### Krambook

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# This is the first section or paragraph...

1.1 and a sub-section or section may-be

Here the text begins.

4 CHAPTER 1. THIS IS THE FIRST SECTION OR PARAGRAPH...

{:/comment}

#### Write books like a hacker

Imagine the power and quality of LaTeX but with the clarity and simplicity of markdown. This is what this project is all about. Here is my idea:

What make LATEX so excellent?

- Advanced typography features,
- no bug: TEX has no more known bug since many years,
- scalable:
  - -you can include many  $\LaTeX$  files into one
  - you can create macros that minimize mistake done by repeating pattern
- equation done with latex are easy to create and render just impressively,
- versionnable:
  - you use a text format that can be easily handled by most versionning system.
  - easy to work on the same document with many different people.

And many other reasons I can't write them all here. Yes, LATEX rocks. Then why simply don't use LATEX?

Simply because IATEXis verbose and full of backslashes. Just make a comparison between IATEXand markdown

%--- LaTeX source file ---\documenttype{article}
\usepackage[utf-8]{inputenc}
\usepackage{fontenc}
\usepackage{amsmath}
... % This is the ritual header

```
\begin{document}
This is a test file.
I begin by making a list of bullet:
\begin{itemize}
\item the first point is
    \LaTeX is a bit verbose
\item the second point is
    \Latex has \textem{more} \textbackslash{} than Markdown
\item I believe you understood now.
\end{itemize}
\end{document}
%--- LaTeX source file ----
{:comment}
--- Kramdown source file ----
{/:comment}
This is a test file
I begin by making a list of bullet:
- the first point is LaTeX is a bit verbose
- the second point is LaTeX has _more_ \ than Markdown
- I believe you understood now
```

The result will be similar:

This is a test file I begin by making a list of bullet:

- the first point is LaTeX is a bit verbose
- the second point is LaTeX has more \ than Markdown
- I believe you understood now

How to have the clarity of Markdown without losing all advantages of LATEX? Here is my proposition:

First, install LATEX, ruby and the kramdown[^1] gem. [^1]: kramdown is an amelioration of the origin markdown format.

- Download this source.
- Change the title of your document and the author name in the template.tex file.
- Create and write in kramdown format
- run rake (or rake compile) to create and show a .pdf file.

This proposition is already really good. You can version your book and separate each part of the book in different files organized in folders<sup>1</sup>.

, 01\_section/01\_subsection.md', etc...

The inclusion is done *automagically* using file name (you can change this make a bit of ruby inside the Rakefile). But to have a really scalable solution, you need to have the ability to make macros in kramdown.

This is not a problem, I've done this. Here is how you can declare macros inside a kramdown file:

These transformations will occur on the markdown file before it is transformed in LaTeX.

You can also declare macro that will be processed after the file was transformed in LaTeX.

LLL latex LLL \LaTeX LLL

In markdown, you simply write %macroname or %code and it will be transformed correctly in your pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>As the sort of file is done via the <code>Dir[content/\*\*/\*.md]</code> I suggest you to name your files and folder with prefixes for their position, like '00-intro

# Install

You'll need to install ruby, rake (installed by default on most computer).

[Ubuntu] > sudo apt-get install ruby rake

You'll also need a XeLaTeX installation (may I suggest Tex Live full install?). You'll also need the kramdown gem.

gem install kramdown

And you should be ok to work.

# How do I write a book using it?

Write some file into content. Their format is the kramdown one (very close to Markdown)

Just run

rake

Of course there is also a

rake clean

and

rake clobber

The inclusion of files is done naturally by <code>Dir[content/\*\*/\*.md]</code> . If you want a more versatile way of doing it, simply look at the Rakefile and do a bit of ruby to sort file as you wish.

#### Introduction

It is a simple demonstration of how macros are working. They were declared inside the markdown like this:

```
%%% multiline %%% a
multiline
macro %%%
%%% ruby %%% ruby: "a"*3 %%%
%%% complex %%% ruby: (1..5).map do |x|
end.join(" : ") %%%
LLL latex LLL \LaTeX LLL
LLL tldr LLL {\em Too long don't read: } LLL
  Now if I write:
    "tldr A simple demonstration of how macros are working."
  It renders as:
    Too long don't read: A simple demonstration of how macros are
    working.
  The %multine macro render as:
    \mathbf{a}
    multiline
    macro
```

The output should be in  $\LaTeX$  and was compiled from a markdown-like format.

- Simple list;
- $\bullet \;$  Example ;

• Another one item.

Hello there

this is some code block

 $\mathbf{L\!\!\!\!/}\mathbf{T}_{\mathbf{E}}\mathbf{X}$  Some  $\mathbf{L\!\!\!\!/}\mathbf{T}_{\mathbf{E}}\mathbf{X}$  definition

A simple math mode  $x_i$  and a protected one \$\$x\_i\$\$. A long formula now:

$$\sum_{i=0}^{n} \sqrt{x_i + y_i}$$

Even with some ruby code inside: Here is the result of the **%ruby** macro: aaa

and a more complex one:

1:4:9:16:25