

Case Study – Print-Ready Mathematics Books

Client: Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Process: Receive handwritten notes, hand-drawn sketches – convert into a print-ready book

1. Professors from the Mathematics Department handwrite notes, sketch images
 - a. Papers are scanned and emailed to us
2. Notes are typeset in Latex, a specialized software catering to mathematic constructs
 - a. Handwriting is interpreted – English syntax and grammar
 - b. Mathematic variables, symbols, equations are encoded/typeset
 - c. Hand-sketches are illustrated in Gnuplot, , tikz, overpic, epsfig, epic, eepic, pspic, mycurves
 - d. Pre-drawn figures are manipulated in Photoshop, Illustrator, CorelDRAW!
 - e. Page and element layout – text, images, table elements are aligned with respect to each other, page boundaries
 - f. Styles for Headings, Sub-headings, Headers & Footers, ToC, Index...
3. Proofreading – English; comparing what author sent with what we are delivering
4. Preflighting
 - a. A print-ready book is submitted to the printing press (usually in Latex)
 - b. A print-ready paper is submitted to mathematical journals (usually AMSTex)
5. Slides and transparencies
 - a. Beamer, Prosper (for slides in a PDF file)
 - b. PowerPoint presentations (using IguanaTex)
6. General documents – formatted according to specifications
 - a. Lecture notes, Evaluations (tests)
 - b. Web-ready – small size for quick download, compatible with screen readers, view (but prevent printing), print at low resolution, prevent copying text...