Die TFXnische Komödie 2-3/2016

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.)

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UWE ZIEGENHAGEN, Klausuren erstellen mit der Dokumentenklasse exam [Creating examinations with the exam document class]; pp. 40–51

The exam package provides a versatile and powerful way to typeset examinations for use in schools and universities. This article introduces the reader to the basic functions of this class.

ALEXANDER SENGER, Schmuckfarben für X¬II-TEX [Spot Colours für X¬II-TEX]; pp. 52–56

The xespotcolor package is used to display spot colours in XHMTEX and LATEX+dvipdfmx. Developed by Apostolos Syropoulos in 2016, it is a reimplementation of the spotcolor package, published by Jens Elstner in 2006.

CHRISTINE RÖMER, Konstituentenstrukturen einfach und schön mit forest [Constituent structures made simple and beautiful with forest]; pp. 57–62

Sašo Živanović, the author of the forest package, describes the package as follows: "It is due to the awesome power of the supplementary facilities of PGF/TikZ that Forest is now, I believe, the most flexible tree typesetting package for LATEX you can get." In perhaps all cases it is much easier to handle than other packages; even complex structures are not a problem.

ROLF NIEPRASCHK, Kalender mit persönlichen Daten [Calendars with personal information]; pp. 63–66

A nice proposal for a calendar based on TikZ is presented at www.texample.net/tikz/examples/a-calender-for-doublesided-din-a4. One example shows how personal calendar dates such as birth-days or vacations can be highlighted, unfortunately in a rather theoretical way. To prepare a calendar for a colleague who wished to have such a calendar, I created a document class which keeps the dates in a separate file.

HERBERT VOSS, Geometrische Konstruktionen [Geometric constructions]; pp. 67–69

The pst-eucl package allows one to construct geometrical objects on the basis of defined points on the plane. In so-called Voronoi diagrams (mathworld.wolfram.com/VoronoiDiagram.html), named after Georgi Feodosjewitsch Woronoi, only the circumcenter of triangles is needed.

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LUKAS C. BOSSERT, UWE ZIEGENHAGEN, HERBERT VOSS, Integration von Python in TEX am Beispiel von Katalogeinträgen [Catalogue entries with Python and TEX]; pp. 7–20

Many dissertations in archeology contain a catalogue at the end, which shows the analyzed data in a certain scheme. In this article we implement an efficient catalogue with the help of Python and show a TeX-only solution as well.

UWE ZIEGENHAGEN, Parallel TEXen mit Python [Parallel TEXing with Python]; pp. 21–23

In this article I briefly show, how—with the help of Python—the typical multiple CPU cores in a modern PC can be used to compile files in parallel to save a significant amount of time.

HERBERT VOSS, Trennmuster und deren Anwendung [Hyphenation patterns and their application]; pp. 24–28

Since for most languages hyphenation rules can hardly be expressed in algorithmic form, one can only make use of database- or probability-based procedures. In general one does not care about the internal mechanisms of the hyphenation algorithm, but there are times when one would like to know why a specific word was hyphenated as it was or what hyphenations are possible at all.

HERBERT VOSS, Im Netz gefunden [Found in the net]; pp. 29–41

In various mailing lists, web forums, newsgroups, et al., one finds plenty of helpful information around the topics of typesetting with TeX, LaTeX, ConTeXt, etc. Following are two recent items.

"How TEX reads source code", by Ulrich Diez on November 22, 2014 in news://de.comp.text.tex:
[...] I want to show how TEX reads the source file and creates the tokens.

"Slanted characters with a bar", by Heiko Oberdiek on June 11, 2016 in http://tex.stackexchange.com/questions/314238/bar-and-overline: The slanting makes the correct length of the bar a little more complicated. [An] example measures the width of an upright X and uses this for the length of the bar.

[Received from Herbert Voß.]