

# The `fixfoot` package\*

Robin Fairbairns

February 19, 2010

## 1 What is it for?

When editing an edition of my father’s letters, after his death, I found I was making the same comment, in footnotes, rather a lot. (For example, he had a way of mis-spelling, or jumbling words for comic effect; to point out that these *weren’t* transcription errors, I marked them all with a footnoted “*Sic*”.)

Since these footnotes made tedious reading at the best of times, and since sometimes those “sic” footnotes appeared several times on one page, I conceived the idea of this package: it ensures that a particular (pre-declared) footnote will only appear once on any page.

## 2 Using the thing

The package defines only one command, `\DeclareFixedFootnote`; this declares a footnote to be repeated. Apart from an optional `*`, it takes two arguments: the command you’ll use to call up the footnote, and the text of each footnote generated. If the optional `*` is present, the command you’ve created will end with `\xspace`, so as to save you from the onerous business of escaping the space after the footnote invocation.

A couple of examples:

```
\DeclareFixedFootnote*{\sic}{\emph{sic}}
\DeclareFixedFootnote{\prooflater}{This theorem will be
                                proved later}
```

## 3 How does it do it?

The package works by exchanging information with itself, through the medium of the `.aux` file (like labels, and per-page footnotes in the `footmisc` package). I never got around to making it tell you to re-run the document when you need to (as labels and those per-page footnotes do).

---

\*This is version 0.3a, of 2007-12-12