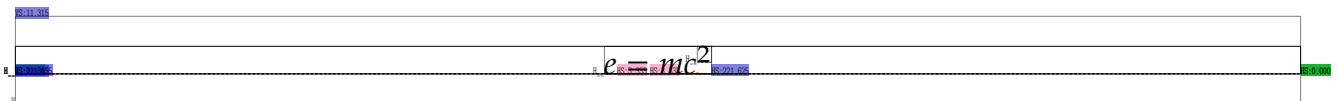
Now the result is more tight.

$$e = mc^2$$

These struts are the way to get a consistent look and feel and are used frequently in `CONTEXt`. We mention these struts because they get in the way when we frame a display formula. Let's first look at what happens when we just package a formula in a box:

```
\vbox\bgroup
  \startformula
    e = mc^2
  \stopformula
\egroup
```

We get:



Now there are a few properties of `displaymath` that one needs to keep in mind when messing around with them this way. First of all `displaymath` is meant to be used as part of the page stream. This means that spacing above and below is adapted to what comes before and after. It also means that, because formulas can be numbered, we have some settings that relate to horizontal placement.

The default vertical spacing is easy to get rid of:

```
\vbox\bgroup
  \startformula[packed]
```

```

    e = mc^2
\stopformula
\egroup

```

This gives:



Another handy keyword is `tight`:

```

\ vbox\ bgroup
  \ startformula[tight]
    e = mc^2
  \ stopformula
\ egroup

```

This gives:




We can combine these two:

```

\ vbox\ bgroup
  \ startformula[packed,tight]
    e = mc^2
  \ stopformula
\ egroup

```

This gives:



Just in case you wonder why we need to go through these troubles: keep in mind that we are wrapping something (math) that normally goes in a vertical list with text above and below.

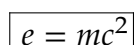
The `packed` and `tight` options can help when we want to wrap a formula in a frame:

```

\ framed
  [strut=no]
  {
    \ startformula[packed,tight]
      e = mc^2
    \ stopformula
  }

```

which renders as:



There is a dedicated math framed instance that is tuned to give better results and automatically switches to math mode:

```
\mframed {
  e = mc^2
}
```

becomes:

$$e = mc^2$$

Framing a formula is also supported as a option, where the full power of framed can be applied to the formula. We will illustrate this in detail on the next pages. For this we use the following sample:

```
\setuplayout[topspace=5mm,bottomspace=5mm,height=middle,header=1cm,footer=0cm]

\starttext

\startbuffer[sample]
  \enabletrackers[formulas.framed] \showboxes
  \startformula
    e = mc^2
  \stopformula
  \par
  \startformula
    e = mc^2
  \stopformula
  \startformula
    e = mc^2
  \stopformula
  \startformula
    e \dorecurse{12} { = mc^2 }
  \stopformula
  \startplaceformula
    \startformula
      e = mc^2
    \stopformula
  \stopplaceformula
  \startplaceformula
    \startformula
      e \dorecurse{12} { = mc^2 }
    \stopformula
  \stopplaceformula
\stopbuffer
```

```

\startbuffer[setup-b]
\setupformula
  [option=frame]
\stopbuffer

\startbuffer[setup-d]
\setupformulaframed
  [frame=on,
  %toffset=10pt,
  %boffset=10pt,
  foregroundcolor=white,
  background=color,
  backgroundcolor=gray]
\stopbuffer

\startbuffer[setup-c]
\setupformula
  [frame=number]
\stopbuffer

\startbuffer[all]
\start
  \typebuffer[setup-a]
  \getbuffer[setup-a]
  \getbuffer[sample]
  \typebuffer[setup-b]
  \typebuffer[setup-d]
  \getbuffer[setup-b]
  \getbuffer[setup-d]
  \getbuffer[sample]
  \typebuffer[setup-c]
  \getbuffer[setup-c]
  \getbuffer[sample]
  \page
\stop
\stopbuffer

\startbuffer
  \startbuffer[setup-a]
  \setupformula
    [align=flushleft]
  \stopbuffer
  \getbuffer[all]
  \startbuffer[setup-a]
  \setupformula

```

```

    [align=flushleft,location=left]
\stopbuffer
\getbuffer[all]

\startbuffer[setup-a]
\setupformula
    [align=middle]
\stopbuffer
\getbuffer[all]
\startbuffer[setup-a]
\setupformula
    [align=middle,location=left]
\stopbuffer
\getbuffer[all]

\startbuffer[setup-a]
\setupformula
    [align=flushright]
\stopbuffer
\getbuffer[all]
\startbuffer[setup-a]
\setupformula
    [align=flushright,location=left]
\stopbuffer
\getbuffer[all]
\stopbuffer

\getbuffer

\startbuffer[setup-b]
\setupformula
    [option={tight,frame}]
\stopbuffer

\getbuffer

\stoptext

```

In figure 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 you see some combinations. You can run this example on your machine and see the details.

With each formula class a framed variants is automatically created:

```

\defineformula
    [foo]

```

[illegible]

right + flushleft

[illegible]

right + flushleft

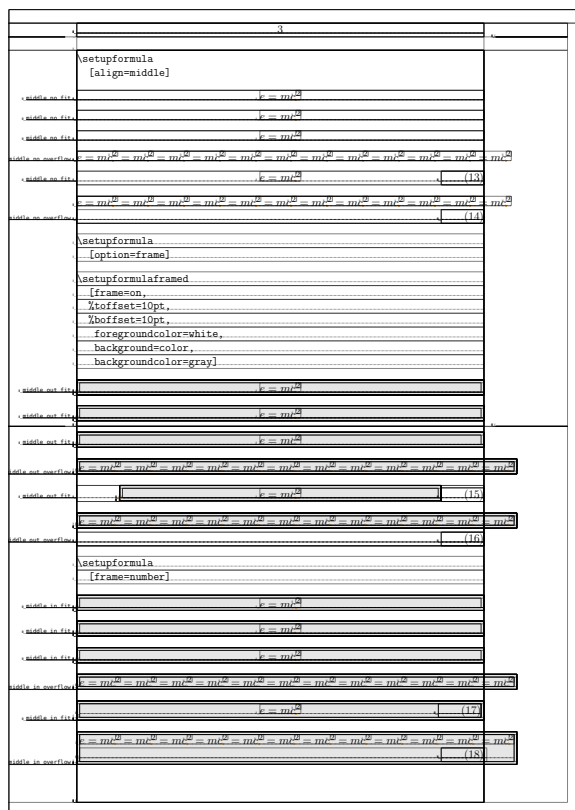
		7	
		<pre> \setupformula [align=flushleft] </pre>	
		<pre> \left to fix $= m^{20}$ </pre>	
		<pre> \left to fix $= m^{20}$ </pre>	
		<pre> \left to fix $= m^{20}$ </pre>	
left to overflow		<pre> \left to overflow $= m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20}$ </pre>	
		<pre> \left to fix $= m^{20}$ </pre>	(32)
		<pre> \left to fix $= m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20}$ </pre>	(38)
left to overflow			
		<pre> \setupformula [option={tight,frame}] </pre>	
		<pre> \setupformulaframed [frameon, \toffset=10pt, \boffset=10pt, foregroundcolor=white, backgroundcolor, backgroundcolor=gray] </pre>	
		<pre> \left to fix $= m^{20}$ </pre>	
		<pre> \left to fix $= m^{20}$ </pre>	
		<pre> \left to fix $= m^{20}$ </pre>	
left to overflow		<pre> \left to overflow $= m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20}$ </pre>	
		<pre> \left to fix $= m^{20}$ </pre>	(30)
		<pre> \left to fix $= m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20}$ </pre>	(40)
left to overflow			
		<pre> \setupformula [frame=number] </pre>	
		<pre> \left to fix $= m^{20}$ </pre>	
		<pre> \left to fix $= m^{20}$ </pre>	
		<pre> \left to fix $= m^{20}$ </pre>	
left to overflow		<pre> \left to overflow $= m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20}$ </pre>	
		<pre> \left to fix $= m^{20}$ </pre>	(41)
		<pre> \left to fix $= m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20} = m^{20}$ </pre>	(42)
left to overflow			

left + flushleft + tight

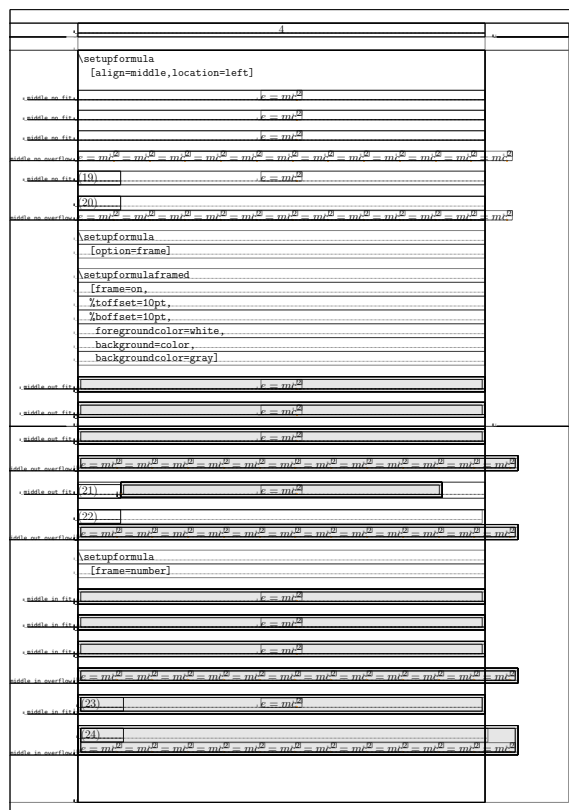
[illegible]

left + flushleft + tight

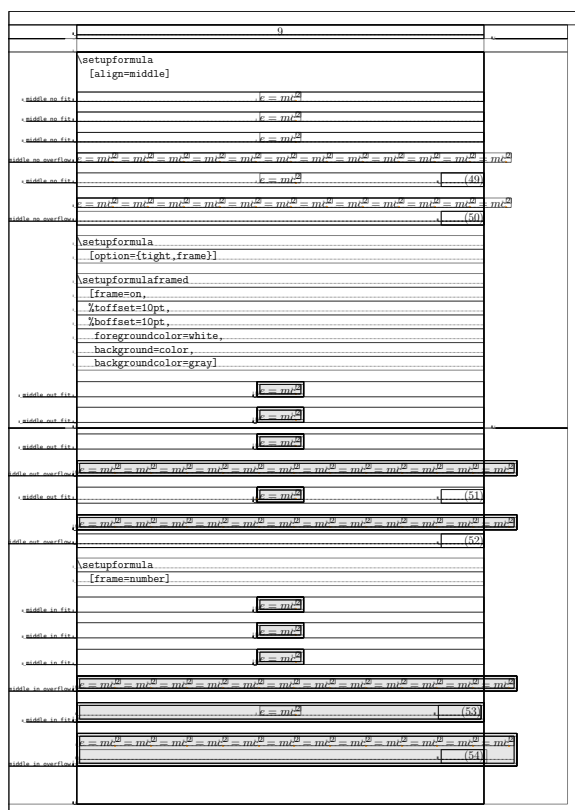
Figure 2.1 Framed formulas flushed left.



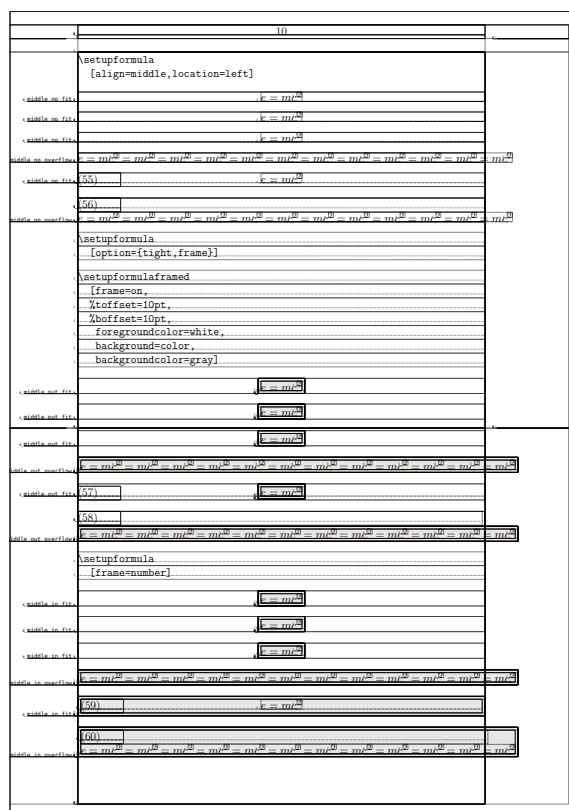
right + middle



right + middle



left + middle + tight



left + middle + tight

Figure 2.2 Framed formulas centered.

[illegible]

right + flushright

[illegible]

right + flushright

[illegible]

left + flushright + tight

	19	
	<pre> \setupformula [align=flushright,location=left] </pre>	
right out data	$E = m^{10}$	
right out data	$E = m^{10}$	
right out data	$E = m^{10}$	
right out formula	$E = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10}$	m^{10}
right out data	67) $E = m^{10}$	
right out data	68) $E = m^{10}$	
right out formula	$E = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10}$	m^{10}
	<pre> \setupformula [option=(tight,frame)] \setupformulaframed [frame=on, \toffset=10pt, \woffset=10pt, foregroundcolor=white, background=color, backgroundcolor=gray] </pre>	
right out data	$E = m^{10}$	
right out data	$E = m^{10}$	
right out data	$E = m^{10}$	
right out formula	$E = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10}$	m^{10}
right out data	69) $E = m^{10}$	
right out data	70) $E = m^{10}$	
right out formula	$E = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10}$	m^{10}
	<pre> \setupformula [frame=number] </pre>	
right out data	$E = m^{10}$	
right out data	$E = m^{10}$	
right out data	$E = m^{10}$	
right out formula	$E = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10}$	m^{10}
right out data	71) $E = m^{10}$	
right out data	72) $E = m^{10}$	
right out formula	$E = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10} = m^{10}$	m^{10}

left + flushright + tight

Figure 2.3 Framed formulas flushed right.

```

\setupformulaframed
  [foo]
  [frame=on,
   framecolor=red]

\startfooformula[frame]
  e=mc^2
\stopfooformula

```

This time you get a red frame:

$$e = mc^2$$

You can also frame the number, as in:

```

\setupformulaframed[framecolor=red,frame=on,offset=1ex]
\setupformula[option=frame,color=blue]
\setupformula[numbercommand={\inframed[framecolor=green]}]

\startplaceformula
  \startformula
    2 + 2 = 2x
  \stopformula
\stopplaceformula

```

The boxes get properly aligned:

$$2 + 2 = 2x \quad (2.1)$$

3 Numbering

Numbering equations can be a bit of a mess. Formulas can be unnumbered, numbered, numbered with an associated reference. Numbers can go on the left or right of the formula and on the rows in an alignment. Combine that with positioning left or right and left or right aligned formulas and the picture gets complicated. When something turns out wrong, just let me know and the respective branch in the code can be adapted. Here are some examples:

```
\startplaceformula[a]
  \startformula
    (1)
  \stopformula
\stopplaceformula
```

$$(1) \tag{3.1}$$

```
\startplaceformula[b]
  \startformula
    \startalignment
      \NC 1 \NC = \NR
      \NC 2 \NC = (2) \NR
      \NC 3 \NC = \NR
    \stopalignment
  \stopformula
\stopplaceformula
```

$$\begin{array}{l} 1 = \\ 2 = (2) \\ 3 = \end{array} \tag{3.2}$$

```
\startplaceformula[c]
  \startformula
    \startalignment
      \NC 1 \NC = (3) \NR[x]
      \NC 2 \NC = \NR
      \NC 3 \NC = (4) \NR[y]
    \stopalignment
  \stopformula
\stopplaceformula
```

$$\begin{array}{l} 1 = (3) \\ 2 = \\ 3 = (4) \end{array} \tag{3.3}$$

$$3 = (4) \tag{3.4}$$

```
\startplaceformula[d]
  \startformula
    (5)
```

\stopformula
\stopplaceformula

(5)

(3.5)

\startplaceformula[e]
\startformula
(6)
\stopformula
\stopplaceformula

(6)

(3.6)

4 Combining formulas

Multiple formulas can be combined by wrapping them:

```
\fakewords{20}{30}
```

```
\startformula
```

$$a + b = c$$

```
\stopformula
```

```
\fakewords{20}{30}
```

```
\startformulas
```

```
\startformula
```

$$a + b = c$$

```
\stopformula
```

```
\startformula
```

$$d - e = f$$

```
\stopformula
```

```
\stopformulas
```

```
\fakewords{20}{30}
```

```
\startformulas
```

```
\startformula
```

$$\frac{\frac{x}{y}}{b} = c$$

```
\stopformula
```

```
\startformula
```

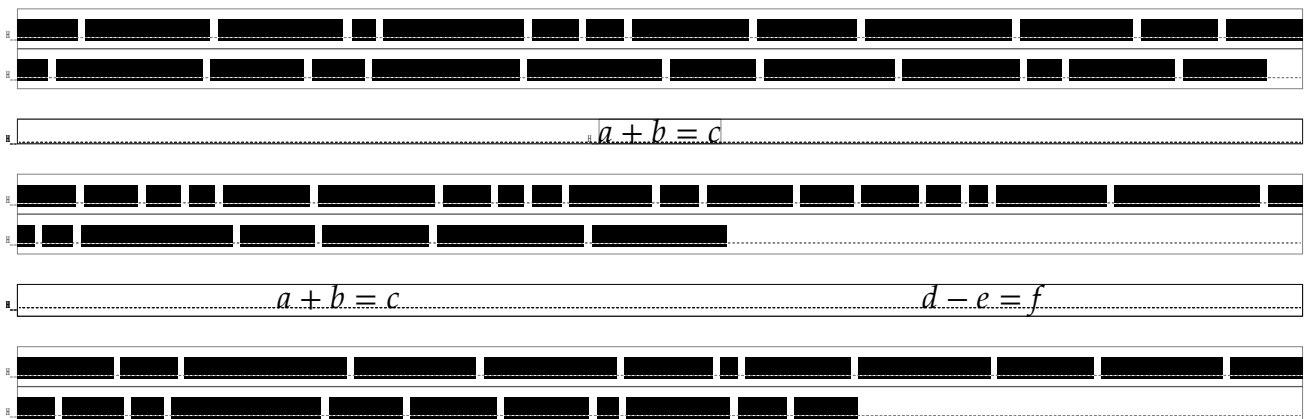
$$d - e = f$$

```
\stopformula
```

```
\stopformulas
```

```
\fakewords{20}{30}
```

When we bump the space around formulas to big we get this:



$$\frac{x}{y} = c \qquad d - e = f$$



The formulas get aligned on the baselline which in turn relates to the math axis of the formula.

5 Features

5.1 Default features

Math fonts are loaded in so called basemode, which gives them a traditional treatment in the engine. However, we do support features in basemode too, so setting them can influence what gets passed to \TeX . Also, in math mode, some font features (like `dtls` and stylistic alternates) are applied dynamically.

The default `mathematics` feature set is as follows:

<code>kern</code>	<code>yes</code>
<code>language</code>	<code>dflt</code>
<code>mathalternates</code>	<code>yes</code>
<code>mathdimensions</code>	<code>all</code>
<code>mathitalics</code>	<code>yes</code>
<code>mathnolimitsmode</code>	<code>0,800</code>
<code>mode</code>	<code>base</code>
<code>script</code>	<code>math</code>

We don't discuss the exact meaning of these options here because normally you don't have to deal with them. If a math font demands something special, the place to deal with it is the related font goodie file.

This feature set is the parent of two other sets: `mathematics-l2r` and `mathematics-r2l`:

<code>kern</code>	<code>yes</code>
<code>language</code>	<code>dflt</code>
<code>mathalternates</code>	<code>yes</code>
<code>mathdimensions</code>	<code>all</code>
<code>mathitalics</code>	<code>yes</code>
<code>mathnolimitsmode</code>	<code>0,800</code>
<code>mode</code>	<code>base</code>
<code>script</code>	<code>math</code>

This one is the same as the parent but the right-to-left variant is different:

<code>kern</code>	<code>yes</code>
<code>language</code>	<code>dflt</code>
<code>locl</code>	<code>yes</code>
<code>mathalternates</code>	<code>yes</code>
<code>mathdimensions</code>	<code>all</code>
<code>mathitalics</code>	<code>yes</code>
<code>mathnolimitsmode</code>	<code>0,800</code>
<code>mode</code>	<code>base</code>
<code>rtlm</code>	<code>yes</code>
<code>script</code>	<code>math</code>

Eventually we need size related feature sets and again we define a parent and direction specific ones: `math-text`, `math-script` and `math-scriptscript`.

kern	yes
language	dflt
mathalternates	yes
mathdimensions	all
mathitalics	yes
mathnolimitsmode	0,800
mode	base
script	math
ssty	no

kern	yes
language	dflt
mathalternates	yes
mathdimensions	all
mathitalics	yes
mathnolimitsmode	0,800
mathsize	yes
mode	base
script	math
ssty	1

kern	yes
language	dflt
mathalternates	yes
mathdimensions	all
mathitalics	yes
mathnolimitsmode	0,800
mathsize	yes
mode	base
script	math
ssty	2

The left-to-right sets `math-*-l2r` are:

kern	yes
language	dflt
mathalternates	yes
mathdimensions	all
mathitalics	yes
mathnolimitsmode	0,800
mode	base
script	math
ssty	no

kern	yes
language	dflt

mathalternates	yes
mathdimensions	all
mathitalics	yes
mathnolimitsmode	0,800
mathsize	yes
mode	base
script	math
ssty	1

kern	yes
language	dflt
mathalternates	yes
mathdimensions	all
mathitalics	yes
mathnolimitsmode	0,800
mathsize	yes
mode	base
script	math
ssty	2

The right-to-left sets `math-*-r2l` are:

kern	yes
language	dflt
locl	yes
mathalternates	yes
mathdimensions	all
mathitalics	yes
mathnolimitsmode	0,800
mode	base
rtlm	yes
script	math
ssty	no

kern	yes
language	dflt
locl	yes
mathalternates	yes
mathdimensions	all
mathitalics	yes
mathnolimitsmode	0,800
mathsize	yes
mode	base
rtlm	yes
script	math
ssty	1

kern	yes
language	dflt
locl	yes
mathalternates	yes
mathdimensions	all
mathitalics	yes
mathnolimitsmode	0,800
mathsize	yes
mode	base
rtlm	yes
script	math
ssty	2

There are a few extra sets defined but these are meant for testing or virtual math fonts. The reason for showing these sets is to make clear that the number of features is minimal and that math is a real script indeed.

The kern features is questionable. In traditional $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{E}}\mathrm{X}$ there are kerns indeed but in $\mathrm{O}_{\mathrm{P}}\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{N}}\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{Y}}\mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{E}}$ math kerns are not used that way because a more advanced kerning feature is present (and that one is currently always enabled). We used to set the following but these make no sense.

```
liga=yes, % (traditional) ligatures
tlig=yes, % tex ligatures, like -- and ---
trep=yes, % tex replacements, like the ' quote
```

Math fonts normally have no ligatures and supporting the $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{E}}\mathrm{X}$ specific ones can actually be annoying. So, in todays $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{O}}\mathrm{N}_{\mathrm{T}}\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{X}}\mathrm{T}$ these are no longer enabled. Just consider the following:

```
$- \kern0pt - \kern 0pt \mathchar"2D$
$- \kern0pt -- \kern 0pt \mathchar"2D \mathchar"2D$
$- \kern0pt --- \kern 0pt \mathchar"2D \mathchar"2D \mathchar"2D$
```

The `-` is mapped onto a minus sign and therefore several in succession become multiple minus signs. The `\mathchar"2D` will remain the character with that slot in the font so there we will see a hyphen. If we would enable the `tlig` feature several such characters would be combined into an endash or emdash. So how do we get these than? Because getting a hyphen directly involves a command, the same is true for its longer relatives: `\endash` and `\emdash`.

```
-- -
-- ---
-- -- --
```

As convenience we have defined a special `\mathhyphen` command. Watch the fact that a text hyphen in math mode is a minus in math! As comparison we also show the plus sign.

command	math	text
<code>\mathhyphen</code>	-	-
<code>\texthyphen</code>	—	-
-	-	-
+	+	+
<code>\endash</code>	-	-
<code>\emdash</code>	—	—

5.2 Stylistic alternates

todo

5.3 Dotless variants

todo

6 Tricks

6.1 Introduction

Math support in `ConTeXt` is wrapped around basic `TeX` primitives and unfortunately not all we want is easy to configure. This is not surprising because the original ideas behind `TeX` are that one makes a style per book and a one macro package ‘we-can-do-it-all’ approach is not what Don Knuth had in mind at that time.

So, for instance support for configurable spacing per math element, coloring of specific (sub) elements, simple switching of whatever combination of alignments and number placement, these all take quite a bit of code and hackery.

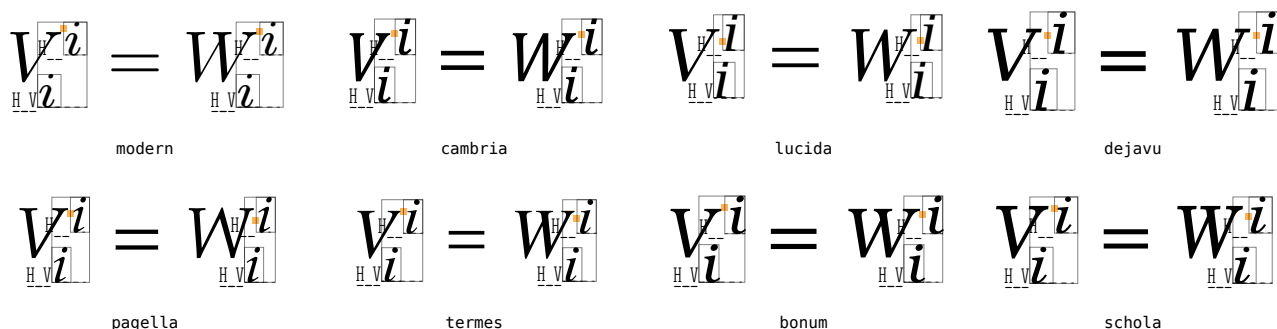
Even configuring something seemingly trivial as fractions or top, bottom, left, middle and right fences take some effort. This is because the engine uses information from fonts to combine shapes and paste the content and ornaments to together.

For that reason already in `MkII` but more extensively in `MkIV` we did a lot of these things in wrapper macros. When the math renderer was finalized for `OpenType` math some extra control was added that can make these things easier. However, because we go a bit beyond what is possible using this new functionality these new mechanisms are not yet used in `MkIV`, but they might be eventually. Here we just show some of the (newer) low level trickery. For details about what was already possible in pure `TeX`, we refer to the ultimate references: the `TeXbook` (by Donald Knuth) and `TeX by Topic` (by Victor Eijkhout).

6.2 Kerning

Kerning in `OpenType` math is not the same as in traditional `TeX`: instead of a single value, we have staircase kerns, that is, depending on the location (left or right) and the vertical position, at discrete distances between depth and height. In addition there is italic correction but that is only applied in certain cases, one of which is the script location.

Unfortunately not all fonts follow the same route. Some fonts have a true width and a moderate italic correction is added to it (of at all), while other fonts lie about the width and depend on an excessive italic correction to compensate for that.



I will not discuss the details because when a font gets updated, it might look better or worse. These fonts were loaded with the following directive set:

```
\enabledirectives[fontgoodies.mathkerning]
```

An example of a fontgoodie that fixed the kerning is `pagella-math.lfg`. Here is the relevant bit:

```
local kern_200 = { bottomright = { { kern = -200 } } }
local kern_100 = { bottomright = { { kern = -100 } } }

return {
  .....,
  mathematics = {
    .....,
    kerns = {
      [0x1D449] = kern_200, --
      [0x1D44A] = kern_100, --
    },
    .....,
  }
}
```

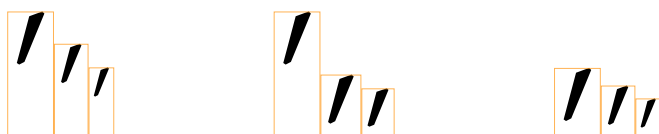
This fixes the real bad kerning of Pagella Math which at least in 2017 was not (yet) fixed. When the fonts are frozen we can start making permanent runtime fixes like this.

6.3 Primes

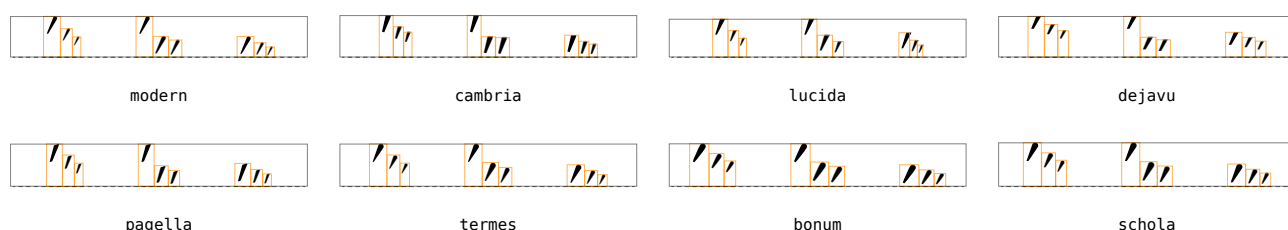
Primes are a pain in the butt. The reason for this is that they are independent characters on the one hand but can be seen as a superscript on the other. Let's first look at the symbols at the three sizes that are used in math.

```
$
  {\textstyle      \char"2032}
  {\scriptstyle    \char"2032}
  {\scriptscriptstyle\char"2032}
\quad
  {\textstyle      \char"FE931}
  {\scriptstyle    \char"FE931}
  {\scriptscriptstyle\char"FE931}
\quad
  {\textstyle      \char"FE932}
  {\scriptstyle    \char"FE932}
  {\scriptscriptstyle\char"FE932}
$
```

We blow up the characters a bit and get this:



The first set is the normal prime character scaled to the text, script and scriptscriptsize. The second set shows the characters (at three sizes) as they are in the font. The largest character is raised while the other two are closer to the baseline. In some fonts the smaller sizes are not smaller at all. The last set is a variant of the first set but we made them into virtual characters with a displacement and different dimensions. Those are the ones we use as primes.



Next we show how primes show up in real math. The examples explain themselves.

```
{\textstyle      f = g} \quad
{\scriptstyle    f = g} \quad
{\scriptscriptstyle f = g}
```

$$f = g \quad f=g \quad f=g$$

```
{\textstyle      f_i' = g_i'} \quad
{\scriptstyle    f_i' = g_i'} \quad
{\scriptscriptstyle f_i' = g_i'}
```

$$f_i' = g_i' \quad f_i'=g_i' \quad f_i'=g_i'$$

```
{\textstyle      f^{\char"2032}(0) = g^{\char"2032}(0)} \quad
{\scriptstyle    f^{\char"2032}(0) = g^{\char"2032}(0)} \quad
{\scriptscriptstyle f^{\char"2032}(0) = g^{\char"2032}(0)}
```

$$f'(0) = g'(0) \quad f'(0)=g'(0) \quad f'(0)=g'(0)$$

```
{\textstyle      f'(0) = g'(0)} \quad
{\scriptstyle    f'(0) = g'(0)} \quad
{\scriptscriptstyle f'(0) = g'(0)}
```

$$f'(0) = g'(0) \quad f'(0)=g'(0) \quad f'(0)=g'(0)$$

```
{\textstyle      f^{\char"2032}(0) = g^{\char"2032}(0)} \quad
{\scriptstyle    f^{\char"2032}(0) = g^{\char"2032}(0)} \quad
{\scriptscriptstyle f^{\char"2032}(0) = g^{\char"2032}(0)}
```

$$f'(0) = g'(0) \quad f'(0)=g'(0) \quad f'(0)=g'(0)$$

```
{\textstyle      f^{\char"2032}(0) = g^{\char"2032}(0)} \quad
{\scriptstyle    f^{\char"2032}(0) = g^{\char"2032}(0)} \quad
{\scriptscriptstyle f^{\char"2032}(0) = g^{\char"2032}(0)}
```

$$f'(0) = g'(0) \quad f'(0)=g'(0) \quad f'(0)=g'(0)$$

The prime analyzer can deal with sizes, subscripts but also converts a sequence of upright quotes into one unicode symbol. So,

```
f'_i \neq f''_i \neq f'''_i \neq f''''_i
```

becomes:

$$f'_i \neq f''_i \neq f'''_i \neq f''''_i$$

6.4 Radicals

Sometimes users complain about the look of a radical symbol. This is however a matter of design. Some fonts let the shape start more below the baseline than others. Soem go more straight up than relatives in another font. When largers sizes are needed, some fonts offer smaller than others. Just look at the different desings:

	<code>\surd</code>	<code>\sqrt{}</code>	<code>\sqrt{.}</code>	<code>\sqrt{x}</code>	
modern					
cambria					
lucidaot					
dejavu					
pagella					
termes					

bonum								
schola								

The automatic scaling doesn't always work out as expected but on the average is okay. Keep in mind that often the content is not that extreme.

	1.0ex	1.5ex	2.0ex	2.5ex	3.0ex	3.5ex	4.0ex	4.5ex
modern								
cambria								
lucidaot								
dejavu								
pagella								
termes								
bonum								
schola								

In Lucida (the version at the time of writing this) we have to correct the threshold a bit in the goodie file:

```

local function FixRadicalDisplayStyleVerticalGap(value,target,original)
  local o = original.mathparameters.RadicalVerticalGap -- 50
  return 2 * o * target.parameters.factor
end

return {
  ....
  mathematics = {
    ....
    parameters = {
      RadicalDisplayStyleVerticalGap =
        FixRadicalDisplayStyleVerticalGap,
    },
    ....
  }
}

```

```

},
}

```

6.5 Integrals

A curious exception in the math system is the integral sign. Its companions are the summation and product signs, but integral has an extra property that it has a slant. In `LUATEX` there is rather advanced control over how the (optional) scripts are positioned (which relates to italic correction) but in `CONTEXT` we only make limited use of that. The main reason is that we also need to support additional features like color. Therefore integrals are handled by the extensible mechanism.

The size of an integral is more or less fixed but you can enlarge to your liking. One reason for this is that you might want a consistent size across formulas. Let's use the following setup:

```

\setupmathextensible
  [integral]
  [rightoffset=-1mu,
   exact=yes,
   factor=2]

```

```

\let\int\integral

```

We use the following example:

<code>\ruledhbox{\$\integral</code>	<code>f\frac{1}{2}</code>	<code>\$}\quad</code>
<code>\ruledhbox{\$\integral[rightoffset=3mu]</code>	<code>f\frac{1}{2}</code>	<code>\$}\quad</code>
<code>\ruledhbox{\$\integral[exact=no]</code>	<code>f\frac{1}{2}</code>	<code>\$}\quad</code>
<code>\ruledhbox{\$\integral</code>	<code>f\frac{\frac{1}{2}}{x}</code>	<code>\$}\quad</code>
<code>\ruledhbox{\$\integral[exact=no]</code>	<code>f\frac{\frac{1}{2}}{x}</code>	<code>\$}\quad</code>
<code>\ruledhbox{\$\integral[factor=1]</code>	<code>f\frac{1}{2}</code>	<code>\$}\quad</code>
<code>\ruledhbox{\$\integral[factor=3]</code>	<code>f\frac{\frac{1}{2}}{x}</code>	<code>\$}\quad</code>
<code>\ruledhbox{\$\integral[factor=3]</code>	<code>f\frac{1}{2}</code>	<code>\$}\quad</code>
<code>\ruledhbox{\$\int</code>	<code>f\frac{1}{2}</code>	<code>\$}% bonus</code>

This renders as:

6.6 Fancy fences

Here I only show an example of fences drawn by `METAPOST`. For the implementation you can consult the library file `meta-imp-mat.mkiv` in the `CONTEXT` distribution.


```

\useMPLibrary[mat]

\setupmathstackers
  [both] % vfenced]
  [color=darkred,
  alternative=mp]

\setupmathstackers
  [top]
  [color=darkred,
  alternative=mp]

\setupmathstackers
  [bottom]
  [color=darkred,
  alternative=mp]

```

We keep the demo simple:

```

$ \overbracket      {a+b+c+d} \quad
\underbracket      {a+b+c+d} \quad
\doublebracket     {a+b+c+d} \quad
\overparent        {a+b+c+d} \quad
\underparent       {a+b+c+d} \quad
\doubleparent      {a+b+c+d} $ \blank
$ \overbrace       {a+b+c+d} \quad
\underbrace       {a+b+c+d} \quad
\doublebrace      {a+b+c+d} \quad
\overbar          {a+b+c+d} \quad
\underbar         {a+b+c+d} \quad
\doublebar        {a+b+c+d} $ \blank
$ \overleftarrow   {a+b+c+d} \quad
\overrightarrow   {a+b+c+d} \quad
\underleftarrow   {a+b+c+d} \quad
\underrightarrow  {a+b+c+d} $ \blank

```

Or visualized:

$\overbracket{a+b+c+d}$ $\underbracket{a+b+c+d}$ $\doublebracket{a+b+c+d}$ $\overparent{a+b+c+d}$ $\underparent{a+b+c+d}$ $\doubleparent{a+b+c+d}$
 $\overbrace{a+b+c+d}$ $\underbrace{a+b+c+d}$ $\doublebrace{a+b+c+d}$ $\overbar{a+b+c+d}$ $\underbar{a+b+c+d}$ $\doublebar{a+b+c+d}$
 $\overleftarrow{a+b+c+d}$ $\overrightarrow{a+b+c+d}$ $\underleftarrow{a+b+c+d}$ $\underrightarrow{a+b+c+d}$

6.7 Combined characters

We have some magic built with respect to sequences of characters. They are derived from information in the character database that ships with `CONTEX` and are implemented as a sort of ligatures. Some are defined in `UNICODE`, others are defined explicitly.

U+02016		U+0007C U+0007C	—		\Vert \Arrowvert \lVert \rVert \doubleverticalbar
U+02026	...	U+0002E U+0002E U+0002E	\ldots \dots
U+02033	"	U+02032 U+02032	"	"	\doubleprime
U+02034	'''	U+02032 U+02032 U+02032	'''	'''	\tripleprime
U+02036	"	U+02035 U+02035	"	"	\reverseddoubleprime
U+02037	'''	U+02035 U+02035 U+02035	'''	'''	\reversedtripleprime
U+02057	''''	U+02032 U+02032 U+02032 U+02032	''''	''''	\quadrupleprime
U+02190	←	U+0003C U+02212	<-	←	\leftarrow \gets \underleftarrow \overleftarrow
U+02192	→	U+02212 U+0003E	->	→	\rightarrow \to \underrightarrow \overrightarrow
U+02194	↔	U+0003C U+02212 U+0003E	<->	↔	\leftrightarrow
U+0219A	↔	U+02190 U+00338	↔	↔	\nleftarrow
U+0219B	↔	U+02192 U+00338	↔	↔	\nrightarrow
U+021AE	↔	U+02194 U+00338	↔	↔	\nleftrightarrow
U+021CD	↔	U+021D0 U+00338	↔	↔	\nLeftarrow
U+021CE	↔	U+021D4 U+00338	↔	↔	\nLefttrightarrow
U+021CF	↔	U+021D2 U+00338	↔	↔	\nRightarrow
U+021D0	⇐	U+0003C U+0003D U+0003D	<==	⇐	\Leftarrow
U+021D2	⇒	U+0003D U+0003D U+0003E	==>	⇒	\Rightarrow \imply
U+021D4	⇔	U+0003C U+0003D U+0003E	<=>	⇔	\Leftrightarrow
U+02204	∄	U+02203 U+00338	∄	∄	\nexists
U+02209	∉	U+02208 U+00338	∉	∉	\notin \nin
U+0220C	∋	U+0220B U+00338	∋	∋	\nni \nowns
U+02224	∣	U+02223 U+00338	∣	∣	\ndivides \nmid
U+02226	∥	U+02225 U+00338	∥	∥	\nparallel
U+0222C	∫	U+0222B U+0222B	∫	∫	\iint \iintop
U+0222D	∫	U+0222B U+0222B U+0222B	∫	∫	\iiint \iiintop
U+0222F	∫	U+0222E U+0222E	∫	∫	\oint
U+02230	∫	U+0222E U+0222E U+0222E	∫	∫	\oiint
U+02241	≈	U+0223C U+00338	≈	≈	\nsim
U+02244	≈	U+02243 U+00338	≈	≈	\nsimeq
U+02247	≈	U+02245 U+00338	≈	≈	\approxnEq
U+02249	≈	U+02248 U+00338	≈	≈	\napprox
U+02254	:=	U+0003A U+0003D	:=	:=	\colonequals
U+02255	:=	U+0003D U+0003A	:=	:=	\equalscolon
U+02260	≠	U+0003D U+00338	=	≠	\neq \ne
U+02260	≠	U+00021 U+0003D	!=	≠	\neq \ne
U+02261	≡	U+0003D U+0003D	==	==	\equiv
U+02262	≢	U+02261 U+00338	≢	≢	\nequiv
U+02262	≢	U+0002F U+0003D U+0003D	/==	≢	\nequiv
U+02264	≤	U+0003C U+0003D	<=	≤	\leq \le
U+02265	≥	U+0003E U+0003D	>=	≥	\geq \ge

U+0226A	≪	U+0003C U+0003C	≪	≪	\ll
U+0226B	≫	U+0003E U+0003E	≫	≫	\gg
U+0226D	≠	U+0224D U+00338		≠	\nasymp
U+0226D	≠	U+0002F U+0224D	/	≠	\nasymp
U+0226E	≠	U+0003C U+00338	<	≠	\nless
U+0226E	≠	U+0002F U+0003C	/<	≠	\nless
U+0226F	≠	U+0003E U+00338	>	≠	\ngtr
U+0226F	≠	U+0002F U+0003E	/>	≠	\ngtr
U+02270	≠	U+02264 U+00338		≠	\nleq
U+02270	≠	U+0002F U+0003C U+0003D	/<=	≠	\nleq
U+02271	≠	U+02265 U+00338		≠	\ngeq
U+02271	≠	U+0002F U+0003D U+0003E	/=>	≠	\ngeq
U+02274	≠	U+02272 U+00338		≠	\nlesssim
U+02275	≠	U+02273 U+00338		≠	\ngtrsim
U+02278	≠	U+02276 U+00338		≠	\nlessgtr
U+02279	≠	U+02277 U+00338		≠	\ngtrless
U+02280	≠	U+0227A U+00338		≠	\nprec
U+02281	≠	U+0227B U+00338		≠	\nsucc
U+02284	⊂	U+02282 U+00338		⊂	\nsubset
U+02285	⊃	U+02283 U+00338		⊃	\nsupset
U+02288	⊆	U+02286 U+00338		⊆	\nsubseteq
U+02289	⊇	U+02287 U+00338		⊇	\nsupseteq
U+022AC	⋈	U+022A2 U+00338		⋈	\nvdash
U+022AD	⋈	U+022A8 U+00338		⋈	\nvDash
U+022AE	⋈	U+022A9 U+00338		⋈	\nVdash
U+022AF	⋈	U+022AB U+00338		⋈	\nVDash
U+022D8	≪≪	U+0003C U+0003C U+0003C	≪≪	≪≪	\lll \lllless
U+022D9	≫≫	U+0003E U+0003E U+0003E	≫≫	≫≫	\ggg \gggtr
U+022E0	⋈	U+0227C U+00338		⋈	\npreccurlyeq
U+022E1	⋈	U+0227D U+00338		⋈	\nsucccurlyeq
U+022E2	⊆	U+02291 U+00338		⊆	\nsqsubseteq
U+022E3	⊇	U+02292 U+00338		⊇	\nsqsupseteq
U+022EA	↗	U+022B2 U+00338		↗	\ntriangleright
U+022EB	↖	U+022B3 U+00338		↖	\ntriangleleft
U+022EC	↗	U+022B4 U+00338		↗	\ntrianglelefteq
U+022ED	↖	U+022B5 U+00338		↖	\ntrianglerighteq
U+027F8	⇐	U+0003C U+0003D U+0003D U+0003D	<==	⇐	\Longleftarrow
U+027F9	⇒	U+0003D U+0003D U+0003D U+0003E	==>	⇒	\Longrightarrow
U+027FA	⇔	U+0003C U+0003D U+0003D U+0003E	<==>	⇔	\Longleftrightarrow
U+02980		U+0007C U+0007C U+0007C			\tripleverticalbar
U+02A0C		U+0222B U+0222B U+0222B U+0222B			\iiiint \iiintop
U+02A74	?	U+0003A U+0003A U+0003D	::=		\coloncolonequals
U+02A75	= =	U+0003D U+0003D	==	= =	\eqeq
U+02A76	= = =	U+0003D U+0003D U+0003D	===	= = =	\eqeqeq

