

A \LaTeX panorama

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Abstract

This 3-day course presents a panorama of \LaTeX , based on three ebooks by the same author. It can be very helpful in jump-starting your \LaTeX learning experience.

1 Course synopsis

\LaTeX ¹ is a very powerful and versatile typesetting system, for high-quality publishing. It is used internationally, by a wide variety of users. It was originally conceived by Prof. Donald E Knuth, the greatest computer scientist of our times. \LaTeX is available for free (gratis), on all, modern, Linux systems.

This 3-day course presents a panorama of \LaTeX , based on three ebooks by the same author [1].

1. Let's learn \LaTeX [3]
2. \LaTeX for mathematicians [4]
3. Thesis in a hurry [5]

All the three ebooks are available for download under a CC-BY-SA license [2]. The author strongly believes that hacking is a very effective method of learning [6], and actively promotes hacking through his ebooks. This course is a live support for the usage of the three ebooks mentioned above.

¹This is a \LaTeX document. You can obtain the \LaTeX source from the instructor. Please mention the Ref. code and the Ver. code given at the top of this document.

This is a rare event, where you can meet, and listen, and learn \LaTeX from a guru. Get your questions answered. Take your first steps into the fascinating world of \LaTeX . This course will include lecture/demo sessions where the lecturer will explain and demonstrate the steps involved in creating your \LaTeX documents.

Each participant will receive a course handout CDROM containing a rich collection of carefully chosen, tutorial material on \LaTeX . The CDROM will include a copy of all the presentation material (in pdf format) used in this course, \LaTeX tutorial material, as well as three ebooks by the author for learning \LaTeX . This CDROM could be a precious resource for learning and using \LaTeX .

This is a beginners-level course. No prior knowledge of \LaTeX is necessary. A working knowledge of Linux would be useful, since the demos will be made on Linux based tools. Microsoft worshippers, please abstain.

2 Course Outline

(Text marked by ??????? are to be filled up by the host institution)

- **Venue :** ???????
- **Dates :** ??????? & ???????
- **Time and Duration :** Each day, from ???? to ???? . Each day will comprise of 4 sessions of 90 minutes each, with appropriate inter-session breaks.
- **Tentative course structure :**

Day 1	
0	Takeoff and briefing
1	What is L ^A T _E X ?
2	Learning by Hacking
3	Demo #1 (Hello world. Font sizes, styles)
4	Demo #2 (Line spacing, multicolumn)
Day 2	
5	Demo #3 Bibliography Management
6.	Principles of maths writing
7.	L ^A T _E X for mathematicians
8.	Demo #4 Creating mathematical texts
Day 3	
9	Writing a thesis
10	Divide and conquer
11	Institutional responsibility
12	Wrapup and debriefing

3 Profile of the Instructor

Prof. Parthasarathy [1] is an experienced user and promoter of L^AT_EX [1]. He was a special editor of PracTex journal, the official journal of the TeX Users Group (TUG). He is the author of a number of ebooks and tutorial articles on L^AT_EX , all of which are available (under a CC-BY-SA license) on the w-w-web at [7]

References

- [1] S. Parthasarathy, A brief profile,
<https://drpartha.org.in/profpartha/profile.pdf>
- [2] S. Parthasarathy, Free ebooks on LaTeX,
<http://drpartha.org.in/publications/freeebooks.htm>
- [3] S. Parthasarathy, Let's learn LaTeX,
<http://drpartha.org.in/publications/LLLininvite.pdf>
- [4] S. Parthasarathy, LaTeX for mathematicians,
<http://drpartha.org.in/publications/ulfmininvite.pdf>
- [5] S. Parthasarathy, Thesis in hurry,
<http://drpartha.org.in/publications/tiahinvite.pdf>
- [6] S. Parthasarathy, Hacking for learning,
<http://drpartha.org.in/publications/hack2learn.htm>
- [7] S. Parthasarathy, Downloadable tutorial material,
<https://drpartha.org.in/publications/downloadlatx.htm>

End of course announcement

4 Instructions for the organisers

1. Make sure that this course announcement (Section 1,2,3 above) is adequately publicised. You may modify the text, wherever necessary. You can ask Dr. Partha for the LaTeX source, if required. Please fill up the blanks, and add necessary details.
2. You may consider posting this announcement on your notice boards, and web sites, and other media, and also consider mailing a copy to each one of the potential participants and all stake-holders, sufficiently in advance. The L^AT_EX source of this announcement can be sent to you, if needed.
3. A detailed checklist of arrangements and resources to be made available by the host institution, is available at :
<http://drpartha.org.in/publications/arrange.pdf>
Please study the above carefully, and confirm that you can arrange for ALL the requirements mentioned in the above checklist.
4. This is a course for beginners. No prior knowledge of TEX or LATEX is necessary. The seminar itself, and all demonstrations will be done on a LATEX system implemented on Linux machines. Participants will be expected to have a working knowledge or familiarity of Linux. Microsoft worshippers, please abstain.
5. Dr. Partha's introduction to L^AT_EX is available on the web, at :
<http://drpartha.org.in/profpartha/startlatex.htm>
You can use this as a starter page for details about L^AT_EX .
6. This document itself is available on the web :
<http://drpartha.org.in/publications/panorama-invite.pdf>
Please obtain the latest version of this document, from the web.
7. If you have any queries, remarks or suggestions, please contact the course instructor at drpartha@gmail.com

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