

`bib2gls`: a command line Java application to convert `.bib` files to `glossaries-extra.sty` resource files

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The `bib2gls` command line application can be used to extract glossary information stored in a `.bib` file and convert it into glossary entry definition commands that can be read using `glossaries-extra`'s `\glxtrresourcefile` command. When used in combination with the `record` package option, `bib2gls` can select only those entries that have been used in the document, as well as any dependent entries, which reduces the \TeX resources required by not defining unnecessary commands.

Since `bib2gls` can also sort and collate the recorded locations present in the `.aux` file, it can simultaneously by-pass the need to use `makeindex` or `xindy`, although `bib2gls` can be used together with an external indexing application if required. (For example, if a custom `xindy` rule is needed.)

Note that `bib2gls` is a Java application, so it requires the Java Runtime Environment (at least JRE 7). Additionally, `glossaries-extra` must be at least version 1.12. This application was developed in response to the question [Is there a program for managing glossary tags?](#) on \TeX on StackExchange.

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1 Introduction

If you have extensively used the glossaries or glossaries-extra package, you may have found yourself creating a large .tex file containing many definitions that you frequently use in documents. This file can then simply be loaded using `\input` or `\loadglsentries`, but a large file like this can be difficult to maintain and if the document only actually uses a small proportion of those entries, the document build is unnecessarily slow due to the time and resources taken on defining the unwanted entries.

The aim of `bib2gls` is to allow the entries to be stored in a .bib file, which can be maintained using a reference system such as JabRef. The document build process can now be analogous to that used with `bibtex` (or `biber`), where only those entries that have been recorded in the document (and possibly their dependent entries) will be extracted from the .bib file.

Note that `bib2gls` requires the extension package `glossaries-extra` and can't be used with just the base `glossaries` package, since it requires some of the extension commands. See the `glossaries-extra` user manual for information on the differences between the basic package and the extended package, as some of the default settings are different.

1.1 Example Use

The glossary entries are stored in a .bib file. For example, the file `entries.bib` might contain:

```
@entry{bird,
  name={bird},
  description = {feathered animal}
}
```

```
@abbreviation{html,
  short="html",
  long={hypertext markup language}
}
```

```
@symbol{v,
  name={ $\vec{v}$ },
  text={\vec{v}},
  description={a vector}
}
```

```
@index{goose,plural="geese"}
```

Here's an example document that uses this data:

```
\documentclass{article}

\usepackage[record]{glossaries-extra}

\GlsXtrLoadResources[
  src={entries},% data in entries.bib
  sort={en-GB},% sort according to 'en-GB' locale
]

\begin{document}
\Gls{bird} and \gls{goose}.

\printunsrtglossaries
\end{document}
```

If this document is called `myDoc.tex`, the build process is:

```
pdflatex myDoc
bib2gls myDoc
pdflatex myDoc
```

Note that there's no need to call `xindy` or `makeindex` since `bib2gls` automatically sorts and collates the locations after selecting the required entries from the `.bib` file and before writing the temporary file that's input with `\GlsXtrLoadResources` (or `\glstxrresourcefile`). This means the entries are already defined in the correct order, and only those entries that have been used in the document are defined, so `\printunsrtglossary` (or `\printunsrtglossaries`) may be used. (The `unsrt` part of the command name indicates that all defined entries should be listed in the order of definition from `glossaries-extra`'s point of view.)

If you additionally want to use an indexing application, such as `xindy`, you need the package option `record={alsoindex}` and use `\makeglossaries` and `\printglossary` (or the iterative `\printglossaries`) as usual.

1.2 Security

`TeX` distributions come with security settings `openin_any` and `openout_any` that, respectively, govern read and write file access (in addition to the operating system's file permissions). `bib2gls` uses `kpsewhich` to determine these values and honours them.

1.3 Localisation

The messages produced by `bib2gls` are fetched from a resource file called `bib2gls-⟨lang⟩.xml`, where `⟨lang⟩` is a valid IETF language tag.

The appropriate file is searched for in the following order:

1. $\langle lang \rangle$ exactly matches the operating system's locale. For example, my locale is en-GB, so bib2gls will first search for bib2gls-en-GB.xml. This file doesn't exist, so it will try again.
2. If the operating system's locale has an associated script, the next try is with $\langle lang \rangle$ set to $\langle lang\ code \rangle$ - $\langle script \rangle$ where $\langle lang\ code \rangle$ is the two letter ISO language code and $\langle script \rangle$ is the script code. For example, if the operating system's locale is sr-RS-Latn then bib2gls will search for bib2gls-sr-Latn.xml if bib2gls-sr-RS-Latn.xml doesn't exist.
3. The final attempt is with $\langle lang \rangle$ set to just the two letter ISO language code. For example, bib2gls-en-GB.xml.

If there is no match, bib2gls will fallback on the English resource file bib2gls-en.xml.

Note that if you use the `loc-prefix={true}` option, the textual labels ("Page" and "Pages" in English) will be taken from the resource file. In the event that the loaded resource file doesn't match the document language, you will have to manually set the correct translation (in English, this would be `loc-prefix={Page,Pages}`).

Currently only bib2gls-en.xml exists as my language skills aren't up to translating it. Any volunteers who want to provide other language resource files would be much appreciated.

1.4 Manual Installation

If you are unable to install bib2gls through your T_EX package manager, you can install manually using the instructions below. Replace $\langle TEXMF \rangle$ with the path to your local or home TEXMF tree (for example, ~/texmf).

Copy the files provided to the following locations:

- $\langle TEXMF \rangle$ /scripts/bib2gls/bib2gls.jar
- $\langle TEXMF \rangle$ /scripts/bib2gls/texparserlib.jar
- $\langle TEXMF \rangle$ /scripts/bib2gls/resources/bib2gls-en.xml
- $\langle TEXMF \rangle$ /doc/support/bib2gls/bib2gls.pdf

If you are using a Unix-like system, there's also a bash script provided called bib2gls.sh. Either copy it directly to somewhere on your path without the .sh extension. For example:

```
cp bib2gls.sh ~/bin/bib2gls
```

or copy the file to $\langle TEXMF \rangle$ /scripts/bib2gls/bib2gls.sh and create a symbolic link to it called just bib2gls from somewhere on your path. For example:

```
cp bib2gls.sh ~/texmf/scripts/bib2gls/
cd ~/bin
ln -s ~/texmf/scripts/bib2gls/bib2gls.sh bib2gls
```

Windows users can create a .bat file that works in a similar way to the bash script. To do this, create a file called `bib2gls.bat` that contains the following:

```
@ECHO OFF
FOR /F %%I IN ('kpsewhich --progname=bib2gls --format=texmfscripts
bib2gls.jar') DO SET JARPATH=%%I
java -Djava.locale.providers=CLDR,JRE -jar "%JARPATH%" %*
```

Save this file to somewhere on your system's path.

You may need to refresh \TeX 's database to ensure that `kpsewhich` can find the `.jar` file.

To test that the application has been successfully installed, open a command prompt or terminal and run the following command:

```
bib2gls --version
```

This should display the version information.

2 T_EX Parser Library

The bib2gls application requires the T_EX Parser Library `texparserlib.jar`¹ which is used to parse the `.aux` and `.bib` files.

With the `--interpret` switch on (default), this library is also used to interpret the sort value when it contains a backslash `\` or a dollar symbol `$` or braces `{ }` (and when the `sort` option is not `unsorted` or `none` or `use`). The other case is with `set-widest` when determining the width of the name field. The `--no-interpret` switch will turn off this function, but the library will still be used to parse the `.aux` and `.bib` files.

The `texparserlib.jar` library is not intended as a full-blown T_EX engine and there are plenty of situations where it doesn't work. In particular, in this case it's being used in a fragmented context without knowing most of the packages used by the document² or any custom commands or environments provided within the document.

T_EX syntax can be quite complicated and in some cases far too complicated for simple regular expressions. The library performs better than a simple pattern match, and that's the purpose of `texparserlib.jar` and why it's used by bib2gls. When the `--debug` mode is on, any warnings or errors triggered by the `--interpret` mode will be written to the transcript prefixed with `texparserlib:` (the results of the conversions will be included in the transcript as informational messages prefixed with `texparserlib:` even with `--no-debug`).

For example, suppose the `.bib` file includes:

```
@preamble{
"\providecommand{\mtx}[1]{\boldsymbol{#1}}
\providecommand{\set}[1]{\mathcal{#1}}
\providecommand{\card}[1]{|\set{#1}|}
\providecommand{\imaginary}{i}"}

@symbol{M,
  name={}\$ \mtx{M} \$},
  text={\mtx{M}},
  description={a matrix}
}

@symbol{v,
  name={}\$ \vec{v} \$},
  text={\vec{v}},
```

¹<https://github.com/nlct/texparser>

²bib2gls can detect from the log file a small number of packages that the parser can support, such as `pifonts`, `wasysym`, `amssymb`, `stix`, `mhchem` and `bpchem`. There's also partial support for `siunitx`'s `\si` command.

```

    description={a vector}
}

@symbol{S,
  name={{}}$\set{S}$},
  text={\set{S}},
  description={a set}
}

@symbol{card,
  name={{}}$\card{S}$},
  text={\card{S}},
  description={the cardinality of the set $\set{S}$}
}

@symbol{i,
  name={{}}$\imaginary$,
  text={\imaginary},
  description={square root of minus one ($\sqrt{-1}$)}
}

```

(The empty group at the start of the name fields protects against the possibility that the gloss-name category attribute might be set to `firstuc`, which automatically converts the first letter of the name to upper case when displaying the glossary. See also `--mfirstuc-protection` and `--mfirstuc-math-protection`.)

None of these entries have a sort field. With `--interpret` the fallback for this field for the `@symbol` entry type is the name field (or parent if name is missing), but with `--no-interpret` the fallback is the entry's label.

This means that with `--no-interpret`, and the default `sort-field={sort}`, and with `sort={letter-case}`, these entries will be defined in the order: M, S, card, i, v (since this is the case-sensitive letter order of the labels) whereas with `sort-field={letter-nocase}`, the order will be: card, i, M, S, v (since this is the case-insensitive letter order of the labels).

However, with `--interpret` on, the fallback field will be taken from the name which in the above example contains T_EX code, so `bib2gls` will use `texparserlib.jar` to interpret this code. The library has several different ways of writing the processed code. For simplicity, `bib2gls` uses the library's HTML output and then strips the HTML markup and trims any leading or trailing spaces. The library method that writes non-ASCII characters using “`&x<hex>;`” markup is overridden by `bib2gls` to just write the Unicode character, which means that the letter-based sorting options will sort according to the integer value `<hex>` rather than the string “`&x<hex>;`”.

The interpreter is first passed the code provided with `@preamble`:

```

\providecommand{\mtx}[1]{\boldsymbol{#1}}
\providecommand{\set}[1]{\mathcal{#1}}
\providecommand{\card}[1]{|\set{#1}|}

```

```
\providecommand{\imaginary}{i}
```

This means that the provided commands are now recognised by the interpreter when it has to parse the fields later.

In the case of the M entry in the example above, the code that's passed to the interpreter is:

```
{ }$ \mtx{M}$
```

The transcript (`.glg`) file will show the results of the conversion:³

```
texparserlib: { }$ \mtx{M}$ -> M
```

So the sort value for this entry is set to “ M ”. The font change (caused by `math-mode` and `\boldsymbol`) has been ignored. The sort value therefore consists of a single Unicode character 0x4D (Latin upper case letter “ M ”, decimal value 77).

For the v entry, the code is:

```
{ }$ \vec{v}$
```

The transcript shows:

```
texparserlib: { }$ \vec{v}$ ->  $\vec{v}$ 
```

So the sort value for this entry is set to “ \vec{v} ”, which consists of two Unicode characters 0x76 (Latin lower case letter “ v ”, decimal value 118) and 0x20D7 (combining right arrow above, decimal value 8407).

For the S entry, the code is:

```
{ }$ \set{S}$
```

The transcript shows:

```
texparserlib: { }$ \set{S}$ -> S
```

So the sort value for this entry is set to “ S ” (again ignoring the font change). This consists of a single Unicode character 0x53 (Latin upper case letter “ S ”, decimal value 83).

For the $|S|$ entry, the code is:

```
{ }$ \card{S}$
```

The transcript shows:

```
texparserlib: { }$ \card{S}$ -> |S|
```

So the sort value for this entry is set to “ $|S|$ ” (the `|` characters from the definition of `\card` provided by the `@preamble` have been included, but the font change has been discarded). In this case the sort value consists of three Unicode characters 0x7C (vertical line, decimal value 124), 0x53 (Latin upper case letter “ S ”, decimal value 83) and 0x7C again.

For the i entry, the code is:

³The `--debug` mode will show additional information.

`{ }$ \imaginary$`

The transcript shows:

```
texparserlib: { }$ \imaginary$ -> i
```

So the sort value for this entry is set to “i”

This means that in the case of the default `sort-field={sort}` with `sort={letter-case}`, these entries will be defined in the order: M (M), S (S), i (i), v (\vec{v}) and card ($|S|$). In this case, the entries have been sorted according to the character codes. If you run bib2gls with `--verbose` the decimal character codes will be included in the transcript. For this example:

```
i -> 'i' [105]
card -> '|S|' [124 83 124]
M -> 'M' [77]
S -> 'S' [83]
v -> '\vec{v}' [118 8407]
```

The `--group` option (in addition to `--verbose`) will place the letter group in parentheses before the character code list:

```
i -> 'i' (i) [105]
card -> '|S|' [124 83 124]
M -> 'M' (M) [77]
S -> 'S' (S) [83]
v -> '\vec{v}' (v) [118 8407]
```

(Note that the card entry doesn’t have a letter group since the vertical bar character isn’t considered a letter.)

If `sort={letter-nocase}` is used instead, after conversion by the interpreter, the sort values will all be converted to lower case. The order is now: i (i), M (M), S (S), v (\vec{v}) and card ($|S|$). The transcript (with `--verbose`) now shows

```
i -> 'i' [105]
card -> '|s|' [124 115 124]
M -> 'm' [109]
S -> 's' [115]
v -> '\vec{v}' [118 8407]
```

With `--group` (in addition to `--verbose`) the letter groups are again included:

```
i -> 'i' (I) [105]
card -> '|s|' [124 115 124]
M -> 'm' (M) [109]
S -> 's' (S) [115]
v -> '\vec{v}' (V) [118 8407]
```

Note that the letter groups are upper case not lower case. Again the card entry doesn't have an associated letter group.

If a locale-based sort is used, the ordering will follow the locale's alphabet rules. For example, with `sort={en}` (English, no region or variant), the order becomes: card ($|S|$), i (i), M (M), S (S) and v (\vec{v}). The transcript (with `--verbose`) shows the collation keys instead:

```
i -> 'i' [0 92 0 0 0 0]
card -> '|S|' [0 66 0 102 0 66 0 0 0 0]
M -> 'M' [0 96 0 0 0 0]
S -> 'S' [0 102 0 0 0 0]
v -> 'v' [0 105 0 0 0 0]
```

Again the addition of the `--group` switch will show the letter groups.⁴

Suppose I add a new symbol to my `.bib` file:

```
@symbol{angstrom,
  name={\AA},
  description={\AA ngstr"om}
}
```

and I also use this entry in the document. Then with `sort={en}`, the order is: card ($|S|$), angstrom (\AA), i (i), M (M), S (S), and v (\vec{v}). The `--group` switch shows that the angstrom entry (\AA) has been placed in the “A” letter group.

However, if I change the locale to `sort={sv}`, the angstrom entry is moved to the end of the list and the `--group` switch shows that it's been placed in the “Å” letter group.

If you are using Java 8, you can set the `java.locale.providers` property to CLDR, JRE to use the Common Locale Data Repository, which has more extensive support for locales than the native Java Runtime Environment. This isn't available for Java 7, and should be enabled by default for the proposed Java 9.

⁴For more information on collation keys see the `CollationKey` class in Java's API.

3 Command Line Options

The syntax of `bib2gls` is:

```
bib2gls [<options>] <filename>
```

where *<filename>* is the name of the `.aux` file. (The extension may be omitted.) Only one *<filename>* is permitted.

Available options are listed below.

`--help` (or `-h`)

Display the help message and quit.

`--version` (or `-v`)

Display the version information and quit.

`--debug` [*<n>*]

Switch on debugging mode. If *<n>* is present, it must be a non-negative integer indicating the debugging level. If omitted 1 is assumed. This option also switches on the verbose mode. A value of 0 is equivalent to `--no-debug`.

Note that multiple instances of this switch in a single invocation can cause some confusion as `bib2gls` performs a quick parse of the arguments for the first instance of `--debug` or `--nodebug` or `--silent` before the language resource file is loaded. Any subsequent use of the switch will be picked up on the full parse after the language resource file has been loaded.

`--no-debug` (or `--nodebug`)

Switches off the debugging mode.

`--verbose`

Switches on the verbose mode. This writes extra information to the terminal and transcript file.

`--no-verbose` (or `--noverbose`)

Switches off the verbose mode. This is the default behaviour. Some messages are written to the terminal. To completely suppress all messages (except errors), switch on the silent mode. For additional information messages, switch on the verbose mode.

`--silent`

Suppresses all messages except for errors that would normally be written to the terminal. Warnings and informational messages are written to the transcript file, which can be inspected afterwards.

`--log-file` *<filename>* (or `-t` *<filename>*)

Sets the name of the transcript file. By default, the name is the same as the `.aux` file but with a `.glg` extension. Note that if you use `bib2gls` in combination with `xindy` or `makeindex`, you will need to change the transcript file name to prevent interference.

`--dir` *<dirname>* (or `-d` *<dirname>*)

By default `bib2gls` assumes that the output files should be written in the current working directory. The input `.bib` files are assumed to be either in the current working directory or on \TeX 's path (in which case `kpsewhich` will be used to find them).

If your `.aux` file isn't in the current working directory (for example, you have run \TeX with `-output-directory`) then you need to take care how you invoke `bib2gls`.

Suppose I have a file called `test-entries.bib` that contains my entry definitions and a document called `mydoc.tex` that selects the `.bib` file using:

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={test-entries}]
```

If I compile this document using

```
pdflatex -output-directory tmp mydoc
```

then the auxiliary file `mydoc.aux` will be written to the `tmp` sub-directory. The resource information is listed in the `.aux` file as

```
\glsxtr@resource{src={test-entries}}{mydoc}
```

If I run `bib2gls` from the `tmp` directory, then it won't be able to find the `test-entries.bib` file.

If I run `bib2gls` from the same directory as `mydoc.tex` using

```
bib2gls tmp/mydoc
```

then the `.aux` file is found and the transcript file is `tmp/mydoc.glg` (since the default is the same as the `.aux` file but with the extension changed to `.glg`) but the output file `mydoc.glstex` will be written to the current directory.

This works fine from \TeX 's point of view as it can find the `.glstex` file, but it may be that you'd rather the `.glstex` file was tidied away into the `tmp` directory along with all the other files. In this case you need to invoke `bib2gls` with the `--dir` or `-d` option:

```
bib2gls -d tmp mydoc
```

`--interpret`

Switch on the interpreter mode (default). See [section 2](#) for more details.

`--no-interpret`

Switch off the interpreter mode. See [section 2](#) for more details.

`--mfirstuc-protection` (or `-u`)

Commands like `\Gls` use `\makefirstuc` provided by the `mfirstuc` package. This command has limitations and one of the things that can break it is the use of a referencing command at the start of its argument. The `glossaries-extra` package has more detail about the problem in the “Nested Links” section of the user manual. If a glossary field starts with one of these problematic commands, the recommended method (if the command can't be replaced) is to insert an empty group in front of it.

For example, the following definition

```
\newabbreviation{shtml}{shtml}{\glspss{ssi} enabled \glspss{short}{html}}
```

will cause a problem for `\Gls{shtml}` on first use.

The above example, would be written in a `.bib` file as:

```
@abbreviation{shtml,  
  short={shtml},  
  long={\glspss{ssi} enabled \glspss{html}}  
}
```

With the `--mfirstuc-protection` switch on (the default behaviour), `bib2gls` will automatically insert an empty group at the start of the `long` field to guard against this problem. A warning will be written to the transcript.

`--no-mfirstuc-protection`

Switches off the `mfirstuc` protection mechanism described above.

`--mfirstuc-math-protection`

This works in the same way as `--mfirstuc-protection` but guards against fields starting with inline maths (\dots). For example, if the name field starts with $\$x\$$ and the glossary style automatically tries to convert the first letter of the name to upper case, then this will cause a problem.

With `--mfirstuc-math-protection` set, `bib2gls` will automatically insert an empty group at the start of the field and write a warning in the transcript. This setting is on by default.

`--no-mfirstuc-math-protection`

Switches off the above.

`--nested-link-check <list>|none`

By default, `bib2gls` will parse certain fields for potential nested links. (See the section “Nested Links” in the `glossaries-extra` user manual.)

The default set of fields to check are: `name`, `text`, `plural`, `first`, `firstplural`, `long`, `longplural`, `short`, `shortplural` and `symbol`.

You can change this set of fields using `--nested-link-check <value>` where *<value>* may be `none` (don’t parse any of the fields) or a comma-separated list of fields to be checked.

`--no-nested-link-check`

Equivalent to `--nested-link-check none`.

`--shortcuts <value>`

Some entries may reference another entry within a field, using commands like `\gls`, so `bib2gls` parses the fields for these commands to determine dependent entries to allow them to be selected even if they haven’t been used within the document.

The `shortcuts` package option provided by `glossaries-extra` defines various synonyms, such as `\ac` which is equivalent to `\gls`. By default the value of the `shortcuts` option will be picked up by `bib2gls` when parsing the `.aux` file. This then allows `bib2gls` to additionally search for those shortcut commands while parsing the fields.

You can override the `shortcuts` setting using `--shortcuts <value>` (where *<value>* may take any of the allowed values for the `shortcuts` package option), but in general there is little need to use this switch.

`--map-format <format1>:<format2>` or `-m <format1>:<format2>`

This sets up the rule of precedence for partial location matches (see [section 5.6](#)). For example,

```
bib2gls --map-format "emph:hyperbf" mydoc
```

This essentially means that if there's a record conflict involving `emph`, try replacing `emph` with `hyperbf` and see if that resolves the conflict.

If you have multiple mappings, you can either use a single `--map-format` with a comma separated list of `<format1>:<format2>` or you can have multiple instances of `--map-format <format1>:<format2>`.

Note that the mapping tests are applied as the records are read. For example, suppose the records are listed in the `.aux` file as:

```
\glsxtr@record{gls.sample}{}{page}{emph}{3}
\glsxtr@record{gls.sample}{}{page}{hypersf}{3}
\glsxtr@record{gls.sample}{}{page}{hyperbf}{3}
```

and `bib2gls` is invoked with

```
bib2gls --map-format "emph:hyperbf,hypersf:hyperit" mydoc
```

or

```
bib2gls --map-format emph:hyperbf --map-format hypersf:hyperit mydoc
```

then `bib2gls` will process these records as follows:

1. Accept the first record (`emph`) since there's currently no conflict. (This is the first record for page 3 for the entry given by `gls.sample`.)
2. The second record (`hypersf`) conflicts with the existing record (`emph`). Neither has the format `glsnumberformat` so `bib2gls` consults the mappings provided by `--map-format`.
 - The `hypersf` format (from the new record) is mapped to `hyperit`, so `bib2gls` checks if the existing record has this format. In this case it doesn't (the format is `emph`). So `bib2gls` moves onto the next test:
 - The `emph` format (from the existing record) is mapped to `hyperbf`, so `bib2gls` checks if the new record has this format. In this case it doesn't (the format is `hypersf`).

Since the provided mappings haven't resolved this conflict, the new record is discarded with a warning. Note that there's no look ahead to the next record. (There may be other records for other entries also used on page 3 interspersed between these records.)
3. The third record (`hyperbf`) conflicts with the existing record (`emph`). Neither has the format `glsnumberformat` so `bib2gls` again consults the mappings provided by `--map-format`.

- The new record's hyperbf format has no mapping provided, so bib2gls moves onto the next test:
- The existing record's emph format has a mapping provided (hyperbf). This matches the new record's format, so the new record takes precedence.

This means that the location list ends up with the hyperbf location for page 3.

If, on the other hand, the mappings are given as

```
--map-format "emph:hyperit,hypersf:hyperit,hyperbf:hyperit"
```

then all the three conflicting records (emph, hypersf and hyperbf) will end up being replaced by a single record with hyperit as the format.

Multiple conflicts will typically be rare as there's usually little reason for more than two or three different location formats within the same list. (For example, glsnumberformat as the default and hyperbf or hyperit for a primary reference.)

--group

The record package option automatically creates a new field called group. If the --group switch is used, bib2gls will try to determine the letter group for each entry and add it to the group field. This value will be picked up by \printunsrtglossary if letter group headings are required (for example with the indexgroup style). If you're not using a glossary style that displays the group headings, there's no need to use this switch. Note that this switch doesn't automatically select an appropriate glossary style.

The default is **--no-group**.

--no-group

Don't use the group field. (Default.)

--tex-encoding *<name>*

bib2gls tries to determine the character encoding to use for the output files. If the document has loaded the inputenc package then bib2gls can obtain the value of the encoding from the .aux file. This then needs to be converted to a name recognised by Java. For example, utf8 will be mapped to UTF-8. If the fontspec package has been loaded, glossaries-extra will assume the encoding is utf8 and write that value to the .aux file.

If neither package has been loaded, bib2gls will assume the operating system's default encoding. If this is incorrect or if bib2gls can't work out the appropriate mapping then you can specify the correct encoding using --tex-encoding *<name>* where *<name>* is the encoding name.

`--trim-fields`

Trim leading and trailing spaces from field values. For example, if the `.bib` file contains:

```
@entry{sample,  
  name = { sample },  
  description = {  
    an example  
  }  
}
```

This will cause spurious spaces. Using `--trim-fields` will automatically trim the values before writing the `.glstex` file.

`--no-trim-fields`

Don't trim any leading or trailing spaces from field values. This is the default setting.

4 .bib Format

bib2gls recognises certain entry types. Any unrecognised types will be ignored and a warning will be written to the transcript file. Entries are defined in the usual .bib format:

```
@<entry-type>{<id>,  
  <field-name-1> = {<text>},  
  ...  
  <field-name-n> = {<text>}  
}
```

where *<entry-type>* is the entry type (listed below), *<field-name-1>* are the field names (same as the keys available with `\newglossaryentry`) and *<id>* is a unique label. The label can't contain any spaces or commas. In general it's best to stick with alpha-numeric labels. The field values may be delimited by braces *{<text>}* or double-quotes "*<text>*".

bib2gls allows you to insert prefixes to the labels when the data is read through the **label-prefix** option. Remember to use these prefixes when you reference the entries in the document, but don't include them when you reference them in the .bib file. There are some special prefixes that have a particular meaning to bib2gls: "dual." and "ext<n>." where *<n>* is a positive integer. In the first case, dual. references the dual element of a dual entry (see `@dualentry`). This prefix will be replaced by the value of the `dual-prefix` option. The `ext<n>.` prefix is used to reference an entry from a different set of resources (loaded by another `\glstrresourcefile` command). This prefix is replaced by the corresponding element of the list supplied by **ext-prefixes**.

In the event that you are using **--no-interpret** and the sort value falls back on the label, the original label supplied in the .bib file is used, not the prefixed label.

Avoid non-ASCII characters in the *<id>* if your document uses the inputenc package. You can set the character encoding in the .bib file using:

```
% Encoding: <encoding-name>
```

where *<encoding-name>* is the name of the character encoding. For example:

```
% Encoding: UTF-8
```

You can also set the encoding using the **charset** option, but it's simpler to include the above comment on the first line of the .bib file. (This comment is also searched for by JabRef to determine the encoding, so it works for both applications.) If you don't use either method bib2gls will have to search the entire .bib file, which is inefficient and you may end up with a mismatched encoding.

Each entry type may have required fields and optional fields. For the optional fields, any key recognised by `\newglossaryentry` may be used as a field. However, note that if you add any custom keys in your document using `\glsaddkey` or `\glsaddstoragekey`, those commands must be placed before the first use of `\glsxtrresourcefile` (or the shortcut `\GlsXtrLoadResources`). Any unrecognised fields will be ignored.

This is more convenient than using `\loadglsentries`, which requires all the keys used in the file to be defined, regardless of whether or not you actually need them in the document.

If an optional field is missing and `bib2gls` needs to access it for some reason (for example, for sorting), `bib2gls` will try to fallback on another value. The actual fallback value depends on the entry type.

Other entries can be cross-referenced using the `see` or `alias` fields or by using commands like `\gls` or `\glsxtrp` in any of the recognised fields. These will automatically be selected if the selection setting includes dependencies, but you may need to rebuild the document to ensure the location lists are correct.

@string

The standard `@string` is available and can be used to define variables that may be used in field values. For example:

```
@string{ssi={server-side includes}}
@string{html={hypertext markup language}}
```

```
@abbreviation{shtml,
  short="shtml",
  long= ssi # " enabled " # html,
  see={ssi,html}
}
```

```
@abbreviation{html,
  short ="html",
  long  = html
}
```

```
@abbreviation{ssi,
  short="ssi",
  long = ssi
}
```

@preamble

The standard `@preamble` is available and can be used to provide command definitions used within field values. For example:

```
@preamble{"\providecommand{\mtx}[1]{\boldsymbol{#1}}"}
```

```
@entry{matrix,
  name={matrix},
  plural={matrices},
  description={rectangular array of values, denoted  $\mathbf{M}$ }
}
```

The T_EX parser library used by bib2gls will parse the contents of @preamble before trying to interpret the field value used as a fallback when sort is omitted. For example:

```
@preamble{"\providecommand{\set}[1]{\mathcal{#1}}
\providecommand{\card}[1]{|\set{#1}|}"}
```

```
@symbol{S,
  name={{}$\set{S}$},
  text={\set{S}},
  description={a set}
}
@symbol{card,
  name={{}$\card{S}$},
  text={\card{S}},
  description={the cardinality of \gls{S}}
}
```

Neither entry has the sort field, so bib2gls has to fall back on the name field and, since this contains the special characters \ \$ { and }, the T_EX parser library is used to interpret it. The definitions provided by @preamble allow bib2gls to deduce that the sort value of the S entry is just S and the sort value of the card entry is |S| (see [section 2](#)).

What happens if you also need to use these commands in the document? The definitions provided in @preamble won't be available until the .glstex file has been created, which means the commands won't be defined on the first L^AT_EX run.

There are several approaches:

1. Just define the commands in the document. This means the commands are available, but bib2gls won't be able to correctly interpret the name fields.
2. Define the commands in both the document and in @preamble. For example:

```
\newcommand{\set}[1]{\mathcal{#1}}
\newcommand{\card}[1]{|\set{#1}|}
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={my-data}]
```

Alternatively:

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={my-data}]
\providecommand{\set}[1]{\mathcal{#1}}
\providecommand{\card}[1]{|\set{#1}|}
```

If the provided definitions match those given in the .bib file, there's no difference. If they don't match then in the first example the document definitions will take precedence (but the interpreter will use the @preamble definitions) and in the second example the @preamble definitions will take precedence.

3. Make use of \glsxtrfmt provided by glossaries-extra¹ which allows you to store the name of the formatting command in a field. The default is the user1 field, but this can be changed to another field by redefining \GlsXtrFmtField.

The .bib file can now look like this:

```
@preamble{"\providecommand{\set}[1]{\mathcal{#1}}
\providecommand{\card}[1]{|\set{#1}|}" }

@symbol{S,
  name={{}$\set{S}$},
  text={\set{S}},
  user1={set},
  description={a set}
}
@symbol{cardS,
  name={{}$\card{S}$},
  text={\card{S}},
  user1={card},
  description={the cardinality of \gls{S}}
}
```

Within the document, you can format $\langle text \rangle$ using the formatting command provided in the user1 field with:

```
\glsxtrfmt[ $\langle options \rangle$ ]{ $\langle label \rangle$ }{ $\langle text \rangle$ }
```

(which internally uses \glslink) or

```
\glsxtrentryfmt{ $\langle label \rangle$ }{ $\langle text \rangle$ }
```

which just applies the appropriate formatting command to $\langle text \rangle$. If the entry given by $\langle label \rangle$ hasn't been defined, then this just does $\langle text \rangle$ and a warning is issued. (It just does $\langle text \rangle$ without a warning if the field hasn't been set.) The $\langle options \rangle$ are as for \glslink but \glslink will actually be using

¹Introduced in version 1.12.

`\glslink[<def-options>,<options>]{<label>}{\<csname>{<text>}}`

where the default options *<def-options>* are given by `\GlsXtrFmtDefaultOptions`. The default definition of this is just `noindex` which suppresses the automatic indexing or recording action. (See the glossaries-extra manual for further details.)

This means that the document doesn't need to actually provide `\set` or `\card` but can instead use, for example,

```
\glsxtrfmt{S}{A}
\glxtrentryfmt{cardS}{B}
```

instead of

```
\set{A}
\card{B}
```

The first \LaTeX run will simply ignore the formatting and produce a warning.

Since this is a bit cumbersome to write, you can provide shortcut commands. For example:

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={my-data}]
\newcommand{\gset}[2][\glsxtrfmt[#1]{S}{#2}]
\newcommand{\gcard}[2][\glsxtrfmt[#1]{cardS}{#2}]
```

Whilst this doesn't seem a great deal different from simply providing the definitions of `\set` and `\card` in the document, this means you don't have to worry about remembering the names of the actual commands provided in the `.bib` file (just the entry labels) and the use of `\glsxtrfmt` will automatically produce a hyperlink to the glossary entry if the `hyperref` package has been loaded.

Here's an alternative `.bib` that defines entries with a term, a description and a symbol:

```
@preamble{"\providecommand{\setfmt}[1]{\mathcal{#1}}
\providecommand{\cardfmt}[1]{|\setfmt{#1}|}" }

@entry{set,
  name={set},
  symbol={\setfmt{S}},
  user1={setfmt},
  description={collection of values}
}

@entry{cardinality,
  name={cardinality},
  symbol={\cardfmt{S}},
  user1={cardfmt},
  description={the number of elements in the \gls{set} $\glssymbol{set}$}
}
```

I've changed the entry labels and the names of the formatting commands. The definitions in the document need to reflect the change in label but not the change in the formatting commands:

```
\newcommand{\gset}[2] [] {\glstxtrfmt[#1]{set}{#2}}
\newcommand{\gcard}[2] [] {\glstxtrfmt[#1]{cardinality}{#2}}
```

Here's another approach that allows for a more complicated argument for the cardinality. (For example, if the argument is an expression involving set unions or intersections.) The .bib file is now:

```
@preamble{"\providecommand{\setfmt}[1]{\mathcal{#1}}
\providecommand{\cardfmt}[1]{|#1|}}

@entry{set,
  name={set},
  symbol={\setfmt{S}},
  user1={setfmt},
  description={collection of values}
}
@entry{cardinality,
  name={cardinality},
  symbol={\cardfmt{\setfmt{S}}},
  user1={cardfmt},
  description={the number of elements in the \gls{set} $\glssymbol{set}$}
}
```

This has removed the `\setfmt` command from the definition of `\cardfmt`. Now the definitions in the document:

```
\newcommand{\gset}[1] {\glstxtentryfmt{set}{#1}}
\newcommand{\gcard}[2] [] {\glstxtrfmt[#1]{cardinality}{#2}}
```

This allows for code such as:

```
\[ \gcard{\gset{A} \cap \gset{B}} \]
```

which will link back to the cardinality entry in the glossary and avoids any hyperlinking with `\gset`. Alternatively to avoid links with `\gcard` as well:

```
\newcommand{\gset}[1] {\glstxtentryfmt{set}{#1}}
\newcommand{\gcard}[1] {\glstxtentryfmt{cardinality}{#1}}
```

Now `\gset` and `\gcard` are simply formatting commands, but their actual definitions are determined in the .bib file.

@entry

Regular terms are defined by the @entry field (such as in the matrix example above). This requires the description field and either name or parent.

For example:

```
@preamble{"\providecommand{\seealso}{see also}
\providecommand{\mtx}[1]{\boldsymbol{#1}}"}

```

```
@entry{matrix,
  name={matrix},
  plural={matrices},
  description={rectangular array of values, denoted \gls{M}},
  see={[\seealso]{vector}}
}

```

```
@entry{M,
  sort={M},
  name={\ensuremath{M}},
  description={a \gls{matrix}}
}

```

```
@entry{vector,
  name = "vector",
  description = {column or row of values, denoted \gls{v}},
  see={[\seealso]{matrix}}
}

```

```
@entry{v,
  sort={v},
  name={\ensuremath{\vec{v}}},
  description={a \gls{vector}}
}

```

If the sort field is omitted, bib2gls will sort according to the name field (or the parent field if name is missing). Terms defined using @entry will be written to the output file using the command `\bibglsnewentry`.

@symbol

The symbol entry type is much like entry, but it's designed specifically for symbols, so in the previous example, the M and v terms would be better defined using the @symbol entry type instead.

The required fields are description and either name or parent. If the sort field is omitted, the default sort is given by the entry label when `bib2gls` is invoked with `--no-interpret` and by the name or parent when `bib2gls` is invoked with `--interpret`. See [section 2](#) for further details. Terms defined using `@symbol` will be written to the output file using the command `\bibglsnewsymbol`.

@number

The `@number` entry type is like `@symbol`, but it's for numbers. The numbers don't have to be explicit digits and may have a symbolic representation. There's no real difference between the behaviour of `@number` and `@symbol` except that terms defined using `@number` will be written to the output file using the command `\bibglsnewnumber`.

For example, the file `constants.bib` might define mathematical constants like this:

```
@number{pi,
  name={\ensuremath{\pi}},
  description={the ratio of the length of the circumference
    of a circle to its diameter},
  user1={3.14159}
}

@number{e,
  name={\ensuremath{e}},
  description={base of natural logarithms},
  user1={2.71828}
}
```

This stores the approximate value in the `user1` field. This can be used to sort the entries in numerical order according to the values rather than the symbols:

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[
  src={constants},% constants.bib
  category={number},
  sort={double},% numerical double-precision sort
  sort-field={user1}% sort according to 'user1' field
]
```

The `category={number}` option makes it easy to adjust the glossary format to include the `user1` field:

```
\renewcommand{\glsxtrpostdescnumber}{%
  \ifglshasfield{user1}{\glscurrententrylabel}
  { (approximate value: \glscurrentfieldvalue)}%
  }%
}
```

@index

The index entry type is designed for entries that don't have a description. Only the label is required. If name is omitted, it's assumed to be the same as the label. However, this means that if the name contains any characters that can't be used in the label, you will need the name field. If the sort field is omitted, bib2gls will use the name field instead, if present, otherwise it will use the label.

Example:

```
@index{duck}
```

```
@index{goose,plural={geese}}
```

```
@index{facade,name={fa\c{c}ade}}
```

Terms defined using @index will be written to the output file using the command `\bibglsnewindex`.

@abbreviation

The abbreviation entry type is designed for abbreviations. The required fields are short and long. If the sort key is missing, bib2gls will use the value of the short field.

Note that you must set the abbreviation style before loading the resource file to ensure that the abbreviations are defined correctly, however bib2gls has no knowledge of the abbreviation style so it doesn't know if the description field must be included or if the default sort value isn't simply the value of the short field.

You can instruct bib2gls to use a specific field for the sort value using `sort-field` and you can also tell bib2gls to ignore certain fields using the `ignore-fields`, so you can include a description field if sometimes you need it and instruct bib2gls to ignore it when you don't want it.

For example:

```
@abbreviation{html,  
  short ="html",  
  long  = {hypertext markup language},  
  description={a markup language for creating web pages}  
}
```

If you want the long-noshort-desc style, then you can put the following in your document (where the .bib file is called entries-abbrev.bib):

```
\setabbreviationstyle{long-noshort-desc}  
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={entries-abbrev.bib},sort-field={long}]
```

Whereas, if you want the long-short style, then you can instead do:

```
\setabbreviationstyle{long-short}  
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={entries-abbrev.bib},ignore-fields={description}]
```

Terms defined using @abbreviation will be written to the output file using the command `\bibglsnewabbreviation`.

@acronym

The acronym entry type is like abbreviation except that the term is written to the output file using the command `\bibglsnewacronym`.

@dualentry

The dualentry entry type is similar to entry but actually defines two entries: the primary entry and the dual entry. The dual entry contains the same information as the primary entry but some of the fields are swapped around. The dual entry is given the prefix set by the dual-prefix option.

By default, the name and description fields and the plural and descriptionplural fields are swapped.

For example:

```
@dualentry{child,  
  name={child},  
  plural={children},  
  description={enfant}  
}
```

Is like

```
@entry{child,  
  name={child},  
  plural={children},  
  description={enfant}  
  descriptionplural={enfants}  
}
```

```
@entry{dual.child,  
  description={child},  
  descriptionplural={children},  
  name={enfant}  
  plural={enfants}  
}
```

where `dual.` is replaced by the value of the `dual-prefix` option. However, instead of defining the entries with `\bibglsnewentry` both the primary and dual entries are defined using `\bibglsnewdualentry`. The category and type fields can be set for the dual entry using the `dual-category` and `dual-type` options.

If `dual-sort={combine}` then the dual entries will be sorted along with the primary entries, otherwise the `dual-sort` indicates how to sort the dual entries and the dual entries will be appended to the end of the `.gls.tex` file. The `dual-sort-field` determines what field to use for the sort value if the dual entries should be sorted separately.

For example:

```
\newglossary*{english}{English}
\newglossary*{french}{French}

\GlsXtrLoadResources[
  src          = {entries-dual},% data in entries-dual.bib
  type         = {english},% put primary entries in glossary 'english'
  dual-type    = {french},% put dual entries in glossary 'french'
  category     = {dictionary},% set the primary category to 'dictionary'
  dual-category = {dictionary},% set the dual category to 'dictionary'
  sort         = {en},% sort primary entries according to language 'en'
  dual-sort    = {fr}% sort dual entries according to language 'fr'
]
```

Note that there's no dual equivalent to `@index` since that entry type doesn't have required fields and there's nothing obvious to swap with that type that would differentiate it from a normal entry.

@dualsymbol

This is like `@dualentry` but the default mappings swap the name and symbol fields (and the plural and symbolplural fields). The name and symbol are required.

For example:

```
@dualsymbol{pi,
  name={pi},
  symbol={\ensuremath{\pi}},
  description={the ratio of the length of the circumference
    of a circle to its diameter}
}
```

Entries are defined using `\bibglsnewdualsymbol`, which by default sets the category to `symbol`.

@dualnumber

This is much the same as `@dualsymbol` but entries are defined using `\bibglsnewdualnumber`, which by default sets the category to number.

The above example could be defined as a number since π is a constant:

```
@dualnumber{pi,
  name={pi},
  symbol={\ensuremath{\pi}},
  description={the ratio of the length of the circumference
    of a circle to its diameter},
  user1={3.14159}
}
```

This has stored the approximate value in the `user1` field. The post-description hook could then be adapted to show this.

```
\renewcommand{\glstrpostdescnumber}{%
  \ifglshasfield{user1}{\glscurrententrylabel}
  { (approximate value: \glscurrentfieldvalue)}%
}%
}
```

This use of the `user1` field means that the dual entries could be sorted numerically according to the approximate value:

```
\usepackage[record,postdot,numbers,style=index]{glossaries-extra}

\GlsXtrLoadResources[
  src={entries},% entries.bib
  dual-type={numbers},
  dual-sort={double},% decimal sort
  dual-sort-field={user1}
]
```

@dualabbreviation

The required fields are: `short`, `long`, `dualshort` and `duallong`. This includes some new fields: `dualshort`, `dualshortplural`, `duallong` and `duallongplural`. If these aren't already defined, they will be provided in the `.glstex` file with

```
\glstrprovidestoragekey{<key>}{}}{}}
```

This command is defined by the `glossaries-extra` package. Note that this use with an empty third argument prevents the creation of a field access command (analogous to `\glstentrytext`).

You can fetch the value with `\glstrusefield`. (See the glossaries-extra manual for further details.) Remember that the field won't be available until the `.glstex` file has been created.

Note that `bib2gls` doesn't know what abbreviation styles are in used, so if the `sort` field is missing it will fallback on the `short` field. If the abbreviations need to be sorted according to the `long` field instead, use `sort-field={long}`.

The `@dualabbreviation` entry type is similar to `@dualentry`, but by default the field mappings are:

- `short` \mapsto `dualshort`
- `shortplural` \mapsto `dualshortplural`
- `long` \mapsto `duallong`
- `longplural` \mapsto `duallongplural`
- `dualshort` \mapsto `short`
- `dualshortplural` \mapsto `shortplural`
- `duallong` \mapsto `long`
- `duallongplural` \mapsto `longplural`

Entries provided using `@dualabbreviation` will be defined with `\bibglsnewdualabbreviation`.

If the `dual-abbrev-backlink` option is on, the default field used for the backlinks is the `dualshort` field, so you'll need to make sure you adapt the glossary style to show that field. The simplest way to do this is through the category post description hook. For example, if the entries all have the category set to `abbreviation`, then this requires redefining `\glstrpostdescabbreviation`.

Here's an example dual abbreviation for a document where English is the primary language and German is the secondary language:

```
@dualabbreviation{rna,
  short={RNA},
  dualshort={RNS},
  long={ribonucleic acid},
  duallong={Ribonukleinsäure}
}
```

If the abbreviation is in the file called `entries-dual-abbrev.bib`, then here's an example document:

```
\documentclass{article}

\usepackage[T1]{fontenc}
\usepackage[utf8]{inputenc}

\usepackage[ngerman,main=english]{babel}
```

```

\usepackage[colorlinks]{hyperref}
\usepackage[record,nomain]{glossaries-extra}

\newglossary*{english}{English}
\newglossary*{german}{German}

\setabbreviationstyle{long-short}

\renewcommand*{\glstrpostdescabbreviation}{%
  \ifglshasfield{dualshort}{\glscurrententrylabel}
  {%
    \space(\glscurrentfieldvalue)%
  }%
  {}%
}

\GlsXtrLoadResources[
  src={entries-dual-abbrev},% entries-dual-abbrev.bib
  type=english,% put primary entries in glossary 'english'
  dual-type=german,% put primary entries in glossary 'german'
  label-prefix={en.},% primary label prefix
  dual-prefix={de.},% dual label prefix
  sort=en,% sort primary entries according to language 'en'
  dual-sort=de-1996,% sort dual entries according to 'de-1996'
                    % (German new orthography)
  dual-abbrev-backlink% add links in the glossary to the opposite
                    %entry
]

\begin{document}

English: \gls{en.rna}; \gls{en.rna}.

German: \gls{de.rna}; \gls{de.rna}.

\printunsrtglossaries
\end{document}

```

If the **label-prefix** is omitted, then only the dual entries will have a prefix:

English: \gls{rna}; \gls{rna}.

German: \gls{de.rna}; \gls{de.rna}.

Another variation is to use the long-short-user abbreviation style and modify \glstruserfield so that the duallong field is selected for the parenthetical material:

```
\renewcommand*{\glxstruserfield}{duallong}
```

This means that the first use of the primary entry is displayed as

ribonucleic acid (RNA, Ribonukleinsäure)

and the first use of the dual entry is displayed as:

Ribonukleinsäure (RNS, ribonucleic acid)

Here's an example to be used with the long-short-desc style:

```
@dualabbreviation{rna,  
  short={RNA},  
  dualshort={RNS},  
  long={ribonucleic acid},  
  duallong={Ribonukleinsäure}  
  description={a polymeric molecule},  
  user1={Ein polymeres Molekül}  
}
```

This stores the dual description in the user1 field, so this needs a mapping.

The example document is much the same as the previous one, except that the `dual-abbrev-map` option is needed to include the mapping between the description and user1 fields:

```
\documentclass{article}  
  
\usepackage[T1]{fontenc}  
\usepackage[utf8]{inputenc}  
  
\usepackage[ngerman,main=english]{babel}  
\usepackage[colorlinks]{hyperref}  
\usepackage[record,nomain]{glossaries-extra}  
  
\newglossary*{english}{English}  
\newglossary*{german}{German}  
  
\setabbreviationstyle{long-short-desc}  
  
\renewcommand*{\glxstrpostdescabbreviation}{%  
  \ifglshasfield{dualshort}{\glscurrententrylabel}  
  {%  
    \space(\glscurrentfieldvalue)%  
  }%  
  {}%  
}
```

```

\GlsXtrLoadResources[
  src={entries-dual-abbrev-desc},% entries-dual-abbrev-desc.bib
  type=english,% put primary entries in glossary 'english'
  dual-type=german,% put primary entries in glossary 'german'
  label-prefix={en.},% primary label prefix
  dual-prefix={de.},% dual label prefix
  sort=en,% sort primary entries according to language 'en'
  sort-field={long},% sort by the 'long' field
  dual-sort=de-1996,% sort dual entries according to 'de-1996'
                    % (German new orthography)
  dual-abbrev-backlink,% add links in the glossary to the opposite
                      % entry
% dual key mappings:
dual-abbrev-map={%
  {short,shortplural,long,longplural,dualshort,dualshortplural,
    duallong,duallongplural,description,user1},
  {dualshort,dualshortplural,duallong,duallongplural,short,shortplural,
    long,longplural,user1,description}
}
]

\begin{document}

English: \gls{en.rna}; \gls{en.rna}.

German: \gls{de.rna}; \gls{de.rna}.

\printunsrtglossaries
\end{document}

```

Note that since this document uses the long-short-desc abbreviation style, the **sort-field** needs to be changed to long, since the fallback if the sort field is missing is the short field.

If I change the order of the mapping to:

```

dual-abbrev-map={%
  {long,longplural,short,shortplural,dualshort,dualshortplural,
    duallong,duallongplural,description,user1},
  {duallong,duallongplural,dualshort,dualshortplural,short,shortplural,
    long,longplural,user1,description}
}

```

Then the back-link field will switch to duallong. The post-description hook can be modified to allow for this:

```

\renewcommand*{\glsxtrpostdescabbreviation}{%
  \ifglshasfield{duallong}{\glscurrententrylabel}
}

```

```
{%
  \space(\glscurrentfieldvalue)%
}%
{}%
}
```

An alternative is to use the long-short-user-desc style without the post-description hook:

```
\setabbreviationstyle{long-short-user-desc}

\renewcommand*{\glsxtruserfield}{duallong}
```

However be careful with this approach as it can cause nested hyperlinks. In this case it's better to use the long-postshort-user-desc style which defers the parenthetical material until after the link-text:

```
\setabbreviationstyle{long-postshort-user-desc}

\renewcommand*{\glsxtruserfield}{duallong}
```

If the back-link field has been switched to `duallong` then the post-description hook is no longer required.

@dualacronym

As `@dualabbreviation` but defines the entries with `\bibglsnewdualacronym`.

5 Resource File Options

Make sure that you load glossaries-extra with the record package option. This ensures that bib2gls can pick up the required information from the .aux file. (You may omit this option if you use `selection={all}` and you don't require the location lists.)

The .glstex resource files created by bib2gls are loaded in the document using

```
\glstxrresourcefile[⟨options⟩]{⟨filename⟩}
```

where *⟨filename⟩* is the name of the resource file without the .glstex extension. You can have multiple `\glstxrresourcefile` commands within your document, but each *⟨filename⟩* must be unique, otherwise L^AT_EX would attempt to input the same .glstex file multiple times. bib2gls checks for non-unique file names.

There's a shortcut command that uses `\jobname` as the *⟨filename⟩*:

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[⟨options⟩]
```

The first instance of this command is equivalent to

```
\glstxrresourcefile[⟨options⟩]{\jobname}
```

Any additional use of `\GlsXtrLoadResources` is equivalent to

```
\glstxrresourcefile[⟨options⟩]{\jobname-⟨n⟩}
```

where *⟨n⟩* is number. For example:

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src=entries-en,sort={en}]
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src=entries-fr,sort={fr}]
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src=entries-de,sort={de-1996}]
```

This is equivalent to:

```
\glstxrresourcefile[src=entries-en,sort={en}]{\jobname}
\glstxrresourcefile[src=entries-fr,sort={fr}]{\jobname-1}
\glstxrresourcefile[src=entries-de,sort={de-1996}]{\jobname-2}
```

The optional argument *⟨options⟩* is a comma-separated *⟨key⟩=⟨value⟩* list. Allowed options are listed below. The option list applies only to that specific *⟨filename⟩*.glstex and are not carried over to the next instance of `\glstxrresourcefile`.

If you have multiple .bib files you can either select them all using `src` in a single `\glstxrresourcefile` call, if they all require the same settings, or you can load them separately with different settings applied.

For example, if the files `entries-terms.bib` and `entries-symbols.bib` have the same settings:

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={entries-terms,entries-symbols}]
```

Alternatively, if they have different settings:

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={entries-terms},type=main]
```

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={entries-symbols},sort=use,type=symbols]
```

5.1 General Options

`charset={<encoding-name>}`

If the character encoding hasn't been supplied in the .bib file with the encoding comment

```
% Encoding: <encoding-name>
```

then you can supply the correct encoding using `charset={encoding-name}`. In general, it's better to include the encoding in the .bib file where it can also be read by JabRef.

See `--tex-encoding` for the encoding used to write the .glstex file.

`set-widest={<boolean>}`

The alttree glossary style needs to know the widest name (for each level, if hierarchical). This can be set using `\glsssetwidest` provided by the glossaries package, but this requires knowing which name is the widest.

The boolean option `set-widest={true}` will try to calculate the widest names for each hierarchical level. Since it doesn't know the fonts that will be used in the document or if there are any non-standard commands that aren't provided in the .bib files preamble, this option may not work. The transcript file will include the message

```
Calculated width of '<text>': <number>
```

where *<text>* is bib2gls's interpretation of the contents of the name field and *<number>* is a rough guide to the width of *<text>* assuming the operating system's default serif font. The entry that has the largest *<number>* is the one that will be selected. This will then be implemented using:

```
\glsssetwidest[<level>]{\glsentryname{<id>}}
```

where *<id>* is the entry's label. This leaves T_EX to compute the width according to the document fonts.

If `type` has been set, the `\glsssetwidest` command will be appended to the glossary preamble for that type, otherwise it's simply set in the .glstex file and may be overridden later in the document if required.

secondary={ $\langle list \rangle$ }

It may be that you want to display a glossary multiple times but with a different order. For example, the first time alphabetically and the second time by category.

You can do this with the secondary option. The value (which must be supplied) is a comma-separated list where each item in the list is in the format

$\langle sort \rangle : \langle field \rangle : \langle type \rangle$

or

$\langle sort \rangle : \langle type \rangle$

If the $\langle field \rangle$ is omitted, the value of **sort-field** is used. The value of $\langle sort \rangle$ is as for **sort**, but note that in this case the sort value unsrt or none means to use the same ordering as the original entries. So with **sort**=**{de-CH-1996}**, **secondary**=**{none:copies}** the copies list will be ordered according to de-CH-1996 and not according to the order in which they were read when the .bib file or files were parsed.

This will copy all the selected entries into the glossary labelled $\langle type \rangle$ sorted according to $\langle sort \rangle$ using $\langle field \rangle$ as the sort value.

(If the glossary $\langle type \rangle$ doesn't exist, it will be defined with `\provideignoredglossary*{ $\langle type \rangle$ }`.) Note that if the glossary already exists and contains entries, the existing entries aren't re-ordered. The new entries are simply appended to the list.

For example, suppose the .bib file contains entries like:

```
@entry{quartz,
  name={quartz},
  description={hard mineral consisting of silica},
  category={mineral}
}

@entry{cabbage,
  name={cabbage},
  description={vegetable with thick green or purple leaves},
  category={vegetable}
}

@entry{waterfowl,
  name={waterfowl},
  description={any bird that lives in or about water},
  category={animal}
}
```

and the document preamble contains:

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={entries},sort={en-GB},
  secondary={en-GB:category:topic}
]
```


This sorts the primary entries according to the default **sort-field** and then sorts the entries according to the category field and copies this list to the topic glossary (which will be provided if not defined.)

The secondary list can be displayed with the hypertargets switched off to prevent duplicates. The cross-references will link to the original glossary.

For example:

```
\printunsrtglossary[title={Summary (alphabetical)}]
\printunsrtglossary[title={Summary (by topic)},target=false]
```

The alternative (or if more than two lists are required) is to reload the same .bib file with different label prefixes. For example, if the entries are stored in entries.bib:

```
\newglossary*{nosort}{Symbols (Unsorted)}
\newglossary*{byname}{Symbols (Letter Order)}
\newglossary*{bydesc}{Symbols (Ordered by Description)}
\newglossary*{byid}{Symbols (Ordered by Label)}
```

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[
  src={entries},% entries.bib
  sort={unsrt},
  type={nosort}
]
```

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[
  src={entries},% entries.bib
  sort={letter-case},
  type={byname},
  label-prefix={byname.}
]
```

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[
  src={entries},% entries.bib
  sort={locale},
  sort-field={description},
  type={bydesc},
  label-prefix={bydesc.}
]
```

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[
  src={entries},% entries.bib
  sort={letter},
  sort-field={id},
  type={byid},
  label-prefix={byid.}
]
```

5.2 Selection Options

`src={⟨list⟩}`

If the `src` option is omitted, the `.bib` file is assumed to be `⟨filename⟩.bib`. For example:

```
\glstrresourcefile{entries-symbols}
```

Indicates that `bib2gls` needs to read the file `entries-symbols.bib` and create the file `entries-symbols.glstex`. If the `.bib` file is different or if you have multiple `.bib` files, you need to use the `src` option.

The value should be a comma-separated list of the required `.bib` files. These may either be in the current working directory or in the directory given by the `--dir` switch or on \TeX 's path (in which case `kpsewhich` will be used to find them). The `.bib` extension may be omitted. Remember that if `⟨list⟩` contains multiple files it must be grouped to protect the comma from the `⟨options⟩` list.

For example

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={entries-terms,entries-symbols}]
```

indicates that `bib2gls` must read the files `entries-terms.bib` and `entries-symbols.bib` and create the file obtained from `\jobname.glstex`.

`selection={⟨value⟩}`

By default all entries that have records in the `.aux` file will be selected as well as all their dependent entries. The dependent entries that don't have corresponding records on the first \LaTeX run, make need an additional build to ensure their location lists are updated.

Remember that on the first \LaTeX the `.glstex` files don't exist. This means that the entries can't be defined. The `record` package option additionally switches on the `undefaction={warn}` option, which means that you'll only get warnings rather than errors when you reference entries in the document. This means that you can't use `\glsaddall` all with `bib2gls` because the glossary lists are empty on the first run therefore there's nothing for `\glsaddall` to iterate over. Instead, if you want to add all defined entries, you need to instruct `bib2gls` to do this with the `selection` option. The following values are allowed:

- `recorded and deps`: add all recorded entries and their dependencies (default).
- `recorded no deps`: add all recorded entries but not their dependencies. The dependencies include those referenced in the `see` field, `parent` entries and those found referenced with commands like `\gls` in the field values that are parsed by `bib2gls`. With this setting, parents will be omitted unless they've been referenced in the document through commands like `\gls`.
- `recorded and ancestors`: this is live the previous setting but parents are added even if they haven't been referenced in the document. The other dependent entries are omitted if they haven't been referenced in the document.

- `all`: add all entries found in the `.bib` files supplied in the `src` option.

The $\langle value \rangle$ must be supplied.

`match={ $\langle key-val list \rangle$ }`

It's possible to filter the selection by matching field values. If $\langle key-val list \rangle$ is empty no filtering will be applied, otherwise $\langle key-val list \rangle$ should be a $\langle key \rangle = \langle regexp \rangle$ list, where $\langle key \rangle$ is the name of a field or id for the entry's label or entrytype for the entry's `.bib` type (as in the part after `@` in the `.bib` file not the type field identifying the glossary label).

The $\langle regexp \rangle$ part should be a regular expression conforming to [Java's Pattern class](#). The pattern is anchored (`oo.*` matches `oops` but not `loops`) and $\langle regexp \rangle$ can't be empty. Remember that \TeX will expand the option list as it writes the information to the `.aux` file so take care with special characters. For example, to match a literal period use `\string\.` not `\.` (backslash dot).

If the field is missing its value it is assumed to be empty for the purposes of the pattern match even if it will be assigned a non-empty default value when the entry is defined.

If a field is listed multiple times, the pattern for that field is concatenated using

$(?:\langle pattern-1 \rangle) | (?:\langle pattern-2 \rangle)$

where $\langle pattern-1 \rangle$ is the current pattern for that field and $\langle pattern-2 \rangle$ is the new pattern. This means it performs a logical OR. For the non-duplicate fields the logical operator is given by `match-op`.

For example:

```
match-op={and},
match={
  {category=animals},
  {topic=biology},
  {category=vegetables}
}
```

This will discard any entries that don't match the condition: category matches $(?:animals) | (?:vegetables)$ (the category is either `animals` or `vegetables`) AND topic is `biology`. A message will be written to the log file for each entry that's discarded.

Patterns for unknown fields will be ignored. If the entire list consists of patterns for unknown fields it will be treated as `match`. That is, no filtering will be applied.

`match-op={ $\langle value \rangle$ }`

If the value of `match` contains more than one $\langle key \rangle = \langle pattern \rangle$ element, the `match-op` determines whether to apply a logical AND or a logical OR. The $\langle value \rangle$ may be either `and` or `or`. The default is `match-op={and}`.

`flatten={⟨value⟩}`

This is a boolean option. The default value is `flatten={false}`.

If `flatten={true}`, the sorting will ignore hierarchy and the parent field will be omitted when writing the definitions to the `.gls.tex` file, but the parent entries will still be considered a dependent ancestor from the **selection** point of view.

Note the difference between this option and using `ignore-fields={parent}` which will remove the dependency (unless a dependency is established through another field).

5.3 Master Documents

Suppose you have two documents `mybook.tex` and `myarticle.tex` that share a common glossary that's shown in `mybook.pdf` but not in `myarticle.pdf`. Furthermore, you'd like to use `hyperref` and be able to click on a term in `myarticle.pdf` and be taken to the relevant page in `mybook.pdf` where the term is listed in the glossary.

This can be achieved with the `targeturl` and `targetname` category attributes. For example, without `bib2gls` the file `mybook.tex` might look like:

```
\documentclass{book}
\usepackage[colorlinks]{hyperref}
\usepackage{glossaries-extra}

\makeglossaries

\newglossaryentry{sample}{name={sample},description={an example}}

\begin{document}
\chapter{Example}
\gls{sample}.

\printglossaries
\end{document}
```

The other document `myarticle.tex` might look like:

```
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage[colorlinks]{hyperref}
\usepackage{glossaries-extra}

\newignoredglossary*{external}
\glsssetcategoryattribute{external}{targeturl}{mybook.pdf}
\glsssetcategoryattribute{external}{targetname}{\glslinkprefix\glslabel}

\newglossaryentry{sample}{type=external,category=external,
name={sample},description={an example}}
```

```

\begin{document}
\gls{sample}.
\end{document}

```

In this case the main glossary isn't used, but the category attributes allow a mixture of internal and external references, so the main glossary could be used for the internal references. (In which case, `\makeglossaries` and `\printglossaries` would need to be added back to `myarticle.tex`.)

Note that both documents had to define the common terms. The above documents can be rewritten to work with `bib2gls`. First a `.bib` file needs to be created:

```

@entry{sample,
  name={sample},
  description={an example}
}

```

Assuming this file is called `myentries.bib`, then `mybook.tex` can be changed to:

```

\documentclass{book}
\usepackage[colorlinks]{hyperref}
\usepackage[record]{glossaries-extra}

\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={myentries}]

\begin{document}
\chapter{Example}
\gls{sample}.

\printunsrtglossaries
\end{document}

```

and `myarticle.tex` can be changed to:

```

\documentclass{article}
\usepackage[colorlinks]{hyperref}
\usepackage[record]{glossaries-extra}

\newignoredglossary*{external}
\glssetcategoryattribute{external}{targeturl}{mybook.pdf}
\glssetcategoryattribute{external}{targetname}{\glolinkprefix\glslabel}

\GlsXtrLoadResources[
  src={myentries},
  sort=none,
  label-prefix={book.},

```

```

type=external,
category=external]

\begin{document}
\gls{book.sample}.
\end{document}

```

Most of the options related to sorting and the glossary format are unneeded here since the glossary isn't being displayed. This may be sufficient for your needs, but it may be that the book has changed various settings that have been written to `mybook.glstex` but aren't present in the `.bib` file (such as `short-case-change={uc}`). In this case, you could just remember to copy over the settings from `mybook.tex` to `myarticle.tex`, but another possibility is to simply make `myarticle.tex` input `mybook.glstex` instead of using `\GlsXtrLoadResources`. This can work but it's not so convenient to set the label prefix, the type and the category. The `master` option allows this, but it has limitations (see below), so in complex cases (in particular different label prefixes combined with hierarchical entries or cross-references) you'll have to use the method shown in the example code above.

`master={\langle name \rangle}`

This option will disable most of the options that relate to parsing and processing data contained in `.bib` files (since this option doesn't actually read any `.bib` files).

The use of `master` isn't always suitable. In particular if any of the terms cross-reference each other, such as through the `see` field or the `parent` field or using commands like `\gls` in any of the other fields when the labels have been assigned prefixes. In this case you will need to use the method described in the example above.

The `\langle name \rangle` is the name of the `.aux` file for the master document without the extension (in this case, `mybook`). It needs to be relative to the document referencing it or an absolute path using forward slashes as the directory divider. Remember that if it's a relative path, the PDF files (`mybook.pdf` and `myarticle.pdf`) will also need to be located in the same relative position.

When `bib2gls` detects the `master` option, it won't search for entries in any `.bib` files (for that particular resource set) but will create a `.glstex` file that inputs the master document's `.glstex` files, but it will additionally temporarily adjust the internal commands used to define entries so that the prefix given by `label-prefix`, the glossary type and the category type are all automatically inserted. If the `type` or `category` options haven't been used, the corresponding value will default to `master`. The `targeturl` and `targetname` category attributes will automatically be set, and the glossary type will be provided using `\provideignoredglossary*{\langle type \rangle}`.

The above `myarticle.tex` can be changed to:

```

\documentclass{article}
\usepackage[colorlinks]{hyperref}
\usepackage[record]{glossaries-extra}

```

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[
  label-prefix={book.},
  master={mybook}]
```

```
\begin{document}
\gls{book.sample}.
\end{document}
```

There are some settings from the master document that you still need to repeat in the other document. These include the label prefixes set when the master document loaded the resource files, and any settings in the master document that relate to the master document's entries.

For example, if the master document loaded a resource file with `label-prefix={term.}` then you also need this prefix when you reference the entries in the dependent document in addition to the `label-prefix` for the dependent document. Suppose `mybook.tex` loads the resources using

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={myentries},label-prefix={term.}]
```

and `myarticle.tex` loads the resources using:

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[
  label-prefix={book.},
  master={mybook}]
```

Then the entries referenced in `myarticle.tex` need to use the prefix `book.term.` as in:

This is a `\gls{book.term.sample}` term.

Remember that the category labels will need adjusting to reflect the change in category label in the dependent document.

For example, if `mybook.tex` included:

```
\setabbreviationstyle{long-short-sc}
```

then `myarticle.tex` will need:

```
\setabbreviationstyle[master]{long-short-sc}
```

(change `master` to `\value` if you have used `category={\value}`). You can, of course, choose a different abbreviation style for the dependent document, but the category in the optional argument needs to be correct.

`master-resources={⟨list⟩}`

If the master document has multiple resource files then by default all that document's .glstex files will be input. If you don't want them all you can use `master-resources` to specify only those files that should be include. The value `⟨list⟩` is a comma-separated list of names, where each name corresponds to the final argument of `\glstxrresourcefile`. Remember that `\GlsXtrLoadResources` is just a shortcut for `\glstxrresourcefile` that bases the name on `\jobname`. (Note that, as with the argument of `\glstxrresourcefile`, the .glstex extension should not be included.) The file `\jobname.glstex` is considered the primary resource file and the files `\jobname-⟨n⟩.glstex` (starting with `⟨n⟩` equal to 1) are considered the supplementary resource files.

For example, to just select the first and third of the supplementary resource files (omitting the primary `mybook.glstex`):

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[
  master={mybook},
  master-resources={mybook-1,mybook-3}
]
```

5.4 Field and Label Options

`ignore-fields={⟨list⟩}`

The `ignore-fields` key indicates that you want `bib2gls` to skip the fields listed in supplied the comma-separated `⟨list⟩` of field labels. Remember that unrecognised fields will always be skipped.

For example, suppose my .bib file contains

```
@abbreviation{html,
  short ="html",
  long  = {hypertext markup language},
  description={a markup language for creating web pages},
  see={ [see also]xml}
}
```

but I want to use the short-long style and I don't want the cross-referenced term, then I can use `ignore-fields={see,description}`.

Note that `ignore-fields={parent}` removes the parent before determining the dependency lists. This means that `selection={recorded and deps}` and `selection={recorded and ancestors}` won't pick up the label in the parent field.

If you want to maintain the dependency and ancestor relationship but omit the parent field when writing the entries to the .glstex file, you instead need to use `flatten`.

category={⟨value⟩}

The selected entries may all have their category field changed before writing their definitions to the .glstex file. The ⟨value⟩ may be:

- same as entry: set the category to the entry type used to define it.
- same as type: set the category to the same value as the type field (if that field has been provided either in the .bib file or through the **type** option).
- A category label: the category is set to ⟨value⟩.

This will override any category fields supplied in the .bib file.

For example, if the .bib file contains:

```
@entry{bird,
  name={bird},
  description = {feathered animal}
}
```

```
@index{duck}
```

```
@index{goose,plural="geese"}
```

```
@dualentry{dog,
  name={dog},
  description={chien}
}
```

then if the document contains

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[category={same as entry},src={entries}]
```

this will set the category of the bird field to entry (since it was defined with \entry), the category of the duck and goose entries to index (since they were defined with @index), and the category of the dog entry to dualentry (since it was defined with @dualentry). Note that the dual entry dual.dog doesn't have the category set, since that's governed by **dual-category** instead.

If, instead, the document contains

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[category={animals},src={entries}]
```

then the category of all the primary selected entries will be set to animals. Again the dual entry dual.dog doesn't have the category set.

Note that the categories may be overridden by the commands, such as **\bibglsnewindex**, that are used to actually define the entries.

For example, if the document contains

```
\newcommand{\bibglsnewdualentry}[4]{%
  \longnewglossaryentry*{#1}{name={#3},#2,category={dual}}{#4}%
}
```

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[category={animals},src={entries}]
```

then both the `dog` and `dual.dog` entries will have their `category` field set to `dual` since the new definition of `\bibglsnewdualentry` has overridden the `category={animals}` option.

`type={⟨value⟩}`

The `⟨value⟩` may be same as `entry` or a glossary label. This is similar to the `category` option except that it sets the `type` field. As with the `category` option, `value={same as entry}` indicates that the entry type should be used. There is no `⟨value⟩` analogous to `category={same as type}`.

Make sure that the glossary type has already been defined.

Note that this setting only changes the `type` field for primary entries. Use `dual-type` for dual entries.

For example:

```
\usepackage[record,symbols]{glossaries-extra}
```

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={entries-symbols},type=symbols]
```

Remember that you can use the starred version of `\newglossary` if you don't want to worry about the extensions needed by `makeindex` or `xindy`. For example:

```
\usepackage[record,nomain]{glossaries-extra}
```

```
\newglossary*{dictionary}{Dictionary}
```

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={entries-symbols},type=dictionary]
```

(The `nomain` option was added to suppress the creation of the default main glossary.)

Alternatively you can use `\newignoredglossary` if you don't want the glossary picked up by `\printunsrtglossaries`.

`label-prefix={⟨tag⟩}`

The `label-prefix` option prepends `⟨tag⟩` to each entry's label. This `⟨tag⟩` will also be inserted in front of any cross-references, unless they start with `dual.` or `ext⟨n⟩.` (where `⟨n⟩` is an integer).

For example, if the `.bib` file contains

```
@entry{bird,
  name={bird},
  description = {feathered animal, such as a \gls{duck} or \gls {goose}}
}
```

```
@entry{waterfowl,
  name={waterfowl},
  description={Any \gls{bird} that lives in or about water},
  see={ [see also] {duck,goose}}
}
```

```
@index{duck}
```

```
@index{goose,plural="geese"}
```

Then if this .bib file is loaded with `label-prefix={gls.}` it's as though the entries had been defined as:

```
@entry{gls.bird,
  name={bird},
  description = {feathered animal, such as a \gls{gls.duck} or
\gls{gls.goose}}
}
```

```
@entry{gls.waterfowl,
  name={waterfowl},
  description={Any \gls{gls.bird} that lives in or about water},
  see={ [see also] {gls.duck,gls.goose}}
}
```

```
@index{gls.duck,name={duck}}
```

```
@index{gls.goose,name={goose},plural="geese"}
```

Remember to use this prefix when you reference the terms in the document with commands like `\gls`.

```
ext-prefixes={\langle list \rangle}
```

Any cross-references in the .bib file that start with `ext⟨n⟩`. (where `⟨n⟩` is a positive integer) will be substituted with the `⟨n⟩`th tag listed in the comma-separated `⟨list⟩`. If there aren't that many items in the list, the `ext⟨n⟩`. will simply be removed. The default setting is an empty list, which will strip all `ext⟨n⟩`. prefixes.

For example, suppose the file `entries-terms.bib` contains:

```
@entry{set,
  name={set},
  description={collection of values, denoted \gls{ext1.set}}
}
```

and the file `entries-symbols.bib` contains:

```
@symbol{set,
  name={\ensuremath{\mathcal{S}}},
  description={a \gls{ext1.set}}
}
```

These files both contain an entry with the label `set` but the description includes `\gls{ext1.set}` which is referencing the entry from the other file. These two files can be loaded without conflict using:

```
\usepackage[record,symbols]{glossaries-extra}
```

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={entries-terms},
  label-prefix={gls.},
  ext-prefixes={sym.}
]
```

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={entries-symbols},
  type=symbols,
  label-prefix={sym.},
  ext-prefixes={gls.}
]
```

Now the `set` entry from `entries-terms.bib` will be defined with the label `gls.set` and the description will be

```
collection of values, denoted \gls{sym.set}
```

The `set` entry from `entries-symbols.bib` will be defined with the label `sym.set` and the description will be

```
a \gls{gls.set}
```

Note that in this case the `.bib` files have to be loaded as two separate resources. They can't be combined into a single `src` list as the labels aren't unique.

If you want to allow the flexibility to choose between loading them together or separately, you'll have to give them unique labels. For example, `entries-terms.bib` could contain:

```
@entry{set,
  name={set},
  description={collection of values, denoted \gls{ext1.S}}
}
```

and `entries-symbols.bib` could contain:

```
@symbol{S,  
  name={\ensuremath{\mathcal{S}}},  
  description={a \gls{ext1.set}}  
}
```

Now they can be combined with:

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={entries-terms,entries-symbols}]
```

which will simply strip the `ext1.` prefix from the cross-references. Alternatively:

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={entries-terms,entries-symbols},  
  label-prefix={gls.},  
  ext-prefixes={gls.}  
]
```

which will insert the supplied **label-prefix** at the start of the labels in the entry definitions and will replace the `ext1.` prefix with `gls.` in the cross-references.

`short-case-change={⟨value⟩}`

The value of the `short` field may be automatically converted to upper or lower case. This option may take one of the following values:

- `none`: don't apply any case-changing;
- `lc`: convert to lower case;
- `uc`: convert to upper case.

For example, if the `.bib` file contains

```
@abbreviation{html,  
  short ="html",  
  long  = html,  
  description={a markup language for creating web pages}  
}
```

then `short-case-change={uc}` would convert the value of the `short` field into

```
\MakeTextUppercase{html}
```

See **dual-short-case-change** to adjust the `dualplural` field.

5.5 Plurals

Some languages, such as English, have a general rule that plurals are formed from the singular with a suffix appended. This isn't an absolute rule. There are plenty of exceptions (for example, geese, children, churches, elves, fairies, sheep). The glossaries package allows the `plural` key to be optional when defining entries. In some cases a plural may not make any sense (for example, the term is a symbol) and in some cases the plural may be identical to the singular.

To make life easier for languages where the majority of plurals can simply be formed by appending a suffix to the singular, the glossaries package sets the `plural` field default to the value of the `text` field with `\glspluralsuffix` appended. This command is defined to be just the letter “s”. This means that the majority of terms don't need to have the plural supplied as well, and you only need to use it for the exceptions.

For languages that don't have this general rule, the `plural` field will always need to be supplied, where needed.

There are other plural fields, such as `firstplural`, `longplural` and `shortplural`. Again, if you are using a language that doesn't have a simple suffix rule, you'll have to supply the plural forms if you need them (and if a plural makes sense in the context).

If these fields are omitted, the glossaries package follows these rules:

- If `firstplural` is missing, then `\glspluralsuffix` is appended to the `first` field, if that field has been supplied. If the `first` field hasn't been supplied but the `plural` field has been supplied, then the `firstplural` field defaults to the `plural` field. If the `plural` field hasn't been supplied, then both the `plural` and `firstplural` fields default to the `text` field (or `name`, if no `text` field) with `\glspluralsuffix` appended.
- If the `longplural` field is missing, then `\glspluralsuffix` is appended to the `long` field, if the `long` field has been supplied.
- If the `shortplural` field is missing then, *with the base glossaries acronym mechanism*, `\acrpluralsuffix` is appended to the `short` field.

The last case is different with the `glossaries-extra` extension package. The `shortplural` field defaults to the `short` field with `\abbrvpluralsuffix` appended *unless overridden by category attributes*. This suffix command is set by the abbreviation styles. This means that every time an abbreviation style is implemented, `\abbrvpluralsuffix` is redefined. Most styles simply define this command as:

```
\renewcommand*{\abbrvpluralsuffix}{\glspluralsuffix}
```

The “sc” styles (such as `long-short-sc`) use a different definition:

```
\renewcommand*{\abbrvpluralsuffix}{\protect\glxtrscsuffix}
```

This allows the suffix to be reverted back to the upright font, counter-acting the affect of the small-caps font.

This means that if you want to change or strip the suffix used for the plural short form, it's usually not sufficient to redefine `\abbrvpluralsuffix`, as the change will be undone the

next time the style is applied. Instead, for a document-wide solution, you need to redefine `\glstrabbrvpluralsuffix`. Alternatively you can use the category attributes.

There are two attributes that affect the short plural suffix formation. The first is `apospplural` which uses the suffix

```
'\abbrvpluralsuffix
```

That is, an apostrophe followed by `\abbrvpluralsuffix` is appended. The second attribute is `noshortplural` which suppresses the suffix and simply sets `shortplural` to the same as `short`.

With `bib2gls`, if you have some abbreviations where the plural should have a suffix and some where the plural shouldn't have a suffix (for example, the document has both English and French abbreviations) then there are two approaches.

The first approach is to use the category attributes. For example:

```
\glsssetcategoryattribute{french}{noshortplural}
```

Now just make sure all the French abbreviations have their category field set to `french`:

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={fr-abbrvs},category={french}]
```

The other approach is to use the options listed below.

`short-plural-suffix={<value>}`

Sets the plural suffix for `shortplural` to *<value>*. If this option is omitted or if `short-plural-suffix={use-default}`, then `bib2gls` will leave it to `glossaries-extra` to determine the appropriate default. If the *<value>* is omitted or empty, the suffix is set to empty.

`dual-short-plural-suffix={<value>}`

Sets the plural suffix for the `dualshortplural` field to *<value>*. If this option is omitted or if `dual-short-plural-suffix={use-default}`, then `bib2gls` will leave it to `glossaries-extra` to determine the appropriate default. If the *<value>* is omitted or empty, the suffix is set to empty.

5.6 Location List Options

The `record` package option automatically adds two new keys: `loclist` and `location`. These two fields are set by `bib2gls` from the information supplied in the `.aux` file. The `loclist` has the format of an `etoolbox` internal list and includes every location (except for the discarded duplicates). Each item in the list is provided in the form

```
\glssseeformat[<tag>]{<label list>}{}
```

for the cross-reference supplied by the `see` field and

`\glsnoidxdisplayloc{<prefix>}{<counter>}{<format>}{<location>}`

for the locations. You can iterate through the `loclist` value using one of `etoolbox`'s internal list loops. Remember that you can fetch the value of the field using `\glsfieldfetch` provided by the `glossaries` package. The locations are always listed in the order in which they were indexed, except for the cross-reference which may be placed at the start or end of the list or omitted according to `loc-prefix`.

It's therefore possible to define a custom glossary style where `\glossentry` (and `\subglossentry`) ignore the final argument and instead parse the `loclist` field and re-order the locations. Remember that you can also use `\glsnoidxloclist` provided by `glossaries`. For example:

```
\glsfieldfetch{gls.sample}{loclist}{\loclist}% fetch location list
\glsnoidxloclist{\loclist}% iterate over locations
```

This uses `\glsnoidxloclisthandler` as the list's handler macro, which simply displays each location separated by `\delimN`. (See also [Iteration Tips and Tricks](#).)

Each location is listed in the `.aux` file in the form:

`\glsxtr@record{<label>}{<prefix>}{<counter>}{<format>}{<location>}`

Exact duplicates are discarded. For example, if `cat` is indexed twice on page 1:

```
\glsxtr@record{cat}{}{page}{glsnumberformat}{1}
\glsxtr@record{cat}{}{page}{glsnumberformat}{1}
```

The second record is discarded. Only the first record is added to the location list.

Partial duplicates, where all arguments match except for `<format>`, may be discarded depending on the value of `<format>`. For example, if page 1 of the document uses `\gls{cat}` and `\gls[format=hyperbf]{cat}` then the `.aux` file will contain:

```
\glsxtr@record{cat}{}{page}{glsnumberformat}{1}
\glsxtr@record{cat}{}{page}{hyperbf}{1}
```

This is a partial record match. In this case, `bib2gls` makes the following tests:

- If one of the formats is `glsnumberformat` (as in the above example), that format will be skipped. So in the above example, the second record will be added to the location list, but not the first. (A message will only be written to the transcript if the `--debug` switch is used.)
- If a mapping has been set with the `--map-format` switch that mapping will be checked.
- Otherwise the duplicate record will be discarded with a warning.

The `location` field is used to store the formatted location list. The code for this list is generated by `bib2gls` based on the information provided in the `.aux` file, the presence of the `see` field and the various settings described in this chapter. When you display the glossary using `\printunsrtglossary`, if the `location` field is present it will be displayed according to the glossary style (and other factors, such as whether the `nonumberlist` option has been used, either as a package option or supplied in the optional argument of `\printunsrtglossary`). For more information on adjusting the formatting see the `glossaries` and `glossaries-extra` manual.

`min-loc-range={⟨value⟩}`

By default, three or more consecutive locations $\langle loc-1 \rangle$, $\langle loc-2 \rangle$, ..., $\langle loc-n \rangle$ are compressed into the range $\langle loc-1 \rangle \backslash \text{delimR} \langle loc-n \rangle$ (where $\backslash \text{delimR}$ is provided by the glossaries package). Otherwise the locations are separated by $\backslash \text{delimN}$ (again provided by glossaries).

You can change this with the `min-loc-range` setting where $\langle value \rangle$ is either none (don't form ranges) or an integer greater than one indicating how many consecutive locations should be converted into a range.

`bib2gls` determines if one location $\{\langle prefix-2 \rangle\}\{\langle counter-2 \rangle\}\{\langle format-2 \rangle\}\{\langle location-2 \rangle\}$ is one unit more than another location $\{\langle prefix-1 \rangle\}\{\langle counter-1 \rangle\}\{\langle format-1 \rangle\}\{\langle location-1 \rangle\}$ according to the following:

1. If $\langle prefix-1 \rangle$ is not equal to $\langle prefix-2 \rangle$ or $\langle counter-1 \rangle$ is not equal to $\langle counter-2 \rangle$ or $\langle format-1 \rangle$ is not equal to $\langle format-2 \rangle$, then the locations aren't considered consecutive.
2. If either $\langle location-1 \rangle$ or $\langle location-2 \rangle$ are empty, then the locations aren't considered consecutive.
3. If both $\langle location-1 \rangle$ and $\langle location-2 \rangle$ match the pattern¹

`(. *?)(?: \protect\s*)?(\\[\p{javaAlphabetic}@]+)\s*\{([\p{javaDigit} \p{javaAlpha`

then:

- if the control sequence matched by group 2 isn't the same for both locations, the locations aren't considered consecutive;
- if the argument of the control sequence (group 3) is the same for both locations, then the test is retried with $\langle location-1 \rangle$ set to group 1 of the first pattern match and $\langle location-2 \rangle$ set to group 1 of the second pattern match;
- otherwise the test is retried with $\langle location-1 \rangle$ set to group 3 of the first pattern match and $\langle location-2 \rangle$ set to group 3 of the second pattern match.

4. If both $\langle location-1 \rangle$ and $\langle location-2 \rangle$ match the pattern

`(. *?)([\p{javaDigit}]?)(\p{javaDigit}+)`

then:

- a) if group 3 of both pattern matches are equal then:
 - i. if group 3 isn't zero, the locations aren't considered consecutive;
 - ii. if the separators (group 2) are different the test is retried with $\langle location-1 \rangle$ set to the concatenation of the first two groups $\langle group-1 \rangle \langle group-2 \rangle$ of the first pattern match and $\langle location-2 \rangle$ set to the concatenation of the first two groups $\langle group-1 \rangle \langle group-2 \rangle$ of the second pattern match;

¹The Java class `\p{javaDigit}` used in the regular expression will not only match the Western Arabic digits 0, ..., 9 but also digits in other scripts. Similarly the alphabetic classes will match alphabetic characters outside the Basic Latin set.

- iii. if the separators (group 2) are the same the test is retried with $\langle location-1 \rangle$ set to the first group $\langle group-1 \rangle$ of the first pattern match and $\langle location-2 \rangle$ set to the first group $\langle group-1 \rangle$ of the second pattern match.
 - b) If $\langle group-1 \rangle$ of the first pattern match (of $\langle location-1 \rangle$) doesn't equal $\langle group-1 \rangle$ of the second pattern match (of $\langle location-2 \rangle$) or $\langle group-2 \rangle$ of the first pattern match (of $\langle location-1 \rangle$) doesn't equal $\langle group-2 \rangle$ of the second pattern match (of $\langle location-2 \rangle$) then the locations aren't considered consecutive;
 - c) If $0 < l_2 - l_1 \leq g$ where l_2 is $\langle group 3 \rangle$ of the second pattern match, l_1 is $\langle group 3 \rangle$ of the first pattern match and g is the value of loc-gap then the locations are consecutive otherwise they're not consecutive.
- 5. The next pattern matches for $\langle prefix \rangle \langle sep \rangle \langle n \rangle$ where $\langle n \rangle$ is a lower case Roman numeral, which is converted to a decimal value and the test is performed in the same way as the above **decimal test**.
- 6. The next pattern matches for $\langle prefix \rangle \langle sep \rangle \langle n \rangle$ where $\langle n \rangle$ is an upper case Roman numeral, which is converted to a decimal value and the test is performed in the same way as the above **decimal test**.
- 7. The next pattern matches for $\langle prefix \rangle \langle sep \rangle \langle c \rangle$ where $\langle c \rangle$ is either a lower case letter from a to z or an upper case letter from A to Z. The character is converted to its code point and the test is performed in the same way as the **decimal pattern** above.
- 8. If none of the above, the locations aren't considered consecutive.

Examples:

1. `\glxtr@record{gls.sample}{page}{glsnumberformat}{1}`
`\glxtr@record{gls.sample}{page}{glsnumberformat}{2}`

These records are consecutive. The prefix, counter and format are identical (so the test passes step 1), the locations match the **decimal pattern** and the test in step 4c passes.

2. `\glxtr@record{gls.sample}{page}{glsnumberformat}{1}`
`\glxtr@record{gls.sample}{page}{textbf}{2}`

These records aren't consecutive since the formats are different.

3. `\glxtr@record{gls.sample}{page}{glsnumberformat}{A.i}`
`\glxtr@record{gls.sample}{page}{glsnumberformat}{A.ii}`

These records are consecutive. The prefix, counter and format are identical (so it passes step 1). The locations match the **lower case Roman numeral pattern**, where A is considered a prefix and the dot is considered a separator. The Roman numerals i and ii are converted to decimal and the test is retried with the locations set to 1 and 2, respectively. This now passes the decimal pattern test (step 4c).

4. `\glstr@record{gls.sample}{page}{glsnumberformat}{i.A}`
`\glstr@record{gls.sample}{page}{glsnumberformat}{ii.A}`

These records aren't consecutive. They match the **alpha pattern**. The first location is considered to consist of the prefix *i*, the separator . (dot) and the number given by the character code of A. The second location is considered to consist of the prefix *ii*, the separator . (dot) and the number given by the character code of A.

The test fails because the numbers are equal and the prefixes are different.

5. `\glstr@record{gls.sample}{page}{glsnumberformat}{1.0}`
`\glstr@record{gls.sample}{page}{glsnumberformat}{2.0}`

These records are consecutive. They match the **decimal pattern**, and then step 4a followed by step 4(a)iii. The .0 part is discarded and the test is retried with the first location set to 1 and the second location set to 2.

6. `\glstr@record{gls.sample}{page}{glsnumberformat}{1.1}`
`\glstr@record{gls.sample}{page}{glsnumberformat}{2.1}`

These records aren't consecutive as the test branches off into step 4(a)i.

7. `\glstr@record{gls.sample}{page}{glsnumberformat}{\@alph{1}}`
`\glstr@record{gls.sample}{page}{glsnumberformat}{\@alph{2}}`

These records are consecutive. The locations match the **control sequence pattern**. The control sequences are the same, so the test is retried with the first location set to 1 and the second location set to 2. (Note that `\glstrresourcefile` changes the category code of @ to allow for internal commands in locations.)

`loc-gap={⟨value⟩}`

This setting is used to determine whether two locations are considered consecutive. The value must be an integer greater than or equal to 1. (The default is 1.)

For two locations, $\langle location-1 \rangle$ and $\langle location-2 \rangle$, that have numeric values n_1 and n_2 (and identical prefix, counter and format), then the sequence $\langle location-1 \rangle$, $\langle location-2 \rangle$ is considered consecutive if

$$0 < n_2 - n_1 \leq \langle loc-gap \rangle$$

The default value of 1 means that $\langle location-2 \rangle$ immediately follows $\langle location-1 \rangle$ if $n_2 = n_1 + 1$.

For example, if $\langle location-1 \rangle$ is “B” and $\langle location-2 \rangle$ is “C”, then $n_1 = 66$ and $n_2 = 67$. Since $n_2 = 67 = 66 + 1 = n_1 + 1$ then $\langle location-2 \rangle$ immediately follows $\langle location-1 \rangle$.

This is used in the range formations within the location lists. So, for example, the list “1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 58, 59, 61” becomes “1–3, 5, 7, 8, 10–12, 58, 59, 61”.

The automatically indexing of commands like `\gls` means that the location lists can become long and ragged. You could deal with this by switching off the automatic indexing and only explicitly index pertinent use or you can adjust the value of `loc-gap` so that a range can be formed even there are one or two gaps in it.

So with the above set of locations, if `loc-gap={2}` then the list becomes “1–12, 58–61” which now highlights that there are two blocks within the document related to that term.

`suffixF={⟨value⟩}`

If set, a range consisting of two consecutive locations `⟨loc-1⟩` and `⟨loc-2⟩` will be displayed in the location list as `⟨loc-1⟩⟨value⟩`.

Note that `suffixF` sets the suffix to the empty string. To remove the suffix formation use `suffixF={none}`.

The default is `suffixF={none}`.

`suffixFF={⟨value⟩}`

If set, a range consisting of three or more consecutive locations `⟨loc-1⟩` and `⟨loc-2⟩` will be displayed in the location list as `⟨loc-1⟩⟨value⟩`.

Note that `suffixFF` sets the suffix to the empty string. To remove the suffix formation use `suffixFF={none}`.

The default is `suffixFF={none}`.

`see={⟨value⟩}`

If an entry has a `see` field, this can be placed before or after the location list, or completely omitted (but the value will still be available in the `see` field for use with `\glxtrusee`). This option may take the following values:

- `omit`: omit the `see` reference from the location list.
- `before`: place the `see` reference before the location list.
- `after`: place the `see` reference after the location list (default).

The separator between the location list and the `see` reference is provided by `\bibglsseseep`. This separator is omitted if the location list is empty. The `⟨value⟩` part is required.

`omit-alias-loc={⟨value⟩}`

This is a boolean option. If `omit-alias-loc={true}` the location lists for aliased entries will be omitted (the cross-reference will be retained). If `⟨value⟩` is omitted, `true` is assumed. The default setting is `omit-alias-loc={true}`.

`loc-prefix={⟨value⟩}`

The `loc-prefix` setting indicates that the location lists should begin with `\bibglsllocprefix{n}`. The `⟨value⟩` may be one of the following:

- `false`: don't insert `\bibglsllocprefix{n}` at the start of the location lists (default).

- $\{\langle prefix-1 \rangle\}, \{\langle prefix-2 \rangle\}, \dots, \{\langle prefix-n \rangle\}$: insert `\bibglslocprefix{n}` (where $\langle n \rangle$ is the number of locations in the list) at the start of each location list and the definition of `\bibglslocprefix` will be appended to the glossary preamble providing an `\ifcase` condition:

```
\providecommand{\bibglslocprefix}[1]{%
  \ifcase#1
  \or  $\langle prefix-1 \rangle$ \bibglspostlocprefix
  \or  $\langle prefix-2 \rangle$ \bibglspostlocprefix
  ...
  \else  $\langle prefix-n \rangle$ \bibglspostlocprefix
  \fi
}
```

- `list`: equivalent to `loc-prefix={\pagelistname }`.
- `true`: equivalent to `loc-prefix={\langle page \rangle, \langle pages \rangle}`, where $\langle page \rangle$ and $\langle pages \rangle$ are obtained from the `tag.page` and `tag.pages` entries in bib2gls's [language file](#). This setting is only appropriate if the document's language matches the language file.

If $\langle value \rangle$ is omitted, `true` is assumed.

`loc-suffix={\langle value \rangle}`

This is similar to [loc-prefix](#) but there are some subtle differences. In this case $\langle value \rangle$ may either be the keyword `false` (in which case the location suffix is omitted) or a comma-separated list $\langle suffix-0 \rangle, \langle suffix-1 \rangle, \dots, \langle suffix-n \rangle$ where $\langle suffix-0 \rangle$ is the suffix to use when the location list only has a cross-reference with no locations, $\langle suffix-1 \rangle$ is the suffix to use when the location list has one location (optionally with a cross-reference), and so on. The final $\langle suffix-n \rangle$ in the list is the suffix when the location list has $\langle n \rangle$ or more locations (optionally with a cross-reference).

This option will append `\bibglslocsuffix{\langle n \rangle}` to location lists that either have a cross-reference or have at least one location. Unlike `\bibglslocprefix`, this command isn't used when the location list is completely empty. Also, unlike `\bibglslocprefix`, this suffix command doesn't have an equivalent to `\bibglspostlocprefix`.

If $\langle value \rangle$ omitted, `loc-suffix={\@.}` is assumed. The default is `loc-suffix={false}`.

5.7 Sorting

`sort={\langle value \rangle}`

The `sort` key indicates how entries should be sorted. The $\langle value \rangle$ may be one of:

- `locale`: sort the entries according to the operating system's locale.

- `doc`: sort the entries according to the document language. In the case of a multi-lingual document, this will be the last language resource file to be loaded through `tracklang`'s interface. If no languages have been tracked, this option is equivalent to `sort={locale}`.
- `<lang tag>`: sort according to the rules of the locale given by the IETF language tag `<lang tag>`.
- `none` (or `unsrt`): don't sort the entries.
- `use`: sort in order of use. (This order is determined by the records written to the `.aux` file by the record package option.)
- `letter-case`: case-sensitive letter sort.
- `letter-nocase`: case-insensitive letter sort.
- `integer`: integer sort. This is for integer sort values. Any value that isn't an integer is treated as 0.
- `integer-reverse`: as above but reverses the order.
- `hex`: hexadecimal integer sort. This is for hexadecimal sort values. Any value that isn't a hexadecimal number is treated as 0.
- `hex-reverse`: as above but reverses the order.
- `octal`: octal integer sort. This is for octal sort values. Any value that isn't a octal number is treated as 0.
- `octal-reverse`: as above but reverses the order.
- `binary`: binary integer sort. This is for binary sort values. Any value that isn't a binary number is treated as 0.
- `binary-reverse`: as above but reverses the order.
- `float`: single-precision sort. This is for decimal sort values. Any value that isn't a decimal is treated as 0.0.
- `float-reverse`: as above but reverses the order.
- `double`: double-precision sort. This is for decimal sort values. Any value that isn't a decimal is treated as 0.0.
- `float-reverse`: as above but reverses the order.

If the `<value>` is omitted, `sort={doc}` is assumed. If the `sort` option isn't used then `sort={locale}` is assumed.

Note that `sort={locale}` can provide more detail about the locale than `sort={doc}`, depending on how the document language has been specified.

For example, with:

```
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage[ngerman]{babel}
\usepackage[record]{glossaries}
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={german-terms}]
```

the language tag will be de-1996, which doesn't have an associated region. Whereas with

```
\documentclass[de-DE-1996]{article}
\usepackage[ngerman]{babel}
\usepackage[record]{glossaries}
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={german-terms}]
```

the language tag will be de-DE-1996 because tracklang has picked up the locale from the document class options. This is only likely to cause a difference if a language has different sorting rules according to the region or if the language may be written in multiple scripts.

A multilingual document will need to have the sort specified when loading the resource to ensure the correct language is chosen. For example:

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={english-terms},sort={en-GB}]
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={german-terms},sort={de-DE-1996}]
```

`sort-field={⟨field⟩}`

The `sort-field` key indicates which field provides the sort value. The default is the `sort` field. For example

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={entries-terms},sort-label=category,sort=letter-case]
```

This sorts the entries according to the `category` field using a case-sensitive letter comparison.

If an entry is missing a value for `⟨field⟩`, then the value of the fallback field will be used instead. For example, with the default `sort-field={sort}`, then for an entry defined with `@entry`, if the `sort` field is missing the fallback field will be the name or the parent field if the name field is missing. If the entry is instead defined with `@abbreviation` (or `@acronym`) then if the `sort` field is missing, `bib2gls` will start with the same fallback as for `@entry` but if neither the name or parent field is set, it will fallback on the `short` field.

If no fallback field can be found, the entry's label will be used.

5.8 Dual Entries

`dual-sort={⟨value⟩}`

This option indicates how to sort the dual entries. The primary entries are sorted with the normal entries according to `sort`, and the dual entries are sorted according to `dual-sort` unless `dual-sort={combine}` in which case the dual entries will be combined with the primary entries and all the entries will sorted together according to the `sort` option.

If $\langle value \rangle$ isn't set to combine then the dual entries are sorted separately according to $\langle value \rangle$ (as per **sort**) and the dual entries will be appended at the end of the .glstex file. The field used by the comparator is given by **dual-sort-field**.

For example:

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[
  src={entries-dual},
  sort={en},
  dual-sort={de-CH-1996}
]
```

This will sort the primary entries according to en (English) and the secondary entries according to de-CH-1996 (Swiss German new orthography) whereas:

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[
  src={entries-dual},
  sort={en-GB},
  dual-sort={combine}
]
```

will combine the dual entries with the primary entries and sort them all according to the en-GB locale (British English).

If not set, dual-sort defaults to combine. If $\langle value \rangle$ is omitted, locale is assumed.

dual-sort-field= $\{\langle value \rangle\}$

This option indicates the field to use when sorting dual entries (when they haven't been combined with the primary entries). The default value is the same as the **sort-field** value.

dual-prefix= $\{\langle value \rangle\}$

This option indicates the prefix to use for the dual entries. The default value is dual . (including the terminating period). Any references to dual entries within the .bib file should use the prefix dual . which will be replaced by $\langle value \rangle$ when the .bib file is parsed.

dual-type= $\{\langle value \rangle\}$

This option sets the type field for all dual entries. (The primary entries obey the **type** option.) This will override any value of type provided in the .bib file (or created through a mapping). The $\langle value \rangle$ is required.

The $\langle value \rangle$ may be:

- **same as entry**: sets the type to the entry type. For example, if the entry was defined with **@dualentry**, the type will be set to dualentry.

- `same as primary`: sets the type to the same as the corresponding primary entry's type (which may have been set with `type`). If the primary entry doesn't have the type field set, the dual's type will remain unchanged.
- `<label>`: sets the type field to `<label>`.

Remember that the glossary with that label must have already been defined.

For example:

```
\newglossary*{english}{English}
\newglossary*{french}{French}
```

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={entries},sort={en},dual-sort={fr},
  type=english,
  dual-type=french]
```

Alternatively:

```
\newglossary*{dictionary}{Dictionary}
```

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={entries},sort={en},dual-sort={fr},
  type=dictionary,
  dual-type={same as primary}]
```

`dual-category={<value>}`

This option sets the category field for all dual entries. (The primary entries obey the `category` option.) This will override any value of category provided in the .bib file (or created through a mapping). The `<value>` may be empty.

The `<value>` may be:

- `same as entry`: sets the category to the entry type. For example, if the entry was defined with `@dualentry`, the category will be set to `dualentry`.
- `same as primary`: sets the category to the same as the corresponding primary entry's category (which may have been set with `category`). If the primary entry doesn't have the category field set, the dual's category will remain unchanged.
- `same as type`: sets the category to the same as the value of the entry's type field (which may have been set with `dual-type`). If the entry doesn't have the type field set, the category will remain unchanged.
- `<label>`: sets the category field to `<label>`.

`dual-short-case-change={<value>}`

As `short-case-change` but applies to the `dualshort` field instead.

dual-entry-map={{\list1},{\list2}}

This setting governs the behaviour of @dualentry definitions. The value consists of two comma-separated lists of equal length identifying the field mapping used to create the dual entry from the primary one.

The default setting is:

```
dual-entry-map=
{
  {name,plural,description,descriptionplural},
  {description,descriptionplural,name,plural}
}
```

The dual entry is created by copying the value of the field in the first list *\list1* to the field in the corresponding place in the second list *\list2*. Any additional fields are copied over to the same field.

For example:

```
@dualentry{cat,
  name={cat},
  description={chat},
  see={dog}
}
```

defines two entries. The primary entry is essentially like

```
@entry{cat,
  name={cat},
  plural={cat\glspluralsuffix },
  description={chat},
  descriptionplural={chat\glspluralsuffix },
  see={dog}
}
```

and the dual entry is essentially like

```
@entry{dual.cat,
  description={cat},
  descriptionplural={cat\glspluralsuffix },
  name={chat},
  plural={chat\glspluralsuffix },
  see={dog}
}
```

(except they're defined using \bibglsnewdualentry instead of \bibglsnewentry, and each is considered dependent on the other.)

The `see` field isn't listed in `dual-entry-map` so its value is simply copied directly over to the `see` field in the dual entry. Note that the missing plural fields (`plural` and `descriptionplural`) have been filled in.

In general `bib2gls` doesn't try to supply missing fields, but in the dual entry cases it needs to do this for the mapped fields. This is because the shuffled fields might have different default values from the `glossaries-extra` package's point of view. For example, `\longnewglossaryentry` doesn't provide a default for `descriptionplural` if it hasn't been set.

```
dual-abbrev-map={{\list1},{\list2}}
```

This is like `dual-entry-map` but applies to `@dualabbreviation` rather than `@dualentry`. The default setting is:

```
dual-abbrev-map=
{
  {short,shortplural,long,longplural,dualshort,dualshortplural,
   duallong,duallongplural},
  {dualshort,dualshortplural,duallong,duallongplural,short,shortplural,
   long,longplural}
}
```

This essentially flips the `short` field with the `dualshort` field and the `long` field with the `duallong` field. See `@dualabbreviation` for further details.

```
dual-symbol-map={{\list1},{\list2}}
```

This is like `dual-entry-map` but applies to `@dualsymbol` rather than `@dualentry`. The default setting is:

```
dual-symbol-map=
{
  {name,plural,symbol,symbolplural},
  {symbol,symbolplural,name,plural}
}
```

This essentially flips the `name` field with the `symbol` field.

```
dual-entry-backlink={\boolean}
```

This is a boolean setting. When used with `@dualentry`, if `\boolean` is true, this will wrap the contents of first mapped field with `\glshyperlink`. If `\boolean` is missing true is assumed.

The field is obtained from the first mapping listed in `dual-entry-map`.

For example, if the document contains:

```
\GlsXtrLoadResource[dual-entry-backlink,
dual-entry-map={
  {name,plural,description,descriptionplural},
  {description,descriptionplural,name,plural}
},
src={entries-dual}]
```

and if the .bib file contains

```
@dualentry{child,
  name={child},
  plural={children},
  description={enfant}
}
```

Then the definition of the primary entry (child) in the .glstex file will have the description field set to

```
{\glshyperlink[enfant]{dual.child}}
```

and the dual entry (dual.child) will have the description field set to

```
{\glshyperlink[child]{child}}
```

The reason the description field is chosen for the modification is because the first field listed in the first list in dual-entry-map is the name field which maps to description (the first field in the second list). This means that the hyperlink for the dual entry should be put in the description field.

For the primary entry, the name field is looked up in the second list from the dual-entry-map setting. This is the third item in this second list, so the third item in the first list is selected, which also happens to be the description field, so the hyperlink for the primary entry is put in the description field.

```
dual-abbrev-backlink={\langle value \rangle}
```

This is analogous to dual-entry-backlink but for entries defined with @dualabbreviation instead of @dualentry.

```
dual-symbol-backlink={\langle value \rangle}
```

This is analogous to dual-entry-backlink but for entries defined with @dualsymbol instead of @dualentry.

```
dual-backlink={\langle value \rangle}
```

Shortcut for dual-entry-backlink={\langle value \rangle}, dual-abbrev-backlink={\langle value \rangle}, and dual-symbol-backlink={\langle value \rangle}.

`dual-field={⟨value⟩}`

If this option is used, this will add `\glxtrprovidestoragekey` to the start of the `.glstex` file providing the key given by `⟨value⟩`. Any entries defined using `@dualentry` will be written to the `.glstex` file with an extra field called `⟨value⟩` that is set to the mirror entry. If `⟨value⟩` is omitted `dual` is assumed.

For example, if the `.bib` file contains

```
@dualentry{child,
  name={child},
  plural={children},
  description={enfant}
}
```

Then with `dual-field={dualid}` this will first add the line

```
\glxtrprovidestoragekey{dualid}{}{}
```

at the start of the file and will include the line

```
dualid={dual.child},
```

for the primary entry (`child`) and the line

```
dualid={child},
```

for the dual entry (`dual.child`). It's then possible to reference one entry from the other. For example, the post-description hook could contain:

```
\ifglshasfield{dualid}{\glscurrententrylabel}
{%
  \space
  (\glshyperlink{\glxtrusefield{\glscurrententrylabel}{dualid}})%
}%
{}
```

Note that this new field won't be available for use within the `.bib` file (unless it was previously defined in the document before `\glxtrresourcefile`).

6 Provided Commands

When bib2gls writes the entries to the output file, instead of directly using commands like `\newglossaryentry`, it provides its own commands defined with `\providecommand`. This means that you can customize the way the entries are defined by providing your own definitions before the `.glstex` files are loaded. Each provided command is defined in the `.glstex` file immediately before the first entry that requires it.

After each entry is defined, if it has any associated locations, the locations are added using

```
\glstrfieldlistadd{<label>}{loclist}{<record>}
```

This command is provided by `glossaries-extra` (v1.12).

`\bibglsnewentry`

```
\bibglsnewentry{<label>}{<options>}{<name>}{<description>}
```

This command is used to define terms identified with the `@entry` type. The definition provided in the `.glstex` file is:

```
\providecommand{\bibglsnewentry}[4]{%  
  \longnewglossaryentry*{#1}{name={#3},#2}{#4}%  
}
```

This uses the starred form of `\longnewglossaryentry` that doesn't automatically append `\nopostdesc` (which interferes with the post-description hooks provided by category attributes).

`\bibglsnewsymbol`

```
\bibglsnewsymbol{<label>}{<options>}{<name>}{<description>}
```

This command is used to define terms identified with the `@symbol` type. The definition provided in the `.glstex` file is:

```
\providecommand{\bibglsnewsymbol}[4]{%  
  \longnewglossaryentry*{#1}{name={#3},sort={#1},category={symbol},#2}{#4}%  
}
```

Note that this sets the `sort` field to the label, but this may be overridden by the `\options` if the `sort` field was supplied or if `bib2gls` has determined the value whilst sorting the entries.

This also sets the category to `symbol`, but again this may be overridden by `\options` if the entry had the category field set in the `.bib` file or if the category was overridden with `category={\value}`.

`\bibglsnewnumber`

`\bibglsnewnumber{\label}{\options}{\name}{\description}`

This command is used to define terms identified with the `@number` type. The definition provided in the `.glstex` file is:

```
\providecommand{\bibglsnewnumber}[4]{%
  \longnewglossaryentry*{#1}{name={#3},sort={#1},category={number},#2}{#4}%
}
```

This is much the same as `\bibglsnewsymbol` above but sets the category to `number`. Again the `sort` and `category` keys may be overridden by `\options`.

`\bibglsnewindex`

`\bibglsnewindex{\label}{\options}`

This command is used to define terms identified with the `@index` type. The definition provided in the `.glstex` file is:

```
\providecommand*{\bibglsnewindex}[2]{%
  \newglossaryentry{#1}{name={#1},description={},#2}%
}
```

This makes the name default to the `\label` and sets an empty description. These settings may be overridden by `\options`. Note that the description doesn't include `\nopostdec` to allow for the post-description hook used by category attributes.

`\bibglsnewabbreviation`

`\bibglsnewabbreviation{\label}{\options}{\short}{\long}`

This command is used to define terms identified with the `@abbreviation` type. The definition provided in the `.glstex` file is:

```
\providecommand{\bibglsnewabbreviation}[4]{%
  \newabbreviation[#2]{#1}{#3}{#4}%
}
```

Since this uses `\newabbreviation`, it obeys the current abbreviation style for its given category (which may have been set in `\options`), either from the category field in the .bib file or through the `category` option). Similarly the type will obey `\glsxtrabbrvtype` unless the value is supplied in the .bib file or through the `type` option.

`\bibglsnewacronym`

```
\bibglsnewacronym{<label>}{<options>}{<short>}{<long>}
```

This command is used to define terms identified with the `@acronym` type. The definition provided in the .gls.tex file is:

```
\providecommand{\bibglsnewacronym}[4]{%
  \newacronym[#2]{#1}{#3}{#4}%
}
```

This works in much the same way as `\bibglsnewabbreviation`. Remember that with the glossaries-extra package `\newacronym` is redefined to just use `\newabbreviation` with the default type set to `\acronymtype` and the default category set to `\acronym`.

`\bibglsnewdualentry`

```
\bibglsnewdualentry{<label>}{<options>}{<name>}{<description>}
```

This command is used to define terms identified with the `@dualentry` type. The definition provided in the .gls.tex file is:

```
\providecommand{\bibglsnewdualentry}[4]{%
  \longnewglossaryentry*{#1}{name={#3},#2}{#4}%
}
```

`\bibglsnewdualsymbol`

```
\bibglsnewdualsymbol{<label>}{<options>}{<name>}{<description>}
```

This command is used to define terms identified with the `@dualsymbol` type. The definition provided in the .gls.tex file is:

```
\providecommand{\bibglsnewdualsymbol}[4]{%
  \longnewglossaryentry*{#1}{name={#3},sort={#1},category={symbol},#2}{#4}}
```


`\bibglsnewdualnumber`

```
\bibglsnewdualnumber{<label>}{<options>}{<name>}{<description>}
```

This command is used to define terms identified with the `@dualnumber` type. The definition provided in the `.glsstex` file is:

```
\providecommand{\bibglsnewdualnumber}[4]{%  
  \longnewglossaryentry*{#1}{name={#3},sort={#1},category={symbol},#2}{#4}}
```

`\bibglsnewdualabbreviation`

```
\bibglsnewdualabbreviation{<label>}{<options>}{<short>}{<long>}
```

This command is used to define terms identified with the `@dualabbreviation` type where the `duallong` field is swapped with the `long` field and the `dualshort` field is swapped with the `short` field. The definition provided in the `.glsstex` file is:

```
\providecommand{\bibglsnewdualabbreviation}[4]{%  
  \newabbreviation[#2]{#1}{#3}{#4}%  
}
```

`\bibglsnewdualacronym`

```
\bibglsnewdualacronym{<label>}{<options>}{<short>}{<long>}
```

This command is used to define terms identified with the `@dualacronym` type. The definition provided in the `.glsstex` file is:

```
\providecommand{\bibglsnewdualacronym}[4]{%  
  \newacronym[#2]{#1}{#3}{#4}%  
}
```

This works in much the same way as `\bibglsnewdualabbreviation`. Remember that with the `glossaries-extra` package `\newacronym` is redefined to just use `\newabbreviation` with the default type set to `\acronymtype` and the default category set to `\acronym`.

`\bibglsseesep`

```
\bibglsseesep
```

Any entries that provide a see field (and that field hasn't be omitted from the location list with `see={omit}`) will have `\bibglsseesep` inserted between the see part and the location list (unless there are no locations, in which case just the see part is displayed without `\bibglsseesep`).

This command is provided with:

```
\providecommand{\bibglsseesep}{, }
```

You can define this before you load the .bib file:

```
\newcommand{\bibglsseesep}{; }
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={entries}]
```

Or you can redefine it afterwards:

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={entries}]
\renewcommand{\bibglsseesep}{; }
```

`\bibglspostlocprefix`

`\bibglspostlocprefix`

If the `loc-prefix` option is on, `\bibglslocprefix` will be inserted at the start of location lists. The command `\bibglspostlocprefix` is placed after the prefix text. This command is provided with:

```
\providecommand{\bibglspostlocprefix}{\ }
```

which puts a space between the prefix text and the location list. You can define this before you load the .bib file:

```
\newcommand{\bibglspostlocprefix}{: }
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={entries},loc-prefix]
```

Or you can redefine it afterwards:

```
\GlsXtrLoadResources[src={entries},loc-prefix]
\renewcommand{\bibglspostlocprefix}{: }
```

`\bibglslocprefix`

`\bibglslocprefix{<n>}`

If the `loc-prefix` option is on, this command will be provided. If the glossary type has been provided by `type` (and `dual-type` if there are any dual entries) then the definition of `\bibglslocprefix` will be appended to the glossary preamble for the given type (or types if there are dual entries). For example, if the document has

`\GlsXtrLoadResources[type=main,loc-prefix={p.,pp.},src={entries}]`

and there are no dual entries, then the following will be added to the `.glstex` file:

```
\apptoglossarypreamble[main]{%
\providecommand{\bibglslocprefix}[1]{%
\ifcase##1
\or p.\bibglspostlocprefix
\else pp.\bibglspostlocprefix
\fi
}
}
```

However, if the `type` key is missing, then the following will be added instead:

```
\appto\glossarypreamble{%
\providecommand{\bibglslocprefix}[1]{%
\ifcase#1
\or p.\bibglspostlocprefix
\else pp.\bibglspostlocprefix
\fi
}
}
```

`\bibglslocsuffix`

`\bibglslocsuffix{<n>}`

If the `loc-suffix` option is on, this command will be provided. If the glossary type has been provided by `type` (and `dual-type` if there are any dual entries) then the definition of `\bibglslocsuffix` will be appended to the glossary preamble for the given type (or types if there are dual entries).

This commands definition depends on the value provided by `loc-suffix`. For example, with `loc-suffix={\@.}` the command is defined as:

```
\providecommand{\bibglslocsuffix}[1]{\@.}
```

(which ignores the argument).

Whereas with `loc-suffix={\langle A \rangle, \langle B \rangle, \langle C \rangle}` the command is defined as:

```
\providecommand{\bibglslocsuffix}[1]{\ifcase#1 A\or B\else C\fi}
```

Note that this is slightly different from `\bibglslocprefix` as it includes the 0 case, which in this instance means that there were no locations but there was a cross-reference. This command isn't added when the location list is empty.

\bibglslettergroup

`\bibglslettergroup{⟨group⟩}{⟨character⟩}{⟨codepoint⟩}`

This command is provided if the `--group` switch is used. Any entries whose sort value indicates that they are in a letter group (where a non-numerical sort is used) will set the group field to contain this command. The `⟨group⟩` argument indicates the letter group and the `⟨character⟩` argument indicates the actual initial character of the sort value, which may not be the same as `⟨group⟩`. The `⟨codepoint⟩` is the decimal code for `⟨character⟩`. For example:

```
@entry{angstrom,
  name={\AA ngstr"om}
  description={a unit of length equal to one hundred-millionth
of a centimetre}
}
```

The sort value is “Ångström”. With `sort={en}` the `⟨group⟩` part will be A but with `sort={sv}` the `⟨group⟩` part will be Å. In both cases the `⟨character⟩` argument will be Å and the `⟨codepoint⟩` argument will be 197 (the decimal Unicode value of the letter Å).

The default definition of this command is:

```
\providecommand{\bibglslettergroup}[3]{#1}
```

\bibglsothergroup

`\bibglsothergroup{⟨character⟩}{⟨codepoint⟩}`

This command is provided if the `--group` switch is used. Any entries whose sort value indicates that they are not in a letter group (where a non-numerical sort is used) will set the group field to contain this command. For example:

```
@symbol{card,
  name={${\mathcal{S}}|${}}
  description={the cardinality of the set ${\mathcal{S}}$}
}
```

In this case (with the interpreter on) the sort value is `|S|` so this will be assigned to the “other” group:

```
\bibglsothergroup{|}{124}
```

The `⟨character⟩` is the first character of the sort value and `⟨codepoint⟩` is the corresponding decimal Unicode value of that character.

The default definition of this command is:

```
\providecommand{\bibglsothergroup}[2]{\glssymbolsgroupname}
```

This ignores both arguments but could be redefined to sub-divide the symbols according to the initial character if there are large blocks starting with the same character.

`\bibglsnumbergroup`

```
\bibglsnumbergroup{number}
```

The numeric sort options (such as `sort={double}`) don't use either of the above commands when setting the group field. Instead `\bibglsnumbergroup` is used where *number* is the actual number given by the sort value.

The default definition of this command is:

```
\providecommand{\bibglsnumbergroup}[1]{\glsnumbersgroupname}
```

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