Project Setup Guide

This document outlines the step-by-step instructions for setting up your development environment using Visual Studio Code, configuring your Kaggle API credentials, and downloading datasets directly via the terminal.

✅ 1. Install Visual Studio Code

1. Download and install Visual Studio Code from the official website.

2. Upon successful installation, launch Visual Studio Code.

✅ 2. Open the Project Folder

1. In Visual Studio Code, open your project folder:

   o Use File > Open Folder or the sidebar explorer on the left.

2. Confirm that your project files appear in the sidebar.

✅ 3. Open a New Terminal

1. Navigate to the Top Menu Bar:
   Terminal > New Terminal

2. A new terminal instance will open at the bottom of the editor.

3. Verify your current working directory by typing:

cd

and pressing Enter.

✅ 4. Configure Kaggle API Credentials

1. Log in to your Kaggle account.

2. Navigate to Account Settings > API Section.

3. Click Create New API Token — this will download a kaggle.json file to your computer.

4. Create a new folder named .kaggle in the following location:

makefile

C:\Users\YourUser\

⚠️ *Ensure the folder name starts with a dot (.): .kaggle*

5. Move the downloaded kaggle.json file into the .kaggle folder.

✅ 5. Verify Python Installation

1. In the terminal, check if Python is installed:

python --version

- ○ If Python is not installed, download and install it from the [official website](#) before proceeding.

✅ 6. Create a Virtual Environment

1. In the terminal, execute the following command to create a virtual environment:

python -m venv my_env1

2. Once the environment is created, close the terminal by clicking the trash can icon (Kill Terminal) on the right side of the terminal panel.

3. Open a new terminal:
Terminal > New Terminal

4. If your virtual environment is not activated automatically, run the following commands sequentially:

Set-ExecutionPolicy -ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned -Scope Process

.\my_env1\Scripts\Activate.ps1

✅ 7. Download Dataset from Kaggle

Now that your API credentials are configured, you can download datasets directly from Kaggle using the Kaggle CLI.

1. In the terminal, run the following command:

kaggle datasets download -d mohammedh210/walmart

2. The dataset will be downloaded as a .zip file in your current working directory.

3. Extract the contents as needed to use in your project.

🔑 Why the kaggle.json File is Important

- The kaggle.json file acts as your secure API key, enabling your system to authenticate with your Kaggle account automatically.

- Without this file, any CLI commands such as downloading datasets or competing in competitions will fail, as Kaggle's servers need to verify your identity.

- ⚠️ Important: Never upload your kaggle.json to any public repository. Add it to .gitignore if needed to keep your credentials private.

⚙️ Additional Notes

- Always ensure your virtual environment is activated when installing packages or running scripts.

- To deactivate the environment, simply type:

deactivate

__Thank you__

__Mohammed h__