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☪ LUAT<sub>E</sub>X 0.63 SHORT REFERENCE  
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# Lua<sub>T</sub>E<sub>X</sub> 0.63 Short Reference

Lua<sub>T</sub>E<sub>X</sub> 0.63 Stručný průvodce

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**Abstract:** This manual gives a brief description of functions collected mainly in the callback, font, font loader, image, kpathsea, language, lua, metapost, node, pdf, status, typesetting, IO, texconfig and token tables provided by Lua<sub>T</sub>E<sub>X</sub> 0.63.

**Key words:** Lua, Lua<sub>T</sub>E<sub>X</sub>, revision 0, version 63, tables

**Abstrakt:** V manuálu je uveden stručný popis funkcí, zahrnutých zejména ve zpětných voláních, v řadě tabulek, které poskytuje Lua<sub>T</sub>E<sub>X</sub> 0.63.

**Klíčová slova:** programovací jazyk Lua, Lua<sub>T</sub>E<sub>X</sub>, verze 0.63, tabulky

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### Tokenisation changes callbacks

string = **process\_input\_buffer**(string)

Modify the encoding of the input buffer.

string = **process\_output\_buffer**(string) Modify the encoding of the output buffer.

table = **token\_filter**() Override the tokenization process. Return value is a token or an array of tokens

### Node list callbacks

**buildpage\_filter**(string) Process objects as they are added to the main vertical list. The string argument gives some context.

**buildpage\_filter** context information:

value	explanation
alignment	a (partial) alignment is being added
after_output	an output routine has just finished
box	a typeset box is being added
new_graf	the beginning of a new paragraph
vmode_par	\par was found in vertical mode
hmode_par	\par was found in horizontal mode
insert	an insert is added
penalty	a penalty (in vertical mode)
before_display	immediately before a display starts
after_display	a display is finished
end	Lua <sub>T</sub> <sub>E</sub> <sub>X</sub> is terminating (it's all over)

node = **pre\_linebreak\_filter**(node, string)

Alter a node list before linebreaking takes place. The string argument gives some context.

**pre\_linebreak\_filter** context information:

value	explanation
<empty>	main vertical list
hbox	\hbox in horizontal mode
adjusted_hbox	\hbox in vertical mode
vbox	\vbox
vtop	\vtop
align	\halign or \valign
disc	discretionaries
insert	packaging an insert
vcenter	\vcenter
local_box	\localleftbox or \localrightbox
split_off	top of a \vsplit
split_keep	remainder of a \vsplit
align_set	alignment cell
fin_row	alignment row

node = **linebreak\_filter**(node, boolean)

Override the linebreaking algorithm. The boolean is true if this is a pre-display break.

node = **post\_linebreak\_filter**(node, string) Alter a node list after line-breaking has taken place. The string argument gives some context.

node = **hpack\_filter**(node, string, number, string, string) Alter a node list before horizontal packing takes place. The first string gives some context, the number is the desired size, the second string is either "exact" or "additional" (modifies the first string), the third string is the desired direction

node = **vpack\_filter**(node, string, number, string, number, string) Alter a node list before vertical packing takes place. The second number is the desired max depth. See **hpack\_filter** for the arguments.

node = **pre\_output\_filter**(node, string, number, string, number, string)

Alter a node list before boxing to \outputbox takes place. See **vpack\_filter** for the arguments.

**hyphenate**(node, node) Apply hyphenation to a node list.

**ligaturing**(node, node) Apply ligaturing to a node list.

**kerning**(node, node) Apply kerning to a node list.

node = **mlist\_to\_hlist**(node, string, boolean) Convert a math node list into a horizontal node list.

### Font definition callback

metrics = **define\_font**(string, number) Define a font from within lua code. The arguments are the user-supplied information, with negative numbers indicating scaled, positive numbers at

### Event callbacks

**pre\_dump**() Run actions just before format dumping takes place.

**stop\_run**() Run actions just before the end of the typesetting run.

**start\_run**() Run actions at the start of the typesetting run.

**start\_page\_number**() Run actions at the start of typeset page number message reporting.

**stop\_page\_number**() Run actions at the end of typeset page number message reporting.

**show\_error\_hook**() Run action at error reporting time.

**finish\_pdffile**() Run actions just before the PDF closing takes place.

### Font table

metrics = **font.read\_tfm**(string, number) Parse a font metrics file, at the size indicated by the number.

metrics = **font.read\_vf**(string, number)

Parse a virtual font metrics file, at the size indicated by the number.

metrics = **font.getfont**(number) Fetch an internal font id as a lua table.

**font.setfont**(number, metrics) Set an internal font id from a lua table.

boolean = **font.frozen**(number) True if the font is frozen and can no longer be altered.

number = **font.define**(metrics) Process a font metrics table and stores it in the internal font table, returning its internal id.

number = **font.nextid**() Return the next free font id number.

number = **font.id**(string) Return the font id of the font accessed by the csname given.

[number] = **font.current**([number]) Get or set the currently active font

number = **font.max**() Return the highest used font id at this moment.

number, metrics = **font.each**() Iterate over all the defined fonts.

### Font loader table

table = **fontloader.info**(string) Get various information fields from an font file.

**fontloader.info** returned information:

key	type	explanation
fontname	string	the PostScript name of the font
fullname	string	the formal name of the font
familyname	string	the family name this font belongs to
weight	string	a string indicating the color value of the font
version	string	the internal font version
italicangle	float	the slant angle

luafont, table = **fontloader.open**(string, [string]) Parse a font file and return a table representing its contents. The optional argument is the name of the desired font in case of font collection files. The optional return value contains any parser error strings.

Listing all of the substructure returned from **fontloader.open** would take too much room, see the big reference manual.

**fontloader.apply\_featurefile**(luafont, string) Apply a feature file to a fontloader table.

**fontloader.apply\_afmfile**(luafont, string)

Apply an AFM file to a fontloader table.

### Image table

Full list of <image> object fields:

field name	type	description
depth	number	the image depth for Lua <sub>T</sub> <sub>E</sub> <sub>X</sub> (in scaled points)
height	number	the image height for Lua <sub>T</sub> <sub>E</sub> <sub>X</sub> (in scaled points)
width	number	the image width for Lua <sub>T</sub> <sub>E</sub> <sub>X</sub> (in scaled points)
transform	number	the image transform, integer number 0..7
attr	string	the image attributes for Lua <sub>T</sub> <sub>E</sub> <sub>X</sub>
filename	string	the image file name
stream	string	the raw stream data for an /XObject /Form object

page	??	the identifier for the requested image page (type is number or string, default is the number 1)
pagebox	string	the requested bounding box, one of none, media, crop, bleed, trim, art
bbox	table	table with 4 boundingbox dimensions llx, lly, urx, and ury overruling the pagebox entry
filepath	string	the full (expanded) file name of the image
colordepth	number	the number of bits used by the color space
colorspace	number	the color space object number
imagetype	string	one of pdf, png, jpg, jbig2, or nil
objnum	number	the pdf image object number
index	number	the pdf image name suffix
pages	number	the total number of available pages
xsize	number	the natural image width
ysize	number	the natural image height
xres	number	the horizontal natural image resolution (in DPI)
yres	number	the vertical natural image resolution (in DPI)

`image = img.new([table])` This function creates an 'image' object. Allowed fields in the table: "filename" (required), "width", "depth", "height", "attr", "page", "pagebox", "colorspace".

`table = img.keys()` Returns a table with possible image table keys, including retrieved information.

`image = img.scan(image)` Processes an image file and stores the retrieved information in the image object.

`image = img.copy(image)` Copy an image.

`image = img.write(image)` Write the image to the PDF file.

`image = img.immediatwrite(image)` Write the image to the PDF file immediately.

`node = img.node(image)` Returns the node associated with an image.

`table = img.types()` Returns a list of supported image types.

`table = img.bboxes()` Returns a list of supported image bounding box names.

## Kpathsea table

`kpse.set_program_name(string, [string])`

Initialize the kpathsea library by setting the program name. The optional string allows explicit progname setting.

`kpathsea = kpse.new(string, [string])` Create a new kpathsea library instance. The optional string allows explicit progname setting.

`string = kpse.find_file(string, [string], [boolean], [number])`

Find a file. The optional string is the file type as supported by the standalone kpseswhich program (default is "tex", no autodiscovery takes place). The optional boolean indicates whether the file must exist. The optional number is the dpi value for PK files.

`string = kpse.lookup(string, table)` Find a file (extended interface).

The `kpse.lookup` options match commandline arguments from kpseswhich:

key	type	description
debug	number	set debugging flags for this lookup
format	string	use specific file type (see list above)
dpi	number	use this resolution for this lookup; default 600
path	string	search in the given path
all	boolean	output all matches, not just the first
must-exist	boolean	search the disk as well as ls-R if necessary
mktexpk	boolean	disable/enable mktexpk generation for this lookup
mktctex	boolean	disable/enable mktctex generation for this lookup
mktexmf	boolean	disable/enable mktexmf generation for this lookup
mktctfm	boolean	disable/enable mktctfm generation for this lookup
subdir	string or table	only output matches whose directory part ends with the given string(s)

`kpse.init_prog(string, number, string, [string])` Initialize a PK gen-

eration program. The optional string is the metafont mode fallback name

`string = kpse.readable_file(string)` Returns true if a file exists and is readable.

`string = kpse.expand_path(string)` Expand a path.

`string = kpse.expand_var(string)` Expand a variable.

`string = kpse.expand_braces(string)` Expand the braces in a variable.

`string = kpse.show_path(string)` List the search path for a specific file type.

`string = kpse.var_value(string)` Return the value of a variable.

`string = kpse.version()` Return the kpathsea version.

## Language table

`language = lang.new([number])` Create a new language object, with an optional fixed id number.

`number = lang.id(language)` Returns the current internal \language id number.

`[string] = lang.hyphenation(language, [string])` Get or set hyphenation exceptions.

`lang.clear_hyphenation(language)`

Clear the set of hyphenation exceptions.

`string = lang.clean(string)` Creates a hyphenation key from the supplied hyphenation exception.

`[string] = lang.patterns(language, [string])`

Get or set hyphenation patterns.

`lang.clear_patterns(language)` Clear the set of hyphenation patterns.

`[number] = lang.prehyphenchar(language, [number])`

Set the pre-hyphenchar for implicit hyphenation.

`[number] = lang.posthyphenchar(language, [number])`

Set the post-hyphenchar for implicit hyphenation.

`[number] = lang.preexhyphenchar(language, [number])`

Set the pre-hyphenchar for explicit hyphenation.

`[number] = lang.postexhyphenchar(language, [number])`

Set the post-hyphenchar for explicit hyphenation.

`boolean = lang.hyphenate(node, [node])` Hyphenate a node list.

## Lua table

There are 65536 bytecode registers, that are saved in the format file. Assignments are always global.

`function = lua.getbytecode(number)`

Return a previously stored function from a bytecode register.

`lua.setbytecode(number, function)`

Save a function in a bytecode register.

They also be accessed via the virtual array `lua.bytecode[]`.

The virtual array `lua.name[]` can be used to give names to lua chunks. To use `lua.name[1]`, set `lua.name[1] = 'testname' and \directlua1{rubbish}`.

## Metapost table

`string = mp.lib.version()` Returns the mp.lib version.

`mpinstance = mp.lib.new(table)` Create a new metapost instance.

`mpdata = mp.execute(string)` Execute metapost code in the instance.

`mpdata = mp.finish()` Finish a metapost instance.

The return value of `mp.execute` and `mp.finish` is a table with a few possible keys (only status is always guaranteed to be present).

`log` string output to the 'log' stream

`term` string output to the 'term' stream

`error` string output to the 'error' stream (only used for 'out of memory')

`status` number the return value: 0=good, 1=warning, 2=errors, 3=fatal error

`fig` table an array of generated figures (if any)

Handling of `fig` objects would take too much room here, please see the big reference manual.

`table = mp.statistics()` Returns some statistics for this metapost instance.

`number = mp.char_width(string, number)` Report a character's width.

number = **mp.char\_height**(string, number)  
 Report a character's height.  
 number = **mp.char\_depth**(string, number) Report a character's depth.

## Node table

table = **node.types**() Return the list of node types.  
 table = **node.whatsits**() Return the list of whatsit types.  
 number = **node.id**(string) Convert a node type string into a node id number.  
 number = **node.subtype**(string) Convert a whatsit type string into a node subtype number.  
 string = **node.type**(number) convert a node id number into a node type string.  
 table = **node.fields**(number, [number]) Report the fields a node type understands. The optional argument is needed for whatsits.  
 boolean = **node.has\_field**(node, string)  
 Return true if the node understands the named field.  
 node = **node.new**(number, [number]) Create a new node with id and (optional) subtype.  
**node.free**(node) Release a node.  
**node.flush\_list**(node) Release a list of nodes.  
 node = **node.copy**(node) Copy a node.  
 node = **node.copy\_list**(node, [node]) Copy a node list.  
 node, number = **node.hpack**(node, [number], [string], [string]) Pack a node list into a horizontal list. The number is the desired size, the first string is either "exact" or "additional" (modifies the first string), the second string is the desired direction  
 node, number = **node.vpack**(node, [number], [string], [string]) Pack a node list into a vertical list. Arguments as for node.hpack  
 number, number, number = **node.dimensions**([number], [number], [number], node, [node])  
 Return the natural dimensions of a (horizontal) node list. The 3 optional numbers represent glue\_set, glue\_sign, and glue\_order. The calculation stops just before the optional node (default end of list)  
 node = **node.mlist\_to\_hlist**(node, string, boolean) Recursively convert a math list into a horizontal list. The string differentiates display and inline, the boolean whether penalties are inserted  
 node = **node.slide**(node) Move to the last node of a list while fixing next and prev pointers.  
 node = **node.tail**(node) Return the last node in a list.  
 number = **node.length**(node, [node]) Return the length of a node list. Processing stops just before the optional node.  
 number = **node.count**(number, node, [node])  
 Return the count of nodes with a specific id in a node list. Processing stops just before the optional node.  
 node = **node.traverse**(node) Iterate over a node list.  
 node = **node.traverse\_id**(number, node)  
 Iterate over nodes with id matching the number in a node list.  
 node, node = **node.remove**(node, node) Extract and remove a second node from the list that starts in the first node.  
 node, node = **node.insert\_before**(node, node, node) Insert the third node just before the second node in the list that starts at the first node.  
 node, node = **node.insert\_after**(node, node, node)  
 Insert the third node just after the second node in the list that starts at the first node.  
 node = **node.first\_character**(node, [node]) Return the first character node in a list. Processing stops just before the optional node.  
 node, node, boolean = **node.ligaturing**(node, [node])  
 Apply the internal ligaturing routine to a node list. Processing stops just before the optional node.  
 node, node, boolean = **node.kerning**(node, [node])  
 Apply the internal kerning routine to a node list. Processing stops just before the optional node.  
**node.unprotect\_glyphs**(node) Mark all characters in a node list as being processed glyphs.  
**node.protect\_glyphs**(node) Mark all processed glyphs in a node list as being characters.

node = **node.last\_node**() Pops and returns the last node on the current output list.  
**node.write**(node) Appends a node to the current output list.  
 boolean = **node.protrusion\_skippable**(node) Return true if the node could be skipped for protrusion purposes.  
 number = **node.has\_attribute**(node, number, [number]) Return an attribute value for a node, if it has one. The optional number tests for a specific value  
**node.set\_attribute**(node, number, number) Set an attribute value for a node.  
 number = **node.unset\_attribute**(node, number, [number])  
 Unset an attribute value for a node. The optional number tests for a specific value

## Pdf table

number = **pdf.immediateobj**([number], [string], string, [string])  
 Write an object to the PDF file immediately. The optional number is an object id, the first optional string is "file", "stream", or "filestream". the second optional string contains stream attributes for the latter two cases.  
**pdf.mapfile**(string) Register a font map file.  
**pdf.mapline**(string) Register a font map line.  
 number = **pdf.obj**([number], [string], string, [string]) Write an object to the PDF file. See "pdf.immediateobj" for arguments.  
 number = **pdf.pageref**(number) Return the pageref object number.  
**pdf.print**([string], string)  
 Write directly to the PDF file (use in \latexlua). The optional string is one of "direct" or "page"  
 number = **pdf.reserveobj**()  
 Reserve an object number in the PDF backend.  
**pdf.registerannot**(number) Register an annotation in the PDF backend.

## Status table

table = **status.list**() Returns a table with various status items.

The current list is:

key	explanation
pdf_gone	written pdf bytes
pdf_ptr	not yet written pdf bytes
dvi_gone	written dvi bytes
dvi_ptr	not yet written dvi bytes
total_pages	number of written pages
output_file_name	name of the pdf or dvi file
log_name	name of the log file
banner	terminal display banner
var_used	variable (one - word) memory in use
dyn_used	token (multi - word) memory in use
str_ptr	number of strings
init_str_ptr	number of init <sub>TEX</sub> strings
max_strings	maximum allowed strings
pool_ptr	string pool index
init_pool_ptr	init <sub>TEX</sub> string pool index
pool_size	current size allocated for string characters
node_mem_usage	a string giving insight into currently used nodes
var_mem_max	number of allocated words for nodes
fix_mem_max	number of allocated words for tokens
fix_mem_end	maximum number of used tokens
cs_count	number of control sequences
hash_size	size of hash
hash_extra	extra allowed hash
font_ptr	number of active fonts
max_in_stack	max used input stack entries
max_nest_stack	max used nesting stack entries
max_param_stack	max used parameter stack entries
max_buf_stack	max used buffer position
max_save_stack	max used save stack entries
stack_size	input stack size

nest_size	nesting stack size
param_size	parameter stack size
buf_size	current allocated size of the line buffer
save_size	save stack size
obj_ptr	max pdf object pointer
obj_tab_size	pdf object table size
pdf_os_cntr	max pdf object stream pointer
pdf_os_objidx	pdf object stream index
pdf_dest_names_ptr	max pdf destination pointer
dest_names_size	pdf destination table size
pdf_mem_ptr	max pdf memory used
pdf_mem_size	pdf memory size
largest_used_mark	max referenced marks class
filename	name of the current input file
inputid	numeric id of the current input
linenumber	location in the current input file
lasterrorstring	last error string
luabytecodes	number of active Lua bytecode registers
luabytecode_bytes	number of bytes in Lua bytecode registers
luastate_bytes	number of bytes in use by Lua interpreters
output_active	true if the 'output routine is active
callbacks	total number of executed callbacks so far
indirect_callbacks	number of those that were themselves a result of other callbacks (e.g. file readers)
luatex_svn	the luatex repository id (added in 0.51)
luatex_version	the luatex version number (added in 0.38)
luatex_revision	the luatex revision string (added in 0.38)
ini_version	true if this is an ini <sub>T</sub> <sub>E</sub> X run (added in 0.38)

## Typesetting table

**tex.set**([string], string, value) Set a named internal register. Also accepts a predefined csname string.

value = **tex.get**(string) Get a named internal register. Also accepts a predefined csname string.

Many of Lua<sub>T</sub><sub>E</sub>X's internal parameters can be queried and set this way, but not nearly all. The big reference manual has an extensive list.

**tex.setattribute**([string], number, number)

Set an attribute register. Also accepts a predefined csname string.  
number = **tex.getattribute**(number)

Get an attribute register. Also accepts a predefined csname string.

**tex.setbox**([string], number, node) Set a box register. Also accepts a predefined csname string.

node = **tex.getbox**(number) Get a box register. Also accepts a predefined csname string.

**tex.setcount**([string], number, number)

Set a count register. Also accepts a predefined csname string.

number = **tex.getcount**(number) Get a count register. Also accepts a predefined csname string.

**tex.setdimen**([string], number, number)

Set a dimen register. Also accepts a predefined csname string.

number = **tex.getdimen**(number) Get a dimen register. Also accepts a predefined csname string.

**tex.setskip**([string], number, node) Set a skip register. Also accepts a predefined csname string.

node = **tex.getskip**(number)

Get a skip register. Also accepts a predefined csname string.

**tex.settoks**([string], number, string) Set a toks register. Also accepts a predefined csname string.

string = **tex.gettoks**(number)

Get a toks register. Also accepts a predefined csname string.

**tex.setcatcode**([string], [number], number, number)

Set a category code.

number = **tex.getcatcode**([number], number) Get a category code.

**tex.setlcode**([string], number, number, [number])

Set a lowercase code.

number = **tex.getlcode**(number) Get a lowercase code.

**tex.setspacecode**([string], number, number) Set a space factor.

number = **tex.getspacecode**(number) Get a space factor.

**tex.setuccode**([string], number, number, [number]) Set an uppercase code.

number = **tex.getuccode**(number) Get an uppercase code.

**tex.setmathcode**([string], number, table) Set a math code.

table = **tex.getmathcode**(number) Get a math code.

**tex.setdelcode**([string], number, table) Set a delimiter code.

table = **tex.getdelcode**(number) Get a delimiter code.

In all the **tex.set...** functions above, the optional string is the literal "global". The items can also be accessed directly via virtual arrays: **tex.attributes**[], **tex.box**[], **tex.count**[], **tex.dimen**[], **tex.skip**[], **tex.toks**[], **tex.catcode**[], **tex.lcode**[], **tex.spacecode**[], **tex.uccode**[], **tex.mathcode**[], **tex.delcode**[].

**tex.setmath**([string], string, string, number)

Set an internal Math parameter. The first string is like the csname but without the Umath prefix, the second string is a style name minus the style suffix.

number = **tex.getmath**(string, string) Get an internal math parameter.

The first string is like the csname but without the Umath prefix, the second string is a style name minus the style suffix.

**tex.print**([number], string, [string]) Print a sequence of strings (not just two) as lines. The optional argument is a catcode table id.

**tex.sprint**([number], string, [string]) Print a sequence of strings (not just two) as partial lines. The optional argument is a catcode table id.

**tex.tprint**(table, [table]) Combine any number of **tex.sprint**'s into a single function call.

**tex.write**(string) Print a sequence of strings (not just two) as detokenized data.

number = **tex.round**(number) Round a number.

number = **tex.scale**(number, number) Multiplies the first number (or all fields in a table) with the second argument (if the first argument is a table, so is the return value).

number = **tex.sp**(string) Convert a dimension string to scaled points.

**tex.definefont**([boolean], string, number)

Define a font csname. The optional boolean indicates for global definition, the string is the csname, the number is a font id.

**tex.error**(string, [table]) Create an error that is presented to the user.

The optional table is an array of help message strings.

**tex.enableprimitives**(string, table)

Enable the all primitives in the array using the string as prefix.

table = **tex.extraprimitives**(string, [string]) Return all primitives in a (set of) extension identifiers. Valid identifiers are: "tex", "core", "etex", "pdftex", "omega", "aleph", and "luatex".

table = **tex.primitives**() Returns a table of all currently active primitives, with their meaning.

number = **tex.badness**(number, number) Compute a badness value.

**tex.linebreak**(node, table) Run the line breaker on a node list. The table lists settings.

The **tex.linebreak** parameters:

name	type	description
pardir	string	
pretolerance	number	
tracingparagraphs	number	
tolerance	number	
looseness	number	
hyphenpenalty	number	
exhyphenpenalty	number	
pdfadjustspacing	number	
adjdemerits	number	
pdfprotrudechars	number	
linepenalty	number	
lastlinefit	number	
doublehyphenemerits	number	
finalhyphenemerits	number	
hangafter	number	

interlinepenalty	number or table	if a table, then it is an array like <code>\interlinepenalties</code>
clubpenalty	number or table	if a table, then it is an array like <code>\clubpenalties</code>
widowpenalty	number or table	if a table, then it is an array like <code>\widowpenalties</code>
brokenpenalty	number	
emergencystretch	number	in scaled points
hangindent	number	in scaled points
hsize	number	in scaled points
leftskip	glue_spec node	
rightskip	glue_spec node	
pdfeachlineheight	number	in scaled points
pdfeachlinedepth	number	in scaled points
pdffirstlineheight	number	in scaled points
pdflastlinedepth	number	in scaled points
pdfignoreddimen	number	in scaled points
parshape	table	

The `tex.linebreak` returned table data:

<code>prevdepth</code>	depth of the last line in the broken paragraph
<code>prevgraf</code>	number of lines in the broken paragraph
<code>looseness</code>	the actual looseness value in the broken paragraph
<code>demerits</code>	the total demerits of the chosen solution

`tex.shipout(number)` Ships the box to the output file and clears the box.

The virtual table `tex.lists` contains the set of internal registers that keep track of building page lists.

field	description
<code>page_ins_head</code>	circular list of pending insertions
<code>contrib_head</code>	the recent contributions
<code>page_head</code>	the page-so-far
<code>hold_head</code>	used for held-over items for next page
<code>adjust_head</code>	head of the current <code>\adjust</code> list
<code>pre_adjust_head</code>	head of the current <code>\adjust pre</code> list

The virtual table `tex.nest` contains the currently active semantic nesting state. It has two main parts: an zero-based array of userdata for the semantic nest itself, and the numerical value `tex.nest.ptr`. Known fields:

key	type	modes	explanation
<code>mode</code>	number	all	The current mode. 0 = no mode, 1 = vertical, 127 = horizontal, 253 = display math. -1 = internal vertical, -127 = restricted horizontal, -253 = inline math.
<code>modeline</code>	number	all	source input line where this mode was entered in, negative inside the output routine.
<code>head</code>	node	all	the head of the current list
<code>tail</code>	node	all	the tail of the current list
<code>prevgraf</code>	number	vmode	number of lines in the previous paragraph
<code>prevdepth</code>	number	vmode	depth of the previous paragraph
<code>spacefactor</code>	number	hmode	the current space factor
<code>dirs</code>	node	hmode	internal use only
<code>noad</code>	node	mmode	internal use only
<code>delimpr</code>	node	mmode	internal use only
<code>mathdir</code>	boolean	mmode	true when during math processing the <code>\mathdir</code> is not the same as the surrounding <code>\textdir</code>
<code>mathstyle</code>	number	mmode	the current <code>\mathstyle</code>

## Texconfig table

This is a table that is created empty. A startup Lua script could fill this table with a number of settings that are read out by the executable after loading and executing the startup file.

key	type	default	explanation
<code>kpse_init</code>	boolean	true	false totally disables kpathsea initialisation
<code>shell_escape</code>	string		cf. <code>web2c docs</code>
<code>shell_escape_commands</code>	string		cf. <code>web2c docs</code>
<code>string_vacancies</code>	number	75000	cf. <code>web2c docs</code>
<code>pool_free</code>	number	5000	cf. <code>web2c docs</code>
<code>max_strings</code>	number	15000	cf. <code>web2c docs</code>
<code>strings_free</code>	number	100	cf. <code>web2c docs</code>
<code>nest_size</code>	number	50	cf. <code>web2c docs</code>
<code>max_in_open</code>	number	15	cf. <code>web2c docs</code>
<code>param_size</code>	number	60	cf. <code>web2c docs</code>
<code>save_size</code>	number	4000	cf. <code>web2c docs</code>
<code>stack_size</code>	number	300	cf. <code>web2c docs</code>
<code>dvi_buf_size</code>	number	16384	cf. <code>web2c docs</code>
<code>error_line</code>	number	79	cf. <code>web2c docs</code>
<code>half_error_line</code>	number	50	cf. <code>web2c docs</code>
<code>max_print_line</code>	number	79	cf. <code>web2c docs</code>
<code>hash_extra</code>	number	0	cf. <code>web2c docs</code>
<code>pk_dpi</code>	number	72	cf. <code>web2c docs</code>
<code>trace_file_names</code>	boolean	true	false disables TeX's normal file feedback
<code>file_line_error</code>	boolean	false	file:line style error messages
<code>halt_on_error</code>	boolean	false	abort run on the first encountered error
<code>formatname</code>	string		if no format name was given on the command-line, this will be used as <code>formatname</code> .
<code>jobname</code>	string		

## IO table

`texio.write([string], string)` Write a string to the log and/or terminal.

The optional argument is "term", "term and log", or "log".

`texio.write_nl([string], string)`

Write a string to the log and/or terminal, starting on a new line. The optional argument is "term", "term and log", or "log".

## Token table

A token is represented in Lua as a small table. For the moment, this table consists of three numeric entries:

index	meaning	description
1	command code	this is a value between 0 and 130
2	command modifier	this is a value between 0 and 2 <sup>31</sup>
3	control sequence id	for commands that are not the result of control sequences, like letters and characters, it is zero, otherwise, it is a number pointing into the "equivalence table"

`token = token.get_next()` Fetch the next token from the input stream.

`boolean = token.is_expandable(token)`

True if the token is expandable.

`token.expand()`

Expand a token the tokenb waiting in the input stream.

`boolean = token.is_activechar(token)`

True if the token represents and active character.

`token = token.create(number, [number])` Create a token from scratch, the optional argument is a category code. Also accepts strings, in which case a token matching that `csname` is created.

`string = token.command_name(token)`

Return the internal string representing a command code.

`number = token.command_id(string)`

Return the internal number representing a command code.

`string = token.csname_name(token)` Return the `csname` associated with a token.

`number = token.csname_id(string)` Returns the value for a `csname` string.