The spectrum beamer theme

A clean beamer theme with a big title graphic

samcarter

https://github.com/samcarter/beamertheme-spectrum

https://ctan.org/pkg/beamertheme-spectrum

Version v0.6 – 2026/02/12

1 Introduction

The spectrum beamer theme is a clean beamer theme with a big title graphic. It is based on my personal beamer theme, which I've been using for various talks in the TEX ecosystem over the past few years[1].

The theme is deliberately fairly clean and simple in order to not distract too much from the content. The one vanity are the big graphics on the title, section and standout slides. A catching image on the title slide will give the audience something to look at while setting up one's talk (we probably all know these awkward pauses while clipping on the microphone or figuring out the wireless presenter. . .). Additionally, a colourful image will also help people find the thumbnail of the slides or of a video recording. By default, the spectrum theme will show the optical spectrum between 420 nm and 660 nm – hence the name "spectrum". The image was created using the fantastic `pgf-spectra` package.

This package is work in progress, therefore I would be happy to hear your feedback and ideas how to improve the package. The development version of the source code can be found at https://github.com/samcarter/beamertheme-spectrum, including an issue tracker. A more stable version of the package can be found on CTAN (https://ctan.org/pkg/beamertheme-spectrum) and is included in both TEXLive and MiKTEX as `beamertheme-spectrum`. If you seek any other assistance (not bug reports/feature requests), I suggest asking at https://topanswers.xyz/tex.

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[1] A collection of slides can be found at https://github.com/samcarter#tex-talks

2 Usage

The usage is fairly simple – just load the theme and, if desired, switch on section pages:

Basic example

```
\documentclass[aspectratio=169]{beamer}

\usetheme{spectrum}

\AtBeginSection[]{
  \begin{frame}
    \usebeamertemplate{section page}
  \end{frame}
}

\title{Some Very Interesting Title}
\author{Author Name}
\institute{Cool Conference}

\begin{document}

\maketitle

\section{Section Title}

\begin{frame}
  \frametitle{Frame Title}
  Normal frame
\end{frame}

\begin{frame}[standout]
  Standout frame
\end{frame}

\end{document}
```
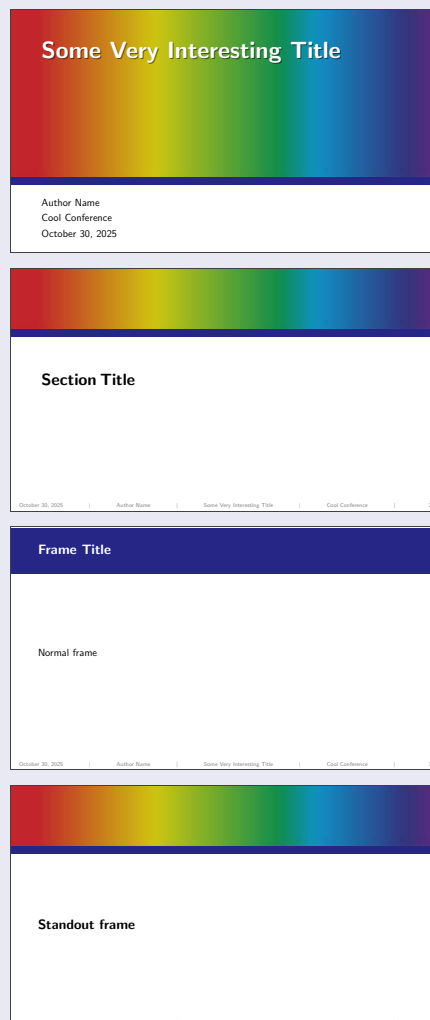
3 Options

The spectrum theme has a couple of options to adjust the design:

themecolor controls the overall theme colour, e.g. decoration on title, section and standout slides, frame title, block titles, bullet points etc.

titlegraphic replaces the optical spectrum on title, section and standout slides with an image. If `titlegraphic=none` is used, a solid coloured area in the theme colour is shown instead. The title graphic can also be set via `\titlegraphic{...}` after loading the theme.

sectiongraphic replaces the spectrum on section/standout slides. If `sectiongraphic=none` is used, a solid coloured area in the theme colour is shown instead. The section graphic can also be set via `\sectiongraphic{...}` after loading the theme.

titlecredit allows the user to add an image credit to the lower right corner of the title page. The title credit can also be set via **\titlecredit{...}** after loading the theme.

Theme options

```latex
\documentclass[
  aspectratio=169, xcolor=dvipsnames
]{beamer}

\usetheme[
  themecolor=Aquamarine,
  titlegraphic=blueshade,% from tcolorbox pkg
  sectiongraphic=blueshade,% from tcolorbox pkg
  titlecredit={Title graphic: tcolorbox package},
]{spectrum}

\AtBeginSection[]{
  \begin{frame}
    \usebeamertemplate{section page}
  \end{frame}
}

\title{Some Very Interesting Title}
\author{Author Name}
\institute{Cool Conference}

\begin{document}

\maketitle

\section{Section Title}

\begin{frame}
  \frametitle{Frame Title}
  Normal frame
\end{frame}

\begin{frame}[standout]
  Standout frame
\end{frame}

\end{document}
```
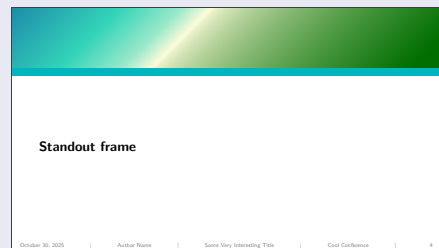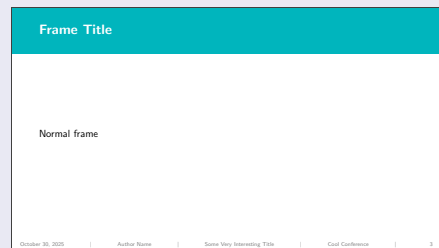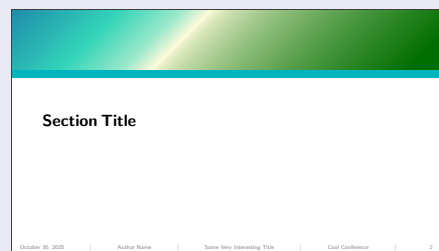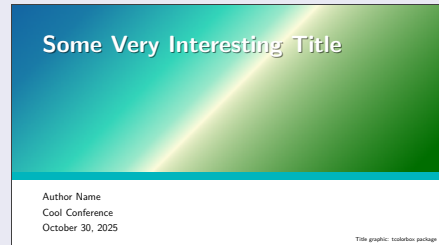
4 ltx-talk

There is also an experimental `ltx-talk` version of the spectrum theme available. It works similarly, but does not offer a `standout` frame option.

```
\DocumentMetadata{}
\documentclass{ltx-talk}

\usepackage[
% themecolor=teal,
% titlegraphic=blueshade,% from tcolorbox pkg
% sectiongraphic=blueshade,% from tcolorbox pkg
% titlecredit={Title graphic: tcolorbox package},
]{talkthemespectrum}

\AddToHook{section/begin}{
  \UseTemplate{sectionpage}{talk}{}
}

\title[Short title]{Some Very Interesting Title}
\author[Short author]{Author Name}
\institute[Short institute]{Cool Conference}

\begin{document}

\maketitle

\section{Section Title}

\begin{frame}
  \frametitle{Frame Title}
  Normal frame
\end{frame}

\end{document}
```