



Doubleclick to open a file in VIM from Finder in OSX

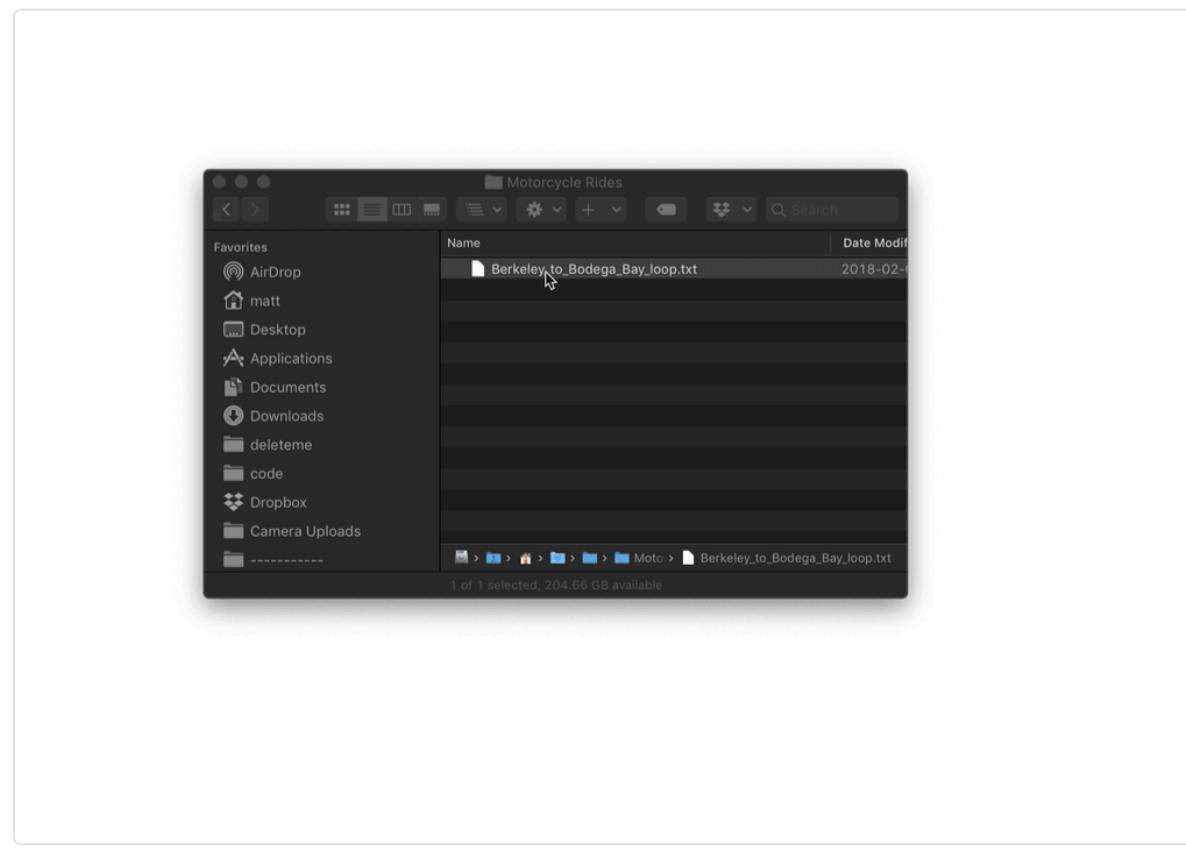
I use [VIM](#) for just about everything from note taking to coding to keeping track of my recipes.

Of course I've dabbled with [other text editors](#), but nothing I've liked so far.

But I found myself more and more dealing with a txt file inside Mac's Finder app and then dropping to a terminal and spending time switching directories over to that file to edit it.

I wanted to just double click on the txt file and have it automatically open in VIM inside my [iTerm](#). This functionality isn't built into OSX but with just a bit of [Applescript](#) we can make it work for us.

Example:

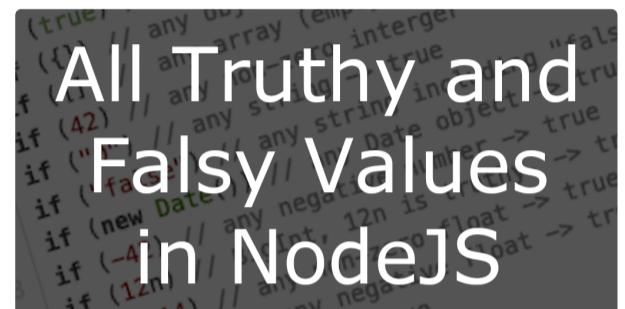


Here's what we're going to do...

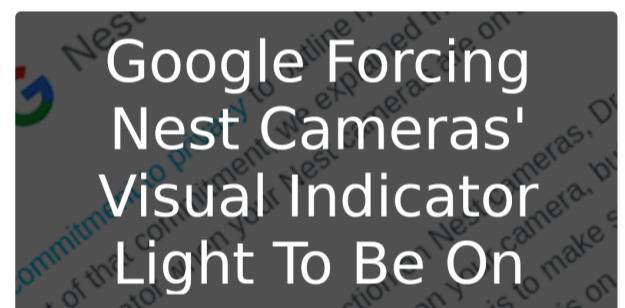
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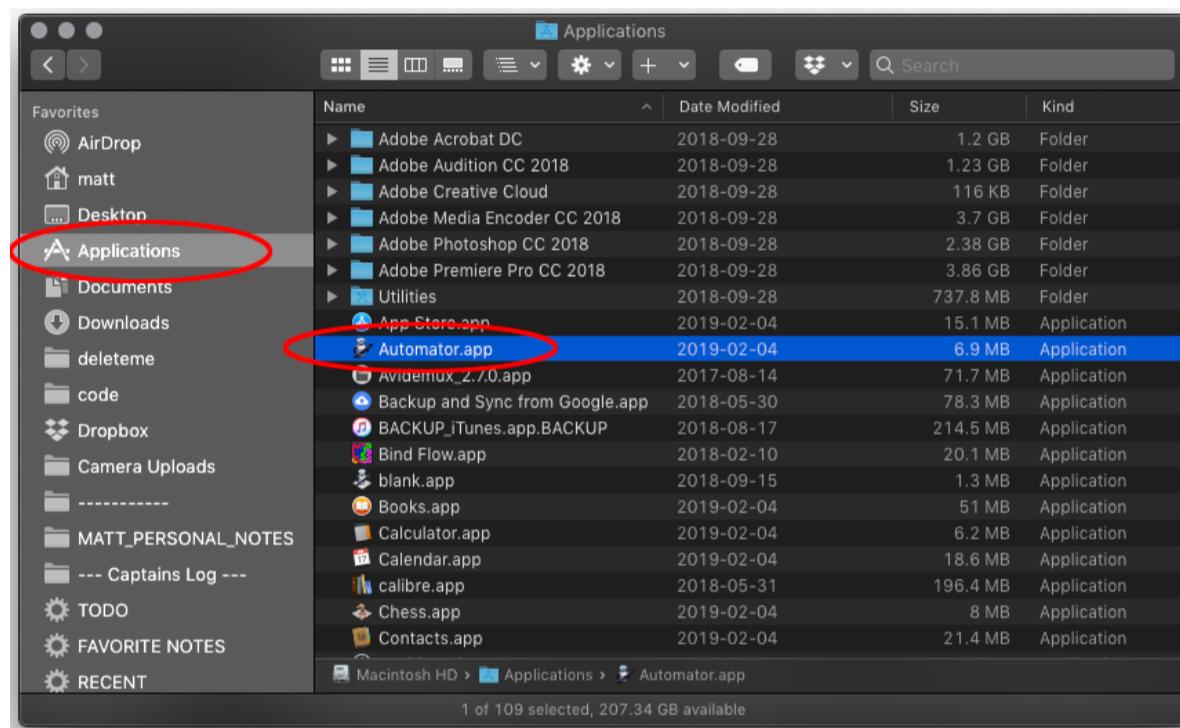


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- [Step #1 - Open your Automator application on your Mac](#)
- [Step #2 - Build an Applescript application to launch VIM](#)
- [Step #3 - Associate your new app with files you want to open with VIM via doubleclick](#)
- [Step #4 - Try it out!](#)

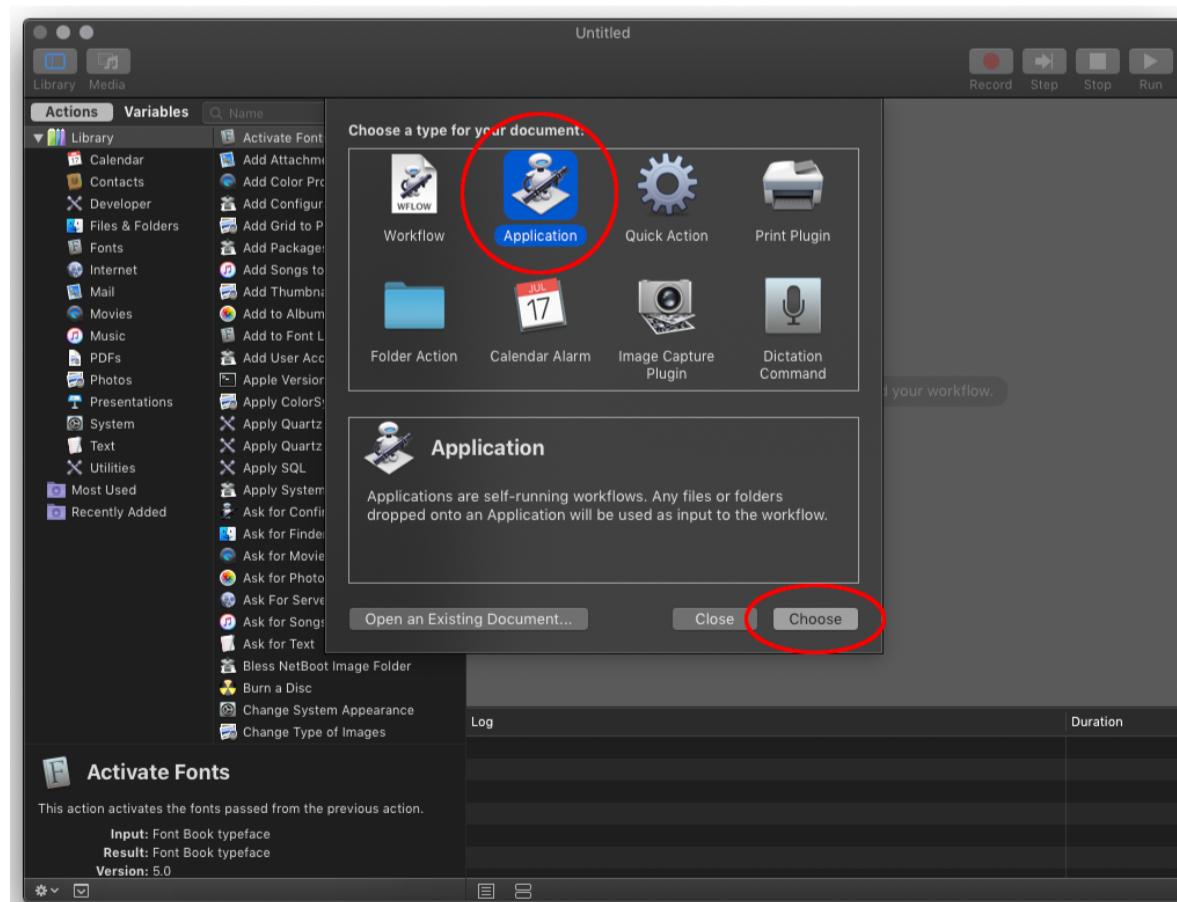
Step #1 - Open your Automator application on your Mac

Find the "Automator" app in your Applications folder and launch it.



Step #2 - Build an Applescript application to launch VIM

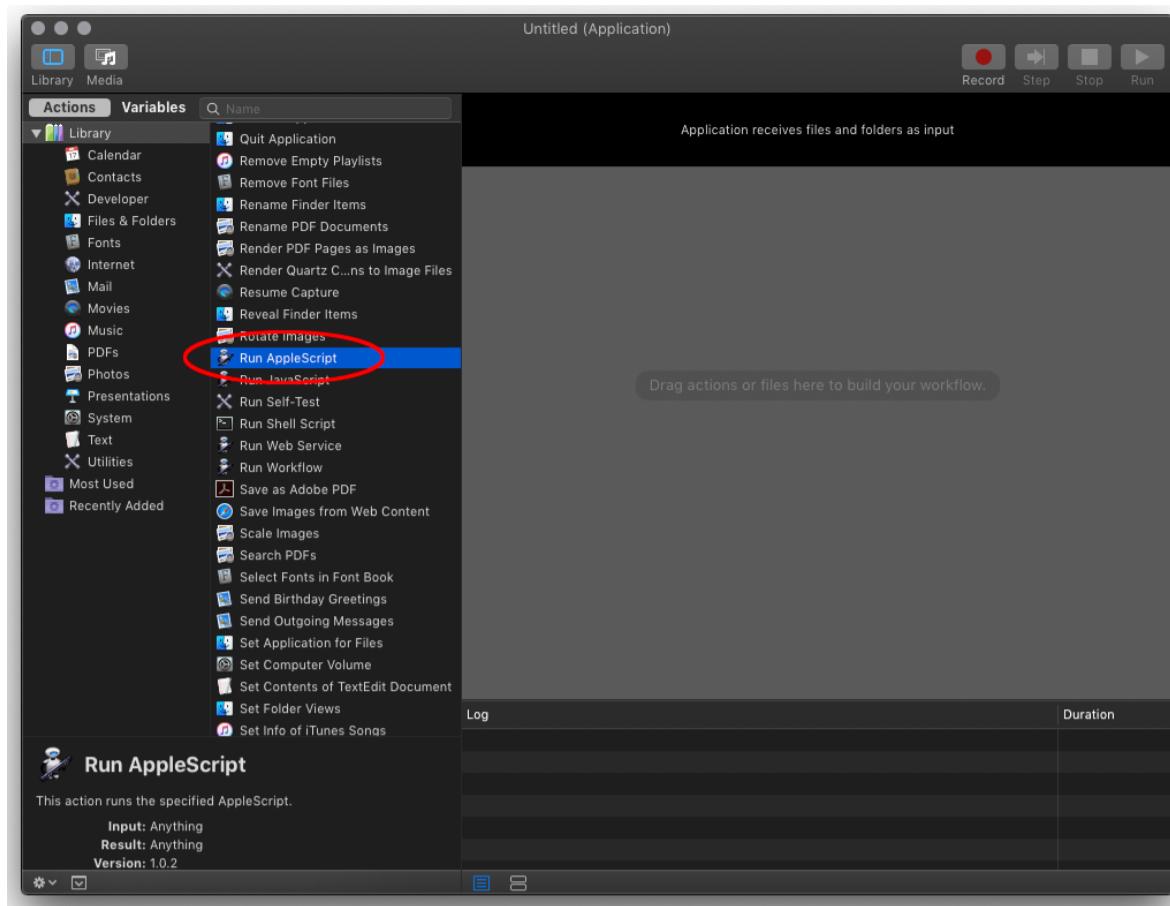
Choose the "Application" type and click "Choose"...



Double click on "Run Applescript"...

Four Steps To Write An AppleScript to Gather ALL Windows on OSX

[Four Steps To Write An AppleScript to Gather ALL Windows on OSX](#) I have no idea why, but there is no built-in way to gather.....



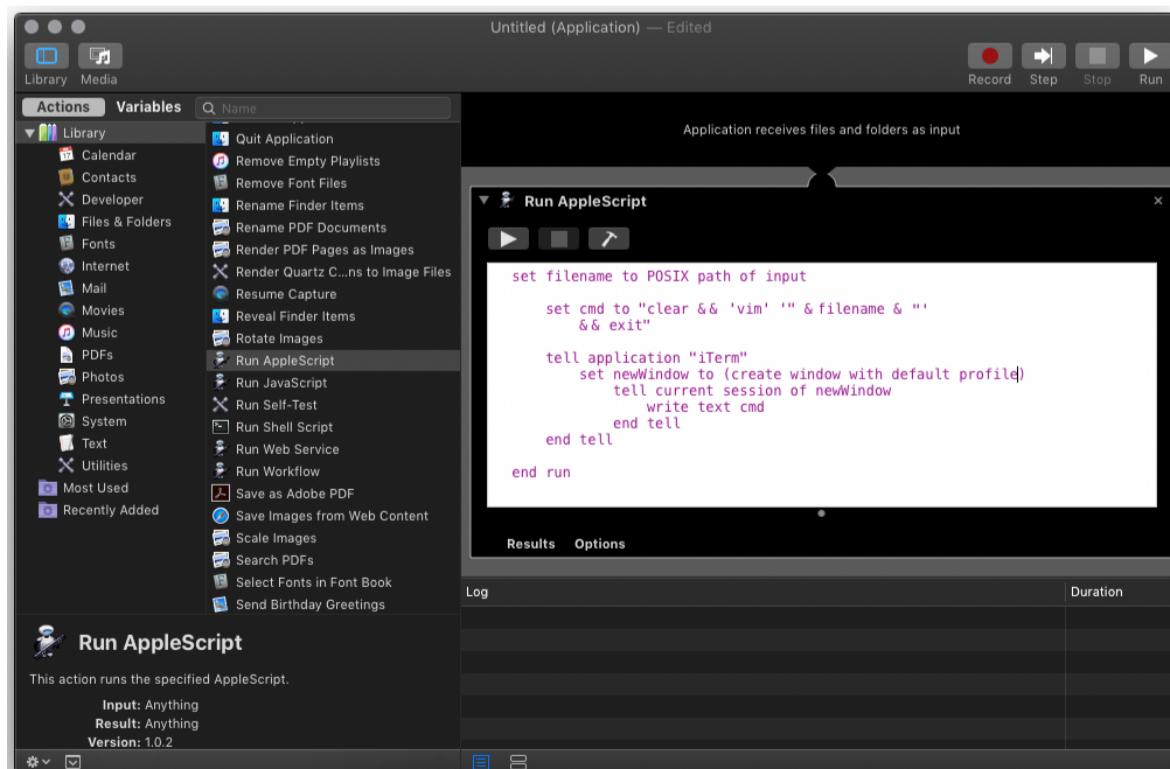
Copy and paste the following Applescript code...

```

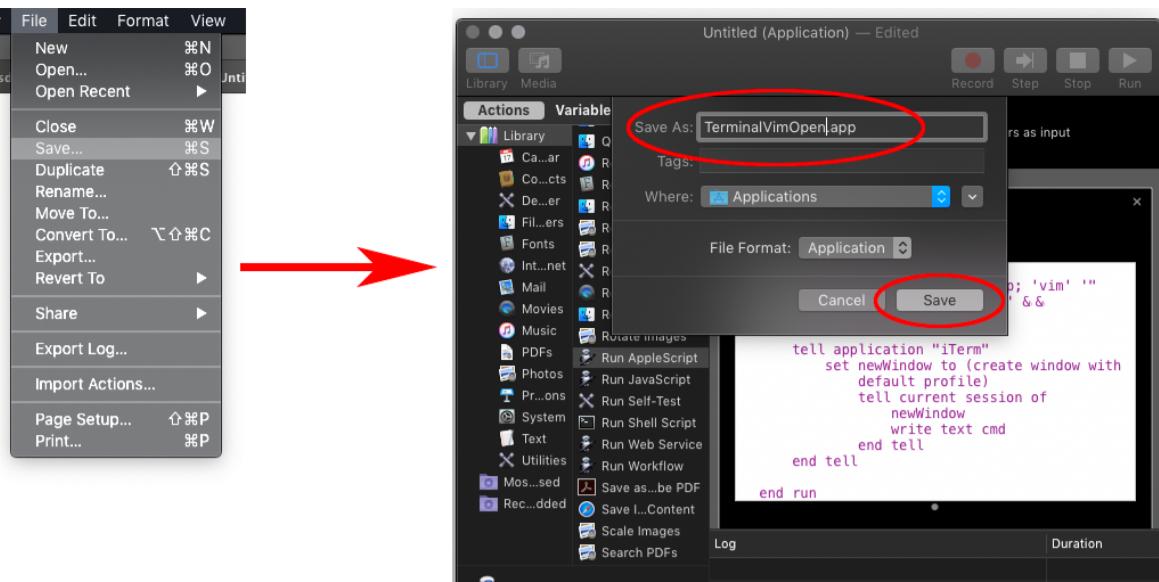
1 on run {input, parameters}
2
3 set filename to POSIX path of input
4
5     set cmd to "clear && 'vim' '' & filename & '' &&
6 exit"
7
8 tell application "iTerm"
9     set newWindow to (create window with default
10 profile)
11         tell current session of newWindow
12             write text cmd
13         end tell
14     end tell
15 end run

```

Into the applescript window...



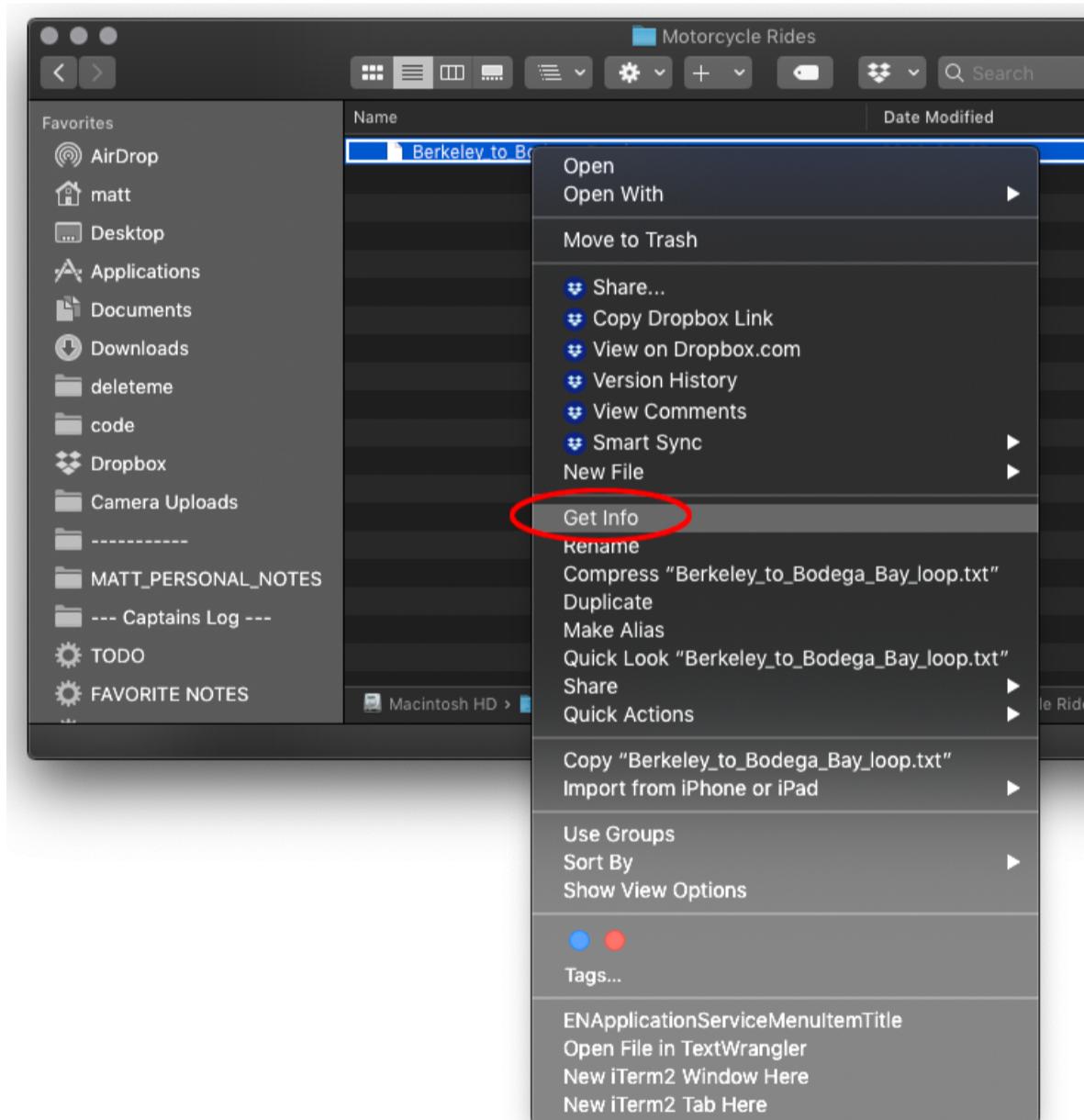
Save the Automator script as a new application in your Applications folder...



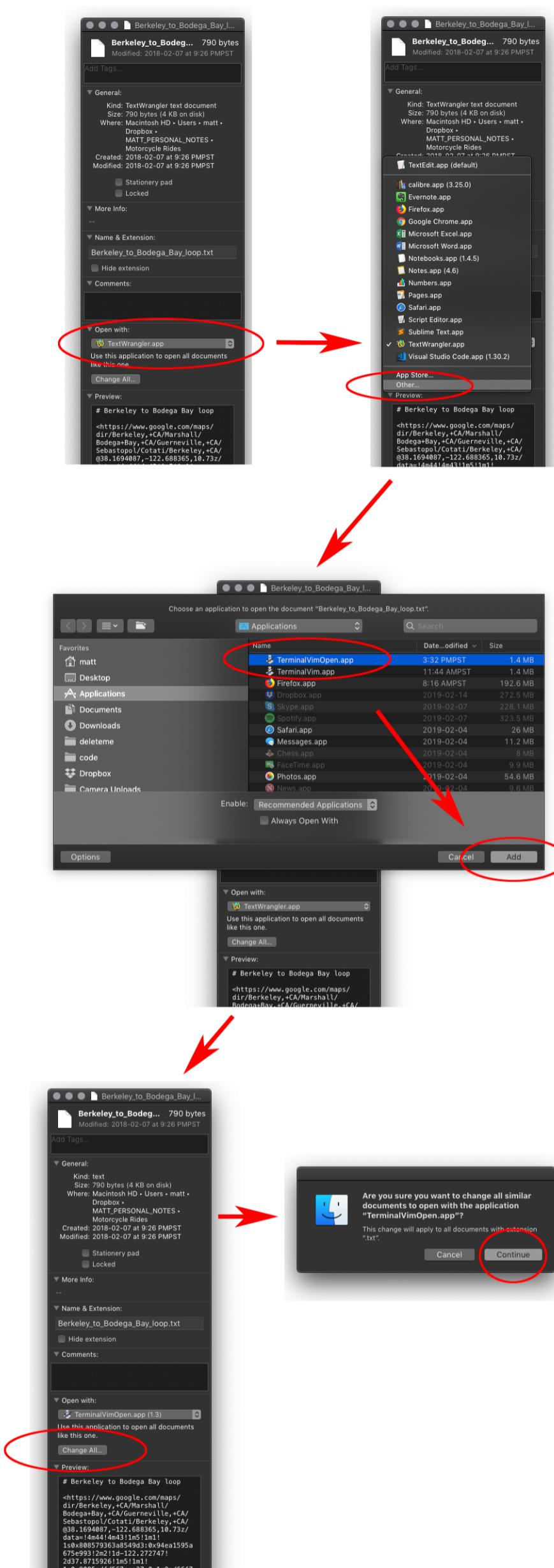
Step #3 - Associate your new app with files you want to open with VIM via doubleclick

Now find a file of whatever type you want to associate with opening in VIM. I'm doing .txt files for this example.

Right click on the file and click "Get Info"...

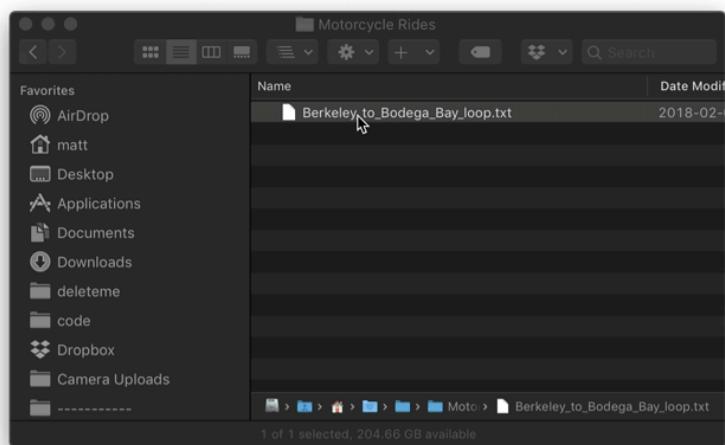


Now set your new .app file to be used whenever that file type is opened...



Step #4 - Done! Try it out

Now when you doubleclick on one of your .txt files, it will be opened in VIM in your iTerm terminal...



Pause reading for 5 seconds...

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Ok, lets continue.

Hopefully this has been helpful for you. If you've tried out the code here, drop me a tweet at twitter.com/mattccrampton and let me know.

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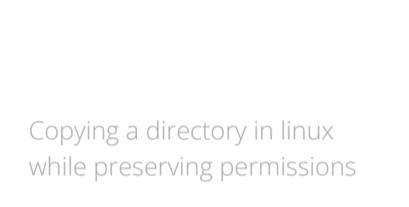
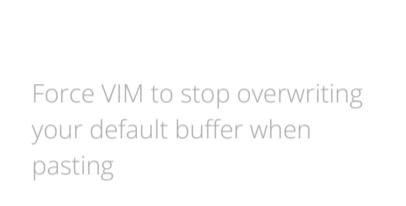
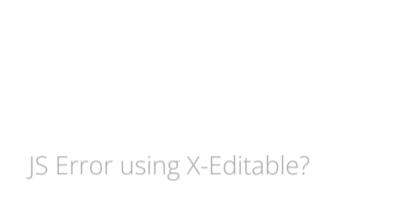
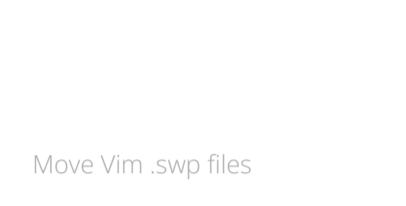
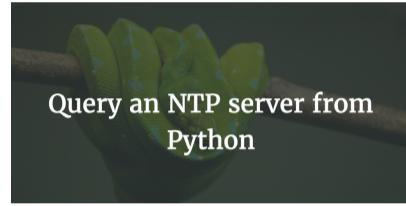
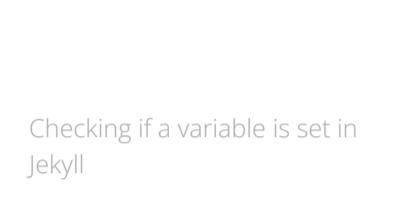
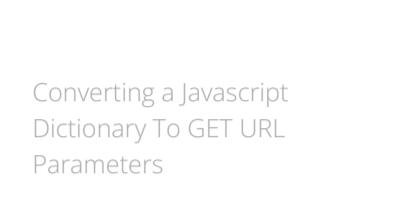
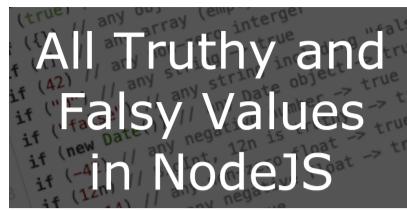
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About

I've been a software developer and engineering manager for the last 18 years, currently focused on building SaaS products for SMB and enterprise companies.

I founded [API Canary](#) in 2017 to allow companies with mission critical production systems to catch outages before their customers do. We're currently hiring so come [check us out](#). Previously I co-founded and served as CTO of [Gigwalk](#), a mobile work marketplace designed to help businesses mobilize people so they can get field work done.

I live in San Leandro, California and originally hail from Kalamazoo, Michigan. I love meeting new people from all walks of life, drop me a line below and introduce yourself.

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