

NAME

`tr2latex` – convert a document from troff to LaTeX

SYNOPSIS

`tr2latex` [`-m`] [`-t`] [`-n`] [`-s style`] [`-o outfile`] *filename...*

DESCRIPTION

Tr2latex converts a document typeset in **troff** to a **LaTeX** format. It is intended to do the first pass of the conversion. The user should then finish up the rest of the conversion and customize the converted manuscript to his/her liking. It can also serve as a tutor for those who want to convert from troff to LaTeX.

Most of the converted document will be in LaTeX but some of it may be in plain **TeX**. It will also use some macros in **troffms.sty** or **troffman.sty** which are included in the package and must be available to the document when processed with LaTeX.

If there is more than one input file, they will all be converted into one LaTeX document.

Tr2latex understands most of the **-ms** and **-man** macros and **eqn** preprocessor symbols. It also understands several plain **troff** commands. Few **tbl** preprocessor commands are understood to help convert very simple tables.

When converting manuals, use the **-m** flag. Otherwise **tr2latex** assumes to translate a **-me** input file.

If a troff command cannot be converted, the line that contain that command will be commented out.

NOTE: if you have **eqn** symbols, you must have the in-line mathematics delimiter defined by **delim** in the file you are converting. If it is defined in another setup file, that setup file has to be concatenated with the file to be converted, otherwise **tr2latex** will regard the in-line math as ordinary text.

OPTIONS

- m** Convert manual pages. This makes **tr2latex** understand most of the **-man** macros. It uses the style file **troffman.sty**.
- t** Produce twoside page style.
- n** Use a font size of *n*pt. The default font size is 12pt for **-man** and 11pt otherwise.
- s style** Use the style file *style* instead of the default **article.sty**.
- o outfile** Write output to file *outfile*.

BUGS

Many of these bugs are harmless. Most of them cause local errors that can be fixed in the converted manuscript.

- Some macros and macro arguments are not recognized.
- Commands that are not separated from their argument by a space are not properly parsed (e.g .sp3i).

- When some operators (notably over, sub and sup) are renamed (via define), then they are encountered in the text, **tr2latex** will treat them as ordinary macros and will not apply their rules.
- rpile, lpile and cpile are treated the same as cpile.
- rcol, lcol are treated the same as ccol.
- Math-mode size, gsize, fat, and gfont are ignored.
- lineup and mark are ignored. The rules are so different.
- Some troff commands are translated to commands that require delimiters that have to be explicitly put. Since they are sometimes not put in troff, they can create problems. Example: .nf not closed by .fi.
- When local motions are converted to \raise or \lower, an \hbox is needed, which has to be put manually after the conversion.
- 'a sub i sub j' is converted to 'a_i_j' which TeX parses as 'a_i{_j}' with a complaint that it is vague. 'a sub {i sub j}' is parsed correctly and converted to 'a_{i_j}'.
- Line spacing is not changed within a paragraph in TeX (which is a bad practice anyway). TeX uses the last line spacing in effect in that paragraph.

TODO

Access registers via **.nr** command.

FILES

$\$(\text{TEXLIB})/\text{macros}/\text{troffman.sty}$

$\$(\text{TEXLIB})/\text{macros}/\text{troffms.sty}$

AUTHOR

Kamal Al-Yahya, Stanford University
Christian Engel, Aachen University of Technology