

`\ullrcorners`

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1 Package features

`\ullrcorners` provides a command to surround a word or a sequence or words by small corners on the upper left and lower right sides, like `this`. The typographical convention is inspired by [Friedl \(2006\)](#), where it is used to delimit regular expressions.

`\ullrcorners` The command `\ullrcorners` surrounds the word or sequence of words in argument by corners. The example above is typeset using:

```
\ullrcorners{this}
```

`ullrcornerscolor` If, and only if, a color `ullrcornerscolor` is defined in the preamble, the package will use this color instead of the default text color to draw the corners. Therefore, the example above is really obtained by loading `xcolor` with the option `x11names`, and by defining the color in the preamble:

```
\colorlet{ullrcornerscolor}{Snow4}
```

That is pretty much all there is in terms of package features.

2 Customization

You may customize the appearance of the corners by redefining the following lengths using `\setlength` (see [Figure 1](#) for a visual summary):

`\ullrcornerslinewidth` (default 0.8 pt)

rule thickness of the corners;

`\ullrcornersshlength` (default 0.6 ex)

length of the horizontal rules;

`\ullrcornerssvlength` (default 1.5 times `\ullrcornersshlength`)

length of the vertical rules;

`\ullrcornerssvgap` (default `\ullrcornerslinewidth`)

space between the horizontal rules and the text;

`\ullrcornersshgap` (default `\ullrcornerssvgap`)

space between the vertical rules and the text.

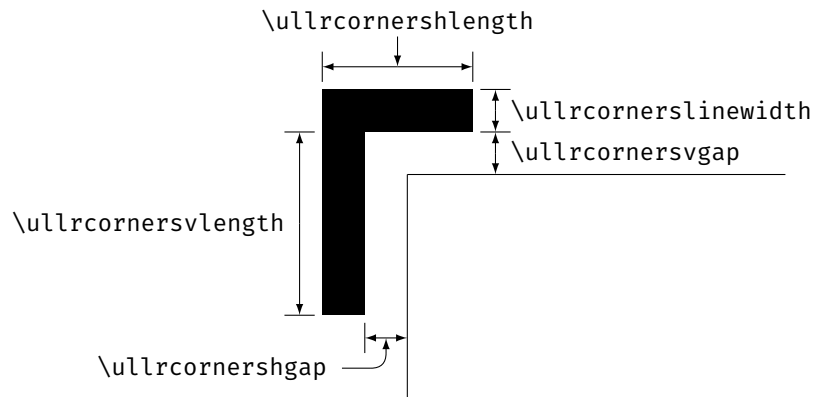


Figure 1: Parameters of the corners (shown here for the upper left corner)

The package does not provide support for asymmetrical upper left and lower right corners.

A Implementation

First, we define the lengths needed by the package and set their default values.

```

1 \newlength\ullrcornerslinewidth
2 \newlength\ullrcornerslength
3 \newlength\ullrcornersvlength
4 \newlength\ullrcornerssvgap
5 \newlength\ullrcornersshgap
6 \setlength\ullrcornerslinewidth{0.8pt}
7 \setlength\ullrcornerslength{0.6ex}
8 \setlength\ullrcornersvlength{1.5\ullrcornerslength}
9 \setlength\ullrcornerssvgap{\ullrcornerslinewidth}
10 \setlength\ullrcornersshgap{\ullrcornerssvgap}

```

Second, we will need a command to set the color of the corners. By default, this command does nothing. However, if a color `\ullrcornerscolor` is defined at the beginning of the document, then the command is redefined as a call to `\color` (this assumes that a color package is loaded).

```

11 \newcommand*\ullrc@color{\relax}
12 \AtBeginDocument{%
13   \ifundefined{\string\color@ullrcornerscolor}{}{%
14     \renewcommand\ullrc@color{\color{\ullrcornerscolor}}}}

```

Finally, we define the robust user command `\ullrcorners`. It draws the corners using \TeX rules and boxes.

```

15 \DeclareRobustCommand{\ullrcorners}[1]{%
16   \setbox\z@ \hbox{\kern\ullrcornersshgap #1\kern\ullrcornersshgap}%
17   \dimen\z@ = \dimexpr\ullrcornerslinewidth + \ullrcornerssvgap + \dp\z@
18   \setbox\tw@ \hbox to\dimexpr\wd\z@ + 2\ullrcornerslinewidth{%

```

```

19   \hfil%
20   \vbox{%
21     \ullrc@color%
22     \hbox to\ullrcornersshlength{%
23       \hfil\vrule \@height\ullrcornerssvlength \@width\ullrcornerslinewidth%
24     }%
25     \hrule \@height\ullrcornerslinewidth
26   }%
27 }%
28 \dimen\tw@=\dimexpr\ullrcornerssvgap-\ullrcornerssvlength
29 \leavevmode%
30 \vbox{%
31   \offinterlineskip
32   \vbox{%
33     \ullrc@color%
34     \hrule \@height\ullrcornerslinewidth
35     \hbox to\ullrcornersshlength{%
36       \vrule \@height\ullrcornerssvlength \@width\ullrcornerslinewidth\hfil
37     }%
38   }
39   \kern\dimen\tw@
40   \hbox{\kern\ullrcornerslinewidth\box\z@}%
41   \kern\dimen\tw@
42   \hbox{\raise -\dimen\z@\box\tw@}%
43 }%
44 }

```

References

Friedl, J. E. F. (2006). *Mastering Regular Expressions*. 3rd ed. O'Reilly Media. ISBN 0-59652812-4.

Version history

0.1	macro as a robust command. 2
First private version. 1	Implementation: fix boxes such
0.2	that the horizontal space
Fix usage of the main macro at	between the text and the
the beginning of a paragraph. 1	corners really is
0.3	\ullrcornersshgap without
Fix underfull horizontal boxes	hacks. 2
caused by the upper left	Implementation: the main macro
corner. 1	now has only one argument
1.0	and uses the color
First public release. 1	ullrcornerscolor if it is
Implementation: declare the main	defined in the preamble. 2