How to make presentations with LaTeX

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TODO

- Elaborate more on Beamer package
- More on KOMAscript
- More on others?

Here I will talk about getting LaTeX working for the production of presentations. There are numerous ways how you could do a presentation in LaTeX. One of them is to use already existing packages, of which `beamer` is the most popular one. However, you can use standard document classes as well [1].

There is also another source of information [2], which might be a good starting point for using the Beamer document class.

1 The beamer document class

As mentioned before, the `beamer` package is the most popular among scientists and it works quite well with PGF/TikZ packages which might make it the best solution out there. It is very straight forward to use it — it defines several new environments (eg `frame`, `column` etc) and commands (eg `\frametitle`, `\pause` etc).

The best way to learn it would be to examine the supplied example and comparing how the source file corresponds to what is produced in the final `.pdf` document.

2 Another approach

This is an alternative method to create presentations. It involves using `scrartcl` class which is then customized to a great extent. The decorations of the presentation are done by using the

TikZ package and since everything is done from scratch, the user will end up having a unique theme for his/her presentations.

As you might understand, with a lot of customizability comes slightly steeper learning curve and one need to spend more time initially to get everything set up. However, then to convert an article to a presentation is much faster, which is mainly the point of this method. Also, you do not need to learn knew commands/environments, which might also be considered as an advantage of this method.

There is an excellent example and article on the PracTEX journal. [1] Please download the zipped sources where you will find everything. You can check the presentation .tex file and change various parameters in the preamble and see how the style of presentation is affected.

References

[1] Markus Kohm Marius Hofert. Scientific presentations with latex. *The PracTeX Journal*, 2010(2).

[2] Wikibooks. Latex wikibooks: Presentations.