

A Simple Example

Hello from \TeX ! This is a short example of a (plain-) \TeX source file. It contains a few *macros*, the words which start with a backslash, ‘\’. The first two macros, for example, \parindent and \parskip , set the size of the indent at the start of a paragraph and the vertical spacing between paragraphs, respectively. I am sure you can guess what some of the other macros do!

This is the start of a new paragraph; a new paragraph is begun by leaving a blank line in the source file. Since \TeX is good at type-setting mathematics, here is an equation, $y = mx + c$, and another:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \int_0^\infty f(x) dx. \tag{1}$$

Notice that the ‘d’s are not italicised — many publications get this wrong, particularly american publications — and the fine control over the spacing: a small horizontal skip has been added before the ‘dx’ on the right, as is traditional; in addition I have decided to reduce the default horizontal spacing inserted by \TeX after the integral sign, by using the ‘\!’ macro.