

# Zpravodaj Československého sdružení uživatelů TeXu

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CSTUG editorial board

Hierarchie TeXistů

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maximum vstupním podmínek a jejich priority. U T<sub>E</sub>Xu je krásné to, že k cíli vede cestíček většinou několik a sazeč má možnost svobodné volby na každém kroku. Pokud mu T<sub>E</sub>X nedělá vše podle jeho představ, může dokonce upravit i jeho kód pro svou konkrétní aplikaci. Jako u každého jiného programování však efektivita práce kolísá až o řád v závislosti na schopnostech programátora, dostupných prostředcích, disciplíně a dalších faktorech. Doufám, že článek umožní aspoň základní orientaci novým adeptům černého řemesla pomocí T<sub>E</sub>Xu.

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## Hierarchie T<sub>E</sub>Xistů

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### Beginner:

- Is always searching for a T<sub>E</sub>X help menu in the text editor.
- Does not know what an operation system is, but thinks that T<sub>E</sub>X is a part of it.
- Has no idea what `\section` is for.
- Queues the `.TEX` file to the printer.
- Has serious troubles not to forget the `\` before a command name.
- Cannot understand why WINWORD is not installed on this nasty machine.

### Novice:

- Knows that no help menu is available.
- Uses `\begin {...}`, but `\end`'s only 50 % of them.
- Queues the `.DVI` file to the printer.
- Thinks that penalties are a bad thing for soccer players.
- Has heard somewhere that T<sub>E</sub>X is good for mathematical formulas.
- Cannot understand why `\section` is better than `{\Large \bf}`.
- Has never heard about METAFONT.
- Is amazed why WINWORD was so much faster in printing.
- Does not know what a tabular is, but needs one in his document.

- Wonders how to print a backslash and tries `\\`.
- Sometimes forgets `\documentstyle` or `\begin {document}`.

### User:

- Uses `\section` etc., but has never heard about optional arguments.
- Once has created a table of contents using `\tableofcontents`.
- Has heard about dimensions, but never seen one.
- Occasionally types `/` instead of `\`.
- Wonders why some guys like  $\text{\TeX}$  so much.
- Wants to write a whole paragraph underlined, but has no idea how.
- Thinks that `\newcommand` is only for freaks.
- Uses tabulars, but doesn't know what "`\halign`" in the error message means.
- Knows that style files contain style information.
- Uses the terms " $\text{\TeX}$ " and " $\text{\LaTeX}$ " as synonyms.
- Has learnt that typing "H" after an error message is sometimes funny and never useful.

### Intermediate:

- Uses list environments confidently.
- Has never heard about `\def`.
- Had first bad experience with fragile commands.
- Thinks that Knuth is the name of the showmaster in the local TV channel.
- Has figured out that optional arguments need not be given.
- Has some strange wishes to change  $\text{\LaTeX}$  style, but fortunately is unable to do it.
- Is proud to have used `\newcommand` or `\def` two times in life.
- Has heard that METAFONT is for font generation.

### Knowledgeable:

- Generates displayed equations, but inexpertly.
- Once has seen *The  $\text{\TeX}$ book*.
- Writes simple macros in every document.
- Would like to know how to implement optional parameters.
- Frequently asks the local  $\text{\TeX}$  guru for troubleshooting.
- Reads `comp.text.tex` every month.
- Considers macro expansion rules completely uninteresting.
- Had tried the picture environment, but returned to pen and ruler quickly.
- Has just to learn about `\displaystyle` to `\scriptscriptstyle`.

- Thinks that `\def` is an abbreviation for `\newcommand`.
- Changes counter values to number sections beginning with zero.
- Has been told that one can alter style files, but doesn't believe.

### Advanced:

- Uses most  $\text{\LaTeX}$  features with comfort.
- Has read *The  $\text{\TeX}$ book*, but failed to solve exercise 6.1.
- Thinks that dangerous bent is dangerous.
- Posts his troubles to `comp.text.tex`.
- Cannot imagine an application for `\csname`.
- Has learnt about horizontal and vertical mode.
- Believes that `WEB` is an arm of SpiderMan.
- Knows that glue isn't dirty.
- Thinks that one must be ill to use `\expandafter`.
- Wonders who is smart enough to write DVI drivers.
- Has heard about `\gdef`, but regards it worthless.

### TeXnician:

- Has read and understood *The  $\text{\TeX}$ book*, except appendix D.
- Uses `\input` to load his own macro package.
- Would like to use `\if. . .` some day, but does not see an application for it.
- Has read about `sfcodes`.
- Writes macros with delimited parameters.
- Knows something about inner vertical and restricted horizontal mode.
- Thinks that `\futurelet` is a useless nightmare.
- Has once used `\edef`.
- Implements exotic fonts on his laser printer with METAFONT.

### Hacker:

- Uses `\csname` instead of `\ifcase` if there are more than two alternatives.
- Has installed  $\text{\emTeX}$  on several PCs.
- Knows how to generate logos etc. with METAFONT.
- Uses `\xdef` when necessary.
- Can answer any question of novices to intermediates.
- Knows how to fix bugs in knowledgeable's macros.
- Cannot remember when he used `\newcommand` the last time.
- Starts each document with `\documentstyle [mymacros, mylists, mygraphix] {private}`
- Posts answers to `comp.text.tex` every week.
- Has learnt that active characters can do a lot.

### Guru:

- Is completely familiar with DVI formats.
- Has come in troubles since his METAFONT files filled the whole user disk space.
- Fixes bugs in printer drivers by looking at the *C* source.
- Can answer any question about T<sub>E</sub>X, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X or A<sub>M</sub>S-T<sub>E</sub>X after a few seconds of thought.
- Uses `\afterassignment` twice the day.
- Has read “*The Art of Computer Programming*” and quotes it frequently.
- Cannot imagine why any human being should use WINWORD.
- Begins every posting to `comp.text.tex` with “*As you can read in my new book...*”

### Wizard:

- Has met Mr. Knuth on a congress of typesetting.
- Keeps the world’s record in the usage of `\futurelet`.
- Doesn’t fix bugs in DVI drivers, but writes own instead of.
- Writes document styles during his lunch.
- Has designed a new font to make his thesis optically unique.
- Never reads `comp.text.tex`, why should he?
- Has ported T<sub>E</sub>X to a *Cray 90*.

### TeXpert:

- Fixes bugs in T<sub>E</sub>X.WEB.
- Installs T<sub>E</sub>X on a Hypercube serving 256 printers simultaneously.
- Develops a new font family for each person he writes a letter to.
- Currently works on the problem of a perfect hyphenation in any language.
- Corrects bad layout by patching the DVI file.
- During weekend, writes DVI drivers for printers constructed next year.
- Spends every Christmas with Donald and has married Leslie’s daughter.

Kam zařadíte sebe dnes? A kam zítra?