

Using `natbib` with `AASTEX`

`AASTEX` uses Patrick Daly’s `natbib` package to manage citations. The `natbib` package re-implements `LaTeX`’s `\cite` command, and offers greater flexibility for managing citations in the author-year form. `natbib` is required with the `AASTEX` package but fortunately `natbib` is included in most modern distributions. Authors are encouraged to read the `natbib` documentation for complete details on the package’s capabilities. All examples in this document are adapted from the `natbib` documentation.

Authors must use the `LaTeX`’s `thebibliography` environment to use the `natbib` extensions. Here is a bibliography with two entries marked up in the `natbib` style:

```
\begin{thebibliography}{}
\bibitem[James et al.(1991)]{jam91} James, H. ...
\bibitem[Jones et al.(1990)Jones, Baker, and Williams]{jon90} Jones, J. ...
\end{thebibliography}
```

The square-bracketed argument contains the “author” portion of the citation followed by the year in parentheses. The parentheses are important, so do not leave them out. Note that in the second `\bibitem`, the square-bracketed argument includes two author lists, a short version before the year and a long version after. Authors should use this form of the markup if they wish to use the * forms of the `\cite` commands. (See the examples below.)

The text in the curly-brace argument of the `\bibitem` is the citation key and should be used as the argument in the corresponding cite commands in the text. The two basic text citation commands are `\citet` and `\citep`. (`\citet` corresponds to the plain `LaTeX` `\cite` command.) Use the two optional arguments to append text before or after the citationtext in the first set of square brackets will appear before the cite, text in the second set will appear after it. Use the asterisk (*) form of the cite commands to print the long version of the author lists for references that have been marked up in the manner of the “jon90” example.

Here are some `\citet` and `\citep` examples taken from the `natbib` package documentation¹.

Command	Output
<code>\citet{jon90}</code>	Jones et al. (1990)
<code>\citet[chap.~2]{jon90}</code>	Jones et al. (1990, chap. 2)
<code>\citep{jon90}</code>	(Jones et al., 1990)
<code>\citep[chap.~2]{jon90}</code>	(Jones et al., 1990, chap. 2)
<code>\citep[see][]{jon90}</code>	(see Jones et al., 1990)
<code>\citep[see][chap.~2]{jon90}</code>	(see Jones et al., 1990, chap. 2)
<code>\citet*{jon90}</code>	Jones, Baker, and Williams (1990)
<code>\citep*{jon90}</code>	(Jones, Baker, and Williams, 1990)
<code>\citet{jon90,jam91}</code>	Jones et al. (1990); James et al. (1991)
<code>\citep{jon90,jam91}</code>	(Jones et al., 1990; James et al. 1991)
<code>\citep{jon90,jon91}</code>	(Jones et al., 1990, 1991)
<code>\citep{jon90a,jon90b}</code>	(Jones et al., 1990a,b)

Alternatively, use `\citealt` and `\citealp` to produce a cite without parentheses:

Command	Output
<code>\citealt{jon90}</code>	Jones et al. 1990
<code>\citealt*{jon90}</code>	Jones et al., 1990
<code>\citealp*{jon90}</code>	Jones, Baker, and Williams, 1990
<code>\citealp{jon90,jam91}</code>	Jones et al., 1990; James et al., 1991
<code>\citealp[pg.~32]{jon90}</code>	Jones et al., 1990, pg. 32

¹ <http://www.ctan.org/pkg/natbib>

Finally, the `\citeauthor` and `\citeyear` commands can be used to print only the author or year portion of the citation:

Command	Output
<code>\citeauthor{jon90}</code>	Jones et al.
<code>\citeauthor*{jon90}</code>	Jones, Baker, and Williams
<code>\citeyear{jon90}</code>	1990
<code>\citeyearpar{jon90}</code>	(1990)