Die TeXnische Komödie 2/2013

Die TEXnische Komödie is the journal of DANTE e.V., the German-language TEX user group (http://www.dante.de). [Non-technical items are omitted.]

CHRISTINA MÖLLER, Beschlüsse der 48. Mitgliederversammlung [Spring Meeting and 48th General Meeting of DANTE e.V.]; pp. 6–13

After last year's Autumn meeting, jointly held as EuroTeX in Breskens, Netherlands, the Spring meeting took place in Gießen. From March 5–8 the TeX community came together to listen to talks from various areas, discuss problems and exchange ideas.

CHRISTINE RÖMER, Handouts setzen [Typesetting handouts]; pp. 27–36

This short article meets the wishes of TEX users for templates for specific kinds of text.

ROLF NIEPRASCHK, HERBERT VOSS, Test auf eine Zahl [Testing for a number]; pp. 37–39

In TeX applications it is sometimes necessary to check an argument for its properties. In this article we show how to test an argument for an integer value.

Christine Römer, Logikzeichen [Logic symbols]; pp. 40-55

With the formal markup language of mathematical logic, special symbols were introduced that are also used in linguistic formal semantics and philosophy of language. Since there is only one package available to typeset Frege's Begriffsschrift from 1879, this article shows a list of the special symbols with their LATEX syntax. For those working with these symbols this may be helpful.

[Received from Herbert Voß.]

ArsTEXnica #15 (April 2013)

ArsTeXnica is the journal of GIT, the Italian TeX user group (http://www.guitex.org).

GIANLUCA PIGNALBERI, Editoriale [From the editor]; p. 3

CLAUDIO FIANDRINO, Drawing ER diagrams with TikZ; pp. 5–14

The paper will illustrate some techniques to represent Entity-Relationship (ER) diagrams with TikZ. In particular, it will focus on the standard internal library er, on the external package TikZ-er2, on the external tool Graphviz and on the object-oriented approach provided by the er-oo library.

CLAUDIO FIANDRINO, Sa-TikZ: A library to draw switching architectures: pp. 15–24

The article illustrates how it is possible to draw

some types of switching architectures in a simple manner. The Sa-TikZ library provides not only the keys devoted to the drawing part, but also the keys devoted to customizing aspects of the architectures in the spirit of normal TikZ syntax.

GIANLUCA PIGNALBERI, Realizzazione di un layout complesso: la prima pagina de La Settimana Enigmistica [How to design a complex layout: The first page of La Settimana Enigmistica]; pp. 25–30

Making a complex page layout with LaTeX involves the use of multiple specialized packages. We will see how to use TikZ, shapepar and textpos while attempting to reproduce part of the cover of an old issue of La Settimana Enigmistica.

MASSIMILIANO DOMINICI, Una panoramica su Pandoc [An overview of Pandoc]; pp. 31–38

This paper is an overview of Pandoc, a utility for the conversion of Markdown-formatted text in many output formats, including LATEX and HTML.

CLAUDIO BECCARI, LATEX e le lingue romanze alpine: il friulano [LATEX and Alpine Romance languages: Friulan]; pp. 39–45

LATEX is used to typeset in a variety of languages: at the time of writing, it can handle 74 different languages (plus many variants), some of them used by very few people, some by many millions. At the moment, there are no facilities for typesetting documents in the various more or less official Alpine Romance languages. This paper would be another step toward extending the LATEX language capabilities to the various Romance languages that are used by large communities in the European Alps. In this second article on the subject we deal with Friulan, spoken, read, and written by almost 800,000 people in northeastern Italy and within other Friulian communities around the world.

CLAUDIO BECCARI, Le filigrane e le figure di sfondo [Watermarks and background figures]; pp. 46–58

Our TEX system has several packages available for inserting watermarks or background images. But each one of these packages has specific features that make it more suitable in certain applications rather than others. In this article the mechanism for inserting such "decorations" is thoroughly examined so as to fully understand how it works.

Luigi Scarso, LuaJITTEX; pp. 59–69 [Published in *TUGboat* 34:1.]

[Received from Gianluca Pignalberi.]