
UNIX Editors

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UNIX Editors - Introduction

- There are a multitude of **editors** under UNIX:
 - **Stream oriented** (`sed`, only for batch processing)
 - **Line oriented** (`ed`, `ex`)
 - **Screen oriented** (`vi(m)`, `joe`, `(x)emacs`, `jed`, `pico`)
 - **Graphical oriented** (`kedit`, `textedit`, `nedit`)
- These so called **ASCII editors** are intended for the creation of configuration files, programs, mails, ...
- They **don't support text formatting** like **bold**, *italic*, or underlined.

UNIX Editors - Introduction

- From the lot of editors we discuss the `vi`, because:
 - It is the **standard editor** under UNIX (*available in any case*).
 - It works **very fast** and may be **started fast**.
 - It needs only a small amount of **resources** (memory, network bandwidth).
 - Sometime is the only available editor (**rescue system**).
 - A lot of `vi` commands appear again **in other parts** of the UNIX system (`sed`, `awk`, `more`, ...).
 - Some commands start it **automatically** (`cron`, `visudo`, `vipasswd`, `v` in `more/less`).

UNIX Editors - Introduction

There is no pressure to use the `vi`!
*Please use the editor
you like best.*

*But it pays a lot
to get acquainted with `vi`.*

UNIX Editors - vi

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vi - Introduction

- You may have **to get used to** the `vi` as it has a somewhat unusual logic of operation:
 - **Doesn't know** neither mouse nor cursor or function keys.
 - **Is modus oriented** because all functions are called via the normal typewriter keys.
 - Knows a lot of **movement commands**.
 - **First you have to key in the operation**, then you select the text to be operated on.
 - Graphical oriented systems do it the other way round: They **first mark the text** and then do some operations on it.

vi - Introduction

- Nearly each key (lower case, upper case, with Ctrl) triggers a command in the vi.
 - So it helps to be able **to key in with 10 fingers**.
 - **CAPS-LOCK** causes very unpleasant vi behaviour!
- You may memorize the meaning of each **command letter** easily by the (well selected) corresponding **English word**, e.g.:

c=change	d=delete	s=substitute
a=append	i=insert	r=replace

vi - Introduction

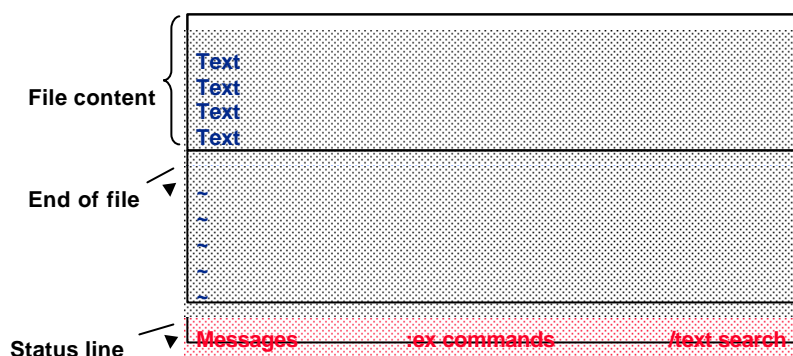
- Hidden behind the vi is its **line oriented** predecessor (**editor**) resp. **ex (editor extended)**.
 - It may be activated temporarily for a command or even permanently.
- **Under LINUX an extension of the vi called vim (vi improved) is used.**
 - It is a real improvement of the vi.
 - There are a lot of other vi „clones“ (e.g. vile, elvis, nvi)

vi - Introduction

- The line at the bottom of the screen is a **status line**:
 - It is used to show warnings and error messages
(*remain on the screen for some time*).
 - During **ex commands** or **text search** the cursor jumps into the status line too.
- Text **after the end of the file** will be marked by the character „~“ in the first column.
 - An empty file is marded by nothing but „~“ lines.

vi - Introduction

Look of Vi Screen ???



vi - Modi

- Because each letter is used as a command at the same time, the vi is **modus oriented**.
 - Dependent on the **current mode** pressing a key therefore has different results.
 - During working on a text one is **switching between the modes** back and forth all the time:

Command mode	Calling commands
Edit mode	Keying in text
Ex mode	Line oriented commands
Search mode	Searching text
(Open mode	Permanent ex mode)

vi - Modi

- **Central mode** is the **command mode**, which is active after vi has been started.
- To **switch** to another mode, the following input has to be given:

a A c C i I o O r R s S	→ Edit mode
:	→ Ex mode
/ ?	→ Search mode
Q	→ Open mode

(Open mode is never used, but may be activated easily by mistake by the key „Q“)

vi - Modi

- To **return** from the other modes back to the **command mode**, the following input has to be given:

ESC → Stops edit mode

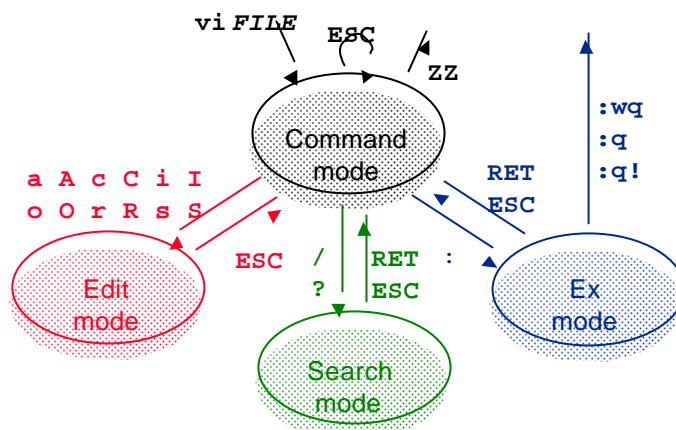
↵ → Executes command in ex / search mode

ESC → Stops ex / search mode

vi ↵ → Stops open mode

- **Open mode** is automatically switched on when:
 - No disk space for a temporary copy of the edited file.
 - No / wrong terminal variable \$TERM set.

vi - Modi



vi - Entry

Entry

`vi` Starts the `vi` with an empty file
`vi FILE` Starts the `vi` with an existing `FILE`

- During editing the file content is stored in a **buffer** in directory `/tmp` (or as a **hidden file** `.FILE.swp`).
- The **original file will be overwritten** not before exit of `vi` or explicit saving of the file.

vi - Exit

Exit

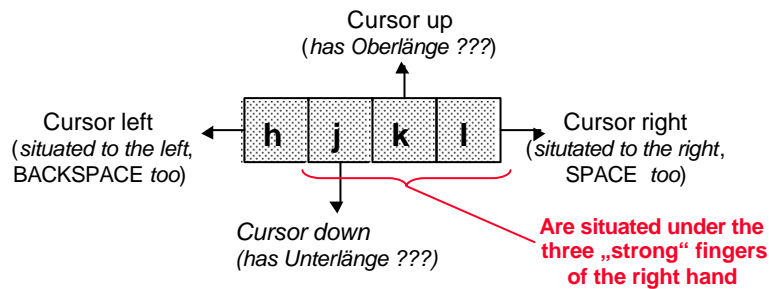
`:q` Exits `vi`, if no changes have been done (**quit**).
`:q!` As above, any changes are ignored (**quit**).
`:wq` **Write** (changed) file and exit `vi` (**quit**).

Save file during edit ???

`:w` **Write** changed text to file, but don't exit `vi`.

vi - Move

Standard Movements



vi - Move

Remark

- The cursor keys are often installed ??? with the corresponding `vi` commands and work even in edit mode.
- If the cursor keys are used in edit mode, **„invisible“ mode changes** permanently take place, that are not recognized.
- Therefore an urgent request:

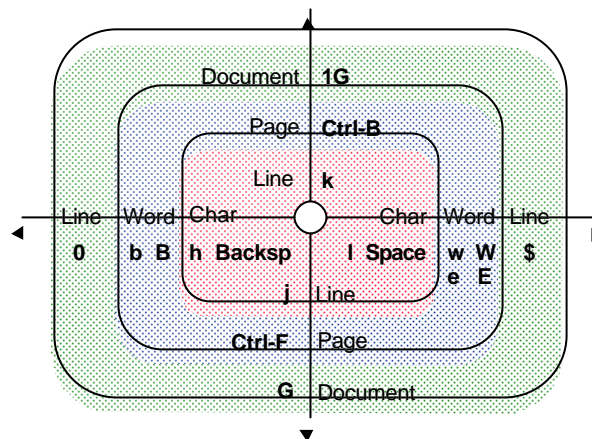
Please **cover** the cursor keys during the 1. training hour
with a piece of paper and just use the
`vi` commands to move the cursor!

vi - Move

Further cursor movements

w	W	Wordwise forward (w ord)	
b	B	Wordwise back (b ackword)	
e	E	Wordwise to the end of word (e ndword)	
0	\$	To start / end of line (<i>zero!</i>)	
Ctrl-F		One page down (f orward)	
Ctrl-B		One page up (b ackward)	
1G	G	NNG	Skip to start of file / end of file / line number <i>NN</i> (g o)

vi - Move





Exercise 20

- **Open** a copy of `poem` with the `vi`.
- Try out all **movement commands** (*please cover the cursor keys before!*).
- What is the **difference** between the commands
 - `w` and `W`?
 - `b` and `B`?
 - `e` und `E`?
- **Exit** the `vi` once without and once with saving the file.



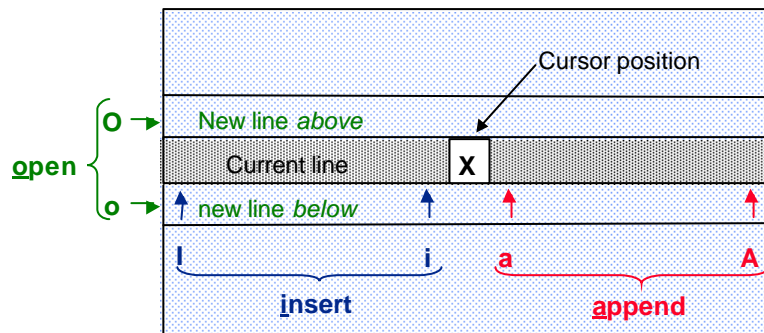
vi - Edit

Insert text

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------|---|
| <code>a</code> | <code>A</code> | <u>A</u>ppends text after the cursor position (<code>a</code>) resp. at the end of the current line (<code>A</code>). |
| <code>i</code> | <code>I</code> | <u>I</u>nserts text before the cursor position (<code>i</code>) resp. at the start of the current line (<code>I</code>). |
| <code>o</code> | <code>O</code> | <u>O</u>pens a new (empty) line below (<code>o</code>) resp. above (<code>O</code>) the current line, where text may inserted then. |

vi - Edit

Insert Text



vi - Edit

- **Good working policy**

- **To hit ESC before each command** works, but ESC is then often hit without any sense.
- **It is much better to close each edit command with ESC as soon as it is finished.**
 - I.e. to do a sort of „bracing“ of the text input.
 - Please avoid the cursor keys during edit mode (*why?*).
- The **current mode** may be seen in the **status line** (if the option `showmode` is active).
 - After some initial period you have the current mode **in your head** without thinking about that.

vi - Edit

- The commands to
 - **Delete** (`d=delete`)
 - **Change** (`c=change`)
 - **Save** (`y=yank`)are always **combined** with a movement command.
- I.e. a lot of possibilities for text editing are available without having **to mark the text before** (with cursor movements).

vi - Edit

Delete (and save) text (cut & paste)

<code>x</code>	Delete character under cursor (crossout).
<code>dw</code>	Delete from cursor to next start of w ord.
<code>d\$</code>	Delete from cursor to end of line.
<code>dd</code>	Delete current line.
<code>dG d1G</code>	Delete from current line to end / start of file (go).
<code>dMOVE</code>	Delete according to <i>MOVE</i> command.
<code>p P</code>	Insert deleted Text (put, paste).

vi - Edit

Save text and insert it again (copy & paste)

`yb` Save from cursor to previous word end (**yank backward**).

`y0` Save from cursor to start of line (**yank**).

`3y` Save next 3 lines (**yank line**).

`yMOVE` Save according to *MOVE* command (**yank**).

`p P` **Insert** saved text **before** / **after** the current character or line (**put, paste**), depending on whether a ??? character or a line has been saved..

vi - Edit

Replace text

`R` **Replace** from current character by keyed in text.

`r` **Replace** current character by 1 char (*no ESC!*).

`cw` **Change** current **w**ord from cursor to word end.

`c$` **Change** from cursor to end of line.

`cc` **Change** current **l**ine.

`cG c1G` **Change** from current line to end / start of file (**go**).

`cMOVE` **Change** according to *MOVE* command.

vi - Edit

Undo changes

- u **U**ndo last change, no matter how big it was.
 May be done **just one time** in vi,
 u again **undos the former undo!**
- U **U**ndo all changes in current line before it is left.

vim undoes an arbitrary number of changes!

- Ctrl-R **U**ndo last undo operation in vim
 (**redo**, has no function in vi).

vi - Edit

Repetition of commands

- A command may be **repeated** by keying in a **repetition number** in front of it.

8x *(delete 8 characters)*
3dd *(delete 3 lines)*
5cw TEXT... ESC *(change 5 words)*

- **The last edit command may be repeated** by a dot „.“.

dd . . . *(delete line)*
P . . . *(paste text)*
cw TEXT... ESC . . . *(change word)*



Exercise 21

- **Open** the file `poem` with the `vi`.
- **Change** the text by giving yourself **practical change exercises**.
 - Try out all insert, change, delete, save, copy and replace commands.
 - Undo the changes too.
- **Exit** the `vi` without saving the changes.
- Repeat the exercise and this time **save** the text file during editing and on exit.



vi - Search

Search

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| <code>/TEXT</code> | Search for string <code>TEXT</code> forward (to end of text). |
| <code>?TEXT</code> | Search for string <code>TEXT</code> backward (to start of text). |
| <code>n</code> | Search again in former direction (<u>n</u>ext). |
| <code>N</code> | Search again in oppsite direction (<u>n</u>ext). |
- `TEXT` may be a so called **regular expression**.
 - Search may even be used as movement command with the edit commands `c d y > < !`.

vi - Search & Replace

Search & replace

- Search whole file (1, \$) for *TEXT* and replace it by string *SUBST* (**substitute, global**):
:1, \$s/*TEXT*/*SUBST*/g
- In front of s (**substitute**) a **line number NR** or a **line number range START, END** may be given to restrict the substitute operation to a line range, abbreviations for it are:
 - . = **current line**
 - \$ = **last line** of file
 - % = **last line** of file (*corresponds to 1, \$*)
- Without a range just the **current line** will be treated ???.

vi - Search & Replace

Search & replace

- Slashes „/“ surround *TEXT* and *SUBST*.
- If a **slash** „/“ occurs in *TEXT* or *SUBST*, it has to be **protected** (quoted) by a „\“ in front of it.
:s/\bin/\usr\bin/g
- Alternatively a different separator may be used (e.g „@“):
:s@/bin@/usr/bin@g
- *TEXT* may be a **regular expression**, in *SUBST* some parts of *TEXT* may be reused (*extremely powerful*).

vi - Search & Replace

Search & replace

- If **g** (**global**) is missing at the end, the substitution will take place just **1 time** per line (at first occurrence of *TEXT*).
- If a number *n* (max. 512) at the end is given, just the ***n*th occurrence** of *TEXT* will be substituted.

Confirm replacement

- To search the whole file (1, \$) for *TEXT*, **mark** fitting texts (with ^^^ below) and replace them by *SUBST* if **confirmed** with **y** (**yes**):

:1, \$s/*TEXT*/*SUBST*/**gc**



Exercise 22

- **Search** in *vi* through the file *poem* forward and backward for texts (e.g. *made*).
- **Replace** some of these texts with the *vi* commandos for changing, replacing and overwriting (*may be repeated by command* „. “).
- **Replace** some texts with the *ex* commands for search & replace (with and without confirmation,, e.g. *made* by *marmelade*).



vi - Options

- The vi configuration is done by **options**.
 - They have meaningful **English names** (`showmode`).
 - Many of them may be **shortened** (`showmode` be `sm`)
- To **set** an option:
:set *OPTION*
- To **reset** an option:
:set **no***OPTION*

vi - Options

- Besides on / off options (flags) there are **numerical** and **text** options, e.g.:
:set report=10
:set dir=/tmp
- The values of **changed options** are displayed by
:set
- The values of **all options** are displayed by
:set all

vi - Options

- **The most important options:**

<code>ignorecase</code>	Ignore UPPER / lower case during search
<code>list</code>	Show tabulators and newlines
<code>number</code>	Show lines with leading line numbers
<code>report=NN</code>	Show number of changed lines from <i>NN</i> lines on in status line
<code>showmode</code>	Show vi mode in status line
<code>wrapmargin=NN</code>	Insert line breaks automatically <i>NN</i> characters before end of line (0= <i>no break</i>)
<code>wrapscan</code>	Continue search around text start / end

vi - Options

- **Options for programmers:**

<code>autoindent</code>	Indent automatically (Ctrl-D / T)
<code>showmatch</code>	Show opening parentheses on input of closing one
<code>tabstop=NN</code>	Set tabulator width <i>NN</i>
<code>shiftwidth=NN</code>	Set tabulator width <i>NN</i> for later indenting with „>>“ and „<<“

- **Exception (to be used without set):**

<code>:syntax on</code>	Switch syntax coloring on (vim!)
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vi - Configuration File

- On each `vi` call the **configuration file** `~/.exrc` is read. It defines the **basic setup**.
 - For `vim` the file is named `~/.vimrc`.
- In that file **any ex command** may be given (*omit leading colon*):

```
set wrapscan
set report=1
set tabstop=4
set showmode
```



Exercise 23

- Change some **options directly** in the `vi`.
 - Try out the changed behaviour.
- Change some options in the **configuration file** `~/.exrc` (resp. `~/.vimrc`) to your needs (*with the `vi`!*).
 - Try out the changed behaviour.



UNIX-Editoren - vi

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- Special Commands
- Visual Mode (vim)
- Special Moves and Searches
- Marks
- Buffers
- Macros
- Abbreviations

vi - Edit

Often used commands

.	Repeat last edit command (<i>very helpful!</i>).
~	Switch UPPER / lower case of current character.
xp	Exchange 2 characters (crossout + put).
ddp	Exchange 2 lines (delete line + put).
dwwP	Exchange 2 words (delete word + word + Put).
deep	Same (start at blank before first word)
X	Same as BACKSPACE (crossout)

vi - Edit

Special commands

J	J oin two lines.
%	Jump to the corresponding parentheses (for { [()] }, even if <i>nested</i>).
>> <<	I ndent current line in / out.
>MOVE	Indent text selected by <i>MOVE</i> .
<MOVE	Indent out text selected by <i>MOVE</i> .
:!CMD	Execute shell command (s hell e scape).
:r!CMD	Insert shell command result (r ead).
:r FILE	Insert file content (r ead).

vim - Visual Mode

Selecting text in visual mode (vim speciality)

v	Select text block character by character
V	Select text block line by line
Ctrl-V	Select text block columnwise

- The following commands may be applied to the selected text then

c d y > < ~ !

vi - Move

Special Moves and Searches

H	M	L	Set cursor on start of the first (h ome) / m iddle / l ast line of the screen.
tC	TC		Search character <i>C</i> forward / backward (set cursor b efore / b ehind the ch., t o).
fC	FC		Search character <i>C</i> forward / backward (set cursor o n the found character, f ind).
NN			Skip to column <i>NN</i> (<i>Pipe!</i>).
^			Set cursor on 1. „true“ character of a line.



Exercise 24

- **Try out** the special commands of **vi** you learnt in that chapter:
 - **Often used** commands
 - **Concatenate** lines
 - Jump between **corresponding parentheses**
 - **Indent** lines in and out
 - **Visual mode** (*only in vim*)
 - Special **movements** and **searches**



vi - Marks

Set marks and skip to them

mC	Set mark C (26 different ones a-z possible) to current line / character.
'C	Skip to start of line with mark C.
`C	Skip to character with mark C.
''	Skip to start of line before last movement command (back and forth).
``	Skip to character position before last movement command (back and forth).

vi - Buffer

Save to / insert from named buffers

"C y MOVE	Copy selected text to buffer C (26 different ones a-z possible) (yank).
"C d MOVE	Cut selected text to buffer C (delete).
"Cp	Insert text in buffer C after current line / cursor position (put).
"CP	Insert text in buffer C before current line / cursor position (Put).

vi - Macros

- The vi allows to put **selfdefined commands** on certain keys with the help of **macros**.
- Macros (**mapping**) are defined by

```
:map KEY CMD
```

and deleted by

```
:unmap KEY
```
- E.g. normally the cursor keys are imposed ??? with the corresponding vi commands by macros.

vi - Abbreviations

- The vi knows **abbreviations**, which means that some words (**during text input**) are converted into another text (*after keying in the space*).
- **Abbreviations** are defined by

```
:ab SHORTCUT LONGTEXT
```

and are deleted by

```
:unab SHORTCUT
```

Example:

```
:ab kr Kind Regards
```



Exercise 25

- Try out to set **marks** and jump to them.
- Try out **named buffers**.
- Try out **macros**.
- Try out **abbreviations**.

