

# COSC 4785

Editors

Kim Buckner

University of Wyoming

Fall 2022

# Which one?

- There are a large number on Linux BUT these are ones I suggest for programming.
  - gvim (vim) – personal favorite, always available, can use the vim (vi) version in a terminal without graphics.
  - kate – a pretty good, customizable editor.
  - nedit – another one similar to kate, not installed on all systems. Have a friend who swears by this for everything.

# (more ...)

- continued
  - atom – relatively new, very customizable. Might find this easier than the previous although I am not a fan. Too browser-like and emacs-like for me.
  - emacs – has NOTHING to do with Apple mac, but still over the top.
  - vscode – Microsoft, runs on linux, what can I say, not a fan.

# KATE:

- Fixing the tabs. From the top menu select Settings → Configure kate → Editing → Indentation
- Under "Indent using" select Spaces and set the "Indentation width" to 2 or 3
- The "Indentation Actions" You should play with, I only use the last one.
- Make sure that you Apply before Ok.

# File types

- After you have loaded a file (like .cpp) you should check the Tools → Indentation and see if the correct style is selected. It should be C-style. The C++/boost is sometimes odd.
- You can re-indent a document or fix copied text by selecting the text with the mouse or all text with CTRL-A and selecting Selection→Align

## (more ...)

- Kate is not recognizing the *lpp* file type?  
Settings → Configure Kate → Open/Save  
→ Modes & Filetypes →
- Select “Source/Lex/Flex” and under ‘File extensions’ add a file extension like ;\*.lpp.  
Then you might have to close and reopen the file.

# NEDIT:

- This is different from kate but the idea is the same, sort of. First there is a reasonable help page on what is happening. Then, you can change things per window, per file type, or always.

## (more ...)

- Preferences → Default Settings → Tab Stops
- Then select Emulate tabs, and set the spacing (again I use 2 but many people use 3).



## (more ...)

- If you need to change the file extensions recognized for syntax highlighting, use  
Preferences → Default Settings → Language Modes
- Then select the language (say Flex) from the scroll window and add to the file extensions. That is the second window on the right. Make sure that you Apply then OK

# VIM/GVIM

- You can set these things on the fly (not the file extensions) but it is easier to have these on whenever you start. Put them in a file in your home directory named `.vimrc` and they will be used for every new copy of vim/gvim.
- This sets the indentation amount, it is the "shiftwidth."

```
set sw=2
```

## (more ...)

- These set line length and turn on automatic line wrap.

```
set wrap  
set wrapmargin=4  
set textwidth=80
```

## (more ...)

- You should also make sure that  
filetype indent on  
filetype plugin on  
are there to make sure that the file type is  
discovered.

## (more ...)

- It is a non-trivial exercise to add filetypes but there is a relatively easy solution. Within the first five lines of a file put  
  
`vim: ft=lex`
- There MUST be a whitespace before 'vim' and the text after the = needs to be a recognized filetype. Of course with vim that 5 lines is also changeable. Just include it in a comment.

# atom

- Customizable, add extension for new file type.
- Editor, NOT so much. Assumes no one else will read file.
- Can only change indentation via displayed tab size. Still inserts tabs. You will have to fix before turning in the document.
- Does have some autofill type things going on.

- File → Settings
- Search for “Insert Spaces” and you should see something like  
Editor: Insert Spaces  
and select that check box.
- Then have to change the Tab size, I use 2 but 3 or 4 is okay.  
Editor: Tab Size
- The note on these about “Editor:Detect

# EMACS:

You figure it out.