# prettytok — Pretty-print token lists\*

### user202729

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#### Abstract

Pretty-print token lists.

# 1 Usage

## 1.1 Main function

\pretty:n \pretty:(x|o|V)

\pretty:n  $\{\langle token\ list \rangle\}$ 

Print the content of  $\langle token \ list \rangle$ .

\pretty:N
\pretty:c

 $\verb|\pretty:N| \langle token \rangle|$ 

 $\verb|\pretty:c {| \langle control sequence name \rangle|}$ 

Print  $\langle token \rangle$ .

This function is not very useful. Usually it's preferable to use \pretty:V to print a token list variable's value, or \prettyshow:N to print a control sequence's meaning.

#### 1.2 View result

The result is printed to a HTML file named pretty- $\langle jobname \rangle$ .html by default. Open the file in any browser to view the result.

Note that the HTML file will not be touched if nothing is printed, as such it's encouraged to add a line such as **\pretty:n** {start} right after loading the file.

Why HTML file?

- Because if the TeX program stops with error / has some error that corrupts the PDF output, the output will even with corrupted more by the debug print.
- Printing to the console is extremely limited (difficult syntax highlighting/scrolling/line wrapping), and most likely cluttered with the traceback/other TeX default output.
- Output to another TEX file to be compiled is a bit absurd, and compiling TEX file takes longer than loading a HTML file.

By default, the output refreshes whenever the TeX file is recompiled. The behavior can be customized with  $\prettyrefreshstrategy$  and  $\prettyrefreshduration$ .

<sup>\*</sup>This file describes version v0.0.0, last revised 2022/05/28.

## 1.3 LATEX2 interface

\prettyN \prettyX \prettyO \prettyV \prettyN  $\{\langle token\ list \rangle\}$ 

Alias of the correspondingly-named commands.

## 1.4 Additional functions

There are also these functions, for convenience.

\pretty:nn
\pretty:nnn

 $\pretty:nn {$\langle token \ list \rangle$} {$\langle token \ list$ 

Print multiple token lists.

\pretty:w

\pretty:w \langle token list \rangle \prettystop

Print the content of  $\langle token \ list \rangle$ . For now, it must be brace-balanced.

\prettyshow:N

 $\operatorname{prettyshow:N} \langle token \rangle$ 

Show the meaning of a N-type argument.

#### 1.5 Customization

These variables can be redefined before the first call to \pretty:n to customize the behavior.

\prettyfilename

The output file name. Defaults to pretty-\(\langle jobname \rangle \).html, as mentioned above.

 $\prettyrefreshstrategy$ 

The auto-refresh strategy. Allowed values are 0-4. 0 is no refresh.

Which value works best depends on the particular browser.

On Google Chrome, passing --allow-file-access-from-files may be useful.

\prettyrefreshduration

The duration between two consecutive refresh check, in milliseconds. Defaults to 1000.

\prettypreamble

The HTML source code preamble. This can be redefined to change styles, but the behavior is not guaranteed.

# 2 Implementation

Unfortunately, the implementation is not typesetted in TeX. Read the .sty file.

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