Differences between REVTeX 4 and REVTeX 3

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1. INTRODUCTION

This document gives a brief summary of how REVTeX 4 is different from what authors may already be familiar with. The two primary design goals for REVTeX 4 are to 1) move to \LaTeX2ε and 2) improve the markup so that information can be more reliably extracted for the editorial and production processes. Both of these goals require that authors comfortable with earlier versions of REVTeX change their habits. In addition, authors may already be familiar with the standard article.cls in \LaTeX2ε. REVTeX 4 differs in some important ways from this class as well. For more complete documentation on REVTeX 4, see the main \LaTeX 4 Author’s Guide. The most important changes are in the markup of the front matter (title, authors, affiliations, abstract, etc.). Please see Sec. 5.

2. VERSION OF \LaTeX

The most obvious difference between REVTeX 4 and REVTeX 3 is that REVTeX 4 works solely with \LaTeX2ε; it is not useable as a \LaTeX2.09 package. Furthermore, REVTeX 4 requires an up-to-date \LaTeX installation (1996/06/01 or later); its use under older versions is not supported.

3. CLASS OPTIONS AND DEFAULTS

Many of the class options in REVTeX 3 have been retained in REVTeX 4. However, the default behavior for these options can be different than in REVTeX 3. Currently, there is only one society option, \texttt{aps}, and this is the default. Furthermore, the selection of a journal (such as \texttt{prl}) will automatically set the society as well (this will be true even after other societies are added).

In REVTeX 3, it was necessary to invoke the \texttt{floats}, but this is the default for \texttt{aps} journal in REVTeX 4. REVTeX 4 introduces two new class options, \texttt{endfloats} and \texttt{endfloats*} for moving floats to the end of the paper.

The preamble commands \texttt{\draft} and \texttt{\tighten} have been replaced with new class options \texttt{draft} and \texttt{tightenlines}, respectively. The \texttt{\preprint} command is now used only for specifying institutional report numbers (typeset in the upper-righthand corner of the first page); it no longer influences whether PACS numbers are displayed below the abstract. PACS display is controlled by the \texttt{showpacs} and \texttt{noshowpacs} (default) class options.

Paper size options (\texttt{letter}, \texttt{a4paper}, etc.) work in REVTeX 4. The text “Typeset by REVTeX” no longer appears by default - the option \texttt{byrevtex} will place this text in the lower-lefthand corner of the first page.

4. ONE- AND TWO-COLUMN Formatting

REVTeX 4 has excellent support for achieving the two-column formatting in the Physical Review and Reviews of Modern Physics styles. It will balance the columns automatically. Whereas REVTeX 3 had the
\widetext and \narrowtext commands for switching between one- and two-column modes, REVTEX 4 simply has a \widetext environment, \begin{widetext} \end{widetext}. One-column formatting can be specified by choosing either the \texttt{onecolumn} or \texttt{preprint} class option (the REVTEX 3 option \texttt{manuscript} no longer exists). Two-column formatting is the default for most journal styles, but can be specified with the \texttt{twocolumn} option. Note that the spacing for \texttt{preprint} is now set to 1.5, rather than full double-spacing. The \texttt{tightenlines} option can be used to reduce this to single spacing.

5. FRONT MATTER Markup

REVTEX 4 has substantially changed how the front matter for an article is marked up. These are the most significant differences between REVTEX 4 and other systems for typesetting manuscripts. It is essential that authors new to REVTEX 4 be familiar with these changes.

5.1. Authors, Affiliations, and Author Notes

REVTEX 4 has substantially changed the markup of author names, affiliations, and author notes (footnotes giving additional information about the author such as a permanent address or an email address).

- Each author name should appear separately in individual \texttt{author} macros.
- Email addresses should be marked up using the \texttt{email} macro.
- Alternative affiliation information should be marked up using the \texttt{altaffiliation} macro.
- \texttt{URL}s for author home pages can be specified with a \texttt{homepage} macro.
- The \texttt{thanks} macro should only be used if one of the above don’t apply.
- \texttt{email}, \texttt{homepage}, \texttt{altaffiliation}, and \texttt{thanks} commands are grouped together under a single footnote for each author. These footnotes can either appear at the bottom of the first page of the article or as the first entries in the bibliography. The journal style controls this placement, but it may be overridden by using the class options \texttt{bibnotes} and \texttt{nobibnotes}. Note that these footnotes are treated differently than the other footnotes in the article.
- The grouping of authors by affiliations is accomplished automatically. Each affiliation should be in its own \texttt{affiliation} command. Multiple \texttt{affiliation}, \texttt{email}, \texttt{homepage}, \texttt{altaffiliation}, and \texttt{thanks} commands can be applied to each author. The macro \texttt{and} has been eliminated.
- \texttt{affiliation} commands apply to all previous authors that don’t have an affiliation already declared. Furthermore, for any particular author, the \texttt{affiliation} must follow any \texttt{email}, \texttt{homepage}, \texttt{altaffiliation}, or \texttt{thanks} commands for that author.
- Footnote-style associations of authors with affiliations should not be done via explicit superscripts; rather, the class option \texttt{superscriptaddress} should be used to accomplish this automatically.
- A collaboration for a group of authors can be given using the \texttt{collaboration} command.

Table I summarizes some common pitfalls in moving from REVTEX 3 to REVTEX 4.

5.2. Abstracts

REVTEX 4, like REVTEX 3, uses the \texttt{abstract} environment \begin{abstract} \end{abstract} for the abstract. The \texttt{abstract} environment must appear before the \texttt{maketitle} command in REVTEX 4. The abstract will be formatted appropriately for either one-column (preprint) or two-column formatting. In particular, in the two-column case, the abstract will automatically be placed in a single column that spans the width of the page. It is unnecessary to use a \texttt{minipage} or any other macro to achieve this result.

6. CITATIONS AND REFERENCES

REVTEX 4 uses the same \texttt{cite}, \texttt{ref}, and \texttt{bibitem} commands as standard \LaTeX{} and REVTEX 3. Citation handling is based upon Patrick Daly’s \texttt{natbib} package. The \texttt{references} environment is no longer used. Instead, use the standard \LaTeX{} \texttt{apalike} \texttt{thebibliography} environment.

Two new \LaTeX{} files have been included with REVTEX 4, \texttt{apsrev bst} and \texttt{apsrevp bst}. These will format references in the style of \texttt{Physical Review} and \texttt{Reviews of Modern Physics} respectively. In addition, these \LaTeX{} styles automatically apply a special macro \texttt{bibinfo} to each element of the bibliography to make it easier to extract information for use in the editorial and production processes. Authors are strongly urged to use \LaTeX{} to manage their bibliographies so that the \texttt{bibinfo} directives will be automatically included. Other bibliography styles can be specified by using the \texttt{bibliographystyle} command, but unlike stan-
**REVTeX 3 Markup** | **REVTeX 4 Markup** | **Explanation**
---|---|---
\author{Author One and Author Two} | \author{Author One} \author{Author Two} | One name per \author
\author{Author One$^{1}$} | \author{Author One} | Use superscriptaddress class option
\address{$^{1}$APS} | \affiliation{APS} | 
\thanks{Permanent address...} | \altaffiliation{} | Use most specific macro available
\thanks{Electronic address: user@domain.edu} | \email{user@domain.edu} | 
\thanks{http://publish.aps.org/} | \homepage{http://publish.aps.org/} | 

**TABLE I: Common mistakes in marking up the front matter**

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7. FOOTNOTES AND TABLENOTES

REVTeX 4 uses the standard `\footnote` macro for footnotes. Footnotes can either appear on the bottom of the page on which they occur or they can appear as entries at the end of the bibliography. As with author notes, the journal style option controls the placement; however, this can be overridden with the class options `footinbib` and `nofootinbib`.

Within a table, the `\footnote` command behaves differently. Footnotes appear at the bottom of the table. `\footnotemark` and `\footnotetext` are also available within the table environment so that multiple table entries can share the same footnote text. There is no longer a need to use a `\tablenote`, `\tablenotemark`, and `\tablenotetext` macros.

8. SECTION COMMANDS

The title in a `\section{⟨title⟩}` command will be automatically uppercased in REVTeX 4. To prevent a particular letter from being uppercased, enclose it in curly braces.

9. FIGURES

Figures should be enclosed within either a `figure` or `figure*` environment (the latter will cause the figure to span the full width of the page in two-column mode). `\LaTeX2ε` has two convenient packages for including the figure file itself: `graphics` and `graphicx`. These two packages both define a macro `\includegraphics` which calls in the figure. They differ in how arguments for rotation, translation, and scaling are specified. The package `epsfig` has been re-implemented to use these `graphicx` package. The package `epsfig` provides an interface similar to that under the REVTeX 3 `epsf` class option. Authors should use these standard `\LaTeX2ε` packages rather than some other alternative.

10. TABLES

Short tables should be enclosed within either a `table` or `table*` environment (the latter will cause the table to span the full width of the page in two-column mode). The heart of the table is the `tabular` environment. This will behave for the most part as in standard `\LaTeX2ε`. Note that REVTeX 4 no longer automatically adds double (Scotch) rules around tables. Nor does the `tabular` environment set various table parameters as before. Instead, a new environment `ruledtabular` provides this functionality. This environment should surround the `tabular` environment:

```
\begin{table}
\caption{...}
\label{tab:...}
\begin{ruledtabular}
\begin{tabular}...
\end{tabular}
\end{ruledtabular}
\end{table}
```

Under REVTeX 3, tables automatically break across pages. REVTeX 4 provides some of this functionality. However, this requires adding the table a float placement option of [H] (meaning put the table “here”) to the `\begin{table}` command.
Long tables are more robustly handled by using the longtable.sty package included with the standard \LaTeX\ 2\epsilon distribution (put \texttt{\usepackage{longtable}} in the preamble). This package gives precise control over the layout of the table. REV\TeX\ 4 goes out of its way to provide patches so that the longtable environment will work within a two-column format. A new longtable* environment is also provided for long tables that are too wide for a narrow column. (Note that the table* and longtable* environments should always be used rather than attempting to use the \texttt{\widetext} environment.) To create tables with columns of numbers aligned on decimal points, load the standard \LaTeX\ 2\epsilon dcoulomn package and use the d column specifier. The content of each cell in the column is implicitly in math mode: Use of math delimiters ($) is unnecessary in a d column. Footnotes within a table can be specified with the \texttt{\footnote} command (see Sec. 7).

11. FONT SELECTION

The largest difference between REV\TeX\ 3 and REV\TeX\ 4 with respect to fonts is that REV\TeX\ 4 allows one use the \LaTeX\ 2\epsilon font commands such as \texttt{\textit}, \texttt{\texttt}, \texttt{\textbf} etc. These commands should be used in place of the basic \texttt{\LaTeX}/\texttt{\LaTeX\ 2\epsilon} 2.09 font commands such as \texttt{\it}, \texttt{\tt}, \texttt{\bf}, etc. The new font commands better handle subtleties such as italic correction and scaling in super- and subscripts.

12. MATH AND SYMBOLS

REV\TeX\ 4 depends more heavily on packages from the standard \LaTeX\ 2\epsilon distribution and AMS-\LaTeX\ than REV\TeX\ 3 did. Thus, REV\TeX\ 4 users should make sure their \LaTeX\ 2\epsilon distributions are up to date and they should install AMS-\LaTeX\ 2.0 as well. In general, if any fine control of equation layout, special math symbols, or other specialized math constructs are needed, users should look to the \texttt{amsmath} package (see the AMS-\LaTeX\ documentation).

REV\TeX\ 4 provides a small number of additional dialectics, symbols, and bold parentheses. Table II summarizes this.

Here is a partial list of the more notable changes between REV\TeX\ 3 and REV\TeX\ 4 math:

- Bold math characters should now be handle via the standard \LaTeX\ 2\epsilon bm package (use \texttt{\bm} instead of \texttt{\bbox}). \texttt{\bm} will handle Greek letters and other symbols.

- Use the class options \texttt{amsmath}, \texttt{amsfonts} and \texttt{amssymb} to get even more math fonts and symbols. \texttt{\mathfrak} and \texttt{\mathbb} will, for instance, give Fraktur and Blackboard Bold symbols.
- Use the \texttt{\fleqn} class option for making equation flush left or right. \texttt{\fl} and \texttt{\fr} are no longer provided.
- In place of \texttt{\eqnum}, load the \texttt{amsmath} package [\texttt{\usepackage{amsmath}}] and use \texttt{\tag}.
- In place of \texttt{\case}, use \texttt{\textstyle\frac}.
- In place of \texttt{\mathletters} environment, load the \texttt{amsmath} package and use \texttt{subequations} environment.
- In place of \texttt{\slantfrac}, use \texttt{\frac}.
- The macros \texttt{\corresponds}, \texttt{\overdots}, and \texttt{\overcirc} have been removed. See Table III.

13. OBSOLETE REV\TeX\ 3.1 COMMANDS

Table III summarizes more differences between REV\TeX\ 4 and REV\TeX\ 3, particularly which REV\TeX\ 3 commands are now obsolete.

14. CONVERTING A REV\TeX\ 3.1 DOCUMENT TO REV\TeX\ 4

REV\TeX\ 3 documents can be converted to REV\TeX\ 4 rather straightforwardly. The following checklist covers most of the major steps involved.

- Change \texttt{\documentstyle{revtex}} to \texttt{\documentclass{revtex4}}, and run the document under \LaTeX\ 2\epsilon \texttt{\texttt} instead of \LaTeX\ 2.09.
- Replace the \texttt{\draft} command with the \texttt{\draft} class option.
- Replace the \texttt{\tighten} command with the \texttt{\tightenlines} class option.
### Table III: Differences between REVTEX 3.1 and REVTEX 4 markup

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVTEX 3.1 command</th>
<th>REVTEX 4 replacement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>\documentstyle⟨options⟩{revtex}</td>
<td>\documentclass⟨options⟩{revtex4}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\author{⟨name⟩}</td>
<td>\author{⟨name⟩} may appear multiple times; each signifies a new author name.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\collaboration{⟨name⟩}: Collaboration name (should appear after last \author)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\homepage{⟨URL⟩}: URL for preceding author</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\email{⟨email⟩}: email address for preceding author</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\altaffiliation: alternate affiliation for preceding \author</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\and</td>
<td>obsolete, remove this command</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\address {⟨institution⟩}</td>
<td>\address {⟨institution⟩} gives the affiliation for the group of authors above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\affiliation{⟨note⟩} lets you specify a footnote to this institution</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\noaffiliation signifies that the above authors have no affiliation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\preprint{⟨number⟩}</td>
<td>\preprint{⟨number⟩} can appear multiple times, and must precede \maketitle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\pacs must precede \maketitle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\abstract environment must precede \maketitle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\maketitle must follow all front matter data commands</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\pacs</td>
<td>obsolete, remove this command</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\tabular environment</td>
<td>No longer puts in doubled-rules. Enclose \tabular in \textit{ruledtabular} to get old behavior.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\tablenote replace with \footnote</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\tablemark replace with \footnotemark</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\tablertext replace with \footnotetext</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\overcirc Use standard \LaTEX2ε \textcircled</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\overdott Use \dddot with amsmath</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\corresponds Use \triangleq with amssymb</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\epsf class option {\usepackage{epsfig}}</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- For each \author command, split the multiple authors into individual \author commands. Remove any instances of \and.
- For superscript-style associations between authors and affiliations, remove explicit superscripts and use the \superscriptaddress class option.
- Use \affiliation instead of \address.
- Put \maketitle after the \abstract environment and any \pacs commands.
- If double-ruled table borders are desired, enclose \tabular environments in \textit{ruledtabular} environments.
- Convert long tables to \textit{longtable}, and load the \textit{longtable} package. Alternatively, give the table an [H] float placement parameter so that the table will
break automatically.

- Replace any instances of the \widetext and \narrowtext commands with the \widetext environment. Usually, the \begin{widetext} statement will replace the \widetext command, and the \end{widetext} statement replaces the matching \narrowtext command.

Note in this connection that due to a curious feature of \LaTeX itself, REVTEX 4 having a \widetext environment means that it also has a definition for the \widetext command, even though the latter command is not intended to be used in your document. Therefore, it is particularly important to remove all \widetext commands when converting to REVTEX 4.

- Remove all obsolete commands: \FL, \FR, \narrowtext, and \mediumtext (see Table III).

- Replace \case with \frac. If a fraction needs to be set in text style despite being in a display equation, use the construction \textstyle\frac. Note that \frac does not support the syntax \case1/2.

- Replace \slantfrac with \frac.

- Change \frak to \mathfrak{(char)} and \Bbb to \mathbb{(char)}, and invoke one of the class options amsfonts or amssymb.

- Replace environment mathletters with environment subequations and load the amsmath package.

- Replace \eqnum with \tag and load the amsmath package.

- Replace \bbox with \bm and load the bm package.

- If using the \text command, load the amsmath package.

- If using the d column specifier in tabular environments, load the dcolumn package. Under dcolumn, the content of each d column cell is implicitly in math mode: remove any $ math delimiters appearing in cells in a d column.

- Replace \tablenote with \footnote, \tablenotemark with \footnotemark, and \tablenotetext with \footnotetext.

- Replace \begin{references} with \begin{thebibliography}{}, \end{references} with \end{thebibliography}. 