To run the code, simply run:

"python3 praw reddit scrape.py"

And then give it the following requested inputs and MySQL credentials.

The data from Reddit website (https://www.reddit.com/r/tech/) has been fetched using the PRAW API. Below are the steps that were followed for scraping the data from Reddit forum:

First, user registers as a developer at the website 'https://www.reddit.com/prefs/apps/' Then he creates an app, names it and submits

Reddit registers his created app by assigning a client ID, a secret client access code and the user agent. The user agent field is supposed to be the description of the app that the user provided while creating the app as a developer.

After having this information, user moves on and establishes a read-only instance to Reddit. Below is the command for that :

this reddit instance is now used with Praw API to fetch data from Reddit forum.

The code asks the user to enter an input which states the number of posts he wishes to fetch from the forum

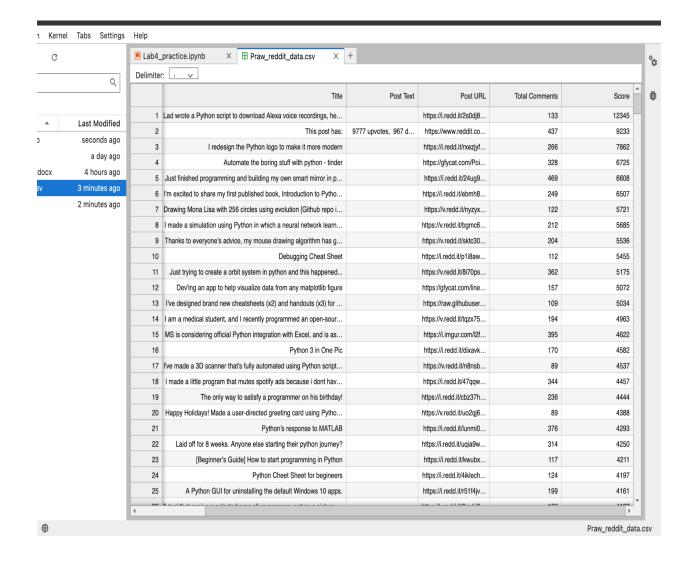
The Praw reddit instance then fetches those number of posts from the Reddit forum. Below is the code syntax :

for post in subreddit.top(limit=input_posts): #fetching the top posts on Reddit print(post.title)

Praw API can fetch only 1000 requests at a time so we need to send multiple requests if number of posts is greater than 1000.

Various features about each of the posts in the list can be fetched using post.title, post.comment, post.score. This data is then cleaned, processed, and stored in a CSV file using pandas library.

Attached is a screenshot of the CSV file:



We discussed the importance of data cleaning to ensure the quality and integrity of the data from Reddit. It was noted that the Reddit data may contain various issues such as missing values, duplicates, inconsistent formatting, and noise that need to be addressed. We emphasized the need to identify and handle missing data points effectively, as they can impact the quality of analysis and modeling. Duplicate records, if any, should be identified and removed during the cleaning process. We discussed the use of Pandas for data pre-processing tasks. It was agreed that Pandas provides a wide range of functions for tasks such as data cleaning, data type conversion, and handling outliers. We highlighted the need to prepare the data in a format suitable for storage in an SQL database. This includes defining the schema of the database table, specifying data types, and ensuring that the data is compatible with the SQL database management system we plan to use (e.g., MySQL).

The following schema reflects the choices made during the data preprocessing step to be stored in a mySQL database.

RedditPosts Table:

- post_id: A unique identifier for each Reddit post.
- subreddit: The subreddit where the post was made.

- title: The title of the Reddit post.
- author: The author of the post.
- post_text: The content of the post.
- post_url: The URL to the Reddit post.
- created_at: The timestamp when the post was created.
- Retrieved_at: The timestamp when the post was fetched
- score: The upvote score of the post.
- num_comments: The number of comments on the post.
- is_stickied: A boolean indicating whether the post is stickied.