

\LaTeX – A \LaTeX plugin for Geany

Version 0.8

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Note: Please note that this document has been created on May 14, 2016. If you are using a devel version from GIT, please compile and check `doc/latex.tex` from sources. Please check Page 4, Section 1.3.2 on how to do this.

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1 About the plugin

*LaTeX*¹ is a little plugin to improve support for the identically called markup language in Geany. It implements a couple of hopefully useful functions:

- A wizard to create new L^AT_EX documents in a fast and easy way with a bunch of templates available
- A front end for adding labels \label and references \ref and \pageref getting suggestions from the document's aux file
- Insertion of special characters through the menu
- Help on BibTeX entries by templates and offering a list of available references.
- Easy insertion of format patterns like \texttt through the menu
- Support of environment insertion by offering a dialog and recognizing selections
- Shortcuts for inserting \item and \newline
- Toolbar with frequently used format options
- A couple of useful auto-completion functions during typing

¹This document needs to differ between the markup language T_EX, the extension set L^AT_EX and the name of the plugin *LaTeX*. Therefor whenever the plugin is referenced *italic* is used. In case of the set of macros is referred the L^AT_EX is printed.

1.1 News & ChangeLog

1.1.1 LaTeX 0.8 – not yet released

- Rename plugin from Geany \LaTeX to just *LaTeX* to get rid of Geany-prefix
- Major rework of documentation

1.1.2 Geany \LaTeX 0.7 – 2012-07-08

- Added a feature to lower selection before inserting `\textsc{}`

1.1.3 Geany \LaTeX 0.6 – 2011-10-15

- Moved \LaTeX menu to a separate menu inside Geany main menu
- Added a feature to autocapetlise letters on typing on begin of a sentence
- Added a way to put a icon for \LaTeX -wizard into Geany's main toolbar
- Added a dialog for inserting BibTeX references based on available *.bib-files
- Upgrade plugin API to version 199

1.1.4 Geany \LaTeX 0.5 – 2010-06-13

- Introduced custom templates for \LaTeX -Wizard
- Added a \LaTeX -Wizard icon to the toolbar
- Added shortcuts for inserting common list environments like `enumerate`, `itemize` and `description`
- Some general bugfixes and improvements. As always, see the ChangeLog or svn log.
- Switched to waf for building the plugin
- Moved some \LaTeX -specific stuff out of Geany's core into the plugin. This affects features like
 - Autocompletion of `\end{}` and `\endgroup{}`
- Proceeded to Geany Plugin API v184
- Made reference insertion configurable.
- Added an function to insert `\usepackage{}` into header of file
- Automatic adding of `{}` after typing of `_` and `^`
- Added automatic inserting of `{}` after typing a command and hitting return in case of none pair is already present

1.1.5 Geany~~La~~TeX 0.4 – 2009-05-26

- Added a toolbar with frequently used format commands
- Added a configuration dialog to configure basic options of the plugin
- Moved documentation into a TeX-document
- Replace \u-UTF-8 letters by octal coded chars to avoid dependency on C99.
- Added a function to bulk replace special characters inside marked text by keybinding
- Added a function for special characters substitution during typing

1.2 Requirements

LaTeX is part of the Geany-Plugins project and is sharing it's dependencies. To compile the plugin you will need:

- Geany \geq 1.26 including its devel files
- a C-compiler as e.g. gcc
- Gtk2 \geq 2.24 or Gtk3 \geq 3.0 with its devel files
- glib \geq 2.28
- Autotools

1.3 Compiling

1.3.1 Compiling the plugin

For documentation how to compile the plugin, please check the documentation of the geany-plugins combined release. You will find detailed information at <https://plugins.geany.org/install.html>.

1.3.2 Compiling the documentation

Sources of this documentation are available through `doc/latex.tex` inside source tree. To compile the sources, usage of `pdflatex` – should be delivered with your favorite \LaTeX distribution – is recommended.

1.4 Usage

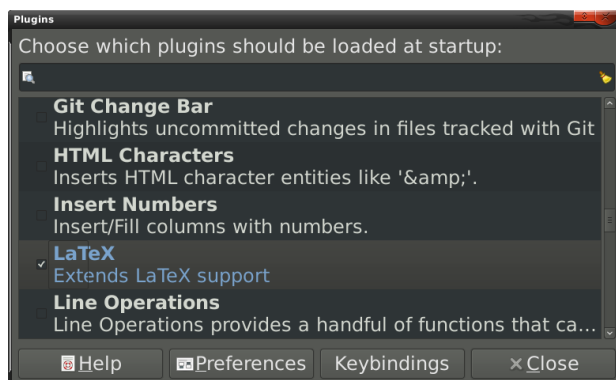


Figure 1.1: Plugin manager with *LaTeX* 0.8 at Geany 1.28

After *LaTeX* has been installed, the plugin can be easily loaded through Geany’s plugin manager as shown on figure 1.1.

The plugin will add two new menus to Geany’s main menu bar: **LaTeX** and **BibTeX**: Inside the LaTeX-menu you will find generic functions associated with \LaTeX as e.g. adding special characters or functions supporting you on working with references. The BibTeX-menu includes a basic set of functions connected with \BibTeX . Section 2, page 6 will have a deeper look into what you can find there.

The plugin is also adding a few possible key bindings to Geany. Chapter 3.1.6 page 15 is tacking care about this topic.

Also if the option for showing the toolbar is activated on configuration dialog, the toolbar with common used format functions appears on at top of editor widget. This feature is turned off by default. It is topic at section 3.1.2, page 14.

2 Features

Let's go into more detail on some features.

2.1 The \LaTeX -menu

2.1.1 \LaTeX -Wizard

2.1.1.1 General usage of wizard

The \LaTeX -Wizard is implementing a easy way creating a number of default documents.

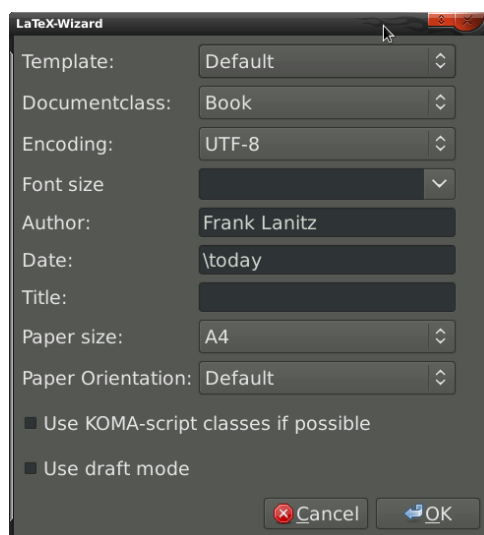


Figure 2.1: \LaTeX -Wizard of version 0.8

The wizard is offering a chance to choose from a couple of templates with the possibility of adding customer templates. This can be chosen from **Templates** pulldown on top of dialog.

This can be set by choosing the needed entry form **Documentclass** pulldown menu.

Encoding is configuring the packages `inputenc` to for example `\usepackage[utf8]{inputenc}` in case of the document encoding should be UTF-8. Also it sets the encoding Geany is using for the newly created document.

Font size as well as **Paper size** will set class option for font/paper size of the new created document. **Author**, **Date**, **Title** will be also passed to the corresponding command inside the file header.

Option **Use draft mode** will add **draft** to list of document options which allows some help during debugging of document.

Since KOMA script is quite popular, the option **Use KOMA script if possible** allows to activate the usage of KOMA script. If this option is activated, **scrbook** is used instead of **book** as document class. This option is deactivated by default and can be set through *LaTeX*'s configuration dialog.

This wizard can also be called by a shortcut. Please have a look onto table 3.1, page 16.

2.1.1.2 Default templates

Document types that are currently supported by the wizard are:

- book
- report
- article
- letter (default letter class)
- presentation (*L^AT_EX* beamer)

2.1.1.3 Extending by own templates

LaTeX is offering a way for extending the wizard by user defined templates. These templates will be stored inside the plugin configuration dir with file extension *glt*.

For creating a customized template you will need to create a normal *.tex file and store it inside the directory. On most systems this should be something like `~/.config/geany/plugins/LaTeX/`.

Inside your template you might refer to wizard's fields by using some special strings which are:

Table 2.1: List of available symbols on custom templates

Symbol	Usage
{CLASSOPTION}	Will be replaced by the classoptions set on the wizard as for example font size or paper size.
{DOCUMENTCLASS}	Will be replaced by the choosen document class based on the pulldown of wizard and whether option for KOMA script has been set.
{DATE}	Will be replaced by the input given on the date field of wizard.
{TITLE}	Will be replaced by the input given on the title field of wizard.
{AUTHOR}	Will be replaced by the input given on the author field of wizard.
{ENCODING}	Will be replace by choosen encoding from pulldown of wizard
{OPENING}	Will be replaced by »Dear Sir or Madame« in the locale Geany and <i>LaTeX</i> is running with. If you like to overwrite it, please don't use the symbol and hardcode the phrase instead.
{CLOSING}	Will be replaced by »With kind regards« in locale Geany and <i>LaTeX</i> is running with. If you like to overwrite it, please don't use the symbol and hardcode the phrase instead.

If you have other than the default templates defined they will be add to templates pulldown with the basename of the file. So when creating a template, please keep care to set up a good name for the file, as the filename will be the identifier you can choose from on pulldown.

If you need a more general or more complex template, you may have a look onto Geany's powerful build in template feature – briefly introduced in chapter 6.2, page 23 or inside Geany's online manual at <http://www.geany.org/manual/current/index.html#template-preferences>

2.1.2 Inserting References and Labels

An often used feature while writing documents is adding and referring to labels. *LaTeX* is adding some support here for more comfortable adding new labels and reference offering a GUI.

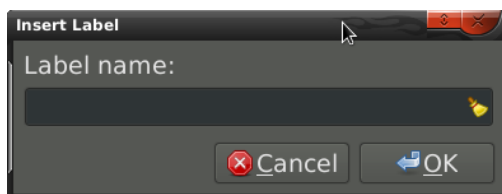


Figure 2.2: Insert label dialog on *LaTeX* 0.8

After a label was added *LaTeX* is offering a dialog for inserting normal references and page references to a label.

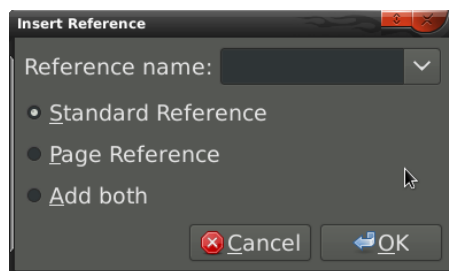


Figure 2.3: Insert reference dialog on *LaTeX* 0.8

The suggestions inside the pull down are based on the aux files creating by processing of *.tex file located inside directory of current \TeX -file. When first step was successful the files are parsed for `\newlabel{\}{\}{\}` and outcome is tried to interpret them properly. The found entries will be inserted into pull down sorted by alphabet.

Both, the inserting labels as well as the inserting reference dialog can be accessed by key binding also. See Chapter 3.1 here.

2.1.3 Inserting cite-reference

LaTeX is searching here for *.bib-files inside the directory of current active file. Its filtering for all references inside these files and putting it sorted and cleared from duplicated entries into the pulldown of the dialog.

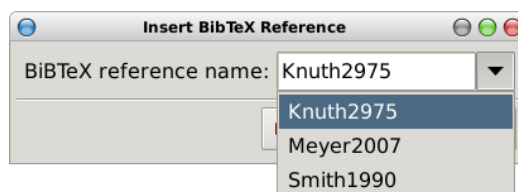


Figure 2.4: Insert BibTeX reference dialog on *LaTeX* 0.6

With selecting one of the entries inside the pull down or by typing in your own reference name, pushing enter or hitting OK will insert a `\cite{}` into your document with your given reference.

2.1.4 Replacement of special characters

LaTeX is able to replace special characters to their there \TeX substitute. This can be done in two different ways:

1. **On input:** If this switch is active all special characters will be replaced during typing of text. You can turn the switch on/off at Replacement of special characters submenu inside.

2. **Bulk replace of selected text:** A selected text will be parsed and all known special characters will be replaced by their T_EX substitute. This can be very useful on importing a large amount of text into your document including characters like ö or ». This function is available through the Replacement of special characters submenu on plugin's submenu of Geany's Tools menu.

For both functions there are also shortcuts available.

2.1.5 Inserting of special character

The plugin is offering a number of special characters with their T_EX substitutes to be inserted on easy accessing through the plugin menu.

2.1.6 Inserting of Environment

LaTeX is offering a feature for inserting environments into your documents. It can be chosen from a pulldown menu and will be inserted at current position of cursor. If there is a selection active, the selection will be included into environment.

```
\begin{your_environment}  
... selected text ...  
\end{your_environment}
```

In case of an empty (= no selection) an empty environment with

```
\begin{your_environment}  
...  
\end{your_environment}
```

will be inserted to the document.

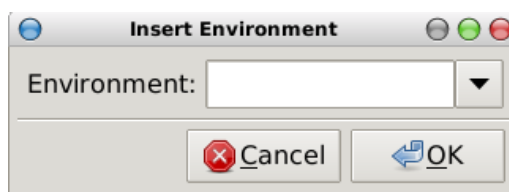


Figure 2.5: Insert environment dialog on *LaTeX* 0.5

2.1.7 Format

LaTeX is able to help on formation of text. For doing this its offering you to insert often use format patterns to your document. Patterns that are currently supported are:

- Italic
- Boldfont

- Underline
- Slanted
- Typewriter
- Small Caps
- Emphasis
- Centered
- left-aligned
- right-aligned

LaTeX will add the correct format pattern to the document. If there is an selection active, that pattern will be placed around so the selected text will be formatted with this chosen style.

Following items are also accessible using the *LaTeX* toolbar:

- Italic
- Boldfont
- Underline
- Centered
- left-aligned
- right-aligned

2.1.8 Autocompletion of `\begin` and `\begingroup`

Since version 0.5 GeanyLaTeX is supporting autocompletion for closing `\end` and `\endgroup` for begin commands. Before Geany 0.19 this has been part of the Geany core but has been moved out as it is something \LaTeX specific.

2.1.8.1 Usage of feature

After the feature has been enabled (Please check 3.1.5, page 15 here for more detailed information), in every case you enter a `\begin{}` or `\begingroup{}` the plugin will automatically add the fitting `\end{}` or `\endgroup{}` if its not finding a closing tag within the defined context length – by default this means inside following 5 lines. If you like to change this size, please check Chapter 3.1.7.4, page 18.

This feature is by default file type depending, so it will only work on \TeX -like file types as well its turned on by default.

2.1.9 Inserting `\usepackage{}`-entry to header

From time you need to insert a new package into header of a document, but don't want to change to top of document and scroll back to where you were.

Since version 0.5 *LaTeX* is offering an easy to use dialog which is taking over the package name and possible package options to insert them into header of document. Right now, its placed direct in top of the `\begin{document}` statement if there is any.

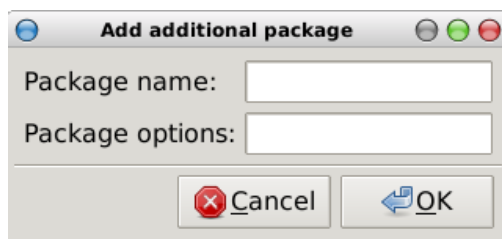


Figure 2.6: Dialog for inserting `\usepackage{}`

2.2 The BibTeX-menu

2.2.1 Support for BibTeX

2.2.1.1 BibTeX templates for catalogue entries

LaTeX is offering a number of often used templates for BibTeX catalogue entries. They can be access by the plugin submenu in Geany's tools menu:

- Article
- Book
- Booklet
- Conference
- Inbook
- Incollection
- Inproceedings
- Manual
- Mastersthesis
- Misc
- PhdThesis
- Proceedings

- Techreport
- Unpublished

When choosing an entry from list on menu a template with common used fields will be generated and inserted into the document. The template will be inserted on position of cursor which will not be moved during the process. As an example for a book, this will be inserted to the document:

```
@Book{
  Author = {},
  Editor = {},
  Publisher = {},
  Title = {},
  Year = {},
}
```

Listing 2.1: Example of BibTeX entry for a book

2.3 Features without a menu

2.3.1 Lower selection before inserting `\textsc{}`

With this feature, converting a normal text to L^AT_EX is getting a bit easier. If you start a document as plain text, with abbreviations in it like ABC. You import it into L^AT_EX, and want the abbreviations in small caps. *LaTeX* converts the selection to just use lower case letters. So ABC is becoming `\textsc{abc}` and later ABC. This can be configured via the plugin configuration dialog and default value is turned off.

3 Configuration

LaTeX can be configured in three major ways:

1. *LaTeX*'s configuration dialog (see chapter 3.1, page 14)
2. Geany's keybindings interface (see chapter 3.1.6, page 15)
3. By hidden preferences which needs to be configured directly inside configuration file (see chapter 3.1.7, page 17)

3.1 GeanyLaTeX's configuration dialog

With version 0.4 the configuration dialog is offering two options which can be changed:

3.1.1 Use KOMA script by default

KOMA script bei Markus Kohm is a very popular set of document classes mainly used in Europe. With this option the default setting for e.g. \LaTeX -Wizard can be configured¹. Option is turned off by default.

3.1.2 Show extra toolbar

Decides whether toolbar with some format icons should appear in the top of editor widget. Option is turned off by default. Just give it a try.

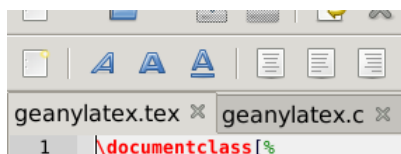


Figure 3.1: Plugin toolbar of *LaTeX* 0.5

¹Currently only position where this option is being used to be honest

3.1.3 Capitalize letters on sentence begin

If this option is enabled, *LaTeX* will look for ., ! or ? followed by a space. The next letter will be inserted in capital letters. Currenty this is not working for multichar letters as German Umlauts as well as the overwriting is not supported very well at this point. In case of you don't want to have the capital version of a letter in a particular case, just hit undo (Ctrl + z in most cases).

3.1.4 Add a wizard icon to Geany's main toolbar

This adds an icon for *LaTeX* wizard to Geany's main toolbar so its easy to access via mouse even the toolbar of *LaTeX* is not active and the tools menu is a way to far away.

3.1.5 Modus of autocompletion

Here you can choose, whether the *LaTeX* should do some autocompletion or not. Values are either

1. Don't care about this inside plugin or
2. Always perform autocompletion on LaTeX

3.1.6 Key bindings

Keybindings which are available:

Table 3.1: List of available keybindings

Shortcut	Description
Run LaTeX-Wizard	Starts the LaTeX-Wizard for creating a new document
Insert \label	Runs the dialog for inserting a new label into your document.
Insert \ref	Starts an dialog for easy inserting \ref and \pageref into your document. The dialog is supporting easy parsing of aux files so it can suggest a couple of already set labels.
Insert linebreak \\	Inserts a a newline \\ into the document.
Turn input replacement on/off	A shortcut for turning input replacement on or off. When input replacement is activated special characters like ã are replaced by there T _E X substitute like \v{e}
Replacement of special characters	A selected text will be parsed and all known special characters will be replaced by their T _E X substitute. This can be very useful on importing a large amount of text into your document including characters like ö or ».
Run insert environment dialog	Runs a dialog for easy inserting an environment. If there is some text selected, the environment will be placed around.
Insert \item	This shortcut will add an simple \item to the document. This can be very useful during writing of lists with a huge number of items.
Format selection in bold font face	Format a selection with bold font face. This is done be adding \textbf{...} around selection.
Format selection in italic font face	Format a selection with italic font face. This is done be adding \textit{...} around selection.
Format selection in typewriter font face	Format a selection with typewriter font face. This is done be adding \texttt{...} around selection.
Format selection centered	Formats selected text centered on page (uses \centering
Format selection left-aligned	Formats selected text left-aligned on page (uses \raggedleft
Format selection right-aligned	Formats selected text right-aligned on page (uses \raggedright
Insert description list	Inserts an description environment as well as a 1 st \item element.
Insert itemize list	Inserts an itemize environment as well as a 1 st \item element.
Insert enumerate list	Inserts an enumerate environment as well as a 1 st \item element.
Insert BibTeX reference dialog	Opens up a dialog which is supporting insertion of BibTeX-references based on bib-files inside current directory.
Toggle autocompletion for _ and ^	Controlls whether braces should be inserted after _ and ^ or not.

3.1.7 Hidden preferences

As not all users need to configure everything on there plugin, Geany \LaTeX has some hidden preferences which can be set through command line.

3.1.7.1 Deactivate toolbar items if document is a non \TeX -type

By default, *LaTeX* is deactivating buttons inside toolbar, which don't make much sense to be applied on non- \TeX file types. As this is not always wished, its possible to turn this feature off via a hidden preferences.

If you want to do so, just add a new section called `toolbar` into your `general.conf` file of *LaTeX* plugin which stats `glatex_deactivate_toolbaritems_with_non_latex=false`. As a result, your config file could look similar to this:

```
[general]
glatex_set_koma_active=false
glatex_set_toolbar_active=true

[toolbar]
glatex_deactivate_toolbaritems_with_non_latex=false
```

Listing 3.1: Configuration to enable toolbar buttons if no \LaTeX is active

Setting this option back to true will go back to default behaviour.

Please ensure, you reload the plugin once this option has been changed.

3.1.7.2 Remove \LaTeX menu if document is a non \TeX -type

LaTeX is enabling a separate menu inside Geany's main menu. On default, its getting activated and deactivated based on the file type of the current document. However, from time to time its annyng to have the menu entry switched maybe each time on switching between two documents it can be set to keep even there is no *LaTeX* document activ.

```
[general]
glatex_set_koma_active=false
glatex_set_toolbar_active=true

[menu]
glatex_deactivate_menubareentry_with_non_latex=false
```

Listing 3.2: Configuration to keep \LaTeX menu inside menubar

This option might make sense in combination with deactivation of toolbar items on changing to a non- \TeX document at 3.1.7.1, page 17 set to `false`.

3.1.7.3 Add \LaTeX menu on startup

In case of you want to see always the \LaTeX -menu independent of you have a \LaTeX document open. To add the menu direct at startup time you might set `glatex.add_menu_on_startup` inside menu section of configuration file to true.

```
[general]
glatex_set_koma_active=false
glatex_set_toolbar_active=true

[menu]
glatex_deactivate_menubareentry_with_non_latex=false
glatex_add_menu_on_startup=true
```

Listing 3.3: Configuration add \LaTeX menu on startup of Geany

This options makes only sense in combination with `glatex_deactivate_menubareentry_with_non_latex` as described in chapter 3.1.7.2, page 17.

3.1.7.4 Size of context for autocompletion

Inside configuration file you can add a value to adjust the size of context, which is being searched for autocompletion of `\end` and `\endgroup`. The default value is 5. If you want to reset it, just add a new line to your configuration file with `glatex_set_autocompletion_contextsize` followed by an integer value. An example could look like this:

```
[general]
glatex_set_koma_active=true
glatex_set_toolbar_active=false
glatex_set_autocompletion=true

[autocompletion]
glatex_set_autocompletion_contextsize=2
```

Listing 3.4: Example configuration for contextsize of autocompletion

3.1.7.5 Apply autocompletion only to \TeX -like files

With this option, you can force *LaTeX* to apply all autocompletion functions also to non- \TeX file types as for example an C-source code file. As this is only in a very low number of cases a really good idea, the option is by default turned on.

```
[general]
glatex_set_koma_active=true
glatex_set_toolbar_active=false
glatex_set_autocompletion=true

[autocompletion]
glatex_autocompletion_only_for_latex=false
```

Listing 3.5: general.conf example for deactivating file type specific restrictions for autocompletion

3.1.7.6 Customized reference strings

LaTeX is able to insert references to a label where its using some default value. As this value is not always optimal, it can be changed using a hidden preference by setting `glatex_reference_page`, `glatex_reference_chapter` or `glatex_reference_all` inside configuration file as shown inside the example configuration snippet.

```
[general]
glatex_set_koma_active=true
glatex_set_toolbar_active=true

[reference]
glatex_reference_page=\textbf{\pageref{{{reference}}}}
glatex_reference_chapter=\textbf{\ref{{{reference}}}}
glatex_reference_all=\textbf{\ref{{{reference}}}, page \pageref{{{reference}}}}
```

Listing 3.6: Configuration example for customized reference strings

Please take care in this case `{{reference}}` will be replace by label name.

Also `\t`, `\r`, `\n` will be handled as known from C so you will need to add a second `\` in front of in such cases. Even this seems to be annoying on the first hand, it allows you to insert some more complicated constructs over here which might require a new line inside.

3.1.7.7 Autocompletion of `{}` after `_` and `^`

LaTeX is able to autocomplete `{}` after typing `_` and `^`. This might be useful on typing mathematic text and formula. However, as this option is turn on by default and it might get annoying you can deactivate it by setting `glatex_set_autobraces` inside `[autocompletion]` section of configuration file. An example which is turning off the feature might can look like this:

```
[general]
glatex_set_koma_active=true
glatex_set_toolbar_active=true
glatex_set_autocompletion=true

[autocompletion]
glatex_set_autobraces=false
```

Listing 3.7: Configuration example for autocompletion of `{}` after `_` and `^`

Note: The feature in general is only working, if `glatex_set_autocompletion=true` is also set to `true`.

3.1.7.8 Autoadding of `{}` after a command

The plugin can autoadd a pair of braces `{}` on hitting return after typing a command. The function will search for a `\` and will stop once it founds a space, some `{}` or a second `\` as on `\ \`. This can be configured also by using the hidden preference `glatex_set_autobraces` described in chapter 3.1.7.7, page 19.

4 Contributing

If you like the plugin, there are a number of ways, how to contribute to the development of the plugin.

4.1 Extending plugin and beyond

4.1.1 Adding a new translation

Currently the plugin is available in English and German language but we are always looking for other translations to. There are two major topics in translation:

1. **Translation of plugin:** Adding a new translation and improving an existing one is easy to do. After catching the source tarball and extracting you can find all needed files inside the `po/` folder.
Please contact the authors if you plan to update/add a translation to ensure nobody else is currently working on and avoid double work and to get some further information about translation (see Chapter 8).
2. **Translation of documentation:** Since this document is currently only available in English it would be helpful for not English speaking people to have a translated version. If you like to do an translation, please also contact one of the authors for details (see Chapter 8).

4.1.2 Adding a new feature

New features are always highly welcome. The TODO file inside source code archive gives a good idea of current wished features and which are being worked on. Also you can have a look onto the feature request tracker of geany-plugins project at <https://github.com/geany/geany-plugins/issues> whether you find something interesting. Of course we are also open for not in the sources mentioned before listed items. Just contact one of the authors (see Chapter 8).

When sending a patch which is adding a new feature, please check whether you did also care about some documentation for it. As the user will need some, it might can increase the speed a patch is applied. Of course you should also check chapter 5.2, page 22 for maybe some more detailed information before.

4.1.3 Testing & bug reporting

LaTeX is tested mainly on x86 and x86_64 architecture running GNU/Linux. Also it was tested on some Windows 32 versions like XP SP3 very briefly. Since there are also other systems available, testing on other platforms and maybe reporting of issues is highly appreciate.

4.1.4 Packaging

LaTeX is part of the geany-plugins project even though there are releases independent of a major release of the project. Therefor there are two things you can do here:

1. Package the plugin for your operating system or distribution. As you might can imagine, the authors unfortunately cannot support all possible platforms.
2. Help to keep releases and packages of geany-plugins project up to date for current version of Geany.

4.1.5 Improving and extending of documentation

Documentation is never complete. There are spelling mistakes, paragraphs that needs to be extended or rewritten because they are not clear or topics that were missed out at all.

The documentation is written in \LaTeX so all you need is to get the tex file from doc folder and add or update the content. After this, just send a diff or complete file to one of the authors.

4.1.6 Providing additional data for plugin

You can also contribute to the plugin's development by providing additional data as for example customized templates for the \LaTeX -Wizard. If you build up one, you might like to send it to one of the authors.

4.1.7 Propaganda

And of course, tell others of Geany and this plugin. If you like to do a talk about *LaTeX* and/or Geany in general, there is some code available on <http://git.geany.org/talks/> you might can use as a start point for preparing your own presentation. If your favourite language is not yet available there, please feel free to do your own translation and in best case send your translation to one of Geany's¹ development team so it can be added to archive.

¹Check for addresses <http://www.geany.org>

5 Development

5.1 Development version

You can checkout the current source code from the git-repository at [github.com](https://github.com/geany/geany-plugins). Get the code by clone the repository:

```
git clone https://github.com/geany/geany-plugins.git
```

5.2 Sending a patch

If you want to create a patch, please respect the license of *LaTeX* as well as intellectual property of third. Patches that should be included to the default distribution must be licensed under the same conditions as *LaTeX* by the copyright owner.

6 Recommendations to improve work with L^AT_EX and Geany

Geany is offering a number of nice features that can be used to make daily work more easy without need to write a new plugin or extend *LaTeX*.

6.1 Geany's build system

On Geany you can define a couple of commands for the build system to improve work with your source file.

6.1.1 Document backward search

When working on a document it happens taht you find a typing error or some more generic issue on your document. Once this happend, its hard to find the correct position in your tex file. If you are using *xdvi* you can use the backward search function to jump to the right place of your document. An example configuration line for Geany's build system could look similar to this snippet:

```
xdvi -editor "geany --line %l '%%f'" "%f"
```

6.2 Geany's template system

If you don't need a dynamic template as described in Chapter 2.1.1.3, page 7 you can also use Geany's buildin template function which allows to also add customised templates, including placeholders for e.g. author's name, but in a more general and nonL^AT_EX-specific way. Nevertheless you should give it a try as it is useful in many cases. For information on how to create your own template using Geany's built-in feature, please check the manual.

6.3 Geany's code snippet function

Geany allows you to define code snippets and re-insert them easily at different places throughout your document.

A possible snippet for snippets.conf could be:

```
[LaTeX]
frame=\\begin{frame}\\n%ws%\\frametitle{%cursor%}\\n%ws%cursor%\\n\\end{frame}
block=\\begin{block}{%cursor%}\\n%ws%cursor%\\n\\end{block}
itemize=\\begin{itemize}\\n%ws%\\item %cursor%\\n\\end{itemize}
enumerate=\\begin{enumerate}\\n%ws%\\item %cursor%\\n\\end{enumerate}
description=\\begin{description}\\n%ws%\\item %cursor%\\n\\end{description}
```

Listing 6.1: Minimal snippets.conf for L^AT_EX

A snapshot of the authors' last version for LaTeX can be found on <http://www.geany.org/Download/Extras>

6.4 Other useful plugins

As mentioned before, a number of useful functions are already implemented in other plugins. Below you will find a list with the authors's recommendations. More nice plugins can be found on Geany's plugins page at <http://www.geany.org>.

6.4.1 GeanyLipsum

This plugin implements an easy way for inserting Lorem Ipsum text into a document. The length of the inserted text is configurable so the plugin can be very helpful on testing layout.

Homepage: <http://frank.uvena.de/en/Geany/geanylipsum/>

6.4.2 geanyVC

When working on bigger documents a version control system like Subversion could be useful to keep versions. GeanyVC is adding a easy to use frontend for a number of popular version controll systems such as git, Subversion, CVS, Bazaar or Mercurial.

Homepage: <http://plugins.geany.org/geanyvc/>

6.4.3 Spellcheck

Nobody is perfect - in special with typing mistakes on writing a text. Spellcheck is offering a way on Geany to make usage of a common spellchecking sytem as aspell, myspell or hunspell. Wrong spelled words can be marked with an red line and the plugin is offering suggestions for correct the word. Unfortunately right now its not supporting some special things common in T_EX and L^AT_EX.

Homepage: <http://plugins.geany.org/spellcheck/>

6.4.4 Tasks out of the addons plugins

A plugin that is recognising `TODO` or `FIXME` tags inside a document and allows to easy jump to these entries. This function is similar to the `todo` package but doesn't require recompiling of the document. Recognised tags will be inserted to another tab in Geany's message widget.

Homepage: <http://plugins.geany.org/addons/>

6.4.5 Tableconvert to convert a tabulator separated list into a table

Its an quiet annoying problem which happens from time to time: There is a list of values e.g. from some experiment which needs to be included into your document. The \LaTeX -export filter of your spreadsheet tool is not very adavanced and you just want to insert a couple of lines and have to do it manually.

Tableconvert is offering to convert a tabular separated list into an table. The plugin is also offering to convert such a list into a \LaTeX -like table and therefor is maybe useful on daily work.

7 Known issues

At time of the the documentation was created no issue were known. Since this is only a snapshot, you will find more recent information for all reported issues bug tracking system of GitHub at <https://github.com/geany/geany-plugins/issues>

8 Bugs, questions, homepage

If you found any bugs or want to provide a patch, please contact Frank Lanitz ([frank\(at\)geany\(dot\)org](mailto:frank(at)geany(dot)org)). Please also do so, if you got any questions and visiting <http://frank.uvena.de/en/Geany/geanylatex/> didn't help you to figure out the answer. Visiting the website is also a good start if you want to check for any update on this plugin.

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