vim

"Who needs a mouse?"

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History and Design Philosophy

- ▶ Developed by Bram Moolenaar, initially released in 1991.
- ► Successor to vi (visual interface for line editor ex).
- ► Editing works entirely over keyboard, most commands are easily reachable over home row.
- Plugins (written in VimScript) can provide functionality similar to an IDE.

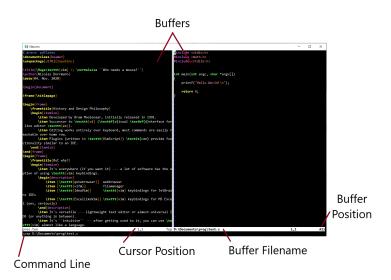
But why?

► It's everywhere (if you want it) — a lot of software has the option of using vim keybindings.

```
qutebrowser webbrowser
    vifm filemanager
    IdeaVim vim keybindings for JetBrains IDEs
ExcelLikeVim vim keybindings for MS Excel (yes, seriously)
```

- It's versatile lightweight text editor or almost-universal IDE (or anything in between).
- It's "intuitive" after getting used to it, you can use vim almost like a language.

Basics - The Interface



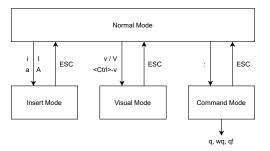
Basics - Modes

NORMAL navigate within the file, issue text commands (yank/change/delete)

COMMAND open, close, or save a file

INSERT direct input (i. e. actually typing text)

VISUAL text highlighting, text blocking



Basics

Actions ("verbs")

lines

yank copy a movement change replace object with a new object delete remove an object Modifiers NUM number of objects to perform action on i perform action inside an object a perform action around an object t perform action up to an object f perform action up to and including an object Text Objects ("nouns") word string of non-whitespace characters surrounded by whitespace sentence ends with !, ?, . followed by newline paragraph consists of several sentences, delimited by empty

Commands

- Basic commands have the form Action Modifier Object
- Examples
 - y2w copy the next two words
 - dis delete the current sentence (i. e. the sentence the cursor is in)
 - cp change (i. e. delete and enter INSERT mode) the current paragraph

Search and Replace

- Search
 - ► Forward search with /string. Backward search with ?string.
 - Next result with n, previous with N.
- Search and Replace (substitute)
 - ► Basic syntax: :[range]s/search/replace/
 - [range] is a line, range of lines (start, end), or entire buffer (%).
 - Global replace with g or with confirmation (gc).

Regular Expressions

- . match one of any character
- [range] matches any one of the characters in range
 - match arbitrary many repetitions of preceding character
 - \+ match one or more of the preceding character
 - \= match none or one of the preceding character
 - $\{m,n\}$ between m and n repetitions
 - ^ match start of a line
 - \$ match end of a line

.vimrc / init.vim

- Configuration file for vim settings.
- ▶ Written in VimScript, an interpreted programming language.
- Read and executed at editor startup (provided it exists).
- ► Allows various customization options:
 - ▶ font, syntax highlighting and color scheme
 - define or redefine keybindings
 - modify various preset options

VimScript Basics

```
(i/c/v/n)map (re)map a key combination
    set (re)define an option
    let (re)define a variable
    source "include" an additional .vim file
:help xyz open documentation on xyz
```

Plugins and Plugin Managers

- -- An excellent resource for vim plugins.
- ► Plugin Manager
 - pathogen.vim minimalist, simple to use, requires manual installation/deinstallation
 - vundle requires listing all plugins in .vimrc
 - vim-plug similar to vundle

Tutorial: Setting up a Productive Neovim Environment

In this tutorial, we will do the following:

- 1. Configure the pathogen.vim plugin manager.
- Install the Dracula color scheme and UltiSnips snippet manager.
- 3. Create a few snippets for quickly creating Java classes.