

The makerobust package

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2006/03/18 v1.0

Abstract

Package makerobust provides `\MakeRobustCommand` that converts an existing macro to a robust one.

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1 User interface

L^AT_EX offers `\DeclareRobustCommand` to define a robust macro that does not break if it is used in moving arguments. Sometimes a macro is already defined, but not robust. For example, `\(` and `\)` are not robust, inside `\section` the user must use `\protect` explicitly. This could be avoided by making `\(` and `\)` robust.

| |
|---|
| <code>\MakeRobustCommand{<i>cmd</i>}</code> |
|---|

`\MakeRobustCommand` redefines the macro `<cmd>` by using `\DeclareRobustCommand` and the existing definition of the macro `<cmd>`.

- It is an error if `<cmd>` is undefined. If you want to define a robust command, then you can use `\DeclareRobustCommand` directly.

- If the macro has previously been defined by `\DeclareRobustCommand` then the redefinition of `\MakeRobustCommand` is omitted, because the macro is already robust. Only an information entry is written to the `.log` file. Thus you do not get a warning or an error if the macro is already robust because of an updated LaTeX or package that defines the macro.
- Two macros are defined for a macro, defined by `\DeclareRobustCommand`. Example:

```
\DeclareRobustCommand{\foobar}{definition text}
```

Then the macro “`\foobar`” contains the protection code and, depending on the protection mode, calls the internal macro “`\foobar` ”. Notice the space at the end of the macro name. This internal macro “`\foobar` ” now contains the definition “`definition text`”, given in `\DeclareRobustCommand`.

Sometimes it can happen, that the internal macro already exists. This can be caused by a previous `\DeclareRobustCommand` followed by `\renewcommand`. Then the redefinition by `\MakeRobustCommand` would be safe.

However, it can also be possible that the macro is already robust, using the internal macro, but with a different protection code. The redefinition by `\MakeRobustCommand` would then generate an infinite loop.

Therefore `\MakeRobustCommand` raises an error message, if the internal macro (with space at the end) already exists.

1.1 Example

```
1 \langle *example\rangle
2 \documentclass{article}
3 \usepackage{makerobust}
4 \MakeRobustCommand\(  
5 \MakeRobustCommand\  
6 \pagestyle{headings}  
7 \begin{document}  
8 \tableofcontents  
9 \section{Einstein: \(\text{E}=\text{mc}^2\)}  
10 \newpage  
11 Second page.  
12 \end{document}  
13 \rangle example\rangle
```

2 Implementation

```
14 \langle *package\rangle
15 \NeedsTeXFormat{LaTeX2e}
16 \ProvidesPackage{makerobust}%
17 [2006/03/18 v1.0 Make existing macro robust (HO)]%
18 \def\MakeRobustCommand#1{%
19   \begingroup
20   \ifundefined{\expandafter\@gobble\string#1}{%
21     \endgroup
22     \PackageError{makerobust}{%
23       Macro \string'\string#1\string' is not defined%
24     }\@ehc
25   }{%
26     \global\let\MR@gtemp#1%
27     \let#1\@undefined
```

```

28 \expandafter\let\expandafter\MR@temp
29 \csname\expandafter\@gobble\string#1 \endcsname
30 \DeclareRobustCommand#1{%
31 \ifx#1\MR@gtemp
32 \endgroup
33 \PackageInfo{makerobust}{%
34 \string'\string#1\string' is already robust%
35 }%
36 \else
37 \@ifundefined{MR@temp}{%
38 \global\let\MR@gtemp#1%
39 \endgroup
40 \expandafter\let\csname\expandafter\@gobble\string#1 \endcsname#1%
41 \let#1\MR@gtemp
42 }{%
43 \endgroup
44 \PackageError{makerobust}{%
45 Internal macro \string'\string#1 \string' already exists%
46 }\@ehc
47 }%
48 \fi
49 }%
50 }
51 </package>

```

3 Installation

3.1 Download

Package. This package is available on CTAN¹:

[CTAN:macros/latex/contrib/oberdiek/makerobust.dtx](#) The source file.

[CTAN:macros/latex/contrib/oberdiek/makerobust.pdf](#) Documentation.

Bundle. All the packages of the bundle ‘oberdiek’ are also available in a TDS compliant ZIP archive. There the packages are already unpacked and the documentation files are generated. The files and directories obey the TDS standard.

[CTAN:install/macros/latex/contrib/oberdiek.tds.zip](#)

TDS refers to the standard “A Directory Structure for T_EX Files” ([CTAN:tds/tds.pdf](#)). Directories with `texmf` in their name are usually organized this way.

3.2 Bundle installation

Unpacking. Unpack the `oberdiek.tds.zip` in the TDS tree (also known as `texmf` tree) of your choice. Example (linux):

```
unzip oberdiek.tds.zip -d ~/texmf
```

Script installation. Check the directory `TDS:scripts/oberdiek/` for scripts that need further installation steps. Package `attachfile2` comes with the Perl script `pdfatfi.pl` that should be installed in such a way that it can be called as `pdfatfi`. Example (linux):

```
chmod +x scripts/oberdiek/pdfatfi.pl
cp scripts/oberdiek/pdfatfi.pl /usr/local/bin/
```

¹[ftp://ftp.ctan.org/tex-archive/](http://ftp.ctan.org/tex-archive/)

3.3 Package installation

Unpacking. The `.dtx` file is a self-extracting `docstrip` archive. The files are extracted by running the `.dtx` through plain \TeX :

```
tex makerobust.dtx
```

TDS. Now the different files must be moved into the different directories in your installation TDS tree (also known as `texmf` tree):

```
makerobust.sty      → tex/latex/oberdiek/makerobust.sty
makerobust.pdf      → doc/latex/oberdiek/makerobust.pdf
makerobust-example.tex → doc/latex/oberdiek/makerobust-example.tex
makerobust.dtx      → source/latex/oberdiek/makerobust.dtx
```

If you have a `docstrip.cfg` that configures and enables `docstrip`'s TDS installing feature, then some files can already be in the right place, see the documentation of `docstrip`.

3.4 Refresh file name databases

If your \TeX distribution (`te \TeX` , `mik \TeX` , ...) relies on file name databases, you must refresh these. For example, `te \TeX` users run `texhash` or `mktextlsr`.

3.5 Some details for the interested

Attached source. The PDF documentation on CTAN also includes the `.dtx` source file. It can be extracted by AcrobatReader 6 or higher. Another option is `pdftk`, e.g. unpack the file into the current directory:

```
pdftk makerobust.pdf unpack_files output .
```

Unpacking with \LaTeX . The `.dtx` chooses its action depending on the format:

plain \TeX : Run `docstrip` and extract the files.

\LaTeX : Generate the documentation.

If you insist on using \LaTeX for `docstrip` (really, `docstrip` does not need \LaTeX), then inform the autodetect routine about your intention:

```
latex \let\install=y\input{makerobust.dtx}
```

Do not forget to quote the argument according to the demands of your shell.

Generating the documentation. You can use both the `.dtx` or the `.drv` to generate the documentation. The process can be configured by the configuration file `ltxdoc.cfg`. For instance, put this line into this file, if you want to have A4 as paper format:

```
\PassOptionsToClass{a4paper}{article}
```

An example follows how to generate the documentation with `pdf \LaTeX` :

```
pdflatex makerobust.dtx
makeindex -s gind.ist makerobust.idx
pdflatex makerobust.dtx
makeindex -s gind.ist makerobust.idx
pdflatex makerobust.dtx
```

4 Catalogue

The following XML file can be used as source for the **TeX Catalogue**. The elements `caption` and `description` are imported from the original XML file from the Catalogue. The name of the XML file in the Catalogue is `makerobust.xml`.

```

52 <*catalogue>
53 <?xml version='1.0' encoding='us-ascii'?>
54 <!DOCTYPE entry SYSTEM 'catalogue.dtd'>
55 <entry datestamp='$Date$' modifier='$Author$' id='makerobust'>
56   <name>makerobust</name>
57   <caption>Making a macro robust.</caption>
58   <authorref id='auth:oberdiek'>
59     <copyright owner='Heiko Oberdiek' year='2006'>
60       <license type='lppl1.3'>
61         <version number='1.0'>
62           <description>
63             This package provides the command MakeRobustCommand
64             that converts an existing macro to a robust one.
65           <p/>
66             The package is part of the <xref refid='oberdiek'>oberdiek</xref>
67             bundle.
68           </description>
69           <documentation details='Package documentation'
70             href='ctan:/macros/latex/contrib/oberdiek/makerobust.pdf'>
71             <ctan file='true' path='/macros/latex/contrib/oberdiek/makerobust.dtx'>
72             <miktex location='oberdiek'>
73             <texlive location='oberdiek'>
74             <install path='/macros/latex/contrib/oberdiek/oberdiek.tds.zip'>
75           </entry>
76 </catalogue>

```

5 History

[2006/03/18 v1.0]

- First version.

6 Index

Numbers written in *italic* refer to the page where the corresponding entry is described; numbers underlined refer to the code line of the definition; plain numbers refer to the code lines where the entry is used.

| Symbols | | D | |
|---------------|------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| \(| 4, 9 | \DeclareRobustCommand | 30 |
| \) | 5, 9 | \documentclass | 2 |
| \@ehc | 24, 46 | | |
| \@gobble | 20, 29, 40 | | |
| \@ifundefined | 20, 37 | \end | 12 |
| \@undefined | 27 | \endcsname | 29, 40 |
| B | | E | |
| \begin | 7 | | |
| C | | I | |
| \csname | 29, 40 | \ifx | 31 |
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| | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|------------------------|----------|
| \MR@temp | 26, 31, 38, 41 | \ProvidesPackage | 16 |
| \MR@temp | 28 | | |
| | N | | S |
| \NeedsTeXFormat | 15 | \section | 9 |
| \newpage | 10 | | |
| | P | | T |
| \PackageError | 22, 44 | \tableofcontents | 8 |
| \PackageInfo | 33 | | |
| \pagestyle | 6 | | U |
| | | \usepackage | 3 |