

The icomma package for L^AT_EX 2_ε

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With ordinary L^AT_EX, the comma cannot be used as a decimal separator in math mode, because it is treated as a punctuation character and L^AT_EX adds some extra space after it. This can be overcome by defining an ‘intelligent’ comma, which adds the space only, if the next input character is actually a blank.

An appropriate definition was given in [1] and [2]. However, it relied on the particular encoding of the CM fonts, so it would not always work with alternative math fonts such as Euler.

The package icomma provides an enhanced variant of this ‘intelligent’ comma. It can be used with the default CM math fonts as well as with alternative math font sets.

Having loaded the package, you may enter a decimal number as, for instance, 1,234, whereas the mathematical expression (x,y) is to be written as $(x,_y)$, i.e. with a space after the comma.

References

- [1] RICHARD HIRSCH. Dezimalkomma beim T_EXsatz in deutsch. *Die T_EXnische Komödie* 1/1994 (July 1994), 42–45.
- [2] PETER SCHMITT. Dezimalkomma beim T_EXsatz in deutsch. *Die T_EXnische Komödie* 4/1997 (Feb. 1998), 50.

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