The TUG94 Proceedings — Apologia

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The TUG94 Annual Meeting took place at the beginning of August 1994, and the deadline for (revised) compuscripts was the end of August. It was decided to produce the final camera-ready copy on a typesetter in Europe, to give the editor and his assistant a chance to check it before sending to America. After a last check of the articles during September, PostScript files for a Linotronic typesetter at 1270 dpi resolution were generated at the beginning of October in Geneva. files were transferred by Sebastian Rahtz to a machine connected to the Linotronic typesetter of the Computing Centre of the University of London, where Philip Taylor had kindly volunteered to help produce the bromides.

Now the problems began to get more interesting. The first problem to emerge was with memory on the Linotronic. Initially, we tried to send 20 page batches, but almost all failed. Cutting this down to fewer and fewer pages per section, numerous trials over several weeks resulted in almost no output, as the large collection of Lucida fonts being downloaded with each job consistently ran the poor typesetter out of memory. Using the fine-tuning of dvips to specify the exact memory available in the typesetter did not help. Since nothing useful was being accomplished, we decided to stop including Type-1 Lucida fonts in the output, and instead generate PK format bitmaps at 1270dpi using ps2pk.

This resulted in jobs that were much more acceptable to the type setter, and rolls of bromide started to appear. However, several pages, especially those of the Haralambous papers, used complex METAFONT fonts which again exhausted the memory of the type setter (see table 1). So a few of the font examples of the Tiqwah (yannis T) and Ω (yannis O) papers had to be regenerated at 600 dpi and embedded as EPS pictures in the text.

Note: The table of fonts used in each paper is not included in this file.

Still not everything was coming out (we were running now in batches of 10 pages), with about 40 pages causing problems. These were finally run one by one through the typesetter. The resulting monstrous heap of rolls of bromide was cut up, collated and posted off to Barbara Beeton,

who (inevitably) found some pages missing; each of these (seven of them) was transmitted as an individual PostScript file and printed at the AMS.

The color pages were completely done in the United States. They fell into two batches. Those that were available as PostScript files with CMYK color information had their 4-colour separations done and films produced at the AMS, while the BM2FONT color images of Sowa (Colour Examples 10 to 13) were scanned at the printer, Cadmus.

It had been planned to send the colour Post-Script files direct to the printer, and have them separated there, but the *dvips* output seemed to defeat Cadmus, who claimed to find no colour on the pages! By this time, help from heaven was badly needly, and it duly arrived in the shape of a new RIP in the typesetter at AMS which could do colour separations directly, without need for a preliminary processing phase. Fingers crossed, Barbara threw the TUG94 papers at it, and got back a pile of correctly separated negatives; the only problem then was that she had to work out by eye which was which for each page out of cyan, magenta, yellow and black...

Some other problems, born of incompatibilities between the (fixed) resolution at which some graphics had been prepared and the higher resolution of the typesetter, required additional reruns and falling back on the tried and true cut-and-paste makeup for several pages, again at AMS. Finally, the time spent by Barbara on the *Proceedings* issue was cut from her time scheduled to work on the next regular issue (15 #4, the issue you are now looking at).

All these unforeseen problems, and the fact that several people in different locations had to deal with them, meant that the issue was not completely ready until the end of January 1995. It is only thanks to the perseverance of Sebastian Rahtz that the issue finally arrived on your desk. We want to apologize for this delay and sincerely hope that this year the *Proceedings* of the Florida Annual Meeting will be available before the end of 1995. Moreover for the following year we propose to change the whole schedule and have the *Proceedings* ready at the Conference, i.e., in July.

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