H.2   Further reading

Much documentation is included with the LaTeX and the AMS distributions and many third-party packages are also well documented. You will also find a great deal of documentation on CTAN.

As you have no doubt noticed, there are many references to *The LaTeX Companion,* 2nd edition [46] in this book. While it is not a beginner's book, it is indispensable for advanced LaTeX users with special needs. It is also the best overview of more than a hundred important packages. For package writers and students of NFSS, it is *the* basic textbook. For graphics work, read *The LaTeX Graphics Companion* [17], and on Web publishing *The LaTeX Web Companion* [18].

Learning TeX is a bit more complicated than learning LaTeX. You may want to start with Wynter Snow's *TeX for the Beginner* [57]. It introduces many of TeX's basic concepts in a very relaxed style with many examples. The notes on LaTeX make the book especially useful, and the author gives many examples of writing macros. The use of TeX as a programming language is not discussed.

Raymond Seroul and Silvio Levy's *A Beginner's Book of TeX* [56] is another good introduction. This book also includes a chapter on TeX programming. Donald E. Knuth's *The TeXbook* [38] provides an easy introduction to TeX, as long as you avoid the difficult parts marked by dangerous bend signs. Paul W. Abrahams, Karl Berry, and Kathryn A. Hargreaves' *TeX for the Impatient* [1] explains many TeX commands, grouped by topic. This book has a very useful, nonsequential approach. Finally, Victor Eijkhout's *TeX by Topic: A TeXnician's Reference* [14] is an excellent reference book on TeX, mainly for experts. For many tutorial examples, see the articles and columns in *TUGboat* (see Section E.2).

For advice to authors of mathematical articles and books, see *Mathematics into Type* [58] by Ellen Swanson (updated by Arlene Ann O'Sean and Antoinette Tingley Schleyer). You may find it interesting to see how many of the rules in Swanson's book have been incorporated into LaTeX. The definitive book on style (in North America) is *The Chicago Manual of Style,* 15th edition [11]. Two other views on copy editing are presented in Judith Butcher's *Copy Editing: The Cambridge Handbook* [9] and *Hart's Rules for Compositors and Readers at the University Press, Oxford* by Horace Hart [35], updated in R. M. Ritter's *New Hart's Rules: The Handbook of Style for Writers and Editors* [54]. The special problems of writing about math and computer science are admirably dissected in Lyn Dupré's *BUGS in Writing: A Guide to Debugging Your Prose,* 2nd edition [13].

Most people who write math have little or no background in typography, the art of printing with type. But when you become a typesetter, it can be useful to learn a little bit about typography. I would highly recommend Robert Bringhurst's *The Elements of Typographic Style* [8]. See also Ruari McLean's *The Thames and Hudson Manual of Typography* [44] and Alison Black's *Typefaces for Desktop Publishing: A User Guide* [6].

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