The tabularkv package

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Abstract

This package adds a key value interface for tabular by the new environment `tabularkv`. Thus the TEX source code looks better by named parameters, especially if package tabularht is used.

Contents

1 Usage

```
\usepackage{tabularkv}
```

The package provides the environment `tabularkv` that takes an optional argument with tabular parameters:

`width:` width specification, "tabular*" is used.

`x:` width specification, `tabularx` is used, package tabularx must be loaded.

`height:` height specification, see package tabularht.

`valign:` vertical positioning, this option is optional;
values: top, bottom, center.

Parameter valign optional, the following are equivalent:

```
\begin{tabularkv}[..., valign=top]{l}...\end{tabularkv}
\begin{tabularkv}[...][t]{l}...\end{tabularkv}
```

*Please report any issues at https://github.com/ho-tex/tabularht/issues

1.1 Example

```
⟨*example⟩
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage{tabularkv}

\begin{document}
\fbox{%
  \begin{tabularkv}[
    width=4in,
    height=1in,
    valign=center
  ]{@{}l@{\extracolsep{\fill}}r@{}}
    upper left corner & upper right corner\\
    \noalign{\vfill}%
    \multicolumn{2}{@{}c@{}}{bounding box}\\
    \noalign{\vfill}%
    lower left corner & lower right corner\\
  \end{tabularkv}%
}
\end{document}
⟨/example⟩
```

2 Implementation

```
⟨*package⟩
```

Package identification.

```
\NeedsTeXFormat{LaTeX2e}
\ProvidesPackage{tabularkv}%
  [2026-05-13 v1.3 Tabular with key value interface (HO)]
\RequirePackage{keyval}
\RequirePackage{tabularht}

\let\tabKV@star@x\@empty
\let\tabKV@width\@empty
\let\tabKV@valign\@empty

\define@key{tabKV}{height}{%
  \setlength{\dimen@}{#1}%
  \edef\@toarrayheight{to\the\dimen@}%
}
\define@key{tabKV}{width}{%
  \def\tabKV@width{{#1}}%
  \def\tabKV@star@x{*}%
}
\define@key{tabKV}{x}{%
  \def\tabKV@width{{#1}}%
  \def\tabKV@star@x{x}%
}
\define@key{tabKV}{valign}{%
  \edef\tabKV@valign{[\@car #1c\@nil]}%
}

\newenvironment{tabularkv}[1][]{%
  \setkeys{tabKV}{#1}%
  \@nameuse{%
    tabular\tabKV@star@x\expandafter\expandafter\expandafter
  }%
  \expandafter\tabKV@width\tabKV@valign
}{%
  \@nameuse{endtabular\tabKV@star@x}%
}
```

```
⟨/package⟩
```

3 Installation

3.1 Download

Package. This package is available on CTAN[1]:

CTAN:macros/latex/contrib/tabularht/tabularkv.dtx The source file.

CTAN:macros/latex/contrib/tabularht/tabularkv.pdf Documentation.

3.2 Package installation

Unpacking. The `.dtx` file is a self-extracting docstrip archive. The files are extracted by running the `.dtx` through plain TEX:

```
tex tabularkv.dtx
```

TDS. Now the different files must be moved into the different directories in your installation TDS tree (also known as `texmf` tree):

```
tabularkv.sty          → tex/latex/tabularht/tabularkv.sty
tabularkv.pdf          → doc/latex/tabularht/tabularkv.pdf
tabularkv-example.tex → doc/latex/tabularht/tabularkv-example.tex
tabularkv.dtx          → source/latex/tabularht/tabularkv.dtx
```

If you have a `docstrip.cfg` that configures and enables docstrip's TDS installing feature, then some files can already be in the right place, see the documentation of docstrip.

3.3 Refresh file name databases

If your TEX distribution (TEX Live, MiKTEX, ...) relies on file name databases, you must refresh these. For example, TEX Live users run `texhash` or `mktexlsr`.

3.4 Some details for the interested

Unpacking with LATEX. The `.dtx` chooses its action depending on the format:

plain TEX: Run docstrip and extract the files.

LATEX: Generate the documentation.

If you insist on using LATEX for docstrip (really, docstrip does not need LATEX), then inform the autodetect routine about your intention:

```
latex \let\install=y\input{tabularkv.dtx}
```

Do not forget to quote the argument according to the demands of your shell.

Generating the documentation. You can use both the `.dtx` or the `.drv` to generate the documentation. The process can be configured by the configuration file `ltxdoc.cfg`. For instance, put this line into this file, if you want to have A4 as paper format:

```
\PassOptionsToClass{a4paper}{article}
```

An example follows how to generate the documentation with pdfLATEX:

```
pdflatex tabularkv.dtx
makeindex -s gind.ist tabularkv.idx
pdflatex tabularkv.dtx
makeindex -s gind.ist tabularkv.idx
pdflatex tabularkv.dtx
```

[1] CTAN:pkg/tabularkv

4 History

[2005/09/22 v1.0]

- First public version.

[2006/02/20 v1.1]

- DTX framework.
- Code is not changed.

[2016/05/16 v1.2]

- Documentation updates.

[2026-05-13 v1.3]

- Updated ctan location to `tabularht` repository.

5 Index

Numbers written in italic refer to the page where the corresponding entry is described; numbers underlined refer to the code line of the definition; plain numbers refer to the code lines where the entry is used.