
Subject: Re: Using Vi in the 7.0 Workbench
Posted by [Haje Korth](#) on Tue, 04 Dec 2007 13:07:01 GMT
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Scott,

I don't get it. Isn't vi that entirely user unfriendly editor from the unix side where I have to hit "i" before I can even start inserting any text in my document? I thought we are trying to get away from that toward more usable terrain?

Cheers,
Haje

<sbolin42@gmail.com> wrote in message
news:2219b518-85ac-4bcf-8fee-0bf3f97fc614@d27g2000prf.google groups.com...

- > If you love vi, then you might want to try this vi plugin for eclipse.
- >
- > The plugin is not free. Cost is 15 Euro = 21.94 USD
- > The website for the plugin, if you want to read about it, is:
- > <http://satokar.com/viplugin/>
- >
- > To install, just use Help->Software Updates...->Find and Install...
- > Select 'Search for new features to install', then NEXT
- > Select 'New Remote Site'
- > Then enter:
- > Name: viPlugin
- > URL: <http://satokar.com>
- >
- > Finish the wizard, and then you'll have it.
- > After installing, turn on the "vi" key mappings by doing the
- > following:
- > Window->Preferences...
- > then, General->Keys
- > then, change the scheme to ViPlugin using the combo box at the top
- > of the page.
- >
- > It is free to try the plugin. It will be fully functional, but will
- > occasionally pop up
- > a dialog requesting you to make a purchase.
- >
- > A nice feature of the plugin is that it will put a "vi" button on your
- > main tool bar, allowing
- > you to enable/disable the "vi" functionality.
- >
- > If your accustomed to the power of vi, then you might want to give it
- > a try.
- >

>
> Scott Bolin
> ITTVis
>

Subject: Re: Using Vi in the 7.0 Workbench
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 04 Dec 2007 13:25:07 GMT
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Haje Korth writes:

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> side where I have to hit "i" before I can even start inserting any text in
> my document? I thought we are trying to get away from that toward more
> usable terrain?

Whoops! Haje forgot the smilely face thingy. :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. One thing I learned about working in a UNIX shop recently is that it's not generally a good idea to impugn someone's choice of editor, no matter how archaic it seems to you. And, anyway, I'm beginning to see a lot more value in the old than I used to see. :-)

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: Using Vi in the 7.0 Workbench
Posted by [jameskuyper](#) on Tue, 04 Dec 2007 13:28:55 GMT
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Haje Korth wrote:

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Yes, vi is ancient, and has a horrific learning curve, and I would not

recommend it new users. However, some of us have already climbed that learning curve, and I can do things with vi that are excessively difficult to do in any other editor I'm familiar with. As long as the viPlugin is an option, not mandatory, I think there's at least a few people like me who would appreciate having that option.

Subject: Re: Using Vi in the 7.0 Workbench
Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Tue, 04 Dec 2007 14:47:18 GMT
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On Dec 4, 7:25 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:
> Haje Korth writes:
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I cringe every time I watch my unix admin fire up vi - knowing that he'll probably have to :q! at least once to start over after making an incorrect keystroke. But then, I use emacs - I DON'T think we want to get into that discussion ... 8^/

Subject: Re: Using Vi in the 7.0 Workbench
Posted by [Haje Korth](#) on Tue, 04 Dec 2007 15:54:49 GMT
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David,
it had a more provoking effect without the smiley. And don't get me wrong, I

know the basics of using vi because on UNIX terminal you sometimes don't have other choices. However, it never occurred to me that I would use it to edit my code.

I hope I am far enough away from the people I emotionally touched with my comment. :-) (and I hope the smiley difuses any personal grudges.)

Haje

"David Fanning" <news@dfanning.com> wrote in message
news:MPG.21bf0320580a629598a124@news.frii.com...

> Haje Korth writes:

>

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Subject: Re: Using Vi in the 7.0 Workbench

Posted by [sboLin42](#) on Tue, 04 Dec 2007 17:09:32 GMT

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On Dec 4, 8:54 am, "Haje Korth" <haje.ko...@nospam.jhuapl.edu> wrote:

> David,

> it had a more provoking effect without the smiley. And don't get me wrong, I

> know the basics of using vi because on UNIX terminal you sometimes don't

> have other choices. However, it never occurred to me that I would use it to

```

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> news:MPG.21bf0320580a629598a124@news.frii.com...> Haje Korth writes:
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Didn't mean to start an editor debate. I just mention this as an option that is available. There are those who are already learned in the ways of vi and can really be fast and productive with an editor that doesn't require removing your hands from their position over the letters on the keyboard.

For some, not all, the ability to have vi plus the power of the workbench (outline view, content assist, hover help, open declaration, interactive debugger, etc...) is a huge plus.

Even if yoy are not interested in vi, this is an example of the rich and diverse possibilities offered by the versatile Eclipse platform.

Scott Bolin
ITTVis

Subject: Re: Using Vi in the 7.0 Workbench
Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Tue, 04 Dec 2007 17:35:16 GMT
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James Kuyper wrote:

> Haje Korth wrote:
>> Scott,
>> I don't get it. Isn't vi that entirely user unfriendly editor form the
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> Yes, vi is ancient, and has a horrific learning curve, and I would not
> recommend it new users.

You could replace "vi" with "emacs" in the above sentence. Same dog, different leg from my perspective. Both are arcane with not insignificant learning curves. Having said that I have seen knowledgable people do quite amazing things using either of those editors (approaching speeds where their hands were almost a blur). Being a mere mortal, I use nedit. :o)

I also think IDEs are way overrated. Sort of like the word "synergy" - used too often where it shouldn't be and now it's all tired and worn out. :o)

Let the flames begin! :o)

cheers,

paulv

p.s. Just in case people weren't paying attention: :o)

Subject: Re: Using Vi in the 7.0 Workbench
Posted by [MarioIncandenza](#) on Tue, 04 Dec 2007 21:49:29 GMT
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On Dec 4, 5:28 am, James Kuyper <jameskuy...@verizon.net> wrote:

> Haje Korth wrote:
>> Scott,
>> I don't get it. Isn't vi that entirely user unfriendly editor form the unix
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> learning curve, and I can do things with vi that are excessively
> difficult to do in any other editor I'm familiar with. As long as the
> viPlugin is an option, not mandatory, I think there's at least a few
> people like me who would appreciate having that option.

Six cheers for vi! Celebrate by taking an American-style date and
feeding it to IDL as a julian day:

```
:s/^\([0-9]\{2\}\)[-V.]^\([0-9]\{2\}\)[-V.]^\([0-9]\{2\}\)/  
julday(\1,\2,1900+\3,0,0,0)/
```

Will eclipse+vi tempt me away from emacs+viper+idlwave? A tantalizing
possibility!
