Presentations using seminar.sty

• What is seminar.sty?
• The basics
• Importing graphics
• Pointers for making „good“ slides
• Color and other fancy stuff
• Laptop presentations
• Where to learn more
• Competing packages

PRESENTATIONS USING
WHAT IS \texttt{seminar.sty}?

**Background:** \texttt{seminar.sty} is a \LaTeX\ document class for typesetting slides.

- Created and freely distrubuted by Timothy Van Zandt at Princeton University.
- Has been around for over 10 years.
- One of many resources for creating presentations using \LaTeX.
- Created and still one of the most popular at Princeton University.

**Here:** A very brief introduction.

- See the User's Guide and examples on the class web page for much more...
Presentation using \texttt{seminar}.sty

\textbf{The Basics}

- \texttt{documentclass\{seminar\}}
  - Almost anything one would do in an ordinary \LaTeX{} document can be done in \texttt{seminar}.
  - Options for making handouts
  - \texttt{special} commands (some of these coming up...)

\textcolor{red}{Usage:} For full-sized slides
Creating a single slide: Easy!

\begin{slide}
stuff on slide
\end{slide}

- Creates a slide in landscape format
- Can also create slides in portrait format; may be useful for presentations using transparencies (which no one uses anymore)!
- Creates a slide in landscape format

\begin{slide*}
stuff on slide
\end{slide*}

\begin{slide}
stuff on slide
\end{slide}

\begin{slide}
stuff on slide
\end{slide}
... So there is a limit to what will fit on a slide (more later)

Size of slide content: Scaled to be larger than in a regular document

Pictures
Tables and figures (imported graphics)
Math (mathematical expressions, displayed equations, etc.)

Text

Content of slides: May be anything
In addition, seminar has its own commands

Slide 15

Presentation: e.g., display the title of the current section; see "footer" for each slide (these could in fact be changed during the presentation; e.g., title of the current section)

Here, I have used fancyheadings.sty to create a "header" and "footer"

Packages for importing graphics

\texttt{seminar.sty}

Use of packages: Most \LaTeX\ packages may be used with seminar.sty
offers further options

where valid styles are \texttt{plain} and none; the \texttt{fancybox} package
\newcommand*{\.slidesetstyle}{\}

may be changed to with \texttt{\frames} – default is for slides to have a \texttt{frame} (the \texttt{plain} style);

\newcommand*{\centerslidefalse}{\}

vertical centered; may be changed to be \texttt{flush to the top} using \texttt{\centerslidefalse} and back to centered again with \texttt{\centerslidelasttrue}

\textbf{Examples:}

- See the documentation for a complete description (slide 29)
- See the documentation for a complete description (slide 29)

\newcommand*{\centerslidestrue}{\}

number of commands

\textbf{Special commands:} Like any \LaTeX{} package, \texttt{seminar} defines a
Examples, continued:

• Use \slideframe{none} for laptop presentations (coming up)

• Size - Dimensions are set using \slideheight and \slidewidth

\setlength{\slideheight}{6.6in}
Preparing handouts: Printed slides two-to-a-page ("two-up") or four-to-a-page ("four-up")

- **Printing "two-up"**

  \documentclass[article,portrait]{seminar}

  Slides come out two-to-a-page in *landscape format*

- **Printing "four-up"**

  \documentclass[article,portrait]{seminar}
  \twoup[1]

- See the *template file* `seminartemplate.tex` and examples on the class web page
Importing Graphics

Several options:
- Can use \psfig, \epsf, \graphicx, etc, as in an usual \LaTeX document.

For example – using graphicx

\begin{slide}
\begin{center}
\begin{figure}
\includegraphics[height=2.5in]{dental.ps}
\end{figure}
\end{center}
\end{slide}

Presentations using seminar.sty
Dental trajectories for 27 children:
Colors:

I use the pstricks package to define colors

• Some colors (including red, green, blue, cyan, magenta, and yellow) are predefined

• Others can be defined

See the template file and the pstricks documentation (link on the class web page)

Colors: I use the pstricks package to define colors

COLOR AND OTHER FANCY STUFF
Making headings:

I use the following \newcommand that exploits the shadow package:

\newcommand{\myheading}[1]{\begin{center}\shabox{ \bf #1} \end{center}}

and invoke it as:

\myheading{{\blue COLOR AND OTHER FANCY STUFF}}

Making bullets:

I make colored bullets with \newcommand{\ritem}{\item {\red $\mbox{}$}} \begin{itemize}{\ritem \begin{itemize} \item This item will have a red bullet \end{itemize} \end{itemize} \end{itemize}

Presentations using \seminar{style}
\rnode{lt}{\epsilon_j} = \rnode{ft}{\epsilon_{1j}} + \rnode{st}{\epsilon_{2j}}$
\hfill \rnode{tl}{Overall deviation}$
\hfill \rnode{tf}{Measurement Error}$
\hfill \rnode{ts}{'Fluctuation'}$

Other neat stuff: Drawing arrows to stuff using the \texttt{pst-node} package.
Other neat stuff. Here’s how I made the headers and footers — this goes at the beginning of the document body.
Other neat stuff: Can insert math into figures using the psfrag package – put the following before the figure

\psfrag{alpha0}{\scriptsize $\alpha_{i0}$}
\psfrag{alpha1}{\scriptsize $\alpha_{i1}$}
\psfrag{density}{\tiny density}

Replace the first argument with the second

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POINTERS FOR MAKING GOOD SLIDES

Personal view:

• Good slides are simple slides – try not to pack too much on one slide, and try not to make busy slides.

• If appropriate, use lots of figures.

• Use tables of numbers sparingly.

• Use a consistent style throughout a presentation.

• Do not introduce too much notation; your audience will never remember it all.

• Use color for highlighting important points (but remember some colors may not show up well on screen or on handouts).

• Use bullets to organize material.
Today, transparencies are a thing of the past! Projection equipment is now reliable. Projection is slicker. Can use devices such as overlays (possible with seminar add-ons) and slick slide transitions (possible with seminar and video clips, access web sites, etc.). More generally, use of a laptop allows greater flexibility (e.g., show video clips, access web sites, etc.). The modern presenter will prepare a laptop presentation. Result: Standard in industry, standard at statistical meetings, seminars, etc.
Animation:

There are many popular effects that one can exploit in a laptop presentation.

- A useful such effect is the ability to uncover material on a slide a little bit at a time.
- Sometimes called "cumulative overlays" or "non-cumulative overlays".

These are many popular effects that one can exploit in a laptop presentation.
Cumulative overlays: Not built-in to seminar, but there is a \texttt{fix-up}

\begin{verbatim}
\makeatletter
\def\pst@initoverlay#1{% 
  \texttt{\verb|/BeginOL {dup (all) eq exch TheOL le or {IfVisible not |}
/IfVisible true def if \verb|/IfVisiblefalse ifelse}| def
  \tx@InitOL /TheOL (#1) def\}
\makeatother
\end{verbatim}
To uncover material a bit at a time:
This comes up first...
This comes up first...

And then this...
And finally this!

And then this...

This comes up first...
• Overlay facts: May be turned on or off with \overlaystate and \overlaystrue \false (for-printing handouts)
Personal opinion: There can be too much of a good thing when it comes to fancy slide shows.
Recommendations:

• Learn how to make laptop presentations
• Get used to using a laser pointer
• Presentations with a laptop are fun!
• Become comfortable – remember, you can't write on slides!
How to project slides made using seminar.sty?

- Create a pdf file
  
  ```
  start distill myslides.ps
  start dvi2ps -p myslides
  start latex myslides
  start adobe acrobat
  ```
  
  - Advantage of pdf - portability

  - Have postscript viewer installed (many Windows users will not)

  - Can use full screen mode of Acrobat reader

  - Can also use new versions of ghostview to project postscript
WHERE TO LEARN MORE

Written and web resources:

- Van Zandt, T. (1993). \texttt{seminar.sty}: A \LaTeX\ Style for Slides

Examples, other resources (prepared by Denis Girou) available at:

\texttt{http://www.tug.org/applications/Seminar/}

Template file and examples.

There is a link on the class web page.

Notes available on the class web page, along with a
COMPETING PACKAGES

For making laptop presentations:

- seminar is really a basic choice
- Other packages allow fancy backgrounds, neat slide transitions,
- Options are too numerous to demonstrate etc.

COMPE TING PACKAGES
Some possibilities:

- **prosper** – uses seminar but adds fancy backgrounds, slide transitions (see link on the class web page)
- **texpower**
- **foiltex, pdftex, pdflatex**
- **ppower**

Go to google and type LaTeX presentations!