

The `classics` package,* or the end of anachronism

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Abstract

This package provides a basic framework to cite classic works in accordance with traditional pagination systems. It may be used in conjunction with other citation packages.

Introduction

If you feel there is something wrong with “Plato (1994: pp. 50–1)”, “Aristotle (*Ethics*, 44)” or “Hume (2000: 303)”, this package is for you. The `classics` package provides a basic framework to cite classic works in compliance with traditional pagination systems. For example:

Theaetetus 142d4–5
Nic. Eth. 1179b14–1180a29
THN 3.1.2

Citation commands created by `classics` can also be used in conjunction with other citations engines such as standard `\cite`, `biblatex`, `natbib`, etc.

1 Synopsis

```
\newclassic  {[<range separator>]} {<classic>} {<list of formatting directives>}  
\<classic>  [<work>] {<page>} [<section>]  
\<classic>*  [<work>] {<page>} [<section>] {<last page>} [<section>]  
\newpagination  {<pagination>} {<singular>} {<plural>} {<conjunction>}  
\<pagination>  {<range>}  
\DeclareClassicWorkFormat  {<formatting directive>}
```

*This document corresponds to `classics` 0.1a, dated February 3, 2020. I am grateful to Joseph Wright, Scott H., and Robert Alessi for suggestions.

2 Basic usage

\newclassic [*range separator*] {*classic*} {*list of formatting directives*}

Creates a citation command `\langle classic\rangle` based on a *list of formatting directives* separated by vertical bars. Each formatting directive has its own #1 and is used to declare the format in which to typeset the reference to a subdivision of a classic work. There can be at most six such directives. As an example:

\newclassic {Aristotle} {#1|\textit{#1}|#1}

would create a new citation command `\Aristotle`:

\Aristotle [*work*] {*page*} [*column*] [*line*]
\Aristotle* [*work*] {*page*} [*column*] [*line*] {*last page*} [*column*] [*line*]

to typeset references in which letters for *column* are printed in italic type. The starred version `\Aristotle*` is used to cite a range of two pages separated by *range separator*.

Note: `\Aristotle*` will not typeset *last page* if *page* and *last page* are the same. However, *last page* will be preserved if `\Aristotle*` is created by the starred version `\newclassic*`.

\newpagination {*pagination*} {*singular*} {*plural*} {*conjunction*}

Creates a command *pagination* to typeset *singular* or *plural* depending on whether subsequent arguments to *pagination* are singular or plural. As an example:

\newpagination {\pages} {page} {pages} { and }

would create the command `\pages`:

\pages {*range*}

that automatically typesets `page` *range* if *range* is singular, or `pages` *range* if *range* is plural, that is, if it contains a comma, a hyphen, a dash, or *conjunction*.

Note: *conjunction* might need to be enclosed in spaces.

\DeclareClassicWorkFormat {*formatting directive*}

Defines the format to typeset classic titles in. The default *formatting directive* is `\textit{#1}`.

```
\classicsalph {\langle integer\rangle}
\classicsAlpha {\langle integer\rangle}
\classicsroman {\langle integer\rangle}
\classicsRoman {\langle integer\rangle}
```

These commands may come in handy if you want to typeset a subdivision as a letter or Roman numeral, lowercase or uppercase.

3 Advanced usage

You may combine `\newclassic` and `\newpagination` to create complex citation styles. For example:

```
\Hume [\langle work\rangle] {\langle book\rangle} [\langle part\rangle] [\langle section\rangle]
```

can be created by:

```
\DeclareClassicWorkFormat{\textit{\#1},}
\newpagination {\books} {book} {books} { and }
\newpagination {\parts} {part} {parts} { and }
\newpagination {\sections} {section} {sections} { and }
\newclassic {Hume} {\books{\#1}|, \parts{\#1}|, \sections{\#1}}
```

so that:

```
\Hume[Treatise]{3}[1][2]
```

would typeset “*Treatise*, book 3, part 1, section 2”.

```
\Homer [\langle work\rangle] {\langle book\rangle} [\langle lines\rangle]
```

can be created by:

```
\DeclareClassicWorkFormat{\textit{\#1},}
\newpagination {\books} {book} {books} { and }
\newpagination {\lines} {line} {lines} { and }
\newclassic {Homer} {\books{\classicsRoman{\#1}}|, \lines{\#1}}
```

so that:

```
\Homer[Odyssey]{3}[100--2]
```

will typeset: “*Odyssey*, book III, lines 100–2”.

3.1 Caveat

Citation styles created by the `classics` package can also be used in conjunction with standard `\cite`, `biblatex`, `natbib`, etc.

A simple `classics` pagination command created by `\newpagination` can be used directly within the optional argument to `\cite`:

```
\cite [\pages{\langle number\rangle}] {\langle key\rangle}
```

However, a complex `classics` citation command created by `\newclassic` can be used within the optional argument to `\cite` only if it is enclosed in braces.

```
\cite [{\Homer{\langle book\rangle}[\langle line\rangle]}] {\langle key\rangle}
```

For example:

```
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage{classics}
\newclassic{Homer}{#1:#1}
\begin{document}

\cite[{\Homer{3}[100--2]}]{Odyssey}

\begin{thebibliography}{10}
\bibitem[Od.]{Odyssey} Homer. \textit{Odyssey}.
\end{thebibliography}

\end{document}
```

4 Examples

4.1 Plato

<code>\newclassic{Plato}{#1#1#1}</code>	
<code>\Plato {142}[a]</code>	142a
<code>\Plato {142}[a][3]</code>	142a3
<code>\Plato {142}[a][3--4]</code>	142a3–4
<code>\Plato*{142}[a][3]{142}[b]</code>	142a3–b
<code>\Plato*{142}[a][3]{142}[b][4]</code>	142a3–b4
<code>\Plato*{142}[a][3]{143}[b]</code>	142a3–143b
<code>\Plato*{142}[a][3]{143}[b][4]</code>	142a3–143b4
<code>\Plato [Theaet.]{142}[a][3]</code>	<i>Theaet.</i> 142a3
<code>\Plato*[Theaet.]{142}[a][3]{143}[b][4]</code>	<i>Theaet.</i> 142a3–143b4

4.2 Aristotle

```
\newclassic {Aristotle} {#1|\textit{#1}|#1}

\Aristotle      {185}           185
\Aristotle      {185}[a]         185a
\Aristotle*     {185}[a]{185}[b]  185a–b
\Aristotle*     {185}[a]{185}[b][2] 185a–b2
\Aristotle*     {185}[a]{186}    185a–186
\Aristotle*     {185}[a]{186}[a]  185a–186a
\Aristotle*     {185}[a]{186}[a][3] 185a–186a3
\Aristotle [Phys.]{}          Phys.
\Aristotle [Phys.]{185}        Phys. 185
\Aristotle [Phys.]{185}[a]      Phys. 185a
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a]{185}[b]  Phys. 185a–b
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a]{185}[b][2]  Phys. 185a–b2
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a]{186}    Phys. 185a–186
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a]{186}[a]  Phys. 185a–186a
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a]{186}[a][3]  Phys. 185a–186a3
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a]{186}[a][3--5]  Phys. 185a–186a3–5
\Aristotle [Phys.]{185}[a][10]    Phys. 185a10
\Aristotle [Phys.]{185}[a][10--2]  Phys. 185a10–2
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a][10]{185}[b]  Phys. 185a10–b
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a][10]{185}[b][2]  Phys. 185a10–b2
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a][10]{186}    Phys. 185a10–186
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a][10]{186}[a]  Phys. 185a10–186a
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a][10]{186}[a][3]  Phys. 185a10–186a3
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a][10]{186}[a][3--5]  Phys. 185a10–186a3–5
```

4.3 Homer

```
\DeclareClassicWorkFormat{\textbf{#1},}

\newclassic[ to ]{Homer}{\books{\classicsRoman{#1}}|, \lines{#1}}
\Homer {2}[100]           book II, line 100
\Homer {2}[100--4]         book II, lines 100–4
\Homer*{2}[100]{3}[80]     book II, line 100 to book III, line 80
\Homer [Iliad]{2}[100]     Iliad, book II, line 100
\Homer*[Iliad]{2}[100]{3}[80] Iliad, book II, line 100 to book III, line 80
```