The shadowtext package

Version 0.4

Y. Zwols (vz2198@columbia.edu)

May 18, 2012

1 Usage

The shadowtext package introduces a new command, namely the \shadowtext command. This is a box that adds a shadow behind text. Its usage is simple. The following code and its output illustrates the usage.

\shadowtext{This is a text with a shadow}

This is a text with a shadow

2 Changing the position of the shadow

The position of the shadow consists of two components: a horizontal offset and a vertical offset. The package offers two ways of changing the position of the shadow. The first and easiest way of changing the position is by using the \setshadowoffset command. This commands sets the horizontal and vertical offset simultaneously. For example:

\shadowoffset{2pt}

This is a text with a shadow

\shadowtext{This is a text with a shadow}

Alternatively, one may use the commands shadowoffsetx and shadowoffsety to independently change the horizontal and vertical offset. For example:

\shadowoffsetx{1pt}

This is a text with a shadow

\shadowoffsety{2pt}

\shadowtext{This is a text with a shadow}

Also, by setting the offset to a negative number, it is possible to make shadows in other directions, as the following example shows:

\shadowoffsetx{-2pt} \shadowoffsety{2pt} This is a text with a shadow

\shadowtext{This is a text with a shadow}

3 Changing the color of the shadow

The color of the shadow may be changed by using the shadowcolor and shadowrgb commands.¹ The shadowcolor command takes as an argument the name of a color, whereas shadowrgb takes a comma-separated list of red, green, blue values. For example, the following code adds a blueish shadow using \shadowcolor:

¹Internally, the package uses the \color command from the color package to set its color

```
This is a text with a shadow
```

```
\shadowoffset{1pt}
\shadowcolor{blue!40!white}
\shadowtext{This is a text with a shadow}
```

The following code produces a red shadow using \shadowrgb:

```
\shadowoffset{1pt}
\shadowrgb{1.0, 0.5, 0.5}
\shadowtext{This is a text with a shadow}
```

This is a text with a shadow

4 Changing the bounding box

There are two natural choices for the bounding box around the shadow text. The first choice is the bounding box around the main text; the second is the bounding box around the main text plus its shadow. These two choices are referred to as the *text* mode and the *full* mode, respectively. They can be activated by the commands \shadowbboxmode{text} and \shadowbboxmode{full} commands, respectively. For backwards compatibility reasons, the default bounding box mode is "full".

4.1 "Full" bounding box mode

This mode is activated by \shadowbboxmode{full}. The following output demonstrates (and tests) its effect. The boxes are shown in blue in the second column.

Shadow position	Inside framebox	Without framebox
Above left	This is a great package!	This is a great package!
Below left	This is a great package!	This is a great package!
Above right	This is a great package!	This is a great package!
Below right	This is a great package!	This is a great package!

4.2 "Text" bounding box mode

This mode is activated by \shadowbboxmode{text}. The following output demonstrates (and tests) its effect. The boxes are shown in blue in the second column.

Shadow position	Inside framebox	Without framebox
Above left	This is a great package!	This is a great package!
Below left	This is a great package!	This is a great package!
Above right	This is a great package!	This is a great package!
Below right	This is a great package!	This is a great package!

5 More examples

The following code illustrates how to use shadowtext in more interesting settings:

```
Large!
\shadowrgb{0.8, 0.8, 1}
\shadowtext{
  \color{navy}
  \fontsize{16}{16}\selectfont
  Large!}
\shadowoffset{1pt}
                                                 2
\color{black}
\shadowtext{%
  \begin{tabular}{|1|1|}
                                              3
  \hline
  1 & 2 \\
  3 & 4 \\
  \hline
  \end{tabular}
                                             \sqrt{2\pi}e^{-n}
\shadowoffset{1pt}
Section 5
\shadowoffset{2pt}
\sl \
  \color{navy}%
  \fontencoding{T1}%
  \fontfamily{pag}%
  \fontseries{b}%
  \fontsize{32}{32}%
  \selectfont%
  Section \color{red}\arabic{section}%
}
```

6 Limitations

Currently, the \shadowtext command does not support line breaks. In that respect, it behave like e.g. \mbox and \fbox. (The previous sentence purposely runs into the margin to illustrate this limitation.)