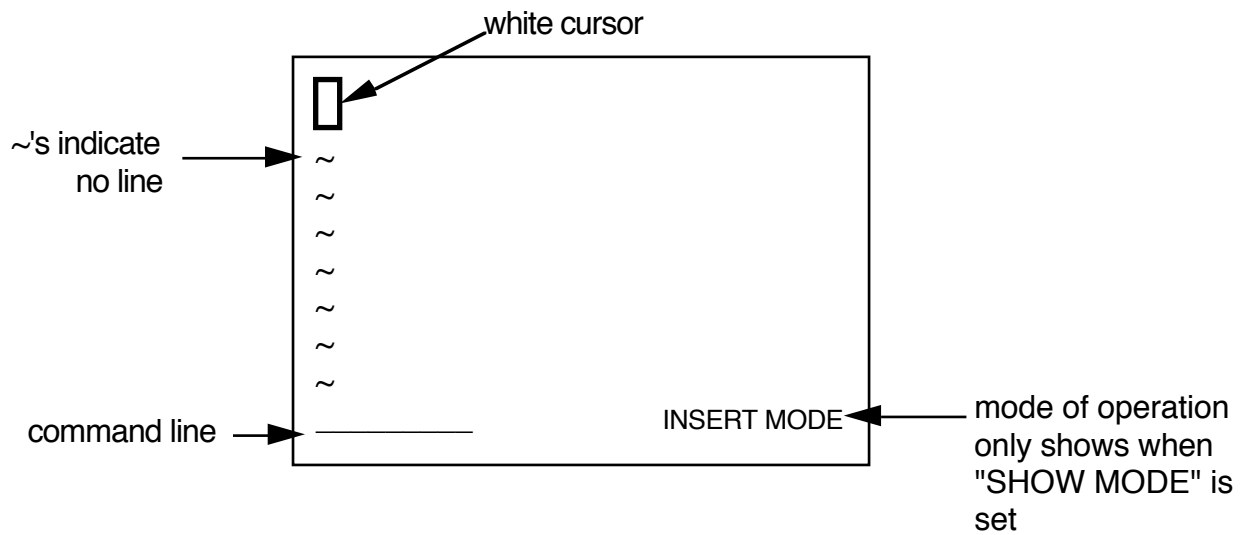


The vi editor:

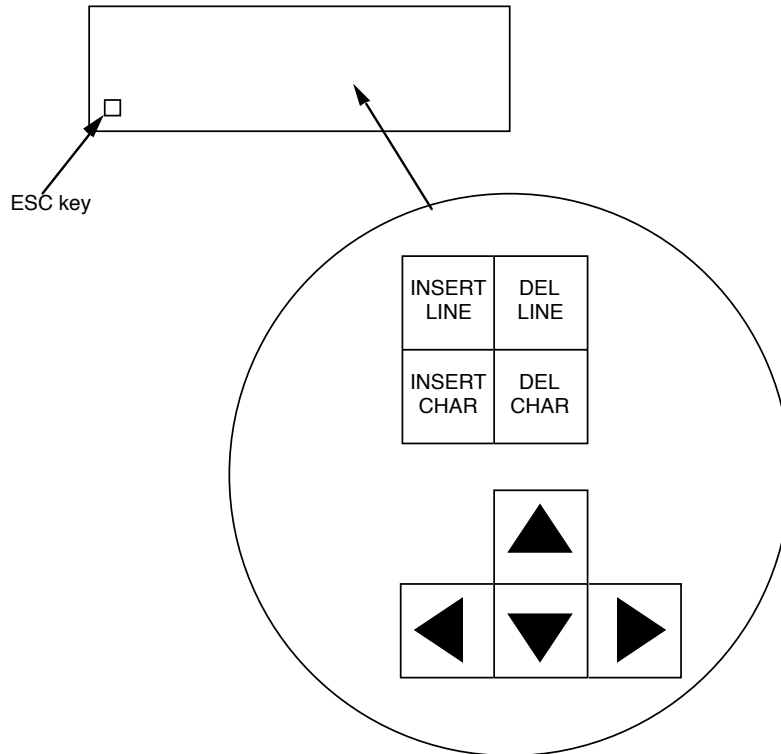
video editor with two modes:

- command
- text entry

The screen:



The keyboard:



The cursor is very important! It is used as the reference for adding (inserting) and deleting characters.

a append insert text after cursor location
i insert insert text at cursor location

Insert or append mode continues until the ESC key is hit.

The ESC key is also used to goto command mode. If you are already in command mode, the terminal will simply beep.

To exit the editor:

:wq save the edited file and quit
:q! quit without saving any changes
:w<name> write the edited text to file <name>, if file <name> is not present it will write to input file
!:<> can be used to execute a shell command such as ls from within the editor

The command line colons (:’s) must be typed in!!!

Other useful vi commands:

positioning

b position cursor at beginning of previous word

w position cursor at beginning of following word

e position cursor at end of next word

% toggles between paired parentheses, i.e. (and) or { and }
/<pattern> typed in command mode this begins a pattern which is terminated by either a carriage_return or ESC. The cursor will be positioned to the next occurrence of <pattern> in the file, i.e. it moves the cursor forward in the file.

N<pattern> identical to / except it positions the cursor to the first previous occurrence of <pattern>, i.e. it moves the cursor backwards in the file.

NOTE: The characters ^, \$, ., *, [, and \ have special meaning in patterns and cannot be used as shown above.

deletion

x deletes the character under the cursor

#x deletes # characters beginning with the cursor location

dd deletes the line under the cursor

#dd deletes # lines beginning with the cursor location

replacement (these are 1:n replacements)

r◇ replace character under the cursor with ◇

R replace the text beginning with the character under the cursor with what you enter until you hit the ESC key. This is sort of a repeating r command.

substitution (these are m:n replacements)

s substitute all characters after the s for the character under the cursor

#s substitute all characters after the s (until you hit the ESC key) for # characters beginning at the cursor location

undo

u undo the last command

cut & paste operations:

cut:

1. position the cursor where you want to start copying
2. type “**mz**”
3. move the cursor to where you want to stop copying
4. type “**d’z**”

paste:

1. position cursor where you want text
2. type “**P**” to enter text

options:

:set all shows options in effect

:set number shows line numbers

:set nonumber hides line numbers

If you accidentally delete something, try the commands

“**1p** ← restores the most recent deletion

“**2p** ← restores the next most recent deletion

etc.

If the system or editor crash while you are editing, you can restore it using the command:

vi -r <filename>