The showkeys package[*]

David Carlisle

1997/06/12

1   Introduction

`sec:intro`

`showkeys.sty` modifies the `\label`, `\ref`, `\pageref`, `\cite`, and `\bibitem` commands so that the 'internal' key is printed. The package tries hard to position these labels so that the formatting of the rest of the document is unchanged. `\label` and `\bibitem` cause the key to appear in a box either in the margin, or in a TeX box of zero width, which may possibly over-print other text. The `\ref`, `\pageref` and `\cite` commands print their arguments in small type, raised just above the line, like this: `sec:intro`1. This package works with the fleqn option, the packages in the AMS-LaTeX collection, and the varioref, natbib and harvard packages.

2   Package Options

`options`

Some people have commented that the printing of the `\ref` and `\cite` keys is less useful than the printing of the `\label` keys and so showkeys now supports two options that can be given in the `\usepackage` command:

notref to stop the redefinition of `\ref` and `\pageref`, and related commands from the varioref package.

notcite to stop the redefinition of `\cite` and related commands from the harvard and natbib packages.

So if the package is loaded with `\usepackage[notref]{showkeys}` then `\ref` will have its standard definition, but `\label` will print its key argument (usually in the margin).

If you find the printed keys distracting, but don't want to use the above options to stop them altogether you may use:

color Print the keys in a distinguishing colour. The default value is a light grey.

The colours may be changed by redefining the following two colours after the package is loaded. `refkey` (also used for `\cite`) and `labelkey` (also used for `\bibitem`). The defaults are:

```
\definecolor{refkey}{gray}{.75}
\definecolor{labelkey}{gray}{.75}
```

If this option is used the color package will be loaded.
The package accepts two further options.

1

final to supress the action of this package, for 'final' versions.

draft the normal behaviour of this package.

Clearly there is not much point in entering the `final` option directly in the `\usepackage` command, as just not loading this package would have the same effect, and execute more quickly, however the `final` option may be useful as it may be used once in the `documentclass` command to affect any number of packages that may be loaded. The `draft` option does not do anything, but is there to honour an informal convention that packages have these options in pairs.

3   More Examples

examples

The only other similar package that I could find in the macro index, [3], was `showlabels.sty`, [1]. After the first draft of this package was written, I found [2] on my local installation! I think the current package is more robust than [2], but I thought that `showkeys` was rather a good name, so I have stolen it for this file.

e^1

1. This has `\label` immediately after `\item`.

e^2

2. This has the `\label` at the end.

A minipage :-
> Within environments like this `minipage`, we cannot use `\marginpar`[1], so the appearance is slightly different. Here is that `enumerate` environment again:
>
> m&e^1
> 1. This has `\label` immediately after `\item`.
>
> m&e^2
> 2. This has the `\label` at the end.

Displayed math (without `equation` counter).

$$0 = 0 \quad \boxed{\texttt{disp}}$$

Some text refering to the maths on page 2, and the item 1.

If `showkeys` thinks that the current environment is going to produce an "equation number", then it does not show the label where the `\label` command occurs, but tries to put it in the margin, as shown with equation 1. The package 'knows' about the standard `equation` and `eqnarray` environments, and also all the numbered alignment environments offered by the AMSLaTeX package, `amsmath`.

$$1 = 1 \tag{1}$$ eq:xx

$$2 = 2 \tag{2}$$ eqnar:a

$$3 = 3$$

$$4 = 4 \tag{3}$$ eqnar:b

---

[1] Actually `\marginpar` is not used at all in this package now.

Within a `figure` environment, the `\label` must not come before the `\caption` command. If you place `\label` inside the argument of `\caption` the label will be shown like this:

Figure 1: Within the caption argument. `cap:a`

If you place `\label` immediately after the `\caption` command it will be shown like this:

Figure 2: Immediately after the caption argument. `cap:b`

If you place the `\label` command at some random point after the `\caption` command, it may be shown like:

Figure 3: In vertical mode not immediately after a box.

`cap:c`

References

`GN:sl`   [1] Gil Neiger, *showlabels.sty*, Undated package, similar to this one, but shows labels inline, affecting the formating of the document.

`anon:sk` [2] Annonymous, *showkeys.sty*, Package, dated 14 May 1988. Very similar to this one, also uses `\marginpar` in outer vertical mode.

`DMJ:mi`   [3] David M. Jones, *TeX Macro Index*, A catalogue of TeX macros, including LaTeX packages, available from all good TeX archives.