

The `eqlist` package*

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Abstract

With this package you can write lists with equal indentation. This package requires the `eqparbox` package.

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1 Changes

v1.2 (2001/08/17) Added the `{Eqlist}` and `{Eqlist*}` environments.

v1.1 (2001/08/16) First release.

2 Description

This package provides a list environment which sets a description-like list but with the difference that the indentation corresponds to the longest item of the list. The usage is simply

```
eqlist      \begin{eqlist}[\langle optional modifications \rangle]
            \item[First item] Text
            \item[Second item] Text
            ...
            \end{eqlist}
```

`eqlist*` and there is also the environment `{eqlist*}` which is similar but has slightly different defaults (which make the list appear more compact). There is also the alternative call

```
Eqlist      \begin{Eqlist}[\langle optional modifications \rangle]{\langle tag \rangle}
            \item[First item] Text
            \item[Second item] Text
            ...
            \end{eqlist}
```

`Eqlist*` and a corresponding `{Eqlist*}` environment.

*This file has version number 1.2, last revised 2001/08/17.

All texts within the list are indented by the length of the largest `\item` entry (plus `\labelsep`). For the `Eqlist` or `Eqlist*` environment, all lists with the same *tag* are treated equally in the sense that the indentation of these list is determined by the largest `\item` of all these lists. In this case, you may also use the *tag* for the `eqparbox` package to read or modify the length of the largest `\item` (which is internally treated as a `\eqparbox`).

The *optional modifications* are any commands which are used to initialize the list (you can modify here essentially the same variables as for any $\text{L}^{\text{A}}\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X} 2_{\epsilon}$ list). If this argument is not given, the default initializations `\eqlistinit` respectively `\eqliststarinit` (for `{eqlist*}` and `{Eqlist*}`) are used: You can just modify these definitions to change the defaults. If you have given the argument *optional modifications* and additionally want to use the defaults, you have to include the command `\eqlistinit` respectively `\eqliststarinit` into the argument *optional modifications* (see example below).

`\eqlistinit`
`\eqliststarinit`

`\eqlistinitpar`

The macros `\eqlistinit` and `\eqliststarinit` both call `\eqlistinitpar` which sets the values for `\parindent` and `\parskip` to the values outside the list (this is not standard in $\text{L}^{\text{A}}\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X} 2_{\epsilon}$, but I prefer this style; if you do not like this, use `\let\eqlistinit\relax`).

`\topsep`
`\itemsep`
`\partopsep`

Currently, this is all which is done by `\eqlistinit`; for `\eqliststarinit` additionally the values of `\topsep` and `\itemsep` are set to 0. Note that currently `\partopsep` is not changed from the $\text{L}^{\text{A}}\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X} 2_{\epsilon}$ default. Note that the latter is by default positive which means that if you are in vertical mode before the list (e.g. if you have a `\par` in front of the list), you get slightly more space above the list.

`\labelwidth`
`\leftmargin`
`\labelsep`

Before *optional modifications* (or `\eqlistinit` respectively `\eqliststarinit`) are expanded, the length of the largest label is already stored in `\labelwidth` and `\leftmargin`. After your modifications, `\labelsep` is added to the actual value of `\leftmargin`.

`\makelabel`
`\eqlistlabel`

The default value of `\makelabel` is the content of `\eqlistlabel` which in turn is by default defined with

```
\def\eqlistlabel#1{#1\ }
```

Example:

```
\begin{eqlist}[\eqliststarinit\def\makelabel#1{\bfseries#1:}\labelsep1em]
\item[Short label] Descriptive text
\item[A longer label] Descriptive text
\end{eqlist}
```

Short label: Descriptive text

A longer label: Descriptive text