Preparing DFG Proposals and Reports in \LaTeX\ with \texttt{dfgproposal.cls}

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Abstract
The \texttt{dfgproposal} class supports many of the specific elements of a DFG Proposal. It is optimized towards collaborative projects. The package comes with an extensive example (a fake DFG proposal) that shows all elements in action.

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1 Introduction

Writing grant proposals is a collaborative effort that requires the integration of contributions from many individuals. The use of an ASCII-based format like \LaTeX allows to coordinate the process via a source code control system like \texttt{Subversion}, allowing the proposal writing team to concentrate on the contents rather than the mechanics of wrangling with text fragments and revisions.

The \texttt{dfgproposal} class extends the \texttt{proposal} class \cite{Koh12} and supports many of the specific elements of a DFG Proposal. The package documentation is still preliminary, fragmented and incomplete and only dwells on the particulars of DFG proposals, so we treat \cite{Koh12} as a prerequisite. Please consult the example proposal \texttt{dfg/proposal.tex}, which comes with the package and shows the usage of the class in action. It is intended as a template for your proposal, but please bear in mind that the DFG guidelines may change, if in doubt, please consult the DFG guide for proposers \cite{Dfgb}.

The \texttt{dfgreporting} class supports most of the specific elements of the final project reports to the DFG. The example report \texttt{dfg/finalreport.tex} is intended as a template for your final report, the DFG guide \cite[Dfga, pp. 9f]{Dfga} gives details (the German Version \cite[Dfgc, pp. 23ff]{Dfgc} has more).

The \texttt{dfgproposal} and \texttt{dfgreporting} classes and the \texttt{dfgpdata} package are distributed under the terms of the \LaTeX Project Public License from CTAN archives in directory \texttt{macros/latex/base/lppl.txt}. Either version 1.0 or, at your option, any later version. The CTAN archive always contains the latest stable version, the development version can be found at \url{https://svn.kwarc.info/repos/kwarc/doc/macros/forCTAN/proposal}. For bug reports please use the sTeX trac at \url{https://trac.kwarc.info/sTeX/} with component \texttt{dfgproposal}.

2 The User Interface

In this section we will describe the functionality offered by the \texttt{dfgproposal} class along the lines of the macros and environments the class provides. Much of the functionality can better be understood by studying the functional example \texttt{proposal.tex} (and its dependents) that comes with the \texttt{dfgproposal} package in conjunction with the proposer’s leaflet of the DFG \cite{Dfgb} (we have included it as \texttt{1_02e.pdf} for convenience into the package distribution).\footnote{EdNote: talk about reporting as well.}

2.1 Package Options

As usual in \LaTeX, the package is loaded by \texttt{\documentclass[(options)]{dfgproposal}}, where \texttt{[(options)]} is optional and gives a comma separated list of options specified in \cite{Koh12}. The \texttt{dfgproposal} class adds the two options

1. \texttt{general}, which allows generates a first section with general proposal metadata (as the old form proposals required). This is useful to check all the data (and have a place to copy/paste from).

2. \texttt{german}, which makes all the generated parts in German.

2.2 Proposal Metadata and Title page

The metadata of the proposal is specified in the \texttt{proposal} environment, which also generates the title page and the first section of the proposal as well as the last pages of the proposal with the signatures, enclosures, and references. The \texttt{proposal} environment should contain all the mandatory parts of the proposal text. The \texttt{proposal} environment uses the following DFG-specific keys to specify metadata.

- \texttt{thema} for a concise (up to 140 characters) description of the topic of the proposal. This has to be in German and will be used by the DFG in internal communications and publications.
- The \texttt{pubspage} key can be used to give URIs of publication pages that are mentioned in the
references sections as sources of publications of the proposers. Use one `pubspage` key per URI.

### 2.3 Project-Related Papers

Since August 2010, DFG requests list of “project-related papers” as section 2.2. We use the \texttt{dfgprojpapersbiblatex} package to automate this. We only need to use \texttt{\dfgprojpapers{⟨keys⟩}}, where \texttt{⟨keys⟩} is a comma-separated list of keys from the bibTex database used in the proposal. Note that you will have to run \texttt{bibtex -min-crossrefs=999 proposal1-blx.aux} to generate file \texttt{proposal1.bbl} that generates the bibliography list. To automate this (at least on Unix systems), we have added the field \texttt{Makefile.template}, which allows you do do any necessary steps by just typing \texttt{make}.

### 2.4 Final Report Infrastructure

The \texttt{dfgreporting} class gives an infrastructure for writing final reports of completed projects (see the file \texttt{finalreport.tex} in the package distribution). The \texttt{finalreport} environment has functionality analogous to the \texttt{proposal} environment. It takes the same metadata keys — making it easy to generate by copy/paste from the proposal — but adds the keys \texttt{reportperiod} for specifying the funded period, \texttt{applareas} for the application areas, and \texttt{(site)employed} for all sites \texttt{(site)}. The latter allow to specify the employee and their employment times. Furthermore, the key \texttt{key} can be used to specify the reference key (something like \texttt{Kö 2428 47-11}) given to the project by DFG. Note that in the case of multiple proposers, you can use multiple instances of \texttt{key} to specify more than one reference key.

### 3 Limitations and Enhancements

The \texttt{dfgproposal} is relatively early in its development, and many enhancements are conceivable. We will list them here.

1. Some people still want to write their proposal and reports in German, for that it would be nice to have a localized version.

2. It would be nice if we could count the characters in the places where lengths are restricted (\texttt{Abriss}, and \texttt{thema}). Then we could warn the authors.

If you have other enhancements to propose or feel you can alleviate some limitation, please feel free to contact the author.

### Acknowledgements

The following persons have contributed suggestions and fixes to the \texttt{dfgproposal} class: Florian Rabe, Christoph Lange, Andrea Kohlhase, Jens Lehmann.
4 The Implementation

In this section we describe the implementation of the functionality of the \texttt{dfgproposal} and \texttt{dfgreporting} classes and the \texttt{dfgpdata} package.

4.1 Package Options and Format Initialization

We first set up the options for the package.

\input{dfgProposal.cls}
\newif\ifgeneral\generalfalse
\DeclareOption{general}{\generaltrue}
\DeclareOption*{\PassOptionsToPackage{\CurrentOption}{dfgpdata}}
\DeclareOption*{\PassOptionsToClass{\CurrentOption}{proposal}}
\DeclareOption*{\PassOptionsToClass{\CurrentOption}{reporting}}
\newif\ifdeutsch\deutschfalse
\DeclareOption{german}{\deutschtrue\message{Deutscher Antrag}}
\ProcessOptions

Then we load the packages we make use of

\LoadClass{proposal}
\LoadClass{reporting}
\RequirePackage{eurosym}
\RequirePackage{dfgpdata}
\ifdeutsch\RequirePackage[ngerman]{babel}\else\RequirePackage[ngerman,USenglish]{babel}\fi

4.2 Proposal Metadata

We extend the metadata keys from the \texttt{proposal} class.

\renewcommand\prop@gen@instrument{Neuantrag auf Sachbeihilfe}
\newcommand\prop@gen@thema{??? Thema ???}
\newcommand[1]{#1}

Now, we can build the title page and general information, we first start with the applicants table. The following macros build up the lines to be used in the table eventually.

\dfg@Proposal@*

the macros use the \texttt{\prop@tl} macro from the base \texttt{proposal} package which iterates over the first argument (the PIs here) building up lines with the material from the second argument (where \texttt{\tl@ext} is the current PI).

\dfg@Apps@*

and the default values, these will be used, if the author does not specify something better.
We automatically make it plurals if there is more than one PI and we indicate a joint proposal if there is more than one site.

Now, we can build the title page and general information, we first start with the applicants table: We first compute the width of the columns for the case where we have more than two PIs. Then we add the lines we compute with the auxiliary macros \texttt{\textbackslash dfg@applicants@lines}, \texttt{\textbackslash dfg@applicants@institute@lines} and \texttt{\textbackslash dfg@applicants@private@lines}.

\begin{Verbatim}
\setlength\applicants@table@columnwidth\textwidth \advance\applicants@table@columnwidth by -6\textwidth \divide\applicants@table@columnwidth by \the@PIs \ifnum\the@PIs>2\begin{tabular}{|l|*{\the@PIs}{p{\applicants@table@columnwidth}|}} \else\begin{tabular}{|l|*{\the@PIs}{l|}}\fi \hline \textbf{Work Address (Dienstanschrift):} \\
\hline \textbf{Private Address (Privatanschrift):} \\
\hline \end{tabular}
\end{Verbatim}
prop@proposal  This internal environment is called in the proposal environment from the proposal class.

77 \renewenvironment{prop@proposal}
78 \{\thispagestyle{empty}\
79 \begin{center}
80 \LARGE \prop@gen@instrument\\.2cm
81 \LARGE\textbf{\prop@gen@title}\\.3cm
82 \LARGE Acronym: \prop@gen@acronym\\.2cm
83 \large\today\\1em
84 \WAauthorblock[aff]\prop@gen@PIs\[2cm
85 \end{center}
86 \edef\keep@tocdepth{\value{tocdepth}}
87 \setcounter{tocdepth}{1}\tableofcontents
88 \setcounter{tocdepth}{\keep@tocdepth}
89 \newpage\thispagestyle{empty}
90 \ifgeneral\setcounter{section}{-1}
91 \ifdeutsch\section{Allgemeine Angaben (nur f"ur ELAN)}\else
92 \section{General Information (for the ELAN system only)}\fi
93 \dfg@applicants
94 \dfg@topic
95 \dfg@area@field
96 \ifdeutsch\subsection{Voraussichtliche Gesamtdauer}\else
97 \subsection{Anticipated total duration \deu{(Voraussichtliche Gesamtdauer)}}
98 \fi
99 \ifundefined{prop@gen@totalduration}{????}{\prop@gen@totalduration};
100 \ifdeutsch
101 \ifundefined{prop@gen@since}{Erstantrag}{Fortsetzungsantrag, das Project l"auft seit
102 \prop@gen@since.}
103 \else
104 \ifundefined{prop@gen@since}{initial proposal}{continuation proposal, the project started
105 \prop@gen@since.}
106 \fi
107 \ifdeutsch\subsection{Antragszeitraum}\else
108 \subsection{Application period \deu{(Antragszeitraum)}}\fi
109 \prop@gen@months\quad Months starting \prop@gen@start
110 \ifundefined{prop@gen@fundsuntil}{}
111 \{ \ifdeutsch mittel reichen bis\else funds last until\fi \prop@gen@fundsuntil\}
112 \ifdeutsch\else\selectlanguage{USenglish}\fi
113 \newpage\fi \ifgeneral
114 \setcounter{page}{1}}
115 }

We also need to translage some of the generated parts
116 \ifdeutsch
117 \def\prop@warnpubs@message{Viele der Publikationen der Antragsteller sind verf"ugbar unter folgenden URLs:}
118 \def\prop@warnpubs@title{Literatur}
119 \fi

\attachments

\newcommand{\attachments{\ifdeutsch\section{Verzeichnis der Anlagen}\else
\section{List of Attachments \deu{(Verzeichnis der Anlagen)}}\fi
\begin{itemize}
\@for\@I:=\prop@gen@PIs\do{%
\item\ifdeutsch Lebenslauf und Publikatinsverzeichnis\else
Curriculum Vitae and list of publications for \fi
\@nameuse{wa@person@\@I @personaltitle}
\@nameuse{wa@person@\@I @name}
\end{itemize}
\end{center}
\fi %ifgeneral
\ifdeutsch\else\selectlanguage{USenglish}\fi
\newpage\fi \ifgeneral
3\EdNote: MK: this is deprecated (no longer useful with the ELAN system), delete at some time
Publications either cited in section \ref{sec:ourpubs} or occurring in one of the curricula vitae (CD only)\else
\item Zitierte Publicationen aus Abschnitt \ref{sec:ourpubs} oder einem der Lebensl\"aufe (nur CD)\fi
\end{itemize}

\section{Reporting Title Page}

The \texttt{prop@report} environment is similar, but somewhat simpler.

\begin{table}[h]
\centering
\begin{tabular}{|l|*{\the@PIs}{l|}}
\hline
\textbf{Private Address (Privatanschrift)}: \\
\hline
\textbf{Institute/Chair (Institut/Lehrstuhl)}: \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\end{table}

\begin{table}[h]
\centering
\begin{tabular}{|l|l|}
\hline
Partner & Employee/Period \\
\hline
donotshow{DFG-Funded Researchers (Aus DFG-Mitteln bezahlte Wissenschaftler)}
\begin{tabular}{|l|l|}
\end{tabular}
\end{table}
\subsection{Report and Funding Period \deu{(Berichts- und Förderzeitraum)}}
\prop@gen@reportperiod
\subsection{Application Areas \deu{(Verwertungsfelder)}}\prop@gen@applareas
\subsection{Cooperation Partners \deu{(Kooperationspartner)}}
%\begin{compactitem}
%\@for\@I:=\prop@gen@coops\do{\item \@I}
%\end{compactitem}
\dfgprojpapers\prop@gen@projpapers
\{\signatures{Signatures \deu{(Unterschriften)}}\}
\langle/reporting\rangle
\ifgeneral
\newenvironment{Summary}{%\thispagestyle{empty}
\ifdeutsch\subsection{Zusammenfassung}\else\subsection{Summary \deu{(Zusammenfassung; siehe~\ref{sec:zusammenfassung})}}\fi}
{\newpage\setcounter{page}1}
\else\excludecomment{Summary}\fi
\langle/cls\rangle
\section{4.5 Project-Related Papers}
\dfgprojpapers
\langle/pdata\rangle
\newcommand\dfgprojpapers[2][]\{\prop@paperlist[#1]{#2}\}
\langle/pdata\rangle
\section{4.6 German Reports}
\begin{framed}
We have to redefine some macros for German reports.
\end{framed}
\renewcommand\wpfig@legend@lead@expl{(Arbeitspaketleiter sind \wp@lead@style@explained{grau und kursiv markiert})}
\renewcommand\wp@lead@style@explained{grau und kursiv markiert)}
\renewcommand\wpfig@legend@caption{{\ifwork@areas Arbeitsbereiche und \fi}Arbeitspakete}
\renewcommand\wp@legend@site{Partner}
\renewcommand\wp@legend@effort{Aufwand\if@RAM{(PM+HM)}\fi}
\renewcommand\wp@legend@all{\textbf{Summe}}
\renewcommand\gantt@caption@main{Zeitliche Verteilung der Arbeitspakete}
\renewcommand\gantt@caption@lower{draft: unten die Lastverteilung}
\renewcommand\coherence@caption{Bisherige Kollaboration der \vpn Partner}
\renewcommand\objective@label[1]{Z\#1}
\renewcommand\task@label[1]{S\#1}
% \renewcommand\month@label[1]{M\#1}
\renewcommand\legend@partners{Partner}
\renewcommand\legend@lead{Leiter}
\renewcommand\task@label@long{Schritt}
\fi
</pdata>


References


