



# 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](#). They 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 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 `Tab` 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