

NOTES ON VI

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1 STARTING, MODES ET PREFERENCES

1.1 Launching and Closing

vi <file> → launch the editor (command line);

:q! → quit without saving;

ZZ → save and quit.

1.2 Editing and Command Modes

Editing mode → characters that are typed constitute the text of the document;

Command mode → characters that are typed call different commands.

1.3 Toggling between modes

i → toggle to editing mode, at the current cursor position;

a → toggle to editing mode, one character after the current cursor position;

o → toggle to editing mode by creating a blank line below the current line;

O → toggle to editing mode by creating a blank line above the current line;

ESC → exit editing mode and go to command mode.

1.4 Saving

:w → save the current file;

:w <file> → save the current file as <file>;

C-g → display the name of the current file and the number of lines.

1.5 Preferences

The file `~/.vimrc` contains preferences (syntax color, *etc.*).

2 MOVING AND SEARCHING

2.1 Moving the Cursor

C-f → go to the next page;
C-b → go to the previous page;
^ → go to the beginning of the line;
\$ → go to the end of the line;
G → go to the last line;
<n>G → go to line `<n>`.

2.2 Searching

/<string> → search for `<string>` after the cursor position;
?<string> → recherche `<string>` before the cursor position;
n → go to the next occurrence of the current search.

3 TEXT EDITING

3.1 Cutting

x → erase the character at the cursor position;
dw → erase the word at the cursor position;
D → erase the end of the line after the cursor;
dd → erase the whole line.

3.2 Copying, Pasting

yy → copy the current line;
p → paste the copied line below the current line;
P → paste the copied line above the current line.

3.3 Replacing

:1,\$s/<str1>/<str2>/g → replace `<str1>` by `<str2>` in the whole file;
:<n>,<m>s/<str1>/<str2>/g → replace `<str1>` by `<str2>` between lines `<n>` and `<m>`.
