Advanced Programming in the UNIX Environment

Week 05, Segment 2: Unix Development Tools: The Editor

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Software Development Tools

The UNIX Userland is an IDE – essential tools that follow the paradigm of “Do one thing, and do it right” can be combined.

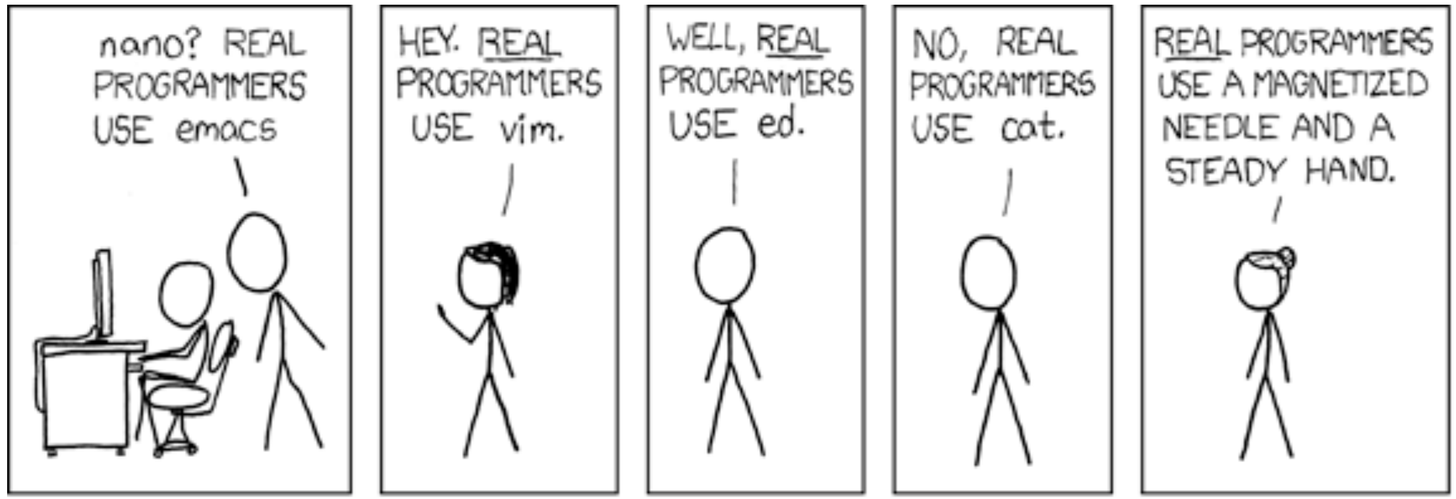
The most important tools are:

- `$EDITOR`
- the compiler toolchain
- `gdb(1)` – debugging your code
- `make(1)` – project build management, maintain program dependencies
- `diff(1)` and `patch(1)` – report and apply differences between files
- `cvs(1)`, `svn(1)`, `git(1)` etc. – revision control, distributed project management

$EDITOR

Know your $EDITOR. Core functionality:

- syntax highlighting
- efficient keyboard maneuvering
- setting markers, using buffers
- copy, yank, fold e.g. blocks
- search and replace
- window splitting
- autocompletion
- jump to definition / manual page
- applying external commands and filters



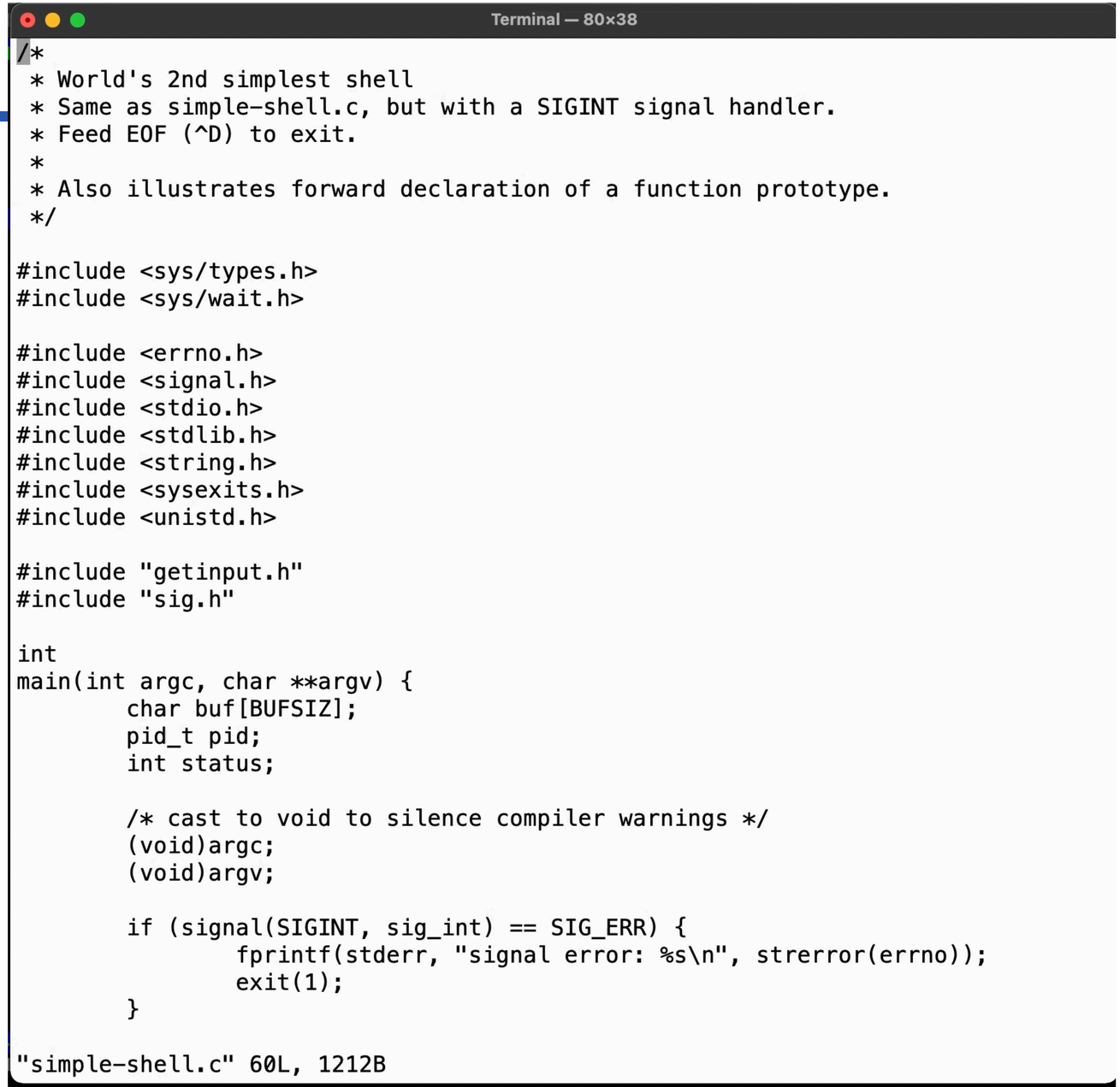
Partial https://xkcd.com/378/

https://dave.cheney.net/2017/08/21/the-here-is-key

$EDITOR Examples: vim

Efficient keyboard maneuvering:

- up, down, left, right (h, j, k, l)
- move by word, go to end (w, b, e)
- search forward, backward, move to beginning or end of line (/, ?,^, $)
- page up or down (^D,^B)
- center page, top or bottom (zz, zt, zb)
- move to matching brace, move to beginning/end of code block (%,]}, [{)
- move through multiple files (:n, :prev, :rew)



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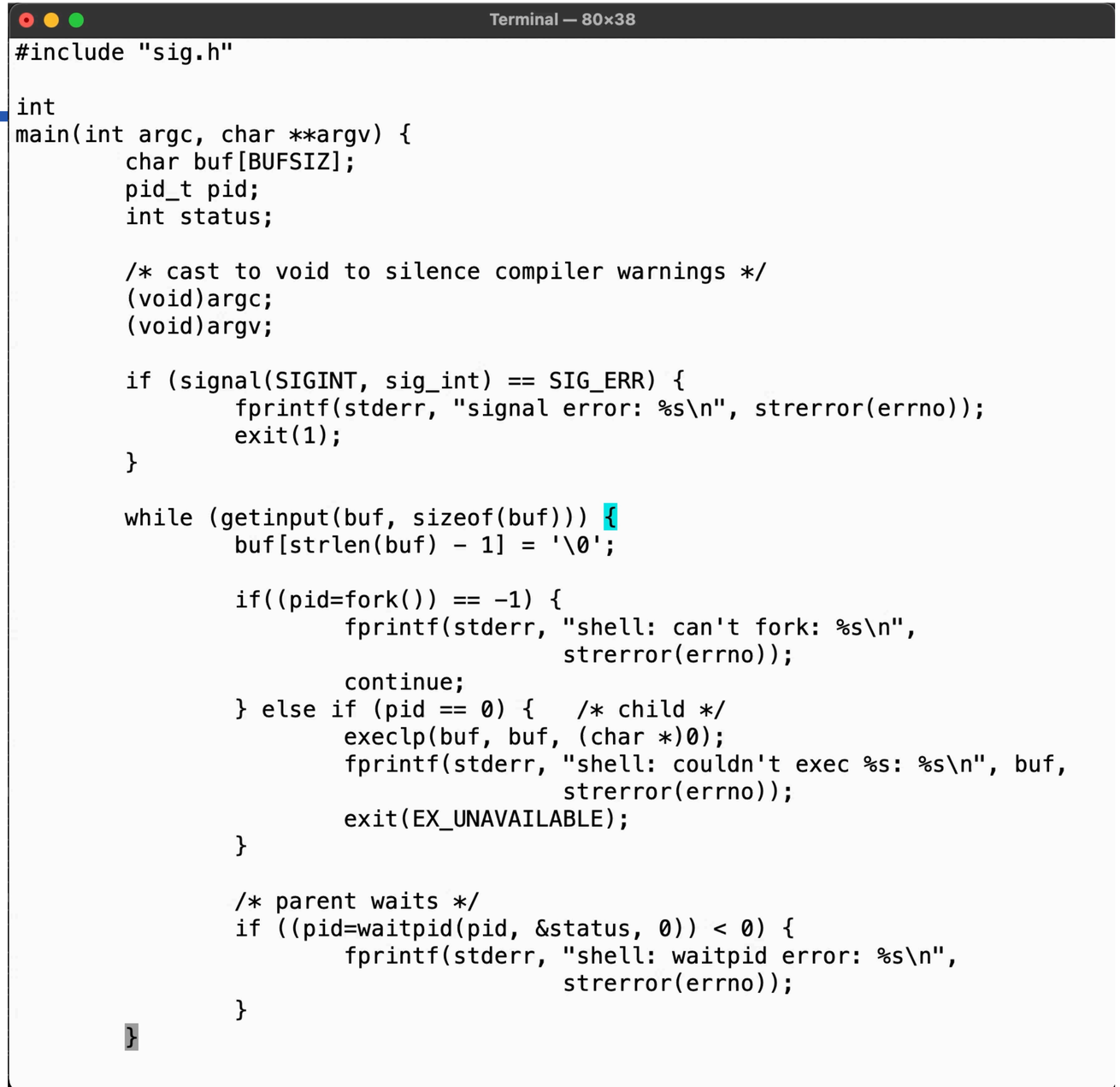
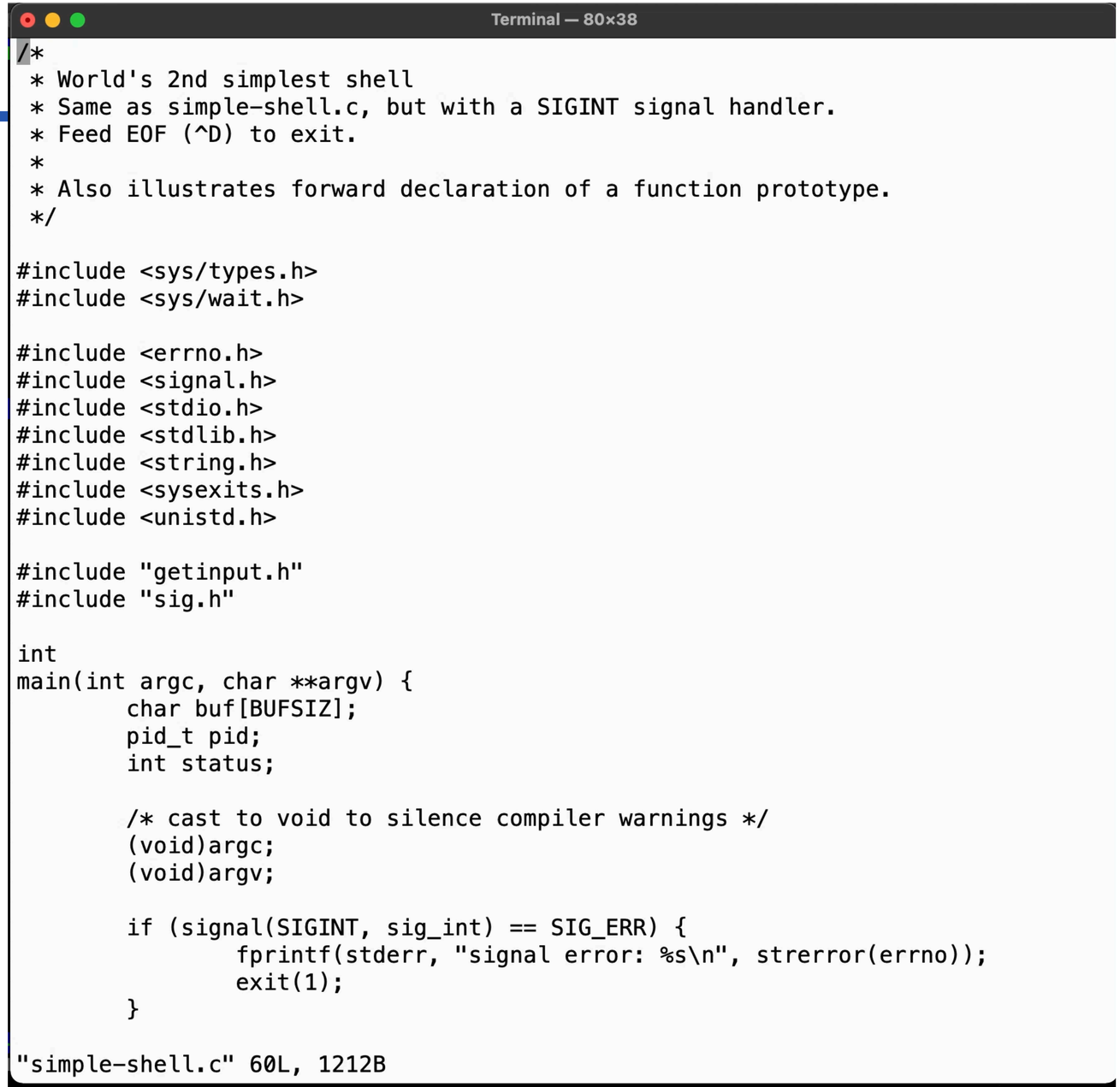


$EDITOR Examples: vim

Copy, yank, fold, markers, buffers etc.:

- set and display markers
  (`m[a-zA-Z]`, `:marks`)
- select visual blocks (`v`, `V`)
- format / indent selected block (`=`)
- delete, yank, use of buffers
  (`d`, `y`, `"xy`, `"xp`)
- fold sections (`zf`, `zA`)
- autocomplete (`^N`)



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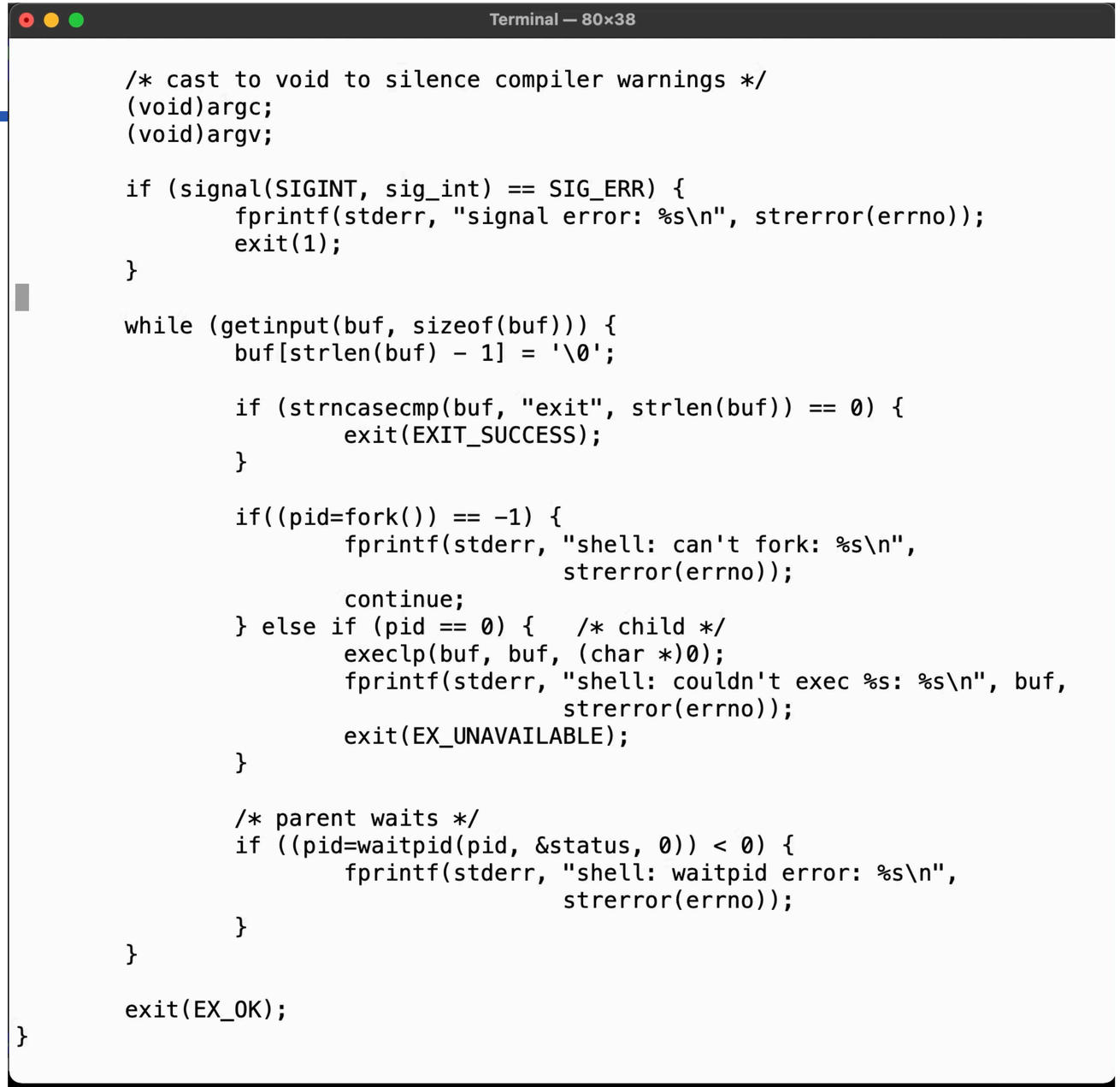
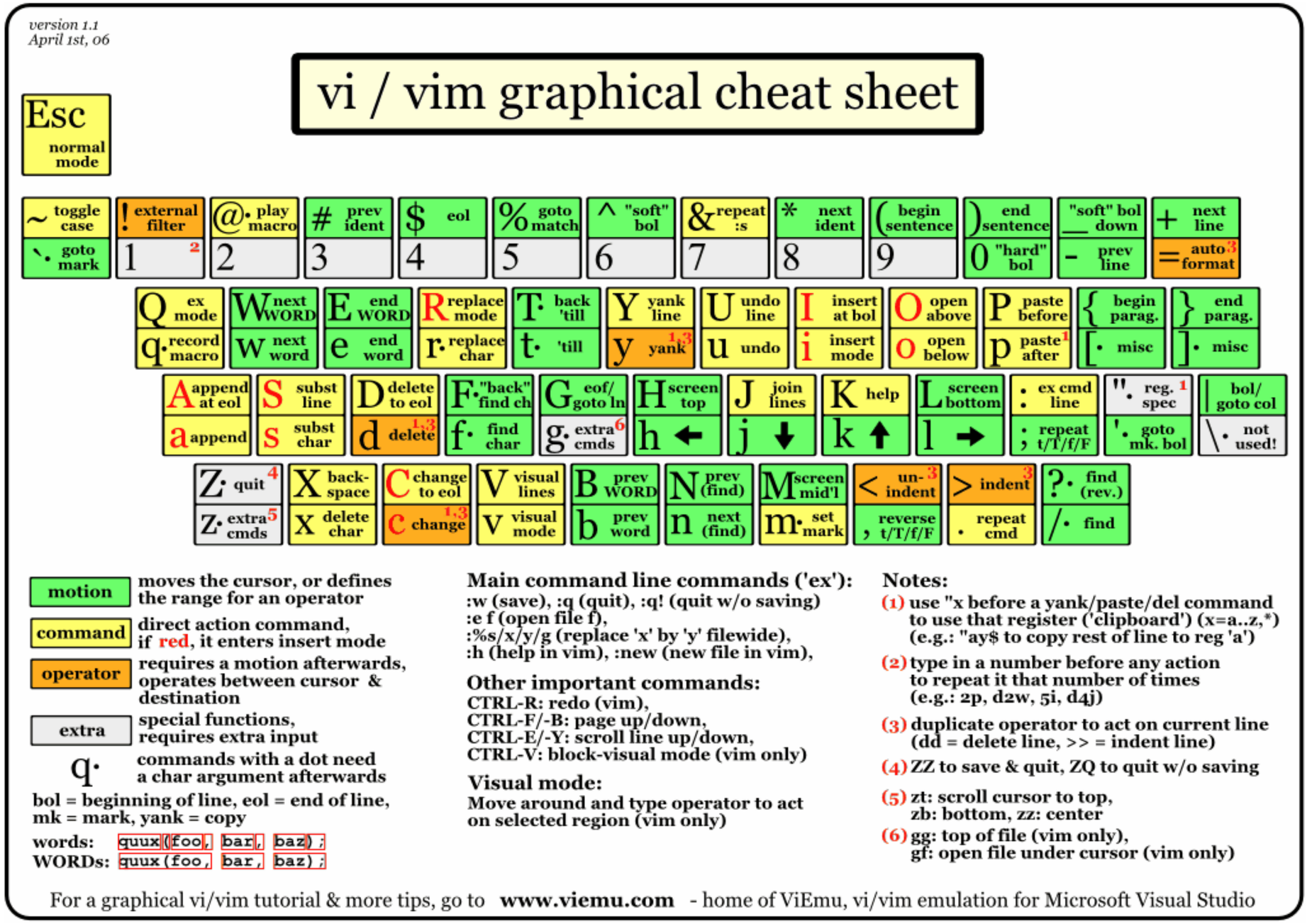
Integration with compiler, debugger, make(1) etc.:

- build your project (:make)
- show / go to error (:cc [N])
- jump to next / previous error (:cn, :cp)
- list errors (:cl, :copen)





https://duckduckgo.com/?q=vim+tutorial

$EDITOR

Other powerful Unix IDE integrations:

- code index and definitions via *e.g.*, `ctags(1)`
- a terminal multiplexer (*e.g.* `screen(1)` or `tmux(1)`)
- copious use of `Ctrl+Z` (*i.e.*, the shell's job control mechanisms)

See our tool tips for more details:

- https://youtu.be/TWog5NklSws
- https://youtu.be/vxTXXaCr4s8