



# 1c. VS Code (OPTIONAL)

[Martin Alfaro](#)

PhD in Economics

## FEATURES AND KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS

We present a few keyboard shortcuts and handy features for [VS Code](#), which also apply to its privacy-focused alternative [VS Codium](#). Remarkably, these features are largely language-agnostic, holding regardless of the programming language you're working with. For more information about how to use VS Code for Julia in particular, see the [official guide](#).



For visual illustration, the features discussed are accompanied by GIFs. To view these GIFs, simply click "Example", or alternatively press  or  to open and close all of them simultaneously.

### TO RUN A SCRIPT

Select the script to be executed and press .


► Example

### TO FORMAT EXPRESSIONS AND MAKE THEM MORE LEGIBLE

Select the script to be formatted and press  + . Sometimes, activating this tool requires running it twice.

► Example




### TO ALIGN EQUAL SIGNS

This feature requires the VS Code Extension "Better Align". It aligns consecutive lines by using the equal sign and other symbols as a reference. It's implemented by pressing  + .

► Example

See also the extension "Cursor Align", which aligns code by clicking the position on each line.

### TO EXTEND THE CURSOR VERTICALLY


Hold down  + press  or .

► Example

### TO SEE THE DOCUMENTATION OF A FUNCTION

It requires hovering over the function.

► Example

Alternatively, you can go to the REPL, press , and then type the function's name you want to search for.

► Example

### TO AUTOCOMPLETE A WORD

Start typing a word + press  when you see the option list.

► Example

## TO INTRODUCE UNICODE CHARACTERS (TAB COMPLETION)

Type a unicode character/command, press `Ctrl` + `Space` to open an option list, and then choose the option and press `Tab`.

► Example

In Julia, Greek letters and math have the same syntax as Latex. To add them, you need to start with `\` (e.g., `\eq` for `≠`) and use Tab completion.

## TO SELECT THE SAME WORD MULTIPLE TIMES

Select the word and then press `Ctrl+d` for selecting each additional time it appears. This is useful when you want to change part of the expression.

► Example

## TO HIDE PART OF THE SCRIPT

Given a code block, add `#region` at the beginning and `#endregion` at the end.

► Example

When you have several lines indented, VS Code allows you to hide the block automatically. The following example shows this for a function.

► Example

## TO TURN MULTIPLE LINES INTO A COMMENT

Select all the lines you want to interpret as a comment rather than code. Then, press `Ctrl` + `/`.

► Example