

User Manual for glossaries.sty v3.02

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The glossaries bundle comes with the following documentation:

glossariesbegin.pdf If you are a complete beginner, start with “The glossaries package: a guide for beginners”.

glossary2glossaries.pdf If you are moving over from the obsolete glossary package, read “Upgrading from the glossary package to the glossaries package”.

glossaries-user.pdf This document is the main user guide for the glossaries package.

mfirstuc-manual.pdf The commands provided by the mfirstuc package are briefly described in “mfirstuc.sty: uppercasing first letter”.

glossaries.pdf Advanced users wishing to know more about the inner workings of all the packages provided in the glossaries bundle should read “Documented Code for glossaries v3.02”. This includes the documented code for the mfirstuc package.

INSTALL Installation instructions.

CHANGES Change log.

README Package summary.

If you use hyperref and glossaries, you must load hyperref *first*.

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Glossary

This glossary style was setup using:

```
\usepackage[xindy,  
            nonumberlist,  
            seeautonumberlist,  
            toc,  
            style=altlist]{glossaries}  
  
\renewcommand*{\glsgroupskip}{}  
\renewcommand*{\glsseeformat}[3][\seename]{%  
(\xmakefirstuc{#1} \glsseelist{#2}.)}
```

Entry location

The location of the entry in the document. This defaults to the page number on which the entry appears. An entry may have multiple locations.

First use

The first time a glossary entry is used (from the start of the document or after a reset) with one of the following commands: `\gls`, `\Gls`, `\GLS`, `\glspl`, `\Glspl`, `\GLSpl` or `\glsdisp`. (See **first use flag** & **first use text**.)

First use flag

A conditional that determines whether or not the entry has been used according to the rules of **first use**. Commands to unset or reset this conditional are described in Section 14.

First use text

The text that is displayed on **first use**, which is governed by the `first` and `firstplural` keys of `\newglossaryentry`. (May be overridden by `\glsdisp`.)

Link text

The text produced by commands such as `\gls`. It may or may not be a hyperlink to the glossary.

Location list

A list of **entry locations**. 21, (See **number list**.)

makeglossaries

A glossaries custom designed Perl script interface to **xindy** and **makeindex**.

makeglossariesgui

A Java GUI alternative to **makeglossaries** that also provides diagnostic tools. Home page: <http://www.dickimaw-books.com/apps/makeglossariesgui/>. Also available on CTAN.

makeindex

An indexing application.

Number list

A list of **entry locations** (also called a location list). The number list can be suppressed using the **nonumberlist** package option.

Sanitize

Converts command names into character sequences. That is, a command called, say, `\foo`, is converted into the sequence of characters: `\, f, o, o`. Depending on the font, the backslash character may appear as a dash when used in the main document text, so `\foo` will appear as: —foo.

When \TeX writes information to a file, fragile commands must be protected. The name, description and symbol keys all have their values written to a file, which means that care must be taken if those values contain fragile commands. There are two approaches: 1) the fragile commands must be protected using `\protect`; 2) the values are sanitized. Sanitizing the values gets rid of the inconvenience of having to protect fragile commands, but at the expense of no longer being able to use those values in the document. Sanitization is governed by the package option **sanitize** described in Section 2.1.

xindy

An flexible indexing application with multilingual support written in Perl.

1 Introduction

The glossaries package is provided to assist generating glossaries. It has a certain amount of flexibility, allowing the user to customize the format of the glossary and define multiple glossaries. It also supports acronyms and glossary styles that include symbols (in addition to a name and description) for glossary entries. There is provision for loading a database of glossary terms. Only those terms used¹ in the document will be added to the glossary.

This package replaces the glossary package which is now obsolete. Please see the document “Upgrading from the glossary package to the glossaries package” ([glossary2glossaries.pdf](#)) for assistance in upgrading.

One of the strengths of this package is its flexibility, however the drawback of this is the necessity of having a large manual that can cover all the various settings. If you are daunted by the size of the manual, try starting off with the much shorter guide for beginners ([glossariesbegin.pdf](#)).

The glossaries package comes with a Perl script called `makeglossaries`. This provides a convenient interface to `makeindex` or `xindy`. It is strongly recommended that you use this script, but *it is not essential*. If you are reluctant to install Perl, or for any other reason you don’t want to use `makeglossaries`, you can call `makeindex` or `xindy` explicitly. See Section 1.3 for further details.

The remainder of this introductory section covers the following:

- Section 1.1 lists the sample documents provided with this package.
- Section 1.2 provides information for users who wish to write in a language other than English.
- Section 1.3 describes how to use a post-processor to create the sorted glossaries for your document.

¹That is, if the term has been referenced using any of the commands described in Section 6 and Section 7 or via `\glssee` (or the `see` key) or commands such as `\acrshort`.

1.1 Sample Documents

The glossaries package is provided with some sample documents that illustrate the various functions. These should be located in the `samples` subdirectory (folder) of the glossaries documentation directory. This location varies according to your operating system and \TeX distribution. You can use `texdoc` to locate the main glossaries documentation. For example, in a terminal or command prompt, type:

```
texdoc -l glossaries
```

This should display the full pathname of the file `glossaries.pdf`. View the contents of that directory and see if it contains the `samples` subdirectory.

If you can't find the sample files, they are available in the subdirectory `doc/latex/glossaries/samples/` in the `glossaries.tds.zip` archive which can be downloaded from [CTAN](#).

The sample documents are as follows:

minimalgls.tex This document is a minimal working example. You can test your installation using this file. To create the complete document you will need to do the following steps:

1. Run `minimalgls.tex` through \LaTeX either by typing

```
latex minimalgls
```

in a terminal or by using the relevant button or menu item in your text editor or front-end. This will create the required associated files but you will not see the glossary. If you use \PDF\LaTeX you will also get warnings about non-existent references. These warnings may be ignored on the first run.

If you get a `Missing \begin{document}` error, then it's most likely that your version of `xkeyval` is out of date. Check the log file for a warning of that nature. If this is the case, you will need to update the `xkeyval` package.

2. Run `makeglossaries` on the document. This can be done on a terminal either by typing

```
makeglossaries minimalgls
```


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or by typing

```
perl makeglossaries minimalgls
```

If your system doesn't recognise the command `perl` then it's likely you don't have Perl installed. In which case you will need to use `makeindex` directly. You can do this in a terminal by typing (all on one line):

```
makeindex -s minimalgls.ist -t minimalgls.glg  
-o minimalgls.gls minimalgls.glo
```

(See Section 1.3.3 for further details on using `makeindex` explicitly.)

Note that if you need to specify the full path and the path contains spaces, you will need to delimit the file names with the double-quote character.

3. Run `minimalgls.tex` through L^AT_EX again (as step 1)

You should now have a complete document. The number following each entry in the glossary is the location number. By default, this is the page number where the entry was referenced.

sample4col.tex This document illustrates a four column glossary where the entries have a symbol in addition to the name and description. To create the complete document, you need to do:

```
latex sample4col  
makeglossaries sample4col  
latex sample4col
```

As before, if you don't have Perl installed, you will need to use `makeindex` directly instead of using `makeglossaries`. The vertical gap between entries is the gap created at the start of each group. This can be suppressed by redefining `\glsgroupskip` after the glossary style has been set:

```
\renewcommand*{\glsgroupskip}{}{}
```

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sampleAcr.tex This document has some sample acronyms. It also adds the glossary to the table of contents, so an extra run through L^AT_EX is required to ensure the document is up to date:

```
latex sampleAcr
makeglossaries sampleAcr
latex sampleAcr
latex sampleAcr
```

sampleAcrDesc.tex This is similar to the previous example, except that the acronyms have an associated description. As with the previous example, the glossary is added to the table of contents, so an extra run through L^AT_EX is required:

```
latex sampleAcrDesc
makeglossaries sampleAcrDesc
latex sampleAcrDesc
latex sampleAcrDesc
```

sampleDesc.tex This is similar to the previous example, except that it defines the acronyms using `\newglossaryentry` instead of `\newacronym`. As with the previous example, the glossary is added to the table of contents, so an extra run through L^AT_EX is required:

```
latex sampleDesc
makeglossaries sampleDesc
latex sampleDesc
latex sampleDesc
```

sample-custom-acronym.tex This document illustrates how to define your own acronym style if the predefined styles don't suit your requirements.

```
latex sample-custom-acronym
makeglossaries sample-custom-acronym
```

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```
latex sample-custom-acronym
```

sample-crossref.tex This document illustrates how to cross-reference entries in the glossary.

```
latex sample-crossref
makeglossaries sample-crossref
latex sample-crossref
```

sampleDB.tex This document illustrates how to load external files containing the glossary definitions. It also illustrates how to define a new glossary type. This document has the **number list** suppressed and uses `\glsaddall` to add all the entries to the glossaries without referencing each one explicitly. To create the document do:

```
latex sampleDB
makeglossaries sampleDB
latex sampleDB
```

The glossary definitions are stored in the accompanying files `database1.tex` and `database2.tex`. Note that if you don't have Perl installed, you will need to use **makeindex** twice instead of a single call to **makeglossaries**:

1. Create the main glossary:

```
makeindex -s sampleDB.ist -t sampleDB.glg -o
sampleDB.gls sampleDB.glo
```

2. Create the secondary glossary:

```
makeindex -s sampleDB.ist -t sampleDB.nlg -o
sampleDB.not sampleDB.ntn
```

sampleEq.tex This document illustrates how to change the location to something other than the page number. In this case, the

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equation counter is used since all glossary entries appear inside an equation environment. To create the document do:

```
latex sampleEq
makeglossaries sampleEq
latex sampleEq
```

sampleEqPg.tex This is similar to the previous example, but the **number lists** are a mixture of page numbers and equation numbers. This example adds the glossary to the table of contents, so an extra \LaTeX run is required:

```
latex sampleEqPg
makeglossaries sampleEqPg
latex sampleEqPg
latex sampleEqPg
```

sampleSec.tex This document also illustrates how to change the location to something other than the page number. In this case, the section counter is used. This example adds the glossary to the table of contents, so an extra \LaTeX run is required:

```
latex sampleSec
makeglossaries sampleSec
latex sampleSec
latex sampleSec
```

sampleNtn.tex This document illustrates how to create an additional glossary type. This example adds the glossary to the table of contents, so an extra \LaTeX run is required:

```
latex sampleNtn
makeglossaries sampleNtn
latex sampleNtn
latex sampleNtn
```

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Note that if you don't have Perl installed, you will need to use `makeindex` twice instead of a single call to `makeglossaries`:

1. Create the main glossary:

```
makeindex -s sampleNtn.ist -t sampleNtn.glg
-o sampleNtn.gls sampleNtn.glo
```

2. Create the secondary glossary:

```
makeindex -s sampleNtn.ist -t sampleNtn.nlg
-o sampleNtn.not sampleNtn.ntn
```

sample.tex This document illustrates some of the basics, including how to create child entries that use the same name as the parent entry. This example adds the glossary to the table of contents and it also uses `\glsrefentry`, so an extra \LaTeX run is required:

```
latex sample
makeglossaries sample
latex sample
latex sample
```

You can see the difference between word and letter ordering if you substitute `order=word` with `order=letter`. (Note that this will only have an effect if you use `makeglossaries`. If you use `makeindex` explicitly, you will need to use the `-l` switch to indicate letter ordering.)

sample-inline.tex This document is like `sample.tex`, above, but uses the inline glossary style to put the glossary in a footnote.

sampletree.tex This document illustrates a hierarchical glossary structure where child entries have different names to their corresponding parent entry. To create the document do:

```
latex sampletree
makeglossaries sampletree
```

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```
latex sampletree
```

sample-dual.tex This document illustrates how to define an entry that both appears in the list of acronyms and in the main glossary. To create the document do:

```
latex sample-dual
makeglossaries sample-dual
latex sample-dual
```

sample-langdict This document illustrates how to use the glossaries package to create English to French and French to English dictionaries. To create the document do:

```
latex sample-langdict
makeglossaries sample-langdict
latex sample-langdict
```

samplexdy.tex This document illustrates how to use the glossaries package with `xindy` instead of `makeindex`. The document uses UTF8 encoding (with the `inputenc` package). The encoding is picked up by `makeglossaries`. By default, this document will create a `xindy` style file called `samplexdy.xdy`, but if you uncomment the lines

```
\setStyleFile{samplexdy-mc}
\noist
\GlsSetXdyLanguage{}
```

it will set the style file to `samplexdy-mc.xdy` instead. This provides an additional letter group for entries starting with “Mc” or “Mac”. If you use `makeglossaries`, you don’t need to supply any additional information. If you don’t use `makeglossaries`, you will need to specify the required information. Note that if you set the style file to `samplexdy-mc.xdy` you must also specify `\noist`, otherwise the glossaries package will overwrite `samplexdy-mc.xdy` and you will lose the “Mc” letter group.

To create the document do:

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```
latex samplexdy
makeglossaries samplexdy
latex samplexdy
```

If you don't have Perl installed, you will have to call `xindy` explicitly instead of using `makeglossaries`. If you are using the default style file `samplexdy.xdy`, then do (no line breaks):

```
xindy -L english -C utf8 -I xindy -M samplexdy -t
samplexdy.glg -o samplexdy.gls samplexdy.glo
```

otherwise, if you are using `samplexdy-mc.xdy`, then do (no line breaks):

```
xindy -I xindy -M samplexdy-mc -t samplexdy.glg
-o samplexdy.gls samplexdy.glo
```

samplexdy2.tex This document illustrates how to use the glossaries package where the location numbers don't follow a standard format. This example will only work with `xindy`. To create the document do:

```
pdflatex samplexdy2
makeglossaries samplexdy2
pdflatex samplexdy2
```

If you can't use `makeglossaries` then you need to do:

```
xindy -L english -C utf8 -I xindy -M samplexdy2
-t samplexdy2.glg -o samplexdy2.gls samplexdy2.glo
```

See Section 11.2 for further details.

sampleutf8.tex This is another example that uses `xindy`. Unlike `makeindex`, `xindy` can cope with accented or non-Latin characters. This document uses UTF8 encoding. To create the document do:

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```
latex sampleutf8
makeglossaries sampleutf8
latex sampleutf8
```

If you don't have Perl installed, you will have to call `xindy` explicitly instead of using `makeglossaries` (no line breaks):

```
xindy -L english -C utf8 -I xindy -M sampleutf8
-t sampleutf8.glg -o sampleutf8.gls sampleutf8.glo
```

If you remove the `xindy` option from `sampleutf8.tex` and do:

```
latex sampleutf8
makeglossaries sampleutf8
latex sampleutf8
```

you will see that the entries that start with a non-Latin character now appear in the symbols group, and the word “manœuvre” is now after “manor” instead of before it. If you are unable to use `makeglossaries`, the call to `makeindex` is as follows (no line breaks):

```
makeindex -s sampleutf8.ist -t sampleutf8.glg -o
sampleutf8.gls sampleutf8.glo
```

sampleaccsupp.tex This document uses the experimental glossaries-accsupp package. The symbol is set to the replacement text. Note that some PDF viewers don't use the accessibility support. Information about the glossaries-accsupp package can be found in Section 18.

1.2 Multi-Lingual Support

As from version 1.17, the glossaries package can now be used with `xindy` as well as `makeindex`. If you are writing in a language that uses accented characters or non-Latin characters it is recommended that you use `xindy` as `makeindex` is hard-coded for Latin languages. This means that you are not restricted to the A, ..., Z letter groups.

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If you want to use `xindy`, remember to use the `xindy` package option. For example:

```
\documentclass[frenchb]{article}
\usepackage[utf8]{inputenc}
\usepackage[T1]{fontenc}
\usepackage{babel}
\usepackage[xindy]{glossaries}
```

Note that although an accented character, such as `é`, looks like a plain character in your tex file, it's actually a macro and can therefore cause problems.

1. If you use an accented (or other expandable) character at the start of an entry name, you must place it in a group, or it will cause a problem for commands that convert the first letter to uppercase (e.g. `\Gls`) due to expansion issues. For example:

```
\newglossaryentry{elite}{name={{é}lite},
description={select group or class}}
```

2. If you use an accented (or other expandable) character in an entry name and you haven't switched off the name key `san-
itization`, you must use commands like `\glsentrytext` or `\glsstext` instead of `\glsentryname` or `\glsname` or you will end up with strange looking characters in your document.

If you use the `inputenc` package, `makeglossaries` will pick up the encoding from the auxiliary file. If you use `xindy` explicitly instead of via `makeglossaries`, you may need to specify the encoding using the `-C` option. Read the `xindy` manual for further details.

1.2.1 Changing the Fixed Names

As from version 1.08, the `glossaries` package now has limited multi-lingual support, thanks to all the people who have sent me the relevant translations either via email or via `comp.text.tex`. However you must load `babel` or `polyglossia` *before* `glossaries` to enable this. Note that if `babel` is loaded and the translator package is detected on $\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$'s path, then the translator package will be loaded automatically. However, it may not pick up on the required languages so, if the predefined text is not translated, you may need to explicitly load the translator package with the required languages. For example:

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```
\usepackage[spanish]{babel}  
\usepackage[spanish]{translator}  
\usepackage{glossaries}
```

Alternatively, specify the language as a class option rather than a package option. For example:

```
\documentclass[spanish]{report}  
  
\usepackage{babel}  
\usepackage{glossaries}
```

If you want to use `ngerman` or `german` instead of `babel`, you will need to include the `translator` package to provide the translations. For example:

```
\documentclass[ngerman]{article}  
\usepackage{ngerman}  
\usepackage{translator}  
\usepackage{glossaries}
```

The languages are currently supported by the `glossaries` package are listed in [table 1.1](#). Please note that (apart from spelling mistakes) I don't intend to change the default translations as it will cause compatibility problems.

Table 1.1: Supported Languages

Language	As from version
Brazilian Portuguese	1.17
Danish	1.08
Dutch	1.08
English	1.08
French	1.08
German	1.08
Irish	1.08
Italian	1.08
Hungarian	1.08
Polish	1.13
Serbian	2.06
Spanish	1.08

The language dependent commands and translator keys used by the `glossaries` package are listed in [table 1.2](#).

Due to the varied nature of `glossaries`, it's likely that the predefined translations may not be appropriate. If you are using the `babel`

Table 1.2: Customised Text

Command Name	Translator Key Word	Purpose
\glossaryname	Glossary	Title of the main glossary.
\acronymname	Acronyms	Title of the list of acronyms (when used with package option acronym).
\entryname	Notation (glossaries)	Header for first column in the glossary (for 2, 3 or 4 column glossaries that support headers).
\descriptionname	Description (glossaries)	Header for second column in the glossary (for 2, 3 or 4 column glossaries that support headers).
\symbolname	Symbol (glossaries)	Header for symbol column in the glossary for glossary styles that support this option.
\pagelistname	Page List (glossaries)	Header for page list column in the glossary for glossaries that support this option.
\glssymbolsgroupname	Symbols (glossaries)	Header for symbols section of the glossary for glossary styles that support this option.
\glsnumbersgroupname	Numbers (glossaries)	Header for numbers section of the glossary for glossary styles that support this option.

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package and do not have the translator package installed, you need to be familiar with the advice given in <http://www.tex.ac.uk/cgi-bin/texfaq2html?label=latexwords>. If you have the translator package installed, then you can provide your own dictionary with the necessary modifications (using `\deftranslation`) and load it using `\usedictionary`.

Note that the dictionaries are loaded at the beginning of the document, so it won't have any effect if you put `\deftranslation` in the preamble. It should be put in your personal dictionary instead (as in the example below). See the translator documentation for further details. (Now with beamer documentation.)

Your custom dictionary doesn't have to be just a translation from English to another language. You may prefer to have a dictionary for a particular type of document. For example, suppose your institution's in-house reports have to have the glossary labelled as "Nomenclature" and the page list should be labelled "Location", then you can create a file called, say,

```
myinstitute-glossaries-dictionary-English.dict
```

that contains the following:

```
\ProvidesDictionary{myinstitute-glossaries-dictionary}{English}
\deftranslation{Glossary}{Nomenclature}
\deftranslation{Page List (glossaries)}{Location}
```

You can now load it using:

```
\usedictionary{myinstitute-glossaries-dictionary}
```

(Make sure that `myinstitute-glossaries-dictionary-English.dict` can be found by \TeX .) If you want to share your custom dictionary, you can upload it to [CTAN](#).

If you are using `babel` and don't want to use the translator interface, you can suppress it using the package option `translate=false`, and either load `glossaries-babel` after `glossaries` or specify your own translations. For example:

```
\documentclass[british]{article}

\usepackage{babel}
\usepackage[translate=false]{glossaries}
\usepackage{glossaries-babel}
```

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or:

```
\documentclass[british]{article}

\usepackage{babel}
\usepackage[translate=false]{glossaries}

\addto\captionsbritish{%
  \renewcommand*{\glossaryname}{List of Terms}%
  \renewcommand*{\acronymname}{List of Acronyms}%
  \renewcommand*{\entryname}{Notation}%
  \renewcommand*{\descriptionname}{Description}%
  \renewcommand*{\symbolname}{Symbol}%
  \renewcommand*{\pagelistname}{Page List}%
  \renewcommand*{\glssymbolsgroupname}{Symbols}%
  \renewcommand*{\glsnumbersgroupname}{Numbers}%
}
```

If you are using `polyglossia` instead of `babel`, `glossaries-polyglossia` will automatically be loaded unless you specify the package option `translate=false`.

Note that `xindy` provides much better multi-lingual support than `makeindex`, so it's recommended that you use `xindy` if you have glossary entries that contain diacritics or non-Roman letters. See Section 11 for further details.

1.3 Generating the Associated Glossary Files

In order to generate a sorted glossary with compact **location lists**, it is necessary to use an external indexing application as an intermediate step. It is this application that creates the file containing the code that typesets the glossary. If this step is omitted, the glossaries will not appear in your document. The two indexing applications that are most commonly used with L^AT_EX are `makeindex` and `xindy`. As from version 1.17, the `glossaries` package can be used with either of these applications. Previous versions were designed to be used with `makeindex` only. Note that `xindy` has much better multi-lingual support than `makeindex`, so `xindy` is recommended if you're not writing in English. Commands that only have an effect when `xindy` is used are described in Section 11.

The `glossaries` package comes with the Perl script `makeglossaries` which will run `makeindex` or `xindy` on all the glossary files using a customized style file (which is created by `\makeglossaries`). See Section 1.3.1 for further details. Perl is stable, cross-platform, open source software that is used by a number of T_EX-related applica-

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tions. Further information is available at <http://www.perl.org/about.html>. The advantages of using `makeglossaries`:

- It automatically detects whether to use `makeindex` or `xindy` and sets the relevant application switches.
- One call of `makeglossaries` will run `makeindex`/`xindy` for each glossary type.
- If things go wrong, `makeglossaries` will scan the messages from `makeindex` or `xindy` and attempt to diagnose the problem in relation to the glossaries package. This will hopefully provide more helpful messages in some cases. If it can't diagnose the problem, you will have to read the relevant transcript file and see if you can work it out from the `makeindex` or `xindy` messages.

There is also a Java GUI alternative called `makeglossariesgui`, distributed separately, that has diagnostic tools.

Whilst it is strongly recommended that you use the `makeglossaries` script or `makeglossariesgui`, it is possible to use the glossaries package without using either application. However, note that some commands and package options have no effect if you don't use `makeglossaries` or `makeglossariesgui`. These are listed in [table 1.3](#).

If you are choosing not to use `makeglossaries` because you don't want to install Perl, you will only be able to use `makeindex` as `xindy` also requires Perl.

Note that if any of your entries use an entry that is not referenced outside the glossary, you will need to do an additional `makeglossaries`, `makeindex` or `xindy` run, as appropriate. For example, suppose you have defined the following entries:²

```
\newglossaryentry{citrusfruit}{name={citrus fruit},
description={fruit of any citrus tree. (See also
\gls{orange})}}
```

```
\newglossaryentry{orange}{name={orange},
description={an orange coloured fruit.}}
```

and suppose you have `\gls{citrusfruit}` in your document but don't reference the `orange` entry, then the `orange` entry won't appear in your glossary until you first create the glossary and then do

²As from v3.01 `\gls` is no longer fragile and doesn't need protecting.

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another run of `makeglossaries`, `makeindex` or `xindy`. For example, if the document is called `myDoc.tex`, then you must do:

```
latex myDoc
makeglossaries myDoc
latex myDoc
makeglossaries myDoc
latex myDoc
```

Likewise, an additional `makeglossaries` and \LaTeX run may be required if the document pages shift with re-runs. For example, if the page numbering is not reset after the table of contents, the insertion of the table of contents on the second \LaTeX run may push glossary entries across page boundaries, which means that the **number lists** in the glossary may need updating.

The examples in this document assume that you are accessing `makeglossaries`, `xindy` or `makeindex` via a terminal. Windows users can use the MSDOS Prompt which is usually accessed via the Start → All Programs menu or Start → All Programs → Accessories menu.

Alternatively, your text editor may have the facility to create a function that will call the required application. The article “**Glossaries, Nomenclature, List of Symbols and Acronyms**” in the \LaTeX Community’s³ Know How section describes how to do this for TeXnicCenter, and the thread “**Executing Glossaries’ makeindex from a WinEdt macro**” on the `comp.text.tex` newsgroup describes how to do it for WinEdt. For other editors see the editor’s user manual for further details.

If any problems occur, remember to check the transcript files (e.g. `.glg` or `.alg`) for messages.

Table 1.3: Commands and package options that have no effect when using `xindy` or `makeindex` explicitly

Command or Package Option	<code>makeindex</code>	<code>xindy</code>
<code>order=letter</code>	use <code>-l</code>	use <code>-M ord/letorder</code>
<code>order=word</code>	default	default
<code>xindy={language=<lang>,codename=<code>}</code>	N/A	use <code>-L <lang> -C <code></code>
<code>\GlsSetXdyLanguage{<lang>}</code>	N/A	use <code>-L <lang></code>
<code>\GlsSetXdyCodePage{<code>}</code>	N/A	use <code>-C <code></code>

³<http://www.latex-community.org/>

1.3.1 Using the makeglossaries Perl Script

The `makeglossaries` script picks up the relevant information from the auxiliary (`.aux`) file and will either call `xindy` or `makeindex`, depending on the supplied information. Therefore, you only need to pass the document's name without the extension to `makeglossaries`. For example, if your document is called `myDoc.tex`, type the following in your terminal:

```
latex myDoc
makeglossaries myDoc
latex myDoc
```

You may need to explicitly load `makeglossaries` into Perl:

```
perl makeglossaries myDoc
```

There is a batch file called `makeglossaries.bat` which does this for Windows users, but you must have Perl installed to be able to use it.

The `makeglossaries` script contains POD (Plain Old Documentation). If you want, you can create a man page for `makeglossaries` using `pod2man` and move the resulting file onto the man path. Alternatively do `makeglossaries --help` for a list of all options or `makeglossaries --version` for the version number.

When upgrading the glossaries package, make sure you also upgrade your version of `makeglossaries`. The current version is 2.04.

1.3.2 Using xindy explicitly

`Xindy` comes with TeXLive, but not with MiKTeX. However MikTeX users can install it. There is [a thread](http://www.latex-community.org/) in the Makeindex section of the L^AT_EX Community⁴ that describes how to do this.

If you want to use `xindy` to process the glossary files, you must make sure you have used the `xindy` package option:

```
\usepackage[xindy]{glossaries}
```

This is required regardless of whether you use `xindy` explicitly or whether it's called implicitly via `makeglossaries` or `makeglossariesgui`.

⁴<http://www.latex-community.org/>

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This causes the glossary entries to be written in raw `xindy` format, so you need to use `-I xindy not -I tex`.

To run `xindy` type the following in your terminal (all on one line):

```
xindy -L  $\langle language \rangle$  -C  $\langle encoding \rangle$  -I xindy -M  $\langle style \rangle$  -t  $\langle base \rangle$ .glg  
-o  $\langle base \rangle$ .gls  $\langle base \rangle$ .glo
```

where $\langle language \rangle$ is the required language name, $\langle encoding \rangle$ is the encoding, $\langle base \rangle$ is the name of the document without the `.tex` extension and $\langle style \rangle$ is the name of the `xindy` style file without the `.xdy` extension. The default name for this style file is $\langle base \rangle$.xdy but can be changed via `\setStyleFile{ $\langle style \rangle$ }`. You may need to specify the full path name depending on the current working directory. If any of the file names contain spaces, you must delimit them using double-quotes.

For example, if your document is called `myDoc.tex` and you are using UTF8 encoding in English, then type the following in your terminal:

```
xindy -L english -C utf8 -I xindy -M myDoc -t myDoc.glg  
-o myDoc.gls myDoc.glo
```

Note that this just creates the main glossary. You need to do the same for each of the other glossaries (including the list of acronyms if you have used the acronym package option), substituting `.glg`, `.gls` and `.glo` with the relevant extensions. For example, if you have used the acronym package option, then you would need to do:

```
xindy -L english -C utf8 -I xindy -M myDoc -t myDoc.alg  
-o myDoc.acr myDoc.acn
```

For additional glossaries, the extensions are those supplied when you created the glossary with `\newglossary`.

Note that if you use `makeglossaries` instead, you can replace all those calls to `xindy` with just one call to `makeglossaries`:

```
makeglossaries myDoc
```

Note also that some commands and package options have no effect if you use `xindy` explicitly instead of using `makeglossaries`. These are listed in [table 1.3](#).

1.3.3 Using makeindex explicitly

If you want to use `makeindex` explicitly, you must make sure that you haven't used the `xindy` package option or the glossary entries will be written in the wrong format. To run `makeindex`, type the following in your terminal:

```
makeindex -s <style>.ist -t <base>.glg -o <base>.gls <base>.glo
```

where `<base>` is the name of your document without the `.tex` extension and `<style>.ist` is the name of the `makeindex` style file. By default, this is `<base>.ist`, but may be changed via `\setStyleFile{<style>}`. Note that there are other options, such as `-l` (letter ordering). See the `makeindex` manual for further details.

For example, if your document is called `myDoc.tex`, then type the following at the terminal:

```
makeindex -s myDoc.ist -t myDoc.glg -o myDoc.gls myDoc.glo
```

Note that this only creates the main glossary. If you have additional glossaries (for example, if you have used the `acronym` package option) then you must call `makeindex` for each glossary, substituting `.glg`, `.gls` and `.glo` with the relevant extensions. For example, if you have used the `acronym` package option, then you need to type the following in your terminal:

```
makeindex -s myDoc.ist -t myDoc.alg -o myDoc.acr myDoc.acn
```

For additional glossaries, the extensions are those supplied when you created the glossary with `\newglossary`.

Note that if you use `makeglossaries` instead, you can replace all those calls to `makeindex` with just one call to `makeglossaries`:

```
makeglossaries myDoc
```

Note also that some commands and package options have no effect if you use `makeindex` explicitly instead of using `makeglossaries`. These are listed in [table 1.3](#).

1.3.4 Note to Front-End and Script Developers

The information needed to determine whether to use `xindy` or `makeindex` and the information needed to call those applications is stored in the auxiliary file. This information can be gathered by a

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front-end, editor or script to make the glossaries where appropriate. This section describes how the information is stored in the auxiliary file.

The file extensions used by each defined glossary are given by

`\@newglossary`

```
\@newglossary{<label>}{<log>}{<out-ext>}{<in-ext>}
```

where `<in-ext>` is the extension of the *indexing application's* input file (the output file from the glossaries package's point of view), `<out-ext>` is the extension of the *indexing application's* output file (the input file from the glossaries package's point of view) and `<log>` is the extension of the indexing application's transcript file. The label for the glossary is also given for information purposes only, but is not required by the indexing applications. For example, the information for the main glossary is written as:

```
\@newglossary{main}{glg}{gls}{glo}
```

The indexing application's style file is specified by

`\@istfilename`

```
\@istfilename{<filename>}
```

The file extension indicates whether to use `makeindex` (`.ist`) or `xindy` (`.xdy`). Note that the glossary information is formatted differently depending on which indexing application is supposed to be used, so it's important to call the correct one.

Word or letter ordering is specified by:

`\@glsorder`

```
\@glsorder{<order>}
```

where `<order>` can be either `word` or `letter`.

If `xindy` should be used, the language and code page for each glossary is specified by

`\@xdylanguage`
`\@gls@codepage`

```
\@xdylanguage{<label>}{<language>}  
\@gls@codepage{<label>}{<code>}
```

where `<label>` identifies the glossary, `<language>` is the root language (e.g. `english`) and `<code>` is the encoding (e.g. `utf8`). These commands are omitted if `makeindex` should be used.

2 Package Options

This section describes the available glossaries package options.

2.1 General Options

nowarn This suppresses all warnings generated by the glossaries package.

nomain This suppresses the creation of the main glossary. Note that if you use this option, you must create another glossary in which to put all your entries (either via the acronym package option described in Section 2.5 or via `\newglossary` described in Section 12).

sanitize This is a $\langle key \rangle = \langle value \rangle$ option whose value is also a $\langle key \rangle = \langle value \rangle$ list. By default, the glossaries package **sanitizes** the values of the name, description and symbol keys used when defining a new glossary entry. This means that you can use fragile commands in those keys, but it may lead to unexpected results if you try to display these values within the document text. This sanitization can be switched off using the `sanitize` package option. For example, to switch off the sanitization for the description and name keys, but not for the symbol key, do:

```
\usepackage[sanitize={name=false,description=false,%  
symbol=true}]{glossaries}
```

You can use `sanitize=none` as a shortcut for `sanitize={name=false,description=false,symbol=false}`.

Note: this sanitization only applies to the name, description and symbol keys. It doesn't apply to any of the other keys (except the sort key which is always **sanitized** if `sort=standard` is in effect) so fragile commands contained in the value of the other keys must always be protected using `\protect`. Since the value of the text key is obtained from the name key, you will still need to protect fragile commands in the name key if you don't use the text key.

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savewrites This is a boolean option to minimise the number of write registers used by the glossaries package. (Default is `savewrites=false`.) There are only a limited number of write registers, and if you have a large number of glossaries or if you are using a class or other packages that create a lot of external files, you may exceed the maximum number of available registers. If `savewrites` is set, the glossary information will be stored in token registers until the end of the document when they will be written to the external files. If you run out of token registers, you can use `etex`.

If you want to use TeX's `\write18` mechanism to call `makeindex` or `xindy` from your document and use `savewrites`, you must create the external files with `\glswritefiles` before you call `makeindex/xindy`. Also set `\glswritefiles` to `nothing` or `\relax` before the end of the document to avoid rewriting the files. For example:

```
\glswritefiles
\write18{makeindex -s \istfilename\space
-t \jobname.glg -o \jobname.gls \jobname}
\let\glswritefiles\relax
```

translate This is a boolean option. The default is true if `babel`, `polyglossia` or `translator` have been loaded, otherwise the default value is false.

translate=true If `babel` has been loaded and the `translator` package is installed, `translator` will be loaded and the translations will be provided by the `translator` package interface. You can modify the translations by providing your own dictionary. If the `translator` package isn't installed and `babel` is loaded, the `glossaries-babel` package will be loaded and the translations will be provided using `babel`'s `\addto\caption{language}` mechanism. If `polyglossia` has been loaded, `glossaries-polyglossia` will be loaded.

translate=false Don't provide translations, even if `babel` or `polyglossia` has been loaded. You can then provide your own translations or explicitly load `glossaries-babel` or `glossaries-polyglossia`.

See Section 1.2.1 for further details.

2 Package Options

hyperfirst This is a boolean option that specifies whether each term has a hyperlink on **first use**. The default is `hyperfirst=true` (terms on **first use** have a hyperlink, unless explicitly suppressed using starred versions of commands such as `\gls*`).

savenumberlist This is a boolean option that specifies whether or not to gather and store the **number list** for each entry. The default is `savenumberlist=false`. (See `\glsentrynumberlist` and `\glsdisplaynumberlist` in Section 9.)

2.2 Sectioning, Headings and TOC Options

toc Add the glossaries to the table of contents. Note that an extra \LaTeX run is required with this option. Alternatively, you can switch this function on and off using

`\glstoctrue`

```
\glstoctrue
```

and

`\glstocfalse`

```
\glstocfalse
```

numberline When used with `toc`, this will add `\numberline{}` in the final argument of `\addcontentsline`. This will align the table of contents entry with the numbered section titles. Note that this option has no effect if the `toc` option is omitted. If `toc` is used without `numberline`, the title will be aligned with the section numbers rather than the section titles.

section This is a $\langle key \rangle = \langle value \rangle$ option. Its value should be the name of a sectional unit (e.g. chapter). This will make the glossaries appear in the named sectional unit, otherwise each glossary will appear in a chapter, if chapters exist, otherwise in a section. Un-numbered sectional units will be used by default. Example:

```
\usepackage[section=subsection]{glossaries}
```

You can omit the value if you want to use sections, i.e.

```
\usepackage[section]{glossaries}
```

is equivalent to

```
\usepackage[section=section]{glossaries}
```

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You can change this value later in the document using

`\setglossarysection`

```
\setglossarysection{⟨name⟩}
```

where $\langle name \rangle$ is the sectional unit.

The start of each glossary adds information to the page header via

`\glossarymark`

```
\glossarymark{⟨glossary title⟩}
```

This defaults to `\@mkboth` unless `memoir` is loaded, but you may need to redefine it. For example, to only change the right header:

```
\renewcommand{\glossarymark}[1]{\markright{#1}}
```

or to prevent it from changing the headers:

```
\renewcommand{\glossarymark}[1]{} 
```

If you want `\glossarymark` to use `\MakeUppercase` in the header, use the `ucmark` option described below.

Occasionally you may find that another package defines `\cleardoublepage` when it is not required. This may cause an unwanted blank page to appear before each glossary. This can be fixed by redefining `\glsclearpage`:

```
\renewcommand*{\glsclearpage}{\clearpage}
```

ucmark This is a boolean option (default: `ucmark=false`). If set, `\glossarymark` is defined to use `\MakeUppercase`.

numberedsection The glossaries are placed in unnumbered sectional units by default, but this can be changed using `numberedsection`. This option can take three possible values: `false` (no number, i.e. use starred form), `no label` (numbered, i.e. unstarred form, but not labelled) and `autolabel` (numbered with automatic labelling). If `numberedsection=autolabel` is used, each glossary is given a label that matches the glossary type, so the main (default) glossary is labelled `main`, the list of acronyms is labelled `acronym`¹ and additional glossaries are labelled using the value specified in

¹if the `acronym` option is used, otherwise the list of acronyms is the main glossary

2 Package Options

the first mandatory argument to `\newglossary`. For example, if you load glossaries using:

```
\usepackage[section,numberedsection=autolabel]{glossaries}
```

then each glossary will appear in a numbered section, and can be referenced using something like:

The main glossary is in section~\ref{main} and the list of acronyms is in section~\ref{acronym}.

If you can't decide whether to have the acronyms in the main glossary or a separate list of acronyms, you can use `\acronymtype` which is set to `main` if the `acronym` option is not used and is set to `acronym` if the `acronym` option is used. For example:

The list of acronyms is in section~\ref{\acronymtype}.

As from version 1.14, you can add a prefix to the label by re-defining

`\glsautoprefix`

```
\glsautoprefix
```

For example:

```
\renewcommand*{\glsautoprefix}{glo:}
```

will add `glo:` to the automatically generated label, so you can then, for example, refer to the list of acronyms as follows:

The list of acronyms is in section~\ref{glo:\acronymtype}.

Or, if you are undecided on a prefix:

The list of acronyms is in section~\ref{\glsautoprefix\acronymtype}.

2.3 Glossary Appearance Options

entrycounter This is a boolean option. (Default is `entrycounter=false`.) If set, each main (level 0) glossary entry will be numbered when using the standard glossary styles. This option creates the counter `glossaryentry`.

`glossaryentry`

2 Package Options

If you use this option, you can reference the entry number within the document using

`\glsrefentry`

```
\glsrefentry{⟨label⟩}
```

where $\langle label \rangle$ is the label associated with that glossary entry.

If you use `\glsrefentry`, you must run \LaTeX twice after creating the glossary files using `makeglossaries`, `makeindex` or `xindy` to ensure the cross-references are up-to-date.

counterwithin This is a $\langle key \rangle = \langle value \rangle$ option where $\langle value \rangle$ is the name of a counter. If used, this option will automatically set `entrycounter=true` and the `glossaryentry` counter will be reset every time $\langle value \rangle$ is incremented.

`\glsresetentrycounter`

The `glossaryentry` counter isn't automatically reset at the start of each glossary, except when glossary section numbering is on and the counter used by `counterwithin` is the same as the counter used in the glossary's sectioning command. If you want the counter reset at the start of each glossary, you can redefine `\glossarypreamble` to use `\glsresetentrycounter`, which sets `glossaryentry` to zero:

```
\renewcommand{\glossarypreamble}{%  
  \glsresetentrycounter  
}
```

subentrycounter This is a boolean option. (Default is `subentrycounter=false`.)

`glossarysubentry` If set, each level 1 glossary entry will be numbered when using the standard glossary styles. This option creates the counter `glossarysubentry`. The counter is reset with each main (level 0) entry. Note that this package option is independent of `entrycounter`. You can reference the number within the document using `\glsrefentry{⟨label⟩}` where $\langle label \rangle$ is the label associated with the sub-entry.

style This is a $\langle key \rangle = \langle value \rangle$ option. (Default is `style=list`.) Its value should be the name of the glossary style to use. This key

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may only be used for styles defined in `glossary-list`, `glossary-long`, `glossary-super` or `glossary-tree`. (See Section 15.)

nolong This prevents the `glossaries` package from automatically loading `glossary-long` (which means that the `longtable` package also won't be loaded). This reduces overhead by not defining unwanted styles and commands. Note that if you use this option, you won't be able to use any of the glossary styles defined in the `glossary-long` package.

nosuper This prevents the `glossaries` package from automatically loading `glossary-super` (which means that the `supertabular` package also won't be loaded). This reduces overhead by not defining unwanted styles and commands. Note that if you use this option, you won't be able to use any of the glossary styles defined in the `glossary-super` package.

nolist This prevents the `glossaries` package from automatically loading `glossary-list`. This reduces overhead by not defining unwanted styles. Note that if you use this option, you won't be able to use any of the glossary styles defined in the `glossary-list` package. Note that since the default style is `list`, you will also need to use the `style` option to set the style to something else.

notree This prevents the `glossaries` package from automatically loading `glossary-tree`. This reduces overhead by not defining unwanted styles. Note that if you use this option, you won't be able to use any of the glossary styles defined in the `glossary-tree` package.

nostyles This prevents all the predefined styles from being loaded. If you use this option, you need to load a glossary style package (such as `glossary-mcols`). Also if you use this option, you can't use the `style` package option. Instead you must either use `\glossarystyle{<style>}` or the `style` key in the optional argument to `\printglossary`. Example:

```
\usepackage[nostyles]{glossaries}
\usepackage{glossary-mcols}
\glossarystyle{mcoltree}
```

nonumberlist This option will suppress the associated **number lists** in the glossaries (see also Section 5).

seeautonumberlist If you suppress the **number lists** with `nonumberlist`, described above, this will also suppress any cross-referencing

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information supplied by the `see` key in `\newglossaryentry` or `\glssee`. If you use `seeautonumberlist`, the `see` key will automatically implement `nonumberlist=false` for that entry. (Note this doesn't affect `\glssee`.) For further details see Section 8.

counter This is a $\langle key \rangle = \langle value \rangle$ option. (Default is `counter=page`.) The value should be the name of the default counter to use in the **number lists** (see Section 5).

2.4 Sorting Options

sort This is a $\langle key \rangle = \langle value \rangle$ option where the option can only have one of the following values:

- `standard` : entries are sorted according to the value of the sort key used in `\newglossaryentry` (if present) or the name key (if sort key is missing);
- `def` : entries are sorted in the order in which they were defined (the sort key in `\newglossaryentry` is ignored);
- `use` : entries are sorted according to the order in which they are used in the document (the sort key in `\newglossaryentry` is ignored).

The default is `sort=standard`.

order This may take two values: `word` or `letter`. The default is word ordering.

Note that the `order` option has no effect if you don't use `makeglossaries`.

makeindex (Default) The glossary information and indexing style file will be written in `makeindex` format. If you use `makeglossaries`, it will automatically detect that it needs to call `makeindex`. If you don't use `makeglossaries`, you need to remember to use `makeindex` not `xindy`. The indexing style file will be given a `.ist` extension.

xindy The glossary information and indexing style file will be written in `xindy` format. If you use `makeglossaries`, it will automatically detect that it needs to call `xindy`. If you don't use `makeglossaries`, you need to remember to use `xindy` not

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makeindex. The indexing style file will be given a `.xdy` extension.

The `xindy` package option may additionally have a value that is a $\langle key \rangle = \langle value \rangle$ comma-separated list to override the language and codepage. For example:

```
\usepackage[xindy={language=english,codepage=utf8}]{glossaries}
```

You can also specify whether you want a number group in the glossary. This defaults to true, but can be suppressed. For example:

```
\usepackage[xindy={glsnumbers=false}]{glossaries}
```

See Section 11 for further details on using `xindy` with the `glossaries` package.

2.5 Acronym Options

acronym This creates a new glossary with the label `acronym`. This is equivalent to:

```
\newglossary[alg]{acronym}{acr}{acn}{\acronymname}
```

If the `acronym` package option is used, `\acronymtype` is set to `acronym` otherwise it is set to `main`.² Entries that are defined using `\newacronym` are placed in the glossary whose label is given by `\acronymtype`, unless another glossary is explicitly specified.

acronymlists By default, only the `\acronymtype` glossary is considered to be a list of acronyms. If you have other lists of acronyms, you can specify them as a comma-separated list in the value of `acronymlists`. For example, if you use the `acronym` package option but you also want the `main` glossary to also contain a list of acronyms, you can do:

```
\usepackage[acronym,acronymlists={main}]{glossaries}
```

No check is performed to determine if the listed glossaries exist, so you can add glossaries you haven't defined yet. For example:

```
\usepackage[acronym,acronymlists={main,acronym2}]{glossaries}  
\newglossary[alg2]{acronym2}{acr2}{acn2}{Statistical Acronyms}
```

²Actually it sets `\acronymtype` to `\glsdefaulttype` if the `acronym` package option is not used, but `\glsdefaulttype` usually has the value `main`.

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- description** This option changes the definition of `\newacronym` to allow a description. This option has no effect if you defined your own custom acronym style. See Section 13 for further details.
- footnote** This option changes the definition of `\newacronym` and the way that acronyms are displayed. This option has no effect if you defined your own custom acronym style. See Section 13 for further details.
- smallcaps** This option changes the definition of `\newacronym` and the way that acronyms are displayed. This option may have no effect if you defined your own custom acronym style. See Section 13 for further details.
- smaller** This option changes the definition of `\newacronym` and the way that acronyms are displayed. If you use this option, you will need to include the `relsize` package or otherwise define `\textsmaller` or redefine `\acronymfont`. This option may have no effect if you defined your own custom acronym style. See Section 13 for further details.
- dua** This option changes the definition of `\newacronym` so that acronyms are always expanded. This option has no effect if you defined your own custom acronym style. See Section 13 for further details.
- shortcuts** This option provides shortcut commands for acronyms. See Section 13 for further details.

3 Setting Up

The command

`\makeglossaries`

```
\makeglossaries
```

must be placed in the preamble in order to create the customised `makeindex` (.ist) or `xindy` (.xdy) style file and to ensure that glossary entries are written to the appropriate output files. If you omit `\makeglossaries` none of the glossaries will be created.

Note that some of the commands provided by the glossaries package must be placed before `\makeglossaries` as they are required when creating the customised style file. If you attempt to use those commands after `\makeglossaries` you will generate an error.

You can suppress the creation of the customised `xindy` or `makeindex` style file using

`\noist`

```
\noist
```

Note that this command must be used before `\makeglossaries`.

Note that if you have a custom .xdy file created when using glossaries version 2.07 or below, you will need to use the `compatible-2.07` package option with it.

The default name for the customised style file is given by `\jobname.ist` (for `makeindex`) or `\jobname.xdy` (for `xindy`). This name may be changed using:

`\setStyleFile`

```
\setStyleFile{<name>}
```

where *<name>* is the name of the style file without the extension. Note that this command must be used before `\makeglossaries`.

Each glossary entry is assigned a **number list** that lists all the locations in the document where that entry was used. By default, the location refers to the page number but this may be overridden using

3 Setting Up

the counter package option. The default form of the location number assumes a full stop compositor (e.g. 1.2), but if your location numbers use a different compositor (e.g. 1-2) you need to set this using

`\glsSetCompositor` `\glsSetCompositor{symbol}`

For example:

```
\glsSetCompositor{-}
```

Note that this command must be used before `\makeglossaries`.

If you use `xindy`, you can have a different compositor for page numbers starting with an uppercase alphabetical character using:

`\glsSetAlphaCompositor` `\glsSetAlphaCompositor{symbol}`

Note that this command has no effect if you haven't used the `xindy` package option. For example, if you want **number lists** containing a mixture of A-1 and 2.3 style formats, then do:

```
\glsSetCompositor{.}\glsSetAlphaCompositor{-}
```

See Section 5 for further information about **number lists**.

4 Defining Glossary Entries

All glossary entries must be defined before they are used, so it is better to define them in the preamble to ensure this.¹ However only those entries that occur in the document (using any of the commands described in Section 6, Section 7 or Section 8) will appear in the glossary. Each time an entry is used in this way, a line is added to an associated glossary file (`.glo`), which then needs to be converted into a corresponding `.gls` file which contains the typeset glossary which is input by `\printglossary` or `\printglossaries`. The Perl script `makeglossaries` can be used to call `makeindex` or `xindy`, using a customised indexing style file, for each of the glossaries that are defined in the document. **Note that there should be no need for you to explicitly edit or input any of these external files.**² See Section 1.3 for further details.

New glossary entries are defined using the command:

`\newglossaryentry`

```
\newglossaryentry{<label>}{<key-val list>}
```

The first argument, `<label>`, must be a unique label with which to identify this entry. The second argument, `<key-val list>`, is a `<key>=<value>` list that supplies the relevant information about this entry. There are two required fields: description and either name or parent. Available fields are listed below:

name The name of the entry (as it will appear in the glossary). If this key is omitted and the parent key is supplied, this value will be the same as the parent's name.

description A brief description of this term (to appear in the glossary). Within this value, you can use

`\nopostdesc`

```
\nopostdesc
```

¹The only preamble restriction on `\newglossaryentry` and `\newacronym` was removed in version 1.13, but the restriction remains for `\loadglsentries`.

²Except possibly the style file but then you'll need to use `\noist` to prevent your changes from being overwritten.

4 Defining Glossary Entries

to suppress the description terminator for this entry. For example, if this entry is a parent entry that doesn't require a description, you can do `description={\nopostdesc}`. If you want a paragraph break in the description use

`\glspar`

`\glspar`

However, note that not all glossary styles support multi-line descriptions. If you are using one of the tabular-like glossary styles that permit multi-line descriptions, use `\newline` not `\\` if you want to force a line break.

parent The label of the parent entry. Note that the parent entry must be defined before its sub-entries. See Section 4.3 for further details.

descriptionplural The plural form of the description (as passed to `\glsdisplay` and `\glsdisplayfirst` by `\glspl`, `\Glspl` and `\GLSpl`). If omitted, the value is set to the same as the description key. (Note that if you want the description to appear in the main body of the document, you must switch off the description **sanitization** using the `sanitize` package option described in Section 2.1.)

text How this entry will appear in the document text when using `\gls` (or one of its uppercase variants). If this field is omitted, the value of the name key is used.

first How the entry will appear in the document text on **first use** with `\gls` (or one of its uppercase variants). If this field is omitted, the value of the text key is used. Note that if you use `\glspl`, `\Glspl`, `\GLSpl`, `\glsdisp` before using `\gls`, the firstplural value won't be used with `\gls`.

plural How the entry will appear in the document text when using `\glspl` (or one of its uppercase variants). If this field is omitted, the value is obtained by appending `\glspluralsuffix` to the value of the text field. The default value of `\glspluralsuffix` is the letter "s".

firstplural How the entry will appear in the document text on **first use** with `\glspl` (or one of its uppercase variants). If this field is omitted, the value is obtained from the plural key, if the first key is omitted, or by appending `\glspluralsuffix` to the value of the first field, if the first field is present. Note that if you

4 Defining Glossary Entries

use `\gls`, `\Gls`, `\GLS`, `\glsdisp` before using `\glspl`, the `firstplural` value won't be used with `\glspl`.

Note: prior to version 1.13, the default value of `firstplural` was always taken by appending “s” to the first key, which meant that you had to specify both plural and `firstplural`, even if you hadn't used the first key.

symbol This field is provided to allow the user to specify an associated symbol. If omitted, the value is set to `\relax`. Note that not all glossary styles display the symbol. (If you want the symbol to appear in the main body of the document, you must switch off the symbol **sanitization** using the `sanitize` package option described in Section 2.1.)

symbolplural This is the plural form of the symbol (as passed to `\glsdisplay` and `\glsdisplayfirst` by `\glspl`, `\Glspl` and `\GLSpl`). If omitted, the value is set to the same as the `symbol` key.

sort This value indicates how **makeindex** or **xindy** should sort this entry. If omitted, the value is given by the `name` field. In general, it's best to use the sort key if the name contains commands (e.g. `\ensuremath{\alpha}`). Note that the package options `sort=def` and `sort=use` override the sort key in `\newglossaryentry` (see Section 2.4).

type This specifies the label of the glossary in which this entry belongs. If omitted, the default glossary is assumed unless `\newacronym` is used (see Section 13).

user1, ..., user6 Six keys provided for any additional information the user may want to specify. (For example an associated dimension or an alternative plural or some other grammatical construct.)

nonumberlist A boolean key. If the value is missing or is `true`, this will suppress the **number list** just for this entry. Conversely, if you have used the package option `nonumberlist`, you can activate the number list just for this entry with `nonumberlist=false`. (See Section 5.)

see Cross-reference another entry. Using the `see` key will automatically add this entry to the glossary, but will not automatically add the cross-referenced entry. The referenced entry should be supplied as the value to this key. If you want to override the “see” tag, you can supply the new tag in square brackets before

4 Defining Glossary Entries

the label. For example `see=[see also]{anotherlabel}`. Note that if you have suppressed the **number list**, the cross-referencing information won't appear in the glossary. You can override this for individual glossary entries using `nonumberlist=false` (see above). Alternatively, you can use the `seeautonumberlist` package option. For further details, see Section 8.

The following keys are reserved for `\newacronym` (see Section 13): `long`, `longplural`, `short` and `shortplural`.

Note that if the name starts with an accented letter or non-Roman character, you must group the character, otherwise it will cause a problem for commands like `\Gls` and `\Glspl`. For example:

```
\newglossaryentry{elite}{name={{\'}e}lite},
description={select group or class}}
```

Note that the same applies if you are using the `inputenc` package:

```
\newglossaryentry{elite}{name={{\'e}lite},
description={select group or class}}
```

Note that in both of the above examples, you will also need to supply the sort key if you are using `makeindex` whereas `xindy` is usually able to sort accented letters correctly.

4.1 Plurals

You may have noticed from above that you can specify the plural form when you define a term. If you omit this, the plural will be obtained by appending

`\glspluralsuffix`

`\glspluralsuffix`

to the singular form. This command defaults to the letter “s”. For example:

```
\newglossaryentry{cow}{name=cow,description={a fully grown
female of any bovine animal}}
```

defines a new entry whose singular form is “cow” and plural form is “cows”. However, if you are writing in archaic English, you may want to use “kine” as the plural form, in which case you would have to do:

```
\newglossaryentry{cow}{name=cow,plural=kine,
description={a fully grown female of any bovine animal}}
```

4 Defining Glossary Entries

If you are writing in a language that supports multiple plurals (for a given term) then use the plural key for one of them and one of the user keys to specify the other plural form. For example:

```
\newglossaryentry{cow}{name=cow,description={a fully grown  
female of any bovine animal (plural cows, archaic plural kine)},  
user1={kine}}
```

You can then use `\glspl{cow}` to produce “cows” and `\glsuseri{cow}` to produce “kine”. You can, of course, define an easy to remember synonym. For example:

```
\let\glsaltpl\glsuseri
```

Then you don’t have to remember which key you used to store the alternative plural.

If you are using a language that usually forms plurals by appending a different letter, or sequence of letters, you can redefine `\glspluralsuffix` as required. However, this must be done *before* the entries are defined. For languages that don’t form plurals by simply appending a suffix, all the plural forms must be specified using the plural key (and the `firstplural` key where necessary).

4.2 Other Grammatical Constructs

You can use the six user keys to provide alternatives, such as participles. For example:

```
\let\glsing\glsuseri  
\let\glsd\glsuserii  
  
\newcommand*{\ingkey}{user1}  
\newcommand*{\edkey}{user2}  
  
\newcommand*{\newterm}[3][ ]{%  
  \newglossaryentry{#2}{%  
    name={#2},%  
    description={#3},%  
    \edkey={#2ed},%  
    \ingkey={#2ing},#1%  
  }%  
}
```

With the above definitions, I can now define terms like this:

```
\newterm{play}{to take part in activities for enjoyment}  
\newterm[\edkey={ran},\ingkey={running}]{run}{to move fast using  
the legs}
```

4 Defining Glossary Entries

and use them in the text:

Peter is `\glsing{play}` in the park today.

Jane `\glsd{play}` in the park yesterday.

Peter and Jane `\glsd{run}` in the park last week.

4.3 Sub-Entries

As from version 1.17, it is possible to specify sub-entries. These may be used to order the glossary into categories, in which case the sub-entry will have a different name to its parent entry, or it may be used to distinguish different definitions for the same word, in which case the sub-entries will have the same name as the parent entry. Note that not all glossary styles support hierarchical entries and may display all the entries in a flat format. Of the styles that support sub-entries, some display the sub-entry's name whilst others don't. Therefore you need to ensure that you use a suitable style. (See Section 15 for a list of predefined styles.) As from version 3.0, level 1 sub-entries are automatically numbered in the predefined styles if you use the `subentrycounter` package option (see Section 2.3 for further details).

Note that the parent entry will automatically be added to the glossary if any of its child entries are used in the document. If the parent entry is not referenced in the document, it will not have a **number list**. Note also that `makeindex` has a restriction on the maximum sub-entry depth.

4.3.1 Hierarchical Categories

To arrange a glossary with hierarchical categories, you need to first define the category and then define the sub-entries using the relevant category entry as the value of the parent key. For example, suppose I want a glossary of mathematical symbols that are divided into Greek letters and Roman letters. Then I can define the categories as follows:

```
\newglossaryentry{greekletter}{name={Greek letters},
description={\nopostdesc}}

\newglossaryentry{romanletter}{name={Roman letters},
description={\nopostdesc}}
```

Note that in this example, the category entries don't need a description so I have set the descriptions to `\nopostdesc`. This gives a blank description and suppresses the description terminator.

4 Defining Glossary Entries

I can now define my sub-entries as follows:

```
\newglossaryentry{pi}{name={\ensuremath{\pi}},sort={pi},
description={ratio of the circumference of a circle to
the diameter},
parent=greekletter}

\newglossaryentry{C}{name={\ensuremath{C}},sort={C},
description={Euler's constant},
parent=romanletter}
```

4.3.2 Homographs

Sub-entries that have the same name as the parent entry, don't need to have the name key. For example, the word “glossary” can mean a list of technical words or a collection of glosses. In both cases the plural is “glossaries”. So first define the parent entry:

```
\newglossaryentry{glossary}{name=glossary,
description={\nopostdesc},
plural={glossaries}}
```

Again, the parent entry has no description, so the description terminator needs to be suppressed using `\nopostdesc`.

Now define the two different meanings of the word:

```
\newglossaryentry{glossarylist}{
description={list of technical words},
sort={1},
parent={glossary}}

\newglossaryentry{glossarycol}{
description={collection of glosses},
sort={2},
parent={glossary}}
```

Note that if I reference the parent entry, the location will be added to the parent's **number list**, whereas if I reference any of the child entries, the location will be added to the child entry's number list. Note also that since the sub-entries have the same name, the sort key is required unless you are using the `sort=use` or `sort=def` package options. You can use the `subentrycounter` package option to automatically number the first-level child entries. See Section 2.3 for further details.

In the above example, the plural form for both of the child entries is the same as the parent entry, so the plural key was not required for the child entries. However, if the sub-entries have different plurals, they will need to be specified. For example:

4 Defining Glossary Entries

```
\newglossaryentry{bravo}{name={bravo},
description={\nopostdesc}}

\newglossaryentry{bravocry}{description={cry of approval
(pl.\ bravos)},
sort={1},
plural={bravos},
parent=bravo}

\newglossaryentry{bravoruffian}{description={hired
ruffian or killer (pl.\ bravo)},
sort={2},
plural={bravo},
parent=bravo}
```

4.4 Loading Entries From a File

You can store all your glossary entry definitions in another file and use:

```
\loadglsentries
```

```
\loadglsentries[<type>]{<filename>}
```

where *<filename>* is the name of the file containing all the `\newglossaryentry` commands. The optional argument *<type>* is the name of the glossary to which those entries should belong, for those entries where the `type` key has been omitted (or, more specifically, for those entries whose `type` has been specified by `\glsdefaulttype`, which is what `\newglossaryentry` uses by default). For example, suppose I have a file called `myentries.tex` which contains:

```
\newglossaryentry{perl}{type=main,
name={Perl},
description={A scripting language}}

\newglossaryentry{tex}{name={\TeX},
description={A typesetting language}, sort={TeX}}

\newglossaryentry{html}{type=\glsdefaulttype,
name={html},
description={A mark up language}}
```

and suppose in my document preamble I use the command:

```
\loadglsentries[languages]{myentries}
```

then this will add the entries `tex` and `html` to the glossary whose type is given by `languages`, but the entry `perl` will be added to the main glossary, since it explicitly sets the type to `main`.

4 Defining Glossary Entries

Note: if you use `\newacronym` (see Section 13) the type is set as `type=\acronymtype` unless you explicitly override it. For example, if my file `myacronyms.tex` contains:

```
\newacronym{aca}{aca}{a contrived acronym}
```

then (supposing I have defined a new glossary type called `altacronym`)

```
\loadglsentries[altacronym]{myacronyms}
```

will add `aca` to the glossary type `acronym`, if the package option `acronym` has been specified, or will add `aca` to the glossary type `altacronym`, if the package option `acronym` is not specified.³

If you have used the `acronym` package option, there are two possible solutions to this problem:

1. Change `myacronyms.tex` so that entries are defined in the form:

```
\newacronym[type=\glsdefaulttype]{aca}{aca}{a  
contrived acronym}
```

and do:

```
\loadglsentries[altacronym]{myacronyms}
```

2. Temporarily change `\acronymtype` to the target glossary:

```
\let\orgacronymtype\acronymtype  
\def\acronymtype{altacronym}  
\loadglsentries{myacronyms}  
\let\acronymtype\orgacronymtype
```

Note that only those entries that have been used in the text will appear in the relevant glossaries. Note also that `\loadglsentries` may only be used in the preamble.

4.5 Moving Entries to Another Glossary

As from version 3.02, you can move an entry from one glossary to another using:

`\glsmoveentry`

```
\glsmoveentry{<label>}{<target glossary label>}
```

³This is because `\acronymtype` is set to `\glsdefaulttype` if the `acronym` package option is not used.

4 Defining Glossary Entries

where $\langle label \rangle$ is the unique label identifying the required entry and $\langle target\ glossary\ label \rangle$ is the unique label identifying the glossary in which to put the entry.

Note that no check is performed to determine the existence of the target glossary. This means that you can, for example, move an entry to an undefined glossary so you can use the entry in the document text but not have it listed in any of the glossaries. (Maybe you have an acronym so common it doesn't need listing.)

If you move an entry to an undefined glossary and you have hyperlinked entries, the link will point to an undefined target. Also, you will get warnings about no file defined for that glossary (unless you use the `nowarn` package option). Unpredictable results may occur if you move an entry to a different glossary from its parent or children.

5 Number lists

Each entry in the glossary has an associated **number list**. By default, these numbers refer to the pages on which that entry has been used (using any of the commands described in Section 6 and Section 7). The number list can be suppressed using the `nonumberlist` package option, or an alternative counter can be set as the default using the `counter` package option. The number list is also referred to as the location list.

Both `makeindex` and `xindy` concatenate a sequence of 3 or more consecutive pages into a range. With `xindy` you can vary the minimum sequence length using `\GlsSetXdyMinRangeLength{⟨n⟩}` where `⟨n⟩` is either an integer or the keyword `none` which indicates that there should be no range formation.

Note that `\GlsSetXdyMinRangeLength` must be used before `\makeglossaries` and has no effect if `\noist` is used.

With both `makeindex` and `xindy`, you can replace the separator and the closing number in the range using:

`\glsSetSuffixF`

`\glsSetSuffixF{⟨suffix⟩}`

`\glsSetSuffixFF`

`\glsSetSuffixFF{⟨suffix⟩}`

where the former command specifies the suffix to use for a 2 page list and the latter specifies the suffix to use for longer lists. For example:

```
\glsSetSuffixF{f.}
\glsSetSuffixFF{ff.}
```

Note that if you use `xindy`, you will also need to set the minimum range length to 1 if you want to change these suffixes:

```
\GlsSetXdyMinRangeLength{1}
```

Note that if you use the `hyperref` package, you will need to use `\nohyperpage` in the suffix to ensure that the hyperlinks work correctly. For example:

5 *Number lists*

```
\glsSetSuffixF{\nohyperpage{f.}}  
\glsSetSuffixFF{\nohyperpage{ff.}}
```

Note that `\glsSetSuffixF` and `\glsSetSuffixFF` must be used before `\makeglossaries` and have no effect if `\noist` is used.

6 Links to Glossary Entries

Once you have defined a glossary entry using `\newglossaryentry`, you can refer to that entry in the document using one of the commands listed in this section. The text which appears at that point in the document when using one of these commands is referred to as the **link text** (even if there are no hyperlinks). The commands in this section also add a line to an external file that is used by `makeindex` or `xindy` to generate the relevant entry in the glossary. This information includes an associated location that is added to the **number list** for that entry. By default, the location refers to the page number. For further information on number lists, see Section 5.

It is strongly recommended that you don't use the commands defined in this section in the arguments of sectioning or caption commands or any other command that has a moving argument.

The above warning is particularly important if you are using the glossaries package in conjunction with the `hyperref` package. Instead, use one of the commands listed in Section 9 (such as `\glsentrytext`) or provide an alternative via the optional argument to the sectioning/caption command. Examples:

```
\chapter{An overview of \glsentrytext{perl}}
\chapter[An overview of Perl]{An overview of \gls{perl}}
```

The way the **link text** is displayed depends on

`\glstextformat`

`\glstextformat{<text>}`

For example, to make all **link text** appear in a sans-serif font, do:

```
\renewcommand*{\glstextformat}[1]{\textsf{#1}}
```

Each entry has an associated conditional referred to as the **first use flag**. This determines whether `\gls`, `\glspl` (and their uppercase variants) should use the value of the `first` or `text` keys. Note that an entry can be used without affecting the **first use flag** (for example, when used with `\glslink`). See Section 14 for commands that unset or reset this conditional.

6 Links to Glossary Entries

The command:

`\glslink`

```
\glslink[⟨options⟩]{⟨label⟩}{⟨text⟩}
```

will place `\glstextformat{⟨text⟩}` in the document at that point and add a line into the associated glossary file for the glossary entry given by `⟨label⟩`. If hyperlinks are supported, `⟨text⟩` will be a hyperlink to the relevant line in the glossary. (Note that this command doesn't affect the **first use flag**; use `\glsdisp` instead.) The optional argument `⟨options⟩` must be a `⟨key⟩=⟨value⟩` list which can take any of the following keys:

format This specifies how to format the associated location number for this entry in the glossary. This value is equivalent to the `makeindex` `encap` value, and (as with `\index`) the value needs to be the name of a command *without* the initial backslash. As with `\index`, the characters (and) can also be used to specify the beginning and ending of a number range. Again as with `\index`, the command should be the name of a command which takes an argument (which will be the associated location). Be careful not to use a declaration (such as `bfseries`) instead of a text block command (such as `textbf`) as the effect is not guaranteed to be localised. If you want to apply more than one style to a given entry (e.g. **bold** and *italic*) you will need to create a command that applies both formats, e.g.

```
\newcommand*{\textbfem}[1]{\textbf{\emph{#1}}}
```

and use that command.

In this document, the standard formats refer to the standard text block commands such as `\textbf` or `\emph` or any of the commands listed in [table 6.1](#).

If you use `xindy` instead of `makeindex`, you must specify any non-standard formats that you want to use with the `format` key using `\GlsAddXdyAttribute{⟨name⟩}`. So if you use `xindy` with the above example, you would need to add:

```
\GlsAddXdyAttribute{textbfem}
```

See [Section 11](#) for further details.

Note that unlike `\index`, you can't have anything following the command name, such as an asterisk or arguments. If you want

6 Links to Glossary Entries

to cross-reference another entry, either use the `see` key when you define the entry or use `\glssee` (described in Section 8).

If you are using hyperlinks and you want to change the font of the hyperlinked location, don't use `\hyperpage` (provided by the `hyperref` package) as the locations may not refer to a page number. Instead, the `glossaries` package provides number formats listed in table 6.1.

Table 6.1: Predefined Hyperlinked Location Formats

<code>hyperrm</code>	serif hyperlink
<code>hypersf</code>	sans-serif hyperlink
<code>hypertt</code>	monospaced hyperlink
<code>hyperbf</code>	bold hyperlink
<code>hypermd</code>	medium weight hyperlink
<code>hyperit</code>	italic hyperlink
<code>hypersl</code>	slanted hyperlink
<code>hyperup</code>	upright hyperlink
<code>hypersc</code>	small caps hyperlink
<code>hyperemph</code>	emphasized hyperlink

Note that if the `\hyperlink` command hasn't been defined, the `hyper<xx>` formats are equivalent to the analogous `text<xx>` font commands (and `hyperemph` is equivalent to `emph`). If you want to make a new format, you will need to define a command which takes one argument and use that. For example, if you want the location number to be in a bold sans-serif font, you can define a command called, say, `\hyperbsf`:

```
\newcommand{\hyperbsf}[1]{\textbf{\hypersf{#1}}}
```

and then use `hyperbsf` as the value for the format key. (See also section 1.15 “Displaying the glossary” in the documented code, `glossaries.pdf`.) Remember that if you use `xindy`, you will need to add this to the list of location attributes:

```
\GlsAddXdyAttribute{hyperbsf}
```

counter This specifies which counter to use for this location. This overrides the default counter used by this entry. (See also Section 5.)

hyper This is a boolean key which can be used to enable/disable the hyperlink to the relevant entry in the glossary. (Note that setting

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`hyper=true` will have no effect if `\hyperlink` has not been defined.) The default value is `hyper=true`.

There is also a starred version:

```
\glslink* [\langle options \rangle] {\langle label \rangle} {\langle text \rangle}
```

which is equivalent to `\glslink`, except it sets `hyper=false`. Similarly, all the following commands described in this section also have a starred version that disables the hyperlink.

Don't use commands like `\glslink` or `\gls` in the `\langle text \rangle` argument of `\glslink`.

The command:

```
\gls [\langle options \rangle] {\langle label \rangle} [\langle insert \rangle]
```

is the same as `\glslink`, except that the **link text** is determined from the values of the text and first keys supplied when the entry was defined using `\newglossaryentry`. If the entry has been marked as having been used, the value of the text key will be used, otherwise the value of the first key will be used. On completion, `\gls` will mark the entry's **first use flag** as used.

There are two uppercase variants:

```
\Gls [\langle options \rangle] {\langle label \rangle} [\langle insert \rangle]
```

and

```
\GLS [\langle options \rangle] {\langle label \rangle} [\langle insert \rangle]
```

which make the first letter of the link text or all the link text uppercase, respectively.

The final optional argument `\langle insert \rangle`, allows you to insert some additional text into the link text. By default, this will append `\langle insert \rangle` at the end of the link text, but this can be changed (see Section 6.1).

The first optional argument `\langle options \rangle` is the same as the optional argument to `\glslink`. As with `\glslink`, these commands also have a starred version that disable the hyperlink.

Don't use commands like `\glslink` or `\gls` in the `\langle insert \rangle` argument of `\gls` and its variants.

6 Links to Glossary Entries

There are also analogous plural forms:

`\glspl` `\glspl[<options>]{<label>}[<insert>]`

`\Glspl` `\Glspl[<options>]{<label>}[<insert>]`

`\GLSp1` `\GLSp1[<options>]{<label>}[<insert>]`

These determine the link text from the plural and firstplural keys supplied when the entry was first defined. As before, these commands also have a starred version that disable the hyperlink.

Be careful when you use glossary entries in math mode especially if you are using `hyperref` as it can affect the spacing of subscripts and superscripts. For example, suppose you have defined the following entry:

```
\newglossaryentry{Falpha}{name={F_\alpha},
description=sample}
```

and later you use it in math mode:

```
$\gls{Falpha}^2$
```

This will result in F_{α}^2 instead of F_{α}^2 . In this situation it's best to bring the superscript into the hyperlink using the final `<insert>` optional argument:

```
$\gls{Falpha}[^2]$
```

Note that `\glslink` doesn't use or affect the **first use flag**, nor does it use `\glsdisplay` or `\glsdisplayfirst` (see Section 6.1). Instead, you can use:

`\glsdisp` `\glsdisp[<options>]{<label>}{<link text>}`

This behaves in the same way as `\gls`, except that it uses `<link text>` instead of the value of the `first` or `text` key. (Note that this command always sets `<insert>` to nothing.) This command affects the **first use flag**, and uses `\glsdisplay` or `\glsdisplayfirst`.

The command:

`\glstext` `\glstext[<options>]{<label>}[<insert>]`

6 Links to Glossary Entries

is similar to `\gls` except that it always uses the value of the `text` key and does not affect the **first use flag**. Unlike `\gls`, the inserted text `<insert>` is always appended to the link text since `\glsstext` doesn't use `\glsdisplay` or `\glsdisplayfirst`. (The same is true for all the following commands described in this section.)

There are also analogous commands:

`\Glsstext` `\Glsstext [<options>] { <text> } [<insert>]`

`\GLStext` `\GLStext [<options>] { <text> } [<insert>]`

As before, these commands also have a starred version that disable the hyperlink.

The command:

`\glsfirst` `\glsfirst [<options>] { <label> } [<insert>]`

is similar to `\glsstext` except that it always uses the value of the `first` key. Again, `<insert>` is always appended to the end of the link text and does not affect the **first use flag**.

There are also analogous commands:

`\Glsfirst` `\Glsfirst [<options>] { <text> } [<insert>]`

`\GLSfirst` `\GLSfirst [<options>] { <text> } [<insert>]`

As before, these commands also have a starred version that disable the hyperlink.

The command:

`\glsplural` `\glsplural [<options>] { <label> } [<insert>]`

is similar to `\glsstext` except that it always uses the value of the `plural` key. Again, `<insert>` is always appended to the end of the link text and does not mark the entry as having been used.

There are also analogous commands:

`\Glsplural` `\Glsplural [<options>] { <text> } [<insert>]`

`\GLSplural` `\GLSplural [<options>] { <text> } [<insert>]`

6 Links to Glossary Entries

As before, these commands also have a starred version that disable the hyperlink.

The command:

`\glsfirstplural` `\glsfirstplural[<options>]{<label>}[<insert>]`

is similar to `\glstext` except that it always uses the value of the `firstplural` key. Again, *<insert>* is always appended to the end of the link text and does not mark the entry as having been used.

There are also analogous commands:

`\Glsfirstplural` `\Glsfirstplural[<options>]{<text>}[<insert>]`

`\GLSfirstplural` `\GLSfirstplural[<options>]{<text>}[<insert>]`

As before, these commands also have a starred version that disable the hyperlink.

The command:

`\glsname` `\glsname[<options>]{<label>}[<insert>]`

is similar to `\glstext` except that it always uses the value of the `name` key. Again, *<insert>* is always appended to the end of the link text and does not mark the entry as having been used. Note: if you want to use this command and the `name` key contains commands, you will have to disable the **sanitization** of the `name` key and protect fragile commands.

There are also analogous commands:

`\Glsname` `\Glsname[<options>]{<text>}[<insert>]`

`\GLSname` `\GLSname[<options>]{<text>}[<insert>]`

As before, these commands also have a starred version that disable the hyperlink.

The command:

`\glssymbol` `\glssymbol[<options>]{<label>}[<insert>]`

is similar to `\glstext` except that it always uses the value of the `symbol` key. Again, *<insert>* is always appended to the end of the link

6 Links to Glossary Entries

text and does not mark the entry as having been used. Note: if you want to use this command and the symbol key contains commands, you will have to disable the **sanitization** of the symbol key and protect fragile commands.

There are also analogous commands:

`\Glsymbol` `\Glsymbol [⟨options⟩] {⟨text⟩} [⟨insert⟩]`

`\GLSsymbol` `\GLSsymbol [⟨options⟩] {⟨text⟩} [⟨insert⟩]`

As before, these commands also have a starred version that disable the hyperlink.

The command:

`\glsdesc` `\glsdesc [⟨options⟩] {⟨label⟩} [⟨insert⟩]`

is similar to `\gls text` except that it always uses the value of the description key. Again, `⟨insert⟩` is always appended to the end of the link text and does not mark the entry as having been used. Note: if you want to use this command and the description key contains commands, you will have to disable the **sanitization** of the description key and protect fragile commands.

There are also analogous commands:

`\Glsdesc` `\Glsdesc [⟨options⟩] {⟨text⟩} [⟨insert⟩]`

`\GLSdesc` `\GLSdesc [⟨options⟩] {⟨text⟩} [⟨insert⟩]`

As before, these commands also have a starred version that disable the hyperlink.

The command:

`\glsuseri` `\glsuseri [⟨options⟩] {⟨label⟩} [⟨insert⟩]`

is similar to `\gls text` except that it always uses the value of the `user1` key. Again, `⟨insert⟩` is always appended to the end of the link text and does not mark the entry as having been used.

There are also analogous commands:

`\Glsuseri` `\Glsuseri [⟨options⟩] {⟨text⟩} [⟨insert⟩]`

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`\GLSuseri` `[<options>] {<text>} [<insert>]`

As before, these commands also have a starred version that disable the hyperlink. Similarly for the other user keys:

`\glsuserii` `[<options>] {<text>} [<insert>]`

`\Glsuserii` `[<options>] {<text>} [<insert>]`

`\GLSuserii` `[<options>] {<text>} [<insert>]`

`\glsuseriii` `[<options>] {<text>} [<insert>]`

`\Glsuseriii` `[<options>] {<text>} [<insert>]`

`\GLSuseriii` `[<options>] {<text>} [<insert>]`

`\glsuseriv` `[<options>] {<text>} [<insert>]`

`\Glsuseriv` `[<options>] {<text>} [<insert>]`

`\GLSuseriv` `[<options>] {<text>} [<insert>]`

`\glsuserv` `[<options>] {<text>} [<insert>]`

`\Glsuserv` `[<options>] {<text>} [<insert>]`

`\GLSuserv` `[<options>] {<text>} [<insert>]`

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`\glsuservi` `\glsuservi [⟨options⟩] {⟨text⟩} [⟨insert⟩]`

`\Glsuservi` `\Glsuservi [⟨options⟩] {⟨text⟩} [⟨insert⟩]`

`\GLSuservi` `\GLSuservi [⟨options⟩] {⟨text⟩} [⟨insert⟩]`

6.1 Changing the format of the link text

The format of the **link text** for `\gls`, `\glspl` and their uppercase variants is governed by two commands:

`\glsdisplayfirst` `\glsdisplayfirst {⟨first/first plural⟩} {⟨description⟩} {⟨symbol⟩} {⟨insert⟩}`

which is used the **first time** a glossary entry is used in the text and

`\glsdisplay` `\glsdisplay {⟨text/plural⟩} {⟨description⟩} {⟨symbol⟩} {⟨insert⟩}`

which is used subsequently. Both commands take four arguments: the first is either the singular or plural form given by the text, plural, first or firstplural keys (set when the term was defined) depending on context; the second argument is the term's description (as supplied by the description or descriptionplural keys); the third argument is the symbol associated with the term (as supplied by the symbol or symbolplural keys) and the fourth argument is the additional text supplied in the final optional argument to `\gls` or `\glspl` (or their uppercase variants). The default definitions of `\glsdisplay` and `\glsdisplayfirst` simply print the first argument immediately followed by the fourth argument. The remaining arguments are ignored.

Care needs to be taken when redefining `\glsdisplay` and `\glsdisplayfirst` as commands like `\Gls` will expand the displayed text before applying `\makefirstuc`. If you want to use formatting commands, it's best to define a robust version that deals with all the formatting. For example, suppose you want the text to appear in bold italic, it's best to do something like:

```
\DeclareRobustCommand{\textbfit}[1]{\emph{\bfseries #1}}
\renewcommand{\glsdisplay}[4]{\textbfit{#1#4}}
```

See the `mfirstuc` documentation for further details on the limitations of `\makefirstuc`.

If required, you can access the label for the given entry via

`\glslabel`

```
\glslabel
```

so it is possible to use this label in the definition of `\glsdisplay` or `\glsdisplayfirst` to supply additional information using any of the commands described in Section 9, if required.

Note that `\glsdisplay` and `\glsdisplayfirst` are not used by `\glslink`. If you want to supply your own link text, you need to use `\glsdisp` instead.

For example, suppose you want a glossary of measurements and units, you can use the symbol key to store the unit:

```
\newglossaryentry{distance}{name=distance,
description={The length between two points},
symbol={km}}
```

and now suppose you want `\gls{distance}` to produce “distance (km)” on **first use**, then you can redefine `\glsdisplayfirst` as follows:

```
\renewcommand{\glsdisplayfirst}[4]{#1#4 (#3)}
```

Note that the additional text is placed after `#1`, so `\gls{distance}['s]` will produce “distance’s (km)” rather than “distance (km)’s” which looks a bit odd (even though it may be in the context of “the distance (km) is measured between the two points” — but in this instance it would be better not to use a contraction).

Note also that all of the **link text** will be formatted according to `\glsformat` (described earlier). So if you do, say:

```
\renewcommand{\glsformat}[1]{\textbf{#1}}
\renewcommand{\glsdisplayfirst}[4]{#1#4 (#3)}
```

6 Links to Glossary Entries

then `\gls{distance}` will produce “**distance (km)**”.

If you have multiple glossaries, changing `\glsdisplayfirst` and `\glsdisplay` will change the way entries for all of the glossaries appear when using the commands `\gls`, `\glspl`, their uppercase variants and `\glsdisp`. If you only want the change to affect entries for a given glossary, then you need to use

```
\defglsdisplay \defglsdisplay[<type>]{<definition>}
```

and

```
\defglsdisplayfirst \defglsdisplayfirst[<type>]{<definition>}
```

instead of redefining `\glsdisplay` and `\glsdisplayfirst`.

Both `\defglsdisplay` and `\defglsdisplayfirst` take two arguments: the first (which is optional) is the glossary’s label¹ and the second is how the term should be displayed when it is invoked using commands `\gls`, `\glspl`, their uppercase variants and `\glsdisp`. This is similar to the way `\glsdisplayfirst` was redefined above.

For example, suppose you have created a new glossary called `notation` and you want to change the way the entry is displayed on **first use** so that it includes the symbol, you can do:

```
\defglsdisplayfirst[notation]{#1#4 (denoted #3)}
```

Now suppose you have defined an entry as follows:

```
\newglossaryentry{set}{type=notation,
  name=set,
  description={A collection of objects},
  symbol={$$$}
}
```

The **first time** you reference this entry it will be displayed as: “set (denoted S)” (assuming `\gls` was used).

Remember that if you use the symbol key, you need to use a glossary style that displays the symbol, as many of the styles ignore it. In addition, if you want either the description or symbol to appear in the **link text**, you will have to disable the **sanitization** of these keys and protect fragile commands.

¹main for the main (default) glossary, `\acronymtype` for the list of acronyms, or the name supplied in the first mandatory argument to `\newglossary` for additional glossaries.

6.2 Enabling and disabling hyperlinks to glossary entries

If you load the `hyperref` or `html` packages prior to loading the glossaries package, commands such as `\glslink` and `\gls`, described above, will automatically have hyperlinks to the relevant glossary entry, unless the `hyper` option has been set to `false`. You can disable or enable links using:

`\glsdisablehyper`

`\glsdisablehyper`

and

`\glsenablehyper`

`\glsenablehyper`

respectively. The effect can be localised by placing the commands within a group. Note that you should only use `\glsenablehyper` if the commands `\hyperlink` and `\hypertarget` have been defined (for example, by the `hyperref` package).

You can disable just the **first use** links using the package option `hyperfirst=false`. Note that this option only affects commands that recognise the **first use flag**, for example `\gls`, `\glspl` and `\glsdisp` but not `\glslink`.

7 Adding an Entry to the Glossary Without Generating Text

It is possible to add a line in the glossary file without generating any text at that point in the document using:

```
\glsadd \glsadd[<options>]{<label>}
```

This is similar to `\glslink`, only it doesn't produce any text (so therefore, there is no hyper key available in *<options>* but all the other options that can be used with `\glslink` can be passed to `\glsadd`). For example, to add a page range to the glossary number list for the entry whose label is given by `set`:

```
\glsadd[format={}]{set}
Lots of text about sets spanning many pages.
\glsadd[format=)]{set}
```

To add all entries that have been defined, use:

```
\glsaddall \glsaddall[<options>]
```

The optional argument is the same as for `\glsadd`, except there is also a key `types` which can be used to specify which glossaries to use. This should be a comma separated list. For example, if you only want to add all the entries belonging to the list of acronyms (specified by the glossary type `\acronymtype`) and a list of notation (specified by the glossary type `notation`) then you can do:

```
\glsaddall[types={\acronymtype,notation}]
```

Note that `\glsadd` and `\glsaddall` add the current location to the number list. In the case of `\glsaddall`, all entries in the glossary will have the same location in the number list. If you want to use `\glsaddall`, it's best to suppress the number list with the `nonumberlist` package option. (See sections 2.3 and 5.)

The sample file `sample-dual.tex` makes use of `\glsadd` to allow for an entry that should appear both in the main glossary and in

7 Adding an Entry to the Glossary Without Generating Text

the list of acronyms. This example sets up the list of acronyms using the acronym package option:

```
\usepackage[acronym]{glossaries}
```

A new command is then defined to make it easier to define dual entries:

```
\newcommand*{\newdualentry}[5][ ]{%  
  \newglossaryentry{main-#2}{name={#4},%  
    text={#3\protect\glsadd{#2}},%  
    description={#5},%  
    #1  
  }%  
  \newacronym{#2}{#3\protect\glsadd{main-#2}}{#4}  
}
```

This has the following syntax:

```
\newdualentry[<options>]{<label>}{<abbrv>}{<long>}{<description>}
```

You can then define a new dual entry:

```
\newdualentry{svm}% label  
  {SVM}% abbreviation  
  {support vector machine}% long form  
  {Statistical pattern recognition technique}% description
```

Now you can reference the acronym with `\gls{svm}` or you can reference the entry in the main glossary with `\gls{main-svm}`.

8 Cross-Referencing Entries

There are several ways of cross-referencing entries in the glossary:

1. You can use commands such as `\gls` in the entries description. For example:

```
\newglossaryentry{apple}{name=apple,  
description={firm, round fruit. See also \gls{pear}}}
```

Note that with this method, if you don't use the cross-referenced term in the main part of the document, you will need two runs of `makeglossaries`:

```
latex filename  
makeglossaries filename  
latex filename  
makeglossaries filename  
latex filename
```

If you switch off the description sanitization, you must protect fragile commands:^a

```
\newglossaryentry{apple}{name=apple,  
description={firm, round fruit. See also  
\protect\gls{pear}}}
```

^aAs from v3.01, `\gls` is no longer fragile.

2. As described in Section 4, you can use the `see` key when you define the entry. For example:

```
\newglossaryentry{MaclaurinSeries}{name={Maclaurin  
series},  
description={Series expansion},  
see={TaylorsTheorem}}
```

Note that in this case, the entry with the `see` key will automatically be added to the glossary, but the cross-referenced entry

8 Cross-Referencing Entries

won't. You therefore need to ensure that you use the cross-referenced term with the commands described in Section 6 or Section 7.

The “see” tag is produced using `\seename`, but can be overridden in specific instances using square brackets at the start of the see value. For example:

```
\newglossaryentry{MaclaurinSeries}{name={Maclaurin
series},
description={Series expansion},
see=[see also]{TaylorsTheorem}}
```

3. After you have defined the entry, use

`\glssee`

`\glssee[⟨tag⟩]{⟨label⟩}{⟨xr label list⟩}`

where `⟨xr label list⟩` is a comma-separated list of entry labels to be cross-referenced, `⟨label⟩` is the label of the entry doing the cross-referencing and `⟨tag⟩` is the “see” tag. (The default value of `⟨tag⟩` is `\seename`.) For example:

```
\glssee[see also]{series}{FourierSeries,TaylorsTheorem}
```

Note that this automatically adds the entry given by `⟨label⟩` to the glossary but doesn't add the cross-referenced entries (specified by `⟨xr label list⟩`) to the glossary.

In both cases 2 and 3 above, the cross-referenced information appears in the **number list**, whereas in case 1, the cross-referenced information appears in the description. (See the `sample-crossref.tex` example file that comes with this package.) This means that in cases 2 and 3, the cross-referencing information won't appear if you have suppressed the number list. In this case, you will need to activate the number list for the given entries using `nonumberlist=false`. Alternatively, if you just use the `see` key instead of `\glssee`, you can automatically activate the number list using the `seeautonumberlist` package option.

8.1 Customising Cross-reference Text

When you use either the `see` key or the command `\glssee`, the cross-referencing information will be typeset in the glossary according to:

8 Cross-Referencing Entries

`\glsseeformat` `\glsseeformat [⟨tag⟩] {⟨label-list⟩} {⟨location⟩}`

The default definition of `\glsseeformat` is:

```
\emph{⟨tag⟩} \glsseelist{⟨label-list⟩}
```

Note that the location is always ignored.¹ For example, if you want the tag to appear in bold, you can do:²

```
\renewcommand*{\glsseeformat}[3][\seename]{\textbf{#1}
\glsseelist{#2}}
```

The list of labels is dealt with by `\glsseelist`, which iterates through the list and typesets each entry in the label. The entries are separated by

`\glsseesep` `\glsseesep`

or (for the last pair)

`\glsseelastsep` `\glsseelastsep`

These default to “`, \space`” and “`\space\andname\space`” respectively. The list entry text is displayed using:

`\glsseeitemformat` `\glsseeitemformat{⟨label⟩}`

This defaults to `\glsentrytext{⟨label⟩}`.³ For example, to make the cross-referenced list use small caps:

```
\renewcommand{\glsseeitemformat}[1]{%
\textsc{\glsentrytext{#1}}}
```

¹`makeindex` will always assign a location number, even if it’s not needed, so it needs to be discarded.

²If you redefine `\glsseeformat`, keep the default value of the optional argument as `\seename` as both `see` and `\glssee` explicitly write `[\seename]` in the output file if no optional argument is given.

³In versions before 3.0, `\glsentryname` was used, but this can cause problems when the name key is `sanitized`.

8 Cross-Referencing Entries

You can use `\glsseeformat` and `\glsseelist` in the main body of the text, but they won't automatically add the cross-referenced entries to the glossary. If you want them added with that location, you can do:

```
Some information (see also  
\glsseelist{FourierSeries,TaylorsTheorem}%  
\glsadd{FourierSeries}\glsadd{TaylorsTheorem}).
```

9 Using Glossary Terms Without Links

The commands described in this section display entry details without adding any information to the glossary. They don't use `\glstextformat`, they don't have any optional arguments, they don't affect the **first use flag** and, apart from `\glshyperlink`, they don't produce hyperlinks.

`\glentryname` `\glentryname{⟨label⟩}`

`\Glentryname` `\Glentryname{⟨label⟩}`

These commands display the name of the glossary entry given by `⟨label⟩`, as specified by the `name` key. `\Glentryname` makes the first letter uppercase.

`\glentrytext` `\glentrytext{⟨label⟩}`

`\Glentrytext` `\Glentrytext{⟨label⟩}`

These commands display the subsequent use text for the glossary entry given by `⟨label⟩`, as specified by the `text` key. `\Glentrytext` makes the first letter uppercase.

`\glentryplural` `\glentryplural{⟨label⟩}`

`\Glentryplural` `\Glentryplural{⟨label⟩}`

These commands display the subsequent use plural text for the glossary entry given by `⟨label⟩`, as specified by the `plural` key. `\Glentryplural` makes the first letter uppercase.

`\glentryfirst` `\glentryfirst{⟨label⟩}`

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`\Glsentryfirst`

```
\Glsentryfirst{⟨label⟩}
```

These commands display the **first use text** for the glossary entry given by *⟨label⟩*, as specified by the first key. `\Glsentryfirst` makes the first letter uppercase.

`\glsentryfirstplural`

```
\glsentryfirstplural{⟨label⟩}
```

`\Glsentryfirstplural`

```
\Glsentryfirstplural{⟨label⟩}
```

These commands display the plural form of the **first use text** for the glossary entry given by *⟨label⟩*, as specified by the firstplural key. `\Glsentryfirstplural` makes the first letter uppercase.

`\glsentrydesc`

```
\glsentrydesc{⟨label⟩}
```

`\Glsentrydesc`

```
\Glsentrydesc{⟨label⟩}
```

These commands display the description for the glossary entry given by *⟨label⟩*. `\Glsentrydesc` makes the first letter uppercase.

`\glsentrydescplural`

```
\glsentrydescplural{⟨label⟩}
```

`\Glsentrydescplural`

```
\Glsentrydescplural{⟨label⟩}
```

These commands display the plural description for the glossary entry given by *⟨label⟩*. `\Glsentrydescplural` makes the first letter uppercase.

`\glsentrysymbol`

```
\glsentrysymbol{⟨label⟩}
```

`\Glsentrysymbol`

```
\Glsentrysymbol{⟨label⟩}
```

These commands display the symbol for the glossary entry given by *⟨label⟩*. `\Glsentrysymbol` makes the first letter uppercase.

`\glsentrysymbolplural`

```
\glsentrysymbolplural{⟨label⟩}
```


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`\Glsentrysymbolplural`

```
\Glsentrysymbolplural{⟨label⟩}
```

These commands display the plural symbol for the glossary entry given by `⟨label⟩`. `\Glsentrysymbolplural` makes the first letter uppercase.

`\glsentryuseri`

```
\glsentryuseri{⟨label⟩}
```

`\Glsentryuseri`

```
\Glsentryuseri{⟨label⟩}
```

`\glsentryuserii`

```
\glsentryuserii{⟨label⟩}
```

`\Glsentryuserii`

```
\Glsentryuserii{⟨label⟩}
```

`\glsentryuseriii`

```
\glsentryuseriii{⟨label⟩}
```

`\Glsentryuseriii`

```
\Glsentryuseriii{⟨label⟩}
```

`\glsentryuseriv`

```
\glsentryuseriv{⟨label⟩}
```

`\Glsentryuseriv`

```
\Glsentryuseriv{⟨label⟩}
```

`\glsentryuserv`

```
\glsentryuserv{⟨label⟩}
```

`\Glsentryuserv`

```
\Glsentryuserv{⟨label⟩}
```

`\glsentryuservi`

```
\glsentryuservi{⟨label⟩}
```

`\Glsentryuservi`

```
\Glsentryuservi{⟨label⟩}
```

9 Using Glossary Terms Without Links

These commands display the value of the user keys for the glossary entry given by $\langle label \rangle$.

`\glshyperlink`

```
\glshyperlink[ $\langle link text \rangle$ ]{ $\langle label \rangle$ }
```

This command provides a hyperlink to the glossary entry given by $\langle label \rangle$ **but does not add any information to the glossary file**. The link text is given by `\glentrytext{ $\langle label \rangle$ }` by default¹, but can be overridden using the optional argument.

If you use `\glshyperlink`, you need to ensure that the relevant entry has been added to the glossary using any of the commands described in Section 6 or Section 7 otherwise you will end up with an undefined link.

The next two commands are only available with the `savenumberlist` package option:

`\glentrynumberlist`

```
\glentrynumberlist{ $\langle label \rangle$ }
```

`\gldisplaynumberlist`

```
\gldisplaynumberlist{ $\langle label \rangle$ }
```

Both display the **number list** for the entry given by $\langle label \rangle$ and require a run of `makeglossaries` (or `xindy` or `makeindex`) followed by one or two runs of \LaTeX . The first command, `\glentrynumberlist`, simply displays the number list as is. The second command, `\gldisplaynumberlist`, formats the list using:

`\glnumlistsep`

```
\glnumlistsep
```

as the separator between all but the last two elements and

`\glnumlistlastsep`

```
\glnumlistlastsep
```

between the final two elements. The defaults are `,`, `_` and `_ \& _`, respectively.

¹versions before 3.0 used `\glentryname` as the default, but this can cause problems when name has been **sanitized**.

9 Using Glossary Terms Without Links

`\glsdisplaynumberlist` is fairly experimental. It only works when the default counter format is used (that is, when the `format` key is set to `glsnumberformat`). This command also doesn't work with `hyperref`. If you try using it with that package, `\glsentrynumberlist` will be used instead.

For further information see section 1.10.2 “Displaying entry details without adding information to the glossary” in the documented code (`glossaries.pdf`).

10 Displaying a glossary

The command

`\printglossaries`

```
\printglossaries
```

will display all the glossaries in the order in which they were defined. Note that no glossaries will appear until you have either used the Perl script `makeglossaries` or have directly used `makeindex` or `xindy` (as described in Section 1.3). If the glossary still does not appear after you re- \LaTeX your document, check the `makeindex/xindy` log files to see if there is a problem. Remember that you also need to use the command `\makeglossaries` in the preamble to enable the glossaries.

An individual glossary can be displayed using:

`\printglossary`

```
\printglossary[\langle options \rangle]
```

where *\langle options \rangle* is a *\langle key \rangle*=*\langle value \rangle* list of options. The following keys are available:

type The value of this key specifies which glossary to print. If omitted, the default glossary is assumed. For example, to print the list of acronyms:

```
\printglossary[type=\acronymtype]
```

title This is the glossary's title (overriding the title specified when the glossary was defined).

toctitle This is the title to use for the table of contents (if the `toc` package option has been used). It may also be used for the page header, depending on the page style. If omitted, the value of `title` is used.

style This specifies which glossary style to use for this glossary, overriding the effect of the `style` package option or `\glossarystyle`.

numberedsection This specifies whether to use a numbered section for this glossary, overriding the effect of the `numberedsection` package option. This key has the same syntax as the `numberedsection` package option, described in Section 2.2.

10 Displaying a glossary

nonumberlist This is a boolean key. If true (`nonumberlist=true`) the numberlist is suppressed for this glossary. If false (`nonumberlist=false`) the numberlist is displayed for this glossary. If no value is supplied, true is assumed.

By default, the glossary is started either by `\chapter*` or by `\section*`, depending on whether or not `\chapter` is defined. This can be overridden by the `section` package option or the `\setglossarysection` command. Numbered sectional units can be obtained using the `numberedsection` package option. Each glossary sets the page header via the command `\glossarymark`. If this mechanism is unsuitable for your chosen class file or page style package, you will need to redefine `\glossarymark`. Further information about these options and commands is given in Section 2.2.

Information can be added to the start of the glossary (after the title and before the main body of the glossary) by redefining

`\glossarypreamble`

`\glossarypreamble`

For example:

```
\renewcommand{\glossarypreamble}{Numbers in italic
indicate primary definitions.}
```

This needs to be done before the glossary is displayed using `\printglossaries` or `\printglossary`. Note that if you want a different preamble for each glossary, you will need to use a separate `\printglossary` for each glossary and change the definition of `\glossarypreamble` between each glossary. For example:

```
\renewcommand{\glossarypreamble}{Numbers in italic
indicate primary definitions.}
\printglossary
\renewcommand{\glossarypreamble}{}
\printglossary[type=acronym]
```

Alternatively, you can do something like:

```
\renewcommand{\glossarypreamble}{Numbers in italic
indicate primary definitions.\gdef\glossarypreamble{}}
\printglossaries
```

which will print the preamble text for the first glossary and change the preamble to do nothing for subsequent glossaries. (Note that `\gdef` is required as the glossary is placed within a group.)

There is an analogous command called

`\glossarypostamble`

`\glossarypostamble`

10 Displaying a glossary

which is placed at the end of each glossary.

For example: suppose you are using the `superheaderborder` style¹, and you want the glossary to be in two columns, but after the glossary you want to switch back to one column mode, you could do:

```
\renewcommand*{\glossarysection}[2][ ]{%  
  \twocolumn[{\chapter*{#2}}]%  
  \setlength\glsdescwidth{0.6\linewidth}%  
  \glossarymark{\glossarytoctitle}%  
}  
  
\renewcommand*{\glossarypostamble}{\onecolumn}
```

Within each glossary, each entry name is formatted according to

`\glsnamefont`

`\glsnamefont{⟨name⟩}`

which takes one argument: the entry name. This command is always used regardless of the glossary style. By default, `\glsnamefont` simply displays its argument in whatever the surrounding font happens to be. This means that in the list-like glossary styles (defined in the `glossary-list` style file) the name will appear in bold, since the name is placed in the optional argument of `\item`, whereas in the tabular styles (defined in the `glossary-long` and `glossary-super` style files) the name will appear in the normal font. The hierarchical glossary styles (defined in the `glossary-tree` style file) also set the name in bold.

For example, suppose you want all the entry names to appear in medium weight small caps, then you can do:

```
\renewcommand{\glsnamefont}[1]{\textsc{\mdseries #1}}
```

¹you can't use the `longheaderborder` style for this example as you can't use the `longtable` environment in two column mode.

11 Xindy

If you want to use `xindy` to sort the glossary, you must use the package option `xindy`:

```
\usepackage[xindy]{glossaries}
```

This ensures that the glossary information is written in `xindy` syntax.

Section 1.3 covers how to use the external indexing application. This section covers the commands provided by the `glossaries` package that allow you to adjust the `xindy` style file (`.xdy`) and parameters.

To assist writing information to the `xindy` style file, the `glossaries` package provides the following commands:

`\glsopenbrace`

```
\glsopenbrace
```

`\glsclosebrace`

```
\glsclosebrace
```

which produce an open and closing brace. (This is needed because `\{` and `\}` don't expand to a simple brace character when written to a file.)

In addition, if you are using a package that makes the double quote character active (e.g. `ngerman`) you can use:

`\glsquote`

```
\glsquote{<text>}
```

which will produce `"<text>"`. Alternatively, you can use `\string` to write the double-quote character. This document assumes that the double quote character has not been made active, so the examples just use `"` for clarity.

If you want greater control over the `xindy` style file than is available through the \LaTeX commands provided by the `glossaries` package, you will need to edit the `xindy` style file. In which case, you must use `\noist` to prevent the style file from being overwritten by the `glossaries` package. For additional information about `xindy`, read the `xindy` documentation.

11.1 Language and Encodings

When you use **xindy**, you need to specify the language and encoding used (unless you have written your own custom xindy style file that defines the relevant alphabet and sort rules). If you use **makeglossaries**, this information is obtained from the document's auxiliary (.aux) file. The glossaries package attempts to find the root language, but in the event that it gets it wrong or if xindy doesn't support that language, then you can specify the language using:

`\GlsSetXdyLanguage`

```
\GlsSetXdyLanguage[⟨glossary type⟩]{⟨language⟩}
```

where *⟨language⟩* is the name of the language. The optional argument can be used if you have multiple glossaries in different languages. If *⟨glossary type⟩* is omitted, it will be applied to all glossaries, otherwise the language setting will only be applied to the glossary given by *⟨glossary type⟩*.

If the inputenc package is used, the encoding will be obtained from the value of `\inputencodingname`. Alternatively, you can specify the encoding using:

`\GlsSetXdyCodePage`

```
\GlsSetXdyCodePage{⟨code⟩}
```

where *⟨code⟩* is the name of the encoding. For example:

```
\GlsSetXdyCodePage{utf8}
```

Note that you can also specify the language and encoding using the package option `xindy={language=⟨lang⟩,codepage=⟨code⟩}`. For example:

```
\usepackage[xindy={language=english,codepage=utf8}]{glossaries}
```

If you write your own custom **xindy** style file that includes the language settings, you need to set the language to nothing:

```
\GlsSetXdyLanguage{}
```

(and remember to use `\noist` to prevent the style file from being overwritten).

The commands `\GlsSetXdyLanguage` and `\GlsSetXdyCodePage` have no effect if you don't use **makeglossaries**. If you call **xindy** without **makeglossaries** you need to remember to set the language and encoding using the `-L` and `-C` switches.

11.2 Locations and Number lists

If you use xindy, the glossaries package needs to know which counters you will be using in the **number list** in order to correctly format the **xindy** style file. Counters specified using the counter package option or the `\counter` option of `\newglossary` are automatically taken care of, but if you plan to use a different counter in the counter key for commands like `\glslink`, then you need to identify these counters *before* `\makeglossaries` using:

`\GlsAddXdyCounters`

```
\GlsAddXdyCounters{<counter list>}
```

where `<counter list>` is a comma-separated list of counter names.

The most likely attributes used in the format key (`\textrm`, `\hyperrm` etc) are automatically added to the **xindy** style file, but if you want to use another attribute, you need to add it using:

`\GlsAddXdyAttribute`

```
\GlsAddXdyAttribute{<name>}
```

where `<name>` is the name of the attribute, as used in the format key. For example, suppose I want a bold, italic, hyperlinked location. I first need to define a command that will do this:

```
\newcommand*{\hyperbfit}[1]{\textit{\hyperbf{#1}}}
```

but with **xindy**, I also need to add this as an allowed attribute:

```
\GlsAddXdyAttribute{hyperbfit}
```

Note that `\GlsAddXdyAttribute` has no effect if `\noist` is used or if `\makeglossaries` is omitted. `\GlsAddXdyAttribute` must be used before `\makeglossaries`. Additionally, `\GlsAddXdyCounters` must come before `\GlsAddXdyAttribute`.

If the location numbers don't get expanded to a simple Arabic or Roman number or a letter from a, ..., z or A, ..., Z, then you need to add a location style in the appropriate format using

`\GlsAddXdyLocation`

```
\GlsAddXdyLocation[<prefix-location>]{<name>}{<definition>}
```

where `<name>` is the name of the format and `<definition>` is the **xindy** definition. The optional argument `<prefix-location>` is needed if `\theH<counter>` either isn't defined or is different from `\the<counter>`.

Note that `\GlsAddXdyLocation` has no effect if `\noist` is used or if `\makeglossaries` is omitted. `\GlsAddXdyLocation` must be used before `\makeglossaries`.

For example, suppose I decide to use a somewhat eccentric numbering system for sections that redefines `\thesection` as follows:

```
\renewcommand*{\thesection}{[\thechapter]\arabic{section}}
```

If I haven't done `counter=section` in the package option, I need to specify that the counter will be used as a location number:

```
\GlsAddXdyCounters{section}
```

Next I need to add the location style (`\thechapter` is assumed to be the standard `\arabic{chapter}`):

```
\GlsAddXdyLocation{section}{:sep "[" "arabic-numbers" :sep "]"
"arabic-numbers"
}
```

Note that if I have further decided to use the `hyperref` package and want to redefine `\theHsection` as:

```
\renewcommand*{\theHsection}{\thepart.\thesection}
\renewcommand*{\thepart}{\Roman{part}}
```

then I need to modify the `\GlsAddXdyLocation` code above to:

```
\GlsAddXdyLocation["roman-numbers-uppercase"]{section}{:sep "["
"arabic-numbers" :sep "]" "arabic-numbers"
}
```

Since `\Roman` will result in an empty string if the counter is zero, it's a good idea to add an extra location to catch this:

```
\GlsAddXdyLocation{zero.section}{:sep "["
"arabic-numbers" :sep "]" "arabic-numbers"
}
```

The above example is illustrated in the accompanying sample file `samplexdy2.tex`.

Another example: suppose you want the page numbers written as words rather than digits and you use the `fntcount` package to do this. You can redefine `\thepage` as follows:

```
\renewcommand*{\thepage}{\Numberstring{page}}
```

11 Xindy

This gets expanded to `\protect \Numberstringnum {⟨n⟩}` where `⟨n⟩` is the Arabic page number. This means that you need to define a new location that has that form:

```
\GlsAddXdyLocation{Numberstring}{:sep "\string\protect\space
\string\Numberstringnum\space\glssopenbrace"
"arabic-numbers" :sep "\glsclosebrace"}
```

Note that it's necessary to use `\space` to indicate that spaces also appear in the format, since, unlike `TEX`, `xindy` doesn't ignore spaces after control sequences.

`\GlsAddXdyLocation{⟨name⟩}{⟨definition⟩}` will define commands

```
\glsX⟨counter⟩X⟨name⟩{⟨Hprefix⟩}{⟨location⟩}
```

for each counter that has been identified either by the counter package option, the `⟨counter⟩` option for `\newglossary` or in the argument of `\GlsAddXdyCounters`.

The first argument `⟨Hprefix⟩` is only relevant when used with the `hyperref` package and indicates that `\the⟨Hcounter⟩` is given by `\Hprefix.\the⟨counter⟩`. The sample file `samplexdy.tex`, which comes with the glossaries package, uses the default page counter for locations, and it uses the default `\glsnumberformat` and a custom `\hyperbfit` format. A new `xindy` location called `Numberstring`, as illustrated above, is defined to make the page numbers appear as “One”, “Two”, etc. In order for the location numbers to hyperlink to the relevant pages, I need to redefine the necessary `\glsX⟨counter⟩X⟨format⟩` commands:

```
\renewcommand{\glsXpageXglsnumberformat}[2]{%
\linkpagenumber#2%
}

\renewcommand{\glsXpageXhyperbfit}[2]{%
\textbf{\em\linkpagenumber#2}%
}

\newcommand{\linkpagenumber}[3]{\hyperlink{page.#3}{#1#2{#3}}}
```

In the **number list**, the locations are sorted according to type. The default ordering is: `roman-page-numbers` (e.g. i), `arabic-page-numbers` (e.g. 1), `arabic-section-numbers` (e.g. 1.1 if the compositor is a full stop or 1-1 if the compositor is a hyphen¹), `alpha-page-numbers` (e.g. a), `Roman-page-numbers` (e.g. I), `Alpha-page-numbers` (e.g. A), `Appendix-page-numbers` (e.g. A.1 if the Alpha compositor is

¹see `\setCompositor` described in Section 3

a full stop or A-1 if the Alpha compositor is a hyphen²), user defined location names (as specified by `\GlsAddXdyLocation` in the order in which they were defined), see (cross-referenced entries). This ordering can be changed using:

`\GlsSetXdyLocationClassOrder`

```
\GlsSetXdyLocationClassOrder{⟨location names⟩}
```

where each location name is delimited by double quote marks and separated by white space. For example:

```
\GlsSetXdyLocationClassOrder{
  "arabic-page-numbers"
  "arabic-section-numbers"
  "roman-page-numbers"
  "Roman-page-numbers"
  "alpha-page-numbers"
  "Alpha-page-numbers"
  "Appendix-page-numbers"
  "see"
}
```

Note that `\GlsSetXdyLocationClassOrder` has no effect if `\noist` is used or if `\makeglossaries` is omitted. `\GlsSetXdyLocationClassOrder` must be used before `\makeglossaries`.

If a **number list** consists of a sequence of consecutive numbers, the range will be concatenated. The number of consecutive locations that causes a range formation defaults to 2, but can be changed using:

`\GlsSetXdyMinRangeLength` `\GlsSetXdyMinRangeLength{⟨n⟩}`

For example:

```
\GlsSetXdyMinRangeLength{3}
```

The argument may also be the keyword `none`, to indicate that there should be no range formations. See the **xindy** manual for further details on range formations.

Note that `\GlsSetXdyMinRangeLength` has no effect if `\noist` is used or if `\makeglossaries` is omitted. `\GlsSetXdyMinRangeLength` must be used before `\makeglossaries`.

²see `\setAlphaCompositor` described in Section 3

See Section 5 for further details.

11.3 Glossary Groups

The glossary is divided into groups according to the first letter of the sort key. The glossaries package also adds a number group by default, unless you suppress it in the xindy package option. For example:

```
\usepackage[xindy={glsnumbers=false}]{glossaries}
```

Any entry that doesn't go in one of the letter groups or the number group is placed in the default group.

If you have a number group, the default behaviour is to locate it before the "A" letter group. If you are not using a Roman alphabet, you can change this using:

```
\GlsSetXdyFirstLetterAfterDigits
```

```
\GlsSetXdyFirstLetterAfterDigits{<letter>}
```

Note that `\GlsSetXdyFirstLetterAfterDigits` has no effect if `\noist` is used or if `\makeglossaries` is omitted. `\GlsSetXdyFirstLetterAfterDigits` **must** be used before `\makeglossaries`.

12 Defining New Glossaries

A new glossary can be defined using:

`\newglossary`

```
\newglossary[⟨log-ext⟩]{⟨name⟩}{⟨in-ext⟩}{⟨out-ext⟩}{⟨title⟩}  
[⟨counter⟩]
```

where *⟨name⟩* is the label to assign to this glossary. The arguments *⟨in-ext⟩* and *⟨out-ext⟩* specify the extensions to give to the input and output files for that glossary, *⟨title⟩* is the default title for this new glossary and the final optional argument *⟨counter⟩* specifies which counter to use for the associated **number lists** (see also Section 5). The first optional argument specifies the extension for the **makeindex** or **xindy** transcript file (this information is only used by **makeglossaries** which picks up the information from the auxiliary file).

Note that the main (default) glossary is automatically created as:

```
\newglossary{main}{gls}{glo}{\glossaryname}
```

so it can be identified by the label `main` (unless the `nomain` package option is used). Using the `acronym` package option is equivalent to:

```
\newglossary[alg]{acronym}{acr}{acn}{\acronymname}
```

`\acronymtype`

so it can be identified by the label `acronym`. If you are not sure whether the `acronym` option has been used, you can identify the list of acronyms by the command `\acronymtype` which is set to `acronym`, if the `acronym` option has been used, otherwise it is set to `main`. Note that if you are using the main glossary as your list of acronyms, you need to declare it as a list of acronyms using the package option `acronymlists`.

All glossaries must be defined before `\makeglossaries` to ensure that the relevant output files are opened.

13 Acronyms

You may have noticed in Section 4 that when you specify a new entry, you can specify alternate text to use when the term is **first used** in the document. This provides a useful means to define acronyms. For convenience, the glossaries package defines the command:

`\newacronym`

```
\newacronym[⟨key-val list⟩]{⟨label⟩}{⟨abbr⟩}{⟨long⟩}
```

This uses `\newglossaryentry` to create an entry with the given label in the glossary given by `\acronymtype`. Amongst other things, it sets up the `first` and `text` keys and, depending on the acronym style, may also use `\defdisplayfirst` and `\defdisplay` (see Section 6.1).

The optional argument `{⟨key-val list⟩}` allows you to specify keys such as `description` (when used with the `description` package option, described below) or you can override plural forms of `⟨abbr⟩` or `⟨long⟩` using the `shortplural` or `longplural` keys. For example:

```
\newacronym[longplural={diagonal matrices}]{dm}{DM}{diagonal matrix}
```

If the **first use** uses the plural form, `\glspl{dm}` will display: diagonal matrices (DMs).

The following package options are available to change the acronym style:

description With this package option, the `description` key needs to be set in the optional argument `⟨key-val list⟩` of `\newacronym`. (If this package option isn't used, the long form `⟨long⟩` is put in the `description` key.)

footnote With this package option, on **first use** the long form `⟨long⟩` is placed in a footnote. By default the long form in the footnote will link to the relevant entry in the glossary or list of acronyms. You can prevent this link by doing:

```
\let\acrfootnote\acrnolinkfootnote
```

smallcaps With this package option, the short form `⟨abbr⟩` is typeset using `\textsc`. (Recall that `\textsc` converts lower case

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characters into small capitals and leaves upper case characters as they are. Therefore, you need to have lower case characters in `<abbrv>` for this option to have an effect.)

smaller This is similar to `smallcaps`, except that `\textsmaller` is used instead of `\textsc`. Note that the `glossaries` package doesn't define `\textsmaller` nor does it load any package that does so. If you use this option, you must make sure `\textsmaller` is defined (for example by loading `relsize`).

dua This option will set both the first and text keys to the long form `<long>`.

If you want to define your own custom acronym style, see Section 13.3.

If you try using `\newglossaryentry` for entries in a designated list of acronyms in combination with any of the above named package options you are likely to get unexpected results such as empty brackets or empty footnotes.
If you don't intend to use `\newacronym` you should skip this section] and not use the above package options.

As mentioned in Section 2.2, the command `\acronymtype` is the name of the glossary in which the acronyms should appear. If the acronym package option has been used, this will be `acronym`, otherwise it will be `main`. The acronyms can then be used in exactly the same way as any other glossary entry. If you want more than one list of acronyms, you must identify the others using the package options `acronymlists`. This ensures that options such as `footnote` and `smallcaps` work for the additional lists of acronyms.

Since `\newacronym` sets `type=\acronymtype`, if you want to load a file containing acronym definitions using `\loadglsentries[<type>]{<filename>}`, the optional argument `<type>` will not have an effect unless you explicitly set the type as `type=\glsdefaulttype` in the optional argument to `\newacronym`. See Section 4.4.

Since `\newacronym` uses `\newglossaryentry`, you can use commands like `\gls` and `\glsreset` as with any other glossary entry.

For example, the following defines the acronym IDN:

```
\newacronym{idn}{IDN}{identification number}
```


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`\gls{idn}` will produce “identification number (IDN)” on **first use** and “IDN” on subsequent uses. If you want to use the `smallcaps` package option, you need to use lower case characters for the shortened form:

```
\newacronym{idn}{idn}{identification number}
```

Now `\gls{idn}` will produce “identification number (IDN)” on **first use** and “IDN” on subsequent uses.

If you use any of the package options `smallcaps`, `smaller`, `description` or `footnote`, the short form *⟨abbrv⟩* will be displayed in the document using:

`\acronymfont`

```
\acronymfont{⟨text⟩}
```

and

`\firstacronymfont`

```
\firstacronymfont{⟨text⟩}
```

where `\firstacronymfont` is applied on **first use** and `\acronymfont` is applied on subsequent use. Note that if you don’t use any of the above package options, changing the definition of `\acronymfont` or `\firstacronymfont` will have no effect. In this case, the recommended route is to use either the `smaller` or the `smallcaps` package option and redefine `\acronymfont` and `\firstacronymfont` as required. (The `smallcaps` option sets the default plural suffix in an upright font to cancel the effect of `\textsc`, whereas `smaller` sets the suffix in the surrounding font.) For example, if you want acronyms in a normal font on **first use** and emphasized on subsequent use, do:

```
\usepackage[smaller]{glossaries}
\renewcommand*{\firstacronymfont}[1]{#1}
\renewcommand*{\acronymfont}[1]{\emph{#1}}
```

(Note that it is for this reason that the `relabel` package is not automatically loaded when selecting the `smaller` package option.)

There are commands analogous to `\glstext` (described in Section 6) that allow you to access just the short form, just the long form or the full form, without affecting the **first use flag**. (Note that the full form isn’t necessarily the same as the text produced on **first use**.)

`\acrshort`

```
\acrshort[⟨options⟩]{⟨label⟩}[⟨insert⟩]
```

This displays the short form for the entry given by *⟨label⟩*. The optional arguments are the same as those for `\glstext`. There is also

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a starred version to suppress the hyperlink. There are also analogous upper case variants:

`\Acrshort` `\Acrshort[⟨options⟩]{⟨label⟩}[⟨insert⟩]`

`\ACRshort` `\ACRshort[⟨options⟩]{⟨label⟩}[⟨insert⟩]`

`\acrlong` `\acrlong[⟨options⟩]{⟨label⟩}[⟨insert⟩]`

This displays the long form for the entry given by `⟨label⟩`. The optional arguments are the same as before. There is also a starred version to suppress the hyperlink. There are also analogous upper case variants:

`\Acrlong` `\Acrlong[⟨options⟩]{⟨label⟩}[⟨insert⟩]`

`\ACRlong` `\ACRlong[⟨options⟩]{⟨label⟩}[⟨insert⟩]`

`\acrfull` `\acrfull[⟨options⟩]{⟨label⟩}[⟨insert⟩]`

`\acrfullformat` This is equivalent to: `\acrfullformat{\acrlong}{\acrshort}`. This defaults to `⟨long⟩` (`\acronymfont{⟨short⟩}`) regardless of the package options. There are also analogous upper case variants:

`\Acrfull` `\Acrfull[⟨options⟩]{⟨label⟩}[⟨insert⟩]`

`\ACRfull` `\ACRfull[⟨options⟩]{⟨label⟩}[⟨insert⟩]`

If you find the above commands too cumbersome to write, you can use the `shortcuts` package option to activate the shorter command names listed in [table 13.1](#).

It is also possible to access the long and short forms without adding information to the glossary using commands analogous to `\glsentrytext` (described in [Section 9](#)).

The long form can be accessed using:

`\glsentrylong` `\glsentrylong{⟨label⟩}`

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Table 13.1: Synonyms provided by the package option shortcuts

Shortcut Command	Equivalent Command
<code>\acs</code>	<code>\acrshort</code>
<code>\Acs</code>	<code>\Acrshort</code>
<code>\acsp</code>	<code>\acrshortpl</code>
<code>\Acsp</code>	<code>\Acrshortpl</code>
<code>\acl</code>	<code>\acrlong</code>
<code>\Acl</code>	<code>\Acrlong</code>
<code>\aclp</code>	<code>\acrlongpl</code>
<code>\Aclp</code>	<code>\Acrlongpl</code>
<code>\acf</code>	<code>\acrfull</code>
<code>\Acf</code>	<code>\Acrfull</code>
<code>\acfp</code>	<code>\acrfullpl</code>
<code>\Acfp</code>	<code>\Acrfullpl</code>
<code>\ac</code>	<code>\gls</code>
<code>\Ac</code>	<code>\Gls</code>
<code>\acp</code>	<code>\glspl</code>
<code>\Acp</code>	<code>\Glspl</code>

or, with the first letter converted to upper case:

`\Glsentrylong`

`\Glsentrylong{⟨label⟩}`

Plural forms:

`\glsentrylongpl`

`\glsentrylongpl{⟨label⟩}`

`\Glsentrylongpl`

`\Glsentrylongpl{⟨label⟩}`

Similarly, to access the short form:

`\glsentryshort`

`\glsentryshort{⟨label⟩}`

or, with the first letter converted to upper case:

`\Glsentryshort`

`\Glsentryshort{⟨label⟩}`

Plural forms:

`\glsentryshortpl`

`\glsentryshortpl{⟨label⟩}`

`\Glsentryshortpl``\Glsentryshortpl{⟨label⟩}`

And the full form, `⟨long⟩` (`⟨short⟩`), can be obtained using:

`\glsentryfull``\glsentryfull{⟨label⟩}``\Glsentryfull``\Glsentryfull{⟨label⟩}``\glsentryfullpl``\glsentryfullpl{⟨label⟩}``\Glsentryfullpl``\Glsentryfullpl{⟨label⟩}`

13.1 Predefined Acronym Styles

Some of the acronym-related package options may be combined. Listed below are the effects of different combinations. If you use an invalid combination, you'll get an error message.

description,footnote

When these two package options are used together, the **first use** displays the entry as:

```
\firstacronymfont{⟨abbrv⟩}⟨insert⟩\footnote{⟨long⟩}
```

while subsequent use displays the entry as:

```
\acronymfont{⟨abbrv⟩}⟨insert⟩
```

where `⟨insert⟩` indicates the text supplied in the final optional argument to `\gls`, `\glspl` or their uppercase variants.

dua

The `dua` package option always makes `\gls` display the expanded form and so may not be used with `footnote`, `smaller` or `smallcaps`. Both **first use** and subsequent use displays the entry in the form:

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`\langle long \rangle \langle insert \rangle`

You can, however, access the short form using `\acrshort` and its variants.

description

This package option displays the entry on **first use** as:

`\langle long \rangle \langle insert \rangle (\backslash firstacronymfont { \langle abbrev \rangle })`

while subsequent use displays the entry as:

`\acronymfont { \langle abbrev \rangle } \langle insert \rangle`

Note that with this option, you need to specify the description using the `description` key in the optional argument of `\newacronym`.

footnote

This package option displays the entry on **first use** as:

`\backslash firstacronymfont { \langle abbrev \rangle } \langle insert \rangle \backslash footnote { \langle long \rangle }`

while subsequent use displays the entry as:

`\acronymfont { \langle abbrev \rangle } \langle insert \rangle`

Acronyms will be sorted according to the short form.

Note that on **first use**, it is the long form in the footnote that links to the relevant glossary entry (where hyperlinks are enabled), whereas on subsequent use, the acronym links to the relevant glossary entry. You can suppress the long form link by setting:

`\let \acrfootnote \acrnolinkfootnote`

smallcaps

If neither the footnote nor description options have been set, this option displays the entry on **first use** as:

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`<long><insert>(\firstacronymfont{<abbrv>})`

while subsequent use displays the entry as:

`\acronymfont{<abbrv>}<insert>`

where `\acronymfont` is set to `\textsc{#1}`.

Note that since the acronym is displayed using `\textsc`, the short form, `<abbrv>`, should be specified in lower case. (Recall that `\textsc{abc}` produces ABC whereas `\textsc{ABC}` produces ABC.)

smaller

If neither the footnote nor description options have been set, this option displays the entry on **first use** as:

`<long><insert>(\firstacronymfont{<abbrv>})`

while subsequent use displays the entry as:

`\acronymfont{<abbrv>}<insert>`

where `\acronymfont` is set to `\textsmaller{#1}`.¹ The entries will be sorted according to the short form.

Remember to load a package that defines `\textsmaller` (such as `relsize`) if you want to use this option, unless you want to redefine `\acronymfont` to use some other formatting command.

None of the above

If none of the package options `smallcaps`, `smaller`, `footnote`, `dua` or `description` are used, then on **first use** the entry is displayed as:

¹not that this was change from using `\smaller` to `\textsmaller` as declarations cause a problem for `\makefirstuc`.

`\long (\langle abbrev \rangle) \langle insert \rangle`

while subsequent use displays the entry as:

`\abbrev \langle insert \rangle`

Entries will be sorted according to the short form.

13.2 Displaying the List of Acronyms

The list of acronyms is just like any other type of glossary and can be displayed on its own using `\printglossary[type=\acronymtype]` or with all the other glossaries using `\printglossaries`. However, care must be taken to choose a glossary style that's appropriate to your acronym style. The different acronym-related package options store different information in the name, description and symbol keys.

Table 13.2 lists the package options that govern the acronym styles and how the information is stored in the keys used when displaying the glossary. Note that the description package option uses the following command in the name:

`\acrnameformat`

`\acrnameformat { \langle abbrev \rangle } { \langle long \rangle }`

This defaults to just `\acronymfont { \langle abbrev \rangle }`.

For example, if I use the package options `description` and `footnote`, then the name field will contain the abbreviation and the symbol field will contain the long form. If I then use the `long4col` style, each entry in the list of acronyms will appear in the form:

`\acronymfont { \langle abbrev \rangle } \langle description \rangle \langle long \rangle`
`\location list`

Alternatively, you can define your own custom style (see Section 16 for further details).

13.3 Defining A Custom Acronym Style

You may find that the predefined acronyms styles that come with the glossaries package don't suit your requirements. In this case you can define your own style. This is done by redefining the following commands:

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Table 13.2: Package options governing `\newacronym` and how the information is stored

Package Option	name	description	symbol
description,footnote	<code>\acronymfont{⟨abbrv⟩}</code>	user supplied	⟨long⟩
description,dua	⟨long⟩	user supplied	⟨abbrv⟩
description	<code>\acrnameformat{⟨abbrv⟩}{⟨long⟩}</code>	user supplied	⟨abbrv⟩
footnote	<code>\acronymfont{⟨abbrv⟩}</code>	⟨long⟩	
smallcaps	<code>\acronymfont{⟨abbrv⟩}</code>	⟨long⟩	⟨abbrv⟩
smaller	<code>\acronymfont{⟨abbrv⟩}</code>	⟨long⟩	⟨abbrv⟩
dua	⟨abbrv⟩	⟨long⟩	⟨abbrv⟩
None of the above	⟨abbrv⟩	⟨long⟩	

`\CustomAcronymFields`

`\CustomAcronymFields`

This command sets up the keys for `\newglossaryentry` when you define an acronym using `\newacronym`. Within the definition of `\CustomAcronymFields`, you may use `\the\glslongtok` to access the long form, `\the\glsshorttok` to access the short form and `\the\glslabeltok` to access the label. This command is typically used to set the name, first, firstplural, text and plural keys. It may also be used to set the symbol or description keys depending on your requirements.

`\SetCustomDisplayStyle`

`\SetCustomDisplayStyle{⟨type⟩}`

This is used to set up the display style for the glossary given by `⟨type⟩`. This should typically just use `\defglsdisplayfirst` and `\defglsdisplay`.

Once you have redefined `\CustomAcronymFields` and `\SetCustomDisplayStyle`, you must then switch to this style using

`\SetCustomStyle`

`\SetCustomStyle`

Note that you may still use the `shortcuts` package option with your custom style.

If you omit `\SetCustomStyle`, or use it before you redefine `\CustomAcronymFields` and `\SetCustomDisplayStyle`, your new style won't be correctly implemented. You must set up the custom style before defining new acronyms. The acronyms must be defined using `\newacronym` not `\newglossaryentry`.

As an example, suppose I want my acronym on **first use** to have the short form in the text and the long form with the description in a footnote. Suppose also that I want the short form to be put in small caps in the main body of the document, but I want it in normal capitals in the list of acronyms. In my list of acronyms, I want the long form as the name with the short form in brackets followed by the description. That is, in the text I want `\gls` on **first use** to display:

```
\textsc{⟨abbrv⟩}\footnote{⟨long⟩: ⟨description⟩}
```

on subsequent use:

```
\textsc{⟨abbrv⟩}
```

and in the list of acronyms, each entry will be displayed in the form:

```
⟨long⟩ (⟨short⟩) ⟨description⟩
```

First, I need to redefine `\CustomAcronymFields` so that `\newacronym` will correctly set the name, text and plural keys. I want the long form to be stored in the name and the short form to be stored in text. In addition, I'm going to set the symbol to the short form in upper case so that it will appear in the list of acronyms.

```
\renewcommand*{\CustomAcronymFields}{%
  name={\the\glslongtok},%
  symbol={\MakeUppercase{\the\glsshorttok}},%
  text={\textsc{\the\glsshorttok}},%
  plural={\textsc{\the\glsshorttok}\noexpand\acrpluralsuffix}%
}
```

When using `\newacronym`, the short and long forms are stored in the short and long keys, and the plural forms are stored in shortplural and longplural. So when I use `\defglsdisplayfirst` and `\defglsdisplay`, I can use `\glsentrylong` to access the long form. Recall from Section 6.1, that the optional argument to `\defglsdisplayfirst` and `\defglsdisplay` indicates the glossary type. This is passed to `\SetCustomDisplayStyle`. The mandatory argument sets up the

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definition of `\glsdisplayfirst` and `\glsdisplay` for the given glossary, where the first argument corresponds to the first, firstplural, text or plural, as appropriate, the second argument corresponds to the description, the third corresponds to the symbol and the fourth argument is the inserted text.

```
\renewcommand*{\SetCustomDisplayStyle}[1]{%
  \defglsdisplayfirst[#1]{##1##4\protect\footnote{%
    \glsentrylong{\glslabel}: ##2%
  }}
  \defglsdisplay[#1]{##1##4}%
}
```

Since we have a definition inside a definition, `#1` refers to the argument of `\SetCustomDisplayStyle`, and `##1`, ..., `##4`, refer to the arguments of `\glsdisplayfirst` and `\glsdisplay`.

Now that I've redefined `\CustomAcronymFields` and `\SetCustomDisplayStyle`, I can set this style using

```
\SetCustomStyle
```

and now I can define my acronyms:

```
\newacronym[description={set of tags for use in
developing hypertext documents}]{html}{html}{Hyper
Text Markup Language}

\newacronym[description={language used to describe the
layout of a document written in a markup language}]{css}
{css}{Cascading Style Sheet}
```

Note that since I've used the description in the main body of the text, I need to switch off the sanitization otherwise any commands within the description won't get interpreted. Also I want to use the `hyperref` package, but this will cause a problem on **first use** as I'll get nested hyperlinks, so I need to switch off the hyperlinks on **first use**. In addition, I want to use a glossary style that displays the symbol. Therefore, in my preamble I have:

```
\usepackage[colorlinks]{hyperref}
\usepackage
[acronym,           % create list of acronyms
 nomain,           % don't need main glossary for this example
 style=tree,       % need a style that displays the symbol
 hyperfirst=false, % don't hyperlink first use
 sanitize=none     % switch off sanitization as description
                  % will be used in the main text
]{glossaries}
```

Note that I haven't used the `description` or `footnote` package options.

13.4 Upgrading From the glossary Package

Users of the obsolete glossary package may recall that the syntax used to define new acronyms has changed with the replacement glossaries package. In addition, the old glossary package created the command `\acr-name` when defining the acronym `\acr-name`.

In order to facilitate migrating from the old package to the new one, the glossaries package² provides the command:

`\oldacronym`

```
\oldacronym[⟨label⟩]{⟨abbrv⟩}{⟨long⟩}{⟨key-val list⟩}
```

This uses the same syntax as the glossary package’s method of defining acronyms. It is equivalent to:

```
\newacronym[⟨key-val list⟩]{⟨label⟩}{⟨abbrv⟩}{⟨long⟩}
```

In addition, `\oldacronym` also defines the commands `\⟨label⟩`, which is equivalent to `\gls{⟨label⟩}`, and `\⟨label⟩*`, which is equivalent to `\Gls{⟨label⟩}`. If `⟨label⟩` is omitted, `⟨abbrv⟩` is used. Since commands names must consist only of alphabetical characters, `⟨label⟩` must also only consist of alphabetical characters. Note that `\⟨label⟩` doesn’t allow you to use the first optional argument of `\gls` or `\Gls` — you will need to explicitly use `\gls` or `\Gls` to change the settings.

Recall that, in general, L^AT_EX ignores spaces following command names consisting of alphabetical characters. This is also true for `\⟨label⟩` unless you additionally load the `xspace` package.

The glossaries package doesn’t load the `xspace` package since there are both advantages and disadvantages to using `\xspace` in `\⟨label⟩`. If you don’t use the `xspace` package you need to explicitly force a space using `_` (backslash space) however you can follow `\⟨label⟩` with additional text in square brackets (the final optional argument to `\gls`). If you use the `xspace` package you don’t need to escape the spaces but you can’t use the optional argument to insert text (you will have to explicitly use `\gls`).

To illustrate this, suppose I define the acronym “abc” as follows:

```
\oldacronym{abc}{example acronym}{} 
```

This will create the command `\abc` and its starred version `\abc*`. Table 13.3 illustrates the effect of `\abc` (on subsequent use) according to whether or not the `xspace` package has been loaded. As can be

²as from version 1.18

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seen from the final row in the table, the `xspace` package prevents the optional argument from being recognised.

Table 13.3: The effect of using `xspace` with `\oldacronym`

Code	With <code>xspace</code>	Without <code>xspace</code>
<code>\abc.</code>	abc.	abc.
<code>\abc xyz</code>	abc xyz	abcxyz
<code>\abc\ xyz</code>	abc xyz	abc xyz
<code>\abc* xyz</code>	Abc xyz	Abc xyz
<code>\abc['s] xyz</code>	abc ['s] xyz	abc's xyz

14 Unsetting and Resetting Entry Flags

When using `\gls`, `\glspl` and their uppercase variants it is possible that you may want to use the value given by the first key, even though you have already **used** the glossary entry. Conversely, you may want to use the value given by the text key, even though you haven't used the glossary entry. The former can be achieved by one of the following commands:

`\glsreset` `\glsreset{<label>}`

`\glslocalreset` `\glslocalreset{<label>}`

while the latter can be achieved by one of the following commands:

`\glsunset` `\glsunset{<label>}`

`\glslocalunset` `\glslocalunset{<label>}`

You can also reset or unset all entries for a given glossary or list of glossaries using:

`\glsresetall` `\glsresetall[<glossary list>]`

`\glslocalresetall` `\glslocalresetall[<glossary list>]`

`\glsunsetall` `\glsunsetall[<glossary list>]`

`\glslocalunsetall` `\glslocalunsetall[<glossary list>]`

14 Unsetting and Resetting Entry Flags

where *⟨glossary list⟩* is a comma-separated list of glossary labels. If omitted, all defined glossaries are assumed. For example, to reset all entries in the main glossary and the list of acronyms:

```
\glsresetall[main,acronym]
```

You can determine whether an entry's **first use flag** is set using:

```
\ifglsused
```

```
\ifglsused{⟨label⟩}{⟨true part⟩}{⟨false part⟩}
```

where *⟨label⟩* is the label of the required entry. If the entry has been used, *⟨true part⟩* will be done, otherwise *⟨false part⟩* will be done.

15 Glossary Styles

The glossaries package comes with some pre-defined glossary styles. Note that the styles are suited to different types of glossaries: some styles ignore the associated symbol; some styles are not designed for hierarchical entries, so they display sub-entries in the same way as they display top level entries; some styles are designed for homographs, so they ignore the name for sub-entries. You should therefore pick a style that suits your type of glossary. See [table 15.1](#) for a summary of the available styles. The predefined styles can accommodate numbered level 0 (main) and level 1 entries. See the package options `entrycounter`, `counterwithin` and `subentrycounter` described in [Section 2.3](#).

The glossary style can be set using the `style` key in the optional argument to `\printglossary` or using the command:

`\glossarystyle`

```
\glossarystyle{<style-name>}
```

Some of the glossary styles may also be set using the style package option, it depends if the package in which they are defined is automatically loaded by the glossaries package.

`\glsdescwidth`
`\glspagelistwidth`

The tabular-like styles that allow multi-line descriptions and page lists use the length `\glsdescwidth` to set the width of the description column and the length `\glspagelistwidth` to set the width of the page list column.¹ These will need to be changed using `\setlength` if the glossary is too wide. Note that the `long4col` and `super4col` styles (and their header and border variations) don't use these lengths as they are designed for single line entries. Instead you should use the analogous `atlong4col` and `altsuper4col` styles. If you want to explicitly create a line-break within a multi-line description in a tabular-like style you should use `\newline` instead of `\\`.

Note that if you use the `style` key in the optional argument to `\printglossary`, it will override any previous style settings for the given glossary, so if, for example, you do

```
\renewcommand*{\glsgroupskip}{}  
\printglossary[style=long]
```

¹these lengths will not be available if you use both the `nolong` and `nosuper` package options or if you use the `nostyles` package option unless you explicitly load the relevant package.

Table 15.1: Glossary Styles. An asterisk in the style name indicates anything that matches that doesn't match any previously listed style (e.g. `long3col*` matches `long3col`, `long3colheader`, `long3colborder` and `long3colheaderborder`). A maximum level of 0 indicates a flat glossary (sub-entries are displayed in the same way as main entries). Where the maximum level is given as — there is no limit, but note that `makeindex` imposes a limit of 2 sub-levels. If the homograph column is checked, then the name is not displayed for sub-entries. If the symbol column is checked, then the symbol will be displayed.

Style	Maximum Level	Homograph	Symbol
<code>listdotted</code>	0		
<code>sublistdotted</code>	1		
<code>list*</code>	1	✓	
<code>altlist*</code>	1	✓	
<code>long*3col*</code>	1	✓	
<code>long4col*</code>	1	✓	✓
<code>altlong*4col*</code>	1	✓	✓
<code>long*</code>	1	✓	
<code>super*3col*</code>	1	✓	
<code>super4col*</code>	1	✓	✓
<code>altsuper*4col*</code>	1	✓	✓
<code>super*</code>	1	✓	
<code>*index*</code>	2		✓
<code>treenoname*</code>	—	✓	✓
<code>*tree*</code>	—		✓
<code>*almtree*</code>	—		✓
<code>inline</code>	1	✓	

15 Glossary Styles

then the new definition of `\glsgroupskip` will not have an affect for this glossary, as `\glsgroupskip` is redefined by `style=long`. Likewise, `\glossarystyle` will also override any previous style definitions, so, again

```
\renewcommand*{\glsgroupskip}{}  
\glossarystyle{long}
```

will reset `\glsgroupskip` back to its default definition for the named glossary style (`long` in this case). If you want to modify the styles, either use `\newglossarystyle` (described in the next section) or make the modifications after `\glossarystyle`, e.g.:

```
\glossarystyle{long}  
\renewcommand*{\glsgroupskip}{}  

```

All the styles except for the three- and four-column styles and the `listdotted` style use the command

`\glspostdescription`

`\glspostdescription`

after the description. This simply displays a full stop by default. To eliminate this full stop (or replace it with something else, say, a comma) you will need to redefine `\glspostdescription` before the glossary is displayed. Alternatively, you can suppress it for a given entry by placing `\nopostdesc` in the entry's description.

15.1 List Styles

The styles described in this section are all defined in the package `glossary-list`. Since they all use the `description` environment, they are governed by the same parameters as that environment. These styles all ignore the entry's symbol. Note that these styles will automatically be available unless you use the `nolist` or `nostyles` package options.

list The `list` style uses the `description` environment. The entry name is placed in the optional argument of the `\item` command (so it will appear in bold by default). The description follows, and then the associated **number list** for that entry. The symbol is ignored. If the entry has child entries, the description and number list follows (but not the name) for each child entry. Groups are separated using `\indexspace`.

listgroup The `listgroup` style is like `list` but the glossary groups have headings.

15 Glossary Styles

listhypergroup The listhypergroup style is like listgroup but has a navigation line at the start of the glossary with links to each group that is present in the glossary. This requires an additional run through L^AT_EX to ensure the group information is up to date. In the navigation line, each group is separated by

`\glshypernavsep`

`\glshypernavsep`

which defaults to a vertical bar with a space on either side. For example, to simply have a space separating each group, do:

```
\renewcommand*{\glshypernavsep}{\space}
```

Note that the hyper-navigation line is now (as from version 1.14) set inside the optional argument to `\item` instead of after it to prevent a spurious space at the start. This can be changed by redefining `\glossaryheader`, but note that this needs to be done *after* the glossary style has been set.

altlist The altlist style is like list but the description starts on the line following the name. (As with the list style, the symbol is ignored.) Each child entry starts a new line, but as with the list style, the name associated with each child entry is ignored.

altlistgroup The altlistgroup style is like altlist but the glossary groups have headings.

altlisthypergroup The altlisthypergroup style is like altlistgroup but has a set of links to the glossary groups. The navigation line is the same as that for listhypergroup, described above.

listdotted This style uses the description environment.² Each entry starts with `\item[]`, followed by the name followed by a dotted line, followed by the description. Note that this style ignores both the **number list** and the symbol. The length

`\glslistdottedwidth`

`\glslistdottedwidth`

governs where the description should start. This is a flat style, so child entries are formatted in the same way as the parent entries.

²This style was supplied by Axel Menzel.

sublistdotted This is a variation on the `listdotted` style designed for hierarchical glossaries. The main entries have just the name displayed. The sub entries are displayed in the same manner as `listdotted`.

15.2 Longtable Styles

The styles described in this section are all defined in the package `glossary-long`. Since they all use the `longtable` environment, they are governed by the same parameters as that environment. Note that these styles will automatically be available unless you use the `nolong` or `nostyles` package options. These styles fully justify the description and page list columns. If you want ragged right formatting instead, use the analogous styles described in Section 15.3.

long The `long` style uses the `longtable` environment (defined by the `longtable` package). It has two columns: the first column contains the entry's name and the second column contains the description followed by the **number list**. The entry's symbol is ignored. Sub groups are separated with a blank row. The width of the first column is governed by the widest entry in that column. The width of the second column is governed by the length `\glsdescwidth`. Child entries have a similar format to the parent entries except that their name is suppressed.

longborder The `longborder` style is like `long` but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

longheader The `longheader` style is like `long` but has a header row.

longheaderborder The `longheaderborder` style is like `longheader` but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

long3col The `long3col` style is like `long` but has three columns. The first column contains the entry's name, the second column contains the description and the third column contains the **number list**. The entry's symbol is ignored. The width of the first column is governed by the widest entry in that column, the width of the second column is governed by the length `\glsdescwidth`, and the width of the third column is governed by the length `\glspagelistwidth`.

long3colborder The `long3colborder` style is like the `long3col` style but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

long3colheader The `long3colheader` style is like `long3col` but has a header row.

long3colheaderborder The `long3colheaderborder` style is like `long3colheader` but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

long4col The `long4col` style is like `long3col` but has an additional column in which the entry's associated symbol appears. This style is used for brief single line descriptions. The column widths are governed by the widest entry in the given column. Use `altlong4col` for multi-line descriptions.

long4colborder The `long4colborder` style is like the `long4col` style but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

long4colheader The `long4colheader` style is like `long4col` but has a header row.

long4colheaderborder The `long4colheaderborder` style is like `long4colheader` but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

altlong4col The `altlong4col` style is like `long4col` but allows multi-line descriptions and page lists. The width of the description column is governed by the length `\glsdescwidth` and the width of the page list column is governed by the length `\glspagelistwidth`. The widths of the name and symbol columns are governed by the widest entry in the given column.

altlong4colborder The `altlong4colborder` style is like the `long4colborder` but allows multi-line descriptions and page lists.

altlong4colheader The `altlong4colheader` style is like `long4colheader` but allows multi-line descriptions and page lists.

altlong4colheaderborder The `altlong4colheaderborder` style is like `long4colheaderborder` but allows multi-line descriptions and page lists.

15.3 Longtable Styles (Ragged Right)

The styles described in this section are all defined in the package `glossary-longragged`. These styles are analogous to those defined in `glossary-long` but the multiline columns are left justified instead of fully justified. Since these styles all use the `longtable` environment, they are governed by the same parameters as that environment. The `glossary-longragged` package additionally requires the `array` package.

15 Glossary Styles

Note that these styles will only be available if you explicitly load `glossary-longragged`:

```
\usepackage{glossaries}
\usepackage{glossary-longragged}
```

Note that you can't set these styles using the style package option since the styles aren't defined until after the `glossaries` package has been loaded.

longragged The `longragged` style has two columns: the first column contains the entry's name and the second column contains the (left-justified) description followed by the **number list**. The entry's symbol is ignored. Sub groups are separated with a blank row. The width of the first column is governed by the widest entry in that column. The width of the second column is governed by the length `\glsdescwidth`. Child entries have a similar format to the parent entries except that their name is suppressed.

longraggedborder The `longraggedborder` style is like `longragged` but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

longraggedheader The `longraggedheader` style is like `longragged` but has a header row.

longraggedheaderborder The `longraggedheaderborder` style is like `longraggedheader` but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

longragged3col The `longragged3col` style is like `longragged` but has three columns. The first column contains the entry's name, the second column contains the (left justified) description and the third column contains the (left justified) **number list**. The entry's symbol is ignored. The width of the first column is governed by the widest entry in that column, the width of the second column is governed by the length `\glsdescwidth`, and the width of the third column is governed by the length `\glspagelistwidth`.

longragged3colborder The `longragged3colborder` style is like the `longragged3col` style but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

longragged3colheader The `longragged3colheader` style is like `longragged3col` but has a header row.

longragged3colheaderborder The `longragged3colheaderborder` style is like `longragged3colheader` but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

altlongragged4col The altlongragged4col style is like longragged3col but has an additional column in which the entry's associated symbol appears. The width of the description column is governed by the length `\glsdescwidth` and the width of the page list column is governed by the length `\glspagelistwidth`. The widths of the name and symbol columns are governed by the widest entry in the given column.

altlongragged4colborder The altlongragged4colborder style is like the altlongragged4col but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

altlongragged4colheader The altlongragged4colheader style is like altlongragged4col but has a header row.

altlongragged4colheaderborder The altlongragged4colheaderborder style is like altlongragged4colheader but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

15.4 Supertabular Styles

The styles described in this section are all defined in the package `glossary-super`. Since they all use the `supertabular` environment, they are governed by the same parameters as that environment. Note that these styles will automatically be available unless you use the `nosuper` or `nostyles` package options. In general, the `longtable` environment is better, but there are some circumstances where it is better to use `supertabular`.³ These styles fully justify the description and page list columns. If you want ragged right formatting instead, use the analogous styles described in Section 15.5.

super The super style uses the `supertabular` environment (defined by the `supertabular` package). It has two columns: the first column contains the entry's name and the second column contains the description followed by the **number list**. The entry's symbol is ignored. Sub groups are separated with a blank row. The width of the first column is governed by the widest entry in that column. The width of the second column is governed by the length `\glsdescwidth`. Child entries have a similar format to the parent entries except that their name is suppressed.

superborder The superborder style is like super but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

superheader The superheader style is like super but has a header row.

³e.g. with the `flowfram` package.

superheaderborder The superheaderborder style is like superheader but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

super3col The super3col style is like super but has three columns. The first column contains the entry's name, the second column contains the description and the third column contains the **number list**. The entry's symbol is ignored. The width of the first column is governed by the widest entry in that column. The width of the second column is governed by the length `\glsdescwidth`. The width of the third column is governed by the length `\glspagelistwidth`.

super3colborder The super3colborder style is like the super3col style but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

super3colheader The super3colheader style is like super3col but has a header row.

super3colheaderborder The super3colheaderborder style is like the super3colheader style but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

super4col The super4col style is like super3col but has an additional column in which the entry's associated symbol appears. This style is designed for entries with brief single line descriptions. The column widths are governed by the widest entry in the given column. Use `altsuper4col` for multi-line descriptions.

super4colborder The super4colborder style is like the super4col style but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

super4colheader The super4colheader style is like super4col but has a header row.

super4colheaderborder The super4colheaderborder style is like the super4colheader style but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

altsuper4col The altsuper4col style is like super4col but allows multi-line descriptions and page lists. The width of the description column is governed by the length `\glsdescwidth` and the width of the page list column is governed by the length `\glspagelistwidth`. The width of the name and symbol columns is governed by the widest entry in the given column.

altsuper4colborder The altsuper4colborder style is like the super4colborder style but allows multi-line descriptions and page lists.

altsuper4colheader The altsuper4colheader style is like super4colheader but allows multi-line descriptions and page lists.

altsuper4colheaderborder The altsuper4colheaderborder style is like super4colheaderborder but allows multi-line descriptions and page lists.

15.5 Supertabular Styles (Ragged Right)

The styles described in this section are all defined in the package glossary-superragged. These styles are analogous to those defined in glossary-super but the multiline columns are left justified instead of fully justified. Since these styles all use the supertabular environment, they are governed by the same parameters as that environment. The glossary-superragged package additionally requires the array package. Note that these styles will only be available if you explicitly load glossary-superragged:

```
\usepackage{glossaries}
\usepackage{glossary-superragged}
```

Note that you can't set these styles using the style package option since the styles aren't defined until after the glossaries package has been loaded.

superragged The superragged style uses the supertabular environment (defined by the supertabular package). It has two columns: the first column contains the entry's name and the second column contains the (left justified) description followed by the **number list**. The entry's symbol is ignored. Sub groups are separated with a blank row. The width of the first column is governed by the widest entry in that column. The width of the second column is governed by the length `\glsdescwidth`. Child entries have a similar format to the parent entries except that their name is suppressed.

superraggedborder The superraggedborder style is like superragged but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

superraggedheader The superraggedheader style is like superragged but has a header row.

superraggedheaderborder The superraggedheaderborder style is like superraggedheader but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

superragged3col The `superragged3col` style is like `superragged` but has three columns. The first column contains the entry's name, the second column contains the (left justified) description and the third column contains the (left justified) **number list**. The entry's symbol is ignored. The width of the first column is governed by the widest entry in that column. The width of the second column is governed by the length `\glsdescwidth`. The width of the third column is governed by the length `\glspagelistwidth`.

superragged3colborder The `superragged3colborder` style is like the `superragged3col` style but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

superragged3colheader The `superragged3colheader` style is like `superragged3col` but has a header row.

superragged3colheaderborder The `superragged3colheaderborder` style is like `superragged3colheader` but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

altsuperragged4col The `altsuperragged4col` style is like `superragged3col` but has an additional column in which the entry's associated symbol appears. The column widths for the name and symbol column are governed by the widest entry in the given column.

altsuperragged4colborder The `altsuperragged4colborder` style is like the `altsuperragged4col` style but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

altsuperragged4colheader The `altsuperragged4colheader` style is like `altsuperragged4col` but has a header row.

altsuperragged4colheaderborder The `altsuperragged4colheaderborder` style is like `altsuperragged4colheader` but has horizontal and vertical lines around it.

15.6 Tree-Like Styles

The styles described in this section are all defined in the package `glossary-tree`. These styles are designed for hierarchical glossaries but can also be used with glossaries that don't have sub-entries. These styles will display the entry's symbol if it exists. Note that these styles will automatically be available unless you use the `notree` or `nostyles` package options.

index The index style is similar to the way indices are usually formatted in that it has a hierarchical structure up to three levels (the main level plus two sub-levels). The name is typeset in bold, and if the symbol is present it is set in parentheses after the name and before the description. Sub-entries are indented and also include the name, the symbol in brackets (if present) and the description. Groups are separated using `\indexspace`.

indexgroup The indexgroup style is similar to the index style except that each group has a heading.

indexhypergroup The indexhypergroup style is like indexgroup but has a set of links to the glossary groups. The navigation line is the same as that for listhypergroup, described above.

tree The tree style is similar to the index style except that it can have arbitrary levels. (Note that `makeindex` is limited to three levels, so you will need to use `xindy` if you want more than three levels.) Each sub-level is indented by `\glstreeindent`. Note that the name, symbol (if present) and description are placed in the same paragraph block. If you want the name to be apart from the description, use the `alttree` style instead. (See below.)

treegroup The treegroup style is similar to the tree style except that each group has a heading.

treehypergroup The treehypergroup style is like treegroup but has a set of links to the glossary groups. The navigation line is the same as that for listhypergroup, described above.

treenoname The treenoname style is like the tree style except that the name for each sub-entry is ignored.

treenonamegroup The treenonamegroup style is similar to the treenoname style except that each group has a heading.

treenonamehypergroup The treenonamehypergroup style is like treenonamegroup but has a set of links to the glossary groups. The navigation line is the same as that for listhypergroup, described above.

alttree The alttree style is similar to the tree style except that the indentation for each level is determined by the width of the text specified by

`\glissetwidest`

`\glissetwidest[\langle level \rangle]{\langle text \rangle}`

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The optional argument $\langle level \rangle$ indicates the level, where 0 indicates the top-most level, 1 indicates the first level sub-entries, etc. If `\glsssetwidest` hasn't been used for a given sub-level, the level 0 widest text is used instead. If $\langle level \rangle$ is omitted, 0 is assumed.

For each level, the name is placed to the left of the paragraph block containing the symbol (optional) and the description. If the symbol is present, it is placed in parentheses before the description.

alttreegroup The `alttreegroup` is like the `alttree` style except that each group has a heading.

alttreehypergroup The `alttreehypergroup` style is like `alttreegroup` but has a set of links to the glossary groups. The navigation line is the same as that for `listhypergroup`, described above.

15.7 Multicols Style

The `glossary-mcols` package provides tree-like styles that are in the `multicols` environment (defined by the `multicol` package). The style names are as their analogous tree styles (as defined in Section 15.6) but are prefixed with “`mcol`”. For example, the `mcolindex` style is essentially the `index` style but put in a `multicols` environment. For the complete list, see table 15.2.

Note that `glossary-mcols` is not loaded by `glossaries`. If you want to use any of the multicol styles in that package you need to load it explicitly with `\usepackage` and set the required glossary style using `\glossarystyle`.

The default number of columns is 2, but can be changed by redefining

`\glsmcols`

`\glsmcols`

to the required number. For example, for a three column glossary:

```
\usepackage{glossary-mcols}
\renewcommand*\glsmcols{3}
\glossarystyle{mcolindex}
```

Table 15.2: Multicolumn Styles

glossary-mcols Style	Analogous Tree Style
<code>mcolindex</code>	<code>index</code>
<code>mcolindexgroup</code>	<code>indexgroup</code>
<code>mcolindexhypergroup</code>	<code>indexhypergroup</code>
<code>mcoltree</code>	<code>tree</code>
<code>mcoltreegroup</code>	<code>treegroup</code>
<code>mcoltreehypergroup</code>	<code>treehypergroup</code>
<code>mcoltreenoname</code>	<code>treenoname</code>
<code>mcoltreenonamegroup</code>	<code>treenonamegroup</code>
<code>mcoltreenonamehypergroup</code>	<code>treenonamehypergroup</code>
<code>mcolalttree</code>	<code>alttree</code>
<code>mcolalttreegroup</code>	<code>alttreegroup</code>
<code>mcolalttreehypergroup</code>	<code>alttreehypergroup</code>

15.8 In-Line Style

This section covers the `glossary-inline` package that supplies the inline style. This is a style that is designed for in-line use (as opposed to block styles, such as lists or tables). This style doesn't display the **number list**.

You will most likely need to redefine `\glossarysection` with this style. For example, suppose you are required to have your glossaries and list of acronyms in a footnote, you can do:

```
\usepackage{glossary-inline}

\renewcommand*{\glossarysection}[2][\textbf{#1}: ]
\glossarystyle{inline}
```

Note that you need to include `glossary-inline` with `\usepackage` as it's not automatically included by the `glossaries` package and then set the style using `\glossarystyle`.

Where you need to include your glossaries as a footnote you can do:

```
\footnote{\printglossaries}
```

The inline style is governed by the following:

`\glsinlineseparator`

`\glsinlineseparator`

This defaults to “; ” and is used between main (i.e. level 0) entries.

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`\glsinlinesubseparator` `\glsinlinesubseparator`

This defaults to “, ” and is used between sub-entries.

`\glsinlineparentchildseparator` `\glsinlineparentchildseparator`

This defaults to “: ” and is used between a parent main entry and its first sub-entry.

`\glspostinline` `\glspostinline`

This defaults to “; ” and is used at the end of the glossary.

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If the predefined styles don't fit your requirements, you can define your own style using:

`\newglossarystyle`

```
\newglossarystyle{<name>}{<definitions>}
```

where *<name>* is the name of the new glossary style (to be used in `\glossarystyle`). The second argument *<definitions>* needs to re-define all of the following:

`theglossary`

```
theglossary
```

This environment defines how the main body of the glossary should be typeset. Note that this does not include the section heading, the glossary preamble (defined by `\glossarypreamble`) or the glossary postamble (defined by `\glossarypostamble`). For example, the list style uses the description environment, so the `theglossary` environment is simply redefined to begin and end the description environment.

`\glossaryheader`

```
\glossaryheader
```

This macro indicates what to do at the start of the main body of the glossary. Note that this is not the same as `\glossarypreamble`, which should not be affected by changes in the glossary style. The list glossary style redefines `\glossaryheader` to do nothing, whereas the longheader glossary style redefines `\glossaryheader` to do a header row.

`\glsgroupheading`

```
\glsgroupheading{<label>}
```

This macro indicates what to do at the start of each logical block within the main body of the glossary. If you use `makeindex` the glossary is sub-divided into a maximum of twenty-eight logical blocks that are determined by the first character of the sort key (or name key if the sort key is omitted). The sub-divisions are in the following order: symbols, numbers, A, ..., Z. If you use `xindy`, the sub-divisions depend on the language settings.

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Note that the argument to `\glsgroupheading` is a label *not* the group title. The group title can be obtained via

`\glsgetgrouptitle` `\glsgetgrouptitle{<label>}`

This obtains the title as follows: if `\<label>groupname` exists, this is taken to be the title, otherwise the title is just `<label>`.

A navigation hypertarget can be created using

`\glsnavhypertarget` `\glsnavhypertarget{<label>}{<text>}`

For further details about `\glsnavhypertarget`, see section 3.1 in the documented code (`glossaries.pdf`).

Most of the predefined glossary styles redefine `\glsgroupheading` to simply ignore its argument. The `listhypergroup` style redefines `\glsgroupheading` as follows:

```
\renewcommand*{\glsgroupheading}[1]{%
\item[\glsnavhypertarget{##1}{\glsgetgrouptitle{##1}}]}
```

See also `\glsgroupskip` below. (Note that command definitions within `\newglossarystyle` must use `##1` instead of `#1` etc.)

`\glsgroupskip` `\glsgroupskip`

This macro determines what to do after one logical group but before the header for the next logical group. The `list` glossary style simply redefines `\glsgroupskip` to be `\indexspace`, whereas the tabular-like styles redefine `\glsgroupskip` to produce a blank row.

`\glossaryentryfield` `\glossaryentryfield{<label>}{<formatted name>}{<description>}{<symbol>}{<number list>}`

This macro indicates what to do for a given glossary entry. Note that `<formatted name>` will always be in the form `\glsnamefont{<name>}`. This allows the user to set a given font for the entry name, regardless of the glossary style used. Note that `<label>` is the label used when the glossary entry was defined via either `\newglossaryentry` or `\newacronym`.

`\glsentryitem` `\glsentryitem{<label>}`

This macro will increment and display the associated counter for the main (level 0) entries if the `entrycounter` or `counterwithin` package options have been used. This macro is typically called by

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`\glossaryentryfield` before `\glstarget`. The format of the counter is controlled by the macro

`\glentrycounterlabel` `\glentrycounterlabel`

Each time you use a glossary entry it creates a hyperlink (if hyperlinks are enabled) to the relevant line in the glossary. Your new glossary style must therefore redefine `\glossaryentryfield` to set the appropriate target. This is done using

`\glstarget` `\glstarget{<label>}{<text>}`

where `<label>` is the entry's label. Note that you don't need to worry about whether the `hyperref` package has been loaded, as `\glstarget` won't create a target if `\hypertarget` hasn't been defined.

For example, the `list` style defines `\glossaryentryfield` as follows:

```
\renewcommand*{\glossaryentryfield}[5]{%
\item[\glentryitem{##1}\glstarget{##1}{##2}]
  ##3\glspostdescription \space ##5}
```

Note also that `<number list>` will always be of the form

`\glossaryentrynumbers{\relax
\setentrycounter[<Hprefix>]{<counter name>}{format
cmd}{<number(s)>}}`

where `<number(s)>` may contain `\delimN` (to delimit individual numbers) and/or `\delimR` (to indicate a range of numbers). There may be multiple occurrences of `\setentrycounter[<Hprefix>]{<counter name>}{format cmd}{<number(s)>}`, but note that the entire number list is enclosed within the argument of `\glossaryentrynumbers`. The user can redefine this to change the way the entire number list is formatted, regardless of the glossary style. However the most common use of `\glossaryentrynumbers` is to provide a means of suppressing the number list altogether. (In fact, the `nonumberlist` option redefines `\glossaryentrynumbers` to ignore its argument.) Therefore, when you define a new glossary style, you don't need to worry about whether the user has specified the `nonumberlist` package option.

`\glossarysubentryfield` `\glossarysubentryfield{<level>}{<label>}{<formatted name>}
{<description>}{<symbol>}{<number list>}`

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This is new to version 1.17, and is used to display sub-entries. The first argument, $\langle level \rangle$, indicates the sub-entry level. This must be an integer from 1 (first sub-level) onwards. The remaining arguments are analogous to those for `\glossaryentryfield` described above.

`\glssubentryitem` `\glssubentryitem{\langle label \rangle}`

This macro will increment and display the associated counter for the level 1 entries if the `subentrycounter` package options have been used. This macro is typically called by `\glossarysubentryfield` before `\glstarget`. The format of the counter is controlled by the macro

`\glssubentrycounterlabel` `\glssubentrycounterlabel`

Note that `\printglossary` (which `\printglossaries` calls) sets

`\currentglossary` `\currentglossary`

to the current glossary label, so it's possible to create a glossary style that varies according to the glossary type.

For further details of these commands, see section 1.15 “Displaying the glossary” in the documented code (`glossaries.pdf`).

16.1 Example: creating a completely new style

If you want a completely new style, you will need to redefine all of the commands and the environment listed above.

For example, suppose you want each entry to start with a bullet point. This means that the glossary should be placed in the `itemize` environment, so `theglossary` should start and end that environment. Let's also suppose that you don't want anything between the glossary groups (so `\glsgroupheading` and `\glsgroupskip` should do nothing) and suppose you don't want anything to appear immediately after `\begin{theglossary}` (so `\glossaryheader` should do nothing). In addition, let's suppose the symbol should appear in brackets after the name, followed by the description and last of all the **number list** should appear within square brackets at the end. Then you can create this new glossary style, called, say, `mylist`, as follows:

```
\newglossarystyle{mylist}{%
% put the glossary in the itemize environment:
\renewenvironment{theglossary}{%
```

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```
{\begin{itemize}}{\end{itemize}}%
% have nothing after \begin{theglossary}:
\renewcommand*{\glossaryheader}{}%
% have nothing between glossary groups:
\renewcommand*{\glsgroupheading}[1]{}%
\renewcommand*{\glsgroupskip}{}%
% set how each entry should appear:
\renewcommand*{\glossaryentryfield}[5]{%
\item % bullet point
\glstarget{##1}{##2}% the entry name
\space (##4)% the symbol in brackets
\space ##3% the description
\space [##5]% the number list in square brackets
}%
% set how sub-entries appear:
\renewcommand*{\glossarysubentryfield}[6]{%
\glossaryentryfield{##2}{##3}{##4}{##5}{##6}}%
}
```

Note that this style creates a flat glossary, where sub-entries are displayed in exactly the same way as the top level entries. It also hasn't used `\glstryitem` or `\glssubentryitem` so it won't be affected by the `entrycounter`, `counterwithin` or `subentrycounter` package options.

16.2 Example: creating a new glossary style based on an existing style

If you want to define a new style that is a slightly modified version of an existing style, you can use `\glossarystyle` within the second argument of `\newglossarystyle` followed by whatever alterations you require. For example, suppose you want a style like the `list` style but you don't want the extra vertical space created by `\indexspace` between groups, then you can create a new glossary style called, say, `mylist` as follows:

```
\newglossarystyle{mylist}{%
\glossarystyle{list}% base this style on the list style
\renewcommand{\glsgroupskip}{}% make nothing happen
% between groups
}
```

16.3 Example: creating a glossary style that uses the user1, ..., user6 keys

Since `\glossaryentryfield` and `\glossarysubentryfield` provide the label for the entry, it's also possible to access the values of the generic user keys, such as `user1`. For example, suppose each entry not only has an associated symbol, but also units (stored in `user1`) and dimension (stored in `user2`). Then you can define a glossary style that displays each entry in a longtable as follows:

```
\newglossarystyle{long6col}{%
% put the glossary in a longtable environment:
\renewenvironment{theglossary}%
{ \begin{longtable} {lp{\glsdescwidth}cccp{\glspagelistwidth}}}%
{ \end{longtable}}%
% Set the table's header:
\renewcommand*{\glossaryheader}{%
\bfseries Term & \bfseries Description & \bfseries Symbol &
\bfseries Units & \bfseries Dimensions & \bfseries Page List
\\ \endhead}%
% No heading between groups:
\renewcommand*{\glsgroupheading}[1]{}%
% Main (level 0) entries displayed in a row optionally numbered:
\renewcommand*{\glossaryentryfield}[5]{%
\glsentryitem{##1}% Entry number if required
\glstarget{##1}{##2}% Name
& ##3% Description
& ##4% Symbol
& \glsentryuseri{##1}% Units
& \glsentryuserii{##1}% Dimensions
& ##5% Page list
\\ % end of row
}%
% Similarly for sub-entries (no sub-entry numbers):
\renewcommand*{\glossarysubentryfield}[6]{%
% ignoring first argument (sub-level)
\glstarget{##2}{##3}% Name
& ##4% Description
& ##5% Symbol
& \glsentryuseri{##2}% Units
& \glsentryuserii{##2}% Dimensions
& ##6% Page list
\\ % end of row
}%
% Nothing between groups:
\renewcommand*{\glsgroupskip}{}%
}
```

17 Utilities

This section describes some utility commands. Additional commands can be found in the documented code (glossaries.pdf).

`\forall glossaries`

```
\forall glossaries[<glossary list>] {<cs>} {<body>}
```

This iterates through *<glossary list>*, a comma-separated list of glossary labels (as supplied when the glossary was defined). At each iteration *<cs>* (which must be a control sequence) is set to the glossary label for the current iteration and *<body>* is performed. If *<glossary list>* is omitted, the default is to iterate over all glossaries.

`\forall gloss entries`

```
\forall gloss entries[<glossary label>] {<cs>} {<body>}
```

This iterates through all entries in the glossary given by *<glossary label>*. At each iteration *<cs>* (which must be a control sequence) is set to the entry label for the current iteration and *<body>* is performed. If *<glossary label>* is omitted, `\glsdefaulttype` (usually the main glossary) is used.

`\forall gloss entries`

```
\forall gloss entries[<glossary list>] {<cs>} {<body>}
```

This is like `\forall gloss entries` but for each glossary in *<glossary list>* (a comma-separated list of glossary labels). If *<glossary list>* is omitted, the default is the list of all defined glossaries. At each iteration *<cs>* is set to the entry label and *<body>* is performed. (The current glossary label can be obtained using `\glsentrytype{<cs>}` within *<body>*.)

`\if glossary exists`

```
\if glossary exists<label> <true part> <false part>
```

This checks if the glossary given by *<label>* exists. If it does *<true part>* is performed, otherwise *<false part>*.

`\if gloss entry exists`

```
\if gloss entry exists<label> <true part> <false part>
```

This checks if the glossary entry given by *<label>* exists. If it does *<true part>* is performed, otherwise *<false part>*.

`\ifglused`

`\ifglstryexists⟨label⟩⟨true part⟩⟨false part⟩`

See Section 14.

`\ifglshaschildren`

`\ifglshaschildren⟨label⟩⟨true part⟩⟨false part⟩`

This checks if the glossary entry given by *⟨label⟩* has any sub-entries. If it does, *⟨true part⟩* is performed, otherwise *⟨false part⟩*.

`\ifglshasparent`

`\ifglshasparent⟨label⟩⟨true part⟩⟨false part⟩`

This checks if the glossary entry given by *⟨label⟩* has a parent entry. If it does, *⟨true part⟩* is performed, otherwise *⟨false part⟩*.

18 Accessibility Support

Limited accessibility support is provided by the accompanying glossaries-accsupp package, but note that this package is experimental and it requires the accsupp package which is also listed as experimental. This package defines additional keys that may be used when defining glossary entries. The keys are as follows:

access The replacement text corresponding to the name key.

textaccess The replacement text corresponding to the text key.

firstaccess The replacement text corresponding to the first key.

pluralaccess The replacement text corresponding to the plural key.

firstpluralaccess The replacement text corresponding to the firstplural key.

symbolaccess The replacement text corresponding to the symbol key.

symbolpluralaccess The replacement text corresponding to the symbolplural key.

descriptionaccess The replacement text corresponding to the description key.

descriptionpluralaccess The replacement text corresponding to the descriptionplural key.

longaccess The replacement text corresponding to the long key (used by \newacronym).

shortaccess The replacement text corresponding to the short key (used by \newacronym).

longpluralaccess The replacement text corresponding to the longplural key (used by \newacronym).

shortpluralaccess The replacement text corresponding to the shortplural key (used by \newacronym).

18 Accessibility Support

For example:

```
\newglossaryentry{tex}{name={\TeX},description={Document  
preparation language},access={TeX}}
```

Now `\gls{tex}` will be equivalent to

```
\BeginAccSupp{ActualText=TeX}\TeX\EndAccSupp{ }
```

The sample file `sampleaccsupp.tex` illustrates the `glossaries-accsupp` package.

See section 5 in the documented code (`glossaries.pdf`) for further details. It is recommended that you also read the `accsupp` documentation.

19 Troubleshooting

The glossaries package comes with a minimal file called `minimalgls.tex` which can be used for testing. This should be located in the `samples` subdirectory (folder) of the glossaries documentation directory. The location varies according to your operating system and \TeX installation. For example, on my Linux partition it can be found in `/usr/local/texlive/2008/texmf-dist/doc/latex/glossaries/`. Further information on debugging \LaTeX code is available at <http://theoval.cmp.uea.ac.uk/~nlct/latex/minexample/>.

Below is a list of the most frequently asked questions. For other queries, consult the glossaries FAQ at <http://theoval.cmp.uea.ac.uk/~nlct/latex/packages/faq/glossariesfaq.html>.

1. **Q.** I get the error message:

```
Missing \begin{document}
```

A. Check you are using an up to date version of the `xkeyval` package.

2. **Q.** When I use `xindy`, I get the following error message:

```
ERROR: CHAR: index 0 should be less than the length of  
the string
```

A. `xindy` discards all commands and braces from the sort string. If your sort string (either specified by the sort key or the name key) only consists of commands, this will be treated by `xindy` as an empty sort string, which produces an error message in newer versions of `xindy`. For example, the following will cause a problem:

```
\newglossaryentry{alpha}{name={\ensuremath{\alpha}},  
description=alpha}
```

Either use a different sort key for the entry, for example:

```
\newglossaryentry{alpha}{sort=alpha,  
name={\ensuremath{\alpha}},  
description=alpha}
```


or, if all entries are like this, you may prefer to use the `sort=use` or `sort=def` package options. See Section 2.4 for further details of the `sort` option.

3. **Q.** I’ve used the `smallcaps` option, but the acronyms are displayed in normal sized upper case letters.

A. The `smallcaps` package option uses `\textsc` to typeset the acronyms. This command converts lower case letters to small capitals, while upper case letters remain their usual size. Therefore you need to specify the acronym in lower case letters.

4. **Q.** My acronyms won’t break across a line when they’re expanded.

A. PDF \LaTeX can break hyperlinks across a line, but \LaTeX can’t. If you can’t use PDF \LaTeX then disable the `first use` links using the package option `hyperfirst=false`.

5. **Q.** How do I change the font that the acronyms are displayed in?

A. The easiest way to do this is to specify the `smaller` package option and redefine `\acronymfont` to use the required type-setting command. For example, suppose you would like the acronyms displayed in a sans-serif font, then you can do:

```
\usepackage[smaller]{glossaries}
\renewcommand*{\acronymfont}[1]{\textsf{#1}}
```

6. **Q.** How do I change the font that the acronyms are displayed in on `first use`?

A. The easiest way to do this is to specify the `smaller` package option and redefine `\firstacronymfont` to use the required command. Note that if you don’t want the acronym on subsequent use to use `\textsmaller`, you will also need to redefine `\acronymfont`, as above. For example to make the acronym emphasized on `first use`, but use the surrounding font for subsequent use, you can do:

```
\usepackage[smaller]{glossaries}
\renewcommand*{\firstacronymfont}[1]{\emph{#1}}
\renewcommand*{\acronymfont}[1]{#1}
```

7. **Q.** I don’t have Perl installed, do I have to use `makeglossaries`?

A. No. Although it is strongly recommended, you don’t have to use `makeglossaries`. If you prefer a GUI application

and have Java installed, you can use `makeglossariesgui` instead. Otherwise you can just call `makeindex` explicitly (see Section 1.3.3). Note that you can't use `xindy` if you don't have Perl installed.

8. **Q.** I'm used to using the glossary package: are there any instructions on migrating from the glossary package to the glossaries package?

A. Read "Upgrading from the glossary package to the glossaries package" ([glossary2glossaries.pdf](#)) which should be available from the same location as this document.

9. **Q.** I'm using babel but the fixed names haven't been translated.

A. The glossaries package currently only supports the following languages: Brazilian Portuguese, Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Irish, Italian, Hungarian, Polish, Serbian and Spanish. If you want to add another language, send me the translations, and I'll add them to the next version.

If you are using one of the above languages, but the text hasn't been translated, try adding the translator package with the required languages explicitly (before you load the glossaries package). For example:

```
\usepackage[ngerman]{babel}
\usepackage[ngerman]{translator}
\usepackage{glossaries}
```

Alternatively, you can add the language as a global option to the class file. Check the translator package documentation for further details.

10. **Q.** My acronyms contain strange characters when I use commands like `\acrlong`.

A. Switch off the sanitization:

```
\usepackage[sanitize=none]{glossaries}
```

and protect fragile commands.

11. **Q.** Weird characters appear when I use `\glsentryname` or `\glsname`.

A. Either use `\glsentrytext` or `\glsstext`, respectively, or switch off the sanitization for the name key:

```
\usepackage[sanitize={name=false}]{glossaries}
```

and protect fragile commands.

12. **Q.** Weird characters appear when I try to display an entry's description.

A. Switch off the sanitization for the description key:

```
\usepackage[sanitize={description=false}]{glossaries}
```

and protect fragile commands.

13. **Q.** My glossaries haven't appeared.

A. Remember to do the following:

- Add `\makeglossaries` to the document preamble.
- Use either `\printglossary` for each glossary that has been defined or `\printglossaries`.
- Use the commands listed in Section 6, Section 7 or Section 8 for each entry that you want to appear in the glossary.
- Run `LATEX` on your document, then run `makeglossaries`, then run `LATEX` on your document again. If you want the glossaries to appear in the table of contents, you will need an extra `LATEX` run. If any of your entries cross-reference an entry that's not referenced in the main body of the document, you will need to run `makeglossaries` (see Section 1.3) after the second `LATEX` run, followed by another `LATEX` run.

Check the log files (`.log`, `.glg` etc) for any warnings.

14. **Q.** It is possible to change the rules used to sort the glossary entries?

A. If it's for an individual entry, then you can use the entry's sort key to sort it according to a different term. If it's for the entire alphabet, then you will need to use `xindy` (instead of `makeindex`) and use an appropriate `xindy` language module. Writing `xindy` modules or styles is beyond the scope of this manual. Further information about `xindy` can be found at the Xindy Web Site¹. There is also a link to the `xindy` mailing list from that site.

If you want to sort according to order of definition or order of use, use the sort package option described in Section 2.4.

¹<http://xindy.sourceforge.net/>

15. **Q.** I get an error when using TeX4HT with glossaries.

A. TeX4HT seems to have a problem with the glossary styles that use `\indexspace`. I don't know enough about TeX4HT to find out why. Either use a different glossary style or redefine the style command that uses `\indexspace`. For example, if you are using the list style, try:

```
\renewcommand*{\glsgroupskip}{}{}
```

or

```
\renewcommand*{\glsgroupskip}{\item[]}
```

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