



philphys Documentation

PHILOSOPHY OF PHYSICS SOCIETY

LSE PRESS

* Author affiliations can be found in the back matter of this article

Philosophy of Physics



UNPUBLISHED
MANUSCRIPT



ABSTRACT

This documentation explains how to prepare an anonymous submission, a named manuscript, or a production article with the *Philosophy of Physics* LaTeX template. It covers metadata, equations, figures, citations, and bibliographies. To get started straight away just fill in `philphys-template.tex` and `philphys-sample-bibliography.bib` with your material and compile them with `philphys.cls` and `philphys.bst` in the same directory. *Version 1.0.1 (2026-10-14)*.

CORRESPONDING
AUTHOR:

**Philosophy of Physics
Society**

philphysociety@gmail.com

TO CITE THIS ARTICLE:
Philosophy of Physics Society
and LSE Press. 2026.
“philphys Documentation”
Unpublished Manuscript.

1 QUICK START

This documentation explains how to use the Philosophy of Physics Society's `philphys` LaTeX document class and bibliography style. This document is an example of the class in action!

Quick start. Download all of the following into the same directory:

1. `philphys-template.tex` - The LaTeX template
2. `philphys-sample-bibliography.bib` - A sample external bibliography
3. `philphys.cls` - The *Philosophy of Physics* document class
4. `philphys.bst` - The *Philosophy of Physics* bibliography style.

Keep all four files together. Replace the template text with your article and the sample bibliography with your references. You may rename the template and bibliography; update the bibliography command if you do. On Overleaf, upload all four files and select your article's `.tex` file as the main document.

If you're compiling LaTeX on your computer, make sure you have a modern installation. We recommend LaTeX 2022-11-01 or newer with the packages listed below. To compile with pdfLaTeX and BibTeX, you should compile in the usual order:

```
pdflatex philphys-template.tex
bibtex philphys-template
pdflatex philphys-template.tex
pdflatex philphys-template.tex
```

Overleaf (and various other editors) handles these repeated passes automatically. Please use classic BibTeX rather than Biber. An internal bibliography only needs LaTeX passes.

The `philphys.cls` document class automatically sets the document to the publisher's required dimensions, 175 mm by 250 mm. Please don't change the default page dimensions; for printing, use your PDF viewer to centre or scale the pages for printing on A4 or US Letter.

2 CHOOSING A MODE

There are three modes available, which are set in the first line of the document:

- `manuscript` (default): an unpublished draft.
- `blindreview`: an anonymous submission.
- `published`: the production layout with publication metadata.

Since you're probably submitting to the journal *Philosophy of Physics* for blind review, use the second of these options, which should already be chosen in `philphys-template.tex`:

```
\documentclass[blindreview]{philphys}
```

To create a draft with author names use `\documentclass{philphys}`.

All three modes use the same document structure:

```
\documentclass[blindreview]{philphys}
\usepackage{amsmath} % If needed.
\title{Article Title}
\popabstract{Your abstract.}
```

```
\begin{document}
\maketitle
... % Article body.
\popbackmatter
\bibliographystyle{philphys}
\bibliography{philphys-sample-bibliography}
\poplastpagefooter
\end{document}
```

Please make sure the `\poplastpagefooter` command appears immediately before the end of the document, after all text, references, and floats. This command places the logos on the actual final page. Space for the logos is reserved automatically when `\popbackmatter` or the bibliography begins, and that reservation applies throughout the remaining end matter.

3 PREPARING AN ANONYMOUS SUBMISSION

It's time to submit your article for blind review. The `blindreview` mode will automatically hide preamble data containing author names, affiliation, ORCID, contact, citation columns, identifying running heads, and all class back matter, including competing interests. It also clears PDF title, author, subject, and keyword metadata; technical producer and date metadata may remain. Descriptive PDF and XMP metadata can be restored by using `published` mode.

That said, you have to anonymise the content of your article yourself! Make sure you have properly anonymised your prose, abstract, self-citations, figures, links, attachments, file-names, or identifying material added by other packages. Cite your own work in the third person where appropriate, and inspect the PDF's properties and links as well as its visible pages.

4 METADATA FOR PUBLISHER PRODUCTION

If you are preparing your article for publisher production, select `published` mode in the first line of your document and enter the required metadata commands into the preamble, before the document begins. Entering publication metadata alone does not activate `published` mode:

```
\documentclass[published]{philphys}
\title{Article Title}
\popabstract{A concise abstract.}
\popauthor{Author Name}{Department, Institution,
  City, Country}{}
\poprunningauthor{Surname}
\popcorrespondingauthor{Author Name}
\popcorrespondingauthoremail{author@example.com}
\popcorrespondingauthoraddress{Line 1\\Line 2}
\poptocite{Surname, Firstname. 2026.
  'Article Title.' Unpublished Manuscript.}
\popacknowledgements{}
\popcompetinginterests{A suitable declaration.}
\keywords{keyword one, keyword two}
```

Repeat the author command for each author. Its third argument is an ORCID identifier, such as 0000-0002-1825-0097, or empty braces if none is supplied. Enter real names in normal capitalization: the class uppercases them on the title page and preserves them in affiliations. Use a surname, two surnames, or a first surname followed by “et al.” for the running head. Acknowledgements are optional. Complete the competing-interests statement for a named article; this class does not check the substance of declarations.

Publisher production also requires the following to be filled, though authors need not:

```
\popdoi{10.31389/pop.000}
\popsubmitted{01 January 2026}
\popaccepted{01 February 2026}
\poppublished{01 March 2026}
\popcopyrightyear{2026}
```

The class DOI field takes a bare identifier; the bibliography DOI field also accepts resolver URLs. Replace the citation field with the final journal citation, volume/issue, article number, page range, and DOI. The copyright year defaults to the year of compilation. Keywords are added to published PDF metadata and are never printed. The class prints the journal’s article copyright and licence statement in named modes. This statement applies to article content; the `philphys` package and this manual are distributed under LPPL 1.3c or any later version, as detailed in `LICENSE.txt`.

5 PACKAGES AND MATHEMATICS

The class loads a number of packages automatically. These include:

- Layout: `geometry`, `calc`, `adjustbox`, `changepage`, and `enumitem`.
- Text and mathematics: `fontenc`, `inputenc`, `stix2`, and `setspace`.
- Graphics and tables: `xcolor`, `tikz`, `graphicx`, and `booktabs`.
- Headings and captions: `fancyhdr`, `titlesec`, `caption`, and `sidecap`.
- Citations and links: `natbib`, `url`, and `hyperref`.
- Utilities: `ifthen`, `etoolbox`, `xstring`, `zref-savepos`, and `zref-abspace`.

Published mode also loads `hyperxmp`. Avoid reloading these with conflicting options. STIX supplies AMS symbols and alphabets such as $\mathbb{R}$. As a result, `amssymb` and `amsfonts` are unnecessary and do not need to be loaded: their alphabets are already supplied by STIX.

Load `amsmath` yourself for `align` and equation references, as in the template and this guide. Standard section, subsection, label, reference, and footnote commands work normally. For example, Section 1 refers to a section label. An equation can be written like this:

$$G_{ab} + \Lambda g_{ab} = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} T_{ab}. \quad (1)$$

Use `\Equation~\eqref{eq:einstein}` to print Equation (1). You can also write multi-line equations like so:

$$F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu + [A_\mu, A_\nu], \quad (2)$$

$$D_{[\lambda} F_{\mu\nu]} = 0. \quad (3)$$

Footnotes use the ordinary `\footnote` command.¹

¹ Here is an example footnote.

6 FIGURES AND TABLES

The journal *Philosophy of Physics* places figure captions in the right margin. This requires a special environment for tables and graphics called `SCTable` and `SCfigure`, respectively. These are defined in the `sidecap` package, which `philphys.cls` loads automatically.

6.1 FIGURES

Instead of the ordinary `figure` environment, use `SCfigure`. Here is an example that draws an image of a black hole diagram using `tikz`:

```
\begin{SCfigure}[1][htb]
  \begin{tikzpicture}[scale=0.4]
    \draw (0,1) -- (0,-8) -- node[midway,right]
      {\scriptsize $\mathscr{I}^-$} (8,0) -- node[midway,right]
      {\scriptsize $\mathscr{I}^+$} (4,4) -- (4,1);
    \draw[decorate,decoration={snake,
      segment length=6pt, amplitude=2pt}]
      (0,1) -- (4,1);
    \draw[densely dotted] (4,1) -- (0,-3);
  \end{tikzpicture}
  \caption{Explain the figure.}\label{fig:example}
\end{SCfigure}
```

The second optional argument, `htb`, permits LaTeX to place the image **here**, at the **top**, or at the **bottom** of the page; the order of these letters does not establish placement priority. The first optional argument is a caption-width ratio used by `sidecap`, but this class overrides it to give captions a fixed width in the right margin. As with equations, we refer to it using `Figure~\ref{fig:example}`, which prints Figure 1. If you do not want to use `tikz` to create a diagram, you can also load an external diagram by replacing `\begin{tikzpicture}...` with `\includegraphics{your-figure.pdf}`.

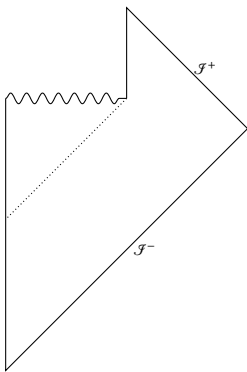


Figure 1 Conformal diagram of a black hole.

6.2 TABLES

Instead of the ordinary `table` environment, use `SCTable` like so:

```
\begin{SCTable}[1][htb]
  \begin{tabular}{lr}
    \toprule
```

```
\textbf{Name} & \textbf{Constant}\\
\midrule
Fine-structure constant & $\alpha$\\
\midrule
Proton-Electron Mass Ratio & $\beta$\\
\midrule
Gravitational-Electrostatic Coupling & $\alpha_G$\\
\bottomrule
\end{tabular}
\caption{Some dimensionless constants of nature.}
\label{tab:constants}
\end{SCTable}
```

Table 1 is an example. The booktabs package is automatically loaded to allow use of the journal’s `toprule` and `bottomrule` style.

Table 1 Some dimensionless constants of nature.

Name	Constant
Fine-structure constant	α
Proton-Electron Mass Ratio	β
Gravitational-Electrostatic Coupling	α_G

7 CITATIONS AND BIBLIOGRAPHIES

The journal *Philosophy of Physics* uses a variation of Glenn Pauley’s `chicago.bst` version 4 (1992-08-28) with author-year citations. The `natbib` package is automatically called, so please use `\citet` for a name within a sentence, as in Weyl (1918), and `\citep` for a parenthetical citation (Thirring 1918). You can write `\citep[cf.] [204]{thirring1918}` to include a page number and/or comment, which produces (cf. Thirring 1918, 204). Three or more authors are abbreviated to “et al.”; starred commands such as `\citet*` print the full list. See the `natbib` documentation at <https://ctan.org/pkg/natbib> for more options.

Use the external BibTeX file `philphys-sample-bibliography.bib` for your references, replacing its sample entries with your own. Load it with the `philphys` bibliography style as follows:

```
\bibliographystyle{philphys}
\bibliography{philphys-sample-bibliography}
```

For most users this is all that you need. Further supported fields and fallback conventions are documented in the ReadMe for the bibliography style, `philphys-bst-readme.md`.

Your `.bib` file can use all the standard BibTeX conventions. The style file will format the bibliography automatically in the journal’s style and automatically leaves out any references that are not used. As usual, you can use TeX accents and protect capitalisation and names with curly brackets. For example, you can write `Benito Antonio {Mart\'inez Ocasio}` to treat ‘Benito Antonio’ as given names and ‘Martínez Ocasio’ as surnames. DOIs and URLs are plain field values, without a surrounding URL command. The style preserves distinct URLs and DOI links and suppresses duplicate DOI resolver URLs. The class controls layout; the bibliography style controls reference text and punctuation.

It is often convenient to convert your externally-generated bibliography into an *internal bibliography*. This guide illustrates what that looks like below. To create your own internal bibliography, follow these steps:

1. Compile from an external bibliography
2. Confirm it looks the way you want
3. Open the auxiliary .bb1 file and copy its contents
4. Paste those contents at the end of your document above the external bibliography code, and delete or comment-out the external bibliography.

When you make an internal bibliography, it is wise to keep the original .bib file for later edits such as revisions in response to referees. To switch back, remove the pasted bibliography and restore the two external bibliography commands described above.

8 BACK MATTER AND SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

Place `\popbackmatter` after the conclusion and before the bibliography. The other two modes print acknowledgements when nonempty, competing interests, and affiliations supplied with the author commands. Blind review suppresses this entire block.

Before submission, please make sure you do the following:

1. Use `blindreview`, with an appropriate title and abstract.
2. Replace `philphys-template.tex` prose, equations, citations, and sample references with your own.
3. Resolve any undefined references and citations, and check overfull boxes.
4. Make sure your document compiles without errors or warnings.
5. Confirm you are a member of the Philosophy of Physics Society. You can sign up or check your status by logging in at <https://philosophyofphysics.org/>. Society membership is required for submission to *Philosophy of Physics*.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The class and bibliography style were developed by Bryan W Roberts, with code support from ChatGPT and testing support from Alex Niederklapfer and Jim Weatherall.

COMPETING INTERESTS

The authors have no competing interests to declare.

AUTHOR AFFILIATIONS

Philosophy of Physics Society

Philosophy of Physics Society

LSE Press

LSE Press

REFERENCES

- Thirring, H.** 1918. “Über die formale Analogie zwischen den elektromagnetischen Grundgleichungen und den Einsteinschen Gravitationsgleichungen erster Näherung.” *Physikalische Zeitschrift* 19: 204–205.
- Weyl, H.** 1918. “Gravitation und Elektrizität.” *Sitzungsberichte der Königlich Preussischen Akademie der Wissenschaften* 1 (I–XXXII): 465–480. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/126468#page/537/>.

TO CITE THIS ARTICLE:
Philosophy of Physics Society
and LSE Press. 2026.
“philphys Documentation”
Unpublished Manuscript.

COPYRIGHT:
©2026 Bryan W Roberts.
This documentation is part
of the maintained philphys
package and may be
distributed and/or modified
under the LaTeX Project
Public License, version 1.3c
or any later version. See
<https://www.latex-project.org/lppl/lppl-1-3c/>.
Philosophy of Physics is a
peer-reviewed open access
journal published by LSE
Press.