

COMPUTERS & TYPESETTING

JUBILEE
• 2021 •
edition

D O N A L D E . K N U T H

COMPUTERS & TYPESETTING / B

TEX: The Program

402. Basic scanning subroutines. Let's turn now to some procedures that $\text{\TeX}$ calls upon frequently to digest certain kinds of patterns in the input. Most of these are quite simple; some are quite elaborate. Almost all of the routines call *get_x_token*, which can cause them to be invoked recursively.

403. The *scan_left_brace* routine is called when a left brace is supposed to be the next non-blank token. (The term "left brace" means, more precisely, a character whose catcode is *left_brace*.) $\text{\TeX}$ allows *\relax* to appear before the *left_brace*.

```

procedure scan_left_brace; { reads a mandatory left_brace }
  begin { Get the next non-blank non-relax non-call token 404 };
  if cur_cmd  $\neq$  left_brace then
    begin print_err("Missing_{ inserted");
    help4("A_left_brace_was_mandatory_here,so_I've_put_one_in.")
    ("You_might_want_to_delete_and/or_insert_some_corrections")
    ("so_that_I_will_find_a_matching_right_brace_soon.")
    ("(If_you're_confused_by_all_this,try_typing_I'now.)"); back_error;
    cur_tok  $\leftarrow$  left_brace_token + "{"; cur_cmd  $\leftarrow$  left_brace; cur_chr  $\leftarrow$  "{"; incr(align_state);
    end;
  end;

```

```

404. { Get the next non-blank non-relax non-call token 404 }  $\equiv$ 
  repeat get_x_token;
  until (cur_cmd  $\neq$  spacer)  $\wedge$  (cur_cmd  $\neq$  relax)

```

This code is used in sections 403, 1078, 1084, 1151, 1160, 1211, 1226, and 1270.

405. The *scan_optional_equals* routine looks for an optional '=' sign preceded by optional spaces; '*\relax*' is not ignored here.

```

procedure scan_optional_equals;
  begin { Get the next non-blank non-call token 406 };
  if cur_tok  $\neq$  other_token + "=" then back_input;
  end;

```

align_state: integer, §309.
back_error: **procedure**, §327.
back_input: **procedure**, §325.
begin_diagnostic: **procedure**, §245.
cur_chr: halfword, §297.
cur_cmd: eight_bits, §297.
cur_tok: halfword, §297.
end_diagnostic: **procedure**, §245.
free_avail: macro, §121.
get_x_token: **procedure**, §380.
help4 = macro, §79.
incr = macro, §16.
info = macro, §118.

left_brace = 1, §207.
left_brace_token = 256, §289.
link = macro, §118.
m: halfword, §389.
match_chr: ASCIIcode, §389.
n: small_number, §389.
null = macro, §115.
other_token = 3072, §289.
p: pointer, §389.
print: **procedure**, §59.
print_cs: **procedure**, §262.
print_err = macro, §73.
print_int: **procedure**, §65.

print_ln: **procedure**, §57.
print_nl: **procedure**, §62.
pstack: **array**, §388.
rbrace_ptr: pointer, §389.
ref_count: pointer, §389.
relax = 0, §207.
right_brace_limit = 768, §289.
show_token_list: **procedure**, §292.
spacer = 10, §207.
temp_head = macro, §162.
token_show: **procedure**, §295.
tracing_macros = macro, §236.
warning_index: pointer, §305.

406. $\langle$ Get the next non-blank non-call token 406 $\rangle \equiv$

```
repeat get_x_token;
until cur_cmd  $\neq$  spacer
```

This code is used in sections 405, 441, 455, 503, 526, 577, 785, 791, and 1045.

407. In case you are getting bored, here is a slightly less trivial routine: Given a string of lowercase letters, like ‘pt’ or ‘plus’ or ‘width’, the *scan_keyword* routine checks to see whether the next tokens of input match this string. The match must be exact, except that uppercase letters will match their lowercase counterparts; uppercase equivalents are determined by subtracting “a” – “A”, rather than using the *uc_code* table, since T_EX uses this routine only for its own limited set of keywords.

If a match is found, the characters are effectively removed from the input and *true* is returned. Otherwise *false* is returned, and the input is left essentially unchanged (except for the fact that some macros may have been expanded, etc.).

```
function scan_keyword(s : str_number): boolean; { look for a given string }
  label exit;
  var p: pointer; { tail of the backup list }
      q: pointer; { new node being added to the token list via store_new_token }
      k: pool_pointer; { index into str_pool }
  begin p  $\leftarrow$  backup_head; link(p)  $\leftarrow$  null; k  $\leftarrow$  str_start[s];
  while k < str_start[s + 1] do
    begin get_x_token; { recursion is possible here }
    if (cur_cs = 0)  $\wedge$  ((cur_chr = so(str_pool[k]))  $\vee$  (cur_chr = so(str_pool[k] – “a” + “A”))) then
      begin store_new_token(cur_tok); incr(k);
      end
    else if (cur_cmd  $\neq$  spacer)  $\vee$  (p  $\neq$  backup_head) then
      begin back_input;
      if p  $\neq$  backup_head then back_list(link(backup_head));
      scan_keyword  $\leftarrow$  false; return;
      end;
    end;
  flush_list(link(backup_head)); scan_keyword  $\leftarrow$  true;
exit: end;
```

408. Here is a procedure that sounds an alarm when mu and non-mu units are being switched.

```
procedure mu_error;
  begin print_err(“Incompatible glue units”);
  help1(“I’m going to assume that 1mu=1pt when they’re mixed.”); error;
  end;
```

409. The next routine ‘*scan_something_internal*’ is used to fetch internal numeric quantities like ‘\hsize’, and also to handle the ‘\the’ when expanding constructions like ‘\the\toks0’ and ‘\the\baselineskip’. Soon we will be considering the *scan_int* procedure, which calls *scan_something_internal*; on the other hand, *scan_something_internal* also calls *scan_int*, for constructions like ‘\catcode\\$\’ or ‘\fontdimen 3 \ff’. So we have to declare *scan_int* as a *forward* procedure. A few other procedures are also declared at this point.

```
procedure scan_int; forward; { scans an integer value }
```

⟨ Declare procedures that scan restricted classes of integers 433 ⟩
 ⟨ Declare procedures that scan font-related stuff 577 ⟩

410. T_EX doesn’t know exactly what to expect when *scan_something_internal* begins. For example, an integer or dimension or glue value could occur immediately after ‘\hskip’; and one can even say \the with respect to token lists in constructions like ‘\xdef\o{\the\output}’. On the other hand, only integers are allowed after a construction like ‘\count’. To handle the various possibilities, *scan_something_internal* has a *level* parameter, which tells the “highest” kind of quantity that *scan_something_internal* is allowed to produce. Six levels are distinguished, namely *int_val*, *dimen_val*, *glue_val*, *mu_val*, *ident_val*, and *tok_val*.

The output of *scan_something_internal* (and of the other routines *scan_int*, *scan_dimen*, and *scan_glue* below) is put into the global variable *cur_val*, and its level is put into *cur_val_level*. The highest values of *cur_val_level* are special: *mu_val* is used only when *cur_val* points to something in a “muskip” register, or to one of the three parameters \thinmuskip, \medmuskip, \thickmuskip; *ident_val* is used only when *cur_val* points to a font identifier; *tok_val* is used only when *cur_val* points to *null* or to the reference count of a token list. The last two cases are allowed only when *scan_something_internal* is called with *level* = *tok_val*.

If the output is glue, *cur_val* will point to a glue specification, and the reference count of that glue will have been updated to reflect this reference; if the output is a nonempty token list, *cur_val* will point to its reference count, but in this case the count will not have been updated. Otherwise *cur_val* will contain the integer or scaled value in question.

```

define int_val = 0 { integer values }
define dimen_val = 1 { dimension values }
define glue_val = 2 { glue specifications }
define mu_val = 3 { math glue specifications }
define ident_val = 4 { font identifier }
define tok_val = 5 { token lists }

⟨ Global variables 13 ⟩ +=
cur_val: integer; { value returned by numeric scanners }
cur_val_level: int_val .. tok_val; { the “level” of this value }

```

back_input: **procedure**, §325.
back_list = macro, §323.
backup_head = macro, §162.
cur_chr: halfword, §297.
cur_cmd: *eight_bits*, §297.
cur_cs: pointer, §297.
cur_tok: halfword, §297.
error: **procedure**, §82.
exit = 10, §15.
flush_list: **procedure**, §123.
get_x_token: **procedure**, §380.

help1 = macro, §79.
incr = macro, §16.
level: *small_number*, §413.
link = macro, §118.
null = macro, §115.
pointer = macro, §115.
pool_pointer = 0 .. *pool_size*, §38.
print_err = macro, §73.
scan_dimen: **procedure**, §448.
scan_glue: **procedure**, §461.

scan_int: **procedure**, §440.
scan_something_internal:
 procedure, §413.
so = macro, §38.
spacer = 10, §207.
store_new_token = macro, §371.
str_number = 0 .. *max_strings*, §38.
str_pool: **packed array**, §39.
str_start: **array**, §39.
uc_code = macro, §230.

411. The hash table is initialized with ‘\count’, ‘\dimen’, ‘\skip’, and ‘\muskip’ all having *register* as their command code; they are distinguished by the *chr_code*, which is either *int_val*, *dimen_val*, *glue_val*, or *mu_val*.

```

⟨ Put each of TEX's primitives into the hash table 226 ⟩ +≡
  primitive("count", register, int_val); primitive("dimen", register, dimen_val);
  primitive("skip", register, glue_val); primitive("muskip", register, mu_val);

```

412. ⟨ Cases of *print_cmd_chr* for symbolic printing of primitives 227 ⟩ +≡

```

register: if chr_code = int_val then print_esc("count")
  else if chr_code = dimen_val then print_esc("dimen")
    else if chr_code = glue_val then print_esc("skip")
      else print_esc("muskip");

```

413. OK, we're ready for *scan_something_internal* itself. A second parameter, *negative*, is set *true* if the value that is found should be negated. It is assumed that *cur_cmd* and *cur_chr* represent the first token of the internal quantity to be scanned; an error will be signalled if *cur_cmd* < *min_internal* or *cur_cmd* > *max_internal*.

```

define scanned_result_end(#) ≡ cur_val_level ← #; end
define scanned_result(#) ≡ begin cur_val ← #; scanned_result_end
procedure scan_something_internal(level : small_number; negative : boolean);
  { fetch an internal parameter }
  var m: halfword; { chr_code part of the operand token }
  p: 0 .. nest_size; { index into nest }
  begin m ← cur_chr;
  case cur_cmd of
    def_code: ⟨ Fetch a character code from some table 414 ⟩;
    toks_register, assign_toks, def_family, set_font, def_font: ⟨ Fetch a token list or font identifier, provided
      that level = tok_val 415 ⟩;
    assign_int: scanned_result(eqb[m].int)(int_val);
    assign_dimen: scanned_result(eqb[m].sc)(dimen_val);
    assign_glue: scanned_result(equiv(m))(glue_val);
    assign_mu_glue: scanned_result(equiv(m))(mu_val);
    set_aux: ⟨ Fetch the space_factor or the prev_depth 418 ⟩;
    set_prev_graf: ⟨ Fetch the prev_graf 422 ⟩;
    set_page_int: ⟨ Fetch the dead_cycles or the insert_penalties 419 ⟩;
    set_page_dimen: ⟨ Fetch something on the page_so_far 421 ⟩;
    set_shape: ⟨ Fetch the par_shape size 423 ⟩;
    set_box_dimen: ⟨ Fetch a box dimension 420 ⟩;
    char_given, math_given: scanned_result(cur_chr)(int_val);
    assign_font_dimen: ⟨ Fetch a font dimension 425 ⟩;
    assign_font_int: ⟨ Fetch a font integer 426 ⟩;
    register: ⟨ Fetch a register 427 ⟩;
    last_item: ⟨ Fetch an item in the current node, if appropriate 424 ⟩;
    othercases: ⟨ Complain that \the can't do this; give zero result 428 ⟩
  endcases;
  while cur_val_level > level do ⟨ Convert cur_val to a lower level 429 ⟩;
  ⟨ Fix the reference count, if any, and negate cur_val if negative 430 ⟩;
  end;

```

414. $\langle$ Fetch a character code from some table 414 $\rangle \equiv$

```

begin scan_char_num;
if  $m = \text{math\_code\_base}$  then scanned_result( $ho(\text{math\_code}(\text{cur\_val}))(\text{int\_val})$ )
else if  $m < \text{math\_code\_base}$  then scanned_result( $\text{equiv}(m + \text{cur\_val})(\text{int\_val})$ )
    else scanned_result( $\text{eqtb}[m + \text{cur\_val}].\text{int}(\text{int\_val})$ );
end

```

This code is used in section 413.

415. $\langle$ Fetch a token list or font identifier, provided that $\text{level} = \text{tok_val}$ 415 $\rangle \equiv$

```

if  $\text{level} \neq \text{tok\_val}$  then
begin print_err("Missing_number, treated as zero");
help3("A number should have been here; I inserted `0`.")
("If you can't figure out why I needed to see a number,")
("look up `weird error` in the index to The TeXbook."); back_error;
scanned_result(0)( $\text{dimen\_val}$ );
end
else if  $\text{cur\_cmd} \leq \text{assign\_toks}$  then
begin if  $\text{cur\_cmd} < \text{assign\_toks}$  then {  $\text{cur\_cmd} = \text{toks\_register}$  }
begin scan_eight_bit_int;  $m \leftarrow \text{toks\_base} + \text{cur\_val}$ ;
end;
scanned_result( $\text{equiv}(m)(\text{tok\_val})$ );
end
else begin back_input; scan_font_ident; scanned_result( $\text{font\_id\_base} + \text{cur\_val})(\text{ident\_val})$ );
end

```

This code is used in section 413.

$\text{assign_dimen} = 74$, §209.
 $\text{assign_font_dimen} = 77$, §209.
 $\text{assign_font_int} = 78$, §209.
 $\text{assign_glue} = 75$, §209.
 $\text{assign_int} = 73$, §209.
 $\text{assign_mu_glue} = 76$, §209.
 $\text{assign_toks} = 72$, §209.
 back_error : **procedure**, §327.
 back_input : **procedure**, §325.
 $\text{char_given} = 68$, §208.
 chr_code : *halfword*, §298.
 cur_chr : *halfword*, §297.
 cur_cmd : *eight_bits*, §297.
 cur_val : *integer*, §410.
 cur_val_level : 0 . . 5, §410.
 dead_cycles : *integer*, §592.
 $\text{def_code} = 85$, §209.
 $\text{def_family} = 86$, §209.
 $\text{def_font} = 88$, §209.
 $\text{dimen_val} = 1$, §410.
 eqtb : **array**, §253.
 equiv : **macro**, §221.

$\text{font_id_base} = 2624$, §222.
 $\text{glue_val} = 2$, §410.
 $\text{halfword} = \text{min_halfword}$. .
 max_halfword , §113.
 help3 : **macro**, §79.
 ho : **macro**, §112.
 $\text{ident_val} = 4$, §410.
 insert_penalties : *integer*, §982.
 int : *integer*, §113.
 $\text{int_val} = 0$, §410.
 $\text{last_item} = 70$, §208.
 math_code : **macro**, §230.
 $\text{math_code_base} = 5007$, §230.
 $\text{math_given} = 69$, §208.
 $\text{max_internal} = 89$, §209.
 $\text{min_internal} = 68$, §208.
 $\text{mu_val} = 3$, §410.
 nest : **array**, §213.
 nest_size : **const**, §11.
 page_so_far : **array**, §982.
 prev_depth : **macro**, §213.
 prev_graf : **macro**, §213.

primitive : **procedure**, §264.
 print_cmd_chr : **procedure**, §298.
 print_err : **macro**, §73.
 print_esc : **procedure**, §63.
 $\text{register} = 89$, §209.
 sc : **macro**, §113.
 scan_char_num : **procedure**, §434.
 $\text{scan_eight_bit_int}$: **procedure**,
§433.
 scan_font_ident : **procedure**, §577.
 $\text{set_aux} = 79$, §209.
 $\text{set_box_dimen} = 83$, §209.
 $\text{set_font} = 87$, §209.
 $\text{set_page_dimen} = 81$, §209.
 $\text{set_page_int} = 82$, §209.
 $\text{set_prev_graf} = 80$, §209.
 $\text{set_shape} = 84$, §209.
 $\text{small_number} = 0$. . 63, §101.
 space_factor : **macro**, §213.
 $\text{tok_val} = 5$, §410.
 $\text{toks_base} = 3422$, §230.
 $\text{toks_register} = 71$, §209.

416. Users refer to ‘\the\spacefactor’ only in horizontal mode, and to ‘\the\prevdepth’ only in vertical mode; so we put the associated mode in the modifier part of the *set_aux* command. The *set_page_int* command has modifier 0 or 1, for ‘\deadcycles’ and ‘\insertpenalties’, respectively. The *set_box_dimen* command is modified by either *width_offset*, *height_offset*, or *depth_offset*. And the *last_item* command is modified by either *int_val*, *dimen_val*, *glue_val*, *input_line_no_code*, or *badness_code*.

```

define input_line_no_code = glue_val + 1 { code for \inputlineno }
define badness_code = glue_val + 2 { code for \badness }

⟨ Put each of TEX’s primitives into the hash table 226 ⟩ +≡
  primitive("spacefactor", set_aux, hmode); primitive("prevdepth", set_aux, vmode);
  primitive("deadcycles", set_page_int, 0); primitive("insertpenalties", set_page_int, 1);
  primitive("wd", set_box_dimen, width_offset); primitive("ht", set_box_dimen, height_offset);
  primitive("dp", set_box_dimen, depth_offset); primitive("lastpenalty", last_item, int_val);
  primitive("lastkern", last_item, dimen_val); primitive("lastskip", last_item, glue_val);
  primitive("inputlineno", last_item, input_line_no_code);
  primitive("badness", last_item, badness_code);

```

417. ⟨ Cases of *print_cmd_chr* for symbolic printing of primitives 227 ⟩ +≡

```

set_aux: if chr_code = vmode then print_esc("prevdepth") else print_esc("spacefactor");
set_page_int: if chr_code = 0 then print_esc("deadcycles") else print_esc("insertpenalties");
set_box_dimen: if chr_code = width_offset then print_esc("wd")
  else if chr_code = height_offset then print_esc("ht")
  else print_esc("dp");
last_item: case chr_code of
  int_val: print_esc("lastpenalty");
  dimen_val: print_esc("lastkern");
  glue_val: print_esc("lastskip");
  input_line_no_code: print_esc("inputlineno");
  othercases print_esc("badness")
endcases;

```

418. ⟨ Fetch the *space_factor* or the *prev_depth* 418 ⟩ ≡

```

if abs(mode) ≠ m then
  begin print_err("Improper"); print_cmd_chr(set_aux, m);
  help4("You can refer to \spacefactor only in horizontal mode;")
  ("you can refer to \prevdepth only in vertical mode; and")
  ("neither of these is meaningful inside \write. So")
  ("I'm forgetting what you said and using zero instead."); error;
  if level ≠ tok_val then scanned_result(0)(dimen_val)
  else scanned_result(0)(int_val);
  end
else if m = vmode then scanned_result(prev_depth)(dimen_val)
  else scanned_result(space_factor)(int_val)

```

This code is used in section 413.

419. ⟨ Fetch the *dead_cycles* or the *insert_penalties* 419 ⟩ ≡

```

begin if m = 0 then cur_val ← dead_cycles else cur_val ← insert_penalties;
cur_val_level ← int_val;

```