ed – the original Unix line editor

Documented by:
info ed
ed can be regarded as a non-visual but scriptable version of **vi**

Why did I want to learn ed?

Had developed the script **build_man.sh** which is part of the build process for *libnetfilter_queue* which is a component of the <u>Linux Netfilter</u> project.

The script was taking far longer than all the rest of the build, owing to using the shell as an editor (commands head, tail, cp, cat &c.). Using ed would be faster. [Other speedups became possible but I'll only talk about them if encouraged]

What can ed do that sed can't?

- Reposition lines, especially to before where they used to be
- Perform multiple passes through the file

What can sed do that ed can't?

- <u>Go in the middle of a pipe</u> (ed *can* go at the front of a pipe)
- Limited conditional editing (not recommended)[I wanted to use **q** originally but project admin said no]

Canned Demos

- Git logs
- Git diffs
- Timings (from desktop)