

The `protecteddef` package

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Abstract

This packages 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.

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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 latters 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 L^AT_EX. 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 L^AT_EX'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*\{⟨cmd⟩}[1]{⟨message#1⟩}
⇒ \protected\def⟨cmd⟩#1{⟨message#1⟩}

\ProtectedDef⟨cmd⟩[abc]
⇒ \protected\def⟨cmd⟩{abc}

\ProtectedDef*\{⟨cmd⟩}[1]<#2>{⟨#1/#2⟩}
⇒ \protected\def⟨cmd⟩{⟨#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\x\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 %
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\x\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##8}%
138 \ProDef@temp9{##1##2##3##4##5##7##8##9}%

\ProDef@IfDefinable

139 \ltx@ifundefined{@ifndefable}{%
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@backslash\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     \@ifndefable{#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         \begingroup
183           \escapechar=-1 %
184           \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 </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 \f%
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 
```

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#1{\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\CMF{%
418       \noexpand\protect
419       \expandafter\noexpand\csname\cs/ \endcsname
420     }%
421     \ifx\CMF#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\CMPl]}%
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 
```

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 TeX 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 `TDSScripts/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 TeX:

```
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 TeX distribution (teTeX, mikTeX, ...) relies on file name databases, you must refresh these. For example, teTeX users run `texhash` or `mktexlsr`.

¹[ftp://ftp.ctan.org/tex-archive/](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 pdfL^AT_EX:

```
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	
\#	235, 338
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