Technical Writing and Speaking in English

Danilo Carastan-Santos¹ Enikő Kevi¹ 15 September 2023

¹Université Grenoble Alpes, Grenoble INP, Inria, LIG, France

email:danilo.carastan-dos-santos@inria.fr eniko.kevi@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr

Outline

- 1. Course presentation and practical information
- 2. Tools for scientific writing (in Computer Science)

Course presentation and practical information

 You can find all information at the course's GitHub page: https://github.com/danilo-carastan-santos/ technical-writing/tree/main/sessions/ 2023-Grenoble



Outline

- 1. Course presentation and practical information
- 2. Tools for scientific writing (in Computer Science)

Tools for Scientific Writing

"The" tool: LATEX

Why?

- Write text as if it was code
- Nice to write equations and math
- (Very) nice citation features

Tools for Scientific Writing

"The" tool: LATEX

Why?

- Write text as if it was code
- Nice to write equations and math
- (Very) nice citation features

It it Hard?

- Used to have a slow learning curve
- It can be hard to configure

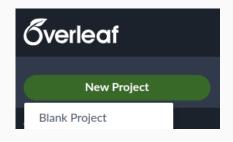
Cloud-based services (Overleaf) and their tutorials alleviate this challenge.

A LETEX crash course

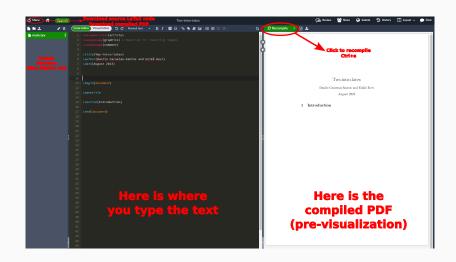
 Create an Overleaf account (if you don't have one): https:

//www.overleaf.com/

2. Click on "New Project", then in "Blank project"



Interface Overview



Preamble

```
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage{graphicx} % Required for inserting images
\title{Tws-intro-latex}
\author{dancarastan }
\date{August 2023}
```

- Overall configuration and metadata
 - "Import" packages (functionalities)
 - Add information for the title (authors, date, etc.)
 - Implement custom commands
 - Configure templates

Document body

```
\begin{document}

\maketitle

\section{Introduction}

\end{document}
```

- The body (content) of your document
 - \bullet Always inside the \begin{document} and \end{document}

Document body: Organizing the text into sections

```
\begin{document}

\section{Introduction}
This is section number one. The introduction.

\section{General Explanation}
This is the second section

\subsection{Subsection}
This is a subsection of Section 2

\subsubsection{Subsubsection}
This is a sub-subsection of Section 2

\end{document}
```

1 Introduction

This is section number one. The introduction.

2 General Explanation

This is the second section

2.1 Subsection

This is a subsection of Section 2

2.1.1 Subsubsection

This is a sub-subsection of Section 2

Document body: Cross referencing

```
\begin{document}

\section{General Explanation}
This is the second section
\subsection{Subsection}
This is a subsection of Section 2
\subsubsection{Subsubsection}
This is a sub-subsection of Section 2
\section{My other Section}
This is my other section.
\end{document}
```

1 General Explanation

This is the second section

1.1 Subsection

This is a subsection of Section 2

1.1.1 Subsubsection

This is a sub-subsection of Section 2

2 My other Section

This is my other session.

Document body: Cross referencing

```
\begin{document}

\section{General Explanation}
\label{sec:general-explanation}
This is the second section
\subsection{Subsection}
This is a subsection of Section~\ref{sec:general-explanation}
\subsubsection{Subsubsection}
This is a sub-subsection of Section~\ref{sec:general-explanation}
\section{My other Section}
This is my other section.
\end{document}
```

1 General Explanation

This is the second section

1.1 Subsection

This is a subsection of Section 1

1.1.1 Subsubsection

This is a sub-subsection of Section 1

2 My other Section

This is my other section.

Document body: Adding figures

```
\begin{document}
\begin{figure}
   \centering
    \includegraphics[width=.5\linewidth
         ]{Figures/DALL-E.png}
    \caption{Used prompt in DALL-E: A
         Realistic oil painting of a
         scholar writing in a book,
         inside a medieval chamber
    \label{fig:dalle-figure}
\end{figure}
\section{About the figure}
The prompt used to generate Figure ~\ref{
     fig:dalle-figure} is in its
     caption.
```

\end{document}



Figure 1: Used prompt in DALL-E: A Realistic oil painting of a scholar writing in a book, inside a medieval chamber

1 About the figure

The prompt used to generate Figure 1 is in its caption.

Document body: Adding equations and math¹

```
\begin{document}
\section{First fundamental theorem of
     calculus}
Let $f$ be a continuous real-valued
     function defined on a closed
     interval $[a, b]$. Let $F$ be the
     function defined, for all $x \in [
     a, b]$, by
$$
F(x) = \inf \{a\}^{x} F(t) dt
22
Then F is uniformly continuous on [a, b]
      and differentiable on the open
     interval (a, b), and Equation ~\ref
     {eq:fund-thorem-calc} holds true.
\begin{equation}
   F'(x) = f(x)
    \label{eq:fund-thorem-calc}
\end{equation}
\end{document}
```

1 First fundamental theorem of calculus

Let f be a continuous real-valued function defined on a closed interval [a,b]. Let F be the function defined, for all $x\in [a,b]$, by

$$F(x) = \int_{a}^{x} F(t)dt$$

Then F is uniformly continuous on $[a,\ b]$ and differentiable on the open interval $(a,\ b),$ and Equation 1 holds true.

$$F'(x) = f(x)$$
 (1)

¹Cheat-Sheet on LAT_EX math symbols: http://tug.ctan.org/info/undergradmath/undergradmath.pdf

Adding citations (the bibtex way): Part 1

- Create a .bib file: Click "New file", and then name it as references.bib
- 2. Add a bibtex entry for your citation (see right)
 - Copy/paste the Google Scholar output



Adding citations (the bibtex way): Part 2

```
begin{document}
\section{First fundamental theorem of
     calculusl
Let $f$ be a continuous real-valued
     function defined on a closed
     interval $[a, b]$. Let $F$ be the
     function defined, for all $x \in [
     a, b]$, by
$$
F(x) = \inf_{a}^{x} F(t) dt
22
Then F is uniformly continuous on [a, b]
      and differentiable on the open
     interval (a, b), and Equation ~\ref
     {eq:fund-thorem-calc} holds true.
\begin{equation}
    F'(x) = f(x)
    \label{eq:fund-thorem-calc}
\end{equation}
See reference \cite{apostol1991calculus}
      for more information.
\bibliographystyle{plain}
\bibliography{references}
\end{document}
```

1 First fundamental theorem of calculus

Let f be a continuous real-valued function defined on a closed interval [a,b]. Let F be the function defined, for all $x\in [a,b]$, by

$$F(x) = \int_{a}^{x} F(t)dt$$

Then F is uniformly continuous on [a, b] and differentiable on the open interval (a, b), and Equation 1 holds true.

$$F'(x) = f(x)$$
 (1)

See reference [1] for more information.

References

Tom M Apostol. Calculus, Volume 1. John Wiley & Sons, 1991.

Online support material

- Overleaf Tutorials: https://www.overleaf.com/learn/latex/Tutorials
- 2. Dr. Trefor Bazett Tutorials
 https://youtube.com/playlist?list=
 PLHXZ90QGMqxcWWkx2DMnQmj5os2X5ZR73&feature=shared
- 3. Dr. Vincent Knight Tutorials (Short Examples)
 https://youtube.com/playlist?list=
 PLnC5h3PY-znyDQKn3knfXfekZLgWyL7QW&feature=shared
- 4. The examples explained above in Overleaf: https://www.overleaf.com/read/nzxggfyscgdw

Other useful tools

- Grammarly: check your grammar, find synonyms etc.
- QuillBot: paraphrasing tool
- ChatGPT: you know it

Other useful tools

- Grammarly: check your grammar, find synonyms etc.
- QuillBot: paraphrasing tool
- ChatGPT: you know it



- these tools are **not** always right
- try to develop skills that are independent of software
- (consider environmental impacts as well...)

Exercise & Homework

Exercise during class:

Read and observe 01-Exercise and recreate it yourself.

Homework for the next course:

Read the document 01-Homework available in the repository.