THE DASHRULEX PACKAGE

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Draw dashed rules

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The dashrulex package provides a flexible solution for drawing dashed rules in the body, and currently provides two commands `\hdashrule` and `\hanyrule`. It's written in LaTeX3 and can be used as an alternative to the dashrule package.

Table of Contents

1. Preface

Sometimes it is necessary to draw dashed rules when writing documents, such as guides in the table of contents and indexes, horizontal lines in headers and footers, and even adding horizontal lines after headings. Macro packages such as dashrule and nccrules are available to accomplish this. Considering that dashrule has not been updated for a long time, dashrulex rewrites it using LaTeX3 syntax and enhances it a bit.

2. User commands

`\hdashrule[`⟨*raise*⟩`][`⟨*leader*⟩`]{`⟨*width*⟩`}{`⟨*thickness*⟩`}{`⟨*dash rules*⟩`}`
The command to draw horizontal dashed rules, based on the `\rule` command, and the same as the `\rule` command when the dash rules are empty. ⟨*raise*⟩ is the vertical offset of the rule. ⟨*leader*⟩ is the alignment of the dashed line fill, which can be empty, c, or x (the default), corresponding to the `\leaders`, `\cleaders`, and `\xleaders` commands, respectively. ⟨*width*⟩ is the length of the dashed rule, which can be set to `\fill` to indicate an arbitrarily long distance when you need to fill the entire horizontal center of the plate. ⟨*dash rules*⟩ is expressed as ⟨*length 1*⟩`|`⟨*length a*⟩`,`⟨*length 2*⟩`|`⟨*length b*⟩`,`..., where ⟨*length 1*⟩ represents the length of the

solid line and ⟨*length a*⟩ represents the length of the empty space, such as `5pt|2pt,3pt`, if the empty space is empty, then it is equal to the solid line length.

```
1X\rule{2cm}{1pt}x \\
2X\hdashrule{2cm}{1pt}{}x \\
3X\hdashrule{2cm}{1pt}{1pt}x \\
4X\hdashrule{4cm}{1pt}{1pt}x \\
5X\hdashrule[0.5ex]{4cm}{1pt}{1pt}x \\
6X\hdashrule[0.5ex]{4cm}{1pt}{3mm}x \\
7X\hdashrule[0.5ex]{4cm}{1mm}{3mm}x \\
8X\hdashrule[0.5ex]{4cm}{1mm}{3mm|3pt}x \\
9X\hdashrule[0.5ex]{4cm}{1mm}{3mm|3pt,1mm|2pt}x
```

1X——————————x
2X——————————x
3X..........................x
4X...x
5X···x
6X— — — — — — x
7X▬ ▬ ▬ ▬ ▬ ▬ x
8X▬▬▬▬▬▬▬▬▬ x
9X▬▪▬▪▬▪▬▪▬▪ x

\hanyrule[⟨*leader*⟩]{⟨*width*⟩}{⟨*symbol list*⟩}

This command sets the length of the dotted rule and fills it with arbitrary symbols. ⟨*symbol list*⟩ can be more than one symbol and they are separated by commas. Symbols are best packed in boxes of a certain length, as spacing between symbols is not provided.

```
1X\hanyrule[]{5cm}{\makebox[6pt][l]{$\cdot$}}x \\
2X\hanyrule[c]{5cm}{\makebox[6pt][l]{$\cdot$}}x \\
3X\hanyrule[x]{5cm}{\makebox[6pt][l]{$\cdot$}}x \\
4X\hanyrule[x]{5cm}{\makebox[6pt][c]{$\cdot$}}x \\
5X\hanyrule[x]{5cm}{\makebox[6pt][c]{$\cdot$},\makebox[6pt]{$\circ$}}x
```

1X · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · x
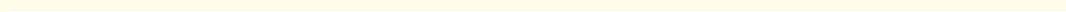
```
2X · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · x
3X· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · x
4X · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·x
5X · o · o · o · o · o · o · o · o · o · ox
```

3. Known issues

Currently only horizontal dashed line drawing is supported, with future plans to support vertical dashed lines, and even box dashed borders and so on.

A. References

[Pak13] Scott Pakin. dashrule. version 1.3, Mar. 28, 2013 (or newer).
URL: https://www.ctan.org/pkg/dashrule.

[Roz05] Alexander I. Rozhenko. nccrules. version 1.0, May 13, 2005 (or newer).
URL: https://ctan.org/pkg/nccrules.

[Tea22] The LaTeX Project Team. The LaTeX3 Interfaces. Feb. 24, 2022 (or newer).
URL: https://ctan.org/pkg/l3kernel.

B. Index