
MNRAS Cookiecutter Documentation

Release 0.0.1

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Description: An easy, reasonably standardized, but flexible template for creating paper for the [Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical society](#)

This documentation is part of the repository [MNRAS Cookiecutter](#)

Part I

Contents

CHAPTER 1

Getting Started

Author: Victor Calderon (victor.calderon@vanderbilt.edu)

Description: An easy, reasonably standardized, but flexible template for creating paper for the [Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical society](#)

1.1 Downloading and Creating your own Paper

Author: Victor Calderon (victor.calderon@vanderbilt.edu)

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1.1.1 Requirements to use cookiecutter templates

The minimum requirements for creating cookiecutter templates are:

- Python 2.7 or 3.5

- [Cookiecutter Python package](#) $\geq 1.4.0$: This can be installed with pip or conda depending on how you manage your Python packages.

You can install it by typing this on the terminal

```
pip install cookiecutter
```

or via Anaconda:

```
conda config --add channels conda-forge
conda install cookiecutter
```

Now you can use cookiecutter to create new templates for projects and papers!

1.1.2 Creating a new Paper

After having done the steps in [Requirements to use cookiecutter templates](#), you can start creating the skeleton for the new MNRAS paper.

To start a new paper, run:

```
cookiecutter https://github.com/vcalderon2009/MNRAS_Cookiecutter
```

This will prompt you to answer a few questions like:

Next, it will prompt you for some answers. The different prompts are:

Question	Description
author_first_name	Author's first name. author_first_name will be used for the <i>title</i> of the paper Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adam • Rose
author_last_name	Author's last name. last_name will be used for the <i>title</i> of the paper Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calderon • Piscionere
author_name	Author's first name. author_name will be used for the <i>title</i> of the paper Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adam Sanchez • Rose Roserberg
author_email	Author's first name. author_email will be used for the <i>title</i> of the paper Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some_email@gmail.com • another_email@yahoo.com
author_affiliation	Name of the department. Should not have '_' (underscores) symbols Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vanderbilt University • Some other University
paper_title	Title of the thesis. Should not have '_' symbols in it. Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding Exoplanets and Other Sources • The Clustering of Galaxies on the Smallest Scales Across Cosmic Time
paper_pubyear	Year of the publication. Must be numeric. Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2018 • 2017
repo_name	Name of the directory/repository, paper will be saved. This name is selected by default, but can be changed. This field <i>should not contain spaces</i> Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calderon_Victor_Astro_PhD_Thesis • Szweciw_Adam_Astro_PhD_Thesis
github_username	Author's Github username. This will be use to link to the paper to the Github repository. Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • username • username2018
1.1. Downloading and Creating your own Paper github_project	Name of the project on Github Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awesome_Paper_username_2018 • Another_awesome_paper

1.1.3 Using the Template

Now that one has answered the questions from *Creating a new Paper*, you just need to fill in the documents in the `Section_files` directory according to your project's needs.

The structure of the finalized project can be found in the *Project Structure* section.

1.1.4 Uploading your Project to Overleaf

Once you have completed setting up your paper, and are ready to start the writing process, you can upload your paper to [Overleaf](#).

Overleaf, as explained on their website, is:

Overleaf is a free service that lets you create, edit and share your scientific ideas easily online using LaTeX, a comprehensive and powerful tool for scientific writing.

—Overleaf Team

For a more in-depth tutorial on how to use [Overleaf](#), you can visit [Overleaf Tutorial](#) and watch the attached video.

Steps to follow to upload your project to Overleaf

In order to upload your project to Overleaf, you need to follow the following steps:

- Compress the output of cookiecutter template to a zip file.
- Create an account on Overleaf. Go to [Overleaf Sign-up](#)
- Create a **new, empty** “New Project”
- Click on **“Upload Project”**
- **Drag and drop** or click on **Select a .zip file**
- Connect your [Mendeley](#) account. Open one if you don't have one. This will link your bibliography with Overleaf. See more [here](#)
- Remove the current ‘Mendeley.bib’ file from the project tree
- Click on “New file” > “From Mendeley” and name it **Mendeley.bib** and put it in the *root* directory of the project.

For a brief video on how to do this, see the following video:

And now you have a new, working MNRAS paper

You can start writing now!

Project based on the [modified](#) version of the [MNRAS LaTeX Template](#).

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CHAPTER 2

Commands

The Makefile contains the central entry points for common tasks related to this project.

This section is dedicated towards the functions used through the analysis.

Project based on the [modified](#) version of the [MNRAS LaTeX Template](#).

CHAPTER 3

Project Structure

The organization of the project is the following:

```
— Extras <- Folder with documents like main `aliases`, `packages`, etc.
  |
  |— commands.tex <- List of commands used throughout the paper.
  |— packages.tex <- List of packages to load for the paper.
— Figures <- Directory for project figures.
  |
  |— .gitkeep
— Paper
  |
  |— mnras.bst <-- MNRAS bibliography style file.
  |— mnras.cls <-- MNRAS class file.
  |— paper.tex <- Main TeX file for compiling.
— Script_files
  |
  |— modify_bib.sh
  |— hyperlink-year-only-natbib-patch.tex. <- File that fixed the bibliography style.
  |— nat2jour.pl
— Section_files
  |
  |— 01_abstract.tex <-- File for the 'abstract'.
  |— 02_introduction.tex <-- File for the 'Introduction'.
  |— 03_data_methods.tex <-- File for the 'Data and Methods'.
  |— 04_results.tex <-- File for the 'Results'.
  |— 05_summary_discussion.tex <-- File for the 'Summary and Discussion'.
  |— 06_acknowledgements.tex <-- File for the 'Acknowledgements'.
— .gitignore <- File that dictates which files to ignore when using
↪ `git`.
— Makefile <- Makefile with command, i.e. `make main.tex` or `make
↪ clean`
— Makefile.inc <- File with input parameters for the `Makefile`.
— Mendeley.bib <- Bibliography of the project. You can replace this
↪ file if needed.
```

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└─ README.md	<- The top-level README for students
└─ LICENSE	<- License used for the distribution of the paper.
└─ requirements.txt	<- File with a list of packages required for running
↪ this.	

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