margins **1**

`margins.` The margins of a page define a rectangle that normally contains the printed matter on the page. You can get TEX to print material outside of this rectangle, but only by taking some explicit action that moves the material there. TEX considers headers and footers to lie outside the margins.

The rectangle is defined in terms of its upper-left corner, its width, and its depth. The location of the upper-left corner is defined by the `\hoffset` and `\voffset` parameters (p. '`\voffset`'). The default is to place that corner one inch from the top and one inch from the left side of the page, corresponding to a value of zero for both `\hoffset` and `\voffset`.[1] The width of the rectangle is given by `\hsize` and the depth by `\vsize`.

The implications of these conventions are:

- The left margin is given by `\hoffset` + `1in`.
- The right margin is given by the width of the paper minus `\hoffset` + `1in` + `\hsize`.
- The top margin is given by `\voffset` + `1in`.
- The bottom margin is given by the length of the paper minus `\voffset` + `1in` + `\vsize`.

From this information you can see what parameters you need to change in order to change the margins.

Any changes that you make to `\hoffset`, `\voffset`, or `\vsize` become effective the next time TEX starts a page. In other words, if you change them within a page, the change will affect only the *following* pages. If you change `\hsize`, the change will become effective immediately.

[1] This seems to us to be an odd convention. It would have been more natural to have the $(0, 0)$ point for `\hoffset` and `\voffset` be at the upper-left corner of the paper and to have set their default values to one inch.