# simple-thesis: a LATEX class for PhD theses



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A thesis submitted for the degree of

 $Doctor\ of\ Philosophy$ 

Month Year



#### Abstract

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## Acknowledgements

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## Chapter 1. Introduction

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#### 1.1 Background

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#### 1.2 Aims and Objectives

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#### 1.3 Thesis Introduction

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#### 1.4 Summary

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## Chapter 2. How to Use the Class

Use the provided directory structure for your content. Chapters and appendices should be placed in directories called chapterX and appendixX respectively. Update thesis.tex where highlighted and build the PDF to create the thesis.

#### 2.1 Package Options

oneside Double-sided is the default. Use the oneside option for a single-sided thesis.<sup>2</sup>

draft Use the draft option to add a word count, line numbers etc and enable to-do notes (see section 2.3). Remove the draft option to create the final thesis for printing.

pdf You may wish to also disseminate your thesis as a PDF. Use the pdf option to format the thesis for reading on screen.<sup>3</sup>

#### 2.2 Thesis Formatting

#### 2.2.1 Chapters and sections

Use the \thesischapter command to create a new chapter. Sections and sub-sections are created using \thesissection and \thesissubsection respectively. Chapter and section titles will be converted to Title Case when using these commands. Alternatively, the usual \chapter, \section and \subsection commands work as normal.

#### 2.2.2 Tables and figures

Include tables and figures in the usual way. Captions should be placed at the bottom. LATEX will look in the images/ and figures/ directories for graphics.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>You can use a different structure but this may break the word count and PDF builds on GitHub.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Single-sided theses appear to be more common. A double-sided thesis includes blank pages to ensure that chapters start on the right (i.e. odd) page. These blank pages can however look odd when viewing as a PDF – see the pdf option.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Hyperlinks are shown in blue, pages with landscape tables/figures are rotated and blank pages inserted in two-sided theses are marked "This page is intentionally blank". Margins are equalised to remove the binding edge.

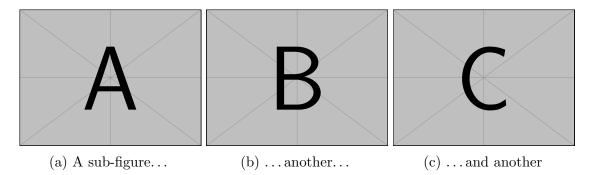


Figure 2.1: Example figure with three sub-figures. Larger margins and a smaller font are used to help distinguish captions from the main text.

	Metric A	Metric B	Metric C	Metric D
Model A	10.431	0.154	0.715	28.871
Model B	25.488	0.279	0.190	14.992
Model C	14.992	0.396	0.280	20.947
Model D	20.947	0.362	0.412	20.558
Model E	21.137	0.006	0.411	2.665
Model F	19.445	0.513	0.242	16.087

Table 2.1: Example table. Tables are formatted with booktabs and additional spacing between rows.

#### 2.2.3 Mathematics

Use the  $\ensuremath{\mbox{vect}}$ ,  $\ensuremath{\mbox{matr}}$  and  $\ensuremath{\mbox{tens}}$  commands to format vectors, matrices and tensors respectively. These are all bold italic by default (x, X and X respectively) and can be customised from lines 176 in simple-thesis.cls. The isomath package is used to comply with ISO 80000-2 e.g. sans-serif tensors.

The amsmath, amssymb and amsthm packages are used to typeset equations and theorems:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}\right)^2\right)$$
 (2.1)

Theorem 1. Your theorem here.

*Proof.* Your elegant proof.

#### 2.2.4 Cross-references

Insert cross-references using \cref{label} for "figure 2.1" or \Cref{label} for a capitalised reference e.g. "Figure 2.1". Sub-figures can also be referenced e.g. figure 2.1a. See cleveref for more information.

#### 2.2.5 Bibliography

The biblatex<sup>4</sup> bibliography management package is used. Update refs.bib and use \cite{} or \parencite{} to insert a numbered reference e.g. [1]. Author names can be included using \textcite{} e.g. "LeCun et al. [1] state that ...". The default citation style is numeric-comp<sup>5</sup> which is similar to IEEE but compressed e.g. multiple authors show as "et al." and multiple citations as [1, 2] or [1-3]. The bibliography style is IEEE<sup>6</sup>. These can be updated in simple-thesis.cls, see the "Bibliography" section.

#### 2.2.6 Notation, acronyms and abbreviations

It is helpful to include a section with the definitions of any acronyms and abbreviations used in your work. This is automated using glossaries. When introducing a new acronym/abbreviation, define it with \newacronym{tag}{acronym}{definition}<sup>7</sup>, for example \newacronym{nn}{NN}{neural network}.

The acronym is inserted using \gls{tag}. The first instance of \gls{nn} shows as "neural network (NN)". Subsequent uses are abbreviated with a hyperlink to the glossary e.g. "NN". \Gls{tag} capitalises the initial letter of the abbreviation, and \Glspl{tag} and \glspl{tag} use the plural form.

The notation section is populated by adding definitions to notation/notation.tex. The name is required for sorting but the symbol and description are displayed, e.g.:

```
\newglossaryentry{n}{
  name={N},
  description={Set of natural numbers \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}},
  symbol={\ensuremath{\mathbb{N}}}
}
```

#### 2.2.7 Index

An index is generated by including the \index{topic} command when you discuss a topic. Index entries can also have sub-items e.g. \index{topic!subtopic}. The index includes hyperlinks to the relevant page.

#### 2.2.8 Quotes

Enclose quotes between \begin{quote} [source] {author} and \end{quote}. The source and author should be left empty if unused i.e. \begin{quote}[]{}).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>See https://www.overleaf.com/learn/latex/Bibliography\_management\_with\_biblatex.

 $<sup>^5\</sup>mathrm{See}$  https://www.overleaf.com/learn/latex/Biblatex\_citation\_styles.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>See https://www.overleaf.com/learn/latex/Biblatex\_bibliography\_styles.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>The definition should be lower case and singular.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>To improve readability, glossary links are only highlighted in draft mode e.g. NN.



Figure 2.2: Example landscape figure (image by Penny from Pixabay). Newcastle University thesis guidelines state the "top of tables/figures printed sideways should align to the left of the page". The rotating package aligns them centrally and a bug prevents changing this (easily). If this is important to you, a workaround is to add  $\slash Nspace{Xmm}\slash Delow the caption. Adjust X to push the table/figure up to the correct to add <math>\slash Nspace{Xmm}\slash Nspace{Opt}$ position.

	Metric A	Metric A Metric B M	Metric $C^1$	Metric D	Metric E	Metric F	Aetric $C^1$ Metric $D$ Metric $E$ Metric $F$ Metric $G^2$ Metric $H$ Metric $I$ Metric $J$	Metric H	Metric I	Metric J
Results on first data set <sup>3</sup>	rst data set	&; ,								
Model A	0.226	0.101	10.233	26.374	24.131	0.088	10.431	0.154	0.715	28.871
Model B	0.141	0.639	2.667	5.598	21.113	0.116	25.488	0.279	0.190	14.992
Model $C^4$	0.416	0.992	29.190	12.098	16.279	0.127	14.992	0.396	0.280	20.947
Model D	0.107	0.033	4.021	19.004	17.760	0.388	20.947	0.362	0.412	20.558
Results on second data set	cond data	set								
Model A	0.597	0.319	22.949	5.168	23.286	0.569	21.137	0.006	0.411	2.665
Model B	0.157	0.365	25.848	12.653	20.702	0.180	19.445	0.513	0.242	16.087
Model $C^4$	0.707	0.181	26.791	15.969	17.307	0.129	17.946	0.553	0.695	19.445
Model D	0.496	0.861	26.956	20.050	13.525	0.272	2.665	0.902	0.291	7.472

<sup>1</sup> A note about metric C.

 $^2$  A note about metric G.  $^3$  Cave at about the first data set.

 $^4$  Important point about model C.

Table 2.2: Example landscape table using threeparttable to add footnotes. Aligned using the same trick as figure 2.2 but centering the table would look better?

...there is a useful and meaningful distinction between text numerals and mathematical numerals. Text numerals are used in contexts like "1776" and "Chapter 5"..., where the numbers are essentially part of the English language; mathematical numerals, by contrast, are used in contexts like "the greatest common divisor of 12 and 18 is 6", where the numbers are part of the mathematics.

Donald E. Knuth — Typesetting Concrete Mathematics

#### 2.2.9 Formatting numbers

Note the difference between the two sets of numerals in the quote. Use **\oldnum** for "old style" numerals (0123456789). \num formats "lined" numerals (0123456789) for example with separating commas (\num{1234567.890123} = 1,234,567.890123) or scientific notation (\num{1.234e-5} =  $1.234 \times 10^{-5}$ ). The siunitx package can also typeset units.

#### 2.2.10 University logo

Replace logo.png in the ./images/ directory to update the title page logo.

#### 2.3 To-Do Notes

To-do notes are provided by todonotes. Use:

- \todonote{} to create a to-do
- \reference{} to note a missing reference
- \issue{} to highlight a problem
- \misc{} for a miscellaneous note

When the draft package option is used, to-do notes are summarised on the first page. All to-do notes are disabled when producing the final thesis. Text can also be highlighted using \h1{}.

#### 2.4 Building the PDF

#### 2.4.1 GitHub Actions

The thesis is built each time you push the repository to GitHub!<sup>9</sup> Go to the Actions tab, choose the commit (the top one is the most recent) and download by clicking thesis-[TIMESTAMP] under Artifacts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>The main .tex file must be named thesis.tex, and the introduction/, chapterX/, conclusion/directory structure must be followed.

#### 2.4.2 Locally

Type make in the thesis directory to build the PDF.<sup>10</sup> This has been tested on Ubuntu with TexLive<sup>11</sup> and MacOS with MacTeX<sup>12</sup>. If the document fails to build, try make purge to delete all output and intermediate files<sup>13</sup>.

make standalone builds a standalone PDF for a single chapter. See the example stub file chapter1-standalone.tex which should be placed in each chapter directory.

If you are unable to use make or latexmk, or prefer to use a recipe in Visual Studio Code or TeXStudio:

1. To generate the word count files run:

```
texcount abstract/* *.tex -sum=1,0,1 -inc -out=wordcount.txt

texcount abstract/* -sum=1,0,1 -1 -out=wordcount.abstract

texcount introduction/* chapter*/* conclusion/* -sum=1,0,1 -brief -out=wordcount.summary

texcount introduction/* chapter*/* conclusion/* -sum=1,0,1 -1 -out=wordcount.total
```

2. To generate the bibliography, acronyms and index sections run:

```
pdflatex thesis.tex
biber thesis
makeglossaries thesis
makeindex thesis
```

3. To build the final thesis, you will need to run pdflatex thesis.tex at least another two times to add all the sections and update the table of contents.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>This uses latexmk to automate the build with the pdflatex engine, biber for references and the glossary/index configuration in .latexmkrc.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>Ubuntu 18.04, 20.04 and 22.04 with TexLive installed using sudo apt install texlive-full. See https://github.com/philipdarke/simple-thesis/issues/1#issuecomment-1256169085 if not using the full TexLive install.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>MacOS 12 Monterey, 13 Ventura and 14 Sonoma with MacTeX installed using brew install --cask mactex-no-gui

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>The make clean command removes intermediate files only.

## Chapter 3. Conclusion

Mauris sollicitudin dictum nulla eleifend pulvinar. Nulla sodales, tellus nec molestie tempor, ligula sem sollicitudin mauris, quis hendrerit enim ipsum ac metus. Proin at tincidunt purus. Cras rutrum vel tortor vel posuere. Aliquam erat volutpat. Nunc scelerisque maximus orci, ut maximus nisi congue vel. Fusce vitae lectus id arcu volutpat tristique semper nec sem.

## 3.1 Summary

Pellentesque elementum, risus ac pulvinar efficitur, mauris ipsum dictum sem, nec varius mauris neque at tellus. Quisque pulvinar sem eget est tempus cursus. Donec ipsum nunc, euismod quis sodales id, condimentum vel tellus. Nunc ultrices, tortor in placerat cursus, erat diam scelerisque odio, luctus bibendum velit ante ac est. Praesent fringilla sollicitudin felis sit amet auctor. Curabitur eros arcu, porta non laoreet vitae, feugiat at orci. Donec efficitur est in sodales pellentesque. Maecenas a elit nec ligula dictum tristique eget ac nibh. Duis in tempus erat, pretium blandit nisl. Sed a maximus leo.

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#### 3.2 Future Work

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# Appendix A. Packages Used

Typesetting  anyfontsize Set font sizes e.g. 14pt headings emptypage Empty pages when printing two-sided enumitem Customise enumerate and itemize environment fancyhdr Customise headers and footers geometry Set page margins microtype Improve typesetting	
emptypage Empty pages when printing two-sided enumitem Customise enumerate and itemize environmen fancyhdr Customise headers and footers geometry Set page margins	
enumitem Customise enumerate and itemize environment fancyhdr Customise headers and footers geometry Set page margins	
fancyhdr Customise headers and footers geometry Set page margins	
geometry Set page margins	ts
microtype Improve typesetting	
pdflscape Rotate landscape pages in PDF	
ragged2e Left-align bibliography	
setspace Change line spacing	
siunitx Format numbers and units	
titlecaps Typeset chapter and section headings in Title	Case
titlesec Customise headings	
tocbibind Include bibliography etc in table of contents	
xcolor Set colours	
Referencing	
biblatex Reference sources	
cleveref Format cross-references	
glossaries Create acronyms and abbreviations section	
hyperref Create hyperlinks	
hypcap Ensure hyperlinks point to top of tables/figure	es
makeidx Create index	
url Easy website links	
Tables and figures	
array Format table cells	
booktabs Format tables	
caption Customise captions	
float Place table/figures with H	
graphicx Include figures	

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verbatim

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	commutaca from previous page
longtable	Span long tables over pages
multirow	Format multi-row cells in tables
rotating	Add landscape tables and figures
subcaption	Add sub-captions to figures
tabularx	Control table widths
threeparttable	Add table footnotes
Mathematics	
amsmath	Typeset equations
amssymb	Typeset equations
amsthm	Typeset theorems/lemmas etc
isomath	Typeset tensors
mathtools	Some additional formatting tricks e.g. right aligned vectors
Draft package option	l
datetime2	Add date/time in footer
${\tt draftwatermark}$	Add draft watermark
lineno	Add line numbers
soul	Highlight text
todonotes	Add to-do notes
$Other\ packages$	
etoolbox	Environment hooks etc
ifdraft	Control logic in class file
ifthen	Control logic in class file

Table A.1: Packages loaded by simple-thesis in a longtable environment spanning two pages.

Include the word count file

# Bibliography

Y. LeCun, Y. Bengio, and G. Hinton, "Deep learning," Nature, vol. 521, no. 7553,
 pp. 436–444, May 2015. DOI: 10.1038/nature14539.

# Notation

 $\mathbb{N}$  Set of natural numbers  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ 

# Acronyms and abbreviations

NN neural network

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