

# *Aspects of PostScript*

PostScript includes coordinate systems and graphical operators for describing page layouts:

- Arbitrary shapes of lines, arcs, and cubic curves;
- Painting of shapes with lines or fills of any color;
- Cropping of any graphic by any shape;
- Text defined and alterable as shapes;
- Sampled images at any resolution;
- Linear coordinate transformations for translation, scaling, rotation, reflection, or skewing.



PostScript is also a general-purpose programming language including:

- Numbers (mostly floating-point), arrays, and strings;
- Flow control with conditionals, loops, and procedures;
- Dictionaries or associative tables;
- Virtual memory and other control of device features;
- An interpreter, so simple programs can describe complex pages.

BUT - printers must have fast CPUs and much memory.

PostScript is entirely expressible in plain ASCII text:

- Transportable between almost any two computers;
- A programmer can easily edit and alter a page description.