Electronic mailing with the new Pine 4.0 (Introduction, Configuration and Usage)

W.Friebel

28. July 1998

1. **Introduction**
2. **Pine Basic Commands**
3. **New concepts in pine4**
4. **Configuration**

ftp://ftp.ifh.de/pub/unix/doc/tutorial/pine.ps
/net/ftp/unix/doc/tutorial/pine.ps

Introduction

pine speaks

RFC 822 (request for comment)
(defines the mail format: addresses, headers, date format etc.)
"Wolfgang Friebel<friebel@ifh.de>"

IMAP (Internet message Access protocol, IMAP4rev1)
as described in RFC 1176 and RFC 2060
Provides access to remote mail on a server
Server based searching and parsing of mail

MIME (Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions)
Allows to handle text, audio, image, video, multipart messages and application bound data, has multilanguage Support
(RFC 1341/42 and 1521/22)

LDAP(Lightweight directory access protocol)
Allows to query LDAP servers in pine used for getting email addresses (and other data) of persons NEW

pine is a

MUA (mail user agent) leaving the work of sending and receiving mail to a

MTA (mail transfer agent), sendmail in our case.

Pine Basics (getting started)

Navigation in pine

is by

Menus (no need to learn key shortcuts, sometimes tedious)

Single letter keys (much faster, only where no text input possible)

Control keys (where entering text is possible)

Function keys (not flexible enough, only max 12 commands at a time) **(pine -k)**

Main Menu

Access to 150+ pages of Help text	$\boxed{?}$	$\boxed{\text{CTRL-G}}$
Release Notes (what is new in pine 4.0)	$\boxed{r}$	

and Submenus for the tasks

pine setup	$\boxed{s}$
reading mail	$\boxed{i}$, $\boxed{l}$
sending mail	$\boxed{c}$

and other commands as seen in the key menu like

quit	$\boxed{q}$

Navigation by

$\boxed{\uparrow}$, $\boxed{\downarrow}$ and $\boxed{\text{ENTER}}$ and

$\boxed{\leftarrow}$, $\boxed{\rightarrow}$, $\boxed{<}$, $\boxed{>}$, $\boxed{.}$, $\boxed{,}$ **NEW**

Selecting a mail folder

1. the long way

   go to the folder collection screen $\boxed{\text{l}}$

   select a collection $\boxed{\uparrow}$, $\boxed{\downarrow}$, $\boxed{\text{ENTER}}$

   $\longrightarrow$ folder index is displayed

2. the default

   go to the current folder index $\boxed{\text{i}}$
   (on starting this is the (first) INBOX)

3. the quick way

   type the goto key $\boxed{\text{g}}$

   use arrow keys to change the collection if necessary $\boxed{\uparrow}$, $\boxed{\downarrow}$

   type the folder name followed by $\boxed{\text{ENTER}}$ or

   type an unique abbrev followed by $\boxed{\text{ENTER}}$ $\boxed{\text{TAB}}$ or **NEW**

   type an ambiguous string followed by $\boxed{\text{TAB}}$ $\boxed{\text{TAB}}$ **NEW**
   then select an appropriate folder or

   type a regexp followed by $\boxed{\text{CTRL-X}}$ then select an appropriate folder **NEW**

Navigation in the folder index

- Using the movement keys

  down: $\boxed{\downarrow}$ $\boxed{\sqcup}$ $\boxed{+}$ up: $\boxed{\uparrow}$ $\boxed{\text{-}}$
- By entering the message number
- By searching a string

  $\boxed{\text{w}}$ string $\boxed{\text{ENTER}}$
- By going to the top or bottom

  $\boxed{\text{w}}$ $\boxed{\text{CTRL-Y}}$ or $\boxed{\text{w}}$ $\boxed{\text{CTRL-V}}$

Selection of messages

- individual messages $\boxed{:}$
- By searching a string on the index screen

  $\boxed{\text{w}}$ string $\boxed{\text{CTRL-X}}$ **NEW**
- By searching a string (in general)

  $\boxed{;}$ ... (many choices) $\boxed{\text{ENTER}}$

  Especially: full text search

  $\boxed{;}$ $\boxed{\text{t}}$ $\boxed{\text{a}}$ string $\boxed{\text{ENTER}}$
- By broadening or narrowing a selection

  $\boxed{;}$ (when messages are already selected)

Then use Apply $\boxed{\text{a}}$ with
Bounce, Del, Reply, Print, Save, Forward ...

Changing the index screen display

Zoom in/out selected messages	z
Change the sorting of messages	$
Change the message attributes (New, Deleted, Answered, Important)	*

for advanced users:

the screen layout is configurable

Reading and processing messages

The usual commands

Save	$\boxed{\text{s}}$	
Delete	$\boxed{\text{d}}$	
works also for attachments		**NEW**
Export	$\boxed{\text{e}}$	
Forward	$\boxed{\text{f}}$	
Bounce	$\boxed{\text{b}}$	
Reply	$\boxed{\text{r}}$	
Print	$\boxed{\%}$ (and $\boxed{\text{y}}$)	**NEW**
in index screen print index	$\boxed{\%}$ $\boxed{\text{i}}$	**NEW**
in index screen print messages	$\boxed{\%}$ $\boxed{\text{m}}$	**NEW**
View attachment	$\boxed{\text{v}}$ $\boxed{\rightarrow}$	**NEW**
Expunge	$\boxed{\text{x}}$	
Undelete	$\boxed{\text{u}}$	

and less often used commands

Take addresses (into addressbook)	$\boxed{\text{t}}$
Goto top/bottom	$\boxed{\text{w}}$ $\boxed{\text{CTRL-Y}}$ / $\boxed{\text{CTRL-V}}$
Pipe message through command	$\boxed{\vert}$
Goto next/prev mail	$\boxed{\text{n}}$ $\boxed{\text{p}}$
Goto next unseen	$\boxed{\text{TAB}}$
Header mode	$\boxed{\text{h}}$

The header mode determines the number
of headers displayed, saved, forwarded, piped ...

Composing Messages

Adding attachments	CTRL-J
Adding more headers	CTRL-R
look into the Help for Lcc: for preventing mailing lists from being visible	
looking up addresses	CTRL-T
Searching for attachment	CTRL-T
Spell checking text	CTRL-T
Append files to the mail	CTRL-R
Postpone composition	CTRL-O
(resume with c)	
Use alternate editor	CTRL-_
Get help	CTRL-G

New concepts in pine 4.0

Extended handling of collections

pine did handle mail and news as two separate collections
(and optionally several INBOXes in a further collection)
With pine4 a collection is a set of folders that belong logically to each other (typically stored in a common directory)

Pine4 Supports hierachical folder structures
(achieved with the CTRL-X create directory command in the folder collection setup)

URL recognition

GREAT

pine now highlights URL's and let you display it
in a remote netscape (if already running)
or with lynx (ASCII viewer)
(configured by us)

Remote address books

pine lets you put your addressbook on the mail server
Attention: it actually goes into your home dir!
name conflicts possible!

Accessing an LDAP server for email queries

The LDAP server acts as remote address book (configured by us)
Only useful for DESY(HH) email addresses

Enhanced navigation with arrow keys

Most screens can be enterd and left with

$\boxed{\leftarrow}$, $\boxed{\rightarrow}$, $\boxed{<}$, $\boxed{>}$, $\boxed{.}$, $\boxed{,}$

Still missing

Offline and disconnected operation (for Notebooks)

Pine configuration

Nearly all configuration parameters changeable via
Main Menu → Setup $\boxed{\text{m}}$ $\boxed{\text{s}}$
The following setup subtasks are available

Printer setup $\boxed{\text{p}}$
should not be changed normally
(if you don't like mp | lpr, it can e.g. be changed to enscript)

New password setup $\boxed{\text{n}}$
do not change! it will modify your login password

Signature editor $\boxed{\text{s}}$
Create or change your signature, that is used by pine

Addressbook setup $\boxed{\text{a}}$ **NEW**
available addressbook (abook) actions:

add, change, delete $\boxed{\text{a}}$ $\boxed{\text{c}}$ $\boxed{\text{d}}$

decide between local and remote addressbook **NEW**
remote abook resides on mailserver (server: mail.ifh.de)
both local and remote abooks are stored in your homedir

local and remote abooks have different format, therefore do not add/remove a server name in already existing abooks

decide between local and global abooks **NEW**
global abooks can be read by others (but only using pine)

Directory setup d NEW

This is the LDAP server access setup (ldap.desy.de)
You might want to change
the search criteria for names, default now:

name **contains** to e.g.
surname-or-givenname **begins-with**

use-implicitly-from-composer triggers a search for every unqualified address you enter in the composer that is not in your abook (slow!!)

Collection list setup l NEW

available actions:

add, change, delete a c d

collection list can be
   remote (like your INBOX) server: mail.ifh.de
   local (like your mail folders directory)
By giving a path (like "mail") and
      a view (e.g. "sent-*)
collection lists can contain very specific folders

Setup configure $\boxed{\text{c}}$

From the list of configurable items you might want to consider changing (use ? or CTRL-G for an explanation):

pruned-folders (for the monthly questions)

in feature-list:

compose-cut-from-cursor (behaviour of CTRL-K)
disable-keymenu (always accessible with CTRL-G)
enable-alternate-editor-implicitly
enable-arrow-navigation (set to off again)
enable-cruise-mode (go to next msg at end of current msg)
enable-mouse-in-xterm (press shift for the usual cut/paste)
enable-reply-indent-string-editing (change from ">")
enable-sigdashes (– before signature)
expunge-without-confirm-everywhere (no more questions)
include-text-in-reply (no more queried)
print-index-enabled (set to off for pine 3.96 behaviour)
quell-dead-letter-on-cancel (do not save cancelled letters)
quit-without-confirm (without asking)
reply-always-uses-reply-to (without asking)
single-column-folder-list (to make folder traversal simpler)

initial-keystroke-list (usually $\boxed{\text{i}}$, $\boxed{\text{ENTER}}$, same as pine -i)
default-composer-hdrs (e.g. Attchmnt:,Subject:,**Fcc:**,To:,Cc:)

variables:

saved-msg-name-rule	(e.g. last-folder-used)
fcc-name-rule	(e.g. last-folder-used)
sort-key	(do not use, use $ interactively)
folder-sort-rule	(e.g. alpha-with-dirs-first)
goto-default-rule	(e.g. inbox-or-folder-in-first-collection)
incoming-startup-rule	(e.g. first-unseen)
editor	(e.g. $VISUAL or emacs or xemacs -nw)
composer-wrap-column	(change from 74)
reply-indent-string	(change from ">")
index-format	(only for very curious and patient users)
mail-check-interval	(change from 150, but only to larger values!!)
mailcap-search-path	(overrides internal search path!)
mimetype-search-path	(presently no default set)

Pine configuration for news reading

If pine should be used for reading news, it is advisable to have a .pine.news with a different configuration and calling it with

```
pine -o -p .pine.news
```