

# Reference Sheet for a Thesis with L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>Xe and KOMA-Script

- All examples were tested with pdflatex.
- The package mentioned in the headings has to be included (see B.2).
- Compile three times after last change (esp. docs with references).

## A. L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X Basics

### A.1. Units

- Available units for length and dimensions:  
 $\text{bp}$  point (typographic)    $\text{mm}$  millimeter    $\text{in}$  inch    $\text{em}$  width of M  
 $\text{px}$  pixel ( $1/72\text{in}$ )    $\text{cm}$  centimeter    $\text{pc}$  pica    $\text{ex}$  height of x
- Document dependent units  $\text{z}[\text{textwidth}, \text{z}[\text{textheight}], \text{z}[\text{linewidth}], \text{z}[\text{columnwidth}, \text{z}[\text{textheight}]$  with z a percentage value, e.g.  $0.55[\text{textheight}]$  means 55% of the actual width of the text.
- $\text{vbaseinskip}$  minimum vertical space between the bottom of two successive lines in a paragraph.
- Amounts like  $\text{\smallskipamount}$ ,  $\text{\medskipamount}$ ,  $\text{\bigskipamount}$ .

### A.2. Reserved Characters (see also E.2, cf. H)

$\backslash$	introduces a command	$\text{\textbackslash}$
{ }	embraces arguments, creates logical parts	$\text{\{} \text{\}}$
[ ]	embraces optional arguments	[ ]
%	comments: code after % will be ignored.	%
&	separates columns in tabular-like environments	\&
#	parameter for own command declarations	\#
\$	text style math mode (abbr. for $\text{\textit{...}}$ )	\\$
_	index/exponent only valid in math mode, e.g. $a_1^2$	see E.2

## B. Preamble (before $\begin{document}$ )

### B.1. Documentclass (necessary)

Use:  $\text{\documentclass}[opt,opt,\dots][class]$

Recommended classes: scrartcl, scrreprt, scrbook, scrlltr2

Non-KOMA-Script classes: beamer, koma-moderncvclassic

Common options with default      Values available (subtotal)

$\text{fontsize=11pt}$	10pt   12pt (e.g. 12.5pt also valid)
$\text{paper=4, paper=portrait}$	a3   a5   b4   letter, landscape
$\text{parskip=no}$	half   full
$\text{headings=big}$	small   normal
$\text{chapterprefix=false}$	true
$\text{open=right (scrbook)}$	any (scrartcl, scrreprt)   left
$\text{captions=oneline}$	nononline
$\text{captions=tablebelow,figurebelow}$	tableabove, figureabove
$\text{toc=nolistof}$	listof   listofnumbered
$\text{bibliography=totoc   totocnumbered}$	nottotoc
$\text{twoside=true (scrbook)}$	false (scrartcl, scrreprt)
$\text{twocolumn=false}$	true
$\text{draft=false}$	true (show overfull boxes)

- Options of document class are passed to every loaded package.
- Set or change options later in file, e.g.  $\text{\KOMAoptions[twoside=true]}$

### B.2. Loading Packages

$\text{\usepackage}[options][package]$   
 $\text{\PassOptionsToPackage}[options][package]$

### B.3. Encoding Settings

$\text{\usepackage[utf8]}[\text{inputenc}]$     % most IDEs use UTF8  
 $\text{\usepackage[T1]}[\text{fontenc}]$     % most fonts needs T1

### B.4. Language Settings with babel

Load:  $\text{\usepackage[ngerman, main=english]}[\text{babel}]$   
 Use:  $\text{\selectlanguage[language]} \text{\foreignlanguage[language]}[\text{text}]$

```
\documentclass[italian]{scrbook}           % global option
\usepackage[british,main=italian]{babel} % package option
\usepackage{csquotes}                   % package csquotes knows italian
```

## C. Layout

### C.1. Changing Page Layout with geometry

- Let KOMA-Script know of geometry by option  $\text{usegeometry=true}$ .
- Auto-completion determines unspecified dimensions (under or over specified as well), here width and height of text (see I.9).
- Other options:  $\text{paper=a4paper, landscape|portrait, includehead, includetitle, includefoot, includeheadfoot, twocolumn}$
- Changing page layout mid document:  $\text{\newgeometry}\{ opt, opt, \dots \}$

### C.2. Header and Footer of Page (aka running heading)



### C.3. Linespread with setspace

Load:  $\text{\usepackage[onehalfspacing]}[\text{setspace}]$  for 1.5 line spacing.

## D. Document Structure (see also ??)

### D.1. Start Document

$\begin{document}$  Complete document contents.  $\end{document}$

### D.2. Title

simple title:  $\text{\author{text}} \text{\title{text}}$   $\text{\date{\today}}$   $\text{\maketitle}$   
 title page self designed:  $\begin{titlepage}$  text  $\end{titlepage}$

### D.3. Table of Contents, List of Figures (for other List of see E.8 & G)

$\text{\tableofcontents}$     $\text{\listoftables}$     $\text{\listoffigures}$   
 $\text{\KOMAoption toc=listof}$  (see B.1) generates entries for TOC.

### D.4. Headings

- | Environment                | Declaration   | Other |
|----------------------------|---|-------|
| $\text{\part}[title]$      | $\text{\chapter}[title]$  |       |
| $\text{\section}[title]$   | $\text{\subsection}[title]$ $\text{\subsubsection}[title]$  |       |
| $\text{\paragraph}[title]$ | $\text{\subparagraph}[title]$   |       |
| →                          | $\text{\chapter}$ only valid in documentclass scrbook and scrreprt  |       |
| →                          | Use * variants for headings without numbering, no change in counter and no entry in table of contents.  |       |
| →                          | Use the optional parameter for short titles in headings and table of contents, e.g. $\text{\section}[short title][title]$                       |       |
| →                          | Use $\text{\addpart}$ , $\text{\addchap}$ or $\text{\addsec}$ for unnumbered headings, but with running heading and entry in table of contents. |       |
| →                          | The * variants delete the running heading.  |       |
| →                          | Layout of paragraph and subparagraph similar to other headings:   |       |
|                            | $\text{\RedeclareSectionCommands[afterskip=1sp]}[\text{paragraph, subparagraph}]$   |       |
|                            | $\text{\setcounter{secnumdepth}{\subparagraphnumdepth}}$  |       |
|                            | $\text{\setcounter{tocdepth}{\subparagraphtocdepth}}$   |       |

### D.5. Justification

Environment	Declaration	Other
$\text{\begin{center}}$	$\text{\centering}$	$\text{\par}\text{\vfill}$
$\text{\begin{flushleft}}$	$\text{\raggedright}$	$\text{\par}\text{\hfill}$
$\text{\begin{flushright}}$	$\text{\raggedleft}$	$\text{\par}\text{\raggedbottom}, \text{\flushbottom}$

### D.6. Lists

$\text{\begin{itemize}}$ with bullets	$\text{\item}$ or $\text{\item}[symbol]$
$\text{\begin{enumerate}}$ with numbers	$\text{\item}$
$\text{\begin{description}}$ with bold words	$\text{\item}[word]$
$\text{\begin{labeling}}$ with separator $\text{\labelinglabel}$	$\text{\item}[word]$
$\text{\begin{enumerate}}$	 
\item First item	 
\item Second item \label{it:second} % see References	 
$\text{\end{enumerate}}$	

### D.7. Enhanced Lists with enumitem

- Load:  $\text{\usepackage{enumitem}}$
- Example (for enumerate):
- ```
\setlist[enumerate,1]{label=\Alph*)}
\setlist[enumerate,2]{label=\alpha*)}
\setlist[enumerate,3]{label=\roman*)}
\setlist[enumerate,4]{label=\arabic*)}
```
- | A) | one |
|----|-----|
| A) | one |
| b) | two |
| B) | two |
- Example (for legal list):
- ```
\newlist{legal}{enumerate}{10}
\setlist[legal]{label=\arabic*.noitemsep}
```
- | 1.     | one        |
|--------|------------|
| 1.1.   | two        |
| 1.1.1. | three      |
| 1.1.2. | strawberry |

### D.8. Separate Files

- After preamble within the text place:  $\text{\include}$  Text starts and ends on a new page.  $\text{file}$  has to be in the same directory as the master file. Otherwise specify a path:  $\text{\include}$   $\text{\path}/\text{file}$
- In preamble place:  $\text{\includeonly}$   $\text{\file1, file2}$  to run only these files.
- Use  $\text{\input}$   $\text{file}$  includes a file without starting/ending on a new page ( $\text{\includeonly}$  not valid).

## E. Text

### E.1. Paragraphs (≈ "new idea in content")

Paragraphs are separated by an empty line in the code or by  $\text{\par}$ .  
 $\text{\A}$  produces a new line – use sparingly, seldom needed outside tabulars. Correct Overfull Box Warnings with more than 4pt (look into log file).

### E.2. Text Symbols/Characters (see also A.2)

A lot of diacritic symbols can be typed directly, e.g. é è ñ ç  
 $\text{\S}$   $\text{\S\$}$     $\text{\textunderscore{}}$   $\text{\textasciitilde{}}$   
 $\text{\textasciicircum{}}$  ...  $\text{\ldots}$     $\text{\textbar}$   
 Other symbols need packages, e.g.  $\text{\texteuro}$  ( $\text{\texteuro}$  textcomp)

### E.3. Fonts

Command	Declaration	Effect
$\text{\textrm}{text}$	$\text{\rmfamily text}$	Roman family
$\text{\textsf}{text}$	$\text{\sffamily text}$	Sans serif family
$\text{\texttt}{text}$	$\text{\ttfamily text}$	Typewriter family
$\text{\textmd}{text}$	$\text{\mdseries text}$	Medium series
$\text{\textbf}{text}$	$\text{\bfseries text}$	<b>Bold series</b>
$\text{\textup}{text}$	$\text{\upshape text}$	Upright shape
$\text{\textit}{text}$	$\text{\itshape text}$	<i>Italic shape</i>
$\text{\textsl}{text}$	$\text{\slshape text}$	<i>Slanted shape</i>
$\text{\textsc}{text}$	$\text{\scshape text}$	Small caps shape
More general commands:		
$\text{\emph}{text}$	$\text{\em text}$	Emphasized
$\text{\textnormal}{text}$	$\text{\normalfont text}$	Document font

Example:  $\text{\setkomafont}{section}{\text{\scshape}}$

### E.4. Font Size

Font size is relative to the base font size, specified in the document class.

$\text{\tiny}$	$\text{\tiny}$	$\text{\Large}$	$\text{\Large}$
$\text{\scriptsize}$	$\text{\scriptsize}$	$\text{\LARGE}$	$\text{\LARGE}$
$\text{\footnotesize}$	$\text{\footnotesize}$	$\text{\Huge}$	$\text{\Huge}$
$\text{\small}$	$\text{\small}$	$\text{\huge}$	$\text{\huge}$
$\text{\normalsize}$	$\text{\normalsize}$		
$\text{\large}$	$\text{\large}$		
$\text{\Large}$	$\text{\Large}$		

Use:  $\text{\small text}$  or  $\text{\huge text}\text{\par}$  to limit the size change.  
 Example:  $\text{\setkomafont}{pageheadfoot}{\text{\small}}$

### E.5. Colors with xcolor

```
\usepackage{xcolor}
\definecolor{DarkBlue}{RGB}{0, 115, 207}
\colorlet{col_section}{DarkBlue}
\textcolor{red}{text} or \color{red}text
\colorbox{gray}{25}{color gray faded by 25\%}
```

Predefined colors:

white gray black red green blue cyan magenta yellow  
 Fade a color with  $\text{color!value}$  between 0 and 100  
 Headings in color:  $\text{\setkomafont}{disposition}{\color{color}}$

### E.6. Footnotes

$\text{\footnote}{text}$	Print footnote marker in text and footnote at bottom of page
$\text{\footnotemark}$	Print footnote marker in text (e.g. within tabular or caption)
$\text{\footnotetext}{text}$	Print footnote at bottom of page

### E.7. References with hyperref (loads url implicitly)

$\text{\autocite}{citekey}$	Cite a bibliographic reference (package biblatex)
$\text{\label}{marker}$	Set a marker for cross reference, often if the form $\text{\label}{sec:item}$ or $\text{\label}{fig:diag1}$
$\text{\autoref}{marker}$	Give type name and number of marker
$\text{\autopageref}{marker}$	Give abbreviation of "page" and page number of marker
$\text{\url}{url}$	Print clickable web page
$\text{\href}{options}{url}{text}$	Print clickable link
$\text{\hyperref}{marker}{text}$	Print clickable reference

Style:  $\text{\urlstyle{xx}}$  with xx a style like "tt", "rm", "sf" or "same".  
 Names for autoref (package babel):

$\text{\renewcaptionname}{language}{\text{\typecaptionname}{language}}$   
 e.g.  $\text{\renewcaptionname}{english}{\text{\subsectioncaptionname}{section}}$

### E.8. Acronyms with acro

```
\usepackage{acro,hyperref,longtable} %next 5 to praembel
\acsetup{list-style=longtabu,list-headings=addchap}
\DeclareAcroListStyle{longtabu}{table}{table=longtabu,
table-spec=@{}{\bfseries}\x{e{}}
\DeclareAcronym{ecm}{short=EM, long=Electro Machining}
...
\ac{EM} or \Ac{EM} for capitalized first letter
\printacronyms
```

## F. Figures & Tables (floating environments)

### F.1. Figures with graphicx

Load:  $\text{\usepackage{graphicx}}$

Use:  $\text{\includegraphics}[opt]{file}$  (png, jpg, pdf)

With 'figure' the environment to place a graphic is meant. The figure caption is printed where the caption command is placed in the input. Extra vertical space is controlled by the KOMAoption captions (see B.1). Use:  $\text{\begin{figure}}[pos] .. \text{\caption}{..} \text{\label}{fig:x} \text{\end{figure}}$  Parameter: pos is a suggestion for placing, it can be ignored by TEX. Possible values are combinations of t (top), h (here), b (bottom), ! (try harder), p (separate page). Hint: Define a path to the graphic files (no blanks in folder names; no special characters in file names)  $\text{\graphicspath}{\{img/\}}$  subfolder for images; set in preamble

```
\text{\graphicspath}{\{img/\}} %subfolder for images; set in preamble
\begin{figure}\centering
\includegraphics[width=.8\columnwidth]{pic.jpg}
\caption[Short title]{Long title}\label{fig:ff}
\end{figure}
```

- Numbering throughout the whole document (scrbook) with package chngcntr:  $\text{\counterwithout}{figure}{chapter}$  (same for table)
- Figure name:  $\text{\renewcaptionname}{language}{\text{\figureautorefname}{text}}$   
 $\text{\renewcaptionname}{language}{\text{\figureautorefname}{text}}$  typesetted with cmbright, January 6, 2026



I.4. Numbers and Dates		
Numbers	Style	Use
old-style	1234567890	text, dates
lining	1234567890	math
British	American	European
27/06/17	06/27/17	27.6.2017
27 June, 2017	June 27, 2017	27. Juni 2017
International notation (ISO 8601): yyyy-mm-dd: 2017-06-27		

```

H.11. Physical Units with siunitx
Load: \usepackage[sticky-per=true, per-mode=reciprocal]{siunitx}
Options: \sisetup{output-decimal-marker={.}, per-mode=symbol}
Use: \num{number}, \si{unit}, \SI[number]{unit}, \ang{deg;min;sec}
7123456.7 \times 101 \num{7123456.7e1}
4°32'10" \ang{4;32;10}
[g] = ms-2 [g] = \si{\meter\per\second\squared}
E = 1.3  $\frac{kV}{mm}$  E = \SI{1.3}{\kilo\volt\per\milli\meter}
SI units like \degreeCelsius, \henry; prefixes like \kilo, \exa.

```

## I. Typographic Issues

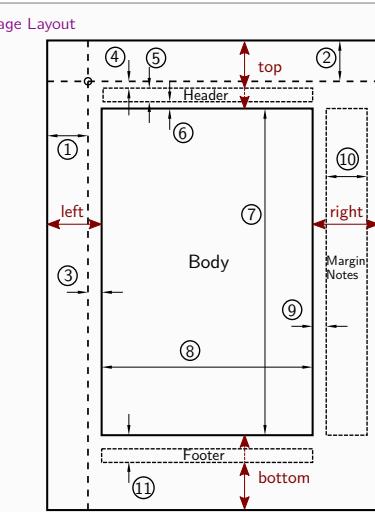
I.1. Hyphen and Dashes (for Minus see H.2)			
Name	Source	Example	Use
hyphen	-	X-ray, in- and output	Connecting words
en-dash	--	1–5, Paris–Rome	Range or Toward
em-dash	--	Paris — except Rome	European dash
em-dash	---	Paris—except Rome	American dash

**I.2. Quotation Marks with csquotes**  
Load: `\usepackage[autostyle=true]{csquotes}`  
Use: `\enquote{text}` and `\foreignquote{language}{text}`  
available are all languages loaded with babel, nesting is possible;  
\* variants provide inner nesting style.  
Exmp: “Some ‘english’.” / „Ein Deutscher Text“ / « parler français »

- 1.3. Font Combinations  
Rule: Use serif fonts for long body text and sans-serif for headings.  
Hint: Load fonts with combined math fonts.  
Example packages: `mathptmx` (Times), `mathpazo` (Palatino), `mathpple` (Palatino text, Euler math), `mathtime` (Times text, Belleek math).  
Hint: Add `\KOMAoptions{DIV=last}` after loading a font package.

1.5. Spacing horizontally	
Avoid spacing with fixed units like <code>\hspace{0.5cm}</code> use <code>\quad</code> or <code>\quadquad</code> instead (see also A.1). Spacing in math is almost always right!	
Math	Math/Text
$a\ b$	$a\ \backslash b$
$a\gt;b$	$a\ \backslash b\ a\ b$
	$a\ \backslash b\ a\ b\ a\ b$
	$a\backslash quad\ b\ a\ b$
	$a\backslash quadquad\ b\ a\ b$

`\hspace{length}; * variant \hspace*{length} space even at line start  
Use with care: \phantom{text}`



- ① `1in + \hoffset`    ② `1in + \voffset`    ③ `\oddsidemargin`  
④ `\topmargin`            ⑤ `\headheight`        ⑥ `\headsep`  
⑦ `\textheight`          ⑧ `\textwidth`          ⑨ `\marginparwidth`

Hint: This image with the current values of the specific document can be generated by loading the package `layout` and the command `\layout`.

## J. Own Commands and Environments

## J.1. Own Commands in General

- `\newcommand` doesn't work if the command is already defined: so it's a completely new definition.
  - `\renewcommand` works only if the command is already defined: it's a redefinition.
  - `\providecommand` works like `\newcommand`, but if the command is already defined, the (re)definition is ignored.
  - `\AtBeginDocument{commands}` can be helpful

### I.3. Own Command



### J.3. Own Environments

- ```

Define: \newenvironment{envname}{cmds begin}{cmds end}
Params: #1 ... #9
Define: \newenvironment{envname}[paramsquantity]{cmds begin #1
...}{cmds end #2...}
Exmp: \newenvironment{colorpar}[1]{\color{#1}}{\normalcolor}
Use: \begin{colorpar}{violet} text \end{colorpar}

```

#### J.4. Some important Variables

- Counters: page, section, figure, equation; to get the formatted content of a counter add `\the`, e.g. `\thepage`  
Lengths: `\textwidth`, `\linewidth`, `\columnwidth`, `\parindent`, `\parskip`  
Change: `\setlength{...}{length}`

### J.5. Helpfull other Commands for defining own Commands

- \ensuremath, e.g. `\$tx=... defines \tx.` by `\newcommand{\tx}{\ensuremath{\{\tilde{x}\}}}`
  - Look for \Declare... in package documentations.
  - Packages: etoolbox, xparse, xkeyval, calc; see also `tocbasic`.

## K. Useful Weblinks and Summary of Packages

|                                              |                                                                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Forum                                        | <a href="http://latex.org">http://latex.org</a>                                                                                      |
| Forum (German)                               | <a href="http://golatex.de">http://golatex.de</a> <a href="http://texwelt.de">http://texwelt.de</a>                                  |
| FAQ (German)                                 | <a href="https://texfragen.de">https://texfragen.de</a>                                                                              |
| PhD Thesis                                   | <a href="https://www.dickimaw-books.com/latex/thesis">https://www.dickimaw-books.com/latex/thesis</a>                                |
| Math                                         | <a href="https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Help:Displaying_a_formula">https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Help:Displaying_a_formula</a>    |
| Fonts                                        | <a href="http://www.tug.de/FontCatalogue">http://www.tug.de/FontCatalogue</a>                                                        |
| Symbols                                      | <a href="https://ctan.org/pkg/comprehensive">https://ctan.org/pkg/comprehensive</a>                                                  |
| Download (Software)                          | <a href="https://tug.org/texlive">https://tug.org/texlive</a>                                                                        |
| CTAN (Packages)                              | <a href="https://ctan.org">https://ctan.org</a>                                                                                      |
| IDEs                                         | TeXStudio (recommended)<br><a href="https://texstudio.sourceforge.net">https://texstudio.sourceforge.net</a>                         |
| TU Dresden CD                                | <a href="https://github.com/tud-cd/tudscr">https://github.com/tud-cd/tudscr</a>                                                      |
| Using L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X Online | <a href="https://de.sharelatex.com">https://de.sharelatex.com</a><br><a href="https://www.overleaf.com">https://www.overleaf.com</a> |
| DANTE e.V.                                   | <a href="https://www.dante.de">https://www.dante.de</a>                                                                              |