

*vi* editor

# *vi* editor

- It is a powerful text editor included with version of Unix and/or Linux.
- It stands for "visual".
- Functions in 3 different modes
  1. Command mode
  2. Insert mode
  3. ex escape mode

# *vi* editor

- Command mode
  - Editor assumes any key pressed by the user as commands.
  - No text is displayed on the screen.

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- Insert mode
  - Used to insert the text into the file.
  - Invoked using insert, open or append mode command.
  - To enter into command mode press esc key.

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- ex escape mode
  - Commands typed in this mode is shown on the command line.
  - Bottom line of the vi screen is called as command line.
  - Some messages also displayed in the command line.

# Movement of the cursor

- All vi commands involve alphabets and shift and control keys.
- Use these command only in command mode.

Key	Cursor movement
h or backspace	Left
l or space bar	Right
k or -	Up
j or +	Down

# Some more cursor movements

Key	Usage
<b>w</b>	Moves forward by a word. It assumes punctuations are next words.
<b>W</b>	Moves forward by a word and identifies punctuations as a part of the word.
<b>e</b>	Takes us to the last character of the word.
<b>E</b>	Takes us to the last character of the word and ignores any punctuation.
<b>b</b>	Moves backward by a word.
<b>B</b>	Moves backward by a word and ignores any punctuation.
<b>^</b>	Take us to the beginning of the line.
<b>\$</b>	Take us to the end of the line.
<b>L</b>	Take us to last line of the file.
<b>G</b>	Works like the GOTO command.

# Screen commands

Key	Usage
Ctrl-F	Moves the cursor forward by a screen.
Ctrl-B	Moves the cursor backward by a screen.
Ctrl-D	Moves the cursor half the screen forward.
Ctrl-U	Moves the cursor half the screen backward.
Ctrl-N	Moves cursor down one line (alternative to cursor arrow key).
Ctrl-P	Moves cursor up one line (alternative to cursor arrow key).
Ctrl-L	To clear any system message that appear on the screen.
Ctrl-G	Displays vi status on the status line. Gives name of the edited file, no. of lines in the file, current line no and percentage of file that precedes the cursor.



# Usage of some editing commands

- To insert a text within the file - enter into insert mode.
- To delete a char or a word or a line – enter into command mode and use delete command.
- To copy and move a single line or multiple lines – enter into command mode and use ex escape mode commands.
- Undo command
- Joining lines of text.

# Text insertion in vi

Key	Usage
<b>i</b>	Invokes insertion mode. Text insertion is possible only after invoking the invoke insertion command.
<b>I</b>	Invokes insertion mode. Insertion takes place at the beginning.
<b>O</b>	Allows insertion by creating a blank line above the current line.
<b>o</b>	Allows insertion by creating a blank line below the current line.
<b>a</b>	Used for appending the text. Text is appended after the cursor position.
<b>A</b>	Used for appending the text. Text is appended at the end of the line.

# Deleting data in vi

Key	Usage
<b>dd</b>	Deletes the line in which the cursor is positioned.
<b>dw</b>	Deletes the word from the cursor position to the end of the word. It stops at punctuation that appears with the word.
<b>dW</b>	Deletes the word from the cursor position to the end of the word. It ignores any punctuation that appears with the word.
<b>x</b>	Deletes the character at the cursor position
<b>X</b>	Deletes the character before the cursor position
<b>D</b>	Deletes the line from current cursor position to the end of the line.

# Undo and join command

- Undo command is **u**
  - We can use this command only in the command mode.
- Join command is **J**
  - We can join any 2 lines of text.
  - To join any 2 lines, place the cursor at the end of the first line and then press the letter **J**

# Line numbering of Text

- Vi offers numbering text.  
    (ESC): set number  
    (ESC): set nonumber  
    (ESC): set showmode

# Copy and move multiple lines

- Copy to the desired position

**(ESC): 2co5**                      copy the 2<sup>nd</sup> line below the 5<sup>th</sup> line

**(ESC): 1,4co8**                      copy the first 3 lines below the 8<sup>th</sup> line

**(ESC): 3co\$**                      copy the 3<sup>rd</sup> line at the end of the line.

- Move to the desired position

**(ESC): 4mo8**                      move the 4<sup>th</sup> line to the 8<sup>th</sup> line

**(ESC): 2,4mo10**                      move the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> line to the 10<sup>th</sup> line

**(ESC): 5mo\$**                      move 5<sup>th</sup> line to the end of the line.

# Quitting vi

- Quit vi using ex escape mode commands.

(ESC):wq                      Save and Quit

(ESC):q!                      Quit without save

ZZ                              Save and Quit in command mode