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Reading Google Sheets data from LiveCode

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#LiveCode

A friend on the LiveCode mailing list asked how to read Google Sheet data with LiveCode. In this post we'll learn how to fetch that data as a CSV dump.

How does it work

I've prepared a demo spreadsheet which is viewable by anyone with the link. Each sheet has a *key* and multiple *tabs* (which they call sheets). If you know the *key* and *tab* you want, then, you can craft a URL to return the data as a CSV or JSON like:
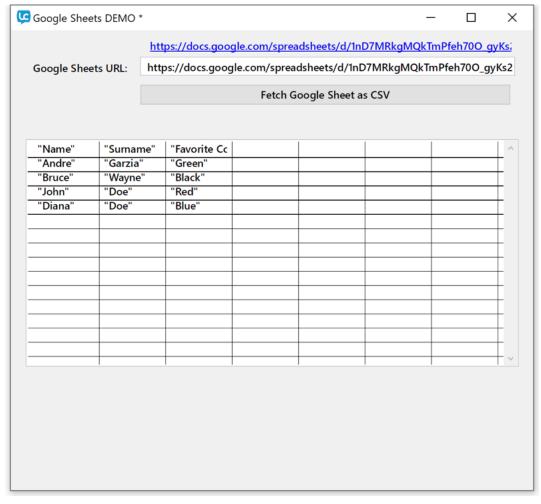
- CSV:
  `https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/{key}/gviz/tq?tqx=out:csv&sheet=`
- JSON:
  `https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/{key}/gviz/tq?tqx=out:json&sheet`

> Source: I've learned all of this from this amazing answer on Stack Overflow.

So in LiveCode, from a given Google Sheet URL, we can fetch the CSV using code like:

```
on mouseup
    put fld "sheet url" into tURLToSheet
    put "Sheet1" into tSheetName
    set the itemdel to "/"
    put item 6 of tURLToSheet into tKey
    put "https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/[[tKey]]/gviz/tq?tqx=out:csv&sheet=[[tSheetName]]" into tT
    put the merge of tTemplate into tURLForSheetAsCSV
    put url tURLForSheetAsCSV into tCSV
    replace comma with tab in tCSV
    put tCSV into field "sheet"
end mouseup
```

I've built a sample stack with this code which you can see on the shot below:

Google Sheets DEMO stack

I hope this helps everyone wanting to fetch data from Google Sheet and process it in a better language :-)

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Mentions

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