

Emacs non è un editor di testo

E neanche un sistema operativo

Gli editor, quelli seri





Cosa la gente dice di

Quelli che non usano



- Key bindings troppo lunghi
- Servono i pedali
- Feature creep
- Praticamente un sistema operativo
- GNU
- Brutto
- Lo usano le persone tipo Stallman

Quelli che usano

"Posso fare tutto su Emacs!"

- Emulare Vim (evil)
- Leggere le email (Gnus)
- Andare su Internet (EWW)
- Chattare su Matrix (Ement.el)
- Torrentare roba (mentor)
- Guardare le mie lastre (dicom-mode)

"Emacs è il mio window manager (EXWM)"



Emacs 29.4 is out, download it here!



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An extensible, customizable, free/ libre text editor — and more.

At its core is an interpreter for Emacs Lisp, a dialect of the Lisp programming language with extensions to support text editing.

Facciamo un salto indietro di 50 anni...



MIT AI Lab, 1974

TECO

Tape Editor and Corrector

successivamente

Text Editor and Corrector

```
*EBhello.c$$

*P$$

Read in the first page

*SHello$0TT$$

printf("Hello world!\n");

*-5DIGoodbye$0TT$$

printf("Goodbye world!\n");

*EX$$

Specific for read/write with backup

Read in the first page

Search for "Hello" and print the line

The line

Delete five characters before pointer (ie "Hello"), insert "Goodbye", and print

The updated line

Copy the remainder of the file and exit
```

Da Wikipedia

Many people have said that TECO code looks a lot like line noise [...].

- GNU Emacs FAQ

Modifiche a TECO

- Control-R (di Carl Mikkelsen)
- 1974: Richard M. Stallman (RMS) migliora Control-R e aggiunge le macro riconfigurabili a runtime
- 1976: molti pacchetti di macro per TECO girano per il laboratorio
 - TECMAC
 - TMACS
 - ...
- Guy L. Steele decide che è tempo di unificare tutti i pacchetti in un'unica soluzione, "?MACS"
- RMS prende parte allo sforzo e diventa rapidamente il leader del progetto
- Fine 1976: il nuovo pacchetto di macro e patch a TECO diventa un'applicazione stand-alone, il cui nome viene cambiato in **EMACS**
 - Bacronym di "Editor MACroS"

EMACS is a real-time display editor which can be extended by the user while it is running.

Extensibility means that the user can add new editing commands or change old ones to fit his editing needs, while he is editing.

- "EMACS: The Extensible, Customizable Display Editor", RMS 1981

LISP + EMACS

LISt Processor

Ideato da John McCarthy nel 1958, implementato da Steve Russel.

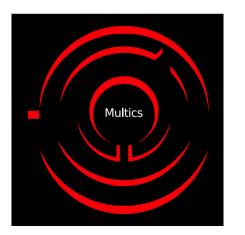
- Funzioni di ordine superiore
- Calcolo simbolico
- Codice e dati omoiconici tra loro
- Struttura dati di base (cons cell) universale
- Riprogrammabile dinamicamente
- Molto popolare fra i ricercatori Al

EMACS stood for Editing Macros, before we realized that EMACS is composed of functions written in a programming language rather than macros in the editor TECO.

- "EMACS: The Extensible, Customizable Display Editor", RMS 1981

La riscrittura di EMACS in Lisp

- Fine 1977: EINE (Daniel L. Weinreb e Mike McMahon), un EMACS implementato completamente in Lisp per le Lisp machines
 - ZWEI (1978)
 - Zmacs (1985)
- 1978: Multics Emacs (Bernard S. Greenberg), una riscrittura di EMACS in MACLISP
 - Supportato dall'avanzato compilatore MACLISP presente sulle macchine Multics di Honeywell



When large numbers of nontechnical workers are using a programmable editor, they will be tempted constantly to begin programming in the course of their day-to-day lives.

This should contribute greatly to computer literacy [...].

According to Bernard Greenberg, this is already happening with Multics EMACS.

- "EMACS: The Extensible, Customizable Display Editor", RMS 1981

Verso GNU Emacs

Gosling Emacs (GOSMACS)

- Mentre era ricercatore alla Carnagie-Mellon University, James
 Gosling entra in contatto con Multics Emacs durante uno stage esterno
- Tornato alla CMU, si ritrova insoddisfatto a dover tornare a lavorare su vi
- 1981: **GOSMACS** vede la luce
 - Core scritto in C
 - Configurabile attraverso un falso Lisp, Mocklisp
 - Nato per girare su UNIX
 - Gratuito e con una "licenza" molto permissiva

GNU Emacs

- Dopo il collasso del MIT AI Lab e la comparsa di UNIX, volendo creare ciò che poi sarebbe diventato GNU, RMS decide di voler scrivere un nuovo Emacs:
 - sotto licenza libera
 - che andasse oltre le limitazioni di TECO
 - basato su Lisp
 - che girasse su UNIX
- RMS mette le mani su una copia di GOSMACS e comincia a modificarla pesantemente
 - Mocklisp viene sostituito da un nuovo dialetto di Lisp, conosciuto in seguito come Emacs Lisp (o Elisp)
 - Tutte le funzionalità non performance-critical vengono reimplementate in Elisp
- 20 marzo 1985: GNU Emacs 13 viene annunciato pubblicamente



Una storia parallela

Un futuro alternativo

At the time, you could make a computer that was about the same price range as other computers that weren't meant for Lisp, except that it would run Lisp much faster than they would [...].

We built the machine and had a Lisp operating system for it. It was written almost entirely in Lisp, the only exceptions being parts written in the microcode.

^{- &}quot;My Lisp Experiences and the Development of GNU Emacs", RMS 2002

Lisp Machines (1973-1995)

Una classe di computer (progettati da Richard D. Greenblatt e Thomas Knight) CON processori specializzati nell'eseguire codice Lisp, essenziali per eseguire i complessi programmi Al al MIT.

Lisp Machine Manual

Second Preliminary Version

January 1979

Daniel Weinreb David Moon

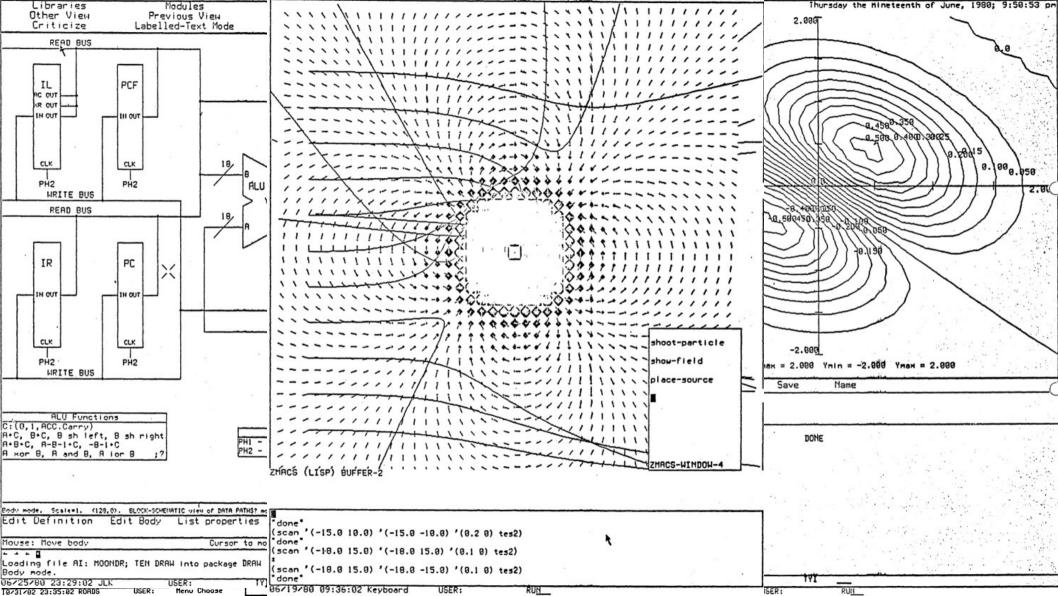








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Demo su YouTube

Control character	Dynamic Lisp Listener s are interpreted as co D for a list of input ed	mmands to edit input.				
Press CHARGO D to Press CHARGO CHAR Press CHARGO CHAR Hold down Shift a	nands" to display a list select Document Exam o for a list of programs ED for a list of asynchr and click the rightmost ED for a list of special	iner® to read online of . onous and window ope mouse button to selec	documentation. erations. It the System Menu of p	rograms and window op	perations.	
				Copyright (c) 1998-1980, Symbolics, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Use the Show Legal Notice command to see important legal notices. Symbolics, Open Genera, Mactivery, Symbolics Concordia, and Virtual Lisp Machine are trademark and Genera and Document Examiner are registered trademarks of Symbolics, Inc. OSF/1 is a trademark of the Open Software Foundation, Inc. DEC is a trademark of Digital Equipment Corporation.		
Please login. 1/17/13 17:29:44 NIL	VLM command: (si:logi	in-to-sys-host)				
	VLM command: (+ 1 2 3	3)				
"hi"	VLM command: (princ '					
1/17/13 17:31:32	VLM connand: Help (w	ith [default All]) Co	nnands (keywords)			
and inherits add	table has thirty committional commands from	these command tables				
Access Control Activities Breakpoint Callers CLOS Communication Conversation	Demonstration Directory Document Formatting Documentation	Fonts Garbage Collection	Mailer	NFS Presentation Printer Printer Maintenance Process Programming Tools Session	Tape Administration	Window World Building
Hardcopy Inage	nd table contains the Transform Image e Write Image File	se commands:				
1/17/13 17:34:16	VLM command: Read Inc	age File (from file(s) [default WILSON:>ret	i>deno.lisp.newest])	linux:/home/ubuntu/	

At first, I thought of making a Lisp-based system, but I realized that wouldn't be a good idea technically.

To have something like the Lisp machine system, you needed special purpose microcode. [...] Without that, you would be reduced to something like the Lisp compilers for other machines. The programs would be faster, but unstable. [...]

[S]o I rejected the idea of making a system like the Lisp machine.

- "My Lisp Experiences and the Development of GNU Emacs", RMS 2002

GNU Emacs: la Lisp shell di GNU

I decided instead to make a Unix-like operating system that would have Lisp implementations to run as user programs. The kernel wouldn't be written in Lisp, but we'd have Lisp.

So the development of that operating system, the GNU operating system, is what led me to write the GNU Emacs.

- "My Lisp Experiences and the Development of GNU Emacs", RMS 2002

GNU Emacs non è un semplice editor di testo

GNU Emacs è esattamente complementare a quello che dovrebbe essere un sistema operativo

GNU Emacs è la shell grafica programmabile del sistema operativo GNU

- Interattiva
- Infinitamente malleabile grazie ad Elisp
- Fortemente integrata col resto del sistema GNU

Forse abbiamo tempo per una demo

Per domande, discussioni, o per avere una copia delle slide animate: tomasantonio.lopez@mail.polimi.it