

How do I edit a file in a Terminal? 🙄

NCML lab meeting (open)

2024-08-21 Seung-Goo KIM

"Terminal" of what?





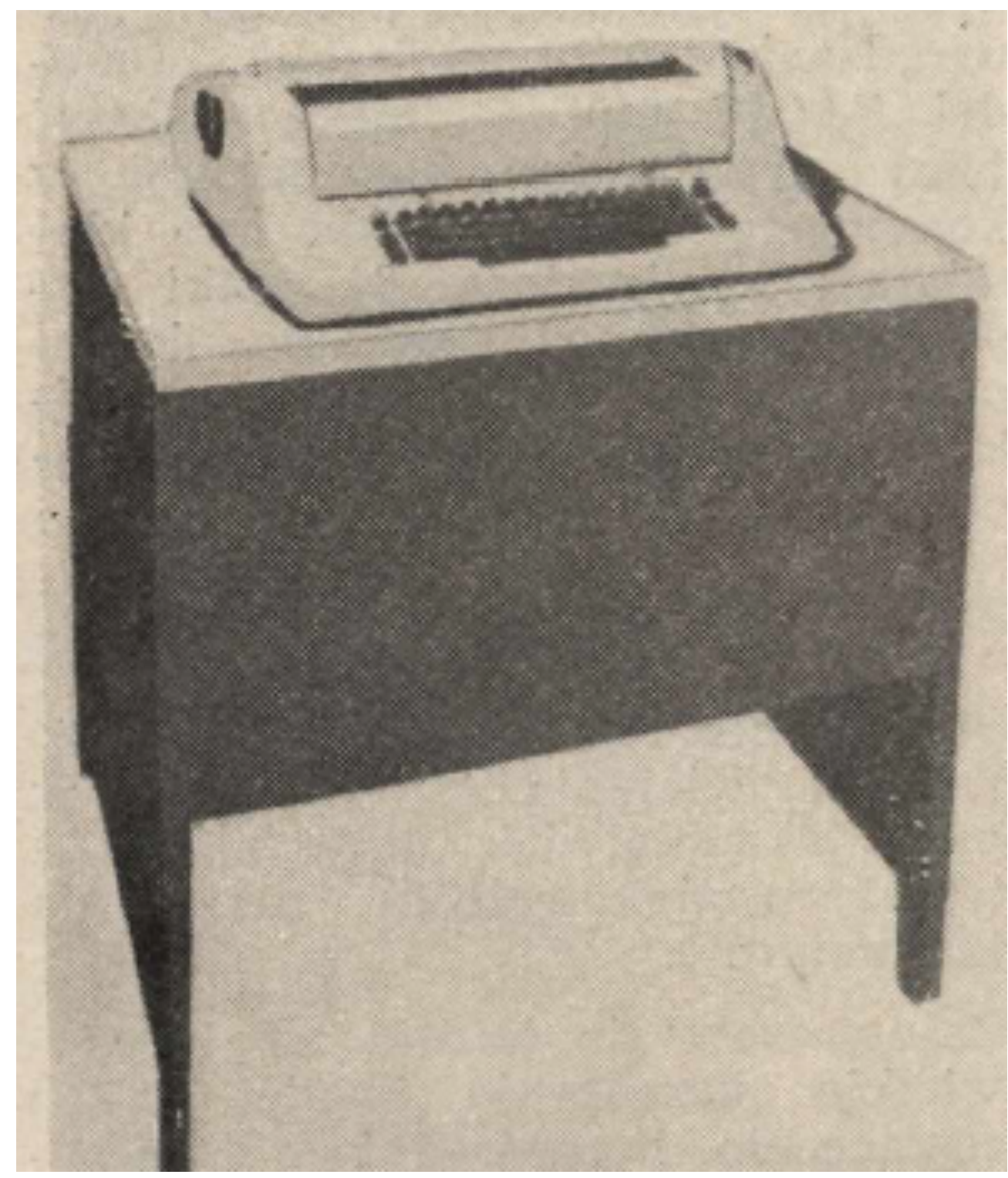
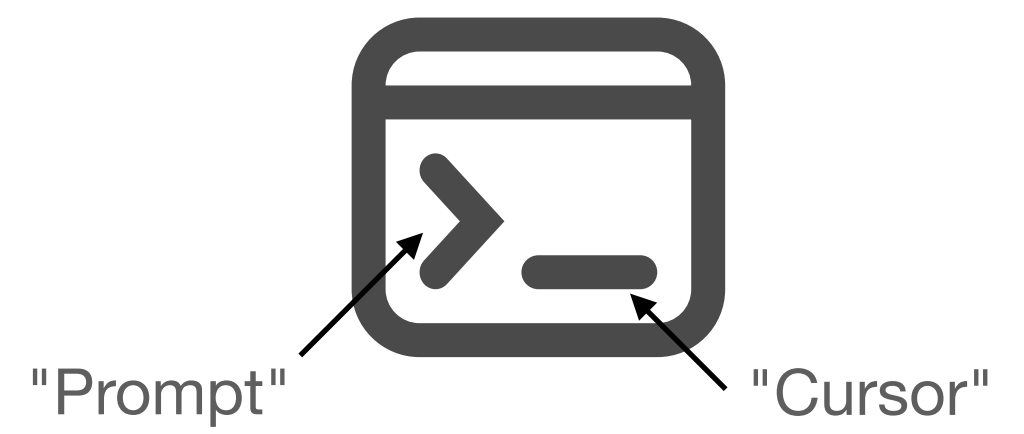
The first Unix in 1969, Bell Lab

The mighty PDP-7



Early "Terminals" and modern emulations

"Command line interface" (CLI)



IBM 2741 (1960s-1970s), "Teleprinters"



DEC VT100, 1978, the first to support cursor control on display

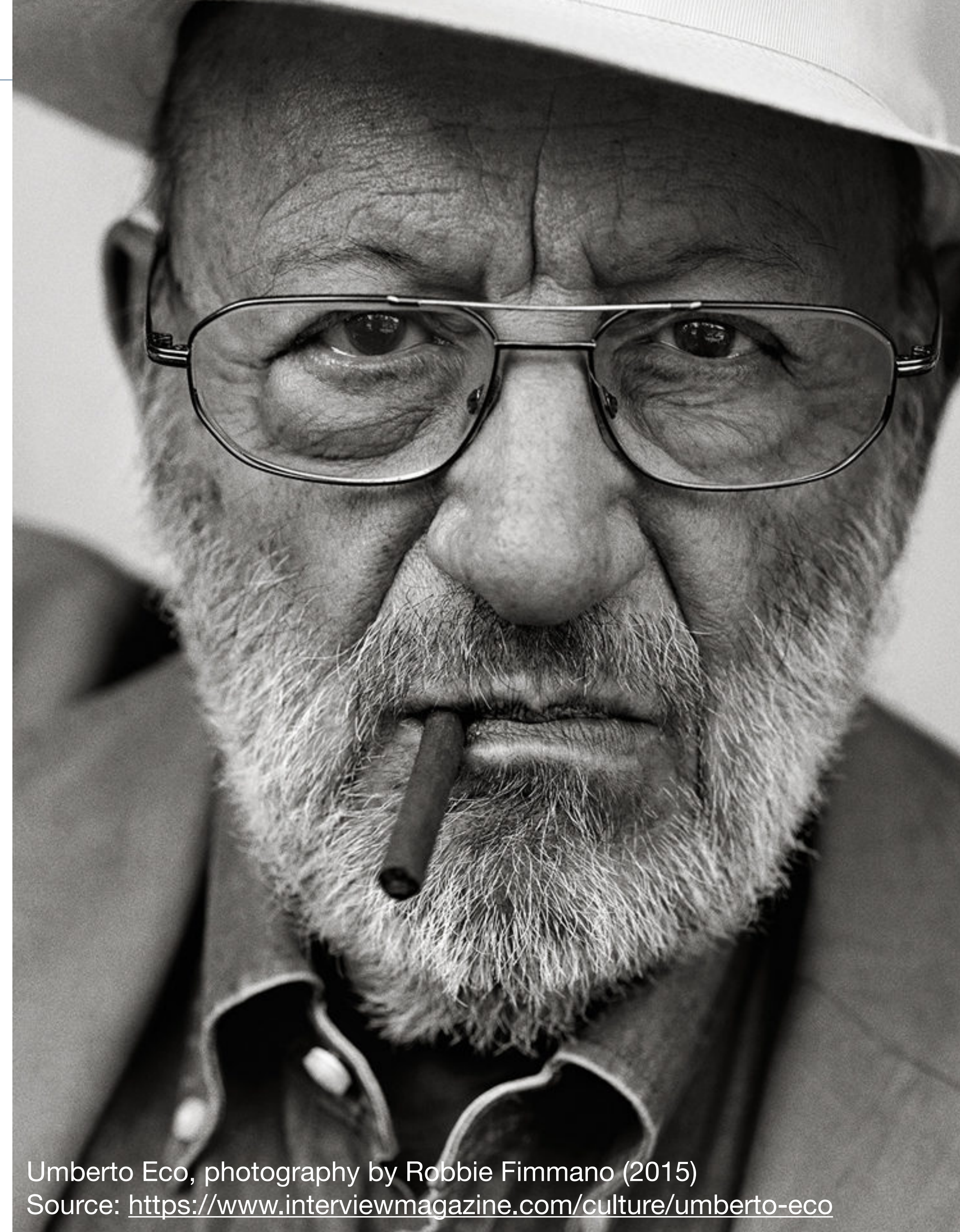


MacBook Air, 2022

↑
The whole "computer" (CPU+GPU+RAM+SDD) is under the keyboards and it still looks like a "terminal" (keyboard+display)

Why do you want to emulate an ancient relic?

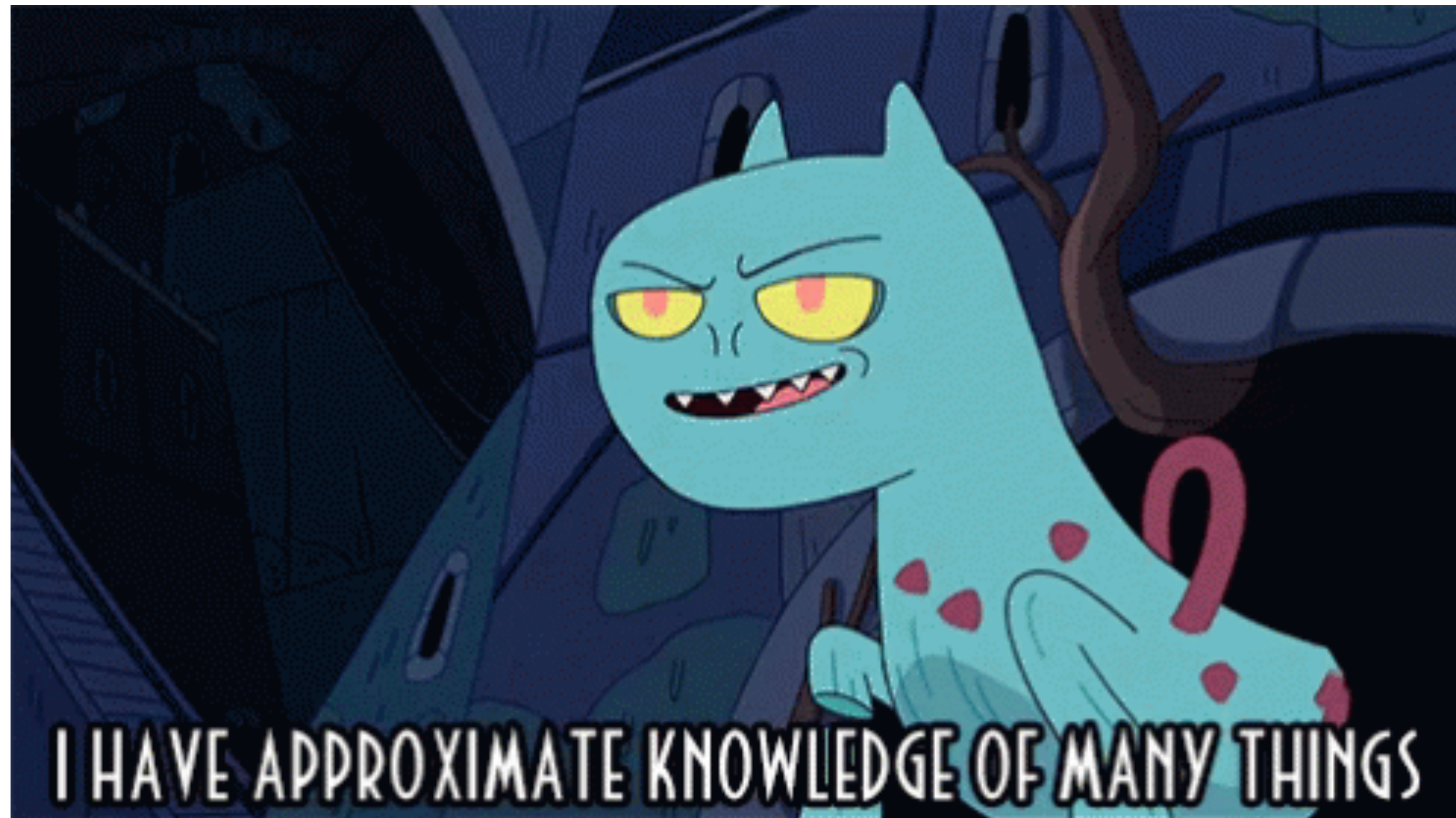
- "The book is like the spoon, scissors, the hammer, the wheel. Once invented, it cannot be improved. You cannot make a spoon that is better than a spoon." (Umberto Eco, Jean-Calude Carriere, 2009, "This is Not the End of the Book", Chapter 1, Northwestern University Press)
- So is the terminal! (Meself)



Agenda

- **DEFINITION:** What is a "Terminal" (Command Line Interface; CLI)?
- **MOTIVATION:** Why should we use a Terminal and edit a file there?
- **METHODS:**
 - bash
 - Emacs
 - Vi, Vim, Neovim
 - nano & others

Disclaimer: what I say can be slightly inaccurate.



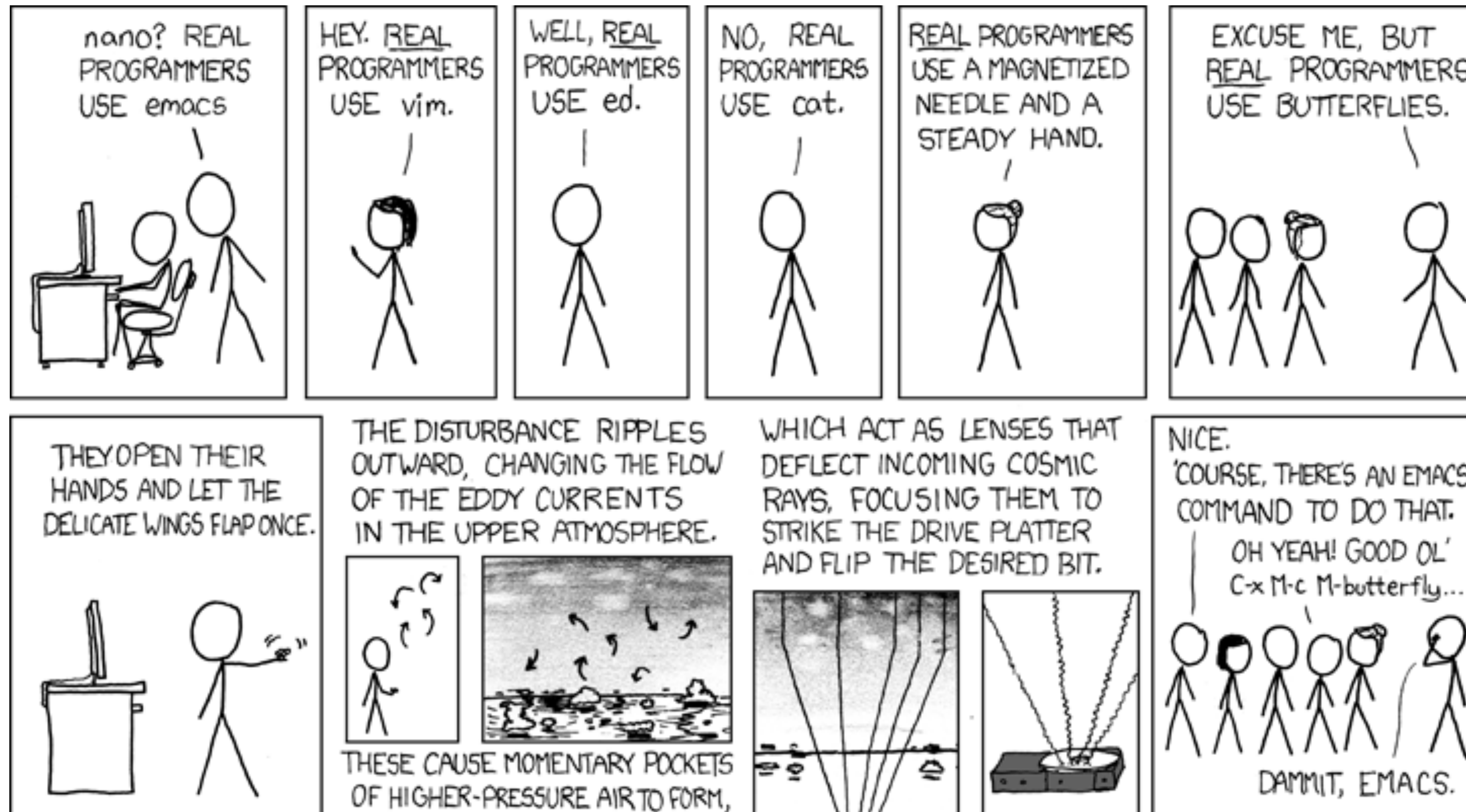
Demon Cat from the episode "Dungeon" of a series *Adventure Time*, (C) Cartoon Network, 2010-2018.

Agenda

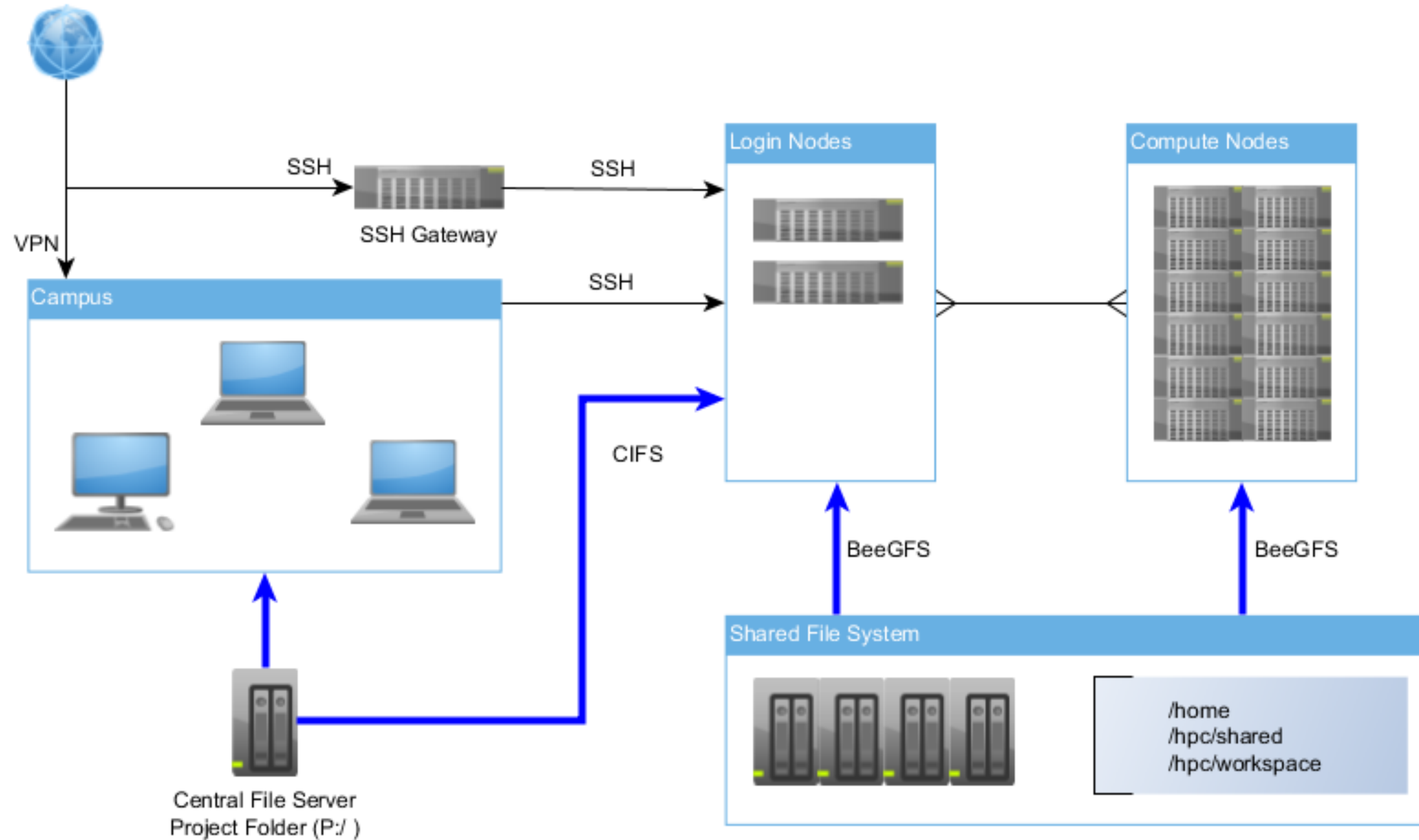
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Because that's the way it's meant to be!

(or to show everyone that you're a REAL programmer)



Or, because we are still using large computers!



How do we use those large computers?

We need to connect to the large computer via network

	Virtual Network Computing (VNC) – GUI	Secure Shell (SSH) – CLI
Pros	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Easy to learn/explore	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scriptable (faster to repeat)• Quick to launch (near-native)
Cons	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Slower to repeat (need to click a lot; difficult to marco)• Slow to launch a virtual environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Difficult to learn/explore

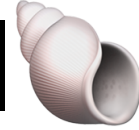




Agenda

- **DEFINITION:** What is a "Terminal" (Command Line Interface; CLI)?
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 - Bash shell commands
 - Emacs
 - Vi, Vim, Neovim
 - nano & others

A shell? and kernel?

Popular shells

- Shell : An interpreter for humans  to communicate with the core of an OS .
- In fact, shells are **Scripting Languages** like R or Python. You can define variables, call functions, use conditionals, enumerate iterations, ...
- Most widely installed shells:
 - "sh" (Bourne SHell), 1979 [default in Version 7 Unix]
 - "bash" (Bourne-Again SHell), 1989 [default in many Linux]
 - "zsh" (Z shell), 1990 [default in macOS]
 - And "pwsh" (PowerShell), 2006, [default in Windows] but open-sourced and available across OSs

Bash

Bourne-Again SHell



BASH
THE BOURNE-AGAIN SHELL

- First release: Brian Fox (1989-06-08, Free Software Foundation)
 - As a free software alternative (GNU project w/ Richard Stallman) for the Bourne SHell (SH)
- Ported to Linux by Linus Torvalds, and widely used as a default shell in various Linux distributions



Brian Jhan Fox (b. 1959)

Bash demo

REDIRECTIONS, ECHO, CAT, SED



Bash demo

conCATenate and print files, Stream EDitor

```
$ echo "X" > file.txt
```

```
$ echo "Y" >> file.txt
```

```
$ cat << EOF > file2.txt
```

```
$ sed 's/OldString/NewString/g' test.txt
```

```
$ sed 's/t[^ ]*xt/TEXT/g' test.txt
```

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What is Emacs?

"Emacs is more powerful than any OSs"



Emerald McS. et al., PhD

Emacs User @ University of Texas Instruments

GNU Emacs

Editor Macros

- Original EMACS: David A. Moon & Guy L Steele Jr. (1984) MIT AI Lab
- Gosling Emacs: James Gosling (1981) UniPress (sold at 395 \$/copy in 1983)
- GNU Emacs: Richard Stallman (1984) Free Software Foundation



Richard Stallman (b. 1953)
a.k.a. St. IGNUcius, the Church of Emacs



Emacs demo

Open & close, copy & paste, find & replace

Emacs demo

Open & close, copy & paste, find & replace

- ▶ C-x b bufname RET
- ▶ C-x C-c
- ▶ C-a, C-e
- ▶ C-@, M-w, C-y
- ▶ C-x u
- ▶ M-%

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What is Vim?

"It will be painful at first and painful at last. Good."




Vi/Vim/neovim

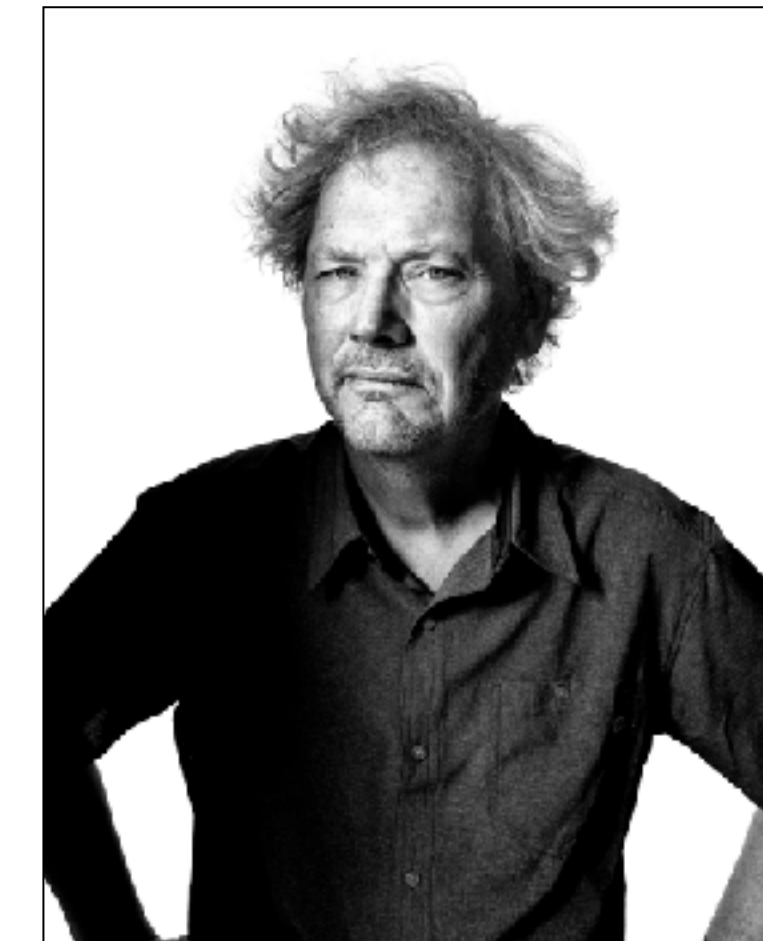
"vi" for visual mode of a line editor called "ex"

- 
 /,vi:'aɪ/: William N. Joy (1976), BSD-licensed

- 
 /vim/ : Bram Moolenaar (1991)

- 
 /'nɛ.ovim/: 30 core-devs & 1300+ contributors (2014)

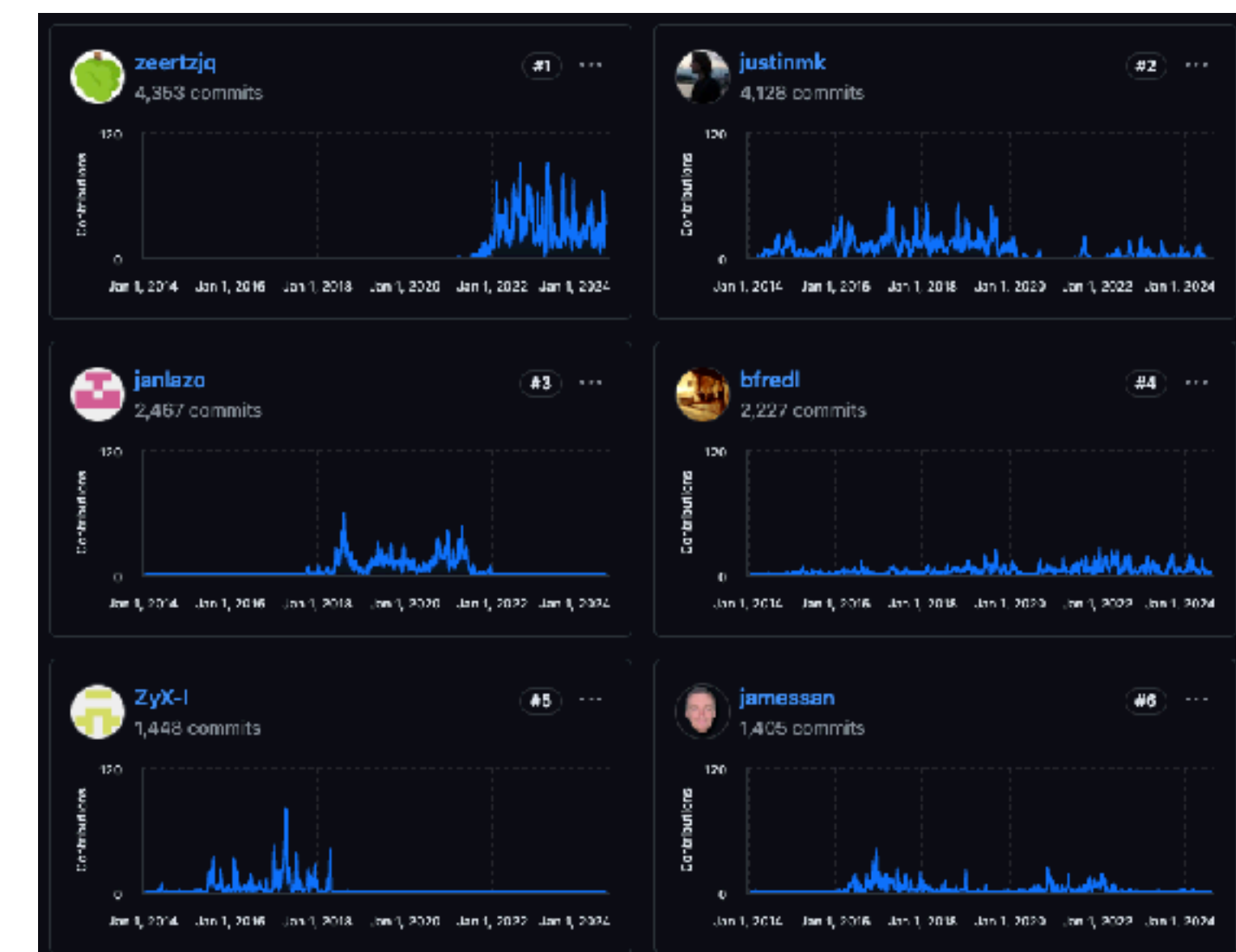
- Most popular CLI-editor (Vim: 22.29%, Neovim: 11.88%, Nano: 8.98%, Emacs: 4.69%) in [Stack Overflow survey 2023](#) (for GUI-editor, VS Code: 73.71%, VS: 28.43%; multiple answers)



Bill Joy (b. 1954)



Bram Moolenaar
(1961-2023)



<https://github.com/neovim/neovim/graphs/contributors>

“The Missing Semester of Your CS Education”

<https://missing.csail.mit.edu/>

[./missing-semester](#) | [lectures](#) | [about](#)

2020 Lectures

- **1/13:** [Course overview + the shell](#)
- **1/14:** [Shell Tools and Scripting](#)
- **1/15:** [Editors \(Vim\)](#)
- **1/16:** [Data Wrangling](#)
- **1/21:** [Command-line Environment](#)
- **1/22:** [Version Control \(Git\)](#)
- **1/23:** [Debugging and Profiling](#)
- **1/27:** [Metaprogramming](#)
(build systems, dependency management, testing, CI)
- **1/28:** [Security and Cryptography](#)
- **1/29:** [Potpourri](#)
- **1/30:** [Q&A](#)

Video recordings of the lectures are available [on YouTube](#).

[./missing-semester](#) | [lectures](#) | [about](#)

Why we are teaching this class

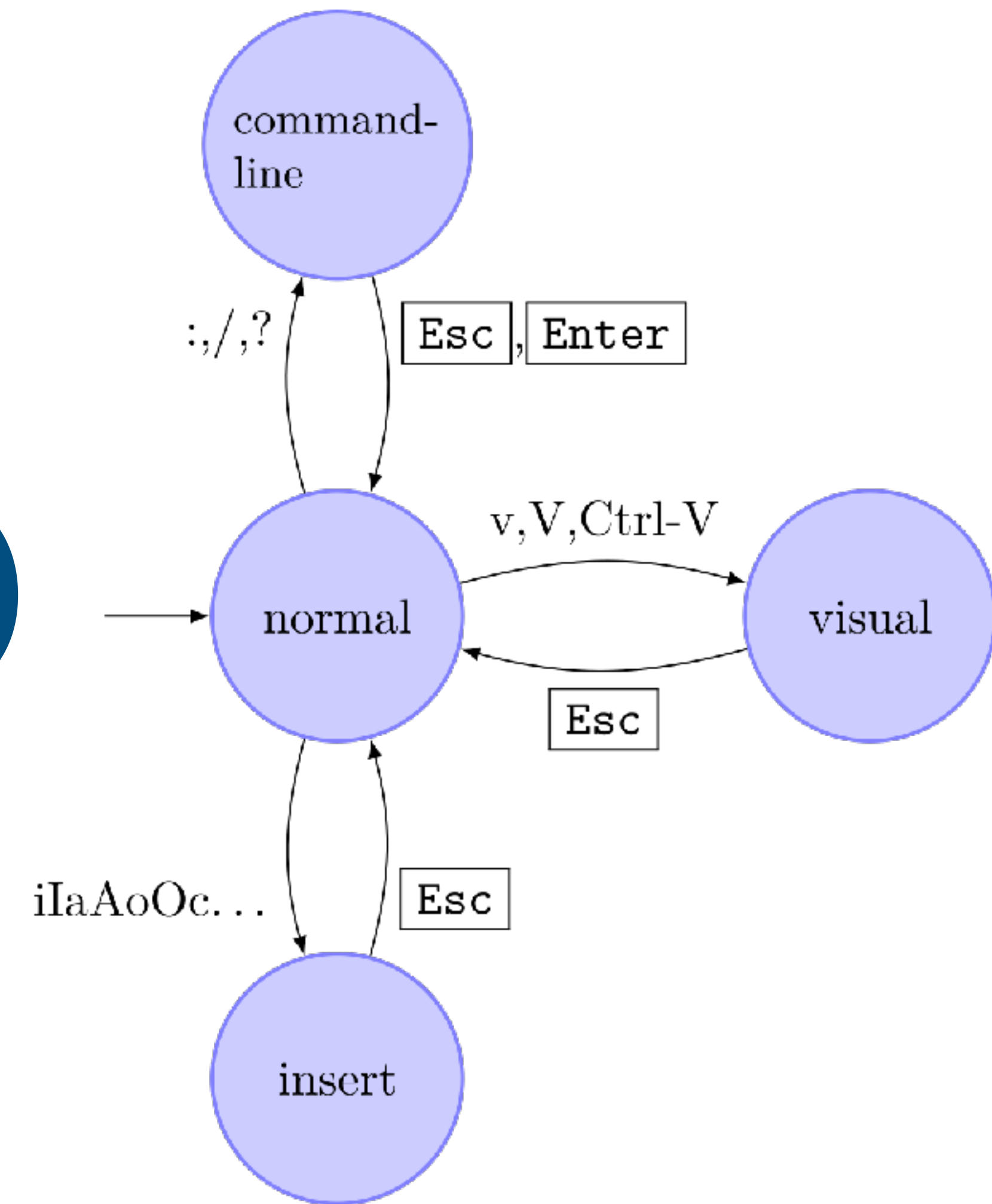
During a traditional Computer Science education, chances are you will take plenty of classes that teach you advanced topics within CS, everything from Operating Systems to Programming Languages to Machine Learning. But at many institutions there is one essential topic that is rarely covered and is instead left for students to pick up on their own: computing ecosystem literacy.

Over the years, we have helped teach several classes at MIT, and over and over we have seen that many students have limited knowledge of the tools available to them. Computers were built to automate manual tasks, yet students often perform repetitive tasks by hand or fail to take full advantage of powerful tools such as version control and text editors. In the best case, this results in inefficiencies and wasted time; in the worst case, it results in issues like data loss or inability to complete certain tasks.

These topics are not taught as part of the university curriculum: students are never shown how to use these tools, or at least not how to use them efficiently, and thus waste time and effort on tasks that *should* be simple. The standard CS curriculum is missing critical topics about the computing ecosystem that could make students' lives significantly easier.

Vim demo

open & close, copy & paste, find & replace



Vim demo

Normal mode commands

General: u, C-r, .

Motions: hjkl, wbe, }{, 0^\$, HML, C-u C-d,
C-f C-b, G gg, [number]G, f[char], F[char],
[count]l, [count]b, %, **/[pattern]**, **?[pattern]**

Edits: d[motion], c[motion], iI, oO, aA, yy,
y[count]y, y[motion], p, [count]p



MODEL 0801
S/N 607858

LEAR SIEGLER, INC.
ADM 3A



Vim demo

How you talk to Vim: Composability of Vim's syntax

[edit]..[motion]: dw

[edit]..[[count]x[motion]]: d3w

[edit]..[object]: das

[count]x[motion|edit|general]: 3w, 2p, 100.

[count]x[[edit]..[motion]]: 3dw

Vim demo

Command mode

/[pattern] AND n OR N :edit [filename]

:noh :ls

:1,10s/this/That/gc :[number]RET

:%s/this/That/g :qa!

:sp OR :vsp AND C+w w :wq

:tabedit OR tabnew
AND gt OR gT

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cli text editors















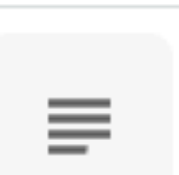






All Images Videos News Web Books Finance Tools

Default Windows Best

Text editor Software / Command-line interface

From sources across the web

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
|  Vim
GNU General Public License |  Emacs
GNU General Public License |  GNU nano
GNU General Public License |
|  Neovim
Apache License 2.0 |  vi
BSD licenses |  gedit
GNU General Public License |
|  ne
GNU General Public License |  ed
MIT License |  Kakoune
Unlicense |
|  NEdit
GNU General Public License |  JED
GNU General Public License |  Leafpad
GNU General Public License |
|  MS-DOS Editor
Proprietary software |  Joe's Own Editor
GNU General Public License |  Edinburgh Compatible C...
BSD licenses |
|  XEDIT |  ex |  Pico
Apache License |
|  BEdit Lite
Freeware | | |

Nano demo

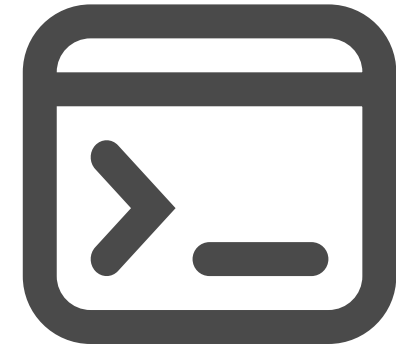
Cursor movement, copy & paste, find & replace

How to set up nano as a default editor for git?

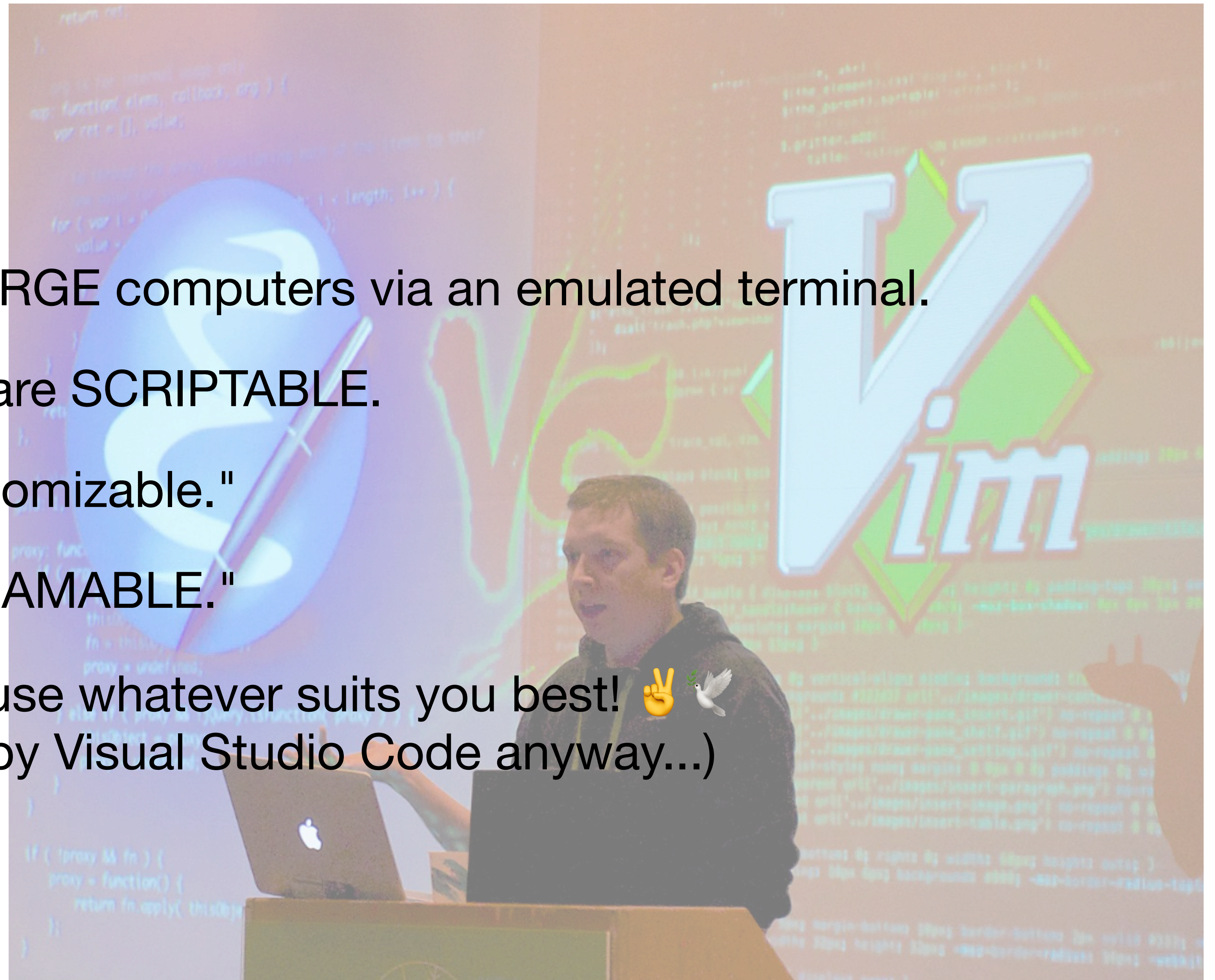
If you don't like Vim... 😓

```
$ git config --global core.editor nano
```

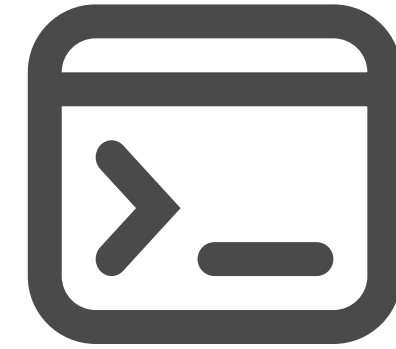

Summary



- We are still using those LARGE computers via an emulated terminal.
- Command-line interfaces are SCRIPTABLE.
- "Emacs is completely customizable."
- "Vim's interface is PROGRAMMABLE."
- But of course you should use whatever suits you best! 🙌🕊️
(The Holy War has ended by Visual Studio Code anyway...)



Summary



- (Or is the War back?)

Vim v1.27.3
vscodevim | 6,649,921 | ★★★★★ (368)
Vim emulation for Visual Studio Code
Disable | Uninstall | ⚙️
This extension is enabled globally.

DETAILS | FEATURES | CHANGELOG

VSCoDeVim
Vim emulation for Visual Studio Code

Emacs v0.1.3
VSCodeEmacs | 54,606 | ★★★★★ (9)
Emacs emulation for Visual Studio Code
Install | ⚙️

DETAILS | FEATURES | CHANGELOG

VSCoDeEmacs
Emacs emulation for Visual Studio Code

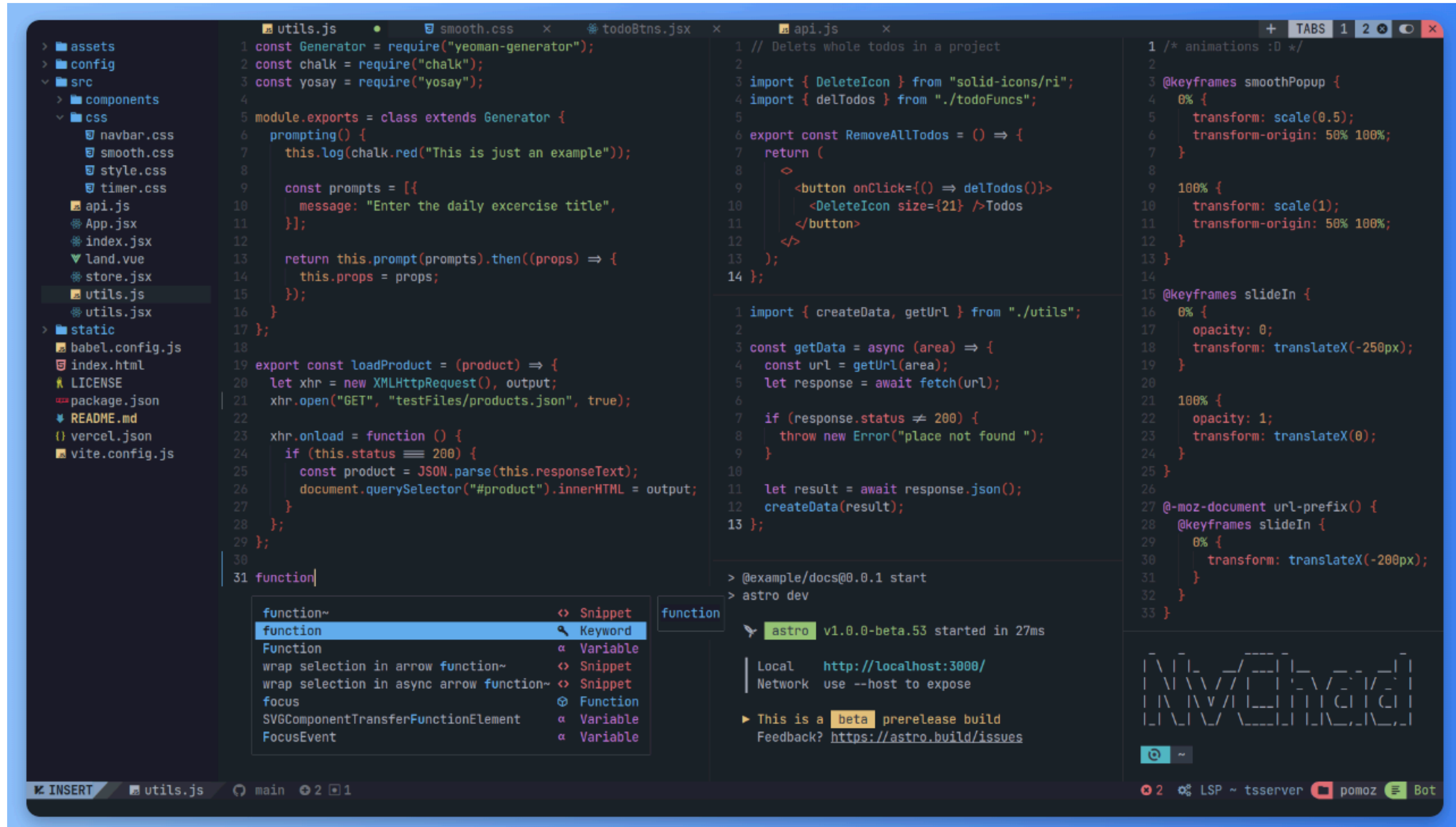
Discussion

Personal thoughts 🤔


- Do CLI-text editors replace IDE?
- Do CLI-text editors really enhance productivity?



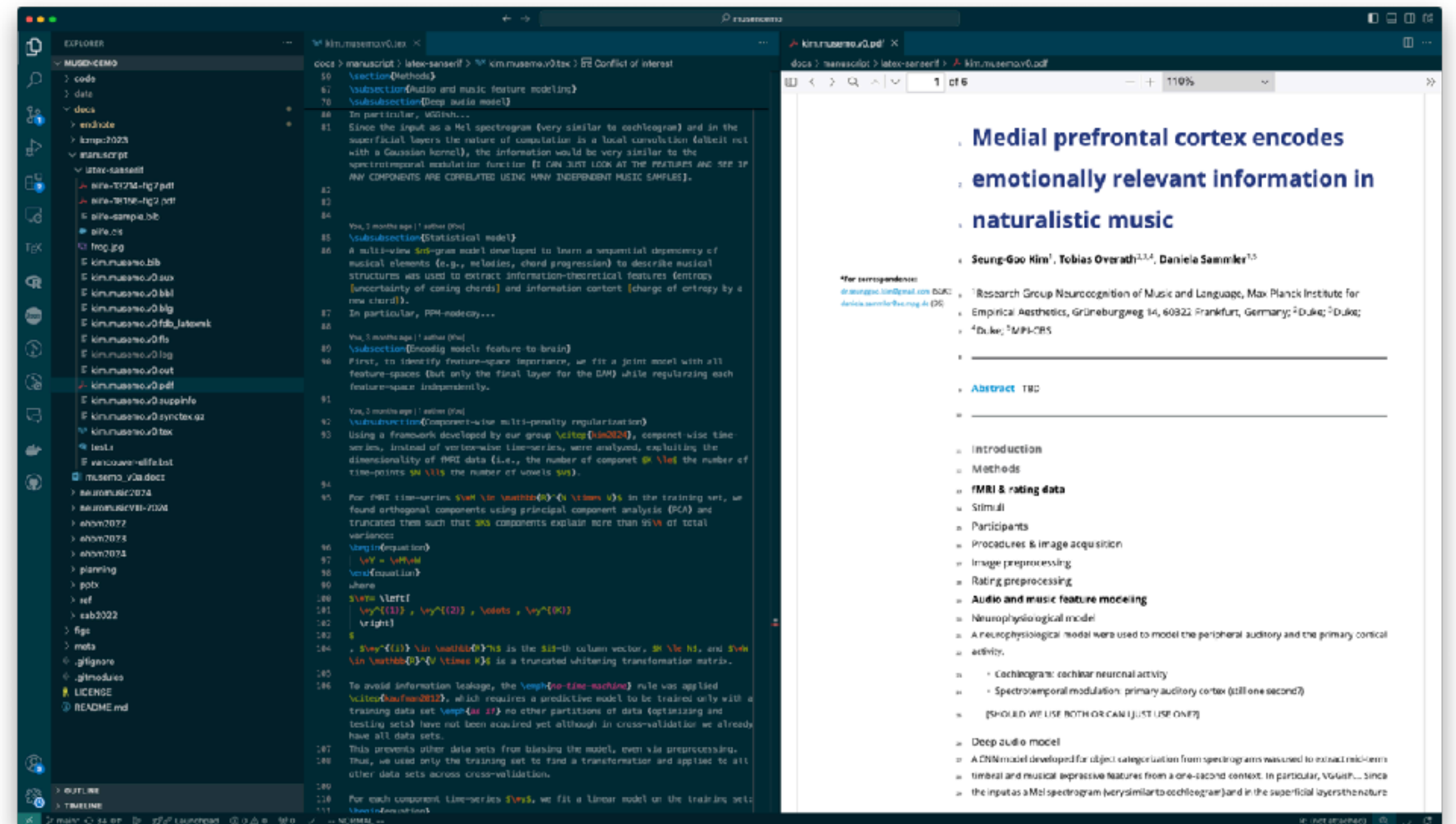
(n)vi(m) and/or Emacs as an IDE?



IDE (Integrated development environment)?

Interpreter/compiler + text editor (+ shell + file browser + ... + AI) 

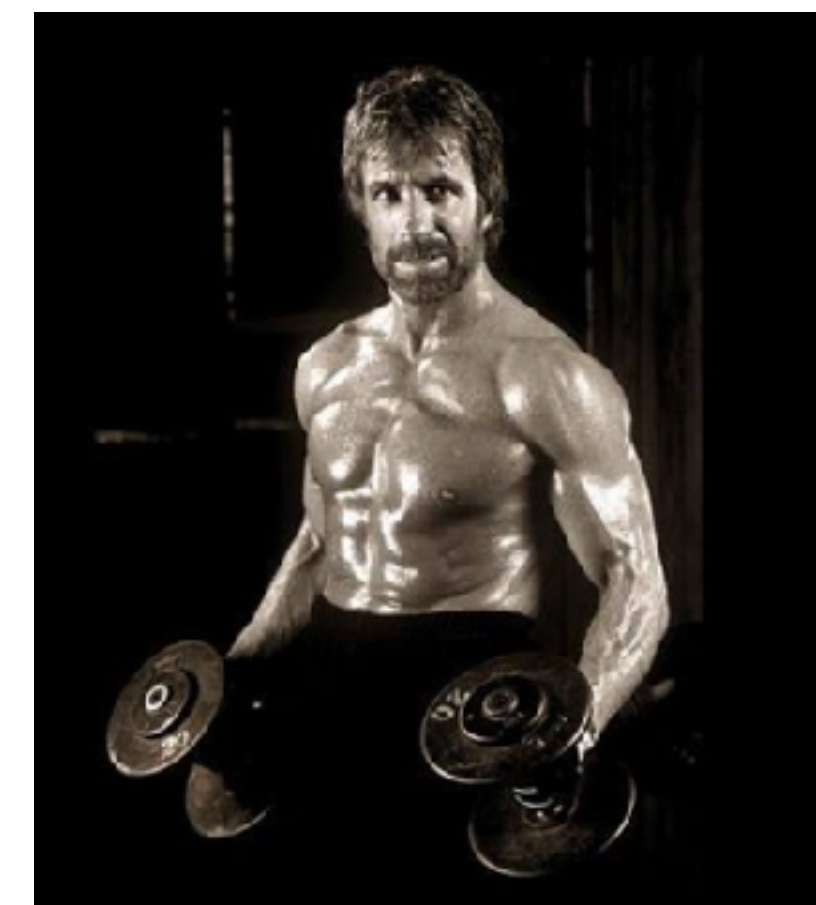
- Visual Studio for C++ and .NET
- Visual Studio Code for JavaScript/HTML, Python, ..., and LaTeX!
- IntelliJ IDEA for Java
- PyCharm, Spyder, IDLE for Python
- MATLAB for MATLAB
- RStudio for R




But, is it just a nerdy joke or else?

e.g., "Chuck Norris used negative one keystroke to write the entire OS"

- Obviously it's very fun.
- Or does saving a few milliseconds make really a difference?
- So far, no controlled user-test data available... 😓



Chuck Norris, from his Instagram (@chucknorris)



Real Vim ninjas count **every** keystroke - do you?
Pick a challenge, fire up Vim, and show us what you got.

[Changelog](#), [Rules & FAQ](#), updates: [@vimgolf](#), [RSS](#).

Rearrange array to single level

The goal is to flatten the array into a single list and remove any empty elements.





Start file

```
[
  [
    ,
    [''],
    ['0', '1', '2'],
    ['3', '4', '5'],
    ['6', '7'],
    ['8', '9'],
    ['']
  ]
]
```

End file

```
['', '0', '1', '2', '3', '4', '5', '6', '7', '8', '9', '']
```

Leaderboard (lowest score wins):

	#1 - Peppa Pig / @PeppaPi95550250	16
	07/22/2024 at 12:45AM	
	#2 - John Braxler / @braxler	16
	07/22/2024 at 01:07PM	
	#3 - Alex Lewin / @_AlexLewin	16
	07/23/2024 at 09:49PM	
	#4 - Danilo J. S. Bellini 🇧🇷 / @danilobellini	16
	07/31/2024 at 12:58AM	

I found one from Google Scholar!

de Oliveira, B. C., & Zuchi, J. D. (2020). Efficiency in Writing Software With Vim. *Revista Interface Tecnológica*, 17(2), 386-397. <https://doi.org/10.31510/infa.v17i2.1066>

- Only one study from Brazil... violating all Fisher's principles — randomization, replication, orthogonality with only 5 subjects... 😞😞

Before

```
int page_number = 44;  
int query = 9;  
int id = 55;  
int last_page_number = 12;  
int foo = 1;  
int bar = 89;  
int fizz = 11;  
int buzz = 392;  
int foo_ext_number = 31;  
int title_id = 31;
```



After

```
int page_number = 1;  
int query = 2;  
int id = 3;  
int last_page_number = 4;  
int foo = 5;  
int bar = 6;  
int fizz = 7;  
int buzz = 8;  
int foo_ext_number = 9;  
int title_id = 10;
```

Source: Author (2020).

After the subjects performed the scenario above, the results were as follows:

Figure 6 - Test case results.

Subject	Text Editor	Elapsed Time (seconds)
Subject 1	VS Code	10s
Subject 2	VS Code	9s
Subject 3	Vim	8s
Subject 4	VS Code	32s
Subject 5	VS Code	12s

Source: Author (2020).



Perhaps?

LaTeX vs. MS Word

Einleitung zum Themenheft „Ressourcenadaptive kognitive Prozesse“
 Anthony Jameson, Kai Buchholz
 Sonderforschungsbereich 378, FB 14 Informatik und FB 31 Philosophie, Universität des Saarlandes, Postfach 151151, D-66041 Saarbrücken

In der Kognitionswissenschaft tritt der Begriff einer *ressourcenadaptiven Ressource* in vielen Zusammenhängen auf. Insbesondere wird der Kern *Ressource* auf sehr unterschiedliche Entitäten angewandt, unter anderem auf Zeit, (menschliches und maschinelles) Gedächtnis, Wissen und Information. Durch die breite Anwendung dieses Begriffs lassen sich einige weitere gemeinsame Begriffe – sowie damit zusammenhängende Fragestellungen – erkennen. Aus diesen Gemeinsamkeiten ergeben sich Möglichkeiten für eine fruchtbare interdisziplinäre Zusammenarbeit.

Anfang 1996 nahm in Saarbrücken der von der Deutschen Forschungsgemeinschaft unterstützte Sonderforschungsbereich „Ressourcenadaptive kognitive Prozesse“ seine Arbeit auf. Dieses Forschungsprogramm umfasst 11 Projekte, deren Leiter in den Disziplinen Computerlinguistik, Informatik, Philosophie und Psychologie tätig sind; mehrere der Projekte werden von Vertretern verschiedener Disziplinen gemeinsam geleitet.

Das vorliegende Themenheft soll den Lesern eine repräsentative Stichprobe der Forschung in diesem SFB bieten. Während die Autoren und der Gastherausgeber aus dem SFB 378 stammen, wurden alle Gutachter (mindestens zwei für jede Einreichung) von Fachkollegen außerhalb Saarbrückens ernannt. Mit ihrem fachkundigen und ausführlichen Kritiken haben die Gutachter das Themenheft entscheidend mitgeprägt. Aufgrund der Gutachten traf der Herausgeber der Zeitschrift *Kognitionswissenschaft*, Prof. Dr. Gerhard Weber, die Entscheidungen in Bezug auf Annahme und Ablehnung von Manuskripten.

In dieser Einleitung wird zuerst der weitgefächerte Begriff einer *Ressource*, der im SFB 378 verwendet wird, kurz motiviert und skizziert. Dann werden die einzelnen Artikel im Themenheft in diesem Rahmen eingeordnet. Insbesondere wird am Schluss erörtert, welche Formen von *Ressourcenadaptivität* in den Projekten des SFB unterschieden werden.¹

¹ Das erste Axiom in Gutachten dieser Themenhefte. Der Beitrag des zweiten Autors zu dieser Einleitung wurde von der Deutschen Forschungsgemeinschaft im Rahmen des SFB 378 gefördert.
² Eine ausführliche Besprechung und Einordnung der Artikel dieses Themenhefts ist über die WWW-Seite des SFB 378 verfügbar: <http://www.colli.uni-sb.de/SFB378/>.

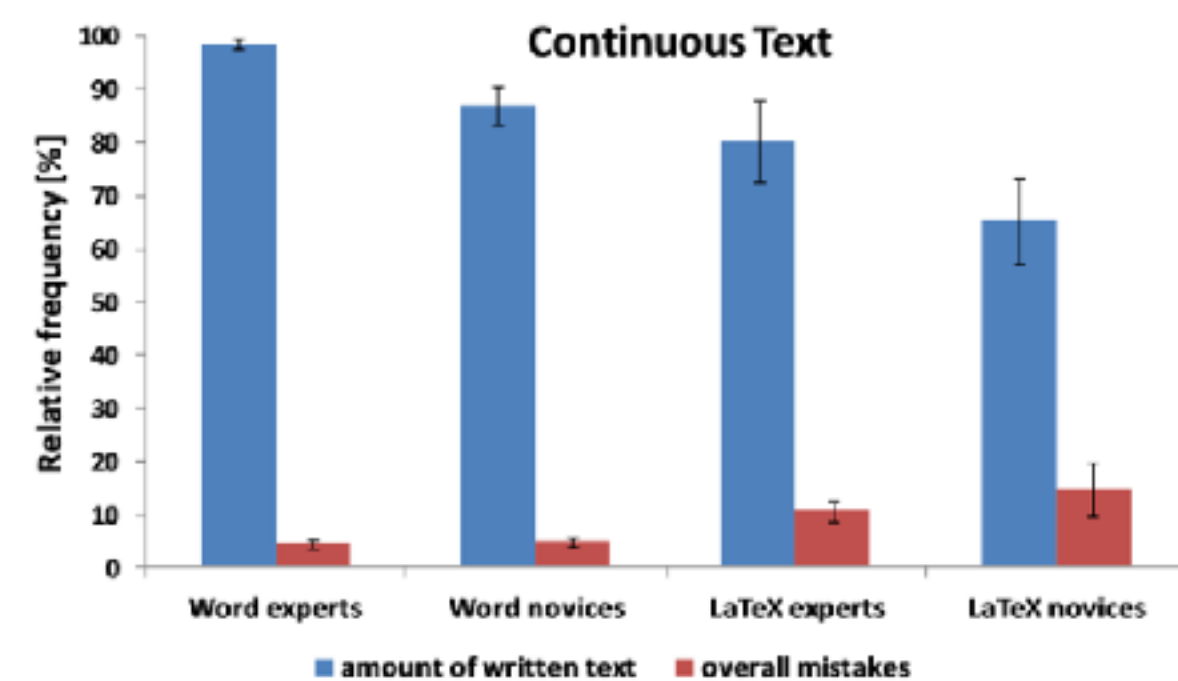


Fig 4. Mean amount of text written within 30 minutes and the overall number of mistakes for the continuous text for the four groups of participants (Word experts, Word novices, LaTeX experts, and LaTeX novices). Error bars represent the standard error.

B. Müller: Komposition
 Die Anpassung der Differenzierung nach wie vor nicht Möglichkeit zu un funktion so veränd Faktor 2 verstärkt cheren Unterschie im Bereich gering schmit des Indiffer duziert, damit um die Urteilswahrsch nach wie vor die d wahrscheinlichkeit
 In Tabelle 6 sind gang mit permanen entspricht, die Abt wie die Anpassung selbst bei dieser en diglich bei validat keiten simuliert w ermitteln nicht s den Vergessenpar gesenngeweigt, der 1 weist auf eine etwa Kompositionsbildu

Tabelle 7. Geschätzte der Kompositionsbildu
 Zusätzliche Differenzieru von Sequenzen

Diskriminatio-
 phase
 mit

ohne

Anmerkung: Phase-1-Prop.: Anteil der Wahrscheinlichkeit, die erste Phase abzubreiten bzw. zu bilden an der Wahrscheinlichkeit, eine der beiden möglichen Phasen abzubreiten bzw. zu bilden, $p(x) | Diff = 0$; dem gewählten Indifferenzpunkt der Entscheidungsfunktion entsprechende Wahrscheinlichkeit, bei einer Nulldiffere eine Sequenz als grammatisch zu beurteilen

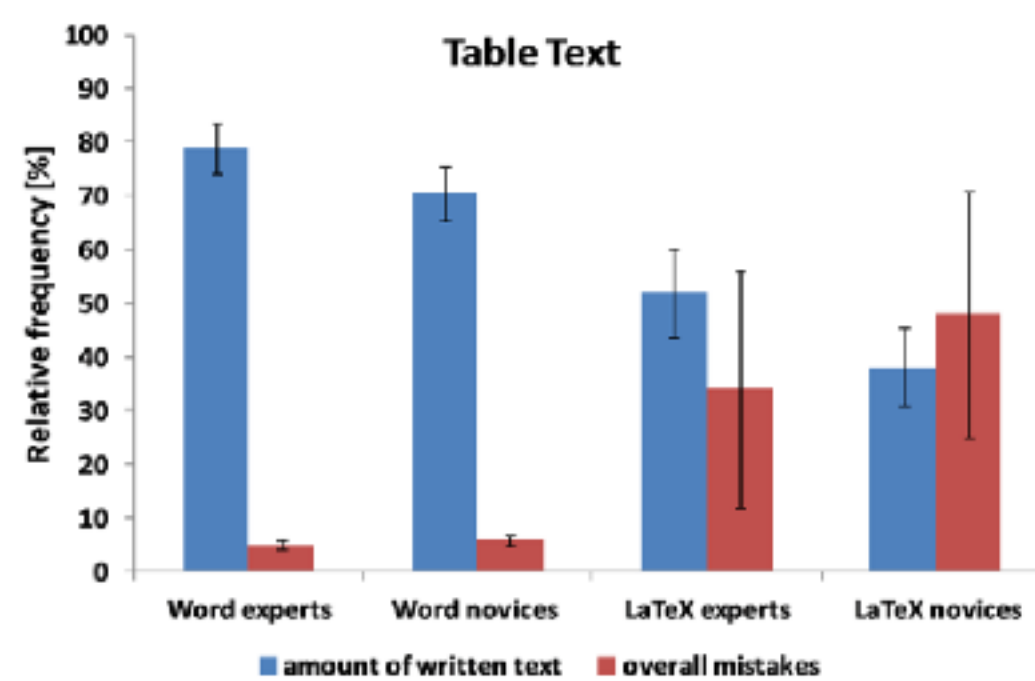


Fig 5. Mean amount of text written within 30 minutes and the overall number of mistakes for the table text for the four groups of participants (Word experts, Word novices, LaTeX experts, and LaTeX novices). Error bars represent the standard error.

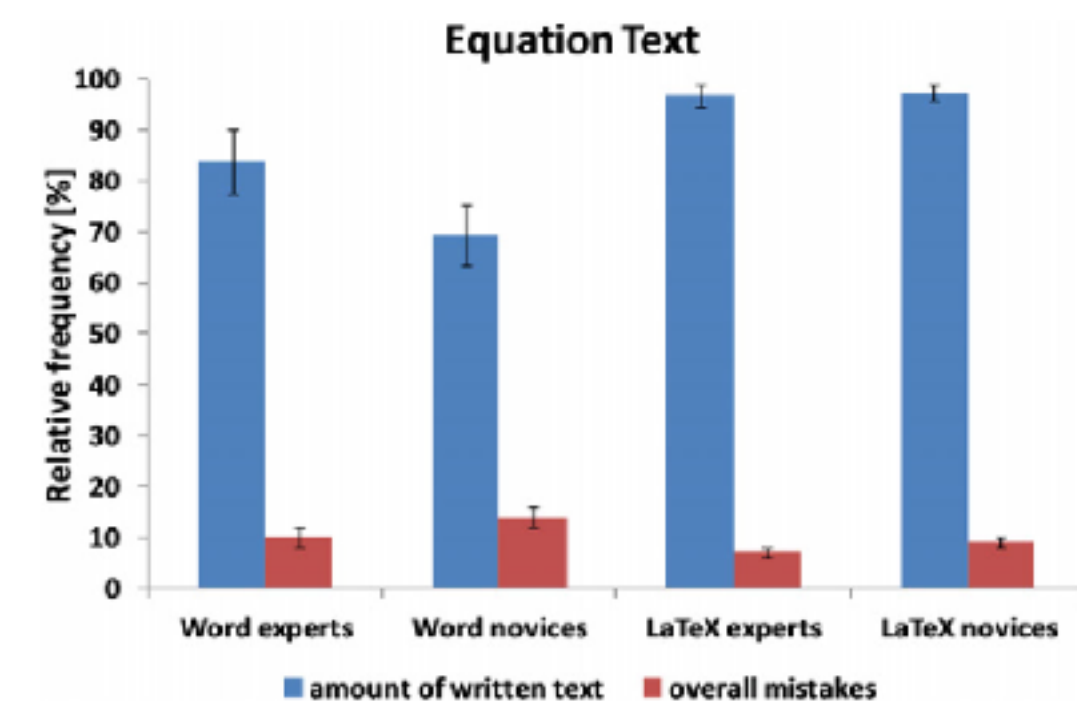


Fig 6. Mean amount of text written within 30 minutes and the overall number of mistakes for the equation text for the four groups of participants (Word experts, Word novices, LaTeX experts, and LaTeX novices). Error bars represent the standard error.

N = 10 / group
 "Novices" <500 hr
 "Experts" >1000 hrs

14 females, 26 males
 Physics: 12, Psychology: 5,
 Computer Science:4, ...

Table 3. Results from the usability questionnaire ISO 9241–10.

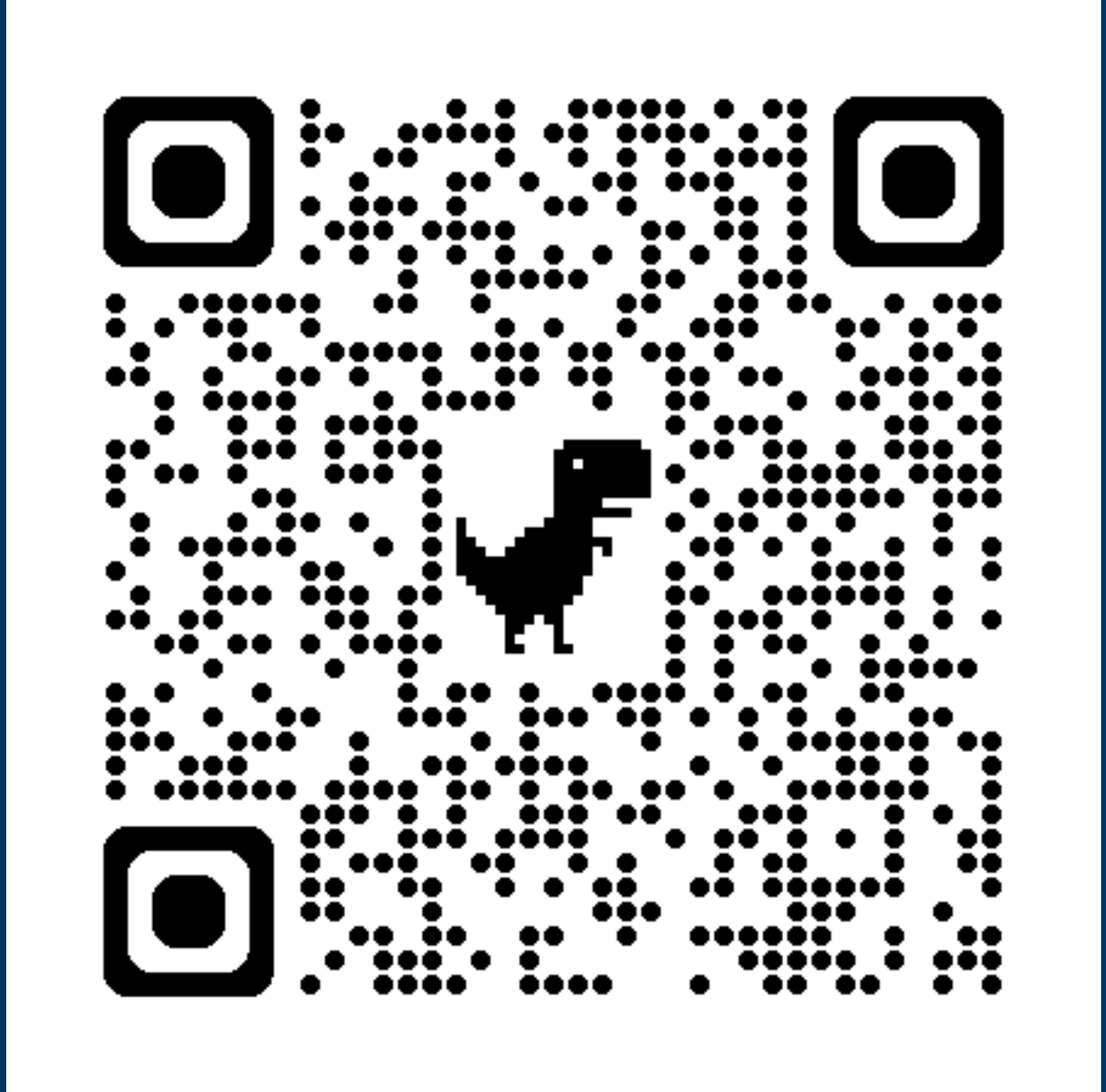
Usability questionnaire	Software			
	Word		LaTeX	
	M	SD	M	SD
Tiredness	3.4	1.9	2.2	1.4
Frustration	3.3	2.0	2.1	1.5
Enjoyment	3.6	1.7	5.2	1.4
Suitability for the task	0.6	1.1	1.4	0.8
Self-descriptiveness	-0.2	0.9	-0.3	1.2
Controllability	1.6	1.0	1.7	0.9
Conformity with user expectations	1.3	0.7	1.3	0.9
Error tolerance	0.3	1.1	-0.6	1.2
Suitability for individualization	0.2	1.1	0.7	1.1
Suitability for learning	0.4	1.1	-0.3	0.8

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0115069.t003

p<.05
 p<.05
 p<.01
 p<.05
 p<.05

$$= \frac{-1}{a(\phi_c)} p_c(x(j)) \quad (64)$$

<https://github.com/seunggookim/cluded>



Slides PDF & text samples

**Time for (more) questions
& discussion! 🧐**