T_EX, LAT_EX and math

Enrico Gregorio 26 ottobre 2019

GulTmeeting 2019

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Many papers have been written by Knuth himself and by others on the topic of math typesetting. Here I'd like to present some personal ideas on the subject, coming from almost thirty year long experience in mathematical typesetting. I'll also present some recent developments and new tricks made available with **expl3**.

1. vertical mode

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- 2. horizontal mode

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- 3. math mode

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Each mode has two flavors. In particular, math mode can be *inline* or *display*.

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Do you see something strange in the following formula?

$$A \setminus B = \{x | x \in A, x \notin B\}$$

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$$A \backslash B = \{ x | x \in A, x \notin B \}$$

Here's the correct version:

$$A \setminus B = \{x \mid x \in A, x \notin B\}$$

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Here's the correct version:

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A\setminus $B=\{x \in X \in B\}$

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that's obtained with $\, |\,$ instead of \mdots

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that's obtained with $\, |\,$ instead of \mbox{mid}

Warning

the code $\, |\,$ should not be typed in

$$\{x \mid x \in A, x \notin B\}$$

$$\{x : x \in A, x \notin B\}$$

$$\{x; x \in A, x \notin B\}$$

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Repetitive constructions must be packed in a command, say one of

```
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There are very good reasons to do this!

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An important exception

In the abstract there should be *no* use of personal macros. It should be able to typeset with a 'naked' version of LAT_EX: it's very common nowadays that the abstract is fed to some web page that maybe uses MathML, MathJax or similar device for handing the text to browsers.

$$\begin{cases} a^{6} + 2a^{3}b^{3} + b^{6} = q^{2} \\ 4a^{3}b^{3} = -\frac{4}{27}p^{3} \\ \begin{cases} a^{3} + b^{3} = -q \\ a^{6} - 2a^{3}b^{3} + b^{6} = q^{2} + \frac{4}{27}p^{3} \\ \begin{cases} a^{3} + b^{3} = -q \\ (a^{3} - b^{3})^{2} = q^{2} + \frac{4}{27}p^{3} \\ \end{cases} \\ \begin{cases} a^{3} + b^{3} = -q \\ a^{3} - b^{3} = -q \\ q^{2} + \frac{4}{27}p^{3} \end{cases}$$

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Alignments

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{\mu} \\ \rho_{\mu}^{*} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_{\mu} \\ \rho_{\mu}^{*} \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \tan \theta = \frac{g_{el}}{g_{*}}$$

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What's wrong in the first alignment?

What's the difference between the second and the third alignment?

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Be consistent! Also with your choice of "phi".

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The eagle eyed people in the attendance will have spotted the small but important differences.

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In the formulas above we have to add $\$, manually where needed.

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Should the Euler number or the imaginary unit symbols be printed in upright or italic type?

ISO prescribes upright type. Mathematicians mostly use italic.

What's the symbol for the natural logarithm function?

Can "sin⁻¹" be used?

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No, as mandated by ISO and on mathematical grounds: the sine function is obviously *not invertible*. The correct notation is "arcsin".

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Should I mention the differential d?

or \mathrm{d} if one really prefers the abomination

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$$\int_{0}^{x} t \, dt = \frac{x^{2}}{2} \quad \text{int}_{0}^{x} t \, \text{diff t=} x^{2}}$$

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$$\int_{0}^{x} t \, dt = \frac{x^{2}}{2} \quad \text{int}_{0}^{x} t \, \text{diff t=} \frac{x^{2}}{2}$$

A double integral

$$\iint_{D} f(x,y) \, dx \, dy \quad \text{\int\limits_{D}} f(x,y) \, \text{\diff x \diff y}$$

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A double integral

$$\iint_{D} f(x,y) \, dx \, dy \quad \text{\int\limits_{D}} f(x,y) \, \text{\diff x \diff y}$$

Choose whatever form of *d* you like, but be consistent

```
Would you like to type something like
\left\{ x \;\middle|\; \frac{1}{2} < x < \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right\}
whenever you have a set denotation?</pre>
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```
Wouldn't the code
```

```
set {x \ frac{1}{2} < x < frac{1+}{2}}
be better?
```

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```

Wouldn't the code
\set*{x \suchthat \frac{1}{2} < x < \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}}
be better?</pre>

Or something like \langle x\mathclose| \mathopen|y\rangle \langle x\mid y\rangle which are a "bra", a "ket" and a "braket"?

 $\langle x | | y \rangle \langle x | y \rangle$

Good news: the paper contains code for easing the input:

 $bra{x} \ ket{y} \ braket{x|y} \ braket{x|y|z}$

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The code also provides easy way to increase the size of the delimiters when needed

Have you ever seen road signs saying that something is mt. 100 ahead?

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Can you guess the order of magnitude of 7400043022221 at first sight?

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It would be 7,400,043,022,221 for our American or British friends

Another piece of good news: we have the **siunitx** package that does most of the work for us

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```
\SI{100}{\meter} \SI{100}{\metre}
\SI{20}{\kilo\gram}
\SI{600}{\cubic\centi\meter} \SI{600}{\cubic\centi\metre}
\num{7400043022221} \num[group-separator={,}]{7400043022221}
```

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\SI{20}{\kilo\gram}
\SI{600}{\cubic\centi\meter} \SI{600}{\cubic\centi\metre}
\num{7400043022221} \num[group-separator={,}]{7400043022221}
```

100 m 100 m 20 kg 600 cm³ 600 cm³ 7 400 043 022 221 7,400,043,022,221

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Remember the Mars Climate Orbiter crash?

The acceleration due to gravity near the surface of the Earth is

$$9.8\,m\,s^{-2} = 9.8\,\frac{m}{s^2} = 9.8\,m/s^2$$

The three realizations have all been input with

\SI{9.8}{\meter\per\square\second}

by just changing some runtime options

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```
\SI{9.8}{\meter\per\square\second}
```

by just changing some runtime options

```
\sisetup{per-mode=reciprocal} % default
```

```
\sisetup{per-mode=fraction}
```

```
\sisetup{per-mode=symbol}
```

so it's easy to adapt a paper to the publisher's requirements *without changing the code* in the document environment

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```
OK, I cheated: the middle term has been typeset with
\SI[per-mode=fraction]{9.8}{\meter\per\square\second}
```

You now shouldn't be surprised that the following three tables have all been typeset with *the same input code* for the table body

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Nation	Number	Nation	Number	Nation	Number
Italy	640 375	Italy	640,375	Italy	640×10^{3}
Germany	231 803	Germany	231,803	Germany	232×10^3
France	100 002	France	100,002	France	100×10^3
Turkey	91 329	Turkey	91,329	Turkey	91.3 \times 10 ³
Spain	1 003 000	Spain	1,003,000	Spain	$1.00 imes10^6$

Source: Mr Leporello, private communication

The first two tables

```
\begin{tabular}{
  a{}
  1
  S[table-format=7.0]
  a{}
}
\toprule
Nation & {Number} \setminus
\midrule
Italy & 640375 \\
Germany & 231803 \setminus
France & 100002 \\
Turkey & 91329 \\
Spain & 1003000 \\
\bottomrule
\end{tabular}
```

The first two tables

```
\begin{tabular}{
 a{}
  1
 S[table-format=7.0]
 a{}
}
\toprule
Nation & {Number} \\
\midrule
Italy & 640375 \\
Germany & 231803 \\
France & 100002 \\
Turkey & 91329 \\
Spain & 1003000 \\
\bottomrule
\end{tabular}
```

The third table \begin{tabular}{ **∂**{} 1 S[table-format=3.2e1] **∂**{} } \toprule Nation & {Number} \\ \midrule Italy & 640375 \\ Germany & 231803 \\ France & 100002 \\ Turkey & 91329 \\ Spain & 1003000 \\ \bottomrule \end{tabular}

The first table has been typeset with no special setting

The first table has been typeset with no special setting

The second table with \sisetup{group-separator={,}}

The first table has been typeset with no special setting

```
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```

```
The third table with
\sisetup{
  round-mode=figures,
  round-precision=3,
  scientific-notation=engineering
}
```

The math and technical typesetting would be different without

Claudio Beccari, "Typesetting mathematics for science and technology according to ISO 31/XI». TUGboat, 18 (1), 1997

and without Claudio, to begin with

Grazie, Claudio