The abbrev package*

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Abstract

This package provides macros for typesetting abbreviations. It was developed initially at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH-Zurich) and subsequently at the University of Southampton.

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1 Introduction

This package was developed in order to ease the typesetting of abbreviations in LATEX. Each abbreviation is associated with a set of macros for typesetting. Abbreviations are collected and can be displayed in list of abbreviations by making use of package nomencl.

2 Usage

Just like any other package, you need to request this package with a **\usepackage** command in the preamble.

So in the simpler case, one just types

\usepackage{abbrev}

to load the package

The rest of this section is to give descriptions of the main (meta-)macro for creating abbreviation macros and their expected behaviour.

^{*}This document corresponds to abbrev v2.0, dated 2017/05/16.

2.1 Creating Abbreviations

\newabbrev

Macro \newabbrev is a meta-macro that creating several abbreviation macros. The signature of \newabbrev is as follows.

The first optional argument csname is the *control sequence* name that will be use to create the abbreviation macro, i.e., the marco will be \csname. If the first optional argument is omitted, the second argument representing the abbreviation will be used as the control sequence. The third argument is the *full expansion string* of for the abbreviation. A plural macro for the abbreviation is also created. By default, the plural control sequence name, the plural abbreviation and the plural expansion string correspond to singular version with an additional s. In the case where it should be defined differently, it can be declared as the additional argument plural-csname, plural-abbreviation, plural-expansion-string.

An invocation of the above \newabbrev with control sequence csname will create the following macros:

- \csname: Singular version of the abbreviation macro.
- \csnames: Plural version of the abbreviation macro (with an additional s).

First time usage of \csname will be replaced by "full string (abbreviation)". Subsequent uses of \csname will be replaced by "abbreviation". Macro \csnames is the plural version macro.

2.2 Resetting Abbreviations

\resetabbrev

The above expansion behaviour can be reset by calling \resetallabbrev. Afterwards, \csname and \csnames will be expanded the first time that they are used. Individual abbreviation \csname can be reset by \resetabbrev{csname} (Here csname is the control sequence corresponding to the singular version of the macro. More information can be found in the accompanying sample document.

2.3 Creating a List of Abbreviations

The list of abbreviations can be created by making use of package nomencl. Typically, one includes the following in the document preamble.

```
\usepackage{nomencl}
```

\renewcommand{\nomname}{List of Abbreviations}

\makenomenclature

The following command from nomencl is used print the list of abbreviations.

\printnomenclature

Finally, use makeindex to compile and generate the list of abbreviations appropriately.

makeindex filename.nlo -s nomencl.ist -o filename.nls where filename is the name of the main .tex file.

3 Implementation

The implementation is quite straightforward. We first request the etoolbox package for implementation purpose, xspace for utilising the spacing, and nomencl for creating list of abbreviations.

```
\RequirePackage{etoolbox}
\RequirePackage{xspace}
\RequirePackage{nomencl}
```

\newabbrev

The newabbrev makes use of the worker macro abbrev@create for creating abbreviations macros.

```
\newcommand{\newabbrev}[6][]{%
  \expandafter\ifstrequal\expandafter{#1}{}{
    \def\abbrev@sgcsname{#2}
 }{
    \def\abbrev@sgcsname{#1}
  }
  \def\abbrev@sgabbrev{#2}
  \def\abbrev@sgexpn{#3}
  \expandafter\ifstrequal\expandafter{#4}{}{
    \edef\abbrev@plcsname{\abbrev@sgcsname s}
  }{
    \def\abbrev@plcsname{#4}
  }
  \expandafter\ifstrequal\expandafter{#5}{}{
    \edef\abbrev@plabbrev{\abbrev@sgabbrev s}
    \def\abbrev@plabbrev{#5}
  \expandafter\ifstrequal\expandafter{#6}{}{
    \edef\abbrev@plexpn{\abbrev@sgexpn s}
  }{
    \def\abbrev@plexpn{#6}
  }
  \verb|\def| z{\endgroup\\noexpand\\abbrev@create||
  {\abbrev@sgcsname}{\abbrev@sgabbrev}{\abbrev@sgexpn}
  {\abbrev@plcsname}{\abbrev@plabbrev}{\abbrev@plexpn}}\z
}
```

\abbrev@create

The main worker meta-macro for creating the abbreviation macros is implemented as follows. It create a private toggle variable to be used to distinguish the first time usage of the abbreviation. The abbreviation is add to abbrev@list (for reseting abbreviation macros later). It then call abbrev@init to create the initialisation macro, then call the initialisation macro afterward.

```
\newcommand{\abbrev@create}[6]{%
  \newtoggle{#1@toggle}
  \listadd{\abbrev@list}{#1}
  \abbrev@init{#1}{#2}{#3}{#4}{#5}{#6}
  \csuse{#1@init}
```

}

\abbrev@init This macro create the initialisation meta-macro for creating the abbreviation macros

```
\newcommand{\abbrev@init}[6]{%
  \expandafter\def\csname#1@init\endcsname{%
    \togglefalse{#1@toggle}
    \expandafter\def\csname#1\endcsname{%
     #2%
     }{%
       \nomenclature{#2}{#3}%
       \toggletrue{#1@toggle}%
       #3 (#2)%
     }%
      \expandafter\def\csname#1\endcsname{#2\xspace}%
    \expandafter\def\csname#4\endcsname{%
     \iftoggle{#1@toggle}{%
       #5%
     }{%
       \nomenclature{#2}{#3}%
       \toggletrue{#1@toggle}%
       #6 (#5)%
      \expandafter\def\csname#4\endcsname{#5\xspace}%
     \xspace%
   }%
 }%
}
```

\resetallabbrevs Reset the all abbreviation macros to full expansion mode by going through abbrev@list and call the initialisation macro for each abbreviation.

```
\newcommand{\resetallabbrevs}{
  \renewcommand*{\do}[1]{
   \csuse{##1@init}
  }
  \dolistloop{\abbrev@list}
}
```

\resetabbrev Reset the abbreviation macro to full expansion mode by calling the initialisation macro for each input abbreviation.

```
\newcommand{\resetabbrev}[1]{
  \csuse{#1@init}
}
```

Change History

v1.0	\resetabbrev: Added macro to
\newabbrev: Macro created 3	reset individual abbreviation
General: Initial version	\resetallabbrevs: Renamed marcro to resetallabbrevs 4
declaration of plural version 3	General: Change the APIs to
\newabbrev: Allow explicit	address plural version of
declaration of plural version 3	abbreviations

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Numbers written in italic refer to the page where the corresponding entry is described; numbers underlined refer to the definition; numbers in roman refer to the pages where the entry is used.

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