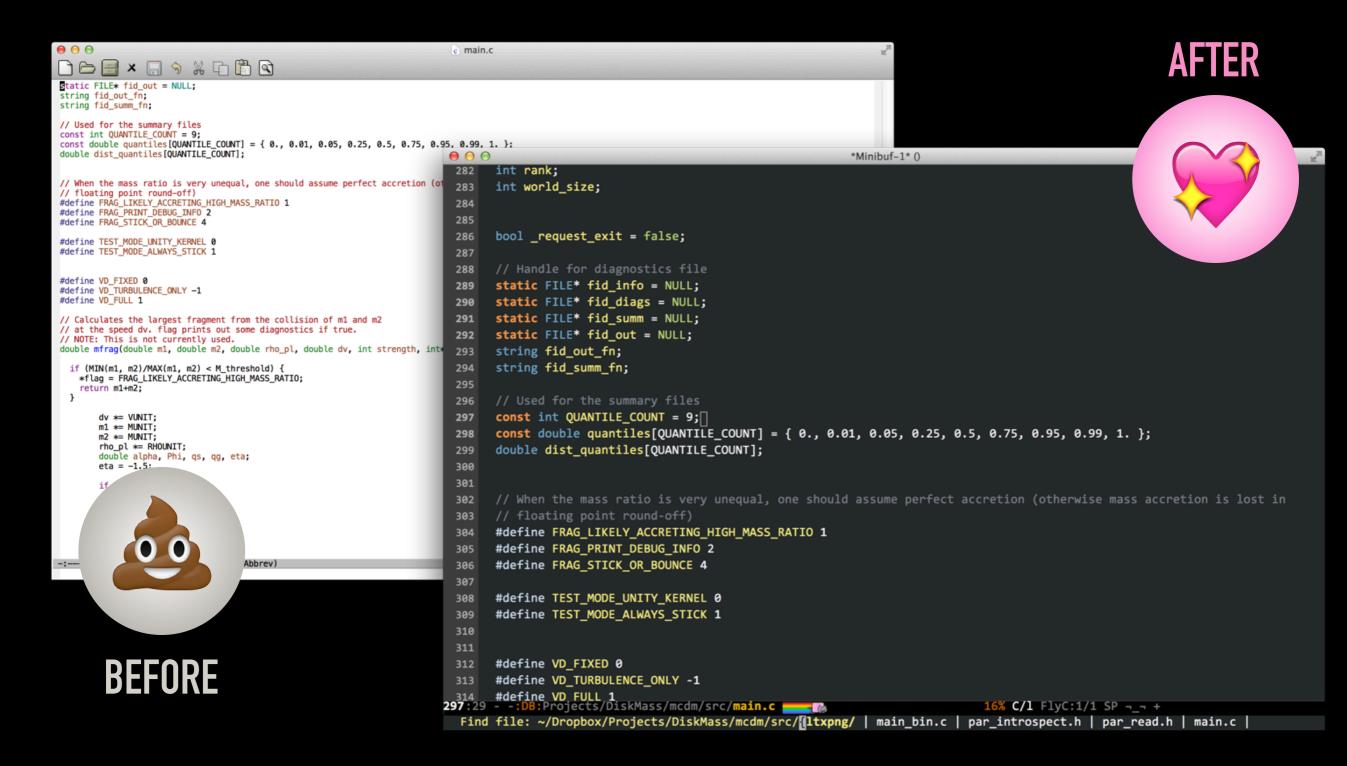
MAKE YOUR SEMACS SPARKLE!

STEFANO MESCHIARI, GSPS, 11/07



WHY EMACS?







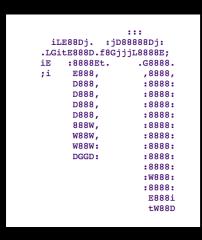
Xcode



Aquamacs



TeXShop



nano



Vim (yuck!)



Emacs



TextEdit



Your Web browser

A TALE OF EDITORS

An ancient Astronomy faculty hears cries of torment from her postdoc's office, and goes to investigate.

She finds the postdoc crying on the floor. "What's the problem?" she asks. "Why did you cry out?"

"My life is terrible. I must use three editors and the IDL Desktop each day to get my work done, because not one of them does everything."

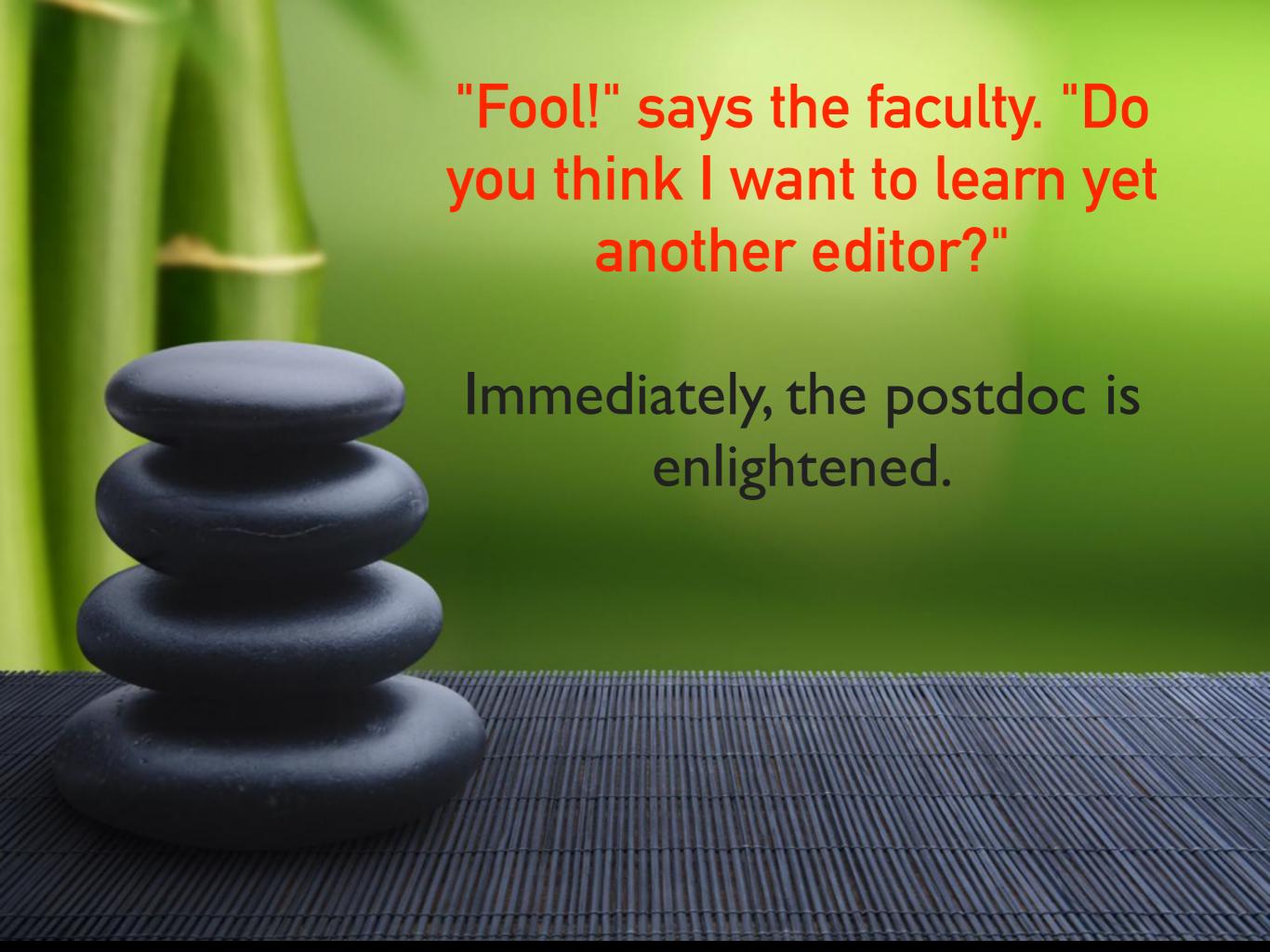
The faculty nods gravely, and asks, "And what do you propose that will solve this?"

A TALE OF EDITORS

Suddenly excited, he says, "Well, it's obvious. I will write the best editor ever. It will do everything that the existing four editors do, but better, and the world will be a better place."

The astronomer quickly raises her frail hand and smacks the postdoc on the side of his head.

The postdoc is unhurt, but shocked. "What have I done wrong?" he asks.



WHY EMACS?

Emacs is a mediocre editor that happens to be near-infinitely extensible and customizable.

Emacs has been around for <u>decades</u>, is free and opensource, and is available for virtually all platforms that have been and ever will be. Your time investment's not going away.

Department computers come preinstalled with two versions of Emacs: an ancient version shipped with Mac OS X (in /usr/bin/emacs) and one called "Aquamacs". Both are pretty awful.

That's Aquamacs. For the love of God do not stare into his evil eyes.

NO MATTER WHICH VERSION...

Emacs out of the box is not very good or ergonomic. However, in contrast to most other editors, you can configure it to fit your needs and mold it into a powerful companion.

A few of the things I will talk about:

Why Emacs?

Emacs tricks & shortcuts everyone should know

How to program and customize Emacs

Emacs Packages and color themes

Org-mode

A BRIEF HISTORY OF EMACS

Emacs stands for "Editing MACroS", started in the 1970s.

For the time, it was a revolutionary project: editors used to have different "modes" for adding text, editing text, and displaying your file! Emacs was WYSWYG and completely programmable (Macros).

Lots of different versions: the canonical one, GNU Emacs, was started in the mid-80s by Richard Stallman (one of the leaders of the free software movement).

Emacs macros are written in a language called Emacs LISP (Elisp).

SUPER PUNNY '80s EDITOR JOKES

Eight Megabytes And Constantly Swapping

Emacs Means A Crappy Screen

Even My Aunt Crashes the System

Emacs May Allow Customized Screwups

Easily Mangles, Aborts, Crashes and Stupifies

MY RIG IN 1992



MicroEMACS V2.1

This is a MicroEMACS test.

-* MicroEMACS -- main -

GETTING STARTED

Download Emacs 24.4 from http://www.emacsformacosx.com or Homebrew.

Some of the stuff that I will demonstrate comes with packages and customizations I have installed.

https://github.com/stefano-meschiari/SMESCHIA is a collection of my customizations - download if you want to start from a pre-made collection of packages.

QUICK TERMINOLOGY

Open files (including ones not shown) are called Buffers.

```
\Theta \Theta \Theta
                                     functions.r (/Users/sm52286/Projects/Systemic2/R/functions.r)
                                                             'citation()' on how to cite R or R packages in
      // Gas-to-dust ratio [100]
      double gas_to_dust_ratio;
                                                            publications.
                                                            // Ice line enhancement past
      double a ice;
      // Ice line enhancement factor for solids
                                                            help, or
      double f_ice; □
                                                            'help.start()' for an HTML browser interface to help.
      // Fixed scale height h/R of planetesimal disk;
                                                            Type 'q()' to quit R.
      calculated if negative [-1]
      double h;
                                                            Loading required package: stringr
      // Scale height H/R of gas disk [0.04]
                                                            Loading required package: compiler
                                                            /Users/sm52286/Dropbox/Projects/DiskMass/mcdm/src
      double H:
      // Turbulent alpha [1e-4]
                                                            > > options(STERM='iESS', str.dendrogram.last="'",
                                                            editor='emacsclient', show.error.locations=TRUE)
      double alpha;
      // Initial distribution of bodies, dN/dR ~ R^-pg
                                                            > print('Hello peeps!')
                                                            [1] "Hello peeps!"
      [3.5]
      double pg;
                                                                                                                                   Modeline
101:13 - -: DB: Projects/DiskMass/mcdm/src/main.c
                                                           23:14 Ux-*R*
                                                                                                       iESS [R db
              cat(sprintf("\n# Trials: %d\n", attr(x, 'trials')))
 986
      kperiodogram ← function(k, per_type = "all", samples = getOption("systemic.psamples", 50000), pmin =
      getOption("systemic.pmin", 0.5), pmax = getOption("systemic.pmax", 1e4), data.flag = T_RV, timing.planet = NULL,
                                                                                                                                   Region
      val.col = SVAL, time.col = TIME, err.col = ERR, pred.col = PRED, plot = FALSE, print = FALSE, peaks = 25,
        overplot.window=TRUE, .keep.h = FALSE) {
 989
        # Returns a periodogram of the supplied time series. [7]
 991
        # If the first parameter is a kernel, then this function will return
 992
        # periodogram of the loaded datasets (if per_type = "all") or the
 993
                                                                                           Window
        # residuals (if per_type = "res"). If the first parameter is a matrix,
        # then this function will return a periodogram of the columns of the
 996
        # matrix.
Minibuffer
```

Screen

QUICK TERMINOLOGY

```
'citation()' on how to cite R or R packages in
         // Gas-to-dust ratio [100]
        double gas to dust ratio;
                                                                 publications.
        // Ice line enhancement past a_ice, AU [4]
                                                                 Type 'demo()' for some demos, 'help()' for on-line
        double a ice;
       // Ice line enhancement factor for solids [4.2]
                                                                 help, or
        double f_ice;
                                                                  'help.start()' for an HTML browser interface to help.
        // Fixed scale height h/R of planetesimal disk;
                                                                 Type 'q()' to quit R.
         calculated if negative [-1]
                                                                 Loading required package: stringr
        double h;
        // Scale height H/R of gas disk [0.04]
                                                                 Loading required package: compiler
        double H:
                                                                 /Users/sm52286/Dropbox/Projects/DiskMass/mcdm/src
                                                                 > > options(STERM='iESS', str.dendrogram.last="'",
        // Turbulent alpha [1e-4]
                                                                 editor='emacsclient', show.error.locations=TRUE)
        double alpha; □
        // Initial distribution of bodies, dN/dR ~ R^-pg
                                                                > print('Hello peeps!')
         [3.5]
                                                                 [1] "Hello peeps!"
        double pg;
                                                                 >
                                     /src/main.c
                                                                26: 2 Ux-*R*
                                                                                                         Bot iESS [R db -
                                    als: %d\n", attr(x, 'trials')))
                                   er_type = "all", samples = getOption("systemic.psamples", 50000), pmin =
                                    .5), pmax = getOption("systemic.pmax", 1e4), data.flag = T RV, timing.planet = NULL,
                                    IME, err.col = ERR, pred.col = PRED, plot = FALSE, print = FALSE, peaks = 25,
                                    p.h = FALSE
                                    d dat
                                     "res
                                    return a periodogram of the columns of the
Rachael is
awesome?
```

KEYSTROKES

Commands are entered using keystrokes.

M is Alt/Option
C is Ctrl
Cmd is Command

M-x means "Press Alt and x at the same time"

C-x C-f means "Press Ctrl and x, release x keeping Ctrl pressed, then press f"

C-x f means "Press Ctrl and x, release both Ctrl and x, then press f"

DEMO

Demo is available here: http://goo.gl/KLFBdm

OTHER COOL TIDBITS

- The EIN package supports Python notebooks within Emacs.
- The Magit package is a great interface to Git.
- Projectile lets you quickly navigate and search all files associated with a Git repository.
- ESS (Emacs Speaks Statistics) is a powerful package for editing R and Julia.
- ~2,400 packages, ~200 color themes!

THANK YOU!