

Making Flashy Presentations with \LaTeX

Jan Medlock
University of Washington
Applied Mathematics Department
`medlock@amath.washington.edu`

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Abstract

The purpose of this talk is to give a brief overview of three tools available to use \LaTeX for making presentations: FoilTeX , PDFTeX , and PPOWER4 .

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- PDF is “portable” – free readers are available for many platforms including Windows, Mac, UNIX (e.g. Adobe’s Acroread).
- We don’t have to use Powerpoint¹ or Windows!
 - ★ Powerpoint files can be difficult to view, particularly on non-Windows machines.

¹I admit point-n-click can be an advantage and Powerpoint has more features for presentations than L^AT_EX.

- ★ Powerpoint presentations are huge files which can be hard to move between machines while PDF files typically fit on a single floppy disk.
- ★ *Windows is icky.*

PDF files and PDF_TE_X

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- To create a PDF file from a L^AT_EX file we would normally create a DVI file with `latex file.tex`, convert that to PS with `dvips -ofile.ps file.dvi` and then convert that to PDF with `ps2pdf file.ps file.pdf`.

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- The package PDF_TE_X produces PDF files directly from L^AT_EX files – `pdflatex file.tex`. More importantly, it allows us to use some of the more advanced features of PDF files.

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That's it!

Next is a sample slide produced with FoilT_EX.

The Arthropod Vector



- *Aedes aegypti*, the yellow fever mosquito
 - ★ Very active in urban and suburban areas
 - ★ Breeds in any standing water (e.g. old tires, cans, cisterns, etc.)
 - ★ Well adapted to humans
 - ★ Frequently takes partial blood meals
 - ★ Life span is around 21 days



- *Aedes albopictus*, the Asian tiger mosquito
 - ★ Active in forested areas
 - ★ Not important for most human transmission of disease but may be important for its role in disease reservoir in forests
 - ★ More resistant to cold temperatures
 - ★ Higher rates of vertical transmission of dengue virus
 - ★ Recently arrived in North America

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- Three different commands for backgrounds
 - ★ `\pagecolor{color}` for solid color.
 - ★ `\vpagecolor[color1]{color2}` for vertical gradient (like this page).
 - ★ `\hpagecolor[color1]{color2}` for horizontal gradient.

PPOWER4 Continued

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- We can use transition effects for pages too. For example the next page is set to Box Out.

PPower4 Continued

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Miscellany Continued

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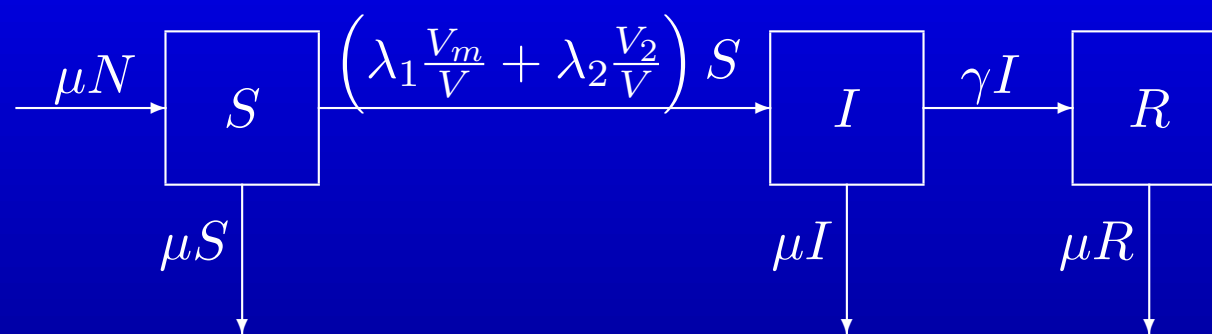
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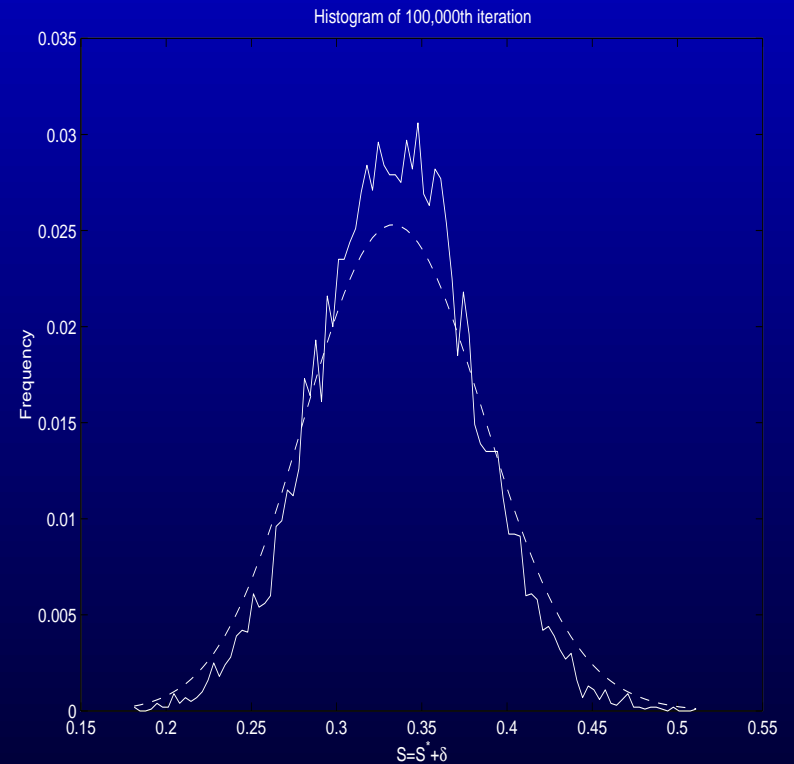
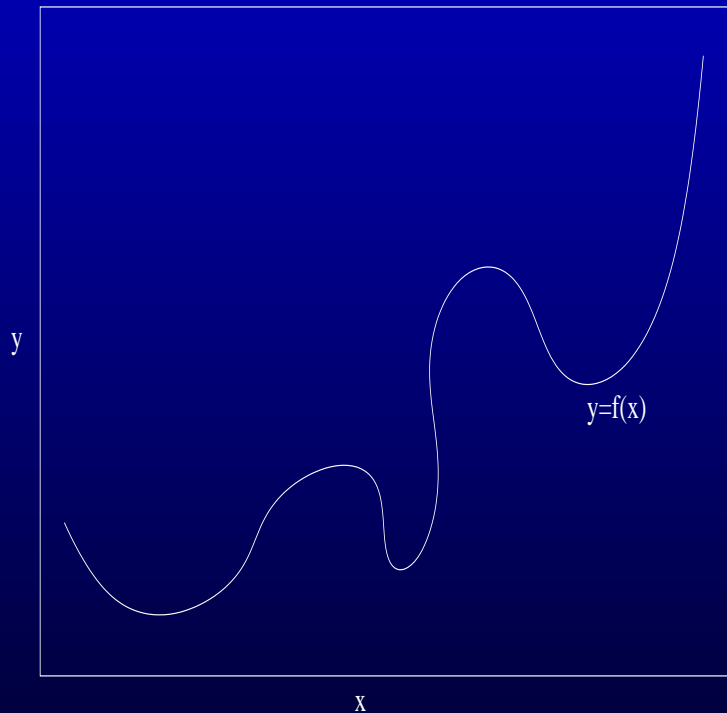


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These were saved as `eps` files and then converted to PDF using

epstopdf.

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This is a `jpg` file. We can also use `tiff` and `png`.

Summary

- These tools (PDF_TE_X, Foil_TE_X and PPOWER4) allow us to make **really flashy** presentations with all of the usual benefits of L^AT_EX (nice math formatting, including figures, ...). The resulting presentation is then viewable on a wide variety of machines.

References

- This document:
<http://www.amath.washington.edu/~medlock/presentation.html>
- Local (AMath) L^AT_EX documentation:
`/usr/local/lib/tex/doc`
- Comprehensive T_EX Archive Network (CTAN) – the packages can be found here:
<http://www.ctan.org>

- PPOWER4 homepage:
<http://www-sp.iti.informatik.tu-darmstadt.de/software/ppower4/>
- Adobe's information on PDF:
<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/adobepdf.html>
- Download Adobe's Acroread:
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- XPDF – a PDF viewer for X11:
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