

L^AT_EX Guidelines for Simple, Two-Column Papers

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Abstract

This is a simple sample of a document created using L^AT_EX (specifically pdf_latex) that includes a figure from the Vergil visual editor for Ptolemy II that was created by printing to the Acrobat Distiller to get a PDF file. It also illustrates a simple two-column conference paper style, and use of bib_tex to handle bibliographies.

1 Using L^AT_EX with PDF Figures

This is a sample document for use with pdf_latex, which is a program that is included with the Mik_tex distribution

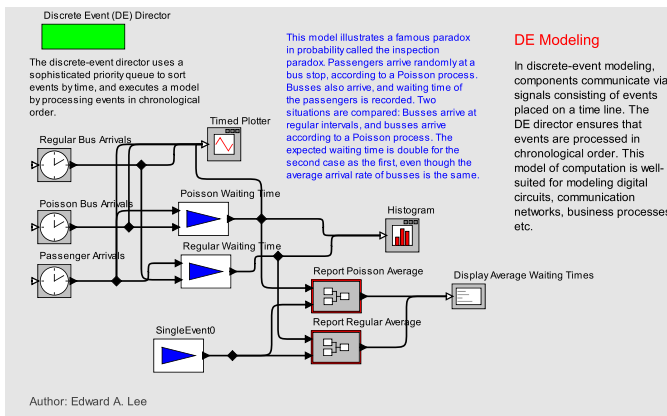


Figure 1. Figure caption. To get a figure to span two columns, use the environment figure* rather than figure.

that directly produces PDF files from L^AT_EX sources. To run L^AT_EX on this file, you need the following files:

1. templatePDF.tex (this file)
2. figure.pdf (the figure file)
3. simpleConference.sty (style file)
4. refs.bib (bibliography file)

To create a PDF file, execute the following commands:

1. pdf_latex templatePDF
2. bib_tex templatePDF
3. pdf_latex templatePDF
4. pdf_latex templatePDF

Yes (strangely) it is necessary to run pdf_latex three times. The result will be a PDF file (plus several other files that L^AT_EX produces). You will need a mechanism, of course, for executing commands on the command line. If you are using Windows, I recommend installing Cygwin and using its bash shell.

2 How to Include Vergil Diagrams as Figures

Suppose you wish to include a figure, like that in figure ???. The simplest mechanism is to install Adobe Acrobat, which includes a “printer” called “Acrobat Distiller.” Printing to this printer creates a PDF file, which can be included in a document as shown here. To include Ptolemy II models [?], just print to the distiller from within Vergil and reference the PDF file in your L^AT_EX document.

There is a bit more work to do, however. The file that is produced by the distiller represents a complete page, not the individual figure. You can open it in using Acrobat (version 5.0 or later), and select Document → Crop Pages from the menu. In the resulting dialog, check “Remove White Margins.” Save the modified PDF file in a file and then reference it in the \LaTeX file as shown in this example.

An alternative is to generate EPS (encapsulated postscript), but the process is much more complex and fragile. I recommend using pdflatex and Adobe Acrobat.