Getting Started with Google Colab:

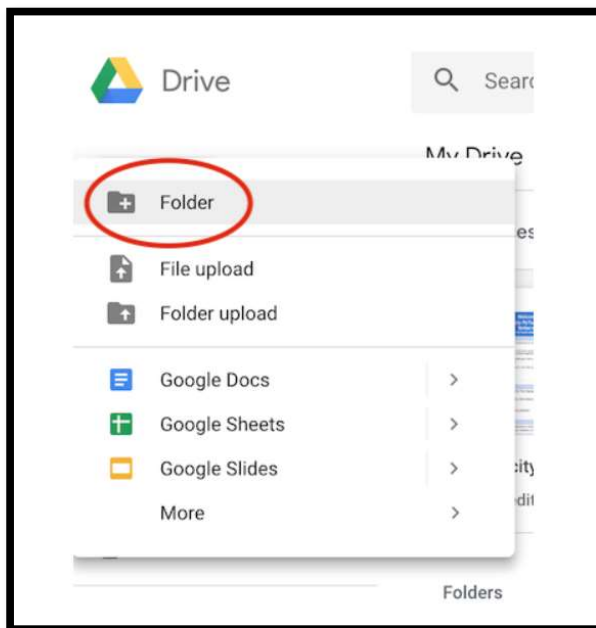*Colab provides GPU and it's totally free. Seriously Trust Me* ☺

For anyone who doesn't already know, Google has done the coolest thing ever by providing a free cloud service based on Jupyter Notebooks that supports free GPU. Not only is this a great tool for improving your coding skills, but it also allows absolutely anyone to develop deep learning applications using popular libraries such as **PyTorch**, **TensorFlow**, **Keras,** and **OpenCV.**

You can create notebooks in Colab, upload notebooks, store notebooks, share notebooks, mount your Google Drive and use whatever you've got stored in there, import most of your favourite directories, upload your personal Jupyter Notebooks, upload notebooks directly from GitHub, upload Kaggle files, download your notebooks, and do just about everything else that you might want to be able to do.
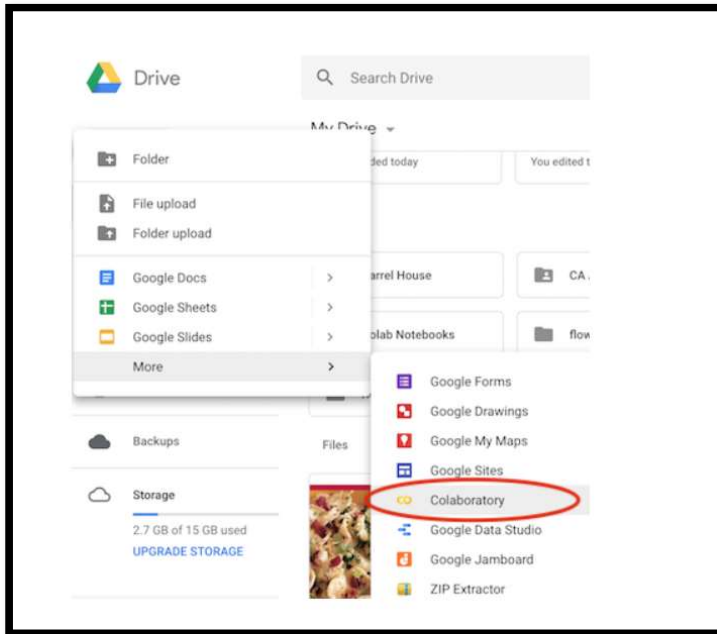
It's awesome.

Setting up your drive

Create a folder for your notebooks:

You can do that by going to your Google Drive and clicking "New" and then creating a new folder. Technically speaking, this step isn't totally necessary if you want to just

start working in Colab. However, since Colab is working off of your drive, it's not a bad idea to specify the folder where you want to work.

If you want, while you're already in your Google Drive you can create a new Colab notebook. Just click "New" and drop the menu down to "More" and then select "Colaboratory."

Otherwise, you can always go directly to [Google Colab](#).

Let's Begin!

You can rename your notebook by clicking on the name of the notebook and changing it or by dropping the "File" menu down to "Rename."
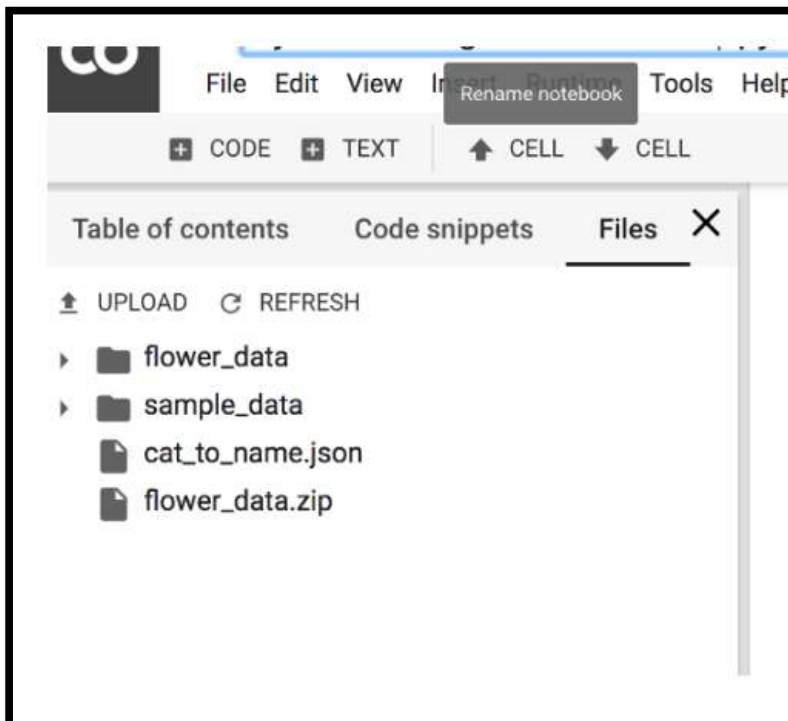
Set up GPU:

It's as simple as going to the "runtime" dropdown menu, selecting "change runtime type" and selecting GPU in the hardware accelerator drop-down menu!

Uploading Data Sets:

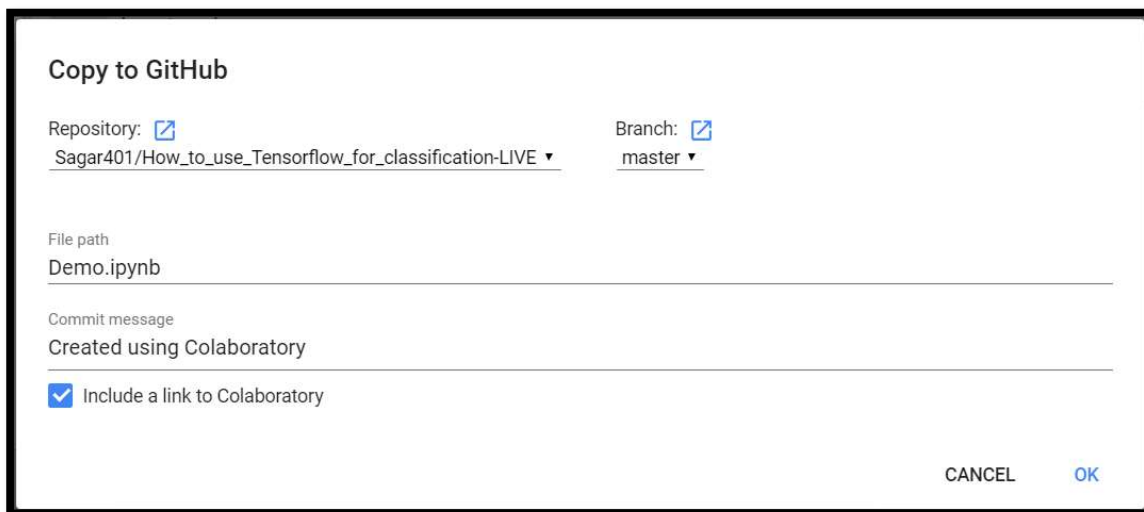Just go to the left side of the screen and click "upload files"

Importing Libraries:

For the most part, you can import your libraries by running import like you do in any other notebook.

GitHub Option:

The GitHub option is great! You can easily search by an organization or user to find files. If you don't see what you're looking for, try checking the repository drop-down menu!
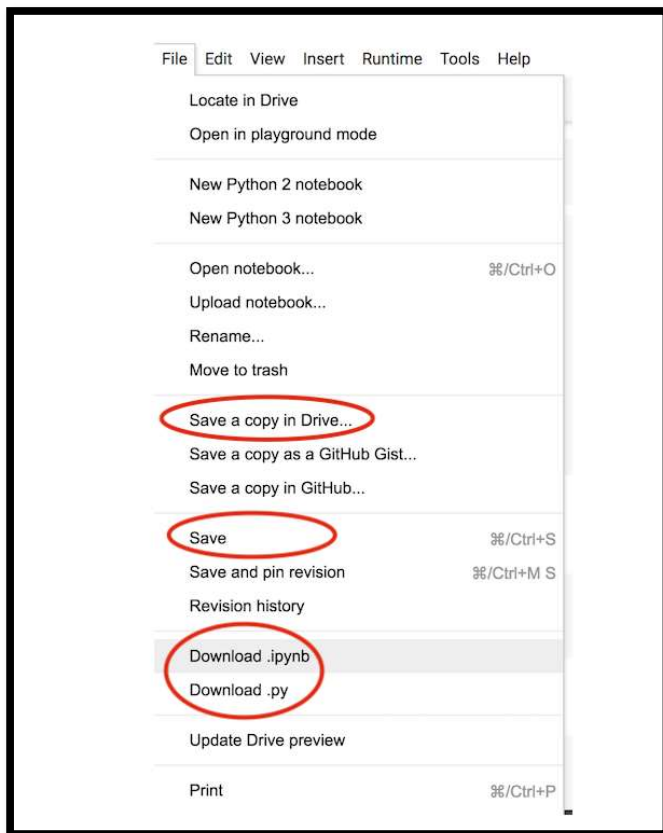

Don't forget to SAVE:

Saving your work is simple! You can do a good old "command-s" or drop the "File" menu down to save. You can create a copy of your notebook by dropping "File" -> "Save a Copy in Drive." You can also download your workbook by going from "File" -> "download .ipyb" or "download .py."

That should be enough to at least get you up and running on Colab and taking advantage of that sweet, sweet free GPU! Please let me know if you run into any other newbie problems that I might be able to help you with. I'd love to help you if I can!