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ArsTeXnica is the journal of G_{IT}, the Italian T_EX user group (<http://www.guit.sssup.it/>).

GIANLUCA PIGNALBERI, Editoriale [From the editor]; p. 5

JEAN-MICHEL HUFFLEN, Beyond BibT_EX; pp. 7–14

This article is related to the production of bibliographies for documents typeset by means of L^AT_EX or ConT_EXt. We explore some recent ways to go beyond what is allowed by BIBT_EX. Then we explain why the programs `mlbiblatex` and `mlbibcontext` seem to us to be promising.

IVAN VALBUSA, La forma del testo umanistico: la classe `suftesi` [Classical text shape: The `suftesi` class]; pp. 15–30

This article analyzes the main aspects that arise when typesetting a humanistic text, from the choice of font and layout to the style of titles and text elements (even making use of philosophical reflections). It also introduces the tools for typesetting provided by the `suftesi` class.

CLAUDIO BECCARI and HEINRICH FLECK, Una classe per comporre un dizionario [A class for composition of a dictionary]; pp. 31–40

In this article we describe the history, the development, and the most relevant characteristics of classes `dictionarySCR` and `xdictionarySCR`, that allow to typeset, by pdfL^AT_EX and X_YL^AT_EX respectively, thematic dictionaries in a variety of disciplines.

ENRICO GREGORIO, L^AT_EX3: un nuovo gioco per i maghi e per diventarlo [L^AT_EX3: A new game for becoming a wizard]; pp. 41–47

We shall examine, by means of examples, some of the functions provided by the L^AT_EX3 kernel. In particular, we shall focus on the usage of the sequence variable type and show something about the `13keys` module.

CLAUDIO BECCARI, Un pacchetto per il controllo del codice fiscale italiano [A package to check the Italian personal fiscal code number]; pp. 48–52

The Italian Fiscal Code is a special string that encodes personal identity data; it may be issued only by the State Administrative Offices, but when a document is being written a piece of software should be available to check the correctness of the encoded string, in particular it must control the final check letter for coherence with the remaining data.

ROBERTO GIACOMELLI, Grafica ad oggetti con LuaTeX [Object-oriented graphics with LuaTeX]; pp. 53–71

In this paper we will make an attempt to measure the TeX user advantages and efficacy of an object oriented language, the programming paradigm recently added to the TeX world by the new typesetting engine LuaTeX. A case study was developed writing a new graphic object library in Lua, based on the PGF package, carried in a source TeX file with a small and simple package.

LUIGI SCARSO, MFLua: Intrumentation of METAFONT with Lua; pp. 72–81
[Published in *TUGboat* 32:2.]

AGOSTINO DE MARCO, Gestione ‘quasi automatica’ dei valori numerici in esempi di calcolo ed esercizi svolti [Managing numbers in calculation examples and exercises]; pp. 82–94

In this paper I will show some techniques to manage numbers for facilitating the preparation of calculation examples or worked-out exercises. This is a well-known problem for authors of scientific textbooks. When they want to include a gallery of examples with calculations in their book it is of utmost importance to adopt a strategy designed to limit both typographic and conceptual errors. The techniques shown here handle numeric values which are produced outside the typesetting process with external software tools. Finally, similar techniques are mentioned that use LuaLaTeX or the package `13fp`.

GRAZIA MESSINEO and SALVATORE VASSALLO, Il pacchetto esami per la creazione di prove scritte [The package `esami` to generate written exams]; pp. 95–103

We present the package `esami` which extends some useful properties of the `exerquiz` and `probsoln` LaTeX packages to produce databases of exercises in a collaborative way, and to produce exams.

GRAZIA MESSINEO and SALVATORE VASSALLO, Test online di matematica: il Progetto M.In.E.R.Va [Online math test: The M.In.E.R.Va project]; pp. 104–112

We present the packages `esami-online`, to create online exams with automatic corrections, and `minerva`, to create sets of exercises for high school students.

MATTEO FADINI, Stemma codicum con LaTeX [Stemma codicum with LaTeX]; pp. 113–122

During preparation of a critical edition, it is necessary to draw the stemma codicum, i.e. the graphical representation of the lineage relationships of the textual transmission through the linkage of manuscripts

and prints. There is no specific package designed to draw the stemmata. Nevertheless it is possible to adapt the packages usually employed for generative syntax trees in linguistic studies. This paper discusses two cases: `syntree`, a user-friendly package, and `xytree`, a more complex yet more powerful package. The analysis limits the description to the useful functions for drawing stemmata codicum.

JERÓNIMO LEAL and GIANLUCA PIGNALBERI, Composizione di uno stemma codicum con TikZ [Stemma codicum typesetting with TikZ]; pp. 123–131

While LaTeX has very good packages to typeset a more or less complex stemma codicum, TikZ allows one to achieve results at least as good, without requiring harder notational complexity.

CLAUDIO VINCOLETTA, Alcuni stralci sul Computer Bodoni [Bits and pieces about Computer Bodoni]; pp. 131–137

The Computer Modern font source may be conveniently modified in order to obtain a new version of a Bodoni type nearer to the original one.

[Received from Gianluca Pignalberi.]