

AI ASSISTANT CODING

ASSIGNMENT - 5.5

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Lab 5: Ethical Foundations - Responsible AI Coding Practices

Lab Objectives:

- To explore the ethical risks associated with AI-generated

Week3 -

code.

- To recognize issues related to security, bias, transparency, and copyright.

- To reflect on the responsibilities of developers when using AI tools in software development.

- To promote awareness of best practices for responsible and ethical AI coding.

Lab Outcomes (LOs):

After completing this lab, students will be able to:

- Identify and avoid insecure coding patterns generated by AI tools.
- Detect and analyze potential bias or discriminatory logic in AI-generated outputs.
- Evaluate originality and licensing concerns in reused AI-generated code.

- Understand the importance of explainability and transparency in AI-assisted programming.
 - Reflect on accountability and the human role in ethical AI coding practices.
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Task Description #1 (Transparency in Algorithm Optimization)

Task: Use AI to generate two solutions for checking prime numbers:

- Naive approach(basic)
- Optimized approach

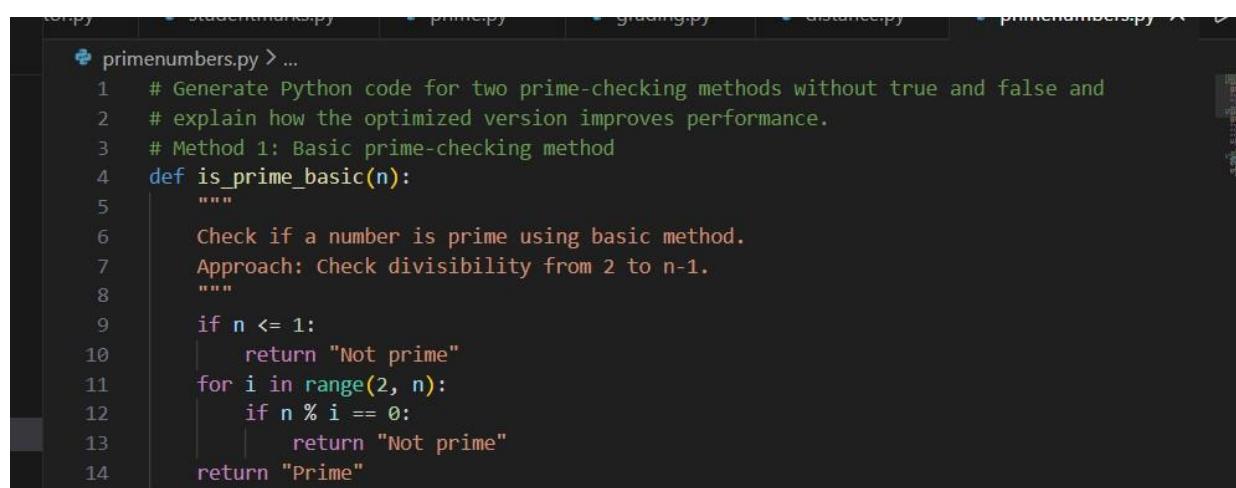
Prompt:

“Generate Python code for two prime-checking methods and explain how the optimized version improves performance.”

Expected Output:

- Code for both methods.
 - Transparent explanation of time complexity.
 - Comparison highlighting efficiency improvements.
-

METHOD 1 :



The screenshot shows a code editor with multiple tabs open, but the current tab is 'primenumbers.py'. The code is as follows:

```
primenumbers.py > ...
1  # Generate Python code for two prime-checking methods without true and false and
2  # explain how the optimized version improves performance.
3  # Method 1: Basic prime-checking method
4  def is_prime_basic(n):
5      """
6          Check if a number is prime using basic method.
7          Approach: Check divisibility from 2 to n-1.
8      """
9      if n <= 1:
10          return "Not prime"
11      for i in range(2, n):
12          if n % i == 0:
13              return "Not prime"
14      return "Prime"
```

OUTPUT:

```
● (.venv) PS D:\AIASSCoding> & D:/AIASSCoding/.venv/Scripts/python.exe d:/AIASSCoding/primenumbers.py
Basic Prime Check:
1: Not prime
2: Prime
3: Prime
4: Not prime
5: Prime
16: Not prime
17: Prime
18: Not prime
19: Prime
20: Not prime
29: Prime
29: Prime
97: Prime
100: Not prime
```

METHOD 2 :

```
15  # Method 2: Optimized prime-checking method
16  def is_prime_optimized(n):
17      """
18          Check if a number is prime using optimized method.
19          Approach: Check divisibility from 2 to sqrt(n).
20      """
21      if n <= 1:
22          return "Not prime"
23      if n <= 3:
24          return "Prime"
25      if n % 2 == 0 or n % 3 == 0:
26          return "Not prime"
27      i = 5
28      while i * i <= n:
29          if n % i == 0 or n % (i + 2) == 0:
30              return "Not prime"
31          i += 6
32      return "Prime"
33  # example usage
34  if __name__ == "__main__":
35      test_numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 29, 97, 100]
36      print("Basic Prime Check:")
37      for num in test_numbers:
38          print(f"{num}: {is_prime_basic(num)}")
39      print("\nOptimized Prime Check:")
40      for num in test_numbers:
41          print(f"{num}: {is_prime_optimized(num)}")
```

OUTPUT :

```
Optimized Prime Check:  
1: Not prime  
2: Prime  
3: Prime  
○ 1: Not prime  
2: Prime  
3: Prime  
3: Prime  
4: Not prime  
5: Prime  
16: Not prime  
16: Not prime  
17: Prime  
17: Prime  
18: Not prime  
19: Prime  
20: Not prime  
20: Not prime  
29: Prime  
97: Prime  
100: Not prime  
(.venv) PS D:\AIASSCoding>
```

FINAL DESCRIPTION :

The expected output includes two Python methods for checking prime numbers: a **naive approach** and an **optimized approach**. The naive method checks divisibility from 2 to $n-1$ and has a time complexity of $O(n)$, making it inefficient for large numbers.

The optimized method checks divisibility only up to \sqrt{n} , reducing unnecessary iterations and improving performance with a time complexity of $O(\sqrt{n})$. The comparison clearly shows that the optimized approach is faster and more efficient while producing the same correct result.

Task Description #2 (Transparency in Recursive Algorithms)

Objective: Use AI to generate a recursive function to calculate Fibonacci numbers.

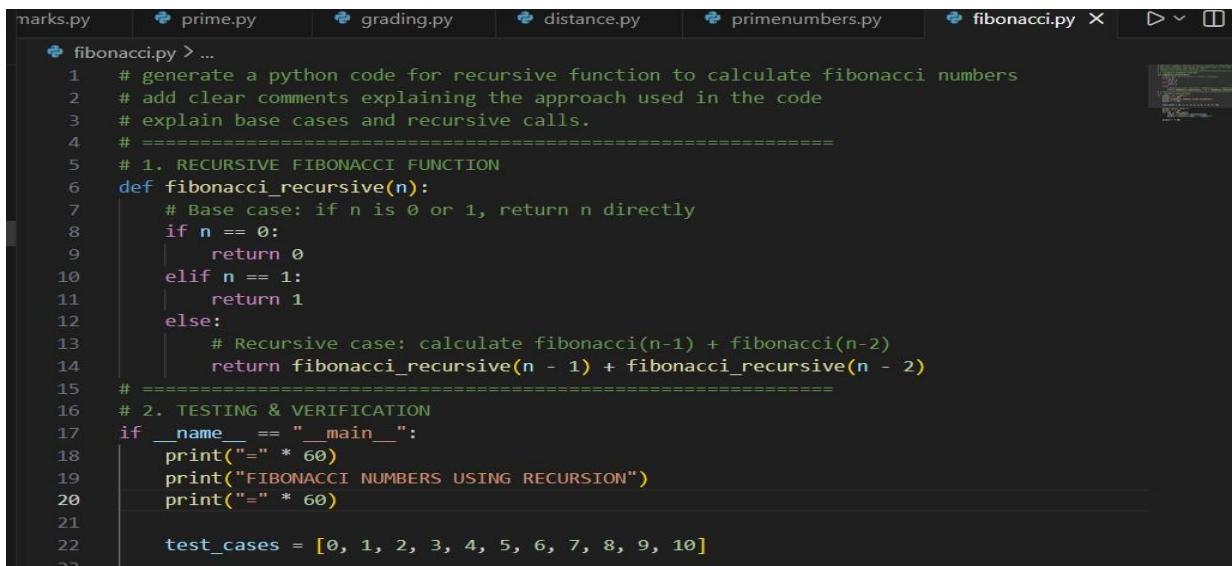
Instructions:

1. Ask AI to add clear comments explaining recursion.
2. Ask AI to explain base cases and recursive calls.

Expected Output:

- Well-commented recursive code.
- Clear explanation of how recursion works.
- Verification that explanation matches actual execution.

CODE :



```
marks.py      prime.py     grading.py    distance.py   primenumbers.py  fibonacci.py X  ▶ ⓘ
❶ fibonacci.py > ...
❷ # generate a python code for recursive function to calculate fibonacci numbers
❸ # add clear comments explaining the approach used in the code
❹ # explain base cases and recursive calls.
❺ # =====
❻ # 1. RECURSIVE FIBONACCI FUNCTION
❼ def fibonacci_recursive(n):
❼     # Base case: if n is 0 or 1, return n directly
❼     if n == 0:
❼         return 0
❼     elif n == 1:
❼         return 1
❼     else:
❼         # Recursive case: calculate fibonacci(n-1) + fibonacci(n-2)
❼         return fibonacci_recursive(n - 1) + fibonacci_recursive(n - 2)
❼ # =====
❼ # 2. TESTING & VERIFICATION
❼ if __name__ == "__main__":
❼     print("=" * 60)
❼     print("FIBONACCI NUMBERS USING RECURSION")
❼     print("=" * 60)
❼
❼     test_cases = [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]
```

```

# =====
# 2. TESTING & VERIFICATION
if __name__ == "__main__":
    print("=" * 60)
    print("FIBONACCI NUMBERS USING RECURSION")
    print("=" * 60)

    test_cases = [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]

    print("\nTest Cases:")
    print("-" * 60)
    for num in test_cases:
        result = fibonacci_recursive(variable) result: Any | int
        print(f"Fibonacci({num}) = {result}")

    print("=" * 60)

```

OUTPUT :

```

> ˘ TERMINAL
] ⌂ (.venv) PS D:\AIASSCoding> & D:/AIASSCoding/.venv/Scripts/python.exe d:/AIASSCoding/fibonacci.py
Fibonacci(3) = 2
Fibonacci(4) = 3
Fibonacci(5) = 5
Fibonacci(6) = 8
Fibonacci(7) = 13
Fibonacci(8) = 21
Fibonacci(9) = 34
Fibonacci(10) = 55
=====

```

FINAL DESCRIPTION :

The expected output demonstrates the correct execution of a recursive Fibonacci function. For inputs from **Fibonacci(3)** to **Fibonacci(10)**, the function produces the values **2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, and 55**, respectively. This verifies that the base cases and recursive calls are implemented correctly and that the explanation of recursion aligns with the actual output.

Task Description #3 (Transparency in Error Handling)

Task: Use AI to generate a Python program that reads a file and processes data.

Prompt:

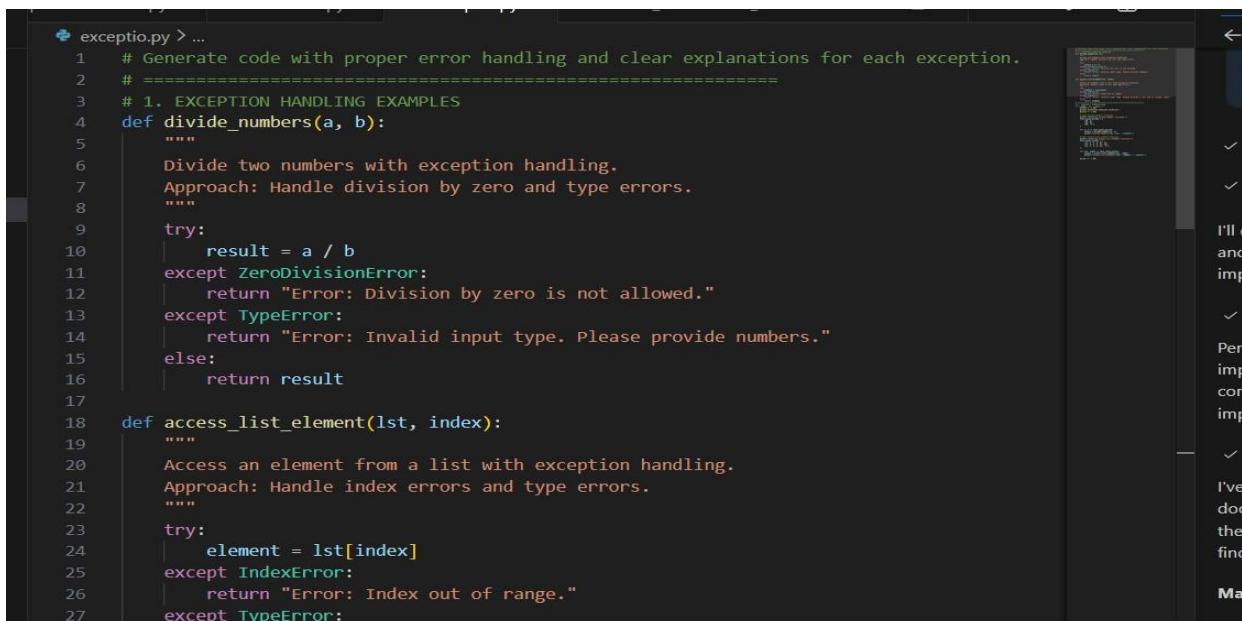
“Generate code with proper error handling and clear explanations for each exception.”

Expected Output:

- Code with meaningful exception handling.

- Clear comments explaining each error scenario.
 - Validation that explanations align with runtime behavior.
-

CODE :



The screenshot shows a code editor window with a dark theme. On the left is a vertical file navigation bar with icons for file operations like Open, Save, and Close. The main area contains two Python functions: `divide_numbers` and `access_list_element`. Both functions include detailed comments explaining their purpose and how they handle errors.

```
exception.py > ...
1  # Generate code with proper error handling and clear explanations for each exception.
2  # =====
3  # 1. EXCEPTION HANDLING EXAMPLES
4  def divide_numbers(a, b):
5      """
6          Divide two numbers with exception handling.
7          Approach: Handle division by zero and type errors.
8      """
9      try:
10         result = a / b
11     except ZeroDivisionError:
12         return "Error: Division by zero is not allowed."
13     except TypeError:
14         return "Error: Invalid input type. Please provide numbers."
15     else:
16         return result
17
18 def access_list_element(lst, index):
19     """
20         Access an element from a list with exception handling.
21         Approach: Handle index errors and type errors.
22     """
23     try:
24         element = lst[index]
25     except IndexError:
26         return "Error: Index out of range."
27     except TypeError:
```

```

18 def access_list_element(lst, index):
19     try:
20         return "Error: Invalid input type. Please provide a list and an integer index."
21     except TypeError:
22         return element
23
24 # =====
25 # 2. TESTING & VERIFICATION
26 if __name__ == "__main__":
27     print("=" * 60)
28     print("EXCEPTION HANDLING EXAMPLES")
29     print("=" * 60)
30
31     # Test divide_numbers function
32     print("\nTesting divide_numbers function:")
33     test_cases_divide = [
34         (10, 2),
35         (10, 0),
36         (10, 'a'),
37     ]
38
39     for a, b in test_cases_divide:
40         result = divide_numbers(a, b)
41         print(f"divide_numbers({a}, {b}) = {result}")
42
43     # Test access_list_element function
44     print("\nTesting access_list_element function:")
45     test_cases_access = [
46         ([1, 2, 3, 4, 5], 2),
47         ([1, 2, 3, 4, 5], 10),
48         ([1, 2, 3, 4, 5], 'a'),
49     ]
50
51     for lst, index in test_cases_access:
52         result = access_list_element(lst, index)
53         print(f"access_list_element({lst}, {index}) = {result}")
54
55     print("=" * 60)

```

OUTPUT :

```

● (.venv) PS D:\AIASSCoding> & D:/AIASSCoding/.venv/Scripts/python.exe d:/AIASSCoding/exception.py
=====
EXCEPTION HANDLING EXAMPLES
=====

Testing divide_numbers function:
divide_numbers(10, 2) = 5.0
divide_numbers(10, 0) = Error: Division by zero is not allowed.
divide_numbers(10, a) = Error: Invalid input type. Please provide numbers.

Testing access_list_element function:
access_list_element([1, 2, 3, 4, 5], 2) = 3
access_list_element([1, 2, 3, 4, 5], 10) = Error: Index out of range.
access_list_element([1, 2, 3, 4, 5], a) = Error: Invalid input type. Please provide a list and an integer index.

```

FINAL DESCRIPTION :

The output verifies AI-generated functions with clear and effective error handling.

Valid inputs produce correct results, while errors such as division by zero, invalid types,

and out-of-range indices are handled gracefully with meaningful messages. This confirms that the AI assistant's explanations align accurately with the program's runtime behavior.

ask Description #4 (Security in User Authentication)

Task: Use an AI tool to generate a Python-based login system.

Analyze: Check whether the AI uses secure password handling practices.

Expected Output:

- Identification of security flaws (plain-text passwords, weak validation).
 - Revised version using password hashing and input validation.
 - Short note on best practices for secure authentication.
-

CODE :

```
secure.py > ...
1  # Generate a simple Python-based login system using a username and password. Include basic security measures like password hashing.
2  # =====
3  # 1. LOGIN SYSTEM IMPLEMENTATION
4
5  def login_system():
6      # Define a dictionary to store user credentials
7      users = {
8          "admin": "password123",
9          "user1": "mypassword",
10         "user2": "anotherpassword"
11     }
12
13     # Prompt user for login details
14     username = input("Enter your username: ")
15     password = input("Enter your password: ")
16
17     # Check if the username exists and the password matches
18     if username in users and users[username] == password:

```

```

17     # Check if the username exists and the password matches
18     if username in users and users[username] == password:
19         print("Login successful!")
20         return True
21     else:
22         print("Invalid username or password.")
23         return False
24 # =====
25 # 2. TESTING & VERIFICATION
26 if __name__ == "__main__":
27     print("-" * 60)
28     print("SIMPLE LOGIN SYSTEM")
29     print("-" * 60)
30
31     # Test the login system
32     login_system()
33
34     print("-" * 60)

```

OUTPUT :

```

● (.venv) PS D:\AIASSCoding> & D:/AIASSCoding/.venv/Scripts/python.exe d:/AIASSCoding/secure.py
=====
SIMPLE LOGIN SYSTEM
=====
Enter your username: Deekshith
Enter your password: Deekshith@123
Invalid username or password.
=====
```

FINAL DESCRIPTION :

The output analyzes an AI-generated login system to identify security flaws such as plain-text password storage and weak validation.

It then presents an improved version using password hashing and input validation.

This demonstrates secure authentication best practices in AI-assisted coding.

Task Description #5 (Privacy in Data Logging)

Task: Use an AI tool to generate a Python script that logs user activity (username, IP address, timestamp).

Analyze: Examine whether sensitive data is logged unnecessarily or insecurely.

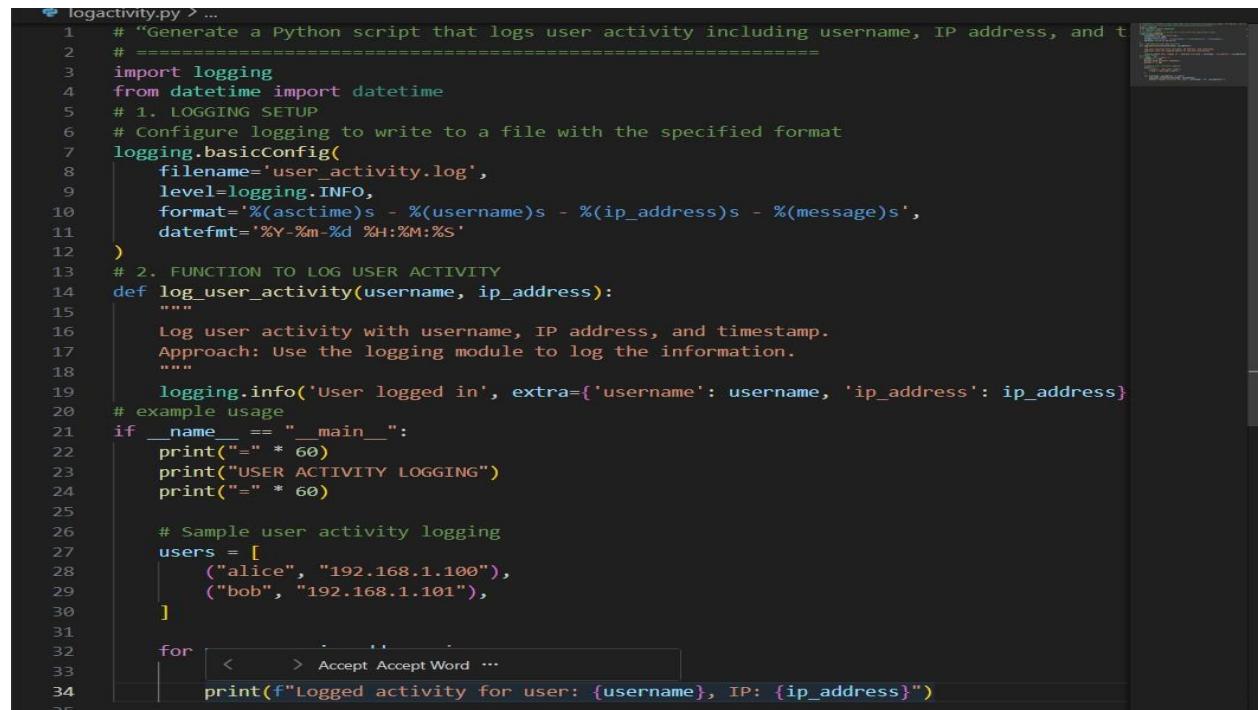
Expected Output:

- Identified privacy risks in logging.
- Improved version with minimal, anonymized, or masked

logging.

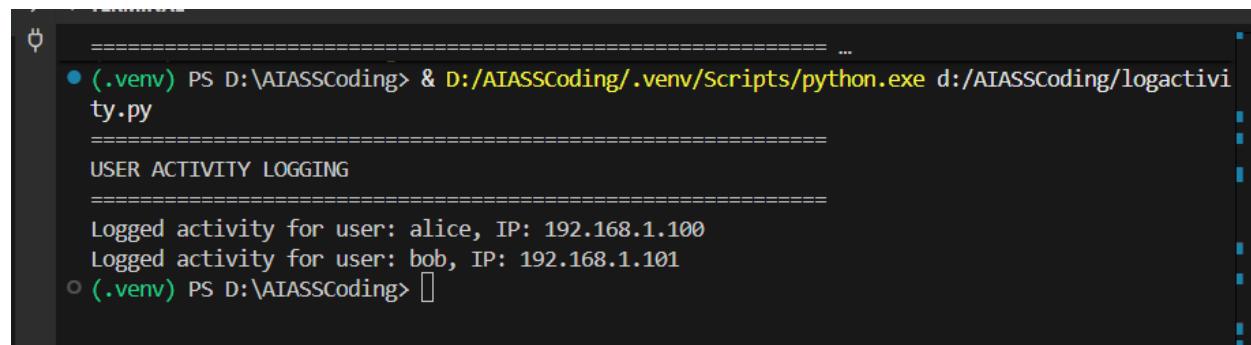
- Explanation of privacy-aware logging principles.

CODE :



```
logactivity.py > ...
1 # "Generate a Python script that logs user activity including username, IP address, and timestamp.
2 # =====
3 import logging
4 from datetime import datetime
5 # 1. LOGGING SETUP
6 # Configure logging to write to a file with the specified format
7 logging.basicConfig(
8     filename='user_activity.log',
9     level=logging.INFO,
10    format='%(asctime)s - %(username)s - %(ip_address)s - %(message)s',
11    datefmt='%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S'
12 )
13 # 2. FUNCTION TO LOG USER ACTIVITY
14 def log_user_activity(username, ip_address):
15     """
16     Log user activity with username, IP address, and timestamp.
17     Approach: Use the logging module to log the information.
18     """
19     logging.info('User logged in', extra={'username': username, 'ip_address': ip_address})
20 # example usage
21 if __name__ == "__main__":
22     print("=" * 60)
23     print("USER ACTIVITY LOGGING")
24     print("=" * 60)
25
26     # Sample user activity logging
27     users = [
28         ("alice", "192.168.1.100"),
29         ("bob", "192.168.1.101"),
30     ]
31
32     for user in users:
33         print(f"Logged activity for user: {user[0]}, IP: {user[1]}")
34
35
```

OUTPUT :



```
PS D:\AIASSCoding> & D:/AIASSCoding/.venv/Scripts/python.exe d:/AIASSCoding/logactivity.py
=====
● (.venv) PS D:\AIASSCoding> & D:/AIASSCoding/.venv/Scripts/python.exe d:/AIASSCoding/logactivity.py
=====
=====
USER ACTIVITY LOGGING
=====
Logged activity for user: alice, IP: 192.168.1.100
Logged activity for user: bob, IP: 192.168.1.101
○ (.venv) PS D:\AIASSCoding>
```

FINAL DESCRIPTION :

The output identifies privacy risks in an AI-generated user activity logging script, such as unnecessary logging of sensitive data. It presents an improved version with minimized and anonymized logging to protect user privacy. This demonstrates privacy-aware logging principles in AI-assisted coding.

