

nomenc^{*}

A Package to Create a Nomenclature

Boris Veytsman[†]
Bernd Schandl[‡]
Lee Netherton & CV Radhakrishnan[§]
D. Gloger

<https://github.com/dgloger/nomenc>

Printed on August 21, 2014

1 Introduction

How often did you try to understand a theorem in a book, but just couldn't figure out what all those strange symbols were all about? The **nomenc** package should help authors format a nomenclature. It uses the powerful capabilities of the *MakeIndex* program to generate such a list automatically using information provided by the author throughout the text.

1.1 Important Notes for Users of Previous Versions

The latest update to the **nomenc** package has included some major changes to some of the more important commands. In particular, the `\makeglossary` and `\printglossary` commands have now been renamed to `\makenomenclature` and `\printnomenclature` respectively. The reason for this change is to increase the package's compatibility with other *MakeIndex* using packages. With this increased compatibility, users will be able to have nomenclatures, glossaries and indexes all in one document.

^{*}Package version v4.3 of 2014/08/21.

[†]Up to version v2.2 (1996/11/25)

[‡]Up to version v3.1c (2001/10/02)

[§]Up to version v4.0 (2005/03/31)

There is a compatibility option that will allow you to still use your `\makeglossary` and `\printglossary` commands (see section 2.3), but it is advised that you change your `\...glossary` commands to the new `\...nomenclature` commands in your L^AT_EX files. For more information on the compatibility mode see section 6.

2 Usage

2.1 The Basics

The creation of the nomenclature list is very similar to the creation of an index [6, App. A]. You need to:

- Put `\usepackage[⟨options⟩]{nomenc1}` in the preamble of your document.
- `\makenomenclature` • Put `\makenomenclature` in the preamble of your document.
- `\nomenclature` • Issue the `\nomenclature` command (see Section 2.2) for each symbol you want to have included in the nomenclature list. The best place for this command is immediately after you introduce the symbol for the first time.
- `\printnomenclature` • Put `\printnomenclature` at the place you want to have your nomenclature list.

Now put your file through L^AT_EX. The command `\makenomenclature` will instruct L^AT_EX to open the nomenclature file `⟨filename⟩.nlo` corresponding to your L^AT_EX file `⟨filename⟩.tex` and to write the information from your `\nomenclature` commands to this file.

The next step is to invoke *MakeIndex*. You should instruct *MakeIndex* to use `⟨filename⟩.nlo` as your input file, use `nomenc1.ist` as your style file¹, and write output to the file `⟨filename⟩.nls`. How to do this depends on your implementation of *MakeIndex*. For most UNIX implementations you should write something like

```
makeindex ⟨filename⟩.nlo -s nomenc1.ist -o ⟨filename⟩.nls
```

¹ German users who want to use the shortcut notation "a instead of \a have to redefine the quote character in `nomenc1.ist` to something other than " (and |, @, !), maybe + or &; see the comment in the source code section and in the file `nomenc1.ist`. Furthermore, they should consider using the `-g` switch of *MakeIndex*.

Now you have the file $\langle filename \rangle$.nls that contains your nomenclature list properly ordered. The last step is to invoke L^AT_EX on your master file $\langle filename \rangle$.tex once more. It will input your .nls file and process it accordingly to the current options. That’s all!

2.2 The Main Command

`\nomenclature` The main command of the `nomencl` package has the following syntax:

```
\nomenclature[ $\langle prefix \rangle$ ]{ $\langle symbol \rangle$ }{ $\langle description \rangle$ }
```

where $\langle prefix \rangle$ is used for fine tuning the sort order, $\langle symbol \rangle$ is the symbol you want to describe and $\langle description \rangle$ is the actual description. The sortkey will be $\langle prefix \rangle \langle symbol \rangle$, where $\langle prefix \rangle$ is either the one from the optional argument or, if no optional argument was given, the default $\langle prefix \rangle$ which may be empty. See Section 3 to make sense of this.

Put this command immediately after the equation or text that introduces $\langle symbol \rangle$. Usually it is a good idea to avoid a space or an unquoted newline just in front of the `\nomenclature` command. Put a % at the end of the preceding line if necessary. Don’t forget to enclose math in $\langle symbol \rangle$ in \$ signs.

Let’s have a look at a simple example. If your input file looks like the one in Figure 1 then your nomenclature² should look like Figure 2.

Note the necessary quoting of newlines. When the `\nomenclature` macros appear directly after the `equation` environment, quote *all* newlines; when they appear in the middle of a sentence, quote *all but the last* newlines.³

Due to the way `\nomenclature` scans its arguments you don’t need to `\protect` any macros, but you also must not have any character in front of the first or between the first and the second argument, especially no line break (even with a %). So

```
\nomenclature{$x$}%  
  {Description}
```

does *not* work. You can have have line breaks in the argument, but also no %.

2.3 Package Options

The `nomencl` package has the following options:

²Note that all the examples are somewhat faked in this document, but they give a good impression of the “real” result.

³I’m not sure how to resolve this more elegantly, but suggestions are welcome.

```

\documentclass{article}
\usepackage{nomenc}
\makenomenclature
\begin{document}
\section*{Main equations}
\begin{equation}
a=\frac{N}{A}
\end{equation}%
\nomenclature{a$}{The number of angels per unit area}%
\nomenclature{N$}{The number of angels per needle point}%
\nomenclature{A$}{The area of the needle point}%
The equation  $\sigma = m a$ %
\nomenclature{\sigma$}{The total mass of angels per unit area}%
\nomenclature{m$}{The mass of one angel}
follows easily.
\printnomenclature
\end{document}

```

Figure 1: Input of a simple example

Nomenclature

- σ The total mass of angels per unit area
- A The area of the needle point
- a The number of angels per unit area
- m The mass of one angel
- N The number of angels per needle point

Figure 2: Output of a simple example

- refeq** The phrase “, see equation ($\langle eq \rangle$)” is appended to every entry in the nomenclature where $\langle eq \rangle$ is the number of the last equation in front of the corresponding command `\nomenclature`.
- norefeq** No equation reference is printed. (default)
- refpage** The phrase “, page $\langle page \rangle$ ” is appended to every entry in the nomenclature where $\langle page \rangle$ is the number of the page on which the corresponding command `\nomenclature` appeared.
- norefpage** No page reference is printed. (default)
- prefix** Every sort key is preceded by the letter “a” (changeable); see Section 3 to learn why this might make sense. (default)
- noprefix** No prefix is used.
- cfg** A configuration file `nomenc1.cfg` is loaded, if it exists. (default)
- nocfg** The configuration file is not loaded.
- intoc** Inserts the nomenclature in the Table of Contents.
- notintoc** No entry for the nomenclature in the Table of Contents. (default)
- compatible** Run in compatibility mode. Older tex files may need this option selected to be able to compile. In the latest version of `nomenc` the commands `\makeglossary` and `\printglossary` were replaced with `\makenomenclature` and `\printnomenclature`. Selecting this option will redefine the old commands, but will loose the compatibility with other glossary packages.
- noncompatible** Do not run in compatibility mode. (default)
- croatian, danish, english, french, german, ngerman, italian, polish, portuguese, russian, spanish, ukrainian** The reference texts and the nomenclature title will appear in the corresponding language. Note that in order to use Russian or Ukrainian, you have to have Cyrillic fonts installed and you might need a replacement for *MakeIndex*, e.g. `xindy`. Please help me out with other languages. (default: english)

2.4 Referencing

`\nomrefeq` As explained in Section 2.3, you can turn referencing to equations
`\nomrefpage` and pages on/off globally using the package options. But sometimes
`\nomrefeqpage` you might want to change the referencing behavior for single entries.
`\nomnorefeq` The following six macros can be used inside a `\nomenclature` macro:
`\nomnorefpage` `\nomrefeq`, `\nomnorefeq`, `\nomrefpage`, `\nomnorefpage`, `\nomrefeqpage`,
`\nomnorefeqpage` `\nomnorefeqpage`. The first four work similarly to the package options,
only local to the entry; the last two are shortcuts, so saying `\nomrefeqpage`
is equivalent to `\nomrefeq\nomrefpage`.

If we changed the relevant parts of the last example as shown in Figure 3 then the nomenclature should look like Figure 4.

```

\begin{equation}
  a=\frac{N}{A}
\end{equation}%
\nomenclature{$a$}{The number of angels per unit area\nomrefeqpage}%
\nomenclature{$N$}{The number of angels per needle point\nomrefeq}%
\nomenclature{$A$}{The area of the needle point\nomrefeq\nomrefpage}%
The equation  $\sigma = m a$ %
\nomenclature{$\sigma$}{The total mass of angels per unit area}%
\nomenclature{$m$}{The mass of one angel\nomrefpage}
follows easily.
\printnomenclature
\end{document}

```

Figure 3: Input with references

While these macros do not have to be at the end of the entries, it's probably the most sensible place to put them. Note that such local request always supersede the package options.

3 Sort Order of the Entries

The Greek letter σ turned out to be first in the nomenclature list in the examples above because the backslash in `\sigma` precedes any alphabetical character. Sometimes this is not what you want. Then you can use `\langle prefix \rangle` to fine tune the sort order.

Nomenclature

- σ The total mass of angels per unit area
- A The area of the needle point, see equation (1), page 1
- a The number of angels per unit area, see equation (1), page 1
- m The mass of one angel, page 1
- N The number of angels per needle point, see equation (1)

Figure 4: Output with references

Before we describe the usage of $\langle prefix \rangle$, we have to explain how *MakeIndex* sorts entries, see [2]. *MakeIndex* distinguishes three kinds of sort keys:

Strings Everything that starts with a alphabetic letter (A...Z, a...z).

Numbers Everything that starts and only contains digits (0...9).

Symbols Everything else.

Each group is sorted separately (and differently), then the groups are sorted in the order symbols, numbers, strings⁴. For the groups the following algorithm⁵ is used:

Strings If two letters are compared, the usual ordering is used ($a < C < q$), but if two words are the same except for the capitalization, then an upper case letter precedes the lower case letter (**Tea** < **tea**). If a letter is compared with a non-letter (digit, symbol), ASCII code is used ($1 < A < \sim$).⁶ If two non-letters are compared (which can not happen

⁴With the **-g** switch of *MakeIndex*, they are sorted in the order symbols, strings, numbers.

⁵This is only vaguely described in [2], so I had to figure out special cases by myself. Please correct me if I am wrong

⁶An exception seems to be that the non-letters between upper and lower case letters (code 91–96) are put just before the capital letters (between code 64 and 65) while the non-letters after the lower case letters (code 123–127) are left there. Can someone please enlighten me why?

at the first position of a string), ASCII code is used ($+<1<:<\backslash$). Additionally there is the issue of word ordering (treat spaces as letters with ASCII code smaller than every printable symbol) and letter ordering (ignore spaces). *MakeIndex* uses word ordering by default, but you can change it with some command line option (`-1` on my UNIX).

Numbers The natural ordering is used ($8<34<111$).

Symbols ASCII code is used ($+<1<:<A<\backslash<a$).

Why did you have to read all this?⁷ Let's consider the following eight nomenclature entries (without the optional argument): $\$~Ab\$$, $\$~aa\$$, $\$~\backslash Ab\$$, $\$~\backslash aa\$$, $\$Ab\$$, $\$aa\$$, Ab , aa . Try to understand the following example with the help of the explanation above and an ASCII table.

If you use `nomenc1` with its default settings (i.e. “a” is added to every sort key, so every sort key is considered as a string), you will get the sort order $\$~\backslash aa\$$, $\$~\backslash Ab\$$, $\$aa\$$, $\$Ab\$$, $\$~aa\$$, $\$~Ab\$$, aa , Ab . Note that aa is in front of Ab in all four pairs; note also the order $\$~\backslash Ab\$$, $\$Ab\$$, $\$~Ab\$$ which does not agree with the ASCII code.

If you specify the option `noprefix`, then you will get $\$Ab\$$, $\$~\backslash Ab\$$, $\$~\backslash aa\$$, $\$aa\$$, $\$~Ab\$$, $\$~aa\$$, aa , Ab . The first six entries are considered as symbols and sorted according to the ASCII code (this time correctly). Note that $\$~\backslash Ab\$$ is in front of $\$~\backslash aa\$$ because A has the smaller ASCII code. The two strings follow at the end.

Decide for yourself what you prefer. Personally, I like to specify the `noprefix` option and use the optional argument to get exactly the sort order I want. See Section 5 for some special effects.

4 Customization

Besides the things you can customize by using the package options, there are a few more commands that you might want to redefine. If you make the same changes in every file, it's probably easier to put all those in a file `nomenc1.cfg` which is automatically read by the `nomenc1` package whenever it exists in the search path (unless you specified the `nocfg` option).

4.1 Formatting the Nomenclature

`\printnomenclature` Probably the most common change to the nomenclature is a different

`\nomlabelwidth` amount of space for the symbols. By default, the nomenclature is formatted as a list with the label width equal to `\nomlabelwidth` which is initialized to 1 cm. You can change this dimension in the `cfg` file or you can use the optional argument of `\printnomenclature`. If you want to have a little more space for the labels (and you don't live in a metric world) you can use

```
\printnomenclature[0.5in]
```

instead of the simple

```
\printnomenclature
```

`thenomenclature` If you don't like the format of the nomenclature at all, you will have to redefine the `thenomenclature` environment. Maybe a look at the documented code of `nomenc1` will help.

`\nomname` In case you don't like the name of the nomenclature, just redefine the `\nomname` macro, e.g.

```
\renewcommand{\nomname}{List of Symbols}
```

If you are using e.g. the documentclass `book` with page style headings you should also take care of correct headings:

```
\cleardoublepage% or \clearpage
\markboth{\nomname}{\nomname}% maybe with \MakeUppercase
\printnomenclature
```

I thought about putting this in the definition of `\printnomenclature` but decided that it is much easier for the user to add it if he wants than to remove it if he doesn't want it. In case you always need this just define a macro in `nomenc1.cfg` that executes these three lines all at once and can be used instead of `\printnomenclature`.

Putting an entry for the nomenclature in the table of contents can be done by adding an `intoc` to the package options.

`\nomgroup` Usually, *MakeIndex* inserts the macro `\indexspace` between every character group, i.e. between symbols and numbers, numbers and letters and between every two letter groups. The `nomenc1` package inserts the macro `\nomgroup{<arg>}` instead, where `<arg>` is either the string "Symbols" or the string "Numbers" or the capital letter of the group that is about to start. You can redefine `\nomgroup` to insert some white space

```
\renewcommand{\nomgroup}[1]{\medskip}
```

or to print a fancy divider

```
\renewcommand{\nomgroup}[1]{%
```

⁷I hope you did read it ;-)

```

\item[]\hspace*{-\leftmargin}%
\rule[2pt]{0.45\linewidth}{1pt}%
\hfill #1\hfill
\rule[2pt]{0.45\linewidth}{1pt}}

```

Note that `\nomgroup` is executed in a list environment, so you need to have an `\item` first and then jump back to the beginning of the line with the `\hspace` command.

`\nom preamble` Maybe you want to explain something just between the title of the
`\nom postamble` nomenclature and the start of the list or at the very end of the list. Just
 redefine the macros `\nom preamble` and `\nom postamble` which do nothing
 by default. Note that they are executed *outside* of the list environment.

`\nom itemsep` The skip between two entries in the nomenclature can be adjusted using
`\nom itemsep`. This should be done in the preamble or the file `nomenc1.cfg`.
 Note that if you want no extra skip between entries you have to use

```
\setlength{\nomitemsep}{-\parsep}
```

`\nom prefix` If you want, you can redefine the default prefix that is used for the
 sortkeys. By default, `\nom prefix` is set to “a”; redefining it supersedes the
 package options `prefix` and `noprefix`.

4.2 Formatting the Entries

`\nom label` By default, the labels are just shifted to the left within their allocated
 box. If you want to change this, redefine `\nom label` which should get one
 argument, e. g.

```
\renewcommand{\nomlabel}[1]{\hfil #1\hfil}
```

to center the symbols.

`\nom entryend` Maybe you would like to have a period at the end of every entry. Just
 say

```
\renewcommand{\nomentryend}{.}
```

and there it is. Section 5.2 explains another nice application of this macro.

`\eq declaration` If you don’t like the text that is used for the references to equations
`\page declaration` and pages, you can define `\eq declaration` and `\page declaration`. Both
 should accept one argument, namely the equation and page number, re-
 spectively. An example is

```
\renewcommand{\eqdeclaration}[1]{, first used in eq.~(#1)}
```

If you are redefining these macros for a particular language, let me know
 and I will add that language to the next release of the `nomenc1` package.

5 Tips and Tricks

In this section, I will gather fancy stuff that people did or might want to do with the `nomenc1` package. Please email any ideas you have.

For most examples, sample configuration files will be generated if you run `LATEX` on the file `nomenc1.ins`. There will for example be a file `sample01.cfg` for the subgroups example in Section 5.1. Rename it to `nomenc1.cfg`, then it will automatically be used by your document. There is no sample file for the longtable example in Section 5.3. I am just too lazy right now, maybe I will add it later...

5.1 Subgroups

If you have distinct groups among the identifiers in your nomenclature (e.g. Greek letters for physical constants, Roman letters for variables), you can use the optional argument of `\nomenclature` together with the `\nomgroup` macro to get two groups with separate headings in the nomenclature.

Use something like the following throughout your text

```
\nomenclature[ga ]{ $\alpha$ }{Constant}
\nomenclature[rx ]{ $x$ }{Variable}
```

where “g” and “r” indicate Greek and Roman letters, respectively. Then you include the `ifthen` package and redefine `\nomgroup` e.g. like this.

```
1 <*sample01>
2 \RequirePackage{ifthen}
3 \renewcommand{\nomgroup}[1]{%
4   \ifthenelse{\equal{#1}{R}}{\item[\textbf{Variables}]}{%
5     \ifthenelse{\equal{#1}{G}}{\item[\textbf{Constants}]}{}}
6 </sample01>
```

Note that we have to check for capital letters. All your symbols should have some kind of prefix; maybe you can also use the default prefix “a”. Note that for symbols and numbers you have to check for the strings “Symbols” and “Numbers”.

5.2 Units

Besides the obvious possibility of adding units for symbols in the description string, you can also use `\numentryend` to shift the unit to the right margin. Something along the lines of a macro

```
7 <*sample02>
8 \newcommand{\nomunit}[1]{%
```

```

9 \renewcommand{\numentryend}{\hspace*{\fill}\#1}}
10 </sample02>

```

should do the job. You can use this macro like this

```
\nomenclature{$l$}{Length\nomunit{m}}
```

Note that the nomenclature will not be a tabular with three columns, but it is pretty close as long as you only have one-line descriptions. Any suggestions for improvements are welcome.

5.3 Using a Long Table instead of a List

The following idea was sent to me by Brian Elmegaard. I have modified it a little bit to make it work with the current version of `nomenc1`. Only the basic idea is given, so you have to do some extra thinking (and coding) to get it to work the way you want it.

After loading the `longtable` package in the preamble we first have to modify the macro that writes the entries to the `glo` file (do this in a style file).

```

\def\@@@nomenclature[#1]#2#3{%
\def\@tempa{#2}\def\@tempb{#3}%
\protected@write\@nomenclaturefile{%
{\string\nomenclatureentry{#1\nom@verb\@tempa \@{\nom@verb\@tempa}&%
\begin{group}\nom@verb\@tempb\protect\nomeqref{\theequation}%
\nompageref{\thepage}}%
\endgroup
\@esphack}

```

Then the nomenclature itself must be changed to start a `longtable` instead of a list. Maybe we could add something for a repeating header on every page.

```

\def\thenomenclature{%
\@ifundefined{chapter}{\section*}{\chapter*}{\nomname}%
\nompreamble
\begin{longtable}[1]{@{}l@{}}
\def\endthenomenclature{%
\end{longtable}%
\nompostamble}

```

Finally we add the following two lines at the end of `nomenc1.ist`⁸.

```

item_0 ""
delim_t " \\\n"

```

⁸ Don't forget to rename the file and delete my email address if you want to distribute the file, see the pointer to the LPPL in Section 8.

As I said, this is only the basic idea. An advantage might be the repeating headers on every page, a disadvantage is that there won't be any line breaks in the second column.

5.4 I want it expanded!

The `nomenc1` package tries hard to write the arguments of the `\nomenclature` macro verbatim to the glossary file. This is usually the right thing to do because some macros do not like to be expanded at the wrong moment or give weird results if they are. On the other hand, there are occasions where it is good to have the meaning (or expansion) of a macro in the glossary file instead of its name. There are quite some occasions where you will get in trouble with this expansion, for example, if the expansion of a macro contains `@` (`\mathcal` expands to `\@mathcal`) because `@` is a special character for *MakeIndex* and thus *MakeIndex* will either fail or give unexpected results. You can avoid the expansion on a case by case basis by using `\protect` in front of the macro that should not be expanded.

In order to get macro expansion, the redefinition of the `\nomenclature` macro within the `\makenomenclature` macro has to be changed.

```

11 <*sample04>
12 \def\makenomenclature{%
13   \newwrite\@nomenclaturefile
14   \immediate\openout\@nomenclaturefile=\jobname\@outputfileextension
15   \def\@nomenclature{%
16     \@ifnextchar[%
17       {\@@@@nomenclature}{\@@@@nomenclature[\nomprefix]}}%
18   \typeout{Writing nomenclature file \jobname\@outputfileextension}%
19   \let\makenomenclature\@empty}

```

The new macro to be called by `\@nomenclature` just writes its arguments to the glossary file without further ado, so they will be expanded.

```

20 \def\@@@nomenclature[#1]#2#3{%
21   \protected@write\@nomenclaturefile{%
22     {\string\nomenclatureentry{#1#2@[{#2}]}%
23       \begingroup#3\protect\nomeqref{\theequation}%
24       \nompageref}{\thepage}}}%
25 </sample04>

```

As I said above, use these macros with care and look for warnings and errors issued by *MakeIndex*.

5.5 Glossary in “Kopka Style”

I was told that the glossary in the L^AT_EX book by Kopka looks roughly like in Figure 5. In order to get a glossary like this, there are quite some configurations to do.

Symbol	page number
Explanation.	

Figure 5: Glossary entry in “Kopka Style”

First we have to change the macro `\@@@nomenclature` which takes care of writing the glossary entry to the glossary file. The only difference to the original definition is that we hand over the explanation of a symbol (`#3`) and the equation number to `\nompageref` instead of writing it directly after the symbol (`#2`). This is necessary because the explanation should appear after (actually below) the page number.

```

26 <*sample05>
27 \def\@@@nomenclature[#1]#2#3{%
28   \def\@tempa{#2}\def\@tempb{#3}%
29   \protected@write\@nomenclaturefile{%
30     {\string\nomenclatureentry{#1\nom@verb\@tempa @[\{ \nom@verb\@tempa\}%
31       |nompageref{\begingroup\nom@verb\@tempb\protect\nomeqref{\theequation}}}%
32       {\thepage}}}%
33   \endgroup
34   \@esphack}

```

Now we change the definition of `\nompageref` so that it accepts two arguments, the explanation (`#1`) and the page number (`#2`). The page number is only printed if required, otherwise `\null` is used to avoid an error because of the following `\linebreak`. Note that it is *not* possible to turn off the page number locally, because the explanation appears after the page number. Does anyone have an idea how to fix this?

```

35 \def\nompageref#1#2{%
36   \if@printpageref\pagedeclaration{#2}\else\null\fi
37   \linebreak#1\nomentryend\endgroup}

```

And a few little things. We want dots and a space before the page number appears at the right margin; the explanation should end with a period; and the symbol should be printed in bold face (this only works for regular text, not for formulas).

```

38 \def\pagedeclaration#1{\dotfill\nobreakspace#1}

```

```

39 \def\nomentryend{.}
40 \def\nomlabel#1{\textbf{#1}\hfil}
41 \end{sample05}

```

6 Compatibility Mode

With previous versions of the `nomenc`, the commands `\makeglossary` and `\pringlossary` were used to generate and display the nomenclature. These commands have now been depreciated, and replaced with the `\makenomenclature` and `\printnomenclature` commands. The new commands do exactly the same as the old commands, but because of the name changes, the package is now compatible with other packages which use the `\makeglossary` commands. The previous versions of `nomenc` also used the file extensions `.glo` and `.gls` for the generated output and input files. These extensions have now been changed to `.nlo` and `.nls` respectively—again, for increased compatibility.

For all of the legacy \LaTeX files out there which use the old commands there is a compatibility option available so that the old commands will still work without having to change any of the existing code. To enable the compatibility mode simply supply the **compatible** option when using the package. For example:

```
\usepackage[compatible]{nomenc}
```

Under compatibility mode, the package will generate and use files with the old-style file extensions (i.e. `.glo` and `.gls`).

It is worth noting that even though the compatibility mode is available, it is highly recommended to update your \LaTeX files to use the new nomenclature commands.

7 Acknowledgements

First and foremost I want to thank Boris Veytsman, who had the idea for the package, maintained it until v2.2 and provided some helpful advice for the new version. I also want to thank Stefan Böhm and Karl Heinz Marbaise who helped testing this package.

For helping out with translations I thank Branka Lončarević (Croatian), Brian Elmegaard (Danish), Denis B. Roegel (French), Sani Egisto (Italian), Artur Gorka (Polish), Pedro Areal (Portuguese), Alejandro Lopez-Valencia (Spanish) and Boris Veytsman (Russian and Ukrainian).

8 Releases and Legal Issues

This package can be redistributed and/or modified under the terms of the L^AT_EX Project Public License distributed from CTAN archives in the directory [macros/latex/base/lppl.txt](#), see e. g. [3]; either version 1.2 of the license, or (at your option) any later version.

(TODO: The most recent release of the `nomenc` package can always be found at <http://sarovar.org/projects/nomenc1> – sarovar.org is [dead forever](#). So, move project repository on github.) Usually, the same version is also available at [CTAN/macros/latex/contrib/supported/nomenc1/](#).

9 Implementation

9.1 The L^AT_EX Package File

At the beginning of this file, the `\ProvidesPackage` macro was executed. So we only need to state that we need L^AT_EX 2_ε.

```
42 <*package>
43 \NeedsTeXFormat{LaTeX2e}
```

```
\if@printeqref We need two switches to decide whether references to equations and pages
\if@printpageref should be printed.
```

```
44 \newif\if@printeqref
45 \newif\if@printpageref
```

```
\if@intoc Another switch to decide whether to add an entry to the TOC.
```

```
46 \newif\if@intoc
```

```
\if@compatibilitymode Another switch to decide whether to run in compatibility mode.
```

```
47 \newif\if@compatibilitymode
```

And the options to set these switches globally.

```
48 \DeclareOption{refeq}{\@printeqreftrue}
49 \DeclareOption{norefeq}{\@printeqreffalse}
50 \DeclareOption{refpage}{\@printpagereftrue}
51 \DeclareOption{norefpage}{\@printpagereffalse}
52 \DeclareOption{intoc}{\@intoctrue}
53 \DeclareOption{notintoc}{\@intocfalse}
54 \DeclareOption{compatible}{\@compatibilitymodetrue}
55 \DeclareOption{noncompatible}{\@compatibilitymodefalse}
```


`\nomprefix` It might make sense to add the prefix “a” to every sortkey, see Section 3.

```
56 \DeclareOption{prefix}{\def\nomprefix{a}}
57 \DeclareOption{noprefix}{\def\nomprefix{}}
```

`\if@loadcfg` Another switch and the corresponding options to decide whether we should look for a configuration file.

```
58 \newif\if@loadcfg
59 \DeclareOption{cfg}{\@loadcfgtrue}
60 \DeclareOption{nocfg}{\@loadcfgfalse}
```

`\eqdeclaration` If you can help out with translations for some other languages, let me know.

```
\pagedeclaration
\nomname
61 \DeclareOption{croatian}{%
62   \def\eqdeclaration#1{, vidi jednad\v{z}bu\nobreakspace(#1)}%
63   \def\pagedeclaration#1{, stranica\nobreakspace#1}%
64   \def\nomname{Popis simbola}}
65 \DeclareOption{danish}{%
66   \def\eqdeclaration#1{, se ligning\nobreakspace(#1)}%
67   \def\pagedeclaration#1{, side\nobreakspace#1}%
68   \def\nomname{Symbolliste}}
69 \DeclareOption{english}{%
70   \def\eqdeclaration#1{, see equation\nobreakspace(#1)}%
71   \def\pagedeclaration#1{, page\nobreakspace#1}%
72   \def\nomname{Nomenclature}}
73 \DeclareOption{french}{%
74   \def\eqdeclaration#1{, voir \’equation\nobreakspace(#1)}%
75   \def\pagedeclaration#1{, page\nobreakspace#1}%
76   \def\nomname{Liste des symboles}}
77 \DeclareOption{german}{%
78   \def\eqdeclaration#1{, siehe Gleichung\nobreakspace(#1)}%
79   \def\pagedeclaration#1{, Seite\nobreakspace#1}%
80   \def\nomname{Symbolverzeichnis}}
81 \DeclareOption{ngerman}{% German (new spelling)
82   \ExecuteOptions{german}}
83 \DeclareOption{italian}{%
84   \def\eqdeclaration#1{, vedi equazione\nobreakspace(#1)}%
85   \def\pagedeclaration#1{, pagina\nobreakspace#1}%
86   \def\nomname{Elenco dei simboli}}
87 \DeclareOption{polish}{%
88   \def\eqdeclaration#1{, porownaj rownanie\nobreakspace(#1)}%
89   \def\pagedeclaration#1{, strona\nobreakspace#1}%
90   \def\nomname{Lista symboli}}
91 \DeclareOption{portuguese}{%
92   \def\eqdeclaration#1{, veja equa\c{c}\~ao\nobreakspace(#1)}%
93   \def\pagedeclaration#1{, p\’agina\nobreakspace#1}%

```

```

94 \def\nomname{Nomenclatura}}
95 \DeclareOption{russian}{%
96 \def\eqdeclaration#1{, \cyrs\cyrm.\nobreakspace(#1)}%
97 \def\pagedeclaration#1{, \cyrs\cyrt\cyrr.\nobreakspace#1}%
98 \def\nomname{\CYRS\cyrp\cyri\cyrs\cyro\cyrk%
99 \ \cyro\cyrb\cyro\cyrz\cyrn\cyra\cyrch\cyre\cyrn\cyri%
100 \cyrishrt}}
101 \DeclareOption{spanish}{%
102 \def\eqdeclaration#1{, v\'ease la ecuaci\'on\nobreakspace(#1)}%
103 \def\pagedeclaration#1{, p\'agina\nobreakspace#1}%
104 \def\nomname{Nomenclatura}}
105 \DeclareOption{ukrainian}{%
106 \def\eqdeclaration#1{, \cyrd\cyri\cyrv.\nobreakspace(#1)}%
107 \def\pagedeclaration#1{, \cyrs\cyrt\cyro\cyrr.\nobreakspace#1}%
108 \def\nomname{\CYRP\cyre\cyrr\cyre\cyrl\cyrii\cyrk%
109 \ \cyrp\cyro\cyrz\cyrn\cyra\cyrch\cyre\cyrn\cyrsftsn}}

```

Finally set the default options and process everything.

```

110 \ExecuteOptions{noncompatible,notintoc,norefeq,norefpage,prefix,cfg,english}
111 \ProcessOptions\relax

```

`\@outputfileextension` The default file extension for the output and input nomenclature files are
`\@inputfileextension` .nlo and .nls respectively. In compatibility mode, these are changes to
.glo and .gls.

```

112 \if@compatibilitymode%
113 \def\@outputfileextension{.glo}%
114 \def\@inputfileextension{.gls}%
115 \else%
116 \def\@outputfileextension{.nlo}%
117 \def\@inputfileextension{.nls}%
118 \fi%

```

`\makenomenclature` The definition of `\makenomenclature` is pretty much the same as in the
 \LaTeX kernel for `\makeglossary`, we only use `\@nomenclature` instead of
`\glossary`.

```

119 \def\makenomenclature{%
120 \newwrite\@nomenclaturefile
121 \immediate\openout\@nomenclaturefile=\jobname\@outputfileextension
122 \def\@nomenclature{%
123 \@bsphack
124 \begingroup
125 \@sanitize
126 \@ifnextchar[%
127 {\@@@nomenclature}{\@@@nomenclature[\nomprefix]}}%

```

```

128 \typeout{Writing nomenclature file \jobname\@outputfileextension}%
129 \let\makenomenclature\@empty}

```

`\makeglossary` The `\makeglossary` command has been depreciated, and is only available in compatibility mode.

```

130 \ifcompatibilitymode\let\makeglossary\makenomenclature\fi%

```

`\nom@verb` The macro `\nom@verb`, which is copied from [4] and [5, p. 382], makes it possible to use `\nomenclature` in another macro.

```

131 \def\nom@verb{\expandafter\strip@prefix\meaning}

```

`\nomenclature` This macro just protects the “real” `\@nomenclature` macro. I am not sure whether this makes sense because you shouldn’t use `\nomenclature` in something like `\section` anyway, but it doesn’t hurt.

```

132 \def\nomenclature{\protect\@nomenclature}

```

`\@nomenclature` Without an executed `\makenomenclature`, `\@nomenclature` will only change some catcodes and call the macro `\@@nomenclature` to gobble its arguments.

```

133 \def\@nomenclature{%
134   \@bsphack
135   \begingroup
136   \@sanitize
137   \@ifnextchar[%
138     {\@nomenclature}{\@nomenclature[\nom@prefix]}}
139 \def\@@nomenclature[#1]#2#3{\endgroup\@esphack}

```

`\@@@nomenclature` If `\makenomenclature` was already executed, then `\@nomenclature` calls the macro `\@@@nomenclature` which writes to the nomenclature file. It puts the prefix in front of the entry, adds brackets [] around the entry (because it will be the argument of an `\item`) and adds possible references at the end of the entry description. A group is started to keep changes to the reference switches local. The arguments are written using `\nom@verb` so they will not be expanded, even when `\nomenclature` is used within another macro. By the way, `\@bsphack` and `\@esphack` makes `\nomenclature` disappear between two spaces; unfortunately this doesn’t work if `\nomenclature` is the first thing in a line.

```

140 \def\@@@nomenclature[#1]#2#3{%
141   \def\@tempa{#2}\def\@tempb{#3}%
142   \protected@write\@nomenclaturefile{%
143     {\string\nomenclatureentry{#1\nom@verb\@tempa @[\nom@verb\@tempa]}%
144       \begingroup\nom@verb\@tempb\protect\nomeqref{\theequation}%

```

```

145      |nompageref|{\thepage}}%
146 \endgroup
147 \@esphack}

```

`\nomgroup` The next macro is executed between each character group in the nomenclature. By default it just gobbles its argument, but the user can redefine it to add white space or some fancy divider including the starting character of the new group.

```

148 \def\nomgroup#1{}

```

`\nomlabelwidth` This is the default label width for the nomenclature. It can be changed e.g. in the `cfg` file.

```

149 \newdimen\nomlabelwidth
150 \nomlabelwidth1cm\relax

```

`\nom@tempdim` The optional argument is read and assigned to `\nom@tempdim`. Then the `\printnomenclature` `gls` file is read.

```

\@printnomenclature 151 \newdimen\nom@tempdim
152 \def\printnomenclature{%
153   \@ifnextchar[%
154     {\@printnomenclature}\@printnomenclature[\nomlabelwidth]}%
155 \def\@printnomenclature[#1]{%
156   \nom@tempdim#1\relax
157   \@input@{\jobname\@inputfileextension}}

```

`\printglossary` The `\printglossary` command has been depreciated, and is only available in compatibility mode.

```

158 \if@compatibilitymode\let\printglossary\printnomenclature\fi%

```

`\nomlabel` Now some bells and whistles to format the nomenclature: the definition of the label, the preamble, the postamble and the symbol that is added at the end of an entry. The last three are defined to do nothing by default.

```

\nomentryend 159 \def\nomlabel#1{#1\hfil}
160 \def\nompreamble{}
161 \def\nompostamble{}
162 \def\nomentryend{}

```

`\nomitemsep` The skip between two items is adjustable by changing `\nomitemsep`. It defaults to `\itemsep`.

```

163 \newskip\nomitemsep
164 \nomitemsep\itemsep

```

`thenomenclature` The `thenomenclature` environment formats its title and optionally inserts an item in the TOC, both are dependant on whether the `\chapter` command is available or not. After printing the preamble, a list is started with the `\labelwidth` being set to the value defined in the optional argument of `\printnomenclature`.

```

165 \def\thenomenclature{%
166   \@ifundefined{chapter}%
167   {
168     \section*{\nomname}
169     \if@intoc\addcontentsline{toc}{section}{\nomname}\fi%
170   }%
171   {
172     \chapter*{\nomname}
173     \if@intoc\addcontentsline{toc}{chapter}{\nomname}\fi%
174   }%
175
176   \nompreamble
177   \list{}{%
178     \labelwidth\nom@tempdim
179     \leftmargin\labelwidth
180     \advance\leftmargin\labelsep
181     \itemsep\nomitemsep
182     \let\makelabel\nomlabel}}
183 \def\endthenomenclature{%
184   \endlist
185   \nompostamble}

```

`\nomrefeq` These are the switches to turn referencing on or off locally for a single entry.

```

\refpage 186 \def\nomrefeq{\@printeqreftrue}
\refeqpage 187 \def\nomrefpage{\@printpagereftrue}
\nomrefeq 188 \def\nomrefeqpage{\@printeqreftrue\@printpagereftrue}
\nomrefeq 189 \def\nomnorefeq{\@printeqreffalse}
\nomrefeq 190 \def\nomnorefpage{\@printpagereffalse}
\nomrefeqpage 191 \def\nomnorefeqpage{\@printeqreffalse\@printpagereffalse}

```

`\nomeqref` The equation is only referenced if the corresponding switch is true. Since *MakeIndex* tends to insert a line break just before the page number, we have to add `\ignorespaces` at the end.

```

192 \def\nomeqref#1{\if@printeqref\eqdeclaration{#1}\fi\ignorespaces}

```

`\nompageref` The page is also only referenced if requested. Then the end symbol is added and finally the group started in `\@@@nomenclature` is closed.

```

193 \def\nompageref#1{\if@printpageref\pagedeclaration{#1}\fi%
194   \numentryend\endgroup}

```

Read the config file if it exists and the corresponding option was given.

```
195 \if@loadcfg
196   \InputIfFileExists{nomenc1.cfg}{%
197     \typeout{Using the configuration file nomenc1.cfg}}{}
198 \fi

The end.
199 \end{package}
```

9.2 The *MakeIndex* Style File

The “magic word” for *MakeIndex* in the input file is `\nomenclatureentry`. German user might need to redefine the quote character if they want to use "a instead of \a. Choose whatever character you see fit except |, @ and !.

```
200 \idxstyle
201 %% ---- for input file ----
202 keyword      "\nomenclatureentry"
203 %% Germans might want to change this and delete the two %%
204 %% quote '""'
```

Define what is printed at the beginning and the end of the file and the skip between groups. Since we already write `\nomgroup` between groups, we define `group_skip` to just input an empty line.

```
205 %% ---- for output file ----
206 preamble     "\begin{thenomenclature} \n%"
207 postamble    "\n\n\end{thenomenclature}\n" group_skip "\n"
```

Since we can't handle multiple pages for an entry anyway, we also don't need any delimiters.

```
208 delim_0     ""
209 delim_1     ""
210 delim_2     ""
```

Now the macro between the groups. Since the flag is positive, the character will be inserted as a capital letter. As the comment states, this will cause some warnings. If someone has a better solution, let me know.

```
211 %% The next lines will produce some warnings when
212 %% running Makeindex as they try to cover two different
213 %% versions of the program:
214 lethead_prefix "\n \nomgroup{"
215 lethead_suffix "}\n"
216 lethead_flag   1
217 heading_prefix "\n \nomgroup{"
218 heading_suffix "}\n"
```

219 `headings_flag 1`
220 `</idxstyle>`

References

- [1] Braams, Johannes; Carlisle, David; Jeffrey, Alan; Lamport, Leslie; Mittelbach, Frank; Rowley, Chris; Schöpf, Rainer (1996). `ltidxglo.dtx` – 1996/01/20 v1.1e LaTeX Kernel (Index and Glossary). [CTAN/macros/latex/base/ltidxglo.dtx](http://ctan.org/macros/latex/base/ltidxglo.dtx).
- [2] Chen, Pehong; Harrison, Michael A. (1987). Automating Index Preparation. Report UCB/CSD 87/347, Computer Science Division, University of California, Berkeley, CA.
- [3] Comprehensive T_EX Archive Network CTAN. [ftp://ctan.tug.org/tex-archive/](http://ctan.tug.org/tex-archive/).
- [4] Jones, David M. (1995). A new implementation of L^AT_EX's indexing commands, Version v4.1beta of 1995/09/28. [CTAN/macros/latex/contrib/supported/camel/index.dtx](http://ctan.org/macros/latex/contrib/supported/camel/index.dtx).
- [5] Knuth, Donald E. (1984). *The T_EXbook*. Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, Reading, MA.
- [6] Lamport, Leslie (1994). *L^AT_EX: A Document Preparation System*. Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, Reading, MA.
- [7] Veytsman, Boris (1996). Package nomencl, Version 4.0. TODO: new link <http://sarovar.org/projects/nomencl> (2000/09/15).
- [6] Spitzmüller, Jürgen. LyX wiki: Tips: Nomenclature: Nomenclature and ngerman (German new spelling). <http://wiki.lyx.org/Tips/Nomenclature> (2011/04/15).