

# The ltcaption package\*

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## Abstract

This package fixes caption problems with other-than-centered aligned longtables.  
(solves [L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X PR tools/3387](#))

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# 1 The user interface

The content of `\caption` in longtables is usually centered to the content of the longtable itself. This is sufficient for centered longtables, but for left or right aligned longtables this results in captions moved into the left or right page margin.

To solve this problem just include this package *after* the longtable package[1], e.g.:

```
\usepackage{longtable, ltcaption}
```

Afterwards the captions of all longtables should be aligned as expected, even for not-centered longtables.

## 1.1 Further justification

`\LTcapskip` This length is controlling the skip between the caption and the contents below the caption (which is usually the longtable contents if you place the caption above the longtable), and it can be altered with `\setlength\LTcapskip{...}`. When the `ltcaption` package is loaded it will be set to `\abovecaptionskip` which usually represents the skip between caption and contents in floating environments. (Without this package, the longtable package uses `\baselineskip` here.)

`\LTcapleft` You can alter the centering of the caption box (of width `\LTcapwidth`) by setting the  
`\LTcapright` lengths `\LTcapleft` & `\LTcapright` to appropriate values. These are set to `\fill` by default, just like the values `\LTleft` & `\LTright`.

`\LTcapmarginfalse` Another option is the usage of the command `\LTcapmarginfalse` which makes the `ltcaption` package using the values `\LTleft` & `\LTright` instead of `\LTcapleft` & `\LTcapright`.

*Note:* If the `ltcaption` package will be used with one of the NTG document classes[2], `\CaptionLabelFont` & `\CaptionTextFont` will not only be used for figure & table captions, but for longtable captions as well.

*Note:* These lengths & commands do not work when the `ltcaption` package is used with one of the KOMA-Script classes[3] `scrartcl`, `scrreprt` or `scrbook`, the KOMA-Script settings for captions are used instead. Same with the `caption` package which also uses its own options and settings.

## 1.2 Bonus features

`\LTcapttype` As a bonus feature this package patches the longtable package so `\LTcapttype` will be used internally instead of the fixed caption type 'table'. So for example this code snippet:

```
\renewcommand\LTcapttype{figure}
\begin{longtable}{ll}
\caption{An example longtable}\\
A & B \\
\end{longtable}
```

will result in a longtable like this:

Figure 7: An example longtable

`longtable*` Another bonus feature is the addition of the environment `longtable*` which does not increment the `table` counter. (As a consequence, `\caption` is not available for such `longtables`, but `\caption*` still is.)

## 2 Spot the difference

Without the `ltablex` package:

---

Table 1: Left aligned longtable left aligned longtable left aligned  
longtable

This is only a test

Table 2: Right aligned longtable right aligned longtable right aligned  
longtable

This is only a test

Table 3: Centered longtable centered longtable centered longtable cen-  
tered longtable

This is only a test

---

With the `ltablex` package (and the default value of `\LTcapwidth`):

---

Table 4: Left aligned longtable left aligned longtable left aligned  
longtable

This is only a test

Table 5: Right aligned longtable right aligned longtable right aligned  
longtable

This is only a test

Table 6: Centered longtable centered longtable centered longtable cen-  
tered longtable

This is only a test

---

With the `ltablex` package and `\LTcapwidth=\linewidth`:

---

Table 7: Left aligned longtable left aligned longtable left aligned longtable left aligned longtable

This is only a test

Table 8: Right aligned longtable right aligned longtable right aligned longtable right aligned longtable

This is only a test

Table 9: Centered longtable centered longtable centered longtable centered longtable

This is only a test

---

With the `ltablex` package and `\LTcapleft=0pt` resp. `\LTcapright=0pt`:

---

Table 10: Left aligned longtable left aligned longtable left aligned longtable

This is only a test

Table 11: Right aligned longtable right aligned longtable right aligned longtable

This is only a test

---

With the `ltablex` package and `\LTcapleft=\tabcolsep` resp. `\LTcapright=\tabcolsep`:

---

Table 12: Left aligned longtable left aligned longtable left aligned longtable

This is only a test

Table 13: Right aligned longtable right aligned longtable right aligned longtable

This is only a test

With the `ltablex` package and `\LTcapmarginfalse`:

---

Table 14: Left aligned longtable left aligned longtable left aligned longtable

This is only a test

Table 15: Right aligned longtable right aligned longtable right aligned longtable

This is only a test

Table 16: Centered longtable centered longtable centered longtable centered longtable

This is only a test

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## References

- [1] David Carlisle: *The longtable package*, 2004/02/01
- [2] Victor Eijkhout: *An introduction to the Dutch L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X document classes*, 3 September 1989
- [3] Markus Kohm & Jens-Uwe-Morawski: *KOMA-Script – a versatile L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X 2<sub>ε</sub> bundle*, 2007-01-09
- [4] Olga Lapko: *The floatrow package documentation*, 2007/08/24