`\pageno` [⟨*number*⟩ parameter]
This parameter contains the current page number as an integer. The page number is normally negative for front-matter pages that are numbered with small roman numerals instead of arabic numerals. If you change the page number within a page, the changed number will be used in any headers or footers that appear on that page. The actual printing of page numbers is handled by TEX's output routine, which you can modify.

Plain TEX keeps the page number in the register `\count0`. (`\pageno` is, in fact, a synonym for `\count0`.) Whenever it ships out a page to the `.dvi` file, TEX displays the current value of `\count0` on your terminal so that you can tell which page it is working on. It's possible to use registers `\count1`–`\count9` for nested levels of page numbers (you must program this yourself). If any of these registers are nonzero, TEX displays them on your terminal also.[1]

Example:

```
This explanation appears on page \number\pageno\
of our book.
```

produces:

This explanation appears on page 1 of our book.

Example:

```
\pageno = 30 % Number the next page as 30.
Don't look for this explanation on page \number\pageno.
```

produces:

Don't look for this explanation on page 30.

[1] More precisely, it displays all registers in sequence from `\count0` to `\count9`, but omits trailing zero registers. For instance, if the values of `\count0`–`\count3` are $(17, 0, 0, 7)$ and the others are 0, TEX displays the page number as `[17.0.0.7]`.