

Install latest LaTeX packages within the TeX Live distribution provided by Ubuntu

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I recently released the *gsemthesis* LaTeX class and have received some comments from Ubuntu users about the unavailability of the class in their TeX Live installation.

Actually, despite the efforts of its maintainers, the TeX Live distribution released by Ubuntu lags behind the TUG TeX Live distribution. Usually, in order to be up to date with TeX development and benefit from new packages and updates you install the TUG TeX Live distribution. This isn't that complicated, but installing TeX Live through the Ubuntu package manager is certainly more convenient. For users that prefer using the TeX Live provided by Ubuntu but also want to be able to use the latest updates, Ubuntu recently included the TeX Live package manager (`tlmgr`) that allows users to gain access to up-to-date package versions.

I explain here how to set up `tlmgr` and install the *gsemthesis* class. Of course I assume you installed TeX Live with the system package manager, for example using `sudo apt-get install texlive-full`.

Check the version of TeX Live

As this technique only works for the embedded TeX Live 2013 and above, start by checking the version you run on:

```
tex --version
```

The first line of the output should indicate you run on TeX Live 2013/Debian or above.

Set up tlmgr

Install the following TeX Live package manager dependency:

```
sudo apt-get install xzdec
```

Then initialize your LaTeX package database:

```
tlmgr init-usertree
```

Install the gsemthesis package:

Simply run

```
tlmgr install gsemthesis
```

To verify that the package is correctly installed you can run:

```
tlmgr list --only-installed
```

Update the gsemthesis package

When a new version of the gsemthesis package is available, you can update by running:

```
tlmgr install gsemthesis
```

For more information:

- <https://help.ubuntu.com/community/LaTeX> (<https://help.ubuntu.com/community/LaTeX>)
- <http://www.preining.info/blog/2013/04/tlmgr-user-mode/> (<http://www.preining.info/blog/2013/04/tlmgr-user-mode/>)

Comments

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