

L^AT_EX and Mac OS X

Gary L. Gray

Engineering Science and Mechanics
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, PA 16802
USA

gray@engr.psu.edu

Francesco Costanzo

Engineering Science and Mechanics
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, PA 16802
USA

costanzo@engr.psu.edu

March 17, 2003

Abstract The advent of Mac OS X as a UNIX-based operating system with a “friendly” interface has made, according to Apple Computer, Mac OS X the most widely used UNIX operating system on the planet. In addition, since Mac OS X’s native imaging format is PDF and since the L^AT_EX community seems to be heading toward `pdflatex` as the standard, it would seem that Mac OS X would be a natural platform on which to use T_EX. This is a proposal for a panel discussion or a Special Interest Group (SIG) (or birds-of-a-feather (BOF) session) on issues associated with installing, using, and developing for L^AT_EX under Mac OS X. We wish to involve users and developers to discuss various topics, including:

- Issues with L^AT_EX-created PDF files under Mac OS X.
- Issues with T_EX fonts under Mac OS X.
- Different implementations of, and front ends for, T_EX under Mac OS X.
- Issues with exporting *Mathematica* notebooks to L^AT_EX for typesetting.
- What is lacking and what is needed to improve the user-experience for users of T_EX under Mac OS X?
- Has the Mac OS X T_EX mailing list and the Mac OS T_EX web site been useful to users and developers?
- In general, what have been the success stories and what have the failures been in the transition to Mac OS X for T_EX users?

We hope that this discussion will not only help current users and developers with their current efforts, but will also provide insight into the future direction of T_EX under Mac OS X.