Bugs (sigh) in Knuths 'Computers & Typesetting'

Gerard van Nes (editor)

October 1992

1 Introduction

In may/june this year a discussion started on the TEX-NL listserver (by Kees van der Laan and Nico Poppelier) about the releases of Knuths book series: it was not sure that Addison-Wesley was selling only the latest book editions.

The problem is that references to the corresponding software release (the software changes strongly in TEX 3.x and METAFONT 2.7) are missing at the cover of the books. Besides that it is not clear which 'edition' and/or 'number' and/or 'ISBN' reflects the latest TEX (3.x) or METAFONT (2.7) software. The only way to check the actual version is e.g.:

- Does the index contains `\language`?
- Does the index contains `\emergencystretch`?

We have forwarded that discussion directly to Addison-Wesley in Amsterdam. The answer is included in next section.
Rita Snaddon informed me also that for 'The TEX Book' (Volume A; pb), the 22st printing will be expected very soon. This will be the final printing corresponding with the current book number.

The upgrades of the books since 1984 are described in a set of errata sheets (section 4). These errata sheets can directly be ordered by Addison Wessley (attn Rita Snaddon) but are also available by ftp (see section 3).

2 Answer from Addison-Wesley

Rita Snaddon from Addison-Wesley[1] informed me about the printing dates of the books with the following message:

After much research into the problem of the Knuth 'Computers and Typesetting' Series reprints, I hope that I have now come up with a solution to your satisfaction.

If I can explain: Normally when a book is reprinted with major changes, it turns into a new edition with a new ISBN number. The old editions can then normally be destroyed. When a book is reprinted with major changes (in case of the TEX and METAFONT books), but does not go into a new edition, we still keep stock of the older prints. It's an unusual problem which we do not encounter often.

I have obtain Errata Sheets from Donald Knuth that detail all the changes in the following volumes. If you would like to notify your NTG members about these erratas, we will be pleased to send them out free of charge.

Below is an overview of the latest printings:

Code	Vol	Title	Edition	Number	Date
13447	A	The TEX Book	1	12th	3/92
13437	B	TEX:The Program	1	4th	5/91
13445	C	The METAFONT Book	1	4th	9/91
13438	D	METAFONT: The Prog	1	4th	2/92
13446	E	Comp. Modern Type	1	3rd	9/92
13448	A	The TEX Book (pb)	1	21st	5/92
13444	C	The METAFONT Book (pb)	1	7th	5/92

[1] Rita Snaddon, Sales Support Manager, Addison-Wesley, Concertgebouwplein 25, 1071 LM Amsterdam, phone: 020-6717296, fax: 020-6645334

3 Availability of errata sheets

Errata steets for Knuths 'Computers & Typesetting' are available by anonymous ftp at:

`labrea.stanford.edu`

Directory:

`pub/tex/errata`

This directory contains the following files:

```
 24569 Aug 11  1989 errata.one
 15006 Aug 11  1989 errata.two
 60085 Aug 11  1989 errata.three
 31881 Sep 26  1989 errata.four
 42967 Mar 16  1992 errata.five
 15838 Jan 29  1991 errata.six
 29683 Mar 16  1992 errata.seven
  2473 Mar 16  1992 errata.tex

  4110 Oct 19  1991 logmac.tex
 87397 Jan 25  1992 mf84.bug
 56228 Mar  6  1992 cm85.bug
305187 Mar 16  1992 tex82.bug
150372 Mar 16  1992 errorlog.tex
```

4 Contents of ftp files

In the following subsections, the headers of the errata sheets are listed.

errata.one

This is a list of all corrections made to *The TEXbook* between the first and second printings. If your copy says '*Second printing (October 1984)*' on the copyright page, you've already got all of these things corrected. Otherwise, you're a lucky owner of the rare first edition; read on.

errata.two

This is a list of all corrections made to *The TEXbook* since the second printing. If your copy doesn't say '*Second printing (October 1984)*' on the copyright page, you should also look at the previous bug list. In fact, the most important corrections to the first printing were discovered first, so they've already been made.

errata.three

This is a list of all corrections made to *Computers & Typesetting*, Volumes A–E, between the date of publication (May, 1986) and 15 June 1987. It also includes corrections made to the softcover version of *The TEXbook*, beginning with the sixth printing (January 1986); these are the same as corrections to Volume A. Corrections to the softcover version of *The* METAFONT*book* are the same as corrections to Volume C.

errata.four

This is a list of all corrections made to *Computers & Typesetting*, Volumes A–E, between 16 June 1987 and 20 February 1989. Corrections made to the softcover version of *The TEXbook* are the same as corrections to Volume A. Corrections to the softcover version of *The* METAFONT *book* are the same as corrections to Volume C. Some of these corrections have already been made in reprintings of the books. Some of these corrections affect the indexes and mini-indexes of Volumes B and D in ways not shown here. Corrections made up to 15 June 1987 appear in other files.

errata.five

This is a list of all corrections made to *Computers & Typesetting*, Volumes A–E, between 20 February 1989 and 30 September 1989 (when TEX Version 3.0 and METAFONT Version 2.0 were fully defined). Corrections made to the softcover version of *The TEXbook* are the same as corrections to Volume A. Corrections to the softcover version of *The* METAFONT *book* are the same as corrections to Volume C. Some of these corrections have already been made in reprintings of the books. Several minor changes to Volumes A and C are not shown here because they simply make room for the more substantive changes needed to describe the new features of TEX Version 3.0 and METAFONT Version 2.0. Hundreds of changes will soon be made to Volumes B and D because of the upgrades to TEX and METAFONT; it will unfortunately be impossible to document all of those changes. Therefore, readers who need up-to-date information on the TEX and METAFONT programs should refer to the |WEB| source files until new printings of Volumes B and D are issued.

errata.six

This is a list of all corrections made to *Computers & Typesetting*, Volumes A, C, and E, between 30 September 1989 (when the revisions for TEX Version 3.0 and METAFONT Version 2.0 were made) and December 31, 1990. Corrections made to the softcover version of *The TEXbook* are the same as corrections to Volume A. Corrections to the softcover version of *The* METAFONT *book* are the same as corrections to Volume C. Some of the corrections below have already been made in reprintings of the books. Hundreds of changes, too many to list here, have been made to Volumes B and D because of the upgrades to TEX and METAFONT. Readers who need up-to-date information on the TEX and METAFONT programs should refer to the |WEB| source files until new printings of Volumes B and D are issued.

errata.seven

This is a list of all corrections made to *Computers & Typesetting*, Volumes A, B, C, and D, between 1 January 1991 and 15 March 1992. Corrections made to the softcover version of *The TEXbook* are the same as corrections to Volume A. Corrections to the softcover version of *The* METAFONT *book* are the same as corrections to Volume C. Some of the corrections below have already been made in reprintings of the books. Changes to Volume B refer to the fourth printing (1991), which differs markedly from earlier printings because it includes all the revisions for TEX3.0. Changes to Volume D refer to the third printing (1991), which differs markedly from earlier printings because it includes all the revisions for METAFONT 2.0. Changes to the mini-indexes and master indexes of Volumes B and D are not shown unless they are not obviously derivable from what has been shown. Dozens of changes, too many to list here, have been made to Volume E because of recent upgrades to the Computer Modern font source files. Those changes, which affect only the digitization at low resolution and the appearance of lowercase delta and some characters in the math symbols fonts (but not the TFM files), are documented at the end of file cm85.bug.

`errata.tex`

This is a list of all corrections made to *Computers & Typesetting* since 15 March 1992. Corrections made to the softcover version of *The TEXbook* are the same as corrections to Volume A. Corrections to the softcover version of *The* METAFONT *book* are the same as corrections to Volume C. Some of the corrections below have already been made in reprintings of the books. Changes to Volume B refer to the fourth printing (1991), which differs markedly from earlier printings because it includes all the revisions for TEX3.0. Changes to Volume D refer to the third printing (1991), which differs markedly from earlier printings because it includes all the revisions for METAFONT 2.0. Changes to the mini-indexes and master indexes of Volumes B and D are not shown here unless they are not obviously derivable from what has been shown.

`errorlog.tex`

Appendix to the Errors of TEX paper (updated) Section numbers now adjusted to TEX 3.0 equivalents

`logmac.tex`

Macros for the appendix to "Errors of TEX" paper

`mf84.bug`

This file has been updated periodically ever since METAFONT84 was born. What you are about to read is "authentic source material" from the early days before the program converged. Module numbers on the first entries may bear little relation to those in Volume D.

`cm85.bug`

This file is a log of changes made to the "new generation" of Computer Modern fonts, after the first output proofs were ready. I had a great deal of advice from Neenie Billawala, Matthew Carter, and Richard Southall while I was making these revisions.

`tex82.bug`

This file has been updated periodically ever since TEX82 was born; it has been summarized in "The errors of TEX," Software Practice & Experience, July 1989. Entries are in chronological order; thus the most recent news (including all bugfixes made since that article was published) appears at the bottom of the file.

Add 519 to these entry numbers to get the corresponding number in the published article. The article also translates all module numbers to their final form; what you are about to read is "authentic source material" from the early days before TEX converged.]

First updates to the TEX82 listing published in September, 1982. (These changes were included in the original Version 0 of TEX, but they were discovered after the listing went to press.)

`cm85.bug`

This file is a log of changes made to the "new generation" of Computer Modern fonts, after the first output proofs were ready.

LaTeX3; Call for Volunteers

Michael Downes*

September 1992

This is a call for volunteers to help in the development of LaTeX3. There are many tasks needing to be done in support of the LaTeX3 project which can be worked on concurrently with the development of the LaTeX3 kernel. Furthermore, some tasks require special expertise not found among the core programming team. Initial research, analysis, and work on these tasks by volunteers can greatly speed up the process of integrating a number of desirable features into LaTeX3. Many of these features can be extensively developed and tested under LaTeX 2.09 even before the LaTeX3 kernel is available.

Therefore we are publishing a list of tasks to the LaTeX user community through various channels and we ask readers to consider contributing some time and effort (particularly, but not exclusively, readers with expertise in the various areas touched on). The task list is distributed in the form of a LaTeX article; it is fairly readable in electronic form, and it can be printed on paper if desired.

Getting and reading the LaTeX3 volunteer task list

- Anonymous FTP from the following sites.
  ```
  niord.shsu.edu
      directory [fileserv.vol-task]
  ftp.uni-stuttgart.de
      directory soft/tex/vol-task
  ```
- Mail server from
  `fileserv@shsu.bitnet`
  or
  `mail-server@rus.uni-stuttgart.de`
  Send mail to `fileserv@shsu.bitnet`. No subject line is necessary. In the body of the mail, write one line:
  `sendme vol-task`
  Send mail to mail-server@rus.uni-stuttgart.de. No subject line is necessary. In the body of the mail, write one line:
  `send soft/tex/vol-task/vol-task.tex`
- Request a printed copy from the TeX Users Group:
  TeX Users Group
  `tug@math.ams.org`
  PO Box 9506
  Providence, RI 02940
  USA
  401-751-7760
- Read it in your copy of TUGboat (or your friend's copy, or your library's copy ...) when it is published there [soon].

It will also be mailed initially to some mail lists and newsgroups that are likely sources of volunteers. Suggestions for additional publication destinations are welcome.

If after reading the descriptions you are interested in working on a particular task, the first step is to contact the coordinator for that task (if one is listed), or else contact the volunteer list manager:

George D. Greenwade
Department of Economics and Business Analysis
College of Business Administration
P.O. Box 2118
Sam Houston State University
Huntsville, Texas, USA 77341-2118
```
bed_gdg@SHSU.edu (Internet)
BED_GDG@SHSU     (BITNET)
SHSU::BED_GDG    (THENET)
```
telephone (409) 294-1266
FAX (409) 294-3712

If someone else is already serving as the task coordinator for that task, that person will discuss with you the current status of the work and ways in which you might contribute. Otherwise, the list manager will designate you as the 'task coordinator' for that task, and assist you in getting answers to any initial questions you may have. Further details are found in Appendix A of the task list.

*Extracted from LaTeX-X Mailing list:`LATEX-X@DHDURZ1.BITNET`

EuroTEX '92 proceedings

Jiri Zlatuska

October 1992

EuroTEX '92 proceedings volume contains 330 pages of papers presented at the last European TEX Conference held in Prague, Czechoslovakia.

There are full texts of five invited talks included, presenting topics ranging from the future of TEX to combinations involving METAFONT and PostScript, and also user support.
There are 20 high-quality papers by the authors of the contributed talks, presenting wide range of topics, TEX programming techniques, the use of TEX for languages with non-European alphabets, developments in the use of TEX in Eastern Europe, discussions new user environments, incorporating PostScript fonts, and issues concerning professional typesetting in national alphabets.

1 How to order

The volume is available from the Czechoslovak TEX user's group for only DM 30.– (or other local currency equivalent) payed by money transfer to the account:

```
34735-021/0100 at KOMERCNI BANKA,
                  PRAHA,
                  CZECHOSLOVAKIA
```

The address of the bank is:

KOMERCNI BANKA,
pob. Praha – MESTO,
Vaclavske nam. 42
110 00 PRAHA 1
Czechoslovakia

and the name of the account is:

```
Ceskoslovenske sdruzeni uzivatelu TEXu
```

Send the copy of your payment receipt with your order to the following address:

Ceskoslovenske sdruzeni uzivatelu TeXu (CSTUG)
Sokolovska 83
186 00 Praha 8
Czechoslovakia

Money transfer is *strongly* preferred, esp. via SWIFT. In case of problems, a personal check can be sent to the above address, but really in exceptional cases. In such a case, write the check on:

```
"Ceskoslovenske sdruzeni uzivatelu TeXu"
```

No credit card payments, though.

2 Bulk Orders

For bulk orders, from, e.g., national TeX users groups, we offer the price DM 25.– per issue. Please contact Jiri Vesely `<jvesely@cspguk11.bitnet>` or Karel Horak `<horakk@csearn.bitnet>` for arrangement. Generally, we strongly prefer this form. We hope this may provide for even better price for anybody interested, and to ensure spreding this volume containing *really* interesting material.

3 Finally

Don't miss the opportunity to order, and to receive the up-to-date volume on recent development related to TEX both in Europe and in the U.S., including exciting material on possible future development of computer typesetting in the spirit of software developed by Don Knuth.

TUG '93; Call for papers

World Wide Window on TEX

14th Annual TEX Users Group Meeting July 26th – 29th, 1993

Aston University in Birmingham, UK, will be the venue for the 1993 TUG conference. Aston is the home of the 'Aston Archive', one of the largest collections of electronic TEX paraphernalia. This is the first time the annual meeting will have been held outside North America.

The location of the conference at one centre of the electronic web and its movement from North America encourages particular focus on the 'world-wide' aspects of TEX (LATEX, METAFONT...). The marked rise in maturity of windowing systems (Macintosh, Atari, Amiga, Windows3, X windows) also allows us to exploit more straightforward and direct ways of employing the TEX tools. It is hoped that there will be a contribution to the conference from the Didot project, further extending the range of topics to include digital typography and font creation.

The conference will feature the regular paper presentations, but workshops, poster displays, courses, panels and 'birds of a feather' sessions will be integral components.

Contributions are being actively sought in the following subject areas: ◇ archives ◇ electronic networks ◇ formatting structured documents ◇ LATEX3 ◇ graphical user interfaces to TEXware ◇ non-english issues ◇ non-Latin scripts ◇ digital typography ◇ editing structured documents ◇ styles ◇ other typesetting systems ◇ document views ◇

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Conference committee

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Table of Contents TUGboat

Volume 13.2 and 13.3

July 1992 / October 1992

TUGboat tables of contents files are on `math.utah.edu` in `pub/tex/pub/tugboat`, also accessible via `tuglib@math.utah.edu` server by 'send index from tex/pub/tugboat'.

1 TUGboat 13.2 (July 1992)

2 TUGboat 13.3 (October 1992)[1]

[1] 1992 Annual Meeting Proceedings