1 Introduction

This is a very simple package. It defines a single environment, \boxedminipage that is essentially equivalent to \fbox{\begin{minipage}...\end{minipage}}. The difference is that the width of a \boxedminipage includes the width of the frame, while the width of the \fbox + \minipage combination is wider than the width specified to the \minipage.

The following example exaggerates the effect by setting \fboxrule=8pt and \fboxsep=4pt and defining \minipages of width \linewidth:


This box was created by putting a \minipage within an \fbox. Notice how the frame is aligned with the left margin of the surrounding text but juts out into the right margin.

Suspendisse pulvinar vel elit at dapibus. Interdum et malesuada fames ac ante ipsum primis in faucibus. Cras nibh orci, posuere quis viverra a, gravida nec velit. Praesent porta semper tellus, eu pulvinar ante mollis faucibus.

This box was created with the \boxedminipage environment. Notice how the frame is aligned properly with both margins of the surrounding text.

Duis est neque, aliquet at augue a, auctor condimentum orci. Donec arcu magna, eleifend a consequat in, vehicula non elit. Sed id est sed ipsum interdum posuere.

\*This document corresponds to \boxedminipage2e v1.0, dated 2015/03/09.
There exists a package called `boxedminipage` that also defines a `boxedminipage` environment. However, the `boxedminipage` package, last updated in 1992, lacks support for the `\texttt{\LaTeX\ 2\epsilon\ minipage}`’s \texttt{(height)} and \texttt{(inner-pos)} arguments. `boxedminipage2e` is an attempt to augment `boxedminipage` with support for `minipage`’s complete functionality. That said, `boxedminipage2e` is a complete rewrite; the two packages have no code in common.

2 Usage

The `boxedminipage2e` package defines a single environment, `boxedminipage`. It takes the same parameters as `\texttt{\LaTeX\ 2\epsilon\ minipage}` environment:

\begin{boxedminipage} \[⟨pos⟩\] \[⟨height⟩\] \[⟨inner-pos⟩\] \{⟨width⟩\} \langle text \rangle \end{boxedminipage}

The semantic difference is that the values specified by the \texttt{(height)} and \texttt{(width)} arguments are reduced to accommodate the space needed by the surrounding frame.

3 Implementation

\texttt{\LaTeX\ \bmp@box}\ The contents of the \texttt{minipage} are collected into \texttt{\LaTeX\ \bmp@box}.
1 \texttt{\newsavebox\{\bmp@box\}}

\texttt{\LaTeX\ \bmp@width}\ The adjusted width and height of the \texttt{minipage} are stored in \texttt{\LaTeX\ \bmp@width} and \texttt{\LaTeX\ \bmp@height}, respectively.
2 \texttt{\newlength\{\bmp@width\}}
3 \texttt{\newlength\{\bmp@height\}}

\texttt{\LaTeX\ \bmp@relax}\ We determine if the \texttt{minipage}’s \texttt{(height)} argument contains only \texttt{\relax} by comparing it to \texttt{\LaTeX\ \bmp@relax}.
4 \texttt{\def\LaTeX\ \bmp@relax\{\relax\}}

\texttt{\LaTeX\ boxedminipage}\ The `boxedminipage` environment is the only environment exposed by the `boxedminipage2e` package. It takes the same parameters as `\texttt{\LaTeX\ 2\epsilon\ minipage}`’s ordinary \texttt{minipage} environment:

\begin{itemize}
  \item \texttt{Arguments:} \[⟨pos⟩\] \[⟨height⟩\] \[⟨inner-pos⟩\] \{⟨width⟩\}
  \item \texttt{Default values:} \texttt{c} \relax \texttt{s} \texttt{—}
\end{itemize}
5 \texttt{\newcommand\{boxedminipage\}[1][c]{\%}
6 \texttt{\@ifnextchar\{\texttt{\LaTeX\ bminipage@i[#1]}\texttt{\LaTeX\ bminipage@i[#1][\relax]}\%}
7 \texttt{\}}
The top-level \boxedminipage environment invokes \minipage with the \langle pos \rangle and \langle height \rangle arguments. \minipage checks for an \langle inner-pos \rangle argument and provides “s” if absent.

\minipage@i

The \minipage@ii macro is passed all four of boxedminipage’s arguments. It subtracts two \fboxrule and two \fboxsep lengths from each of the \langle height \rangle \#2 and \langle width \rangle \#4 arguments to make room for the lines and padding that \fbox introduces. \minipage@ii then begins a minipage with the appropriate parameters and prepares to store it in box \bmp@box.

\endboxedminipage

When the document invokes \endboxedminipage we typeset the minipage we just created within an \fbox.

\Change History

v1.0

General: Initial version ........ 1
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Numbers written in italic refer to the page where the corresponding entry is described; numbers underlined refer to the code line of the definition; numbers in roman refer to the code lines where the entry is used.

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