

AUCT_EX

A sophisticated T_EX environment for Emacs.
Version 11.81

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Short Contents

Executive Summary	1
Copying	2
1 Introduction to AUCTeX	3
2 Installing AUCTeX	5
3 Quick Start	17
4 Inserting Frequently Used Commands	21
5 Advanced Editing Features	28
6 Controlling Screen Display	35
7 Starting Processors, Viewers and Other Programs	44
8 Multifile Documents	50
9 Automatic Parsing of TeX Files	52
10 Language Support	54
11 Automatic Customization	57
12 Writing Your own Style Support	60
A Changes and New Features	67
B Future Development	73
C Frequently Asked Questions	77
Key Index	79
Function Index	80
Variable Index	81
Concept Index	83

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	1
Copying	2
1 Introduction to AUCTeX	3
1.1 Installation	3
1.2 Features	3
1.3 Availability	4
1.4 Contacts	4
2 Installing AUCTeX	5
2.1 Prerequisites	5
2.2 Configure	6
2.3 Build/install	8
2.4 Loading the package	8
2.5 Providing AUCTeX as a package	9
2.6 Installation for non-privileged users	10
2.7 Installation under MS Windows	11
2.8 Customizing	16
2.9 Contributed files	16
3 Quick Start	17
3.1 Functions for editing TeX files	17
3.1.1 Making your TeX code more readable	17
3.1.2 Entering sectioning commands	18
3.1.3 Inserting environments	18
3.1.4 Inserting macros	18
3.1.5 Changing the font	18
3.1.6 Other useful features	19
3.2 Creating and viewing output, debugging	19
3.2.1 One Command for LaTeX, helpers, viewers, and printing ..	19
3.2.2 Choosing an output format	19
3.2.3 Debugging LaTeX	20
3.2.4 Running LaTeX on parts of your document	20
4 Inserting Frequently Used Commands	21
4.1 Insertion of Quotes, Dollars, and Braces	21
4.2 Inserting Font Specifiers	22
4.3 Inserting chapters, sections, etc.	23
4.4 Inserting Environment Templates	25
4.4.1 Equations	25

4.4.2	Floats	26
4.4.3	Itemize-like	26
4.4.4	Tabular-like	26
4.4.5	Customizing environments	27
5	Advanced Editing Features	28
5.1	Entering Mathematics	28
5.2	Completion	28
5.3	Commenting	30
5.4	Indenting	30
5.5	Filling	32
6	Controlling Screen Display	35
6.1	Font Locking	35
6.2	Folding Macros and Environments	40
6.3	Outlining the Document	43
7	Starting Processors, Viewers and Other Programs	44
7.1	Executing Commands	44
7.2	Viewing the formatted output	46
7.2.1	Starting viewers and customizing their invocation	46
7.2.2	Forward and inverse search	47
7.3	Catching the errors	48
7.4	Checking for problems	48
7.5	Controlling the output	48
8	Multifile Documents	50
9	Automatic Parsing of TeX Files	52
10	Language Support	54
10.1	Using AUCTeX with European Languages	54
10.1.1	Typing and Displaying Non-ASCII Characters	54
10.1.2	Style Files for Different Languages	54
10.2	Using AUCTeX with Japanese TeX	56
11	Automatic Customization	57
11.1	Automatic Customization for the Site	57
11.2	Automatic Customization for a User	58
11.3	Automatic Customization for a Directory	58

12	Writing Your own Style Support	60
12.1	A Simple Style File	60
12.2	Adding Support for Macros	60
12.3	Adding Support for Environments	63
12.4	Adding Other Information	64
12.5	Automatic Extraction of New Things	64
Appendix A	Changes and New Features	67
Appendix B	Future Development	73
B.1	Mid-term Goals	73
B.2	Wishlist	73
B.3	Bugs	76
Appendix C	Frequently Asked Questions	77
Key Index	.....	79
Function Index	.....	80
Variable Index	.....	81
Concept Index	.....	83

Executive Summary

AUCT_EX is an integrated environment for editing L^AT_EX, ConT_EXt, docT_EX, Texinfo, and T_EX files.

This file documents AUCT_EX version 11.81.

Although AUCT_EX contains a large number of features, there are no reasons to despair. You can continue to write T_EX and L^AT_EX documents the way you are used to, and only start using the multiple features in small steps. AUCT_EX is not monolithic, each feature described in this manual is useful by itself, but together they provide an environment where you will make very few L^AT_EX errors, and makes it easy to find the errors that may slip through anyway.

If you want to make AUCT_EX aware of style files and multi-file documents right away, insert the following in your ‘.emacs’ file.

```
(setq TeX-auto-save t)
(setq TeX-parse-self t)
(setq-default TeX-master nil)
```

If you are using the toolbar, there is some toolbar support available for L^AT_EX which you can enable with

```
(add-hook 'LaTeX-mode-hook #'LaTeX-install-toolbar)
```

Another thing you should enable is RefT_EX (see [section “Installation” in *The RefT_EX manual*](#)), a comprehensive solution for managing cross references, bibliographies, indices, document navigation and a few other things.

Also check out [section “Installation” in *The preview-latex Manual*](#), for activating the preview-latex subsystem of AUCT_EX.

NOTE: This documentation is preliminary. It should however cover most important points. Corrections or perhaps rewrites of sections are VERY WELCOME.

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 Per Abrahamsen (updates to 11.13)
 David Kastrup (updates from 11.14)

There is a mailing list for general discussion about AUCT_EX: write a mail with “subscribe” in the subject to auctex-request@gnu.org to join it. Send contributions to auctex@gnu.org.

Bug reports should go to bug-auctex@gnu.org, suggestions for new features, and pleas for help should go to either auctex-devel@gnu.org (the AUCT_EX developers), or to auctex@gnu.org if they might have general interest. Please use the command `M-x TeX-submit-bug-report RET` to report bugs if possible. You can subscribe to a low-volume announcement list by sending “subscribe” in the subject of a mail to info-auctex-request@gnu.org.

Copying

(This text stolen from the T_EXinfo 2.16 distribution).

The programs currently being distributed that relate to AUCT_EX include lisp files for Emacs (and XEmacs). These programs are *free*; this means that everyone is free to use them and free to redistribute them on a free basis. The AUCT_EX related programs are not in the public domain; they are copyrighted and there are restrictions on their distribution, but these restrictions are designed to permit everything that a good cooperating citizen would want to do. What is not allowed is to try to prevent others from further sharing any version of these programs that they might get from you.

Specifically, we want to make sure that you have the right to give away copies of the programs that relate to AUCT_EX, that you receive source code or else can get it if you want it, that you can change these programs or use pieces of them in new free programs, and that you know you can do these things.

To make sure that everyone has such rights, we have to forbid you to deprive anyone else of these rights. For example, if you distribute copies of the AUCT_EX related programs, you must give the recipients all the rights that you have. You must make sure that they, too, receive or can get the source code. And you must tell them their rights.

Also, for our own protection, we must make certain that everyone finds out that there is no warranty for the programs that relate to AUCT_EX. If these programs are modified by someone else and passed on, we want their recipients to know that what they have is not what we distributed, so that any problems introduced by others will not reflect on our reputation.

The precise conditions of the licenses for the programs currently being distributed that relate to AUCT_EX are found in the General Public Licenses that accompany them.

1 Introduction to AUCT_EX

This section of the AUCT_EX manual gives a brief overview of what AUCT_EX is. It is **not** an attempt to document AUCT_EX. Real documentation for AUCT_EX is available in the rest of the manual.

1.1 Installation

Read the section [Chapter 2 \[Installation\]](#), page 5, or [Section 2.7 \[Installation under MS Windows\]](#), page 11, respectively for comprehensive information about how to install AUCT_EX.

The installation routine tries to make the modes provided by AUCT_EX the default for all supported file types. If this does not happen in your case, add

```
(load "auctex.el" nil t t)
```

to your init file and consult the section [Section 2.4 \[Loading the package\]](#), page 8.

If you want to change the modes for which it is operative instead of the default, use

```
M-x customize-variable RET TeX-modes RET
```

If you want to remove a preinstalled AUCT_EX completely before any of its modes have been used,

```
(unload-feature 'tex-site)
```

should accomplish that.

If you are considering upgrading AUCT_EX, the recent changes are described in [Appendix A \[Changes\]](#), page 67.

1.2 Features

AUCT_EX is a comprehensive customizable integrated environment for writing input files for T_EX/L^AT_EX/ConT_EXt/TeXinfo using Emacs or XEmacs.

It lets you process your source files by running T_EX and related tools (such as output filters, post processors for generating indices and bibliographies, and viewers) from inside Emacs. AUCT_EX lets you browse through the errors T_EX reported, while it moves the cursor directly to the reported error, and displays some documentation for that particular error. This will even work when the document is spread over several files.

One component of AUCT_EX that L^AT_EX users will find attractive is `preview-latex`, a combination of folding and in-source previewing that provides true “What You See Is What You Get” experience in your sourcebuffer, while letting you retain full control. `preview-latex` comes with its own manual, see [section “preview-latex” in *The preview-latex Manual*](#).

AUCT_EX automatically indents your ‘L^AT_EX-source’, not only as you write it — you can also let it indent and format an entire document. It has a special outline feature, which can greatly help you ‘getting an overview’ of a document.

Apart from these special features, AUCT_EX provides a large range of handy Emacs macros, which in several different ways can help you write your documents fast and painlessly.

All features of AUCT_EX are documented using the GNU Emacs online documentation system. That is, documentation for any command is just a key click away!

AUCT_EX is written entirely in Emacs-Lisp, and hence you can easily add new features for your own needs. It has become recently a GNU project. AUCT_EX is distributed under the ‘GNU General Public License Version 2’.

1.3 Availability

The most recent version is always available at

<http://ftp.gnu.org/pub/gnu/auctex/>

WWW users may want to check out the AUCT_EX page at

<http://www.gnu.org/software/auctex/>

1.4 Contacts

Various mailing lists exist.

Send a mail with the subject “subscribe” to auctex-request@gnu.org in order to join the general discussion list for AUCT_EX. Articles should be sent to auctex@gnu.org. In a similar way, you can subscribe to the info-auctex@gnu.org list for just getting important announcements about AUCT_EX. The list bug-auctex@gnu.org is for bug reports which you should usually file with the *M-x TeX-submit-bug-report RET* command.

If you want to address the developers of AUCT_EX themselves with technical issues, they can be found on the discussion list auctex-devel@gnu.org.

2 Installing AUCT_EX

Installing AUCT_EX should be simple: merely `./configure`, `make`, and `make install` for a standard site-wide installation (most other installations can be done by specifying a `--prefix=...` option).

On many systems, this will already activate the package, making its modes the default instead of the built-in modes of Emacs. If this is not the case, consult [Section 2.4 \[Loading the package\]](#), page 8. Please read through this document fully before installing anything. The installation procedure has changed as compared to earlier versions. Users of MS Windows are asked to consult See [Section 2.7 \[Installation under MS Windows\]](#), page 11.

2.1 Prerequisites

- A recent version of Emacs, alternatively XEmacs

Emacs 20 is no longer supported, and neither is XEmacs with a version of `xemacs-base` older than 1.84 (released in sumo from 02/02/2004). Using `preview-latex` requires a version of Emacs compiled with image support. This means that Emacs 21 will work only in the version for X11: for Windows and MacOSX, you need to use Emacs 22 (which is not yet released) or a developer version. Since the developer version is quite stable by now and features four more years of development and bugfixes, we recommend its use even for X11-based platforms. You can get it here:

Windows Precompiled versions are available from <http://www.crasseux.com> and <http://nqmacs.sf.net>.

MacOSX A precompiled version including an installer as well as preinstalled versions of AUCT_EX and `preview-latex` is available from <http://yaced.sf.net>. A different port (without AUCT_EX and `preview-latex`) is http://www.apple.com/downloads/macosx/unix_open_source/carbonemacspackage.html. Some changes and patches attempt to make Emacs behave more in line with MacOSX.

Debian Linux

<http://sadleder.de/debian/>

Fedora Linux

<http://people.redhat.com/petersen/emacs/>

Self-compiled

Compiling Emacs yourself requires a C compiler and a number of tools and development libraries. Details are beyond the scope of this manual. Instructions for checking out the source code can be found at <http://savannah.gnu.org/cvs/?group=emacs>.

If you really need to use Emacs 21 on platforms where this implies missing image support, you should disable the installation of `preview-latex` (see below).

While XEmacs (version 21.4.15, 21.4.17 or later) is supported, doing this in a satisfactory manner has proven to be difficult. This is mostly due to technical shortcomings and differing API's which are hard to come by. If AUCT_EX is your main application for XEmacs, you are likely to get better results and support by switching to Emacs.

Of course, you can improve support for your favorite editor by giving feedback in case you encounter bugs.

- A working TeX installation

Well, AUCTeX would be pointless without that. Processing documentation requires TeX, L^ATeX and Texinfo during installation. `preview-latex` requires Dvips for its operation in DVI mode. The default configuration of AUCTeX is tailored for teTeX-based distributions, but can be adapted easily.

- A recent Ghostscript

This is needed for operation of `preview-latex` in both DVI and PDF mode. Most versions of Ghostscript nowadays in use should work fine (version 7.0 and newer). If you encounter problems, check [section “Problems with Ghostscript” in *the preview-latex manual*](#).

- The `texinfo` package

Strictly speaking, you can get away without it if you are building from the distribution tarball, have not modified any files and don't need a printed version of the manual: the pregenerated info file is included in the tarball. At least version 4.0 is required.

For some known issues with various software, see [section “Known problems” in *the preview-latex manual*](#).

2.2 Configure

The first step is to configure the source code, telling it where various files will be. To do so, run

```
./configure options
```

(Note: if you have fetched AUCTeX from CVS rather than a regular release, you will have to first follow the instructions in ‘README.CVS’).

On many machines, you will not need to specify any options, but if `configure` cannot determine something on its own, you'll need to help it out with one of these options:

```
--prefix='/usr/local'
```

All automatic placements for package components will be chosen from sensible existing hierarchies below this: directories like ‘man’, ‘share’ and ‘bin’ are supposed to be directly below *prefix*.

Only if no workable placement can be found there, in some cases an alternative search will be made in a prefix deduced from a suitable binary.

‘/usr/local’ is the default *prefix*, intended to be suitable for a site-wide installation. If you are packaging this as an operating system component for distribution, the setting ‘/usr’ will probably be the right choice. If you are planning to install the package as a single non-privileged user, you will typically set *prefix* to your home directory.

```
--with-emacs[=/path/to/emacs]
```

If you are using a pretest which isn't in your \$PATH, or `configure` is not finding the right Emacs executable, you can specify it with this option.

`--with-xemacs[=/path/to/xemacs]`

Configure for generation under XEmacs (Emacs is the default). Again, the name of the right XEmacs executable can be specified, complete with path if necessary.

`--with-packagedir=/dir`

This XEmacs-only option configures the directory for XEmacs packages. A typical user-local setting would be `~/xemacs/xemacs-packages`. If this directory exists and is below *prefix*, it should be detected automatically. This will install and activate the package.

`--without-packagedir`

This XEmacs-only option switches the detection of a package directory and corresponding installation off. Consequently, the Emacs installation scheme will be used. This might be appropriate if you are using a different package system/installer than the XEmacs one and want to avoid conflicts.

The Emacs installation scheme has the following options:

`--with-lispdir=/dir`

This Emacs-only option specifies the location of the `'site-lisp'` directory within `'load-path'` under which the files will get installed (the bulk will get installed in a subdirectory). `./configure` should figure this out by itself.

`--with-auctex-startfile='auctex.el'`

`--with-preview-startfile='preview-latex.el'`

This is the name of the respective startup files. If *lispdir* contains a subdirectory `'site-start.d'`, the start files are placed there, and `'site-start.el'` should load them automatically. Please be aware that you must not move the start files after installation since other files are found *relative* to them.

`--with-packagelispdir='auctex'`

This is the directory where the bulk of the package gets located. The startfile adds this into *load-path*.

`--with-auto-dir=/dir`

You can use this option to specify the directory containing automatically generated information. It is not necessary for most T_EX installs, but may be used if you don't like the directory that `configure` is suggesting.

`--help`

This is not an option specific to AUCT_EX. A number of standard options to `configure` exist, and we do not have the room to describe them here; a short description of each is available, using `--help`. If you use `'--help=recursive'`, then also `preview-latex`-specific options will get listed.

`--disable-preview`

This disables configuration and installation of `preview-latex`. This option is not actually recommended. If your Emacs does not support images, you should really upgrade to a newer version. Distributors should, if possible, refrain from distributing AUCT_EX and `preview-latex` separately in order to avoid confusion and upgrade hassles if users install partial packages on their own.

`--with-texmf-dir=/dir`
`--without-texmf-dir`

This option is used for specifying a TDS-compliant directory hierarchy. Using `--with-texmf-dir=/dir` you can specify where the T_EX TDS directory hierarchy resides, and the T_EX files will get installed in `‘/dir/tex/latex/preview/’`.

If you use the `--without-texmf-dir` option, the T_EX-related files will be kept in the Emacs Lisp tree, and at runtime the `TEXINPUTS` environment variable will be made to point there. You can install those files into your own T_EX tree at some later time with `M-x preview-install-styles RET`.

`--with-tex-dir=/dir`

If you want to specify an exact directory for the preview T_EX files, use `--with-tex-dir=/dir`. In this case, the files will be placed in `‘/dir’`, and you’ll also need the following option:

`--with-doc-dir=/dir`

This option may be used to specify where the T_EX documentation goes. It is to be used when you are using `--with-tex-dir=/dir`, but is normally not necessary otherwise.

2.3 Build/install

Once `configure` has been run, simply enter

```
make
```

at the prompt to byte-compile the lisp files, extract the T_EX files and build the documentation files. To install the files into the locations chosen earlier, type

```
make install
```

You may need special privileges to install, e.g., if you are installing into system directories.

2.4 Loading the package

You can detect the successful activation of AUCT_EX and `preview-latex` in the menus after loading a L^AT_EX file like `‘preview/circ.tex’`: AUCT_EX then gives you a ‘Command’ menu, and `preview-latex` gives you a ‘Preview’ menu.

For XEmacs, if the installation occurred into a valid package directory (which is the default), then this should work out of the box.

With Emacs (or if you explicitly disabled use of the package system), the startup files `‘auctex.el’` and `‘preview-latex.el’` may already be in a directory of the `‘site-start.d/’` variety if your Emacs installation provides it. In that case they should be automatically loaded on startup and nothing else needs to be done. If not, they should at least have been placed somewhere in your `load-path`. You can then load them by placing the lines

```
(load "auctex.el" nil t t)
(load "preview-latex.el" nil t t)
```

into your `‘~/ .emacs’` file.

If you explicitly used `--with-lispdir`, you may need to add the specified directory into Emacs’ `load-path` variable by adding something like

```
(add-to-list 'load-path "~/elisp")
```

before the above lines into your Emacs startup file.

For site-wide activation in GNU Emacs, see See [Section 2.5 \[Advice for package providers\]](#), page 9.

That is all. There are other ways of achieving the equivalent thing, but we don't mention them here any more since they are not better, and people got confused into trying everything at once.

2.5 Providing AUCT_EX as a package

As a package provider, you should make sure that your users will be served best according to their intentions, and keep in mind that a system might be used by more than one user, with different preferences.

There are people that prefer the built-in Emacs modes for editing T_EX files, in particular plain T_EX users. There are various ways to tell AUCT_EX even after auto-activation that it should not get used, and they are described in [Chapter 1 \[Introduction to AUCT_EX\]](#), page 3.

So if you have users that don't want to use the preinstalled AUCT_EX, they can easily get rid of it. Activating AUCT_EX by default is therefore a good choice.

If the installation procedure did not achieve this already by placing 'auctex.el' and 'preview-latex.el' into a possibly existing 'site-start.d' directory, you can do this by placing

```
(load "auctex.el" nil t t)
(load "preview-latex.el" nil t t)
```

in the system-wide 'site-start.el'.

If your package is intended as an XEmacs package or to accompany a precompiled version of Emacs, you might not know which T_EX system will be available when preview-latex gets used. In this case you should build using the `--without-texmf-dir` option described previously. This can also be convenient for systems that are intended to support more than a single TeX distribution. Since more often than not T_EX packages for operating system distributions are either much more outdated or much less complete than separately provided systems like T_EX Live, this method may be generally preferable when providing packages.

The following package structure would be adequate for a typical fully supported Unix-like installation:

'preview-tetex'

Style files and documentation for 'preview.sty', placed into a T_EX tree where it is accessible from the teT_EX executables usually delivered with a system. If there are other commonly used T_EX system packages, it might be appropriate to provide separate packages for those.

'auctex-emacs-tetex'

This package will require the installation of 'preview-tetex' and will record in 'TeX-macro-global' know where to find the T_EX tree. It is also a good idea to run

`emacs -batch -f TeX-auto-generate-global`
when either AUCT_EX or te_EX get installed or upgraded.

`'auctex-emacs-anytex'`

This package will be compiled with `'--without-texmf-dir'` and will consequently contain the `'preview'` style files in its private directory. It will probably not be possible to initialize `'TeX-macro-global'` to a useful value, so running `'TeX-auto-generate-global'` does not appear useful. This package would neither conflict with nor provide `'preview-tetex'`.

`'auctex-xemacs-tetex'`

`'auctex-xemacs-anytex'`

Those are the obvious XEmacs equivalents. For XEmacs, there is the additional problem that the XEmacs sumo package tree already possibly provides its own version of AUCT_EX, and the user might even have used the XEmacs package manager to updating this package, or even installing a private AUCT_EX version. So you should make sure that such a package will not conflict with existing XEmacs packages and will be at an appropriate place in the load order (after site-wide and user-specific locations, but before a distribution-specific sumo package tree). Using the `--without-packagedir` option might be one idea to avoid conflicts. Another might be to refrain from providing an XEmacs package and just rely on the user or system administrator to instead use the XEmacs package system.

2.6 Installation for non-privileged users

Often people without system administration privileges want to install software for their private use. In that case you need to pass more options to the `configure` script. For XEmacs users, this is fairly easy, because the XEmacs package system has been designed to make this sort of thing practical: but GNU Emacs users (and XEmacs users for whom the package system is for some reason misbehaving) may need to do a little more work.

The main expedient is using the `'--prefix'` option to the `'configure'` script, and let it point to the personal home directory. In that way, resulting binaries will be installed under the `'bin'` subdirectory of your home directory, manual pages under `'man'` and so on. It is reasonably easy to maintain a bunch of personal software, since the prefix argument is supported by most `'configure'` scripts.

You'll have to add something like `'/home/myself/share/emacs/site-lisp'` to your `load-path` variable, if it isn't there already.

XEmacs users can achieve the same end by pointing `configure` at an appropriate package directory (normally `'--with-packagedir=~/.xemacs/xemacs-packages'` will serve). The package directory stands a good chance at being detected automatically as long as it is in a subtree of the specified *prefix*.

Now here is another thing to ponder: perhaps you want to make it easy for other users to share parts of your personal Emacs configuration. In general, you can do this by writing `'~myself/'` anywhere where you specify paths to something installed in your personal subdirectories, not merely `'~/'`, since the latter, when used by other users, will point to non-existent files.

For yourself, it will do to manipulate environment variables in your ‘.profile’ resp. ‘.login’ files. But if people will be copying just Emacs files, their copies will not work. While it would in general be preferable if the added components were available from a shell level, too (like when you call the standalone info reader, or try using ‘preview.sty’ for functionality besides of Emacs previews), it will be a big help already if things work from inside of Emacs.

Here is how to do the various parts:

Making the Emacs available

In XEmacs, you should ask the other users to add symbolic links in their ‘~/xemacs/xemacs-packages/lisp’, ‘~/xemacs/xemacs-packages/info’ and ‘~/xemacs/xemacs-packages/etc’ directories. (Alas, there is presently no easy programmatic way to do this, except to have a script do the symlinking for them.)

In GNU Emacs, It should be sufficient if people just do

```
(load "~myself/share/emacs/site-lisp/auctex.el" nil t t)
(load "~myself/share/emacs/site-lisp/preview-latex.el" nil t t)
```

where the path points to your personal installation. The rest of the package should be found relative from there without further ado.

Making the Info files available

For making the info files accessible from within Emacs, something like the following might be convenient to add into your or other people’s startup files:

```
(eval-after-load 'info
  '(add-to-list 'Info-directory-list "~myself/info"))
```

In XEmacs, as long as XEmacs can see the package, there should be no need to do anything at all; the info files should be immediately visible. However, you might want to set INFOPATH anyway, for the sake of standalone readers outside of XEmacs. (The info files in XEmacs are normally in ‘~/xemacs/xemacs-packages/info’.)

Making the L^AT_EX style available

If you want others to be able to share your installation, you should configure it using ‘--without-texmf-dir’, in which case things should work as well for them as for you.

2.7 Installation under MS Windows

In a Nutshell

The following are brief installation instructions for the impatient. In case you don’t understand some of this, run into trouble of some sort, or need more elaborate information, refer to the detailed instructions further below.

1. Install the prerequisites, i.e. GNU Emacs or XEmacs, MSYS or Cygwin, a T_EX system, and Ghostscript.
2. Open the MSYS shell or a Cygwin shell and change to the directory containing the unzipped file contents.

3. Configure AUCT_EX:

For GNU Emacs: Many people like to install AUCT_EX into the pseudo file system hierarchy set up by the Emacs installation. Assuming Emacs is installed in ‘C:/Program Files/Emacs’ and the directory for local additions of your T_EX system, e.g. MikT_EX, is ‘C:/localtexmf’, you can do this by typing the following statement at the shell prompt:

```
./configure --prefix='C:/Program Files/Emacs' \
  --with-texmf-dir='C:/localtexmf'
```

For XEmacs: You can install AUCT_EX as an XEmacs package. Assuming XEmacs is installed in ‘C:/Program Files/XEmacs’ and the directory for local additions of your T_EX system, e.g. MikT_EX, is ‘C:/localtexmf’, you can do this by typing the following command at the shell prompt:

```
./configure --with-xemacs='C:/Program Files/XEmacs/bin/xemacs' \
  --with-texmf-dir='C:/localtexmf'
```

The commands above are examples for common usage. More on configuration options can be found in the detailed installation instructions below.

4. If there were no error messages, type

```
make
```

In case there were, please refer to the detailed description below.

5. Finish the installation by typing

```
make install
```

Detailed Installation Instructions

Installation of AUCT_EX under Windows is in itself not more complicated than on other platforms. However, meeting the prerequisites might require more work than on some other platforms, and feel less natural.

If you are experiencing any problems, even if you think they are of your own making, be sure to report them to auctex-devel@gnu.org so that we can explain things better in future.

Windows is a problematic platform for installation scripts. The main problem is that the installation procedure requires consistent file names in order to find its way in the directory hierarchy, and Windows path names are a mess.

The installation procedure tries finding stuff in system search paths and in Emacs paths. For that to succeed, you have to use the same syntax and spelling and case of paths everywhere: in your system search paths, in Emacs’ `load-path` variable, as argument to the scripts. If your path names contain spaces or other ‘shell-unfriendly’ characters, most notably backslashes for directory separators, place the whole path in “double quote marks” whenever you specify it on a command line.

Avoid ‘helpful’ magic file names like ‘/cygdrive/c’ and ‘C:\PROGRA~1\’ like the plague. It is quite unlikely that the scripts will be able to identify the actual file names involved. Use the full paths, making use of normal Windows drive letters like ‘ ‘C:/Program Files/Emacs’ ’ where required, and using the same combination of upper- and lowercase letters as in the actual files. File names containing shell-special characters like spaces or

backslashes (if you prefer that syntax) need to get properly quoted to the shell: the above example used single quotes for that.

Ok, now here are the steps to perform:

1. You need to unpack the AUCT_EX distribution (which you seemingly have done since you are reading this). It must be unpacked in a separate installation directory outside of your Emacs file hierarchy: the installation will later copy all necessary files to their final destination, and you can ultimately remove the directory where you unpacked the files.

Line endings are a problem under Windows. The distribution contains only text files, and theoretically most of the involved tools should get along with that. However, the files are processed by various utilities, and it is conceivable that not all of them will use the same line ending conventions. If you encounter problems, it might help if you try unpacking (or checking out) the files in binary mode, if your tools allow that.

If you don't have a suitable unpacking tool, skip to the next step: this should provide you with a working 'unzip' command.

2. The installation of AUCT_EX will require the MSYS tool set from <http://www.mingw.org> or the Cygwin tool set from <http://cygwin.com>. The latter is slower and larger (the download size of the base system is about 15 MB) but comes with a package manager that allows for updating the tool set and installing additional packages like, for example, the spell checker aspell.

If Cygwin specific paths like '/cygdrive/c' crop up in the course of the installation, using a non-Cygwin Emacs could conceivably cause trouble. Using Cygwin either for everything or nothing might save headaches, *if* things don't work out.

3. Install a current version of XEmacs from <http://www.xemacs.org> or try getting and compiling a developer version of Emacs 22 from [Savannah](#). Compiling Emacs is outside of the scope of this manual. Precompiled versions currently happen to be available at <http://www.crasseux.com/emacs/> and <http://nqmacs.sf.net/>.

If you don't want to use a developer version and Emacs 22 has not yet been released, it is also possible to use an Emacs 21 binary from <http://ftp.gnu.org/pub/gnu/windows/emacs/>, but then you should disable the installation of preview-latex (it will not work). Since the developer version has seen quite a few improvements relevant also for other features of AUCT_EX, we really recommend you give it a try.

4. You need a working T_EX installation. One popular installation under Windows is [MikT_EX](#). Another much more extensive system is [T_EX Live](#) which is rather close to its Unix cousins.
5. A working copy of [Ghostscript](#) is required for preview-latex operation. Examining the output from

```
gswin32c -h
```

on a Windows command line should tell you whether your Ghostscript supports the `png16m` device needed for PNG support. MikT_EX apparently comes with its own Ghostscript called 'mgs.exe'.

6. [Perl](#) is needed for rebuilding the documentation if you are working with a copy from CVS or have touched documentation source files in the preview-latex part. If the line

endings of the file ‘`preview/latex/preview.dtx`’ don’t correspond with what Perl calls `\n` when reading text files, you’ll run into trouble.

7. Now the fun stuff starts. If you have not yet done so, unpack the AUCT_EX distribution into a separate directory after rereading the instructions for unpacking above.
8. Ready for takeoff. Start some shell (typically `bash`) capable of running `configure`, change into the installation directory and call `./configure` with appropriate options. Typical options you’ll want to specify will be

`--prefix=drive:/path/to/emacs-hierarchy`

which tells ‘`configure`’ where to perform the installation. It may also make ‘`configure`’ find Emacs or XEmacs automatically; if this doesn’t happen, try one of ‘`--with-emacs`’ or ‘`--with-xemacs`’ as described below. All automatic detection of files and directories restricts itself to directories below the *prefix* or in the same hierarchy as the program accessing the files. Usually, directories like ‘`man`’, ‘`share`’ and ‘`bin`’ will be situated right under *prefix*.

This option also affects the defaults for placing the Texinfo documentation files and automatically generated style hooks.

If you have a central directory hierarchy (not untypical with Cygwin) for such stuff, you might want to specify its root here. You stand a good chance that this will be the only option you need to supply, as long as your T_EX-related executables are in your system path, which they better be for AUCT_EX’s operation, anyway.

`--with-emacs`

if you are installing for a version of Emacs. You can use ‘`--with-emacs=drive:/path/to/emacs`’ to specify the name of the installed Emacs executable, complete with its path if necessary (if Emacs is not within a directory specified in your `PATH` environment setting).

`--with-xemacs`

if you are installing for a version of XEmacs. Again, you can use ‘`--with-xemacs=drive:/path/to/xemacs`’ to specify the name of the installed XEmacs executable complete with its path if necessary. It may also be necessary to specify this option if a copy of Emacs is found in your `PATH` environment setting, but you still would like to install a copy of AUCT_EX for XEmacs.

`--with-packagedir=drive:/dir`

is an XEmacs-only option giving the location of the package directory. This will install and activate the package. Emacs uses a different installation scheme:

`--with-lispdir=drive:/path/to/site-lisp`

This Emacs-only option tells a place in `load-path` below which the files are situated. The startup files ‘`auctex.el`’ and ‘`preview-latex.el`’ will get installed here unless a subdirectory ‘`site-start.d`’ exists which will then be used instead. The other files from AUCT_EX will be installed in a subdirectory called ‘`auctex`’.

If you think that you need a different setup, please refer to the full installation instructions in [Section 2.2 \[Configure\]](#), page 6.

`--with-auto-dir=drive:/dir`

Directory containing automatically generated information. You should not normally need to set this, as ‘`--prefix`’ should take care of this.

`--disable-preview`

Use this option if your Emacs version is unable to support image display. This will be the case if you are using a native variant of Emacs 21.

`--with-texmf-dir=drive:dir`

This will specify the directory where your T_EX installation sits. If your T_EX installation does not conform to the TDS (T_EX directory standard), you may need to specify more options to get everything in place:

For more information about any of the above and additional options, see [Section 2.2 \[Configure\]](#), page 6.

Calling ‘`./configure --help=recursive`’ will tell about other options, but those are almost never required.

Some executables might not be found in your path. That is not a good idea, but you can get around by specifying environment variables to ‘`configure`’:

```
GS="drive:/path/to/gswin32c.exe" ./configure ...
```

should work for this purpose. ‘`gswin32c.exe`’ is the usual name for the required *command line* executable under Windows; in contrast, ‘`gswin32.exe`’ is likely to fail.

9. Run `make` in the installation directory.
10. Run `make install` in the installation directory.
11. With XEmacs, AUCT_EX and `preview-latex` should now be active by default. With Emacs, activation depends on a working ‘`site-start.d`’ directory or similar setup, since then the startup files ‘`auctex.el`’ and ‘`preview-latex.el`’ will have been placed there. If this has not been done, you should be able to load the startup files manually with

```
(load "auctex.el" nil t t)
(load "preview-latex.el" nil t t)
```

in either a site-wide ‘`site-start.el`’ or your personal startup file (usually accessible as ‘`~/.emacs`’ from within Emacs and ‘`~/.xemacs/init.el`’ from within XEmacs).

The default configuration of AUCT_EX is probably not the best fit for Windows systems. You might want to additionally use

```
(require 'tex-mik)
```

or

```
(require 'tex-fptex)
```

in order to get more appropriate values for MikT_EX and fpT_EX, respectively.

You can always use

```
M-x customize-group RET AUCTeX RET
```

in order to customize more stuff, or use the ‘`Customize`’ menu.

12. Load ‘`preview/circ.tex`’ into Emacs or XEmacs and see if you get the ‘Command’ menu. Try using it to L^AT_EX the file.
13. Check whether the ‘Preview’ menu is available in this file. Use it to generate previews for the document.

If this barfs and tells you that image type ‘png’ is not supported, try adding the line

```
(setq preview-image-type 'pnm)
```

at the end of your installed version of ‘`preview-latex.el`’. If this helps, complain to wherever you got your Emacs from: all current Emacs/XEmacs versions capable of running `preview-latex` by now can be compiled to support PNG images. Which is important, because PNM files take away **vast** amounts of disk space, and thus also of load/save time.

Well, that about is all. Have fun!

2.8 Customizing

Most of the site-specific customization should already have happened during configuration of AUCT_EX. Any further customization can be done with customization buffers directly in Emacs. Just type *M-x customize-group RET AUCT_EX RET* to open the customization group for AUCT_EX or use the menu entries provided in the mode menus. Editing the file ‘`tex-site.el`’ as suggested in former versions of AUCT_EX should not be done anymore because the installation routine will overwrite those changes.

You might check some variables with a special significance. They are accessible directly by typing *M-x customize-variable RET <variable> RET*.

TeX-macro-global

[User Option]

Directories containing the site’s T_EX style files.

Normally, AUCT_EX will only allow you to complete macros and environments which are built-in, specified in AUCT_EX style files or defined by yourself. If you issue the *M-x TeX-auto-generate-global* command after loading AUCT_EX, you will be able to complete on all macros available in the standard style files used by your document. To do this, you must set this variable to a list of directories where the standard style files are located. The directories will be searched recursively, so there is no reason to list subdirectories explicitly. Automatic configuration will already have set the variable for you if it could use the program ‘`kpsewhich`’. In this case you normally don’t have to alter anything.

2.9 Contributed files

There are several files that are not part of AUCT_EX proper, but included in the distribution in case they are useful.

‘`bib-cite.el`’

Better support for bibliographies and much more.

‘`tex-jp.el`’

Support for Japanese.

They can be installed together with AUCT_EX by executing `make contrib` and `make install-contrib`. Read the comments in the start of each file for more information about how to use the files, what they do, and who wrote and maintains them.

3 Quick Start

AUCTEX is a powerful program offering many features and configuration options. If you are new to AUCTEX this might be deterrent. Fortunately you do not have to learn everything at once. This Quick Start Guide will give you the knowledge of the most important commands and enable you to prepare your first L^AT_EX document with AUCTEX after only a few minutes of reading.

In this introduction, we assume that AUCTEX is already installed on your system. If this is not the case, you should read the file ‘INSTALL’ in the base directory of the unpacked distribution tarball. These installation instructions are available in this manual as well, [Chapter 2 \[Installation\], page 5](#). We also assume that you are familiar with the way keystrokes are written in Emacs manuals. If not, have a look at the Emacs Tutorial in the Help menu.

If AUCTEX is installed, you might still need to activate it, by inserting

```
(load "auctex.el" nil t t)
```

in your user init file.¹ In order to get support for many of the L^AT_EX packages you will use in your documents, you should enable document parsing as well, which can be achieved by putting

```
(setq TeX-auto-save t)
(setq TeX-parse-self t)
```

into your init file. Finally, if you often use `\include` or `\input`, you should make AUCTEX aware of the multi-file document structure. You can do this by inserting

```
(setq-default TeX-master nil)
```

into your init file. Each time you open a new file, AUCTEX will then ask you for a master file.

This Quick Start Guide covers two main topics: First we explain how AUCTEX helps you in editing your input file for T_EX, L^AT_EX, and some other formats. Then we describe the functions that AUCTEX provides for processing the input files with L^AT_EX, BibT_EX, etc., and for viewing and debugging.

3.1 Functions for editing TeX files

3.1.1 Making your T_EX code more readable

AUCTEX can do syntax highlighting of your source code, that means commands will get special colors or fonts. You can enable it locally by typing *M-x font-lock-mode RET*. If you want to have font locking activated generally, enable `global-font-lock-mode`, e.g. with *M-x customize-variable RET global-font-lock-mode RET*.

AUCTEX will indent new lines to indicate their syntactical relationship to the surrounding text. For example, the text of a `\footnote` or text inside of an environment will be indented relative to the text around it. If the indenting has gotten wrong after adding or deleting some characters, use `(TAB)` to reindent the line, *M-q* for the whole paragraph, or *M-x LaTeX-fill-buffer RET* for the whole buffer.

¹ This usually is a file in your home directory called ‘.emacs’ if you are utilizing GNU Emacs or ‘.xemacs/init.el’ if you are using XEmacs.

3.1.2 Entering sectioning commands

Insertion of sectioning macros, that is ‘\chapter’, ‘\section’, ‘\subsection’, etc. and accompanying ‘\label’ commands may be eased by using *C-c C-s*. You will be asked for the section level. As nearly everywhere in AUCTeX, you can use the `(TAB)` or `(SPC)` key to get a list of available level names, and to auto-complete what you started typing. Next, you will be asked for the printed title of the section, and last you will be asked for a label to be associated with the section.

3.1.3 Inserting environments

Similarly, you can insert environments, that is ‘\begin{...}’-‘\end{...}’ pairs: Type *C-c C-e*, and select an environment type. Again, you can use `(TAB)` or `(SPC)` to get a list, and to complete what you type. Actually, the list will not only provide standard L^AT_EX environments, but also take your ‘\documentclass’ and ‘\usepackage’ commands into account if you have parsing enabled by setting `TeX-parse-self` to `t`. If you use a couple of environments frequently, you can use the up and down arrow keys (or *M-p* and *M-n*) in the minibuffer to get back to the previously inserted commands.

Some environments need additional arguments. Often, AUCTeX knows about this and asks you to enter a value.

3.1.4 Inserting macros

C-c C-m, or simply *C-c RET* will give you a prompt that asks you for a L^AT_EX macro. You can use `(TAB)` for completion, or the up/down arrow keys (or *M-p* and *M-n*) to browse the command history. In many cases, AUCTeX knows which arguments a macro needs and will ask you for that. It even can differentiate between mandatory and optional arguments—for details, see [Section 5.2 \[Completion\]](#), page 28.

An additional help for inserting macros is provided by the possibility to complete macros right in the buffer. With point at the end of a partially written macro, you can complete it by typing *M-TAB*.

3.1.5 Changing the font

AUCTeX provides convenient keyboard shortcuts for inserting macros which specify the font to be used for typesetting certain parts of the text. They start with *C-c C-f*, and the last *C-* combination tells AUCTeX which font you want:

C-c C-f C-b

Insert **bold face** ‘\textbf{...}’ text.

C-c C-f C-i

Insert *italics* ‘\textit{...}’ text.

C-c C-f C-e

Insert *emphasized* ‘\emph{...}’ text.

C-c C-f C-s

Insert *slanted* ‘\textsl{...}’ text.

C-c C-f C-r

Insert roman ‘\textrm{...}’ text.

C-c C-f C-f

Insert sans serif `\textsf{★}` text.

C-c C-f C-t

Insert typewriter `\texttt{★}` text.

C-c C-f C-c

Insert SMALL CAPS `\textsc{★}` text.

C-c C-f C-d

Delete the innermost font specification containing point.

If you want to change font attributes of existing text, mark it as a region, and then invoke the commands. If no region is selected, the command will be inserted with empty braces, and you can start typing the changed text.

Most of those commands will also work in math mode, but then macros like `\mathbf` will be inserted.

3.1.6 Other useful features

AUCTEX also tries to help you when inserting the right “quote” signs for your language, dollar signs to typeset math, or pairs of braces. It offers shortcuts for commenting out text (*C-c ;* for the current region or *C-c %* for the paragraph you are in). The same keystrokes will remove the % signs, if the region or paragraph is commented out yet. With `TeX-fold-mode`, you can hide certain parts (like footnotes, references etc.) that you do not edit currently. Support for Emacs’ outline mode is provided as well. And there’s more, but this is beyond the scope of this Quick Start Guide.

3.2 Creating and viewing output, debugging

3.2.1 One Command for L^AT_EX, helpers, viewers, and printing

If you have typed some text and want to run L^AT_EX (or T_EX, or other programs—see below) on it, type *C-c C-c*. If applicable, you will be asked whether you want to save changes, and which program you want to invoke. In many cases, the choice that AUCTEX suggests will be just what you want: first `latex`, then a viewer. If a `latex` run produces or changes input files for `makeindex`, the next suggestion will be to run that program, and AUCTEX knows that you need to run `latex` again afterwards—the same holds for Bib_TE_X.

When no processor invocation is necessary anymore, AUCTEX will suggest to run a viewer, or you can chose to create a PostScript file using `dvips`, or to directly print it.

At this place, a warning needs to be given: First, although AUCTEX is really good in detecting the standard situations when an additional `latex` run is necessary, it cannot detect it always. Second, the creation of PostScript files or direct printing currently only works when your output file is a DVI file, not a PDF file.

Ah, you didn’t know you can do both? That brings us to the next topic.

3.2.2 Choosing an output format

From a L^AT_EX file, you can produce DVI output, or a PDF file directly *via* `pdflatex`. You can switch on source specials for easier navigation in the output file, or tell `latex` to stop

after an error (usually `\noninteractive` is used, to allow you to detect all errors in a single run).

These options are controlled by toggles, the keystrokes should be easy to memorize:

`C-c C-t C-p`

This command toggles between DVI and PDF output

`C-c C-t C-i`

toggles interactive mode

`C-c C-t C-s`

toggles source specials support

`C-c C-t C-o`

toggles usage of Omega/lambda.

3.2.3 Debugging \LaTeX

When $\text{AUCT}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$ runs a program, it creates an output buffer in which it displays the output of the command. If there is a syntactical error in your file, `latex` will not complete successfully. $\text{AUCT}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$ will tell you that, and you can get to the place where the first error occurred by pressing `C-c `` (the last character is a backtick). The view will be split in two windows, the output will be displayed in the lower buffer, and both buffers will be centered around the place where the error occurred. You can then try to fix it in the document buffer, and use the same keystrokes to get to the next error. This procedure may be repeated until all errors have been dealt with. By pressing `C-c C-w` (`TeX-toggle-debug-boxes`) you can toggle whether $\text{AUCT}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$ should notify you of overfull and underfull boxes in addition to regular errors.

If a command got stuck in a seemingly infinite loop, or you want to stop execution for other reasons, you can use `C-c C-k` (for “kill”). Similar to `C-l`, which centers the buffer you are in around your current position, `C-c C-l` centers the output buffer so that the last lines added at the bottom become visible.

3.2.4 Running \LaTeX on parts of your document

If you want to check how some part of your text looks like, and do not want to wait until the whole document has been typeset, then mark it as a region and use `C-c C-r`. It behaves just like `C-c C-c`, but it only uses the document preamble and the region you marked.

If you are using `\include` or `\input` to structure your document, try `C-c C-b` while you are editing one of the included files. It will run `latex` only on the current buffer, using the preamble from the master file.

4 Inserting Frequently Used Commands

The most commonly used commands/macros of AUCTEX are those which simply insert templates for often used TEX and/or LATEX/ConTEXt constructs, like font changes, handling of environments, etc. These features are very simple, and easy to learn, and help you avoid stupid mistakes like mismatched braces, or ‘\begin{}’-‘\end{}’ pairs.

4.1 Insertion of Quotes, Dollars, and Braces

In TEX, literal double quotes “like this” are seldom used, instead two single quotes are used ‘‘like this’’. To help you insert these efficiently, AUCTEX allows you to continue to press " to insert two single quotes. To get a literal double quote, press " twice.

TeX-insert-quote *count* [Command]

(") Insert the appropriate quote marks for TEX.

Inserts the value of **TeX-open-quote** (normally ‘‘’) or **TeX-close-quote** (normally ‘’’) depending on the context. With prefix argument, always inserts “” characters.

TeX-open-quote [User Option]

String inserted by typing " to open a quotation.

TeX-close-quote [User Option]

String inserted by typing " to close a quotation.

TeX-quote-after-quote [User Option]

Determines the behavior of ". If it is non-nil, typing " will insert a literal double quote. The respective values of **TeX-open-quote** and **TeX-close-quote** will be inserted after typing " once again.

The ‘babel’ package provides special support for the requirements of typesetting quotation marks in many different languages. If you use this package, either directly or by loading a language-specific style file, you should also use the special commands for quote insertion instead of the standard quotes shown above. AUCTEX is able to recognize several of these languages and will change quote insertion accordingly. See [Section 10.1 \[European\]](#), [page 54](#), for details about this feature and how to control it.

In case you are using the ‘csquotes’ package, you should customize **LaTeX-csquotes-open-quote**, **LaTeX-csquotes-close-quote** and **LaTeX-csquotes-quote-after-quote**. The quotation characters will only be used if both variables—**LaTeX-csquotes-open-quote** and **LaTeX-csquotes-close-quote**—are non-empty strings. But then the ‘csquotes’-related values will take precedence over the language-specific ones.

In AUCTEX, dollar signs should match like they do in TEX. This has been partially implemented, we assume dollar signs always match within a paragraph. The first ‘\$’ you insert in a paragraph will do nothing special. The second ‘\$’ will match the first. This will be indicated by moving the cursor temporarily over the first dollar sign. If you enter a dollar sign that matches a double dollar sign ‘\$\$’ AUCTEX will automatically insert two dollar signs. If you enter a second dollar sign that matches a single dollar sign, the single dollar sign will automatically be converted to a double dollar sign.

TeX-insert-dollar *arg* [Command]

(\$) Insert dollar sign.

Show matching dollar sign if this dollar sign end the T_EX math mode. Ensure double dollar signs match up correctly by inserting extra dollar signs when needed.

With optional *arg*, insert that many dollar signs.

To avoid unbalanced braces, it is useful to insert them pairwise. You can do this by typing `C-c {`.

TeX-insert-braces [Command]

(`C-c {`) Make a pair of braces and position the cursor to type inside of them.

4.2 Inserting Font Specifiers

Perhaps the most used keyboard commands of AUCT_EX are the short-cuts available for easy insertion of font changing macros.

If you give an argument (that is, type `C-u`) to the font command, the innermost font will be replaced, i.e. the font in the T_EX group around point will be changed. The following table shows the available commands, with \star indicating the position where the text will be inserted.

`C-c C-f C-b`
Insert **bold face** ‘`\textbf{\star}`’ text.

`C-c C-f C-i`
Insert *italics* ‘`\textit{\star}`’ text.

`C-c C-f C-e`
Insert *emphasized* ‘`\emph{\star}`’ text.

`C-c C-f C-s`
Insert *slanted* ‘`\textsl{\star}`’ text.

`C-c C-f C-r`
Insert roman `\textrm{\star}` text.

`C-c C-f C-f`
Insert sans serif ‘`\textsf{\star}`’ text.

`C-c C-f C-t`
Insert typewriter ‘`\texttt{\star}`’ text.

`C-c C-f C-c`
Insert SMALL CAPS ‘`\textsc{\star}`’ text.

`C-c C-f C-d`
Delete the innermost font specification containing point.

TeX-font *arg* [Command]

(`C-c C-f`) Insert template for font change command.

If *replace* is not nil, replace current font. *what* determines the font to use, as specified by `TeX-font-list`.

TeX-font-list [User Option]

List of fonts used by TeX-font.

Each entry is a list with three elements. The first element is the key to activate the font. The second element is the string to insert before point, and the third element is the string to insert after point. An optional fourth element means always replace if not nil.

4.3 Inserting chapters, sections, etc.

Insertion of sectioning macros, that is ‘`\chapter`’, ‘`\section`’, ‘`\subsection`’, etc. and accompanying ‘`\label`’s may be eased by using `C-c C-s`. This command is highly customizable, the following describes the default behavior.

When invoking you will be asked for a section macro to insert. An appropriate default is automatically selected by AUCTeX, that is either: at the top of the document; the top level sectioning for that document style, and any other place: The same as the last occurring sectioning command.

Next, you will be asked for the actual name of that section, and last you will be asked for a label to be associated with that section. The label will be prefixed by the value specified in `LaTeX-section-hook`.

LaTeX-section arg [Command]

(`C-c C-s`) Insert a sectioning command.

Determine the type of section to be inserted, by the argument *arg*.

- If *arg* is nil or missing, use the current level.
- If *arg* is a list (selected by `C-u`), go downward one level.
- If *arg* is negative, go up that many levels.
- If *arg* is positive or zero, use absolute level:
 - + 0 : part
 - + 1 : chapter
 - + 2 : section
 - + 3 : subsection
 - + 4 : subsubsection
 - + 5 : paragraph
 - + 6 : subparagraph

The following variables can be set to customize the function.

LaTeX-section-hook

Hooks to be run when inserting a section.

LaTeX-section-label

Prefix to all section references.

The precise behavior of `LaTeX-section` is defined by the contents of `LaTeX-section-hook`.

LaTeX-section-hook [User Option]

List of hooks to run when a new section is inserted.

The following variables are set before the hooks are run

level Numeric section level, default set by prefix arg to **LaTeX-section**.

name Name of the sectioning command, derived from *level*.

title The title of the section, default to an empty string.

toc Entry for the table of contents list, default nil.

done-mark

Position of point afterwards, default nil meaning after the inserted text.

A number of hooks are already defined. Most likely, you will be able to get the desired functionality by choosing from these hooks.

LaTeX-section-heading

Query the user about the name of the sectioning command. Modifies *level* and *name*.

LaTeX-section-title

Query the user about the title of the section. Modifies *title*.

LaTeX-section-toc

Query the user for the toc entry. Modifies *toc*.

LaTeX-section-section

Insert \LaTeX section command according to *name*, *title*, and *toc*. If *toc* is nil, no toc entry is inserted. If *toc* or *title* are empty strings, *done-mark* will be placed at the point they should be inserted.

LaTeX-section-label

Insert a label after the section command. Controlled by the variable **LaTeX-section-label**.

To get a full featured **LaTeX-section** command, insert

```
(setq LaTeX-section-hook
      '(LaTeX-section-heading
        LaTeX-section-title
        LaTeX-section-toc
        LaTeX-section-section
        LaTeX-section-label))
```

in your `.emacs` file.

The behavior of **LaTeX-section-label** is determined by the variable **LaTeX-section-label**.

LaTeX-section-label [User Option]

Default prefix when asking for a label.

If it is a string, it is used unchanged for all kinds of sections. If it is nil, no label is inserted. If it is a list, the list is searched for a member whose car is equal to the

name of the sectioning command being inserted. The `cdr` is then used as the prefix. If the name is not found, or if the `cdr` is nil, no label is inserted.

By default, chapters have a prefix of ‘`cha:`’ while sections and subsections have a prefix of ‘`sec:`’. Labels are not automatically inserted for other types of sections.

4.4 Inserting Environment Templates

A large apparatus is available that supports insertions of environments, that is ‘`\begin{}`’ — ‘`\end{}`’ pairs.

AUCTEX is aware of most of the actual environments available in a specific document. This is achieved by examining your ‘`\documentclass`’ command, and consulting a precompiled list of environments available in a large number of styles.

You insert an environment with `C-c C-e`, and select an environment type. Depending on the environment, AUCTEX may ask more questions about the optional parts of the selected environment type. With `C-u C-c C-e` you will change the current environment.

LaTeX-environment [Command]
(`C-c C-e`) AUCTEX will prompt you for an environment to insert. At this prompt, you may press `(TAB)` or `(SPC)` to complete a partially written name, and/or to get a list of available environments. After selection of a specific environment AUCTEX may prompt you for further specifications.

If the optional argument *arg* is not-nil (i.e. you have given a prefix argument), the current environment is modified and no new environment is inserted.

As a default selection, AUCTEX will suggest the environment last inserted or, as the first choice the value of the variable `LaTeX-default-environment`.

LaTeX-default-environment [User Option]
Default environment to insert when invoking ‘`LaTeX-environment`’ first time.

If the document is empty, or the cursor is placed at the top of the document, AUCTEX will default to insert a ‘`document`’ environment.

Most of these are described further in the following sections, and you may easily specify more. See [Section 4.4.5 \[Customizing environments\], page 27](#).

You can close the current environment with `C-c]`, but we suggest that you use `C-c C-e` to insert complete environments instead.

LaTeX-close-environment [Command]
(`C-c]`) Insert an ‘`\end`’ that matches the current environment.

4.4.1 Equations

When inserting equation-like environments, the ‘`\label`’ will have a default prefix, which is controlled by the following variables:

LaTeX-equation-label [User Option]
Prefix to use for ‘`equation`’ labels.

LaTeX-eqnarray-label [User Option]
Prefix to use for ‘`eqnarray`’ labels.

LaTeX-amsmath-label [User Option]
 Prefix to use for amsmath equation labels. Amsmath equations include ‘align’, ‘alignat’, ‘xalignat’, ‘aligned’, ‘flalign’ and ‘gather’.

4.4.2 Floats

Figures and tables (i.e., floats) may also be inserted using AUCTEX. After choosing either ‘figure’ or ‘table’ in the environment list described above, you will be prompted for a number of additional things.

float position

This is the optional argument of float environments that controls how they are placed in the final document. In L^AT_EX this is a sequence of the letters ‘htbp’ as described in the L^AT_EX manual. The value will default to the value of LaTeX-float.

caption This is the caption of the float. The default is to insert the caption at the bottom of the float. You can specify floats where the caption should be placed at the top with LaTeX-top-caption-list.

label The label of this float. The label will have a default prefix, which is controlled by the variables LaTeX-figure-label and LaTeX-table-label.

Moreover, you will be asked if you want the contents of the float environment to be horizontally centered. Upon a positive answer a ‘\centering’ macro will be inserted at the beginning of the float environment.

LaTeX-float [User Option]
 Default placement for floats.

LaTeX-figure-label [User Option]
 Prefix to use for figure labels.

LaTeX-table-label [User Option]
 Prefix to use for table labels.

LaTeX-top-caption-list [User Option]
 List of float environments with top caption.

4.4.3 Itemize-like

In an itemize-like environment, nodes (i.e., ‘\item’s) may be inserted using C-c (LFD).

LaTeX-insert-item [Command]
 (C-c (LFD)) Close the current item, move to the next line and insert an appropriate ‘\item’ for the current environment. That is, ‘itemize’ and ‘enumerate’ will have ‘\item’ inserted, while ‘description’ will have ‘\item[]’ inserted.

4.4.4 Tabular-like

When inserting Tabular-like environments, that is, ‘tabular’ ‘array’ etc., you will be prompted for a template for that environment. Related variables:

`LaTeX-default-format` [User Option]
Default format string for array and tabular environments.

`LaTeX-default-position` [User Option]
Default position string for array and tabular environments. If nil, act like the empty string is given, but don't prompt for a position.

4.4.5 Customizing environments

See [Section 12.3 \[Adding Environments\]](#), page 63, for how to customize the list of known environments.

5 Advanced Editing Features

The previous chapter described how to write the main body of the text easily and with a minimum of errors. In this chapter we will describe some features for entering more specialized sorts of text, for formatting the source by indenting and filling and for navigating through the document.

5.1 Entering Mathematics

TeX is written by a mathematician, and has always contained good support for formatting mathematical text. AUCTeX supports this tradition, by offering a special minor mode for entering text with many mathematical symbols. You can enter this mode by typing `C-c ~`.

LaTeX-math-mode [Command]
 (`C-c ~`) Toggle LaTeX-math-mode. This is a minor mode rebinding the key `LaTeX-math-abbrev-prefix` to allow easy typing of mathematical symbols. ‘`~`’ will read a character from the keyboard, and insert the symbol as specified in `LaTeX-math-list`. If given a prefix argument, the symbol will be surrounded by dollar signs.

You can use another prefix key (instead of ‘`~`’) by setting the variable `LaTeX-math-abbrev-prefix`.

To enable LaTeX-math-mode by default, add the following in your ‘.emacs’ file:

```
(add-hook 'LaTeX-mode-hook 'LaTeX-math-mode)
```

LaTeX-math-abbrev-prefix [User Option]
 A string containing the prefix of LaTeX-math-mode commands; This value defaults to ‘`~`’.

The string has to be a key or key sequence in a format understood by the `kbd` macro. This corresponds to the syntax usually used in the Emacs and Elisp manuals.

The variable `LaTeX-math-list` holds the actual mapping.

LaTeX-math-list [User Option]
 A list containing key command mappings to use in LaTeX-math-mode. The car of each element is the key and the cdr is the macro name.

LaTeX-math-menu-unicode [User Option]
 Whether the LaTeX menu should try using Unicode for effect. Your Emacs built must be able to display include Unicode characters in menus for this feature.

AUCTeX’s reference card ‘`tex-ref.tex`’ includes a list of all math mode commands.

5.2 Completion

Emacs lisp programmers probably know the `lisp-complete-symbol` command, usually bound to `M-(TAB)`. Users of the wonderful ispell mode know and love the `ispell-complete-word` command from that package. Similarly, AUCTeX has a `TeX-complete-symbol` command, usually bound to `M-(TAB)`. Using `LaTeX-complete-symbol` makes it easier to type and remember the names of long LaTeX macros.

In order to use `TeX-complete-symbol`, you should write a backslash and the start of the macro. Typing `M-⟨TAB⟩` will now complete as much of the macro, as it unambiguously can. For example, if you type “`\renewc`” and then `M-⟨TAB⟩`, it will expand to “`\renewcommand`”.

TeX-complete-symbol [Command]
 (`M-⟨TAB⟩`) Complete TeX symbol before point.

A more direct way to insert a macro is with `TeX-insert-macro`, bound to `C-c C-m`. It has the advantage over completion that it knows about the argument of most standard L^AT_EX macros, and will prompt for them. It also knows about the type of the arguments, so it will for example give completion for the argument to ‘`\include`’. Some examples are listed below.

TeX-insert-macro [Command]
 (`C-c C-m` or `C-c RET`) Prompt (with completion) for the name of a TeX macro, and if AUCT_EX knows the macro, prompt for each argument.

As a default selection, AUCT_EX will suggest the macro last inserted or, as the first choice the value of the variable `TeX-default-macro`.

TeX-insert-macro-default-style [User Option]
 Specifies whether `TeX-insert-macro` will ask for all optional arguments.

If set to the symbol `show-optional-args`, `TeX-insert-macro` asks for optional arguments of TeX macros. If set to `mandatory-args-only`, `TeX-insert-macro` asks only for mandatory arguments. When `TeX-insert-macro` is called with prefix argument (`C-u`), it’s the other way round.

Note that for some macros, there are special mechanisms, e.g. `LaTeX-includegraphics-options-alist`.

TeX-default-macro [User Option]
 Default macro to insert when invoking `TeX-insert-macro` first time.

A faster alternative is to bind the function `TeX-electric-macro` to ‘`\`’. This can be done by setting the variable `TeX-electric-escape`

TeX-electric-escape [User Option]
 If this is non-nil when AUCT_EX is loaded, the TeX escape character ‘`\`’ will be bound to `TeX-electric-macro`

The difference between `TeX-insert-macro` and `TeX-electric-macro` is that space will complete and exit from the minibuffer in `TeX-electric-macro`. Use `⟨TAB⟩` if you merely want to complete.

TeX-electric-macro [Command]
 Prompt (with completion) for the name of a TeX macro, and if AUCT_EX knows the macro, prompt for each argument. Space will complete and exit.

By default AUCT_EX will put an empty set braces ‘`{}`’ after a macro with no arguments to stop it from eating the next whitespace. This can be stopped by entering `LaTeX-math-mode`, see [Section 5.1 \[Mathematics\]](#), page 28, or by setting `TeX-insert-braces` to nil.

TeX-insert-braces [User Option]

If non-nil, append a empty pair of braces after inserting a macro.

Completions work because AUCTEX can analyze TEX files, and store symbols in emacs lisp files for later retrieval. See [Chapter 11 \[Automatic\]](#), page 57, for more information.

AUCTEX will also make completion for many macro arguments, for example existing labels when you enter a ‘\ref’ macro with `TeX-insert-macro` or `TeX-electric-macro`, and BibTEX entries when you enter a ‘\cite’ macro. For this kind of completion to work, parsing must be enabled as described in see [Chapter 9 \[Parsing Files\]](#), page 52. For ‘\cite’ you must also make sure that the BibTEX files have been saved at least once after you enabled automatic parsing on save, and that the basename of the BibTEX file does not conflict with the basename of one of TEX files.

5.3 Commenting

It is often necessary to comment out temporarily a region of TEX or L^ATEX code. This can be done with the commands `C-c ;` and `C-c %`. `C-c ;` will comment out all lines in the current region, while `C-c %` will comment out the current paragraph. Type `C-c ;` again to uncomment all lines of a commented region, or `C-c %` again to uncomment all comment lines around point. These commands will insert or remove a single ‘%’ respectively.

TeX-comment-or-uncomment-region [Command]

(`C-c ;`) Add or remove ‘%’ from the beginning of each line in the current region. Uncommenting works only if the region encloses solely commented lines. If AUCTEX should not try to guess if the region should be commented or uncommented the commands `TeX-comment-region` and `TeX-uncomment-region` can be used to explicitly comment or uncomment the region in concern.

TeX-comment-or-uncomment-paragraph [Command]

(`C-c %`) Add or remove ‘%’ from the beginning of each line in the current paragraph. When removing ‘%’ characters the paragraph is considered to consist of all preceding and succeeding lines starting with a ‘%’, until the first non-comment line.

5.4 Indenting

Indentation means the addition of whitespace at the beginning of lines to reflect special syntactical constructs. This makes it easier to see the structure of the document, and to catch errors such as a missing closing brace. Thus, the indentation is done for precisely the same reasons that you would indent ordinary computer programs.

Indentation is done by L^ATEX environments and by TEX groups, that is the body of an environment is indented by the value of `LaTeX-indent-level` (default 2). Also, items of an ‘itemize-like’ environment are indented by the value of `LaTeX-item-indent`, default `-2`. If more environments are nested, they are indented ‘accumulated’ just like most programming languages usually are seen indented in nested constructs.

You can explicitly indent single lines, usually by pressing `(TAB)`, or marked regions by calling `indent-region` on it. If you have `auto-fill-mode` enabled and a line is broken while you type it, Emacs automatically cares about the indentation in the following line. If you want to have a similar behavior upon typing `(RET)`, you can customize the variable

`TeX-newline-function` and change the default of `newline` which does no indentation to `newline-and-indent` which indents the new line or `reindent-then-newline-and-indent` which indents both the current and the new line.

There are certain \LaTeX environments which should be indented in a special way, like ‘`tabular`’ or ‘`verbatim`’. Those environments may be specified in the variable `LaTeX-indent-environment-list` together with their special indentation functions. Taking the ‘`verbatim`’ environment as an example you can see that `current-indentation` is used as the indentation function. This will stop AUCTeX from doing any indentation in the environment if you hit $\langle \text{TAB} \rangle$ for example.

There are environments in `LaTeX-indent-environment-list` which do not bring a special indentation function with them. This is due to the fact that first the respective functions are not implemented yet and second that filling will be disabled for the specified environments. This shall prevent the source code from being messed up by accidentally filling those environments with the standard filling routine. If you think that providing special filling routines for such environments would be an appropriate and challenging task for you, you are invited to contribute. (See [Section 5.5 \[Filling\]](#), page 32, for further information about the filling functionality)

The check for the indentation function may be enabled or disabled by customizing the variable `LaTeX-indent-environment-check`.

As a side note with regard to formatting special environments: Newer Emacsen include ‘`align.el`’ and therefore provide some support for formatting ‘`tabular`’ and ‘`tabbing`’ environments with the function `align-current` which will nicely align columns in the source code.

AUCTeX is able to format commented parts of your code just as any other part. This means \LaTeX environments and TeX groups in comments will be indented syntactically correct if the variable `LaTeX-syntactic-comments` is set to `t`. If you disable it, comments will be filled like normal text and no syntactic indentation will be done.

Following you will find a list of most commands and variables related to indenting with a small summary in each case:

- $\langle \text{TAB} \rangle$ `LaTeX-indent-line` will indent the current line.
- $\langle \text{LFD} \rangle$ `newline-and-indent` inserts a new line (much like $\langle \text{RET} \rangle$) and moves the cursor to an appropriate position by the left margin.
Most keyboards nowadays don’t have a linefeed key and `C-j` is tedious to type. Therefore you can customize AUCTeX to perform indentation (or to make coffee) upon typing $\langle \text{RET} \rangle$ as well. The respective option is called `TeX-newline-function`.
- `C-j` Alias for $\langle \text{LFD} \rangle$

`LaTeX-indent-environment-list` [User Option]
List of environments with special indentation. The second element in each entry is the function to calculate the indentation level in columns.

The filling code currently cannot handle tabular-like environments which will be completely messed-up if you try to format them. This is why most of these environments are included in this customization option without a special indentation function. This will prevent that they get filled.

- LaTeX-indent-level** [User Option]
Number of spaces to add to the indentation for each ‘\begin’ not matched by a ‘\end’.
- LaTeX-item-indent** [User Option]
Number of spaces to add to the indentation for ‘\item’'s in list environments.
- TeX-brace-indent-level** [User Option]
Number of spaces to add to the indentation for each ‘{’ not matched by a ‘}’.
- LaTeX-syntactic-comments** [User Option]
If non-nil comments will be filled and indented according to L^AT_EX syntax. Otherwise they will be filled like normal text.
- TeX-newline-function** [User Option]
Used to specify the function which is called when `(RET)` is pressed. This will normally be `newline` which simply inserts a new line. In case you want to have AUCT_EX do indentation as well when you press `(RET)`, use the built-in functions `newline-and-indent` or `reindent-then-newline-and-indent`. The former inserts a new line and indents the following line, i.e. it moves the cursor to the right position and therefore acts as if you pressed `(LFD)`. The latter function additionally indents the current line. If you choose ‘Other’, you can specify your own fancy function to be called when `(RET)` is pressed.

5.5 Filling

Filling deals with the insertion of line breaks to prevent lines from becoming wider than what is specified in `fill-column`. The linebreaks will be inserted automatically if `auto-fill-mode` is enabled. In this case the source is not only filled but also indented automatically as you write it.

`auto-fill-mode` can be enabled for AUCT_EX by calling `turn-on-auto-fill` in one of the hooks AUCT_EX is running. For all text modes with `text-mode-hook`, for all AUCT_EX modes with `TeX-mode-hook` or for specific modes with `plain-TeX-mode-hook`, `LaTeX-mode-hook`, `ConTeXt-mode-hook` or `docTeX-mode-hook`. As an example, if you want to enable `auto-fill-mode` in LaTeX-mode, put the following into your init file:

```
(add-hook 'LaTeX-mode-hook 'turn-on-auto-fill)
```

You can manually fill explicitly marked regions, paragraphs, environments, complete sections, or the whole buffer. (Note that manual filling in AUCT_EX will indent the start of the region to be filled in contrast to many other Emacs modes.)

There are some syntactical constructs which are handled specially with regard to filling. These are so-called code comments and paragraph commands.

Code comments are comments preceded by code or text in the same line. Upon filling a region, code comments themselves will not get filled. Filling is done from the start of the region to the line with the code comment and continues after it. In order to prevent overfull lines in the source code, a linebreak will be inserted before the last non-comment word by default. This can be changed by customizing `LaTeX-fill-break-before-code-comments`. If you have overfull lines with code comments you can fill those explicitly by calling `LaTeX-fill-paragraph` or pressing `M-q` with the cursor positioned on them. This

will add linebreaks in the comment and indent subsequent comment lines to the column of the comment in the first line of the code comment. In this special case *M-q* only acts on the current line and not on the whole paragraph.

Lines with `\par` are treated similarly to code comments, i.e. `\par` will be treated as paragraph boundary which should not be followed by other code or text. But it is not treated as a real paragraph boundary like an empty line where filling a paragraph would stop.

Paragraph commands like `\section` or `\noindent` (the list of commands is defined by `LaTeX-paragraph-commands`) are often to be placed in their own line(s). This means they should not be consecuted with any preceding or following adjacent lines of text. AUCTEX will prevent this from happening if you do not put any text except another macro after the end of the last brace of the respective macro. If there is other text after the macro, AUCTEX regards this as a sign that the macro is part of the following paragraph.

Here are some examples:

```
\begin{quote}
  text text text text
\begin{quote}\label{foo}
  text text text text
```

If you press *M-q* on the first line in both examples, nothing will change. But if you write

```
\begin{quote} text
  text text text text
```

and press *M-q*, you will get

```
\begin{quote} text text text text text
```

Besides code comments and paragraph commands, another speciality of filling in AUCTEX involves commented lines. You should be aware that these comments are treated as islands in the rest of the L^AT_EX code if syntactic filling is enabled. This means, for example, if you try to fill an environment with `LaTeX-fill-environment` and have the cursor placed on a commented line which does not have a surrounding environment inside the comment, AUCTEX will report an error.

The relevant commands and variables with regard to filling are:

C-c C-q C-p

`LaTeX-fill-paragraph` will fill and indent the current paragraph.

M-q Alias for *C-c C-q C-p*

C-c C-q C-e

`LaTeX-fill-environment` will fill and indent the current environment. This may e.g. be the ‘document’ environment, in which case the entire document will be formatted.

C-c C-q C-s

`LaTeX-fill-section` will fill and indent the current logical sectional unit.

C-c C-q C-r

`LaTeX-fill-region` will fill and indent the current region.

M-g Alias for *C-c C-q C-r*

LaTeX-fill-break-at-separators [User Option]

List of separators before or after which respectively linebreaks will be inserted if they do not fit into one line. The separators can be curly braces, brackets, switches for inline math (`'$'`, `'\('`, `'\)'`) and switches for display math (`'\['`, `'\]'`). Such formatting can be useful to make macros and math more visible or to prevent overfull lines in the \LaTeX source in case a package for displaying formatted \TeX output inside the Emacs buffer, like `preview-latex`, is used.

LaTeX-fill-break-before-code-comments [User Option]

Code comments are comments preceded by some other text in the same line. When a paragraph containing such a comment is to be filled, the comment start will be seen as a border after which no line breaks will be inserted in the same line. If the option `LaTeX-fill-break-before-code-comments` is enabled (which is the default) and the comment does not fit into the line, a line break will be inserted before the last non-comment word to minimize the chance that the line becomes overfull.

6 Controlling Screen Display

It is often desirable to get visual help of what markup code in a text actually does without having to decipher it explicitly. For this purpose Emacs and AUCT_EX provide font locking (also known as syntax highlighting) which visually sets off markup code like macros or environments by using different colors or fonts. For example text to be typeset in italics can be displayed with an italic font in the editor as well, or labels and references get their own distinct color.

While font locking helps you grasp the purpose of markup code and separate markup from content, the markup code can still be distracting. AUCT_EX lets you hide those parts and show them again at request with its built-in support for hiding macros and environments which we call folding here.

Besides folding of macros and environments, AUCT_EX provides support for Emacs' outline mode which lets you narrow the buffer content to certain sections of your text by hiding the parts not belonging to these sections.

6.1 Font Locking

Font locking is supposed to improve readability of the source code by highlighting certain keywords with different colors or fonts. It thereby lets you recognize the function of markup code to a certain extent without having to read the markup command. For general information on controlling font locking with Emacs' Font Lock mode, see [section “Font Lock Mode” in GNU Emacs Manual](#).

TeX-install-font-lock [User Option]

Once font locking is enabled globally or for the major modes provided by AUCT_EX, the font locking patterns and functionality of `font-latex` are activated by default. You can switch to a different font locking scheme or disable font locking in AUCT_EX by customizing the variable `TeX-install-font-lock`.

Besides `font-latex` AUCT_EX ships with a scheme which is derived from Emacs' default L_AT_EX mode and activated by choosing `tex-font-setup`. Be aware that this scheme is not coupled with AUCT_EX's style system and not the focus of development. Therefore and due to `font-latex` being much more feature-rich the following explanations will only cover `font-latex`.

In case you want to hook in your own fontification scheme, you can choose `other` and insert the name of the function which sets up your font locking patterns. If you want to disable fontification in AUCT_EX completely, choose `ignore`.

`font-latex` provides many options for customization which are accessible with `M-x customize-group RET font-latex RET`. For this description the various options are explained in conceptual groups.

Macros

Highlighting of macros can be customized by adapting keyword lists which can be found in the customization group `font-latex-keywords`. The lists contain names of macros without the leading backslash.

Three types of macros can be handled differently with respect to fontification:

1. Commands of the form ‘`\foo[bar]{baz}`’ which consist of the macro itself, optional arguments in square brackets and mandatory arguments in curly braces. For the command itself the face `font-lock-keyword-face` will be used and for the optional arguments the face `font-lock-variable-name-face`. The face applied to the mandatory argument depends on the macro class represented by the respective built-in variables.
2. Declaration macros of the form ‘`{\foo text}`’ which consist of the macro which may be enclosed in a `TEX` group together with text to be affected by the macro. In case a `TEX` group is present, the macro will get the face `font-lock-keyword-face` and the text will get the face configured for the respective macro class. If no `TEX` group is present, the latter face will be applied to the macro itself.
3. Simple macros of the form ‘`\foo`’ which do not have any arguments or groupings. The respective face will be applied to the macro itself.

General macro classes

`font-latex` provides keyword lists for different macro classes which are described in the following table:

`font-latex-match-function-keywords`

Keywords for macros defining or related to functions, like ‘`\newcommand`’.

Type: ‘`\macro[...]{...}`’

Face: `font-lock-function-name-face`

`font-latex-match-reference-keywords`

Keywords for macros defining or related to references, like ‘`\ref`’.

Type: ‘`\macro[...]{...}`’

Face: `font-lock-constant-face`

`font-latex-match-textual-keywords`

Keywords for macros specifying textual content, like ‘`\caption`’.

Type: ‘`\macro[...]{...}`’

Face: `font-lock-type-face`

`font-latex-match-variable-keywords`

Keywords for macros defining or related to variables, like ‘`\setlength`’.

Type: ‘`\macro[...]{...}{...}`’

Face: `font-lock-variable-name-face`

`font-latex-match-warning-keywords`

Keywords for important macros, e.g. affecting line or page break, like ‘`\clearpage`’.

Type: ‘`\macro`’

Face: `font-latex-warning-face`

Sectioning commands

Sectioning commands are macros like ‘`\chapter`’ or ‘`\section`’. For these commands there are two fontification schemes which may be selected by customizing the variable `font-latex-fontify-sectioning`.

font-latex-fontify-sectioning [User Option]

Per default sectioning commands will be shown in a larger, proportional font, which corresponds to a number for this variable. The font size varies with the sectioning level, e.g. ‘\part’ (`font-latex-sectioning-0-face`) has a larger font than ‘\paragraph’ (`font-latex-sectioning-5-face`). Typically, values from 1.05 to 1.3 for `font-latex-fontify-sectioning` give best results, depending on your font setup. If you rather like to use the base font and a different color, set the variable to the symbol ‘color’. In this case the face `font-lock-type-face` will be used to fontify the argument of the sectioning commands.

You can make `font-latex` aware of your own sectioning commands by adding them to the keyword lists: `font-latex-match-sectioning-0-keywords` (`font-latex-sectioning-0-face`) ... `font-latex-match-sectioning-5-keywords` (`font-latex-sectioning-5-face`).

Related to sectioning there is special support for slide titles which may be fontified with the face `font-latex-slide-title-face`. You can add macros which should appear in this face by customizing the variable `font-latex-match-slide-title-keywords`.

Commands for changing fonts

\LaTeX provides various macros for changing fonts or font attributes. For example, you can select an italic font with ‘\textit{...}’ or bold with ‘\textbf{...}’. An alternative way to specify these fonts is to use special macros in \TeX groups, like ‘\itshape ...’ for italics and ‘\bfseries ...’ for bold. As mentioned above, we call the former variants commands and the latter declarations.

Besides the macros for changing fonts provided by \LaTeX there is an infinite number of other macros—either defined by yourself for logical markup or defined by macro packages—which affect the font in the typeset text. While \LaTeX ’s built-in macros and macros of packages known by `AUCTEX` are already handled by `font-latex`, different keyword lists per type style and macro type are provided for entering your own macros which are listed in the table below.

font-latex-match-bold-command-keywords

Keywords for commands specifying a bold type style.

Face: `font-latex-bold-face`

font-latex-match-italic-command-keywords

Keywords for commands specifying an italic font.

Face: `font-latex-italic-face`

font-latex-match-math-command-keywords

Keywords for commands specifying a math font.

Face: `font-latex-math-face`

font-latex-match-type-command-keywords

Keywords for commands specifying a typewriter font.

Face: `font-lock-type-face`

font-latex-match-bold-declaration-keywords

Keywords for declarations specifying a bold type style.

Face: `font-latex-bold-face`

font-latex-match-italic-declaration-keywords
 Keywords for declarations specifying an italic font.
 Face: `font-latex-italic-face`

font-latex-match-type-declaration-keywords
 Keywords for declarations specifying a typewriter font.
 Face: `font-latex-type-face`

Deactivating defaults of built-in keyword classes

`font-latex` ships with predefined lists of keywords for the classes described above. You can disable these defaults per class by customizing the variable `font-latex-deactivated-keyword-classes`. This is a list of strings for keyword classes to be deactivated. Valid entries are `\"warning\"`, `\"variable\"`, `\"reference\"`, `\"function\"`, `\"sectioning-0\"`, `\"sectioning-1\"`, `\"sectioning-2\"`, `\"sectioning-3\"`, `\"sectioning-4\"`, `\"sectioning-5\"`, `\"textual\"`, `\"bold-command\"`, `\"italic-command\"`, `\"math-command\"`, `\"type-command\"`, `\"bold-declaration\"`, `\"italic-declaration\"`, `\"type-declaration\"`.

You can also get rid of certain keywords only. For example if you want to remove highlighting of footnotes as references you can put the following stanza into your init file:

```
(eval-after-load "font-latex"
  '(setq-default
    font-latex-match-reference-keywords-local
    (remove "footnote" font-latex-match-reference-keywords-local)))
```

But note that this means fiddling with `font-latex`'s internals and is not guaranteed to work in future versions of `font-latex`.

User-defined keyword classes

In case the customization options explained above do not suffice for your needs, you can specify your own keyword classes by customizing the variable `font-latex-user-keyword-classes`.

font-latex-user-keyword-classes [User Option]

Every keyword class consists of four parts, a name, a list of keywords, a face and a specifier for the type of macros to be highlighted.

When adding new entries, you have to use unique values for the class names, i.e. they must not clash with names of the built-in keyword classes or other names given by you. Additionally the names must not contain spaces.

The keywords are names of commands you want to match omitting the leading backslash.

The face argument can either be an existing face or font specifications made by you. (The latter option is not available on XEmacs.)

There are three alternatives for the type of keywords—“Command with arguments”, “Declaration inside \TeX group” and “Command without arguments”—which correspond with the macro types explained above.

Quotes

Text in quotation marks is displayed with the face `font-latex-string-face`. Besides the various forms of opening and closing double and single quotation marks so-called guillemets (`<<`, `>>`) can be used for quoting. Because there are two styles of using them—French style: `<< text >>`; German style: `>>text<<`—you can customize the variable `font-latex-quotes` to tell `font-latex` which type you are using.

`font-latex-quotes` [User Option]

Set the value to `'german'` if you are using `>>`German quotes`<<` and to `'french'` if you are using `<<` French quotes `>>`. `font-latex` will recognize the different ways these quotes can be given in your source code, i.e. (`"<`, `">`), (`'<<`, `'>>`) and the respective 8-bit variants.

Subscript and superscript in math

In order to make math constructs more readable, `font-latex` displays subscript and superscript parts in a smaller font and raised or lowered respectively. This fontification feature can be controlled with the variables `font-latex-fontify-script` and `font-latex-script-display`.

`font-latex-fontify-script` [User Option]

If non-nil, fontify subscript and superscript strings.

Note that this feature is not available on XEmacs, for which it is disabled per default. In GNU Emacs raising and lowering is not enabled for versions 21.3 and before due to it working not properly.

`font-latex-script-display` [User Option]

Display specification for subscript and superscript content. The car is used for subscript, the cdr is used for superscript. The feature is implemented using so-called display properties. For information on what exactly to specify for the values, see section “Other Display Specifications” in *GNU Emacs Lisp Reference Manual*.

Verbatim macros and environments

Usually it is not desirable to have content to be typeset verbatim highlighted according to \LaTeX syntax. Therefore this content will be fontified uniformly with the face `font-latex-verbatim-face`.

`font-latex` differentiates three different types of verbatim constructs for fontification and consequently provides three keyword lists for customization.

`font-latex-verb-like-commands` [User Option]

List of commands with the form `'\foo|...|'` to be fontified as verbatim without the leading backslash. (The delimiters for the command's argument can be any character except an asterisk.)

`font-latex-verbatim-macros` [User Option]

List of macros with the form `'\foo{...}'` to be fontified as verbatim without the leading backslash. In contrast to `font-latex-verb-like-commands` the macro's argument is enclosed in a \TeX group and not two arbitrary characters.

`font-latex-verbatim-environments` [User Option]
 List of environments the content of which should be fontified as verbatim.

Multi-line fontification

Font locking in \LaTeX source code often involves constructs spanning more than one line of text. For these constructs to be handled correctly GNU Emacs as well as `font-latex` provide mechanisms for multi-line fontification which can be controlled by the variable `font-latex-do-multi-line`.

`font-latex-do-multi-line` [User Option]
 Control multi-line fontification.

Setting the variable to `t` will enable `font-latex`'s mechanism, setting it to `nil` will disable it. Setting it to `'try-font-lock` (the default) will use `font-lock`'s mechanism if available and `font-latex`'s method if not.

Setting this variable will only have effect after resetting buffers controlled by `font-latex` or restarting Emacs.

Faces

In case you want to change the colors and fonts used by `font-latex` please refer to the faces mentioned in the explanations above and use `M-x customize-face RET <face> RET`. All faces defined by `font-latex` are accessible through a customization group by typing `M-x customize-group RET font-latex-highlighting-faces RET`.

6.2 Folding Macros and Environments

There can be macros and environments which have content that is not part of the text body you are writing, like footnotes and citations. Those enclose text which you often only want to see while actually editing it and which otherwise distract your view of the document body. Similarly there are macros where you are not interested in viewing the macro besides its content but rather want to see the content only, like font specifiers where the content might already be fontified in a special way by font locking.

With \LaTeX 's folding functionality you can collapse those items and replace them by either a fixed string or the content of one of their arguments instead. If you want to make the original text visible again temporarily in order to view or edit it, move point sideways onto the placeholder (also called display string) or left-click with the mouse pointer on it. (The latter is currently only supported on GNU Emacs.) The macro or environment will unfold automatically, stay open as long as point is inside of it and collapse again once you move point out of it. (Note that folding of environments currently does not work in every \LaTeX mode.)

In order to use this feature, you have to activate `TeX-fold-mode` which will activate the auto-reveal feature and the necessary commands to hide and show macros and environments. You can activate the mode in a certain buffer by typing the command `M-x TeX-fold-mode RET` or using the keyboard shortcut `C-c C-o C-f`. If you want to use it every time you edit a \LaTeX document, add it to a hook:

```
(add-hook 'LaTeX-mode-hook (lambda ()))
```

(TeX-fold-mode 1))

If it should be activated in all AUCTeX modes, use `TeX-mode-hook` instead of `LaTeX-mode-hook`.

Once the mode is active there are several commands available to hide and show macros and environments:

TeX-fold-buffer [Command]

(*C-c C-o C-b*) Hide all macros specified in the variables `TeX-fold-macro-spec-list` and `TeX-fold-env-spec-list`. This command can also be used to refresh the whole buffer and hide any new macros and environments which were inserted after the last invocation of the command.

In order for all folded content to get the right faces, the whole buffer has to be fontified before folding is carried out. The command therefore will force fontification of unfontified regions. As this will prolong the time folding takes, you can prevent forced fontification by customizing the variable `TeX-fold-force-fontify`.

TeX-fold-region [Command]

(*C-c C-o C-r*) Hide all configured macros in the marked region.

TeX-fold-paragraph [Command]

(*C-c C-o C-p*) Hide all configured macros in the paragraph containing point.

TeX-fold-macro [Command]

(*C-c C-o C-m*) Hide the macro on which point currently is located. If the name of the macro is found in `TeX-fold-macro-spec-list`, the respective display string will be shown instead. If it is not found, the name of the macro in square brackets or the default string for unspecified macros (`TeX-fold-unspec-macro-display-string`) will be shown, depending on the value of the variable `TeX-fold-unspec-use-name`.

TeX-fold-env [Command]

(*C-c C-o C-e*) Hide the environment on which point currently is located. The behavior regarding the display string is analogous to `TeX-fold-macro` and determined by the variables `TeX-fold-env-spec-list` and `TeX-fold-unspec-env-display-string` respectively.

TeX-fold-clearout-buffer [Command]

(*C-c C-o b*) Permanently unfold all macros and environments in the current buffer.

TeX-fold-clearout-region [Command]

(*C-c C-o r*) Permanently unfold all macros and environments in the marked region.

TeX-fold-clearout-paragraph [Command]

(*C-c C-o p*) Permanently unfold all macros and environments in the paragraph containing point.

TeX-fold-clearout-item [Command]

(*C-c C-o i*) Permanently show the macro or environment on which point currently is located. In contrast to temporarily opening the macro when point is moved sideways onto it, the macro will be permanently unfolded and will not collapse again once point is leaving it.

TeX-fold-dwim [Command]
 (*C-c C-o C-o*) Hide or show items according to the current context. If there is folded content, unfold it. If there is a marked region, fold all configured content in this region. If there is no folded content but a macro or environment, fold it.

The commands above will only take macros or environments into consideration which are specified in the variable `TeX-fold-macro-spec-list` or `TeX-fold-env-spec-list` respectively.

TeX-fold-macro-spec-list [User Option]
 List of display strings or argument numbers and macros to fold. If you specify a number, the content of the first mandatory argument of a \LaTeX macro will be used as the placeholder.

The placeholder is made by copying the text from the buffer together with its properties, i.e. its face as well. If fontification has not happened when this is done (e.g. because of lazy font locking) the intended fontification will not show up. As a workaround you can leave Emacs idle a few seconds and wait for stealth font locking to finish before you fold the buffer. Or you just re-fold the buffer with `TeX-fold-buffer` when you notice a wrong fontification.

TeX-fold-env-spec-list [User Option]
 List of display strings or argument numbers and environments to fold. Argument numbers refer to the ‘`\begin`’ statement. That means if you have e.g. ‘`\begin{tabularx}{\linewidth}{XXX} ... \end{tabularx}`’ and specify 3 as the argument number, the resulting display string will be “XXX”.

TeX-fold-unspec-macro-display-string [User Option]
 Default display string for macros which are not specified in `TeX-fold-macro-spec-list`.

TeX-fold-unspec-env-display-string [User Option]
 Default display string for environments which are not specified in `TeX-fold-env-spec-list`.

TeX-fold-unspec-use-name [User Option]
 If non-nil the name of the macro or environment surrounded by square brackets is used as display string, otherwise the defaults specified in `TeX-fold-unspec-macro-display-string` or `TeX-fold-unspec-env-display-string` respectively.

When you hover with the mouse pointer over folded content, its original text will be shown in a tooltip or the echo area depending on Tooltip mode being activate. In order to avoid exorbitantly big tooltips and to cater for the limited space in the echo area the content will be cropped after a certain amount of characters defined by the variable `TeX-fold-help-echo-max-length`.

TeX-fold-help-echo-max-length [User Option]
 Maximum length of original text displayed in a tooltip or the echo area for folded content. Set it to zero in order to disable this feature.

6.3 Outlining the Document

AUCT_EX supports the standard outline minor mode using L^AT_EX/ConT_EXt sectioning commands as header lines. See [section “Outline Mode” in GNU Emacs Manual](#).

You can add your own headings by setting the variable `TeX-outline-extra`.

TeX-outline-extra [Variable]

List of extra T_EX outline levels.

Each element is a list with two entries. The first entry is the regular expression matching a header, and the second is the level of the header. A ‘`^`’ is automatically prepended to the regular expressions in the list, so they must match text at the beginning of the line.

See `LaTeX-section-list` or `ConTeXt-INTERFACE-section-list` for existing header levels.

The following example add ‘`\item`’ and ‘`\bibliography`’ headers, with ‘`\bibliography`’ at the same outline level as ‘`\section`’, and ‘`\item`’ being below ‘`\subparagraph`’.

```
(setq TeX-outline-extra
      '((( "[ \t]*\\\\\\\\(bib\\\\)?item\\b" 7)
        (("\\\\bibliography\\b" 2))))
```

You may want to check out the unbundled ‘`out-xtra`’ package for even better outline support. It is available from your favorite emacs lisp archive.

7 Starting Processors, Viewers and Other Programs

The most powerful features of AUCTeX may be those allowing you to run (La)TeX/ConTeXt and other external commands like BibTeX and `makeindex` from within Emacs, viewing and printing the results, and moreover allowing you to *debug* your documents.

7.1 Executing Commands

Formatting the document with TeX, L^ATeX or ConTeXt, viewing with a previewer, printing the document, running BibTeX, making an index, or checking the document with `lacheck` or `chktex` all require running an external command.

There are two ways to run an external command, you can either run it on all of the current documents with `TeX-command-master`, or on the current region with `TeX-command-region`. A special case of running TeX on a region is `TeX-command-buffer` which differs from `TeX-command-master` if the current buffer is not its own master file.

TeX-command-master [Command]
 (*C-c C-c*) Query the user for a command, and run it on the master file associated with the current buffer. The name of the master file is controlled by the variable `TeX-master`. The available commands are controlled by the variable `TeX-command-list`.

See [Chapter 2 \[Installation\], page 5](#), for a discussion about `TeX-command-list` and [Chapter 8 \[Multifile\], page 50](#) for a discussion about `TeX-master`.

TeX-command-region [Command]
 (*C-c C-r*) Query the user for a command, and run it on the “region file”. Some commands (typically those invoking TeX or L^ATeX) will write the current region into the region file, after extracting the header and trailer from the master file. If mark is inactive (which can happen with `transient-mark-mode`), use the old region. The name of the region file is controlled by the variable `TeX-region`. The name of the master file is controlled by the variable `TeX-master`. The header is all text up to the line matching the regular expression `TeX-header-end`. The trailer is all text from the line matching the regular expression `TeX-trailer-start`. The available commands are controlled by the variable `TeX-command-list`.

TeX-pin-region [Command]
 (*C-c C-t C-r*) If you don’t have a mode like `transient-mark-mode` active, where marks get disabled automatically, the region would need to get properly set before each call to `TeX-command-region`. If you fix the current region with *C-c C-t C-r*, then it will get used for more commands even though mark and point may change. An explicitly activated mark, however, will always define a new region when calling `TeX-command-region`.

TeX-command-buffer [Command]
 (*C-c C-b*) Query the user for a command, and run it on the “region file”. Some commands (typically those invoking TeX or L^ATeX) will write the current buffer into the region file, after extracting the header and trailer from the master file. See above for details.

AUCT_EX will allow one process for each document, plus one process for the region file to be active at the same time. Thus, if you are editing n different documents, you can have n plus one processes running at the same time. If the last process you started was on the region, the commands described in [Section 7.3 \[Debugging\]](#), page 48 and [Section 7.5 \[Control\]](#), page 48 will work on that process, otherwise they will work on the process associated with the current document.

TeX-region [User Option]

The name of the file for temporarily storing the text when formatting the current region.

TeX-header-end [User Option]

A regular expression matching the end of the header. By default, this is ‘\begin{document}’ in L^AT_EX mode and ‘%**end of header’ in T_EX mode.

TeX-trailer-start [User Option]

A regular expression matching the start of the trailer. By default, this is ‘\end{document}’ in L^AT_EX mode and ‘\bye’ in T_EX mode.

AUCT_EX will try to guess what command you want to invoke, but by default it will assume that you want to run T_EX in T_EX mode and L^AT_EX in L^AT_EX mode. You can overwrite this by setting the variable `TeX-command-default`.

TeX-command-default [User Option]

The default command to run in this buffer. Must be an entry in `TeX-command-list`.

If you want to overwrite the values of `TeX-header-end`, `TeX-trailer-start`, or `TeX-command-default`, you can do that for all files by setting them in either `TeX-mode-hook`, `plain-TeX-mode-hook`, or `LaTeX-mode-hook`. To overwrite them for a single file, define them as file variables (see [section “File Variables” in *The Emacs Editor*](#)). You do this by putting special formatted text near the end of the file.

```
%%% Local Variables:
%%% TeX-header-end: "% End-Of-Header"
%%% TeX-trailer-start: "% Start-Of-Trailer"
%%% TeX-command-default: "SliTeX"
%%% End:
```

AUCT_EX will try to save any buffers related to the document, and check if the document needs to be reformatted. If the variable `TeX-save-query` is non-nil, AUCT_EX will query before saving each file. By default AUCT_EX will check emacs buffers associated with files in the current directory, in one of the `TeX-macro-private` directories, and in the `TeX-macro-global` directories. You can change this by setting the variable `TeX-check-path`.

TeX-check-path [User Option]

Directory path to search for dependencies.

If nil, just check the current file. Used when checking if any files have changed.

TeX-PDF-mode [Command]

(*C-c C-t C-p*) This command toggles the PDF mode of AUCT_EX, a buffer-local minor mode. You can customize `TeX-PDF-mode` to give it a different default. The default

is used when AUCT_EX does not have additional clue about what a document might want. This option usually results in calling either PDF_TE_X or ordinary _TE_X.

TeX-DVI-via-PDF_TE_X [User Option]

If this is set, DVI will also be produced by calling PDF_TE_X, setting `\pdfoutput=0`. This makes it possible to use packages like ‘pdfcprot’ even when producing DVI files. Some modern _TE_X distributions, e.g. `teTEX 3.0`, do this anyway, so that you need not enable it within AUCT_EX.

TeX-interactive-mode [Command]

(*C-c C-t C-i*) This command toggles the interactive mode of AUCT_EX, a global minor mode. You can customize `TeX-interactive-mode` to give it a different default. In interactive mode, _TE_X will pause with an error prompt when errors are encountered and wait for the user to type something.

TeX-source-specials-mode [Command]

(*C-c C-t C-s*) toggles Source Special support. Source Specials will move the DVI viewer to the location corresponding to point (forward search), and it will use ‘`emacsclient`’ or ‘`gnuclient`’ to have the previewer move Emacs to a location corresponding to a control-click in the previewer window. See [Section 7.2 \[Viewing\]](#), page 46.

You can permanently activate `TeX-source-specials-mode` with

```
(TeX-source-specials-mode 1)
```

or by customizing the variable `TeX-source-specials-mode`. There is a bunch of customization options, use `customize-group` on the group ‘`TeX-source-specials`’ to find out more.

It has to be stressed *very* strongly however, that Source Specials can cause differences in page breaks, in spacing, can seriously interfere with various packages and should thus *never* be used for the final version of a document. In particular, fine-tuning the page breaks should be done with Source Specials switched off.

TeX-Omega-mode [Command]

(*C-c C-t C-o*) This command toggles the use of the Omega (Ω) mode of AUCT_EX, a buffer-local minor mode. If it is switched on, `omega` will be used instead of `tex`, and `lambda` instead of `latex`.

7.2 Viewing the formatted output

7.2.1 Starting viewers and customizing their invokation

AUCT_EX allows you to start external programs for previewing your document. These are normally invoked by pressing *C-c C-c* once the document is formatted or via the respective entry in the Command menu.

AUCT_EX will try to guess which type of viewer (DVI, PostScript or PDF) has to be used and what options are to be passed over to it. This decision is based on the output files present in the working directory as well as the class and style options used in the document. For example, if there is a DVI file in your working directory, a DVI viewer will be invoked. In case of a PDF file it will be a PDF viewer. If you specified a special paper

format like ‘a5paper’ or use the ‘landscape’ option, this will be passed to the viewer by the appropriate options. Especially some DVI viewers depend on this kind of information in order to display your document correctly. In case you are using ‘pstricks’ or ‘psfrag’ in your document, a DVI viewer cannot display the contents correctly and a PostScript viewer will be invoked instead.

The information about which file types and style options are associated with which viewers and options for them is stored in the variables `TeX-output-view-style` and `TeX-view-style`.

TeX-view [Command]

The command `TeX-view`, bound to `C-c C-v`, starts a viewer without confirmation. The viewer is started either on a region or the master file, depending on the last command issued. This is especially useful for jumping to the location corresponding to point in the DVI viewer when using `TeX-source-specials-mode`.

TeX-output-view-style [User Option]

List of output file extensions, style options and view options.

TeX-view-style [User Option]

List of style options and view options. This is the predecessor of `TeX-output-view-style` which does not allow the specification of output file extensions. It is used as a fallback in case none of the alternatives specified in `TeX-output-view-style` match. In case none of the entries in `TeX-view-style` match either, no suggestion for a viewer will be made.

7.2.2 Forward and inverse search

You can make use of forward and inverse searching if this is supported by your DVI viewer and you enabled `TeX-source-specials-mode` as described in [Section 7.1 \[Commands\]](#), [page 44](#). AUCTeX will automatically pass the necessary command line options to the viewer in order to display the page containing the content you are currently editing (forward search). Upon opening the viewer you will be asked if you want to start a server process (Gnuserv or Emacs server) which is necessary for inverse search. This happens only if there is no server running already. You can customize the variable `TeX-source-specials-view-start-server` to inhibit the question and always or never start the server respectively. Once the server and the viewer are running you can use a mouse click in the viewer to jump to the corresponding part of your document in Emacs (inverse search). Refer to the documentation of your viewer to find out what you have to do exactly. In `xdvi` you usually have to use `C-down-mouse-1`.

TeX-source-specials-view-start-server [User Option]

If `TeX-source-specials-mode` is active and a DVI viewer is invoked, the default behavior is to ask if a server process should be started. Set this variable to `t` if the question should be inhibited and the server should be started always. Set it to `nil` if the server should never be started. Inverse search will not be available in the latter case.

7.3 Catching the errors

Once you've formatted your document you may 'debug' it, i.e. browse through the errors (La)TeX reported.

TeX-next-error [Command]
 (*C-c ')* Go to the next error reported by TeX. The view will be split in two, with the cursor placed as close as possible to the error in the top view. In the bottom view, the error message will be displayed along with some explanatory text.

Normally AUCTeX will only report real errors, but you may as well ask it to report 'bad boxes' as well.

TeX-toggle-debug-bad-boxes [Command]
 (*C-c C-w)* Toggle whether AUCTeX should stop at bad boxes (i.e. over/under full boxes) as well as at normal errors.

As default, AUCTeX will display that special '***help***' buffer containing the error reported by TeX along with the documentation. There is however an 'expert' option, which allows you to display the real TeX output.

TeX-display-help [User Option]
 When non-nil AUCTeX will automatically display a help text whenever an error is encountered using **TeX-next-error** (*C-c ')*.

7.4 Checking for problems

Running TeX or L^ATeX will only find regular errors in the document, not examples of bad style. Furthermore, description of the errors may often be confusing. The utility **lacheck** can be used to find style errors, such as forgetting to escape the space after an abbreviation or using '*...*' instead of '*\ldots*' and many other problems like that. You start **lacheck** with *C-c C-c Check* **(RET)**. The result will be a list of errors in the '***compilation***' buffer. You can go through the errors with *C-x ' (next-error, see section "Compilation" in *The Emacs Editor*)*, which will move point to the location of the next error.

Another newer program which can be used to find errors is **chktex**. It is much more configurable than **lacheck**, but doesn't find all the problems **lacheck** does, at least in its default configuration. You must install the programs before using them, and for **chktex** you may also need modify **TeX-command-list** unless you use its **lacheck** compatibility wrapper. You can get **lacheck** from '[<URL:ftp://ftp.ctan.org/tex-archive/support/lacheck/>](ftp://ftp.ctan.org/tex-archive/support/lacheck/)' or alternatively **chktex** from '[<URL:ftp://ftp.ctan.org/tex-archive/support/chktex/>](ftp://ftp.ctan.org/tex-archive/support/chktex/)'.

7.5 Controlling the output

A number of commands are available for controlling the output of an application running under AUCTeX

TeX-kill-job [Command]
 (*C-c C-k)* Kill currently running external application. This may be either of TeX, L^ATeX, previewer, BibTeX, etc.

TeX-recenter-output-buffer [Command]

(*C-c C-l*) Recenter the output buffer so that the bottom line is visible.

TeX-home-buffer [Command]

(*C-c ^*) Go to the ‘master’ file in the document associated with the current buffer, or if already there, to the file where the current process was started.

8 Multifile Documents

You may wish to spread a document over many files (as you are likely to do if there are multiple authors, or if you have not yet discovered the power of the outline commands (see [Section 6.3 \[Outline\], page 43](#))). This can be done by having a “master” file in which you include the various files with the \TeX macro `\input` or the \LaTeX macro `\include`. These files may also include other files themselves. However, to format the document you must run the commands on the top level master file.

When you, for example, ask AUCTEX to run a command on the master file, it has no way of knowing the name of the master file. By default, it will assume that the current file is the master file. If you insert the following in your `.emacs` file AUCTEX will use a more advanced algorithm.

```
(setq-default TeX-master nil) ; Query for master file.
```

If AUCTEX finds the line indicating the end of the header in a master file (`TeX-header-end`), it can figure out for itself that this is a master file. Otherwise, it will ask for the name of the master file associated with the buffer. To avoid asking you again, AUCTEX will automatically insert the name of the master file as a file variable (see [section “File Variables” in *The Emacs Editor*](#)). You can also insert the file variable yourself, by putting the following text at the end of your files.

```
%%% Local Variables:
%%% TeX-master: "master"
%%% End:
```

You should always set this variable to the name of the top level document. If you always use the same name for your top level documents, you can set `TeX-master` in your `.emacs` file.

```
(setq-default TeX-master "master") ; All master files called "master".
```

TeX-master [User Option]

The master file associated with the current buffer. If the file being edited is actually included from another file, then you can tell AUCTEX the name of the master file by setting this variable. If there are multiple levels of nesting, specify the top level file.

If this variable is `nil`, AUCTEX will query you for the name.

If the variable is `t`, then AUCTEX will assume the file is a master file itself.

If the variable is `shared`, then AUCTEX will query for the name, but will not change the file.

TeX-one-master [User Option]

Regular expression matching ordinary \TeX files.

You should set this variable to match the name of all files, for which it is a good idea to append a `TeX-master` file variable entry automatically. When AUCTEX adds the name of the master file as a file variable, it does not need to ask next time you edit the file.

If you dislike AUCTEX automatically modifying your files, you can set this variable to `"<none>"`. By default, AUCTEX will modify any file with an extension of `.tex`.

TeX-master-file-ask [Command]

(*C-c _*) Query for the name of a master file and add the respective File Variables (see [section “File Variables” in *The Emacs Editor*](#)) to the file for setting this variable permanently.

AUCTIONTEX will not ask for a master file when it encounters existing files. This function shall give you the possibility to insert the variable manually.

AUCTIONTEX keeps track of macros, environments, labels, and style files that are used in a given document. For this to work with multifile documents, AUCTIONTEX has to have a place to put the information about the files in the document. This is done by having an ‘auto’ subdirectory placed in the directory where your document is located. Each time you save a file, AUCTIONTEX will write information about the file into the ‘auto’ directory. When you load a file, AUCTIONTEX will read the information in the ‘auto’ directory about the file you loaded *and the master file specified by TeX-master*. Since the master file (perhaps indirectly) includes all other files in the document, AUCTIONTEX will get information from all files in the document. This means that you will get from each file, for example, completion for all labels defined anywhere in the document.

AUCTIONTEX will create the ‘auto’ directory automatically if `TeX-auto-save` is non-nil. Without it, the files in the document will not know anything about each other, except for the name of the master file. See [Section 11.3 \[Automatic Local\], page 58](#).

TeX-save-document [Command]

(*C-c C-d*) Save all buffers known to belong to the current document.

TeX-save-query [User Option]

If non-nil, then query the user before saving each file with `TeX-save-document`.

9 Automatic Parsing of T_EX Files

AUCT_EX depends heavily on being able to extract information from the buffers by parsing them. Since parsing the buffer can be somewhat slow, the parsing is initially disabled. You are encouraged to enable them by adding the following lines to your ‘.emacs’ file.

```
(setq TeX-parse-self t) ; Enable parse on load.
(setq TeX-auto-save t) ; Enable parse on save.
```

The latter command will make AUCT_EX store the parsed information in an ‘auto’ subdirectory in the directory each time the T_EX files are stored, see [Section 11.3 \[Automatic Local\]](#), page 58. If AUCT_EX finds the pre-parsed information when loading a file, it will not need to reparse the buffer. The information in the ‘auto’ directory is also useful for multifile documents, see [Chapter 8 \[Multifile\]](#), page 50, since it allows each file to access the parsed information from all the other files in the document. This is done by first reading the information from the master file, and then recursively the information from each file stored in the master file.

The variables can also be done on a per file basis, by changing the file local variables.

```
%%% Local Variables:
%%% TeX-parse-self: t
%%% TeX-auto-save: t
%%% End:
```

Even when you have disabled the automatic parsing, you can force the generation of style information by pressing *C-c C-n*. This is often the best choice, as you will be able to decide when it is necessary to reparse the file.

TeX-parse-self [User Option]

Parse file after loading it if no style hook is found for it.

TeX-auto-save [User Option]

Automatically save style information when saving the buffer.

TeX-normal-mode *arg* [Command]

(*C-c C-n*) Remove all information about this buffer, and apply the style hooks again. Save buffer first including style information. With optional argument, also reload the style hooks.

When AUCT_EX saves your buffer, it can optionally convert all tabs in your buffer into spaces. Tabs confuse AUCT_EX’s error message parsing and so should generally be avoided. However, tabs are significant in some environments, and so by default AUCT_EX does not remove them. To convert tabs to spaces when saving a buffer, insert the following in your ‘.emacs’ file:

```
(setq TeX-auto-untabify t)
```

TeX-auto-untabify [User Option]

Automatically remove all tabs from a file before saving it.

Instead of disabling the parsing entirely, you can also speed it significantly up by limiting the information it will search for (and store) when parsing the buffer. You can do this by setting the default values for the buffer local variables **TeX-auto-regexp-list** and **TeX-auto-parse-length** in your ‘.emacs’ file.

```
;; Only parse LaTeX class and package information.
(setq-default TeX-auto-regexp-list 'LaTeX-auto-minimal-regexp-list)
;; The class and package information is usually near the beginning.
(setq-default TeX-auto-parse-length 2000)
```

This example will speed the parsing up significantly, but AUCT_EX will no longer be able to provide completion for labels, macros, environments, or bibitems specified in the document, nor will it know what files belong to the document.

These variables can also be specified on a per file basis, by changing the file local variables.

```
%%% Local Variables:
%%% TeX-auto-regexp-list: TeX-auto-full-regexp-list
%%% TeX-auto-parse-length: 999999
%%% End:
```

TeX-auto-regexp-list [User Option]

List of regular expressions used for parsing the current file.

TeX-auto-parse-length [User Option]

Maximal length of T_EX file that will be parsed.

The pre-specified lists of regexps are defined below. You can use these before loading AUCT_EX by quoting them, as in the example above.

TeX-auto-empty-regexp-list [Constant]
Parse nothing

LaTeX-auto-minimal-regexp-list [Constant]
Only parse L^AT_EX class and packages.

LaTeX-auto-label-regexp-list [Constant]
Only parse L^AT_EX labels.

LaTeX-auto-regexp-list [Constant]
Parse common L^AT_EX commands.

plain-TeX-auto-regexp-list [Constant]
Parse common plain T_EX commands.

TeX-auto-full-regexp-list [Constant]
Parse all T_EX and L^AT_EX commands that AUCT_EX can use.

10 Language Support

\TeX and Emacs are usable for European (Latin, Cyrillic, Greek) based languages. Some \LaTeX and EmacsLisp packages are available for easy typesetting and editing documents in European languages.

For CJK (Chinese, Japanese, and Korean) languages, Emacs or XEmacs with MULE (MULTilingual Enhancement to GNU Emacs) support is required. MULE is part of Emacs by default since Emacs 20. XEmacs has to be configured with the ‘`--with-mule`’ option. Special versions of \TeX are needed for CJK languages: \CTeX and \ChinaTeX for Chinese, ASCII \pTeX and \NTTjTeX for Japanese, \HLaTeX and \kTeX for Korean. The CJK- \LaTeX package is required for supporting multiple CJK scripts within a single document.

Note that Unicode is not fully supported in Emacs 21 and XEmacs 21. CJK characters are not usable. Please use the MULE-UCS EmacsLisp package or Emacs 22 (not released yet) if you need CJK.

10.1 Using \AUCTeX with European Languages

10.1.1 Typing and Displaying Non-ASCII Characters

First you will need a way to write non-ASCII characters. You can either use macros, or teach \TeX about the ISO character sets. I prefer the latter, it has the advantage that the usual standard emacs word movement and case change commands will work.

With \LaTeX2e , just add ‘`\usepackage[latin1]{inputenc}`’. Other languages than Western European ones will probably have other encoding needs.

To be able to display non-ASCII characters you will need an appropriate font and a version of GNU Emacs capable of displaying 8-bit characters (e.g. Emacs 21). The manner in which this is supported differs between Emacsen, so you need to take a look at your respective documentation.

A compromise is to use an European character set when editing the file, and convert to \TeX macros when reading and writing the files.

‘`iso-cvt.el`’

Much like ‘`iso-tex.el`’ but is bundled with Emacs 19.23 and later.

‘`x-compose.el`’

Similar package bundled with new versions of XEmacs.

‘`X-Symbol`’

a much more complete package for both Emacs and XEmacs that can also handle a lot of mathematical characters and input methods.

10.1.2 Style Files for Different Languages

\AUCTeX supports style files for several languages. Each style file may modify \AUCTeX to better support the language, and will run a language specific hook that will allow you to for example change ispell dictionary, or run code to change the keyboard remapping. The following will for example choose a Danish dictionary for documents including ‘`\usepackage[danish]{babel}`’. This requires parsing to be enabled, see [Chapter 9 \[Parsing Files\]](#), page 52.

```
(add-hook 'TeX-language-dk-hook
  (lambda () (ispell-change-dictionary "danish")))
```

The following style files are recognized:

- 'czech' Runs style hook `TeX-language-cz-hook`. Pressing `[~]` will insert `\uv{}` and `}` depending on context.
- 'danish' Runs style hook `TeX-language-dk-hook`. Pressing `[~]` will insert `"'` and `'"` depending on context. Typing `[_]` twice will insert `"=`, i.e. a hyphen string allowing hyphenation in the composing words.
- 'dutch' Runs style hook `TeX-language-nl-hook`.
- 'german'
- 'ngerman' Runs style hook `TeX-language-de-hook`. Gives `"'` word syntax, makes the `[~]` key insert a literal `"'`, and pressing it twice will give you opening or closing German quotes (`"'` or `'"`). Typing `[_]` twice will insert `"=`.
- 'italian' Runs style hook `TeX-language-it-hook`. Pressing `[~]` will insert `"<` and `">` depending on context.
- 'plfonts'
- 'plhb' Runs style hook `TeX-language-pl-hook`. Gives `"'` word syntax and makes the `[~]` key insert a literal `"'`. Pressing `[~]` twice will insert `"<` or `">` depending on context.
- 'slovak' Runs style hook `TeX-language-sk-hook`. Pressing `[~]` will insert `\uv{}` and `}` depending on context.
- 'swedish' Runs style hook `TeX-language-sv-hook`. Pressing `[~]` will insert `''`. Typing `[_]` twice will insert `"=`.

In documents where typing `[_]` may insert language-specific hyphens you can insert multiple consecutive `'-` characters simply by typing the respective key again after a language-specific string was inserted. For example if you type `[_]` with point after a `"=` string in a Swedish document it will be replaced by `--`.

In case you are not satisfied with the suggested behavior of quote and hyphen insertion you can change it by customizing the variables `TeX-quote-language-alist` and `LaTeX-babel-hyphen-language-alist` respectively.

TeX-quote-language-alist [User Option]

Used for overriding the default language-specific quote insertion. This is an alist where each element is a list consisting of four items. The first item is the name of the language in concern as a string. The second item is the opening quotation mark as string. The third item is the closing quotation mark. The third item is a boolean controlling quote insertion. It should be non-nil if the special quotes should only be used after inserting a literal `"'` character first, i.e. on second key press.

LaTeX-babel-hyphen-language-alist [User Option]

Used for overriding the behavior of hyphen insertion for specific languages. Every element in this alist is a list of three items. The first item should specify the affected language as a string. The second item denotes the hyphen string to be used as a

string. The third item, a boolean, controls the behavior of hyphen insertion and should be non-nil if the special hyphen should be inserted after inserting a literal ‘-’ character, i.e. on second key press.

The defaults of hyphen insertion are defined by the variables `LaTeX-babel-hyphen` and `LaTeX-babel-hyphen-after-hyphen` respectively.

`LaTeX-babel-hyphen` [User Option]

String to be used when typing \ominus . This usually is a hyphen alternative or hyphenation aid provided by ‘babel’ and the related language style files, like ‘=’, ‘~’ or ‘-’.

Set it to an empty string or nil in order to disable language-specific hyphen insertion.

`LaTeX-babel-hyphen-after-hyphen` [User Option]

Control insertion of hyphen strings. If non-nil insert normal hyphen on first key press and swap it with the language-specific hyphen string specified in the variable `LaTeX-babel-hyphen` on second key press. If nil do it the other way round.

10.2 Using AUCT_EX with Japanese T_EX

To write Japanese text with AUCT_EX, you need to have versions of T_EX and Emacs that support Japanese. There exist at least two variants of T_EX for Japanese text (NTT jT_EX and ASCII pT_EX). AUCT_EX can be used with MULE (MULtilingual Enhancement to GNU Emacs) supported Emacsen.

To use the Japanese T_EX variants, simply activate `japanese-plain-tex-mode` or `japanese-latex-mode` and everything should work. If not, send mail to Masayuki Ataka ‘<ataka@milk.freemail.ne.jp>’, who kindly donated the code for supporting Japanese in AUCT_EX. None of the primary AUCT_EX maintainers understand Japanese, so they cannot help you.

If you usually use AUCT_EX in Japanese, setting the following variables is useful.

`TeX-default-mode` [User Option]

Mode to enter for a new file when it cannot be determined whether the file is plain T_EX or L^AT_EX or what.

If you want to enter Japanese L^AT_EX mode whenever this may happen, set the variable like this:

```
(setq TeX-default-mode 'japanese-latex-mode)
```

`japanese-TeX-command-default` [User Option]

The default command for `TeX-command` in Japanese T_EX mode.

The default value is “pTeX”.

`japanese-LaTeX-command-default` [User Option]

The default command for `TeX-command` in Japanese L^AT_EX mode.

The default value is “LaTeX”.

`japanese-LaTeX-default-style` [User Option]

The default style/class when creating a new Japanese L^AT_EX document.

The default value is “jarticle”.

See ‘`tex-jp.el`’ for more information.

11 Automatic Customization

Since `AUCTeX` is so highly customizable, it makes sense that it is able to customize itself. The automatic customization consists of scanning `TeX` files and extracting symbols, environments, and things like that.

The automatic customization is done on three different levels. The global level is the level shared by all users at your site, and consists of scanning the standard `TeX` style files, and any extra styles added locally for all users on the site. The private level deals with those style files you have written for your own use, and use in different documents. You may have a `~/lib/TeX/` directory where you store useful style files for your own use. The local level is for a specific directory, and deals with writing customization for the files for your normal `TeX` documents.

If compared with the environment variable `TEXINPUTS`, the global level corresponds to the directories built into `TeX`. The private level corresponds to the directories you add yourself, except for `.`, which is the local level.

By default `AUCTeX` will search for customization files in all the global, private, and local style directories, but you can also set the path directly. This is useful if you for example want to add another person's style hooks to your path. Please note that all matching files found in `TeX-style-path` are loaded, and all hooks defined in the files will be executed.

TeX-style-path [User Option]

List of directories to search for `AUCTeX` style files. Each must end with a slash.

By default, when `AUCTeX` searches a directory for files, it will recursively search through subdirectories.

TeX-file-recurse [User Option]

Whether to search `TeX` directories recursively: `nil` means do not recurse, a positive integer means go that far deep in the directory hierarchy, `t` means recurse indefinitely.

By default, `AUCTeX` will ignore files name `.`, `..`, `'SCCS'`, `'RCS'`, and `'CVS'`.

TeX-ignore-file [User Option]

Regular expression matching file names to ignore.

These files or directories will not be considered when searching for `TeX` files in a directory.

11.1 Automatic Customization for the Site

Assuming that the automatic customization at the global level was done when `AUCTeX` was installed, your choice is now: will you use it? If you use it, you will benefit by having access to all the symbols and environments available for completion purposes. The drawback is slower load time when you edit a new file and perhaps too many confusing symbols when you try to do a completion.

You can disable the automatic generated global style hooks by setting the variable `TeX-auto-global` to `nil`.

TeX-macro-global [User Option]

Directories containing the site's `TeX` style files.

TeX-style-global [User Option]
 Directory containing hand generated T_EX information. Must end with a slash.
 These correspond to T_EX macros shared by all users of a site.

TeX-auto-global [User Option]
 Directory containing automatically generated information.
 For storing automatic extracted information about the T_EX macros shared by all users of a site.

11.2 Automatic Customization for a User

You should specify where you store your private T_EX macros, so AUCT_EX can extract their information. The extracted information will go to the directories listed in **TeX-auto-private**

Use *M-x TeX-auto-generate* to extract the information.

TeX-macro-private [User Option]
 Directories where you store your personal T_EX macros. Each must end with a slash.
 This defaults to the directories listed in the ‘TEXINPUTS’ and ‘BIBINPUTS’ environment variables.

TeX-auto-private [User Option]
 List of directories containing automatically generated information. Must end with a slash.
 These correspond to the personal T_EX macros.

TeX-auto-generate *TEX AUTO* [Command]
 (*M-x TeX-auto-generate*) Generate style hook for *TEX* and store it in *AUTO*. If *TEX* is a directory, generate style hooks for all files in the directory.

TeX-style-private [User Option]
 List of directories containing hand generated information. Must end with a slash.
 These correspond to the personal T_EX macros.

11.3 Automatic Customization for a Directory

AUCT_EX can update the style information about a file each time you save it, and it will do this if the directory **TeX-auto-local** exist. **TeX-auto-local** is by default set to “**auto/**”, so simply creating an ‘**auto**’ directory will enable automatic saving of style information.

The advantage of doing this is that macros, labels, etc. defined in any file in a multifile document will be known in all the files in the document. The disadvantage is that saving will be slower. To disable, set **TeX-auto-local** to nil.

TeX-style-local [User Option]
 Directory containing hand generated T_EX information. Must end with a slash.
 These correspond to T_EX macros found in the current directory.

TeX-auto-local

[User Option]

Directory containing automatically generated \TeX information. Must end with a slash.

These correspond to \TeX macros found in the current directory.

12 Writing Your own Style Support

See [Chapter 11 \[Automatic\]](#), page 57, for a discussion about automatically generated global, private, and local style files. The hand generated style files are equivalent, except that they by default are found in ‘`style`’ directories instead of ‘`auto`’ directories.

If you write some useful support for a public T_EX style file, please send it to us.

12.1 A Simple Style File

Here is a simple example of a style file.

```
;;; book.el - Special code for book style.

(TeX-add-style-hook
 "book"
 (lambda () (setq LaTeX-largest-level
 (LaTeX-section-level ("chapter")))))
```

This file specifies that the largest kind of section in a L^AT_EX document using the book document style is chapter. The interesting thing to notice is that the style file defines an (anonymous) function, and adds it to the list of loaded style hooks by calling `TeX-add-style-hook`.

The first time the user indirectly tries to access some style specific information, such as the largest sectioning command available, the style hooks for all files directly or indirectly read by the current document is executed. The actual files will only be evaluated once, but the hooks will be called for each buffer using the style file.

`TeX-add-style-hook` *style hook* [Function]
Add *hook* to the list of functions to run when we use the T_EX file *style*.

12.2 Adding Support for Macros

The most common thing to define in a style hook is new symbols (T_EX macros). Most likely along with a description of the arguments to the function, since the symbol itself can be defined automatically.

Here are a few examples from ‘`latex.el`’.

```
(TeX-add-style-hook
 "latex"
 (lambda ()
 (TeX-add-symbols
  '("arabic" TeX-arg-counter)
  '("label" TeX-arg-define-label)
  '("ref" TeX-arg-label)
  '("newcommand" TeX-arg-define-macro [ "Number of arguments" ] t)
  '("newtheorem" TeX-arg-define-environment
    [ TeX-arg-environment "Numbered like" ]
    t [ TeX-arg-counter "Within counter" ]))))
```

`TeX-add-symbols` *symbol* ... [Function]
Add each *symbol* to the list of known symbols.

Each argument to `TeX-add-symbols` is a list describing one symbol. The head of the list is the name of the symbol, the remaining elements describe each argument.

If there are no additional elements, the symbol will be inserted with point inside braces. Otherwise, each argument of this function should match an argument of the `TeX` macro. What is done depends on the argument type.

If a macro is defined multiple times, `AUCTEX` will chose the one with the longest definition (i.e. the one with the most arguments).

Thus, to overwrite

```
'("tref" 1) ; one argument
```

you can specify

```
'("tref" TeX-arg-label ignore) ; two arguments
```

`ignore` is a function that does not do anything, so when you insert a `'tref'` you will be prompted for a label and no more.

string Use the string as a prompt to prompt for the argument.

number Insert that many braces, leave point inside the first.

nil Insert empty braces.

t Insert empty braces, leave point between the braces.

other symbols

Call the symbol as a function. You can define your own hook, or use one of the predefined argument hooks.

list If the car is a string, insert it as a prompt and the next element as initial input. Otherwise, call the car of the list with the remaining elements as arguments.

vector Optional argument. If it has more than one element, parse it as a list, otherwise parse the only element as above. Use square brackets instead of curly braces, and is not inserted on empty user input.

A lot of argument hooks have already been defined. The first argument to all hooks is a flag indicating if it is an optional argument. It is up to the hook to determine what to do with the remaining arguments, if any. Typically the next argument is used to overwrite the default prompt.

TeX-arg-conditional

Implements `if EXPR THEN ELSE`. If `EXPR` evaluates to true, parse `THEN` as an argument list, else parse `ELSE` as an argument list.

TeX-arg-literal

Insert its arguments into the buffer. Used for specifying extra syntax for a macro.

TeX-arg-free

Parse its arguments but use no braces when they are inserted.

TeX-arg-eval

Evaluate arguments and insert the result in the buffer.

- `TeX-arg-label`
Prompt for a label completing with known labels.
- `TeX-arg-macro`
Prompt for a \TeX macro with completion.
- `TeX-arg-environment`
Prompt for a \LaTeX environment with completion.
- `TeX-arg-cite`
Prompt for a \BibTeX citation.
- `TeX-arg-counter`
Prompt for a \LaTeX counter.
- `TeX-arg-savebox`
Prompt for a \LaTeX savebox.
- `TeX-arg-file`
Prompt for a filename in the current directory, and use it without the extension.
- `TeX-arg-input-file`
Prompt for the name of an input file in \TeX 's search path, and use it without the extension. Run the style hooks for the file.
- `TeX-arg-define-label`
Prompt for a label completing with known labels. Add label to list of defined labels.
- `TeX-arg-define-macro`
Prompt for a \TeX macro with completion. Add macro to list of defined macros.
- `TeX-arg-define-environment`
Prompt for a \LaTeX environment with completion. Add environment to list of defined environments.
- `TeX-arg-define-cite`
Prompt for a \BibTeX citation.
- `TeX-arg-define-counter`
Prompt for a \LaTeX counter.
- `TeX-arg-define-savebox`
Prompt for a \LaTeX savebox.
- `TeX-arg-corner`
Prompt for a \LaTeX side or corner position with completion.
- `TeX-arg-lr`
Prompt for a \LaTeX side with completion.
- `TeX-arg-tb`
Prompt for a \LaTeX side with completion.
- `TeX-arg-pagestyle`
Prompt for a \LaTeX pagestyle with completion.

`TeX-arg-verb`

Prompt for delimiter and text.

`TeX-arg-pair`

Insert a pair of numbers, use arguments for prompt. The numbers are surrounded by parentheses and separated with a comma.

`TeX-arg-size`

Insert width and height as a pair. No arguments.

`TeX-arg-coordinate`

Insert x and y coordinates as a pair. No arguments.

If you add new hooks, you can assume that point is placed directly after the previous argument, or after the macro name if this is the first argument. Please leave point located after the argument you are inserting. If you want point to be located somewhere else after all hooks have been processed, set the value of `exit-mark`. It will point nowhere, until the argument hook sets it.

12.3 Adding Support for Environments

Adding support for environments is very much like adding support for \TeX macros, except that each environment normally only takes one argument, an environment hook. The example is again a short version of ‘`latex.el`’.

```
(TeX-add-style-hook
 "latex"
 (lambda ()
  (LaTeX-add-environments
   '("document" LaTeX-env-document)
   '("enumerate" LaTeX-env-item)
   '("itemize" LaTeX-env-item)
   '("list" LaTeX-env-list))))
```

The only hook that is generally useful is `LaTeX-env-item`, which is used for environments that contain items. It is completely up to the environment hook to insert the environment, but the function `LaTeX-insert-environment` may be of some help. The hook will be called with the name of the environment as its first argument, and extra arguments can be provided by adding them to a list after the hook.

For simple environments with arguments, for example defined with ‘`\newenvironment`’, you can make AUCT \TeX prompt for the arguments by giving the prompt strings in the call to `LaTeX-add-environments`. For example, if you have defined a `loop` environment with the three arguments *from*, *to*, and *step*, you can add support for them in a style file.

```
%% loop.sty

\newenvironment{loop}[3]{...}{...}
;; loop.el

(TeX-add-style-hook
 "loop"
```

```
(lambda ()
  (LaTeX-add-environments
    '("loop" "From" "To" "Step"))))
```

If an environment is defined multiple times, AUCT_EX will choose the one with the longest definition. Thus, if you have an enumerate style file, and want it to replace the standard L^AT_EX enumerate hook above, you could define an ‘`enumerate.el`’ file as follows, and place it in the appropriate style directory.

```
(TeX-add-style-hook
 "latex"
 (lambda ()
  (LaTeX-add-environments
    '("enumerate" LaTeX-env-enumerate foo))))
```

```
(defun LaTeX-env-enumerate (environment &optional ignore) ...)
```

The symbol `foo` will be passed to `LaTeX-env-enumerate` as the second argument, but since we only added it to overwrite the definition in ‘`latex.el`’ it is just ignored.

`LaTeX-add-environments` *env* ... [Function]
Add each *env* to list of loaded environments.

`LaTeX-insert-environment` *env* [*extra*] [Function]
Insert environment of type *env*, with optional argument *extra*.

12.4 Adding Other Information

You can also specify bibliographical databases and labels in the style file. This is probably of little use, since this information will usually be automatically generated from the T_EX file anyway.

`LaTeX-add-bibliographies` *bibliography* ... [Function]
Add each *bibliography* to list of loaded bibliographies.

`LaTeX-add-labels` *label* ... [Function]
Add each *label* to the list of known labels.

12.5 Automatic Extraction of New Things

The automatic T_EX information extractor works by searching for regular expressions in the T_EX files, and storing the matched information. You can add support for new constructs to the parser, something that is needed when you add new commands to define symbols.

For example, in the file ‘`macro.tex`’ I define the following macro.

```
\newcommand{\newmacro}[5]{%
  \def#1{#3\index{#4@#5~cite{#4}}\nocite{#4}}%
  \def#2{#5\index{#4@#5~cite{#4}}\nocite{#4}}%
}
```

AUCT_EX will automatically figure out that ‘`newmacro`’ is a macro that takes five arguments. However, it is not smart enough to automatically see that each time we use the macro, two new macros are defined. We can specify this information in a style hook file.

```

;;; macro.el --- Special code for my own macro file.

;;; Code:

(defvar TeX-newmacro-regexp
  '("\\\\newmacro{\\\\\\\\([a-zA-Z]+\\\\)}{\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\([a-zA-Z]+\\\\)}"
    (1 2) TeX-auto-multi)
  "Matches \\newmacro definitions.")

(defvar TeX-auto-multi nil
  "Temporary for parsing \\newmacro definitions.")

(defun TeX-macro-cleanup ()
  "Move symbols from 'TeX-auto-multi' to 'TeX-auto-symbol'."
  (mapcar (lambda (list)
    (mapcar (lambda (symbol)
      (setq TeX-auto-symbol
        (cons symbol TeX-auto-symbol)))
      list))
    TeX-auto-multi))

(defun TeX-macro-prepare ()
  "Clear 'TeX-auto-multi' before use."
  (setq TeX-auto-multi nil))

(add-hook 'TeX-auto-prepare-hook 'TeX-macro-prepare)
(add-hook 'TeX-auto-cleanup-hook 'TeX-macro-cleanup)

(TeX-add-style-hook
 "macro"
 (lambda ()
  (TeX-auto-add-regexp TeX-newmacro-regexp)
  (TeX-add-symbols '("newmacro"
    TeX-arg-macro
    (TeX-arg-macro "Capitalized macro: \\\\")
    t
    "BibTeX entry: "
    nil))))

;;; macro.el ends here

```

When this file is first loaded, it adds a new entry to `TeX-newmacro-regexp`, and defines a function to be called before the parsing starts, and one to be called after the parsing is done. It also declares a variable to contain the data collected during parsing. Finally, it adds a style hook which describes the `'newmacro'` macro, as we have seen it before.

So the general strategy is: Add a new entry to `TeX-newmacro-regexp`. Declare a variable to contain intermediate data during parsing. Add hook to be called before and after parsing.

In this case, the hook before parsing just initializes the variable, and the hook after parsing collects the data from the variable, and adds them to the list of symbols found.

TeX-auto-regexp-list [Variable]

List of regular expressions matching \TeX macro definitions.

The list has the following format ((REGEXP MATCH TABLE) . . .), that is, each entry is a list with three elements.

REGEXP. Regular expression matching the macro we want to parse.

MATCH. A number or list of numbers, each representing one parenthesized sub-expression matched by REGEXP.

TABLE. The symbol table to store the data. This can be a function, in which case the function is called with the argument MATCH. Use `TeX-match-buffer` to get match data. If it is not a function, it is presumed to be the name of a variable containing a list of match data. The matched data (a string if MATCH is a number, a list of strings if MATCH is a list of numbers) is put in front of the table.

TeX-auto-prepare-hook *nil* [Variable]

List of functions to be called before parsing a \TeX file.

TeX-auto-cleanup-hook *nil* [Variable]

List of functions to be called after parsing a \TeX file.

Appendix A Changes and New Features

News in 11.81

- `LaTeX-mark-section` now marks subsections of a given section as well. The former behavior is available via the prefix argument.
- `preview-latex` which was previously available separately became a subsystem of `AUCTEX`. There is no documented provision for building or installing `preview-latex` separately. It is still possible to use and install `AUCTEX` without `preview-latex`, however.
- The installation procedures have been overhauled and now also install startup files as part of the process (those had to be copied manually previously). You are advised to remove previous installations of `AUCTEX` and `preview-latex` before starting the installation procedure. A standard installation from an unmodified tarball no longer requires `Makeinfo` or `Perl`.

Also note that the way `AUCTEX` is supposed to be activated changed. Instead of `(require 'tex-site)` you should now use `(load "auctex.el" nil t t)`. While the former method may still work, the new method has the advantage that you can deactivate a preactivated `AUCTEX` with the statement `(unload-feature 'tex-site)` before any of its modes have been used. This may be important especially for site-wide installations.

- Support for the `babel` `LATEX` package was added.
- Folding a buffer now ensures that the whole buffer is fontified before the actual folding is carried out. If this results in unbearably long execution times, you can fall back to the old behavior of relying on stealth font locking to do this job in the background by customizing the variable `TeX-fold-force-fontify`.
- Folded content now reveals part of its original text in a tooltip or the echo area when hovering with the mouse pointer over it.
- The language-specific insertion of quotation marks was generalized. The variables `LaTeX-german-open-quote`, `LaTeX-german-close-quote`, `LaTeX-german-quote-after-quote`, `LaTeX-italian-open-quote`, `LaTeX-italian-close-quote`, and `LaTeX-italian-quote-after-quote` are now obsolete. If you are not satisfied with the default settings, you should customize `TeX-quote-language-alist` instead.
- Similar to language-specific quote insertion, `AUCTEX` now helps you with hyphens in different languages as well. See [Section 10.1 \[European\]](#), page 54, for details.
- Fill problems in Japanese text introduced in `AUCTEX` 11.55 were fixed. `AUCTEX` tries not to break lines between 1-byte and 2-byte chars. These features will work in Chinese text, too.
- The scaling factor of the fontification of sectioning commands can now be customized using the variable `font-latex-fontify-sectioning`. This variable was previously called `font-latex-title-fontify`; In this release we provide an alias but this will disappear in one of the the next releases. The faces for the sectioning commands are now called `font-latex-sectioning-N-face` ($N=0\dots5$) instead of `font-latex-title-N-face` ($N=1\dots4$). Analogously the names of the variables holding the related keyword

lists were changed from `font-latex-title-N-keywords` to `font-latex-sectioning-N-keywords`. [Section 6.1 \[Font Locking\]](#), page 35 for details. Make sure to adjust your customizations.

- Titles in beamer slides marked by the “`\frametitle`” command are now displayed with the new face `font-latex-slide-title-face`. You can add macros to be highlighted with this face to `font-latex-match-slide-title-keywords`.
- Of course a lot of bugs have been fixed.

News in 11.55

- A bug was fixed which led to the insertion of trailing whitespace during filling. In particular extra spaces were added to sentence endings at the end of lines. You can make this whitespace visible by setting the variable `show-trailing-whitespace` to `t`. If you want to delete all trailing whitespace in a buffer, type `M-x delete-trailing-whitespace RET`.
- A bug was fixed which led to a ‘*Compile-Log*’ buffer popping up when the first \LaTeX file was loaded in an Emacs session.
- On some systems the presence of an outdated Emacspeak package led to the error message ‘File mode specification error: (error "Variable binding depth exceeds max-specpdl-size")’. Precautions were added which prevent this error from happening. But nevertheless, it is advised to upgrade or uninstall the outdated Emacspeak package.
- The value of `TeX-macro-global` is not determined during configuration anymore but at load time of AUCTeX . Consequently the associated configuration option ‘`--with-tex-input-dirs`’ was removed.
- Support for the \LaTeX Japanese classes ‘`jsarticle`’ and ‘`jsbook`’ was added.

News in 11.54

- The parser (used e.g. for `TeX-auto-generate-global`) was extended to recognize keywords common in \LaTeX packages and classes, like “`\DeclareRobustCommand`” or “`\RequirePackage`”. Additionally a bug was fixed which led to duplicate entries in AUCTeX style files.
- Folding can now be done for paragraphs and regions besides single constructs and the whole buffer. With the new `TeX-fold-dwim` command content can both be hidden and shown with a single key binding. In course of these changes new key bindings for unfolding commands were introduced. The old bindings are still present but will be phased out in future releases.
- Info files of the manual now have a `.info` extension.
- There is an experimental toolbar support now. It is not activated by default. If you want to use it, add


```
(add-hook 'LaTeX-mode-hook 'LaTeX-install-toolbar)
```

 to your init file.
- The manual now contains a new chapter “Quick Start”. It explains the main features and how to use them, and should be enough for a new user to start using AUCTeX .

- A new section “Font Locking” was added to the manual which explains syntax highlighting in AUCTeX and its customization. Together with the sections related to folding and outlining, the section is part of the new chapter “Display”.
- Keywords for syntax highlighting of L^AT_EX constructs to be typeset in bold, italic or typewriter fonts may now be customized. Besides the built-in classes, new keyword classes may be added by customizing the variable ‘font-latex-user-keyword-classes’. The customization options can be found in the customization group ‘font-latex-keywords’.
- Verbatim content is now displayed with the ‘fixed-pitch’ face. (GNU Emacs only)
- Syntax highlighting should not spill out of verbatim content anymore. (GNU Emacs only)
- Verbatim commands like ‘\verb|...|’ will not be broken anymore during filling.
- You can customize the completion for graphic files with `LaTeX-includegraphics-read-file`.
- Support for the L^AT_EX packages ‘url’, ‘listings’, ‘jurabib’ and ‘csquotes’ was added with regard to command completion and syntax highlighting.
- Performance of fontification and filling was improved.
- Insertion of nodes in Texinfo mode now supports completion of existing node names.
- Setting the variable `LaTeX-float` to `nil` now means that you will not be prompted for the float position of figures and tables. You can get the old behaviour of `nil` by setting the variable to `""`, i.e. an empty string. See also [Section 4.4.2 \[Floats\]](#), page 26.
- The XEmacs-specific bug concerning `overlays-at` was fixed.
- Lots of bug fixes.

News in 11.53

- The L^AT_EX math menu can include Unicode characters if your Emacs built supports it. See the variable `LaTeX-math-menu-unicode`, [Section 5.1 \[Mathematics\]](#), page 28.
- Bug fixes for XEmacs.
- Completion for graphic files in the TeX search path has been added.
- `start` is used for the viewer for MikTeX and fpTeX.
- The variable `TeX-fold-preserve-comments` can now be customized to deactivate folding in comments.

News in 11.52

- Installation and menus under XEmacs work again (maybe for the first time).
- Fontification of subscripts and superscripts is now disabled when the fontification engine is not able to support it properly.
- Bug fixes in the build process.

News in 11.51

- PDFTeX and Source Special support did not work with ConTeXt, this has been fixed. Similar for Source Special support under Windows.

- Omega support has been added.
- Bug fixes in the build process.
- TeX-fold now supports folding of environments in Texinfo mode.

News in 11.50

- The use of source specials when processing or viewing the document can now be controlled with the new TeX-source-specials minor mode which can be toggled via an entry in the Command menu or the key binding `C-c C-t C-s`. If you have customized the variable `TeX-command-list`, you have to re-initialize it for this to work. This means to open a customization buffer for the variable by typing `M-x customize-variable RET TeX-command-list RET`, selecting “Erase Customization” and do your customization again with the new default.
- The content of the command menu now depends on the mode (plain TeX, L^AT_EX, ConT_EXt etc.). Any former customization of the variable `TeX-command-list` has to be erased. Otherwise the command menu and the customization will not work correctly.
- Support for hiding and auto-revealing macros, e.g. footnotes or citations, and environments in a buffer was added, [Section 6.2 \[Folding\]](#), page 40.
- You can now control if indentation is done upon typing `(RET)` by customizing the variable `TeX-newline-function`, [Section 5.4 \[Indenting\]](#), page 30.
- Limited support for `doc.sty` and `ltxdoc.cls` (‘dtx’ files) was added. The new docT_EX mode provides functionality for editing documentation parts. This includes formatting (indenting and filling), adding and completion of macros and environments while staying in comments as well as syntax highlighting. (Please note that the mode is not finished yet. For example syntax highlighting does not work yet in XEmacs.)
- For macro completion in docT_EX mode the AUCT_EX style files ‘`doc.el`’, ‘`ltxdoc.el`’ and ‘`ltx-base.el`’ were included. The latter provides general support for low-level L^AT_EX macros and may be used with L^AT_EX class and style files as well. It is currently not loaded automatically for those files.
- Support for ConT_EXt with a separate ConT_EXt mode is now included. Macro definitions for completion are available in Dutch and English.
- The filling and indentation code was overhauled and is now able to format commented parts of the source syntactically correct. Newly available functionality and customization options are explained in the manual.
- Filling and indentation in XEmacs with `preview-latex` and activated previews lead to the insertion of whitespace before multi-line previews. AUCT_EX now contains facilities to prevent this problem.
- If `TeX-master` is set to `t`, AUCT_EX will now query for a master file only when a new file is opened. Existing files will be left alone. The new function `TeX-master-file-ask` (bound to `C-c _` is provided for adding the variable manually.
- Sectioning commands are now shown in a larger font on display devices which support such fontification. The variable `font-latex-title-fontify` can be customized to restore the old appearance, i.e. the usage of a different color instead of a change in size.

- Support for `alphanum.sty`, `beamer.cls`, `booktabs.sty`, `captcont.sty`, `emp.sty`, `paralist.sty`, `subfigure.sty` and `units.sty/nicefrac.sty` was added. Credits go to the authors mentioned in the respective AUCTeX style files.
- Inserting graphics with `C-c RET \includegraphics RET` was improved. See the variable `LaTeX-includegraphics-options-alist`.
- If `LaTeX-default-position` is `nil`, don't prompt for position arguments in Tabular-like environments, see [Section 4.4.4 \[Tabular-like\]](#), page 26.
- Completion for available packages when using `C-c RET \usepackage RET` was improved on systems using the `kpathsea` library.
- The commenting functionality was fixed. The separate functions for commenting and uncommenting were unified in one function for paragraphs and regions respectively which do both.
- Syntax highlighting can be customized to fontify quotes delimited by either `>>German<<` or `<<French>>` quotation marks by changing the variable `font-latex-quotes`.
- Certain TeX/LaTeX keywords for functions, references, variables and warnings will now be fontified specially. You may add your own keywords by customizing the variables `font-latex-match-function-keywords`, `font-latex-match-reference-keywords`, `font-latex-match-variable-keywords` and `font-latex-match-warning-keywords`.
- If you include the style files 'german' or 'ngerman' in a document (directly or via the 'babel' package), you should now customize `LaTeX-german-open-quote`, `LaTeX-german-close-quote` and `LaTeX-german-quote-after-quote` instead of `TeX-open-quote`, `TeX-close-quote` and `TeX-quote-after-quote` if you want to influence the type of quote insertion.
- Upon viewing an output file, the right viewer and command line options for it are now determined automatically by looking at the extension of the output file and certain options used in the source file. The behavior can be adapted or extended respectively by customizing the variable `TeX-output-view-style`.
- You can control whether `TeX-insert-macro` (`C-c RET`) ask for all optional arguments by customizing the variable `TeX-insert-macro-default-style`, [Section 5.2 \[Completion\]](#), page 28.
- `TeX-run-discard` is now able to completely detach a process that it started.
- The build process was enhanced and is now based on `autoconf` making installing AUCTeX a mostly automatic process. See [Chapter 2 \[Installation\]](#), page 5 and [Section 2.7 \[Installation under MS Windows\]](#), page 11 for details.

News in 11.14

- Many more LaTeX and LaTeX2e commands are supported. Done by Masayuki Ataka <ataka@milk.freemail.ne.jp>

News in 11.12

- Support for the KOMA-Script classes. Contributed by Mark Trettin <Mark.Trettin@gmx.de>.

News in 11.11

- Support for ‘`prosper.sty`’, see <http://prosper.sourceforge.net/>. Contributed by Phillip Lord <p.lord@russet.org.uk>.

News in 11.10

- `comment-region` now inserts `%%` by default. Suggested by "Davide G. M. Salvetti" <salve@debian.org>.

News in 11.06

- You can now switch between using the ‘`font-latex`’ (all emacsen), the ‘`tex-font`’ (Emacs 21 only) or no special package for font locking. Customize `TeX-install-font-lock` for this.

News in 11.04

- Now use `-t landscape` by default when landscape option appears. Suggested by Erik Frisk <frisk@isy.liu.se>.

News in 11.03

- Use ‘`tex-fptex.el`’ for fpTeX support. Contributed by Fabrice Popineau <Fabrice.Popineau@supelec.fr>.

News in 11.02

- New user option `LaTeX-top-caption-list` specifies environments where the caption should go at top. Contributed by ataka@milk.freemail.ne.jp (Masayuki Ataka).
- Allow explicit dimensions in ‘`graphicx.sty`’. Contributed by ataka@milk.freemail.ne.jp (Masayuki Ataka).
- Limited support for ‘`verbatim.sty`’. Contributed by ataka@milk.freemail.ne.jp (Masayuki Ataka).
- Better support for `asmmath` items. Patch by ataka@milk.freemail.ne.jp (Masayuki Ataka).
- More accurate error parsing. Added by David Kastrup <David.Kastrup@t-online.de>.

News in 11.01

- Bug fixes.

Older versions

See the file ‘`history.texi`’ for older changes.

Appendix B Future Development

The following sections describe future development of AUCT_EX. Besides mid-term goals, bug reports and requests we cannot fix or honor right away are being gathered here. If you have some time for Emacs Lisp hacking, you are encouraged to try to provide a solution to one of the following problems. If you don't know Lisp, you may help us to improve the documentation. It might be a good idea to discuss proposed changes on the mailing list of AUCT_EX first.

B.1 Mid-term Goals

- Integration of `preview-latex` into AUCT_EX

As of AUCT_EX 11.81 `preview-latex` is a part of AUCT_EX in the sense that the installation routines were merged and `preview-latex` is being packaged with AUCT_EX.

Further integration will happen at the backend. This involves folding of error parsing and task management of both packages which will ease development efforts and avoid redundant work.

- More flexible option and command handling

The current state of command handling with `TeX-command-list` is not very flexible because there is no distinction between executables and command line options to be passed to them.

Customization of `TeX-command-list` by the user will interfere with updates of AUCT_EX.

- Error help catalogs

Currently, the help for errors is more or less hardwired into `'tex.el'`. For supporting error help in other languages, it would be sensible to instead arrange error messages in language-specific files, make a common info file from all such catalogs in a given language and look the error texts up in an appropriate index. The user would then specify a preference list of languages, and the errors would be looked up in the catalogs in sequence until they were identified.

- Combining `'docTeX'` with RefTeX

Macro cross references should also be usable for document navigation using RefTeX.

B.2 Wishlist

- Spell checking of macros

A special spell dictionary for macros could be nice to have.

- Quick error overviews

An error overview window (extract from the log file with just the error lines, clickable like a “grep” buffer) and/or fringe indicators for errors in the main text would be nice.

- A math entry grid

A separate frame with a table of math character graphics to click on in order to insert the respective sequence into the buffer (cf. the “grid” of `x-symbol`).

- Crossreferencing support

It would be nice if you could index process your favorite collection of ‘.dtx’ files (such as the LaTeX source), just call a command on arbitrary control sequence, and get either the DVI viewer opened right at the definition of that macro (using Source Specials), or the source code of the ‘.dtx’ file.
- Better plain TeX support For starters, `LaTeX-math-mode` is not very `LATEX`-specific in the first place, and similar holds for indentation and formatting.
- Poor man’s Source Specials In particular in PDF mode (and where Source Specials cause problems), alternatives would be desirable. One could implement inverse search by something like Heiko Oberdiek’s ‘`vpe.sty`’, and forward search by using the ‘.aux’ file info to correlate labels in the text (possibly in cooperation with `RefTEX`) with previewer pages.
- Page count when compiling should (optionally) go to modeline of the window where the compilation command was invoked, instead of the output window. Suggested by Karsten Tinnfeld <tinnfeld@irb.informatik.uni-dortmund.de>.
- Command to insert a macrodefinition in the preamble, without moving point from the current location. Suggested by "Jeffrey C. Ely" <ely@nwu.edu>.
- A database of all commands defined in all stylefiles. When a command or environment gets entered that is provided in one of the styles, insert the appropriate `\usepackage` in the preamble.
- A way to add and overwrite math mode entries in style files, and to decide where they should be. Suggested by Remo Badii <Remo.Badii@psi.ch>.
- Create template for (first) line of tabular environment.
- I think prompting for the master is the intended behaviour. It corresponds to a ‘shared’ value for `TeX-master`.

There should probably be a ‘none’ value which wouldn’t query for the master, but instead disable all features that relies on `TeX-master`.

This default value for `TeX-master` could then be controled with mapping based on the extension.
- Multiple argument completion for ‘`\bibliography`’. In general, I ought to make , special for these kind of completions.
- Suggest ‘`makindex`’ when appropriate.
- Use index files (when available) to speed up `C-c C-m include` `(RET)`.
- Option not to calculate very slow completions like for `C-c C-m include` `(RET)`.
- Font menu should be created from `TeX-font-list`.
- Installation procedure written purely in emacs lisp.
- Included PostScript files should also be counted as part of the document.
- The parser should catch warnings about undefined crossreferences. Suggested by Richard Hirsch ‘i3080501@ws.rz.tu-bs.de’.
- A nice hierarchical by-topic organization of all officially documented LaTeX macros, available from the menu bar.
- `TeX-command-default` should be set from the master file, if not set locally. Suggested by Peter Whaite ‘<peta@cim.mcgill.ca>’.

- Make AUCT_EX work with ‘crypt++’. Suggested by Chris Moore ‘<Chris.Moore@src.bae.co.uk>’.
- The ‘Spell’ command should apply to all files in a document. Maybe it could try to restrict to files that have been modified since last spell check? Suggested by Ravinder Bhumbra ‘<rbhumbra@ucsd.edu>’.
- Make \square check for abbreviations and sentences ending with capital letters.
- Use Emacs 19 minibuffer history to choose between previewers, and other stuff. Suggested by John Interrante ‘<interran@uluru.Stanford.EDU>’.
- Make features.

A new command `TeX-update` (*C-c C-u*) could be used to create an up-to-date dvi file by repeatedly running Bib_T_EX, MakeIndex and (La)_T_EX, until an error occurs or we are done.

An alternative is to have an ‘Update’ command that ensures the ‘dvi’ file is up to date. This could be called before printing and previewing.

- Documentation of variables that can be set in a style hook.

We need a list of what can safely be done in an ordinary style hook. You can not set a variable that AUCT_EX depends on, unless AUCT_EX knows that it has to run the style hooks first.

Here is the start of such a list.

```
LaTeX-add-environments
TeX-add-symbols
LaTeX-add-labels
LaTeX-add-bibliographies
LaTeX-largest-level
```

- Completion for counters and sboxes.
- Outline should be (better) supported in _T_EX mode.
At least, support headers, trailers, as well as `TeX-outline-extra`.
- `TeX-header-start` and `TeX-trailer-end`.

We might want these, just for fun (and outlines)

- Plain _T_EX and L^A_T_EX specific header and trailer expressions.

We should have a way to globally specify the default value of the header and trailer regexps.

- Get closer to original `TeX-mode` keybindings.

A third initialization file (`tex-mode.el`) containing an emulator of the standard `TeX-mode` would help convince some people to change to AUCT_EX.

- Make `TeX-next-error` parse ahead and store the results in a list, using markers to remember buffer positions in order to be more robust with regard to line numbers and changed files. This is what `next-error` does. (Or did, until Emacs 19).
- Finish the Texinfo mode. For one thing, many Texinfo mode commands do not accept braces around their arguments.
- Hook up the letter environment with `bbdb.el`.

B.3 Bugs

- The parsed files and style hooks for ‘example.dtx’, ‘example.sty’, ‘example.drv’ and ‘example.bib’ all clash. Bad.
- `C-c` ‘ should always stay in the current window, also when it finds a new file.
- Do not overwrite emacs warnings about existing auto-save files when loading a new file.
- Maybe the regexp for matching a TeX symbol during parsing should be “`\\\\\\\\\\\\([a-zA-Z]+\\\\|.\\\\)`” — ‘<thiemann@informatik.uni-tuebingen.de>’ Peter Thiemann.
- `AUCTEX` should not parse verbatim environments.
- Make ‘`’` check for math context in `LaTeX-math-mode`. and simply self insert if not in a math context.
- Make `TeX-insert-dollar` more robust. Currently it can be fooled by ‘`\mbox`’es and escaped double dollar for example.
- Correct indentation for `tabular`, `tabbing`, `table`, `math`, and `array` environments.
- Syntax highlighting of `LATEX` constructs spanning more than one line sometimes stops in the middle of the construct. Highlighting can get lost during typing. (XEmacs only)
- No syntactic font locking of verbatim macros and environments. (XEmacs only)
- Font locking inside of verbatim macros and environments is not inhibited. This may result in syntax highlighting of unbalanced dollar signs and the like spilling out of the verbatim content. (XEmacs only)
- Folding of `LATEX` constructs spanning more than one line may result in overfull lines. (XEmacs only)

Appendix C Frequently Asked Questions

1. Something is not working correctly. What should I do?

Well, you might have guessed it, the first place to look is in the available documentation packaged with AUCTEX. This could be the release notes (in the ‘RELEASE’ file) or the news section of the manual in case you are experiencing problems after an upgrade, the ‘INSTALL’ file in case you are having problems with the installation, the section about bugs in the manual in case you encountered a bug or the relevant sections in the manual for other related problems.

If this did not help, you can send a bug report to the AUCTEX bug reporting list by using the command *M-x TeX-submit-bug-report RET*. But before you do this, you can try to get more information about the problem at hand which might also help you locate the cause of the error yourself.

First, you can try to generate a so-called backtrace which shows functions involved in a program error. In order to do this, start Emacs with the command line ‘`emacs --debug-init`’ and/or put the line

```
(setq debug-on-error t)
```

as the first line into your init file. XEmacs users might want to add `(setq stack-trace-on-error t)` as well. After Emacs has started, you can load a file which triggers the error and a new window should pop up showing the backtrace. If you get such a backtrace, please include it in the bug report.

Second, you can try to figure out if something in your personal or site configuration triggers the error by starting Emacs without such customizations. You can do this by invoking Emacs with the command line ‘`emacs -q -no-site-file`’. Once Emacs is running, copy the line

```
(load "auctex.el" nil t t)
```

into the ‘`*scratch*`’ buffer and type *M-x eval-buffer RET*. This makes sure that AUCTEX will be used for the file types it supports. After you have done so, you can load the file triggering the error. If everything is working now, you know that you have to search either in the site configuration file or your personal init file for statements related to the problem.

2. What versions of Emacs and XEmacs are supported?

AUCTEX was tested with Emacs 21 and XEmacs 21.4.15. Older versions may work but are unsupported. Older versions of XEmacs might possibly made to work by updating the ‘`xemacs-base`’ package through the XEmacs package system. If you are looking for a recommendation, it would appear that the smoothest working platform on all operating systems at the current point of time would be Emacs 22.1. At the time of this writing, however, it has not been released and is still under development. The quality of the development version is quite solid, so we recommend giving it a try. With a developer version, of course, you have to be prepared to update in case you managed to get your snapshot at a bad time. The second best choice would be the latest released Emacs 21.4. However, Unicode support is less good, there is no version for the popular GTK toolkit, and the native versions for Windows and MacOS don’t offer toolbar and preview-latex support.

Our success with XEmacs has been less than convincing. Under the Windows operating system, nominally the only option for a released, stable Emacs variant supporting toolbars and `preview-latex` would be XEmacs 21.4. However, code for core functionality like formatting and syntax highlighting tends to be different and often older than even Emacs 21.4, and Unicode support as delivered is problematic at best, missing on Windows. Both AUCT_EX and XEmacs developers don't hear much from active users of the combination. Partly for that reason, problems tend to go unnoticed for long amounts of time and are often found, if at all, after releases. No experiences or recommendations can be given for beta or developer versions of XEmacs.

3. Why doesn't the completion, style file, or multi-file stuff work?

It must be enabled first, insert this in your init file:

```
(setq-default TeX-master nil)
(setq TeX-parse-self t)
(setq TeX-auto-save t)
```

Read also the chapters about parsing and multifile documents in the manual.

4. Why doesn't `TeX-save-document` work?

`TeX-check-path` has to contain `"/"` somewhere.

5. Why is the information in `'foo.tex'` forgotten when I save `'foo.bib'`?

For various reasons, AUCT_EX ignores the extension when it stores information about a file, so you should use unique base names for your files. E.g. rename `'foo.bib'` to `'foob.bib'`.

6. Why doesn't AUCT_EX signal when processing a document is done?

If the message in the minibuffer stays "Type 'C-c C-l' to display results of compilation.", you probably have a misconfiguration in your init file (`'emacs'`, `'init.el'` or similar). To track this down either search in the `'*Messages*`' buffer for an error message or put `(setq debug-on-error t)` as the first line into your init file, restart Emacs and open a L^AT_EX file. Emacs will complain loudly by opening a debugging buffer as soon as an error occurs. The information in the debugging buffer can help you find the cause of the error in your init file.

Key Index

"			
"	.....	21	
\$			
\$	.....	22	
C			
C-c %	.....	30	
C-c ;	.....	30	
C-c ]	.....	25	
C-c ^	.....	49	
C-c _	.....	51	
C-c ' .	.....	48	
C-c {	.....	22	
C-c ~	.....	28	
C-c C-b	.....	44	
C-c C-c	.....	44	
C-c C-d	.....	51	
C-c C-e	.....	25	
C-c C-f	.....	22	
C-c C-f C-b	.....	18, 22	
C-c C-f C-c	.....	19, 22	
C-c C-f C-e	.....	18, 22	
C-c C-f C-f	.....	19, 22	
C-c C-f C-i	.....	18, 22	
C-c C-f C-r	.....	18, 22	
C-c C-f C-s	.....	18, 22	
C-c C-f C-t	.....	19, 22	
C-c C-k	.....	48	
C-c C-l	.....	49	
C-c C-m	.....	29	
C-c C-n	.....	52	
C-c C-o b	.....	41	
C-c C-o C-b	.....	41	
C-c C-o C-e	.....	41	
C-c C-o C-f	.....	40	
C-c C-o C-m	.....	41	
C-c C-o C-o	.....	42	
C-c C-o C-p	.....	41	
C-c C-o C-r	.....	41	
C-c C-o i	.....	41	
C-c C-o p	.....	41	
C-c C-o r	.....	41	
C-c C-q C-e	.....	33	
C-c C-q C-p	.....	33	
C-c C-q C-r	.....	33	
C-c C-q C-s	.....	33	
C-c C-r	.....	44	
C-c C-s	.....	23	
C-c C-t C-i	.....	46	
C-c C-t C-o	.....	46	
C-c C-t C-p	.....	45	
C-c C-t C-r	.....	44	
C-c C-t C-s	.....	46	
C-c C-v	.....	47	
C-c C-w	.....	48	
C-c \langle LFD\rangle	.....	26	
C-j	.....	31	
L			
\langle LFD\rangle	.....	31	
M			
M-g	.....	33	
M-q	.....	33	
M- \langle TAB\rangle	.....	29	
T			
\langle TAB\rangle	.....	31	

Function Index

L

LaTeX-add-bibliographies	64
LaTeX-add-environments	64
LaTeX-add-labels	64
LaTeX-close-environment	25
LaTeX-env-item	63
LaTeX-environment	25
LaTeX-fill-environment	33
LaTeX-fill-paragraph	33
LaTeX-fill-region	33
LaTeX-fill-section	33
LaTeX-indent-line	31
LaTeX-insert-environment	64
LaTeX-insert-item	26
LaTeX-math-mode	28
LaTeX-section	23
LaTeX-section-heading	24
LaTeX-section-label	24
LaTeX-section-section	24
LaTeX-section-title	24
LaTeX-section-toc	24

T

TeX-add-style-hook	60
TeX-add-symbols	60
TeX-arg-cite	62
TeX-arg-conditional	61
TeX-arg-coordinate	63
TeX-arg-corner	62
TeX-arg-counter	62
TeX-arg-define-cite	62
TeX-arg-define-counter	62
TeX-arg-define-environment	62
TeX-arg-define-label	62
TeX-arg-define-macro	62
TeX-arg-define-savebox	62
TeX-arg-environment	62
TeX-arg-eval	61
TeX-arg-file	62
TeX-arg-free	61
TeX-arg-input-file	62
TeX-arg-label	62
TeX-arg-literal	61
TeX-arg-lr	62

TeX-arg-macro	62
TeX-arg-pagestyle	62
TeX-arg-pair	63
TeX-arg-savebox	62
TeX-arg-size	63
TeX-arg-tb	62
TeX-arg-verb	63
TeX-auto-generate	58
TeX-command-buffer	44
TeX-command-master	44
TeX-command-region	44
TeX-comment-or-uncomment-paragraph	30
TeX-comment-or-uncomment-region	30
TeX-complete-symbol	29
TeX-electric-macro	29
TeX-fold-buffer	41
TeX-fold-clearout-buffer	41
TeX-fold-clearout-item	41
TeX-fold-clearout-paragraph	41
TeX-fold-clearout-region	41
TeX-fold-dwim	42
TeX-fold-env	41
TeX-fold-macro	41
TeX-fold-mode	40
TeX-fold-paragraph	41
TeX-fold-region	41
TeX-font	22
TeX-header-end	50
TeX-home-buffer	49
TeX-insert-braces	22
TeX-insert-dollar	22
TeX-insert-macro	29
TeX-insert-quote	21
TeX-interactive-mode	46
TeX-kill-job	48
TeX-master-file-ask	51
TeX-next-error	48
TeX-normal-mode	52
TeX-Omega-mode	46
TeX-PDF-mode	45
TeX-pin-region	44
TeX-recenter-output-buffer	49
TeX-save-document	51
TeX-source-specials-mode	46
TeX-toggle-debug-bad-boxes	48
TeX-view	47

Variable Index

F

font-latex-deactivated-keyword-classes ...	38
font-latex-do-multi-line	40
font-latex-fontify-script	39
font-latex-fontify-sectioning	37
font-latex-match-bold-command-keywords ...	37
font-latex-match-bold-declaration-keywords	37
font-latex-match-function-keywords	36
font-latex-match-italic-command-keywords	37
font-latex-match-italic-declaration- keywords	37
font-latex-match-math-command-keywords ...	37
font-latex-match-reference-keywords	36
font-latex-match-sectioning-0-keywords ...	37
font-latex-match-sectioning-1-keywords ...	37
font-latex-match-sectioning-2-keywords ...	37
font-latex-match-sectioning-3-keywords ...	37
font-latex-match-sectioning-4-keywords ...	37
font-latex-match-sectioning-5-keywords ...	37
font-latex-match-slide-title-keywords ...	37
font-latex-match-textual-keywords	36
font-latex-match-type-command-keywords ...	37
font-latex-match-type-declaration-keywords	37
font-latex-match-variable-keywords	36
font-latex-match-warning-keywords	36
font-latex-quotes	39
font-latex-script-display	39
font-latex-sectioning-0-face	37
font-latex-sectioning-1-face	37
font-latex-sectioning-2-face	37
font-latex-sectioning-3-face	37
font-latex-sectioning-4-face	37
font-latex-sectioning-5-face	37
font-latex-slide-title-face	37
font-latex-user-keyword-classes	38
font-latex-verb-like-commands	39
font-latex-verbatim-environments	40
font-latex-verbatim-macros	39

J

japanese-LaTeX-command-default	56
japanese-LaTeX-default-style	56
japanese-TeX-command-default	56

L

LaTeX-amsmath-label	26
LaTeX-auto-label-regexp-list	53
LaTeX-auto-minimal-regexp-list	53
LaTeX-auto-regexp-list	53

LaTeX-babel-hyphen	56
LaTeX-babel-hyphen-after-hyphen	56
LaTeX-babel-hyphen-language-alist	55
LaTeX-csquotes-close-quote	21
LaTeX-csquotes-open-quote	21
LaTeX-csquotes-quote-after-quote	21
LaTeX-default-environment	25
LaTeX-default-format	27
LaTeX-default-position	27
LaTeX-eqnarray-label	25
LaTeX-equation-label	25
LaTeX-figure-label	26
LaTeX-fill-break-at-separators	34
LaTeX-fill-break-before-code-comments ...	34
LaTeX-float	26
LaTeX-indent-environment-check	31
LaTeX-indent-environment-list	31
LaTeX-indent-level	30, 32
LaTeX-item-indent	30, 32
LaTeX-math-abbrev-prefix	28
LaTeX-math-list	28
LaTeX-math-menu-unicode	28
LaTeX-paragraph-commands	33
LaTeX-section-hook	23, 24
LaTeX-section-label	23, 24
LaTeX-syntactic-comments	31, 32
LaTeX-table-label	26
LaTeX-top-caption-list	26

P

plain-TeX-auto-regexp-list	53
----------------------------------	----

T

TeX-auto-cleanup-hook	66
TeX-auto-empty-regexp-list	53
TeX-auto-full-regexp-list	53
TeX-auto-global	58
TeX-auto-local	59
TeX-auto-parse-length	53
TeX-auto-prepare-hook	66
TeX-auto-private	58
TeX-auto-regexp-list	53, 66
TeX-auto-save	52
TeX-auto-untabify	52
TeX-brace-indent-level	32
TeX-check-path	45
TeX-close-quote	21
TeX-command-default	45
TeX-command-list	44
TeX-default-macro	29
TeX-default-mode	56
TeX-display-help	48

TeX-DVI-via-PDFTeX	46	TeX-language-sv-hook	55
TeX-electric-escape	29	TeX-macro-global	16, 57
TeX-file-recurse	57	TeX-macro-private	58
TeX-fold-env-spec-list	42	TeX-master	44, 50
TeX-fold-force-fontify	41	TeX-newline-function	31, 32
TeX-fold-help-echo-max-length	42	TeX-Omega-mode	46
TeX-fold-macro-spec-list	42	TeX-one-master	50
TeX-fold-unspec-env-display-string	42	TeX-open-quote	21
TeX-fold-unspec-macro-display-string	42	TeX-outline-extra	43
TeX-fold-unspec-use-name	42	TeX-output-view-style	47
TeX-font-list	23	TeX-parse-self	52
TeX-header-end	44, 45	TeX-PDF-mode	45
TeX-ignore-file	57	TeX-quote-after-quote	21
TeX-insert-braces	30	TeX-quote-language-alist	55
TeX-insert-macro-default-style	29	TeX-region	44, 45
TeX-install-font-lock	35	TeX-save-query	51
TeX-interactive-mode	46	TeX-source-specials-mode	46
TeX-language-cz-hook	55	TeX-source-specials-view-start-server	47
TeX-language-de-hook	55	TeX-style-global	58
TeX-language-dk-hook	55	TeX-style-local	58
TeX-language-it-hook	55	TeX-style-path	57
TeX-language-nl-hook	55	TeX-style-private	58
TeX-language-pl-hook	55	TeX-trailer-start	44, 45
TeX-language-sk-hook	55	TeX-view-style	47

Concept Index

-
- ‘.emacs’ 8
- \
- ‘\begin’ 25
- \chapter 18, 23
- \cite, completion of 30
- \emph 18, 22
- ‘\end’ 25
- \include 50
- \input 50
- \item 26
- \label 18, 23
- \label, completion 30
- \ref, completion 30
- \section 18, 23
- \subsection 18, 23
- \textbf 18, 22
- \textit 18, 22
- \textrm 18, 22
- \textsc 19, 22
- \textsf 19, 22
- \textsl 18, 22
- \texttt 19, 22
- A**
- Abbreviations 28
- Adding a style hook 60
- Adding bibliographies 64
- Adding environments 63
- Adding labels 64
- Adding macros 60
- Adding other information 64
- Advanced features 28
- amsmath 25
- ANSI 54
- Arguments to TeX macros 28
- ASCII pTeX 54, 56
- ‘auto’ directories 57
- Auto-Reveal 40
- Automatic 57
- Automatic Customization 57
- Automatic Parsing 52
- Automatic updating style hooks 58
- B**
- Bad boxes 48
- Bibliographies, adding 64
- Bibliography 44
- bibliography, completion 30
- BibTeX 44
- BibTeX, completion 30
- ‘book.el’ 60
- Braces 21
- Brackets 21
- C**
- Changing font 22
- Changing the parser 64
- Chapters 18, 23
- Character set 54
- Checking 48
- ChinaTeX 54
- chktex 48
- citations, completion of 30
- cite, completion of 30
- CJK language 54
- CJK-LaTeX 54
- Commands 44
- Completion 28
- Controlling the output 48
- Copying 2
- Copyright 2
- CTeX 54
- Current file 48
- Customization 16
- Customization, personal 16
- Customization, site 16
- Czech 55
- D**
- Danish 55
- Debugging 48
- Default command 44
- Defining bibliographies in style hooks 64
- Defining environments in style hooks 63
- Defining labels in style hooks 64
- Defining macros in style hooks 60
- Defining other information in style hooks 64
- Deleting fonts 19, 22
- Denmark 55
- Descriptions 26
- Display math mode 21
- Distribution 2
- Documents 50
- Documents with multiple files 50
- Dollars 21
- Double quotes 21
- Dutch 55

E

Enumerates	26
Environments	25
Environments, adding	63
Eqnarray	25
Equation	25
Equations	25
Errors	48
Europe	54
European Characters	54
Example of a style file	60
Expansion	28
External Commands	44
Extracting TeX symbols	57

F

Faces	40
Figure environment	26
Figures	26
File Variables	45
Filling	32
Finding errors	48
Finding the current file	48
Finding the master file	48
Floats	26
Folding	40, 43
Font Locking	35
Font macros	22
font-latex	35
Fonts	22
Formatting	30, 32, 44
Forward search	47
Free	2
Free software	2

G

General Public License	2
Generating symbols	57
Germany	55
Global directories	57
Global macro directory	57
Global style hook directory	57
Global TeX macro directory	57
GPL	2

H

Header	44
Headers	43
Hide Macros	40
HLaTeX	54
Holland	55

I

Including	50
Indentation	30
Indenting	30
Indexing	44
Initialization	16
Inputting	50
Installation	8
Internationalization	54
Inverse search	47
ISO 8859 Latin 1	54
ISO 8859 Latin 2	54
‘iso-cvt.el’	54
ispell	54
Italy	55
Itemize	26
Items	26

J

Japan	56
Japanese	56
jLaTeX	56
jTeX	54, 56

K

Killing a process	48
kTeX	54

L

Label prefix	25, 26
Labels	25, 26
Labels, adding	64
labels, completion of	30
lacheck	48
Language Support	54
LaTeX	44
Latin 1	54
Latin 2	54
License	2
Literature	44
Local style directory	58
Local style hooks	58
Local Variables	45

M

Macro arguments	28
Macro completion	28
Macro expansion	28
‘macro.el’	64
‘macro.tex’	64
Macros, adding	60
Make	8
makeindex	44
Making a bibliography	44

Making an index	44
Many Files	50
Master file	48, 50
Matching dollar signs	21
Math mode delimiters	21
Mathematics	28
MULE	54, 56
MULE-UCS	54
Multifile Documents	50
Multiple Files	50

N

National letters	54
Next error	48
Nippon	56
NTT jTeX	54, 56

O

Omega	46
Other information, adding	64
Outlining	40, 43
Output	48
Overfull boxes	48
Overview	43

P

Parsing errors	48
Parsing LaTeX errors	48
Parsing new macros	64
Parsing TeX	52, 57
Parsing TeX output	48
Personal customization	16
Personal information	58
Personal macro directory	58
Personal TeX macro directory	58
pLaTeX	56
Poland	55
Prefix for labels	25, 26
preview-install-styles	8
Previewing	46
Printing	44
Private directories	58
Private macro directory	58
Private style hook directory	58
Private TeX macro directory	58
Problems	48
Processes	48
pTeX	54, 56

Q

Quotes	21
Quotes, fontification of	39

R

Redisplay output	48
Refilling	32
Reformatting	30, 32
Region	44
Region file	44
Reindenting	30
Reveal	40
Right	2
Running BibTeX	44
Running <code>chktex</code>	48
Running commands	44
Running <code>lacheck</code>	48
Running LaTeX	44
Running <code>makeindex</code>	44
Running TeX	44

S

Sample style file	60
Sectioning	18, 23
Sectioning commands, fontification of	36
Sections	18, 23, 43
Setting the default command	44
Setting the header	44
Setting the trailer	44
Site customization	16
Site information	57
Site initialization	16
Site macro directory	57
Site TeX macro directory	57
Slovakia	55
Source specials	47
Specifying a font	22
Starting a previewer	46
Stopping a process	48
' <code>style</code> '	60
Style	48
Style file	60
Style files	60
Style hook	60
Style hooks	60
Subscript, fontification of	39
Superscript, fontification of	39
Sweden	55
Symbols	28
Syntax Highlighting	35

T

Tabify	52
Table environment	26
Tables	26
Tabs	52
TeX	44
TeX parsing	57
' <code>tex-jp.el</code> '	56
' <code>tex-site.el</code> '	16

Trailer 44

U

UNICODE 54

Untabify 52

Updating style hooks 58

V

Variables 45

Verbatim, fontification of 39

Viewing 46

W

Warranty 2

Wonderful boxes 48

Writing to a printer 44

X

'x-compose.el' 54

X-Symbol 54