VisiData Terminal data spreadsheet

START HERE

vd *<file>*
Open CSV, JSON, Excel

|
Select rows by regex

Arrows / **h** › **j** › **k** › **l**
Move around

Ctrl + **S**
Save sheet to a file

Shift + **F**
Frequency table of column

U
Undo last change

[/ **]**
Sort column up / down

q
Close sheet, quit at last

Source file vd data.csv → `load` → **Sheet** rows x columns → `Shift+F, Shift+W, "` → **Derived sheet** freq, pivot, subset → `Ctrl+S` → **Saved file** csv, tsv, json...

CONCEPTS

VisiData is a spreadsheet for the terminal: every view (columns, frequencies, pivots) is a new sheet on a stack.

Commands apply to the current column or row. A g prefix usually means all (gs, gd), z a variant.

Typing a key inside a prompt edits text; Enter accepts, Ctrl+C or Esc cancels.

NAVIGATION

Arrows / **h** › **j** › **k** › **l**
Move cell by cell

g › **h** / **g** › **j** / **g** › **k** / **g** › **l**
Jump to left, bottom, top, right edge

PgUp / **PgDn** Scroll a page

/ / **?**
Regex search column, down / up

n / **Shift** + **N**
Next / previous match

g › **/**
Regex search all columns

c Go to column by name

z › **r** Go to row number

< / **>**
Previous / next differing value

{ / **}**
Previous / next selected row

z › **/**
Search with a Python expression
Column names work as variables.

ROWS AND SELECTION

s / **t** / **u**
Select, toggle, unselect row

g › **s** / **g** › **t** / **g** › **u**
Same for all rows

| / ****
Select / unselect by regex in column

g › **|**
Select by regex in any column

z › **|**
Select by Python expression

ROWS AND SELECTION (cont.)

,
Select rows equal to this cell

"
Open sheet of selected rows only
Edits flow back to the source sheet; z " makes an independent copy.

g › **d** Delete selected rows

d Delete current row

a Add an empty row

y / **p** Copy row, paste after

[/ **]**
Sort by column up / down

z › **[** / **z** › **]**
Add column to sort criteria

g › **[** / **g** › **]**
Sort by all key columns

COLUMNS

/ **%**
Type column int / float
Needed before numeric sort or sums.

@ / **~**
Type column date / string

- Hide column

g › **v** Unhide all columns

! Make key column (pins left)

H / **L**
Move column left / rename

^ Rename column

=
Add column from Python expression
*Example: price*qty; name=expr names the column.*

: Split column by regex

;
Columns from regex capture groups

*****
Regex replace into new column

(/ **)**
Expand / contract nested column
For JSON: g (expands every visible column.

_ Fit column width to content

Shift + **=**
Add aggregator (the + key) to column

EDIT AND UNDO

e Edit current cell

g › **e**
Set column for selected rows

g › **=**
Set column by expression over selected rows

z › **d** Clear current cell

Ctrl + **O** Edit cell in $EDITOR

U / **R**
Undo / redo last change

Ctrl + **R**
Reload sheet from source

Ctrl + **C**
Cancel running command

SUMMARIES AND PIVOTS

Shift + **F**
Frequency table of column
Enter on a row opens the matching source rows.

Shift + **I**
Describe sheet: stats per column

Shift + **W**
Pivot table on current column
Mark group-by columns with ! first.

g › **Shift** + **F**
Frequency by all key columns

Shift + **M**
Melt: wide columns to rows

Shift + **T** Transpose sheet

Enter
Open source rows of group or cell

.
Plot current column as graph

SHEETS, FILES, HELP

q Close current sheet

g › **q** Quit everything

Ctrl + **S**
Save sheet; name sets the format
Extension picks the format: .csv, .tsv, .json, .xlsx.

g › **Ctrl** + **S** Save all sheets

o Open another file

SHEETS, FILES, HELP (cont.)

Shift + **S**
Sheets stack: jump between sheets

g › **Shift** + **S**
All sheets of session

Ctrl + **^** Previous sheet

Shift + **C**
Columns sheet: edit types, widths

Shift + **O** Options sheet

&
Join sheets on key columns

Shift + **D**
Command log of this session

Ctrl + **H** Help menu

z › **Ctrl** + **H**
List all commands and keys

COMMAND LINE

vd *<file>* **...**
Open files, last on top

<cmd> **| vd**
Read from stdin

vd -f *<type>* *<file>*
Force a loader

vd -b *<in>* **-o** *<out>*
Convert in batch mode

vd -p *<log.vdj>*
Replay a command log

vd -d ';' *<file>*
Set field delimiter

vd --skip *<n>* *<file>*
Skip leading lines

vd .
Browse a directory

RECIPES

Convert without the UI

```
vd -b data.csv -o data.json
vd -b data.json -o data.xlsx
```

Count values of a column

```
vd data.csv
# move to column, Shift+F
# Enter on a row lists its rows
# Ctrl+S saves the table
```

Explore command output

```
ps aux | vd
# Shift+F on USER, # on a
number
# ] sorts descending
```

Record and replay cleanup

```
# Ctrl+D saves clean.vdj
vd -b -p clean.vdj new.csv -o
out.csv
```