Zpravodaj 2021/1–4

Zpravodaj is the journal of ČSTUG, the \TeX\ user group oriented mainly but not entirely to the Czech and Slovak languages. The full issue can be downloaded at cstug.cz/bulletin.

Petr Sojka, Úvodný [Introductory word]; pp. 1–2

Go forth and participate in ČSTUG to make the bright future of \TeX\ & Friends a reality! You can!

Vít Novotný, Overleaf: Kolaborativní webový editor \LaTeX\u [Overleaf: Collaborative online \LaTeX\ editor]; pp. 3–8

The president of TUG named the collaborative online editor Overleaf “one of the several most important changes in the \TeX\ world for the last years”. In this article, I introduce Overleaf and describe its key functions and planned features.

Petr Olšák, \TeX\ in a nutshell; pp. 9–55

Nowadays, many users discover \TeX\ through high-level formats that hide the complexity of typesetting behind a facade of a friendly markup language. However, all except the simplest of typesetting tasks require that users can understand what happens under the hood and know how they can influence the algorithms of \TeX\ when needed.

In this article, the author introduces the foundations of most high-level \TeX\ formats, which will help the readers with their day-to-day work with \TeX\ as well as their more difficult typesetting tasks.

The readers are first introduced to the program \TeX\ and its extensions. Then, they learn about the different processors of \TeX\ and their modes. Finally, the readers learn about the registers and primitive commands of \TeX\ as well as the macros of the plain \TeX\ format. The word of the day is brevity as the exposition spans less than forty pages: Excellent reading material for an otherwise uneventful train ride!

The author has previously written three books about \TeX, has developed the Op\TeX\ format, maintains a dozen package on the CTAN archive, and has taught a university course about \TeX\ for over twenty years.

Donald Knuth, The \TeX\ tuneup of 2021; pp. 56–62

Published in TUGboat 42:1.

Barbara Beeton, Debugging \LaTeX\ files; pp. 63–75

Published in TUGboat 38:2.

Vít Novotný, Markdown 2.10.0: \LaTeX\ themes & snippets; pp. 76–82

Published in TUGboat 42:2.

Dominik Rehák, Priama sadzba dokumentov rôznych formátov v \TeX\u pomocou nástroja Pandoc [Direct typesetting of various document formats in \TeX\ using the Pandoc utility]; pp. 83–92

The Markdown \TeX\ package allows authors to typeset documents in the Markdown language and maintain control over how the documents will look. However, the package doesn’t provide support for document formats other than Markdown. In contrast, the Pandoc tool enables the conversion between dozens of document formats including \TeX\ and Markdown, but provides only rudimentary control over styling.

This article elaborates on the possibility of typesetting various text formats directly in \TeX\ by adding support for Pandoc’s intermediate document representation into the Markdown package. I focus mainly on the intermediate representations of Markdown and Pandoc as well as the differences between them, which my upcoming implementation will have to overcome. At the end of my article, I present the planned user interface for \TeX.

Peter Wilson, It might work XI; pp. 93–104

This paper shows several ways how to create a miniature book printed on just a single sheet of paper. Some \LaTeX\ solutions are given.

[Received from Vít Novotný.]