

R users: Suppose you have a table (or matrix or dataframe) with a lot of text in a cell, such as the following.

```
> bigmess<-  
+ data.frame(  
+ animal=c("I have done the state some service and they know it. No more of that. I pray you, in your  
+ , "Elephant" , "primate", "puma")  
+ , x=sample(1:199, size=4, replace=FALSE))  
> bigmess$why<- rep("Aye", nrow(bigmess))  
> # Note that bigmess has three variables (columns):  
> names(bigmess)
```

```
[1] "animal" "x"      "why"
```

If you print it out “naïvely” using `xtable` and `Sweave`, the table marches off your page and you don’t even see all of the first column:

```
> tmess<-xtable(as.matrix( bigmess))  
> print(tmess, include.rownames=FALSE)
```

animal
I have done the state some service and they know it. No more of that. I pray you, in your letters, When you shall these
Elephant
primate
puma

You could convert `bigmess` to a spreadsheet format such as Excel[®]; then you could highlight the “animal” column and specify “wrap text.”

But suppose you prefer to do this in a reproducible way in R. Try the following.

```
> align(tmess) <- c("r", "p{1.5in}", "c", "c")  
> print(tmess, include.rownames=FALSE)
```

animal	x	why
I have done the state some service and they know it. No more of that. I pray you, in your letters, When you shall these unlucky deeds relate, Speak of me as I am. Noth- ing extenuate, Nor set down aught in malice.	151	Aye
Elephant	162	Aye
primate	194	Aye
puma	21	Aye

```
Sweave("foo.Rnw")  
texi2dvi("foo.tex", pdf = TRUE)
```

Jacob Wegelin

Thanks to

<http://stackoverflow.com/questions/2686320/how-to-put-a-newline-into-a-column-header-in-an-xtable-in-r/2687142#2687142>.