TEX OUTPUT PREVIEWERS

Mark Senn

Sometimes it's faster and cheaper to view TEX
output at your desk before or instead of printing it
on a laser printer or phototypesetter. A TEX output
previewer displays TEX output on a VDU (video
display unit).

Previewers are in use on VDUs that have
from 80×20 to at least 1152×900 individually
addressable elements.

An entire page usually won't fit on a screen
when using fonts that are large enough to be read
comfortably. By panning (scrolling) one can look at
other parts of the page. One can look at different
pages by going through the pages in order, skipping
to a page by giving its "real" or TEX (\count0) page
number, or (sometimes) by searching for a word on a
page.

The previewer available from Andrew Trevorrow
does the best it can given the features of the VDU
used for the display. It supports a wide variety
of VDUs of varying intelligence, including the
AED 483, AED 512, ANSI, DEC ReGIS, DEC
VT100, Visual 500, Visual 550. It is described in
more detail in "DVItoVDU: A TEX Page Previewer,"
page 25.

The other previewers listed below work by
putting a pixel-for-pixel facsimile on their VDUs.
Three different modes are available while running
the Trevorrow previewers: *terse* substitutes standard
hardware characters for TEX characters; *box* displays
the outline of each character's bounding box (the
smallest rectangle containing all black pixels for this
character); *full* displays full character bitmaps. (On
80w $\times$ 20h displays where each character position
represents one pixel you won't see much of your
document in *full* mode.)

Figure 1.

Video Display Previewers.

C *EGA, Hercules, or Tecmar card required.*

D *Included on the U WASH distribution tape.*

E *Integrated editor allows TeX'ing part of an input file.*

H *Has on-line help file.*

P *Work in progress or in planning stages.*

T *Has tpic support. (The* pic *program is used with the UNIX* troff *typesetting system to produce line graphics, and the* tpic *program allows pic input to be used with TeX.)*

W *Previewer and another program (say an editor) can both be on-screen in separate windows.*

Z *Preview image can be enlarged for close inspection.*

Apollo Aegis *W, Z*	Bruce Baker 313-996-3566	Textset Box 7993 Ann Arbor, MI 48107
BBN BitGraph UNIX 4.2 BSD *D*	Mark Senn 317-743-0560	107 Digby Road Lafayette, IN 47905-1163
DEC VAXstation VMS, UNIX *P, W, Z*	Bruce Baker 313-996-3566	Textset Box 7993 Ann Arbor, MI 48107
DEC VAX VMS *H, Z*	Andrew Trevorrow 08-228-5984	University of Adelaide Computing Centre Box 498, GPO, Adelaide South Australia 5001, Australia
IBM PC MS-DOS *C, Z*	Toni Formichella 617-944-3700x2640	Addison-Wesley Publishing Educational Media Systems Reading MA 01867
IBM PC MS-DOS *C, Z*	Lance Carnes 415-388-8853	Personal TeX 20 Sunnyside, Suite H Mill Valley CA 94941
IBM PC MS-DOS *C, Z*	Bruce Baker 313-996-3566	Textset Box 7993 Ann Arbor, MI 48107
Integrated Solutions UNIX 4.2 BSD *W, T*	David Benjamin	University of California, Irvine Department of Information and Computer Science Irvine CA 92717
Perq PNX *E, W*	Wolfgang Appelt	Gesellschaft für Mathematik und Datenverarbeitung D-5202 Sankt Augustin Federal Republic of Germany
Sun Microsystems UNIX 4.2 BSD *H, W*	Michael Harrison 415-642-1469	University of California, Berkeley Computer Science Division Berkeley, CA 94720
Sun Microsystems UNIX 4.2 BSD *D, T*	Tim Morgan	University of California, Irvine Department of Information and Computer Science Irvine CA 92717
SUN UNIX 4.2 BSD *H, W, Z*	Bruce Baker 313-996-3566	Textset Box 7993 Ann Arbor, MI 48107