# Modern



#### BachoTEX 2018 — Hans Hagen

# Why oh why

- In  $ConT_EXt$  we have a mechanism to apply effects to a glyph stream.
- An active user on the ConTEXt mailing list wondered if that could be applied to specific fonts.
- The particular interest concerned the possibility to bolden fonts.
- I don't really like effects and not all fonts are suitable for it.

### What are effects

Normal effects are implemented using the 'effects' mechanism, which already dates way back in MkII times and of course is also available for MkIV.

#### **\defineeffect**

[outer] [alternative=outer, rulethickness=1.25pt]

#### effect \starteffect[outer]effect\stopeffect

# effect effect effect effect effect effect effect effect effect

inner

outer

both

# How tricky is this

- Of course the only way to deal with this nicely is by using runtime created virtual fonts.
- So called pdf literals can interfere badly with font switches at the pdf level and are therefore very inefficient.
- In order to properly support effects at the font level, we need to be able to inject the right pdf code in a more clever way.
- Two new keys were added to the font file definition table: width and mode. When set these inject a pdf line width operation and trigger the right rendering mode (backend).

### What interface do we need

\definefontfeature[effect-1][effect={width=0.8}]
\definefontfeature[bbox] [boundingbox=frame]

\definefont
[EffectiveFont]
[BenchMark\*default,effect-1,bbox @ 12pt]



\definefontfeature[effect-2][effect={width=1.1,wdelta=1.20}]
\definefontfeature[effect-3][effect={width=1.1,wdelta=1.80}]

#### \definefont

[EffectiveFontA] [BenchMark\*default,effect-2 @ 12pt]

#### **\definefont**

[EffectiveFontB] [BenchMark\*default,effect-3 @ 12pt]

# effect effect

### Can we do better

- This is still not good enough so next came playing with extended shapes. This is an old feature inherited from PostScript times and  $pdfT_EX$ .
- The LuaT<sub>E</sub>X backend is very efficient with this kind of trickery and combines it with font scaling.
- It was trivial to add a similar scaling in the vertical direction.

```
\definefontfeature[effect-4]
 [effect={width=0.5,wdelta=1.5}]
```

\definefontfeature[effect-5]
 [effect={width=0.5,wdelta=1.5,extend=1.2}]

\definefont
[EffectiveFontA]
[BenchMark\*default,effect-4 @ 12pt]

\definefont
[EffectiveFontB]
[BenchMark\*default,effect-5 @ 12pt]

# effect effect

\definefontfeature[effect-6]
 [effect={width=0.5,wdelta=1.50}]

\definefontfeature[effect-7]
 [effect={width=0.5,wdelta=1.50,squeeze=1.2}]

\definefont
 [EffectiveFontA]
 [BenchMark\*default,effect-6 @ 12pt]

\definefont
[EffectiveFontB]
[BenchMark\*default,effect-7 @ 12pt]



## How about math

- I never really needed this kind of trickery but it might be handy for bold math in titles.
- But math is kind of special as it has extensibles, uses rules and is controlled by math parameters.
- Math parameters are global for a formula so that doesn't work out well for mixed families using fonts with different design parameters.

\switchtobodyfont[modern]

\$\sqrt{\frac{1}{a}}{\frac{2}{b}}}\$

\switchtobodyfont[modernlatin]

\$\mr \sqrt{\frac{1}{a}}{\frac{2}{b}}\$
\$\mb \sqrt{\frac{\frac{1}{a}}{\frac{2}{b}}}\$



# Is it useful

- For reading on a different medium than paper a bit bolder font often works better. This is a normal Latin Modern.
- Here we use the modernlatin For reading on a different medium than paper a bit bolder font often works better.
- In my opinion a slightly bolder Latin Modern looks a bit more modern, but that's of course just an opinion.
- I'm not sure if and when I will use this new trickery; maybe to compensate the lack of bold math fonts.
- Performance wise there is no penalty. File don't get larger. Rendering seems to be somewhat slower.
- In the end it's probably just another example of feature creep or  $T_{\!E\!}X$  hobby-ism.



- To what extent do we need to compensate dimensions in order to get the kerning acceptable.
- Messing around with font features is fragile because there is not much consistency in how these are organized.



## Ligatures

- Ligatures are even less predictable so this is why we cannot apply too much effect.
- There can be artifacts due to the way characters are combined (like in Latin Modern).

# fist effe fist effe

texgyre pagella regular

# fist effe fist effe

cambria

# fist effe fist effe

ebgaramond 12 regular

# Finetuning

```
\definefontfeature[lm-bald]
 [effect={width=0.25,effect=both}]
\definefontfeature[pg-bald]
 [effect={width=0.25,effect=both}]
\definefontfeature[dj-bald]
 [effect={width=0.35,effect=both}]
```

```
\definefontfeature[lm-bold]
 [effect={width=0.25,hdelta=0,ddelta=0,effect=both,
     extend=1.10}]
```

```
\definefontfeature[pg-bold]
 [effect={width=0.25,hdelta=0,ddelta=0,effect=both,
     extend=1.00}]
```

```
\definefontfeature[dj-bold]
```

[effect={width=0.35,hdelta=0,ddelta=0,effect=both, extend=1.05}]



# Pagella

#### \definefontfeature

[pg-fake-1]
[effect={width=0.25,effect=both}]

#### \definefontfeature

```
[pg-fake-2]
[effect={width=0.25,hdelta=0,ddelta=0,effect=both}]
```

```
\definefont[pgregular] [Serif*default]
\definefont[pgbold] [SerifBold*default]
\definefont[pgfakebolda] [Serif*default,pg-fake-1]
\definefont[pgfakeboldb] [Serif*default,pg-fake-2]
```

\definecolor[color-pgregular] [t=.5,a=1,r=.6] \definecolor[color-pgbold] [t=.5,a=1,g=.6] \definecolor[color-pgfakebolda][t=.5,a=1,b=.6] \definecolor[color-pgfakeboldb][t=.5,a=1,r=.6,g=.6]



regular



bold



fakebolda



fakeboldb



bold over regular

fakebolda over regular



fakeboldb over regular



fakeboldb over bold



fakeboldb over fakebolda



all four overlayed



regular

bold



fakebolda

fakeboldb

London Grammar London Grammar

bold over regular

#### London Grammar London Grammar

fakeboldb over regular

### London Grammar London Grammar

fakeboldb over fakebolda

fakebolda over regular

fakeboldb over bold

all four overlayed

### Arabic

#### **\definefontfeature**

[bolden-arabic-1] [effect={width=0.4}]

#### \definefontfeature

[bolden-arabic-2]
[effect={width=0.4,effect=outer}]

#### \definefontfeature

[bolden-arabic-3]
[effect={width=0.5,wdelta=0.5,ddelta=.2,hdelta=.2,factor=.1}]

قَالَ عَلِيُّ بْنُ أَبِي طَالِبٍ لِكَاتِبِهِ عُبَيْدِ اللهِ بْنِ أَبِي رَافِعٍ: أَلِقْ دَوَاتَكَ، وَ أَطِلْ جِلْفَة قَلَمِكَ، وَ فَرِّجْ بَيْنَ الشُّطُورِ، وَ قَرْمِطْ بَيْنَ الْحُرُوفِ؛ فَإَنَّ ذَلِكَ أَجْدَرُ بِصَبَاحَةِ الْخَطِّ. قَالَ عَلِيُّ بْنُ أَبِي طَالِبٍ لِكَاتِبِهِ عُبَيْدِ اللهِ بْنِ أَبِي رَافِعٍ: أَلِقْ دَوَاتَكَ، وَ أَطِلْ جِلْفَة قَلَمِكَ، وَفَرِّح بَيْنَ الشُّطُورِ، وَقَرْمِطْ بَيْنَ الْحُرُوفِ؛ فَإَنَّ ذَلِكَ أَجْدَرُ بِصَبَاحَةِ الْخَطِّ. قَالَ عَلِيٌ بْنُ أَبِي طَالِبٍ لِكَاتِبِهِ عُبَيْدِ اللهِ بْنِ أَبِي رَافِع: أَلِقْ دَوَاتَكَ، وَ أَطِلْ جِلْفَةَ قَلَمِكَ، وَ فَرِّجْ بَيْنَ السُّطُورِ، وَ قَرْمِطْ بَيْنَ الْحُرُوفِ؛ فَإِنَّ ذَلِكَ أَجْدَرُ بِصَبَاحَةِ الْخَطِّ. قَالَ عَلِيُّ بْنُ أَبِي طَالِبٍ لِكَاتِبِهِ عُبَيْدِ اللَّهِ بْنِ أَبِي رَافِعٍ: أَلِقْ دَوَاتَكَ، وَ أَطِلْ جِلْفَةَ قَلَمِكَ، وَ فَرِّجْ بَيْنَ السُّطُورِ، وَ قَرْمِطْ بَيْنَ الْحُرُوفِ، فَإِنَّ ذَلِكَ أَجْدَرُ بِصَبَاحَةِ الْخَطِّ.

قَالَ عَلِيُّ بْنُ أَبِي طَالِبٍ لِكَاتِبِهِ عُبَيْدِ اللهِ بْنِ أَبِي رَافِعٍ: أَلِقْ دَوَاتَكَ، وَأَطِلْ جِلْفَةَ قَلَمِكَ، وَ فَرِّج بَيْنَ السُّطُورِ، وَ قَرْمِطْ بَيْنَ الْحُرُوفِ، فَإِنَّ ذَلِكَ أَجْدَرُ بِصَبَاحَةِ الْخَطِّ.

متالَ عَلِيُّ بْنُ أَبِي طَالِبٍ لِكَاتِبِهِ عُبَيْدِ اللَّهِ بْنِ أَبِي رَافِعٍ: أَلِقْ دَوَاتَكَ، وَ أَطِلْ جِلْفَةَ قَلَمِكَ، وَ فَتِّجْ بَيْنَ السُّطُورِ، وَ قَرْمِطْ بَيْنَ الْحُرُوفِ، فَإِنَّ ذَلِكَ أَجْدَرُ بِصَبَاحَةِ الْخَطِ.

# Marks and cursive

- Marks are tricky because they can be anchored at any location and we can only guess what should be done.
- Cursive connections still need to connect and we don't know in advance how shapes overlap.



## **Radicals and such**

Radicals are constructed using rules and extensible characters. Especially the rules need to be adapted.



```
\dostepwiserecurse {1} {30} {5} {
 $
   \mr \sqrt{\blackrule[width=2mm,height=#1mm,color=darkblue]}
   \quad
   \mb \sqrt{\blackrule[width=2mm,height=#1mm,color=darkgreen]
    7
 $
}
```







#### \definefontfeature

```
[boldened-30]
[effect={width=0.3,extend=1.15,squeeze=0.985,%
    delta=1,hdelta=0.225,ddelta=0.225,vshift=0.225}]
```

#### \definefontfeature

[boldened-30] [effect={width=0.30,auto=yes}]

# An application

\definehead [mysectiona] [section]
\definehead [mysectionb] [mysectiona]

\setuphead

[mysectiona]
[style=\tfc,
 color=darkblue,
 before=\blank,
 after=\blank]

\setuphead
[mysectionb]
[style=\bfc,
 color=darkred]

\mysectiona{Regular\quad\$\MathSample\quad\mb\MathSample\$}
\mysectionb{Bold \quad\$\MathSample\quad\mb\MathSample\$}



Take this kiss upon the brow! And, in parting from you now, Thus much let me avow — You are not wrong, who deem That my days have been a dream; Yet if hope has flown away In a night, or in a day, In a vision, or in none, Is it therefore the less gone? All that we see or seem Is but a dream within a dream.

I stand amid the roar Of a surf-tormented shore, And I hold within my hand Grains of the golden sand — How few! yet how they creep Through my fingers to the deep, While I weep — while I weep! O God! can I not grasp Them with a tighter clasp? O God! can I not save One from the pitiless wave? Is all that we see or seem But a dream within a dream? Take this kiss upon the brow! And, in parting from you now, Thus much let me avow — You are not wrong, who deem That my days have been a dream; Yet if hope has flown away In a night, or in a day, In a vision, or in none, Is it therefore the less gone? All that we see or seem Is but a dream within a dream.

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