

**The road to**

**Mk IV**

# I The Reason

Why did we start the Lua $\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$  project ?

- I The world moves to Unicode.
- II Type1 fonts phase out, OpenType shows up.
- III No progress in  $\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$  extension projects.
- IV We want to move on with Con $\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$ t.
- V Cross platform binary development has become messy.
- VI We wanted a proper scripting engine inside  $\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$ .
- VII We needed a challenge and a feeling of progress.

# The Impact

What will be the consequences for ConT<sub>E</sub>Xt?

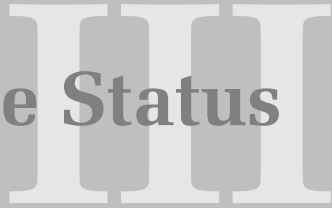
VIII Font support becomes more sophisticated.

IX We can implement better solutions for management tasks.

X We can replace some (currently) messy code.

XI We are forced to reimplement (redesign) some aspects.

# The Status



What components will be influenced?

- I Startup and integration.
- II File searching and handling.
- III Input regimes and font encodings — utf.
- IV Reading from zips, protocols, etc.
- V The font system — virtual fonts and more.
- VI METAPOST integration and inclusion.
- VII Better error handling and tracing.

(continued)

- I New features (like CalcMath).
- II More features (e.g. in xml processing).
- III More control over tricky aspects of typesetting.
- IV better implementation of fragile components.

# The Future

## IV

What will be the impact of users by this all?

- I There will be an extended version of ConT<sub>E</sub>Xt: MkIV.
- II Users can migrate to other ways of defining fonts.
- III We can offer better integration in workflows and tools.
- IV We use this opportunity to move some experimental code into the core (page composition, database publishing).
- V We need testers and a bit of tolerance while doing this.