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hyphenation. T_EX automatically hyphenates words as it is processing your document. T_EX is not eager to insert hyphens, preferring instead to find good line breaks by adjusting the spacing between words and moving words from one line to another. T_EX is clever enough to understand hyphens that are already in words.

You can control TEX's hyphenation in several ways:

- You can tell TEX to allow a hyphen in a particular place by inserting a discretionary hyphen with the \- command (p. '\@minus').
- You can tell TEX how to hyphenate particular words throughout your document with the \hyphenation command (p. '\hyphenation').
- You can enclose a word in an hbox, thus preventing TEX from hyphenating it.
- You can set the value of penalties such as \hyphenpenalty (p. '\hyphenpenalty').

If a word contains an explicit or discretionary hyphen, TeX will never break it elsewhere.