Ex Reference Manual
Version 3.7

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ABSTRACT

Ex a line oriented text editor, which supports both command and display oriented editing. This reference manual describes the command oriented part of *ex;* the display editing features of *ex* are described in *An Introduction to Display Editing with Vi.* Other documents about the editor include the introduction *Edit: A tutorial*, the *Ex/edit Command Summary*, and a *Vi Quick Reference* card.

1. Starting ex

Each instance of the editor has a set of options, which can be set to tailor it to your liking. The command *edit* invokes a version of *ex* designed for more casual or beginning users by changing the default settings of some of these options. To simplify the description which follows we assume the default settings of the options.

When invoked, *ex* determines the terminal type from the TERM variable in the environment. It there is a TERMCAP variable in the environment, and the type of the terminal described there matches the TERM variable, then that description is used. Also if the TERMCAP variable contains a pathname (be