Application Context

This project aims to create a text editor made for developers. It will be lightweight, fast, and open source. As a text editor as its base, users will be able to open, edit, and save files. As an open source project, additional functionality will be added and shared. These extra features can include tools helpful to developers such as undo/redo commands, syntax highlighting for programming languages, and search commands. The base will be minimal in comparison to other programming text editors as it needs to be lightweight and high performance. It will also need to be robust and be able to run on many platforms as it will act as the base to any and all future extensions.

Technological Context

To accomplish the functionalities mentioned above, the technologies utilized will need to be selected accordingly. The following technologies will be used in the production and deployment of this project.

- The project will be written in C to allow for a minimal and high speed application. This will also allow the application to run on all the most common operating systems
- Gtk will be used as an open-source and cross-platform option to implement the GUI.
- Make will be used to automate the build process and allow for easy usage across different systems.
- Git will enable version tracking and promote transparency for the project which will in turn aid the expansion of this project after release.
- The editor is planned to be available cross-platform across Linux, Windows, and macOS

Organizational Context

The text-editor project is undertaken by a group of five students as part of a University course. The team follows flexible roles with a basic hierarchy consisting of one project manager and four members who receive tasks to complete.

The members are assigned to different tasks such as compiling documents, reviewing artifacts, and writing code.

Communication between members of the group takes place on a social platform (Discord) where the Project Manager regularly posts updates on the project.

A spreadsheet containing all the scheduled tasks is maintained by the Project Manager and shared with the rest of the team. This provides transparency and offers clarity about the tasks left to be completed. The spreadsheet also functions as a tool to track which member was assigned to which task.

Legal Context

1. Licensing

The Text Editor project will be distributed under the GNU General Public License (GPL v3). This license allows users to freely use, study, modify, and redistribute the software, ensuring that all versions remain open-source. By adopting the GPL, we aim to support transparency, collaboration, and innovation within the open-source community.

2. Intellectual Property

All members of the project team are joint owners of the original codebase and resources created for this project. Once the software is released under the GPL license, it becomes open to public contribution. Any modifications or extensions made by external contributors must remain under the same GPL terms and include proper credit to the original authors.

3. Compliance and Ethical Use

The team commits to adhering to both legal and academic standards throughout the development process. No copyrighted or proprietary materials will be used without authorization, and any external dependencies included will be compatible with the GPL license. We also commit to ethical software engineering practices, fostering transparency and respect for intellectual property rights.

4. Liability Disclaimer

In compliance with GPL v3, the software will be provided 'as is', without any warranty. The development team is not responsible for any potential damage, data loss, or issues that may arise from its use. Users assume full responsibility when utilizing the application.

5. Conclusion

By choosing the GPL license, the Text Editor project embraces an open and collaborative development philosophy. This approach ensures freedom for users and contributors, encourages continuous improvement, and reflects our commitment to ethical, sustainable open-source development.