

# The `classics` package,<sup>\*</sup> or the end of anachronism

Eduardo C. Lourenço de Lima  
elourenco@phi.pro.br

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## Abstract

This package provides a basic framework to cite classic works in accordance with traditional pagination systems. It can also be used in conjunction with other citation packages.

## Introduction

If you feel there is something wrong with “Plato (1994: pp. 50–1)”, “Aristotle (*Ethics*, 44)” or “Hume (2000: 303)”, this package is for you. The `classics` package provides a basic framework to cite classic works in compliance with traditional pagination systems. For example:

*Theaetetus* 142d4–5

*Nic. Eth.* 1179b14–1180a29

*THN* 3.1.2

Citation commands created by `classics` can also be used in conjunction with other citations engines such as standard `\cite`, `biblatex`, `natbib`, etc.

## 1 Synopsis

```
\newclassic [range separator] {classic} {list of formatting directives}  
\<classic> [work] {page} [section]  
\<classic>* [work] {page} [section] {last page} [section]  
\newpagination {pagination} {singular} {plural} {conjunction}  
\<pagination> {range}  
\DeclareClassicWorkFormat {formatting directive}
```

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<sup>\*</sup>This document corresponds to `classics` 0.1, dated February 2, 2013. I am grateful to Joseph Wright and Scott H. for suggestions.

## 2 Basic usage

`\newclassic` [*range separator*] {*classic*} {*list of formatting directives*}

Creates a citation command `\<classic>` based on a *list of formatting directives* separated by vertical bars. Each formatting directive has its own #1 and is used to declare the format in which to typeset the reference to a subdivision of a classic work. There can be at most six such directives. As an example:

```
\newclassic {Aristotle} {#1|\textit{#1}|#1}
```

would create a new citation command `\Aristotle`:

```
\Aristotle [work] {page} [column] [line]  
\Aristotle* [work] {page} [column] [line] {last page} [column] [line]
```

to typeset references in which letters for *column* are printed in italic type. The starred version `\Aristotle*` is used to cite a range of two pages separated by *range separator*.

**Note:** `\Aristotle*` will not typeset *last page* if *page* and *last page* are the same. However, *last page* will be preserved if `\Aristotle*` is created by the starred version `\newclassic*`.

`\newpagination` {*pagination*} {*singular*} {*plural*} {*conjunction*}

Creates a command *pagination* to typeset *singular* or *plural* depending on whether subsequent arguments to *pagination* are singular or plural. As an example:

```
\newpagination {\pages} {page} {pages} { and }
```

would create the command `\pages`:

```
\pages {range}
```

that automatically typesets `page` *range* if *range* is singular, or `pages` *range* if *range* is plural, that is, if it contains a comma, a hyphen, a dash, or *conjunction*.

**Note:** *conjunction* might need to be enclosed in spaces.

`\DeclareClassicWorkFormat` {*formatting directive*}

Defines the format to typeset classic titles in. The default *formatting directive* is `\textit{#1}`.

`\classicalph`  $\langle integer \rangle$   
`\classicsAlph`  $\langle integer \rangle$   
`\classicsroman`  $\langle integer \rangle$   
`\classicsRoman`  $\langle integer \rangle$

These commands may come in handy if you want to typeset a subdivision as a letter or Roman numeral, lowercase or uppercase.

### 3 Advanced usage

You may combine `\newclassic` and `\newpagination` to create complex citation styles. For example:

`\Hume`  $[\langle work \rangle] \langle book \rangle [\langle part \rangle] [\langle section \rangle]$

can be created by:

```

\DeclareClassicWorkFormat{\textit{#1},}
\newpagination {\books} {book} {books} { and }
\newpagination {\parts} {part} {parts} { and }
\newpagination {\sections} {section} {sections} { and }
\newclassic {Hume} {\books{#1}|, \parts{#1}|, \sections{#1}}

```

so that:

`\Hume[Treatise]{3}[1][2]`

would typeset “*Treatise*, book 3, part 1, section 2”.

`\Homer`  $[\langle work \rangle] \langle book \rangle [\langle lines \rangle]$

can be created by:

```

\DeclareClassicWorkFormat{\textit{#1},}
\newpagination {\books} {book} {books} { and }
\newpagination {\lines} {line} {lines} { and }
\newclassic {Homer} {\books{\classicsRoman{#1}}|, \lines{#1}}

```

so that:

`\Homer[Odyssey]{3}[100--2]`

will typeset: “*Odyssey*, book III, lines 100–2”.

### 3.1 Caveat

Citation styles created by the `classics` package can also be used in conjunction with standard `\cite`, `biblatex`, `natbib`, etc.

A simple `classics` pagination command created by `\newpagination` can be used directly within the optional argument to `\cite`:

```
\cite [\pages{<number>}] {<key>}
```

However, a complex `classics` citation command created by `\newclassic` can be used within the optional argument to `\cite` only if it is enclosed in braces.

```
\cite [{\Homer{<book>}[<line>]}] {<key>}
```

For example:

```
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage{classics}
\newclassic{Homer}{#1|#1}
\begin{document}

\cite[{\Homer{3}[100--2]}]{Odyssey}

\begin{thebibliography}{10}
\bibitem[Od.]{Odyssey} Homer. \textit{Odyssey}.
\end{thebibliography}

\end{document}
```

## 4 Examples

### 4.1 Plato

```
\newclassic{Plato}{#1|#1|#1}
\Plato {142}[a] 142a
\Plato {142}[a] [3] 142a3
\Plato {142}[a] [3--4] 142a3-4
\Plato*{142}[a] [3]{142}[b] 142a3-b
\Plato*{142}[a] [3]{142}[b] [4] 142a3-b4
\Plato*{142}[a] [3]{143}[b] 142a3-143b
\Plato*{142}[a] [3]{143}[b] [4] 142a3-143b4
\Plato [Theaet.] {142}[a] [3] Theaet. 142a3
\Plato*[Theaet.] {142}[a] [3]{143}[b] [4] Theaet. 142a3-143b4
```

## 4.2 Aristotle

```

\newclassic {Aristotle} {#1|\textit{#1}|#1}

\Aristotle      {185}                185
\Aristotle      {185}[a]              185a
\Aristotle*     {185}[a]{185}[b]      185a-b
\Aristotle*     {185}[a]{185}[b][2]   185a-b2
\Aristotle*     {185}[a]{186}         185a-186
\Aristotle*     {185}[a]{186}[a]      185a-186a
\Aristotle*     {185}[a]{186}[a][3]   185a-186a3
\Aristotle [Phys.]{}                  Phys.
\Aristotle [Phys.]{185}                Phys. 185
\Aristotle [Phys.]{185}[a]              Phys. 185a
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a]{185}[b]      Phys. 185a-b
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a]{185}[b][2]   Phys. 185a-b2
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a]{186}         Phys. 185a-186
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a]{186}[a]      Phys. 185a-186a
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a]{186}[a][3]   Phys. 185a-186a3
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a]{186}[a][3--5] Phys. 185a-186a3-5
\Aristotle [Phys.]{185}[a][10]          Phys. 185a10
\Aristotle [Phys.]{185}[a][10--2]       Phys. 185a10-2
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a][10]{185}[b]   Phys. 185a10-b
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a][10]{185}[b][2] Phys. 185a10-b2
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a][10]{186}      Phys. 185a10-186
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a][10]{186}[a]    Phys. 185a10-186a
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a][10]{186}[a][3] Phys. 185a10-186a3
\Aristotle*[Phys.]{185}[a][10]{186}[a][3--5] Phys. 185a10-186a3-5

```

## 4.3 Homer

```

\DeclareClassicWorkFormat{\textbf{#1},}
\newclassic[ to ]{Homer}{\books{\classicsRoman{#1}}|, \lines{#1}}
\Homer {2}[100]                book II, line 100
\Homer {2}[100--4]              book II, lines 100-4
\Homer*{2}[100]{3}[80]          book II, line 100 to book III, line 80
\Homer [Iliad]{2}[100]          Iliad, book II, line 100
\Homer*[Iliad]{2}[100]{3}[80]   Iliad, book II, line 100 to book III, line 80

```