1 Usage

1.1 Loading the package

To load the package type
\usepackage{subtext}
into your preamble.

1.2 Using the package

In math mode use the _ character as usual to get the usual result.
\begin{equation}
\label{eq:1}
a_{\text{long text}}
\end{equation}
yielding

\[a_{\text{long text}}\] \tag{1}

Replace curly braces with square brackets to get the subscript typeset using amstext’s \text command.
\begin{equation}
\label{eq:2}
a_{[\text{long text}]}
\end{equation}
yielding

(2)

That’s all!

1.3 Package options

Due to the behaviour of the amstext \text command, the typeface of the text within the brackets is the same as the surrounding text. This may not always be desirable – I myself often find it somewhat annoying. Thus there are two package options:

upright Makes the text within the brackets be in upright shape. The font family (sans serif, serif or others) and the series (e.g. boldface) is the same as the surrounding text. This is the authors favourite.

normal Makes the text within the brackets be in the documents $\textnormal{font style}$.

2 License

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3 Source of subtext.sty

\ProvidesPackage{subtext}[2019/05/30 v. 1.1 LaTeX package for easy
text–style subscripts in math mode.]

\RequirePackage{amstext}
\def\subtext@font{}
\DeclareOption{upright}{\def\subtext@font{\upshape}}
\DeclareOption{normal}{\def\subtext@font{\normalfont}}
\ProcessOptions*

\let\saved@sub_
\catcode`_active
\def\new@sub@text[#1]{\saved@sub{\text{\subtext@font #1}}}
\def\new@sub@other#1{\saved@sub{#1}}
\def\new@sub{\@ifnextchar[\new@sub@text\new@sub@other}

\protected\def_\new@sub

\endinput