LaTeX Workshop: Writing Math in LaTeX

Dalia Kamalzadeh Student Mentor Universiteit Leiden Koorosh Komeili Zadeh Student Mentor Universiteit Leiden

Writing Math in LaTeX

LaTeX is ideal for writing complex math equations, symbols, and formulas. Let's explore some advanced features and techniques.

1. Aligning Equations

The align environment helps align multi-line equations:

$$x^2 + y^2 = z^2 (1)$$

$$E = mc^2 (2)$$

$$a+b=c+d (3)$$

You can also suppress numbering on specific lines using nonumber:

$$x^{2} + y^{2} = z^{2}$$

$$a + b = c + d$$
(4)

2. Advanced Math Symbols with amssymb

The amssymb package provides access to various advanced math symbols:

$$\therefore, \because, \infty, \sum_{i=1}^{n} i, \Rightarrow, \Longrightarrow$$

You can also write set theory symbols like:

$$A \cup B$$
, $A \cap B$, \mathbb{R} , \mathbb{N}

3. Matrices and Vectors

LaTeX can handle matrices and vectors using the bmatrix or pmatrix environments. Here's an example of a 2x2 matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

And a vector:

$$\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

You can use other delimiters like parentheses or vertical lines for determinants:

$$\det(A) = \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix}$$

4. Derivatives and Integrals

To write derivatives, integrals, and partial derivatives, you can use the following syntax:

Derivatives:

$$\frac{dy}{dx}$$
, $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$

Partial Derivatives:

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial x}$$
, $\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2}$

Integrals:

$$\int_0^1 x^2 dx, \quad \int_{-\infty}^\infty e^{-x^2} dx$$

Multiple Integrals:

$$\iint_D f(x,y) \, dx \, dy$$

5. Limits and Summations

Limits and summations are easy to write in LaTeX:

Limits:

$$\lim_{x \to 0} \frac{1}{x}, \quad \lim_{n \to \infty} a_n$$

Summation:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$$

Product:

$$\prod_{i=1}^{n} x_i$$

6. Piecewise Functions

Piecewise functions can be written using the cases environment:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 & \text{if } x > 0\\ -x & \text{if } x \le 0 \end{cases}$$

_

7. Multiline Equations with Numbering

For equations that span multiple lines and require custom numbering, use the align environment:

$$f(x) = x^2 + 2x + 1 \tag{1}$$

$$g(x) = \sin(x) + \cos(x) \tag{2}$$

$$h(x) = e^x (3)$$

You can also use the multline environment when you want to split a long equation over multiple lines, where the first line is left-aligned and the last line is right-aligned:

$$f(x) = x + x^{2} + x^{3} + \dots + x^{n} +$$

$$y + y^{2} + y^{3} + \dots + y^{n}$$
 (5)

8. Custom Operators

You can define your own custom operators using the DeclareMathOperator command:

Foo

$$(x) = x^2 + 1$$

_

9. Bold Math Symbols with bm

Use the bm package to create bold mathematical symbols, which is especially useful for vectors and matrices:

$$Ax = b$$

You can also bold specific symbols like Greek letters:

$$\alpha$$
, β

10. Fractions and Continued Fractions

You can write fractions and continued fractions easily in LaTeX:

Regular Fraction:

$$\frac{a}{b}$$

Continued Fraction:

$$a_0 + \cfrac{1}{a_1 + \cfrac{1}{a_2 + \cfrac{1}{a_3 + \ddots}}}$$

11. Spacing in Math Mode

To adjust the spacing between elements in math mode, you can use the following commands:

$$ab$$
 ab a b a

- $\$ for thin space. - $\$ for medium space. - $\$ quad for wide space. - $\$ qquad for extra wide space.

12. The cases Environment

The cases environment can also be used for writing systems of equations:

$$\begin{cases} x + y = 10 \\ x - y = 5 \end{cases}$$