

Random Anecdotes

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Emacs, VI

- choice in 1980's was: ed, emacs, vi, WordStar
- emacs and vi and ed have REGEX, WordStar had only "Find/Replace"
- ed is line-oriented, emacs and vi are "full screen"
- Emacs is very "complicated"
- VI is the epitome of mode-full editing (contradicting Jef Raskin's "Humane Interface")
- Emacs had VT100 keybindings (VT100 was "better" than ordinary 24x80 terminals)
- I chose to use emacs because of REGEX and VT100 bindings
- Emacs-lisp is a toolbox language. I wrote an experimental Eiffel compiler in emacs-lisp.