

DocBook to LaTeX Publishing

Contents

1	Documentation	1
2	Introduction	2
2.1	Why a DB2LaTeX clone?	2
2.2	Features	2
2.3	Version	3
2.4	Changes	3
2.4.1	Release 0.1.9	3
2.4.2	Release 0.1.8	3
2.4.3	Release 0.1.7	4
2.4.4	Release 0.1.6	6
2.4.5	Release 0.1.5	7
2.4.6	Release 0.1.4.1	8
2.4.7	Release 0.1.4	9
2.5	Publishing Principles	10
2.5.1	Backend Drivers	10
2.5.2	XSL Stylesheets	11
2.5.3	Perl Post Processing	11
2.5.4	LaTeX Style Package	11
3	Installing the package	12
3.1	Content	12
3.2	Dependencies	12
3.3	Installation	12
3.3.1	Installing the dependencies	12
3.3.2	Installing the tool	13
4	Using dblatex	15
4.1	Publishing with dblatex	15
4.1.1	Synopsis	15
4.1.2	Description	15
4.1.3	Options	15
4.1.4	Other options	16
4.2	Output Formatting Style	16
4.2.1	How it works	17
4.2.2	Adding a New Formatting Style	17
4.3	Figure Inclusion	18
4.3.1	Presentation	18

4.3.2	Converting on the fly	19
4.3.3	Paths Lookup	20
4.4	Creating Tables	20
4.4.1	Limitations	21
4.4.2	Tables without colwidth	21
4.4.3	Tables with mixed colspec	22
4.4.4	Tables with proportional and fixed colwidth	22
4.4.5	Tables with fixed colwidths	23
4.4.6	Tables with morerows	24
4.4.7	Landscape tables	24
4.4.8	Smaller tables	25
4.5	Writing LaTeX mathematical equations	26
4.5.1	Presentation	26
4.5.2	Implementation choice	27
4.5.3	Compatibility	27
4.5.4	Examples	27
4.6	Writing MathML equations	29
4.7	Creating an Index	29
4.8	Writing a Bibliography	29
4.9	Document Revisions	30
5	Customization	31
5.1	Configuration Parameter Stylesheet	31
5.1.1	latex.hyperparam	36
5.2	Setting Parameter values	36
5.3	Customized stylesheets	37
5.4	Customized LaTeX style	37
5.4.1	Package options	38
5.4.2	Needed packages	38
5.4.3	DocBook interface	38
5.4.4	Debugging your Style	40
5.5	Latex post process script	40
5.6	Specification file	40
5.7	Customization order	42
6	FAQ	44
7	Thanks	46

Figures

2.1 Transforming Process

10

1 Documentation

Norman Walsh and Leonard Mueller. *DocBook: The Definitive Guide*. O'Reilly.

2 Introduction

2.1 Why a DB2LaTeX clone?

dblatex is actually a **DB2LaTeX** clone. So, why this project? The purpose is a bit different on these points:

- The project is end-user oriented, that is it tries to hide as much as possible the latex compiling stuff by providing a single clean script to produce directly DVI, PostScript and PDF output.
- The actual output rendering is done not only by the XSL stylesheets transformation, but also by a dedicated LaTeX package. The purpose is to allow a deep LaTeX customisation without changing the XSL stylesheets.
- Post-processing is done by Perl, to make publication faster, and to convert images if needed.

2.2 Features

With dblatex you can:

- transform a DocBook XML/SGML book or article to pure LaTeX,
- compile the temporary LaTeX file with latex or pdflatex, to produce DVI, PostScript and PDF files,
- convert on the fly the figures included in the document,
- write complex tables,
- write several bibliographies,
- use callouts on program listings or on images,
- create an index,
- write mathematical equations in LaTeX,
- write mathematical equation in MathML,
- have revision bars,

- customise the output rendering with an XSL configuration file,
- use your own LaTeX style package.

2.3 Version

This manual is for dblatex version 0.1.9 .

2.4 Changes

2.4.1 Release 0.1.9

Few changes.

- The newtbl implementation now handles some tricky row spanning cells. Moreover it becomes the default table implementation used.
- Equations without title are now latex equations (not formula in a float).
- Xref to varlistentry or term is possible.
- the following parameters are added:
 - **make.year.ranges, make.single.year.ranges** Change the rendering of year ranges in a copyright.
- A number of bug fixes.

2.4.2 Release 0.1.8

This is mainly a bug fix release.

- Better programlisting and screen support: inlinegraphic[@format='linespecific'] is handled.
- Better newtbl support: the case colwidth="1in+5*" is now correctly handled.
- GIF images are converted on the fly to PDF.
- Bibliolist support.
- Minor improvements:

- DBLaTeX does not convert images when output is latex only.
- `Emphasis` with `role="underline"` is supported.
- `Trademark` with `class="service"` is supported.
- `Xref` to `refnamediv` is now possible.
- Automatic `biblioentry` abbreviation used if `abbrev` and `@id` reference are not defined.
- the following parameters are added:

titleabbrev.in.toc When set to 1 the `titleabbrev` content is put in the TOC instead of the title. Set to 1 by default.

set.book.num When the document root element is a `set` this parameter can be used to select the book to print. Set to 1 by default.

doc.lot.show It specifies which Lists of Titles should be printed after the Table of Content. The value is a comma separated list of the LoTs to print. The supported LoTs are "figure", "table", "equation", and "example". The list order represents the LoTs order in the output document.

qandaset.defaultlabel It defines the default label to use in a `qandadet` when the `default-label` attribute is not specified. Set to "number" by default.

imagedata.file.check Set to 1, it checks if the referenced image file exists. If not, the `mediaobject` alternative (`textobject`) is used. Set to 1 by default.

doc.alignment It defines the text alignment for the whole document. The valid values are: "left", "center", "right", "justify". By default the parameter is empty, which is equivalent to "justify".

- A number of bug fixes.

2.4.3 Release 0.1.7

- Callouts are now supported:
 - Embedded callout markups `cos` are supported.
 - The `coref` markups are supported.

- Callouts markups defined with areas in a `programlistingco` or `screenco` are supported.
 - Callouts on external text files (referenced by `textdata` or `imagedata` elements) are supported.
 - `Mediaobjectcos` is supported.
 - The `calloutlists` are rendered as description lists where the terms are the callout markups.
 - The links between the callout markups (defined via `areas` or `cos`) and the `calloutlist` items (`linkends` attributes) are handled properly.
- `Programlisting` and `screen` improved: external text files referenced via `textdata` or `imagedata` are now supported.
 - An abstract in an article is now printed.
 - The `legalnotices` are now printed in the native docbook style.
 - Better `xref` support. You can now make a cross-reference to an `itemizedlist` with title, and to a `refentry`.
 - Hyphenation is forced for text using a typewriter font, and the font is smaller.
 - Running **dblatex** on a root element different from a book or article does not fail anymore, except for `set`. The root element is now wrapped into a book or an article.
 - Minor improvements:
 - A DBLaTeX logo can be put on the cover page.
 - The PDF information section can tell that the creator of the document is `dblatex`.
 - the following parameters are added:

co.linkends.show Next to a callout markup the links to the corresponding calloutlist items are shown if the parameter is set to 1. Set by default to 1.

callout.markup.circled The callouts referenced in the callout list have the same rendering than the markups in the listing (or graphic), that is, white numbers in black circles. Set to 0 the references are simple numbers. Set to 1 by default.

callout.linkends.hot The callouts referenced in the callout list are hot links if the parameter is set to 1. Then, the references are in red such like any other cross-reference link in the document. Set to 1 by default.

term.breakline Set to 1, the item following a term in a variable list is put on the next line. Set to 0 by default.

doc.pdfcreator.show Set to 1, the creator field of the PDF information section says that dblatex is the creator. Set to 1 by default.

doc.publisher.show Set to 1, the dblatex logo is printed on the cover page of the native docbook style. Set to 0 by default.

literal.lines.showall Set to 1, all the lines in a verbatim environment like programlisting or screen are printed, even if they are empty. Set to 0, the last empty lines are not printed. It is set to 1 by default.

- Some bug fixes.

2.4.4 Release 0.1.6

- Better `figure` and `informalfigure` rendering:
 - Caption and title are printed separately, in a consistent way.
 - Default image scaling is possible.
- Better `programlisting` and `screen` rendering:
 - All the attributes are supported
 - A default verbatim layout is provided. The text is put in a framed box with a yellow background color.
 - Long lines are wrapped.
- Minor improvements:
 - A breakline is forced after a `term` when it is immediately followed by a list.
- the following parameters are added:

imagedata.default.scale It defines the default scaling rule to apply on every `imagedata` that contains no scaling attribute. By default the parameter is set to 'pagebound', that is the images keep their natural size up to the page boundaries.

figure.title.top Set to 1 it specifies to put the title above the image. By default it is set to 0 (title below).

Note

This parameter has no effect if an explicit float style is used for the figures (e.g. ruled style), since the title position is then fixed by the chosen style.

mediaobject.caption.style Font style applied to the caption text. Default is slanted.

literal.width.ignore Set to 1 the programlisting and screen width attribute is ignored.

literal.layout.options Overwrite the default verbatim layout options.

seg.item.separator Defines the separator to use between several `segitems`.

- Some bug fixes.

2.4.5 Release 0.1.5

- **dblatex** supports the new option `-T target_style`. It specifies which latex style to use for formatting the output. See [Section 4.2](#) for more details.
- The configure script can select the default latex style to use with the option `--target`. Example:

```
./configure --prefix=/where/to/install --target=db2latex
```

- The use of **make** instead of **gmake** is now detected by configure.
- Any document language should be well supported, since babel is now included for the related language.
- New table support, completely re-written by David Hedley. It is very good and no Perl parsing is needed. One can use this new XSL table code by setting the parameter `newtbl.use=1`.
- The following XSL parameters are added:

latex.babel.use Set to 1 the babel package corresponding to the document language is included. Set to 0 no babel package is included whatever the document language is. Default is 1.

latex.babel.language Empty by default, this parameter forces the use of the specified babel language whatever the document language is.

newtbl.use Set to 1, use the David Hedley table support. By default it is set to 0.

figure.note Figure to use to render a note block. This parameter is added to allow new latex styles to use their own figures in admonitions.

figure.tip Figure to use to render a tip block. This parameter is added to allow new latex styles to use their own figures in admonitions.

figure.important Figure to use to render a important block. This parameter is added to allow new latex styles to use their own figures in admonitions.

figure.warning Figure to use to render a warning block. This parameter is added to allow new latex styles to use their own figures in admonitions.

figure.caution Figure to use to render a caution block. This parameter is added to allow new latex styles to use their own figures in admonitions.

- XML source files with any extension are correctly handled. Previously one needed to give XML files with extension .xml.
- Better footnote support: it can be used in section titles and in terms.
- Some latex rendering aspects are removed from the XSL stylesheets (they should never have been in these stylesheets): `\parindent` value, `\parskip` value, `\thispagestyle{fancy}` for pages containing chapters.
- Bug fixes.

2.4.6 Release 0.1.4.1

- Significant `imagedata` improvement: almost all the attributes (`align`, `valign`, `depth`, `width`, `scale`, `scalefit`, `contentdepth`, `contentwidth`) are correctly managed. However percentage used for both `contentdepth` and `contentwidth` is not managed (only `contentwidth` percentage is then applied).
- Dblatex tries to automatically detect the image file formats of the included graphics, and convert them if necessary (and if possible) to be compatible with the TeX backend driver. It is usefull when several image formats are used within the same document, in which case the `-f fig_format` cannot be used.

- The `dblatex` option `-P param=value` is added. One can then set XSL parameter values directly from the command line. This is an alternative to the `-p custom.xsl` option.
- The `align` attribute is now managed for table cells spanned on several columns (i.e. row entries with `nameend` or `spanname` attributes).

2.4.7 Release 0.1.4

- Deep code cleanup.
- Better table support
 - Multicolumn support (use of the attributes `namest`, `nameend`, `spanname`).
 - Better `frame`, `rowsep`, `colsep` attributes inheritance.
- Better bibliography support
 - Bibliography can be nested under any section.
 - `Biblioset` support.
 - Basic `bibliomixed` support.
- `Indexterm` `sortas` and `class` attributes support added.
- `Imagedata` `width`, `depth`, `scale` attributes support improved. In previous releases, `scale` was used instead of `width`. Now, you should use `width` or `scale` properly.
- `Programlisting` `linenumbering` attribute support added.
- Basic `glossary` support added.
- Better reference support. `Refnamediv` title is no more hard-coded (use of `$refname-div.title` if not empty, or name automatically generated according to the lang).
- `Qandaset` improved. `Qandadiv` can be nested under any section.
- Better `xref` support. Now `xreflabel` and `endterm` work.
- The `latex` `hyperref` package is now automatically included in the `dbk_core` package. A customized LaTeX style package shouldn't include `hyperref` anymore.
- `Link` now works.

- Trademark `class` attribute managed (except `class='service'`).
- A keyword is not displayed but is inserted in the index entries.
- Some bug fixes.

2.5 Publishing Principles

Dblatex transforms a DocBook XML/SGML document to LaTeX. Once transformed into LaTeX, standard LaTeX tools are used to produce DVI, Postscript or PDF files.

Figure 2.1 explains the process applied. It shows the tools used and the steps. The emphasized tools are provided by the package.

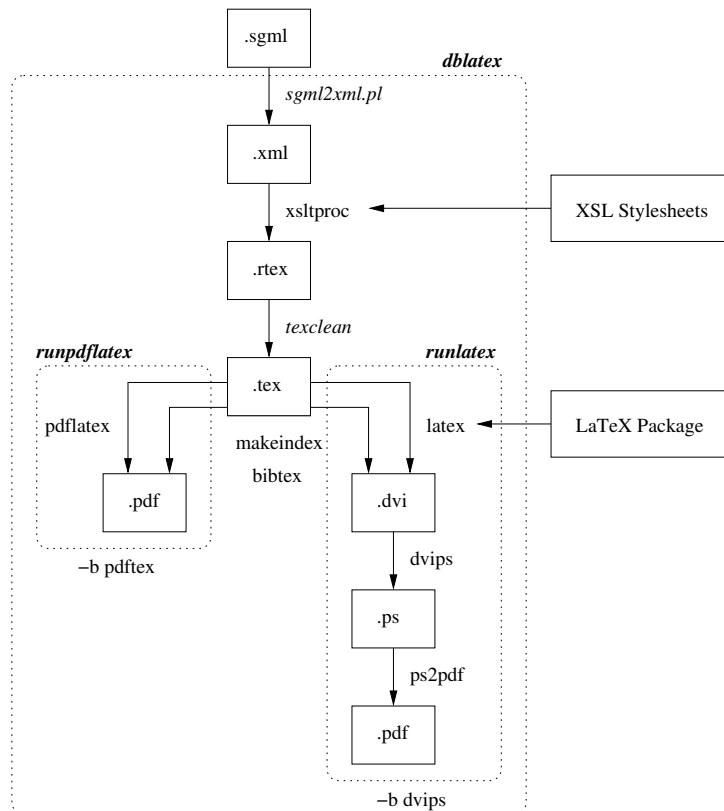


Figure 2.1 Transforming Process

2.5.1 Backend Drivers

The main script allows to use two LaTeX backend drivers:

- The “dvips” driver calls **latex**, and produces DVI, Postscript and at the end PDF files. Latex natively accepts only EPS graphics. The drawback is that converting to PDF can take a while.
- The “pdftex” driver calls **pdflatex**, to produce directly PDF files. The conversion is fast, the file size is smaller. Pdflatex natively accepts PDF, PNG, JPEG, and TIFF graphics.

2.5.2 XSL Stylesheets

The XSL stylesheets located under `xsl/` are used to transform from XML to “raw” LaTeX. The main file is `latex_book_fast.xsl`, that includes the other stylesheets of the directory.

2.5.3 Perl Post Processing

Actually the XSL stylesheets doesn’t produce valid LaTeX. The reason is that some DocBook processing is too complex or too time-consuming for XSL transforming. Besides, some extra actions need sometimes to be done such like figure conversion. Here are the main actions done by Perl Post processing:

- Transform the entities to valid LaTeX characters (e.g. ` ` is transformed to `'`). Perl is suited and performant for this task.
- Convert the figures to be compatible with the backend driver. See [Section 4.3](#) for more detail.
- Force some hyphenation in tables or for typed words.

2.5.4 LaTeX Style Package

Once valid LaTeX is available, the LaTeX style package (`docbook.sty`) under `latex/style/` is used to customize the output rendering. It includes the other files of the directory. You can also provide your own LaTeX style (cf. [chapter 5](#)).

3 Installing the package

3.1 Content

The package contains the following:

docs/ Contains the files of this document.

latex/ Contains all the latex stuff: LaTeX style files, logos, and scripts to compile the LaTeX output.

scripts/ Several scripts, including the main script of the package.

xsl/ XSL stylesheets.

tests/ Test files.

3.2 Dependencies

To work, the following items must be available:

- An XSLT. `xsltproc` is the default XSLT used.
- The XML DocBook DTD.
- A recent LaTeX distribution. The configure script checks that the needed latex packages are available.
- Perl 5.x.
- GNU make.

3.3 Installation

3.3.1 Installing the dependencies

To use the package, install properly the dependencies:

1. Install Perl 5.x and GNU make if necessary.
2. Install LaTeX.

3. Install the XSLT. By default `xsltproc` is used.
4. Install the XML DocBook DTD.
5. Create a catalog file, that defines where to find the DTD. Here is an example:

```
PUBLIC "-//OASIS//DTD DocBook XML V4.1.2//EN"
      "file:///usr/local/share/xml/docbook/dtd/4.1.2/docbookx.dtd"
```

If the XML Gnome tools are available, it's a good idea to create an XML catalog by using `xmlcatalog` such like this:

```
% xmlcatalog --noout --create mycatalog
% xmlcatalog --noout --add 'public' '-//OASIS//DTD DocBook XML V4.1.2//EN' \
      'file://path/to/4.1.2/docbookx.dtd' mycatalog
```

6. Add the catalog path to the `SGML_CATALOG_FILES` variable:

```
export SGML_CATALOG_FILES=$SGML_CATALOG_FILES:/path/to/mycatalog
```

You can skip this step if you configure the `dblatex` installation with the `--catalog` option.

3.3.2 Installing the tool

The steps to follow are the following:

1. Untar the ball. For a bziped release, do as follow:

```
% bzip2 -dc dblatex-x.x.x.tar.bz2 | tar xvf -
```

For a gzipped release, do as follow:

```
% gunzip -c dblatex-x.x.x.tar.gz | tar xvf -
```

2. Call the **configure** script, that checks the dependencies and prepares the installation. In the example, the `dblatex` script is installed under `/usr/local/bin` and the other files are installed under `/usr/local/share/dblatex`. Besides, the `--catalog` option tells where to find the catalog.

```
% cd dblatex-x.x.x  
% ./configure --prefix=/usr/local --catalog=/path/to/mycatalog
```

3. Install:

```
% gmake install
```

4 Using dblatex

4.1 Publishing with dblatex

To publish your document, you just need to use the script `dblatex`.

4.1.1 Synopsis

```
dblatex [-t {tex|dvi|ps|pdf}] [-b {dvips|pdftex}] [-o output] [other options] file.{xml|sgml}
```

4.1.2 Description

The script works on an XML or SGML file and can produce LaTeX, DVI, Postscript and PDF output. By default (i.e. without option) a PDF file is produced in the same directory where the input file is, with the same base name.

4.1.3 Options

- `-t format` Output format. By default the format is PDF.
- `-b driver` Backend driver to use. The available drivers are “dvips” (latex) and “pdftex” (pdflatex). By default the “dvips” driver is selected. See also [Section 2.5.1](#).
- `-f fig_format` Input figures format, specified to have on the fly conversion. See also [Section 4.3.2](#).
- `-I fig_path` Additional lookup paths of the figures. See [Section 4.3.3](#).
- `-o output` Output filename. When not used, the input file name is used, with a suffix related to the output format.
- `-d` Debug mode. It only keeps the temporary directory in which `dblatex` actually works. [Section 5.4.4](#) explains how you can use it.
- `-p config_file` Specify a configuration file. See [Section 5.1](#).
- `-P param=value` Set an XSL parameter value from command line. See [Section 5.2](#).
- `-S spec_file` Specification file. A specification file can be used to group all the options and customizations to apply. See [Section 5.6](#).

-T *style* Rendering style to use. Several rendering style (also called LaTeX style) are provided by default. See [Section 4.2](#).

-x *xslt_options* Options to pass to the XSLT. The example below passes the options “--timing” and “--profile” to the XSLT. Using this option supposes that you know the supported XSLT options.

```
dblatex -x "--timing --profile" file.sgml
```

-X Disable the external text file support. This support is needed for callouts on external files referenced by `textdata` or `imagedata`, but it can be disabled if the document does not contain such callouts. Disabling this support can improve the processing performance for big documents.

4.1.4 Other options

Other options are defined to customize the tool, but they should be used in exceptional cases, for test or debug purpose. These options are defined in section [Section 5.6](#) and should normally be set through a specification file.

4.2 Output Formatting Style

The output rendering done by **dblatex** can be widely customized like explained in [chapter 5](#). By default several rendering styles are provided, that one can choose by using the option **-T** (see [Example 1](#)). The available styles are:

native The rendering uses the default LaTeX stylesheets. It is the style used by default if `dblatex` has been configured without using the option `--target`.

simple The rendering is very close to original latex rendering. The wrapper around the default latex packages is very thin.

db2latex The rendering tries to be as close as possible to the [DB2LaTeX](#) formatting.

Example 1

```
dblatex -T db2latex file.xml
```

4.2.1 How it works

The rendering style stuff is under the `latex/` directory. You can see the XSL stylesheets under `xsl/` as the way to produce latex with as little as possible docbook specific things (even if a large amount of latex packages are used to do the work). Then, it's up to LaTeX stylesheets to format the document as you wish.

The organization under `latex/` is as follow:

contrib Contains the non-default available LaTeX stylesheets (simple and db2latex).

graphics Default graphics used in the admonitions (e.g. warning). These graphics are used by the default output formatting.

scripts Scripts used to compile with **latex** or **pdflatex**.

specs Contains all the specification files describing the available styles. A specification file must have the extension `.specs` to be detected as a style description, and its basename is the name of the style. For example the style `db2latex` is described by the specification file `db2latex.specs`. When **dbl** is executed with no parameter, the usage is displayed. In particular, the list of the available styles is given, like this:

```
$ dblatex
dblatex [options] file.{sgml|xml}
Options:
-t {pdf|ps|dvi|tex|xml}: output format
...
-T style                : available latex styles (db2latex, native, simple)
```

The list is built by scanning the specs files found under `specs/`. The spec file syntax is described in [Section 5.6](#).

style Default LaTeX stylesheets.

4.2.2 Adding a New Formatting Style

To add a new formatting style, do the following steps:

1. Create the latex stylesheets you need. It must define the expected DocBook interface and include some core definitions from the default latex stylesheets (cf. [Section 5.4](#)).
2. Put the latex stylesheets under a directory located under `contrib/`.

```
$ mkdir latex/contrib/mystyle
$ mv mytexstyle.sty latex/contrib/mystyle
```

3. If needed, create an XSL parameter file (e.g. `param.xml`) that tunes the XSL production, and put it under `mystyle/`.
4. Create a specification file under the directory `specs/`. The specification file must point to the new latex stylesheet, and give the specific parameters. Example:

```
$ cat latex/specs/mystyle.specs
#
# Dblatex spec file for my new style
#
TexInputs: ../
PdfInputs: ../contrib/mystyle/graphics//
TexStyle: mytexstyle
XslParam: ../contrib/mystyle/param.xml
Options: -b pdftex
```

5. That's it. Try to compile your document with your style, and check the output.

```
$ dblatex -T mystyle file.xml
```

4.3 Figure Inclusion

4.3.1 Presentation

The expected format of the included figures depends on the backend driver used:

dvips: EPS format is required.

pdftex: PDF or PNG format is required.

In order to be able to use both backends, it is wise to not write the suffix of the file that references the figure. The suffix will be deduced from the backend used.

The figures must either already exist in the expected format, or must be able to be converted on the fly.

Example 2

```
<figure id="fig-exemple1">
  <title>Components</title>
  <mediaobject>
    <imageobject>
      <imagedata fileref="path/figure1" align="center" scale="70"/>
    </imageobject>
  </mediaobject>
</figure>
```

4.3.2 Converting on the fly

When it is needed `dbl` tries to automatically convert the figures to the expected format (i.e. EPS or PDF). The principle is to detect the original figure format from the suffix of the `fileref` attribute. If no suffix is given, the tool checks if a file whose basename is conformant with the `fileref` attribute and with one of the predefined suffixes exists (that is, ".eps", ".fig", ".pdf", or ".png"). If such a file exists, conversion is done from the original format found.

The option `-f fig_format` allows to specify the default included figures format (*fig_format*), that will be used when automatic format scanning gives no result. Then, the tool converts the figures from the specified format to the expected one.

If the specified format is unknown, no conversion is done. The supported formats are:

fig: native format of the figures produced by XFig.

eps: Encapsulated PostScript format. This format shall be specified only when using the `pdftex` backend.

Example 3

The following command compiles a document that contains figures produced with XFig.

```
% dblatex -f fig mydoc.sgml
```

4.3.3 Paths Lookup

You can use the option `-I "path1 path2 ..."` to specify where the figures are. The given paths must be absolute. The paths are added to the document root path.

Example 4

This example shows how figure lookup is done. Let's consider this document source:

```
<figure id="fig-example1">
  <title>Composants</title>
  <mediaobject>
    <imageobject>
      <imagedata fileref="rep1/rep2/figure1" align="center" scale="70"/>
    </imageobject>
  </mediaobject>
</figure>
```

And the document is compiled like this:

```
% dblatex -I "/another/path /last/case" /initial/path/document.sgml
```

The figure1 lookup is done in the following directories, in respect of the order:

- /initial/path/rep1/rep2 ;
- /another/path/rep1/rep2 ;
- /last/case/rep1/rep2.

4.4 Creating Tables

DocBook tables can be quite complex, but `dblatex` should be able to drive most of cases.

The tool contains two engines to create tables: the excellent `newtbl` implementation by David Hedley completely written in XSL, and a (obsolete) perl parser. One can select the engine to use with the parameter `newtbl.use`. By default the `newtbl` engine is used, and the perl parser will be dropped one day.

Here is what is supported:

- Columns without specified widths (`colspec` without `colwidth` attribute) have the same size.
- A table width is always equal to the page width, if at least one column doesn't contain a fixed width attribute (e.g. `colwidth="12cm"`).

- Fixed column widths are supported (e.g. `colwidth="10cm"`). The unit can be whatever is understood by latex (e.g. cm, em, in, pt).
- Proportional column widths are supported (e.g. `colwidth="5*"`). Combination of fixed and proportional width is supported too (e.g. `colwidth="5*+10cm"`).
- The `morerows` attribute of a table entry (entry element) is supported.
- The `namest` and `nameend` attributes of a table entry (entry element) are supported. It is possible to have a cell spanned on several columns.
- The `orient` table attribute is supported (portrait and landscape).
- It is possible to have missing cell entries in a table.

4.4.1 Limitations

Currently the following things are known to fail with tables:

- Verbatim text in table cells is not possible.
- Footnotes in table cells can fail, especially if the footnote contains several paragraph. Moreover they are lost if a float like a table.

4.4.2 Tables without colwidth

When none of the `colspec` elements contains the `colwidth` attribute, all the columns have the same size, and the table width is fixed to the maximum available size. Several examples of these tables are given.

Column 1
left aligned
no specified width, so it takes all the page

Column 1	Column 2
left aligned	centered cell
no specified width	idem

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
left aligned	left aligned	right aligned	centered cell	centered

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
no specified width	idem	idem	idem	idem

4.4.3 Tables with mixed colspec

A table can have colspec elements containing colwidth attribute mixed with colspec elements without colwidth. The following XML source:

```
<informaltable>
  <tgroup cols="5" colsep="1" rowsep="1" align="left">
    <colspec colname="c1"/>
    <colspec align="left" colwidth="4cm"/>
    <colspec align="right" colwidth="5cm"/>
    <colspec align="center"/>
    <colspec align="center" colwidth="3cm"/>
    <tbody>
      ...
    </tbody>
  </tgroup>
</informaltable>
```

is rendered like this:

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
left aligned (tgroup order)	left aligned	right aligned	centered cell	in the centre
no specified width	4 cm column width	5 cm column width	no width	3 cm column width

4.4.4 Tables with proportional and fixed colwidth

Proportional column widths are supported. The following XML source:

```

<informaltable>
  <tgroup cols="5" colsep="1" rowsep="1" align="left">
    <colspec colname="c1" colwidth="*"/>
    <colspec align="left" colwidth="2*"/>
    <colspec align="right" colwidth="3*"/>
    <colspec align="center"/>
    <colspec align="center" colwidth="3cm"/>
    <tbody>
      ...
    </tbody>
  </tgroup>
</informaltable>

```

gives this table:

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
left aligned (tgroup level)	left aligned	right aligned	centered cell	in the centre
proportional column (*)	proportional column (2*)	proportional column (3*)	no specified width	3 cm column width

4.4.5 Tables with fixed colwidths

All the columns can have fixed size, like this:

```

<informaltable>
  <tgroup cols="4" colsep="1" rowsep="1" align="left">
    <colspec colname="c1" colwidth="2cm"/>
    <colspec align="left" colwidth="2.5cm"/>
    <colspec align="right" colwidth="5cm"/>
    <colspec align="center" colwidth="3cm"/>
    <tbody>
      ...
    </tbody>
  </tgroup>
</informaltable>

```

It gives the following table:

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
left aligned (tgroup level)	left aligned	right aligned	centered cell
2 cm column width	2,5 cm column width	5 cm column width	4 cm column width

4.4.6 Tables with morerows

A table can contain entries that cover several lines. The following XML source contains an entry covering 4 lines:

```
<informaltable>
  <tgroup cols="4" colsep="1" rowsep="1" align="left">
    <colspec colname="c1" colwidth="*"/>
    ...
    <tbody>
      <entry morerows="3">it covers 4 lines</entry>
      ...
    </tbody>
  </tgroup>
</informaltable>
```

Here is an example of table containing several entries with morerows attribute:

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
cell on 4 lines	simple cell	cell on 2 lines	cell without morerow attribute
	cell in column 2		cell on 2 lines
	left aligned on 2 lines	cell in line 3, column 3	last cell in column 4
		4 cm column width	

4.4.7 Landscape tables

A table can be displayed in a landscape format by using the `orient` attribute. The following XML source is an example.

```

<informaltable orient="land">
  <tgroup cols="5" colsep="1" rowsep="1" align="left">
    <colspec colname="c1" colwidth="*"/>
    ...
    <tbody>
    ...
    </tbody>
  </tgroup>
</informaltable>

```

Here is how it is displayed.

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
left aligned	left aligned	right aligned	centered cell	centered
no specified width	idem	idem	idem	idem

4.4.8 Smaller tables

For big tables it can be usefull to have smaller text, so that the table is not too large or too long and it can be displayed within a page. It is possible to specify smaller table text by using the `role` attribute of the elements `table` or `informaltable`.

The values and the “role” dedicated to this attribute are specific to `dblatex`, but it is compliant with the DocBook specification because in general the `role` attribute purpose is never defined. The available text size definitions supported by `role` are directly taken from LaTeX:

- `small`,
- `footnotesize`,
- `scriptsize`,
- `tiny`.

Here are examples for each size.

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
left aligned	left aligned	right aligned	centered cell	centered
no specified width	idem	idem	idem	idem

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
left aligned	left aligned	right aligned	centered cell	centered
no specified width	idem	idem	idem	idem

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
left aligned	left aligned	right aligned	centered cell	centered
no specified width	idem	idem	idem	idem

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
left aligned	left aligned	right aligned	centered cell	centered
no specified width	idem	idem	idem	idem

4.5 Writing LaTeX mathematical equations

4.5.1 Presentation

DocBook doesn't define elements for writing mathematical equations. Only few elements exist that tell how equation should be displayed (inlined, block):

- `inlineequation` tells that the equation is inlined,
- `informalequation` tells that the equation is displayed as a block, without a title.
- `equation` tells that the equation is displayed as a block, with or without a title.

These tags include a graphic (`graphic` or `mediaobject`) or an alternative text equation, as shown by the example.

Example 5

```
<equation><title>Last Theorem of Fermat</title>
  <alt>x^n + y^n &ne; z^n &forall; n &ne; 2</alt>
  <graphic fileref="figures/fermat"/></graphic>
</equation>
```

4.5.2 Implementation choice

The principle is to use only the `alt` element. If initially `alt` contains actually the text to print, it is chosen to use this element to embed LaTeX mathematical equations. This choice has the following advantages:

- The translation done by `dblatex` is really easy, since the equation is already written in LaTeX.
- LaTeX is one of the best word processor to render mathematical formulas.
- One doesn't need to write the equations in MathML.
- This method isn't specific to this tool (see the following section).

Besides, the implementation is as light as possible. This is why it is up to the writer to properly use the mathematical delimiters (`$`, `\(`, `\)`, `\[`, `\]`). By this way the writer fully controls how he writes equations.

4.5.3 Compatibility

This implementation is not contradictory nor specific. In particular, the [DBTeXMath](#) proposal to extend the DSSSL stylesheets used by jade follows the same approach, and is integrated in the Norman Walsh XSL stylesheets.

4.5.4 Examples

The following examples show how to write the equations.

Example 6

The formula $C = \alpha + \beta Y^\gamma + \epsilon$ is inlined in the paragraph. Its SGML source is:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="iso-8859-1"?>
<para>The formula
  <inlineequation>
    <alt>$C = \alpha + \beta Y^{\gamma} + \epsilon$</alt>
    <graphic fileref="figures/eq1"/>
  </inlineequation>
  is inlined in the paragraph. Its SGML source is:</para>
```

Example 7

The following formula:

$$C = \alpha + \beta Y^\gamma + \epsilon$$

is displayed in a separate block. The SGML source is:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="iso-8859-1"?>
<para>The following formula:
  <informalequation>
    <alt>\[C = \alpha + \beta Y^{\gamma} + \epsilon]\</alt>
    <graphic fileref="figures/eq2"/>
  </informalequation>
  is displayed in a separate block. The SGML source is:</para>
```

Example 8

The formula [Equation 4.1](#) **Simple Formula** below:

$$C = \alpha + \beta Y^\gamma + \epsilon \tag{4.1 Simple Formula}$$

is displayed in a block with a title. Its SGML source is:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="iso-8859-1"?>
<para>The formula <xref linkend="eq-with-title"/> below:
  <equation id="eq-with-title">
    <title>Simple Formula</title>
    <alt>\[C = \alpha + \beta Y^{\gamma} + \epsilon]\</alt>
    <graphic fileref="figures/eq3"/>
  </equation>
  is displayed in a block with a title. Its SGML source is:</para>
```

Example 9

The formula [Equation 4.2](#) below:

$$C = \alpha + \beta Y^\gamma + \epsilon \tag{4.2}$$

is displayed as a latex equation with its own equation numbering. Its SGML source is:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="iso-8859-1"?>
<para>The formula <xref linkend="eq-with-no-title"/> below:
  <equation id="eq-with-no-title">
    <alt>C = \alpha + \beta Y^{\gamma} + \epsilon</alt>
    <graphic fileref="figures/eq3"/>
  </equation>
  is displayed as a latex equation with its own equation numbering.
  Its SGML source is:</para>
```


4.6 Writing MathML equations

You can write MathML equations in a DocBook based document, by using the [MathML Module for DocBook XML](#) instead of the DocBook DTD.

dblatex now translates the MathML equations to latex by using the excellent stylesheets of the [XSLT MathML Library](#) by Vasil Yaroshevich. A large amount of tests from the [W3C MathML Test Suite 2.0](#) is supported (657 of 712 tests). The test file used to validate the MathML stylesheets is provided in the package.

4.7 Creating an Index

An index is automatically generated if some index entries (`indexterm`), telling the terms to put in the index, are written in the document. The keyword elements are not printed but are also added to the index.

Example 10

```
<para>In this paragraph is described the function
<function>strcpy</function><indexterm><primary>strcpy</primary></indexterm>.
</para>
```

The index is put at the end of the document. It is not possible to put it somewhere else.

4.8 Writing a Bibliography

A bibliography (bibliography) can be written and put anywhere in the document. It appears as a chapter or a section and is composed by several divisions (`bibliodiv`) displayed as sections or subsections.

The writer selects information that describes each bibliography entry (`biblioentry`), and chooses the presentation order. The titles and authors are displayed first.

Example 11

```
<bibliography><title>Bibliography Example</title>
  <bibliodiv><title>References</title>
    <biblioentry>
      <title>Document title</title>
      <author><firstname>J.</firstname><surname>Duval</surname></author>
      <pubsnumber>DEX000567325</pubsnumber>
    </biblioentry>
  </bibliodiv>
  <bibliodiv><title>White papers</title>
    <biblioentry>
      <title>Technical notes</title>
      <authorgroup>
        <author><firstname>J.</firstname><surname>Duval</surname></author>
        <author><firstname>R.</firstname><surname>Marion</surname></author>
      </authorgroup>
      <pubsnumber>DEX000704520</pubsnumber>
    </biblioentry>
  </bibliodiv>
</bibliography>
```

4.9 Document Revisions

The attribute `revisionflag` is useful to identify the changes between two revisions of a document. This information is managed by `dblatex`, that adds revision bars in the margin of the paragraphs changed, such like in this paragraph.

Adding the revision flags can be manual, but its is tedious and error prone. The perl script [diffmk](#) by Norman Walsh can do the work for you. It works fine, but it depends on several Perl modules.

Note

The revision bars only appear when using the "dvips" driver. It seems to be a limitation of the LaTeX macros defined by the `changebar` package.

5 Customization

The transformation process (and thus the output rendering) can be heavily customized by:

- using a configuration stylesheet,
- using customized stylesheets,
- using a customized LaTeX style package.
- using a LaTeX post process script.

All these customization methods can be used independently and in exceptional cases, but it can also be combined and registered in a master configuration file, called a specification file (cf. [Section 5.6](#)) to create a new tool dedicated to your needs.

5.1 Configuration Parameter Stylesheet

The PDF rendering can be customised by using an XSL configuration stylesheet. The configuration file is specified by using the option `-p custom.xml`. The available configuration parameters are the following:

Parameter	Role	Default value
<code>callout.markup.circled</code>	Set to 1 the callouts references in a <code>calloutlist</code> are white numbers in black circles, like the markups in the listing (or graphic). Set to 0 the references are simple numbers.	1
<code>callout.linkends.hot</code>	The callouts referenced in a callout list are hot links if the parameter is set to 1. Then, the references are in red such like any other cross-reference link in the document.	1

Parameter	Role	Default value
co.linkends.show	Next to a callout markup the links to the corresponding calloutlist items are shown when the parameter is set to 1. Set to 0 the links are not shown.	1
doc.alignment	Defines the text alignment for the whole document. The valid values are: "left", "center", "right", "justify". An empty string is equivalent to "justify".	Empty
doc.lot.show	Specifies which Lists of Titles should be printed after the Table of Content. The value is a comma separated list of the LoTs to show. The supported LoTs are "figure", "table", "equation", and "example". The list order represents the LoTs order in the output document.	"figure,table"
doc.pdfcreator.show	Fill the Creator field of the PDF document information section with "DBLaTeX-<version>" if the parameter is set to 1. Set to 0 this field is keep untouched.	1
doc.publisher.show	Print the dblatex logo on the cover page for the native docbook style if the parameter is set to 1.	0
figure.note	Figure to use to render a note block. This parameter is added to allow new latex styles to use their own figures in admonitions.	Empty

Parameter	Role	Default value
figure.tip	Figure to use to render a tip block. This parameter is added to allow new latex styles to use their own figures in admonitions.	Empty
figure.important	Figure to use to render a important block. This parameter is added to allow new latex styles to use their own figures in admonitions.	"warning"
figure.warning	Figure to use to render a warning block. This parameter is added to allow new latex styles to use their own figures in admonitions.	"warning"
figure.caution	Figure to use to render a caution block. This parameter is added to allow new latex styles to use their own figures in admonitions.	"warning"
figure.title.top	Set to 1 the figure float title position is above the image. Set to 0 the title is under the image.	0
imagedata.default.scale	Default scale to apply to every imagedata that does not contain any scaling attribute. By default this parameter is set to 'pagebound' so that the included images keep their natural size up to the page boundaries. Except the special reserved 'pagebound' value, the expected value of the parameter must be some valid options passed to the \includegraphics command.	pagebound

Parameter	Role	Default value
latex.hyperparam	cf. 5.1.1	empty
latex.figure.boxed	If set to 1, put the images into a framed box.	0
latex.babel.use	Set to 1 the babel package corresponding to the document language is included. Set to 0 no babel package is included whatever the document language is.	1
latex.babel.language	This parameter forces the use of the specified babel language whatever the document language is.	Empty
latex.class.options	Options passed to the <code>\documentclass</code> command.	Empty
literal.layout.options	Overwrite the default options passed to the <code>\lstset</code> command.	Empty
literal.lines.showall	Set to 1, all the lines in a verbatim environment like <code>programlisting</code> or <code>screen</code> are printed, even if they are empty. Set to 0, the last empty lines are not printed. It is set to 1 by default.	1
literal.width.ignore	When set to 1 the <code>programlisting</code> and <code>screen</code> width attribute is ignored. In this case all the verbatim environment widths are equal to the enclosing environment width.	0
make.year.ranges	If non-zero, copyright years will be collated into ranges. Parameter taken from the DocBook XSL stylesheets.	0

Parameter	Role	Default value
make.single.year.ranges	If non-zero, year ranges that span a single year will be printed in range notation (1998-1999) instead of discrete notation (1998, 1999). Parameter taken from the DocBook XSL stylesheets.	0
mediaobject.caption.style	Font style of the mediaobject caption text. Its value can be any valid latex font style command combinations. By default this parameter put the caption text to italics.	\slshape
newtbl.use	Set to 1, use the David Hedley table support.	1
newtbl.format.thead	LaTeX formatting for head table cells.	\bfseries%
newtbl.format.tbody	LaTeX formatting for body table cells.	Empty
newtbl.format.tfoot	LaTeX formatting for foot table cells.	Empty
newtbl.default.colsep	Set to 1, print the column separators when no colspec attribute is specified.	1
newtbl.default.rowsep	Set to 1, print the row separators when no rowspec attribute is specified.	1
qandaset.defaultlabel	Defines the default label to use in a qandadet when the defaultlabel attribute is not specified.	"number"
seg.item.separator	Defines the separator to use between several segitems.	", "

Parameter	Role	Default value
set.book.num	When the document root element is a <code>set</code> this parameter can be used to select the book to print, because dblatex can output only one book from the set.	1
table.title.top	Set to 1 the table float title position is above the table. Set to 0 the title is under the table.	0
term.breakline	Set to 1 the item following a term in a variable list is put on the next line.	0
titleabbrev.in.toc	Set to 1 the titleabbrev content is put in the TOC instead of the title.	1

5.1.1 latex.hyperparam

This parameter gives the options to pass to the LaTeX hyperref package. No validity check is done.

For instance, the Table of Content rendering (link color, etc.) can be changed. Look at the hyperref.sty documentation to know all the hyperref options available.

Example 12

```
<?xml version='1.0' encoding="iso-8859-1"?>
<xsl:stylesheet xmlns:xsl="http://www.w3.org/1999/XSL/Transform" version='1.0'>

<!-- We want TOC links in the titles (not in the page numbers), and blue.
-->
<xsl:param name="latex.hyperparam">colorlinks,linkcolor=blue</xsl:param>

</xsl:stylesheet>
```

5.2 Setting Parameter values

It is possible to set some XSL parameter values directly from the command line without creating a configuration parameter stylesheet, by using the `-P parameter=value` option.

The following example set the `latex.hyperparam` parameter value:

```
dblatex -P latex.hyperparam=colorlinks,linkcolor=blue myfile.xml
```

5.3 Customized stylesheets

If one needs to change some of the translations done by the XSL stylesheets, it is possible to provide user stylesheets to override the templates. To do this, write the stylesheets (e.g. `mystyle.xml`) and include them in the configuration file such as shown by the following example.

Example 13

```
<?xml version='1.0' encoding="iso-8859-1"?>
<xsl:stylesheet xmlns:xsl="http://www.w3.org/1999/XSL/Transform" version='1.0'>

<!-- Let's import our own XSL to override the default behaviour.
-->
<xsl:import href="mystyle.xml"/>

</xsl:stylesheet>
```

5.4 Customized LaTeX style

The actual output rendering is done by the latex style package used, and not by the XSL stylesheets whose role is only to translate to latex. Users can provide their own LaTeX style file, in respect of some rules:

- The LaTeX style package preamble must support all the options that the XSL stylesheets can pass to the package.
- Some packages must be used to make all the thing work.
- The docbook interface must be defined: the XSL stylesheets register some elements information in LaTeX commands. These commands or macro are the only ones specific to DocBook that are explicitly used by the XSL stylesheets. Other specific macros are used but are not intended to be changed by the user. These hidden macros are defined in the `dbk_core` latex package.

The latex style file to use is specified by using the option `--style latex_style`. An example of a simple LaTeX DocBook style is provided in the package.

5.4.1 Package options

A compliant LaTeX style package supports the following options. The options are provided by the XSL stylesheets according to the document attributes.

Option	Role
hyperlink, nohyperlink	Indicates if links in the document are provided or not
article, book	The document is an <code>article</code> or a <code>book</code>

5.4.2 Needed packages

A LaTeX style package must at least include the following packages.

Package	Description
dbk_core	Core LaTeX definitions and macros needed for DocBook

5.4.3 DocBook interface

All the latex commands beginning with DBK are related to elements under `bookinfo` or `articleinfo`.

Command	Description
<code>\DBKreference</code>	mapped to <code>pubsnumber</code>
<code>\DBKsite</code>	mapped to <code>address</code>
<code>\DBKcopyright</code>	mapped to <code>copyright</code>
<code>\DBKdate</code>	mapped to <code>date</code>
<code>\DBKedition</code>	mapped to <code>edition</code>
<code>\DBKpubdate</code>	mapped to <code>pubdate</code>
<code>\DBKsubtitle</code>	mapped to <code>subtitle</code>
<code>\DBKreleaseinfo</code>	mapped to <code>releaseinfo</code>

Command	Description
\DBKlegalnotice	environment mapped to a <code>legalnotice</code> . The legal notices are all put into the <code>\DBKlegalblock</code> command. It is up to the latex stylesheet to decide where to put it in the document.
\DBKlegalblock	wrapper command for the <code>\DBKlegalnotice</code> environments, used by the latex stylesheet to decide where to put the legal notices in the document.
\DBKindexation	This command contains the <code>othercredit</code> information translated to latex by the XSL. This command must be placed where the <code>othercredit</code> shall appear in the document.
\DBKindtable	This environment must be defined by the user to render the <code>othercredit</code> list. It can be displayed as a table, <code>listitem</code> , description list, or anything that suits your need.
\DBKinditem	This is an <code>othercredit</code> item.
\DBKrevtable	This environment must be defined by the user to render the <code>revhistory</code> table. Until now it is not really possible to customize it, since it must be a table with four columns, each column for a <code>revhistory</code> piece of information.
float example	This float is expected to be defined, and is mapped to <code>example</code> . It is not defined by default by the <code>dbk_core</code> package to allow the user to define its rendering (ruled or not, etc.)
float dbequation	This float is expected to be defined, and is mapped to <code>equation</code> . It is not defined by default by the <code>dbk_core</code> package to allow the user to define its rendering (ruled or not, etc.)

5.4.4 Debugging your Style

It is not surprising if your first dblatex compilation fails with a fresh LaTeX style. So, how to debug it when used with dblatex?

The following steps can help you:

1. Compile your file in the debug mode (option `-d`). When the compilation is done, the temporary working directory will not be removed.

```
$ dblatex --style mytexstyle -d file.xml
...
/tmp/tpub-ben-99629 is not removed
```

2. Go under the building temporary directory, and set the environment with the file `env_tex`.

```
$ cd /tmp/tpub-ben-99629
$ . env_tex
```

3. Compile the temporary latex file produced by the XSL stylesheets. Its name has the suffix `"_tmp.tex"`.

```
$ pdflatex file_tmp.tex
$ [ many outputs here ]
```

4. Now latex stops when it encounters an error so that you can debug your stylesheet.

5.5 Latex post process script

Extra user actions can be processed on the latex file produced by the XSL stylesheets or on its temporary working files produced by the latex compilation.

For instance, in the documents I write the cover page must display the number of pages of the document, but written in full letters (e.g. 23 is written "twenty three"). The latex post process script is then helpfull, and in this particular case it patches the `.aux` file.

The post process script is called just before the last latex compilation, and takes one parameter, the latex file compiled by the tool.

5.6 Specification file

A master configuration file, also called a specification file, can be defined to list all the customizations and options to apply. Such a file is passed by using the option `-S specs`.

The format of the file is the following:

- Every comment starts with a “#”, and is ignored.
- The file must contain one parameter by line.
- The format of a parameter is the following:

```
<keyword>: <value>
```

- Every parameter is mapped to an option that can be passed to **dblatex**.
- An unknown parameter is silently ignored (the whole line is dropped).
- The parameters defining a path (a file or a directory) can take absolute or relative paths. A relative path must be defined from the specification file itself. For instance, a specification file under `/the/spec/directory/` with a parameter describing the file `../where/this/file/is/myfile` points to `/the/spec/where/this/file/is/myfile`.

The following table lists the supported parameters and the corresponding command line option.

Keyword	Value	Corresponding option	Description
TexInputs	Directories	--texinputs	Defines extra path to add to TEXINPUTS
PdfInputs	Directories	--pdfinputs	Defines paths containing PDF graphics needed to compile the latex file with pdflatex.
TexStyle	Latex package name	--style	Defines the LaTeX style package to use.
TexPost	Script file name	--texpost	Defines the LaTeX post process script to use.
XslParam	Parameter file name	-p	Defines the parameter file to use.
FigInputs	Directories	-I	Defines the extra figures path.

Keyword	Value	Corresponding option	Description
Options	Command line options	None	Lists command options to use by default when using the tool. The options specified by the parameter are directly passed to dblatex

Here is the specification file used for this manual.

Example 14

```
#
# Specification file example
#
TexInputs: ../latex//
PdfInputs: ../latex/graphics
TexStyle: docbook
XslParam: myparam.xsl
Options: -b pdftex
```

5.7 Customization order

All the customization queries are translated to the corresponding command line options. Thus, using several customization methods can be inconsistent because each of them override the same option with another value.

For instance, you can specify the use of a specification file in which it is said to use a latex style (parameter `TexStyle`) and explicitly use the `--style` command line option. So, what is the behaviour?

The options order is the following:

- If a specification file is used (`-S` option), the options are set to the specification file parameters.
- The options explicitly passed override the specification file setting, whatever is the position of the options (i.e. before or after the `-S` option).
- If an option is passed several times, this is the last occurrence that is used.

Example 15

Let's consider the specification file containing the following parameters:

```
XslParam: file3.xsl  
Options: -b pdftex  
TexStyle: mystyle1
```

And now the command line:

```
dbllatex -b dvips -p file1.xsl -p file2.xsl -S file.specs --style mystyle2 mydoc.sgml
```

The setting used is the following:

- “-b dvips” overrides “-b pdftex” set by the spec file.
- “-p file2.xsl” overrides “-p file1.xsl” since it is defined after, and overrides “file3.xsl” set by the spec file.
- “--style mystyle2” override “mystyle1” set by the spec file.

6 FAQ

The purpose of this mini FAQ is to give some tips about how customizing or tweaking the PDF output.

My images are too big. What can I do?

When an image is included via `imagedata` with no scaling attributes (e.g. `width`, `height`, `contentwidth`) it is its natural size that is used.

One can change individually the size of an `imagedata` by defining its attributes (see [TDG] for more details). One can also use the parameter `imagedata.default.scale` to apply a systematic scaling rule on every image that has no explicit attribute.

The parameter `imagedata.default.scale` can take:

- The default predefined value "pagebound": the image natural size is used, up to the page boundaries. That is, if an image natural width is greater than the page width its size is proportionally reduced so that it is contained in the page. The same control is done for height.
- Any combination of valid `\includegraphics` options. For example

`imagedata.default.scale=scale=40%` The scale 40% is applied on the images.

`imagedata.default.scale=width=40%,height=3in` This example is weird but shows that several options can be used. In this case the image width is 40% of the page width, and the height is fixed to 3 inches. The risk to have an anamorphous result is very high here.

How can I have the PDF fit to height by default?

The behaviour of the PDF file when opened by a reader like Acrobat Reader can be customized with the parameter `latex.hyperparam`. See [Section 5.1.1](#) for more details about this parameter. To answer precisely to the question, set the parameter with the option `"pdfstartview=FitV"`.

How can I have all the PDF hyperlinks in blue color?

Same answer than for the previous question.

For this particular case, set the parameter with the options `"linktocpage,colorlinks,linkcolor=blue,citecolor=blue"`.

How can I remove that stupid float rules?

If you wonder about this, you probably use the `db2latex` style. To remove the rules, you need to patch the `db2latex.sty`. You can:

- Simply remove the `floatstyle` definition for the floats for which you don't want the rules.
- Explicitly use the plain `floatstyle`. Note that using this explicit style does not allow to change the float title position anymore. The plain style always put the title at the bottom of the float.

My long tables don't split in several pages. Why?

A formal table (`table` element) is put in a float, so that it can have a numbered caption and placed by `tex` at the best place. The limitation is that a float cannot split over several pages. For long tables that need to split, use `informaltable` instead.

I cannot put a table in an example.

A formal table (`table` element) is put in a float, and cannot be put in another float like an example. You can use an `informaltable` instead.

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