

The NTG '4all \TeX CD-ROM' on the Macintosh

— and some other ($\LaTeX_{2\epsilon}$) stuff —

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As a Macintosh user I decided to buy the NTG 4all \TeX CD-ROM because it contains the basic \TeX - and METAFONT-files as well as many other interesting styles and files and so you can get rid of a lot of floppydisks.

How to access the MS-DOS files on it? Of course you need a CD-ROM player (in my case the Apple CD 300) with the appropriate driver and other software. Your MAC must also have a Superdrive. Furthermore you need two important and useful programs: *SoftPC* and *Apple Exchange*.

First some details about *SoftPC*. This program changes your MAC in a PC AT (286).¹ A part of your MAC-drive(s) functions as the C-drive² and the Superdrive as drive A.

SoftPC has a remarkable feature which enables access to *Network Disks*. So any disk on your MAC — even any separate folder — can be installed as E-drive or F-drive and so on.³ Of course any CD-ROM or any folder on it, can be appointed to be for example drive E. And so you can copy files from E to any other disk.⁴ I copy to the C-drive because here I have installed the program ARJ.EXE which is also on the NTG CD-ROM. Among other things this program allows you to unpack the often used *arj. archives*.⁵ If you want the CD-ROM files from archive *x.arj*⁶ to be unpacked and written in a special folder (e.g. F) on the MAC, you have to type after the prompt (`c:\>`) *arj e x f:*⁷ and give an enter. And — if everything is done right — the unpacking of archive *x* will take place and the files are written in the appointed folder on the MAC-drive. When

the unpacking is completed you leave *SoftPC* and return to your MAC-environment.

Looking in the destination folder you see the files you wanted, having a PC-icon. However, you can't use them instantly, because — and this is important — they are in the IBM-ascii format, which is different from MAC-ascii. Now the second program '*Apple Exchange*' has to be used. Its main function is to make MS-DOS-files accessible for the MAC and the reverse. So it is able to change IBM-ascii into MAC-ascii.⁸ Happily enough '*Apple Exchange*' can handle a lot of files in the same run. Because it cannot write the conversion of the files in the same folder you have to appoint another destination folder. After this procedure Oz \TeX and other \TeX -implementations can handle the files.⁹

This whole procedure is necessary if you want to install the new(est) $\LaTeX_{2\epsilon}$ format. In *SoftPC* you can copy from any floppydisk or CD-ROM to drive C the $\LaTeX_{2\epsilon}.arj$, unpack it writing the files in a folder on your MAC-drive.¹⁰ After conversion of the ascii-format it might be necessary to exchange an older file *ltpatch.ltx* for its latest version.¹¹ In Oz \TeX you focus the fileselector on the file *unpack.ins* and hit the cancel box. Then start INITEX and type: *unpack.ins*. In the run a lot of files are produced which have to be placed in the subfolder $\LaTeX_{2\epsilon}$ in the folder *TeX inputs* of Oz \TeX .¹² The main file produced is *latex.ltx* which is used by INITEX to build the $\LaTeX_{2\epsilon}$ format.

¹ You can even run 4all \TeX on it!

² Another part can be drive D.

³ It goes to T.

⁴ Suppose you are in the directory of the files you want, you have to type after the prompt the MS-DOS command: `'copy x.y c:'` (without the quotes). *x.y* can be any archive or file, and *c* can be any other destination drive.

⁵ This is done with option *e*. For ZIP-archives there is an UNZIP utility available which can be used directly on the MAC.

⁶ *x* can be any name.

⁷ This is horrible but I can't help it.

⁸ For this you have to choose the mode *textconversion*.

⁹ Some editors on the MAC can also read IBM-ascii and you don't see any difference because the signs for linefeeds and carriage returns are left out. But IBM-ascii confuses for example Oz \TeX and CMac \TeX producing in a \TeX -run an *out of memory* message. In this case the shareware editor *Alpha* is very useful because it indicates which kind of ascii is used: IBM, MAC or UNIX. It is also capable of conversion *vice versa*. So MAC \TeX -files can be made accessible for MS-DOS and UNIX.

¹⁰ Don't throw away any of the files because they are listed for installation.

¹¹ Momentarily (sept. '94) patch level 3.

¹² Or in the folder *TeX inputs* of \TeX TURES.