An Acronym Environment for LaTeX 2ε*

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1 Introduction

When writing a paper on cellular mobile radio I started to used a lot of acronyms. This can be very disturbing for the reader, as he might not know all the used acronyms. To help the reader I kept a list of all the acronyms at the end of my paper.

This package makes sure, that all acronyms used in the text are spelled out in full at least once.

2 The user interface

The package provides several commands and one environment for dealing with acronyms.

2.1 Acronyms in the Text

`\ac` To enter an acronym inside the text, use the

`\ac{`*acronym*`}`

command. The first time you use an acronym, the full name of the acronym along with the acronym in brackets will be printed. If you specify the `footnote` option while loading the package, the full name of the acronym is printed as a footnote. The next time you access the the acronym only the acronym will be printed.

`\acf` If later in the text again the Full Name of the acronym should be printed, use the command

`\acf{`*acronym*`}`

to access the acronym. It stands for "acronym full" and it always prints the full name and the acronym in brackets.

`\acs` To get the short version of the acronym, use the command

`\acs{`*acronym*`}`

2.2 Defining Acronyms

`acronym`

With the `acronym` environment you define all the acronyms used throughout your document. It is possible to add a longer description to each acronym definition.

`\acro`

In the `acronym` environment, acronyms are defined with the

`\acro{`*acronym*`}{`*Full Name*`}` *Explanation*

command. As a whole it accts like `\item[`*acronym*`]`*Full Name Explanation* in the `description` environment. All acronym definitions are added to the `.aux` file. Therefore they are available from start-up in the next run. And the acronym definitions can be anywhere in the text.

`\acrodef`

If you want to define acronyms which do not appear in the `acronym` environment, you can use the

`\acrodef{`*acronym*`}{`*Full Name*`}`

command. Acronyms defined with `\acrodef` are also saved in the `.aux` file.

3 An example file

```
⟨*acrotest⟩
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage{acronym}
\begin{document}
\section{Intro}
In the early nineties, \acs{GSM} was deployed in many European
countries. \ac{GSM} offered for the first time international
roaming for mobile subscribers. The \acs{GSM}'s use of \ac{TDMA} as
its communication standard was debated at length. And every now
and then there are big discussion whether \ac{CDMA} should have
been chosen over \ac{TDMA}.

If you want to know more about \acf{GSM}, \acf{TDMA}, \acf{CDMA}
and \ac{oa}, just read a book about mobile communication.
\section{Acronyms}
\begin{acronym}
 \acro{GSM}{Global System for Mobile communication}.
      \acs{GSM} is the new standard for digital cellular
      communication in Europe.
 \acro{TDMA}{Time Division Multiple Access}.
      Some would say, that this is not as good as \ac{CDMA}.
 \acro{CDMA}{Code Division Multiple Access}. The spread spectrum
      modulation used in the Qualcomm system.
 \acrodef{oa}{other acronyms}
\end{acronym}
\end{document}
⟨/acrotest⟩
```

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