

Package xltabular

—
v0.2i (2025/02/28)

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February 28, 2025

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1 Introduction

The package ltablex supports an environment tabularx with the possibility of pagebreaks and the same header/footer definitions as in the package longtable. But the old behaviour of the tabularx environment is no more possible.

The package xltabular defines an environment of the same name which behaves like a tabularx as a longtable. In short: it is a longtable with the column specifier X. But it leaves the tabularx environment with its original behaviour.

The syntax of the environment is similar to the one of tabularx:

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Examples

```
\begin{xltabular}[hPos]{width}{ 1 X ...}  
\caption{...\label{...}}\\  
tabular body  
\end{xltabular}
```

For the optional argument hPos (horizontal position) the values l, r and c (default) are possible. The environment xltabular uses longtable for typesetting the tabular. The original longtable increases the counter table in any case, with or without a caption. This is not the case with xltabular: no \caption, no counter change.

2 Examples

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2.1 The standard tabularx environment

```
\captionaboveof{table}{Using the original \texttt{tabularx} environment:  
a pagebreak not possible! This is the reason why the tabular moves  
to the next page.}  
\begin{tabularx}{0.75\linewidth}{@{} lX @{}}  
left column & \blindtext\\  
1 & \blindtext\\  
left column & \blindtext\\  
1 & \blindtext\\  
\end{tabularx}
```

Table 1: Using the original tabularx environment: a pagebreak not possible! This is the reason why the tabular moves to the next page.

left column	<p>Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like “Huardest gefburn”? Kjift – not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.</p>
1	<p>Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like “Huardest gefburn”? Kjift – not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.</p>
left column	<p>Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like “Huardest gefburn”? Kjift – not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.</p>
1	<p>Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like “Huardest gefburn”? Kjift – not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.</p>

2.2 The new environment `xltabular`

For the demonstration we use a tabular with only one X column. There is no difference to an example with more or other column specifiers. However, there should be at least one X column specifier; it makes no real sense otherwise.

```

\begin{xltabular}{\linewidth}{@{} X @{}}
\caption{the \texttt{xltabular} environment with \texttt{longtable}
        property}\[\belowcaptionskip]
\BB\
Now a manuel \cs{pagebreak} is used and on the
following page an automatic pagebreak is done by \texttt{longtable}.\
\pagebreak

\BBB
\end{xltabular}

```

Table 2: the `xltabular` environment with `longtable` property

Some nonsense text which fills at least one line of a tabular called nonsense tabular with text.
Some nonsense text which fills at least one line of a tabular called nonsense tabular with text.
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Now a manuel `\pagebreak` is used and on the following page an automatik pagebreak is done by `longtable`.

Some nonsense text which fills at least one line of a tabular called nonsense tabular with text.
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Some nonsense text which fills at least one line of a tabular called nonsense tabular with text.

The command \BBB does nothing else then printing a lot of lines with nonsense.

```
\begin{xltabular}[1]{0.75\linewidth}{@{} lX @{}}
\caption{The \texttt{xltabular} environment with \texttt{longtable} property
        and left aligned by setting the optional argument.}\[\belowcaptionskip]\hline
Left column & At first a line with some nonsense text to show how long this line is.
        The caption has the same width as the text.\\
left column & \blindtext\\
left column & \blindtext\\
left column & \blindtext\\
left column & \blindtext\\\hline
\end{xltabular}
```

Table 3: The xltabular environment with longtable property and left aligned by setting the optional argument.

Left column	At first a line with some nonsense text to show how long this line is. The caption has the same width as the text.
left column	Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like “Huardest gefburn”? Kjift – not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.

left column	Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like “Huardest gefburn”? Kjift - not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.
left column	Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like “Huardest gefburn”? Kjift - not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.
left column	Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like “Huardest gefburn”? Kjift - not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.

2.3 tabularx without a caption

Here comes another tabularx but without a caption. It should *not* increase the table counter. The following tabular in the last section should have the correct number!

.ext	Beschreibung
aux	(auxiliary) Hilfsdatei, enthält Querverweise usw.
bb1	(bibliography) Hilfsdatei, enthält die Einträge für die Literatur
bib	(bibtex) enthält die Literaturdaten
blg	(bibliography log) enthält die Ausgaben eines BibTeX-Laufs
cfg	(config) Konfigurationsdatei
clo	(class options) Definitionen für die Dokumentenklasse und die entsprechenden Klassen-Optionen

2.4 xltabular with the star version of caption

Here comes another xltabular with \caption*. It should *not* increase the table counter. The following tabular in the next section should have the correct number!

A caption as star version: no number no entry in the List of Tables

.ext	Beschreibung
aux	(auxiliary) Hilfsdatei, enthält Querverweise usw.
bbl	(bibliography) Hilfsdatei, enthält die Einträge für die Literatur
bib	(bibtex) enthält die Literaturdaten
blg	(bibliography log) enthält die Ausgaben eines BibTeX-Laufs
cfg	(config) Konfigurationsdatei
clo	(class options) Definitionen für die Dokumentenklasse und die entsprechenden Klassen-Optionen

2.5 xltabular with header/footer definitions

```

\begin{xltabular}{\linewidth}{@{} >{\ttfamily}l >{\RaggedRight}X @{}}
\caption{File endings (only for a demonstration \ldots)}\\hline
.ext & Beschreibung\\hline
\endfirsthead
\multicolumn{2}{@{}l}{\ldots\ \small Fortsetzung}\\hline
.ext & Beschreibung\\hline
\endhead
\hline
\multicolumn{2}{r@{}}{\small Fortsetzung\ldots}\\
\endfoot
\hline
\endlastfoot
aux & (auxiliary) Hilfsdatei, enthält Querverweise usw. \\
bbl & (bibliography) Hilfsdatei, enthält die Einträge für die Literatur\\
bib & (bibtex) enthält die Literaturdaten\\
blg & (bibliography log) enthält die Ausgaben eines BibTeX-Laufs\\
cfg & (config) Konfigurationsdatei\\
clo & (class options) Definitionen für die Dokumentenklasse und die entsprechenden
[...]
Klassen-Optionen\\
\end{xltabular}

```

Table 5: File endings (only for a demonstration ...)

.ext	Beschreibung
aux	(auxiliary) Hilfsdatei, enthält Querverweise usw.

Fortsetzung...

... Fortsetzung

.ext	Beschreibung
bb1	(bibliography) Hilfsdatei, enthält die Einträge für die Literatur
bib	(bibtex) enthält die Literaturdaten
blg	(bibliography log) enthält die Ausgaben eines BibTeX-Laufs
cfg	(config) Konfigurationsdatei
clo	(class options) Definitionen für die Dokumentenklasse und die entsprechenden Klassen-Optionen
aux	(auxiliary) Hilfsdatei, enthält Querverweise usw.
bb1	(bibliography) Hilfsdatei, enthält die Einträge für die Literatur
bib	(bibtex) enthält die Literaturdaten
blg	(bibliography log) enthält die Ausgaben eines BibTeX-Laufs
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bb1	(bibliography) Hilfsdatei, enthält die Einträge für die Literatur
bib	(bibtex) enthält die Literaturdaten
blg	(bibliography log) enthält die Ausgaben eines BibTeX-Laufs
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aux	(auxiliary) Hilfsdatei, enthält Querverweise usw.
bb1	(bibliography) Hilfsdatei, enthält die Einträge für die Literatur
bib	(bibtex) enthält die Literaturdaten
blg	(bibliography log) enthält die Ausgaben eines BibTeX-Laufs
cfg	(config) Konfigurationsdatei
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3 Pagebreaks

xltabular is based on longtable which itself has sometimes a problem with the pagebreak. It may be possible, that you'll get a break between a section header and the following longtable/xltabular. Here is an example with xltabular:

4 Title above the tabular

Table 6: File endings (only for a demonstration ...)

.ext	Beschreibung
aux	(auxiliary) Hilfsdatei, enthält Querverweise usw.
bb1	(bibliography) Hilfsdatei, enthält die Einträge für die Literatur
bib	(bibtex) enthält die Literaturdaten

Fortsetzung...

... Fortsetzung

.ext	Beschreibung
blg	(bibliography log) enthält die Ausgaben eines Bib \TeX -Laufs
cfg	(config) Konfigurationsdatei
clo	(class options) Definitionen für die Dokumentenklasse und die entsprechenden Klassen-Optionen
aux	(auxiliary) Hilfsdatei, enthält Querverweise usw.
bb1	(bibliography) Hilfsdatei, enthält die Einträge für die Literatur
bib	(bibtex) enthält die Literaturdaten
blg	(bibliography log) enthält die Ausgaben eines Bib \TeX -Laufs
cfg	(config) Konfigurationsdatei
clo	(class options) Definitionen für die Dokumentenklasse und die entsprechenden Klassen-Optionen
aux	(auxiliary) Hilfsdatei, enthält Querverweise usw.
bb1	(bibliography) Hilfsdatei, enthält die Einträge für die Literatur
bib	(bibtex) enthält die Literaturdaten
blg	(bibliography log) enthält die Ausgaben eines Bib \TeX -Laufs
clo	(class options) Definitionen für die Dokumentenklasse und die entsprechenden Klassen-Optionen
blg	(bibliography log) enthält die Ausgaben eines Bib \TeX -Laufs
cfg	(config) Konfigurationsdatei
clo	(class options) Definitionen für die Dokumentenklasse und die entsprechenden Klassen-Optionen

Package `xltabular` defines two macros which can be used to modify the behaviour of `longtable`/`xltabular` for pagebreaks.

```
\newcommand*\normalLTpagebreak{...}
\newcommand*\specialLTpagebreak{...}
```

With `\specialLTpagebreak` one can get another behaviour which prevents such unwanted pagebreak. With `\normalLTpagebreak` you can set it back to the default behaviour. Here comes an example with the special behaviour by using `\specialLTpagebreak`:

5 Title above the tabular

Table 7: File endings (only for a demonstration ...)

.ext	Beschreibung
aux	(auxiliary) Hilfsdatei, enthält Querverweise usw.
bb1	(bibliography) Hilfsdatei, enthält die Einträge für die Literatur
bib	(bibtex) enthält die Literaturdaten
blg	(bibliography log) enthält die Ausgaben eines Bib \TeX -Laufs
cfg	(config) Konfigurationsdatei

Fortsetzung...

... Fortsetzung

<code>.ext</code>	Beschreibung
<code>clo</code>	(class options) Definitionen für die Dokumentenklasse und die entsprechenden Klassen-Optionen
<code>aux</code>	(auxiliary) Hilfsdatei, enthält Querverweise usw.
<code>bb1</code>	(bibliography) Hilfsdatei, enthält die Einträge für die Literatur
<code>bib</code>	(bibtex) enthält die Literaturdaten
<code>blg</code>	(bibliography log) enthält die Ausgaben eines BibTeX-Laufs
<code>cfg</code>	(config) Konfigurationsdatei
<code>clo</code>	(class options) Definitionen für die Dokumentenklasse und die entsprechenden Klassen-Optionen
<code>aux</code>	(auxiliary) Hilfsdatei, enthält Querverweise usw.
<code>bb1</code>	(bibliography) Hilfsdatei, enthält die Einträge für die Literatur
<code>bib</code>	(bibtex) enthält die Literaturdaten
<code>blg</code>	(bibliography log) enthält die Ausgaben eines BibTeX-Laufs
<code>blg</code>	(bibliography log) enthält die Ausgaben eines BibTeX-Laufs
<code>cfg</code>	(config) Konfigurationsdatei
<code>clo</code>	(class options) Definitionen für die Dokumentenklasse und die entsprechenden Klassen-Optionen

References

- [1] David Carlisle, David Kastrup, L^AT_EX Project: The longtable package, Allow tables to flow over page boundaries, version 4.22, 2024, <https://ctan.org/pkg/longtable>.
- [2] David Carlisle, L^AT_EX Project: The tabularx package, Tabulars with adjustable-width columns, version 2.12a, 2024, <https://ctan.org/pkg/tabularx>.
- [3] Anil Goel: The ltablex package, Table package extensions, version 1.1, 2017, <https://ctan.org/pkg/ltablex>.