# ACRO

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## Typeset Acronyms and other Abbreviations

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ACRO allows you to define and use abbreviations in a simple way. Abbreviations can be divided into different classes of abbreviations. Lists of abbreviations can be created (also of separate classes of abbreviations) and printed wherever you want the lists to appear.

ACRO provides an option single which ignores abbreviations that are used only once in the whole document.

As an experimental feature ACRO also offers the option sort which automatically sorts the list created by \printacronyms.

ACRO also has the feature of creating *local* lists

#### **Table of Contents**

1.	Lice	nce and Requirements	2		3.4.	Fetching the Single Appearance	14
					3.5.	Using Classes	15
2.	Basi	cs	2		3.6.	Reset or Mark as Used, Test if	
	2.1.	Creating New Acronyms	2			Acronym Has Been Used	15
	2.2.	Logging of Acronyms	7		3.7.	\ac and Friends in PDF Book-	
	2.3.	Using the Acronyms – the				marks, Accessibility Support,	
		Commands	7			Tooltips	16
	2.4.	Plural Forms	9			3.7.1. PDF Bookmarks	16
	2.5.	Alternative Short Forms	11			3.7.2. Accessibility Support .	17
	2.6.	Extra Information for the List				3.7.3. Tooltips	18
		Entry	11		3.8.	Adding Acronyms to the Index	18
	2.7.	Foreign Language Acronyms .	12				
				4.	Prin	ting the List	18
3∙	Add	itional Commands and Pos-					
	sibilities		13	5.	Opti	ions and Customization	20
	3.1.	Indefinite Forms	13		5.1.	General Options	20
	3.2.	Uppercasing	13		5.2.	Options Regarding Acronyms	23
	3.3.	Simulating the First Appearance	14		5.3.	Options Regarding the List	24

#### 1. Licence and Requirements

6.	Trailing Tokens and Special Ac-		13. More on Customization	35
	tion	26	13.1. Background Information	35
			13.2. Lists	35
7.	About Page Ranges	28	13.2.1. Own List Style	35
			13.2.2. Own List Heading	
8.	Dividing Your Document Into		Command	38
	Pieces - Creating Local Lists	28	13.3. First Styles	38
			13.4. Extra Styles	39
9.	Language Support	29	13.5. Page Number Styles	40
10	. hyperref Support	29	13.6. Configuration Files	41
11.	. Defining Own Acronym Macros	29	A. All Acronyms Used in this Doc- umentation	41
12.	About Plural Forms, Possessive Forms and Similar Constructs –		B. References	41
	the Concept of Endings	33	C. Index	43

## 1. Licence and Requirements

Permission is granted to copy, distribute and/or modify this software under the terms of the Large Project Public License (LPPL), version 1.3 or later (http://www.latex-project.org/lppl.txt). The software has the status "maintained."

ACRO loads and needs the following packages: expl3, xparse, xtemplate, l3keys2e, zrefabspage and translations [Nie17].

#### 2. Basics

## 2.1. Creating New Acronyms

Acronyms are created with the command \DeclareAcronym.

```
\DeclareAcronym{\langle id \rangle}{\langle list\ of\ keys \rangle}
```

The basic command for declaring an acronym where  $\langle id \rangle$  is a unique string identifying the acronym. Per default behaviour this is case sensitive which means id is different from ID, for example. There is an option case-sensitive to change this.

This command understands a number of keys which are listed below. Some of them are not described immediately but at appropriate places in the documentation.

$$\mathsf{short} = \{\langle \mathit{text} \rangle\} \tag{required}$$

The short form of the acronym. *This property is required*: an acronym must have a short form.

```
1. on CTAN as l3kernel: http://mirrors.ctan.org/macros/latex/contrib/l3kernel/
```

Introduced in version 2.11 (2020/01/11)

<sup>2.</sup> on CTAN as l3packages: http://mirrors.ctan.org/macros/latex/contrib/l3packages/

<sup>3.</sup> on CTAN as oberdiek: http://mirrors.ctan.org/macros/latex/contrib/oberdiek/

<sup>4.</sup> on CTAN as translations: http://mirrors.ctan.org/macros/latex/contrib/translations/

If this is set it *must* be set as first option! If another property is set first and notices the short property missing it assumes that the ID should be used as short version and sets it accordingly. A warning will be written to the log then.

 $long = \{\langle text \rangle\}$  (required)

The long form of the acronym. *This property is required*: an acronym must have a description.

 $short-plural = \{\langle text \rangle\}$  Default: s

The plural ending appended to the short form.

 $short-plural-form = \{\langle text \rangle\}$ 

Introduced in version 2.0 (2015/08/16)

The plural short form of the acronym; replaces the short form when used instead of appending the plural ending.

 $long-plural = \{\langle text \rangle\}$  Default: s

The plural ending appended to the long form.

 $long-plural-form = \{\langle text \rangle\}$ 

Plural long form of the acronym; replaces the long form when used instead of appending the plural ending.

 $alt-plural = \{\langle text \rangle\}$  Default: s

Introduced in version 2.0

The plural ending appended to the alternative form.

The plural ending appended to the foreign form.

alt-plural-form =  $\{\langle text \rangle\}$ 

Introduced in version 2.0

The plural alternative form of the acronym; replaces the alternative form when used instead of appending the plural ending.

foreign-plural =  $\{\langle text \rangle\}$  Default: s

Introduced in version 2.9 (2019/02/17)

foreign-plural-form =  $\{\langle text \rangle\}$ 

Introduced in version 2.9

Plural foreign form of the acronym; replaces the foreign form when used instead of appending the plural ending.

 $list = \{\langle text \rangle\}$ 

If specified this will be written in the list as description instead of the long form.

 $short-indefinite = \{\langle text \rangle\}$ 

Default: a

Indefinite article for the short form.

long-indefinite =  $\{\langle text \rangle\}$ 

Default: a

Indefinite article for the long form.

long-pre =  $\{\langle text \rangle\}$ 

 $\langle text \rangle$  is prepended to the long form in the text but not in the list of acronyms.

 $long-post = \{\langle text \rangle\}$ 

 $\langle text \rangle$  is appended to the long form in the text but not in the list of acronyms.

```
post = \{\langle text \rangle\}
                    \langle text \rangle is appended to the acronym in the text but not in the list of acronyms.
                               in version 2.8
                alt = \{\langle text \rangle_{2} = 18/01/30\}
                   Alternative short form.
                alt-indefinite = \{\langle text \rangle\}
                                                                                                                         Default: a
                   Indefinite article for the alternative form.
                extra = \{\langle text \rangle\}
                   Extra information to be added in the list of acronyms.
                 foreign = \{\langle original \ long \ form \rangle\}
                   Can be useful when dealing with acronyms in foreign languages, see section 2.7 on page 12 for
                    details.
                 foreign-lang = \{\langle language \rangle\}
                    The babel [Bra19] or polyglossia [Cha19] language of the foreign form. This language is used
                    to wrap the entry with foreignlanguage \{\langle language \rangle\} if either babel or polyglossia is loaded.
                   You'll need to take care that the corresponding language is loaded by babel or polyglossia.
                single = \{\langle text \rangle\}
                   If provided \langle text \rangle will be used instead of the long form if the acronym is only used a single time
Introduced in
                    and the option single = {true} is active.
                sort = \{\langle text \rangle\}
                   If used the acronym will be sorted according to this key instead of its ID.
                class = \{\langle csv \ list \rangle\}
                   The class(es) the acronym belongs to.
    Changed in
    version 2.4
    (2016/03/25)cite = [\langle prenote \rangle] [\langle postnote \rangle] \{\langle citation \ keys \rangle\}
                   A citation that is printed to the acronym according to an option explained later.
                before-citation = \{\langle code \rangle\}
                   \langle code \rangle is inserted directly before cite and ony when cite is used.
  Introduced in
  version 2.11
                after-citation = \{\langle code \rangle\}
                    ⟨code⟩ is inserted directly after cite and ony when cite is used.
Introduced in
                short-format = \{\langle T_E X code \rangle\}
                   The format used for the short form of the acronym.
                long-format = \{\langle T_E X code \rangle\}
                   The format used for the long form of the acronym.
                alt-format = \{\langle T_E X code \rangle\}
                   The format used for the alternative form of the acronym. If this is not given the short format
                   will be used.
```

troduced version 2.3

016/03/14)

version 2.3

version 2.11

Introduced in version 2.10

(2019/09/23)

```
first-long-format = \{\langle T_E X code \rangle\}
```

The format used for the first long form of the acronym as set with \ac, \acf or \acflike and their uppercase, plural and indefinite forms.

```
single-format = \{\langle T_F X code \rangle\}
```

Introduced in version 2.3

The format used for the acronym if the acronym is only used a single time.

```
first-style = default | empty | square | short | long | reversed | footnote | sidenote |
footnote-reversed|sidenote-reversed
```

Introduced in The style of the first appearance of the acronym, see also section 5.2. version 2.3

```
pdfstring = \{\langle pdfstring \rangle / \langle plural\ ending \rangle \}
```

Changed in version 2.4b (2016/05/03)

Used as PDF string replacement in bookmarks when used together with the hyperref package. The appended plural ending is optional. If you leave it (*and* the /) the default ending is used.  $\langle text \rangle$  is expanded before it is saved.

```
\mathsf{accsupp} = \{\langle \mathit{text} \rangle\}
```

Sets the ActualText key as presented by the accsupp package for the acronym.

```
tooltip = \{\langle text \rangle\}
```

Introduced in version 2.1 (2015/09/05)

Sets the tooltip description for an acronym. For actually getting tooltips you also need an appropriate setting of the tooltip-cmd option or to set the package option tooltip.

```
index-sort = \{\langle text \rangle\}
```

If you use the package option index every occurrence of an acronym is recorded to the index and sorted by its ID or (if set) by the value of the sort property. This key allows to set an individual sorting option for the index. See section 3.8 on page 18 for details.

```
index = \{\langle text \rangle\}
```

This key allows to overwrite the automatic index entry with an arbitrary one. See section 3.8 on page 18 for details.

```
index-cmd = \{\langle control \ sequence \rangle\}
```

This key let's you set an individual index creating command for this acronym. It should be a command that takes one mandatory argument. See section 3.8 on page 18 for details.

In its simplest form an acronym needs a short and a long form. Please note that both keys *must* be set and that the **short** property *must* always be the *first* property that is set.

```
1 % preamble:
2 \DeclareAcronym{test}{
3    short = ST ,
4    long = Some Test
5 }
```

This creates the acronym "ST" with the ID "test" and the long form "Some Test."

The short-format key allows you to choose a specific format for the short form of an acronym:

The short form now looks like this: OT.

The cite key needs a bit explaining. It expects arguments like the standard \cite command, i.e., two optional arguments setting the  $\langle prenote \rangle$  and  $\langle postnote \rangle$  and one mandatory argument setting the citation key.

```
1 % bib file for use with biber/biblatex:
2 @online{NewYork,
3   author = {Wikipedia},
4   title = {New York City},
5   urldate = {2012-09-27},
6   url = {http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_York_City},
7   year = {2012}
```

The first appearance now looks as follows<sup>5</sup>: New York (NY) [Wik12].

#### 2.2. Logging of Acronyms

When you activate ACRO's option log more writes information about the acronyms it defines to the log file.

in version 2.5
(2016/05/25)

<sup>5.</sup> The appearance of the citation of course depends on the citation style you're using.

```
log = true|false|silent|verbose
```

Default: false

When set to true/silent ACRO writes the main properties of an acronym to the log file. When set to verbose ACRO' writes *all* properties of an acronym to the log file.

This is an example of the logging info with  $log = \{true\}$  or  $log = \{silent\}$ .

## 2.3. Using the Acronyms - the Commands

Acronyms are used with one of the following commands:

```
\ac *{\langle id \rangle}
```

basic command; the first output is different from subsequent ones.

```
\Ac * \{\langle id \rangle\}
```

same as \ac but capitalizes the first letter. Obeys the option uppercase-short.

#### $\acs*{\langle id \rangle}$

short form; the actual acronym.

#### $Acs*{\langle id \rangle}$

same as \acs but capitalizes the first letter.

#### $\acl*{\langle id \rangle}$

long form; the meaning of the acronym.

#### $\Acl*{\langle id \rangle}$

same as \acl but capitalizes first letter.

#### $\aca * {\langle id \rangle}$

alternative short form as specified in the alt property of \DeclareAcronym; if it hasn't been specified this is identical to \acs.

```
\Lambda \times \{\langle id \rangle\}
                     same as \aca but capitalizes the first letter.
Introduced in
version 2.10
                  \acf*{\langle id \rangle}
                     first form; output like the first time \ac is output.
                  \Lambda cf*{\langle id \rangle}
                     same as \acf but capitalizes first letter. Obeys the option uppercase-short.
                  \acp*{\langle id \rangle}
                     plural form of \ac;
                  \Acp*{\langle id \rangle}
                     same as \acp but capitalizes first letter. Obeys the option uppercase-short.
                  \acsp*{\langle id \rangle}
                     plural form of \acs;
                  \Lambda csp*{\langle id \rangle}
                     same as \acsp but capitalizes the first letter.
Introduced in
version 2.10
                  \aclp*{\langle id \rangle}
                     plural form of \acl;
                  \Lambda clp*{\langle id \rangle}
                     same as \aclp but capitalizes first letter.
                  \acap*{\langle id \rangle}
                     plural form of \aca;
                  \Lambda \exp \{\langle id \rangle\}
                     same as \acap but capitalizes the first letter.
Introduced in
version 2.10
                  \acfp*{\langle id \rangle}
                     plural form of \acf;
                  \Lambda cfp*{\langle id \rangle}
                     same as \acfp but capitalizes first letter of the long form. Obeys the option uppercase-short.
```

If an acronym is used the first time with \ac its output is different from subsequent uses. To be clear on this: the first time! If the acronym has been used with *any* of the output commands before it is *not* the first time any more.

If you use the starred variant an acronym will not be marked as used. This proves useful if an acronym is typeset in a section title, for example, since then the appearance in the table of contents won't mark it as used.

```
1 % preamble:
2 % \DeclareAcronym{cd}{
```

```
= cd,
      short
      long
                   = Compact Disc ,
      short-format = \scshape
7 first time: \ac{cd} \\
8 second time: \ac{cd} \\
9 short: \acs{cd} \\
10 alternative: \aca{cd} \\
ii first again: \acf{cd} \\
12 long: \acl{cd} \\
13 short plural: \acsp{cd} \\
14 long plural: \aclp{cd}
first time: Compact Disc (CD)
second time: CD
short: CD
alternative: cd
first again: Compact Disc (CD)
long: Compact Disc
short plural: CDS
long plural: Compact Discs
```

#### 2.4. Plural Forms

If an acronym is defined in the standard way ACRO uses an 's' that's appended to both the short and the long form when one of the plural commands is used. However, that is not always the best solution. For one thing not all acronyms may have a plural form. Second, the plural form especially of the long forms may be formed differently. And third, other languages can have other plural endings.

For these reasons \DeclareAcronym can get the following keys:

These keys are optional. If they're not used, the default setting is s. If you use long-plural-form the long form will be replaced by the specified plural form when necessary.

Suppose we define the following acronyms:

```
1 \DeclareAcronym{cd}{
   short = cd,
           = Compact Disc ,
   short-format = \scshape
6 \DeclareAcronym{ny}{
           = NY ,
   short
   short-plural = ,
   long = New York ,
   long-plural =
11 }
12 \DeclareAcronym{sw}{
   short = SW,
              = Sammelwerk ,
   long-plural = e
15
17 \DeclareAcronym{MP}{
                  = Member of Parliament ,
   long
   long-plural-form = Members of Parliament
```

These acronyms now have the following plural appearances:

```
| \acsp{cd}, \aclp{cd} \\
| 2 \acsp{ny}, \aclp{ny} \\
| 3 \acsp{sw}, \aclp{sw} \\
| 4 \acsp{MP}, \aclp{MP}

CDS, Compact Discs
NY, New York
SWs, Sammelwerke
MPs, Members of Parliament
```

In the default setting the format of the long or short form is not extended to the plural ending which might look strange if you choose bold weight as format, for example. In this case you can tell ACRO to extend the format.

```
format-include-endings = true|false
```

Default: false

Introduced in Tell ACRO to use the format of the base form for the endings, too. version 2.8

For a more general view on endings please read section 12 on page 33.

#### **2.5.** Alternative Short Forms

For some acronyms it might be useful to have alternative forms. For this \DeclareAcronym has another key:

```
alt = \{\langle text \rangle\}
```

Alternative short form.

```
1 % preamble:
2 % \DeclareAcronym{jpg}{
3 % short = JPEG ,
4 % sort = jpeg ,
5 % alt = JPG ,
6 % long = Joint Photographic Experts Group
7 % }
8 default: \acs{jpg} \\
9 alt.: \aca{jpg}

default: JPEG
alt.: JPG
```

The alternative form uses the same plural ending as the default short form and is formatted in the same way.

#### 2.6. Extra Information for the List Entry

Of course you can print a list of acronyms where their meaning is explained. Sometimes it can be useful to add additional information there. This is done with another key to \DeclareAcronym:

```
extra = \{\langle text \rangle\}
```

Additional information for the list of acronyms.

These information will only be displayed in the list. See section 4 on page 18 for the impact of the following example.

```
1 % preamble:
2 % \DeclareAcronym{nato}{
3 % short = nato ,
4 % long = North Atlantic Treaty Organization ,
5 % extra = \textit{deutsch}: Organisation des Nordatlantikvertrags ,
6 % short-format = \scshape
7 % }
8 The \ac{nato} is an intergovernmental military alliance based on the
9 North Atlantic Treaty which was signed on 4~April 1949. \ac{nato}
10 headquarters are in Brussels, Belgium, one of the 28 member states
11 across North America and Europe, the newest of which, Albania and
```

```
12 Croatia, joined in April 2009.
```

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is an intergovernmental military alliance based on the North Atlantic Treaty which was signed on 4 April 1949. NATO headquarters are in Brussels, Belgium, one of the 28 member states across North America and Europe, the newest of which, Albania and Croatia, joined in April 2009.

#### 2.7. Foreign Language Acronyms

I repeatedly read the wish for being able to add translations to acronyms when the acronyms stem from another language than the document language, *i.e.*, something like the following in a German document:

```
| \ac{ecu}\\
| 2 \ac{ecu} |
| Steuergerät (Electronic Control Unit, ECU)
| ECU
```

That's why I decided to add the following properties:

```
foreign = \{\langle original \ long \ form \rangle\}
```

A description for an acronym originating in another language than the document language.

```
foreign-lang = \{\langle language \rangle\}
```

Introduced in version 2.3

The babel [Bra19] or polyglossia [Cha19] language of the foreign form. This language is used to wrap the entry with  $foreignlanguage \{\langle language \rangle\}$ .

Here is the definition of the above mentioned ECU acronym:

```
1 \DeclareAcronym{ecu}{
2    short = ECU ,
3    long = Steuerger\"at ,
4    foreign = Electronic Control Unit ,
5    foreign-lang = english
6 }
```

As you have seen this adds the foreign entry to the first appearance of an acronym. It is also added in parentheses to the list of acronyms after the long entry. Actually the entry there is the argument to the following command:

```
\acroenparen{\langle argument \rangle}
```

Places  $\langle argument \rangle$  in parentheses:  $\langle acroenparen \{ example \} \}$ : (example). See page 23 for a way to customize this other than redefining it.

## 3. Additional Commands and Possibilities

#### 3.1. Indefinite Forms

Unlike many other languages in English the indefinite article is not determined by the grammatical case, gender or number but by the pronounciation of the following word. This means that the short and the long form of an acronym can have different indefinite articles. For these cases ACRO offers the following keys:

For every lowercase singular command two alternatives exist, preceded by i and I, respectively, which output the lowercase and uppercase version of the corresponding indefinite article.

#### 3.2. Uppercasing

```
\acfirstupper{\langle token \ list \rangle}
```

This command uppercases the first token in  $\langle token \ list \rangle$ . The command is less powerful than  $\backslash makefirstuc$  that is provided by the mfirstuc package [Tal17] but it is expandable. Obvious downsides are for example that it does not uppercase accented letters.

The following options control the behaviour of the uppercasing commands:

```
uc-cmd = {\langle control sequence \rangle} Default: \acfirstupper
```

The command that is used to capitalize the first word in the \Ac and the like commands. You can change it to another one like for example \makefirstuc or \MakeTextUppercase.8

<sup>6.</sup> Let's better say: unlike the other languages where I know at least the basics.

<sup>7.</sup> from the mfirstuc package

<sup>8.</sup> from the textcase package

uppercase-short = true|false

Default: true

Introduced in version 2.10

If set to true commands like \Ac or \Acp will uppercase the first letter of the short form. Commands like \Acs or \Acsp will uppercase the short form in any case.

## 3.3. Simulating the First Appearance

Users told me<sup>9</sup> that there are cases when it might be useful to have the the acronym typeset according to the first-style option (or first-style property) but with another text than the long form. For such cases ACRO offers the following commands.

```
\acflike*{\langle id \rangle}{\langle instead\ of\ long\ form \rangle}
```

Write some alternative long form for acronym with ID  $\langle id \rangle$  as if it were the first time the acronym was used.

```
\acfplike*{\langle id \rangle}{\langle instead\ of\ long\ form \rangle}
```

Plural form of \acflike.

```
\acsetup{first-style=footnote}
\( \acsetup \{ \text{fike} \{ny} \{ \text{the big apple} \} \)
\[ \frac{NY^a}{a. \text{ the big apple} [Wik12]} \]
```

The plural ending in \acfplike is only appended to the short form. It makes no sense to append it to the text that is inserted manually anyway. Note that whatever text you're inserting might be gobbled depending on the first-style you're using.

#### 3.4. Fetching the Single Appearance

Introduced in version 2.3

There are macros that fetch the *single* appearance of an acronym even if it has been used more than once and the <u>single</u> option is active.

```
\acsingle*{\langle id \rangle}
```

Write acronym as if it were used only a single time.

```
\Acsingle*\{\langle id \rangle\}
```

Uppercase form of \acsingle.

```
\acpsingle*\{\langle id \rangle\}
```

Introduced in version 2.11

version 2.11

Introduced in

Plural form of \acsingle.

```
Acsingle*{\langle id \rangle}
```

Plural form of \Acsingle.

<sup>9.</sup> Well – one, to be precise ;)

```
\acsingle{ny}

New York [Wik12]
```

#### 3.5. Using Classes

The acronyms of ACRO can be divided into different classes. This doesn't change the output but allows different acronym lists, see section 4 on page 18. For this \DeclareAcronym has an additional key:

```
class = \{\langle csv \ list \rangle\}
Associated class(es) for an acronym.
```

Changed in version 2.4

This might be useful if you can and want to divide your acronyms into different types, technical and grammatical ones, say, that shall be listed in different lists. Since every acronym can get a list of associated classes those classes can effectively be used like tags for filtering acronyms.

```
1 % preamble:
2 % \DeclareAcronym{la}{
_3 % short = LA ,
4 % short-plural = ,
    long = Los Angeles ,
     long-plural = ,
    class = city
8 % }
9 % \DeclareAcronym{ny}{
_{10} % short = NY ,
11 % short-plural = ,
    long = New York ,
     long-plural = ,
     class = city ,
     cite
                = NewYork
16 % }
17 \acl{la} (\acs{la}) \\
18 \acl{ny} (\acs{ny})
Los Angeles (LA)
New York (NY)
```

### 3.6. Reset or Mark as Used, Test if Acronym Has Been Used

If you want for some reason to fool ACRO into thinking that an acronym is used for the first time you can call one of these commands:

#### $\acreset{\langle comma separated list of ids \rangle}$

This will reset a used acronym such that the next use of \ac will again print it as if it were used the first time. This will *not* remove an acronym from being printed in the list if it actually *has* been used before.

#### \acresetall

Reset all acronyms.

```
\acifused{\langle id \rangle}{\langle true \rangle}{\langle false \rangle}
```

This command tests if the acronym with ID  $\langle id \rangle$  has already been used and either puts true or false in the input stream.

```
\aciffirst{\langle true \rangle}{\langle false \rangle}
```

Introduced in version 2.8

To be used inside of acronym definitions in order to test if we are inside the first instance of the acronym or not.

```
\acreset{ny}\ac{ny}

New York (NY) [Wik12]
```

Beware that both commands act *globally*! There are also commands that effectively do the opposite of \acreset, *i.e.*, mark acronyms as used:

```
\acuse{\langle comma separated list of ids \rangle}
```

This has the same effect as if an acronym had been used twice, that is, further uses of \ac will print the short form and the acronym will in any case be printed in the list (as long as its class is not excluded).

#### \acuseall

Mark all acronyms as used.

Then there are two further commands related to using acronyms:

#### \acswitchoff

Introduced in version 2.6 (2016/07/20)

This command is for patching in certain situations. For example some table environments like tabularx or tabu pass their content two or more times for determining the width of the table columns. Those can be patched to add \acswitchoff to their trial phase.

#### \acswitchon

Introduced in version 2.6

Effectively the opposite of \acswitchoff - this command should probably never be needed.

#### 3.7. \ac and Friends in PDF Bookmarks, Accessibility Support, Tooltips

3.7.1. PDF Bookmarks

ACRO's commands usually are not expandable which means they'd leave unallowed tokens in PDF bookmarks. hyperref offers \texorpdfstring to circumvent that issue manually but that

isn't really a nice solution. What's the point of having macros to get output for you if you have to specify it manually after all?

That is why ACRO offers a preliminary solution for this. In a bookmark every \ac like command falls back to a simple text string typesetting what \acs would do (or \acsp for plural forms). These text strings both can accessed manually and can be modified to an output reserved for PDF bookmarks.

```
\acpdfstring{\langle id \rangle}
```

Access the text string used in PDF bookmarks.

```
\acpdfstringplural{\langle id \rangle}
```

Access the plural form of the text string used in PDF bookmarks.

```
pdfstring = \{\langle pdfstring \rangle / \langle plural\ ending \rangle \}
```

Key for \DeclareAcronym to declare a custom text string for PDF bookmarks. The plural ending can be set optionally.

For example the PDF acronym used in the title for this section is defined as follows:

```
1 \DeclareAcronym{pdf}{
2    short = pdf ,
3    long = Portable Document Format ,
4    format = \scshape ,
5    pdfstring = PDF ,
6    accsupp = PDF
7 }
```

#### 3.7.2. Accessibility Support

The last example also demonstrates the accsupp key. The idea is to have something different visible in the PDF file compared to what you get when you select and copy the corresponding string. In the example visible string is a lowercase pdf in small caps while the string copied is an uppercase PDF.

For this to work you need to use the *package option* accsupp, too, which will load the package accsupp if it isn't loaded by the user already. Then the key accsupp will set the ActualText property of \BeginAccSupp. Please refer to accsupp's documentation for details. To see its effect copy PDF and paste it into a text file. You should get uppercase letters instead of lowercase ones.

```
accsupp = \{\langle text \rangle\}
```

Key for \DeclareAcronym to set the ActualText property of \BeginAccSupp (see accsupp's documentation for details) to be used for an acronym. It only has an effect when the package option accsupp is used, too.

```
accsupp = true|false
Activate Acro's accessibility support.
```

3.7.3. Tooltips

The idea of a tooltip is to have some text shown when you hover with the mouse over the short form of an acronym. This is only available in some PDF viewers, though. On possibility for such tooltips is loading the pdfcomment package [Kle18] and using its \pdftooltip macro.

tooltip = true|false

Default: false

Introduced in version 2.1

This options loads the pdfcomment package and sets the command for creating tooltips to \pdftooltip.

```
tooltip-cmd = \{\langle control \ sequence \rangle\}
```

Default: \@firstoftwo

Introduced in version 2.1

This allows users using another macro for tooltips – maybe one provided by another package or some own macro. It needs to be a macro with two mandatory arguments, the first being the string typeset in the PDF, the second being the tooltip description text.

For using this with acronyms they have a property tooltip which can be used inside \DeclareAcronym for specifying the description text of the tooltip. If the tooltip package option is used but the property is not set for an acronym then the long property is used instead.

If an acronym is used inside of another acronym then the tooltips of the "inner" acronyms are disabled.

#### 3.8. Adding Acronyms to the Index

ACRO has the package option index. If it is used an index entry will be recorded every time an *unstarred* acronym command is used. The index entry will be  $\langle id\rangle @ \langle short\rangle$ ,  $\langle sort\rangle @ \langle short\rangle$  if the sort property has been set,  $\langle index\text{-}sort\rangle @ \langle short\rangle$  if the property index-sort has been set, or  $\langle index\rangle$  if the property index has been set for the specific acronym. The short versions appearing there are formatted according to the chosen format of the corresponding acronym, of course.

This document demonstrates the feature. You can find every acronym that has been declared in the index. In order to allow flexibility the indexing command can be chosen both globally via package option and individually for every acronym. This would allow to add acronyms to a specific index if more than one index is used, for example with help of the imakeidx package.

I'm not yet convinced this is a feature many people if anyone needs and if they do if it is flexible enough. If you have any thoughts on this I'd appreciate an email.

## 4. Printing the List

Printing the whole list of acronyms is easy: just place \printacronyms where ever you want the list to be.

\printacronyms [ $\langle options \rangle$ ]

Print the list of acronyms.

The commands takes a few options, namely the following ones:

```
include-classes = \{\langle list \ of \ classes \rangle\}
```

Takes a comma-separated list of the classes of acronyms that should be in the list.

```
exclude-classes = \{\langle list \ of \ classes \rangle\}
```

Takes a comma-separated list of the classes of acronyms that should *not* be in the list. *Note that this list overwrites any entries in include-classes!* If a class is both included and excluded then the corresponding acronyms will not be added to the list.

```
name = \{\langle name \ of \ the \ list \rangle\} sets the name for the list.
```

```
heading = \{\langle sectioning \ command \ without \ leading \ backslash \rangle\}
```

Default: section\*

Sets the sectioning command for the heading of the list. A special value is none which suppresses the heading.

```
sort = true|false
```

Default: true

Set sorting for this list only.

```
local-to-barriers = true|false
```

Default: false

This option can be used to create a list of only the acronyms of the current "barrier group", see section 8.

```
Introduced in version 2.4
```

```
1 \acsetup{extra-style=comma}
2 \printacronyms[exclude-classes=city]
```

4 \printacronyms[include-classes=city,name={City Acronyms}]

## **Acronyms**

CD Compact Disc

**ECU** Steuergerät (Electronic Control Unit)

**ID** identification string

**JPEG** Joint Photographic Experts Group

**MP** Member of Parliament

 ${\tt NATO}\,$  North Atlantic Treaty Organization,  $\textit{deutsch}{:}$  Organisation des Nordatlantikvertrags

PDF Portable Document Format

**SW** Sammelwerk

**ST** Some Test

**UFO** unidentified flying object

## **City Acronyms**

**LA** Los Angeles

**NY** New York

You can see that the default layout is a description list with a \section\* title. Both can be changed, see section 5.

The command \printacronyms needs two LATEX runs. This is a precaution to avoid error messages with a possibly empty list. But since almost all documents need at least two runs and often are compiled much more often than that, this fact shouldn't cause too much inconvenience.

## 5. Options and Customization

#### 5.1. General Options

There are a few options which change the general behaviour of ACRO. <u>Underlined</u> values are used if no value is given. ACRO's package options are best set only via the setup command:

 $\acsetup{\langle options \rangle}$ 

Set up ACRO.

They *might* work as package options to \usepackage as well but *I do not recommend it* and will likely remove this in a future version 3 of ACRO.

#### messages = silent|loud

Default: loud

Setting messages = {silent} will turn all of ACRO's error messages into warnings and all of ACRO's warnings into info messages. Be sure to check the log file carefully if you decide to set this option.

#### $single = \underline{true} | false$

Default: false

If set to true an acronym that's used only once (with \ac) in a document will only print the acronym in a specified form and will not be printed in the list.

#### case-sensitive = true|false

Default: true

If set to true the  $\langle id \rangle$  as used in \DeclareAcronym or \ac is read case sensitive, i.e., id would differ from ID. This is ACRO's default behaviour.

If set to true id would be the same as ID. This can be useful when acronyms are used in page headings for example.

#### single-form = long|short|alt|first

Default: long

Introduced in version 2.0

Introduced in version 2.11

Determines how a single appearance of an acronym is printed if single = {true} has been chosen.

#### 5. Options and Customization

#### hyperref = true|false

Default: false

If set to true the short forms of the acronyms will be linked to their list entry.

#### label = true|false

Default: false

If set to true this option will place  $\label{prefix} \langle prefix \rangle \langle id \rangle$  the first time the acronym with ID  $\langle id \rangle$  is used.

#### label-prefix = $\{\langle text \rangle\}$

Default: ac:

The prefix for the \label that is placed when option label = {true} is used.

#### only-used = true|false

Default: true

This option is true as default. It means that only acronyms that are actually used in the document are printed in the list. If false, all acronyms defined with \DeclareAcronym will be written to the list.

#### mark-as-used = first|any

Default: any

This option determines wether an acronym is mark as used when the *first* form is used the first time (with \ac, \acf or \acflike and their uppercase, plural and indefinite forms) or when any of the \ac-like commands is used.

#### macros = true|false

Default: false

If set to true this option will create a macro  $\langle id \rangle$  for each acronym as a shortcut for  $\text{ac}\{\langle id \rangle\}$ . Already existing macros will *not* be overwritten.

#### xspace = true|false

Default: false

If set to true this option will append \xspace from the xspace package to the commands created with the macros option.

#### strict = true|false

Default: false

If set to true and the option macros = {true} is in effect then already existing macros will be overwritten.

#### sort = true|false

Default: true

If set to true the acronym list will be sorted alphabetically. The entries are sorted by their ID ignoring upper and lower case. This option needs the experimental package l3sort (from the l3experimental bundle) and can only be set in the preamble. If set to false the acronyms are listed in order of their declaration.

#### display-foreign = true|false

Default: true

When set to false any foreign property is ignored and foreign forms are not displayed.

#### cite = all|first|none

Default: first

This option decides whether citations that are added via cite are added to each first, every or no appearance of an acronym. If first is chosen, the option single = {true} is active and an acronym appears only once it still will get the citation.

#### $cite-cmd = {\langle control \ sequence \rangle}$

Default: \cite

This option determines which command is used for the citation. Each citation command that takes the cite key as argument is valid, for example biblatex's \footcite.

Changed in version 2.4b

```
cite-connect = \{\langle code \rangle\}
```

Default: \nobreakspace

Depending on the citation command in use a space should be inserted before the citation or maybe not (e.g. \footcite...). This option allows you to set this. Actually it can be used to place arbitrary code right before the citation.

```
group-citation = true|false
```

Default: false

Introduced in version 2.0

If set to true the short form (or the long form) and the citation of an acronym will be printed together in parentheses when an acronym is used the first time.

```
group-cite-cmd = \{\langle control \ sequence \rangle\}
```

Default: \cite

Introduced in version 2.0

This option determines which command is used for the citation when an acronym is used the first time *and* group-citation = {true}. Each citation command that takes the cite key as argument is valid, for example biblatex's \footcite.

```
group-cite-connect = \{\langle code \rangle\}
```

Default: ,\nobreakspace

Introduced in version 2.0

When group-citation = {true} this is inserted between the long/short form of the acronym and the citation within the parentheses.

```
index = true|false
```

Default: false

If set to true an index entry will be recorded every time an *unstarred* acronym command is used for the corresponding acronym.

```
index-cmd = \{\langle control \ sequence \rangle\}
```

Default: \index

Chooses the index command that is used when option index has been set to true.

```
accsupp = true|false
```

Default: false

Activates the access support as provided by the accsupp package.

Activates tooltip support for ACRO using the pdfcomment package.

```
tooltip = true|false
```

Default: false

Introduced in version 2.1

 $tooltip-cmd = \{\langle control \ sequence \rangle\}$ 

Default: \@firstoftwo

Introduced in version 2.1

Introduced in version 2.10

A macro taking two mandatory arguments, the first being the short form of the acronym and the second being some tooltip description.

```
uc - cmd = \{\langle control \ sequence \rangle\}
```

Default: \acfirstupper

The command that is used to capitalize the first word in the \Ac and the like commands. You can change it to another one like for example \makefirstuc 10 or \MakeTextUppercase. 11

```
uppercase-short = true|false
```

Default: true

If set to true commands like \Ac or \Acp will uppercase the first letter of the short version.

```
1 % with \acsetup{macros} activated:
```

 $_{\scriptscriptstyle 2}$  we could have used these before: \nato, \ny

<sup>10.</sup> from the mfirstuc package

<sup>11.</sup> from the textcase package

we could have used these before: NATO, NY

#### 5.2. Options Regarding Acronyms

The options described in this section all influence the layout of one of the possible output forms of the acronyms.

 $short-format = \{\langle format \rangle\}$ 

(initially empty)

Sets a format for all short forms. For example short-format = {\scshape} would print all short forms in small caps.

 $long-format = \{\langle format \rangle\}$ 

(initially empty)

The same for the long forms.

 $foreign-format = \{\langle format \rangle\}$ 

(initially empty)

The format for the foreign entry when it appears as part of the first appearance of an acronym.

 $single-format = \{\langle format \rangle\}$ 

Introduced in version 2.3

Introduced in version 2.1

(initially empty)

The format for the acronym when it is used only once. If not specified the formatting according to single-form is used.

 $first-long-format = \{\langle format \rangle\}$ 

(initially empty)

The format for the long form on first usage (with \ac, \acf or \acflike and their uppercase, plural and indefinite forms).

list-short-format =  $\{\langle format \rangle\}$ 

(initially empty)

An extra format for the short entries in the list. If not used this is the same as short-format. Please be aware that a call of short-format after this one will overwrite it again.

 $list-short-width = \{\langle dim \rangle\}$ 

Default: 3em

This option controls the width reserved for the short forms of the acronyms in the lof list style.

 $list-long-format = \{\langle format \rangle\}$ 

(initially empty)

An extra format for the long entries in the list. If not used this is the same as long-format. Please be aware that a call of long-format after this one will overwrite it again.

 $list-foreign-format = \{\langle format \rangle\}$ 

Default: \acroenparen

The format for the foreign entry as it appears in the list. This may be code that ends with a macro that takes a mandatory argument.

 $extra-format = \{\langle format \rangle\}$ 

(initially empty)

The same for the extra information.

first-style = default | empty | square | short | long | reversed | footnote | sidenote |
 footnote-reversed | Sidenote-reversed | Default: default

The basic style of the first appearance of an acronym. The value sidenote needs the command \sidenote to be defined (for example by the sidenotes package).

extra-style = default|plain|comma|paren|bracket
 Defines the way the extra information is printed in the list.

Default: default

 $plural-ending = \{\langle short \rangle / \langle long \rangle\}$ 

Default: s/s

Changed in version 2.4b

With this option the default plural ending can be set. The appended  $\langle long \rangle$  ending is optional. If you leave it (*and* the /) the  $\langle short \rangle$  ending is used for both short and long versions.

```
1 % (Keep in mind that we're in
2 % a minipage here!)
3 \acsetup{first-style=empty}
4 empty: \acf{ny} \\
5 \acsetup{first-style=footnote}
6 footnote: \acf{ny} \\
7 \acsetup{first-style=square}
8 square: \acf{ny} \\
9 \acsetup{first-style=short}
10 short: \acf{ny} \\
11 \acsetup{first-style=long}
12 long: \acf{ny} \\
13 \acsetup{first-style=reversed}
14 reversed: \acf{ny} \\
15 \acsetup{first-style = footnote-reversed}
16 footnote-reversed: \acf{ny}
empty: NY
footnote: NY<sup>a</sup>
square: New York [NY] [Wik12]
short: NY [Wik12]
long: New York [Wik12]
reversed: NY (New York) [Wik12]
footnote-reversed: New York<sup>b</sup>
  a. New York [Wik12]
  b. NY [Wik12]
```

#### 5.3. Options Regarding the List

page-style = none|plain|comma|paren

Default: none

If this option is set to a value other than none the page numbers of the an acronym appeared on are printed in the list. Please note that this is an experimental feature and might fail in quite a number of cases. If you notice anything please send me an email!

```
pages = all|first Default: all
```

If the option page-style has any value other than none this option determines wether all usages of the acronyms are listed or only the first time. Implicitly sets label = {true}.

#### $page-name = \{\langle page \ name \rangle\}$

Default: p.\@\,

The "name" of the page label. This is automatically translated to the active language. However for the time being there are many translations missing, yet. Please notify me if you find your language missing.

#### $pages-name = \{\langle page \ name \ plural \rangle\}$

Default: pp.\@\,

The "name" of the page label when there are more than one page. This is automatically translated to the active language. However for the time being there are many translations missing, yet. Please notify me if you find your language missing.

#### following-page = true|false

Default: false

If set to true a page range in the list of acronyms that consists of two pages will be written by the first page and an appended f. This depends on the option next-page.

#### following-pages = true|false

Default: false

If set to true a page range in the list of acronyms that set consists of more than two pages will be written by the first page and an appended ff. This depends on the option next-pages.

#### following-pages\* = true|false

Default: false

Introduced in version 2.5

If set to true this sets both options following-page = {true} and following-pages = {true}. false sets following-page = {false} and following-pages = {false}.

```
next-page = \{\langle text \rangle\}
```

Default: \,f.\@

Appended to a page number when following-page is set to true and the range is only 2 pages long. This is automatically translated to the active language. However, for the time being there are many translations missing, yet. Please notify me if you find your language missing.

#### $next-pages = \{\langle text \rangle\}$

Default: \,ff.\@

Appended to a page number when following-pages is set to true and the range is more than 2 pages long. This is automatically translated to the active language. However, for the time being there are many translations missing, yet. Please notify me if you find your language missing.

Changed in version 2.2 (2015/10/03)

list-style = description | lof | longtable | extra-longtable | extra-longtable-rev | extra-tabular|extra-tabular-rev|tabular|toc Default: description Choose with which style the list of acronyms should be typeset. If you choose \langle longtable \rangle, extra-longtable or extra-longtable-rev you have to load the longtable [Car19] package in your preamble. The values extra-\langle something \rangle put the extra information in a column of it own. Be aware that per default all extra-table styles only use l columns. Since acronym descriptions can easily get longer that a line you should probably define your own style if you want to use them. See section 13.2 on page 35 for details.

list-heading = chapter | chapter\* | section | section\* | subsection | subsection\* |
subsubsection|subsubsection\*|addchap|addsec|none Default: section\*
The heading type of the list. The last two only work with a KOMA-Script class that also defines
the appropriate command. A special value is none which suppresses the heading.

Changed in version 2.0

```
list-name = \{\langle list \ name \rangle\}
```

Default: Acronyms

The name of the list. This is what's written in the list-heading. This is automatically translated to the active language. However, for the time being there are many translations missing, yet. Please notify me if you find your language missing.

```
list-caps = true|false
```

Default: false

Print the first letters of the long form capitalized.

## 6. Trailing Tokens and Special Action

Introduced in version 2.0

ACRO has the possibility to look ahead for certain tokens and switch a boolean if it finds them. Per default ACRO knows about three tokens: the "dot" (.), the "dash" (-) and the "babel-hyphen" (\babelhyphen).

A token is made known to ACRO with the following macro:

```
\AcroRegisterTrailing\langle token \rangle \{\langle name \rangle\}
```

This registers the token  $\langle token \rangle$  so ACRO looks if it follows directly after an acronym macro.  $\langle name \rangle$  is the internal name for this token.

The ACRO package already registers the above mentioned tokens:

```
1 \AcroRegisterTrailing . {dot}
2 \AcroRegisterTrailing - {dash}
3 \AcroRegisterTrailing \babelhyphen {babel-hyphen}
```

If a token is registered it doesn't mean that ACRO looks for it. The token must first be activated for this:

```
activate-trailing-tokens = {\langle csv \ list \ of \ token \ names \rangle}
```

Tell ACRO to look for trailing tokens. This is done by giving a csv list of the internal *names* of the tokens. Per default only dot is activated.

```
deactivate-trailing-tokens = \{\langle csv | list | of token | names \rangle\}
```

Tell ACRO not to look for trailing tokens. This is done by giving a csv list of the internal *names* of the tokens.

All of the above on its own does nothing visible. However: inside of an acronym, *i. e.*, for example inside the long or the short form it can be tested for those trailing tokens:

```
\aciftrailing{\langle csv \ list \ of \ token \ names \rangle}{\langle true \rangle}{\langle false \rangle}
```

Check if one of the tokens listed in  $\langle csv | list | of token | names \rangle$  is following and either place  $\langle true \rangle$  or  $\langle false \rangle$  in the input stream.

**ACRO** uses this to define to further macros:

#### \acdot

Inserts a . if no dot follows.

#### \acspace

Inserts a \space if no dash or babel-hyphen follows.

The definitions are equivalent 12 to the following code:

```
    \newcommand*\acdot{\aciftrailing{dot}{}{.\@}}
    \newcommand*\acspace{\aciftrailing{dash,babel-hyphen}{}{\space}}
```

This could be used to define an acronym as follows:

```
    \DeclareAcronym{etc}{
    short = {\textit{etc}\acdot},
    long = {\textit{et cetera}},
    short-plural = , long-plural =
    }
}
```

If now you somewhere use

```
\ac{etc}.
```

there won't be two dots printed.

The command \acspace is used already in the definition of the first appearance of a macro. Let's say you're a German chemist and you have

```
1 \DeclareAcronym{PU}{
2  long = Polyurethan ,
3  long-plural = e
4 }
```

and you use it the first time like this:

```
ı \ac{PU}-Hartschaum
```

then according to German orthography and type setting rules this should be printed as  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) \left$ 

"Polyurethan(PU)-Hartschaum"

i. e., with no space between long and short form. This is exactly what happens it you say

<sup>12.</sup> Not quite: ACRO's definitions are engine protected.

```
1 \acsetup{activate-trailing-tokens = {dash,babel-hyphen}}
```

in the preamble.

## 7. About Page Ranges

If you enable the page-style option ACRO adds page numbers to the list of acronyms. In version o.\* it would add a page reference for an acronym in the list of acronyms that used \pageref to refer to the first appearance of an acronym. This is retained using pages = {first}. Version 1.0 uses a different approach that doesn't use a label but instead will list *all* pages an acronym appeared on. With hyperref the pages are referenced using \hyperpage.

There are some options that control how this list will be typeset, e.g., following-page, next-pages or the option page-style itself. It is important to mention that the page list will always take at least two compilation runs until changes in the options or the actual page numbers affect it. This is due to the fact that the updated sequence is first written to the aux file and only read in during the next run.

## 8. Dividing Your Document Into Pieces - Creating Local Lists

Introduced in version 2.4

**ACRO** introduces the concept of *barriers* which can divide the document into parts. It is possible to create lists of only those acronyms used between two such barriers.

#### \acbarrier

Sets a barrier at the point of use in the document. The begin and the end of the document mark implicit barriers.

```
use-barriers = true|false
```

Default: false

Introduced in Version 2.5 If you want to use barriers and local lists you have to activate the feature first. This should be set in the preamble in order to work reliably. Make sure to watch out for log file messages asking you to rerun.

```
reset-at-barriers = true|false
```

Default: false

If this option is set to true \acbarrier implicitly calls \acresetall.

```
local-to-barriers = true|false
```

Default: false

This option can *only* be used as option to the \printacronyms command. It then prints a list of only the acronyms of the current "barrier group".

```
\acbarrier
```

- 2 \printacronyms[local-to-barriers]
- $_3 \ac{ctan} and \ac{lppl}$
- ₄ \acbarrie

## **Acronyms**

Comprehensive TFX Archive Network and LATFX Project Public License

## 9. Language Support

ACRO detects if packages babel [Bra19] or polyglossia [Bra19] are being loaded and tries to adapt certain strings to match the chosen language. However, due to my limited language knowledge only a few translations are provided. I'll show how the English translations are defined so you can add the translations to your preamble if needed. Even better would be you'd send me a short email to contact@mychemistry.eu with the appropriate translations for your language and I'll add them to ACRO.

## 10. hyperref Support

The option hyperref = {true} adds internal links from all short (or alternative) forms to their respective list entries. Of course this only works if you have loaded the hyperref package in your preamble. You should use this option with care: if you don't use \printacronyms anywhere this option will result in loads of hyperref warnings. Also printing several lists can result in warnings if don't clearly separate the lists into different classes. If an acronym appears in more than one list there will also be more than one hypertarget for this acronym.

Using hyperref will also add \hyperpage to the page numbers in the list (provided they are displayed in the style chosen). Like with an index the references will thus not point to the acronyms directly but to the page they're on.

## 11. Defining Own Acronym Macros

Introduced in version 2.0

The commands explained in section 2.3 on page 7 have all been defined with a dedicated command – there is a family of dedicated commands, actually:

```
\NewAcroCommand{\langle cs \rangle}{\langle code \rangle}
```

Defines a new ACRO acronym command  $\langle cs \rangle$ . This sets up the necessary framework needed by acronym commands and defines  $\langle cs \rangle$  with an optional star argument and a mandatory argument for the acronym id using xparse's \NewDocumentCommand. Inside  $\langle code \rangle$  one can refer to the ID  $\langle id \rangle$  with #1.

#### 11. Defining Own Acronym Macros

#### $\RenewAcroCommand{\langle cs \rangle}{\langle code \rangle}$

Defines a new ACRO acronym command  $\langle cs \rangle$ . This sets up the necessary framework needed by acronym commands and defines  $\langle cs \rangle$  with an optional star argument and a mandatory argument for the acronym id using xparse's \RenewDocumentCommand. Inside  $\langle code \rangle$  one can refer to the ID  $\langle id \rangle$  with #1.

#### $\DeclareAcroCommand{\langle cs \rangle}{\langle code \rangle}$

Defines a new ACRO acronym command  $\langle cs \rangle$ . This sets up the necessary framework needed by acronym commands and defines  $\langle cs \rangle$  with an optional star argument and a mandatory argument for the acronym id using xparse's \DeclareDocumentCommand. Inside  $\langle code \rangle$  one can refer to the ID  $\langle id \rangle$  with #1.

#### $\ProvideAcroCommand{\langle cs \rangle}{\langle code \rangle}$

Defines a new ACRO acronym command  $\langle cs \rangle$ . This sets up the necessary framework needed by acronym commands and defines  $\langle cs \rangle$  with an optional star argument and a mandatory argument for the acronym id using xparse's \ProvideDocumentCommand. Inside  $\langle code \rangle$  one can refer to the ID  $\langle id \rangle$  with #1.

Inside these macros one can use a number of low-level expl3 commands.<sup>13</sup>

#### Acronym fetching commands

#### $\acrouse:n \{\langle id \rangle\}$

Fetches the acronym using either the first or the short form depending on earlier uses.

```
\acro_short:n \{\langle id \rangle\}
```

Fetches the short form of the acronym.

```
\acro_long:n \{\langle id \rangle\}
```

Fetches the long form of the acronym.

```
\acro_alt:n \{\langle id \rangle\}
```

Fetches the alternative short form of the acronym.

```
\acro_foreign:n \{\langle id \rangle\}
```

Fetches the foreign property of the acronym if available.

```
\acro_extra:n \{\langle id \rangle\}
```

Fetches the extra property of the acronym if available.

#### Acronym setup commands

#### \acro\_first\_upper:

ACRO setup command which tells the macros above that we want to uppercase the first letter of the long version. Should be used *before* one of the acronym fetching commands.

<sup>13.</sup> Which is why you need to use them inside an expl3 programming environment. This means in the preamble surround the definitions with \ExplSyntaxOn and \ExplSyntaxOff.

#### \acro\_plural:

**ACRO** setup command which tells the macros above that we want to use plural forms. Should be used *before* one of the acronym fetching commands.

#### \acro\_indefinite:

**ACRO** setup command which tells the macros above that we want to add the indefinite article. Should be used *before* one of the acronym fetching commands.

#### \acro\_cite:

ACRO setup command which tells the macros above that we want to add the citation in any case independent of the option cite. Should be used *before* one of the acronym fetching commands.

#### \acro\_no\_cite:

ACRO setup command which tells the macros above that we want to have no citation independent of the option cite. Should be used *before* one of the acronym fetching commands.

#### \acro\_index:

ACRO setup command which tells the macros above that we want to add an index entry in any case independent of the option index. Should be used *before* one of the acronym fetching commands.

#### \acro\_reset\_specials:

Introduced in version 2.0b (2015/08/29)

This macro is called implicitly by \NewAcroCommand and \NewPseudoAcroCommand. If you plan to define an Acro command by yourself using \NewDocumentCommand this should be the first macro after \acro\_begin:. It ensures that in nested acronyms the inner acronyms don't inherit indefinite articles, uppercasing, endings...

#### Additional macros for further uses

#### \acro\_begin:

When an acronym macro is defined "by hand", *i. e., not using* \NewAcroCommand then this must be the first macro in the code. *Must have a matching* \acro\_end:.

#### \acro\_end:

When an acronym macro is defined "by hand", *i. e., not using* \NewAcroCommand then this must be the last macro in the code. *Must have a matching* \acro\_begin:

#### $\acro_check\_and\_mark\_if:nn {\langle boolean\ expression \rangle} {\langle id \rangle}$

Checks if the acronym with the ID  $\langle id \rangle$  exists and marks it as used when  $\langle boolean \rangle$  expression evaluates to true. This macro is used inside \NewAcroCommand and friends implicitly.

#### $\acro_{check\_acronym:nn} \{\langle id \rangle\} \{true | false\}$

Checks if the acronym with the ID  $\langle id \rangle$  exists and marks it as used if true or doesn't. This macro is used inside  $\accoloredge$  acro\_check\_and\_mark\_if:nn.

#### \acro\_use\_acronym:n {true|false}

Tell \acro\_use:n and similar commands wether to mark the acronym as used or not. This

#### 11. Defining Own Acronym Macros

macro is used inside \acro\_check\_acronym:nn. If this macro is used explicitly it should be used before \acro\_use:n (or a similar command) otherwise it has no effect. An acronym marked as used cannot be unmarked.

```
\acro_{mark_as_used:n} \{\langle id \rangle\}
```

Explicitly use the acronym with the ID  $\langle id \rangle$ . This is the expl3 macro applied to all entries in \acuse.

```
* \acro_if_acronym_used:nTF \{\langle id \rangle\} \{\langle true \rangle\} \{\langle false \rangle\}
```

The code-level version of \acifused. This macro is expandable.

```
\acro_for_all_acronyms_do:n \{\langle code \rangle\}
```

Loops over all acronyms known when the macro is used. Inside of  $\langle code \rangle$  you can refer to the ID  $\langle id \rangle$  of an acronym with #1.

#### \acro\_barrier:

The code-level version of \acbarrier.

#### \acro\_switch\_off:

Introduced in version 2.6

The expl3 version of \acswitchoff.

\acro\_switch\_on:

Introduced in version 2.6

The expl3 version of \acswitchon.

 $\acro_add_action:n \{\langle code \rangle\}$ 

Introduced in version 2.7 (2017/01/22)

Adds code to  $\acro_{get:n}$ . Inside of  $\langle code \rangle$  you can refer to the ID of the acronym with #1. The \acro\_get:n command is called the first macro that is called by \acro\_use:n which for example enables conditionals to test for certain acronym properties.

```
\acro_property\_get:nnTF \{\langle id \rangle\} \{\langle property \rangle\} \{\langle true \rangle\} \{\langle false \rangle\}
```

Changed in version 2.11

Fetches the property  $\langle property \rangle$  of the acronym  $\langle id \rangle$  and stores it in a tokenlist variable \l\_acro\_\(property\)\_tl where all dashes in the property names are replaced with underscores.  $\langle true \rangle$  is placed in the input stream if the property had been set,  $\langle false \rangle$  otherwise.

```
\acro_property_get:nn{\langle id \rangle} {\langle property \rangle}
```

Changed in

version 2.11

Like \acro\_property\_get:nn*TF*, but without the  $\langle true \rangle$  and  $\langle false \rangle$  arguments.

```
Changed in
```

 $\acro\_property\_if\_set:nnTF \{\langle id \rangle\} \{\langle property \rangle\} \{\langle true \rangle\} \{\langle false \rangle\}$ 

version 2.11

Checks if the property  $\langle property \rangle$  of the acronym  $\langle id \rangle$  is set and places  $\langle true \rangle$  is in the input stream if yes and  $\langle false \rangle$  otherwise.

**Examples** The usage of above macros is best explained with a few examples. The following definition is done by ACRO:

```
1 \NewAcroCommand \ac { \acro_use:n {#1} }
```

An equivalent definition for \ac would be

which should explain what the actual framework is which \NewAcroCommand adds. Other definitions by ACRO are for example the following ones:

```
₁ \NewAcroCommand \Ac
      \acro_first_upper:
      \acro_use:n {#1}
6 \NewAcroCommand \iac
      \acro_indefinite:
      \acro_use:n {#1}
    }
11 \NewAcroCommand \acp
      \acro_plural:
      \acro_use:n {#1}
    }
15
16 \NewAcroCommand \Acp
17
      \acro_plural:
18
      \acro_first_upper:
      \acro_use:n {#1}
    }
21
22 \NewAcroCommand \Aclp
23
      \acro_plural:
24
      \acro_first_upper:
25
      \acro_long:n {#1}
    }
```

# 12. About Plural Forms, Possessive Forms and Similar Constructsthe Concept of Endings

ACRO has a concept of endings. All of ACRO's plural options are defined by saying

```
1 \ProvideAcroEnding {plural} {s} {s}
```

The command's syntax and what it does is as follows:

```
\label{eq:conding} $$\operatorname{ProvideAcroEnding}_{\langle name\rangle}_{\langle short\ default\rangle}_{\langle long\ default\rangle}$$
```

This macro defines the options

```
    ⟨name⟩-ending,
    short-⟨name⟩-ending,
    alt-⟨name⟩-ending,
    long-⟨name⟩-ending and
    foreign-⟨name⟩-ending.
```

It also defines the acronym properties

```
•short-\langle name \rangle,
•short-\langle name \rangle-form,
•alt-\langle name \rangle,
•alt-\langle name \rangle-form,
•long-\langle name \rangle,
•long-\langle name \rangle-form,
•foreign-\langle name \rangle-form.
```

Additionally it defines a setup macro as described in section 11 on page 29,  $\accolor{name}$ :. If  $\accolor{name}$  contains a - (dash) it is replaced by \_ before  $\accolor{name}$ : is built. So if you choose my-name the corresponding macro is named  $\accolor{name}$ . If you use any other non-letters you are on your own. If you use the command with the same  $\accolor{name}$  a second time the command only resets the defaults.

Note that you *must use* \*ProvideAcroEnding before any acronym definition*!

This could be used together with the macros described in section 11 on page 29 for adding support for possessive forms:

```
1 \ExplSyntaxOn
2 % this now only works because I've used the same already in the preamble so
3 % it does nothing here:
4 \ProvideAcroEnding {possessive} {'s} {'s}

6 \ProvideAcroCommand \acg
7  {
8  \acro_possessive:
```

Changed in version 2.4b

```
9 \acro_use:n {#1}

10 }

11 \ExplSyntaxOff

12 The \acg{cd} booklet says\ldots

The CD's booklet says...
```

Please note that different endings are cumulative which you probably want to avoid! Imagine a macro

This would give "CDS's" instead of "CDS'". To solve this you might want to consider

```
    \ProvideAcroEnding {possessive-singular} {'s} {'s}
    \ProvideAcroEnding {possessive-plural} {s'} {s'}
```

## 13. More on Customization

#### 13.1. Background Information

Several of ACRO's objects are customized using templates. For each of these objects it is possible to define own templates. <sup>14</sup> Possibly more interesting: it is easily possible to define further instances of an object using a certain template. How this works is explained in the following sections. However, the basics are always the same. There is a command

```
\DeclareAcro\langle object type \Style \langle \( name \rangle \) \{\langle template \rangle \} \{\langle options \rangle \} \\
which allows to define a new style (i. e., instance) for the object \langle object type \rangle using the template \{\langle template \rangle \}.
```

#### 13.2. Lists

#### 13.2.1. Own List Style

The different existing list styles are all built from four different templates, list, list-of, table and extra-table. Those templates are defined with the help of the xtemplate package

<sup>14.</sup> This requires some knowledge of xtemplate and expl3. Plans are to provide a documented interface for users of ACRO in the future.

TABLE 1: Available List Templates and Their Options

Template	Option	<b>Option Type</b>	Default
list	list foreign-sep reverse before after	tokenlist tokenlist boolean tokenlist tokenlist	description \space false
list-of	style foreign-sep reverse before after	tokenlist tokenlist boolean tokenlist tokenlist	toc \space false
table	table table-spec foreign-sep reverse before after	tokenlist tokenlist tokenlist boolean tokenlist tokenlist	tabular lp{.7\linewidth} \space false
extra-table	table table-spec foreign-sep reverse before after	tokenlist tokenlist tokenlist boolean tokenlist tokenlist	tabular llll \space false

(from [L<sub>3</sub>P]). Each of these templates has a few options which are described in table 1. New list styles now are defined via the following macro:

#### $\DeclareAcroListStyle\{\langle name \rangle\}\{\langle template \rangle\}\{\langle options \rangle\}$

Declares a new ACRO list style  $\langle name \rangle$ .  $\langle name \rangle$  will be the value which can be chosen in the option list-style.  $\langle template \rangle$  is the name of the template to be used by the style. Available templates are listed in table 1.  $\langle options \rangle$  are the option settings for the corresponding template.

For defining new styles you need some information on what the different templates and options do:

- The option list of the list template sets the list environment. This must be a classic Later where items are listed with \item. In those lists short entries will always be fed as optional argument to \item:
  \item[\short\]\lang\\extra\\page\
- The template list-of simulates a table of contents or a list of figures. This can be chosen by setting the option style to either toc or lof.

- The template extra-table typesets the list in a table with four columns:  $\langle short \rangle$  &  $\langle long \rangle$  &  $\langle extra \rangle$  &  $\langle page \rangle$  \tabularnewline
- The option foreign-sep is the code inserted between long form and foreign entry (if a foreign entry is present).
- The options before and after are inserted directly before and after the complete list.
- The option reverse switches the place of  $\langle long \rangle$  with  $\langle extra \rangle$ .
- The option table-spec sets the column types for the table templates. It must correspond to the number of columns the corresponding template uses.

As an example let's define a style longtabu which uses the corresponding table environment from the package tabu [Che19]:

```
\usepackage{tabu,longtable}

\usepackage{tabu,longtable}{

\usepackage{tabu,longtable}{

\usepackage{tabu,longtable}{

\usepackage{tabu,longtable}{

\usepackage{tabu,longtable}{

\usepackage{tabu,longtable}{

\usepackage{tabu,longtable}}{

\usepackage{tabu,longtable}}{
\usepackage{tabu,longtable}}{

\usepackage{tabu,longtable}}{

\usepackage{tabu,longtable}}{

\usepackage{tabu,longtable}}{

\use
```

As another example let's define a new list with the help of the enumitem package [Bez19]:

```
1 % preamble:
2 % \usepackage{enumitem}
3 \newlist{acronyms}{description}{1}
4 \newcommand*\addcolon[1]{#1:}
5 \setlist[acronyms]{
6  labelwidth = 3em,
7  leftmargin = 3.5em,
8  noitemsep,
9  itemindent = 0pt,
10  font=\addcolon}
11 \DeclareAcroListStyle{mystyle}{list}{ list = acronyms }
12 \acsetup{ list-style = mystyle }
```

This would look as follows:

## Acronyms

**cD**: Compact Disc

#### 13. More on Customization

**ECU:** Steuergerät (Electronic Control Unit)

**ID:** identification string

JPEG: Joint Photographic Experts Group

**LA:** Los Angeles

**MP:** Member of Parliament

NATO: North Atlantic Treaty Organization. deutsch: Organisation des Nordatlantikvertrags

**NY**: New York

**PDF:** Portable Document Format

SW: SammelwerkST: Some Test

**UFO:** unidentified flying object

#### 13.2.2. Own List Heading Command

With the option list-heading you can choose which command prints the heading of the list. If you need a different choice than what's already provided you can use the following command to define a new option:

```
\DeclareAcroListHeading\{\langle name \rangle\}\{\langle control\ sequence \rangle\}
```

Defines a new value  $\langle name \rangle$  for the option list-heading.  $\langle control \ sequence \rangle$  must be a control sequence which takes one mandatory argument.

As an example here is how the value section is defined:

```
1 \DeclareAcroListHeading{section}{\section}
```

#### 13.3. First Styles

The first styles define how an acronym is typeset when it is used for the first time. It is set with the option first-style. Legal values for this option are defined with the following command:

```
\DeclareAcroFirstStyle\{\langle name \rangle\}\{\langle template \rangle\}\{\langle options \rangle\}
```

Declares a new ACRO first style  $\langle name \rangle$ .  $\langle name \rangle$  will be the value which can be chosen in the option first-style.  $\langle template \rangle$  is the name of the template to be used by the style. Available templates are listed in table 2.  $\langle options \rangle$  are the option settings for the corresponding template.

Here are two examples of the already available styles and how they are defined:

```
1 \DeclareAcroFirstStyle{short}{inline}{
2    only-short = true ,
3    brackets = false
4 }
5 \DeclareAcroFirstStyle{sidenote-reversed}{note}{
6    note-command = \sidenote{#1} ,
7    reversed = true
```

8 }

TABLE 2: Available First Style Templates and Their Options

Template	Option	<b>Option Type</b>	Default
inline	brackets	boolean	true
	brackets-type	tokenlist	()
	only-short	boolean	false
	only-long	boolean	false
	reversed	boolean	false
	between	tokenlist	
	foreign-sep	tokenlist	,~
note	use-note	boolean	true
	note-command	function	\footnote{#1}
	reversed	boolean	false
	foreign-sep	tokenlist	,~

#### 13.4. Extra Styles

The extra styles define how the extra information of an acronym is typeset in the list. It is set with the option extra-style. Legal values for this option are defined with the following command:

```
\DeclareAcroExtraStyle{\langle name \rangle} {\langle template \rangle} {\langle options \rangle}
```

Declares a new ACRO extra style  $\langle name \rangle$ .  $\langle name \rangle$  will be the value which can be chosen in the option extra-style.  $\langle template \rangle$  is the name of the template to be used by the style. Available templates are listed in table 3.  $\langle options \rangle$  are the option settings for the corresponding template.

Here are two examples of the already available styles and how they are defined:

```
| DeclareAcroExtraStyle{default}{inline}{
| DeclareAcroExtraStyle{default}{inline}{
| DeclareAcroExtraStyle{paren}{inline}{
| DeclareAcroExtraStyle{paren}{
| DeclareAcr
```

TABLE 3: Available Extra Style Templates and Their Options

Template	Option	<b>Option Type</b>	Default
inline	punct	boolean	true
	punct-symbol	tokenlist	,
	brackets	boolean	true
	brackets-type	tokenlist	()

TABLE 4: Available Page Number Style Templates and Their Options

Template	Option	<b>Option Type</b>	Default
inline	display punct punct-symbol brackets brackets-type space	boolean boolean tokenlist boolean tokenlist skip	true false , false () .333333em plus .166666em minus .11111em

#### 13.5. Page Number Styles

The page number styles define how the page numbers where acronyms have been used are typeset in the list. It is set with the option page-style. Legal values for this option are defined with the following command:

```
\label{lem:lambda} $$\DeclareAcroPageStyle{$\langle name\rangle$} {\langle template\rangle$} {\langle options\rangle$}$
```

Declares a new ACRO extra style  $\langle name \rangle$ .  $\langle name \rangle$  will be the value which can be chosen in the option page-style.  $\langle template \rangle$  is the name of the template to be used by the style. Available templates are listed in table 4.  $\langle options \rangle$  are the option settings for the corresponding template.

Here are two examples of the already available styles and how they are defined:

```
1 \DeclareAcroPageStyle{default}{inline}{
2    punct = true ,
3    punct-symbol = .
4 }
5 \DeclareAcroPageStyle{paren}{inline}{
6    brackets=true ,
7    punct-symbol = ~
8 }
```

#### 13.6. Configuration Files

Introduced in version 2.2

If you repeatedly have the same setup and definitions for ACRO in your preamble <sup>15</sup> you might want to place those in a configuration file. If ACRO finds a file named acro.cfg present it inputs it at the end of the package. The only thing to be aware of is that this file is input like a package which means that @ is treated as a letter (category code 11).

## A. All Acronyms Used in this Documentation

**c D** Compact Disc, pp. 8, 10, 34 f.

ECU Steuergerät (Electronic Control Unit), p. 12

ID identification string, pp. 3 ff., 14, 16, 20 f., 29 ff.

JPEG Joint Photographic Experts Group, p. 11

LA Los Angeles, p. 15

MP Member of Parliament, p. 10

**NATO** North Atlantic Treaty Organization, *deutsch*: Organisation des Nordatlantikvertrags, pp. 11, 22

NY New York, pp. 6, 10, 14 ff., 22, 24

PDF Portable Document Format, pp. 5, 16 ff.

SW Sammelwerk, p. 10

ST Some Test, p. 6

UFO unidentified flying object, p. 13

#### **B.** References

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<sup>15.</sup> For example defining new endings,  ${\tt ACRO}$  commands, list styles,  $\dots$ 

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## C. Index

A \Ac	\Acsp
\acfirstupper       13, 22         \acflike       5, 14, 21, 23         \Acfp       8         \acfplike       14         \acg       34 f.         \aciffirst       16         \aciftrailing       26 f.         \acifused       16, 32         \Acl       7         \acl       7 ff., 15         \Aclp       8, 33         \aclp       8 ff.         \Acp       8, 14, 22, 33	B       4, 12, 29         babel (package)       4, 12, 29         before-citation (property)       4         BEZOS, Javier       4, 12, 29, 37         BRAAMS, Johannes       4, 12, 29         C       CARLISLE, David       25         case-sensitive       2, 20         CD       9f., 35         CHARETTE, François       4, 12         CHERVET, Florent       37         cite       21, 31
\acpdfstring	cite (property)       4, 6, 21         cite-cmd       21         cite-connect       22         class (property)       4, 15         CTAN       2         CTAN       29         D       deactivate-trailing-tokens       26         \DeclareAcroCommand       30         \DeclareAcroExtraStyle       39         \DeclareAcroFirstStyle       38         \DeclareAcroListHeading       38

## Index

\DeclareAcroListStyle36 f.	\iacs13
\DeclareAcronym . 2, 5 ff., 9-12, 15, 17 f., 20 f.,	ID3-6, 14, 16, 21, 29-32
27	include-classes
\DeclareAcroPageStyle 40	index5, 18, 22, 31
display-foreign21	index (property)
	index-cmd22
E	<pre>index-cmd (property)5</pre>
ECU 12	index-sort (property) 5, 18
<i>enumitem</i> 37	_
enumitem (package)37	J
exclude-classes19	JPEG11
expl3 (package) 2	K
extra (property) 4, 11	
extra-format23	Kleber, Josef18
extra-style 24, 39	L
	l3experimental (package) 21
F	l3keys2e (package) 2
first-long-format23	<i>l3packages</i> 36
first-long-format (property)5	l <sub>3</sub> sort (package)
first-style 14, 23, 38	LA15
first-style (property) 5, 14	label
following-page25, 28	label-prefix
following-pages25	list (property)
following-pages*25	list-caps
foreign (property) 4, 12, 21, 23	list-foreign-format23
foreign-format23	list-heading
foreign-lang (property)	list-long-format23
<pre>foreign-plural (property)3</pre>	list-name
<pre>foreign-plural-form (property)3</pre>	list-short-format23
<pre>format-include-endings</pre>	list-short-width23
	list-style
G	local-to-barriers
group-citation22	log
group-cite-cmd22	long (property)
group-cite-connect22	long-format
**	long-format (property)4
H	long-indefinite (property)3, 13
heading19	long-plural (property)
hyperref21, 29	
hyperref (package)5, 16, 28 f.	long-plural-form (property)3, 9
ī	long-post (property)
I	long-pre (property)3
\Iac	longtable
\iac	longtable (package)25
\iacl	LPPL

## Index

M	S
macros	short (property) 2 f., 5
\makefirstuc 13	short-format
mark-as-used	<pre>short-format (property) 4, 6</pre>
messages20	short-indefinite (property)3, 13
<i>mfirstuc</i>	short-plural (property) 3, 9
mfirstuc (package)	short-plural-form (property)3
MP10	single 1, 4, 14, 20 f.
	single (property) 4
N	single-form
name	single-format23
NATO12, 23	single-format (property) 5
<i>New York City</i> 6, 14 ff., 24	sort
\NewAcroCommand	sort (property)
\NewPseudoAcroCommand 31	strict
next-page25	SW
next-pages	20
NIEDERBERGER, Clemens 2	T
NY	tabu37
	tabu (package)
0	Таlвот, Nicola L.C
only-used21	ST 6
от6	THE LATEX3 PROJECT TEAM36
p	tooltip5, 18, 22
•	tooltip (property)5, 18
page-name	tooltip-cmd
	translations
pages	translations (package) 2
pages-name	• • •
-	U
pdfcomment	uc-cmd13, 22
pdfstring (property)5, 17	UFO
- 4 1	uppercase-short 7 f., 14, 22
plural-ending	use-barriers
polyglossia	
polyglossia (package) 4, 12, 29	W
post (property)	Wikipedia 6, 14 ff., 24
\printacronyms	v
\ProvideAcroCommand	X
\ProvideAcroEnding 34 f.	xparse (package)
R	xspace
\RenewAcroCommand30	xtemplate (package)2, 35
reset-at-barriers	Z
REUTENAUER, Arthur4, 12	