

luatexbase.dtx  
(LuaTeX-specific support, luatexbase interface)

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## 1 Overview

luaTeX adds a number of engine-specific functions to TeX. Support for those is now available for this area in the L<sup>A</sup>TeX kernel and as an equivalent stand-alone file `ltluatex.tex` for plain users. The functionality there is derived from the earlier `luatex` and `luatexbase` packages by Heiko Oberdiek, Élie Roux, Manuel Pégourié-Gonnar and Philipp Gesang. However, the interfaces are not all identical.

The interfaces defined in this package are closely modelled on the original `luatexbase` package, and provide a compatibility layer between the new kernel-level support and existing code using `luatexbase`.

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\*Significant portions of the code here are adapted/simplified from the packages `luatex` and `luatexbase` written by Heiko Oberdiek, Élie Roux, Manuel Pégourié-Gonnar and Philipp Gesang.

## 2 The luatexbase package interface

### 2.1 Catcode tables<sup>1</sup>

#### 2.1.1 T<sub>E</sub>X

<code>\CatcodeTableIniTeX</code>	T <sub>E</sub> X access to predefined catcode tables.
<code>\CatcodeTableString</code>	The first four tables are aliases giving alternative names for some catcodetables that are defined in the <code>l<sub>T</sub>uatex</code> core.
<code>\CatcodeTableLaTeX</code>	
<code>\CatcodeTableLaTeXAtLetter</code>	<code>\CatcodeTableOther</code> is like <code>\CatcodeTableString</code> except that the catcode of space is 12 (other).
<code>\CatcodeTableOther</code>	
<code>\CatcodeTableExpl</code>	<code>\CatcodeTableExpl</code> is similar to the environment set by the <code>expl3</code> command <code>\ExplSyntaxOn</code> note that this only affects catcode settings, not for example <code>\endlinechar</code> .
	One difference between this implementation and the tables defined in the earlier <code>luatexbase</code> package is that these tables are defined to match the settings used by L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X over the full Unicode range (as set in the file <code>unicode-letters.def</code> ).
<code>\SetCatcodeRange</code>	An alias for <code>\@setrangecatcode</code> which is defined in the <code>ctablestack</code> package imported into this version of <code>luatexbase</code> . (The order of arguments is the same despite the variation in the naming). This is useful for setting up a new catcode table and assigns a given catcode to a range of characters.
<code>\BeginCatcodeRegime</code>	A simple wrapper around <code>\@pushcatcodetable</code> providing a slightly different interface. The usage is:
<code>\EndCatcodeRegime</code>	<code>\BeginCatcodeRegime</code> <i>{catcode table}</i> <i>{code}</i> <code>\EndCatcodeRegime</code>
<code>\PushCatcodeTableNumStack</code>	These are defined to be aliases for <code>\@pushcatcodetable</code> and <code>\@popcatcodetable</code> although the actual implementation is quite different to the older packages, the use of the commands should match.
<code>\PopCatcodeTableNumStack</code>	
<code>\newluatexcatcodetable</code>	Aliases for the <code>l<sub>T</sub>uatex</code> functions dropping <code>luatex</code> from the name to match the convention of not using <code>luatex</code> -prefixed names for the LuaT <sub>E</sub> X primitives.
<code>\setluatexcatcodetable</code>	

#### 2.1.2 Lua

The standard way to access catcode table numbers from Lua in `lTuatex` is the `registernumber` function. This package provides a `catcodetables` table with a metatable that accesses this function and is extended with aliases for the predefined tables so you can use `catcodetables.expl` as an alternative to `catcodetables.CatcodeTableExpl`, both being equivalent to `registernumber('CatcodeTableExpl')`.

### 2.2 Lua Callbacks<sup>2</sup>

The `luatexbase` table is extended with some additional Lua functions to provide the interfaces provided by the previous implementation.

<sup>1</sup>This interface was previously defined in the `luatexbase-cctbl` sub-package.

<sup>2</sup>This interface was previously defined in the `luatexbase-mcb` sub-package.

`priority_in_callback`  $\langle name \rangle \langle description \rangle$   
As in the earlier interfaces the function is provided to return a number indicating the position of a specified function in a callback list. However it is usually used just as a boolean test that the function is registered with the callback. Kernel-level support does not directly expose the priority numbers, however the function here is defined to return the number of the specified function in the list returned by `luatexbase.callback_descriptions`.

`is_active_callback`  $\langle name \rangle \langle description \rangle$   
This boolean function was defined in the development sources of the previous implementation. Here it is defined as an alias for the function `in_callback` provided by `luatex`. Given a callback and a description string, it returns true if a callback function with that description is currently registered.

`reset_callback`  $\langle name \rangle \langle make\_false \rangle$   
This function unregisters all functions registered for the callback  $\langle name \rangle$ . If  $\langle make\_false \rangle$  is true, the callback is then set to false (rather than nil). Unlike the earlier implementation This version does call `remove_from_callback` on each function in the callback list for  $\langle name \rangle$ , and each removal will be recorded in the log.

`remove_from_callback`  $\langle name \rangle \langle description \rangle$   
This function is unchanged from the kernel-level implementation. It is backward compatible with the previous `luatexbase` package but enhanced as it returns the removed callback and its description. Together with the `callback_descriptions` function this allows much finer control over the order of functions in a callback list as the functions can be removed then re-added to the list in any desired order.

`add_to_callback`  $\langle name \rangle \langle function \rangle \langle description \rangle \langle priority \rangle$   
This function is defined as a wrapper around the kernel-level implementation, which does not have the fourth  $\langle priority \rangle$  argument.  
If multiple callbacks are registered to a callback of type `exclusive` then `luatex` raises an error, but here it is allowed if `priority` is 1, in which case the `reset_callback` is first called to remove the existing callback.  
In general the `priority` argument is implemented by temporarily removing some callbacks from the list and replacing them after having added the new callback.

`create_callback`  $\langle name \rangle \langle type \rangle \langle default \rangle$   
This function is unchanged from kernel-level implementation, the only change is a change of terminology for the types of callback, the type `first` is now classified as `exclusive` and the kernel code raises an error if multiple callback functions are registered. The previous `luatexbase` implementation allowed multiple functions to be registered, but only activated the first in the list.

## 2.3 Module declaration<sup>3</sup>

### 2.3.1 T<sub>E</sub>X

`\RequireLuaModule`  $\langle file \rangle [\langle info \rangle]$

---

<sup>3</sup>This interface was previously defined in the `luatexbase-modutils` sub-package.

This command is provided as a wrapper around `\directlua{require(<file>)}`, and executes the Lua code in the specified file. The optional argument is accepted but ignored.

Current versions of LuaTeX all use the `kpse` TeX path searching library with the `require` function, so the more complicated definition used in earlier implementations is no longer needed.

### 2.3.2 Lua

`provides_module` *<info>*  
 The `luatexbase` version of `provides_module` returns a list of log and error functions so that it is usually called as:  
`local err, warning, info, log = luatexbase.provides_module({name=..`  
 The returned functions are all instances of the functions provided by the kernel: `module_error`, `module_warning` and `module_info`, They all use their first argument as a format string for any later arguments.

`errwarinf` *<name>*  
 Returns four error and warning functions associated with *<name>* mostly a helper function for `provides\_module`, but can be called separately.

## 2.4 Lua Attributes and Whatsits<sup>4</sup>

### 2.4.1 TeX

`\newluatexattribute` As for catcode tables, aliases for the attribute allocation functions are provided  
`\setluatexattribute` with `luatex` in the names.  
`\unsetluatexattribute`

### 2.4.2 Lua

The lua code in this section is concerned with an experimental `whatsit` handling suite of functions in the original package. This is not fully documented here and is guarded by the `docstrip` guard `whatsit` so it may optionally be included or excluded from the sources when the package is built.

## 2.5 Prefixed names for luaTeX primitives

`\luatexattributedef` Aliases for commonly used luaTeX primitives that existing packages using lua-  
`\luatexcatcodetable` `texbase` use with prefixed names.  
`\luatexluaescapestring` If additional primitives are required it is recommended that the code is  
`\luatexlatelua` updated to use unprefix names. To ensure that the code works with the  
`\luatexoutputbox` original `luatexbase` package on older formats you may use the lua function  
`\luatexscantextokens` `tex.enableprimitives` to enable some or all primitives to be available with un-  
 prefixed names.

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<sup>4</sup>This interface was previously defined in the `luatexbase-attr` sub-package.

## 3 Implementation

### 3.1 luatexbase interface

```
1 ⟨*emu⟩
2 \edef\emuatcatcode{\the\catcode'\@}
3 \catcode'\@=11
4
5 Load ctablestack.
6 \ifx\settrangeatcode\@undefined
7 \ifx\RequirePackage\@undefined
8 \input{ctablestack.sty}%
9 \else
10 \RequirePackage{ctablestack}
11 \fi
12 \fi
```

Simple require wrapper as we now assume `require` implicitly uses the `kpathsea` search library.

```
11 \def\RequireLuaModule#1{\directlua{require("#1")}}\@gobbleoptarg}
```

In  $\text{\LaTeX}$  (or plain macro package that has defined `\@ifnextchar`) use `\@ifnextchar` otherwise use a simple alternative, in practice this will never be followed by a brace group, so full version of `\@ifnextchar` not needed.

```
12 \ifdefined\@ifnextchar
13 \def\@gobbleoptarg{\@ifnextchar[\@gobble@optarg{}}%
14 \else
15 \long\def\@gobbleoptarg#1{\ifx[#1\expandafter\@gobble@optarg\fi#1}%
16 \fi
17 \def\@gobble@optarg[#1]{}
```

Extended catcode table support. Use the names from the previous `luatexbase` and `luatex` packages.

```
18 \let\CatcodeTableIniTeX\catcodetable@initex
19 \let\CatcodeTableString\catcodetable@string
20 \let\CatcodeTableLaTeX\catcodetable@latex
21 \let\CatcodeTableLaTeXAtLetter\catcodetable@atletter
```

Additional tables declared in the previous interface.

```
22 \newcatcodetable\CatcodeTableOther
23 \@setcatcodetable\CatcodeTableOther{%
24 \catcodetable\CatcodeTableString
25 \catcode32 12 }
26 \newcatcodetable\CatcodeTableExpl
27 \@setcatcodetable\CatcodeTableExpl{%
28 \catcodetable\CatcodeTableLaTeX
29 \catcode126 10 % tilde is a space char
30 \catcode32 9 % space is ignored
31 \catcode9 9 % tab also ignored
32 \catcode95 11 % underscore letter
33 \catcode58 11 % colon letter
34 }
```

Top level access to catcodetable stack.

```
35 \def\BeginCatcodeRegime#1{%
36   \@pushcatcodetable
37   \catcodetable#1\relax}
38 \def\EndCatcodeRegime{%
39   \@popcatcodetable}
```

The implementation of the stack is completely different, but usage should match.

```
40 \let\PushCatcodeTableNumStack\@pushcatcodetable
41 \let\PopCatcodeTableNumStack\@popcatcodetable
```

A simple copy.

```
42 \let\SetCatcodeRange\@setrangecatcode
```

Another copy.

```
43 \let\setcatcodetable\@setcatcodetable
```

### 3.1.1 Additional lua code

```
44 \directlua{
```

Remove all registered callbacks, then disable. Set to false if optional second argument is true.

```
45 function luatexbase.reset_callback(name,make_false)
46   for _,v in pairs(luatexbase.callback_descriptions(name))
47   do
48     luatexbase.remove_from_callback(name,v)
49   end
50   if make_false == true then
51     luatexbase.disable_callback(name)
52   end
53 end
```

Allow exclusive callbacks to be over-written if priority argument is 1 to match the “first” semantics of the original package.

First save the kernel function.

```
54 luatexbase.base_add_to_callback=luatexbase.add_to_callback
```

Implement the priority argument by taking off existing callbacks that have higher priority than the new one, adding the new one, Then putting the saved callbacks back.

```
55 function luatexbase.add_to_callback(name,fun,description,priority)
56   local priority= priority
57   if priority==nil then
58     priority=\string#luatexbase.callback_descriptions(name)+1
59   end
60   if(luatexbase.callbacktypes[name] == 3 and
61     priority == 1 and
62     \string#luatexbase.callback_descriptions(name)==1) then
63     luatexbase.module_warning("luatexbase",
64       "resetting exclusive callback: " .. name)
65     luatexbase.reset_callback(name)
```

```

66 end
67 local saved_callback={},ff,dd
68 for k,v in pairs(luatexbase.callback_descriptions(name)) do
69   if k >= priority then
70     ff,dd= luatexbase.remove_from_callback(name, v)
71     saved_callback[k]={ff,dd}
72   end
73 end
74 luatexbase.base_add_to_callback(name,fun,description)
75 for k,v in pairs(saved_callback) do
76   luatexbase.base_add_to_callback(name,v[1],v[2])
77 end
78 return
79 end

```

Emulate the catcodetables table. Explicitly fill the table rather than rely on the metatable call to `registernumber` as that is unreliable on old LuaTeX.

```

80 luatexbase.catcodetables=setmetatable(
81  {'latex-package' = \number\CatcodeTableLaTeXAtLetter,
82   ini      = \number\CatcodeTableIniTeX,
83   string   = \number\CatcodeTableString,
84   other    = \number\CatcodeTableOther,
85   latex   = \number\CatcodeTableLaTeX,
86   expl    = \number\CatcodeTableExpl,
87   expl3   = \number\CatcodeTableExpl},
88  { __index = function(t,key)
89    return luatexbase.registernumber(key) or nil
90  end}
91 )}

```

On old LuaTeX workaround hashtable issues. Allocate in TeX, and also directly add to `luatexbase.catcodetables`.

```

92 \ifnum\luatexversion<80 %
93 \def\newcatcodetable#1{%
94   \e@alloc\catcodetable\chardef
95     \e@alloc@ccodetable@count\m@ne{"8000}#1%
96   \initcatcodetable\allocationnumber
97   {\escapechar=\m@ne
98   \directlua{luatexbase.catcodetables['\string#1']=%
99     \the\allocationnumber}}%
100 }
101 \fi
102 \directlua{

```

`priority_in_callback` returns position in the callback list. Not provided by default by the kernel as usually it is just used as a boolean test, for which `in_callback` is provided.

```

103 function luatexbase.priority_in_callback (name,description)
104 for i,v in ipairs(luatexbase.callback_descriptions(name))
105 do

```

```

106   if v == description then
107     return i
108   end
109 end
110 return false
111 end

```

The (unreleased) version 0.7 of `luatexbase` provided this boolean test under a different name, so we provide an alias here.

```

112 luatexbase.is_active_callback = luatexbase.in_callback

```

`l!luatex` implementation of `provides_module` does not return print functions so define modified version here.

```

113 luatexbase.base_provides_module=luatexbase.provides_module
114 function luatexbase.errwarinf(name)
115   return
116   function(s,...) return luatexbase.module_error(name, s:format(...)) end,
117   function(s,...) return luatexbase.module_warning(name, s:format(...)) end,
118   function(s,...) return luatexbase.module_info(name, s:format(...)) end,
119   function(s,...) return luatexbase.module_info(name, s:format(...)) end
120 end
121 function luatexbase.provides_module(info)
122   luatexbase.base_provides_module(info)
123   return luatexbase.errwarinf(info.name)
124 end
125 }

```

Same for attribute table as catcode tables. In old `LuaTeX`, add to the `luatexbase.attributes` table directly.

```

126 \ifnum\luatexversion<80 %
127 \def\newattribute#1{%
128   \e@alloc\attribute\attributedef
129   \e@alloc@attribute@count\m@ne\e@alloc@top#1%
130   {\escapechar=\m@ne
131    \directlua{luatexbase.attributes['\string#1']=%
132     \the\allocationnumber}}%
133 }
134 \fi

```

Define a safe percent command for plain `TeX`.

```

135 \ifx\@percentchar\@undefined
136   {\catcode'\%=12 \gdef\@percentchar{}}
137 \fi
138 <*whatsit>
139 \directlua{%
140 local copynode      = node.copy
141 local newnode       = node.new
142 local nodesubtype   = node.subtype
143 local nodetype      = node.id
144 local stringformat  = string.format
145 local tableunpack    = unpack or table.unpack

```

```

146 local texiowrite_nl      = texio.write_nl
147 local texiowrite        = texio.write
148 local whatsit_t         = nodetype"whatsit"
149 local user_defined_t    = nodesubtype"user_defined"
150 local unassociated      = "__unassociated"
151 local user_whatsits     = { __unassociated = { } }
152 local whatsit_ids      = { }
153 local anonymous_whatsits = 0
154 local anonymous_prefix   = "anon"

```

User whatsit allocation is split into two functions: `new_user_whatsit_id` registers a new id (an integer) and returns it. This is a wrapper around `new_whatsit` but with the extra `package` argument, and recording the mapping in lua tables

If no name given, generate a name from a counter.

```

155 local new_user_whatsit_id = function (name, package)
156   if name then
157     if not package then
158       package = unassociated
159     end
160   else % anonymous
161     anonymous_whatsits = anonymous_whatsits + 1
162     warning("defining anonymous user whatsit no. \#{@percentchar
163            d", anonymous_whatsits)
164     package = unassociated
165     name    = anonymous_prefix .. tostring(anonymous_whatsits)
166   end
167
168   local whatsitdata = user_whatsits[package]
169   if not whatsitdata then
170     whatsitdata      = { }
171     user_whatsits[package] = whatsitdata
172   end
173
174   local id = whatsitdata[name]
175   if id then %- warning
176     warning("replacing whatsit \#{@percentchar s:\#{@percentchar
177            s (\#{@percentchar d)", package, name, id)
178   else %- new id
179     id=luatexbase.new_whatsit(name)
180     whatsitdata[name] = id
181     whatsit_ids[id]   = { name, package }
182   end
183   return id
184 end
185 luatexbase.new_user_whatsit_id = new_user_whatsit_id

```

`new_user_whatsit` first registers a new id and then also creates the corresponding whatsit node of subtype user-defined. Return a nullary function that delivers copies of the whatsit.

Alternatively, the first argument can be a whatsit node that will then be used

as prototype.

```
186 local new_user_whatsit = function (req, package)
187   local id, whatsit
188   if type(req) == "string" then
189     id           = new_user_whatsit_id(req, package)
190     whatsit      = newnode(whatsit_t, user_defined_t)
191     whatsit.user_id = id
192   elseif req.id == whatsit_t and req.subtype == user_defined_t then
193     id          = req.user_id
194     whatsit     = copynode(req)
195     if not whatsit_ids[id] then
196       warning("whatsit id \@percentchar d unregistered; "
197         .. "inconsistencias may arise", id)
198     end
199   end
200   return function () return copynode(whatsit) end, id
201 end
202 luatexbase.new_user_whatsit      = new_user_whatsit
```

If one knows the name of a user whatsit, its corresponding id can be retrieved by means of `get_user_whatsit_id`.

```
203 local get_user_whatsit_id = function (name, package)
204   if not package then
205     package = unassociated
206   end
207   return user_whatsits[package][name]
208 end
209 luatexbase.get_user_whatsit_id = get_user_whatsit_id
```

The inverse lookup is also possible via `get_user_whatsit_name`.

```
210 local get_user_whatsit_name = function (asked)
211   local id
212   if type(asked) == "number" then
213     id = asked
214   elseif type(asked) == "function" then
215     %- node generator
216     local n = asked()
217     id = n.user_id
218   else %- node
219     id = asked.user_id
220   end
221   local metadata = whatsit_ids[id]
222   if not metadata then % unknown
223     warning("whatsit id \@percentchar d unregistered;
224       inconsistencies may arise", id)
225     return "", ""
226   end
227   return tableunpack(metadata)
228 end
229 luatexbase.get_user_whatsit_name = get_user_whatsit_name
```

A function that outputs the current allocation status to the terminal.

```

230 local dump_registered_whatsits = function (asked_package)
231   local whatsit_list = { }
232   if asked_package then
233     local whatsitdata = user_whatsits[asked_package]
234     if not whatsitdata then
235       error("(no user whatsits registered for package
236             \@percentchar s)", asked_package)
237       return
238     end
239     texiowrite_nl("(user whatsit allocation stats for " ..
240                  asked_package)
241     for name, id in next, whatsitdata do
242       whatsit_list[\string#whatsit_list+1] =
243         stringformat("\@percentchar s:\@percentchar
244                       s \@percentchar d)", asked_package, name, id)
245     end
246   else
247     texiowrite_nl("(user whatsit allocation stats")
248     texiowrite_nl(stringformat(" ((total \@percentchar d)\string\n
249                                (anonymous \@percentchar d)",
250                                current_whatsit, anonymous_whatsits))
251     for package, whatsitdata in next, user_whatsits do
252       for name, id in next, whatsitdata do
253         whatsit_list[\string#whatsit_list+1] =
254           stringformat("\@percentchar s:\@percentchar
255                         s \@percentchar d)", package, name, id)
256       end
257     end
258   end
259   texiowrite_nl" ("
260   local first = true
261   for i=1, \string#whatsit_list do
262     if first then
263       first = false
264     else % indent
265       texiowrite_nl" "
266     end
267     texiowrite(whatsit_list[i])
268   end
269   texiowrite"))\string\n"
270 end
271 luatexbase.dump_registered_whatsits = dump_registered_whatsits

```

Lastly, we define a couple synonyms for convenience.

```

272 luatexbase.newattribute           = new_attribute
273 luatexbase.newuserwhatsit        = new_user_whatsit
274 luatexbase.newuserwhatsitid      = new_user_whatsit_id
275 luatexbase.getuserwhatsitid      = get_user_whatsit_id
276 luatexbase.getuserwhatsitname    = get_user_whatsit_name
277 luatexbase.dumpregisteredwhatsits = dump_registered_whatsits

```

```

278 }
279 </whatsit>
    Resolve name clashes and prefixed name issues.
    Top level luatexbase macros
280 \let\newluatexattribute\newattribute
281 \let\setluatexattribute\setattribute
282 \let\unsetluatexattribute\unsetattribute
283 \let\newluatexcatcodetable\newcatcodetable
284 \let\setluatexcatcodetable\setcatcodetable

    Internal luatexbase macros
285 \let\luatexbase@directlua\directlua
286 \let\luatexbase@ensure@primitive\@gobble

    LuaTeX primitives
287 \let\luatexattribute\attribute
288 \let\luatexattributedef\attributedef
289 \let\luatexcatcodetable\catcodetable
290 \let\luatexluaescapestring\luaescapestring
291 \let\luatexlatelua\latelua
292 \let\luatexoutputbox\outputbox
293 \let\luatexscantextokens\scantextokens

    Reset catcode of @.
294 \catcode'\@=\emuatcatcode\relax
295 </emu>

```

### 3.2 Legacy luatexbase sub-packages

The original luatexbase was comprised of seven sub packages that could in principle be loaded separately. Here we define them all with the same code that just loads the main package, they are distinguished just by the `\ProvidesPackage` specified above at the start of the file.

```

296 <*emu-cmp, emu-mod, emu-loa, emu-reg, emu-att, emu-cct, emu-mcb>
297 \ifx\RequirePackage\undefined
298   \input{luatexbase.sty}%
299 \else
300   \RequirePackage{luatexbase}
301 \fi
302 </emu-cmp, emu-mod, emu-loa, emu-reg, emu-att, emu-cct, emu-mcb>

```

### 3.3 Legacy Lua code

The original luatexbase included a file `luatexbase.loader.lua` that could be loaded independently of the rest of the package. This really doesn't need to do anything!

```

303 <*emu-lua>
304 luatexbase = luatexbase or { }
305 </emu-lua>

```