The \texttt{biblatex-trad} Package

Traditional bibliography styles for \texttt{biblatex}

Marco Daniel \hspace{1cm} Version 0.4a
Moritz Wemheuer \hspace{1cm} 17th February 2018

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1 Introduction

The package \texttt{biblatex-trad} is a contribution to the great package \texttt{biblatex}.
It provides the implementation of the traditional bibliography styles (\texttt{plain, unsrt, alpha}
and \texttt{abbrv}) as a style for \texttt{biblatex}.

1.1 Motivation

The package is motivated by a question at TeX – LaTeX Stack Exchange ‘How to emulate the
traditional BibTeX styles (\texttt{plain, abbrv, unsrt, alpha}) as closely as possible with \texttt{biblatex}?’

1.2 Requirements

The use of the styles requires the \texttt{biblatex} package. It is tested with the current version
of \texttt{biblatex} (at the time of writing that is 3.10). Care has been taken to retain backwards
compatibility with older versions, but please do not expect the styles to work flawlessly
with ancient versions of \texttt{biblatex}. Note also that the style may fail silently with older
versions, it need not necessarily emit noisy warnings or error messages, the output might
just be wrong.

Note that in recent versions of \texttt{biblatex} the BibTeX backend has been degraded to the
status of ‘fallback backend’. Some features of this style will only work properly if you use
the default Biber backend.
1.3 License

Copyright © 2012–2015 Marco Daniel, 2016–2018 Moritz Wemheuer. Permission is granted to copy, distribute and/or modify this software under the terms of the LaTeX Project Public License, version 1.3c.¹

1.4 Feedback

Please use the biblatex-trad project page on GitHub to report bugs and submit feature requests.²

If you do not want to report a bug or request a feature but are simply in need of assistance, you might want to consider posting your question on the comp.text.tex newsgroup or TeX – LaTeX Stack Exchange.³

2 Usage

biblatex-trad is not a standalone package. As described in § 1 it is a small collection of styles. So you can load the styles as follows:

```
\usepackage[style=(style)]{biblatex}
```

The available styles are listed below.

- **trad-plain** Implementation of the standard style plain
- **trad-unrsrt** Implementation of the standard style unsrt
- **trad-alpha** Implementation of the standard style alpha
- **trad-abbrv** Implementation of the standard style abbrv

After loading the style you can use all options provided by biblatex. That means also that all fields of the standard bibliography drivers are available, even if they are unknown to the traditional .bst files.

3 Limitations

Up to now the entry types @article, @book, @incollection, @inproceedings, @online, @proceedings, @thesis, @report and @unpublished are set up.

Since the styles are based on biblatex standard styles, the fields retain the meaning they have in biblatex even if that may be at odds with how the traditional .bst files handle those fields.

¹http://www.latex-project.org/lppl.txt
²https://github.com/moewew/biblatex-trad
³http://tex.stackexchange.com/questions/tagged/biblatex
4 Revision History

0.4a 2018-02-17
Fixed alphabetic labels for names with prefix (‘von’ part) (issue #34 on github)

0.4 2018-02-02
Fixed incorrect bibstring for chapters (issue #32 on github)
Various small modifications

0.3 2016-06-26
Fix issues with new name formats in biblatex versions ≥ 3.3 (issue #25 on github)
Fix problems with the related mechanism (issue #24 on github)
Proper support for @thesis-types (issue #23 on github)
Modify maxalphenames/minalphanames and \labelalphaothers in trad-alpha to mirror alpha more closely (issue #22 on github)
Use labelprefix instead of prefixnumber

0.2 2012-09-29
Fixed missing comma after journal name if journal name has a period
Make titles sentence case
Removed extra in
Removed extra \printfield
Fixed extra comma if @article doesn’t have a year
Use package libertine-type1 for documentation

0.1 2012-09-09
First upload