# **LaTeX2InD** Documentation

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## Contents



# 1 LaTeX2InD

LaTeX2InD is an open-source script for the Windows version of Adobe InDesign that provides a quick way to include PDF files compiled by either `pdflatex`, `xelatex` or `lualatex` from a LaTeX code input by the user inside an InDesign window.

## 1.1 Installation

To install, add the script file `LaTeX2InD.jsx` to the scripts folder in your InDesign application folder. Its location can be found within InDesign: choose `Window > Utilities > Scripts` and navigate to either the `Application` or `User` folder. If the script will only be used in the current user profile, right-click the `User` folder and choose `Reveal in Explorer`. Then simply

drag the script inside the `Scripts Panel` folder. If you want other users to access it, do the same with the `Application` folder inside the scripts window within InDesign.
In order for the script to work, a LaTeX distribution has to be installed in the user's computer, one such as MiKTeX (recommended) or TeX Live.

## 1.2 Usage

Once installed, open a saved InDesign document, navigate to the script panel by choosing `Window > Utilities > Scripts`. You will find the script here. Double-click to run it or right-click on it and select `Run Script`.

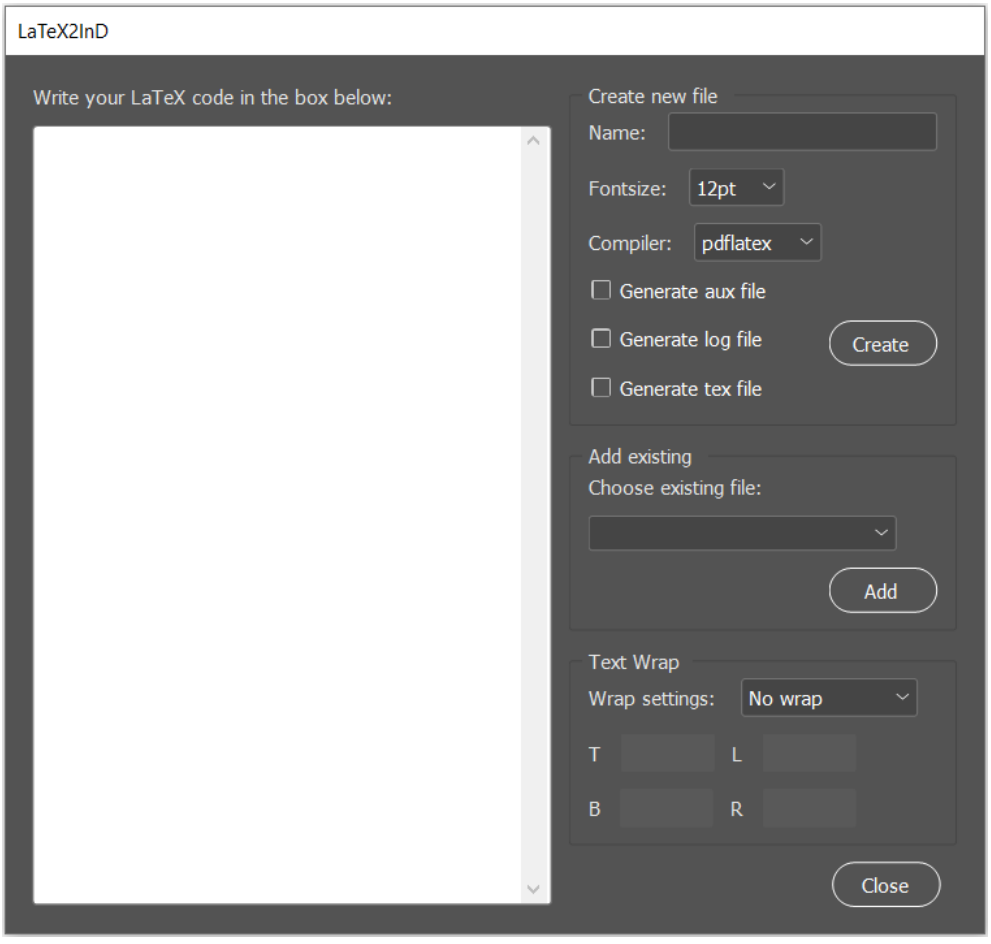



Figure 1: Palette window.

A palette window (Figure 1) will open containing an empty text box on the left and the script options on the right.

- To **create a new file** and import it into your InDesign document, type its LaTeX code into the text box, then name the file (optional), choose a font size, choose a LaTeX compiler, and hit the `Create` button. This will place a file with the input code in the selected layer of the selected page of the document.

  The code in the text box should not include any `\begin{document}` or `\end{document}` statements, or a preamble at all. It is meant to be an equation in math mode or plain text.

- To **add an existing equation** from the equations folder, select it by its name under the `Choose existing file` drop-down menu and click `Add`. This will add the previously generated PDF file to the document.

- In both cases, a wrapping setting can be applied to the inserted file. The options include `No wrap`, `Bounding box` and `Jump object`. Offsets can be modified in the last two cases.

When a file is created, it is stored inside a folder named `equations` within the folder containing the active document, under the given name with spaces replaced by underscores, unless no name is specified or it is repeated. In the first case it will be named `equation`, and in the second case the new name will be the given name followed by the current date.

If any of the checkboxes to the left of the `Create` button are checked, the corresponding file generated by the LaTeX compiler will be left in the equations folder. Additionally, custom LaTeX macros are supported by including the document `macros.tex` containing all the desired macros inside the equations folder.

**Note.** The .jsx file containing the code of the script is not encrypted and commented, with the aim of making the program accessible for those interested in improving it, or developing a different script with similar functionalities. In these cases, it is highly encouraged to contact the author at `jaime.gom.ram@gmail.com` for any doubt or inquiry.

## 1.3 Error messages

If the code is wrong or existing files are deleted, the following error messages could appear.

1. When opening the script with an unsaved document, the script will show the alert message

   *Document has not yet been saved! Save it and try again.*

   before closing itself.

2. If the document has missing links, the message

   *Document has missing files! Fix them and try again.*

   will be displayed, and the script will not initialize.

3. When creating an equation, if no latex code is introduced before clicking the `Create` button, the following alert message will display:

   *Empty code introduced.*

4. When creating an equation, if the compiler fails to produce a PDF file, the following alert message will be displayed:

   *Wrong LaTeX input! Check <name>.log for the error and <name>.tex for the LaTeX code.*

5. If the compilation time exceeds 20 seconds, the following alert message will be displayed

   *Compilation time exceeded, consider splitting your LaTeX code into smaller pieces.*

6. When adding an equation, if the original file is lost or has been deleted, the following alert message will be displayed:

   *Selected file is inexistent, it may have been deleted.*

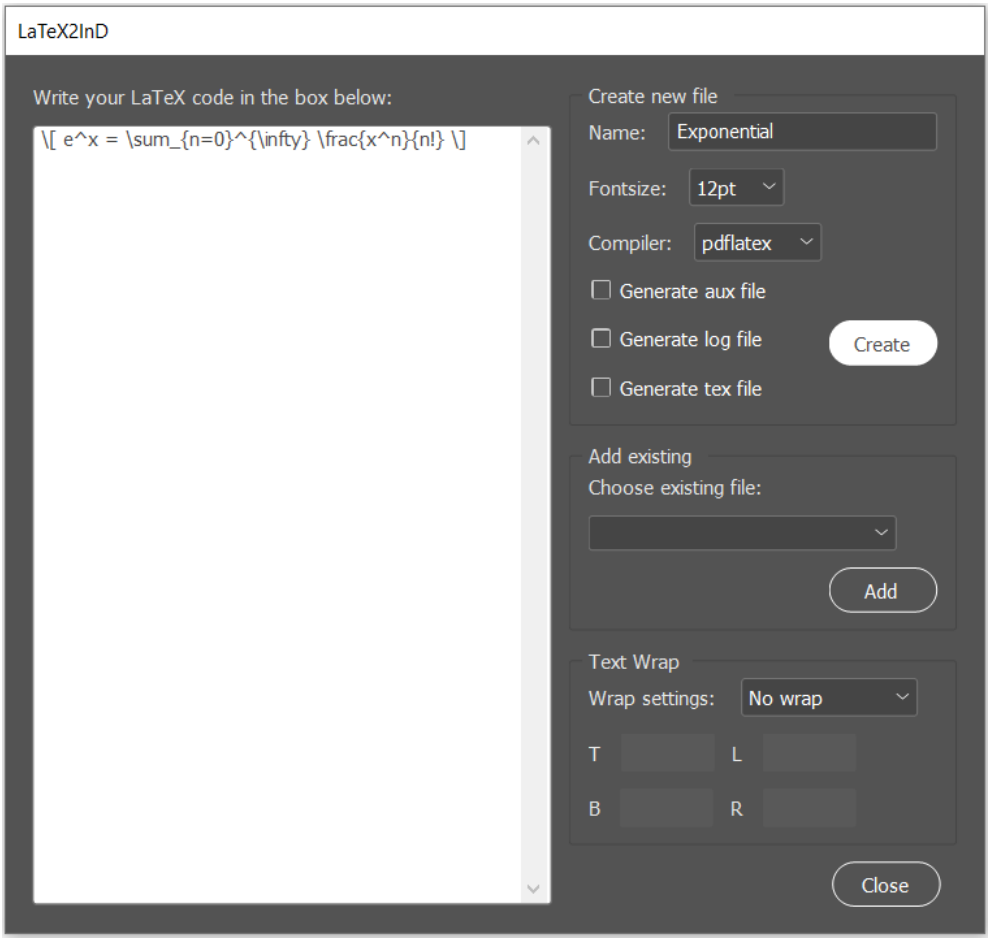
7. If no file has been selected before adding one to the document, the following alert message will display:

   *No file was selected.*

# 2 Examples

## Creating a new equation

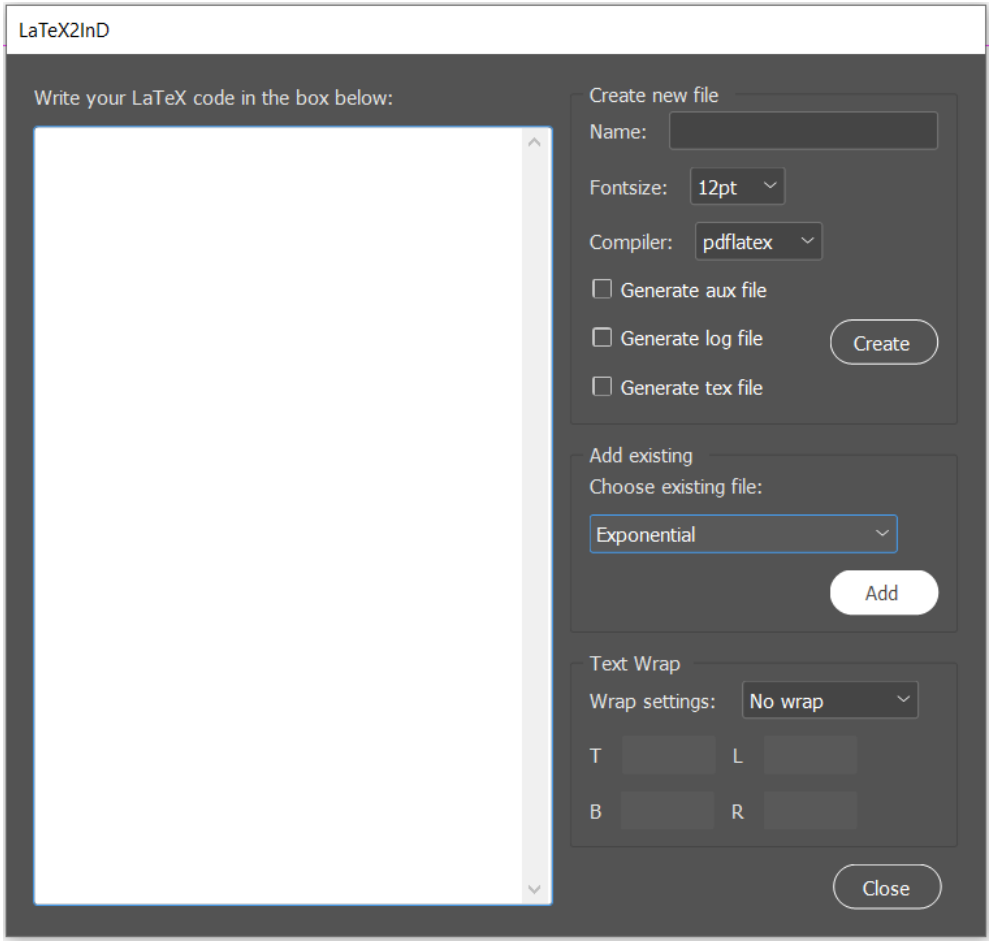
Create a new equation by typing its the LaTeX code into the text box. A name can be given to this equation, and it is inserted into the document by hitting `Create`.




$$e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

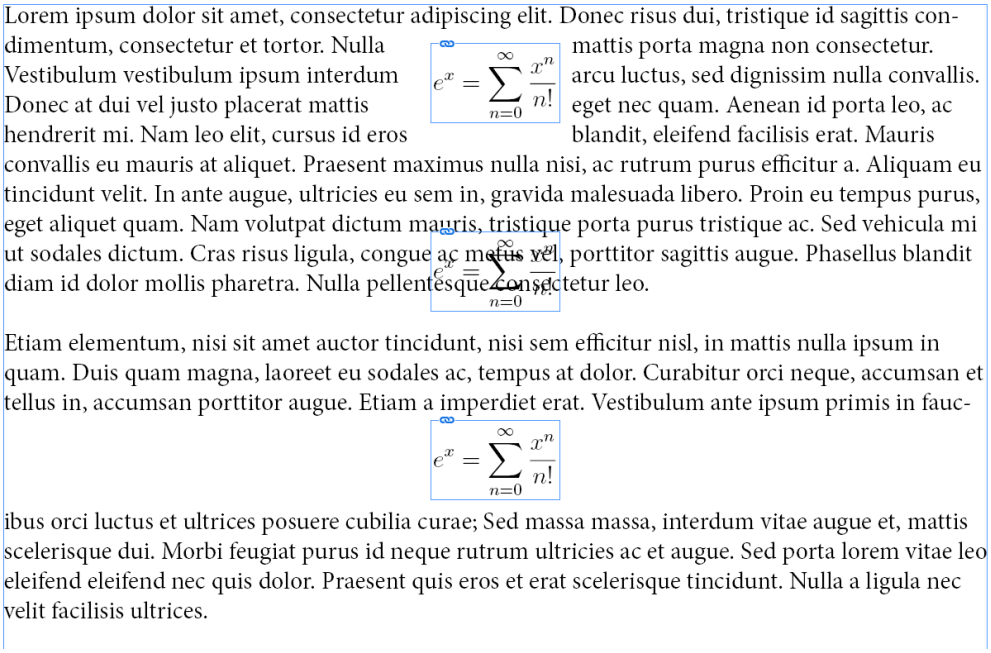
## Adding an existing equation

Add an previously created equation by choosing it under the drop-down menu. Then, click `Add` to place it.



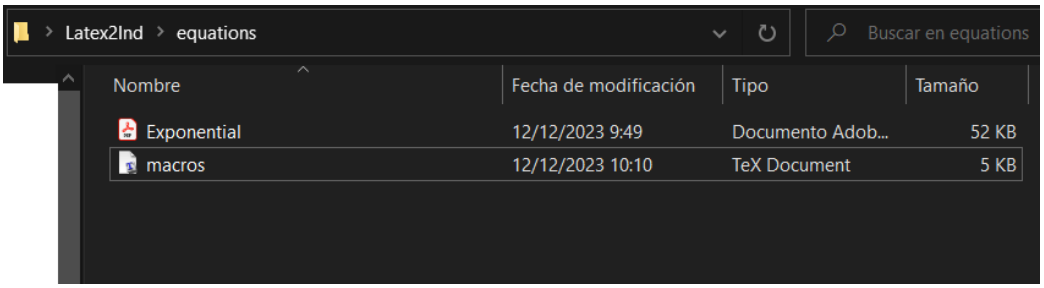
## Text Wrap

Three text wrap options are available when creating or adding an equation. In the figure below, from top to bottom: `Bounding box`, with 2mm margins on every side, then `No wrap`, and finally `Jump object`, with −2mm margins up and down.

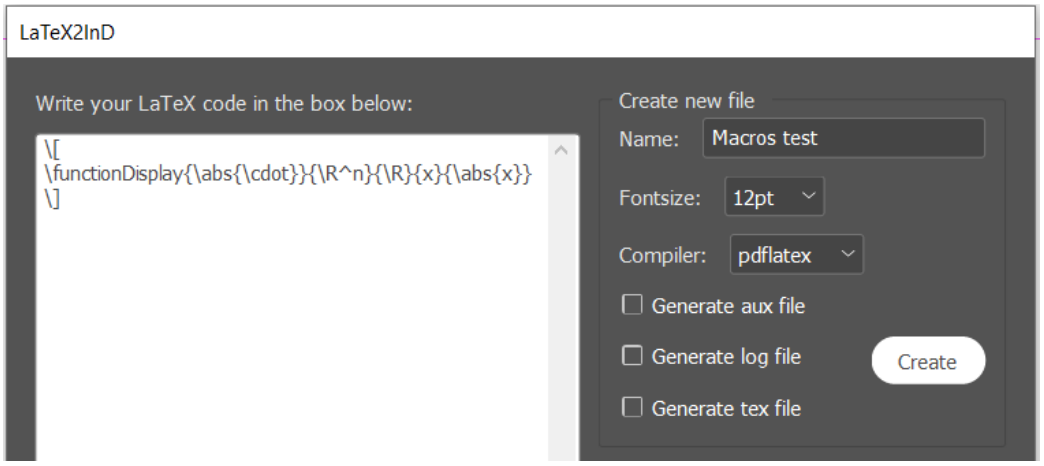


## Macros

LaTeX2InD supports custom LaTeX macros. To use them, import your custom macros on a .tex file under the name `macros.tex` into the `equations` folder in your project folder. An example file is provided.




After placing your custom macros file, they can be used when creating a new equation. The macros file can be removed without the previously created equations breaking down, as they are stored as pdf files upon creation.




$$|\cdot| : \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$$
$$x \longmapsto |x|$$

# 3 Commercial use

Regarding commercial use of LaTeX2InD, we feel that, in the spirit of LaTeX, the resource should be made available for anyone to use freely. It is for that reason that we require the original source to be provided clearly. For any doubts, contact the author at `jaime.gom.ram@gmail.com`.