DOPE-Blackfynn-GUI

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1   About

This document contains instructions for using the dope-blackfynn-gui program. With this program, you will be able to accomplish the following tasks:

1. Setup your Blackfynn account on your computer (necessary to access your Blackfynn account directly from your computer without going through the Blackfynn Webpage)

2. Upload dataset with folder structure conserved (i.e., organization of your dataset into folders and subfolders is conserved on Blackfynn after uploading)

These tasks could be accomplished without having to type any code or install any software. Simply follow the instructions provided below.
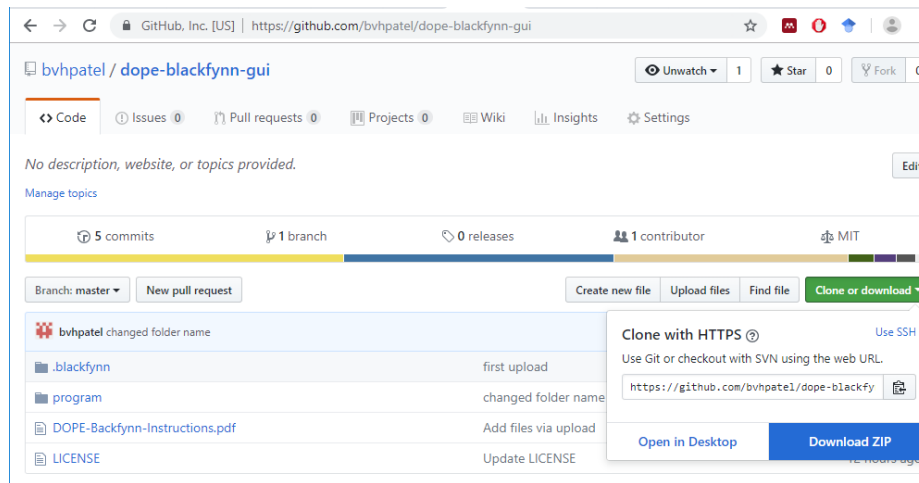
This program is developed on a voluntary basis. Only functionality deemed most crucial for the SPARC consortium, is provided for now (i.e., upload a folder from your computer to a dataset on Blackfynn with folder structure conserved).

2   Installation

Download the "dope-blackfynn-gui" folder from the dedicated Github repository:

https://github.com/bvhpatel/dope-blackfynn-gui

Click "Clone or download" and select "Download ZIP". Unzip the downloaded file anywhere on your computer. The unzipped folder "dope-blackfynn-gui" should contain three subfolders: ".blackfynn", "code", and "program". No other programs or installations are needed since everything that is required (Python, Blackfynn API, etc.) is packaged in these folders (that is why they are about 1GB total). The program runs only on Windows platforms. It has been tested successfully on Windows 10 64-bit and Windows 7 64-bit computers, and may run on other Windows versions as well.
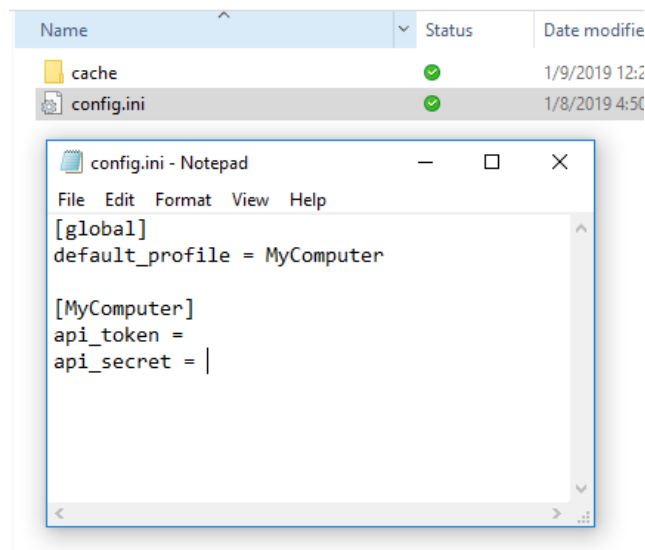
3   Setup your Blackfynn account

Setting up your Blackfynn account on your computer typically requires to install Python, then install the Blackfynn Python API, and finally configure your Blackfynn profile through the command line. This process is explained here:

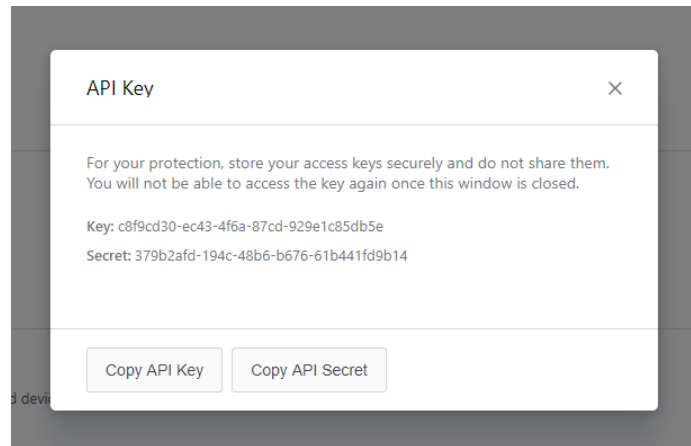http://help.blackfynn.com/using-the-command-line-tool
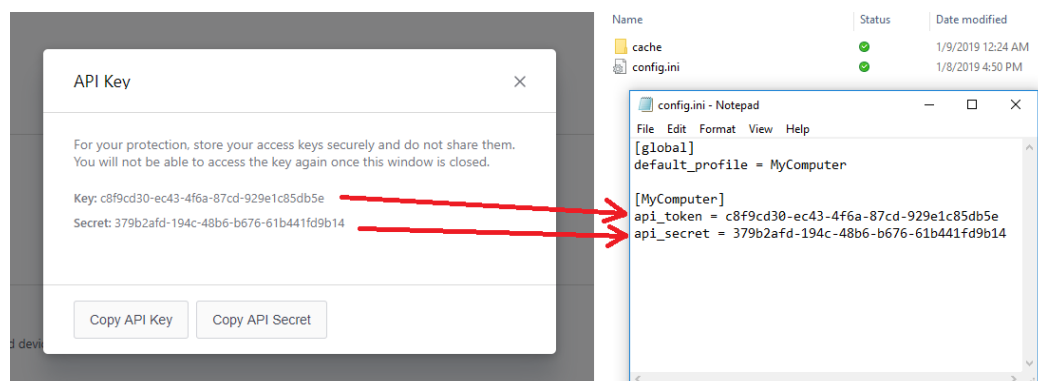
Alternatively, you could proceed as follows:

1. Go to the folder ".blackfynn" contained in "dope-blackfynn-gui"

2. Open the "config.ini" file with any text editor (e.g., Notepad or MS Word)
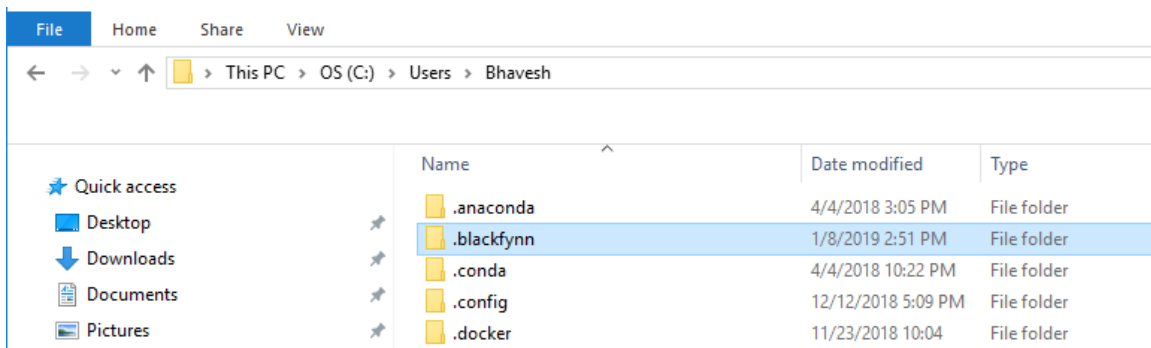
3. Follow the instructions provided here to generate Blackfynn API Key and API secret: http://help.blackfynn.com/developers/configuration/creating-an-api-key-for-the-blackfynn-clients. You should get Blackfynn API Key and API secret as shown below.

4. Copy/paste the API Token on the "api_token" line and the API secret on the "api_secret" line in the "config.ini" file you have opened in step 2.

5. Save and close the "config.ini" file.

6. Copy the whole ".blackfynn" folder, and paste it under your computer user folder. It should typically be located at "C:\Users \MyUser" where "MyUser" is your computer username (for instance, it is "Bhavesh" in the illustration below).

7. You are done. Your computer is now authorized to manipulate files on your Blackfynn account without going through the Webpage.
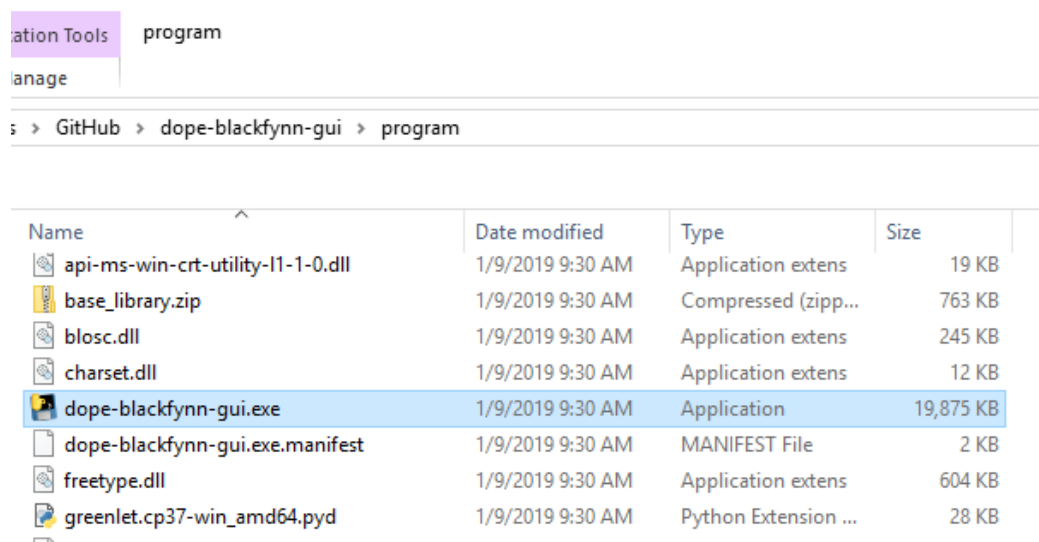
Notes:

- You would not have to repeat this process again unless you want to setup another Blackfynn account/organization on the same computer.

- The name "MyComputer" in the "config.ini" file could be changed if desired but it doesn't matter if you are only connecting to one Blackfynn organization account from this computer.
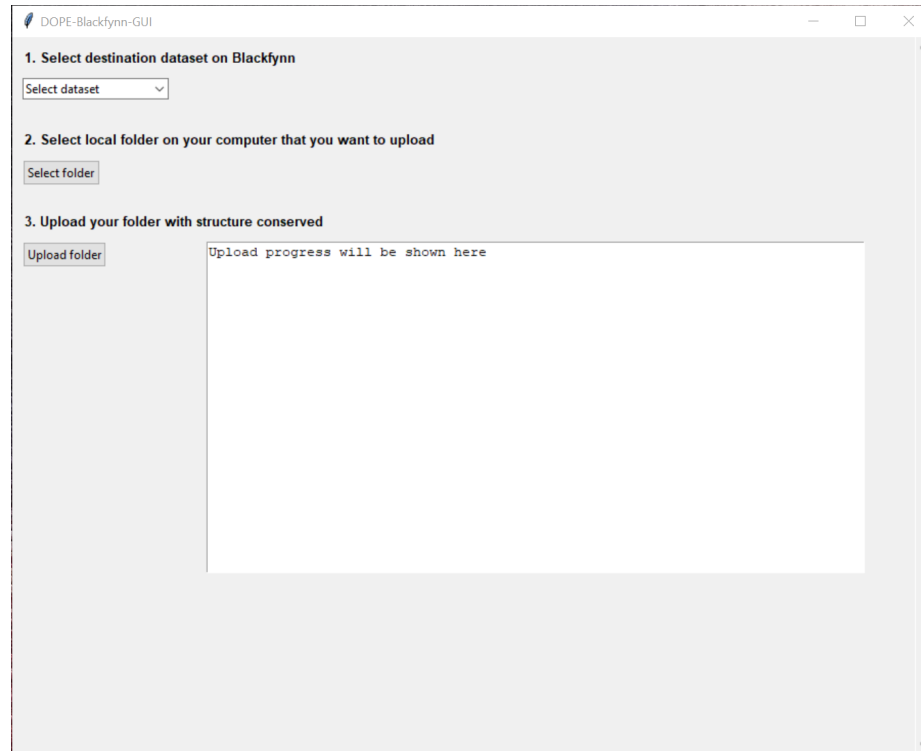
4 Upload dataset to Blackfynn

The Web interface of Blackfynn is currently unable to conserve folder structure when uploading your dataset. The DOPE-Blackfynn program addresses this issue:
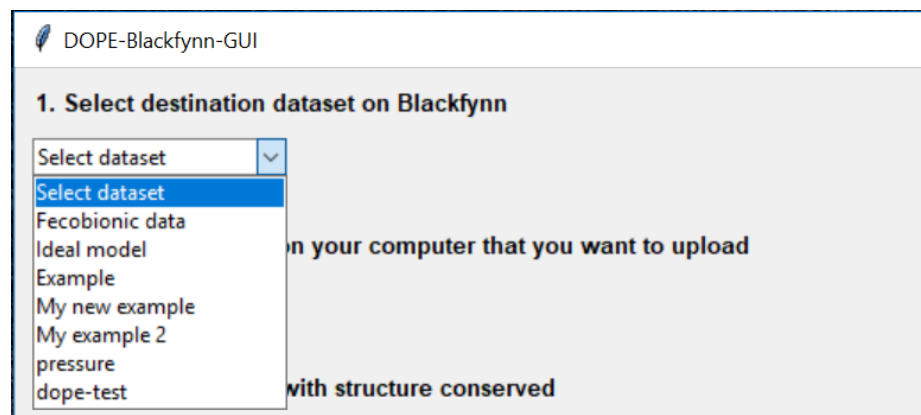
1. Go to the folder "program" and double click on the executable file "dope-bf-gui.exe" (you may have to do right click and "run as administrator").

2. Wait for the user interface of the program to load. The interface should look as shown below. It the program does not open it could be that you have not setup your Blackfynn account properly (Section 3) or your operating system is not supported. Please email bpatel@calmi2.org if you need help.

3. The dropdown list contains the names of the datasets you currently have on your Blackfynn account. Select the one where you want to upload your new dataset. If you want to upload under a new dataset name, create it first from the Blackfynn webpage and reopen the program to refresh the dataset list.

4. Click on "Select folder" and select the folder containing the files you want to upload.

5. Click on the "Upload" button to start uploading. An indicator below the "Upload" button will indicate "Uploading..." until completed. The adjacent text box provides a live progress status of the files being uploaded.

6. When the indicator below the "Upload" button changes to "Done!", the upload is completed. You can repeat the process with another dataset/folder combination if desired.

Notes:

- If you want to stop uploading, simply close the program. Any files uploaded up to that point will be stored on your Blackfynn account.

- For now, you cannot upload multiple folder at the same time, meaning you have to wait for one upload to be completed before starting another.