LAB

Evaluate the performance of an AI agent using MLflow

OBJ

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Introduction

In this lab, you'll assume the role of an AI specialist to evaluate a pilot version of an AI agent using MLFlow.

Software requirements

To complete this lab, you'll need access to a Replicate account, which allows you to use artificial intelligence (AI) models to perform tasks. You'll also need a Replicate application programming interface (API) token, which acts as a secure key to connect your Colab environment so that the lab can run smoothly.

Basic familiarity with Python will enable you to better follow how the agent works and its tool usage.

Objective

After completing this lab, you should be able to:

• Evaluate the performance of an AI agent

Lab steps

This lab requires you to complete the following steps:

- **Step 1**: Create a GitHub account
- **Step 2:** Create a Replicate account
- **Step 3:** Sign up for Google Colab
- **Step 4:** Initialize the AI agent and tools
- **Step 5:** Evaluate the trajectory and final response of the AI agent

Estimated duration to complete

30 minutes

Scenario

Background information

TechMart, a fast-growing e-commerce platform, is transforming its shopping experience with an AI agent built on IBM Granite. The agent replaces static catalogs, offering real-time recommendations, answering questions, and personalizing the customer's journey.

You are part of TechMart's newly formed AI evaluation team, serving as the AI specialist for this project. Your role is to assess the agent's performance by evaluating product recommendations, response accuracy, and the overall user experience.

Challenge

TechMart users often leave the site when the AI agent fails to provide relevant product recommendations or assist effectively with catalog navigation. Additionally, missing or inconsistent details about products, pricing, or stock levels can erode the user's trust.



Solutions

To support this, your team uses MLFlow to track, evaluate, and visualize the agent's performance. In this lab, you'll determine whether the AI agent is ready for full-scale deployment.

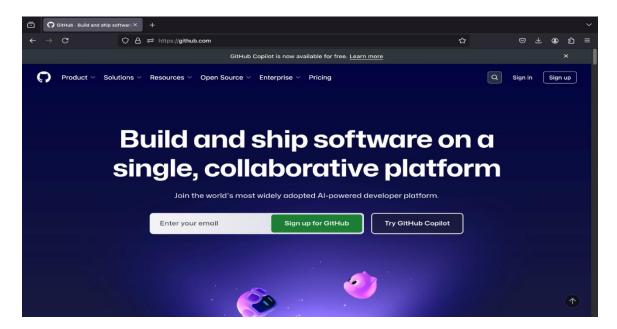
Step 1: Create a GitHub account

Overview

In this step, you'll set up a GitHub account. GitHub is a platform that helps developers store, manage, and share code, while also supporting collaboration through tools such as version control, bug tracking, and task management. Setting up a GitHub account ensures access to the Replicate platform, which is required to complete the lab efficiently.

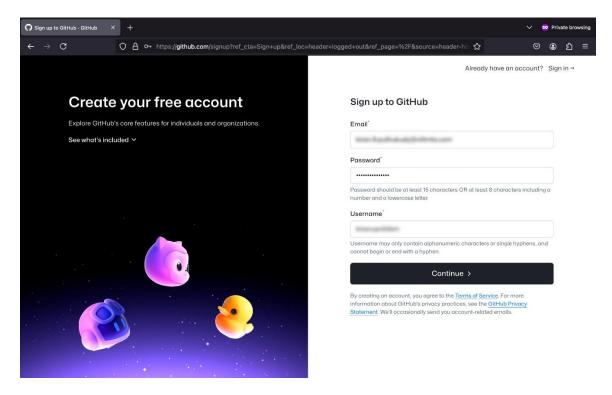
Instructions

1. To create a GitHub account, go to the <u>GitHub</u> website and select the **Sign up for GitHub** button.



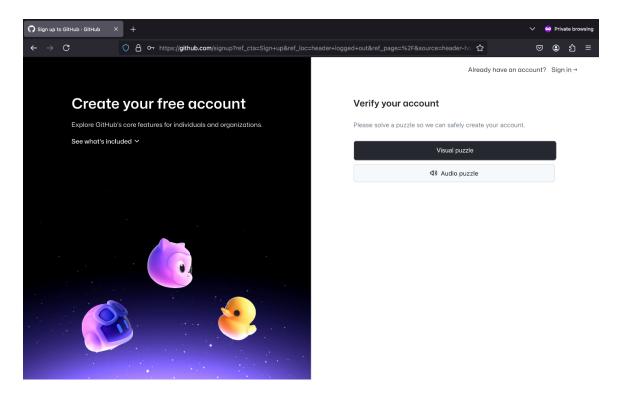
Alt text: An image showing the home page of the GitHub website with the **Sign up for GitHub** button

2. Enter your details in the **Email**, **Password**, and **Username** fields. Then, select **Continue**.



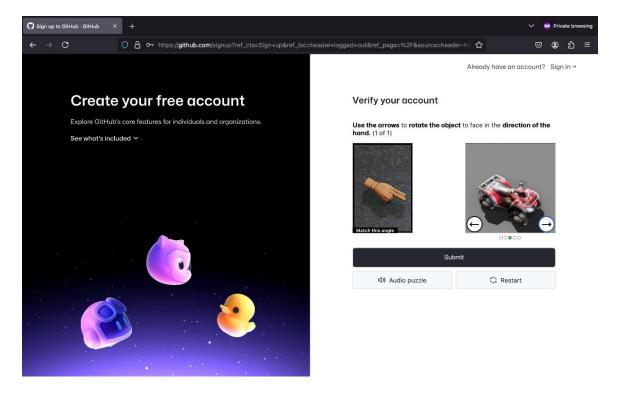
Alt text: An image showing the "GitHub sign-up" page with the **Email**, **Password**, and **Username** fields

3. To verify your account, select the **Visual puzzle** option.



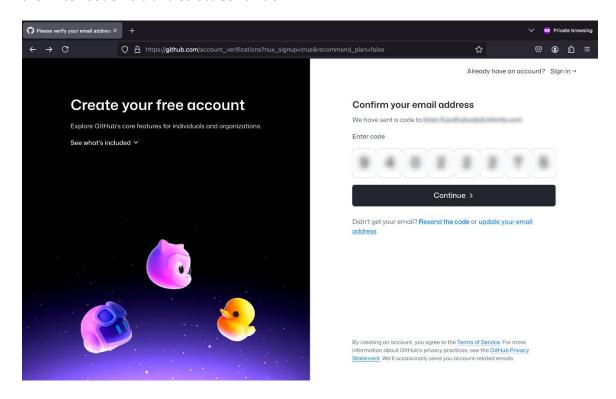
Alt text: An image showing the "GitHub sign-up" page and the visual and audio puzzle verification step

4. Next, solve the visual puzzle and select **Submit**.



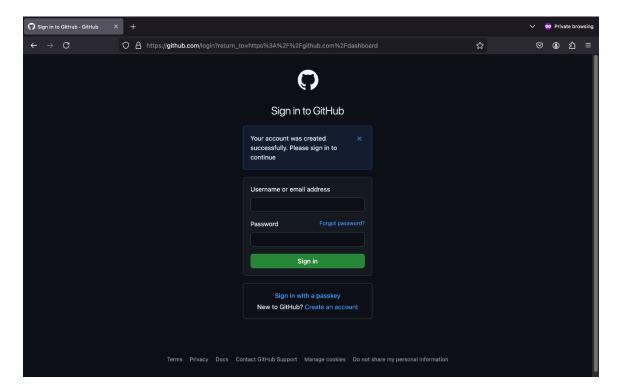
Alt text: An image showing the "GitHub sign-up" page with visual and audio puzzles and the **Submit** button

5. To confirm your email, enter the confirmation code sent to your registered email in the **Enter code** field and select **Continue**.



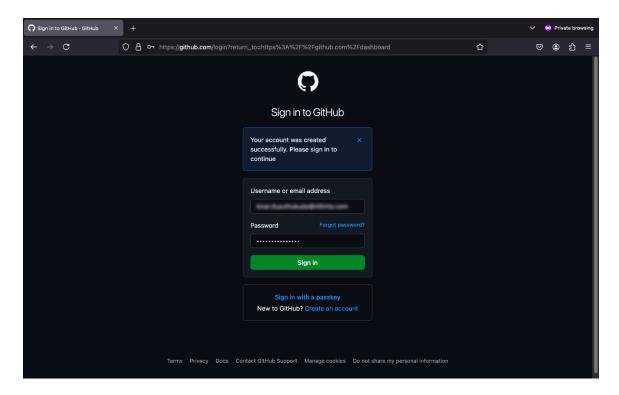
Alt text: An image showing the "GitHub sign-up" page with the email confirmation step

6. You'll see a confirmation message after your GitHub account has been successfully created.



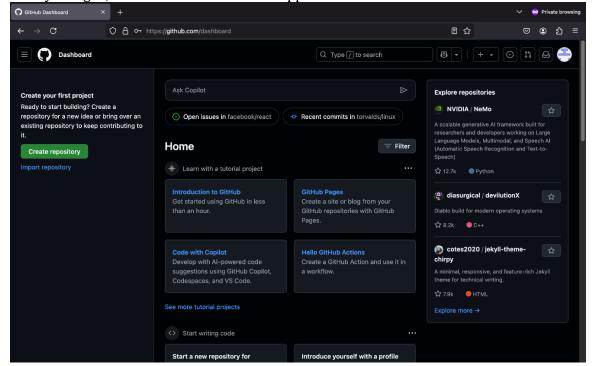
Alt text: An image showing the "GitHub sign-in" page with a message indicating that the account has been successfully created

7. To sign in to your account, enter your credentials in the **Username or email** address and **Password** fields, and then select **Sign in**.



Alt text: An image showing the "GitHub sign-in" page with the **Username or email address** and **Password** fields, and the **Sign in** button

8. After you log in, the GitHub dashboard will appear.



Alt text: An image showing the GitHub dashboard with options to create a project, explore repositories, access learning resources and interact with various elements

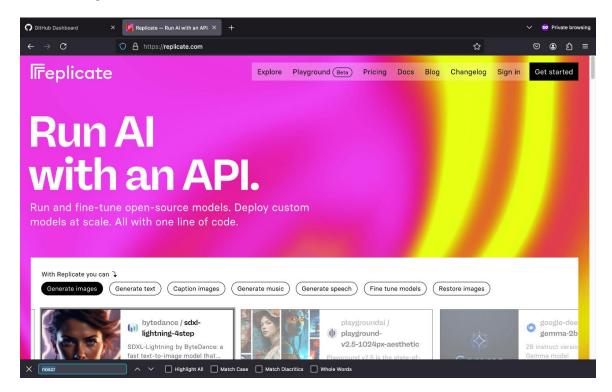
Step 2: Create a Replicate account

Overview

In this step, you'll use your GitHub account to register for a Replicate account. Replicate is a cloud-based platform that lets you use AI models such as IBM Granite without requiring advanced hardware. As part of this step, you'll create a Replicate token. A token is a secure access key that allows the lab environment to authenticate with Replicate and run models from your account in Google Colab.

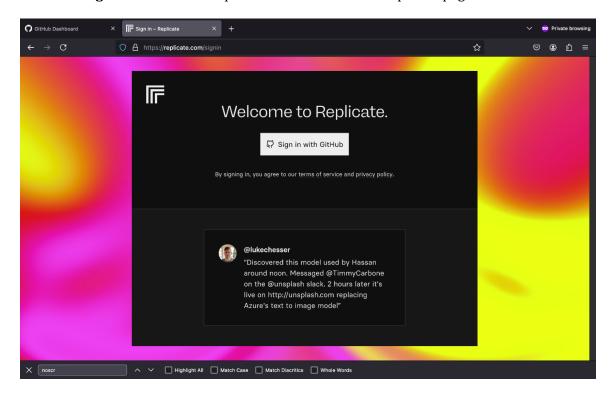
Instructions

9. Go to the Replicate website and select **Get started**.



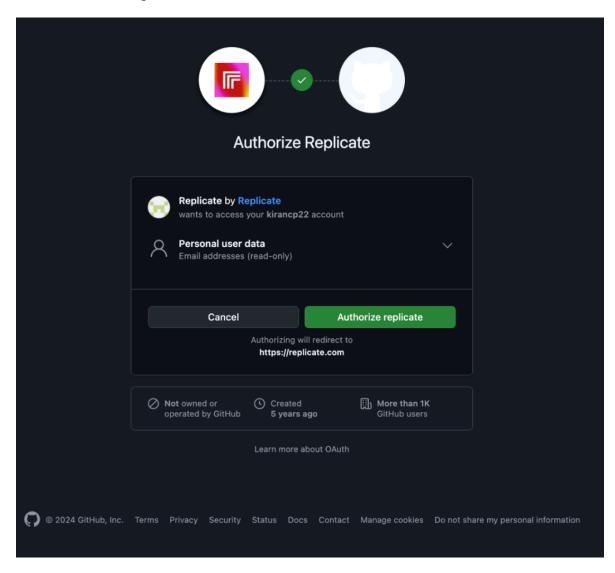
Alt text: An image showing the Replicate website with the **Get started** button

10. Select the **Sign in with GitHub** option on the Welcome to Replicate page.



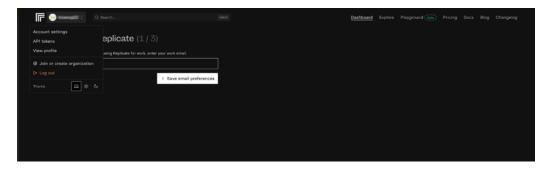
Alt text: An image showing the Welcome to Replicate page with the **Sign in with GitHub** option

11. Select **Authorize replicate** to continue.



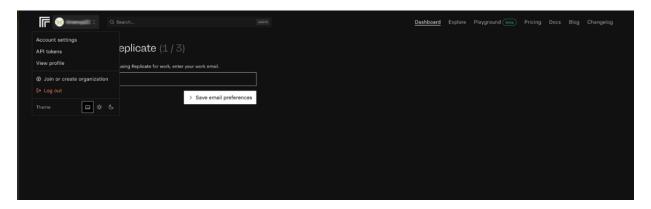
Alt text: An image showing the authorization screen for Replicate, requesting access to the user's account

12. After your Replicate account is created, you'll be taken to the Replicate dashboard. To create a Replicate token, select the **Account settings** option from the navigation bar.



Alt text: An image showing the Replicate dashboard with a drop-down list containing options such as **API tokens**, **View profile**, and **Log out**, and an email prompt with the **Save email preferences** button

13. Select **API tokens** from the **Account settings** menu.



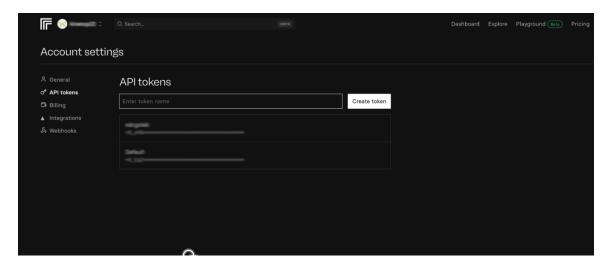
Alt text: An image showing the Replicate dashboard with a drop-down list containing options such as **API tokens, View profile,** and **Log out,** and an email prompt with the **Save email preferences** button

14. Enter a name for the token in the **API tokens** field and then select **Create token**.



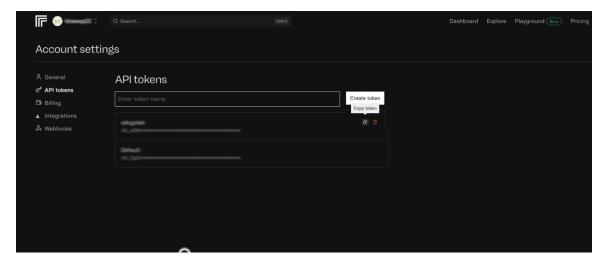
Alt text: An image showing the "Account settings" page displaying the **API tokens** field and a **Create token** button

15. After your API token is created, it should appear on the "Account settings" page.



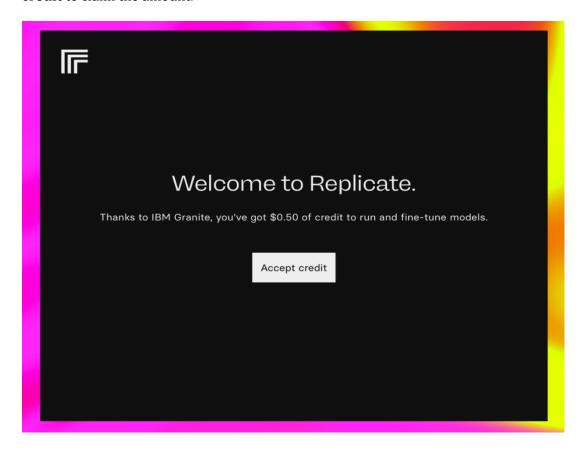
16. Select the **Copy token** icon to copy the Replicate API token.

Note: Save the Replicate token because you'll need it to authenticate with the Replicate API when running code in the Google Colab environment later in this lab.



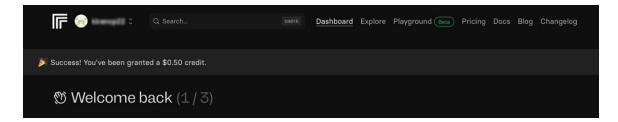
Alt text: An image showing the "Account settings" page with the **Create token** field and the **Copy token** option

17. To run the lab without interruptions, you'll require some Replicate credits. Go to the Replicate invite link to claim your free \$0.50 credit. Then, select Accept credit to claim the amount.



Alt text: An image showing the Welcome to Replicate screen, with an option to accept a \$0.50 credit

18. A confirmation message will appear indicating that a \$0.50 credit has been added to your Replicate account.



Alt text: An image showing the "Welcome back" message and the confirmation message about the \$0.50 credit amount



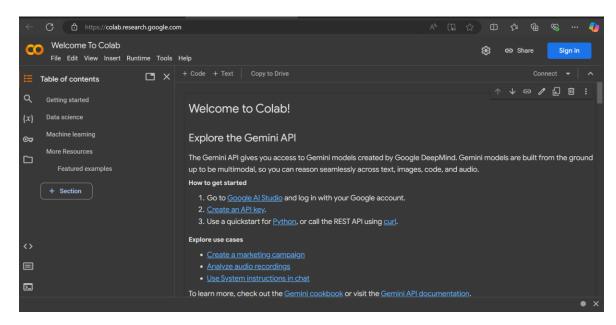
Step 3: Sign up for Google Colab

Overview

In this step, you'll set up a Google Colab account. Google Colab is a free cloud platform that lets you run code in notebooks, which are commonly used for machine learning, data science, and AI tasks. A Google Colab account will allow you to install and use the tools needed to complete this lab.

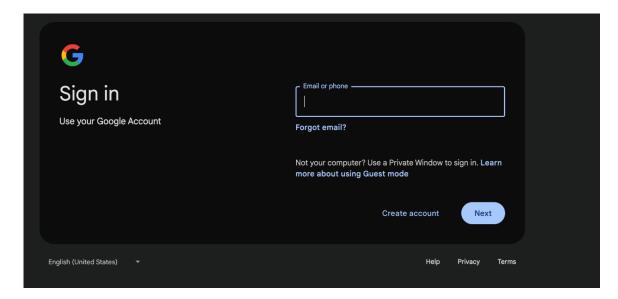
Instructions

19. To sign up, go to the Google Colab website and select Sign in.



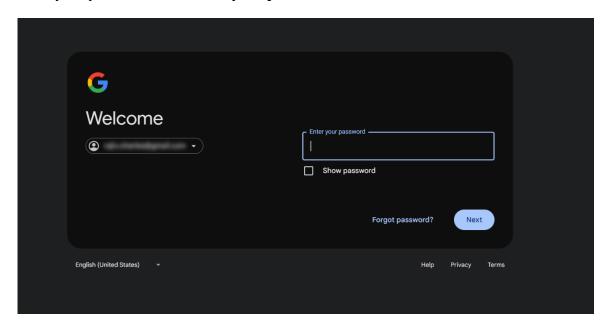
Alt text: An image showing the Welcome to Colab screen, the **Sign in** button, and instructions on how to get started

20. Enter your email or phone number in the **Email or phone** field, and then select **Next**.



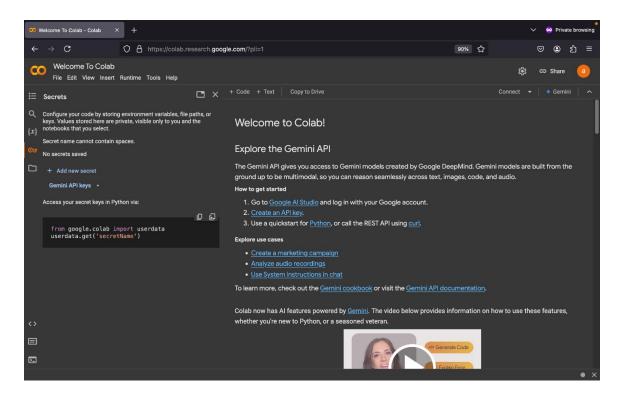
Alt text: An image showing the Google Sign-in page with the **Email or phone** field, the **Create account** option, and the **Next** button

21. Enter your password in the **Enter your password** field, and then select **Next**.



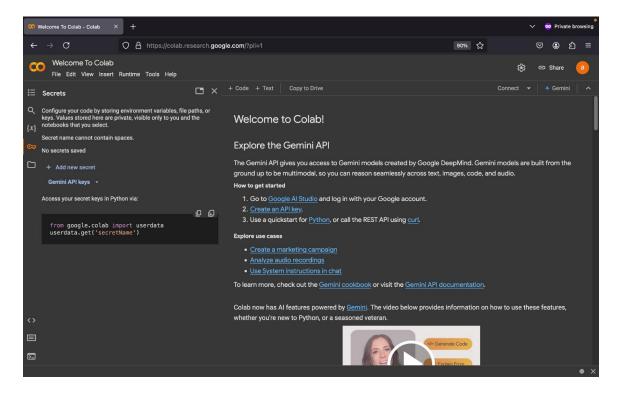
Alt text: An image showing the Welcome screen with the **Enter your password** field, the **Forgot password** option, and the **Next** button

22. Next, to store your Replicate API token in the Google Colab **Secrets** tab, select the key icon from the sidebar menu on the Welcome to Colab page.



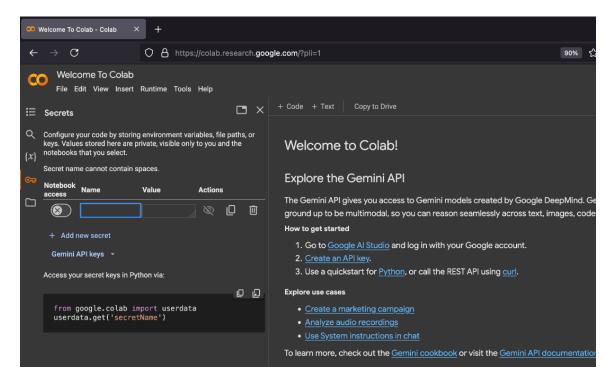
Alt text: An image showing the Welcome to Colab page with the Secrets tab

23. Select **Add new secret**.



Alt text: An image showing the Welcome to Colab page with the **Secrets** tab and the **Add new secret** option

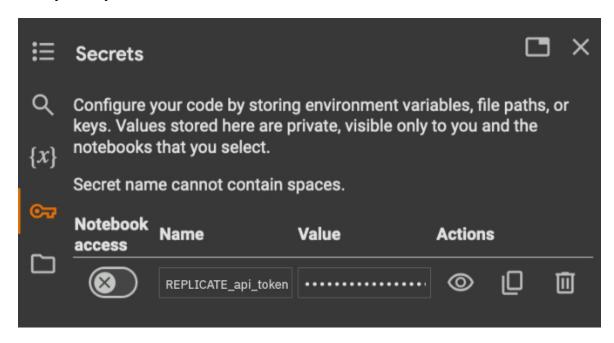
24. Type **REPLICATE_api_token** in the **Name** field.





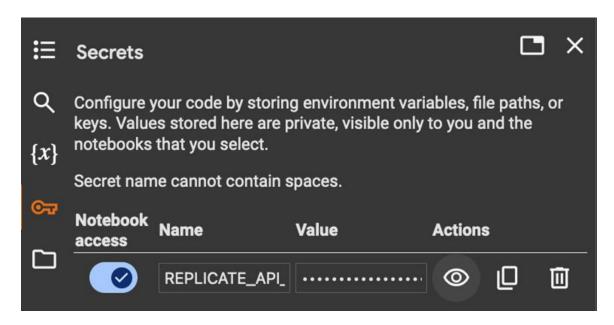
Alt text: An image showing the **Secrets** tab of Google Colab with the **Name** and **Value** fields

25. Paste your Replicate API token into the **Value** field.



Alt text: An image showing the **Secrets** tab displaying the **Name** and **Value** fields

26. Select the toggle button to enable Notebook access. Next, select the close icon to exit the configuration.



Alt text: An image showing the **Secrets** section displaying the **Name** and **Value** fields and the enabled toggle button

Evaluate the performance of an AI agent using MLflow

IBM SkillsBuild



Step 4: Initialize the AI agent and tools

Overview

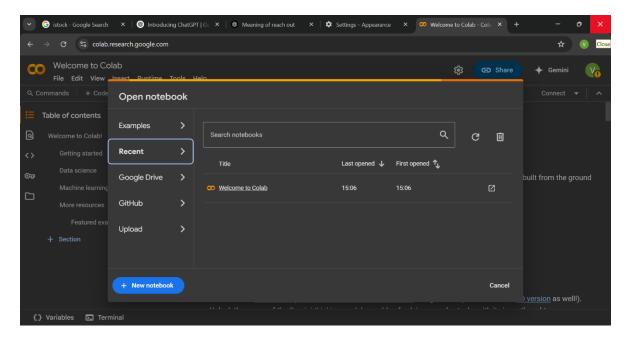
In this step, you'll initialize TechMart's AI agent and the tools it uses by loading a Jupyter notebook.

In the context of an AI agent, **tools** are functions that help an AI agent perform specific tasks such as searching for information, checking product stock, or looking up data. The user provides prompts that define which tools the agent can access by including them in the agent's setup. When responding, the agent sends a query to the selected tool, receives the result, and uses that information to generate its reply.

A **Jupyter notebook** is a shareable document that combines computer code, plain language descriptions, data, and visualizations.

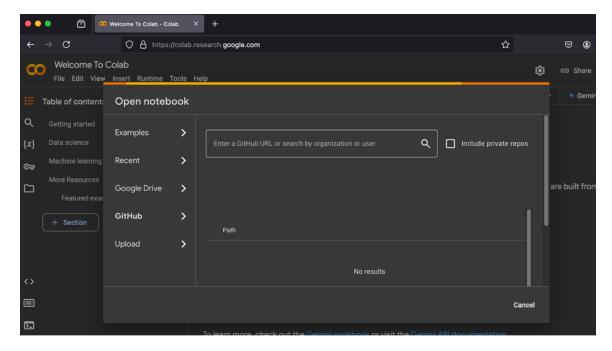
Instructions

27. Select <u>Google Colab</u> to open the Google Colab welcome screen with the "Open notebook" dialog box where you can open your Jupyter notebook.



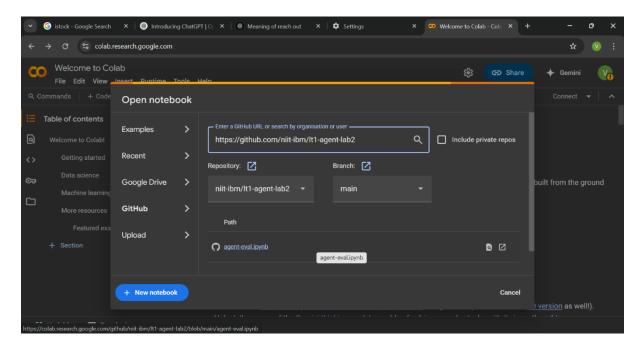
Alt text: An image showing the Google Colab welcome screen with the "Open notebook" dialog box

28. In the "Open notebook" dialog box, select the **GitHub** tab. To find and load the Jupyter notebook directly in Google Colab, type the uniform resource locator (URL) https://github.com/niit-ibm/lt1-agent-lab2 in the **Enter a GitHub URL or search by organization or user** field. Then, press Enter.



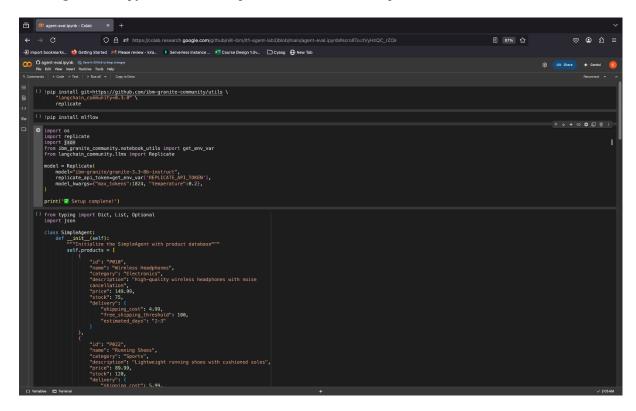
Alt text: An image showing the "Open notebook" dialog box with GitHub as the selected tab

29. After you enter the URL, the **Repository** and **Branch** fields will be automatically populated. Now, to open the notebook, select **agent-eval.ipynb**.



Alt text: An image showing the "Open notebook" dialog box with the GitHub URL in the search field

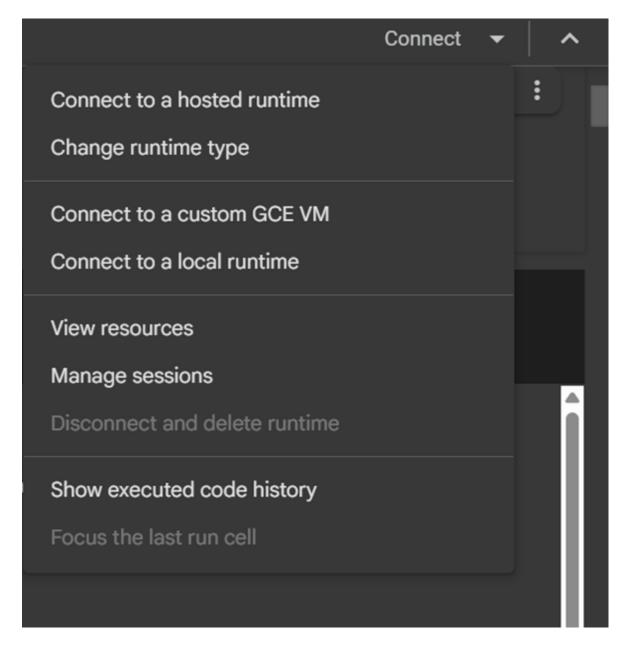
30. The "agent-eval.ipynb" notebook opens in the Colab workspace.



Alt text: An image showing the Google Colab workspace displaying the cells in the "agent-eval.ipynb" Jupyter notebook

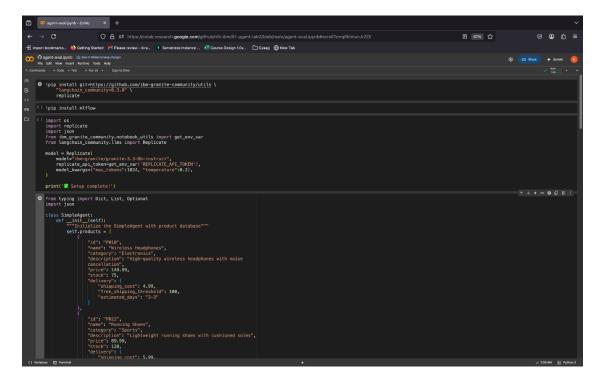
31. To run the code, select the **Connect to a hosted runtime** option from the **Connect** drop-down list of the notebook.

Note: When you use Colab, your code doesn't run on your local machine. Instead, it runs in a cloud-based environment provided by Google, known as a **hosted runtime**. This means you don't need to install Python or any libraries on your device; they're already available in the cloud environment.



Alt text: An image showing a Jupyter notebook with the **Connect to a hosted runtime** option in the **Connect** drop-down list

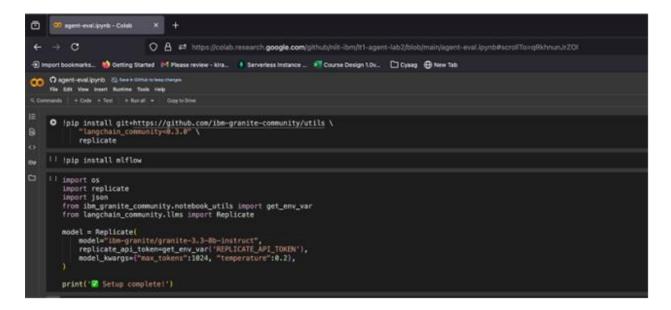
32. Check the **Colab** toolbar for a green checkmark. This indicates that the connection is successful, and your code is now ready to run.



Alt text: An image showing the Google Colab workspace displaying a green checkmark indicating successful connection to the Google Colab environment

33. To enable your AI agent to work with the IBM Granite model and generate helpful responses, certain libraries must be installed. In the first cell, select the run icon to begin the installation of the libraries.

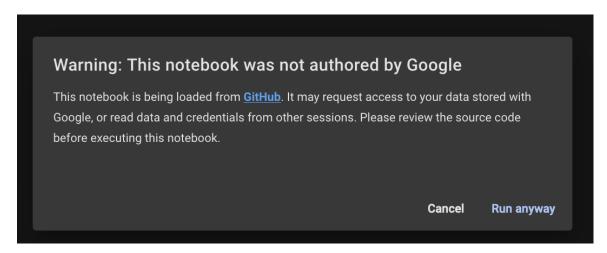
Note: In a Jupyter notebook, each row is called a **cell**. These cells are not numbered but are organized to run sequentially, beginning from the first cell. Each code cell includes a run icon (▶), which you can use to execute the code within that cell.



Alt text: An image showing a cell in the "agent-eval-ipynb" Jupyter notebook, with the run icon and a prompt to install the required libraries

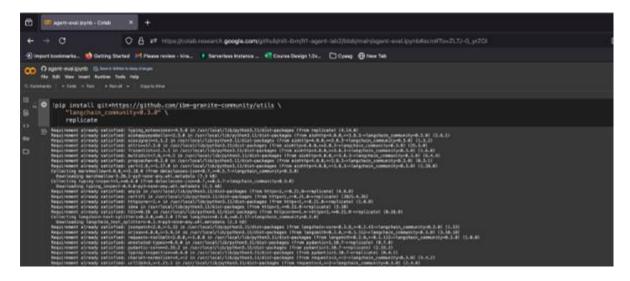


34. Select the **Run anyway** option to continue loading the required libraries.



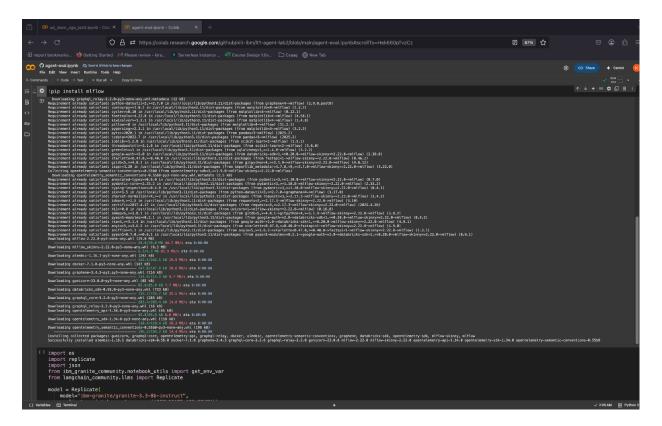
Alt text: An image showing the "Warning: This notebook was not authored by Google" message with the **Run anyway** option

35. A green checkmark will appear next to the run icon, indicating that the required libraries have been successfully installed.



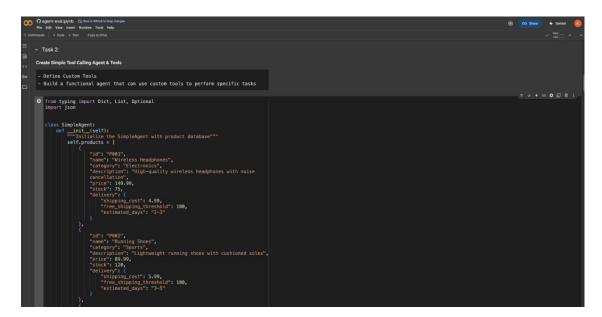
Alt text: An image showing the Google Colab workspace, with a checkmark in the first cell of the Jupyter notebook indicating successful installation of the required libraries

36. Next, install MLFlow by selecting the run icon in the second cell.



Alt text: An image showing Python code with the run icon, used to install MLFlow

37. Next, to create a database for TechMart's product inventory, select the run icon in the first cell of Task 2.



Alt text: An image showing Python code in the Google Colab workspace that defines a data set for product inventory, including product id, name, category, description, price, stock, and delivery



information

38. To enable the agent to process user queries and generate meaningful responses, define the required tools such as **get_product_info**, **get_price**, **get_delivery_info**, and **check_stock**.

```
### According to Superior Supe
```

Alt text: An image showing Python code displaying the definition of several functions, including **get_product_info**, **get_price**, **get_delivery_info**, and **check_stock**

39. To initialize the agent, select the run icon. The agent analyzes the user's input to identify whether it's asking for a product description or cost. Based on this, it uses the appropriate tools. For other types of input, the agent generates a general response.

Alt text: An image showing Python code displaying the initialization of an AI agent using the **langchain.agents** library



Step 5: Evaluate the trajectory and final response of the AI agent Overview

In this step, you'll evaluate the agent's trajectory and assess the accuracy, clarity, and relevance of its final responses using MLFlow.

Instructions

40. To test how the agent responds, select the run icon to create an evaluation set. This set includes different types of user requests, expected factual answers, and operational rules that guide how the agent should behave.

Note: This evaluation set will be used by MLFlow to test the agent's performance. Each entry specifies the user's request, the expected output, and any specific guidelines the agent's response should follow.

```
def try_agent(example_name: str, user_input: str):
    with mlflow.start_run(run_name=example_name):
        mlflow.log_param("user_input", user_input)

# Simulate agent response
    response = try_agent(user_input)

mlflow.log_param("agent_response", response)
    print(f"\n{example_name}")
    print("Input:", user_input)
    print("Response:", response)

# Optionally log output to a text file
    with open(f"{example_name.replace(' ', '_')}_output.txt", "w") as f:
    f.write(f"Input: {user_input}\nResponse: {response}")
    mlflow.log_artifact(f"{example_name.replace(' ', '_')}_output.txt")
```

Alt text: An image showing the code for analyzing the trajectory of the "agent-eval.ipynb" AI agent

41. Analyze the tool-calling results to determine whether the agent correctly interprets the user's query and uses the appropriate tools to generate a response.

```
Eval 1: Product Information

Tool Calling Results:

Tool Call 1:

Tool Name : get_product_info
User Input : I'm looking for an ergonomic wireless mouse
Output : Product P045 is a wireless mouse with ergonomic support and programmable buttons.
```

Alt text: An image showing the tool-calling results from the evaluation of product information

42. To evaluate whether the agent is able to handle follow-up questions by using multiple tools while retaining the user's original query and context, select the run icon. The code snippet shows the user asking, "Is the product available in stock?" prompting the agent to call multiple backend tools, such as **get_product_info** and **check_inventory**, and return a response based on this query.

Alt text: An image showing a code snippet with the user's query, "Is the product available in stock?"

```
Eval 1: Product Information

Tool Calling Results:

Tool Call 1:

Tool Name : get_product_info
    User Input : I'm looking for an ergonomic wireless mouse
    Output : Product P045 is a wireless mouse with ergonomic support and programmable buttons.

Tool Call 2:
    Tool Name : check_inventory
    User Input : Is the product available in stock?
    Output : Product P045 is currently available in your selected region.
```

Alt text: An image showing the results from the evaluation of product information based on two tool calls

43. For the final agent evaluation, select the run icon.

```
Task 4:
Final Response Evaluation
  • Evaluating Final responses from agent against the defined metrics
def try_agent(example_name: str, user_input: str):
       with mlflow.start_run(run_name=example_name):
           mlflow.log_param("user_input", user_input)
            # Simulate agent response
            response = try_agent(user_input)
           mlflow.log_param("agent_response", response)
            # Evaluate the response
              evaluation = evaluate_response(query, tool, response)
              # Print results
              print(f"Query: {query}")
              print(f"Tool Used: {tool}")
              print(f"Response: {response}")
              print(f"Evaluation Score: {evaluation['score']}/5")
              print(f"Feedback: {evaluation['explanation']}")
```

Alt text: An image showing Python code that evaluates the final responses from the agent against the defined metrics

44. After the execution is finished, you'll see the response summary. Review the output and evaluate the results for accuracy and relevance.

Note: This step shows that even when the agent successfully uses tools to gather information (as in Tool Calls 1 and 2), its final response still requires evaluation and refinement. The evaluation score and feedback are important for improving the agent's performance over time, even when its answers are already relevant and accurate.

```
Eval 1: Product Information

Tool Calling Results:

Tool Call 3:

Tool Name : get_product_info

User Input : "Fo looking for an ergonomic wireless mouse
Output : Product PABS is a wireless mouse with ergonomic support and programmable buttons.

Tool Call 2:

Tool Name : check_inventory
User Input : 1s Product PABS available in stock?
Output : Product PABS available in stock?
Output : Product PABS is currently available in your selected region.

Final Agent Response Summary:

Query : 0 you have ergonomic wireless mice in stock?
Tool Used : check_inventory
Response : check_inventory
Response : 14/5
Preceduation Score : 4/5
Preceduation Score : 4/5
Preceduation Score : 4/5
Preceduation Score : 14/5
Preceduation Sc
```



Alt text: An image showing the agent's final response output from different tool calls, along with the response summary

Conclusion

Congratulations! You've effectively evaluated TechMart's AI agent. Through structured testing and analysis with MLFlow, you assessed the agent's tool-calling efficiency and the quality of its final responses, ensuring accurate, relevant, and clear product information delivery.

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