**Project Write-Up: Personal Expense Tracker**

**Project Title:**

**Personal Expense Tracker**

**Problem Statement:**

In today’s fast-paced and financially demanding world, managing personal expenses is essential for financial stability and goal setting. Many individuals struggle with keeping track of their daily expenditures, staying within a budget, and reviewing their spending habits. This project aims to address these challenges by developing a simple yet functional command-line **Personal Expense Tracker** that enables users to log expenses, categorize them, and monitor their spending in comparison to a monthly budget.

**Objectives:**

* Enable users to add new expenses with details such as date, category, amount, and description.
* Allow users to view all recorded expenses in a readable format.
* Provide functionality to set a monthly budget and track total spending against it.
* Allow users to save expenses to a file (CSV) for future reference.
* Implement functionality to load saved expenses from the CSV file on program start.
* Design a menu-driven interface for easy navigation and user interaction.

**Technologies Used:**

* **Language:** Python 3
* **Libraries:**
  + csv – for file input/output (reading and writing to CSV files)
  + fpdf – for PDF conversion (optional report generation or documentation)

**Project Features and Workflow:**

1. **Add Expense:**  
   Prompts the user to enter date, category, amount, and description, then stores it in a list.
2. **View Expense:**  
   Displays all expense records in a clean format. Each record includes the date, category, amount, and description.
3. **Set Monthly Budget:**  
   Allows the user to define their budget limit for the month.
4. **Track Budget:**  
   Calculates the total expenses and compares them against the set budget, notifying the user if they’re within or over the limit.
5. **Save to File:**  
   Saves all expense records into a CSV file named expenses.csv.
6. **Load from File:**  
   Loads existing expense records from expenses.csv at the start of the program, if available.
7. **Interactive Menu:**  
   A simple, text-based menu that lets users choose actions (add/view/track/save/exit) repeatedly until they choose to quit.

**Conclusion:**

This project successfully meets the objective of helping users manage their daily finances by providing an interactive tool to record, track, and store expenses. The modular design ensures clarity, scalability, and future enhancement potential