

April 5, 2007

**Question:** I have two thesis type questions that are driving me mad! How do you create a hypothesis statement using L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X and the isuthesis package? And how can I get a bold lowercase Greek character in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X?

The hypothesis statement that I want would look something like this:

Hypothesis 1: This is my hypothesis and I know that it is true because  
I went through all this work to make sure it was at least  
mostly true before I started my thesis work.

and I simply can't figure out how to produce bold lowercase Greek letters.

Help !

Sincerely yours,  
Sleepless Sam

Dear Sleepless,

Take it easy, Sam. I have solutions to both of these vexing problems that I also ran across while doing my own thesis.

For the hypothesis problem, where what you basically want to do is a hanging indent style theorem- try using the `\newtheorem` command:

```
\newtheorem{guess}{Hypothesis}[chapter]
```

then for each hypothesis enter:

```
\begin{guess}
\begin{minipage}[t]{4.5 in}
This is my theory which is correct which shows that my theory is correct and
it belongs to me and thus no one else. I composed this theory using two
separate experiments which I also created which are not contained in this
document at all.
\end{minipage}
\end{guess}
```

The output from my above example would look like this:

Hypothesis 1.1 This is my theory which is correct which show that my theory is correct and it belongs to me and thus no one else. I composed this theory using two separate experiments which I also created which are not contained in this document at all.

The `\newtheorem` command allows you to create an environment which may optionally be numbered at a specified sectional unit level (in my example I numbered it at the chapter level). The `\newtheorem` command declaration should be placed in the preamble (between the `\documentclass` line and the `\begin{document}` line) but can also be placed anywhere in your document before the environment that it creates is used. The `minipage` command used with the `\newtheorem` environment gives the output that hanging indent style that major professors and thesis committee members so often look for in a thesis style paper.

You already seem to know that to get an uppercase greek bold letter you simply have to use `\mathbf`:

```
$$\mathbf{2^{ft}} \Psi \psi$$
```

This gets you bold uppercase greek letters but not bold lowercase greek letters. To get bold lowercase greek letters, you need to use the `\boldmath` command instead:

```
\boldmath $2^{ft} \Psi \psi$ \unboldmath
```

Further information on both of these examples can be found in "LaTeX: User's Guide and Reference Manual" (Updated for LaTeX2e) by Leslie Lamport.

*Follow-up Question*

But what would you do if you want to limited `\boldmath` as `\boldmath` wants to bold everything in the equation?

*Follow-up Answer*

Hi,

`\mbox` is useful when you want to limit `\boldmath`:

Normal Bold Math: `$$\mathbf{ \Psi \psi}$$`

With the `\boldmath` command: `\boldmath $ \Psi \psi$ \unboldmath`

The `\boldmath` command with an `\mbox`:

```
\( \Psi \psi 4^{36} \alpha +
  \mbox{\boldmath$ \Psi \psi$} = 0 \)
```

`\boldmath` can only be used in text mode but you can use `\mbox` to put a text mode within a math mode environment- if that makes any sense.

Sincerely yours,

Joe Struss  
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