

# Making slides

*...and doing it with Prosper*

RSI 2006 staff

# What's Prosper?

- Prosper is a  $\text{\LaTeX}$  class for making slides and presentations.
- Using Prosper we can go from a tex file to pdf slides complete with colors, transitions, etc.
- As you probably guessed, this presentation was made using the Prosper class.

# First things first...the basics

It's important to know the basic structure of a Prosper file before you can do any of the fancy stuff. Below is the basic structure of the presentation you'll be making:

```
\documentclass[pdf]{prosper}
%%the preamble%%
\title{The title}
\subtitle{The subtitle}
\author{your name}
\institution{RSI}

\begin{document}
%%make title slide%%
\maketitle
%%make a normal slide%%
\begin{slide}{Title of first slide}
The body of the slide.
\end{slide}
\end{document}
```

# The stuff in the middle...

- So what can you do between `\begin{slide}` and `\end{slide}`?
- The answer is pretty much anything you can do in a normal  $\text{\LaTeX}$  document. You can add figures, tables, equations, and normal text to Prosper slides.

# An example- figures and graphics

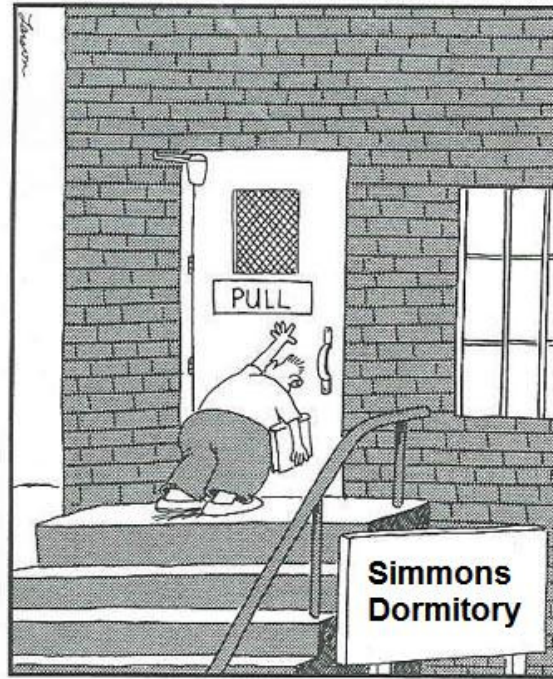


Figure 1: Rickoids are smart.

# ...behind the scenes

```
\begin{figure}[ht]  
\begin{center}  
\includegraphics[scale=0.3]{LarsonGifted.eps}  
\end{center}  
\caption{Rickoids kids are smart.}  
\end{figure}
```

# Another example- tables

Ice Cream Store	Location	How to Get There
Toscanini's	Central Square	Just walk!
Herrell's	Harvard Square	Red Line
J.P. Licks	Davis Square	Red Line
Ben & Jerry's	Newbury Street	Green Line

# ...behind the scenes

```
\begin{table}[htbp]
\begin{tabular}{|l|c|c|}\hline
Ice Cream Stores & Location & How to get there\\ \hline
Toscanini's & Central Square & Just walk!\\
Herrell's & Harvard Square & Red Line\\
J.P. Licks & Davis Square & Red Line\\
Ben & Jerry's & Newbury St. & Green Line\\ \hline
\end{tabular}
\end{table}
```

# And another example- Math stuff

**Easy Theorem 1.** *The equation*

$$x^n + y^n = z^n,$$

*has no integer solutions for  $n > 2$  where  $x, y, z \neq 0$ .*

*Proof.* The proof is trivial and left as an exercise for the reader. □

# ...behind the scenes

```
\begin{slide}{And another example- Math stuff}
\newtheorem{them}{Easy Theorem}
\begin{them}
The equation

$$x^n+y^n=z^n,$$

has no integer solutions for  $n>2$  where  $x, y, z \neq 0$ .
\begin{proof}
The proof is trivial and left as an exercise for the reader.
\end{proof}
\end{them}
\end{slide}
```

# Too much L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X for your slides to handle?

- You may have so much text that it can't fit on a slide. This is often true when writing mathematical formulas in Prosper. Never fear, there is a solution.
- Prosper lets you select font sizes for individual slides. The default is 14, but using the command `\ptsize{n}` right after `\begin{slide}`, the font size can be changed to 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, or, 17.
- If you want to change the font for all the slides then just add the command `\ptsize{n}` in the preamble.

# Overlaying!!!

# Overlaying!!!

This is overlaying with text.

# Overlaying!!!

This is overlaying with text.

But remember,

# Overlaying!!!

This is overlaying with text.

But remember, too

# Overlaying!!!

This is overlaying with text.

But remember, too much

# Overlaying!!!

This is overlaying with text.

But remember, too much overlaying

# Overlaying!!!

This is overlaying with text.

But remember, too much overlaying is

# Overlaying!!!

This is overlaying with text.

But remember, too much overlaying is annoying.

# ...behind the scenes

```
\overlays{11}{  
\begin{slide}{Overlaying!!!}  
\fromSlide{2}{This is}  
\medskip  
\fromSlide{3}{overlaying with text.\\}  
\medskip  
\fromSlide{4}{But}  
\medskip  
\fromSlide{5}{remember,}  
\medskip  
\fromSlide{6}{too}  
\medskip  
\fromSlide{7}{much}  
\medskip
```

You can overlay equations, theorems, and figures too by just saying:

```
\fromSlide{n}{put your equation, theorem, or figure here}
```

# One last note on overlaying

Overlaying an itemized list requires a special format of the form:

```
\overlays{5}{  
\begin{slide}{Slide title}  
\begin{itemstep}  
\item Item 1  
\item Item 2  
\item You get the idea  
\end{itemstep}  
\end{slide}  
}
```

# And now for transitions

- The transition you just saw was called `Dissolve`.

- By writing

```
\begin{slide}[Dissolve]{Slide title}
```

you can get this transition for a slide.

- you can also replace the word `Dissolve` in the above command with other transitions like `Glitter`, `Box`, `Wipe`, `Replace`, `Split`, or `Blinds`.
- Too many funky transitions just make your presentation look tacky...so remember always transition in moderation.

# Making it all look good

There's 4 steps to seeing cool looking pdf slides from your tex file.

1. `latex file.tex` or go `C-c C-f` in emacs.

2. `dvips -t a4 -o file.ps file.dvi`.

Yes, it's long but needed. This command creates a4 size slides in `ps` format.

3. `ps2pdf file.ps`. This creates a `pdf` file from your `ps` file. If you want sharper images in your presentation then do `ps2pdf -dPDFSETTINGS=/prepress file.ps` instead.

4. `acroread file.pdf &`. Then hit `C-L` to view the slides in full screen mode.

The shortcut command to get `pdf` files from `tex` files, `pdflatex`, does *not* work with Prosper.

# Good sites to visit for Prosper help

- <http://www.math.umbc.edu/~rouben/prosper/>
- <http://freshmeat.net/articles/view/667/>
- The official Prosper site: <http://prosper.sourceforge.net/>