

# The pdfcolparallel package

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2019/12/29 v1.5

## Abstract

This packages fixes bugs in `parallel` and improves color support by using several color stacks that are provided by pdfTeX since version 1.40.

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\*Please report any issues at <https://github.com/ho-tex/oberdiek/issues>

# 1 Usage

```
\usepackage{pdfcolparallel}
```

The package `pdfcolparallel` loads package `parallel` [1] and redefines some macros to fix bugs.

If color stacks are available then package `parallel` is further patched to support them.

## 1.1 Option `rulebetweencolor`

Package `pdfcolparallel` also fixes the color for the rule between columns. Default color is `\normalcolor`. But this can be changed by using option `rulebetweencolor` for `\setkeys{parallel}` (see package `keyval`). The option takes a color specification as value. If the value is empty, then the default (`\normalcolor`) is used. Examples:

```
\setkeys{parallel}{rulebetweencolor=blue},
\setkeys{parallel}{rulebetweencolor={red}},
\setkeys{parallel}{rulebetweencolor={}}, % \normalcolor is
used
\setkeys{parallel}{rulebetweencolor=[rgb]{1,0,.5}}
```

## 1.2 Future

If there will be a new version of package `parallel` that adds support for color stacks, then this package may become obsolete.

# 2 Implementation

## 2.1 Identification

```
1 (*package)
2 \NeedsTeXFormat{LaTeX2e}
3 \ProvidesPackage{pdfcolparallel}%
4 [2019/12/29 v1.5 Color stacks support for parallel (H0)]%
```

## 2.2 Load and fix package `parallel`

Package `parallel` is loaded. Before options of package `pdfcolparallel` are passed to package `parallel`.

```
5 \DeclareOption*{%
6   \PassOptionsToPackage{\CurrentOption}{parallel}%
7 }
8 \ProcessOptions\relax
9 \RequirePackage{parallel}[2003/04/13]
10 \RequirePackage{infwarerr}[2007/09/09]
```

```
\pcp@ColorPatch
```

```
11 \begingroup\expandafter\expandafter\expandafter\endgroup
12 \expandafter\ifx\csname currentgrouplevel\endcsname\relax
13   \def\pcp@ColorPatch{%
14 \else
15   \def\pcp@ColorPatch{%
16     \@ifundefined{set@color}{%
17       \gdef\pcp@ColorPatch{%
```

```

18   }{%
19     \gdef\pcp@ColorPatch{%
20       \gdef\pcp@ColorResets{}%
21       \bgroup
22       \aftergroup\pcp@ColorResets
23       \aftergroup\egroup
24       \let\pcp@OrgSetColor\set@color
25       \let\set@color\pcp@SetColor
26       \edef\pcp@GroupLevel{\the\currentgrouplevel}%
27     }%
28   }%
29   \pcp@ColorPatch
30 }%

\pcp@SetColor
31 \def\pcp@SetColor{%
32   \ifnum\pcp@GroupLevel=\currentgrouplevel
33     \let\pcp@OrgAfterGroup\aftergroup
34     \def\aftergroup{%
35       \g@addto@macro\pcp@ColorResets
36     }%
37     \pcp@OrgSetColor
38     \let\aftergroup\pcp@OrgAfterGroup
39   \else
40     \pcp@OrgSetColor
41   \fi
42 }%
43 \fi

\pcp@CmdCheckRedef
44 \def\pcp@CmdCheckRedef#1{%
45   \begingroup
46   \def\pcp@cmd{#1}%
47   \afterassignment\pcp@CmdDo
48   \long\def\reserved@a
49 }
50 \def\pcp@CmdDo{%
51   \expandafter\ifx\pcp@cmd\reserved@a
52   \else
53     \edef\x*{\expandafter\string\pcp@cmd}%
54     \@PackageWarningNoLine{pdfcolparallel}{%
55       Command \x* has changed.\MessageBreak
56       Supported versions of package 'parallel':\MessageBreak
57       \space\space 2003/04/13\MessageBreak
58       The redefinition of \x* may\MessageBreak
59       not behave correctly depending on the changes%
60     }%
61   \fi
62   \expandafter\endgroup
63   \expandafter\def\pcp@cmd
64 }

65 \def\pcp@SwitchStack#1#2{}
66 \def\pcp@SetCurrent#1{}

\ParallelLText
67 \pcp@CmdCheckRedef\ParallelLText{%
68   \everypar{}}%

```

```

69 \@restorepar
70 \begingroup
71 \hbadness=3000 %
72 \let\footnote=\ParallelFootnote
73 \ParallelWhichBox=0 %
74 \global\setbox\ParallelLBox=\vbox\bgroup
75 \hsize=\ParallelLWidth
76 \aftergroup\ParallelAfterText
77 \begingroup
78 \afterassignment\ParallelCheckOpenBrace
79 \let\x=%
80 }{%
81 \everypar{}%
82 \@restorepar
83 \@nobreakfalse
84 \begingroup
85 \hbadness=3000 %
86 \let\footnote=\ParallelFootnote
87 \ParallelWhichBox=0 %
88 \global\setbox\ParallelLBox=\vbox\bgroup
89 \hsize=\ParallelLWidth
90 \linewidth=\ParallelLWidth
91 \pcp@SwitchStack{Left}\ParallelLBox
92 \aftergroup\ParallelAfterText
93 \pcp@ColorPatch
94 \begingroup
95 \afterassignment\ParallelCheckOpenBrace
96 \let\x=%
97 }

```

\ParallelRText

```

98 \pcp@CmdCheckRedef\ParallelRText{%
99 \everypar{}%
100 \@restorepar
101 \begingroup
102 \hbadness=3000 %
103 \ifnum\ParallelFNMode=\@ne
104 \let\footnote=\ParallelRFootnote
105 \else
106 \let\footnote=\ParallelFootnote
107 \fi
108 \ParallelWhichBox=\@ne
109 \global\setbox\ParallelRBox=\vbox\bgroup
110 \hsize=\ParallelRWidth
111 \aftergroup\ParallelAfterText
112 \begingroup
113 \afterassignment\ParallelCheckOpenBrace
114 \let\x=%
115 }{%
116 \everypar{}%
117 \@restorepar
118 \@nobreakfalse
119 \begingroup
120 \hbadness=3000 %
121 \ifnum\ParallelFNMode=\@ne
122 \let\footnote=\ParallelRFootnote
123 \else
124 \let\footnote=\ParallelFootnote

```

```

125 \fi
126 \ParallelWhichBox=\@ne
127 \global\setbox\ParallelRBox=\vbox\bgroup
128 \hsize=\ParallelRWidth
129 \linewidth=\ParallelRWidth
130 \pcp@SwitchStack{Right}\ParallelRBox
131 \aftergroup\ParallelAfterText
132 \pcp@ColorPatch
133 \begingroup
134 \afterassignment\ParallelCheckOpenBrace
135 \let\x=%
136 }

```

\ParallelParTwoPages

```

137 \pcp@CmdCheckRedef\ParallelParTwoPages{%
138 \ifnum\ParallelBoolVar=\@ne
139 \par
140 \begingroup
141 \global\ParallelWhichBox=\@ne
142 \newpage
143 \vbadness=10000 %
144 \vfuzz=3ex %
145 \splittopskip=\z@skip
146 \loop%
147 \ifnum\ParallelBoolVar=\@ne%
148 \ifnum\ParallelWhichBox=\@ne
149 \ifvoid\ParallelLBox
150 \mbox{} %
151 \newpage
152 \else
153 \global\ParallelWhichBox=\z@
154 \fi
155 \else
156 \ifvoid\ParallelRBox
157 \mbox{} %
158 \newpage
159 \else
160 \global\ParallelWhichBox=\@ne
161 \fi
162 \fi
163 \ifnum\ParallelWhichBox=\z@
164 \ifodd\thepage
165 \mbox{} %
166 \newpage
167 \fi
168 \hbox to\textwidth{%
169 \vbox{\vsplit\ParallelLBox to.98\textheight}%
170 }%
171 \else
172 \ifodd\thepage\relax
173 \else
174 \mbox{} %
175 \newpage
176 \fi
177 \hbox to\textwidth{%
178 \vbox{\vsplit\ParallelRBox to.98\textheight}%
179 }%
180 \fi

```

```

181         \vspace*{\filll}%
182         \newpage
183     \fi
184     \ifvoid\ParallelLBox
185         \ifvoid\ParallelRBox
186             \global\ParallelBoolVar=\z@
187         \fi
188     \fi
189     \ifnum\ParallelBoolVar=\@ne
190         \repeat
191     \par
192 \endgroup
193 \fi
194 }{%
```

Additional fixes:

- Unnecessary white space removed.
- \ifodd\thepage changed to \ifodd\value{page}.

```

195 \ifnum\ParallelBoolVar=\@ne
196     \par
197     \begingroup
198         \global\ParallelWhichBox=\@ne
199         \newpage
200         \vbadness=10000 %
201         \vfuzz=3ex %
202         \splittopskip=\z@skip
203         \loop%
204             \ifnum\ParallelBoolVar=\@ne%
205                 \ifnum\ParallelWhichBox=\@ne
206                     \ifvoid\ParallelLBox
207                         \mbox{}%
208                         \newpage
209                     \else
210                         \global\ParallelWhichBox=\z@
211                     \fi
212                 \else
213                     \ifvoid\ParallelRBox
214                         \null
215                         \newpage
216                     \else
217                         \global\ParallelWhichBox=\@ne
218                     \fi
219                 \fi
220             \ifnum\ParallelWhichBox=\z@
221                 \ifodd\value{page}%
222                     \null
223                     \newpage
224                 \fi
225             \hbox to\textwidth{%
226                 \pcp@SetCurrent{Left}%
227                 \setbox\z@=\vsplit\ParallelLBox to.98\textheight
228                 \vbox to.98\textheight{%
229                     \@texttop
230                     \unvbox\z@
231                     \@textbottom
232                 }%
233             }%
```

```

234         \else
235             \ifodd\value{page}%
236             \else
237                 \mbox{}%
238                 \newpage
239             \fi
240             \hbox to\textwidth{%
241                 \pcp@SetCurrent{Right}%
242                 \setbox\z@=\vsplit\ParallelRBox to.98\textheight
243                 \vbox to.98\textheight{%
244                     \@texttop
245                     \unvbox\z@
246                     \@textbottom
247                 }%
248             }%
249             \fi
250             \vspace*{\fill}%
251             \newpage
252         \fi
253         \ifvoid\ParallellBox
254             \ifvoid\ParallelRBox
255                 \global\ParallelBoolVar=\z@
256             \fi
257         \fi
258         \ifnum\ParallelBoolVar=\@ne
259             \repeat
260             \par
261         \endgroup
262         \pcp@SetCurrent{}%
263     \fi
264 }

```

## 2.3 Color stack support

```

265 \RequirePackage{pdfcol}[2007/12/12]
266 \ifpdfcolAvailable
267 \else
268     \PackageInfo{pdfcolparallel}{%
269         Loading aborted, because color stacks are not available%
270     }%
271     \expandafter\endinput
272 \fi

273 \pdfcolInitStack{pcp@Left}
274 \pdfcolInitStack{pcp@Right}

\pcp@Box

275 \newbox\pcp@Box

\pcp@SwitchStack

276 \def\pcp@SwitchStack#1#2{%
277     \pdfcolSwitchStack{pcp@#1}%
278     \global\setbox\pcp@Box=\vbox to 0pt{%
279         \pdfcolSetCurrentColor
280     }%
281     \aftergroup\pcp@FixBox
282     \aftergroup#2%
283 }

```

```

\pcp@FixBox
284 \def\pcp@FixBox#1{%
285   \global\setbox#1=\vbox{%
286     \unvbox\pcp@Box
287     \unvbox#1%
288   }%
289 }

\pcp@SetCurrent
290 \def\pcp@SetCurrent#1{%
291   \ifx\#1\%
292     \pdfcolSetCurrent{}%
293   \else
294     \pdfcolSetCurrent{pcp@#1}%
295   \fi
296 }

```

## 2.4 Redefinitions

```

\ParallelParOnePage
297 \pcp@CmdCheckRedef\ParallelParOnePage{%
298   \ifnum\ParallelBoolVar=\@ne
299     \par
300     \begingroup
301       \leftmargin=\z@
302       \rightmargin=\z@
303       \parskip=\z@skip
304       \parindent=\z@
305       \vbadness=10000 %
306       \vfuzz=3ex %
307       \splittopskip=\z@skip
308       \loop
309         \ifnum\ParallelBoolVar=\@ne
310           \noindent
311           \hbox to\textwidth{%
312             \hskip\ParallelLeftMargin
313             \hbox to\ParallelTextWidth{%
314               \ifvoid\ParallelLBox
315                 \hskip\ParallelLWidth
316               \else
317                 \ParallelWhichBox=\z@
318                 \vbox{%
319                   \setbox\ParallelBoxVar
320                     =\vsplit\ParallelLBox to\dp\strutbox
321                   \unvbox\ParallelBoxVar
322                 }%
323               \fi
324               \strut
325               \ifnum\ParallelBoolMid=\@ne
326                 \hskip\ParallelMainMidSkip
327                 \vrule
328               \else
329                 \hss
330               \fi
331             \hss
332             \ifvoid\ParallelRBox
333               \hskip\ParallelRWidth

```



```

334         \else
335         \ParallelWhichBox=\@ne
336         \vbox{%
337         \setbox\ParallelBoxVar
338         =\vsplit\ParallelRBox to\dp\strutbox
339         \unvbox\ParallelBoxVar
340         }%
341     \fi
342 }%
343 }%
344 \ifvoid\ParallelLBox
345 \ifvoid\ParallelRBox
346 \global\ParallelBoolVar=\z@
347 \fi
348 \fi%
349 \fi%
350 \ifnum\ParallelBoolVar=\@ne
351 \penalty\interlinepenalty
352 \repeat
353 \par
354 \endgroup
355 \fi
356 }{%
357 \ifnum\ParallelBoolVar=\@ne
358 \par
359 \begingroup
360 \leftmargin=\z@
361 \rightmargin=\z@
362 \parskip=\z@skip
363 \parindent=\z@
364 \vbadness=10000 %
365 \vfuzz=3ex %
366 \splittopskip=\z@skip
367 \loop
368 \ifnum\ParallelBoolVar=\@ne
369 \noindent
370 \hbox to\textwidth{%
371 \hskip\ParallelLeftMargin
372 \hbox to\ParallelTextWidth{%
373 \ifvoid\ParallelLBox
374 \hskip\ParallelLWidth
375 \else
376 \pcp@SetCurrent{Left}%
377 \ParallelWhichBox=\z@
378 \vbox{%
379 \setbox\ParallelBoxVar
380 =\vsplit\ParallelLBox to\dp\strutbox
381 \unvbox\ParallelBoxVar
382 }%
383 \fi
384 \strut
385 \ifnum\ParallelBoolMid=\@ne
386 \hskip\ParallelMainMidSkip
387 \begingroup
388 \pcp@RuleBetweenColor
389 \vrule
390 \endgroup
391 \else

```

```

392         \hss
393     \fi
394     \hss
395     \ifvoid\ParallelRBox
396         \hskip\ParallelRWidth
397     \else
398         \pcp@SetCurrent{Right}%
399         \ParallelWhichBox=\@ne
400         \vbox{%
401             \setbox\ParallelBoxVar
402                 =\vsplit\ParallelRBox to\dp\strutbox
403             \unvbox\ParallelBoxVar
404         }%
405     \fi
406 }%
407 }%
408 \ifvoid\ParallelLBox
409     \ifvoid\ParallelRBox
410         \global\ParallelBoolVar=\z@
411     \fi
412 \fi%
413 \fi%
414 \ifnum\ParallelBoolVar=\@ne
415     \penalty\interlinepenalty
416 \repeat
417 \par
418 \endgroup
419 \pcp@SetCurrent{}%
420 \fi
421 }

```

\pcp@RuleBetweenColorDefault

```

422 \def\pcp@RuleBetweenColorDefault{%
423     \normalcolor
424 }

```

\pcp@RuleBetweenColor

```

425 \let\pcp@RuleBetweenColor\pcp@RuleBetweenColorDefault

426 \RequirePackage{keyval}
427 \define@key{parallel}{rulebetweencolor}{%
428     \edef\pcp@temp{#1}%
429     \ifx\pcp@temp\@empty
430         \let\pcp@RuleBetweenColor\pcp@RuleBetweenColorDefault
431     \else
432         \edef\pcp@temp{%
433             \noexpand\@ifnextchar[{%
434                 \def\noexpand\pcp@RuleBetweenColor{%
435                     \noexpand\color\pcp@temp
436                 }%
437             \noexpand\pcp@GobbleNil
438             }{%
439                 \def\noexpand\pcp@RuleBetweenColor{%
440                     \noexpand\color{\pcp@temp}%
441                 }%
442             \noexpand\pcp@GobbleNil
443             }%
444             \pcp@temp\noexpand\@nil

```

```

445     }%
446     \pcp@temp
447     \fi
448 }

\pcp@GobbleNil

449 \long\def\pcp@GobbleNil#1\@nil{}

450 \</package>

```

## 3 Installation

### 3.1 Download

**Package.** This package is available on CTAN<sup>1</sup>:

[CTAN:macros/latex/contrib/oberdiek/pdfcolparallel.dtx](#) The source file.

[CTAN:macros/latex/contrib/oberdiek/pdfcolparallel.pdf](#) Documentation.

**Bundle.** All the packages of the bundle ‘oberdiek’ are also available in a TDS compliant ZIP archive. There the packages are already unpacked and the documentation files are generated. The files and directories obey the TDS standard.

[CTAN:install/macros/latex/contrib/oberdiek.tds.zip](#)

*TDS* refers to the standard “A Directory Structure for T<sub>E</sub>X Files” ([CTAN:pkg/tds](#)). Directories with `texmf` in their name are usually organized this way.

### 3.2 Bundle installation

**Unpacking.** Unpack the `oberdiek.tds.zip` in the TDS tree (also known as `texmf` tree) of your choice. Example (linux):

```
unzip oberdiek.tds.zip -d ~/texmf
```

### 3.3 Package installation

**Unpacking.** The `.dtx` file is a self-extracting docstrip archive. The files are extracted by running the `.dtx` through plain T<sub>E</sub>X:

```
tex pdfcolparallel.dtx
```

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

```

pdfcolparallel.sty → tex/latex/oberdiek/pdfcolparallel.sty
pdfcolparallel.pdf → doc/latex/oberdiek/pdfcolparallel.pdf
pdfcolparallel.dtx → source/latex/oberdiek/pdfcolparallel.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.

---

<sup>1</sup>[CTAN:pkg/pdfcolparallel](#)

### 3.4 Refresh file name databases

If your T<sub>E</sub>X distribution (T<sub>E</sub>X Live, MiK<sub>T</sub>E<sub>X</sub>, ...) relies on file name databases, you must refresh these. For example, T<sub>E</sub>X Live users run `texhash` or `mktextlsr`.

### 3.5 Some details for the interested

**Unpacking with L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X.** The `.dtx` chooses its action depending on the format:

**plain T<sub>E</sub>X:** Run `docstrip` and extract the files.

**L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X:** Generate the documentation.

If you insist on using L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X for `docstrip` (really, `docstrip` does not need L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X), then inform the `autodetect` routine about your intention:

```
latex \let\install=y\input{pdfcolparallel.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 pdfL<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X:

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

## 4 References

- [1] Matthias Eckermann: *The parallel-package*; 2003/04/13;  
[CTAN:pkg/parallel](#).
- [2] Heiko Oberdiek: *The pdfcol package*; 2007/09/09;  
[CTAN:pkg/pdfcol](#).

## 5 History

[2007/09/09 v1.0]

- First version.

[2007/12/12 v1.1]

- Adds patch for setting `\linewidth` to fix bug in package `parallel`.
- Package `parallel` is also fixed if color stacks are not available.
- Bug fix, switched stacks now initialized with current color.
- Fix for package `parallel`: `\raggedbottom` is respected.

[2008/08/11 v1.2]

- Code is not changed.
- URLs updated.

[2010/01/11 v1.3]

- Option ‘rulebetweenecolor’ added.

[2016/05/16 v1.4]

- Documentation updates.

[2019/12/29 v1.5]

- `\PassOptionsToPackage` not `\PassoptionsToPackage`

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