

# Textadept

*Behind the Scenes*

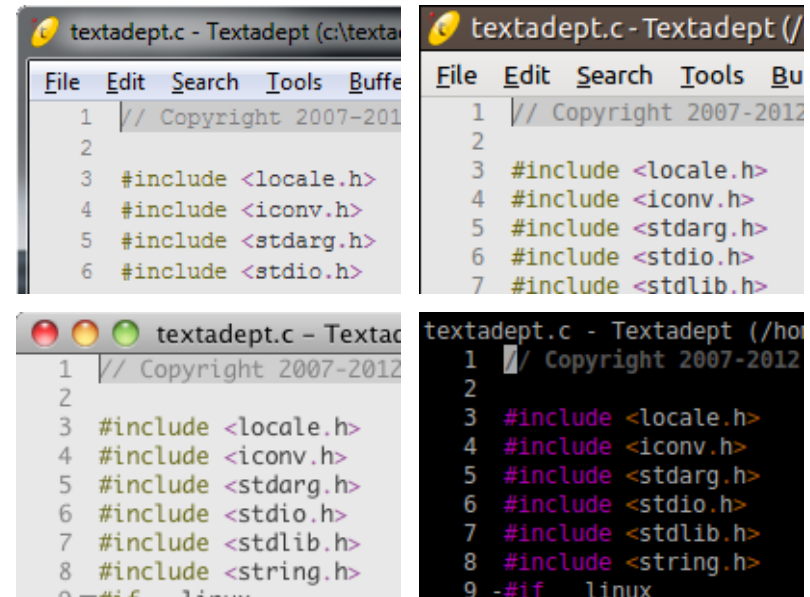
By Mitchell  
Lua Workshop 2012

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# Outline

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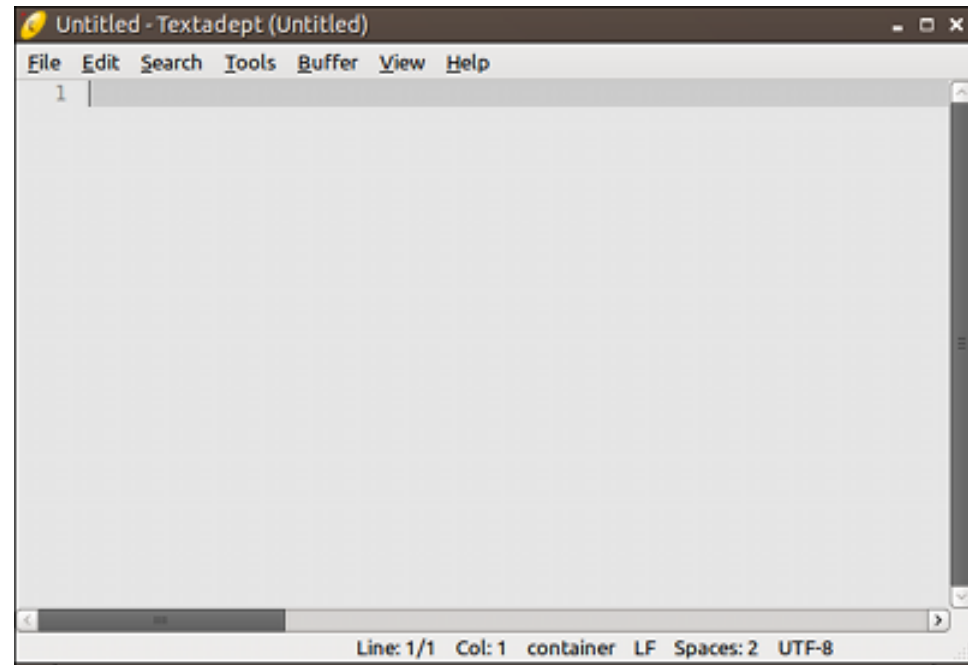
- Introduction
- Lua in Textadept
  - Syntax highlighting
  - Code completion
  - UI Scripting
    - Editing component
- Q & A



# Introduction

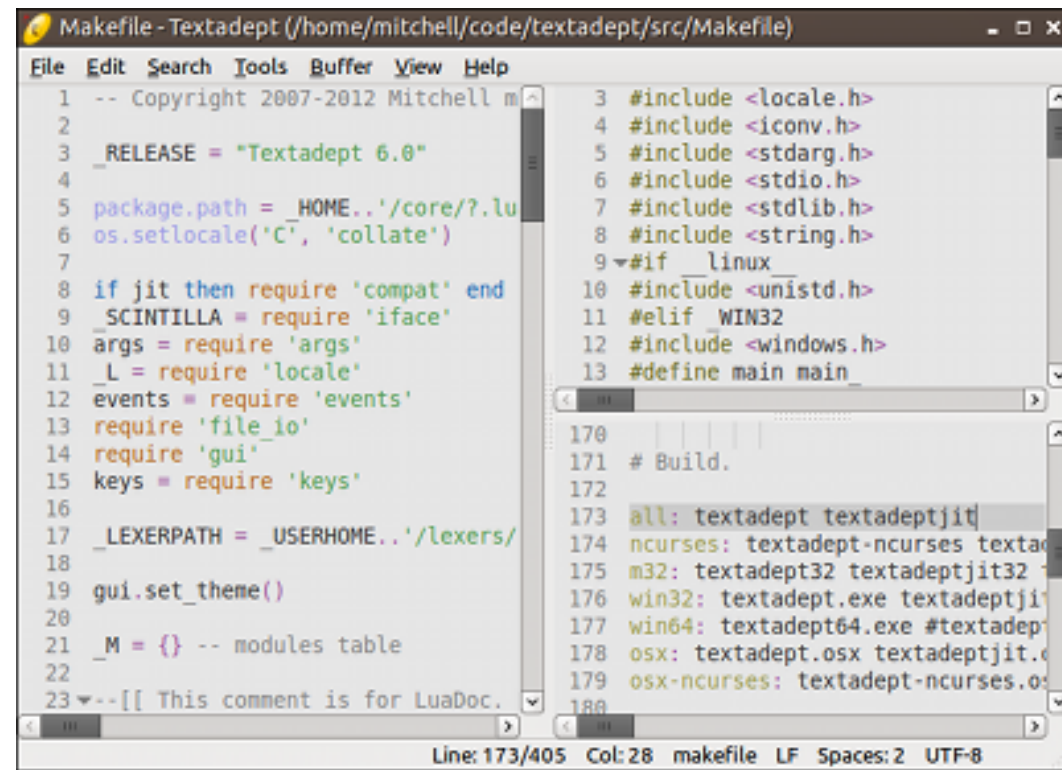
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- Why Textadept?
- Why Lua?
- Editor design



# Syntax Highlighting

- Pattern matching
  - Regex
  - Character iteration
  - LPeg



The image shows a screenshot of a text editor window titled "Makefile - Textadept (/home/mitchell/code/textadept/src/Makefile)". The editor displays a Makefile with syntax highlighting. The left pane shows lines 1 through 23, and the right pane shows lines 3 through 189. The status bar at the bottom indicates "Line: 173/405 Col: 28 makefile LF Spaces: 2 UTF-8".

```
1 -- Copyright 2007-2012 Mitchell m
2
3 _RELEASE = "Textadept 6.0"
4
5 package.path = HOME..'./core/?..lua
6 os.setlocale('C', 'collate')
7
8 if jit then require 'compat' end
9 _SCINTILLA = require 'iface'
10 args = require 'args'
11 _L = require 'locale'
12 events = require 'events'
13 require 'file_io'
14 require 'gui'
15 keys = require 'keys'
16
17 _LEXERPATH = _USERHOME..'./lexers/
18
19 gui.set_theme()
20
21 _M = {} -- modules table
22
23 --[[ This comment is for LuaDoc.
```

```
3 #include <locale.h>
4 #include <iconv.h>
5 #include <stdarg.h>
6 #include <stdio.h>
7 #include <stdlib.h>
8 #include <string.h>
9 #if __linux
10 #include <unistd.h>
11 #elif WIN32
12 #include <windows.h>
13 #define main main_
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171 # Build.
172
173 all: textadept textadeptjit
174 ncurses: textadept-ncurses textadept
175 m32: textadept32 textadeptjit32
176 win32: textadept.exe textadeptjit
177 win64: textadept64.exe #textadept
178 osx: textadept.osx textadeptjit.o
179 osx-ncurses: textadept-ncurses.os
180
```

# Syntax Highlighting with LPeg

- Tokens
  - Whitespace
  - Comments
  - Strings
  - Etc.
- Rules
- Grammars

```
l = lexer -- lexer module

ws = l.token(l.WHITESPACE, l.space^1)

ls = [...] -- long string pattern

lc = '---' * l.nonnewline^0
bc = '---' * ls
comment = l.token(l.COMMENT, bc + lc)

sq = l.delimited_range('"', '\\\\', true)
dq = l.delimited_range("'", '\\\\', true)
string = l.token(l.STRING, sq + dq + ls)

_rules = {
  {'whitespace', ws},
  [...], -- keywords, functions, etc.
  {'string', string},
  {'comment', comment},
  [...], -- numbers, labels, operators
} --> compiles to a grammar
```

# Behind the Scenes

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- Load lexer
- Build grammar
- Call `lpeg.match`
- Highlight text

```
lpeg.match(lua._GRAMMAR, [[
-- comment
local foo=10
print('foo')]]) -->

{'comment',    10, -- "-- comment"
'whitespace', 11, -- newline
'keyword',    16, -- "local"
'whitespace', 17, -- space
'identifier', 20, -- "foo"
'operator',   21, -- "="
'number',     23, -- "10"
'whitespace', 24, -- newline
'function',   29, -- "print"
'operator',   30, -- "("
'string',     35, -- "'foo'"
'operator',   36} -- ")"
```

# Embedded Languages

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- Load lexer
- Start/end rules
- Call one function

```
-- html.lua lexer

l = lexer -- lexer module

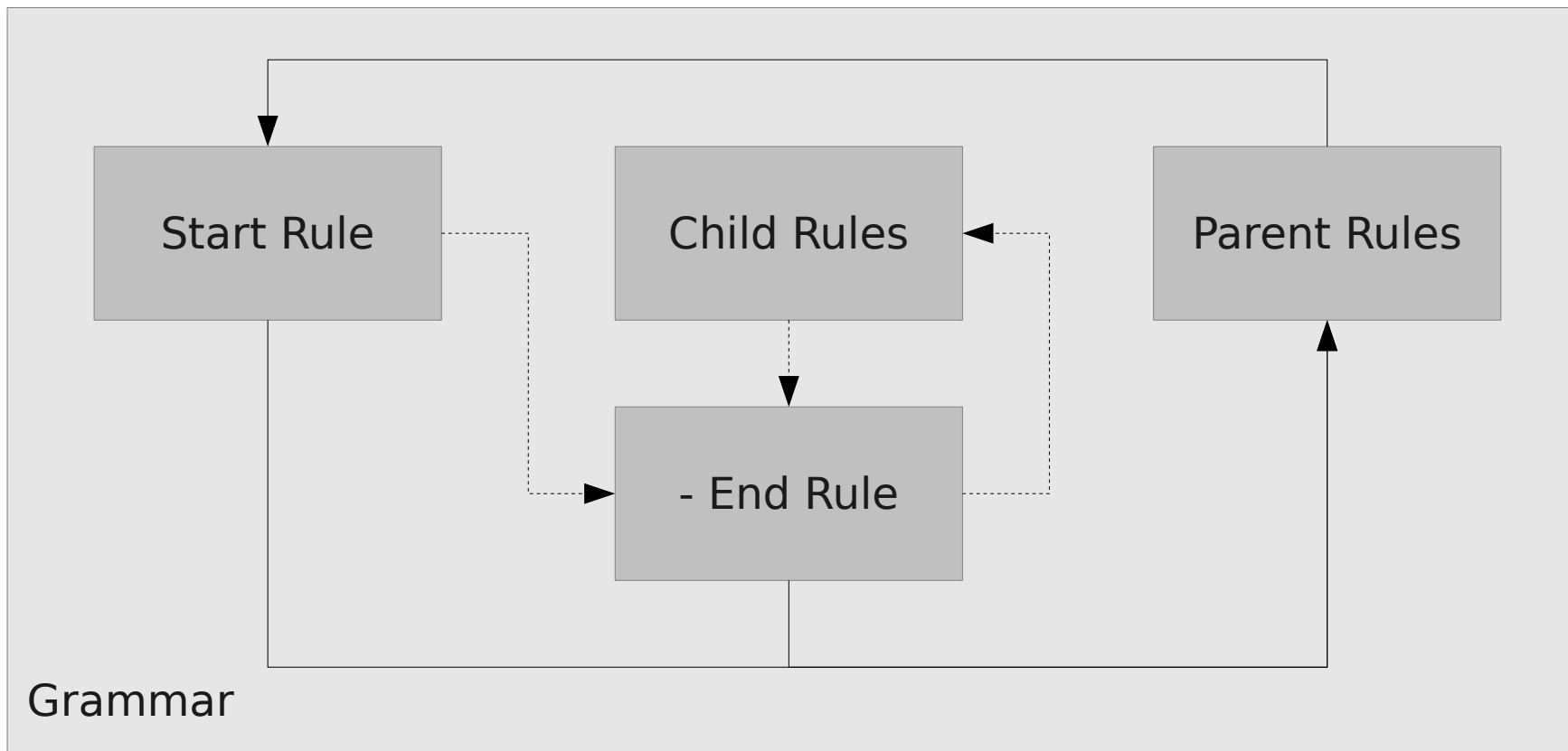
[...] -- html patterns, rules, etc.

-- Embedded Lua.
lua = l.load('lua')
s_tag = lpeg.P('<?lua') * l.space^1
e_tag = lpeg.P('?>')
start = l.token(l.TAG, s_tag)
stop = l.token(l.TAG, e_tag)
l.embed_lexer(M, lua, start, stop)
```

# Behind the Scenes

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```
l.embed_lexer(parent, child, start_rule, end_rule)
```





# More LPeg

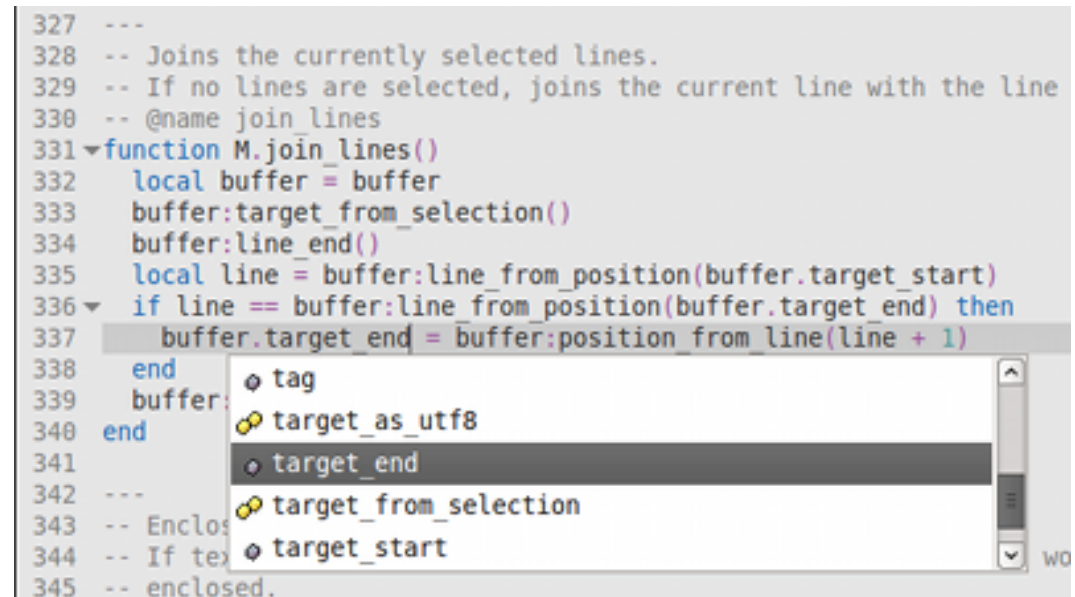
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- Common language syntax patterns
  - Delimited ranges with escape, balanced, and forbidden characters  
`l.delimited_range('()', '\\', false, true, '\\n')`
  - Nested pairs  
`l.nested_pair('/+', '+/', true)`
  - Beginning of lines  
`l.starts_line('#' * l.nonnewline^0)`
  - Words in a list  
`l.word_match{'foo', 'bar', 'baz'}`  
-- vs. `lpeg.P('foo') + lpeg.P('bar') + lpeg.P('baz')`

# Code Completion

- Ctags
- Introspection
- Parser/AST
- Hybrid

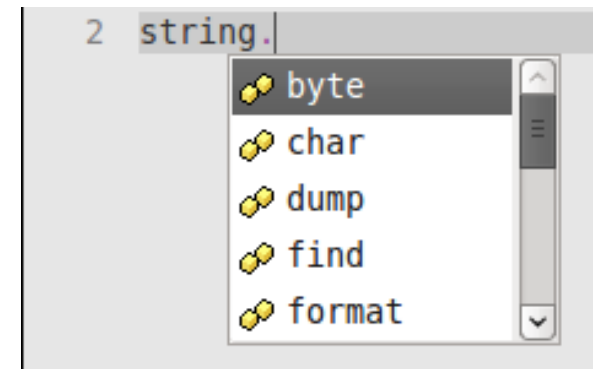
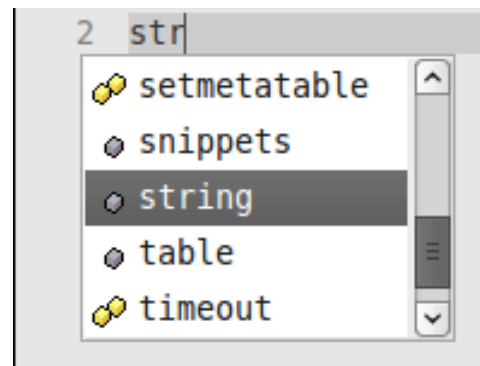
```
327 ---
328 -- Joins the currently selected lines.
329 -- If no lines are selected, joins the current line with the line
330 -- @name join_lines
331 ▾ function M.join_lines()
332     local buffer = buffer
333     buffer:target_from_selection()
334     buffer:line_end()
335     local line = buffer:line_from_position(buffer.target_start)
336 ▾ if line == buffer:line_from_position(buffer.target_end) then
337     buffer.target_end = buffer:position_from_line(line + 1)
338 end
339 buffer:
340 end
341
342 ---
343 -- Enclo:
344 -- If tex
345 -- enclosed.
```



# Adeptsense

---

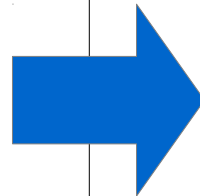
- Ctags-ish + type/class inference with pattern matching
- Classes
  - Functions
  - Fields



# Behind the Scenes

---

```
# Ctags-like tags
string _ 0;" m
byte _ 0;" f class:string
char _ 0;" f class:string
dump _ 0;" f class:string
find _ 0;" f class:string
format _ 0;" f class:string
gmatch _ 0;" f class:string
gsub _ 0;" f class:string
len _ 0;" f class:string
lower _ 0;" f class:string
match _ 0;" f class:string
rep _ 0;" f class:string
reverse _ 0;" f class:string
sub _ 0;" f class:string
upper _ 0;" f class:string
table _ 0;" m
...
```



```
-- Lua Adeptsense
sense.completions = {
  ['string'] = {
    functions = {
      'byte', 'char', 'dump',
      'find', 'format', 'gmatch',
      'gsub', 'len', 'lower',
      'match', 'rep', 'reverse',
      'sub', 'upper'
    },
    fields = {}
  },
  ['table'] = {[...]}, -- etc.
  [...] -- etc.
}
```

# Type/Class Inference Patterns

---

- Class definition + “self”
- Type declaration
- Type assignment

```
# Ruby
class String
  def foo
    self.      #=> string completions
```

```
// Java
String foo;
foo.      //> string completions
```

```
-- Lua
foo = "foo"
foo:      --> string completions
```

# Behind the Scenes

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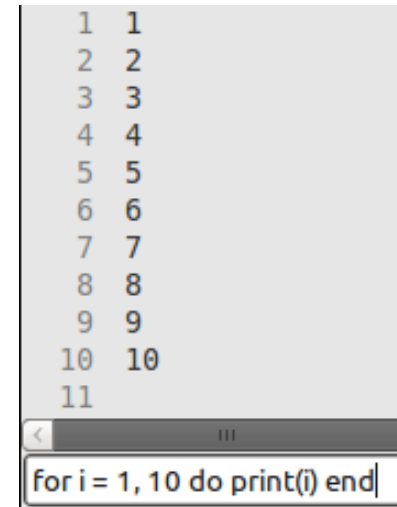
- Simple pattern matching upwards
  - False positives
  - No return type inference
- Can subclass Adeptsense methods

```
function sense:get_class(symbol)
  if condition then
    return self.super.get_class(self, symbol) -- default behavior
  else
    -- different behavior
  end
end
```

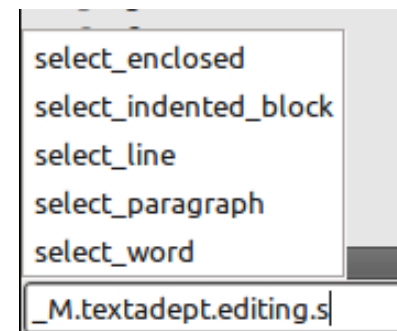
# C ↔ Lua

---

- Most C is Lua interface code
  - UI scripting
    - Metatables and callbacks
      - Text fields
      - Menus
      - Events
      - Etc.
    - Editing component



```
1 1
2 2
3 3
4 4
5 5
6 6
7 7
8 8
9 9
10 10
11
for i = 1, 10 do print(i) end
```



```
select_enclosed
select_indented_block
select_line
select_paragraph
select_word
_M.textadept.editing.s
```

# Editing Component

---

- Scintilla
- Lua-friendly API
  - `SCI_MESSAGE(lpParam, wParam)`
    - `SCI_INSERTTEXT(int pos, char *text)`  
→ `buffer:insert_text(0, "foo")`
    - `SCI_GETCHARAT(int pos, void)`  
→ `buffer.char_at[0]`
    - `SCI_SETEOLMODE(int eolmode, void)`  
→ `buffer.eol_mode = 2`



# Behind the Scenes

---

- “buffer” has `__index` and `__newindex`
- Scintilla messages have IDs
- Functions vs. Properties
  - `{id, return_type, wParam_type, lParam_type}`
  - `{get_id, set_id, return_type, wParam_type}`
- Functions are easy; return callable closure

# Behind the Scenes Continued

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- Properties are more difficult  
`{get_id, set_id, return_type, wParam_type}`
- `wParam_type == void` → simple property
- `wParam_type ~= void` → property table
  - Return table with `__index`, `__newindex`
- `__index` → use “`get_id`”; return value
- `__newindex` → use “`set_id`”; set value

# Wrap Up

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- Problems in Editor Design
  - Syntax highlighting
  - Code completion
  - UI scripting
- All solvable with Lua!

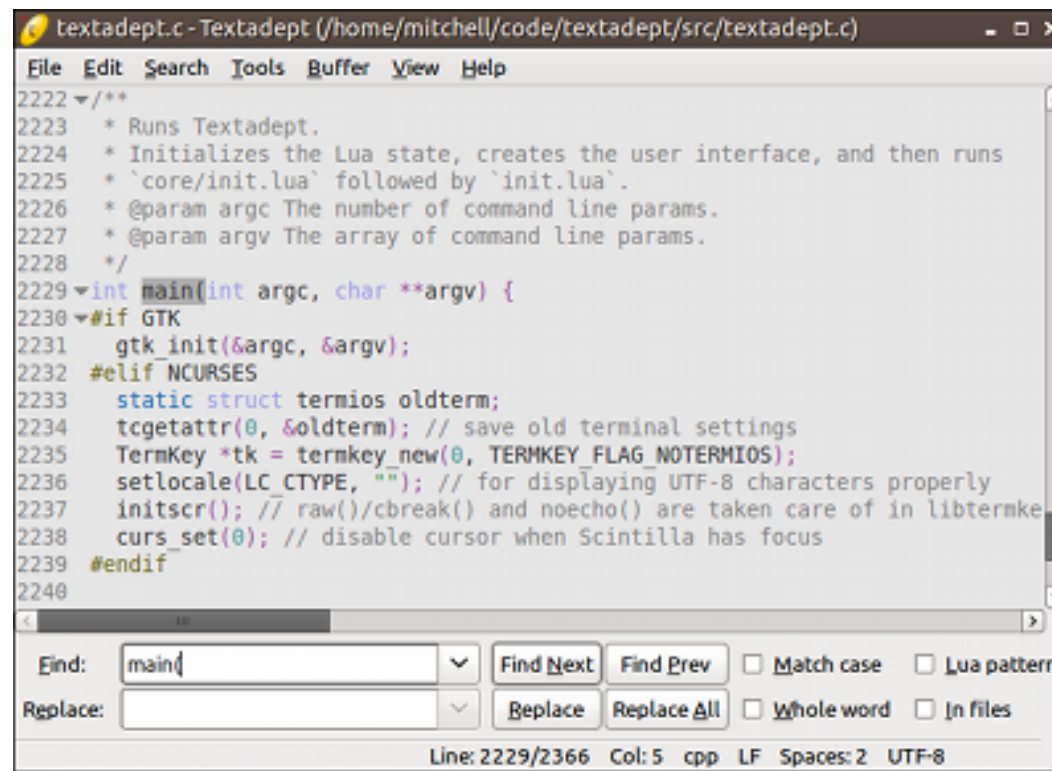
```
2 string.byte(|)
string.byte(s [, i [, j]])
Returns the internal numerical codes of the characters `s[i]`, `s[i+1]`,
..., `s[j]`. The default value for `i` is 1; the default value for `j`
is `i`. These indices are corrected following the same rules of function
`string.sub`.

Numerical codes are not necessarily portable across platforms.
```

# Thank You

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- Questions?



```
textadept.c - Textadept (/home/mitchell/code/textadept/src/textadept.c)
File Edit Search Tools Buffer View Help
2222 /**
2223  * Runs Textadept.
2224  * Initializes the Lua state, creates the user interface, and then runs
2225  * `core/init.lua` followed by `init.lua`.
2226  * @param argc The number of command line params.
2227  * @param argv The array of command line params.
2228  */
2229 int main(int argc, char **argv) {
2230 #if GTK
2231     gtk_init(&argc, &argv);
2232 #elif NCURSES
2233     static struct termios oldterm;
2234     tcgetattr(0, &oldterm); // save old terminal settings
2235     TermKey *tk = ternkey_new(0, TERMKEY_FLAG_NOTERMIOS);
2236     setlocale(LC_CTYPE, ""); // for displaying UTF-8 characters properly
2237     initscr(); // raw()/cbreak() and noecho() are taken care of in libtermke
2238     curs_set(0); // disable cursor when Scintilla has focus
2239 #endif
2240
Find: main{ Find Next Find Prev  Match case  Lua pattern
Replace:  Replace Replace All  Whole word  In files
Line: 2229/2366 Col: 5 cpp LF Spaces: 2 UTF-8
```