

# Package `math-operator` v. 1.0 User Guide

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## Overview

The `math-operator` package defines control sequences for roughly one hundred and fifty math operators, including special functions, probability distributions, pure mathematical constructions, and a variant of `\overline`. The package also provides an interface for users to define new math operators similar to the `amsopn` package. New operators can be medium or bold weight, and they may be declared as `\mathord` or `\mathop` subformulas.

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$\LaTeX$  users will no doubt be familiar with the control sequences that produce special functions and operators such as `\sin`, `\cos`, or `\sup`. However, the  $\LaTeX$  kernel defines only about 30 such commands, and many less common but still widely used special functions remain undefined as a result. The `math-operator` package addresses this situation by defining control sequences for some hundred and fifty special functions and operators, divided into nine groups, and the package also provides an interface to define even more. The first three pages of this user guide describe how to use the package, and the remainder of the document lists the control sequences in each group. For documentation of the package code, please see `math-operator_code.pdf`, which is included with the `math-operator` installation and is available on CTAN. I encourage users who are interested in this package to also consult the `amsopn` and `moremath` packages as they may be more useful for you.<sup>1</sup> Users who are looking specifically for operators in quantum mechanics should consult the `linop` and `phfqit` packages.<sup>2</sup>

Users can load `math-operator` with the standard `\usepackage` syntax, and for each operator group, the package defines either all or no control sequences from that group during loading. Each operator group corresponds to two optional package arguments—one argument means define the control sequences of that group, and the other argument means avoid doing so. Table 1 lists the nine operator groups and their corresponding arguments. For every group, the package argument to define control sequences is a shortened version of the group name, and the package argument to avoid doing so is the same keyword prefaced by `no-`. By default, `math-operator` defines all control sequences that appear later in this document.

Users who want to create their own operators or redefine the commands in this package should use one of the four control sequences in Table 2. The entries in Table 2 should appear only in the document preamble, and their syntax is identical and looks like

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<sup>1</sup> $\LaTeX$ 3 Project and American Mathematical Society, “amsopn—Typeset mathematical operator names,” <https://ctan.org/pkg/amsopn>; Marcel Ilg, “moremath—Additional commands for typesetting maths,” <https://ctan.org/pkg/moremath>.

<sup>2</sup>Johannes Weytjens, “linop—Typeset linear operators as they appear in quantum theory or linear algebra,” <https://ctan.org/pkg/linop>; Philippe Faist, “phfqit—Macros for typesetting Quantum Information Theory,” <https://ctan.org/pkg/phfqit>.

**Table 1: Optional Arguments for `math-operator`**

| Group                             | To define commands (default) | To avoid defining commands   |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Blackboard bold                   | <code>blackboard</code>      | <code>no-blackboard</code>   |
| Category theory                   | <code>category</code>        | <code>no-category</code>     |
| Jacobi elliptic functions         | <code>jacobi</code>          | <code>no-jacobi</code>       |
| Linear algebra                    | <code>linear</code>          | <code>no-linear</code>       |
| The command <code>\overbar</code> | <code>overbar</code>         | <code>no-overbar</code>      |
| Probability distributions         | <code>probability</code>     | <code>no-probability</code>  |
| Special functions                 | <code>special</code>         | <code>no-special</code>      |
| Standard math operators           | <code>standard</code>        | <code>no-standard</code>     |
| Trigonometric functions           | <code>trigonometry</code>    | <code>no-trigonometry</code> |

`\DeclareMathOperator` $\langle optional * \rangle$  $\{\langle control sequence \rangle\}$  $\{\langle operator text \rangle\}$

When you use one of these macros, `math-operator` defines the  $\langle control sequence \rangle$  to produce  $\langle operator text \rangle$  in math mode. The optional asterisk controls the placement of superscripts and subscripts. Without an asterisk (the default version of the command), any superscripts and subscripts will render normally, but with an asterisk, they will appear above and below the operator. For example, to make a control sequence `\erf` for the error function, the `sty` file for `math-operator` contains

```
\DeclareMathOperator{\erf}{erf}
```

The syntax and implementation of these macros is very similar to the `amsopn` package.

The entries of Table 2 differ in the appearance of the resulting operator. The commands in the first column produce operators with medium text, and the commands in the second column produce operators with bold text. The difference between the rows is more subtle and boils down to the automatic spacing before and after the operator.<sup>3</sup> The macros from the first row instruct  $\TeX$  to treat the operator like an ordinary variable, so they are most appropriate for sets and categories. The macros from the second row instruct  $\TeX$  to horizontally position the operator like a summation or integral sign, and they are appropriate for functions and probability distributions. But if you are not overly fastidious, for most uses of this package other than category theory, you will probably be fine to just use `\DeclareMathOperator`.

The macros in Table 2 will happily redefine any operator commands, but they will not overwrite other control sequences unless you specifically tell them to do so. The count variable `\operatoratordefmode` controls the package behavior in this regard as follows:

- Negative: redefine the control sequence
- 0: silently ignore (message written in the `log` file)
- 1: issue a warning and do not redefine
- 2 or greater: raise an error

By default, `math-operator` sets `\operatoratordefmode` to 1, so you will see a warning on the terminal or console if you try to convert a control sequence that is already defined into a

<sup>3</sup> $\TeX$ 's eight classes of math subformulas are beyond the scope of this user guide, but in summary, the horizontal position of different characters in an equation depends on their math classes. See Donald Knuth, *The T<sub>E</sub>Xbook* (Addison Wesley, 1986), 170; David Salomon, *The Advanced T<sub>E</sub>Xbook* (Springer, 1995), 256–258.

**Table 2: Commands to Define New Operators**

|                                  | Medium weight                     | Bold weight                           |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Treated as <code>\mathord</code> | <code>\DeclareMathText</code>     | <code>\DeclareBoldMathText</code>     |
| Treated as <code>\mathop</code>  | <code>\DeclareMathOperator</code> | <code>\DeclareBoldMathOperator</code> |

math operator. However, if you really want to redefine a control sequence to be a math operator, you can say

```
\operatordefmode=-1
```

before calling a command from Table 2.

One operator group warrants additional explanation. The package argument `overbar` corresponds to the single control sequence `\overbar`, which adds a horizontal line above a math subformula. The line will be wider than `\bar` but narrower than `\overline`, and the syntax is

```
\overbar<optional *>[<optional decimal>]{<math>}
```

The *<decimal>* should be between 0 and 1, and it controls the width of the overline. Specifically, `\overbar` typesets *<math>*, creates a horizontal line that is *<decimal>* times the width of the math subformula, and places the line above the typeset subformula. By default, *<decimal>* is 0.8. With an asterisk, `\overbar` positions the overline halfway over the subformula. For example, the code

```
\overbar*[0.9]{xyz}
```

will put an overline above *xyz* that is 90% the length of *xyz* and position it exactly halfway between the start of the *x* and the end of the *z*.

When `\overbar` does not have an asterisk (the default version of the command), the count variable `\operatorbaroffset` controls the horizontal placement of the line. As is standard in T<sub>E</sub>X, this variable should take values between 0 and 1000, and `math-operator` divides `\operatorbaroffset` by 1000 to form a fraction. It then places the overline that fraction of the way across the top of the subformula. The default value is 800. For example, saying

```
\operatorbaroffset=0
```

will make all following `\overbar` lines appear completely on the left side of the subformula, and an asterisk is equivalent to setting `\operatorbaroffset` to 500.

Finally, the package defines two other user-level commands. Because it may redefine `\P`, `math-operator` always defines `\pilcrow` to typeset the ¶ symbol in text and math modes. The macro `\operatorhyphen` will typeset a hyphen when used in the definition of an operator control sequence or in a local font-change command for math such as `\mathrm` or `\mathbf`. Using `\operatorhyphen` in any other situation will result in an error.

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## Blackboard Bold

Note: to use the blackboard-bold commands listed here, you must load a package that defines `\mathbb` such as `amssymb` or `mathfont`, and that command should provide access to

blackboard-bold characters. If you do not do so before using these control sequences, you'll get an error.

|                 |          |  |
|-----------------|----------|--|
| <code>\N</code> | <b>N</b> | Natural numbers                          |
| <code>\Z</code> | <b>Z</b> | Integers                                 |
| <code>\Q</code> | <b>Q</b> | Rational numbers                         |
| <code>\R</code> | <b>R</b> | Real numbers                             |
| <code>\C</code> | <b>C</b> | Complex numbers                          |
| <code>\H</code> | <b>H</b> | Quaternions (or half-plane) <sup>4</sup> |
| <code>\O</code> | <b>O</b> | Octonions <sup>5</sup>                   |
| <code>\P</code> | <b>P</b> | Probability                              |
| <code>\E</code> | <b>E</b> | Expectation                              |

## Categories

I am not a category theorist, and serious category theorists who use this package will undoubtedly want to define more categories in their own documents using `\DeclareBoldMathText`. If I missed any common categories that should be on this list, I am very open to expanding it.

|                       |                |  |
|-----------------------|----------------|--|
| <code>\Ab</code>      | <b>Ab</b>      | Category of abelian groups                   |
| <code>\Alg</code>     | <b>Alg</b>     | Category of algebras                         |
| <code>\Cat</code>     | <b>Cat</b>     | Category of small categories                 |
| <code>\CRing</code>   | <b>CRing</b>   | Category of commutative rings                |
| <code>\Field</code>   | <b>Field</b>   | Category of fields                           |
| <code>\FinGrp</code>  | <b>FinGrp</b>  | Category of finite groups                    |
| <code>\FinVect</code> | <b>FinVect</b> | Category of finite-dimensional vector spaces |
| <code>\Grp</code>     | <b>Grp</b>     | Category of groups                           |
| <code>\Haus</code>    | <b>Haus</b>    | Category of Hausdorff spaces                 |
| <code>\Man</code>     | <b>Man</b>     | Category of manifolds                        |
| <code>\Met</code>     | <b>Met</b>     | Category of metric spaces                    |
| <code>\Mod</code>     | <b>Mod</b>     | Category of modules                          |
| <code>\Mon</code>     | <b>Mon</b>     | Category of monoids                          |
| <code>\Ord</code>     | <b>Ord</b>     | Category of preordered sets                  |
| <code>\Ring</code>    | <b>Ring</b>    | Category of rings                            |
| <code>\Set</code>     | <b>Set</b>     | Category of sets                             |
| <code>\Top</code>     | <b>Top</b>     | Category of topological spaces               |
| <code>\Vect</code>    | <b>Vect</b>    | Category of vector spaces                    |
| <code>\cocone</code>  | cocone         | Cocone                                       |
| <code>\colim</code>   | colim          | Colimit                                      |
| <code>\cone</code>    | cone           | Cone   |

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<sup>4</sup>In math mode only. Outside of equations, `\H` will still behave normally. If you want to change the `\H` operator somehow, you should redefine `\mathH`, not `\H`.

<sup>5</sup>In math mode only. Outside of equations, `\O` will still behave normally. If you want to change the `\O` operator somehow, you should redefine `\mathO`, not `\O`.

|                  |                 |                   |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| <code>\op</code> | <code>op</code> | Opposite category |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|

## Jacobi Elliptic Functions

Pretty straightforward. If you load `math-operator` with `jacobi`, you won't be able to use `\sc` to change to a small-caps font. (But you shouldn't use `\sc` anyway because it's deprecated.)

|                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| <code>\cd</code> | <code>cd</code> |
| <code>\cn</code> | <code>cn</code> |
| <code>\cs</code> | <code>cs</code> |
| <code>\dc</code> | <code>dc</code> |
| <code>\dn</code> | <code>dn</code> |
| <code>\ds</code> | <code>ds</code> |
| <code>\nc</code> | <code>nc</code> |
| <code>\nd</code> | <code>nd</code> |
| <code>\ns</code> | <code>ns</code> |
| <code>\sc</code> | <code>sc</code> |
| <code>\sd</code> | <code>sd</code> |
| <code>\sn</code> | <code>sn</code> |

## Linear Algebra

Some matrix groups and operations.

|                          |                      |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| <code>\adj</code>        | <code>adj</code>     | Adjugate matrix            |
| <code>\coker</code>      | <code>coker</code>   | Cokernel                   |
| <code>\GL</code>         | <code>GL</code>      | General linear group       |
| <code>\nullity</code>    | <code>nullity</code> | Nullity                    |
| <code>\Orthogonal</code> | <code>O</code>       | Orthogonal group           |
| <code>\proj</code>       | <code>proj</code>    | Projection (onto a vector) |
| <code>\rank</code>       | <code>rank</code>    | Rank                       |
| <code>\SL</code>         | <code>SL</code>      | Special linear group       |
| <code>\SO</code>         | <code>SO</code>      | Special orthogonal group   |
| <code>\SU</code>         | <code>SU</code>      | Special unitary group      |
| <code>\Sp</code>         | <code>Sp</code>      | Symplectic group           |
| <code>\spanop</code>     | <code>span</code>    | Span                       |
| <code>\tr</code>         | <code>tr</code>      | Trace                      |
| <code>\T</code>          | <code>T</code>       | Transpose                  |
| <code>\Unitary</code>    | <code>U</code>       | Unitary group              |

## Overlining

Loading `math-operator` with the `overbar` option tells the package to define `\overbar`. Below are two examples of this macro with `\bar` and `\overline` for comparison.

|                          |           |                          |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------|
| <code>\bar a</code>      | $\bar{a}$ | <code>\bar X</code>      | $\bar{X}$ |
| <code>\overbar a</code>  | $\bar{a}$ | <code>\overbar X</code>  | $\bar{X}$ |
| <code>\overline a</code> | $\bar{a}$ | <code>\overline X</code> | $\bar{X}$ |

## Probability Distributions

A selection of the most common probability distributions. For the normal distribution, if you type `\Normal` without the asterisk, you will see  $\mathcal{N}$ , and if you include the asterisk after `\Normal`, then `math-operator` will write out “Normal.”

|  |                         |                     |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------|
| <code>\Bernoulli</code>  | Bernoulli               |                     |
| <code>\Betaop</code>   | Beta                    |                     |
| <code>\Binomial</code>   | Binomial                |                     |
| <code>\Boltzmann</code>  | Boltzmann               |                     |
| <code>\Burr</code>   | Burr                    |                     |
| <code>\Categorical</code>  | Categorical             |                     |
| <code>\Cauchy</code>   | Cauchy                  |                     |
| <code>\ChiSq</code>  | $\chi^2$                | Chi-squared         |
| <code>\Dagum</code>  | Dagum                   |                     |
| <code>\Exponential</code>  | Exponential             |                     |
| <code>\Erlang</code>   | Erlang                  |                     |
| <code>\Gammaop</code>  | Gamma                   |                     |
| <code>\Gompertz</code>   | Gompertz                |                     |
| <code>\InvChiSq</code>   | Inv- $\chi^2$           | Inverse chi-squared |
| <code>\InvGamma</code>   | Inv-Gamma               | Inverse gamma       |
| <code>\Kolmogorov</code>   | Kolmogorov              |                     |
| <code>\LogLogistic</code>  | Log-Logistic            |                     |
| <code>\LogNormal</code>  | Log-Normal              |                     |
| <code>\Logistic</code>   | Logistic                |                     |
| <code>\Lomax</code>  | Lomax                   |                     |
| <code>\MaxwellBoltzmann</code>   | Maxwell-Boltzmann       |                     |
| <code>\Multinomial</code>  | Multinomial             |                     |
| <code>\NegBinomial</code>  | Neg-Binomial            | Negative binomial   |
| <code>\Normal<math>\langle</math>optional <math>\ast</math><math>\rangle</math></code> | $\mathcal{N}$ or Normal |                     |
| <code>\Pareto</code>   | Pareto                  |                     |
| <code>\Poisson</code>  | Poisson                 |                     |
| <code>\Weibull</code>  | Weibull                 |                     |
| <code>\Zipf</code>   | Zipf                    |                     |

## Special Functions

Common special functions from applied math.

|                  |    |                                  |
|------------------|----|----------------------------------|
| <code>\Ai</code> | Ai | Airy function of the first kind  |
| <code>\Bi</code> | Bi | Airy function of the second kind |

|                       |                    |                                      |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <code>\Ci</code>      | $\text{Ci}$        | Cosine integral function             |
| <code>\ci</code>      | $\text{ci}$        | Cosine integral function (variant)   |
| <code>\Chi</code>     | $\text{Chi}$       | Hyperbolic cosine integral function  |
| <code>\Ei</code>      | $\text{Ei}$        | Exponential integral function        |
| <code>\erf</code>     | $\text{erf}$       | Error function                       |
| <code>\erfinv</code>  | $\text{erf}^{-1}$  | Inverse error function               |
| <code>\erfc</code>    | $\text{erfc}$      | Complementary error function         |
| <code>\erfcinv</code> | $\text{erfc}^{-1}$ | Inverse complementary error function |
| <code>\Li</code>      | $\text{Li}$        | Polylogarithm function               |
| <code>\li</code>      | $\text{li}$        | Logarithmic integral function        |
| <code>\Log</code>     | $\text{Log}$       | Logarithm (principal value)          |
| <code>\sgn</code>     | $\text{sgn}$       | Sign function                        |
| <code>\Si</code>      | $\text{Si}$        | Sine integral function               |
| <code>\si</code>      | $\text{si}$        | Sine integral function (variant)     |
| <code>\Shi</code>     | $\text{Shi}$       | Hyperbolic sine integral function    |

## Standard Operators

Common mathematical operations. More pure mathy than the special functions.

|                        |                  |                             |
|------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| <code>\argmax</code>   | $\text{arg max}$ | Arguments of the maxima     |
| <code>\argmin</code>   | $\text{arg min}$ | Arguments of the minima     |
| <code>\Aut</code>      | $\text{Aut}$     | Automorphism group          |
| <code>\c</code>        | $\text{c}$       | Complement <sup>6</sup>     |
| <code>\cf</code>       | $\text{cf}$      | Cofinality                  |
| <code>\cl</code>       | $\text{cl}$      | Closure                     |
| <code>\conv</code>     | $\text{conv}$    | Convex hull                 |
| <code>\corr</code>     | $\text{corr}$    | Correlation                 |
| <code>\cov</code>      | $\text{cov}$     | Covariance                  |
| <code>\curl</code>     | $\text{curl}$    | Curl                        |
| <code>\divop</code>    | $\text{div}$     | Divergence                  |
| <code>\grad</code>     | $\text{grad}$    | Gradient                    |
| <code>\Hom</code>      | $\text{Hom}$     | Collection of morphisms     |
| <code>\id</code>       | $\text{id}$      | Identity                    |
| <code>\Im</code>       | $\text{Im}$      | Imaginary part              |
| <code>\varIm</code>    | $\Im$            | Imaginary part <sup>7</sup> |
| <code>\img</code>      | $\text{img}$     | Image                       |
| <code>\interior</code> | $\text{int}$     | Interior                    |
| <code>\lcm</code>      | $\text{lcm}$     | Least common multiple       |
| <code>\Proj</code>     | $\text{Proj}$    | Projective spectrum         |
| <code>\Re</code>       | $\text{Re}$      | Real part                   |

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<sup>6</sup>In math mode only. Outside of equations, `\c` will still behave normally. If you want to change the `\c` operator somehow, you should redefine `\mathc`, not `\c`.

<sup>7</sup>In the L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X kernel, `\Im` produces  $\Im$ , but I decided to change that since `\Im` is more standard than  $\Im$ .

|                     |       |                        |
|---------------------|-------|------------------------|
| <code>\varRe</code> | $\Re$ | Real part <sup>8</sup> |
| <code>\Res</code>   | Res   | Residue                |
| <code>\Spec</code>  | Spec  | Spectrum               |
| <code>\supp</code>  | supp  | Support                |
| <code>\Var</code>   | Var   | Variance               |

## Trigonometry

All inverse, hyperbolic, and inverse hyperbolic trigonometric functions that are not in the  $\LaTeX$  kernel.

|                       |              |                              |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| <code>\csch</code>    | csch         | Hyperbolic cosecant          |
| <code>\sech</code>    | sech         | Hyperbolic secant            |
| <code>\arccsc</code>  | arccsc       | Inverse cosecant             |
| <code>\arcsec</code>  | arcsec       | Inverse secant               |
| <code>\arccot</code>  | arccot       | Inverse cotangent            |
| <code>\arcsinh</code> | arcsinh      | Inverse hyperbolic sine      |
| <code>\arccosh</code> | arccosh      | Inverse hyperbolic cosine    |
| <code>\arctanh</code> | arctanh      | Inverse hyperbolic tangent   |
| <code>\arccsch</code> | arccsch      | Inverse hyperbolic cosecant  |
| <code>\arcsech</code> | arcsech      | Inverse hyperbolic secant    |
| <code>\arcoth</code>  | arcoth       | Inverse hyperbolic tangent   |
| <code>\arsinh</code>  | arsinh       | Inverse hyperbolic sine      |
| <code>\arcosh</code>  | arcosh       | Inverse hyperbolic cosine    |
| <code>\artanh</code>  | artanh       | Inverse hyperbolic tangent   |
| <code>\arcsch</code>  | arcsch       | Inverse hyperbolic cosecant  |
| <code>\arsech</code>  | arsech       | Inverse hyperbolic secant    |
| <code>\arcoth</code>  | arcoth       | Inverse hyperbolic cotangent |
| <code>\sininv</code>  | $\sin^{-1}$  | Inverse sine                 |
| <code>\cosinv</code>  | $\cos^{-1}$  | Inverse cosine               |
| <code>\taninv</code>  | $\tan^{-1}$  | Inverse tangent              |
| <code>\cscinv</code>  | $\csc^{-1}$  | Inverse cosecant             |
| <code>\secinv</code>  | $\sec^{-1}$  | Inverse secant               |
| <code>\cotinv</code>  | $\cot^{-1}$  | Inverse cotangent            |
| <code>\sinhinv</code> | $\sinh^{-1}$ | Inverse hyperbolic sine      |
| <code>\coshinv</code> | $\cosh^{-1}$ | Inverse hyperbolic cosine    |
| <code>\tanhinv</code> | $\tanh^{-1}$ | Inverse hyperbolic tangent   |
| <code>\schinv</code>  | $\csch^{-1}$ | Inverse hyperbolic cosecant  |
| <code>\sechinv</code> | $\sech^{-1}$ | Inverse hyperbolic secant    |
| <code>\cothinv</code> | $\coth^{-1}$ | Inverse hyperbolic cotangent |

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<sup>8</sup>In the  $\LaTeX$  kernel, `\Re` produces  $\Re$ , but I decided to change that since `Re` is more standard than  $\Re$ .