AI/ML for Climate Workshop

International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)

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ML Workflow for Weather & Climate (Project Structure)

- Cookiecutter
- Git
- · VS Code
- GitHub

A logical, reasonably standardized but flexible project structure for doing and sharing data science work.

Why this matters

A well-structured project isn't just about tidiness it saves time, reduces errors, and lets you focus on solving hard problems.





Click the Binder button above to launch an interactive Jupyter notebook for NumPy and Pandas climate data analysis!

Prerequisites

• Python 3.10+

- pip / pipx
- Git
- VS Code (or PyCharm/Spyder)

0) Quick Checks

```
import shutil, subprocess, sys
def which(x):
    return shutil.which(x) or "<not found>"
print("Python:", sys.version.split()[0], "| exe:", sys.executable)
print("pip:", which("pip"))
print("git:", which("git"))
print("code (VS Code):", which("code"))
print("cookiecutter:", which("cookiecutter"))
```

Output:

```
Python: 3.13.8 | exe: c:\Users\yonas\Documents\ICPAC\python-ml-gha-venv\Scripts\python.
pip: c:\Users\yonas\Documents\ICPAC\python-ml-gha-venv\Scripts\pip.EXE
git: C:\Program Files\Git\cmd\git.EXE
code (VS Code): C:\Users\yonas\AppData\Local\Programs\Microsoft VS Code\bin\code.CMD
cookiecutter: c:\Users\yonas\Documents\ICPAC\python-ml-gha-venv\Scripts\cookiecutter.EX
```

1) Installing Cookiecutter

Option A: pip

```
python -m pip install --upgrade pip
pip install cookiecutter
```

Verify:

```
cookiecutter --version
```

2) Creating Your ML Project Structure (Cookiecutter)

From the parent directory where you want your project

```
cookiecutter https://github.com/drivendataorg/cookiecutter-data-science -c v1
```

Interactive prompts (examples):

```
project_name [My Awesome Project]: MyMLProject
repo_name [my_ml_project]:
author_name [Your Name]: Jane Doe
description [A short description of the project.]: A cool ML project using Cookiecutter
```

Non-interactive:

```
cookiecutter gh:drivendata/cookiecutter-data-science -c v2 --no-input project_name="N
```

3) Understanding the Structure

```
MyMLProject/
 — data/
    - external/
      - interim/
     — processed/
    L— raw/
  - docs/
  - models/
   notebooks/
  - references/
  - reports/
    L figures/
  - src/
    — data/
     — features/
     - models/
      - visualization/
```

- · data/: external/raw/interim/processed for data lifecycle
- docs/: project documentation
- models/: saved models/checkpoints
- notebooks/: EDA & experiments
- references/: papers/links
- reports/ + figures/: generated outputs
- src/: importable code modules

4) Initialize Git & Push to GitHub

From your project directory:

Initialize Git

```
git init
git add -A
git commit -m "Initial commit: Created project structure"
```

Create a Repository on GitHub

- Log in to GitHub and create a new repository.
- Click on New (or use this link) to create a new repository.
- Name it the same as your local project (e.g., MyMLProject).
- Do not initialize with a README (since you already have one or can add it later).

5) Pushing Your Project to GitHub

- Link your local repository to the GitHub repository and push your changes.
- Add the Remote Repository Replace and with your details:

```
git remote add origin https://github.com/<your-github-username>/<repository-name>.git
```

Example:

git remote add origin https://github.com/YonSci/MyMLProject.git

Push Your Code Push your initial commit to GitHub:

```
git push origin master
or
git branch -M main # Ensure your main branch is named 'main'
git push -u origin main
```

After running these commands, refresh your GitHub repository page, and you should see your project files online!

Optional: Git Comands

```
# To check the status
git status
git status -s

# To check the commit history
git log

# To add the file to the staging area
git add -A
git add .
```

To commit the changes

```
git commit -m "First commit"

# Push the changes from the local to Github
git push origin master

# When a local branch is behind the remote branch:
git fetch origin
git merge origin/master
git push origin master
```

Conclusion

Congratulations!

You now have a well-organized machine learning project structure generated by Cookiecutter or the Pure-Python Git, VS Code, and GitHub.

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