

The `protecteddef` package

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2011/01/31 v1.0

Abstract

This package provides `\ProtectedDef` for defining robust macros for both plain \TeX and \LaTeX . First $\varepsilon\text{-}\text{\TeX}$'s `\protected` is tried, then \LaTeX 's `\DeclareRobustCommand` is used. Otherwise the macro is not made robust.

Contents

1	Documentation	1
1.1	The \LaTeX 's way	2
1.2	The $\varepsilon\text{-}\text{\TeX}$'s way	2
1.3	The way of this package	2
1.4	Usage	2
2	Implementation	2
2.1	Reload check and package identification	2
2.2	Catcodes	4
2.3	Resources	4
3	Test	6
3.1	Catcode checks for loading	6
3.2	Test without \LaTeX and <code>\protected</code>	8
4	Installation	11
4.1	Download	11
4.2	Bundle installation	11
4.3	Package installation	11
4.4	Refresh file name databases	11
4.5	Some details for the interested	12
5	History	12
	[2011/01/31 v1.0]	12
6	Index	12

1 Documentation

Many of my packages work for both formats plain \TeX and \LaTeX , even \initEX is often supported. It would be nice if fragile macros could be protected and made robust. However the different format worlds offer different solutions.

1.1 The L^AT_EX's way

Usually `\newcommand` is used to define macros. It provides a check if the command to be defined is already defined or cannot be defined for other reasons.

For making robust macros L^AT_EX provides `\DeclareRobustCommand`. It shares the syntax with `\newcommand`. However it does not provide latter's check. Internally the check is available via `\@ifdefinable`.

Internally the robust macro is using `\protect` with a nested macro definition. The `\protect` infrastructure is a feature of L^AT_EX and usually not available in other formats.

1.2 The ε-T_EX's way

The need for robust macros is addressed in `\eTeX`. It provides `\protected` that modifies the behaviour of `\def` in a similar way as `\long`. A protected macro does not expand in some expandable contexts like writing to a file or `\edef`.

1.3 The way of this package

The package tries to find the available protection mechanism. First it looks for `\eTeX`'s `\protected`, then it uses L^AT_EX's `\DeclareRobustCommand`. If both fails, then the macro remains unprotected.

Additionally, L^AT_EX's check, if a macro is already defined is added in all cases. First L^AT_EX's `\@ifdefinable` is tried to be compatible with L^AT_EX. If `\@ifdefinable` is not available, then the test is implemented by asserting that the macro is undefined or has the meaning of `\relax`. If the test fails, then in all cases the macro is not defined and an error is thrown.

1.4 Usage

`\ProtectedDef * {<cmd>} [<num>] {<definition text>}`

Macro `\ProtectedDef` follows the syntax of L^AT_EX's `\newcommand` with the exception that an optional argument is not supported. Macro `<cmd>` is to be defined as `\long` macro without star with `<num>` arguments.

The number of arguments `<num>` must be given as explicit digit 0 upto 9. Otherwise the part between the argument `<cmd>` and the `<definition text>` is taken as parameter text in the syntax of vanilla T_EX. Examples (with `\protected`):

```
\ProtectedDef*{\foo}[1]{\message{#1}}
⇒ \protected\def\foo#1{\message{#1}}

\ProtectedDef\foo{abc}
⇒ \protected\def\foo{abc}

\ProtectedDef*\foo(#1)<#2>{#1/#2}
⇒ \protected\def\foo(#1)<#2>{#1/#2}
```

2 Implementation

```
1 (*package)
```

2.1 Reload check and package identification

Reload check, especially if the package is not used with L^AT_EX.

```
2 \begingroup\catcode61\catcode48\catcode32=10\relax%
3 \catcode13=5 % ^^M
4 \endlinechar=13 %
5 \catcode35=6 % #
6 \catcode39=12 % '

```

```

7 \catcode44=12 % ,
8 \catcode45=12 % -
9 \catcode46=12 % .
10 \catcode58=12 % :
11 \catcode64=11 % @
12 \catcode123=1 % {
13 \catcode125=2 % }
14 \expandafter\let\expandafter\x\csname ver@protecteddef.sty\endcsname
15 \ifx\x\relax % plain-TeX, first loading
16 \else
17 \def\empty{}%
18 \ifx\x\empty % LaTeX, first loading,
19 % variable is initialized, but \ProvidesPackage not yet seen
20 \else
21 \expandafter\ifx\csname PackageInfo\endcsname\relax
22 \def\x#1#2{%
23 \immediate\write-1{Package #1 Info: #2.}%
24 }%
25 \else
26 \def\x#1#2{\PackageInfo{#1}{#2, stopped}}%
27 \fi
28 \x{protecteddef}{The package is already loaded}%
29 \aftergroup\endinput
30 \fi
31 \fi
32 \endgroup%

```

Package identification:

```

33 \begingroup\catcode61\catcode48\catcode32=10\relax%
34 \catcode13=5 % ^^M
35 \endlinechar=13 %
36 \catcode35=6 % #
37 \catcode39=12 % '
38 \catcode40=12 % (
39 \catcode41=12 % )
40 \catcode44=12 % ,
41 \catcode45=12 % -
42 \catcode46=12 % .
43 \catcode47=12 % /
44 \catcode58=12 % :
45 \catcode64=11 % @
46 \catcode91=12 % [
47 \catcode93=12 % ]
48 \catcode123=1 % {
49 \catcode125=2 % }
50 \expandafter\ifx\csname ProvidesPackage\endcsname\relax
51 \def\x#1#2#3[#4]{\endgroup
52 \immediate\write-1{Package: #3 #4}%
53 \xdef#1{#4}%
54 }%
55 \else
56 \def\x#1#2[#3]{\endgroup
57 #2[#3]}%
58 \ifx#1\@undefined
59 \xdef#1{#3}%
60 \fi
61 \ifx#1\relax
62 \xdef#1{#3}%
63 \fi
64 }%
65 \fi
66 \expandafter\x\csname ver@protecteddef.sty\endcsname
67 \ProvidesPackage{protecteddef}%

```

2.2 Catcodes

```

69 \begingroup\catcode61\catcode48\catcode32=10\relax%
70 \catcode13=5 % ^~M
71 \endlinechar=13 %
72 \catcode123=1 % {
73 \catcode125=2 % }
74 \catcode64=11 % @
75 \def\x{\endgroup
76   \expandafter\edef\csname ProDef@AtEnd\endcsname{%
77     \endlinechar=\the\endlinechar\relax
78     \catcode13=\the\catcode13\relax
79     \catcode32=\the\catcode32\relax
80     \catcode35=\the\catcode35\relax
81     \catcode61=\the\catcode61\relax
82     \catcode64=\the\catcode64\relax
83     \catcode123=\the\catcode123\relax
84     \catcode125=\the\catcode125\relax
85   }%
86 }%
87 \x\catcode61\catcode48\catcode32=10\relax%
88 \catcode13=5 % ^~M
89 \endlinechar=13 %
90 \catcode35=6 % #
91 \catcode64=11 % @
92 \catcode123=1 % {
93 \catcode125=2 % }
94 \def\TMP@EnsureCode#1#2{%
95   \edef\ProDef@AtEnd{%
96     \ProDef@AtEnd
97     \catcode#1=\the\catcode#1\relax
98   }%
99   \catcode#1=#2\relax
100 }
101 \TMP@EnsureCode{38}{4}% &
102 \TMP@EnsureCode{40}{12}% (
103 \TMP@EnsureCode{41}{12}% )
104 \TMP@EnsureCode{42}{12}% *
105 \TMP@EnsureCode{45}{12}% -
106 \TMP@EnsureCode{46}{12}% .
107 \TMP@EnsureCode{47}{12}% /
108 \TMP@EnsureCode{91}{12}% [
109 \TMP@EnsureCode{93}{12}% ]
110 \TMP@EnsureCode{96}{12}% '
111 \edef\ProDef@AtEnd{\ProDef@AtEnd\noexpand\endinput}

```

2.3 Resources

```

112 \begingroup\expandafter\expandafter\expandafter\endgroup
113 \expandafter\ifx\csname RequirePackage\endcsname\relax
114   \def\TMP@RequirePackage#1[#2]{%
115     \begingroup\expandafter\expandafter\expandafter\endgroup
116     \expandafter\ifx\csname ver@#1.sty\endcsname\relax
117       \input #1.sty\relax
118     \fi
119   }%
120 \else
121   \let\TMP@RequirePackage\RequirePackage
122 \fi
123 \TMP@RequirePackage{ltxcmds}[2010/12/12]%
124 \TMP@RequirePackage{infwarerr}[2010/04/08]%

```

```

125 \def\ProDef@temp#1{%
126   \expandafter\def\csname ProDef@param[#1]\endcsname % hash-ok
127 }
128 \expandafter\def\csname ProDef@param\endcsname{}
129 \ProDef@temp0{}
130 \ProDef@temp1{##1}
131 \ProDef@temp2{##1##2}
132 \ProDef@temp3{##1##2##3}
133 \ProDef@temp4{##1##2##3##4}
134 \ProDef@temp5{##1##2##3##4##5}
135 \ProDef@temp6{##1##2##3##4##5##6}
136 \ProDef@temp7{##1##2##3##4##5##7}
137 \ProDef@temp8{##1##2##3##4##5##7##8}
138 \ProDef@temp9{##1##2##3##4##5##7##8##9}

```

\ProDef@IfDefinable

```

139 \ltx@ifundefined{ifdefinable}{%
140   \long\def\ProDef@IfDefinable#1{%
141     \begingroup
142     \escapechar=-1 %
143     \ltx@ifundefined{string#1}{%
144       \endgroup
145       \ltx@firstofone
146     }{%
147       \expandafter\endgroup
148       \expandafter
149       \edef\expandafter\ProDef@temp\expandafter{string#1 }%
150       \@PackageError{protecteddef}{%
151         Command \ltx@backslashchar\ProDef@temp already defined%
152       }{\@ehc
153         \ltx@gobbletwo
154       }%
155     }%
156   }{%
157     \long\def\ProDef@IfDefinable#1{%
158       \let\ProDef@next\ltx@gobbletwo
159       \@ifdefinable{#1}{%
160         \let\ProDef@next\ltx@firstofone
161       }%
162       \ProDef@next
163     }%
164   }

165 \begingroup\expandafter\expandafter\expandafter\endgroup
166 \expandafter\ifx\csname protected\endcsname\relax
167   \begingroup\expandafter\expandafter\expandafter\endgroup
168   \expandafter\ifx\csname DeclareRobustCommand\endcsname\relax
169     \catcode'\&=14 % comment
170   \else
171     \newcommand*\ProtectedDef{%
172       \ltx@ifnextchar*{%
173         \ProDef@ProtectedDef
174       }{%
175         \ProDef@ProtectedDef{}%
176       }%
177     }%
178     \long\def\ProDef@ProtectedDef#1#2#3{%
179       \ProDef@IfDefinable{#2}{%
180         \ltx@ifundefined{ProDef@param#3}{%
181           \DeclareRobustCommand*{#2}{}%
182         }%
183         \begingroup
184         \escapechar=-1 %
185         \def\ProDef@temp{#1}%

```

```

185         \edef\x{\endgroup
186         \ifx\ProDef@temp\ltx@empty
187         \noexpand\long
188         \fi
189         \noexpand\def
190         \expandafter\noexpand\csname\string#2 \endcsname
191         }%
192         \x#3%
193     }{%
194         \DeclareRobustCommand#1{#2}#3%
195     }%
196 }%
197 }%
198 \expandafter\expandafter\expandafter\ProDef@AtEnd
199 \fi
200 \else
201 \catcode'\&=9 % ignore
202 \fi%
203 \ProDef@IfDefinable\ProtectedDef{%
204 & \protected
205 \def\ProtectedDef%
206 }{%
207 \ltx@ifnextchar*{%
208 \let\ProDef@long\ltx@empty
209 \expandafter\ProDef@ProtectedDef\ltx@gobble
210 }{%
211 \let\ProDef@long\long
212 \ProDef@ProtectedDef
213 }%
214 }
215 \long\def\ProDef@ProtectedDef#1#2#{%
216 \ProDef@IfDefinable{#1}{%
217 \ltx@ifundefined{ProDef@param#2}{%
218 & \protected
219 \ProDef@long
220 \def#1#2%
221 }{%
222 & \protected
223 \ProDef@long
224 \expandafter\expandafter\expandafter\def
225 \expandafter\expandafter\expandafter#1%
226 \csname ProDef@param#2\endcsname
227 }%
228 }%
229 }
230 \ProDef@AtEnd%
231 \end{package}

```

3 Test

3.1 Catcode checks for loading

```

232 \test1
233 \catcode'\{=1 %
234 \catcode'\}=2 %
235 \catcode'\#=6 %
236 \catcode'\@=11 %
237 \expandafter\ifx\csname count@\endcsname\relax
238 \countdef\count@=255 %
239 \fi
240 \expandafter\ifx\csname @gobble\endcsname\relax

```

```

241 \long\def\@gobble#1{}%
242 \fi
243 \expandafter\ifx\csname @firstofone\endcsname\relax
244 \long\def\@firstofone#1{#1}%
245 \fi
246 \expandafter\ifx\csname loop\endcsname\relax
247 \expandafter\@firstofone
248 \else
249 \expandafter\@gobble
250 \fi
251 {%
252 \def\loop#1\repeat{%
253 \def\body{#1}%
254 \iterate
255 }%
256 \def\iterate{%
257 \body
258 \let\next\iterate
259 \else
260 \let\next\relax
261 \fi
262 \next
263 }%
264 \let\repeat=\fi
265 }%
266 \def\RestoreCatcodes{}
267 \count@=0 %
268 \loop
269 \edef\RestoreCatcodes{%
270 \RestoreCatcodes
271 \catcode\the\count@=\the\catcode\count@\relax
272 }%
273 \ifnum\count@<255 %
274 \advance\count@ 1 %
275 \repeat
276
277 \def\RangeCatcodeInvalid#1#2{%
278 \count@=#1\relax
279 \loop
280 \catcode\count@=15 %
281 \ifnum\count@<#2\relax
282 \advance\count@ 1 %
283 \repeat
284 }
285 \def\RangeCatcodeCheck#1#2#3{%
286 \count@=#1\relax
287 \loop
288 \ifnum#3=\catcode\count@
289 \else
290 \errmessage{%
291 Character \the\count@\space
292 with wrong catcode \the\catcode\count@\space
293 instead of \number#3%
294 }%
295 \fi
296 \ifnum\count@<#2\relax
297 \advance\count@ 1 %
298 \repeat
299 }
300 \def\space{ }
301 \expandafter\ifx\csname LoadCommand\endcsname\relax
302 \def\LoadCommand{\input protecteddef.sty\relax}%

```

```

303 \fi
304 \def\Test{%
305   \RangeCatcodeInvalid{0}{47}%
306   \RangeCatcodeInvalid{58}{64}%
307   \RangeCatcodeInvalid{91}{96}%
308   \RangeCatcodeInvalid{123}{255}%
309   \catcode'\@=12 %
310   \catcode'\=0 %
311   \catcode'\%=14 %
312   \LoadCommand
313   \RangeCatcodeCheck{0}{36}{15}%
314   \RangeCatcodeCheck{37}{37}{14}%
315   \RangeCatcodeCheck{38}{47}{15}%
316   \RangeCatcodeCheck{48}{57}{12}%
317   \RangeCatcodeCheck{58}{63}{15}%
318   \RangeCatcodeCheck{64}{64}{12}%
319   \RangeCatcodeCheck{65}{90}{11}%
320   \RangeCatcodeCheck{91}{91}{15}%
321   \RangeCatcodeCheck{92}{92}{0}%
322   \RangeCatcodeCheck{93}{96}{15}%
323   \RangeCatcodeCheck{97}{122}{11}%
324   \RangeCatcodeCheck{123}{255}{15}%
325   \RestoreCatcodes
326 }
327 \Test
328 \csname @@end\endcsname
329 \end
330 </test1>

```

3.2 Test without L^AT_EX and \protected

```

331 (*test2)
332 \errorcontextlines=10000 %
333 \begingroup\expandafter\expandafter\expandafter\endgroup
334 \expandafter\ifx\csname RequirePackage\endcsname\relax
335   \input protecteddef.sty\relax
336   \catcode'\{=1 %
337   \catcode'\}=2 %
338   \catcode'\#=6 %
339 \else
340   \RequirePackage{protecteddef}[2011/01/31]%
341 \fi
342 \begingroup\expandafter\expandafter\expandafter\endgroup
343 \expandafter\ifx\csname protected\endcsname\relax
344   \let\pdef\def
345 \else
346   \def\pdef{\protected\def}%
347 \fi
348 \def\msg#{\immediate\write16}
349 \countdef\errcount=2 %
350 \long\def\BeginCheck#1\ProtectedDef#2\EndCheck{%
351   \begingroup
352     \toks0={\ProtectedDef#2}%
353     \msg{<<\the\toks0>>}%
354   \endgroup
355   \setbox0=\hbox{%
356     #1%
357     \ProtectedDef#2%
358     \check\foo
359   }%
360   \ifdim\wd0=0pt\relax
361   \else
362     \errmessage{[Definition] Unwanted spaces?!}%

```



```

363 \fi
364 \setbox0=\hbox{%
365   \def\fooinitial{XYZ}%
366   \let\foo\fooinitial
367   \errcount=0 %
368   \expandafter\def\csname @PackageError\endcsname##1##2##3{%
369     \advance\errcount by 1 %
370   }%
371   \expandafter\def\csname @notdefinable\endcsname{%
372     \advance\errcount by 1 %
373   }%
374   \ProtectedDef#2%
375   \ifnum\errcount=1 %
376   \else
377     \errmessage{1 error expected, but found: \the\errcount}%
378   \fi
379   \ifx\foo\fooinitial
380   \else
381     \def\space{ }%
382     \errmessage{\string\foo\space is overwritten}%
383   \fi
384 }%
385 \ifdim\wd0=0pt\relax
386 \else
387   \errmessage{[Error] Unwanted spaces?!}%
388 \fi
389 }
390 \chardef\DeclareVersion=0 %
391 \begingroup\expandafter\expandafter\expandafter\endgroup
392 \expandafter\ifx\csname protected\endcsname\relax
393   \begingroup\expandafter\expandafter\expandafter\endgroup
394   \expandafter\ifx\csname DeclareRobustCommand\endcsname\relax
395   \else
396     \chardef\DeclareVersion=1 %
397   \fi
398 \fi
399 \ifnum\DeclareVersion=0 %
400   \def\check#1{%
401     \ifx\cmp#1%
402       \msg{* Test passed.}%
403     \else
404       \msg{}%
405       \msg{[\meaning#1]}%
406       \msg{[\meaning\cmp]}%
407       \errmessage{Test failed!}%
408     \fi
409   }%
410 \else
411   \def\check#1{%
412     \begingroup
413       \escapechar=-1 %
414       \edef\x{\endgroup
415         \def\noexpand\cs/{\string#1}%
416       }\x
417       \edef\CMP{%
418         \noexpand\protect
419         \expandafter\noexpand\csname\cs/ \endcsname
420       }%
421       \ifx\CMP#1%
422         \expandafter\ifx\csname\cs/ \endcsname\cmp
423           \msg{Test passed.}%
424         \else

```

```

425         \msg{}%
426         \msg{[\expandafter\meaning\csname\cs/ \endcsname]}%
427         \msg{[\meaning\cmp]}%
428         \errmessage{Test failed!}%
429     \fi
430 \else
431     \msg{}%
432     \msg{[\meaning#1]}%
433     \msg{[\meaning\CMP]}%
434     \errmessage{Test failed!}%
435 \fi
436 }%
437 \fi
438
439 \tracingmacros=1
440
441 \BeginCheck
442   \pdef\cmp{}%
443   \ProtectedDef*\foo{}%
444 \EndCheck
445
446 \BeginCheck
447   \pdef\cmp{}%
448   \ProtectedDef*\foo[0]{}%
449 \EndCheck
450
451 \BeginCheck
452   \pdef\cmp#1{<#1>}%
453   \ProtectedDef*\foo[1]{<#1>}%
454 \EndCheck
455
456 \BeginCheck
457   \pdef\cmp(#1){<#1>}%
458   \ProtectedDef*\foo(#1){<#1>}%
459 \EndCheck
460
461 \BeginCheck
462   \long\pdef\cmp{}%
463   \ProtectedDef\foo{}%
464 \EndCheck
465
466 \BeginCheck
467   \long\pdef\cmp{}%
468   \ProtectedDef\foo[0]{}%
469 \EndCheck
470
471 \BeginCheck
472   \long\pdef\cmp#1{<#1>}%
473   \ProtectedDef\foo[1]{<#1>}%
474 \EndCheck
475
476 \BeginCheck
477   \long\pdef\cmp(#1){<#1>}%
478   \ProtectedDef\foo(#1){<#1>}%
479 \EndCheck
480
481 \csname @@end\endcsname\end
482 </test2>

```

4 Installation

4.1 Download

Package. This package is available on CTAN¹:

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

[CTAN:macros/latex/contrib/oberdiek/protecteddef.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.

4.2 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/
```

4.3 Package installation

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

```
tex protecteddef.dtx
```

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

<code>protecteddef.sty</code>	→ <code>tex/generic/oberdiek/protecteddef.sty</code>
<code>protecteddef.pdf</code>	→ <code>doc/latex/oberdiek/protecteddef.pdf</code>
<code>test/protecteddef-test1.tex</code>	→ <code>doc/latex/oberdiek/test/protecteddef-test1.tex</code>
<code>test/protecteddef-test2.tex</code>	→ <code>doc/latex/oberdiek/test/protecteddef-test2.tex</code>
<code>protecteddef.dtx</code>	→ <code>source/latex/oberdiek/protecteddef.dtx</code>

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`.

4.4 Refresh file name databases

If your T_EX distribution (teT_EX, miK_TE_X, ...) relies on file name databases, you must refresh these. For example, teT_EX users run `texhash` or `mktextlsr`.

¹<http://ftp.ctan.org/tex-archive/>

4.5 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 protecteddef.pdf unpack_files output .
```

Unpacking with L^AT_EX. The `.dtx` chooses its action depending on the format:

plain T_EX: Run `docstrip` and extract the files.

L^AT_EX: Generate the documentation.

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

```
latex \let\install=y\input{protecteddef.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 `pdfLATEX`:

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

5 History

[2011/01/31 v1.0]

- First public 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		<code>\}</code> 234, 337
<code>\#</code>	235, 338	
<code>\%</code>	311	A
<code>\&</code>	169, 201	<code>\advance</code> 274, 282, 297, 369, 372
<code>\@</code>	236, 309	<code>\aftergroup</code> 29
<code>\@PackageError</code>	150	B
<code>\@ehc</code>	152	<code>\BeginCheck</code> 350, 441,
<code>\@firstofone</code>	244, 247	446, 451, 456, 461, 466, 471, 476
<code>\@gobble</code>	241, 249	<code>\body</code> 253, 257
<code>\@ifdefinable</code>	159	C
<code>\@undefined</code>	58	<code>\catcode</code> 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8,
<code>\%</code>	310	9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 33, 34, 36, 37,
<code>\{</code>	233, 336	

38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 87, 88, 90, 91, 92, 93, 97, 99, 169, 201, 233, 234, 235, 236, 271, 280, 288, 292, 309, 310, 311, 336, 337, 338		L	
\chardef	390, 396	\LoadCommand	302, 312
\check	358, 400, 411	\loop	252, 268, 279, 287
\CMP	417, 421, 433	\ltx@backslashchar	151
\cmp	401, 406, 422, 427, 442, 447, 452, 457, 462, 467, 472, 477	\ltx@empty	186, 208
\count@	238, 267, 271, 273, 274, 278, 280, 281, 282, 286, 288, 291, 292, 296, 297	\ltx@firstofone	145, 160
\countdef	238, 349	\ltx@gobble	209
\cs	415, 419, 422, 426	\ltx@gobbletwo	153, 158
\csname	14, 21, 50, 66, 76, 113, 116, 126, 128, 166, 168, 190, 226, 237, 240, 243, 246, 301, 328, 334, 343, 368, 371, 392, 394, 419, 422, 426, 481	\ltx@ifnextchar	172, 207
		\ltx@ifUndefined	139, 180, 217
		\ltx@ifundefined	143
D		M	
\DeclareRobustCommand	181, 194	\meaning	405, 406, 426, 427, 432, 433
\DeclareVersion	390, 396, 399	\msg	348, 353, 402, 404, 405, 406, 423, 425, 426, 427, 431, 432, 433
E		N	
\empty	17, 18	\newcommand	171
\end	329, 481	\next	258, 260, 262
\EndCheck	350, 444, 449, 454, 459, 464, 469, 474, 479	\number	293
\endcsname	14, 21, 50, 66, 76, 113, 116, 126, 128, 166, 168, 190, 226, 237, 240, 243, 246, 301, 328, 334, 343, 368, 371, 392, 394, 419, 422, 426, 481	P	
\endinput	29, 111	\PackageInfo	26
\endlinechar	4, 35, 71, 77, 89	\pdef	344, 346, 442, 447, 452, 457, 462, 467, 472, 477
\errcount	349, 367, 369, 372, 375, 377	\ProDef@AtEnd	95, 96, 111, 198, 230
\errmessage	290, 362, 377, 382, 387, 407, 428, 434	\ProDef@ifDefinable	139, 179, 203, 216
\errorcontextlines	332	\ProDef@long	208, 211, 219, 223
\escapechar	142, 183, 413	\ProDef@next	158, 160, 162
F		\ProDef@ProtectedDef	173, 175, 178, 209, 212, 215
\foo	358, 366, 379, 382, 443, 448, 453, 458, 463, 468, 473, 478	\ProDef@temp	125, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 149, 151, 184, 186
\fooinitial	365, 366, 379	\protect	418
H		\protected	204, 218, 222, 346
\hbox	355, 364	\ProtectedDef	2, 171, 203, 205, 350, 352, 357, 374, 443, 448, 453, 458, 463, 468, 473, 478
I		\ProvidesPackage	19, 67
\ifdim	360, 385	R	
\ifnum	273, 281, 288, 296, 375, 399	\RangeCatcodeCheck	285, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324
\ifx	15, 18, 21, 50, 58, 61, 113, 116, 166, 168, 186, 237, 240, 243, 246, 301, 334, 343, 379, 392, 394, 401, 421, 422	\RangeCatcodeInvalid	277, 305, 306, 307, 308
\immediate	23, 52, 348	\repeat	252, 264, 275, 283, 298
\input	117, 302, 335	\RequirePackage	121, 340
\iterate	254, 256, 258	\RestoreCatcodes	266, 269, 270, 325
		S	
		\setbox	355, 364
		\space	291, 292, 300, 381, 382
		T	
		\Test	304, 327
		\the	77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 97, 271, 291, 292, 353, 377
		\TMP@EnsureCode	94, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110
		\TMP@RequirePackage	114, 121, 123, 124
		\toks	352, 353
		\tracingmacros	439

W		X	
<code>\wd</code> 360, 385	<code>\x</code> 14, 15, 18, 22, 26, 28,
<code>\write</code> 23, 52, 348		51, 56, 66, 75, 87, 185, 192, 414, 416