

Sample Content

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January 26, 2011



A random fortune:

1 Technical Notes

1.1 Concurrency

The wiki was never designed for multiple people to edit files. As such, it has no system to lock content (though conceivably there is no barrier to this addition). All security is provided through running a Lighttpd reverse proxy

applying basic HTTP auth, so the site is oblivious to security. All state is applied through the cookie it leaves in your browser.

During page compilation, it's possible to clobber each others' files, though this is unlikely to have any negative effect and does not risk the content integrity.

1.2 Requirements

The wiki is built from the socket layer up on Ruby, and runs its own web server. If you wish to add security or change the routing system, I highly advise using `lighttpd` or `apache` as a reverse proxy¹.

1.2.1 Programs required:

- Ruby — The wiki was designed on 1.9.1, but should run on 1.8.6 up.
- Some TeX distribution — It's almost useless without some flavour of $\text{\LaTeX}$, but the individual rendering tools are all optional (see below)

1.2.2 LaTeX processing and rendering tools²

- LaTeX2HTML — Recommended as the 'in browser' output. Note that this renderer does not support spaces in filenames, which is a bit daft.
- PDFLaTeX — Recommended as the Download/Embed output, and very useful for rendering things like presentations (which LaTeX2HTML cannot handle).
- Hevea — Fast and good with maths/symbols, but often lacking in accuracy for text sections, and doesn't support all features of TeX.
- DeTeX — Used to strip $\text{\LaTeX}$ from documents, so can be good for plaintext output.
- TtH — Very fast and reasonably accurate HTML output for page embedding.
- PlasTeX — Another HTML renderer.

1.2.3 Ruby gems required:

- `webrick` — Used to display and serve the whole site (though technically any CGI wrapper would work if you with to hack the `server/serve.rb` class).

¹Details can be found at <http://www.apachetutor.org/admin/reverseproxies>

²Each of these is optional, but if you don't have any, you won't be able to see anything fancier than plain text output.

- `bibtex_parser` — Processes and error checks the bibtex listings.

1.2.4 Optional Ruby gems³

- `iconv` — Used for cleansing dodgy UTF-8 input (highly recommended!)
- `ink` — Used to highlight LaTeX templates in the default view. Requires the ‘pygmentize’ application for use (probably in your distribution’s package manager)

³can be disabled in `constants.rb`