
Wrap text tutorial¹

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Ref. : adjust.tex
Ver. : 20220315c

1 Wrapping text around figures

L^AT_EX offers two possibilities for including figures inside a text : wrapfigure environment, picinpar environment.

The picinpar environment is an alternative way of wrapping text around figures. In general, it offers lesser flexibility than than the wrapfigure environment. It gives one option not provided by wrapfigure – figure can be placed in the centre of a para (in addition to left or right side of para). But this option is of limited value because the resultant text is often ugly and difficult to read.

The wrapfigure environment may appear more cumbersome, but it offers much better control over the location/positioning of the figure with respect to the enclosing text. In the rest of this article, we discuss usage of wrapfigure only.

2 Adjust location of figure

The wrapfigure environment offers various customisation possibilities. Here is how you can adjust the location, size of the box in which your figure will appear.

Note: All the included figures are in .eps format, although other formats (png, jpg, gif) are acceptable. The eps format is preferable because it helps avoid the “bounding box” problem. This tutorial uses the package caption, to create the figure caption using a desired font size and font style.

The wrapfigure environment is useful for wrapping text around a figure:

```
\begin{wrapfigure}[lineheight]{position}{width}
:
\end{wrapfigure}
```

wrapfigure arguments are : optional height in number of lines, horizontal position, width of figure box.

¹This is a L^AT_EX document. You can get the L^AT_EX source of this document from drpartha@gmail.com. Please mention the Reference Code, and Version code, given at the top of this document

The optional parameter `lineheight` is the figure box height in number of short lines.

The position parameter has eight possible values -

- r R right side of the text
- l L left side of the text
- i I inside edgenear the binding (in a twoside document)
- o O outside edgefar from the binding

Note that there is no center (middle) option !

The width parameter is the width of the figure box.

Placing and sizing the figure within `\wrapfigure` requires some trials and adjustments. The starting place for the `wrapfigure` environment was manually determined in the current example by first setting the text without the figure to find the optimal linebreaks.

You can shrink or enlarge the figure with the “scale” option of `\includegraphics`. You can also move the figure up, down, leftward, rightward, using appropriate `\hspace` or `\vspace` commands.

Jack and Jill went up the hill. Jane and Jone went after them. Here is a starter figure-text for comparative study:

2.1 A reference figure

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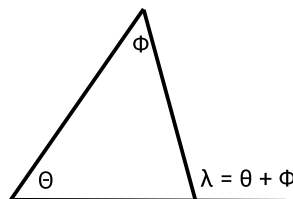


Fig. 1: A place-holder figure

2.2 Move figure up two lines

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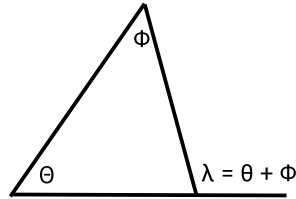


Fig. 2: A place-holder figure

2.3 Move figure down two lines

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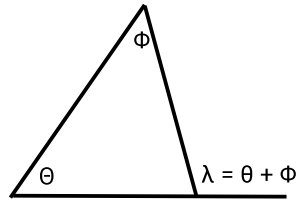


Fig. 3: A place-holder figure

Jane and Jone went after them. Pellentesque vulputate bibendum lorem.

2.4 Move figure left two caracs

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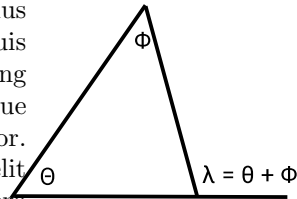


Fig. 4: A place-holder figure

Pellentesque vulputate bibendum lorem.

2.5 Move figure right two caracs

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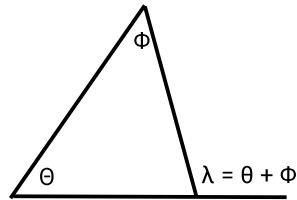


Fig. 5: A place-holder figure

2.6 Rotate figure

Warning: *Could result in ugly results. Scale/resize your image appropriately*

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Jack and Jill went up the hill. Jane and Jone went after them. Pellentesque vulputate bibendum lorem. Jack and Jill went up the hill. Jane and Jone went after them. Pellentesque vulputate bibendum lorem.

The next para gets clipped because of the space claimed by the above figure, so I have used a parbox to fill up the line width.

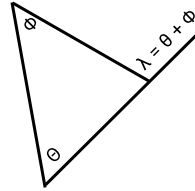


Fig. 6: A place-holder figure

3 Closing remarks

This article is released under a liberal license [3] and published on the web at [6]. The L^AT_EX source can be obtained by sending an email to drpartha@gmail.com. Please mention the Reference Code, and Version code, given at the top of this document. Please follow the “basic rules of decency” explained in [1]

Readers are requested to send all remarks, criticisms, queries and suggestions to the author at drpartha@gmail.com.

4 About the author



Fig. 7: The pensive Professor

Parthasarathy is an aggressive supporter and a loyal practitioner of FOSS. He teaches discrete mathematics, and preaches L^AT_EX and Linux, to students of Computer Science. His tutorial material is downloadable from the web, under a liberal license (CC-BY-SA). He would be happy to assist anyone, particularly students, teachers, and institutions, who are genuinely interested in these topics.

His contact address is : drpartha@gmail.com

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