Stick it to the man(1):

Intro to {TeX,}Info

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https://wwwcip.cs.fau.de/~oj14ozun/src+etc/texinfo.pdf

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*Online Documentation on UN*X?*

`man(1)`

One Page per Manual

Based on Nroff

Roots in RUNOFF (1964) on the CTSS

No semantic markup or hypertext

```
.TH CAT "1" "April 2025" "GNU coreutils 9.7" "User Com
.SH NAME
cat \- concatenate files and print on the standard out
.SH SYNOPSIS
.B cat
[\fI\,OPTION\/\fR]... [\fI\,FILE\/\fR]...
.SH DESCRIPTION
.\" Add any additional description here
.PP
Concatenate FILE(s) to standard output.
.PP
With no FILE, or when FILE is \-, read standard input.
.TP
\fB\-A\fR, \fB\-\-show\-all\fR
equivalent to \fB\-vET\fR
...
```

```
...
.SH AUTHOR
Written by Torbjorn Granlund and Richard M. Stallman.
.SH "REPORTING BUGS"
GNU coreutils online help: <https://www.gnu.org/softwa
.br
Report any translation bugs to <https://translationpro
.SH "SEE ALSO"
\fBtac\fP(1)
.PP
.br
Full documentation <https://www.gnu.org/software/coreu
```

But what about mdoc?

(Alternative macros for manpages)

```
.Sh STANDARDS
The
.Nm
utility is compliant with the
.St -p1003.1-2008
specification.
.Pp
The flag
.Op Fl n
is an extension to that specification.
.Pp
.Nm
also exists as a built-in to
.Xr csh 1
and
.Xr ksh 1 ,
though with a different syntax.
```

Nevertheless...

A tool like less(1) doesn’t easily make use of the semantic information.

(How d’ya look for a flag?)

GNU TeXInfo

Multi-Output Documentation System

Indirectly based on TeX

Roots in "Scribe" and "Bolio" on the ITS

Semantic Markup and Hypertext support!

How to Read?

`info(1)`

For instance:

```
$ info gdb
```

How to Navigate?

Mostly like less(1)!

Follow a hyperlink with "Return"

Jump to a node with "g"

Jump to an index entry with "i"

Find out my using the help presented by "h"

Watch out, buddy!

Info and Info manuals might

not always be installed by default!

Nag your local Sysadmin!

Any alternatives?

Many manuals have HTML pages online

PDF/Printed versions are available

And you can read Info manuals in Emacs

How to write?

Plain-text with TeX-ish markup:

`@command{arg1,arg2,arg2}`

What commands are there?

`@code, @samp, @var, @kbd, @env, @file`

`@chapter, @section, @subsection`

`@emph, @strong, @sc`

`@url, @ref, @cite, @index`

`...`

How are .texi files structured?

There is some boilerplate...

```
\input texinfo   @c -*-texinfo-*-
@comment %**start of header
@include version.texi
@settitle GNU Sample @value{VERSION}
@syncodeindex pg cp
@comment %**end of header
@copying
This manual is for GNU Sample (version @value{VERSION}
which is an example in the Texinfo documentation.

Copyright @copyright{} 2016 Free Software Foundation,
@quotation
Permission is granted to copy, distribute and/or modif
under the terms of the GNU Free Documentation License,
any later version published by the Free Software Found
Invariant Sections, with no Front-Cover Texts, and wit
```

Note the first line:

```
\input texinfo
```

This is TeX that redefines the catcode from \ to @:

```
\catcode‘\@=0
\catcode‘\\=\active
```

Hence printed TeXinfo use TeX directly!

```
@node    First Chapter
@chapter First Chapter
@cindex Sample index entry

This is the contents of the first chapter.

Here is a numbered list.

@enumerate
@item
This is the first item.
@item
This is the second item.
@end enumerate

The @code{makeinfo} and @code{texinfo-format-buffer}
commands transform a Texinfo file.
```

Examples of Info manuals

GNU Tools: Coreutils, GDB, GCC, Glibc, ...

Emacs: ...itself, Elisp, and many packages!

Books: SICP, unofficial LaTeX2e manual

I wish: POSIX and Language Specs

@bye