
The PracT_EX Journal 2012-1

The PracT_EX Journal is an online publication of the T_EX Users Group. Its web site is <http://tug.org/pracjourn>. All articles are available there.

LANCE CARNES, Editorial—L^AT_EX in the IT world
Editor's introduction to the issue.

EDITORS, Feedback from readers

BRIAN D. BEITZEL, Formatting Sweave and L^AT_EX documents in APA style

[Also published in *TUGboat* 33:1.]

DIMITRIOS VERVERIDIS, DANIEL SCHNEIDER and JOACHIM KÖHLER, The Vocal Tract L^AT_EX package

`VocalTract.sty` is a package to visualize the vocal tract. A vocal tract is manipulated by a vector of articulation parameters according to S. Maeda's model. Animation can be achieved by providing a sequence of vectors over time, e.g. from Matlab. An embedded sequence of vectors in `VocalTract.sty` for certain German phonemes allows for a sequence of phonemes animation when no vector is available.

HAN LIN SHANG, Writing posters with `beamerposter` package in \LaTeX

The `beamerposter` package in \LaTeX is an excellent tool for the creation of posters. There are several options available using the `beamerposter` package when writing a poster in \LaTeX . Here, I would like to present some of these options associated with the `beamerposter` package. I shall introduce the basics and some useful companion packages that make a poster look neat and nice.

JIM HEFFERON, Seeing stars

MetaPost is a great tool for line art. We walk through creating a rate one-to-five graphic with it, highlighting some of its advantages over a mouse-driven graphics tool.

LUCA MERCIADRI, \TeX in the eBook era

There are many advantages to reading eBooks, and their usage is ever-increasing. There are those who prefer traditional printed books, but there is also a growing audience whose lifestyle and taste is suited to eBooks. We discuss some advantages of using eBooks, and creating them with \LaTeX . We continue by explaining technical aspects that might improve and help you with your \LaTeX eBook. We end with a short discussion about the PDF file format and its use with eBook documents.

HONGBIN MA, Easy-to-use Chinese $\MT\TeX$ Suite

Although there are many free and commercial \TeX collections and distributions, Chinese \TeX ers still have many difficulties in \TeX ing Chinese documents. Some of the problems Chinese \TeX users confront with \TeX distributions are: the huge size, complex structure, nontrivial installation and configuration, lack of a full-featured Chinese editor, and lack of other needed add-ons. These difficulties may prevent many people from becoming \TeX ers or \TeX experts. Motivated by these issues and many other practical demands, the author and several friends developed an easy-to-use and easy-to-learn Chinese $\MT\TeX$ Suite, which is a green, compact, free, convenient, pragmatic and powerful \TeX distribution with many add-ons and unique features which are seldom available in other \TeX distributions. The developers of $\MT\TeX$ have made continuous efforts to make this software more powerful and suitable for \TeX ers, programmers, teachers, and scientists. This article gives a brief introduction to the $\MT\TeX$ suite, including its motivation, main features, installation, usage instructions, kernel, default editor (SciTE \LaTeX IDE), and other add-ons.

YOSSI GIL, Bashful writing and active documents

Computerized typesetting still relies on metaphors drawn from the letterpress printing domain and is still concerned largely with the production of documents printed on paper. Active documents is an emerging technology by which the product of computerized typesetting is more than an aesthetically pleasing composition of letters, words and punctuation characters broken into lines and pages. An active document offers modes of interaction with its reader, while the document itself may change its content in response to events taking place in the external world. Bashful documents, the concept proposed by the `bashful` package, and discussed in this article, extend the user interaction offered by active documents to the time of the document creation. For example, the author of a textbook on computer programming may use `bashful` to automatically include in the text a transcript of a demonstration program, that is a precise replica of the program's execution at the time the document was authored. When writing a report on an important experiment, a scientist may employ `bashful` to automatically execute the experiment, whenever the report's text is run through \LaTeX , and even include the experiment's results in the output document.

RAYANS CARVALHO AND FRANCISCO REINALDO, Documenting ITIL processes with \LaTeX

Many companies have evolved with the implementation of the Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL), using the best practices and processes to achieve practical results. Good practice suggests what to do, but at the same time raises doubts about how to do it and which tools to use to get better work performance in ITIL. Noting these facts, this article presents a \LaTeX -based processes and services documentation tool, as suggested by ITIL.

LARS MADSEN, Avoid `eqnarray`!

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EDITORS, Ask Nelly

Customizing lists?; Producing logos?

EDITORS, Distractions: guitar chords; font quizzes

EDITORS, Book review: *\LaTeX and Friends* by Marc R.C. van Dongen