linebreaks can reliably be placed after control-words and numerical assignments. We have seen \TeX's buffer size exceeded when \% was placed after every line.

A wider perspective in the matter of naming macros can prevent problems that occur when definitions are overwritten as articles are run together. The names of control sequences used in plain, \LaTeX, and \AMSTeX are documented and authors should avoid using them for other purposes. It is also wise to avoid commonly used names such as \texttt{\temp}, \texttt{\result}, \texttt{\i}, and \texttt{\mac} in presenting code that might be cribbed by other users. The frequently used technique of temporarily \texttt{\catcode}ing a character to be a letter (e.g. the \texttt{\O}) provides a good method of hiding control sequences so that they will not be clobbered later. Readers are in need of small macros to do little tricks, and they often try suggestions brought forth in \textit{TUGboat}. A little extra effort in making these macros consistent with the macros in wide distribution and in making them robust will be much appreciated.

Electronic Documentation and Submission Procedure

In addition to tugboat.sty, ltugboat.sty, and tugboat.com, a copy of this article, tubguide.tex, will be available at most \TeX archives, including those at Clarkson and Aston.

Please address all electronic correspondence to the TUGboat maildrop:

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Mail to either of our personal addresses is liable to go unseen if vacation or illness intervenes. We also request that you supply an abstract of any expository article. This will be used as the basis for translation of abstracts to languages other than that in which the article is published.

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Round boxes for plain \TeX

Garry Glendown

Doing presentation sheets, I stumbled over a small thing I had been missing for quite a while: boxes. Well, normal boxes are boring, so I thought about doing boxes with round corners.

To do that, I took a look at the circle fonts used for the \LaTeX pictures. They would work out fine. But, despite of all my \TeX knowledge and the information from \textit{The \TeXbook}, it didn't work. Either the boxes would look like this:

or like this:

or some other, not very encouraging, way. After some hours (I think it was about 2\frac{1}{2} or so) I finally solved the problem as found in the listing below.

The problem is the strange (at least for normal usage) way the circle font has the width and reference point set. The width is exactly twice as big as the quarter circle, and the reference point of the right two quarters is far beyond the character. So, in order to get the right positioning of the characters, the boxes have to be much wider in the inside than they are on the outside.

Using RBox. To use the RBox-Macro, there are two simple forms: \texttt{\roundBox} and \texttt{\RoundBox}. Both get two parameters: the size of the box as a percent of \texttt{\hsize}, and the text. When calling \texttt{\roundBox}, you will get a box with a border .4pt thick; \texttt{\RoundBox} will result in one with a .8pt border. \texttt{\RoundBox} will result in one with a .8pt border.

If you type
\begin{verbatim}
\hbox{\roundBox(.4)(This is)\RoundBox(.4)(a Test)}
\end{verbatim}

it will result in:

\begin{verbatim}
This is a Test
\end{verbatim}

In addition to these to 'interface'-macros, you may use the internal function called \texttt{\RBox}. The syntax is the following:
When using the \RBox-Command, make sure that you define the font \texttt{\cf} to be either \texttt{circle10} (.4pt thick) or \texttt{circlew10} (.8pt thick).

You may use \RBox for some strange effects, like:

\begin{center}
\begin{tikzpicture}
\node[shape=rectangle,draw,rounded corners=10pt,minimum width=\textwidth,minimum height=0.5\textwidth](image) at (0,0){
\begin{minipage}{.5\textwidth}
Custom!
\end{minipage}
\begin{minipage}{.5\textwidth}
\end{minipage}}
\end{tikzpicture}
\end{center}

This was done by setting the thickness of the normal lines (parameter \#3) to 0pt. Or you can do things like this:

\begin{center}
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|}
\hline
Another & Test \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\end{center}

Undesirable Features. In the moment, I only know of one little problem: the outside size of the round box is always smaller than the width it is told. So, when putting one box into another, it will look like this:

\begin{center}
\begin{tikzpicture}
\node[shape=rectangle,draw,rounded corners=10pt,minimum width=\textwidth,minimum height=0.5\textwidth](image) at (0,0){
\begin{minipage}{.5\textwidth}
\texttt{A ‘Feature’...}
\end{minipage}
\begin{minipage}{.5\textwidth}
\end{minipage}}
\end{tikzpicture}
\end{center}

But I don’t see any way out of that problem. If somebody out there has a solution to that problem then please tell me...

\begin{verbatim}
\RoundBox{\hspace*{1cm}}{Text} thin frame (.4pt)
\RoundBox{\hspace*{1cm}}{Text} thick frame (.8pt)
% \BoxRbox{i#2#3#4} where
% #1 = {outside width}
% #2 = {inside(text) width}
% #3 = {width of frame}
% #4 = {Text}
\end{verbatim}
There have been several recent attempts to apply the \TeX{} and \METAFONT{} computer languages to design a chess literature printing package. Appelt \cite{Appelt} suggested a design for printing chessboards, and this author \cite{Rubinstein} described a simple \METAFONT{} chess font. Based on these results the present note introduces a full \TeX{} macro which approximates the actual requirements of chess printing, namely:

1. Chess moves are printed in the source file in their natural appearance (as, e.g., \texttt{Pe2-e4}, \texttt{Nc3-e4}) without recourse to control sequence notation (see \cite{Appelt}).

2. Chess moves normally include annotations or comments as to the adjudged value of the move, such as “\texttt{h7-h6?”} for a questionable move, “\texttt{Bd3-c2!”} for a good move. The length of these annotations varies and can include quite a number of symbols, such as \texttt{+}, \texttt{-}, \texttt{++}, \texttt{f}, \texttt{F} and others.

3. Chess literature can start a game from its natural starting position or from a ready setup position as necessary.

4. The printed form of a move may vary from the natural appearance of the move. For example, \texttt{Pe2-e4}, moving a pawn from square \texttt{e2} to square \texttt{e4}, is usually denoted by \texttt{e2-e4} or even by \texttt{e4} (we shall comment on this at the end of this note).

The \TeX{} macros to which I refer satisfy the above requirements by using in various ways the category management ability of the \TeX{} language so that the letters \texttt{K}, \texttt{Q}, \texttt{R}, \texttt{B}, \texttt{N} and \texttt{P} denoting the chess pieces play the role of different control sequences at different times. In addition, the end of line character and the paragraph control sequence are redefined for various purposes. The two basic sequences of the macros are:

(a) \begin{verbatim}
\ClearBoard \
\White Kg1 Qd1 ... \Black Kg8 Qd8 ... \
\ShowBoard (optional) (text) ... 
\end{verbatim}

and

(b) \begin{verbatim}
\BlacksMove \movecounter8 \StartPlay Ph7-h6? 
\end{verbatim}