Hands on Training in LaTeX

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Outline of Talk

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Why LaTeX?

- It makes beautiful documents
  - Especially mathematics
- It was created by scientists, for scientists
  - A large and active community
- It is powerful — you can extend it
  - Packages for papers, presentations, Thesis, Books, . . .

History

- LaTeX uses TEX as its formatting engine.
- TEX is a computer program created by Donald E. Knuth.
- It is aimed at typesetting text and mathematical formulae.
- TEX as we use it today was released in 1982, with some slight enhancements added in 1989.
- LaTeX was originally written by Leslie Lamport.
- Thesedays LaTeX is maintained by Frank Mittelbach.
- LaTeX is pronounced "Lay-tech" or "Lah-tech."

LaTeXInput Files

- The input for LaTeX is a plain ASCII text file. You can create it with any text editor. It contains the text of the document, as well as the commands that tell LaTeX how to typeset the text.
- "Whitespace" characters, such as blank or tab, are treated uniformly as "space" by LaTeX. Several consecutive whitespace characters are treated as one "space."
- Special Characters: # $ % ^ & _ { } ~

```
Use: \# \$ \% \^{} \& \_ \{ \} \~{}
 \documentclass{...}
 \usepackage{...}
 \begin{document}
 \end{document}
```

The First Document in LaTeX

```
\documentclass{article}
\begin{document}
Small is Beautiful!
\end{document}
```