

## Objectives

- Apply our low-level understanding of dynamic memory management to better appreciate and utilize similar but high-level turn-key software tools.
- Leverage power tools from the C++ standard template library (STL) to avoid having to reinvent the wheel every time we need a container class in a program.
- Practice programming, using the STL container classes, iterators, algorithms, and I/O processing.

## Your Task

Long before video display and screen editors became popular in the 1970s, computer users used printing terminals to communicate with computers. Computer programmers spent most of their working hours with a line editor to create and manipulate their text based programs. They would typically issue editing commands to edit a line (or lines) in a file, and then they would give printing commands to reprint and check the edited line(s). That was then, and it was so slow that some programmers preferred interactive text editors that consumed minimal input and generated minimal output, saving them time and energy, giving them increased productivity, and saving them long boring wait time during I/O processing.


Today, line editors are virtually useless, without practical application. Nonetheless, they do suggest a simple and useful idea for your task in this assignment: you will implement a very simple interactive line-oriented text editor, named **led**<sup>1</sup>, that you can use to create, edit, and save text files.


## led

When supplied with a text filename, **led** initially reads the lines in the file and stores them in a temporary *somewhere* named **buffer**. Then, **led** starts the editing process on the **buffer** and not the the supplied file. To write out the **buffer** to the file you give the **w** (write) command; otherwise, any changes not explicitly saved with a **w** command are lost.

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<sup>1</sup>Acronym for **l**ine-oriented text **e**ditor. **led**'s command set and syntax might look a little like the mighty **ed** editor for the Unix operating system, but **led** is not **ed**, not by a long shot.

For example, to run **led** on a file named **a.txt**, you type the following command and press the return key, which is denoted by :

```
led.exe a.txt 
```

where the specified file **a.txt** may or may not exist. If **led** finds the file, say,

**a.txt**

```
this is the first line,  
this is the second line, and  
this is the third line.
```

it reads its contents into the **buffer**, line by line, and responds as follows:

```
"a.txt" 3 lines  
Entering command mode.  
:
```

**led** displays a ':' prompt to indicate that it is operating in command mode.

When started on a nonexistent file, say, **b.txt**, **led** creates an *empty buffer* and responds as shown below. However, **led** does not create the file **b.txt** unless and until a **w** command is entered.

```
"b.txt" [New File]  
Entering command mode.  
:
```

When started without a filename, or started with an empty string for the filename, **led** creates an *empty buffer* and responds as follows:

```
"?" [New File]  
Entering command mode.  
:
```

# Operating Modes

**led** has two distinct operating modes.

**Command mode:** **led** displays a ':' prompt to indicate it is operating in command mode. Once the return key is pressed in command mode, **led** interprets the input characters as a command, and then it executes that command.

**Input mode:** The **a** (append) and **i** (input) commands use text input mode. **led** interprets every input character as text, displaying no prompts and recognizing no commands in this mode.

You can now enter as many lines of text as you wish, pressing the return key at the end of each line. **led** gathers the input lines and places them in the **buffer**.

To end the input mode, you type the dot character '.' *alone* at the beginning of a line and press the return key, and then **led** resumes in command mode. This line is not considered part of the input text.

Here is an example of an interactive session between **led** and a user using the file **a.txt** shown on page 2. For clarity, commands and text entered by the user are shown in red, and output from **led** is shown in black. For reference, line numbers are printed in blue, and *my comments in green*.

```
1  $ led.exe a.txt           start led on file a.txt above
2  "a.txt" 3 lines
3  Entering command mode.
4  :p print the current line, which here is the last line put in the buffer
5  this is the third line.
6  :1 move to line 1, and make it the current line
7  this is the first line,
8  :2,3p print lines 2 through 3
9  this is the second line, and
10 this is the third line.
11 :p print the current line, which here is the last line printed
12 this is the third line.
13 :1 same as line 6
14 this is the first line,
15 :2,3 same as line 8
16 this is the second line, and
17 this is the third line.
18 :p same as line 11
19 this is the third line.
20 :1a append input lines after line 1
```

```

21 this is a NEW second line           enter a line of text
22 .                               Enter the dot character to exit input mode
23 :p                             print the last line that was appended to the buffer
24 this is a NEW second line
25 :1,$n                         print the entire buffer numbering each line
26 1  this is the first line,
27 2  this is a NEW second line
28 3  this is the second line, and
29 4  this is the third line.
30 :p                             same as line 11
31 this is the third line.
32 :2,3r                         remove lines 2 through 3
33 this is the third line.
34 :1,$  print from line 1 through $ (last), same as the command line 1,$p
35 this is the first line,
36 this is the third line.
37 :w                             write buffer to its associated physical file
38 "a.txt" 2 lines written
39 $

```

## Command Line Syntax

**led** command lines have a simple structure:

*line address range* **command**

where a *line address* is a symbol or a number that represents the number of a line in the **buffer**. A *line address range* consists of zero, one, or two line addresses, with the latter pair separated by a comma. The **command** part of a command line consists of a single character command symbol.

For example, the commands **p** on line 4, **1a** on line 20, and **2,3p** on line 8 specify zero, one, and two line addresses, respectively. Also note that the command **1** on line 6 specifies one address but no command!

As a line-editor, **led** needs to know about a range of one or more lines where it can apply any of its operations. Even if a command does not specify a line range, **led** computes the line range based on the command and context.

Whether or not a command requires a line range, **led** allows every command to have a line range before the command symbol. Otherwise, too many errors might ensue to make for a visually crowded and unpleasant editing session. By allowing a line range before a command

symbol, which itself may or may not exist, **led** can better hide itself behind the scenes and complain only when it must.

A line range preceding a command symbol on a command line can consist of a maximum of two address symbols and a maximum of one separator:

**Table 1: Line Range Symbols**

Symbol	Description	Role
•	The current line address in the buffer. Customarily called 'dot'.	Address
\$	The last line in the buffer	Address
$n$	A sequence of digits , $1 \leq n \leq \$$	Address
,	Separates any pair (if any) of the line address symbols above	Separator

To understand line addressing in **led** it is necessary to know that at any time there is a **current line** address maintained in **led** as the point of reference into the **buffer**. In fact, the notion of a **current line** address is so important that it gets its own symbol (•) and name (dot), as shown in Table 1.

The **current line** address is generally set to the number of the last line affected by a command; however, the exact effect on the **current line** address is presented on page 6.

For example, when the lines in a text file are read into the **buffer**, the **current line** address is set to the last line in the **buffer**, as shown in line 5 on page 3. If the **buffer** is empty, then the current line address is set 0, the address of the line before the first line; moreover, the user is forced to do one of two things: either add lines to the **buffer**, or quit **led**.

Sometimes, the **current line** address can serve as the default value for the missing address(es) in a line range of a command line. For example, the command **p** in line 4 on page 3 is equivalent to the command **3,3p**, and command **1a** on line 20 is equivalent to the command **1,1a**.

Table 2 below shows how the line range associated with an imaginary command named **z** is determined. Table 3 lists the recognized commands.

**Table 2: Line Range Interpretation**

Command Line Entered	Interpreted Command Line	Line Range	Constraints
,•z   •z   z   ,z   •,z	•,•z	•,•	$1 \leq \bullet \leq \$$
y z	y,yz	y,y	$1 \leq y \leq \$$
,y z	•,yz	•,y	$1 \leq \bullet \leq y \leq \$$
x,z	x,•z	x,•	$1 \leq x \leq \bullet \leq \$$
x,y z	x,yz	x,y	$1 \leq x \leq y \leq \$$

**Table 3: Command Line Interpretation**

Command Line	Description
<i>y</i> <b>a</b> ↵	<b>led</b> switches to input mode, reads input lines and <b>appends</b> them to the buffer <i>after</i> line <i>y</i> . The <b>current line</b> address is set to last line entered.
<i>y</i> <b>i</b> ↵	<b>led</b> switches to input mode, reads input lines and <b>inserts</b> them to the buffer <i>before</i> line <i>y</i> . The <b>current line</b> address is set to last line entered. Cannot be used on empty <b>buffer</b> .
<i>x, y</i> <b>r</b> ↵	<b>Removes</b> (deletes) the line range <i>x</i> through <i>y</i> from the buffer. If there is a line after the deleted line range, then the current line address is set to this line. Otherwise the current line address is set to the line before the deleted line range.
<i>x, y</i> <b>p</b> ↵	<b>Prints</b> the addressed line range <i>x</i> through <i>y</i> . The current line address is set to the last line printed.
<i>x, y</i> <b>n</b> ↵	<b>Prints</b> the addressed line range <i>x</i> through <i>y</i> , preceding each line by its <b>line number</b> and a tab character. The current line address is set to the last line printed.
<i>x, y</i> <b>c</b> ↵	Prompts for and reads the text to be changed, and then prompts for and reads the replacement text. Searches each addressed line for an occurrence of the specified string and <b>changes</b> all matched strings to the replacement text.
<i>y</i> <b>u</b> ↵	The current line address is moved <b>up</b> by <i>y</i> lines, but never moves beyond the first line.
<i>y</i> <b>d</b> ↵	The current line address is moved <b>down</b> by <i>y</i> lines, but never beyond the last line.
<i>x, y</i> ↵	same as <i>x, yp</i>
<b>w</b> ↵	If the <b>buffer</b> is not associated with a user named file, it prompts for and reads a file name. <b>Writes</b> out entire <b>buffer</b> to its associated file.
<i>n</i> ↵	same as <i>n, np</i>
<b>.</b> ↵	same as <b>., .p</b>
<b>\$</b> ↵	same as <b>,\$p</b>
<b>,</b> ↵	same as <b>1,\$p</b>
<b>=</b> ↵	Prints the <b>current line address</b> .
↵	same as <b>1d</b>

Notes:

- All letter commands are in lowercase.
- Any sequence of tab and space characters included in a command line is ignored.
- The four line address symbols in Table 1 are also listed in Table 3 as **led** commands, where none of them requires a line range.
- If a line range such as *x, y* is specified in a context where no line address is expected, then both *x* and *y* are ignored.

- If a line range such as  $x, y$  is specified in a context where only a single line address is expected, then  $x$  is ignored and  $y$  is used.

## Programming Requirements

- **led** should use the following structure

```
list<string> buffer;
```

to store and edit a given text file. Note that your **LinkedList** class of assignment 1 is virtually the same as **list<string>** class!

- A class named **Command** that represents a command and in charge of parsing that command into its components. This class should provide a public member function named **parse** that takes a command line and breaks it down into its component parts: two addresses in the line range, the command symbol, a boolean flag indicating whether the command is valid, etc. Provide pertinent getters and setters as you use them. Add other members to facilitate your work.
- A class called **LineEditor** that owns the storage **buffer** and operates on it. Use pertinent attributes such as **current** for the current line, a **Command** object, etc. The only public member functions in this class are a constructor and a **run** member function, as in:

```
string filename;
// prepare filename
LineEditor ed(filename);
ed.run(); // runs an interactive line-editing session on filename until the user quits
```

Add other members to facilitate your work.

- Add other classes to facilitate your work.
- No **new** and **delete** operators in this assignment; the idea is to learn that it is possible to write substantial C++ programs without directly dealing with dynamic memory.
- No global variables.
- As a part of this assignment, you are responsible for preparing a quick report on the similarities and differences between the standard's **list<T>**, **vector<T>** and **deque<T>** container classes.

The member functions of these generic classes are generally categorized under the titles Iterators, Capacity, Element access, Modifiers, Operations, etc. To get credits for this

part, you are required to prepare a table for each of the categories, organizing your tables as follows:

#### Element access

Member Function	<b>list</b> <T>	<b>vector</b> <T>	<b>deque</b> <T>
<b>data</b>		✓	
...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...

#### Modifiers

Member Function	<b>list</b> <T>	<b>vector</b> <T>	<b>deque</b> <T>
<b>push_front</b>	✓		✓
...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...

etc. You can use Excel spreadsheet or any other program to facilitate your work.

## Suggestions

- Stay away from your PC for a few minutes, using pen and paper to analyze the problems at hand.
- Avoid writing code in large chunks thinking that you can defer testing to after completions of your code.
- Start working on the **Command** class and test as you write code. You need to have a plan of action on how to parse a command line. Extracting the command characters are rather straightforward as they can appear, if present, only after at the line range, if any. However, dissecting the line range part of a command line might be a little tricky, because a line range can have missing parts (See Table 2). For this part, you might find the popular **find** family of member functions in the <<**string**>> header helpful.
- Try introducing functionality into your **LineEditor** class one function at a time, and test as you go, one function at a time. To do anything with the **buffer**, you need to store some lines into the buffer. In fact, the only commands you can issue on an *empty* **buffer** is either add at least one line to it or quit the editor. So, consider implementing member functions such as **append** and **print** before the others. For example, to append to the end of the **buffer** your code might include elements similar to those in the following incomplete code fragment.



```
string line;
getline(cin, line);
while (cin.good() && line != ".")
{
    buffer.push_back(line);
    getline(cin, line);
    // other housekeeping code
}
// make sure that the current line address is set to the last line appended
```

What is not shown in the code fragment above is how to keep track of the **current** line address, so that, in the case of appending to the end of the **buffer**, it always addresses the last line appended to the buffer.

## An Example

To differentiate between text entered by the user and produced by **led**, the following listing uses the same color conventions as those used on page 3: **user input**, **led output**, and *my comments*.

```
1 C:\Documents\Visual Studio 2015\Projects\led\Debug>led.exe main.cpp
2 Unable to open file main.cpp
3 "main.cpp" [New File]
4 Entering command mode.
5 :p    only one of the following commands can be used on an empty buffer
6 error: file empty - enter 'q' to quit, 'a' to append, or 'i' to insert
7 :q                                test the q command
8 C:\Documents\Visual Studio 2015\Projects\led\Debug>led.exe main.cpp
9 Unable to open file main.cpp
10 "main.cpp" [New File]
11 Entering command mode.
12 : i                                insert some text
13 AAA
14 BBB
15 CCC
16 .                                enter a dot to exit input mode
17 :p    the current line should be on the last line entered
18 CCC
19 :=                                check out the current line number
20 3
21 :1,    print lines 1 to the current line
22 AAA
23 BBB
24 CCC
25 :1,n    print numbered lines 1 to the current line
26 1 AAA
27 2 BBB
28 3 CCC
29 :1i                                insert before line 1
30 aaa
31 .                                enter dot to exit input mode
32 :=                                what's the current line number?
33 1
34 :p    print the current line
35 aaa
```

```

36 :1,$n                                print the entire buffer, numbered
37 1 aaa
38 2 AAA
39 3 BBB
40 4 CCC
41 :3i                                    insert before line 3
42 bbb
43 .                                    exit input mode
44 :=                                    we should now be on line 3
45 3
46 :p                                    and should hold "bbb"
47 bbb
48 :1,$n                                print the buffer
49 1 aaa
50 2 AAA
51 3 bbb
52 4 BBB
53 5 CCC
54 :1r                                    remove line 1
55 :1,$n
56 1 AAA
57 2 bbb
58 3 BBB
59 4 CCC
60 :2,r                                    remove lines 2 to the current line, which is 4
61 :1,$n                                    buffer should now hold one line
62 1 AAA
63 :1,5r                                    try removing an invalid line range
64 error: invalid range 1 through 5
65 :1,1r                                    empty the buffer by removing its last line
66 :p
67 error: file empty - enter 'q' to quit, 'a' to append, or 'i' to insert
68 :a                                    let's write a test driver for our line editor.
69     string filename;
70     switch (argc) {
71     case 1: // no file name
72         break;
73     case 2: // read from argument string
74         filename = argv[1];
75         break;
76     default:
77         cout << ("too many arguments - all discarded") << endl;
78         filename.clear();
79         break;
80     }
81 .                                    exit input mode

```

```

83 :1,n print lines 1 to current line, which must be the last line appended
84 1 string filename;
85 2 switch (argc) {
86 3 case 1: // no file name
87 4     break;
88 5 case 2: // read from argument string
89 6     filename = argv[1];
90 7     break;
91 8 default:
92 9     cout << ("too many arguments - all discarded") << endl;
93 10    filename.clear();
94 11    break;
95 12 }
96 :1i insert before line 1
97 int main()
98 {
99 . exit input mode
100 :p
101 {
102 :
103 =
104 2
105 :1,5n print lines 1 to 5
106 1 int main()
107 2 {
108 3 string filename;
109 4 switch (argc) {
110 5 case 1: // no file name
111 :4d move down 4 lines
112 := we should now be on line 9
113 9
114 :p
115 break;
116 :d move down 1 line
117 :p
118 default:
119 :4d move down another 4 lines
120 :p
121 }
122 := we should be on the last line
123 14
124 :10,n print numbered lines 10 to current line

```

```

124 10      default:
125 11          cout << ("too many arguments - all discarded") << endl;
126 12          filename.clear();
127 13          break;
128 14      }
129 :a                      append after the current line, that is line 14
130      LineEditor ed(filename);
131      ed.run();
132      return 0;
133  }
134  .
135 :p
136 }
137 :=
138 18
139 :1p
140 int main()
141 :1c      make your program runnable from console input:  change line 1
142 change what? ()
143     to what? (int argc, char * argv[])
144 :p
145 int main(int argc, char * argv[])
146 :1,5n
147 1  int main(int argc, char * argv[])
148 2  {
149 3      string filename;
150 4      switch (argc) {
151 5          case 1: // no file name
152 :6,$n
153 6          break;
154 7          case 2: // read from argument string
155 8              filename = argv[1];
156 9              break;
157 10         default:
158 11             cout << ("too many arguments - all discarded") << endl;
159 12             filename.clear();
160 13             break;
161 14         }
162 15         LineEditor ed(filename);
163 16         ed.run();
164 17         return 0;
165 18     }
166 :5,7c      put some spaces before any "//" in lines 5 to 7
167 change what? //
168     to what?      //

```

```

169 :1,$n
170 1 int main(int argc, char * argv[])
171 2 {
172 3     string filename;
173 4     switch (argc) {
174 5         case 1:        // no file name
175 6             break;
176 7         case 2:        // read from argument string
177 8             filename = argv[1];
178 9             break;
179 10        default:
180 11            cout << ("too many arguments - all discarded") << endl;
181 12            filename.clear();
182 13            break;
183 14        }
184 15        LineEditor ed(filename);
185 16        ed.run();
186 17        return 0;
187 18    }
188 :16c
189 change what? ;
190     to what? ;        // run our editor
191 :p
192     ed.run();        // run our editor
193 :=
194 16
195 :100u                                try to move up 100 lines!
196 BOF reached
197 :p                                could not move up beyond Beginning Of File
198 int main(int argc, char * argv[])
199 :100d                                could not move down beyond End Of File
200 EOF reached
201 :=
202 18:p
203 }
204 :3u
205 :p
206     LineEditor ed(filename);
207 :c
208 change what? ;
209     to what? ;        // create an editor object
210 :p
211     LineEditor ed(filename);        // create an editor object
212 :5

```

```

213 :p
214     case 1:          // no file name
215 : -1
216 error: invalid command
217 :2,3,4,5
218 error: invalid command
219 :hello
220 error: invalid command
221 :=
222 5:
223 :=
224 6
225 :
226 :p
227     case 2:          // read from argument string
228 :=
229 7
230 :$
231 :=
232 18
233 :1,n
234 1  int main(int argc, char * argv[])
235 2  {
236 3      string filename;
237 4      switch (argc) {
238 5          case 1:      // no file name
239 6              break;
240 7          case 2:      // read from argument string
241 8              filename = argv[1];
242 9              break;
243 10         default:
244 11             cout << ("too many arguments - all discarded") << endl;
245 12             filename.clear();
246 13             break;
247 14     }
248 15     LineEditor ed(filename);    // create an editor object
249 16     ed.run();                  // run our editor
250 17     return 0;
251 18 }
252 :q

```

```

253 Save changes to main.cpp (y/n)? y      must be tested
254 "main.cpp" 18 lines
255 C:\Documents\Visual Studio 2015\Projects\led\Debug> let's edit our file
      again!
256 C:\Documents\Visual Studio 2015\Projects\led\Debug>led.exe main.cpp
257 "main.cpp" 18 lines
258 Entering command mode.
259 :1,$n
260 1  int main(int argc, char * argv[])
261 2  {
262 3      string filename;
263 4      switch (argc) {
264 5          case 1:      // no file name
265 6              break;
266 7          case 2:      // read from argument string
267 8              filename = argv[1];
268 9              break;
269 10         default:
270 11             cout << ("too many arguments - all discarded") << endl;
271 12             filename.clear();
272 13             break;
273 14     }
274 15     LineEditor ed(filename);      // create an editor object
275 16     ed.run();      // run our editor
276 17     return 0;
277 18 }
278 :q
279 C:\Documents\Visual Studio 2015\Projects\led\Debug>

```



## Marking scheme

10%	Comparison tables as described on page 8
50%	Program correctness
20%	Proper use of pointers, dynamic memory management, and C++ concepts. No C-style memory functions such as <b>malloc</b> , <b>alloc</b> , <b>realloc</b> , <b>free</b> , etc. No C-style coding.
10%	Format, clarity, completeness of output
10%	Concise documentation of nontrivial steps in code, choice of variable names, indentation and readability of program