



SINTEF

An Introduction to the SINTEF Beamer Style

Using $\text{\LaTeX}$ to prepare slides

Federico Zenith

SINTEF Mathematics & Cybernetics

Written on March 19, 2026



SINTEF

Beamer for SINTEF slides

- We assume you can use $\text{\LaTeX}$; if you cannot, [you can learn it here](#)
- Beamer is one of the most popular and powerful document classes for presentations in $\text{\LaTeX}$
- Beamer has also a detailed [user manual](#)
- Here we will present only the most basic features to get you up to speed

Beamer vs. PowerPoint

Compared to PowerPoint, using $\LaTeX$ is better because:

- It is not What-You-See-Is-What-You-Get, but What-You-*Mean*-Is-What-You-Get: you write the content, the computer does the typesetting
- Produces a pdf: no problems with fonts, formulas, program versions
- Easier to keep consistent style, fonts, highlighting, etc.
- Math typesetting in $\TeX$ is the best:

$$i \hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \Psi(\mathbf{r}, t) + V(\mathbf{r}) \Psi(\mathbf{r}, t)$$

Getting Started

Selecting the SINTEF Theme

To start working with `sintefbeamer`, start a $\text{\LaTeX}$ document with the preamble:

Minimum SINTEF Beamer Document

```
\documentclass{beamer}
\usetheme{sintef}
\begin{document}
\begin{frame}{Hello, world!}
\end{frame}
\end{document}
```

Title page

To set a typical title page, you call some commands in the preamble:

The Commands for the Title Page

```
\title{Sample Title}  
\subtitle{Sample subtitle}  
\author{First Author, Second Author}  
\date{\today} % Can also be (ab)used for conference name &c.
```

You can then write out the title page with `\maketitle`.

To set a title image in the right half of the title page, use the `\titleimage` command before `\maketitle`; its only argument is the name (or path) of a graphic file.

If you use the **starred version** `\titleimage*`, the image will be set as background.

You can download all of SINTEF's stock images from [Templafy](#).

Writing a Simple Slide

It's really easy!

- A typical slide has bulleted lists

Writing a Simple Slide

It's really easy!

- A typical slide has bulleted lists
- These can be uncovered in sequence

Writing a Simple Slide

It's really easy!

- A typical slide has bulleted lists
- These can be uncovered in sequence

Code for a Page with an Itemised List

```
\begin{frame}{Writing a Simple Slide}  
  \framesubtitle{It's really easy!}  
  \begin{itemize}[<+>]  
    \item A typical slide has bulleted lists  
    \item These can be uncovered in sequence  
  \end{itemize}\end{frame}
```


Changing Slide Style

- You can select the white or blue **slide style** at any point in the presentation with `\themecolor{blue}` (default) or `\themecolor{white}`
- Just because you can, does not mean that you *should*
- Set one in the preamble, and stick with it
- ... unless you know what you are doing

Blocks

Standard Blocks

These have a color coordinated with the footline (and grey in the blue theme)

```
\begin{block}{title}
content...
\end{block}
```

The standard template has blocks with four colours; these can be realised with the `colorblock` environment, which takes three arguments (first optional): font color (default `sintefblue`), block colour and block title.

```
\begin{colorblock}[black]{sinteflightgreen}{title}
content...
\end{colorblock}
```

The “official” colours of colour blocks are:

 `sinteflighterred`,
  `sinteflighteryellow`,
 `sinteflightgreen`, and
  `cornflower`. (The last is not in the profile manual...)

Colour blocks: standard colours



Overskrift

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris.



Overskrift

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris.



Overskrift

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris.



Overskrift

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris.

Using Colours

- You can use colours with the `\textcolor{<color name>}{text}` command
- The colours are defined in the `sintefcolor` package:
 - Primary colours: `sintefblue` and its sidekick  `sintefgrey`
 - Three shades of green:  `sinteflightgreen`,  `sintefgreen`,
 `sintefdarkgreen`
 - Additional colours:  `sintefyellow`,  `sintefred`,  `sinteflilla`
 - These have light and lighter versions
- Do *not* abuse colours: `\emph{}` is usually enough
- Use `\alert{}` to bring the focus somewhere

Using Colours

- You can use colours with the `\textcolor{<color name>}{text}` command
- The colours are defined in the `sintefcolor` package:
 - Primary colours: `sintefblue` and its sidekick  `sintefgrey`
 - Three shades of green:  `sinteflightgreen`,  `sintefgreen`,
 `sintefdarkgreen`
 - Additional colours:  `sintefyellow`,  `sintefred`,  `sinteflilla`
 - These have light and lighter versions
- Do *not* abuse colours: `\emph{}` is usually enough
- Use `\alert{}` to bring the focus somewhere
- If you highlight too much, you don't highlight at all!

Adding images

Adding images works like in normal $\LaTeX$:

Code for Adding Images

```
\usepackage{graphicx}  
% ...  
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]  
{images/SINTEFLogoCentralRGB}
```



SINTEF

Splitting in Columns

Splitting the page is easy and common; typically, one side has a picture and the other text:

This is the first column

And this the second

Column Code

```
\begin{columns}
  \begin{column}{0.6\textwidth}
    This is the first column
  \end{column}
  \begin{column}{0.3\textwidth}
    And this the second
  \end{column}
  % There could be more!
\end{columns}
```

Divider slides

Previously called Section titles, even previously Chapters

- When splitting up a very long presentation
- You must specify a gradient (four default ones), a title, and may add an image
- The “official” colour pairs are:
 -  cerulean and  mintgreen
 -  cerulean and  rosepink
 -  sintefgreen and  sandyyellow
 -  honeydew and  cornflower
- Usage: `\divider[image]{colour 1}{colour 2}{Title}`
- If you have a particularly light colour (like the last pair above), remember to change the theme to `\themecolor{white}`

Divider Page Example

Divider Page Example with figure and theme swap



Statement slides

- Implemented as an environment; you can specify:
 - Colour gradients with `left` and `right` (same standard pairs as above)
 - A background image with `image`; it will be centered unless you pass `fullscreen`
 - The *absolute* position of the title with `titlex` and `titley`
 - The *relative* position and width of the text body with `bodyx`, `bodyy` and `bodyw`
- The text body is right below the title and indented, unless overridden.
- Choosing the `white` theme will invert colors in the boxes and the logo, giving the text body a light green background.

Example using a lot of options (next slide)

```
\begin{statement}[titlex=0.6\paperwidth, titley=0.5\paperheight,  
                bodyy=1ex, bodyw=0.25\paperwidth,  
                image=images/default, fullscreen]{A bold claim}  
    Supporting text here.  
\end{statement}
```



A bold claim
Supporting text here.



Another example

Default text positions and image placement, white theme, colour gradient



Fonts

- The recently introduced Aptos font does not currently have a free clone
 - Default is Linux Libertine/Biolinum instead
 - You can use fontspec with Xe^AT_EX if you *really* want Aptos
 - (Including it in this package is of doubtful legality anyway)
- The paramount task of fonts is being readable
- There are good ones...
 - Use serif fonts only with high-definition projectors
 - Use sans-serif fonts otherwise (or if you simply prefer them)
- ... and not so good ones:
 - Never use monospace for normal text
 - Gothic, calligraphic or weird fonts should always be avoided

Look

- To insert a final slide with the SINTEF motto, use `\backmatter`.
 - You can change the motto with `\setmotto` (e.g. to Norwegian)
- The aspect ratio defaults to 16:9, and you should not change it to 4:3 for old projectors as it is inherently impossible to perfectly convert a 16:9 presentation to 4:3 one; spacings *will* break
 - The `aspectratio` argument to the `beamer` class is overridden by the SINTEF theme
 - If you *really* know what you are doing, check the package code and look for the `geometry` class.

Good Luck!

- Enough for an introduction! You should know enough by now
- If you have corrections or suggestions, **send them to me!**



Technology for a better society