NOOR FATIMA

# NOTES ON WIDE-MARGIN TYPOGRAPHY

# *Preface*

This book is set with sidenotes and margin figures in the style popularised by Edward Tufte, using the `tufte-book` class. It exists to show how a wide right margin can carry citations, asides and small tables without crowding the main text column.

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# *Setting Text in the Margin*

SIDENOTES are the defining feature of this class.[1] They let an aside sit beside the sentence it annotates instead of interrupting it.

[1] A sidenote appears in the margin next to the paragraph that calls it, rather than at the foot of the page.

## *Citing a Source*

The typesetting engine underneath a book class does not dictate its layout [Knuth, 1984]; convention does. Tufte's own books demonstrate that a generous margin, used consistently, reads as considered rather than sparse.

Margin notes, unlike sidenotes, are not numbered.

## *A Small Table*

Table 1 compares the column widths this class reserves for body text and margin material.

| Region | Width (in) | Purpose |
|---|---|---|
| Body text | 4.20 | Main narrative |
| Margin | 2.00 | Sidenotes, figures |
| Gutter | 0.35 | Separation |

Table 1: Approximate column widths under the default `tufte-book` geometry.

# *Working with Figures*

## *Full-Width and Margin Figures*

A figure can either sit in the margin, matching the width of a sidenote, or span the full text-plus-margin width for material that needs the room. Either placement keeps the figure near the paragraph that discusses it, which is the class's central argument about how illustration should relate to prose [Knuth, 1984].

## *Closing Remarks*

The chapters above cover the class's two most-used features: sidenotes for short asides and a two-width figure system for illustration. Together they cover most of what a wide-margin book needs.

# *Bibliography*

Donald E. Knuth. *The TEXbook*. Addison-Wesley, Reading, MA, 1984.