SUPERIOR FIGURES

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1. BRIEFLY

The default behavior of footnote and endnote markers in LaTeX is to print the number as if it were a mathematical superscript. In most cases, this means the size is about 70% of the normal lining figure and the top is somewhat above the tops of capital letters. In many cases, the superscript figure is simply reduced in all dimensions by about 70%, making them appear rather slight, though overly tall. (The libertine package used for preparing this document has a custom footnote illustrated below.)

As an alternative, one may use superior figures—small figures, usually 50% to 60% of the height of lining figures, like ¹²³⁴⁵⁶⁷⁸⁹⁰. Commonly, they are designed so that the tops of the numbers are aligned with the tops of the capital letters in the font, though sometimes a little higher, corresponding to the ascender height. PostScript fonts have for a long time mostly contained just a small subset {1, 2, 3} of the possible superior digits, and most OpenType fonts in the Adobe portfolio, other than the most popular and the most recent, contain the same small subset. Moreover, the TS1 encoding includes slots for only those three superior figures. Even the recent STIX collection contains just the basic three.

This package allows you to add a full set of superior figures to a font family that lacks one. It uses two predefined collections—the default is `ntxsups-Regular-t1`, drawn from TeX Gyre Termes, while the second, `libertinesups`, is taken from Libertine-Legacy. (The standard libertine package provides no access to these glyphs other than through footnote markers.) In addition, you may specify any TeX tfm whose figure slots contain superior figures. The package also allows you to scale the size of the imported figures, to take into account your general font scaling, and to specify an amount by which to raise the imported, rescaled figures. You may also specify a spacing to apply before the footnote marker, using the option `supspaced`. The package should be loaded after your Roman text font package[1].

SAMPLE INVOCATIONS:

- Times-like, no rescaling or raising, but with .03em space before footnote markers:

  ```
  \usepackage[supspaced=.03em]{superiors} % default value is .04em
  ```

- Libertine superiors scaled up by 20%, then lowered:

  ```
  \usepackage{libertine}
  \usepackage[supstfm=libertinesups,%
    supscaled=1.2,%
    raised=-.13em]% match XHeight of libertine
  {superiors}
  ```

- Use MinionPro[2] superiors at default size, lowered a bit:

  ```
  \usepackage[supstfm=T1-Minion2Pro-Regular-sups-kern-liga,%
    raised=-.05em]%
  {superiors}
  ```

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[1]The `newtxtext` package uses the `ntxsups-*` superiors contained in the newtx package by default for footnote markers.

[2]Assumes you have installed MinionPro according to the directions in the minion2newtx package.

It is best to specify a relative unit for the `raised` and `supspaced` parameters so that they change with the font size. (Recall that for a 10pt font, `1em` is usually `10pt`, but the actual size of `1em` is defined relative to font size.)

The following example compares libertine with its default footnote markers against libertine with the superiors package as described in the second example above:

This is a short Libertine test document[1].   This is a short Libertine test document[1].

---

[1]default footnote style   [1]superiors footnote style

There is another parameter named `scaled` that should be used only if you loaded your text font with a scale parameter different from 1.0, and in this case, you should use the same scale parameter. For example:

```
\usepackage[lining,scaled=1.05]{bembo}
\usepackage[scaled=1.05,%
  supstfm=libertinesups,% libertine
  supscaled=1.2,%
  raised=-.13em]%
{superiors}
```

2. ISSUES WITH SUPERIOR FIGURES

If a number of figure styles are available, many packages make use of nfssext (or its further extension nfssext-cfr) to access those special forms. For superior figures, two macros are defined by nfssext: `\sustyle` and `\textsu`, the first of which changes the text font to a font with superior figures (and is usually called with action confined to a group), while the second is a macro called like `\textsu{123}` which applies `\sustyle` to just its argument. In packages generated by `otfinst` and `autoinst`, if superior figures are available (even if only three of them), `\sustyle` and `\textsu` are defined and refer to the superior figures. Moreover, `otfinst` redefines `\@makefnmark`:

```
\def\@makefnmark{\hbox{\sustyle\@thefnmark}}
```

so that it uses figures in `\sustyle`. That leads to problems if you use footnote markers greater than three. For example, in Stempel Garamond, where there are only three superior figures available, the first graphic shows the default footnote markers provided by otfinst, the second shows the document processed with libertine footnote markers using

```
\usepackage[supstfm=libertinesups,%
  supscaled=1.2,%
  raised=-.04em
]{superiors}
```

This is a short[1] Stempel[2] Garamond[3] test   This is a short[1] Stempel[2] Garamond[3] test
document4.   document[4].

---

[1]Very short.   [1]Very short.
[2]Pronounced Schtempel   [2]Pronounced Schtempel
[3]The original Garamond!   [3]The original Garamond!
4default footnote markers   [4]libertine footnote markers

This package redefines these macros so that `\sustyle` changes the font and applies the scaling changes, while changes due to the `raised` parameter are applied only within `\textsu`. For this reason, we have to modify the definition of `\@makefnmark` as essentially as follows, when not in a minipage:

```
\def\@makefnmark{\raisebox{\superiors@raised}{\hbox%
        {\sustyle\hspace*{\superiors@spaced}\@thefnmark%
        \hspace*{.03em}}}}
```

Relatively few Opentype text font families have a complete set of superior figures that can be accessed after running otfinst. Other than those listed above, the following have a complete set of superior figures:

```
newtxtext
newpxtext
libertine
TeXGyre Termes
TeXGyre Pagella
Erewhon
Heuristica
Baskervaldx
garamondx
XCharter
Adobe Bembo Std
Adobe Caslon Pro
Adobe Warnock Pro
Monotype Dante Std
Monotype Bell Std
Monotype Perpetua Std
Adobe Garamond Premier Pro
Adobe Brioso Pro
Adobe Arno Pro
Adobe Kinesis Std
Adobe Jenson Pro
Adobe Kepler Std
```

(Those listed without a vendor name are free, and mostly available through TEXLive.)

You may, as of version 1.05, refer to a font to use for superior figures by using an abbreviated form. The following abbreviations are known to `superiors` and may be activated by setting the option `supsfam` to one of:

```
newtx     ---ntxsups-Regular-ot1,%
newtxtext    ---ntxsups-Regular-ot1,%
newpx    ---zplsups-Regular-ot1,%
newpxtext   ---zplsups-Regular-ot1,%
libertine   ---libertinesups,%
garamondx   ---NewG8-sups,%
zgm         ---NewG8-sups,%
erewhon     ---Erewhon-Regular-sup-t1,%
xcharter    ---XCharter-Roman-sup-t1,%
baskervaldx    ---Baskervaldx-Reg-sup-t1
```

For example, loading `superiors` with the line

```
\usepackage[supsfam=newpx]{superiors}
```

has the same effect as

```
\usepackage[supstfm=zplsups-Regular-ot1]{superiors}
```

but may be easier to remember.