Reference sheet for natbib usage
(Describing version 8.31b from 2010/09/13)

For a more detailed description of the natbib package, LaTeX the source file natbib.dtx.

Overview

The natbib package is a reimplementation of the LaTeX \cite command, to work with both author–year and numerical citations. It is compatible with the standard bibliographic style files, such as plain.bst, as well as with those for harvard, apalike, chicago, astron, authordate, and of course natbib.

Loading

Load with \usepackage[*options*]{natbib}. See list of *options* at the end.

Replacement bibliography styles

I provide three new .bst files to replace the standard LaTeX numerical ones:

plainnat.bst abbrvnat.bst unsrtnat.bst

Basic commands

The natbib package has two basic citation commands, \citet and \citep for *textual* and *parenthetical* citations, respectively. There also exist the starred versions \citet* and \citep* that print the full author list, and not just the abbreviated one. All of these may take one or two optional arguments to add some text before and after the citation.

\citet{jon90}	)	Jones et al. (1990)
\citet[chap.~2]{jon90}	)	Jones et al. (1990, chap. 2)
\citep{jon90}	)	(Jones et al., 1990)
\citep[chap.~2]{jon90}	)	(Jones et al., 1990, chap. 2)
\citep[see][]{jon90}	)	(see Jones et al., 1990)
\citep[see][chap.~2]{jon90}	)	(see Jones et al., 1990, chap. 2)
\citet*{jon90}	)	Jones, Baker, and Williams (1990)
\citep*{jon90}	)	(Jones, Baker, and Williams, 1990)

Multiple citations

Multiple citations may be made by including more than one citation key in the \cite command argument.

\citet{jon90,jam91}	)	Jones et al. (1990); James et al. (1991)
\citep{jon90,jam91}	)	(Jones et al., 1990; James et al. 1991)
\citep{jon90,jon91}	)	(Jones et al., 1990, 1991)
\citep{jon90a,jon90b}	)	(Jones et al., 1990a,b)