jasonmzx's Quick Guide to setting up OpenCV on Windows using Microsoft Visual Studio 2019 (MSVC)

(Basic Hello World OpenCV setup)

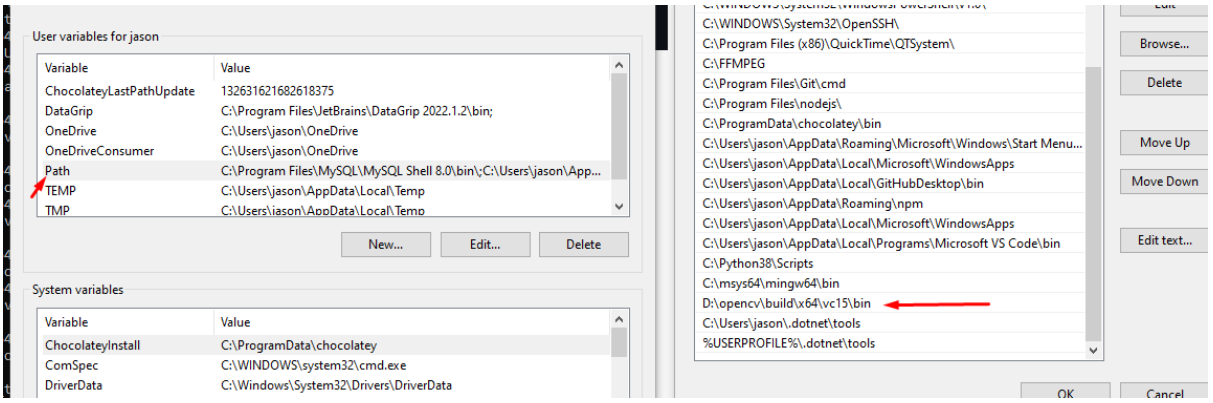
Step 1. *Make sure you got Microsoft Visual Studio 2019 or higher installed* **(reccomended)**
https://visualstudio.microsoft.com/

Step 2. Download the latest release from the opencv github repo: **(Download the release ending in .exe with vc14_vc15 in the name)**

https://github.com/opencv/opencv/releases

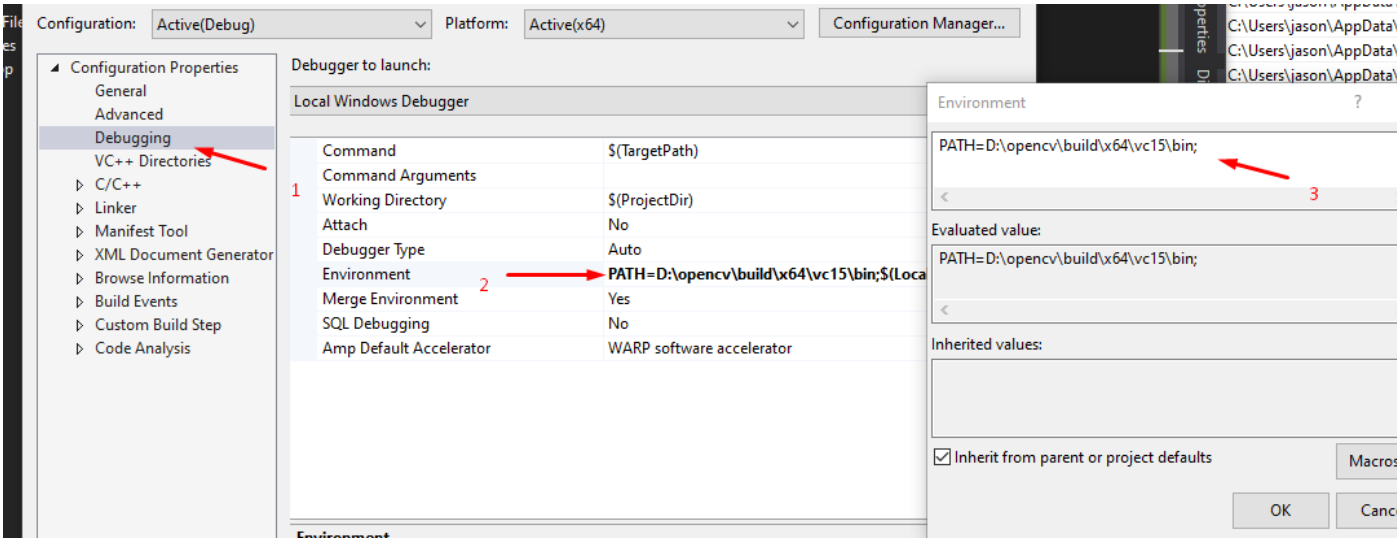
Step 3. When you run this executable, it will ask for a location where the opencv directory will be created. **(I put this right on my D:\ Drive, D:\opencv)**

Step 4. Add openCV to your Environment Variables.
<Path To OpenCV dir>\build\x64\vc15\bin

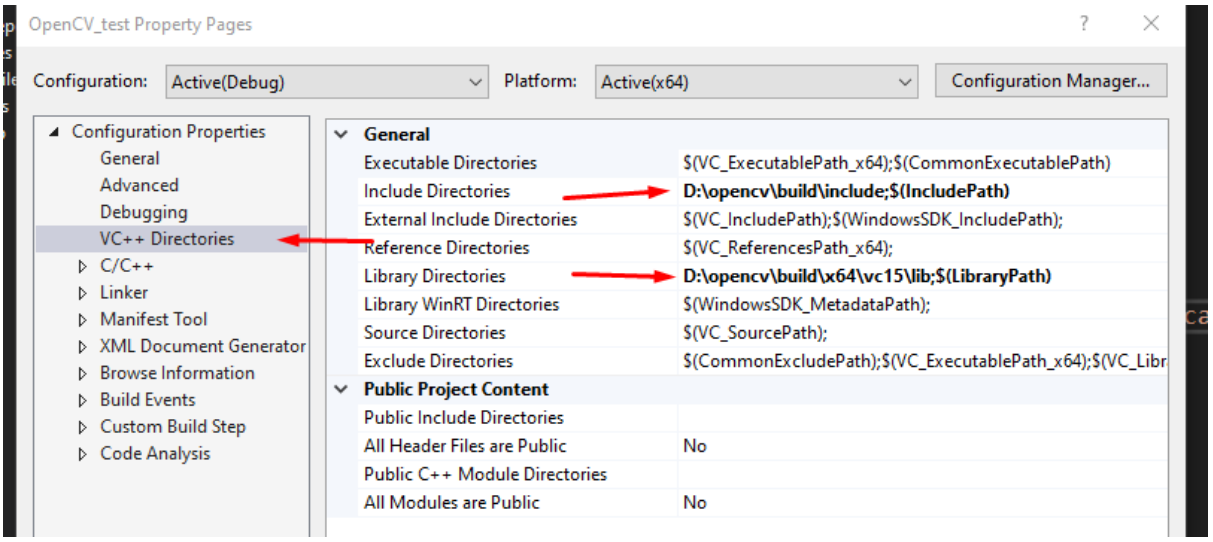


Step 5.
In MSVC, Create an **"Empty Project"** and name it whatever, I named mine **"OpenCV_test",** once that's done, head to the properties of the project. *(Right click menu -> Properties)*

Step 6.
In the **Debugging Section,** *set the Environment by right clicking the text input and click Edit, then input:* PATH=<Path to OpenCV dir>\build\x64\vc15\bin;



Step 7. Next is the **VC++ Directories** section (right below Debugging)

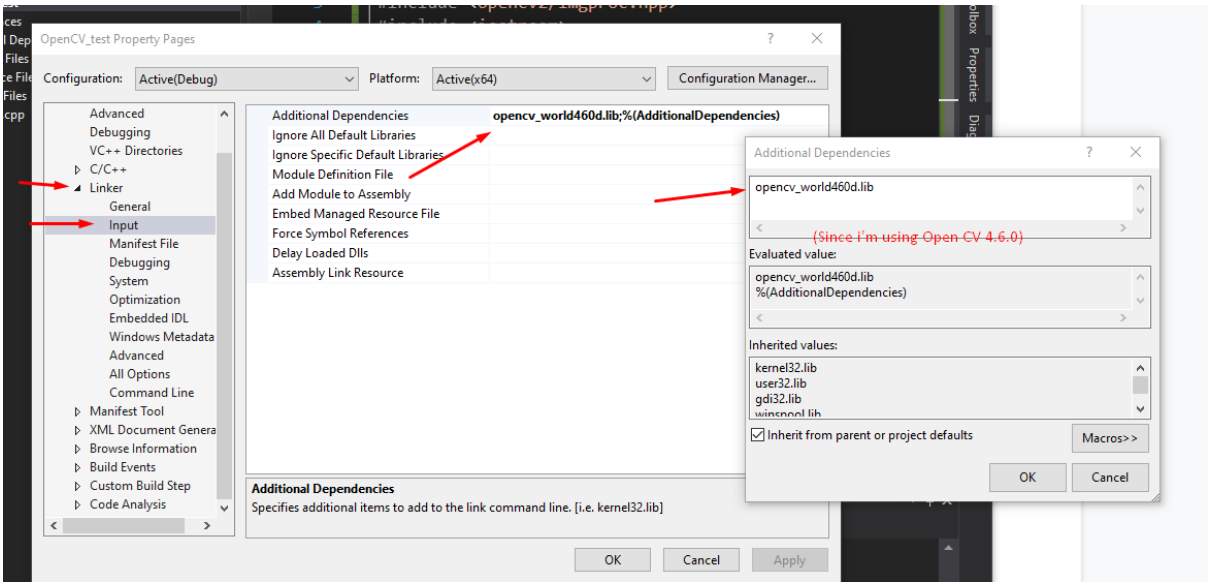


Edit the Include Directories & Library Directories
<Path to OpenCV dir>\build\include;$(IncludePath)
<Path to OpenCV dir>\build\x64\vc15\lib;$(LibraryPath)
(Respectively)

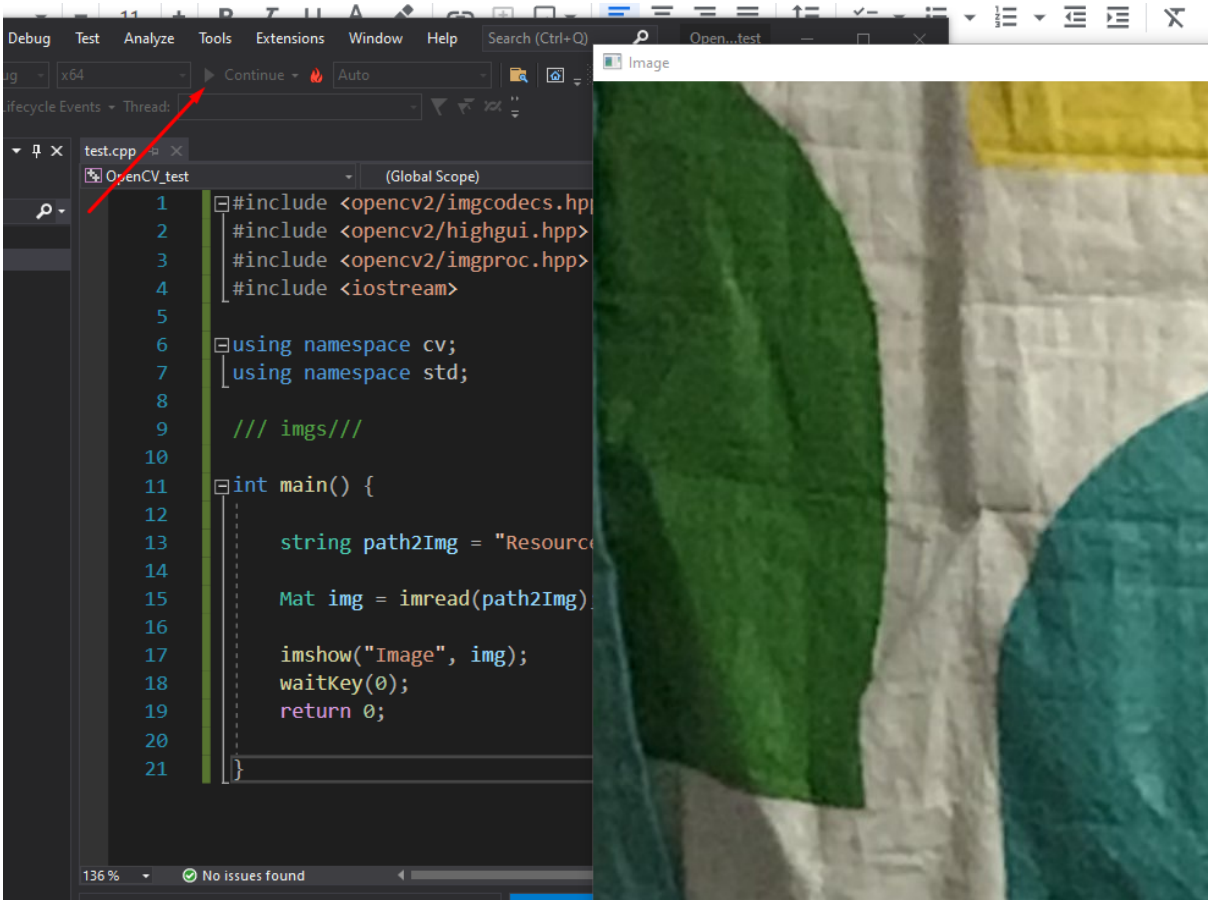
Step 8. Last but not least, go into the Linker -> Input section and edit the Additional Dependencies input to be:

The **d** here indicates the debug mode, and the **460** indicates the versioning of the opencv_world library being imported, since I've installed opencv 4.6.0 I used 460. You can check in the **<path 2 opencv>/build/x64/vc15/bin folder**, you'll see .dll files matching this name *(I see files like opencv_world460.dll for example)*
opencv_world460d.lib

For production use, use this additional dep. Import since this version of the library has all the debug stuff disabled (safer build persay)
opencv_world460.lib



Step 9. Create a new **.cpp** file, and paste in the code from this pastebin link:
https://pastebin.com/92GCdTbe



If an image window pops up, you know your installation is successful and you can start writing some code !

**** Also make sure to put an image in the solution files, and set the path2Img string to it's relative file path**

Ressources I used for this:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2FYm3GOonhk
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZ4ypUDtFX4