Skel for LaTeX

A first sketch for a general template for article writing

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Abstract

Some tips for a LaTeX template.

1 Styles, et al.

Here I'll describe a way of installing LaTeX styles, BiBTeX styles, and a couple of other things in a straightforward way—I think this should work with most *nix systems.

The first thing to do, is discover where whatever you want to install should be installed. And the ideal way to do this is using a tool named kpsewhich, which should get installed when you install LaTeX. It can be used to do a lot of things (`$ kpsewhich --help`), but the one we're interested in here, location of styles, uses the `--show-path NAME` option. The list of allowed names is part of the output of the `--help` option. So for instance, to discover where to place BiBTeX style files (*.bst), run:

```
kpsewhich --show-path bst
```

This will output a list of locations where BiBTeX style files are searched for. So if you have a file called mystyle.bst, create a folder named "mystyle" in the appropriate location (I use `/home/user/texmf/bibtex/bst/`), and put mystyle.bst inside the folder you just created. Then run `$ texhash .` (don't forget the dot!) from the "appropriate location" folder you used. And you're done!

2 Math Stuff

> *Ah, the beauty of math!*
>
> Yours Truly

The commands I use for mathematics are included in the file `custom_commands.tex`.

For spacing: In a "math" environment, LaTeX ignores the spaces you type and puts in the spacing that it thinks is best. LaTeX formats mathematics the way it's done in mathematics texts. If you want different spacing, LaTeX provides the following four commands for use in math mode:

```
\; - a thick space
```

```
\: - a medium space
```
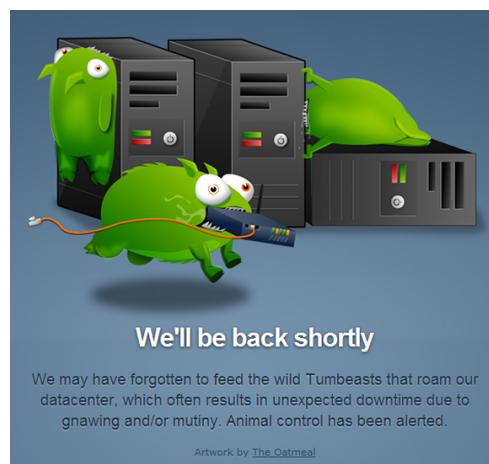
```
\, - a thin space
```

```
\! - a negative thin space
```

3 Graphics

Figure 1: A simple caption