# `bchart`: Simple Bar Charts in LaTeX

Tobias Kuhn

12 August 2011

**Abstract**

`bchart` is a LaTeX package for drawing simple bar charts with horizontal bars on a numerical x-axis. It is based on the TikZ drawing package. The focus of this package is on simplicity and aesthetics.

## 1 Introduction

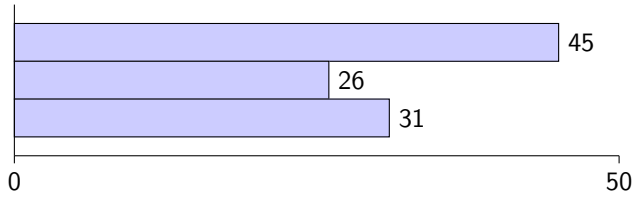
Loading the package:

```
\usepackage{bchart}
```

## 2 Charts

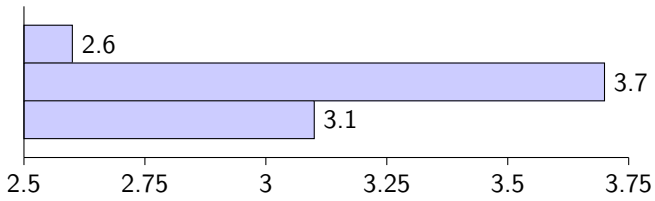
A very simple chart:

```
\begin{bchart}[max=50]
  \bcbar{45}
  \bcbar{26}
  \bcbar{31}
\end{bchart}
```



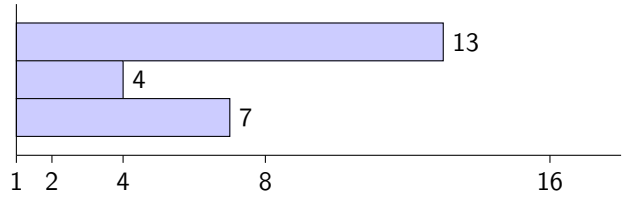

`min` and `step` arguments:

```
\begin{bchart}[min=2.5,step=0.25,max=3.75]
  \bcbar{2.6}
  \bcbar{3.7}
  \bcbar{3.1}
\end{bchart}
```



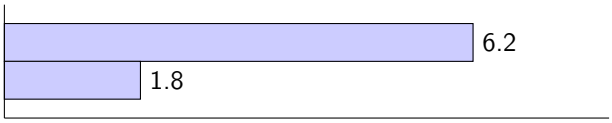

`steps` argument:

```
\begin{bchart}[min=1,max=18,steps={1,3,7,15}]
  \bcbar{13}
  \bcbar{4}
  \bcbar{7}
\end{bchart}
```




Plain:

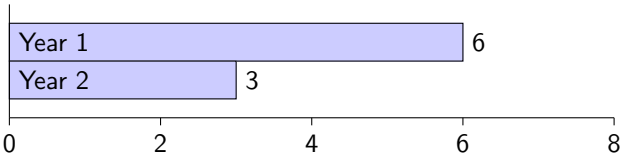
```
\begin{bchart}[max=8,plain]
  \bcbar{6.2}
  \bcbar{1.8}
\end{bchart}
```




# 3 Bars

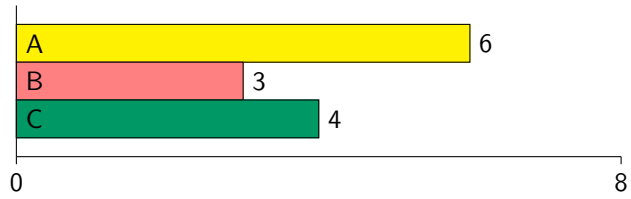
Bars with text:

```
\begin{bchart}[step=2,max=8]
  \bcbar[text=Year 1]{6}
  \bcbar[text=Year 2]{3}
\end{bchart}
```



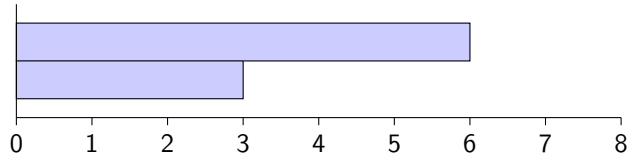
Colors:

```
\begin{bchart}[max=8]
  \bcbar[text=A,color=yellow]{6}
  \bcbar[text=B,color=red!50]{3}
  \bcbar[text=C,color=green!60!blue]{4}
\end{bchart}
```




Plain bars:

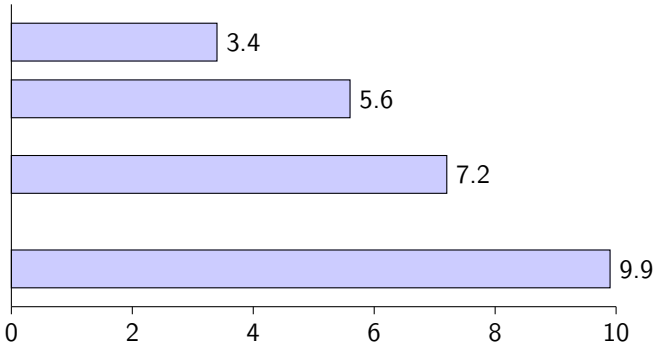
```
\begin{bchart}[step=1,max=8]
  \bcbar[plain]{6}
  \bcbar[plain]{3}
\end{bchart}
```




# 4 Skips

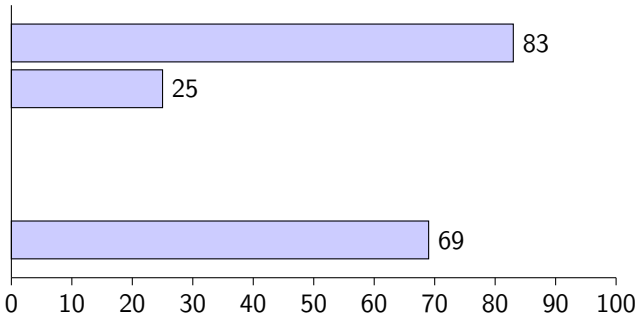
Small, medium and big skips:

```
\begin{bchart}[step=2,max=10]
  \bcbar{3.4}
  \smallskip
  \bcbar{5.6}
  \medskip
  \bcbar{7.2}
  \bigskip
  \bcbar{9.9}
\end{bchart}
```




Skips with `bcskip`:

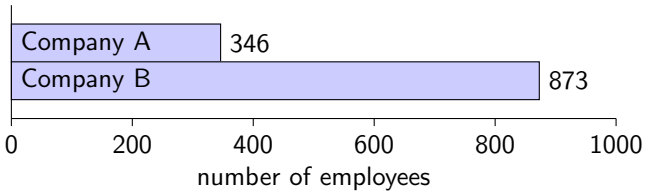
```
\begin{bchart}[step=10,max=100]
  \bcbar{83}
  \bcskip{3pt}
  \bcbar{25}
  \bcskip{15mm}
  \bcbar{69}
\end{bchart}
```




# 5 Labels

Label for x axis:

```
\begin{bchart}[step=200,max=1000]
  \bcbar[text=Company A]{346}
  \bcbar[text=Company B]{873}
  \bcxlabel{number of employees}
\end{bchart}
```



# 6 Units

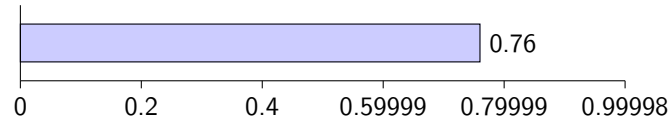
TODO

# 7 Width and Scaling

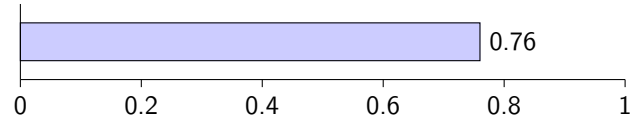
TODO

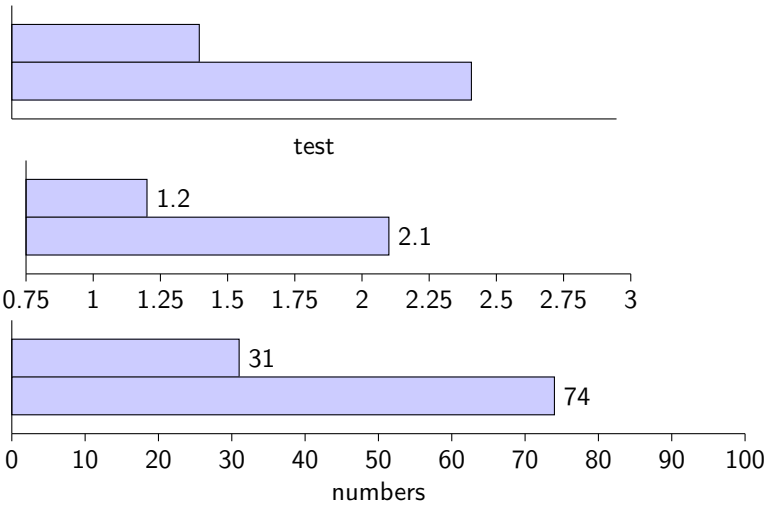
# 8 Known Issues

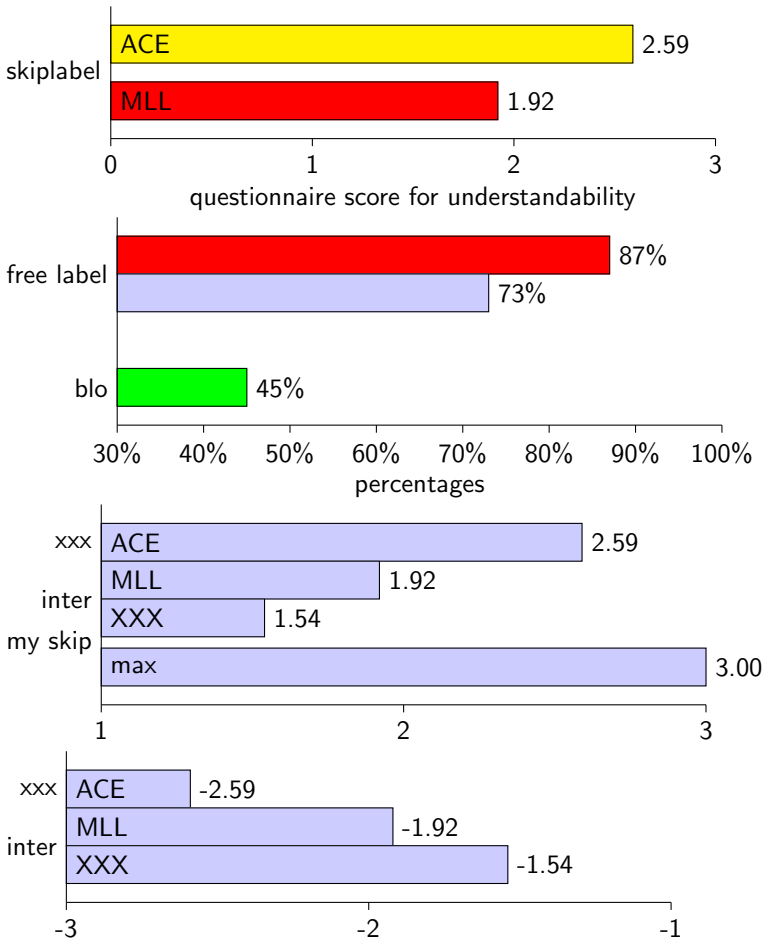
```
\begin{bchart}[step=0.2,max=1]
  \bcbar{0.76}
\end{bchart}
```




```
\begin{bchart}[steps={0.2,0.4,0.6,0.8,1},max=1]
  \bcbar{0.76}
\end{bchart}
```




skiplabel
ACE
2.59
MLL
1.92
0
1
2
3
questionnaire score for understandability
free label
87%
73%
blo
45%
30%
40%
50%
60%
70%
80%
90%
100%
percentages
xxx
ACE
2.59
inter
MLL
1.92
my skip
XXX
1.54
max
3.00
1
2
3
xxx
ACE
-2.59
inter
MLL
-1.92
XXX
-1.54
-3
-2
-1