

Dear Prof Tsong-Min Wu,

Thank you for sending me the magnificent new edition of `cxTEX`! Of course the second edition was already quite beautiful, but now everything is even better.

You challenged me to find an error "within 10 minutes". Well, I didn't find anything wrong during the first 10 minutes; but the topics were fascinating --- I know no Chinese, but I can look at the romanized type and the illustrations --- so I kept reading. And I concluded that this book represents a most impressive achievement.

Finally I found a few small nits to pick: Bill Gates is mentioned on page 17, but not in the index. The index entry for "appenix" (page 362 line 5) may be misspelled. And --- here's the only thing significant --- when my book *Digital Typography* is cited in the bibliography on page 353, BibT<sub>E</sub>X seems to have screwed it up: There is no city named Leland in California, as far as I know! A correct citation would be "Stanford, California, CSLI Publications". (Incidentally, the official title of Stanford University is "Leland Stanford Junior University" because it was originally named for Leland Stanford, Junior, the beloved-but-deceased son of Leland Stanford.)

It is interesting to see how you gave also an index to Chinese characters, apparently by the number of strokes in the radical. When my books *The Art of Computer Programming* and *Concrete Mathematics* have been translated into Chinese, there has never been an index. I can't really understand how the readers of those books are able to keep everything in their heads, without an index.

While I have your attention, I'd like to ask if you know how to help me solve a problem related to Chinese typesetting. In the indexes to my books on *The Art of Computer Programming* I try to give the names of East Asian authors in Chinese characters as well as in the romanized forms. For this purpose I need bitmaps of the characters involved, because everything in my manuscript is done with "universal" nonproprietary-and-stable software. I've been able to get good bitmaps for most of the characters that I need; but the exceptions are mostly from Taiwanese authors or old-time authors whose names should use the unsimplified forms of characters that have been simplified (and that don't appear in Japanese JIS code).

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Cordially --- and thanks again! --- Don Knuth