

# Section name references in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X\*

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<https://github.com/ho-tex/hyperref/issues>

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## Documentation overview for hyperref

The documentation for package `hyperref` consists of several files:

**Manual** The **USER MANUAL** (also available as HTML).

**ChangeLog** This file records the version history (also available as text file).

**Options** This file provides a short option summary.

**Bookmark talk, slides** Slides for the talk “PDF information and navigation elements with hyperref, pdfTeX and thumbpdf” at EuroTeX 1999.

**Bookmark talk, paper** The paper version of the talk.

Source code documentation:

**hyperref.dtx** This is the source code documentation for `hyperref`.

**backref.dtx** “Back referencing from bibliographical citations”

☞ **nameref.dtx** “Section name references in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X” (this file)

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# 1 Introduction

Cross-referencing to include the *name* of the section, rather than just the number or page. This works by redefining some of the inside L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X macros, so it is vulnerable to future changes.

## 2 History

Sebastian Rahtz, for Lou Burnard, March 15th 1994;  
SPQR CERN July 1994;  
Last mod. Sept. 3th MG;  
Sept. 19th SPQR;  
April 11th 1995 SPQR (added section formatting hook);  
April 14th 1995 SPQR (compatibility with hyperref);  
June 22 1995 SPQR (removed typeout from Sectionformat);  
September 22 1997 added variorref hacks by Corey Minyard;  
September 28th changes by David Carlisle.  
More recent changes are recorded in ChangeLog.

The versions before 2009/11/27 v2.32 did not expand the title strings (of \section, \caption, ...). Then the behaviour switched to expanding, because this allows to remove unwanted macros (\label, ...). Despite this method is used in package titleref and class memoir, the first feedbacks let me conclude that this is not robust enough. Therefore I wrote package gettitlestring that uses the non-expanding method as default. It also allows me to use this package in package zref-titleref. See the package documentation of package gettitlestring how to change the method. It also provides a hook to remove additional unwanted macros, not supported by the package. Example:

```
\usepackage{gettitlestring}
\GetTitleStringDisableCommands{%
  \let\mylabel\@gobble
  \renewcommand\myindex[2]{}%
}
```

## 3 Implementation

```
1 {*package}
2 \RequirePackage{refcount}[2006/02/12]
3 \RequirePackage{gettitlestring}[2009/12/18]
4 \RequirePackage{ltxcmds}[2009/12/12]
```

We redefine \label so that it also writes the name of the current section to the .aux file; if the name ends in a dot, we zap it. To allow for the hyperref package, also write fourth and fifth fields (empty by default; used for cross-ref name, and file).

```
\NR@strip@period
5 \def\NR@strip@period#1.\ltx@empty#2\@nil{#1}

\strip@period Macro \strip@period was removed in nameref 2012/07/28 v2.41 and reinserted in
2012/07/31 v2.42 for compatibility reasons with package subfig.
6 \def\strip@period#1.\relax#2\@@@{#1}
```

```

7 \def\NR@sanitize@labelname{%
8   \@onellevel@sanitize\@currentlabelname
9   \edef\@currentlabelname{%
10     \expandafter\NR@strip@period\@currentlabelname
11     \ltx@empty.\ltx@empty\@nil
12   }%
13 }

```

### 3.1 \label stuff

Here is tested, whether package `showkeys` is loaded. But if option `final` is used, the macros of `showkeys` are not defined, so we have to check an additional test.

```

\ifNR@showkeys
14 \newif\ifNR@showkeys
15 \NR@showkeysfalse
16 \@ifpackageloaded{showkeys}{%
17   \begingroup
18     \@ifundefined{SK@\@label}{%
19       }{%
20         \global\NR@showkeystrue
21       }%
22   \endgroup
23 }{%
\label@hook
24 \providecommand*{\label@hook}{}%
25 \ltx@GlobalAppendToMacro{\label@hook}{%
26   \NR@sanitize@labelname
27 }

\label
28 \def\label#1{%
29   \@bsphack
30   \begingroup
31   \def\label@name{\#1}%
32   \label@hook
33   \protected@write\@auxout{}{%
34     \string\newlabel{\#1}{%
35       \currentlabel}%
36       \thepage}%
37       \currentlabelname}%
38       \currentHref}%
39   }%
40 }%
41 \endgroup
42 \@esphack
43 }%
44 \ifNR@showkeys
45 \def\label#1{%
46   \@bsphack
47   \SK@\SK@\@label{\#1}%
48   \begingroup
49   \def\label@name{\#1}%
50   \label@hook
51   \protected@write\@auxout{}{%
52     \string\newlabel{\#1}{%

```

```

53      {\@currentlabel}%
54      {\thepage}%
55      {\@currentlabelname}%
56      {\@currentHref}{}%
57      }%
58      }%
59      \endgroup
60      \esphack
61      }%
62 \fi

\ltx@label
63 \let\ltx@label\label

```

Needed for the *subeqnarray* package.

```

\slabel
64 \@ifundefined{slabel}{}{%
65 \def\slabel#1{%
66   \bsphack
67   \if@filesw
68     \begingroup
69       \def\label@name{\#1}%
70       \label@hook
71       \let\thepage\relax
72       \def\protect{\noexpand\noexpand\noexpand}%
73       \edef@\tempa{%
74         \write\auxout{%
75           \string\newlabel{\#1}{%
76             {\thesubequation}%
77             {\thepage}%
78             {\@currentlabelname}%
79             {\@currentHref}{}%
80           }%
81           }%
82         }%
83       \expandafter\endgroup
84       \atempa
85       \if@nobreak\ifvmode\nobreak\fi\fi
86     \fi
87     \esphack
88   }%
89 }

```

Overload an AMS L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X command, which uses *\newlabel*. Sigh!

```

{@writetocindents@
90 \def{@writetocindents@}{%
91   \begingroup
92   \for{@tempa:=-1,0,1,2,3}\do{%
93     \immediate\write\auxout{%
94       \string\newlabel{tocindent@\tempa}{%
95         \csname r@tocindent@\tempa\endcsname{}{}{}{}%}
96     }%
97   }%
98 }%
99 \endgroup
100 }

```

### 3.2 Changes of section macros

Add to the underlying section heading macros so that they note the section name for use by label.

If a section heading or the like has a `\label` in it, we need to extract it, or subsequent processing breaks.

```
\NR@gettitle
101 \def\NR@gettitle#1{%
102   \GetTitleString{#1}%
103   \let\@currentlabelname\GetTitleStringResult
104 }
```

First the numbered sections. While we are about it, put in a useful section formatting macro.

```
\NR@sect
105 \let\NR@sect\@sect
106 \newcounter{section@level}

\@sect
107 \def\@sect#1#2#3#4#5#6[#7]#8{%
108   \setcounter{section@level}{#2}%
109   \NR@gettitle{#7}%
110   \NR@sect{#1}{#2}{#3}{#4}{#5}{#6}[{#7}]{\Sectionformat{#8}{#2}}%
111 }
```

and now the unnumbered ones

```
\NR@ssect
112 \let\NR@ssect\@sect

\NR@ssect
113 \def\@ssect#1#2#3#4#5{%
114   \NR@gettitle{#5}%
115   \NR@ssect{#1}{#2}{#3}{#4}{\Sectionformat{#5}{#1}}%
116 }
```

Support for class memoir.

```
117 \ltx@ifundefined{ifheadnameref}{%
118   }{%
119   \ltx@ifundefined{M@sect}{%
120     }{%
121     \let\NRorg@M@sect\@sect
122     \def\@sect#1#2#3#4#5#6[#7]#8{%
123       \ifheadnameref
124         \NR@gettitle{#8}%
125       \else
126         \NR@gettitle{#7}%
127       \fi
128       \NRorg@M@sect{#1}{#2}{#3}{#4}{#5}{#6}[{#7}][{#8}]%
129     }%
130   }%
131 }
```

Parts and chapters are treated differently. sigh. `\@part` and `\@spart` are `\long` because of class memoir.

```

132 \let\NR@part\@part
133 \long\def\@part[#1]{%
134   \NR@gettitle{#1}%
135   \NR@part[{#1}]{#2}%
136 }
137 \let\NR@spart\@spart
138 \long\def\@spart#1{%
139   \NR@gettitle{#1}%
140   \NR@spart{#1}%
141 }
142 \let\NR@chapter\@chapter
143 \def\@chapter[#1]{%
144   \NR@gettitle{#1}%
145   \NR@chapter[{#1}]{#2}%
146 }
147 \ifclassloaded{memoir}{%
148   \ltx@ifUndefined{ifheadnameref}{%
149     }{%
150       \def\@chapter[#1]{%
151         \ltx@ifUndefined{ch@pt@c}{%
152           \NR@gettitle{#1}%
153         }{%
154           \ifx\ch@pt@c\ltx@empty
155             \NR@gettitle{#2}%
156           \else
157             \def\NR@temp{#1}%
158             \ifx\NR@temp\ltx@empty
159               \expandafter\NR@gettitle\expandafter{\ch@pt@c}%
160             \else
161               \ifheadnameref
162                 \NR@gettitle{#1}%
163               \else
164                 \expandafter\NR@gettitle\expandafter{\ch@pt@c}%
165               \fi
166             \fi
167           \fi
168         }%
169       \NR@chapter[{#1}]{#2}%
170     }%
171   }{%
172 }
173 \let\NR@schapter\@schapter
174 \def\@schapter#1{%
175   \NR@gettitle{#1}%
176   \NR@schapter{#1}%
177 }
```

### Captions

```

178 \AtBeginDocument{%
179   \ifpackageloded{hyperref}{%
180     \ifpackagelater{hyperref}{2009/12/05}{%
181       \gobble\firstofone
182     }{%
183       \let\NR@@caption\caption
184       \long\def\@caption#1[#2]{%
```

```

185      \NR@getttitle{#2}%
186      \NR@@caption{#1}{#2}%
187  }%
188 }%
189 \@ifpackagelloaded{longtable}{%
190   \let\NRorg@LT@c@option\LT@c@option
191   \def\LT@c@option#1[#2]#3{%
192     \NRorg@LT@c@option{#1}[#2]{#3}%
193     \def\@tempa{#2}%
194     \ifx\@tempa\@empty
195     \else
196       \NR@getttitle{#2}%
197     \fi
198   }%
199 }{%

```

Environment ‘description’.

```

200 \ltx@ifundefined{descriptionlabel}{%
201 }{%
202   \let\NRorg@descriptionlabel\descriptionlabel
203   \def\descriptionlabel#1{%
204     \NR@getttitle{#1}%
205     \NRorg@descriptionlabel{#1}%
206   }%
207 }%
208 }

```

Compatibility for package titlesec.

```

209 \AtBeginDocument{%
210   \@ifpackagelloaded{titlesec}{%
211     \let\NRorg@ttl@sect@i\ttl@sect@i
212     \def\ttl@sect@i#1#2[#3]{%
213       \NR@getttitle{#4}%
214       \NRorg@ttl@sect@i{#1}{#2}{#3}{#4}%
215     }%
216   }{%
217 }

```

### 3.2.1 Class beamer

```

218 \@ifclassloaded{beamer}{%
219   \def\NR@PatchBeamer#1{%
220     \expandafter\let\csname NRorg@beamer@#1\expandafter\endcsname
221           \csname beamer@#1\endcsname
222     \begingroup
223     \edef\x{\endgroup
224       \long\def\expandafter\noexpand\csname beamer@#1\endcsname
225         [####1]{% hash-ok
226           \noexpand\NR@getttitle{####1}%
227           \expandafter\noexpand\csname NRorg@beamer@#1\endcsname
228             [####1]]%
229         }%
230       }%
231     \x
232   }%
233   \NR@PatchBeamer{section}%
234   \NR@PatchBeamer{subsection}%
235   \NR@PatchBeamer{subsubsection}%

```

```

Theorem names.
236 \addtobeamertemplate{theorem begin}{%
237   \expandafter\NR@gettitle\expandafter{\inserttheoremmaddition}%
238 }{%
239 \c@ifdefinable{\NRorg@beamer@descriptionitem}{%
240   \let\NRorg@beamer@descriptionitem\beamer@descriptionitem
241   \renewcommand{\beamer@descriptionitem}[1]{%
242     \NR@gettitle{#1}%
243     \NRorg@beamer@descriptionitem{#1}%
244   }%
245 }%
246 }{%

```

### 3.2.2 Theorems

```

247 \ltx@ifundefined{@opargbegintheorem}{%
248   \let\NRorg@opargbegintheorem\opargbegintheorem
249   \def\opargbegintheorem#1#2#3{%
250     \NR@gettitle{#3}%
251     \NRorg@opargbegintheorem{#1}{#2}{#3}%
252   }%
253 }%
254 \AtBeginDocument{%
255   \c@ifpackageloaded{amsthm}{%
256     \let\NRorg@begintheorem\begintheorem
257     \begingroup
258     \edef\x{\macro:\string#1\string#2[\string#3]}%
259     \c@onellevel@sanitize\x
260     \def\y#1->#2\@nil{#1}%
261     \edef\z{\expandafter\y\meaning\begintheorem->\@nil}%
262     \c@onellevel@sanitize\z
263     \expandafter\endgroup
264     \ifx\x\z
265       \def\begintheorem#1#2[#3]{%
266         \NR@gettitle{#3}%
267         \NRorg@begintheorem{#1}{#2}{#3}%
268       }%
269     \fi
270   }{%
271 }

```

### 3.3 Referencing stuff

We default the label and hypertext reference to be empty.

```

272 \providecommand*{\@currentlabelname}{}
273 \providecommand*{\@currentHref}{}

```

Since the second part of the preserved reference now has five parts (number, page, name, hypertext reference and file), we need extra utility macros:

```

\@firstoffive
274 \long\def\@firstoffive#1#2#3#4#5{#1}

\@secondoffive
275 \long\def\@secondoffive#1#2#3#4#5{#2}

\@thirdoffive
276 \long\def\@thirdoffive#1#2#3#4#5{#3}

```

```

\@fourthoffive
277 \long\def\@fourthoffive#1#2#3#4#5{#4}

\@offive
278 \long\def\@fifthoffive#1#2#3#4#5{#5}

We have to redefine \ref and \pageref to know about extra reference elements.
Make them robust, and compatible with Babel. The Babel switch is mimicked if
not already defined. Some support for package showkeys is implemented. If option
notref of that package is set, \SK@ref has the meaning of \empty.

 \@safe@activestruue
279 \providecommand*\@safe@activestruue{}%

 \@safe@activesfalse
280 \providecommand*\@safe@activesfalse{}%

 \NR@setref
281 \def\NR@setref#1{%
282   \begingroup
283     \@safe@activestruue
284     \expandafter
285   \endgroup
286   \expandafter\NR@@setref\csname r@#1\endcsname
287 }

 \NR@@setref
288 \def\NR@@setref#1{%
289   \ifx\@undefined#1%
290     \let#1\relax
291   \fi
292   \@setref#1%
293 }

 \T@ref
294 \def\T@ref#1{%
295   \NR@setref{#1}\@firstoffive{#1}%
296 }%

 \T@pageref
297 \def\T@pageref#1{%
298   \NR@setref{#1}\@secondoffive{#1}%
299 }%

300 \ifNR@showkeys
301   \ifx\SK@ref\empty
302   \else

 \T@ref
303   \def\T@ref#1{%
304     \@safe@activestruue
305     \SK@\SK@@ref{#1}%
306     \@safe@activesfalse
307     \NR@setref{#1}\@firstoffive{#1}%
308   }%

```

```

\T@pageref
 309 \def\T@pageref#1{%
 310   \@safe@activesttrue
 311   \SK@\SK@@ref{#1}%
 312   \@safe@activesfalse
 313   \NR@setref{#1}\@secondoffive{#1}%
 314 }%
 315 \fi
 316 \fi

Package hyperref uses its own definitions of \ref and \pageref because it extends
the syntax by the star form. \DeclareRobustCommand is used by hyperref. Package
nameref can be loaded before, after hyperref or after hyperref's definitions in
\AtBeginDocument.

317 \@ifpackageloaded{hyperref}{%
318 }{%
  \ref
 319 \DeclareRobustCommand{\ref}{\T@ref}%
  \pageref
 320 \DeclareRobustCommand{\pageref}{\T@pageref}%
 321 }

```

### 3.4 Usage and frontend

Access the (third) name part with \nameref;

```

\T@nameref
 322 \def\T@nameref#1{%
 323   \begingroup
 324   \let\label\@gobble
 325   \NR@setref{#1}\@thirdoffive{#1}%
 326   \endgroup
 327 }%
 328 \ifNR@showkeys
 329   \ifx\SK@ref\empty
 330   \else
 331     \def\T@nameref#1{%
 332       \@safe@activesttrue
 333       \SK@\SK@@ref{#1}%
 334       \@safe@activesfalse
 335       \begingroup
 336       \let\label\@gobble
 337       \NR@setref{#1}\@thirdoffive{#1}%
 338       \endgroup
 339     }%
 340   \fi
 341 \fi
 342 \% \@ifclassloaded{memoir}{%
 343 \%   \ltx@ifUndefined{@mem@titlerefno link}\ltx@secondoftwo{%
 344 \%     \ltx@ifUndefined{@mem@titleref}\ltx@secondoftwo\ltx@firstoftwo
 345 \%   }%
 346 \%}\ltx@secondoftwo

```

```

347 %{%
348 % \DeclareRobustCommand*\{\nameref}{%
349 %   \@ifstar\@mem@titlerefno link\@mem@titleref
350 % }%
351 %}%
\nameref
352 \DeclareRobustCommand*\{\nameref}{%
353   \@ifstar\T@nameref\T@nameref
354 }%
355 %}
\nameref An extended form which gives title and page number.
356 \def\Nameref#1{\`{\nameref{\#1}} on page~\pageref{\#1}}
\Sectionformat The default for \Sectionformat
357 \providecommand\Sectionformat[2]{\#1}

```

### 3.5 Package ifthen support

Package ifthen's `\isodd` does not work with `\pageref` because of the extra link and the star form. Therefore we need an expandable variant.

Unfortunately there is no hook in `\ifthenelse` in order to provide expandable versions without link of `\ref` and `\pageref`. As possible target I could only find `\begingroup`:

```

358 \@ifpackage{ifthen}{%
359   \let\NROrg@ifthenelse\ifthenelse
360   \def\ifthenelse{%
361     \let\begingroup\NR@TE@begingroup
362     \NROrg@ifthenelse
363   }%
364   \let\NROrg@begingroup\begingroup
365   \def\NR@TE@begingroup{%
366     \let\begingroup\NROrg@begingroup
367     \begingroup
368     \def\ref##1{\getrefbykeydefault{\##1}{\{\?\?\}}{}}%
369     \def\pageref##1{\getrefbykeydefault{\##1}{page}{0}}%
370   }%
371 }{%

```

### 3.6 Compatibility with variorref

[This section was derived by Corey Minyard `minyard@acm.org` from the variorref package] Changed in 2019-09-12 by Frank Mittelbach to adapt to changes in variorref

```

372 \AtBeginDocument{%
373   \ifx\csname\relax
374   \else
375     \let\NR@vpageref\@vpageref
376     \def\@vpageref#1[#2]{%
377       \begingroup
378       \csname\relax\@activestrue\endcsname
379       \edef\x{\#3}%
380       \onelevel@sanitize\x
381       \toks@{%
382         \NR@vpageref{\#1}{[\#2]}%

```

```

383      }%
384      \edef\x{\endgroup
385          \the\toks@{\x}%
386      }%
387      \x
388  }%
389  \DeclareRobustCommand\vnameref[1]{%
390      \unskip\name{\#1}%
391      \vpage{\unskip}{\#1}%
392  }%
393  \fi
394 }

395 \c@ifundefined{@Refstar}{%
396     \def\T@Ref#1{%
397         \NR@setref{\#1}\NR@MakeUppercaseFirstOfFive{\#1}%
398     }%
399     \def\NR@MakeUppercaseFirstOfFive#1#2#3#4#5{%
400         \MakeUppercase{\#1}%
401     }%
402 }{}%
403 \AtBeginDocument{%
404     \c@ifpackageloaded{varioref}{%
405         \c@ifundefined{@Refstar}{%
406             \DeclareRobustCommand*\R@ef[1]{%
407                 \T@Ref{\#1}%
408             }%
409         }{}%
410     }{}%
411 }

```

### 3.7 Support for package `listings`

```

412 \AtBeginDocument{%
413     \c@ifpackageloaded{listings}{%
414         \let\NROrg@lst@MakeCaption\lst@MakeCaption
415         \def\lst@MakeCaption{%
416             \ifx\lst@label\empty
417             \else
418                 \let\@currentlabelname\lst@caption
419             \fi
420             \NROrg@lst@MakeCaption
421         }%
422     }{}%
423 }
424 </package>

```