

# The `lmake` package\*

Shengjun Pan  
panshengjun@gmail.com

$$\int_{\hat{X}_1=\hat{A}_1}^{\hat{B}_1} \int_{\hat{X}_2=\hat{A}_2}^{\hat{B}_2} \cdots \int_{\hat{X}_n=\hat{A}_n}^{\hat{B}_n} \binom{N}{1\hat{\phi}_1, 2\hat{\phi}_2, \dots, m\hat{\phi}_m} e^{-\frac{(\hat{X}_1-\hat{\mu}_1)^2}{2\hat{\sigma}_1^2}} e^{-\frac{(\hat{X}_2-\hat{\mu}_2)^2}{2\hat{\sigma}_2^2}} \cdots e^{-\frac{(\hat{X}_n-\hat{\mu}_n)^2}{2\hat{\sigma}_n^2}} d\hat{X}_1 d\hat{X}_2 \cdots d\hat{X}_n$$

```
\lcmd{\hat}{h}{X,A,B,F,\mu,\phi,\sigma}
\lmake[\in_{\hX_i=\hA_i}^{\hB_i},\empty]
\binom{N}{\lmake[\i\hphi_i,m]}
\lmake[e^{-\frac{(\hX_i-\hmu_i)^2}{2\hsigma_i^2}},c=]
\lmake[d\hX_i,\,]
```

## 1 Introduction

This package provides macros for L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X<sub>2</sub>ε to simplify typesetting a list of phrases that fit a pattern.

`\lcmd` makes a list of new commands by adding a prefix to existing commands.

`\lmake` makes a list of the form  $p(i_1), p(i_2), \dots, p(i_n)$ , where  $p(\cdot)$  stands for *pattern*.

## 2 Usage and examples

```
\lcmd \lcmd{command}{prefix}{list}
```

makes a list of new commands from `command` by adding `prefix` to each item in the comma-separated `list`. If an item in the list is a macro, only its name is prefixed; the backslash is stripped away.

**Examples:**<sup>1</sup>

<code>\lcmd{\mathcal}{c}{A,X,P}</code>	defines: <code>\cA</code> → $\mathcal{A}$	<code>\cX</code> → $\mathcal{X}$	<code>\cP</code> → $\mathcal{P}$
<code>\lcmd{\mathbb}{c}{A,X,P}</code>	defines: <code>\bbZ</code> → $\mathbb{Z}$	<code>\bbR</code> → $\mathbb{R}$	<code>\bbE</code> → $\mathbb{E}$
<code>\lcmd{\overline}{vct}{x,psi,\phi}</code>	defines: <code>\vctx</code> → $\overline{x}$	<code>\vctpsi</code> → $\overline{psi}$	<code>\vctphi</code> → $\overline{\phi}$

In the last example the new command for `\phi` is `\vctphi`, not `\vct\phi`. Notice the difference between `\vctphi` and `\vctpsi`.

```
\lmake \lmake[[key1=]value1,[key2=]value2,...]
```

makes a list of symbols by key-value pairs. Valid keys are described in the following table.

\*This document corresponds to `lmake` v1.0, dated 2012/02/29.

<sup>1</sup>The examples used in this document require packages `amsmath`, `amssymb` and `graphicx`.

keys	default	description
p	\i	Pattern. All occurrences of \i will be replaced by the corresponding index.
c	,	Separator.
n	n	Last index.
1	1	First index.
2	2	Second index.
d	\ldots, \cdots	Dots. If the separator is comma, \ldots is used; otherwise \cdots is used.
	\dotsc, \dotspb	If amsmath is loaded, \dotsc and \dotspb are used respectively.
ℓ	{}	List of comma-separated symbols.

### Examples:

what you type	what you see
<code>\lmake[]</code>	$1, 2, \dots, n$
<code>\lmake[2=]</code>	$1, \dots, n$
<code>\lmake[x_\i,c=]</code>	$x_1 x_2 \cdots x_n$
<code>\lmake[x_\i,,N]</code>	$x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N$
<code>\lmake[x_\i,\ge,k]</code>	$x_1 \geq x_2 \geq \cdots \geq x_k$
<code>\lmake[\bar x_{\i},\circ,1=i,i+1]</code>	$\bar{x}_i \circ \bar{x}_{i+1} \circ \cdots \circ \bar{x}_n$
<code>\lmake[p_\i^{\mu_\i},c=,m]</code>	$p_1^{\mu_1} p_2^{\mu_2} \cdots p_m^{\mu_m}$
<code>\lmake[N_\i!,\,,\Gamma,\alpha,\beta]</code>	$N_\alpha! N_\beta! \cdots N_\Gamma!$
<code>\lmake[\left(\frac{\i}{\i+1}\right),\!]</code>	$\left(\frac{1}{1+1}\right) \left(\frac{2}{2+1}\right) \cdots \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)$
<code>\lmake[(e_\i+1),c=,k,1,2]</code>	$(e_1 + 1)(e_2 + 1) \cdots (e_k + 1)$
<code>\lmake[x_{\i},l={1,3,5,11}]</code>	$x_1, x_3, x_5, x_{11}$
<code>\lmake[\rotatebox{-30}{\i},\to,l={A,B,C,D}]</code>	$A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow D$

### Remarks:

- If  $\ell$  is empty, the resulting list has the following form:  
 $p(1) \ c \ p(2) \ c \ d \ c \ p(n)$   
If  $\ell$  is not empty, the resulting list has the following form, for the example  $\ell = \{x, y, z, u\}$ :  
 $p(x) \ c \ p(y) \ c \ p(z) \ c \ p(u)$
- A non-empty item without = in the argument list is treated as a value. Normally the key-value pairs can appear out of order in the argument list to `\lmake`. For fast typing the key can be omitted. The missing key is searched, starting from the key that would follow the previous key in the table-order. Only keys without values are searched.  
For example, in `\lmake[\bar x_{\i},\circ,1=i,i+1]`, the missing key for `\bar x_{\i}` is `p`, the missing key for `\circ` is `c` since it follows `p` in the table. Similarly, the missing key for `i+1` is `2` since it follows the previous key `1` in the table.
- A key not appearing or skipped in the argument list takes its default value, unless it's been searched as a missing key and given a value.  
For example, in `\lmake[x_\i,,N]`, all keys except for `p` and `n` take default values. Particularly, the key `c` is skipped and it is treated as missing.  
Note that a skipped key does not take value *empty*. To force a value to be empty, use one of the following workarounds: `\empty`, `key=`, `key=\empty`, or `key={}`.

### 3 Implementation

This section explains in details how `\lmake`, `\lcmd` and necessary internal macros are implemented.

`\L@Compare` `\L@Compare{string1}{string2}`  
compares two strings. The two arguments are fully expanded before comparison. `\ifL@Equal` is a Boolean variable for storing the result.

```
1 \newif\ifL@Equal
2 \def\L@Compare#1#2{%
3   \protected@edef\L@a{#1}\protected@edef\L@b{#2}%
4   \ifx\L@a\L@b\L@Equaltrue\else\L@Equalfalse\fi}
```

`\L@FuzzyCompare` `\L@FuzzyCompare{string1}{string2}`  
tests if two strings are the same, where white spaces preceding the second argument are ignored. This allows flexible writing of the comma-separated argument to `\lmake` so that spaces may be inserted between an item and the previous comma.

```
5 \def\L@FuzzyCompare#1#2{%
6   \L@Compare{#1}{#2}\ifL@Equal\else\L@Compare{#1}{ #2}\fi}
```

`\L@SoftCompare` `\L@SoftCompare{string1}{string2}`  
similar to `\L@Compare`, but does not expand the two strings. This is useful if either argument contains undefined macros, for example, the value to the key `p` in the argument to `\lmake`.

```
7 \def\L@SoftCompare#1#2{%
8   \def\L@a{#1}\def\L@b{#2}%
9   \ifx\L@a\L@b\L@Equaltrue\else\L@Equalfalse\fi}
```

`\L@FuzzySoftCompare` `\L@FuzzySoftCompare{string1}{string2}`  
similar to `\L@FuzzyCompare`, but uses `\L@SoftCompare` instead of `\L@Compare`.

```
10 \def\L@FuzzySoftCompare#1#2{%
11   \L@SoftCompare{#1}{#2}\ifL@Equal\else\L@SoftCompare{#1}{ #2}\fi}
```

`\L@HasEqualSign` `\L@HasEqualSign{string}`  
tests if a string has an equal sign `=`. This is used to test if an argument to `\lmake` is a key-value pair or just a value. It is defined indirectly via `\L@HES`, which is a tail recursion for scanning the tokens in its argument.

`\L@Ignore` is an auxiliary macro that simply ignores its argument. The test result is stored in `\ifL@HasEqualSign`.

```
12 \def\L@Ignore#1\end{}
13 \newif\ifL@HasEqualSign
14 \def\L@HasEqualSign#1{%
15   \L@HasEqualSignfalse\L@HES#1\end}
16 \def\L@HES#1{%
17   \ifx#1=\L@HasEqualSigntrue\let\L@Next=\L@Ignore%
18   \else\ifx#1\end\let\L@Next=\relax\else\let\L@Next=\L@HES\fi%
19   \fi\L@Next}
```

`\L@ArName` `\L@ArName[index]`  
returns the name of a macro via a numeric index.

```
20 \def\L@ArName[#1]{\ifcase#1 L@Pattern\or L@Comma\or L@Last\or%
21 L@First\or L@Second\or L@Dots\or L@List\else L@Other\fi}
```

`\L@Set, \L@Get` `\L@Set [index]=value;`  
`\L@Get [Index]`  
set and get the value of a macro by a numeric index. Numeric indices are used to locate missing keys in the argument to `\lmake`.

```

22 \def\L@Set[#1]=#2;{\global\expandafter\let\csname\L@ArName[#1]\endcsname=#2}
23 \def\L@Get[#1]{\csname\L@ArName[#1]\endcsname}

```

`\L@LDots, \L@Cdots` denotes the default macro for low dots. If `amsmath` is loaded before `\lmake`, `\L@LDots` is set to `\dotsc` and `\L@Cdots` is set to `\dotsb`. Otherwise `\L@LDots` is set to `\ldots` and `\L@Cdots` is set to `\cdots`.

```

24 \ifpackageloaded{amsmath}
25   {\def\L@LDots{\dotsc}\def\L@Cdots{\dotsb}}
26   {\def\L@LDots{\ldots}\def\L@Cdots{\cdots}}

```

`\L@Map` `\L@Map{function}{list}{new separator}`  
maps a list of comma-separated items to a new list, so that each item is transformed using the given function, and the commas are replaced with the new separator. It is defined indirectly indirectly via `\L@Iterate`, which is a tail recursion for scanning the comma-separated list.

`\ifL@Start` is used to indicate if the current item is the first item, which is not preceded by a comma, unlike the remaining items.

```

\L@Map
27 \newif\ifL@Start
28 \def\L@Map#1#2#3{%
29   \def\L@Sym{\empty}\def\LM@Func{#1}\def\L@Sep{#3}%
30   \L@Starttrue\expandafter\L@Iterate#2,\end}
31 \def\L@Iterate#1,#2{%
32   \LM@Func{#1}%
33   \ifx#2\end\let\L@Next=\relax\def\L@Nextarg{\empty}%
34   \else\L@Sep\let\L@Next=\L@Iterate\def\L@Nextarg{#2}\fi%
35   \expandafter\L@Next\L@Nextarg}

```

`\L@GetKeyValue` `\L@GetKeyValue{key-value pair}`  
extracts the key and value from a string, and store them in `\L@Key` and `\L@Value` respectively. If the argument has no equal sign, it is used as a value and the key is set to empty. Otherwise, `\L@GetKV` is called to extract the key and value.

```

36 \def\L@GetKeyValue#1{%
37   \def\L@Key{}\def\L@Value{}\L@HasEqualSign{#1}%
38   \ifL@HasEqualSign\L@GetKV#1\end%
39   \else\def\L@Key{}\def\L@Value{#1}%
40   \fi}
41 \def\L@GetKV#1=#2\end{%
42   \def\L@Key{#1}\def\L@Value{#2}}

```

`\L@Parse` `\L@Parse{list}`  
parses a list of comma-separated items, extracts each item, extract its key and value, looks for keys `p`, `c`, `n`, `1`, `2`, `d` and `l`, and finally assigns the corresponding values to `\L@Pattern`, `\L@Comma`, `\L@Last`, `\L@First`, `\l@Second`, `\L@Dots` and `\L@List` respectively.

The counter `\L@idx` is the index of the next key yet to be assigned with an value.

```

43 \newcount\L@idx

```

If the list is not empty, then it calls a tail recursion `\l@PRS`.

```

44 \def\L@Parse#1{\L@idx=0%
45   \L@FuzzySoftCompare{#1}{}%
46   \ifL@Equal\else\def\L@Extra{}\L@PRS#1,\end,\fi}

```

An artificial item `,\end`, is added to the end of the actual list, which terminates the recursion when encountered.

```

47 \def\L@PRS#1,{%
48   \L@SoftCompare{#1}{\end}\ifL@Equal%
49     \let\L@Next=\relax%
50   \else%

```

If an item is empty, the missing key is searched and the corresponding default value is used.

```

51     \L@FuzzySoftCompare{#1}{}\ifL@Equal%
52       \ifnum\L@idx<7%
53         \ifcase\the\L@idx%
54           \def\L@Default{\i}%
55           \or\def\L@Default{,}%
56           \or\def\L@Default{n}%
57           \or\def\L@Default{1}%
58           \or\def\L@Default{2}%
59           \or\def\L@Default{ }%
60           \or\def\L@Default{ }%
61         \fi%
62         \L@Set[\the\L@idx]=\L@Default;%
63         \advance \L@idx by 1%
64       \fi%

```

If the item is not empty, the key and value are extracted. Depending on what the key is, the value is assigned to the approximate macro.

```

65     \else%
66       \L@GetKeyValue{#1}\let\L@CV=\L@Value%
67       \L@FuzzyCompare{\L@Key}{p}\ifL@Equal\L@idx=1\L@Set[0]=\L@CV;%
68       \else\L@FuzzyCompare{\L@Key}{c}\ifL@Equal\L@idx=2\L@Set[1]=\L@CV;%
69       \else\L@FuzzyCompare{\L@Key}{n}\ifL@Equal\L@idx=3\L@Set[2]=\L@CV;%
70       \else\L@FuzzyCompare{\L@Key}{1}\ifL@Equal\L@idx=4\L@Set[3]=\L@CV;%
71       \else\L@FuzzyCompare{\L@Key}{2}\ifL@Equal\L@idx=5\L@Set[4]=\L@CV;%
72       \else\L@FuzzyCompare{\L@Key}{d}\ifL@Equal\L@idx=6\L@Set[5]=\L@CV;%
73       \else\L@FuzzyCompare{\L@Key}{l}\ifL@Equal\L@idx=7\L@Set[6]=\L@CV;%

```

If an item is a value without a key, the missing key is searched and given the current value.

```

74     \else\L@FuzzyCompare{\L@Key}{ }\ifL@Equal%
75       \ifnum\L@idx<7%
76         \L@Set[\the\L@idx]=\L@CV;%
77       \fi%
78       \advance \L@idx by 1%
79     \fi\fi\fi\fi\fi\fi\fi\fi\fi%
80     \let\L@Next=\L@PRS%
81   \fi%
82   \L@Next}

```

`\lmake` `\lmake[key-value list]`

makes a list of symbols using the given key-value pairs. `\ifL@FoundFirst` is used to indicate if the first non-empty symbol is encountered; the first symbol is not preceded by a separator.

```
83 \newif\ifL@FoundFirst
```

`\L@Parse` is used twice. The first time it is used to set the default values. The second time it is used to set the values supplied by the argument list.

```

84 \newcommand{\lmake}[1][ ]{%
85 \begingroup%
86   \L@Parse{p=\i,c={,},d=,1=1,2=2,n=n,l=}%
87   \L@Parse{#1}%

```

The pattern is used to define the transforming function `\L@Func` by replacing all occurrences of `\i` by the actual argument.

```
88 \def\L@Func##1{\def\i{##1}\L@Get[0]}%
```

If the key `d` is not given a value, its value is automatically determined by the value of the separator.

```
89 \L@Compare{\L@Dots}{\empty}\ifL@Equal%
90 \L@Compare{\L@Comma}{,}\ifL@Equal%
91 \def\L@Dots{\L@Ldots}\else\def\L@Dots{\L@Cdots}%
92 \fi
93 \fi
```

The last step is to typeset the list of symbols. If the value to the key `l` is missing, the typeset list starts with two symbols followed by the dots and ends with the last symbol. The symbols and dots are separated by the separator.

```
94 \L@Compare{\L@List}{\empty}\ifL@Equal%
95 \L@FoundFirstfalse%
96 \L@Compare{\L@First}{\empty}\ifL@Equal\else%
97 \L@Func{\L@First}\L@FoundFirsttrue%
98 \fi%
99 \L@Compare{\L@Second}{\empty}\ifL@Equal\else%
100 \ifL@FoundFirst\L@Comma\fi%
101 \L@Func{\L@Second}\L@FoundFirsttrue%
102 \fi%
103 \L@Compare{\L@Dots}{\empty}\ifL@Equal\else%
104 \ifL@FoundFirst\L@Comma\fi\L@Dots%
105 \fi%
106 \L@Compare{\L@Last}{\empty}\ifL@Equal\else%
107 \L@Comma\L@Func{\L@Last}%
108 \fi%
```

If a non-empty value to the key `l` is given, the typeset list consists of symbols from the items in the value of `l`, transformed by the pattern function.

```
109 \else%
110 \L@Map{\L@Func}{\L@List}{\L@Comma}%
111 \fi%
112 \endgroup}
```

```
\L@CmdName \L@CmdName{string}
```

returns the string itself if it is not a macro, otherwise returns the macro name with the backslash stripped away. This is an auxiliary function to `\lcmd`.

```
113 \def\L@CmdName#1{%
114 \if\noexpand#1\noexpand\L@anycmd\expandafter\L@StripFirst\string#1\else#1\fi}
115 \def\L@StripFirst#1#2{#2}
```

```
\lcmd \lcmd{command}{prefix}{list}
```

makes a list of new commands. See Section 2 for more details.

```
116 \def\lcmd#1#2#3{%
117 \def\L@MakeCmd##1{%
118 \expandafter\def\cename #2\L@CmdName##1\endcename{#1{##1}}}%
119 \L@Map{\L@MakeCmd}{#3}{}}
```

# Change History

v1.0

General: Initial version . . . . . 1

## Index

Numbers written in *italic* refer to the page where the corresponding entry is described; numbers underlined refer to the code line of the definition; numbers in *roman* refer to the code lines where the entry is used.

I	
<code>\ifL@Equal</code> . . . . .	1, 6, 11, 46, 48, 51, 67–74, 89, 90, 94, 96, 99, 103, 106
<code>\ifL@FoundFirst</code> . . . . .	83, 100, 104
<code>\ifL@HasEqualSign</code> . . . . .	13, 38
<code>\ifL@Start</code> . . . . .	27
L	
<code>\La</code> . . . . .	3, 4, 8, 9
<code>\L@anycmd</code> . . . . .	114
<code>\L@ArName</code> . . . . .	<u>20</u> , 22, 23
<code>\L@b</code> . . . . .	3, 4, 8, 9
<code>\L@Cdots</code> . . . . .	91
<code>\L@CmdName</code> . . . . .	<u>113</u> , 118
<code>\L@Comma</code> . . . . .	90, 100, 104, 107, 110
<code>\L@Compare</code> . . . . .	<u>1</u> , 6, 89, 90, 94, 96, 99, 103, 106
<code>\L@CV</code> . . . . .	66–73, 76
<code>\L@Default</code> . . . . .	54–60, 62
<code>\L@Dots</code> . . . . .	89, 91, 103, 104
<code>\L@Equalfalse</code> . . . . .	4, 9
<code>\L@Equaltrue</code> . . . . .	4, 9
<code>\L@Extra</code> . . . . .	46
<code>\L@First</code> . . . . .	96, 97
<code>\L@FoundFirstfalse</code> . . . . .	95
<code>\L@FoundFirsttrue</code> . . . . .	97, 101
<code>\L@Func</code> . . . . .	88, 97, 101, 107, 110
<code>\L@FuzzyCompare</code> . . . . .	<u>5</u> , 67–74
<code>\L@FuzzySoftCompare</code> . . . . .	<u>10</u> , 45, 51
<code>\L@Get</code> . . . . .	88
<code>\L@GetKeyValue</code> . . . . .	<u>36</u> , 66
<code>\L@GetKV</code> . . . . .	38, 41
<code>\L@HasEqualSign</code> . . . . .	<u>12</u> , 37
<code>\L@HasEqualSignfalse</code> . . . . .	15
<code>\L@HasEqualSigntrue</code> . . . . .	17
<code>\L@HES</code> . . . . .	15, 16, 18
<code>\L@idx</code> . . . . .	43, 44, 52, 53, 62, 63, 67–73, 75, 76, 78
<code>\L@Ignore</code> . . . . .	12, 17
<code>\L@Iterate</code> . . . . .	30, 31, 34
<code>\L@Key</code> . . . . .	37, 39, 42, 67–74
<code>\L@Last</code> . . . . .	106, 107
<code>\L@dots</code> . . . . .	25, 26, 91
<code>\L@Ldots, \L@Cdots</code> . . . . .	<u>24</u>
<code>\L@List</code> . . . . .	94, 110
<code>\L@MakeCmd</code> . . . . .	117, 119
<code>\L@Map</code> . . . . .	<u>27</u> , 110, 119
<code>\L@Next</code> . . . . .	17–19, 33–35, 49, 80, 82
<code>\L@Nextarg</code> . . . . .	33–35
<code>\L@Parse</code> . . . . .	<u>43</u> , 86, 87
<code>\L@PRS</code> . . . . .	46, 47, 80
<code>\L@Second</code> . . . . .	99, 101
<code>\L@Sep</code> . . . . .	29, 34
<code>\L@Set</code> . . . . .	62, 67–73, 76
<code>\L@Set, \L@Get</code> . . . . .	<u>22</u>
<code>\L@SoftCompare</code> . . . . .	<u>7</u> , 11, 48
<code>\L@Starttrue</code> . . . . .	30
<code>\L@StripFirst</code> . . . . .	114, 115
<code>\L@Sym</code> . . . . .	29
<code>\L@Value</code> . . . . .	37, 39, 42, 66
<code>\lcmd</code> . . . . .	<i>1</i> , <u>116</u>
<code>\LM@Func</code> . . . . .	29, 32
<code>\lmake</code> . . . . .	<i>1</i> , <u>83</u>