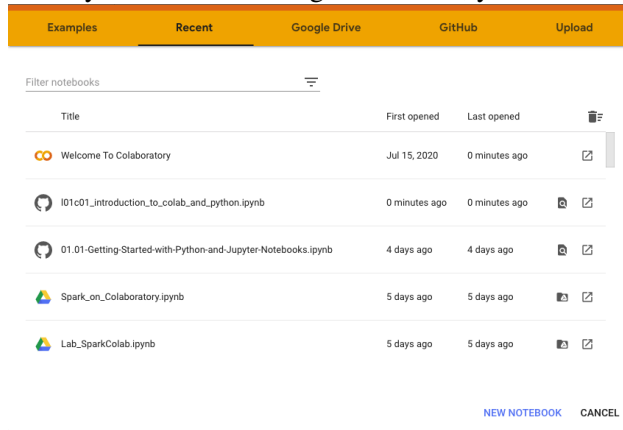# Using Google Colab

1   What is Google Colab?

Google Colab is an online platform where you can run "notebooks." These notebooks are combinations of code and text. In particular, Google Colab is a Python environment, similar to Jupyter Notebooks.

Access Google Colab here: `https://colab.research.google.com/`

2   Getting started

When you access the Google Colab url, you should see a dialog box, similar to this

1. Download the notebook from Canvas

2. Upload the notebook to Google Colab, using the "Upload" menu option in the upper right of the Google Colab dialog box.
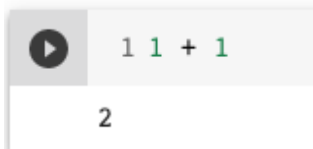
3   Using a notebook

Notebooks consist of an ordered set of cells. Cells can be text or code.
To change the contents of a cell, click inside the cell and type.
To run a cell, click in the cell, and then click on the play button in the upper left of the cell.
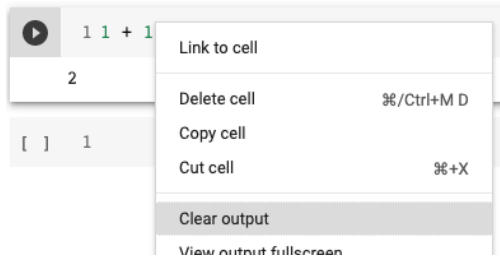

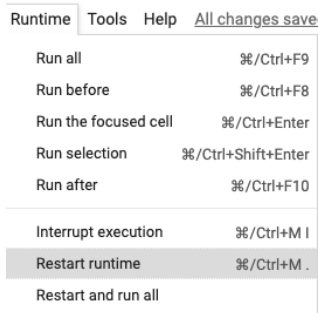The results are shown immediately below the cell.

You can also run a cell by clicking Shift + Enter.

You can rerun a cell by clicking the play button again.

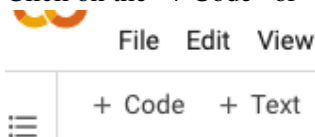To clear the output of a cell, right click on the cell and select "Clear output".

To clear the environment and reset all variables, select "Restart runtime" from the "Runtime" menu.
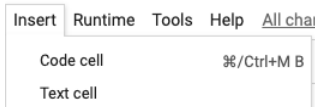

4   Adding cells

You can add cells to a notebook in a number of ways.

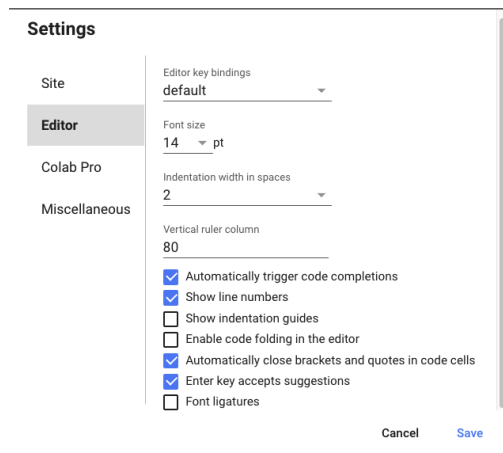1. Click on the "+ Code" or "+ Text" button in the upper left

2. Select "Code cell" or "Text cell" from the "Insert" menu

5   Configuring Colab

It's very helpful to turn on line numbers in code cells. To do so, select Tools/Settings/ Editor and enable the checkbox labeled "Show line numbers" and save the settings.
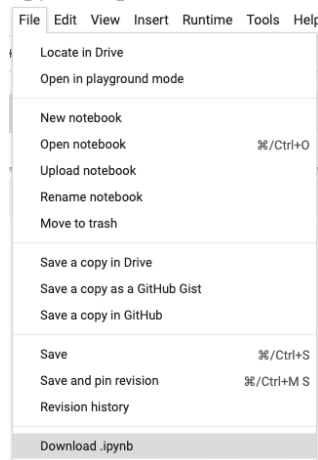
6 Completing your work

You should follow the instructions in the notebook. Typically, this involves adding code to cells or entering text. You may add any cells you need to help you complete your work.

It is a good idea to restart your runtime and run all of your cells, in order, one last time before submitting to ensure that everything works correctly.

7 Saving your work

Colab notebooks are automatically saved in your Google Drive in a folder named "Colab Notebooks".

You can also download notebooks to a folder of your choice on your computer using the "Download .ipynb" option from the File menu.

Typically, you will be asked to submit your .ipynb file as part of your assigned work.