versonotes: Notes on verso pages

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Release 0.2

This package allows you to place notes on the verso pages of an otherwise single-sided document. If, in the run of text, you include a call to the macro `\versonote{This is a remark}`, then that text will be placed on the opposite (ie, 'verso') page, lined up with the macro call. The notes may contain more than one paragraph.

All the pages in the document appear as recto pages (ie, right-hand pages), and are numbered as such; the document should be formatted with that in mind.

Since there is no page opposite the first page, any notes which are positioned to appear opposite page 1 are silently discarded.

To invoke the package, use the command `\usepackage{versonotes}`.

The dimensions `\versoleftmargin` and `\versotextwidth` specify the position of the text block on the verso page. The defaults for these are based on the `\textwidth` and `\evensidemargin` of the document at the time the package is loaded. By default, verso paragraphs are set ragged-left; with the declarations in `\versolayout` setting the paragraph parameters. You may reset the first two dimensions with for example `\versoleftmargin=4cm`, and use `\renewcommand\versolayout{...}` to override the paragraph formatting (this will typically require changing `\rightskip`, `\leftskip` and `\parfillskip`). For more elaborate effects (for example changing the note font size and spacing), you will need to redefine `\versolayout`.

If two notes come too close after one another, the second would overprint the first if we did not take steps to avoid this. By default, they are separated from each other by a short horizontal line, but if the mergecollisions option is provided when loading the package, then such notes are instead merged into a single block of text. If a sequence of notes needs to be merged, then they will be added to the merged block one at a time in successive LaTeX runs, since merging one note may make it unnecessary to merge the next. If a large block of such notes need to be merged, it will therefore take several runs before the package finds a stable state. If you find yourself inconvenienced by this, it sounds as if you are preparing a critical edition, and you might want to venture into a closer relationship with the {eledmac} package.[1]

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[1] `http://www.ctan.org/pkg/eledmac`

Notes

- The package uses the `\pdfsavepos` primitive, and so requires `pdflatex` or `xelatex` (and `luatex`?).

- The notes are handled using the `.aux` file, and so (i) they will only appear on the second and subsequent runs; and (ii) they will be located opposite the position where the `\versonote` macro was called on the *previous* run.