

(DRAFT)

Challenges with long text excerpts

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Abstract

A (not quite) minimal example demonstrating issues with long excerpts

Preface

Preface to be written

Toronto, Canada, July 7, 2017,

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1. Challenges with long text excerpts

I've spent about three unproductive days working through the ways to format long text excerpts. The paragraphing and indenting aren't uniform. I think that I've found a workaround, which could just be playing within the constraints of LaTeX.

1.1 Using quote

Using **quote**, here is the first of two replicated excerpts from a book chapter. There are actually two paragraphs in the excerpt, with the second paragraph starting with "More important".

We infused it into everything—not just our advertising, product planning, research agendas, and customer meetings, but throughout our communications and operations—from my e-mails, broadcasts, and town hall visits to the way in which we measured our internal transformation. It provided a powerful context for all of our businesses. It gave us both a marketplace-based mission and a new ground for our own behaviors and operating practices—in other words, culture. Most important, it was outward-facing. We were no longer focused on turning ourselves around. We were focused on setting the industry agenda again. We shifted the internal discussion from “What do we want to be” to “What do we want to do” (Gerstner, 2002, p. 320).

The two paragraphs above run together, with the sense that the paragraph break is missing. The paragraph following the excerpt shouldn't be indented, if it is a continuation of the content from before the blockquote. The complicated way that this works is the source code has to have the paragraph directly follow the **endquote**, or else an indent will be included.

Using **quote**, here is the second of two excerpts, now from the annual report. There are actually three paragraphs in the excerpt, with the

second as a short sentence, and the third as the signature of the author.

I want to use this occasion to offer a perspective on what lies ahead for our industry. To many observers today, its future is unclear, following perhaps the worst year in its history. A lot of people chalk that up to the recession and the “dot-com bubble.” They seem to believe that when the economies of the world recover, life in the information technology industry will get back to normal. In my view, nothing could be further from the truth. Louis V. Gerstner (IBM, 2001)

The sense of three paragraphs above is lost. The paragraph following the excerpt that shouldn’t be indented, if it is a continuation of the content from before the excerpts.

1.2 Using quotation instead

Using **quotation**, here is the first of two excerpts from a book chapter. There are actually two paragraphs in the quote, with the second paragraph starting with “More important”.

We infused it into everything—not just our advertising, product planning, research agendas, and customer meetings, but throughout our communications and operations—from my e-mails, broadcasts, and town hall visits to the way in which we measured our internal transformation. It provided a powerful context for all of our businesses. It gave us both a marketplace-based mission and a new ground for our own behaviors and operating practices—in other words, culture.

Most important, it was outward-facing. We were no longer focused on turning ourselves around. We were focused on setting the industry agenda again. We shifted the internal discussion from “What do we want to be” to “What do we want to do” (Gerstner, 2002, p. 320).

Using **quotation** instead is an improvement in indenting the second paragraph. However, the first paragraph really shouldn’t be indented.

Using **quotation**, here is the second of two excerpts, now from the annual report. There are actually three paragraphs in the excerpt, with the second as a short sentence, and the third as the signature of the author.

I want to use this occasion to offer a perspective on what lies ahead for our industry. To many observers today, its future is unclear, following perhaps the worst year in its history. A lot of people chalk that up to the recession and the

“dot-com bubble.” They seem to believe that when the economies of the world recover, life in the information technology industry will get back to normal. In my view, nothing could be further from the truth. Louis V. Gerstner (IBM, 2001)

The sense of three paragraphs above is lost. The paragraph following the excerpt that shouldn't be indented, if it is a continuation of the content from before the long text excerpt.

1.3 Using blockquote instead

Using **blockquote**, here is the first of two excerpts from a book chapter. There are actually two paragraphs in the excerpt, with the second paragraph starting with "More important".

We infused it into everything—not just our advertising, product planning, research agendas, and customer meetings, but throughout our communications and operations—from my e-mails, broadcasts, and town hall visits to the way in which we measured our internal transformation. It provided a powerful context for all of our businesses. It gave us both a marketplace-based mission and a new ground for our own behaviors and operating practices—in other words, culture. Most important, it was outward-facing. We were no longer focused on turning ourselves around. We were focused on setting the industry agenda again. We shifted the internal discussion from “What do we want to be” to “What do we want to do”. (Gerstner, 2002, p. 320)

The paragraph following the excerpt shouldn't be indented, if it is a continuation of the content from before the excerpt.

Using **blockquote**, here is the second of two excerpts, now from the annual report. There are actually three paragraphs in the quote, with the second as a short sentence, and the third as the signature of the author".

I want to use this occasion to offer a perspective on what lies ahead for our industry. To many observers today, its future is unclear, following perhaps the worst year in its history. A lot of people chalk that up to the recession and the “dot-com bubble.” They seem to believe that when the economies of the world recover, life in the information technology industry will get back to normal. In my view, nothing could be further from the truth. Louis V. Gerstner (IBM, 2001)

The paragraph following the excerpt uses a **parindent**. A **noindent** doesn't seem to work, in this case

1.4 Using quote with an hfill vspace newline

Using **quote**, here is the first of two replicated excerpts from a book chapter. There are actually two paragraphs in the excerpt, with the second paragraph starting with "More important".

We infused it into everything—not just our advertising, product planning, research agendas, and customer meetings, but throughout our communications and operations—from my e-mails, broadcasts, and town hall visits to the way in which we measured our internal transformation. It provided a powerful context for all of our businesses. It gave us both a marketplace-based mission and a new ground for our own behaviors and operating practices—in other words, culture.

Most important, it was outward-facing. We were no longer focused on turning ourselves around. We were focused on setting the industry agenda again. We shifted the internal discussion from “What do we want to be” to “What do we want to do” (Gerstner, 2002, p. 320).

The two paragraphs above run together, with the sense that the paragraph break is missing. The paragraph following the excerpt shouldn't be indented, if it is a continuation of the content from before the blockquote. The complicated way that this works is the source code has to have the paragraph directly follow the **endquote**, or else an indent will be included.

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In my view, nothing could be further from the truth.

Louis V. Gerstner (IBM, 2001)

This workaround is the closest to the way that I think the paragraphing should work, if there's no indents included. The vertical spacing leaves a little to be desired, though.

References

- Gerstner, Louis V. (2002). *Who says elephants can't dance?: inside IBM's historic turnaround*. HarperBusiness. ISBN: 978-0-06-052379-4.
- IBM (2001). *Annual Report 2001*. Annual Report G507-0501-07. URL: <http://www.ibm.com/annualreport/>.