

Fundamentals of UNIX
Lab 9.2.6 – Using the CDE Text Editor
(Estimated time: 30 min.)

Objectives:

- Access the CDE Text Editor
- Open a new file and enter some text
- Save the file
- Use Help with File menu options
- Use the Edit Menu
- Use the Sun Workstation Editing Keys (Optional)
- Use Find / Change
- Select and replace text
- Use the Format menu to change options
- Use the Text Editor Options menu

Background:

In this lab, you will work with the Common Desktop Environment (CDE) Text Editor. Text Editor is a full-screen graphical text editor that supports a mouse and can be used to edit files. It is similar to the Windows Notepad. As with vi, this editor does not put any special formatting characters into the file and is suitable for creating system environment and script files.

Tools / Preparation:

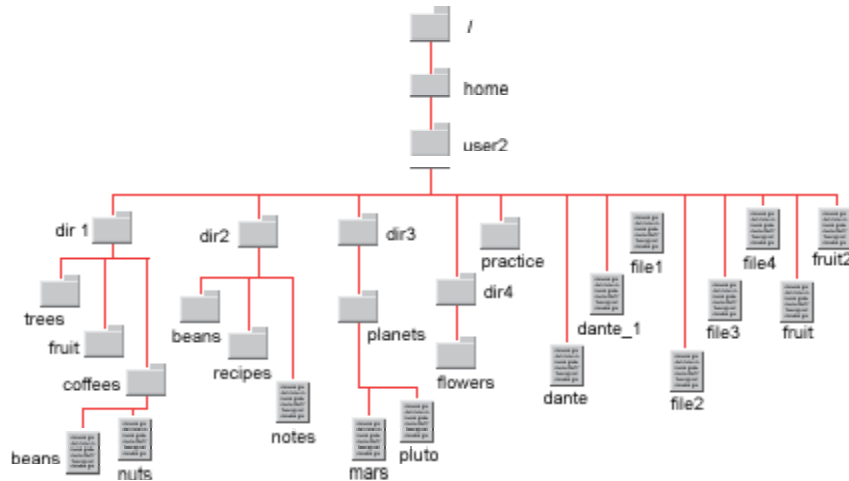
- a) Before starting this lab, review Chapter 9, Section 2 – Using the CDE Editor
- b) You will need the following:
 - 1. A login user ID (e.g. user2) and password assigned by your instructor.
 - 2. A computer running the UNIX operating system with CDE
 - 3. Networked computers in classroom with the class file system installed

Notes:

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Worksheet

Use the diagram of the sample Class File System directory tree to assist with this lab.

Class File Tree Structure



Step 1. Log in to CDE

Login with the user name and password assigned to you by your instructor in the CDE entry box.

Step 2. Access The CDE Text Editor

To start the **CDE Text Editor**, click on the **Text Note** subpanel from the **Front Panel** and open a Text Editor window.

- a. Click on the **Text Note** menu subpanel above the **Text Note** icon on the **Front Panel** to start the **CDE Text Editor**. What is the default name for the file that opens? _____

Step 3. Enter Some Text

You can type any text into the Text Editor window. If you want to insert characters into an area where you have already typed, position the pointer where you want to insert text, then click the left mouse button. By default, Text Editor is in **Insert** mode. That is, when you type, the characters will be automatically inserted into the text rather than overwriting any existing characters to the right of the pointer. You can change from insert to overwrite mode at any time while working with Text Editor by clicking on the Options menu and selecting Overstrike.

- a. Enter a small paragraph of text and press **Enter** at the end of each line. What happens if you do not press enter at the end of each line? _____

Step 4. Save the File

- a. Click on the **File** menu and select **Save** from the menu. Name the file **mycdefile**. What is the default directory where this file was saved? _____
- b. Click on the **File** menu and select **Close** to exit the CDE Editor.
- c. Open a Terminal window and list the contents of your home folder. What is the size of the file you just created? _____

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Worksheet – Cont.

Step 5. Use Help with File Menu Options

- a. Click on the **File** menu and review the options available. List the options here.

- b. Click on the **Help** menu, select **Reference** and then **Text Editor File Menu** to see what each menu item does. What does Help say about the **Include** option?

Step 6. Use the Edit Menu

The **Edit** menu contains the standard options to manipulate text, such as **Cut**, **Copy**, and **Paste**. However, if no text is selected, the cut and copy options will not be available. Many of the Edit menu functions are available by selecting the text you want to work with and right clicking with the mouse. Select **Edit** from the menu displayed, and you will be able to cut, copy, and paste.

- a. Open **mycdefile**, which you created earlier. Select some text with the mouse, click on the **Edit** menu and select **Copy**.

- b. Move the mouse to another area in the text and click to select a place to insert what you copied. Click on the **Edit** menu and select **Paste**. Was the text you copied pasted into the new location?

- c. Select some more text with the mouse, click on the **Edit** menu and select **Cut**. If you had accidentally removed this text and wanted to put it back, what **Edit** menu option would you use?

- d. Select some text with the mouse, **right click** and select **Edit** from the menu. Click on **Copy** and then reposition the cursor. **Right click**, select **Edit** and then **Paste**.

- e. Click on the **Edit** menu again. Select the **Check Spelling** option and check your document for spelling errors.

- f. Close the Text editor. Were you prompted to save you changes? _____

Step 7. (Optional) Use the Sun Workstation Editing Keys

The Sun workstation keyboard has a set of editing keys on the left side that can be used instead of the editing menu options. By selecting text with the mouse, these keys can be used to copy, cut, and paste, among other things.

- a. If you have access to a Sun Workstation, practice the cut, copy, and paste actions you performed in the previous steps using the keyboard editing keys.

Step 8. Use Find / Change

The **Find** option enables you to find text or to find and change text. It is case-sensitive, so anything you are searching for will only be found if it is an exact match. Similarly, any text can be changed to be exactly the same as the text you typed in the change box.

- a. Open **mycdefile**, which you created earlier. Select **Find/Change** from the **Edit** menu. Enter a word or string that is in the text and use the find function to search for it.
- b. Enter a word or string to change what you just found. Click on **Change**. Did the old text change to the new text? _____

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Worksheet – Cont.

Step 9. Select and Replace Text

Text can be selected using any of the following four methods:

1. Dragging over the text while pressing the left mouse button
2. Double-clicking with the left mouse button on a word to highlight that word.
3. Triple-clicking with the left mouse button to highlight the paragraph
4. Quadruple-clicking with the left mouse button to highlight all of the text in file.

Once text has been highlighted using any of these four methods, it will be replaced by whatever characters are next typed at the keyboard.

- a. Practice selecting text using all four methods listed above, and then replace the text you selected by typing new text. You can also use the Edit menu and the right click mouse option after text has been selected.

Step 10. Use the Format Menu to Change Options

The **Settings** option under the **Format** menu will enable you to change margins and alignment of your text, either for a paragraph or for the entire document. Once settings have been defined, clicking again on the Format menu gives a shortcut to changing settings for the current paragraph or the entire document (Paragraph or All).

- a. Click on the **Format** menu and select **Settings**. Change your right margin to **60** and Select the **Justify** button. Click **All** to apply the settings to the entire document. Click **Close**. Did the settings take effect? _____

Step 11. Use the Text Editor Options Menu

The **Options** menu enables you to switch between **insert** and **overstrike** modes. The chosen mode will affect any new text typed into an existing text area. The **wrap-to-fit** mode formats the text in the current Text Editor window by automatically wrapping or moving text to the next line when it reaches the edge of the window.

- a. Practice switching between **insert** and **overstrike** modes
- b. Turn on the **wrap-to fit** option and type and type two or 3 additional sentences.
- c. Click on the **Help** menu and select **Reference** from the menu. Click on **Text Editor Options Menu** and review what the **Backup on Save** option does. What does the Text editor name the file that is backed up? _____

Step 12 – Remove Files and Directories Created in this Lab

Step 13. Logout

Exit the CDE Text Editor by clicking the File menu and click Close. Close any terminal windows. Click the **EXIT** icon on the front panel.