The package paresse*†

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Résumé

Ce module, reprenant un exemple de T. Lachand-Robert dans [1], fournit un moyen de taper des lettres grecques isolées à l'aide du caractère actif et redéfini. Au lieu de `\(\alpha\)` ou tape `§a` pour obtenir α.

Important : Il doit être chargé **après** inputenc si ce dernier est utilisé. De plus, il faut que le signe § soit une lettre pour TEX.

La **documentation française** de cette extension est `paresse-fr.pdf`. Elle contient le code commenté.

Abstract

This package implements an example from T. Lachand-Robert in [1]. It provides a means of typing isolated greek letters with the character § activated and redefined. Instead of `\(\alpha\)` one types `§a` to obtain α.

Important: You have to load it **after** the inputenc package if the latter is used. Moreover the sign § must be a letter for TEX.

The code is not commented in English any more, see the French documentation for French commented code. Sorry.

Contents

*This document corresponds to the file paresse.sty v2.1, dated 2008/08/16, 50th anniversary edition.

†English translation by the author. Any comment about the translation is welcome.

1 Introduction

This is the English version of the documentation of the paresse package.

This package provides only a 'quick and low-cost' access to greek letters which one can obtain with a macro such as `\alpha` or `\Omega`. It provides also an environment and a macro which make possible the use of § to type in those letters. Because of an `\ensuremath` we are not bound to explicitly enter —i.e. by typing `$ $` or `\( \)` or else `\[ \]` or anything whatsoever with the same effect— mathematics mode to obtain a greek letter.

The idea of the method is from T. Lachand-Robert and described in [1]. I have just add the `\ensuremath` which is so agreeable to write macros.

There is *no* macros for the lowercase omicron nor for the uppercase alpha, beta... that one can obtain with the latin roman letters with the same look. I have not had the courage nor the strength to build a solution which would provide a means of obtaining an upright uppercase alpha in a math formula enbedded in an italic boldfaced text.

Even if the meaning of the French 'paresse' is just 'lazyness' I would like to enphasize that the name of this package comes from the fact that the sign § can be used to point at a paragraph and looks like an S. So there is no connection between the name and the not unfrequent sin of the same (French) name... or maybe...

2 Usage

One loads the package with `\usepackage{paresse}` **after** the package `inputenc`. The sign § must be recognised as a letter by TEX. On can use for instance `inputenc` with option `latin1` for such a purpose.

By default the package is loaded with option `wild` and so the macros such as `§a` are immediately available. If one prefers one can choose the option `tame` by writing `\usepackage[tame]{paresse}`. One must then use the command `\ActiveLaParesse` or the environment `ParesseActive` to use the '§-macros'.

When 'paresse' is active, one has just to type `§a` in to obtain α. One has access, by the same means, to all the other greek letters to which a macro is devoted such as `\alpha`, see the table page 3. One obtains α^β with `\(§a^{§b}\)` when § is active. One will note that, if the package `amsmath` is loaded, the curly braces are *not* compulsory and that one obtains the same result with just `\(§a^§b\)`.

2.1 Options

- `tame` is the contrary of `wild` which is the option by default. When `tame` reigns, one **must** use an environment `ParesseActive` or a command `\ActiveLaParesse` in order to use the §-macros.
- `ttau` is the contrary of `ttheta` which is selected by default. When `ttheta` is active `§t` gives θ in the contrary `§t` gives τ. In all cases, θ is given by `§v` and τ by `§y`.

  Remark: Θ is 'regularly' obtained with `§V` and *also* with `§T` whatever is the chosen option.

- `epsilon` is the contrary of `varepsilon` which is selected by default. With `epsilon`, `§e` gives ϵ otherwide `§e` gives ε.
- The following 'couples' behave as `epsilon`, `varepsilon`: `theta` and `vartheta`; `pi` and `varpi`; `rho` and `varrho`; `sigma` and `varsigma`; `phi` and `varphi`.

The default options are `varepsilon`, `theta`, `pi`, `rho`, `sigma`, `varphi` and `wild`.

2.2 Commands and environment

`\makeparesseletter` This command gives the letter-catcode to the 'character' §. After that one can use § in the name of a macro, for instance. It corresponds to the well-known `\makeatletter`.

`\makeparesseother` This macro gives the catcode *other* to the character §. It is the 'contrary' of the preceding one. It corresponds to `\makeatother`.

`\ActiveLaParesse` This macro makes § active and thus enable one to access the macros the name of which begins with § such as `§a`. A list of these macros and theirs meanings is given in the table 3.

`ParesseActive` In this environment § is active and one can use the §-macros. One could use this environment if one want to use the §-macros when the package `paresse.sty` is loaded whith the option `tame`.

2.3 Table of the §-macros

§a	α	§b	β	§g	γ	§d	δ
§e	ε	§z	ζ	§h	η	§v	θ
§i	ι	§k	κ	§l	λ	§m	μ
§n	ν	§x	ξ	§p	π	§r	ρ
§s	σ	§y	τ	§u	υ	§f	φ
§c	χ	§q	ψ	§w	ω		
§G	Γ	§D	Δ	§V	Θ	§L	Λ
§X	Ξ	§P	Π	§S	Σ	§U	Υ
§F	Φ	§Q	Ψ	§W	Ω		

Remarks : all the latin letters used in the name of the §-macros, but for θ, τ and ψ, are loaded with reminiscences, I hope `:-)` and the greek uppercases are obtained with the (latin) corresponding uppercases.

References

[1] T. Lachand-Robert. *La maîtrise de TEX et LATEX*. Masson, Paris, Milan, Barcelone, 1995.
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