

Lab Exercise - 1

❖ AIM :: Introduction to Linux & vi-Editor

1. Introduction to Linux

- **What is Linux?:** Linux is a powerful and versatile open-source operating system based on the Unix architecture. It was created by Linus Torvalds in 1991 and has since grown into a widely-used platform for both personal and professional computing.
- **Open Source Nature:** One of the defining characteristics of Linux is that its source code is freely available for anyone to view, modify, and distribute. This has led to a collaborative environment where developers worldwide contribute to its development.
- **Kernel and Distributions:** Linux is composed of a kernel, which is the core component of the OS, and various distributions (distros) that bundle the kernel with software and package management systems. Popular distributions include Ubuntu, Fedora, Debian, and CentOS.
- **Linux in Different Environments:** Linux is used in a variety of environments, including desktops, servers, mobile devices, and embedded systems. Its flexibility allows it to run on a wide range of hardware, from supercomputers to small IoT devices.

2. Overview of the vi Editor

The vi (Visual Editor) is a powerful text editor available on almost all Unix-like operating systems, including Linux. It's known for its efficiency and versatility, particularly in environments where only a terminal interface is available. Here is a detailed look at the vi editor and its commands, presented in informative points.

1. Basics of vi Editor

- **Launching vi:** To start vi, type `vi filename` in the terminal. If filename does not exist, vi will create it.
- **Modes in vi:**
 - **Normal Mode:** The default mode where you can navigate and manipulate text.
 - **Insert Mode:** Used for inserting text. Enter by pressing `i`, `a`, or `o`.
 - **Command Mode:** Enter by typing `:` in Normal Mode for commands like saving, quitting, etc.
 - **Visual Mode:** Used to highlight and manipulate blocks of text.

2. Basic Commands for Running a C File

To work with C files in the vi editor, you only need a few basic commands to edit, save, and compile the file. Here's a simplified guide:

- **Open a File:** `vi filename.c`
 - Launches `vi` and opens the file named `filename.c`. If it doesn't exist, `vi` will create it.
- **Insert Mode:**
 - `i`: Enter Insert Mode before the cursor position.
 - `I`: Enter Insert Mode at the beginning of the line.
 - `a`: Enter Insert Mode after the cursor position.
 - `A`: Enter Insert Mode at the end of the line.
 - `o`: Open a new line below the current line and enter Insert Mode.
 - `O`: Open a new line above the current line and enter Insert Mode.
- **Save and Exit:**
 - `:w`: Save the file without exiting.
 - `:w filename`: Save the file with a new name.
 - `:q`: Quit `vi` without saving.
 - `:wq` **or** `ZZ`: Save the file and quit `vi`.
 - `:q!`: Quit without saving changes.

Implementation

Writing and Running a basic "Hello, World!" program in C using the terminal on a Linux system.

1. `cd ~/project`

2. `vi hello.c`

/* Save and Exit vi:

- Press Esc to exit Insert Mode.
- Type `:wq` and press Enter to save the file and quit `vi`.

***/**

3. `gcc hello.c -o hello`

4. `./hello`

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main() {
    printf("Hello, World!\n");
    return 0;
}

~
~
~
~
:wq|
```

```
amit@Toshiba-Satellite-C850:~$ cd Downloads/
amit@Toshiba-Satellite-C850:~/Downloads$ vi hello.c
amit@Toshiba-Satellite-C850:~/Downloads$ gcc hello.c -o hello
amit@Toshiba-Satellite-C850:~/Downloads$ ./hello
Hello, World!
amit@Toshiba-Satellite-C850:~/Downloads$ |
```