
Production Notes

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A new approach to *TUGboat* production

Owing to various circumstances beyond the Editor's control, time available for *TUGboat* production has diminished to the point where it is no longer possible for the regular issues of *TUGboat* to remain a one-person operation.

As is quite obvious, this issue is embarrassingly late. But rather than trying to explain why it is late, I would like to describe what has been done to try to avoid such delays in the future.

Mimi Burbank and the system management at SCRI—the Supercomputer Computations Research Institute at Florida State University—have kindly made available copious disk space, login access, and a group identity for a core team of volunteers: Mimi, Robin Fairbairns, Michel Goossens, Sebastian Rahtz, Christina Thiele, and myself. Every member of this team has previous experience in editing or producing *TUGboat*, proceedings issues, or similar \TeX publications, so they have been able to “hit the ground running”.

In the space allotted, we have set up a full, isolated (IA) \TeX system and *TUGboat* work areas. Remaining in a management position, I have populated the tree with the material collected for issues 15(4), 16(1), et seq., identified which ones are encoded using plain or \LaTeX conventions, and encouraged the team members to work first on items that match their interests and expertise. Articles are returned to me as PostScript files to be printed and given a final reading. I have edited the input files directly, where practical, and provided comments by e-mail to the “handler” regarding adjustments in format. The final version is again delivered in PostScript form for printing and inclusion in a growing pile of printer-ready copy. No item has been slighted, with the result that 16(1) is nearly ready to put together, and should be sent to the printer—and thence to members—in no more than a month from 15(4). As I will be out of town for much of this interval, Mimi Burbank has agreed to be the manager for 16(1).

The plan for issue 16(2) is a bit different. For some time, the Publications Committee has been discussing the idea of theme issues—issues devoted to a single topic of narrower or wider scope—under the direction of a guest editor. 16(2) will be the first of such issues, containing articles related to electronic documents, in particular SGML, HTML, hypertext, Acrobat, . . . , with Malcolm Clark in

charge. Topics for future theme issues will be announced as plans become more firm; one theme issue per year is currently foreseen. Suggestions are welcome for both topics and prospective guest editors.

Input and input processing

Electronic input for articles in this issue was received by e-mail, and was also retrieved from remote sites by anonymous ftp.

In addition to text and various files processable directly by \TeX , the input to this issue includes METAFONT source code and many encapsulated PostScript files. More than 200 files were required to generate the final copy; over 100 more contain earlier versions of articles, auxiliary information, and records of correspondence with authors and referees. These numbers represent input files only; .dvi files, device-specific translations, and fonts (.tfm files and rasters) are excluded from the total.

Most articles as received were fully tagged for *TUGboat*, using either the usual plain-based or \LaTeX conventions.

By number, 47% of the articles, and 63% of the pages in this issue are in \LaTeX . (For ease of production, three mostly-text items which were originally prepared using \LaTeX were converted to plain, and one, from plain to \LaTeX .) $\text{\LaTeX}2_{\epsilon}$ was the version used, thanks to some major systems work by Robin Fairbairns and Sebastian Rahtz.

Font work was required for the *Indica* article by Haralambous, for MacKay's recycle logo, and for the Chinese fragment in the Euro \TeX '94 report.

Articles were processed individually by members of the team according to their own preferred methods, and the final input and output (PostScript) files delivered to the Editor for compilation into an issue. The Editor created the table of contents, the cover and front matter, printed out all the files, checked the copy and conveyed it to the printer.

Output

The bulk of this issue was prepared at SCRI on an IBM RS6000 running AIX, using the *Web2C* implementation of \TeX . The remainder was run at the American Mathematical Society from files installed on a VAX 6320 (VMS) and \TeX 'ed on a server running under UNIX on a Solbourne workstation. Output was printed at AMS at 600 dpi on an HP LaserJet 4M plus; this was used rather than a typesetter for reasons of both cost and speed.