The VIM Editor

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• Vi
  • Visual Text Editor
• VIM
  • Vi Improved

VIM - Vi IMproved

version 7.4.52
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Modified by pkg-vim-maintainers@lists.alioth.debian.org
Vim is open source and freely distributable

Help poor children in Uganda!
type :help iccf<Enter> for information
type :q<Enter> to exit
type :help<Enter> or <F1> for on-line help
type :help version7<Enter> for version info
Installation

• VI editor is installed by default in most Linux OS.

• Install VIM in Ubuntu
  
  • *sudo apt-get install vim*

• vim tutorial
  
  • *vimtutor*

• cheating sheet
  
  • [http://bullium.com/support/vim.html](http://bullium.com/support/vim.html)
Modes

• VIM has six modes
  • normal mode (command mode)
  • insert mode
  • visual mode
  • select mode
  • commend-line mode
  • Ex-mode
Normal Mode

- Normally, vim starts in normal mode.
- Everything user typed in normal mode is interpreted as commands.
- All commands are case sensitive
Normal Mode

• Cursor Movement

• up arrow \( k \)
• down arrow \( j \)
• left arrow \( h \)
• right arrow \( l \)

• * in some system the regular left,right,up,down keys may not works by default.
Normal Mode

• Cursor Movement (cont.)
  • beginning of line 0 (number)
  • first non-whitespace char in line ^
  • end of line $
  • next word w
  • previous word b
  • go to line # n nG (n is the line #)
  • go to last line $G
Normal Mode

- Cursor Movement (cont.)
  - down half screen: ctrl + d
  - up half screen: ctrl + u
  - forward one screen: ctrl + f
  - backward one screen: ctrl + b
Normal Mode

• Delete Text
  • delete character under cursor $x$
  • delete word $dw$
  • delete line $dd$
Normal Mode

• Replacing Text

  • replace character under cursor \( r \)

  • replace characters start from cursor \( R \)

    • ESC to terminate

  • replace word under cursor \( cw \)

  • replace entire line \( cc \)

  • substitute next 4 characters \( 4s \)
Normal Mode

• Pasting Text
  • yank n lines nyy (n is a number)
  • paste after cursor p
  • paste before cursor P
Insert Mode

• Edit text

• * In some OS, the backspace key is disable by default.
Insert Mode

• Swap from normal mode to insert mode
  • insert before cursor \textit{i}
  • insert after cursor \textit{a}
  • begin a new line below the cursor \textit{o}
  • begin a new line above the cursor \textit{O} (letter)
• Swap back to normal mode \texttt{ESC}
Visual Mode

• Vi doesn’t have visual mode

• highlight text

• three visual mode
  • plain visual mode
  • block visual mode
  • line-wise select mode
Visual Mode

• Plain visual mode
  • swap from normal mode
  • use movement commands (h,j,k,l) to change the selection area.
  • Go back to normal mode

ESC, v
Visual Mode

- Block visual mode
  - swap from normal mode: ctrl + v
  - delete selection area: c
  - insert characters: I,A
  - swap back to normal mode: ESC
Visual Mode

• Line-wise select mode
  • swap from normal mode
  • go back to normal mode

  shift-v

  ESC
Command Line Mode

• Three modes:
  • extended command (EX-commad)
  • search pattern
  • filter command
Command Line Mode

- Ex-command
  - Swap from normal mode:
  - Go back to normal mode ESC
Command Line Mode

• Saving and Loading

  • Vi/VIM is working on a copy of file in buffer, not affect your original file until you save it.
  • save file and quit  :wq
  • save file without leave VIM
    • write to current file  :w
    • write to specified file  :w <file-name>
    • to override existing file  :w! <file-name>
  • load existing file  :r <file-name>
  • edit a new file  :o <file-name>
Command Line Mode

- Quit VIM
  - return the last saved version file :e!
  - quit vim if no change :q
  - quit vim without saving :q!
Command Line Mode

• Search Pattern
  • search toward / 
  • search backward ?
  • go back to normal mode ESC
• regular expression (next class)
Command Line Mode

• Filter Command
  • start by “!” (“:.!”) and followed by a motion command
  • shell will execute the motion command
• go back to normal mode ESC
Ex Mode

- Execute ex-command without type:
- swap from normal mode
- go back to normal mode
Select Mode

- Change working mode to MS-Windows like mode
- swap from normal mode :behave mswin
- go back to normal mode :behave xterm