AI Capacity Building

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## What is this project?

This project is a virtual python development environment, a sandbox separating any python or packages you might have on your laptop with the projects in this environment so that these projects can run successfully.

It is made for the students to give them a few examples on machine learning and for the students to focus on developing their projects rather than them resolving packages dependencies.

## Folders in the repository

Every folder contains:

* The dataset used (if the dataset is not there, then the notebook downloads it inside the code)
* The notebook/ python file training the model

1. Accidents use case:

* This project aims to classify the accidents to 1 of 4 categories [1 - 4], 1 being less severe, 4 being the most severe
* The data is a csv file, consisting of 48 features and 1 label
* Dataset size is 819 MG
* The classification model used is xgboost
* This project focuses a little bit more on the analysis of the data, feature importance, and visualization using matplotlib and seaborn

2. Images use case (Computer Vision):

* This project aims to classify whether an image contains an accident or no (binary classification).
* The data consists of 3 folders: train, validation, and test, each containing 2 folders: accidents images and non-accidents
* Dataset size is 250 MG
* The classification model used is a convolution neural network.

3. MLflow TensorFlow example (Computer Vision):

* This project is a simple example of how to log and track the parameters used in your TensorFlow model in MLflow, also it is an example of a dataset saved in Keras datasets.
* The dataset is MNIST, a set of images of handwritten numbers [0-9], 10 classes total
* The classification model used is a deep neural network made up of 3 dense layers

4. MLflow Torch example (Computer Vision):

* This project is a simple example of how to log and track the parameters used in your PyTorch model in MLflow, also it is an example of a dataset saved in Keras datasets.
* The dataset is MNIST, a set of images of handwritten numbers [0-9], 10 classes total

5. Smart Cities use case (Natural Language Processing):

* This project aims to classify Arabic reviews from hotels, books, movies whether they are positive, negative, or mixed
* The data is a tsv file (tab separated values file), consisting of the text and its label
* Dataset size is 51.8 MG
* The classification model used is support vector machines

## Brief introduction to MLflow

Before talking about MLflow, we need to point out some differences between software engineering and machine learning

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Software Engineering | Machine Learning |
| Software engineering is about writing algorithms, that do a specific job, in form of functions that take specific inputs and return a specific output. | Machine learning is more about optimizing metrics (recall, ROC, r2 score, others) for performance, and trial and error is a huge part in this, whether it is trying different machine learning models, or trying the same model with different hyperparameters, or changing anything else. |

Where does MLflow come in all of this?

MLflow is an open-source platform that consists of 4 components

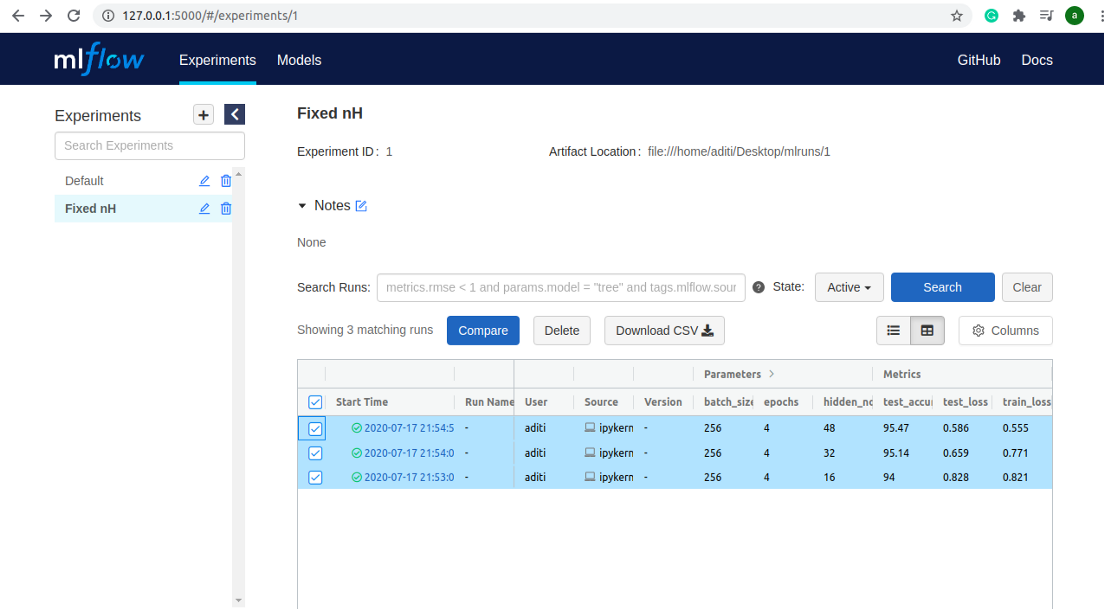
Diagram

Description automatically generatedFigure 1

One of the modules is MLflow Tracking which is used to track experiments to record and compare parameters (example: learning rate, regularization parameters, others) and results, which can be very useful.

In your code, you log the parameters you want to track in MLflow, and it has a separate user interface where you can view you runs.

MLflow is integrated in all the notebooks to help the students get comfortable with it.



## Figure 2

## Information about the environment

The python version used is 3.9.14-slim

Libraries installed inside the environment (sorted alphabetically)

Ipykernel (to enable developing inside notebooks)

matplotlib

mlflow

nltk

numpy

pandas

pytorch-lightning

scikit-learn

scipy

seaborn

tensorflow

torch

torchaudio

torchvision

xgboost

## Prerequisites

1. You need to install docker desktop (link present in the resources section)
2. Get the docker image by either

* Pulling the docker image from the following link
* Building the Dockerfile to create the docker image by executing the following command: docker build -t ml\_env:2.0

1. Run the docker image by either

* Pressing the run button in docker desktop

Graphical user interface, text, application, email

Description automatically generated

Figure 3

* In your terminal execute: docker container run -p 5000:5000 ml\_env:2.0

## How to get started with VSCode (Optional)

1. Install VSCode from [here](https://code.visualstudio.com/Download)
2. Install these 2 extensions in VSCode: Docker, and Dev Containers

Graphical user interface, text

Description automatically generated

Figure 4

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

Figure 5

1. If you haven't run the image yet, in your vscode terminal execute: docker container run -p 5000:5000 ml\_env:2.0
2. In VSCode, go to the docker icon present in the left
3. Under containers -> choose the running container (ml\_env:2.0) -> right click -> choose 'Attach Visual Studio Code'.
4. A newly opened VSCode will appear, install Jupyter & Python extensions (press install in container)
5. Press open folder
6. You can either choose a use case to run, or open root folder (folder containing all use cases) by just pressing ok
7. You can now use VSCode to develop inside the container
8. To run your code, open a terminal inside the example folder and write: python (python file name). Example: python mlflow\_torch\_example.py

## Opening MLflow User Interface

To open MLFlow user interface and view the runs output (make sure your code uses mlflow and logs the parameters you want to see)

1. Open a terminal in your project
2. Execute: mlflow ui --host 0.0.0.0
3. In your browser open: [http://0.0.0.0:5000](http://0.0.0.0:5000/) (mlflow uses port 5000 on the host)
4. If your experiment has a name (example : experiment\_name = "MNIST\_Classification"), it will create a folder with the same name in mlflow ui, open that folder to view the runs

## FAQ

* Do I have to use VSCode when I am developing inside the container?

No, you can use any IDE you like, just know how to integrate it with the container (check resources section)

* I am trying to run the docker image, but I keep getting errors?

Docker Desktop needs to be running whenever you are using the container

* Can I add new libraries in the environment?

Yes, but you need to make sure that:

* 1. The new library’s version doesn’t conflict with the other packages
  2. You need to rebuild the docker image

## Resources

* [What is a docker container?](https://www.docker.com/resources/what-container/)
* [Download docker desktop](https://www.docker.com/products/docker-desktop/) , for windows it is mandatory to install WSL2, [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OAtcxnNlSic) is how.
* [MLflow documentation](https://mlflow.org/docs/latest/index.html)
* MLflow consists of 4 modules
  + [Tracking](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x3cxvsUFVZA)
  + [Projects & Models](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g5ibwiSH1uA)
  + [Model Registry](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AxYmj8ufKKY)
* Developing inside containers
* [Developing inside containers using PyCharm](https://www.jetbrains.com/help/pycharm/using-docker-as-a-remote-interpreter.html#prereq)
* [More details about debugging, sharing your environment, unit testing in containers (using VSCode and PyCharm)](https://nirradi.medium.com/vsc-vs-pycharm-developing-inside-docker-containers-4892c83d30e4)
* [6 metrics you need to optimize for performance in machine learning](https://dzone.com/articles/the-6-metrics-you-need-to-optimize-for-performance#:~:text=6%20Metrics%20You%20Need%20to%20Optimize%20for%20Performance,might%20not%20be%20the%20best%20for%20regression.%20)