

PRESENTATIONS USING seminar.sty

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

THE BASICS

Usage: For full-sized slides

```
\documentclass{seminar}
```

- Options for making *handouts*
- *Special commands* (some of these coming up...)
- *Almost anything* one would do in an ordinary L^AT_EX document can be done in **seminar**

WHAT IS seminar.sty?

Background: seminar.sty is a L^AT_EX *document class* for typesetting slides

- Created and freely distributed by Timothy Van Zandt at Princeton University
- Has been around for over 10 years
- One of *many* resources for creating presentations using L^AT_EX and still one of the most *popular*

Here: A *very brief* introduction

- See the User’s Guide and examples on the class web page for much more...

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!) but *not* for presentations using *a laptop*

```
\begin{slide*}
```

```
stuff on slide
```

```
\end{slide*}
```

Content of slides: May be *anything*

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

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

- ... So there is a *limit* to what will fit on a slide (more later)

Special commands: Like any L^AT_EX package, `seminar` defines a number of commands

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

Examples:

- *Vertical positioning* – default is for material on each slide to be *vertically centered*; may be changed to be *flush to the top* using

```
\centerslidesfalse
```

and back to centered again with `\centerslidestrue`

- *Frames* – default is for slides to have a *frame* (the `plain` style); may be changed to with

```
\slideframe{style}
```

where valid styles are `plain` and `none`; the `fancybox` package offers *further options*

Use of packages: Most L^AT_EX packages may be used with `seminar.sty`

- Packages for *importing graphics*
- Here, I have used `fancyheadings.sty` to create a “*header*” and “*footer*” for each slide (these could in fact be changed during the presentation; e.g., display the title of the current section); see slide 15
- In addition, `seminar` has its *own commands*

Examples, continued:

- Use `\slideframe{none}` for *laptop presentations* (coming up)
- *Size* – Dimensions are set using `\slideheight` and `\slidewidth` (defaults are 8.5 in wide and 6.3 in high), e.g., these slides use `\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

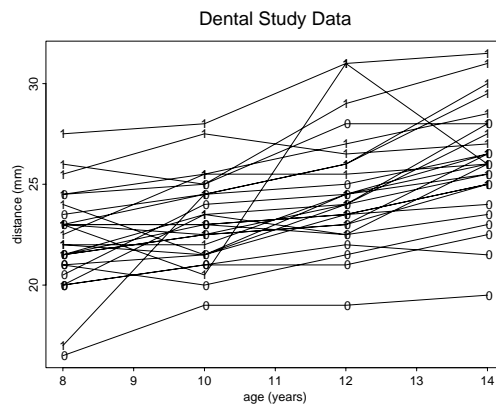
IMPORTING GRAPHICS

Several options: Can use `psfig`, `epsf`, `graphicx`, etc, as in an usual L^AT_EX document

- **For example** – using `graphicx`

```
\begin{slide}
{\bf \red Dental trajectories for 27 children:}
\begin{figure}
\begin{center}
\includegraphics[height=2.5in]{dental.ps}
\end{center}
\end{figure}
\end{slide}
```

Dental trajectories for 27 children:



COLOR AND OTHER FANCY STUFF

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)

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

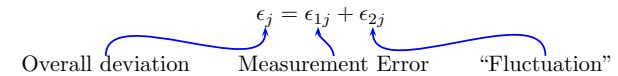
```
\newcommand{\ritem}{\item {\red $\mbox{}}}$

\begin{itemize}
\ritem This item will have a red bullet
\end{itemize}
```

Other neat stuff: Drawing arrows to stuff using the `pst-node` package

```
$$\rnode{lt}{\epsilon_j}=\rnode{ft}{\epsilon_{1j}}+\rnode{st}{\epsilon_{2j}}$$

\hfill\rnode{tl}{Overall deviation}
\hfill\rnode{tf}{Measurement Error}
\hfill\rnode{ts}{“Fluctuation”}
\hspace*{\fill}
\ncurve[linecolor=blue,angleA=90,angleB=270]{->}{tl}{lt}
\ncurve[linecolor=blue,angleA=90,angleB=270]{->}{tf}{ft}
\ncurve[linecolor=blue,angleA=90,angleB=270]{->}{ts}{st}
```



Other neat stuff: Here's how I made the *headers* and *footers* – this goes at the beginning of the *document body*

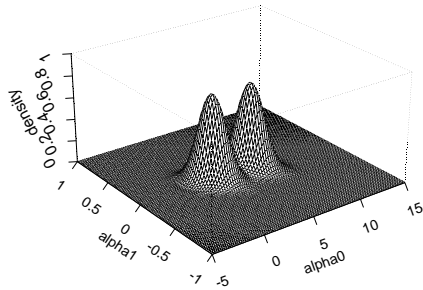
```
\pagestyle{fancy}
\setlength{\headrulewidth}{0.15pt}
\setlength{\footrulewidth}{.15pt}
\rhead{\includegraphics[height=0.3cm]{newlogo.ps}}
\lhead{\scriptsize \sl ST 810A, M. Davidian, Spring 2004}
\lfoot{\scriptsize \sl Presentations using {\tt seminar.sty}}
\cfoot{ }
\rfoot{\scriptsize \rm \theslide}
```

Other neat stuff: Can insert *math* into figures using the `psfrag` package – put the following before the figure

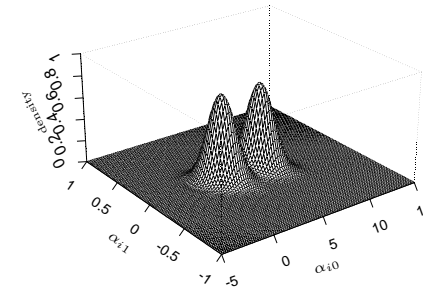
```
\psfrag{alpha0}{\scriptsize $\alpha_{i0}$}
\psfrag{alpha1}{\scriptsize $\alpha_{i1}$}
\psfrag{density}{\tiny density}
```

- *Replaces* the first argument with the second

Without psfrag:



With psfrag:



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
- Use a *consistent style* throughout a presentation
- Use *bullets* to organize material
- Use *color* for highlighting important points (but remember some colors *may not show up well* on screen or on handouts)
- If appropriate, use *lots of figures*
- Use tables of numbers *sparingly*
- Do not introduce *too much notation*; your audience will never remember it all!

LAPTOP PRESENTATIONS

These days... Transparencies are a *thing of the past!*

- *Projection equipment* is now *reliable*
- *Projection* is *slicker*
- Can use *devices* such as *overlays* (possible with **seminar**) and slick *slide transitions* (possible with add-ons to **seminar**)
- *More generally*, use of a laptop allows *greater flexibility* (e.g., show video clips, access web sites, etc.)

Result: The *modern* presenter will prepare a *laptop presentation*

- Standard in *industry*
- Standard at *statistical meetings, seminars*

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”
- `seminar` only does “non-cumulative” overlays

To uncover material a bit at a time:

```
\begin{overlay}{0}
This comes up first\ldots
\end{overlay}
```

```
\begin{overlay}{1}
And then this\ldots
\end{overlay}
```

```
\begin{overlay}
And finally this!
\end{overlay}
```

Cumulative overlays: Not built-in to `seminar`, but there is a *fix-up*

- Add the following to the preamble:

```
\makeatletter
\def\pst@initoverlay#1{%
\pst@Verb{%
/BeginOL {dup (all) eq exch TheOL le or {IfVisible not {Visible
/IfVisible true def} if} {IfVisible {Invisible /IfVisible false
ifelse} def
\tx@InitOL /TheOL (#1) def}}
\makeatother
```

This comes up first...

This comes up first...
And then this...

This comes up first...
And then this...
And finally this!

Overlay facts:

- May be *turned on or off* with `\overlaytrue` and `\overlayfalse` (for printing handouts)
- See the [class web page](#) for the source code to a full talk made with `seminar` that makes use of cumulative overlays

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*
- Become comfortable – remember, you can't *write on slides!*
- Presentations with a laptop are *fun!*

How to project slides made using seminar?

- Create a pdf file


```
stat% add acrobat
stat% latex myslides
stat% dvips -P pdf myslides
stat% distill myslides.ps
```
- Can use *full screen mode* of *Acrobat* reader
- Can also use new versions of *ghostview* to project postscript version in *full screen mode*
- *Advantage of pdf – portability* (many Windows users will not have postscript viewer installed)

WHERE TO LEARN MORE**Written and web resources:**

- Van Zandt, T. (1993) `seminar.sty`: A L^AT_EX Style for Slides and Notes. (*Available on the class web page, along with a template file and examples.*)
- Examples, other resources (prepared by Denis Girou) available at <http://www.tug.org/applications/Seminar/> (*There is a link on the class web page.*)

COMPETING PACKAGES**For making laptop presentations:**

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

Some possibilities:

- `prospcr` – uses `seminar` but adds fancy *backgrounds*, *slide transitions* (see link on the class web page)
- `texpower`
- `foiltex`, `pdftex`/`pdflatex`
- `ppower4`
- *Go to google and type latex presentations!*
- *Some links* to examples available on the class web page