

Paris-thesis packages bundle

Jean Hare

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Abstract

The `paristhesis` bundle is a kind of YATHT^{*}, that adds a new element to the almost countless variants that can be found on CTAN or elsewhere on the Internet[†]. Unlike many alternative solutions, it deeply rely on the standard `book` class and neither KOMA-script `scrbook` nor `memoir`. It provides a number of tools that either help to conform to the French typographical rules and customs, or facilitate specific tasks for French doctoral theses, taking into account that most French universities do not provide binding rules on the format of the thesis, with the notable exception of cover pages.

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Introduction

This bundle contains eight packages, that have been carefully made compatible as a whole, and can be loaded or not, depending on the end user's choice[‡]. They are also assumed to work whether or not one use `hyperref` and/or `babel`[§]. It also include a skeleton that can be used as a “template”, based on the standard class `book`, and likely work only with it.

As it contains a large set of packages, that often work only with the standard `book` class, this bundle would deserve the creation of a class, that could be done in the future if users request it. However, it seemed preferable to the author to keep it in the form of separate packages in order to preserve the modularity and if needed, ease its customization.

Alternatives

Most thesis template found on CTAN (more than 110) are not recommended (if not strongly discouraged). However two alternatives could be considered :

- Template and package bundle `yathesis` on CTAN
- Template and package bundle `classicthesis` on CTAN
- Template and package bundle by Matthias POSPIECH,
at URL <https://www.matthiaspospiech.de/latex/templates/thesis/>.

^{*} YATHT=Yet another (PhD) thesis template [†] Not to mention all the templates, most of them very obsolete, that are lying around in the laboratories. [‡] All of them however heavily rely on the packages `etoolbox` and `kvoptions`. [§] Only the `french` and `english` `babel`'s options have been tested.

1 The five packages *preamb-****

The descriptions below briefly describe the features added by custom packages and also list the packages that are loaded directly into these packages, mostly *without* their dependencies.

Legend:

- ♥ : commands defined by the package will likely be used by the standard user.
- ★ : packages conditionally loaded depending on selected options.
- ✎ : the corresponding setting can be overridden after package loading.

1.1 Package *preamb-util*

This package loads many utilities packages, and is essential for the others to work properly.

Packages loaded The packages loaded by *preamb-util* are listed in table 1 on page 3.

Options None

Custom commands provided

- `\inputpath` (similar to `\graphicspath`) defines (by overriding) additional paths list to `\input/\include`'d files, stored in `\input@path*`.
Use it as `\graphicspath` e.g. `\inputpath{\./}{../front/}{./chap1/}`.
Siblings : `\appendtoinputpath` & `\prependtoinputpath`
- `\appendtographicspath` & `\prependtographicspath` improving the previously defined list (using `\graphicspath` and stored in `\Ginput@path`).
- `\IfShellEscape[<mode>]{<true>}{<false>}` detects the status of `-shell-escape` and then executes `<true>` or `<false>` code. Default `<mode>` is 'Enabled', but other values are 'Restricted' or 'Disabled'.
- `\fmeaning` typesets in PDF the `\meaning` of a normal macro.
- `\xfmeaning` does the same for macros that are `protected` or have optional arguments.
- `\convertto{<unit>}{<\length>}` typeset in PDF the value of the `dimension <\length>` using an arbitrary (standard TeX) unit `<unit>` instead of `pt`.
- Patch of `\cleardoublepage` to provide a starred version which doesn't reset `\thispagestyle` to `empty`, and an optionnal argument which a text to insert at the empty page center, typically "Page intentionally left blank".
- French *guillemets* (« and ») as unicode characters, automatically producing the correct unbreakable spacing[†] ✎.
- `\KillExtView{<viewername>}` (MS-Windows only, but could be easily extended to linuxes), this command closes an external viewer which locks the PDF file. Should be called as early as possible Requires `-shell-escape` option.
- Some other utility commands stubs when the package defining them is not loaded.

* It works for packages files too, but ideally, they *should be installed* in `TEXMFHOME`.

[†] Namely `\,`, i.e. `\thinspace=3/18em` after « and before » but this value can be altered to `\;` i.e. `\=5/18em`, in the `.sty` package file.

Table 1: Packages loaded by *preamb-util*

Name	Date	Version	Comment	
<i>etoolbox</i>	2020/10/05	v2.5k	ϵ -TeX tools for LaTeX (JAW)	♥
<i>afterpage</i>	2014/10/28	v1.08	After-Page Package (DPC)	
<i>afterpackage</i>	2006/01/17	v1.1	Apply Commands After Package (NCC)	
<i>kvoptions</i>	2022/06/15	v3.15	Key value format for package options (HO)	
<i>keyval</i>	2022/05/29	v1.15	key=value parser (DPC)	
<i>kvsetkeys</i>	2022-10-05	v1.19	Key value parser (HO)	
<i>enumitem</i>	2019/06/20	v3.9	Customized lists (JB)	♥
<i>array</i>	2022/09/04	v2.5g	Tabular extension package (FMi)	♥
<i>booktabs</i>	2020/01/12	v1.6180...	Publication quality tables	♥
<i>silence</i>	2012/07/02	v1.5b	Selective filtering of warnings and error msg	
<i>xstring</i>	2023/01/14	v1.85	String manipulations (CT)	♥
<i>xspace</i>	2014/10/28	v1.13	Space after command names (DC,MH)	♥
<i>versions</i>	2005/04/28	v0.55	ignore passages optionally (UL)	♥
<i>infwarerr</i>	2019/12/03	v1.5	Providing info/warning/error messages (HO)	
<i>iftex</i>	2022/02/03	v1.0f	TeX engine tests (L3T)	♥
<i>ifthen</i>	2022/04/13	v1.1d	Standard LaTeX ifthen package (DC)	
<i>ltxcmds</i>	2020/05/10	v1.25	LaTeX kernel commands for general use (HO)	
<i>pdfTexcmds</i>	2020/06/27	v0.33	Utility functions of pdfTeX for LuaTeX (HO)	
<i>letltxmacro</i>	2019/12/03	v1.6	Let assignment for LaTeX macros (HO)	
<i>textcase</i>	2022/07/10	v1.03	Text only upper/lower case changing (DC)	♥
<i>listofitems</i>	2019/08/21	v1.63	Grab items in lists using user-specified sep (CT,SBS)	♥
<i>setspace</i>	2022/12/04	v6.7b	Set line spacing (GT,RF)	♥
<i>iflang</i>	2018/01/21	v1.7	Checks for the current language (HO)	
<i>textgreek</i>	2011/10/09	v0.7	Greek symbols in text (LM)	♥
<i>expl3</i>	2023/06/05		LaTeX3 programming layer (L3T)	
<i>xparse</i>	2023/02/02		LaTeX3 Document command parser (L3T)	♥

1.2 Package *preamb-graph*

This package aims to ease the placement of graphics and their captions. It doesn't load any part of the *PGF* package so as not to overload compilation for users who don't really need it.*.

Packages loaded The packages loaded by *preamb-graph* are listed in table 2 at page 4.

Table 2: Packages loaded by *preamb-graph*

Name	Date	Version	Comment	
<i>xcolor</i>	2022/06/12	v2.14	LaTeX color extensions (UK)	♥
<i>colortbl</i>	2022/06/20	v1.0f	Color table columns (DC)	
<i>graphicx</i>	2021/09/16	v1.2d	Enhanced LaTeX Graphics (DC,SPQR)	♥
<i>grffile</i>	2019/11/11	v2.1	Extended file name support for graphics (legacy)	
<i>eso-pic</i>	2023/05/03	v3.0c	Add picture absolute positions (RN)	♥
<i>pdfpages</i>	2022/12/19	v0.5x	Insert pages of external PDF documents (AM)	♥
<i>caption</i>	2022/03/01	v3.6b	Customizing captions (AR)	♥
<i>subcaption</i>	2022/01/07	v1.5	Sub-captions (AR)	♥
<i>ltxcaption</i>	2021/01/08	v1.4c	Long table captions (AR)	
<i>pdfcolmk</i>	2019/11/24	v2.0	Color support for pdfTeX via marks	
<i>epstopdf-base</i>	2020/01/24	v2.11	Base part for package <i>epstopdf</i>	
<i>lscap</i>	2020/05/28	v3.02	Landscape Pages (DC)	♥
<i>pdfscape</i>	2022/10/27	v0.13	Display of landscape pages in PDF (HO)	♥
<i>wrapfig</i>	2003/01/31	v3.6	★ Typesetting narrow floats at the text edge (DA)	♥
<i>epstopdf</i>	2020/01/24	v2.11	★ On the fly conversion of EPS files (HO)	
<i>flafter</i>	2021/07/31	v1.4e	Put LaTeX floats after reference and def. (FMi)	

Options



floatbarrier: if *empty* *placeins*'s `\FloatBarrier` is only provided. If set to *section* (or any option recognized by *placeins*) it is automatically used. Default : *empty*

draft/final Enforce the *draft/final* option of `\includegraphics`, but give priority to the homonymous options of `\documentclass`. Default : *final*

epstopdf Loads the *epstopdf* package to (silently an automatically) convert to PDF EPS files provided to `\includegraphics` (without extension). Default : *empty*

wrapfig Loads *wrapfig* to enable typesetting narrow floats into the text. Default : *empty*

Settings

- Defines (French) figure caption with `\captionsetup`. 
- Adjust maximal `***fraction` and the minimal ratios to ease the float placement. 

* In the same way, the *thcover* custom package does not use it for text positioning.