

# The `linegoal`\* package

## A new “dimen” corresponding to the remainder of the line

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2010/12/07 – version 2.7

### Abstract

`linegoal` provides a macro `\linegoal` which expands to the dimension of the remainder of the line. It requires pdfTeX for its `\pdfsavepos` primitive. With pdfTeX, `\pdfsavepos` works in pdf mode (`\pdfoutput>0`) and also in dvi mode (`\pdfoutput=0`). Two compilations (at least) are necessary to get the correct line goal.

Saying: `\somedimen = \linegoal`

or: `\setlength \somedimen {\linegoal}`

sets `\somedimen` to be the (horizontal) length of the remainder of the current line. This can be useful for use with `tabu`, `tabularx`, or `tabular*` for example.

At first run: `\linegoal` expands to `\ linewidth` and writes the correct line goal into the `.aux` file.

Other runs: `\linegoal` expands to the value read in the `.aux` file and (eventually) updates the correct line-goal into the `.aux` file, if the value has changed.

**Limitation:** if `\linegoal` is used inside an expression with `\dimexpr`, `\glueexpr` or inside `\setlength` (package `calc`), then `\linegoal` must be at the very last position in the expression:

`\begin{tabu} to\dimexpr -2in + .5\linegoal {XX} ...`      } are admissible  
`\setlength \dimen@ {-2in + .5\linegoal }`

`linegoal` requires pdfTeX (in pdf or dvi mode) and the module `zref-savepos` of `zref` package.

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This documentation is produced with the +DocStrip+ utility.

- To get the documentation, run (thrice): `pdflatex linegoal.dtx`
- To get the index,      run:      `makeindex -s gind.ist linegoal.idx`
- To get the package,      run:      `etex linegoal.dtx`

The `.dtx` file is embedded into this pdf file thank to embedfile by H. Oberdiek.

# 1 User interface

## 1.1 \linegoal: a macro which behaves mostly like a dimen

The first aim of \linegoal is to give a facility to get the length of the remainder of the line. This is possible with pdfTeX and its \pdfsavepos primitive. For convenience, `linegoal` loads and uses the `zref-savepos` package from H. Oberdiek.

\pdfsavepos is supplied by pdfTeX in both pdf and dvi modes. If the document is not compiled with pdfTeX then \linegoal will expand to \linewidth in any case.

This is a tabularx that fills the remainder of the line:

```
\begin{tabularx}{\linegoal}{|l|X|}\hline
    Something & Something else \\
    Something & Something else \\ \hline
\end{tabularx}
```

Typical application is for tabulars of variable width like tabularx or tabu. Package tabu has a `linegoal` option to use \linegoal as default target for the whole tabular.

This is a tabularx that fills the remainder of the line:

Something	Something else
Something	Something else

This is a tabu that fills the half of the remainder of the line:

```
$\begin{tabu}{to .5\linegoal{| [red]X[$c]| [red]X[2$c]| [red]} \tabucline[red]-
    \alpha & \beta \\ \tabucline[on 2pt,red]-
    \gamma & \delta \\ \end{tabu}$
```

This is a tabu that fills the half of the remainder of the line:

$\alpha$	$\beta$
$\gamma$	$\delta$

Please, refer to tabu documentation for more information on the preamble and the command \tabucline used here as an example.

## 1.2 The verbose package option

You can load `linegoal` with the `[verbose]` option to get the line-goals as information in your `.log` file.

# 2 Implementation

## 2.1 Identification

- The package namespace is \LNGL@

```
1 {*package}
2 \NeedsTeXFormat{LaTeX2e}% LaTeX 2.09 can't be used (nor non-LaTeX)
3   [2005/12/01]% LaTeX must be 2005/12/01 or younger
4 \ProvidesPackage{linegoal}
5   [2010/12/07 v2.7 - A new dimen corresponding to the remainder of the line]
```

## 2.2 Requirements

The package requires zref and its module zref-savepos.

It requires `srcfile` for a patch when using the `calc` package.

```
6 \ifdefined\pdfsavepos\else % works also in dvi mode
7   \PackageWarning{linegoal}%
8     {This package requires pdfTeX for its \string\pdfsavepos\space primitive\MessageBreak}
```

```

9      pdfTeX has not been detected and \string\linegoal\space will expand\MessageBreak
10     to \string\linewidth\space in any case}
11 \gdef\linegoal{\linewidth}%
12 \expandafter\endinput
13 \fi
14 \RequirePackage{etex,zref,zref-savepos}
```

## 2.3 zref properties

```

15 \zref@newprop*{\linegoal}{[\linewidth]{\dimexpr
16   \linewidth-\the\pdflastxpos sp
17 +\ifodd\zref@extractdefault{\linegoal/posx.\the\LNGL@unique}{page}\c@page
18   \oddsidemargin
19 \else\evensidemargin
20 \fi
21 +1in+\hoffset
22 \relax
23 }% linegoal zref-property
```

## 2.4 The linegoal macro

\linegoal

```

24 \newcommand*\linegoal{%
25   \zref@extract{\linegoal.\the\LNGL@unique}{linegoal}\LNGL@setlinegoal
26 }% \linegoal
27 \globcount\LNGL@unique
28 \globdimen\LNGL@tempdim
29 \def\LNGL@setlinegoal{\relax\csname LNGL@set\ifdefined\calc@next!\fi\endcsname}
30 \expandafter\def\csname LNGL@set!\endcsname{!\LNGL@set}
31 \protected\def\LNGL@set{%
32   @bsphack
33   \if@filesw
34     \pdfsavepos
35     \zref@refused{\linegoal.\the\LNGL@unique}%
36     \LNGL@tempdim\zref@extractdefault{\linegoal.\the\LNGL@unique}{linegoal}\maxdimen
37     \zref@labelbyprops{\linegoal/posx.\the\LNGL@unique}{page, posx}%
38     \zref@labelbyprops{\linegoal.\the\LNGL@unique}{linegoal}%
39     \ifdim\zref@extract{\linegoal.\the\LNGL@unique}{linegoal}=\LNGL@tempdim
40       \LNGL@info
41     \else \expandafter\LNGL@warn%
42       \number\zref@extractdefault{\linegoal/posx.\the\LNGL@unique}{page}\c@page\relax
43     \fi
44     \global\advance\LNGL@unique\@ne
45   \else\LNGL@noauxerr
46   \fi
47   @esphack
48 }% \LNGL@set
```

## 2.5 Error, Warning and Info

```

49 \def\LNGL@noauxerr{\PackageError{linegoal}%
50   {\string\linegoal\space does not work if output file are disabled
51   \MessageBreak please check the value of \if@filesw!\@\ehd
52 }% \LNGL@noauxerr
53 \def\LNGL@warn#1\relax{\PackageWarning{linegoal}%
54   {\string\linegoal\space value on page #1 has changed
55   \MessageBreak since last run. Please rerun to get
56   \MessageBreak the correct value}%
57 }% \LNGL@warn
58 \def\LNGL@info{\message{Package linegoal Info:
59   \string\linegoal=\the\LNGL@tempdim\on@line, page \the\c@page}}
```

```
60 \let\LNGL@info\@empty
```

## 2.6 The verbose package option

\verbbose (package option)

```
61 \DeclareOption{verbose}{\let\LNGL@info \LNGL@@info}
62 \ProcessOptions
63 </package>
```

## 3 References

[1] *The zref package* by Heiko Oberdiek  
 2010/05/01 v2.17 New reference scheme for LaTeX2e  
[CTAN:help/Catalogue/entries/zref.html](http://CTAN:help/Catalogue/entries/zref.html)

[2] *The tabu package* by FC  
 2010/12/07 v1.5 - flexible LaTeX tabulars  
[CTAN:help/Catalogue/entries/tabu.html](http://CTAN:help/Catalogue/entries/tabu.html)

## 4 History

[2010/12/07 v2.7]

- Updated documentation. Compatibility with tabu package (version 1.5 – 2010/12/07).

[2010/11/30 v2.6]

- Added the verbose package option.

[2010/11/19 v2.2]

- Fix a bug when using a syntax like .5\linegoal.  
 Hence a better fitting with tabu package (version 1.4 – 2010/11/20).

[2010/10/31 v2.1]

- linegoal works also without pdfTeX, but \linegoal is replaced by \linewidth in any case.  
 A warning is displayed.

[2010/09/25 v2.0]

- New approach: \setlength is not used anymore.  
 \linegoal behaves more like a real dimen.  
 code like: \hspace\*\linegoal is now possible.

[2010/06/20 v1.2]

- Modification in warning message...

[2010/06/06 v1.1]

- The first release required some small corrections !

[2010/05/07 v1.0]

- First version.

## 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.

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