# Update marks in box\*

### WenJian Chern<sup>†</sup>

May 9, 2025 v0.4a

#### Abstract

There are some cases where one may put title in box and still want its \markboth working. This brings the updatemarks package. The updatemarks package provides interface to extract marks where are in a inner box and then can put the first and last marks back to outer. It can automatically update marks where are in minipage, boxed multicols and tcolorbox environments.

#### Contents

1	Usage of the package	1
2	minipage	2
3	Version 2.* of multicol	2
4	Version 1.* of multicol and adjmulticol	2
5	tcolorbox	2
6	Set automatical updating list	3
7	Generic interfaces of extracting and updating	3
8	Disable patches or write your own patches	4
9	Programming interfaces	4

# 1 Usage of the package

You simply insert \usepackage{updatemarks} or \usepackage[ $\langle options \rangle$ ] {updatemarks} in the preamble of your document.

There are three package options minipage, multicol(an optional s) and tcolorbox, which are used to enable the function of automatical updating marks in minipage, multicols and tcolorbox (both tcolorbox environment and \tcbox command), respectively.

No automatical updatings are enable, by default.

If your LaTeX version is 2022-06-01 or newer, you can use \SetKeys[updatemarks]  $\{\langle options \rangle\}$  to enable or disable automatical updating locally.

Such as,

\SetKeys[updatemarks]{minipage=false, tcolorbox=true, multicol}

<sup>\*</sup>Issues: https://github.com/Sophanatprime/updatemarks/issues

<sup>†</sup>Email: longaster@163.com

so marks in minipage would not update, whereas tcolorbox and multicols do.

The total empty mark will not be extracted and updated. But \markboth{}{} and \InsertMark{} do will be extracted and updated, because they are not total empty internally.

However, the updating is not once for all. For example, if you are using minipage in \makebox, even if you enable the automatical updating, the marks still can not be found by LaTeX. But, if you put minipage in tcolorbox or the other way round, LaTeX still can get correct marks.

The point is, updating marks is done inner to outer and level by level, if any level is not updated, you will lost all marks in inner boxes. Furthermore, whether marks are updated or not is only influenced by box level instead of group level, so if you try to limit marks in a certain position, you should use a box instead of \begingroup and \endgroup.

The extracting and updating would not remove these marks, they still be there, you can find them by your own method as well.

# 2 minipage

You can enable automatically extracting and updating marks where are in minipage to its nearest outer box level, by using minipage package option or set minipage key to true.

updatemarks patches the \endminipage, if you enable the function, marks in any other environments that use minipage will be updated, including varwidth of varwidth package, etc.

# 3 Version 2.\* of multicol

multicol has fully supported the new mark mechanism of LATEX since version 2.0, so no more things are needed to be done by updatemarks.

### 4 Version 1.\* of multicol and adjmulticol

If multicols or adjmulticols or their starred versions are put in a box — so called boxed multicols, you are able to earble automatically extracting and updating marks into the box (not outer of the box, because they are only updated one level). If you need to update marks in this box, you have to do it manually. Of cause, if the box is minipage or tcolorbox or another multicols or any other supported environments or commands, then no more things to do.

All multicols and adjmulticols and their starred versions share the same option multicol(an optional s).

For non boxed multicols, i.e, not in any other box except the main vertical list, the \topmark (and \topmarks) at first and last page are not correct. Multiple contiguous forced break or \clearpage may cause the wrong marks.

If your IATEX version is 2022-06-01 or newer, you can get more correct mark values by using \TopMark, \FirstMark and \LastMark in head and foot, but only the previous-page region and page region are supported. Still, Multiple contiguous forced break or \clearpage may cause the wrong marks.

#### 5 tcolorbox

The updatemarks package can also update marks in tcolorbox environments (both breakable and unbreakable) and \tcbox commands.

You are allowed to use updatemarks=true or updatemarks in \tcbset or as environment and command option to enable the function, and updatemarks=false to disable.

### 6 Set automatical updating list

updatemarks can automatically detect mark classes allocated by \newmarks and \NewMarkClass in preamble. But if you allocate mark class after preamble (which I strongly recommend you do not), updatemarks also provides interfaces to enable you add these mark class to automatical updating list. If you are not using these two commands, then nothing need to be done.

\AddToUpdateMarksList \SetUpdateMarksList \RemoveFromUpdateMarksList

```
\label{lem:list} $$\left( \operatorname{number\ list} \right) \le \operatorname{UpdateMarksList} \left( \operatorname{number\ list} \right) \le \operatorname{NemoveFromUpdateMarksList} \left( \operatorname{number\ list} \right) \le \operatorname{list} \right) $$
```

You can use these functions to globally add items to, set items, and remove items from the list of mark classes which need to be automatically updated.

The  $\langle number \rangle$  is the first argument of \newmarks, or literally, a number. Specially, for those mark classes declared by \NewMarkClass, you are able to use  $[\langle class \rangle]$  or \MarkClass{ $\langle class \rangle$ }. Such as

```
\RemoveFromUpdateMarksList { [2e-right], 4, \MarkClass{my-class} }
```

You can also use number ranges in  $\langle number\ list \rangle$ , such as 2 -> 5.

 $\verb| AddAllocatedToUpdateMarksList | \verb| AddAllocatedToUpdateMarksList| \\$ 

The function add all mark classes allocated by \newmarks and \NewMarkClass to automatical updating list.

### 7 Generic interfaces of extracting and updating

If you need to extract and update marks manually, \ExtractMarks, \ExtractSplitMarks and \UpdateMarks will help you.

\ExtractMarks

Save first marks and last marks of specified mark classes which are directly presented in  $\langle box\ number \rangle$  or  $\langle text \rangle$  if these marks is not total empty. Marks in deeper boxes will not be detected, unless they are moved out.

If  $\langle number\ list \rangle$  is presented, the mark classes are these numbers, otherwise they are the automatical updating list.

The  $\langle box\ number \rangle$  is the first argument of \newbox or \newsavebox, etc., and have saved contents by using lrbox or \sbox or similar.

The  $\langle text \rangle$  is typeset material and will be executed.

If the  $\langle box\ number \rangle$  is a vbox and contains forced page break, then all marks after the first forced page break will not be detected.

\ExtractSplitMarks

```
\label{limits} $$ \ExtractSplitMarks $$ \ExtractSplitMarks [(number list)] $$
```

This command is used after a \vsplit, and save first marks and last marks of specified mark classes which are directly presented in being split part if these marks is not total empty. Marks in deeper boxes will not be detected, unless they are moved out.

If  $\langle number\ list \rangle$  is presented, the mark classes are these numbers, otherwise they are the automatical updating list.

\UpdateMarks

```
\label{local_problem} $$ \DpdateMarks [(number list)] $$
```

Reinserting saved first marks and last marks of specified mark classes (if have been saved) into the current box, or if not in a box then the main vertical list.

If  $\langle number\ list \rangle$  is presented, the mark classes are these numbers, otherwise they are the automatical updating list.

insertmark hook would not be used as it's already been used.

```
\ExtractMarksTo
```

New: 2024-02-19

It collects all marks to  $\langle cmd \rangle$ , then you can use  $\langle cmd \rangle$  to reinsert these marks. insertmark hook would not be used as it's already been used.

# 8 Disable patches or write your own patches

By default, updatemarks use its own patches to support minipage, multicols and tcolorbox, however, you can write your own patches and remove the patches will be done by updatemarks.

To the patches for minipage, you can define \updatemarks@minipage@patch before updatemarks is loaded, then updatemarks will use your patches. Specially, if you set \updatemarks@minipage@patch to empty, then no patches will be done for \endminipage.

The patches for multicol, adjmulticol and tcolorbox, are \updatemarks@multicol@patch, \updatemarks@tcolorbox@patch and \updatemarks@multicolnewmark@patch, \updatemarks@adjmulticolnewmark@patch for new mark mechanism, you are able set them in preamble before or after updatemarks is loaded.

# 9 Programming interfaces

This section describes the interfaces of LATEX3.

Parse number list and save it to  $\langle seg\ var \rangle$ .

Programming interface of \ExtractMarks and \ExtractSplitMarks, respectively.

 $\langle seq \ var \rangle$  is the number sequence of mark classes which are need to be extracted.

They only save the marks whose positions are first or last.

\updatemarks\_extract:nNN

New: 2024-02-19

Programming interface of \ExtractMarksTo.

insertmark hook would not be used as it's already been used.

```
\frac{\texttt{\baseline{New:} 2024-02-19}}{\texttt{\baseline{New:} 2024-02-19}} \quad \texttt{\baseline{New:} 2024-02-19} \quad \texttt{\baseline{New:} 2024-02-19} \quad \texttt{\baseline{New:} 2024-02-19}
```

Run  $\langle code \rangle$  for every mark classes in  $\langle seq\ var \rangle$ , the code can use one parameter, which is the current mark class, and two tl variable \l\_updatemarks\_first\_tl and \l\_updatemarks\_-last\_tl, which save the first and last marks at specified mark class, respectively. If these two tl is not exist, then no marks at the mark class are inserted.

\updatemarks\_update:N

```
\updatemarks_update:N \langle seq var \rangle
```

This function has the same function of \UpdateMarks.

 $\langle seq\ var \rangle$  is the number sequence of mark classes which are need to be reinserted into the current box or the main vertical list.

It only reinserts marks whose positions are first or last.

insertmark hook would not be used as it's already been used.

#### \updatemarks\_save:Nnn

Saving marks at  $\langle position \rangle$  of specified mark classes  $\langle seq\ var \rangle$ , whose values are expanding  $\langle value\ code \rangle\ once$ .

If \l\_updatemarks\_nonempty\_bool is set to true, then the expanded value will not be saved if it is total empty.

The  $\langle value\ code \rangle$  receives each item in the  $\langle seq\ var \rangle$  as a trailing brace group, then expand the whole part of  $\langle value\ code \rangle$  and the trailing group once.

#### \updatemarks\_save\_e:Nnn

 $\verb|\quad temarks_save_e:Nnn| \langle seq var \rangle \ \{\langle position \rangle\} \ \{\langle value \ code \rangle\}|$ 

Saving marks at  $\langle position \rangle$  of specified mark classes  $\langle seq \ var \rangle$ , whose values are fully expanding  $\langle value \ code \rangle$ .

If \l\_updatemarks\_nonempty\_bool is set to true, then the expanded value will not be saved if it is total empty.

The  $\langle value\ code \rangle$  receives each item in the  $\langle seq\ var \rangle$  as a trailing brace group, then fully expand the whole part of  $\langle value\ code \rangle$  and the trailing group.

#### \updatemarks\_alias:Nnn

Setting marks at  $\langle alias\ position \rangle$  are equal to  $\langle source\ position \rangle$  of specified mark classes  $\langle seq\ var \rangle$ .

If \l\_updatemarks\_nonempty\_bool is set to true, then the expanded value will not be saved if it is total empty.

#### \updatemarks\_remove:Nn

 $\verb| updatemarks_remove:Nn | \langle seq | var \rangle | \{\langle position \rangle\}|$ 

Remove marks at  $\langle position \rangle$  of specified mark classes  $\langle seq var \rangle$ .

#### \updatemarks\_value:nn \*

 $\operatorname{\operatorname{Lip}} \{\langle \operatorname{position} \rangle\} \{\langle \operatorname{mark} \operatorname{class} \rangle\}$ 

Return the value of  $\langle mark\ class \rangle$  at  $\langle position \rangle$ . If it has not been saved, then return to total empty.

TeXhackers note: The result is returned within the \unexpanded primitive (\exp\_not:n).

### $\g_{updatemarks_max_int}$

Readonly interger, its value is the maximum mark class number allocated.

 $\g_updatemarks_seq$ 

The number sequence which holds the mark classes needed to be automatical updated.

### $\g_{updatemarks\_classes\_seq}$

Readonly number sequence which holds the mark classes allocated by **\NewMarkClass**. If **\NewMarkClass** is undefined, then it's empty.

#### \l\_updatemarks\_nonempty\_bool

A local bool variable which is used to control if is going to save a total empty value.

# \l\_updatemarks\_first\_tl \l\_updatemarks\_last\_tl

A local tl variable which are use to save the first and last marks.