

# ltxfileinfo print version information for a LaTeX file

doc generated from the script with `gendoc`

bash script, version=2.04

## Synopsis

**ltxfileinfo** [options] filename

Options:

```
-h,--help      print this help and exit
-H,--Help      print full documentation via less and exit
-V             print this script's version and exit
-d,--date      print file's date only
-v,--version   print file's version only
-i,--info      print file's description text only
-l,--location  print file's full path only (same output as kpsewhich)
-f,--flat      output as 1 line with 4 tab-separated file, date, version and info fields
-s,--star      mark mal-formatted data with a star
-c,--color     mark mal-formatted data with red color (ANSI coloring)
-D,--debug     for debugging, keep temporary files
```

## Description

**ltxfileinfo** displays version information for LaTeX files. If no path information is given, the file is searched using `kpsewhich`. As an extra, for developers, the script will (use the `--star` or `--color` options) check the validity of the `\Provides...` statement in the files. The script uses code from Uwe Lück's `readprov.sty`.

Without an option, the output will be of the form:

```
$ ltxfileinfo ctable.sty
name: ctable.sty
date: 2012/08/23
vers: v1.24
info: Easy, key=value directed, option-rich, typesetting of floats
loca: /usr/local/texlive/2012/./texmf-local/tex/latex/ctable/ctable.sty
```

Missing information is represented by `--`:

```
$ ltxfileinfo yhmath.sty
name: yhmath.sty
date: --
vers: --
info: --
loca: /usr/local/texlive/2012/texmf-dist/tex/latex/yhmath/yhmath.sty
```

**ltxfileinfo** tries to detect (and report) mal-formatted dates and versions; use the `--star` option to mark such fields with a star, or use the `--color` option to color invalid fields red, if you work in a terminal with ANSI-coloring capabilities. These options are useful for developers who want to check the correctness of their `\Provides...` statements. For example:

```
$ ltxfileinfo -s arfonts.sty
file: ARfonts.sty* (case difference in \Provides statement)
date: 2006/01/01
vers: --*
info: Part of the Arabi package
loca: /usr/local/texlive/2012/texmf-dist/tex/latex/arabi/arfonts.sty
```

We see here, that the `\ProvidesPackage` statement has an incorrect first argument and has no version information.

## Other output formats

With the `--date` option, only the file's date will be shown, unlabeled. The `--version`, `--location`, `--info` options are treated analogously.

```
$ ltxfileinfo -v chronology.sty
v1.0
```

The `--flat` option prints the fields (except `loca:`, the last field) on one line, unlabeled and tab-separated:

```
$ ltxfileinfo --star --flat chronology.sty
chronology.sty      2010/6/12*      v1.0      Horizontal timeline
```

The date is starred, because its format is not `yyyyImddd` (and the `--star` option is given.)

## Bugs

On my system, I have a total of 8699 kpsewhich-detectable files that contain a `\Provides...` statement. I ran them all through `ltxfileinfo` and made the following summary of detected errors:

```
8695 Total \Provides... containing files tested

660 \Provides... could not be interpreted; reason:
    160 Argument of \Provides... not equal to file's name
       8 Latex3 package (not handled yet)
    480 Unidentified problem with \ProvidesPackage statement
       12 \Provides... used in file without a ... extension

8035 Files could be evaluated
    482 had no date
       95 had a mal-formatted date
2666 had no version
    357 had a mal-formatted version
    765 had a \Provides... first argument different from the filename
```

The `.dtx` files have more problems than other files:

```
1345 .dtx files:

320 \Provides... could not be interpreted; reason:
    81 Argument of \Provides... not equal to...
       6 Latex3 package (not handled yet)
    233 Unidentified problem with \ProvidesPackage statement

1025 Files could be evaluated
    49 had no date
    15 had a mal-formatted date
    99 had no version
    52 had a mal-formatted version
    468 had a \Provides... first argument different from the filename
```

## Author and copyright

Author Wybo Dekker  
Email [wybo@dekkerdocumenten.nl](mailto:wybo@dekkerdocumenten.nl)  
License Released under the [GNU General Public License](#)