SubEthaEdit
Collaborative Distributed Editor
by Richard Glaser
What is it?

A collaborative text editor

Allows to share documents

- On a local network (with Rendezvous)
- Or on the internet

Participants can type simultaneously and see what others are typing.
Information

- SubEthaEdit is Freeware NOT Open Source
- Developed by The Coding Monkeys
  - The Coding Monkeys is a small group of Computer Science students at Technical University of Munich.
Platforms

- Runs on Mac OS X only!!!
- Relies heavily on Coco framework
  - Rendezvous
  - Address Book
  - Some networking code
- No plans to port to other platforms
Typical Usage

Meetings minutes:
No more arguing about who is minute taker.

Collaborative Authoring:
Write text together with your co-authors

Programming:
Improve your coding skills & productivity
How to share a Doc?

How to share a document...
Open an existing document or create a new one.

Choose "Share" from the File menu or click the "Share" button in the document's toolbar.
Pending Users

- The Participants drawer opens at the side of the document.

- If a user wants to join, their name & image (from the Address Book) appear in the Participants drawer under "Pending Users:"
Accept or Deny Users

Select the pending user in the participants drawer.

- Accept or deny their request with the buttons at the bottom.

The kicked user receives the following message.
Allow w/o Permission

To allow access to all users without individual permission

Deselect Access Control in the participants windows

• Note, currently it doesn’t have Access Control granularity like:

• Allowing all Rendezvous participants but require permission for internet participants, etc.
To unshare a document:

- Choose "Unshare" from the File menu.
- Or click the "Unshare" button in the document's toolbar.
If you are a participant of a shared document.

- You will receive the following message.

The document has been unshared
The owner of this document stopped sharing it. Further changes you make will not be applied to the owner's document.

- Note - The doc window will still be open & you can still save the file.
Demonstration

Sharing a document...
How to connect?

Connecting to shared document...
You can join a shared document via Rendezvous or the Internet

- Rendezvous is limited to your subnet.
- **Firewall** - port 30729 need to open
Connect via Rendezvous

To connect via Rendezvous:

- Select “Join...” command from the “File Menu

- Click on Rendezvous button
Accessing Shared Docs

Once you select Rendezvous

• You will see a window display with shared documents.

• Select the a shared document and click the “Join” button.

• If the host has Access Control enabled, you will see a “Status Requesting” icon.

• If access granted, icon changes.
To connect via Internet:

- Select “Join...” command from the “File Menu”

- Enter the IP or hostname in “Connect to Server” dialog.
The following icons are used:

- **Status Shared** - Your shared document
- **Status Requesting** - Requesting access for doc
- **Status Connecting** - Access accepted for doc
- **Status Connected** - A new window opens
- **Status Denied** - Access denied for document.
Demonstration
Connecting to shared document...
Notable Features

Cool and unique features...
Follow Participant

When connect to a shared document
• Double-click on the user in the Participant drawer.
• Or select the user and click on the binoculars.

• This useful in large rapidly changing documents
Blockediting

- Edit multiple lines at once.
  - Ideal for commenting, formatting and repetitive code structures.
  - Hold down the option (alt) key while dragging a selection with the mouse. You can select multiple noncontiguous lines.
  - Position the cursor within the selection and edit all lines at once. To stop blockedit press escape or click outside the selection.
Blockediting

```perl
while (1) {

    # move the iHook window around the screen. You may also want to change
    # the iHook window size with the AMINOSIZE directive.
    print( "AMWINOPOSETION TOP LEFT\n" );
    sleep( 5 );
    print( "AMWINOPOSETION TOP RIGHT\n" );
    print( "AMBACKGROUND /Another/Custom/Image/Describing/How/To/Login\n" );
    sleep( 5 );
    print( "AMWINOPOSETION BOTTOM RIGHT\n" );
    print( "AMBACKGROUND /Yet/Another/Image\n" );
    sleep( 5 );
    print( "AMWINOPOSETION BOTTOM LEFT\n" );
    print( "AMBACKGROUND /Still/Another/Image\n" );
    sleep( 5 );
    print( "AMWINOPOSETION CENTER\n" );
    print( "AMBACKGROUND /Some/Custom/Image/Telling/User/How/To/Kill/iHook\n" );
    sleep( 5 );
}

exit( 0 );
```
SubEthaEdit URLs:

SubEthaEdit now supports URLs and links. Click in your browser to join documents. Invite users to your document by sending them an url.

- Supports a "hydra://" URI scheme.
- To invite someone to your already shared document, drag the small globe in the upper right corner of the participants drawer to your email or chat client and send a message.
FTP Client Integration

SubEthaEdit implements an interface for FTP clients called "ODB editor suite".

• This allows to edit files out of your favorite ftp client with SubEthaEdit, enabling e.g. upload on save.

• Edit the document in SubEthaEdit like working locally. A "save" in SubEthaEdit will trigger your FTP client to upload the file.

• Works with Fetch, NetFinder, Fugu and Transmit
SubEthaEdit URLs & FTP
Tips & Tricks
Secrets of the SubEthaEdit
Firewall

To share/join shared documents

• Port 30729 must be open
• Create New Firewall Configuration
Issues & Features
Feature requests and problems...
Dynamically Applied Preferences

- Doesn’t support applying new preferences to open documents like BBEdit
- Options like text wrap, line numbers
Saving Shared Documents

- More difficult than it needs to be...
  - Must manually select “Save a Copy As...” command from File menu.
  - Replace or rename file after each save.
Versioning & Focus

Versioning
• Allow viewing and reverting to previous edits.

Focus
• Allow host restrict participants to part of doc
Granular ACLs & Blocking

Granular Access Controls

- More granular access controls
  - Allowing rendezvous connect w/o permission
  - Require permission for only Internet participants
  - Support observe mode

Blocking

- Support for participant blocking
- Similar to iChat functionality
Questions & Answers

Any questions or answers?