File not found error*

Frank Mittelbach

November 29, 1999

1 Introduction

When LaTeX 2ε is unable to find a file it will ask for an alternative file name. However, sometimes the problem is only noticed by TeX, and in that case TeX insists on getting a valid file name; any other attempt to leave this error loop will fail.[1] Many users try to respond in the same way as to normal error messages, e.g. by typing ⟨*return*⟩, or `s` or `x`, but TeX will interpret this as a file name and will ask again.

To provide a graceful exit out of this loop, we define a number of files which emulate the normal behavior of TeX in the error loop as far as possible.

After installing these files the user can respond with `h`, `q`, `r`, `s`, `e`, `x`, and on some systems also with ⟨*return*⟩ to TeX's missing file name question.

*This file has version v1.0e last revised 1997/07/07

[1] On some systems, TeX accepts a special character denoting the end of file to return from this loop, e.g. Control-D on UNIX or Control-Z on DOS.