The \texttt{fncylab} package

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The package provides support for arbitrary structuring of the way label references look. The command \texttt{\textbackslash{labelformat}\{\texttt{ctr}\}\{\texttt{defn}\}} specifies the structure of a label:

\begin{itemize}
  \item \texttt{ctr} the counter that will define the label (e.g., \texttt{section}, \texttt{figure}, \texttt{enumi} for outer level list label references, etc.)
  \item \texttt{defn} the definition of how the counter will be formatted in a reference. In this argument, \#1 (\textit{not} \#\#1 as one might expect) substitutes the ‘raw’ value of the thing which is the source of the label.
\end{itemize}

The package makes use of a built-in \LaTeX{} facility (which actually needs a bit of patching before it’s usable); this allows the precise layout of the references to labels generated from any \LaTeX{} counter to be altered. Note that the way in which the counter itself is represented in references depends on \texttt{\textbackslash{the\{counter\}}} — it’s the same as the way the counter gets printed.

1 An example

The \LaTeX{} code:

\begin{verbatim}
\texttt{\textbackslash{labelformat}\{section\}\{section \#1\}}
\texttt{...
\texttt{\textbackslash{section}\{The Blah Field\}\textbackslash{label}\{blah\}}
\texttt{...
\texttt{... As we saw above in~\textbackslash{ref}\{blah\} ...}}
\end{verbatim}

will typeset its last line as

\begin{verbatim}
... As we saw above in section 3 ...
\end{verbatim}

For references at the start of a sentence, the package defines a command \texttt{\textbackslash{Ref}}, which is used as one might expect:

\begin{verbatim}
... \texttt{\textbackslash{Ref}\{blah\} shows us that ...}
\end{verbatim}

which will typeset as

\begin{verbatim}
... Section 3 shows us that ...
\end{verbatim}

A demonstration of \texttt{\textbackslash{labelformat}}, using the \texttt{enumerate} package, may be found in the file \texttt{fncylab-example.tex}, which is part of the distribution.

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