Programming Language Support — Emacs Lisp

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Keystroke</u> | Function | <u>Note</u> |
|--|---|--|--|
| Emacs Lisp Editing | To edit Emacs Lisp code, the Emacs Lisp major mode is normally used. Some of the key bindings listed in this table are available from all modes or some other modes (like the PEL key bindings highlighted with light green). Some other are context sensitive and only available for the Emacs Lisp major mode (like the PEL <f12> or <m-f12> key prefixes, which are highlighted in darker green). Those can also be accessed via the <f11> SPC 1 prefix. These are not all written in the following rows to save space.</f11></m-f12></f12> Some of the commands are meant to be used regardless of the mode, but were documented in this table because they are available everywhere, are essentially controlling or explicitly using the Emacs Lisp engine or environment in such a way so the user must be aware of Emacs Lisp and the available commands. These bindings coloured in violet. | | |
| Open this PDF file. See also: <u>▼ Help/Info</u> | <f11> SPC 1 <f1><f12> <f1></f1></f12></f1></f11> | (pel-help-pdf &optional OPEN-WEB-PAGE) | Open the local copy of the <u>\$\partial pi i - Emacs Lisp</u> PDF file unless a command prefix (like C-u) was used. In that case it opens the Github-hosted file instead. |
| ∑ Customize PEL ELisp support | <f11> SPC 1 <f2> <f12> <f2></f2></f12></f2></f11> | (pel-customize-pel &optional OTHER-WINDOW) | Customize PEL Elisp support. • If OTHER-WINDOW is non-nil (use C-u), display in another window. |
| <u>> Customize</u> Emacs Elisp support | <f11> SPC 1 <f3></f3></f11> | (pel-customize-library &optional OTHER-WINDOW) | Customize Emacs Elisp support: checkdoc, editing-basics, elint, eldoc, lispy. • If OTHER-WINDOW is non-nil (use C-u), display in another window. |
| Extra Modes | show-paren-mode, which<u>ParInfer</u> mode (with either | h highlights the parens that mai er ParInfer Indent Mode or Parir | e useful modes for Emacs Lisp editing, specially for helping dealing with parenthesis: tches the one before or after point. Infer Paren Mode) where the parenthesis or indentation is automatically inferred from the other. It is are highlighted with the same colour. |
| Toggle <u>Lispy</u> mode See also: <u>ֆետ</u> - Lispy | • <f11> SPC 1 M-L • <f12> M-L</f12></f11> | (lispy-mode &optional ARG) | Toggle lisp-mode on/off. Minor mode for navigating and editing LISP dialects. PEL downloads, installs and configure it when pel-use-lispy user option is set to t. Please read the information on lispy web site. PEL support is very basic. More to come to add keys for terminal mode. |
| Toggle show-paren mode on/off See also: <u>∑ Highlight</u> | • <f12> M-9 • <m-f12> M-9 • <f11> SPC 1 M-9 • <f11> b h (</f11></f11></m-f12></f12> | (show-paren-mode &optional ARG) | Toggle visualization of matching parens (Show Paren mode). With a prefix argument ARG, enable Show Paren mode if ARG is positive, and disable it otherwise. Show Paren mode is a global minor mode. When enabled, any matching parenthesis is highlighted in 'show-paren-style' after 'show-paren-delay' seconds of Emacs idle time. |
| Enable/Disable coloured highlight of nested blocks (),{},[] See also: <u>Neighlight</u> | • <f12> M-r • <m-f12> M-r • <f11> SPC 1 m R • <f11> b h R</f11></f11></m-f12></f12> | (rainbow-delimiters-mode &optional ARG) | Highlight nested parentheses, brackets, and braces with different colours according to their depth. • Customize the depth and colours with M-x customize-group rainbow-delimiters Requires: rainbow-delimiters.el PEL activates this when the pel-use-rainbow-delimiters user option is set to t. |
| Toggle Lisp Defined Symbol Highlight | • <f12> M-d • <m-f12> M-d • <f11> SPC 1 M-d</f11></m-f12></f12> | (highlight-defined-mode &optional ARG) | Minor mode for highlighting known Emacs Lisp functions and variables. • Toggle highlight defined mode on or off. With a prefix argument ARG, enable highlight defined mode if ARG is positive, and disable it otherwise. Mainly useful while editing Emacs Lisp source code files. • Requires: highlight-defined.el • PEL activates this when the pel-use-highlight-defined user option is set to t. |
| Toggle ParInfer mode on/off | • <f12> M-i • <m-f12> M-i • <f11> SPC 1 M-i</f11></m-f12></f12> | (parinfer-mode &optional ARG) | Toggle use of the ParInfer mode. In this mode parenthesis depth or indentation is automatically inferred. ⚠ Current implementation of ParInfer does not support hard tabs for indentation. It untabifies and replace them by spaces. Requires the parinfer package. PEL activates this when the pel-use-parinfer user option is set to t. |
| Toggle between ParInfer Indent Mode and Paren Mode | • <f12> M-I • <m-f12> M-I • <f11> SPC 1 M-I</f11></m-f12></f12> | (parinfer-toggle-mode) | Switch ParInfer mode between Indent Mode and Paren Mode. Requires the <u>parinfer</u> package. PEL activates this when the <u>pel-use-parinfer</u> user option is set to t . |
| | ⚠ Note that if the ParInfer mode is not active yet, and it enters ParInfer Indent Mode, the function checks the style of the current buffer and proceed vechanging the format after prompting when it finds code that does not conform to the promoted style. The 2 ParInfer modes are: ParInfer Indent Mode: Gives full control of indentation, while ParInfer corrects parens. Disables the rainbow-delimiter-mode if used, to show closing parens in light gray since they can change as code indentation is changed. ⚠ When changing to Indent Mode, ParInfer may correct the parentheses format if the code does not corresponds to the promoted style. ParInfer Paren Mode: Gives full control of parens, while ParInfer controls indentation. Activates rainbow-delimiters-mode if available, showing matching parens in same colors. Paren Mode can be used to fix incorrectly indented code before using Indent Mode. | | |
| Toggle between Lisp modes | • <f12> M-1 • <m-f12> M-1 • <f11> SPC 1 M-1</f11></m-f12></f12> | (pel-toggle-lisp-modes) | Toggle buffer's LISP mode: 'lisp-interaction-mode' <-> 'emacs-lisp-mode'. ➤ Useful if you want to use C-j to evaluate and print value of the sexp before point while editing an Emacs Lisp (.el) file: when editing .el file, Emacs is normally in emacs-lisp-mode where C-j is mapped to electric-newline-and-maybe-indent. Temporarily changing to lisp-interaction-mode maps C-j to eval-print-last-sexp. |
| Toggle semantic parser mode on/off | • <f12> M-s • <m-f12> M-s • <f11> SPC 1 M-s</f11></m-f12></f12> | (semantic-mode &optional ARG) | Toggle parser features (Semantic mode). With a prefix argument ARG, enable Semantic mode if ARG is positive, and disable it otherwise. If called from Lisp, enable Semantic mode if ARG is omitted or nil. In Semantic mode, Emacs parses the buffers you visit for their semantic content. |
| Toggle eldoc-mode Emacs Lisp Documentation Lookup Echo area display of the Lisp object at point. | • <f12> ? e • <m-f12> ? e • <f11> SPC 1 ? e</f11></m-f12></f12> | (eldoc-mode &optional ARG) | Toggle echo area display of Lisp objects at point (EIDoc mode). • With a prefix argument ARG, enable EIDoc mode if ARG is positive, and disable it otherwise. • EIDoc mode is a buffer-local minor mode. When enabled, the echo area displays information about a function or variable in the text where point is. • If point is on a documented variable, it displays the first line of that variable's doc string. • Otherwise it displays the argument list of the function called in the expression point is on. |
| Eldoc-box | The 2 following comm | mands requires the oldes how a | external package. 24 PEL activates this when the pel-use-eldoc-box user option is set to t. |
| Toggle eldoc-box at point | • <f12> ? b • <m-f12> ? b • <f11> SPC 1 ? b</f11></m-f12></f12> | (eldoc-box-hover-at-point- mode &optional ARG) | Toggle eldoc-box that displays eldoc text at point. • You can use C-g to hide the doc. • Only available in graphics mode. |
| Toggle <u>eldoc-box</u> on upper corner | • <f11> SPC 1 ? B • <f12> ? B • <m-f12> ? B • <f11> SPC 1 ? B</f11></m-f12></f12></f11> | (eldoc-box-hover-mode &optional ARG) | Displays hover documentations in a childframe. • The default position of childframe is upper corner. • Only available in graphics mode. |

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Keystroke</u> | Function | Note |
|---|---|---|---|
| Search Support | | | ince <u>snake case</u> is often used. Using superword-mode helps searching. sp mode. To change this use the <f11> t <f2></f2></f11> to access the customize buffer. |
| Toggle superword-mode | • <f11> t m p</f11> | (superword-mode &optional | Toggle superword-mode: a minor mode that treats snake case as one word. In Emacs Lisp '-' |
| See also: | • <f12> M-p</f12> | ARG) | and '_' are treated as part of words.With a prefix argument ARG, enable superword mode if ARG is positive, and disable it |
| • <u>∑ Text Modes</u> • <u>∑ Search/Replace</u> | | | otherwise. PEL provides the <f12> M-p key for the programming language modes where snake_case is popular (Emacs Lisp, C, C++, Erlang, Python, etc)</f12> |
| Load Control See also: <u>Nelp/Info</u> | Emacs finds files to load in | its load-path variable. You can | t: forms in files already loaded or whose names are associated wit a file to autoload. add a directory to the load-path with the following command and explicitly load a file with the the value of the load-path, statistics, and list shadowed files. |
| Add a directory to load- path | • <f12> D • <m-f12> D • <f11> SPC 1 D</f11></m-f12></f12> | (pel-add-dir-to-loadpath DIR) | Add a directory to Emacs variable 'load-path' if not already in the list. Interactively display the number of directories in the list and whether the operation succeeded or not. Use this when working in files path of packages that are not in your standard Emacs load-path. This is useful for testing when developing Emacs Lisp code. |
| Load Emacs Lisp file | • <f12> 1 f • <m-f12> 1 f • <f11> SPC 1 1 f</f11></m-f12></f12> | (load-file FILE) | Load the Emacs Lisp file named FILE. • Emacs prompts for the .el or .el.gz file name. |
| Load current Emacs List file | • <f12> 1 v • <m-f12> 1 v • <f11> SPC 1 1 v</f11></m-f12></f12> | (pel-load-visited-file &optional USE-ELC) | Load the Emacs Lisp file visited in the current buffer. By default load the source code file (the .el file). With any prefix argument, load the byte-compiled file instead. |
| Elisp Libraries | The commands below are u | used to find and load Emacs Lis | sp libraries |
| Load a Lisp library from load-path | • <f12> 1 L • <m-f12> 1 L • <f11> SPC 1 1 L</f11></m-f12></f12> | (load-library LIBRARY) | Load the Emacs Lisp library named LIBRARY. • Emacs prompts for LIBRARY, a string, identifying the Emacs Lisp file: no need for the path or the extension, the file is searched searched for in 'load-path', both with and without 'load-suffixes' (as well as 'load-file-rep-suffixes'). |
| Find and open Library file | • <f12> 1 1 • <m-f12> 1 1 • <f11> SPC 1 1 1</f11></m-f12></f12> | (find-library LIBRARY) | Find the Emacs Lisp source of LIBRARY. • Interactively, prompt for LIBRARY using the one at or near point. |
| Locate a library | • <f12> 1 c • <m-f12> 1 c • <f11> SPC 1 1 c</f11></m-f12></f12> | (locate-library LIBRARY &optional NOSUFFIX PATH INTERACTIVE-CALL) | Show the precise file name of Emacs library LIBRARY. LIBRARY should be a relative file name of the library, a string. It can omit the suffix (a.k.a. file-name extension) if NOSUFFIX is nil (which is the default, see below). This command searches the directories in 'load-path' like ' <f11> SPC 1 1 L' to find the file that '<f11> SPC 1 1 L RET LIBRARY RET' would load. Optional second arg NOSUFFIX non-nil means don't add suffixes 'load-suffixes' to the specified name LIBRARY.</f11></f11> |
| List available Emacs Lisp packages | • <f12> 1 p • <m-f12> 1 p • <f11> SPC 1 1 p</f11></m-f12></f12> | (package-list-packages &optional NO-FETCH) | Display a list of packages. This first fetches the updated list of packages before displaying, unless a prefix argument NO-FETCH is specified. The list is displayed in a buffer named '*Packages*', and includes the package's version, availability status, and a short description. |
| Emacs Lisp Evaluation | commands. Some of these ► This section shows the c | commands are bound to a key ommands (and their key binding | code written in C. Some of the functions can be used interactively; these functions are called or a combination of keys (called key bindings). gs) you can use to explicitly evaluate Emacs Lisp code. ailable in the emacs-lisp-mode and lisp-interaction-mode (the *scratch* buffer) except were noted. |
| Execute Emacs Command | M-x <command/> | (execute-extended- command PREFIXARG &optional COMMAND-NAME TYPED) | Read a command name, then read the arguments and call the command. To pass a prefix argument to the command you are invoking, use a <u>prefix argument</u> . |
| | | To see the list of available | ress <tab></tab> to perform completion and to list the names of the Emacs commands available. e commands, type M-x <tab> <tab></tab></tab> then press <tab></tab> again to scroll the (large) list. this command, type C-q or <esc> <esc></esc></esc> . |
| Read & eval mini buffer | M-: | (eval-expression EXP &optional INSERT-VALUE NO-TRUNCATE CHAR- PRINT-LIMIT) | Read a single Emacs Lisp expression in the mini buffer, evaluate it, and print the value in the echo area. |
| Eval sexp before cursor | С-х С-е | (eval-last-sexp EVAL-LAST- SEXP-ARG-INTERNAL) | Evaluate sexp before point; print value in the echo area. • Interactively, with a non '-' prefix argument, print output into current buffer: ie: C-u C-x C-e prints output to the current buffer. |
| Evaluate Lisp- Expression (defun) at | С-М-ж | (eval-defun EDEBUG-IT) | Evaluate the top-level form containing point, or after point. With a prefix argument (C - u), <u>instrument the code for Edebug</u> (see edebug section below). |
| point | lf the current defun i | on if there is one), even if the van an analogous way, evaluating | efcustom', evaluating it this way resets the variable using its initial value expression (using the triable already has some other value. (Normally 'defvar' and 'defcustom' do not alter the value if a 'defface' overrides any customizations of the face, so that it becomes defined exactly as the |
| Evaluate Lisp S- expression before point | C-j | (eval-print-last-sexp &optional EVAL-LAST-SEXP- ARG-INTERNAL) | Evaluate sexp before point; print value into current buffer. • For example, use this in the *Scratch* buffer: place the cursor after an expression and type C - j to evaluate the expression. Emacs evaluate, run the expression & prints the returned value. |
| | | 12> m L, (pel-toggle-lisp-mo | tion mode (the default mode of the *Scratch* buffer but not the default mode for editing Emacs bdes), to temporarily change mode and activate the binding in the .el file buffer. |
| Insert a new line | C-j | (electric-newline-and- maybe-indent) | Insert a newline. • This binding is in effect in the emacs-lisp-mode. |
| Eval all Emacs Lisp expressions in the buffer | • <f12> e b • <m-f12> e b • <f11> SPC 1 e b</f11></m-f12></f12> | (eval-buffer &optional BUFFER PRINTFLAG FILENAME UNIBYTE DO- ALLOW-PRINT) | Execute the accessible portion of current buffer as Lisp code. • You can use C-x n n (<u>narrowing</u>) to limit the part of buffer to be evaluated. • This function preserves the position of point. |
| Evaluate all Emacs Lisp expressions in region | • <f12> e r • <m-f12> e r • <f11> SPC l e r</f11></m-f12></f12> | (eval-region START END &optional PRINTFLAG READ-FUNCTION) | Execute the region as Lisp code. • This function preserves the position of point. |
| ELisp Shell | Use the Interactive Emacs I | Lisp Mode (ielm) shell to test va | rious Emacs Lisp forms. |
| Emacs Lisp shell | <f11> x i</f11> | (ielm) | Open the Interactive Emacs Lisp Mode buffer where you can interactively evaluate Emacs Lisp expressions, a REPL for Emacs Lisp. Mode:= inferior-emacs-lisp-mode. |
| See also: Shells | G ÷ | (iolm-cond input 9 ontions) | Switches to the buffer '*ielm*', or creates it if it does not exist. Evaluate the Emacs Lisp expression after the prompt. |
| Evaluate current line in ielm | C-j | (ielm-send-input &optional FOR-EFFECT) | Lyaidate the Linaus Lisp expression after the profilpt. |

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| Tempo skeletons for Emacs Lisp | PEL creates key bindings with the same key bindings | s to invoke the skeletons in the igs for equivalent concepts (suc | rough the Emacs built-in tempo skeleton mechanism. supported major modes, using the same key prefix sequence for each mode: <f12> <f12>, ch as file header block) as much as possible. e Style is controlled by the user options inside the pel-elisp-code-style group. This group can be</f12></f12> | | |
| See also: • <u>Naserting Text</u> for more info and information about tempo skeleton and yasnippet template- | edited with <f12> <f2> from an emacs-lisp wounder odde style is controlled by the dash options inside the per-elisp-code-style group. This group can be edited with <f12> <f2> from an emacs-lisp mode buffer and include the following options: • pel-elisp-skel-insert-file-timestamp • pel-elisp-skel-use-separators • pel-elisp-skel-package-name • pel-elisp-skel-with-license • pel-elisp-skel-with-license • set whether the package name is shown. • pel-elisp-skel-with-license • set whether file header blocks use open source software license text controlled by the dash options inside the per-elisp-code-style group. This group can be enabled by the dash options inside the per-elisp-code-style group. This group can be enabled by the dash options inside the per-elisp-code-style group. This group can be enabled by the dash options inside the per-elisp-code-style group. This group can be enabled by the dash options inside the per-elisp-code-style group. This group can be enabled by the dash options inside the per-elisp-code-style group. This group can be enabled by the dash options inside the per-elisp-code-style group. This group can be enabled by the dash options inside the per-elisp-code-style group. This group can be enabled by the dash options in the file header block.</f2></f12></f2></f12> | | | | |
| based text insertion). | take effect on a single file of want to change the behavior tempo templates for all files you to control the user option. Once a skeleton was just | or all files inside a directory tree, our for only one file, write the us is inside a directory tree create a ons affecting the format of the t t entered (or later by activating to | by using file and directory variables (see File/Directory Variables) they can also be used to So by default, the user options that control the PEL tempo template take effect globally. If you ser option control block at the end of that file. If you want to control the behaviour of the PEL a. dir-locals file and store the values of the relevant options variables inside that file. This allows tempo templates precisely and does not affect what you actually type. the pel-tempo-mode) you can move to the next or previous point of interest (so called tempo-and C-c M-b or some other keys like C-c and C-c, | | |
| Insert a file header | <f12> <f12> h</f12></f12> | (pel-elisp-file-header) | Insert a large header includes all normal header fields plus separators. | | |
| | required by customization block separators if required | n, package name, license text in red by customization and the file | or block with the file name, its purpose, setting lexical-binding, automatically updated timestamp if required by customization, commentary, dependencies and code sections possibly separated by e ending code. To you can move to the target points where extra text must be entered to complete the template. | | |
| Toggle pel-tempo-mode | <f12> <f12> SPC</f12></f12> | (pel-tempo-mode &optional ARG) | Toggle PEL tempo mode on/off. When active mode-line shows pel-tempo-mode lighter: ‡ | | |
| | second set are only availab | C-c . and C-c , as well as | s to C-c C and C-c C-, key bindings to navigate across tempo mark hot-spots. The s mode. the pel-rst commands, the pel-tempo-mode is automatically activated. | | |
| Jump to next tempo mark | • C-c M-f • C-c . • C-c C | (tempo-forward-mark) | Jump to the next mark in 'tempo-back-mark-list': the location where code must be updated inside the inserted skeleton. • These key key bindings are only available when pel-tempo-mode is active. | | |
| Jump to previous tempo mark | • C-c M-b • C-c , • C-c C-, | (tempo-backward-mark) | Jump to the previous mark in 'tempo-back-mark-list': the location where code must be updated inside the inserted skeleton. • These key binding are only available when pel-tempo-mode is active. | | |
| Tempo Template Tag Insertion | <f12> <f12> <f12></f12></f12></f12> | (tempo-complete-tag &optional SILENT) | Look for a tag and expand it. | | |
| | Instead of using the <f12> <f12> key bindings above, you can type the template name (shown in the title column like "if", "case", e partially and then hit <f12> <f12> <f12>. A completion buffer opens up if the template name is incomplete (or empty in which case to available template names). Select the template name and hit RET. Emacs expands the template. • All the tags in the tag lists in 'tempo-local-tags' (this includes 'tempo-tags') are searched for a match for the text before the point. The vertical match for is determined can be altered with the variable 'tempo-match-finder'. If 'tempo-match-finder' returns nil, then the results are the match at all. • If a single match is found, the corresponding template is expanded in place of the matching string. • If a partial completion or no match at all is found, and SILENT is non-nil, the function will give a signal. • If a partial completion is found and 'tempo-show-completion-buffer' is non-nil, a buffer containing possible completions is displayed. Since only one template is available in emac-lisp-mode, the usefulness of this command is limited here.</f12></f12></f12></f12></f12> | | | | |
| Help on code | The following command provides inline help about Emacs-Lisp function inline. See the <u>Nelp/Info</u> table for more commands you can use to get help about Emacs Lisp code and Emacs in general. | | | | |
| Describe function at point See Also: Metal Help/Info | • C-1 • <f12> 1</f12> | (lispy-describe-inline) | Display documentation for 'lispycurrent-function' inline. • If docstring is small enough it is displayed in a pop-up box above point. Otherwise it is displayed inside a 'lispy-help' buffer. • This requires the lispy external package. | | |
| • <u>PIM- Lispy</u> | | | the pel-use-lispy user option is set to t . | | |
| Code Completion & Spell Checking | Code auto completion and code completion available | | Emacs Lisp source code files. Spell checking should be restricted to comments and strings, and | | |
| Complete a partially typed word or Emacs Lisp symbol | • M- <tab> • C-M-i • C</tab> | (completion-at-point) | Perform completion on the text around point. The completion method is determined by 'completion-at-point-functions'. For Emacs Lisp code this is normally (tags-completion-at-point-function) which uses the tag facility to identify the choices, shown in a completion buffer. | | |
| See also: • ∑ Auto-Completion • ∑ Spell Checking | bound to (flyspell-aut (completion-at-point): • You can use <f11> \$</f11> | ected by Flyspell: when Flyspell to-correct-word) instead. How such that the completion of the F (flyspell-mode &optional AF | mode is active (either for the entire file or just for comment and strings) then the key chord is vever, when the command is issued inside code, then Flyspell invokes code completion function code is done the way it would be normally. RG) to activate Flyspell or <f11> \$ p (flyspell-prog-mode) to activate Flyspell but restrict it to hecking table for more information.</f11> | | |
| Enter/Leave Flyspell mode See also: Spell Checking | <f11> \$ F</f11> | (flyspell-mode &optional ARG) | Toggles the use of Flyspell mode. • Mode line shows "Fly" when Flyspell mode is active. • Flyspell mode works like word processors; misspelled words are highlighted. • Use Flyspell Prog mode for code; Flyspell processes all text. • With a prefix argument ARG, enable Flyspell mode if ARG is positive, and disable it otherwise. • Flyspell mode is a buffer-local minor mode. When enabled, it spawns a single ispell/aspell process and checks each word. The default flyspell behavior is to highlight incorrect words. | | |
| | | | n an Emacs Lisp file. However, if you activate it only for comments and strings with $$ \$ p, e the Flyspell mode completely with $$ \$ F. | | |
| Enter Flyspell Prog mode | <f11> \$ p</f11> | (flyspell-prog-mode) | Turn on Flyspell prog mode: turn on Flyspell but restricts it to comments and strings, do not spell check source code itself. Highlight misspellings only in comments or strings. | | |
| See also: Spell Checking | Note that the command always enables the flyspell-prog-mode, it does not toggle it. If you want to turn spell checking off, you must use the flyspell-mode command. To re-enable Flyspell Prog mode you then flyspell-prog-mode again. If a hook activates Flyspell Prog mode, you won't need this command. PEL provides 2 user options to identify which modes should automatically activate flyspell-mode and flyspell-prog-mode: pel-modes-activating-flyspell-prog-mode. | | | | |
| Semantic Editing | Several of the commands for editing Common Lisp code are also available for other modes and are described in the tables describing the generic Emacs commands (the pages with a title that begin with the character '\subsections'). These commands are repeated here for convenience; their keystroke cell is filled with a pale yellow colour. Several of them are described, with code examples, in the Common Lisp Cookbook - Using Emacs as a Lisp IDE page: this also mostly applies to Emacs Lisp code. | | | | |
| SemEd - Kill | , , | | | | |
| Kill next Lisp S- expression See also: • ∑ Cut & Paste | • C-M-k • <f11> -]</f11> | (kill-sexp &optional ARG) | No argument: kill the next sexp (or the current from the point forward). With negative sign: kill the previous sexp (the sexp backward). For example: MC-M-k kills the sexp backward. With numeric argument: kill that many sexp in the direction identified by the sign of the argument. | | |

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Keystroke</u> | Function | <u>Note</u> |
|---|--|---|---|
| Kill previous Lisp S- expression See also: | • C-M-⊠ • <f11> - [</f11> | (backward-kill-sexp &optional ARG) | Kill the sexp (balanced expression) preceding point. • With ARG, kill that many sexps before point. • Negative arg -N means kill N sexps after point. • This command assumes point is not in a string or comment. |
| • <u>S Cut & Paste</u> | | | ⚠ Note: In some text (like <u>The Common Lisp Cookbook - Using Emacs as a Lisp IDE</u>), the C-M- M- backspace> keystroke is being described to kill the previous sexp. This key does not seem to be used anymore. This key chord is normally not accessible in terminal mode as it would map to C-M-h instead. The C-M- Dinding only works in terminal mode. Since this key-chord is not the best match for the operation, use M C-M-k instead or use the PEL < £11> - [|
| Kill Lisp S-Expression at point See also: <u>▼ Cut & Paste</u> | <f11> - x</f11> | (pel-kill-sexp-at-point) | Kill the S-Expression at point. The point must be at the opening parenthesis or just after the closing parenthesis. |
| SemEd - Parentheses | | | arentheses (along with the semantic editing navigation commands listed above). equired: in that mode you can type the parentheses characters and that will perform the same. |
| Insert Parentheses | M- (| (insert-parentheses | Enclose following ARG sexps in parentheses. |
| (See also: \$\mathbb{P}\iff(Common \text{Lisp}) | | &optional ARG) | Leave point after open-paren. A negative ARG encloses the preceding ARG sexps instead. No argument is equivalent to zero: just insert '()' and leave point between. If 'parens-require-spaces' is non-nil, this command also inserts a space before and after, depending on the surrounding characters. For Lisp it's best to have this set to non-nil. If region is active, insert enclosing characters at region boundaries. This command assumes point is not in a string or comment. |
| Move past close ')' and reindent (See also: \$\mathbb{P}\iff Common Lisp) | M-) | (move-past-close-and- reindent) | Move past next ')', delete indentation before it, then indent after it. • Used to add another entry in the parent list. |
| SemEd - Mark | | | |
| Mark region by semantic unit, increase marked region on each invocation. | • M-= • <f11> . =</f11> | (er/expand-region ARG) | Increase selected region by semantic units. With prefix argument expands the region that many times. If prefix argument is negative calls 'er/contract-region'. If prefix argument is 0 it resets point and mark to their state before calling 'er/expand-region' for the first time. |
| ★Powerful command ★ See also: Narking | This command is very powerful: the first time it's typed it selects a word, if you type it again it will expand the selection, and again, and again. The expansions follow the semantics of the current major mode: it is aware of the semantics of several programming languages. ➤ Once M-= is typed, you can quickly type the following single keys in sequence: • = to expand the region, • o to contract the region, • 0 to reset the operation. If you wait too long, then you have to use M-= again to continue the expansion, otherwise the region is de-activated. Note that you can also use the following key chords to control the contraction of the selected text without having to worry about time: • M- M-= to contract the region • M-0 M-= to reset the operation. • Also you can use the cursor keys to expand or contract the region and C-x C-x to exchange mark and point to expand the other side of the region with cursors. ➤ This requires the expand-region package. ➤ Under PEL, activated with pel-use-expand-region user option. The PEL package uses this command and key binding for it, a popular binding for this command is C-= but that key does not work in text terminal mode. | | |
| mark function See also: <u>➤ Marking</u> | C-M-h | (mark-defun &optional ALLOW-EXTEND) | Put mark at end of this defun, point at beginning. The defun marked is the one that contains point or follows point. With positive ARG, mark this and that many next defuns; with negative ARG, change the direction of marking. If the mark is active, it marks the next or previous defun(s) after the one(s) already marked. |
| mark sexp and balanced expressions See also: ➤ Marking | • Esc C-@ • C-M-@ • C-M-SPC • <f11> . x</f11> | (mark-sexp &optional ARG ALLOW-EXTEND) | Set mark ARG sexps (and balanced expressions) from point. The place mark goes is the same place C-M-f would move to with the same argument. Interactively, if this command is repeated or (in Transient Mark mode) if the mark is active, it marks the next ARG sexps after the ones already marked. This command assumes point is not in a string or comment. |
| Navigation in Elisp | This current list below desc | ribe the specialized commands | s only. See the others inside <u>Navigation</u> |
| By definitions/xref | | | c at point. See ∑Xref for more information. |
| Find definition of identifier at point See also: Xref | М | (xref-find-definitions IDENTIFIER) | Grab symbol at point and move cursor to its definition. If there are more than one match, prompt in the *xref* buffer. To search for a symbol entered manually, type C-u M With dumb-jump this performs a search using ag, ripgrep or git grep if available. |
| Go back to where M was last issued | м-, | (xref-pop-marker-stack) | Pop back to where M was last invoked. Marker depth is controlled by the xref-marker-ring-length user option. |
| Find source code of function/variable at point | • <f12> . • <m-f12> . • <f11> SPC 1 .</f11></m-f12></f12> | (pel-find-thing-at-point) | Find source code of function or variable at point. • Open in current window unless a C-u prefix is supplied as IN-OTHER-WINDOW in which case it opens inside the other window. The M key, part of the cross-reference support, is better for most purpose and it allows going back to the original location, which this one doe but only via the mark ring. This command might be removed. TODO: more investigation needed. |
| To next/previous top- level forms | Move to beginning /end of S-expression forms. Jump over comments. Can be defun, defer, defconst, defmacros, free-from S-exp, etc The following 'beginning-of-defun' and 'end-of-defun' are standard Emacs commands. They have limitations: They only navigate across any top-level form. They do not discriminate between a defun, a defmacro or even an unless form or any other top-level form. They do not skip doc-strings unless you set open-paren-in-column-0-is-defun-start user option to ignore '(' in strings.) PEL provides an additional commands, complementing the standard Emacs commands: pel-beginning-of-next-defun which moves forward to the beginning of the next form pel-end-of-previous-defun which moves backward to the end of the previous top-level form | | |
| Change defun navigation functions (toggle between Emacs default and PEL's) | • <f12> M-N • <m-f12> M-N • <f11> SPC 1 M-N</f11></m-f12></f12> | (pel-toggle-paren-in- column-0-is-defun-start) | Toggle interpretation of a paren in column 0 and display new behaviour. • It toggles the standard Emacs `open-paren-in-column-0-is-defun-start' user option, between: • Interpret '(' in column 0 as always stating a defun (even in strings) - the default. • Ignore '(' in strings. A '(' in column 0 is not automatically interpreted as starting a defun. |
| | | | |

| Description | <u>Keystroke</u> | Function | <u>Note</u> | |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| Backward to beginning of defun See also: Navigation | • C-M-a • C-M- <home> • <f6> p • <f6> <up></up></f6></f6></home> | (beginning-of-defun &optional ARG) | Move backward to the beginning of a top-level form: function definition, macros, etc • With ARG, do it that many times. Negative ARG means move forward to the ARGth following beginning of defun. ► Shift marking is available in graphics mode, not in terminal mode (for C-M-a and C-M- | |
| | This causes this funct The behaviour can be | ion to stop at function definition changed by setting the open-p | cter in the first column as a defun. in inside strings. caren-in-column-0-is-defun-start user option to nil. defun-start to toggle that user option. You can also change it dynamically with <£12> M-N. | |
| Forward to end of defun See also: <u>Navigation</u> | • C-M-e • C-M- <end> • <f6> <right> • <f12> <right></right></f12></right></f6></end> | (end-of-defun &optional ARG) | Move forward to next end of defun. With argument, do it that many times. Negative argument -N means move back to Nth preceding end of defun. ►Shift marking is available in graphics mode, not in terminal mode (for C-M-e and C-M- <end>). However <f6> <right> and <f12> <right> handle Shift-marking fine in terminal mode. ↑ This command moves to the end of the next top-level function or class.</right></f12></right></f6></end> | |
| Forward to start of next top-level form | • <f6> n • <f6> <down></down></f6></f6> | (pel-beginning-of-next- defun & optional SILENT DONT-PUSH_MARK) | Move forward to the beginning of the next top-level form: function definition, macros, etc • Beeps if does not find beginning of next function unless SILENT is non-nil. • If the beginning of next function is found, push the start location to the mark ring unless DONT-PUSH_MARK is non-nil. • Move back to previous position with M−ˆ. ⇒Shift marking is available with <f6> <down></down></f6> | |
| | It also complements we ditors expect. By default Emacs treats This causes this funct The behaviour can be | what end-of-defun does. It most all opening parenthesis charaction to stop at function definition changed by setting the open-parenthesis. | to the beginning of the next top-level form. The boundary of the next top-level form. The boundary of the function definition, which is often what users of other content of the first column as a defun. The first c | |
| Backward to end of previous defun | • <f6> <left> • <f12> <left></left></f12></left></f6> | (pel-end-of-previous-defun &optional SILENT DONT- PUSH_MARK) | Move backwards to the end of the previous top-level form. • Beeps if does not find end of previous function unless SILENT is non-nil. • If the end of previous function is found, push the start location to the mark ring unless DONT-PUSH_MARK is non-nil. • Move back to previous position with M−ˆ. ⇒ Shift marking is available. d This command complements this set of 4 commands. | |
| To next/previous selected S-expression form or defun or ** | Move to beginning /end of specified S-expression forms. Jump over comments and docstrings. Can be defun, defer, defconst, defmacros, free-from S-exp, groups of them, etc PEL provides the following powerful comands: pel-elisp-beginning-of-next-form and pel-elisp-beginning-of-previous-forms. Their behaviour depends on the value of the pel-elisp-target-forms, pel-elisp-user-specified-targets and pel-elisp-user-specified-targets2 user-options, as well as their corresponding global or buffer-local values if they exist. The user options give you the ability to select the type of targets. You can either select the standard behaviour (target the top level forms), or use one of the other 6 types of targets. These include moving to top-level defun form, to any defun form, to defun, defmacro, defsubst, defalias, defadvice forms, to include the eieio forms, the variable definition forms or specify you own set of forms (and those can include the require and provide forms). More information is available in the docstring of these user options. When your buffer is using the Emacs-Lisp major mode, use the <f12> <f2> key sequence to open the relevant customization buffer which will allow you to see and change the persistent or current session settings. PEL also provides specialized version of these commands: pel-elisp-beginning-of-next-defun which moves to the beginning of next defun, nothing else,</f2></f12> | | | |
| Change target of <f12> <up> and <f12> <down> commands ★★</down></f12></up></f12> | <pre>• pel-elisp-beginning- • <f12> M-n • <m-f12> M-n • <f11> SPC 1 M-n</f11></m-f12></f12></pre> | of-previous-defun which move (pel-elisp-set-navigate-target-form & optional GLOBALLY) | Select form navigation behaviour. Select the behaviour of the following navigation functions: 'pel-elisp-beginning-of-next-form' and 'pel-elisp-beginning-of-previous-form'. This modifies the value of the 'pel-elisp-target-forms' user-option only for the current buffer unless the GLOBALLY argument is non-nil, in which case it modifies the behaviour for all buffers. The change in behaviour does not persist across Emacs sessions. If you want your change to persist, open the customization buffer with <f12> <f2>, modify the value of the pel-elisp-target-forms, pel-elisp-user-specified-targets and pel-elisp-user-specified-targets2 user-options and save the customize buffer.</f2></f12> | |
| Forward to start of next definition form Configurable target: all top-level forms top-level defun all defun all defun, defsubst, defmacros, all variable definition | • <f12> <down> • <f11> SPC 1</f11></down></f12> | (pel-elisp-beginning-of- next-form & optional N TARGET SILENT DONT- PUSH-MARK) | Move point forward to the beginning of next N top-level form. • The search is controlled by the value of 'pel-elisp-target-forms' pel-elisp-user-specified-targets and pel-elisp-user-specified-targets2 user options. That value can be changed for the current session, for all buffers or only for the current buffer by the command 'pel-elisp-set-navigate-target-form', bound to <f12> M−n. It can also be specified by the TARGET argument: specify one of the symbols valid for 'pel-elisp-target-forms'. • The function skips over forms inside docstrings. • If no valid form is found, don't move point, issue an error describing the failure unless SILENT is non-nil, in which case the function returns nil on error and non-nil on success. • On success, push original position on the mark ring unless DONT-PUSH-MARK is non-nil. • Move back to previous position with M−`. ⇒ Shift marking is available with <f12> <down></down></f12></f12> | |
| forms: defvar, defconst, defcustom, defgroup, • etc | This command is the most flexible and can be configured to move like the next 2 commands. It moves forward but to the beginning of the function definition, which is often what users of other editors expect. By default Emacs treats all opening parenthesis character in the first column as a defun: these are top-level forms. You can change the behaviour: for example, to move to next define or any group of top-level or indented definition forms like defsubst, defmacro, defvar, etc The behaviour is customizable (use <f12> <f2> then select the pel-sexp-form-navigation group to access the relevant user-options: pel-elisp-target-forms', 'pel-elisp-user-specified-targets' and 'pel-elisp-user-specified-targets2'. The customization can be saved and then become persistent across Emacs sessions. You can also control the values of these 2 user-options for all buffers or for each buffer separately: You can change the values of these variables for a specific buffer or all buffers not yet configured by using the <f12> M-n command. It's possible to set up a buffer to use the <f12> <down> key sequence to move to the next defun only or any top-level form, or some other selection or s-expression forms. Or define your own selection in pel-elisp-user-specified-targets and 'pel-elisp-user-specified-targets2' user-options, then activate them only for a buffer with <f12> M-n 7 key sequence.</f12></down></f12></f12></f2></f12> | | | |
| Forward to beginning of next defun form | • <f12> <m-down> • <f12> f n • <m-f12> f n • <f11> SPC l f n</f11></m-f12></f12></m-down></f12> | (pel-elisp-beginning-of- next-defun &optional N) | Move point to the beginning of the next defun form, whether it is top-level or indented. • The function skips over forms inside docstrings. • On success, push original position on the mark ring unless DONT-PUSH-MARK is non-nil. • Move back to previous position with M→` • ■ This uses pel-elisp-beginning-of-next-form specifying 'defun-forms as target type. → Shift marking is available with <f12> <m-down></m-down></f12> | |

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Keystroke</u> | Function | Note |
|---|--|--|--|
| Backward to start of previous definition form | • <f12> <up> • <f11> SPC 1 <up></up></f11></up></f12> | (pel-elisp-beginning-of- previous-form &optional N | Move point backward to the beginning of previous N top-level form. • The search is controlled by the value of 'pel-elisp-target-forms' user option. That value can |
| ** | _ | TARGET SILENT DONT- PUSH-MARK) | be changed for the current session, for all buffers or only for the current buffer by the command 'pel-elisp-set-navigate-target-form', bound to <f12> M-n. It can also be specified</f12> |
| Configurable target: | | | by the TARGET argument: specify one of the symbols valid for 'pel-elisp-target-forms'. • The function skips over forms inside docstrings. |
| all top-level forms top-level defun | | | If no valid form is found, don't move point, issue an error describing the failure unless SILENT is non-nil, in which case the function returns nil on error and non-nil on success. |
| all defun all defun, defsubst, | | | On success, push original position on the mark ring unless DONT-PUSH-MARK is non-nil. Move back to previous position with M-`. |
| defmacros, • all variable definition | | | ➡ Shift marking is available <f12> <up></up></f12> |
| forms: defvar, defconst, defcustom, | _ | • | ed to move like the next 2 commands. on definition, which is often what users of other editors expect. |
| defgroup, • etc | | | oter in the first column as a defun: these are top-level forms. |
| | defvar, etc | • | to next define or any group of top-level or indented definition forms like defsubst, defmacro, hen select the pel-sexp-form-navigation group to access the relevant user-options: pel-elisp- |
| | | lisp-user-specified-targets' a | nd 'pel-elisp-user-specified-targets2'. The customization can be saved and then become |
| | You can also control to | he values of these 2 user-option | ns for all buffers or for each buffer separately: specific buffer or all buffers not yet configured by using the <f12> M-n command.</f12> |
| | | up a buffer to use the <f12> <</f12> | <up>key sequence to move to the previous defun only or any top-level form, or some other</up> |
| | Or define your own | | ecified-targets and 'pel-elisp-user-specified-targets2' user-options, then activate them only for |
| | | • • | arge numeric argument to force a failure: the error message shows # instances found. |
| Backward to beginning of previous defun form | • <f12> <m-up></m-up></f12> | (pel-elisp-beginning-of- previous-defun &optional N) | Move point to the beginning of the previous defun form, whether it is top-level or indented. • The function skips over forms inside docstrings. |
| or progrous defuit form | • <f12> f p • <m-f12> f p</m-f12></f12> | ριστισμο-μεταιτ αυριτοπαι Ν) | On success, push original position on the mark ring unless DONT-PUSH-MARK is non-nil. Move back to previous position with M— \(^1\). |
| | • <f11> SPC 1 f p</f11> | | Whose back to previous position with M = . Uses pel-elisp-beginning-of-previous-form specifying 'defun-forms as target type. |
| . By C Evergosian form | Mayo seresa forma (S. ayan | receione in Lion) | Shift marking is available with <f12> <m-up></m-up></f12> |
| By S-Expression formBy List element | Move across forms (S-exprMove backward to the b | essions in Lisp). | of a S-expression form |
| Backward block/list | С-М-р | (backward-list &optional | Move backward across one balanced group of parentheses. |
| See also: Navigation | | ARG) | This command will also work on other parentheses-like expressions defined by the current language mode. With ADC do it that approximate. |
| | | | With ARG, do it that many times. Negative arg -N means move forward across N groups of parentheses. This command assumes point is not in a string or comment. |
| | | | • C-M-p : ► Shift marking is available in graphics mode, not in terminal mode. |
| Move block backward | • C-M-b • C-M- <left></left> | (backward-sexp &optional ARG) | Move backward across one balanced expression (sexp). • With ARG, do it that many times. Negative arg -N means move forward across N balanced |
| See also: Navigation | • C-[C-b • Esc C-b | , | expressions. This command assumes point is not in a string or comment. • C-M-b : Shift marking is available in graphics mode, not in terminal mode. |
| (CLCB s1.lisp) | • Esc C- <left> !</left> | | • C-M- <left> : ► Shift marking works with this command. • C-M-<left> does not work on Windows, but H-<left> works.</left></left></left> |
| | ! With PEL: if you want t | o use Esc C-<left></left> bindin | g you must ensure that pel-windmove-on-esc-cursor user option is set to nil. |
| | Several Linux distros m | ap C-M-<left></left> to desktop v | workspace operation. In that case you can either use another key binding or change Linux key |
| Forward block/list | C-M-n | (forward-list &optional ARG) | event it from using that key sequence. Move forward across one balanced group of parentheses. |
| See also: Navigation | | | This command will also work on other parentheses-like expressions defined by the current language mode. |
| | | | With ARG, do it that many times. Negative arg -N means move backward across N groups of parentheses. |
| | | | This command assumes point is not in a string or comment. C-M-n : Shift marking is available in graphics mode, not in terminal mode. |
| Move block forward | • C-M-f | (forward-sexp &optional | Move forward across one balanced expression (sexp). |
| See also: | • C-M- <right> • C-[C-f</right> | ARG) | With ARG, do it that many times. Negative arg -N means move backward across N balanced expressions. This command assumes point is not in a string or comment. |
| • <u>∑ Navigation</u> • (CLCB s1.lisp) | • Esc C-f • Esc C- <right>!</right> | | C-M-f : Shift marking is available in graphics mode, not in terminal mode. C-M-<right> : Shift marking works with this command.</right> |
| | - | | ❖ C-M- <right> does not work on Windows, but H-<right> does.</right></right> |
| | l <u> </u> | | ing you must ensure that pel-windmove-on-esc-cursor user option is set to nil. o workspace operation. In that case you can either use another key binding or change Linux key |
| | binding in Systems->setting | gs->keyboard->shortcuts to pre | event it from using that key sequence. |
| in/out of lists Backward Up/outside | Move in and out of list no C-M-u | (backward-up-list &optional | Move backward out of one level of parentheses. |
| sexp hierarchy | • C-M- <up></up> | ARG ESCAPE-STRINGS NO-SYNTAX-CROSSING) | This command will also work on other parentheses-like expressions defined by the current language mode. With ARG, do this that many times. A negative argument means move |
| See also: • » Navigation | • Esc C-u | | forward but still to a less deep spot. • • • • • • • • • • |
| • (CLCB s1.lisp) | • Esc C- <up> .</up> | | on-esc-cursor user option is set to nil. |
| | | | C-M-u : ► Shift marking is available in graphics mode, not in terminal mode. C-M-<up>: ► Shift marking works with this command.</up> |
| Forward Up/outside | C M 1 | (un-list &ontional APC | C-M- <up> does not work on Windows, but H-<up> does. Move forward out of one level of parentheses.</up></up> |
| sexp hierarchy | C-M-] | (up-list &optional ARG ESCAPE-STRINGS NO- SYNTAX-CROSSING) | Move forward out of one level of parentheses. This command will also work on other parentheses-like expressions defined by the current language mode. |
| See also: Navigation | | SYNTAX-CROSSING) | language mode. With ARG, do this that many times. A negative argument means move backward but still to a less deep spot. |
| | | | If ESCAPE-STRINGS is non-nil (as it is interactively), move out of enclosing strings as well. If NO-SYNTAX-CROSSING is non-nil (as it is interactively), prefer to break out of any enclosing |
| | | | string instead of moving to the start of a list broken across multiple strings. On error, location of point is unspecified. |
| | | | c. positivo anoposinos. |

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Keystroke</u> | Function | <u>Note</u> |
|---|---|--|--|
| Forward Down/inside | • C-M-d | (down-list &optional ARG) | Move forward down one level of parentheses. |
| sexp/block | • C-M- <down></down> | | This command will also work on other parentheses-like expressions defined by the current language mode. |
| See also: Navigation | • Esc C-d | | With ARG, do this that many times. A negative argument means move backward but still go down a level. |
| (CLCB s1.lisp) | • Esc C- <down> !</down> | | This command assumes point is not in a string or comment. This command assumes point is not in a string or comment. This command assumes point is not in a string or comment. |
| | | | ! With PEL: if you want to use Esc C-<down> binding you must ensure that pel-windmove-on-esc-cursor user option is set to nil.</down> |
| | | | • c-м-d :► Shift marking is available in graphics mode, not in terminal mode. |
| | | | • C-M- <down> : ► Shift marking works with this command. • C-M-<down> does not work on Windows, but H-<down> does.</down></down></down> |
| By sentences | | | re. matches ends of sentences. Useful in comments. In code it moves to the beginning or end of a |
| Move to beginning of sentence or form | м-а | (backward-sentence &optional ARG) | Move backward to start of sentence. With arg, do it arg times. Shift marking works with this command. |
| Move forward to end of | м-е | (forward-sentence | Move forward to next end of sentence. With argument, repeat. |
| sentence or form | | &optional ARG) | With negative argument, move backward repeatedly to start of sentence. Shift marking works with this command. |
| SemEd - Indenting | lisp-indent-function . | mmon Lisp code differ from the | e ones for Emacs Lisp. The indentation is controlled by a function bound to the Emacs variable |
| Indent current line (or region) | <tab></tab> | (indent-for-tab-command &optional ARG) | Indent the current line or region, or insert a tab, as appropriate. |
| | actually indent the line of a prefix argument is given | rinsert a tab is given by the var | he current line or inserts a tab, it also rigidly indents the entire balanced expression which starts at |
| | In most major modes, if personal the same position relative | point was in the current line's in to the text. | identation, it is moved to the first non-whitespace character after indenting; otherwise it stays at active, this function instead calls 'indent-region'. In this case, any prefix argument is ignored. |
| Indent lines of list after | C-M-q | (indent-pp-sexp &optional | Indent each line of the list starting just after point, or pretty-print it. |
| point See also: <u>∑ Indentation</u> | C-m-q | ARG) | A prefix argument (C-u) specifies pretty-printing. Pretty-printing essentially uses more lines as it places the beginning of each list on a new line. |
| Untabify and re-indent complete buffer with | • <f12> i • <m-f12> i</m-f12></f12> | (parinfer-auto-fix) | Untabify whole buffer then reindent whole buffer. Requires the parinfer package. |
| ParInfer | • <f11> SPC 1 i</f11> | | PEL activates this when the pel-use-parinfer user option is set to t . |
| Disabling/Enabling Commands | Some Emacs commands (li or disable commands using | | isabled by default because they might be confusing for new Emacs users. Its possible to enable |
| Enable a command | | (enable-command | Allow COMMAND to be executed without special confirmation from now on. COMMAND must be |
| | | COMMAND) | a symbol. This command alters the user's .emacs file so that this will apply to future sessions. It adds a (put 'COMMAND 'disabled t) inside the emacs init file. |
| Disable a command | | (disable-command COMMAND) | Require special confirmation to execute COMMAND from now on. COMMAND must be a symbol. This command alters your init file so that this choice applies to future sessions. It adds a (put 'COMMAND 'disabled nil) inside the emacs init file. |
| Code Analysis | The commands below are u | used to analyze the Emacs Lisp | o code. |
| Check validity of | • <f12>)</f12> | (check-parens) | Check for unbalanced parentheses in the current buffer. |
| parentheses (or quotes, braces, brackets) (See also: \$\mathbb{B}\tau\$ Common Lisp) | • <m-f12>) • <f12> a) • <m-f12> a) • <f11> SPC l a)</f11></m-f12></f12></m-f12> | | More accurately, check the narrowed part of the buffer for unbalanced expressions ("sexps") in general. This is done according to the current syntax table and will find unbalanced brackets or quotes as appropriate. (See Info node '(emacs)Parentheses'.) If imbalance is found, an error is signaled and point is left at the first unbalanced character. |
| ELint the code in current | • <f12> a b</f12> | (pel-lint-elisp-file) | Run lint on Emacs Lisp file in current buffer. |
| buffer | • <m-f12> a b • <f11> SPC 1 a b</f11></m-f12> | | This uses Elint. This will open all Emacs Lisp files referred by the current file (via calls such as require calls) but also the files used by Emacs, to complete the lint analysis. |
| Analyze the style and documentation of code | • <f12> a d • <m-f12> a d</m-f12></f12> | (checkdoc) | Interactively check the entire buffer for style errors. • The current status of the check will be displayed in a buffer which the users will view as each |
| in current buffer | • <f11> SPC 1 a d</f11> | | the current status of the creek will be displayed in a build willow the displayed in a build willow the displayed in a build will will we was each check is completed. When errors are detected the analysis pauses and the user can enter recursive edit mode to correct the current style error and then resume the analysis by exiting the recursive edit with C-M-c. |
| ELint a specific Emacs Lisp file. | • <f12> a f • <m-f12> a f • <f11> SPC l a f</f11></m-f12></f12> | (elint-file FILE) | Lint the file FILE. • Emacs prompts for the file name. |
| ParInfer EDiff | • <f12> a D</f12> | (parinfer-diff) | Diff current code and the code after applying Indent Mode in Ediff. |
| Diff current code before/.after ParInfer | • <m-f12> a D • <f11> SPC 1 a D</f11></m-f12> | | Use this to browse and apply the changes. Requires the parinfer package. |
| modifications See also: Diff & Merge | | | PEL activates this when the pel-use-parinfer user option is set to t . |
| | The macrostep package pr | ovides the macrostep-expand of | command that expands the macro code in the buffer (temporary turning buffer in read-only mode). |
| Macro Expansion | _ | | , activated with <i>pel-use-macrostep</i> user option. |
| Expand macro form code with macrostep | • <f12> M-m • <m-f12> M-m • <f11> SPC 1 M-m</f11></m-f12></f12> | (macrostep-expand &optional TOGGLE- SEPARATE-BUFFER) | Expand the macro form following point by one step. Enters 'macrostep-mode' if it is not already active, making the buffer temporarily read-only. If macrostep-mode is active and the form following point is not a macro form, search forward in the buffer and expand the next macro form found, if any. With a prefix argument, the expansion is displayed in a separate buffer instead of inline in the current buffer. Setting 'macrostep-expand-in-separate-buffer' to non-nil swaps these two behaviors. |
| macrostep-mode keys | | | with c , and move back and forth with n and p . |
| | | expansions to quit and return | |
| | key b | inding | key binding |
| | | acrostep-expand acrostep-collapse | <pre>q macrostep-collapse-all u macrostep-collapse</pre> |
| | e m | acrostep-expand acrostep-next-macro | DEL macrostep-collapse C-c C-c macrostep-collapse-all |
| | | acrostep-prev-macro | C-M-i macrostep-prev-macro |

| <u>Description</u> | Keystroke | Function | <u>Note</u> | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| Compiling | | | p source code into byte code (.elc files) and navigate across the byte-compilation errors. When lso click on the error links or type return on them to move point to the code error location. | | |
| Byte-compile file in current buffer | • <f12> c b • <m-f12> c b • <f11> SPC 1 c b</f11></m-f12></f12> | (pel-byte-compile-file-and-load) | Byte compile and load the current elisp file. | | |
| Byte-compile complete directory of Emacs Lisp files | • <f12> c d • <m-f12> c d • <f11> SPC l c d</f11></m-f12></f12> | (byte-recompile-directory DIRECTORY & optional ARG FORCE) | Recompile every '.el' file in DIRECTORY that needs recompilation. This happens when a '.elc' file exists but is older than the '.el' file. Files in subdirectories of DIRECTORY are processed also. It's possible to specify the first argument interactively (but not the second): If the '.elc' file does not exist, normally this function *does not* compile the corresponding '.el' file. However, if the prefix argument ARG is 0, that means do compile all those files. A nonzero ARG means ask the user, for each such '.el' file, whether to compile it. A nonzero ARG also means ask about each subdirectory before scanning it. If the third argument FORCE is non-nil, recompile every '.el' file that already has a '.elc' file. If you upgrade or change version of Emacs you may want to byte recompile all files even if the .elc files exist and are newer than their corresponding .el file. In that case you must delete the .elc files first and then use the C-u 0 prefix. | | |
| Byte compile specified Emacs Lisp file | • <f12> c f • <m-f12> c f • <f11> SPC l c f</f11></m-f12></f12> | (byte-compile-file FILENAME &optional LOAD) | Compile a file of Lisp code named FILENAME into a file of byte code. • Emacs prompts for the filename. • The output file's name is generated by passing FILENAME to the function 'byte-compile-dest-file' (which see). • With prefix arg (noninteractively: 2nd arg), LOAD the file after compiling. | | |
| Move to next compile error | • C-x ` • M-g n • M-g M-n | (next-error &optional ARG RESET) | A prefix ARG specifies how many error messages to move; • negative means move back to previous error messages. • Just C-u as a prefix means reparse the error message buffer and start at the first error. 1 This only shows the result of compilations; it does not report Flycheck reported errors. To use it you must byte-compile the file first. | | |
| Move to previous compile error | • M-g p • M-g M-p | (previous-error &optional N) | Prefix arg N says how many error messages to move backwards (or forwards, if negative). This only shows the result of compilations; it does not report Flycheck reported errors. To use it you must byte-compile the file first. | | |
| Disassemble a function | • <f12> c a • <m-f12> c a • <f11> SPC l c a</f11></m-f12></f12> | (disassemble OBJECT &optional BUFFER INDENT INTERACTIVE-P) | Print disassembled code for OBJECT in (optional) BUFFER. Prompts for object, normally a function. Supports tab completion. OBJECT can be a symbol defined as a function, or a function itself (a lambda expression or a compiled-function object). If OBJECT is not already compiled, we compile it, but do not redefine OBJECT if it is a symbol. | | |
| Debugging Emacs Lisp | 1. debug: built in Emacs, | Emacs comes with 2 debuggers: 1. debug: built in Emacs, always available, uses the *Backtrace* buffer to show backtrace of execution. 2. edebug: source level debugger, shows the execution right inside the source code buffer. | | | |
| Debug | There are several ways to debug using debug: Instrument the code by placing a (debug) call acting as breakpoints into the code to inspect. Use the commands listed below to invoke or schedule the invocation of the debugger, or kill the Emacs process externally with: pkill -sigus2 -i emacs which toggles debug-on-quit when Emacs is hung. Debugger customization user option variables that control the debugger behaviour: Non-nil means enter debugger if an error is signalled. Does not apply to errors handled by 'condition-case' or those matched by 'debug-ignored-errors'. If the value is a list, an error only means to enter the debugger if one of its condition symbols appears in the list. When you evaluate an expression interactively, this variable is temporarily non-nil if 'eval-expression-debug-on-error' is non-nil. The command 'toggle-debug-on-error' toggles this. debug-on-next-call: Non-nil means enter debugger before next 'eval', 'apply' or 'funcall'. debug-on-quit: Non-nil means enter debugger if quit is signaled (C-g, for example). Does not apply if quit is handled by a 'condition-case'. inhibit-debugger: Non-nil means never enter the debugger. Non-nil means never enter the debugger. | | | | |
| Identify function to debug | • <f12> d d • <m-f12> d d • <f11> SPC 1 d d</f11></m-f12></f12> | (debug-on-entry FUNCTION) | Request FUNCTION to invoke debugger each time it is called. • When called interactively, prompt for FUNCTION in the minibuffer. • This works by modifying the definition of FUNCTION. If you tell the debugger to continue, FUNCTION's execution proceeds. If FUNCTION is a normal function or a macro written in Lisp, you can also step through its execution. FUNCTION can also be a primitive that is not a special form, in which case stepping is not possible. Break-on-entry for primitive functions only works when that function is called from Lisp. • Use M-x cancel-debug-on-entry to cancel the effect of this command. • Redefining FUNCTION also cancels it. | | |
| Cancel debugging of function | • <f12> d D • <m-f12> d D • <f11> SPC l d D</f11></m-f12></f12> | (cancel-debug-on-entry &optional FUNCTION) | Cancel the debugging of specified function: undo effect of M-x debug-on-entry on FUNCTION. If FUNCTION is nil, cancel debug-on-entry for all functions. When called interactively, prompt for FUNCTION in the minibuffer. To specify a nil argument interactively, exit with an empty minibuffer. | | |
| Activate/disable debugger on error | • <f12> d ! • <m-f12> d ! • <f11> SPC l d !</f11></m-f12></f12> | (toggle-debug-on-error &optional INTERACTIVELY) | Toggle whether to enter Lisp debugger when an error is signaled. • In an interactive call, record this option as a candidate for saving by "Save Options" in Custom buffers. | | |
| Activate/disable debugger on quit | • <f12> d) • <m-f12> d) • <f11> SPC 1 d)</f11></m-f12></f12> | (toggle-debug-on-quit &optional INTERACTIVELY) | Toggle whether to enter Lisp debugger when C-g is pressed. • In an interactive call, record this option as a candidate for saving by "Save Options" in Custom buffers. | | |
| Debugger *Backtrace* buffer commands | When the debugger is invoked, a *Backtrace* buffer window opens which displays the Lisp stack. Each line represents a function call, the most recent at the top. With it it is possible to view pending Lisp expressions, check the value of variables and force functions to return specified values. The mode accepts the commands listed below. Step through the debugger using d Use c to skip over an evaluation Use e to evaluate a variable of interest in the concept of the code, or: hit RET with the cursor over the variable to evaluate it Sexp can be evaluating within the calling context. Provide a sexp to evaluate to function debug, showing the value when the debugger is opened. | | | | |
| Step through | đ | (debugger-step-through) | Proceed, stepping through subexpressions of this expression. Enter another debugger on next entry to eval, apply or funcall. | | |
| Continue | С | (debugger-continue) | Continue code execution - leave the debugger. This is not available when the debugger was invoked because of an error. | | |
| Jump | j | (debugger-jump) | Continue to exit from this frame, with all debug-on-entry suspended. | | |
| Show/Hide variable | v | (debugger-toggle-locals) | Show or hide local variables of the current stack frame. | | |
| Evaluate expression | е | (debugger-eval-expression EXP &optional NFRAME) | Eval an expression, in an environment like that outside the debugger. The environment used is the one when entering the activation frame at point. | | |

| Description | <u>Keystroke</u> | Function | <u>Note</u> |
|--|---|---|--|
| Display and Record | R | (debugger-record- | Display a variable's value and record it in '*Backtrace-record*' buffer. |
| expression | | expression EXP) | |
| Return value | r | (debugger-return-value VAL) | Continue, specifying value to return. This is only useful when the value returned from the debugger will be used, such as in a debug on exit from a frame. |
| Debug frame | b | (debugger-frame) | Request entry to debugger when this frame exits. • Applies to the frame whose line point is on in the backtrace. • Break when returning from current function, continuing execution for the body of the function. |
| Cancel Debug frame | u | (debugger-frame-clear) | Do not enter debugger when this frame exits. • Applies to the frame whose line point is on in the backtrace. |
| Quit | q | (top-level) | Quit the debugger. Abort pending operation. Close the window and return point to previous location. |
| List functions that have debug on entry | d | (debugger-list-functions) | Display a list of all the functions now set to debug on entry. |
| <u>EDebug</u> | where the break point is loc | cated. | Emacs Lisp source code. It shows more than the stack frame, putting a cursor in the source code op at all and gather execution coverage and frequency data. |
| | where EDebug stops at a where EDebug is active) are show in black). | a breakpoint the key binding of are shown in coral color. Sor | the EDebug commands that can only be used within the buffer currently in edebug-mode (ie. ne of the commands can also be issued from other buffers with different key bindings (and those its mode line shows *Debugging* right beside the major mode. |
| Instrumenting for Edebug | Put point within or It is also possible to (edebug-all-forms). | o instrument all definitions in a lition from the function definition | ne debugger to step into: and type one of C-u C-M-x or \approx . buffer and even all forms in a buffer. Options must be activated for that using (edebug-all-defs) or , simply re-evaluate the function definition with a command that does not instrument it, like eval- |
| Instrument most forms | C-u C-M-x | (eval-defun EDEBUG-IT) | Evaluate the top-level form containing point or after point and instrument for debugging if |
| for Edebug (with variable controlling | | | EDEBUG-IT is non-nil (which occurs when the C-u prefix argument is used). • The very first time (eval-defun t) is executed it loads edebug.el and advise eval-defun to |
| behaviour) | | (edebug-eval-defun | edebug-eval-defun. The following variables provide extra control: |
| | | EDEBUG-IT) | If edebug-all-defs is non-nil, that inverts the meaning of the prefix argument: in that case C- |
| | | | M-x instruments the definition unless it has a prefix argument. Its default is nil. If edebug-all-defs is non-nil, then the commands eval-region, eval-current-buffer and eval- |
| | | | buffer also instrument any definition they evaluate. If edebug-all-forms control whether eval-region should instrument any form, even non- |
| | | | defining forms. This does not apply to loading or evaluation in the minibuffer. |
| Toggle instrumenting for EDebugging of all definitions | | (edebug-all-defs) | Toggle edebugging of all definitions that could be done by eval-region, eval-current-buffer and eval-buffer. |
| Toggle instrumenting for EDebugging of all forms | | (edebug-all-forms) | Toggle edebugging of all forms. |
| Instrument top level form (always) for | • <f12> d e • <m-f12> d e</m-f12></f12> | (edebug-defun) | Evaluate the top level form point is in, stepping through with Edebug. |
| Edebug | • <f11> SPC 1 d e</f11> | | This is like 'eval-defun' except that it steps the code for Edebug before evaluating it. It displays the value in the echo area using 'eval-expression' (which see). If you do this on a function definition such as a defun or defmacro, it defines the function and instruments its definition for Edebug, so it will do Edebug stepping when called later. It displays 'Edebug: FUNCTION' in the echo area to indicate that FUNCTION is now instrumented for Edebug. If the current defun is actually a call to 'defvar' or 'defcustom', evaluating it this way resets the variable using its initial value expression even if the variable already has some other value. (Normally 'defvar' and 'defcustom' do not alter the value if there already is one.) Instruments any top level form regardless of the value of edebug-all-defs and edebug-all-forms. edebug-defun is an alias for edebug-eval-top-level-form. |
| Instrument one more | I | (edebug-instrument-callee) | Instrument the definition of the function or macro about to be called (just after point). |
| definition | | | This command is only available when EDebug is active. Do this when stopped before the form or it will be too late. One side effect of using this command is that the next time the function or macro is called, Edebug will be called there as well. If the callee is a generic function, Edebug will instrument all the methods, not just the one which is about to be called. Return the list of symbols which were instrumented. |
| EDebug Help | Once EDebug is active, use | ? to get help: a description of | all available commands is listed on the Help buffer. |
| Help | ? | (edebug-help) | Describe 'edebug-mode'. Print the list of available Edebug commands inside a Help buffer. |
| | | · · · · · | <u> </u> |
| Modes Modes | Once function(s) are instrumented, simply execute the code you want to debug. Once the debugger has reached a breakpoint Emacs enter the edebug-mode and the commands listed below are available. A quick overview, taken from the edebug.el source code state: Step through the code with SPC, Mark breakpoint with b, Go until a breakpoint is reached with g, Quit execution with q. Use? to to describe other commands. | | |
| | | | n modes (EDebug ways of operating — not related to the concept of Emacs minor/major modes). why or stop sooner than the commands later in the list. |
| <u>Stop</u> | S | (edebug-stop) | Stop execution and do not continue. • Useful for exiting from trace or continue loop. |
| <u>Step</u> | • SPC • C-c C-s • C-x C-a C-s | (edebug-step-mode) | Proceed to next stop point. |
| | • C-x C-a C-s • C-x X SPC | | |
| Next | • n • C-c C-n • C-x C-a C-n | (edebug-next-mode) | Proceed to next 'after' stop point. |
| Trace | • t • C-x X t | (edebug-trace-mode) | Begin trace mode: pause (normally 1 second) at each EDebug stop point. Pauses for 'edebug-sit-for-seconds' at each stop point. The trace can be interrupted by any key (like a navigation key or one of the EDebug command keys). |
| Trace Fast | • T • C-x X T | (edebug-Trace-fast-mode) | Trace with no wait at each step. Updates the display at each stop point, but does not pause. The trace can be interrupted by any key (like a navigation key or one of the EDebug command keys). |
| | | | Ω |

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Keystroke</u> | Function | <u>Note</u> |
|---|--|--|--|
| Go | • g • C-x X g | (edebug-go-mode ARG) | Go, evaluating until break: run until next breakpoint. • With prefix ARG, set temporary break at current point and go. |
| Continue | • C • C-x X C | (edebug-continue-mode) | Begin continue mode: pause one second at each breakpoint and then continue. • Pauses for 'edebug-sit-for-seconds' at each break point. |
| Continue Fast | • C • C-x X C | (edebug-Continue-fast-mode) | Trace with no wait at each step. • Updates the display at each break point, but does not pause. |
| Go Nonstop | • G • C-x X G | (edebug-Go-nonstop- mode) | Go, evaluating without debugging (ignoring the breakpoints). • You can also use 'edebug-stop', or any editing command, to stop. |
| Controlling EDebug Execution Mode | | This is controlled by the value of | it encounters. It can also be configured to stop only at the first breakpoint or never (useful for of the edebug-initial-mode. The possible values are: |
| Change initial execution mode. | • C-x C-a RET • C-x C-a C-m | (edebug-set-initial-mode) | Set the initial execution mode of Edebug. The mode is requested via the key that would be used to set the mode in edebug-mode. This command prompts for the execution mode key, one of the single letters commands listed in the section above: SPC, n, t, T, g, c, C or G. |
| Edebug Jumping | temporary breakpoint for th | e intended destination. The cods display "Break" and pause for | e specified location (or reach another breakpoint before). Except for step in they all create a ammands, can, however, fail in case of nonlocal exit, bypassing reaching the temporary breakpoint. or edebug-sit-for-seconds before showing the result of the form just evaluated. Setting this |
| Jump forward sexp | f | (edebug-forward-sexp ARG) | Proceed from the current point to the end of the ARGth sexp ahead. • If there is no Arg, jump forward 1 sexp • If there are not ARG sexps ahead, then do 'edebug-step-out'. ▶ If point is not located where the next step is, you can type w to move point there, before typing f. ⚠ Note that you must ensure that execution will go to the specified number of sexp, as it may not be the case if there are any conditional forms in the path. |
| Jump: step in | i | (edebug-step-in) | Step into the definition of the function, macro or method about to be called. • This first does 'edebug-instrument-callee' to ensure that it is instrumented. Then it does 'edebug-on-entry' and switches to 'go' mode. • Once you step in a function with i it remains instrumented and will cause a stop upon future execution within the same Edebug session. To prevent this, simply re-evaluate the definition of that function to deinstrument it. |
| Jump: step out | 0 | (edebug-step-out) | Proceed from the current point to the end of the containing sexp. If there is no containing sexp that is not the top level defun, go to the end of the last sexp, or if that is the same point, then step. If the containing sexp is a function definition, this command continues until just before the last sexp in the definition. If it is already there, it returns from the function then stops. Essentially this command does not exit the currently executing function unless point is already positioned after its last sexp. |
| Goto here | h | (edebug-goto-here) | Proceed to first stop-point at or after current position of point. Use this to execute up until a specific point (such as inside a specific condition) to see if execution gets there or when running a loop to see a specific value. This does not set any breakpoint, so if you want to run again up to this location you can type h again on the same location. |
| EDebug Breakpoints | it reaches a breakpoint on a global break cond on an explicit source b | (which can be set and unset wind the can be set and unset wind the can be set and unset wind the can be set and unset with the | before and after each form inside an instrumented function), th the following first 3 commands) a stored inside the edebug-global-break-expression (using the X command below) anside the source code. The source code of the source code of the source code of the source code. |
| Set breakpoint | • b • C-x SPC • C-x X b | (edebug-set-breakpoint ARG) | Set the breakpoint of nearest sexp. • With prefix argument, make it a temporary breakpoint (it's turned off the first time it stops execution). • This can be done at any time when Edebug is active |
| Unset breakpoint | • u • C-c C-d • C-x X u | (edebug-unset-breakpoint) | Clear the breakpoint of nearest sexp. |
| Set conditional breakpoint | • x • C-x X x | (edebug-set-conditional- breakpoint ARG CONDITION) | Set a conditional breakpoint at nearest sexp. • Emacs prompts for a condition. • The condition is evaluated in the outside context. • With prefix argument, make it a temporary breakpoint (it's turned off the first time it stops execution). |
| Move point to next breakpoint in current definition | В | (edebug-next-breakpoint) | Move point to the next breakpoint, or first if none past point. |
| Set global break condition | • X • C-x X X | (edebug-set-global-break- condition EXPRESSION) | Set 'edebug-global-break-condition' to EXPRESSION. The expression is tested at every stop point: if the result is non-nil, then break. Errors are ignored. This slows down execution, so if not needed set it to nil (the default). |
| Edebug Views | | mands can be used to view asp the code being debugged cont | pects of the Emacs buffer and windows status as they were before entry to EDebug. trols windows and buffers. |
| View where am I | • W • C-C C-1 • C-x C-a C-1 • C-x X W | (edebug-where) | Show the debug windows and where we stopped in the program. This command is also used in the context of the Edebug Evaluation List buffer (see below) with the same behaviour. |
| Bounce to current point | p | (edebug-bounce-point ARG) | Bounce the point in the outside current buffer. • If prefix argument ARG is supplied, sit for that many seconds before returning. The default is one second. |
| View outside window | • P • V | (edebug-view-outside) | Change to the outside window configuration. • Use 'edebug-where' to return. |
| Toggle save windows | • W • C-x X W | (edebug-toggle-save- windows ARG) | Toggle the saving and restoring of windows. With prefix, toggle for just the selected window. Otherwise, toggle for all windows. |
| | | | |

| Description | <u>Keystroke</u> | Function | <u>Note</u> |
|---|---|---|--|
| Evaluation in | When Emacs is in Edebug r | mode you can use the following | g commands to evaluate expression within the "outside context", the context of the program |
| Edebug | being debugged, as oppose would not want it to be affe | ed to the context of EDebug its cted by the operations you per | self (with some limitations — see the link). For instance when you evaluate an expression, you formed during EDebug mode (liek the commands you issued). So EDebug saves some and n you evaluate an expression with the following commands. |
| Eval Expression | е | (edebug-eval-expression EXPR) | Evaluate an expression in the outside context. If interactive, prompt for the expression. Print result in minibuffer. |
| Eval Last S-exp | С-х С-е | (edebug-eval-last-sexp) | Evaluate sexp before point in the outside context. • Print value in minibuffer. |
| Evaluate Expression in mini-buffer | M-: | (eval-expression EXP &optional INSERT-VALUE NO-TRUNCATE CHAR- PRINT-LIMIT) | Read a single Emacs Lisp expression in the mini buffer, evaluate it, and print the value in the echo area. • During EDebug session, this is done in the outside context. |
| EDebug Evaluation List Buffer — evaluation watcher | When in edebug-mode you can use the E command to open a *edebug* buffer window where you can evaluate expression interactively within the "outside context" with the C-j and C-x C-e command just as you can in the *scratch* buffer. The only difference is that these are are EDebug specialized command and they use EDebug "outside context". • When debugging you may want to watch the value of some variables or expressions. Write these expressions inside the *edebug* buffer, in groups of 3 lines using the following layout but by creating them by writing the expression in the first line, evaluating it with C-j and then completing it with C-c C-u You can repeat the operation several times with different expressions. The *edebug* buffer should contain 1 or several groups of 3 lines: • line 1: the expression under scrutiny • line 2: its value (you may use C-j the first time around to get the value • line 3: a Lisp comment (you may want to insert it yourself if the value is several lines. No need to add dashes (C-c C-u will do it). • Once this is setup, return to the "program under test" with C-c C-w and continue the debugging (or tracing). You can the watch the expression changing values as execution of the "program under test" unfolds! | | |
| Visit Eval List buffer | E | (edebug-visit-eval-list) | Switch to the evaluation list buffer "*edebug*". |
| Evaluate expression before point & insert value | C-j | (edebug-eval-print-last- sexp) | Evaluate sexp before point in outside environment; insert value. This prints the value into current buffer. |
| Evaluate expression before point and print value in mini buffer | С-ж С-е | (edebug-eval-last-sexp) | Evaluate sexp before point in the outside environment. • Print value in minibuffer. |
| Update the value of a watch group | C-c C-u | (edebug-update-eval-list) | Replace the evaluation list with the sexps now in the eval buffer. |
| Delete a watch group | C-c C-d | (edebug-delete-eval-item) | Delete the item under point and redisplay. |
| Return to the debugger | C-c C-w | (edebug-where) | Return to the the debug windows, where we stopped in the program. |
| Edobug Traco Buffor | By default during debuggin | a nothing is stored in the trace | buffer. To log execution of the stop points during debugging in the *debug-trace* buffer, set the |
| Edebug Trace Buffer | | | -trace function in your code to trace information during execution of code even if Edebug is not |
| Explicit call to trace | | (edebug-trace FMT &rest ARGS) | Convenience call to 'edebug-trace-display' using 'edebug-trace-buffer'. This is not an Emacs command; it's function you can use in your code to force an explicit trace log. |
| EDebug Coverage Testing Support | Each form is considered co This must be enabled by se | tting the edebug-test-coverag | erent values since the beginning of testing. |
| Display Freq Count | C-x X = | (edebug-display-freq- count) | Display the frequency count data for each line of the current definition. The frequency counts are inserted as comment lines after each line, and you can undo all insertions with one 'undo' command. The counts are inserted starting under the '(' before an expression or the ')' after an expression, or on the last char of a symbol. The counts are only displayed when they differ from previous counts on the same line. If coverage is being tested, whenever all known results of an expression are 'eq', the char '=' will be appended after the count for that expression. Note that this is always the case for an expression only evaluated once. To clear the frequency count and coverage data for a definition, reinstrument it. |
| Other Edebug commands | The following commands as | re available stop EDebug or vie | w results that were printed in the minibuffer. |
| Abort | • a • C-] • C-x X a | (abort-recursive-edit) | Abort the command that requested this recursive edit or minibuffer input. |
| Quit to top level | • q • C-x X q | (top-level) | Exit all recursive editing levels. However, instrumented code protected with <u>unwind-protect</u> or <u>condition-case</u> forms may resume debugging. • This also exits all active minibuffers. |
| Quit Nonstop | • Q • C-x X Q | (edebug-top-level-nonstop) | Set mode to Go-nonstop, and exit to top-level: don't stop even for protected code. • This is useful for exiting even if 'unwind-protect' code may be executed. |
| Previous result | r | (edebug-previous-result) | Print the previous result. |
| Show Backtrace | đ | (edebug-backtrace) | Display a backtrace that is just a list of function calls. This is not a complete backtrace like you get with the debug system. But, as documented it is "Better than nothing" |
| <u>Profiler</u> | Emacs has a built-in profiler that can be started with the command below and a command to stop it and get a report. No instrumentation is required to use this standard profiler. Workflow: 1. Start profiler with: M-x profiler-start 2. Execute code that must be profiled 3. Open the report with: M-x profiler-report 4. Stop the profiler with: M-x stop-profiler 5. To reset all data before profiling again: M-x profiler-reset | | |
| Start the profiler | | (profiler-start MODE) | Start/restart profilers. • MODE can be one of 'cpu', 'mem', or 'cpu+mem'. • If MODE is 'cpu' or 'cpu+mem', time-based profiler will be started. • Also, if MODE is 'mem' or 'cpu+mem', then memory profiler will be started. |
| Open profiler report. | | (profiler-report) | Report profiling results. The report is opened in a *XX-Profiler-Report Date Time* buffer where the XX corresponds to the mode selected when the profiler was started, and the Data and Time correspond to the date/time of the report. The report looks like a outline tree with values and percentage to help identify what consumes the most. |
| Stop the profiler | | (profiler-stop) | Stop started profilers. Profiler logs will be kept. |
| Reset the profiler | | (profiler-reset) | Reset profiler logs. |
| Open profile file | | (profiler-find-profile | Open profile FILENAME. |
| | | FILENAME) | · · |

| Description | <u>Keystroke</u> | Function | <u>Note</u> | |
|--|--|---|--|--|
| ELProfiler | A separate profiler was written by <u>Barry Warsaw</u> : elp. The ELP package provides several functions to instrument code for profiling. This profiler is much more flexible but code must be instrumented and you must identify what functions to profile (with the elp-instrument- functions). You can also identify a "master" function: the profiler will only capture data during the execution of that function. There can be only one master function. To use the profiler, select the functions to instrument by using one of the tree elp-instrument- functions. This profiler allows you to concentrate on specific functions and ignore the remainder of Emacs. ELProfiler customization user option variables: • elp-reset-after-results: controls whether information is reset after display: • Non-nil means reset all profiling info after results are displayed. • Results are displayed with the 'elp-results' command. • elp-use-standard-output: control profiler output: • If non-nil, output to 'standard-output' instead of a buffer. • elp-sort-by-function: control report ordering: • Non-nil specifies ELP results sorting function. These functions are currently available: • 'elp-sort-by-call-count' sort by the highest call count • 'elp-sort-by-call-count' sort by the highest total time • 'elp-sort-by-average-time' sort by the highest average times • You can write your own sort function. It should adhere to the interface specified by the PREDICATE argument for 'sort'. Each "element of LIST" is really a 4-element vector where: • element 0 is the call count, | | | |
| | element 2 is the average | al time spent in the function, erage time spent in the functior e symbol's name string. | ٦, | |
| Instrument all functions in a package | a. a 3.30 6 8 1. | (elp-instrument-package PREFIX) | Instrument for profiling, all functions which start with PREFIX. • For example, to instrument all ELP functions, do the following: | |
| | | | M-x elp-instrument-package RET elp- RET | |
| Instrument a function | | (elp-instrument-function FUNSYM) | Instrument FUNSYM for profiling. • FUNSYM must be a symbol of a defined function. | |
| Instrument a set of functions provided in a list | | (elp-instrument-list &optional LIST) | Instrument, for profiling, all functions in 'elp-function-list'. • Use optional LIST if provided instead. • If called interactively, prompt for LIST in the minibuffer; type "nil" to use 'elp-function-list'. | |
| Set the profile master function | | (elp-set-master FUNSYM) | Set the master function for profiling. This is not required, but if done it forces the profiler to only gather profiling data for the functions called during the execution of that master function. Useful when there's a need to profile the execution of a given function tree under a specific condition. | |
| Stop using a master function | | (elp-unset-master) | Unset the master function. | |
| Remove the instrumentation in all instrumented functions | | (elp-restore-all) | Restore the original definitions of all functions being profiled. | |
| Remove instrumentation in a function | | (elp-restore-function FUNSYM) | Restore an instrumented function to its original definition. • Argument FUNSYM is the symbol of a defined function. | |
| Remove instrumentation in a set of functions provided in a list | | (elp-restore-list &optional LIST) | Restore the original definitions for all functions in 'elp-function-list'. • Use optional LIST if provided instead. | |
| After profiling, display the results | | (elp-results) | Display current profiling results. • If 'elp-reset-after-results' is non-nil, then current profiling information for all instrumented functions is reset after results are displayed. | |
| Reset profiling information for all instrumented functions | | (elp-reset-all) | Reset the profiling information for all functions being profiled. | |
| Reset profiling information for specific function | | (elp-reset-function FUNSYM) | Reset the profiling information for FUNSYM. | |
| Reset profiling information for the list of specified functions | | (elp-reset-list &optional LIST) | Reset the profiling information for all functions in 'elp-function-list'. • Use optional LIST if provided instead. | |
| ESUP - Emacs Start Up Profiler | startup. ESUP profiles Em | acs startup time by launching a rnal package. 🛂 PEL activates | acs startup only: code called from the init.el file. Very useful to find what is slowing down Emacs on a new Emacs process from Emacs and examining all code executed at startup. It is it when the pel-use-esup customization variable is set to t. It is perfectly to the pel-use of the pel-us | |
| Profile Emacs startup code | <f11> ? e P</f11> | (esup &optional INIT-FILE &rest ARGS) | Profile the startup time of Emacs in the background. If INIT-FILE is non-nil, profile that instead of USER-INIT-FILE. ARGS is a list of extra command line arguments to pass to Emacs. | |
| | of a file but not if they are e | enclosed in any other statement | ports Emacs running in graphics mode. 2) esup steps into `require' and `load' forms at the top level ts. This limits its usefulness when conditional loading is located in the init.el file and when the use-used by PEL to reduce init time. | |
| Render markup in comments | | | specific markup code embedded inside Emacs Lisp source code comments. This can be useful grams or finite-state machines for example. | |
| Preview UML diagram from plantUML source in current plantUML region of commented source | <f12> u</f12> | (pel-render-commented- plantuml PREFIX &optional POS) | Render the PlantUML markup embedded in current mode comment. Requires the <u>plantuml-mode</u> external package, activated by <u>pel-use-plantuml</u> user option being non-nil. | |
| code See also: M PlantUML | Use region if identified otherwise use PlantUML block at point. Uses prefix (as PREFIX) to choose where to display it: 4 (when prefixing the command with C-u) -> new window 16 (when prefixing the command with C-u C-u) -> new frame. else -> new buffer This can be used inside buffer using any major mode, when PlantUML markup is embedded inside source code comment. Use this in source code to describe your code architecture with PlantUML markup, then generate the UML rendering by moving point inside the PlantUML block and issuing this command. | | | |
| Preview diagram created from Graphviz DOT markup embedded in comments | <f12> G</f12> | (pel-render-commented- graphviz-dot &optional POS) | Render the Graphviz-Dot markup embedded in current mode comment. • Search at POS if specified, otherwise search around point. • Use region if identified otherwise use Graphviz-Dot block. Fragmental Package (activated by pel-use- | |
| See also: • M Graphviz Dot | graphviz-dot user option set to t. The graphviz DOT code must be located within a block delimited by the following special keywords (that are also in comments): @start-gdot @end-gdot The current implementation leaves the created image file in a temporary directory. You will probably want to move that file or delete it, otherwise the size of this directory will increase with each of these created files. The file names use the pel-gdot- prefix. | | | |

Emacs Lisp — Reference

| Topic & link | Description |
|---|---|
| Books | |
| Writing GNU Emacs Extensions - O'Reilly by Bob Glickstein, July 2010 | A good book that provides insight on how to use the various facilities to write good Emacs Lisp code. Emacs has evolved since the book was written but almost everything in the book still applies as of Emacs version 26. |
| Lisp Style | |
| Lisp Indentation Style @ Wikipedia | The Lisp Style is shown for some Common Lisp code but also applied to C and happens to be also very similar to the Python style (although in Python the blocks are simply indented; no parens character is used). |
| Lisp Editing - Parenthesis Highlighting | Several Emacs packages have been written to help highlight the parens. Emacs packages and modes include show-paren-mode, <u>rainbow-delimiters</u> and <u>paren-face</u> . PEL uses show-paren-mode and rainbow-delimiters |
| show-paren mode @ Emacs Manual | The paren.el is part of Emacs and implements the show-paren mode, which highlights the parens that matches the one before or after point. |
| rainbow-delimiters @ GitHub | The rainbow-delimiters mode allows colouring rareness according to their depth. When Emacs is used in Graphics mode it's also possible to assign different sizes as shown by Xah Lee in the ErgoEmacs Colored Nested Brackets page. The EmacsWiki Rainbow Delimiters page describes how to setup hooks that activate the mode automatically for some files. |
| paren-face @ GitHub | Defines a face named parenthesis used for the parentheses character, with the intention of dimming the parentheses to help show the real structure of Lisp code via indentation. The parinfer mode does something similar (if dims the closing parentheses). |
| Lisp Editing - Parenthesis Management | Several Emacs packages have been written to help the editing process. These include the following listed packages: adjust-parens, lispy, paredit, paxedit, parinfer, smartparens and probably several others. |
| Lisp Editing @ WikEmacs | This WikEmacs page describes several of those packages with editing scenarios |
| Parinfer | The parinfer package provides modes that infer the parenthesis. |
| ParInfer Documentation | The documentation allows live interaction |
| ParInfer Mode Implementation for Emacs (in Emacs Lisp) Highlighting Emacs Lisp Code | Emacs Lisp code for ParInfer for Emacs. Describes how to install and configure ParInfer. The default emacs-lisp-mode highlights the Emacs Lisp code available in the buffer. Emacs Lisp is a |
| | Lisp-2; so a symbol can be a variable and/or a function: each symbol has a link to variable definition, function definition and a property alist. Furthermore, there are different <i>kind</i> of functions: lambda, compiled-byte functions (autoloaded or not), macros (autoloaded or not), primitive (written in C), special forms (primitive written in C that treat the list differently). And there can be indirection and advices. There's also variation in the "kind" of variables: there's global variables, local variables, closures, etc The standard highlighting does not show all of this information; the designers considered that it would be too distracting; just some of the information is available via highlighting. Some have different views and developed modes that highlight Emacs Lisp code differently. These modes are listed here. |
| highlight-defined @ MELPA | The highlight-defined package provides the highlight-defined-mode, a minor mode that highlights defined symbols. It has the ability to highlights differently different "kind" of function symbols. Unfortunately it does not consider the semantic of the code enough in the selection of the highlighting. For example if you define a macro named while-n, the face you specify for macros won't be used for code that invokes the macro in a macro call form, however it will use that face if you specify a symbol like 'while-n in any list position except the first one. That mean it will be highlighted in the argument list (but not if the symbol is the first argument). I would prefer highlighting to follow the code semantics, and perhaps have a customization option to colonize the arguments & variables that use the same name as functions. It might be difficult to do this in a minor mode. I'll have to investigate more. |
| The Emacs Lisp Mode Syntax Coloring Problem — Xah Lee | Xah Lee describes the problem he saw in the colouring. He tried to request changes to the Emacs developers, create a bug report and that was closed. So he wrote his own code. It's a new major mode: xah-elisp-mode @ MELPA |
| Debugging Emacs Lisp | |
| An Introduction to Programming in Emacs Lisp - Debugging | A gentle introduction/overview of debugging Emacs Lisp with both <u>debug</u> and <u>edebug</u> , with examples. |
| GNU Emacs Lisp Manual: Debugging Lisp Programs | Extensive description of both <u>debug</u> and <u>edebug</u> . |
| How to debug elisp? @ stackOverflow | A discussion on debugging Emacs Lisp for a very quick oveview. Contribution from Drew Adams, Trey Jackson and Artur Malabarba. |
| Debugging Basics - Nic Ferrier's Youtube video | A 11 minute video showing a simple debugging session with <u>edebug</u> . Aside from the keyboard noise I find annoying, this video gives a good introduction of what can be done with EDebug, and also covers debugging of macros using <u>macrostep</u> to expand the macro before debugging to be able to see the execution inside the macro code. |
| Profiling Emacs Lisp | |
| GNU Emacs Lisp Manual: Profiling | Brief description of the built-in profiler and the elp package. |
| EmacsWiki - Emacs Native Profiler | List more functions than the GNU manual |
| EmacsWiki - Emacs Lisp Profiler | Better description of the elp profiler. |
| Test Coverage Interesting Emacs Lisp Libraries / Files | The following describe useful Emacs Lisp libraries that might be useful writing more Emacs Lisp code. |
| memoize.el — Chris Wellons Elisp Memoize @ null program | Provides function and macros to memoize Emacs Lisp functions, caching values of time-intensive computations. See Memoization@wikipedia for an overview of this technique. |
| <u> </u> | - |