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Project Documentation: NYC Restaurant Inspection Data Pipeline

Project Overview

This project is an end-to-end data engineering solution for analyzing and visualizing NYC Restaurant Inspection data. It involves ingesting raw data from the NYC Open Data Portal, cleaning and transforming it, uploading it to SQL Server, and creating insightful Power BI dashboards. The pipeline is fully modular and automated using Apache Airflow.

Technologies Used

- **Python** (data ingestion, cleaning, validation, transformation)
- **SQL Server** (data storage and post-upload cleaning)
- **Power BI** (dashboard and visualizations)
- **Apache Airflow** (automation)
- **GitHub** (version control)
- **VS Code + WSL2** (development environment)

Data Source

- **Dataset:** NYC Restaurant Inspection Results
- **Source:** [NYC Open Data Portal](#)
- **Format:** CSV

Pipeline Architecture

1. Data Ingestion

Load CSV into a Pandas DataFrame using `load_csv()`.

2. Data Cleaning

Standardize column names, remove nulls, format phone numbers, trim whitespaces, etc.

3. Data Validation

Check for duplicates, missing values, incorrect data types, invalid entries.

4. Data Transformation

- Capitalize and normalize `GRADE`
- Create `INSPECTION_YEAR`, `MONTH`, `WEEK_NUMBER`
- Derive `RISK_CATEGORY` from `SCORE`

- Combine BUILDING + STREET + ZIPCODE into FULL_ADDRESS

5. SQL Server Upload

Cleaned and transformed data is uploaded to SQL Server with automatic table truncation before each run.

6. Post-upload SQL Cleaning

A stored procedure standardizes BORO , replaces nulls, formats ZIPs, and trims addresses.

7. Power BI Visualizations

Final table from SQL Server is used to build interactive dashboards.

8. Airflow DAG

Automates the full pipeline from load to upload.

Detailed Modules

data_loader.py

- Loads the raw CSV using a configurable path from config.yaml .

data_cleaner.py

- Capitalizes headers
- Trims text
- Converts date columns
- Drops irrelevant fields and rows with missing critical data

data_validator.py

- Logs all nulls and types
- Logs invalid BORO , GRADE , and out-of-range ZIPs
- Saves duplicates from RES_ID + INSPECTION_DATE to file

data_transformer.py

- Standardizes GRADE
- Derives inspection time dimensions
- Categorizes scores into RISK_CATEGORY
- Builds FULL_ADDRESS

sql_uploader.py

- Truncates SQL table
- Uploads transformed data
- Calls stored procedure for final SQL clean

airflow_dags/nyc_inspection_dag.py

- Schedules and runs all steps
- Logs into Airflow UI

Directory Structure

```
nyc_data_project/ ├── src/ | ├── data_loader.py | ├──  
data_cleaner.py | ├── data_validator.py | ├──  
data_transformer.py | ├── sql_uploader.py | ├──  
pipeline_runner.py | ├── config/config.yaml | ├── output/ | ├──  
logs/ | ├── airflow_dags/ | ├── nyc_inspection_dag.py | ├──  
main.py | ├── README.md | ├── powerbi/  
NYC_Inspection_Report.pbix
```

Power BI Dashboard Overview

- **Score Trends:** Line chart over time
- **Top Risky ZIPs:** Bar chart
- **Violations by Cuisine:** Treemap
- **Grades by Borough:** Matrix
- **Risk Category Breakdown:** Pie chart
- **Slicers:** Year, Borough, Cuisine, Grade

Note: The report is built in Power BI Desktop and manually refreshed as Power BI Service is not used.

Screenshot Placeholder:

Power BI Dashboard Overview

SQL Stored Procedure Logic

Executed after upload from Python: - Uppercases BORO - Replaces blank BUILDING with 'UNKNOWN' - Trims STREET and FULL_ADDRESS - Sets null/invalid ZIPs to 00000 - Updates SCORE nulls to 0 - Drops GRADE_DATE column

Screenshot Placeholder:

SQL Table Sample

Automation with Airflow

- DAG file: airflow_dags/nyc_inspection_dag.py
- Runs the entire ETL pipeline daily (can be changed)
- Modular tasks with logging at each step

Screenshot Placeholder:

Airflow DAG View

Pipeline Log Sample

The pipeline logs important events at each stage with tags like [VALIDATION], [TRANSFORMATION], [SQL UPLOAD].

Screenshot Placeholder:

Pipeline Log Sample

Version Control (GitHub)

- Full source code committed
- `.gitignore` excludes sensitive and bulky files
- Power BI `.pbix` file included

Future Enhancements

- CI/CD using GitHub Actions
- Power BI REST API refresh
- Unit tests
- ML for violation prediction
- Publishing to Power BI Service