

# SumatraPDF and TeXnicCenter

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## 1 Introduction

While TeXnicCenter<sup>1</sup> is one of the most popular L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X editors in Windows environments. SumatraPDF<sup>2</sup> is a rather unknown open-source PDF reader in comparison to the standard Adobe Reader<sup>3</sup>. However, it provides certain features, which are not available with the standard solution:

- Forward and backward search,
- No need to close the viewer during compilation,
- Faster load times,
- Integration of the standard reader.

This document briefly explains how to set up and use especially the forward and backward search feature together with TeXnicCenter. Other L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X editors will have similar set-up procedures.

Please keep in mind that SumatraPDF is currently only available for Windows systems.

## 2 Setup

There is an output profile file provided with this document, which you should be able to import directly into TeXnicCenter.<sup>4</sup> If this does not work, follow these steps in order to set up SumatraPDF to work with your TeXnicCenter installation.

1. You should have installed TeXnicCenter and a L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X distribution on your system.

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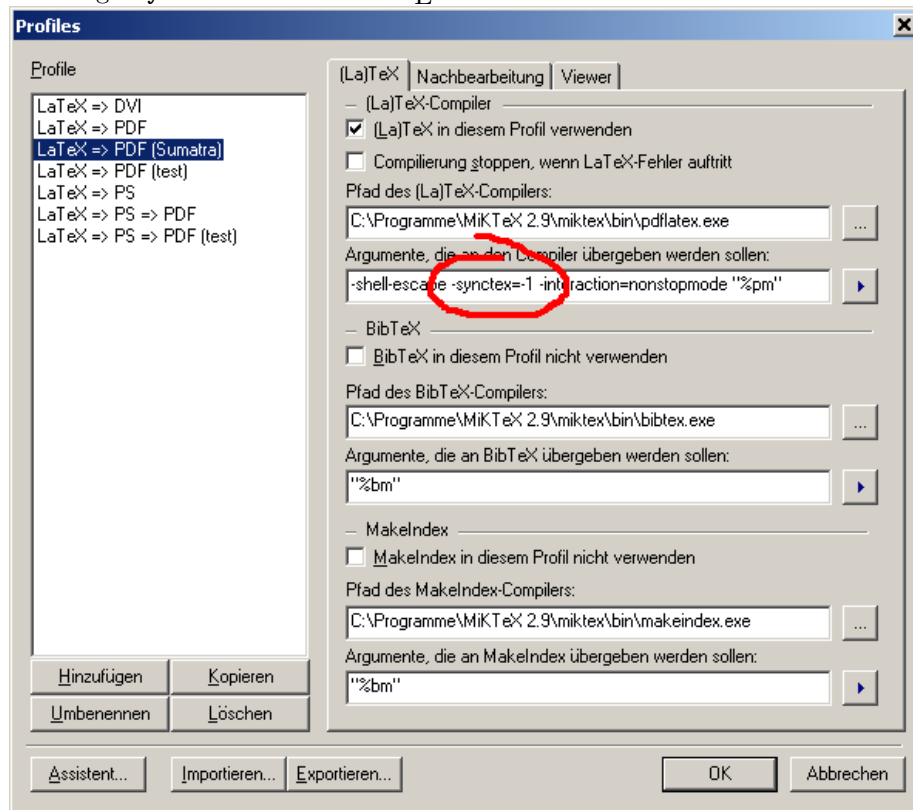
<sup>1</sup><http://www.texniccenter.org/>

<sup>2</sup><http://blog.kowalczyk.info/software/sumatrapdf/>

<sup>3</sup><http://get.adobe.com/de/reader/>

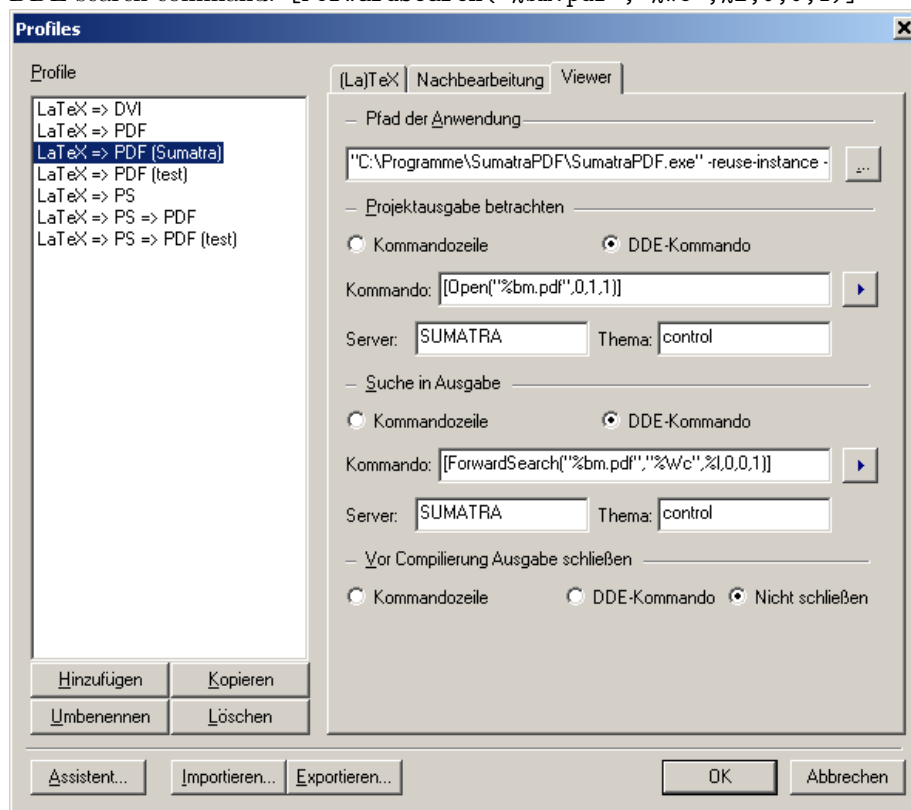
<sup>4</sup>[Open explorer to find SumatraPDF.tco](#)

2. Retrieve and install SumatraPDF from the web: <http://blog.kowalczyk.info/software/sumatrapdf/>. There is also a portable version, which does not need installation into the system registries.
3. Set up TeXnicCenter with pdfL<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X to generate synchronisation files by inserting `-synctex=-1` into the L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X call:




4. Set up TeXnicCenter to use SumatraPDF as the PDF viewer program and to use the forward search options:

Path: `SumatraPDF.exe -reuse-instance -inverse-search "\"C:\Programme\TeXnicCenter\TEXCNTR.EXE\" /ddecmd \"[goto('%f', '%l')]\\""`  
DDE open command: `[Open("%bm.pdf",0,1,1)]`  
DDE search command: `[ForwardSearch("%bm.pdf", "%Wc", %l,0,0,1)]`



5. You're done!

### 3 Use SumatraPDF

To use SumatraPDF, you will now only need to click the  button or to press F5 in order to open SumatraPDF at your current cursor location in the document. A new compilation will not need to close SumatraPDF and the document will be updated automatically. Double-click an arbitrary location in the PDF document to jump to the respective location in the  $\text{\LaTeX}$  document. If you need Adobe Reader functionality, select "File/Open with Adobe Reader". Have fun!