

Step-by-step instructions for Ubuntu 20.04.2 (Focal Fossa)

📌 Note

These instructions can be used almost unchanged on Ubuntu 18.04 (Bionic Badger). We note differences where they occur.

Dependencies

Install the CARTA backend and other required packages

```
# Add CARTA PPA
sudo add-apt-repository ppa:cartavis-team/carta
sudo apt-get update

# Install the beta backend package with all dependencies
sudo apt-get install carta-backend-beta

# Install additional packages
sudo apt-get install nginx g++ mongodb make curl
```

Set up directories and permissions

Ensure that all users who should have access to CARTA belong to a group that identifies them (assumed here to be called `carta-users`).

```
# create a 'carta' user to run the controller
sudo adduser --system --home /var/lib/carta --shell=/bin/bash --group carta

# add 'carta' user to the shadow group (only required for PAM UNIX authentication)
sudo usermod -a -G shadow carta

# log directory owned by carta
sudo mkdir -p /var/log/carta
sudo chown carta: /var/log/carta

# config directory owned by carta
sudo mkdir -p /etc/carta
sudo chown carta: /etc/carta

# edit sudoers file to allow passwordless sudo execution of
# /usr/local/bin/carta-kill-script and /usr/bin/carta_backend
# by the carta user
sudo visudo -f /etc/sudoers.d/carta_controller
```

An example sudoers configuration is provided in the configuration section.

Configure nginx

A sample configuration file is provided in the configuration section. This should be adapted to your server configuration. The relevant part of the config is for forwarding `/` to port 8000.

Install CARTA controller

Note

Currently supported versions of NodeJS are v12, v14 and v16. In the example below we install the latest LTS version of NodeJS from the [NodeSource repo](#). Do not pass the `--unsafe-perm` flag to `npm` if using a local install.

```
# Install the latest NodeJS LTS repo
curl -fsSL https://deb.nodesource.com/setup_lts.x | sudo -E bash -

# Install NodeJS, NPM and tools required to compile native addons
sudo apt-get install -y nodejs build-essential

# Install carta-controller (includes frontend config)
sudo npm install -g --unsafe-perm carta-controller@beta

# Install PM2 node service
sudo npm install -g pm2

# Switch to carta user
sudo su - carta

# Generate private/public keys
cd /etc/carta
openssl genrsa -out carta_private.pem 4096
openssl rsa -in carta_private.pem -outform PEM -pubout -out carta_public.pem
```

Configure controller

Edit `/etc/carta/config.json` to customise the appearance of the dashboard and other options. A sample configuration file is provided in the configuration section.

Run controller

This should be executed as the `carta` user.

```
pm2 start carta-controller
```

Create pm2 startup script

This service will start the controller automatically after a reboot. Please refer to the [pm2 documentation](#) for detailed instructions. You should run `pm2 startup` as `carta`, execute the generated command as a user with `sudo` access, and finally run `pm2 save` as `carta` to save the running controller process.