

## Glossary

**abstract.** A brief, self-contained summary of the contents of a paper that appears by itself at the beginning of the paper. Also a brief (written) summary of the contents of a talk.

**ACM.** The Association for Computing Machinery.

**acknowledgements.** A section preceding the references (or a footnote, or a final paragraph) in which the author thanks people or organizations for help, advice or financial support for the work described.

**AMS.** The American Mathematical Society.

***A*M<sub>S</sub>-T<sub>E</sub>X.** A macro package for T<sub>E</sub>X that makes it easier to typeset mathematical papers with T<sub>E</sub>X. It gives new structures for displaying mathematical equations and comes with a special font of mathematical symbols.

***A*M<sub>S</sub>-L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X.** A package for L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X that incorporates the features of *A*M<sub>S</sub>-T<sub>E</sub>X.

**anonymous ftp.** A form of ftp in which the user logs on as user **anonymous** and need not type a password (though, by convention, the user's electronic mail address is typed as the password).

**archive.** In Unix, a single file that contains a set of other files (e.g., as manipulated with the **tar** command). Or a collection of software that is located at a particular Internet address and can be accessed by anonymous ftp.

**ASCII.** American Standard Code for Information Interchange. A coding system in which letters, digits, punctuation symbols and control characters are represented in seven bits by a number from 0 to 127. An eighth bit is often added to allow extra characters.

**bibliography.** A list of publications on a particular topic, or the reference list of a book.

**BIBTEX.** A program that cooperates with L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X in the preparation of reference lists. It makes use of **bib** files, which are databases of references in BIBTEX format.

**citation.** A reference in the text to a publication or other source, usually one that is listed in the references.

**compositor.** The person who typesets the text (especially in traditional printing).

**Computing Reviews Classification System.** A classification system for computer science. An example of an entry is G.1.3 [Numerical Analysis]: Numerical Linear Algebra—sparse and very large systems.

**conjecture.** A statement that the author believes to be true but for which a proof or disproof has not been found.

**copy editor.** A person who prepares a manuscript for typesetting by checking and correcting grammar, punctuation, spelling, style, consistency and other details.

**corollary.** A direct or easy consequence of a lemma, theorem or proposition.

**Current Contents.** A publication from the Institute for Scientific Information that provides a weekly list of journal contents pages. The Physical Sciences edition is the one in which mathematics and computer science journals appear.

**CTAN.** The Comprehensive T<sub>E</sub>X Archive Network: a network of ftp servers that hold up-to-date copies of all the public domain versions of T<sub>E</sub>X, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, and related macros and programs.

**DOS.** Disk Operating System. Usually refers to MS-DOS (Microsoft Disk Operating System), which is a computer operating systems for personal computers (PCs).

**Festschrift (or festschrift).** (German) A collection of writings published in honour of a scholar.

**folio.** A printed page number. Also a sheet of a manuscript.

**ftp.** File transfer protocol. A protocol for file transfer between different computers on the Internet network. Also a program for transferring files using this protocol.

**Harvard system.** A system of citation by author name and year, e.g., “see Knuth (1986)”.

**hypertext.** On-line text with pointers to other text. For example, a paper provided on a Web page in hypertext format may allow you to link directly to references in the bibliography that are themselves available on the Web.

**hypothesis.** A statement taken as a basis for further reasoning.

**IMA.** The Institute of Mathematics and Its Applications, Southend-on-Sea, England. Also the Institute for Mathematics and Its Applications, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, USA.

**Internet.** The worldwide network of interconnected computer networks. It provides electronic mail, file transfer, news, remote login, and other services.

**ISBN.** International Standard Book Number.

**ISSN.** International Standard Serial Number.

**L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X.** A macro package for T<sub>E</sub>X that simplifies the production of papers, books and letters, and emphasizes the logical structure of a document. It permits automatic cross-referencing and has commands for drawing pictures.

**lemma.** An auxiliary result needed in the proof of a theorem or proposition. May also be an independent result that does not merit the title theorem.

**LMS.** The London Mathematical Society.

**MAA.** The Mathematical Association of America.

**macro.** In computing, a shorthand notation for specifying a sequence of operations. For example, in typesetting this book in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X I used the definition `\def\mw{mathematical writing}` and typed `\mw` whenever I wanted the phrase “mathematical writing” to appear.

**MakeIndex.** A program that makes an index for a L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X document.

**manuscript.** Literally, a handwritten document. More generally, any unpublished document, particularly one submitted for publication.

**managing editor.** A person who is in charge of the editorial activities of a publication and who supervises a group of editors.

**Mathematical Reviews.** A monthly review publication run by the American Mathematical Society (AMS) and first published in 1940. Each listed paper is accompanied by a review or a reprint of the paper's abstract.

**Mathematics Subject Classifications.** A classification scheme published in *Mathematical Reviews* that divides mathematics into 61 sections numbered between 0 and 94, further divided into many subsections. A typical entry is 65F05 (direct methods for solving linear systems).

**netlib.** An electronic repository of public domain mathematical software for the scientific computing community.

**offprint.** See reprint.

**page charges.** Charges levied by a publisher to offset the cost of publishing an article. In mathematics journals payment is usually optional.

**PDF.** Portable Document Format (PDF), developed by Adobe Systems, Inc. and based on PostScript. Can be read using the Adobe Acrobat software.

**peer review.** Refereeing done by peers of the author (people working in the same area). Should perhaps be called "peer refereeing", but "peer review" is standard.

**poster.** A display of graphics and text that summarizes a piece of work. It usually comprises sheets of paper attached to a poster board.

**proceedings.** A collection of papers describing the work presented at a conference or workshop. Also may be a title for a journal: for example, *The Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society*.

**proofreading.** The process of checking proofs for errors (usually by comparing them with an original) and marking the errors with standard proofreading symbols.

**proofs.** Typeset material ready for checking and correction.

**proposition.** Same meaning as a theorem (but possibly regarded as a lesser result).

**PostScript.** A page description language developed by Adobe Systems, Inc. Now a standard format in which to provide documents on the World Wide Web.

**referee.** A person who advises an editor on the suitability of a manuscript for publication.

**references.** The list of publications cited in the text, or those publications themselves.

**reprint.** A separate printing of an article that appeared in a book or journal. Often, a limited number are supplied free of charge to the author.

**reviewer.** A person who reviews previously published or completed work. Sometimes used incorrectly as a synonym for referee.

**running head.** An abbreviated title that appears in the headline of pages in a published paper.

**Science Citation Index.** A publication from the Institute for Scientific Information that records all papers that reference an earlier paper, across all science subjects. It covers the period from 1945 to the present.

**SIAM.** The Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics.

**technical report.** A document published by an organization for external circulation, usually as part of a series.

**TEX.** A system for computer typesetting of mathematics, developed by Donald Knuth at Stanford University. Also used as a verb: “to TEX a paper” is to typeset the paper in TEX.

**theorem.** A major result of independent interest.

**thesaurus.** A list of words in which each word is followed by a list of words of similar meaning or sense. The main list may be arranged by meaning (*Roget's Thesaurus*) or alphabetically (most other thesauruses).

**title.** “The fewest possible words that adequately describe the contents of a paper, book, poster, etc.” [68]

**Unix.** A computer operating system developed at Bell Laboratories. Widely used on workstations and supercomputers.

**URL.** Uniform resource locator. A URL is the address of an object on the World Wide Web.

**widow.** A short last line of a paragraph appearing at the top of a page.

**World Wide Web.** The handbook to the Web browser Netscape explains that “The World Wide Web (WWW or Web) is one facet of the Internet consisting of client and server computers handling multimedia documents.”

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## Name Index

*"Kindly look her up in my index, Doctor,"  
murmured Holmes without opening his eyes.*

— ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE, *A Scandal in Bohemia* (1891)

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## Subject Index

*At the laundress's at the Hole in the Wall in Cursitor's Alley  
up three pair of stairs...  
you may speak to the gentleman, if his flux be over,  
who lies in the flock bed,  
my index maker.*

— DEAN SWIFT<sup>27</sup>, *A Further Account of the Most Deplorable Conditions of Mr Edmund Curll, Bookseller, Since His Being Poisoned on the 28th March (1716)*

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<sup>27</sup>Quoted in [156].

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