

# Communication in Science / 3

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Samo Stanič

University of Nova Gorica



# L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

- is a **document preparation system** for **high-quality typesetting**
- is most often used for medium-to-large technical or scientific documents
- it can be used for almost any form of publishing
- **is not a word processor**
- LaTeX encourages authors not to worry too much about the appearance of their documents but to concentrate on getting the right content



**Leave document design to document designers, let authors get on with writing documents.** It contains features for:

- Typesetting journal articles, technical reports, books, and slide presentations.
- Control over large documents containing sectioning, cross-references, tables and figures.
- Typesetting of complex mathematical formulas.
- Advanced typesetting of mathematics with AMS-LaTeX.
- Automatic generation of bibliographies and indexes.
- Multi-lingual typesetting.
- Inclusion of artwork, and process or spot colour.
- Using PostScript or Metafont fonts.

Based on Donald E. Knuth's TeX typesetting language and extensions. LaTeX first developed in 1985 by Leslie Lamport, now maintained and developed by the LaTeX3 Project: <http://latex-project.org/>

# Obtaining LaTeX

## Linux (Ubuntu)

Your system distribution includes TeX package including LaTeX (TeXLive). If not installed, check repository or install TeX Live directly (<http://www.tug.org/texlive/>)

## Mac OS X

MacTeX distribution contains everything you need - a complete TeX system with LaTeX itself and editors to write your documents (<http://www.tug.org/mactex/>)

## Windows

proTeXt system allows you to install a full TeX system, including LaTeX, while reading about the basics of the installation (<http://www.tug.org/protext/>)

LaTeX is **free software** (under the terms of the LaTeX Project Public License).

## References

- <http://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/LaTeX>
- V. Batagelj, B. Golli, TEX: povabilo v TEX, LATEX, BIBTEX, PICTEX, COBISS.SI-ID [2327591](#)
- L. Lamport, LaTeX: A Document Preparation System, COBISS.SI-ID [6262100](#)