

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

MATHEMATICS 591 - PROFESSIONAL ASPECTS OF APPLYING MATHEMATICS - SPRING 2002 - ZIRBEL

## Centering, flushing, and spacing in $\LaTeX$

spacing.tex

The text above shows different ways of centering.

### 1 Indenting and Flushing

Organizing things on the page with  $\LaTeX$  is, at first, more difficult than with Word. However, once you *learn* how to do it, it isn't SO bad, and it gives you **very** precise control over things. Page numbers, when given, refer to *The  $\LaTeX$  Companion*.

I just love notes in the margin!

The first paragraph of a section is not indented. But the second paragraph is. Notice that the page title, in small caps, is wider than the rest of the text. In order to prevent  $\LaTeX$  from wrapping the words, it was made into a single entity using `mbox` (p. 452).

Eat your heart out, Fermat!

Usually, lines are stretched or shrunk to make them come out flush with both the left and right margins. However, you can turn this off using `flushleft` and `flushright`.

`flushleft` is particularly good for addresses. This paragraph is flushed left. Note that the paragraph is not indented. Here is an address that is flushed right. Use double backslash to force line breaks.

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There are times that it is useful to center a section of text, for example, with quotations. Note that both the left and right margins are moved in a little.

Times like these demand creative measures. What are we going to do, just sit around and wait?

– Anonymous

Sometimes, especially when a figure is placed inside a paragraph, it is helpful not to indent the next paragraph. You can use `noindent` for that.

Note that the spacing between paragraphs has just changed. Space between paragraphs makes a document look nicer, I think.

### 2 parbox and minipage

`parbox` (p. 455) is short for paragraph box, I think. You can make them in various widths and place them in various places on the page. This can be handy for putting a figure next to text, for instance. `minipage` (p. 455) is similar.

This is the text that describes the figure. It is set into a box that is 3 inches wide.  $\LaTeX$  performs line breaks as usual inside a `parbox`. I've changed the spacing!

