Typesetting Figures under LATEX

Author

Andrew Lincoln Burrow albcorp@gmail.com

Abstract

The AlbFloatTools package provides a single alb-float-tools IATEX package to provide greater control over the layout of material in floats. It is tailored to the typesetting of mathematical figures. While the standard figure environment already supplies basic support, the package allows figure floats to extend into the document margins, and provides a mechanism to layout subfigures. The package is supported by an emacs lisp file customising AUCTEX and RefTEX which automates the markup process of figure floats, graphic inclusions, and psfrag rewriting, and also constructs labels in the file namespace. These extensions to AUCTEX override the builtin support for the graphicx and psfrag packages.

Copyright

Copyright © 2001–2006, 2013 Andrew Lincoln Burrow.

This program may be distributed and/or modified under the conditions of the LATEX Project Public License, either version 1.3 of this license or (at your option) any later version.

The latest version of this license is in

```
http://www.latex-project.org/lppl.txt
```

and version 1.3 or later is part of all distributions of LaTeX version 2005/12/01 or later.

This work has the LPPL maintenance status 'author-maintained'.

This work consists of the files

```
alb-algorithms.sty, alb-avm.sty, alb-latex.cls, alb-float-tools.sty, alb-graph-theory.sty, alb-journal.cls, alb-order-theory.sty, alb-proofs.sty, alb-theorems.sty, alb-thesis.cls, alb-algorithms.tex, alb-avm.tex, alb-latex.tex, alb-float-tools.tex, alb-graph-theory.tex, alb-journal.tex, alb-order-theory.tex, alb-proofs.tex, alb-theorems.tex, alb-thesis.tex. alb-journal-glossary.ist, alb-journal-index.ist, alb-thesis-glossary.ist, and alb-thesis-index.ist.
```

Version Information

Revision Date

1 Introduction

The alb-float-tools IATEX package is designed to extend the standard figures and the support provided by AUCTEX for both figures and graphics. The new IATEX features allow figures to utilise the horizontal margin par allocations, and group subfigures. The AUCTEX extensions prompting for these new features, and override graphicx.el and psfrag.el to improve the prompting for graphics inclusion and label rewriting.

2 Using the Commands and Environments

The environments of alb-float-tools place certain syntactic restrictions on their use. This section concerns these restrictions and the typographic meaning of the markup. Section 3 describes how the AUCTEX customisation eases the burden of entering syntactically correct LATEX code.

2.1 Wide Figures

The alb-float-tools LATEX package provides the albInflate environment for use within a float environment such as figure. The environment allows float material to extend into the margin. It is designed to work in any combination of oneside, twoside, and reverse margin options, and also tests for case where the figure occurs within a column.

\begin{albInflate}{label} Inflate the column to include the marginpar allocation, where the marginpar location is calculated from the page reference of label. This environment should only be used inside a float with a label, and the label of the float and the environment must match!

For example,

```
\begin{figure}
  \begin{albInflate}{fig:example-wide-figure}
    \centering
    \includegraphics[scale=1.44]{poset-mapto-lattice.pdf}
  \end{albInflate}
  \caption[Example wide figure]{%
    An example of a wide figure.}
  \label{fig:example-wide-figure}
\end{figure}
```

produces Figure 1.

The definition is easy in oneside mode, but requires cunning in twoside mode. We must guess the final position of the float to decide which text edge to cross. The solution is to look at the page number cross reference. If the float was set on an odd page last run, then format for an odd page in this run. LaTeX will still converge because only vertical size affects page layout. Furthermore, it requires exactly the same number of LaTeX runs to converge, as the cross reference itself requires.

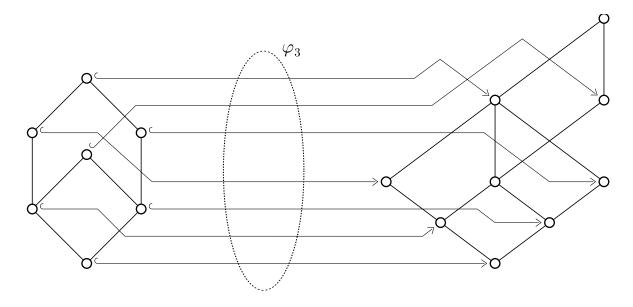


Figure 1: An example of a wide figure.

2.2 Collections of Subfigures

The alb-float-tools package provides the albShelve environment for use within a float environment such as figure. The environment collects and labels subfigures. The elements are distributed across the available width, and flow onto additional lines where required. An optional argument controls whether the elements are top-aligned or bottom-aligned.

\begin{albShelve}[align] Collect smaller figures within a larger figure. This is a list environment in which the \item[label] command marks-up subfigures with the optional tag label. However, the list does not use a counter so that it does not enumerate or support the \label command. The list displays the subfigures across the column with each line of subfigures evenly spread across the space. If align is t then the elements are top-aligned, and if align is b then the elements are bottom-aligned

For example,

```
\begin{figure}
  \begin{albShelve}[b]
  \item[(a)] \includegraphics{down-closure-source.pdf}
  \item[(b)] \includegraphics{down-closure-of-a.pdf}
  \item[(c)] \includegraphics{down-closure-of-b.pdf}
  \item[(d)] \includegraphics{down-closure-of-c.pdf}
  \end{albShelve}
  \caption[Example subfigure collection]{%
    An example of a subfigure collection.}
  \label{fig:example-subf-coll}
  \end{figure}

produces Figure 2.
```

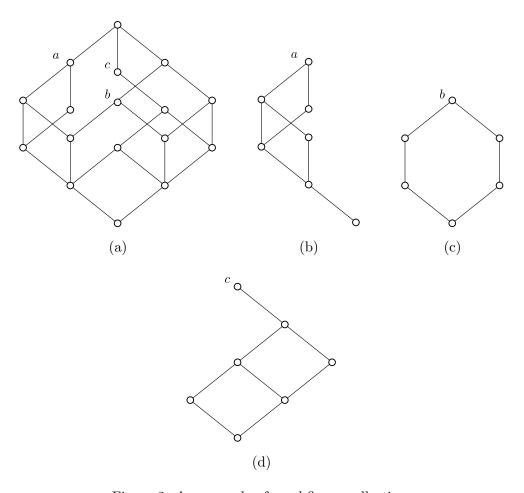


Figure 2: An example of a subfigure collection.

3 AUCT_FX Customisations

Under AUCTEX the file alb-float-tools.el is automatically loaded whenever the alb-float-tools package is used. The customisation adds support for the symbols and environments from alb-float-tools. In addition, the AUCTEX supplied customisations for graphicx and psfrag are overridden. This results in the following improved prompting.

figure Prompts and constructs the float environment. The prompts follow the following sequence.

(optional) Float to Complete to one of the LATEX locations h, t, b, or p.

(optional) Abbreviated caption: The abbreviated caption is used in the list of figures, and to generate a label for the figure. It is best to have a well planned one line description ready before inserting a figure.

Caption: If you provide an abbreviated caption, then this starts as the abbreviated caption. You can expand it now, or later because the label will be derived from the abbreviated caption.

Label: If you provide an abbreviated caption, then this is already generated for you. Otherwise, you will need to provide a label. It is required for the inflate option.

- albInflate Constructs the inflate environment inside a float environment, and searches within the enclosing environment for a label to use to compute the margin crossing.
- albShelve Constructs the shelve environment inside a float environment, and prompts for the alignment of the elements.
- includegraphics Constructs the includegraphics command, and prompts for options, and the local graphics files.
- psfrags Constructs the psfrags environment and a list of psfrag command tag replacements. While the user inputs non-empty tags, AUCTEX prompts for the components of a psfrag command.

4 Makefile Targets

The inclusion of graphic files affects document compilation, since graphic files must often be converted into an appropriate format. This in turn affects the choice of markup. The makefile from the AlbLaTeXDocumentTemplate package, attempts to automate the graphic file transformations for PDFLATEX compilation. In this case, the includegraphics command accepts PDF, JPEG, and PNG graphics. The makefile attempts to construct these formats from other source formats such as SVG. Therefore, each filename should include the extension to assist in the search for possible transformations.