1 User-level interface

Lua-UL uses new capabilities of the LuaTeX engine to provide underlining/strikethrough/highlighting etc. support without breaking ligatures, kerning or restricting input. The predefined user-level commands are \underLine, \highlight, and \strikeThrough. (\highlight will only work correctly if the luacolor package is loaded) They are used as

\documentclass{article}
\usepackage{lua-ul}
\begin{document}
This package is \strikeThrough{useless}\underLine{awesome}!
\end{document}

This package is useless\textcolor{yellow}{awesome}!

For limited compatibility with soul, the soul package option allows you to use the traditional macro names from soul instead:

\documentclass{article}
\usepackage[soul]{lua-ul}
\begin{document}
This package is \textit{useless}\ul{awesome}!
\end{document}

The \highlight command highlights the argument in yellow by default. This color can be changed either by providing a color as optional argument or by changing the default through \LuaULSetHighLightColor:

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*This document corresponds to Lua-UL v0.1.4, dated 2021/05/12.*
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage{xcolor,luacolor,lua-ul}
\LuaULSetHighLightColor{green}
\begin{document}
Lots of stuff is \highlight{important enough to be highlighted}, but only few things are dangerous enough to deserve \highlight[red]{red highlighting}.
\LuaULSetHighLightColor{yellow}
Let’s go back to traditional \highlight{highlighting}.
\end{document}

Lots of stuff is \highlight{important enough to be highlighted}, but only few things are dangerous enough to deserve \highlight[red]{red highlighting}.
Let’s go back to traditional \highlight{highlighting}.

2 Expert interface

\newunderlinetype
Sometimes, you might try to solve more interesting problems than boring underlining, strikethrough or highlighting. Maybe you always wanted to be your own spell checker, want to demonstrate your love for ducks or you think that the traditional \strikeThrough is not visible enough. For all these cases, you can define your own “underlining” command based on a \TeX \leaders command.

For this, use \newunderlinetype{macro name}[\langle context specifier\rangle]{\langle leaders command\rangle}

First, you have to pass the name of the command which should enable your new kind of underlining. (If you want to have an additional command which takes an argument and underlines this argument, you will have to define this manually.) The optional argument provides a “context”: This “context” has to expand to a string (something that can appear in a csname) which changes if the leaders box should be recalculated. The leader will be cached and reused whenever the context evaluates to the same string. So if your leaders should depend on the fontsize, the expansion of the context should contain the font size. If you leaders contain text in the current font, your context should include \fontname. The default context includes the current size of \textsize and the current color if luacolor is loaded.

The final argument contains the actual leader command. You should omit the final glue normally passed to \leaders, so e.g. write \leaders\hbox{ . } without appending \hfill or \hskip1pt etc. In most cases, the height and depth of your underlines is passed on to TeX to ensure that a deep underline does not intercept other lines. On the other hand, running dimensions work fine if you use a rule.
For example, the special underline commands demonstrated above are implemented as

\usepackage{luacolor,tikzducks,pict2e}
\newunderlinetype{beginUnderDuck}{\cleaders{\begin{tikzpicture}[x=.5ex,y=.5ex,baseline=.8ex] duck \end{tikzpicture}}}
\NewDocumentCommand\underDuck{+m}{\beginUnderDuck#1}
\newunderlinetype{beginUnderWavy}{\number\dimexpr1ex\}{\cleaders{\setlength{\unitlength}{.3ex}\begin{picture}(4,0)(0,1) \thicklines \color{red} \qbezier(0,0)(1,1)(2,0) \qbezier(2,0)(3,-1)(4,0) \end{picture}}}
\NewDocumentCommand\underWavy{+m}{\beginUnderWavy#1}
\newunderlinetype{beginStrikeThough}{\leaders\normalfont\bfseries/}
\NewDocumentCommand\StrikeThough{+m}{\beginStrikeThough#1}

Here \texttt{\underWavy} uses a custom context because it doesn’t change depending on the current font color.

If you only want to use \texttt{\newunderlinetype} and do not want to use the predefined underline types, you can use the \texttt{minimal} package option to disable them.

3 The implementation

3.1 Helper modules

First we need a separate Lua module \texttt{pre_append_to_vlist_filter} which provides a variant of the \texttt{append_to_vlist_filter} callback which can be used by multiple packages. This ensures that we are compatible with other packages implementing \texttt{append_to_vlist_filter}. First check if an equivalent to \texttt{pre_append_to_vlist_filter} already exists. The idea is that this might eventually get added to the kernel directly.

if luatexbase.callbacktypes.pre_append_to_vlist_filter then return end

local call_callback = luatexbase.call_callback
local flush_node = node.flush_node
local prepend_prevdepth = node.prepend_prevdepth
local callback_define

HACK: Do not do this at home! We need to define the engine callback directly, so we use the debug library to get the “real” callback.define:

for i=1,5 do
local name, func = require'debug'.getupvalue(luatexbase.disable_callback, i)
if name == 'callback_register' then
  callback_define = func
  break
end
end
if not callback_define then
  error('Unable to find callback.define')
end

local function filtered_append_to_vlist_filter(box, locationcode, prevdepth, mirrored)
  local current = call_callback("pre_append_to_vlist_filter", box, locationcode, prevdepth, mirrored)
  if not current then
    flush_node(box)
    return
  elseif current == true then
    current = box
  end
  return call_callback("append_to_vlist_filter", current, locationcode, prevdepth, mirrored)
end

callback_define('append_to_vlist_filter', filtered_append_to_vlist_filter)
luatexbase.callbacktypes.append_to_vlist_filter = nil
luatexbase.create_callback('append_to_vlist_filter', 'exclusive', function(n, _, prevdepth)
  return prepend_prevdepth(n, prevdepth)
end)
luatexbase.create_callback('pre_append_to_vlist_filter', 'list', false)

Additionally we have a module lua-ul-patches-preserve-attr for patches of external code to make it more compatible with attribute usage. Currently this only contains redefinitions of kernel commands. First some local definitions

local getfont = font.getfont
local direct = node.direct
local getattr = direct.getattributelist
local getid = direct.getid
local getpenalty = direct.getpenalty
local getprev = direct.getprev
local getwidth = direct.getwidth

local setattr = direct.setattributelist
local setkern = direct.setkern

local insert_after = direct.insert_after
local is_glyph = direct.is_glyph
local newnode = direct.new
local todirect = direct.todirect
local tonode = direct.tonode

local glue_id = node.id'glue'
local kern_t = node.id'kern'
local penalty_id = node.id'penalty'

local italcorr_sub
for i, n in next, node.subtypes'kern' do
  if n == 'italiccorrection' then italcorr_sub = i break end
end
assert(italcorr_sub)

local nests = tex.nest

Now we come to the interesting part: We redefine \sw@slant from the \LaTeX kernel. The original definition uses \unskip and \unpenalty to remove glue and penalties and then inserts italic correction before them. Then it inserts the removed penalty and skip again. This looses the right subtype, attributes and properties of the removed nodes, so we insert the italic correction kern directly at the right position instead. When the character does not exists we still add a 0pt italic correction to stay as compatible as possible with the \sw primitive used in the original implementation.

local funcid = luatexbase.new_luafunction'sw@slant'
token.set_lua('sw@slant', funcid, 'protected')
lua.get_functions_table()[funcid] = function()
local nest = nests.top
local tail, after = todirect(nest.tail), nil
local id = getid(tail)
if id == glue_id then
  if getwidth(tail) == 0 then return end
tail, after = getprev(tail), tail
  id = getid(tail)
end
if id == penalty_id then
if getpenalty(tail) == 0 then return end
    tail, after = getprev(tail), tail
end
local cid, fontid = is_glyph(tail)
if not cid then return end
local fontdir = getfont(fontid)
local characters = fontdir and fontdir.characters
local char = characters and characters[cid]
local kern = newnode(kern_t, italcorr_sub)
setkern(kern, char and char.italic or 0)
setattr(kern, getattr(tail))
% We lie about the head and ignore the return value since tail is never nil
insert_after(tail, tail, kern)
if not after then nest.tail = tonode(kern) end
end

3.2 Lua module

Now we can define our main Lua module:

    local unset_t = node.id'unset'
    local hlist_t = node.id'hlist'
    local vlist_t = node.id'vlist'
    local kern_t = node.id'kern'
    local glue_t = node.id'glue'
    local properties = node.direct.get_properties_table()

    current_attr is not .direct since it’s used in place of a node callback argument.

        local current_attr = node.current_attr
        local has_attribute = node.direct.has_attribute
        local set_attribute = node.direct.set_attribute
        local dimensions = node.direct.dimensions
        local flush_node = node.direct.flush_node
        local getattributelist = node.direct.getattributelist
        local getboth = node.direct.getboth
        local getfield = node.direct.getfield
        local getglue = node.direct.getglue
        local getleader = node.direct.getleader
        local getlist = node.direct.getlist
        local setheight = node.direct.setheight
        local setdepth = node.direct.setdepth
        local getheight = node.direct.getheight
        local getdepth = node.direct.getdepth
        local getnext = node.direct.getnext
        local getshift = node.direct.getshift
        local insert_after = node.direct.insert_after
        local insert_before = node.direct.insert_before
        local nodecopy = node.direct.copy
local nodenew = node.direct.new
local setboth = node.direct.setboth
local setlink = node.direct.setlink
local hpack = node.direct.hpack
local setfield = node.direct.setfield
local slide = node.direct.slide
local setattr = node.direct.setattributelist
local setglue = node.direct.setglue
local setnext = node.direct.setnext
local setshift = node.direct.setshift
local todirect = node.direct.todirect
local tonode = node.direct.tonode
local traverse = node.direct.traverse
local traverse_id = node.direct.traverse_id
local traverse_list = node.direct.traverse_list
% The following two are needed to deal with unset nodes
local getList = function(n) return getfield(n, 'list') end
local setList = function(n, h) return setfield(n, 'list', h) end
local tokennew = token.new
local set_lua = token.set_lua
local scan_keyword = token.scan_keyword
local scan_list = token.scan_list
local scan_int = token.scan_int
local scan_toks = token.scan_toks
local put_next = token.put_next
local texerror = tex.error

local functions = lua.get_functions_table()
local char_given = token.command_id'char_given'

local underlineattrs = {}
local underline_types = {}
local underline_strict_flag = {}
local underline_over_flag = {}

local vmode do
    for k, v in pairs(tex.getmodevalues()) do
        if v == "vertical" then
            vmode = k
            break
        end
    end
end
local texnest = tex.nest

To avoid influence from \everyhbox we reset \everyhbox to an empty token list directly before scanning. As an added complication, we need to use a name which is guaranteed to be the primitive tokenlist and we might have to restore it
before reading the actual argument (There might be a reason why \texttt{\everyhbox} was sat after all. Also we have to ensure that braces swallowed by LuaTeX are balanced, otherwise we get hard to trace errors in alignment contexts.

```lua
local scan_raw_hlist do
  local create = token.create
  local lbrace, rbrace = token.new(0x7B, 1), token.new(0x7D, 2)
tex.enableprimitives('luaul@', {'everyhbox'})
local set_everyhbox do
  local set_toks1, set_toks2 = {create'immediateassignment', create'luaul@everyhbox', lbrace},
                              {rbrace, create'relax'}
    function set_everyhbox(t)
      token.put_next(set_toks2)
      token.put_next(t)
      token.put_next(set_toks1)
      token.scan_token()
    end
end
local func = luatexbase.new_luafunction"luaul.restore_everyhbox"
local everyhbox_saved
functions[func] = function() set_everyhbox(everyhbox_saved) end
local toks = {rbrace, -- Housekeeping, only for balance reasons
              lbrace, create'the', create'luaul@everyhbox', rbrace,
              create'hpack', lbrace,
              token.new(func, token.command_id'lua_call')}
function scan_raw_hlist()  
  assert(token.get_next().command == 1)
  put_next(toks)
  token.get_next() -- Scan a corresponding brace to keep TeX's brace tracking happy
local saved_toks = scan_toks(false, true)
everyhbox_saved = saved_toks
set_everyhbox{}
local list = scan_list()
set_everyhbox(saved_toks)
return list
end
end

local saved_values = {}
local function new_underline_type()
  for i=1,#underlineattrs do
    local attr = underlineattrs[i]
    saved_values[i] = tex.attribute[attr]
    tex.attribute[attr] = -0x7FFFFFFF
  end
  local strict_flag = scan_keyword'strict'
  local over_flag = scan_keyword'over'
  local b = todirect(scan_raw_hlist())
  for i=1,#underlineattrs do
```
tex.attribute[underlineattrs[i]] = saved_values[i]
end
local lead = getlist(b)
if not getleader(lead) then
texerror("Leader required", {"An underline type has to \z
be defined by leader. You should use one of the", "commands \z
\\leaders, \cleaders, or \xleader, or \gleaders here.")}
else
local after = getnext(lead)
if after then
texerror("Too many nodes", {"An underline type can only be \z
defined by a single leaders specification,"", "not by \z
multiple nodes. Maybe you supplied an additional glue?", "Anyway, the additional nodes will be ignored")
setnext(lead, nil)
end
end
end
if tex.attribute[attr] == -0x7FFFFFFF then
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In append_to_vlist_filter we can not access the list attributes, so we just
take the current ones. They might be incorrect if the attribute changes in the
vlist, so we record the original value in a property then.

local function set_underline()
local j, props
for i=texnest.ptr,0,-1 do
  local mode = texnest[i].mode
  if mode == vmode or mode == -vmode then
    local head = todirect(texnest[i].head)
    local head_props = properties[head]
    if not head_props then
      head_props = {}
      properties[head] = head_props
    end
    props = head_props.luaul_attributes
    if not props then
      props = {}
      head_props.luaul_attributes = props
      break
    end
  end
end
for i=1,#underlineattrs do
  local attr = underlineattrs[i]
  if tex.attribute[attr] == -0x7FFFFFFF then
    tex.attribute[attr] = saved_values[i]
  end
end
j = attr
break
end
end
if not j then
  j = luatexbase.new_attribute(
      "luaul" .. tostring(#underlineattrs+1))
  underlineattrs[#underlineattrs+1] = j
end
props[j] = props[j] or -0x7FFFFFFF
tex.attribute[j] = scan_int()
end

local function reset_underline()
  local reset_all = scan_keyword'*'
  local j
  for i=1,#underlineattrs do
    local attr = underlineattrs[i]
    if tex.attribute[attr] ~= -0x7FFFFFFF then
      if reset_all then
        tex.attribute[attr] = -0x7FFFFFFF
      else
        j = attr
      end
    end
  end
  if not j then
    if not reset_all then
      texerror("No underline active", {"You tried to disable \z
underlining but underlining was not active in the first",
"place. Maybe you wanted to ensure that \z
no underling can be active anymore?", "Then you should \z
append a *."})
    end
    return
  end
  tex.attribute[j] = -0x7FFFFFFF
end

local new_underline_type_func =
  luatexbase.new_luafunction"luaul.new_underline_type"
local set_underline_func =
  luatexbase.new_luafunction"luaul.set_underline_func"
local reset_underline_func =
  luatexbase.new_luafunction"luaul.reset_underline_func"
set lua("LuaULNewUnderlineType", new_underline_type_func)
set lua("LuaULSetUnderline", set_underline_func, "protected")
set lua("LuaULResetUnderline", reset_underline_func, "protected")
functions[new_underline_type_func] = new_underline_type
functions[set_underline_func] = set_underline
functions[reset_underline_func] = reset_underline
A little helper to measure box contents and creating a glue node with inverted dimensions.

```lua
local stretch_fi = {}
local shrink_fi = {}
local function fil_levels(n)
    for i=0,4 do
        stretch_fi[i], shrink_fi[i] = 0, 0
    end
    for n in traverse_id(glue_t, n) do
        local w, st, sh, sto, sho = getglue(n)
        stretch_fi[sto] = stretch_fi[sto] + st
        shrink_fi[sho] = shrink_fi[sho] + sh
    end
    local stretch, shrink = 0, 0
    for i=0,4 do
        if stretch_fi[i] ~= 0 then
            stretch = i
        end
        if shrink_fi[i] ~= 0 then
            shrink = i
        end
    end
    return stretch, shrink
end
local function new_glue_neg_dimensions(n, t, stretch_order, shrink_order)
    local g = nodenew(glue_t)
    local w = -dimensions(n, t)
    setglue(g, w)
    setnext(g, n)
    setglue(g, w, -dimensions(1, 1, stretch_order, g, t),
            dimensions(1, 2, shrink_order, g, t),
            stretch_order, shrink_order)
    setnext(g, nil)
    return g
end
```

Now the actual underlining

```lua
local add_underline_hlist, add_underline_hbox, add_underline_vbox
local function add_underline_vlist(head, attr, outervalue)
    local iter, state, n = traverse_list(head) -- FIXME: unset nodes
    local t
    n, t = iter(state, n)
    while n ~= nil do
        local real_new_value = has_attribute(n, attr)
        local new_value = real_new_value ~= outervalue
```
and real_new_value or nil
if underline_strict_flag[new_value] or not new_value then
  if t == hlist_t then
    add_underline_hbox(n, attr, real_new_value)
  elseif t == vlist_t then
    add_underline_vbox(n, attr, real_new_value)
  end
  n, t = iter(state, n)
elseif real_new_value <= 0 then
  n, t = iter(state, n)
else
  local nn
  nn, t = iter(state, n)
  local prev, next = getboth(n)
  setboth(n, nil, nil)
  local shift = getshift(n)
  setshift(n, 0)
  local new_list = hpack((add_underline_hlist(n, attr)))
  setheight(new_list, getheight(n))
  setdepth(new_list, getdepth(n))
  setshift(new_list, shift)
  setlink(prev, new_list, next)
  set_attribute(new_list, attr, 0)
  if n == head then
    head = new_list
  end
  n = nn
end
end
return head
end
function add_underline_vbox(head, attr, outervalue)
  if outervalue and outervalue <= 0 then return end
  setList(head, add_underline_vlist(getList(head), attr, outervalue))
  set_attribute(head, attr, outervalue and -outervalue or 0)
end
function add_underline_hlist(head, attr, outervalue)
  local max_height, max_depth
  slide(head)
  local last_value
  local first
  local shrink_order, stretch_order
  for n, id, subtype in traverse(head) do
    local real_new_value = has_attribute(n, attr)
    local new_value
    if real_new_value then
      if real_new_value > 0 then
        set_attribute(n, attr, -real_new_value)
        new_value = real_new_value -= outervalue
        and real_new_value or nil
```
end
else
  set_attribute(n, attr, 0)
end
if id == hlist_t then
  if underline_strict_flag[new_value]
    or subtype == 3 or not new_value then
    add_underline_hbox(n, attr, real_new_value)
  new_value = nil
end
elseif id == vlist_t then
  if underline_strict_flag[new_value] or not new_value then
    add_underline_vbox(n, attr, real_new_value)
  new_value = nil
end
elseif id == kern_t and subtype == 0 then
  local after = getnext(n)
  if after then
    local next_value = has_attribute(after, attr)
    if next_value == outervalue or not next_value then
      new_value = nil
    else
      new_value = last_value
    end
  else
    new_value = last_value
  end
elseif id == glue_t and ( subtype == 8 or subtype == 9 or subtype == 15 or false) then
  new_value = nil
end
if last_value ~= new_value then
  if not stretch_order then
    stretch_order, shrink_order = fil_levels(head)
  end
  if last_value then
    If the value changed and the old one wasn’t nil, then we reached the end of the previous underlined segment and therefore know it’s length. Therefore we can finally insert the underline.
    Currently both the underline and the corresponding negative glue inherit the attributes from when the underline was defined. This makes sure that these nodes get consistent attributes (avoiding e.g. that only one of the nodes being picked up in a later pass and therefore interfering with the underlining) and that these are as much as possible under use control.
    We can’t really predict what the most sensible value for attributes we don’t control is, but by using this way any issues should be fixable with by adjusting
the context argument.
Currently this block gets duplicated a few lines down for the end of the list. This should get refactored into it's own function, but I have to be careful to handle all the special cases there.

```lua
local glue = new_glue_neg_dimensions(first, n, stretch_order, shrink_order)
local w, st, sh = getglue(glue)
local lead = nodecopy(underline_types[last_value])
setglue(lead, -w, -st, -sh, stretch_order, shrink_order)
setattr(glue, getattr(lead))
if underline_over_flag[last_value] then
  head = insert_before(head, n, glue)
  insert_after(head, glue, lead)
else
  head = insert_before(head, first, lead)
  insert_after(head, lead, glue)
end
end
if new_value then
  first = n
  local box = getleader(underline_types[new_value])
  if not max_height or getheight(box) > max_height then
    max_height = getheight(box)
  end
  if not max_depth or getdepth(box) > max_depth then
    max_depth = getdepth(box)
  end
  last_value = new_value
end
end
if last_value then
  local glue = new_glue_neg_dimensions(first, nil, stretch_order, shrink_order)
  local w, st, sh = getglue(glue)
  local lead = nodecopy(underline_types[last_value])
  setglue(lead, -w, -st, -sh, stretch_order, shrink_order)
  setattr(glue, getattr(lead))
  if underline_over_flag[last_value] then
    insert_before(head, nil, glue)
    insert_after(head, glue, lead)
  else
    head = insert_before(head, first, lead)
    insert_after(head, lead, glue)
  end
end
return head, max_height, max_depth
end
function add_underline_hbox(head, attr, outervalue, set_height_depth)

```

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if outervalue and outervalue <= 0 then return end
local new_head, new_height, new_depth
    = add_underline_hlist(getList(head), attr, outervalue)
setList(head, new_head)
if set_height_depth then
    if new_height and getheight(head) < new_height then
        setheight(head, new_height)
    end
    if new_depth and getdepth(head) < new_depth then
        setdepth(head, new_depth)
    end
end
set_attribute(head, attr, outervalue and -outervalue or 0)
end
require 'pre_append_to_vlist_filter'
luatexbase.add_to_callback('pre_append_to_vlist_filter',
    function(b, loc, prev, mirror)
        local props = properties[todirect(texnest.top.head)]
        props = props and props.luaul_attributes
        b = todirect(b)
        if loc == "post_linebreak" then
            for i = 1, #underlineattrs do
                local attr = underlineattrs[i]
                local current = props and props[attr] or tex.attribute[attr]
                if current == -0x7FFFFFFF then
                    current = nil
                end
                add_underline_hbox(b, underlineattrs[i], current, true)
            end
        else
            for i = 1, #underlineattrs do
                local attr = underlineattrs[i]
                local current = props and props[attr] or tex.attribute[attr]
                local b_attr = has_attribute(b, attr)
                if b_attr and b_attr ~= current then
                    local shift = getshift(b)
                    setshift(b, 0)
                    b = hpack((add_underline_hlist(b, attr)))
                    setshift(b, shift)
                    set_attribute(b, attr, 0)
                end
            end
            return tonode(b)
        end
    end, 'add underlines to list')
luatexbase.add_to_callback('hpack_filter',
    function(head, group, size, pack, dir, attr)
        When hpack_filter is called as part of an alignment, no attributes are passed. It seems like a bug, but we will just substitute with the current attributes. Since
the callbacks are called after the group for the cell ended, these should always be right.

```lua
if group == 'align_set' or group == 'fin_row' then
    attr = current_attr()
end

head = todirect(head)
for i = 1, #underlineattrs do
    local ulattr = underlineattrs[i]
    local current
    for n in node.traverse(attr) do
        if n.number == ulattr then
            current = n.value
        end
    end
    head = add_underline_hlist(head, ulattr, current)
end
return tonode(head)
end, 'add underlines to list')
```

luatexbase.add_to_callback('vpack_filter',
function(head, group, size, pack, maxdepth, dir, attr)
    if true then return head end
    head = todirect(head)
    for i = 1, #underlineattrs do
        local ulattr = underlineattrs[i]
        local current
        for n in node.traverse(attr) do
            if n.number == ulattr then
                current = n.value
            end
        end
        head = add_underline_vlist(head, ulattr, current)
    end
    return tonode(head)
end, 'add underlines to list')

Finally load `lua-ul-patches-preserve-attr`.

```
require'lua-ul-patches-preserve-attr'
```

### 3.3 \TeX{} support package

Now only some \LaTeX{} glue code is still needed Only Lua\LaTeX{} is supported. For other engines we show an error.

```
\ifx\directlua\undefined
    \PackageError{lua-ul}{Lua\LaTeX{} required}{}
    {Lua-UL requires Lua\LaTeX{}}.
    \fi
\directlua{require'lua-ul'}
\RequirePackage{xparse}
```
We support some options. Especially \texttt{minimal} will disable the predefined commands \texttt{underline} and \texttt{strikeThrough} and allow you to define similar commands with your custom settings instead, \texttt{soul} tries to replicate names of the \texttt{soul} package.

\newif\ifluaul@predefined
\newif\ifluaul@soulnames
\luaul@predefinedtrue
\DeclareOption{minimal}{\luaul@predefinedfalse}
\DeclareOption{soul}{\luaul@soulnametrue}
\ProcessOptions\relax

Just one more tiny helper.

\protected\def\luaul@maybedefineuse#1#2{%
\unless\ifcsname#1\endcsname
\expandafter\xdef\csname#1\endcsname{#2}\
\fi
\csname#1\endcsname
}

The default for the context argument. Give that most stuff should scale vertically with the font size, we expect most arguments to be given in \texttt{ex}. Additionally especially traditional underlines will use the currently active text color, so especially when luacolor is loaded we have to include the color attribute too.

\newcommand\luaul@defaultcontext{%
\number\dimexpr1ex\@\unless\ifx\undefined\LuaCol@Attribute
\the\LuaCol@Attribute
\fi
}

The main macro.

\newDocumentCommand\newunderlinetype{ E{*}{{}} m O{\luaul@defaultcontext} m }{%
\newcommand#2{}% "Reserve" the name
\protected\def#2{%
\expandafter\luaul@maybedefineuse
\expanded{\csstring#2@@#3}{%\LuaULSetUpUnderline
\LuaULNewUnderlineType#1{#4\hskip0pt}%
}\}
}\ifluaul@predefined

For \texttt{highlight}, the color should be customizable. There are two cases: If \texttt{xcolor} is not loaded, we just accept a simple color name. Otherwise, we accept color as documented in xcolor for PSTricks: Either a color name, a color expression or a combination of colormodel and associated values.

\newcommand\luaul@highlight@color{yellow}
\def\luaul@@setcolor\xcolor@#1#2{}\newcommand\luaul@setcolor[1]{%
Now a user-level command to set the default color.
\NewDocumentCommand\LuaULSetHighlightColor{om}{\edef\luaul@highlight@color{\IfValueTF{#1}{[#1]{#2}}{#2}}}

The sizes for the predefined commands are stolen from the “soul” default values.
\newunderlinetype\@underLine{%
  \leaders\vrule height -.65ex depth .75ex
}\NewDocumentCommand\underline{+m}{\@underLine#1}

\newunderlinetype\@strikeThrough{%
  \leaders\vrule height .55ex depth -.45ex
}\newunderlinetype\colored@strikeThrough[{number\dimexpr1ex\%\luaul@currentcolor}{%
  \luaul@applycolor
  \leaders\vrule height .55ex depth -.45ex
}\NewDocumentCommand\strikeThrough{o+m}{\IfValueTF{#1}{%\luaul@setcolor{#1}%\colored@strikeThrough\@strikeThrough#2%}}}

\newunderlinetype\@highlight[{number\dimexpr1ex\%\luaul@currentcolor}{%
  \luaul@applycolor
  \leaders\vrule height 1.75ex depth .75ex
}\NewDocumentCommand\highlight{O{\luaul@highlight@color}+m}{%
Finally patch \reset@font to ensure that underlines do not propagate into unexpected places.

\ifx \reset@font \normalfont
  \let \reset@font \relax
  \DeclareRobustCommand \reset@font {%
    \normalfont
    \LuaULResetUnderline*%
  }
\else
  \MakeRobust \reset@font
\begingroup
  \expandafter \let
    \expandafter \csname reset@font \endcsname
  \expandafter \endgroup
  \expandafter \gdef
    \csname reset@font \endcsname
  \expandafter {%
    \helper%
    \LuaULResetUnderline*%
  }
\fi

In the output routine, the page box is repacked before \reset@font is called, so we have to ensure to reset the attributes before that. This will use some awesome output routine hook as soon as that’s in the kernel, until then manual patching it is.

At the time I am writing this the remaining code of the package contains exactly ten times \expandafter. Interestingly, that’s also exactly the number of 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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version</th>
<th>Change History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.0.1</td>
<td>General: Initial release</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.0.2</td>
<td>General: Add command to disable active underlining</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Allow \texttt{highlight} color customization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Patch \texttt{reset@font}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.0.3</td>
<td>General: Make straight lines over hboxes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Use glue instead of kern to allow handling unset lists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.0.4</td>
<td>General: Consistently respect height and depth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.1.0</td>
<td>General: Ensure that \texttt{everyhbox} doesn’t interfere with hlist scanning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.1.1</td>
<td>General: Make color mechanism more generic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Optionally color \texttt{strikeThrough}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Patch \texttt{output}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Set attributes for negative glue node</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Use \texttt{xparse} for all user commands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.1.2</td>
<td>General: Allow \texttt{long} arguments (again)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.1.3</td>
<td>General: Correctly detect attributes in alignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.1.4</td>
<td>General: Add \texttt{lua-ul-patches-preserve-attr}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Load \texttt{lua-ul-patches-preserve-attr}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Patch \texttt{sw@slant}</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>