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Editor's note: *TEXemplares* is the publication of CervanTEX, the Spanish TEX user group (<http://www.cervantex.es>).

ATOPOS, What and why L^AT_EX; pp. 4–9

[Translation of the introduction: “In the guise of an appeal”.]

Anyone who comes here with no knowledge of the matter I'll address, and who, however, is confusedly attracted by the implications of the title of this paper, might feel let down by the discovery that my contribution has nothing to do with the promotion of some magic product with erogenous powers hitherto unknown about a certain part of our fleshy bodily constitution. Or perhaps, on the contrary, will feel, against any predictions, gladly surprised at the corroboration that the computer program I will present — yes, that's what's at stake — is capable of eliciting an intense and lasting intellectual pleasure, that has little to envy from those other pleasures that he might have been thinking of when entering the room.

What is, then, this “L^AT_EX” that makes it to your booklets? How does this puzzling entity relate to those other entities, no less puzzling, known as “the humanities”?

[The article includes a section 2: L^AT_EX and its family: of writers and printers; and a section 3: The linguistic model and the visual metaphor. A more historical and conceptual than technical discussion of L^AT_EX, citing sources from Turing to Wittgenstein.]

JAVIER BEZOS, Word hyphenation; pp. 10–19

Word hyphenation is an orthographic problem that still raises problems, both theoretical and practical. This article analyzes possible criteria for hyphenation in Spanish, with a set of rules, and afterwards studies the way in which such rules can be implemented in TEX. Among other things, considered are the 1999 and, especially, the 2005 rules of the *Real Academia Española*, with comments about their requirements.

The article is divided in two parts. The first is devoted to the analysis of the rules and their relationship to the first two criteria. The second part presents the rest of the criteria, commentary on some sources, a brief history of the patterns, and a discussion of their current implementation.

[Compiled by Federico Garcia]