

Getting started with L^AT_EX

November 2, 2009

1 My first L^AT_EX session

1. Login.

Username: *csstudent number*

Password:

2. Open a command tool (terminal emulation). Click on the corresponding icon (a black monitor with a shell).

3. Start the editor emacs (recommended) and load a file.

```
emacs filename.tex &
```

(type this in the command tool; the effect of ‘&’ is to run the process in the background, so the command tool will be free for further use).

4. Edit your first L^AT_EX document. An example of a very simple L^AT_EX document is:

```
\documentclass[12pt]{article}

\begin{document}

My first latex document.

\end{document}
```

You find examples of a L^AT_EX files under the addresses

<http://www-compsci.swan.ac.uk/~csulrich/tutorials/sample.tex>

<http://www-compsci.swan.ac.uk/~csulrich/tutorials/la.tex> (this document)

It is recommended to use Emacs’ spell-checker (see Reference Card).

5. Save your file. Use the menu in your emacs buffer (Files, Save buffer), or the Emacs Reference Card.

6. Run L^AT_EX.

```
latex filename
```

(type this in your command tool). If an error occurs, type **q** or **X**, try to fix the error and run L^AT_EX again.

7. Preview.

```
xdvi filename &
```

(type this in your command tool)

8. Printing. First the file *filename.dvi* has to be translated into a postscript file:

```
dvips filename.dvi.
```

This generates the file *filename.ps* which can be viewed by

```
ghostview filename.ps &.
```

In the window appearing you may click on File, Print, Okay.

p.t.o.

2 Some Linux commands

command	short description	usage (expressions in square brackets are optional)
<code>cd</code>	change directory	<code>cd <i>subdirectory</i></code> <code>cd ..</code> (go to parent directory) <code>cd</code> (go to your home directory)
<code>cp</code>	copy file	<code>cp [<i>path1</i>]<i>file1</i> [<i>path2</i>]<i>file2</i></code> <code>cp [<i>path1</i>]<i>file</i> [<i>path2</i>].</code> (the dot replaces <i>file</i>)
<code>ls</code>	list the content of a directory	<code>ls [-l] [-a]</code> (try it out)
<code>man</code>	manual	<code>man <i>command</i></code>
<code>mkdir</code>	make directory	<code>mkdir <i>new directory</i></code>
<code>more</code>	show the content of a file	<code>more <i>file</i></code>
<code>passwd</code>	change password	try it out (the directory must be empty)
<code>ps</code>	list the current processes	<code>ps [-l] [-a]</code> (try it out)
<code>pwd</code>	print working directory	try it out
<code>rm</code>	remove file	<code>rm <i>file</i></code>
<code>rmdir</code>	remove directory	<code>rmdir <i>directory</i></code>