Use this document as a template

Example and documentation
of the kaobook **class**

Customise this page according to your needs

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An Awesome Publisher

* A LaTeX lover

The kaobook class

The harmony of the world is made manifest in Form and Number, and the heart and soul and all the poetry of Natural Philosophy are embodied in the concept of mathematical beauty.

– D'Arcy Wentworth Thompson

Preface

I am of the opinion that every LaTeX geek, at least once during his life, feels the need to create his or her own class: this is what happened to me and here is the result, which, however, should be seen as a work still in progress. Actually, this class is not completely original, but it is a blend of all the best ideas that I have found in a number of guides, tutorials, blogs and tex.stackexchange.com posts. In particular, the main ideas come from two sources:

▶ Ken Arroyo Ohori's Doctoral Thesis, which served, with the author's permission, as a backbone for the implementation of this class;
▶ The Tufte-Latex Class, which was a model for the style.

The first chapter of this book is introductive and covers the most essential features of the class. Next, there is a bunch of chapters devoted to all the commands and environments that you may use in writing a book; in particular, it will be explained how to add notes, figures and tables, and references. The second part deals with the page layout and design, as well as additional features like coloured boxes and theorem environments.

I started writing this class as an experiment, and as such it should be regarded. Since it has always been indended for my personal use, it may not be perfect but I find it quite satisfactory for the use I want to make of it. I share this work in the hope that someone might find here the inspiration for writing his or her own class.

Federico Marotta

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1.1 The Main Ideas

Many modern printed textbooks have adopted a layout with prominent margins where small figures, tables, remarks and just about everything else can be displayed. Arguably, this layout helps to organise the discussion by separating the main text from the ancillary material, which at the same time is very close to the point in the text where it is referenced.

This document does not aim to be an apology of wide margins, for there are many better suited authors for this task; the purpose of all these words is just to fill the space so that the reader can see how a book written with the kaobook class looks like. Meanwhile, I shall also try to illustrate the features of the class.

The main ideas behind kaobook come from this blog post, and actually the name of the class is dedicated to the author of the post, Ken Arroyo Ohori, which has kindly allowed me to create a class based on his thesis. Therefore, if you want to know more reasons to prefer a 1.5-column layout for your books, be sure to read his blog post.

Another source of inspiration, as you may have noticed, is the Tufte-Latex Class. The fact that the design is similar is due to the fact that it is very difficult to improve something which is already so good. However, I like to think that this class is more flexible than Tufte-Latex. For instance, I have tried to use only standard packages and to implement as little as possible from scratch;[1] therefore, it should be pretty easy to customise anything, provided that you read the documentation of the package that provides that feature.

1: This also means that understanding and contributing to the class development is made easier. Indeed, many things still need to be improved, so if you are interested, check out the repository on github!

In this book I shall illustrate the main features of the class and provide information about how to use and change things. Let us get started.

1.2 What This Class Does

The kaobook class focuses more about the document structure than about the style. Indeed, it is a well-known LaTeX principle that structure and style should be separated as much as possible (see also Section Section 1.3 on the following page). This means that this class will only provide commands, environments and in general, the opportunity to do things, which the user may or may not use. Actually, some stylistic matters are embedded in the class, but the user is able to customise them with ease.

The main features are the following:

Page Layout The text width is reduced to improve readability and make space for the margins, where any sort of elements can be displayed.

Chapter Headings As opposed to Tufte-Latex, we provide a variety of chapter headings among which to choose; examples will be seen in later chapters.

Page Headers They span the whole page, margins included, and, in twoside mode, display alternatively the chapter and the section name.[2]

Matters The commands `\frontmatter`, `\mainmatter` and `\backmatter` have been redefined in order to have automatically wide margins in the main matter, and narrow margins in the front and back matters. However, the page style can be changed at any moment, even in the middle of the document.

Margin text We provide commands `\sidenote` and `\marginnote` to put text in the margins.[3]

Margin figs/tabs A couple of useful environments is `marginfigure` and `margintable`, which, not surprisingly, allow you to put figures and tables in the margins (*cfr.* Figure 1.1).

Margin toc Finally, since we have wide margins, why don't add a little table of contents in them? See `\margintoc` for that.

Hyperref `hyperref` is loaded and by default we try to add bookmarks in a sensible way; in particular, the bookmarks levels are automatically reset at `\appendix` and `\backmatter`. Moreover, we also provide a small package to ease the hyperreferencing of other parts of the text.

Bibliography We want the reader to be able to know what has been cited without having to go to the end of the document every time, so citations go in the margins as well as at the end, as in Tufte-Latex. Unlike that class, however, you are free to customise the citations as you wish.

The order of the title pages, table of contents and preface can be easily changed, as in any LaTeX document. In addition, the class is based on KOMA-Script's `scrbook`, therefore it inherits all the goodies of that.

1.3 What This Class Does Not Do

As anticipated, further customisation of the book is left to the user. Indeed, every book may have sidenotes, margin figures and so on, but each book will have its own fonts, toc style, special environments and so on. For this reason, in addition to the class, we provide only sensible defaults, but if these features are not needed, they can be left out. These special packages are located in the `style` directory, which is organised as follows:

kao.sty This package contains the most important definitions of macros and specifications of page layout. It is the heart of the `kaobook`.

kaobiblio.sty Contains commands to add citations and customise the bibliography.

packages.sty Loads additional packages to decorate the writing with special contents (for instance, the `listing` package is loaded here as it is not required in every book). There are also defined some useful commands to print the same words always in the same way, *e.g.* latin words in italics or `packages` in verbatim.

2: This is another departure from Tufte's design.

3: Sidenotes (like this!) are numbered while marginnotes are not

Figure 1.1: The Mona Lisa.
`https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Mona_Lisa,_by_Leonardo_da_Vinci,_from_C2RMF_retouched.jpg`

kaorefs.sty Some useful commands to manage labeling and referencing, again to ensure that the same elements are referenced always in a consistent way.

environments.sty Provides special environments, like boxes. Both simple and complex environments are available; by complex we mean that they are endowed with a counter, floating and can be put in a special table of contents.[4]

4: See Chapter Chapter 2 on page 6 for some examples.

theorems.sty The style of mathematical environments. Acutally, there are two such packages: one is for plain theorems, *i.e.* the theorems are printed in plain text; the other uses mdframed to draw a box around theorems. You can plug the most appropriate style into its document.

In the rest of the book, I shall assume that the reader is not a novice in the use of LaTeX, and refer to the documentation of the packages used in this class for things that are already explained there. Moreover, I assume that the reader is willing to make minor edits to the provided packages for styles, environments and commands, if he or she does not like the default settings.

The audacious users might feel tempted to edit some of these packages. I'd be immensely happy if they sent me examples of what they have been able to do!

1.4 How to Use This Class

Either if you are using the template from latextemplates, or if you cloned the GitHub repository, there are infinite ways to use the kaobook class in practice, but we will discuss only two of them. The first is to find the main.tex file which I used to write this book, and edit it; this will probably involve a lot of text-deleting, copying-and-pasting, and rewriting. The second way is to start almost from scratch and use the skeleton.tex file, which is a cleaned-up version of the main.tex; even if you choose the second way, you may find it useful to draw inspiration from the main.tex file.

To compile the document, assuming that its name is main.tex, you will have to run the following sequence of commands:

```
pdflatex main # Compile template
makeindex main.nlo -s nomencl.ist -o main.nls # Compile nomenclature
makeindex main # Compile index
biber main # Compile bibliography
makeglossaries main # Compile glossary
pdflatex main # Compile template again
pdflatex main # Compile template again
```

You may need to compile the template some more times in order for some errors to disappear. For any support requests, please ask a question on tex.stackexchange.org with the tag 'kaobook', open an issue on GitHub, or contact the author via e-mail.

Class Options, Commands and Environments

Design and Additional Features

Mathematics and Boxes | 2

2.1 Theorems

Despite most people complain at the sight of a book full of equations, mathematics is an important part of many books. Here, we shall illustrate some of the possibilities. We believe that theorems, definitions, remarks and examples should be emphasised with a shaded background; however, the colour should not be to heavy on the eyes, so we have chosen a sort of light yellow.[1]

> **Definition 2.1.1** *Let (X, d) be a metric space. A subset $U \subset X$ is an open set if, for any $x \in U$ there exists $r > 0$ such that $B(x, r) \subset U$. We call the topology associated to d the set τ_d of all the open subsets of (X, d).*

1: The boxes are all of the same colour here, because we did not want our document to look like Harlequin.

Definition 2.1.1 is very important. I am not joking, but I have inserted this phrase only to show how to reference definitions. The following statement is repeated over and over in different environments.

> **Theorem 2.1.1** *A finite intersection of open sets of (X, d) is an open set of (X, d), i.e τ_d is closed under finite intersections. Any union of open sets of (X, d) is an open set of (X, d).*

> **Proposition 2.1.2** *A finite intersection of open sets of (X, d) is an open set of (X, d), i.e τ_d is closed under finite intersections. Any union of open sets of (X, d) is an open set of (X, d).*

> **Lemma 2.1.3** *A finite intersection[a] of open sets of (X, d) is an open set of (X, d), i.e τ_d is closed under finite intersections. Any union of open sets of (X, d) is an open set of (X, d).*
>
> ---
> [a] I'm a footnote

You can even insert footnotes inside the theorem environments; they will be displayed at the bottom of the box.

You can safely ignore the content of the theorems. . . I assume that if you are interested in having theorems in your book, you already know something about the classical way to add them. These example should just showcase all the things you can do within this class.

> **Corollary 2.1.4** (Finite Intersection, Countable Union) *A finite intersection of open sets of (X, d) is an open set of (X, d), i.e τ_d is closed under finite intersections. Any union of open sets of (X, d) is an open set of (X, d).*

Proof. The proof is left to the reader as a trivial exercise. Hint: Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like "Huardest gefburn"? Kjift – not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected

font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language. □

Definition 2.1.2 *Let (X, d) be a metric space. A subset $U \subset X$ is an open set if, for any $x \in U$ there exists $r > 0$ such that $B(x, r) \subset U$. We call the topology associated to d the set τ_d of all the open subsets of (X, d).*

Example 2.1.1 Let (X, d) be a metric space. A subset $U \subset X$ is an open set if, for any $x \in U$ there exists $r > 0$ such that $B(x, r) \subset U$. We call the topology associated to d the set τ_d of all the open subsets of (X, d).

Remark 2.1.1 Let (X, d) be a metric space. A subset $U \subset X$ is an open set if, for any $x \in U$ there exists $r > 0$ such that $B(x, r) \subset U$. We call the topology associated to d the set τ_d of all the open subsets of (X, d).

As you may have noticed, definitions, example and remarks have independent counters; theorems, propositions, lemmas and corollaries share the same counter.

Remark 2.1.2 Here is how an integral looks like inline: $\int_a^b x^2 dx$, and here is the same integral displayed in its own paragraph:

$$\int_a^b x^2 dx$$

Here is a random equation, just because we can:

$$x = a_0 + \cfrac{1}{a_1 + \cfrac{1}{a_2 + \cfrac{1}{a_3 + \cfrac{1}{a_4}}}}$$

We provide two files for the theorem styles: plaintheorems.sty, which you should include if you do not want coloured boxes around theorems; and mdftheorems.sty, which is the one used for this document.[2] You may want to edit these files according to your taste and the general style of the book. However, there is an option to customise the background colour of the boxes in : when you load this package, you can pass it the `background=mycolour` option (replace 'mycolour' with the actual colour, for instance, 'red!35!white'). This will change the colour of all the boxes, but it is also possible to override the default colour only for some elements. For instance, the `propositionbackground=mycolour` option will change the colour for propositions only. There are similar options for theorem, definition, lemma, corollary, remark, and example.

[2]: The plain one is not showed, but actually it is exactly the same as this one, only without the yellow boxes.

2.2 Boxes & Custom Environments [3]

Say you want to insert a special section, an optional content or just something you want to emphasise. We think that nothing works better than a box in these cases. We used `mdframed` to construct the ones shown below. You can create and modify such environments by editing the provided file environments.sty.

[3]: Notice that in the table of contents and in the header, the name of this section is 'Boxes & Environments'; we achieved this with the optional argument of the `section` command.

Title of the box

Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show

what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like "Huardest gefburn"? Kjift – not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.

If you set up a counter, you can even create your own numbered environment.

Comment 2.2.1

Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like "Huardest gefburn"? Kjift – not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.

2.3 Experiments

It is possible to wrap marginnotes inside boxes, too. Audacious readers are encouraged to try their own experiments and let me know the outcomes.

title of margin note

Margin note inside a kaobox. (Actually, kaobox inside a marginnote!)

I believe that many other special things are possible with the kaobook class. During its development, I struggled to keep it as flexible as possible, so that new features could be added without too great an effort. Therefore, I hope that you can find the optimal way to express yourselves in writing a book, report or thesis with this class, and I am eager to see the outcomes of any experiment that you may try.

APPENDIX

A

Heading on Level 0 (chapter)

Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like "Huardest gefburn"? Kjift – not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.

A.1 Heading on Level 1 (section)

Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like "Huardest gefburn"? Kjift – not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.

Heading on Level 2 (subsection)

Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like "Huardest gefburn"? Kjift – not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.

Heading on Level 3 (subsubsection)

Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like "Huardest gefburn"? Kjift –

not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.

Heading on Level 4 (paragraph) Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like "Huardest gefburn"? Kjift – not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.

A.2 Lists

Example for list (itemize)

- First item in a list
- Second item in a list
- Third item in a list
- Fourth item in a list
- Fifth item in a list

Example for list (4*itemize)

- First item in a list
  - First item in a list
    - First item in a list
      - First item in a list
      - Second item in a list
    - Second item in a list
  - Second item in a list
- Second item in a list

Example for list (enumerate)

1. First item in a list
2. Second item in a list
3. Third item in a list
4. Fourth item in a list
5. Fifth item in a list

Example for list (4*enumerate)

1. First item in a list
   a) First item in a list
      i. First item in a list
         A. First item in a list
         B. Second item in a list
      ii. Second item in a list
   b) Second item in a list
2. Second item in a list

Example for list (description)

First item in a list
Second item in a list
Third item in a list
Fourth item in a list
Fifth item in a list

Example for list (4*description)

First item in a list
    First item in a list
        First item in a list
            First item in a list
            Second item in a list
        Second item in a list
    Second item in a list
Second item in a list

B

Fonts Testing

B.1 Font Sizes

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.

B.2 Font Families

Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like "Huardest gefburn"? Kjift – not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog. Medium.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog. Bold.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog. Upright.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog. Italics.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog. Slanted.

THE QUICK BROWN FOX JUMPS OVER THE LAZY DOG. SMALL CAPS.

```
Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should
show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you
read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there
no information? Is there a difference between this text and some
nonsense like "Huardest gefburn"? Kjift - not at all! A blind
text like this gives you information about the selected font,
how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This
text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should
be written in of the original language. There is no need for
special content, but the length of words should match the language.
```

`The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog. Medium.`

`The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog. Bold.`

`The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog. Upright.`

`The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog. Italics.`

`The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog. Slanted.`

`The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog. Small Caps.`

Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like "Huardest gefburn"? Kjift – not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog. Medium.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog. Bold.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog. Upright.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog. Italics.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog. Slanted.

THE QUICK BROWN FOX JUMPS OVER THE LAZY DOG. SMALL CAPS.

Greek Letters with Pronounciation

Character	Name	Character	Name
α	alpha *AL-fuh*	ν	nu *NEW*
β	beta *BAY-tuh*	ξ, Ξ	xi *KSIGH*
γ, Γ	gamma *GAM-muh*	o	omicron *OM-uh-CRON*
δ, Δ	delta *DEL-tuh*	π, Π	pi *PIE*
ϵ	epsilon *EP-suh-lon*	ρ	rho *ROW*
ζ	zeta *ZAY-tuh*	σ, Σ	sigma *SIG-muh*
η	eta *AY-tuh*	τ	tau *TOW (as in cow)*
θ, Θ	theta *THAY-tuh*	υ, Υ	upsilon *OOP-suh-LON*
ι	iota *eye-OH-tuh*	ϕ, Φ	phi *FEE, or FI (as in hi)*
κ	kappa *KAP-uh*	χ	chi *KI (as in hi)*
λ, Λ	lambda *LAM-duh*	ψ, Ψ	psi *SIGH, or PSIGH*
μ	mu *MEW*	ω, Ω	omega *oh-MAY-guh*

Capitals shown are the ones that differ from Roman capitals.