sidefig Package Example

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Wrapping text around a figure (or, more generally, any box-shaped region) is a tricky subject in LATEX. Plain TEX has a powerful command, \parshape, which directs TEX to flow a paragraph within a defined region, with the geometry defined line-by-line.

Various packages (e.g. wrapfig) exist to facilitate this process for IATEX users. However, \parshape (and another powerful command, \everypar, which allows wrapping across multiple paragraphs) are overwritten by IATEX list environments, including itemize and enumerate. This causes typical approaches to fail when used near lists.

sidefig is a package which attempts to allow wrapping text around rectangular regions even in the presence of lists.

Here are some features of sidefig, which you can see demonstrated below:

• Text wrapping continues to work even if you start a list. For example, this line will break a little bit earlier to make room for the figure at right.

figure

• Sublists are also supported:

1. like so.

figure

- 2. If you add a \sidefig in a list, the package tries hard to make things look right even across multiple levels.
- Now we're back in the outer list and the indent

is hopefully right.

- Captions are also possible using an optional parameter to \sidefig.
- Usage:

 $\sidefig[(caption)] \{L \ or \ R\} \{(content)\}$ right before any paragraph or \times .

figure

Fig. 1: A caption describing the figure above.

Additional Features

The style of the caption can be controlled by redefining \sidecapstyle. The default is

figure

CAPTION WITH REDEFINED STYLE

\sidecapstyle can also take an option, if you like, as in

\renewcommand{\sidecapstyle}[1]{\uppercase{#1}}.

The spacing between the content and the caption can be controlled with

 $\left(\operatorname{length} \right),$

default 2pt.

If you don't want to be next to the \sidefig any more, use \MoveBelowBox. This command is called automatically if you add a \sidefig that would otherwise overlap a previous one.

Known Issues

- Various issues around page breaks, since TeX works ahead while building pages, deciding the breaks later. Current behavior is to raise a warning if the sidefig would go below the ostensible end of the page. Version rc0.3 improves the behavior somewhat, and the package will attempt to recover across a page break. Sometimes this leads to some bad behavior if there are multiple paragraphs next to a \sidefig; the first and second will appear on different pages, but the second will still have a cutout for the figure which fell on the previous page.
- There should NOT be a blank line between \sidefig and the next paragraph or (especially) \item. In order to make the positioning right within lists, sidefig has to look ahead at the next command, which does not work across a blank line.

Acknowledgements

This code is heavily based off of the Plain TeX package insbox by Michał Gulczyński, available at https://ctan.org/pkg/insbox.

Not all features of insbox are available due to poor interactions with lists. Many things have been wrapped-around or otherwise rearranged to accommodate lists, but the core functionality is due to insbox.