Kakoune

Selection-first modal editor

CONCEPTS

Selection first, then verb: w selects a word, d deletes it. There is no operator-pending state like in Vim.

Uppercase movement extends the selection: w picks a word, W adds the next.

Notation as in the docs: <c-x> is Ctrl+x, <a-x> is Alt+x.

MODES & FILES

`<esc>`
Back to normal mode; drop extra selections

`i` / `a`
Insert before / after selection

`I` / `A`
Insert at line start / end

`o` / `O`
Open line below / above

`:w`
Write the buffer

`:q`
Quit (fails if unsaved)

`:`
Open the command prompt

MOVEMENT

`h` / `j` / `k` / `l`
Left / down / up / right

`w` / `b` / `e`
Next word start / previous start / end

`f` › `<char>` / `t` › `<char>`
Select to / until character

`g` › `g` / `g` › `j`
First / last line

`<n>` › `G`
Go to line <n>

SELECTIONS

`x`
Select line, again extends down

SELECTIONS (cont.)

`s`
Select regex matches inside selection

`<a-k>` / `<a-K>`
Keep / drop selections matching a regex

`C` / `<a-C>`
Add cursor on the next / previous line

`,`
Keep only the main selection

`;`
Collapse selections to cursors

OBJECTS

`<a-i>` › `<type>`
Select inside an object

`<a-a>` › `<type>`
Select an object with its delimiters

EDITING

`d`
Delete selection (yanked)

`c`
Change selection (delete + insert)

`y`
Yank (copy)

`p` / `P`
Paste after / before

`u` / `U`
Undo / redo

SEARCH

`/`
Search forward (regex)

`n` / `N`
Next match / add next match

`*`
Use selection as search pattern (word-bounded)

INSERT & PROMPT

`<c-n>` / `<c-p>`
Next / previous completion candidate