

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

Simon Sigurdhsson [[sigurdhsson@gmail.com](mailto:sigurdhsson@gmail.com)]

Version 0.2

**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 v0.2, 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.

`\N`  
`\Z`  
`\Q`  
`\R`  
`\C`

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:**

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

```
\begin{equation*}
  \mathbb{N}, \mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}.
\end{equation*}
```

`\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:**

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

```
\begin{equation*}
  \norm{\vec{x}}_p =
  \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \abs{x_i}^p \right)^{\sfrac{1}{p}}
\end{equation*}
```

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

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

**Example:**

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

```
\begin{equation*}
\int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{\sin{x}}{x} \, \mathrm{d}{x}
\end{equation*}
```

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

The command `\E` typesets the expectation of a random variable.

**Example:**

$$\mathbb{E}[\hat{\mu}] = \mu$$

```
\begin{equation*}
\mathbb{E}[\hat{\mu}] = \mu
\end{equation*}
```

`\P`  $\{\langle expression \rangle \text{given} \langle expression \rangle\}$

The `\P` command typesets a probability. The `\given` command can be used to typeset conditional probabilities, within `\P`.

**Example:**

$$P(A | B) = \frac{P(B | A) P(A)}{P(B)}$$

```
\begin{equation*}
\P{A \given B} =
\frac{\P{B \given A} \P{A}}{\P{B}}
\end{equation*}
```

`\var`  $\{\langle expression \rangle\}$   
`\cov`  $\{\langle expression \rangle\}\{\langle expression \rangle\}$

The commands `\var` and `\cov` typeset the variance and covariance of an expression.

**Example:**

$\text{Var}(X) = E[(X - \mu)^2]$ $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E[XY] - E[X]E[Y]$	$\begin{gather*} \var{X} = E{(X-\mu)^2} \\ \cov{X}{Y} = E{XY} - E{X}E{Y} \end{gather*}$
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## 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.

`\sin`  $[\langle power \rangle]\{\langle expression \rangle\}$   
`\arcsin`  $\{\langle expression \rangle\}$   
`\cos`  $[\langle power \rangle]\{\langle expression \rangle\}$   
`\arccos`  $\{\langle expression \rangle\}$   
`\tan`  $[\langle power \rangle]\{\langle expression \rangle\}$   
`\arctan`  $\{\langle expression \rangle\}$   
`\cot`  $[\langle power \rangle]\{\langle expression \rangle\}$

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

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` {*numerator*}{*denominator*}

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

`\bar` {*expression*}

`\vec` {*expression*}

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

## 3 Known issues

A list of current issues is available in the Github repository of this package<sup>1</sup>, but as of the release of v0.2, there are no known issues

If you discover any bugs in this package, please report them to the issue tracker in the `skmath` Github repository.

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<sup>1</sup><https://github.com/urdh/skmath/issues>

## 4 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 \RequirePackage{expl3,l3keys2e,xparse}
2 \ProvidesExplPackage{skmath}
3 {2013/04/09}{0.2}{improved math commands}
4 \PassOptionsToPackage{intlimits}{amsmath}
5 \RequirePackage{amssymb,mathtools,xfrac,isomath}
```

We optionally provide commands to typeset common sets.

`_define_common_sets:` (no arguments)

```
(package) 6 \cs_new:Nn\__skmath_define_common_sets:{

\N(no arguments)

(package) 7 \NewDocumentCommand\N{}{\ensuremath{\mathbb{N}}}

\Z(no arguments)

(package) 8 \NewDocumentCommand\Z{}{\ensuremath{\mathbb{Z}}}

\Q(no arguments)

(package) 9 \NewDocumentCommand\Q{}{\ensuremath{\mathbb{Q}}}

\R(no arguments)

(package) 10 \NewDocumentCommand\R{}{\ensuremath{\mathbb{R}}}

\C(no arguments)

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

```
(package) 12 }
```

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

`\abs`(no arguments)

```
(package) 13 \DeclarePairedDelimiter\abs{\lvert}{\rvert}
```

`\norm`(no arguments)

```
(package) 14 \DeclarePairedDelimiter\norm{\lVert}{\rVert}
```

Next come the statistical commands.

`\E`(no arguments)

Here, we define `\E` after the preamble since it may break otherwise.

```
(package) 15 \AtBeginDocument{
16   \DeclareDocumentCommand\E{m}{%
17     \ensuremath{\operatorname{E}\left[#1\right]}}%
18   }
19 }
```

The `\P` command saves any old `\given` command, replacing it locally with the new `\given` command provided by the package.

`\P`(no arguments)

```
(package) 20 \DeclareDocumentCommand\P{m}{%
21   \ensuremath{\operatorname{P}}%
22   \mkern-1.5mu\left(%
23   \cs_set_eq:NN\__skmath_saved_given:\given%
```

`\given` (no arguments)

```
(package) 24 \DeclareDocumentCommand\given{}{\mid}%
```

```

(package) 25      #1%
26      \cs_set_eq:NN\given\__skmath_saved_given:%
27      \right)%
28    }%
29  }

```

`\var`(no arguments)

```

(package) 30      \DeclareDocumentCommand\var{m}{%
31      \ensuremath{\operatorname{Var}\left(#1\right)}}%
32    }

```

`\cov`(no arguments)

```

(package) 33      \DeclareDocumentCommand\cov{mm}{%
34      \ensuremath{\operatorname{Cov}\left(#1,#2\right)}}%
35    }

```

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

```

(package) 36      \cs_new_eq:NN\__skmath_sin:\sin
37      \cs_new_eq:NN\__skmath_cos:\cos
38      \cs_new_eq:NN\__skmath_tan:\tan
39      \cs_new_eq:NN\__skmath_cot:\cot
40      \cs_new_eq:NN\__skmath_arcsin:\arcsin
41      \cs_new_eq:NN\__skmath_arccos:\arccos
42      \cs_new_eq:NN\__skmath_arctan:\arctan
43      \cs_new_eq:NN\__skmath_ln:\log
44      \cs_new_eq:NN\__skmath_log:\log
45      \cs_new_eq:NN\__skmath_exp:\exp

```

`\sin`(no arguments)

```

(package) 46      \RenewDocumentCommand\sin{om}{%
47      \IfNoValueTF{#1}

```



```

48     {\ensuremath{\_\_skmath\_sin:\left(#2\right)}}
49     {\ensuremath{\_\_skmath\_sin:\c\_math\_superscript\_token{#1}\left(#2\right)}}}%
50   }

```

**\cos**(no arguments)

```

(package) 51 \RenewDocumentCommand\cos{om}{%
52   \IfNoValueTF{#1}
53   {\ensuremath{\_\_skmath\_cos:\left(#2\right)}}
54   {\ensuremath{\_\_skmath\_cos:\c\_math\_superscript\_token{#1}\left(#2\right)}}}%
55 }

```

**\tan**(no arguments)

```

(package) 56 \RenewDocumentCommand\tan{om}{%
57   \IfNoValueTF{#1}
58   {\ensuremath{\_\_skmath\_tan:\left(#2\right)}}
59   {\ensuremath{\_\_skmath\_tan:\c\_math\_superscript\_token{#1}\left(#2\right)}}}%
60 }

```

**\cot**(no arguments)

```

(package) 61 \RenewDocumentCommand\cot{om}{%
62   \IfNoValueTF{#1}
63   {\ensuremath{\_\_skmath\_cot:\left(#2\right)}}
64   {\ensuremath{\_\_skmath\_cot:\c\_math\_superscript\_token{#1}\left(#2\right)}}}%
65 }

```

**\arcsin**(no arguments)

```

(package) 66 \RenewDocumentCommand\arcsin{m}{%
67   \ensuremath{\_\_skmath\_arcsin:\left(#1\right)}}%
68 }

```

**\arccos**(no arguments)

```

(package) 69 \RenewDocumentCommand\arccos{m}{%
70 \ensuremath{\_\_skmath_arccos:\left(#1\right)}}%
71 }

```

**\arctan**(no arguments)

```

(package) 72 \RenewDocumentCommand\arctan{m}{%
73 \ensuremath{\_\_skmath_arctan:\left(#1\right)}}%
74 }

```

**\ln**(no arguments)

```

(package) 75 \RenewDocumentCommand\ln{m}{%
76 \ensuremath{\_\_skmath_ln:\left(#1\right)}}%
77 }

```

**\log**(no arguments)

```

(package) 78 \RenewDocumentCommand\log{om}{%
79 \IfNoValueTF{#1}
80 {\ensuremath{\_\_skmath_log:\left(#2\right)}}
81 {\ensuremath{\_\_skmath_log:\c_math_subscript_token{#1}\left(#2\right)}}%
82 }

```

**\exp**(no arguments)

```

(package) 83 \RenewDocumentCommand\exp{m}{\ensuremath{\mathchoice%
84 {e\c_math_superscript_token{#1}}%
85 {\_\_skmath_exp:\left(#1\right)}}%
86 {\_\_skmath_exp:\left(#1\right)}}%
87 {\_\_skmath_exp:\left(#1\right)}}%
88 }}

```

The fraction command is modified to improve typesetting.

**\frac**(no arguments)

```

(package) 89 \RenewDocumentCommand\frac{mm}{\genfrac{}{}{}{}{}%
90           {\displaystyle #1}{\displaystyle #2}}

Definition of \bar and \d is deferred until after all packages are loaded
to avoid collisions with other packages.

(package) 91 \AtBeginDocument{%

The \bar command is modified to improve typesetting.

\bar(no arguments)

(package) 92 \DeclareDocumentCommand\bar{m}{%
93           \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 TEX.SE.

\d(no arguments)

(package) 94 \DeclareDocumentCommand\d{m}{\ensuremath{\,\,\mathrm{d}}#1%
95           \peek_meaning_ignore_spaces:NT\d{\!}}

(package) 96 }

Finally, we define a nicer way to denote vectors.

\vec(no arguments)

(package) 97 \cs_set_eq:NN\vec\vectorssym

We end by declaring an option.

(package) 98 \keys_define:nn{skmath}{
99   commonsets .code:n =
100   {\__skmath_define_common_sets:}
101 }
102 \ProcessKeysOptions{skmath}

(package) 103 \endinput

```

## 5 Installation

The easiest way to install this package is using the package manager provided by your  $\text{\LaTeX}$  installation if such a program is available. Failing that, provided you have obtained the package source (`skmath.tex` and `Makefile`) from either CTAN or Github, running `make install` inside the source directory works well. This will extract the documentation and code from `skmath.tex`, install all files into the TDS tree at `TEXMFHOME` and run `mktexlsr`.

If you want to extract code and documentation without installing the package, run `make all` instead. If you insist on not using `make`, remember that packages distributed using `skdoc` must be extracted using `pdf $\text{\LaTeX}$` , *not* `tex` or `latex`.

## 6 Changes

<b>v0.1</b>	<code>\frac</code> : Moved to <code>xparse</code> command definition.
General: Initial version.	<code>\N</code> : Moved to <code>xparse</code> command definition.
<b>v0.1a</b>	<code>\Q</code> : Moved to <code>xparse</code> command definition.
<code>\d</code> : Fixed obtuse errors.	<code>\R</code> : Moved to <code>xparse</code> command definition.
<b>v0.1b</b>	<code>\Z</code> : Moved to <code>xparse</code> command definition.
General: Load <code>amsmath</code> with <code>intlimits</code> option.	
<code>\bar</code> : Added <code>\bar</code> replacement.	<b>v0.1c</b>
<code>\C</code> : Moved to <code>xparse</code> command definition.	General: Moved package from <code>docstrip</code> to <code>skdoc</code> .
<code>\d</code> : Moved to <code>xparse</code> command definition.	<b>v0.1d</b>
<code>\exp</code> : Moved to <code>xparse</code> command definition.	General: Fixed fatal documentation and package errors.

<p><b>v0.1e</b></p> <p>General: Added statistics commands.</p> <p><code>\cov</code>: Added <code>\cov</code> command.</p> <p><code>\E</code>: Added <code>\E</code> command.</p> <p><code>\given</code>: Added <code>\given</code> command.</p> <p><code>\P</code>: Added <code>\P</code> command.</p> <p><code>\var</code>: Added <code>\var</code> command.</p> <p><b>v0.1f</b></p> <p><code>\E</code>: Fixed ‘Command <code>\E</code> already defined!’ error.</p> <p><b>v0.1g</b></p> <p>General: Documentation fixes.</p>	<p><b>v0.1h</b></p> <p><code>\bar</code>: Wrap in <code>\AtBeginDocument</code>.</p> <p><b>v0.2</b></p> <p>General: Use <code>expl3</code> functionality throughout the package.</p> <p><code>\cov</code>: Use <code>\operatorname</code>.</p> <p><code>\d</code>: Use <code>\peek_meaning_ignore_spaces:NT</code> instead of <code>\@ifnextchar</code>.</p> <p><code>\E</code>: Use <code>\operatorname</code>.</p> <p><code>\P</code>: Use <code>\operatorname</code>, use <code>\cs_new_eq:NN</code> instead of <code>\let</code>.</p> <p><code>\var</code>: Use <code>\operatorname</code>.</p> <p><code>\vec</code>: Use <code>\cs_new_eq:NN</code> instead of <code>\let</code>.</p>
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