The **fwlw** package

First Word, Last Word

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Modifications to LaTeX output mechanism to determine the first and last words on the current page, plus the first word on the *next* page. These can be used in head-lines or foot-lines. The 'words' you see may not be real words, but any unbreakable object.

Such labelling does not make sense when `\chapter` generates a page break, so the last page before a `\chapter` (or any `\clearpage`) gets a blank "next word", and the first page of the chapter gets a blank "first word". There is a problem when footnotes split: the "next word" is blank.

Two pagestyles are defined to print these words: `\pagestyle{NextWordFoot}` which helps you read ahead to the word on the next page; and `\pagestyle{fwlwhead}` which is like the headers in a lexicon. Or you can use the words in your own page-style. . .

The words are available in the box registers:

`\FirstWordBox` – first word on this page

`\NextWordBox` – first word on next page

`\LastWordBox` – last word on this page

Use them in your header lines like: `\copy\LastWordBox`.

Note that 'words' may be things like:

- `two~words`

- `[ ]Word` (`[ ]` represents a parindent box)

- a whole displayed equation

- the first column of an aligned equation

- anomalously blank, if there are `\write`s or split footnotes etc.

- partial words like `par-` or `-tial`.

An entirely different approach is possible using `\mark` and `\obeyspaces`, and would have different problems. The problems with catcode changes may be more or less serious for your particular application. You are welcome to write a package using that method. The best solution would involve `\mark` and an input filter program to '`\w{tag} \w{each} \w{word}, \w{in} \w{some} \w{way}`.'