
Die \TeX nische Komödie 4/2011–1/2012

Die \TeX nische Komödie is the journal of DANTE e.V., the German-language \TeX user group (<http://www.dante.de>). [Editorial items are omitted.]

Die \TeX nische Komödie 4/2011

MANUEL PÉGOURIÉ-GONNARD, Attribute und Farben [Attributes and colors]; pp. 24–49

We take a look at attributes, a Lua \TeX extension, and their use for implementing colors. After explaining the underlying concepts and the \TeX and Lua interfaces we provide a short overview of the basics behind the classical color implementation in \LaTeX and its shortcomings. We then show how these shortcomings can be solved using attributes. We also show that attributes can be used for other needs, not just colors.

ARNO TRAUTMANN, Das Paket `chickenize` – Spaß mit Node-Manipulationen in Lua \TeX [The `chickenize` package — fun with node manipulations in Lua \TeX]; pp. 50–57

[Translation published in this issue of *TUGboat*.]

DIRK HÜNNIGER, Ein Programm zur Konvertierung von Artikeln der Wikipedia nach \LaTeX [Converting Wikipedia articles to \LaTeX]; pp. 58–60

For various reasons it would be nice to be able to generate a \LaTeX file from a Wikipedia article. Manual conversion is elaborate and prone to errors. Therefore a compiler has been developed and made publicly available for Windows and Linux. Furthermore, the source code has been published under an open license. The tool is also used for projects such as Wikibooks.

PETRA RÜBE-PUGLIESE, Aktuelle experimentelle deutsche Trennmuster unter Debian- \TeX Live [Up-to-date experimental German hyphenation patterns for Debian \TeX Live]; pp. 61–65

In this article we explain the installation of the latest German hyphenation patterns on Debian.

PHILIPP LEHMAN, Zu den Nachteilen von BIB \TeX [On the disadvantages of BIB \TeX]; pp. 66–67

When we discuss the disadvantages of BIB \TeX there are two main topics:

1. BIB \TeX and BIB \TeX 8 assume that a character is represented by one byte. This however does not apply to UTF-8 where for certain characters more than one byte is used.

2. It is not just UTF-8 but Unicode in general as the comprehensive standard for encoding characters and many associated topics such as sorting.

JOSEPH WRIGHT, L^AT_EX3 Roadmap; pp. 68–70

One of the questions that comes up from time to time is what the ‘roadmap’ is for L^AT_EX3 development. While there is not an official plan, I certainly have some ideas on what I’d like to see addressed in a concrete way. This is all rather flexible, but I’ll try to outline some areas for attention.

HERBERT MÜLLER, Berichtigung zu »Von `\pageref` zu `\hyperpage`« [Corrections to the article “From `\pageref` to `\hyperpage`”]; pp. 71–72

[Letter to the editor with corrections.]

Die T_EXnische Komödie 1/2012

AGNIESZKA OKOŃSKA, L^AT_EX für Juristen [L^AT_EX for attorneys]; pp. 6–12

The search for the perfect solution from a user’s point of view. While L^AT_EX is commonly used for creating scientific papers in the natural sciences or in economics its use in other areas of science is still rare. To members of these disciplines L^AT_EX may offer advantages as well, especially to attorneys.

HERBERT VOSS, Datumsfunktionen mit LuaT_EX [Date functions with LuaT_EX]; pp. 13–19

With pdfL^AT_EX the current date can be printed using the macro `\today` without any problems; for printing the time, one may use the package `datetime` (although this package does not supporting printing seconds). With LuaT_EX or LuaL^AT_EX, however, one can use the date- and time routines of Lua, which allow easy formatting of date and time as well.

HERBERT VOSS, Multilinguale Texte mit LuaL^AT_EX — ein Versuch [Multilingual texts with LuaL^AT_EX — An experiment]; pp. 20–27

The T_EX flavor Ω (Omega) was developed to overcome L^AT_EX’s restrictions and to allow using 16-bit fonts. The successor of Ω was \aleph (Aleph), which provided a first step to the general use of Unicode. \aleph is not under development any more since with LuaT_EX there is a successor that allows multilingual texts in a way that has not been possible with T_EX before. In this article the author describes his experience concerning writing multilingual documents with LuaT_EX.

WOLFGANG BEINERT, Typographischer Punkt [The typographical point]; pp. 28–30

Point typographique, Didot-point, pica point, PostScript point . . . The “typographical system of units”, abbreviated as “point”, originally named as a “Point typographique”. The typographical point is the smallest unit of a typographical point unit system. It was named in the mid-18th century in

France for an asymmetrical system of measurement for uniform sizing of letters, font sizes, and distances.

HEIKO OBERDIEK and HERBERT VOSS, Index mit Fortsetzungsanzeige [Index with “continuation” signs]; pp. 31–32

Using `fancyhdr` or `scrpage2` one can print the letter range of the index page in the header. But one has to invest quite a bit of effort if such a letter is a continuation from the previous page.

[Received from Herbert Voß.]