

The `latex-lab-minipage` package

Changes related to the tagging of minipage and parbox

L^AT_EX Project^{*}

v0.81h 2026-01-16

Abstract

1 Introduction

How to best tag minipages and parboxes is still under discussion. But as they start and contain paragraphs it is clear that some sockets are needed to interrupt and restart the tagging.

The tagging added is currently quite simple-minded. See the `todo-testfiles` and the code comments for some open points.

One of the main problems is how to properly embed them in the surrounding. When used in normal text (in a paragraph) they typically should close the `text` structure and reopen one at the end. But when used inside low-level `\vbox` or `\hbox` this is often wrong. The code uses now there two tagging sockets `parbox/before` and `parbox/after` which can be set to `noop`, if necessary.

```
1 <*package>
```

2 Implementation

```
2 \ProvidesExplPackage {latex-lab-testphase-minipage}
3   {\ltlabminipagedate} {\ltlabminipageversion}
4   {Code related to the tagging of minipages and parboxes}
```

As minipage uses a socket from the footnote code we must load the OR-code:

```
5 \RequirePackage{latex-lab-testphase-new-or-1}
6 \RequirePackage{latex-lab-testphase-new-or-2}
```

2.1 Provide the kernel hooks

[kernel?] We need to check/set the status before the initial `\leavevmode` to decide how to handle the structure. Perhaps the same command will work for both?

```
7 \def\@kernel@init@minipage{}
8 \def\@kernel@init@parbox{}
```

^{*}Initial implementation done by Ulrike Fischer

We use sockets for the tag support code, as there will be cases where we want to exchange the content or disable it. The socket declaration has been moved to lttagging and can be removed here later.

```

9 \socket_if_exist:nF {tagsupport/minipage/before}
10 {
11   \NewTaggingSocket{minipage/before}{0}
12   \NewTaggingSocket{minipage/after} {0}
13   \NewTaggingSocket{parbox/before} {0}
14   \NewTaggingSocket{parbox/after}{0}
15 }

```

2.2 Patch minipage

[kernel?] The begin hook is inserted in \@iiiminipage

```

16 \def\@iiiminipage#1#2[#3]#4{%

```

Before switching to hmode we insert a hook. It is currently unused but could for example check if we are in vmode and change the following paragraph tag.

```

17   \@kernel@init@minipage
18   \leavevmode
19   \@pboxswfalse
20   \setlength\@tempdima{#4}%
21   \def\@mpargs{{#1}{#2}[#3]{#4}}%

```

insert the socket

```

22   \UseTaggingSocket{minipage/before}% new
23   \setbox\@tempboxa\vbox\bgroup
24     \color@begingroup
25     \hsize\@tempdima
26     \textwidth\hsize \columnwidth\hsize
27     \@parboxrestore

```

minipages are perhaps used in environments where the tagging of paragraphs has been altered. So we try to restore this. TODO: this should perhaps be done in \@parboxrestore directly.

```

28   \UseTaggingSocket{para/restore}
29   \def\@mpfn{mpfootnote}\def\thempfn{\thempfootnote}\c@mpfootnote\z@
30   \socket_assign_plug:nn{fntext/process}{mp}%
31   \let\@listdepth\@mplistdepth \@mplistdepth\z@
32   \@minipagerestore
33   \@setminipage}

```

And a hook at the end

```

34 \def\endminipage{%
35   \par
36   \unskip
37   \ifvoid\@mpfootins\else
38     \vskip\skip\@mpfootins
39     \normalcolor
40     \footnoterule
41     \unvbox\@mpfootins
42   \fi
43   \@minipagefalse    %% added 24 May 89
44   \color@endgroup
45   \egroup

```

As the parbox command is called, we must prevent that it adds its additional tagging commands:

```

46 \tag_suspend:n{minipage}
47 \expandafter\@iiiparbox\@mpargs{\unvbox\@tempboxa}%
48 \tag_resume:n{minipage}
49 \UseTaggingSocket{minipage/after} %new end ...
50 }

```

And similar for \parbox

```

51 \long\def\@iiiparbox#1#2[#3]#4#5{%
52 \kernel@init@parbox
53 \leavevmode
54 \@pboxswfalse
55 \setlength\@tempdima{#4}%
56 \UseTaggingSocket{parbox/before}
57 \@begin@tempboxa\vbox{\hsize\@tempdima\@parboxrestore

```

parbox are perhaps used in environments where the tagging of paragraphs has been altered. So we try to restore this. TODO: this should perhaps be done in \@parboxrestore directly.

```

58 \UseTaggingSocket{para/restore}
59 #5\@@par}%
60 \ifx\relax#2\else
61 \setlength\@tempdimb{#2}%
62 \edef\@parboxto{to\the\@tempdimb}%
63 \fi
64 \if#1b\vbox
65 \else\if #1t\vtop
66 \else\ifmmode\vcenter
67 \else\@pboxswtrue $\vcenter
68 \fi\fi\fi
69 \@parboxto{\let\hss\vss\let\unhbox\unvbox
70 \csname bm@#3\endcsname}%
71 \if@pboxsw \m@th$\fi
72 \@end@tempboxa%
73 \UseTaggingSocket{parbox/after}
74 }

```

2.3 Tagging commands

```

75 \tl_new:N \l__ltboxes_tag_tl
76 \tl_set:Nn \l__ltboxes_tag_tl {Div}
77 \NewTaggingSocketPlug{minipage/before}{kernel}
78 {

```

As there was a \leavevmode before that is a P/text open that we have to close if para tagging is active:

```

79 \tag_mc_end_push:
80 \bool_if:NT \l__tag_para_bool {\tag_struct_end:}

```

TODO: the P can be further up, we need a proper method to test and handle this.

```

81 \tag_struct_begin:n{tag=\UseStructureName{minipage}}
82 }

```

similar for the other sockets:

```

83 \NewTaggingSocketPlug{minipage/after}{kernel}
84 {
85   \tag_struct_end:
86   \bool_if:NT \l__tag_para_bool
87     {\tag_struct_begin:n{tag=\UseStructureName{para/textblock}}}
88   \tag_mc_begin_pop:n{ }
89 }
90
91 \NewTaggingSocketPlug{parbox/before}{kernel}
92 {
93   \tag_mc_end_push:
94   \bool_if:NT \l__tag_para_bool {\tag_struct_end:}
95   \tag_struct_begin:n{tag=\UseStructureName{parbox}}
96 }
97
98 \NewTaggingSocketPlug{parbox/after}{kernel}
99 {
100   \tag_struct_end:
101   \bool_if:NT \l__tag_para_bool
102     {\tag_struct_begin:n{tag=\UseStructureName{para/textblock}}}
103   \tag_mc_begin_pop:n{ }
104 }

```

Copies of the plugs with the previous names for compatibility. After release 2026-06-01 they should be replaced by the new names and then removed.

```

105 \NewTaggingSocketPlug{minipage/before}{tag/dflt}
106 {
107   \tag_mc_end_push:
108   \bool_if:NT \l__tag_para_bool {\tag_struct_end:}
109   \tag_struct_begin:n{tag=\UseStructureName{minipage}}
110 }
111 \NewTaggingSocketPlug{minipage/after}{tag/dflt}
112 {
113   \tag_struct_end:
114   \bool_if:NT \l__tag_para_bool
115     {\tag_struct_begin:n{tag=\UseStructureName{para/textblock}}}
116   \tag_mc_begin_pop:n{ }
117 }
118 \NewTaggingSocketPlug{parbox/before}{tag/dflt}
119 {
120   \tag_mc_end_push:
121   \bool_if:NT \l__tag_para_bool {\tag_struct_end:}
122   \tag_struct_begin:n{tag=\UseStructureName{parbox}}
123 }
124 \NewTaggingSocketPlug{parbox/after}{tag/dflt}
125 {
126   \tag_struct_end:
127   \bool_if:NT \l__tag_para_bool
128     {\tag_struct_begin:n{tag=\UseStructureName{para/textblock}}}
129   \tag_mc_begin_pop:n{ }
130 }

```

Activate the default tagging plug

```

131 \AssignTaggingSocketPlug{minipage/before}{kernel}

```

```

132 \AssignTaggingSocketPlug{minipage/after} {kernel}
133 \AssignTaggingSocketPlug{parbox/before} {kernel}
134 \AssignTaggingSocketPlug{parbox/after} {kernel}
135 \end{package}

136 \*latex-lab
137 \ProvidesFile{minipage-latex-lab-testphase.ltx}
138     [\ltmlabminipagedate\space v\ltmlabminipageversion
139     code related to the tagging of minipage and parbox]
140 \RequirePackage{latex-lab-testphase-minipage}
141 \end{latex-lab}

```