

**NAME**

latex, elatex, lambda, pdflatex – structured text formatting and typesetting

**SYNOPSIS**

**latex** [*first-line*]

**DESCRIPTION**

This manual page is not meant to be exhaustive. The complete documentation for this version of  $\text{\TeX}$  can be found in the info file or manual *Web2C: A TeX implementation*.

The  $\text{\LaTeX}$  language is described in the book  $\text{\LaTeX}$  – *A Document Preparation System*.  $\text{\LaTeX}$  is a  $\text{\TeX}$  macro package, not a modification to the  $\text{\TeX}$  source program, so all the capabilities described in **tex**(1) are present.

The  $\text{\LaTeX}$  macros encourage writers to think about the content of their documents, rather than the form. The ideal, very difficult to realize, is to have no formatting commands (like “switch to italic” or “skip 2 picas”) in the document at all; instead, everything is done by specific markup instructions: “emphasize”, “start a section”.

The primary source of documentation for  $\text{\LaTeX}$  is the  $\text{\LaTeX}$  manual referenced below, and the local guide in the file *local-guide.tex* or *local.tex* or some such.

**elatex** is the e- $\text{\TeX}$  extended mode version of  $\text{\LaTeX}$  format.

**lambda** is the Omega version of the  $\text{\LaTeX}$  format.

**pdflatex** is the pdf $\text{\TeX}$  version of the  $\text{\LaTeX}$  format.

On some systems **latex209** and **slitex** are available for compatibility with older versions of  $\text{\LaTeX}$ . These should not be used for new texts.

**SEE ALSO**

**amslatex**(1), **amstex**(1), **pdflatex**(1), **pdftex**(1), **tex**(1).

Leslie Lamport,  $\text{\LaTeX}$  – *A Document Preparation System*, Addison-Wesley, 1985, ISBN 020115790X.

Frank Mittelbach, Michel Goossens, Johannes Braams, David Carlisle, and Chris Rowley, *LaTeX Companion*, Addison-Wesley, 2004, ISBN 0201362996 (2nd edition).

*LaTeX Graphics Companion*, available as part of a boxed set: *The LaTeX Companions, Revised Boxed Set : A Complete Guide and Reference for Preparing, Illustrating, and Publishing Technical Documents* (2nd Edition), by Frank Mittelbach, Michel Goossens, Sebastian Rahtz, Helmut Kopka, Patrick W. Daly (Addison-Wesley, 2004, ISBN 0321269446).