

# Losing my religion

A journey from Emacs to Vim

Kevin Mitchell

[kevin@dashingfalcon.com](mailto:kevin@dashingfalcon.com)

@kamitchell



# Ancient history

- Unix V7 vi
- VAX/VMS EDT
- TPU
- MicroEMACS
- GNU Emacs didn't exist yet (born 1985)

# Run anywhere

OS X      Windows      Ultrix

VAX/VMS      HP-UX

AIX      Linux

Solaris      SunOS

# Multibuffer Editor

- I tend to open things and not close them
- Work on more than one file
- Original vi was pretty cramped for this
- Hence, Emacs

# Making Emacs into vi?

- Ctrl-Alt-Meta-Super-Hyper F9?
- VIPER

# Ultimate Frustration

- Emacs 23 uses Cocoa
- Lots of drawing errors
- I tried to fix it

```
554 ; Pymacs
555 (autoload 'pymacs-apply "p
556 (autoload 'pymacs-call "py
557 (autoload 'pymacs-eval "py
558 (autoload 'pymacs-exec "py
559 (autoload 'pymacs-load "py
560 ;;(eval-after-load "pymacs
561 ;; '(add-to-list 'pymacs-
--:--- init.el 93% (52
```

“Turds” in the display

Incorrect leading  
Text clipped

# Making it hard to help

- Previous system: CVS, git mirror
- New system: Bazaar? Really?
- Loyalty > utility, usefulness, familiarity.

We should use Bzr because that is becoming a GNU package. GNU packages should show loyalty to each other when possible, and in this case it is possible.

—Richard Stallman

# By the Way

- I'm not Richard Stallman



My own [REDACTED] picture



Released to public domain



# Try Something New



- Friends and co-workers had tried Emacs

# It's what I wanted

- Modelines
- Multiple buffers
- Really good integration with Exuberant Ctags

# Nouns and Verbs

- Just type commands
- `d2w`—delete two words
- `ci(`—change the text inside these parens
- Note the scarceness of modifier keys
- Keep your hands on the home row

# Comparative fingering

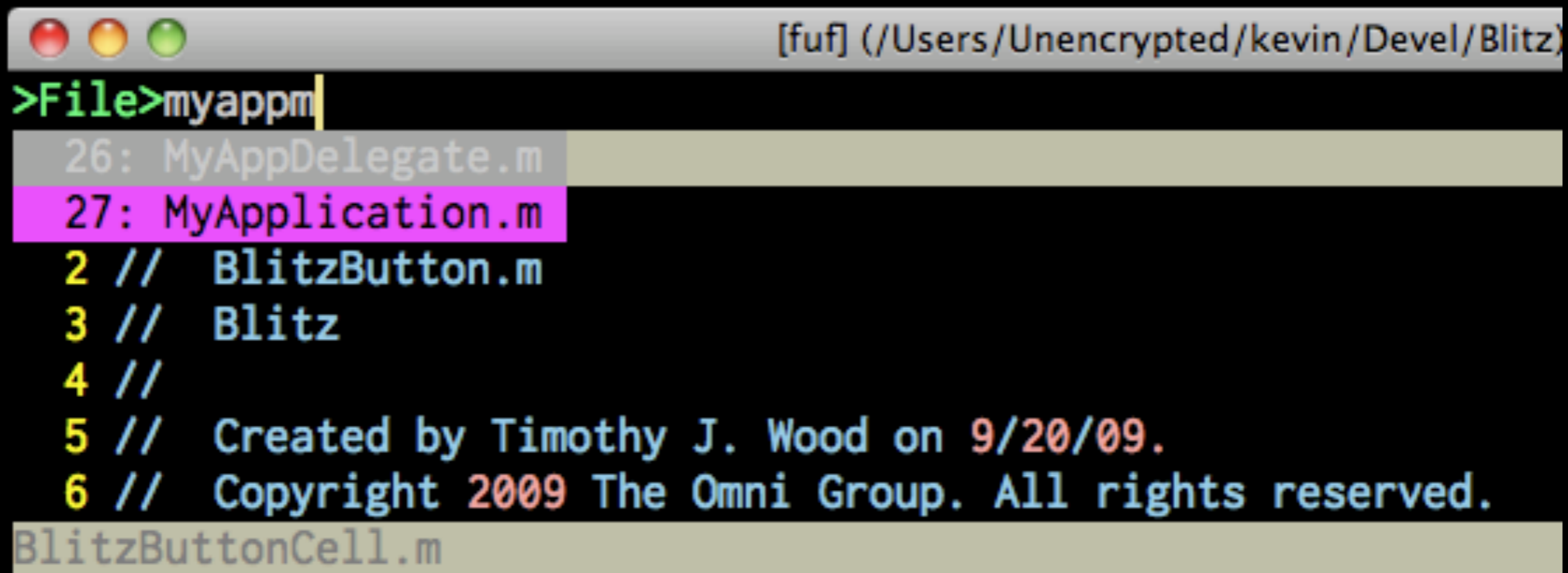
Action	Emacs	Vim
Save file	CTRL-X CTRL-S	:w
Search	CTRL-S	/
Delete lines containing foo	ESC x delete-matching-lines CR foo CR	:g/foo/d
Undo	CTRL-U	u

# A Great Community

- Vimmit! <http://vim.reddit.com>
- Tons of scripts: <http://www.vim.org/scripts/>

# FuzzyFinder

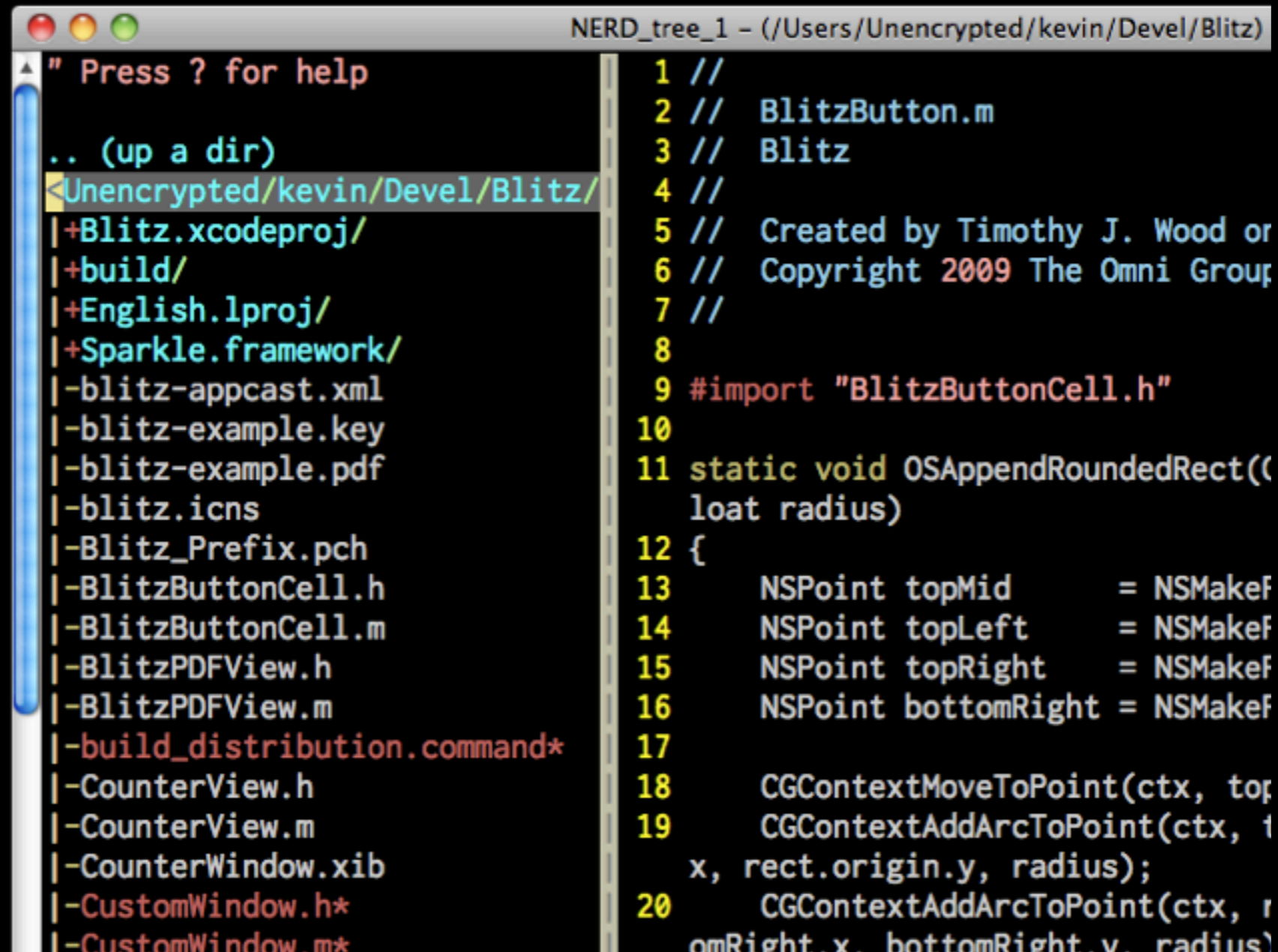
- Quick access to files and buffers



The screenshot shows a window titled "[fuf] (/Users/Unencrypted/kevin/Devel/Blitz)". The command prompt shows ">File>myappm". A list of files is displayed, with "27: MyApplication.m" highlighted in pink. Other files include "26: MyAppDelegate.m", "2 // BlitzButton.m", "3 // Blitz", "4 //", "5 // Created by Timothy J. Wood on 9/20/09.", "6 // Copyright 2009 The Omni Group. All rights reserved.", and "BlitzButtonCell.m".

```
[fuf] (/Users/Unencrypted/kevin/Devel/Blitz)
>File>myappm
26: MyAppDelegate.m
27: MyApplication.m
2 // BlitzButton.m
3 // Blitz
4 //
5 // Created by Timothy J. Wood on 9/20/09.
6 // Copyright 2009 The Omni Group. All rights reserved.
BlitzButtonCell.m
```

# NerdTree



```
NERD_tree_1 - (/Users/Unencrypted/kevin/Devel/Blitz)
^ " Press ? for help
.. (up a dir)
<Unencrypted/kevin/Devel/Blitz/
|+Blitz.xcodeproj/
|+build/
|+English.lproj/
|+Sparkle.framework/
|-blitz-appcast.xml
|-blitz-example.key
|-blitz-example.pdf
|-blitz.icns
|-Blitz_Prefix.pch
|-BlitzButtonCell.h
|-BlitzButtonCell.m
|-BlitzPDFView.h
|-BlitzPDFView.m
|-build_distribution.command*
|-CounterView.h
|-CounterView.m
|-CounterWindow.xib
|-CustomWindow.h*
|-CustomWindow.m*
```

```
1 //
2 //  BlitzButton.m
3 //  Blitz
4 //
5 //  Created by Timothy J. Wood or
6 //  Copyright 2009 The Omni Group
7 //
8
9 #import "BlitzButtonCell.h"
10
11 static void OSAppendRoundedRect((
12     float radius)
13 {
14     NSPoint topMid      = NSMakef
15     NSPoint topLeft    = NSMakef
16     NSPoint topRight   = NSMakef
17     NSPoint bottomRight = NSMakef
18
19     CGContextMoveToPoint(ctx, top
20     CGContextAddArcToPoint(ctx, t
21     CGContextAddArcToPoint(ctx, r
22     CGContextAddArcToPoint(ctx, r
```

# SnipMate

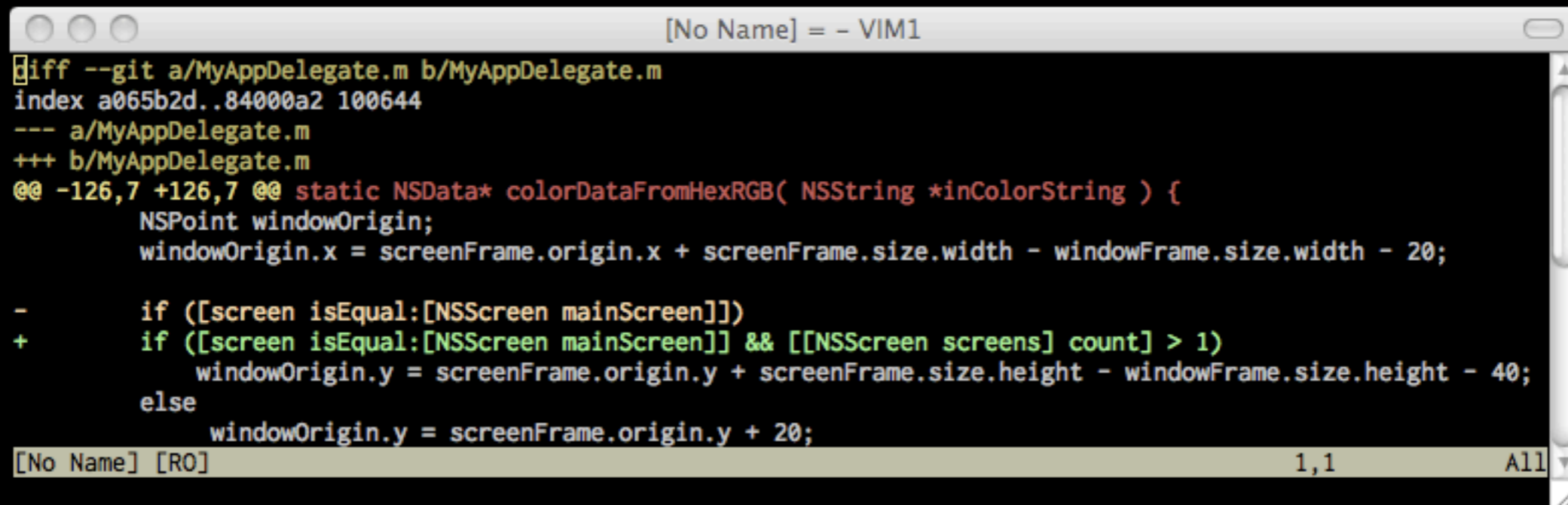
```
file.c + (/Users/  
1 int main(int argc, const char *argv[])  
2 {  
3     for|  
4     return 0;  
5 }  
~  
~  
~
```

```
file.c + (/Users/U  
1 int main(int argc, const char *argv[])  
2 {  
3     for (i = 0; i < count; i++) {  
4         /* code */  
5     }  
6     return 0;  
7 }  
~  
~
```



# GUI and Mac

- GUI from command line: gvim, mvim
- Window your outputs: git diff | mview -



```
[No Name] = - VIM1
diff --git a/MyAppDelegate.m b/MyAppDelegate.m
index a065b2d..84000a2 100644
--- a/MyAppDelegate.m
+++ b/MyAppDelegate.m
@@ -126,7 +126,7 @@ static NSData* colorDataFromHexRGB( NSString *inColorString ) {
    NSPoint windowOrigin;
    windowOrigin.x = screenFrame.origin.x + screenFrame.size.width - windowFrame.size.width - 20;

-   if ([screen isEqual:[NSScreen mainScreen]])
+   if ([screen isEqual:[NSScreen mainScreen]] && [[NSScreen screens] count] > 1)
        windowOrigin.y = screenFrame.origin.y + screenFrame.size.height - windowFrame.size.height - 40;
    else
        windowOrigin.y = screenFrame.origin.y + 20;
```

[No Name] [RO] 1,1 All

# Managing scripts

- Pathogen: script packages as bundles
- Git submodules: automatic updates

# What did I learn?

- Try something new
- Stick with it and learn

# Get started!

- [vim.org](http://vim.org)
- MacVim: <http://github.com/b4winckler/macvim>
- Tim Pope's scripts: <http://github.com/tpope>
- Vim Scripts project:
  - <http://vim-scripts.org/index.html>