VISICALET



A Visible Calculator

ATARI 800

REFERENCE CARD

A Product of

Software Arts, Inc.

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PERSONAL SOFTWARE INC.

1330 Bordeaux Drive Sunnyvale, California 94086 Telephone 408/745-7841

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MOVING THE CURSOR

The arrow keys move the cursor left, right, up or down.

If two windows, moves the cursor from one window to the other.

Go To command. Type the coordinates of the entry where you want the cursor to go; end with RETURN.

THE BACK S KEY

The BACK S key is used to recover from simple typing mistakes. It usually erases the last thing that you typed. If you press BACK S enough times, it will abort what you are doing and return VisiCalc to a blank prompt line.

THE BREAK KEY

This is equivalent to pressing BACK S enough times to return VisiCalc to a blank prompt line. It will also abort most operations such as file input and printing.

SETTING A LABEL ENTRY

Label entries start with a letter (A–Z), or with a quote character ("). Terminate entering a label entry by pressing an arrow or RETURN. Correct errors by pressing the BACK S key. The prompt line will say LABEL while a label entry is being typed.

SETTING A VALUE ENTRY

A value entry displays the calculated value of the expression stored at the entry. Expressions consist of numbers, coordinates of other value entries (value references), functions (such as @SUM), arithmetic operators (+-*/^) and/or parentheses. Expressions are evaluated strictly from left to right except as modified by parentheses. You must start an expression with a +, a digit (Ø-9), or one of the symbols @-(.or#. The prompt line will say VALUE while an expression is being typed. Terminate entering an expression by pressing an arrow key or RETURN. Errors can be corrected by pressing the BACK S key. Examples of expressions are:

12.34 A normal number
.1234E2 A number in scientific notation
2+2 An arithmetic expression
+B4 A value reference
2*B4 An expression with a value reference
2*(3+4) An expression with parentheses

If you press! while entering an expression, VisiCalc will calculate the value of the expression so far and replace the expression on the edit line with the number which results from the calculation.

VALUE REFERENCES

An expression at one entry can refer to the value of another entry, and the value of such an expression can be automatically recalculated when the value of the other entry changes. Value references are allowed in expressions wherever numbers are allowed. A value reference is made by either typing the coordinate of the desired entry (such as B5), or by "pointing" to the entry with the cursor (in this case, the coordinate will be "typed" automatically by VisiCalc). If an expression starts with a value reference, it must be preceded by a + character.

In order to insert the current value of another entry into an expression as a number, which will be unaffected by later changes to the other entry, type a value reference followed by the character # (e.g. B5#). If # is used by itself, it will be replaced by the current value of the expression stored in the entry you are changing.

FUNCTIONS

@SUM(list) Calculates the sum of the values in list. See **LISTS**, below.

@MIN(list) Calculates the minimum value in list.

@MAX (list) Calculates the maximum value in list.

@COUNT(list) Results in the number of non-blank entries in list. Maximum number of

entries in the list is 255.

@AVERAGE(list) Calculates the average of the nonblank values in list. Maximum number

of entries in the list is 255.

@NPV (*dr*, *range*) Calculates the net present value of the cash flows in *range*, discounted at the rate specified by expression *dr*. The first entry in the range is the cash flow

at the end of the first period, the second entry is the cash flow at the end of the second period, etc. See **ENTRY**

RANGES, below.

@LOOKUP(v,range)

Compares the value v to the values of successive entries in range, and selects a corresponding value from the column or row immediately to the right or below the entries in range, as the result of the function. The values in range are normally in ascending order, and the result is the value corresponding to the last entry in range that is less than or equal to v before an entry greater than v is found. If the

@PI

first entry in *range* is greater than ν , the result of the function is NA.

@NA Results in a "Not Available" value that makes all expressions using the

value display as NA.

Results in 3.1415926536

@ERROR Results in an "Error" value that makes all expressions using the value

display as ERROR.

 $\mathbb{Q}ABS(v)$ Results in the absolute value of v.

@INT(ν) Results in the integer portion of ν .

@EXP(ν) @SQRT(ν) Calculates the appropriate function. @LN(ν) @LOG1 \emptyset (ν) The trigonometric calculations are

@SIN(v) @ASIN(v) done in radians.

@COS(v) @ACOS(v) @TAN(v) @ATAN(v)

EXAMPLES OF FUNCTIONS

@SIN(C7*@PI/18Ø) @SUM(B4 . . . B15) @MIN(1ØØ,F4 . . . F11,@SUM(B4 . . . B15)) @MAX(Ø,F4-F5) @NPV(.15,B4 . . . F4)

ENTRY RANGES

An entry range consists of a number of entries that are next to each other in a row or column, such as B2, B3, and B4, or B2, C2, D2, and E2. You enter an entry range by specifying the coordinate of the first entry in the range, then typing an ellipsis (...—you need only type the first period, VisiCalc will fill in the others), and then specifying the last entry. For example, the entry ranges just mentioned would be B2... B4 and B2... E2, respectively. Coordinates are specified by either typing them, or "pointing" to the desired entry with the cursor.

LISTS

A list consists of a series of expressions and ranges separated by commas. See the examples of lists in **EXAMPLES OF FUNCTIONS**, above.

COMMANDS

- /B Sets an entry to blank. Doesn't take effect unless you follow it with an arrow or RETURN. Does not affect /F formats set at the entry.
- Clears the sheet, setting all entries to blank, resetting formats, windows, titles, etc., but does

not reset any remembered file name qualifiers. VisiCalc will wait for you to type a Y to confirm that you indeed want to clear the sheet.

- /D Deletes the row (/DR) or column (/DC) on which the cursor lies.
- /F Sets the display format of an entry to one of the following formats:

/FG General

/FI Integer

/F\$ Dollars and cents

/FL Left justified (used for values)

/FR Right justified (used for labels)

/F* Graph

- /FD Default. Resets an entry to use the global default format instead of an explicit format set with a /F command.
- /G Global commands. These apply to the entire sheet or window.
 - /GC Sets the column width. Requests a number greater than 2; end with RETURN. The column width can be changed on a per window basis.
 - /GF Sets the global default format that determines the display format of all entries without explicit format settings set with a /F command. Requests one of the same display formats used by the /F command. Note that /GFD is the same as /GFG. The global default format is a per window setting.
 - /GO Sets the order of recalculation to be down the columns starting at entry A1 (/GOC), or across the rows starting at entry A1 (/GOR).
 - /GR Sets the recalculation to be automatic (/GRA) or manual (/GRM). You can always cause a manual recalculation of all entries by pressing the! key.
- /I Inserts a row (/IR) or a column (/IC) just above or to the left of the row or column on which the cursor lies.
- /M Moves an entire row or column to a new position. Prompts you to move the cursor from the row or column which you want to move to the destination row or column just before which the entries moved should reappear. End with RETURN.
- /P Print command. See **PRINTING**, below.
- /R Replicate command. See REPLICATE, below.

- /S Storage command. See STORAGE COM-MANDS, below.
- /T Sets a horizontal title area (/TH), a vertical title area (/TV), sets both a horizontal and vertical title area (/TB), or resets the window to have no title areas (/TN).
- /V Displays VisiCalc's version number on the prompt line. The version number will disappear as soon as you type something else.
- /W Window control. Splits the screen into two windows at the cursor position (/WH for horizontal, /WV for vertical), or returns the screen to one window (/W1). Windows may be synchronized (/WS) or returned to unsynchronized (/WU).
- /- Repeating label. Requests the contents of a label entry; end with an arrow or RETURN. The contents of the label will be repeated over and over to fill the entry, no matter what the column width.

PRINTING

The /P command lets you output to the printer.

- Position the cursor at the upper left corner of the rectangle of entries that you wish to print and type /P.
- VisiCalc will prompt for the type of device on which to print. You respond with P for a printer, or F to specify a file name (see FILE NAMES, below).
- 3) If you press + at this point a carriage return will be output immediately. Lines printed by VisiCalc are usually terminated by RETURN. To have the RETURN followed by a LINE FEED character, type & at this point. To suppress the LINE FEED, type a minus (-) at this point.
- 4) If you want to output setup characters type ", then type the characters, and end with RETURN.
- Move the cursor to (or type the coordinates of) the lower right corner of the rectangle of entries to be printed out, and press RETURN.

You may stop printing at any time by pressing BREAK.

REPLICATE

The /R command allows you to make copies of entries.

1) Position the cursor on the first entry that you wish to replicate, and type /R.

- 2) VisiCalc will ask for the coordinates of the source (what you want to replicate). If you are just replicating the current entry, press RETURN. If you want to replicate a range of entries, type an ellipsis and provide a coordinate to complete the entry range specifying the source, ending with RETURN.
- 3) VisiCalc will ask for the coordinates of the target (where you want the copies to go). This may be a single coordinate or an entry range. End the target with RETURN. If you are replicating a source range of entries, the first source entry will be replicated into the entire target range, and succeeding source entries will be replicated into correspondingly succeeding target ranges.
- 4) If the expression being replicated contains value references VisiCalc will ask you, for each value reference, whether it should not be modified (respond by typing N), or should always refer to the entry in the same relative position (type R).

FILE NAMES

Some of the VisiCalc commands prompt for a file name. You may respond in one of two ways. In the first way, you type a file name (with optional qualifiers, defined below) followed by RETURN. VisiCalc will use the file name that you type. In the second way, you do not type a full file name. You respond with a blank line, or optionally a specification for which disk drive you are referring to. You then press the right arrow key. VisiCalc will display the name of the first file it finds on the diskette. If that is the name of the file that you wish to use, press RETURN; otherwise press the right arrow key and VisiCalc will show you the name of each successive file on the diskette. When you have found the file name that you want to use, press RETURN. You may edit the file name before executing the command by typing additional characters to add to the name, and/or using the BACK S key to erase part of it.

The device specification qualifiers that are allowed are: Dn: for disk drive n, C: for cassette, P: for printer, Rn: for RS232 port n. For the RS232 port, the baud rate may be specified by giving a file name of Brate, where rate is a valid baud rate, such as 300 or 9600. VisiCalc provides file name extensions by default: .VC for saved sheets, .PRF for printing to a file, and .DIF for DIF files. You may specify your own extensions, if you wish. When specifying a "blank" file name to have VisiCalc scroll through the files, you may provide a file name with * and/or? characters to restrict the files shown to those that meet the stated criteria. For example, the file specification D???. * would only show those file names that started with a D, that were four characters long, and had any extension.

STORAGE COMMANDS

The /S commands let you save and load the current entries using a diskette, initialize diskettes, and exit from VisiCalc.

The storage commands may be aborted by pressing BREAK.

- /SS Save all entries, titles, and window settings in a file. Prompts for a file name.
- /SL Load the contents of all entries that were saved in a file. This command does not blank out all entries before doing the load; if that is desired use the /C command first. Prompt for a file name.
- /SD Deletes the specified file on the diskette.
 Prompts for a file name, then asks you to type a Y to confirm.
- /SI Initializes a diskette on the indicated drive. This erases whatever was on the diskette and formats it. The specification of which disk drive will be used is displayed and may be edited like a file name. Press RETURN to start initialization.
- /S#S Saves data in the Data Interchange Format. Prompts for a file name, then requests the lower right coordinate of the rectangle of entries to be saved. Move the cursor or type the coordinate, and then press RETURN. Finally, it asks whether the data is to be saved by rows (R or RETURN) or by columns (C).
- /S#L Loads data in the Data Interchange Format. Prompts for a file name, then asks whether the data is to be loaded by rows (R or RETURN) or by columns (C).
- /SQ Quits out of VisiCalc and returns to the operating system. Type Y to confirm.

A VISICALC™ Screen:

