

## Taco Hoekwater

### 4 endless lines

The end of a line in an `\input`-ed file normally creates a space in the output,  $\TeX$  appends a character with the current value of `\endlinechar` to each that character is later converted to a space.

```
\immediate\write18
  {echo -n Y >bla.tex}
X\input bla Z
% gives XY Z
```

If you do not want that space, for instance because you want to typeset the of the file in-line, then there are a number of options. Two are usable writing, and two others during type reading.

1. Writing a percent sign to the end of the line works

```
\immediate\write18
  {echo -n Y\letterpercent >bla.tex}
X\input bla Z
% gives XYZ
```

2. Another option is ending the written line with `\relax` or a similar space-gobbling command.

```
\immediate\write18
  {echo -n Y\letterbackslash\letterbackslash relax >bla.tex}
X\input bla Z
% gives XY\relax Z
```

3. Temporarily setting `\endlinechar` to an impossible value like `-1` is a possibility

```
\immediate\write18
  {echo -n Y >bla.tex}
X{\endlinechar=-1 \input bla }Z
% gives XYZ
```

4. Changing the catcode of the current `\endlinechar` to `9` (ignored) also works

```
\immediate\write18
  {echo -n Y >bla.tex}
X{\catcode'\^M=9 \input bla }Z
% gives XYZ
```