CST8207 – Linux O/S I

Vi(m)

Quizzes

- Quiz on Friday, November 4, 2011

- Same material as the last "practice" quiz

Associated Readings

- Chapter 5
  - vim starts on Page 174

Editing a file with vi(vim)

▸ vi is one of the most popular, powerful and all-purpose text editor used in Unix or Unix-like systems

▸ **vim** is a **vi** clone distributed by Red Hat (and many other distributions

▸ In Red Hat **vi** runs **vim** in **vi** compatibility mode

▸ Starting vi, type at command line:
  ◦ **vi /etc/fstab**
  ◦ **vi file1**
  ◦ **vi**

Editing a file with vi(vim)

- Command and **insert** modes
  - In command mode, you can use vi commands
  - In input mode, you can edit (insert, delete,change) text
  - Switch between the two modes
    - To get into input mode, press INSERT key, and you will see **INSERT** at the lower-left corner
    - To get into command mode from input mode, you press **ESCAPE** key

Editing a file with vi(vim)

- Get help
  - Type **:help** followed by RETURN in command mode

- *vi commands are case sensitive*

- Undo mistakes
  - Use **u** in command mode to undo the last action
  - Use **U** in command mode to undo the changes for the entire line

- Redo a command
  - Use **CTRL+R** in command mode

Editing a file with vi(vim)

- Moving cursor
  - **CTRL-G** displays your location in the file and the file status.
  - **G** moves to the end of the file.
  - **gg** moves to the first line.
  - **number G** moves to that line number.

- Searching
  - Typing **/** followed by a phrase searches FORWARD for the phrase.
  - Typing **?** followed by a phrase searches BACKWARD for the phrase.
  - After a search type **n** to find the next occurrence in the same direction or **N** to search in the opposite direction.

Editing a file with vi(vim)

▶ Delete text in **command** mode
  ◦ User **x** to delete a character
  ◦ Use **dw** to delete a word, you need to place the cursor on the first character of the word
  ◦ Use **d$** to delete all characters from the cursor position to the end of the line
  ◦ Use **dd** to delete a line of text
  ◦ Use **3dd** to deletes the current line including the next two

Editing a file with vi(vim)

▸ Copy and paste in **command** mode

- **y^**-- copy all characters from cursor position to the beginning of the the line
- **y$--** copy all characters from cursor position to the end of the line
- **yy** -- copy the entire line
- **3yy** -- copy 3 lines from cursor downward
- **p** -- Paste buffer below current line
- **P** -- Paste buffer above current line

Quit and Save in vi

▸ Commands available in **Command** mode that save or exit you out of vi

- ◦ **:wq** - Writes information to disk and quits vi
- ◦ **:w** - Write but don't quit
- ◦ **:w** filename - Write to a file named filename
- ◦ **:q!** - Quit without saving

There is an online tutor for vi that can help you get started with it quickly. To enter the online tutor, type **vimtutor** at command line.