

Tutorial (D1)

Intro ^[D1.1] DiscussionBox provides a forum-like typesetting for discussions taking place on \LaTeX document sharing platforms like Overleaf. Compared to review mechanisms provided by such platforms, DiscussionBox enables non-volatile and structured conversations, somewhat similar to e-mail. Unlike e-mail, however, you can benefit from all of the powerful \LaTeX features!

Basics ^[D1.2] The fundamental component of the DiscussionBox package is, well, a discussionbox:

```
% discussion boxes are declared as an environment:
\begin{discussionbox}[Discussion \dbox{nextid}] % title is optional
  % you can use \dbox{nextid} to enumerate titles
  % the default title is "Discussion Box #1"

  % messages...
\end{discussionbox}
```

Basics ^[D1.3] A discussion box is merely a container for *messages* and a message is typed by a *person*.

```
% in the preamble, define a person:
\DefinePerson{Canberk}{blue} % \DefinePerson{name}{color}

% within the document:

\begin{discussionbox}

  % messages using a simple command:
  \Canberk{
    Your message here...
  }

  % or, defined as an environment: (which might work better in some cases)
  \begin{dboxmsg}{Canberk} % \begin{dboxmsg}{person name}...\end{dboxmsg}
    Your message here...
  \end{dboxmsg}

\end{discussionbox}
```

The name of the author is shown in the beginning of the message, and the entire message colored with the color of the author.

Communication ^[D1.4] The main idea of a DiscussionBox is to enable effective communication over. For that purpose, it provides three important features: (1) *message addresses*, (2) *references* and (3) *replies*.

Communication ^[D1.5] Each message in a discussion box is uniquely identified by an address. For example, the address of this one D1.5. Dx stands for the discussion with number x and the rest of the address identifies the message within a discussion. Addresses appear right next to the author name and formatted as superscript. You can use these addresses to refer to messages. Similar to other \LaTeX objects that can be referenced, you need to first label the message:

```
% use \LabelMsg{label} to label a message
\Canberk{Hello, I say things .... \LabelMsg{canberk:things}}

% later...

\Mehmet{Note what Canberk says \ref{canberk:things}, he says some serious stuff.}
```

Let's reference the previous message: D1.4! You can click on the reference to navigate to the message.

Communication ^[D1.5.1] A message can be a reply to another message. For example, this message (D1.5.1) replies to D1.5. Message addresses reflect reply-to relations. If a message has address $Dx.y.z.n$, it is the n^{th} reply to $Dx.y.z$.

Communication ^[D1.5.2] For instance, the last character of the address of this message is 2. A reply message is nested within the message that it replies to:

```
\Mehmet{I think Switzerland is the most prominent economy in Europe.
      \Canberk{I disagree, it is Germany.}
}

% works the same way with environments
```