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Fix the L3 Programming Layer Error in Bookdown

Hongtao Hao / 2020-12-16

I updated two of my Bookdown projects but found that I was not able to compile the LaTeX. The warning message says:

! LaTeX3 Error: Mismatched LaTeX support files detected.

Loading 'expl3.sty' aborted!

The L3 Programming layer in the LaTeX format is dated 2020-12-03, but in your TeX tree the files require at least 2020-12-07.

As follows:

```
! LaTeX3 Error: Mismatched LaTeX support files detected.
(LaTeX3)          Loading 'expl3.sty' aborted!
(LaTeX3)
(LaTeX3)          The L3 programming layer in the LaTeX format
(LaTeX3)          is dated 2020-12-03, but in your TeX tree the f
iles require
(LaTeX3)          at least 2020-12-07.

Error: LaTeX failed to compile bookdown-demo.tex. See https://y
ihui.org/tinytex/r/#debugging for debugging tips. See bookdown-
demo.log for more info.
Execution halted
Error: Failed to run 'render_book' in a new R session.
Execution halted

Exited with status 1.
```

I found the solution in Yihui's TinyTeX documentation .

Open a new R Script, and input the following two lines of codes:

Copy code

```
library(tinytex)
tlmgr_update()
```

The above error might be due to `expl3`'s [update](#) on 2020-12-07.

Hope it helps.

Last modified on 2021-10-05

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lfmcmillan Sep 17, 2023

I just encountered this same problem, having not had any issue knitting .Rmd a week ago, and I tried that fix and it hasn't worked, I'm still getting exactly the same error as before (it's complaining about two recent dates in Aug 2023 but otherwise it's exactly the same error that you had)

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hongtaoh Sep 18, 2023   [Owner]

@**lfmcmillan** That's weird. If updating `tlmgr` does not solve the issue, I don't know what else will do the job..

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lfmcmillan Sep 18, 2023

Hi @**hongtaoh** Thank you, I managed to fix it in the end by uninstalling TeXLive entirely and installing tinytex instead. I tried repeatedly to update the l3kernel in TeXLive before that, but it seemed to fail every time before I gave up.

...

↑ 1   😊   👍 1   0 replies

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