Dept. of Computer Science
Faculty of Science and Technology

Lecturer No:	07	Week No:	07	Semester:	
Lecturer:	*Name & email*				

Lecture Outline

1. vi Editor
2. Modes of vi Editor
3. Create, Save, and Quit in vi
4. Vi Commands to Start Typing
5. Vi Commands to Move Around a File
6. Vi Commands to Delete Character and Line
7. Vi Commands to cut, copy, and paste

vi Editor

What is vi editor?

The **vi** editor is elaborated as **visual editor**. It is installed in every Unix system. It is a very powerful application. An improved version of vi editor is **vim** but most Linux systems have vi editor installed.

Modes of vi Editor

vi editor has two modes:

Command Mode: In command mode, actions are taken on the file. The vi editor starts in command mode. Typed words will act as commands in vi editor. To pass a command you have to be in command mode.

Insert Mode: In insert mode, entered text will be inserted into the file. **Esc key** will take you to the command mode from insert mode.

Modes of vi Editor (cont'd)

• By default, **vi editor starts in command mode**. To enter text, you have to be in insert mode, just **type i** and you'll be in insert mode. Although, after typing i nothing will appear on the screen but you'll be in insert mode. Now you can type anything.

• To exit from insert mode press **Esc key**, you'll be directed to command mode.

• The vi editor tool is an interactive tool as it displays changes made in the file on the screen while you edit the file.

• In vi editor you can insert, edit or remove a word as cursor moves throughout the file.

• Commands are specified for each function like to delete it's x or dd

• The vi editor is case-sensitive

Create, Save, and Quit in **vi**

vi syntax to create or open a file: **vi** fileName

To save file and quit vi editor you can use the given commands below

Commands	Action
:wq	Save and quit
:w	Save
:q	Quit
:w	fname Save as fname //
ZZ	Save and quit
:q!	Quit discarding changes made
:w!	Save (and write to non-writable file) //

To exit from vi, first ensure that you are in command mode. Now, type :wq and press enter. It will save and quit vi editor Type **:wq** to save and exit the file.

Vi Commands to Start Typing

Commands	Action
i	Start typing before the current character
I	Start typing at the start of current line
a	Start typing after the current character
A	Start typing at the end of current line
o	Start typing on a new line after the current line
O	Start typing on a new line before the current line.

Vi Commands to Move Around a File

commands	Action
j	To move down
k	To move up
h	To move left
l	To move right

Vi Commands to Delete Character and Line

commands	Action
x	Delete the current character
X	Delete the character before the cursor
r	Replace the current character
xp	Switch two characters
dd	Delete the current line
D	Delete the current line from current character to the end of the line

Vi Commands to cut, copy, and paste

commands	Action
dd	Delete a line
yy	(yank yank) copy a line
P	Paste after the current line
p	Paste before the current line

Books

❑ Unix Shell Programming

   ❑ Written by Yashavant P. Kanetkar