

**NAME**

`orderrefs` – order the references in a LaTeX document in order of citation

**SYNOPSIS**

`orderrefs [options] [file]`

**DESCRIPTION**

*Orderrefs* rearranges the bibitems in a LaTeX file in the order in which they are cited.

It determines the order of citations from the aux file, so as to be immune from the many possibilities of the `\cite` commands being redefined by macro packages. Therefore you should run *latex* on the LaTeX file before running *orderrefs*, in order to ensure that the aux file exists and is up-to-date. Uncited bibitems and bibitems with an explicit label are kept in the order they are in the original file, after the list of ordered bibitems.

If the bibitems are correctly ordered, no change is made to the files. If they need to be reordered, the original LaTeX file is replaced by a file with the reordered bibitems, and a backup copy is made of the original LaTeX file, in a file with the same name as the LaTeX file, but with `.bak` added.

The bibitems are identified as being in a LaTeX environment with a name that, by default, is "thebibliography". In the LaTeX file, it is assumed that the `\begin{thebibliography}`, the `\end{thebibliography}`, and the `\bibitem` commands all start a line preceeded at most by white space.

**ORDERREFS OPTIONS AND ARGUMENTS**

**file** At most one file can be specified. If no files are specified, *orderrefs* will print a brief help message.

If a file is specified without an extension, then the ".tex" extension is automatically added, just as LaTeX does. (e.g. If you specify:

```
orderrefs foo
```

then *orderrefs* will operate on the file "foo.tex".

**-b name**

synonym for `--bibname=name`

**--bibname=name**

specifies name of LaTeX environment containing the bibliography. (Default: "thebibliography".)

**-a file** synonym for `--auxfile=file`

**--auxfile=file**

specifies name of .aux file. (Default is constructed from name of LaTeX file with extension .aux.)

**-h, --help**

Print help information.

**-v, --version**

Show version information

**EXAMPLES**

To reorder the citations in the file **thesis.tex** first run *latex* on it:

```
latex thesis
```

then *orderrefs*:

```
orderrefs thesis
```

If the bibliography is in a file **refs.tex** which is input from the main file **thesis.tex** then you should do

**latex thesis**  
**orderrefs --auxfile=thesis.aux refs**

**AVAILABILITY**

See the home page at

<http://www.phys.psu.edu/~collins/software/orderrefs/>

**SEE ALSO**

latex(1).

**BUGS**

None known.

**IDENTIFICATION**

Current version by John Collins (collins at phys.psu.edu). (Version 1.00).