

**That pesky lion, or about that lion,
or how a lion came to be**

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Slide show and talk includes early rough sketches of T_EX, Meta, and associated offspring plus other obscure drawings and sketches.

(One sketch is below; a few of the others are scattered throughout this issue — enjoy! *Ed.*)



**The spread of T_EX in India: The role of
outsourced typesetting**

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Unlike in many other countries, the spread of T_EX in India was strongly catalysed by the increasing outsourcing of typesetting, especially by publishers of scientific journals and books. Users from Indian academic institutions played a marginal role in the initial push of T_EX in India. Indeed the Indian T_EX Users Group, now five years old, was the result of the initiative of a commercial typesetting outfit. The outsourcing momentum continues to be strong, fuelled by newer standards and technologies such as XML, and the demand for documents that can be disseminated across different media, such as e-books and internet. There is now a critical mass of T_EX users across different vendors, who depend on T_EX for their livelihood.

But there are significant challenges to harnessing this critical mass and make T_EX even more widespread. Skills spillover outside of typesetting vendors seems to be inhibited by commercial considerations. Training remains an underdeveloped area, especially since the user base in academic institutions is still small.

However, the exciting development of Indic T_EX with a simultaneous increase in literacy and readership of vernacular press offers an opportunity for a much bigger scope for T_EX in India, given the low cost that T_EX implies for publishing. In this paper we analyse these trends, and identify the challenges and opportunities for the greater deployment of T_EX in India.