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**The IridiaTrCover package for  $\text{\LaTeX}$ : How  
to typeset documents for the IRIDIA – Technical  
Report Series**

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# The `IridiaTrCover` package for L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X:

## How to typeset documents for the IRIDIA – Technical Report Series

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### Abstract

The IRIDIA – Technical Report Series is a series of reports published on the web by IRIDIA. The series is officially registered and has the following ISSN number: 1781-3794. A special cover page is required in order to publish in the series. The `IridiaTrCover` package is a L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X package that allows to prepend such a cover page to any L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X document.

## The `IridiaTrCover` package

The `IridiaTrCover` package defines a command `IridiaTrCover` that creates a cover page for IRIDIA technical reports. This page is mandatory for all IRIDIA technical reports. The actual title(page) can be defined as usual, for example using the `maketitle` command or the `titlepage` environment.

The package has been tested with the `article` and `report` document classes and with different font sizes. In case of problems, please contact the maintainers under the following address:

[IridiaTrCover@iridia.ulb.ac.be](mailto:IridiaTrCover@iridia.ulb.ac.be)

The last version of the package `IridiaTrCover` can be found at the web page:

[http://iridia.ulb.ac.be/wiki/IRIDIA\\_Technical\\_reports](http://iridia.ulb.ac.be/wiki/IRIDIA_Technical_reports)

## Installation

**Single document.** For a single document, you must copy (or create symbolic links of) the files `IridiaTrCover.sty`, `IridiaTrCover.eps` and `IridiaTrCover.pdf` to the same directory as the L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X sources of your document.

**User-only.** For user-only installation, you must first create a package directory in your personal T<sub>E</sub>X tree, copy the aforementioned files to this tree and then update the T<sub>E</sub>X distribution's index. Please check the documentation of your system for the details. An example for Debian/Ubuntu:

```
mkdir -p ~/texmf/tex/latex/IridiaTrCover
cp IridiaTrCover.sty ~/texmf/tex/latex/IridiaTrCover
cp IridiaTrCover.eps ~/texmf/tex/latex/IridiaTrCover
cp IridiaTrCover.pdf ~/texmf/tex/latex/IridiaTrCover
texhash ~/texmf
```

**System-wide** For system-wide installation, you must first create a package directory in your distribution's  $\TeX$  tree, copy the aforementioned files to this tree and then update the  $\TeX$  distribution's index. Please check the documentation of your system for the details. An example for Debian/Ubuntu:

```
sudo -s # to execute the commands as root
mkdir -p /usr/share/texmf/tex/latex/IridiaTrCover
cp IridiaTrCover.sty /usr/share/texmf/tex/latex/IridiaTrCover
cp IridiaTrCover.eps /usr/share/texmf/tex/latex/IridiaTrCover
cp IridiaTrCover.pdf /usr/share/texmf/tex/latex/IridiaTrCover
texhash
exit # to stop being root
```

## Package Dependencies

The `IridiaTrCover` package requires the following packages installed in your system:

- `ifpdf`
- `xcolor`
- `graphicx`
- `hyperref` (optional, see Table 1)
- `calc`
- `ifthen`
- `keyval`
- `tikz`
- `xspace`

These packages are loaded implicitly by the `IridiaTrCover` package, and, hence, it is not necessary to load them explicitly in your main document.

## Loading the IridiaTrCover package and options

To load the package with default options use:

```
\usepackage{IridiaTrCover}
```

Table 1 describes the options that may be used when loading the IridiaTrCover package. These options can be independently combined, for example:

```
% Load the package without default headings and without hyperref.
\usepackage[noheadings,nohyperref]{IridiaTrCover}
```

## The \IridiaTrCover command

The cover is created by the command:

```
\IridiaTrCover[title={TITLE},      % optional
               author={AUTHOR},
               date={DATE},        % optional
               number={NUMBER},
               revdate={REVDATE} % optional
               history={TITLE}] % optional
```

The `\IridiaTrCover` command must be used *before* the `\maketitle` command or the `titlepage` environment. If either the `title` or `date` parameters are missing, their values are taken, respectively, from the commands `\title` and `\date`, which must have been used *before* the `\IridiaTrCover` command.

The parameters of the `\IridiaTrCover` command are described in Table 2. If a required parameter is missing or invalid, the compilation will fail with an error message.

## Examples

**Minimal example.** In the first minimal example, the `\maketitle` command is used to create the paper’s title. The `\IridiaTrCover` command is re-using the already defined data for creation of the cover page.

```
% Load the package.
\usepackage{IridiaTrCover}

% Define data for maketitle command.
\title{The \texttt{IridiaTrCover} package for \LaTeX}
\author{Mauro Birattari}
\date{April 2005}

% Create the technical report cover page using only mandatory parameters.
% title and date are taken from the commands above.
\IridiaTrCover[author={Mauro \textsc{Birattari}},number={2005-006}]

% Create the normal title
\maketitle
```

Table 1: Optional options of the package `IridiaTrCover`.

Parameter	Description
<code>nocoverpage</code>	Suppress the creation of a cover page for IRIDIA technical reports. The default is to generate a cover page.
<code>nohyperref</code>	Suppress the automatic loading of the <code>hyperref</code> package. The package <code>hyperref</code> can sometimes produce conflicts, so the user may desire to disable its implicit loading. By default, the package is loaded automatically and configured to color links in dark blue. These default options can be modified by using the <code>\hypersetup</code> command after loading the <code>IridiaTrCover</code> package.
<code>noheadings</code>	Suppress the creation of headings for each page which are specific for IRIDIA technical reports. These specific headings may conflict with existing custom headings in your documents, you may either disable the custom headings or use this option. By default, specific headings are created.

Table 2: Parameters of the `\IridiaTrCover` command.

Parameter	Description
<code>author</code>	Defines the author(s) of the technical report. The parameter has the same syntax as the <code>\author</code> command. The family names of the authors must be formatted using <code>\textsc</code> , for example: <code>author={John \textsc{Smith} \and Jane \textsc{Doe}}</code> . This parameter is mandatory.
<code>title</code>	Overrides the title previously defined by the <code>\title</code> command. Mandatory if you are not using the <code>\title</code> command.
<code>date</code>	This is the <i>first publication date</i> of the technical report. Further revisions should use the <code>revdate</code> parameter. If this parameter is missing, its value is taken from the <code>\date</code> command. Mandatory if you are not using the <code>\date</code> command or if its value is not the date of first publication.
<code>number</code>	Official number of the IRIDIA technical report. This parameter is mandatory. Please note that the number is composed by the year and by a increasing number separated by a hyphen. The increasing number has 3 digits and it is left-padded with zeros, that is, <b>2005-006</b> and not 2005-6.
<code>history</code>	Revision history of the technical report. This should be included if the technical report has more than one revision. Mandatory if the <code>revdate</code> parameter has been specified.
<code>revdate</code>	Date of the latest revision of the technical report. This should be included if the technical report has more than one revision. Mandatory if the <code>history</code> parameter has been specified.
<code>published</code>	This parameter adds a line at the bottom of the cover page indicating if and where the technical report has been published or submitted for publication.

**Full example.** In the following example, all parameters are explicitly given.

```
% Load the package.
\usepackage{IridiaTrCover}

% Define data for \maketitle command.
\title{The \texttt{IridiaTrCover} package for \LaTeX}
\author{Mauro Birattari}
\date{April 2005}

% Create the technical report cover page.
% title and date are overridden and different from the commands above.
\IridiaTrCover[%
  title={The slightly different \texttt{IridiaTrCover} package for \LaTeX},
  author={Mauro \textsc{Birattari}},
  date={April 2005},
  number={2005-006},
  published={Published in \emph{Journal of Covers}, vol.~1, no.~1}]

% Make the normal title.
\maketitle
```

**Revision example.** If the technical report is a *revision* of a previous report, the parameters `number` and `date` have the same values as in the original report, and, in addition, you must specify the *date of the latest revision* using the parameter `revdate`, and the *revision history* using the parameter `history` of the `\IridiaTrCover` command. The following example should clarify the syntax:

```
% Create the technical report cover page with the necessary parameters
% for multiple revisions.
% title is taken from the command \title.
\IridiaTrCover[%
  author={Mauro \textsc{Birattari}},
  number={2005-006},
  date={April 2005},
  revdate={February 2006},
  history={%
    2005-006.001 & April 2005\\
    2005-006.002 & October 2005\\
    2005-006.003 & December 2005\\
    2005-006.004 & February 2006}
]
```

In the example above, the date of the technical report is still the date of the first and original version, that is **April 2005**. The date of the current revision is **February 2006**. The history starts from the original version (revision 001), and gives revision number and date of all revisions, up to the current one. Numbers and dates in the history are separated by the symbol `&`, and all lines but the last one terminate with explicit newlines symbols `\\`. The revision number is given with 3 digits and left-padded with zeros: **2005-006.004** and not 2005-006.4. Moreover, a period is used to separate the revision number from the previous digits.

The  $\text{\LaTeX}$  source of this document (`IridiaTr2005-006r006.tex`) is a real-life example of the use of the `IridiaTrCover` package.