The Latvian style for babel

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1 The Latvian Language

The file `latvian.ldf` defines the language definition macros for the Latvian language. It is heavily based on the work by Andris Lasis, and this file just cleans the code up and adapts it to babel 3.9.

Since the T1 encoding doesn’t contain all the characters required for Latvian, you should use L7x instead (note the lowercase x). The dfu file (ie, utf8 for fontenc) for this encoding is included in Lithuanian. Unfortunately, not many fonts come in this encoding. Of course, you can use either luatex or xetex, too, because Unicode strings are also defined.

Actually, you can use the T1 encoding, but hyphenation will not be correct, and oddly it doesn’t work with inputenc and utf8 (future releases will fix this issue), except if you request the L7x encoding before T1 (this is, of course, just a trick, which may not work; note some fonts render macron-i with the dot, because l7xenc.def defines it as \textasciitilde i). If T1 is used, you must load fontenc before babel and set the modifier tcomposite (because it redefines some ‘composite commands’ which may affect other languages). A complete example is:

\documentclass{article}
\usepackage[utf8]{inputenc}
\usepackage[L7x,T1]{fontenc}
\usepackage{combelow} % Optional, see below
\usepackage[latvian.t1composite]{babel}
\usepackage{fourier}
\begin{document}
Aa, Āā, Bb,Cc, Čč, Dd, Ee, Ė̆, Ff, Gg, Ġ̆, Hh, Iī, Īī, Jj, Kk, K̆, Ll, L̆, Mm, Nn, Ūū, Vv, Zz, Žž
\end{document}

By loading also the package combelow you get much better results (it is detected automatically), but you should use T1 only as a last resort and only for small chunks of Latvian text. OT1 is not directly supported.

There are two commands for the date: \datumaa (locative) and \datums (nominative); \today is defined as \datumaa, but you can change it with

\footnote{The file described in this section has version number 2.0a and was last revised on 2018/02/19.}
By default `g.` is used, but you can change it with, say, `\renewcommand\latviangada{gada}.`  
`\alph` and `\Alph` exclude the letter `g`.

The code

1 \renewcommand{\latviantoday}{\datums}. By default `g.` is used, but you can change it with, say, `\renewcommand\latviangada{gada}.`  
2 \alph \ and `\Alph` exclude the letter `g`.

\begin{verbatim}
\begin{verbatim}
\renewcommand{\latviantoday}{\datums}. By default `g.` is used, but you can change it with, say, `\renewcommand\latviangada{gada}.`  
\alph \ and `\Alph` exclude the letter `g`.
\end{verbatim}
\end{verbatim}
Hyphenmins and shorthands.

\def\latvianhyphenmins{\tw@\tw@}
\initiate@active@char{"}
\addto\extraslatvian{\languageshorthands{latvian}}
\addto\extraslatvian{\bbl@activate{"}}

\DeclareTextCompositeCommand{\lv@cb}{T1}{1}% same as \c
\let\lv@cbg\lv@cb

\DeclareTextCompositeCommand{\c}{T1}{g}{\lv@cbg{g}}
\DeclareTextCompositeCommand{\c}{T1}{G}{\lv@cb{G}}
\DeclareTextCompositeCommand{\c}{T1}{r}{\lv@cb{r}}
\DeclareTextCompositeCommand{\c}{T1}{R}{\lv@cb{R}}
\DeclareTextCompositeCommand{\c}{T1}{k}{\lv@cb{k}}
\DeclareTextCompositeCommand{\c}{T1}{K}{\lv@cb{K}}
\DeclareTextCompositeCommand{\c}{T1}{l}{\lv@cb{l}}
\DeclareTextCompositeCommand{\c}{T1}{L}{\lv@cb{L}}
\DeclareTextCompositeCommand{\c}{T1}{n}{\lv@cb{n}}
\DeclareTextCompositeCommand{\c}{T1}{N}{\lv@cb{N}}

\def\lv@ifcombelow{\@ifpackageloaded{combelow}}
\AtBeginDocument{% because \@ifpackageloaded is 'only preamble'
\@ifpackageloaded{combelow}%
{\let\lv@ifcombelow\@firstoftwo}%
{\let\lv@ifcombelow\@secondoftwo}}
\addto\extraslatvian{\babel@save\lv@cbg
\lv@ifcombelow
{\babel@save\lv@cb
\let\lv@cb\cb
}
\let\lv@cbg\cbv}

\fi

\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"a}{\textormath{\=a}{\=e}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"e}{\textormath{\=e}{\=e}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"u}{\textormath{\=u}{\=u}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"i}{\textormath{\=i}{\=i}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"o}{\textormath{\=o}{\=o}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"A}{\textormath{\=A}{\=E}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"E}{\textormath{\=E}{\=E}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"U}{\textormath{\=U}{\=U}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"I}{\textormath{\=I}{\=I}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"O}{\textormath{\=O}{\=O}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"r}{\textormath{\c r}{\c s}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"s}{\textormath{\v s}{\v s}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"g}{\textormath{\c g}{\c g}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"k}{\textormath{\c k}{\c k}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"l}{\textormath{\c l}{\c l}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"z}{\textormath{\v z}{\v c}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"c}{\textormath{\v c}{\v c}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"n}{\textormath{\c n}{\c n}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"R}{\textormath{\c R}{\c R}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"S}{\textormath{\v s}{\v s}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"G}{\textormath{\c G}{\c G}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"K}{\textormath{\c k}{\c k}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"L}{\textormath{\c l}{\c l}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"Z}{\textormath{\v z}{\v c}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"C}{\textormath{\v c}{\v c}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"N}{\textormath{\c N}{\c N}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"-}{\nobreak\-\bbl@allowhyphens}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{"}{}% 
\textormath{\penalty\@M\discretionary{\-}{}{\kern.03em}{}\kern.03em}{}% 
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{""}{\hskip\z@skip}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{""}{\textormath{\leavevmode\hbox{-}}{-}}
\declare@shorthand{latvian}{""}{\penalty\@M\-\hskip\z@skip}
\ldf@finish{latvian}

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