# Google API Key

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#### **API:** What is it?

API (or Application Programming Interface) is a software intermediary that allows two applications to talk to each other. Each time you use an app like Facebook, send an instant message, or check the weather on your phone, you're using an API.

# Google API

Google requires an API key to perform geocoding and to produce heatmaps in Google Maps.

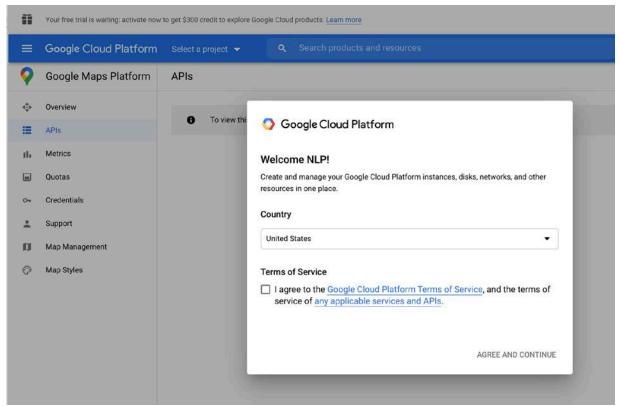
### How do you get a Google API key?

This process involves rectifying the API settings, enabling the APIs, obtaining API keys, and adding billing information.

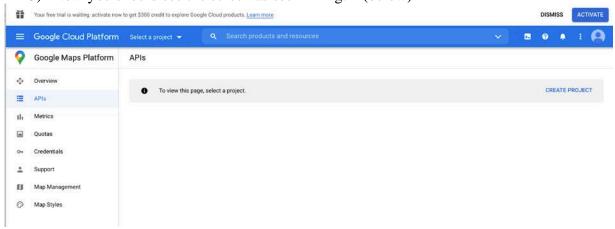
# Rectifying API settings so heatmap displays correctly

Follow the subsequent steps:

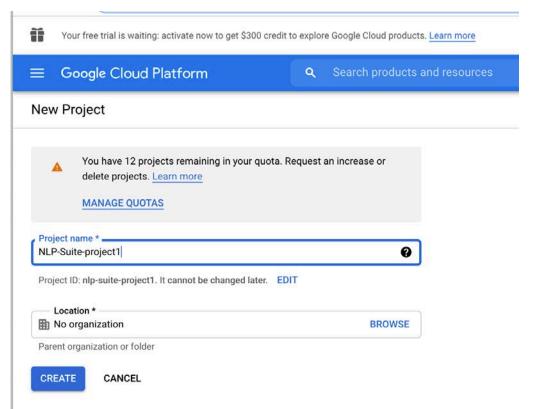
- 1) Head to <a href="https://cloud.google.com/maps-platform/">https://cloud.google.com/maps-platform/</a> and click Get Started.
- 2) As long as you are signed in on your Google Account, you should be greeted with Fig. 1 (below). Choose your *Country*, agree to the *Terms of Service* and click *AGREE AND CONTINUE*



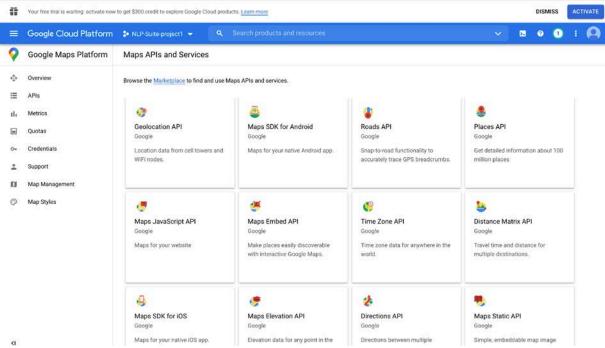
3) Now you should see the screen as seen in Fig. 2 (below)



- 4) Click on *CREATE PROJECT* (in blue on right hand side)
- 5) The page should load and show you Fig. 3 (below); now, choose a Project name and click the blue button *CREATE*.



6) After clicking CREATE, you will come to this page (Figure 4, below)



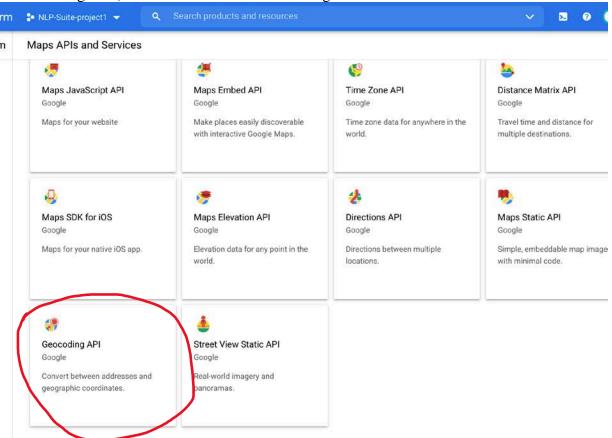
7) Now follow the steps below to enable APIs

### **Enabling APIs**

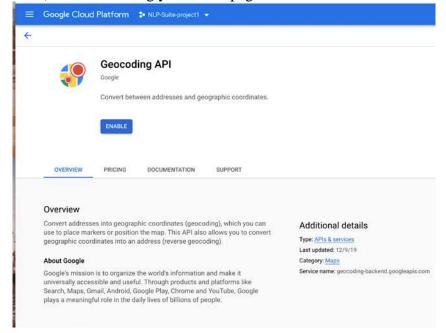
We need to enable the following APIs: Maps JavaScript API and Geocoding API

# **Geocoding API**

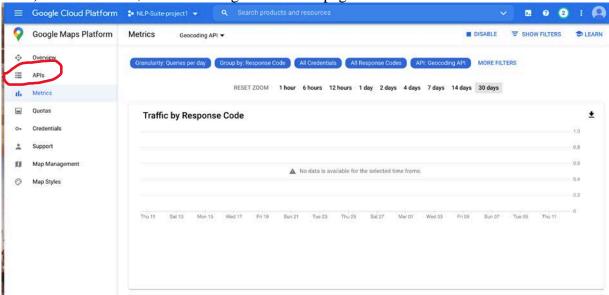
1) Click on the Geocoding API (should be found at the bottom of the page we left off on in Figure 4). The API is circled in red in Figure 5 below.



2) It should bring you to this page. Click on the blue "Enable" button.



3) Once enabled, the Geocoding API metrics page will show.

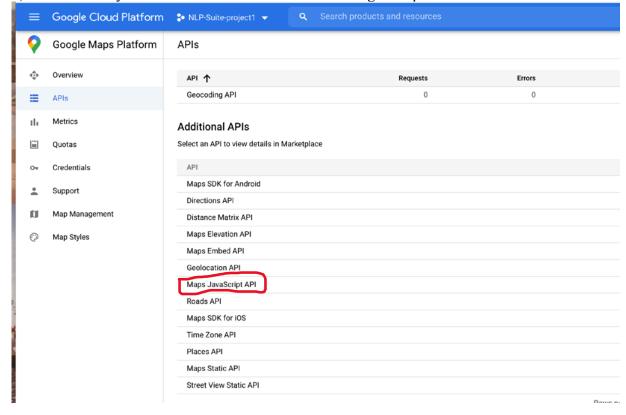


4) Now, we will move on to enabling the Maps JavaScript API.

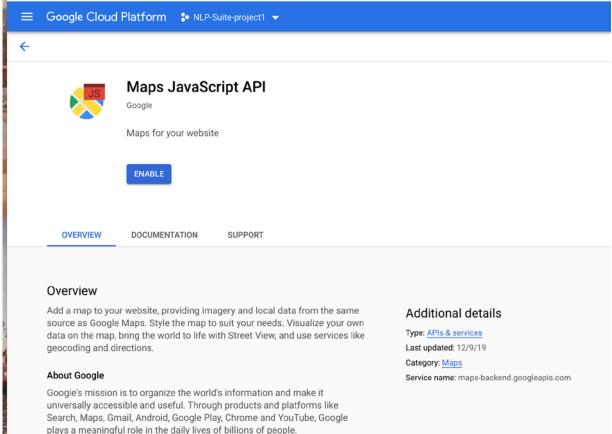
# Maps JavaScript API

1) Click on the APIs feature on the left-hand tool bar. It is circled in the above figure in red.

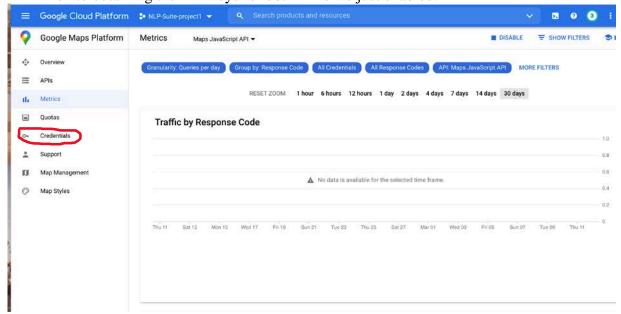
2) It will show you a list of additional APIs in the Google Maps Platform.



3) Click on "Maps JavaScript API" (circled in red in the above figure). It should bring you to this page as seen in the figure below. Click on the blue "Enable" button.



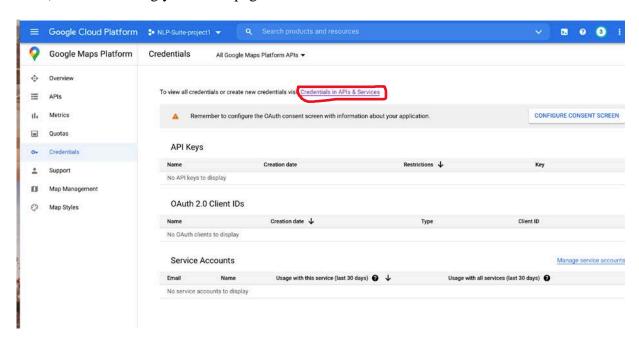
4) Once enabled, the Maps JavaScript API metrics page will show. Now, we will move on to obtaining the API keys for both APIs we just enabled.



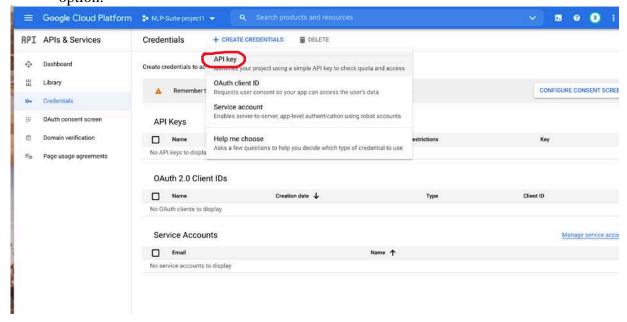
### Obtaining API keys

In order to run the Google Maps feature in GIS\_main GUI in NLP Suite, we need to have the API keys for both the Maps JavaScript API and the Geocoding API that we just enabled. Follow these steps to obtain these API keys.

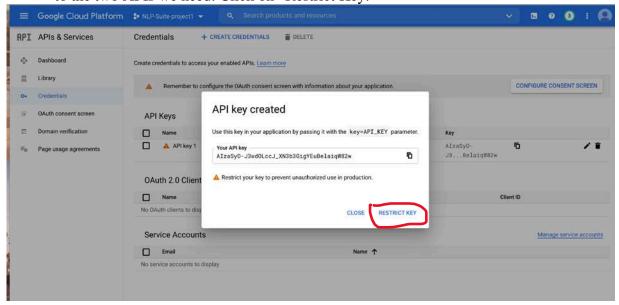
- 1) Starting from the same page we just left off on, click on the "Credentials" tab on the left-hand tool bar. It is circled in red in the above figure for reference.
- 2) It should bring you to this page. Click on "Credentials in APIs & Services."



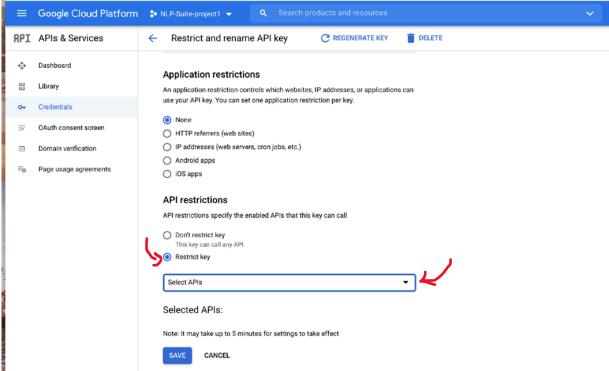
3) In the Credentials in APIs & Services page, Click on the +CREATE CREDENTIALS seen at the top of the page. A dropdown menu should appear. Click on the "API key" option.



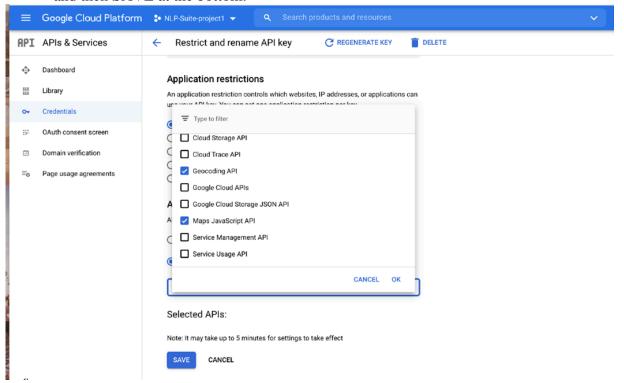
4) This pop-up should appear. But don't get too excited yet, first we must restrict the key to the two APIs we need. Click on "Restrict Key."



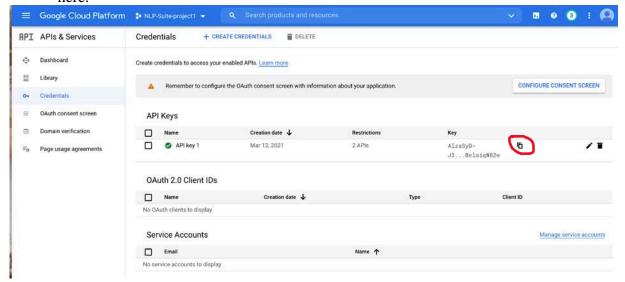
5) It should take you to this page. Click the circle next to "Restrict key," then open up the the "Select APIs" dropdown menu...



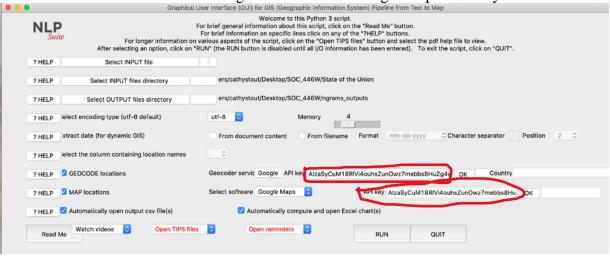
6) And select the checkboxes for Geocoding API and Maps JavaScript API. Click OK and then SAVE at the bottom.



7) Congrats!! Your API key should be enabled. You can copy it by clicking on this icon here



8) So now, when you're in the GIS\_main GUI, you can just paste your API key here and the GUI should run with the Google Geocoder and Google Maps correctly.



# Adding Billing information so heatmap displays correctly

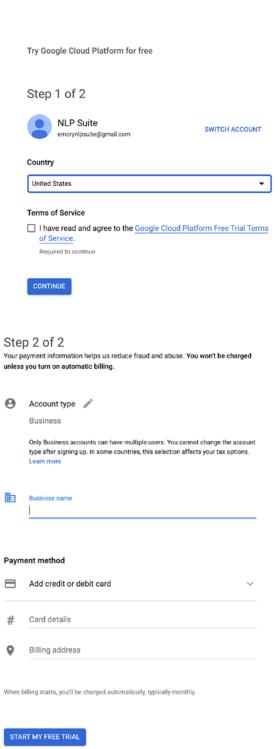
The last step for completing this process is inputting your Billing information into Google. While this step is not mandatory, it is recommended. Google offers you a free trial for 90 days and at the end of which, you are manually supposed to upgrade to a premium plan. While fulfilling this billing information process (and starting your 90 days trial plan), you will be charged a small nominal amount to check if you have inputted a valid card and to confirm that you are not a robot. This amount is refunded within 72 hours to your card. As you will see in one of the following screenshots, the billing information process charged INR 1.00 which is equivalent to 1.33 US cents.

### **Steps to complete Billing information:**

1) At the top of your Google Cloud Console page, there should be a bar that looks like this. Click on the blue ACTIVATE button.



2) It should bring you to the billing page (shown below). Follow the steps and your billing account should be set up! As it states on the righthand side, your card won't be charged after the free trial period is over.



# **Further readings: More TIPS files**

TIPS\_NLP\_Google Earth Pro.pdf
TIPS\_NLP\_Things to do with words NLP approach.pdf

#### Access to all Cloud Platform Products

Get everything you need to build and run your apps, websites and services, including Firebase and the Google Maps API.

#### \$300 credit for free

Put Google Cloud to work with \$300 in credit to spend over the next 90 days.

#### No autocharge after free trial ends

We ask you for your credit card to make sure you are not a robot. You won't be charged unless you manually upgrade to a paid account.

