Vi/Vim: Classic editors that can pack a punch

Zaki Mughal

University of Houston:
CougarCS

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vi : /V.I./, not /vi/

How to learn vi productively

- DRY: *D*on't *R*epeat *Y*ourself

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  learn as you go

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  - `xp` — swap letters

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- classic Unix editor — part of the POSIX standard
- available on most Unix systems
- efficient editing for text typists..., e.g.
  - `ddp` — swap lines
  - `xp` — swap letters
- large files open *quickly*

Why not

- unintuitive
- addictive
- puzzling for others

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- unintuitive
- addictive
- puzzling for others
- your mouse will feel lonely

History

- Bill Joy @ UC Berkeley in 1976
- editor $\Rightarrow$ extended $\Rightarrow$ visual
- clones: Vim

Modal interface

- normal mode
- command-line mode
- insert mode

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Tip

Always use the `Escape` key (alternatively `Control-[`). In Vim, show commands at the bottom of the screen using `:set showcmd`

Handling files

- from the command line
  ```
  vi [filename]
  ```

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    - `:q`
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Handling files

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  ```
  vi [filename]
  ```
- quitting
  - `:q`
  - `:q!` or ZQ
- saving
  - `:w [filename]`
  - `:w`
  - `:wq` and `:wq!` or ZZ
  - force overwrite: `:w!`

Handling files

- from the command line
    `vi [filename]`
- quitting
    - `:q`
    - `:q!` or `ZQ`
- saving
    - `:w [filename]`
    - `:w`
    - `:wq` and `:wq!` or `ZZ`
    - force overwrite: `:w!`
- opening files
    - `:e [filename]`

Appeasing vi enough to actually take input

- Enter insert mode
- Before the cursor: `i`
- After the cursor: `a`
- `I, A`

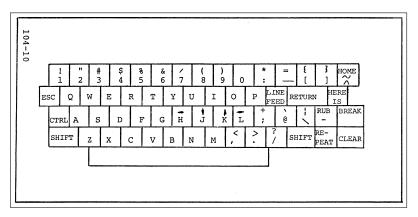Figure: ADM-3A terminal [Source: http://www.tentacle.franken.de/adm3a/adm3a-4.html]

Figure: ADM-3A keyboard [Source: http://vt100.net/lsi/adm3a-om/, pg. 36]

- Skipping words: `w`, `e`, `b`
- Search
  - `/` : forwards; `?` : backwards
  - Vim `set incsearch hlsearch`
    - `n`, `N`
    - `*`, `#`
- `gg`, `G` ; take a count before the command
- `H`, `L`, `M`
- Sentences: `(`, `)`
- Paragraphs: `{`, `}`
- Matching pair of braces: `%`
- Ends of line: `0`, `^`, `$`
- Jump to characters: `f`, `F`, `t`, `T`, `;`, `,`

Wait, I need to change something

- in insert mode: `Control-W`, `Control-U`, `Delete`, `Backspace`
- `r`, `R`
- `x`, `X`
- `d` + motion; [Vim]: text objects
- `D`, `dd`
- `c`
- `S`

Vim : `gu` + motion , `gU` + motion

Copy and pasta

- y + motion
- yy
- p, P
- registers
- in insert mode: `Control-E`, `Control-Y`

Visual mode [Vim]

- `v`
- linewise: `V`
- blockwise: `Control-V`

- `:set makeprg`, `:compiler`, `:copen`, `:cnext`, `:cNext`
- `:set grepprg`, `:grep`

Vi has a couple more tricks up its sleeve

- filter through pipe: `:%![exec]`
- maps
    `:nmap ,tw :set wrap!<CR>`
- abbreviations
    `:abbr teh the`
- marks

More complex changes

- repeat: `.`
- `:substitute`
- `:global`

. . . and Vim has many, many more

- scriptable
- swap files
- syntax highlighting
- extended regexps
- folds
- programmable indentation
- formatting
- directory viewer
- (S)FTP/HTTP/WebDAV
- compressed archives and files
- multi-level undo with branching
- split windows

- tabs
- `ctags`
- spell checking
- programmable completion
- jumps
- `gf`, `Control-W gf`
- Plugins
  - NERDTree, NERDCommenter
  - Taglist
  - BufExplorer, FuzzyFinder
  - A.vim, Align, Matchit
  - surround
  - Matrix

Resources

- `vimtutor`
- online `:help`
  ```
  :help <Control-D>
  :help <Tab>
  :helpgrep [regexp]
  ```
- The Internet
- `#vim` IRC channel on Freenode
- `vim_use` mailing list
- Vim Tips Wikia
- Cheatsheet from ViEmu

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- Me ☺

Questions?
Complaints!