



Notes

Mar 3, 2025

J & K

Invited Kiyasha Singh Justin Germishuys

Attachments J & K

Meeting records Transcript

Summary

Justin Germishuys guided Kiyasha Singh on setting up and using Cursor, troubleshooting issues with terminal setup, text file retrieval, and command execution; they covered Cursor's functionalities, including its agent modes ("agent," "ask," "chat"), and best practices for project organization and command execution (including "YOLO" for immediate execution). Future steps include Kiyasha Singh verifying her NodeJS installation and path settings.

Details

- **Project Setup in Cursor:** Justin Germishuys demonstrated setting up a new project in Cursor, creating a folder and opening it in a new window ([00:00:00](#)). They showed how the chat window opens automatically, allowing interaction with the terminal without directly using it. Kiyasha Singh initially experienced difficulties, losing some text and encountering errors due to using a different terminal and finding Chat GPT overly complex ([00:01:26](#)) ([00:03:50](#)). Justin Germishuys advised using the chat window in Cursor and explained the process of running commands, including the option to review and accept or reject changes made by the agent. They also noted that the agent's commands might sometimes require manual confirmation to avoid unexpected installations ([00:04:55](#)) ([00:12:01](#)).
- **Troubleshooting and Problem Solving:** Kiyasha Singh faced challenges finding a specific text file and experienced frustration ([00:01:26](#)). Justin Germishuys

reassured them and guided them through the process of retrieving and using the necessary text ([00:02:35](#)). Kiyasha Singh later encountered issues running commands due to potentially incorrect NodeJS installation, which Justin Germishuys addressed by advising them to check NodeJS installation and path settings ([00:20:02](#)). They explained that the "linter errors" are automatically fixed by the system ([00:16:11](#)). Justin Germishuys's own project setup experienced an unexpected freeze ([00:17:29](#)).

- **Cursor Functionality and Best Practices:** Justin Germishuys explained the different modes of the Cursor agent: "agent" for interaction and changes, "ask" for code explanations, and "chat" for general conversation ([00:09:41](#)). They demonstrated how to add context by specifying files and showed how the interface displays recent changes ([00:10:47](#)). They also advised on project organization, recommending to keep projects tidy by placing them in a dedicated folder ([00:05:58](#)). They emphasized that the system is usually quite capable and produces good results with clear instructions ([00:07:20](#)). The use of "YOLO" (You Only Live Once) was suggested for situations where immediate execution is preferred over individual command review ([00:13:13](#)).
- **Using Claude and Other Tools:** Justin Germishuys mentioned the possibility of using Claude for code generation, but suggested the current method was sufficient for the task's complexity. They showed that the interface they used was powered by Claude, and explained that UI had recently been updated ([00:07:20](#)). The use of Python with Cursor was briefly discussed, recommending creating a virtual environment to manage dependencies ([00:14:35](#)).

Suggested next steps

- Kiyasha Singh will set up her project in a folder (ideally on her C drive under a 'projects' folder), install Node.js (ensuring the option to add Node to her path is selected during installation), and then replicate Justin Germishuys' process using the provided instructions.

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Transcript

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00:00:00

Justin Germishuys: Okay. So, uh I have this place where I put my projects. So, let me just make a project there. Okay. So, basically, I just make a blank folder somewhere on my laptop. It doesn't matter where you make the blank folder. Um I'm just going to go and make Sorry. Um new folder. And then I'll call it Cyborg. Come on. Cyborg. Um, let's just do capitals. Cyborg habits. Um, front end. Right. Cool. So, now I have that. Now, what I do is I open cursor. Okay. Maybe not this cursor. Uh, I open a new window like that. So that should then I open a project and I'll go to the one I created cyborg habit front end. Okay, cool. So that should you can see my screen still here.

Kiyasha Singh: Yes.

Justin Germishuys: Okay, so I just wanted to show you that part. Um, okay.

00:01:26

Justin Germishuys: Okay, it's doing something it never ever does. Okay, there we go. So then it's basically in the project and the chat opens automatically on the side. It's set to agent over there.

Kiyasha Singh: Okay. So that's

Justin Germishuys: So now

Kiyasha Singh: okay.

Justin Germishuys: give me give me the text that you pulled out.

Kiyasha Singh: Okay.

Justin Germishuys: Um actually I'm going to stop sharing and move this over to my big screen over here and then I'm going to share again. so that I can see your face while okay let's stop presenting

Kiyasha Singh: Sorry. Just

Justin Germishuys: stop

Kiyasha Singh: kidding.

Justin Germishuys: presenting no it's I am just trying to okay there we go so now it will be back up on the big screen in a second you can drop

Kiyasha Singh: Where

Justin Germishuys: it

Kiyasha Singh: did

Justin Germishuys: in

Kiyasha Singh: I put

Justin Germishuys: our

Kiyasha Singh: this? I don't know where I put it. That I'm trying to look. Okay, I need to just calm down.

00:02:35

Justin Germishuys: Yeah, don't worry about it. Your anxiety doesn't make any difference whatsoever.

Kiyasha Singh: I don't know how I just lost it.

Justin Germishuys: Okay. Did you get it from Claude or chat GBT? Would it still be

Kiyasha Singh: Oh,

Justin Germishuys: So,

Kiyasha Singh: I found

Justin Germishuys: is it

Kiyasha Singh: it.

Justin Germishuys: All right,

Kiyasha Singh: Sorry.

Justin Germishuys: cool. So, it should just be a basic instruction. It doesn't matter if it's long. You can just um drop it for me somewhere.

Kiyasha Singh: Okay. Uh this Yeah. Can

Justin Germishuys: Okay.

Kiyasha Singh: I take all of that?

Justin Germishuys: Are you going to put it in WhatsApp?

Kiyasha Singh: Yeah. What's up? Cuz doesn't take me either.

Justin Germishuys: Okay, cool.

Kiyasha Singh: Okay.

Justin Germishuys: Okay, so you've done it. Got it. Okay, cool.

Kiyasha Singh: Yes.

Justin Germishuys: Okay. Uh, let me just copy it. Okay, awesome.

Kiyasha Singh: I can already

Justin Germishuys: Okay.

Kiyasha Singh: see where I was wrong or where I was going wrong.

00:03:50

Kiyasha Singh: So the video I watched the guy used his own terminal instead of the terminal in cursor. So I kept running into errors and I didn't understand what's going on and Chachi PT was making it really complicated.

Justin Germishuys: Cool. Well, um, basically I'm not using the terminal. I'm using this chat window on the side. So, but if I did want to open the terminal, again on Windows it might be different, but I just click view terminal and then it comes up at the bottom here. So, that means um basically this runs the terminal. So, I don't even have to run the terminal. It's interacting with the terminal itself. So, now when I hit send um basically now we wait and

Kiyasha Singh: Okay,

Justin Germishuys: that's it really.

Kiyasha Singh: I'm actually frustrated. I've been struggling for a while.

Justin Germishuys: But have a look here. So here it says that we need to run npx create a next app typescript tailwind. So it's setting everything up. Run command.

00:04:55

Justin Germishuys: And so now the agent I I've had it set up so that it doesn't automatically run the commands. So that I have to be involved. I just need to say yes, I want to run this command. Uh because sometimes it tries to install things and it goes off on a tangent. Not often, but um this takes a while actually. So while mine is running. Okay, so

Kiyasha Singh: Let

Justin Germishuys: it

Kiyasha Singh: me

Justin Germishuys: says, do

Kiyasha Singh: check.

Justin Germishuys: you want to install the following packages? Yes, I do. And then it's going to proceed. So you can kind of run the same thing. could not create project called. Um yeah, so basically it recognized that it made a mistake with the naming and now I just hit run. Um you can try to get into cursor and do something similar. But you

Kiyasha Singh: I

Justin Germishuys: need to just set up your project first.

Kiyasha Singh: Okay.

Justin Germishuys: Um you can open you can create the folder on your desktop if you want to.

00:05:58

Justin Germishuys: It doesn't really matter. I would recommend

Kiyasha Singh: Okay.

Justin Germishuys: putting it somewhere on your C drive um under projects or whatever so that you can keep it tidy. Okay. But in any case, there's no harm in us duplicating a bit of effort as you learn how to do this. Um, so what's nice is that the you'll see that you've broken it down into these things and let's see. Okay, it keeps making that silly mistake. Okay, so that's worked. See, it's created a package.json over here. Um, now I'm going to run this command. So this is all the dependencies. Let's see if it works. Um, do you want to try? Are you doing it on your side?

Kiyasha Singh: Yes.

Justin Germishuys: Okay, cool. So then you don't have to I'm just going to stare at the screen and then you can carry on doing what you're doing until this spits something out and then one of us can demo one

Kiyasha Singh: Okay.

Justin Germishuys: of these.

00:07:20

Justin Germishuys: Um cuz technically this is about as complicated as it gets these days. um it's become so capable of coding that if you can give it some clear instructions, it generally produces something good on the first iteration. I mean, what we could do as well is we could like plug it into Claude and have Claude create something, but it wouldn't be particularly complicated. I think Claude would probably run in I mean online Claude not the

Kiyasha Singh: Oh,

Justin Germishuys: API

Kiyasha Singh: okay.

Justin Germishuys: because this is actually using Claude. They changed the UI for this.

So

Kiyasha Singh: Just

Justin Germishuys: okay I need to switch that to thinking. So, oh yes, year at the bottom. They changed the UI a bit, but you want to set this to like any one of these three will do well, but I find that 3.7 set thinking is pretty cool. So,

Kiyasha Singh: wake up.

Justin Germishuys: this takes a while. Any kind of like general installation of these files takes about 5 to 10 minutes.

00:08:39

Justin Germishuys: Um,

Kiyasha Singh: Oh, okay.

Justin Germishuys: so don't worry too much if it's going to run and run and run and run. It's been incredibly hot here in Cape Town. It's like 32 degrees again. So,

Kiyasha Singh: H

Justin Germishuys: I was trying to figure out where to put my fan on my desk, but it's always in the way. So, I decided to put it behind my laptop on top of a box next to my screen. So, it's actually a much better setup now.

Kiyasha Singh: I'm trying

Justin Germishuys: Okay,

Kiyasha Singh: to

Justin Germishuys: let's

Kiyasha Singh: find this thingy.

Justin Germishuys: do you want me to stop uh presenting and then you can share your screen then I'll share mine again if it does anything interesting.

Kiyasha Singh: I feel like I'm making silly like I can't find and I don't know how to look for it. That's the thing that's agitating. Okay. So, I made the folder and I opened it. But how do I get the

Justin Germishuys: Oh, you you're

00:09:41

Kiyasha Singh: side?

Justin Germishuys: there. Um, okay. So, let's just quickly see uh view. I want to see. So,

I'm just using a shortcut. Um,

Kiyasha Singh: Is it control K control shift K

Justin Germishuys: it's I. So try Ctrl I.

Kiyasha Singh: I? Okay.

Justin Germishuys: There we go.

Kiyasha Singh: I don't know why I was thinking it's control K. Thank you. And then

Justin Germishuys: Okay. And now you should be able to just paste in exactly what I did and see what happens. Uh although um you want to change default to thinking.

Kiyasha Singh: default.

Justin Germishuys: You see under there where it says agent, uh you want to change that to thinking. Um

Kiyasha Singh: Okay.

Justin Germishuys: and if you want to just chat rather than use the agent, you can change it to chat. That way it doesn't So where it says you see a agent drop down, you'll see ask

Kiyasha Singh: Yeah.

Justin Germishuys: and edit. Um so agent is when you wanted to actually engage and change things.

00:10:47

Justin Germishuys: Ask if is if you wanted to explain something about the code.

Kiyasha Singh: Okay.

Justin Germishuys: And then if you look at the top there, you'll see where it says at context

Kiyasha Singh: Oh,

Justin Germishuys: the top.

Kiyasha Singh: add context. Okay.

Justin Germishuys: Yeah. Um you would click on that if you want to add specific files that you wanted to look at. If you don't add anything, um then it'll just look around. It'll figure it

Kiyasha Singh: Oh,

Justin Germishuys: out.

Kiyasha Singh: it als

Justin Germishuys: So

Kiyasha Singh: it also shows you the recent changes.

Justin Germishuys: yeah, so you

Kiyasha Singh: That's

Justin Germishuys: can play around

Kiyasha Singh: interesting.

Justin Germishuys: with it, but um I wonder if mine is running and running and running.

So, it's not I wonder if it's

Kiyasha Singh: Oh, is that how you changed it so that it asks you every time rather than goes through with it?

Justin Germishuys: Yeah, yellow

Kiyasha Singh: Okay.

Justin Germishuys: means you only live once, which means life is too short to sit and click.

00:12:01

Justin Germishuys: So, so you can just click run command. In this particular case, you can actually have it just run through it. Um,

Kiyasha Singh: Oh,

Justin Germishuys: if

Kiyasha Singh: instead

Justin Germishuys: you wanted

Kiyasha Singh: of

Justin Germishuys: to. Yeah, I mean it's nice for you to see what it's doing. You'll learn if you keep doing it like this. Um, that's just a terminal

Kiyasha Singh: Stop.

Justin Germishuys: command for making the directory. It's run into a problem. And now it's going to understand why.

Kiyasha Singh: Okay.

Justin Germishuys: Okay, cool. Every once in a while once it's done quite a lot of changes, you have to hit the accept or the reject. Uh so

Kiyasha Singh: Oh,

Justin Germishuys: you can run the Yeah.

Kiyasha Singh: okay.

Justin Germishuys: except will sometimes run that. So, it'll make lots of changes and sometimes it won't make the changes you want it to make. Like it'll have misunderstood. Um, and then that's good. So, it's building everything up.

00:13:13

Justin Germishuys: I wonder why it's taking this route. It's interesting. Okay, you may want to just go YOLO for this

Kiyasha Singh: Okay.

Justin Germishuys: because it's basically just setting up your directory structure for your React app. And so if it has to do this one at a time,

Kiyasha Singh: And it's going to take

Justin Germishuys: then

Kiyasha Singh: time off.

Justin Germishuys: yeah, so just you can always change it back later, I think. Um I don't ever know what mine is doing. Is it actually installing anything? It doesn't usually get stuck. And it usually goes a lot faster than this. So, let's

Kiyasha Singh: I

Justin Germishuys: just

Kiyasha Singh: was

Justin Germishuys: see.

Kiyasha Singh: going to ask if the weather is the problem, but she said that it's sunny here. So, yeah.

Justin Germishuys: Yeah, it is. It's very hot. So, it is a problem. Um, okay. Let me just stop this. Um,

Kiyasha Singh: Should I stop sharing my screen?

Justin Germishuys: no, it doesn't matter.

00:14:35

Kiyasha Singh: Okay.

Justin Germishuys: Um, I think the goal is just to see what this thing comes up with. Um, okay, cool. It's thinking. Okay, let's run that. Okay, it's going ahead. It's making your source, your TypeScript config. It's doing a whole bunch of things. You don't have to accept each one. It's going to It's going to get to the end and then you can accept all.

Kiyasha Singh: Oh, okay.

Justin Germishuys: So, let's see how far we get in the next few minutes. You see, it was actually that easy to get started. And now it's just going to like keep making stuff until um Okay.

Kiyasha Singh: In one of the projects that you gave us last year, I used cursor and then

Justin Germishuys: H.

Kiyasha Singh: I just stopped completely and I forgot everything about it. And I tried to use Python on it, but Python just wasn't registering on my computer itself. So it was a
Justin Germishuys: Yeah.

Kiyasha Singh: problem.

Justin Germishuys: So, with this, if you use cursor and you're building a Python program, you're probably going to just have it create a um

00:16:11

Kiyasha Singh: Virtual environment.

Justin Germishuys: yeah, and then it can install everything there. And so, cursor will just take care of it. A year ago, cursor couldn't do all this stuff. This is new. Um, so in any case, I don't actually know if mine is getting stuck or not. Yours seems to be doing stuff. Mine seems to be stuck.

Kiyasha Singh: It's saying

Justin Germishuys: Um,

Kiyasha Singh: 10. What is that?

Justin Germishuys: llinter errors just means that it's finding issues in the way it's writing the code in your development environment. It means that it's finding um the llinter is like a built-in thing. You see where the code is? Sometimes you'll see like red sections, squiggles. Your llinter is the thing that helps you find errors in your syntax or it highlights if you're importing something where you don't have a proper library or but it picks up llinter errors and it's fixing them. So you don't have to worry about those either.

Kiyasha Singh: Okay.

Justin Germishuys: Um, but in any case, mine seems to have completely gone wonky.

00:17:29

Justin Germishuys: Um, so

Kiyasha Singh: All right.

Justin Germishuys: I'm going to stop this because it doesn't seem to be normally it will have created the whole thing by now. It's seems to definitely have frozen. So, let's stop this thing. Somehow I probably corrupted this somehow. Yours seems to be coming along quite nicely though.

Kiyasha Singh: Yeah. So when it says I should do this, when I click on it, it takes me

here. does.

Justin Germishuys: Um

Kiyasha Singh: I'm not

Justin Germishuys: now just click um accept all. Okay. Now go to view. Go to terminal below that. Okay, that's cool. And now go np. Wait, hold on. To run the application, you would need to So, just ask a question in your agent on the side there. Do I need to install? No, you don't have to ask. Just in the agent.

Kiyasha Singh: Oh, okay.

Justin Germishuys: Yeah. Um, say, do I need to still run npm install or has it already been done?

00:20:02

Justin Germishuys: Okay, that that's Claude thinking. Okay, so now in your in your terminal go npm install. Okay,

Kiyasha Singh: Um,

Justin Germishuys: that's fine.

Kiyasha Singh: Okay.

Justin Germishuys: Oh, wait.

Kiyasha Singh: It should have been one word now.

Justin Germishuys: No, no, no, no. Um, click and highlight that error. Okay. Now, you see it says add to chat

Kiyasha Singh: Uh Oh,

Justin Germishuys: in

Kiyasha Singh: yeah.

Justin Germishuys: the top right. Yeah, click that. Now put question mark and then hit send.

Kiyasha Singh: So it's saying that my NodeJS might not be installed properly.

Justin Germishuys: Okay. So just go node line V

Kiyasha Singh: Uh, node

Justin Germishuys: node hyphen v as you see in the side there.

Kiyasha Singh: over here.

Justin Germishuys: Yeah in your terminal.

Kiyasha Singh: Node.

Justin Germishuys: No no space hyphen v. Here we go. Okay cool. So you do actually have to go to the node.js JS official website download it and install it. So you can just follow that. There you see that it says NodeJS official website just

00:21:48

Kiyasha Singh: Yes,

Justin Germishuys: click on that.

Kiyasha Singh: I have it. But I don't know. Uh, let me change the reference.

Justin Germishuys: No just you you need to if you do have it then it should register. So that means that you probably haven't

Kiyasha Singh: Install

Justin Germishuys: run

Kiyasha Singh: the

Justin Germishuys: the installer and follow the in and make sure that to check the option that adds node to your path during installation. So that's what you need to do.

Kiyasha Singh: Okay, I'll do that

Justin Germishuys: So

Kiyasha Singh: now.

Justin Germishuys: cool. Um,

Kiyasha Singh: Okay.

Justin Germishuys: so it's Okay. Is it working?

Kiyasha Singh: Um, I'm still installing it to see.

Justin Germishuys: Okay, cool. you're busy with it. And if Vanyana,

Kiyasha Singh: Okay.

Justin Germishuys: or Johannes goes first, it'll give you a chance to see if you can get to the end of this.

Kiyasha Singh: Okay. Thank

Justin Germishuys: Cool. I'll see you

Kiyasha Singh: you.

Justin Germishuys: in about 10 minutes. Okay? Bye.

Kiyasha Singh: Okay. Bye.

Transcription ended after 00:23:40

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