

MP Lib

Anno 2008

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HOW IT STARTED

- ★ A COUPLE OF CONFERENCES WE HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING EXTENSIONS
- ★ A SUMMARY OF OUR WISHES BECAME A PUBLISHED WISHLIST TO JOHN HOBBY
- ★ JOHN DELEGATED THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT TO JACKO, TACO AND HANS
- ★ KARL MADE AN IMPLEMENTERS MAILING LIST AND THE PROJECT WAS A FACT
- ★ TACO IS NOW THE MAIN CODE WRITER AND BUG FIXER
- ★ AT SOME POINT TACO AND HANS CAME UP WITH THE IDEA TO TURN THE KERNEL INTO A LIBRARY (FOR INSTANCE TO BE USED IN L^AT_EX)
- ★ THANKS TO FUNDING BY USERGROUPS TACO COULD WRITE THE FIRST VERSION IN COMPANY TIME
- ★ THERE IS AN ACTIVE GROUP OF TESTERS AND THE MANUAL IS ACTIVELY MAINTAINED

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE

- ★ THE PASCAL SOURCE HAS BEEN CONVERTED TO CWEB
- ★ GLOBAL VARIABLES ARE NOW COLLECTED IN A SINGLE STRUCTURE
- ★ FILE AND TERMINAL IO HAS BEEN SEPARATED
- ★ THE MPLIB LIBRARY IS USED AS KERNEL FOR METAPOST
- ★ THERE IS A LUA INTERFACE FOR L^AT_EX
- ★ THERE IS POSTSCRIPT OUTPUT AS WELL A LUA TABLE REPRESENTING THE RESULT
- ★ THERE CAN BE MULTIPLE INSTANCES (AND FORMATS) RUNNING CONCURRENTLY

WHAT IT WILL BECOME

- ★ THERE WILL BE A PROPER API DEFINED
- ★ FOR METAPOST THERE WILL BE A SEPARATE FRONT-END DEALING WITH DTEX/ETEX
- ★ THE ACCURACY AND MAXIMUM NUMBER RANGE WILL BE INCREASED
- ★ IF POSSIBLE A DECIMAL FLOAT LIBRARY WILL BE USED
- ★ MEMORY MANAGEMENT WILL BE REVISED (DYNAMIC MEMORY)
- ★ GIUSEPPE'S INTDIGUING EXTENSIONS (ENVELOPES) WILL BE INTEGRATED
- ★ PENDING WISHES WILL BE INVESTIGATED, ESP WITH REGARDS TO FONT GENERATION
- ★ FILE IO WILL BE CLEANED UP (MODERNIZED)
- ★ REWRITING INTERNAL STRUCTURES, MAYBE ADD ATTRIBUTES
- ★ L^AT_EX 2008: ALPHA, TUG 2008: BETA, EURO_TE_X2009: STABLE

CONTEXT MKIV

ANNO 2008

WHAT WE HAVE

- ★ METAPOST CODE CAN BE INTEGRATED IN TEX DOCUMENTS (METAfun)
- ★ GRAPHICS CAN BE PROCESSED RUNTIME (ONE BY ONE) OR BETWEEN RUNS (ALL AT ONCE)
- ★ THERE IS A RATHER TIGHT INTEGRATION OF TEXT SUPPORT (ALTHOUGH MOJCA ALWAYS WANTS MORE)
- ★ THERE ARE A COUPLE OF EXTENSIONS, LIKE MORE COLOR SPACES, TRANSPARENCY, SHADING
- ★ DOCUMENTS CONTAINING HUNDREDS OF GRAPHICS ARE NO EXCEPTION
- ★ SOMETIMES WE HAVE NESTED RUNS OR MULTIPLE RUNS DUE TO COMPLEX TEXT TRICKERY
- ★ IN MKIV WE USE A LUA BASED CONVERTER, AND IN TEX A TEX ONE

WHAT WE CHANGED

- ★ THE EXISTING METAPOST INTEGRATION MECHANISM HAS BEEN REPLACED BY A NEW ONE
- ★ LESS MANAGEMENT IS NEEDED, MUCH T_EX CODE REPLACED BY L_UA CODE
- ★ THERE IS A NEW CONVERTER USING MPLIB DATASTRUCTURES INSTEAD OF POSTSCRIPT
- ★ THE USER INTERFACE IS UNCHANGED BUT THERE WILL BE EXTENSIONS
- ★ RUNTIME FOR GRAPHICS IS NOW CLOSE TO ZERO
- ★ TEXT HANDLING IS EVEN MORE INTEGRATED AND VERY FAST
- ★ HANDLING SPECIALS HAS BEEN ADAPTED TO USE PRE/POSTSCRIPTS WHEN POSSIBLE

WHAT WE WILL HAVE

- ★ THERE WILL BE THE ABILITY TO USE MULTIPLE INSTANCES OF METAFUN (E.G. SYSTEM INSTANCES VERSUS USER INSTANCES)
- ★ IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO USE TRADITIONAL METAPOST ALONGSIDE METAFUN
- ★ WE WILL REIMPLEMENT SPÉCIALS (EXTENSIONS) WHEN ATTRIBUTES COME AROUND