

The manuals

Welcome to the suite of ConTEXt manuals. These manuals not only cover the macro package itself, but also the tools that come with it. In this suite you will also find manuals on how to use ConTEXt for processing xml. Fonts and METAPOST graphic are discussed in dedicated manuals. On the following pages, the main manuals are shown large, while their screen companions are shown in the bottom right corner of a page. Clicking on a picture brings you to the document at hand. Some manuals come in more than one language, in which case small pictures of the title pages are shown.

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Getting started

Although meant for beginners, these manuals shows already a lot of what ConTEXt can do for you. They also demonstrate that TEX documents can be colorful and can contain lots of graphics.













Read Me

It's in the name: you should read this file. Not so much because the content should bother you, but more because it gives you an idea about what we have in mind with making ConTEXt available for everyone. ConTEXt is completely free software, which does not mean that there are no restrictions on redistributing and changing the files. When you want to redistribute (changed) source code, please read this licence first.





Installation

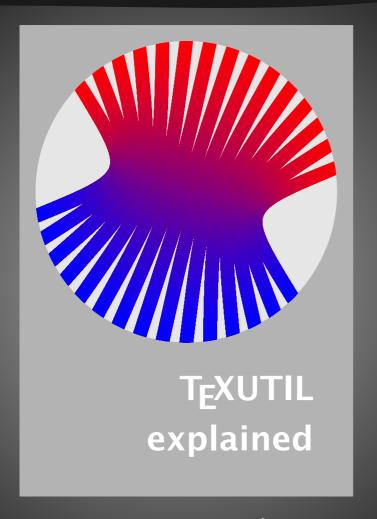
When one uses teTeX, fpTeX, gwTeX, MikTeX or TeX Live, installation of ConTeXt is a breeze. Nevertheless, in this manual, we provide some information on installing ConTeXt.





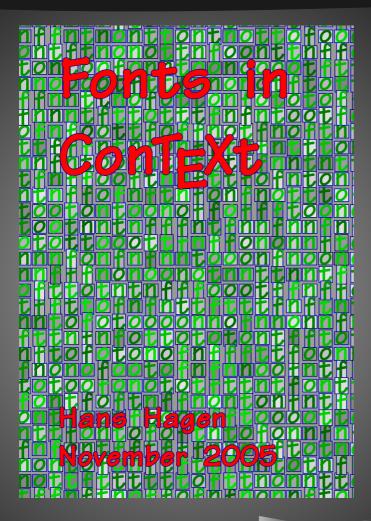
TEXexec

Traditional T_EX is hard to control on the commandline. This is why ConT_EXt comes with T_EXexec, a Perl script that makes document processing more convenient. This script also helps you to postprocess pdf files, typeset ConT_EXt documentation, arrange pages, and manage files.



TEXutil

The T_EXutil Perl script deals with files, especially the Con T_EXt second pass data file. It moves information around and sorts indexes and lists. This script is the natural companion of T_EXexec .



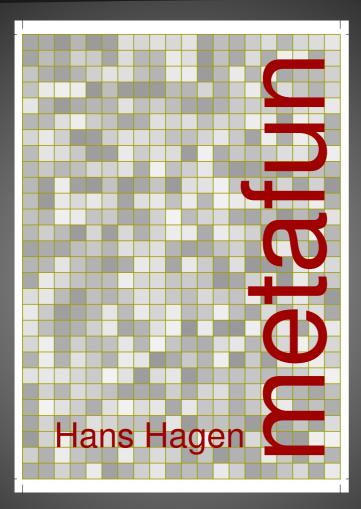
Fonts

Although installation of TEX and friends has become relatively easy, fonts always will be a special case. This is a result from the flexibility of TEX, as well as the fact that TEX can typeset virtually any language. The font manual covers the installation of fonts in ConTEXt and describes in detail how to define typescripts, how to achieve special effects, like hanging punctuation, and how to set up math fonts.





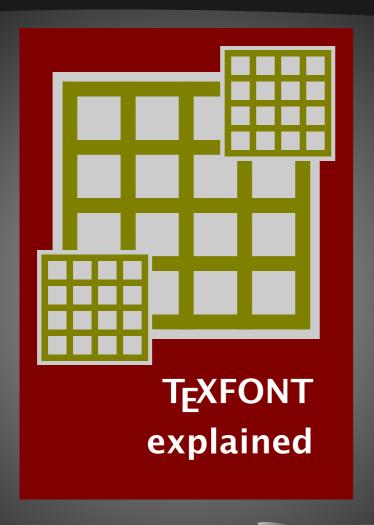




MetaFun

If you like graphics, you may like MetaFun, a collection of METAPOST macros. The manual covers most of METAPOST, as well as the interface between this graphical environment and ConTeXt. There are numerous examples, that give you an impression about the power of this graphical system as well as the strength of the combination with TeX.





Fonts

Installing fonts is one of the nasty parts of using TEX. This is why ConTEXt comes with a Perl script called TEXfont. You can use TEXfont to generate font metric files in specified encodings, manipulate fonts, creating instances of multiple master fonts, build map files, etc. The script runs on top of afm2tfm and the mminetance tools.



The Manual

This is the big reference manual, the one that is supposed to cover the whole of $ConT_EXt$. However, some more detailed aspects are covered in specialized manuals.

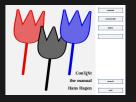


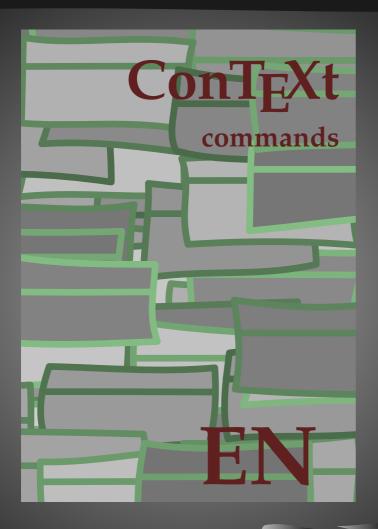












Quick References

This quick reference manual does not replace the other manuals, but advanced users can benefit from its compactness. The manual can be generated on the user's system, since the style and database that is needed is part of the distribution.



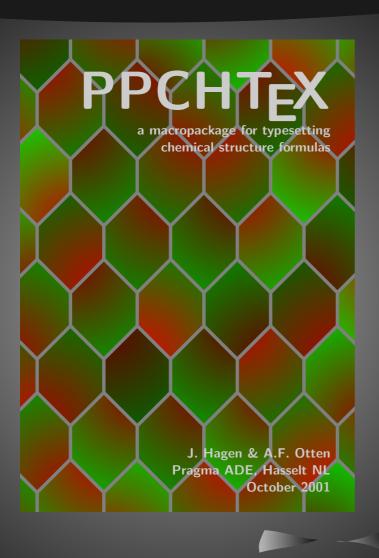












Chemistry

ppchT_EX is a relatively independent macro package that can be used to typeset chemical formulas. These manuals show how it's done. There are also some faq's and a suite with many examples.







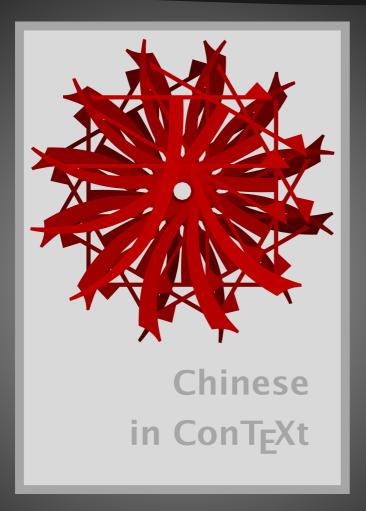






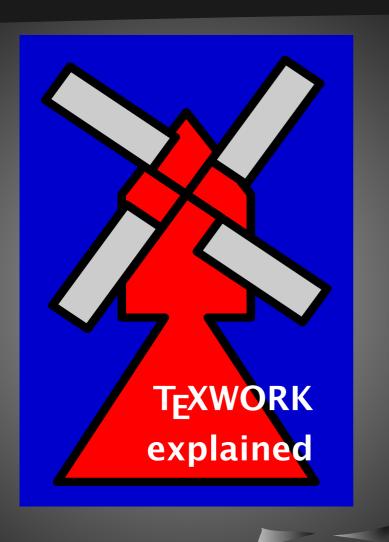
Chemical Formulas in ConT_EXt

Examples



Chinese

In many aspects, typesetting Chinese differs from typesetting Latin languages. Most noticably are the pictographic characters, vertical typesetting, multiple numbering systems, and a different way of handling labels. This manual covers the specific font setups, encoding issues, and mixed Latin and Chinese typesetting.



TEXwork

 T_EX work is our local editing environment. It is a rewrite of the Modula 2 program T_EX edit in Perl/Tk.



METAPOST outlines

MakeMPY is a Perl script and some macros that make it possible to create outlines from text typeset by TEX, that can be imported into METAPOST graphics. This toolkit uses pdfTEX, pdftops, pstoedit and Ghostscript, and works with any TEX.

XML in ConT_EXt

introduction general markup processing files defining interfaces basic workflows some examples command reference

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XML

Since T_EX can handle ascii input rather well, it will be no surprise that ConT_EXt can handle xml. In this document we describe the interface to xml. We also provide some examples, tips and tricks. This document is still under construction.

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MathML

MathML is a way of coding math in the xml syntax. This manual not only covers both presentational and content MathML in detail, but also provides many examples and demonstrates ways to fine tune the typeset representation. In addition to the MathML examples documents we also provide some examples of







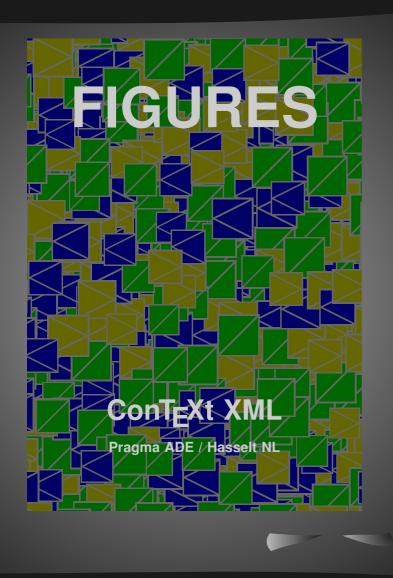
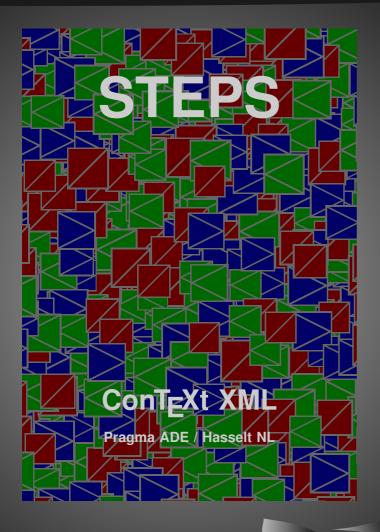


Figure Databases

Instead of moving hundreds of graphics around, you can package them in a database. ConTEXt not only has means to generate such databases, but also can filter the information needed from the corresponding xml files and include graphics by label. Figure bases make it easy to swap high and low resolution graphics.

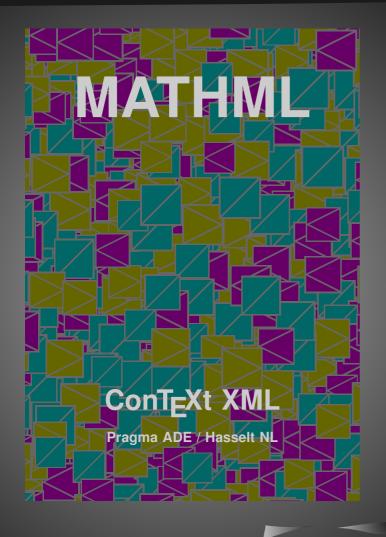




Stepcharts

Stepcharts are a specific kind of tabular charts. They are a combination of METAPOST graphics and TEX code. There is a TEX as well as xml implementation.

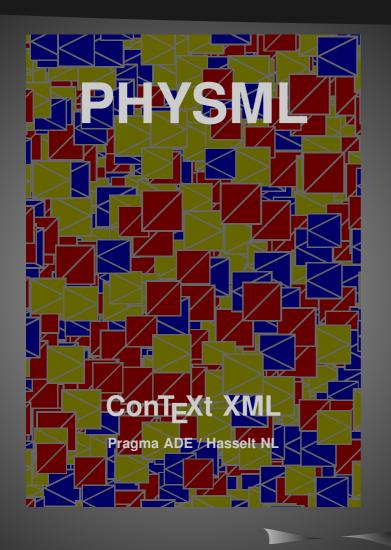




MathML support

This (short) manual explains how to invoke MathML support in ConTEXt. It can be seen as an addendum to the MathML manual.

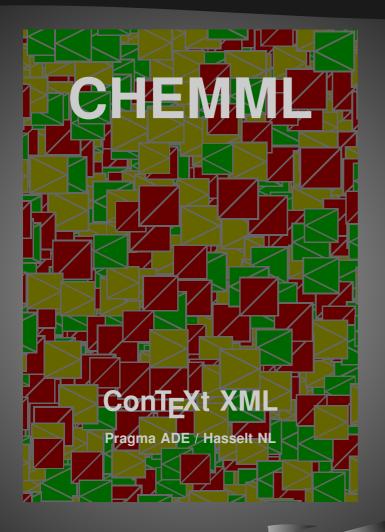




PhysML support

Support for physical units is build on top of the MathML engine. The method used is derived from the units module that comes with $ConT_EXt.$

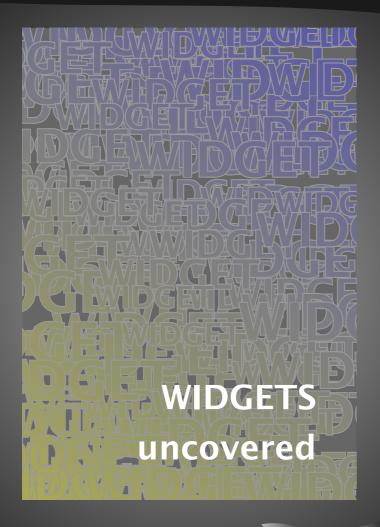




ChemML support

Chemical formulas have their own typographic needs. This module provides a way to code atoms, ions, molecules, and a sequence of reactions.





Widgets

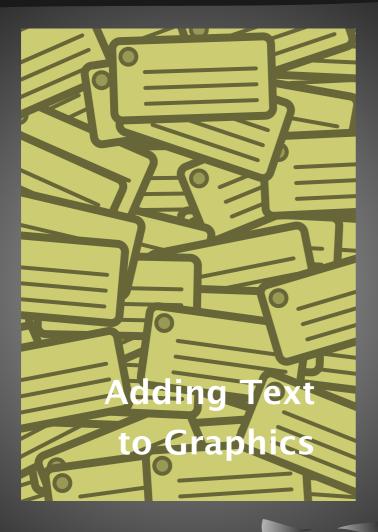
Widgets are interative elements in (screen based) documents. This manual describes how to use the reference mechanism for advanced hyperlinking, but also discussed how to construct forms. Adding text annotations and page transitions is also discussed.





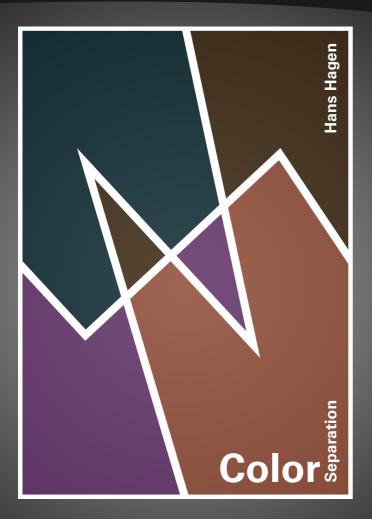
Charts

The flow chart module is an example of combining the power of TEX and METAPOST. You can use this module to define charts in a descriptive way such that parts can be used, and or charts can be combined. The advantage of using this integrated approach (opposite to dedicated programns) is that you have the whole ConTEXt machinery available, like hyperlinks and embedded graphics. Also, by using this module, you have a proper match of fonts between graphics and text.



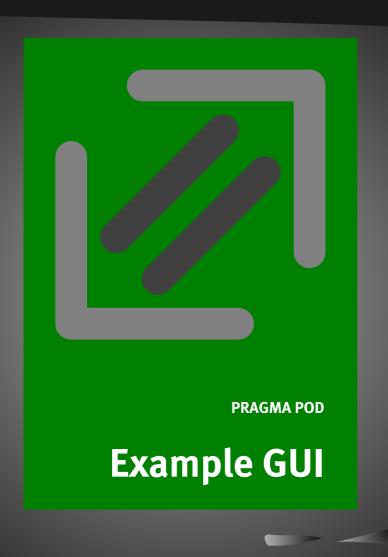
Labels

The author of a graphic is not neccessarily also its graphic designer. In that case it makes sense to split the design of the graphic elements from the process of adding labels. This document describes how to add text to graphics either or not using the resource (figure) library mechanism.



Color separation

This is a manual for those who are forced to deliver their typeset results color separated. The manual describes how to create an instance of a document in a specific color space and channel. Text as well as graphics are covered.



Example GUI

This manual describes how to install a user interface to some of the ConTEXt mechanisms and other programs. In the distribution there are applications for postprocessing documents (page imposition), testing MathML, and converting PostScript files to pdf.

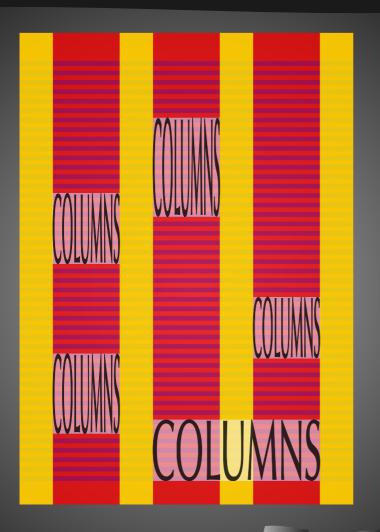
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IT'S IN THE DETAILS

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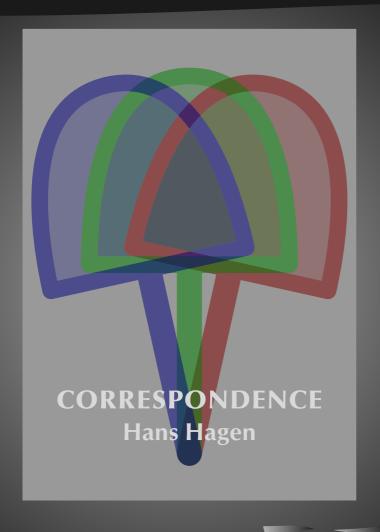
It's in the details

This manual is meant for users who want to divert from the more or less traditional looking TEX documents. There is a strong focus on elements that determine the look and feel of a document, like graphics. (This manual is unfinished)



Extreme

Column sets can be used for quite complex but nice looking layouts. (Behind the screens) this mechanims goes to the extremes of what we can do with $T_E X$'s output routines. With columnsets we try to bridge between sequential makeup and semi automated desk top publishing.

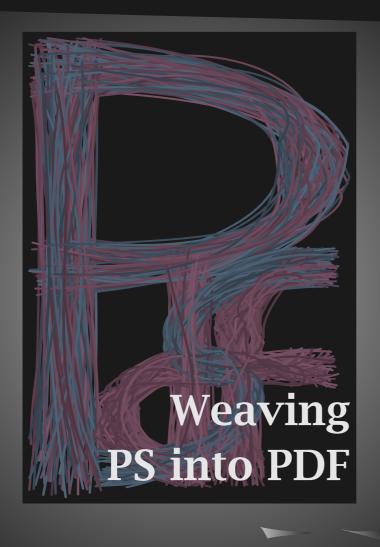


Correspondence

One of the first application at Pragma ADEof T_{EX} was in typesetting letters. Over time the T_{EX} only based system moved to a combination of xml and T_{EX} . This manual roughly describes the components that make up such a system. A graphical user interface is provided as well.







Weaving PS into PDF

This manual describes the pstopdf tool that comes with ConT_EXt. You can use this tool to convert PostScript images into pdf. The program is actually a wrapper around Ghostscript, but applies some additional trickery and filtering. It also supports watched folders and is suited for interfacing to the eXaMpLe framework.





SciTE in ConTEXt

SciTE is an editor and this manual describes how to configure it for use with ConTEXt and MetaFun. The additional configuration files are part of the ConTEXt distribution.



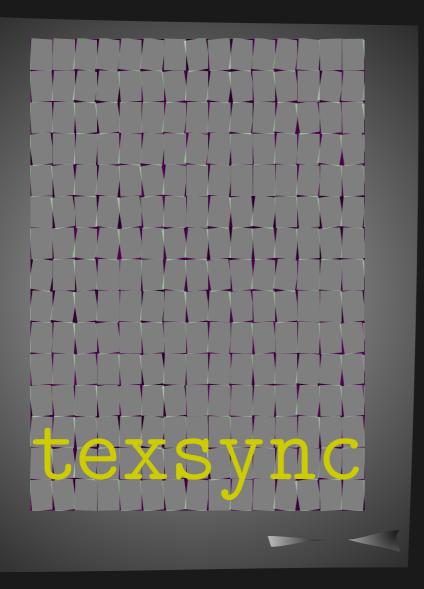
texmfstart & ...tools

This very short manual demonstrates how you can use texmfstart to launch scripts and documents located in your TEX tree. The script uses kpsewhich as well as its own (more aggressive) methods for locating the file. The textools manual describes a program that actually is a (growing) collection of small utilities that operate on TEX related files and trees. The xmltools manual describes a similar program, this time a collection of utilities that operate on cq. produce xml files and trees. Finally, the pdftools manual deals with the associated program, that operates on pdf files. This tool is not yet public.









texsync

There are several ways to install a T_EX system on your machine. Popular platform dependent distributions are fpT_EX, teT_EX, gwT_EX and MikT_EX, and user groups distribute the nicely packaged T_EXLive collection. At Pragma ADE we use for projects a small subset of T_EX Live, often with the latest ConT_EXt and project specific font trees. The program described in this manual enables you to synchronize with our minimal ConT_EXt tree.





xmldir

This manual describes how to access information about files on your system from within ConTEXt. The modules described here are accompanied by features in the textools script. You can use the styles to generate overviewe as well as access properties of files.



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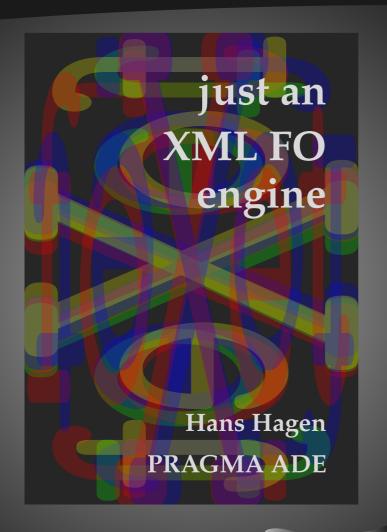
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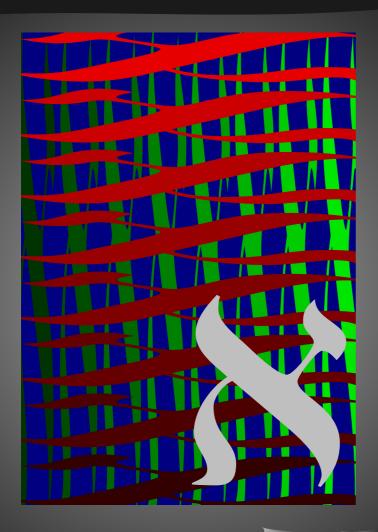
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foXet

You can see foXet as just another way of processing xml formatting objects. You may use it to process documents coded in (reasonable) xsl-fo or as (textual) graphics format in ConTEXt documents, a sort of placed xml.





Aleph

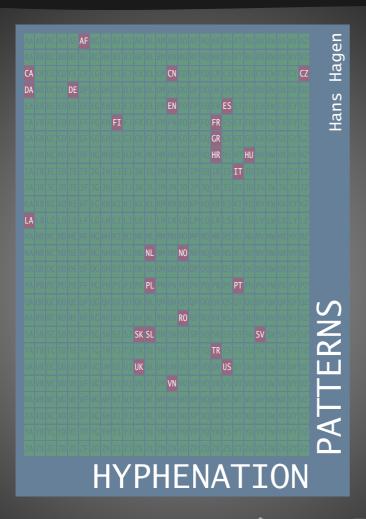
This document shows a few things that Aleph can do with respect to multidirectional type-setting. This document may change over time and is mostly a testbed and less a manual, although in the end it may evolve into one.

Hans Hagen

Typographic Programming

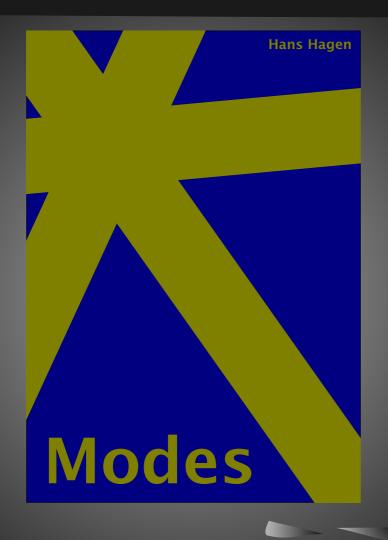
Typographic Programming

Designing styles is a mixture of making the right decisions in setting up the layout, finding the right values for the parameters that determine the typographic quality of the paragraph and page, and writing programs that take care of constructing the special elements that make up the page. This document tries to provide some insight in these matters.



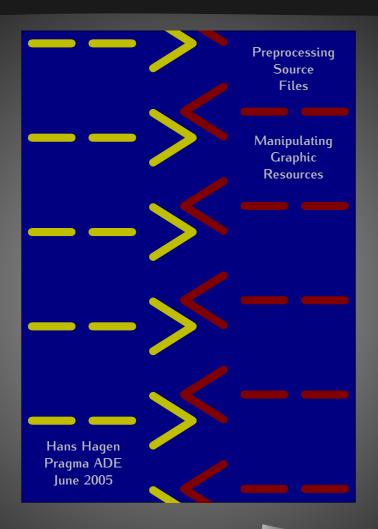
Hyphenation Patterns

Although normally users are not supposed to know the dirty details of pattern management, it may be handy to read this manuals at least once, if only to know what to do when for some reason pattern loading fails on your machine. This manual also describes how to apply the ctxtools program to generate generic pattern files from existing encoding specific files.



Modes

Modes are a convenient way to create styles that server multiple purposes. This manual describes how to enable modes and test for their state. The special system modes that ConTEXt sets itself are also explained.



Preprocessing and Manipulating

This manual describes the facilities for automatic preprocessing of source files and manipulation of graphics. These features come in handy in automated typesetting workflows and are handled by TEXEXEC and rixtools. The definition files are xml based.

MKII

CONTEXT

CONTEXT

MKIV

ConTEXt MkII & MkIV

In this note we explain the way different engines will be supported using one code base. Most users will not notice the difference because the format generation adapts itself automatically. However, to what extend new features are supported in different engines depends on developments. This manual keeps track of the differences.