ITAI 1378 Computer Vision

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GitHub / Jupyter lab experience

I’ve heard of GitHub multiple times; it was mentioned in multiple teaching videos about Python. I never got interested enough to make an account, but I did know I was going to have to make an account eventually to start practicing real problems in Python. That day is finally here, and the interface is relatively easy to understand. Like with any new application, you need time and practice to get used to all the features. I liked that it also gave small descriptions of the features just in case you forgot what it meant. When creating a new repository, it asks for a name, whether to make it private or public; it also asks for the branch you want to use. Choosing a different branch can help to experiment without affecting the main branch code. Another feature Github has is Pull Request, which allows others to review the code and make sure there are no bugs. If you use a pull request in a sub-branch, this can then be merged into the main branch later on. A fork is a copy of someone else’s repository where you can make your own changes or you can pull requests to contribute to the original. Issues are ways to track bugs or improvements, almost like a to-do list. I learned all this through a series of helpful videos. Now the hard part for me was installing Jupyter Lab; I had already installed Python before for another class. However, when I first installed Python, I forgot to click on the checkmark box to add Python to the PATH. I knew I had installed Python, so why didn’t “pip install jupyter lab” work? I saw pip was included in the installation files. I had to re-install Python againAs you can imagine, I had a hard time with the command prompt. After successfully installing Jupyter Lab, I had already made another mistake; I didn’t know where all the files had been placed for Jupyter. In the tutorial for Jupyter Lab in the modules from Canvas, I saw step 2 explain how to solve this issue, but when I put my path with the c.ServerApp.root\_dir, it simply didn’t recognize my paths. I tried on the command prompt, on Python, and on the Jupyter lab file, but nothing worked. Eventually I gave up and watched a video on how to install Jupyter Lab. He explained that before you even launch Jupyter, your directory in the command prompt needs to be in the folder you want Jupyter files to show in, and it worked. I now had an empty file side bar on display, as to where before I could see all my Home, desktop, and even downloads on the side bar. It was truly not an enjoyable experience, but I learned a lot about my file management, so I’m glad I had this assignment. In Jupyter Lab, you can write code, run it, and see the results immediately within the notebook. It's more of a development environment rather than just a simple text editor. Code Cells T are where you write and run code. The output shows directly below the code. Markdown cells are used to write text. The kernel is used to understand the language you want Jupyter to understand. You can also export files in many formats.