

Summary of basic EMACS commands

notation

C-x means press the **Control** key and while holding it down press the **x** key.

M-x means press the **Esc** key and **x** key.

Similarly for other characters than x.

↵ means **Return**

← means **backspace** or **Del** depending on keyboard

□ means spacebar.

commands via menu bar on top of emacs are framed, e.g. **File**

open/close emacs session:

emacs -font 10x20 & opens emacs session within X-windows

emacs -nw opens emacs within a terminal

C-x C-c kills emacs session

help/information

<http://www.eg.bucknell.edu/%7Ecs203/manual.pdf>

→ The Emacs Editor or

C-h t typed within emacs session, gives tutorial (or **Help**)

file(s) reading and saving

C-x C-f filename reads in existing file or creates file

C-x 4-f splits into two windows and asks for second file

C-x 2 splits into two windows, both with same file

C-x o switches cursor between windows

C-x 1 goes back to one window (in which cursor is)

C-x C-s saves file if already existing under same filename

C-x C-w saves file

stop command

C-g quits, useful whenever you like to get out of any mistake

C-x u undo command

insert, delete or copy text (see also **Edit**)

to insert characters just type them

delete:

← deletes character before cursor

C-d deletes character after cursor

delete(continued):

M-← deletes word before cursor
M-d deletes word after cursor
C-k deletes to end of current line
M-k deletes sentence

highlighted section:

delete: go to beginning, **C-␣**, go to end, **C-w**
insert: after deleting section, go to position of insertion, **C-y**
C-y (yank) works also after **C-k** to insert line
copy: same as delete and insert but replace **C-w** by **M-w**

cursor positions (see also **Edit** → **Go To**)

C-f move to right one character
C-b move to left one character
C-p move up one line
C-n move down one line
M-b move back one word
M-f move forward one word
C-a move to beginning of line
C-e move to end of line
C-v move down one screen
M-v move up one screen
M-< move to start of file
M-> move to end of file
C-u 5 C-f moves 5 characters to right
C-u # command repeats for almost all cases the command # times
C-l centers text around cursor
M-x goto-line ↔ # goes to line #

search and replace (see also **Edit** → **Search**)

M-% to_be_replaced_string ↔ replacing_string

then **!** replaces all

← skips highlighted string

␣ replaces highlighted string

forward: **C-s string** searches for string

C-s string C-s searches for second time string

← or **C-g** terminates search

backwards: **C-r** instead of **C-s**