latexindent.pl

Version 3.2.2

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latexindent.pl is a Perl script that indents .tex (and other) files according to an indentation scheme that the user can modify to suit their taste. Environments, including those with alignment delimiters (such as \textbf{tabular}), and commands, including those that can split braces and brackets across lines, are usually handled correctly by the script. Options for \verb|verbatim|-like environments and commands, together with indentation after headings (such as \textbf{chapter}, \textbf{section}, etc) are also available. The script also has the ability to modify line breaks, and add comment symbols. All user options are customisable via the switches in the YAML interface.

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*and contributors! See Section 8.2 on page 65. For all communication, please visit [6].
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[git] * master 682de1e * 2017-06-28 * 
1 Introduction

1.1 Thanks
I first created latexindent.pl to help me format chapter files in a big project. After I blogged about it on the \TeX\ stack exchange [1] I received some positive feedback and follow-up feature requests. A big thank you to Harish Kumar who helped to develop and test the initial versions of the script.

The YAML-based interface of latexindent.pl was inspired by the wonderful arara tool; any similarities are deliberate, and I hope that it is perceived as the compliment that it is. Thank you to Paulo Cereda and the team for releasing this awesome tool; I initially worried that I was going to have to make a GUI for latexindent.pl, but the release of arara has meant there is no need.

There have been several contributors to the project so far (and hopefully more in the future!); thank you very much to the people detailed in Section 8.2 on page 65 for their valued contributions, and thank you to those who report bugs and request features at [6].

1.2 License
latexindent.pl is free and open source, and it always will be; it is released under the GNU General Public License v3.0.

Before you start using it on any important files, bear in mind that latexindent.pl has the option to overwrite your .tex files. It will always make at least one backup (you can choose how many it makes, see page 14) but you should still be careful when using it. The script has been tested on many files, but there are some known limitations (see Section 7). You, the user, are responsible for ensuring that you maintain backups of your files before running latexindent.pl on them. I think it is important at this stage to restate an important part of the license here:

This program is distributed in the hope that it will be useful, but WITHOUT ANY WARRANTY; without even the implied warranty of MERCHANTABILITY or FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. See the GNU General Public License for more details.

There is certainly no malicious intent in releasing this script, and I do hope that it works as you expect it to; if it does not, please first of all make sure that you have the correct settings, and then feel free to let me know at [6] with a complete minimum working example as I would like to improve the code as much as possible.

Before you try the script on anything important (like your thesis), test it out on the sample files in the test-case directory [6].

If you have used any version 2.* of latexindent.pl, there are a few changes to the interface; see appendix C on page 67 and the comments throughout this document for details.

2 Demonstration: before and after
Let's give a demonstration of some before and after code – after all, you probably won't want to try the script if you don't much like the results. You might also like to watch the video demonstration I made on youtube [12]

As you look at Listings 1 to 6, remember that latexindent.pl is just following its rules, and there is nothing particular about these code snippets. All of the rules can be modified so that you can personalize your indentation scheme.

In each of the samples given in Listings 1 to 6 the ‘before’ case is a ‘worst case scenario’ with no effort to make indentation. The ‘after’ result would be the same, regardless of the leading white space at the beginning of each line which is stripped by latexindent.pl (unless a verbatim-like environment or noIndentBlock is specified – more on this in Section 5).
3. How to use the script

latexindent.pl ships as part of the \texttt{texlive} distribution for Linux and Mac users; \texttt{latexindent.exe} ships as part of the \texttt{texlive} and MiKTeX distributions for Windows users. These files are also available from github \cite{github} should you wish to use them without a \texttt{texlive} distribution; in this case, you may like to read appendix B on page \pageref{apdx:B} which details how the \texttt{path} variable can be updated.

In what follows, we will always refer to \texttt{latexindent.pl}, but depending on your operating system and preference, you might substitute \texttt{latexindent.exe} or simply \texttt{latexindent}.

There are two ways to use \texttt{latexindent.pl}: from the command line, and using arara; we discuss these in Section 3.1 and Section 3.2 respectively. We will discuss how to change the settings and behaviour of the script in Section 5 on page \pageref{sec:settings}.

latexindent.pl ships with \texttt{latexindent.exe} for Windows users, so that you can use the script with or without a Perl distribution. If you plan to use \texttt{latexindent.pl} (i.e, the original Perl script) then you will need a few standard Perl modules – see appendix A on page \pageref{apdx:A} for details.

As you read through this documentation, you'll occasionally see dates shown in the margin (for example, next to this paragraph!) which detail the date of the version in which the feature was implemented; the 'N' stands for 'new as of the date shown'. If you see a $\ast$, it means that the feature is new as of the release of the current version.

3.1 From the command line

latexindent.pl has a number of different switches/flags/options, which can be combined in any way that you like, either in short or long form as detailed below. latexindent.pl produces a .log
file, `indent.log`, every time it is run; the name of the log file can be customized, but we will refer to the log file as `indent.log` throughout this document. There is a base of information that is written to `indent.log`, but other additional information will be written depending on which of the following options are used.

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl
```

This will output a welcome message to the terminal, including the version number and available options.

- **-v, --version**

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -v
```

This will output only the version number to the terminal.

- **-h, --help**

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -h
```

As above this will output a welcome message to the terminal, including the version number and available options.

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl myfile.tex
```

This will operate on `myfile.tex`, but will simply output to your terminal; `myfile.tex` will not be changed by `latexindent.pl` in any way using this command.

- **-w, --overwrite**

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -w myfile.tex
```

This will overwrite `myfile.tex`, but it will make a copy of `myfile.tex` first. You can control the name of the extension (default is `.bak`), and how many different backups are made – more on this in Section 5, and in particular see `backupExtension` and `onlyOneBackUp`.

Note that if `latexindent.pl` cannot create the backup, then it will exit without touching your original file; an error message will be given asking you to check the permissions of the backup file.

- **-o=output.tex, --outputfile=output.tex**

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -o=output.tex myfile.tex
```

This will indent `myfile.tex` and output it to `output.tex`, overwriting it if it already exists¹. Note that if `latexindent.pl` is called with both the `-w` and `-o` switches, then `-w` will be ignored and `-o` will take priority (this seems safer than the other way round).

Note that using `-o` as above is equivalent to using

¹Users of version 2.* should note the subtle change in syntax
3. HOW TO USE THE SCRIPT

You can call the -o switch with the name of the output file without an extension; in this case, `latexindent.pl` will use the extension from the original file. For example, the following two calls to `latexindent.pl` are equivalent:

```
$ latexindent.pl myfile.tex > output.tex
```

```
$ latexindent.pl myfile.tex -o=output
$ latexindent.pl myfile.tex -o=output.tex
```

You can call the -o switch using a + symbol at the beginning; this will concatenate the name of the input file and the text given to the -o switch. For example, the following two calls to `latexindent.pl` are equivalent:

```
$ latexindent.pl myfile.tex -o=+new
$ latexindent.pl myfile.tex -o=myfilenew.tex
```

You can call the -o switch using a ++ symbol at the end of the name of your output file; this tells `latexindent.pl` to search successively for the name of your output file concatenated with 0, 1, ... while the name of the output file exists. For example,

```
$ latexindent.pl myfile.tex -o=output++
```

tells `latexindent.pl` to output to `output0.tex`, but if it exists then output to `output1.tex`, and so on.

Calling `latexindent.pl` with simply

```
$ latexindent.pl myfile.tex -o=++
```

tells it to output to `myfile0.tex`, but if it exists then output to `myfile1.tex` and so on.

The + and ++ feature of the -o switch can be combined; for example, calling

```
$ latexindent.pl myfile.tex -o=+out++
```

tells `latexindent.pl` to output to `myfileout0.tex`, but if it exists, then try `myfileout1.tex`, and so on.

There is no need to specify a file extension when using the ++ feature, but if you wish to, then you should include it after the ++ symbols, for example

```
$ latexindent.pl myfile.tex -o=+out++.tex
```

See appendix C on page 67 for details of how the interface has changed from Version 2.2 to Version 3.0 for this flag.

-s, --silent

```
$ latexindent.pl -s myfile.tex
$ latexindent.pl myfile.tex -s
```

Silent mode: no output will be given to the terminal.
3. HOW TO USE THE SCRIPT

-t, --trace

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -t myfile.tex
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl myfile.tex -t
```

Tracing mode: verbose output will be given to indent.log. This is useful if latexindent.pl has made a mistake and you're trying to find out where and why. You might also be interested in learning about latexindent.pl’s thought process – if so, this switch is for you, although it should be noted that, especially for large files, this does affect performance of the script.

-tt, --ttrace

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -tt myfile.tex
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl myfile.tex -tt
```

More detailed tracing mode: this option gives more details to indent.log than the standard trace option (note that, even more so than with -t, especially for large files, performance of the script will be affected).

-l, --local [=myyaml.yaml,other.yaml,...]

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -l myfile.tex
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -l=myyaml.yaml myfile.tex
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -l myyaml.yaml myfile.tex
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -l first.yaml,second.yaml,third.yaml myfile.tex
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -l=first.yaml,second.yaml,third.yaml myfile.tex
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl myfile.tex -l=first.yaml,second.yaml,third.yaml
```

latexindent.pl will always load defaultSettings.yaml (rhymes with camel) and if it is called with the -l switch and it finds localSettings.yaml in the same directory as myfile.tex then these settings will be added to the indentation scheme. Information will be given in indent.log on the success or failure of loading localSettings.yaml.

The -l flag can take an optional parameter which details the name (or names separated by commas) of a YAML file(s) that resides in the same directory as myfile.tex; you can use this option if you would like to load a settings file in the current working directory that is not called localSettings.yaml. In fact, you can specify relative path names to the current directory, but not absolute paths – for absolute paths, see Section 4 on page 11. Explicit demonstrations of how to use the -l switch are given throughout this documentation.

You can call the -l switch with a ‘+’ symbol either before or after another YAML file; for example:

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -l=+myyaml.yaml myfile.tex
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -l+/uni2423myyaml.yaml myfile.tex
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -l=myyaml.yaml+ myfile.tex
```

which translate, respectively, to

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -l=localSettings.yaml,myyaml.yaml myfile.tex
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -l=localSettings.yaml,myyaml.yaml myfile.tex
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -l=myyaml.yaml,localSettings.yaml myfile.tex
```

Note that the following is not allowed:

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -l+myyaml.yaml myfile.tex
```
3. HOW TO USE THE SCRIPT

and

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -l + myyaml.yaml myfile.tex
```

will only load localSettings.yaml, and myyaml.yaml will be ignored.

You may also choose to omit the yaml extension, such as

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -l=localSettings,myyaml myfile.tex
```

\texttt{\texttt{-d}}, \texttt{\texttt{--onlydefault}}

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -d myfile.tex
```

Only defaultSettings.yaml: you might like to read Section 5 before using this switch. By default, latexindent.pl will always search for indentconfig.yaml or .indentconfig.yaml in your home directory. If you would prefer it not to do so then (instead of deleting or renaming indentconfig.yaml/.indentconfig.yaml) you can simply call the script with the \texttt{-d} switch; note that this will also tell the script to ignore localSettings.yaml even if it has been called with the \texttt{-l} switch.

\texttt{\texttt{-c}}, \texttt{\texttt{--cruft=<directory>}}

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -c=/path/to/directory/ myfile.tex
```

If you wish to have backup files and indent.log written to a directory other than the current working directory, then you can send these ‘cruft’ files to another directory.

\texttt{\texttt{-g}}, \texttt{\texttt{--logfile}}

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -g=other.log myfile.tex
```

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -g other.log myfile.tex
```

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl --logfile other.log myfile.tex
```

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl myfile.tex -g other.log
```

By default, latexindent.pl reports information to indent.log, but if you wish to change the name of this file, simply call the script with your chosen name after the \texttt{-g} switch as demonstrated above.

\texttt{\texttt{-m}}, \texttt{\texttt{--modifylinebreaks}}

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -m myfile.tex
```

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -modifylinebreaks myfile.tex
```

One of the most exciting developments in Version 3.0 is the ability to modify line breaks; for full details see Section 6 on page 43

latexindent.pl can also be called on a file without the file extension, for example

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl myfile
```

and in which case, you can specify the order in which extensions are searched for; see Listing 11 on page 14 for full details.
3.2 From arara

Using latexindent.pl from the command line is fine for some folks, but others may find it easier to use from arara; you can find the arara rule at [2].

You can use the rule in any of the ways described in Listing 7 (or combinations thereof). In fact, arara allows yet greater flexibility – you can use yes/no, true/false, or on/off to toggle the various options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listing 7: arara sample usage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% arara: indent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% arara: indent: {overwrite: yes}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% arara: indent: {output: myfile.tex}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% arara: indent: {silent: yes}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% arara: indent: {trace: yes}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% arara: indent: {localSettings: yes}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% arara: indent: {onlyDefault: on}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% arara: indent: {cruft: /home/cmhughes/Desktop }</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
\documentclass{article}
...

Hopefully the use of these rules is fairly self-explanatory, but for completeness Table 1 shows the relationship between arara directive arguments and the switches given in Section 3.1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 1: arara directive arguments and corresponding switches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>arara directive argument</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>overwrite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>output</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>silent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>trace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>localSettings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>onlyDefault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cruft</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The cruft directive does not work well when used with directories that contain spaces.

4 User, local settings, indentconfig.yaml and .indentconfig.yaml

Editing defaultSettings.yaml is not ideal as it may be overwritten when updating your distribution—a better way to customize the settings to your liking is to set up your own settings file, mysettings.yaml (or any name you like, provided it ends with .yaml). The only thing you have to do is tell latexindent.pl where to find it.

latexindent.pl will always check your home directory for indentconfig.yaml and .indentconfig.yaml (unless it is called with the -d switch), which is a plain text file you can create that contains the absolute paths for any settings files that you wish latexindent.pl to load. There is no difference between indentconfig.yaml and .indentconfig.yaml, other than the fact that .indentconfig.yaml is a 'hidden' file; thank you to [5] for providing this feature. In what follows, we will use indentconfig.yaml, but it is understood that this equally represents .indentconfig.yaml as well. If you have both files in existence, indentconfig.yaml takes priority.

For Mac and Linux users, their home directory is /username while Windows (Vista onwards) is C:\Users\username. Listing 8 shows a sample indentconfig.yaml file.

2If you're not sure where to put indentconfig.yaml, don't worry latexindent.pl will tell you in the log file exactly where to put it assuming it doesn't exist already.
4. USER, LOCAL SETTINGS, INDENTCONFIG.YAML AND .INDENTCONFIG.YAML

Listing 8: indentconfig.yaml (sample)

```yaml
# Paths to user settings for latexindent.pl
# Note that the settings will be read in the order you
# specify here- each successive settings file will overwrite
# the variables that you specify
paths:
- /home/cmhughes/Documents/yamlfiles/mysettings.yaml
- /home/cmhughes/folder/othersettings.yaml
- /some/other/folder/anynameyouwant.yaml
- C:\Users\chughes\Documents\mysettings.yaml
- C:\Users\chughes\Desktop\test spaces\more spaces.yaml
```

Note that the .yaml files you specify in indentconfig.yaml will be loaded in the order that you write them in. Each file doesn’t have to have every switch from defaultSettings.yaml; in fact, I recommend that you only keep the switches that you want to change in these settings files.

To get started with your own settings file, you might like to save a copy of defaultSettings.yaml in another directory and call it, for example, mysettings.yaml. Once you have added the path to indentconfig.yaml you can change the switches and add more code-block names to it as you see fit – have a look at Listing 9 for an example that uses four tabs for the default indent, adds the tabbing environment/command to the list of environments that contains alignment delimiters; you might also like to refer to the many YAML files detailed throughout the rest of this documentation.

Listing 9: mysettings.yaml (example)

```yaml
# Default value of indentation
defaultIndent: "\t\t\t\t"

# environments that have tab delimiters, add more
# as needed
lookForAlignDelims:
  tabbing: 1
```

You can make sure that your settings are loaded by checking indent.log for details – if you have specified a path that latexindent.pl doesn’t recognize then you’ll get a warning, otherwise you’ll get confirmation that latexindent.pl has read your settings file.

When editing .yaml files it is extremely important to remember how sensitive they are to spaces. I highly recommend copying and pasting from defaultSettings.yaml when you create your first whatevernameyoulike.yaml file.

If latexindent.pl can not read your .yaml file it will tell you so in indent.log.

4.1 localSettings.yaml

The -l switch tells latexindent.pl to look for localSettings.yaml in the same directory as myfile.tex. If you’d prefer to name your localSettings.yaml file something different, (say, myyaml.yaml) then you can call latexindent.pl using, for example,

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -l=myyaml.yaml myfile.tex
```

Any settings file(s) specified using the -l switch will be read after defaultSettings.yaml and, assuming they exist, user settings from indentconfig.yaml.

---

3Windows users may find that they have to end .yaml files with a blank line
5. DEFAULTSETTINGS.YAML

Your settings file can contain any switches that you’d like to change; a sample is shown in Listing 10, and you'll find plenty of further examples throughout this manual.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listing 10: localSettings.yaml (example)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># verbatim environments- environments specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># in this hash table will not be changed at all!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>verbatimEnvironments:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cmhenvironment: 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You can make sure that your settings file has been loaded by checking indent.log for details; if it cannot be read then you receive a warning, otherwise you'll get confirmation that latexindent.pl has read your settings file.

4.2 Settings load order

latexindent.pl loads the settings files in the following order:

1. defaultSettings.yaml is always loaded, and can not be renamed;
2. anyUserSettings.yaml and any other arbitrarily-named files specified in indentconfig.yaml;
3. localSettings.yaml but only if found in the same directory as myfile.tex and called with \-l switch; this file can be renamed, provided that the call to latexindent.pl is adjusted accordingly (see Section 4.1). You may specify relative paths to other YAML files using the \-l switch, separating multiple files using commas.

A visual representation of this is given in Figure 1.

5 defaultSettings.yaml

latexindent.pl loads its settings from defaultSettings.yaml. The idea is to separate the behaviour of the script from the internal working – this is very similar to the way that we separate content from form when writing our documents in LATEX.

If you look in defaultSettings.yaml you'll find the switches that govern the behaviour of latexindent.pl. If you're not sure where defaultSettings.yaml resides on your computer, don't worry as indent.log will tell you where to find it. defaultSettings.yaml is commented, but here is a description of what each switch is designed to do. The default value is given in each case; whenever you see integer in this section, assume that it must be greater than or equal to 0 unless otherwise stated.
latexindent.pl can be called to act on a file without specifying the file extension. For example we can call

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl myfile
```

in which case the script will look for `myfile` with the extensions specified in `fileExtensionPreference` in their numeric order. If no match is found, the script will exit. As with all of the fields, you should change and/or add to this as necessary.

Calling `latexindent.pl myfile` with the (default) settings specified in Listing 11 means that the script will first look for `myfile.tex`, then `myfile.sty`, `myfile.cls`, and finally `myfile.bib` in order.

### backupExtension: (extension name)

If you call `latexindent.pl` with the `-w` switch (to overwrite `myfile.tex`) then it will create a backup file before doing any indentation; the default extension is `.bak`, so, for example, `myfile.bak0` would be created when calling `latexindent.pl myfile.tex` for the first time.

By default, every time you subsequently call `latexindent.pl` with the `-w` to act upon `myfile.tex`, it will create successive back up files: `myfile.bak1`, `myfile.bak2`, etc.

### onlyOneBackUp: (integer)

If you don’t want a backup for every time that you call `latexindent.pl` (so you don’t want `myfile.bak1`, `myfile.bak2`, etc) and you simply want `myfile.bak` (or whatever you chose `backupExtension` to be) then change `onlyOneBackUp` to 1; the default value of `onlyOneBackUp` is 0.

### maxNumberOfBackUps: (integer)

Some users may only want a finite number of backup files, say at most 3, in which case, they can change this switch. The smallest value of `maxNumberOfBackUps` is 0 which will not prevent backup files being made; in this case, the behaviour will be dictated entirely by `onlyOneBackUp`. The default value of `maxNumberOfBackUps` is 0.

### cycleThroughBackUps: (integer)

Some users may wish to cycle through backup files, by deleting the oldest backup file and keeping only the most recent; for example, with `maxNumberOfBackUps: 4`, and `cycleThroughBackUps` set to 1 then the copy procedure given below would be obeyed.

```bash
cmh:~$ copy myfile.bak1 to myfile.bak0
cmh:~$ copy myfile.bak2 to myfile.bak1
cmh:~$ copy myfile.bak3 to myfile.bak2
cmh:~$ copy myfile.bak4 to myfile.bak3
```

The default value of `cycleThroughBackUps` is 0.

---

4Throughout this manual, listings shown with line numbers represent code taken directly from `defaultSettings.yaml`.
latexindent.pl writes information to indent.log, some of which can be customized by changing logFilePreferences; see Listing 12. If you load your own user settings (see Section 4 on page 11) then latexindent.pl will detail them in indent.log; you can choose not to have the details logged by switching showEveryYamlRead to 0. Once all of your settings have been loaded, you can see the amalgamated settings in the log file by switching showAmalgamatedSettings to 1, if you wish. The log file will end with the characters given in endLogFileWith, and will report the GitHub address of latexindent.pl to the log file if showGitHubInfoFooter is set to 1.

A field that contains a list of environments that you would like left completely alone – no indentation will be performed on environments that you have specified in this field, see Listing 13.

A field that contains a list of commands that are verbatim commands, for example \lstinline; any commands populated in this field are protected from line breaking routines (only relevant if the -m is active, see Section 6 on page 43).

If you have a block of code that you don’t want latexindent.pl to touch (even if it is not a verbatim-like environment) then you can wrap it in an environment from noIndentBlock; you can use any name you like for this, provided you populate it as demonstrate in Listing 15.

Of course, you don’t want to have to specify these as null environments in your code, so you use them with a comment symbol, %, followed by as many spaces (possibly none) as you like; see Listing 16 for example.
Trailing white space can be removed both before and after processing the document, as detailed in Listing 17; each of the fields can take the values 0 or 1. See Listings 240 to 242 on page 58 for before and after results. Thanks to [13] for providing this feature.

You can specify `removeTrailingWhitespace` simply as 0 or 1, if you wish; in this case, `latexindent.pl` will set both `beforeProcessing` and `afterProcessing` to the value you specify; see Listing 18.

Before `latexindent.pl` determines the difference between preamble (if any) and the main document, it first searches for any of the environments specified in `fileContentsEnvironments`, see Listing 19. The behaviour of `latexindent.pl` on these environments is determined by their location (preamble or not), and the value `indentPreamble`, discussed next.

The preamble of a document can sometimes contain some trickier code for `latexindent.pl` to operate upon. By default, `latexindent.pl` won’t try to operate on the preamble (as `indentPreamble` is set to 0, by default), but if you’d like `latexindent.pl` to try then change `indentPreamble` to 1.

Not all files contain preamble; for example, sty, cls and bib files typically do not. Referencing Listing 20, if you set, for example, .tex to 0, then regardless of the setting of the value of `indentPreamble`, preamble will not be assumed when operating upon .tex files.

Assuming that `latexindent.pl` is asked to operate upon the preamble of a document, when this switch is set to 0 then environment code blocks will be sought first, and then command code blocks. When this switch is set to
1, commands will be sought first. The example that first motivated this switch contained the code
given in Listing 21.

**Listing 21: Motivating preambleCommandsBeforeEnvironments**

```latex
... preheadhook={\begin{mdframed}[style=myframedstyle]}, postfoothook=\end{mdframed}, ...
```

**defaultIndent: (horizontal space)**

This is the default indentation (\t means a tab, and is the default value) used in the absence of other
details for the command or environment we are working with; see indentRules in Section 5.2 on
page 24 for more details.

If you're interested in experimenting with latexindent.pl then you can *remove* all indentation by
setting defaultIndent: "".

**lookForAlignDelims: (fields)**

This contains a list of environments and/or commands that are
operated upon in a special way by latexindent.pl (see Listing 22). In fact, the fields in lookForAlignDelims can actually
take two different forms: the *basic* version is shown in Listing 22 and the *advanced* version in Listing 25; we will discuss each in
turn.

The environments specified in this field will be operated on in a special way by latexindent.pl. In particular, it will try and
align each column by its alignment tabs. It does have some limitations (discussed further in Section 7), but in many cases
it will produce results such as those in Listings 23 and 24.

If you find that latexindent.pl does not perform satisfactorily
on such environments then you can set the relevant key to 0, for example *tabular*: 0; alternatively,
if you just want to ignore specific instances of the environment, you could wrap them in something
from noIndentBlock (see Listing 15 on page 15).

**Listing 23: tabular1.tex**

```
\begin{tabular}{cccc}
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\
5 & & 6 & \\
\end{tabular}
```

**Listing 24: tabular1.tex default output**

```
\begin{tabular}{cccc}
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\
5 & & 6 & \\
\end{tabular}
```

If you wish to remove the alignment of the \ within a delimiter-aligned block, then the advanced
form of lookForAlignDelims shown in Listing 25 is for you.
Note that you can use a mixture of the basic and advanced form: in Listing 25 `tabular` and `tabularx` are advanced and `longtable` is basic. When using the advanced form, each field should receive at least 1 sub-field, and can (but does not have to) receive any of the following fields:

- `delims`: switch equivalent to simply specifying, for example, `tabular: 1` in the basic version shown in Listing 22 (default: 1);
- `alignDoubleBackSlash`: switch to determine if `\` should be aligned (default: 1);
- `spacesBeforeDoubleBackSlash`: optionally, specifies the number of spaces to be inserted before (non-aligned) `\`. In order to use this field, `alignDoubleBackSlash` needs to be set to 0 (default: 0);
- `multiColumnGrouping`: details if `latexindent.pl` should group columns underneath a `\multicolumn` command (default: 0);
- `alignRowsWithoutMaxDelims`: details if rows that do not contain the maximum number of delimeters should be formatted so as to have the ampersands aligned (default: 1).

Assuming that you have the settings in Listing 25 saved in `tabular.yaml`, and the code from Listing 23 in `tabular1.tex` and you run

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -l tabular.yaml tabular1.tex
```

then you should receive the before-and-after results shown in Listings 26 and 27; note that the ampersands have been aligned, but the `\` have not (compare the alignment of `\` in Listings 24 and 27).

```latex
\begin{tabular}{cccc}
 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\
5 & & 6 & \\
\end{tabular}
```

Saving Listing 25 into `tabular1.yaml` as in Listing 29, and running the command

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -l tabular1.yaml tabular1.tex
```

gives Listing 28; note the spacing before the `\`. 
Now consider the file `tabular2.tex` in Listing 30, which contains a `\multicolumn` command, and the YAML files in Listings 31 and 32.

On running the commands

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl tabular2.tex
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -s tabular2.tex -l tabular2.yaml
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -s tabular2.tex -l tabular3.yaml
```

we obtain the respective outputs given in Listings 33 to 35.
Notice in particular:

- in both Listings 33 and 34 all rows have been aligned at the ampersand, even those that do not contain the maximum number of ampersands (3 ampersands, in this case);
- in Listing 33 the columns have been aligned at the ampersand;
- in Listing 34 the \multicolumn command has grouped the 2 columns beneath and above it, because multiColumnGrouping is set to 1 in Listing 31;
- in Listing 35 rows 3 and 6 have not been aligned at the ampersand, because alignRowsWithoutMaxDelims has been set to 0 in Listing 32; however, the two have still been aligned.

As of Version 3.0, the alignment routine works on mandatory and optional arguments within commands, and also within 'special' code blocks (see specialBeginEnd on page 21); for example, assuming that you have a command called \matrix and that it is populated within lookForAlignDelims (which it is, by default), and that you run the command

\begin{tabular}{cccc}
A & B & C & D \\\nAAA & BBB & CCC & DDD \\
\end{tabular}

then the before-and-after results shown in Listings 36 and 37 are achievable by default.

\begin{tabular}{cccc}
A & B & C & D \\
AAA & BBB & CCC & DDD \\
\end{tabular}

If you have blocks of code that you wish to align at the & character that are not wrapped in, for example, \begin{tabular}...\end{tabular}, then you can use the mark up illustrated in Listing 38; the default output is shown in Listing 39. Note that the %* must be next to each other, but that there can be any number of spaces (possibly none) between the * and \begin{tabular}; note also that you may use any environment name that you have specified in lookForAlignDelims.

With reference to Table 2 on page 23 and the, yet undiscussed, fields of noAdditionalIndent and indentRules (see Section 5.2 on page 24), these comment-marked blocks are considered environments.

\begin{tabular}{cccc}
A & B & C & D \\
AAA & BBB & CCC & DDD \\
\end{tabular}
The environment names specified in `indentAfterItems` tell `latexindent.pl` to look for `\item` commands; if these switches are set to 1 then indentation will be performed so as indent the code after each item. A demonstration is given in Listings 41 and 42.

**Listing 41: items1.tex**

```latex
\begin{itemize}
  \item /uni2423some/uni2423text/uni2423here
  some/uni2423more/uni2423text/uni2423here
  \item /uni2423another/uni2423item
  some/uni2423more/uni2423text/uni2423here
\end{itemize}
```

**Listing 42: items1.tex default output**

```latex
\begin{itemize}
  \item /uni2423some/uni2423text/uni2423here
  \item /uni2423/uni2423/uni2423/uni2423/uni2423/uni2423some/uni2423more/uni2423text/uni2423here
  \item /uni2423/uni2423/uni2423/uni2423/uni2423/uni2423some/uni2423more/uni2423text/uni2423here
  \item /uni2423another/uni2423item
  /uni2423/uni2423/uni2423/uni2423/uni2423/uni2423some/uni2423more/uni2423text/uni2423here
\end{itemize}
```

**Listing 43: itemNames**

```yaml
itemNames:
  item: 1
  myitem: 1
```

If you have your own `item` commands (perhaps you prefer to use `myitem`, for example) then you can put populate them in `itemNames`. For example, users of the `exam` document class might like to add parts to `indentAfterItems` and part to `itemNames` to their user settings (see Section 4 on page 11 for details of how to configure user settings, and Listing 9 on page 12 in particular.)

**Listing 44: specialBeginEnd**

```yaml
specialBeginEnd:
  displayMath:
    begin: '\\\['
    end: '\\\]
    lookForThis: 1
  inlineMath:
    begin: '(?<!\$)(?<!\$)(?<!\$)(?<!\$)(?<!\$)$(?<!\$)'
    end: '(?<!\$)(?<!\$)(?<!\$)(?<!\$)(?<!\$)$(?<!\$)
    lookForThis: 1
  displayMathTex:
    begin: '\$
    end: '\$
    lookForThis: 1
```

The field `displayMath` represents `\[...\]`, `inlineMath` represents `$...$` and `displayMathTex` represents `$$...$$`. You can, of course, rename these in your own YAML files (see Section 4.1 on page 12); indeed, you might like to set up your own special begin and end statements.

A demonstration of the before-and-after results are shown in Listings 45 and 46.
For each field, `lookForThis` is set to 1 by default, which means that `latexindent.pl` will look for this pattern; you can tell `latexindent.pl` not to look for the pattern, by setting `lookForThis` to 0.

This field enables the user to specify indentation rules that take effect after heading commands such as `\part`, `\chapter`, `\section`, `\subsection`, or indeed any user-specified command written in this field.\footnote{There is a slight difference in interface for this field when comparing Version 2.2 to Version 3.0; see appendix C on page 67 for details.}

The default settings do not place indentation after a heading, but you can easily switch them on by changing `indentAfterThisHeading: 0` to `indentAfterThisHeading: 1`. The level field tells `latexindent.pl` the hierarchy of the heading structure in your document. You might, for example, like to have both section and subsection set with level: 3 because you do not want the indentation to go too deep.

You can add any of your own custom heading commands to this field, specifying the level as appropriate. You can also specify your own indentation in `indentRules` (see Section 5.2 on page 24); you will find the default `indentRules` contains `chapter: " "` which tells `latexindent.pl` simply to use a space character after headings (once `indent` is set to 1 for chapter).

For example, assuming that you have the code in Listing 48 saved into `headings1.yaml`, and that you have the text from Listing 49 saved into `headings1.tex`.

If you run the command
then you should receive the output given in Listing 50.

LISTING 50: headings1.tex using Listing 48
\subsection{subsection_text}
\subsection{subsection_text}
\paragraph{paragraph_text}
\paragraph{paragraph_text}
\paragraph{paragraph_text}
\paragraph{paragraph_text}

LISTING 51: headings1.tex second modification
\subsection{subsection_text}
\subsection{subsection_text}
\paragraph{paragraph_text}
\paragraph{paragraph_text}
\paragraph{paragraph_text}
\paragraph{paragraph_text}

Now say that you modify the YAML from Listing 48 so that the paragraph level is 1; after running

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl headings1.tex -l=headings1.yaml
```

you should receive the code given in Listing 51; notice that the paragraph and subsection are at the same indentation level.

5.1 The code blocks known latexindent.pl
As of Version 3.0, latexindent.pl processes documents using code blocks; each of these are shown in Table 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code block</th>
<th>characters allowed in name</th>
<th>example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>environments</td>
<td>a-zA-Z@*0-9_\</td>
<td>\begin{myenv} body of myenv \end{myenv}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>optionalArguments</td>
<td>inherits name from parent (e.g environment name)</td>
<td>opt arg text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mandatoryArguments</td>
<td>inherits name from parent (e.g environment name)</td>
<td>mand arg text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>commands</td>
<td>+a-zA-Z@*0-9_;</td>
<td>\mycommand(arguments)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>keyEqualsValuesBracesBrackets</td>
<td>a-zA-Z@*0-9_/\h{}#:-</td>
<td>my key/.style=(arguments)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>namedGroupingBracesBrackets</td>
<td>a-zA-Z@*&lt;&lt;</td>
<td>in(arguments)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UnNamedGroupingBracesBrackets</td>
<td>No name!</td>
<td>{ or [ or , or &amp; or ) or $ followed by (arguments)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code Block</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ifElseFi</td>
<td>@a-zA-Z but must begin with either \if of @if \ifnum... \else ... \fi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>items</td>
<td>User specified, see Listings 40 and 43 on page 21 begin{enumerate} item ... end{enumerate}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>specialBeginEnd</td>
<td>User specified, see Listing 44 on page 21 [ ... ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>afterHeading</td>
<td>User specified, see Listing 47 on page 22 \chapter{title} ... \section{title}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>filecontents</td>
<td>User specified, see Listing 19 on page 16 \begin{filecontents} ... \end{filecontents}</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We will refer to these code blocks in what follows.

5.2 noAdditionalIndent and indentRules

latexindent.pl operates on files by looking for code blocks, as detailed in Section 5.1 on page 23; for each type of code block in Table 2 on page 23 (which we will call a ⟨thing⟩ in what follows) it searches YAML fields for information in the following order:

1. noAdditionalIndent for the name of the current ⟨thing⟩;
2. indentRules for the name of the current ⟨thing⟩;
3. noAdditionalIndentGlobal for the type of the current ⟨thing⟩;
4. indentRulesGlobal for the type of the current ⟨thing⟩.

Using the above list, the first piece of information to be found will be used; failing that, the value of defaultIndent is used. If information is found in multiple fields, the first one according to the list above will be used; for example, if information is present in both indentRules and in noAdditionalIndentGlobal, then the information from indentRules takes priority.

We now present details for the different type of code blocks known to latexindent.pl, as detailed in Table 2 on page 23; for reference, there follows a list of the code blocks covered.

5.2.1 Environments and their arguments ........................................ 25
5.2.2 Environments with items ......................................................... 31
5.2.1 Environments and their arguments
There are a few different YAML switches governing the indentation of environments; let’s start with
the code shown in Listing 60.

5.2.3 Commands with arguments ........................................ 32
5.2.4 ifelsefi code blocks ................................................. 34
5.2.5 specialBeginEnd code blocks ..................................... 36
5.2.6 afterHeading code blocks ......................................... 37
5.2.7 The remaining code blocks ....................................... 39
5.2.8 Summary .............................................................. 40

Listing 60: myenv.tex
\begin{outer}
\begin{myenv}
\\body_of_{..environment}
\body_of_{..environment}
\\body_of_{..environment}
\end{myenv}
\end{outer}

noAdditionalIndent: \{fields\}

If we do not wish myenv to receive any additional indentation, we have a few choices available to
us, as demonstrated in Listings 61 and 62.

Listing 61: myenv-noAdd1.yaml
noAdditionalIndent:
myenv: 1

Listing 62: myenv-noAdd2.yaml
noAdditionalIndent:
myenv:
body: 1

On applying either of the following commands,
cmh:\~$ latexindent.pl myenv.tex -l myenv-noAdd1.yaml
cmh:\~$ latexindent.pl myenv.tex -l myenv-noAdd2.yaml

we obtain the output given in Listing 63; note in particular that the environment myenv has not
received any additional indentation, but that the outer environment has still received indentation.

Listing 63: myenv.tex output (using either Listing 61 or Listing 62)
\begin{outer}
  \begin{myenv}
  \\body_of_{..environment}
  \body_of_{..environment}
  \body_of_{..environment}
  \\end{myenv}
  \end{outer}

Upon changing the YAML files to those shown in Listings 64 and 65, and running either

cmh:\~$ latexindent.pl myenv.tex -l myenv-noAdd3.yaml
cmh:\~$ latexindent.pl myenv.tex -l myenv-noAdd4.yaml
we obtain the output given in Listing 66.

![Listing 64: myenv-noAdd3.yaml](image)

![Listing 65: myenv-noAdd4.yaml](image)

| Listing 66: myenv.tex output (using either Listing 64 or Listing 65) |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| \begin{outer}           | \end{outer}            |
| \begin{myenv}           | \end{myenv}            |
| \body_{of}environment   | \body_{of}environment   |
| \body_{of}environment   | \body_{of}environment   |
| \body_{of}environment   | \body_{of}environment   |

Let’s now allow myenv to have some optional and mandatory arguments, as in Listing 67.

![Listing 67: myenv-args.tex](image)

Upon running

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -l=myenv-noAdd1.yaml myenv-args.tex
```

we obtain the output shown in Listing 68; note that the optional argument, mandatory argument and body all have received no additional indent. This is because, when noAdditionalIndent is specified in ‘scalar’ form (as in Listing 61), then all parts of the environment (body, optional and mandatory arguments) are assumed to want no additional indent.

![Listing 68: myenv-args.tex using Listing 61](image)

We may customise noAdditionalIndent for optional and mandatory arguments of the myenv environment, as shown in, for example, Listings 69 and 70.
Upon running

```
$ latexindent.pl myenv.tex -l myenv-noAdd5.yaml
$ latexindent.pl myenv.tex -l myenv-noAdd6.yaml
```

we obtain the respective outputs given in Listings 71 and 72. Note that in Listing 71 the text for the optional argument has not received any additional indentation, and that in Listing 72 the mandatory argument has not received any additional indentation; in both cases, the body has not received any additional indentation.

```
\begin{outer}
  \begin{myenv}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%} \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%} \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%} \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
  \end{myenv}
  \end{outer}
```

```
\begin{outer}
  \begin{myenv}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%} \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%} \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%} \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
    \text{\%}
  \end{myenv}
  \end{outer}
```

indentRules: (fields)

We may also specify indentation rules for environment code blocks using the indentRules field; see, for example, Listings 73 and 74.

```
indentRules:
  myenv: " "

Listing 73: myenv-rules1.yaml
```

```
indentRules:
  myenv: " "

Listing 74: myenv-rules2.yaml
```

On applying either of the following commands,

```
$ latexindent.pl myenv.tex -l myenv-rules1.yaml
$ latexindent.pl myenv.tex -l myenv-rules2.yaml
```

we obtain the output given in Listing 75; note in particular that the environment myenv has received one tab (from the outer environment) plus three spaces from Listing 73 or 74.
If you specify a field in `indentRules` using anything other than horizontal space, it will be ignored.

Returning to the example in Listing 67 that contains optional and mandatory arguments. Upon using Listing 73 as in

```
$ latexindent -l=myenv-rules1.yaml myenv-args.tex
```

we obtain the output in Listing 76; note that the body, optional argument and mandatory argument have all received the same customised indentation.

```
\begin{outer}
  \begin{myenv}
    \\body\of\environment
    \\body\of\environment
    \\body\of\environment
    \end{myenv}
  \end{outer}
```

You can specify different indentation rules for the different features using, for example, Listings 77 and 78

```
\begin{outer}
  \begin{myenv}
    \\body\of\environment
    \\body\of\environment
    \\body\of\environment
    \\body\of\environment
  \end{myenv}
  \\body\of\environment
  \\body\of\environment
  \\body\of\environment
  \end{outer}
```

After running

```
$ latexindent -l=myenv-rules3.yaml myenv-args.tex
$ latexindent -l=myenv-rules4.yaml myenv-args.tex
```

then we obtain the respective outputs given in Listings 79 and 80.
Note that in Listing 79, the optional argument has only received a single space of indentation, while the mandatory argument has received the default (tab) indentation; the environment body has received three spaces of indentation.

In Listing 80, the optional argument has received the default (tab) indentation, the mandatory argument has received two tabs of indentation, and the body has received three spaces of indentation.

Assuming that your environment name is not found within neither noAdditionalIndent nor indentRules, the next place that latexindent.pl will look is noAdditionalIndentGlobal, and in particular for the environments key (see Listing 81). Let’s say that you change the value of environments to 1 in Listing 81, and that you run

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl myenv-args.tex -l env-noAdditionalGlobal.yaml
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl myenv-args.tex -l myenv-rules1.yaml,env-noAdditionalGlobal.yaml
```

The respective output from these two commands are in Listings 82 and 83; in Listing 82 notice that both environments receive no additional indentation but that the arguments of myenv still do receive indentation. In Listing 83 notice that the outer environment does not receive additional indentation, but because of the settings from myenv-rules1.yaml (in Listing 73 on page 27), the myenv environment still does receive indentation.

In fact, noAdditionalIndentGlobal also contains keys that control the indentation of optional and mandatory arguments; on referencing Listings 84 and 85
we may run the commands

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl myenv-args.tex -l myenv 
```

which produces the respective outputs given in Listings 86 and 87. Notice that in Listing 86 the optional argument has not received any additional indentation, and in Listing 87 the mandatory argument has not received any additional indentation.

**Listing 86: myenv-args.tex using Listing 84**

```
\begin{outer}
  \begin{myenv}[
    \begin{optional}[text]
      \begin{optional}[text]
        \begin{optional}[text]
          \{\begin{mandatory}[text]
            \begin{mandatory}[text]
              \begin{body}
                \{\begin{body}
                  \end{myenv}
                  \end{outer}
```

**Listing 87: myenv-args.tex using Listing 85**

```
\begin{outer}
  \begin{myenv}[
    \begin{optional}[text]
      \begin{optional}[text]
        \begin{optional}[text]
          \{\begin{mandatory}[text]
            \begin{mandatory}[text]
              \begin{body}
                \{\begin{body}
                  \end{myenv}
                  \end{outer}
```

The final check that \texttt{latexindent.pl} will make is to look for \texttt{indentRulesGlobal} as detailed in Listing 88; if you change the environments field to anything involving horizontal space, say " ", and then run the following commands

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl myenv-args.tex -l env-indentRules.yaml
```

then the respective output is shown in Listings 89 and 90. Note that in Listing 89, both the environment blocks have received a single-space indentation, whereas in Listing 90 the outer environment has received single-space indentation (specified by \texttt{indentRulesGlobal}), but myenv has received " ", as specified by the particular \texttt{indentRules} for myenv Listing 73 on page 27.

**Listing 88: indentRulesGlobal**

```
indentRulesGlobal: (fields)
```

```
indentRulesGlobal: 0
```
5.5.2 Environments with items

With reference to Listings 40 and 43 on page 21, some commands may contain item commands; for the purposes of this discussion, we will use the code from Listing 41 on page 21.

Assuming that you’ve populated itemNames with the name of your item, you can put the item name into noAdditionalIndent as in Listing 95, although a more efficient approach may be to change the relevant field in itemNames to 0. Similarly, you can customise the indentation that your item receives using indentRules, as in Listing 96.
Upon running the following commands

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl items1.tex -local item-noAdd1.yaml
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl items1.tex -local item-rules1.yaml
```

the respective outputs are given in Listings 97 and 98; note that in Listing 97 that the text after each item has not received any additional indentation, and in Listing 98, the text after each item has received a single space of indentation, specified by Listing 96.

Alternatively, you might like to populate noAdditionalIndentGlobal or indentRulesGlobal using the items key, as demonstrated in Listings 99 and 100. Note that there is a need to 'reset/remove' the item field from indentRules in both cases (see the hierarchy description given on page 24) as the item command is a member of indentRules by default.

Upon running the following commands,

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl items1.tex -local items-noAdditionalGlobal.yaml
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl items1.tex -local items-indentRulesGlobal.yaml
```

the respective outputs from Listings 97 and 98 are obtained; note, however, that all such item commands without their own individual noAdditionalIndent or indentRules settings would behave as in these listings.

5.2.3 Commands with arguments

Let's begin with the simple example in Listing 101; when latexindent.pl operates on this file, the default output is shown in Listing 102.  

---

6The command code blocks have quite a few subtleties, described in Section 5.3 on page 41.
As in the environment-based case (see Listings 61 and 62 on page 25) we may specify noAdditionalIndent either in ‘scalar’ form, or in ‘field’ form, as shown in Listings 103 and 104.

After running the following commands,

```latex
\texttt{cmh:~\$ \texttt{latexindent.pl mycommand.tex -l mycommand-noAdd1.yaml}}
\texttt{cmh:~\$ \texttt{latexindent.pl mycommand.tex -l mycommand-noAdd2.yaml}}
```

we receive the respective output given in Listings 105 and 106.

Note that in Listing 105 that the ‘body’, optional argument and mandatory argument have all received no additional indentation, while in Listing 106, only the ‘body’ has not received any additional indentation. We define the ‘body’ of a command as any lines following the command name that include its optional or mandatory arguments.

We may further customise noAdditionalIndent for mycommand as we did in Listings 69 and 70 on page 27; explicit examples are given in Listings 107 and 108.

After running the following commands,
we receive the respective output given in Listings 109 and 110.

```
\mycommand
{  %mand_arg, text
  %mand_arg, text}
[
  opt_arg, text
  opt_arg, text
]
```

Attentive readers will note that the body of `mycommand` in both Listings 109 and 110 has received no additional indent, even though `body` is explicitly set to 0 in both Listings 107 and 108. This is because, by default, `noAdditionalIndentGlobal` for commands is set to 1 by default; this can be easily fixed as in Listings 111 and 112.

```
mycommand-noAdd5.yaml

noAdditionalIndent:
  mycommand:
    body: 0
    optionalArguments: 1
    mandatoryArguments: 0
noAdditionalIndentGlobal:
  commands: 0
```

After running the following commands,

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl mycommand.tex -l mycommand-noAdd5.yaml
```

we receive the respective output given in Listings 113 and 114.

```
\mycommand
{  %mand_arg, text
  %mand_arg, text}
[
  opt_arg, text
  opt_arg, text
  ↵]
```

Both `indentRules` and `indentRulesGlobal` can be adjusted as they were for `environment` code blocks, as in Listings 77 and 78 on page 28 and Listings 88, 91 and 92 on page 30 and on page 31.

### 5.2.4 `ifelsefi` code blocks

Let's use the simple example shown in Listing 115; when `latexindent.pl` operates on this file, the output as in Listing 116; note that the body of each of the `\if` statements have been indented, and that the `\else` statement has been accounted for correctly.
It is recommended to specify `noAdditionalIndent` and `indentRules` in the 'scalar' form only for these type of code blocks, although the 'field' form would work, assuming that body was specified. Examples are shown in Listings 117 and 118.

After running the following commands,

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl ifelsefi1.tex -local ifnum-noAdd.yaml
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl ifelsefi1.tex -l ifnum-indent-rules.yaml
```

we receive the respective output given in Listings 119 and 120; note that in Listing 119, the `ifnum` code block has *not* received any additional indentation, while in Listing 120, the `ifnum` code block has received one tab and two spaces of indentation.

We may specify `noAdditionalIndentGlobal` and `indentRulesGlobal` as in Listings 121 and 122.

Upon running the following commands

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl ifelsefi1.tex -local ifelsefi-noAdd-glob.yaml
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl ifelsefi1.tex -l ifelsefi-indent-rules-global.yaml
```

we receive the outputs in Listings 123 and 124; notice that in Listing 123 neither of the `ifelsefi` code blocks have received indentation, while in Listing 124 both code blocks have received a single space of indentation.
5.2.5 specialBeginEnd code blocks

Let's use the example from Listing 45 on page 22 which has default output shown in Listing 46 on page 22.

It is recommended to specify noAdditionalIndent and indentRules in the ‘scalar’ form for these type of code blocks, although the ‘field’ form would work, assuming that body was specified. Examples are shown in Listings 125 and 126.

After running the following commands,

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl special1.tex -local displayMath-noAdd.yaml
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl special1.tex -l displayMath-indent-rules.yaml
```

we receive the respective output given in Listings 127 and 128; note that in Listing 127, the displayMath code block has not received any additional indentation, while in Listing 128, the displayMath code block has received three tabs worth of indentation.

We may specify noAdditionalIndentGlobal and indentRulesGlobal as in Listings 129 and 130.

Upon running the following commands

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl special1.tex -local special-noAdd-glob.yaml
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl special1.tex -l special-indent-rules-global.yaml
```
we receive the outputs in Listings 131 and 132; notice that in Listing 131 neither of the special
code blocks have received indentation, while in Listing 132 both code blocks have received a single
space of indentation.

**LISTING 131: special1.tex using Listing 129**

```latex
The function \( f \) has formula
\[
\begin{align*}
  f(x) &= x^2. \\
  g(x) &= f(2x)
\end{align*}
\]
If you like splitting dollars,
\[
\begin{align*}
  g(x) &= f(2x)
\end{align*}
\]
```

**LISTING 132: special1.tex using Listing 130**

```latex
The function \( f \) has formula
\[
\begin{align*}
  f(x) &= x^2. \\
  g(x) &= f(2x)
\end{align*}
\]
If you like splitting dollars,
\[
\begin{align*}
  g(x) &= f(2x)
\end{align*}
\]
```

5.2.6 **afterHeading** code blocks

Let’s use the example Listing 133 for demonstration throughout this Section. As discussed on page 22,
by default latexindent.pl will not add indentation after headings.

**LISTING 133: headings2.tex**

```latex
\paragraph{paragraph title}
\paragraph{paragraph text}
```

On using the YAML file in Listing 135 by running the command

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl headings2.tex -l headings3.yaml
```

we obtain the output in Listing 134. Note that the argument of paragraph has received (default)
indentation, and that the body after the heading statement has received (default) indentation.

**LISTING 134: headings2.tex using Listing 135**

```latex
\paragraph{paragraph title}
\paragraph{paragraph text}
```

**LISTING 135: headings3.yaml**

```yaml
indentAfterHeadings:
  paragraph:
    indentAfterThisHeading: 1
    level: 1
```

If we specify `noAdditionalIndent` as in Listing 137 and run the command

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl headings2.tex -l headings4.yaml
```

then we receive the output in Listing 136. Note that the arguments and the body after the heading of
paragraph has received no additional indentation, because we have specified `noAdditionalIndent`
in scalar form.

**LISTING 136: headings2.tex using Listing 137**

```latex
\paragraph{paragraph title}
\paragraph{paragraph text}
```

**LISTING 137: headings4.yaml**

```yaml
indentAfterHeadings:
  paragraph:
    indentAfterThisHeading: 1
    level: 1
noAdditionalIndent: paragraph: 1
```
Similarly, if we specify `indentRules` as in Listing 139 and run analogous commands to those above, we receive the output in Listing 138; note that the `body, mandatory argument` and content after the heading of paragraph have all received three tabs worth of indentation.

```
\paragraph{paragraph}
  \title
  \paragraph{paragraph_text}
  \paragraph{paragraph_text}
```

Listing 138: headings2.tex using Listing 139

```
indentAfterHeadings:
  paragraph:
    indentAfterThisHeading: 1
    level: 1
indentRules:
  paragraph: "\t\t\t"
```

Listing 139: headings5.yaml

We may, instead, specify `noAdditionalIndent` in ‘field’ form, as in Listing 141 which gives the output in Listing 140.

```
\paragraph{paragraph}
  \title
paragraph_text
paragraph_text
```

Listing 140: headings2.tex using Listing 141

```
indentAfterHeadings:
  paragraph:
    indentAfterThisHeading: 1
    level: 1
noAdditionalIndent:
  paragraph:
    body: 0
    mandatoryArguments: 0
    afterHeading: 1
```

Listing 141: headings6.yaml

Analogously, we may specify `indentRules` as in Listing 143 which gives the output in Listing 142; note that mandatory argument text has only received a single space of indentation, while the body after the heading has received three tabs worth of indentation.

```
\paragraph{paragraph}
  \title
  \paragraph{paragraph_text}
  \paragraph{paragraph_text}
```

Listing 142: headings2.tex using Listing 143

```
indentAfterHeadings:
  paragraph:
    indentAfterThisHeading: 1
    level: 1
indentRules:
  paragraph:
    mandatoryArguments: " 
    afterHeading: "\t\t\t"
```

Listing 143: headings7.yaml

Finally, let’s consider `noAdditionalIndentGlobal` and `indentRulesGlobal` shown in Listings 145 and 147 respectively, with respective output in Listings 144 and 146. Note that in Listing 145 the `mandatory argument` of paragraph has received a (default) tab’s worth of indentation, while the body after the heading has received *no additional indentation*. Similarly, in Listing 146, the argument has received both a (default) tab plus two spaces of indentation (from the global rule specified in Listing 147), and the remaining body after paragraph has received just two spaces of indentation.

```
\paragraph{paragraph}
  \title
paragraph_text
paragraph_text
```

Listing 144: headings2.tex using Listing 145

```
indentAfterHeadings:
  paragraph:
    indentAfterThisHeading: 1
    level: 1
noAdditionalIndentGlobal:
  afterHeading: 1
```

Listing 145: headings8.yaml
5.2.7 The remaining code blocks

Referencing the different types of code blocks in Table 2 on page 23, we have a few code blocks yet to cover; these are very similar to the commands code block type covered comprehensively in Section 5.2.3 on page 32, but a small discussion defining these remaining code blocks is necessary.

keyEqualsValuesBracesBrackets latexindent.pl defines this type of code block by the following criteria:

- it must immediately follow either \{ OR \[ OR , with comments and blank lines allowed;
- then it has a name made up of the characters detailed in Table 2 on page 23;
- then an = symbol;
- then at least one set of curly braces or square brackets (comments and line breaks allowed throughout).

An example is shown in Listing 148, with the default output given in Listing 149.

In Listing 149, note that the maximum indentation is three tabs, and these come from:

- the \pgfkeys command's mandatory argument;
- the start coordinate/.initial key's mandatory argument;
- the start coordinate/.initial key's body, which is defined as any lines following the name of the key that include its arguments. This is the part controlled by the body field for noAdditionalIndent and friends from page 24.

namedGroupingBracesBrackets This type of code block is mostly motivated by tikz-based code; we define this code block as follows:

- it must immediately follow either horizontal space OR one or more line breaks OR \{ OR \[ OR $ OR ) OR (;
- the name may contain the characters detailed in Table 2 on page 23;
- then at least one set of curly braces or square brackets (comments and line breaks allowed throughout).

A simple example is given in Listing 150, with default output in Listing 151.
In particular, `latexindent.pl` considers child, parent and node all to be `namedGroupingBracesBrackets`\(^7\). Referencing Listing 151, note that the maximum indentation is two tabs, and these come from:

- the child's mandatory argument;
- the child's body, which is defined as any lines following the name of the `namedGroupingBracesBrackets` that include its arguments. This is the part controlled by the `body` field for `noAdditionalIndent` and friends from page 24.

`UnNamedGroupingBracesBrackets` occur in a variety of situations; specifically, we define this type of code block as satisfying the following criteria:

- it must immediately follow either `{ OR [ OR , OR & OR ) OR ( OR $;
- then at least one set of curly braces or square brackets (comments and line breaks allowed throughout).

An example is shown in Listing 152 with default output given in Listing 153.

Referencing Listing 153, there are three sets of unnamed braces. Note also that the maximum value of indentation is three tabs, and these come from:

- the \psforeach command's mandatory argument;
- the first un-named braces mandatory argument;
- the first un-named braces body, which we define as any lines following the first opening `{' or `[' that defined the code block. This is the part controlled by the `body` field for `noAdditionalIndent` and friends from page 24.

Users wishing to customise the mandatory and/or optional arguments on a per-name basis for the `UnNamedGroupingBracesBrackets` should use `always-un-named`.

`filecontents` code blocks behave just as `environments`, except that neither arguments nor items are sought.

5.2.8 Summary

Having considered all of the different types of code blocks, the functions of the fields given in Listings 154 and 155 should now make sense.

\(^7\) You may like to verify this by using the `-tt` option and checking `indent.log`!
5. Commands and the strings between their arguments

The command code blocks will always look for optional (square bracketed) and mandatory (curly braced) arguments which can contain comments, line breaks and 'beamer' commands \(<.*?>\) between them. There are switches that can allow them to contain other strings, which we discuss next.

commandCodeBlocks: \{fields\}

The commandCodeBlocks field contains a few switches detailed in Listing 156.

roundParenthesesAllowed: 0|1

The need for this field was mostly motivated by commands found in code used to generate images in PSTricks and tikz; for example, let's consider the code given in Listing 157.

\begin{verbatim}
defFunction[algebraic]{torus}(u,v)
\{2+cos(u)}*cos(v+\Pi)\}
\{2+cos(u)}*\sin(v+\Pi)\}
\{\sin(u)\}
\end{verbatim}

Notice that the \defFunction command has an optional argument, followed by a mandatory argument, followed by a round-parenthesis argument, \(u,v\).

By default, because roundParenthesesAllowed is set to 1 in Listing 156, then \latexindent.pl will allow round parenthesis between optional and mandatory arguments. In the case of the code in Listing 157, \latexindent.pl finds all the arguments of \defFunction, both before and after \(u,v\).

The default output from running \latexindent.pl on Listing 157 actually leaves it unchanged (see Listing 158); note in particular, this is because of noAdditionalIndentGlobal as discussed on page 34.

Upon using the YAML settings in Listing 160, and running the command
we obtain the output given in Listing 159.

Listing 159: pstricks1.tex using Listing 160
\defFunction[algebraic]{torus}(u,v)
{(2+\cos(u))\cos(v+\Pi)}
\{(2+\cos(u))\sin(v+\Pi)}
{\sin(u)}

Notice the difference between Listing 158 and Listing 159; in particular, in Listing 159, because round parentheses are not allowed, latexindent.pl finds that the \defFunction command finishes at the first opening round parenthesis. As such, the remaining braced, mandatory, arguments are found to be UnNamedGroupingBracesBrackets (see Table 2 on page 23) which, by default, assume indentation for their body, and hence the tabbed indentation in Listing 159.

Let's explore this using the YAML given in Listing 162 and run the command

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl pstricks1.tex -l defFunction.yaml
```

then the output is as in Listing 161.

Listing 161: pstricks1.tex using Listing 162
\defFunction[algebraic]{torus}(u,v)
{(2+\cos(u))\cos(v+\Pi)}
\{(2+\cos(u))\sin(v+\Pi)}
{\sin(u)}

Notice in Listing 161 that the body of the defFunction command i.e, the subsequent lines containing arguments after the command name, have received the single space of indentation specified by Listing 162.

stringsAllowedBetweenArguments: (fields)
tikz users may well specify code such as that given in Listing 163; processing this code using latexindent.pl gives the default output in Listing 164.

Listing 163: tikz-node1.tex
\draw[thin]
(c)\to[in=110,out=-90]
++(0,-0.5cm)
node[below,align=left,scale=0.5]

Listing 164: tikz-node1 default output
\draw[thin]
(c)\to[in=110,out=-90]
++(0,-0.5cm)
node[below,align=left,scale=0.5]

With reference to Listing 156 on page 41, we see that the strings to, node, ++

are all allowed to appear between arguments, as they are each set to 1; importantly, you are encouraged to add further names to this field as necessary. This means that when latexindent.pl processes Listing 163, it consumes:

- the optional argument [thin]
- the round-bracketed argument (c) because roundParenthesesAllowed is 1 by default
- the string to (specified in stringsAllowedBetweenArguments)
• the optional argument \[in=110,\text{out}=\text{-}90\]
• the string ++ (specified in \textit{stringsAllowedBetweenArguments})
• the round-bracketed argument \(0,-0.5\text{cm}\) because \textit{roundParenthesesAllowed} is 1 by default
• the string node (specified in \textit{stringsAllowedBetweenArguments})
• the optional argument \[\text{below,align=left, scale=0.5}\]

We can explore this further, for example using Listing 166 and running the command

\texttt{cmh:~$ latexindent.pl tikz-node1.tex \ -l draw.yaml}

we receive the output given in Listing 165.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listing 165: tikz-node1.tex using Listing 166</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>\texttt{\draw[thin]}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\texttt{\textasciitilde(c)\texttt{_}_\texttt{_}to[\textit{in}=110,\text{out}=\text{-}90]}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\texttt{\textasciitilde++(0,-0.5cm)}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\texttt{____node[\text{below,align=left, scale=0.5}]}</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notice that each line after the \texttt{\draw} command (its ‘body’) in Listing 165 has been given the appropriate two-spaces worth of indentation specified in Listing 166.

Let’s compare this with the output from using the YAML settings in Listing 168, and running the command

\texttt{cmh:~$ latexindent.pl tikz-node1.tex \ -l no-to.yaml}

given in Listing 167.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listing 167: tikz-node1.tex using Listing 168</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>\texttt{\draw[thin]}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\texttt{(c)\texttt{_}_\texttt{_}to[\textit{in}=110,\text{out}=\text{-}90]}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\texttt{++(0,-0.5cm)}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\texttt{node[below,align=left, scale=0.5]}</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In this case, \texttt{latexindent.pl} sees that:

• the \texttt{\draw} command finishes after the \texttt{(c)} as (\textit{stringsAllowedBetweenArguments} has to set to 0)
• it finds a named\texttt{GroupingBracesBrackets} called to (see Table 2 on page 23) \textit{with} argument \[\textit{in}=110,\text{out}=\text{-}90\]
• it finds another named\texttt{GroupingBracesBrackets} but this time called node with argument \[\text{below,align=left, scale=0.5}\]

6 The \texttt{-m (modifylinebreaks)} switch

All features described in this section will only be relevant if the \texttt{-m} switch is used.

\textbf{modifylinebreaks: (fields)}
As of Version 3.0, \texttt{latexindent.pl} has the \texttt{-m} switch, which permits \texttt{latexindent.pl} to modify line breaks, according to the specifications in the \texttt{modifyLineBreaks} field. \textit{The settings in this field will only be considered if the \texttt{-m} switch has been used.} A snippet of the default settings of this field is shown in Listing 169.

Having read the previous paragraph, it should sound reasonable that, if you call \texttt{latexindent.pl} using the \texttt{-m} switch, then you give it permission to modify line breaks in your file, but let's be clear:

\textbf{Warning:} If you call \texttt{latexindent.pl} with the \texttt{-m} switch, then you are giving it permission to modify line breaks. By default, the only thing that will happen is that multiple blank lines will be condensed into one blank line; many other settings are possible, discussed next.

\begin{Verbatim}
\texttt{preserveBlankLines: 0|1}
\end{Verbatim}

This field is directly related to \textit{poly-switches}, discussed below. By default, it is set to 1, which means that blank lines will be protected from removal; however, regardless of this setting, multiple blank lines can be condensed if \texttt{condenseMultipleBlankLinesInto} is greater than 0, discussed next.

\begin{Verbatim}
\texttt{condenseMultipleBlankLinesInto: (integer \geq 0)}
\end{Verbatim}

Assuming that this switch takes an integer value greater than 0, \texttt{latexindent.pl} will condense multiple blank lines into the number of blank lines illustrated by this switch. As an example, Listing 170 shows a sample file with blank lines; upon running

\begin{Verbatim}
cmh:~\$ latexindent.pl myfile.tex \texttt{-m}
\end{Verbatim}

the output is shown in Listing 171; note that the multiple blank lines have been condensed into one blank line, and note also that we have used the \texttt{-m} switch!

\begin{Verbatim}
LISTING 170: mlb1.tex
\begin{verbatim}
before\_blank\_line
after\_blank\_line
after\_blank\_line
\end{verbatim}
\end{Verbatim}

\begin{Verbatim}
LISTING 171: mlb1.tex out output
\begin{verbatim}
before\_blank\_line
after\_blank\_line
after\_blank\_line
\end{verbatim}
\end{Verbatim}

\begin{Verbatim}
\texttt{textWrapOptions: (fields)}
\end{Verbatim}

When the \texttt{-m} switch is active \texttt{latexindent.pl} has the ability to wrap text using the options specified in the \texttt{textWrapOptions} field, see Listing 172. The value of \texttt{columns} specifies the column at which the text should be wrapped. By default, the value of \texttt{columns} is 0, so \texttt{latexindent.pl} will not wrap text; if you change it to a value of 2 or more, then text will be wrapped after the character in the specified column.
6. THE -m (MODIFYLINEBREAKS) SWITCH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listing 172: textWrapOptions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For example, consider the file given in Listing 173.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listing 173: textwrap1.tex</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Here is a line of text that will be wrapped by latexindent.pl. Each line is quite long.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Here is a line of text that will be wrapped by latexindent.pl. Each line is quite long.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Using the file textwrap1.yaml in Listing 175, and running the command

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -m textwrap1.tex -o textwrap1-mod1.tex -l textwrap1.yaml
```

we obtain the output in Listing 174.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listing 174: textwrap1-mod1.tex</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Here is a line of text that will be wrapped by latexindent.pl. Each line is quite long.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Here is a line of text that will be wrapped by latexindent.pl. Each line is quite long.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The text wrapping routine is performed after verbatim environments have been stored, so verbatim environments and verbatim commands are exempt from the routine. For example, using the file in Listing 176,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listing 176: textwrap2.tex</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>\begin{verbatim}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a long line in a verbatim environment, which will not be broken by latexindent.pl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\end{verbatim}</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

and running the following command and continuing to use textwrap1.yaml from Listing 175,

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -m textwrap2.tex -o textwrap2-mod1.tex -l textwrap1.yaml
```

then the output is as in Listing 177.
LISTING 177: textwrap2-mod1.tex

Here is a line of text that will be wrapped by latexindent.pl. Each line is quite long.

\begin{verbatim}
  a line in a verbatim environment, which will not be broken by latexindent.pl
\end{verbatim}

Here is a verb command:
\verb!this will not be text wrapped!

Furthermore, the text wrapping routine is performed after the trailing comments have been stored, and they are also exempt from text wrapping. For example, using the file in Listing 178

LISTING 178: textwrap3.tex

and running the following command and continuing to use textwrap1.yaml from Listing 175,

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -m textwrap3.tex -o textwrap3-mod1.tex -l textwrap1.yaml
```

then the output is as in Listing 179.

LISTING 179: textwrap3-mod1.tex

Here is a line of text that will be wrapped by latexindent.pl. Each line is quite long.

Here is a line % text wrapping does not apply to comments by latexindent.pl

The text wrapping routine of latexindent.pl is performed by the Text::Wrap module, which provides a separator feature to separate lines with characters other than a new line (see [11]). By default, the separator is empty (see Listing 180) which means that a new line token will be used, but you can change it as you see fit.

For example starting with the file in Listing 181

LISTING 181: textwrap4.tex

and using textwrap2.yaml from Listing 183 with the following command
Summary of text wrapping  It is important to note the following:

- Verbatim environments (Listing 13 on page 15) and verbatim commands (Listing 14 on page 15) will not be affected by the text wrapping routine (see Listing 177 on page 46);
- comments will not be affected by the text wrapping routine (see Listing 179 on page 46);
- indentation is performed after the text wrapping routine; as such, indented code will likely exceed any maximum value set in the columns field.

When the \texttt{\texttt{-m}} switch is active \texttt{latexindent.pl} has the ability to remove line breaks from within paragraphs; the behaviour is controlled by the \texttt{removeParagraphLineBreaks} field, detailed in Listing 184. Thank you to [8] for shaping and assisting with the testing of this feature.

This routine can be turned on globally for every code block type known to latexindent.pl (see Table 2 on page 23) by using the \texttt{all} switch; by default, this switch is \texttt{off}. Assuming that the \texttt{all} switch is off, then the routine can be controlled on a per-code-block-type basis, and within that, on a per-name basis. We will consider examples of each of these in turn, but before we do, let’s specify what latexindent.pl considers as a paragraph:

- it must begin on its own line with either an alphabetic or numeric character, and not with any of the code-block types detailed in Table 2 on page 23;
- it can include line breaks, but finishes when it meets either a blank line, a \texttt{\par} command, or any of the user-specified settings in the \texttt{paragraphsStopAt} field, detailed in Listing 201 on page 52.

Let’s start with the .tex file in Listing 185, together with the YAML settings in Listing 186.
LISTING 185: shortlines.tex
\begin{myenv}
The lines in this environment are very short and contain many linebreaks.
\end{myenv}

Another paragraph.

Upon running the command

cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -m shortlines.tex -o shortlines1.tex -l remove-para1.yaml

then we obtain the output given in Listing 187.

LISTING 187: shortlines1.tex
\begin{myenv}
\begin{itemize}
\item The lines in this environment are very short and contain many linebreaks.
\item Another paragraph.
\end{itemize}
\end{myenv}

Keen readers may notice that some trailing white space must be present in the file in Listing 185 which has crept in to the output in Listing 187. This can be fixed using the YAML file in Listing 240 on page 58 and running, for example,

cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -m shortlines.tex -o shortlines1-tws.tex -l remove-para1.yaml,removeTWS-before.yaml

in which case the output is as in Listing 188; notice that the double spaces present in Listing 187 have been addressed.

LISTING 188: shortlines1-tws.tex
\begin{myenv}
\begin{itemize}
\item The lines in this environment are very short and contain many linebreaks.
\item Another paragraph.
\end{itemize}
\end{myenv}

Keeping with the settings in Listing 186, we note that the all switch applies to all code block types. So, for example, let’s consider the files in Listings 189 and 190.
L.sting 189: shortlines-mand.tex
\mycommand{The_lines_in_this_command_are_very_short_and_contain_many_linebreaks.}

L.sting 190: shortlines-opt.tex
\mycommand[
The_lines_in_this_command_are_very_short_and_contain_many_linebreaks.

Another paragraph.
}

Upon running the commands

cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -m shortlines-mand.tex -o shortlines-mand1.tex -l remove-para1.yaml

cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -m shortlines-opt.tex -o shortlines-opt1.tex -l remove-para1.yaml

then we obtain the respective output given in Listings 191 and 192.

L.sting 191: shortlines-mand1.tex
\mycommand{
\&The_lines_in_this_command_are_very_short_and_contain_many_linebreaks.
\n\&Another_paragraph.
}

L.sting 192: shortlines-opt1.tex
\mycommand[
\&The_lines_in_this_command_are_very_short_and_contain_many_linebreaks.
\n\&Another_paragraph.
]

Assuming that we turn off the all switch (by setting it to 0), then we can control the behaviour of removeParagraphLineBreaks either on a per-code-block-type basis, or on a per-name basis.

For example, let's use the code in Listing 193, and consider the settings in Listings 194 and 195; note that in Listing 194 we specify that every environment should receive treatment from the routine, while in Listing 195 we specify that only the one environment should receive the treatment.
6. THE \texttt{-m (MODIFYLINEBREAKS)} SWITCH

\textbf{Listing 193: shortlines-envs.tex}
\begin{verbatim}
\begin{one}
The lines in this environment are very short and contain many linebreaks.
Another paragraph.
\end{one}

\begin{two}
The lines in this environment are very short and contain many linebreaks.
Another paragraph.
\end{two}
\end{verbatim}

Upon running the commands
\begin{verbatim}
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -m shortlines-envs.tex -o shortlines-envs2.tex -l remove-para2.yaml

cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -m shortlines-envs.tex -o shortlines-envs3.tex -l remove-para3.yaml
\end{verbatim}
then we obtain the respective output given in Listings 196 and 197.

\textbf{Listing 194: remove-para2.yaml}
\begin{verbatim}
modifyLineBreaks:
  removeParagraphLineBreaks:
    environments: 1
\end{verbatim}

\textbf{Listing 195: remove-para3.yaml}
\begin{verbatim}
modifyLineBreaks:
  removeParagraphLineBreaks:
    environments:
      one: 1
\end{verbatim}

\textbf{Listing 196: shortlines-envs2.tex}
\begin{verbatim}
\begin{one}
\texttt{-\textbackslash r The\textbackslash n lines\textbackslash n in\textbackslash n this\textbackslash n environment\textbackslash n are\textbackslash n very\textbackslash n short\textbackslash n and\textbackslash n contain\textbackslash n many\textbackslash n linebreaks.}
\texttt{-\textbackslash r Another\textbackslash n paragraph.}
\end{one}

\begin{two}
\texttt{-\textbackslash r The\textbackslash n lines\textbackslash n in\textbackslash n this\textbackslash n environment\textbackslash n are\textbackslash n very\textbackslash n short\textbackslash n and\textbackslash n contain\textbackslash n many\textbackslash n linebreaks.}
\texttt{-\textbackslash r Another\textbackslash n paragraph.}
\end{two}
\end{verbatim}
The remaining code-block types can be customized in analogous ways, although note that commands,\nkeyEqualsValuesBracesBrackets, namedGroupingBracesBrackets, UnNamedGroupingBracesBrackets\nare controlled by the optionalArguments and the mandatoryArguments.

The only special case is the masterDocument field; this is designed for ‘chapter’-type files that may\ncontain paragraphs that are not within any other code-blocks. For example, consider the file in\nListing 198, with the YAML settings in Listing 199.

Upon running the following command

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -m shortlines-md.tex -o shortlines-md4.tex -l remove-para4.yaml
```

then we obtain the output in Listing 200.
The lines in this document are very short and contain many linebreaks.

Another paragraph.

\begin{myenv}
  The lines in this document are very short and contain many linebreaks.
\end{myenv}

The paragraph line break routine considers blank lines and the `\par` command to be the end of a paragraph; you can fine tune the behaviour of the routine further by using the `paragraphsStopAt` fields, shown in Listing 201.

The fields specified in `paragraphsStopAt` tell `latexindent.pl` to stop the current paragraph when it reaches a line that begins with any of the code-block types specified as 1 in Listing 201. By default, you'll see that the paragraph line break routine will stop when it reaches an environment at the beginning of a line. It is not possible to specify these fields on a per-name basis.

Let's use the `.tex` file in Listing 202; we will, in turn, consider the settings in Listings 203 and 204.

Upon using the settings from Listing 199 on page 51 and running the commands
we obtain the respective outputs in Listings 205 to 207; notice in particular that:

- in Listing 205 the paragraph line break routine has included commands and comments;
- in Listing 206 the paragraph line break routine has stopped at the `emph` command, because in Listing 203 we have specified commands to be 1, and `emph` is at the beginning of a line;
- in Listing 207 the paragraph line break routine has stopped at the comments, because in Listing 204 we have specified comments to be 1, and the comment is at the beginning of a line.

In all outputs in Listings 205 to 207 we notice that the paragraph line break routine has stopped at \begin{myenv} because, by default, environments is set to 1 in Listing 201 on page 52.

### Listing 205: sl-stop4.tex

```latex
\begin{myenv}
\emph{and} contain many linebreaks.
\end{myenv}
```

Another paragraph.

### Listing 206: sl-stop4-command.tex

```latex
\begin{myenv}
\emph{and} contain many linebreaks.
\end{myenv}
```

Another paragraph.

### Listing 207: sl-stop4-comment.tex

```latex
\begin{myenv}
\emph{and} contain many linebreaks.
\end{myenv}
```

Another paragraph.

### 6.1 Poly-switches

Every other field in the modifyLineBreaks field uses poly-switches, and can take one of four integer values:

- \(-1\) `remove mode`: line breaks before or after the `<part of thing>` can be removed (assuming that `preserveBlankLines` is set to 0);
- 0 `off mode`: line breaks will not be modified for the `<part of thing>` under consideration;
- 1 `add mode`: a line break will be added before or after the `<part of thing>` under consideration, assuming that there is not already a line break before or after the `<part of thing>`;

\[^8\]You might like to associate one of the four circles in the logo with one of the four given values.
6. THE \(-m\) (MODIFYLINEBREAKS) SWITCH

2 comment then add mode: a comment symbol will be added, followed by a line break before or after the \(<\text{part of thing}\>) under consideration, assuming that there is not already a comment and line break before or after the \(<\text{part of thing}\>).

All poly-switches are off by default; latexindent.pl searches first of all for per-name settings, and then followed by global per-thing settings.

6.2 modifyLineBreaks for environments

We start by viewing a snippet of defaultSettings.yaml in Listing 208; note that it contains global settings (immediately after the environments field) and that per-name settings are also allowed – in the case of Listing 208, settings for equation* have been specified. Note that all poly-switches are off by default.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listing 208: environments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>environments:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BeginStartsOnOwnLine: 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BodyStartsOnOwnLine: 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EndStartsOnOwnLine: 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EndFinishesWithLineBreak: 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>equation*:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BeginStartsOnOwnLine: 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BodyStartsOnOwnLine: 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EndStartsOnOwnLine: 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EndFinishesWithLineBreak: 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.2.1 Adding line breaks (poly-switches set to 1 or 2)

Let's begin with the simple example given in Listing 209; note that we have annotated key parts of the file using ♠, ♥, ♦ and ♣, these will be related to fields specified in Listing 208.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listing 209: env-mlb1.tex</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>before words♠</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Let's explore BeginStartsOnOwnLine and BodyStartsOnOwnLine in Listings 210 and 211, and in particular, let's allow each of them in turn to take a value of 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listing 210: env-mlb1.yaml</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>modifyLineBreaks:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>environments:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BeginStartsOnOwnLine: 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listing 211: env-mlb2.yaml</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>modifyLineBreaks:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>environments:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BodyStartsOnOwnLine: 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

After running the following commands,

```
cmb:~$ latexindent.pl -m env-mlb1.tex -l env-mlb1.yaml

cmb:~$ latexindent.pl -m env-mlb2.tex -l env-mlb2.yaml
```

the output is as in Listings 212 and 213 respectively.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listing 212: env-mlb.tex using Listing 210</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>before_words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\begin{myenv} body_{of\ myenv} \end{myenv}</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listing 213: env-mlb.tex using Listing 211</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>before_words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\begin{myenv}</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are a couple of points to note:

- in Listing 212 a line break has been added at the point denoted by ♠ in Listing 209; no other line breaks have been changed;
- in Listing 213 a line break has been added at the point denoted by ♥ in Listing 209; furthermore, note that the body of myenv has received the appropriate (default) indentation.
Let's now change each of the 1 values in Listings 210 and 211 so that they are 2 and save them into `env-mlb3.yaml` and `env-mlb4.yaml` respectively (see Listings 214 and 215).

Listing 214: env-mlb3.yaml
```
modifyLineBreaks:
  environments:
    BeginStartsOnOwnLine: 2
```

Listing 215: env-mlb4.yaml
```
modifyLineBreaks:
  environments:
    BodyStartsOnOwnLine: 2
```

Upon running commands analogous to the above, we obtain Listings 216 and 217.

Listing 216: env-mlb.tex using Listing 214
```
\begin{myenv}
\text{body of } myenv\end{myenv}, after words
```

Listing 217: env-mlb.tex using Listing 215
```
\begin{myenv}\text{body of } myenv\end{myenv}, after words
```

Note that line breaks have been added as in Listings 212 and 213, but this time a comment symbol has been added before adding the line break; in both cases, trailing horizontal space has been stripped before doing so.

Let's explore `EndStartsOnOwnLine` and `EndFinishesWithLineBreak` in Listings 218 and 219, and in particular, let's allow each of them in turn to take a value of 1.

Listing 218: env-mlb5.yaml
```
modifyLineBreaks:
  environments:
    EndStartsOnOwnLine: 1
```

Listing 219: env-mlb6.yaml
```
modifyLineBreaks:
  environments:
    EndFinishesWithLineBreak: 1
```

After running the following commands,
```
cmh:∼$ latexindent -m env-mlb5.yaml
cmh:∼$ latexindent -m env-mlb6.yaml
```
the output is as in Listings 220 and 221.

Listing 220: env-mlb.tex using Listing 218
```
\begin{myenv}
\text{body of } myenv\end{myenv}, after words
```

Listing 221: env-mlb.tex using Listing 219
```
\begin{myenv}\text{body of } myenv\end{myenv}, after words
```

There are a couple of points to note:

- in Listing 220 a line break has been added at the point denoted by ♦ in Listing 209 on page 54; no other line breaks have been changed and the `\end{myenv}` statement has not received indentation (as intended);
- in Listing 221 a line break has been added at the point denoted by ♣ in Listing 209 on page 54.

Let's now change each of the 1 values in Listings 218 and 219 so that they are 2 and save them into `env-mlb7.yaml` and `env-mlb8.yaml` respectively (see Listings 222 and 223).

Listing 222: env-mlb7.yaml
```
modifyLineBreaks:
  environments:
    EndStartsOnOwnLine: 2
```

Listing 223: env-mlb8.yaml
```
modifyLineBreaks:
  environments:
    EndFinishesWithLineBreak: 2
```

Upon running commands analogous to the above, we obtain Listings 224 and 225.

Listing 224: env-mlb.tex using Listing 222
```
\begin{myenv}
\text{body of } myenv\end{myenv}, after words
```

Listing 225: env-mlb.tex using Listing 223
```
\begin{myenv}\text{body of } myenv\end{myenv}, after words
```
Note that line breaks have been added as in Listings 220 and 221, but this time a comment symbol has been added before adding the line break; in both cases, trailing horizontal space has been stripped before doing so.

If you ask `latexindent.pl` to add a line break (possibly with a comment) using a poly-switch value of 1 (or 2), it will only do so if necessary. For example, if you process the file in Listing 226 using any of the YAML files presented so far in this section, it will be left unchanged.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listing 226: env-mlb2.tex</th>
<th>Listing 227: env-mlb3.tex</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>before_words</td>
<td>before_words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\begin{myenv}</td>
<td>\begin{myenv}_%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___body_of_myenv</td>
<td>___body_of_myenv%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\end{myenv}</td>
<td>\end{myenv}%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>after_words</td>
<td>after_words</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In contrast, the output from processing the file in Listing 227 will vary depending on the poly-switches used; in Listing 228 you’ll see that the comment symbol after the `\begin\{myenv\}` has been moved to the next line, as `BodyStartsOwnLine` is set to 1. In Listing 229 you’ll see that the comment has been accounted for correctly because `BodyStartsOwnLine` has been set to 2, and the comment symbol has not been moved to its own line. You’re encouraged to experiment with Listing 227 and by setting the other poly-switches considered so far to 2 in turn.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listing 228: env-mlb3.tex using Listing 211 on page 54</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>before_words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>\begin\{myenv\}</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>\_\_\_body\_of\_myenv\%</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>\end\{myenv\}\%</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>after_words</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listing 229: env-mlb3.tex using Listing 215 on page 55</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>before_words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>\begin\{myenv\}_\%</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>\_\_\_body\_of\_myenv\%</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>\end\{myenv\}\%</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>after_words</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The details of the discussion in this section have concerned global poly-switches in the `environments` field; each switch can also be specified on a per-name basis, which would take priority over the global values; with reference to Listing 208 on page 54, an example is shown for the `equation*` environment.

6.2.2 Removing line breaks (poly-switches set to −1)
Setting poly-switches to −1 tells `latexindent.pl` to remove line breaks of the `<part of the thing>`, if necessary. We will consider the example code given in Listing 230, noting in particular the positions of the line break highlighters, ♠, ♥, ♦ and ♣, together with the associated YAML files in Listings 231 to 234.
6. THE \texttt{-M (MODIFYLINEBREAKS)} SWITCH

Listing 230: \texttt{env-mlb4.tex}

\begin{myenv}
\begin{myenv}
\end{myenv}
\end{myenv}

After running the commands

\begin{verbatim}
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -m env-mlb4.tex -l env-mlb9.yaml
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -m env-mlb4.tex -l env-mlb10.yaml
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -m env-mlb4.tex -l env-mlb11.yaml
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -m env-mlb4.tex -l env-mlb12.yaml
\end{verbatim}

we obtain the respective output in Listings 235 to 238.

Listing 235: \texttt{env-mlb4.tex} using Listing 231

\begin{verbatim}
before\_words\begin{myenv}
  \body\_of\_myenv
\end{myenv}
\end{verbatim}

Listing 236: \texttt{env-mlb4.tex} using Listing 232

\begin{verbatim}
before\_words
\begin{myenv}body\_of\_myenv
\end{myenv}
\end{verbatim}

Listing 237: \texttt{env-mlb4.tex} using Listing 233

\begin{verbatim}
before\_words
\begin{myenv}
  body\_of\_myenv\end{myenv}
\end{verbatim}

Listing 238: \texttt{env-mlb4.tex} using Listing 234

\begin{verbatim}
before\_words
\begin{myenv}
  body\_of\_myenv\end{myenv}
\end{verbatim}

Notice that in

- Listing 235 the line break denoted by ♠ in Listing 230 has been removed;
- Listing 236 the line break denoted by ♥ in Listing 230 has been removed;
- Listing 237 the line break denoted by ♦ in Listing 230 has been removed;
- Listing 238 the line break denoted by ♣ in Listing 230 has been removed.

We examined each of these cases separately for clarity of explanation, but you can combine all of the YAML settings in Listings 231 to 234 into one file; alternatively, you could tell \texttt{latexindent.pl} to load them all by using the following command, for example

\begin{verbatim}
\end{verbatim}
which gives the output in Listing 209 on page 54.

**About trailing horizontal space** Recall that on page 16 we discussed the YAML field `removeTrailingWhitespace`, and that it has two (binary) switches to determine if horizontal space should be removed before Processing and after Processing. The before Processing is particularly relevant when considering the `-m` switch; let's consider the file shown in Listing 239, which highlights trailing spaces.

**Listing 239: env-mlb5.tex**
```
\begin{myenv}
body of myenv
\end{myenv}
```

**Listing 240: removeTWS-before.yaml**
```
removeTrailingWhitespace:
  beforeProcessing: 1
```

The output from the following commands

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -m env-mlb5.tex -l env-mlb9.yaml,env-mlb10.yaml,env-mlb11.yaml,env-mlb12.yaml,removeTWS-before.yaml
```

is shown, respectively, in Listings 241 and 242; note that the trailing horizontal white space has been preserved (by default) in Listing 241, while in Listing 242, it has been removed using the switch specified in Listing 240.

**Listing 241: env-mlb5.tex using Listings 235 to 238**
```
\begin{myenv}
body of myenv
\end{myenv}
```

**Listing 242: env-mlb5.tex using Listings 235 to 238 and Listing 240**
```
\begin{myenv}
body of myenv\end{myenv}
```

**Blank lines** Now let's consider the file in Listing 243, which contains blank lines.

**Listing 243: env-mlb6.tex**
```
\begin{myenv}
body of myenv\end{myenv}
```

**Listing 244: UnpreserveBlankLines.yaml**
```
modifyLineBreaks:
  preserveBlankLines: 0
```

Upon running the following commands

```bash
```

we receive the respective outputs in Listings 245 and 246. In Listing 245 we see that the multiple blank lines have each been condensed into one blank line, but that blank lines have not been removed
by the poly-switches – this is because, by default, preserveBlankLines is set to 1. By contrast, in Listing 246, we have allowed the poly-switches to remove blank lines because, in Listing 244, we have set preserveBlankLines to 0.

Listing 245: env-mlb6.tex using Listings 235 to 238

\begin{myenv}
\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\textbackslash begin\{myenv\}}} \hspace{1em}
\textcolor{blue}{\texttt{body\_of\_myenv}}
\end{myenv}

Listing 246: env-mlb6.tex using Listings 235 to 238 and Listing 244

\begin{myenv} \textcolor{red}{body\_of\_myenv} \end{myenv}

6.3 Poly-switches for other code blocks

Rather than repeat the examples shown for the environment code blocks (in Section 6.2 on page 54), we choose to detail the poly-switches for all other code blocks in Table 3; note that each and every one of these poly-switches is off by default, i.e, set to 0. Note also that, by design, line breaks involving verbatim, filecontents and 'comment-marked' code blocks (Listing 38 on page 20) can not be modified using latexindent.pl.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code block</th>
<th>Sample</th>
<th>Poly-switch mapping</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>environment</td>
<td>\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\textbackslash begin{myenv}}} \hspace{1em} \textcolor{blue}{\texttt{body_of_myenv}} \textcolor{red}{\texttt{\textbackslash end{myenv}}}</td>
<td>\textcolor{red}{\texttt{BeginStartsOnOwnLine}} \hspace{1em} \textcolor{blue}{\texttt{BodyStartsOnOwnLine}} \hspace{1em} \textcolor{red}{\texttt{EndStartsOnOwnLine}} \hspace{1em} \textcolor{blue}{\texttt{EndFinishesWithLineBreak}}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ifelsefi</td>
<td>\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\textbackslash if...\textbackslash else\textbackslash fi}}</td>
<td>\textcolor{red}{\texttt{IfStartsOnOwnLine}} \hspace{1em} \textcolor{blue}{\texttt{BodyStartsOnOwnLine}} \hspace{1em} \textcolor{red}{\texttt{ElseStartsOnOwnLine}} \hspace{1em} \textcolor{blue}{\texttt{ElseFinishesWithLineBreak}} \hspace{1em} \textcolor{red}{\texttt{FiStartsOnOwnLine}} \hspace{1em} \textcolor{blue}{\texttt{FiFinishesWithLineBreak}}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>optionalArguments</td>
<td>\textcolor{red}{\texttt{\ldots\textbackslash [\texttt{\textbackslash \textbackslash opt arg\textbackslash ]\ldots}}}</td>
<td>\textcolor{red}{\texttt{LSqBStartsOnOwnLine}} \hspace{1em} \textcolor{blue}{\texttt{OptArgBodyStartsOnOwnLine}} \hspace{1em} \textcolor{red}{\texttt{RSqBStartsOnOwnLine}} \hspace{1em} \textcolor{blue}{\texttt{RSqBFinishesWithLineBreak}}</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\textsuperscript{9}LSqB stands for Left Square Bracket
6.4 Partnering BodystartsWithOwnLine with argument-based poly-switches
Some poly-switches need to be partnered together; in particular, when line breaks involving the first argument of a code block need to be accounted for using both BodystartsWithOwnLine (or its equivalent, see Table 3 on page 59) and LCuBStartsOnOwnLine for mandatory arguments, and LSqBStartsOnOwnLine for optional arguments.

Let's begin with the code in Listing 256 and the YAML settings in Listing 258; with reference to Table 3 on page 59, the key CommandNameFinishesWithLineBreak is an alias for BodystartsWithOwnLine.

10LCuB stands for Left Curly Brace
Upon running the command

```bash
cmh::$ latexindent.pl -m -l=mycom-mlb1.yaml mycommand1.tex
```

we obtain Listing 257; note that the second mandatory argument beginning brace `{` has had its leading line break removed, but that the first brace has not.

Now let’s change the YAML file so that it is as in Listing 260; upon running the analogous command to that given above, we obtain Listing 259; both beginning braces `{` have had their leading line breaks removed.

Now let’s change the YAML file so that it is as in Listing 262; upon running the analogous command to that given above, we obtain Listing 261.

### 6.5 Conflicting poly-switches: sequential code blocks

It is very easy to have conflicting poly-switches; if we use the example from Listing 256, and consider the YAML settings given in Listing 264. The output from running

```bash
cmh::$ latexindent.pl -m -l=mycom-mlb4.yaml mycommand1.tex
```
6. THE \texttt{-m (MODIFYLINEBREAKS) SWITCH}

is given in Listing 264.

\begin{verbatim}
\begin{verbatim}
\mycommand
{
  \mand_arg_text
\mand_arg_text}
\{ \mand_arg_text
\mand_arg_text
\}
\end{verbatim}
\end{verbatim}
\end{verbatim}

Studying Listing 264, we see that the two poly-switches are at opposition with one another:

- on the one hand, \texttt{LCuBStartsOnOwnLine} should not start on its own line (as poly-switch is set to \texttt{-1});
- on the other hand, \texttt{RCuBFinishesWithLineBreak} should finish with a line break.

So, which should win the conflict? As demonstrated in Listing 263, it is clear that \texttt{LCuBStartsOnOwnLine} won this conflict, and the reason is that the second argument was processed after the first – in general, the most recently-processed code block and associated poly-switch takes priority.

We can explore this further by considering the YAML settings in Listing 266; upon running the command

\texttt{\$ latexindent.pl -m -l=mycom-mlb5.yaml mycommand1.tex}

we obtain the output given in Listing 265.

\begin{verbatim}
\begin{verbatim}
\mycommand
{
  \mand_arg_text
\mand_arg_text}
\{ \mand_arg_text
\mand_arg_text
\}
\end{verbatim}
\end{verbatim}
\end{verbatim}
\end{verbatim}

As previously, the most-recently-processed code block takes priority – as before, the second (i.e, \texttt{last}) argument. Exploring this further, we consider the YAML settings in Listing 268, which give associated output in Listing 267.

\begin{verbatim}
\begin{verbatim}
\mycommand
{
  \mand_arg_text
\mand_arg_text}
\{ \mand_arg_text
\mand_arg_text
\}
\end{verbatim}
\end{verbatim}
\end{verbatim}
\end{verbatim}

As previously, the most-recently-processed code block takes priority – as before, the second (i.e, \texttt{last}) argument. Exploring this further, we consider the YAML settings in Listing 268, which give associated output in Listing 267.

\begin{verbatim}
\begin{verbatim}
\mycommand
{
  \mand_arg_text
\mand_arg_text}
\{ \mand_arg_text
\mand_arg_text
\}
\end{verbatim}
\end{verbatim}
\end{verbatim}
\end{verbatim}
\end{verbatim}

Note that a \texttt{\%} has been added to the trailing first \texttt{)}; this is because:

- while processing the \texttt{first} argument, the trailing line break has been removed (\texttt{RCuBFinishesWithLineBreak} set to \texttt{-1});
- while processing the \texttt{second} argument, \texttt{latexindent.pl} finds that it does not begin on its own line, and so because \texttt{LCuBStartsOnOwnLine} is set to \texttt{2}, it adds a comment, followed by a line break.
6.6 **Conflicting poly-switches: nested code blocks**

Now let's consider an example when nested code blocks have conflicting poly-switches; we'll use the code in Listing 269, noting that it contains nested environments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listing 269: nested-env.tex</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>\begin{one}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>one_\text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\begin{two}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>two_\text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\end{two}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\end{one}</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Let's use the YAML settings given in Listing 271, which upon running the command

```bash
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -m -l=nested-env-mlb1.yaml nested-env.tex
```

gives the output in Listing 270.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listing 270: nested-env.tex using Listing 270</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>\begin{one}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>one_\text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\begin{two}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>two_\text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\end{two}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\end{one}</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listing 271: nested-env-mlb1.yaml</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>modifyLineBreaks:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>environments:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EndStartsOnOwnLine: -1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EndFinishesWithLineBreak: 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In Listing 270, let's first of all note that both environments have received the appropriate (default) indentation; secondly, note that the poly-switch EndStartsOnOwnLine appears to have won the conflict, as \end{one} has had its leading line break removed.

To understand it, let's talk about the three basic phases of latexindent.pl:

1. Phase 1: packing, in which code blocks are replaced with unique ids, working from the inside to the outside, and then sequentially – for example, in Listing 269, the two environment is found before the one environment; if the -m switch is active, then during this phase:
   - line breaks at the beginning of the body can be added (if BodyStartsOnOwnLine is 1 or 2) or removed (if BodyStartsOnOwnLine is -1);
   - line breaks at the end of the body can be added (if EndStartsOnOwnLine is 1 or 2) or removed (if EndStartsOnOwnLine is -1);
   - line breaks after the end statement can be added (if EndFinishesWithLineBreak is 1 or 2).

2. Phase 2: indentation, in which white space is added to the begin, body, and end statements;

3. Phase 3: unpacking, in which unique ids are replaced by their indented code blocks; if the -m switch is active, then during this phase,
   - line breaks before begin statements can be added or removed (depending upon BeginStartsOnOwnLine);
   - line breaks after end statements can be removed but NOT added (see EndFinishesWithLineBreak).

With reference to Listing 270, this means that during Phase 1:

- the two environment is found first, and the line break ahead of the \end{two} statement is removed because EndStartsOnOwnLine is set to -1. Importantly, because, at this stage, \end{two} does finish with a line break, EndFinishesWithLineBreak causes no action.
- next, the one environment is found; the line break ahead of \end{one} is removed because EndStartsOnOwnLine is set to -1.

The indentation is done in Phase 2; in Phase 3 there is no option to add a line break after the end statements. We can justify this by remembering that during Phase 3, the one environment will be
found and processed first, followed by the two environment. If the two environment were to add a line break after the \end{two} statement, then latexindent.pl would have no way of knowing how much indentation to add to the subsequent text (in this case, \end{one}).

We can explore this further using the poly-switches in Listing 273; upon running the command

```
$c mh:~$ latexindent.pl -m -l=nested-env-mlb2.yaml nested-env.tex
```

we obtain the output given in Listing 272.

```
\begin{one}
  \one_text
  \begin{two}
    \two_text
  \end{two}
\end{one}
```

During Phase 1:

- the two environment is found first, and the line break ahead of the \end{two} statement is not changed because EndStartsOnOwnLine is set to 1. Importantly, because, at this stage, \end{two} does finish with a line break, EndFinishesWithLineBreak causes no action.
- next, the one environment is found; the line break ahead of \end{one} is already present, and no action is needed.

The indentation is done in Phase 2, and then in Phase 3, the one environment is found and processed first, followed by the two environment. At this stage, the two environment finds EndFinishesWithLineBreak is −1, so it removes the trailing line break; remember, at this point, latexindent.pl has completely finished with the one environment.

## 7 Conclusions and known limitations

There are a number of known limitations of the script, and almost certainly quite a few that are unknown!

For example, latexindent.pl will not indent the following code correctly, because of the unmatched [. I’m hopeful to be able to resolve this issue in a future version.

```
\parbox{
  \ifnextchar{\@assignmentwithcutoff}{\@assignmentnocutoff}
}
```

The main other limitation is to do with the alignment routine of environments/commands that contain delimiters which are specified in lookForAlignDelims.

The routine works well for ‘standard’ blocks of code that have the same number of & per line, but it will not do anything for lines that do not – such examples include tabular environments that use \multicolumn or perhaps spread cell contents across multiple lines. For each alignment block (tabular, align, etc) latexindent.pl first of all makes a record of the maximum number of &; if each row does not have that number of & then it will not try to format that row. Details will be given in indent.log assuming that trace mode is active.

You can run latexindent on .sty, .cls and any file types that you specify in fileExtensionPreference (see Listing 11 on page 14); if you find a case in which the script struggles, please feel free to report it at [6], and in the meantime, consider using a noIndentBlock (see page 16).

I hope that this script is useful to some; if you find an example where the script does not behave as you think it should, the best way to contact me is to report an issue on [6]; otherwise, feel free to find me on the http://tex.stackexchange.com/users/6621/cmhughes.
8 References

8.1 External links


8.2 Contributors


A Required Perl modules

If you intend to use latexindent.pl and not one of the supplied standalone executable files, then you will need a few standard Perl modules – if you can run the minimum code in Listing 274 (perl helloworld.pl) then you will be able to run latexindent.pl, otherwise you may need to install the missing modules.

Listing 274: helloworld.pl

```perl
#!/usr/bin/perl
use strict;
use warnings;
use utf8;
use PerlIO::encoding;
use Unicode::GCString;
use open ':std', ':encoding(UTF-8)';
use Text::Wrap;
use FindBin;
use YAML::Tiny;
use File::Copy;
use File::Basename;
use File::HomeDir;
use Getopt::Long;
use Data::Dumper;

print "hello\world";
exit;
```
Installing the modules given in Listing 274 will vary depending on your operating system and Perl distribution. For example, Ubuntu users might visit the software center, or else run

```
$ sudo perl -MCPAN -e 'install "File::HomeDir"'
```

Linux users may be interested in exploring Perlbrew [9]; possible installation and setup options follow for Ubuntu (other distributions will need slightly different commands).

```
$ sudo apt-get install perlbrew
$ perlbrew install perl-5.20.1
$ perlbrew switch perl-5.20.1
$ sudo apt-get install curl
$ curl -L http://cpanmin.us | perl App::cpanminus
$ cpanm YAML::Tiny
$ cpanm File::HomeDir
```

Strawberry Perl users on Windows might use CPAN client. All of the modules are readily available on CPAN [3].

`indent.log` will contain details of the location of the Perl modules on your system. `latexindent.exe` is a standalone executable for Windows (and therefore does not require a Perl distribution) and caches copies of the Perl modules onto your system; if you wish to see where they are cached, use the trace option, e.g.

```
C:\Users\cmh> latexindent.exe -t myfile.tex
```

### B. Updating the path variable

`latexindent.pl` has a few scripts (available at [6]) that can update the path variables\(^{11}\). If you're on a Linux or Mac machine, then you'll want `CMakeLists.txt` from [6].

#### B.1 Add to path for Linux

To add `latexindent.pl` to the path for Linux, follow these steps:

1. download `latexindent.pl` and its associated modules, `defaultSettings.yaml`, to your chosen directory from [6];
2. within your directory, create a directory called `path-helper-files` and download `CMakeLists.txt` and `cmake_uninstall.cmake.in` from [6]/`path-helper-files` to this directory;
3. run

```
$ ls /usr/local/bin
```

to see what is currently in there;
4. run the following commands

```
$ sudo apt-get install cmake
$ sudo apt-get update && sudo apt-get install build-essential
$ mkdir build && cd build
$ cmake ../path-helper-files
$ sudo make install
```

\(^{11}\)Thanks to [7] for this feature!
5. run

```
cmh:~$ ls /usr/local/bin
```

again to check that `latexindent.pl`, its modules and `defaultSettings.yaml` have been added.

To remove the files, run

```
cmh:~$ sudo make uninstall}
```

### B.2 Add to path for Windows

To add `latexindent.exe` to the path for Windows, follow these steps:

1. download `latexindent.exe`, `defaultSettings.yaml`, `add-to-path.bat` from [6] to your chosen directory;
2. open a command prompt and run the following command to see what is currently in your `%path%` variable;

```
C:\Users\cmh>echo %path%
```

3. right click on `add-to-path.bat` and *Run as administrator*;
4. log out, and log back in;
5. open a command prompt and run

```
C:\Users\cmh>echo %path%
```

To check that the appropriate directory has been added to your `%path%`.

To remove the directory from your `%path%`, run `remove-from-path.bat` as administrator.

### C Differences from Version 2.2 to 3.0

There are a few (small) changes to the interface when comparing Version 2.2 to Version 3.0. Explicitly, in previous versions you might have run, for example,

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -o myfile.tex outputfile.tex
```

whereas in Version 3.0 you would run any of the following, for example,

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -o=myfile.tex outputfile.tex
```

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl -o=outputfile.tex myfile.tex
```

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl myfile.tex -o=outputfile.tex
```

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl myfile.tex -o outputfile=outputfile.tex
```

```
cmh:~$ latexindent.pl myfile.tex -o=outputfile outputfile.tex
```

noting that the output file is given next to the `-o` switch.

The fields given in Listing 275 are *obsolete* from Version 3.0 onwards.
There is a slight difference when specifying indentation after headings; specifically, we now write `indentAfterThisHeading` instead of `indent`. See Listings 276 and 277.

To specify `noAdditionalIndent` for display-math environments in Version 2.2, you would write YAML as in Listing 278; as of Version 3.0, you would write YAML as in Listing 279 or, if you’re using the `-m` switch, Listing 280.