VM Reference Card 1.6.0

(for VM 6.77)

`http://www.wonderworks.com/vm/`

Starting VM

start VM	`M-x vm`

VM will copy your mail from the spool-directory (`/var/mail`) to your home-directory into a file called `INBOX`.

Exiting VM

quit VM; folder is saved to disk if it is modified; new messages are marked as unread; folder not expunged	`q`
exit VM with no change to the folder	`x`

Movement

next message	`n`
previous message	`p`
Next message, ignore `skip-variable`	`N`
Previous message, ignore `skip-variable`	`P`
next unread message	`M-n`
previous unread message	`M-p`
goto numbered message (or prefix arg)	`RET`
goto numbered message (or prefix arg)	`M-g`
goto **last** message seen	`TAB`
goto **parent** of current message	`^`
incremental **search** through folder	`M-s`

Display

page **forward** or expose message body	`SPC`
page **backward**	`b`
beginning of current message	`<`
end of current message	`>`
display hidden **headers**	`t`
summarize folder contents	`=`

Deletion

Delete operations flag messages for deletion. To physically delete flagged messages, the folder must be expunged.

delete message; prefix arg deletes forward	`d`
delete message; prefix arg deletes backward	`C-d`
kill all messages with same subject as the current	`k`
undelete message flagged for deletion	`u`
expunge deleted messages (without saving folder)	`###`

Reply, Resend or Mail

reply only to the sender	`r`
Reply with original message included	`R`
followup (reply) to all recipients	`f`
Followup with original message included	`F`
Bounce current message (accidently sent to you)	`B`
zoink? (forward) current message	`z`
resend undelivered message	`M-r`
compose a new **mail** message	`m`
continue composing the most recent message being composed	`c`

New Mail/Folder

get new mail that has arrived in the spool	`g`
visit another mail folder	`v`

Edit, Save

edit current message (`C-c C-c` to exit)	`e`
save current message to a folder	`s`
write current message body to a file	`w`
Save entire folder (does not expunge)	`S`
archive messages to `vm-auto-folder-alist` folders	`A`
junk (discard) cached information about the current message	`j`

Digest

digestify entire folder	`@`
burst a digest into individual messages, and append and assimilate these messages into the current folder	`*`

Sorting

group (sort) messages by various keys (? lists keys)	`G`

Help

help (describe mode)	`?`

The VM FAQ is at:

`http://www.wonderworks.com/vm/FAQ.html`

Questions may be posted to `gnu.emacs.vm.info`

Undo

undo recent changes in message attributes and labels; `C-x u` is equivalent (expunges, message edits, and saves cannot be undone)	`C-_`

Virtual folders

A virtual folder contains messages, selected from one or more real folders, fitting certain criteria.

Create a virtual folder with

some of the **current** folder's messages	`V C`
all messages matching current **author**	`V A`
all messages matching current **subject**	`V S`
some messages by applying selectors of another virtual folder	`V X`

Miscellaneous

visit folder (defined in `vm-virtual-folder-alist`)	`V V`
toggle attribute **mirroring**	`V M`
help for virtual folder commands	`V ?`

Marks

Some common operations may be performed on several messages at one time. First, mark them (`M M`) and then perform the operation (`d`, `s`, `u` etc.) on the marked messages, by preceding the operation with `M N`).

use marks; the next VM command will affect only marked messages if it makes sense for the command to do so	`M N`
mark current message	`M M`
unmark current message	`M U`
mark all messages	`M m`
unmark all messages	`M u`

Messages matching	**Mark**	**Unmark**
current **subject**	`M S`	`M s`
current **author**	`M A`	`M a`
region (point/mark) in the summary	`M R`	`M r`
virtual folder selector	`M C`	`M c`
thread rooted at the current message	`M T`	`M t`

toggle the marked-ness of all messages	`M V`
partial help for mark commands	`M ?`

Shell

run a shell command `!`

pipe current message into shell command `|`

Mail aliases

Aliases are mnemonics that represent long email addresses. They are stored in `~/.mailrc`, using either of the following formats:

```
alias luis "elf@ee.ryerson.ca (Luis Fernandes)"
alias luis "Luis Fernandes <elf@ee.ryerson.ca>"
```

Once an alias is created, you can type `luis` in the "To:", "Cc:", etc. fields, instead of the full email address; the alias will be expanded before the email is sent (if you want to see the expansion, see the following section). If new aliases are added to `~/.mailrc` while VM is running, you must re-load VM for the aliases to take effect.

Mailabbrev

Note: for XEmacs 21.1.7 onwards, mailabbrev support is automatic.

Alias expansion; i.e. typing the alias followed by `SPC` or a `,` to display the full email address, is available by adding the following to your `~/.emacs`:

```
(load-library "mailabbrev")
(add-hook 'mail-setup-hook 'mail-abbrevs-setup)
```

Big Brother Database

BBDB is a rolodex-like database program, with features like name completion, that is a more sophisticated alternative to mailabbrev. It works with both mail readers and news readers.

After installing BBDB, add the following to your `~/.vm`:

```
(require 'bbdb)
(add-hook 'vm-mail-mode-hook 'bbdb-define-all-aliases)
(bbdb-initialize 'vm)
(bbdb-insinuate-vm)
```

Miscellaneous

set message **attributes**	`a`
add labels to message	`l a`
delete labels from message	`l d`
reload VM init file, `~/.vm`	`L`
change a folder to another type	`%`

Submit a bug report `M-x vm-submit-bug-report`

Window configuration

save configuration (to a name)	`W S`
delete configuration	`W D`
apply configuration	`W W`
help for window commands	`W ?`

MIME

You may have to upgrade to the latest version of VM to use these features.

save attachment to mail folder	`$ s`
write attachment to a file	`$ w`
delete attachment	`$ d`
view attachment in **external** viewer	`$ e`
print attachment	`$ p`
pipe attachment to a command	`$ |`
display using the default display method	`$ RET`

Useful customizations

Some useful customizations (`~/.vm`) of VM variables are describe here.

```
(setq
   ;;where to save folders
   vm-folder-directory "~/Mail/"
   ;;where to keep INBOX
   vm-primary-inbox "~/Mail/INBOX"
   ;;where to save a copy of outgoing email (FCC)
   mail-archive-file-name
       (expand-file-name "~/Mail/outbox")
   )
;;; location of the mail spool dirs (replace LOGIN with
your login)
(setq vm-spool-files '("/var/mail/LOGIN"
      "/var/spool/mail/LOGIN"))
(setq
   ;;do not add my email when replying to a Cc
   vm-reply-ignored-addresses
      (list (concat "^" user-login-name "@"))
   ;; add ``Re'' in front of replies
   vm-reply-subject-prefix "Re: "
   ;;outgoing mail From header looks like this
   vm-mail-header-from
      "luis fernandes <elf@ee.ryerson.ca>"
   ;;location of crash files
   vm-keep-crash-boxes "~/.CRASH"
   ;; don't create new frame when...
   vm-frame-per-folder nil       ;...visiting a folder
   vm-frame-per-composition nil  ;composing an email
   vm-frame-per-edit nil         ;editing mail
)
;;; external viewers to view MIME attachments
(setq vm-mime-external-content-types-alist
   '(("image"                    "xv")
     ("video"                    "xanim")
     ("application/postscript"   "ghostview")
     ("application/pdf"          "acroread")))
```