

Continue: Continuation marks on (by default odd) pages*

Author: Peter Wilson with Donald Arseneau and Meriadri Luca

Maintainer: L^AT_EX Project team

<https://github.com/LaTeX-Package-Repositories/herries-press>

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Abstract

The `continue` package provides for a variety of continuation indicators on pages in a twosided document when the text continues on the following page. The default is to only mark odd pages but all pages can be marked or marking can be stopped or started at any point.

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1 Introduction

In some types of documents it is customary or convenient to indicate at the bottom of a page that the text continues on the following page. For example, when a two page exam sheet is printed twosided it could be advantageous for the student to have an indication on the first page that there are further questions on the back of the page. Another instance is when documents are printed in the expectation that they will be read by someone in front of an audience, so in order to minimise any hesitation as a page is turned over, the first word on the following page is printed at the bottom of the preceding page.

This manual is typeset according to the conventions of the L^AT_EX DOCSTRIP utility which enables the automatic extraction of the L^AT_EX macro source files [GMS94].

*This file (`continue.dtx`) has version number v0.2a, last revised 2026/10/06.

Section 2 describes the usage of the package. Commented package code may be in later sections.

2 The continue package

The `continue` package is an amalgam of modified versions of two packages — `fwlw` (First Word, Last Word) by Donald Arseneau [Ars95] which among other things gets the first word on the next page and `turnpageetex` by Meriadri Luca [Luc15] for placing something at the bottom of the text block.

The `fwlw` package includes the following statement:

Copyright (C) 1993,1995 by Donald Arseneau Vancouver, Canada, email asnd@triumf.ca This software package may be freely used, transmitted, reproduced, or modified provided that this notice is left intact.

In this instance I have modified the original package as allowed above.

With respect to the `turnpageetex` package this was released under the LaTeX Project Public License and I have taken the liberty of extending its functionality slightly, as allowed.

2.1 Options

There are three options that can be used when calling the package denoting the kind and position of the continuation marker.

margin With this option the continuation marker is placed in the margin aligned with the bottom of the text block. If the option is not used then the continuation marker is placed below the text block ending at the outer margin.

word With this option the package attempts to use the first ‘word’ on the following verso page as the continuation marker. If the option is not used then a user specified marker is employed.

allpages With this option the package tries to provide a marker on each page, whether odd or even. The default is to only provide markers on odd pages.

The relevant portions of the introduction to the `fwlw` package are:

The `fwlw` package provides a mechanism to determine ... the first word on the *next* page. The ‘words’ you see may not be real words, but any unbreakable object.

...

... labelling does not make much sense when `\chapter` generates a page break, so the last page before a `\chapter` (or any `\clearpage`) gets a blank *next word* ...

Note that ‘words’ may unfortunately be things like:

- two words
- []Word ([] represents a parindent box)
- a whole displayed equation
- the first column of an aligned equation
- anomalously blank, if there are `\writes` or split footnotes etc.
- partial words like par- or -tial due to hyphenation.

In essence, the ‘word’ might not be what you might expect, but for most documents the results are good. However, page 3 of the example file `trycontinue.tex` prints a blank word as the continuation marker because the first line on the following page is the start of a paragraph which starts with a space.

2.2 Macros

When the `word` option is not used the following macros are available:

`\flagcont` This command defines the continuation mark. Its default specification is:

```
\newcommand*{\flagcont}{Continued}
```

It can be changed in the document’s preamble to, perhaps:

```
\renewcommand*{\flagcont}{---$>$}
```

to print a right pointing arrow.

`\flagend` This command defines the continuation mark when the last odd page is the final page (i.e. when there is no following recto page). Its default specification is:

```
\newcommand*{\flagend}{End}
```

but it can be changed in the document’s preamble.

When the `word` option is used the following macros are available:

`\flagword` This command specifies how the continuation word is formatted. Its definition is:

```
\newcommand*{\flagword}{\preflagword\usebox\NextWordBox\postflagword}
```

where `\NextWordBox` holds the first word on the next recto page (empty if there is no next recto page).

`\preflagword` This command is printed before the word continuation marker. Its default definition is:

```
\newcommand*{\preflagword}{}
```

but can be redefined in the document preamble to put, perhaps, an opening brace before the word like:

```
\renewcommand*{\preflagword}{[}
```

`\postflagword` Similar to `\preflagword` except that it is printed after the marker. Its default definition is:

```
\newcommand*{\postflagword}{]}
```

`\contsep` When the `margin` option is used the continuation marker is set a distance `\contsep`

`\contdrop` to the right of the textblock. When `margin` is not used then the marker is set a distance

`\contdrop` below the textblock. Their default values are set by:

```
\setlength{\contsep}{\marginparsep} and \setlength{\contdrop}{0.5\footskip}
```

3 An example document

You can use the document `trycontinue.tex` to experiment with the options. It may take two (pdf)LaTeX runs for the continuation marks to settle down to their final values and positions.

```
1 <*try>
2 %% trycontinue.tex  An example usage of the continue package (2018/12/09)
3 %%
4 %% The document is set with footnotes on A6 paper (I wanted
5 %% to get many pages from little text). It is not pretty but does shows
6 %% some of the continue package's capabilities. Try modifying it by changing
7 %% options, etc., and see what happens.
```

```

8  %%
9  %% You can try and contact me, Peter Wilson at herries.press@earthlink.net, if there
10 %% are problems other than the aesthetics.
11 %%
12 \documentclass[%
13     twoside,
14     a6paper
15 ]%
16 {memoir}
17
18 \usepackage%
19 %% [margin]%
20 %% [word]%
21 %% [margin,word]%
22 [margin,word,allpages]%
23 {continue}
24 \usepackage{lipsum}
25 %% try this without the word option
26 %%\renewcommand{\flagcont}{---$>$}
27
28 \renewcommand*{\preflagword}{}
29
30 \begin{document}
31
32 First\footnote{Foot 1} \lipsum[1]
33
34 Second\footnote{Foot 2} \lipsum[2]
35
36 Third\footnote{Foot 3} \lipsum[3]
37
38 \contstop % stop marking
39
40 Fourth\footnote{Foot 4} \lipsum[4]
41
42 Fifth\footnote{Foot 5} \lipsum[5]
43
44 \contgo % start marking
45
46 Sixth\footnote{Foot 6} \lipsum[6]
47
48 \end{document}
49
50 </try>

```

4 The continue code

Announce the name and version of the package, which requires L^AT_EX 2_ε and the atbegshi, zref-abspage and zref-lastpage packages and has options margin, word and allpages (added allpages 2018/11/30).

```

51 <*usc>
52 \NeedsTeXFormat{LaTeX2e}
53 \ProvidesPackage{continue}[2026/10/06 v0.2a Continues on the following page]
54 \PackageInfo{continue}{This is continue using e-TeX.}

```

55

`\ifcontmargin` Now for the options.

```

\ifcontword 56 \newif{\ifcontmargin} \contmarginfalse
57 \newif{\ifcontword} \contwordfalse
58 \newif{\ifcontallpages} \contallpagesfalse
59 \DeclareOption{margin}{\contmargintrue}
60 \DeclareOption{word}{\contwordtrue}
61 \DeclareOption{allpages}{\contallpagetrue}
62 \ProcessOptions
63

```

(End of definition for `\ifcontmargin` and `\ifcontword`.)

`\ifc@go` Continuation marks will stop after `\contstop` but will continue after `\contgo` (the default)

```

\contgo
\contstop 64 \newif{\ifc@go} \c@gotrue
65 \newcommand{\contgo}{\c@gotrue}
66 \newcommand{\contstop}{\c@gofalse}
67

```

(End of definition for `\ifc@go`, `\contgo`, and `\contstop`.)

And the required packages needed by the original `turnpageetex` package.

```

68 \RequirePackage{atbegshi}
69 \RequirePackage{zref-abspage}
70 \RequirePackage{zref-lastpage}
71

```

The next chunk of code is a revised version of the `fwlw` package. I don't really understand it but I have a feeling that certain parts are irrelevant to the purposes at hand.

```

72 % -----
73 %

```

`\LWC@pen` Declare a *unique* penalty flag as a value.

```

74 \mathchardef\LWC@pen 13452

```

(End of definition for `\LWC@pen`.)

`\FirstWordBox` Allocate box registers

```

\NextWordBox 75 \newbox\FirstWordBox \global\setbox\FirstWordBox\hbox{}
\LastWordBox 76 \newbox\NextWordBox \global\setbox\NextWordBox\hbox{}
\LWC@box 77 \newbox\LastWordBox \global\setbox\LastWordBox\hbox{}
\LWC@saved 78 \newbox\LWC@box \global\setbox\LWC@box\hbox{}
79 \newbox\LWC@saved

```

(End of definition for `\FirstWordBox` and others.)

`\FWLWCnormal@L@output` Shell around old output routine. Gets first word from next page by letting TeX continue with `\vsize=0` to get a look at the next line. Values of `\outputpenalty` for `\specialoutput` (-10001 to -19999) are simply run through the output routine. `\supereject` and `\clearpage` give a blank next word. When called after making a

stub-page the stub is returned to the vertical list, the previous page is restored and shipped out normally, but knowing what the next word will be.

```

80 \edef\FWLWCnorm@L@output{\the\output}
81
82 \output{\@tempswafalse
83 \ifnum \outputpenalty>-\@MM \ifnum \outputpenalty<-\@M \@tempwattrue\fi\fi
84 \if@tempswa % special (float) output
85 % \message{Float handler: penalty=\the\outputpenalty}%
86 \FWLWCnorm@L@output
87 \else
88 \ifvoid\LWC@saved % end of real page
89 % \message{End of real page}%
90 \global\setbox\LWC@saved\copy\@cclv % save page
91 %\begin{comment}
92 \setbox\@tempboxa\vbox{\unvbox\@cclv \unskip\unkern\unpenalty%
93 \unskip\unkern\unpenalty \unskip\unkern\unpenalty
94 \setbox\@tempboxa\lastbox
95 \LWC@getlast@word\@tempboxa\LastWordBox
96 }
97 %\end{comment}
98 \ifnum \outputpenalty>-\@MM % not \supereject
99 \xdef\LWC@vsize{\global\size\the\size
100 \global\holdinginserts\the\holdinginserts}%
101 \global\size\z@ \global\holdinginserts\@ne
102 \else % \supereject, just output, don't look for word on next page
103 % \message{caused by super-eject.}
104 \global\setbox\@cclv\box\LWC@saved
105 \global\setbox\NextWordBox\hbox{}%
106 \FWLWCnorm@L@output
107 \global\setbox\FirstWordBox\box\NextWordBox
108 \fi
109 \else % saved page => just did tiny page to get next word
110 % \message{Just got next line:}{\tracingall\showboxdepth2 \showbox\@cclv}%
111 \setbox\@tempboxa\vbox{\penalty\LWC@pen\unvcopy\@cclv \LWC@getall@boxes
112 \ifvbox\LWC@box \penalty\LWC@pen\unvbox\LWC@box \LWC@getall@boxes\fi
113 \ifvbox\LWC@box \global\setbox\NextWordBox\hbox{}\else
114 \LWC@getfirst@word\LWC@box\NextWordBox
115 \fi}% Return tiny page to page list:
116 \unvbox\@cclv \ifnum \outputpenalty<\@M \penalty\outputpenalty\fi
117 \LWC@vsize\relax
118 \global\setbox\@cclv\box\LWC@saved
119 \FWLWCnorm@L@output
120 \global\setbox\FirstWordBox\box\NextWordBox
121 \fi\fi}
122

```

(End of definition for \FWLWCnormal@L@output.)

\LWC@getlast@word Globally get last word from a box #1 into another box #2

```

123 \def\LWC@getlast@word#1#2{\setbox\@tempboxa\vbox{\hsize\maxdimen \@parboxrestore
124 \hyphenpenalty\@M \exhyphenpenalty\@M
125 \rightskip\fill \looseness\@M \linepenalty\z@
126 \noindent\unhbox#1\endgraf
127 \unskip\unkern\unpenalty \global\setbox\LWC@box\lastbox

```

```
128 } \LWC@repack{#2}}
```

```
129
```

(End of definition for \LWC@getlast@word.)

\LWC@getfirst@word Globally get first word from a box #1 into another box #2

```
130 \def\LWC@getfirst@word#1#2{\setbox\@tempboxa\vbox{\@parboxrestore
131 \parshape\thr@@ \z@\z@ \z@\z@ \z@\maxdimen \parfillskip\fill
132 \hyphenpenalty\@M \exhyphenpenalty\@M
133 \hbadness\@MM \overfullrule\z@ \hfuzz\maxdimen
134 \ifhbox#1\noindent
135 \adjust{\penalty\LWC@pen}\penalty-\@M\unhbox#1% eliminate previous \leftskip
136 \else\ifvbox#1\penalty\LWC@pen\unvbox#1\fi\fi
137 \endgraf
138 \@tempcnta\z@ \LWC@getall@boxes}\LWC@repack{#2}}
139
```

(End of definition for \LWC@getfirst@word.)

\LWC@getall@boxes Go through a vertical list that starts with special penalty

```
140 \def\LWC@getall@boxes{\global\setbox\LWC@box\lastbox \unskip\unkern \unskip\unkern
141 \let\@tempa\relax
142 \ifvoid \LWC@box \advance\@tempcnta\@ne \else \@tempcnta\z@ \fi
143 \ifnum\lastpenalty=\LWC@pen \else \unpenalty\fi
144 \ifnum\lastpenalty=\LWC@pen \else \unpenalty\fi
145 \ifnum\lastpenalty=\LWC@pen \else \ifnum\@tempcnta<5
146 \let\@tempa\LWC@getall@boxes \fi \fi \unpenalty \@tempa}
147
```

(End of definition for \LWC@getall@boxes.)

\LWC@repack Put contents of \LWC@box into hbox #1

```
148 \def\LWC@repack#1{\global\setbox#1\hbox{\ifhbox\LWC@box
149 \unhbox\LWC@box\unskip\unskip\unpenalty\unskip
150 \else\ifvbox\LWC@box\box\LWC@box\fi\fi}}
```

(End of definition for \LWC@repack.)

The next chunk of code is a revised version of the original turnpageetex package.

```
151 % -----
152 %
```

\preflagword The user's macros

```
\postflagword 153 \newcommand*\preflagword{}\fi
\flagcont      154 \newcommand*\postflagword{}\fi
\flagend       155 \newcommand*\flagcont}{Continued}
\flagword      156 \newcommand*\flagend}{End}
\contsep       157 \newcommand*\flagword}{\preflagword\usebox\NextWordBox\postflagword}
\contdrop      158 \newlength{\contsep}\setlength{\contsep}{\marginparsep}
159 \newlength{\contdrop}\setlength{\contdrop}{0.5\footskip}
```

Adjust \flagcont when the word option is used.

```
160 \ifcontword
161 \let\flagcont\flagword
162 \fi
```

(End of definition for `\preflagword` and others. These functions are documented on page 3.)

`\c@ntoddpagespos` `\c@ntoddpagespos` calculates the position of the marker on odd pages.

```

163 \newcommand{\c@ntoddpagespos}{%
164   \dimen1=1in
165   \advance\dimen1 by \textwidth
166   \advance\dimen1 by \oddsidemargin
167   \dimen3=1in
168   \advance\dimen3 by \topmargin
169   \advance\dimen3 by \headheight
170   \advance\dimen3 by \headsep
171   \advance\dimen3 by \textheight
172   \ifcontmargin
173     \advance\dimen1 by \contsep
174   \else
175     \advance\dimen3 by \contdrop
176   \fi
177 }
```

(End of definition for `\c@ntoddpagespos`.)

`\c@ntevenpagespos` `\c@ntevenpagespos` calculates the position of the marker on even pages.

```

178 \newcommand{\c@ntevenpagespos}{%
179   \dimen1=1in
180   \advance\dimen1 by \textwidth
181   \advance\dimen1 by \evensidemargin
182   \dimen3=1in
183   \advance\dimen3 by \topmargin
184   \advance\dimen3 by \headheight
185   \advance\dimen3 by \headsep
186   \advance\dimen3 by \textheight
187   \ifcontmargin
188     \advance\dimen1 by \contsep
189   \else
190     \advance\dimen3 by \contdrop
191   \fi
192 }
```

(End of definition for `\c@ntevenpagespos`.)

`\c@outcontpage` Output continued marked page.

```

193 \newcommand{\c@outcontpage}{%
194   \ifnum\zref@extract{LastPage}{abspage}>\c@abspage
195     \ifcontmargin
196       \put(\dimen1,-\dimen3){\flagcont}%
197     \else
198       \put(\dimen1,-\dimen3){\llap{\flagcont}}%
199     \fi
200   \else
201     \ifcontmargin
202       \put(\dimen1,-\dimen3){\flagend}%
203     \else
204       \put(\dimen1,-\dimen3){\llap{\flagend}}%
205     \fi
206   \fi
207 }% end of \c@outcontpage
```

(End of definition for `\c@outcontpage`.)

Output the page and marks.

```

208 \AtBeginShipout{%
209 \AtBeginShipoutUpperLeft{%
210 \ifc@go
211 \ifodd\c@page
212 \c@ntoddpagapos
213 \c@outcontpage
214 \else
215 \ifcontallpages
216 \c@ntevenpagapos
217 \c@outcontpage
218 \fi
219 \fi
220 \fi
221 } % end AtBeginShipoutUpperLeft
222 } % end AtBeginShipout
223 %
224 </usc>

```

References

- [Ars95] Donald Arseneau. *fwlw.sty (First Word, Last Word)*. 1995. (Available from CTAN in `macros/latex/contrib/fwlw`).
- [GMS94] Michel Goossens, Frank Mittelbach, and Alexander Samarin. *The LaTeX Companion*. Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, 1994.
- [Luc15] Merciadri Luca. *turnpageetex.sty*. 2011. (Available from CTAN in `macros/latex/contrib/turnthepage`).

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