

**NAME**

ltx – Translate a .tex file to .dvi carefully.

**SYNOPSIS**

**`${HOME}/bin/ltx fyle.tex`**

**DESCRIPTION**

If no argument is given the script writes usage information and stops. If the filename has an extension that is not .tex the script writes an error message and stops; if it has no extension the script appends .tex to the filename. If the .tex file is absent or empty the script writes an error message and stops. If the .tex file does not have a `\begin{document}` command the script writes an error message and stops. The script runs `/usr/bin/latex` on the given file, redirecting standard-out to `/tmp/ltxerrors` and echoing "x" to standard-in so that if the program detects an error it stops rather than waiting at a prompt for some other action to be chosen. If the return code from latex is zero and the phrase "Output written on fyle.dvi" is found in `/usr/bin/latex`, the script prints a progress dot; if either condition fails the error is reported. If references remain undefined `/usr/bin/latex` is run again; on success another progress dot is printed, and on failure the error is reported. If latex reports that labels might have changed `/usr/bin/latex` is invoked a third time and another progress dot is printed or the error is reported. If undefined references still remain the script writes an error message and stops. If the document does not have an `\include` or `\input` command, or if the compilation failed, the .dvi, .aux, and .idx files are removed.

**FILES**

<code>fyle.tex</code>	input .tex file
<code>fyle.dvi</code>	result .dvi file on success
<code>/tmp/ltxerrors</code>	errors from <code>/usr/bin/latex</code>

**DIAGNOSTICS**

The script exits with the return code from `/usr/bin/latex`, or with  `$?=1` if a sanity check failed.

**AUTHOR**

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**EXAMPLE**

```
unix[1] ltx fyle.tex
.
unix[2]
```

Here the .tex file was translated to .dvi without error, and it was necessary to run `/usr/bin/latex` only once so a single progress dot was printed.