

The `ftcap` package

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Lamport places the `\caption` below tables and figures. That is ok for figures but not for tables, as tables may be longer than one page. In this case the reader has to search for the `\caption` until he finds it after a couple of pages. If you have the `\caption` at the top of the table there is no such problem. And as the `\caption` of a table should always be at the same place, we have to place the `\caption` *always* at the top of the table. If you want `\caption` above tabular, you cannot use the normal `\caption`, because the spaces above and below `\caption` are wrong. Some stys (e.g. `topcapt.sty`) recommend to have a special makro like `\topcaption` for captions above an object. I prefer to have ONE caption and changing the spaces whenever we are within a `table` environment. That's what this sty does.

Lamport plaziert seine `\caption` ueber Tabellen und Bildern. Bei Bildern ist das ok. Bei mehrseitigen Tabellen muss man allerdings nach der `\caption` suchen, so dass es guenstiger erscheint, die `\caption` *oberhalb* der Tabelle zu setzen. Und das sollte natuerlich um der Einheitlichkeit willen dann auch bei kuerzeren Tabellen so sein. Wenn die `\caption` bei Tabellen ueber der Tabelle, bei Bildern aber daruntersteht, braucht man verschiedene Werte fuer `\abovecaptionskip` und `\belowcaptionskip`. Gelegentlich werden dazu zwei makros, `\tablecaption` und `\figurecaption` oder auch `\topcaption` vorgeschlagen, aber das finde ich umstaendlich und fehleranfaellig. `\caption` ist `\caption` und der Nutzer soll sich nicht um Details kuemmern. Daher also:

```

1 % from book.cls
2 %% \renewenvironment{figure}
3 %% {\@float{figure}}
4 %% {\end@float}
5
6 %% \newenvironment{table}
7 %% {\@float{table}}
8 %% {\end@float}
9
10 \newcommand{\@ldtable}{}
11 \let\@ldtable\table
12 \renewcommand{\table}{%
13     \setlength{\@tempdima}{\abovecaptionskip}%
14     \setlength{\abovecaptionskip}{\belowcaptionskip}%
15     \setlength{\belowcaptionskip}{\@tempdima}%
16     \@ldtable}%

```

List of Changes

Version: 1.4 – Die optionalen Parameter von `table` sollten nun gehen

Version: 1.3 – Einige Versuche rueckgaengig gemacht

Version: 1.2 – Es heisst nun `\ProvidesPackage{ftcap}` ohne `sty`
 ausserdem stimmt das Datum

Version: 1.1 –