**1**

\tracingoutput      [ ⟨*number*⟩ parameter ]

If this parameter is greater than zero, T<sub>E</sub>X will record in the log file the contents of every box that it sends to the `.dvi` file. If \tracingonline is greater than zero, this information will also appear at your terminal. The number of leading dots in each line of the trace output indicates the nesting level of the box at that line. You can control the amount of tracing by setting \showboxbreadth and \showboxdepth (p. '\showboxbreadth').

Setting \tracingoutput to 1 can be particularly helpful when you're trying to determine why you've gotten extra space on a page.

*Example:*

```
% This is the entire file.
\tracingoutput = 1 \nopagenumbers
One-line page. \bye
```

*produces in the log:*

```
Completed box being shipped out [1]
\vbox(667.20255+0.0)x469.75499
.\vbox(0.0+0.0)x469.75499, glue set 13.99998fil
..\glue -22.5
..\hbox(8.5+0.0)x469.75499, glue set 469.75499fil
...\vbox(8.5+0.0)x0.0
...\glue 0.0 plus 1.0fil
..\glue 0.0 plus 1.0fil minus 1.0fil
.\vbox(643.20255+0.0)x469.75499, glue set 631.2581fill
..\glue(\topskip) 3.05556
..\hbox(6.94444+1.94444)x469.75499, glue set 386.9771fil
...\hbox(0.0+0.0)x20.0
...\tenrm O
...\tenrm n
...\tenrm e
...\tenrm -
...etc.
..\glue 0.0 plus 1.0fil
..\glue 0.0 plus 1.0fill
.\glue(\baselineskip) 24.0
.\hbox(0.0+0.0)x469.75499, glue set 469.75499fil
..\glue 0.0 plus 1.0fil
```