How to typeset your Math papers using LaTeX (TeX):

1 - Getting a LaTeX typesetting installation:

- First, you need to download a TeX distribution and install on your copmuter system.
  * For Windows PC, a popular choice is the MiKTeX system, which includes most frequently used packages, including LaTeX, BibTeX and PdfTeX. You can download it at http://www.miktex.org/
  * For the Macintosh OS X (which I dont really have first hand experience with), a popular choice is the teTeX-LiveTeX system. Gerben Wierda maintains an updated installation of this system at: ftp://ftp.nluug.nl/pub/comp/macosx/volumes/ii2/II2.dmg

- For people who installs MikTeX (in Windows), you will need to find a front-end editor, since that distribution does not include one. There are several softwares available for free:
  - TeXnicCenter, downloadable at http://www.toolscenter.org
  - WinShell, downloadable at http://www.winshell.de
  - WinEdt, (shareware, will ask you to pay after 28-day trial): http://www.winedt.com
  - TexShell (a very BASIC software, that nevertheless works, useful for beginner): http://www.projectory.de/texshell/index.html

- For people who use a Mac, you can use the TeXShop editor, downloadable at http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~koch/texshop/texshop.html. A very similar software is ITexMAc, downloadable at http://itexmac.sourceforge.net/

* It is always better to install these editors only after you have installed the MikTeX distribution, as these softwares will then look for the font and libraries files and configure themselves automatically.

2 - Editing and Outputting LaTex into dvi and pdf format:

- For a very basic tutorial on typesetting in LaTex, try D Wilkins' primer: http://www.maths.tcd.ie/~dwilkins/LaTeXPrimer/
- A similar page, created by our own Math Department long ago: http://www.math.harvard.edu/computing/latex/manual/texman.html
- For a useful references to often-used symbols, also try this list: http://omega.albany.edu:8008/Symbols.html
- For a comprehensive list of symbols in LaTeX, try this pdf file: http://www.ctan.org/tex-archive/info/symbols/comprehensive/symbols-a4.pdf
- The default output of the LaTeX editors is usually Postscript .ps, or Device Independent, .dvi . You can output directly to pdf by choosing the command pdfTeX in TeXnicCenter, WinShell and WinEdt directly from the LaTeX source file.

3 - Some other useful links:

- CTAN (Comprehensive TeX Archive Network website: the central website for all things TEX,links to downloads, documentations : http://www.ctan.org/
- AMS TeX website: Links to resources, AMS-LaTeX http://www.ams.org/tex/tex-

resources.html
- Cambridge University's Text processing page: many links to tutorials and downloadables http://www-h.eng.cam.ac.uk/help/tpl/textprocessing/