

# R bookdown+: Authoring Articles, Mails, Guitar books, Chemical Molecular Formulae and Equations with R bookdown

Peng Zhao

**Abstract.** Everyone knows that `bookdown` is an excellent package for authoring books on programming languages. But it is only one side of the coin. It can do more than expected. Therefore I am developing `bookdown+`. `bookdown+` is an extension of `bookdown`. It helps you write academic journal articles, guitar books, chemical equations, mails, calendars, and diaries.

## 1 Introduction

`bookdown+`? Hmm... sounds like something related to the R([R Core Team, 2017](#)) package `bookdown` ([Xie, 2016](#))?

Yes, you **R** right. Everyone knows that `bookdown` is an excellent package for authoring books on programming languages. But it is only one side of the coin. It can do more than expected. `bookdown` smells like a tasty cake. I have been expecting someone to cut it. Now I am helping myself. Therefore I am developing `bookdown+`.

`bookdown+` is an extension of `bookdown`. It is a collection of multiple templates, which I collected years ago on the basis of L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, and have been tailoring them so that I can work happily under the umbrella of `bookdown`. `bookdown+` shows you the other side of the coin, which helps you write academic journal articles, guitar books, chemical equations, mails, calendars, and diaries.

I believe some official `bookdown` templates will be available in the near future, but I cannot wait. Can you?

With `bookdown+` you can

- record guitar chords,
- write a mail in an elegant layout,
- write a laboratory journal, or a personal diary,
- draw a monthly or weekly or conference calendar,

- and, of course, write academic articles in your favourite way,
- with chemical molecular formulae and equations,
- even in Chinese,
- and more wonders will come soon.

`bookdown+` is developed on the basis of the following outstanding work:

- R bookdown package ([Xie, 2016](#))
- Two minimal book examples using `bookdown` by Yihui Xie<sup>1 2</sup>
- `gchords`, a L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X package for typesetting guitar chord diagrams by Kasper Peeters<sup>3</sup>
- Copernicus Publications L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X Package<sup>4</sup>

If I miss something that I should cite, please let me know.

## 2 Quick start

### 2.1 Step 0. Preparation

Before starting, you have to install R, RStudio, `bookdown` package, and other software and packages (i.e. Pandoc, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, `rmarkdown`, `rticle`, `knitr`, etc.) which `bookdown` depends on. See the official manual of `bookdown`<sup>5</sup> for details.

<sup>1</sup><https://github.com/yihui/bookdown-minimal>

<sup>2</sup><https://github.com/rstudio/bookdown-demo>

<sup>3</sup><http://kasper.phi-sci.com/gchords/>

<sup>4</sup>[http://publications.copernicus.org/for\\_authors/latex-instructions.html](http://publications.copernicus.org/for_authors/latex-instructions.html)

<sup>5</sup><https://bookdown.org/yihui/bookdown/>