The gobble Package

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CTAN: http://www.ctan.org/pkg/gobble
VC: https://bitbucket.org/martin_scharrer/gobble
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Abstract

The gobble \LaTeX{} package provides more macros to discard (gobble) macro arguments. These macros are by default only for package and class writers, but are exported to the user level by the gobble-user package. The macros are also available as generic packages for other \LaTeX{} formats.

1 Macros

1.1 Macros for Package/Class Writers

The following macros are provided by the generic gobble.tex and the \LaTeX{} package gobble. Some are already provided by the \LaTeX{} kernel.

\begin{verbatim}
\@gobble
\@gobbletwo
\@gobblethree
\@gobblefour
\end{verbatim}

Gobbles one, two, three or four mandatory arguments.

\begin{verbatim}
\@gobbleopt
\@gobbletwoopt
\@gobbleallopt
\end{verbatim}

Gobbles one, two or all found optional arguments if present.

\begin{verbatim}
\@gobbletwoopttwo
\end{verbatim}

Gobbles (up to) two optional arguments if present and then two mandatory arguments.
\@firstofone
Reads one argument and expands to it, i.e. removes the braces around it.

\@firstoftwo
Reads two arguments and expands to the first one while discarding the second one.

\@secondoftwo
Reads two arguments and expands to the second one while discarding the first one.

\@firstofthree
\@secondofthree
\@thirdofthree
These macros read three arguments and expand to the first, second or third one, respectively, while discarding the other.

\@gobbletofi{(code)}{(discarded code)}\fi
\@gobbletoelse{(code)}{(discarded code)}\else
\@gobbletoor{(code)}{(discarded code)}\or
These macros read one argument and then gobble everything to the next \texttt{\fi}, \texttt{\else} or \texttt{\or}, respectively. Afterwards they expand to the first argument. This allows to break out of an \texttt{\if..} or \texttt{\ifcase} branch, which is sometimes required if code should be executed after the conditional.

### 1.2 User Level Macros

The following macros are provided by the generic 	exttt{gobble-user.tex} and the \LaTeX\ package 	exttt{gobble-user}. These also load the \texttt{gobble.tex} file or package \texttt{gobble}, respectively.

They macros are identical to the corresponding versions with the leading ‘@’, but can be used freely in a user document.
2 Implementation

\%\!<\!COPYRIGHT\>
\NeedsTeXFormat{LaTeX2e}[1999/12/01]
\ProvidesPackage{gobble}[%
\%!DATE>
\%!VERSION>
\!*\!<\!*\!DRIVER>
\2099/01/01 develop
\!/\!DRIVER>
\Provides more gobble macros]
\input{gobble}

\%\!<\!COPYRIGHT\>
\NeedsTeXFormat{LaTeX2e}[1999/12/01]
\ProvidesPackage{gobble-user}[%
\%!DATE>
\%!VERSION>
\!*\!<\!*\!DRIVER>
\2099/01/01 develop
\!/\!DRIVER>
\Provides user level macros]
\RequirePackage{gobble}
\input{gobble-user}
\expandafter\ifx\csname gobble.tex loaded\endcsname\relax
\expandafter\def\csname gobble.tex loaded\endcsname{1}%
\else
\expandafter\endinput
\fi
\gobbletex\@catcode
\expandafter\edef\csname gobbletex\@catcode \endcsname{
\%\catcode\noexpand\@=\the\catcode\@%
}\%
\catcode\@=11
\@gobble
\@gobbletwo
\@gobblethree
\@gobblefour
\long\def\@gobble#1{}%
\long\def\@gobbletwo#1#2{}%
\long\def\@gobblethree#1#2#3{}%
\long\def\@gobblefour#1#2#3#4{}%
\@gobbleopt
\long\def\@gobbleopt{}%
\@ifnextchar[{}
\@@gobbleopt%
{}%
\]%
\@gobbletwoopt
\long\def\@gobbletwoopt{}%
\@ifnextchar[{}
\@@gobbletwoopt%
{}%
\]%
\@gobbletwoopt0
\def\@gobbletwoopt@[#1]{}
\@gobbletwoopt0
\def\@gobbletwoopt@[#1]{\@gobbleopt}
\@gobbleallopt

\long\def\gobbleallopt{%
  \ifnextchar[%
    {\gobbleallopt}%
    {}%
  \}%
}

\@gobbleallopt@

\long\def\gobbleallopt[#1]{%
  \ifnextchar[%
    {\gobbleallopt@}%
    {}%
  \}%
  \gobbletwo%
}

\@gobbletwoopttwo

\long\def\gobbletwoopttwo{%
  \ifnextchar[%
    {\gobbletwoopttwo}%
    {\gobbletwo}%
  \}%
}

\@gobbletwoopttwo@

\long\def\gobbletwoopttwo@[#1]{%
  \ifnextchar[%
    {\gobbletwoopttwo@}%
    {\gobbletwo}%
  \}%
}

\@gobbletwoopttwo@@

\long\def\gobbletwoopttwo@@[#1]{%
  \gobbletwo%
}

\@firstofone

\long\def\firstofone#1{#1}%
\@firstoftwo

\@secondoftwo
71 \long\def\@firstoftwo#1#2{#1} \%
72 \long\def\@secondoftwo#1#2{#2} \%

\@firstofthree
\@secondofthree
\@thirdofthree
73 \long\def\@firstofthree#1#2#3{#1} \%
74 \long\def\@secondofthree#1#2#3{#2} \%
75 \long\def\@thirdofthree#1#2#3{#3} \%

\@gobbletofi
\@gobbletoelse
\@gobbletoor
76 \long\def\@gobbletofi#1#2\fi{\fi#1} \%
77 \long\def\@gobbletoelse#1#2\else{\else#1} \%
78 \long\def\@gobbletoor#1#2\or{\or#1} \%
79 \gobbletex@catcode
80 \expandafter\ifx\csname gobble-user.tex\endcsname\relax
    \expandafter\def\csname gobble-user.tex\endcsname{i}\%
81 \else
   \expandafter\endinput
82 \fi
83 \input{gobble}
\gobbletext@catcode
\expandafter\edef\csname gobbletext@catcode\endcsname{%
\catcode'\noexpand\@=\the\catcode'\@%
}%
\catcode'@=11

\gobble
\gobbletwo
\gobblethree
\gobblefour
\let\gobble\@gobble
\let\gobbletwo\@gobbletwo
\let\gobblethree\@gobblethree
\let\gobblefour\@gobblefour

\gobbleopt
\let\gobbleopt\@gobbleopt

\gobbletwoopt
\let\gobbletwoopt\@gobbletwoopt

\gobbleallopt
\let\gobbleallopt\@gobbleallopt

\gobbletwoopttwo
\let\gobbletwoopttwo\@gobbletwoopttwo
\firstofone
\firstoftwo
\firstofthree
\gobbletofi
\gobbletoelse
\gobbletoor
\gobbletex\catcode