

# The **skmath** package<sup>\*†</sup>

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Version 0.1d

**Abstract** The skmath package provides improved and new math commands for superior typesetting with less effort.

## 1 Introduction

This package intends to provide helpful (re-)definitions of commands related to typesetting mathematics, and specifically typesetting them in a more intuitive, less verbose and more beautiful way. It was originally not intended for use by the public, and as such there may be incompatibilities with other packages of which I am not aware, but I figured it could be useful to other people as well.

## 2 Usage

### 2.1 Options

As of version v0.1d, there is only one option: `commonsets`. By default, it is disabled but if the option is given the package will define `\N`, `\Z`, `\Q`, `\R` and `\C` as blackboard variants of the respective letters, to represent the common sets of numbers.

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<sup>\*</sup>Available on <http://www.ctan.org/pkg/skmath>.

<sup>†</sup>Development version available on <https://github.com/urdh/skmath>.

## 2.2 New commands

The package defines a number of new commands that aid in typesetting certain mathematical formulae.

`\mathbb`

These commands are only available if the `commonsets` option is given. They typeset the set of natural, integer, rational, real and complex numbers respectively.

**Example:**

$$\mathbb{N}, \mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}.$$

`\norm`  $\{\langle expression \rangle\}$   
`\abs`  $\{\langle expression \rangle\}$

The commands `\norm` and `\abs`, quite expectedly, typeset the norm and absolute value of an expression, respectively. They have one mandatory argument (the expression), and different norms can be achieved by appending a subscript after the argument of `\norm`.

**Example:**

$$\|x\|_p = \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^p \right)^{1/p}$$

`\d`  $\{\langle variable \rangle\}$

There is also a command `\d`, with one mandatory argument, that typesets the differential part of an integral.

**Example:**

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{\sin(x)}{x} dx$$

## 2.3 Improved commands

In addition to adding new commands, this package also redefines already existing commands in a mostly backwards-compatible way to improve their usefulness.

```
\arcsin [[<power>]]{<expression>} {<expression>}  
\arccos [[<power>]]{<expression>} {<expression>}  
\arctan [[<power>]]{<expression>} {<expression>}  
\cot [[<power>]]{<expression>}
```

The trigonometric functions have been redefined to typeset more easily. They typeset  $\langle expression \rangle$  as an argument of the expression, and (if applicable)  $\langle power \rangle$  as a superscript between the function and its argument, e.g.  $\sin^2(\phi)$ .

```
\ln {<expression>}
```

The natural logarithm macro `\ln` has also been redefined to require an argument which is typeset as the argument of the logarithm.

```
\log [[<base>]]{<expression>}
```

The related macro `\log` is redefined in a similar way, but also accepts an optional argument denoting the base of the logarithm:  $\log_2(x)$ .

```
\exp {<expression>}
```

The exponential, `\exp`, is redefined to typeset its argument as a superscript of  $e$  in some display styles, and as an argument of `exp` otherwise:

$$e^{\sqrt{2} \exp(x)}$$

## 2.4 Stylistic changes

Some commands have been redefined in a completely backwards-compatible way to improve the end result of their typesetting.

`\frac`  $\{\langle numerator \rangle\}\{\langle denominator \rangle\}$

The `\frac` command has been changed to improve typesetting, allowing displaystyle math in some settings.

`\bar`  $\{\langle expression \rangle\}$   $\{\langle expression \rangle\}$

The `\bar` command has been changed to cover the entire  $\langle expression \rangle$  (i.e.  $\overline{uv}$ ), and `\vec` has been changed to match the `\vectorsym` command provided by `isomath`.

### 3 Implementation

The package implementation is very simple. First, we do the standard  $\text{\LaTeX 2}_{\epsilon}$  preamble thing, then we require some dependencies.

```
(package) 1 \NeedsTeXFormat{LaTeX2e}[1999/12/01]
           2 \ProvidesPackage{skmath}%
           3 [2012/12/28 v0.1d skmath improved math commands]
           4 \RequirePackage{xparse}
           5 \PassOptionsToPackage{intlimits}{amsmath}
           6 \RequirePackage{kvoptions,amssymb,mathtools,xfrac,isomath}
```

We begin by declaring an option.

```
(package) 7 \SetupKeyvalOptions{family=skmath,prefix=skmath@}
           8 \DeclareBoolOption[false]{commonsets}
           9 \ProcessKeyvalOptions*
```

We optionally provide commands to typeset common sets.

```
(package) 10 \ifskmath@commonsets
```

`\N`(no arguments)

```
(package) 11 \NewDocumentCommand\N{}{\ensuremath{\mathbb{N}}}
```

`\Z`(no arguments)

```
(package) 12 \NewDocumentCommand\Z{}{\ensuremath{\mathbb{Z}}}
```

`\Q`(no arguments)

```
(package) 13 \NewDocumentCommand\Q{}{\ensuremath{\mathbb{Q}}}
```

`\R`(no arguments)

```
(package) 14 \NewDocumentCommand\R{}{\ensuremath{\mathbb{R}}}
```

`\C`(no arguments)

```
(package) 15 \NewDocumentCommand\C{}{\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}}
```

```
(package) 16 \fi
```

This is followed by commands to typeset the norm and absolute value.

`\abs`(no arguments)

```
(package) 17 \DeclarePairedDelimiter\abs{\lvert}{\rvert}
```

`\norm`(no arguments)

```
(package) 18 \DeclarePairedDelimiter\norm{\lVert}{\rVert}
```

We replace all trigonometric functions and some other common functions with alternatives that take an argument (or optionally, several arguments).

```
(package) 19 \let\skmath@sin\sin
20 \let\skmath@cos\cos
21 \let\skmath@tan\tan
22 \let\skmath@cot\cot
23 \let\skmath@arcsin\arcsin
24 \let\skmath@arccos\arccos
25 \let\skmath@arccos\arctan
26 \let\skmath@ln\log
27 \let\skmath@log\log
28 \let\skmath@exp\exp
```

`\sin`(no arguments)

```
(package) 29 \RenewDocumentCommand\sin{om}{%
30 \IfNoValueTF{#1}{
31 {\ensuremath{\skmath@sin\left(#2\right)}}
32 {\ensuremath{\skmath@sin^{#1}\left(#2\right)}}}%
}
```

33 }

`\cos`(no arguments)

```
(package) 34 \RenewDocumentCommand\cos{om}{%  
35   \IfNoValueTF{#1}  
36     {\ensuremath{\skmath@cos\left(#2\right)}}  
37     {\ensuremath{\skmath@cos^{#1}\left(#2\right)}}}%  
38 }
```

`\tan`(no arguments)

```
(package) 39 \RenewDocumentCommand\tan{om}{%  
40   \IfNoValueTF{#1}  
41     {\ensuremath{\skmath@tan\left(#2\right)}}  
42     {\ensuremath{\skmath@tan^{#1}\left(#2\right)}}}%  
43 }
```

`\cot`(no arguments)

```
(package) 44 \RenewDocumentCommand\cot{om}{%  
45   \IfNoValueTF{#1}  
46     {\ensuremath{\skmath@cot\left(#2\right)}}  
47     {\ensuremath{\skmath@cot^{#1}\left(#2\right)}}}%  
48 }
```

`\arcsin`(no arguments)

```
(package) 49 \RenewDocumentCommand\arcsin{m}{%  
50   \ensuremath{\skmath@arcsin\left(#1\right)}}%  
51 }
```

`\arccos`(no arguments)

```
(package) 52 \RenewDocumentCommand\arccos{m}{%  
53   \ensuremath{\skmath@arccos\left(#1\right)}}%  
54 }
```

`\arctan`(no arguments)

```
(package) 55 \RenewDocumentCommand\arctan{m}{%  
56   \ensuremath{\skmath@arctan\left(#1\right)}}%  
57 }
```

### `\ln`(no arguments)

```
(package) 58 \RenewDocumentCommand\ln{m}{%  
59   \ensuremath{\skmath@ln\left(#1\right)}}%  
60 }
```

### `\log`(no arguments)

```
(package) 61 \RenewDocumentCommand\log{om}{%  
62   \IfNoValueTF{#1}  
63     {\ensuremath{\skmath@log\left(#2\right)}}%  
64     {\ensuremath{\skmath@log_{#1}\left(#2\right)}}%  
65 }
```

### `\exp`(no arguments)

```
(package) 66 \RenewDocumentCommand\exp{m}{\ensuremath{\mathchoice%  
67   {e^{#1}}%  
68   {\skmath@exp\left(#1\right)}}%  
69   {\skmath@exp\left(#1\right)}}%  
70   {\skmath@exp\left(#1\right)}}%  
71 }}
```

The fraction command is modified to improve typesetting.

### `\frac`(no arguments)

```
(package) 72 \RenewDocumentCommand\frac{mm}{\genfrac{}{}{}{}%  
73   {\displaystyle #1}{\displaystyle #2}}
```

The `\bar` command is also modified to improve typesetting.

### `\bar`(no arguments)

```
(package) 74 \RenewDocumentCommand\bar{m}{%  
75   \ensuremath{\mkern 1.5mu\overline{\mkern-1.5mu{#1}\mkern-1.5mu}\mkern 1.5mu}}
```

We introduce a command to typeset the differential part of integrals, shamefully stolen from an answer on T<sub>E</sub>X.SE. Definition is deferred until after all packages are loaded to avoid collisions with other `\d` commands.

```
(package) 76 \AtBeginDocument{%
```

`\d`(no arguments)

```
(package) 77 \DeclareDocumentCommand\d{m}{\ensuremath{\,\,\mathrm{d}}#1%  
78 \@ifnextchar\d{\!}{}}
```

```
(package) 79 }
```

Finally, we define a nicer way to denote vectors.

`\vec`(no arguments)

```
(package) 80 \let\vec\vectorsym
```

```
(package) 81 \endinput
```

## 4 Changes

[v0.1](#)

General: Initial version.

`\N`: Moved to xparse command definition.

[v0.1a](#)

`\d`: Fixed obtuse errors.

`\Q`: Moved to xparse command definition.

[v0.1b](#)

General: Load `amsmath` with `intlimits` option.

`\R`: Moved to xparse command definition.

`\bar`: Added `\bar` replacement.

`\C`: Moved to xparse command definition.

[v0.1c](#)

`\d`: Moved to xparse command definition.

General: Moved package from `docstrip` to `skdoc`.

`\exp`: Moved to xparse command definition.

[v0.1d](#)

`\frac`: Moved to xparse command definition.

General: Fixed fatal documentation and package errors.



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