The commenting package v1.3

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This package attempts to provide a simple and flexible set of macros to type-set (and hide) comments and remarks which are supposed to be read only by the authors of a multi-author document, during the process of writing and reviewing it. It provides macros for printing comments inline or in the margin, giving visual hints of their location and author. All the comments are typeset only when in draft mode. Pdf's native comments are also somehow optionally supported through the pdfcomment package.

Package options are provided to globally change aspects of the appearance of the comments and the use of more sophisticated features (color, pdfcomment, margin notes). This is especially useful, for instance, when switching from a normal layout to a two columns one: setting the nompar option would suppress any margin note and would include all the comments inline.

1 Setup

The commenting package comes in a self contained single .sty file so in order to use it it is sufficient to place it in a directory in the TEX paths (i.e. the same directory of the .tex file which is using the package).

To start using it place

 $\usepackage[\langle options \rangle] \{commenting\}$

in your preamble. Here's the list of available options:

• draft/final sets on or off the draft-mode. All the comments are omitted when in final-mode. The conditional \ifdraft is made available for

draft

final

explicit detection of the current mode. If the draft option is specified in the \documentclass command it will be detected by the commenting package;

nompar do not use margin notes and prevents the inclusion of the package mparhack;

nompar

• marksonly do not put text in the margin, put only the appropriate mark (see Section 6); this is helpful when the layout requires narrow margins but some hint to quickly find comments is still desirable.

marksonly

• nocolor suppress the color changes in commenting commands;

nocolor

• nosign causes the omission of signatures after every comment;

nosign

• nodate suppresses dates in comments and annotations (not in list of comments);

nodate

• noding do not use dingbats. If this option is specified the package bbding will not be included and replacement symbols are defined;

noding

• bfstyle, sfstyle, itstyle, scstyle installs the specified style as default style for comments;

*style

• pdfcomment enables the use of that powerful package: the commenting commands will, in addition to their output, produce a pdf comment (rendered only by an appropriate viewer). Please note that the pdfcomments will be produced in both draft and final mode and regardless of the \onlyauthors directive. To suppress them just remove this option.

pdfcomment

1.1 Authors

You can then specify in the preamble as many authors you need with the commands

\declareauthor

 $\declareauthor{\langle nick \rangle} {\langle fullname \rangle} {\langle color \rangle}$

where $\langle nick \rangle$ is the mnemonic name used to identify the author in the IATEX code and must not contain exclamation marks, $\langle fullname \rangle$ is the name used as a signature, $\langle color \rangle$ is the color used for the text of the comments of the author.

There exists two special authors:

• default is the author used when no other is specified

default (author)

• final is the only author whose comments will be printed both in draft final (author) and final mode.

The default user can be set to be a declared user with

\setdefaultauthor

 \start

and then it can be reset to the default with \resetdefaultauthor.

\resetdefaultauthor

The command

\authorcommand

declares a command $\langle author \rangle$ (and its star variant) that is equivalent to $\langle type \rangle [\langle author \rangle];$ the argument $\langle type \rangle$ can be equal to comment, annot, changed or draftnote; for example

```
\declareauthor{myself}{Joe}{blue}
\authorcommand{myself}{comment}
```

will make available the commands \myself and \myself* which can be used exactly like \comment[myself] and \comment*[myself].

In the examples we will assume the lines

```
\declareauthor{fz}{Frank}{blue}
\declareauthor{jlp}{Jean-Luc}{green!30!black}
```

in the preamble.

With the command

\setauthorstyle

```
\start
```

different styles can be installed for each declared author; (stylecmds) should contain formatting command such as \itshape\sffamily. It is also possible to change the base style of every comment with the command

\setcommentstyle

```
\style{\langle stylecmds \rangle}
```

keep in mind however that this is overwritten by \setauthorstyle for the specified author.

You can always refer to an author's color with the named color $\langle nick \rangle$ col as

 $\langle nick \rangle$ col | (color) |

\color{fzcol}

The command

\onlyauthors

```
\langle author_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle author_n \rangle \}
```

enables only the specified authors and mutes all the comments of the other authors (except final).

2 Usage

The general syntax for commenting commands is the following:

```
\command[\langle author \rangle](\langle date \rangle) \{\langle message \rangle\}
```

where both $[\langle author \rangle]$ and $(\langle date \rangle)$ are optional parameters. If the author is not specified, default would be used instead. If the date is omitted, no date information will be printed in the comment; the format of the $\langle date \rangle$ field is explained in Section 4.

In the following we describe all the commands made available by the package which use this syntax.

2.1 Comments

\comment

 $\label{eq:comment} $$\operatorname{comment}(\langle author\rangle) (\langle date\rangle) {\langle message\rangle} $$\operatorname{comment}(\langle author\rangle) (\langle date\rangle) {\langle message\rangle} $$$

\comment*

Puts a standard comment in the text.

Example:

```
\comment[fz](11/04){Jazz is not dead. It just smells funny}
```

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Vivamus orci logi, porttitor [(11/04) Jazz] is not dead. It just smells funny non tempus in, porta id tortor. Donec blandit.

⊲ Frank

The star variant \comment* puts every detail about the comment in the text and does not produce a margin note.

Example:

\comment*[fz](11/04){Jazz is not dead. It just smells funny}

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Vivamus orci lorem, por or [(11/04) Jazz is not dead. It just smells funny-Frank non tempus in, porta id tortor. Donec blandit.

Here an example with multiple authors and some omitted parameters. Note the grey comment by the default author:

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,\comment{Who am I?} consectetur adipiscing elit. Vivamus orci lorem, porttitor non tempus in, porta id tortor. Donec blandit \comment[fz](11/04){Jazz is not dead. It just smells funny}, arcu eget tincidunt dictum, \comment[jlp]{Don't be rude Frank} ipsum est consequat eros, at iaculis magna erat ac lectus.

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, [Who am I?] wheetetur adipiscing elit. Vivamus orci lorem, porttitor non tempus in, porta id tortor. Donec blandit [(11/04) Jazz is not dead. It just ells funny], arcu eget tincidunt dictum, [Don't be rude Frank] when est consequateros, at iaculis magna erat ac lectus.

\annot

2.2 Annotations

 $\annot[\langle author \rangle] (\langle date \rangle) \{\langle message \rangle\}$

Puts a margin note comment on the side of the text. This type of comment is most useful when one wants to put comments without changing the spacings and the typesetting of the actual content.

If the default margin spacings are not big enough for your needs you can change them with

 $\sting \mbox{\scale} \mbox{\$

marginparwidth (length)

Example:

\annot[fz](11/04){Jazz is not dead. It just smells funny}

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Vivamus orci lorem, porttitor non tempus in, porta id tortor. Donec blandit.

2.3 Changes

 $\c \$

The command \changed has a slightly different syntax:

| Changed: optional | message comes before | content from v1.3

```
\verb|\changed[|\langle author \rangle|] (\langle date \rangle) [|\langle message \rangle] \{|\langle content \rangle\}|
```

It highlights the portion of text which has been changed by the corresponding author: the change is typeset with the color of the author and a margin note specifies the author and date of the change and the optional message. When the nompar option is loaded, the optional message gets printed inline as in \comment.

The star variant omits the margin note: this is necessary when using it in boxes or in math mode.

\changed*

Example:

```
... sit \changed[jlp](11/04)[more appropriate]{amen}, consectetur... Donec \changed[fz](11/04){non} blandit.
```

Lorem ipsum dolor sit **uner**, consectetur adipiscing elit. Vivamus orci lorem, porttitor non tempus in, porta id tortor. Donec blandit.

■ more appropriate
 −Jean-Luc (11/04)

➡ Frank (11/04)

```
\sum_{j^n\leq x_{j^n}} \frac{11/04}{\operatorname{j_{\alpha(z^2)}}}
```

Lorem ipsum dolor sit $\sum_{j=1}^{n} j_{\alpha(z^2)}$, consectetur adipiscing elit.

2.4 Remarks

\draftnote

```
\draftnote[\langle author \rangle] \{\langle title \rangle\} \{\langle message \rangle\}
```

Puts an indented block of text which is kept separated from the text.

Example:

```
\draftnote[fz]{Note on Jazz}
{Jazz is not dead. It just smells funny}
```

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Vivamus orci lorem, porttitor



non tempus in, porta id tortor. Donec blandit.

3 Lists of comments and legend

You can print all the comments in the order they are inserted with \listcomments

which in this document would produce

\listcomments

| Todo: change | appearance (toc style) | and collection, include | page numbers

List of comments

```
\begin{array}{lll} \mathbf{11/04} \vartriangleright \mathbf{Jazz} \text{ is not dead. It just smells funny-Frank} \\ \mathbf{11/04} & \mathbf{Jazz} \text{ is not dead. It just smells funny-Frank} \\ \vartriangleright \mathbf{Who am I?} \\ \mathbf{11/04} \vartriangleright \mathbf{Jazz} \text{ is not dead. It just smells funny-Frank} \\ \vartriangleright \mathbf{Don't be rude Frank-Jean-Luc} \\ \mathbf{11/04} \vartriangleright \mathbf{Jazz} \text{ is not dead. It just smells funny-Frank} \\ \mathbf{11/04} \vartriangleright \mathbf{change: amen; more appropriate-Jean-Luc} \\ \mathbf{11/04} \vartriangleright \mathbf{change: non; -Frank} \\ \mathbf{11/04} \vartriangleright \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha(z^2)} - \mathbf{Frank} \\ \\ \mathbf{11/04} \vartriangleright \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha(z^2)} - \mathbf{Frank} \\ \\ \mathbf{11/04} \vartriangleright \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha(z^2)} - \mathbf{Frank} \\ \\ \mathbf{11/04} \vartriangleright \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha(z^2)} - \mathbf{Frank} \\ \\ \mathbf{11/04} \vartriangleright \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha(z^2)} - \mathbf{Frank} \\ \\ \mathbf{11/04} \vartriangleright \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha(z^2)} - \mathbf{Frank} \\ \\ \mathbf{11/04} \sqcap \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha(z^2)} - \mathbf{Frank} \\ \\ \mathbf{11/04} \sqcap \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha(z^2)} - \mathbf{Frank} \\ \\ \mathbf{11/04} \sqcap \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha(z^2)} - \mathbf{Frank} \\ \\ \mathbf{11/04} \sqcap \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha(z^2)} - \mathbf{Frank} \\ \\ \mathbf{11/04} \sqcap \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha(z^2)} - \mathbf{Frank} \\ \\ \mathbf{11/04} \sqcap \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha(z^2)} - \mathbf{Frank} \\ \\ \mathbf{11/04} \sqcap \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha(z^2)} - \mathbf{Frank} \\ \\ \mathbf{11/04} \sqcap \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha(z^2)} - \mathbf{Frank} \\ \\ \mathbf{11/04} \sqcap \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha(z^2)} - \mathbf{Frank} \\ \\ \mathbf{11/04} \sqcap \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha(z^2)} - \mathbf{Frank} \\ \\ \mathbf{11/04} \sqcap \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha(z^2)} - \mathbf{Frank} \\ \\ \mathbf{11/04} \sqcap \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha(z^2)} - \mathbf{Frank} \\ \\ \mathbf{11/04} \sqcap \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha(z^2)} - \mathbf{Frank} \\ \\ \mathbf{11/04} \sqcap \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha(z^2)} - \mathbf{Frank} \\ \\ \mathbf{11/04} \sqcap \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha(z^2)} - \mathbf{change: } j_{\alpha
```

The command

 \arrowvert authorlegend

\authorlegend

prints a list of the authors with the corresponding nicks and colors for reference:

Author Legend

◆ default

- final
- Frank (alias fz)
- ◆ Jean-Luc (alias jlp)

Both commands are not typeset if not in draft mode. Their star variants \listcomments* and \authorlegend* print their output in both modes.

\listcomments*

\authorlegend*

4 Dates

Almost all of the commands presented above have a field for specifying the date of the comment. The content in this field can have *any* form. There are two commands that will require to specify dates in a certain format: \NoCommentsBefore and \NoCommentsAfter; if you do not use these macros you do not need to follow any particular format.

In the case you want to use one of the commands used in this section, the date field will be interpreted as a date-like value, the format of which is very generic: by default it is a list of numbers separated by / as for example in 01 or 11/7 or 25/12/2000 or even 1/2/0323/8/11/9. This sequence will be printed as it is in the document in the appropriate place with the corresponding author style (if not suppressed by nodate). These dates will be interpreted as following: the first number in the sequence is the less significant, increasing significance until the end of the list; a format following this convention is for example dd/mm/aa; it is not required to write every number with two digits. In general, the interpretation of a generic sequence $n_0/n_1/\ldots/n_k$ is the number $n_0 + 10^{\max(2,|n_0|)} \times n_1 + \ldots + 10^{\max(2k,\sum_i^{k-1}|n_i|)} \times n_k$. This enables the use of the commands \NoCommentsBefore{\langle date \rangle} and \NoCommentsAfter{\langle date \rangle}: they suppress any comment before/after the specified date.

By default not dated comments are included even if before/after dates are set; with the macro \ExcludeNonDatedComments they will be suppressed if a before/after date is set; \IncludeNonDatedComments reverts to the default behaviour.

\NoCommentsBefore

\NoCommentsAfter

\ExcludeNonDated...

\IncludeNonDated...

For example, the following code

```
-\comment*[fz](a.XXX-c){alien date, not parsed}\\\NoCommentsBefore{12/04}
\NoCommentsAfter{20/04}
```

The command $\SetCommentDateDelim{\langle delim\rangle}$ can be invoked to change the delimiter of a date:

- (04) included because no before bound is set-Frank

- [(bla) another non parsed date, no bound set - Frank

\SetCommentDateDelim

```
\SetCommentDateDelim{.}
\NoCommentsBefore{08.2008}
\comment*[jlp](1.2008){suppressed}
\comment*[jlp](10.2008){included}
```

- uded because not dated - Frank

- [(15/04) included because after 12/04-Frank]

For obvious reasons, it is recommended to use a uniform date format convention within a document; however it is possible to change delimiter and range in any point of the document: the changes will have effect from that point through the rest of the document.

5 Other commands

There are a couple of more commands which do not follow the 'author' system. They are used to typeset generic remarks, notes that one want to

put after a paragraph but which are meant to be read only by other authors.

The simple \onderset{text} command prints its argument only when in draft mode. Analogously the \onderset{text} command prints its argument only when in final mode.

\ondraft \onfinal

In order to insert artificial spacing between comments that does not get produced when not in draft mode, the package defines the commands \draftnl for newline and \draftpar for paragraph. Compare the two outputs:

```
\draftnl
\draftpar
```

```
\comment*[fz]{Can I tell you
    something Jean-Luc?}
\comment*[jlp]{Yes, go ahead}
\comment*[fz]{You stink}

\comment*[fz]{Can I tell you
    something Jean-Luc?}
\draftnl
\comment*[jlp]{Yes, go ahead}
\draftnl
\comment*[jlp]{Yes, go ahead}
\draftnl
\comment*[fz]{You stink}

[Can I tell you
    something Jean-Luc?]

[Can I tell you
    mething Jean-Luc?-Frank]

[Yes, go ahead - Je uc]
[Yes, go ahead - Je uc]
[You stink - Frank]
[Y
```

The Note environment

```
\label{local_signature} $$ \left( signature \right) \left( title \right) \right) $$ \left( message \right) \end{Note}
```

note (environment)

Changed: note renamed to Note to avoid clashes with common packages from v1.3

is similar to \draftnote but has no author and is typeset in both draft and final modes.

Example:

```
\begin{Note}[The Authors]{Note on Jazz}
Jazz is not dead. It just smells funky.
\end{Note}
```

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Vivamus orci lorem, porttitor

Note on Jazz		
Jazz is not dead. It just smells funky.		
	The	Authors

non tempus in, porta id tortor. Donec blandit.

The todo command

```
\todo[\langle annotation \rangle] \{\langle message \rangle\}
```

puts a box in the middle of the text as a placeholder for something that will be written in the future. This command will not print anything when in final mode.

Example:

```
\todo[For Frank]{The best jazz smell in the world.\\Frank, can
you do it?}
```

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Vivamus orci lorem, porttitor

The best jazz smell in the world. Frank, can you do it?

◆ For Frank

non tempus in, porta id tortor. Donec blandit.

The color of todo boxes is named 'todocol' and can be changed at any time with $\colorlet{todocol}{\langle color\rangle}$.

6 Symbols

Several commands can be overridden (or used) to control the typesetting of symbols used by the package:

Command	Symbol	${f with}$ noding
\CommentMarkR	◁	⊲
\CommentMarkL	\triangleright	\triangleright
$\label{local_open} $$\operatorname{OpenCommentBraket}$$	[[
\ClosedCommentBraket]]
\NoteMark		*
\ChangedMarkR		*
\ChangedMarkL		*
\TodoMarkR	€⊃	†
\TodoMarkL	C →	†
\AuthorMark	•�	•

There are few named colors that can be redefined: draftcol (gray by default) and finalcol (black by default) are the colors of the corresponding special authors; todocol (violet by default) is the color of \todo boxes.

draftcol (color)

finalcol (color)

todocol (color)