Operating System fundamentals

Editing text

Contents

1. Text editors

Cursus

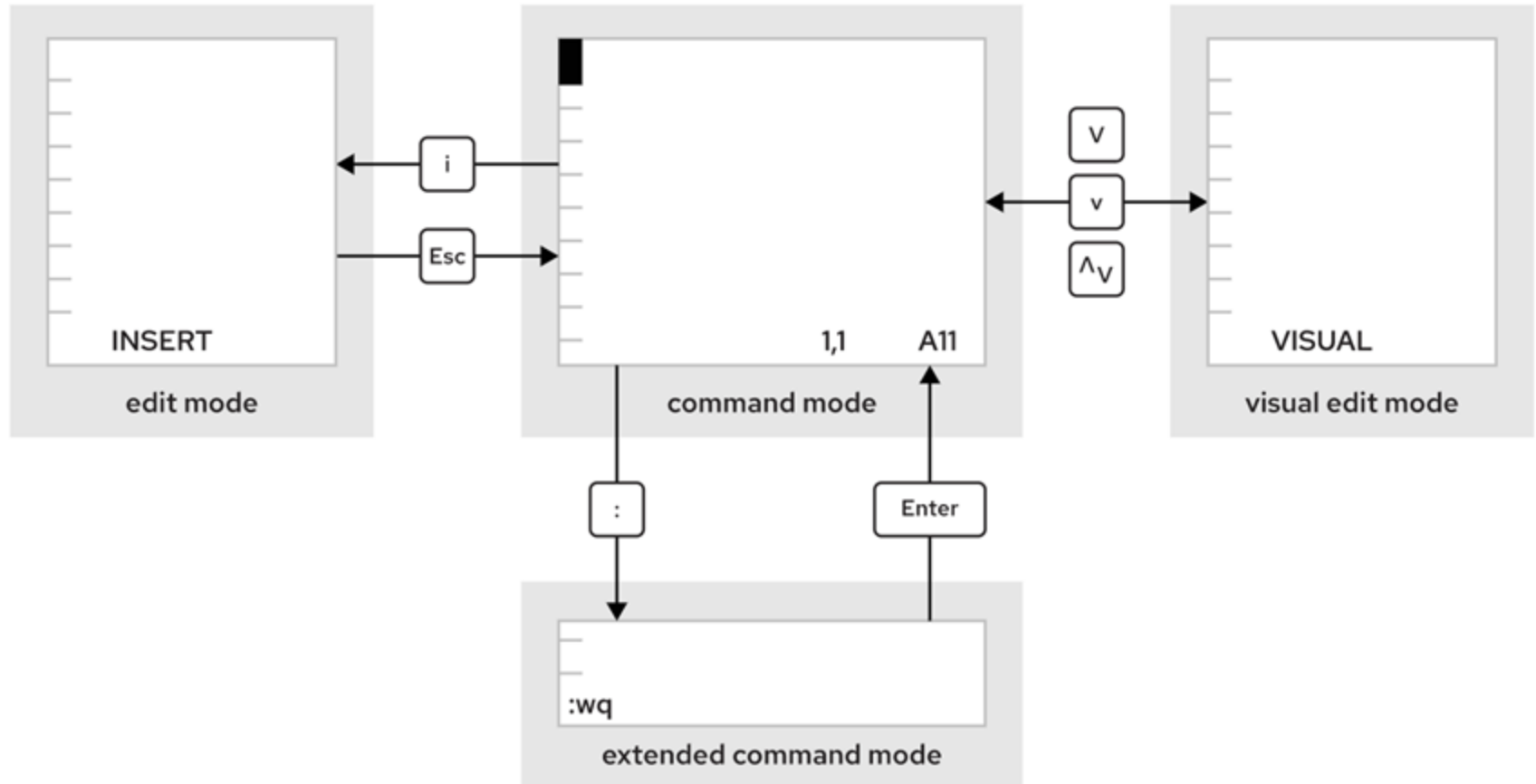- chapter 5: Create, View and Edit Text Files

Text editors

Text editors

- system admins have to change text files very often
- one can use an "editor" for this purpose
- e.g. in Windows you can use "notepad"
- but there is no graphical interface in Linux
- we will use VI as editor on Linux
    - it is always available on any UNIX system (since 1976)
    - works in a terminal
    - only uses keyboard, no mouse
    - is not easy to learn (steep learning curve)
    - we will use vim (VI-improved)

Vim Operating Modes

Exiting vim

- help! How do I get out of this???
  - ESC
  - :q!

Using vim

Command mode -> insert mode

    i   → insert before cursor

or more advanced

    I   → insert before line

    a → append after cursor

    A → append after line

    o → open a new line after current line

    O → open a new line before current line

Using vim

Insert mode -> command mode

    Esc → go to command mode

Arrow keys: h, j, k, l

Examples of commands:

x	→	delete char
dd	→	delete line
G	→	move to last line
1G	→	move to first line
/string →	search string	
n	→	repeat last search
u	→	undo

Extended command mode

Some commands in extended command mode

:w	→	save (write) file
:w *file*	→	save to file "*file*" (save as)
:wq	→	save file and quit
:x	→	save file and quit
:q	→	quit
:q!	→	quit without saving

Exercise

- go to the directory Documents in your home directory
- edit the file mytext with vim
- write in it:

  one
  two
  three
  four
  I want more!

  Tip: download a
  [vi cheat sheet](#)

- exit with:

  Esc :wq (or Esc :x)

- check: cat ~/Documents/mytext

Command mode: advanced

:%s/old/new/g → search and replace

USER FRIENDLY by Illiad

HI. I HAVE LINUX INSTALLED ON MY MACHINE BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW TO USE THIS 'SIX' EDITOR.

'SIX' EDITOR?

I'M SORRY M'AM, BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT EDITOR THIS IS THAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.

LOOK, IT'S THE 'SIX' EDITOR. YOU KNOW, THE ROMAN NUMERAL SIX?

UH, YOU MEAN 'VI'?

THIS IS THE SAME LADY WHO WAS WORRIED BECAUSE SHE HEARD WE USED "A PATCHY" WEB SERVER.

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Using vim: copy paste - yank and put

Esc   → go to command mode

Move cursor to position of text to copy

   v   →   Enter visual mode (or Ctrl-v)

Use cursor to select the text

   y   →   Copy the text

Move cursor to paste position

   p   →   Paste (put) the text

Learn **vim**

```
user@host: ~$ vimtutor
```

Exercises

Exercises

- KdG
  - ex0502
- RedHat
  - ch05s04