

# The **moredefs** LaTeX package more defining commands (Frankenstein's brain)

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Version: 1.8      Date: 2001/08/31  
Documentation revision: 2001/08/31

## Abstract

A delightful collection of defining, expansion, and debugging commands that make elegant programming in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X fun and easy.

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# Part I

## Discussion

These macros were written in response to practical programming needs. Most of the packages I have written, whether distributed or not, depend on this package. Using these constructs has saved me a lot of time and made my code much more readable—that is, maintainable and improvable. For examples of these macros in useful applications, see the packages in the `Frankenstein` bundle.

### 1 Naming conventions

The convention is that a capital *E* means the macro expands something just once. A lowercase *e*, as in `\edef`, means the macro expands something all the way to unexpandable tokens.

The specification `\langle csname \rangle` means a control sequence with a preceding backslash; the specification `\langle csname \rangle` means a control sequence without a preceding backslash. `\langle csname \rangle` arguments are expanded. Commands which take `\langle csname \rangle` arguments have `Name` in their names.

When I write *package* in this documentation, I mean L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X package or class.

### 2 Conditionals

```
\@ifundefined@cs \@ifundefined@cs{\langle csname \rangle}{\{true\}}{\{false\}} executes the \{true\} clause if
\IfElement... \In \IfElement \langle thingma \rangle \In \langle list \rangle {\{true\}}
{\{false\}}. To check whether a token \langle thingma \rangle is \ifx-equal to any token in a list
of tokens stored in a macro \langle list \rangle, use \IfElement \langle thingma \rangle \In \langle list \rangle {\{true\}}
{\{false\}}. The top-level expansion of \langle list \rangle must be a list of tokens to compare
with \langle thingma \rangle with \ifx. If the \langle thingma \rangle is in the \langle list \rangle, the \{true\} clause is
executed; otherwise, the \{false\} clause is executed.
```

### 3 Defining commands

#### 3.1 \* and no-\* forms

The naming convention of most defining commands in the L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X kernel and in `moredefs` is that the no-\* form of the command is `long` and the \*-form is not `long`.

#### 3.2 User commands

```
\InitCS and \InitCS* take one argument, \langle csname \rangle, and initialize it to \{}.
\InitName and \InitName* are the same but take an argument \langle csname \rangle
without a backslash.
To make it easier to avoid the problem of comparing long and non-long macros
with \ifx, compare macros with \ShortEmpty and \LongEmpty.
\ReserveCS \{\langle csname \rangle\} reserves \langle csname \rangle for the current package's use.
The variable is also initialized with the \InitCS or \InitCS * as appropriate.
\ReserveCS*
```

```

\ReserveName
\ReserveName*
\SaveCS
\RestoreCS
\SaveName
\RestoreName
\requirecommand
\requirecommand*
\newtokens
\newlet
\newboolean
\providetokens
\provideboolean
\providesavebox
\providecounter
\providelength
\UndefineCS
\UndefineName
\defcommand
\defcommand*

```

\ReserveName and \ReserveName\* are the same but take an argument  $\langle csname \rangle$  without a backslash.

\SaveCS  $\{\langle csname \rangle\}$  saves the present value of  $\langle csname \rangle$  in a macro ( $\text{MDSaved}(csname)$ ). The saved value is restored to  $\langle csname \rangle$  by \RestoreCS  $\{\langle csname \rangle\}$ .

\SaveName and \RestoreName are the same but take an argument  $\langle csname \rangle$  without a backslash.

\requirecommand takes arguments like \newcommand and behaves like \providecommand (defined in the kernel) with the following difference: if the control sequence is already defined, \requirecommand calls \CheckCommand to make sure that the new and existing definitions are identical, whereas \providecommand assumes that if the control sequence is already defined, the existing definition is appropriate. \requirecommand, like \defcommand, guarantees that a control sequence will have the given definition, but \requirecommand also warns you if there was a previous and different existing definition.

\newtokens  $\{\langle csname \rangle\}$ , \newlet  $\{\langle csname \rangle\} \{\langle csname \rangle\}$ , and \newboolean  $\{\langle csname \rangle\}$  give an error if their control sequence argument is already defined. \newtokens creates a token variable. \newlet does a \let assignment. \newboolean  $\{\langle csname \rangle\}$  creates three new control sequences: two switches, \csnametrue and \csnamefalse, and a test, \ifcsname. \newtokens is *not* outer. Is there any reason this really matters?

**Warning:** Limitation: You can't use \newlet to \let a command sequence to a character with a catcode not equal to 10 (space), 11 (letter), 12 (other), or 13 (active). For example, you can't say \newlet\foo#. Also, you cannot use = with \newlet like you can with \let.

Like the kernel's \providecommand, the commands \providetokens  $\{\langle csname \rangle\}$ , \provideboolean  $\{\langle csname \rangle\}$ , \providesavebox  $\{\langle csname \rangle\}$ , \providecounter  $\{\langle csname \rangle\}$ , and \providelength  $\{\langle csname \rangle\}$  will create a new object (or objects) based on the name  $\langle csname \rangle$  or  $\langle csname \rangle$  only if they are not already defined. See the corresponding commands that begin with \new instead of \provide for a description of what kind of object is created. In contrast with \providecommand, however, these commands will write a record to the log file if their argument was already defined (\providecommand does nothing at all in this case).

\UndefineCS  $\{\langle csname \rangle\}$  causes  $\langle csname \rangle$  to be undefined. \UndefineName does the same for a  $\langle csname \rangle$ . Use with caution. \global works before them.

\defcommand  $\{\langle csname \rangle\} [\# of args] [\langle default for an optarg \rangle]$  defines  $\langle csname \rangle$  in the same manner as \newcommand except no warning or error is issued if  $\langle csname \rangle$  is already defined.

\defcommand is very similar to the primitive \def, so why would you want to use it? For one thing, the syntax is the same as all the other L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X defining commands, so it is easier to read, and easier to change the word defcommand to one of the other defining commands. Second, \defcommands that take arguments have simpler syntax when defining commands are nested. You still have to double the # characters in the definition body, but the argument specification (e.g., [n]) is the same as if not nested.

There is a performance-syntax tradeoff; I choose to use \defcommand whenever the command to be defined is taking an argument. When it does not take an argument, there is no difference between \def and \defcommand except that \def is faster.

```

\NewName  {\<csname>}{\<template>}{\<body>} defines <csname> to expand to
\NewName* {\<csname>}{\<template>}{\<body>} using a TEX-style argument <template>, e.g. #1#2\@nil or simply #1#2.
If <csname> is already defined, an error will be signalled.

\DefName is like \NewName but no error is signalled if <csname> is already
\DefName* defined.

\Global If the command \Global immediately precedes \NewName, \DefName, or
\ToggleBoolean, then the definition will be global.

To do: Get something like \Global going for all the new commands, not just
\DefName and \NewName.

\CheckName is like \NewName but instead of defining the control sequence, it
\CheckName* checks whether the control sequence has the given definition. If so, no action is
taken; if not, a warning is given.

\RequireName is to \requirecommand as \NewName is to \newcommand. The
\RequireName* syntax is \RequireName {\<csname>}{\<template>}{\<body>}.

\NewTextFontCommand and \NewRobustCommand are just like the kernel's
\DeclareTextFontCommand and \DeclareRobustCommand, but they signal an er-
ror instead of just a warning if their first argument is already defined.

\Elet expands the second token after it once and then \lets the first token to
\EElet the second token. \global works before it. \EElet expands the two tokens that
come after it once each, and then \lets the first to the second. \global works
before it.

\NewUserInfo [⟨user-cmd⟩]{⟨variable⟩}, where ⟨variable⟩ has some capital
\NewUserInfo* letters, will define the lowercase version of ⟨variable⟩ to be a user command that
redefines ⟨variable⟩ to its argument. The argument ⟨user-cmd⟩, if supplied, is used
for the user command, overriding the default of the lowercased ⟨variable⟩.

For example, \NewUserInfo*\SubTitle defines a user command \subtitle
{⟨text⟩} which does the equivalent of \def\command\SubTitle{⟨text⟩}.

\NewUserInfo uses \ReserveCS to initialize ⟨variable⟩; \NewUserInfo ** uses
\ReserveCS *.

These have @ in their names because they are modelled after kernel commands.

To do: Sort out naming conventions and write them down.

\addto@macro{\⟨csname⟩}{⟨tokens⟩} adds ⟨tokens⟩ to the end of {\⟨csname⟩}.
The redefinition of {\⟨csname⟩} is local. The kernel provides the global equivalent,
\g@addto@macro. \lg@addto@macro is both long and global.

Warning: These commands won't work with a ⟨⟨csname⟩⟩ that takes argu-
ments.

To do: P
```

robably it would not be too hard to handle that case. Here is how you would do it by hand for one example:

```

% something like: \def\@chapter[#1]#2{...}

\typeout{\meaning\@chapter}

\renewcommand\addto@macro [2] {%

```

```

\sc@toks@a=\expandafter{\#1[##1]{##2}#2}%
\edef#1[##1]##2{%
  \the\sc@toks@a
}%
}

\def\doodie#1{bobo \textsc{#1}}
\tracingonline1

\Debug2
\addto@macro\@chapter {\doodie blorful}
\Debug0

\typeout{\meaning\@chapter}

\prependto@macro{(\csname){(tokens)}} adds (tokens) to the beginning of
\g@prependto@macro{\csname}. The redefinition of {(\csname)} is local. The global equivalent is
\lg@prependto@macro. \lg@prependto@macro is both long and global.

```

## 4 Controlling expansion

\EEexpand... \In  
\EEexpand\*... \In  
\Expand... \In  
\Expand\*... \In  
\Execute... \In  
\Execute\*... \In  
\Execute\*... \In

A common construction is to \edef a scratch variable to something and then execute the scratch variable. The \eExecute macro takes a single argument, expands it fully, then executes it.

\eExpand {\i{first tokens}} \In {\i{second tokens}} expands the *first tokens* inside *second tokens* wherever #1 occurs. \EEexpand expands the first token of *first tokens* only once. These commands can nest.

For example,

```

\def\@a {\b}
\def\b {Hello }
\def\x {d}
\@Expand\@a world\x\In {%
  \def\c {This is a good way to avoid lots of noexpands and
  expandafters. #1. And I continue.}%
  \def\x {boogaloo}% \x is already expanded in the def of \c
  \c
}

\EEexpand\@a BLOOB\x\In {%
  \def\x{avoid }%
  \edef\@b{\b world}%
  BLOOB\x is syntactic sugar
  This is a good way to \x lots of noexpands and
  expandafters. \a BLOOB\x. And I continue.%
}
```

LOOKS LIKE:

This is a good way to avoid lots of noexpands and expandafters. Hello world. And I continue.
This is a good way to avoid lots of noexpands and expandafters. Hello world. And I continue.

The two commands expand to the same three sentences. Here is one more example, showing (again) how `\EExpand` expands only the first token of its argument only once::

```
\def\x{XXX}
\def\aa{AAA\x}
\def\bb{BBB}
\EExpand\aa\b\In{%
\def\x{xxx}
\def\aaa{aaa}
\def\bb{YYY}
#1
}
```

LOOKS LIKE:

AAAxxxxYYY
------------

`\E@car...@\nil`  
`\E@cdr...@\nil`

-----Let  $T$  be the sequence of tokens between `\E@car` and `\@nil`. The first token of  $T$  is expanded once, and `\E@car...@\nil` expands to the first token of the result.

`\E@cdr...@\nil` is similar, but expands to the entire result except its first token.

For example, after

```
\def\aa {Hello}
\def\bb { world}
\E@car \aa there\b.\@nil would expand first of all to H. And \E@cdr \aa there\b.\@nil
would expand first of all to ellothere\b., and then eventually expand fully to
ellothere world..
```

The example is more complicated than you would normally use. Usually you want to `car` and `cdr` a sequence of tokens contained in macro `\foo`, and this is easy enough with `\E@car\foo@\nil`. To chop off the first token of `\foo`, `\edef\foo {\E@cdr\foo@\nil}`. (If you're wondering, the space after `\foo` is irrelevant.)

## 5 Gobbling

`\Gobble`  
`\GobbleM`  
`\GobbleO`  
`\GobbleMM`  
`\GobbleMO`  
`\GobbleOM`

It occurs fairly often that you want to gobble things while `\makeatother` is in effect, so these command names have no @'s. The M stands for a mandatory argument, and the O stands for an optional argument. For example, suppose there is a command `\foo[(optarg)]{\marg}`. If you `\let\foo\GobbleOM`, then the arguments to `\foo` will be gobbled appropriately.

`\Gobble` is the same as `\GobbleM`, in imitation of the internal `\@gobble`.

## 6 Option declaration

The following two commands may be used in packages before the `\ProcessOptions` command is issued.

`\DeclareBooleanOptions {<on>}{<off>}` declares a new boolean variable `@<on>@` and makes it `true` if the option `<on>` is given to the package, and `false`

if the option *<off>* is given, or if neither is given. I think it is good programming style not to rely on the default, always declaring either *<on>* or *<off>* with an `\ExecuteOptions` statement.

`\DeclareBooleanUserOptions` `\DeclareBooleanUserOptions {<on>} {<off>}` is like `\DeclareBooleanOptions`, but additionally declares two user commands `\<on>` and `\<off>` which are `\let` to `\@<on>@true` and `\@<off>@false`, respectively. Use this command when it is sensible to change the status of the option after the package has been loaded.

## 7 Toggle a boolean

`\ToggleBoolean` `\ToggleBoolean {<boolean>}` changes the state of *<boolean>* from `false` to `true` or vice versa. The argument *<boolean>* should not include an initial `if` or final `true` or `false`. The redefinition is local unless `\Global` precedes `\ToggleBoolean`.

## 8 Debugging

`\VerboseErrors` `\LaTeX` by default gives very little context for errors. `\VerboseErrors [<number>]` causes `\LaTeX` to give *<number>* lines of context, or the maximum by default.

`\GVerboseErrors` Like `\VerboseErrors` but effective globally.

`\Debug` `\Debug {<number>}` sets a debugging parameter to *<number>*. I have plans to turn this into a bitwise parameter like many C programs, but right now the behavior is to issue a message with `\typeout`, call `\VerboseErrors`, and use the parameter to assign values to `\tracingoutput`, `\tracingpages`, `\tracingmacros`, and `\tracingcommands`.

`\GDebug` `\GDebug {<number>}` is as `\Debug` but its assignments are `\global`.

`\DTypeout` `\DTypeout` expands to `\typeout` when `\Debug` is 1 or greater, and `\GobbleM` otherwise. `\DDTypeout` is `\GobbleM` unless `\Debug` is 2 or greater; `\DDDDTypeout` is `\GobbleM` unless `\Debug` is 3 or greater.

Like `\GobbleM` but when `\Debug` is 1 or greater, tells you what it's gobbling with a `\typeout`.

The commands `\FrankenError`, `\FrankenWarning`, and `\FrankenInfo` are defined here for use by other `Frankenstein` packages and classes. They are simply wrappers for the obvious kernel commands (i.e., substitute “Generic” for “Franken”).

# Part II

## Implementation

### 9 Version control

```
\fileinfo These definitions must be the first ones in the file.  
\DoXUsepackageE 1 \def\fileinfo{more defining commands (Frankenstein's brain)}  
\HaveECitationS 2 \def\DoXPackageS {}  
\fileversion 3 \def\fileversion{v1.8}  
\filedate 4 \def\filedate{2001/08/31}  
\docdate 5 \def\docdate{2001/08/31}  
\PPOptArg 6 \edef\PPOptArg {  
7   \filedate\space \fileversion\space \fileinfo  
8 }
```

If we're loading this file from a `\ProcessDTXFile` command (see the `compsci` package), then `\JustLoaDInformatioN` will be defined; otherwise we assume it is not (that's why the FunkY Name).

If we're loading from `\ProcessDTXFile`, we want to load the packages listed in `\DoXPackageS` (needed to typeset the documentation for this file) and then bail out. Otherwise, we're using this file in a normal way as a package, so do nothing. `\DoXPackageS`, if there are any, are declared in the `dtx` file, and, if you're reading the typeset documentation of this package, would appear just above. (It's OK to call `\usepackage` with an empty argument or `\relax`, by the way.)

```
9 \makeatletter% A special comment to help create bst files. Don't change!  
10 \@ifundefined{JustLoaDInformatioN} {  
11   }% ELSE (we know the compsci package is already loaded, too)  
12   \UndefineCS\JustLoaDInformatioN  
13   \SaveDoXVarS  
14   \eExpand\csname DoXPackageS\endcsname\In {  
15     %use \csname in case it's undefined  
16     \usepackage{#1}%  
17   }%  
18   \RestoreDoXVarS  
19   \makeatother  
20 }% A special comment to help create bst files. Don't change!
```

Now we check for `LATEX2e` and declare the `LaTeX` package.

```
21 \NeedsTeXFormat{LaTeX2e}  
22 \ProvidesPackage{moredefs}[\PPOptArg]
```

### 10 Conditionals

We start with the conditionals section because we want to use `\@ifundefined@cs` in this package to make some of the subsequent definitions easier to read.

```
\@ifundefined@cs  
23 \newcommand*\@ifundefined@cs [1] {  
24   \edef\reserved@a{  
25     \expandafter\@gobble\string #1%
```

```

26   }%
27   \@ifundefined\reserved@a
28     \@firstoftwo
29   \@secondoftwo
30 }

\IfElement...\\In
31 \newcommand\IfElement{}
32 \def\IfElement #1\\In#2{%
33   \tempswafalse
34   \expandafter \tfor
35   \expandafter \sc@t@a
36   \expandafter :%
37   \expandafter =#2\do {%
38     \ifx #1\sc@t@a
39       \DTypeout{\meaning #1 matches element [\meaning\sc@t@a]
40         in [\string#2].}%
41       \tempswatrue
42       \break\tfor
43     \else
44       \DTypeout{\meaning #1 matches NO elements in [\string #2].}%
45     \fi
46   }%
47   \if@tempswa
48     \expandafter\@firstoftwo
49   \else
50     \expandafter\@secondoftwo
51   \fi
52 }

```

## 11 Defining commands

\sc@star@or@long \sc@star@nothing	The macros \sc@star@or@long and \sc@star@nothing are parallel to the kernel's \star@or@long and \long@x, which control whether definitions are long or not. \sc@star@or@long causes the value of \sc@star@nothing to be either * or empty, depending on whether it finds a * when it is called. It also sets the kernel's \long@x to nothing or \long, respectively. (We need both flags at least once.)
53 \newcommand*\sc@star@nothing{} 54 \newcommand*\sc@star@or@long [1] {% 55   \ifstar {% 56     \let\long@x\relax 57     \def\sc@star@nothing {*}% 58     #1% 59   }% 60   \else 61     \let\long@x\long 62     \def\sc@star@nothing {}% 63   #1% 64 }	53 \newcommand*\sc@star@nothing{} 54 \newcommand*\sc@star@or@long [1] {% 55   \ifstar {% 56     \let\long@x\relax 57     \def\sc@star@nothing {*}% 58     #1% 59   }% 60   \else 61     \let\long@x\long 62     \def\sc@star@nothing {}% 63   #1% 64 }
\md@check@star	Looks for a star with \ifstar and sets \sc@star@nothing to * if there is a star and \ShortEmpty if not.

```

65 \newcommand\md@check@star {%
66   \@ifstar {%
67     \def\sc@star@nothing {*}%
68   }{%
69     \let\sc@star@nothing \ShortEmpty
70   }%
71 }

\requirecommand A typical application of the star mechanisms is \requirecommand.
\requirecommand*
\require@command
72 \newcommand\requirecommand {%
73   \sc@star@or@long\require@command
74 }%
75 \newcommand\require@command [1] {%
76   \csname
77   \ifundefined{#1} {%
78     \expandafter\newcommand\sc@star@nothing
79   }{%
80     \expandafter\CheckCommand\sc@star@nothing
81   }%
82   {#1}%
83 }

\InitCS
\InitCS* 83 \newcommand\InitCS {%
\InitName 84   \star@or@long\Init@CS
\InitName* 85 }
\ReserveCS 86 \newcommand\Init@CS [1] {%
\ReserveCS* 87   \l@ngrel@x\def#1{}%
\ReserveName 88 }
\ReserveName* 89 \newcommand\InitName {%
\ShortEmpty 90   \sc@star@or@long\Init@Name
\LongEmpty 91 }
92 \newcommand\Init@Name [1] {%
93   \expandafter\DefName\sc@star@nothing{#1}{}{}%
94 }
95 \newcommand\ReserveCS {%
96   \sc@star@or@long\Reserve@CS
97 }
98 \newcommand\Reserve@CS [1] {%
99   \expandafter\newcommand\sc@star@nothing{#1} {}%
100 }
101 \newcommand\ReserveName {%
102   \sc@star@or@long\Reserve@Name
103 }
104 \newcommand\Reserve@Name [1] {%
105   \expandafter\NewName\sc@star@nothing{#1}{} {}%
106 }
107 \InitCS*\ShortEmpty
108 \InitCS\LongEmpty

\sc@t@a Scratch variables.
\sc@t@b 109 \ReserveCS\sc@t@a
\sc@t@c 110 \ReserveCS\sc@t@b
\sc@t@d 111 \ReserveCS\sc@t@c
\sc@t@e 112 \ReserveCS\sc@t@d
\sc@t@f
\sc@t@g

```

```

113 \ReserveCS\sc@t@e
114 \ReserveCS\sc@t@f
115 \ReserveCS\sc@t@g

\newtokens Because \newtoks is \outer, we have to fool \def into allowing it to be in its
\newlet argument by using \nameuse.
116 \newcommand\newtokens [1] {%
  args: \csname
 117   \ifdefinable #1 {%
 118     \nameuse{\newtoks}{#1}%
 119   }%
 120 }
121 \newcommand*\newlet [2] {%
  args: \csname-a \csname-b
 122   \ifdefinable #1 {%
 123     \let #1#2%
 124   }%
 125 }

\providetokens The \newboolean command is the same as the one in the ifthen package; so that
\provideLength package won't clash with this one. Isn't \requirecommand nice?
\providesavebox 126 \newcommand*\providetokens [1] {%
  args: \csname
\providecounter 127   \ifundefined@cs{#1} {%
  \newboolean 128     \nameuse{\newtoks}{#1}%
\provideboolean 129     }% ELSE
130     \FrankenInfo{moredefs}{\protect\providetokens\space is not reallocating
131                           token variable \protect#1.\MessageBreak
132                           The existing contents are [\the#1]}%
133   }%
134 }
135 \newcommand*\provideLength [1] {%
  args: \csname
 136   \ifundefined@cs{#1} {%
 137     \newlength{#1}%
 138   }% ELSE
 139     \FrankenInfo{moredefs}{\protect\provideLength\space is not reallocating
 140                           \protect#1.\MessageBreak
 141                           The existing value is [\the#1]}%
 142   }%
143 }
144 \newcommand*\providesavebox [1] {%
  args: \csname
 145   \ifundefined@cs{#1} {%
 146     \newsavebox{#1}%
 147   }% ELSE
 148     \FrankenInfo{moredefs}{\protect\providesavebox\space is not reallocating
 149                           box \protect#1.}%
 150   }%
151 }
152 \newcommand*\providecounter [1] {%
  args: string
 153   \ifundefined{c@#1} {%
 154     \newcounter{#1}%
 155   }% ELSE
 156     \FrankenInfo{moredefs}{\protect\providecounter\space is not reallocating
 157                           counter #1.\MessageBreak
 158                           The existing value is [\expandafter\number\csname c@#1\endcsname]}%
 159   }%
160 }

```

The following definition follows the one in the *ifthen* package:

```

161
162 % \ProvidesPackage{ifthen}
163 % [1999/01/07 v1.1a Standard LaTeX ifthen package (DPC)]
164
165 \requirecommand*\newboolean [1] {%
166   args: string
167   \expandafter
168   \@ifdefinable\csname if#1\endcsname {%
169     \expandafter\newif\csname if#1\endcsname
170   }%
171 }
172 % old def of \cs\newboolean I had before 15 Feb 00:
173 % \csname newif\expandafter\endcsname\csname if#1\endcsname

```

Notice that `\defcommand` is not defined yet.

If the *ifthen* package is loaded either before or after this package, the `\provideboolean` command will be the one defined in *ifthen*. Otherwise, it will be the one defined here.

There are two minor differences between this definition and the one in the *ifthen* package: (1) my command will barf on undefined but “*undefinable*” commands, e.g., ones that begin with `\end`, which L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X reserves; (2) my command writes an informational message to the log file when the boolean variable is already defined. I’m not sure how useful the informational message is, but the first difference should I think also be in the *ifthen* package, so

*To do: I’m putting it on my list to write the L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X team requesting this change.*

```

174 \@ifpackageloaded{ifthen} {%
175   }%
176   \requirecommand*\provideboolean [1] {%
177     args: string
178     \@ifundefined{if#1} {%
179       \newboolean{#1}%
180     }%
181     \FrankenInfo{moredefs}{\protect\provideboolean\space is not reallocating
182                               \protect#1.\MessageBreak
183                               The value is [\@nameuse{if#1}TRUE\else FALSE\fi]}%
184   }%
185 }

```

The following definition is what’s in the *ifthen* package, for reference.

```

186 % \requirecommand*\provideboolean [1] {%
187 %   args: string
188 %   \@ifundefined{if#1} {%
189 %     \expandafter
190 %     \newif\csname if#1\endcsname\relax
190 %   }

```

`\sc@toks@a` There are still missing a couple of the permutations, but I won’t add them until I  
`\sc@toks@b` need them. You can add them yourself in the configuration file `moredefs.cfg`.

```

\addto@macro 191 \newtokens\sc@toks@a
\lg@addto@macro 192 \newtokens\sc@toks@b
\prependto@macro 193
\g@prependto@macro 194 \newcommand\addto@macro [2] {%
\lg@prependto@macro

```

```

195   \sc@toks@a=\expandafter{\#1#2}%
196   \edef#1{%
197     \the\sc@toks@a
198   }%
199 }
200 \newcommand\lg@addto@macro [2] {%
201   \sc@toks@a=\expandafter{\#1#2}%
202   \long\xdef#1{%
203     \the\sc@toks@a
204   }%
205 }
206 \newcommand\prependto@macro [2] {%
207   \sc@toks@a={#2}%
208   \sc@toks@b=\expandafter{\#1}%
209   \edef#1{%
210     \the\sc@toks@a\the\sc@toks@b
211   }%
212 }
213 \newcommand\g@prependto@macro [2] {%
214   \sc@toks@a={#2}%
215   \sc@toks@b=\expandafter{\#1}%
216   \xdef#1{%
217     \the\sc@toks@a\the\sc@toks@b
218   }%
219 }
220 \newcommand\lg@prependto@macro [2] {%
221   \sc@toks@a={#2}%
222   \sc@toks@b=\expandafter{\#1}%
223   \long\xdef#1{%
224     \the\sc@toks@a\the\sc@toks@b
225   }%
226 }

\UndefineCS \global works before them.
\UndefineName 227 \newcommand\UndefineCS [1] {%
228   \let#1\@undefined
229 }
230 \newcommand\UndefineName [1] {%
231   \expandafter\let\csname#1\endcsname\@undefined
232 }

\defcommand See the user documentation for a discussion of when to use this instead of \def.
\defcommand* 233 \newcommand\defcommand {%
\def@command 234   \star@or@long\def@command
235 }
236 \newcommand\def@command {%
237   \let\ifdefinable\rc@ifdefinable
238   \new@command
239 }

\DefName \Global works before \DefName, \NewName, and \ToggleBoolean only!
\DefName* 240 \newcommand\DefName {%
\def@name 241   \star@or@long\def@name
\NewName 242 }

\NewName*
\new@name
\Global
\sc@global

```

```

243 \newcommand\def@name [3] {%
244   \sc@global\l@ngrel@x\@namedef{#1}#2{#3}%
245 }
246 \newcommand\NewName {%
247   \@star@or@long\new@name
248 }
249 \newcommand\new@name [3] {%
250   \ifundefined{#1} {%
251     \sc@global\l@ngrel@x\@namedef{#1}#2{#3}%
252   }{%
253     \defcommand\reserved@a {%
254       #1%
255     }%
256     \notdefinable
257   }%
258 }
259 \newcommand\sc@global {%
260   \relax
261 }
262 \newcommand\Global {%
263   \def\sc@global {%
264     \global\let\sc@global\relax\global
265   }%
266 }

\CheckName
\CheckName* 267 \newcommand\CheckName {%
\check@name 268   \@star@or@long\check@name
\RequireName 269 }

\RequireName* 270 \newcommand\check@name [3] {%
\require@name 271   \expandafter\DefName\sc@star@nothing\reserved@a{#2}{#3}%
272   \expandafter\@check@eq\csname #1\endcsname\reserved@a
273 }
274 \newcommand\RequireName {%
275   \sc@star@or@long\require@name
276 }
277 \newcommand\require@name [3] {%
278   \ifundefined{#1} {%
279     \expandafter\DefName\sc@star@nothing{#1}{#2}{#3}%
280   }{%
281     \expandafter\expandafter
282     \expandafter\CheckName
283     \expandafter\sc@star@nothing
284     \csname #1\endcsname
285   }{#2}{#3}%
286 }%
287 }

\NewTextFontCommand
\NewRobustCommand 288 \newcommand\NewTextFontCommand [2] {%
\new@robustcommand 289   \NewRobustCommand#1[1]{%
\new@robustcommand 290     \ifmmode
291       \nfss@text{#2##1}%
292     \else

```

```

293      \leavevmode
294      {\text@command{##1}%
295      #2\check@icl ##1\check@icr
296      \expandafter}%
297      \fi
298  }%
299 }
300 \newcommand{\NewRobustCommand}[%
301   @star@or@long\new@robustcommand
302 }

We need a second level here because otherwise the \fi that closes \@ifdefinable
will become the definition of the closing \new@command. We could use a chain of
\expandafters but that would be confusing.

303 \newcommand{\new@robustcommand}[1] {%
304   \let\sc@t@a\relax
305   \ifdefinable #1 {%
306     \def\sc@t@a {%
307       \new@robustcommand #1%
308     }%
309   }%
310   \sc@t@a
311 }
312 \newcommand{\new@robustcommand}[1] {%
313   \edef\reserved@a {\string#1}%
314   \def\reserved@b {#1}%
315   \edef\reserved@b {%
316     \expandafter\strip@prefix\meaning\reserved@b
317   }%
318   \edef#1{%
319     \ifx\reserved@a\reserved@b
320       \noexpand\x@protect
321       \noexpand#1%
322     \fi
323     \noexpand\protect
324     \expandafter\noexpand\csname
325     \expandafter\@gobble\string#1 \endcsname
326   }%
327   \let\@ifdefinable\@rc@ifdefinable
328   \expandafter\new@command\csname
329     \expandafter\@gobble\string#1 \endcsname
330 }

\Elet
331 \newcommand{\Elet}[1]{%
332   \expandafter\let\expandafter
333 }

\EElet
334 \newcommand*\EElet[1]{%
335   \expandafter\expandafter\expandafter\let\expandafter\expandafter
336 }

\NewUserInfo Using \lowercase in this macro is tricky, since it gets expanded only in TEX's
\NewUserInfo* stomach.

\new@userinfo

```

```

337 \newcommand{\NewUserInfo} {%
338   \sc@star@or@long\new@userinfo
339 }
340 \newcommand*\new@userinfo [2] [] {%
341   \args: [\csname] \csname
342   \expandafter\ReserveCS\sc@star@nothing{#2}%
343   \def\sc@t@b {#1}%

```

If we were not given the optional user-cmd, define scratch **b** to be a lowercase version of the variable, without the backslash. Otherwise use the user-cmd given, without the backslash.

```

343   \ifx\sc@t@b\ShortEmpty
344     \edef\sc@t@a {%
345       \edef\noexpand\sc@t@b{%
346         \E@cdr\string#2\@nil
347       }%
348     }%
349     \lowercase\expandafter{\sc@t@a}%
350   \else
351     \edef\sc@t@b {\E@cdr\string#1\@nil}%
352   \fi

```

Now define the user-cmd to be a redefinition of the variable.

```

353 \edef\sc@t@a {%
354   \noexpand\NewName\sc@star@nothing{\sc@t@b}{#####
355   \noexpand\renewcommand\sc@star@nothing\noexpand#2#####
356 }%
357 \sc@t@a
358 }

\SaveCS
\RestoreCS 359 \newcommand{\SaveCS} [1] {%
360   \expandafter\newlet\csname MDSaved\E@cdr\string#1\@nil\endcsname#1%
\SaveName 361 }
\RestoreName 362 \newcommand{\RestoreCS} [1] {%
363   \Elet#\csname MDSaved\E@cdr\string#1\@nil\endcsname
364   \UndefineName{MDSaved\E@cdr\string#1\@nil}%
365 }
366 \newcommand{\SaveName} [1] {%
367   \ReserveName{MDSaved#1}%
368   \EElet\csname MDSaved#1\endcsname
369   \csname #1\endcsname
370 }
371 \newcommand{\RestoreName} [1] {%
372   \EElet\csname #1\endcsname
373   \csname MDSaved#1\endcsname
374   \UndefineName{MDSaved#1}%
375 }

```

## 12 Controlling expansion

```

\EEexpand...\\In Uses \sc@t@a, \sc@t@b, \sc@t@c.
\EEexpand*...\\In 376 \newcommand{\eExpand} {%
\sc@eExpand 377   \sc@star@or@long\sc@eExpand
\eExpand...\\In
\ReserveName{MDSaved#1}%
\EElet\csname MDSaved#1\endcsname
\UndefineName{MDSaved#1}%
\sc@eExecute
\sc@eExecute*
\sc@eExecute

```

```

378 }
379 \NewName{sc@eExpand} {#1\In#2} {% args: object body
380   \l@ngrel@x\edef\sc@t@a{#1}%
381   \expandafter\defcommand\sc@star@nothing\sc@t@b [1] {#2}%
382   \expandafter \sc@t@b
383   \expandafter {\sc@t@a}%
384 }
385 \newcommand\EEExpand {%
386   \sc@star@or@long\sc@EExpand
387 }

```

When this is `short`, both the two args are `short`. `\sc@star@nothing` gets reset by the first `\defcommand`, so we save it in `\sc@t@c`.

```

388 \NewName{sc@EExpand}{#1\In#2} {% args: object body
389   \let\sc@t@c\sc@star@nothing
390   \expandafter \expandafter
391   \expandafter \defcommand
392   \expandafter \sc@t@c
393   \expandafter \sc@t@a
394   \expandafter {#1}%
395   \expandafter\defcommand\sc@t@c\sc@t@b [1] {#2}%
396   \expandafter\sc@t@b
397   \expandafter{\sc@t@a}%
398 }
399 \newcommand\@Execute {%
400   \sc@star@or@long\sc@eExecute
401 }
402 \newcommand\sc@eExecute [1] {% args: body
403   \l@ngrel@x\edef\sc@t@a {#1}%
404   \sc@t@a
405 }

```

```

\@car
\@cdr 406 \NewName{\@cdr} {#1\@nil} {%
407   \expandafter\@cdr #1\@nil
408 }
409 \NewName{\@car} {#1\@nil} {%
410   \expandafter\@car #1\@nil
411 }

```

## 13 Gobbling

```

\Gobble M for mandatory arg, i.e., one token. O for optional arg, i.e., a square-brace pair.
\GobbleM 412 \newlet\Gobble\@gobble
\GobbleO 413 \newlet\GobbleM\@gobble
\GobbleMM 414 \newcommand\GobbleO {%
\GobbleMO 415   \@ifnextchar [
\GobbleOM 416     \sc@gobbleO
\sc@gobbleO 417   \relax
\sc@gobbleOM 418 }
419 \newlet\GobbleMM\@gobbletwo
420 \newcommand\GobbleOM {%
421   \@ifnextchar [

```

```

422      \sc@gobble@M
423      \Gobble
424 }
425 \newcommand{\GobbleM}[1] {%
426   \@ifnextchar [
427     \sc@gobble@O
428     \relax
429 }
430 \NewName{\sc@gobble@M} {[#1]#2}
431 {}
432 \NewName{\sc@gobble@O} {[#1]}
433 {}

```

## 14 Option declaration

```

\DeclareBooleanOptions
\DeclareBooleanUserOptions
434 \newcommand{\DeclareBooleanOptions}[2] {%
435   \newboolean{@#1@}%
436   \DeclareOption[#1] {%
437     \nameuse{@#1@true}%
438   }%
439   \DeclareOption[#2] {%
440     \nameuse{@#1@false}%
441   }%
442 }
443 \newcommand{\DeclareBooleanUserOptions}[2] {%
444   \DeclareBooleanOptions{#1}{#2}%
445   \ReserveName{#1}%
446   \ReserveName{#2}%
447   \EElet \csname#1\endcsname\csname @#1@true\endcsname
448   \EElet \csname#2\endcsname\csname @#1@false\endcsname
449 }

```

## 15 Toggle a boolean

```

\ToggleBoolean
450 \newcommand{\ToggleBoolean}[1] {%
451   \csname if#1\endcsname
452   \sc@global\csname #1false\endcsname
453   \else
454   \sc@global\csname #1true\endcsname
455   \fi
456 }

```

## 16 Debugging

```

\VerboseErrors We do not use \setcounter but rather set these counters locally.
\GVerboseErrors
457 \newcommand*\VerboseErrors[1][\@M]{%
458   \c@errorcontextlines #1%
459   \showboxbreadth #1%
}

```

```

460   \showboxdepth #1%
461 }
462 \newcommand*\GVerboseErrors [1][\OM] {%
463   \global\c@errorcontextlines #1%
464   \global\showboxbreadth #1%
465   \global\showboxdepth #1%
466 }

\Debug Set \debug to 0, 1, or 2.
\GDebug 467 \ReserveCS\md@maybe@global
\md@maybe@global 468 \newcommand*\Debug {%
469   \let\md@maybe@global\relax
470   \md@debug
471 }
472 \newcommand*\GDebug {%
473   \let\md@maybe@global\global
474   \md@debug
475 }
476 \newcommand*\md@debug [1] {%
477   \ifnum #1 > 0%
478     \let\sc@t@a\OM
479     \md@maybe@global\def\DTypeout ##1{%
480       \typeout{\#1}%
481     }%
482     \md@maybe@global\def\DGobbleM ##1{%
483       \typeout{\DGobbleM: [\#1]}%
484     }%
485     \ifnum #1 > 1%
486       \md@maybe@global\def\DDTypeout ##1{%
487         \typeout{\#1}%
488       }%
489       \ifnum #1 > 2%
490         \md@maybe@global\def\DDDTTypeout ##1{%
491           \typeout{\#1}%
492         }%
493       \fi
494     \fi
495   \else
496     \let\sc@t@a\m@ne
497     \md@maybe@global\let\DTypeout\GobbleM
498     \md@maybe@global\let\DDTypeout\GobbleM
499     \md@maybe@global\let\DDDTTypeout\GobbleM
500     \md@maybe@global\let\DGobbleM\GobbleM
501   \fi
502 \md@maybe@global\tracingoutput#1 %
503 \md@maybe@global\tracingpages#1 %
504 \md@maybe@global\tracingmacros#1 %
505 \md@maybe@global\tracingcommands#1 %
506 \ifx\md@maybe@global\relax
507   \VerboseErrors[\sc@t@a]%
508   \typeout{++++ Debugging [#1]\on@line}%
509 \else
510   \GVerboseErrors[\sc@t@a]%
511   \typeout{++++ Global debugging [#1]\on@line}%

```

```

512   \fi
513 }

\DTyepout When the debugging parameter is not set, these commands gobble their argument.
\DTyepout To do: Streamline dox about “debugging parameter”; should be something
\DTyepout checkable, no?
\DGobbleM 514 \newlet\DTyepout\GobbleM
515 \newlet\DDTyepout\GobbleM
516 \newlet\DDDTyepout\GobbleM
517 \newlet\DGobbleM\GobbleM

\FrankenError

\FrankenWarning 518 \newcommand\FrankenWarning [2] {%
  args: package warning
  \GenericWarning % continuation message
  {(#1)\@spaces\@spaces\@spaces\@spaces}
  {Frankenstein (#1) WARNING: #2}%
}

522 }

523 \newcommand\FrankenError [3] {%
  args: package error-message help-text
  \GenericError % args: continuation message where-help what-help
  {(#1)\@spaces\@spaces\@spaces\@spaces}
  {Frankenstein (#1) error: #2}
  {See the documentation for the #1 package for more information.}%
  {#3}%
}

529 }

530 \newcommand\FrankenInfo [2] {%
  args: package info
  \GenericInfo % continuation message
  {(#1)\@spaces\@spaces\@spaces\@spaces}
  {Frankenstein (#1) says: #2}%
}

534 }

```

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