How to use the Previewer *xdvi* and *ghostview*

Text created with LaTeX can easily be viewed on an X-terminal using the previewer program *xdvi*. If you have included PostScript pictures in your text, however, these pictures will not show up in *xdvi*. You have to use the PostScript previewer *ghostview* instead, as with any other PostScript document you want to view.

XDVI

The previewer *xdvi* is usually run as a background job on your machine. You call the previewer with the name of your LaTeX dvi file as an argument. The file ending .dvi may be omitted:

xdvi dvifile &

A screen with your document will appear where the following commands are supported. Each may optionally be preceded by a (positive or negative) number, whose interpretation will depend on the particular keystroke. Also, the "Home", "PrevScrn", "NextScrn", and arrow cursor keys are synonyms for the '^', 'b','f', 'l', 'r', 'u', and 'd' keys, respectively.

q	Quits the program. CTRL-C and CTRL-D will do this too.
n	Moves to the next page (or forward n pages if a number is given). Synonyms are 'f', SPACE, RETURN, and LINEFEED.
p	Moves to the previous page (or back n pages). Synonyms are 'b', CTRL-H, and DELETE.
g	Moves to the page with the given number. Initially, the first page is assumed to be page number 1, but this can be changed with the 'P' keystroke, below. If no page number is given, then it goes to the last page.
P	"This is page number n." This can be used to make the 'g' keystroke refer to actual page numbers instead of absolute page numbers.
CTRL-L	Redisplays the current page.
^	Move to the "home" position of the page. This is normally the upper left-hand corner of the page.
d	Moves down two thirds of a window.
l	Moves left two thirds of a window.
r	Moves right two thirds of a window.
c	Moves the page so that the point currently beneath the cursor is moved to the middle of the window.
M	Sets the margins so that the point currently under the cursor is the upper left-hand corner of the text in the page. Note that this command itself does not move the image at all.
s	Changes the shrink factor to the given number. If no number is given, the smallest factor that makes the entire page fit in the window will be used. (Margins are ignored in this computation.)
S	Sets the density factor to be used when shrinking bitmaps. This should be a number between 0 and 100; higher numbers produce lighter characters.
R	Forces the dvi file to be reread. This allows you to preview many versions of the same file while running xdvi only once. (The file will also be reread when the window is reactivated.)
k	Normally when xdvi switches pages, it moves to the home position as well. The 'k' keystroke toggles a 'keep-position' flag which, when set, will keep the same position when moving between pages.
x	Toggles expert mode (in which the buttons do not appear).

GHOSTVIEW

The previewer *ghostview* is ususally run as a background job. You call the previewer either with the PostScript file name as an argument or without any argument and open the file later:

ghostview postscriptfile.ps &
ghostview &

A screen with your document will appear which can be driven by pull down menus or by keyboard accelerators. The pull down menus (oval fields) are activated with the left mouse button (A full DINA4 page is best viewed with Magstep -1 and Media A4). You can jump to any page in your document by clicking on the corresponding number in the vertical list of page numbers with the middle mouse button.

When clicking with the mouse button on the viewport (the part of the screen where the text appears), a zoom window with high resolution (left mouse button), medium resolution (middle mouse button) or low resolution (right mouse button) will appear. Clicking on the DISMISS button will delete the zoom window.

Besides the mouse driven actions, *ghostview* supports the following keyboard accelerators:

q	Quit ghostview.
o	Open a new file for viewing. A new window will appear where you can select an existing file by clicking on the file name with the mouse button or by typing the name of the file in the upper box (file name completion is supported by pressing the space bar).
r	Reopen the current file.
s	Save marked pages (pages are marked with the left mouse button or with the m command).
p	Print marked pages (pages are marked with the left mouse button or with the m command).
Shift-p	Print current file.
b	Display previous page, same as the BACKSPACE, DELETE, PREVSCRN keys.
f	Display next page, same as the SPACE, RETURN, NEXTSCRN keys.
Ctrl-L	Redisplay current page.
m	Mark current page.
n	Unmark current page.
0,1,2,3,4,5	Go to magstep 0,1,2,3,4,5.
+	Increases the magstep by 1.
–	Decreases the magstep by 1.
u, k	Scrolls the main viewport up.
d, j	Scrolls the main viewport down.
h	Scrolls the main viewport left.
l	Scrolls the main viewport right.
↑	Set orientation to portrait.
↓	Set orientation upside-down.
→	Set orientation to landscape.
←	Set orientation to seascape.
Shift-↑	force orientation to portrait.
Shift-↓	force orientation upside-down.
Shift-→	force orientation to landscape.
Shift-←	force orientation to seascape.