The placeins package*

Donald Arseneau †

April 18, 2005

Placeins.sty keeps floats 'in their place', preventing them from floating past a "\FloatBarrier" command into another section. To use it, declare "\usepackage{placeins}" and insert "\FloatBarrier" at places that floats should not move past, perhaps at every "\section".

Option: [section]

A more convenient way to stop floats at section boundaries is to change the definition of "\section" to include "\FloatBarrier", either at the beginning, before "\@startsection", or in the 'style' specification (see The IAT_EX Companion, section 2.2.2; or 2.3 in the 1st ed). If you specify "\usepackage[section]{placeins}", then the "\section" command will be redefined with "\FloatBarrier" inserted at the beginning.

Options: [above] [below]

Something you may not like is that, by default, "\FloatBarrier" is very strict, and will (try to) prevent a float from appearing above the start of the current section or below the start of the next section, even though the float is still on the same page as its intended section. Each restriction can be relaxed separately by using the "[above]" and "[below]" package options: "[above]" allows floats to appear above their section, if on the same page; "[below]" allows below.

NOTE! The original version of placeins.sty acted like it was loaded with the option "[above]" specified.

There is a problem with $L^{T}EX$'s "\suppressfloats" being out of step with the page breaking (see usenet msg <yfi656pbsn0.fsf@triumf.ca> and thread) which sometimes allows a float to go above a "\FloatBarrier" placed near the top of a page. Maybe placeins will fix it sometime later.

Option: [verbose]

There is a package option "[verbose]" that causes many messages to be written in the log file. It might be used to answer the question: 'How did *that* get *there*?!?'