

The cstanbib package

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1 Introduction

This package provides script named `cstanbib` which can be used for retrieving of the bibliographic information for packages hosted on CTAN.

2 Usage

It can be used in the following way:

```
cstanbib [options] <packagename> > filename.bib
```

The `curl` utility needs to be installed on the user's system in order to support the package info download.

3 Available options

-c,--ctan use the `@ctan` type instead of `@manual`. The difference between the two is that the `url` field contains packages CTAN path, instead of a link to the package.

-C,--CTAN like `--ctan` option, but use original url instead of CTAN path.

-h,--help print the help message.

-v,--version print the version info.

4 Examples

```
cstanbib latex
```

This invocation will print data in the Bib_{La}TeX format to the standard output:

```
@manual{latex,  
title = {The Latex package},  
subtitle = {A TeX macro package that defines LaTeX},
```

```
author = {Lamport, Leslie and The LaTeX Team},
url = {http://www.latex-project.org/},
urldate = {2018-08-23},
date = {2018-04-01},
version = {PL 5}
}
```

The `--ctan` option:

```
ctanbib -c hyperref
```

This produces a bib record with the `@ctan` type:

```
@ctan{hyperref,
title = {The Hyperref package},
subtitle = {Extensive support for hypertext in LaTeX},
author = {Rahtz, Sebastian and Oberdiek, Heiko},
url = {/macros/latex/contrib/hyperref},
urldate = {2018-08-27},
date = {},
version = {6.86b}
}
```

5 License

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6 Acknowledgements

This package was created thanks to TeX.sx user Daniel¹. Lukas C. Bossert had useful comments which led to update of the original script and it's eventual release on CTAN. Herbert Voss added the `--CTAN` option.

¹<https://tex.stackexchange.com/users/3751/daniel>

7 Changelog

- 2021-06-20 Added --CTAN option, thanks to Herbert Voss
- 2019-12-23 Don't return non-zero exit codes for non-error runs
- 2019-12-23 Test for the packagename with the -c option
- 2019-09-21 Try to find the author in full CTAN author list if the author cannot be found in the package info
- 2019-09-16 Use the CTAN API 2.0 to fetch the package info
- 2019-05-04 Version 0.1c released
- 2019-05-04 Use the curl command to download the package info
- 2019-05-04 Added information about the need to have the curl command installed
- 2019-03-11 Version 0.1b released
- 2018-09-10 Added support for institutional names
- 2018-09-10 Escape TeX commands in the title and subtitle
- 2018-08-29 Added man page
- 2018-08-27 Added -ctan option
- 2018-08-23 Version 0.1 released.
- 2018-08-23 Created documentation.
- 2018-08-21 Rewrote the script to use the DOM api provided by LuaXML. This provides greater flexibility in the XML processing.
- 2018-08-20 Fixed the script for the current XML format provided by CTAN.
- 2014-09-12 Initial version of the script have been released in answer on TeX.sx².

²<https://tex.stackexchange.com/a/200856/2891>