

Are we digital typesetting yet?



2025-05-26

Grazer Linuxtage

<https://lukas-prokop.at/talks/glt25-awdty>

In memoriam

spel (1992 – 2025)



tajpulo

```
fn tajpulo
  (h: Human)
→ TypesettingSoftware{
  الجبر  אור
  დამწერლობა
  タイポ
}
```

my life goal:

provide you tools for digital typesetting.

@tajpulo@typo.social
github.com/tajpulo

Talk content

- 1) What is digital typesetting?
Requirements and usecases
- 2) Getting started with ...
- 3) Summary and categorization

Are we digital typesetting yet?



by digital means



setting type

Are we digital typesetting yet?

by digital means

setting type

Draft: January 3, 2021

CHAPTER 6. PSEUDORANDOM FUNCTIONS & BLOCK CIPHERS

classes of attacks, and proofs that justify certain choices in building the block cipher from simpler components.

The Rijndael cipher, designed by Vincent Rijmen and Joan Daemen, was selected as the winner and became the AES standard in 2001. There may not be another cryptographic algorithm that has been the focus of more scrutiny and attempts at attack. So far no significant weaknesses in AES are known.¹

The AES block cipher has a blocklength of 128 bits, and offers 3 different variants with 128-bit, 192-bit, and 256-bit keys. As a result of its standardization, AES is available in cryptographic libraries for any programming language. It is even implemented as hardware instructions in most modern processors, allowing millions of AES evaluations per second. As we have seen, once you have access to a good block cipher, it can be used directly also as a secure PRF (Corollary 6.3), and it can be used to construct a simple PRG (Construction 6.2). Even though AES itself is not a provably secure PRP, these constructions of PRFs and PRGs based on AES are secure. Or, more precisely, the PRF-security and PRG-security of these constructions is guaranteed to be as good as the PRP-security of AES.

★ 6.6 Strong Pseudorandom Permutations

Since a block cipher F has a corresponding inverse F^{-1} , it is natural to think of F and F^{-1} as interchangeable in some sense. However, the PRP security definition only guarantees a security property for F and not its inverse. In the exercises, you will see that it is possible to construct F which is a secure PRP, whose inverse F^{-1} is not a secure PRP!

It would be very natural to ask for a PRP whose F and F^{-1} are both secure. We will later see applications where this property would be convenient. An even stronger requirement would allow the distinguisher to query both F and F^{-1} in a single interaction (rather than one security definition where the distinguisher queries only F , and another definition where the distinguisher queries only F^{-1}). If a PRP is indistinguishable from a random permutation under that setting, then we say it is a **strong PRP** (SPRP).

In the formal security definition, we provide the calling program two subroutines: one for forward queries and one for reverse queries. In $\mathcal{L}_{\text{prp-sec}}$, these subroutines are implemented by calling the PRP or its inverse accordingly. In $\mathcal{L}_{\text{prp-sec}}$, we emulate the behavior of a randomly chosen permutation that can be queried in both directions. We maintain two associative arrays T and T_{inv} to hold the truth tables of these permutations, and sample their values on-demand. The only restriction is that T and T_{inv} maintain consistency ($T[x] = y$ if and only if $T_{\text{inv}}[y] = x$). This also ensures that they always represent an invertible function. We use the same technique as before to ensure invertibility.

¹In all fairness, there is a possibility that government agencies like NSA know of weaknesses in many cryptographic algorithms, but keep them secret. I know of a rather famous cryptographer (whom I will not name here) who believes this is likely, based on the fact that NSA has hired more math & cryptography PhDs than have gone on to do public research.



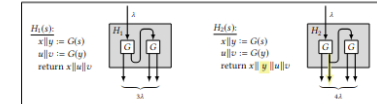
THE JOY OF CRYPTOGRAPHY

Mike Rosulek (mike@joyofcryptography.com)
School of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science
Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon, USA

Draft of January 3, 2021

Draft: January 3, 2021

CHAPTER 5. PSEUDORANDOM GENERATORS



Although the constructions are similar, only one of them is secure. Before reading any further, can you guess which of H_1 , H_2 is a secure PRG and which is insecure? By carefully comparing these two approaches, I hope you develop a better understanding of the PRG security definition.

A Security Proof

I think it's helpful to illustrate the "stragery" of security proofs by starting from the desired conclusion and working backwards. What better way to do this than as a Socratic dialogue in the style of Galileo?

SALVATI: I'm sure that H_1 is the secure PRG.

SIMPLICIO: If I understand the security definition for PRGs correctly, you mean that the output of H_1 looks indistinguishable from uniform, when the input to H_1 is uniform. Why do you say that?

SALVATI: Simple! H_1 's output consists of segments called x , u , and v . Each of these are outputs of G , and since G itself is a PRG its outputs look uniform.

SIMPLICIO: I wish I had your boldness, Salvati. I myself am more cautious. If G is a secure PRG, then its outputs are indeed indistinguishable from uniform, but surely only when its input is uniform! Are you so sure that's the case here?

SALVATI: You raise a good point, Simplicio. In these endeavors it is always preferable to err on the side of caution. When we want to claim that H_2 is a secure PRG, we consider the nature of its outputs when its seed s is uniform. Since H_1 sends that seed s directly into G , your concern is addressed.

SIMPLICIO: Yes, I can see how in the expression $x || y := G(s)$ the input to G is uniform, and so its outputs x and y are indistinguishable from random. Since x is part of H_2 's output, we are making progress towards showing that the entire output of H_2 is indistinguishable from random! However, the output of H_2 also contains terms u and v . When I examine how they are generated, as $u || v := G(y)$, I become concerned again. Surely y is not uniform, so I see no way to apply the security of G .

²Don't answer that.

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THE JOY OF CRYPTOGRAPHY

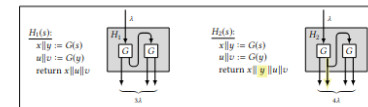
Mike Rosulek (mike@joyofcryptography.com)
School of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science
Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon, USA

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“The Joy of Cryptography”
by Mike Rosulek

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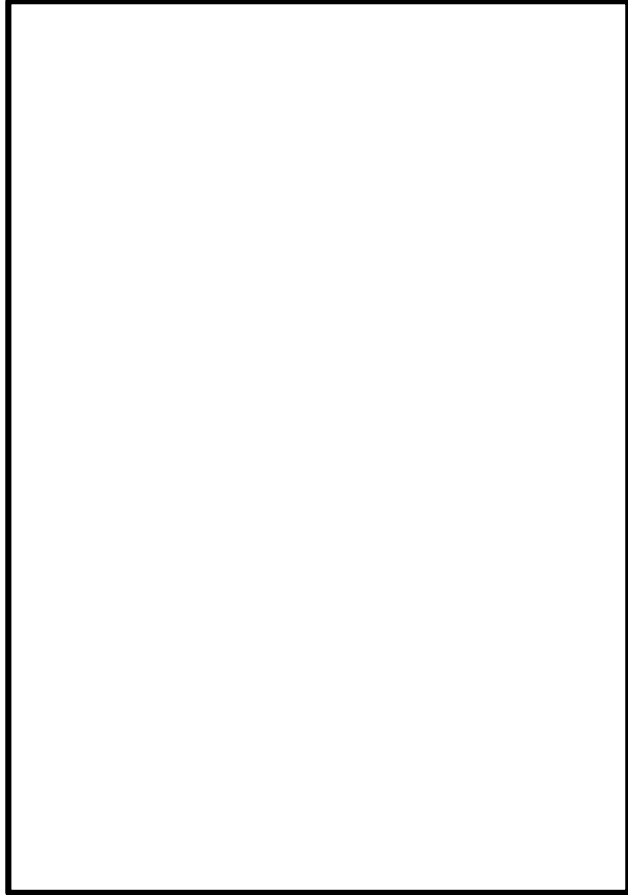
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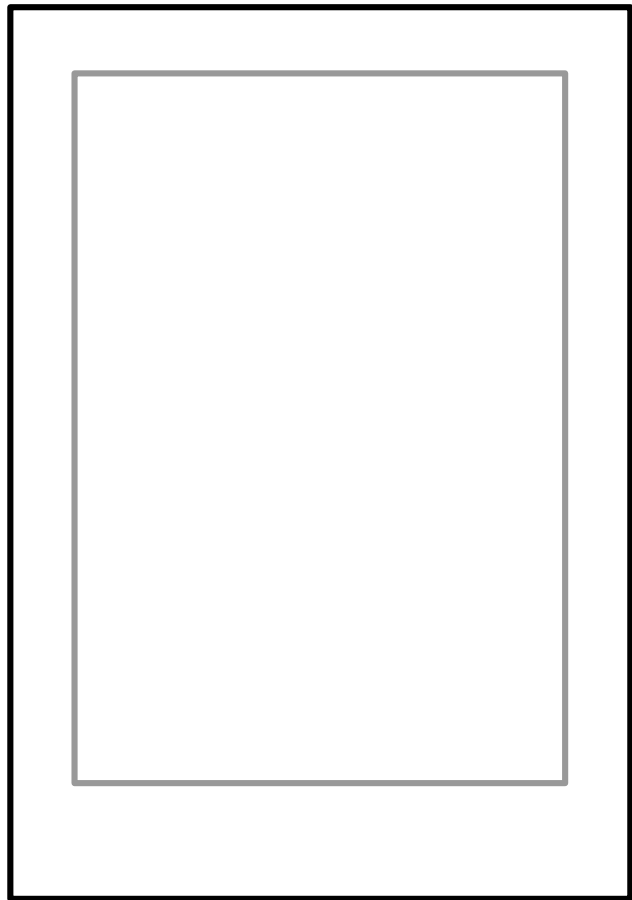
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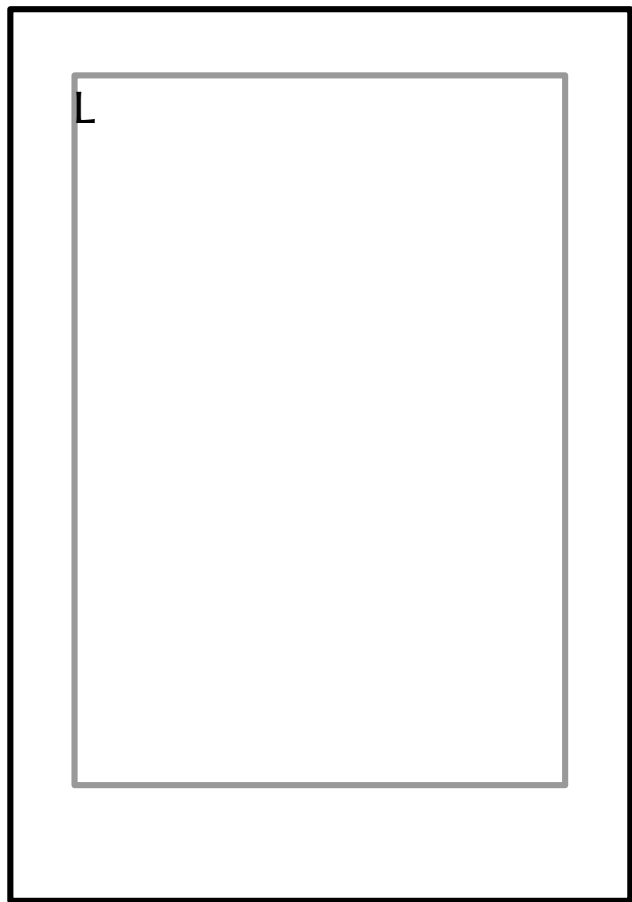
The Art of Digital Typesetting



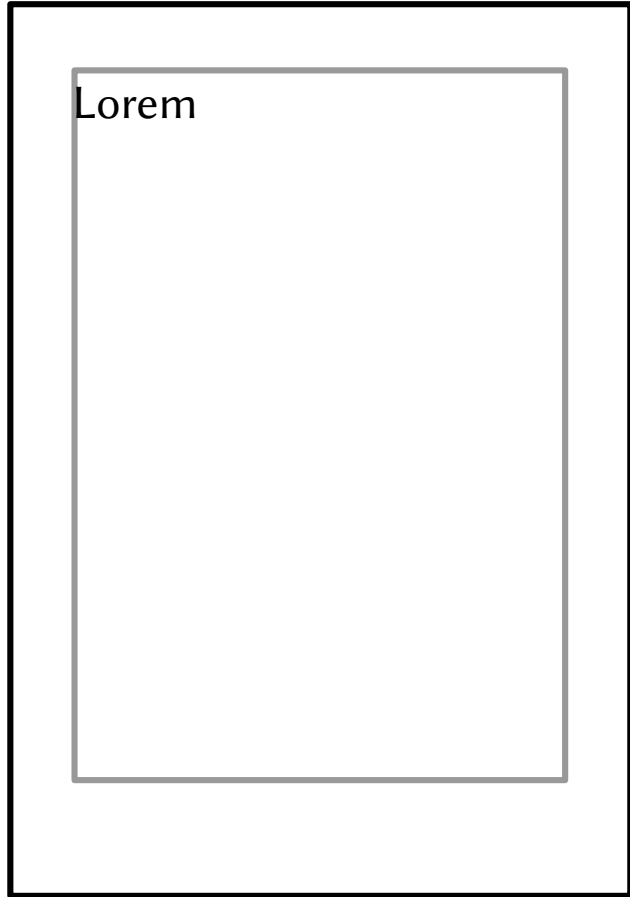
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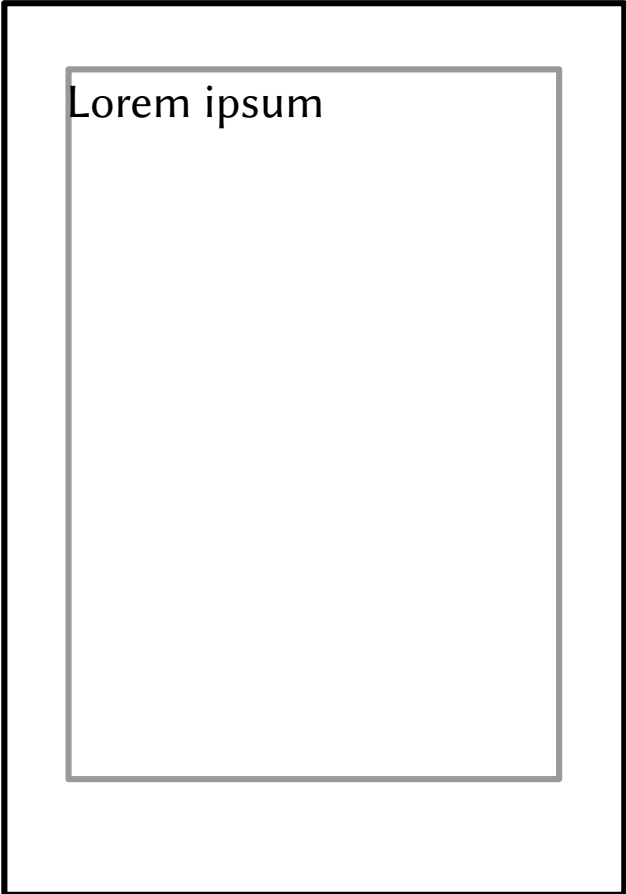


Diagram illustrating the layout structure. It consists of two nested rectangles. The outer rectangle is defined by a thick black border. Inside it, there is a smaller rectangle defined by a thin gray border. The text 'Lorem ipsum' is positioned in the top-left corner of the inner gray rectangle.

Lorem ipsum

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Diagram illustrating a nested rectangular frame structure, likely representing a page layout or a container for text. The outer frame is a large rectangle. Inside it is a smaller rectangle. The text "Lorem ipsum uatac," is positioned at the top left of the inner rectangle.

Lorem ipsum uatac,

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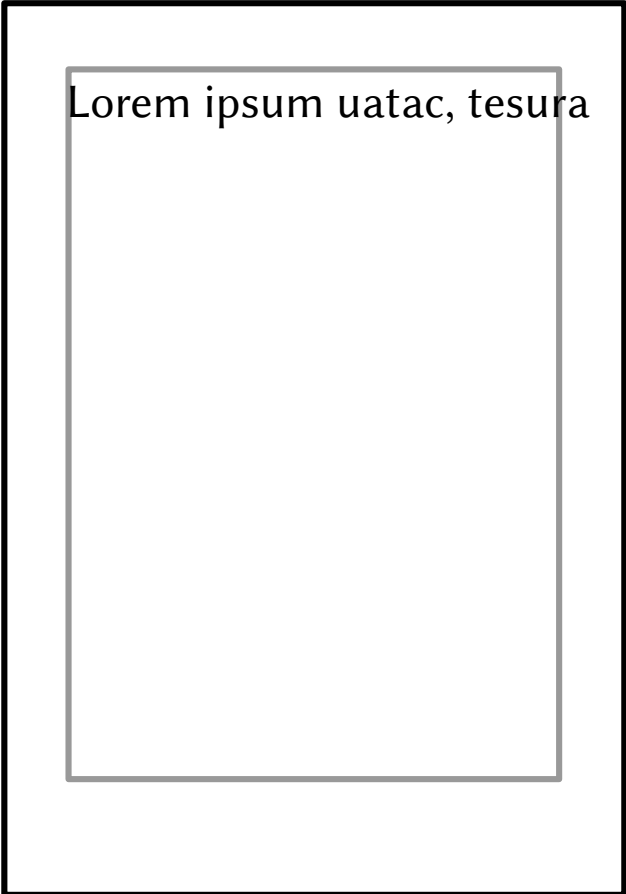


Diagram illustrating a nested rectangular frame structure, likely representing a page layout or a container for content. The outer frame is a large rectangle, and the inner frame is a smaller rectangle centered within the outer one. The text "Lorem ipsum uatac, tesura" is positioned at the top left of the inner frame.

Lorem ipsum uatac, tesura

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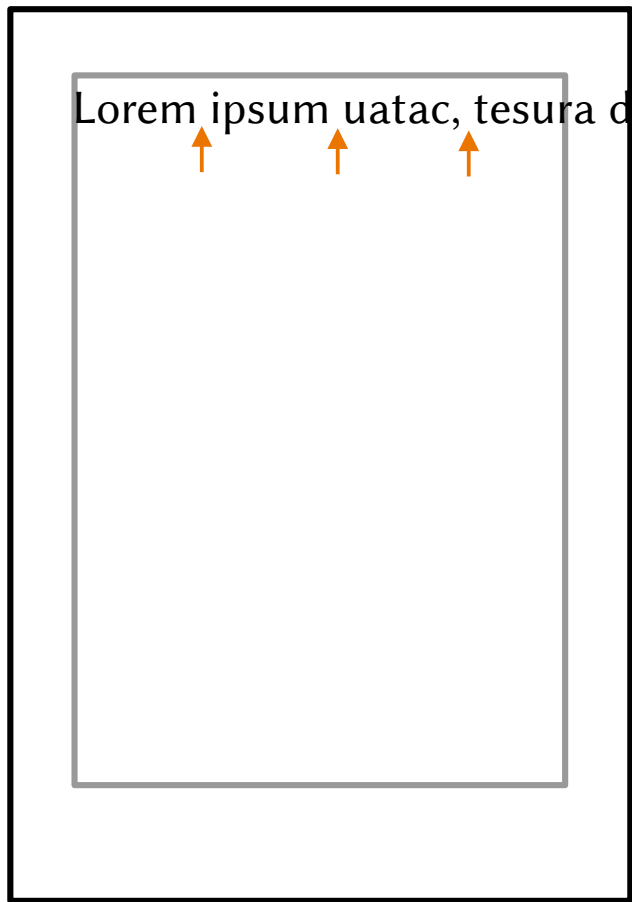
Lorem ipsum uatac, tesura dius atitac, ediafam isag umoli. Tare tanu bora mpere sitvi ncias ae

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UAX #14: “Unicode Line Breaking Algorithm”

<https://www.unicode.org/reports/tr14/>

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Lorem ipsum uatac,
tesura dius atitac, ediafam isag umoli. Tare tanu bora mpere sitvi ncias aetc.

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naïve algorithm

or

“Breaking Paragraphs into Lines”

by Don Knuth and Michael Plass (1981)

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naïve algorithm

or

“Breaking Paragraphs into Lines”

by Don Knuth and Michael Plass (1981)

In CSS:

text-wrap: pretty [webkit.org, [demo](#)]

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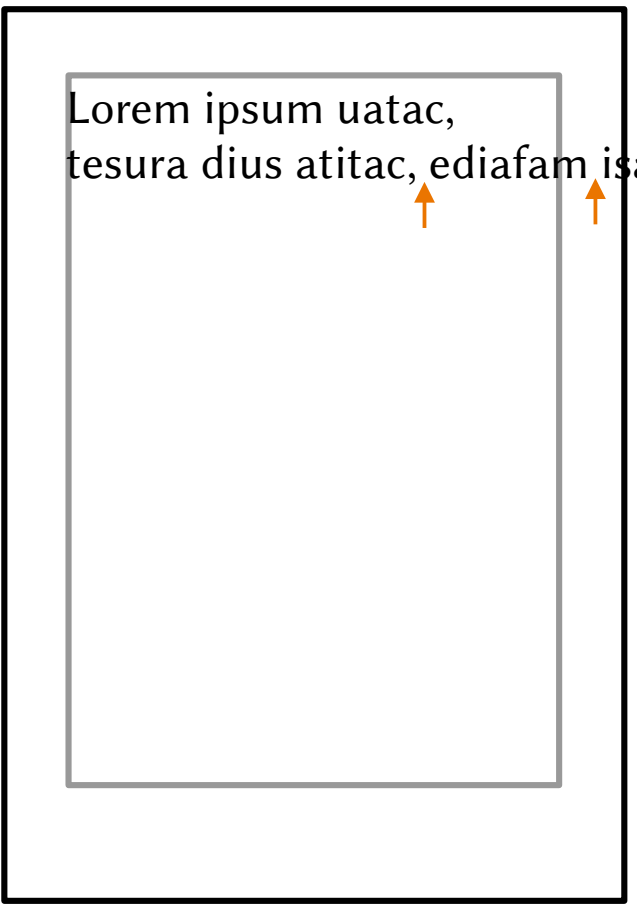
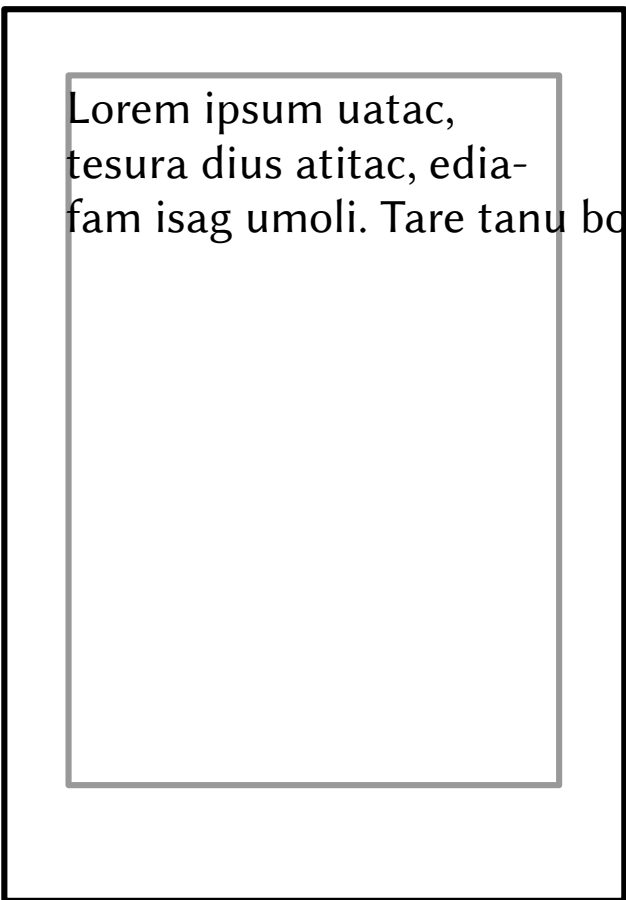


Diagram illustrating the relationship between text and its container. A large black rectangle contains a smaller gray rectangle. The text "Lorem ipsum uatac, tesura dius atitac, ediafam isag umoli. Tare tanu bora mpere sitvi ncias aetc." is positioned at the top left of the gray rectangle. Two orange arrows point upwards from the bottom of the gray rectangle towards the text, indicating the vertical alignment or baseline.

Lorem ipsum uatac,
tesura dius atitac, ediafam isag umoli. Tare tanu bora mpere sitvi ncias aetc.

The Art of Digital Typesetting



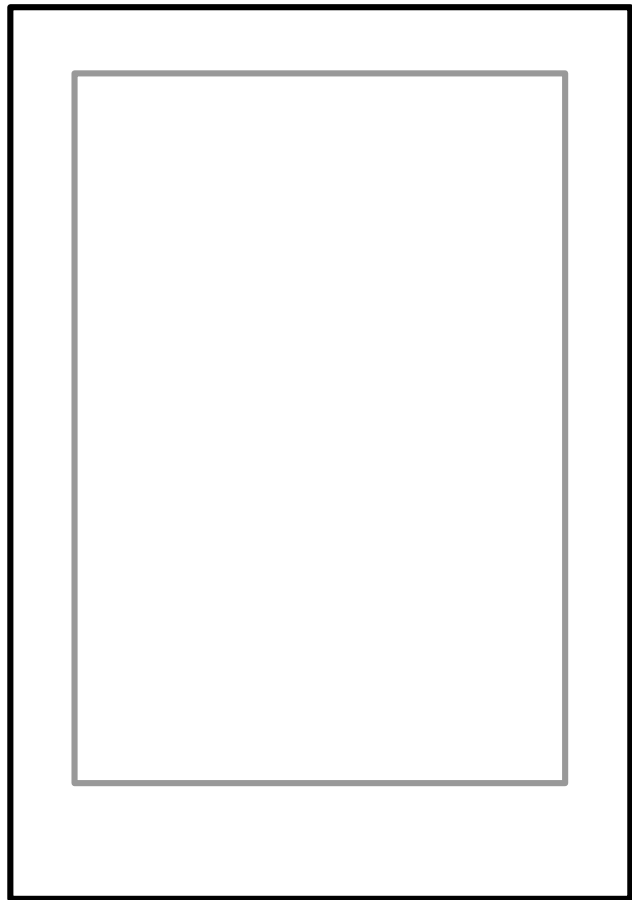
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*“Word Hy-phen-a-tion by Com-put-er”
by Franklin Mark Liang (1983), PhD thesis*

The Art of Digital Typesetting



The Art of Digital Typesetting



อักษรไทย เป็นอักษรที่ใช้เขียนภาษาไทยและภาษาของกลุ่มชาติพันธุ์ต่างๆ เช่น คำเมือง, อีสาน, ภาษาไท

The Art of Digital Typesetting

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Latin script, Cyrillic, Burmese, Thai, ...

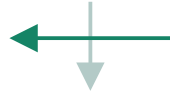
Source: omniglot.com/writing/direction.htm

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Latin script, Cyrillic, Burmese, Thai, ...



Hebrew, Arabic, Etruscan, Aramaic, ...



Old Elamite, Mongolian, Uyghur, ...



Batak, Hanuno'o, Tagbanwa



Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Nushu, ...



Ancient Berber

Source: omniglot.com/writing/direction.htm

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boustrophedon



Székely-Hungarian Rovás, Linear B,
Rongo Rongo, Sabaean

Hieroglyphic Egyptian



Hieroglyphic Egyptian, Ogham, ...



Latin script, Cyrillic, Burmese, Thai, ...



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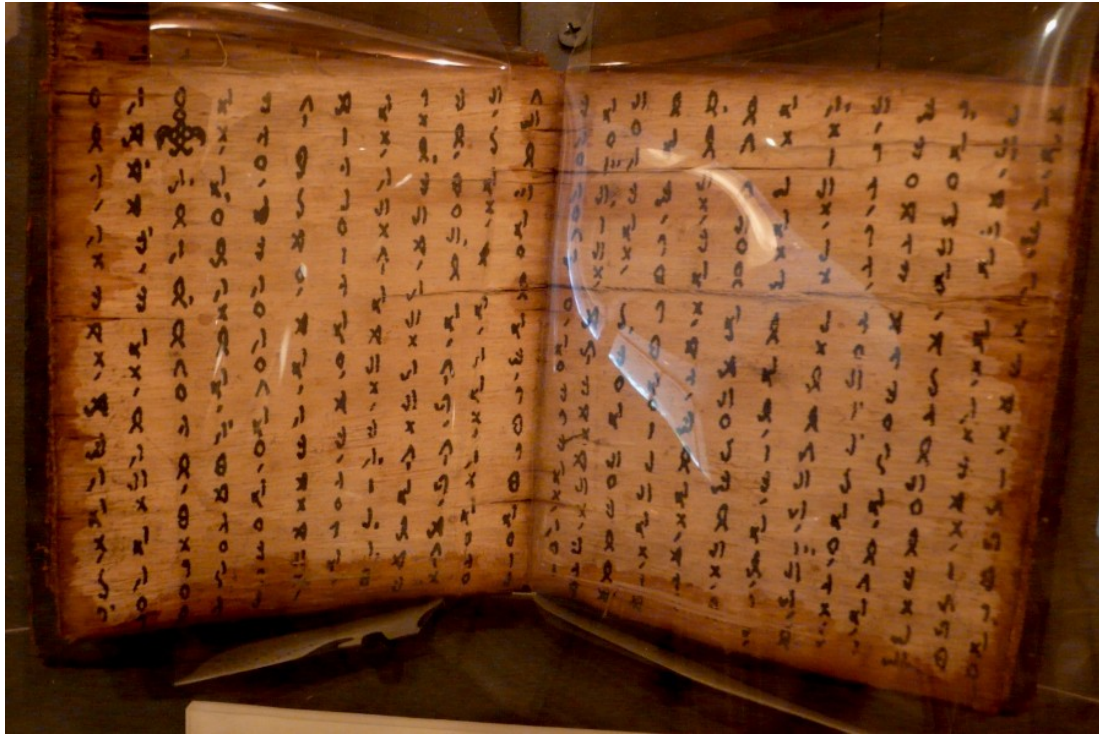
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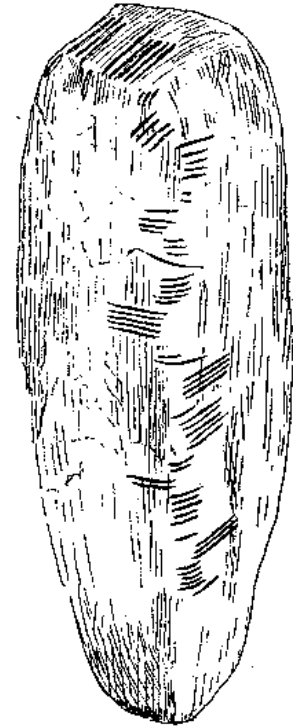
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Batak script, source: Wiki Commons / Piotrus / CC-BY



Ogham text, source: [EN Wikipedia](#)

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Avoiuli script example
source: [EN Wikipedia](#) /
Tabisini / CC BY-SA

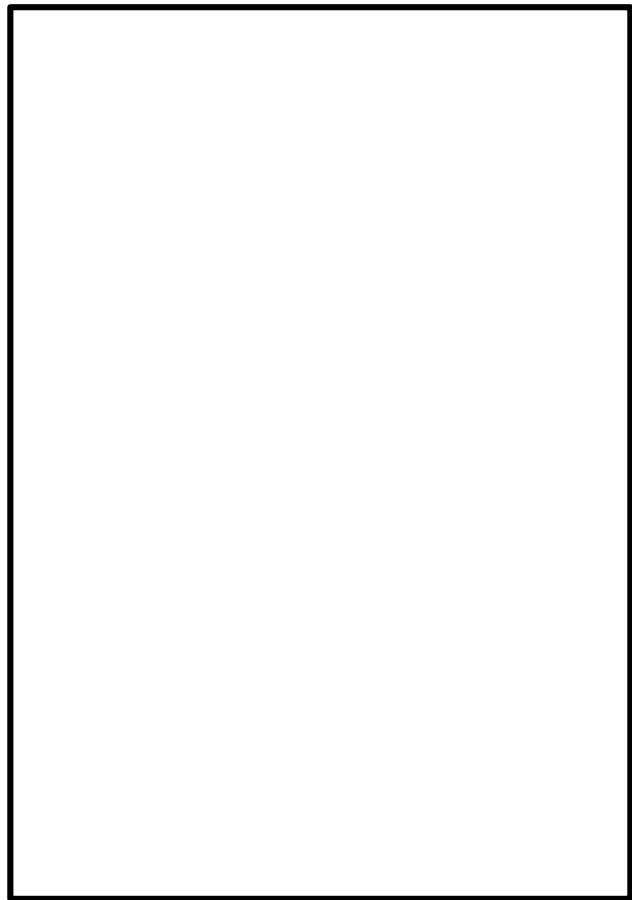
The Art of Digital Typesetting



In this talk I am
going to talk
about The Art of
Digital
Typesetting
including the
boustrophedon
writing direction.

Avoiuli script example
source: [EN Wikipedia](#) /
Tabisini / CC BY-SA

The Art of Digital Typesetting



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ncias aetc^[1].

[1] Utup ololi tvems utam edtee rere-
stis liau semore.



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paged layouts
versus
reflowable layouts

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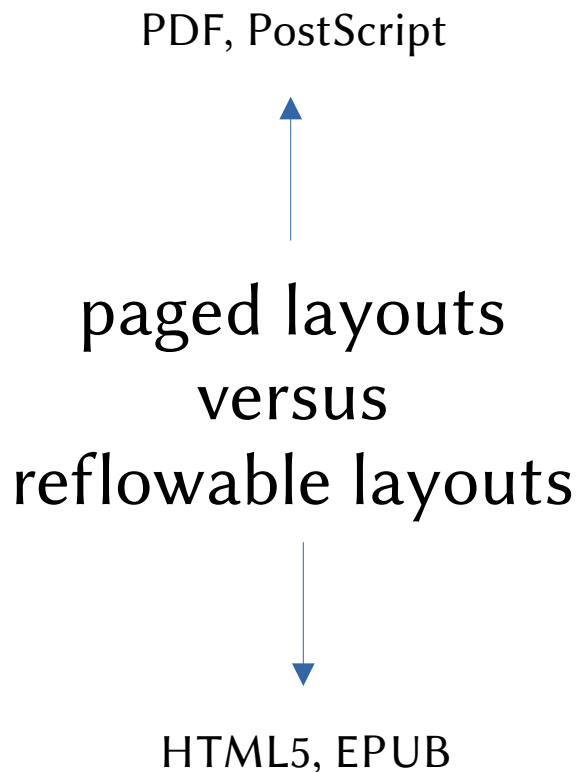
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HarfBuzz

```
use harfbuzz_rs::*;

let path = "/home/tajpulo/.fonts/GentiumPlus-R.otf";
let face = Face::from_file(path, index)?;
let mut font = Font::new(face);
let buffer = UnicodeBuffer::new().add_str("Hello World!");
let output = shape(&font, buffer, &[]);
let positions = output.get_glyph_positions();
let infos = output.get_glyph_infos();

for (position, info) in positions.iter().zip(infos) {
    println!("gid{:?}=c{:?} X{:?}Y{:?} →{:?}↑{:?}",
        info.codepoint, info.cluster,
        position.x_advance, position.x_offset, position.y_offset
    );
}
```

```
gid43=c0 X0Y0 →1339↑0
gid72=c1 X0Y0 →946↑0
gid79=c2 X0Y0 →555↑0
gid79=c3 X0Y0 →555↑0
gid82=c4 X0Y0 →1030↑0
gid3=c5 X0Y0 →451↑0
gid58=c6 X0Y0 →1741↑0
gid82=c7 X0Y0 →1030↑0
gid85=c8 X0Y0 →811↑0
gid79=c9 X0Y0 →555↑0
gid71=c10 X0Y0 →1065↑0
gid4=c11 X0Y0 →557↑0
```

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Usecases:

- books for novels
- school books
- academic papers
- conference proceedings
- product catalogue
- presentation and slides
- generate exercises for student sheets
- invoices
- financial statement
- technical specifications
- mathematical proof visualization
- API documentation
- restaurant menu
- recipes list
- ...

Are we digital typesetting yet?

Criteria (today):

- FOSS
- paged output
- command line interface

Nice to have:

- Global scripts
- Domain-specific notations
- Single Source Publishing
- cross-platform
- easy to install
- separation of concerns
- modern fonts
- automation
- a11n, l10n, i18n
- performance
- web and print

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Options?

TeX

- Since 1978, latest version 3.141592653 (TeX78 and TeX82)
- by Donald Knuth
- website <https://tug.org/>
- source code repo: <https://www.tug.org/svn/texlive/>
- license: rename-required (permissive free software)
- cross-platform: TeX Live (Linux), MacTeX (macOS), MiKTeX (Windows)
- written in WEB/Pascal/C

TeX

TeX

```
$ cat example.tex
```

```
Hello World!
```

```
\bye
```

```
$ tex example.tex
```

```
This is TeX, Version 3.141592653 (TeX Live 2026/dev/Arch  
Linux) (preloaded format=tex)
```

```
(./example.tex [1] )
```

```
Output written on example.dvi (1 page, 228 bytes).
```

```
Transcript written on example.log.
```

```
$
```

TeX

Hello World!

Hello World!

TeX

```
$ tex
```

```
This is TeX, Version 3.141592653 (TeX Live 2026/dev/Arch  
Linux) (preloaded format=tex)
```

```
**\show\bye
```

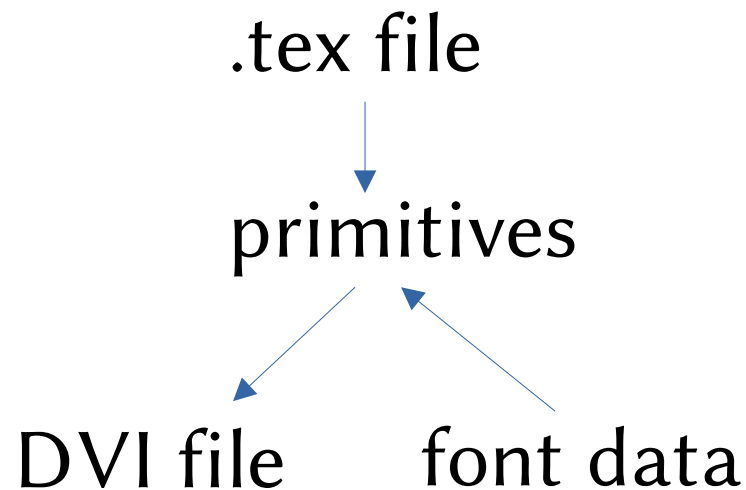
```
> \bye=\outer macro:
```

```
->\par \vfill \supereject \end .
```

```
<*> \show\bye
```

```
?
```

```
$
```



TeX

```
$ cat example.tex
```

```
\special{papersize=8cm,1cm}
```

```
Hello World!
```

```
\bye
```

```
$
```



Hello World!

TeX

```
$ cat example.tex
```

```
\def\event #1 organized by #2 at #3.{Hello #2!  
Thank you for organizing #1 at #3.}  
\event GLT25 organized by Grazer Linuxtage at TU Graz.  
\bye
```

```
$ tex example.tex
```

```
This is TeX, Version 3.141592653 (TeX Live 2026/dev/Arch  
Linux) (preloaded format=tex)
```

```
(./test.tex [1] )
```

```
Output written on test.dvi (1 page, 288 bytes).
```

```
Transcript written on test.log.
```

```
$
```

TeX

```
$ cat example.tex
```

```
\def\event #1 organized by #2 at #3.{Hello #2!  
Thank you for organizing #1 at #3.}
```

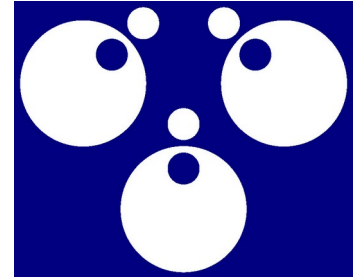
```
\event GLT25 organized by Grazer Linuxtage at TU Graz.
```

```
\bye
```

Hello Grazer Linuxtage! Thank you for organizing GLT25 at TU Graz.

TeX

- Lead to the development of ...
 - LaTeX_{2 ϵ} (1994) by Leslie Lamport
 - ConTeXt (1995) by Hans Hagen, et al.
 - pdfTeX (1996) by Hàn Thế Thành
 - XeTeX (2005) by Jonathan Kew
 - LuaTeX (2007)
 - OpTeX (2020) by Petr Olšák



speedata Publisher

- Since 2011-07-10, latest release 5.0.2 (March 12, 2025)
- by Patrick Gundlach
- website: <https://www.speedata.de/>
- source code repo: <https://github.com/speedata/publisher>
- license: AGPL-3.0
- cross-platform
- written in Go, uses LuaLaTeX
- .xml files into PDF



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- written in Go, uses LuaLa
- .xml files into PDF

Patrick Gundlach

Datenbasiertes Publizieren
mit dem speedata Publisher

oder

Wie bekomme ich schöne PDFs?

1

15.4.2023

Lightning Talk



gundlach@speedata.de

speedata 
Überholen wir den Mainstream

speedata Publisher

- Since 2011-07-10, latest release 5.0.2 (March 12, 2025)
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- written in Go, uses LuaLaTeX
- .xml files into PDF



speedata Publisher

```
$ cat data.xml
```

```
<data>Hello, world!</data>
```

```
$ cat layout.xml
```

```
<Layout
  xmlns="urn:speedata.de:2009/publisher/en"
  xmlns:sd="urn:speedata:2009/publisher/functions/en">
  <Record element="data">
    <PlaceObject>
      <Textblock>
        <Paragraph>
          <Value select="." />
        </Paragraph>
      </Textblock>
    </PlaceObject>
  </Record>
</Layout>

$
```

speedata Publisher

\$ sp

Run speedata publisher 5.0.2

Finished with 0 errors and 0 warnings

Output written on publisher.pdf (1 pages, 3070 bytes)

Transcript written to publisher-protocol.xml

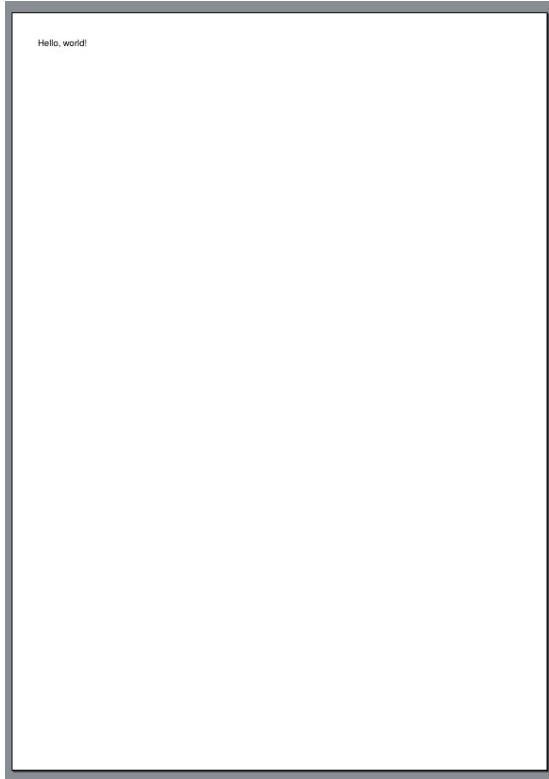
Total run time: 131ms

\$ ls -l

```
data.xml
layout.xml
publisher-aux.xml
publisher.finished
publisher.pdf
publisher-protocol.xml
publisher.status
publisher.vars
```

\$

speedata Publisher



Hello, world!

speedata Publisher

```
$ cat data.xml
```

```
<data text="Hello, world!"/>
```

```
$ cat layout.xml
```

```
<Layout  
  xmlns="urn:speedata.de:2009/publisher/en"  
  xmlns:sd="urn:speedata:2009/publisher/functions/en">  
  <Record element="data">  
    <PlaceObject>  
      <Textblock>  
        <Paragraph>  
          <Value select="./@text"/>  
        </Paragraph>  
      </Textblock>  
    </PlaceObject>  
  </Record>  
</Layout>
```

```
$
```


speedata Publisher


```
$ cat data.xml
```

```
<data text="Hello, world!"/>
```

```
$ cat layout.xml
```

```
<Layout  
  xmlns="urn:speedata.de:2009/publisher/en"  
  xmlns:sd="urn:speedata:2009/publisher/functions/en">  
  <Pageformat width="4cm" height="3cm" />  
  <Record element="data">  
    <PlaceObject>  
      <Textblock>  
        <Paragraph>  
          <Value select="./@text" />  
        </Paragraph>  
      </Textblock>  
    </PlaceObject>  
  </Record>  
</Layout>
```

```
$
```



Hello, world!

SILE

- Since 2012-07-29, latest release 0.15.12 (11 Apr 2025)
- by Simon Cozens, Caleb Maclennan
- website: <https://sile-typesetter.org/>
- source code repo: <https://github.com/sile-typesetter/sile>
- license: MIT
- (no Windows support)
- written in rust and Lua
- .sil files into .pdf files

SILE

SILE

```
$ cat example.sil
```

```
\begin{document}
```

```
Hello World!
```

```
\end{document}
```

```
$ sile example.sil
```

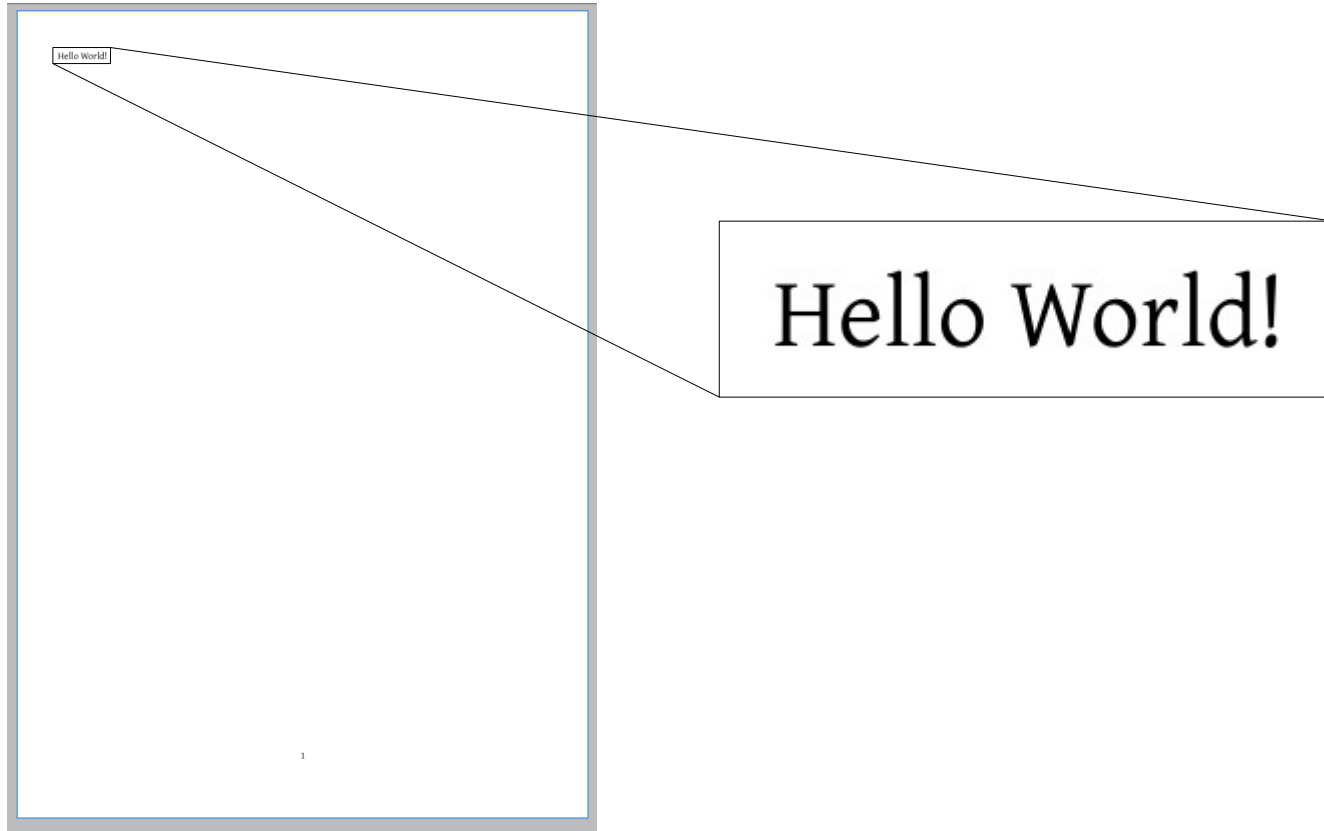
```
SILE v0.15.12 (LuaJIT 2.1.1703358377) [Rust]
```

```
<hello.sil> as sil
```

```
[1]
```

```
$
```

SILE



SILE

```
$ cat example.sil
```

```
\begin[papersize=10pt x 80pt,landscape=true]{document}  
\nofolios  
Hello World!  
\end{document}
```

```
$ sile example.sil
```

```
SILE v0.15.12 (LuaJIT 2.1.1703358377) [Rust]
```

```
<hello.sil> as sil
```

```
[1]
```

```
$
```



Hello World!

typst

- Since 2019-02-10, latest version: 0.13.1 (March 7, 2025)
- by Martin Haug, Laurenz Mädje, Ana Gelez
- website: <https://typst.app/>
- source code repo: <https://github.com/typst/>
- license: Apache v2
- cross-platform
- written in rust
- .typ files into PDF/PNG/SVG/HTML5 files

typst

typst

```
$ cat example.typ
```

```
= Heading
```

```
Hello *World*!
```

```
$ typst compile example.typ
```

```
$
```

Heading

Hello World!

typst

```
$ cat example.typ
```

```
#set document(  
  title: "This is a typst example document",  
  keywords: ("typst", "pdf", "example"),  
  author: ("tajpulo"),  
)
```

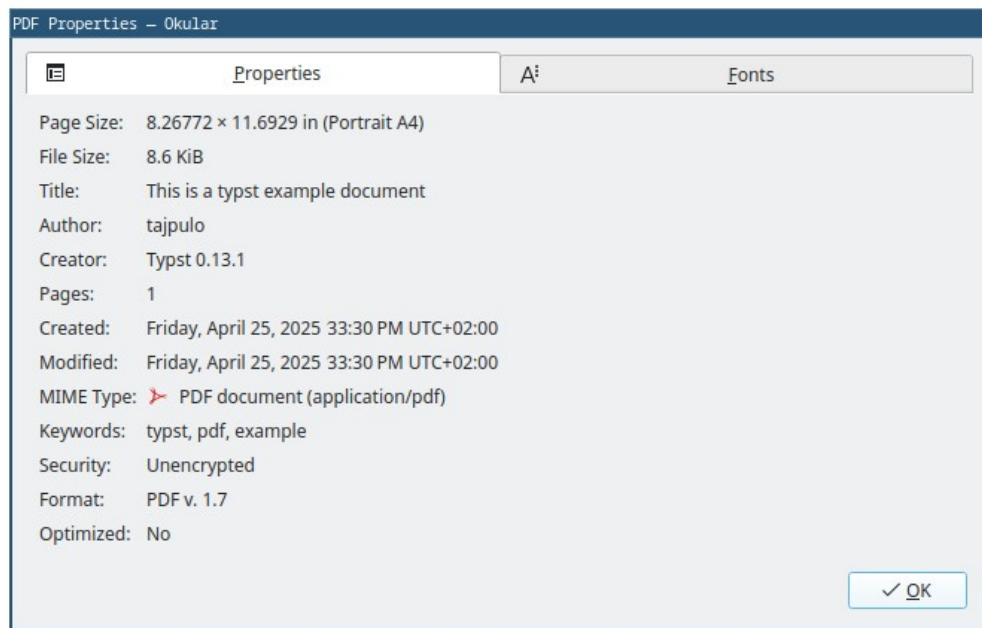
```
#set page(  
  height: 297mm,  
  width: 210mm,  
)
```

```
= Heading
```

```
Hello *World*!
```

```
$ typst compile example.typ
```

```
$
```



typst

```
$ cat example.typ
```

```
#set document(  
  title: "This is a typst example document",  
  keywords: ("typst", "pdf", "example"),  
  author: ("tajpulo"),  
)
```

```
#set page(  
  height: 297mm,  
  width: 210mm,  
)
```

```
= Heading
```

```
Hello *World*!
```

```
$ typst compile example.typ
```

```
$
```

```
$ typst compile example2.typ  
error: unexpected argument: heihgt  
  example2-syntax-error.typ:7:2  
  
7 | heihgt: 297mm,  
  | ^^^^^^^^^^^^^
```

typst

```
$ cat official.typ
```

```
#set page(width: 10cm, height: auto)
#set heading(numbering: "1.")
```

```
= Fibonacci sequence
```

The Fibonacci sequence is defined through the recurrence relation $F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$. It can also be expressed in *closed form*:

```
$ F_n = round(1 / sqrt(5) phi.alt^n), quad
phi.alt = (1 + sqrt(5)) / 2 $
```

```
#let count = 8
#let nums = range(1, count + 1)
#let fib(n) = (
  if n <= 2 { 1 }
  else { fib(n - 1) + fib(n - 2) }
)
```

The first #count numbers of the sequence are:

```
#align(center, table(
  columns: count,
  ..nums.map(n => $F_#n$),
  ..nums.map(n => str(fib(n))),
))
```

```
$ typst compile official.typ
$
```

1. Fibonacci sequence

The Fibonacci sequence is defined through the recurrence relation $F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$. It can also be expressed in *closed form*:

$$F_n = \left\lfloor \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \phi^n \right\rfloor, \quad \phi = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

The first 8 numbers of the sequence are:

| F_1 | F_2 | F_3 | F_4 | F_5 | F_6 | F_7 | F_8 |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 13 | 21 |

Are we digital typesetting yet?

summary:

Are we digital typesetting yet?

summary:

- TeX
- speedata publisher
- SILE
- typst

criteria (today):

- FOSS
- paged output
- command line interface

Are we digital typesetting yet?

| | <i>input</i> | <i>output</i> | <i>math support</i> | <i>recom. usecase</i> |
|-------|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| *TeX | custom lang | PDF | great! | domain-specific output style |
| sp | XML | PDF | no | catalogues & brochures |
| SILE | custom lang & adjustable | PDF | rudimentary | self-published books |
| typst | custom lang | PDF & HTML | good | academic papers |

Are we digital typesetting yet?



wiki.mozilla.org/Areweyet

arew**gui**yet

arew**web**yet

arew**quantum**yet

...

Are we digital typesetting yet?

*The roots are shallow and historic,
but progress can be observed.*

[https://Arewedigital typesettingyet.com/](https://Arewedigitaltypesettingyet.com/)



Several solutions of differing quality exist, but the field is fragmented and no mature software satisfies all desirable requirements. Most recently, [typst](#) joined the competition.

You might also be interested in the website [polytype.dev](#) by the author of SILE. It shows different typesetting engines in different usecases.

Ecosystem

Plaintext approach

LaTeX

[Homepage](#) (license: LaTeX project public license v1.3c) by Leslie Lamport since 1984 built with WEB/Pascal

TeX

[Homepage](#) (license: public domain, rename on modification) by Donald E. Knuth since 1978

typst

[Homepage](#) (license: Apache 2) by Martin Haug, Laurenz Mädje since 2023 built with

<https://Arewedigitaltypesettingyet.com/>

- Run by the club “Verein zur Förderung von digitalem Textsatz”
- Do you like my work? Sponsor me on github!
- Thank you!