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Subject: Re: Continuing Linux Education

Posted by [MarioIncandenza](#) on Mon, 06 Feb 2006 20:08:03 GMT

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Re: the devil (vi vi vi), I have to put in another plug for the viper package (M-x viper-mode)  
( <http://www.xemacs.org/Documentation/packages/html/viper.html> #SEC\_Top), which sets up a vi emulation inside emacs, so that you can continue to use the vi gibberish rather than having to learn all new Emacs gibberish. I've gotten it to play nicely with IDLWAVE, so that I can have my C-M-a and my  
.:+16s^([1-9]{2}\):\([1-9]{2}\):\([1-9]{4}\)\^3\2\1/ too.

Worthwhile reading for interested parties is the page on "improvements over VI," which describes things like the implementation of multiple undo, which are powerful but a little weird. (Think of a chain of commands to be "undone," and 'u' changes direction and moves one step down the chain, while '.' continues in the same direction. I suspect this, because of the "chain" thing, of being Emacs-ish, but it might be just plain Byzantine).

Anyway, I'm really enjoying IDLWAVE, it seems like every day I find another new way to make coding easier and less tedious.

David Fanning wrote:

> JD Smith writes:

>

>> As far as the tutorial, the IDLWAVE which is bundled with Emacs is  
>> ancient: 4.7 or something. Almost 4 years old (which is about how old  
>> the current Emacs is, sadly). It probably even pre-dates the  
>> tutorial, and is missing many features. You should upgrade your  
>> IDLWAVE; see [idlwave.org](http://idlwave.org). My recommendation is to wait for the  
>> IDLWAVE 6.0 announcement which will be going out soon, and upgrade  
>> then. Then the HTML help RSI supplies with your IDL 6.2 will work  
>> "out of the box", and you won't need to do anything more to configure  
>> your context help. By the way, Emacs 22, when it ships, should have a  
>> nice modern version of IDLWAVE, so the need to upgrade will be much  
>> reduced.

>

> Shoot. And I am getting so used to doing clean installs and then  
> downloading everything again and again. It will be a shame to  
> lose all those skills. :-)

>

> Anyway, now I have a good version of IDL, Emacs and IDLWAVE  
> all working, more or less, together. But here is a suggestion  
> for the Tutorial. It would be \*extremely\* helpful to me to know  
> what lines of gobbledegook goes into my .emacs file to make the  
> tutorial work as advertised. I've had to cherry pick things

> from here and there and at the moment it is a godawful mess. :-(  
>  
> I'm progressing, but sometimes the pressure gets to me and  
> I have to retreat to vi. :-(  
>  
> Cheers,  
>  
> David  
>  
> --  
> David Fanning, Ph.D.  
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

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