Import ImageDataGenerator Library And Configure It

Import ImageDataGenerator and create an instance for which include shearing, rescale, zooming, etc to make the model robust with different types of images.

1. Load Data

The ASL Dataset contains 29 classes of images, including all the alphabets, delete, space and nothing. The data is divided into two folders for test and training purposes.

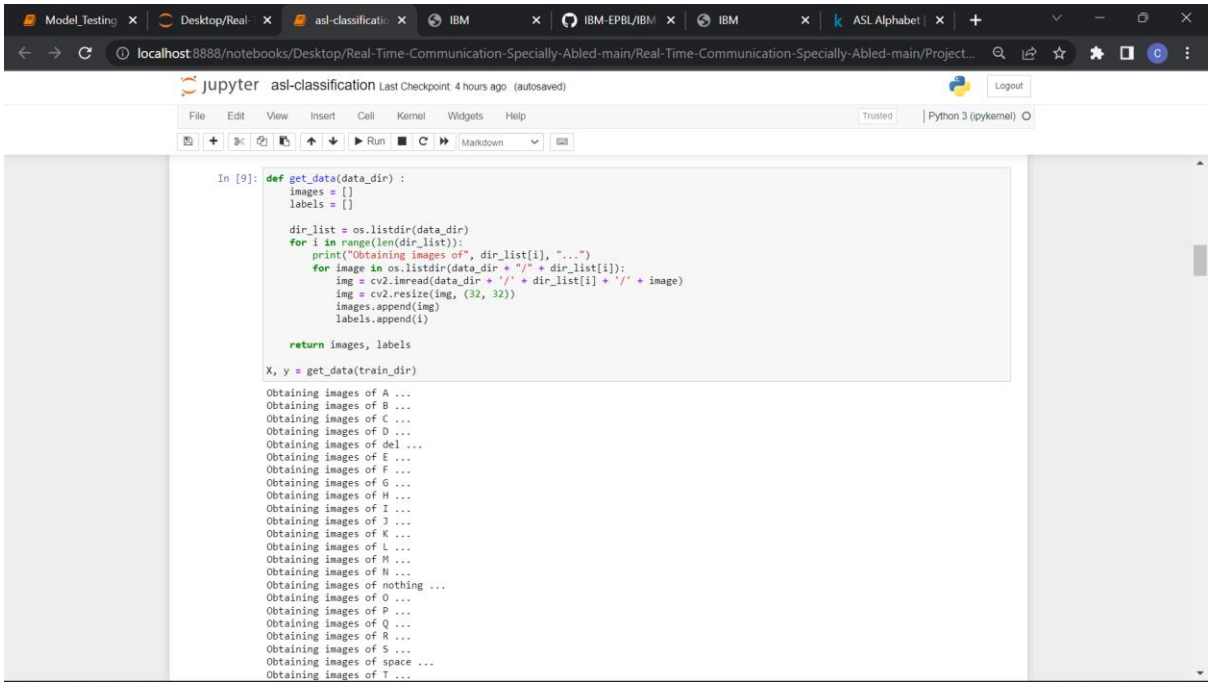
Here, we would use the training data for training and validation purposes. The test data would be used later for model evaluation.

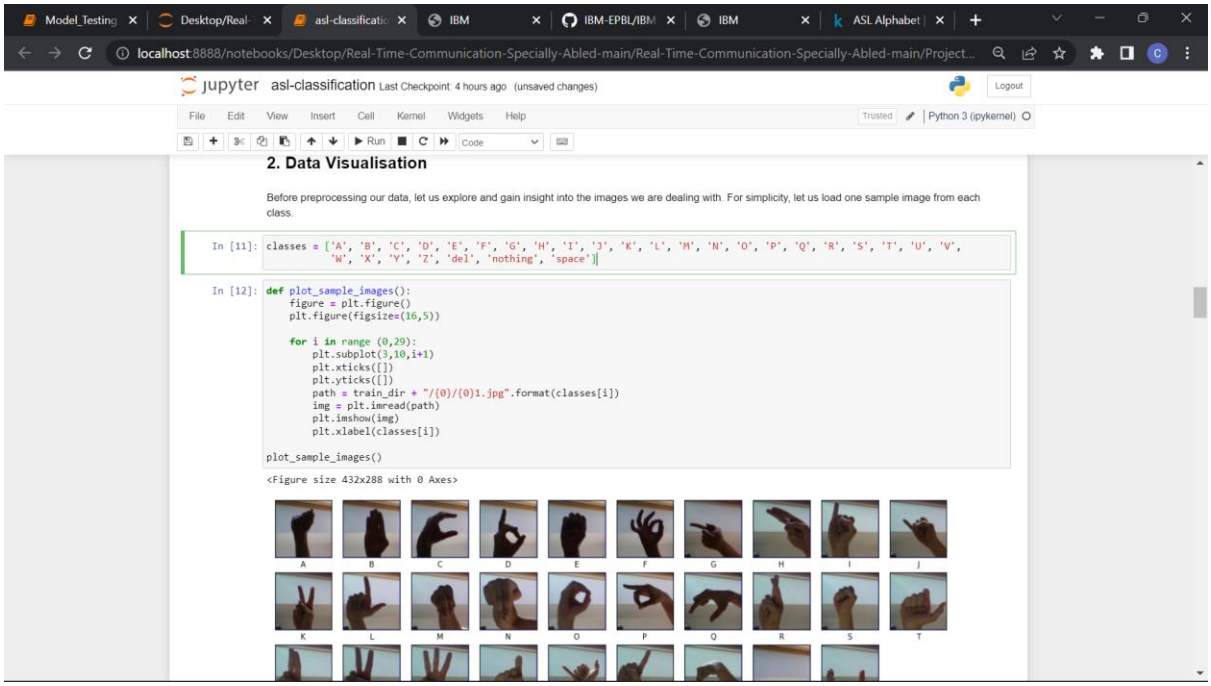
Let us define the data directories now.

[8]:
```
#train_dir = '../input/asl-alphabet/asl_alphabet_train/asl_alphabet_train'
#test_dir = '../input/asl-alphabet/asl_alphabet_test/asl_alphabet_test'
train_dir='dataset/training_set'
test_dir='dataset/test_set'
```

[4]:
```
pwd
```

[4]:
```
'C:\\Users\\Cliff\\Desktop\\Real-Time-Communication-Specially-Abled-main\\Real-Time-Communication-Specially-Abled-main\\Project Files'
```





3. Data Preprocessing

Before feeding the data to our model, we convert into numpy arrays and normalise the values by dividing the image pixel values by 255.

Then, we divide our training data into training and testing sets to be used by the model.

In [13]:
```
def preprocess_data(X, y):
    np_X = np.array(X)
    normalised_X = np_X.astype('float32')/255.0

    label_encoded_y = utils.to_categorical(y)

    x_train, x_test, y_train, y_test = train_test_split(normalised_X, label_encoded_y, test_size = 0.1)

    return x_train, x_test, y_train, y_test

x_train, x_test, y_train, y_test = preprocess_data(X, y)
```

Let us confirm the size of training and testing data.

In [14]:
```
print("Training data:", x_train.shape)
print("Test data:", x_test.shape)
```

```
Training data: (78300, 32, 32, 3)
Test data: (8700, 32, 32, 3)
```