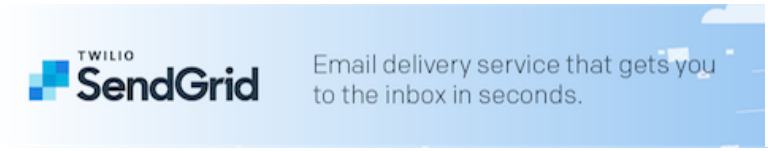
Static Code Analysis of .NET Core Projects with SonarCloud

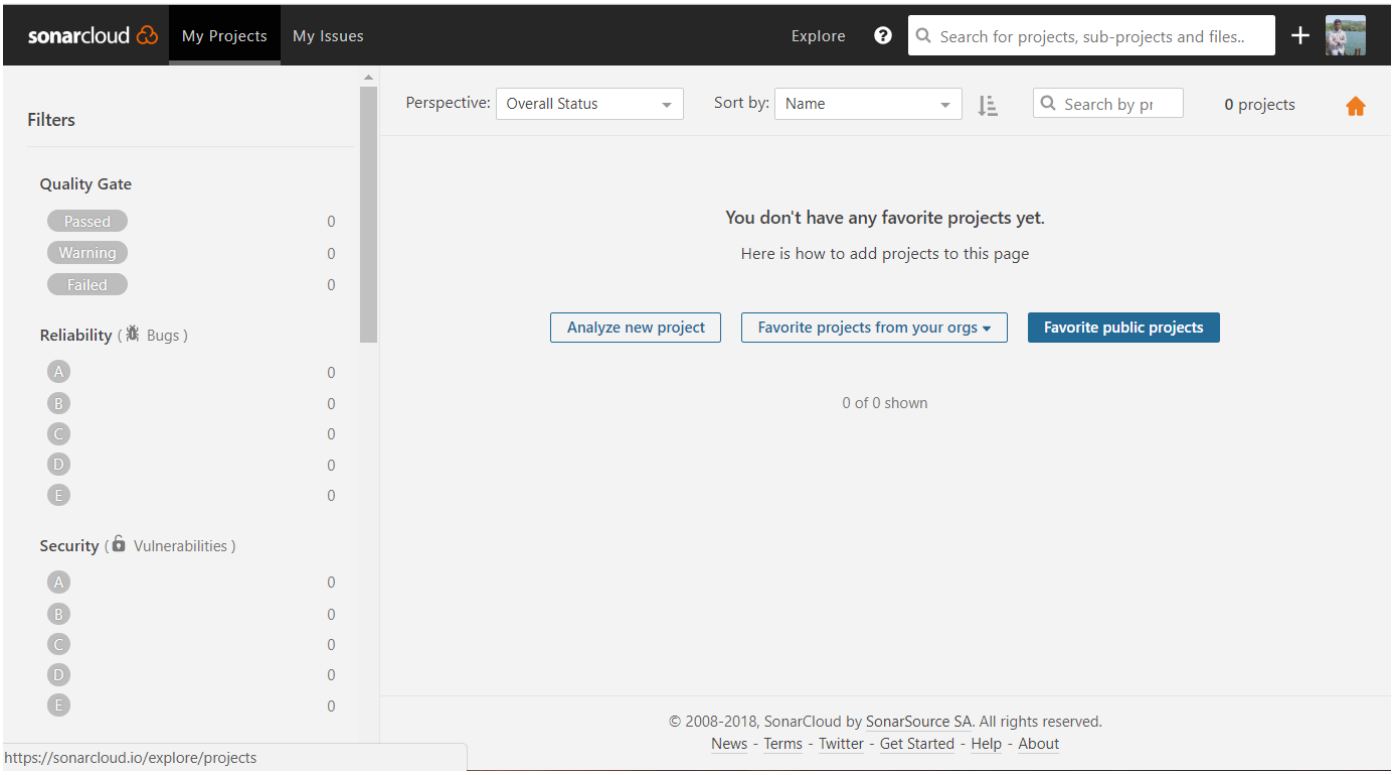


Posted by Anuraj (https://plus.google.com/+AnurajP) on Thursday, May 3, 2018 Reading time :2 minutes

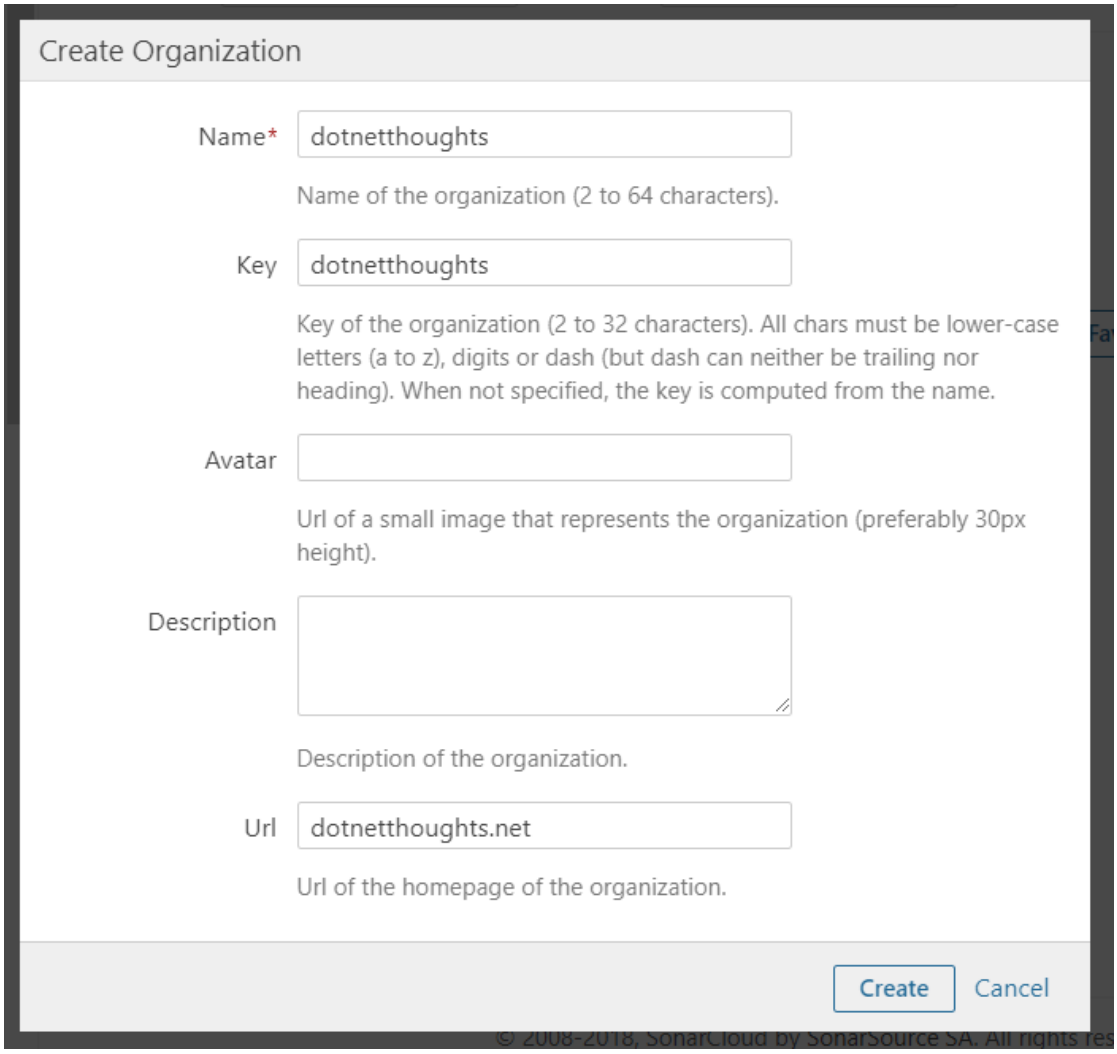
ASP.NET Core (/tags#ASP.NET Core) Static Code Analysis (/tags#Static Code Analysis) SonarCloud (/tags#SonarCloud)

This post is about how to use SonarCloud application for running static code analysis in .NET Core projects. Static analysis is a way of automatically analysing code without executing it. SonarCloud is cloud offering of SonarQube app. It is Free for Open source projects.

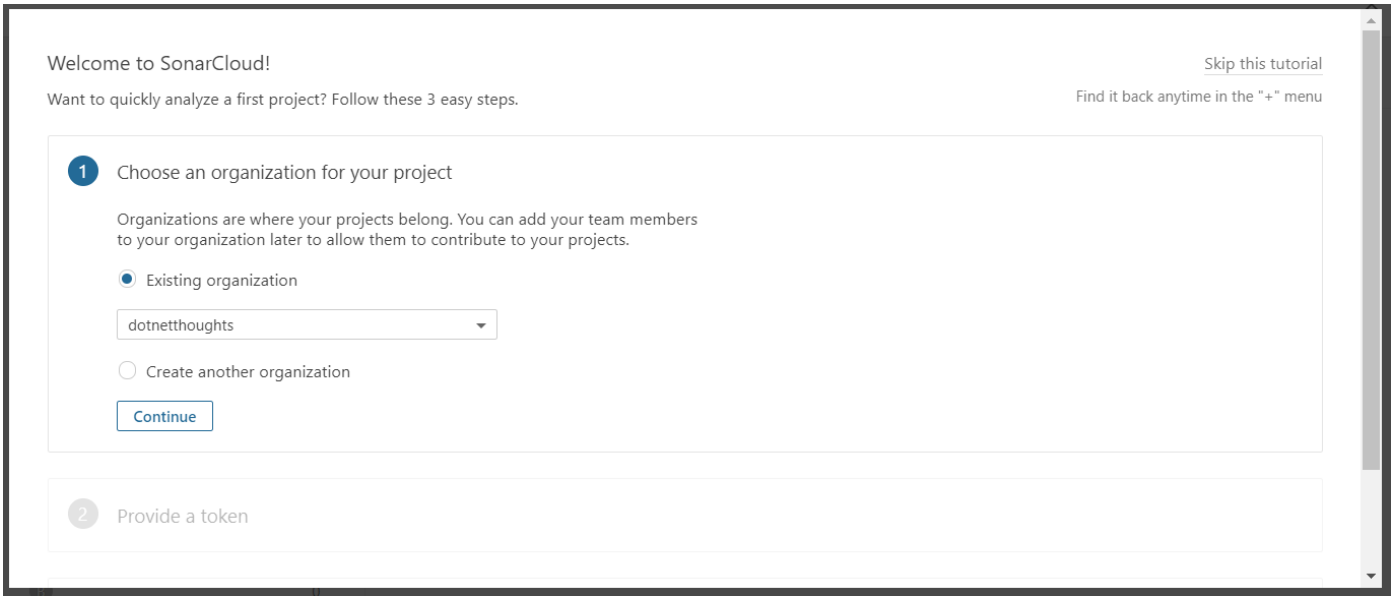
For analysing first you need to create an account in sonarcloud.io. You can use GitHub / BitBucket / Microsoft Live Account to sign in. Once you sign in, you will see the sonarcloud dashboard.



Next you need to create an Organization.

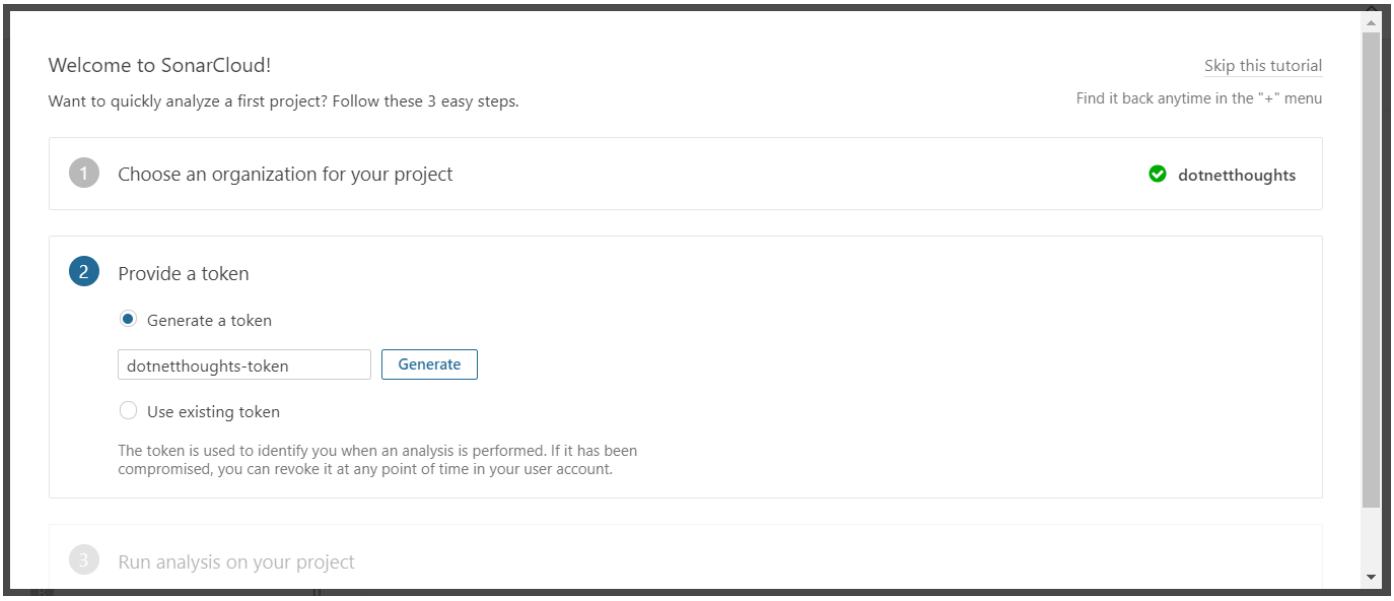


Once you created the organization, you can create a new project to analyse. You can click on the Analyse New Project button, which will show a wizard. In the first screen you need to select the organization.

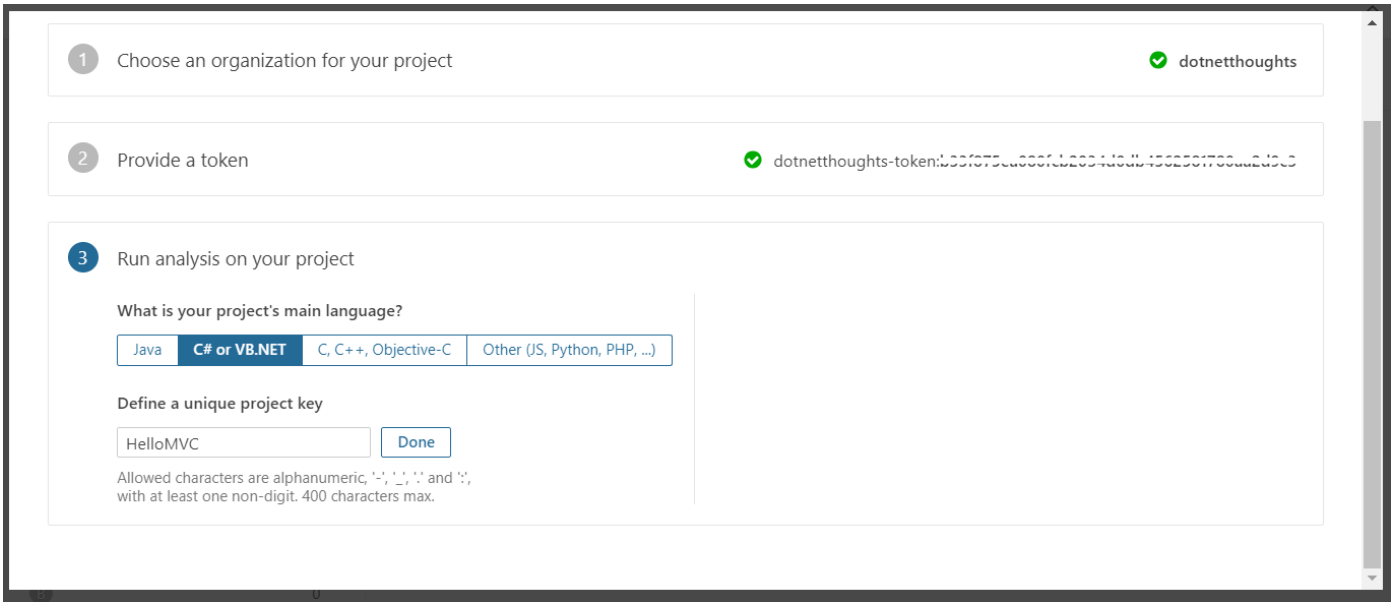


Next, you need to generate token, which will be used to run the code analysis, make sure you store it safe.

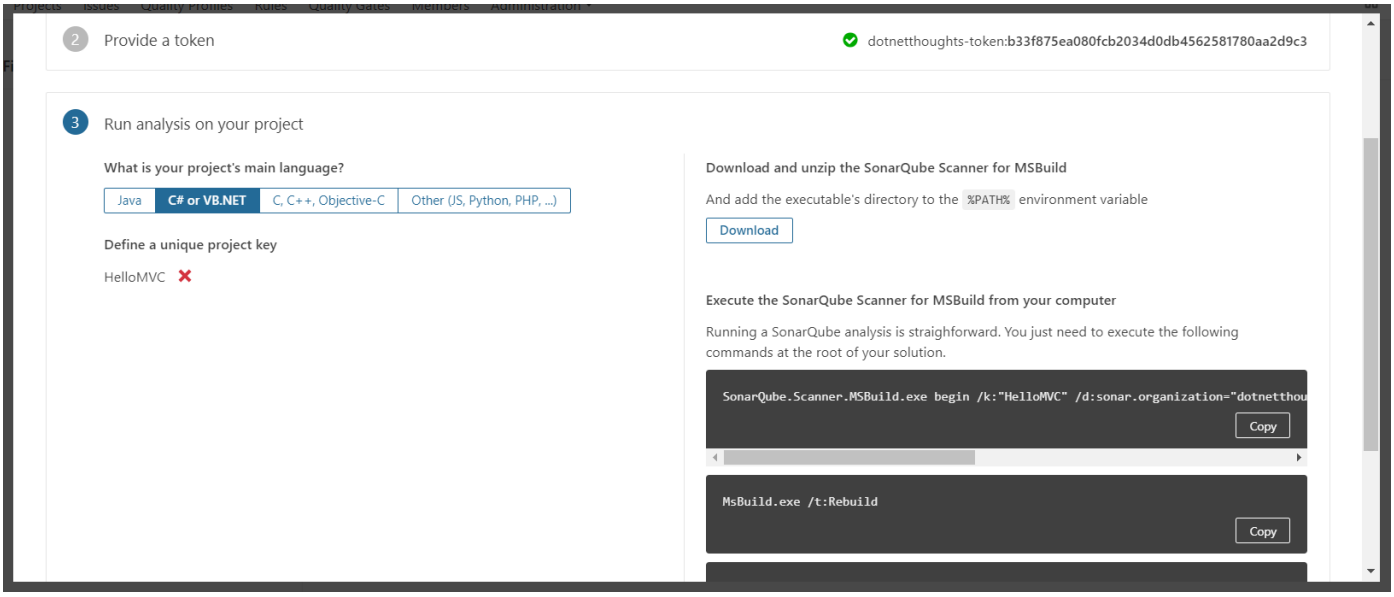
↑



And in the third screen, you need select the target language and provide a project key.



Clicking on Done, SonarCloud will show the steps to run code analysis using MSBuild.



Once you completed it, next you need to download the sonar scanner for MS Build, you can download the .NET Core version from here (https://docs.sonarqube.org/display/SCAN/Analyzing+with+SonarQube+Scanner+for+MSBuild)

↑

Next you need to create the .NET Core application to run the analysis. So first you need to create a ASP.NET Core MVC project using `dotnet new mvc` . Then you need to create a sln file using `dotnet new sln` command. Next you need to add the MVC project to the solution. You can do it using `dotnet sln add HelloMVC.csproj` . Now you're ready with your project. Next you need to enable scanner. To do that first, you need to run the following command.

```
dotnet "D:\sonar-scanner-msbuild-4.2.0.1214-netcoreapp2.0\SonarScanner.MSBuild.dll" begin /k:"HelloMVC" /d:sonar.organiza
```

Once you execute the command you will be able to see something like this on the screen.

```
SonarScanner for MSBuild 4.2
Using the .NET Core version of the Scanner for MSBuild
Default properties file was found at D:\sonar-scanner-msbuild-4.2.0.1214-netcoreapp2.0\SonarQube.Analysis.xml
Loading analysis properties from D:\sonar-scanner-msbuild-4.2.0.1214-netcoreapp2.0\SonarQube.Analysis.xml
Pre-processing started.
Preparing working directories...
22:22:44.902  Updating build integration targets...
22:22:44.945  Fetching analysis configuration settings...
22:22:52.063  Provisioning analyzer assemblies for cs...
22:22:52.066  Installing required Roslyn analyzers...
22:22:56.224  Provisioning analyzer assemblies for vbnet...
22:22:56.228  Installing required Roslyn analyzers...
22:22:56.325  Pre-processing succeeded.
```

Next you need to build the application using `dotnet build` command. You will be able to see some warnings in the screen.

```
Microsoft (R) Build Engine version 15.3.409.57025 for .NET Core
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

Program.cs(13,18): warning S1118: Add a 'protected' constructor or the 'static' keyword to the class declaration. [D:\An
uraj-OSS\AspNetCoreSamples\HelloMVC\HelloMVC.csproj]
Startup.cs(36,41): warning S1075: Refactor your code not to use hardcoded absolute paths or URIs. [D:\Anuraj-OSS\AspNetC
oreSamples\HelloMVC\HelloMVC.csproj]
  HelloMVC -> D:\Anuraj-OSS\AspNetCoreSamples\HelloMVC\bin\Debug\netcoreapp2.0\HelloMVC.dll

Build succeeded.

Program.cs(13,18): warning S1118: Add a 'protected' constructor or the 'static' keyword to the class declaration. [D:\An
uraj-OSS\AspNetCoreSamples\HelloMVC\HelloMVC.csproj]
Startup.cs(36,41): warning S1075: Refactor your code not to use hardcoded absolute paths or URIs. [D:\Anuraj-OSS\AspNetC
oreSamples\HelloMVC\HelloMVC.csproj]
    2 Warning(s)
    0 Error(s)

Time Elapsed 00:00:08.66
```

To finish you need to run the `end` command similar to `begin` command.

```
dotnet "D:\sonar-scanner-msbuild-4.2.0.1214-netcoreapp2.0\SonarScanner.MSBuild.dll" end /d:sonar.login="73fd8bc705804e868
```

This will start the analysis and upload the results to Sonarcloud. Next open your SonarCloud dashboard, click on the project, then you will be able to see the results like this.

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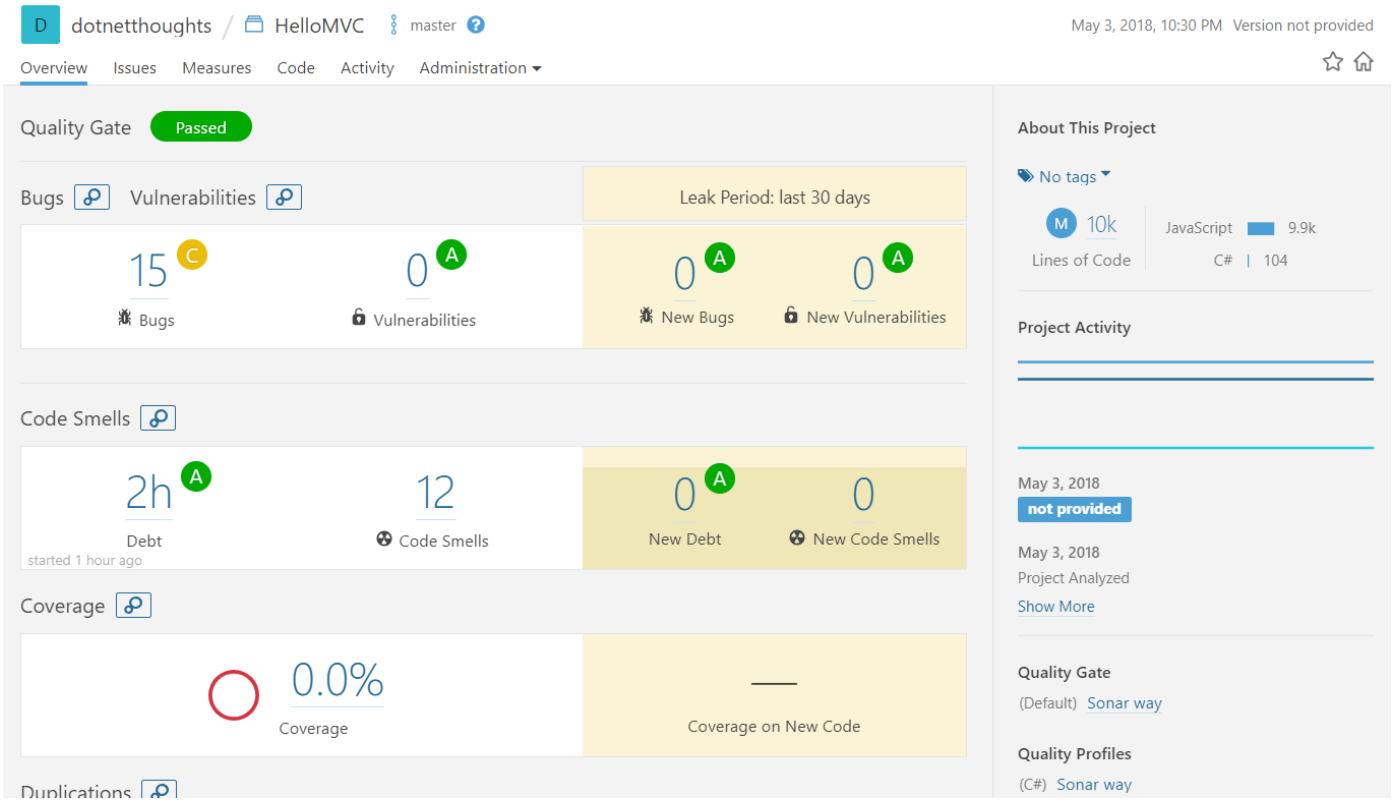
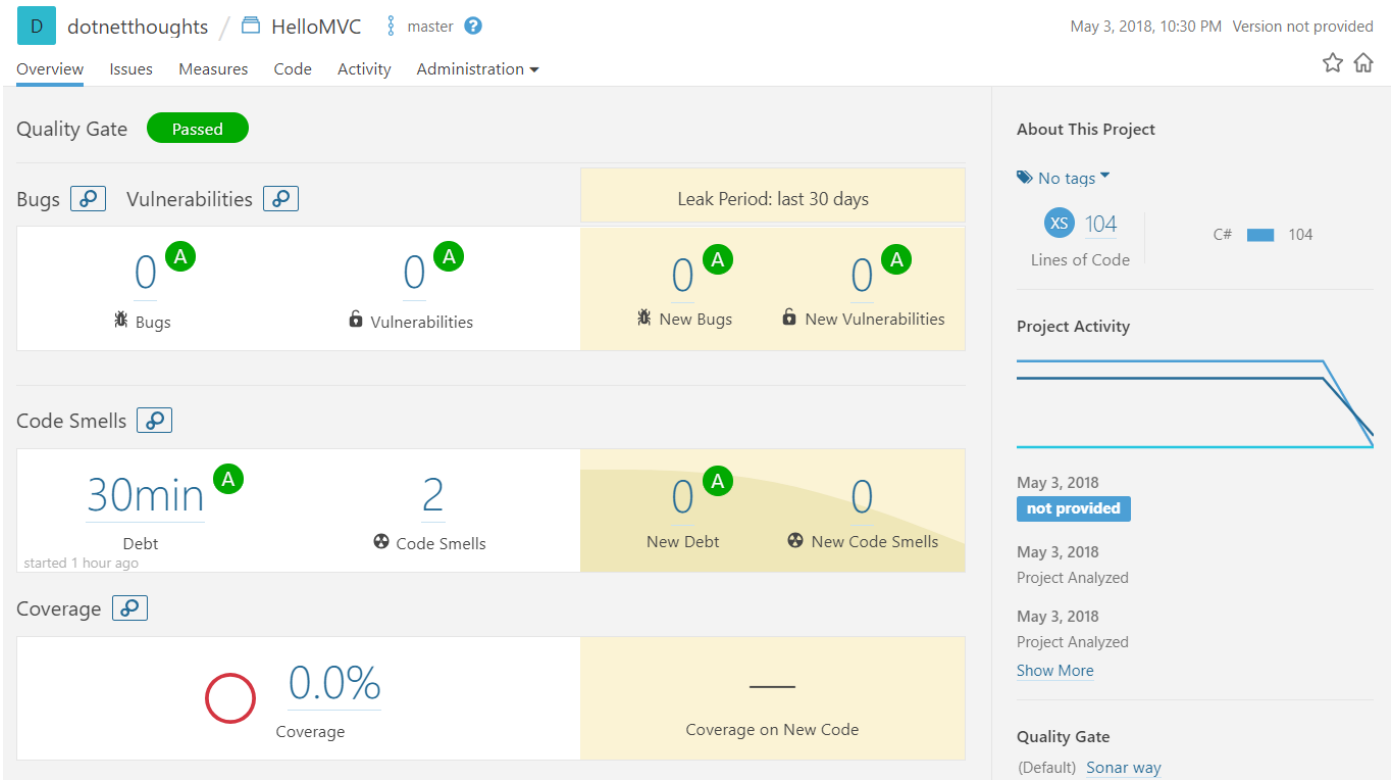


If you notice, SonarCloud is showing 15 bugs, but if you look into the details you will be able to see most of these issues reported is from JavaScript libraries, like Bootstrap or JQuery. In ideal scenario, you don't need to run code analysis on this library files. So you need to exclude the libraries. You can do this using SonarQube exclusion filters like this.

```
dotnet "D:\sonar-scanner-msbuild-4.2.0.1214-netcoreapp2.0\SonarScanner.MSBuild.dll" begin /k:"HelloMVC" /d:sonar.organiza
```

Next build using dotnet build and end the scanning. It will update the dashboard like this.



Happy Programming :)

What do you think? I would like to hear your thoughts, suggestions, and questions in the comments section below.

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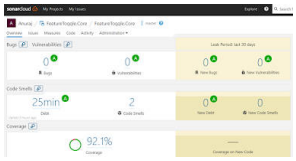

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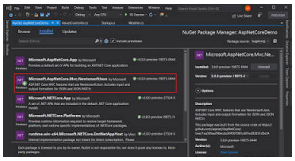

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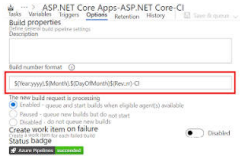

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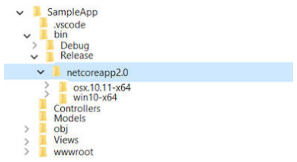

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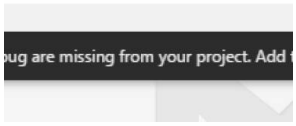

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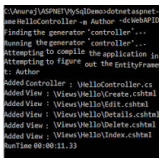

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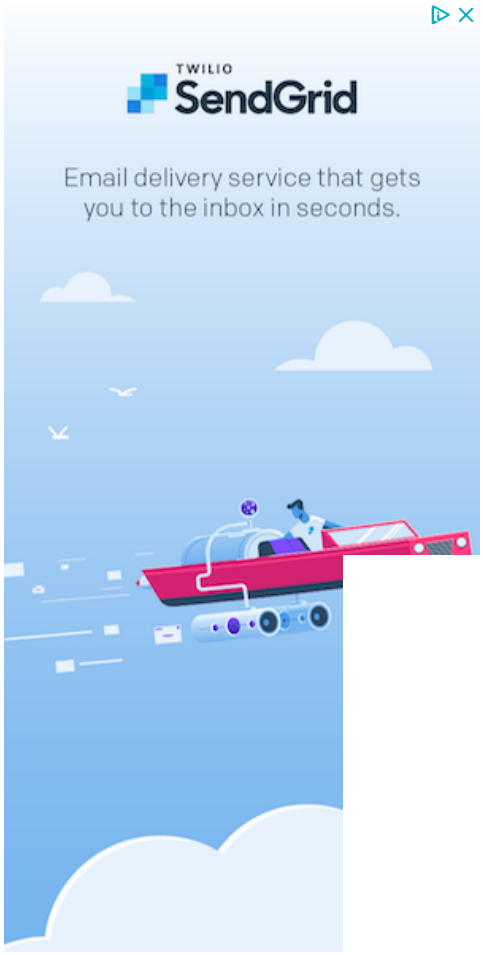

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