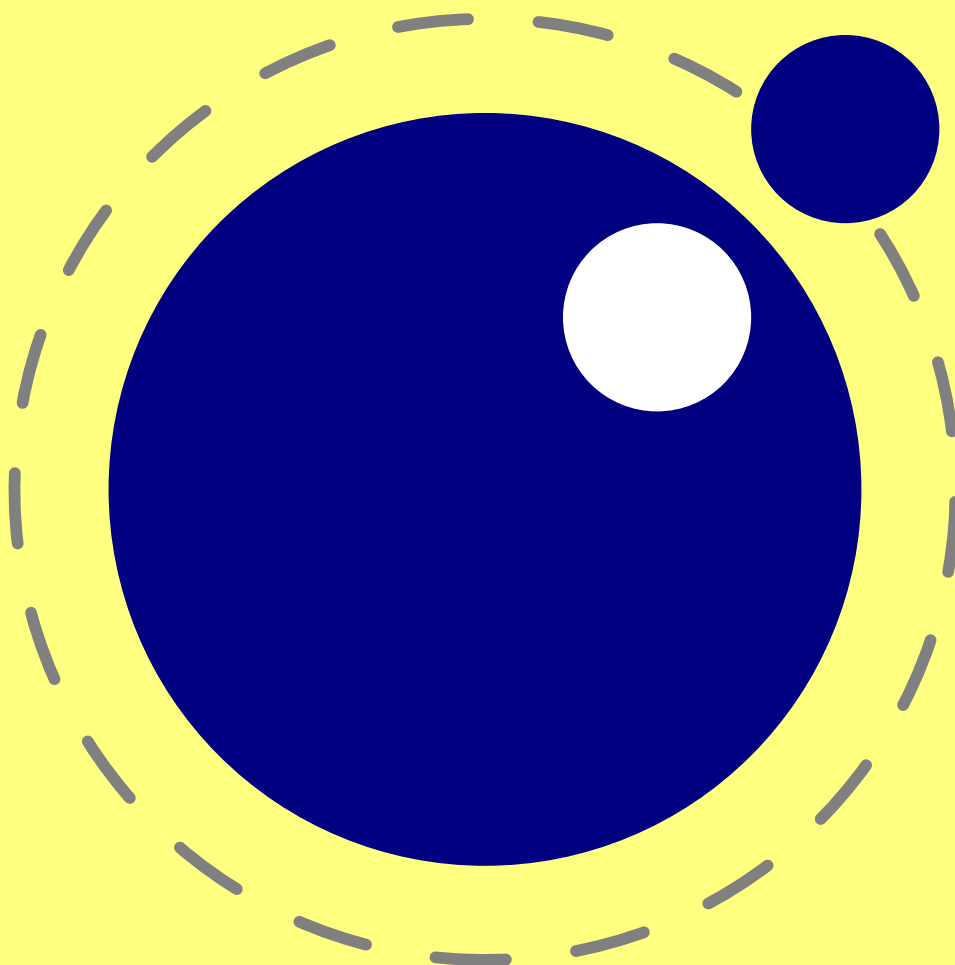


# LuaT<sub>E</sub>X

# Reference

Snapshot 2007-04-26





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# 1 Introduction

This book will eventually become the reference manual of L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X. At the moment, it simply reports the behavior of the executable matching the snapshot date in the title page.

Features may come and go. The current version of L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X is not meant for production and users cannot depend on functionality staying the same.

Nothing in the API is considered stable just yet. This manual therefore simply reflects the current state of the executable. ***Absolutely nothing*** on the following pages is set in stone. When the need arises, anything can (and will) be changed without prior notice.

**If you are unhappy with this situation, wait for the public betas.**

L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X consists of a number of interrelated but (still) distinguishable parts:

- PDF<sub>T</sub><sub>E</sub>X version 1.40.3
- ALEPH RC4 (from the T<sub>E</sub>X<sub>LIVE</sub> repository)
- Functionality of  $\epsilon$ -T<sub>E</sub>X 2.2
- Lua 5.1.1
- Dedicated lua libraries
- Various T<sub>E</sub>X extensions
- The (OpenType) Font Parser from FontForge 2006.12.20
- Compiled source code to glue it all together

Neither I/O translation processes, nor tcx files, nor enc<sub>T</sub>ex can be used. All these encoding-related functions are superseded by a L<sup>A</sup>U<sub>A</sub>-based solution ([reader](#) callbacks).







## 2 Basic T<sub>E</sub>X enhancements

### 2.1 Unicode support

Text input and output is now considered to be Unicode text, so characters can use the full range of Unicode ( $2^{20} + 2^{16} = \text{"10FFFF} = 1114111$ ).

For now, it only makes sense to use values above the base plane ( $\text{"FFFF}$ ) for `\mathcode` and `\catcode` assignments, since the hyphenation patterns are still limited to at the most 16-bit values, so the other commands will not know what to do with those high values.

Many primitives are affected by this. For instance, `\char` now accepts values between 0 and 1114111. This should not be a problem for well-behaved input files, but it could create incompatibilities for input that would have generated an error when processed by older T<sub>E</sub>X-based engines.

| Primitive                 | Bits  | Hex                               | Range                                               |
|---------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <code>\char</code>        | 21    | $\text{"10FFFF}$                  | $(2^{20} + 2^{16})$                                 |
| <code>\chardef</code>     | 21=21 | $\text{"10FFFF}=\text{"10FFFF}$   | $(2^{20} + 2^{16}) = (2^{20} + 2^{16})$             |
| <code>\lccode</code>      | 21=21 | $\text{"10FFFF}=\text{"10FFFF}$   | $(2^{20} + 2^{16}) = (2^{20} + 2^{16})$             |
| <code>\uccode</code>      | 21=21 | $\text{"10FFFF}=\text{"10FFFF}$   | $(2^{20} + 2^{16}) = (2^{20} + 2^{16})$             |
| <code>\sfcode</code>      | 21=15 | $\text{"10FFFF}=\text{"7FFF}$     | $(2^{20} + 2^{16}) = (2^{15})$                      |
| <code>\catcode</code>     | 21=4  | $\text{"10FFFF}=\text{"F}$        | $(2^{20} + 2^{16}) = (2^4)$                         |
| <code>\mathchardef</code> | 21=15 | $\text{"10FFFF}=\text{"8000}$     | $(2^{20} + 2^{16}) = (2^3 * 2^8 * 2^4)$             |
| <code>\mathcode</code>    | 21=15 | $\text{"10FFFF}=\text{"8000}$     | $(2^{20} + 2^{16}) = (2^3 * 2^8 * 2^4)$             |
| <code>\delcode</code>     | 21=27 | $\text{"10FFFF}=\text{"7FFFFFFF}$ | $(2^{20} + 2^{16}) = (2^3 * 2^4 * 2^8 * 2^4 * 2^8)$ |

As far as the core engine is concerned, all input and output to text files is UTF-8 encoded. Input files can be preprocessed using the `reader` callback. This will be explained in a later chapter.

Output in byte-sized chunks can be achieved by using characters in the private use block that starts at index 1.113.856 ( $\text{"10FF00}$ ). When the times comes to print a character  $c \geq 1.113.856$ , LuaT<sub>E</sub>X will actually print the single byte corresponding to  $c - 1.113.856$ .

Output to the terminal uses `^^` notation for the lower control range ( $c < 32$ ), with the exception of `^^I`, `^^J` and `^^M`. These are considered ‘safe’ and therefore printed as-is.

Normalization of the Unicode input can be handled by a macro package during callback processing (will be explained below).

### 2.2 Wide math characters

Text is now extended up to the full Unicode range, but math mode deals mostly with glyphs in fonts directly, and fonts tend to be 16-bit at maximum.

Therefore, the math primitives from ALEPH are kept mostly as-is, except for the ones that convert from input to math commands. The extended commands (with the ‘o’ prefix) accept 16-bit glyph indices in



one of 256 possible families. The traditional T<sub>E</sub>X primitives are unchanged, their arguments are up-scaled internally.

| Primitive                  | Bits     | Hex                        | Range                                                       |
|----------------------------|----------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>\mathchar</code>     | 15       | "7FFF                      | $(2^3 * 2^8 * 2^4)$                                         |
| <code>\delimiter</code>    | 27       | "7FFFFFFF                  | $(2^3 * 2^4 * 2^8 * 2^4 * 2^8)$                             |
| <code>\omathchar</code>    | 27       | "7FFFFFFF                  | $(2^3 * 2^{16} * 2^8)$                                      |
| <code>\odelimiter</code>   | 27+24    | "7FFFFFFF+"FFFFFFF         | $(2^3 * 2^8 * 2^{16}) + (2^8 * 2^{16})$                     |
| <code>\omathchardef</code> | 21=27    | "10FFFF="8000000           | $(2^{20} + 2^{16}) = (2^3 * 2^{16} * 2^8)$                  |
| <code>\omathcode</code>    | 21=27    | "10FFFF="8000000           | $(2^{20} + 2^{16}) = (2^3 * 2^{16} * 2^8)$                  |
| <code>\odelcode</code>     | 21=27+24 | "10FFFF="7FFFFFFF+"FFFFFFF | $(2^{20} + 2^{16}) = (2^3 * 2^8 * 2^{16}) + (2^8 * 2^{16})$ |

## 2.3 Extended register tables

All registers can be <16-bit number>, as in ALEPH. The affected commands are:

|                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| <code>\count</code>     | <code>\unhbox</code>  |
| <code>\dimen</code>     | <code>\unvbox</code>  |
| <code>\skip</code>      | <code>\copy</code>    |
| <code>\muskip</code>    | <code>\unhcopy</code> |
| <code>\marks</code>     | <code>\unvcopy</code> |
| <code>\toks</code>      | <code>\wd</code>      |
| <code>\countdef</code>  | <code>\ht</code>      |
| <code>\dimendef</code>  | <code>\dp</code>      |
| <code>\skipdef</code>   | <code>\setbox</code>  |
| <code>\muskipdef</code> | <code>\vsplit</code>  |
| <code>\toksdef</code>   |                       |
| <code>\box</code>       |                       |

## 2.4 Lua related primitives

In order to merge lua code with T<sub>E</sub>X input, a few new primitives are needed. L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X has support for 65536 separate lua interpreter states. States are automatically created based on the integer argument to the primitives `\directlua` and `\latelua`.

### 2.4.1 `\directlua`

The primitive `\directlua` is used to execute lua code. The syntax is

`\directlua` <16-bit number> <general text>

The <general text> is fed into the lua interpreter state indicated by the <16-bit number>. If the state does not exist yet, then it will be initialized automatically.



This command is expandable.

## 2.4.2 `\latelua`

`\latelua` stores lua code in a whatsit that will be processed inside the output routine. It's intended use is very similar to `\pdfliteral`.

Within the lua code, you should use `pdf.print` to print stuff directly to the pdf file.

`\latelua` *<16-bit number>* *<general text>*

## 2.4.3 `\luaescapestring`

This primitive converts a T<sub>E</sub>X token string so that it can be safely used as the contents of a LUA string: embedded backslashes, double quotes and single quotes are escaped by prepending an extra token consisting of a backslash with catcode 12.

`\luaescapestring` *<general text>*

## 2.4.4 `\luaclose`

This primitive allows you to close a lua state, freeing all of its used memory.

`\luaclose` *<16-bit number>*

You cannot close lua state zero (0), any attempt to do so will be silently ignored.

States are only closed automatically when a fatal (out of memory) error occurs, but at that point L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X will exit anyway.

States are not closed immediately, but only when the output routine comes into play next (because there may be pending `\latelua` calls)

# 2.5 New $\epsilon$ -T<sub>E</sub>X primitives

## 2.5.1 `\clearmarks`

This primitive clears a marks class completely, resetting all three connected mark texts to empty.

`\clearmarks` *<16-bit number>*

## 2.5.2 `\noligkerns`

This primitive prohibits ligature and kerning insertion at the time when the initial node list is built by L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X's main control loop (It is a temporary trick that will be removed soon).

`\noligkerns` *<integer>*



## 2.5.3 `\formatname`

`\formatname`'s syntax is identical to `\jobname`.

In `initex`, the expansion is empty. Otherwise, the expansion is the value that `\jobname` had during the `initex` run that dumped the currently loaded format.

## 2.5.4 `\scantextokens`

The syntax of `\scantextokens` is identical to `\scantokens`.

This is a slightly adapted version of  $\epsilon$ - $\text{\TeX}$ 's `\scantokens`. The differences are:

- The last (and usually only) line does not have a `\endlinechar` appended
- `\scantextokens` never raises an EOF error, and it does not execute `\everyeof` tokens.
- The 'while end of file' tests are not executed, allowing the expansion to end on a different grouping level or while a conditional is still incomplete

## 2.5.5 Catcode tables

Catcode tables are a new feature that allows you to switch to a predefined catcode regime in a single statement. You can have a practically unlimited number of different tables (at this moment up to 268,435,456. The limit depends on an array allocation).

The subsystem is backward compatible: if you never use the following commands, your document will not notice any difference in behavior compared to traditional  $\text{\TeX}$ .

The contents of each catcode table is independent of any other catcode tables, and their contents is stored and retrieved from the format file.

### 2.5.5.1 `\catcodetable`

`\catcodetable`  $\langle$ 28-bit number $\rangle$

The `\catcodetable` switches to a different catcode table. Such a table has to be previously created using one of the two primitives below, or it has to be zero (table zero is initialized by `initex`)

### 2.5.5.2 `\initcatcodetable`

`\initcatcodetable`  $\langle$ 28-bit number $\rangle$

The `\initcatcodetable` creates a new table with catcodes identical to those defined by `initex`:



|                                   |                           |    |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|----|
| <code>^^M (&lt;return&gt;)</code> | <code>car_ret</code>      | 5  |
| <code>(space)</code>              | <code>spacer</code>       | 10 |
| <code>\\</code>                   | <code>escape</code>       | 0  |
| <code>%</code>                    | <code>comment</code>      | 14 |
| <code>^^? (&lt;delete&gt;)</code> | <code>invalid_char</code> | 15 |
| <code>^^@ (&lt;null&gt;)</code>   | <code>ignore</code>       | 9  |
| <code>a-z</code>                  | <code>letter</code>       | 11 |
| <code>A-Z</code>                  | <code>letter</code>       | 11 |
| everything else                   | <code>other</code>        | 12 |

The new catcode table is allocated globally: it will not go away after the current group has ended. If the supplied number is the currently active table, an error is raised.

### 2.5.5.3 `\savecatcodetable`

`\savecatcodetable` *<28-bit number>*

`\savecatcodetable` copies the current set of catcodes to a new table with the requested number. The definitions in this new table are all treated as if they were made in the outermost level.

The new table is allocated globally: it will not go away after the current group has ended. If the supplied number is the currently active table, an error is raised.

## 2.5.6 Font syntax

LuaTeX will accept a braced argument as a font name:

`\font\myfont = {cmr10}`

This allows for embedded spaces, without the need for double quotes. Macro expansion takes place in the argument.





## 3 Lua general

### 3.1 Initialization

#### 3.1.1 Luatex as a lua interpreter

In a number of cases, luatex behaves like it is a lua interpreter only.

- If a `--luaonly` option is given
- If the executable is named `luatexlua`
- if the non-option (file) on the command-line has the extension `lua` or `luc`.

On this mode, it will set Lua's `arg[0]` to the found script name, pushing preceding options in negative values and the rest of the commandline in the positive values, just like the 'lua' interpreter.

LUA<sub>T</sub>EX will exit immediately after executing the specified Lua script and is, in effect, a somewhat bulky standalone lua interpreter.

#### 3.1.2 Other command-line processing

Whenever the LUA<sub>T</sub>EX executable starts, it looks for a `--lua` command-line option. If such an option is present, it will enter an alternative mode of command-line parsing.

In this mode, it will only interpret a very small subset of the command-line directly:

- `-luaonly`    execute a lua script, then exit
- `-lua=s`     load and execute a lua init script
- `-safer`     disable easily exploitable lua commands
- `-help`      display help and exit
- `-version`   display version and exit

If a requested lua script can not be found using the actual name given on the command-line, a second attempt is made by prepending the value of the environment variable `LUATEXDIR`, if that variable is defined.

Then the script is loaded and executed. It will find the entire commandline in the table `arg`, beginning with `arg[0]`, that is the name of the executable.

LUA<sub>T</sub>EX will fetch some of the other commandline options from the `texconfig` table at the end of script execution (see the description of the `texconfig` table later on in this document).

Commandline processing happens very early on. So early, in fact, that none of T<sub>E</sub>X's initializations have taken place yet. For that reason, the `tex`, `token` and `pdf` tables are off-limits during the execution of the startup file (they are nilled). Special care is taken that `texio.write` and `texio.write_nl` function properly, so that you can at least report your actions to the log file when



(and if) it eventually becomes opened (note that T<sub>E</sub>X does not even know it's `\jobname` yet at this point).

The file is loaded into Lua state 0, and everything you do will remain visible during the rest of the run, with the exception of the `tex` and `pdf` tables: those will be restored to their normal meaning right after the execution of the script.

We recommend you use the startup file only for your own T<sub>E</sub>X-independent initializations (if you need any), to parse the command—line, set values in the `texconfig` table, and register the callbacks you need.

You can use the `--safer` switch to disable some commands that can easily be abused by a malicious document. At the moment, this switch `nils` the following functions:

```
os.execute()
os.exec()
os.setenv()
os.rename()
os.remove()
io.popen()
io.output()
io.tmpfile()
lfs.rmdir()
lfs.mkdir()
lfs.chdir()
lfs.lock()
lfs.touch()
```

And it makes `io.open()` fail on files that are opened for anything besides reading.

Unless the `texconfig` table tells it not to start kpathsea at all (set `texconfig.kpse_init` to `false` for that), it also acts on three other command—line options:

|                           |                                       |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <code>-fmt=s</code>       | set the format name                   |
| <code>-progrname=s</code> | set the progrname (only for kpathsea) |
| <code>-ini</code>         | enable initex mode                    |

In order to initialize the built-in kpathsea library properly, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X needs to know the correct ‘progrname’ to use, and for that it needs to check `-progrname` (and `-ini` and `-fmt`, if `-progrname` is missing).

If there is no `--lua` option, the commandline is interpreted in a similar fashion as in traditional P<sub>D</sub>F<sub>T</sub><sub>E</sub>X and A<sub>L</sub>E<sub>P</sub>H.





## 3.2 Lua changes

Five modules that are normally external are statically linked in with L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X: `slnunicode`, `luazip`, `luafilesystem`, `lpeg` (version 0.6), and `md5`.

The `read("*line")` function from the `io` library has been adjusted so that it is line-ending neutral: any of `LF`, `CR` or type `CR+LF` are accepted.

The `tostring()` printer for numbers has been changed so that it returns '0' instead of something like '2e-5' (which confused T<sub>E</sub>X enormously) when the value is so small that T<sub>E</sub>X cannot distinguish it from zero.

The (currently three) known bugs in Lua 5.1.1 have been patched.

Dynamic loading of `.so` and `.dll` files is disabled on all platforms.

`luafilesystem` has been extended with two extra boolean functions (`isdir(filename)` and `isfile(filename)`) and one extra string field in the attributes table (`permissions`).

The `string` library has six extra iterators that return strings piecemeal: "utfvalues" (returns an integer value in the unicode range), "utfcharacters" (returns a string with a single UTF-8 token in it), "characters" (a string of length one), "characterpairs" (two strings of length one), "bytes" (a single byte value), and "bytepairs" (two byte values). The "bytepairs" will produce nil instead of a number as its second return value if the string length was odd. "characterpairs" will produce an empty second string in that case.

The `os` library has a few extra functions and variables:

- `os.exec('command')` is a non-returning version of `os.execute`. The advantage of this command is that it cleans out the current process before starting the new one, making it especially useful for use in `luatexlua`.
- `os.setenv('key', 'value')` This sets a variable in the environment. Passing 'nil' instead of a value string will remove the variable.
- `os.environ` This is a read-only hash table containing all of the variables and values in the process environment.





## 4 Lua Libraries

The interfacing between T<sub>E</sub>X and Lua is facilitated by a set of Lua modules.

### 4.1 The tex library

The tex table contains a large list of virtual internal T<sub>E</sub>X parameters that are partially writable.

The designation ‘virtual’ means that these items are not properly defined in Lua, but are only frontends that are handled by a metatable that operates on the actual T<sub>E</sub>X values. As a result, most of the lua table operators (like `pairs` and `#`) do not work on such items.

At the moment, it is possible to access almost every parameter that has these characteristics:

- You can use it after `\the`
- It is a single token.

This excludes parameters that need extra arguments, like `\the\scriptfont`.

The subset comprising simple integer and dimension registers are writable as well as readable (stuff like `\tracingcommands` and `\parindent`).

#### 4.1.1 Integer parameters

The integer parameters accept and return lua numbers.

Read-write:

|                                       |                                        |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <code>tex.adjdemerits</code>          | <code>tex.globaldefs</code>            |
| <code>tex.binoppenalty</code>         | <code>tex.hangafter</code>             |
| <code>tex.brokenpenalty</code>        | <code>tex.hbadness</code>              |
| <code>tex.catcodetable</code>         | <code>tex.holdinginserts</code>        |
| <code>tex.clubpenalty</code>          | <code>tex.hyphenpenalty</code>         |
| <code>tex.day</code>                  | <code>tex.interlinepenalty</code>      |
| <code>tex.defaultthyphenchar</code>   | <code>tex.language</code>              |
| <code>tex.defaultskewchar</code>      | <code>tex.lastlinefit</code>           |
| <code>tex.delimiterfactor</code>      | <code>tex.lefthyphenmin</code>         |
| <code>tex.displaywidowpenalty</code>  | <code>tex.linepenalty</code>           |
| <code>tex.doublehyphendemerits</code> | <code>tex.localbrokenpenalty</code>    |
| <code>tex.endlinechar</code>          | <code>tex.localinterlinepenalty</code> |
| <code>tex.errorcontextlines</code>    | <code>tex.looseness</code>             |
| <code>tex.escapechar</code>           | <code>tex.mag</code>                   |
| <code>tex.exhyphenpenalty</code>      | <code>tex.maxdeadcycles</code>         |
| <code>tex.fam</code>                  | <code>tex.month</code>                 |
| <code>tex.finalhyphendemerits</code>  | <code>tex.newlinechar</code>           |
| <code>tex.floatingpenalty</code>      | <code>tex.outputpenalty</code>         |



|                                                  |                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <code>tex.pausing</code>                         | <code>tex.predisplaypenalty</code> |
| <code>tex.pdfadjustinterwordglue</code>          | <code>tex.pretolerance</code>      |
| <code>tex.pdfadjustspacing</code>                | <code>tex.relpenalty</code>        |
| <code>tex.pdfappendkern</code>                   | <code>tex.righthyphenmin</code>    |
| <code>tex.pdfcompresslevel</code>                | <code>tex.savinghyphcodes</code>   |
| <code>tex.pdfdecimaldigits</code>                | <code>tex.savingvdiscards</code>   |
| <code>tex.pdfforcepagebox</code>                 | <code>tex.showboxbreadth</code>    |
| <code>tex.pdfgamma</code>                        | <code>tex.showboxdepth</code>      |
| <code>tex.pdfgentounicode</code>                 | <code>tex.time</code>              |
| <code>tex.pdfimageapplygamma</code>              | <code>tex.tolerance</code>         |
| <code>tex.pdfimagegamma</code>                   | <code>tex.tracingassigns</code>    |
| <code>tex.pdfimagehicolor</code>                 | <code>tex.tracingcommands</code>   |
| <code>tex.pdfimageresolution</code>              | <code>tex.tracinggroups</code>     |
| <code>tex.pdfinclusionerrorlevel</code>          | <code>tex.tracingifs</code>        |
| <code>tex.pdfminorversion</code>                 | <code>tex.tracinglostchars</code>  |
| <code>tex.pdfmovechars</code>                    | <code>tex.tracingmacros</code>     |
| <code>tex.pdfobjcompresslevel</code>             | <code>tex.tracingnesting</code>    |
| <code>tex.pdfoptionalwaysusepdfpagebox</code>    | <code>tex.tracingonline</code>     |
| <code>tex.pdfoptionpdfinclusionerrorlevel</code> | <code>tex.tracingoutput</code>     |
| <code>tex.pdfoptionpdfminorversion</code>        | <code>tex.tracingpages</code>      |
| <code>tex.pdfoutput</code>                       | <code>tex.tracingparagraphs</code> |
| <code>tex.pdfpagebox</code>                      | <code>tex.tracingrestores</code>   |
| <code>tex.pdfpkresolution</code>                 | <code>tex.tracingscantokens</code> |
| <code>tex.pdfprependkern</code>                  | <code>tex.tracingstats</code>      |
| <code>tex.pdfprotrudechars</code>                | <code>tex.uchyph</code>            |
| <code>tex.pdftracingfonts</code>                 | <code>tex.vbadness</code>          |
| <code>tex.pdfuniqueresname</code>                | <code>tex.widowpenalty</code>      |
| <code>tex.postdisplaypenalty</code>              | <code>tex.year</code>              |
| <code>tex.predisplaydirection</code>             |                                    |



Read-only:

|                                  |                              |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <code>tex.deadcycles</code>      | <code>tex.prevgraf</code>    |
| <code>tex.insertpenalties</code> | <code>tex.spacefactor</code> |
| <code>tex.parshape</code>        |                              |

## 4.1.2 Dimension parameters

The dimension parameters accept lua numbers (signifying scaled points) or strings (with included dimension). The result is always a string.

Read-write:

|                                      |                                     |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <code>tex.boxmaxdepth</code>         | <code>tex.pdfdestmargin</code>      |
| <code>tex.delimitershortfall</code>  | <code>tex.pdfeachlinedepth</code>   |
| <code>tex.displayindent</code>       | <code>tex.pdfeachlineheight</code>  |
| <code>tex.displaywidth</code>        | <code>tex.pdffirstlineheight</code> |
| <code>tex.emergencystretch</code>    | <code>tex.pdfhorigin</code>         |
| <code>tex.hangindent</code>          | <code>tex.pdflastlinedepth</code>   |
| <code>tex.hfuzz</code>               | <code>tex.pdflinkmargin</code>      |
| <code>tex.hoffset</code>             | <code>tex.pdfpageheight</code>      |
| <code>tex.hsize</code>               | <code>tex.pdfpagewidth</code>       |
| <code>tex.lineskiplimit</code>       | <code>tex.pdfpxdimen</code>         |
| <code>tex.mathsurround</code>        | <code>tex.pdfthreadmargin</code>    |
| <code>tex.maxdepth</code>            | <code>tex.pdfvorigin</code>         |
| <code>tex.nullldelimiterspace</code> | <code>tex.predisplaysize</code>     |
| <code>tex.overfullrule</code>        | <code>tex.scriptspace</code>        |
| <code>tex.pagebottomoffset</code>    | <code>tex.splitmaxdepth</code>      |
| <code>tex.pageheight</code>          | <code>tex.vfuzz</code>              |
| <code>tex.pagerightoffset</code>     | <code>tex.voffset</code>            |
| <code>tex.pagewidth</code>           | <code>tex.vsize</code>              |
| <code>tex.parindent</code>           |                                     |

Read-only:

|                                    |                              |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <code>tex.pagedepth</code>         | <code>tex.pageshrink</code>  |
| <code>tex.pagefillllstretch</code> | <code>tex.pagestretch</code> |
| <code>tex.pagefillstretch</code>   | <code>tex.pagetotal</code>   |
| <code>tex.pagefilstretch</code>    | <code>tex.prevdepth</code>   |
| <code>tex.pagegoal</code>          |                              |

## 4.1.3 Direction parameters

All direction parameters are read-only and return a lua string

|                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <code>tex.bodydir</code> | <code>tex.pardir</code>  |
| <code>tex.mathdir</code> | <code>tex.textdir</code> |
| <code>tex.pagedir</code> |                          |



## 4.1.4 Glue parameters

All glue parameters are read-only and return a lua string

|                                        |                               |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <code>tex.abovedisplayshortskip</code> | <code>tex.parskip</code>      |
| <code>tex.abovedisplayskip</code>      | <code>tex.rightskip</code>    |
| <code>tex.baselineskip</code>          | <code>tex.spaceskip</code>    |
| <code>tex.belowdisplayshortskip</code> | <code>tex.splittopskip</code> |
| <code>tex.belowdisplayskip</code>      | <code>tex.tabskip</code>      |
| <code>tex.leftskip</code>              | <code>tex.topskip</code>      |
| <code>tex.lineskip</code>              | <code>tex.xspaceskip</code>   |
| <code>tex.parfillskip</code>           |                               |

## 4.1.5 Muglue parameters

All muglue parameters are read-only and return a lua string

```
tex.medmuskip
tex.thickmuskip
tex.thinmuskip
```

## 4.1.6 Tokenlist parameters

All tokenlist parameters are read-only and return a lua string

|                               |                                   |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <code>tex.errhelp</code>      | <code>tex.everyvbox</code>        |
| <code>tex.everycr</code>      | <code>tex.output</code>           |
| <code>tex.everydisplay</code> | <code>tex.pdfpageattr</code>      |
| <code>tex.everyeof</code>     | <code>tex.pdfpageresources</code> |
| <code>tex.everyhbox</code>    | <code>tex.pdfpagesattr</code>     |
| <code>tex.everyjob</code>     | <code>tex.pdfpkmode</code>        |
| <code>tex.everymath</code>    |                                   |
| <code>tex.verypar</code>      |                                   |

## 4.1.7 Convert commands

The supported commands at this moment are:

|                                |                                   |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <code>tex.AlephVersion</code>  | <code>tex.formatname</code>       |
| <code>tex.Alephrevision</code> | <code>tex.jobname</code>          |
| <code>tex.OmegaVersion</code>  | <code>tex.pdfnormaldeviate</code> |
| <code>tex.Omegarevision</code> | <code>tex.pdftebanner</code>      |
| <code>tex.eTeXVersion</code>   | <code>tex.pdfterevision</code>    |
| <code>tex.eTeXrevision</code>  |                                   |

All ‘convert’ commands are read-only and return a lua string



This list looks haphazard, but it really is not. These are all the cases of the ‘convert’ internal command that do not require an argument.

### 4.1.8 Count, dimension and token registers

TEX’s counters (`\count`), dimensions (`\dimen`) and token (`\toks`) registers can be accessed and written to using three virtual sub-tables of the `tex` table:

```
tex.count
tex.dimen
tex.toks
```

It is possible to use the names of relevant `\countdef`, `\dimendef`, or `\toksdef` control sequences as indices to these tables:

```
tex.count.scratchcounter = 0
enormous = tex.dimen["maxdimen"]
```

In this case, `luatex` looks up the value for you on the fly. You have to use a valid `\countdef` (or `\dimendef`, or `\toksdef`), anything else will generate an error (the goal is to eventually also allow `<chardef tokens>` and even macros that expand into a number)

The count registers accept and return lua numbers.

The dimension registers accept lua numbers (in scaled points) or strings (with an included absolute dimension. "em" and "ex" and "px" are forbidden). The result is always a number in scaled points.

The token registers accept and return lua strings. Lua strings are converted to token lists using `\the\toks` style expansion.

As an alternative to array addressing, there are also accessor functions defined:

```
tex.setdimen(number n, string s)
tex.setdimen(string s, string s)
tex.setdimen(number n, number n)
tex.setdimen(string s, number n)
number n = tex.getdimen(number n)
number n = tex.getdimen(string s)

tex.setcount(number n, number n)
tex.setcount(string s, number n)
number n = tex.getcount(number n)
number n = tex.getcount(string s)

tex.settoks (number n, string s)
tex.settoks (string s, string s)
string s = tex.gettoks (number n)
string s = tex.gettoks (string s)
```



## 4.1.9 Box register size information

The current dimensions of `\box` registers can be read and altered using three other virtual sub-tables :

```
tex.wd
tex.ht
tex.dp
```

These are indexed strictly by number.

The box size registers accept lua numbers (in scaled points) or strings (with included dimension). The result is always a number in scaled points.

As an alternative to array addressing, there are also accessor functions defined:

```
tex.setboxwd(number n, string s)
tex.setboxwd(number n, number n)
number n = tex.getboxwd(number n)
```

```
tex.setboxht(number n, string s)
tex.setboxht(number n, number n)
number n = tex.getboxht(number n)
```

```
tex.setboxdp(number n, string s)
tex.setboxdp(number n, number n)
number n = tex.getboxdp(number n)
```

## 4.1.10 Print functions

The `tex` table also contains the three print functions that are the major interface from lua scripting to  $\text{\TeX}$ .

The arguments to these three functions are all stored in an in-memory virtual file that is fed to the  $\text{\TeX}$  scanner as the result of the expansion of `\directlua`.

The total amount of returnable text from a `\directlua` command is only limited by available system RAM. However, each separate printed string has to fit completely in  $\text{\TeX}$ 's input buffer.

### 4.1.10.1 tex.print

```
tex.print(<string s>, ...)
tex.print(<number n>, <string s>, ...)
```

Each string argument is treated by  $\text{\TeX}$  as a separate input line.





The optional parameter can be used to print the strings using the catcode regime defined by `\catcodetable n`. If  $n$  is not a valid catcode table, then it is ignored, and the currently active catcode regime is used instead.

The very last string of the very last `tex.print()` command in a `\directlua` will not have the `\endlinechar` appended, all others do.

#### 4.1.10.2 `tex.sprint`

```
tex.sprint(<string s>, ...)
tex.sprint(<number n>, <string s>, ...)
```

Each string argument is treated by T<sub>E</sub>X as a special kind of input line that makes it suitable for use as a partial line input mechanism:

- T<sub>E</sub>X does not switch to the ‘new line’ state, so that leading spaces are not ignored
- no `\endlinechar` is inserted
- trailing spaces are not removed

#### 4.1.10.3 `tex.write`

```
tex.write(<string s>, ...)
```

Each string argument is treated by T<sub>E</sub>X as a special kind of input line that makes it suitable for use as a quick way to dump information:

- all catcodes on that line are either ‘space’ (for " ") or ‘character’ (for all others).
- there is no `\endlinechar` appended.

## 4.2 The token library

The token table contains interface functions to T<sub>E</sub>X’s handling of tokens. These functions are most useful when combined with the ‘token\_filter’ callback, but they could be used standalone as well.

A token is represented in Lua as a small table. For the moment, this table consists of three numeric entries:

| nr | description                                                                                                                                                                             |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | command code, this is a value between 0 and 130 (approximately)                                                                                                                         |
| 2  | command modifier, this is a value between 0 and $2^{21}$                                                                                                                                |
| 3  | control sequence id. For commands that are not the result of control sequences, like letters and characters, it is zero. Otherwise, it is number pointing into the ‘equivalence table’. |

### 4.2.1 `token.get_next`

```
token t = token.get_next()
```



This fetches the next input token from the current input source, without expansion.

## 4.2.2 `token.is_expandable`

```
boolean b = token.is_expandable(token t)
```

This tests if the token `t` could be expanded.

## 4.2.3 `token.expand`

```
token.expand()
```

If a token is expandable, this will expand one level of it, so that the first token of the expansion will now be the next token to be read by `tex.get_next()`.

## 4.2.4 `token.is_activechar`

```
boolean b = token.is_activechar(token t)
```

This is a special test that is sometimes handy. Discovering whether some token is the result of an active character turned out to be very hard otherwise.

## 4.2.5 `token.create`

```
token t = token.create(string csname)
token t = token.create(number charcode)
token t = token.create(number charcode, number catcode)
```

This is the token factory. If you feed it a string, then it is a control sequence `csname`, and it will be looked up in the equivalence table.

If you feed it number, then this is assumed to be an input character, and an optional second number gives its category code. This means it is possible to overrule a character's category code, with a few exceptions: the category codes 0 (escape), 9 (ignored), 13 (active), 14 (comment), and 15 (invalid) cannot occur inside a token. 0, 9, 14 and 15 are therefore illegal as input to `token.create()`, and active characters will be resolved immediately.

Note: Unknown string sequences and never defined active characters will result in a token representing an 'Undefined control sequence' with a near-random name. It is *not* possible to define brand new control sequences using `token.create`!

## 4.2.6 `token.command_name`

```
string commandname = token.command_name(token t)
```



This returns the name associated with the ‘command’ value of the token in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X. There is no direct connection between these names and primitives. For instance, all `\ifxxx` tests are grouped under ‘if\_fest’, and the ‘command modifier’ defines which test is to be run.

### 4.2.7 `token.command_id`

```
number i = token.command_name(string commandname)
```

This returns a number that is the inverse operation of the previous command, to be used as the first item in a token table.

### 4.2.8 `token.csname_name`

```
string csname = token.csname_name(token t)
```

This returns the name associated with the ‘equivalence table’ value of the token in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X. It returns the string value of the command used to create the current token, or an empty string if there is no associated control sequence.

### 4.2.9 `token.csname_id`

```
number i = token.csname_id(string csname)
```

This returns a number that is the inverse operation of the previous command, to be used as the third item in a token table.

## 4.3 The `texio` library

This library takes care of the low-level I/O interface.

### 4.3.1 Printing functions

#### 4.3.1.1 `texio.write`

```
texio.write(string target, string s)
texio.write(string s)
```

Without the `target` argument, Writes the string to the same location(s) T<sub>E</sub>X writes messages to at this moment. If `\batchmode` is in effect, it writes only to the log, otherwise it writes to the log and the terminal.

The optional `target` can be one of three possibilities: ‘term’, ‘log’ or ‘term and log’.



### 4.3.1.2 `tex.write_nl`

```
texio.write_nl(string target, string s)
texio.write_nl(string s)
```

Like `texio.write`, but make sure that the string `s` will appear at the beginning of a line. You can use an empty string if you only want to move to the next line.

## 4.4 The pdf library

This table contains the current `h` en `v` values that define the location on the output page. The values can be queried and set using scaled points as units.

```
pdf.v
pdf.h
```

The associated function calls are

```
pdf.setv(number n)
number n = pdf.getv()
pdf.seth(number n)
number n = pdf.geth()
```

It also holds a print function to write stuff to the pdf document, that can be used from within a `\latelua` argument. This function is not to be used inside `\directlua` unless you know *exactly* what you are doing.

### `pdf.print`

```
pdf.print(<string s>)
pdf.print(<string type>, <string s>)
```

The optional parameter can be used to mimic the behaviour of `pdfliteral`: the `type` is `"direct"` or `"page"`.

## 4.5 The callback library

This library has functions that register, find and list callbacks.

The callback library is only available in lua state zero (0).

```
callback.register(string <callback name>,function <callback_func>)
callback.register(string <callback name>,nil)
```

where the `<callback name>` is a predefined callback name, see below.



L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X internalizes the callback function in such a way that it does not matter if you redefine a function accidentally.

Callback assignments are always global. You can use the special value ‘nil’ instead of a function for clearing the callback.

```
table <info> = callback.list()
```

The keys in the table are the known callback names, the value is a boolean where `true` means that the callback is currently set (active).

```
function <f> = callback.find(<callback name>)
```

If the callback is not set, `callback.find` returns `nil`.

## 4.5.1 File discovery callbacks

### 4.5.1.1 find\_read\_file and find\_write\_file

Your callback function should have the following conventions:

```
string <actual_name> = function (number <id_number>, string <asked_name>)
```

Arguments:

`id_number`

zero for the log or `\input` files, or TeX’s `\read` or `\write` number incremented by one (`\read0` becomes 1).

`asked_name`

the user-supplied filename, as found by `\input`, or `\openin`, or `\openout`.

Return value:

`actual_name`

the filename used. For the very first file that is read in by T<sub>E</sub>X, you have to make sure you return an `actual_name` that has an extension and that is suitable for use as `jobname`. If you don’t, you will have to manually fix the name for the log file and output file, and an eventual format filename will become mangled, since these depend on the `jobname`.

Return `nil` if the file cannot be found.

### 4.5.1.2 find\_font\_file

Your callback function should have the following conventions:

```
string <actual_name> = function (string <asked_name>)
```

The `asked_name` is an OTF or TFM font metrics file.



Return `nil` if the file cannot be found.

#### 4.5.1.3 `find_output_file`

You callback function should have the following conventions:

```
string <actual_name> = function (string <asked_name>)
```

The `asked_name` is the PDF or DVI file for writing.

#### 4.5.1.4 `find_format_file`

You callback function should have the following conventions:

```
string <actual_name> = function (string <asked_name>)
```

The `asked_name` is a format file for reading (the format file for writing is always opened in the current directory).

#### 4.5.1.5 `find_vf_file`

Like `find_font_file`, but for virtual fonts. This applies to both Aleph's `ovf` files and traditional Knuthian `vf` files.

#### 4.5.1.6 `find_ocp_file`

Like `find_font_file`, but for ocp files.

#### 4.5.1.7 `find_map_file`

Like `find_font_file`, but for map files.

#### 4.5.1.8 `find_enc_file`

Like `find_font_file`, but for enc files.

#### 4.5.1.9 `find_sfd_file`

Like `find_font_file`, but for subfont definition files.



#### 4.5.1.10 find\_pk\_file

Like `find_font_file`, but for pk bitmap files. The argument `<name>` is a bit special in this case. It's form is

```
<base res>dpi/<fontname>.<actual res>pk
```

So you may be asked for `600dpi/manfnt.720pk`. It is up to you to find a 'reasonable' bitmap file to go with that specification.

#### 4.5.1.11 find\_data\_file

Like `find_font_file`, but for embedded files (`\pdfobj file "..."`).

#### 4.5.1.12 find\_opentype\_file

Like `find_font_file`, but for opentype font files.

#### 4.5.1.13 find\_truetype\_file and find\_type1\_file

Your callback function should have the following conventions:

```
string <actual_name> = function (string <asked_name>)
```

The `asked_name` is a font file. This callback is called while L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X is building its internal list of needed font files, so the actual timing may surprise you. Your return value is later fed back into the matching `read_file` callback.

Strangely enough, `find_type1_file` is also used for OpenType (otf) fonts.

#### 4.5.1.14 find\_image\_file

Your callback function should have the following conventions:

```
string <actual_name> = function (string <asked_name>)
```

The `asked_name` is an image file. Your return value is used to open a file from the harddisk, so make sure you return something that is considered the name of a valid file by your operating system.

### 4.5.2 File reading callbacks

#### 4.5.2.1 open\_read\_file

Your callback function should have the following conventions:



```
table <env> = function (string <file_name>)
```

Argument:

file\_name

the filename returned by a previous `find_read_file` or the return value of `kpse_find_file()` if there was no such callback defined.

Return value:

env

this is a table containing at least one required and one optional callback functions for this file. The required field is `'reader'` and the associated function will be called once for each new line to be read, the optional one is `'close'` that will be called once when L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X is done with the file. L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X never looks at the rest of the table, so you can use it to store your private per-file data. Both the callback functions will receive the table as their only argument.

#### 4.5.2.1.1 reader

L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X will run this function whenever it needs a new input line from the file.

```
function (table <env>)  
  return string <line>  
end
```

Your function should return either a string or `'nil'`. The value `'nil'` signals that the end of file has occurred, and will make T<sub>E</sub>X call the optional `'close'` function next.

#### 4.5.2.1.2 close

L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X will optionally run this function when it needs to close the file.

```
function (table <env>)  
  return  
end
```

Your function should not return any value.

#### 4.5.2.2 read\_font\_file

This function is called when T<sub>E</sub>X needs to read a `ofm` or `tfm` file.

```
function (string <name>)  
  return boolean <success>, string <data>, number <data_size>  
end
```





success

return false when a fatal error occurred (e.g. when the file cannot be found, after all).

data

the bytes comprising the file.

data\_size

the length of the `data`, in bytes.

return an empty string and zero if the file was found but there was a reading problem.

### 4.5.2.3 `read_vf_file`

Like `read_font_file`, but for virtual fonts.

### 4.5.2.4 `read_ocp_file`

Like `read_font_file`, but for ocp files.

### 4.5.2.5 `read_map_file`

Like `read_font_file`, but for map files.

### 4.5.2.6 `read_enc_file`

Like `read_font_file`, but for enc files.

### 4.5.2.7 `read_sfd_file`

Like `read_font_file`, but for subfont definition files.

### 4.5.2.8 `read_pk_file`

Like `read_font_file`, but for pk bitmap files.

### 4.5.2.9 `read_data_file`

Like `read_font_file`, but for embedded files (`\pdfobj file "..."`).

### 4.5.2.10 `read_truetype_file`

Like `read_font_file`, but for truetype font files. The `name` is a path name as returned by `find_truetype_file` or `kpse_find_file`.



### 4.5.2.11 read\_type1\_file

Like `read_font_file`, but for type1 font files. The `name` is a path name as returned by `find_type1_file` or `kpse_find_file`.

### 4.5.2.12 read\_opentype\_file

Like `read_font_file`, but for opentype font files. The `name` is a path name as returned by `find_type1_file` or `kpse_find_file`.

## 4.5.3 Data processing callbacks

### 4.5.3.1 process\_input\_buffer

This callback allows you to change the contents of the line input buffer just before L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X actually starts looking at it.

```
function (string <buffer>)
    return string <adjusted_buffer>
end
```

If you return `nil`, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X will pretend like your callback never happened. You can gain a small amount of processing time from that.

### 4.5.3.2 token\_filter

This callback allows you to change the fetch and preprocess any lexical token that enters L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, before L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X executes or expands the associated command.

```
function ()
    return table <token>
end
```

The calling convention for this callback is bit more complicated than for most other callbacks. The function should either return a lua table representing a valid to-be-processed token or tokenlist, or something else like `nil` or an empty table.

If your lua function does not return a table representing a valid token, it will be immediately called again, until it eventually does return a useful token or tokenlist (or until you reset the callback value to `nil`). See the description of `token` for some handy functions to be used in conjunction with this callback.

If your function returns a single usable token, then that token will be processed by L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X immediately. If the function returns a token list (a table consisting of a list of consecutive token tables), then



that list will be pushed to the input stack as completely new token list level, with its token type set to 'inserted'. In either case, the returned token(s) will not be fed back into the callback function.

## 4.5.4 Node list processing callbacks

### 4.5.4.1 `buildpage_filter`

This callback is called whenever L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X is ready to move stuff to the main vertical list. You can use this callback to do specialized manipulation of the page building stage like imposition or column balancing.

```
function (table <nodelist>)
  return table <nodelist>
end
```

A `nodelist` is a list of hashes, each representing a single node in the list. The node format is another list, and it varies depending on the node type. Regardless of that, the first three items always have the same semantics:

|   | type    | Explanation                                    |
|---|---------|------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | string  | The node's <code>type</code> , as a string     |
| 2 | number  | The node <code>subtype</code> identifier       |
| 3 | boolean | A true/false value you can use as you feel fit |

The first entry is a controlled list of keywords. The complete list is: "hlist", "vlist", "rule", "ins", "mark", "adjust", "ligature", "disc", "whatsit", "math", "glue", "kern", "penalty", "unset", "glyph", "margin\_kern" (these can happen in horizontal and vertical lists), as well as: "style", "choice", "ord", "op", "bin", "rel", "open", "close", "punct", "inner", "radical", "fraction", "under", "over", "accent", "vcenter", "left", "right" (those only happen in math lists).

At the moment, the node representation is rather cryptic. A helper routine to convert this compact representation of a node to and from a dictionary-style table is planned, but not ready yet.

### 4.5.4.2 `pre_linebreak_filter`

This callback is called just before L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X starts converting a list of nodes into a stack of `\hboxes`. The skip removal and insertion of `\parfillskip` has not happened yet.

```
function (table <nodelist>, string <groupcode>)
  return table <nodelist>
end
```

The string called `groupcode` identifies the `nodelist`'s context within T<sub>E</sub>X's processing. The range of possibilities is given in the table below, but not all of those can actually appear in `pre_linebreak_filter`, some are for the `Xpack_filter` callbacks that will be explained in the next two paragraphs.



| Value | Explanation |
|-------|-------------|
|-------|-------------|

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <code>hbox</code>          |  |
| <code>adjusted_hbox</code> |  |
| <code>vbox</code>          |  |
| <code>vtop</code>          |  |
| <code>align</code>         |  |
| <code>output</code>        |  |
| <code>math</code>          |  |
| <code>disc</code>          |  |
| <code>insert</code>        |  |
| <code>vcenter</code>       |  |
| <code>local_box</code>     |  |
| <code>split_off</code>     |  |
| <code>split_keep</code>    |  |
| <code>preamble</code>      |  |
| <code>align_set</code>     |  |
| <code>fin_row</code>       |  |

#### 4.5.4.3 `hpack_filter`

This callback is called when T<sub>E</sub>X is ready to start boxing some horizontal mode material. Math items are ignored at the moment.

```
function (table <nodelist>, number <size>, string <packtype>,
         string <groupcode>) return table <nodelist> end
```

The `packtype` is either ‘additional’ or ‘exactly’. If ‘additional’, then the `size` is a `\hbox spread ...` argument. If ‘exactly’, then the `size` is a `\hbox to ....` In both cases, the number is in scaled points.

#### 4.5.4.4 `vpack_filter`

This callback is called when T<sub>E</sub>X is ready to start boxing some vertical mode material. Math items are ignored at the moment.

This function is very similar to the `hpack_filter`. Besides the fact that it is called at different moments, there is an extra variable that matches T<sub>E</sub>X’s `\maxdepth` setting.

```
function (table <nodelist>, number <size>, string <packtype>,
         number <maxdepth>, string <groupcode>)
    return table <nodelist>
end
```



## 4.5.5 Information reporting callbacks

### 4.5.5.1 start\_run

```
function ()
```

Replaces the code that prints L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X's banner

### 4.5.5.2 stop\_run

```
function ()
```

Replaces the code that prints L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X's statistics and 'Output written to' messages.

### 4.5.5.3 start\_page\_number

```
function ()
```

Replaces the code that prints the [ and the page number at the begin of `\shipout`. This callback will also override the printing of box information that normally takes place when `\tracingoutput` is positive.

### 4.5.5.4 stop\_page\_number

```
function ()
```

Replaces the code that prints the ] at the end of `\shipout`

### 4.5.5.5 show\_error\_hook

```
function ()  
  return  
end
```

This callback is run from inside the T<sub>E</sub>X error function, and the idea is to allow you to do some extra reporting on top of what T<sub>E</sub>X already does (none of the normal actions are removed). You may find some of the values in the status table useful.

message

is the formal error message T<sub>E</sub>X has given to the user (the line after the " ! ")

indicator

is either a filename (when it is a string) or a location indicator (a number) that can mean lots of different things like a token list id or a `\read` number.

lineno



is the current line number

This is an investigative item only, only for ‘testing the water’.

The final goal is the total replacement of T<sub>E</sub>X’s error handling routines, but that needs lots of adjustments in the web source because T<sub>E</sub>X deals with errors in a somewhat haphazard fashion.

## 4.5.6 Font-related callbacks

### 4.5.6.1 `define_font`

```
function (string <name>, number <size>, number <id>)  
  return table <font>  
end
```

The string `<name>` is the filename part of the font specification, as given by the user.

The number `<size>` is a bit special:

- if it is positive, it specifies an ‘at size’ in scaled points.
- if it is negative, its absolute value represents a ‘scaled’ setting relative to the designsize of the font.

The internal structure of the `<font>` table that is to be returned is explained in chapter 5. That table is saved internally, so you can put extra fields in the table for your later lua code to use.

## 4.6 The lua library

This library contains two read-only items:

### 4.6.1 Variables

```
number n = lua.id
```

the id number of the instance

```
string s = lua.version
```

a luatex version identifier string (currently "0.1")

### 4.6.2 Lua bytecode registers

Lua registers can be used to communicate lua functions across lua states. The accepted values for assignments are functions and nil. Likewise, the retrieved value is either a function or nil.



```
lua.bytecode[n] = function () .. end
lua.bytecode[n]()
```

The contents of the `lua.bytecode` array is stored inside the format file as actual lua bytecode, so it can also be used to preload lua code.

The associated function calls are

```
function f = lua.getbytecode(number n)
lua.setbytecode(number n, function f)
```

## 4.7 The kpse library

### 4.7.1 `kpse.find_file`

The most important function in the library is `find_file`:

```
string f = kpse.find_file(string filename)
string f = kpse.find_file(string filename, string ftype)
string f = kpse.find_file(string filename, boolean mustexist)
string f = kpse.find_file(string filename, string ftype, boolean mustexist)
```

Arguments:

`filename`

the name of the file you want to find, with or without extension.

`type`

maps to the `'-format'` argument of `kpsewhich`. The supported values are:

|               |                            |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| "gf"          | "mppool"                   |
| "pk"          | "MetaPost support"         |
| "bitmap font" | "ocp"                      |
| "tfm"         | "ofm"                      |
| "afm"         | "opl"                      |
| "base"        | "otp"                      |
| "bib"         | "ovf"                      |
| "bst"         | "ovp"                      |
| "cnf"         | "graphic/figure"           |
| "ls-R"        | "tex"                      |
| "fmt"         | "TeX system documentation" |
| "map"         | "texpool"                  |
| "mem"         | "TeX system sources"       |
| "mf"          | "PostScript header"        |
| "mfpool"      | "Troff fonts"              |
| "mft"         | "type1 fonts"              |
| "mp"          | "vf"                       |



|                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| "dvips config"       | "enc files"                |
| "ist"                | "cmap files"               |
| "truetype fonts"     | "subfont definition files" |
| "type42 fonts"       | "opentype fonts"           |
| "web2c files"        | "pdftex config"            |
| "other text files"   | "lig files"                |
| "other binary files" | "texmfscripts"             |
| "misc fonts"         |                            |
| "web"                |                            |
| "cweb"               |                            |

The default type is "tex".

`mustexist`

is similar to `kpsewhich`'s `'-must-exist'`, and the default is `'false'`. If you specify `'true'` (or a non-zero integer), then the `kpse` library will search the disk as well as the `ls-R` databases.

## 4.7.2 `kpse.expand_path`

Like `kpsewhich`'s `'-expand-path'`:

```
string r = kpse.expand_path(string s)
```

## 4.7.3 `kpse.expand_var`

Like `kpsewhich`'s `'-expand-var'`:

```
string r = kpse.expand_var(string s)
```

## 4.7.4 `kpse.expand_braces`

Like `kpsewhich`'s `'-expand-braces'`:

```
string r = kpse.expand_braces(string s)
```

# 4.8 The status library

This contains a number of run-time configuration items that you may find useful in message reporting, as well as an iterator function that gets all of the names and values as a table.

```
table <info> = status.list()
```

The keys in the table are the known items, the value is the current value.

Almost all of the values in `status` are fetched through a metatable at run-time whenever they are accessed, so you cannot use `pairs` on `status`, but you *can* use `pairs` on `<info>`, of course.





If you do not need the full list, you can also ask for a single item by using its name as an index into `status`.

The current list is:

| Key              | Explanation                       |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| pdf_gone         | written pdf bytes                 |
| pdf_ptr          | not yet written pdf bytes         |
| dvi_gone         | written dvi bytes                 |
| dvi_ptr          | not yet written dvi bytes         |
| total_pages      | number of written pages           |
| output_file_name | name of the pdf or dvi file       |
| log_name         | name of the log file              |
| banner           | terminal display banner           |
| pdftex_banner    | —                                 |
| var_used         | variable (one-word) memory in use |
| dyn_used         | token (multi-word) memory in use  |
| str_ptr          | number of strings                 |
| init_str_ptr     | number of initex strings          |
| max_strings      | maximum allowed strings           |
| pool_ptr         | string pool index                 |
| init_pool_ptr    | initex string pool index          |
| pool_size        | maximum allowed string characters |
| lo_mem_max       | current top of multi-word memory  |
| mem_min          | bottom index of memory array      |
| mem_end          | top index of memory array         |
| hi_mem_min       | current bottom of one-word memory |
| cs_count         | number of control sequences       |
| hash_size        | size of hash                      |
| hash_extra       | extra allowed hash                |
| font_ptr         | number of active fonts            |
| hyph_count       | hyphenation exceptions            |
| hyph_size        | max used hyphenation exceptions   |
| max_in_stack     | max used input stack entries      |
| max_nest_stack   | max used nesting stack entries    |
| max_param_stack  | max used parameter stack entries  |
| max_buf_stack    | max used buffer position          |
| max_save_stack   | max used save stack entries       |
| stack_size       | input stack size                  |
| nest_size        | nesting stack size                |
| param_size       | parameter stack size              |
| buf_size         | line buffer size                  |
| save_size        | save stack size                   |
| obj_ptr          | max pdf object pointer            |
| obj_tab_size     | pdf object table size             |



|                    |                                                                 |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| pdf_os_cnr         | max pdf object stream pointer                                   |
| pdf_os_objidx      | pdf object stream index                                         |
| pdf_dest_names_ptr | max pdf destination pointer                                     |
| dest_names_size    | pdf destination table size                                      |
| pdf_mem_ptr        | max pdf memory used                                             |
| pdf_mem_size       | pdf memory size                                                 |
| largest_used_mark  | max referenced marks class                                      |
| filename           | name of the current input file                                  |
| inputid            | numeric id of the current input                                 |
| linenumber         | location in the current input file                              |
| lasterrorstring    | last error string                                               |
| luabytecodes       | number of active luabytecode registers                          |
| luabytecode_bytes  | number of bytes in luabytecode registers                        |
| luastates          | number of active lua interpreters                               |
| luastate_bytes     | number of bytes in use by lua interpreters                      |
| output_active      | <code>true</code> if the <code>\output</code> routine is active |

## 4.9 The texconfig table

This is a table that is created empty. A startup lua script could fill this table with a number of settings that are read out by the executable after loading and executing the startup file.

| key              | type   | default | explanation    |
|------------------|--------|---------|----------------|
| mem_bot          | number | 0       | cf. web2c docs |
| main_memory      | number | 250000  | cf. web2c docs |
| extra_mem_top    | number | 0       | cf. web2c docs |
| extra_mem_bot    | number | 0       | cf. web2c docs |
| pool_size        | number | 100000  | cf. web2c docs |
| string_vacancies | number | 75000   | cf. web2c docs |
| pool_free        | number | 5000    | cf. web2c docs |
| max_strings      | number | 15000   | cf. web2c docs |
| strings_free     | number | 100     | cf. web2c docs |
| trie_size        | number | 20000   | cf. web2c docs |
| hyph_size        | number | 659     | cf. web2c docs |
| buf_size         | number | 3000    | cf. web2c docs |
| nest_size        | number | 50      | cf. web2c docs |
| max_in_open      | number | 15      | cf. web2c docs |
| param_size       | number | 60      | cf. web2c docs |
| save_size        | number | 4000    | cf. web2c docs |
| stack_size       | number | 300     | cf. web2c docs |
| dvi_buf_size     | number | 16384   | cf. web2c docs |
| error_line       | number | 79      | cf. web2c docs |
| half_error_line  | number | 50      | cf. web2c docs |
| max_print_line   | number | 79      | cf. web2c docs |



|                          |         |       |                                                                                                                               |
|--------------------------|---------|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ocp_list_size            | number  | 1000  | cf. web2c docs                                                                                                                |
| ocp_buf_size             | number  | 1000  | cf. web2c docs                                                                                                                |
| ocp_stack_size           | number  | 1000  | cf. web2c docs                                                                                                                |
| hash_extra               | number  | 0     | cf. web2c docs                                                                                                                |
| pk_dpi                   | number  | 72    | cf. web2c docs                                                                                                                |
| kpse_init                | boolean | true  | <b>false</b> totally disables Kpathsea initialisation (only ever unset this if you implement <i>all</i> file find callbacks!) |
| trace_file_names         | boolean | true  | <b>false</b> disables TeX's normal file open–close feedback (the assumption is that callbacks will take care of that).        |
| src_special_auto         | boolean | false | Source specials sub-item                                                                                                      |
| src_special_everypar     | boolean | false | Source specials sub-item                                                                                                      |
| src_special_everyparend  | boolean | false | Source specials sub-item                                                                                                      |
| src_special_everycr      | boolean | false | Source specials sub-item                                                                                                      |
| src_special_everymath    | boolean | false | Source specials sub-item                                                                                                      |
| src_special_everyhbox    | boolean | false | Source specials sub-item                                                                                                      |
| src_special_everyvbox    | boolean | false | Source specials sub-item                                                                                                      |
| src_special_everydisplay | boolean | false | Source specials sub-item                                                                                                      |
| file_line_error          | boolean | false | Do <b>file:line</b> style error messages                                                                                      |
| halt_on_error            | boolean | false | Abort run on the first encountered error                                                                                      |
| formatname               | string  | –     | If no format name was given on the command–line, this key will be tested first instead of simply quitting                     |
| jobname                  | string  | –     | If no input file name was given on the command–line, this key will be tested first instead of simply giving up                |

## 4.10 The font library

The font library will provide the interface into the internals of the font system, as well as contain some binary font loaders.

### 4.10.1 Loading a tfm file

```
table fnt = font.read_tfm(string name, number s)
```

The number is a bit special:

- if it is positive, it specifies an ‘at size’ in scaled points.
- if it is negative, its absolute value represents a ‘scaled’ setting relative to the designsizes of the font.

The internal structure of the virtual font table that is returned is explained in chapter 5.

### 4.10.2 Loading a vf file

```
table vf_fnt = font.read_vf(string name, number s)
```



The number is a bit special:

- if it is positive, it specifies an ‘at size’ in scaled points.
- if it is negative, its absolute value represents a ‘scaled’ setting relative to the designsize of the font.

### 4.10.3 Loading an opentype or truetype file

If you want to use an OpenType font, you have to get the metric information from somewhere. The next two functions provide a way of doing that.

```
table ttf_metrics = font.read_otf(string filename)
table ttf_metrics = font.read_ttf(string filename)
```

The result is identical in both cases, but you have to use the ‘read\_otf’ for loading of information from PostScript-based OpenType and ‘read\_ttf’ for loading of TrueType-based OpenType (or simply a TrueType font). Bitmap-only OpenType fonts are not supported.

At the moment, the `filename` font file is actually parsed and even partially interpreted by the OpenType/TrueType loading routines from FontForge. There are a few reasons for this:

- The font is automatically re-encoded, so that the `ttf_metrics` table is using unicode for the character indices.
- Many features are pre-processed into a format that is easier to handle than just the bare tables would be.
- PostScript-based OpenType fonts do not store the character height and depth in the font file, so the actual character boundingbox has to be calculated.
- In the future, it may be interesting to allow Lua scripts access to the actual font programs.

The top-level keys in the returned table are (this documentation is not yet finished):

| key             | type   | explanation                                   |
|-----------------|--------|-----------------------------------------------|
| table_version   | number | indicates the <code>read_otf()</code> version |
| fontname        | string |                                               |
| fullname        | string |                                               |
| familyname      | string |                                               |
| weight          | string |                                               |
| copyright       | string |                                               |
| filename        | string |                                               |
| defbasefilename | string |                                               |
| version         | string |                                               |
| italicangle     | float  |                                               |
| upos            | float  |                                               |
| uwidth          | float  |                                               |
| units_per_em    | number |                                               |
| ascent          | number |                                               |



|                              |        |                                                                                                                 |
|------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| descent                      | number |                                                                                                                 |
| vertical_origin              | number |                                                                                                                 |
| uniqueid                     | number |                                                                                                                 |
| glyphcnt                     | number |                                                                                                                 |
| glyphmax                     | number |                                                                                                                 |
| glyphs                       | array  |                                                                                                                 |
| changed                      | number |                                                                                                                 |
| hasvmetrics                  | number |                                                                                                                 |
| order2                       | number |                                                                                                                 |
| strokedfont                  | number |                                                                                                                 |
| weight_width_slope_only      | number |                                                                                                                 |
| head_optimized_for_cleartype | number |                                                                                                                 |
| uni_interp                   | enum   | Possible values: "unset", "none", "adobe", "greek", "japanese", "trad_chinese", "simp_chinese", "korean", "ams" |
| map                          | table  |                                                                                                                 |
| private                      | table  |                                                                                                                 |
| xuid                         | string |                                                                                                                 |
| pfminfo                      | table  |                                                                                                                 |
| names                        | table  |                                                                                                                 |
| cidinfo                      | table  |                                                                                                                 |
| subfonts                     | array  |                                                                                                                 |
| cidmaster                    | array  |                                                                                                                 |
| comments                     | string |                                                                                                                 |
| anchor                       | table  |                                                                                                                 |
| orders                       | table  |                                                                                                                 |
| ttf_tables                   | table  |                                                                                                                 |
| script_lang                  | table  |                                                                                                                 |
| kerns                        | table  |                                                                                                                 |
| vkerns                       | table  |                                                                                                                 |
| texdata                      | table  |                                                                                                                 |
| tt_cur                       | number |                                                                                                                 |
| gentags                      | table  |                                                                                                                 |
| possub                       | table  |                                                                                                                 |
| chosename                    | string |                                                                                                                 |
| macstyle                     | number |                                                                                                                 |
| sli_cnt                      | number |                                                                                                                 |
| fondname                     | string |                                                                                                                 |
| design_size                  | number |                                                                                                                 |
| fontstyle_id                 | number |                                                                                                                 |
| fontstyle_name               | table  |                                                                                                                 |
| design_range_bottom          | number |                                                                                                                 |
| design_range_top             | number |                                                                                                                 |
| strokewidth                  | float  |                                                                                                                 |
| mark_class_cnt               | number |                                                                                                                 |



|                  |        |
|------------------|--------|
| mark_classes     | array  |
| mark_class_names | array  |
| creationtime     | number |
| modificationtime | number |
| os2_version      | number |
| gasp_version     | number |
| gasp_cnt         | number |
| gasp             | table  |

### 4.10.3.1 Glyph items

The **glyphs** is an array containing the per-character information (quite a few of these are only present if nonzero).

| key           | type   | explanation                                           |
|---------------|--------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| name          | string |                                                       |
| unicodeenc    | number |                                                       |
| boundingbox   | array  | Array of four numbers                                 |
| width         | number | (only for horizontal fonts)                           |
| vwidth        | number | (only for vertical fonts)                             |
| lsidebearing  | number | (only if nonzero)                                     |
| glyph_class   | number | (only if nonzero)                                     |
| kerns         | array  | (only for horizontal fonts, if set)                   |
| vkerns        | array  | (only for vertical fonts, if set)                     |
| dependents    | array  | Linear array of glyph name strings (only if nonempty) |
| possub        | table  | (only if nonempty)                                    |
| ligofme       | table  | (only if nonempty)                                    |
| comment       | string | (only if set)                                         |
| color         | number | (only if set)                                         |
| tex_height    | number | (only if set)                                         |
| tex_depth     | number | (only if set)                                         |
| tex_sub_pos   | number | (only if set)                                         |
| tex_super_pos | number | (only if set)                                         |

The **kerns** and **vkerns** are linear arrays of small hashes:

| key   | type   | explanation |
|-------|--------|-------------|
| char  | string |             |
| off   | number |             |
| sli   | number |             |
| flags | number |             |

The **possub** is a linear array of small hashes:



| key               | type   | explanation                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| type              | enum   | "position", "pair", "substitution", "alternate", "multiple", "ligature", "lcaret", "kerning", "vkerning", "anchors", "contextpos", "contextsub", "chainpos", "chain-sub", "reversesub", "max", "kernback", "vkernback" |
| flags             | number |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| tag               | string |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| script_lang_index | number |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

For the first seven values of `type`, there can be additional sub-information:

| value        | key    | type  | explanation                                 |
|--------------|--------|-------|---------------------------------------------|
| position     | pos    | table | 'vr' table                                  |
| pair         | pair   | table | one string: 'paired', and a 'vr' (sub)table |
| substitution | subs   | table | one string: 'variant'                       |
| alternate    | alt    | table | one string: 'components'                    |
| multiple     | mult   | table | one string: 'components'                    |
| ligature     | lig    | table | two strings: 'components', 'char'           |
| lcaret       | lcaret | array | linear array of numbers                     |

The 'vr' table contains for number-valued fields: `xoff`, `yoff`, `h_adv_off` and `v_adv_off`.

The other values of `type` could probably use some extra information as well, but I do not know which case of the union is supposed to be selected.

The `ligofme` is a linear array of small hashes:

| key        | type   | explanation                                          |
|------------|--------|------------------------------------------------------|
| lig        | table  | uses the same substructure as a single 'possub' item |
| char       | string |                                                      |
| components | array  | linear array of named components                     |
| ccnt       | number |                                                      |

### 4.10.3.2 map table

The top-level map is a list of encoding mappings. Each of those is a table itself.

| key      | type   | explanation                           |
|----------|--------|---------------------------------------|
| enccount | number |                                       |
| encmax   | number |                                       |
| backmax  | number |                                       |
| remap    | table  |                                       |
| map      | array  | non-linear array of mappings          |
| backmap  | array  | non-linear array of backward mappings |
| enc      | table  |                                       |

The 'remap' table is very small:



| key      | type   | explanation |
|----------|--------|-------------|
| firstenc | number |             |
| lastenc  | number |             |
| infont   | number |             |

The ‘enc’ table is a bit more verbose:

| key              | type   | explanation                 |
|------------------|--------|-----------------------------|
| enc_name         | string |                             |
| char_cnt         | number |                             |
| char_max         | number |                             |
| unicode          | array  | of unicode position numbers |
| psnames          | array  | of postscript glyph names   |
| builtin          | number |                             |
| hidden           | number |                             |
| only_1byte       | number |                             |
| has_1byte        | number |                             |
| has_2byte        | number |                             |
| is_unicodebmp    | number | (only if nonzero)           |
| is_unicodfull    | number | (only if nonzero)           |
| is_custom        | number | (only if nonzero)           |
| is_original      | number | (only if nonzero)           |
| is_compact       | number | (only if nonzero)           |
| is_japanese      | number | (only if nonzero)           |
| is_korean        | number | (only if nonzero)           |
| is_tradchinese   | number | (only if nonzero)           |
| is_simplechinese | number |                             |
| low_page         | number |                             |
| high_page        | number |                             |
| iconv_name       | string |                             |
| iso_2022_escape  | string |                             |

### 4.10.3.3 private table

This is the font’s private PostScript dictionary, if any. Keys and values are both strings.

### 4.10.3.4 cidinfo table

|            |        |
|------------|--------|
| registry   | string |
| ordering   | string |
| supplement | number |
| version    | number |





### 4.10.3.5 pfminfo table

The ‘pfminfo’ table contains most of the OS/2 information:

| key              | type   | explanation |
|------------------|--------|-------------|
| pfmset           | number |             |
| winascent_add    | number |             |
| windescent_add   | number |             |
| hheadascent_add  | number |             |
| hheaddescent_add | number |             |
| typoascent_add   | number |             |
| typodescent_add  | number |             |
| subsuper_set     | number |             |
| panose_set       | number |             |
| hheadset         | number |             |
| vheadset         | number |             |
| pfmfamily        | number |             |
| weight           | number |             |
| width            | number |             |
| avgwidth         | number |             |
| firstchar        | number |             |
| lastchar         | number |             |
| fstype           | number |             |
| linegap          | number |             |
| vlinegap         | number |             |
| hhead_ascent     | number |             |
| hhead_descent    | number |             |
| hhead_descent    | number |             |
| os2_typoascent   | number |             |
| os2_typodescent  | number |             |
| os2_typolinegap  | number |             |
| os2_winascent    | number |             |
| os2_windescent   | number |             |
| os2_subxsize     | number |             |
| os2_subysize     | number |             |
| os2_subxoff      | number |             |
| os2_subyoff      | number |             |
| os2_supxsize     | number |             |
| os2_supysize     | number |             |
| os2_supxoff      | number |             |
| os2_supyoff      | number |             |
| os2_strikeysize  | number |             |
| os2_strikeypos   | number |             |
| os2_family_class | number |             |
| os2_xheight      | number |             |



|                 |        |
|-----------------|--------|
| os2_capheight   | number |
| os2_defaultchar | number |
| os2_breakchar   | number |
| os2_vendor      | string |
| panose          | table  |

The **panose** subtable has exactly 10 string keys:

|                 | key    | type                                                                                            |  |
|-----------------|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| familytype      | string | Values as in the OpenType font specification: "Any", "No Fit", "Text and Display", "Script", "D |  |
| serifstyle      | string | See the OpenType font specification for values                                                  |  |
| weight          | string | id.                                                                                             |  |
| proportion      | string | id.                                                                                             |  |
| contrast        | string | id.                                                                                             |  |
| strokevariation | string | id.                                                                                             |  |
| armstyle        | string | id.                                                                                             |  |
| letterform      | string | id.                                                                                             |  |
| midline         | string | id.                                                                                             |  |
| xheight         | string | id.                                                                                             |  |

#### 4.10.3.6 names table

Each item has two top-level keys:

|             | key    | type                    | explanation |
|-------------|--------|-------------------------|-------------|
| lang        | string | language for this entry |             |
| names table |        |                         |             |

The **names** keys are the actual TrueType name strings. The possible keys are:

| key            | explanation |
|----------------|-------------|
| copyright      |             |
| family         |             |
| subfamily      |             |
| uniqueid       |             |
| fullname       |             |
| version        |             |
| postscriptname |             |
| trademark      |             |
| manufacturer   |             |
| designer       |             |
| descriptor     |             |
| venderurl      |             |
| designerurl    |             |
| license        |             |



licenseurl  
 idontknow  
 preffamilyname  
 prefmodifiers  
 compatfull  
 sampletext  
 cidfindfontname

#### 4.10.3.7 anchor table

The anchor classes:

| key               | type   | explanation |
|-------------------|--------|-------------|
| name              | string |             |
| feature_tag       | string |             |
| script_lang_index | number |             |
| flags             | number |             |
| merge_with        | number |             |
| type              | number |             |
| processed         | number |             |
| has_mark          | number |             |
| matches           | number |             |
| ac_num            | number |             |

#### 4.10.3.8 orders table

| key              | type   | explanation         |
|------------------|--------|---------------------|
| table_tag        | string |                     |
| ordered_features | array  | list of tag strings |

#### 4.10.3.9 ttf\_tables table

| key    | type   | explanation |
|--------|--------|-------------|
| tag    | string |             |
| len    | number |             |
| maxlen | number |             |
| data   | number |             |

#### 4.10.3.10 script\_lang table

| key    | type   | explanation           |
|--------|--------|-----------------------|
| script | string |                       |
| langs  | array  | list of language tags |



#### 4.10.3.11 kerns table

Substructure is identical to the per-glyph subtable.

#### 4.10.3.12 vkerns table

Substructure is identical to the per-glyph subtable.

#### 4.10.3.13 texdata table

|        |        |                                                     |
|--------|--------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| key    | type   | explanation                                         |
| type   | string | possible values: "unset", "text", "math", "mathext" |
| params | array  | 22 font numeric parameters                          |

#### 4.10.3.14 gentags table

|         |       |             |
|---------|-------|-------------|
| key     | type  | explanation |
| tagtype | array |             |

The array items are mini-hashes:

|      |        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|------|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| key  | type   | explanation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| type | enum   | allowed values: "null", "position", "pair", "substitution", "alternate", "multiple", "ligature", "lcaret", "kerning", "vkerning", "anchors", "contextpos", "contextsub", "chainpos", "chainsub", "reversesub", "max", "kernback", "vkernback" |
| tag  | string |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

#### 4.10.3.15 possub table

Top-level **possub** is quite different from the ones at character level.

|                   |        |                                                                   |
|-------------------|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| key               | type   | explanation                                                       |
| type              | number |                                                                   |
| format            | enum   | Possible values: "glyphs", "class", "coverage", "reversecoverage" |
| script_lang_index | number |                                                                   |
| flags             | number | (only if nonzero)                                                 |
| tag               | string |                                                                   |
| ncnt              | number | (only if nonzero)                                                 |
| bcnt              | number | (only if nonzero)                                                 |
| fcnt              | number | (only if nonzero)                                                 |
| nclass            | array  |                                                                   |
| bclass            | array  |                                                                   |



|        |       |                        |
|--------|-------|------------------------|
| fclass | array |                        |
| rules  | array | an array of rule items |

Rule items have one common item and one specialized item:

| key             | type  | explanation                            |
|-----------------|-------|----------------------------------------|
| lookups         | array | A list of 'lookup items'               |
| glyph           | array | Only if the parent's format is 'glyph' |
| class           | array | Only if the parent's format is 'glyph' |
| coverage        | array | Only if the parent's format is 'glyph' |
| reversecoverage | array | Only if the parent's format is 'glyph' |

Each of the lookup item is:

| key        | type   | explanation |
|------------|--------|-------------|
| seq        | number |             |
| lookup_tag | string |             |

glyph:

| key   | type   | explanation |
|-------|--------|-------------|
| names | string |             |
| back  | string |             |
| fore  | string |             |

class:

| key      | type  | explanation |
|----------|-------|-------------|
| nclasses | array | of numbers  |
| bclasses | array | of numbers  |
| fclasses | array | of numbers  |

coverage:

| key     | type  | explanation |
|---------|-------|-------------|
| ncovers | array | of strings  |
| bcovers | array | of strings  |
| fcovers | array | of strings  |

reversecoverage:

| key          | type   | explanation |
|--------------|--------|-------------|
| ncovers      | array  | of strings  |
| bcovers      | array  | of strings  |
| fcovers      | array  | of strings  |
| replacements | string |             |



## 4.10.4 Loading opentype or truetype name information

```
table ttf_info    = font.read_otf_info(string name)
table ttf_info    = font.read_ttf_info(string name)
```

These two functions are very similar to the two commands from previous section, but they only return a small subset of the information. The returned table only has five keys: `fontname`, `fullname`, `familyname`, `weight` and `table_version`.

## 4.10.5 The fonts array

```
font.fonts[n] = { ... }
table f = font.fonts[n]
```

See chapter 5 for the structure of the tables.

The associated function calls are

```
table f = font.getfont(number n)
font.setfont(number n, table f)
```

Note the following: Assignments can only be made to fonts that have already be defined in T<sub>E</sub>X, but have not been accessed *at all* since that definition. This limits the usability of the write access to `font.fonts` quite a lot, a less stringent ruleset will be implemented later.

## 4.10.6 Checking a font's status

You can test for the status of a font by calling this function:

```
boolean f = font.frozen(number n)
```

The return value is one of true (unassignable), false (can be changed) or nil (not a valid font at all).

## 4.10.7 Defining a font directly

You can define your own font into `font.fonts`

```
number i = font.define(table f)
```

The return value is the internal id number of the defined font (the index into `font.fonts`). If the font creation fails, an error is raised. The table is a font structure, as explained in chapter 5.

## 4.10.8 Currently active font

```
number i = font.currentid;
```

This is the currently used font number.



## 5 Font structure

All T<sub>E</sub>X fonts are represented to Lua code as tables, and internally as C structures. All keys in the table below are saved in the internal font structure if they are present in the table returned by the ‘define\_font’ callback, or if they result from the normal tfm/vf reading routines if there is no ‘define\_font’ callback defined.

The column ‘from VF’ means that this key will be created by the ‘font.read\_vf()’ routine, ‘from TFM’ means that the key will be created by the ‘font.read\_tfm()’ routine, and ‘used’ means whether or not the luatex engine itself will do something with the key.

The top-level keys in the table are as follows:

| key           | from VF | from TFM | used | value type | description                                     |
|---------------|---------|----------|------|------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| name          | yes     | yes      | yes  | string     | metric (file) name                              |
| area          | no      | yes      | yes  | string     | (directory)location, typically empty            |
| used          | no      | yes      | yes  | boolean    | used already? (initial: false)                  |
| characters    | yes     | yes      | yes  | table      | the defined glyphs of this font                 |
| checksum      | yes     | yes      | no   | number     | default: 0                                      |
| designsize    | no      | yes      | yes  | number     | expected size (default: 655360 == 10pt)         |
| direction     | no      | yes      | yes  | number     | default: 0 (LTR)                                |
| encodingbytes | no      | no       | yes  | number     | default: depends on ‘format’                    |
| encodingname  | no      | no       | yes  | string     | encoding name                                   |
| fonts         | yes     | no       | yes  | table      | locally used fonts                              |
| fullname      | no      | no       | yes  | string     | actual (PostScript) name                        |
| header        | yes     | no       | no   | string     | header comments, if any                         |
| hyphenchar    | no      | no       | yes  | number     | default: TeX’s <a href="#">\hyphenchar</a>      |
| parameters    | no      | yes      | yes  | hash       | default: 7 parameters, all zero                 |
| size          | no      | yes      | yes  | number     | loaded (at) size. (default: same as designsize) |
| skewchar      | no      | no       | yes  | number     | default: TeX’s <a href="#">\skewchar</a>        |
| type          | yes     | no       | yes  | string     | basic type of this font                         |
| format        | no      | no       | yes  | string     | disk format type                                |
| embedding     | no      | no       | yes  | string     | PDF inclusion                                   |
| filename      | no      | no       | yes  | string     | disk file name                                  |

The key [name](#) is always required.

The key [used](#) is set by the engine when a font is actively in use, this makes sure that the font’s definition is written to the output file (DVI or PDF). The [TFM](#) reader sets it to false.

The [direction](#) is a number signalling the ‘normal’ direction for this font. There are sixteen possibilities:

| number | meaning | number | meaning |
|--------|---------|--------|---------|
| 0      | LT      | 8      | TT      |
| 1      | LL      | 9      | TL      |



|   |    |    |    |
|---|----|----|----|
| 2 | LB | 10 | TB |
| 3 | LR | 11 | TR |
| 4 | RT | 12 | BT |
| 5 | RL | 13 | BL |
| 6 | RB | 14 | BB |
| 7 | RR | 15 | BR |

These are Omega-style direction abbreviations: the first character indicates the ‘first’ edge of the character glyphs (the edge that is seen first in the writing direction), the second the ‘top’ side.

The `parameters` is a hash with mixed key types. There are seven possible string keys, as well as a number of integer indices (these start from 8 up). The seven strings are actually used instead of the bottom seven indices, because that gives a nicer user interface.

The names and their internal remapping:

| name          | internal remapped number |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| slant         | 1                        |
| space         | 2                        |
| space_stretch | 3                        |
| space_shrink  | 4                        |
| x_height      | 5                        |
| quad          | 6                        |
| extra_space   | 7                        |

The keys `type`, `format`, `embedding`, `fullname` and `filename` are used to embed OpenType fonts in the result PDF.

The `characters` table is a list of character hashes indexed by integer number. The number is the ‘internal code’ TeX knows this character by.

Two very special string indexes can be used also: `left_boundary` is a virtual character whose ‘ligatures’ and ‘kerns’ are used to handle word boundary processing. `right_boundary` is similar but not actually used for anything (yet!).

Other index keys are ignored.

Each character hash itself is a hash. For example, here is the character ‘f’ (decimal 102) in the font cmr10 at 10 points:

```
[102] = {
  ["kerns"] = {
    [63] = 50973,
    [93] = 50973,
    [39] = 50973,
    [33] = 50973,
    [41] = 50973
  },
  ["italic"] = 50973,
```





```

["height"] = 455111,
["depth"] = 0,
["ligatures"] = {
  [102] = {
    ["char"] = 11,
    ["type"] = 0
  },
  [108] = {
    ["char"] = 13,
    ["type"] = 0
  },
  [105] = {
    ["char"] = 12,
    ["type"] = 0
  }
},
["width"] = 200250
}

```

The following top-level keys can be present inside a character hash:

| key        | from VF | from TFM | used | value type | description                                         |
|------------|---------|----------|------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| width      | yes     | yes      | yes  | number     | character's width, in sp (default 0)                |
| height     | no      | yes      | yes  | number     | character's height, in sp (default 0)               |
| depth      | no      | yes      | yes  | number     | character's depth, in sp (default 0)                |
| italic     | no      | yes      | yes  | number     | character's italic correction, in sp (default zero) |
| next       | no      | yes      | yes  | number     | the 'next larger' character index                   |
| extensible | no      | yes      | yes  | table      | the constituent bits of an extensible recipe        |
| kerns      | no      | yes      | yes  | table      | kerning information                                 |
| ligatures  | no      | yes      | yes  | table      | ligaturing information                              |
| commands   | yes     | no       | yes  | array      | virtual font commands                               |
| name       | no      | no       | no   | string     | the character (PostScript) name                     |
| index      | no      | no       | yes  | number     | the (opentype or truetype) font glyph index         |
| used       | no      | yes      | yes  | boolean    | typeset already (default: false)?                   |

The presence of **extensible** will overrule **next**, if that is also present.

The **extensible** table is very simple:

| key | value type | description                  |
|-----|------------|------------------------------|
| top | number     | 'top' character index        |
| mid | number     | 'middle' character index     |
| bot | number     | 'bottom' character index     |
| rep | number     | 'repeatable' character index |



The **ker**ns table is a hash indexed by character index (and ‘character index’ is defined as either a non-negative integer or the string value ‘right\_boundary’), with the values the kerning to be applied, in scaled points.

The **ligatures** table is a hash indexed by character index (and ‘character index’ is defined as either a non-negative integer or the string value ‘right\_boundary’), with the values being yet another small hash, with two fields:

| key  | value type | description                                   |
|------|------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| type | number     | the type of this ligature command, default 0  |
| char | number     | the character index of the resultant ligature |

The **char** field in a ligature is required.

The **type** field inside a ligature is the numerical or string value of one of the eight possible ligature types supported by T<sub>E</sub>X. When T<sub>E</sub>X inserts a new ligature, it puts the new glyph in the middle of the left and right glyphs. The original left and right glyphs can optionally be retained, and when at least one of them is kept, it is also possible to move the new ‘insertion point’ forward one or two places. The glyph that ends up to the right of the insertion point will become the next ‘left’.

| textual (Knuth)  | number | string               | result (  = final ‘insertion point’) |
|------------------|--------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| $l + r =: n$     | 0      | <b>=:</b>            | $ n$                                 |
| $l + r =:  n$    | 1      | <b>=:  </b>          | $ nr$                                |
| $l + r  =: n$    | 2      | <b> =:</b>           | $ ln$                                |
| $l + r  =:  n$   | 3      | <b> =:  </b>         | $ lnr$                               |
| $l + r =: > n$   | 5      | <b>=:  &gt;</b>      | $n r$                                |
| $l + r  =:> n$   | 6      | <b> =:&gt;</b>       | $l n$                                |
| $l + r  =: > n$  | 7      | <b> =:  &gt;</b>     | $l nr$                               |
| $l + r  =: >> n$ | 11     | <b> =:  &gt;&gt;</b> | $ln r$                               |

The default value is 0, and can be left out. That signifies a ‘normal’ ligature where the ligature replaces both original glyphs.

The **commands** array is explained below.

## 5.1 Real fonts

Whether or not a T<sub>E</sub>X font is a ‘real’ font that should be written to the PDF document is decided by the **type** value in the top-level font structure. If the value is **real**, then this is a proper font, and the inclusion mechanism will attempt to add the needed font object definitions to the PDF.

Values for **type**:

| value   | description            |
|---------|------------------------|
| real    | This is a base font    |
| virtual | This is a virtual font |

The actions to be taken depend on a number of different variables:



- Whether the used font fits in an 8-bit encoding scheme or not
- The type of the disk font file
- The level of embedding requested

A font that uses anything other than an 8-bit encoding vector has to be written to the PDF in a different way.

The rule is: if the font table has ‘encodingbytes’ set to 2, then this is a wide font, in all other cases it isn’t. The value ‘2’ is the default for opentype and truetype fonts loaded via lua.

If no special care is needed, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X currently falls back to the mapfile—based solution used by p<sub>D</sub>F<sub>E</sub>X and D<sub>V</sub>IPS. This behaviour will be removed in the future, when the existing code becomes integrated in the new subsystem.

But if this is a ‘wide’ font, then the new subsystem kicks in, and some extra fields have to be present in the font structure. In this case, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X does not use a map file at all.

The extra fields are: `format`, `embedding`, `fullname`, `cidinfo` (as explained above), `filename`, and the `index` key in the separate characters.

Values for `format`:

| value    | description                                        |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------|
| type1    | This is a PostScript Type1 font                    |
| type3    | This is a bitmapped (PK) font                      |
| truetype | This is a TrueType or TrueType-based OpenType font |
| opentype | This is a PostScript-based OpenType font           |

Currently, only `truetype` and `opentype` fonts can be ‘wide’ fonts (Type0 PostScript fonts are not supported).

Values for `embedding`:

| value  | description                            |
|--------|----------------------------------------|
| no     | Don’t embed the font at all            |
| subset | Include and attempt to subset the font |
| full   | Include this font in its entirety      |

At the moment, `subset` only works for PostScript-based non-CID OpenType fonts, every other font format essentially is treated as `full`.

It is not possible to artificially modify the transformation matrix for the font at the moment.

The other fields are used as follows: The `fullname` will be the PostScript/PDF font name. The `cidinfo` will be used as the character set (the CID `/Ordering` and `/Registry` keys). The `filename` points to the actual font file. If you include the full path in the `filename` or if the file is in the local directory, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X will run a little bit more efficient because it will not have to re-run the `find_xxx_file` callback in that case.

Be careful: when mixing old and new fonts in one document, it is possible to create name PostScript name clashes that can result in printing errors. When this happens, you have to change the `fullname` of the font.



Typeset strings are written out in a wide format using 2 bytes per glyph, using the `index` key in the character information as value. The overall effect is like having an encoding based on numbers instead of traditional (PostScript) name-based reencoding.

This type of reencoding means that there is no longer a clear connection between the text in your input file and the strings in the output PDF file; I have not found a convenient away around that yet.

## 5.2 Virtual fonts

You have to take the following steps if you want L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X to treat the returned table from `'define_font'` as a virtual font:

- Set the top-level key `'type'` to `'virtual'`.
- Make sure there is at least one valid entry in `'fonts'` (see below)
- Give a `'commands'` array to every character (see below)

The presence of the toplevel `'type'` key with the specific value `'virtual'` will trigger handling of the rest of the special virtual font fields in the table, but the mere existence of `'type'` is enough to prevent lua-<sub>tex</sub> from looking for a virtual font on its own.

Therefore, this also works 'in reverse': if you are absolutely certain that a font is not a virtual font, assigning the value `'base'` or `'real'` to `'type'` will inhibit L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X from looking for a virtual font file, thereby saving you a disk search.

The `fonts` is another Lua array. The values are one- or two-key hashes themselves, each entry indicating one of the base fonts in a virtual font. An example makes this easy to understand

```
"fonts" = { { name = "ptmr8a", size = 655360},
             { name = "psyr", size = 600000},
             { id = 38 } }
```

says that the first referenced font (index 1) in this virtual font is `ptmr8a` loaded at 10pt, and the second is `psyr` loaded at a little over 9pt. The third one is previously defined font that is known to lua-<sub>tex</sub> as fontid `'38'`.

The array index numbers are used by the character command definitions that are part of each character.

The `commands` array is a hash here each item is another small array, with first entry representing a command and the extra items the parameters to that command. The allowed commands and their arguments are:

| command name | arguments | arg type | description                                                         |
|--------------|-----------|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| font         | 1         | number   | select a new font from the local <code>'fonts'</code> table         |
| char         | 1         | number   | typeset this character number from the current font, and move right |
| slot         | 2         | number   | a shortcut for a font, char set                                     |
| push         | 0         | —        | save current position                                               |
| nop          | 0         | —        | do nothing                                                          |



|         |     |           |                                        |
|---------|-----|-----------|----------------------------------------|
| pop     | 0   | –         | pop position                           |
| rule    | 2   | 2 numbers | output a rule $w * h$ , and move right |
| down    | 1   | number    | move down on the page                  |
| right   | 1   | number    | move right on the page                 |
| special | 1   | string    | output a <code>\special</code> command |
| comment | any | any       | the rest of the command is ignored     |

Here is a rather elaborate example:

```
...
"commands" = {
  {"push"},           -- remember where we are
  {"right", 5000},    -- move right about 0.08pt
  {"font", 1},        -- select the fonts[1] entry
  {"char", 97},       -- place character 97 'a'
  {"pop"},            -- go all the way back
  {"down", -200000},  -- move *up* about 3pt
  {"special", "pdf: 1 0 0 rg"} -- switch to red color
  {"rule", 500000, 20000} -- draw a bar
  {'special',"pdf: 0 g"} -- back to black
}
...
```

The default value for ‘font’ is always 1, for each character anew. If the virtual font is essentially only a re-encoding, then you do usually do not have create an explicit ‘font’ entry.

Regardless of the amount of movement you create within the ‘commands’, the output pointer will always move by exactly the width as given in the ‘width’ key of the character hash, after running the ‘commands’.

Even in a ‘real’ font, there can be virtual characters: When L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X encounters a ‘commands’ field inside a character when it becomes time to typeset the character, it will interpret the commands, just like for a true virtual character. In this case, if you have created no ‘fonts’ array, then the default and only ‘base’ font is taken to be the current font itself. In practise, this means that you can create virtual duplicates of existing characters.

Note: this feature does *not* work the other way around. There can not be ‘real’ characters in a virtual font!

Finally, here is a plain T<sub>E</sub>X input file with a demonstration:

```
% start of virtual-demo.tex

\pdfoutput=1
\directlua0 {
  callback.register("define_font",
    function (name,area,size)
      if name == 'cmr10-red' then
```



```

    f = font.read_tfm('cmr10',size)
    f.name = 'cmr10-red'
    f.type = 'virtual'
    f.fonts = {{'cmr10', size}}
    for i,v in pairs(f.characters) do
        if (string.char(i)):find("[tacohanshartmut]") then
            v.commands = {
                {'special','pdf: 1 0 0 rg'},
                {'char',i},
                {'special','pdf: 0 g'},
            }
        else
            v.commands = {{'char',i}}
        end
    end
end
else
    f = font.read_tfm(name,size)
end
return f
end )
}

```

```

\font\myfont = cmr10-red \myfont This is a line of text \par
\font\myfontx= cmr10 \myfontx Here is another line of text \par

```

```

\bye
% end of virtual-demo.tex

```



## 6 Modifications

Besides the expected changes caused by new functionality, there are a number of not-so-expected changes. These are sometimes a side-effect of a new (conflicting) feature, or, more often than not, a change necessary to clean up the internal interfaces.

### 6.1 Changes from T<sub>E</sub>X 3.141592

- There is no pool file, all strings are embedded during compilation.
- "plus 1 fillll" does not generate an error. The extra 'l' is simply typeset.
- The `\endlinechar` can be either added (values 0 or more), or not (negative values). If it is added, the character is always decimal 13 a/k/a `^^M` a/k/a carriage return (This change may be temporary).

### 6.2 Changes from $\epsilon$ -T<sub>E</sub>X 2.2

- The  $\epsilon$ -T<sub>E</sub>X functionality is always present and enabled (but see below about T<sub>E</sub>XX<sub>E</sub>T), so the prepended asterisk or `-etex` switch for `initex` is not needed.
- T<sub>E</sub>XX<sub>E</sub>T is not present, so the primitives

```
\TeXxETstate
\beginR
\beginL
\endR
\endL
```

are missing

### 6.3 Changes from PDFT<sub>E</sub>X 1.40

- A number of 'utility functions' is removed:

```
\pdfelapsedtime
\pdfescapehex
\pdfescapename
\pdfescapestring
\pdffiledump
\pdffilemoddate
\pdffilesize
\pdflastmatch
\pdfmatch
```



```

\pdfmdfivesum
\pdfresettimer
\pdfshellescape
\pdfstrcmp
\pdfunescapehex

```

- A few other experimental primitives are also provided without the extra ‘pdf’ prefix, so they can also be called like this:

```

\primitive
\ifprimitive
\ifabsnum
\ifabsdim

```

- The definitions for new didot and new cicero are patched.
- The `\pdfprimitive` is bugfixed.

## 6.4 Changes from ALEPH RC4

- The input translations from ALEPH are not implemented, the related primitives are not available

```

\DefaultInputMode
\noDefaultInputMode
\noInputMode
\InputMode
\DefaultOutputMode
\noDefaultOutputMode
\noOutputMode
\OutputMode
\DefaultInputTranslation
\noDefaultInputTranslation
\noInputTranslation
\InputTranslation
\DefaultOutputTranslation
\noDefaultOutputTranslation
\noOutputTranslation
\OutputTranslation

```

- A small series of bounds checking fixes to `\ocp` and `\ocplist` has been added to prevent the system from crashing due to array indexes running out of bounds.
- The `\hoffset` bug when `\pagedir TRT` is fixed, removing the need for an explicit fix to `\hoffset`
- A bug causing `\fam` to fail for family numbers above 15 is fixed.
- Some bits of ALEPH assumed `0` and `null` were identical. This resulted for instance in a bug that sometimes caused an eternal loop when trying to `\show` a box.





- A fair amount of minor bugs are fixed as well, most of these related to `\tracingcommands` output.
- The number of possible fonts, ocps and ocplists is smaller than their maximum ALEPH value (around 5000 fonts and 30000 ocps / ocplists).
- The internal function `scan_dir()` has been renamed to `scan_direction()` to prevent a naming clash.
- The `^^` notation can come in five and six item repetitions also, to insert characters that do not fit in the BMP.

## 6.5 Changes from standard WEB2C

- There is no `mltex`
- There is no `enctex`
- The following command-line switches are silently ignored, even in non-lua mode:

```
-8bit
-translate-file=TCXNAME
-mltex
-enc
-etex
```

- `\openout` whatsits are not written to the log file.
- Some of the so-called web2c extensions are hard to set up in non-kpse mode because `texmf.cnf` is not read: `shell-escape` is off (but that is not a problem because of Lua's `os.execute`), and the paranoia checks on `openin` and `openout` do not happen (however, it is easy for a Lua script to do this itself by overloading `io.open`).





## 7 Implementation notes

### 1 Primitives overlap

The primitives

```
\pdfpagewidth and \pagewidth,  
\pdfpageheight and \pageheight,  
\fontcharwd and \charwd,  
\fontcharht and \charht,  
\fontchardp and \chardp,  
\fontcharic and \charic,
```

are all aliases of each other.

### 2 Sparse arrays

The `\mathcode`, `\delcode`, `\catcode`, `\sfcode`, `\lccode` and `\uccode` tables are now sparse arrays that are implemented in C. They are no longer part of the T<sub>E</sub>X “equivalence table” and because each had 1.1 million entries with a few memory words each, this makes a major difference in memory usage.

These assignments do not yet show up when using the etex tracing routines `\tracingassigns` and `\tracingrestores` (code simply not written yet)

A side-effect of the current implementation is that `\global` is now more expensive in terms of processing than non-global assignments.

See `mathcodes.c` and `textcodes.c` if you are interested in the gory details.

Also, the glyph ids within a font are now managed by means of a sparse array and glyph ids can go up to index  $2^{21} - 1$ .

### 3 Simple single-character csnames

Single-character commands are no longer treated aspecially in the internals, they are stored in the hash just like the multiletter csnames.

The code that displays control sequences explicitly checks if the length is one when it has to decide whether or not to add a trailing space.

### 4 Compressed format

The format is passed through zlib, allowing it to shrink to roughly a third of the size it would have had in uncompressed form. This takes a bit more CPU cycles but much less disk I/O, so it should still be faster.



The chosen compression factor is fairly low, equivalent to `gzip -3`.

## 5 Binary file reading

All of the internal code is changed in such a way that if one of the `read_XXX_file` callbacks is not set, then the file is read by a C function using basically the same convention as the callback: a single read into a buffer big enough to hold the entire file contents. While this uses more memory than the previous code (that mostly used `getc` calls), it can be quite a bit faster (depending on your I/O subsystem).



## 8 Known bugs

The bugs below are going to be fixed eventually.

The top ones will be fixed soon, but in the later items either the actual problem is hard to find, or the code that causes the bug is going to be replaced by a new subsystem soon anyway.

- Not all of Aleph's direction commands are handled properly in PDF mode yet: this affects all the Top-Bottom and Bottom-Top writing directions. And also, the `\textdir` command is broken.
- There is interference between rules and `\pdfliteral`. This is also likely related to the Bidi algorithm.
- Letter spacing (`\letterspacefont`) is currently non-functional due to massive changes in the virtual font handling. This functionality may actually be removed completely in the future, because it is straightforward to set up letterspacing using the Lua 'define\_font' interface.
- Attempting hyphenation in initex (sometimes) creates segfaults.
- Hyphenation can only deal with the Base Multilingual Plane (BMP)
- `tex.print()` and `tex.sprint()` do not work if `\directlua` is used in an OTP file (in the output of an `expression` rule).





## 9 TODO

On top of the ‘normal’ extensions that are planned, there are some more specific small feature requests

- Implement the T<sub>E</sub>X primitive `\dimension`, cf. `\number`
- Change the lua table `typetex.dimen` to accept and return float values instead of strings
- Do something about `\withoutpt` and/or a new register type `\real`?
- Implement the T<sub>E</sub>X primitive `\htdp`?
- Do boxes with dual baselines.
- A way to (re?)calculate the width of a `\vbox`, taking only the natural width of the included items into account.
- Make the number of the output box configurable.



