

L^AT_EX Environmental variables.

The Basics

At login in your L^AT_EX environmental variables are set to make the local styles, graphics and configuration files active. If you are a basic L^AT_EX user and simple want to L^AT_EX files from you current directory then it will simply work, do not bother to read anymore!

TEXINPUTS Variable and BSTINPUTS

The environmental variable `TEXINPUTS` controls where L^AT_EX searches for input files, the default is:

1. First your current directory.
2. Second the local ifp styles held in `/ifp/latex/` *and* its subdirectories.
3. Third the standard system L^AT_EX directories, where are held in `/usr/share/texmf/tex/latex/` *and* its subdirectories.

which is what most people want.

The common change people want to make is to add their own local style directory. If this is in an directory `mystyles` in you home directory then in your `.bashrc` file put.

```
export TEXINPUT=.:/Home/loginname/mystyles/:$TEXINPUTS
```

Note is *must* have an initial `'.'` or it will fail to read input from your current directory. Also do not forget to append the default `TEXINPUTS` or nothing will work!

The `BSTINPUT` variable determines where L^AT_EX looks for BiBTeX styles files. By default it is set the the same at `TEXINPUTS`; this is to allow `revtex4` to work correctly. It has exactly the same syntax as `TEXINPUTS` and can be changed in exactly the same way.

Other Environmental variables

The local L^AT_EX configuration also sets the `TEXCONFIG` environmental variable to allow for local customisation of `dvips`. Don't change this unless you *really!* know what you are doing.

L^AT_EX fails to work....

If you have customised *any* of the L^AT_EX environmental variables and it all stops working, they *you* have made a syntax error and *your* are responsible for fixing it.

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