R bookdownplus

Peng Zhao

Abstract. Everyone knows that bookdown is an excellent package for authoring books on programming languages. But it is only one side of the coin. It can do more than expected. Therefore I am developing bookdownplus. bookdownplus is an extension of bookdown. It helps you write academic journal articles, guitar books, chemical equations, mails, calendars, and diaries.

1 Introduction

The R package bookdownplus (Zhao, 2017a) is an extension of bookdown (Xie, 2016). It is a collection of multiple templates on the basis of LaTeX, which are tailored so that I can work happily under the umbrella of bookdown. bookdownplus helps you write academic journal articles, guitar books, chemical equations, mails, calendars, and diaries.

2 Features

bookdownplus extends the features of bookdown, and simplifies the procedure. Users only have to choose a template, clarify the book title and author name, and then focus on writing the text. No need to struggle in YAML and LaTeX.

With bookdownplus users can

– record guitar chords,

– write a mail in an elegant layout,

– write a laboratory journal, or a personal diary,

– draw a monthly or weekly or conference calendar,

– and, of course, write academic articles in your favourite way,

– with chemical molecular formulae and equations,

– even in Chinese,

– and more wonders will come soon.

Full documentation can be found in the book R bookdownplus Textbook. The webpage looks so-so, while the pdf file might give you a little surprise.

3 Quick start

Although this section might not be the latest version, the general idea won't change. Please see R bookdownplus Textbook to keep up with the update.

3.1 Preparation

Before starting, you have to install R, RStudio, bookdown package, and other software and packages (i.e. Pandoc, LaTeX, rmarkdown, rticle, knitr, etc.) which bookdown depends on. See the official manual of bookdown for details. Additionally, if you want to produce a poster, phython must be installed before using, and the path of phython might have to be added to the environmental variables for Windows users.

3.2 Installation

```
install.package("bookdownplus")
# or
devtools::
    install_github("pzhaonet/bookdownplus")
```

3.3 Generate demo files

Run the following codes, and you will get some files (e.g. index.Rmd, body.Rmd, bookdownplus.Rproj) and folders in your working directory.

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