

The `la` package* for use with L^AT_EX 2_ε

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1 Introduction

The fonts `la` and `lla` provide glyphs for producing a handwritten writing as taught in primary school. These fonts have been written by Johannes Heuer. They can be found on the CTAN in the directory `tex-archive/fonts/calligra`. This package provides means to use those fonts in L^AT_EX 2_ε.

This package has been created for an article in „Die T_EXnische Komödie“ [1]. This article contains some more details on the package and its use.

2 Usage

This file can be used as a package by placing its name in the argument of `\usepackage`. Afterwards the font families `la` and `lla` are defined. This could also have been done by providing two font definition files.

The font definitions in this file scale down the original fonts to L^AT_EX choose the right baselineskip. The original size of the `la` fonts can be selected with the commands `\LARGE\la` or `\LARGE\lla`.

`\la` The command `\la` changes the current font family to `la` and the encoding to T1. Usually this should be used in a T_EX group only.

The following example on the left produces the result on the right.

```
{\la Lorem ipsum dolor sit} amet,  
consectetur adipisicing elit, sed do  
eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et  
dolore magna aliqua.}
```

*>Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur
adipisicing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor
incidunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua.*

`\textla` This macro typesets its argument in the `la` font.

The following example on the left produces the result on the right.

*This file has version number v1.4, dated 2026/05/18.

`\textlla{ Lorem ipsum dolor sit} amet,
consectetur adipisicing elit, sed do
eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et
dolore magna aliqua.`

*Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consecte-
tur adipisicing elit, sed do eius-
mod tempor incididunt ut labore
et dolore magna aliqua.*

`\lla` The command `\lla` changes the current font family to `lla` and the encoding to T1. Usually this should be used in a `TeX` group only.

The following example on the left produces the result on the right.

`{\lla Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,
consectetur adipisicing elit, sed do
eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et
dolore magna aliqua.}`

*Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur
adipisicing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor
incidunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua.*

`\textlla` This macro typesets its argument in the `lla` font.

The following example on the left produces the result on the right.

`\textlla{ Lorem ipsum dolor sit} amet,
consectetur adipisicing elit, sed do
eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et
dolore magna aliqua.`

*Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consecte-
tur adipisicing elit, sed do eius-
mod tempor incididunt ut labore
et dolore magna aliqua.*

`\llafill` The command `\llafill` fills the rest of the line with lines as used in the `lla` font. The result may be unexpected if not used where the font family is not `lla`.

The following example on the left produces the result on the right.

`{\lla Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,
consectetur adipisicing\llafill}`

*Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur
adipisicing*

`\llaline` The command `\llaline` takes its argument and adds lines as used in the `lla` font underneath. This is similar to the `\underline` macro.

The following example on the left produces the result on the right.

`{\lla Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,
consectetur adipisicing elit, sed do
{\llaline{eiusmod tempor} incididunt ut
labore et dolore magna aliqua.}`

*Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur
adipisicing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor in-
cididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua.*

References

- [1] Gerd Neugebauer. Von „krakelig“ bis „wie gemalt“. *Die T_EXnische Komödie*, 1/96:25–42, June 1996.

3 Implementation

First we declare a new font family for the `la` font.

```
\DeclareFontFamily{T1}{la}{}

```

This font is only available in the normal shape. Here we can get the desired font by (silently) scaling the only present `la14`. Since the design size is 14 we have to scale down the font by $1/14 = 0.71428571$.

```
\DeclareFontShape{T1}{la}{m}{n}{<->s*[0.71428571]la14}{}

```

Now we define the next font family for the font with lines in the background.

```
\DeclareFontFamily{T1}{lla}{}

```

This font is only available in the normal shape. Here we can get the desired font by (silently) scaling the only present lla14. Since the design size is 14 we have to scale down the font by $1/14 = 0.71428571$.

```
\DeclareFontShape{T1}{lla}{m}{n}{<->s*[0.71428571]lla14}{}
```

Now we define font changing commands.

`\la` The macro `\la` selects the la family.

```
\DeclareRobustCommand\la{\fontfamily{la}\fontencoding{T1}\selectfont}
```

`\textla` The macro `\textla` typesets its arguments in the la font.

```
\newcommand\textla[1]{\begingroup
\fontfamily{la}\fontencoding{T1}\selectfont #1\endgroup}
```

`\lla` The macro `\lla` selects the lla family.

```
\DeclareRobustCommand\lla{\fontfamily{lla}\fontencoding{T1}\selectfont}
```

`\textlla` The macro `\textlla` typesets its arguments in the lla font.

```
\newcommand\textlla[1]{\begingroup
\fontfamily{lla}\fontencoding{T1}\selectfont #1\endgroup}
```

`\llafill` The macro `\llafill` is modeled after the macro `\underline`. The symbol 24 in the lla font provides just the lines.

```
\newcommand\llafill{\leaders\hbox{\kern.2em\symbol{24}}\hfill\symbol{24}}
```

`\lla\line` The macro `\lla\line` packs its argument into a box. Then a box of the same size is filled with empty lines and the original box is typeset in a box of width 0 afterwards.

```
\newcommand\lla\line[1]{%
{\lla\symbol{24}}%
\mbox{\setbox0=\hbox{#1}\hbox to \wd0{\lla\fill}\lla\par\usebox0}}}
```

`\lla\par` (*env.*) This environment typesets one or more paragraphs with the lla font. The `\lla\line` instructions are inserted automatically at the end of each paragraph.

```
\newenvironment{\lla\par}{\par\begingroup\lla
\let\lla@par=\par
\def\par{\lla\fill\lla@par}}{\par\endgroup}
```

Change History

v1.0		robust.	1
	General: First release.	1	
v1.1		v1.3	
	General: Macros <code>\textla</code> , <code>\textlla</code>	General: License clarified and	
	added.	address updated.	1
v1.2		v1.4	
	General: Some commands made	General: Address updated.	1

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Numbers written in *italic* refer to the page where the corresponding entry is described; numbers underlined refer to the definition; numbers in *roman* refer to the pages where the entry is used.

E		L		<code>llapar (env.)</code> <u>3</u>
environments:	<code>\la</code>	1 , <u>3</u>	T	
	<code>\lla</code>	2 , <u>3</u>	<code>\textla</code>	1 , <u>3</u>
	<code>\llafill</code>	2 , <u>3</u>	<code>\textlla</code>	2 , <u>3</u>
	<code>llapar</code> <u>3</u>	<code>\llaline</code>	2 , <u>3</u>	