Tlaunch, the TeX Live Launcher

Siep Kroonenberg

Rijksuniversiteit Groningen
the Netherlands

Why a TEX Live launcher?

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The university network

- Centrally managed Windows workstations
  (RES software)
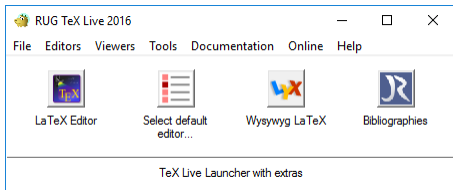- Roaming profiles
- Remote desktop
- Users have limited rights

Problem

- TₑX Live already present on network
- Windows-specific configuration still to be done
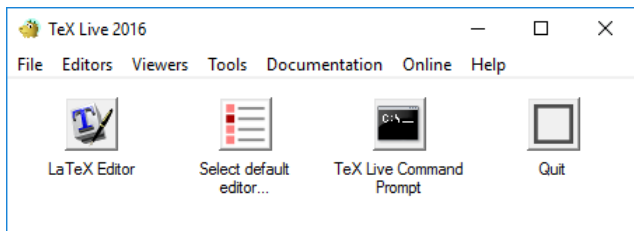- Integrate other TₑX-related software

The launcher

- Menus and buttons replace T$_E$X Live submenu
- User configuration at first startup
- Ini file
- Forgetter
- Ini file can be overridden by higher-priority one

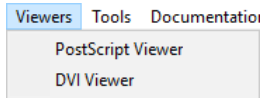# Default TₑX Live configuration

Viewers menu

Viewers | Tools | Documentation
PostScript Viewer
DVI Viewer

Tools menu

Tools	Documentation	Online	Help

TeX Live Command Prompt

Re-initialize TeX Live
Remove TeX Live settings

TeX Live Manager
Uninstall completely
Uninstall but keep directory

Editor choice

Generate/Refresh xetex font database

Documentation menu
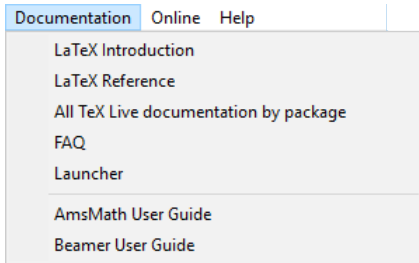
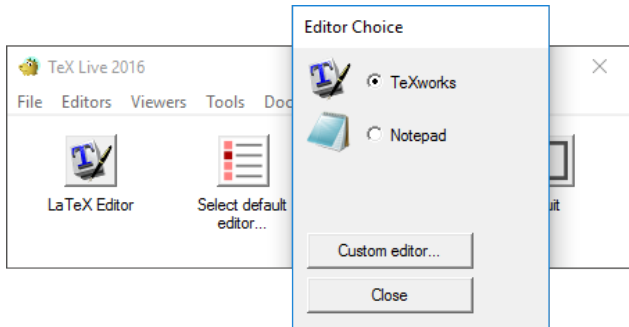# Editor choice

Custom editor

The ini file

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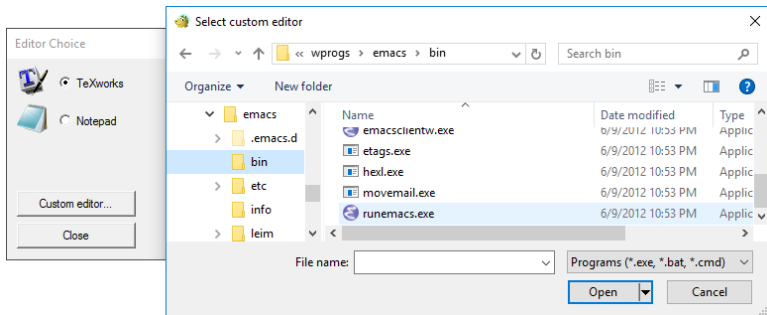
Ini file

- Filetype associations
- Menu- and button controls
- Options for path adjustment, filetypes

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Windows filetype associations

- Filename extensions are associated with filetypes.
- Filetypes are associated with commands.

Filetype definitions

```
[FT:TL.TeXworks.edit.%VERSION%]
COMMAND="%tlroot%\bin\win32\TeXworks.exe"
EXTENSIONS=.tex .cls .sty

[FT:TL.DVIOUT.view.%VERSION%]
COMMAND="%tlroot%\bin\win32\dviout.exe"
EXTENSIONS=.dvi
```

Menus

```
[MN:File]
Browse TeX Live installation=explorer.exe "%tlroot%\.."
Quit=FU:quit

[MN:Viewers]
PostScript Viewer=FT:TL.PSView.view.%VERSION%
DVI Viewer=FT:TL.DVIOUT.view.%VERSION%

[MN:Documentation]
LaTeX Introduction=SO:%tlroot%\texmf-dist\...\lshort.pdf
LaTeX Reference=SO:%tlroot%\texmf-dist\...\latex2e.pdf
All TeX Live documentation by package=SO:%tlroot%\doc.html
FAQ=SO:%tlroot%\texmf-dist\doc\generic\FAQ-en\newfaq.pdf
=
AmsMath User Guide=SO:%tlroot%\texmf-dist\...\amsldoc.pdf
Beamer User Guide=SO:%tlroot%\texmf-dist\...\beameruserguide.pdf
```

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Buttons

```
[Buttons]
LaTeX Editor=FU:default_editor
Select default editor...=FU:editor_select
TeX Live Command Prompt=%comspec% /T "TeX Live" /e:on
Quit=FU:quit
```

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General section

```
[General]
; allowed values: none, new, overwrite
FILETYPES=new
; 1: modify; anything else: leave alone
SEARCHPATH=1
```
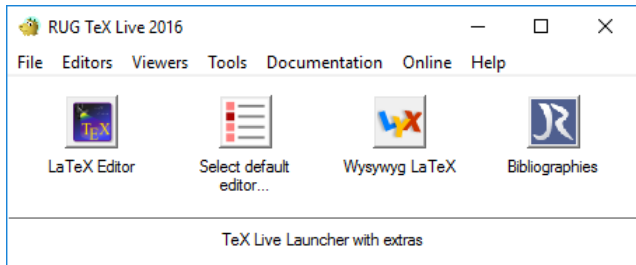
Launcher-based installations

- TₑX Live installer gets new option for desktop integration
- Launcher has 'install'- and uninstall modes
- tlaunchmode script

The RUG installation

The RUG installation

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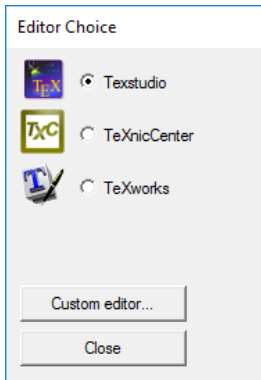support

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Add-ons

- Editors: TeXstudio, TeXnicCenter
- LyX (wysywyg LaTeX editor)
- Pdf viewer: SumatraPDF
- Bibliography manager: JabRef
- Epspdftk GUI conversion utility
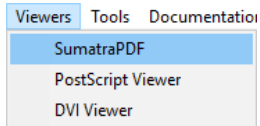- LaTeX house style

Editor choice

Viewers menu

Tools menu

| Tools | Documentation | Online | Help |

TeX Live Command Prompt

JabRef Bibliography Manager

Pdf- and PostScript conversions

Re-initialize TeX Live

Remove TeX Live settings

Editor choice

(Re)configure TeXnicCenter

Generate/Refresh xetex font database

Documentation menu

Documentation	Online	Help

LaTeX Introduction

LaTeX Reference

All TeX Live documentation by package

FAQ

Launcher

AmsMath User Guide

Beamer User Guide

Beamer Examples

TeXstudio Program Help

TeXstudio LaTeX Help

TeXnicCenter Help

RuG presentations 2016

Presentation sample files

RuG LaTeX Tutorial

Practice files

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Integrating add-ons

- Install on scratch system, and copy its directory to the network.
- *Many T$_E$X-related programs do not require installation.*
- Some fixes may be desirable.

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Fixes

- LyX: copy pre-made configuration to user profile
- SumatraPDF: registry entry to make it non-portable
- TeXstudio, SumatraPDF: suppress checking for new release (config file)
- TeXnicCenter: configure output profiles (registry)
- TeXworks: add some dictionaries

RUG post-config

```
[Strings]
TLEXTRAS=%tlroot%\extras
TLSCRIPTS=%TLEXTRAS%\scripts
POST_CONFIG=%TLSCRIPTS%\post_config.cmd
```

Initializations   ✕

```
3 File(s) copied
1 File(s) copied
copy /y "\\vbitmuis\lan\aps\tl\2016\extras\scripts\pre_forget.cmd" "C:\Users\siepo\.texlive2016\tlau
      1 file(s) copied.
Done with post_config
Done initializing
```

Close

Problems

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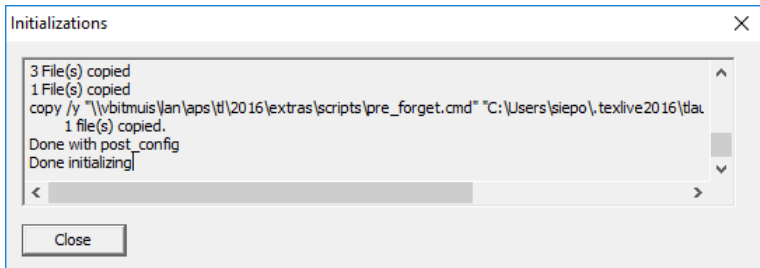
Problems: filetype associations

- Filetype associations do not roam; solution planned in future update; not a problem with RES
- 'User choice' filetype associations do roam, but cannot easily be set programmatically

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Uninstalling and forgetting

- Forgetter may not show up in start menu
- Inappropriate UAC prompt when invoked from Settings / Apps & features

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RES idiosyncracies

- RES preempts certain file extensions (but lets other filetype associations roam)
- User-initiated switch to new release seems impossible
- Garbage from previous releases may get in the way
- User searchpath ineffective under RES

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Searchpath remedies

- Not a problem for TeX Live GUI programs (`runscript` wrapper)
- Not a problem for programs started from the launcher
- Wrapper for TeXstudio
- TeXnicCenter uses registry settings
- The ICT people need to take care of external programs such as R and WinEdt which use LaTeX

http://mirror.ctan.org/support/
tlaunch/tlaunch.pdf