

# The *pyluatex* package

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<https://github.com/tndrle/PyLuaTeX>

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## Execute Python code on the fly in your $\text{\LaTeX}$ documents

PyLuaTeX allows you to execute Python code and to include the resulting output in your  $\text{\LaTeX}$  documents in a *single compilation run*.  $\text{\LaTeX}$  documents must be compiled with Lua $\text{\LaTeX}$  for this to work.

## 1 Example

1.  $\text{\LaTeX}$  document `example.tex`

```
\documentclass{article}

\usepackage{pyluatex}

\begin{python}
import math
import random

random.seed(0)

greeting = 'Hello PyLuaTeX!'
\end{python}

\newcommand{\randint}[2]{\py{random.randint(#1, #2)}}

\begin{document}
\py{greeting}

 $\sqrt{371}$  = \py{math.sqrt(371)}$

\randint{2}{5}
\end{document}
```

2. Compile using Lua $\text{\LaTeX}$  (shell escape is required)

```
lualatex -shell-escape example.tex
```

**Note:** Running  $\LaTeX$  with the shell escape option enabled allows arbitrary code to be executed. For this reason, it is recommended to compile trusted documents only.

## 1.1 Further Examples

The folder `example` contains additional example documents:

- `readme-example.tex`

The example above

- `sessions.tex`

Demonstrates the use of different Python sessions in a document

- `data-visualization.tex`

Demonstrates the visualization of data using *pgfplots* and *pandas*

For more intricate use cases have a look at our tests in the folder `test`.

## 2 Installation

PyLuaTeX is not yet available through package managers or CTAN<sup>1</sup>.

To install PyLuaTeX, do the following steps:

1. Locate your local *TEXMF* folder

The location of this folder may vary. Typical defaults for TeX Live are `~/texmf` for Linux, `~/Library/texmf` for macOS, and `C:\Users\<user name>\texmf` for Windows. If you are lucky, the command `kpsewhich -var-value=TEXMFHOME` tells you the location. For MiKTeX, the folder can be found and configured in the *MiKTeX Console*.

2. Download the latest release<sup>2</sup> of PyLuaTeX

3. Put the downloaded files in the folder `TEXMF/tex/latex/pyluatex` (where `TEXMF` is the folder located in 1.)

The final folder structure must be

```
TEXMF/tex/latex/pyluatex/  
|-- pyluatex-interpreter.py  
|-- pyluatex-json.lua  
|-- pyluatex.lua  
|-- pyluatex.sty  
|-- ...
```

## 3 Reference

PyLuaTeX offers a simple set of options, macros and environments.

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<sup>1</sup><https://ctan.org>

<sup>2</sup><https://github.com/tndrle/PyLuaTeX/releases/latest>

### 3.1 Package Options

- `verbose`

If this option is enabled, Python input and output is written to the log file.

*Example:* `\usepackage[verbose]{pyluatex}`

- `executable`

Specifies the path to the Python executable. (default: `python3`)

*Example:* `\usepackage[executable=/usr/local/bin/python3]{pyluatex}`

### 3.2 Macros

- `\py{code}`

Executes `code` and writes the output to the document.

*Example:* `\py{3 + 7}`

- `\pyc{code}`

Executes `code`

*Example:* `\pyc{x = 5}`

- `\pyfile{path}`

Executes the Python file specified by `path`.

*Example:* `\pyfile{main.py}`

- `\pysession{session}`

Selects `session` as Python session for subsequent Python code.

The session that is active at the beginning is `default`.

*Example:* `\pysession{main}`

### 3.3 Environments

- `python`

Executes the provided block of Python code.

The environment handles characters like `_`, `#`, `%`, `\`, etc.

Code on the same line as `\begin{python}` is ignored, i.e., code must start on the next line.

If leading spaces are present they are gobbled automatically up to the first level of indentation.

*Example:*

```
\begin{python}
  x = 'Hello PyLuaTeX'
  print(x)
\end{python}
```

## 4 Requirements

- Lua<sup>3</sup>TeX
- Python 3
- Linux, macOS or Windows

Our automated tests currently use TeX Live 2021 and Python 3.7+ on Ubuntu 20.04, macOS Catalina 10.15 and Windows Server 2019.

## 5 How It Works

PyLuaTeX runs a Python `InteractiveInterpreter`<sup>3</sup> (actually several if you use different sessions) in the background for on the fly code execution. Python code from your  $\text{\LaTeX}$  file is sent to the background interpreter through a TCP socket. This approach allows your Python code to be executed and the output to be integrated in your  $\text{\LaTeX}$  file in a single compilation run. No additional processing steps are needed. No intermediate files have to be written. No placeholders have to be inserted.

## 6 License

LPPL 1.3c<sup>4</sup> for  $\text{\LaTeX}$  code and MIT license<sup>5</sup> for Python and Lua code.

We use the great `json.lua`<sup>6</sup> library under the terms of the MIT license<sup>7</sup>.

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<sup>3</sup><https://docs.python.org/3/library/code.html#code.InteractiveInterpreter>

<sup>4</sup><http://www.latex-project.org/lppl.txt>

<sup>5</sup><https://opensource.org/licenses/MIT>

<sup>6</sup><https://github.com/rxi/json.lua>

<sup>7</sup><https://opensource.org/licenses/MIT>