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CTAN: https://www.ctan.org/pkg/ltximg

https://github.com/pablgonz/ltximg

#### **Abstract**

**ltximg** is a perl *script* that automates the process of extracting and converting environments provided by TikZ, PStricks and other packages from *(input file)* to image formats and standalone files using ghostscript and poppler-utils. Generates a file with only extracted environments and another with all extracted environments converted to *\includegraphics*.

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## 1 License

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# 2 Motivation and Acknowledgments

The original idea was to extend the functionality of the pst2pdf[9] script to work with tikzpicture and other environments. The TikZ[2] package allows to *externalize* the environments, but, the idea was to be able to extend this to *any type* of environment covering three central points:

- 1. Generate a separate image files for environments.
- 2. Generate a standalone files with only the extracted environments.
- 3. Generate a file replacing the environments by \includegraphics.

From the side of TeX there are some packages that cover several of these points such as the preview[1], xcomment[12], extract[13] and cachepic[14] packages among others, but none covered all points.

In the network there are some solutions in bash that were able to extract and convert environments, but in general they presented problems when the document contained "verbatim style" code or were only available for Linux.

<sup>\*</sup>This file describes a documentation for version 1.9, last revised 2020-08-22.

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Analysed the situation the best thing was to create a new "script" that was able to cover the three points and was multi platform, the union of all these ideas is born ltximg.

This script would not be possible without the great work of Herbert Voß author of pst2pdf¹ and Heiko Oberdiek author of pdfcrop². Several parts of the code have been taken and adapted from both scripts.

# 3 Requirements for operation

For the complete operation of ltximg you need to have a modern TeX distribution such as TeX Live or MiKTeX, have a version equal to or greater than 5.28 of perl, a version equal to or greater than 9.24 of ghostscript, a version equal to or greater than 1.40 of pdfcrop and have a version equal to or greater than 0.52 of poppler-utils. The distribution of TeX Live 2020 for Windows includes ltximg and all requirements, MiKTeX users must install the appropriate software for full operation.

The script auto detects the <code>ghostscript</code>, but not poppler-utils. You should keep this in mind if you are using the script directly and not the version provided in your TeX distribution.

The script has been tested on Windows (v10) and Linux (fedora 32) using ghostscript v9.52, poppler-utils v0.84, perl v5.30 and the standard classes offers by  $\LaTeX$ : book, report, article and letter. The preview[1] and pst-pdf[5] packages are required to process the  $\langle input \, file \rangle$  and if an  $\langle output \, file \rangle$  is generated, the graphicx[10] and grfext[11] packages will be needed.

## 4 How it works

It is important to have a general idea of how the "extraction and conversion" process works and the requirements that must be fulfilled so that everything works correctly, for this we must be clear about some concepts related to how to work with the  $\langle input \ file \rangle$ , the  $\langle verbatim \ content \rangle$  and the  $\langle steps \ process \rangle$ .

## 4.1 The input file

The  $\langle input \, file \rangle$  must comply with *certain characteristics* in order to be processed, the content at the beginning and at the end of the  $\langle input \, file \rangle$  is treated in a special way, before \documentclass and after \end{document} can go any type of content, internally the script will "split" the  $\langle input \, file \rangle$  at this points.

If the  $\langle input file \rangle$  contains files using  $\input \{\langle file \rangle\}$  or  $\include \{\langle file \rangle\}$  these will not be processed, from the side of the script they only represent lines within the file, if you want them to be processed it is better to use the latexpand<sup>3</sup> first and then process the file.

Like  $\input{file}$  or  $\include{file}$ , blank lines, vertical spaces and tab characters are treated literally, for the *script* the  $\langle input \, file \rangle$  is just a set of characters, as if it was a simple text file. It is advisable to format the source code  $\langle input \, file \rangle$  using utilities such as chktex<sup>4</sup> and latexindent<sup>5</sup>, especially if you want to extract the source code of the environments.

Both \thispagestyle{ $\langle style \rangle$ } and \pagestyle{ $\langle style \rangle$ } are treated in a special way by the script, if they do not appear in the preamble then \pagestyle{ $\langle empty \rangle$ } will be added and if they are present and { $\langle style \rangle$ } is different from { $\langle empty \rangle$ } this will be replaced by { $\langle empty \rangle$ }.

This is necessary for the image creation process, it does not affect the  $\langle output \ file \rangle$ , but it does affect the *standalone* files. For the script the process of dividing the  $\langle input \ file \rangle$  into four parts and then processing them:

If for some reason you have an environment filecontens before \documentclass or in the preamble of the  $\langle input \, file \rangle$  that contains a sub-document or environment you want to extract, the script will ignore them. Similarly, the content after \end{document} is ignored in the extraction process.

```
¹https://ctan.org/pkg/pst2pdf
²https://ctan.org/pkg/pdfcrop
³https://www.ctan.org/pkg/latexpand
⁴https://www.ctan.org/pkg/chktex
⁵https://www.ctan.org/pkg/latexindent
```

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## 4.2 Verbatim contents

One of the greatest capabilities of this script is to "skip" the complications that  $\langle verbatim\ content \rangle$  produces with the extraction of environments using tools outside the " $T_EX$  world". In order to "skip" the complications, the  $\langle verbatim\ content \rangle$  is classified into three types:

- · Verbatim in line.
- Verbatim standard.
- · Verbatim write.

#### Verbatim in line

The small pieces of code written using a "verbatim macro" are considered  $\langle verbatim \ in \ line \rangle$ , such as  $\langle verb | \langle code \rangle |$  or  $\langle code \rangle |$ 

Most "verbatim macro" provide by packages minted[18], fancyvrb[16] and listings[17] have been tested and are fully supported. They are automatically detected the verbatim macro (including \* argument) generates by \newmint and \newmintinline and the following list:

\mint\spverb\qverb\fverb

\verb\Verb\lstinline\pyginline

\pygment\Scontents\tcboxverb\mintinline

Some packages define abbreviated versions for "verbatim macro" as \DefineShortVerb, \lstMakeShortInline and \MakeSpecialShortVerb, will be detected automatically if are declared explicitly in  $\langle input \ file \rangle$ .

The following consideration should be kept in mind for some packages that use abbreviations for verbatim macros, such as shortvrb[15] or doc[15] for example in which there is no explicit \macro in the document by means of which the abbreviated form can be detected, for automatic detection need to find \DefineShortVerb explicitly to process it correctly. The solution is quite simple, just add in \input file\:

```
\UndefineShortVerb{\|}
\DefineShortVerb{\|}
```

depending on the package you are using. If your "verbatim macro" is not supported by default or can not detect, use the options described in 7.2 and 7.3.

### Verbatim standard

These are the "classic" environments for "writing code" are considered \( \text{verbatim standard} \), such as verbatim and lstlisting environments. The following list (including \* argument) is considered as \( \text{verbatim standard} \) environments:

ExampleCenterExampleSideBySideExamplePCenterExamplePSideBySideExampleverbatim

Verbatim

BVerbatim

LVerbatim

LTXexampletcblistingspverbatimmintedlistinglstlistingalltt

SaveVerbatim

PSTcode

commentchklistingverbatimtablistingcontboxedverbatimdemo

sourcecode

xcomment

pygmented

programlprogramLprogramsprogramfprogramscprogramt

pyglist

program

They are automatically detected (verbatim standard) environments (including \* argument) generates by commands:

• \DefineVerbatimEnvironment

• \NewListingEnvironment

• \DeclareTCBListing

• \ProvideTCBListing

• \lstnewenvironment

• \newtabverbatim

• \specialcomment

• \includecomment

\newtcblisting

• \NewTCBListing

• \newverbatim

• \NewProgram

• \newminted

If any of the  $\langle verbatim\ standard \rangle$  environments is not supported by default or can not detected, you can use the options described in 7.2 and 7.3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Only T<sub>F</sub>X can understand T<sub>F</sub>X, all other languages and programs are just lines in a file.

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#### Verbatim write

Some environments have the ability to write "external files" or "store content" in memory, these environments are considered  $\langle verbatim\ write \rangle$ , such as scontents, filecontents or VerbatimOut environments. The following list is considered (including \* argument) as  $\langle verbatim\ write \rangle$  environments:

```
    scontents
    filecontents
    extcolorbox
    tcboutputlisting
    tcbexternal
    verbatimwrite
    filecontentsdef
    filecontentsdef
    filecontentsdef
    filecontentsdefmacro
    filecontentsdefmacro
    filecontentsdefmacro
    filecontentsgdefmacro
```

They are automatically detected *(verbatim write)* (including \* argument) environments generates by commands:

- \renewtcbexternalizetcolorbox
- \renewtcbexternalizeenvironment
- \newtcbexternalizeenvironment
- \newtcbexternalizetcolorbox
- \newenvsc

If any of the  $\langle verbatim \ write \rangle$  environments is not supported by default or can not detected, you can use the options described in 7.2 and 7.3.

## 4.3 Steps process

For creation of the image formats, extraction of source code of environments and creation of an  $\langle output\ file \rangle$ , ltximg need a various steps. Let's assume that the  $\langle input\ file \rangle$  is test.tex,  $\langle output\ file \rangle$  is test-out.tex, the working directory are "./", the directory for images are ./images, the temporary directory is /tmp and we want to generate images in pdf format and  $\langle standalone \rangle$  files for all environments extracted.

We will use the following code as test.tex:

```
% Some commented lines at begin file
  \documentclass{article}
  \usepackage{tikz}
  \begin{document}
 Some text
6 \begin{tikzpicture}
   Some code
8 \end{tikzpicture}
9 Always use \verb|\begin{tikzpicture}| and \verb|\end{tikzpicture}| to open
and close environment
\begin{tikzpicture}
  Some code
\end{tikzpicture}
14 Some text
\begin{verbatim}
16 \begin{tikzpicture}
   Some code
18 \end{tikzpicture}
19 \end{verbatim}
20 Some text
\end{document}
22 Some lines that will be ignored by the script
```

### **Validating Options**

The first step is read and validated  $[\langle options \rangle]$  from the command line and test.tex, verifying that test.tex contains some environment to extract, check the name and extension of test-out.tex, check the directory ./images if it doesn't exist create it and create a temporary directory /tmp/hG45uVklv9.

The entire test.tex file is loaded into memory and "split" to start the extraction process.

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## Comment and ignore

In the second step, once the file test.tex is loaded and divided in memory, proceeds (in general terms) as follows:

Search the words  $\ensuremath{\mbox{begin}}$  and  $\ensuremath{\mbox{end}}$  in verbatim standard, verbatim write, verbatim in line and commented lines, if it finds them, converts to  $\ensuremath{\mbox{BEGIN}}$  and  $\ensuremath{\mbox{END}}$ , then places all code to extract inside the  $\ensuremath{\mbox{begin}}$  ... $\ensuremath{\mbox{end}}$  ... $\ensuremath{\mbox{e$ 

At this point "all" the code you want to extract is inside \begin{preview}...\end{preview}.

## Creating files and extracting

In the third step, the script generate  $\langle standalone \rangle$  files: test-fig-1.tex, test-fig-2.tex, ... and saved in ./images then proceed in two ways according to the  $[\langle options \rangle]$  passed to generate a temporary file with a random number (1981 for example):

1. If script is call *without* --noprew options, the following lines will be added at the beginning of the test.tex (in memory):

```
\PassOptionsToPackage{inactive}{pst-pdf}%
\AtBeginDocument{%
\RequirePackage[inactive]{pst-pdf}%
\RequirePackage[active,tightpage]{preview}%
\renewcommand\PreviewBbAdjust{-60pt -60pt 60pt 60pt}}%
% rest of input file
```

The different parts of the file read in memory are joined and save in a temporary file test-fig-1981.tex in "./". This file will contain all the environments for extraction between \begin{preview}...\end{preview} along with the rest of the document. If the document contains images, these must be in the formats supported by the *engine* selected to process the \( input file \).

2. If script is call with --noprew options, the \begin{preview}...\end{preview} lines are only used as delimiters for extracting the content without using the package preview, the following lines will be added at the beginning of the test.tex (in memory):

```
\PassOptionsToPackage{inactive}{pst-pdf}%
\AtBeginDocument{%
\RequirePackage[inactive]{pst-pdf}}%
% only environments extracted
```

Then it is joined with all extracted environments separated by  $\newpage$  and saved in a temporary file test-fig-1981. tex in "./".

If --norun is passed, the temporary file test-fig-1981. tex is renamed to test-fig-all. tex and moved to ./images.

## **Generate image formats**

In the fourth step, the script generating the file test-fig-1981.pdf with all code extracted and croping, running:

```
[user@machine ~:]$ \(\langle compiler \rangle \) -no-shell-escape -interaction=nonstopmode -recorder test-fig-1981.tex [user@machine ~:]$ pdfcrop --margins 0 test-fig-1981.pdf test-fig-1981.pdf
```

Now move test-fig-1981.pdf to /tmp/hG45uVklv9 and rename to test-fig-all.pdf, generate image files test-fig-1.pdf and test-fig-2.pdf and copy to ./images, if the image files exist, they will be rewritten each time you run the script. The file test-fig-1981.tex is moved to the ./images and rename to test-fig-all.tex.

Note the options passed to  $\langle compiler \rangle$  always use -no-shell-escape and -recorder, to generate the .fls file which is used to delete temporary files and directories after the process is completed. The --shell option activates -shell-escape for compatibility with packages such as minted or others.

## Create output file

In the fifth step, the script apply the option <code>--clean</code>, remove all content betwen <code>%<\*remove> ... %</remove></code> and try to detect whether the <code>graphicx</code> package and the <code>\graphicspath</code> command are in the preamble of the <code>\(\lambda\) output file\(\rangle\) (in memory). If it is not possible to find it, it will read the <code>.log</code> file generated by the temporary file with only preamble. Once the detection is complete, the package <code>grfext</code> and <code>\PrependGraphicsExtensions\*</code> will be added at the end of the preamble:</code>

```
\usepackage{graphicx}
\usepackage{graphicx}
\usepackage{grfext}
\usepackage{grfext}
\usepackage{grfext}.pdf}
```

Now converting all extracted code to \includegraphics and save test-out.tex in "./", then proceed to run:

```
[user@machine ~:]$ \langle compiler \rangle -recorder -shell-escape test-out.tex
```

generating the file test-out.pdf.

## Clean temporary files and dirs

In the sixth step, the script read the files test-fig-1981.fls and test-out.fls, extract the information from the temporary files and dirs generated in the process in "./" and then delete them together with the directory /tmp/hG45uVklv9. Finally the output file test-out.tex looks like this:

```
1 % some commented lines at begin document
2 \documentclass{article}
3 \usepackage{tikz}
4 \graphicspath{{images/}}
5 \usepackage{grfext}
6 \PrependGraphicsExtensions*{.pdf}
7 \begin{document}
8 Some text
o \includegraphics[scale=1]{test-fig-1}
10 Always use \verb|\begin{tikzpicture}| and \verb|\end{tikzpicture}| to open
11 and close environment
12 \includegraphics[scale=1]{test-fig-2}
13 Some text
14 \begin{verbatim}
15 \begin{tikzpicture}
    Some code
17 \end{tikzpicture}
18 \end{verbatim}
19 Some text
20 \end{document}
```

## 5 Extract content

The script provides two ways to  $\langle extract \rangle$  content from  $\langle input \ file \rangle$ , using  $\langle environments \rangle$  and  $\langle docstrip \ tags \rangle$ . Some environment (including \* argument) are supported by default. If environments are nested, the outermost one will be extracted.

### 5.1 Default environments

 Environment provide by preview[1] package. If any preview environments found in the \( \lambda input file \rangle \) will be extracted and converted these. Internally the script converts all environments to extract in preview environments. Is better comment this package in preamble unless the option -n,--noprew is used. This environment is reserved for the internal process of extraction and conversion, it cannot be passed as an argument to the option --skipenv.

 $\langle \mathit{env} \, \mathit{content} \rangle \\ \langle \mathit{env} \, \mathit{content} \rangle \\ \land \{ \mathit{postscript} \} \\$ 

Environment provide by pst-pdf[5], auto-pst-pdf[6] and auto-pst-pdf-lua[7] packages. Since the pst-pdf, auto-pst-pdf and auto-pst-pdf-lua packages internally use the preview package, is better comment this in preamble. Only the *content* of this environment is extracted and "not" the environment itself when using the --srcenv or --subenv options.

 $\label{eq:pstexample} $$ \langle env \ content \rangle$$ $$ \end{PSTexample}$ 

Environment provide by pst-exa[8] packages. The script automatically detects the \begin{PSTexample} ...\end{PSTexample} environments and processes them as separately compiled files. The user should have loaded the package with the [swpl] or [tcb] option and run the script using --latex or --xetex. This environment is reserved for the internal process of extraction and conversion, it cannot be passed as an argument to the option --skipenv.

 Environment provide by PStricks[3] package. The plain TeX syntax \pspicture ... \endpspicture its converted to LTeX syntax \begin{pspicture} ... \end{pspicture} if not within the PSTexample or postscript environments.

 $\label{eq:content} $$ \langle env \ content \rangle $$ \end{psgraph}$ 

Environment provide by pst-plot[4] package. The plain TeX syntax \psgraph ... \endpsgraph its converted to LTeX syntax \begin{psgraph} ... \end{psgraph} if not within the PSTexample or postscript environments.

Environment provide by TikZ[2] package. The plain TeX syntax \tikzpicture ... \tikzpicture its converted to LTeX syntax \begin{tikzpicture} ... \end{tikzpicture} but no a short syntax \tikz ... ;.

Environment provide by pgf[2] package. Since the script uses a "recursive regular expression" to extract environments, no presents problems if present pgfinterruptpicture.

If you need to extract other environments you can use one of the options described in 7.2 or 7.3.

### 5.2 Extract with docstrip tags

All content included between %<\*ltximg> ... %</ltximg> is extracted. The tags can *not* be nested and should be at the beginning of the line and in separate lines. Internally the script converts all this tags to preview environments.

```
% no space before open tag %<*
%<*ltximg>
code to extract
%</ltximg>
% no space before close tag %
```

## 5.3 Prevent extraction and remove

Sometimes you do not want to "extract all" the environments from  $\langle input \ file \rangle$  or you want to remove environments or arbitrary content. The script provides a convenient way to solve this situation.

 $\langle env\ content \rangle \\ \langle env\ content \rangle$   $\\ \langle end \{ nopreview \}$ 

Environment provide by preview package. Internally the script converts all "skip" environments to \begin{nopreview} ... \end{nop} Is better comment this package in preamble unless the option -n,--noprew is used. This environment is reserved for the internal process of extraction and conversion, it cannot be passed as an argument to the option --extrenv.

All content betwen %<\*noltximg> ... %</noltximg> are ignored and no extract. The tags can *not* be nested and should be at the beginning of the line and in separate lines. Internally the script converts all this tags to nopreview environments.

```
% no space before open tag %<*
%<*noltximg>
no extract this
%</noltximg>
% no space before close tag %</
```

 $%<*remove> \\ \langle content \rangle \\ %</remove>$ 

All content betwen %<\*remove> ... %</remove> are deleted in the  $\langle output \ file \rangle$ . The tags can *not* be nested and should be at the beginning of the line and in separate lines.

```
% no space before open tag %<*
%<*remove>
lines removed in output file
%</remove>
% no space before close tag %</</pre>
```

The content will be deleted if it is "not" within a  $\langle verbatim \rangle$  or  $\langle verbatim write \rangle$  environment. If you want to remove specific environments automatically you can use one of the options described in 7.2 or 7.3.

# 6 Image Formats

The \(\lambda image formats\)\ generated by the ltximg using ghostscript and poppler-utils are the following command lines:

The image format generated using ghostscript. The line executed by the system is:

```
[user@machine ~:]$ gs -q -dNOSAFER -sDEVICE=pdfwrite -dPDFSETTINGS=/prepress
```

eps The image format generated using pdftoeps. The line executed by the system is:

```
[user@machine ~:] pdftops -q -eps
```

ng The image format generated using ghostscript. The line executed by the system is:

```
[user@machine ~:]$ gs -q -dNOSAFER -sDEVICE=pngalpha -r150
```

jpg The image format generated using ghostscript. The line executed by the system is:

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ppm The image format generated using pdftoppm. The line executed by the system is:

```
[user@machine ~:]$ pdftoppm -q -r 150
```

tiff The image format generated using ghostscript. The line executed by the system is:

```
[user@machine ~:] $ gs -q -dNOSAFER -sDEVICE=tiff32nc -r150
```

svg The image format generated using pdftocairo. The line executed by the system is:

```
[user@machine ~:] $ pdftocairo -q -r 150
```

bmp The image format generated using ghostscript. The line executed by the system is:

```
[user@machine ~:] $ gs -q -dNOSAFER -sDEVICE=bmp32b -r150
```

# 7 How to use

### 7.1 Syntax

The syntax for ltximg is simple, if your use the version provided in your TFX distribution:

```
[user@machine ~:]$ ltximg [\langle options \rangle] [--] \langle input file \rangle
```

If the development version is used:

```
[user@machine ~:]\$ perl ltximg [\langle options \rangle] [--] \langle input \ file \rangle
```

The extension valid for  $\langle input \, file \rangle$  are .tex or .ltx, relative or absolute paths for files and directories is not supported. If used without  $[\langle options \rangle]$  the extracted environments are converted to pdf image format and saved in the ./images directory using pdflatex and preview package.

### 7.2 Command line interface

The script provides a *command line interface* with short – and long –– option, they may be given before the name of the  $\langle input \ file \rangle$ , the order of specifying the options is not significant. Options that accept a  $\langle value \rangle$  require either a blank space  $\Box$  or = between the option and the  $\langle value \rangle$ . Multiple short options can be bundling and if the last option takes a  $\langle comma \ separated \ list \rangle$  you need –– at the end.

```
-h, --help ⟨bolean⟩ (default: off)
```

Display a command line help and exit.

```
-1, --log \langle bolean \rangle (default: off)
```

Write a ltximg.log file with all process information.

```
-v, --version (bolean) (default: off)
```

Display the current version (1.9) and exit.

```
-V, --verbose ⟨bolean⟩ (default: off)
```

Show verbose information of process in terminal.

```
-d, --dpi ⟨integer⟩ (default: 150)
```

Dots per inch for images files. Values are positive integers less than or equal to 2500.

```
-t, --tif \langle bolean \rangle (default: off)
```

Create a .tif images files using ghostscript.

```
-b, --bmp \langle bolean \rangle (default: off)
```

Create a .bmp images files using ghostscript.

-j, --jpg 
$$\langle bolean \rangle$$
 (default: off)

Create a  $\mbox{.jpg}$  images files using ghostscript.

-p, --png 
$$\langle bolean \rangle$$
 (default: off)

Create a .png transparent image files using ghostscript.

-e, --eps 
$$\langle bolean \rangle$$
 (default: off)

Create a .eps image files using pdftops.

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Don't run pdfcrop in image files.

```
(default: off)
                  (bolean)
         --svg
                   Create a .svg image files using pdftocairo.
                                                                                                                                   (default: off)
                   (bolean)
     -P. --ppm
                   Create a .ppm image files using pdftoppm.
                                                                                                                                   (default: off)
        --gray
                   (bolean)
                   Create a gray scale for all images using ghostscript. The line behind this options is:
                    [user@machine ~:]$ gs -q -dNOSAFER -sDEVICE=pdfwrite -dPDFSETTINGS=/prepress
                                              -sColorConversionStrategy=Gray -dProcessColorModel=/DeviceGray
  -f, --force
                  (bolean)
                                                                                                                                   (default: off)
                   Try to capture \langle code \rangle and \langle tikzset \langle code \rangle to extract. When using the --force option the script will try to
                   capture \protect{psset{\langle code \rangle}} or \protect{\langle code \rangle} and leave it inside the preview environment, any line that is between
                   \protect{\code} and \protect{\code} and \protect{\code} and \protect{\code} and \protect{\code} and \protect{\code} and \protect{\code}
                                                                                                                                   (default: off)
 -n, --noprew
                   (bolean)
                   Create images files without preview package. The \begin{preview}...\end{preview} lines are only used as delimiters
                   for extracting the content without using the package preview. Using this option "only" the extracted environments are
                   processed and not the whole (input file), sometimes it is better to use it together with --force.
                                                                                                                                    (default: o)
                   (integer)
-m, --margins
                   Set margins in bp for pdfcrop.
                                                                                                                                    (default: 1)
        --runs
                  \langle 1|2|3\rangle
                   Set the number of times the (compiler) will run on the (input file) for environment extraction.
                   (file name)
                                                                                                                               (default: empty)
 -o, --output
                   Create \(\file name\) with all extracted environments converted to \includegraphics. Only \(\file name\) must be passed
                   without relative or absolute paths.
                                                                                                                                   (default: fig)
      --prefix
                   Set \langle prefix \rangle append to each generated files.
                   (macro name)
                                                                                                                              (default: myverb)
      --mvverb
                   Set custom verbatim command \myverb. Just pass the \( macro name \) without "\".
      --imgdir
                                                                                                                              (default: images)
                   Set the name of directory for save generated files. Only the \langle name \rangle of directory must be passed without relative or
                   absolute paths.
                  (bolean)
                                                                                                                                   (default: off)
          --zip
                   Compress the files generated by the script in ./images in .zip format. Does not include \( \lambda output file \rangle \).
                  (bolean)
                                                                                                                                   (default: off)
          --tar
                   Compress the files generated by the script in ./images in .tar.gz format. Does not include \( \lambda output file \rangle \).
                                                                                                                                   (default: off)
      --srcenv
                   Create separate files with "only code" for all extracted environments. This option is mutually exclusive with --subenv.
      --subenv
                                                                                                                                   (default: off)
                   Create a \(\standalone\) files (with "preamble and code") for all extracted environments. This option is designed to generate
                   "compilable files" for each extracted environment, is mutually exclusive with --srcenv.
                  (bolean)
                                                                                                                                   (default: off)
       --shell
                   Enable \write18 \shell command \.
                   (bolean)
                                                                                                                                   (default: off)
       --norun
                   Execute the script, but do not create image files. This option is designed to be used in conjunction with --srcenv or
                   --subenv and to debug the (output file).
       --nopdf
                  (bolean)
                                                                                                                                   (default: off)
                   Don't create a .pdf image files.
                                                                                                                                   (default: off)
                   (bolean)
      --nocrop
```

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LTXIMG 1.9 §.7 How to use

```
(default: off)
               (bolean)
  --arara
               Use arara<sup>7</sup> tool for compiler \langle input \ file \rangle and \langle output \ file \rangle. This option is designed to full process \langle input \ file \rangle and \langle output \ file \rangle.
               file), is mutually exclusive with "any" other (compiler) option. See 8 for more information.
                                                                                                                                         (default: off)
   --xetex
               Using xelatex compiler \langle input \ file \rangle and \langle output \ file \rangle.
   --latex
                                                                                                                                         (default: off)
               Using latex»dvips»ps2pdf compiler in \(\lambda input file \rangle \) and pdflatex for \(\lambda output file \rangle \).
               (bolean)
                                                                                                                                         (default: off)
  --dvips
               Using latex»dvips»ps2pdf for compiler (input file) and (output file).
 --dvilua
                                                                                                                                         (default: off)
               Using dvilualatex»dvips»ps2pdf for compiler (input file) and lualatex for (output file).
 --dvipdf
               (bolean)
                                                                                                                                         (default: off)
               Using latex»dvipdfmx for compiler \langle input \ file \rangle and \langle output \ file \rangle.
                                                                                                                                         (default: off)
--latexmk
               Using latexmk8 for process \( \lambda output \( \tilde{lile} \rangle \). This option is designed to full process \( \lambda output \( \tilde{lile} \rangle \), is mutually exclusive with
               --arara.
 --luatex
              (bolean)
                                                                                                                                         (default: off)
               Using lualatex for compiler \langle input file \rangle and \langle output file \rangle.
               (doc|pst|tkz|all|off)
                                                                                                                                        (default: doc)
  --clean
               Removes specific content in (output file). Valid values for this option are:
               doc All content after \end{document} is removed.
               pst All \psset{\langle code \rangle} and PStricks package is removed in \langle preamble \rangle and \langle body \rangle.
               tkz All \tikzset{\langle code \rangle} is removed in \langle body \rangle.
               all Activates doc, pst and tkz.
               off Deactivate all.
               ⟨comma separated list⟩
                                                                                                                                     (default: empty)
--extrenv
               Add environments to extract, if it's the last option passed need -- at the end. The environments document and nopreview
               are not supported in this option.
--skipenv
               ⟨comma separated list⟩
                                                                                                                                     (default: empty)
               Add environments that should "not be extracted" and that the script supports by default, if it's the last option passed need
               -- at the end. The environments PSTexample and preview are not supported in this option.
--verbenv
               ⟨comma separated list⟩
                                                                                                                                     (default: empty)
               Add (verbatim standard) environment support, if it's the last option passed need -- at the end.
               (comma separated list)
                                                                                                                                     (default: empty)
--writeny
               Add (verbatim write) environment support, if it's the last option passed need -- at the end.
               ⟨comma separated list⟩
                                                                                                                                     (default: empty)
--deltenv
               Add environments to deleted in \langle output \ file \rangle. The environments are delete only in \langle body \rangle of \langle output \ file \rangle, if it's the last
               option passed need -- at the end. The environment document is not supported in this option.
               Passing options from command line
               An example of usage from command line:
                 [user@machine ~:]$ ltximg --latex -s -o test-out test-in.ltx
```

Create a ./images directory (if it does not exist) with all extracted environments converted to image formats (pdf, svg) in individual files, an output file \(\text{-out.ltx}\) with all extracted environments converted to \includegraphics and a single file \(\lambda \text{test-in-fig-all.ltx}\rangle\) with only the extracted environments using latex "dvips" ps2pdf and preview package for for process  $\langle test-in.ltx \rangle$  and pdflatex for  $\langle test-out.ltx \rangle$ .

<sup>7</sup>https://ctan.org/pkg/arara

<sup>8</sup>https://www.ctan.org/pkg/latexmk

## 7.3 Options from input file

Many of the ideas in this section are inspired by the arara. A very useful way to pass options to the script is to place them in commented lines at the beginning of the file, very much in the "style of arara".

```
% ltximg: \langle argument \rangle: {\langle option\ one,\ option\ two,\ option\ three,\ ... \rangle} %!ltximg: \langle argument \rangle: {\langle option\ one,\ option\ two,\ option\ three,\ ... \rangle}
```

The vast majority of the  $\langle options \rangle$  can be passed into the  $\langle input \, file \rangle$ . These should be put at the beginning of the file in commented lines and everything must be on the same line, the exclamation mark! deactivates the  $\langle options \rangle$ . When passing options from the  $\langle input \, file \rangle$  you should be aware that they must "not" contain – or ––, the = sign between an option and its value is mandatory, short names are disabled and options found in the  $\langle input \, file \rangle$  overwrite those passed on the command line. Valid values for  $\langle argument \rangle$  are the following:

```
 \begin{tabular}{ll} \% & \textbf{ltximg: extrenv: } \{ \langle \textit{environment one, environment two, environment three, } ... \rangle \} \\ \end{tabular}
```

This line is to indicate to the script which environments, not supported by default, are extracted.

```
% ltximg: skipenv: \{\langle environment\ one,\ environment\ two,\ environment\ three,\ ...\rangle\}
```

This line is to indicate to the script which environments, of the ones supported by default, should not be extracted.

```
% ltximg: verbenv: \{\langle environment\ one,\ environment\ two,\ environment\ three,\ ...\rangle\}
```

This line is to indicate to the script which environments, its considerate a *verbatim standard*.

```
% ltximg: writenv: {\langle environment\ one,\ environment\ two,\ environment\ three,\ ... 
angle}}
```

This line is to indicate to the script which environments its consider (*verbatim write*).

```
% ltximg: deltenv: {\langle environment\ one,\ environment\ two,\ environment\ three,\ ... \rangle}
```

This line is to indicate to the script which environments are deleted.

```
% ltximg: options: \{\langle option\ one = value,\ option\ two = value,\ option\ three = value,\ ... \rangle\}
```

This line is to indicate to the script which options(other than those listed above) need to process.

The options passed from the  $\langle input \, file \rangle$  are validated by the script after they are read. If you are going to create an  $\langle output \, file \rangle$  and you do not want these lines to remain, it is better to place them inside the %<\*remove> . . . %</remove>. Like this:

```
1 %<*remove>
2 % ltximg: options: { png, srcenv, xetex }
3 % ltximg: extrenv: { description }
4 %</remove>
```

## Passing options from input file

Adding the following lines to the beginning of the file file-in.tex:

```
1 % ltximg: options: { luatex, output = file-out, imgdir = pics, prefix = env }
2 % ltximg: skipenv: { tikzpicture }
3 % ltximg: deltenv: { filecontents }
```

and run:

```
[user@machine~:]$ ltximg file-in.tex
```

Create a ./pics directory (if it does not exist) with all extracted environments, except tikzpicture, converted to image formats (pdf) in individual files, an output file  $\langle file\text{-}out.tex \rangle$  with all extracted environments converted to \includegraphics and environment filecontents removed, a single file  $\langle file\text{-}in\text{-}env\text{-}all.ltx \rangle$  with only the extracted environments using lualatex and preview package for process  $\langle file\text{-}in.tex \rangle$  and  $\langle file\text{-}out.tex \rangle$ .

# 8 The way of arara

By design, the script only runs "one or more compilation" on top of the  $\langle input \ file \rangle$ , but, sometimes you need to process in a specific mode the  $\langle input \ file \rangle$  or needs to be processed with something other than LTEX, XELTEX, pdfLTEX or Lual-TEX engine. This is where arora[19] comes in, this "great little tool", is able to have complete control over the compilation of the  $\langle input \ file \rangle$ , we just have to keep a few considerations in mind:

```
1. Read the documentation (this always comes first).
```

```
2. Add { options: [-recorder] } to "rule" for clean temporary files.
```

```
3. Avoiding the use of : clean: { extensions: [...] }.
```

4. Don't set -jobname and -output-directory in any "rule".

```
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```

When the --arara option is passed to the script, the line that runs in the system is:

```
[user@machine~:]$ arara --log file.tex
```

If you have several "rules" within the file they will all be executed, to avoid this we must add:

```
1 % arara: halt
```

After the last "rule" you have at the beginning of the file. With all these considerations in mind it is possible to extract and convert environments from *any file*.

For example, by adding these lines at the beginning of the file:

```
1 % arara: lualatex: { options: [-recorder] }
2 % arara: lualatex: { options: [-recorder] }
3 %<*remove>
4 % ltximg: options: { arara, output = file-out, prefix = tkz}
5 %</remove>
```

and run:

```
[user@machine~:]$ ltximg test.tex
```

Create a ./images directory (if it does not exist) with all extracted environments converted to image format (pdf) in individual files, an output file  $\langle file\text{-}out.tex \rangle$  with all exatracted environments converted to \includegraphics, a single file  $\langle test\text{-}tkz\text{-}all.tex \rangle$  with only the extracted environments using preview package and lualatex "two times" for process  $\langle test.tex \rangle$  and  $\langle file\text{-}out.tex \rangle$ .

Remember that the  $\langle input \, file \rangle$  and  $\langle output \, file \rangle$  will be compiled using the same "rule". One *trick* to get around this situation is to use:

```
1 %<*remove>
2 % arara: lualatex: { options: [-recorder] }
3 % arara: lualatex: { options: [-recorder] }
4 % arara: halt
5 % ltximg: options: { arara, output = file-out, prefix = tkz}
6 %</remove>
7 % arara: xelatex: { options: [-recorder] }
8 % arara: xelatex: { options: [-recorder] }
```

The content betwen %<\*remove> ... %</remove> are remove from output file before compiling. Thus, the output file \( \file\)-out.tex \( \) will be compiled using xelatex "two times".

As a final consideration, ltximg passes options to the preview package and the pdfcrop script according to the engine used. When using --arara it will "try" to detect the used engine by means of a regular expression, if the detection fails the default values will be used.

This does not affect the process of creating  $\langle standalone \rangle$  files and can be prevented by using --noprew or --nocrop at the cost of not having the images cropped.

In this way we can  $\langle compile \rangle$  and  $\langle convert \rangle$  any document as long as the conditions of the  $\langle input \ file \rangle$  are met and the correct "rule" are used.

# 9 Example usign latexmk

If you are a user of latexmk, another great utility that automates the compilation process, you must keep in mind that this will run only in the *(output file)*. Consider the following example adapted from How to get tikzmark to work and Draw an aircraft with Tikz to generate an image in svg, png and pdf format from environment picture using lualatex and latexmk.

```
1 %<*remove>
2 % ltximg: extrenv: {picture}
3 % ltximg: skipenv: {tikzpicture}
4 %</remove>
5 \documentclass{article}
6 \usepackage{tikz}
7 \usetikzlibrary{calc,tikzmark}
8 \setlength{\parindent}{0pt}
9 \begin{document}
_{10} \section{How to get Tikzmark to work}
<sup>11</sup> By taking logarithms of both sides:
13 \ [
   t = \frac{30}{cdot}\ln(3/22)}{\ln(15/22)}
    \tikzmark{calculator}\approx\tikzmark{otherside}
17
\begin{tikzpicture}[overlay,remember picture]
    \coordinate (target) at ($(pic cs:calculator)!1/2!(pic cs:otherside) - (0,.5ex)$);
    \draw[arrows=->] (target) ++(0,-2ex) node [anchor=north] {use calculator} -- (target);
21 \end{tikzpicture}
23 \section{Draw an aircraft with Tikz}
24 The best airplane ever drawn by David Carlise. No TikZ used, just the
25 classic and perhaps forgotten \verb|\begin{picture} ... \end{picture}|.
27 \begin{picture}(200,100)
   \put(30,40){\line(1,0){150}} \put(30,40){\line(0,1){60}}
   \put(30,100){\line(1,0){20}} \put(50,100){\line(1,-4){10}}
    \put(60,60){\line(1,0){100}} \put(160,60){\line(1,-1){20}}
    \put(100,50){\line(0,-1){80}} \put(130,50){\line(0,-1){80}}
    \put(100,-30){\line(1,0){30}} \put(100,61){\line(0,1){49}}
    \put(130,61){\line(0,1){49}} \put(100,110){\line(1,0){30}}
34 \end{picture}
35 \end{document}
```

We now run:

```
[user@machine~:]$ ltximg --luatex --latexmk --svg --png -o file-out file-in.tex
```

Create a ./images directory (if it does not exist) with all picture environments, except tikzpicture, converted to image formats (svg, png, pdf), an output file  $\langle file\text{-}out.tex \rangle$  with all picture environments converted to  $\langle file\text{-}intex \rangle$  as single file  $\langle file\text{-}intex \rangle$  with only environments picture extracted using lualatex and preview package for process  $\langle file\text{-}intex \rangle$  and latexmk for full process  $\langle file\text{-}out.tex \rangle$ .

# 10 Note for dvisvgm users

By design, the image format svg is created using pdftocairo over the generated pdf file, but, if you want to have a good svg files that preserve our *typographic* fonts it is best to use dvisvgm<sup>9</sup>. The best results of dvisvgm[20] are obtained when processing the file in .dvi or .xdv format, there are two possible ways to do this:

1. Execute the script using --subenv and --norun to generate  $\langle standalone \rangle$  files, move to ./images and generate .dvi or .xdv files, then runing:

```
[user@machine~:]\$ for i in *.tex; do \langle compiler \rangle [\langle options \rangle] \$i;done [user@machine~:]\$ for i in *.dvi; do dvisvgm [\langle options \rangle] \$i;done
```

2. Execute the script using --norun, move to ./images and generate .dvi or .xdv file, then runing:

```
9https://ctan.org/pkg/dvisvgm
```

LTXIMG 1.9 §.11 Final notes

```
[user@machine~:]$ \(\langle compiler \rangle \left[ \langle options \rangle \right] \text{test-fig-all.tex} \]
[user@machine~:]$ \(\dots\right) \text{[\langle options \rangle \right]} \text{test-fig-all.dvi}
```

## 11 Final notes

The process and operations required to generate the various types of  $\langle image\ formats \rangle$  or  $\langle standalone \rangle$  files have been described throughout the documentation, but, as discussed in section 8, sometimes the requirements are a *little different*.

This is the best way to extend the capabilities of the ltximg. Although many tasks can be *automated*, in the end only the user knows what the document contains and how it should be generated.

Finding the correct "regular expressions" and writing a "good documentation" would be the great mission (which does not end yet).

# 12 Change history

The most recent publicly released of ltximg is available at CTAN: https://www.ctan.org/pkg/ltximg. Historical and developmental versions are available at the https://github.com/pablgonz/ltximg.

While general feedback via email is welcomed, specific bugs or feature requests should be reported through the issue tracker: https://github.com/pablgonz/ltximg/issues.

This is a short list of some of the notable changes in the history of the ltximg along with the versions, both development (devp) and public (ctan).

#### v1.9 (ctan), 2020-08-22

- Fix graphicx detection.
- Fix typos in documentation.
- Add more contents to .log file.

#### v1.8 (ctan), 2020-08-18

- It is now possible to extract any environment.
- Add --log, --runs, --latexmk and --dvilua options
- All calls to the system are captured.
- Re-write source code acording to Perl v5.3x.
- Review of documentation.

#### v1.7 (ctan), 2019-08-24

- Add scontents environment support.
- Add filecontentsdefmacro environment support.
- Fix regex in source code.
- Update documentation.

#### v1.6 (ctan), 2019-07-13

- Add --zip and --tar options.
- Add new Verb from fvextra.
- Fix and update source code and documentation.

#### v1.5 (ctan), 2018-04-12

- Use GitHub to control version.
- Rewrite and optimize most part of source code and options.
- Change pdf2svg for pdftocairo.

- Complete support for pst-exa package.
- Escape characters in regex according to Perl v5.2x.

#### v1.4 (devp), 2016-11-29

- Remove and rewrite code for regex and system call.
- Add --arara compiler, clean and comment code.
- Add --dvips and --dvipdfm(x) for creation images.
- Add bmp, tiff image format.

## v1.3 (devp), 2016-08-14

- Rewrite some part of code (norun, nocrop, clean).
- Suport minted and tcolorbox package.
- Escape some characters in regex according to Perl v5.2x.
- All options read from command line and input file.
- Use /tmp dir for work process.

### v1.2 (ctan), 2015-04-22

- Remove unused modules.
- Add more image format.
- Fix regex.

#### v1.1 (ctan), 2015-04-21

- Change mogrify to gs for image formats.
- Create output file.
- Rewrite source code and fix regex.
- Change format date to iso format.

## v1.0 (ctan), 2013-12-01

- First public release.

LTXIMG 1.9 §.13 References

# 13 References

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