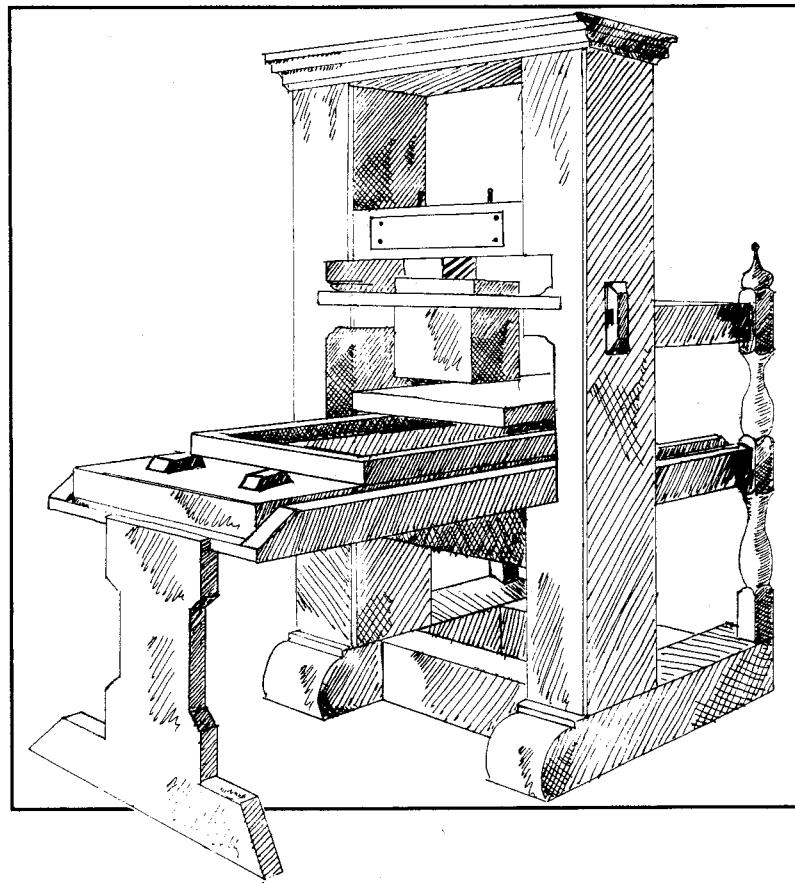


# TUGBOAT

The Communications of the T<sub>E</sub>X Users Group



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T<sub>E</sub>X90 Conference Proceedings

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**TeX90 Conference Proceedings**

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# **TUGBOAT**

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## Production Notes

The *TEX* source code for most articles in this issue of *TUGboat* were transmitted via network or floppy diskette to the editors, who then generated *dvi* files with *TEX* 3.0 on their IBM 3090 for printing on an IBM 3827 or an HP LaserJet. These edited articles were subsequently transmitted to the TUG office via tape and run on an IBM PC-compatible 386 with *PC TEX* and  $\mu$ *TEX*. The resulting *dvi* files were shipped to the American Mathematical Society via modem, and camera copy was produced on the Society's *APS*  $\mu$ -5.

A few items and articles were produced locally by authors and then mailed to the editors for incorporation in these *Proceedings*. Camera-ready copy for the entire articles was supplied by Les Carr, Olivier Nicole, and Friedhelm Sowa.

Several articles required special fonts from *METAFONT*. Fonts for the articles by Alan Hoenig, Yannis Haralambous, and Dean Guenther and Janene Winter were generated using *pcMF* except for Haralambous' initials. These were created using *MacMETAFONT* on a Macintosh at the American Mathematical Society. Special fonts for Adrian Clark's and Mícheál Ó Searcoid's articles were produced locally and these authors supplied camera-ready copy which was cut in.

Roughly one-third of the articles were written using *LATEX* macros; the remainder used the plain-based *tugproc.sty*.

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## Other Conference Proceedings

### Europe

*Proceedings of the First European Conference on TEX for Scientific Documentation*. Dario Lucarella, ed. Reading, Mass.: Addison-Wesley, 1985. [16–17 May 1985, Como, Italy.]

*Proceedings of the Second European Conference on TEX for Scientific Documentation*. Jacques Désarménien, ed. Berlin: Springer-Verlag, 1986. [19–21 June 1986, Strasbourg, France.]

*TEX88 Conference Proceedings*. Malcolm Clark, ed. Chichester, England: Ellis Horwood, 1990. [18–20 July 1988, Exeter University, Exeter, England.]

### North America

*Conference Proceedings: TEX Users Group Eighth Annual Meeting*. Dean Guenther, ed.

*TEXniques* No. 5. Providence, Rhode Island: *TEX* Users Group, 1988. [24–26 August 1987, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington.]

*Conference Proceedings: TEX Users Group Ninth Annual Meeting*. Christina Thiele, ed.

*TEXniques* No. 7. Providence, Rhode Island: *TEX* Users Group, 1988. [22–24 August 1988, McGill University, Montréal, Canada.]

*Conference Proceedings: TEX Users Group Tenth Annual Meeting*. Christina Thiele, ed.

*TUGboat* 10, no. 4. Providence, Rhode Island: *TEX* Users Group, 1989. [20–23 August 1989, Stanford University, Stanford, California.]

*Conference Proceedings: TEX Users Group Eleventh Annual Meeting*. Lincoln Durst, ed.

*TUGboat* 11, no. 3. Providence, Rhode Island: *TEX* Users Group, 1990. [18–20 June 1990, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas.]

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## Introduction

Barbara Beeton

TeX90, meeting in Cork from September 10–13, 1990, was the fifth EuroTeX conference, and the first with which the TeX Users Group was associated as a sponsor. As were the previous meetings in Europe, TeX90 can be counted a success in both the diversity and quality of the papers presented.

The conference facilities were located at University College, Cork (Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh, to the locals). Opened in 1849 as the “Queen’s University”, UCC was incorporated as a constituent college of the National University of Ireland in 1908. Long before that, however, Cork was known as a center of learning, and monks gathered there from the 12<sup>th</sup> century onward (and from Europe and the New World, as a rather confused tour guide informed us). Today, UCC has over 6,500 full-time students and more than 1,000 staff. Among the more famous faculty members was George Boole, without whom the craft of computing would probably be quite different.

A current UCC staff member of some renown in the TeX community is Peter Flynn, the local member of the TeX90 Program Committee; to him we owe appreciation for the very fine local arrangements. Our praise for putting together an excellent program go to him and to the other committee members—Dean Guenther (co-coordinator with Peter Flynn), Peter Abbott, Johannes Braams, Malcolm Clark, Bernard Gaulle, Roswitha Graham, and Joachim Lammarsch. And for additional organizational efforts, we thank Kees van der Laan and Ray Goucher.

The official program opened Monday morning with a lively introduction by Michael Smith, Ireland’s Minister for Science & Technology. Not only had he traveled quite a distance to give this talk, but he had also done his homework, and was able to describe how TeX fits in well with the nation’s plans for building a strong technological base to attract international commerce. The President of UCC followed with some remarks, including an appreciation for a recent budget increase and other support from the Ministry, and a short history of UCC and George Boole.

After introductions of the attending officers of TUG and the European TeX user associations, the technical program began with a session on databases and hypertext. This appears to be a very fruitful area for research, and one with great promise for TeX applications in specific areas. (Every time I see a demonstration of a multidocument system with hypertext links between them, I want one for organizing myself.) The first afternoon was filled out with presentations on efforts in the Netherlands and the U.K. to build facilities adapted to their local needs. Working Group 13 of NTG (the Nederlandstalige TeX Gebruikersgroep) has been working on building LATEX styles that are more acceptable than the originals are in Europe. Adrian Clark described a prototype system for documenting the Aston archive’s holdings for users. These needs may be local, but the results will be much more widely useful.

On Tuesday, the first topic addressed was the aesthetics and practicalities of typographics. This included a discussion by Victor Eijkhout of why a document style designer should not work directly in (L)TeX, but should be provided with separate tools that express the variables of formatting in a more natural way. The next session presented suggestions for including graphics in TeX, or, in the case of Tim Murphy, turning the process inside out and including TeX in graphics. Just before lunch, we were treated to the next installment of the ongoing saga “Towards LATEX 3.0”, by Rainer Schöpf. The last presentation of the day introduced an integrated, documented, public domain TeX system for VAX/VMS. The attendees then proceeded to coaches waiting to take them for a trip to Blarney Castle, dinner, and entertainment by a group of Irish balladeers and a troupe of young folk dancers.

(As an erstwhile folk dancer, I can vouch for their talent and skill, and appreciated that they seemed to be enjoying themselves rather than regarding their performance as just a job to be done.)

Wednesday began with Malcolm Clark recounting all the things that can go wrong with editing and publishing the Proceedings of a *T<sub>E</sub>X* conference; how familiar! A short introduction to SGML (the Standard Generalized Markup Language) was followed by birds-of-a-feather sessions, and then by two presentations on graphics and *T<sub>E</sub>X*. Alan Hoenig built line drawings in METAFONT and devised a technique for passing back to *T<sub>E</sub>X* the information needed to apply labels in the proper locations using the regular fonts; this is a good example of one more use that I suspect Don Knuth never envisioned. After lunch, some more traditional, in fact, *very* traditional uses of METAFONT were described, with Yannis Haralambous presenting old German typefaces (and being acclaimed as the presenter of the best paper at the conference), and Mícheál Ó Searcoid telling the history of the written Irish language and showing his work with the traditional Irish alphabet. The font session was rounded out by Dean Guenther's paper on the International Phonetic Alphabet. After tea and a "guru session", Adrian Clark ended the day speaking on halftone output from *T<sub>E</sub>X*.

Thursday began with a description by Nico Poppelier of how SGML and *T<sub>E</sub>X* (and several other composition systems) coexist symbiotically in the production system of a commercial publisher; this, I think, is an eminently sensible arrangement, and one that makes the best of the strengths of each approach. The next two papers were more technical, with Amy Hendrickson delving into the nitty-gritty of macro techniques, and Frank Mittelbach offering a shopping list of proposals for extending BIB*T<sub>E</sub>X*. Two papers directed toward capturing and training new users gave us food for thought. How *not* to write a manual was the topic of Angela Barden's paper, and Konrad Neuwirth, himself a secondary school student (albeit an atypical one), proposed that although *T<sub>E</sub>X* is a useful tool, it doesn't teach principles that are appropriate for secondary school students. The final session, after lunch, concentrated on the aesthetics of documents, with one paper a practical course in how to produce a book with fonts other than Computer Modern, the second a more theoretical review of possible page shapes, and the third giving another approach to integrating graphics with *T<sub>E</sub>X*.

The technical program was complemented by various social events, support for which was provided by a wide variety of sponsors: Aer Lingus, Apple Computer Sales (Cork), ArborText, Blue Sky Research, Cepadues, the Cork Examiner, Cork-Kerry Tourism, the Cork Taxi Co-op, Guy & Co., Horizon Applecentre, MID/ILG Heidelberg, Northlake Software, Personal *T<sub>E</sub>X*, Ronnie Moore Ltd., *T<sub>E</sub>Xcel*, *T<sub>E</sub>Xworks*, and Uni*T<sub>E</sub>X* (Sheffield). Thanks to all of them.

I thoroughly enjoyed my stay in Cork, and found it a most worthwhile adventure. Those of us from the U.S., where *T<sub>E</sub>X* began, have both a good example, and a tough act to follow, from this most active European *T<sub>E</sub>X* community. *T<sub>E</sub>X* is alive and flourishing in this environment, and I look forward to my next visit to a Euro*T<sub>E</sub>X* conference.

As a sponsor, TUG has the honor of publishing the *Proceedings* of the *T<sub>E</sub>X90* conference. We hope you agree that this is a worthy volume, deserving of your attention and interest.

Finally, I wish to thank Mary Guenther, the *Proceedings* editor, who has made it possible for me to sit back and simply enjoy this issue.

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# Quick and Dirty Databases with Nice Output: AWK and *TEX*

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## Abstract

This paper will describe an easy-to-use set of tools which enables moderately to well experienced *TEX*-users to produce formatted output from flat data files. Usually all you need is AWK, *TEX*, and a sort program.

## A First Example

Let us assume we have a text file containing addresses in more or less random order. Let us further assume that the main purpose of the file is to produce a printed address list and directory, possible in different versions sorted according to different criteria. Let us further assume that the data file has a very simple structure, namely a number of lines for each address and different addresses being separated by blank lines. Additionally, we assume that the items to be used in sorting occur on the same line in every address block, e.g. the surname is always on the first line, the city on the third line, and so on.

Now we would like to format this material into a two-column format for an address book to be typeset by *LATEX*. For the first step, let us assume that the data already are sorted in the sequence we need for the printed version. Then the following little AWK program does the trick:

```
BEGIN  {
    RS=""
    FS="\n"
    printf "\\\documentstyle[twocolumn]"
    printf "{article}\n"
    printf "\\begin{document}\n\n"
}
{
for(i=1;i<=NF-1;i++)
    printf "%s \\\\ \\n", $i
printf "%s \\n\\n", $NF
}

END  {
print ""
printf "%d records transferred \\n\\n"
, NR
print "\\end{document}"
}
```

If you keep the program in a file `address.awk` and execute the following command,

`awk -f address.awk address.dat>address.tex`

then the file `address.tex` will contain a *LATEX* file which prints the address book.

The command line will work with a UNIX or an MS-DOS system, if you have AWK. We will talk about the availability of AWK later.

Let us look at this program. It consists of three parts.

The first part, starting with `BEGIN`, is executed before any data is read from the input file. So, this is the place to put the *LATEX* preamble and any definitions you need for page layouts, (like page sizes, `\parskip`, etc.).

The middle part of our program, the one with the `for` loop, is executed for each record read in from the data file. This is where we can reformat the unformatted records from our primary data file.

The third part of the program, beginning with `END`, is executed after all input data was read, so this is the place for any final housekeeping activities and for `\end{document}`.

Here we are using the fact that AWK has an implicit loop running through all records in the data file. It also has easy-to-use tools for structuring the records into fields. "`$i`" in our program refers to the  $i^{\text{th}}$  field of each record, so AWK by itself breaks the records into fields which are exactly the units we want to deal with for the *TEX* output.

In this program we use `print` and `printf` the same way it is used in C; the `print` command uses default printing formats; `printf` explicitly needs a formatting string.

The program by itself should be understandable to anybody with a little knowledge of C. The only additional knowledge is about the implicit loop over records.

If we want to inhibit page or column breaks for each entry in our address book, we simply add the AWK commands to make a "minipage" for each entry, so the middle part should look like this:

```
{
    print "\begin{minipage}{\\textwidth}"
    for(i=1;i<=NF-1;i++)
        printf "%s \\\\ \\n", $i
    printf "%s \\n", $NF
    print "\end{minipage}"
    printf "\\n"
}
```

The double backslashes are needed because in AWK, like in many C-like languages, the backslash is the escape character, so a double backslash is needed to produce a single backslash in the output file. If we want the first entry to be printed in boldface, only a slight change in our program is needed:

```
{
    print "\begin{minipage}{\\textwidth}"
    printf "{\\bf %s }", $1
    for(i=2;i<=NF-1;i++)
        printf "%s \\\\ \\n", $i
    printf "%s \\n", $NF
    print "\end{minipage}"
    printf "\\n"
}
```

Of course this model can be generalized; we can extract any field from the record and add special formatting commands to the field. Using this little program as a skeleton, we already are able to reformat a simple text file with addresses to get a booklet with typeset quality.

## Extending the Example

Besides the implicit loop, AWK has a strong pattern matcher directly built into the language. It uses the regular expression syntax of UNIX (like grep and other text-oriented tools in UNIX) and allows selection of records according to certain patterns. If, in our example, we wanted to print the address book for the inhabitants of Cork only, we would only have to change the middle part of the program very slightly:

```
/Cork/ {
    for(i=1;i<=NF-1;i++)
        printf "%s \\\\ \\n", $i
    printf "%s \\n\\n", $NF
}
```

So we only added the /Cork/ expression which tells AWK to perform the printing actions only to records containing the string Cork.

In this case, the command printing the number of records into the *TEX* file would print the number of records in the input file and not the number of

addresses formatted. To correct this we have to modify our program again; we simply add a variable which counts the number of records transferred to the output file,

```
/Cork/ {
    nfout++
    for(i=1;i<=NF-1;i++)
        printf "%s \\\\ \\n", $i
    printf "%s \\n\\n", $NF
}
```

and we change the print command for NR in the end part of our program to:

```
printf "%d records transferred \\n\\n"
,nofout
```

AWK initializes variables with zero, so the counting works correctly. We will not explain the pattern-matching mechanism of AWK in this paper, that would go beyond both the scope and the space limits of the paper. We only wanted to demonstrate that selection of records is already built into AWK, so we do not need a special tool for that.

## Sorting the Data

AWK by itself does not offer built-in capabilities for sorting data. It would be possible to write a sorting program in AWK, but since AWK is interpreted, performance would be low. It also would be a waste of energy for the programmer, since any reasonable operating system has a sort utility. The only task we have to perform is to write a small AWK program which reformats the input file in such a way that the sort program can sort it according to our criteria. We might have to write another small program which transforms the sorted data back into the original form. We need a little bit of additional information. In the example program in the beginning, we had the following code:

```
RS=""
FS="\n"
```

The variable RS defines the record separator; the variable FS defines the field separator. These two separators refer to the input file. The corresponding two variables, ORS and OFS, refer to the output file. Using these variables, we can transform multiline records into oneline records which can be better dealt with by sort programs. Consider the following program:

```
BEGIN {
    RS=""
    FS="\n"
    ORS="\n"
    OFS="\t"
}
```

```
{
printf "%10s ", $3
print $1,$2,$3,$4,$5
}
```

The BEGIN part defines the record and field separators, the main loop writes the third variable to a fixed length field at the beginning of each output record and then writes all variables with the new output separator (a tab character) into the output file. So the output file contains one line per record. Now we simply use a sort program to sort the intermediate file into the order we need. Then we have to write a similar small AWK program which cuts off the first field of our new records and copies the remaining fields restoring the old multiline structure by using,

```
ORS="\n\n"
OFS="\n"
```

(ORS="" does *not* work). We now have the sorted data in the original format and can print the address book in the order we need.

## General Considerations

The examples in the previous sections show that it is very easy to use AWK as a front end between data files and T<sub>E</sub>X. It is very easy to write short AWK programs which perform the simple formatting tasks needed for preparing data for T<sub>E</sub>X output. We even might state that we have a tool modeled after WEAVE, which is used in preparing T<sub>E</sub>X itself and which transforms "raw" input in the form of

program parts and comments into a format which allows T<sub>E</sub>X to typeset itself and other programs with T<sub>E</sub>X typographical standard. In our case, we use AWK to transform "raw" data into T<sub>E</sub>X input.

We do not have the full power of database management systems, but if the data file only functions as a central repository of the data and the main final output is printed material, it is worthwhile to consider AWK as a solution.

## Availability of AWK

AWK is part of UNIX in all its varieties, so it is widely available already.

The Free Software Foundation and its GNU project have produced a version called GAWK which is completely free and available on many file repositories on electronic networks. It also has been ported to many different operating systems, and it is available for MS-DOS.

The literature needed to handle projects like the ones described is: T<sub>E</sub>X related books, which the author is not going to cite just to be different from almost any other paper in these proceedings, and *The AWK Programming Language*.

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# TEX & Hypertext — The Future of Electronic Publishing?

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## Abstract

The usage of computers allows writing and publishing documents electronically. This article is oriented towards the support of authors.

Hypertext is a popular method of electronic document manipulation. It supports authoring by representing a document as a net of linked text fragments in which the structure can be visualized and manipulated. Publishing a hypertext means no longer printing. Instead, the document remains in the computer and is read electronically.

Can hypertext concepts be used for traditional electronic publishing, i.e., for the production of printed documents? And is it possible to integrate them in an environment that uses typesetting systems like TEX for the electronic authoring and for the printing? These questions are discussed.

## Introduction

Talking about the rôle of TEX in the process of electronic publishing should reflect that TEX is only a tool for solving part of the problems that arise. We should not enlarge it to handle everything, but instead, integrate it in a set of adequate tools. This article will reflect on the usability of TEX in such a publication environment and under what circumstances it can be used. It shall be a contribution to the development of TEX towards its real power. Otherwise, TEX will be buried under all the other "easy-to-use" text processors.

Electronic publishing, the interwoven process of editing, viewing and revising that results in a printed version of the document, can be separated into electronic authoring and electronic printing. The preparation of a certain group of documents demands more from both parts than an editor and a formatting system. These documents can be classified as being large, long-living and determined to be under regular revision. They may exist in different versions and in several variations. It may also be that several authors work on them. Examples are manuals, lexica, tutorials, etc. They are best handled with a special authoring system that supports long-time management and flexible manipulation.

There exists a technique of document preparation, *hypertext*, that offers support for the interactive authoring of structured documents. In the following, a short overview about hypertext

and some typical applications will be given. For more details, see Conklin [1987] or Meyrowitz et al. [1985]. Following the overview, the usability of the hypertext technique in an authoring environment for printed documents in connection with TEX shall be discussed.

## What is Hypertext?

In addition to the "classic" electronic typesetting methods, there are other ways to use a computer for electronic document preparation. One of them, quite popular now, is hypertext. Hypertext is a technique that supports electronic authoring by offering an interactive environment that allows one to visualize and manipulate the structure of a document, which is built up from text *fragments* that are connected by *links*. Publishing a hypertext means no longer using printed paper, but only providing on-line access: The document remains in the computer and is read electronically, usually via a network. For visualization, the fragments are formatted, usually by formatters with graphics support.

**Hypertext systems:** The first concepts for hypertext were developed by V. Bush in 1945 who designed a machine that should manage documents like text, pictures or notes. It allowed the construction of paths between related information which could be used for browsing. This should allow working with stored information analogous to human thinking.

"The human mind [...] operates by association. Man cannot hope fully to duplicate this mental process artificially, but he certainly ought to be able to learn from it. One cannot hope to equal the speed and flexibility with which the mind follows an associative trail, but it should be possible to beat the mind decisively in regard to the permanence and clarity of the items resurrected from storage." (Bush [1945])

Hypertext systems may be classified by their intended usage. To give an overview about existing hypertext systems, I will give a short description of four categories of hypertext applications: bibliographic, idea, information and notecard systems.

**Bibliographic systems.** Bibliographic systems are used to maintain on-line libraries with various documents. They offer a simple and comfortable interface, not only for reading the documents, but also for working with them. This includes the creation and critical review of texts so that an original version and the reader's modifications may both exist in the system. Finally, this leads to the vanishing of the distinction between reader and writer.

Quite often, the propagators of these systems plead for the infinite computerization of the world and for the abolishing of printing. They do forget the problem of access, which may be easily monopolized and controlled. Financial resources, modern equipment and technical skills would be necessary requirements for taking part in academic (and social) life, resources that are available for only minority of mankind. I do not believe that the social circumstances of new technical systems automatically become democratic and fair (or, at least, free of charge), and any propagation of a single technique as a universal solution lacks realism.

**Idea systems.** A second group of hypertext systems is designed for the interactive work of one person or several people on a problem. They help collect ideas and organize them so that nothing gets lost and different views on a problem are possible. They may be compared with the notebook of an author or developer that offers possibilities for retrieving and grouping. (Of course, you need your computer next to you all the time in case you get ideas at unusual places.)

**Information systems.** Information or browsing systems are small bibliographic systems, used for special purposes such as demonstrations, providing for courseware or a collection of information about a special item (e.g., all information about a certain bomb or the time table of a railway station).

Usually, they are made for reading only, so that after an initial phase of authoring the content is static. Quite often, they provide only a limited overview about the structure of the document, and you can only follow the keywords for more information. Disorientation is a frequent consequence of this system.

**Notecard systems.** These systems are not designed for special purposes, but can be used for various applications for which they provide reading, writing, maintaining, and browsing facilities. Systems that are currently popular are NoteCards by Xerox and HyperCard by Apple which are designed as electronic card-index boxes which allow several sorting criteria of the same data.

**Concepts of hypertext systems.** All hypertext systems have some basic concepts in common. Hypertext documents are non-linear. They offer information that can be dynamically arranged by a desired criteria. They allow the incorporation of ideas in a document and to connect them later in another step so that the author can add and rearrange components freely.

The fragments are the nodes of the graph structure that constitutes the document. They represent a single idea, a specific item. As they are meant to be arranged in various sequences, they should be independent from others, except by connections that can be represented by links. They may be named, can have attributes, or be of different types.

The system supports the management of the fragments and linking them together. Fragments can be viewed or manipulated (i.e., edited), and the structure is represented and can be browsed. When viewing a fragment, the reader can follow or ignore links to other fragments that are related, or entirely different paths may be selected in the document representation. Links may lead to texts that belong to a keyword, annotations, supplementary information, or successor fragments. They may be named and can have attributes, too.

One can use references that are non-hierarchical (e.g., cross references), but they may as well be hierarchical so that a substructure of related information is built. While the first ones are usually represented by (graphical) markup in the text, the latter ones exist on the management level and are represented in the document browser.

**Using a hypertext system.** Basic hypertext features are the editing and viewing of the fragments. If they contain not only text, but also pictures, tables or video, more powerful processors are needed to represent the contents in a formatted form. Some

systems also offer multi media facilities like audio or video components.

Another aspect is the representation of the document structure. Maps of the graph are used in which one can navigate. They show the actual position and sometimes have different levels of detail to reduce the complexity.

Next to viewing and editing, the systems usually offer features for searching and selecting. Many hypertext systems offer query techniques for the retrieval of information. As well, views are possible that filter the whole document according to some criteria. Both are usually done by attributes of nodes and links, but there also exist content retrieval systems.

Another feature is the possibility of versioning. This allows one to maintain different versions of text or to keep modification logs. If the system supports access control and offers synchronizing mechanisms, co-authoring is possible as well.

For authors, hypertext offers support for design, structuring and presentation. Nevertheless, the necessary actions for adding new parts may also lead to diversion, and provisional structures may result that are not revised later. In general, human association is not explicit, but subconscious. It is not only determined by the problem's inherent logic, but also by aspects like social environment. Hypertext forces authors to build associations explicitly. This may be quite difficult and irritating (just like learning the first programming language) because a way of thinking must be practiced that is not "natural" and demands a higher degree of detail than the human is used to.

Readers (the author is also a reader) may browse through the text in any variation and with any level of detail they like, supported by tools for navigation. But that also means making a lot of decisions in a short period of time, not knowing whether they are sensible, because no "glimpse" is possible. Following a keyword or selecting a node only by its name may lead to many impasses. Following several paths at a time is quite stressful, too.

The visualization may be helpful for orientation, but in a heavily linked structure it will be difficult to find an adequate and clear representation. Clipping or reducing the complexity will be necessary which destroys information that might be needed.

**Hyper documents.** The above explanations show that hypertext is not equally useful for all kinds of documents. Hypertext is developed for nonlinear documents, such as a notebook, a reference, or a lexicon. These hyper documents consist

of information fragments that are more or less independent from each other, having a relation that is marked by a link.<sup>2</sup> The resulting document is dynamic. The reader builds his own text by finding his individual way through a database of interconnected information.

This means that hypertext systems are information systems with an interactive environment that supports structured authoring and dynamic reading of the available material. On the one hand, the reader no longer depends on structures designed by the author. He may freely find the structural representation and the parts of information he is looking for.

On the other hand, the author will group and structure the information in a representation he likes best, though he knows that the reader may look at the hyper document in a totally different way. He can try to avoid this by creating fixed structures that are absolutely necessary for comprehension.

The consequence is that hyper documents may offer a very different degree of freedom to the reader: The more the author fixes structures in it, the less variability is left for the reader, until we end up with totally fixed systems in which the paths cannot be modified, or the information is hidden from the reader (depending on his classification). These methods are often used in tutorial systems.

**Hyper database systems.** Next to applications that are based on documents, hypertext is being used more and more as the interactive interface for nonstandard database systems. It serves for retrieval, expert system requests, and the like. While there exist facilities for the transformation of normal database output into TeX to produce lists of the selected objects, the problem of publishing the contents of a non-standard database is yet unsolved because the mapping of objects to markup is not trivial. As more and more information of all kinds will be managed in databases because they support multi-access, versioning and consistency, this will be an important request of the future.

## Hypertext and the Traditional Publishing

As we have seen, hypertext is typically used for a specific kind of document that is different from standard text. Nevertheless, the question remains: Can hypertext concepts be used for traditional electronic publishing, i.e., for the production of printed documents? And is it possible to integrate them in

<sup>1</sup> That this is not trivial is described by Raymond and Tompa [1988].

an environment that uses typesetting systems like **TEX** during the electronic authoring as well as for printing?

**Hypertext and printing.** We do not want to discuss here the usage of **TEX** as a formatter for a hyperbased on-line information system. Printing means that one plans to reach a widespread readership. Hypertext limits the potential reader to a small group with connections to the computer system that holds the text. Presently, interactive access over wide area networks which work with a lot of documents is not without problems. And reading from the screen is not always what we want, even if access and all technical problems are solved.

Hypertext documents are not made for printing. Of course, fragments may be extracted and printed on paper, but the non-linear structure of the whole document would force one to choose a mapping on a sequence that will be inadequate in many cases. The sequence of reading can no longer be chosen interactively, and a visualization of the links must be established so as not to destroy the structure. Contrary to this, a printed document usually has a linear structure and the author intends a sequence of reading. This sequence influences the contents of the text components because they may depend on information given before.

**Database demands.** New demands arise from the request of publishing the contents of non-standard databases. Hypertext features with their interactive concept are not sufficient. Paper versions are still needed, e.g., for the management. A markup is not enough either. It supports only the printing aspect and not the authoring. An integration of both markup and hypertext will lead towards maintainable systems for both the interactive maintenance of the contents and the publishing of it.

**Authoring with hypertext.** Now, let's take a closer look at the authoring aspect of hypertext. There are some good reasons to use hypertext for the authoring of printed documents. Hypertext allows the management of structured documents that are variable in both structure and content in a way that adds a new quality. It is this support of variability that makes it much more powerful than a structure editor.

The interactive environment is very helpful for the maintenance of a document, especially for those that are long-living and are intended to be modified and revised again. Annotations can be added easily, and versioning is usually supported or can be introduced by the author himself. Structural elements such as glossaries, footnotes or an index

can be mapped to the hypertext concept. The problem of finding an adequate representation of the text structure in the hyper document will no longer be severe, because there are no longer readers of this document form. Problems are also reduced by the possibility of structure visualization. Navigation helps to locate points of interest that the author, who is more familiar with his text than a reader would be, may identify more easily. This is especially true because the named fragments offer better identification criteria than files with naming restrictions.

Hypertext is very useful for the authoring of a specific kind of document, that is, those that exist in different variations but are maintained and updated together. They are 'hyper-texts' with a non-linear structure and may contain free nodes, but the resulting printed document will be linear.

An example is standards in different versions with history and rationals. Hypertext allows one to realize such a document as a base of text fragments through which different paths exist with common parts. This considerably reduces updating problems, and the reorganization of the document structure can be done easily and coordinated by just modifying the paths. Another example is manuals of the same software for different computers, which leads to very similar documents, yet with different components (sometimes naming conventions only). For this application—maintaining a non-linear document that consists of several linear, printable documents—we developed the prototype of an authoring system with hypertext concepts at the Technische Hochschule Darmstadt.

An authoring system for printed documents that uses hypertext concepts needs some modifications and additions to standard hypertext features. The interactive graphical user interface will be used, but it must support the extensions and adaptions to the special requests of linear text. First, the whole document must be accessible, not only single fragments. Viewing the whole document is as important as printing it. But fragmentation offers more flexibility on this point. Features can be added for selecting parts of documents which can be viewed, selected, browsed, and printed. It must be assured that the selected fragments can be transformed to an acyclic, connected graph with one root.

Specific problems with linear texts in a hypertext based environment arise from the interdependence of the fragments in a traditional document. The possibility of rearrangements is restricted, but the restrictions can be specified in the hyper document by using special fragments for annotations or

by using attributes that lay them down. And the feature of (hierarchical) structuring and composition may be used to build components that belong together and should not be rearranged except with modifications in the contents.

## TEX and Interactive Authoring Systems

Previously we talked about printing without thinking about the realization. Of course, what we want is to use *TeX* for formatting so that we can view and print documents (and parts of them) by using *dvi* drivers. To use *TeX* in an interactive environment, some reflections about the demands of *TeX* must be made.

**Requirements.** To use the *TeX* and driver facilities, the authoring system should contain features of a *TeX* menu so that the printing and viewing process can be parametrized, or search paths can be specified. This should be designed with the same "look-and-feel" philosophy as the rest of the interactive environment. This requires either a special *TeX* authoring system or one that can be enlarged by the formatting components.

*TeX* is a batch processor which requires complete documents for processing. Complete means that the grouping levels are balanced and that mode switches are reset again. All initializations like the selection of formats and style options or user defined macros must be available, and the termination sequences are needed, too.

**Extensions.** For the authoring system described before, that means that the viewing and printing mechanism must add special user defined pre- and post-information into a document for *TeX* to handle. This document must be extracted to a file as a whole so that *TeX* can process it.

To allow viewing and printing of any fragment (or document), the restriction of balanced *TeX* usage in fragments must be forced (probably by a structure editor), or composed structures must be built with components that belong together and cannot be handled separately. This is very difficult to control because of the various group symbols and the possibility of grouping via macros.

## Conclusion

*TeX* was designed as a typesetting machine. The last section discussed the integration of *TeX* in an authoring system. It is this aspect of *TeX* which has the consequence that *TeX* and hypertext is *not* the future of electronic publishing.

*TeX* is both — optical and logical markup. The fragmentation and structuring of a document is incompatible with optical markup. Fine tuning of the output within the hypertext system is impossible. Problems will arise with error location and handling. Syntax error free *TeX* input from humans cannot be assured because a structure editor would be necessary that is a complete *TeX* interpreter to deal with the user changeable lexical analysis and the dynamic binding of token.

In a hypertext system, the user should not input original *TeX*. Instead, we should encourage the separation of optical and logical markup in *TeX* by providing markup systems like *LATeX* (or SGML with a *TeX* converter) and a variety of styles for the author. Mapping to the optical markup should be provided by the system, leaving the design to professionals.

The separation of author, typesetter and printer has proved to be useful over hundreds of years. Abolishing this splitting of responsibility for contents, form and realization has not led to satisfactory results in the desktop publishing area nor in hypertext systems. Modern technologies allow us to realize these demands as an interwoven electronical process with hypertext and logical markup on one side and *TeX* and drivers on the other. Let us fill this possibility with life.

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# Experiments in TeX and HyperActivity

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## Abstract

Publishers are starting to explore ways of making their traditional books available on screens, using techniques grouped together as "hypertext," and have tended to concentrate on the problems of linkage and navigation. We believe that both structured writing and traditional typesetting skills have an important part to play in the screen-oriented books to come, and we present the results of various experimental systems which use TeX in the process of creating a hypertext document. Problems tackled include the use of TeX to format text being displayed on screen in variable sized windows, embedding generic hypertext navigation tools in the source and using a single source to generate both printed and hypertext versions of a document.

## Intro

Ted Nelson (*Literary Machines* [1987] is a good introduction to his ideas) coined the term *hypertext* to describe "non-sequential writing," or works which could not be expressed as a simple linear sequence of their contents. This includes:

**branching texts** where the reader is presented with a choice between several paths to follow through the work

**interconnected texts** which make reference to other parts of themselves or parts of other, separate works

**active texts** which modify themselves according to some particular criterion, e.g., by recomputing one of its own tables of figures from the latest available stockmarket information.

**multimedia texts** which are composed of material from disparate information media (such as text, graphics, sound and video). These works are known more generally as "hypermedia" documents.

Hypertexts predate computers—novels frequently have concurrent threads of action (branches) as well as flashbacks (local interconnections) and literary cross-references (external interconnections; for example, we cannot read David Lodge's *Small World* without reference to a huge body of older literary forms)—but the computer has made hypertexts much more practicable in three ways:

**presentation** A reader may follow branching pathways and connections to other documents by selecting the appropriate material (usually with a mouse) and pressing a button.

**speed** The computer may retrieve information several orders of magnitude faster than a human can turn pages in a book or fetch a new book from library shelves.

**information unity** The computer acts as a control centre, allowing the many media available to it to be manipulated in a common fashion.

Hypertext systems are characterised by the kind of information that can be stored and the ways in which the information can be interconnected. Information is usually divided into discrete chunks (or *nodes*) which are connected through *links*. Some systems such as HyperTIES use fixed-sized nodes which only contain textual data, others (such as InterMedia, described by Yankelovich [1988]) allow nodes to contain arbitrary amounts of textual and graphical information. The linking capabilities vary widely: some link from a specific point within a node to a destination node, others allow a connection to be established between stretches of text within nodes. Some links also have information associated with them: a name, a type or a title.

The similarity between creating a document using a generic markup system like L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X and creating a hypertext document is quite pronounced. In both activities the author is committing a set of ideas

and thought processes to a medium and attempting to arrange the information within the constraints of the structure provided by that medium. In L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, the structure is that of technical authorship and is essentially *hierarchical* (chapters of sections of subsections and subsubsections) whereas a general hypertext document has no controlling structure, and is usually referred to as a *network*.

The aim of L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X is to allow the author to concentrate on the logical structure of the text and not to be concerned about details of its physical representation. Various different physical representations can be achieved by the use of the \documentstyle command. The L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X document is, in fact, a hypertext because it exhibits both branching (sections are composed of many subsections which are not necessarily meant to be read in sequence) and interconnection (through the use of \ref, \label and \cite commands), and so by the application of a different document style it should be possible to view a technical report or book as a hypertext network.

The next sections describe several attempts to use L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X as a tool for producing hypertext documents.

## Two Approaches

The function of L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X is to take a logical structure (the document's contents with embedded markup) and from it to produce a physical structure (the device independent description of a set of pages). If a hypertext network is required instead then two options are available: to use L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X as either

1. a structural markup language which is to be interpreted by an independent system
2. a formatting engine for preparing the individual nodes of a hypertext network

The first alternative views L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X as a document interchange standard in competition with SGML (e.g. Bryan, [1988]) or Microsoft's document interchange Rich Text Format (RTF). The document is processed by a *pseudoL<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X* which is mainly concerned with mapping the continuous stream of text onto a network of discrete nodes which will be managed by an independent hypertext system.

An example of this process is Southampton University's Computer Science Prospectus as shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3. The prospectus was originally written in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X so that printed copies could be sent to applicants but a requirement grew for an "interactive guide" to the Department (like that successfully developed for Glasgow Computer Science, and several other sites) and so information from the

## CM348

## Text Processing

Year 3 Semester 2 Slot 2

**Course lecturers:** Mr S P Q Rahtz, Prof D W Barron

**Method of assessment:** Examination 50% and Coursework 50%

Text processing is one of the commonest applications of computers; it covers simple word processing, computerised typesetting, digital font design and pure electronic manipulation, as well as the tools needed for manipulating unstructured text. This course will cover basic concepts of document creation.

### Topics covered

- the distinction between generic markup and visual layout, with particular emphasis on the SGML standard
- software tools, such as intelligent structure editors
- the layout of printed text, and the 'rules' of page design
- the computerised design of typefaces, with a study of the METAFONT system
- page description languages, especially PostScript
- typesetting languages, concentrating on T<sub>E</sub>X
- the design of documents for the screen, and the principles of hypertext and database publication

Coursework will consist of work on software tools for manipulating structures, writing T<sub>E</sub>X macro packages and a group project on designing a font with METAFONT.

**Figure 1:** A Page From the Computer Science Prospectus

prospectus had to be merged into a HyperCard stack along with photographs and maps.

To do this a simple *pseudoL<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X* interpreter was written in HyperCard's programming language HyperTalk (see Figure 4 for a brief extract). The interpreter scans through the document filling nodes with text and creating new nodes whenever a new structure (chapter, section or subsection) is encountered. Subsequent processing allows a table of contents to be built from the titles of each node and reference/label pairs to be resolved.

This approach is advantageous when the document in question already exists in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X format, otherwise it would be more convenient to use a simpler markup scheme. The disadvantage is that specialised markup (such as tabular and math environments) cannot be dealt with automatically. Because the current version of HyperCard does not allow for the use of multiple fonts or font sizes within a field then none of the visual cuing provided by typographic differentiation is possible. This restriction is removed in competitors to Hypercard like Asymetrix Toolbook for Microsoft Windows 3, and is about to be remedied in new releases of Hypercard.

A successful example of a relatively complete and advanced *pseudoT<sub>E</sub>X* interpreter is the Gnuemacs "info" processor for producing help systems within the Emacs editor; this takes the source of software documentation written in a T<sub>E</sub>X-based (or L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X) generic markup (prescribed by the

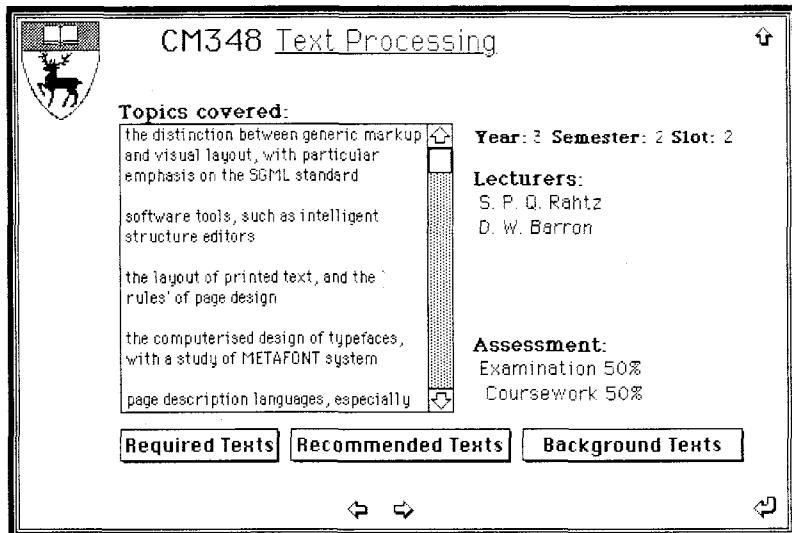


Figure 3: A Screen from the HyperCard Prospectus

```
\code{CM348}\year{3}\semester{2}\slot{2}
\course{Text Processing}
\heading{section}
\lecturers{Mr S P Q Rahtz, Prof D W Barron}
\assessment{Examination 50\%
    and Coursework 50\%}

\topics

\begin{enumerate}
\item the distinction between generic
markup and visual
layout, with particular emphasis
on the SGML standard
\item software tools, such as
intelligent structure editors
\item the layout of printed text,
and the ‘‘rules’’ of page design
\item the computerised design of
typefaces, with a study of
the \METAFONT\ system

```

Figure 2: L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X source for Figure 1

```
repeat
    read from file "LaTeX input"
    until return
if it is empty then exit repeat
if char 1 to 9 of it is "\section{"
    then
        delete char 1 to 9 of it
        delete last char of it
        doMenu "New Card"
        put it into field "Title"
        put sectionNumber into field
            "sectionNumber"
        add 1 to sectionNumber
        put 1 into subsectionNumber
        put subsectionNumber into field
            "subsectionNumber"
    else if char 1 to 12 of it is
        "\subsection{" then
        ...
    else
        put it&space after field "Text"
    end if
end repeat
```

Figure 4: Simple PseudoL<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X HyperTalk Script

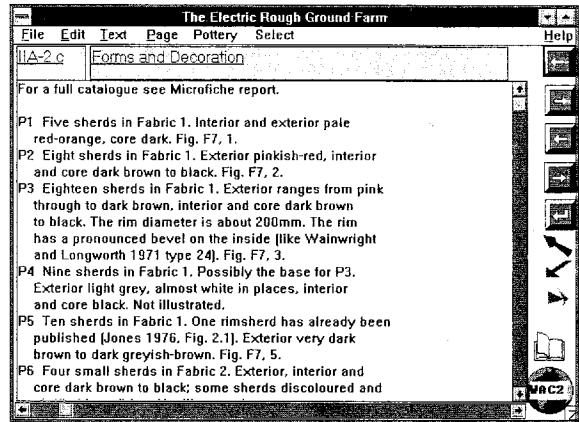
Gnuemacs team) and reformats it to produce a set of “help” nodes in a hierarchical form comparable to a printed manual. Navigation tools are provided to move up and down and sideways in the tree structure, using the normal Gnuemacs editing commands in “read-only” mode. Alternatively, the same source can be put through L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X or T<sub>E</sub>X to produce a standard printed manual (and in this case effects like figures, tables or maths are activated, rather than being ignored by the “info” system).

The second of the listed alternatives makes use of “true” L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X to interpret all the markup in the usual fashion, making use of a modified document style to specify layout for an appropriately sized node in a standalone hypertext system. Once the device-independent file has been produced three different paths have been explored:

1. Use the `dvi2tty` program to produce the page as an ASCII plain text which is fed into a HyperCard field by a simpler HyperTalk program. In this case the logical structure has already been interpreted, so that the HyperTalk script only needs to turn the pre-existing page breaks into new nodes. The table of contents has been created by L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, and all the cross-references have been resolved. Buttons and links may be added in a semi-automatic fashion based on the contents of the text.

This approach has been used for *The Electric Rough Ground Farm* (Rahtz and Allen [1990]), implemented on an IBM PC under Windows 3 using Toolbook; an example page is shown in Figure 5. It is necessary, of course, to have a special document style to cope with the following problems:

- (a) page width; we can either decide how wide the field is to be, and format to that width, or we can assume the text will be wrapped by the application. But in the latter case, we lose L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X’s careful layout.
- (b) we need to suppress running headers and footers, as they are irrelevant in this context;
- (c) it is almost certainly necessary to format using a fixed width font, so that the results will be predictable when converted to ASCII;
- (d) the ASCII codes are missing many useful ligatures and accented letters; getting a 100% useable result from `dvi2tty` is not easy, and requires some modifications to the source;



**Figure 5:** A page from *The Electric Rough Ground Farm* in Toolbook, formatted by L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

- (e) tables and mathematics cause hopeless problems, to which there is no obvious solution.

A variant approach adopted in one experiment with archaeological excavation reports (Rahtz, *et al.* [1989]) was to run the L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X source through a program to convert it to `nroff` input, using the `mm` macros. The generic structures can be translated unambiguously, and `nroff` can be used to create ASCII output, from which we can proceed in the same way as if we had followed the `dvi2tty` route described above.

2. Save the images from a `dvi` previewer, and use the results as a graphic to cover each node in the hypertext document. Thus we can use `dvipict` to create a bitmap for a HyperCard stack, or Eberhard Mattes’ `dvimsp` to create a Windows Paint file for Toolbook (as in Figure 6). This has the advantage of faithfully reproducing the page design (including fonts and spacing) but loses both the structure and the actual text itself. No editing or searching can take place, and buttons and links have to be inserted manually. A solution demonstrated by Wilkins [1990] was to keep the generic L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X source behind the scenes in the Hypercard stack, and use a parallel bitmap to show the reader. The underlying ASCII text was used for searching and determination of location, but was never presented to the user. This approach is elegant, in that the source and the “compiled” `dvi` version are kept together, but suffers from the major drawback that T<sub>E</sub>X has to be invoked to reformat pages if any edits are made (and it is not clear what model to adopt

Species	Features				Totals
	784	785	962	983	
Pig	8	16	27	6	55
Cattle	1	1	17	2	21
Red deer	1	4	11		16
Sheep/goat			1		1
Dog			1		1
Totals	8	21	57	8	94

Figure 6: Part of table from *The Electric Rough Ground Farm in Toolbook*, showing a bitmap from dvimsp

for allowing the reader to choose the text to edit).

3. Use a dvi previewer that has been enhanced to deal with hypertext nodes and links. In this case no conversion process is necessary to accommodate the document within a foreign system. This is the route which we have used in the LACE system (described in further detail in the next section) by developing a hyperdvi program which converts TeX's device independent format into a form suitable for manipulation as part of a hypertext network.

## LACE

At the simplest level, LACE<sup>1</sup> provides a TeX previewing service. Unlike the other experiments described above, LACE is implemented on a SUN workstation using the NeWS (now OpenWindows) windowing software. Based on the PostScript language, this allows compatibility between the formats of documents and pictures that are previewed on-screen and printed on a LaserWriter. A very similar environment exists on the NeXT workstation, but requires greater effort for a proposed implementation for the X Window system, as the X "page description" is lower level than PostScript.

<sup>1</sup> LACE is not an acronym for anything; it is partly a pun on the author's initials but more importantly is supposed to reflect the beauty of a structure of thousands of tiny knots of thread forming a coherent and structured whole.

One of the main goals of the LACE project is that there should be little (if any) alteration to the *authoring* process so that a large body of existing documentation can be used unmodified. This goal has been achieved by using a "hypertext" document style option which makes the following changes to the standard LATEX environment:

1. The definitions of all structuring commands are modified to add markers to the *dvi* file, so that they can be extracted from the formatted output.
2. A new command `link` is defined. This takes two parameters—the first is a piece of text over which a button will be placed, the second is the LACE address of a document part. For example, the command `\link{see section 3}{me:section 3}` will make a new window in which this section will "pop up" when the user clicks on the (transparent) button over the text "see section 3."
3. The table of contents, list of figures and list of tables all have buttons over each of the lines, so that clicking on any line will bring up a window with that part of the document in it.
4. The definitions of table, figure and footnote have been changed so that they take up *no space* on the page, but instead inhabit a separate window that is brought up when pressing a button over a reference to them. For example, a footnote window is brought up when the reader presses the button over the footnote marker in the main body of the text. Similarly a figure window is displayed when the reader presses a button over some text like "see figure 3."
5. A new environment `aside` is defined. This behaves very much like a footnote: the LATEX fragment

```
\begin{aside}{Click Me For More
Information}
Green Hypertext allows texts to
be re-used and has no long term
effect on the environment
\end{aside}
```

will produce a button over the words "Click Me For More Information" which, when pressed, will bring up a window with the text that is in the body of the environment.

6. The `label` and `ref` commands have been extended in the form of the `LACELabel` and `LACERef` pair. These two commands differ from the standard LATEX forms in that they

save not only the *number* of the current environment, but also its *type* e.g., *section 3.4* or *table 2*. As well as doing this, the reference text has a link to the item it references.

7. Any use of the `cite` command to produce a bibliographic citation in the main body of the text has a button over it that brings up a window containing the full bibliographic entry.

When the authoring cycle is completed the document is *published* by entering it into a host-wide database of documents which is presided over by a librarian process, the LACE daemon. The database holds information about each document: its title, keywords, access permissions and location in the host's filestore. Each document is considered to be a database of logical elements (in the structural markup sense). The LACE daemon and the `hyperdvi` process cooperate to provide access to any addressable element of any document published on the local host. Requests for document parts are of the form `<document specifier>:<element specifier>` where the document specifier is either the document's title or a shorter nickname and the element specifier is a string such as `chapter 1`, `section Vehicle Repairs` or simply `Introduction`. In this way a LATEX document can include the command,

```
\link{See the User's Guide}{guide:section Introduction}
```

to reference the introduction from a section of a different document or

```
\link{See Table 2}{me:table 2}
```

to cross-reference a table in the current document.

The `hyperdvi` process is responsible for resolving references to structures within a document and displaying text from the dvi file, while the LACE daemon is responsible for resolving references to documents (potentially across local- and wide-area networks). The LACE daemon also integrates access to other kinds of textual, graphic and video material which may be appropriate to the document being perused.

Figure 7 shows a LACE session. The main window (to the left) was displayed in response to a command-line invocation of `lace Humanities Computing`. The menu (appearing in response to the user's mouse-click) has the usual previewing options of page selection and the common hypertext facility of stepping backwards through the list of elements that have been browsed. The *Contents* and *Tables* submenus are derived from the document's Table of Contents and List of Tables, also seen in this window. The *Add to Trail* item allows the reader to

add the current element to a list of "interesting" elements for later browsing. (The trail is a plain text document containing references to each element which can be browsed by the LACE daemon or edited with a text editor. An *involuntary trail* document is also maintained which holds a list of every element that the users ever browses.)

Buttons are transparent patches which cause the cursor to change shape as it is moved over them. Buttons have *actions* associated with them which are invoked when a mouse-press occurs while the cursor is inside them. The actions may be an arbitrary computation (expressed in PostScript), but are usually requests to the LACE daemon to resolve a `document:element` pair.

Since the buttons are transparent it is the document style's responsibility to provide some visual cueing for the reader, usually by putting the button's text in a distinctive font. Some buttons may also be deduced by semantic context, for example, "See table 6 for further details".

The remaining windows in Figure 7 have been brought up from buttons in the main window.

## Conclusion

One of the problems of producing a hypertext from pre-existing documentation is partitioning the information between separate nodes and finding the links between them. LATEX allows authors to express the logical structure of their documents and the relationship between the different elements of that structure: this provides a useful basis for constructing a hypertext network. It is also has the crucial advantage that we know we can generate very high quality printed versions of what we write; until screen-reading comes of age, a great many people will much prefer to do sustained reading from a printed page.

Any scheme of logical markup would be suited to the job: SGML is in some ways a more obvious choice (Niblett and vanHoff [1989] deal with work using SGML as the source language for hyperdocuments; the Perseus Project at Brown University, and the Oxford English Dictionary at Waterloo are well-known examples of large-scale projects based on SGML; it is also relevant to note that the international *Text Encoding Initiative* is proposing an SGML tagset, and if this is adopted it will mean an ongoing supply of SGML-compatible documents). However, LATEX has the advantage of producing a high quality physical representation (on paper or screen) especially for technical and scientific docu-

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1	Computer Usage in the Faculty of Arts, by department
2	Specific hardware referred to
3	Specific software referred to

**1 Introduction**

This report describes the involvement of the Department of Electronics and Computer Science, University of Southampton, in studying computer usage in the Faculty of Arts. It is somewhat anomalous, in that it effects a single lecturer (the author), so some background information is given. The Faculty of Arts offered an course called *Computing in the Arts* for some years, it was open as an optional subsidiary subject for 2nd and 3rd year students in all subjects, although in practice the class largely consisted of Modern Languages and English students (History and Archaeology both had their own arrangements). The course was taught by Charles Whitaker, a lecturer in the department of Classics; when he retired in 1985, it was decided to try and expand this sort of course provision, and the University's central Project Fund provided funds for a 3 year appointment of a Lecturer in Humanities Computing in the Department of Computer Studies (since amalgamated with Electronics to form the Department of Electronics and Computer Science). One purpose of this document is to form an intermediate report on this experiment, but it is also designed to be taken in conjunction with other initiatives within the University to introduce computing both into the teaching and into the curriculum of Humanities students—a summary of other activities is given in section 2 below.

In addition to the specific courses offered in 1985-6 (subsection 3.1) and planned for the next academic year (subsection 3.3), the Department of Electronics and Computer Science is a joint sponsor of a new B.A. degree in *Modern Languages with Computing*, which takes its first undergraduates in 1986-7; this broadly follows the pattern of a conventional modern languages degree, but with Computer Science options as the 'second language' and extra options in Linguistics and some Philosophy; students will spend the third year in the country of their main language as normal, but we hope that as well as conventional placements as teachers etc, they will be able to work in

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**Table 1: Computer Usage in the Faculty of Arts by department**

Type	Name	Count
database	dBaseII	4
database	dBaseIII	1
database	Delta	1
database	Masterfile	1
database	SIR	1
database	unknown db	1
other	Chart	1
other	OCP	1
other	StupeCalc3	1
other	Supersort	2
other	unknown spreadsheet	1
other	Yamaha software	1
programming	BASIC	4
statistics	BMDP	1
statistics	Clustan	2
statistics	GLIM	1
statistics	Minitab	2
statistics	SPSS	4
statistics	STATGRAPHICS	1
wp	Amstrad wp	1
wp	Amsword	2
wp	Amor wp	1
wp	Compucorpwp	4
wp	Locoscript	5

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**Table 3: Specific software referred to**

Type	Name	Count
database	dBaseII	4
database	dBaseIII	1
database	Delta	1
database	Masterfile	1
database	SIR	1
database	unknown db	1
other	Chart	1
other	OCP	1
other	StupeCalc3	1
other	Supersort	2
other	unknown spreadsheet	1
other	Yamaha software	1
programming	BASIC	4
statistics	BMDP	1
statistics	Clustan	2
statistics	GLIM	1
statistics	Minitab	2
statistics	SPSS	4
statistics	STATGRAPHICS	1
wp	Amstrad wp	1
wp	Amsword	2
wp	Amor wp	1
wp	Compucorpwp	4
wp	Locoscript	5

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**3.1 1985-86 course**

The *Computing in the Arts* course was open to second and third year students as an examined option; most of the 47 on the course were taking Modern Languages (there were 7 Archaeology students, 1 Classics and 4 English), and so the course took a fairly literary turn at times. The course<sup>11</sup> covered five elements, in two sessions a week throughout the academic year:

1. The first part covered a basic introduction to computers, and the use of a word processor (Easywriter on an IBM PC).

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<sup>11</sup> The syllabus was based on that proposed by Dr Paul Lewis

**Figure 7: A LACE session**

ments, and there is large body of documents which have been authored using it.

*LAT**EX*'s disadvantages should be obvious:

1. its syntax is too complex
2. the document structures it defines are restricted (a simple hierarchy of chapter, section, subsection...)
3. it is a batch-oriented text-processing system which differentiates between the text and its physical representation
4. the *T**EX* system itself is much too large, slow and over-sophisticated for most of the work we will put it to.

It is clear that *T**EX* in a hyperactive world can only survive in a generic markup form such as *LAT**EX*. Much of its power (such as pagination) is irrelevant in this context, and its implementation language will continue to put off many potential designers. But *T**EX* retains a raw beauty of its own, and if we decide that the hyper systems we build must have a formatting engine behind them, we are confident that *T**EX* will continue to be the first choice for many years to come.

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# The Dutch National L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X Effort

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## Abstract

In this article, an overview is given of the activities of Working Group 13 WG13 of the “Nederlandstalige T<sub>E</sub>X Gebruikersgroep” (Dutch T<sub>E</sub>X Users Group). This working group is also called “Neerlandica,” and is interested in anything that has something to do with using L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X (and T<sub>E</sub>X) in a non-American environment. The topics tackled so far range from the design of a page layout suitable for A<sub>4</sub> paper by adapting the American layout of `article.sty` to Dutch typographical tastes, to the implementation of a new letter style called “brief.”

## Introduction

At its founding meeting, the NTG decided to establish a number of “working groups,” which would tackle some of the problems encountered by members of the NTG. Some of the subject are “education,” “drivers,” “T<sub>E</sub>X for personal computers.” At the second NTG meeting, another working group was started. The task of this group was to investigate the T<sub>E</sub>Xnical problems Dutch-speaking L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X users encountered and to suggest solutions to these problems.

The first activity of this group was to decide on which problems would be tackled and in what order. We had a number of subjects:

1. The original L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X document styles are designed for American-sized paper. The dimensions of this paper differ from A<sub>4</sub> paper, which is used most commonly in Europe. The avail-

able style option files at the time were not very satisfactory.

2. In Dutch texts, commands that produce text, like `\chapter` or `\abstract`, should produce *Dutch* texts instead of *English*. A way to solve this problem had already been pointed out by Hubert Partl *et al.*
3. The design of the standard document styles provided by Leslie Lamport is very “American” and, at least to our Dutch eyes, a bit “loud.” We decided to develop replacement styles that would be more adapted to Dutch typographical standards.

After identifying these tasks, we set ourselves a short-term and a long-term goal. The short-term goal was to provide the members of the NTG with an acceptable page-layout, adapted to A<sub>4</sub> paper and to provide a document-style option that redefines commands like `\chapter` to use macros

like `\chaptername`. This seemed a reasonably simple task that would be welcomed by a lot of Dutch L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X users. The long-term goal was to develop new document styles, plug-compatible with the styles provided by Leslie Lamport. To this, we added the need for the implementation of a document style for letters that follows Dutch guidelines for the design of letters.

In the following sections we will discuss these topics in more detail. Some of this work has led to articles published or to be published in *TUGboat*.

## Page Layout for A4 Paper

As described before, one of the first problems tackled was that of adapting the standard document styles to A4 paper. The solution we sought was to provide a document style option file, and not to modify document styles for this. This was done mainly to avoid having to maintain extra document styles that differ only marginally from the originals.

Obviously, we were not the first L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X users to identify the problem, and we knew that document-style options were available in the international T<sub>E</sub>X community. However, as we were not satisfied with the results these options gave us, we decided to adapt them. This has led to the file `A4.sty` described by Poppelier and Braams. This file started as a combination of two options that were already available. The combination of these two files didn't satisfy our demands, which were:

1. The width of the text should be chosen in such a way that no more than sixty to seventy characters appear on a line of text.
2. When a document is printed two-sided, the texts printed on both sides of one sheet of paper should overlap.
3. The "inner" margin of the document should be wide enough to allow for the binding of the document.
4. The "outer" margin should be wide enough for marginal notes.

After the publication of our article on `A4.sty`, we received a comment that it doesn't handle texts with more than one column correctly. We still have to look into this, but it is a nice example of Gödels principle<sup>1</sup>.

## The "Loud" American Design of `article.sty`

As discussed before, the modification of the design of the standard document styles was a long-term

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<sup>1</sup> See the chapter about the *Contracrostipunctus*.

project. As a first attempt, a document-style option "`sober.sty`" was developed. This file modifies the amount of white space around section heads and lists. It also modifies the fonts used for the various levels of section heads.

Braams, Eijkhout and Poppelier began a more fundamental approach with the development of new document styles, derived from `article.sty` and `report.sty`. The design of these "new" styles was based on discussions with a Dutch typographical designer and books by Treebus and Miles on typographical design. One of the ideas behind the redesign of `article.sty` was to minimize the number of "implied left margins." By an implied left margin we mean a non-zero distance from the actual left margin that is used in more than one element of the document. Examples of implied left margins are:

1. the paragraph indentation,
2. the left margins of items in an "itemize" or "enumerate" list construct,
3. the left (or right) sides of the numbers and labels in such list constructs and
4. the left side of the text of a section heading.

In the standard styles of L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X all of these four distances are independent and are different from one another. In the style we have developed, it was decided to strengthen the visual coherence of the layout by taking the same value for each of them whenever possible.

Another idea that was implemented with `artikel1.sty` is that the white space separating a section heading and the text following it should bear some simple relation to the baseline skip, and should not have any stretch.

A third major modification in the design of the article style is a new layout of the table of contents. Both Treebus and Miles are very explicit in their opinion about the layout of a table of contents. They find a layout like the one implemented in `article.sty` "old fashioned" and even confusing. So, a completely different layout was implemented.

As the new layout of the table of contents met with some reservations from users, the old layout is still available through an option.

Besides `artikel1.sty`, we also implemented two other article styles that have a layout that differs from the layout of `artikel1.sty`. `artikel2.sty` is a layout designed to show what can be accomplished by modifying a few parameters in a document style. The third article style is like `artikel1.sty`, but with one major design decision changed. In `artikel3.sty` paragraphs are not indented, but they are separated by vertical space.

The design of the document styles `artikel11` and `artikel13` can also be implemented for reports, as `report1.sty` and `report3.sty` respectively, and there is a `boek` style based on the design of `artikel11`.

## Modifying the Standard Styles Without Modifying Them

As discussed in the Introduction, one of the topics WG13 should be working on was a solution to the problem of English terms appearing in Dutch texts. The basic idea behind our first solution was already implemented by Partl in `german.sty`. We adopted the idea and created `dutch.sty`. In some ways this file is much simpler than `german.sty`; in another way it is more complex. A major difference between the two files is that `german.sty` just provides parameters and parameter values for the various terms and states in the comment that the user should provide modified document style files that make use of these parameters. The file `dutch.sty` also contains the necessary redefinitions for the various L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X macros. This implies that `dutch.sty` can be used with the standard *unmodified* document style files as they are included in every L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X distribution.

While implementing `dutch.sty`, it occurred to us that it had some code in common with `german.sty`. This, combined with some discussions at the 1989 EuroTEX meeting in Karlsruhe, led to the idea of building a more universal system of style option files, called the `babel` system.

Braam's `babel` system consists of one file, with macro definitions common for all languages and a language-specific file for every language that is to be part of the system. It offers the possibility to switch between languages while processing a multilingual document. Because we wanted this system of style option files to be compatible with the original `german.sty`, the files are implemented so that they can also be used with plain T<sub>E</sub>X. This is useful because the language-specific files can (and do) contain more than just parameters for L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X terms. For instance, for the German language as well as for the Dutch language we have an extra active character. This active character is, among other things, used for controlling the hyphenation of words containing accented letters or explicit hyphens by inserting `\discretionary` commands.

All the user needs to specify is the (main) language used in his document as an option to the `\documentstyle` command. This will instruct T<sub>E</sub>X to read the appropriate language-specific file. This

file checks whether the core of the `babel` system, `babel.sty`, has been read before. If this turns out not to have happened it inputs `babel.sty`.

When the user wants to add the definitions for another language to the environment in which his document is processed he can use the command `\addlanguage`<sup>2</sup> with the name of another language-specific file as an argument. So the preamble of his document might look like:

```
\documentstyle[11pt,dutch]{artikel1}
```

```
\newlanguage{germanB}
```

```
\begin{document}
```

So, this example document contains Dutch and German texts. Because the function of the extra active character (") is different for `dutch.sty` and `german.sty`, the user wants to switch this definition when he starts a German part of the document. This can be achieved by adding,

```
\selectlanguage{german}
```

in front of the German text. When he wants the Dutch settings to be restored, he simply uses the same command with the parameter `dutch`.

As the `babel` system has been developed in a pre-T<sub>E</sub>X 3.0 environment, it doesn't use any of the features of T<sub>E</sub>X 3.0. Perhaps the switching of hyphenation tables and other T<sub>E</sub>X 3.0 features might be added to the definition of `\selectlanguage`.

## The Design of a New Letter Style

In one of its meetings, the "Neerlandica" group decided to try to implement a document style for letters that should conform to Dutch standards for the layout of letters. We have consulted four such standards, from the Dutch standardization institute, the Nederlands Normalisatie Instituut (NNI). They are:

1. NEN-1026 for letters,
2. NEN-1025 for envelopes,
3. NEN-3162 for the structure of documents and
4. NEN-3516 for the design of forms.

The result is a design that cannot be judged by taste: it just implements the standards. This seems quite rigid, but some freedom is left to the user to adapt certain parts of the layout to his own wishes.

This new style is *not* "plug compatible" with the L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X letter style, although equivalents of some of the macros from `letter.sty` have been provided. The main reason for its "incompatibility"

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<sup>2</sup> — "newlanguage" would be more appropriate, but this has become a T<sub>E</sub>X primitive, so the macro was renamed.

with `letter.sty` is that we have quite a lot of new user commands to either modify some parts of the layout or to fill in some of the fields in the “reference lines.” The reference lines contain fields such as “Your letter of” and “Date.”

Some of the features of this document style are:

1. If the user doesn’t have printed letter paper, he can provide his own letterhead by writing his own macro `\briefhoofd` or he can use the macro `\maakbriefhoofd` to adapt the default letterhead provided with the document style.
2. An option is provided to print short horizontal rules on the sides of the paper as an indication where to fold the letter.;
3. The address is positioned such that it can be used with “window envelopes.” The window can be either on the left side (default) or on the right side of the envelope.
4. A user-command `\voetitem` is provided for information about the sender at the bottom of the letter.

An example of this document style can be found at the end of this article.

## Conclusion

Working Group 13 of the NTG has had a busy year. We have

1. produced a number of replacement document styles for the standard L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X document styles,
2. developed a new document style for letters that implements Dutch standards for the layout of letters,
3. presented a new and improved document style option file for use with A4-size paper and
4. produced a document style option file system that supports multiple languages in one document and provides additional features for specific languages.

In short: the category code of this working group has been `\active`.

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# Documenting a $\text{\TeX}$ Archive

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## Abstract

There are a number of  $\text{\TeX}$  archives in existence: the master sources at Stanford, the  $\text{\LaTeX}$  (and other  $\text{\TeX}$ ware) collection at Clarkson, Don Hosek's archive at Claremont, and so on. The author is one of a group of volunteers who maintain the  $\text{\TeX}$  archive located at Aston University in the UK. The Aston archive is probably the biggest of the  $\text{\TeX}$  archives, holding complete distributions for Unix, VMS, MS-DOS and the Macintosh, as well as  $\text{\LaTeX}$  style files, support utilities, fonts, and so on—a few hundred megabytes in total. Documenting this volume of information is no mean task; indeed, the archive maintainers frequently have trouble remembering where things are!

There is growing interest in coordinating these various archives. While this can only be good for the user, an archive is only as good as its documentation: there's no point having a piece of software archived if no one can find it! The primary purpose of this paper is to raise awareness to the various needs of archive users and maintainers in the hope that it will provoke both discussion and involvement.

## Accessing an Archive

The first thing one must know about an archive is *where* it is! Although this may seem a trivial point, a fair proportion of the messages flying around electronic mail and news networks are of the "Where do I find this?" variety.

The second, and by far the most significant, point is *access* to the archive. The majority of  $\text{\TeX}$  (and other) archives are only accessible via anonymous file transfers; a few, such as Clarkson and Aston, run mail-servers, which interpret requests in incoming electronic mail messages and respond with file transfers, directory listings, and so on. But what of the community without electronic access at all? The author is aware of only four publicized sources of  $\text{\TeX}$  on physical media: the "official" Maria Code distributions for several systems from Stanford, the University of Washington's UNIX  $\text{\TeX}$  tapes, Jon Radel's PC distribution on floppies, and the Aston archive, which will send out VMS, UNIX, PC and Mac kits, as well as a complete tape of the entire archive (one fairly full VMS "backup" tape at 6250 bpi).

However, since it is by far the most common means, let us concentrate on electronic access for a few moments. In the Internet world, the standard

means of accessing an archive is by anonymous FTP. This is an interactive program which allows one to "log in" to a remote file system (via the username **ANONYMOUS**), list directories and copy files back to the local machine. Although FTP implementations do not typically provide facilities for typing files to the screen, it is fairly trivial to do this in practice on most operating systems. Hence, FTP permits reasonably interactive access to an archive.

The UK academic network, JANET, is based on a rather different set of protocols and supports a rather different type of remote file access. When a request is made to copy a file from a remote machine, it is handled *asynchronously*: the file simply "appears" at some time after making the request. JANET style file transfer (NIFTP) means that a user cannot interactively scan through the filestore (directory) of the remote machine, thereby improving security; hence, directory listings have to be left lying around on the archive machine, stored in files with standardized names. These directory listings have to be updated frequently (this is a good habit for an archive, in any case); in the case of the Aston archive, listings of the entire archive and of the recently created files are generated daily.

For cross-network traffic (*e.g.*, between Bitnet and JANET), neither FTP or NIFTP is possible, and one must resort to other approaches. The most common solution is a *mail server*, a program which receives messages containing requests for directory listings, requests to send files to the requestor, and so on. (The author must accept the stigma of having written the mail server program which fronts the Aston archive.)

### Finding the Right File

With only these types of access available, finding the file one wants can be a non-trivial exercise. Perhaps the simplest approach is via the “*whereis*” feature supported by several mail servers, one simply sends off a mail message containing, for example, *whereis recipe.sty*. The mail server program then scans through the archive for any files which have this name and returns their locations in a return mail message to the requestor. Of course, this only works if the name of the required file is known, and this is frequently not the case, and this brings us back to the problem of documentation.

If we consider an archive to be analogous to a book, we can think of the listing of the directory hierarchy as the electronic analogue of the table of contents, since it tells us where each file (topic) is located. However, there is no true analogue of a book’s *index*. As anyone who has written a book will confirm, compiling the index is a task which cannot satisfactorily be automated. The closest approach to an index is in the hierarchical help systems offered by several operating systems (this most definitely *excludes* the UNIX on-line manual, which is a total abomination).

To be able to support all types of potential archive user, two forms of documentation are needed: hard copy documentation which can be sent out to people without electronic access, and on-line documentation which facilitates locating files by functionality rather than by name. To save the archivist’s valuable time, the most sensible approach is to generate both of these from a common source file. Of course, such systems already exist, such as Digital’s VAX Document and the Free Software Foundation’s “*TeXinfo*” (a “*LATEXinfo*” has recently been devised too). Both these products use *TeX* as the typesetting engine for printed manuals. Document uses an enhanced version of *runoff* for generating VMS Help files, while *TeXinfo* uses GNU Emacs (a programmable editor) to generate “*info*” files, which can be scanned with an Emacs subsystem. The problem with *info* files is that they

can only be read from within Emacs, and not all operating systems run it; indeed, many people prefer other editors, even on systems on which Emacs does run. The author has prototyped a similar system and investigated its use for documenting small sections of the Aston archive.

### A Prototype Archive Documentation System

In order to evaluate the above approach to generating an archive “*index*,” the author prototyped a documentation system in the *AWK* language. This system had a (deliberately) very restricted set of commands, which covered operations such as titles, lists, font changes (*emphasis* and *teletype*) and keyword specification. General descriptions of the contents of several directories (*README* files) were marked up in this way and processed through *GNU AWK* to generate the following types of documentation:

- *LATEX* input (each *README* file being a separate section of a larger document)
- *nroff* input, to generate UNIX manual pages
- *runoff* input, to generate VMS Help
- *info* format (from the VMS Help, for use with a stand-alone *info* program written by Nelson Beebe)
- plain text, to be inserted into the individual directories as *README* files

The keywords specified in the marked up text were used to generate index entries for the *LATEX* document and a specific sub-topic (*keywords*) for the Help. A public-domain Help program was then modified to support searches through only the titles (subject headings), through the keywords, or through the bodies of the help modules. The software was tested on a few volunteers who do not know their way around the Aston archive, and it was found that locating specific items in the archive was then much faster, particularly if the choice of keywords was made carefully. Of course, on such a small-scale experiment, it is dangerous to make sweeping conclusions; nevertheless, user response was favourable.

As a further experiment, a sub-section of each entry also contained a list of the relevant files in the archive, and this was used to automatically generate a set of (NIFTP) file-transfer commands to retrieve from the archive all the files needed to get the particular piece of software working. Alternatively, the same information could be used to prepare a printed request to the archive maintainers to specify the files on magnetic media.

## A Real Archive Documentation System

While the prototype outlined above could not be used in the real world, it does indicate a practicable way of documenting an archive. However, one can take the idea a step further. There is no reason why the Help system which one uses to scan through the archive's contents should reside only on the archive machine. Given a machine-portable Help program, one could arrange that its databases (i.e., the descriptions of various archives' contents) could be kept up-to-date automatically. This could be achieved either by updating the local databases on (say) a weekly basis by automatic jobs requesting modifications, or by "registering" the local system with the archive and having it send out modifications as and when required. (The latter approach is similar to the one used in the UK for distributing the database of network names and addresses for certain types of computer, while the latter is similar in concept to the distribution mechanism for network news.)

There is no reason why the above scheme should be limited to an archive of **TEX**-related material. What it would require would be the willingness of archive maintainers *and* people making submissions to archives to settle on a common but painless mark-up format for **README** files, and the standardisation of a Help program across several platforms.

# LATEX-Paragraphs Floating around Figures

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## Abstract

A LATEX-environment is presented which has the following property: Figures which are substantially narrower than \textwidth are placed automatically right or left justified within one or more paragraphs. Such figures can be set as easily and in the same way as LATEX's standard figures.

## When to Use the FLOATFIG Style Option

Figures often do not fill the full page width. If the width of such figures is only half of the page width or even less, lines of text should be set beside the figures, or—from another point of view—figures should “float” in paragraphs. Figures 1 and 2 show examples of such “Floating Figures”.<sup>1</sup> They can be set by using our FLOATFIG style option.

The macros which make up the FLOATFIG style option are based on PLAIN-TEX macros developed by Thomas Reid (*TUGboat* Vol. 8 # 3 page 315), who showed how to set figures *right justified* with paragraphs floating around them. For such layout Reid chose the term “Floating Figures”.

This choice could cause confusion, when we adapt these macros for LATEX, since Leslie Lamport uses the term “float” for objects which are realized as TEX-\inserts. While Lamport's floats are floating in the “main vertical list”, floats introduced by Reid are floating within paragraphs. For what follows we adopt the latter definition.

## How to Use It

The Floating Figures style option is fully compatible with LATEX's standard figure facility:

1. Floating Figures and standard figures may be requested in any sequence,
2. Floating Figures can be captioned like standard figures,

<sup>1</sup> The pages shown are a resetting of some pages from HERMANN WEYL's book on Symmetry (German edition, Birkhäuser Verlag 1955)

3. Captioned Floating Figures are inserted in the list of figures which may be printed by the standard \listoffigures command.

A Floating Figure may be requested as follows:

```
\documentstyle[floatfig]{article}
\begin{document}
\initfloatingfigs

\begin{floatingfigure}{5.6cm}
\vspace{6.0cm}
% optional !
\caption{Intermolecular potential K-Xe}
\end{floatingfigure}

\end{document}
```

It is essential that \initfloatingfigs, which initializes the floatingfigure environment, follows \begin{document} immediately. Otherwise some formatting errors will occur.

A Floating Figure may only be requested in vertical mode, that is between paragraphs. “5.6cm” in our example specifies the width of the figure space.

A Floating Figure will be set as soon as possible after the request for it has been encountered by LATEX. That means, it will be tested whether there is enough vertical space on the current page; if not, the figure will be moved to the next page.

Floating Figures are set *alternating*, that is on the right hand side on odd and on the left hand side on even numbered pages.

## Restrictions

1. The FLOATFIG style option may not be combined with the TWOCOLUMN style option,

2. A Floating Figure cannot appear in a paragraph which begins on top of a page.

## How It works

We have extended the macros designed by Reid with regard to:

1. fitting them into the LATEX context,
2. justifying Floating Figures right and left, and
3. the generation of warning messages for “collisions” of two Floating Figures.

**Fitting into the LATEX context** The PLAIN-TEX implementation by Reid is based on a redefined \output routine:

```
\edef\oldoutput{\the\output}%
\output={\the\outputpretest
  \ifoutput\oldoutput\fi}
\outputpretest={\outputtrue}
```

If a Floating Figure is requested, the content of the \outputpretest token register then decides:

1. if there is enough vertical space to set the Floating Figure,
2. if setting of another Floating Figure is already in progress, or
3. if indeed the current page is ready to be sent to the DVI file.

TEX has to deal with more than one paragraph until a Floating Figure is completely processed. During this process, the redefined \output routine is called at the beginning of *every* paragraph; this is done indirectly by expanding the control sequence \tryfig. Therefore, the \everypar token list is prepared by the following command sequence:

```
\edef\oldeverypar{\the\everypar}%
\everypar={\tryfig\oldeverypar}
```

Now \tryfig triggers the (modified) \output routine, which then makes the decisions mentioned above.

Adopting this concept when using the macros in the LATEX context, we are faced with the following problems:

1. At the time FLOATFIG.STY is read in, the \output routine is still undefined, and remains undefined until \begin{document} is expanded; so the redefinition of the \output routine has to be done after \begin{document} by the command \initfloatingfigs (see section “Known Problems” below).
2. There are situations where LATEX decides to redefine the \everypar token list without saving the former content; this occurs, for instance, when expanding a \section control

sequence. We overcome this by redefining \everypar whenever the \floatingfigure environment is entered. So to avoid problems, a Floating Figure should be requested early enough before any sectioning control sequence (see also subsection “Misleading collision warnings”). Furthermore, the conflicting definitions of \everypar are the reason why Floating Figures cannot move across section boundaries.

**Justifying figures right and left** The problem to be solved is whether a particular figure has to be set left or right justified. This decision has to be made according to the value of the page count (left if even, right if odd). This is because we are dealing with the well known problem of associating a certain part of input text with the number of the page on which it will be finally set .

As pointed out by Donald Knuth in *The TEXbook*, this association is made at \output routine time. Therefore the problem is not so hard to solve, since in Reid’s version there is already a modified \output routine which decides if a particular figure will fit on the current page. As a by-product of this decision one easily gains the information “odd” or “even” for the page count of the current page. So our problem is reduced to the following simple decision:

```
\ifodd\count0 %
  \hbox to \hsize{\hss\copy\figbox}%
  \global\oddpagestrue
\else% leftsetting
  \hbox to \hsize{\copy\figbox\hss}%
  \global\oddpagesfalse
\fi% \ifodd\count0
```

**Collisions of Floating Figures** We define a collision as a situation where:

1. a Floating Figure is requested before a predecessor has been finished, or
2. some sectioning is requested before a Floating Figure has been finished.

While the FLOATFIG style option cannot avoid such collisions, it will recognize them. For diagnostic purposes we have therefore defined the switch \iffigprocessing and another count register called \ffigcount. This count register is used to attach a sequence number to each Floating Figure, so they can be identified uniquely in collision warning messages. These sequence numbers are not to be confused with the figure count maintained by standard LATEX.

## Known Problems

**Need of Initialization** The present version of the style option needs to be initialized by the control sequence `\initfloatingfigs`, as mentioned above.

We hope a later version will initialize itself when the first request for a Floating Figure is encountered. One problem with such an automatic initialization seems to be that one is grouped down, being inside a L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X environment. So far, I must confess, we have failed to make the respective settings `\global`.

**Misleading collision warnings** As mentioned above, Floating Figures do not move across section boundaries. If a Floating Figure is requested near the end of a section, the actual figure will be truncated, if it does not fit into the current section.

If this has occurred, for instance, with Floating Figure number 4, a collision will be reported when a request for Floating Figure number 5 is encountered. But the message will tell us that there is a problem with figure 4 without further explanation. So one has to check in each case that the problem is *not* caused by collision with figure 5 but with a section heading. What is even worse: if there is no Floating Figure 5, but only a truncated 4, one gets no warning message at all! At the moment, one can only check this on the printout. We pointed out in section "Fitting into the L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X-Context" why this unfortunate situation cannot easily, if at all, be remedied.

A minor blemish is due to a retardation caused by the `\everypar` mechanism. Floating Figures in consecutive paragraphs seem to be disapproved. The warning messages generated in this connection can be ignored.

## Conclusions

Working on FLOATFIG.STY we had some unexpected problems which were caused by L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X's somewhat unsafe assignments to the `\everypar` token list on the one hand, and by the fact that the use of this token list is fundamental to the algorithm designed by Thomas Reid on the other hand.

We did expect problems in fitting the Floating Figures in with L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X's handling of figure captions: that is, to achieve a single figure caption numbering for standard figures and Floating Figures and to get both types listed together by the `\listoffigures` control sequence. But this problem was easily solved by the following local definition within the FLOATFIG environment:

```
\def\@capttype{figure}
```

Obviously this is due to the fact that L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X's caption apparatus is thoroughly parameterized.

The FLOATFIG.STY file is stored in the EARN/BITNET listserver in Heidelberg; send the command:

```
GET FLOATFIG ZOOUE LATEXSTY
```

to LISTSERV at DHDURZ1 to obtain a copy of the style option file.

# The Document Style Designer as a Separate Entity

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## Abstract

An argument for the need for a programmable meta format: a format that introduces a new syntactic level in *TeX* for document style designers.

*TeX* has a number of characteristics that set it apart from all other text processors. Its unsurpassed quality of text setting and its capabilities for handling mathematics are some of the more visible aspects. On a deeper level, however, the extreme programmability of *TeX* is just as big an asset. Any layout can be automated to an arbitrary extent. (It is strange that *The TeXbook* gives almost no hint of this.)

The form such automation usually takes is what is called ‘generalized markup’. The person who keys in the text has at his or her disposal commands that describe the logical structure of the document, and as little as is possible of the visual structure.

Document styles as they appear in *LATeX* are examples of this. Here the layout is not merely automated, it is completely hidden from the end user. In particular, the same input can produce widely different output by letting it be interpreted by different styles.

With *LATeX*, however, the problem is the production of document styles. This is a major task, and consequently most people use either the standard styles, or minor modifications of these. Furthermore, *LATeX* does not offer sufficient tools to produce even moderate variations on the layout of the standard styles.

For scientific use of *TeX* one can become reconciled to this situation. A scientist should be more concerned with the contents than with the looks of a document, so if there is a format that offers all the tools to get those contents across to the reader, the visual appearance is of secondary concern. We may conclude that, for scientists, *LATeX* fits the bill.

When a document is not a scientific article, however, the inflexibility of *LATeX* renders it useless. The alternative would seem to be plain *TeX*, but there the objection is the long and slow learning curve.

One way out of this dilemma is the ‘front end to *TeX*’ approach taken in *The Publisher* from Arbortext and *Grif* from Gipsi. Both systems present almost a ‘wysiwyg’ (what you see is what you get) interface to the user (the term ‘wysipn’, what you see is pretty neat, has been used), and allow altering style parameters via dialog boxes and menus. In both cases, however, programming the basic style structure and appearance is still less than trivial.

In this article we describe an approach which brings down the complexity of programming a style to that of using it. We propose a front end programming language for style design, which is itself implemented in *TeX*.

## The ‘Checklist’ Approach to Style Definition

If one compares *TeX* to mouse-and-menu text processor packages, one runs into two basic characteristics of programming that constitute a disadvantage when learning *TeX*.

The obvious first point is that *TeX* has a *syntax*. Every *TeX* programmer knows that you can have no end of fun with missing or mismatched braces. Mouse riders are not bothered by this. One can, at most, click the wrong item, but one cannot click in the wrong way.

The second point is more subtle: programming involves and imposes algorithmic thinking. Consider the ordinary loop statement

```
for $i$:=\$1$ to $n$
```

In many cases, all that is meant is

```
for all $i$ between $1$ and  
$n$ inclusive
```

Thus, the syntactic formulation contains a sequentiality that may semantically not be present. Similarly, the statements in a macro definition are sequentially ordered, even when the corresponding actions are in no such relation.

But even when actions are sequentially ordered, it should not always be necessary for a style designer to specify them in that same order. For instance, in the design of a list environment the amounts of white space above and below the list, and the amount of indentation of the list, should be specifiable in any order, even though they correspond to sequentially ordered actions. Also, the decision whether or not to break a page above a certain type of heading should be specifiable at any point in the definition.

Such actions do not really correspond to design decisions, rather they are the specific incarnations of general parameters and switches. Thus, it would be a valid approach to style design to offer the person implementing the style a small number of basic constructs (these could for instance be headings, lists, and page layouts), each of which has a ‘checklist’ of parameters and switches controlling the final layout.

Abandoning sequentiality, and making most specifications optional with default values, is then a sensible way to facilitate *TeX* programming. An implementation of these demands could take the form of lists of keyword-value pairs. Such lists can be presented in extremely simple syntax, and as matching is performed by keyword instead of by position, such an approach would meet some of the criticism of algorithmic specification above.

As an example, the layout of unnumbered section headings could be given in Lisp ‘property list’ syntax as,

```
\defineheading:section
  (white_above 6pt plus 2pt minus 1pt)
  (white_below 6pt plus 2pt minus 1pt)
  (caption (size 12pt) (style bold)
            (shape ragged_right))
```

but any other syntax is just as valid. It is advisable, however, to steer clear of the idiosyncrasies of the pure *TeX* syntax.

## Metaformats

Checklists may capture a large part of the variation in basic constructs, but for any set of parameters

there will be a layout that eludes classification in terms of these parameters. Thus, it seems inevitable that a style implementer needs to do some programming. However, it is possible to make a very smooth transition between marking a checklist and programming macros. For this, we need the distinction between formats and ‘metaformats’.

Let us denote by the term ‘format’ any collection of macros that gives the end user commands of a higher level than those of pure *TeX*. By ‘metaformat,’ we will mean a format such that the commands for the end user are in majority not defined in the format. Metaformats offer the tools with which a style implementer constructs the commands for the end user.

In a restricted sense, the *LATEX* format is a metaformat. A good example here is the `\@start-section` macro, which is basic to *LATEX*, and in terms of which commands like `\section` are defined in the style files. The parameters of this command are mainly numeric parameters determining the layout. One parameter functions as a switch.

As another example, the `\list` command, which is the basis for various environments in *LATEX*, offers the style designer the possibility for programmable extension. Such extensions are specified by passing a piece of *TeX* code as the second parameter, that is, *LATEX* does not really provide the style implementer with a separate syntactic level.

Calling *LATEX* a ‘parameterized metaformat,’ we can also envision ‘programmable metaformats.’ There is no objection against implementing a new programming language in *TeX* which would be easier to learn and to use.

The challenge is then to find primitives that allow formulation in a simple syntax and that are sufficiently powerful for producing a wide range of layouts.

## By any other name ...

One choice for the primitives of a metaformat is immediately clear: the boxes and glue of *TeX* itself. Any *TeX* programmer knows that you can do all typesetting with boxes and glue, so why not give them to a style designer? The problem of course is how to simplify their declaration. It is here that the writer of the metaformat takes certain decisions.

Consider, as an example, section headings such as they appear in the *LATEX* article style. These

1. **Section title**
- 1.1. **Subsection title**

take the form (but not the implementation) of two

boxes on the same line: one containing the number, the other containing the text. Also the headings of the ‘artikel’ style can be described thus. But the

```
1. Section title
 1.1. Subsection title
```

box of the number then has a prescribed width. In both cases, however, the sum of the width is the text width. We can therefore imagine that these two layouts were specified as

```
\defineheading:section
  (inline
    ((value sectionnumber)
     (spaces 2))
    (title))
```

for the standard L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X heading, and

```
\defineheading:section
  (inline
    ((value sectionnumber)
     (FillUpTo labelwidth))
    (title))
```

Here the metacommand ‘inline’ is just an `\hbox` to `\hsize` in disguise. It takes all boxes and sets them at natural or specified width, and the width of the box containing the actual heading is calculated to fill the remainder of the text width.

Headlines and footlines provide a nice example of how a programmable metaformat can make intelligent use of T<sub>E</sub>X’s glue. Like section headings, footlines are a disguised `\hbox` to `\hsize`. A footnote with just a left aligned page number can be specified like

```
(footline (value pagenumber))
```

where the format supplies a trailing `\hfil` to prevent an underfull box. Cases where the number should be right aligned can be specified as

```
(footline (whitespace fillerup)
          (value pagenumber))
```

where the ‘whitespace’ is an `\hfill`, squashing the trailing `\hfil` at the end of the line.

A syntax and instruction set, such as sketched in these examples, tax the programming capabilities of the format designer, but not those of the style designer. In effect, the format designer implements a new programming language on top of T<sub>E</sub>X with a simple syntax, a small instruction set, and at the same time, sufficient generality to produce a wide range of layouts.

Obviously, a smaller instruction set makes learning the format easier. Another advantage is less immediately clear: it reduces the chance of errors. More compact instructions will likely have a more defined function; so on the one hand the

style implementer need not specify those actions that must be taken anyway, and on the other hand the format can perform some consistency checking on the intentions of its user.

## Conclusion

We have argued the need for a ‘programmable metaformat’: a format that introduces a new syntactic level in T<sub>E</sub>X for document style designers. Such a level should probably have a different syntax from pure T<sub>E</sub>X, and it should contain a relatively small instruction set in which the actual user macros are written. We have indicated that elements of such a format can, to a large extent, be captured in ‘checklists.’ Others can take the form of intelligently disguised T<sub>E</sub>X primitives. We believe that a format incorporating these principles is possible, and that it can be taught to people with little knowledge of T<sub>E</sub>X.

As an illustration of these ideas we present the style definition of this article in the ‘Lollipop’ format.

## Example

The following piece of code is the style definition for this article given in the ‘Lollipop’ format.

```
\typeface:Computer
\fontsize:10 \fontstyle:roman

%declare \parindent
\distance:indentation=20pt
%white space around text elements
\distance:whiteline=6pt plus 2pt
  minus 2pt
\distance:leadingwhite=whiteline
\distance:trailingwite=0pt

%lots of defaults used here
\defineheading:section
  fontstyle:bold stop

%very simple page layout
\definelayout:twocolumn
  height:22.5cm width:16.5cm
  band:start column
    whitespace:0.6cm
    column
    band:end
  stop
\twocolumn %install output routine

%paragraph shape
```

```
\defineparagraph:flushright indent:yes
    rightjustified:yes stop
\flushright %install paragraph shape

%bibliography
\definelist:literature counter:1
    item:left
        litteral:[ value:itemnumber
        litteral:]
    item:end stop
\externalreferences:yes
```

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# Improving the Aesthetics of Mixed-Font Documents

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## Abstract

The author has recently been involved in typesetting a 700 page book in a mixture of POSTSCRIPT and Computer Modern fonts. This paper describes some of the techniques developed to improve the aesthetics of the book, with particular reference to the techniques necessary to integrate fonts from two distinct families. Reference is also made to techniques for improving the visual consistency of the book, such as direct editing of POSTSCRIPT inserts and dynamic calculation of table widths.

During the period 1987–1989, I spent considerable time collaborating with Professor I.L. and Professor R.S. Gibson of the Universities of Waterloo and Guelph respectively on the typesetting of a major new work on the principles of nutritional assessment. The book was to be published by an internationally renowned publishing house, and the design was, to a certain extent, dictated by house standards, but the publishers allowed us considerable flexibility in the implementation of those standards, and the resulting work owes as much to original design as it does to house styles.

The trim and text dimensions of the book were fixed by the publisher as 36 pc × 55.5 pc and 27 pc × 45 pc respectively, and it was felt that these dimensions dictated a single-column style (there are also many unresolved difficulties in the implementation of multi-column styles, where floating and non-floating objects may span an arbitrary number of columns). We decided that the text font should be Adobe Times-Roman, with its variants Times-Italic, Times-Bold and Times-BoldItalic. The book was by no means maths-free, and rather than attempt to re-implement the maths-oriented definitions of *plain.tex* (or *lplain.tex*) we decided to retain the use of the Computer Modern Symbol, Maths Italic and Maths Extension fonts. Greek majuscules and minuscules were taken from the Adobe Symbol font, as upright rather than italic minuscules were desired.

Having chosen the fonts to be used, we next needed to decide on the most appropriate size and leading; this, to my mind at least, led to one of the most significant design decisions of the entire work. We experimented with ten, eleven and twelve point Times-Roman, on a variety of leadings, and felt

that none of these offered the perfect combination of characters per line and lines per page. Ten-point Times-Roman had too many characters per line, eleven-point had just about the right number, and twelve-point had too few, while 10/12 point offered the ideal number of lines per page; 11/12 was too cramped vertically, 11/12.5 was about right but gave too few lines per page, and of course 11/13.6 and 12/14.5 gave even fewer. It seemed that we wanted the impossible: a font that was as wide as an eleven-point Times-Roman which could nonetheless be set on a twelve-point leading.

At this point, inspiration struck: as we were using POSTSCRIPT fonts, on a POSTSCRIPT output device (a Linotronic 300), there was no reason why we should not scale the fonts *anamorphically*—in other words, shrink the font vertically while leaving it unchanged horizontally. A few experiments (and a 'phone call to John Gourlay of ArborText, to find out how to retain the anamorphic scaling when their standard prelude insisted on turning it off again) later, we had a range of anamorphically scaled fonts available for proofing. It was immediately obvious that anamorphic scaling had to be subtle to be effective: 22/25 was awful; 23/25 OK, and 24/25 excellent. An anamorphic scaling of 24/25, applied to an 11/12.5 point font/leading, yielded a font that was a little over 10.5 points vertically, while of course still being eleven points horizontally, on a twelve-point leading. This gave us the ideal number of characters per line, lines per page, and adequate leading: 10.5/12 it was to be.

Of course, we still had to have the publisher's approval to use this font, so we carefully prepared sample pages of each of the potentially acceptable font/leading combinations, together with a sample

page in our new anamorphic 10.5/12 Times-Roman, and sent these off for approval. We were overjoyed when the publisher not only selected 10.5/12, but pronounced it “one of the best examples of Times Roman which he had seen.”

Anamorphic scaling of POSTSCRIPT fonts was one thing, but anamorphic scaling of Computer Modern was another. We were not using Graham Toal’s POSTSCRIPT outlines of Computer Modern, but 1270 dpi bitmaps (pk files); how were we to re-scale these? The solution was simplicity itself: rather than scale the fonts individually, we would scale the whole document. Fonts which are presented as POSTSCRIPT bitmaps are subject to exactly the same set of manipulations as any other POSTSCRIPT object, and thus can be anamorphically scaled. Of course, scaling of a Computer Modern font bitmap undoes at a stroke all the hard work that METAFONT and the font designer have together achieved, in terms of the exact pattern of pixels output by METAFONT for a particular character, design size, magnification and mode definition, but the amazing thing is, it just doesn’t seem to matter! Admittedly the scaled Computer Modern fonts form only a small proportion of the total glyphs typeset, but it would take a very careful and trained eye to spot that they are not produced from the canonical bitmaps.

At this point, it is worth digressing slightly and discussing the implementation language(s). Of the two of us actually typesetting (rather than writing) the book, one (Ian Gibson) is a confirmed though flexible LATEX user, while the other (the present author) is a totally bigotted Plain TEX addict, who will admit to no merit whatsoever in any of the so-called higher-level formats—needless to say, this lead to some interesting discussions... Nonetheless, it was amicably agreed that the book would be set in LATEX, but that any changes to the default style files (and, as it turned out, to `lplain.tex`, `lfonts.tex` and `latex.tex`) would be implemented through the medium of Plain TEX. In practice, this led to very few problems. Just occasionally an obscure look-ahead involving `\futurelet` and/or `\afterassignment` failed unexpectedly, and this lead to a few problems in debugging the code, but in general Plain TEX and LATEX co-existed satisfactorily without any real difficulties. POSTSCRIPT modifications were, of course, implemented in POSTSCRIPT.

The book also included a very large number of illustrations and graphs, neither of which are TEX’s *forte*, and these were prepared using either Harvard Graphics or Adobe Illustrator. These packages are both capable of producing (encapsulated)

POSTSCRIPT output, and of using the Adobe font set. In practice, the graphics packages were configured to use Adobe Helvetica, and captions typeset in TEX were similarly set in Helvetica. The mechanism by which these figures were incorporated is (very) loosely based on a macro which was first published as `\PrintChart` by ArborText in the documentation accompanying DVILASER/PS; the most recent version of the revised macro (`\PostScript`) is attached as Appendix A. The macro allows the coordinates of the desired portion of the original figure (with respect to the lower left corner of the page) to be specified, and also allows the final height and width to be specified—this does, of course, allow the aspect ratio of the figure to be altered during insertion, but this feature is rarely desirable or used. More important, however, is that it allows the inserted figure to be scaled up or down from the original, but this can have an adverse effect on the aesthetics and consistency of the book, for the following reason: the originals will almost certainly have been prepared without allowance for the possibility of subsequent scaling, and will typically have a consistent set of line sizes; after scaling, lines which were originally the same size (we chose 0.4 pt to match the default rules of TEX) would have been of varying size, and it was therefore necessary to edit the POSTSCRIPT files produced by Adobe Illustrator and Harvard Graphics to pre-scale the line thicknesses to allow for subsequent re-scaling. The font sizes similarly had to be pre-scaled by editing. This caused one amusing problem: the editor used by Ian to make these changes to the POSTSCRIPT files had an uncontrollable urge to write a `<control-Z>` at the end of each file, and a special POSTSCRIPT macro definition for `<control-Z>` had to be written, to prevent otherwise insuperable difficulties.

Returning to the question of fonts, the next issue to be addressed was visual font matching. Remember that we were using Adobe Times-Roman for the text, Computer Modern Maths Italic, Symbol and Extension for mathematics, and Adobe Symbol for Greek majuscules, minuscules and various other characters. The first problem was simply one of achieving consistent perceived size. While Adobe Times-Roman (scaled `\magstephalf`) and Computer Modern Maths Italic and Symbol ten-point (scaled `\magstephalf`) are very well matched for size, we soon discovered that the Adobe Symbol font, similarly scaled, was far too large. The question was, by how much to reduce it? If design size was an inadequate criterion, perhaps the *x*-height of the font would be a better metric. We tried again,

this time adjusting the scaling of Adobe Symbol such that its *x*-height (as measured by `\fontdimen_5`) exactly matched the *x*-height of Adobe Times-Roman; *still* the fonts appeared visually to be of different sizes. Finally we tried matching the heights of a pair of individual characters from the two fonts: as the  $\mu$  from Symbol was the most common of the Greek minuscules, we matched its exact height to that of the character from the Times-Roman font with which it most frequently occurred in juxtaposition (lower-case *g*), and this technique was found to give the best visual match. The code for dynamic font matching is given in Appendix B.

A further problem manifested itself: in designing the Computer Modern fonts, Knuth had obviously been influenced by the requirements of mathematical typesetting. In particular, the height of maths operators such as plus, minus, greater-than, less-than, etc. had been optimised to match the heights of the lower-case letters between which they were most likely to occur. In a scientific (but not mathematical) text, maths operators tend to occur between numbers, upper-case letters and lower-case letters with approximately equal frequency, and when seen between numbers or upper-case letters, the maths operators tend to look rather too low. Barbara Beeton was consulted on this problem, and suggested that one obvious solution would be to use METAFONT to generate alternative glyphs for the maths operators, raising them by an appropriate amount from the baseline. Whilst this was undoubtedly the right approach, it was potentially very time-consuming, and a pure T<sub>E</sub>X solution was sought. We also wished to avoid making changes to the text of the document, and thus a solution involving the replacement of all occurrences of + by `\+`, - by `\-`, etc., together with re-definitions of `\+`, `\-`, etc., was ruled out. This left us with only one apparent option: the maths operators had to be made active and defined as macros, with their replacement text being that necessary to raise the original operator by an appropriate amount, while otherwise retaining the operator's original semantics including its maths class (`\mathord`, `\mathop`, `\mathbin`, `\mathrel`, `\mathopen`, `\mathclose`, `\mathpunct`). Rather than write an individual definition for each maths operator, we developed a single macro `\mathsfraiser`, which, when applied to a maths operator, made it active in maths mode and re-defined it in terms of its original meaning; we similarly developed an alternative form, `\raisemath`, which had an analogous effect when applied to named maths operators such as

`\pm`, `\ge`, `\le` and `\times`. We could then simply list the operators to be raised, as in:

```
\mathsfraiser <
\mathsfraiser > % also +, -, = and /
\raisemath \pm
\raisemath \ge % also \le and \times
```

Thereafter each operator so listed had its new meaning in maths mode only, retaining its original meaning outside of maths mode. With hindsight, it might have been desirable to be able to specify individually the amount by which each operator was to be raised, but in practice a common factor of 0.15 *ex* seemed both necessary and sufficient. The `\mathsfraiser` macros are given in Appendix C.

Many other changes proved desirable in the production of this book; a new 'the-book' style was derived by extensive modification from the standard 'book' style for L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X, and POSTSCRIPT-specific versions of `lplain.tex`, `lfonts.tex` and `latex.tex` were generated (called `pslplain`, `pslfonts` and `pslatex`, respectively). `PSlfonts`, in particular, was considerably modified from its progenitor, firstly to change all possible references to Computer Modern fonts to the nearest POSTSCRIPT equivalent, but subsequently to pre-load far fewer fonts, as the implementation placed severe restrictions on the number of fonts that could be concurrently loaded. Special `\struts` were defined for use in ruled tables, to ensure adequate vertical white space above and below each row, and automatic table sizing was implemented, which ensured that any table which exceeded 0.85 `\textwidth` was automatically stretched to occupy `\textwidth`, thereby improving the visual consistency of the book. This last technique required an iterative approach to circumvent the limitation imposed by `\multispan`, whereby all additional space is dumped in the last column spanned. A new version of `\caption` was implemented to make use of information saved by the `\PostScript` and `\SetTable` macros; this enabled us to set captions to the same width as the figure or table to which they referred.

All of this took time—considerable time—but in the opinion of the author it was time well spent. The finished book bears neither the traditional T<sub>E</sub>X stamp of Computer Modern, nor the traditional L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X stamp of overly large fonts and excessive white space. It more closely resembles a traditionally typeset book, and this was, in essence, the underlying aim: the typography and design were intended to be totally transparent to the reader, serving solely to draw his or her attention to the content. We believe that we have achieved this aim.

## Appendix A: The \PostScript macro, for the inclusion of PostSCRIPT figures

```

%
% A very arcane TeX/PostScript macro
=====
%
\newif \ifoutline
\newdimen \border

\def \PostScript file:#1;
    xmin:#2; ymin:#3; xmax:#4; ymax:#5;
    width:#6; height:#7; options:#8%
{%
    \outlinefalse
    \border = 0 pc
    \setbox 0 = \hbox
        {\def \file {#1}%
         \def \xmin {#2}%
         \def \ymin {#3}%
         \def \xmax {#4}%
         \def \ymax {#5}%
         \def \width {#6}%
         \def \height {#7}%
         \def \options{#8}%
         \def \Xmean {\dimen 0}%
         \def \Ymean {\dimen 1}%
         \def \Xsize {\dimen 2}%
         \def \Ysize {\dimen 3}%
         \def \Width {\dimen 4}%
         \def \Height {\dimen 5}%
         \def \0{\count 0}%
         \def \1{\count 1}%
         \def \2{\count 2}%
         \def \3{\count 3}%
         \def \4{\count 4}%
         \def \5{\count 5}%
         \def \6{\count 6}%
%
% The options macros
%
        \def \box {\outlinetrue}%
        \def \outline {\outlinetrue}%
        \options
        \message {Border is \the \border}%
        \6 = \border
        \ifoutline
            \message {Figure will be enclosed in a box}%
            \def \rule
                {\ifhmode
                    \vrule
                \else
                    \ifvmode
                        \hrule
                \else
                }

```

```

    \message {Are you sure you
              should be trying to
              draw rules in this
              mode ?}%
    \fi
  \fi
}%
\else
  \message {Figure will not be enclosed in a box}%
  \def \rule
    {\ifhmode
      \vrule width 0 sp
    \else \ifvmode
      \hrule width 0 sp
    \else
      \message {Are you sure you
                should be trying to
                draw rules in this
                mode ?}%
      \fi
    \fi
  }%
\fi
\Xmean = \xmin
\advance \Xmean by \xmax
\divide \Xmean by 2
\O = \Xmean
\Ymean = \ymin
\advance \Ymean by \ymax
\divide \Ymean by 2
\I = \Ymean
\Xsize = \xmax
\advance \Xsize by -\xmin
\T = \Xsize
\Ysize = \ymax
\advance \Ysize by -\ymin
\B = \Ysize
\Width = \width
\H = \Width
\Height = \height
\O = \Height
\def \xmean {\the \O }%
\def \ymean {\the \I }%
\def \xsize {\the \T }%
\def \ysize {\the \B }%
\def \width {\the \H }%
\def \height {\the \O }%
\def \border {\the \B }%
\vbox to \Height
  {\vss \rule
   \hbox to \Width
     {\hss
      \rule height 0.5 \Height depth 0.5 \Height
      \hskip 0.5 \Width
    }
  }

```

```

\special
{ps::[asis,begin]
 0 SPB
 /ChartCheckPoint save def
 Xpos Ypos translate
 \width \xsize div
 \height \ysize div
 scale
 /sptobp
 {65536 div 72 mul 72.27 div} def
 \xmean sptobp neg
 \ymean sptobp neg
 translate
 newpath
 /border {\border sptobp} def
 \xmean sptobp \ymean sptobp moveto
 \xsize sptobp 2 div neg border add
 \ysize sptobp 2 div neg border add
 rmoveto
 \xsize sptobp border 2 mul sub 0 rlineto
 0 \ysize sptobp border 2 mul sub
 rlineto
 \xsize sptobp border 2 mul sub neg 0
 rlineto
 closepath
 clip
 newpath
 255 dict begin
 /showpage {} def
 }%
\special {ps:plotfile \file asis}%
\special
{ps::[asis,end]
 end
 ChartCheckPoint restore
 0 SPE
 }%
\hskip 0.5 \Width
\rule height 0.5 \Height depth 0.5 \Height
\hss
}%
\rule \vss
}%
}%
\message {The dimensions of the figure are:
{ht: \the \ht 0}
{dp: \the \dp 0}
{wd: \the \wd 0}}%
\copy 0
}

```

## Appendix B: The \LoadFont macro, for the dynamic matching of font sizes

```

\newfam \symfam
\newcount \symfactor
\newcount \xheight
\newcount \fudgefactor
\newcount \scalefactor
\newcount \canonicalxheight

\def \loadfont #1=#2 [#3]
{
    \fudgefactor = 10
    \scalefactor = 10
    \setbox 0 = \hbox {\the #3 0 g}
    \canonicalxheight = \ht 0
    \symfactor = 1000
    \font #1 = #2 scaled \symfactor
    \setbox 2 = \hbox {#1 \char '155}
    \xheight = \ht 2
    \ifnum \xheight = 0
    \then
        \relax
    \else
        \multiply \symfactor by \canonicalxheight
        \divide \symfactor by \xheight
        \multiply \symfactor by \fudgefactor
        \divide \symfactor by \scalefactor
    \fi
    \message {Loading font #1 = #2 scaled \the \symfactor}
    \font #1 = #2 scaled \symfactor
}

\viiipt

\loadfont \viiisymtext = pssym [\textfont]
\loadfont \viiisymscript = pssym [\scriptfont]
\loadfont \viiisymscripts = pssym [\scriptscriptfont]

\ixpt

\loadfont \ixsymtext = pssym [\textfont]
\loadfont \ixsymscript = pssym [\scriptfont]
\loadfont \ixsymscripts = pssym [\scriptscriptfont]

\xipt

\loadfont \xisymtext = pssym [\textfont]
\loadfont \xisymscript = pssym [\scriptfont]
\loadfont \xisymscripts = pssym [\scriptscriptfont]

\@addfontinfo \viiipt {\textfont \symfam = \viiisymtext
                     \scriptfont \symfam = \viiisymscript
                     \scriptscriptfont \symfam = \viiisymscripts}

```

```
\@addfontinfo \@ixpt {\textfont \symfam = \ixsymtext
    \scriptfont \symfam = \ixsymscript
    \scriptscriptfont \symfam = \ixsymscriptscript}

\@addfontinfo \@xipt {\textfont \symfam = \xisymtext
    \scriptfont \symfam = \xisymscript
    \scriptscriptfont \symfam = \xisymscriptscript}
```

## Appendix C: The \mathsraise macros, for the height adjustment of maths operators

```

\catcode '\Q = 11 % make 'Q' a letter ...

\gdef \mathsraise % define the main procedure with no parameters
{%
  \begingroup % as we have to change catcodes immediately
  \def \Qctivateall % will be closed as first thing \m@thraise does
  {%
    \count 0 = 0 % define a macro to make all characters
    \except <space> active % except <space> active
    \loop \count 0 = \active % for i := 0 to 127
    \ifnum \count 0 < 127 \advance \count 0 by 1 % endfor
    \repeat \count 32 = 10\relax % \catcode <space> = 10
  }%
  \Qctivateall now defined
  \def \m@thraise ##1 % this procedure does all the real work, raising
  {%
    \mathchardef \t@mp = \mathcode `##1% % the character while retaining its maths class
    \mathcode `##1 = 32768\relax % restore normal catcodes a.s.a.p.
    \def \Qftermathchar ####1{"}%
    \def \m@thselect ####1% a procedure to select maths classes
    {%
      \count 0 = ####1\relax % the parameter is normally a hex string
      \divide \count0 by 4096 % only interested in the top three bits
      \ifcase \count0 \mathord % use these to select the maths class
        \or \mathop
        \or \mathbin
        \or \mathrel
        \or \mathopen
        \or \mathclose
        \or \mathpunct
        \or \mathord
      \fi
    }%
    \m@thselect now defined
    \edef \t@mp {\expandafter \Qftermathchar \meaning \t@mp}% gets hex value
    \edef ##1 % define parameter-1 to yield the same character
    {%
      \noexpand \m@thselect {\t@mp}%
      {\mathchoice
        {\raise 0.15ex \hbox {$\displaystyle \mathchar\t@mp$}}%
        {\raise 0.15ex \hbox {$\textstyle \mathchar\t@mp$}}%
        {\raise 0.15ex \hbox {$\scriptstyle \mathchar\t@mp$}}%
        {\raise 0.15ex \hbox {$\scriptscriptstyle \mathchar\t@mp$}}%
      }%
    }%
    \parameter-1 now defined
  }%
  \Qctivateall \m@thraise % make everything bar <space> active, then
  {%
    \getandprocessnextchar % get and process the next character
    \mathsraise now defined
  }%
}

\def \raisemaths #1% % this procedure does all the real work, raising
{%
  \def \aftermathchar ##1{"}%
  \def \mathselect ##1% % a procedure to select maths classes
  {%
    \count 0 = ##1\relax % the parameter is normally a hex string
    \divide \count0 by 4096 % only interested in the top three bits
    \ifcase \count0 \mathord % use these to select the maths class
      \or \mathop
      \or \mathbin
      \or \mathrel
      \or \mathopen
      \or \mathclose
      \or \mathpunct
      \or \mathord
    \fi
  }%
  \mathselect {\t@mp}%
  {\mathchoice
    {\raise 0.15ex \hbox {$\displaystyle \mathchar\t@mp$}}%
    {\raise 0.15ex \hbox {$\textstyle \mathchar\t@mp$}}%
    {\raise 0.15ex \hbox {$\scriptstyle \mathchar\t@mp$}}%
    {\raise 0.15ex \hbox {$\scriptscriptstyle \mathchar\t@mp$}}%
  }%
}

```

```
\count 0 = ##1\relax      % get the mathcode into \count 0
\divide \count0 by 4096  % only interested in the top three bits
\ifcase \count0 \mathord % use these to select the maths class
\or   \mathop
\or   \mathbin
\or   \mathrel
\or   \mathopen
\or   \mathclose
\or   \mathpunct
\or   \mathord
\fi
}%
% \mathselect now defined
\edef #1{\expandafter \aftermathchar \meaning #1}% gets hex value
\edef #1%
% define parameter-1 to yield the same character
% raised by 0.15ex but retaining its maths class
\noexpand \mathselect {#1}%
{\mathchoice
{\raise 0.15ex \hbox {$\displaystyle \mathchar#1$}}%
{\raise 0.15ex \hbox {$\textstyle \mathchar#1$}}%
{\raise 0.15ex \hbox {$\scriptstyle \mathchar#1$}}%
{\raise 0.15ex \hbox {$\scriptstyle \mathchar#1$}}%
}%
% parameter-1 now defined
}%
% \raisemaths now defined

\mathsraise <
\mathsraise >
\mathsraise +
\mathsraise -
\mathsraise =
\mathsraise /

\raisemaths \pm
\raisemaths \ge
\raisemaths \le
\raisemaths \times

\end % of text
```

# ArchiTEX A Preliminary International Page Pattern Maker

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## Abstract

TeX was created in the tradition of typesetting printed pages for bound volumes. For hundreds of years, printers considered the page as a block of type surrounded by margins. As adequate margins were required for binding, practical considerations became aesthetic needs applied by strict formulas. Earlier concepts of pages, such as certain Egyptian hieroglyphs, Roman scrolls, and medieval illuminated manuscripts, considered the entire page area as a pattern, to be filled or not, depending on numerous aesthetic, practical, or economic criteria.

New methods of production, such as photomechanical plates, or types of display, such as video terminals, mean that page design and formatting need not be limited by traditional conventions. Instead, pages can be considered for loose-leaf books (especially with on-demand printing), where text, graphics, and space are arranged over multi-page spreads. Or, in another instance, pages can be treated as small blocks, called up and presented in a multi-window environment on a video terminal.

The limitations of the printed page are not intrinsic to TeX. TeX macros can be modified to present text, graphics, and space in blocks on a complete or partial page block (that can be combined or recombined). TeX macros can also free reading order from European conventions. The same macro, for instance, can produce lettered lists using any alphabet in a cartesian coordinate system. A prototype markup language, ArchiTEX, uses select TeX macros to produce flexible, modular page patterns for a variety of output devices.

The evolution of print from rock faces to liquid crystal displays can be characterized in four formats.

- Archaic (rock, bone)
- Classic (scroll, book)
- Modern (newspaper, magazine)
- Hypernian (computer, laser)

Typographic presentations evolved from the process of inscription, which has been limited by tools (such as chisel, pen, laser) and media (such as stone, paper, cathode ray tube). Each format can be characterized by media, speed of transmission, and ubiquity. Each format is also part of a historical sequence as well, and its particular uniqueness is the result of the interaction of unique characteristics. After ten thousand years or more, some archaic peoples still put expressions on rock faces; even modern peoples do so on the walls of buildings in cities—it's called graffiti or art. Books have been

printed on clay, wood, leather, and paper for over three thousand years. News format, in newspapers and magazines, for several hundred. Hypermedia, coordinated by computer, for two decades. All four formats exist concurrently.

## Traditional Page Shapes

**Classic.** In Egypt, the pith of papyrus stalks were cut into thin strips, which were dried and then laid out in a row with edges overlapping. Another row was laid crosswise, then the two layers were moistened and pounded together. The sheet was sized, dried and glazed; it was supple and flexible—very suitable for being rolled. Sheets could then be glued together side-by-side to form long sections (possibly several hundred feet long). Ordinarily sheets were 6-7 inches high. The side

with horizontal strips is called the recto side; the vertical is called verso. The recto side was preferred for writing and became the inner side when rolled. The blank verso became the outside. Egyptian papyrus scrolls were written in hieratics (a simplified form of heiroglyphics, and later further simplified in demotics) in vertical columns separated by thin black lines; sometimes illustrations accompanied the text along the top or bottom of the scroll. As illustration assumed more importance it was placed in the text. Many scrolls had a horizontal frieze marked off from text by double ruled lines—for important scenes, the enlarged and extended completely into the text area the full height of the scroll (see Figure 1).

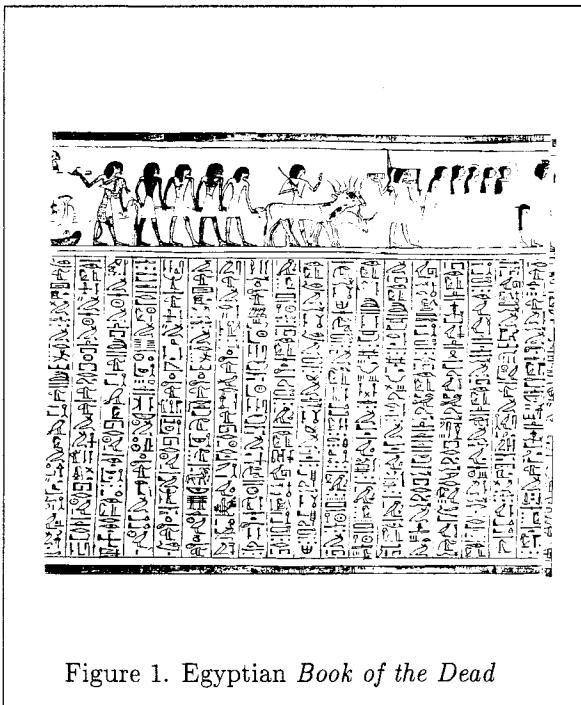


Figure 1. Egyptian *Book of the Dead*

Several hundred years later, the text was presented horizontally from right to left in columns, and the illustrations were put in the columns of text where they were related, sometimes narrower but rarely wider than the column. This format persisted through Greek and Roman manuscripts to medieval and modern books. Thus, columns of text, with illustrations, forms one of the oldest conventions of book formatting. A book was read by unrolling it. The division into columns effectively divided the book into "pages". The text began at the extreme right and moved from right to left. When the book was finished it had to be rerolled.

Although the Chinese (at about the same time) started writing on shell and bone, they made

wooden tablets, and later, paper (a silk, cotton, leaf composite) pages into books. Writing began in the upper right corner and ran downward; lines moved from right to left.

Greek scrolls were smaller than Egyptian ones. Although Greek scrolls were also written in columns, characters were presented continuously, in capitals, without breaks between words. Illustrations were included within text (see Figure 2). Punctuation was usually nonexistent. Breaks in thought were sometimes indicated by an underlining stroke known as a *paragraphos* or by a small blank space. Although there was blank space at the beginning of a scroll, to protect the first part of the roll, titles, if any, appeared at the end of the text. As books were more widely read, top and bottom margins became wider to protect the text as the papyrus wore at the edges.

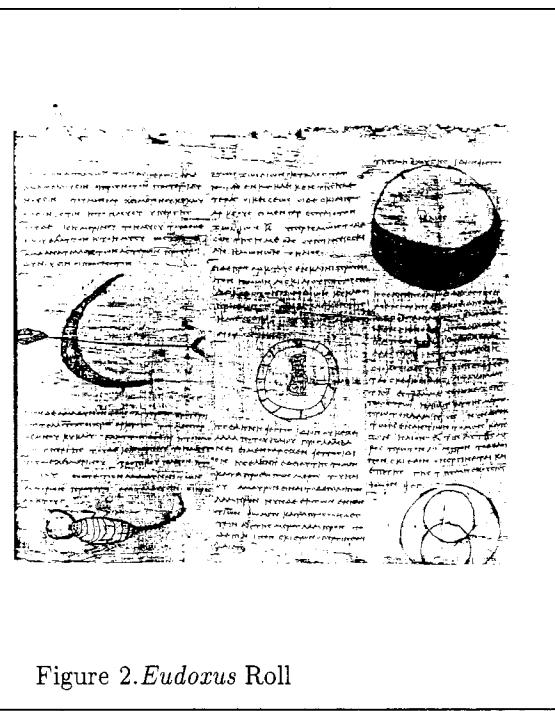


Figure 2. *Eudoxus Roll*

The Greeks copied papyrus books, but also used small tablets of wood for writing exercises. Two or more tablets were bound together sometimes by scribes or traders. After vellum (from animal hide) became available, the form of tablet books was adopted by the Romans—and called a codex. Vellum books were used for small and less expensive editions, especially since both sides could be used. The Egyptians and Greeks also adopted this form of book. Some codices were folded like fabric, but were awkward to read and refold (like maps). Soon, books were divided into simple folds tied together

by string (as later book signatures were to be done). The format of such books was relatively small (the ratio of width to height was about 2:3). The practice of placing the title at the end was continued. By the fifth century A.D., the title was placed at the beginning as well; larger formats were also more common with wider margins, especially at the top and bottom. Foliation was introduced, usually on the front side of each sheet, since the page order could be confusing. Pagination came over a thousand years later as a printer's convenience (*pagina*=page, *folium*=sheet).

The Irish developed an angular, compressed minuscule hand (from the Roman half uncial form), which was disseminated by monks on their travels. After the monks cut vellum into sheets, they scratched guide lines with an awl or drew them with red ink or a graphite pencil to contain the characters (the first baselines and possibly grids); the distance between lines was marked in the margin. There was little standardization, otherwise. The scribe determined the column width (usually 2–3 inches with a half-inch gutter). Larger white areas were left as margins on the more splendid scrolls. Upper and lower margins, as well as gutters, were generous. The entire physical area was regarded as space to be filled, with words, pictures, illuminations, detailing, notes, and designs (see Figure 3).

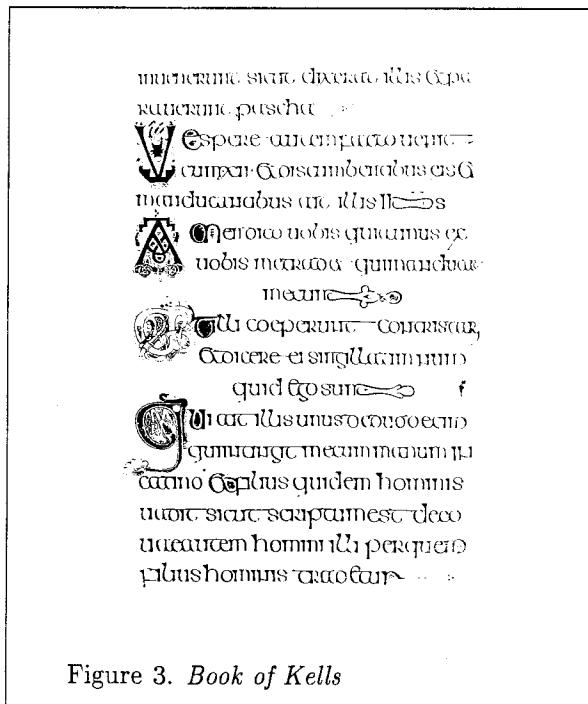


Figure 3. *Book of Kells*

**Modern.** Moveable type, in the form of a clay disk dating from 1500 B.C., was found in the ruins of

the palace of Phaistos on Crete. Later, in China in A.D. 1041, Pi-Sheng developed type characters from hardened clay. Clay, however, did not hold up well under repeated impressions. By 1397 in Korea, type characters were being cast in bronze. Then, in 1440, Johann Gutenberg demonstrated for Europe the commercial possibilities of graphic reproduction with metal type. Gutenberg created a practical apparatus for casting the types. The small sizes of these rectangular blocks of metal type required a fine measuring system (the point system established by le Juene in 1737).

The first printers took manuscripts as their models; the arrangement of the page was followed closely (see Figure 4). Those features that could not be printed (initials or decorations) were added by hand. Pictorial production changed with technology, from drawings and woodcuts to lithographic processes, photographic etchings, and scanning. In only fifty years, Aldus Manutius had transformed the Gothic type to a roman face and integrated illustration into a “perfect” book, the *Hypnerotomachia Poliphili* (see Figure 5). Often, however, graphics dominated print. In many renaissance or rococo books, the illustrations stood out at the expense of the text. This was especially true of botanical or travel books. Later, print dominated graphics, often for economic reasons.

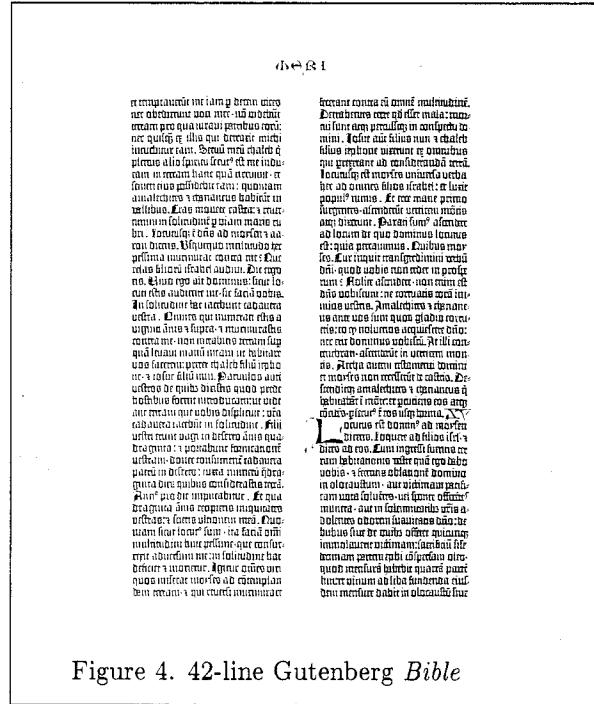


Figure 4. 42-line Gutenberg Bible

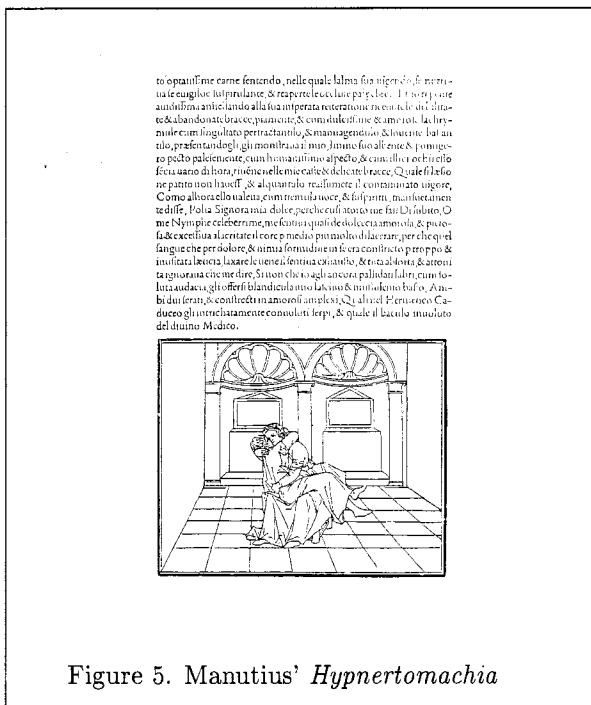


Figure 5. Manutius' *Hypnertomachia*

From Gutenberg's time, the page was regarded as a block of type surrounded by a frame of white space. The white space, margins, were left as printing and binding requirements for single pages. Later, printers put two or four pages on one sheet, which changed the ratio of inside to outside margins. As is so often with technology, practical convenience became interpreted as aesthetic theory, so that "pleasing" margin proportions are taught to apprentices still (as of 1971, when I was a printer's apprentice).

**Modern Page Conventions.** On a page, a group of elements is arranged in a hierarchy according to emphasis, which is often achieved by contrasts. Each element is related in the whole page.

The difference between the type page (text area) and page size (paper area) is the margin area. Deluxe and expensive editions of a book still tend to have wider margins. A traditional margin ratio, as the result of printing four-up (or more), is two units for the inside, three units for the top, four units for the outside, and six units for the bottom; this series (2/3/4/6) of column-to-margin ratios is based on the golden section (1/1.618) and can be found in some classic and medieval manuscripts.

There is a relatively small range of book sizes, centered around a comfortable human scale; few archaic or classic books were larger than nine by thirteen inches. The size of a book can be manipulated by type size and style; some typefaces

have long alphabet lengths and may require extra leading between lines. The placement of headings, graphics, and white-space can add or subtract to the length of a book.

Ophthalmological studies show that reading is easier when letters are different from each other. Serif letters are easier to read than sans-serif; mixed upper and lower case easier than upper case. Size is also important. Very large or small sizes are difficult to read as text. Type size is recommended to be 10 to 12 points (for adults) for legibility. Small type may make word recognition more difficult; large type may make sentence recognition more difficult (by focusing perception on a small section of the whole). Weight (stroke thickness) affects legibility, as does kinds of face (italic, bold) and amount of leading.

The measure, or line length, is important to achieve a pleasant reading rhythm. Lines too short or too long may be tiresome to read. There are a number of rules to determine the appropriate line length: Mergenthaler Linotype suggest 40 characters at any size; Skillin et al. suggest a line range of 18 to 24 picas for 10-point type, with the ideal width being 22 picas; an alphabet length (which is the horizontal measure, in points, of the lower case alphabet set in type of one size and face), can be used to describe an optimum text width; it has been set to 1.6 alphabet lengths.

After the width of the page is determined, the length is chosen, usually intuitively, to be of good proportion. Skillin et al. note that a ratio of 1 to the square root of 2 (1.418) is pleasing.

Color combinations affect legibility. Although one government study showed that dark brown ink on light brown paper is easiest on the eye, black on white is traditional and considered the most legible combination. The typographic properties of text are partly defined by the white space on a page. The tone is set by the lightness or darkness of type.

Eye movement is influenced by the visual qualities of text. The text area can have different kinds of alignment (the way text lines up on a column or page): align left (also called flush left or raggedright), align center, align right, or justify (flush right and left). Ragged right provides visual cues that increase legibility. The rhythmic line breaks provide visual points of reference.

The basic findings of legibility research are still valid: interword spacing should be constant, lines of words should be optimum length (see previous formula), and interword space should be less than interline space. Often the readability and "friendliness" of a work can be increased with good

margins, especially as long as books continue to be presented in bound paper form. Margins are not necessarily obsolete for design purposes.

There is no one way of designing a document. Many ways are effective, and many are ineffective; the effectiveness depends largely on the purpose: communication, impression, shock value, instigation, inspiration, formality. Typography is usually serial and straight-line. The magazine, *BLAST*, put out by Wyndham Lewis (1914) broke most typographic conventions with its style. Each letter could have a separate baseline, at random or circular for instance (see Figure 6). Some books, notably those by Marshall McLuhan on the media of communication and the architectural notebooks of Paolo Soleri (see Figure 7), consciously violate the conventions of margin and typography, preferring to communicate as much between the lines. Changing styles influenced book design. The functionalism in the 1920s, with its principle that the practical is the aesthetically correct, divided text into irregular sections and favored unsymmetrical arrangements (to emphasize the important material). The elemental typography of that period was used for commercial purposes, like posters. It had the effect of freeing books from dependence on traditional typefaces. The democratization of typesetting, with new programs, may also free us from conventions, as many practitioners are ignorant of the history and standards.



Figure 6. Hausmann's *Der DaDa*

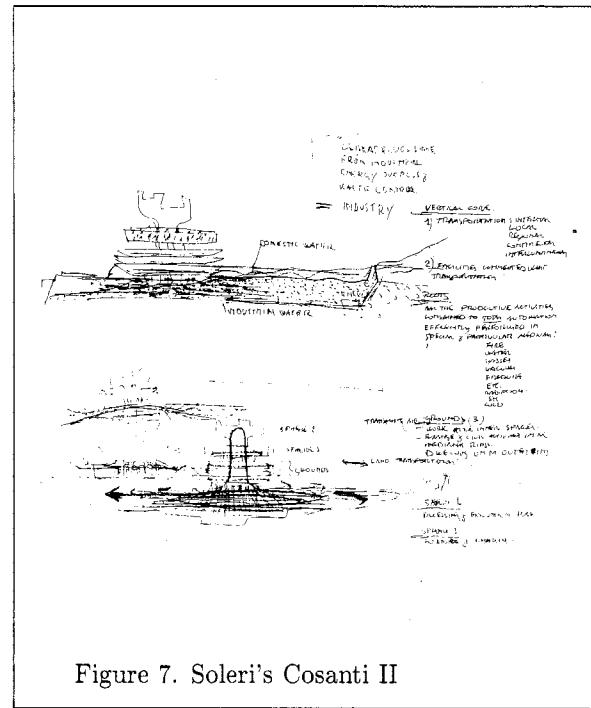


Figure 7. Soleri's Cosanti II

#### Technological Platforms.

**Limitations** Early concepts of "pages", such as certain Egyptian hieroglyphs, Roman scrolls, and medieval illuminated manuscripts, considered the entire page area as a pattern to be filled depending on numerous aesthetic, practical, or economic criteria. The illustrations of Newton and da Vinci were integrated into the text of their manuscripts (which were done by hand). Printing technology, however, found some copy, illustrations and tables for instance, difficult to integrate into text (and they charged higher prices for such penalty copy). Graphics was done separately from text; the positioning was often determined by page layout and so the graphics were often displaced from the text.

Traditionally, the size of paper (or tablets or papyrus) was determined by what was available and affordable. With typesetting, pages became larger, especially newspapers, reference books, or folio (de luxe versions or coffee table) books—or smaller; Aldus Manutius started a printing business to issue critical editions ("pocketbooks") of classical authors. At that time, most books were done in a folio (two-up) or quarto (four-up) format, but Manutius printed in an octavo (eight-up) format with a reduced typeface based on cursive handwriting and adapted to the smaller size of pages (referred to as Aldine by Italians and italic by everyone else). Computer design seems to be limited by standard output devices, which use

predominantly type A pages in North America or A4 in Europe. If the recommendations of legibility research are followed, then most designs are limited to two-columns or one column with very wide margins.

**Potential** Three basic structures for presenting information can be identified: words, tables, and graphics, according to Tufte (as well as combinations of the three). From early times, the author was responsible for putting thought into graphic and typographic form. With the advent of traditional typesetting, the form of the thought was redesigned within the limitations (physical and financial) of the technology. With computer technology, the form is often determined first and depends on the limitations of the program (as well as of the devices and finances).

New forms of display, such as video terminals, mean that page design and formatting need not be limited by traditional conventions. Instead, pages can be considered for loose-leaf books (especially with on-demand printing), where text, graphics, and space are arranged over multi-page spreads. Or, in another instance, pages can be treated as small blocks (that have pop-up tables and graphics blocks), called up and presented in a multi-window environment on a video terminal (as in Digital's on-line bookreader). or in a specific hypermedia context.

As computation is adapted more to human needs, interfaces may become friendlier, then transparent. In a virtual world, publications may be more accessible and manipulatable. Publications may regain a concern for overall pattern. Importantly, pattern recognition is one way of dealing with information overload.

## Trends

Writing, arising from a phonetic alphabet, is an abstract kind of tool. The sound and letter elements of writing are divorced from meaning. *Printing is the mechanization of writing.* As writing became more mechanized, words became more like data, from the dead and living alike, with seemingly equal weight. Mechanization had an effect on the style of publication. With technological changes, the shape of publications, as well as attitudes towards them, has changed. Technology drove publications to a simpler appearance. Speed in production has often been detrimental to the quality and aesthetics of bookmaking. According to McLuhan, typing reduced expression from art to craft, from personal to the impersonal. It transcribed thought instead

of expressing it. Linear and rectilinear layout of words in books was efficient and fast. Thought transposed into type became published, removed from the personal to the public sphere. Typing, or keyboarding, also changes the form of expression, favoring shorter sentences and more colloquial, less thoughtful expression.

Then, *the telegraph provided the electrification of writing*, according to McLuhan. And, the newspaper mirrored the form of telegraphic communication. The news format dislodged the book format as the format of perception. News format created daily snapshots across society, simultaneous, not sequential or historical. The news page set up many book pages on one, then continued them elsewhere, simulating simultaneity and nonlinearity. It telegraphed information in blocks. The news format has influenced artists from Browning to Poe, Mallarme, Dickens, and James Joyce. The newspaper form structures awareness in its own *patterns*, from important to less, from front to back, from section to section. The application of the form of newspapers shaped meaning.

Finally, computer-based *hypertext is the electrification of literary connections* (or "nonsequential writing") according to Ted Nelson. It is just a small step from news forms to a hypermedia of computer data. The hypermedium seems to bypass the reading step and proceed directly to reference. Most hypertext systems rely on advanced hardware such as workstation windows and the possibility of connection nodes of different media, such as text, data, video, audio, graphics, and spreadsheets. Currently most output is designed for CRT screens, although printing is possible and other forms, such as holographic displays, are talked about. Hypermedia is a conceptual connection of different forms in an explicit medium.

Each of the four formats, archaic, classic, modern, and hyperian, has advantages and disadvantages, and each encourages a unique style of thought and expression. Inscription on rock had mystical overtones or unknown purposes. The sense of participation must have been high. Often, the rock surface was in caves and not easily accessible. Reading the inscriptions might have been a formal rite.

Books have their own romance, from wonderful textures to experienced imaginary dialogues. Book production is fast and standardized (the standards encourage ease of reading for the most part). The type is standardized and interchangeable, a precursor of manufacturing assembly lines. Books themselves are portable and familiar. They require

a level of sophistication and participation of the imagination. Many books are not limited by the linearity of the presentation; double page spreads with graphics and notes can create a form of hypertext. Even sequential texts can produce a feeling of hypertext, where the reader makes a complex conceptual model of the subject (—this sort of involvement McLuhan regarded as characteristic of a hot medium). But, they can be static and simple—even dull.

Newspapers and magazines are often more visual and interesting. The news format presents the surfaces of many subjects. Their production is even faster than books. They are more flexible in format. But, the news format often is limited by the amount of commercial and dated material.

Computer-based hypertext can be comprehensive and dynamic in a way that no book or magazine ever can be. Hypertext is consciously nonlinear and pluralistic. A typical (planned) hypertext system offers a great diversity of content from a variety of media. The material can be shared interactively, altered constantly, tailored to individual needs, and displayed in sophisticated ways. But, its development is slow and incomplete; nodes are often too large and not object-oriented; the lack of standardization or traditional order can overwhelm users with information; the screen fonts are poor compared to print fonts; and, effective output is limited to screens.

Some trends, speed for instance, are easily distinguishable in the history of patterns. Reading a manuscript roll or codex was laborious and slow. The book speeded up reading as a form of communication, but was a more solitary activity. In general, simple books offer a linear perspective, with a single tone and attitude. Early manuscript culture, based on scarcity of materials, encouraged memorization. Then, manuscripts became designed for speed of reading. No more dallying through abbreviations and notations. The scope of historical awareness increased with printing, until with the newspapers and television, the past 24 hours are history (see Figure 8). Books were fast and convenient to reference. They could be read fast, then keep for reference. Hypermedia promise immediate referencing.

Material has become more accessible to readers (or viewers, interpreters, or writers). Readers have more control over what they read. The tools and the media (and possibly the ideas) have become more complex. But, technology has also opened the possibility of returning the cycle. Writing became remote from the authors, printing even



Figure 8. The *Monitor*

more so; now, technology is offering author control over many stages. Computer technology is not necessarily a limitation, if the author participates in the programming and design as well. New methods of production, such as photomechanical plates, need not adhere to the mechanical limitations of the hand press. New programs, like TeX, offer much potential. Other possibilities of shape and position of type areas can be pursued. The electric age hints at an organic metaphor from a mechanical one. Voice into print is possible; perhaps words may become three-dimensional and multi-layered when the output is hologrammatic. The words may reflect pauses and volume typographically. The form of print has been culturally biased. Possibly new technology can free us from the bias.

## Requirements for an International Program

Any program that is to be used across cultural boundaries has to be able to express the direction and alphabets of the languages in use.

**Direction.** Most occidental languages move from left to right and top to bottom. Semitic languages, like Arabic, are written from right to left and move from top to bottom. Expressions may be useful from bottom to top, in either direction (see McLuhan's books).

**Alphabets.** A language often has its own unique alphabet, which is usually hard-coded into macros for alphabetical lists. Some languages use ideograms instead of phonograms to represent characters. A language representation should not be tied to a specific keyboard.

## The Advantages of **TEX**

**TEX** is part of a long history in putting printed words on a page. Many of the conventions of book and journal production, such as paragraphs and columns, have roots in Mesopotamia and Egypt, Greece and Italy. Many **TEX** terms, from baseline to points, are based on the special nomenclature of typography.

The limitations of the printed page, however, are not intrinsic to **TEX**. **TEX** macros can be modified to present text, graphics, and space in blocks on a complete or partial page block (that can be combined or recombined). Regardless of the formal elements, **TEX** has the ability to put them on paper. **TEX** macros can free reading order from European conventions. A special **TEX** macro can produce lettered lists using any alphabet in a cartesian coordinate system.

Knuth and MacKay mention that **TEX** can handle documents that are read from left-to-right and top-to-bottom—English and other Western languages (MacKay, 1986, Knuth and MacKay, 1987). They also say, “If such documents are turned 90 degrees, they can also be read from top-to-bottom and right-to-left, as in Japan. Another 90 degree or 180 degree turn yields documents that are readable from right-to-left and bottom-to-top, or from bottom-to-top and left-to-right, in case a need for such conventions ever arises.” They then describe a way to mold **TEX** to handle languages, like Hebrew or Arabic, which are right-to-left and top-to-bottom. They clarify the issues involved in mixed-direction documents and consider changes to **TEX** to extend it for bidirectional formatting. Digital uses **TEX** as the formatting engine for its documentation program, VAX Document, to take advantage of this directional capability.

At Digital, the Online Bookreader can display VAX Document (**TEX** formatted) files in an indefinite (but not infinite) series of windows. The book is chosen from an online library, then opened in a directory window, which includes contents, index, figure, table, and example icons (that can be contracted or expanded). Clicking on a chapter title in the contents, for example, results in a topic window opening. The text in the topic window contains

hot spots and extensions that can be explicit or implicit. If a hot spot, a formal figure for instance, is clicked on, a subtopic or popup window opens with the figure. The **TEX** macros for the Bookreader have been modified for a unique screen environment. The concept of individual pages no longer exists, although each paragraph causes a page eject (so that **TEX** pages can be mapped to information chunks that make up topics). The fonts are larger for readability on a screen. The Bookreader has experimental hooks for hypertext.

**TEX** has the capability to produce many kinds of designs. Often, authors and the programmers are ignorant of design, while designers are ignorant of programming. The vocabularies and styles are different. But, more often than not, neither group formally articulates complete design requirements; most designers mock-up typical pages, often leaving out many less common cases. **TEX** can be integrated into interfaces that solve this difficulty.

## Archi**TEX** as Page Pattern Maker

**Requirements.** A prototype markup language, Archi**TEX**, uses select **TEX** macros to produce flexible, modular page patterns for a variety of output devices. These page patterns should be able to mimic book, newspaper, and hypermedia formats. The macros should be able to: use any alphabet for text as well as lettered lists; put text in any location on a page; describe page patterns for each individual page; and, continue text groups onto subsequent pages.

### Samples.

**Alphabets** Creating an alphabet series for any alphabet is fairly simple. Referring to a clue in the *The TEXbook* (page 379) about stripping characters off a string, one need only define a string that can be stripped and recombined in numerous ways. The alphabet string needs to be defined first, with any special characters or accents (in Figure 9).

```
\def\bahbah{\a\ \b\ \d\ \g\ \{jk\}\ \x}
```

Figure 9. Definition of Alphabet

An item in list can be selected by its position from the left and stripped off. Then, the alphabet length can be counted and assigned to a counter (see Figure 10).

Now, you can make a macro that offers the author a choice in numbering schemes, either a-z, then ab, ac, az—or aa, bb, zz, up to several hundred items (an English alphabet, with 26 letters results

```
\def\outofrange{\ }% to prevent err
\def\pullet#1\of#2\to#3{%
    \def\#3{\outofrange\}%
    \long\def\\##1{\advance#1-1
    \ifnum\#1=0 \def#3{##1}\fi\#2}
\def\findalen#1\to#2{\#2=0
    \long\def\\##1{\advance#2 by 1 }#1}
\findalen\alphasoup\to\alphalen
```

Figure 10. Alphabet Set-up

```
\def\alphacon{\global\advance\thingnum
    by 1
\ifnum \thingnum < \alphalen
\pullet\thingnum\of\alphasoup%
    \to\signifier
\unskip\signifier%
\else
%
\}%
}
```

Figure 11. Alphabet Style Macro

in 703 items, before going to a star signifier). The code is in Figure 11.

The macro, alphacon, could then be put in a list macro for alphabetic lists (as in Figure 12) or combined with page numbers to indicate added pages. The complete macros are found in Appendix A.

ccc. Carneades
ddd. Protagoras
eee. Antiochus Posidonius

Figure 12. Alphabet Macro Output

**Text location.** Putting the text on any part of the page is a problem. Knuth gives a clue in *The TeXbook* (page 389—PICTEX and other programs use this clue for graphics); the labelling of points in a cartesian coordinate system can be expanded to place text in boxes with the top left corner of a box as the reference point. The first thing to do is set up the page to be the entire print area without margins. Then, set up units for moving, either using scaled points or baselineskips. And, define paragraph and page characteristics (in Figure 13).

The construction in Figure 14 starts in upper lefthand corner of the page, then moves down and right by units, then places a zero-width box at the specified x/y coordinates. This makes it easy to emulate a grid, a graphic device useful in the composition of pages (a recent development by Swiss designers, as a conscious application of imaginary lines to divide space, it imposes discipline on the

```
\hoffset=-60pt\voffset=-60pt% no margs
\hsize=612pt \vsize=792pt % h=51,v=66
\baselineskip=12pt % standard
\newdimen\unit \unit=\baselineskip
% ...
\def\pargoods{\raggedright
    \tolerance=5000\hyphenpenalty=-50
    \parindent=0pt\parskip=0pt\}%
    close
% ...
\long\def\go#1 #2 #3\stop{%
    \vbox to 0pt{\kern#2\unit%
        \hbox{\kern\#1\unit
            \vtop{\leftjump=\#1\unit
                \downjump=\#2\unit
                \for=\hsize-\leftjump
                \dow=\vsize-\downjump
                \hsize=\for\vsize=\dow
                \goods \#3\}}}\vss\}%
    \nointerlineskip\}%
    close go
% ...
```

Figure 13. Text Placement

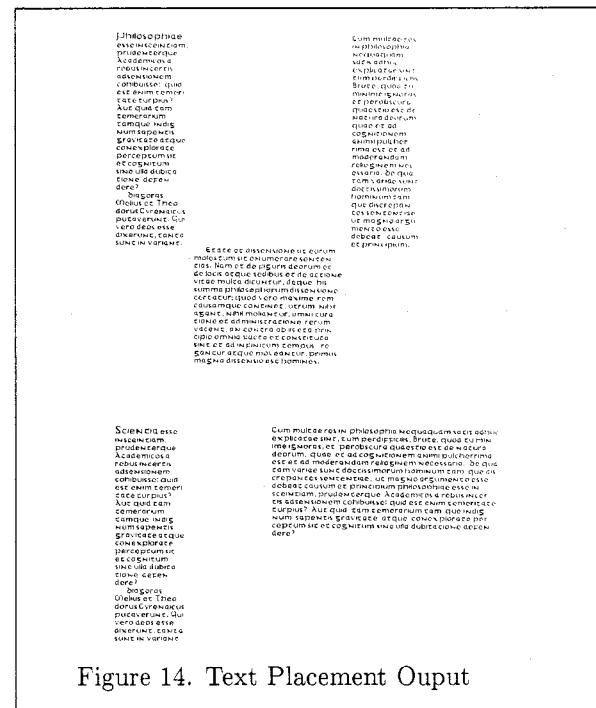


Figure 14. Text Placement Ouput

designer). Many patterns, from Egyptian scrolls to the *Book of Kells* and *Der DaDa*, can be examined and explained in terms of a grid.

**Page patterns.** Although usually every page can have a typical pattern, each page may have a unique pattern. The text, however, needs to flow sequentially from page to page or from section to section. Page layouts are defined after a scheme by August Mohr (see Figure 15). Each page has to be

defined according to a format. A run file loads the definitions and text. A separate file describes how the finished page is to be built.

```
\def\I{1} \def\II{2}
%
\def\beginsheet#1{\xdef\sheet{#1}%
  \setcount0 \sheet%
  \ifx\sheet\I {\setIvone}%
\else\ifx\sheet\II {\setIIvone}%
%
\def\setXIVdefs{%
  \gdef\setvone{\setIvone}%
%
\def\setIvone{\vsize 99pc
  \hsize\twowide} % unboxed in set7
%
}
```

Figure 15. Page Macros (after Mohr)

The pieces are put together in the output routine, where the vsizes are defined. The output routine also adds the headers and footers.

**Breaking and continuation.** Breaking material on one page and continuing it on a later page also poses difficulties. Alan Hoenig set up a series of macros for newspaper layouts that takes care of breakage and continuation (see Figure 16). The entire story page is shaped, although the two pieces, the lead and the jump, may have different widths, and the story is divided with the vsplit command. The second half of the story is placed explicitly with a keyword-coded jump command.

```
\def\beginstory[title:#1][key:#2][main:#%
  #3][jump:#4]{%
\setbox0=\hbox{\quad See #2 on page ??}}
\setbox0=\vbox to2\baselineskip{%
  \mainhsize{\hss #1\hss}\vss}%
%
\ifnum\count10>0
  \goalheight=\count10\baselineskip
  \n=\count10 \else
  \whereami \computegoalheight
  \n=\count10
\fi
\advance\n by1
\createparshapeshpec\makeboxident{#2}%
\global\keyword={#2}%
\partoks=% control typesetting
  {\tolerance=5000\pageshape=%
    \n\the\parshapeshpec}
\putin vbox{#2}%
} % end beginstory
%
```

Figure 16. Page Splits (after Hoenig)

Hoenig also creates a macro that is useful for defining page shapes. Macros from Thomas Reid are also included. A sample for input specifies the title, depth, width, and continuation page (see Figure 17).

```
\begin{instory}[title: Natura Deorum][key:
  cicero][main: XI][jump: XXIV]%
\input cicero.tex
\end{instory}
\begin{instory}[title: Natura Universum][key:
  lucretius][main XIII][jump: XXV]%
\input lucretius.tex
\end{instory}
```

Figure 17. Sample file

The output on the first page is presented in Figure 18. The second page, much like any newspaper page, has blocks of continued articles (see Figure 19).



Figure 18. Text Placement Output

## Summary

Page patterns have not changed greatly over three thousand years; most thoughts are presented in paragraphs in columns with graphics, and the page size seems to be relatively constant at seven by ten inches. Even hypertext pages seem to follow these conventions, although such pages also include cue identifiers and hot-spots.

The ArchiTEx program is intended to be a multi-directional, international page pattern maker.



Figure 19. Text Continuation Ouput

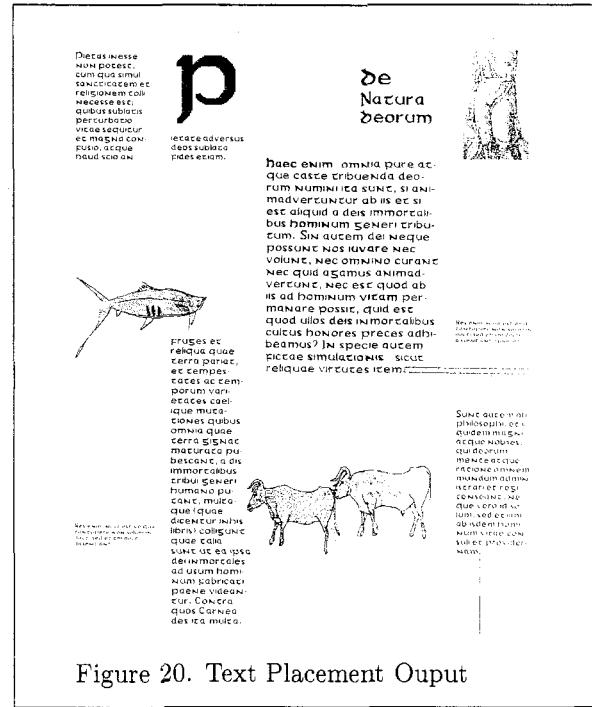


Figure 20. Text Placement Ouput

It defines one or more alphabets for text. It creates flexible, modular page patterns for single pages and places text in a grid. It also creates blocks for on-screen reference.

Alas, ArchiTEx is not finished. Placing continued text in large blocks across individually designed pages is still a major implementation problem (small tests work, however). Placing directional text with other directional text has not been implemented, yet, although others have done so already. Other parts of the program are still planned. Cues can be added for hypertext use (see Figure 20). ArchiTEx's bookmaker interface (in C) is planned to permit designers to manipulate the objects elements visually, and to enforce both formality and completeness for designers and programmers. Since ArchiTEx is a part-time, independent project, there is no time-frame for its completion.

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## Appendix A: Alphabet Macros

```
% alphanum.mac a macro for alphabetical counts using
% NA and foreign alphabets as defined in language strings
\def\english{\a\b\c\d\e\f\g\h\i\j\k\l\m\n\o%
  \p\q\r\s\t\u\v\w\x\y\z}
\def\bahbah{\a\b\c\{jk\}\x\y\z}
%
% define signifier for the text lists and signs for double letters
\def\signifier{ }
\def\alphasoup{\english}
\let\language=\alphasoup
%
\def\outofrange{}% added 5/5 to prevent undef error
\def\pullet#1\of#2\to#3{\def#3{\outofrange}%
  \long\def\##1{\advance#1-1 \ifnum#1=0 \def#3{\##1}\fi}#2}
% sample: \pullet\MLa\of\alphasoup\to\signifier
%
% start new counter for the length of the alphabet
%\newcount\alphalen \alphalen=30
% count alphabet length (after K378)
\def\findalen#1\to#2{\#2=0 \long\def\##1{\advance#2 by 1 }#1}
% use immediately
\findalen\alphasoup\to\alphalen
%
% optional method to create aa, ab--az, or aa, bb--zz
% start new counters for internal fixing of double letters
\newcount\SL \SL=0 % letter
\newcount\MLa \MLa=0 % double letter part
\newcount\MLb \MLb=0 % double letter part
\newcount\SLm \SLm=0 % multiplicand for mult signifiers
\newcount\thingnum \thingnum=0 % list, update pages, etc
\newcount\maxthing \maxthing=121 % maximum multiple alphabet lengths
  \maxthing=\alphalen \multiply\maxthing by \alphalen
  \advance\maxthing by \alphalen \advance\maxthing by 1
% e.g., English (26 letters) results in 703 max
% new dimensions and boxes for letters, which are actually produced
% as leaders, not translated numbers
\newdimen\eachletwd \eachletwd=10pt
\newbox\eachlet
\newif\ifab \abfalse % if letters are to be aa-az
%
\def\alphacon{\global\advance\thingnum by 1
  \ifnum \thingnum < \alphalen % single letter
    \pullet\thingnum\of\alphasoup\to\signifier% same for both
    \unskip\signifier%
  \else
    \ifab % for aa-az, za-zz
      \ifnum\thingnum < \maxthing % less than absolute max
        \SL = \thingnum % it's a double letter
        \divide\SL by \alphalen % hold first letter
        \MLa = \thingnum % prepare second
        \MLb = \thingnum
        \divide\MLb by \alphalen % check for last letter
      \fi
    \fi
  \fi}
```

```

\multiply\MLb by \alphalen
\ifnum \thingnum = \MLb
    \advance\SL by -1           % back to last letter
    \MLa = \alphalen
\else\advance\MLa by -\MLb % identify second
\fi
\pullet\SL\of\alphasoup\to\signifier%
\unskip\signifier%
\pullet\MLa\of\alphasoup\to\signifier%
\unskip\signifier%
\else
    \message{Maximum alphabet use, * used} % too many things
    \signifier{*}
\fi
\else
    \MLa = \thingnum          % for aa-zzzzz
    \MLb = \thingnum          % prepare second for mult.
    \divide\MLb by \alphalen
    \SLm = \MLb              % get number to mult signif
    \advance\SLm by 1
\multiply\MLb by \alphalen
\ifnum \thingnum = \MLb
    \MLa = \alphalen
    \advance\SLm by -1      % back to end of alphabet
\else\advance\MLa by -\MLb
\fi
\pullet\MLa\of\alphasoup\to\signifier% get letter
\setbox\eachlet=\hbox{\signifier}% put in box
\eachletwd=\wd\eachlet% measure width
\multiply\eachletwd by \SLm% multiply
\unskip\hbox to \eachletwd{\unskip\leaders\hbox{%
    \signifier}\hfill}%
\fi%
\fi%
}%
%
% define macro to make the alphabetized list.
% do by counter but strip off letters to replace numbers
% \long\def\allist{\hangindent100pt\noindent
%                   \hbox to 100pt{\alphacon\hfill}}%
% [or]
%       \number\pageno.\alphacon
% [or]
% \ifdoingpops\alphacon\else\number\pageno\fi}

```

# Integration of graphics into T<sub>E</sub>X

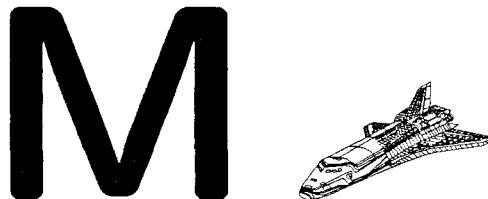
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## Abstract

This paper is a practical approach to methods of integrating graphics into T<sub>E</sub>X. The problems that result from this integration and possible solutions are also discussed.

During the last two years we have had a lot of discussions during meetings, in publications and within electronic lists, about the question of how to integrate pictures into T<sub>E</sub>X. It is a very interesting question, indeed! The different answers to this question are also interesting because they lead to the interdependencies between T<sub>E</sub>X and driver programs. We can say that it is no problem in general to typeset pictures with T<sub>E</sub>X anywhere in a document by using different methods like the L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X picture environment or similar macro packages, the `\special` primitive within a box, or something else. But when trying to typeset complex pictures, there is a great probability of failure because of T<sub>E</sub>X's limited capability in this area. When avoiding that effect by using the `\special` primitive, we surely need a driver that knows how to handle the special information. Nevertheless, it sounds very queer to talk about programs with special features that have to interpret a DeVice Independent `dvi` file. In one of the T<sub>E</sub>Xhax issues of 1989 Stephan v. Bechtolsheim wrote "T<sub>E</sub>X was made for typesetting text...." Maybe he remembered the operation codes of the `dvi` file format when writing that. He is right, anyway. There is no correct driver in use that is not able to print:



Though it is true that not all printers can print this.

What is the difference between that character on the right and the characters on the left in general, except the dimensions, from a drivers point of view?

The difference in usage between the inch high "M" and the shuttle is illustrated below, where the

"M" code is on the left and the shuttle code is on the right:

```
\font\origin=cminch \font\atesta=atesta
{\origin M} {\atesta !()}
```

A lot of people have considered converting graphic output from different systems to fonts. This way of integrating graphics into T<sub>E</sub>X seems to minimize the existing problems.

## The Graphic Sources

As this paper should not be a theoretical but a practical approach to the problem, it is necessary to have a look at the typical situation for the need of graphics integration.

Eleven years after the birth of T<sub>E</sub>X, there is someone, somewhere in the academic world, writing a paper. The visualization of the scientific results is done by a dedicated system. For a lot of different disciplines there are a lot of different programs available on the market which convert data into a picture. Often those systems are embedded in a single purpose system. In any case, it is just that system which is the best for,

1. chemistry
2. physics
3. mathematics
4. statistics
5. engineering
6. economics
7. geography
8. etc.,

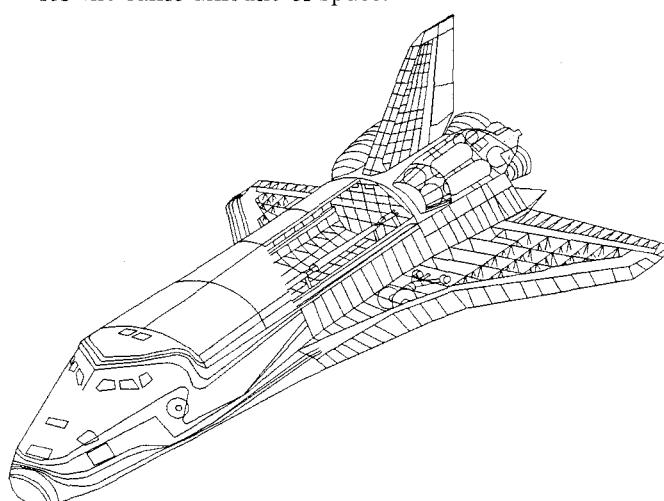
otherwise it would not be used. As long as an institute has computer freaks to do the programming, there will always be a "best" program for any particular area of science. In any case, the system produces pictures, that can be printed on a plotter as

well as on a laser printer or a matrix printer. Some systems use a device independent metafile, others produce vector graphics, or even raster graphics immediately.

In the decade of micros, the importance of raster graphics (compressed or uncompressed) grew by the use of scanners, cameras, screen dumps and paint programs. The difficulties of making pictures was decrease at the same time. Even the digitization of "real pictures," like photographies, became possible.

Now back to the lonesome scientist who is using T<sub>E</sub>X to write his paper and trying to describe what is to be seen on the output of a graphic system. Usually there is someone who asks the question, "Hi, I'm using T<sub>E</sub>X for my paper and I want to include some pictures. How does it work?"

**The individual situation** It works, but how is not important here. Only the dimensions of the picture in the final print are important. Either the user wants to print it on his own 300 dots per inch (dpi) laser printer or on the publisher's 1200 dpi typesetter. That is the most important item for the layout of the document. The picture will be included into the document for a certain print device by telling T<sub>E</sub>X the picture's `tfm` information. Although the files around T<sub>E</sub>X are device independent the picture in it's original form is not device independent with respect to the document's purpose. Of course, there is a formal device independency concerning the `tfm` files and the `pk` files or `pixel` files, but depending on the resolution, the picture should be printed in different sizes. Using a high resolution device the picture can be generated larger than for a low resolution device because there are more dots available for the same amount of space.



This picture was generated for a 300 dpi device. The same picture on the previous page was

generated for a Tektronix display and included for purposes of demonstration. The higher resolution allows for more detail. Expressing this thought in one sentence,

A complex graphic on a high resolution device requires less space than the same graphic on a low resolution device to see the details.

The user has to decide, depending on the resolution of the output device, what size the picture should be on the page. This is only true if the source of the picture is a vector oriented graphic. Bitmap graphics are fixed in size. Changes to an existing black/white bitmap by scaling will change the quality of the picture too, unless the run of the black bits are converted to vectors. In this case the circle is closed again.

**The situation in general.** The problem of integrating pictures into a document is heightened by facts, which are basically the same for every author. Those facts are:

1. the kind of the graphic
  - (a) vector graphics
  - (b) black/white bitmaps
  - (c) bitmaps with grey pixels
2. the resolution of the output device
3. the available driver program
4. the ability of T<sub>E</sub>X to typeset text
5. the motivation of the author

What the author needs is a link between his graphics and his text. There is no question that he himself has to do something to make the link. The simplest way is to start a program that converts the graphic file into a font for the author's output device by generating the `tfm`'s and `pk` or `pixel` files and writes some T<sub>E</sub>X instructions to typeset the picture. So he only has to say something like `\setpicxy` somewhere in his text. That should be easy enough for everyone.

It was already mentioned that some vector oriented graphic systems generate metafiles like GKS, Phigs etc. Is it wrong to say that every system of that kind generates metafiles in any way when processing a picture? Certainly not. The aim of those systems is to draw some lines or curves on a sheet of paper. This is done by either external driver programs or special subroutines for specified devices. At this point, we find common instructions for printers and plotters. For those devices, a fixed instruction set is defined, exists for a long period of time and does not need any standardization committee.

It is a standard in an isolated area, acknowledged by a lot of driver programs or subroutines.

This is the relevant interface for a font generating program. The program should know the set of instructions of two or three manufacturers to solve the integration problems of about 80% or even 90% of the *TEX* users who make their pictures with such a graphics system.

There is a similar situation in the world of bitmaps. Many abbreviations like TIFF, PCX, IMG or CUT represent the package of more or less compressed bitmaps. A lot of conversion programs allow one to use the appropriate package for an interesting picture. Here it is probable the problem will be solved up to 99.99% of the time.

## The Graphic Fonts

When talking about fonts within the *TEX* community, everybody remembers METAFONT. The readers of *TUGboat* or the Exeter proceedings know, that there are some programs that use the sister of *TEX* to make fonts from graphic files. He should also know, that some approaches were made without METAFONT to generate graphic fonts. The main reason to avoid the usage of METAFONT is the ability of *TEX* to run on any machine without METAFONT. The user knows it, and he typically utilizes *TEX*, not METAFONT. He only wants one program to include the picture, not a complex system.

**Driver compatibility.** It was already mentioned that the typical user does not need device independence. He only needs the driver selected to print the final document. This sounds a little bit like a driver restriction. And indeed it is. A correct driver should follow the recommendations of the *dvi* driver standards committee. This is not a wish but a law. Especially on small systems there is a restriction concerning the size of font files. A limit of 64KB is to be found in a lot of programs. This is the smallest common denominator when generating graphic fonts.

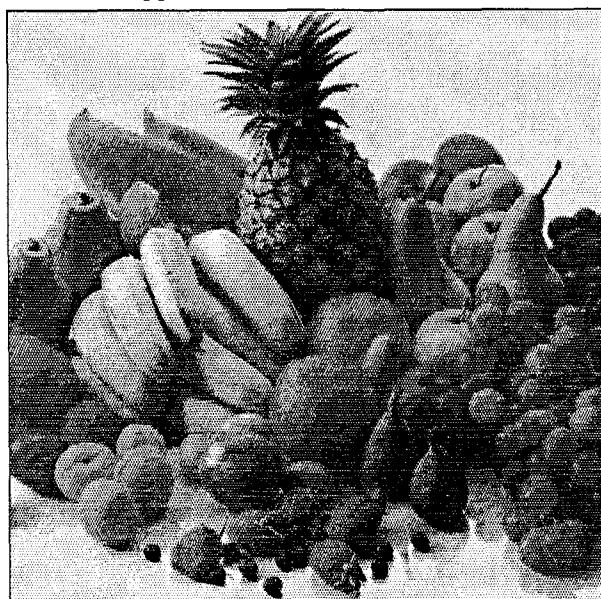
It may be that there is a difference among drivers concerning the ability to print large characters. Here is the next guideline for generating fonts.

As a conclusion of those facts we can say: If a driver program is able to handle

1. the number of fonts *TEX* allows
2. fonts with characters not larger than 1 inch
3. fonts not exceeding the 64KB limit

then it is able to print documents that include graphics.

**The suitable program.** A practical approach to the problem of including graphics includes the development of a program too, especially for an employee of a computer center in a university. After gathering information about the structure of *tfm* files, *pixel* files and *pk* files on the one hand and about TIFF and CUT format on the other hand, the foundation stone for BM2FONT was laid. It should be able to handle bitmap formats and simple bitmaps. The latter ones are generated by a special vector conversion program on a central computer system, where the vector approach was done for historical reasons.



Since a lot of students and scientists are working on personal computers BM2FONT was written for DOS. Here we find the origin of the other kinds of bitmaps. After long discussions with the *WEB* system and the Pascal compiler the program got a consolidated status. It produced a lot of *tfm* files and *pk* files and files like:

```
\newbox\obstbox
\newdimen\obstw
\font\aobst=aobst
\font\bobst=bobst
\font\cobst=cobst
\font\dobst=dobst
\setbox\obstbox=\vbox{\hbox{%
\aobst !(){}}
\obstw=\wd\obstbox
\setbox\obstbox=\hbox{\vbox{\hsize=\obstw\%
\parskip=0pt\offinterlineskip\parindent0pt\%
\aobst !(){}\vskip0pt\%
,\bobst !()\vskip0pt\%
+\cobst !(\vskip0pt\%
)+,\dobst !\}}}
```

```
\def\setobst{\box\obstbox}
```

Using `\input obst` to include the T<sub>E</sub>Xnical description of the graphic into the T<sub>E</sub>X source file and `\setobst` to typeset the picture the job of integration is done.

Everything worked fine and there were no new problems concerning the available driver programs. Only the known errors appeared.

## Halftone Graphics

The conversion of black/white bitmaps to fonts is a rather boring job. Pixels  $p$  with values in the range  $0 \leq p \leq 255$  present additional fun before that conversion. In this case, a temporary bitmap must be generated, where the original pixels are represented by areas partially filled with black or white pixels, which are usually the only types of pixels available on common devices. In *TUGboat*, there have been interesting articles on this (Volume 8, number 2 and 3 by Don Knuth and Adrian F. Clark.) They used fixed patterns for defined devices within very special fonts. The conclusion of those articles was the need of a big T<sub>E</sub>X for small patterns. With that solution, the still life on the previous page would require 79,341 characters for the same size picture.

The other suggestion of Knuth was a better one. He proposed a picture specific font that includes the whole picture. By assigning larger areas to the characters of the font, he reduced the amount of characters in the input file. But there was no consideration of driver limitations and, as the father of METAFONT, he was not willing to reconsider this, as it was not a solution for any acceptable output device. Nevertheless it was the right idea to solve the problem.

Another aspect of the problem is the subjective behavior of the human eye, which tries to see a homogeneous picture, and not the single pixels. This can be achieved by representing different grey shades by black dots, which differ in size. This is not a new idea, but it is difficult to achieve good results in a general way for different devices with resolutions between 300 and 1200 dpi.

**Generating grey patterns.** To generate black dots, we take a  $n \times m$  square of pixels. For every possible grey shade, a new pixel in this square, close to the last blackened pixel, is turned from white to black. This is the principal way to generate black dots with different sizes. The grey values of the source file are to be scaled up or down to the available grey shades, and then the picture is composed with a well structured number of more or less black squares.



Usually the original file comes from a system that uses a scanner or a video camera. To get the details off a picture, it should be digitized with a high contrast. This means in practice that 256 grey values give better results than 16 grey values. Most systems follow this rule, but when scaling the usable grey shades down, depending on the square's size, it is necessary to distribute the rounding errors of the pixel to the neighboring pixels. Experience has shown that error distribution gives a smooth transition between areas of nearly same grey values.

The picture above was taken by a video camera system that uses 256 colors. It was converted by using a  $4 \times 4$  square. The available 16 grey shades are reduced to 12 because the printer seems to overlap the pixels and produces solid black dots quite early. Beside that manipulation, a correction of the lines of patterns was necessary. As the pixels of the camera system are higher, rather than wider, the last line of the square was ignored. This is a good method to avoid long faces. The following example shows the result of error distribution. The changing of colors became smooth, but the contrast in the picture was reduced.



In this example, the distribution was done by the Floyd-Steinberg algorithm, that gives  $\frac{3}{8}$  of the error to the side and down and  $\frac{1}{4}$  diagonally down.

**Simulating more patterns.** The last two examples were made with this described method, but a little trick was added. Four pixels of the source file had to build one "grey dot" in the temporary bitmap. This gave the opportunity to use one dither matrix for any size of squares. We had to start in the top left corner of the matrix to find the position of the pixel in the  $n \times m$  square which had to become black.

row	column						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	01	03	06	10	18	26	38
2	02	04	07	12	19	28	40
3	05	08	09	14	21	30	42
4	11	13	15	16	23	32	44
5	17	20	22	24	25	34	46
6	27	29	31	33	35	36	48
7	37	39	41	43	45	47	49

This resulted in four different patterns for each grey value, because the black pixels of one "grey dot" should be close together. The position of pixel 1 in the first pattern is the upper left corner of the square, in the second pattern the lower right corner, in the third pattern the lower left corner and in the last pattern the upper right corner. So the original grey pixels can grow together considering the values of the neighbors.

shade	pattern			
	1	2	3	4
1	•			
2	•			
3	•		•	
4	•		•	•
5	•		•	•
6	•	•	•	•

shade	pattern			
	1	2	3	4
20	••	•	•	••
21	•••	•	•	••
22	•••	•	•	••
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮
32	•••	••	•••	•••
33	•••	••	•••	•••
34	•••	•••	••	•••
35	•••	•••	•••	•••
36	•••	•••	•••	•••

Still this method was not good enough. More grey shades were necessary to maintain the contrast in spite of error distribution. In fact, we did not have 16 grey shades available for one "grey dot" but four times as many. So, we multiplied the shades by 4 and changed pattern generation. Instead of making four patterns for one grey shade with the same number of black pixels, we produced four patterns for a certain grey value by decreasing the number of black pixels in every pattern by one. The result was much better than those of the older version.



This version seems to consider the neighboring pixel values best. When making the examples for the effect of error distribution, the old version was used. The new method for the example gave the same results when the error distribution was eliminated in the program.

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# PostScript, QuickDraw, **TEX**

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## Abstract

How can graphical material best be incorporated with **TEX**? The author's experience with **TEX** on the Macintosh, interpreted through PostScript or **QuickDraw** (as the printer decrees), has driven him remorselessly towards an heretical view—that **TEX** must be dissected, and re-assembled as a context-free grammar, with presentation in DVI format. For only in that way can **TEX** and graphic meet on equal terms.

Because of the very problem addressed here—the lack of an agreed standard for marrying graphic with **TEX**—this article differs substantially from the corresponding talk. For that talk was, in effect, a practical demonstration of **TEX** on the Mac, and a comparison of **QuickDraw** with PostScript as graphical interpreter. This article might perhaps better be entitled “Some Thoughts Occasioned by an Experiment in PostScript, **QuickDraw** and **TEX**.”

## Introduction

The incorporation of graphical material into **TEX** is the principal and perennial preoccupation of the **TEX** community. Knuth has taught us how to use the *quill*. Now, like those medieval monks who penned the Book of Kells, we wish to illustrate the text.

But wait! Why do we always speak of incorporating graphical material into **TEX**? Why shouldn't we, conversely, incorporate **TEXnical material into graphics**? Why not — those of a sensitive disposition should avert their eyes at this point — why not ‘encapsulated **TEX**’?

## A Word of Thanks

The mathematical community owes Donald Knuth an immense debt of gratitude. He has lifted a grievous load from our shoulders. **TEX** is our washing machine, microwave oven and dishwasher, all rolled into one.

But debtors were always ungrateful. (“Arthur Guinness has been very good to the citizens of Dublin,” the pompous speaker intoned. “And the citizens of Dublin have been very good to Arthur Guinness,” piped up Brendan Behan from the rear, a pint in his hand.) In the spirit of that ancient adage, let us proceed to bite the hand that feeds us...

## The Grand Panjandrum

**TEX** is a black box. We feed it with our ideas — fragmentary and ill-formed. We crank the handle, and lo and behold! — our thoughts emerge (quite slowly) from the other end, if not laundered, then so beautifully presented we almost blush.

It is true that Knuth, like a good magician, throws open the box with a flourish — “Look, no tricks!” He even tells us what all those knobs are for. Then, just as we begin to get the hang of it, the lid crashes down on our fingers.

Who does not recall those dread words at the opening of **tex.web** — *Unless your name is D. E. Knuth....* (The words conjure up the image of an ancient Registrar timidly asking, “If I might be so bold as to enquire, Miss, why do you want to change your name to Donald Knuth.”)

But I propose that we bite the forbidden fruit, that we disobey the Master. In these days of recombinant DNA, could anyone balk at recombinant **TEX**?

## **TEX** as a Language

**TEX** is a two-headed monster — it is a language, and it is a program for interpreting that language. And the program, like the Queen in *Alice in Wonderland*, is the final arbiter. If it says we are talking nonsense, then we *are* talking nonsense.

I'm reminded of the early days of UNIX and C, when the answer to the question, "What is  $-5/2$ ?" was, whatever the Ritchie compiler said it was.

Then came context-free grammars, and Backus-Naur, and yacc. And they begat Johnson's portable C compiler. And the modern world was born.

Let me put my plea plainly (or should that be plainly). **TEX**ackers of the world: give us **tex.yacc**.

Wouldn't this express the *true* meaning of **TEX**? To see its anatomy dissected in that way—with hboxes packed recursively into vboxes, and vboxes into hboxes, and so *ad infinitum* (like Jonathan Swift's fleas).

## The Grammar of **LATEX**

Is it fanciful to see in a **LATEX** document style the germ of a context-free grammar? Couldn't we express it most succinctly as a yacc file? Its central section might start something like this:

```
DOCUMENT: HEADING TEXT REFERENCES
;
HEADING: TITLE AUTHORS INSTITUTION
          DATE ABSTRACT
;
TITLE: title_tok string
{
    output("\begin{center}")
          \font\largebf");
    output(yytext);
    output("\end{center}");
}
;
AUTHORS: /* empty */
| AUTHORS AUTHOR
;
```

## Euromath, Grif and **TEX**

At this point, I should confess that my inspiration is drawn from a bizarre project sponsored by *Euromath*, a consortium of West European Mathematical Societies.

Euromath has contracted Gipsi, a French software house, to develop a 'mathematical editor'. More precisely, Gipsi has undertaken to extend an existing editor—called *Grif*—to include mathematical formulæ, as well as simple graphics<sup>2</sup>. This editor is to interface in some as yet unspecified way with **TEX**—or more probably, with **LATEX**. At the very least, we are promised a **TEX**-driven editor and previewer.

---

<sup>2</sup> For further information on Grif, contact paoli@gpsi.gpsi.fr.

The relevance of this project to my argument is that Grif envisages the document before it as a context-free grammar. (Gipsi uses the term 'structured information', but it comes to the same thing.)

Unfortunately, the project is doomed to failure, in my view, because Euromath has agreed, for its part, to produce a definitive analysis of mathematical expressions... In other words, it must define a context-free grammar which will include within its ambit everything that any mathematician might say. On that happy day, which will probably occur about the same time as the state withers away, Gipsi will take the grammar as basis for its mathematical Grif.

## Encapsulated **TEX**

But if Grif—or Euromath—could lower its sights, and accept that its task was ended when a mathematical formula was encountered;

And if **TEX** could come off its high horse, and accept that a single formula in an alien environment was an object worthy of its attention;

Then the two might marry, and be fruitful, and make Euromath happy.

In conclusion, it seems appropriate to speak of 'encapsulated **TEX**' in this context, by analogy with encapsulated PostScript. For while common-or-garden PostScript defines a whole document, like **TEX**, encapsulated PostScript describes an isolated graphic—a Mandelbrot set, or a picture of Marilyn Monroe—precisely as required, in fact, for incorporation into **TEX**.

# An Approach to Drawing Circuit Diagrams for Text Books

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## Abstract

The development of a library of pictograms is described. The pictograms are defined using macros embodied in **PICTEX** and used to create an application to enable high definition circuit diagrams to be easily included in **TEX**documents.

## Introduction

The problems of including pictures within a **TEX** document have been considered by several people e.g. Norris *et al* and recently by Rogers and by Childs *et al*. Norris imports a PostScript file, Roger's paper suggests creating a mini-graphics package while Childs argues for a specialised hardware. *Textures* which we use on Apple hardware provides a `\special{picture#}` to be included which allows for such combinations of pictures and text to be created as



This facility is excellent if mere representation is all that is required, but there is little flexibility once the picture is imported to **TEX** and making changes becomes tedious. We consider here a use of **PICTEX** to create an application, referred to as **CIRTEX** for brevity, which might be used to produce electronic circuit diagrams. The use of **PICTEX** was considered to have the following advantages:

1. it maintains device independence
2. it allows a mixture of good graphic pictograms with the elegance of **TEX** typesetting, ideal for circuit diagrams
3. compositors need only be conversant with **TEX** and the simple process of creating diagrams embodied in **CIRTEX** to produce diagrams.

## Concepts Used in **CIRTEX**

The simple principle adopted is that small, recurring objects are defined in a co-ordinate system using

1pt as the base dimension of the space. From these simple objects, small pictograms are defined and from these pictograms, complete circuit diagrams can be drawn. Thus

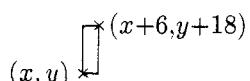
$\downarrow$  and  $\rightarrow$  are used to make

Section 9.2 of The **PICTEX** Manual discusses the use of `\setdimensionmode` to `\put` objects in an absolute space with respect to a given origin. However, by working consistently with 1pt as the base dimension, co-ordinate space was eventually preferred. There are two possible approaches to defining the objects and pictograms, in particular:

1. to define the objects in terms of the absolute coefficients  $(x, y)$  of the final diagram
2. to build up a box using co-ordinates relative to a given origin within the box and then to `\put {box} at x y`  
where  $(x, y)$  is now absolute within the final diagram.

In the final version of **CIRTEX**, both approaches are used. It was initially decided to relate *all* objects and pictograms to an origin at their bottom left hand corner, but eventually it was realised that it was convenient if the origin of some of them was logical rather than predefined in this way.

For example, consider a simple vertical rectangle used, according to BS3939, to represent a resistor.



Using approach A, `\Rv` can be defined by

```
\def\Rv#1#2{\% #1=$x$,#2=$y$  
\cxone=#1 \advance\cxone by 6  
\cyone=#2 \advance\cyone by 18  
\putrectangle corners at  
\{#1\}\{cyone\} and \{cxone\}\{#2\}}
```

It is then used simply as `\Rv{x}{y}` where  $x, y$  are absolute coordinates in the space of the final diagram.

Approach B follows the suggestion made in Section 8.2 of the `PlCTEX` manual on how to include pictures in pictures. Thus `\Rv` can be defined by

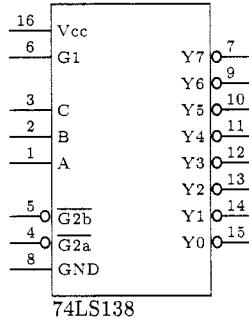
```
\def\Rv{%
\putrectangle corners at 0 18 and 6 0
}
```

`\Rv` is subsequently placed in the final picture using `\put {\Rv} [b1]` at  $x \ y$ . In this case, approach B is preferred because it is simpler and use of `\put` allows for an  $x_{shift}$  and/or a  $y_{shift}$  so that the resistor can be located at the known end of a vertical line and offset 3pt to place the origin. Note that we found that the inclusion of `\begin{picture}` ... `\end{picture}` as suggested in Section 8.2 was found to be unnecessary in the definition.

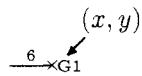
An example of logical placement is

```
\label#1#2#3#4{%
#1=$x$ #2=$y$%
% #3=pin number #4=label $\cdots$
```

used to draw this IC.



Here, each label is placed as



The parameter `#4` can contain any text, including symbols, so that the depth of this sub-box is unknown. Since its depth will define the depth of `\label`, logical placement is essential to maintain alignment.

Once these concepts were understood, a library of objects and pictograms was developed.

## Tricks

► and o are used to make ▷○

Initially, the inversion bubble that converts a buffer to an inverter was constructed using `\circlearc`, which took a long time to compile and used considerable amounts of memory. It was noticed that a lower case o in courier font is circular, and at 10pt, of a perfect size to be used as `\bubble` which can be `\put` immediately!

► and | are used to make ►

Infill of shapes proved to be difficult. The diode triangle is constructed by successively `\put`ing on a centerline vertical rules of diminishing height and offset 0.4pt to each other. The down arrow of the *npn* transistor is drawn similarly by `\plot`ting a series of lines radiating from the tip of the arrow.

Labels of some signals are drawn with a bar over the symbol to indicate that the signals are active low. Given that the symbols are of unknown length, this was solved by

```
\def\actlow#1{\hbox{#1}
\setbox1=\hbox{#1}\kern-\wd1
\raise5.5pt\hbox{%
\hrule height 0.4pt width \wd1
}}
```

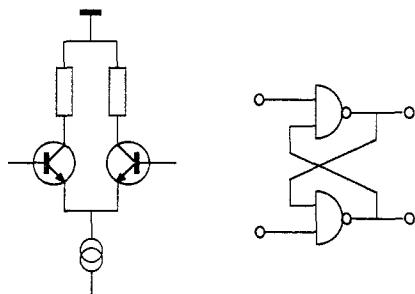
## Problems

It must be stressed that problems discussed here relate to our use of `PlCTEX` in trying to create an application for which it was not intended and not to `PlCTEX` itself.

1. `\linethickness` has no effect on `PlCTEX` macros producing curves so that, for example, the circular outline used to draw the transistor could not be changed.
2. `\loop` ... `\repeat` does not seem to work within any of our defined macros which involve use of `PlCTEX`.
3. During development, variable names were chosen which by chance coincided with names used in `PlCTEX`. To avoid repetition of the problems this caused, all `CoRTEX` variables now start with a c e.g. `\cxone`
4. Our initial use of `\setbox1` gave very odd results until the valuable advice to always use `\newbox` was remembered (which produced `\box22!`).
5. Our attempt at object-orientated development implies deeper and deeper grouping which may contribute to greater use of memory than is necessary.

## Conclusion

The extent of development now allows us to quickly draw diagrams like these,



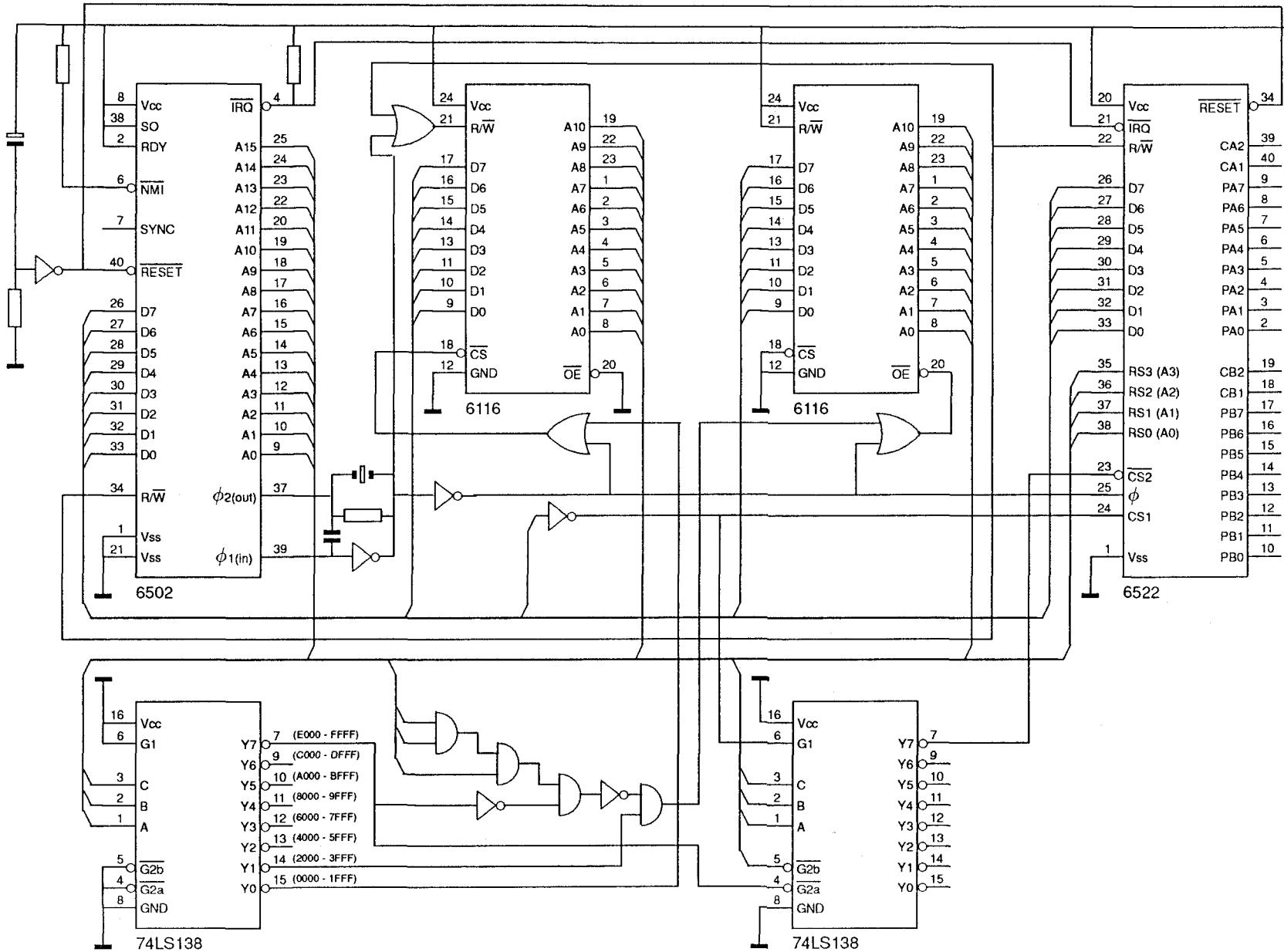
which can be totally integrated into a *TeX* document. Indeed, it is now possible to produce diagrams such as that in the Appendix, but this takes 37 kbytes of memory and over 6 minutes to compile on a Macintosh II! The reason for this is simple, that *PCTEX* must calculate many of the basic shapes of the objects. A tantalising reference is made on page 389 of the *The TeXbook* to a font \qc which contains four quarter circles as characters but no hint is given as to its availability. If a font which contains *all* the basic object shapes which we use could be developed and combined with the computational power implied in the use of \put within *PCTEX*, then as Rogers suggests, we would be able to produce a package capable of easy production of circuit diagrams of suitable quality to be included in text books.

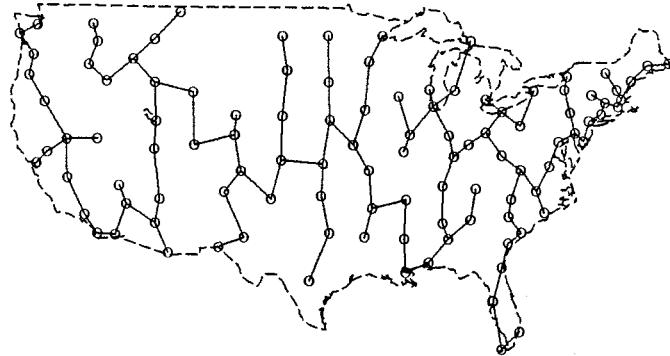
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*TEX88 Exeter Proceedings*.  
Rogers, David. 1988. *TUGboat* 10(1), April.

## Appendix

Drawing Circuit Diagrams for Text Books





**Figure 3:** A minimal spanning tree connecting selected US cities.

Wichura's **PiCTEX**[1987], is composed of a set of **TEX** macros that allow the user to draw graphics such as curves, histograms, etc. **PiCTEX** draws those graphics by printing dots so close to one another that they seem to form a continuous line.

Graphics drawn with **PiCTEX** form an integral part of the text and therefore benefit from all the advantages offered by **TEX**, e.g., both computer and peripheral independency. **TEX**'s power in mathematics composition can be used in captions.

I deliberately chose not to use **PiCTEX** facilities to draw vertical or horizontal rules because the relative positions of the rules and the lines made up of dots could not be set to match each other. It is possibly due to the **dvi** to PostScript driver, but by eliminating the rules I got rid of the problem.

## The Driver

Written in C, the driver is divided into elementary procedures (moving the pen, drawing a line, drawing text). Those procedures are called by S graphic functions while drawing graphics.

Graphics are stored in a file named **Slatex.out**. This file contains **PiCTEX** commands that will then be included in a **TEX** text file.

The default size of the graphics is  $360 \times 360$  points. The S coordinate system uses integer variables. The hundredth of a point was the measure to be used for adequate precision.

When several lines are drawn at the same time, they are concatenated and a single **\put** command is issued. To draw a line with the following coordi-

nates:  $\{(10, 10)(10, 20)(20, 20)\}$  the driver will generate the command:

```
\put{\!start(10,10)
      \!ljoin(10,20)
      \!ljoin(20,20)
} [1b] at 0 0
(10, 20) └─ (20, 20)
          (10, 10)
          · (0, 0)
```

The result obtained is much more compact than when using two separate commands, one for  $\{(10, 10)(10, 20)\}$  and another for  $\{(10, 20)(20, 20)\}$ .

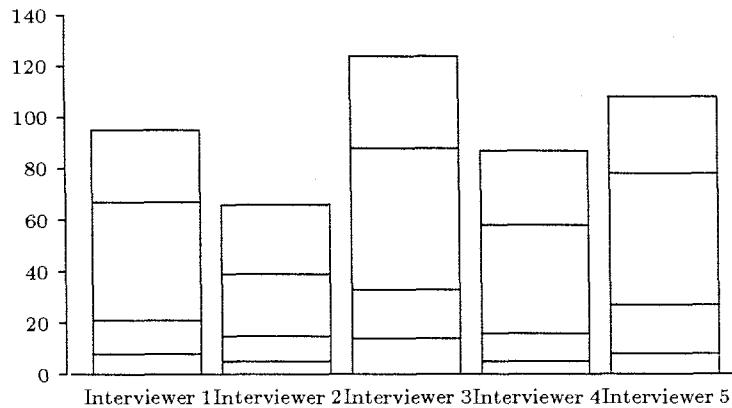
Text is drawn as strings and not as separate characters; **TEX** attends to the composition of the final text strings. Text strings can be centred, left- or right-flushed respective to the current point.

As the driver was designed to be used with **LATEX**, changing character size is done by the commands **\tiny**, ..., **\Huge**; the default size is **\small**. Changing line thickness is done by changing the size of the dots used to draw the lines. A line type change is obtained by the **PiCTEX** **\setdashpattern** command.

## Using the Driver

**From S** This driver can be used like any S graphic driver. It is called by the new S command **latex**. It is possible to change the default graphics width and height with command options. The minimum graphics size is  $100 \times 100$  points.

When the driver starts, the file **Slatex.out** is opened and **PiCTEX** graphic commands are added



**Figure 4:** Bar plot of responses received by 5 telephone interviewers.

to the file. If the driver is started a second time, the file is overwritten. This will keep the file from growing indefinitely, but if the user wishes to save the `Slatex.out` file, he will have to rename it. A standard graphic file takes up 10 KB.

The only problem — apparently due to a fault in an S function—I could not do away with, is when the user need to type a `\` character in a character string. He will have to type four “`\`” successively, e.g., “parameter  $\theta_2$ ” has to be typed `parameter $\\\\\\theta_2$`.

**From T<sub>E</sub>X** Before a user can include his graphics in his text file, he should load the PiCTEX library. This is done with the three following `\input` commands:

```
\documentstyle{...}
\input prepictex
\input pictex
\input postpictex
```

**Prepictex** and **postpictex** files must be used to run PiCTEX with L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X.

Wherever the user wishes to include graphics, these are loaded by using another `\input` command, for instance:

```
..., these are loaded by using another
\input command, for instance:
```

```
\begin{figure}
\input figfour
\caption{Bar plot of responses...}
\end{figure}
```

The user will take advantage of the `\caption` command to append captions to his graphics. He will

then be able to use cross-references with the `\ref` and `\label` L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X commands.

Two weak points remain. First, composing graphics is very slow, e.g., it takes up to ten minutes on a Sun3/50 workstation. Second, if graphics are too complex, T<sub>E</sub>X memory capacity is exceeded. Those problems are well known to PiCTEX users. Maps of the USA are about the most complex graphics that can be drawn.

All graphic examples are extract from the S introduction manual. Graphics size is 330×203 points.

Finally, I wish to thank Ben O’Ferle for his help with my English.

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# Towards LATEX 3.0

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## Abstract

LATEX is a very valuable tool for document composition. As a TEX macro package, it is unique in its concept of logical commands, at the same time retaining enough flexibility with visually oriented commands to allow the user a relatively easy correction of an automatically chosen layout. This fact makes it far superior to the plain and AMS-TEX macro packages when it comes to professional applications.

Therefore the LATEX re-implementation project is certainly one of the most important efforts to "expand TEX's horizon". This is the place to link TEX with the modern developments like SGML. This paper describes the current status of the re-implementation of LATEX.

## 1 Objectives of the LATEX project

LATEX [6] was developed to serve the specific needs and designs found in documents of natural science, whereas the needs of other fields are more or less neglected. Many layouts and concepts cannot be realized in the present LATEX, and even those that can be realized are often falsely flagged as "impossible in LATEX".

One of the main objectives of the LATEX project is, therefore, to redesign the style file interface by incorporating a broader spectrum of possibilities. At the same time, we try to structure this interface in such a way that it satisfies the needs of a designer. This means that desired layouts should be specifiable preferably through parameters and generic functions that allow a wide range of varieties.

An ensuing objective is the proper documentation of the new interface. It should guide the designer in the evaluation of a new layout, allowing him to use the full power of the interface within a short period of time.

As a third objective, we feel it necessary to re-evaluate LATEX's internal concepts and reverse those that have been proven inadequate.

In our talks at last year's conferences [8, 9, 10, 11], we presented a concept for a re-implementation of LATEX. After discussing this topic, Leslie Lamport and one of the authors (FMi) agreed on a two-step procedure, first redesigning the style interface, and then enhancing the user interface.<sup>1</sup>

Further discussion throughout this year has shown that this plan is not feasible as the internal style file interface is affected too greatly by enhancements in the user interface, and vice versa. Therefore, we abandoned this idea and decided to merge both steps, at least temporarily.<sup>2</sup> As a result, the discussion then focused on three different major topics, the enhancements and changes to the user inter-

1. This was published as the update section in [8] and [7].

2. We feel that it is still sensible to defer certain parts of the revision to a later stage. However, this will only concern internals of the implementation and not induce any changes to the user or the style-designer interface.

face, the revision of the style file interface, and the re-evaluation of internal concepts.

In the following sections, we will discuss the topics which we have been concerned with since last year's conference and the state of their realisation.

## 2 The User Interface

Any change to the user interface of an existing program always opens the question of compatibility. While we judge this question as very important, we feel that it is not justified, for the sake of upward-compatibility, to leave all existing features untouched, even when they have proven to be inadequate. This means that we try to keep these sorts of changes small, and devise a possibility to emulate LATEX 2.09 in the new LATEX to allow processing of older documents with few or no changes.

**2.1 Attribute concept.** It has been generally agreed in the ongoing discussion that an attribute concept as supported by DCF GML [4, 5] and SGML [3] would be a great improvement. Since this is a major change, it was discussed whether such a concept would render the optional arguments obsolete. But as the number of LATEX users is far greater than most people think, such an incompatible change in the syntax is not feasible. In addition, the old optional arguments and star forms provide convenient short forms for the most important attributes. While there have been several proposals for an attribute syntax as well as one prototype implementation, a final decision has not been made as yet. But it seems probable that this concept will only be available for environments, not for ordinary commands. We think that this will be sufficient since it is planned to provide environment forms of all text producing commands (cf. 2.7).

**2.2 Robust and fragile commands.** The distinction between robust and fragile commands will no longer be present. Instead, all text in moving arguments will be automatically protected against expansion.<sup>3</sup>

To allow the style file writer the specification of text that has to be expanded, there will be a command that removes or partly removes this protection.

We do not consider it necessary to give this feature to the user. Hence, this is not available in the user interface.<sup>4</sup>

**2.3 Font selection.** The new font selection scheme is already being distributed as beta test version for LATEX 2.09 and seems to be working very well. It is also the basis for the `amsfonts` style op-

tion that makes the `AMSFONTS` collection available for LATEX and is part of the `AMS-LATEX` distribution [1].

Nevertheless, the current implementation should not yet be regarded as the final product. Time and users' demands will show whether it has to be improved.

**2.4 Front matter.** The specification of preliminary material is one of the parts which are not handled properly in LATEX 2.09. Although this topic has not been discussed in depth so far, this might be one of the places where the syntax of the new LATEX might differ in an incompatible way.

**2.5 Tables.** The extensions of the `array` and `tabular` environments by Frank Mittelbach [12] seem to be widely accepted. Several further extensions are conceivable, but this needs careful evaluation. There is also a new implementation of these environments by Denys Duchier that includes the extended syntax. This implementation looks very promising and can probably serve a basis for table handling in the new LATEX.

We will provide a command to specify notes to tables working similar to the `\footnote` command inside a `minipage` environment.<sup>5</sup>

**2.6 Math.** The `amstex` style option for LATEX 2.09 implements most of the features of `AMS-TEX` in LATEX syntax (such as `\begin{align}... \end{align}` instead of `\align... \endalign`). As this is now being distributed by the AMS, users are able to typeset complicated math formulas in LATEX without falling back to plain `TEX`'s idiosyncrasies [1].

However, the implementation still has some loopholes that need to be eliminated in future versions.<sup>6</sup>

**2.7 Text producing arguments.** All commands with arguments in which the user specifies

3. The approach of LATEX 2.09 to expand everything by default is counter-intuitive and a common source of nasty errors.

4. Expansion is normally necessary to cope with problems presented by the asynchronous output routine mechanism together with macros that change their contents, so that it is essential to write the expansion and not the macro name to a file, etc.

5. Using `\footnotemark` and `\footnotetext` commands inside a table that (additionally) has to be put inside a `minipage` environment is another counter-intuitive concept of LATEX 2.09.

6. Some features do not work correctly in boundary cases. This is partly due to limitations in the current LATEX, e.g., the primitive handling of `\begin{...} \end{...}` (see below), etc.

text to be typeset (e.g., `\fbox`) will also be available in an environment form to allow their use in user-defined environments.

**2.8 Verbatim input.** The use of the `\verb` command will be possible in all circumstances.<sup>7</sup> A similar extension of the `verbatim` environment is not possible.<sup>8</sup> But this restriction is lessened by the possibility to use the environment form of the respective command in which the `verbatim` environment may be used.

**2.9 Float positioning.** L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X 2.09 was designed for documents containing only relatively few floats.<sup>9</sup> The new implementation will improve the float position algorithm and the user's control. This might include some sort of an 'h' option that really means "here".<sup>10</sup> There have also been proposals to prohibit the use of multiple captions within one float, thus allowing the document style to position the caption according to its own rules. But these topics have not yet been discussed thoroughly enough to present a final concept.

**2.10 Bibliographies.** The handling of citations and bibliographies will probably change to support several conventions. Since this topic depends on the development of the new BIBT<sub>E</sub>X to some extent, it is not yet clear what is actually implementable.

Specific problems concerning citations and the interaction with BIBT<sub>E</sub>X are discussed in [14] and in [13].

**2.11 Omitting environment end tags.** The implementation of a prototype for error recovery in case of unmatched `\end` tags 4.1 has shown that it is possible to implement the concept of implied `\end` tags. This feature will help in writing SGML parsers that produce L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X output. Whether the detection of implied `\begin` tags, e.g., the omission of the first `\item` in a list environment, can be easily implemented requires further testing.

### 3 The Style-Designer Interface

As we stated above, the main goal for the design of the style file interface is making it easily applicable. Therefore, the new interface will contain a lot more generic commands allowing for the specification of a wide range of layouts with a minimum of effort.

**3.1 International language support.** Support for more than one language (US English) was one of the key issues that triggered this L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X reimplementation project. In the new implementation, all textual representations in style files will be settable. While this is certainly not sufficient to sup-

port the different typographic conventions of different countries, it allows for typesetting foreign texts within the usual typographic conventions.

**3.2 Hooks.** For the implementation of certain layouts, it is often necessary to carry out specific actions at well-defined points, e.g., the footnote placement algorithm of this article has to be initialized at `\begin{document}`. For this type of application, many of the internal commands will contain hooks that allow the style file writer to add code to these commands without overwriting the original definitions.<sup>11</sup>

**3.3 Generic section headers.** One goal for the style file interface is to provide the designer with a generic heading macro which implements a broad range of layouts by varying certain parameters. It is clear that a proper balance has to be found between the internal complexity of such a command and the number of different layouts which are specifiable through it. Several different syntax proposals have been discussed so far, but the discussion hasn't reached a satisfactory conclusion, as yet.

The new mechanism will probably provide a specification for headings, in which the designer has complete control over heading layout, e.g., positioning supplied text<sup>12</sup>, ornaments<sup>13</sup> and the like. It is planned to support the following general types of headings:

- Vertically oriented headings, where the heading is separated by white space from preceding and following text.<sup>14</sup> There will be parameters to allow the heading to extend into one or both margins.

7. However, due to limitations of the T<sub>E</sub>X program itself, the use of multiple blanks in one `\verb` command will not be supported in all cases.

8. In L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X 2.09 neither the `\verb` command nor the `verbatim` environment may be used in arguments.

9. If, for example, the space for floats is larger than the surrounding main text, as is often the case in appendices of manuals, etc, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X 2.09 is seldom able to compile the document without running out of memory space, even if the float parameters are given full flexibility.

10. We are aware of the problem of handling previously deferred floats of the same kind.

11. In L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X 2.09 a lot of style options are incompatible with each other, simply because they redefine the same internal macro.

12. For example, 'Chapter' in the `\chapter` command.

13. Rules and dingbats, etc.

14. This layout has already been realized to a certain extent in the `\@startsection` command of L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X 2.09. But this generic macro is not able to specify the layout of the heading (except setting the used font), so that it can not even be used for standard headings like the `\chapter` command.

- Horizontally oriented headings, where the heading is partially or fully placed into one of the margins beside the following text.<sup>15</sup> A critical problem with this sort of layout is to guarantee that enough space is available and that any necessary hanging indentation (for headings placed only partly into the margin) is applied up to the necessary point.
- Run-in headings, where the text following continues on the same line as the heading.<sup>16</sup>

The designer will be given tools for specifying the heading layout in an easy manner, so that it is possible to vary the layout depending on things like the length of the heading text, the presence or absence of a heading number, etc.

It is planned to allow for the specification of a minimal amount of text that has to follow a heading.<sup>17</sup>

**3.4 Generic table-of-contents entries.** What has been said in the last subsection about generic section headers applies to the formatting of entries in the table of contents as well. This has not yet been discussed in detail, but we hope that a proper implementation of generic section headers can be used as a starting point for generic toc entry formatting. The same mechanism can then be used for other types of tables as well (lof, lot, etc.).

**3.5 Generic lists.** Necessary extensions and corrections of the generic list environment have been already discussed in [8, 11]. There have been a few proposals concerning lists, but this topic needs further attention, as it affects a major part of most style files.

**3.6 Parameter tables.** There has been a proposal to group certain parameters into tables to make their structure and dependence visible. One item that will probably change on the style designer level in this way is the specification of default parameters for different levels of lists. But it is not yet clear, whether such a concept is implementable in an efficient manner.

**3.7 Paragraph design.** The specification of paragraph layout (such as different forms of ragged right typesetting) will be improved. The designer will be given the possibility to specify such layouts not only for the main text, but also for footnotes, floats, etc.<sup>18</sup>

**3.8 Toc levels.** There are book designs which require several tables of contents, e.g., one for the whole book and those referring to each chapter. This touches on the topic of auxiliary file handling (cf.

4.2) since the current mechanism does not allow more than one table per document. There will be support to select only certain entries of a table of contents for printing. A prototype implementation for this feature was written by Nico Poppelier.

**3.9 Documentation.** The interface between the style files and the LATEX kernel will be documented properly. We will provide a complete description as well as a number of examples.

## 4 Internals

**4.1 Error recovery.** In the current LATEX, an omitted or misspelled environment name usually produced a lot of error messages and often suppressed any further compilation of the document. In the new implementation, certain classes of environment errors are detected and corrected without damaging the output. For this complex, a prototype implementation is currently undergoing alpha testing. It implements the following features:

**Incorrect \begin tag** If the user misspells the name of the environment desired inside the `\begin` tag, an error message is generated and the offending `\begin` tag is ignored.<sup>19</sup> However, the user is allowed to insert the correct environment name by specifying `i\begin{<envir>}` in response to the error message.<sup>20</sup>

**Incorrect \end tag** When an incorrect `\end` tag is encountered, e.g., `\begin{bar} ... \end{foo}`, the new LATEX tries the following recovery:

1. If `\end{foo}` is unknown, we assume that the user misspelled the name and recover by replacing `\end{foo}` with `\end{<curenvir>}`. This will produce an error message but will allow safe continuation of the compilation afterwards.
2. If `\end{foo}` is a legitimate `\end` tag, i.e., if the corresponding internal environment start com-

15. This sort of layout is not supported in the current version.

16. Again, this layout is provided in LATEX 2.09 but does not allow specifying the layout of the heading, e.g., punctuation marks at the end, underlining, etc.

17. In LATEX 2.09 this is the fixed amount of two lines of text. It might be possible that a more general implementation will fail in special cases due to TeX limitations.

18. In LATEX 2.09, this is not possible without redefining several internal macros, because the paragraph shape parameters are reset at several points to fixed defaults.

19. Of course, this mechanism will be triggered only if the user did not exchange one environment name for another.

20. In LATEX 2.09, this response would result in TeX error messages at the end of the compilation.

mand is defined, we check to see whether there are any unresolved `\begin{foo}` environments.

- (a) If so, the currently open environment is closed by inserting an `\end{\curenvir}` tag.<sup>21</sup> Afterwards `\end{foo}` is tried again. This mechanism will close all open environments until the correct one is found. Depending on the status of an internal variable, this will either produce an error message, or a warning message, or will be executed silently to allow for the implementation of implied `\end` tags.
- (b) If there is no open `\begin{foo}` we simply ignore the `\end` tag after issuing an appropriate error message. The underlying idea is that this `\end` tag is probably left over after moving some text in the source around.

**4.2 Auxiliary file handling.** We will implement a two-step approach for `.aux` files where all information is written to an intermediate file which is then copied to the ‘real’ `.aux` file at the end of the run. As a result, there will be only one `.aux` file instead of the many files produced by L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X 2.09 when the `\include` command is used. The new scheme will make it possible to preserve cross-reference information if a compile run ended prematurely.<sup>22</sup> In addition, it will be possible to detect whether `\include` files have to be re-compiled because of changes in other parts of the document, or not.

**4.3 References.** The use of symbolic references will be extended to include textual references, if desired.<sup>23</sup> Whether this will result in some changes concerning the user interfaces not has not been discussed so far. If it is feasible, we will also provide the possibility for hierarchical references.<sup>24</sup>

**4.4 Page selection.** To provide easy access to the different parts of a document at the printing level, we plan to record certain document structure information in the `\count` registers 0–9. Besides the usual page counter in `\count 0`, this might include the physical page number, the current chapter, section, or subsection, ... number, to allow the printing of, e.g., Chapter 6 or “all preliminary pages”<sup>25</sup> by giving a simple page selection pattern to the printer driver.<sup>26</sup>

**4.5 Plain T<sub>E</sub>X compatibility.** We tend to build up the new L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X from scratch, i.e., not to read in the plain T<sub>E</sub>X format (or a nearly identical variant) as a basis when building a format file.<sup>27</sup> This does not mean the useful functions, `\mathchar` definitions, etc. of `plain.tex` will be discarded, but con-

cepts which are obsolete in the L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X environment or macros that can be implemented in a better way will be replaced or removed.

## 5 Beta testing

It took L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X about three years to develop into a stable system. To avoid needing a similar period of time when switching to the new version, we plan to run the new version throughout the development at a few selected sites for beta testing. So, if you are a maintainer of a T<sub>E</sub>X installation and think that you can persuade your users to play willing (or unwilling) guinea pigs, please, contact one of the authors. Your installation should have the following characteristics:

- A running T<sub>E</sub>X 3.0 preferably (but not necessary) with drivers supporting the virtual fonts introduced with T<sub>E</sub>X 3.0.
- A fair amount of L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X processing in a fully supported L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X 2.09 environment (including a customized Local Guide) and at least one user with some experience in style writing.
- A working eMail connection.
- A maintainer (you) who is willing to
  - provide backups and fast user support in case something goes wrong
  - send in bug reports, if necessary
  - compile new formats when updates arrive.

21. The implementation of this part of the recovery is not as straight forward as it may seem. The term `(curenvir)` does not necessarily refer to the innermost open environment because it may be possible that a user defined environment calls other environments in its body. In such a case, the calling environment has to be closed first, because the inner environments are resolved in its `\end` tag.

22. The current implementation writes directly to the `.aux` file, so that its contents are damaged or lost when an error occurs.

23. In the current L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, references can only be made to counter values, or more exactly, to a combination of counter values. This will lead to problems if document styles decide to use unnumbered headings, for example.

24. In L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X 2.09, this has been realized for the `enumerate` environment, to some extent.

25. In L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X 2.09, it is often not possible to print a specific set of pages that have the same T<sub>E</sub>X page numbers as other pages that come earlier in the document.

26. With most printer drivers, the first page to print can be selected by specifying a pattern to be matched against T<sub>E</sub>X’s `\count` registers 0–9. We propose that drivers also allow for the specification of a pattern for the pages to be included.

27. Currently, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X is built on top of `lplain.tex` which differs from `plain.tex` in only a few places. This means that even the funny keyboard support (for SAIL terminals) is included that will give you in certain situations a ‘ $\oplus$ ’ character if you key in `$^~M$`.

The work that has to be carried out by the beta testers should not be underestimated. It is probably a time-consuming commitment since a lot of organizing is usually involved. Nevertheless, we hope that there will be enough people around willing to help us in this stage of development, so that we can finally return a product to the user that will have the same success as the current LATEX had.

Throughout the beta testing phase, LATEX will have to show its abilities in real life situations. As TEX and LATEX are currently finding their way into new areas, we hope that people from these fields will take the opportunity to test whether the new LATEX matches their needs by participating in the testing phase. This is the time when it is still possible to correct errors before they become established as unfortunate facts.

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# Public-Domain, Documented Implementations of **T<sub>E</sub>X** and **METAFONT** for VAX/VMS

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## Abstract

In this paper, a VMS implementation of the most recent versions of **T<sub>E</sub>X**, **METAFONT** and all the important support utilities are described. Some of the important features include **T<sub>E</sub>X** sensitive VMS editors, command-line interfaces, and complete documentation, both HELP and printed manuals.

Two public-domain implementations of **T<sub>E</sub>X** on VAX/VMS have been in use for some time: the first was by David Fuchs of Stanford University and the second [*TUGboat*, V10], derived from Fuchs', was by one of the authors of this paper. The latter provided an interface to two of the most popular editors on VMS (TPU and EDT) and an expanded memory. However, most of the additions were written in Fortran rather than Pascal. In this paper, we present a compatible but greatly enhanced VMS implementation of **T<sub>E</sub>X** 3.0. Equivalent changes to the latest version of **METAFONT** are also summarised. This implementation was carried out by the first author, again derived from Fuchs' earlier work, with occasional assistance from Niel Kempson, also of RMCS; the second author merely hassled for particular features to be included.

## Editing after Errors

The most significant enhancement again concerns the editor interface. When **T<sub>E</sub>X** encounters an error in an interactive run, typing “e” (or “E”) to its prompt invokes an editor. The editor which is invoked may be one of the standard set of VMS editors (TPU, EDT, LSE, TECO), or an unsupported editor such as SOS. The one to be used is specified via the logical name **TEX\$EDIT**; this is analogous to other VMS utilities such as MAIL. (If this logical has not been defined, or expands to something that this implementation can't handle, the default **T<sub>E</sub>X** response ensues, the user being told whereabouts to

edit his/her file.) The four standard editors are specified by setting **TEX\$EDIT** to one of CALLABLE\_TPU, CALLABLE\_EDT, CALLABLE\_LSE or CALLABLE\_TECO, so the desired editor could be defined *e.g.*

```
$ DEFINE TEX$EDIT CALLABLE_TPU
```

As these names suggest, the appropriate editor is dynamically linked to **T<sub>E</sub>X** and then invoked. Wherever possible, the cursor is moved to the point in the text at which **T<sub>E</sub>X** detected the error.

- For TPU and LSEedit, the cursor *is* always positioned correctly.
- In the case of TECO, the user is provided with a macro (M1) which moves to the correct place when it is executed.
- Since EDT does not really support the ability to position the cursor from outside its “change” mode, this is done by sleight-of-hand. The method adopted *does* position the cursor, but results in EDT generating an error message on entry; a message which can safely be ignored.

The alert reader might ask “What about users' initialisation files?”. In the case of LSEedit and TPU, the editor interface need only invoke the editor and pass in the desired cursor position with the /START\_POSITION qualifier, so any initialization file defined through the relevant logical will still be included. With EDT, the /COMMAND qualifier is used to pass the name of the file which positions the cursor correctly; this will be written to **TEX\$EDTINI.EDT**; thus it may be written elsewhere if **TEX\$EDTINI** is

defined as a suitable logical name. If the logical name `EDTINI` is defined, then the initialization file arranges to execute the commands in the file indicated by this logical after the cursor has been positioned. With TECO, things get more complicated: according to the documentation, the callable version of TECO is supposed to accept a parameter defining the initialization file; however, this doesn't work. Many hours spent poring over a trace of the execution of `TECOSHR` revealed that the code to interpret this third parameter is bypassed. Therefore, *TeX* redefines the logical `TEC$INIT` to reference its initialization file (which is written to `TEX$TECOINI.EDT`). Any user's initialization previously defined in this logical will first be included in the new file, before the cursor positioning macro is defined into register Q1. After editing is completed, the original definition of `TEC$INIT` is restored, if there was one.

Any other translation of `TEX$EDIT` is considered to be a DCL command to be executed in a subprocess. (This may, of course, be a command procedure, in which case the equivalence string will commence with an “@ character.) Three arguments are passed to the DCL command: the name of the file to edit, and the line and column at which the error was detected. (These latter numbers are one-based, *i.e.* the first character of the file is at line 1, column 1.) *TeX* examines the status returned by this DCL command or command procedure. Any error status causes *TeX* to revert to its default behaviour, exiting after telling the user where the file should be edited.

After the error has been corrected, the editor may be exited, creating a new version of the input file. At this point, control returns to *TeX*, so that the user may fix the problem within *TeX* and continue with the run if he or she so wishes. This feature permits several errors to be corrected in a single *TeX* execution; however, it is important to realise that *TeX* continues to process the *original* (*i.e.*, incorrect) file. However, further invocations of the editor will read in the *latest* version of the source file. (In the case of LSEedit and TPU, this implementation is able to recognize that the user has quit from the editor without writing a new file, and under these circumstances the original file will continue to be read until a new version is written.) It is not possible to make this discrimination with other editors, although a warning status returned by an editor run in a sub-process will be interpreted in this same manner. The `dvi` and log files continue to be written in the usual fashion.

Some criticism has been directed at the authors for continuing to process the *TeX* source after per-

forming an edit. It has been suggested that the description of the “E” option in *The TeXbook* [p.32] implies that *TeX* *must* exit after performing the edit, just like typing “X.” However, experience has shown the usefulness of being able to perform further edits (not the least of which is that LATEX’s auxiliary files get completed correctly). The user can always type Control-Y to abort *TeX* if he/she considers that the error is too severe to permit sensible recovery after editing. All files created by *TeX* itself in the current run (`dvi`, `lis`, `aux`, etc.), will then be discarded, although the new source file(s) written by the editor will be retained.

## Diagnostic Feedback whilst Editing

Another feature of this implementation, relating to the language-sensitive editor, LSE, is unconnected with the use of that editor from *TeX*’s error prompt. However, it *does* prove extremely useful when used the other way round, *i.e.* when *TeX* is invoked from *within* the language-sensitive editor by use of the latter’s `COMPILE` command. The definition of “language” LATEX for LSE includes the following:

```
/CAPABILITIES=DIAGNOSTICS -
/COMPILE_COMMAND= -
    "LATEX /BATCH 'LSE$FILE'" -
```

(Similar definitions could be provided for the “languages” *TeX* and *SLiTeX*.) As *TeX* runs, in batch mode, all error messages are written in *TeX*’s normal format to the log file, and are written additionally in the diagnostics file in a format defined by DEC. After processing has been completed, control is returned to LSEedit and the latter’s `REVIEW` command will then read in the diagnostics file. By using the `NEXT STEP` and `PREVIOUS STEP` commands, each error report in the `REVIEW` window may be highlighted; the `GOTO SOURCE` command will then position the cursor at that point in the relevant source file at which the error was detected. (It is *not* recommended that LSEedit be invoked from within *TeX* when generating a diagnostics file, because the latter will not be available to LSEedit until *TeX* completes its processing.)

## Command-Line Interface

Another major improvement offered by the new implementation is that it provides a proper command-line interface to DCL via a `.CLD` (command definition) file. The DCL commands defined in this file may be made available to the user’s process by saying:

```
$ SET COMMAND TEX
```

This is usually done in the command procedure which establishes logical names and DCL symbols needed by **TEX**. However, this DCL operation is quite slow, so it is better performed (once only) by the system manager and installed in the standard **SYS\$SHARE:DCLTABLES.EXE** file.

The DCL command **TEX** supports the following qualifiers:

- /BATCH which tells **TEX** to start running in batch mode
- /BIG to use the big-memory version of **TEX**
- /DIAGNOSTICS=*filename* for specifying the name of the LSE diagnostics file. If no file specification is provided, **TEX** will use the name of the first file input, with an extension of **.DIA**
- /DVI\_FILE=*filename* for overriding the default name of the resulting **dvi** file. If this qualifier is not supplied, the name of the **dvi** file is the same as that of the first file input, with an extension of **.DVI**  
This qualifier may be negated (**/NODVI\_FILE**) and will then suppress generation of the **dvi** file. This can be useful when making the first one or two passes over **LATEX** source files to generate all cross-references and **BIBTEX** citations. The log file will report that no **dvi** file was generated, but it will also say how large it would have been.
- /FORMAT=*filename* to specify the name of the format file; this defaults to  
**TEX\$FORMATS:PLAIN.FMT**  
Other DCL verbs can be defined such that **LATEX** invokes the image of **TEX** with **/FORMAT=TEX\$FORMATS:LPLAIN.FMT** as default, etc.
- /INITEX to invoke **iniTEX** rather than **TEX**; **iniTEX** is used to build format (**.FMT**) files. As an amusing aside, when this command definition file was first written, it defined **INITEX** as a verb. Later that night the operators discovered that attempting to **INITIALIZE** a magnetic tape for backup actually invoked **iniTEX**: DCL only looks at the first four characters of a command verb!
- /LOG\_FILE=*filename* to override the default name of **TEX**'s transaction log-file. If this qualifier is not supplied, the name of the log-file is based on that of the first file input, but with an extension of **.LIS**.  
This qualifier may be negated (**/NOLOG\_FILE**) to suppress generation of a log file.
- /TRIP invokes a version of **TEX** which has arrays of the correct sizes for the TRIP test.

The **TEX** command also accepts a single parameter, which is normally the name of the file to be processed. Its default extension is, of course, **.TEX**. However, the entire command line is used for this parameter, and is folded to lowercase (DCL having "kindly" converted it to uppercase) before **TEX** sees it, so that one can include most **TEX** commands on the DCL command line. (They must, of course, be commands which contain no upper-case letters). Recent development work on **METAFONT** revealed that it was easier to require that strings containing multiple commands, with embedded spaces, should be entered as a standard DCL quoted string, replacing the usual single parameter of a file name. Since this quoting will preserve lowercase letters correctly, a future update of this **TEX** implementation will remove the folding to lowercase; this new version *will* permit the insertion of uppercase letters where desired in command lines.

If any input file cannot be found in the current directory, **TEX** looks in the directory (or all of the directories in a comma-separated list) specified by the logical name **TEX\$INPUTS**. Similarly, **TEX** uses the logical name **TEX\$FONTS** to specify the directory or directories in which to look for font (**.TFM**) files.

**TEX** returns a status to VMS as it exists. This will be one of **STS\$K\_SUCCESS**, **STS\$K\_WARNING**, **STS\$K\_ERROR** or **STS\$K\_FATAL**, depending on whether **TEX** detected errors and how they were handled. Although this status can be tested in the usual way, **TEX** inhibits VMS from outputting the corresponding error message.

**Changing change files.** As the changes are supplied, there is a master change file, **TEX.CH** and subsidiary change files, such as **TEX-INITECH.CH** for building **iniTEX**, and **TEX-BIGTEX.CH** to enlarge the size of many of **TEX**'s internal tables. There is an accompanying program, **WMERGE.C**, which can be used to merge the change file and subsequent modifications to it.

This **WEBmerge** program must originally have been written in **WEB**, since the original C source contains references to **wmerge.web**, but there is no indication of the author. It was extended (and debugged) by BHK, who added facilities such that it could match **WEB**'s various **@x,@y** and **@z** commands within change sections themselves. By applying these subsidiary change files to the master file, change files are created for generating the different variants from the one master **TEX.WEB**.

The reason for distributing the big **TEX** changes separately is that the version with smaller memory

requirements runs a little faster on smaller VAXen (approximately 16% faster on a VAX-11/750).

At present, no provision has been made for applying the changes to generate T<sub>E</sub>X-XET, but it is under consideration.

## METAFONT

A similar implementation of METAFONT has also been performed. This supports an essentially identical editing interface, but controlled by the logical name MF\$EDIT. It also has a similar command-line interface, supporting the following qualifiers:

/BASE=filename specifies the name of the base (analogous to T<sub>E</sub>X's preloaded format) file to be loaded. This defaults to the file MF\$BASES:PLAIN.BASE. Again, another verb can be defined to run with CMplain by default.

/BATCH indicates that the run is to take place in batch mode.

/DIAGNOSTICS=filename specifies the diagnostic file for use with LSE.

/GF\_FILE=filename specifies the name of the file to receive the *generic font* file, which can be further processed to a pk or pxl file. This defaults to the name of the first file read in, but with an extension of .<mag>GF, where <mag> reflects the pixels/inch of the file; the default will thus be .2602GF if mode=proof.

/NOGF\_FILE suppresses output of the gf file.

/INIMF to invoke iniMETAFONT, which can build base (.BASE) files

/LOG\_FILE=filename to specify the name of the file to be used for METAFONT's log-file. This defaults to the name of the first file read in, but with an extension of .LIS

/NOLOG\_FILE suppresses output of the log file.

/TRAP invokes a version of METAFONT which has arrays of the correct sizes for the TRAP test

Analogously with T<sub>E</sub>X, METAFONT uses the default extension .MF on input files. The current directory is scanned for an input file. If it is not found there, the comma-separated list of directories specified by the logical name MF\$INPUTS is searched.

**Graphics support.** There is one major difference between T<sub>E</sub>X and METAFONT. When designing fonts, some means of interactively viewing the glyphs is invaluable. This implementation allows previewing on several graphics terminals; the device to be used is selected by assigning a mnemonic to the logical name MF\$TERM before invoking METAFONT. If this logical is not defined, or its definition

doesn't correspond with one of the recognized values, then graphics output is suppressed. The recognized mnemonics are (note that these are case-sensitive):

go140 GraphOn 140 terminal

gp Northwest Digital Technology's *Graphics Plus* terminal

tek Tektronix 4105 (or compatible) terminal

vis Visual Technology's *Visual 550* terminal

## Future Directions

Both these implementations have been in use for a reasonable amount of time at a number of sites and no problems have been reported. They are available from the UK T<sub>E</sub>X archive at Aston, both as change files and as object modules. Don Hosek has recently been extending the change files so as to permit the use of different logical names (some people believe that they should obey DEC's stricture that logical names containing dollar signs are private to DEC themselves). He has also made a major contribution by removing graphics support into separate shareable images (one for each terminal type supported) which means that a new graphics display may be supported without the necessity of revising the METAFONT change file and recompilation. His extensions to this implementation will then become the default for the VMS-world.

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# Post Congress Tristesse

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## Abstract

Almost every conference now has its proceedings made available to attendees, and perhaps even published to a wider audience. This is a description of the production of one conference proceedings, charting progress and pitfalls from the conference itself to the final bound proceedings being mailed to the attendees. It attempts to suggest that some aspects of the publishing process are perhaps more awkward than we might expect, but equally that there are unexpected rewards as well.

## Introduction

Because we deal with an electronic typesetting system we may subscribe to the widespread myth that the progression of documents from manuscript to published form is now easier and more straightforward than it was formerly. The original text may be captured directly at the keyboard, then massaged into its correct grammatical and syntactical form until eventually something emerges which we may happily present to a publisher (or perhaps a local print shop). Because most of the process is (almost) under our own control we begin to wonder what all the fuss is about. On the other hand, few people really do complete the path from manuscript to book, although most of us are sure that it represents only a few more small steps forward.

The gulf between this make believe world and an instance—the production of the proceedings of the *TeX88* conference—may help to expose the myth (and create other ones). It is a single instance, and of course is straightforward to dismiss through its own blend of chance and circumstance.

Perhaps I should have learned by my own previous experiences. The first conference proceedings I edited and produced through *TeX* was in 1984. This took an agonising 3 years (April 1981 to May 1984), but I at least had the excuse of having to key in the manuscripts myself, struggle with a buggy implementation of *TeX80* and placate (apparently ungrateful) authors. Preview devices were few and far between and my only output device was an Autologic APS- $\mu$ 5. In other words, I went straight to bromide, and often from there to the bin. But eventually the proceedings were published, and I still think they are quite attractive. There are some things I would change, but the constraints

of CDC Cyber/*TeX80*/APS- $\mu$ 5 would have made such refinements extremely difficult. Shortly after, I typeset a book of thermodynamic tables using the Cyber/*TeX80*/APS- $\mu$ 5 combination which were subsequently published by Pergamon.

In 1985–6 I had the temerity to write a Fortran book, which I produced entirely through the medium of *TeX* on a PC. The very first versions of *TeX* on IBM personal computers had appeared. This was my first encounter with stable and reliable *TeX*. The Fortran book was laser “typeset” on an Imagen 8/300, and I had a preview facility on the PC. Of course, in those heady days, we thought that laser printed output was good.

By 1986 I therefore had some experience not only with producing conference proceedings, but also with producing a whole author-prepared book through *TeX*. I thought I had solved most of the problems inherent in the publishing process. A publisher was now merely the outfit handling printing, binding and distribution. Everything else could be under my control. This of course was the sort of image being presented at the time as “desktop publishing” took hold. Having “published” from the desktop before the terms were invented, I felt I knew it all.

## Theory

Obviously a conference proceedings is at least as easy to produce as a book. After all, the manuscripts are prepared by someone else, so the creation or origination is already taken care of. All we have to do is take the “compu-scripts” and pipe them through *TeX*, and lo, a few minutes later, out will come the proceedings, which can then be dispatched

to the publisher. Within a few weeks of the conference, the bound volume will be winging its way to the participants. Excellent theory. But consider the following.

**Ennui.** If the conference organizer is also the editor of the proceedings, he or she may feel that once the last participant finally departs that it's over. The adrenalin levels reduce and you can start normal life again. Wrong. The difficult bit is just beginning. First you have to extract the papers from the authors, while at the same time fending off the participants who want to know when the proceedings will be out. The few authors who have already presented you with their papers also cannot see why there is any delay.

**The paper isn't finished yet.** The authors may not yet have finished writing their papers. What they presented is likely not quite what they wrote down. As an editor, you can of course take a really hard line and demand that all papers have to be in before they may be presented. In my view this is unrealistic and counter productive. *T<sub>E</sub>X* users are known by their cooperative and amiable natures (the one or two exceptions are all the more cuddly and lovable for not adhering to this norm).

If you are trying to arrange a conference, you want as many papers as possible. It's an eerie feeling scheduling three days of talks long before anyone says they are coming. The first few months of organisation are very lonely. In general you are delighted to extract a plausible title and an abstract. Demanding a fully written paper is expecting a great deal. In any case, I would argue that the paper might so benefit from the delivery that it requires amendment, enhancement, improvement, or even rewriting. If the conference is any good it will expose the authors to some new ideas which likely have relevance to their own specialties. So at best we can expect some editing by the authors, which will take up some time; at worst, we can expect to see the paper actually rewritten.

**T<sub>E</sub>X or L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X?** Since we have (at least) two "standards," *T<sub>E</sub>X* and *L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X*, some authors prefer one, and some the other. At the time of the conference I had very little experience with *L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X* style files, and didn't really want to convert to *L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X*. The "standard" *L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X* book style seemed clumsy and foreign to me. At the time it seemed less arduous to change the *L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X* "encoded" documents to plain than vice versa. Fortunately no-one submitted an article in something completely bizarre. At no time

did I assume I could produce a heterogeneous volume which combined both plain *T<sub>E</sub>X* and *L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X*—although that is what *TUGboat* does.

Of course it was always the intention to produce the whole proceedings with *T<sub>E</sub>X*. As a matter of principle, but also because many of the papers discussed aspects of *T<sub>E</sub>X* which could only be illustrated by using *T<sub>E</sub>X* itself.

## The Papers Trickle In

Almost all the papers arrived electronically, either as floppy disks (of both persuasions), or as electronic mail. I had no difficulty in transferring all of these to the Macintosh with Kermit. There was still one slight problem, since one of the major relays used by the UK for the transmission of electronic mail is Rutherford, where due to an incompatibility between ASCII and EBCDIC certain characters are mapped incorrectly. Incorrect mapping is no great problem, provided it is one to one. It isn't. Fortunately, knowing the problem, it is possible to correct it manually.

And one or two came on paper, or not at all. This last category represents a problem. Naturally I wanted the conference proceedings to reflect what went on at the conference—or, at least, the formal part of what went on. I was reluctant to erect some sort of refereeing structure. It was not an academic conference, and refereeing seems inappropriate. Therefore the papers are not going to be screened beforehand, except in a very rudimentary way. Once a paper has been presented it should be represented in the proceedings, if the proceedings are supposed to represent the conference. Two papers which were on the program but not presented do not appear in the proceedings. One extra paper does appear, but I plead extenuating circumstances and editor's privileges (there's no point having power if you don't abuse it). The extra paper was from Poland, and discussed some aspects of the adaptation of *T<sub>E</sub>X* to Polish typographic needs. This seemed so appropriate and apposite for a European conference that, despite the fact that the authors could not present the paper, I included it.

This still leaves the problem of the papers which don't arrive. There are several reasons why this might occur. Some papers just never do get written, and some did fall in that category. But I still had the abstract. So the abstracts went into the proceedings. The other non-papers were those which were written, but went elsewhere because of the delay. Really, only one fell into that category.

The particular paper contained a great deal of rather Unix-specific, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X-specific graphics and had proved to be beyond the capabilities of any driver to process (in its entirety). It was therefore a paper I put to the bottom of my pile, and when I came to retrieve it, it had gone (it is available in another form now).

## A Matter of Style

I had decided not to issue a set of style instructions to authors, except to indicate that provided they could provide an ASCII text, with or without markup, I would handle it. This seemed an almost achievable base level. My own experience, borne out with conversations with others, seemed to be that authors would ignore the stylistic recommendations anyway. There are two stylistic features at work here. There is the ‘consistency’ aspect of style, and the “use of language” aspect

**Consistency.** The “house style” may require that we always refer to a device independent file as a `dvi`, or `.dvi` or even `dvi` file. We can always say that provided we encode the phrase as `\dvi` it really doesn’t matter. The “style” will pick it up and put it in correctly. But first you have to have the author encode it as `\dvi`. They might, and they might not. Were it not for authors and their whims and vagaries, producing books would be simple. There are also the other elements of expanding “*e.g.*” to “*for example*” and “*i.e.*” to “*that is.*”

**Language.** “Use of language” is a fascinating area. The language of the conference was English, for which I make no apologies; English is sufficiently well-understood in the rest of Europe to make it close to a *lingua franca*—ignoring the obvious oxymoron. But as an international conference, the first language of many of those offering papers was not English.

What then do we do with the infelicities of grammar and style? I find this a thorny problem. I have always resented editors who turn my own idiosyncratic style into bland Euro- (or perhaps Oxo-) english. I prefer to think that what I am reading was written by an individual, and by neither a committee nor a machine. My criterion was therefore “is the meaning clear?” The reader will be able to find sentences in the proceedings which are a little quirky, and which may even amuse. I argue that this is no bad thing, unless it obscures the meaning for those who do not appreciate the full weft and warp of English. These considerations

are as applicable to those who claim to possess English as a first language.

I would like to think that the reader can detect those instances where the authors are not native English speakers, and will therefore appreciate all the more the heroic job those authors will have done in expressing themselves in an alien mode.

My own addition to house style was to remove as many accents as possible. Just because T<sub>E</sub>X allows you to say “naïve” instead of “naive” does not mean you should. English had the foresight to dispense with all this fancy foreign frippery, while accomodating hundreds of “foreign” words. There is no need to lard on the accents to a language which does not use them. If we can distinguish and pronounce rough, cough, chough, lough, through, bough, hough, enough, slough, Slough and tough, as well as bow, cow, low, row, throw, how, hoe, enow, tow, toe, sloe and slow, we really don’t need i in “naive.”

**Look and feel.** There is a rather grander aspect to style, the sort that is enshrined in the look of the book. We each have feeling of what constitutes a sentence or a paragraph, and how we assemble these elements into larger units. It should not come as too much of a surprise that there is little agreement on these “feelings.” Some people write very long sentences or very long paragraphs. T<sub>E</sub>X hardly encourages paragraphs over about two or three pages long. The subdivision of text into units (like sections and subsections) is a personal business. An article made up of lots of sections and subsections looks very different from one with few. The differing “granularity” may mean that the interplay of white space obscures what the editor fondly thought was the underlying homogeneity of layout style. A conference proceedings is likely to be an extreme example. A book by a single author is far less likely to exhibit these pathological symptoms.

## Publish, Please

Although it may not have been obvious to the authors, I was beavering away, assembling, editing and negotiating. I had approached a couple of publishers with the project, choosing those who I knew to have some “interest” in T<sub>E</sub>X. Addison Wesley (who produced the first European T<sub>E</sub>X Conference Proceedings) didn’t want to know; similarly, Wiley’s “didn’t do conference proceedings.” So I went back to my old reliable publisher, Ellis Horwood. Provided I produced the typeset pages, they would

do the rest. Naturally I would present them with some interim examples to confirm that I was not too far from their house style.

**The printing.** In the beginning, I thought we would laser print the final copy. Although I knew a few people who could take  $\text{\TeX}$   $\text{dvi}$  and typeset – a few of them had been at the conference: Cambridge University Press, Imprimerie Louis-Jean, Stürtz, American Mathematical Society. I had not done it myself since the days of the  $\text{APS-}\mu\text{s}$ . This is the one area where the delay in production was an advantage. Had I managed to get the proceedings out by Christmas 1988 (once an idle dream), they would have been laser set. The extra effort in going to typeset in late 1989/early 1990 was minimal. The increase in perceived quality seems enormous.

I had become convinced that laser printing was only suitable as a proofing stage. “Masterpieces of the publishing art” were simply not possible with 300 dpi printers. In addition, I had come to the conclusion that Computer Modern looked really good at typeset resolutions, but that it had never been intended for low resolution printing.

I admit I look at the other  $\text{\TeX}$  conference proceedings (the two European conferences and the last two TUG conferences), and I’m inclined to think that they do not show  $\text{\TeX}$  at its best. Having said that, I open myself up to similar criticism. At worst, I think *my* proceedings are merely mediocre. They are still the best produced of the bunch.

I decided to phototypeset, using the University of London Computer Centre’s Linotron 300. Members of the typesetter’s user group had used it to produce  $\text{\TeX}$  output. A couple of friendly Vaxes had been monopolised for a weekend to produce the 1270 dpi  $\text{\TeX}$  fonts, which were subsequently used in a number of publications. I was assured that it was a well-trodden path.

## Production Problems

I was fortunate that none of my authors provided manuscripts which required one of the currently fashionable “gross”  $\text{\TeX}$  versions. Everything could be processed on my 1 Mbyte Mac Plus with *Textures*. By the end of the project I also had access to a 4 Mbyte Macintosh IIci, which was appreciably faster. The last paper to arrive (by email from Austria), Michael Ramek’s, was processed entirely on the IIci. I had always expected that Michael’s paper would present a problem. I had erroneously supposed that he used a “gross”  $\text{\TeX}$ . The complexity of the graphs and chemical structures which

he produced through  $\text{\TeX}$  macros encouraged my view. In the event he made such an excellent job of coding the macros that there was no problem with a “standard” memory version.

**The typesetter strikes back.** Although I had not finished editing all the papers, most were done by the time I had arranged to use the ULCC typesetter. I therefore started to produce some bromides. After all, there should be no problem, others had done it before me. To my surprise and amazement I discovered that “ $\text{\TeX}$ ” fonts meant just that. None of the  $\text{\LaTeX}$  fonts were available, nor were the logo fonts used for the METAFONT logo. After a great deal of ferreting around I found the necessary fonts at the Open University and was able to ship them not only to ULCC, but also to the Aston Archive.

But even shipping the  $\text{dvi}$  to ULCC had presented a problem. My IIci had software which allows a large file to be shipped in a matter of seconds to my host Vax. The Vax could then be used to FTP the file to ULCC, again in a matter of seconds. Unfortunately, this two stage process appeared to damage the file in some way, so that it was not recognisable when it reached the ULCC microVax. I could have solved the problem eventually, but instead I choose to use another route, using Kermit to transfer the  $\text{dvi}$  file directly from the Mac to the microVax which was the typesetter’s front-end. This worked, but it took an enormously long time: a couple of hours for a file. I had been advised to send files of no more than about 40 pages. Needless to say, everything went through at least twice. Just as it is impossible to see the mistakes in preview on the screen, it is also impossible to see all the mistakes in the laser printed copy. Once in bromide, some more of the remaining mistakes leap out before you.

**An exceptional story.** Rick Simpson’s was one of the exceptional papers. The story is a little involved. His paper discussed three ways of inserting diagrams into a  $\text{\TeX}$  document. Two of the ways involved using a preprocessing program which generated both METAFONT code and  $\text{\LaTeX}$  instructions. The METAFONT code was then processed to produce a single character which did all the things that  $\text{\LaTeX}$  couldn’t – for example, graph elements. The third way was to take a scanned image and convert it to “packed pixel” format – in other words, another character which could be handled “in the normal way.” Somehow I had managed to acquire an IBM 6150 running AIX, as well as Rick’s own port of  $\text{\TeX}$  to that machine. I could therefore edit

his paper, which he provided on floppy, readable by AIX. This still didn't solve the problem of output, but I thought I might always either "cut and paste" or have him laser print it from my edited version. I managed to move the text of the paper to a DOS disk (AIX allows you to create DOS disks), which could then be moved, via Kermit, to my Mac. Of course, the diagrams were not going to travel quite so easily. I reasoned that since I had the METAFONT files it should be possible to run these through METAFONT to produce a complete set of pk files which a suitable driver could process.

I persuaded Philip Taylor to generate the pk files: I knew he had some experience with METAFONT, and since he used Vaxes I was confident that the file transfer to ULCC would not be difficult. He duly produced both 300 dpi and 1270 dpi pk versions of the METAFONT files, and ran the paper with the illustrations and the other pk file on his local machine to produce 300 dpi output. When he tried to generate the 1270 dpi version, the device driver fell over and died. Reading Rick's paper a little more closely, I noted that the device driver would have to be able to handle very large characters. Evidently this one had been unable to do so. I would have been happy to have some of the paper typeset and to include as much of the pk "bits" as possible, but unfortunately Phil had lots of other things to do. In the meantime, Rick had sent me an up-to-date laser printed copy of his paper. I resorted to typesetting the text and using cut and paste for the graphics.

I see no conceptual or ethical problems here. Cut and paste has been in the armoury of book producers for a long time. If it is appropriate, I shall continue to use it. It had already become evident that cut and paste was going to be used for the diagrams in Angela Oakley and Tony Norris' paper, since the PostScript files they generated were long gone. This is another instance where speedier production would have been appropriate.

Cut and paste was used only in the two papers mentioned above. All the other "graphical" elements, like those in Michael Ramek's paper, Anne Brüggeman-Klein and Derick Wood's paper, Alois Heinz' paper and Jörg Winckler's were handled by a mixture of *T<sub>E</sub>X* and *Textures*' \specials. Anne and Derick's paper was provided in *L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X*, and made heavy use of the picture environment. Fortunately they also provided some equivalent macros for plain *T<sub>E</sub>X*. These included the picture environment from *L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X*, which is sufficiently modular that it can be removed from *L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X* and used more or less independently. It was used for a diagram in Jörg's

paper, and also, with some modification, for a large diagram in Angela and Tony's paper.

**The clouds part.** Alois Heinz' paper, as noted above, made use of two \specials. Fortunately, he had also used *Textures*, but because I was sending the dvi file to a very different dvi-to-PostScript convertor, I couldn't expect to handle the pictures correctly, and I had expected to cut and paste them, but at this point I had two pieces of good fortune. First, Blue Sky, the authors of *Textures* made an early release of their PostScript outline Computer Modern fonts available. The second stroke of luck was to be summoned to Cheltenham to use one of Linotype's LN300 machines. I took Alois' paper with me. It proved to be embarrassingly simple to generate the paper, \specials included. No doubt purists will now be taking their magnifying glasses to prove that there are significant differences between the outline Computer Modern and the bitmapped Computer Modern. I know which I prefer to use. There is something attractive in having an LN300 attached to your Macintosh. Who needs laser printers?

**Keying in.** One paper was about a system based on *T<sub>E</sub>X*. Our original intention had been to use that system to produce bromide, emulating the style of the rest of the proceedings, but permitting the differences to be seen by the comparison that would be manifest. This one had been electronically lost. Fortunately I had a paper copy, so I rekeyed it, although one or two small changes had to be made in the text to reflect the reversion to *T<sub>E</sub>X*.

## The End is Nigh

By this time, everything had fallen into place, and only the front matter and end matter were still to be done. Previously when I had created indexes for books I had done it myself. I had soon concluded that indexing was not only difficult, but it was also time consuming. I felt that an author (or editor) was far too close to their subject to be able to make the "correct" sorts of judgements about the indexed material. Indexing must be kept for mature reflection, preferably someone else's. I hired someone else to do the job—a professional indexer. Judge for yourself. The preface and table of contents were simple enough to do, although time consuming. The last few jobs still take time. The most difficult decision was whether to have a dedication. I wanted one, but decided it would create too much embarrassment.

All this time, my publisher had been remarkably patient. Ellis Horwood was then bought out by the US publisher, Simon and Schuster. I had a momentary shudder when I heard this. Oh dear, there goes my contract. But no.

At length the bromides, together with what I hoped were clear instructions on the paste-ups, were sent off to Ellis Horwood in Chichester. The proceedings arrived in my hands on April 30th (twenty-one months after the conference!).

## A Few Lessons to Ignore

**Editing.** Editing takes time. Do not underestimate the task. Perhaps insisting that authors adopt a standard style would have simplified things. I'm not sure about this at all. Part of my doubt relates to the fact that a *TEX* conference, in particular, will likely contain papers which extend any style to its limits, or will require extensions to the style to accommodate features the editor/style writer has not considered.

The sheer physical task of editing can be arduous and time consuming. It can be frustratingly difficult to spot typographic errors on the screen. Anyone who has had anything published has had the experience of picking up the end result and instantly seeing a typo. Professional copy editors have a rare skill, which we should not underestimate. Indeed, if publishers have one great benefit to bestow on us, it is in copy-editing.

I think the weakest part of the proceedings are the bibliographies. I thought of having a single bibliography, but this is awkward unless you are able to use a tool like *BIBTEX*. Since I was not using *LATEX*, that was not possible. I am conscious that the bibliographies are not as consistent as they might be. A version of *BIBTEX* which worked independently of *LATEX*, together with the ability to generate chapter-at-a-time bibliographies would have helped.

**Leave well alone.** Timeliness might be preferred to production values. Certainly, quite a few authors would have been better pleased to see their offerings in print much sooner. I would too. Equally, a number of others seemed quite pleased that something would be produced, however late it was. But one of the features of having everything available electronically is that there is always a tendency to keep refining beyond the point at which the refinements are noticeable. A commercial venture does not have this problem: it goes bankrupt.

**More cooks.** It is very difficult to surrender control to someone else. There are only one or two others I could have shared this with. The few times I had to go outside my own resources proved to be counter productive. While this rather reinforces the notion that you have to do it all yourself, I don't think that is what I am implying. Where there are properly definable tasks, they can be assigned. Like the phototypesetting, the indexing, and the stuff the publisher did. I think the copy-editing should be separated out, too.

**It's a lonely job.** Nobody loves the editor. The authors generally can't understand why it's taking so long; wives and/or lovers begin to wonder who you are; your publisher takes to phoning you to ask when the bromides will be ready, or starts writing "bank-manager" looking letters. It's not for the squeamish or the sensitive. And don't expect thanks.

## Conclusion

In common with so much of *TEX*, the conference and the proceedings were an amateur affair. Recall that *amateur* need not be a pejorative term, any more than *professional* implies excellence. This was a labour of love. I hope I never lose my amateur status.

Would I do it again? Of course. Some people never learn! But next time I'll get it right.

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# SGML (, $\text{\TeX}$ and ...)

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## Abstract

An introductory review is given of what SGML (and DTDs),  $\text{\TeX}$  (and formats), and their relation, is all about. Coupling SGML to  $\text{\TeX}$  is considered via interfacing and transformation. Transformations of the tags of the *basic* as well as the *complete* SGML marked up compuscript are dealt with in detail for the examples: a letter, bridge lay-out, some mathematics and a simple table. At the end some guidelines are provided in order to decide when SGML,  $\text{\TeX}$ , or both, might be beneficial, along with a conclusion. It is a 3-in-1 paper: (1) what SGML and  $\text{\TeX}$  is all about, aimed at novices; (2) examples of marked up copy in SGML and (La) $\text{\TeX}$  and the coupling issues, for those already familiar with SGML and  $\text{\TeX}$ , but like to be informed about transformation issues, when mathematics or tables are part of the compuscript; (3) finally, a literature compilation, for those who consider bibliographies at hand useful.

## What is a Document?

The Association of American Publishers (AAP) *Reference Manual on Electronic Manuscript Preparation and Markup* defines a document as:

A document is an organized collection of smaller pieces of text (such as chapters) and images (such as figures) that are called elements. The elements in a document have a relationship to each other which gives the document a definite organization called document structure.

**Lifecycle-phases of documents.** Compuscript preparation requires that additional information be interspersed within the text to aid any subsequent processing. That information, called markup, is usually specific to a particular publisher, system or printing device. A universal standard method of marking up electronic compuscripts, however, offers many advantages.

The *complete Lifecycle* of a document can be thought of as:

- preparation,
- distribution,
- reading,
- storing (Paper? Electronically? Optically?),
- other usage, reuse<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Publishers like reuse, authors rework!

Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML) supports the complete Lifecycle, where *future* usage of the document is not necessarily restricted to printing. SGML must be complemented, however, by generally accepted Document Type Definitions (DTDs). The Association of American Publishers [AAP, 1987 and 1989] and the British National Bibliography [Smith, 1987] have provided some DTDs. In order to serve the primary aim of publishing, the coupling to formatters must be supported too.

$\text{\TeX}$  supports formatting and electronic document exchange.

## What is SGML?

SGML provides a language to describe documents and has made it possible to achieve two goals:

- 1) establish a standard means of identifying and tagging parts of an electronic compuscript so that computers can differentiate between these parts; and
- 2) provide some logical ways of representing special characters, symbols and tabular material, using only the ASCII character set usually found on standard keyboards.

SGML is defined in ISO8879 [1986]. Some introductions to SGML are: Barron [1989], gentle SGML in Sperberg-McQueen & Burnard [1990], and the books Bryan [1988] and van Herwijnen [1990]. Ex-

amples are provided in among others ISO/TR9573 [1988].

**Purpose.** The purpose of SGML is to facilitate *information exchange*, and reusability (in other contexts, even yet unknown contexts),

— *Then and There*<sup>2</sup> —

via a description *language*, where information is packed in compuscripts, containing, text, graphics, formulas, tables, etc.

**Meta Language.** SGML is a *meta language*, which can be used to define an arbitrary number of markup languages in a standardized way. This means, for any class of documents, markup rules can be prescribed by SGML, yielding a *language*, the Document Type Definition, for that class. The parser checks compliance of the marked up copy to the DTD.

### Standard.

**Formerly:** No consensus on markup codes  
(WordPerfect,  
Wordstar, MacWrite, ...; Scribe, troff,  $\text{\TeX}$ ,  
 $\text{\LaTeX}$ , ...)

**Presently:** SGML ISO standard

Standard  $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$  It can be used to define an arbitrary number of markup languages in a *standardized* way.

Entails:

- General applicability,
- Extended lifetime,
- Improved reusability,
- Enhanced exchange possibilities.

### Generalized.

**Formerly:** (Typeset) *marks* for *specific* here-and-now printers, via *direct* markup.

**Presently:** Marks are *generic*.<sup>3</sup> This is done with procedural markup. Macro calls are inserted as markup tags, where the implementation of the macros (the format or style file) represents the style, accounts for the fonts, etc. The printer hardware is shielded by intermediate languages. Intermediate language copy is printed via drivers. Change of style needs another style file, no modification of tagged copy is necessary. Change of printer hardware needs another driver, no modification of tagged copy nor modification of format file!

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<sup>2</sup> The essential issues of portability: portability with respect to time (then) and place (there).

<sup>3</sup> As opposed to specific print/plot/photo typeset hardware.

Generalized  $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$  Abstraction from the specific (printing) to the general (other usage), by emphasizing the *structure* of a document and to specify intent without regard for appearance.

### Markup.

**Formerly:** (Typeset) *marks* in the margin (Marks are bound to a version; no “data-integrity”)

**Presently:** Marks are integrated along with copy (Data-integrity of markup code is preserved.)

Markup  $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$  Term used to describe codes added to the electronically prepared document.

**Author's point of view.** Authors have to markup their copy with

- 1) Awareness of the DTD which applies to the document; either the DTD must be understood or templates must be available;
- 2) Knowledge of which (begin) tags to use where and how;
- 3) Knowledge of ranking, attribute use, tag minimization;
- 4) Knowledge about how to create entity references.

These aspects are treated in author's guidelines. The above can be alleviated by providing an SGML *environment*, or better, a document preparation environment, supported by menus and templates with prompts. Thus authors can concentrate on structure and content by using a standard (generic) markup language, or a sufficiently advanced document workbench, leaving formatting issues to publishers, or software vendors. Because of this “separation of concerns” the author's task is simplified.

**Publisher's point of view.** Publishers make use of sufficiently accepted DTDs. They provide authors with guidelines and proofing tools. DTD writing requires knowledge of the various types of markup, such as presentational, direct, procedural and descriptive markup.

### Example markups.

**No markup.** In order to remind the unpleasant look of documents with just words, we start with a no markup example.

*TeX A system for formatting text*

*TeX and the accompanying macro*

*package  $\text{\LaTeX}$  provide powerful means ...*

**Presentational markup.** Documents with tabs, indentations, and in general positional control make use of what is called presentational<sup>4</sup> markup, in order to convey the meaning.

---

<sup>4</sup> Some editors prefer submission of this form for simple text!

**TeX:**

A system for formatting text.

TeX and its accompanying macro package LaTeX provide powerful means of formatting text to be output on either

- a simple matrix printer,
- a laser printer or
- a photo typesetter.

Presentational markup is functional with poetry, such as Alice's mousetail as mentioned by Malcolm Clark [1989] or DfK's favourite poem of Piet Hein [The Errors of TeX, 1989], where the words are arranged along an ellipse.

**Direct markup.** When specific print instructions are included, we get direct markup:

```
CT: [I]
A system for formatting text.[] [I]
CT and its accompanying macro
package @LT provide
powerful means of formatting
text to be output
on either [I]
- a simple matrix printer, [I]
- a laser printer or [I]
- a photo typesetter.
```

[I] is a print instruction indicating to go to the next line and *indent*; @<name> stands for a process with a special formatting effect.

**Procedural (LATEX) markup.** A markup command, where the implementation of the command contains print instructions, is considered a procedural markup command; when the printer is changed the implementation has to be changed too, not the marked up copy. LATEX markup of the example reads

```
\subsection*{\TeX}
A system for formatting text.
\par
\TeX\ and its accompanying macro
package \LaTeX\ provide
powerful means of formatting text
to be output on either
\begin{itemize}
\item simple matrix printer,
\item a laser printer or
\item a photo typesetter.
\end{itemize}
```

**Descriptive (SGML) markup.** Descriptive markup goes even further and uses markup which describes the structure and intent of the various parts of the document:

```
<h>&TeX;
<p>A system for formatting text.
<p>&TeX; and its accompanying macro
package &LaTeX; provide
powerful means of formatting
text to be output on either
<li>
<it>simple matrix printer,
<it>a laser printer or
<it>a phototypesetter.
</li>
```

**Formatting information with SGML.** It is possible to convey formatting information via SGML. This is done with element attributes or with Processing Instructions. Other symbols than those in the ASCII character set are often denoted by an entity reference to the font containing those symbols, with appropriate loading of the font elsewhere. With respect to attributes, one can think of specifying open space in order to include illustrations from other (electronic) sources. Also, indication of a representation choice is possible if properly accounted for in the DTD. Consider for example the representation of labels of list items: alphabetical or roman/arabic numeral.

```
<li number=alpha>
<it>a simple printer,
<it>a laser printer or
<it>a photo typesetter.
</li>
```

It is possible in SGML to include document parts which already contain formatting information. The parser must be told to lay back. For a notation to be allowed it must be declared via e.g.

<!NOTATION TeX SYSTEM>

for TeX formatted copy. Appropriate entity and attribute specifications are also needed in the DTD. For an author the equation formatting with the type attribute (value=TeX) has to be supplied as

```
<eqn type=tex>
  $$X\cap(A\cup B)=(X\cup A)\cap(X\cup B)$$
</eqn>
```

Processing Instructions (PIs) can be used to tell the local system how it should process data contained within a document. For example, SETM typography markup instructions:

```
<p><?[s24] [sec] [rm]>T<?[pri] [rm]his>
  * paragraph ...
```

In this case the SETM instructions are in brackets, preceded by the PI open delimiter <?. The meaning of this instruction is to treat "T" as "24pt" initial letter to be set using the roman version of the face currently defined in the secondary type family.

**Availability.** As mentioned by Herwijnen [1990], Sobemap, The Publisher and IBM's SGMLDCF, are some SGML systems that are already available.

**Support.** Support for SGML is done by the companies, as part of automation projects. There also exists a Dutch chapter of the SGML Users Group.<sup>5</sup>

**Courses.** Courses are provided by private companies, and the National Normalization Institutes.

**What SGML is not!** SGML is not:

- WYSIWYG (pronounced wɪsēwɪg, and stands for what you see is what you get),
- A formatter, certainly not a standard formatter.

## What is TeX?

TeX stands for  $\tau\epsilon\chi$ , the first three letters of the Greek word for *technique*, which also means art. TeX is a *machine independent* formatting language designed by Don Knuth, [The TeXbook, 1990 (Version 3.0)]. Michael Doob gives an easy start to TeX in A Gentle Introduction to TeX [1989]. A systematic treatment of the commands is given by Abrahams [1990]. There also is an introduction in French by Seroul [1989] and various German introductions: Appelt [1988], Schwarz [1989]. Von Bechtolsheim [1990, in English] is impressive. L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, by Leslie Lamport [1985], is a macro collection for simplified use of TeX. L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X uses *procedural* markup. Buerger [1990] gives a L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X introduction. In German there are Kopka [1989] and Wonneberger [1987]. Bruin [1989] gives a Dutch introduction to L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X.

**Purpose.** The stated purpose of TeX is "making beautiful books."

**Processing (La)TeX.** L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X is processed in three steps: edit the copy, format the copy to create a dvi file, and print the resultant dvi file. A diagram of this looks like:

copy  $\xrightarrow{\text{editor}}$  ASCII  $\xrightarrow{(\text{La})\text{TeX}}$  dvi-file  $\xrightarrow{\text{driver}}$  results.

The more steps to the process, the more cumbersome is correction handling because of larger production loops. This is the case when the use of TeX is combined with SGML markup. The SGML parsing and linking extends the loop.

<sup>5</sup> SGML-Holland secretary: D. van Wijnen, Wolters Kluwer. P.O. Box 989, 3300AZ Dordrecht. 078-334933; e-mail: surf003@kub.nl.

SGML User's Group secretary: S. G. Downie, Softquad Inc, 720 Spadina Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2T9, Canada.

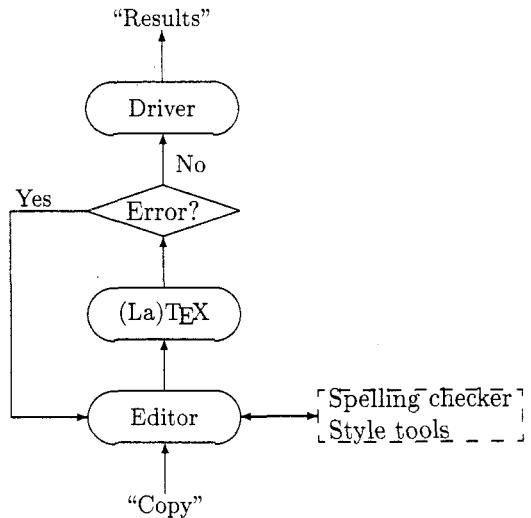


Figure 1: Correction cyclus

**Availability.** TeX is available on many computers under various operating systems with a variety of drivers for previewing (such as VDU), printing, and photo typesetting. Documents written in TeX or L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X can be ported easily. Exchanging documents via e-mail is also generally possible except for the incorporated graphics. When graphics are part of the document, TeX can be combined with (encapsulated) Postscript, which is used within the TeX community and elsewhere. Portability is restricted to places with Postscript printers of course. TeX is in the *public domain*. Drivers are generally not. They do, however, generally have value added by the companies you buy the driver from. See the ads in any TUGboat. Moreover, TeX systems can make

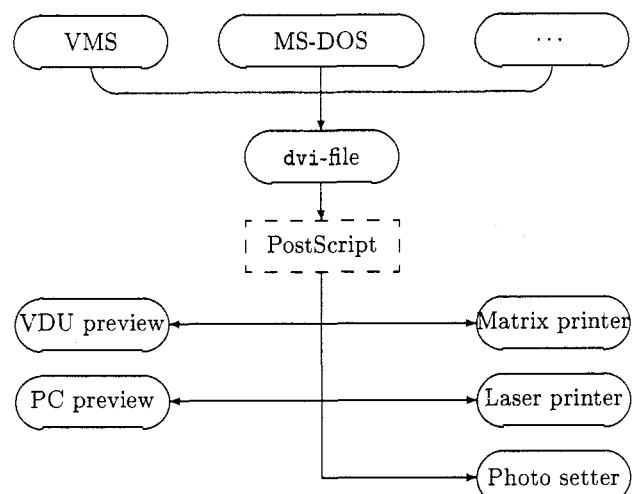


Figure 2: (La)TeX's use

use of fonts from various sources, such as Adobe's PostScript fonts and, of course, Metafont.

**Support.** Support is organized by the various users groups. Software, style files, macros etc. are distributed (via e-mail, ftp or floppy disks) by the **T<sub>E</sub>X** Users Group (TUG)<sup>6</sup>; in the Netherlands it is distributed by NTG<sup>7</sup>; in France by GUTenberg; in Germany by DANTE; in the United Kingdom by ukT<sub>E</sub>Xug; in the Nordic countries by "Nordic TuG". There is also the recent TUGlib (analogous to NETlib from the numerical mathematicians) service in Utah: e-mail fileserver, literature surveys (a.o. what has appeared in TUGboat), and the who-is database.

**Courses.** Courses are organized by TUG and other **T<sub>E</sub>X** user groups, especially in conjunction with their main meetings.

### Relationship: DTDs, SGML, **T<sub>E</sub>X**, formats and ...

The relationship of **T<sub>E</sub>X**, SGML and other applications is illustrated in the diagram below. An integrated<sup>8</sup> implementation is Arbortext's "The Publisher," which has AAP's DTDs built-in, and runs on a.o. SUN hardware. Note that the backarrows denote some of the work in progress by Elsevier Science Publisher, Bleeker [1989], Poppelier [1990].

**SGML ór **T<sub>E</sub>X** sufficient?** NO, needed are format files and DTDs as well! If a compuscript is printed with **T<sub>E</sub>X** for personal use only, there is nothing to worry about. When no reuse of a document is in sight, but remote publishing and electronic exchange are considered, it pays to use standard format/style files — which reflect the lay-out of the document type — along with **T<sub>E</sub>X**. When reuse or abstract structuring are being used, standard DTDs will be crucial.<sup>9</sup>

Moreover friendly user-interfaces are needed. Grootenhuis (priv. comm.) provided on top of the

<sup>6</sup> Editorial and TUG address: **T<sub>E</sub>X** Users Group, P.O. Box 9506, Providence RI 02940, USA. email: TUGboat@Math.AMS.com.

<sup>7</sup> NTG: Nederlandstalige **T<sub>E</sub>X** Gebruikersgroep. Secretary: G.J.H. van Nes, Postbus 394, 1740AJ, Schagen, 02246-4185; e-mail: vannes@ecn.nl, ntg@hearn.

<sup>8</sup> Ikons user interface, SGML layer, **T<sub>E</sub>X** layer, Postscript handling (optionally); with SGML, **T<sub>E</sub>X** and dvi files as intermediate results

<sup>9</sup> The flexibility and open-endedness of SGML are strong points, everybody can write or modify DTDs; this is also a weak point because of incongruent DTDs.

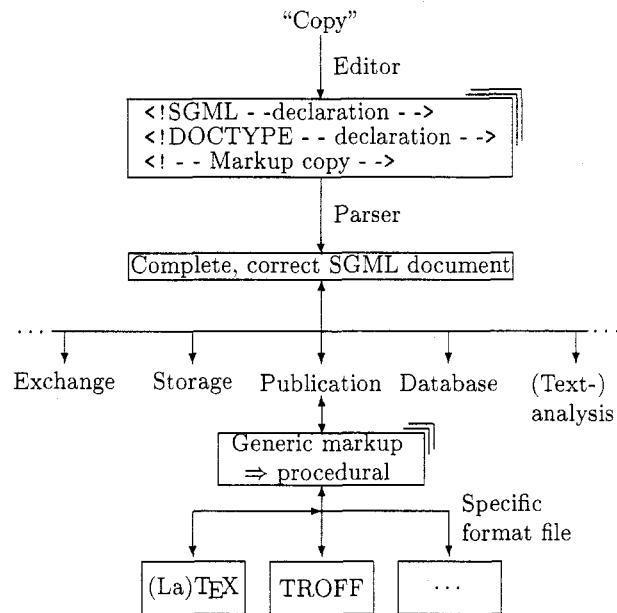


Figure 3: Relation SGML and (La)TeX

SGML system he used, the possibility to input letter copy in a natural way with tags hidden: awareness of the DTD used is not necessary, nor does the user see or have to type in any tags. (Of course a sample of how the letter looks is needed.) This kind of system needs a high degree of foolproof-ness: the spaces etc. have *side effects* and when errors are made the (SGML) messages are quite confusing. Another possibility is to prompt the user for the required copy, while the tags are provided by the system.

**Interfacing vs. transformation.** Interfacing copy marked up by any formatter to SGML is possible in SGML via the NOTATION mechanism. Of course, it has to be incorporated into the DTD and appropriately implemented: the parser should lay back and leave the formatting of the **T<sub>E</sub>X** marked up copy to **T<sub>E</sub>X**.

Transformation SGML into **T<sub>E</sub>X** is different. Using **T<sub>E</sub>X** as a back-end formatter to SGML can be done. It is supported by the link mechanism of SGML. Needed is at least a table of corresponding notations in order to substitute the markup tags from SGML into **T<sub>E</sub>X**. The other way round has to be done by a separate program. In the sequel we will study example document elements marked up by SGML and (La)TeX; transformation issues will be addressed as well.

## Examples

**Simple text.** As an example let us take the simple text given earlier. The (basic) SGML and L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X markups have been given in previous sections. Coupling comes down to a change of representation, except for the omitted endtags. This direct approach needs the substitutions:

SGML	⇒ TeX
<h>	\section{}
<p>(first) }	
<p>	\par or blank line
<li>	\begin{itemize}
</li>	\end{itemize}
<it>	\item
&TeX;	\TeX
&LaTeX;	\LaTeX

This suggests systematic coupling of all entities and tags to equivalents in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X. The explicit endtags are more natural to handle than the omitted ones. The handling of the first and following occurrences of <p> have to account also for respectively finishing the heading </h> and ending a paragraph </p>, which have been omitted.

**Letter.** A typical letter has the general aspects:

- Background  
Heading (Logo, address, phone, ...)  
Footer (numbering, ...)
- Context (running heads next pages, ...)
- Reference
- Your reference
- Date
- Addressee (name, company, address, zip code)
- Beginning (Dear...)
- Contents
- End matter (Salutation, name, position)
- Additions (PS, enclosure, cc)

The above aspects are generally ordered in a tree for detailing the hierarchical structure and writing the DTD from.<sup>10</sup> To overcome the optional and repetition notational difficulties in the structure tree for document parts, signs are added to the knots: + for repetition, and \* for an optional element. (This mechanism accounts also for 'elements in arbitrary

<sup>10</sup> A difficulty is what to exclude from the structure and to consider as a formatting issue. In the letter example I have considered the header (with logo) and the headerlines on the pages 2 etc., and the footers as formatting issues. They could have been included in the DTD as included elements; this cannot be represented in the structured tree.

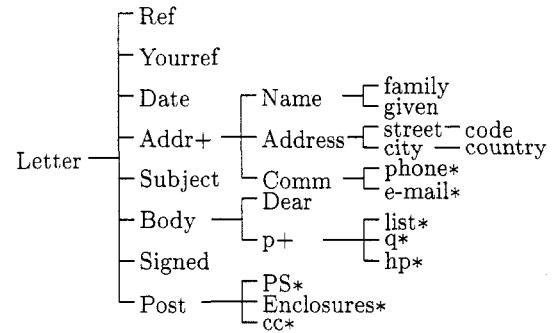


Figure 4: Hierarchical letter structure

order.') Attributes are not reflected in such a tree, neither are included and excluded elements. It is not clear to me why the tree structure is chosen instead of the syntax flowchart notation as used, e.g., along with the definition of the Pascal programming language. From such a tree a DTD is generally written. Only the bridge example DTD is used in this article, because the rigorous DTDs, how interesting and instructive they might be, would lead us too far away into SGML details.

**SGML markup.** The SGML markup for a typical letter might look something like:

```

<!DOCTYPE letter PUBLIC
  -- DTD to be used --
  "-//NTG//DTD Letter//EN">
<letter -- start-tag -->
<ref> CGL/Ba/B89-007
<yourref> MC/L1/L89-001
<date> 4 august 1989
<address> Malcolm Clark, ICRF
<email>
  malcolm@icrf.ac.uk
</email>
<dear>Malcolm
<p> Thank you very much ...
...
<p> Some details about the course ...
...
<signed name=CGL>
</letter -- end-tag -->
  
```

**L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X specification.** The same letter using L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X markup might look like:

```

\documentstyle[12pt]{letter}
  \address{%
    \returnaddress{C. G. van der Laan \\ \ldots}
    \signature{Kees}
  }
  \begin{document}
  
```

```
\begin{letter}<!-- address
    Malcolm Clark \\ 
    \dots}
% no ref or your ref
% date is handled automatically
\opening{Dear Malcolm}
\par
Thank you very much \ldots
\begin{quote}
$\\vdots$ 
\end{quote}
Some details about the course \ldots
\begin{quote}
$\\vdots$ 
\end{quote}
\closing{Best regards}% Handles signature
%ps, cc, enclosure all possible
\end{letter}
\end{document}</pre>

```

**Letter result.** Because a sample L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X letter could not be processed simultaneously in this paper (I don't have access to Postscript facilities in order to include the separately produced result), the printed letter has been omitted.

**Transformation.** What comes to mind when looking at both representations of marked up copy is the difference in the sequence order of tagged items in SGML and L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X. With *complete* marked up SGML copy to be transformed into procedural T<sub>E</sub>X, there is no problem: in T<sub>E</sub>X macros, strings can be stored for later usage. This will be shown along with the tabular example in the section 'transformation revisited.'

**Bridge card deal.** In TUGboat 11#2 I have described typesetting bridge using T<sub>E</sub>X.

N/None	♠ J74	Deal:
	♥ AJ	demo
	♦ QJT2	
	♣ Q874	
♠ A3		♠ K86
♥ K76		♥ T9542
♦ 963	■ N	♦ 874
♣ KJ952	W E	♣ T3
	S	
	♠ QT952	
	♥ Q83	
	♦ AK5	
	♣ A6	

Figure 5: Bridge deal

**SGML markup.** The SGML markup for Figure 5 above might look like:

```
<deal><vuln>N/None
      <comm>Deal: demo
<hand n><spades>J74
      <hearts>AJ
      <diams> QJT2
      <clubs> Q874
<hand e><spades>K86
      <hearts>T9542
      <diams> 874
      <clubs> T3
<hand s><spades>QT952
      <hearts>Q83
      <diams> AK5
      <clubs> A6
<hand w><spades>A3
      <hearts>K76
      <diams> 963
      <clubs> KJ952
</deal>
```

**(La)T<sub>E</sub>X specification.** The procedural T<sub>E</sub>X markup for Figure 5 might look like<sup>11</sup> :

```
\crdima{N/None}{\vtop{\hbox{Deal:}
                  \hbox{demo}}}}%
{\hand{J74}{AJ}{QJT2}{Q874}}%N
{\hand{K86}{T9542}{874}{T3}}%E
{\hand{QT952}{Q83}{AK5}{A6}}%S
{\hand{A3}{K76}{963}{KJ952}}%W
```

**Transformation.** The transformation comes down to

SGML	⇒ T <sub>E</sub> X
<deal>	\crdima
<vuln>N/None	{N/None}
<comm>DEAL: demo	a suitable \vtop
<hand x>	{\hand}

and all the cards per colour surrounded by curly braces, with an extra "}" after the clubs. Although once again a simple<sup>12</sup> example, the translation table is not natural. Note. This is a bottom-up example: descriptive markup T<sub>E</sub>X macros were already available. Starting from descriptive T<sub>E</sub>X marked up copy is simple, and a candidate for table-driven substitution, apart from some exceptions like the suitable \vbox here.

**T<sub>E</sub>X macros.** Figure 5 is created by using the T<sub>E</sub>X macros:

```
\def\hand#1#2#3#4{%
%Example: \hand{AKJ765}{AK9}{--}{T983}
\vtop{\hbox{\strut\s\enspace#1}}
```

<sup>11</sup> \minipage is not used because of the more general \vtop command, which can be used as well in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X as in T<sub>E</sub>X.

<sup>12</sup> If one ever can call nested tables simple.

```

\hbox{\strut\h\enspace#2}
\hbox{\strut\d\enspace#3}
\hbox{\strut\c\enspace#4}}%end \vtop
}%end \hand
%
\def\crdima#1#2#3#4#5#6{%
%purpose: layout bridge hand
%#1 left upper text
%#2 right upper text
%#3, #4, #5, #6: N, E, S, W hands
\vbox{\halign{&\quad\#1&#3&\#2\cr
$ \vcenter{#6} \vcenter{\copy\NESW} \vcenter{#4}\cr
& \#5 \cr
}%end \halign
}%end \vbox
}%end \crdima
%
\def\NESWfig{%
\vbox{\font\small=cmr9
\def\str{\vrule height2.2ex%
depth.75ex width Opt}
\offinterlineskip\tabskip0pt\hrule
\halign{\vrule\hskip2pt\relax
##\hfil\tabskip3pt& \str\hfil##\hfil&
##\hskip2pt\relax\hfil\vrule
\tabskip0pt\cr
& \hbox to Opt{\hss\N\hss}\& \cr
\W& \phantom{N}\& \E\cr
& \str\hbox to Opt{\hss\S\hss}\& \cr
}%end \halign
\hrule}}%end \vbox
}% end \NESWfig
\setbox\NESW\vbox{\NESWfig}

```

**SGML requirements.** The following DTD is needed:

```

<!ENTITY % ISOpub PUBLIC
  "ISO 8879-1986//ENTITIES Publishing//EN">
<!ELEMENT deal - - (vuln, comm?, hand+)>
<!ELEMENT (vuln|comm) - O CDATA>
<!ELEMENT hand - O (spades,
  hearts, diams, clubs)>
<!ATTLIST hand nesw (n|e|s|w) #REQUIRED>
<!ELEMENT (spades|hearts|diams|clubs)
  - O CDATA>

```

Note. In the DTD we could have imposed sequence ordering by changing `hand+` into `(handn, hande, hands, handw)`. But this requires that all the hands are needed and that is too restrictive.

**Some math.** The following examples of mathematical formulas are borrowed from the “Mathematical Formulas” report [van der Laan, Coleman, Luyten,

1989]. In this report, SGML and L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X markup are supplied for formulas from various fields: elementary mathematics, set theory, geometry, functional analysis, calculus (differential equations, special functions, continued fraction), statistics, algebra (tensor calculus), homology (diagrams) and quantum mechanics. A few simple ones are selected here.

**L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X results.** The following was formatted with L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X markup:

$$X \cap (A \cup B) = (X \cup A) \cap (X \cup B)$$

$$x \notin A \not\subset B$$

$$\|a(x+y)\| \leq \|a\|(\|x\| + \|y\|)$$

$$\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+x^2}} dx = \log(1 + \sqrt{1+x^2})$$

**(Basic) SGML markup.** To accomplish this with SGML markup, you might enter:

```
<fd>X&cap;(A&cup;B) =
(X&cup;A)&cap;(X&cup;B)</fd>
```

```
<fd>x&nisin;A&nsub;B</fd>
```

```
<fd><fen d>a(x+y)<rp d</fen>&le;
 |a|.(<fen d>x<rp d</fen>
 +<fen d>y<rp d</fen>)
</fd>
```

```
<fd><in><opd><fr>1</><rad>1+
 x<sup>2/<rad></fr>dx</in>=
 <rf>/log(1+<rad>1+x<sup>2/<rad>)
</fd>
```

The DTD used is an adapted version of AAP’s DTD by D.C. Coleman.

**(Direct) TeX markup.** L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X and TeX markup are very similar for these examples:

```
X\cap(A\cup B) =(X\cup A)\cap(X\cup B)
```

```
x \notin A \not\subset B
```

```
\|a(x+y)\| \leq \|a\|(\|x\| + \|y\|)
```

```
\int\bf{b}fr1</>\sqrt{1+x^2}\efr dx =
 \log(1+\sqrt{1+x^2})
```

**Transformation.** To accomplish the SGML to TeX transformation, some general substitutions are needed:

SGML  $\Rightarrow$  TeX

<fd>	\[ or \$\$
</fd>	\] or \$\$
<sup>2/	^2
etc.	

For the first set theory example the following substitutions are additionally needed

SGML	$\Rightarrow$	T <sub>EX</sub>
&cap;		\cap
&cup;		\cup

Functional analysis required moreover

SGML	$\Rightarrow$	T <sub>EX</sub>
<fen d>		\
<rp d>		\
&le;		\leq

For the integral the following definition (format) is needed for the fraction, where use is made of </> as parameter separator:

```
\def\bfr#1</>#2\efr{{#1\over#2}}
```

Also needed are the substitutions

SGML	$\Rightarrow$	T <sub>EX</sub>
<in>		\int
<opd>		\relax
<fr>		\bfr
</fr>		\efr
<rad>		\sqrt{
</rad>		}
<rf/log>		\log

Note. A translation table is once again not straightforward; unnatural are the SGML difference in norm open and closing, and the fancy use of </>, i.e. null endtag for numerator and omitted opening tag for denominator. The short reference for the modulus sign is neat.

**(Complete) SGML markup.** The sobemap parser yielded the following (visually edited) result for the set theory example:

```
<FD DCN="GEO.FORM">
<FL>
X&cap;<FEN STYLE="S" LP="PAR">
    A&cup;B
    <RP STYLE="S" POST="PAR"></FEN>
=
<FEN STYLE="S" LP="PAR">
    X&cup;A
    <RP STYLE="S" POST="PAR"></FEN>
    &cap;
<FEN STYLE="S" LP="PAR">
    X&cup;B
    <RP STYLE="S" POST="PAR"></FEN>
</FL>
</FD>
```

This shows that complete SGML is verbose. For example, consider the complete tags for parentheses “(” and “)”. Thanks to the short reference mechanism the input can look natural. Coupling of the above to T<sub>EX</sub> can be done. How to automatically handle attributes in the best way is not yet clear

to me. It is not efficient for parentheses, “(” and “)”, to be expanded first by the parser into a fence tag with the appropriate attribute value, followed by substitution at the T<sub>EX</sub> level into “(” and “)” again.

Because matrices are treated similarly to tabular material, we have omitted a matrix example and refer to the next sections, where a table is studied.

**AAP's simple table.** A simple table is characterized by: simple table entries, one header row, no header subrows, no footer, no intra referencing, and no caption. From the SGML technical point of view no attributes are used. AAP's example simple table [Markup of Tabular Material, 1989], even more simplified, is reproduced below.

**Table AAP Job Changes: 1973–1980**

	Gain/Loss of Hospitals since 1973	Total No. of CEO Job Changes 1973–80	Survival Rate of CEO's 1973–80
Texas	+20	—	22%
Maryland	+ 5	42	24%

Source: David Kinzer, “Turnover Of Hospital Chief Executive Officers: A Hospital Association Perspective,” *Hospital and health Services Administration* May–June 1982.

**Figure 6:** AAP's simplified table

**(Basic) SGML markup.** The SGML markup for Figure 6, with a minor structural adaptation and some layout modifications, reads:

```
<tbl -- start of table -->
<no>Table AAP
<tt>Job Changes: 1973–1980
<th -- heading -->
<th>Gain/Loss of Hospitals since 1973
<th>Total No. of CEO Job Changes
    1973–80
<th>Survival Rate of CEO's
<bdy -- table body -->
@Texas|20||22%
@Maryland|5|42|24%
<ft -- table foot -->
<au>David Kinzer
<atl>Turnover Of Hospital Chief
    Executive Officers: A Hospital
    Association Perspective
<nme>Hospital and health Services
    Administration
<dt>May–June 1982
</tbl>
```

A DTD for simple tables is not separately provided by AAP; it is incorporated as part of the complex table DTD. The “simple table”-example obeys the following SGML structure description

```
<!ENTITY row    STARTTAG "row"          >
<!ENTITY column STARTTAG "c"          >
<!ELEMENT tbl   - - (hd, bdy, ft)     >
<!ELEMENT hd    - O (no?, tt?, th+)   >
<!ELEMENT bdy   - O row+              >
<!ELEMENT row   - O c+               >
<!ELEMENT ft    - O (au|src|atl|nme|dt) >
<!ELEMENT (th, c, au, src, atl, nme, dt)
  - O (%t.cs;) -- Character string-->
<!SHORTREF tablemap "@" row
  " | " column           >
```

Note. Some tags are presumed part of the general DTD, e.g. no, tt.

(Direct) TeX markup. As expected, some formatting commands had to be included in order to reproduce the published results.

The approach has been to supply a template (preamble) line for the layout of the contents proper and to handle the header row as an exception to the template, *manually!* Separators between header, body and footer have to be incorporated as well. A translation table is clearly insufficient. The TeX markup, then, would look like:

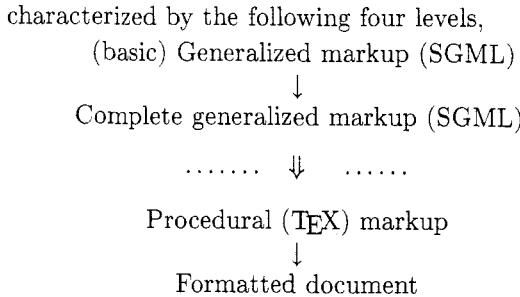
```
\newdimen\entrywidth%\entrywidth=<default>
\newdimen\tablewidth
\tablewidth=.5\hsize%default
\def\nl{\par\noindent}
\def\ndash{--}
\def\tablerule{\noalign{\hrule}}
\newdimen\digitwidth\setbox0=\hbox{\rm0}
  \digitwidth=\wd0
%?-command for nonsignificant leading
%      zeroes, Knuth p241
\catcode'?=active
\def?{\kern\digitwidth}
%\btbl %AAP's simple example with direct
%      TeX markup
\entrywidth=2cm
\tablewidth=4\entrywidth
\vbox{\hsize=\tablewidth
\halign{\hbox to\entrywidth{\#&\hss}\hfil&&
  \hbox to .5\entrywidth{\hss#\hfil}\cr
%preamble line
\tablerule\noalign{\vskip1ex}
\omit{\bf Table AAP}
  Job Changes: 1973--1980
\hidewidth\cr
\tablerule\noalign{\vskip1ex}}
```

```
\omit &
\omit\vtop{
  \noindent\hsize=\entrywidth
  Gain/Loss\nl
  of Hospitals \nl
  since 1973}&
\omit\vtop{
  \noindent\hsize=\entrywidth
  Total No. \nl
  of CEO \nl
  Job Changes \nl
  1973--80} &
\omit\vtop{
  \noindent\hsize=\entrywidth
  Survival \nl
  Rate of \nl
  CEO's} \cr%end header row
\noalign{\vskip.5ex\hrule\vskip.5ex}
%head-body separation
  Texas &+$20&---& 22\%\cr
  Maryland&+$75&42 & 24\%\cr
\noalign{\vskip1ex}%body-foot separation
\noalign{Source: David Kinzer,
‘Turnover Of Hospital Chief Executive
Officers:
A Hospital Association Perspective,’
{\it Hospital and health Services
Administration\}/} May--June 1982.
}\%end \noalign
}\%end \halign
}\%end \vbox
```

### Transformation revisited.

Complete SGML markup with procedural TeX markup representation can be achieved via the SGML link mechanism, or by any automatic substitution process (programmable editor, preprocessor). Translation into TeX can be done *direct* or via procedural markup. For the mathematical examples given in van der Laan, Coleman [1989], this has been done by Grootenhuis [1990]. He has used the SGML link mechanism for “substitution” and did direct coupling to LATEX. The *direct* coupling approach, without procedural (LATEX) markup, has the disadvantage that change of formatter requires (TeX) source adaptation. In order to abstract from any particular format, we have considered procedural TeX markup as an intermediate phase, in van der Laan, Coleman [1990].

**SGML⇒TeX using procedural markup.** The “generalized markup ⇒ format” process can be



with the input phase and output (print) phase before and after. (The dots separate the SGML bound layer from the TeX bound layer.) The interfacing with procedural markup is illustrated below, with AAP's simplified table as example. This four level process resembles the coupling of higher level programming languages such as PASCAL and ADA to FORTRAN (numerical libraries). For more on the latter, I refer to Einarsson&Gentleman [1984] and other early work of mine [1984].

Note. Of course, one can also work the other way round: start from procedural marked up copy and couple that to SGML.

**SGML markup, AAP's table. (Completely tagged)** The complete SGML markup version—complete means expansion of short references into tags and addition of omitted (end) tags—of AAP's simple table reads:

```

<tbl>
<no>Table AAP</no>
<tt>Job Changes: 1973&ndash;1980</tt>
<hd>
  <th></th>
  <th>Gain/Loss of Hospitals
      since 1973</th>
  <th>Total No. of CEO Job Changes
      1973&ndash;80</th>
  <th>Survival Rate of CEO's</th>
</hd>
<bdy>
<row><tsb> Texas</tsb>
  <c>20</c><c></c><c>22%</c>
</row>
<row><tsb> Maryland</tsb>
  <c>5</c><c>42</c><c>24%</c>
</row>
</bdy>
<ft>
  <au>David Kinzer</au>
  <at1>Turnover Of Hospital Chief
      Executive Officers: A Hospital
      Association Perspective</at1>
  <nme>Hospital and health Services
      Administration</src>

```

```

    <dt>May&ndash;June 1982</dt>
  </ft>
  </tbl>

```

The above tagged table describes contents and structure. The variety of presentations for printing must be catered for with either a TeX format or a L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X style file.

**(Procedural) TeX markup, AAP's simple table.** We have limited ourselves to "translating" SGML markup into procedural TeX markup (no L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X markup). (Mainly: <name> into \bname and </name> into \ename; the transformation of the tags can be table-driven, but in the header row \nl commands have to be inserted manually, guided by taste and aesthetics and limited by the value of \entrywidth. Note that the data have to be adapted too: insertion of ? for suppressed 0, and \ before %.)

```

\entrywidth=2cm
\tablewidth=4\entrywidth
\btbl %AAP's simple example with TeX
      %procedural markup
\bno Table AAP\eno
\btt Job Changes: 1973--1980 \ett
\bhd
  \bth\eth
  \bth Gain/Loss\nl
      of Hospitals \nl
      since 1973 \eth
  \bth Total No. \nl
      of CEO \nl
      Job Changes \nl
      1973--80 \eth
  \bth Survival \nl
      Rate of \nl
      CEO's \eth
\ehd
\btby
\brow\btbsb Texas\etsb\bc$+$20\ec
  \bc\ec\bc 22%\ec
\erow
\brow\btbsb Maryland\etsb\bc$+$75\ec
  \bc 42\ec\bc 24%\ec
\erow
\etby
\bsrc
  \bau David Kinzer\ea
  \bat1 Turnover Of Hospital Chief
  Executive Officers:
  A Hospital Association Perspective\eat1
  \bnme Hospital and health Services
  Administration\enme
  \bdt May--June 1982\edt

```

```
\esrc
\etbl

Note. We still have to supply the values for entrywidth and tablewidth along with each particular table, once again, manually.

TEX format macros. In order to reproduce AAP's representation the following (format) macros were written

%TeX "format" for AAP's simple table.
\newdimen\entrywidth %\entrywidth=<default>
\newdimen\tablewidth
\tablewidth=\hsize%\default
\def\nl{\par\noindent}
\def\ndash{--}
%? command for nonsignificant
% leading zeroes, Knuth p241
\catcode'?= \active
\def?{\kern\digitwidth}
%
\def\tablerule{\noalign{\hrule}}
\def\btbl{\bgroup
  \def\bno##1\eno{\{ \bf##1\}}
  \def\btt##1\ett{\{##1\}\hidewidth\cr}
  \def\bhd{\tablerule\noalign{\vskip1ex}}
  \def\ehd{\cr
    \noalign{\vskip.5ex}\tablerule
    \noalign{\vskip.5ex}}
  \def\bth##1\eth{\vtop{\noindent
    \hsize=\entrywidth ##1\&}}
  \def\btby{\noalign{\vskip1ex}}
  \def\etby{\noalign{\vskip1ex}}
  \def\btbsb##1\etsb{\hbox to
    \entrywidth{\##1\hss}\hfil}
  \def\bc##1\ec{\&\hbox to .5
    \entrywidth{\hss ##1}\hfil}
  \def\brow##1\erow{\{##1\cr}
  \def\bsrc{\noalign\bgroup}
  \def\esrc{\%Source information is
    %handled conform AAP's
    %representation
    Source: \gau, "\gatl,"
    {\it \gnme\}/}
    \gdt.\ \gobi
    \egroup}
  % Next items are "stored" via gdefs
  \def\bau##1\eauf{\gdef\gau{\{##1\}}
  \def\batl##1\eatl{\gdef\gatl{\{##1\}}
  \def\bnme##1\enme{\gdef\gnme{\{##1\}}
  \def\bdtt##1\edt{\gdef\gdt{\{##1\}}}
$ $\vbox\bgroup\hsize=\tablewidth
\halign\bgroup &\#&\cr% preamble line
\tablerule\noalign{\vskip1ex}
} \end\btbl
```

```
\def\etbl{\egroup%\halign
  \egroup$$\vbox
  \egroup\btbl
} \end\etbl
} \end AAP simple table format
```

The above listed format macros take care of the final results in print: appropriate separators and good order and format of the 'source' items. The table entries are centered and aligned on the last digit. This required knowledge of the column width. In order to handle the footer suitably the tablewidth had to be known. The chosen approach allows flexible formatting of the footer. Variability of column widths has not been incorporated in the provided macros but can be addressed.

**Difficulties with AAP's complex table DTD.** Although not the case in the above elaborated example, we experienced difficulties with header rows which contain "halffines." In my opinion, halffines belong to the structure. Confusion arises when the **br** (begin row) and **er** (end row) attributes are used together with halffines. According to the DTD, halffines don't account for a line in the formatted result, in T<sub>E</sub>X formatting they do, jeopardizing the prescribed br- and er-values.

Note that author etc. information is stored in gdefs in T<sub>E</sub>X, in order to cope with the difference in sequence order of this items in SGML (AAP's DTD) and T<sub>E</sub>X (independent) marked up tables.

**Graphics.** Coupling graphics is not (yet) elaborated, because graphics in SGML is left to other sources. Various graphic sources are interfaced to SGML.<sup>13</sup> The only structuring aspect deals with open space (to electronically paste up the illustration) which must not be split over a page break. The difference with mathematics possibly is that formulas are also part of the text while illustrations are more or less separated from the text.

## Developments

A survey of the development of SGML is given by Barron [1990].

**Usage.** Among the users of SGML there are:

- DOD (Automated Technical Order System)
- European Communities (FORmalised EX-change of Electronic Documents; office official publications)
- Publishers (AAP, British Library, KNUB-(Elsevier, Kluwer, ...), ...)

---

<sup>13</sup> CGM (Common Graphics Metafile) is adopted by the SGML community, as communicated by Malcolm Clark, Idle by the Thames, TeXline X.)

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# SGML and $\text{\TeX}$ in Scientific Publishing

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## Abstract

Elsevier Science Publishers has for a few years investigated the possibility of accepting compuscripts, a manuscript in electronic form, created with  $\text{\TeX}$ ,  $\text{\LaTeX}$  and a few other text processing systems, and converting these to *SGML* form. This paper will discuss the current status of these activities, the reasons for converting compuscripts to *SGML* form, and the various ways in which  $\text{\TeX}$  is used.

## Introduction

Until a few years ago the results of scientific research were always published in the following way: the author writes an article using whatever method he prefers. Some authors use  $\text{\TeX}$ , some authors a word processor, others prefer a typewriter, and there are still authors who consider the pen to be the best desktop publishing tool that is available.

When the author is satisfied with his work, he or she submits the manuscript, say, to the editor of a journal, usually in duplicate or triplicate. The editor enters the manuscripts into his administration, and sends a copy to one or more "referees," who review and judge the manuscript. This is one of the places on the long road from manuscript to published paper where the publisher adds something to the paper. The system of peer reviewing, which provides a kind of scientific certification, is one example of "added value." The quality of the printed product and the world-wide distribution of an article in a journal can also be labelled "added value."

The referee(s) can either recommend acceptance of the manuscript for publication, possibly with suggestions for alterations, or rejection of the manuscript. If it is accepted, and after the author has put it into final form, the manuscript is sent to the publisher, where it is adapted to the style of the journal by a technical editor. Then the manuscript is re-typed (typeset) and, in most cases, stored in electronic form. Because of the fact that the material has been re-typed, it may contain errors. These errors are removed by proof-reading, which is a task that can be performed, for example, by the technical editor or the author.

Finally, the paper is published, together with other papers, in the journal and after a while the author sees his article in print.

The time that passes between submission of the manuscript and publication of the article in printed form can vary between a few weeks and a year, or even longer. In some fields of science this period of time is too long and authors sometimes ask publishers why this time cannot be reduced.

## Modern Times

The conventional method of publishing, which I have sketched above, can probably not be made any more efficient by using conventional means. However, many authors use their own text processing systems to produce their papers and reports. This text can be transmitted in electronic form. In principle, this makes it possible to

- publish the paper within a shorter length of time;
- extract bibliographic information and abstracts, and store this information in a database.

In the first case we see that, by making use of manuscripts in electronic form, which I will call *compuscripts* in the rest of this paper, that is by making use of modern electronic means, the conventional method of publishing scientific journals can be made more efficient. Furthermore, the production of secondary publications, such as abstract journals, can be made more efficient since the abstracts do not have to be re-typed.

An important consequence is that the publisher can now add extra value to the journal or to his entire range of scientific publications, by making the

material available in various electronic forms, such as hypertext books, databases on CD-ROM, etc.

However, a publisher can only accept a compuscript if the instructions of the text processing system of the author can, in one way or another, be converted to that of the publisher, which in most cases is a computer-driven phototypesetter. Since a publisher wants to work as efficiently as possible, this conversion must be automatic or nearly automatic. This means that the compuscript must be prepared by the author according to a set of rules. In most cases, of course, a technical editor still has to read a draft printed on paper to mark appropriate changes to the text, the typography or the layout. Especially if the paper contains tables or mathematical formulae, this is an intricate task.

## Research at ESP

*Elsevier Science Publishers (ESP)* has for a few years been investigating the possibility of accepting compuscripts created with modern text processing systems. The aim of our present research is to develop a method for manipulating the compuscripts in such a way that the material can be published more efficiently than before, and is also stored for re-use at a later stage.

We take the view that the transition from manuscript-based to compuscript-based publishing must at least preserve the flexibility of the current submission procedures and, where possible, improve upon it. This means, for instance, that the author should not be bothered with compuscript preparation instructions that are significantly different between publishers, or even between the various journals of one publisher. It also means that publishers should be able to accept compuscripts produced by a range of text processing systems, and submitted either by electronic network or on a diskette, via ordinary mail.

## SGML

As Figure 1 shows, the Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML) [1, 2, 3] plays a central role in our approach. SGML promises to become a very important tool, since it allows us to (i) separate the logical structure of the document from its visual structure, i.e. its appearance; (ii) treat all accepted compuscripts, once they have been converted to SGML form, in a uniform working environment; (iii) handle the compuscripts independently of output medium and output format; (iv) store the text, wholly or partially, in a database and use the database contents again at a later stage for various

other forms of publications; (v) standardize compuscript input formats between the various scientific publishers, thus helping to preserve the flexibility of submission mentioned above.

It is not our intention to ask authors to submit SGML-coded compuscripts yet. However, we foresee that, as a consequence of the fact that the departments of the US Government as well as major industries have adopted SGML as a standard for document interchange, developers of text processing software will provide their customers with facilities for conversion from their particular text format to SGML. Authors will then be able to produce their compuscripts with the text processing system of their choice and to provide the publisher with an SGML version without additional effort.

Until then, in order to have all material submitted in the form of compuscripts available in SGML-coded form, conversion facilities must be developed. The scheme we would like to realize is indicated in Figure 1.

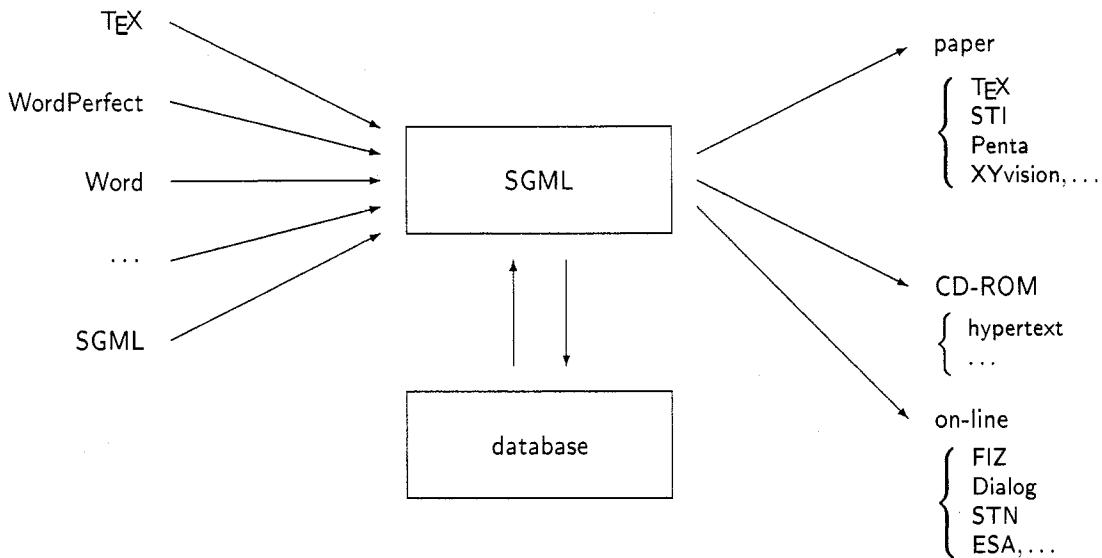
On the one hand, Elsevier Science Publishers wants to allow authors to use their favorite text processing system. On the other hand we know that there are dozens of text processing systems that are being used by authors in various disciplines.

This means that we have to make a choice. Two factors influence this choice: (i) the text processing systems chosen must correspond to a fair proportion of the total number of authors, and (ii) a compuscript prepared with a certain text processing system must, ideally, be convertible to SGML form. The first point is something that should be investigated separately for every discipline. The second point implies that we must choose text processing systems that, whenever possible, produce texts where the logical structure is, at least partially, indicated. In other words: a Word compuscript based on a style sheet is to be preferred over a plain Word file, and L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X is preferred over plain T<sub>E</sub>X.

## T<sub>E</sub>X Compuscripts

T<sub>E</sub>X will be one of the text processing systems included in our electronic publishing scheme. Later this year, as a first step towards having a T<sub>E</sub>X compuscript scheme for all appropriate journals, *ESP* will start accepting L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X-coded compuscripts for a few of their physics journals. For various reasons we have chosen L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X as the most convenient variety of T<sub>E</sub>X.

- Since according to Lamport [4], "the primary function of almost all the L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X commands ... [is] to describe the logical structure of [a] docu-



**Figure 1:** Conversion to and from SGML.

ment" conversion of a **L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X**-coded compuscript to SGML form is possible.

- The idea of a document style, which is fundamental to **L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X**, enables us to produce camera ready copy for a particular journal by changing only the `\documentstyle` command in the submitted compuscript.
- **L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X** is relatively easy to learn.
- **L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X** is described in a book, so that it can be considered as a *de facto* standard.
- Especially for large review articles and for books, the following **L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X** tools come in very handy
  - cross-referencing with symbolic keys,
  - automatically generated table of contents,
  - index and bibliography tools.

## Status Quo

So far we have achieved several things. First of all, we have created **L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X** document styles for four of *ESP*'s scientific journals. These new document styles exactly reproduce the layout of the corresponding journals, which so far are still produced in the conventional way.

We have also been able to develop a set of programs for complete automatic conversion of **L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X** documents with mathematical formulae to SGML form. To be more precise: we convert **L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X** documents with mathematical formulae to a *document type definition* [1, 2] for scientific papers that is based on the one developed by the *Association of American Publishers (AAP)*.

A document type definition is a description of the logical structure of a certain class of documents, using a method that resembles the specification of the syntax of a programming language. As an example, the document type definition of a novel is represented in a diagrammatic manner in Figure 2.

Conversion of **L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X**-coded tabular material to SGML form, i.e., to the *AAP* document type definition or possibly a different document definition, is currently under investigation. Another automatic conversion that is currently under investigation is the conversion from Word, with an appropriate style sheet, to SGML.

## Book Projects with **T<sub>E</sub>X**

Recently the Physical Sciences and Engineering Division of *ESP* has published several books that have been written in plain **T<sub>E</sub>X** or in **L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X**, and the number of **T<sub>E</sub>X**-coded and **L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X**-coded books that we will publish in the near future will probably increase. Our experience is that **L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X** is an excellent tool for these larger projects due to the separation of logical structure and visual structure, the ability to do cross-referencing with symbolic keys and the presence of tools for index and bibliography; these advantages were already mentioned under the section *T<sub>E</sub>X Compuscripts*.

However, we have also noticed that making a **T<sub>E</sub>X**-coded or **L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X**-coded book ready for publication requires more time when the authors do not have to follow a set of instructions, but are free to type things the way they think is best.

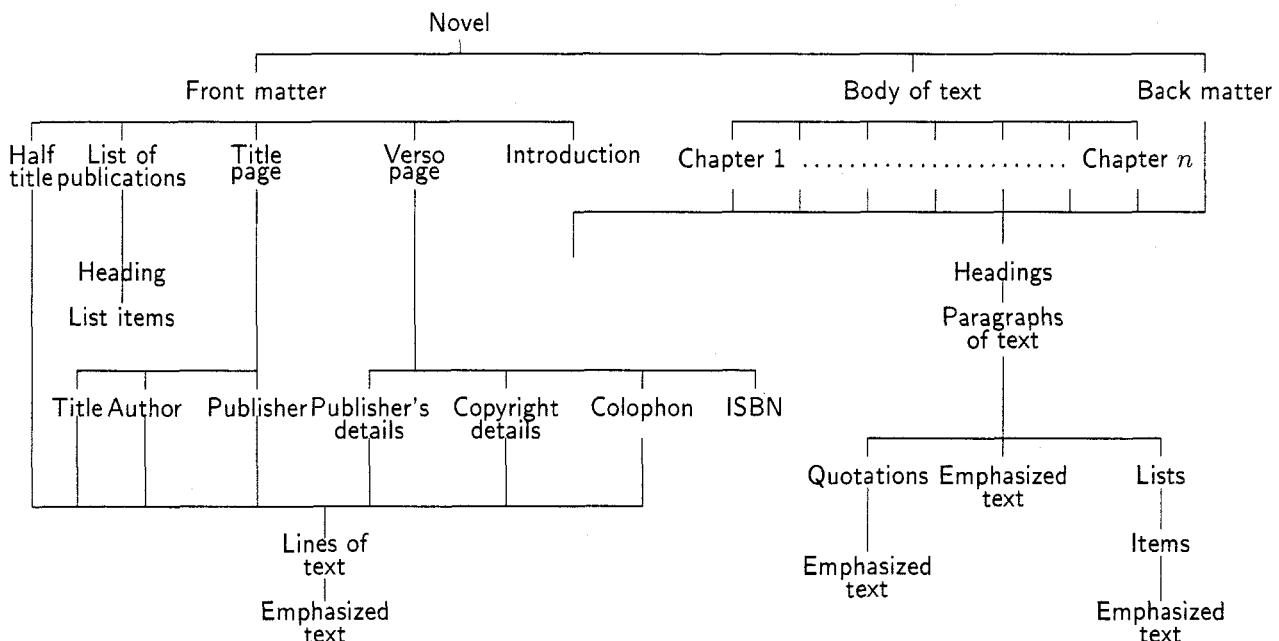


Figure 2: Document type definition of a novel.

## Other Uses of *TEX*

Lots of programs, such as database programs, have output capabilities that are somewhat meager. After all, a database program is meant to store data, not to print it in a sophisticated manner. The fact that *TEX* is a programmable text formatting system makes it an excellent "print engine" for such programs. As long as the database program is capable of inserting some fairly simple texts in its output – most database programs have report generators that are able to accomplish this – *TEX*'s capabilities as a text formatter can be used to print the output in any desired way.

An example of this approach is symbolic mathematics packages that can compute complicated formulae and generate the *TEX* codes for formatting them. Another example is provided by the database-publishing activities of the *Excerpta Medica Publishing Group (EMPG)*, which is part of the Biomedical Division of *ESP*.

The *EMPG* employs a database of article openings, abstracts and citation lists that have been derived from articles in a selected set of biomedical journals. The information in this database is stored in a structured form. With this information the *EMPG* produces abstract journals that are called the *Core Journals in (...)*, where (...) is, for instance, *Ophthalmology*, *Cardiology* or *Neurology*.

The *EMPG* has been experimenting with using *LATEX* for the production of *Core Journals*: the relevant portions of the database are extracted and converted to *LATEX*. The *LATEX*-coded form of this information can then, in principle, be used to produce the camera ready copy for the journal, using a document style that was developed in-house.

In the near future, starting this year, a similar system will be implemented for the article openings of all journals that are published by *ESP*. The purpose of this project, which is called *CAPCAS*, is to have the article openings, i.e. title, author(s), abstract, keywords and publication history, available in SGML-coded form and to store this information in a database. From this database we can then create secondary publications of various kinds, such as volume indexes, author indexes and abstract journals. Also for this type of database-publishing, *TEX* is used to format the structured information on paper.

## Conclusion

In this paper I have sketched the ideas that *Elsevier Science Publishers* have developed concerning the handling of author prepared manuscripts in electronic form. In this scheme, SGML will play a central role, and *TEX*, in one or more of its varieties, will also play a part.

Furthermore, I have given a few examples of other ways in which T<sub>E</sub>X's text formatting capabilities can be put to good use, namely in the fields of book production and database publishing.

Summarizing, I think it's no exaggeration to say that, because of its programmability, T<sub>E</sub>X is eminently suitable for large-scale text production, both directly as a text processing system, and indirectly as the output component of a database-publishing system. Considering that

- the quality of material typeset in T<sub>E</sub>X is considered satisfactory even by very demanding users,
- T<sub>E</sub>X runs on an impressive number of different types of computers, and
- T<sub>E</sub>X output can be printed on a wide range of output devices,

the number of uses of T<sub>E</sub>X will undoubtedly increase in the years to come.

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## Getting *TeX*nical: Insights into *TeX* Macro Writing Techniques

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*Amy Hendrickson presented her paper, Getting *TeX*nical: Insights into *TeX* Macro Writing Techniques, at the TUG meeting at Texas A&M in June, and at the TUG meeting at the University of Cork in Ireland in September. For a copy of this presentation, please refer to TUGboat Volume 11, Number 3, September, 1990. — Ed.*

# BIBTEX Reconsidered

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## Abstract

The article contains a general discussion of BIBTEX, the proposals discussed at the EuroTEX89 meeting in Karlsruhe, and further proposals for extensions and changes to BIBTEX 0.99c.

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PATASHNIK in close cooperation with LESLIE LAMPORT. BIBTEX was designed to work in close connection with LATEX, but can also be used with other tools or as a stand alone program.<sup>2</sup> A comparison with bibliographic tools of other platforms can be found in [33].

For a long time, BIBTEX was a niche product for experts only. This seems to be changing now:

1. A BIBTEX requirements session was held at the EuroTEX meeting in Karlsruhe [6], resulting in a list of requirements that was spread out in [44] and published in [1, 24]. It is one of the purposes of the present article to elaborate these requirements.
2. BIBTEX was discussed recently in TeXline [36, 34, 14]. The TeXline newsletter also began to print bibliographic information in BIBTEX source format.
3. At our site at EDS, we introduced BIBTEX about one year ago to help us with the large amount of inhouse and vendor documentation, which has to be handled in our industrial environment [47].

Thus it is one of the intentions of this article to help remove some of the obstacles which may prevent others from realizing BIBTEX's benefits.

Although we will speak about alternatives and make quite a lot of suggestions, we should point out right away that we do appreciate what has been achieved so far. BIBTEX is an excellent tool when used for the task it was designed for. Most of the problems arise because there are other needs that were not considered in the original design. The following lines are not more than a first try to present a collection of what might be desirable. Most of them adopt a user's, not an implementor's, point of view.

We are going to begin with a discussion of alternative concepts of citing. Next, we treat the links to LATEX, and finally we deal with some issues confined to BIBTEX itself.

## 2 Alternative approaches to citing

In many scientific areas, the citing information given in the text is kept to a minimum, e.g. a reference number. In some areas, however, different approaches to citing are required, and we shall consider a few of them here.

**2.1 Presentational citing.** The standard citing concept of BIBTEX is based on the assumption that references are mainly used in rare circumstances for verification, but not read in the same way as the normal text.

There are, however, quite a lot of applications where bibliographic information is meant to be *read*,

either alone or together with normal text. Such cases of *presentational citing* also need a different technical approach.

To get a vivid impression of why presentational citing might be desirable, the gentle reader of this paper might have a close look at footnote 3 on page 124.

**2.1.1 Footnote citing.** In some cases, authors may want their readers to see immediately those bibliographic items they are referring to.

Assembling such references in the back of the book or article will not do; it only makes sense if they are used rarely, so this case is quite similar to the alternative of footnotes vs. endnotes.

A good way to make bibliographic information easily accessible is to include it into footnotes; for an example, see [42]. This is discussed in more detail in Proposal 10 'Citefull style' on page 127.

**2.1.2 Commented bibliographies.** A similar question arises with commented bibliographies, where the commenting descriptions are to be mixed with the bibliographic information and *section* commands are to be used.

**2.1.3 Publication lists.** To document their own publications (*publish or perish!*), all scholars need publication lists which have some technical peculiarities.

Proposal 1 (Publication list)

*Implement a publist bibliographic style, with the following features: – omission or abbreviation of author's name, – chronological sequence, – entry related display of reviews (cf. Proposal 28 'Review entry' on page 130).*

**2.1.4 Multiple bibliographies.** In some cases, especially with textbooks for teaching, one would like to have bibliographies chapterwise. For a more technical discussion of this issue, see Proposal 14 'Selected bibliography generation' on page 128.

**2.2 Short title citing.** It may help to understand some of BIBTEX's design limitations to have a look at another system, which was used to produce the bibliographies for some books of REINHARD WONNEBERGER.<sup>3</sup> In this system, a bibliographic entry looks like this:

```
:b t=l .label  
:b      t=a .Author / Editor
```

2. The first release (up to 0.98) is described under the roof of LATEX [25, 39]. Substantial enhancements were introduced with release 0.99 [32]. The syntax for the bibliographic entries is upward compatible, but the style files have to be redone [31].

3. [49] (explained in [42]), the first edition of [46] and the German edition thereof [41], and also [40] (which was typeset by the author's own Scriptor program), and [48].

```
:b    t=t .Title
:b      .(continuation line, for any type)
:b    t=u .Subtitle
:b    t=r .Series / Journal
:b    t=o .Address
:b    t=p .Publisher
:b    t=j .Year (edition)
:b    t=v .>out of<
:b    t=s .internal information
:b    t=e .(end mark)
```

The :b . is a GML-tag [21]; it carries a type attribute to specify the bibliographic field given in the remainder of the line. The 'v. >out of<' field is used to refer to separate entries describing parts of a book, e.g. articles of a *Festschrift* (see below).

It is quite obvious that this system is far simpler than BIBTEX; it does not include adaptations along the lines of .bst bibliographic styles. But, in addition to some technical features worth noting, it may show some different attitudes and requirements when writing in fields like theology, literature, linguistics and the like.

1. With the few fields mentioned above, it was possible to accommodate more than 2,000 entries of very different kind. Typing is quite easy, and the simple input structure helps to get a quick and safe orientation in the source files, cf. Proposal 12 'Structured source layout' on page 128.
2. The r-field is ambiguous, being used for journals, e.g. ZAW 92 (1980) 185-204, in which case the year is given here, and for series, e.g. BZAW 123, in which case a separate year field is used. Though it would need some analysis to extract the year of an article, this scheme is very efficient for input.
3. The most interesting aspect is perhaps the inclusion of *incollection* type items. The need arises because books and the parts of them, e.g. articles, always get different entries. Let us have an abbreviated example, the first entry giving the collected volume, the second one giving the article contained in it:

```
t=l .Weydt Partikeln
  t=a .Weydt, Harald (ed.)
  t=t .Die Partikeln ... [book]
  t=j .1979
  t=v .>Wonneberger Pragmatik<
t=l .Wonneberger Pragmatik
  t=a .Wonneberger, R.
  t=t .Zur Syntax ... [article]
  t=r .Weydt Partikeln 488-499
```

The interesting point is that the bibliography (corresponding to the .bb1 file) is produced in *one pass*.<sup>4</sup>

4. There is also a difference in the citation mechanism. References to literature are done as index entries, which are also printed in the text; to give an example, the text entry :s.12 Wonneberger Normaltext 99, which will appear in print as 'Wonneberger Normaltext 99', also produces an index entry. This gives an index of quoted literature, which is quite useful in the writing of bigger manuscripts. A file with bibliographic requests is produced during index processing. As entries are sorted anyway for the index, no special sort is needed to get the bibliographic request file into alphabetic order. All special symbols like *umlauts* are replaced by a transcription like 'ae', 'ss' and the like during label processing.

The last point seems to be of general importance. As an author, I do not want to be dependent on several LATEX and BIBTEX runs to get my cite keys resolved. I want to code an explicit short title in my source, the meaning of which is immediately clear to myself and to others working in this field, and I also want to identify who was cited where.

#### Proposal 2 (Explicit labels)

*Allow explicit labels, like "Wonneberger Normaltext", which can be printed directly and used with \nocite. Umlauts can be normalised.*

#### Remarks

*A similar system is used in linguistics, giving author and year, e.g. Chomsky (1957c). This case seems to be more complicated, because punctuation may be subject to stylistic guidelines, and counting relative to the year is context dependent.*

It is important to understand that these different approaches to citing are by no means just a matter of taste. In most cases they reflect a specific functionality and perhaps also general attitudes of a community of scholars.

Speaking in terms of Computer Science, the familiar BIBTEX method is *addressed* citing, whereas these methods can be seen as *associative* citing, which means: addressing by content.

Addressing does not matter as long as it is kept inside the machine. It becomes a handicap if the user is involved.

The question of associative citing also evokes the topic of databases (see below).

4. When the list of bibliographic requests (corresponding to \citation) is matched with the bibliographic database, all items are checked for a possible 'v' field. Then the program goes the other way round and checks whether the label framed by angle brackets is requested in the bibliographic requests list. It is not checked, however, whether the r-field matches with the book label.

**2.3 BIBTEX in the industrial field.** At first sight BIBTEX might seem to be an academic tool. This is true because of the academic need for quoting others.

But an important benefit of BIBTEX can only be realized by sharing bibliographic information, and sharing resources might be more common in an industrial environment.<sup>5</sup>

There are some requirements which result from industry needs. Internal labels will not normally be built on authors' names, as many publications do not show their authors at all. In these cases it may be best to build on the publication number, which, as a rule, is also printed on the publication itself.<sup>6</sup>

In an MVS environment one might wish to have only one document identifier which can serve both as a label and as a member name for source and object forms of the document. This, however, would impose the restrictions for member names on the label.<sup>7</sup>

Proposal 3 (Worldwide convention(s) for labels)  
Agree on a standard for the formation of cite-keys.

In an environment with demand printing, some publications will be available for general printing, e.g. [47] is made available as [43]. Instead of using two separate entries, it might be nice to have fields that can be switched on and off dynamically. This concept is also important for maintaining additional information within one entry which should be used only sometimes, e.g. prices, etc. While it is possible in principle to write different style files that support different fields, this overhead is error prone.

Proposal 4 (Switchable fields)

Support the inclusion of individual fields on request.

#### Remarks

This can be achieved with the help of the `\like` option (cf. Proposal 26 'Like option' on page 130) since unwanted fields can then be identified with ignored fields. Alternatively, it could be supported in a sub-style concept (cf. Proposal 22 'Substyle concept' on page 129).

## 3 Interaction with LATEX

**3.1 Multiple bibliographies.** BIBTEX was designed for documents containing one reference list, i.e. one `\thebibliography` environment. Therefore it was sensible to read the citation information directly out of LATEX's `.aux` file. If more than one bibliography is necessary, one can circumvent the problem by using the sub-level `.aux` files provided by the `\include` command and reading the resulting `.bb1` files manually.<sup>8</sup>

Alternatively the `\bibliography` command can be changed slightly to read in a `.bb1` file corresponding to the current include file. This will give us one bibliography per `\include` command, a command that will always start a new page. Therefore this mechanism is not adequate for journals in which the articles are printed just one after the other. It is also not usable for manuals, etc., that have several reference lists, one after the other, e.g. 'Further reading', 'Related publications', etc.

A second alternative is to change the `\cite` command to write the citations not into the `.aux` file but into other files, one for each wanted reference list. This will allow one to use the resulting BIBTEX output at any place, but will require a considerable number of redefinitions of LATEX commands. Furthermore, both methods are very time consuming and error prone because BIBTEX has to be started for every file generated.

#### Proposal 5 (Multiple bibliographies (LATEX))

There are plans to extend the bibliography support in the re-implementation of LATEX in such a way that several bibliographies within one document (all generated by BIBTEX) are possible. The syntax for this feature is currently under discussion.

#### Remarks

This support is only possible in an efficient way if the BIBTEX input syntax is changed according to Proposal 14 'Selected bibliography generation' on page 128.

**3.2 Title formatting.** To use BIBTEX for the formatting of a title page could be another useful and efficient application. It would be an advantage

5. See the corresponding considerations for T<sub>E</sub>X in [47].

6. The IBM system of form numbers shows how a very big publisher handles this [20]:

ABBB-CCCC-EE Typical IBM Documentation Number

A...-....-.. Use Key, e.g. G: generally available, S: for sale; L: for licensees

.BBB-CCC-.. Form Number

.BBB-....-.. Prefix, e.g. one number for all DCF publications; specific prefixes denote publication categories like Logic Manuals, Bill of Forms, Microfiche, Pseudonumber, Technical Newsletter, Supplement; for details see [20].

....-CCCC-.. Base Number relative to the prefix

....-....-EE Suffix, e.g. 00 for first edition

The first three elements might be used right away as a BIBTEX label, assuming that new editions should be quoted automatically.

7. Max. 8 alphanumerics, starting with a letter (including the national characters @, #, \$).

8. The new LATEX will use only one `.aux` file, so that this mechanism will not work any longer. For further information see [27].

that arbitrary information could be gathered in the BIBTEX database while each journal provides its own title-.bst that picks up the information of interest. This style would then produce an output file containing LATEX commands for formatting a title according to the house style. An additional benefit would be that each paper produced in this way would already contain its own bibliography entry in BIBTEX format.<sup>9</sup>

#### Proposal 6 (BIBTEX and title page)

*Evaluate whether such a scheme is feasible and easy to use. If so, devise new LATEX commands that handle this concept in a user friendly way.*

#### Remarks

*This clearly requires multiple bibliographies (cf. Proposal 14 ‘Selected bibliography generation’ on page 128), as one cannot ask the user for an additional BIBTEX run to produce a title page. Such a feature should be clearly considered as a suggested add-on, but a conventional way to produce a title in a document should still be available.*

BIBTEX can be particularly helpful in providing title information for software in a complete and standardized way.

#### Proposal 7 (BIBTEX software titling)

*Develop a concept for self-contained software title information along the proposal in [2][486–487].*

**3.3 Formatting commands.** With the release of BIBTEX 0.99 it is possible to include LATEX commands in the bibliography database that will be copied by BIBTEX to the very beginning of the .bb1 file. This allows one to specify formatting declarations and to introduce new commands which will be used in the bibliography entry. But LATEX supports only \newcommand and \renewcommand. If for example the database contains the line

```
@preamble{(\newcommand{\WEB}{\sc web})}
```

it is not possible to use this database together with the ltugboat style option because the command \WEB is already defined in this style and the \newcommand will therefore balk.

#### Proposal 8 (Supply command)

*Add a \supplycommand<sup>10</sup> macro to LATEX which behaves like \newcommand if the command name is previously undefined but does nothing (or prints only a warning) when the command already has a meaning.*

**3.4 Decentralized bibliography.** Some document types require bibliographic entries to be placed directly into the text or into a footnote, cf. section 2.1 on page 124. To support this, BIBTEX

should be changed to allow sequential reading of the .bb1 file.

#### Proposal 9 (Singularize .bb1)

*Change the output of BIBTEX by surrounding the whole entry with a pair of braces, i.e.*

```
\bibitem{Kn86}{%
  Donald E. Knuth. \newblock
  ...
}
```

#### Remarks

*Using the \read command to access the .bb1 information would forbid commands that change \catcode (like \verb) in the database.*

**3.5 Sequential citations.** As mentioned in section 2.1 on page 124, a form of sequential citing, e.g. in footnotes, is a common requirement in certain disciplines. This should be supported by LATEX at least via a style option.

#### Proposal 10 (Citefull style)

*Write a LATEX style option that supports this sort of citation. This would necessarily include a new \citefull<sup>11</sup> command that marks the place where the full entry should be cited. The \cite would then refer to this place.*

#### Remarks

*This requires a different syntax in the .bb1 file as explained in Proposal 9 ‘Singularize .bb1’ on page 127.*

**3.6 Internal names.** After looking into an .aux file many users get confused by the fact that user commands (e.g. \cite, \bibliographystyle, etc.) have nearly identical counterparts in internal commands to be understood by BIBTEX. Unfortunately these commands (e.g. \citation, \bibstyle, etc.) are user accessible, which may lead to confusion.

#### Proposal 11 (Change internal names)

*Change the internal names that are written by LATEX into the .aux file, so that they cannot be accessed by the ordinary user.*

## 4 BIBTEX input

### 4.1 Source organization.

9. This is similar to the practice to print a short bibliographic entry as provided by the national library on the back-side of the title page.

10. The name is only a suggestion. A simple definition for macros without parameters could be:

```
\def\supplycommand #1#2{\ifx
  \undefined #1\def #1{#2}\fi}
```

11. The name is chosen to appear near \cite in the alphabetical sequence and to allow incremental search in appropriate editors.

**4.1.1 Uniform source layout.** BIBTEX allows identical information to be coded in different syntaxes. For large bibliographies, it is important to find a standard format of coding, cf. the rather uniform source layout of the Reduce bibliography [12].

Proposal 12 (Structured source layout)

Develop a convention to structure BIBTEX source files for better readability.

Remarks

This also implies agreed positions for commas and a convention about braces vs. brackets vs. quotes.

**4.1.2 Error recovery.** “In practice, we all make mistakes. And one of the most common typographic errors is to forget a ‘}', ...’”. These words of Knuth [23][205] about T<sub>E</sub>X also apply to BIBTEX. If braces or quotes do not match properly, it can be quite difficult to detect the corresponding location. In some cases, the error will be reported only at the end of the file, and many entries may have been skipped.<sup>12</sup>

Proposal 13 (Entry separator)

Define an empty line to act as an entry separator.

Remarks

This strategy is similar to the one adopted for \par in T<sub>E</sub>X [23][205]. It would only prevent empty lines from occurring inside entries, which does not seem to be a big loss.

**4.2 Supporting multiple bibliographies.** As explained in section 3.1 on page 126 one of the important shortcomings of BIBTEX is the missing support of several bibliographies within one document. This could be incorporated by changing the syntax of internal commands in the following way:

Proposal 14 (Selected bibliography generation)

Change the commands recognized by BIBTEX in the .aux file so that they accept two arguments with the following meaning:

- The first argument is a list of context selectors that will help BIBTEX to decide which citations to choose for a particular thebibliography environment, which data bases to search, and which style to use for the bibliography to generate.
- The second argument holds the cite key, the style, or a list of databases, respectively.
- A context selector is a unique string of at most eight characters.<sup>13</sup>

In detail, the internal commands found in the .aux file should be interpreted in the following way:

\bibstyle If the first argument is empty, generate a bibliography containing all citations searching all databases. Otherwise, the first argument

contains a list of context selectors. In this case, generate for every context selector a bibliography considering all citations and databases that have been specified for this selector.

More than one \bibstyle command in the .aux file is allowed. But every context selector should be used only once.

\bibdata If the first argument is empty, the second specifies a list of data bases which should be used to search for all citations. Otherwise, the data bases from the second argument are searched only if the current citation contains at least one of the context selectors.

Again, more than one \bibdata command is allowed. Therefore, the problem of a buffer overflow (when writing to the .aux file) can be prevented.

\citation If the first argument is empty, the citation will be included in every bibliography generated by the \bibstyle commands in the .aux file. If it contains a list of context selectors the citation will show up in every bibliography generated for them.

Remarks

The internal command names should be changed according to Proposal 11 ‘Change internal names’ on page 127.

It seems advisable to process different \bibstyle commands sequentially to avoid the problem of memory overflow.

**4.3 Language considerations.** A general presentation of language-related problems can be found in [17].

**4.3.1 Language flags.** With T<sub>E</sub>X 3.0 it is possible to support several languages within one document. This is important for hyphenation, use of fixed names (like “volume”, “and”, etc.) but also for direct entry formatting. There is, for example, no decapitalization of titles in German.

Proposal 15 (Language flag)

Add a language flag for entry processing by both BIBTEX and T<sub>E</sub>X.

Remarks

This should be available for every field, but the possibility to specify a language for the whole entry (cf.

12. For the time being, such errors may be detected by changing all entry escape symbols ‘\’ into something like ‘\" ,\}’. These closing delimiters will trigger error messages if the matching is wrong; otherwise, they will be ignored.

13. This restriction seems to be necessary to allow a standard naming scheme for the resulting output files. Of course, the possibility to construct the output file names from the T<sub>E</sub>X job name (e.g. \jobname.bbl) has to be given up on most systems.

*Proposal 34 ‘Language field’ on page 131) is equally important.*

Until this has been achieved, standard styles should be language independent, e.g. *Computer Physics Communications* 61 instead of *volume 61 of Computer Physics Communications*.

*Proposal 16 (Language independent standard styles)  
The BIBTEX standard styles should be language independent.*

**4.3.2 Symbols.** Special symbols like *umlauts* play an important role in an international environment.

*Proposal 17 (Symbol convention)*

*Though BIBTEX makes provisions for some special cases, it should also be able to handle language related symbols (e.g. those from german.sty [30, 29]) and allow outputting them in a different syntax.*

To produce output for other typesetting systems, e.g. for DCF, BIBTEX should be able to output language related symbols in a different syntax. To give an example, the umlaut `\"a` should be converted to `&a.` for DCF.

*Proposal 18 (Symbol conversion)*

*Set up symbol conversion with the help of an additional style file at run time similar to the way Makelindex handles different syntax conventions for input and output [9].*

*Proposal 19 (Composed symbols)*

*Composed symbols should be generated. Roman figures, e.g. should be kept as arabic numbers, with some kind of a transformational prefix like in DCF, where &R'4. will give ‘IV’, whereas &r'6. will give ‘vi’.<sup>14</sup>*

**4.3.3 Sorting.** Different character sets require different sorting rules [22]. In the current BIBTEX, the use of accented characters in author names or titles often leads to incorrect bibliographic sequences in the output.

*Proposal 20 (Sorting rules)*

*Devise some mechanism to incorporate customizable sorting rules into BIBTEX.*

*Remarks*

*The same module should be used for Makelindex, where similar problems arise.*

**4.3.4 Names.** The handling of names in BIBTEX is very sophisticated. Nevertheless it cannot handle all classes well enough for general applications.

For example, titles in the name fields are misplaced in certain styles,<sup>15</sup> and monks and nuns should be allowed to have their congregation indicated, e.g. ‘James Swetnam, S.J.’.

*Proposal 21 (Names and titles)*

*Reconsider the BIBTEX name function and extend it in such a way that it can deal with foreign names.*

Under the present scheme, agree to write all names with a comma, so that also Spanish names will be unambiguous, e.g. ‘García Márquez, Gabriel’.

*Remarks*

*Alternatively, one could give the style file more access to reprogram the function, but this would not solve the problems of an international data base.*

#### 4.4 Style considerations.

**4.4.1 Substyles.** At the moment a BIBTEX style is responsible for both the logical structure of the input (e.g. which fields and entries are recognized) and the structure of the output (e.g. sorting, label generation, formatting of the entries, etc.). Since these tasks are, at least in principle, unrelated to each other, it would be better to separate them.

*Proposal 22 (Substyle concept)*

*Determine a substyle concept for bibliography styles that allow to change certain aspects of the formatting and input recognition similar to the \documentstyle command of LATEX. This concept could be used to handle the requirements discussed in Proposal 20 ‘Sorting rules’ on page 129, Proposal 34 ‘Language field’ on page 131, and Proposal 26 ‘Like option’ on page 130.*

**4.4.2 Special styles.** When writing documents it is helpful to have a printed version of the BIBTEX database which shows the names of the citation keys.

*Proposal 23 (Cite style)*

*Add a substyle to BIBTEX’s standard distribution that additionally shows the citation keys.*

*Remarks*

*Such a style could be derived directly from the standard styles. Using a suitable preprocessor (see Pro-*

14. The following macros could be used in a LATEX style file to interpret such input:

```
\def\R'#1.{\@Roman{#1}}
\def\r'#1.{\@roman{#1}}
```

15. Dr. is part of the name in Germany, e.g., so one should get ‘Dr. R. Wonneberger’, but ‘Dr. Wonneberger, Reinhard’ or ‘Wonneberger, Reinhard, Dr.’, if the title is not dropped at all, as it is customary in some academic fields. Curious as it may sound, the title was added in the second edition of [39] without the the author’s knowledge.

posal 25 ‘Style distribution’ on page 130), it should be no problem to provide it. An example style was given in [11]. Alternatively, this can also be achieved with a suitable style option in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X.

When submitting a paper like this one for publication, the bibliography will have to be sent in .bb1 format. It is very difficult then for the editor to make modifications to the bibliographic style, in contrast to the fact that they can be done quite easily with a L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X \bibliographystyle command.

Proposal 24 (Collect style)

Add a substyle to BIBTEX’s standard distribution that will collect the subset of bibliographic entries required for the document and write it into a separate .bib file.

Remarks

Such a style will also allow editors to produce a combined bibliography for the whole volume, provided that labels can be mapped as described in Proposal 38 ‘Multiple labels’ on page 131.

**4.4.3 Documentation and distribution.** The main bibliography styles (abrv, alpha, plain and unsrt) are derived from one master source (**btxbst.doc**) which is written using a C preprocessor syntax. The individual styles are then extracted by setting individual preprocessor flags. Unfortunately the choice of a C preprocessor seems to be tied to a UNIX environment. This means that installations without a C compiler must rely on supplied .bst files. The amount of time involved to customize a set of .bst files in such an environment is extremely high because every .bst file has to be changed individually.

Proposal 25 (Style distribution)

Supply and document all standard styles with a tool that is generally available in all T<sub>E</sub>X distributions. Since WEB has the disadvantage of being tied to PASCAL, we propose using the extended version of doc.sty and docstrip.tex [26] which is capable of processing conditional code.

**4.5 Entries and fields.** As shown by DAVID RHEAD [34], the names and meanings of entries and fields provided by the standard styles do not conform to the classification given by [8], [38], or [5]. But even if a more standardized set of entries and fields were implemented, one would certainly find exceptional applications of BIBTEX that involve just another class of documents. The problem of different naming conventions is that it will be difficult to merge databases. This can be circumvented if BIBTEX is able to interpret field and entry names in a database depending on exception rules.

Proposal 26 (Like option)

Add a @like entry that might have the following syntax:

```
@like(<entry1>)(<entry2>)(<linklist>)
```

This entry will tell BIBTEX that any <entry1> in the data base should be treated as an entry with name <entry2>. This sort of command is useful only if both entries have similar fields. The <linklist> should be used to set up conversions between individual fields, e.g. the command

```
@like(edsmanual)(manual)  
(intnote= note  
printnote= note)
```

tells BIBTEX that it should interpret an @edsmanual entry as a @manual entry and convert any intnote or printnote field into a note field. The <linklist> can be empty.

Remarks

These additional commands can be placed in a separate database that is loaded first. The example above can have the result that after conversion more than one field of the same sort exists. This should be handled according to Proposal 33 ‘Field loops’ on page 131.

**4.5.1 New entries.** There are many possible additions to the current set of standard entries. A proposal for a rather different set of entries is given in [34]. If the current set of entries is kept as a basis, we would suggest adding at least some new ones.

Proposal 27 (@journal entry)

At the moment there is no good way to cite an entire journal. This would be required for cross references but is also of interest to draw attention to general topics covered in a journal without citing specific articles.

Proposal 28 (@review entry)

A review will typically have to crossref another bibliographic entry as part of its title.

Review being a publication class of its own, it should be identifiable by its entry name.

Proposal 29 (@product entry)

Citing a product (e.g. program, hardware, etc.) is nearly impossible since no official entry contains suitable fields.

Proposal 30 (@institution and @person entry)

These entries should accomodate all kinds of addresses and allow person to crossref institution.

**4.5.2 Fewer entries.** As opposed to adding further entries, it might be better to use only a few fundamental ones like monograph, periodical etc., cf. [34], and give a more detailed classification in a type field.

Proposal 31 (Review entries)  
Discuss entry concept.

**4.5.3 Stacked entries.** In some cases, the *in collection* relation involves more than two levels, e.g. this paper is part of a proceedings volume which in turn is part of a journal.

Proposal 32 (Stacked entries)  
Allow stacked entries.

**4.5.4 Repeated fields.** In many cases it makes sense to have identical fields within one entry. Consider, for example, a citation giving the years for two editions like: "1.Aufl. 1980, 2.Aufl. 1982". It is also useful simply to combine certain information as explained in Proposal 26 'Like option' on page 130.

Proposal 33 (Field loops)  
Extend the BIBTEX style language to handle multiple fields. If desired by the style designer, it should be possible to express that certain fields are bound together in the sense that the designer can access the first occurrence of a number of fields (e.g. year and edition in the above example), then the second and so forth.

Remarks

If a field of an entry is not marked as multiple in the sense above, all occurrences of this field should be simply concatenated with a programmable separator string.

**4.5.5 Supported fields.** A language field should be available for the language of the publication.

Proposal 34 (Language field)  
Add an optional field language to each entry, specifying the language used within the entry. If no field is specified, a default language should be used.

Remarks

The default language can be implemented as part of a substyle concept (cf. Proposal 22 'Substyle concept' on page 129). The language of individual fields (see Proposal 34 'Language field' on page 131) should always take precedence over the general or default language. This should not be confused with the case where the book is in a language different from the bibliographic entry, e.g. Hebrew and Russian publications when quoted with the bibliographic information in English. In this case the original language can be placed into the note field.

One important piece of information for published items is their *International Standard Book Number* (ISBN) or *International Standard Series Number* (ISSN), which are useful to identify and order publications.

Proposal 35 (Number field)  
Support a field for ISBN and ISSN numbers or a general number field for all entries.

Remarks

It is possible that several numbers exist for one entry (e.g. a hard- and softcover version for [23], etc.); see Proposal 33 'Field loops' on page 131 for ideas on handling this situation.

The current use of booktitle is difficult to understand.

Proposal 36 (booktitle)  
A better scheme should be devised for the booktitle concept in connection with crossref. At least, booktitle should be made optional.

**4.5.6 Unsupported fields.** In the current BIBTEX implementation, there is one field, namely *annote*, which is not supported by the standard BIBTEX styles. By defining such names BIBTEX databases are kept portable.

Proposal 37 (Standardize extended field names)  
Add names for all fields to the user documentation of BIBTEX which are of interest in extended styles. This would include fields like abstract, etc.

**4.5.7 Labels.** As long as labels are not defined by the publisher, different labels will be used for one and the same element. This prevents an easy combination of databases.

Proposal 38 (Multiple labels)  
Discuss multiple cite labels or alias-fields (to allow different systems of reference, e.g. in different user groups), or a scheme of citing by content [33].

Remarks

An application for this is given in Proposal 24 'Collect style' on page 130.

**4.6 Crossreferencing.** BIBTEX's possibility to crossreference entries (introduced in version 0.99) is restricted to a fixed order of entries (referenced entries must follow later in the data base). This is necessary since BIBTEX is essentially a one-pass system. On the other hand, this poses great problems in maintaining huge databases.

Proposal 39 (Multi-pass system)  
Remove this restriction by reading the data base several times if necessary.

Remarks

A multi-pass system is also necessary to support Proposal 14 ‘Selected bibliography generation’ on page 128 and perhaps also Proposal 22 ‘Substyle concept’ on page 129.

Another possibility is to allow backward references from whole publications to parts. This would allow for processing everything correctly in one pass and help to keep track of consistency.

Proposal 40 (Backward references)

Consider this approach as an alternative to the current concept.

Remarks

This would also allow to identify cited parts of a collect volume under its entry.

The concept of crossreference might be extended to other areas of application.

Proposal 41 (Extended crossreferencing)

Allow more than one crossreference for an entry.

Remarks

This would allow to crossref persons and institutions, e.g. authors with their affiliation, or publishers with their address, in addition to the normal crossreferencing of collect volumes.

**4.7 Compatibility with professional bibliographic databases.** Further development should consider standards like RAK. RAK (*Regeln für die alphabetische Katalogisierung*) is the present standard for German scientific libraries (and a successor to the so-called *Preußische Instruktionen* (Prussian Instructions)). In addition to giving rules on how to deal with publications without an explicit author or editor, this standard specifies the full range of fields that are necessary to describe all types of items held in such libraries.

Proposal 42 (RAK compatibility)

Though this standard is far too complicated for non-professionals, it might be useful to think about a way to inherit BIBTEX fields from a professional catalog entry.

Remarks

This topic could best be dealt with if we could find a professional librarian who is also familiar with TEX.

## 5 BIBTEX output

When working with larger bibliographies, it is important to have a working printout which also shows internal data. Lookup in a printout according to our experience is much more efficient than lookup in several files.<sup>16</sup>

### 5.1 ‘Comefrom’-information.

**5.1.1 Date and time.** For long-living documents it is often essential to determine when the document was last updated. On many systems, the automatic date and time stamp of a file is not an adequate source of information, because it might change during physical movement of files, etc.

Proposal 43 (Date and time)

Write the date and time of execution into the .bbl and .blg files using a *TEX* acceptable format, i.e. starting lines with a percent sign or using appropriate macros.

**5.1.2 Source.** In a large bibliography, it can be difficult to locate a specific entry. It is useful to have a working copy which, in addition to the cite label, also shows the file name for each entry.

Proposal 44 (Source information)

Add the source file information to each \bibitem command on demand.

**5.2 Error messages.** If braces or quotes do not match properly, BIBTEX may read bulks of lines in the vain hope of finding a good end delimiter (cf. Proposal 13 ‘Entry separator’ on page 128).

Proposal 45 (Error message entry identification)

Identify the entry and field being processed in BIBTEX error messages to help with spotting long range syntax errors of the input.

Proposal 46 (Warning message for unknown fields) Give a warning message for unknown fields, unless declared before, or switched off (cf. Proposal 37 ‘Standardize extended field names’ on page 131).

**5.3 Database maintenance.** BIBTEX’s databases are simple ASCII files. This has the advantage that such files are easily portable. On the other hand, maintaining these files is difficult. If, for example, two large databases are to be merged, unifying the citation keys is a time consuming task. Using the \cite{\*} feature of BIBTEX can help a little bit in this regard, but if the database has too many entries it will blow up BIBTEX’s memory, e.g. the Reduce bibliography [12] with about 40 pages is not processable on most installations.

Proposal 47 (Nonsorting mode)

Add a feature to BIBTEX that allows sequential reading of arbitrarily large databases. The only information which should be saved is the citation key and

16. Similar considerations apply to LATEX, where a general draft substyle showing ‘comefrom’ and crossref information is highly desirable.

its position in the database so that multiple entries can be detected.

#### Remarks

*This is not the same as writing a style file which ignores nearly all fields. The latter can be used only to detect multiple citation keys while the proposed feature would allow for printing all information contained in the database.*

**5.3.1 Comments.** In a large database it is often useful to include comments (about the last update, etc.). While this is possible between entries, as long as one does not use one of BIBTEX's special characters, it is not allowed inside a bibliography entry. If, for example, not all information is available, it would be nice to comment out open fields instead of deleting them from the database. This is especially useful in an environment where the user is guided by templates which show all possible fields.

#### Proposal 48 (Comment character)

*Make the percent character a BIBTEX comment sign to allow comments in the database.*

## 6 BIBTEX internal commands

**6.1 .bst Stack language documentation.** The ‘unnamed language’ as described in [31] is difficult to understand even for experienced programmers since it implements the seldom used concept of a stack language. But the main clients of BIBTEX in the future are probably people with only a small or no knowledge in computer science. They will have to change certain aspects of the standard styles and for that reason have to understand the basic principles of the language.

#### Proposal 49 (Programmers guide)

*Expand the BIBTEX programmers guide in a way that even inexperienced people are able to customize existing .bst files.*

In any case it is questionable whether the concept of a stack language is natural for the given problem of producing bibliographies.

#### Proposal 50 (Style language change)

*Consider the possibility of changing the style language of BIBTEX in the future to a different concept.*

#### Remarks

*If the necessity of customizing supplied style files is lessened by introducing a substyle concept (cf. Proposal 22 ‘Substyle concept’ on page 129), one could perhaps leave the language as it is: as an amusing or frustrating experience for a few gurus.*

## 6.2 The incompleteness of the language.

When one of the authors (Frank Mittelbach) implemented a `tugproc bst` according to the guidelines for TUG Proceedings [10], he ran into several problems. It was pretty difficult to convert explicit dashes (i.e., ‘--’ and ‘---’) into the commands `\dash` and `\Dash` that should be used instead. Problems arose because `text.prefix$` and `text.length$` operate on special characters. Another dilemma was produced by the requirement that punctuation characters should go into the quotes. As a result the `add.period$` could not be used any longer.

#### Proposal 51 (Extend internal commands)

*Check whether standard requirements for bibliographies can be programmed in a straightforward way with the given set of commands; extend this set if necessary.*

## 7 Implementation and organization

**7.1 Sharing bibliographic information.** It takes quite a lot of know-how, time, and care to produce a good entry for BIBTEX. Much can be gained by distributing precise bibliographic information, as it is shown by the Reduce bibliography [12].

#### Proposal 52 (.bib distribution)

*Discussion lists like [35] and similar installments should encourage distribution of bibliographic information in .bib format.*

Even without the sharing of source files, it is much easier to type a ready-made BIBTEX entry from paper (e.g. [36]) than to reconstruct it from normal bibliographic information.

#### Proposal 53 (.bib printout)

*Following the good example of TEXline [36], also other publications like TUGboat [37] should print bibliographic information in .bib format.*

**7.2 Software maintenance with BIBTEX entries.** The quality of software available to the TEX community varies from exceptional to poor. One of the main problems is that, quite often, it is not easy to determine author, release, last update, etc. for a macro package or a program source. This could be prevented if a standard for documentation is developed which describes the relevant facts. Here BIBTEX would be the ideal tool.

#### Proposal 54 (Software entries)

*Agree on a small set of entries with corresponding fields that describe software. This standard should be used within the TEX community for all software distributed. Authors submitting software to servers*

should be asked to add such an entry in front of their contribution. Preferably fields like *abstract* should be included so that this information can find its way directly into a local guide.

### 7.3 BIBTEX status in the TEX community.

With this paper we want to stress the importance of companion programs to *TEX*, *BIBTEX* in this case.

Proposal 55 (Standard *TEX* support)

*BIBTEX*, and *MakelIndex*<sup>17</sup> accordingly, should get the same support by the *TEX* Users Group (TUG) as *TEX* and *LATEX*.

Some of our suggestions will be quite easy to implement even under the current concept of *BIBTEX*, some others will need extensions, and still others may require a completely different implementation.

Proposal 56 (Academic research)

*Doing further research into the questions raised in this paper might be a challenge for students and teachers who are interested in computer science as well as in librarianship. Such research might also foster cooperation among different disciplines and experienced practitioners.*

#### Remarks

DAVID RHEAD, known for his work on *BIBTEX* [34], has offered to help with coordinating further work. Anyone who wishes to volunteer, or who is in a position to supervise a research student doing further work, is invited to send details of their interests to David.<sup>18</sup>

The present authors would be pleased to supply their manuscript to serve as a nucleus for further work on *BIBTEX*.

Proposal 57 (Living document)

*Create a living document to display requests, results of discussion, and the status of implementation for BIBTEX.*

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17. *MakelIndex* even waits to be converted to WEB, which we feel is important in spite of the growing availability of C compilers in order to allow the standard distribution tools like change files etc. to be used, cf. question 2 in [3].

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# Labelling Figures in $\text{\TeX}$ Documents

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## Abstract

With practice, it becomes a relatively quick job to use METAFONT to generate figures that  $\text{\TeX}$  can typeset in a document. How, though, may one use  $\text{\TeX}$  to typeset labels that may be needed at various points in the figure? This presentation describes one approach. METAFONT is instructed to record coordinates in the font file which  $\text{\TeX}$  may access and use as kerns for positioning label boxes.

## Introduction

Many people perceive a problem in including graphics within  $\text{\TeX}$  documents, but that problem no longer really exists. Thanks to the `\special` command in  $\text{\TeX}$ , it's possible to include a wide variety of graphics within the printed document. The general strategy is as follows.

Ask  $\text{\TeX}$  to leave the proper amount of white space in the document for the figure. Prepare a separate file by some other means which contains instructions for generating the figure. "Pull in" this separate file to the `dvi` file by means of the `\special` command. Finally, use a device driver which is alive to the possibility of external graphics files. Many such device drivers now exist.

There are, though, disadvantages to this approach. Primarily, the graphics file is not really a part of the  $\text{\TeX}$  source file. This means that it will be impossible to preview this file unless you use a particularly smart previewer (one that also responds to `\special` commands and is intelligent enough to know how to display this material on the screen).

## Need for Labels

Another disadvantage makes itself felt whenever a figure needs labels. How may they be included so that they are properly positioned? Some workers include the label as part of the graphic, but this leads to a visual inconsistency since the label font is most likely not any of the Computer Modern fonts that  $\text{\TeX}$  is apt to be using. Ideally, we'd like  $\text{\TeX}$  to typeset the labels, so they will be typeset as handsomely as the rest of the document.

In this article I'd like to describe one labelling approach that has worked well for me. I use METAFONT to generate the graphic as a font. While in this process, I decide which points in the figure need labels (although I need not decide on the labels themselves), and METAFONT incorporates the coordinates of these points in the font. Then, when  $\text{\TeX}$  includes the figure, it may access these coordinates which it uses as amounts by which to move right or left and raise up or down a box containing the text of the label.

## Other Work in this Area

Little work has apparently been done in this area. Rick Simpson was apparently the first to suggest (at least in print) that METAFONT be used as a drawing engine. His article [1990] is worth searching out.

One other effort in this field is the Metaplot macro package created by Patricia Wilcox [1989]. She showed how it was possible to enlist an interface between the user and METAFONT. In her case, it was a species of commonly used plotter. Various plotter commands were made to correspond to METAFONT commands, and she developed a package whereby it was possible to create sophisticated and pleasing graphics. (She is an individual blessed with considerably above average artistic skills.) These are amply illustrated in the article cited above. (Certain of my strategies were inspired by suggestions from Ms. Wilcox and Tom Rokicki, and I am happy to acknowledge their unwitting help.)

John Hobby [1989] is adopting a different approach. He is tailoring METAFONT so that it directly produces PostScript output rather than the

generic font format METAFONT normally produces. Although it will be possible to generate Computer Modern fonts in PostScript format, this MetaPost program is primarily a vehicle for generating figures and logos. His program will use a different approach for incorporating labels within the picture.

### The METAFONT Part

We begin by seeing how the METAFONT portion of this project works. I imagine each figure to be the "A" character of a special-purpose METAFONT font that contains no other characters. *T<sub>E</sub>X* contains no requirement that an "A" look anything like a *real* "A", and does not have any preconceived notions of the proper size of such a character, so no one complains if the "A" we ask METAFONT to draw looks nothing like a real "A" but like the figure we need in our document. Suppose the METAFONT file containing the figure-drawing instructions is *figfont.mf*. Then, assuming you've done all the METAFONT things properly, you would typeset this figure in your *T<sub>E</sub>X* document by declaring the font:

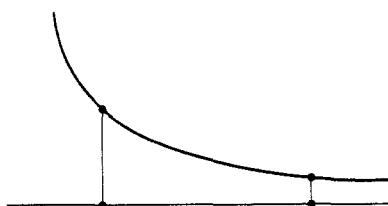
```
\font\figfont=figfont
```

and including the statement

```
{\figfont A}
```

where the figure is to appear. (Don't forget those enclosing braces!)

Here is a figure typical of one that might appear in a math text. (In fact, it appears somewhere in the first volume of Don Knuth's *Art of Computer Programming*.) The curve represents a portion of the graph of the function  $f(x) = 1/x$ . (Therefore, its METAFONT file is *1onx.mf*.)



It may be helpful to examine the METAFONT code to produce this drawing.

```
mode_setup;
u#=12pt#; nib#.5pt#;
if (mode=smoke) or (mode=proof):
```

```
u#:=.5pt#; nib#:1pt#; fi
define_pixels(u, nib);
beginchar("A", 12u#, 6u#, 0);
pickup pencircle scaled 2nib;
z1=(w/8,h); z2=(w/4, h/2);
z3=(w/2, h/4); z4=(w,h/8);
% points on the curve
path p; p=z1..z2..z3..z4;
draw p; % draw the $1/x$ curve
z.x=point 2.6 of p; % another point
z5=(x2,0); z6=(x.x,0);
% points on the $x$-axis
pickup pencircle scaled nib;
draw origin--(w,0); % bottom axis
draw z2--z5; draw z.x--z6;
% vertical struts
pickup pencircle scaled 6nib;
drawdot z2; drawdot z.x;
drawdot z5; drawdot z6;
endchar; bye.
```

Most of these statements are reasonably self-explanatory, provided you are familiar with the rudiments of METAFONT syntax. The variable *nib#* governs the diameter of the pen we use for drawing, and *u#* is an ad hoc measure of length that's convenient for scaling the entire drawing. Of the other variables in this program, *w* and *h* are the width and height of the figure, and the quantities *z*<sub>1</sub>, *z*<sub>2</sub>, and so on (including *z.x*) refer to special points in the figure.

The lines

```
u#=12pt#; nib#.5pt#;
if (mode=smoke) or (mode=proof):
u#:=.5pt#; nib#:1pt#; fi
```

must be troubling to an ardent METAFONTer; they imply *u#* and *nib#* take on device dependent values, contrary to the METAFONT spirit. This device dependent code is dictated by limitations within my monitor. METAFONT is accustomed to working with pieces of type that are (roughly) ten points square. During on the screen development (when *mode* is either *smoke* or *proof*), METAFONT uses the entire screen to display the character. When the characteristic length of the character is several picas, METAFONT will only display small portions of the letter, unless *u#* is sufficiently small so that there will be room enough to display the character on the video monitor. The lines above attempt to implement this strategy. The characteristic dimensions *u#* and *nib#* have the values we'd like for any font making activity. However, during

the development mode, they are much smaller to facilitate reviewing the work on the video screen.

### METAFONT Talks to *TEX*

We could use *TEX* to provide an identifying caption for this picture, but it would be more helpful to include labels. Knuth provided labels at each of the four circle like dots—can we?

Hackers are used to referring to both *TEX* and METAFONT as full-featured programming languages, but METAFONT doesn't completely fill that role. For one thing, METAFONT has no ability to create files except for *log* and *gf* files. Therefore, we cannot write the coordinates of the label points to files for use by *TEX*.

The key idea is to recognize the usefulness of the *fontdimen* parameter. Normally, METAFONT uses them to record universal constants for a particular font, such as the width of a quad or the interword spacing. There appears to be no upper bound on the number of allowable *fontdimen* parameters, nor constraints on the uses to which they be put. I therefore felt free to use them to store the coordinates of each label point. Each point uses two *fontdimen* parameters—one for the *x* coordinate and one for the *y* coordinate.

The file *convert.mf* contains the definitions of macros such as *convertz\_* which transform the coordinates into a useful format. Therefore, we need the statement

```
input convert;
```

right after the *mode\_setup* command. Before the *endchar* command, we need an additional line

```
fontdimen10: convertz_(z2,z.x,z5,z6);
```

the macro *convertz\_* converts the list of pairs to numbers which follow the proper *fontdimen* syntax.

### The *TEX* Part

Once the figures have been properly “METAFONT ed,” it’s easy to include them in a *TEX* document, as we have already discussed. But it’s also easy to apply labels. For that, we use a set of *\pointing* macros, similar to those in Appendix D of *The T<sub>E</sub>Xbook*. If *\x* and *\y* are *TEX* dimen registers, it’s easy to get their values from the proper *\fontdimen*:

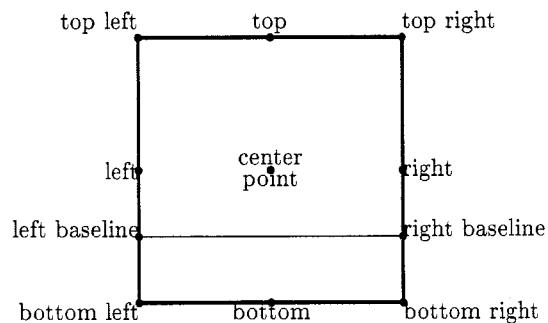
```
\advance\fontdimencount by 1
\x=\expandafter \the\fontdimen
\the\fontdimencount \figfont
```

(and similarly for *\y*). Then, if *\box\labelbox* contains the text of the label, a construction like

```
\rlap{\kern\x \raise\y \box\labelbox}
```

will put the label in the proper position.

Actually, that’s not quite true. There are eleven reference points associated with any label box, as the following diagram makes clear.



It’s easy to create a set of macros which position a particular reference point at the point of the label. Thus, for example, the label “top right” was typeset using the command

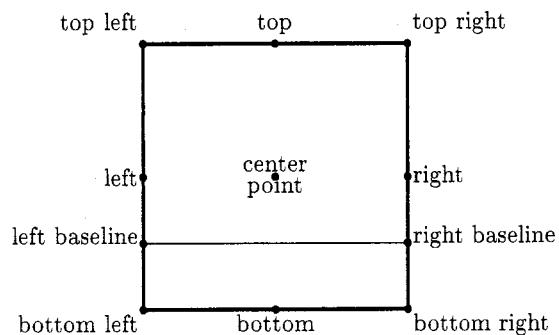
```
\blpoint{top right}
```

After all, the bottom left corner of the hbox containing “top right” must be positioned at the label point.

Still, this is not yet the full story. The reader who examines this figure closely will note that the labels seem somewhat cramped onto the label point. It may be necessary to leave some extra space. Commands like *\hskip2pt* or *\hskip-3pt* will move the label to the left or right, and it is easy to define macros *\up* and *\down* so that (for example)

```
\up3pt
```

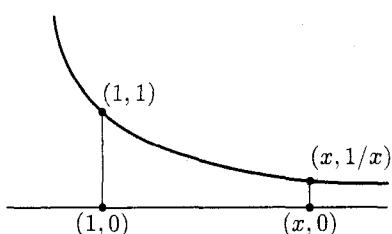
will help adjust vertical placement. We can use these considerations to produce a better reference point diagram



The following table lists all the pointing macros and their associated orientation. Some reference points have two macros. The user needing to position the top left point of a label box may use `\tlpoint` or `\ltpoint` so the question of remembering which of these two is correct does not arise.

Orientation	Macro Name(s)
top left	<code>\tlpoint</code> <code>\ltpoint</code>
top	<code>\tppoint</code> <code>\tpoint</code>
top right	<code>\trppoint</code> <code>\rtpoint</code>
right	<code>\rppoint</code> <code>\rpoint</code>
bottom right	<code>\brppoint</code> <code>\rbpoint</code>
bottom	<code>\bppoint</code> <code>\bpoint</code>
bottom left	<code>\blppoint</code> <code>\lbpoint</code>
left	<code>\lppoint</code> <code>\lpoint</code>
left baseline	<code>\lpointr</code> <code>\lBpoint</code>
right baseline	<code>\rpointr</code> <code>\rBpoint</code>
central point	<code>\cpoint</code>

Using these tools, we can redo the Knuth's figure from ACP, this time with labels:

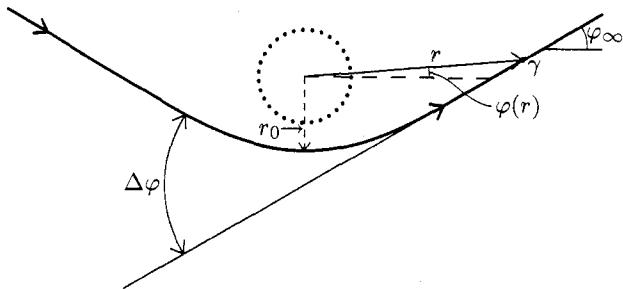


Here are the macro calls that I needed.

```
\font\figfont=1onx
\begin{fig}
\lbp{$(1,1)$}%
\lbp{\up2pt $(x, 1/x)$}%
\tpp{$(1,0)$}%
\tpp{$(x,0)$}%
\end{fig}
```

## An Example

As a final example, here is a figure drawn from a general relativity text. The actual context or meaning of the figure is unimportant (it relates to the deflection of light due to relativistic effects), but it illustrate a number of interesting effects that are possible with METAFONT.



This example shows that METAFONT can create many important visual aids, such as arrow heads at arbitrary orientations, dotted lines, dashed lines, and so on.

## Call to Arms!

One aim of this work is to strike fire into the heart of some ardent METAFONT artists. The *TEX* and METAFONT community could benefit from the creation of a macro package that stands in the same to METAFONT as does *LATEX* or *AMS-TEX* to *TEX*. Any takers?

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# Typesetting Old German: Fraktur, Schwabacher, Gotisch and Initials

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## Abstract

Typesetting in the old style, with the corresponding types, besides being an art, is also a real pleasure. METAFONT allows the creation of faithful copies of these types and TeX gives the possibility of using them in the most traditional manner. In this spirit, the necessary fonts and macros to typeset in the Old German types: Gotisch (also called Textur), Schwabacher and Fraktur are presented in this paper, together with an historical introduction to each of them. Also, a set of initials is described. Rules for typesetting in these types are given, together with extracts from the original sources.

*This paper is dedicated to  
D. E. Knuth.*

This article shows the first results of a longterm project on reconstructing old types and typesetting following the old rules, with TeX and METAFONT. The work presented in this paper has been done on a Mac SE/30 with OzTeX and MacMETAFONT.

## General Introduction to the Project: What's the Use of Reconstructing Old Types?

Old types are beautiful. Until now, one could find either modernized copies of them (for decorative use) or facsimiles of historical books. With TeX and METAFONT, at last we have the possibility to approach these types in the manner—and with the care—of a *collectionneur*. Since there is no commercial scope, no compromise needs to be made in the creation of the fonts. And once the METAFONTing is done, we can bring the fonts back to life, by using them in new or old typesetting texts. TeX and METAFONT are strong enough to achieve a faithful reproduction of old works, and what's more, delicate enough to allow a personal tone and new ideas. Thanks to D. E. Knuth's work, typesetting becomes an interpretative art within the reach of everyone. You can believe me, it is the same

pleasure to read (esp. typeset) Goethe's poems in Breitkopf's Fraktur as to hear (esp. play) Mozart's Sonatas on a Stein's Pianoforte.

## Old German Types

### Gotisch

Gutenberg chose the Bible as his first work for merely commercial reasons: only the churches and monasteries could afford to buy quantities of books. Consequently, the first types he created had to imitate manuscript characters, to be able to concurre with the beautiful manuscript Bibles produced by the monasteries themselves. This explains the fact that Gutenberg's font is so elaborate. A similar situation arose with Venetian Greek renaissance types, which had to imitate Alexandrinian and Byzantine Greek handwriting. Hundreds of ligatures were used.

Gutenberg's font had 288 characters: besides the 25 uppercase (there is no distinction between I and J) and 27 lowercase (there are two kinds of s), all the others are variant types, accented characters and ligatures.

The font *ygoth* presented here, is not an exact copy of Gutenberg's font. It merely follows Gutenberg's guidelines on lowercase characters and selects the uppercase ones from different 15<sup>th</sup> century types. Please note that these uppercase characters are not suitable for "all capitals" typesetting. Here are the basic upper and lowercase characters:

A B C D E F G H  
I K L M N O P Q R  
S T V W X Y Z  
a b c d e f g h i j  
k l m n o p q r  
s t u v w x y z

For all old German types, there is no distinction between I and J; also there are two kinds of s: the middle and initial "long s" and the final "short s:"

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In composite words, a short s is used when some component of the word ends on s:

# Ausgang, but Anstand.

Since it's almost impossible for a computer to know if some s is long or short, you have to do it manually; type **s:** for a short s, like in *Aus:gang* or *Alles:.*

The following ligatures are part of the font:

æ ba be bo ch ck ð  
 da de do ha he ho  
 si si si si si ij ll  
 œ pa pe po po gg gʒ  
 ss ssi st tʒ wa ve vu

Beside the ones shown above, there are variant forms

c cū t

at positions '052, '057, '075 of the font. Because of the many ligatures, there is no place left for special characters (I used only 128-character fonts). You'll have to switch to CM for #, \$, %, &, \*, +, =, etc. For the vowels a, e, o, u with Umlaut and for the ß, I followed Partl's [1988] convention: just type "a, "e, "o, "u, "s (é is used in Flemish) to obtain:

ä ë ö ü þ.

The difference with Partl's approach is that in our case "a", "e", etc., are ligatures. Since ß historically comes from the ligature s+z (ß is called es-zet), by typing either "s" or sz, you get the same output.

In Appendix A you can find a sample of the font; it is an extract of Luther's Bible (1534), in the original orthograph.

Schwabacher

The name comes from Schwabach, a little German town in the south of Nürnberg. According to Updike [1927],

in fifteenth century German gothic or black-letter fonts, a differentiation of type-faces began to show itself, as we have seen, in the last twenty years of the century, between types that were somewhat pointed and a rounder, more cursive gothic letter, with certain peculiarities — the closed a, looped b, d, h, and l, and a tailed f and s. The first type was called "fraktur." The second was ultimately known as "schwabacher."

Schwabacher was in some extent the “bold-face” font, compared to the usual Fraktur. The font presented here is called *yswab*. It is based on 18<sup>th</sup> century types. Nevertheless, some characters (such as the “Hebrew-like” question mark ؟) have been taken from a contemporary book: A. Wikenhauser [1948], *Das Evangelium nach Johannes*, where John’s text is written in Schwabacher and comments in Fraktur. Here are the basic upper and lowercase characters:

A B C D E F G H I K L M N  
O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
a b c d e f g h i j k l m n  
o p q r s t u v w x y z.

The following ligatures are included in the font:

ff, ff, ff, fl, fl

For the vowels a, e, o, u with Umlaut, you have the choice between two forms: for the older one (a small "e" over the letter) you need to type a \* + vowel combination, and for the newer one a " " + vowel combination. So, by typing \*a, \*e, \*o, \*u, "a, "e, "o, "u, you get

## Fraktur

The first Fraktur type was created by Johann Schönsperger in Augsburg to typeset the book of prayers of Kaiser Maximilian (1513). Some years later, Hieronymus Andreæ created a new Fraktur type, used by Dürer for the printing of his theoretical works. In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, Fraktur had a period of decline. It was only in the fall of the 18<sup>th</sup> century that some progressive typographers like G. I. Breitkopf and J. F. Unger gave Fraktur a new breath, by creating new fonts with the aesthetic



Gottlob Immanuel Breitkopf

standards of their time. Especially Unger's font seems to lay more in the 19<sup>th</sup> century spirit.

Gottlob Immanuel Breitkopf (1719 – 1794) lived in Leipzig. He travelled a lot, studied French, English and other foreign fonts and wrote an article [Breitkopf (1793)] on the situation of typographers and typography in Leipzig at the time. In 1754, he was first to use removable types to typeset music. His name is familiar to all musicians and friends of music, because of the famous Breitkopf & Härtel editions of complete works of Bach, Beethoven, etc.

After Breitkopf, the “official” version of Fraktur (newspapers and official documents) didn't evolve very much. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, with all its social — and artistic — turbulence, many decorative Fraktur types were made, most of them monstrous (for example, see Knebel [1870]). A final renovative effort was made in the 1920s by artists like Walter Tiemann and others. Unfortunately, the destructive

trend of uniformisation of Nazism didn't leave much place for æsthetic improvements or changes.

Texts like *Warum deutsche Schrift?* (Why german type?) by G. Barthel [1934], and *Heraus aus der Schriftverelendung!* (No more degenerate writing!) by T. Thormeyer [1934] (...die Rundungen haben nichts mit dem deutschen Spannungsbefürfnis gemeinsam. Das Schwelgen in abgerundeten Formen kann man andern Nationen überlassen...) show that Nazis tried to use Fraktur as a symbol of the German nation. But — an historical paradox — it was the Nazis themselves who abolished Fraktur in 1941\*. In a recent edition of the Brockhaus, one can find the sentence “Die nationalsozialist. Regierung ließ die Fraktur 1941 aus Zweckmäßigkeitssgründen von Amts wegen abschaffen. Ob sie damit eine Entscheidung traf, die ohnehin im Zuge der Entwicklung lag, ist schwer zu beurteilen...” (it is hard to say if the Nazi decision of abolishing Fraktur was really in the sense of development...); there is a certain nostalgic in these words.

Today Fraktur is used mainly for decorative purposes (a nice counterexample is the dtv pocket edition of Mozart's correspondence: his letters are in Fraktur and the comments in Antiqua). Also, there are methods for the old German handwriting (Süterlin) which also includes Fraktur (for example, *Wir lesen deutsche Schrift*, bei A. Kiewel et al [1989]).

Let's return now to **TEX**: the font **yfrak** which I propose is in the old Breitkopf style. Here are the basic upper and lowercase characters:

À	Ù	ò	é	ç	ñ	à	ù	ò	é	ç	ñ	
Ö	ø	æ	å	ü	ẅ	ö	ø	æ	å	ü	ẅ	
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	y	z		

It contains the same ligatures and Umlauts as **yswab**. The symbols **æ** (which means “etc”) and **᷑** (an attempt to differentiate I and J) are in font positions '044 and '100 respectively. You can find a sample of the font in Appendix B. It is the begining of the second part of Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach's treatise on the true art of playing the keyboard (which meant the harpsichord and/or clavichord) “*Versuch über die wahre Art das Clavier zu spielen*” [1762].

\* There seems to have been some secrecy around this decision of the Nazis. The only data I could find is a short and cryptical reference in the 1941 DIN-booklet on typographic standards: “*Bekanntgebung II EM 8408/41 vom 26 Juli 1941 des Reichswirtschaftsministers an den Deutschen Normenauschluß*”. I would be very obliged if some reader could provide me with more information.

## Initials

The chancery initials, which you can see in Appendix B and C, are a revival of baroque designs. This makes them suitable for both old and new texts. They form the font `yinit`. You have the choice of creating characters with depth zero, or characters with height equal to `cap_height` of `cmr10` (with the corresponding magnification) and the biggest part of the character under the baseline. For this, there is a boolean parameter `zero_depth` in the `yinit.mf` parameter file. To typeset the initial D of Appendix B, I used the macro `\yinitial{D}` as follows (with `zero_depth:=false`)

```
\def\yinitial#1
{\hangindent=2.54cm
 \hangafter=-4
 \hskip-3.24cm
 \lower-2.7mm
 \hbox{\yinit #1}
 \hskip1.5mm}
```

Of course, all these parameters will need some adjustment, according to the interline skip and the textfont you are using. Note also that `\par` stops the execution of `\hangafter`. It would be better to use `\hfill\break\indent` instead.

## Typesetting Rules

In the following text, taken from the Duden (Mülsing and Schmidt [1919]) many fine points of typesetting in Fraktur are explained. The essential points are the following: 1) don't use ligatures in Latin Antiqua words, use them in French Antiqua and in French Fraktur; 2) in a composite word, do not use ligatures between adjacent letters of two components 3) the antiqua ß is to be used in German words and names regardless of the language; 4) the Latin "etc" is to be translated as usw., and its older form xc should not be used anymore; 5) concerning foreign words in German, use Fraktur when the word has been "germanized", otherwise use antiqua; 6) the hyphen should always be used in Fraktur, except when it appears between two antiqua words; 7) in 1879, Daniel Sanders proposed ß as an alternative to J for the letter J; it would be nice if authorities recognized it.

## Einzelvorschriften für den Schriftsatz

In diesem Abschnitte stellen wir einige Einzelvorschriften zusammen, deren allgemeine Befolgung für die Einheitlichkeit bei der Herstellung von Drucksachen sehr wünschenswert wäre.

**Ligaturen** Æ, æ, œ statt Ae, ae, Oe, oe. In lateinischen Wörtern sind die Ligaturen nicht anzuwenden, z. B. Caelius mons, Asa foetida. In französischen Wörtern, die im deutschen Satz verstreut vorkommen, muß, wie im französischen Satz überhaupt, stets œ gesetzt werden, z. B. Euvres, sœur. Selbst bei Fraktursatz darf auf das kleine æ nicht verzichtet werden, z. B. Horsd'œuvre.

**Sonstige Ligaturen.** In Wortverschmelzungen wie Schiffahrt, Schnellläufer, alliebend, d. h. also in Wörtern, die von drei gleichen Mitsauten einen ausgestoßen haben, ist die Ligatur anzuwenden, wenn sie in der betreffenden Schriftgattung vorhanden ist. Die Ligatur ist ferner überall da anzuwenden, wo sie die sprachliche Richtigkeit nicht stört, z. B. benügen, abflauen, Billard, nicht aber in einfachen Zusammensetzungen wie entzwei, Kaufleute, vielleicht.

**Der Buchstabe ß in fremdsprachlichem Satz.** Wenn aus einem Deutschen Namen, in dem ß vorkommt, durch Anfügung einer Lateinischen Endung ein Lateinisches Wort gebildet wird, so bleibt das ß erhalten, es erscheint also als B (in Antiqua). So wird z. B. aus Weissenburg: Weissenburgensis (der Codex Weissenburgensis). Ebenso wird ß gesetzt, wenn deutsche Eigennamen mit ß in fremdsprachlichem Satz erscheinen, z. B. : Monsieur Abmann a été à Paris. Ho trovato il Signor Große a Venezia.

**usw. – xc – etc.** Im deutschen Satze ist „und so weiter“ der amtlichen Vorschrift gemäß durch usw. abzukürzen, und zwar sowohl in Fraktur wie in Antiqua. Die Form xc, die sich innerhalb der Lautschrift wie eine Hieroglyphe, wie ein Vertreter der Zeichenschrift, ausnimmt, ist veraltet und nicht mehr anzuwenden.

Die Form etc darf nur im Antiquasatz angewandt werden, wird aber besser durch usw. ersetzt. Für lateinischen Satz, also innerhalb lateinischen Textes, ist etc. selbstverständlich. Ferner sei erwähnt, daß die Franzosen und Engländer &c., die Italiener ecc. und die Spanier etc. verwenden, und zwar setzen alle stets einen Beistrich vor diese Abkürzungen, was im Deutschen nicht üblich ist.

**Anwendung der Antiqua im Fraktursatz.** Um dem bisherigen Schwanken in der Wahl zwischen Antiqua und Fraktur ein Ende zu machen, empfiehlt es sich folgende Grundsätze zu beobachten:

1. Alle Fremdwörter romanischen Ursprungs, die nicht durch Annahme deutscher Biegung oder deutscher Lautbezeichnung als eingedeutscht erscheinen, sege man aus Antiqua, z. B. en avant, en arrière, en vogue, in praxi, in petto; a conto, dolce far niente; ferner Verbindungen wie Agent provocateur, Tempi passati, Lapsus linguae, Agnus Dei. Auch alle italienischen technischen

Ausdrücke aus der Tonkunst, wie andante, adagio, moderato, vivace, sege man aus Antiqua. Die der lateinischen Sprache entstammenden Bezeichnungen Dur und Moll sind als eingedeutschte Hauptwörter aufzufallen und daher groß zu segen, z. B. C'Dur.

2. Wenn ein Fremdwort deutsche Lautbezeichnung oder deutsche Bedeutung annimmt oder mit einem deutschen Worte zusammengesetzt wird, so sege man es als Fraktur, z. B. adagio, aber: das Adagio, die Adagios; a conto, aber: die Akontozahlung; dolce far niente, aber: das Dolcifarniente.

**Anwendung des Bindestrichs in Fraktursatz, der mit Antiqua vermischt ist.** Wenn in Fraktursatz bei Wortzusammensetzungen der eine Teil der Zusammensetzung aus Antiqua gesetzt werden muß, so sind etwa vorkommende Bindestriche aus der Textschrift, also aus Fraktur, zu segen, z. B. CGS-Maßsystem. Eine Ausnahme wird nur dann gemacht, wenn der mit dem Bindestrich schließende erste (Antiqua-) Bestandteil an das Ende einer Zeile oder in Klammern zu stehen kommt; in diesem Falle ist der Bindestrich aus Antiqua zu segen. In besonderen Fällen kann auch eine Vermischung von Fraktur- und Antiquabindestrichen stattfinden, z. B. Hoftheater-Corps-de-ballet; denn innerhalb des aus Antiqua gesetzten Wortes müssen auch die Bindestriche aus Antiqua gesetzt werden.

**I (Selbstlaut) und Í (Mitlaut) in der lateinischen Druckschrift.** In der lateinischen Druckschrift wird zwischen dem Selbstlaut und dem Mitlaut Í genau unterschieden, und zwar steht I ausschließlich für den Selbstlaut, Í ausschließlich für den Mitlaut. Diese Unterscheidung machen alle neueren Sprachen. Dass die deutsche Druckschrift einen Unterschied zwischen I (Selbstlaut) und Í (Mitlaut) nicht kennt, ist ein großer Mangel. Diesen Mangel zu beseitigen versuchte schon 1879 Daniel Sanders, indem er für den Mitlaut das Zeichen Í empfahl. Dieses Zeichen ist heute nur vereinzelt in Drucken zu finden, hat sich also nicht allgemein eingebürgert und ist auch nicht amtlich anerkannt worden. Es wäre sehr zu wünschen, dass auch in deutscher Schrift ein Unterschied zwischen I (Selbstlaut) und Í (Mitlaut) geschaffen und von der zuständigen Behörde anerkannt würde, und zwar um so mehr, als er bei den kleinen Buchstaben sowohl in deutscher (i, í) wie in lateinischer (i, j) Schrift bereits seit langem besteht.

## Availability

Following a tradition of my friend Klaus Thull, these fonts are in the public domain. They should be available at the Aston and Heidelberg archives. Also, you can obtain them at my address. The status of this software is postcard-ware: each satisfied user could send me a nice local postcard for my collection.

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Appendix A  
**Das acht Capitel**

Und die menner von Ephraim sprachen zu phm, Warumb hastu uns das gethan; hast du uns nicht rieffest; da du vnn streyst zogest wider die Midianiter? und zanckten sich mit phm heftiglich. Er aber sprach zu phnen. was hab ich ixt getan das gleich ley? Ist nicht eyn rebe Ephraim besser. denn die ganze weyneind Abi Eler? Gott hat die fursten der Midianiter Oreb und Seb vnn ewor hend gegeben. wie hettkund ich das phe than hatt. Da er solchs redet; lies phe gepst von phm ale Da nü Gideon an den Jordan kam; gienger hymober mit den drey hunder man; die bey phm waren und waren müde und lagten nach und er sprach zu den leutten zu Sücoth; Lieber gebt dem Volck das unter myre ist etlich brod; denn sie sind müde. das ich nachlage den königen der Midianiter Sebah und Zalmuna Aber die fursten zu Sücoth sprachen, Sind diehend Sebah und Zalmuna schon vnn deynen henden; das wyr deynre schar sollen brod geben? Gideon sprach Wolan wenn der herr Sebah und Zalmuna vnn meyne hand gibt will ich ewor fleisch mit dornen aus der wusten und mit hecken zu dresschen. Und er zoch vondannen hymauflgen Pnuel und redet auch also zu phnen. Und die leutt zu Pnuel antwortten phm. gleich wie die zu Sücoth. Und er sprach auch zu den leutten zu Pnuel. Kom ich mit frieden wider. so will ich diiken türen zu brechen; Sebah aber und Zalmuna waren zü Karkar. Und phe heer mit phnen bey fünfzehn tausent, die alle überblieben waren vom ganzen heer. der kinder vom morgen. Denn hundert und zwanzig tausent waren gefallen; die schwerd aufziken kunden. Und Gideon zoch hymaufl auf den strassen da man vnn hutten wohet gegen morgen; gen Nobah und Jagleha und schlug das heer. Denn das heer war sicher. Und Sebah und Zalmuna flohen. aber er jaget phn nach; und sieng die zween Könige der Midianiter Sebah und Zalmuna und zur schreckt das ganze heer.

An extract from Luther's Bible

## Appendix B

# Einleitung

### §. 1.



ie Orgel, der Flügel, das Fortepiano und das Clavicord sind die gebräuchlichsten Clavierinstrumente zum Accompagnement.

§. 2. Es ist Schade, daß die schöne Erfindung des Holfeldischen Bogenclaviers noch nicht gemeinnützig geworden ist; man kann dahero dessen besondere Vorzüge hierinnen noch nicht genau bestimmen. Es ist gewiß zu glauben, daß es sich auch bey der Begleitung gut ausnehmen werde.

§. 3. Die Orgel ist bey Kirchensachen, wegen der Fugen, starken Chöre, und überhaupt der Bindung wegen unentbehrlich. Sie befördert die Pracht und erhält die Ordnung.

§. 4. So bald aber in der Kirche Recitative und Arien, besonders solche, wo die Mittelstimmen der Singstimme, durch ein simpel Accompagnement alle Freyheit zum Verändern lassen, mit vorkommen, so muß ein Flügel dabei seyn. Man hört leyder mehr als zu oft, wie kahl in diesem Falle die Ausführung ohne Begleitung des Flügels ausfällt.

§. 5. Dieses letztere Instrument ist außerdem beym Theater und in der Cammer wegen solcher Arien und Recitative unentbehrlich.

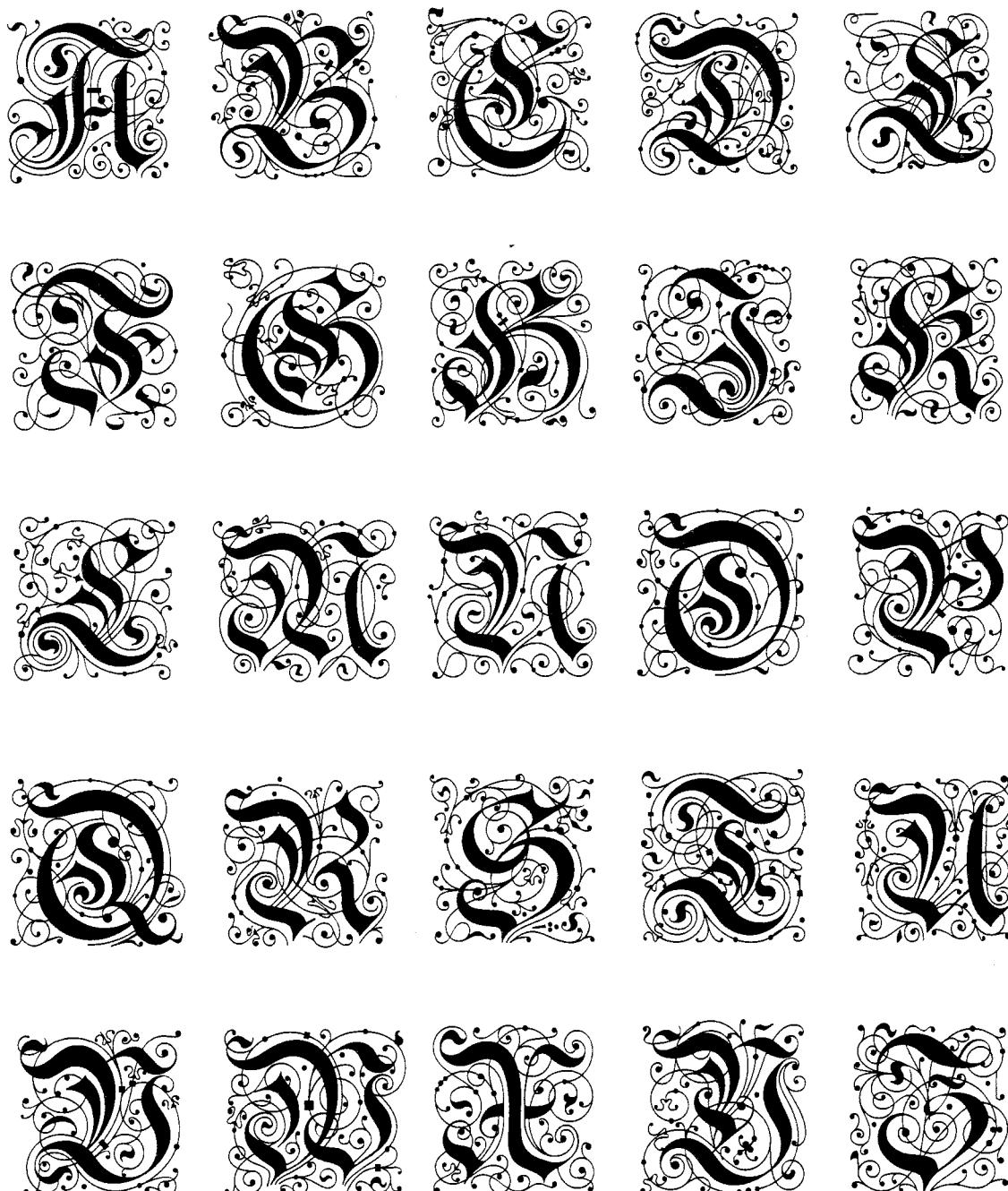
§. 6. Das Fortepiano und das Clavicord unterstützen am besten eine Ausführung, wo die größten Feinigkeiten des Geschmacks vorkommen. Nur wollen gewisse Sänger lieber mit dem Clavicord oder Flügel, als mit jenem Instrumente, accompagnirt seyn.

§. 7. Man kann also ohne Begleitung eines Clavierinstruments kein Stück aufführen. Auch bey den stärksten Musiken, in Opern, so gar unter freiem Himmel, wo man gewiß glauben sollte, nicht das geringste vom Flügel zu hören, vermißt man ihn, wenn er wegbleibt. Hört man in der Höhe zu, so kann man jeden Ton besselben deutlich vernehmen. Ich spreche aus der Erfahrung und jedermann kann es versuchen.

§. 8. Einige lassen sich beym Solo mit der Bratsche oder gar mit der Violine ohne Clavier begleiten. Wenn dieses aus Noth, wegen Mangel an guten Clavieristen, geschiehet, so muß man sie entschuldigen; sonst aber gehen bey dieser Art von Ausführung viele Ungleichheiten vor. Aus dem Solo wird ein Duett, wenn der Bass gut gearbeitet ist; ist er schlecht, wie

An extract from C. P. E. Bach's Treatise  
on the true Art of playing the Keyboard

Appendix C



The font yinit scaled 1728

## Appendix D Late Breaking News

I would like to thank Frau Franziska Kaiser for finding me (after many attempts) a copy of the official order of the German Nazist Party, abolishing Fraktur and Schwabacher from all printed items. The argumentation given is typical of the Nazist Party (antisemitic and illogical) :

*“...It is ordered that from now on only the normal type is to be used for all printed documents. As normal type, the antiqua type is meant. The so-called gothic type (Fraktur) is not a german type but goes back to the schwabacher jew-letters. This type has been strongly used in Germany because Jews owned the printing works already since typography was introduced, and later on the newspapers...”*

Rather a sad way for such a beautiful type to die, especially if one considers all the masterpieces of the first centuries of typography! Of course the real reasons of this event —which occured exactly 50 years ago— are not the ones mentionned in the document... perhaps historians will find them some day. My personal opinion is that even if an analogous reform would be applied sooner or later it should have a completely different argumentation (for example the readability of Fraktur in comparison to Antiqua) and should leave printers the freedom of choice: uniformization by force always brings flatness and sterility.

Mr. Thompson

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# Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei

## Reichsleitung



München, Erwaltungsbereich IIICAP  
Referat für Politik (Rathaus II)

**3 meddelelser fra Carter  
„DIBBILlet Beboeret“**

## Reichsschatzmeister

München, den 23. Januar 1941  
K IV

**Nur für den Dienstgebrauch.**

**Nur für den Dienstgebrauch.**

## Anordnung 2/41

## **Beispiel: Dienstleistungs-**

bis: Normalchrift (Antiquaschrift).

Gemäß Anordnung des Führers und unter Bezugnahme auf das Rundschreiben des Stellvertreters des Stellvertreters des Führers vom 3.1.1941 ist künftig für sämtliche Druckerzeugnisse innerhalb der NSDAP dieser Schreibart und angewandten Verhandlungen die Normalhandschrift zu verwenden.

Als Normenkonflikt wird die Amtswahrung bezeichnet

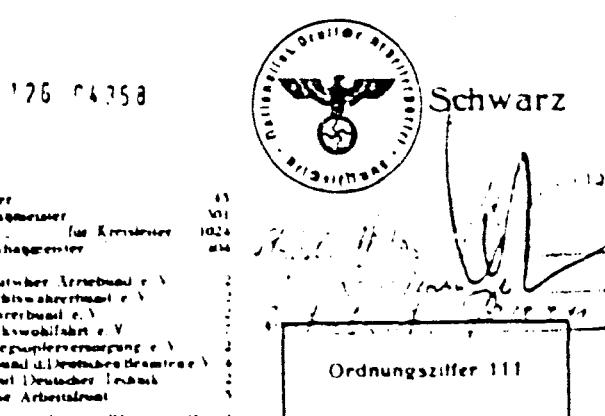
Die sogenannte grüne Schrift-Fraktur ist keine deutsche Schrift, sondern auf die Schweizer Buchdrucker zurückzuführen. Die starke Verbreitung in Deutschland ist durch die Inbesitznahme von Buchdruckereien schon bei Einführung des Buchdrucks und später der Zeitungen englisch geworden.

Ich ordne daher an, daß die Normalschrift für alle Druckerzeugnisse, wie Verwaltungsdokumenten- und Druckwerke, Formulare, Urkunden, ferner auch Aufstellungen, verwendet wird. Die Einführung kann insbesondere bei Neudrucken bzw. Auflagen erfolgen. Die Beständen müssen selbstverständlich aufgebracht werden.

Entstehen bei Neuauflagen durch diese Umstellung bewunderte Vermögensab-  
lastungen infolge der Nichtverwendung wertvoller Klischees usw., so wird empfohlen  
im Haushaltseinen mit dem zuständigen Dienststellenleiter die Umstellung auf neuen  
späteren Zeitpunkt zu verlegen. Im Zweckfall bitte u.h. bei mir sozusagen. Kennes-  
falls darf jedoch durch die getroffenen Maßnahmen ein Mehraufwand über das normale  
Verbrauch des hauptsächlich notwendigen Materials, wie Papier, Farbe usw. ver-  
ursacht werden.

<b>Vertreter:</b>	
Kanzler des Führers	16
Vertreter des Führers	16
Raumkommissar des Ausl.	16
Parteivorsitzender Reichsparteiamt zum Schlag der NS- Schriftsteller	16
Reichsbund für gesamtssoziale Arbeit	16
Reichsparteiausschussamt	16
Reichsparteiausschussamt der NSDAP	16
Reichsparteiausschuss-Abteilung	16
Reichsparteiamt Berlin	16
Reichsparteiamtliche Mitglieder	16
Reichsparteiverwaltung für die Preußen	16
Oberste Parteigehalt	16
Reichsberichterst.	16
Reichsrat für Agrarpolitik	16
Kultusministerium (sel)	16
Deutschlandrat Reichsrat Rosenberg	16
Hochbauverwalter d. SA	16
d. M.	16
- - - - -	16
SA-K.	16
- - - - -	16
SS-D. Reichsaußenbeamtes	16
SS-D. Deutsches Reichsbeamtes	16

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**Order of the Nazist Party  
Forbidding the use of Fraktur**

# The Irish Alphabet

Mícheál Ó Searcoid

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## Abstract

The origin, history and present-day usage of the Irish typeface. The brighter future due to T<sub>E</sub>X and METAFONT. Irish types in a range of sizes and weights unimaginable a generation ago are now being designed with METAFONT and will shortly be ready for use.

In a recent article in the *TUGboat*, Yannis Haralambous made the statement that the Irish language has its own, most beautiful alphabet. I do not disagree with him as regards the beauty. His assertion does, however, require some qualification. Firstly, the use of this alphabet for ordinary printing purposes has not been widespread during the past twenty years. Secondly, what we call the Irish alphabet is no more than a simple variant of the roman one; certainly it has its own distinctive features, but these are not so obtrusive—in the later typefaces, anyway—as to hinder speedy recognition of the letter forms by anyone familiar with standard roman types, or to inhibit comfortable reading by those who know the language.

The Roman Empire never extended as far as the shores of Ireland. Nonetheless, there was considerable traffic by Irishmen across the Irish sea in the days of Roman Britain. The very name by which we Irish call ourselves, Gaeil, and the name of our language, Gaeilge, are in origin Welsh names. Indeed there were Irish settlements and strongholds in Wales during most of the period of the Empire, and it would have been surprising if the Irish had not been affected by some aspects of the roman culture. One of the most important concepts transmitted by that culture was that of writing. The Romans wrote not only for their own benefit, but also for posterity. They erected stone monuments and inscribed on them. The ancient Irish copied the practice. The Irish however preferred in most cases to write their own language in their own alphabet. Their language has survived the mighty Latin of the empire as an everyday tongue, and there is some evidence that their alphabet, known as Ogham, was never completely forgotten.

Each character of the Ogham alphabet consists of strokes, or sometimes dots, numbering one to five, written to the left or the right of a vertical

baseline, or across that baseline. That the Ogham alphabet existed before it was put to use in the medium of stone can hardly be doubted. It may have been a finger alphabet used for sign language; its ultimate origin may even be in the use of fingers for counting. Whatever its early history, it was used during the fourth, fifth and sixth centuries A.D. by Irishmen in south-western Britain and in the south of Ireland to make inscriptions on stone. Many of the Ogham stones have been uprooted from their original locations; several are preserved in the cloisters around the quadrangle of University College, Cork.

The Ogham alphabet in its written form is distinctly Irish; but as a written alphabet it is rather clumsy. It has more in common with the finger signs of the american baseball player than it has with fine literature. In the fifth century Christianity came to Ireland, and with it came book-writing. Ogham was not very suitable for writing on vellum or parchment, nor indeed for writing very much more than the terse memorials for which it was used. It is not surprising, therefore, that by the end of the sixth century it had generally fallen into disuse.

By that time, the seeds of Christianity in Ireland had begun to bear fruit. Irish missionaries were already spreading across Europe. They not only took with them the Christian faith; they had also become custodians of a culture which was centred around the written word. For a thousand years their mission continued. It extended from Iceland to the Mediterranean and from Scotland as far east as Kiev. Irishmen were in the forefront of the Christianization of half of Europe, and Europeans in turn travelled to the great monastic universities of Ireland to receive education.

The writings of Irishmen, mostly in Latin but sometimes in Gaelic, are to be found scattered

across the vast territory of their missionary activity. These men brought their own particular genius to the way in which they used and ornamented the roman alphabet. The hand of the Irish monk is distinctive; latterly it developed, as did other national hands, alongside of, but separately from, the Carolingian. That it was a neo-Carolingian hand which eventually dominated in Europe is a matter of history; but that the Irish hand still flourished at the advent of printing was important for the future of Irish typography.

At home too, Irishmen were at their books. They committed to writing the early Irish legal system and their medical knowledge, together with some of the folklore of the Irish people. They copied religious works. St Columba, usually known in Ireland as Colm Cille, who, in the sixth century, established the famous monastery on the island of Iona and became the patron of Scottish Christianity, once borrowed a book from Finnian Droma Fhinn and spent days and nights making a copy of it. When Finnian learnt of this, he was outraged and staked his claim to the copy. The case was brought before the King, Diarmaid Mac Cearbhaill, whose judgement that "every calf belongs to its mother, and every copy of a book to the owner of the book" constituted Ireland's first copyright law; its harshness no doubt evokes a variety of responses from today's listeners.

It is to the English reformation, and to the Privy Council of the English Queen Elizabeth I, that we owe our gratitude for establishing Irish letter forms as those proper to the printing of the Irish language. In the hope that "God would, in mercy, raise up some to translate the New Testament into their mother tongue" that Queen ordered that a special typeface be designed, cut and sent to Dublin for use in publishing religious material. The typeface was to be based on Irish written letter forms. She also ordered that an Irish grammar be prepared in order that she herself might learn the language.

Matthew Parker, the man to whom the idiomatic expression 'Nosy Parker' was first applied, had been Elizabeth's Archbishop of Canterbury since the first year of her reign. Anglo-Saxon fonts had already been cut for him by John Day, and it is probable that it was the archbishop himself who determined that a new typeface should be designed to accommodate the Irish language. A brief glance at the hand of the *Book of Kells* and that of the *Lindisfarne Gospels* is sufficient to convince us of the similarity between Irish and Anglo-Saxon

manuscript writing\*; since the Anglo-Saxons had been taught to write by the Irish, the likeness is not surprising. The wheel turned full cycle with the advent of printing, and it seems that it was Day's Anglo-Saxon typeface which became the inspiration, though not the model, for the new Gaelic one.

Elizabeth's interest in the Irish language may seem strange. Her father, Henry VIII, had issued a statute demanding that all the English living in Ireland learn the English language within a year. The statute, which was translated into Irish for their benefit, had had no noticeable effect. He had also ordered that they shave off their moustaches and wear their beards after the English fashion; one wonders if they were willing to comply even with this much simpler command. Now, Elizabeth was promoting the language! Certainly it was not as remote from her as it had been from her father, for there were Irish nobles at her court who spoke it. She was probably motivated primarily by the desire to save the souls of the Irish people from popery. In England, *The Book of Common Prayer* had replaced the Latin liturgy of the Catholic church by one which the ordinary people could understand. Elizabeth was simply doing the same thing in Ireland.

The new type was cut in London and was in use in Dublin from 1571. A religious poem by Philip Mhac Cuinn Chroisagh, dated for that year and now preserved in Cambridge University Library, is the oldest surviving document printed with it. The typeface is strong and well-balanced, and the overall effect is extremely neat. However, on closer inspection, it displays better than any of the other early Irish typefaces how slight the differences between the Irish letter forms and the more standard roman ones really are. Some ligatures were cut, but it is doubtful if more than half of the letters were new designs; several clearly belong to a roman typeface, and the 'a' belongs to an italic one. Indeed, it should have been possible to print Irish language material without any new type design, and we are very fortunate that Queen Elizabeth's administration ordained it otherwise.

Thus it was English Protestantism that first made use of printing in the battle for the souls of the Gaelic nation; but its adversaries on the continent eventually became stronger and more determined in their continued use of it. Some of Ireland's greatest scholars were Catholic priests

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\* Examples of these hands and of some of the Irish typefaces are shown on separate pages.

living in exile. In about 1611, the Irish Franciscans in Belgium designed a thoroughly Irish type, based on Irish manuscript letters, which for over a century kept a steady stream of Catholic religious material flowing from Louvain to Ireland. Around 1675, a new Irish type was cut in Rome for Sacra Congregatio de Propaganda Fide and the Rome press became engaged in a like task. In the eighteenth century, a new Gaelic type was cut in Paris and that city too became a centre for the publication of Irish language material. It is curious to read in the preface to the first English-Irish dictionary, that published at Paris in 1732, an apology for any errors that might have resulted from the printers' ignorance of both languages. In 1804, the Rome type of 1675 and a much later one also from Rome were used by J.J. Marcel of the Imprimerie Nationale in Paris. They had been carried off from Rome as part of the booty of Napoleon and deposited by him at the Imprimerie. Had it not been for Napoleon they may well have been lost, as are so many of the other early types.

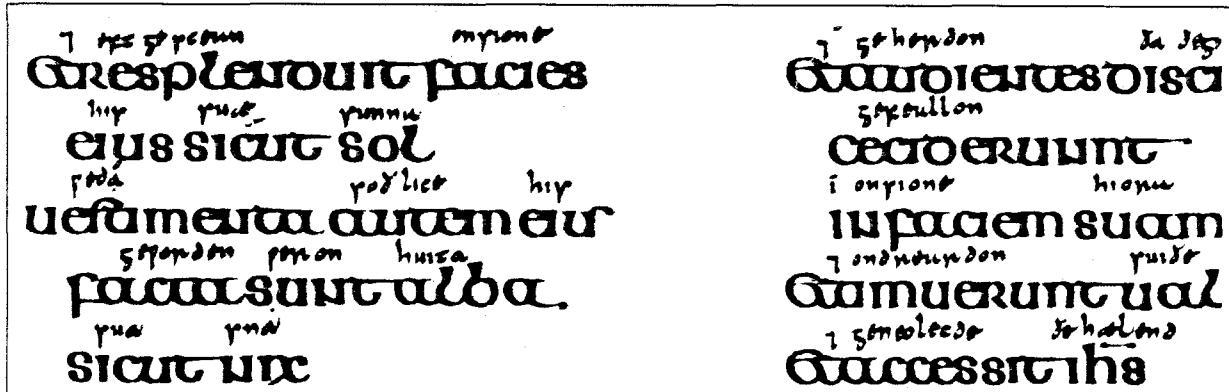
In time, Queen Elizabeth's prayer that some Irishman might translate the New Testament into his mother tongue was answered. That and *The Book of Common Prayer* were translated by Nicholas Breatnach, Bishop of Ossory, and by William Ó Domhnuill, Archbishop of Tuam. But it was left to an Englishman, William Bedell, to embark on the task of translating the Old Testament. Bedell arrived in Ireland in 1627 at the age of 56 to take up the post of Provost of Trinity College, Dublin. He set to work at once to learn the language, and he insisted that students who proposed to be clergymen should do likewise. He engaged competent natives to work on the translation, and he himself was responsible for the final form of words, which was approved on a chapter by chapter basis only after careful comparison with the Hebrew and with a polyglot Bible.

Bedell's Bible was subsequently to be used everywhere the Gaelic language was spoken: in Scotland, in America and in Canada. It is said that it was used even in Catholic liturgy in Ireland during the 1960s and 1970s, before the first complete approved Catholic Bible in Irish was published in 1981. Though Bedell's work was probably finished not long after 1630, and though he himself died in 1642, his Bible was not published until 1685. Indeed, it might never have been published had it not been for the good services of the illustrious scientist Robert Boyle. Boyle was the seventh son of Richard Boyle, Earl of Cork. It appears that by the time of Bedell, the brief affair of the English court

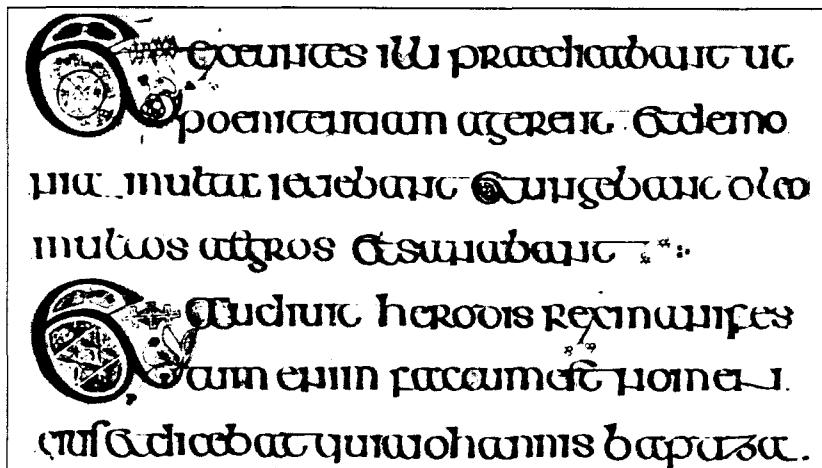
with things Gaelic was over. Bedell's Elizabethan frame of mind was out of step with the time, or at least with the attitude of those in power in his day. When Boyle set about printing the Old and New Testaments, Bedell's manuscript was in a sorry condition. Parts of it were illegible, having become damp. Boyle had another difficulty: the Queen Elizabeth type had disappeared. He was informed that the fonts of this type had been stolen by the Jesuits and were being used at Douai to publish Catholic propaganda for shipment to Ireland. In fact, there is no record of any Catholic material printed with that type. Nonetheless, the fonts and all that went with them were gone. Boyle had a new set of Irish characters cast in London. Moxon was the cutter of this type, and it is thought that the model for it was the first Catholic type of Louvain. Boyle footed the entire bill for the printing of the Bible, around £330.

Although some copies of the Boyle printing were used in Gaelic Scotland, it is of interest to note that it was deemed necessary to create a new edition of the Bedell Bible, printed in the Roman character, for that part of Gaeldom. The Scots were never subsequently exposed to Gaelic printing based on the letter forms which their early saints had helped to create.

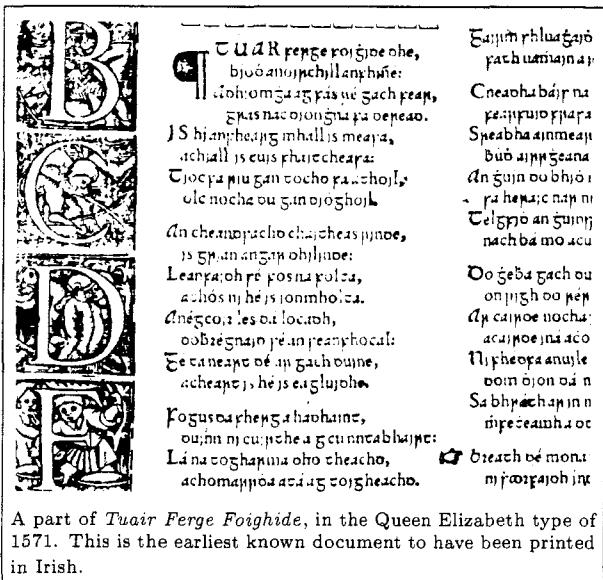
All the types we have mentioned, and indeed all those designed before 1840, were based on a spiky manuscript hand. It was not representative either of the best or of the most widely known of Irish letter forms. The beautiful writing in the *Book of Kells*, for example, is in a neat round hand, which displays moreover some features which have never been included in any Irish type. In the year 1841, the Irish Archaeological Society was founded. It was devoted to the study of the language, literature, history and antiquities of Ireland, and to the publication of material in those areas of interest. The Society arranged for the design and cutting of a new series of types for its publications. The designer of these is thought to have been George Petrie, and they were probably cut and cast in Dublin by James Christie. These fonts were based on the round hand, suitably modified to the medium of printing. They are clean-cut and easy to read, and owe little to the Irish types that preceded them; they can boast both originality and artistry. Moreover, they made a considerable contribution to the design of the important Keating type of 1863 and, through it, to the design of all the Irish types which followed. They were probably also the model for the very attractive twentieth century Colm Cille Gaelic type of Colm Ó Lochlann.



Some lines from the *Lindisfarne Gospels*. The Anglo-Saxons had been taught to write by the Irish.



An example of Irish writing from the *Book of Kells*. Note the similarity between this and the much earlier *Lindisfarne Gospels*.



A part of *Tuair Ferge Foighide*, in the Queen Elizabeth type of 1571. This is the earliest known document to have been printed in Irish.

49. <i>Ag</i> <i>amhna matra</i> <i>gcataq lái</i>	45. <i>Ag</i> <i>amhna matra</i> <i>gcataq lái</i>
50. <i>Ag</i> <i>betána id</i> <i>láim, do beí</i>	42. <i>Agus</i> <i>teig</i> <i>do</i> <i>cír</i> <i>meala.</i>
51. * <i>Agus</i> <i>teig</i> <i>do</i> <i>glacach</i> <i>dóyan,</i> <i>dúaid</i> <i>re</i> <i>na</i> <i>bfidónn</i> <i>[id.]</i>	43. <i>Agus</i> <i>do</i> <i>teig</i> <i>do</i> <i>gáid</i> <i>re</i> <i>gáid</i>
52. <i>Ag</i> <i>gen</i> <i>dfille</i> <i>le</i> <i>gáid</i> <i>re</i>	44. <i>Agus</i> <i>a</i> <i>duibh</i> <i>re</i> <i>gáid</i> ; <i>agus</i> <i>a</i> <i>gáid</i> <i>re</i> <i>gáid</i>
53. <i>Ag</i> <i>tempoll,</i> <i>c</i> <i>Óe. Ame</i>	45. <i>Agus</i> <i>do</i> <i>teig</i> <i>re</i> <i>a</i> <i>teig</i> , <i>107n</i> <i>go</i> <i>teig</i> <i>do</i> <i>teig</i> <i>re</i> , 46. <i>Agus</i> <i>a</i> <i>duibh</i> <i>re</i> <i>gáid</i> , <i>agus</i> <i>gáid</i>

This is part of the New Testament printed using the Moxon type commissioned by Robert Boyle around 1680.

; १८८८.

卷之三

୧୮୪୯

b health  
1 N E. 7c.

hean and so  
and singil 3d-  
; ?Hunne ancian  
niosof na brom.

Part of a very common catechism printed in Antwerp with the Louvain type of 1611.

en10502010he.67

é Caisíofa na hAibéiríodh agam,  
Gordán, ag an t-áit fúiníodh aige fín  
an níseachas an nádúrach go gian  
nádúr le cíosadh eisíofa, do  
bhearradh a ghairdín an Fhuinne, ionár  
go ceannróidh impreothe ag amach, ag  
aéilín an meic clóna, ag nádúr  
túidíbh do éabhairt d'fhoi:or ar  
gráinibh agus doimhí an t-áit  
aistí aéineamhach ag prionóir, labhrac  
ríg na doimhí ar cheann do éis  
rancúint na díospóireachta, ionár go  
mbriodh an impreothe lba. Aldeinmí  
do éironeitibh, Dia doibhche  
dá cos acceall i mbainneadh, 7

卷八

ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରେ ପାଇଲା କିମ୍ବା କିମ୍ବା  
କିମ୍ବା କିମ୍ବା କିମ୍ବା କିମ୍ବା କିମ୍ବା

suchen doch auf 101 E

On moּ אַחֲרֵיכֶם כִּי־מְלֹאת־  
אָתָה, וְנִזְמַנְתָּהּ כִּי־מְלֹאת־  
אָתָה תְּמִימָה לְעֵינָהּ תְּזִכְרָה  
יְהוָה נָמָרָה.

Religious material printed using the Louvain type of 1641.

## Do Sacramajne na hajčnje.

**D. Cneu oī Sacramaine na hajēnjsē**  
aī ē?

**M.** Lejšor Sbjornavalta na břežčaib vo  
nimjø iq mbaifoló.

O gatimero a tra 'oo nijas'anas & an te  
glacari.

**¶** Καὶ τοι : τῷντες ἀποίσθε , φωστίσθενταν  
ιρηνα πεπαύασθενα , γε λογηγηνόν το  
ὑπῆματι τοῦτα .

O. Cionáir ag coin an t-áirge sín u. 00  
bheig.

The Rome type of 1676.

Do corpachadh ne goll na naimh náis  
mac níos na Sompach geir cás cnuaidh  
aig mág talamh iarráinse an bhean  
ná ént aithear fion fa ceir an  
Slálaictear níos agus an t-eas  
an laochair cheann tinefhe le h-uimse  
cúrtáin aigur fa bhráidais gacá maoileir  
fajinne óig an oibhre mo Ríocht  
Déikr tuitim an fhéir mór  
a borth an chuaith, turaist an céim

The large well-formed Brooke type of 1789.

apí fóinéalað an Dañi-jo, nō an  
do (¹) Dhéjb bñejje ynl do trjáð é i  
marij-ajð, o jír deaŋbítá jvr ab é Dj.  
nij an bñjáð xéjn, do fóinéalað do Dhéjb l  
aŋrr go bñwl ré maij ann xéjn; ací  
ré jír an ájc cérona, ná njuŋreiað  
neací doon Chriþorðnþ, jvr tojrhñeiað.  
do Dhéjb bñejje, jvr cðjri óð aŋr yo  
» hñr, jan a jte; nač naib ré tajnb  
» xollamínac; aŋry nač aŋr cí aŋt Þit  
» bñejme do tðabajnt do na hñrtoŋjeaðnþ  
» na Cneðeacájþ, ná d' Þeaglnyr Dé. » I  
maijsreiað þ an Xþyðol crh an Xþajð «  
tað na hñaglnyr, aŋry a tā ré co  
rjn rada, go nOndrjjeann ré óñnn. » L  
» do tðabajnt d' aŋr nlaætarañkþ, aŋr

### The Paris type of 1732.

XXXV LXXXIII



Fry's type, 1819.

**CAB. I.**  
 1. POL, abr̄dai, (n̄i d̄ t̄d̄oīj-  
 jū, n̄á t̄n̄e t̄n̄e, āct̄ t̄n̄e  
 Jóra Ch̄j̄or̄, 7 t̄n̄e Dh̄ia  
 an T̄at̄aíj, n̄oc̄ t̄o t̄oīj  
 r̄uāt̄ é d̄ m̄ar̄b̄n̄b̄);  
 2. Āḡut̄ n̄a ceap̄b̄r̄aíj-  
 neaca n̄le at̄a m̄aille  
 n̄iom̄, érm̄ eaḡl̄nead̄ n̄a  
 Galáta;

3. Tr̄ára m̄aille n̄ib̄ 7  
 r̄iochtáin̄Dh̄ia an T̄at̄,

The Watts type of 1818.

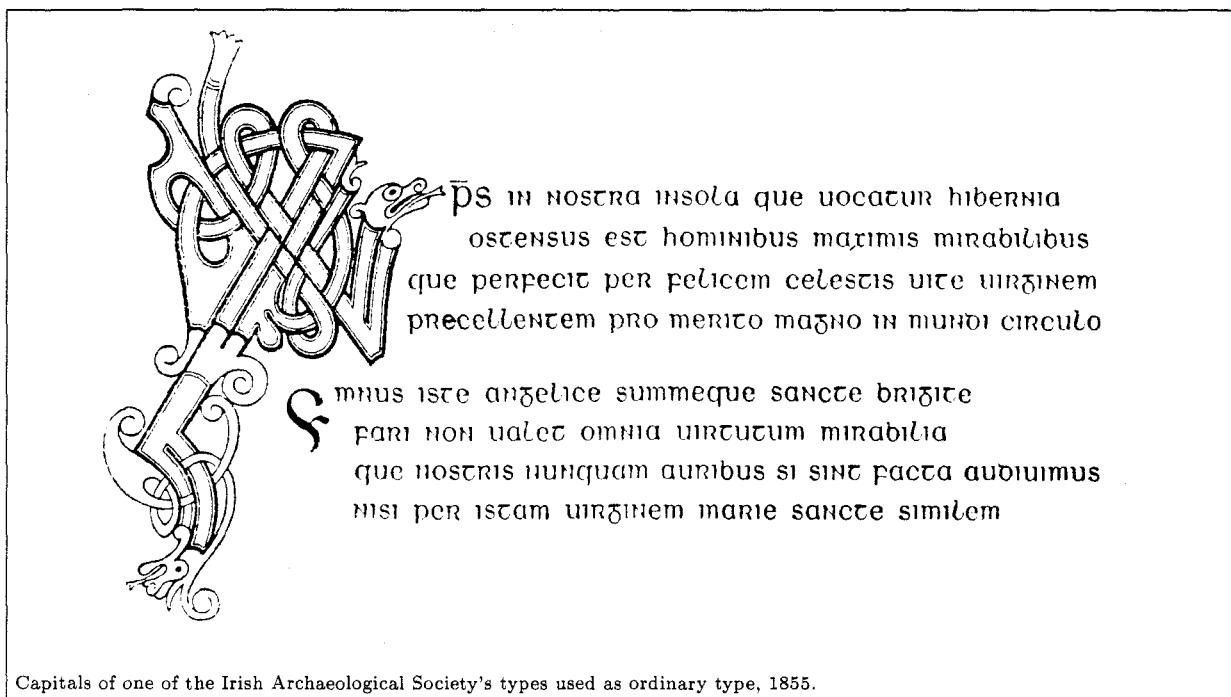
roirzéel Ch̄j̄or̄ do  
 a neim̄m̄b̄r̄ij.

8. Āct̄ boīd̄ zo n̄t̄  
 am̄dois̄re, n̄o ān̄je  
 neam̄, roirzérl̄ eile  
 r̄ean̄m̄b̄r̄ ód̄oib̄ t̄aī  
 [r̄eoit̄zérl̄] do n̄ȳea  
 do r̄ean̄m̄b̄r̄ ód̄oib̄ c̄  
 b̄joib̄ r̄e m̄all̄n̄j̄e.

9. Ām̄n̄l̄ ā or̄b̄ra  
 n̄om̄, ādeir̄p̄m̄ ā n̄o  
 n̄ir̄ l̄man̄ an̄ sc̄er̄t̄

Spiech i h. Fh̄aelan̄ d̄aī cluain̄ i n̄air̄b̄, an  
 d̄iȝk̄il̄ n̄a epeiche T̄m̄. T̄luaid̄ i h. me  
 neosclada 7 i h. M̄aeln̄am̄b̄ ā Mid̄i, eop̄  
 loire t̄et̄ cella x. Mid̄i uile r̄. m̄ad̄ becc.  
 Ȣair̄b̄et̄ i h. Cachtal̄gair̄z .pi. Úr̄ez do ȝab̄al̄  
 do Conchob̄. li. M̄aelr̄ eop̄ f̄or̄zak̄ib̄ iii. net̄  
 aiz̄e. T̄ancator̄ .pi. d̄am̄hna h. M̄aine 7.  
 h. M̄aelri. 7. h. Fh̄landr̄eal̄ 7 ān̄ Cleir̄eade.  
 h. r̄aib̄z 7 me b̄ruad̄r̄eal̄ .pi. d̄am̄hna  
 Delb̄na, eop̄ b̄rīt̄ f̄or̄j̄o 7 eop̄ m̄ar̄b̄ uile.

The rather unattractive Figgins type of 1825.



Capitals of one of the Irish Archaeological Society's types used as ordinary type, 1855.

Feachtar do Ȣuaip̄e Āine, do Chumáin  
 Poda 7 do Caimin innri Cealtra iñin eccl̄air  
 i n̄im̄ Cealtra pop̄ lōc̄ n̄Deir̄ce-keir̄e,  
 ebon in eccl̄air mó̄ do ponab la Caimine  
 ann̄. battapp̄r̄ din̄ ag t̄ab̄ant̄ am̄caip̄-  
 deira pop̄ Ȣuaip̄e. Maīt̄ a Ȣuaip̄e, ol̄  
 Caimine, cið beir̄t̄ maīt̄ lat̄ do lionab na hec-  
 cl̄air̄ i t̄eátm̄. Fh̄eac̄p̄ur̄ Ȣuaip̄e he, 7 iñeō  
 a duib̄aip̄e, n̄o ba maīt̄ lim̄ a lan̄ di on̄ 7  
 dapec̄at̄, 7 ni ap̄ r̄aint̄ an doir̄ham̄ri, āct̄  
 dia r̄ioblaib̄ pop̄ man̄m̄an̄ do naem̄hiaib̄,  
 7 do eccl̄air̄b̄, 7 da ḡaib̄ nech do iarn̄p̄air̄ e  
 sp̄éana. Do nab̄ Dia r̄up̄taict̄ duit̄ a Ȣua-  
 ip̄e, ol̄ Caimine, 7 do beir̄t̄ duit̄ an t̄ra-  
 lecht̄am̄ do ponair̄ dia cab̄ent̄ ap̄ c̄annam̄,

Irish Archaeological Society type, 1841.

Cén po baoi an Rioğraib̄ na n̄-opeann  
 in̄d̄ Ailiuch riup̄eač̄ Fh̄iḡreann,  
 ḡair̄ choindmead̄ pop̄ neach oile  
 āct̄ pop̄ Óub̄ n̄-dail̄ n̄-daiḡ doir̄e.  
 Óub̄doir̄e nochan feapp̄  
 occlach oile buil̄heach;  
 dia iñ duine āra t̄oiḡ  
 Óub̄doir̄e ua T̄iḡeap̄noiḡ.  
 Tucc̄tha logh a leanna lain̄  
 do Óub̄doir̄e til̄, d̄peachnaip̄,  
 do ch̄ipeich̄ Dal Āraide uair̄,

Another Irish Archaeological Society type, 1841.

Do chaisíorað rphár go cárímai, cairíot  
dán ájib, dán aitear, go círáidte, ceair  
teac;

Fá bhlón mòr, ag reaillad mo ðeórl!  
Gus ðeascara láimh lhom bán-çneir, báin  
máinlað, mairreainnul, gþráðihaí, gðeanaíi

Ró mòðaninnl, ba chaisíomhað clóð!  
ba cábairraé, cáblað, rámgeac, kadað.  
Ag reacáð 'r a rphár go rál, aissi bajile.  
U blájé-fojst bacálað, rámheac, círaip-r.  
Táclac, rnamadðað, báil-çar, dajte, li  
Aissi cló'n ðjí, dán rðamal, dán cé

Christie's type, 1815.

### an chead rann. an chead cheacht:

De Chruétúsgað, agur do érié an duine.  
CEIST. Cé ériúsað, agur do ériú aip an  
raogal tu?

PREAGAR. Dia.

C. Cao fát aip ériú Dia aip an raogal tu?

F. Chum aitne do þeit aip, éum e do gþa-  
vúsgað, éum a feirbif do ðeanað, agur éum  
an þeata fiorppuðe do fiaorhtúsgað tþið.

C. Chéad is éigean do óéanað éiçse rín?

F. Cheithei neiðre.

C. Cao iad þan?

F. An céad níð, gac níð v'fóillrið Dia,

The seminal Keating Society type, 1863.

folluitge ó ceann go cors le luðra an peacáid, a dul :  
xarraid na ngrása so air an Te a m-bidmuird cur feirge  
laetamail? Où! cad eile, cia air a n-xarfamúid se n  
sin? Cia an carad, no an duine muintirda air a d.  
barfamuid ágárd ó rinneamar namard d' ar g-carad  
muin-Críost? A tá, a cairde, air an Maigdean Muir

An attempt by Canon Burke to produce a hybrid Gaelic-Roman type, 1877. Note the ridiculous séimhiú over the lower case 't'.

Tá an scríbinn seo go direac mar ghuair mé i ó  
láimh an údair acce arnáin go bpuil an mórcuid  
págca ar lár de deascaib easba spáis agus fós de  
deascaib a ráib innici de tráctas ar neicé nac bpuil  
oiriúnað. Beid a deið oiread eile le páil go ré, mar  
sin péin, má's arnlaid a bionn aon glaoð ag an  
bpobal ar an leabhrán so.

Tuigtear go soiléir gur i leit Chorca Dorca  
arnáin aon ní atá lúaite ann agus ná cuigtear go  
bpuilcear ag tráct go poirleathan ar na Gaeltacáitai

A rather better attempt at hybrid type, Liam Miller's *Times New Roman* was used in one edition of *An Béal Bocht*.

(ð)

An Þaðir.

Aj n-aðair atá aip neam, go naomítar t'anim; [go]  
dtige do nioðaet; map ndéantar do tóil aip an talam  
map nítear aip neam. Aj n-apál (apán) laetamail,  
tabair dñunn indiu; matc dñunn aip bþiað' le map matc  
dñunn. Ná lëig dñunn tuitum i geatuiðte, ac raop  
rinn ó gað ole 'noir agur aip uair aip mbair. Amen.

A rather stylish Gaelic type cut about 1925, possibly in Germany.

t.é. [unnaí ar son a Soilse an Þannion.

**A** TIARNA, ár nátair neamai, oll-ard uile-  
cumactac, Rí na ríte, Tiarna na Þtiarnaí,  
Aonrialtoir na bflat, a breatnaíos ó do rí-  
cataoir ar luét áitrib an domain uile;  
Iarrainmo ort so lánóútraetac péacaint le  
do grásta ar a Soilse, ár nárvantíarna, an  
Þannion Elizabeth; agus í a liónað te  
sior de grásta an Spioraid ñaoim, i gcaoi so  
gelaona si i gconai éun do tóla agus so siula

Standard twentieth century Gaelic type. Excerpt from the *Book of Common Prayer* of the Church of Ireland. Here Irish-speaking Protestants in Northern Ireland pray for their Queen. Note the foreign 'z' in her name.

**20.** Agus duairt Dia: "Beirpead na h-uifgí go lionmhar an créatúir copruióč 'na bhfuil beacá, agus éanlaic eiteallaí ór cionn na talman in iompair 'gil neimhe'". Chruaig Dia freisin míolta móra agus gád créatúir beo copruior; rug na h-uifgí iad go lionmhar agus na h-éanlaic rígráidínaí do péir a gcinéil. Agus ba léir do Dia goma maité é a faochári. Beannuig Dia ann ri: "Bídtíodh corpach", deir sé, "agus foirlionaió, agus lionaió na h-uifgí atá rna fairliongí, agus foirlionas na h-éanlaic ar an talam". Idir nón agus maidin bí an cúigeas lá iartaid.

The truly artistic Colm Cille Gaelic type of Colm Ó Lochlainn.

### Ciotóig Colm Cille

Peacáit n-aon do éuairí Colm Cille i gceann Finnín Óroma Finn agus o'íarr iasaíte leabhair air, agus fuair sé sin ó Finnian. Agus o'fanaí sé i ndiaidh éái tar éis na dtráid agus na nAilemann sa teampall do báistí sa báile sin féin agus do báistí sé ag scríobh an leabhair ann gan piúis o'Finnian. Agus an uair thíosaí an oíche óige, is iad ba coinnle do ag déanamh na scríbhneoireachta sin, .i. cùis meoir a láimhe deise do lasaí amhail cùis lóchranna Rólasúnaíca ionas go gcuiridís dealram agus solas fán teampall uile.

Agus an oíche óeanaí do Colm Cille ag scríobh deiríri an leabhair sin, do éuir Finnian duine o'íarraíte leabhair air. Agus ar níos go doras an teampall a ráibh Colm Cille do, do b'iontaíte leis méar na soilse do éonaic sé isteach agus do éasadh eagla móir é, agus o'fheáid sé go faitheacá trí poll do báistí ar comhla dorais an teampall, agus ar bheiscint Colm Cille do ar an innéall sin, amhail a túramar romainn, níor lig an eagla do labairis ná an leabhar o'íarraíte air. Do poilsíodh, iomorro, do Colm Cille an t-óglach do éiríte 'gá fíreannamh amhail sin, agus do éasadh pears móir é fán ní sin, agus do labair sé re peata coirre do báistí aige, agus is ea d'úirt ria:

"Is ceatú liomsa, más ceatú le Dia, tusa do buain a shúl as an óglach úd do éainig dom fíeacáint gan piúis dom féin."

D'éirig an ócorr i gceannas le bríacáar Colm Cille, agus thíos buille d'á gob trí poll na comhla i súil an óglach sur bain a shúl as a céann,

Eleven point Cló Naithí, 1990. This typeface is still in the experimental stage, and will be improved. The sample is printed at 300dpi using an HP LaserJet III.

Sur piúas ar a ghrá amuig i. D'imigh an t-óglach iar sin mar a ráibh Finnian agus o'ínis do mar a o'ímis air ó éas go deireadh. Níor maité le Finnian an ní sin, agus do beannaiug agus do choisric sé súil an óglach, agus do éuir ina hiondúil ar féin arís i, gan díobáil, gan uireasa do éiríte uireach, amhail do báistí sí ó éas.

Agus mar do éuala Finnian a leabhar do scríobh gan éas do féin, do éuairí sé o'agairte Colm Cille ann, agus d'úirt nár ódir a leabhar do scríobh gan éas do.

"Do éarsa breíte Rí Éireann d'inn," ar Colm Cille, .i. breíte Diarmaid mac Ceardhaill.

"Gádháis sin," ar Finnian.

Do éuadar re éile ina óíair sin go Tearnáir na Rí, mar a ráibh Diarmaid mac Ceardhaill, agus o'ínis Finnian a scéala ar dtús don Rí agus is ea a d'úirt:

"Do scríobh Colm Cille mo leabhar gan piúis dom féin," ar sé, "agus deirim sur liom féin mac mo leabhair."

"Deirimse," arsa Colm Cille, "naé misce leabhar Finnín ar scríobh mé as, agus naé cónair na níche diaoga do báistí leabhar úd do m'úbáistí ná a bacaíte dom féin ná do éuirne eile a scríobh ná a léamh ná a siolaíte pá na cinnioíciú; agus pós deirim, má do báistí cairde do na poiblíeadáiciú, agus gan díobáil o'Finnín ná a leabhair do éanlaic as, sur ceadairte dom a scríobh."

Is ansin rug Diarmaid an b'reíte oíriú, .i. "le gáid bain a boinnín, agus le gáid leabhar a leabhrán."

The least Irish and least attractive of all Gaelic typefaces was that of Vincent Figgins, the first typefounder of that name. His Irish type of 1825 was apparently used in only two books. This is the same Figgins who, in 1832, made the first major promotion of sans serif types and popularized the name by which they are known today. By the beginning of the twentieth century, there was a considerable demand for printed material in Irish, and the Irish fonts necessary for mass production were not available. It was the London firm of Figgins which satisfied the demand. The same firm, under the name of Stevens, was responsible for the 1922 monotype which became familiar to succeeding generations of Irish school children as the standard form of the Irish letter before it was gradually phased out in the 1960s by governmental decree.

Though, in the Irish language revival, there had always been a faction which wanted to adopt the roman letter forms, it is probable that the main reason for its eventual success was a purely practical one. The variety of sizes and weights in which Irish type was available was extremely limited; moreover, Irish typewriters were old-fashioned and clumsy. The written language was apparently being strangled by its dependence on materials which did not belong to the mainstream of European trade and culture. In any case the change was made, and a whole generation has now grown up for the most part ignorant of a very distinctive part of its history.

**TEX** may well prove to be one of the most important innovations in the history of typesetting. If that is true, then it is even more certain that the invention of **METAFONT** will come to be regarded as revolutionary for type design and casting. If **METAFONT** had been available thirty years ago, it might well have saved the Irish typeface. As it is, Irish fonts in a range of weights and sizes unimaginable a generation ago are now being made using **SBMF**, a particularly fast PC version of **METAFONT** perfected by Dr Wayne Sullivan in the Mathematics Department of University College, Dublin.

The new typeface, known as Cló Naithí after one of the local saints of the area of County Dublin in which I live, already comprises the most extensive set of Gaelic fonts ever produced. It is, moreover, the only truly Gaelic typeface to include in a single design all twenty six letters of the modern English alphabet. It is intended primarily for everyday typesetting, not for fancy work; simplicity and readability have been the main considerations in

its design. The point sizes of five, ten, eleven and seventeen are available in four types: unslanted and slanted, each at standard weight and in an extended bold form. There is yet a considerable amount of work to be done: parameters for other point sizes need to be worked out; the numerals and many special characters have to be designed; there are some questions about punctuation which must be settled; essential variant forms of letters and optional ligatures have to be created; sans-serif routines have to be finalised; large initial fancy letters, which were quite a common feature in Gaelic printing, should be included; work on kerning is yet to begin; moreover there are many imperfections in what has already been done, and these must be weeded out relentlessly. The Naithí project should also include mathematical fonts so that technical material can be typeset without difficulty; it ought also to include the production of a comprehensive hyphenation dictionary. How much of this can be achieved will probably depend on whether or not the workforce of one and the zero funding level can be increased.

There are more than sixty phonemes in the Irish language; it is thus phonetically one of the richest languages in Europe. To accommodate this splendid variety of sound, the Irish traditionally employ an alphabet of only seventeen letters; this number does not include aitch, which is used only to prevent hiatus; nor does it include the various letters which have crept in with some loan words in the past few years. The vowel sounds of the language are, for the most part, pure; they may be either short or long, the latter usually being indicated in the written language by a length mark, commonly called the *síneadh fada*; this is similar in appearance to the French acute accent.

Each of the twelve consonants is used to represent at least two distinct sounds, one broad and one slender; which of the two sounds is intended is usually indicated by adjacent vowels—if these are slender (e or i), then so is the consonant; otherwise the consonant is broad. Most of the consonantal sounds (of both varieties) are subject to a qualitative softening, indicated by the placing of a dot, called a *séimhiú*, over the appropriate letter. These sounds may also be subject to vocalization or nasalization, which is indicated by placing the appropriate consonant before the one to be inflected. There are, properly speaking, no written accents in Irish, and only the two diacritical marks noted here. The language is written more or less phonetically according to its own phonetic rules, which differ considerably from those of English.

The Irish language, in both spoken and written forms, is highly inflected. Approximately one in six vowels takes a length mark, and around one in five consonants a softening mark. Plain *TEX*'s English language conventions for accessing diacritical marks are therefore clearly unsuitable for typesetting in Irish. In Cló Naithí all diacritical marks are treated as ligatures: for example, 'ch' is printed as 'ó' and '/a' as 'á'; the ligatures can of course be broken if that is desired. On the other hand, the situation for the user of Computer Modern with standard conventions is considerably eased by noting that the correspondence between letters and diacritical marks is one-to-one. By making, say, the forward slash active and writing the appropriate macro, each desired inflection can be got by typing the slash before the letter to be inflected. There are few Latin alphabet languages in which such a proliferation of inflections can be dealt with so simply by *TEX*.

For many of us whose homes are Gaelic-speaking, there is little doubt that Gaelic fonts are more suitable for the printing of our language than are the Roman. One reason for this is the profusion of aitches with their ugly ascenders which take the place of the *séimhiú* in the roman fonts. Around twenty per cent of all other consonants are followed by the letter aitch; this percentage would have been even greater had not simplified spelling accompanied the change to roman fonts\*. Historically, there is justification for the introduction of the aitch, at least in conjunction with the letters c, p and t, but that should hardly be used to support the widespread adoption of ugliness; the dot is less conspicuous than the ascending h, and it also helps to provide a sense of balance in a typeface with upper-case ascenders. Another reason for preferring the Gaelic typeface arises from the difficulty of placing diacritical marks over upper-case roman letters whose height already extends more or less to the extremities dictated by the typeface; this difficulty Irish has in common with many languages. In Gaelic typefaces it has never been a problem, since they have upper-case ascenders which determine that the natural height of fonts is sufficient to accommodate all such marks without any squeezing. The Gaelic typeface has tradition, beauty and practicality on its side, and it will give many of us great joy to see it being used more frequently in the future.

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\* Despite my interest in the re-emergence of Gaelic typefaces, I have no intention of promoting old spelling conventions.

# An International Phonetic Alphabet

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## Abstract

This paper discusses the development of an International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) font for use with *TeX* and the Computer Modern fonts primarily from the viewpoint of a manager. Included will be discussion on how to use this font and the direction we can go from here with it.

## The Need for an IPA Font

Since 1983, *TeX* has found extensive use at Washington State University (WSU). Although at many sites, mathematics typesetting is a primary reason for using *TeX*, at WSU, the area of textual typesetting has always been the main thrust of *TeX* usage. In fact, the pioneer project for *TeX* at WSU was a critical edition of Robert Burton's seventeenth-century *The Anatomy of Melancholy* by Professors Thomas Faulkner and Nicolas Kiessling.

*TeX*'s popularity as a text processor at WSU grew each semester and, as a whole, *TeX* earned rave reviews from its users. However, one complaint, or limitation, that was frequently echoed throughout the halls of the WSU Computing Service Center (especially from the liberal arts departments), was the lack of fonts available for use with *TeX* which contained certain special characters that were often needed (such as the Old English "thorn" (þ) or any unusually accented character of a native American or some other dialect). These "complaints" provided the seed of thought for a future METAFONT font that would contain some of these special characters.

Around 1986, this "future font" was escorted from the recesses of the "some-day-it-would-be-nice" projects, to front-row status as several linguists brought to our attention the need for an IPA font to work with *TeX* and Computer Modern fonts. Up to that time, for most linguists who wanted to use a diacritic or special character, it was frequently necessary to have the character hand drawn in, as illustrated in Figure 1. Early word processors allowed for the ability to superscript/subscript and overlay of some characters, and the introduction

One child, for example, in addition to producing glottals consistent with the Irish-English dialect also produced forms such as [tum<sub>A?</sub>] 'too much'; [ʌw<sup>?</sup>sai<sub>E</sub>ʃɔ] 'outside the';

Figure 1: Hand drawn phonetic characters

of *TeX* gave the phonetician much more flexibility as pointed out by Christina Thiele (Carleton University, Canada) in *TeX, Linguistics, and Journal Production*.

Still, there were frequently used characters that could not be created by combining existing characters or accents. In fact, some characters, such as the ejective (?) required the removal of bits, rather than the addition. Certainly we could have equipped each linguist on campus with a bottle of White Out, or perhaps we could have created a White Out font, but neither seemed as effective as a new IPA font.

There were already some IPA fonts available. However, they were not designed with METAFONT, and they did not always work well with Computer Modern. Figure 11 shows the ph10 font designed by Jean-Pierre Paillet in 1983 in consultation with William Cowan, editor of the *Canadian Journal of Linguistics*. It was a bitmapped font created by hand, designed to work with amr10. Figure 2, a sample from Richard Rhodes' article in the

## (5) Vowel harmony

Orthography	Standard	Méthif
pouilleux	[pujö]	[pujü] ~[püjü]
mesure	[mezür]	[mizür] ~[müzür]
chevreuil	[ševrɔj]	[šuvrü]
fusil	[fuzij]	[fizi]
musique	[müzik]	[müzük]

Figure 2: ph10 with amr10

*Actes du dix-septième congrès des algonquinistes*, shows that this marriage worked well. When the crisper Computer Modern became available, ph10 proved to be too heavy. Figure 9 shows the use of ph10 with cmr10. This illustration comes from Terry Piper's article "On the Difference Between L1 and L2 Acquisition in Phonology" in the *Canadian Journal of Linguistics*. The only way to enhance the use of ph10 with Computer Modern would have been to tweak the pixels for each character by hand. One of these character bitmaps is illustrated in Figure 12.

## The Development

To begin with, Janene Winter began experimenting with various characters, writing the code from scratch as she was attempting to learn METAFONT. These attempts created some rather unusual (and very non-IPA) characters during the learning process. This also created no small amount of frustration as Janene attempted to learn METAFONT on her own, for nobody else on campus knew or used METAFONT. Adding to this already less than ideal situation was the fact that there was no good graphics previewer available on VM/CMS so she could preview her work on the terminal. Each iteration of a character had to be printed on one of the University's laser printers, which was shared with about 2,000 other users. As can be imagined, this became a painstakingly slow process, not to mention all of the trees that went through the laser printer.

The first major breakthrough in the development of the WSU IPA was the discovery that the Computer Modern METAFONT code really was decipherable and could be used as a foundation on which to build from existing METAFONT characters, and whenever possible simply modify them to fit the required character. Shortly after this, a graphics terminal was obtained which allowed on-screen previewing of the characters via two preview programs. One from Malki Cymbalista (Israel) and the other from Georg Bayer (Germany).

With these two monumental accomplishments, it became obvious that a METAFONT IPA font could indeed be more than a "wouldn't-it-be-nice-if-we-could" project. Now that we were much more clear on the "how" were we going to do this, the next step was to specifically define "what" were we going to do—which characters, and which style or design of the characters would be used. Finding decent typographical examples of the IPA characters was more difficult than anticipated. Most books found in the campus library that showed the characters at all were at least 40 years old, and the largest character samples were printed in 10pt. Finally, Pullam and Ladusaw's *Phonetic Symbol Guide* was discovered. This proved to be a major find, as it had excellent IPA examples in a larger 19pt size. And more importantly, the equivalent of an x-height and baseline was also traced in for all characters illustrated.

The base design for the IPA was 10pt. Making additional sizes came with their own sets of problems. For example, going from 10pt to 9pt was usually fine, but going to 8pt would sometimes cause problems in some of the point and stroke definitions. Additional METAFONT errors were encountered when slanted faces were generated. METAFONT's "strange turning path" message became a rather familiar sight at that time. In most cases, even though the error messages were generated, the characters themselves looked fine. Eventually, the magic combination of correct parameter values and point definitions was found and all error messages disappeared.

Another pitfall that was not obvious at first was the misplacement within the character box of a few of the characters. These were simply Computer Modern characters rotated or flipped, or sometimes both. The first few attempts at transforming these characters often gave the correct visual result, but later examination would show that the baseline or height was wrong. The baseline problems would usually be easily detected by placing the character in a line of Computer Modern text. The height problems would not show up until the character was used with an accent.

These placement problems occurred because the Computer Modern METAFONT code was not changed. It was simply "transformed," and therefore, the original Computer Modern character's height, depth and x-height were being used. This problem was solved simply by changing all of METAFONT's point definitions that were relative to the character's height, depth or x-height, from the

A shibilant is a term occasionally found for a fricative corresponding to a “hushing” sound, e.g., IPA [ʃ] (more technically, a grooved laminal fricative).

Figure 3: Using the IPA Characters

original Computer Modern character, to the new transformed IPA character.

Transforms for the slanted fonts brought further difficulties because METAFONT slants a character before it executes any of its transformations. This caused the IPA characters that were created by rotating existing Computer Modern characters that were then slanted, to be slightly off center in their character boxes. It took a while to master all the various transforms.

Karen Mullen (University of Louisville, Kentucky, USA), Christina, and many others helped Janene in debugging the various characters.

Finally, Figure 10 illustrates the use of the WSU IPA with Computer Modern. This example comes from Claire Lefebvre’s article “Instrumental Take-Serial Constructions in Haitian and in Fon”.

## How to use the IPA

To use the IPA you must first embed a collection of macros by entering

```
\input ipamacs
```

Each of the IPA characters has a control sequence defined in IPAMACS. The names chosen for these control sequences were based in large part on the standard names used in Pullam and Ladusaw. For example,

```
A shibilant is a term occasionally
found for a fricative
corresponding to
a ‘‘hushing’’ sound, e.g., IPA
[\esh] (more technically,
a grooved laminal fricative).
```

yields the illustration in Figure 3.

The IPA character macros are defined so they can be used with the Computer Modern characters and accents without the need for delimiting curly braces. By using the IPA definitions, you can use the Computer Modern accents with an IPA character in the same way you would accent a Computer Modern character. For example, Figure 4 was created by entering:

```
The superscript tilde is a
nasalization marker for vowels,
thus [\~\scripta] is a
nasalized [\scripta].
```

The superscript tilde is a nasalization marker for vowels, thus [ā] is a nasalized [a].

Figure 4: Accenting IPA characters

To use the IPA accents with Computer Modern characters or with another IPA character, you can define the IPA accent in the same way that the Computer Modern accents are defined. For example, an “over-ring” accent could be defined as,

```
\def\or#1{\edef\next{\the\font}%
\ipatenrm\accent"78\next#1}}
```

and may be used like,

```
The over-ring may be used over
letters with descenders as an
alternative to under-ring to
indicate devoicing, e.g. [\or g].
```

which will print as illustrated in Figure 5.

If the spacing or placement of the diacritic is not exactly what you desire with the basic definition, you can add kerns where needed. Or in some cases, you may want to space differently depending on what character is being accented. Perhaps your scheme for accenting characters with an “undercircle” requires less space between the undercircle and the character, and if the character to be accented is an “r” a completely different scheme would be used. For example, Figure 6 was created by entering:

```
\def\undercirc#1{\ifx#1r
\oalign{\#1\crcr\hidewidth
\kern.24em\underring
\hidewidth\crcr}
\else\oalign{\#1\crcr
\hidewidth
\raise.1ex\hbox{\underring}
\hidewidth}\fi}
```

A voiceless trilled r [\undercirc r] in certain Scottish dialects...

The over-ring may be used over letters with descenders as an alternative to under-ring to indicate devoicing, e.g. [g̊].

Figure 5: Using IPA accents

A voiceless trilled r [r̊] in certain Scottish dialects

Figure 6: Using IPA accents

Finally, Figure 7 illustrates using the IPA. The native American Makah script at the top of the figure appears on a plaque at an archeological site in the northwest corner of the United States. The translation for the Makah script is at the bottom of the figure.

### Where to go from here?

The fonts are in roman, bold extended and slanted faces. And they come in 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 17 point sizes. The project is completed and stable. Figure 8 illustrates the full character set.

The question remains, where do we go from here? Certainly, the WSU IPA is not an exhaustive collection of phonetic IPA characters. Pullam's *Guide* lists 78 "major" characters, all of which are contained in the WSU IPA. The *Guide* also contains many "minor" characters, 50 of which have been included in the IPA.

With Janene no longer at WSU, and no one else willing to carry on the work, no further development on the IPA will be done here. There are more characters that can be added. Anyone willing to do so is welcome to use the existing base characters as examples. The arrival of T<sub>E</sub>X 3.0 gives us the ability to assign more than 128 characters is available. It might be reasonable to finish the rest of Pullam and Ladusaw's character set. Also, with the addition of Professor Knuth's virtual font, new ways of mixing the IPA characters into existing fonts is possible. If you choose to modify the WSU IPA, I do ask that you call the new font something other than WSU IPA.

### How to get the IPA

You can get the IPA on diskette or by anonymous FTP. Also, the IPA will be distributed to the various site coordinators who can determine whether to place it on their distribution.

To obtain the IPA on diskette from Jon Radel, send him a note and ask for the WSU IPA fonts. Jon's address is:

Jon Radel  
P.O. Box 2276  
Reston, VA  
22090-0276

To get the IPA by anonymous FTP, you can connect to the machine BOBCAT.CSC.WSU.EDU. The address is 134.121.1.1. Log on as ANONYMOUS and change to the TEXT1 directory. You will see ten subdirectories which you can GET files from. The one you want is WSUIPA which contains the METAFONT source, tfm and 300pk files.

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čabi·ypakpu kʷiči·ya· puse·pič ye·pitxpi·t  
pakyi·q qʷidiččapatx yaqa·qey padicačo·wis  
xicu·xʷadi· piyax qʷiči·qʷičš puwadič tukʷitap  
hubaqč kʷiči·ye·piq pu·du·pač taččičšičqa·  
tu·kʷi·č u·pis·pač qʷačačičqey ča·dpokʷap  
wikač hita·kʷačič hupačitwi·piq wiki·d  
čapu hidawačid yaqa·qey pu·ksda·qa·č  
hupačidiq yačač batba·pas tu·kʷički·  
du·bačičič qʷiçʷičaqačqey hu·pas qʷabitqey  
qʷiyowis qʷičšič tu·kʷitap batba·pasiq.

A major village of the Makah Indian Nation, the Ozette village was, over the past millennium, periodically covered by mud flows. The rapid burial created conditions that greatly retarded the deterioration of perishable artifacts. These conditions created a time capsule, unique in archaeology, in which the buried houses and their contents have survived in an almost perfect state of preservation.

Figure 7: American Macah script and translation

	'0	'1	'2	'3	'4	'5	'6	'7	
'00x	a	a	α	æ	ʌ	ɔ	ə	ø	"0x
'01x	g	β	ɸ	ɛ	ç	ð	d	ɖ	"1x
'02x	d	ɖ	ɸ	ð	D	θ	ʒ	θ	"1x
'03x	ɛ	ɜ	ɜ̥	ɔ	g	g̥	G	γ	
'04x	χ	χ	h̥	h̥	ħ	ħ̥	ħ	i̥	"2x
'05x	t̥	l̥	I	ɪ	J	t̥	t̥	t̥	
'06x	l̥	ł̥	λ̥	χ̥	m̥	w̥	u̥	n̥	"3x
'07x	ŋ̥	n̥	N̥	∅̥	ə̥	ɔ̥	ω̥	ω̥	
'10x	∞̥	p̥	b̥	ɸ̥	f̥	r̥	l̥	x̥	"4x
'11x	ł̥	l̥	R̥	B̥	ʂ̥	ʃ̥	ɬ̥	σ̥	
'12x	t̥	t̥	†̥	θ̥	θ̥	ɥ̥	ʊ̥	U̥	"5x
'13x	ɛ̥	v̥	ɯ̥	χ̥	ʎ̥	Y̥	ʐ̥	z̥	
'14x	ʒ̥	ʒ̥	?	ʃ̥	ʂ̥	ɸ̥	ɳ̥	ɳ̥	"6x
'15x	'	'	'	'	'	'	'	'	
'16x	'	!	..	'	^	'	'	'	"7x
'17x	°	°	°	~	~	~	~	~	
	"8	"9	"A	"B	"C	"D	"E	"F	

Figure 8: WSU International Phonetic Alphabet 12pt Roman

children had contact spoke a dialect of Irish-English which permits glottal stop in words such as *little* and *bottle*. Moreover, in connected discourse, word final /t/ is frequently glottalized, particularly if the next word begins with a vowel. It was likely, therefore, that the children were following, in varying degrees, the example of their teacher. All instances of glottal substitution which were acceptable in this teacher's dialect were, therefore, dropped from the analysis. Nevertheless, there remained in the data from these nine Ss, persistent if not widespread glottal replacement which may have resulted from various kinds of overgeneralization. One child, for example, in addition to producing glottals consistent with the Irish-English dialect also produced forms such as [tumʌ?] 'too much'; [ʌwə?saɪðə] 'outside the'; [wɪ?čəz] 'witches'.

Figure 9: Sample combining ph10 and cmr10

- (41) a. Derived LCS resulting from the association of ss̥ 'Take' and d̥d̥ 'Put':  
LCS: [x cause [y undergo a change of location to z]]/PUT  
b. Kòkú sò àsón d̥d̥ hàsùn mè  
Koku take crab put basket in  
'Koku put the crab in the basket.'

Figure 10: Sample combining wsuipa9, wslipa9 and cmr10

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
000	ꝝ	ꝑ	Ꝕ	Ꝙ	Ꝛ	Ꝝ	ꝙ	Ꝟ
010	ꝟ	ꝡ	Ꝣ	Ꝥ	ꝥ	ꝧ	Ꝩ	ꝩ
020	Ꝫ	ꝫ	Ꝭ	ꝭ	Ꝯ	ꝯ	ꝱ	ꝲ
030	ꝫ	Ꝯ	ꝰ	ꝱ	ꝲ	ꝳ	ꝴ	ꝵ
040	ꝯ	ꝱ	ꝲ	ꝳ	ꝴ	ꝵ	ꝶ	ꝷ
050	(	)	*	+	,	-	.	/
060	Ꝡ	ꝡ	Ꝣ	ꝣ	Ꝥ	ꝥ	Ꝧ	Ꝧ
070	Ꝩ	ꝩ	:	;	ꝫ	=	ꝫ	?
100	Ꝉ	ꝉ	Ꝋ	ꝋ	Ꝍ	ꝍ	ꝏ	Ꝑ
110	Ꝋ	ꝉ	Ꝋ	Ꝋ	Ꝋ	Ꝋ	Ꝋ	Ꝋ
120	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ
130	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	[	“	”	^	‘
140	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ
150	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ
160	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ
170	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ	Ꝏ

Figure 11: The ph10 font

Figure 12: The pixels for the “r with right tail”

# Practical Halftoning with $\text{\TeX}$

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## Abstract

The inclusion of photographic material in a book or similar publication is an expensive process and, unless care is taken, artefacts can be introduced into the reproduction. For publications in subjects like image processing, it is essential that the pictures are reproduced both cheaply and accurately. The principle of using  $\text{\TeX}$  to typeset halftoned pictures is now quite familiar, but there are a number of practical problems involved. This paper discusses these problems and compares halftoning with  $\text{\TeX}$  to other techniques such as direct inclusion of PostScript. Some of the advantages and disadvantages of both approaches are described, taking account of the need for low-resolution drafts from laser printers and high-resolution final output from typesetters.

Given the ability to generate halftoned output, it is but a small step to consider including colour pictures in  $\text{\TeX}$  documents. Some attempts at producing colour separations using the above approaches are described.

## Introduction

Even with the advent of computer typesetting, one of the most costly aspects of book production is the inclusion of continuous-tone (grey-scale or colour) material. This is because the preparation of such copy is done essentially manually, the figure usually being merged with the text only just before the production of the offset printing masters. However, with a suitably high-resolution output device such as a phototypesetter, it is possible to produce representations of continuous-tone material which are of printable quality. This paper looks at how continuous-tone copy can be inserted into a  $\text{\TeX}$  document (albeit plain  $\text{\TeX}$  or  $\text{\LaTeX}$ ).

The conventional approach to the reproduction of continuous-tone material, *halftoning*, is briefly described and the three main ways of producing halftoned output from  $\text{\TeX}$  are then discussed and compared. An extension to the basic techniques to prepare colour separations is then described and examples of the output which can be obtained are given. Directions for future work are then considered.

Readers who wish to learn more about conventional and digital halftoning are referred to Southworth and Ulichney-book; the latter requires some familiarity with Fourier analysis. Halftoning

with  $\text{\TeX}$  is not a new idea, aspects having been discussed by Simpson, Knuth and Clark. Colour and its reproduction are discussed in great detail by Hunt. The problems in printing computer-originated imagery are discussed by Stone.

## Reproducing Continuous-Tone Material

**Conventional Halftoning.** Printing is an all-or-nothing operation: one either puts ink at a specific position on a page or one doesn't. Hence, to reproduce material with a continuous range of tones (grey levels), one must produce a region of black and white (ink or no ink) dots which the eye blends together to give the appearance of being the appropriate greys. The process by which this is done is known as *halftoning*. This is usually achieved by photographing the original through a *screen*, which consists of a pair of glass plates, on which fine opaque lines have been ruled, cemented together at right angles to each other, leaving a structure of square interstices. When photographed, the interstices act as crude pinhole "lenses," forming out-of-focus "images" of the camera lens on the plate. A high-contrast film is used in the photographic process, so that the

"screened" picture consists of only light and dark dots. Light areas in the original produce larger areas in the (negative) screened image and hence smaller black dots when printed; the converse is true for dark areas of the original image.

The quality of reproduction is governed primarily by the fineness of the screen, which is normally measured in terms of the number of lines ruled per inch—newspaper photographs typically have screens of about 70 lines/inch, while magazines have screens of about 130 lines/inch. For top-quality printing, screens of up to 300 lines/inch are used.

**Digital Halftoning.** It will be apparent from the above that the binary nature of halftoning lends itself well to a digital approach, and there has been a fair amount of work devoted to the topic. At the simplest level, one can assign a little region of dots to generate a single pixel of the image—the more dots set to black, the darker the pixel; but this leads to a very objectionable patterned effect in regions of constant grey value. Practical techniques do not require several binary dots to represent a single pixel, and attempt to remove the patterning effects; these are known as *dithering* algorithms.

The algorithm known as *ordered dither* is closest to conventional, photographic halftoning since it passes high-contrast, high-frequency detail into the halftoned image. A mask (typically  $8 \times 8$  pixels in size) of fixed thresholds is tessellated over the image, with the output at each pixel being white if the pixel holds a greater value than the corresponding threshold in the mask and black otherwise. Unfortunately, ordered dither also produces objectionable artifacts in regions of constant grey level; this is typically reduced by adding a little high-frequency noise. As an aside, if one uses a randomly-chosen threshold instead of a mask of fixed values, one obtains an image which resembles a mezzotint.

The most popular dithering technique was developed by Floyd and Steinberg, and is known as *error diffusion*. This compares each pixel with a fixed threshold as for ordered dither. However, the threshold value is then compared with the value of the pixel and the difference (the "error") used to generate a correction factor to be added to future pixels. (In signal processing jargon, this is a "recursive filter.") The correction factor is calculated from the error according to the weighted values of neighbouring pixels, and some interest has centred around the best weights to use—see Ulichney for details.

## Halftoning and **TEX**

There are three basic approaches to the inclusion of halftoned material in **TEX** documents:

1. generating a "picture" font,
2. building a halftone font, then typesetting the picture with **TEX**,
3. including the halftone material at the **dvi**-processing stage via **\specials**.

We shall look at each of these methods in turn.

**Generating a "Picture" Font.** In this approach, the entire picture is halftoned and converted to a **pk** file, which allows **TEX** to typeset it as a single (though large) character. The conversion may be direct from image to **pk** file, in which case a **tfm** file must also be generated, or via **METAFONT**. However, the run-time overhead of using **METAFONT** in this way is a significant one.

Having generated such a "picture" font (**picture.tfm** and **picture.pk**), one would insert the image into a floating figure in a plain **TEX** document with a series of commands like:

```
\font\pix=picture
\midinsert
  \centerline{\pix\char0}
  \smallskip
  \centerline{Picture inclusion using
             a picture font}
\endinsert
```

For **LATeX**, the approach is similar but the syntax a little different:

```
\newfont{\pix}{picture}
\begin{figure}
  \centering
  {\pix\char0}
  \caption{Picture inclusion using a
          picture font}
\end{figure}
```

One problem with this approach is that some output devices—notably Digital's LN03 laser printer—have a limit to the height of a glyph which is smaller than the typical size of a complete picture. In this case, one must ensure that the picture is partitioned into a set of smaller regions.

**Using a Halftone Font.** An alternative approach is to devise an entire font which maps input characters onto output greys, then use **TEX**'s boxes-and-glue approach to typesetting to construct the picture from the characters. This approach was also outlined by Knuth and popularised by this author.

```
\hbox{\vbox(\halftone\offinterlineskip % machine-generated by TEXPIC.
\def\BHT{\hbox\bgroup\ignorespaces}
\catcode`\^=12 \catcode`\_=12 \catcode`\.=\active \let.=\egroup
\catcode`\,=\active \let,=\BHT \catcode`\/=0 \catcode`\\\=12
,abe_cbaadgljkigbeehe`ae_FB?=D.
,abe_`caaddfkjic[JSbiea_]inFA@?E.
,ace_`baaa`dkj?DFF?60Qc`gEH@A?F.
,bcd_`bba`_ccAEDHOFMIBB^f[EJ@CDJ.
,acd_baa`UB>FCEMPKTUQKMIMMQIOVZ.
,acd_`ba`ZUTGIQKX)^_ZLAd?CHCUUW.
,bcd_`aa`_YSR\deghojgtFO?CHBRPU.
,bcd_`ba`_`dbfjmhhmnifNH?DJNONS.
,bcd_`ba`_]djikkmkid[aXZGAHWMQRT.
,bcd_aba`_Z[f^\[djh[[U]FDTWNVSU.
,bcd_aba`_hib\affddf]f[UFKTTR[UT.
,bdc_abba`jmkgjhillh`fafQSXXXXVU.
,bed`abba`f[QRVcccijjgfdELUWVVXZ.
,bdd`bcbbaakiXXcjiidjigVCCWVVXVX.
,bdd`bccbbav_LZS_c^aefaECBNWUWUX.
,bedaabcccbBJDL\LKQ\eidJDDEPWXYV.
,cedaaacccbcBP[UbUNTA[\SKFCBKTWVYX.
,cedbaccccc^aQTX)_dZTPRSHCMRXSUW.
,ceeaacddcbeeVXMdXad[RUVQLKUU[\VT.
,cgfbdddddXe]UXZ\cceOKMQBCOW\^WZ.
,dhgddffefdiinVT\chhfOLMOBIMNNNLJ.
,ejifeeffffemhlfYmkhggWRPNDRSRQOLN.
,\dihggkkkilk`ceUW_^[jfc'LSTSQPMM.
,aZ`cecgijaaaadhkhhhhifdfhkhRTVWT.
,giijdeiw]baabhdgmfeefefgeVRUXSU.
,cflg`fV`bcbcdhfgeheefhiknj_SBXQR.
,bclidb]`gdbfgfjiihhkjloggf]R^].
,kkloo]^faaffbeghkklmenmmgghhhj_aW.
,pnkop_adkgcdb]^fll^WA9PgghgijiWU.
,pmklpa_dkkjgba_dmj`QE1>?dhgnikbS.
,mll1jb`bkkigijhehlorer??>kkokmjv.
,nmlmfcabkmnhiebeFJKMcY>:B:54onlc.
})%}
```

Figure 1: Machine-Generated T<sub>E</sub>X for Use with a Halftone Font

The halftone font in most widespread use is a variation on the “double-dot” font devised by Knuth and has some 65 grey levels. This maps the ASCII character “0” onto white, “1” onto near-white—and so on, up to “p” which represents black.

With such a font available, it is not difficult to write software which converts an image to a file which is compatible with both plain T<sub>E</sub>X and L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X. The only point at which care is needed is in the handling of those characters which lie between “0” and “p” and have a special meaning to T<sub>E</sub>X, namely “\”, “~” and “\_”. This is illustrated in Figure 1, which is a 32 × 32 representation of the “girl” image ubiquitous in image processing circles.

Including the figure in a plain T<sub>E</sub>X document is as easy as for the picture font:

```
\font\halftone=htfont
```

```
\midinsert
```

```
\centerline{\input girl32}
\smallskip
\centerline{Picture inclusion using a
halftone font}
```

```
\endinsert
```

while, for L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, we would use

```
\newfont{\halftone}{htfont}
```



Figure 2: Picture Produced using a Halftone Font on a LaserWriter

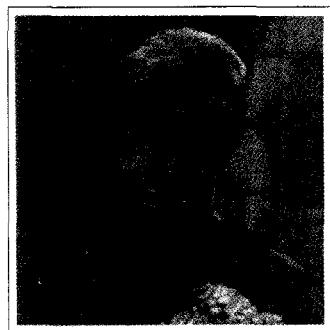


Figure 3: Picture Produced using a Halftone Font on a Linotronic 300

```
\begin{figure}
  \centering
  \mbox{\input picture\relax}
  \caption{Picture inclusion using a
          halftone font}
\end{figure}
```

Note the use of `\relax` here to stop L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X from treating the closing brace as part of the filename. In these examples, `girl32.tex` contains the machine-generated picture, while `htfont` is the name of the `tfm` file which contains the halftone font for the chosen output device. The machine-generated T<sup>E</sup>X input assumes that the halftone font is selected by the command `\halftone`.

To obtain a reasonable number of greys in the font, the size of the printed image must depend on the resolution (number of dots/inch) of the output device. This effect is illustrated in Figure 2 and Figure 3, which are output from an Apple LaserWriter (300 dpi) and a Linotronic 300 typesetter (1270 dpi) respectively: although these are the same physical

size, the LaserWriter image contains  $64 \times 64$  pixels and the Linotronic one  $256 \times 256$ .

Some care is needed in optimising the halftone font to the output device: the author has found that existing `mode_defs` for printers invariably cause the halftoned image to be too dark, and one must adjust the `blackness` and `fillin` parameters while printing off a test grey scale.

T<sup>E</sup>X, as originally devised, had a memory limit which is too restrictive for typesetting pictures of  $256 \times 256$  or more pixels. This was one of the factors which led to the production of expanded-memory versions of T<sup>E</sup>X. Of course, the `dvi` driver (and, indeed, the output device) must also be able to handle this many characters on a single page. Furthermore, the time taken for T<sup>E</sup>X to typeset a  $512 \times 512$  picture (about quarter of a million characters!) is not insignificant. The great advantage of this method, however, is that pictures are text files (and hence can be moved around by electronic mail) and produce essentially identical output on a variety of output devices.

**Incorporation at the DVI-Processing Stage.** In this approach, one simply leaves a gap in the T<sup>E</sup>X output and tells the `dvi` driver to insert a file of printer-specific instructions by means of a `\special`. Until the time comes when `\specials` are standardised, this approach is also specific to the chosen `dvi` driver: for example, the syntax of the `\specials` accepted by one `dvi`-to-PostScript driver are rarely accepted by another.

The most widely-used halftoning device available to most T<sup>E</sup>X users is probably a PostScript laser printer. Since it is relevant to the following discussion of colour output, a brief summary of the facilities provided by PostScript for image display is called for (see Roth for many practical insights into using PostScript devices for halftoning).

Image data is displayed in PostScript via the `image` operator. This requires information as to the sizes of the image (in pixels) and size (in units of  $1/72$  inch) of the resulting display. This is followed by the pixels themselves, with each pixel normally being coded as two hexadecimal digits. The pixels are halftoned within the printer according to a notional halftone screen which is defined by three parameters:

1. the screen frequency in lines/inch,
2. the rotation of the screen in degrees from the horizontal,
3. the *spot function*.

The first of these determines the fineness of the screen (within the limitations of the device), while

```

%!PS-Adobe-2.0 EPSF-1.2
%%Creator: PSPIC 0.1
%%CreationDate: 10-AUG-90 11:15:16
%%BoundingBox: 72 72 360 360
%%EndComments
/paperxorigin 72 def /paperyorigin 72 def
/paperwidth 288 def /paperheight 288 def
/imagewidth 32 def /imageheight 32 def
/picstr imagewidth string def
/plotpic { gsave
    imagewidth imageheight 8
    [imagewidth 0 0 imageheight neg 0 imageheight]
    {currentfile picstr readhexstring pop} image grestore } def
paperxorigin paperyorigin translate
paperwidth paperheight scale
plotpic
3A382D43454235383A3C2E241218131E25392B2E1F2C3E3F3D2B44A6B8C2CAAE
3B372D424741363A3A31312613181B32549872371C2B3C434D1B88A7P7
3B352D43463E373A3C3C4130131AC4AFA8A9C4E8FF7P7
3A342F43464036393C3F423634BCAAAF7
3B342F444542363A3D10
3B342F11
3B342F12
3B342F13
3B342F14
3B342F15
3B342F16
3B342F17
3B342F18
3B342F19
3B342F20
3B342F21
3B342F22
3B342F23
3B342F24
3B342F25
3B342F26
3B342F27
3B342F28
3B342F29
3B342F30
3B342F31
3B342F32
3B342F33
3B342F34
3B342F35
3B342F36
3B342F37
3B342F38
3B342F39
3B342F40
3B342F41
3B342F42
3B342F43
3B342F44
3B342F45
3B342F46
3B342F47
3B342F48
3B342F49
3B342F50
3B342F51
3B342F52
3B342F53
3B342F54
3B342F55
3B342F56
3B342F57
3B342F58
3B342F59
3B342F60
3B342F61
3B342F62
3B342F63
3B342F64
3B342F65
3B342F66
3B342F67
3B342F68
3B342F69
3B342F70
3B342F71
3B342F72
3B342F73
3B342F74
3B342F75
3B342F76
3B342F77
3B342F78
3B342F79
3B342F80
3B342F81
3B342F82
3B342F83
3B342F84
3B342F85
3B342F86
3B342F87
3B342F88
3B342F89
3B342F90
3B342F91
3B342F92
3B342F93
3B342F94
3B342F95
3B342F96
3B342F97
3B342F98
3B342F99
3B342F100
showpage
%End of Picture

```

Figure 4: A Machine-Generated PostScript Image

the second is normally set to 45° for monochrome pictures. The spot function determines the shape of the halftone cell; for a modern LaserWriter, this defaults to,

```

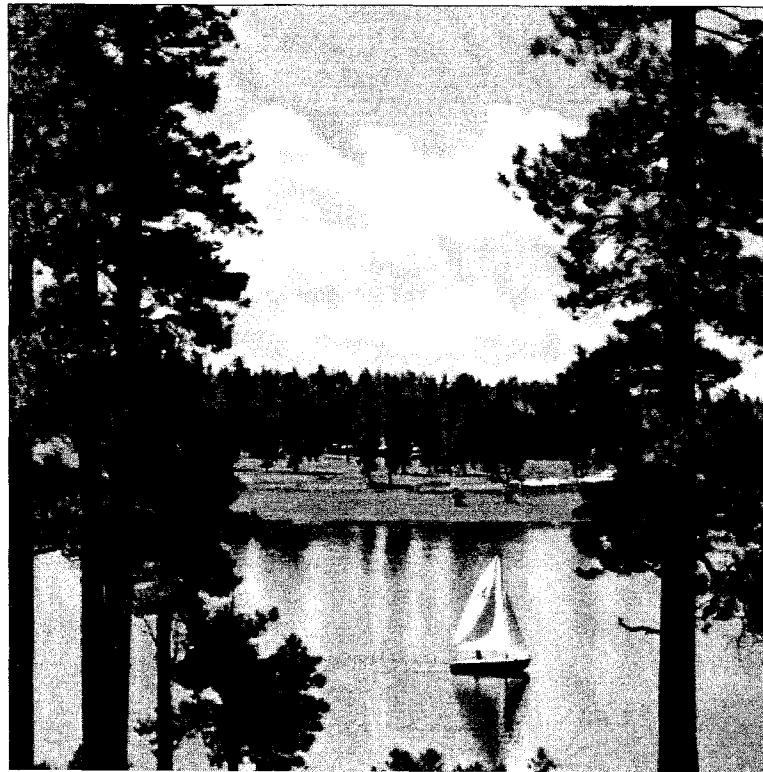
{ abs exch 2 copy add 1 gt
  { 1 sub dup mul exch 1 sub dup mul
    add 1 sub }
  { dup mul exch dup mul add 1 exch sub }
ifelse }

```

which, for grey levels less than 128, builds a circular white cell in a black background and, for grey levels

greater than 128, black cells in a white background. We can see that this is essentially a direct digital implementation of the photographic technique.

Generating a file of PostScript (or, more precisely, *encapsulated* PostScript) is as easy as generating the T<sub>E</sub>X input for use with a halftone font (Figure 4). As we can see, the major difference between T<sub>E</sub>X and PostScript is in the representation of the image data. Each pixel is represented as a character in T<sub>E</sub>X, while in PostScript it is encoded in hexadecimal. This reflects PostScript's ability (in principle, if not in practice) to display 256

Figure 5:  $512 \times 512$  Image Output via PostScript

different grey values. The output from a typesetter of such an image is certainly good enough to be used for camera-ready copy (Figure 5). The means by which the PostScript picture is inserted into a *TEX* document depends on the *\specials* offered by the *dvi* driver; for James Clark's DVIToPS, the appropriate plain *TEX* syntax is,

```
\midinsert
\def\picht{4in}
\special{dvitops: import boat.ps
          \the\hsize \picht}
\smallskip
\centerline{\$512 \times 512$ Image
           Output via PostScript}
\endinsert
```

where *\picht* gives the height of the desired figure and *\the\hsize* its width. For LATEX, the syntax is:

```
\begin{figure}
\def\picht{4in}
\vspace{\picht}
\special{dvitops: import boat.ps
          \the\textwidth \picht}
\caption{\$512 \times 512$ 
           Image Output via PostScript}
\end{figure}
```

where *\the\textwidth* is the width of the figure. In both cases, DVIToPS ensures that the aspect ratio of the image is retained, centring the image in the text as necessary. For other *dvi*-to-PostScript drivers, the *psfig* macros can be used to achieve equivalent results.

**Comparing the Approaches.** The main features of the methods considered here are compared in Table 1. In terms of the quality of the rendition, there is little to choose between the methods, at least on high-resolution devices. The generation of a picture font definitely requires the largest programming effort, particularly since the fine details of the format of *pk* files differ slightly between implementations (*e.g.*, between VMS and UNIX). The compactness and portability of the halftone font perhaps wins, but the flexibility in being able to print a PostScript image at any size is an important feature. When it is important to avoid patterning in regions of constant grey tone, the generation of a picture font, since it is under program control, probably provides the simplest implementation—although it is possible to devise PostScript spot functions which dither.

picture font	halftone font	PostScript
picture description is specific to output device	picture description is portable	picture description is PostScript-specific
picture font is device-specific	halftone font is device-specific	image description is device-independent
one (T <sub>E</sub> X) character for the entire picture	one byte/pixel, 64 levels	two bytes/pixel, "256" levels
cannot easily perform geometric effects ( <i>e.g.</i> , rotation of image)	cannot perform geometric effects	easy to perform geometric effects
easy to use dithering techniques	difficult to use dithering techniques	possible to use dithering techniques
very difficult to optimise rendition of picture	grey-level font must be optimised by tweaking mode_def	grey-level rendition may have been optimised by manufacturer
vertical spacing in document automatically taken into account	vertical spacing in document automatically taken into account	vertical spacing in document must be explicitly left
big-memory T <sub>E</sub> X not required	big-memory T <sub>E</sub> X required for pictures of reasonable size	big-memory T <sub>E</sub> X not required

Table 1: Comparison of Halftoning Approaches

## Reproducing Colour

We have seen that there are several approaches to including monochrome pictures in T<sub>E</sub>X documents. This provides the basic means for incorporating colour pictures, since colour images are conventionally printed from a set of *colour separations* or layers using different coloured inks. Four coloured inks are conventionally used: the subtractive primaries (cyan, magenta, yellow) and black. There are two reasons for including a black separation: since printing inks are never pure colours, mixing the three primaries produces a dirty brown rather than a true black, so dark regions require "added blackness"; and black ink is substantially cheaper than coloured inks.

Given an image in terms of red, green and blue values for each pixel, which is the most common representation of a colour image, a simple-minded way to derive the separations would be as follows. First, we convert the red, green and blue values for each pixel to the corresponding values in terms of the subtractive primaries:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{cyan} &= 1 - \text{red} \\ \text{magenta} &= 1 - \text{green} \\ \text{yellow} &= 1 - \text{blue} \end{aligned}$$

where the value 1 represents a fully-saturated colour. The black value can then be determined by finding the minimum of the three colours:

$$\text{black} = \min \{\text{cyan}, \text{magenta}, \text{yellow}\}.$$

We can then reduce the coloured values by the amount of common blackness:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{cyan} &= \text{cyan} - \text{black} \\ \text{magenta} &= \text{magenta} - \text{black} \\ \text{yellow} &= \text{yellow} - \text{black} \end{aligned}$$

Finally, when the pixel is known to be close to black (*i.e.*, the red, green and blue values are all small), the amount of blackness is increased. (In practice, it is rare for all the black to be removed in this way, since it can cause problems at colour boundaries; a value of about 50% black removal seems to be the most common.)

Having generated the colour separations in this way, it is simple to print them using one of the above techniques. To produce convincing results, however, one must take account of the *orientation* of the halftone screen. To avoid moiré effects when the screens are superimposed, the conventional approach to halftoning employs screens at angles of 0°, 15°, 45° and 75° for yellow, cyan, black and magenta respectively. This is most conveniently implemented via the PostScript screen (see above).

The final problem in terms of colourimetry concerns the purity of the colours of the inks. Magenta ink, for example, is invariably "contaminated" with yellow (*i.e.*, it removes some blue as well as green), and cyan ink is contaminated with magenta. To obtain reasonable colour separations, one must take

account of the impurity of colour, a process known as *under colour removal*. We can do this as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{magenta} &= \text{magenta} - f_y \text{ yellow} \\ \text{cyan} &= \text{cyan} - f_m \text{ magenta} \end{aligned}$$

where  $f_y$  is the amount of yellow to remove under magenta and  $f_m$  the amount of magenta to remove under cyan. Typical values for these are 0.5 and 0.3 respectively. This step should, of course, be performed before determining the black separation as above.

Having generated the separations in this way, one can produce print them using one of the techniques outlined above. A set of separations are shown in Figure 6: these are PostScript output, plotted at 300 dots/inch, so that the directions of the halftone screens can clearly be distinguished.

## Discussion

The techniques for preparing monochrome pictures are, as the figures show, impressive in result. With access to an output device of suitable resolution (say, 1200 dpi or better), it is possible to achieve halftoned output of publishable quality. However, there is significant variation between output devices, and it is necessary to tune the font or adjust the digital image accordingly. For example, with an identical input file, the Linotronic 300 typesetter at Aston University produces much darker results than an identical machine at the University of London Computer Centre, reflecting a difference in the adjustment of the machines rather than a fundamental disparity.

The colour separations presented above demonstrate the success of the general approach. However, the colour separation algorithm adopted here is too crude: for example, it should really ensure that there is some overlap of the separations in the region of sharp colour boundaries, to avoid unsightly white gaps should there be minor mis-registration when printing. (Making good colour separations digitally is one of the reasons why electronic pre-press equipment is rather expensive!) One must also perform a significant degree of tuning of the colour conversion process to the target output device, much more so than for monochrome output.

With regard to the incorporation of halftoned output into TeX documents, we have already seen that there is a set of solutions to the problem for monochrome output. However, it does not seem possible to provide as neat a solution to the plotting of colour separations. One would like to provide a simple command, let us call it `\colourpic`, which defines the four files required to plot the

separations. The obvious way in which `\colourpic` would work would be to plot the black separation in the main document and to generate auxiliary files which gave positioning information for the other three colours. Unfortunately, such information is only available within an output routine. (On a PostScript output device, one could alternately make the printer output this information.) This prohibits a solution of the simplicity and generality of that for monochrome pictures. However, easy-to-use macros for incorporating colour separations are under investigation.

## Acknowledgements

The high-resolution figures for this paper were plotted on a Linotronic 300 made available to the author by Peter Abbott of the Aston University Computing Service. The author would like to thank Peter Wade of the Essex University Printing Service and Richard Kirk of Crosfield Electronics for helpful discussions.

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Figure 6: Colour Separations Plotted via PostScript

# Some T<sub>E</sub>X Manuals

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## Abstract

Looking for the perfect T<sub>E</sub>X manual. How to reduce the frustration of manual readers and make manuals user friendly. This paper reviews a number of the manuals available to teach T<sub>E</sub>X. Weaknesses of current manuals and recommendations for future or budding manual writers are included.

## Introduction

In this first section, I would like to outline my credentials in relation to presenting a paper such as this to such a gathering of T<sub>E</sub>Xperts. I am too old to have been educated during the latest technological revolution, but I do have one of the pre-revolution skills, that is, an ability to type. While not being antagonistic to the new technology, I am cautious enough in my approach to take a fairly accurate count of the personal cost required to acquire the relevant skills. The obvious major cost is that of time, but that can be balanced against the three reasons which teachers in Ireland give for belonging to the teaching professions—June, July and August. Last summer, through helping a friend to type a manuscript, I learnt the rudiments of word processing using PC-Write. By October, I had forgotten most of what I had learnt. So I had no problem with attempting to learn a new forgettable skill this summer. But I do remember clearly the exasperation I experienced when using the PC-Write Manual. I fully expected more of the same this summer.

During the past year, I had to write a paper on a number of new textbooks for a new syllabus for English which has been introduced to Irish schools. As the T<sub>E</sub>X syllabus is not as familiar to me as the Junior Certificate English syllabus, I read "Mathematical Writing" by Donald E. Knuth, Tracy Larrabee and Paul M. Roberts, published by the Mathematical Association of America so that I might gain some familiarity with the concerns of technical writers. Generally speaking, the writers were urged to do the following: Keep the reader uppermost in mind; write for the novice; avoid jokes and jargon; watch out for grammar, etc. I was interested to note that user manuals were called "a blight on the industry," but in general the emphasis

was placed on producing clear, comprehensible and, if possible, stylish papers.

In the poem "The Rape of the Lock," the eighteenth century English poet, Alexander Pope, considers the possibility of the lock of hair having landed on the moon, as this is the place where was treasured everything wasted on earth, such as mis-spent time and wealth, broken vows, unanswered prayers, fruitless tears, unfulfilled desires and intentions, etc. Among the treasured items mentioned by Pope are

The courtier's promises,  
and sick men's prayers,  
The smiles of harlots,  
and the tears of heirs,  
Cages for *gnats*,  
and chains to yoke a flea,  
Dried butterflies,  
and tomes of casuistry.

My method of alleviating the tedium of re-reading my own prose because of a surfeit of "undefined control sequences" has been to base my essay on Pope's "Essay on Criticism." Linked with this is the question: How many of the manuals should be consigned to the "lunar sphere" to join the gnats' cages, the tomes of casuistry and the time of June, July and August?

## Judging Ill?

'Tis hard to say, if greater want of skill  
Appear in writing or in judging ill;

Writing well or ill with the reader uppermost in mind is the topic in "Mathematical Writing." Reading well or ill is a professional concern of mine. As a teacher of reading, I have some knowledge of the skills which are taught in order to improve one's reading.

When I am teaching reading skills, I will introduce techniques such as Survey, Question, Read (known as SQR), skimming to sample a complete text, scanning to find specific information, the importance of anticipation, active rather than passive involvement with a text. Obviously the skills used in reading a novel are different from those used in reading a textbook. With a novel, the reader must start at the beginning when the secondary universe is being established, become involved with storyline, and through a process of anticipation, detection and plot revelation proceed to the resolution at the end. With a text book, a range of study skills are brought into play. The good reader is actively involved in the text, surveying and questioning, checking backwards and forwards, comprehending and executing tasks on the basis of that comprehension. Text books are structured so that each insight of the reader can be built on to deal with the next problem. A manual, according to the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary, should be a "a small book for handy use." So what does a reader expect from a manual? I have no general answer, but this reader will look first of all at the index, then read the preface and the introduction, speculate about the dedication, and sample the first chapter carefully. Both surveying and questioning are involved here. I have surveyed the structure of the book, and I have questioned the personality of the writer whose style will be an important factor in my motivation throughout the book.

### Doubting My Sense

To teach vain wits a science little known,  
T' admire superior sense, and doubt their own.

The amateur word processor, not to mention the amateur typesetter, is governed by a sense of insecurity amounting to paranoia. One relies totally on the good temper of the final line of defense—the computer expert to whom one can speak. In my case, this person was Peter Flynn of the Computer Bureau at the University College Cork. On one occasion, it took me forty five minutes to move from the directory to my file. Eventually, I had to get help. This is the kind of problem that one encounters frequently, yet even the faintest memory of this problem seems to be obliterated entirely by expertise. My apologies to Peter—a "gnat" in an office has a high irritant value to those who work in that office, never mind how kind and patient they all are.

### The TeXbook by Donald E. Knuth

Those Rules of old discover'd, not devis'd,  
Are Nature still, but Nature methodiz'd;

This book generates a wary approach. The first thing that struck me in the preface was that the author is going to tell lies and that "the later chapters contain more reliable information than the earlier ones do." Whereas, I presume the author is not going to give me straightforwardly incorrect information, perhaps my approach should be to blame him for my typesetting mistakes. Then, we have the issue of *jokes* to enliven the dullness of the material. The problem with the jokes is that I may not appreciate them properly unless I understand the technical point that is being made. Already I feel as thick as two short planks. Then, there is the issue of the dangerous bends signs. These signs begin on page five. Unfortunately, I have been warned against them—"don't read the paragraph unless you need to" is what the Preface says. Am I to understand that the dangerous bends on page five are as much to be skipped as the dangerous bends on page 212? No, I presume not, but the fact is that I have been warned about trouble and being naturally lazy, I will skip the whole lot. Knuth has given me a variety of conflicting instructions—skip this lot, read that lot carefully, and I haven't yet got past the preface.

I found the notion of exercises in this manual (or in any other manual) unbearable. The first exercise is the one to ensure that one knows the correct pronunciation of the word TeX. However, when the answer is consulted, one is thrown into more confusion—what's a Texacker? I know what a hacker is, but I do not know what an acker is. This may seem like petty quibbling, but as the only solid information I have about computers is the necessity of great precision in following instructions, then being baffled by the first exercise is, in computerese, seriously unfriendly. Would the author not have been better employed teaching me how to typeset the name? A quick lesson and, if possible, guaranteed success and I would have been on my way as a well-motivated student of TeX.

What was helpful in this book? The comprehensive index was helpful, as was page 340. On this page are the commands for producing the format on page 341. I think that I would have handwritten this paper had I not found these pages. This book is for the serious student and not for the person who wishes to typeset as quickly as possible and have done with it. It must also be said that when I

ran into a problem, I was most hopeful that Knuth would provide a solution.

### The Joy of TeX by M.D. Spivak

But most by *Numbers* judge a Poet's Song

Pope had rhythm in mind, but I'll apply the line to Dr. Spivak's book. What interesting imagery! The same as that of "The Joy of Sex." My perusal of the index makes me look at the rectangular box that is a computer and wonder if copulation is rioting under that dull beige exterior. As there is only the one box, maybe it should be masturbation. Does this explain the failure of my computer to follow instructions — masturbation has finally blinded something. Really, it is hardly surprising that I am getting no results. Not only is the thing blind, but it is also stuffed to the gills with all these starters, main courses, sauces and pickles eaten in "sophisticated positions." In this context, I refrain from mentioning the dedication and hasten to do the first exercise, which I am told I skip at my peril.

The first exercise seemed somewhat pointless, but I did it in accordance with my sampling procedure. The exercise was: How many possible meanings does E loves Em only for Eir body? 1. He loves him only for his body. 2. He loves him only for her body. 3. He loves her only for his body. 4. He loves her only for her body. 5. She loves him only for his body. 6. She loves her only for his body. 7. She loves her only for her body. 8. She loves her only for his body. 9. A person of unidentified sex loves him for his body. 10. A person of unidentified sex loves another person of unidentified sex only for the body of that person and so on. It seems to me there are twenty seven possible meanings for this sentence. The answer in the back of the book is one, two, four or eight, depending. At this stage, I became somewhat irritated, and I won't waste any more of my time doing pointless exercises. Furthermore, I feel doubtful about continuing to expose my obvious incompetence as

A fool might once himself alone expose,  
Now one in verse makes many more in prose.

A criticism of this book is that I was unable to find a definition of the word "macro." This word is used on the front cover, so I looked it up in the index. There is no entry for macro in the index, and it is not explained either in the preface or the introduction. Yet, I learn from the acknowledgements that the author was less than kindly disposed towards computers some years

previously. I was able to find a definition in Knuth, and Leslie Lamport very kindly explained what a macro is on the back of his book. Apart altogether from the problems outlined above, my sampling of this book is extremely dubious. The reason for this is that I can hardly count, and this book is designed to help mathematicians. Maybe mathematicians will be helped, and I sincerely hope so.

### PCTeX by Michael Spivak

But of the two, less dang'rous is th' offence  
To tire our patience than mislead our sense.

There is neither preface nor introduction, nothing written on the back cover of the book, not even a dedication. There is a title page. The pagination begins again for each new chapter. There is an Appendix A and an Appendix F. In Appendix F, there is a Fabulous Festive Font Finale which contains More Marks, Magically Magnified and Methodically Marshalled. To this feast of alliteration, there is an F word missing which I would dearly like to add. The index is on the page after 7-14, but Appendix A also has an index which begins on the page after A-58. Therefore, there are endless possibilities for confusion. The table of contents is on page iii from which one can deduce the structure of the manual. Black tabs mark the beginning of each new chapter. Each chapter also has its own separate table of contents, but one has to turn back a page because these pages have been excluded from the system of tabs. My patience was so tried that I failed to follow the correct instructions for the vanilla style and abandoned the book.

### LATeX by Leslie Lamport

Survey the *whole*,  
nor seek slight faults to find  
Where nature moves,  
and rapture warms the mind.

I am so grateful to Leslie Lamport for the straightforward way in which he gives information. I looked at the table of contents, and every nerve ending began to jump when I saw a section titled "How to Avoid Reading This Book." I was charmed when I discovered that that was precisely what the author meant. Nor did he indulge in silly jokes in "The Game of the Name." He told me what the normal pronunciation of TeX is, and accepted that pronunciation is best determined by usage, not fiat. As there were no tedious exercises, one did not have the feeling that vital information was being

concealed in the answer to an undone exercise. I liked the no-nonsense way that error messages were deciphered, both for TeX and LATEX. Dr. Lampert seems to understand that clear, concise prose is most helpful to the person whose main concern is other than that of typesetting. His style is such that he is the only writer who could persuade me to read a paragraph of explanation for some of the more arcane areas in TeX.

### TeX for the Impatient by Abrahams, Berry and Hargreaves

Avoid Extremes; and shun the fault of such,  
Who still are pleas'd too little or too much.

There was not much time available to survey this book, but my overall impression is that this book is not radically different from many of the other books that I looked at. The layout of the book is rather dull and reinforces my notion of manual writers as being an overwhelmingly verbal lot. I was very surprised to read in the biography of Kathryn A. Hargreaves that she is interested in visual arts. Apart from her charming, but too infrequent illustrations, there is no evidence of a visual imagination in this manual. As in the other manuals, the volume of print to be read is enormous. The prose style, though turgid, was not as irritating as in some other manuals. There are a number of examples which are of great assistance. However, the authors have not gone the full distance and made a visual differentiation between the commands and the textual material to be printed. When I was skimming through the book, I felt that I might just as well have been using Knuth to whom they refer frequently for further explanation.

### Miscellaneous

Some foreign writers, some our own despise;

The five pages on TeX Basics, produced by Peter Flynn, were as useful to me as any of the manuals. An added bonus was that there was no "intellectual whimsy" to deal with. The command words were laid out clearly and the instructions were comprehensible. But for the fact that I needed a few extra commands, I need never have looked at a manual. I was also quite happy with the tone of *A Gentle Introduction to TeX* by Michael Doob, but there were exercises in it!

### Conclusion

A perfect Judge will read each work of Wit  
With the same spirit that its author writ:

I am not a perfect judge, and I have been very unkind about many of the manuals that I reviewed. Such criticism is foreign to my training as a remedial teacher where positive feedback is essential for a student in difficulties. I hope that your reaction to my criticism is not so negative that my requests for specific improvements are consigned to the dustbin. The consolation I offer is Pope's

Turn'd Critics next, and  
prov'd plain Fools at last.

You may apply that judgment to me.

My first request to the writers of computer manuals is that they would consider avoiding jokes at all costs. Possibly in the body of the text they might be permitted, but in the table of contents they are unforgivable. The earnest amateur will read that joke fifty times in a day and will end up hating the perpetrator and all "eir" works and pomps. The same applies to alliteration.

Secondly, I would ask that manual writers be more careful about the imagery used. There is something vaguely revolting about the idea of these tokens being read by the eyes, fed through the mouth, down the gullet, to the stomach, into the intestine and then being sicked up again on receiving a new set of instructions. Even more revolting is a consideration of the route after the tokens have reached the intestines.

The third request I have is for a reduction in the amount of print. Show me how, do not tell me how, in laborious detail. In this area, an increased use of graphics would be pleasant. It seems to me that the concentration on print has been so total that the visual appearance of the page has been forgotten. Not one of the books has any colour, no visual symbols have been used, there is not even some shading to indicate the difference between the commands and the textual matter.

Fourthly, I think it would be a good idea if writers decided beforehand whether they are writing a text book or a manual. A combination of the two satisfies neither market. The manual that has not yet been written is the one with a limited number of commands, attractively presented using colour and graphics, and with a severely limited amount of explanation. Such a manual would be adequate for those who have occasional need of the TeX programme and would give the potential TeXnician sufficient confidence to buy another book.

Finally, I think that the most user-friendly approach that manual writers could adopt would be to include many more sample formats. These sample formats should show the computer commands on one side of the page and the end result on the other. Do not use these sample formats for T<sub>E</sub>X explanations as that makes them unclear. If the manual writer wanted to be really nice about the whole thing, she/he would choose a decent text to typeset. I would far rather read a Shakespearean sonnet over and over again than some piece of futuristic garbage written specifically to show the application of a simple command.

The question at the beginning of this paper was: How many of the manuals should be consigned to the lunar sphere to join the gnats' cages and the tomes of casuistry and the time of June, July and August? In relation to the manuals, I leave that decision to those more expert with computers than myself. In relation to the time, the sooner this paper is submitted, the lighter the load on the moon.

simply not a very didactic tool. There are better programming languages to show basic concepts such as recursion. There is even a language developed for teaching children: LOGO. It enables the teacher to use recursion, or all the other major concepts like functions or procedures, in a very intuitive manner. In the appendix, you will find two programs which accomplish exactly the same thing, one in LOGO and the other one in *T<sub>E</sub>X*. It is needless to say which is more useful in a classroom situation.

In the *T<sub>E</sub>X* world we have a tool which could be used in that context and which has not yet earned a lot of respect for its potential didactic use: Literate Programming. I know of one university lecture where the lecture notes are available as WEB files to the students, but there is no such thing in schools. And, for me, the important thing behind Literate Programming is that it allows the reader to watch the program designer originate ideas and develop them into working programs (if the programmer does use WEB accordingly, of course). As unreadable as Knuth's books might be, his programs in WEB are a pleasure to read. The didactic value of *T<sub>E</sub>X: The Program* must not be underestimated. It is one of the best things given to a reasonably experienced Pascal programmer. And with Spidery WEB, we have the tools to use Literate Programming with other languages, too.

The difficulty in programming *T<sub>E</sub>X* to do as you want it to also creates another problem: teacher education. Although this should definitely not be one of the prime criterion in selecting educational tools, it still is a problem. To really program *T<sub>E</sub>X* is difficult enough. But to be good enough to further teach how to program in *T<sub>E</sub>X* is even harder. So we see that *T<sub>E</sub>X* is not really a good tool to teach computer science.

## **T<sub>E</sub>X in “Classic” Subjects**

Maybe we can find a way to use *T<sub>E</sub>X* as an application? There are two more places we could try to let *T<sub>E</sub>X* sneak into schools: language courses and arts courses.

**Language courses.** Teachers of language courses teach the students how to represent their ideas on paper, although their main goal still should be to teach them how to verbally express ideas. For this, *T<sub>E</sub>X* is overkill. Students should be taught the basic principles of document design, but the emphasis still should be on the content, not on the presentation. If we let them use *T<sub>E</sub>X*, they would spend a lot of time on visual presentation and not

on the content. This is because of the perfectionism *T<sub>E</sub>X* provokes. We already can produce very, very good output with *T<sub>E</sub>X* so we also have to clean up the minor glitches and re-edit the input file at least two or three times until the paper looks almost perfect. This takes a lot of time. A researcher might do that, because nobody minds if his paper is finished half an hour later, but in school, half an hour is a lot of time, especially with the tight schedules the schools usually have (in Austria, the units of subjects taught are 50 minutes). So in the time the student spends *T<sub>E</sub>Xing* and previewing his paper, he might instead be polishing up its content.

In schools, word processors which offer some basic functions to polish up the image of a text are sufficient, even if the lines are not broken as perfectly as if done by *T<sub>E</sub>X*. Especially for younger students, it is not so important to have a perfect representation of what the output will finally look like on paper, but it is important that the visual representation can be changed interactively. Even tools like Microsoft Word or WordPerfect are too much because their large number of functions are not really necessary for educational use.

The basic idea behind didactic software should always be: how can I easily show what is important? If we use WordPerfect, students spend most of their time memorizing key combinations. If we use *T<sub>E</sub>X*, they would have to use an editor (which takes time to learn) and still remember all the cryptic tokens that *T<sub>E</sub>X* uses. A lot of things can be said about *T<sub>E</sub>X*, but not that it is either didactic or intuitive. Small word processors like MicroStar from the Borland Turbo Pascal Editor Toolbox are sufficient. (Well, not quite. There are some things it lacks too.) There are pull-down menus, so there is no need to remember the control-alt-cokebottle combinations, and all the functions are easily accessible.

**Art courses.** Art education does not consider typography and typesetting worthy topics of art education because there are more important things to learn. In my career as a student, I never heard how a good-looking document is produced. I learned how to paint a surreal city; I learned how to see colors, I learned about the ideas of different schools of painters. But I did not learn how to make a document strikingly different, be it due to its very special font or markup. Apart from that, the art teachers I know have some knowledge about calligraphy, which is considered an art-form, but typography is a trade.

# **T<sub>E</sub>X in Schools: Just Say No**

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## **Abstract**

T<sub>E</sub>X is a very good tool for typesetting. But does it offer anything for schools? The author explains in detail why he thinks that T<sub>E</sub>X should not go into the schools.

## **Introduction**

After some years of fooling around with T<sub>E</sub>X and using T<sub>E</sub>X professionally, the author has started to think about the broader use of T<sub>E</sub>X. Due to his current affiliation with the Austrian school system (the author is still a student), his main focus in this paper will be his thoughts about using T<sub>E</sub>X in schools, especially in computer science didactics. This paper was written with the Austrian schools in mind and the state of computer science introduction here. Although Austria is not the only country undergoing the described problems, the author is not trying to set up any globally valid rules.

## **Current Situation**

Before we start to discuss where T<sub>E</sub>X could come into schools, we might want to consider what should be the goals of the basic introductory courses to computers (and this is all the schools can offer to all of the students). Currently, two main approaches are taken.

**Approach One: use the computer only in a special subject.** Here, we still have to distinguish between the approaches:

- 1) Teaching the basic ideas behind applications with didactically meaningful examples or
- 2) teaching the basic principles of programming.

If the computer is only used in one subject (which will probably be called something like "computer science"), I find the first approach the more desirable one. The students should see the computer as a tool rather than as a toy for some freaks who just sit in their back room and hack up new programs. Here, I see no space for fitting in T<sub>E</sub>X, which I take as a programming language that pretends to be an application.

The second approach, although widely practiced, is the best way to scare people. I think

having knowledge about only one programming language (which could even be Basic for that matter) is worse than knowing nothing about computers. If the first thing a user ever sees are some cryptic symbols which help with almost no work but only create more work, it is a very traumatic experience. It is hard work to convince such a user of the fact that computers can help with his or her standard work. What we will be faced with in this case won't be computer illiteracy but computer hatred. I should point out that T<sub>E</sub>X could be used in such a situation, but I suggest this is not what a teacher should do.

**Approach Two: Integrate the computer into the "classic" subjects.** This means that the language course teacher teaches how to use word processors, on-line spelling-checkers and thesauruses (a triple that will revolutionize language courses); math teachers will teach the use of spreadsheets and geometry teachers will teach what CAD systems can do for technical drawing.

This approach is probably the best as it makes students use computers for their real papers in the language courses and not for some texts which are just typed for the sake of learning how to word-process them in a computer course. This approach can, but need not, be combined with an introduction to computing which should start at least one or two years after the students start using computers. They first have to think of the computer as a tool like pen and paper before they can be confronted with the inner workings of computers or programming.

## **T<sub>E</sub>X in Computer Science Courses**

As noted earlier, I think that T<sub>E</sub>X can only be presented as a programming language and not as an application program. So, in my mind, this rules out a few things already. But can we use it in the other approaches? The answer is a simple "no". T<sub>E</sub>X is

**Other courses.** I see no place where TeX could be used sensibly. For instance, with current math curriculums, I don't know any place where TeX could be used. Neither can it be used as a tool nor an example to illustrate a specific mathematical concept. It might be shown as an example where different "classical" subjects can be integrated (mathematics, computer science and arts). However, this is a threatening idea to current school systems, because then they could not keep up with the very strict separation of the different subjects and would have to go to a more integrated and overall different way of teaching. Although this is done in a very experimental way, in so called project-weeks, this is not yet an accepted way of teaching in a school.

**A place where TeX could come in handy.** Perhaps some teachers could use TeX to produce material for students, but I think this option would be used by a very small minority. No, there is no place where TeX fits into schools. It is too big, too powerful.

## Conclusion

TeX is definitely a good tool for typesetting. I don't want to stop anybody from using it. I like to use it myself, in my spare time. But I think that TeX has nothing to do in schools. Let's keep it in the academic and commercial world.

TeX in schools: just say no.

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## Appendix

## Programming Examples

Compare the following two listings which compute prime numbers. The second one is taken out of *The T<sub>E</sub>Xbook*, the first one was written in LOGO in maybe 5 minutes<sup>1</sup>.

The only thing to understand in the LOGO program is the concept of lists: they are like groups in TEX or if you want, like LISP lists, but with brackets instead of parentheses. And **FPUT** puts a given element into a list at the first position. With this, you should be able to read the program.

```

TO PRIMES :MAX
  PRINT PRIMELIST MAKELIST 2 :MAX
END

TO PRIMELIST :LIST
  IF EMPTYP :LIST [OUTPUT []]
  OUTPUT FPUT FIRST :LIST PRIMELIST REMOVEMULTIPLE (FIRST :LIST) :LIST
END

TO REMOVEMULTIPLE :BASE :LIST
  IF EMPTYP :LIST [OUTPUT []]
  IF (REMAINDER (FIRST :LIST) :BASE) = 0
    [OUTPUT REMOVEMULTIPLE :BASE (BUTFIRST :LIST)]
  OUTPUT FPUT FIRST :LIST REMOVEMULTIPLE :BASE BUTFIRST :LIST
END

TO MAKELIST :START :STOP
  IF :START > :STOP [OUTPUT []]
  OUTPUT FPUT :START MAKELIST (:START + 1) :STOP
END

```

Now, to print the primes up to a given number, you just say `PRIMES number`.  
And now, for the same thing in `TEX`:

```

\newif\ifprime \newif\ifunknown
\newcount\n \newcount\p \newcount\d \newcount\aa
\def\primes#1{2,~3% assume that #1 is at least 3
  \n=#1 \advance\n by-2 % n more to go
  \p=5 % odd primes starting with p
  \loop\ifnum\n>0 \printifprime\advance\p by2 \repeat}
\def\printp{\, % we will invoke \printp if p is prime
  \ifnum\n=1 and`fi % this precedes the last value
  \number\p \advance\n by -1 }
\def\printifprime{\testprimality \ifprime\printp\fi}
\def\testprimality{{\d=3 \global\primetrue
  \loop\trialdivision \ifunknown\advance\d by2 \repeat}}
\def\trialdivision{\a=\p \divide\aa by\d
  \ifnum\aa\>\d \unkowntrue\else\unknownfals\fi
  \multiply\aa by\d
  \ifnum\aa=\p \global\primefalse\unknownfals\fi}

```

Called by \primes number. Talk about legible programs!

<sup>1</sup> Thanks to Erich Neuwirth for the program, he cooked it up in that amount of time.

## Calendar

**1991**

Feb 19	<b>TUGboat Volume 12,</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> regular issue:</b> Deadline for receipt of technical manuscripts.
Feb 20-22	10 <sup>th</sup> annual meeting, "Deutsch-sprachige <b>TEX</b> -Interessenten"; DANTE e.V.: 4 <sup>th</sup> meeting, Technical University of Vienna. For information, contact Dr. Hubert Partl (Bitnet: Z3000PAGAWITUW01) or DANTE e.V. (Bitnet: DANTE@DHDURZ1). (See also page ???.)
Mar 4-7	Seybold Seminars '91. Marriott Copley Place Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts. For information, contact Seybold Publications, (213-457-5850).
Mar 19	<b>TUGboat Volume 12,</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> regular issue:</b> Deadline for receipt of news items, reports, etc.
Mar 25-29	Intensive <b>L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X</b> , Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts
<hr/>	
<b>University of Hawaii at Manoa</b>	
Mar 25-29	Intensive Beginning/Intermed. <b>TEX</b>
Mar 25-29	Advanced <b>TEX/Macro Writing</b>
<hr/>	
Apr 2-5	RIA Conference on Intelligent Text and Image Handling, Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona, Spain. For information, contact (in the U.S.) RIAO '91, Center for the Advanced Study of Information Systems, Inc. (CASIS), Ms. M.-T. Maurice, 220 East 72nd Street #10F, New York, NY 10021; (in Europe) CID, 36 bis rue Ballu, F-75009 Paris, France.
May 2	7 <sup>th</sup> NTG meeting, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. For information, contact Gerard van Nes (Bitnet: vannes@ECN.NL)
<hr/>	

<b>TUG91 Conference</b> Dedham, Massachusetts (suburban Boston)	
<hr/>	
Jul 15-18	<b>TUG's 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting</b>
Jul 25	<b>TUGboat Volume 12,</b> <b>Proceedings issue:</b> Deadline for receipt of news items, reports (tentative).
Aug 11	<b>TUGboat Volume 12,</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> regular issue:</b> Deadline for receipt of technical manuscripts (tentative).
Sep 10	<b>TUGboat Volume 12,</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> regular issue:</b> Deadline for receipt of news items, reports (tentative).
Sep 23-25	<b>6<sup>th</sup> European <b>TEX</b> Conference</b> Paris, France. For information, contact GUTenberg, 6th European <b>TEX</b> Conference, B.P. 21, 78354 JOUY EN JOSAS cedex, France. Phone: +33 1 34 65 22 32; Fax: +33 1 34 65 20 51; E-mail: gut@irisa.irisa.fr. (See also <i>TUGboat</i> 11, no. 4, page 667.)
Sep 26	GUTenberg'91 Congress, Paris, France. "Technical and scientific edition". For information, same as 6 <sup>th</sup> European <b>TEX</b> Conference. (See also <i>TUGboat</i> 11, no. 4, page 667.)
Sep 30 - Oct 3	Computer Publishing Conference. San Jose Convention Center and Fairmont Hotel, San Jose, California. For information, contact Seybold Publications, (213-457-5850).
Oct 15-16	RIDT 91, The second international workshop on raster imaging and digital typography, Boston, Massachusetts. For information, contact Robert A. Morris (ridt91-request@cs.umb.edu, or 617-287-6466). (See also <i>TUGboat</i> 11, no. 4, page 668.)

For additional information on the events listed above, contact the TUG office (401-751-7760) unless otherwise noted.

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## 1991 TUG Elections

### Procedure for nominations

Pierre MacKay  
Chair, TUG Nominating Committee

The 1991 elections will take place at the annual meeting, to be held in Dedham, Massachusetts, July 15-18, 1991. Elections will be required for all four officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

It is the intention of the Nominating Committee to provide a slate of two candidates for each office. The bylaws provide for additional candidates to be nominated by petition to the Nominating Committee at least 30 days prior to the election, signed by the candidate and two other members in good standing.

In order to permit the slate to be published in the spring issue of *TUGboat*, the Nominating Committee hereby solicits suggestions and nominations for candidates, to be returned as soon as possible, but no later than April 2.

The names of candidates and petitioners should be submitted in the form shown in the TUG membership list or on a *TUGboat* mailing label; for each name, a full mailing address should be provided, and a signature should accompany every name. For candidates, a phone number and e-mail address, if available, would be helpful.

For a candidate whose name is submitted as a suggestion and not in the form of a petition, the Chair of the Nominating Committee will ask the candidate whether s/he will be willing to serve in the office for which the nomination is presented. This procedure can be facilitated by inclusion of a signed statement of consent from the proposed candidate.

It is recognized that past election procedures have not permitted members to vote for officers unless they attend the annual meeting. The bylaws state only that elections must be by secret ballot. Alternate procedures are being examined to determine whether wider participation can be accommodated. Any change in procedures will be announced in *TUGboat* 12, no. 2.

- ◊ Pierre MacKay  
Chair, TUG Nominating  
Committee  
Department of Computer Science,  
FR-35  
University of Washington  
Seattle, WA 98195  
[MacKay@June.cs.washington.edu](mailto:MacKay@June.cs.washington.edu)

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## *TeX* in Czechoslovakia

Jiří Veselý

When President Václav Havel returned from the United States he reported that Czechoslovakia had again become popular with the Americans. This was one of the reasons why I started to write a report about *TeX* in this country. I promised to do so about a year ago but at that time I felt that it would hardly be of interest to the (probably mostly American) readers of *TUGboat*. Since that time we have found out that TUG was much more interested in supporting local groups in Eastern and Central Europe. This was one of the motives that encouraged us in our effort to create an independent Czechoslovak organization of *TeX* fans.

On May 9, 1990, a branch of TUG was registered in Prague. It was the last formal step required to give the group an independent and legal status. What preceded? My account will not necessarily cover all activities, but I hope it will be relatively complete. As far as I know the first practical meeting of *TeX* by Czechs was realized by mathematicians and physicists during their stays abroad. For a long time it was just something rather interesting but not importable to Czechoslovakia (an implementation of *TeX* on an abacus is unknown even now). Even a year after opening borders the standard PC AT in Czechoslovakia costs approximately as much as the Czech car "Škoda" and the number of laserprinters in the biggest and oldest Czech University in Prague (Charles University was founded in 1348) is rather small.

When the first PCs appeared in Czechoslovakia about 4 or 5 years ago the way to using *TeX* was open. At that time a few people in the Mathematical Institute of Charles University in charge of publishing the mathematical journal "Commentationes Mathematicae Universitatis Carolinae" (CMUC) decided to improve the appearance of the journal. We found that the articles which appeared in the Notices of AMS were very helpful and after several consultations with friends from the western universities we decided to replace the old technology by *TeXnology*. It took a year to acquire two PCs and HP LaserJet Series II and then we could start. We bought PCTEX from Kettler (FRG) to begin the marvelous adventure known already to most of you.

The group of people interested in *TeX* has grown rapidly. Since mid-1988 seminars have been organized among mathematicians. Also physicists

and some linguists started to be active in the  $\text{\TeX}$  field. The endeavor of Jaroslav Nadrchal led to important international contacts and some lecturers of the seminar in Skalský Dvůr reported to TUG about the growing interest in  $\text{\TeX}$  in Eastern European countries. Since the beginning of 1989 CMUC has been prepared exclusively with the help of  $\text{\TeX}$ . Our first contacts with TUG were not quite successful, but that changed: we are receiving the *TUGboat* in exchange for CMUC.

Shortly before the Revolution (the so called "velvet", not "Great", which is used for the Great Red October Revolution) in November 1989 we established a group of  $\text{\TeX}$  users within the Czechoslovak Union of Mathematicians and Physicists, which is our analogy of AMS. Since we want to be open also to people working in other fields, we decided to create an independent organization "Československé sdružení uživatelů  $\text{\TeX}u$ " (CS TUG). It is also open to people and organizations abroad. The address of it is as follows:

CS TUG  
c/o MÚ UK  
Sokolovská 83  
CS-186 00, PRAHA 8  
Czechoslovakia

I would like to mention some people who helped us very much: Michael Doob (we translated his text "A Gentle Introduction to  $\text{\TeX}$ " into Czech); Jon Radel, who kindly sent us a lot of public domain  $\text{\TeX}$ ware; Barbara Beeton, Malcolm Clark and Hubert Partl.

Since a lot of the Czech letters have accents, automatic hyphenation was a problem; on the other hand, all letters are printable with standard  $\text{\TeX}$  with accents \', \v, and \`{a}. Hyphenation patterns for Czech had already been generated: at first ad hoc after grammar rules by Ladislav Lhotka and then with the help of modified *patgen* by Petr Novák. Don Knuth's decision to modify  $\text{\TeX}$  was appreciated very much. The new 8-bit  $\text{\TeX}$  has already reached Czechoslovakia. Now a new "bilingual version" (Czech—English, not Czechoslovak) is available for everybody willing to start on public domain software. Besides, our organization has no "hyphen problems", it is one for the whole Czechoslovak federation.

Two representatives of CS TUG visited the  $\text{\TeX}90$  conference in Cork and this again would not be possible without the help of TUG. The first general assembly of new independent CS TUG took place on November 10, 1990. We are going to keep contacts with TUG and national  $\text{\TeX}$

groups from other countries. We would like to organize a meeting in Czechoslovakia as a part of the traditional meeting of physicists at Skalský Dvůr. Economic changes make it more difficult, but we hope it will take place in September 1991. In virtue of the agreement from Cork we hope to get several copies of *TUGboat* as a collective member of TUG. A lot of friends from European organizations promised to help us and some have already done so. We already have also a small booklet in Czech on *LATEX* and another booklet on *AMS-TeX* is forthcoming. We would be grateful for any public domain  $\text{\TeX}$  software (we already developed some things existing for a long time abroad) and texts in the public domain on various aspects of  $\text{\TeX}$  which we might translate into Czech. I would like to thank our  $\text{\TeX}$  friends and supporters for their help and on behalf of Czech  $\text{\TeX}$  fans I end with the wish to see many of you in Czechoslovakia in the near future.

◊ Jiří Veselý  
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CS-186 00 Prague 8  
Czechoslovakia

## Upgrades of sb $\text{\TeX}$ and sbMF

Upgrades of sb $\text{\TeX}$  and sbMF for MS-DOS PCs are available by anonymous FTP from

[Yale.YCC.VENUS.EDU](http://Yale.YCC.VENUS.EDU)

as SB34TEX.ZIP and SBMF12.ZIP. These are also available from SIMTEL20. The Aston repository keeps these files in BOO form. Also available from Aston is a provisional MS-DOS version of  $\text{\TeX}-\text{XET}$  contained in SB32XET.BOO.

— Wayne Sullivan

Editor's note: The program announced below is still under construction. The author has expressed an interest in hearing from anyone who has done or is doing work in this area. The TUG office would also appreciate receiving such information, which will be kept on file as a resource for answering future inquiries.

## TEX TALK

T. V. Raman

### Abstract

Traditionally books have become accessible to the visually handicapped only after they have been either published in Braille or more recently after they have been recorded in Talking Book format. However not all publications can be made accessible in this manner, and this still means that the choice of reading material available, especially in the technical fields, continues to be severely restricted. The fact that more and more publications are first written by the author using a computer along with the development of voice synthesizer technology presents us with an excellent opportunity of overcoming this problem.

Several advances have been made during the past few years using voice synthesizer technology and optical character recognition culminating in the development of reading machines. These machines can read out printed matter, provided the quality of printing is extremely good. They also suffer the disadvantage that special characters such as those occurring in mathematical texts continue to present a problem. For material published before the time when books and papers were written using the computer, this approach is perhaps the only way out. However the fact that more and more publications are available in electronic form needs to be exploited as there is no point in trying to reconvert something that is already available in computer readable format using optical character recognition.

This of course leads us to the problem of reading *TeX* source directly using a talking computer. *TeX* has the advantage of representing all special symbols, using special names that are formed using the letters of the alphabet along with a few extra special characters. Thus the Greek letters, which are ubiquitous in any mathematical text and present severe problems to any reading machine, are already present in the *TeX* source in a format that can be read out by a voice synthesizer. However we also need to take account of the fact that a *TeX* source

file is adorned with a lot of special characters that can sound extremely confusing if read out by the synthesizer.

We of course have the option of stripping away all these extra characters from the *TeX* source, but by doing this we would actually lose valuable information that is being given to us for free. There is enough information present in a *TeX* source file to enable a printer to lay out mathematical formulae, so that information should certainly be useful in transforming the text to a format that would be comparable to what a person reading out the printed text aloud would generate.

Consider the following example:

$$\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \quad (\backslash(\backslash\text{frac}\{1+\text{sqrt}\{5\}\}{2}\backslash))$$

This is what the above expression sounds like when read out by a voice synthesizer:

backslash left paren backslash frac leftbrace one plus backslash sqrt leftbrace five rightbrace rightbrace leftbrace two rightbrace backslash right paren .

It certainly sounds extremely mysterious! Instead consider the following piece of transformed text:

The fraction with numerator 1 + square root of 5 and denominator 2 end of fraction.

This certainly compares very well with what a person reading out the printed text resulting from the *TeX* source would say.

Similarly  $A \subset A \cup B$  is transformed to "A is a subset of A union B".

*TeX TALK* is a program that looks at the *TeX* source and carries out transformations like the above. The resulting text is much easier to understand when read out by a voice synthesizer. As becomes evident from the introductory paragraphs, the potential presented by this kind of software is enormous. The program as it currently stands is eminently usable but there is certainly a lot more work to be done on it. When complete it will perhaps result in something I have always hoped to achieve, namely to have the same kind of access to published material as anyone else.

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The TeX Users Group maintains a database and publishes a membership list containing information about the equipment on which TeX is (or will be) installed and about the applications for which TeX is used. This list is updated periodically and distributed to members with TUGboat, to permit them to identify others with similar interests. Thus, it is important that the information be complete and up-to-date.

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### Available now:

1. **VAX Language-Sensitive Editor (LSEDIT)**  
Quick Reference Guide for Use with the LATEX Environment and LATEX Style Templates by Kent McPherson
2. **Table Making – the INRSTEX Method** by Michael J. Ferguson
3. **User's Guide to the IdxTEX Program** by R. L. Aurbach
4. **User's Guide to the GIoTEX Program** by R. L. Aurbach
5. **Conference Proceedings, TEX Users Group Eighth Annual Meeting, Seattle, August 24–26, 1987**, Dean Guenther, Editor
6. **The PjCTEX Manual** by Michael J. Wichura
7. **Conference Proceedings, TEX Users Group Ninth Annual Meeting, Montréal, August 22–24, 1988**, Christina Thiele, Editor
8. **A Users' Guide for TEX** by Frances Huth
9. **An Introduction to LATEX** by Michael Urban
10. **LATEX Command Summary** by L. Botway and C. Biemesderfer
11. **First Grade TEX** by Arthur Samuel
12. **A Gentle Introduction to TEX** by Michael Doob
13. **METAFONTware** by Donald E. Knuth, Tomas G. Rokicki, and Arthur Samuel

### Coming soon:

14. **A Permutated Index for TEX and LATEX** by Bill Cheswick
15. **EDMAC: A Plain TEX Format for Critical Editions**  
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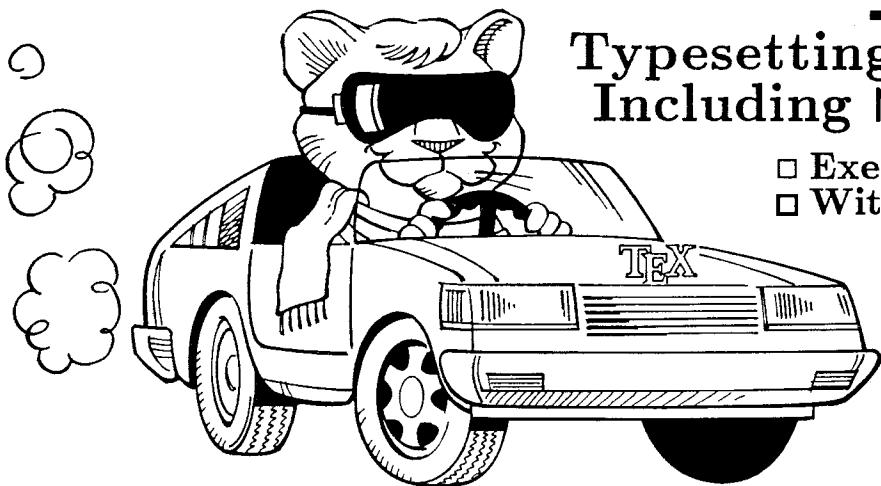
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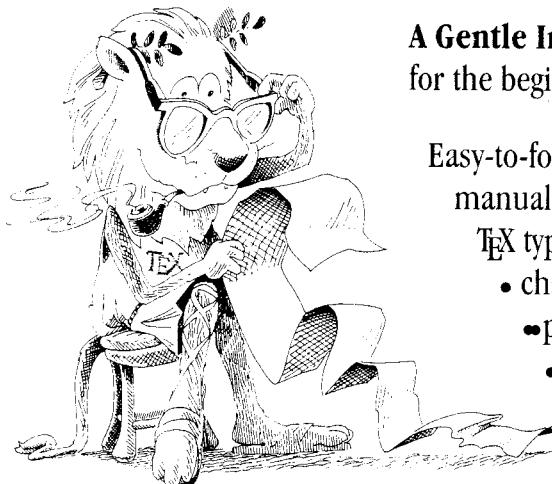
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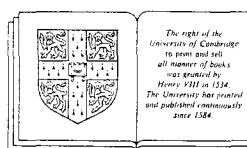
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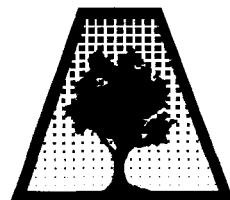
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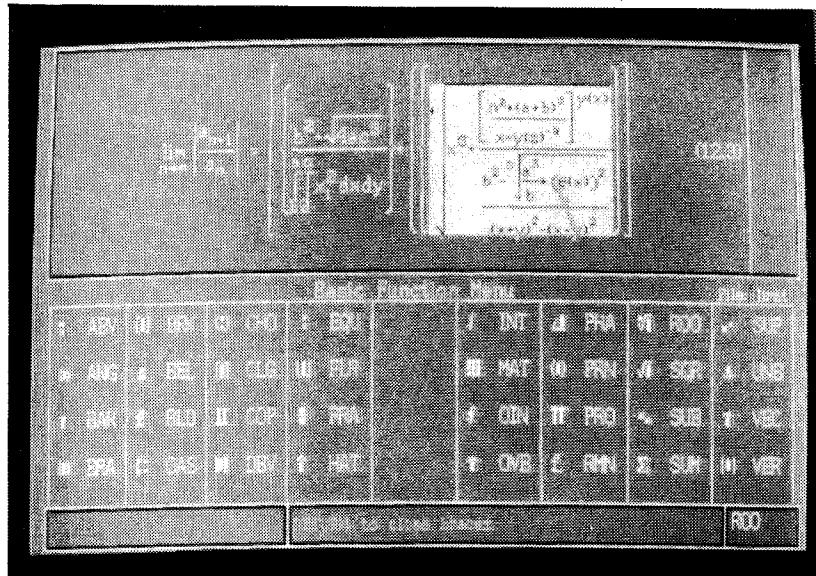
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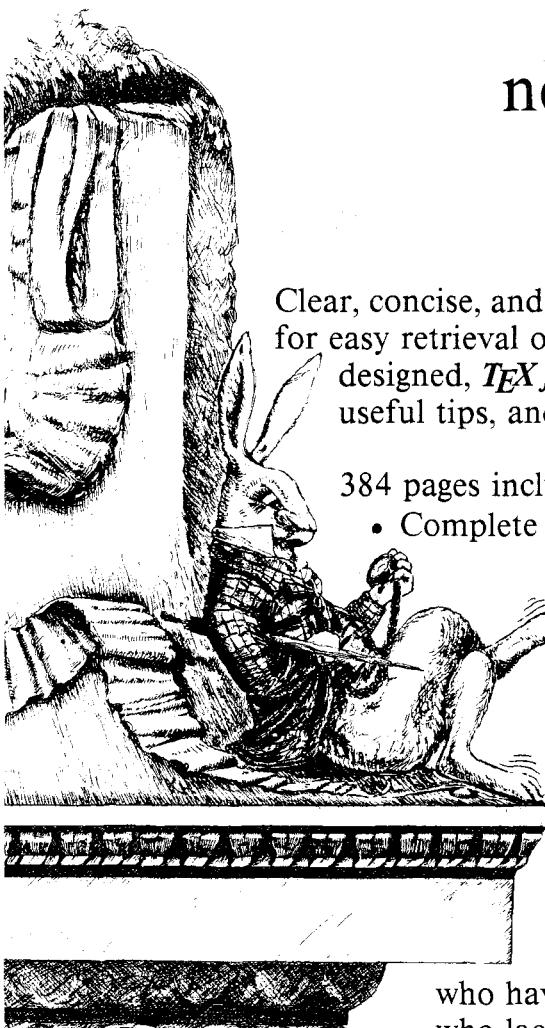
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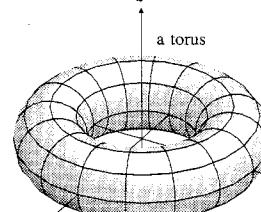
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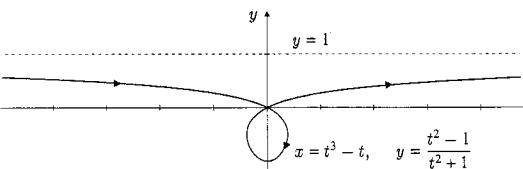
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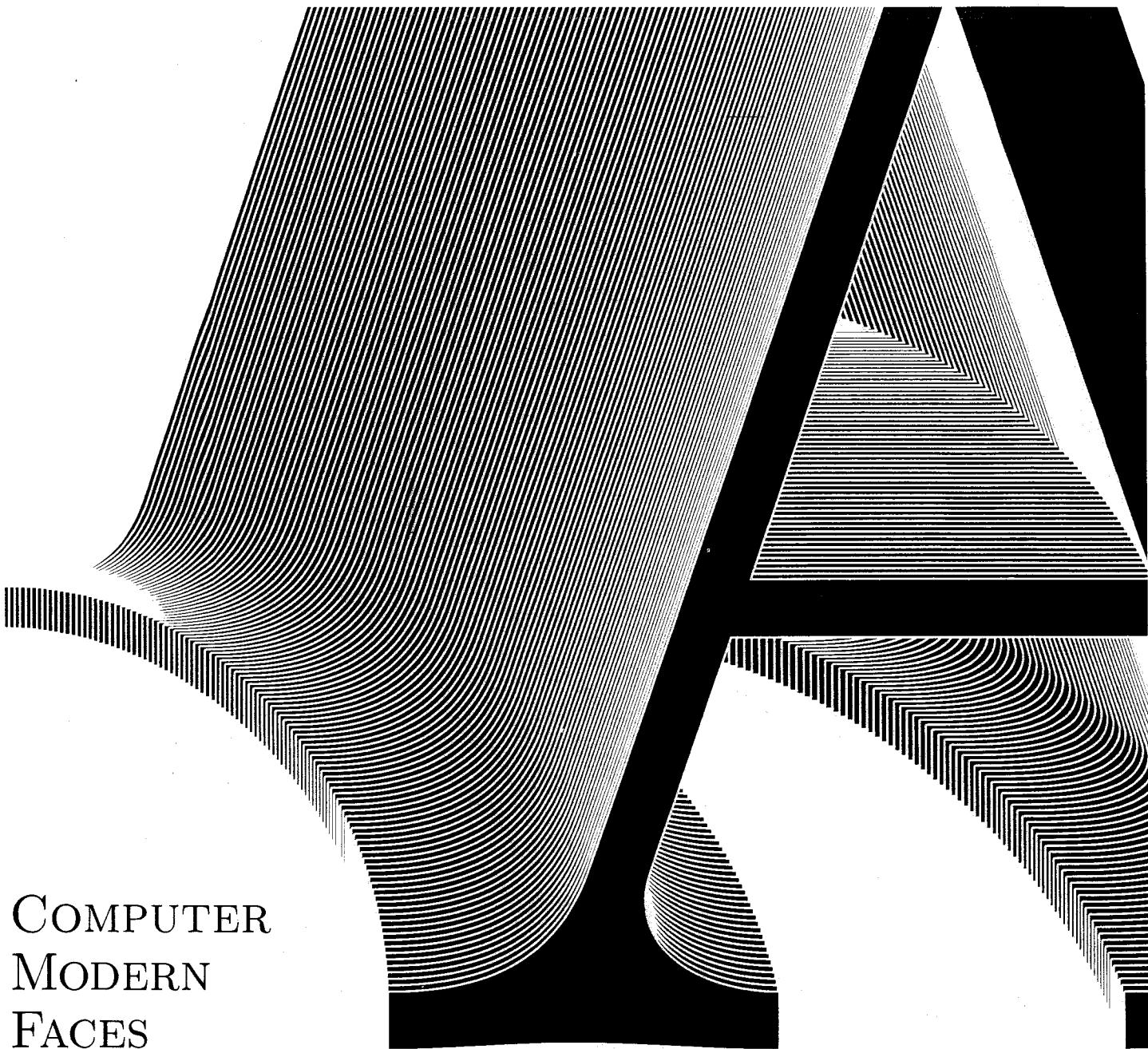


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