Installation Guides

Taper

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Abstract

This document installs the necessary software and plugins for Vimtex on a windows machine. It uses a `vimrc` written by myself to free user from configuration. However, it does not explains the details of that `vimrc`.

Contents

1   List of software to be installed

sec:list of software

1. TeXLive 2016 (`textlive2016-20160523.iso`).
2. Vim, as in gVim (The latest 32bit (v8.0.0540) here which has `Lua` support enabled.).
3. Git (v2.12.2 64bit).
4. SumatraPDF (v3.1.2 64bit).
5. Texstudio (v2.12.2).
6. Python (v2.7.13 32bit).
7. Notepad++ (v7.3.3).
8. Vundle (latest commit on Github Vundle), and many related plugins for Vim.
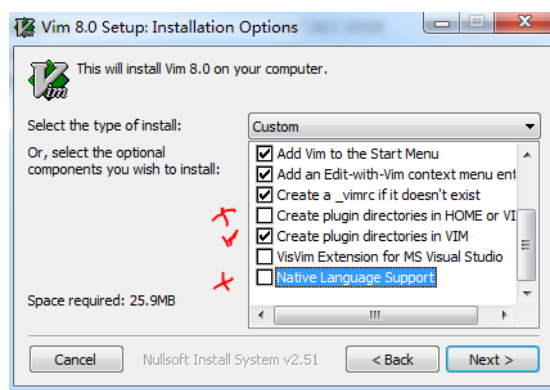
2   Install Steps

sec:Install Steps

1. TeXLive.
   First mount the ISO file (double click in Windows 8 or later, use third-part software in Windows 7 or earlier). Then open the file `install-tl-windows.bat`, and install with all default settings (except that you may want to change the installation folder).

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The installation will take a lot of time. Continue to the next steps while waiting for this TeXLive installation to finish.

Explanation: TeXLive provides us with basic TeXutilities and packages. Although it is big, the exhaustive packages it provides will be handy when we write LaTeX daily.

2. Install the gVim. As mentioned, **DO NOT** install the version downloaded from the Vim project's website. Use the link here to download the version which has `Lua` support enabled. Install with default configuration, except that you will need to consider the following options:

In this figure:

I encourage you [1] to disable `Create plugin directories in HOME or VIM`, and enable instead `Create plugin directories in VIM`. This make Vim put its plugin directory inside `VIM` folder (which is the folder where `VIM`) is installed. Therefore, the Vim plugins would not mess up inside your `HOME` folder (which on Windows, people seldom touches upon), and Vim becomes more portable.

I also encourage you to disable `Native Language Support`, which force us to speak in English with Vim.
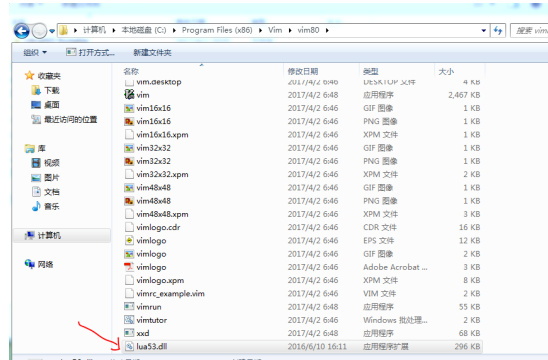
Explanation: gVim will be our editor. And `Lua` will provide support for some plugins of Vim.

3. Add Vim to system `PATH` variable, just like what you have done when installing `Java`.

4. Add Lua Support for Vim. Download Lua Binary. The version of Lua should be consistent with the Vim (gVim) you installed (same OS, same architecture), and those DLL with MingW support are not required [2].

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[1] And if you do not follow my suggestion, you might need extra modification to my `vimrc` file.

[2] Actually I never tested those with MingW support. Therefore, I do not recommand trying them.

After downloading, extra the compressed file and copy the file `lua53.dll` [3] and move it to `FolderWhereVimIsInstalled>vim80` [4] like this:

5. Install Git, with mostly default option, except that you should change the default installation folder to somewhere you like.

   Explanation: Git will be used to download Vim plugins from GitHub.

6. Install SumatraPDF viewer, which is the only viewer that can cooperate with `vimtex` plugin and support re-rendering of PDF once a change is made to the PDF file. Add SumatraPDF to your system's `PATH` variable.

   Configuration of SumatraPDF:

   Set the the inverse search command-line to this value:
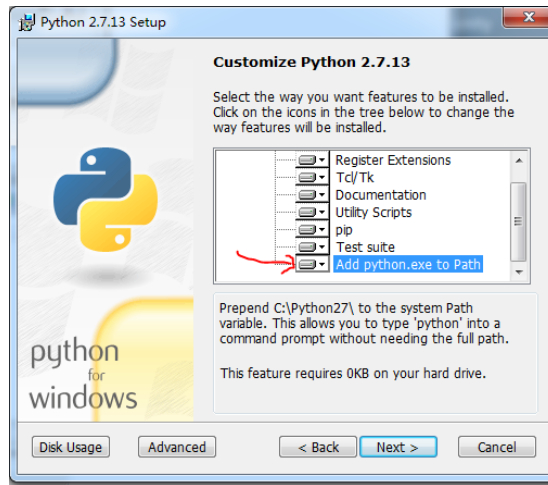
   $$gvim\ --remote-silent\ +\%l\ "\%f"$$

7. Install TEX Studio, with default configuration, to folder where you prefer.

   Explanation: TEX Studio provides very useful list of commands, reference tables for editing LATEX.

8. Install `Python` with mostly default configuration. Note that you should add `Python` to the system `PATH` variable too:

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[3] the number 53 for version may be different in your case. But it is the DLL file that we cared about.

[4] The number 80 is the version number of vim.

9. Install a handy but advanced (better than Notepad) text editor. I prefer Notepad++ for its small file size.

10. Set up Vim configuration, and some Vim plugins. Vundle is the first and most important Vim plugin that manages other plugins (a plugin that manages plugins). Installation is straight forward.

    (a) Clone it with git to somewhere you like:
        `git clone https://github.com/VundleVim/Vundle.vim.git`

    (b) Move the downloaded folder to `VimInstallationFolder>vimfiles>bundle>Vundle.vim` (create new empty folder is required).

    (c) Copy my configuration text to file `_vimrc`, which can be found in the folder `whereVimisinstalled`. My configuration text can be found here: My GitHub Link.

    (d) Modify some part of my configuration to suit your compter setup:
        - Before you actually install the color scheme for Vim, disable it first. You will find this line:
            `colorscheme Atelier_SulphurpoolDark`
            And add double quote mark at the beginning to comment it out.
        - Let Vim find python properly. You will find a line starts with `let $PYTHONPATH=`, followed by some path, and you should change all of them to the correct path to locate the python files you installed.
        - Disable the font I set. Since you should have not yet installed my font, disable the setting first. This is done by comment out the code within a if statement: `if has('gui_running')`.

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