Meta-Document Construction[†]

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Abstract

The publishing of electronic documents offers several advantages over traditional paper-based media. This is particularly true for large-scale documents, where the cost of preparing, producing, and distributing the camera-ready copy is significant. This paper describes an approach to electronic document delivery by which electronic conference proceedings and other technical documents can be published semi-automatically. The approach specifies an end-to-end work flow process that employs easily available UNIX tools and common language-based document formats such as LaTeX and PostScript. Meta-documents and a split/join transformation allow the process to be invoked at arbitrarily higher levels. For example, papers can be assembled into proceedings, proceedings can be assembled in turn into a larger collection, and so on. This technology has been successfully used to produce conference proceedings, compendia, and reference manuals.

Keywords: Electronic document delivery, LaTeX, meta-documents, PostScript, publishing.

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