

FIT5032 CI/CD of .NET 5.0 application GitHub Actions and Azure App Service

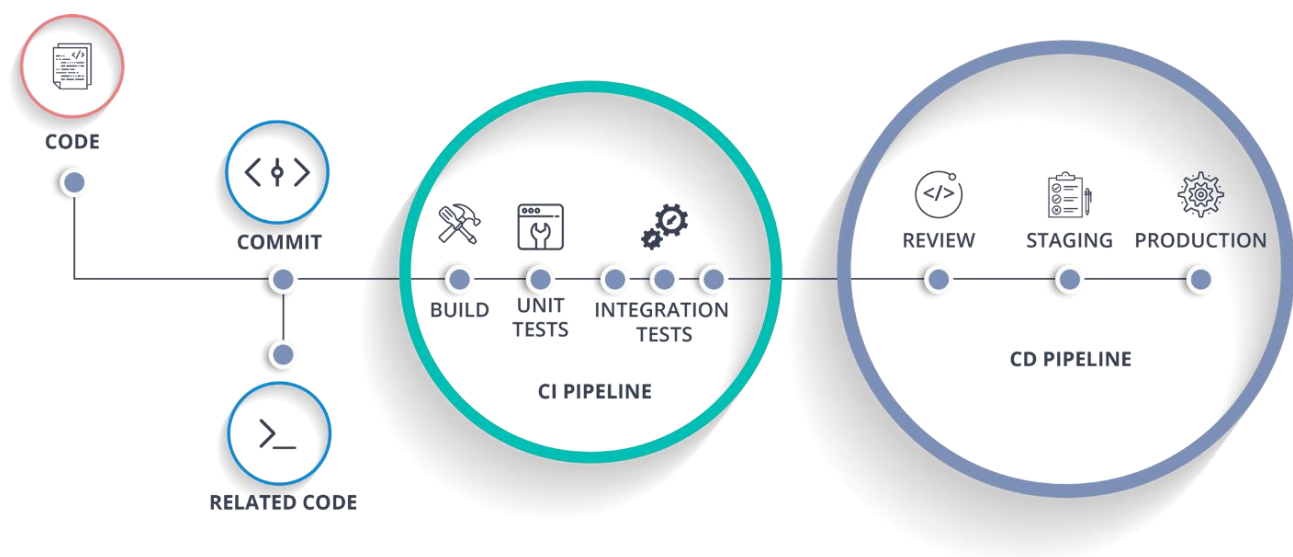
Author: Roshan Thirikkott

POST-CLASS ACTIVITIES

Introduction

Continuous Integration (CI) is the practice where developers regularly merge their code changes into a central repository, after which automated builds and tests are run. When a team of developers are working on a shared repository, frequent code updates make it easier to merge changes from other team members. CI helps to identify bugs quicker, improves quality, and reduce the time it takes to validate and release new software updates.

Continuous Deployment (CD) refers to the practice of using automation to publish and deploy software updates. Continuous Integration along with Continuous Deployment process helps us to build, test, and publish software updates as soon as code changes are made.

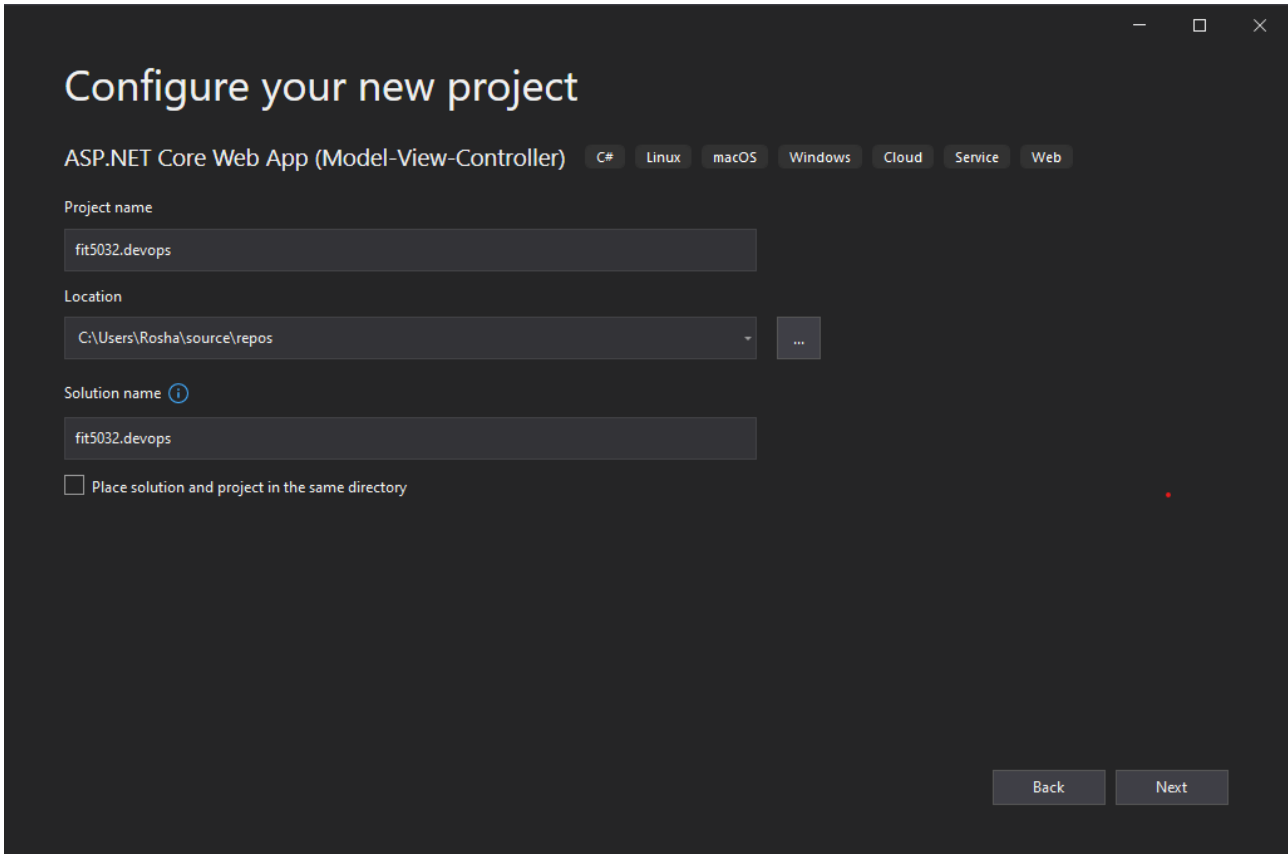


GitHub Actions

GitHub Actions by Github is used to automate software workflows. GitHub actions comes with integrated CI/CD. Using GitHub triggers like merging or committing code changes to your GitHub repo, we can leverage CI/CD pipelines from GitHub Actions to continuously build, test and deploy our code.

Step 1:

Create a new .NET Core (.NET 5.0) web application. You can use any Web API or MVC or other .NET core web application templates. Here we will be using a .NET 5.0 MVC application.



Configure your new project

ASP.NET Core Web App (Model-View-Controller) C# Linux macOS Windows Cloud Service Web

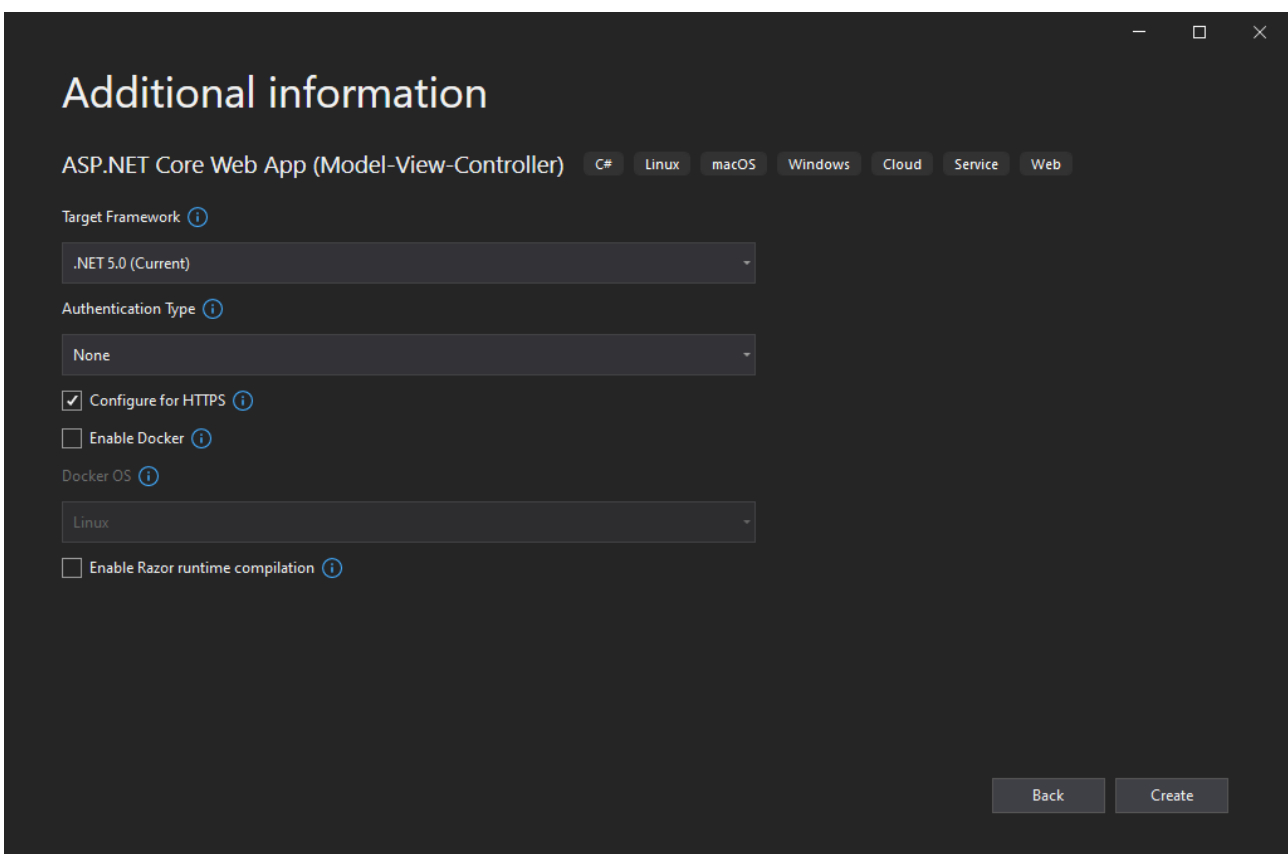
Project name
fit5032.devops

Location
C:\Users\Roshan\source\repos

Solution name ⓘ
fit5032.devops

☐ Place solution and project in the same directory

Back Next



Additional information

ASP.NET Core Web App (Model-View-Controller) C# Linux macOS Windows Cloud Service Web

Target Framework ⓘ
.NET 5.0 (Current)

Authentication Type ⓘ
None

☒ Configure for HTTPS ⓘ

☐ Enable Docker ⓘ

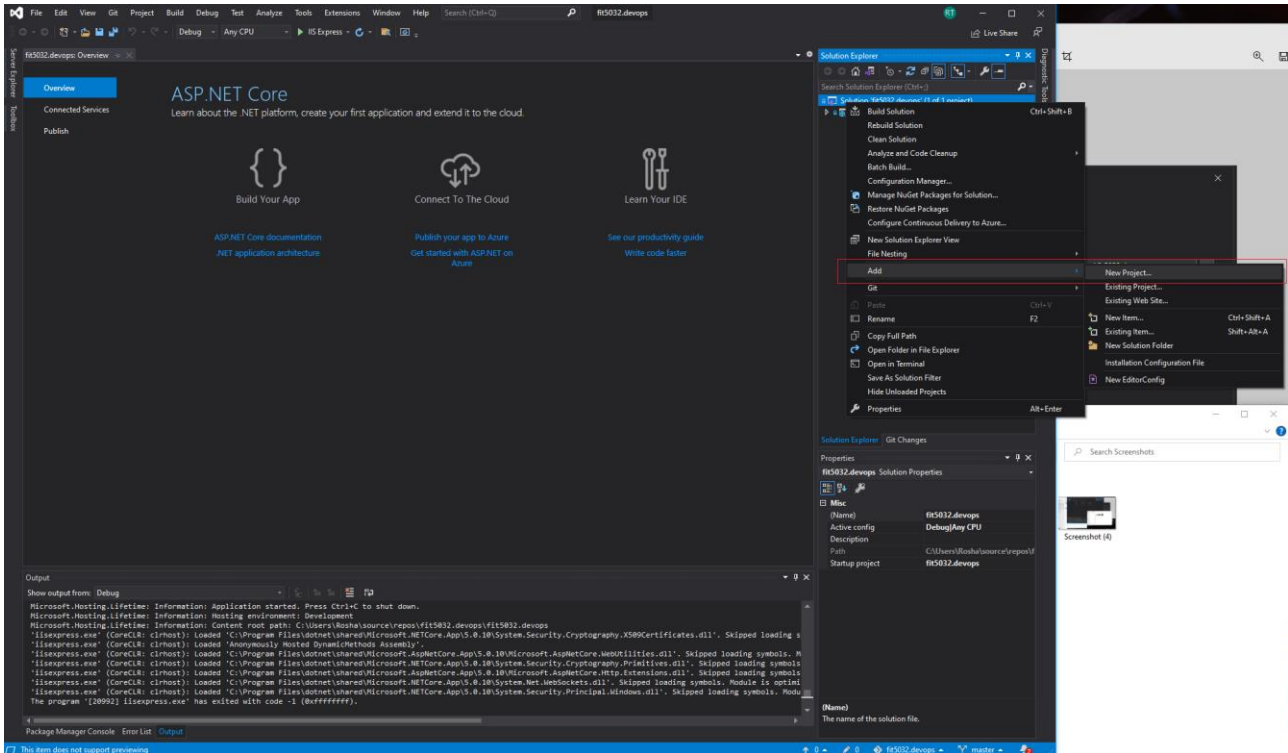
Docker OS ⓘ
Linux

☐ Enable Razor runtime compilation ⓘ

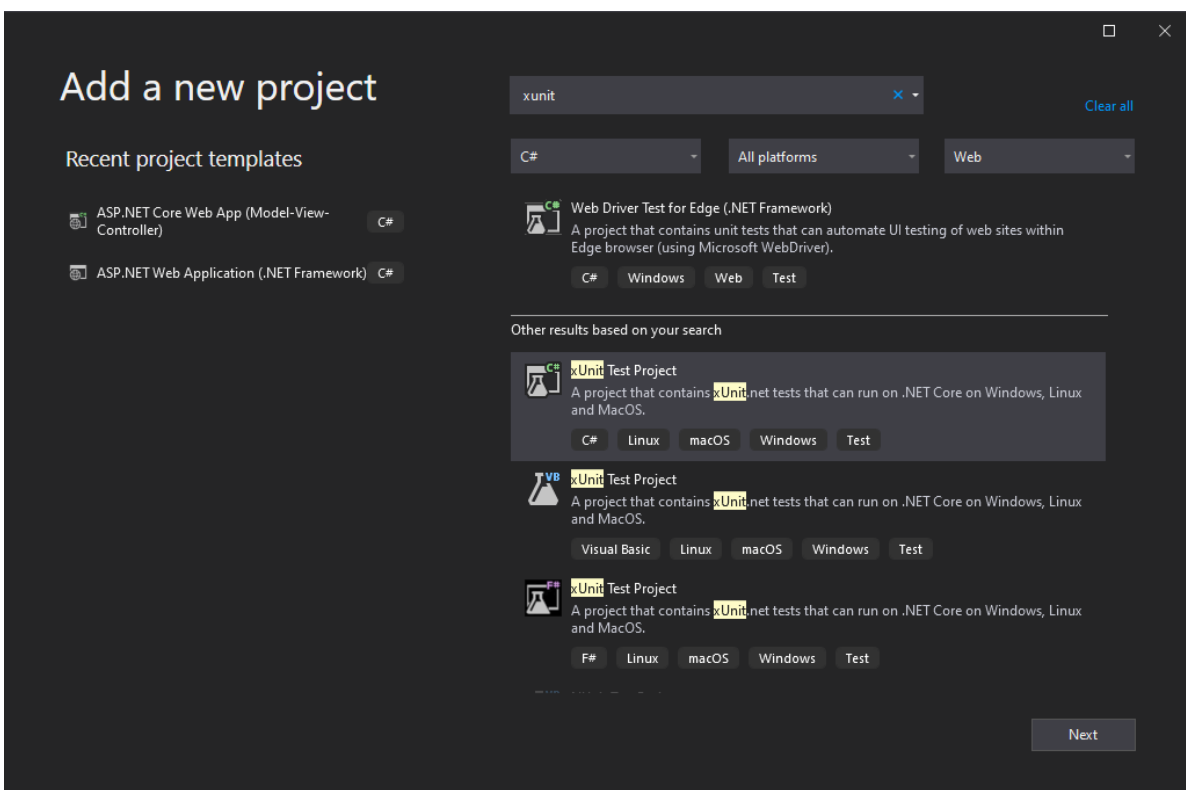
Back Create

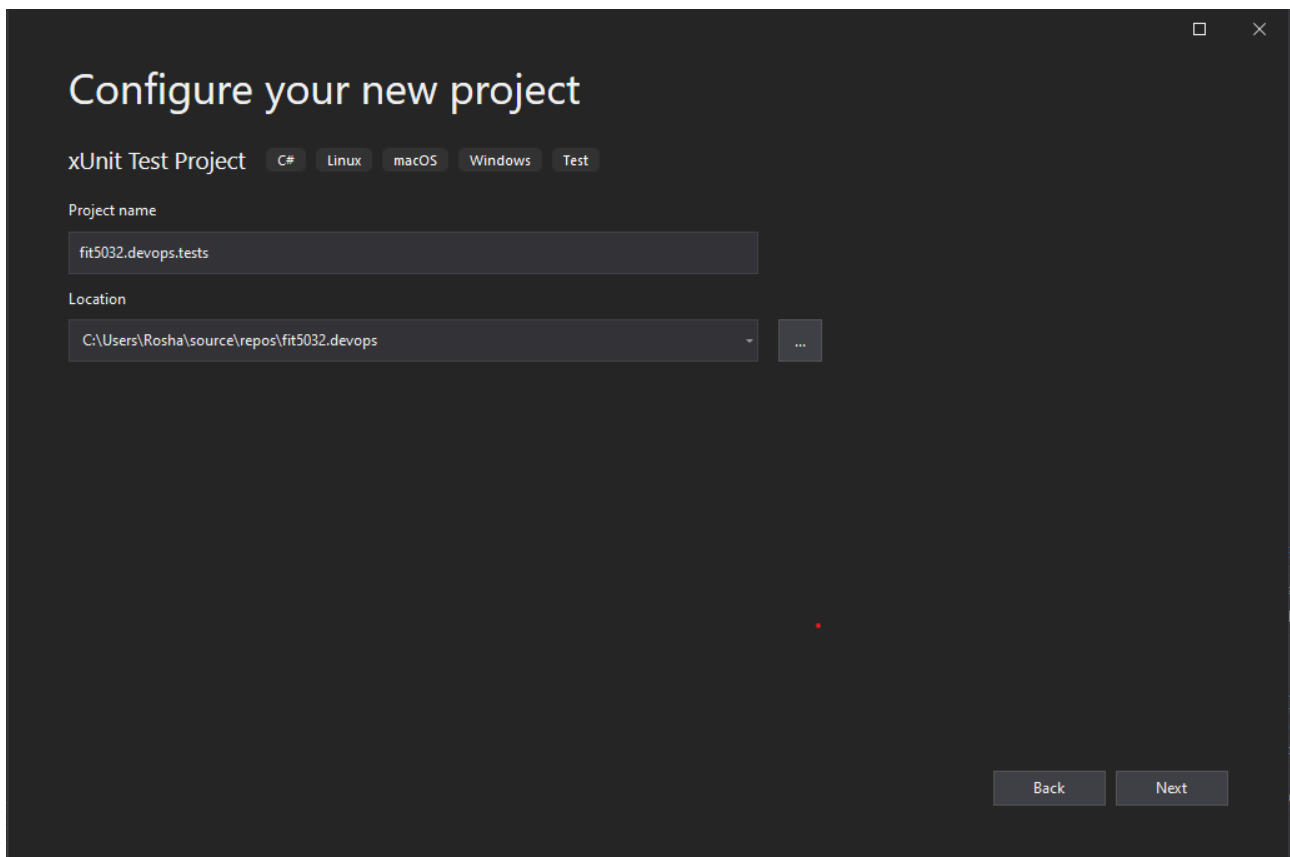
Step 2:

Let us also add a Unit Test project for running the Tests for the Web App that we have created. Right click on the solution and add a new project(Add → New Project).

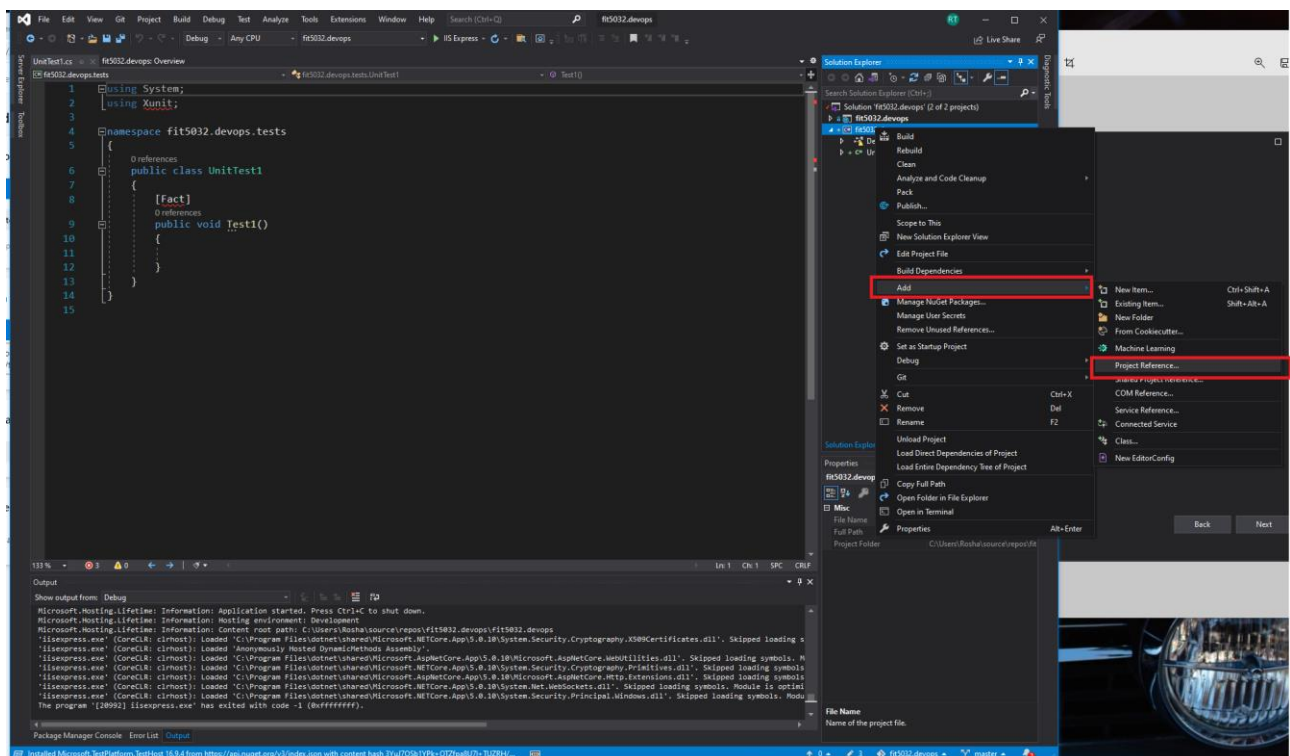


Select xUnit Test project for .NET Core

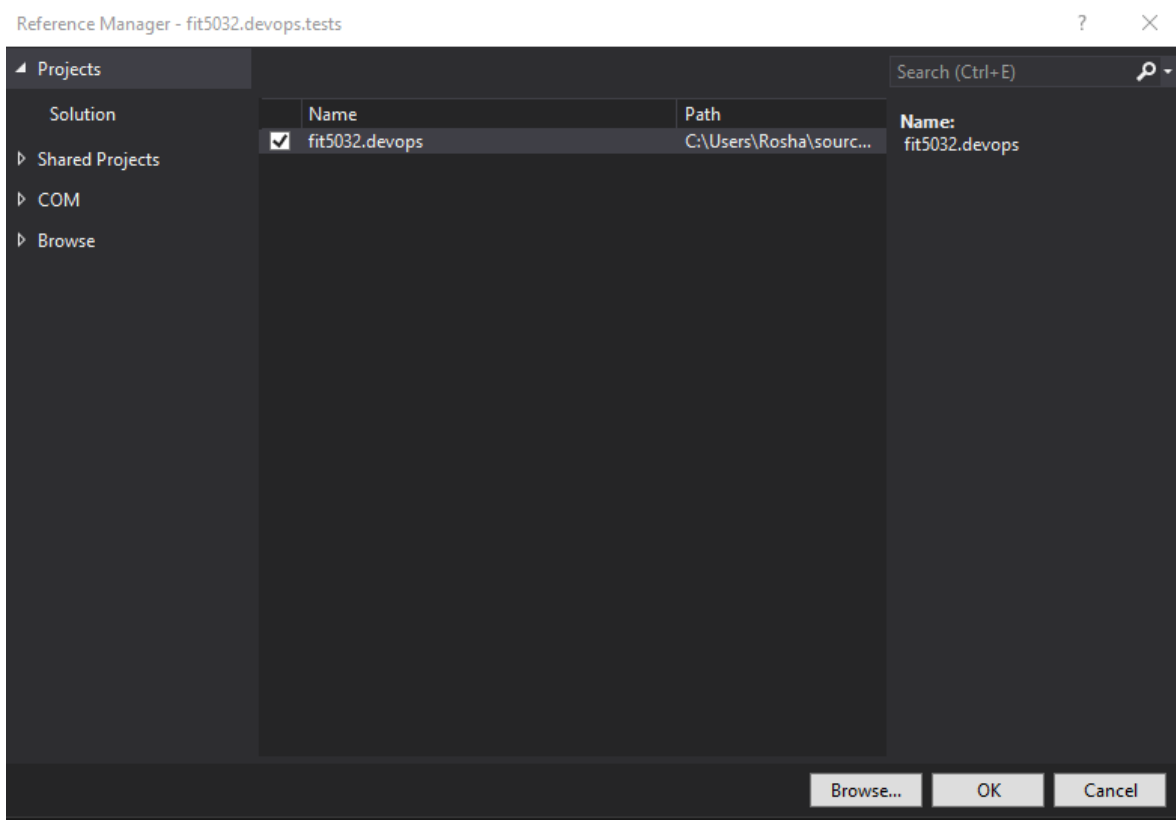




Once the xUnit Test project is created let's add the reference to the WebApp we created in Step 1 to the Unit Test project. To do this, right click on the Unit Test project and add project reference (Add → Project Reference)

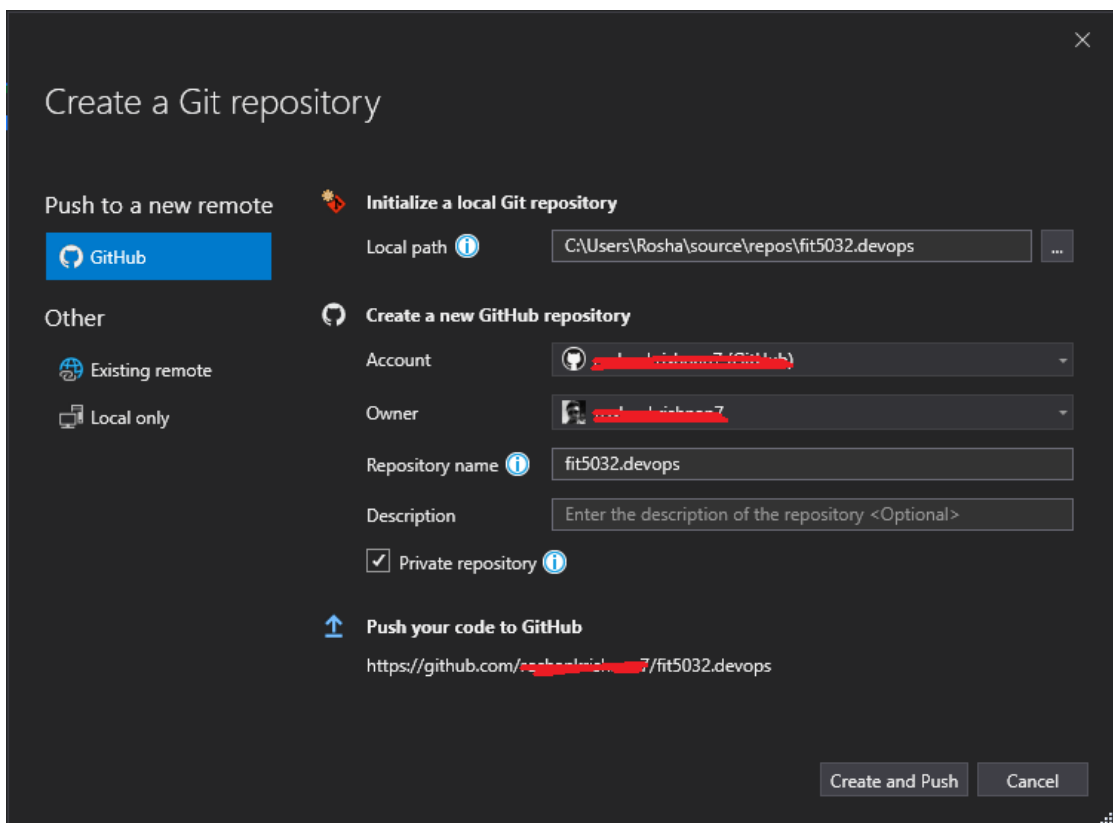


Add reference to the MVC web app we created in Step 1 by ticking the select box.



Step 3:

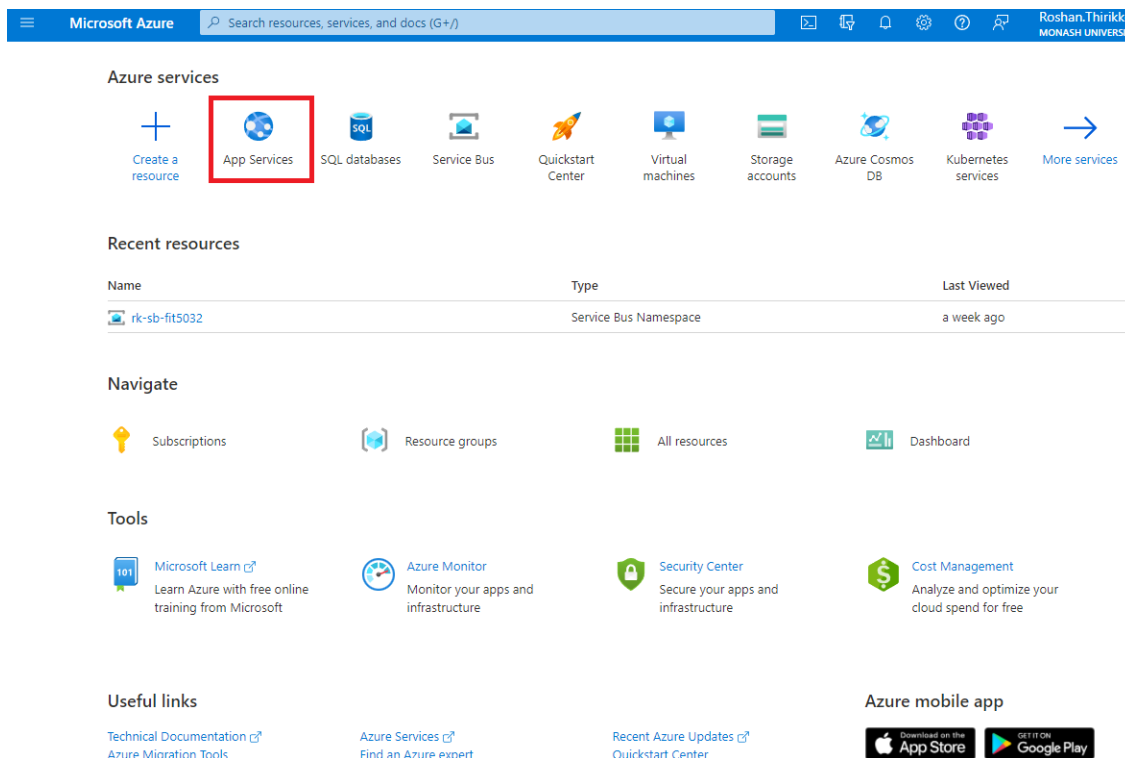
Create a Git repository and push your code changes to GitHub



Step 3 –

We will be using Azure App Service to host our Web application. If you do not have an Azure account, please go to [Azure Portal](#) and sign up using your Student Account. Monash student account enables you to \$200 worth of free credits that you can use on various Azure resources.

Once your account is setup, let us go ahead and create an App Service. You can use the search bar on top to find out App Services.



Microsoft Azure Search resources, services, and docs (G+/)

Azure services

- Create a resource
- App Services**
- SQL databases
- Service Bus
- Quickstart Center
- Virtual machines
- Storage accounts
- Azure Cosmos DB
- Kubernetes services
- More services

Recent resources

Name	Type	Last Viewed
rk-sb-fit5032	Service Bus Namespace	a week ago

Navigate

- Subscriptions
- Resource groups
- All resources
- Dashboard

Tools

- Microsoft Learn: Learn Azure with free online training from Microsoft
- Azure Monitor: Monitor your apps and infrastructure
- Security Center: Secure your apps and infrastructure
- Cost Management: Analyze and optimize your cloud spend for free

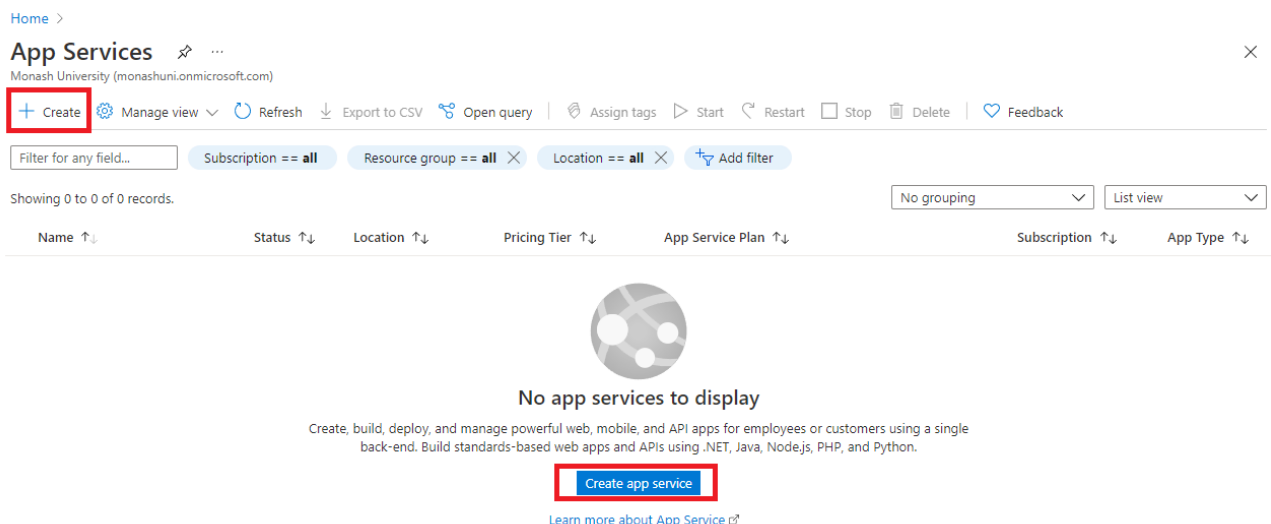
Useful links

- Technical Documentation
- Azure Migration Tools
- Azure Services: Find an Azure expert
- Recent Azure Updates: Quickstart Center

Azure mobile app

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play

Create a new App Service by using either the Create button or the Create app service button.



Home > **App Services** ✕

Monash University (monashuni.onmicrosoft.com)

+ Create Manage view Refresh Export to CSV Open query Assign tags Start Restart Stop Delete Feedback

Filter for any field... Subscription == all Resource group == all Location == all Add filter

Showing 0 to 0 of 0 records.

No grouping List view

Name Status Location Pricing Tier App Service Plan Subscription App Type

No app services to display

Create, build, deploy, and manage powerful web, mobile, and API apps for employees or customers using a single back-end. Build standards-based web apps and APIs using .NET, Java, Node.js, PHP, and Python.

Create app service

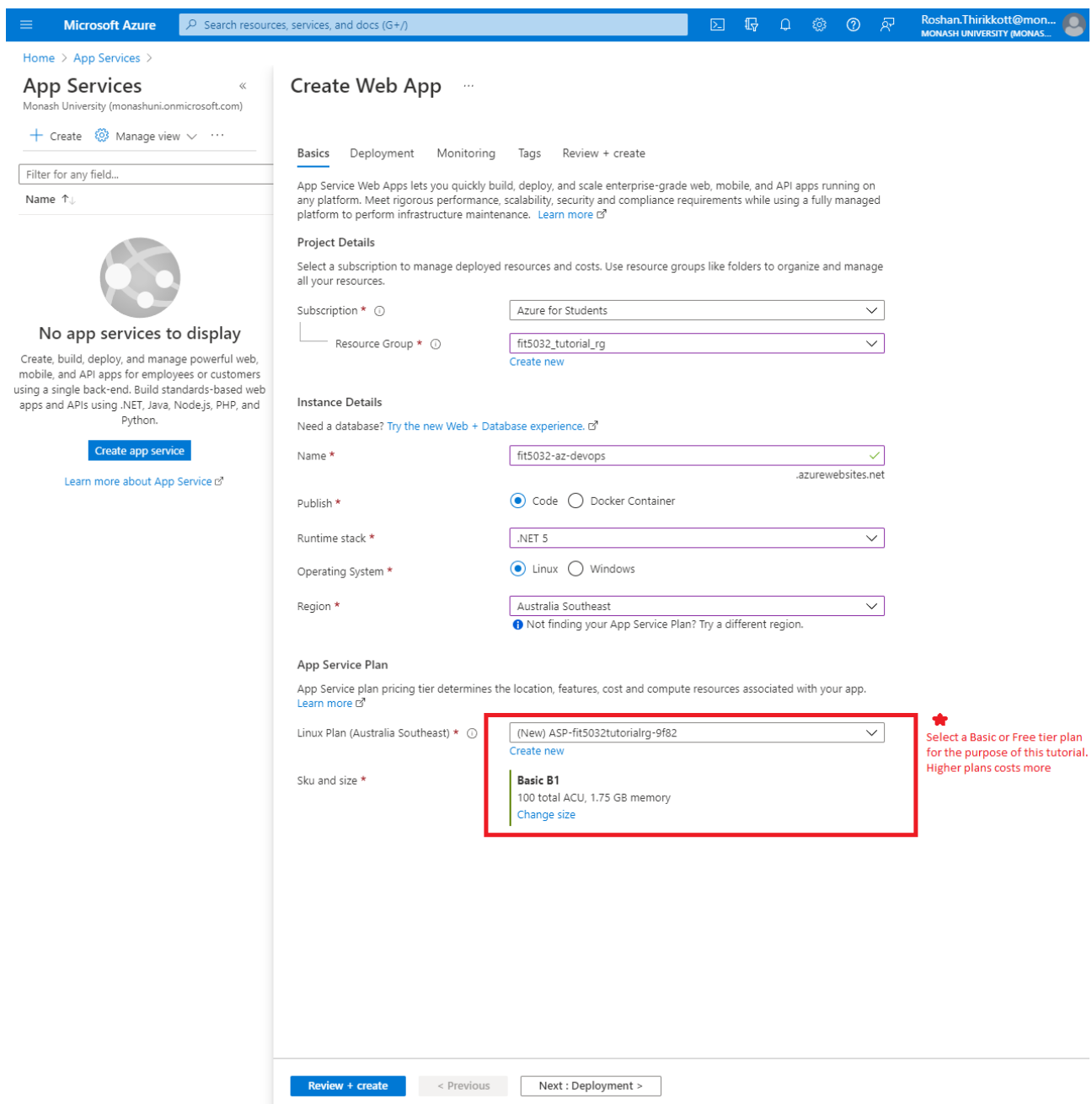
Learn more about App Service

Fill out the details in the new popup window.

Note: You can use the Create New under the Resource Group to create a new Resource Group if you do not already have one. (A resource group is a container that holds related resources for an Azure solution). You might need to provide a unique name for your web app instance. Make sure to select the appropriate run time stack (Here we will be using .NET 5). Since .NET 5.0 is cross platform compatible, we can choose either Linux or Windows as the Operating System for the App Service. Choose the appropriate App Service Plan. (Try to select one of the Basic or Free tier App service plan for the purpose of this task, as the other App Service plans will charge more, and you will end up exhausting your free credits sooner).

Once all the input details are filled in Click on Review + Create

Note down the name of the app service that you have created as you will be able to view your web apps using that url (<https://<name you have chosen>.azurewebsites.net>)



Microsoft Azure Search resources, services, and docs (G+/I) Roshan.Thirikkott@mon... MONASH UNIVERSITY (MONAS...

Home > App Services >

App Services

Monash University (monashuni.onmicrosoft.com)

+ Create Manage view ...

Filter for any field...

Name ↑↓

No app services to display

Create, build, deploy, and manage powerful web, mobile, and API apps for employees or customers using a single back-end. Build standards-based web apps and APIs using .NET, Java, Nodejs, PHP, and Python.

[Create app service](#)

[Learn more about App Service](#)

Create Web App

Basics Deployment Monitoring Tags Review + create

App Service Web Apps lets you quickly build, deploy, and scale enterprise-grade web, mobile, and API apps running on any platform. Meet rigorous performance, scalability, security and compliance requirements while using a fully managed platform to perform infrastructure maintenance. [Learn more](#)

Project Details

Select a subscription to manage deployed resources and costs. Use resource groups like folders to organize and manage all your resources.

Subscription * Azure for Students

Resource Group * fit5032_tutorial_rg [Create new](#)

Instance Details

Need a database? [Try the new Web + Database experience.](#)

Name * fit5032-az-devops .azurewebsites.net

Publish * ☒ Code ☐ Docker Container

Runtime stack * .NET 5

Operating System * ☒ Linux ☐ Windows

Region * Australia Southeast
 ⓘ Not finding your App Service Plan? Try a different region.

App Service Plan

App Service plan pricing tier determines the location, features, cost and compute resources associated with your app. [Learn more](#)

Linux Plan (Australia Southeast) * (New) ASP-fit5032tutorialrg-9f82 [Create new](#)

Sku and size * **Basic B1**
 100 total ACU, 1.75 GB memory [Change size](#)

[Review + create](#) < Previous Next : Deployment >

Select a Basic or Free tier plan for the purpose of this tutorial. Higher plans costs more

Microsoft Azure Search resources, services, and docs (G+)

Home > App Services >


App Services

Monash University (monashuni.onmicrosoft.com)

+ Create Manage view

Filter for any field...

Name ↑



No app services to display

Create, build, deploy, and manage powerful web, mobile, and API apps for employees or customers using a single back-end. Build standards-based web apps and APIs using .NET, Java, Node.js, PHP, and Python.

[Create app service](#)

[Learn more about App Service](#)

Create Web App

Basics Deployment Monitoring Tags **Review + create**

Summary

Web App by Microsoft

Basic (B1) sku
Estimated price - loading ...

Details

Subscription	71e9c433-98f7-447a-9528-267f083b2c4d
Resource Group	fit5032_tutorial_rg
Name	fit5032-az-devops
Publish	Code
Runtime stack	.NET 5

App Service Plan (New)

Name	ASP-fit5032tutorialrg-9f82
Operating System	Linux
Region	Australia Southeast
SKU	Basic
Size	Small
ACU	100 total ACU
Memory	1.75 GB memory

Monitoring

Application Insights	Not enabled
----------------------	-------------

Deployment

Continuous deployment	Not enabled / Set up after app creation
-----------------------	---

Create < Previous Next > [Download a template for automation](#)

Home >

Microsoft.Web-WebApp-Portal-ca45449b-b232 | Overview

Deployment

Search (Ctrl+F)

Delete Cancel Redeploy Refresh

Overview Inputs Outputs Template

We'd love your feedback! →

Deployment succeeded

Deployment 'Microsoft.Web-WebApp-Portal-ca45449b-b232' to resource group 'fit5032_tutorial_rg' was successful.

[Go to resource](#) [Pin to dashboard](#)

Your deployment is complete

Deployment name: Microsoft.Web-WebApp-Portal-ca45449b-... Start time: 10/3/2021, 3:30:24 PM
Subscription: Azure for Students Correlation ID: 7e1235e8-9e44-4838-8d67-19b63f863...
Resource group: fit5032_tutorial_rg

Deployment details (Download)

Next steps

[Manage deployments for your app.](#) Recommended
[Protect your app with authentication.](#) Recommended

[Go to resource](#)

Security Center
Secure your apps and infrastructure.
[Go to Azure security center >](#)

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Work with an expert
Azure experts are service providers who can help manage your assets and be your first line of support.
[Find an Azure expert >](#)

Once the deployment is completed, click on Go to resource to view the App Service that we created

Home > Microsoft.Web-WebApp-Portal-ca45449b-b232 >

fit5032-az-devops App Service

Search (Ctrl+/)

Overview

- Activity log
- Access control (IAM)
- Tags
- Diagnose and solve problems
- Security
- Events (preview)

Deployment

- Quickstart
- Deployment slots
- Deployment Center

Settings

- Configuration
- Authentication
- Application Insights (preview)
- Identity
- Backups
- Custom domains
- TLS/SSL settings
- Networking
- Scale up (App Service plan)
- Scale out (App Service plan)
- WebJobs

Essentials

Resource group (change)
[fit5032_tutorial_rg](#)

Status
Running

Location
Australia Southeast

Subscription (change)
[Azure for Students](#)

Subscription ID
71e9c433-98f7-447a-9528-267f083b2c4d

Tags (change)
[Click here to add tags](#)

URL
<https://fit5032-az-devops.azurewebsites.net>

App Service Plan
[ASP-fit5032tutorialrg-9f82 \(B1: 1\)](#)

FTP/deployment username
No FTP/deployment user set

FTP hostname
<ftp://waws-prod-ml1-027.ft.azurewebsites.windows.net/site/wwwroot>

FTPS hostname
<ftps://waws-prod-ml1-027.ft.azurewebsites.windows.net/site/wwwroot>

JSON View

Diagnose and solve problems
Our self-service diagnostic and troubleshooting experience helps you identify and resolve issues with your web app.

Application Insights
Application Insights helps you detect and diagnose quality issues in your apps, and helps you understand what your users actually do with it.

App Service Advisor
App Service Advisor provides insights for improving app experience on the App Service platform. Recommendations are sorted by freshness, priority and impact to your app.

Http 5xx

100
90
80
70
60
50

Data In

1008
908
808
708
608
508

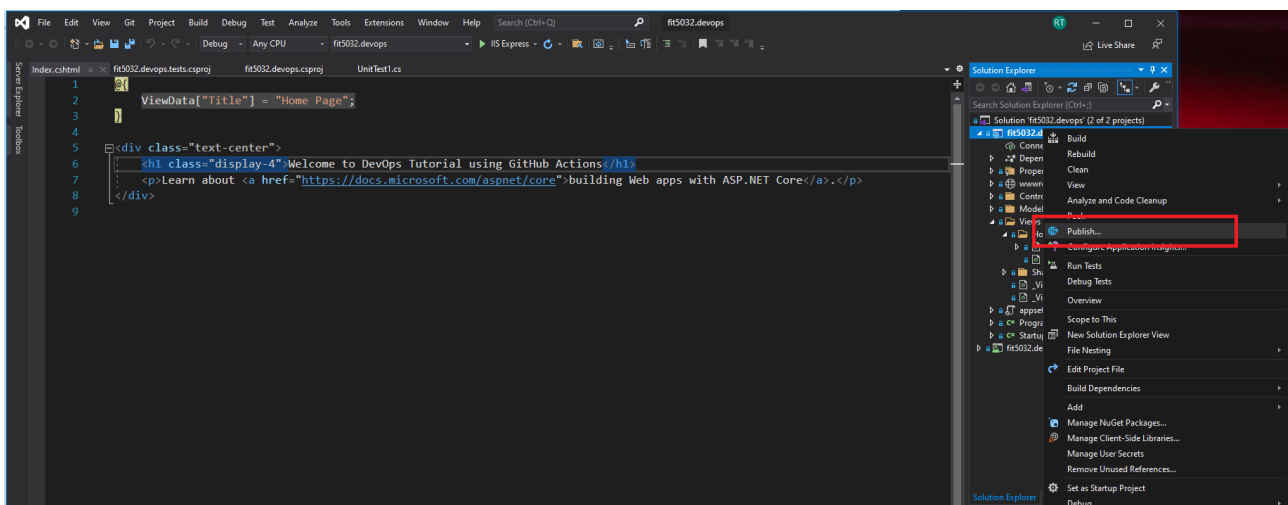
Data Out

1008
908
808
708
608
508

Step 4:

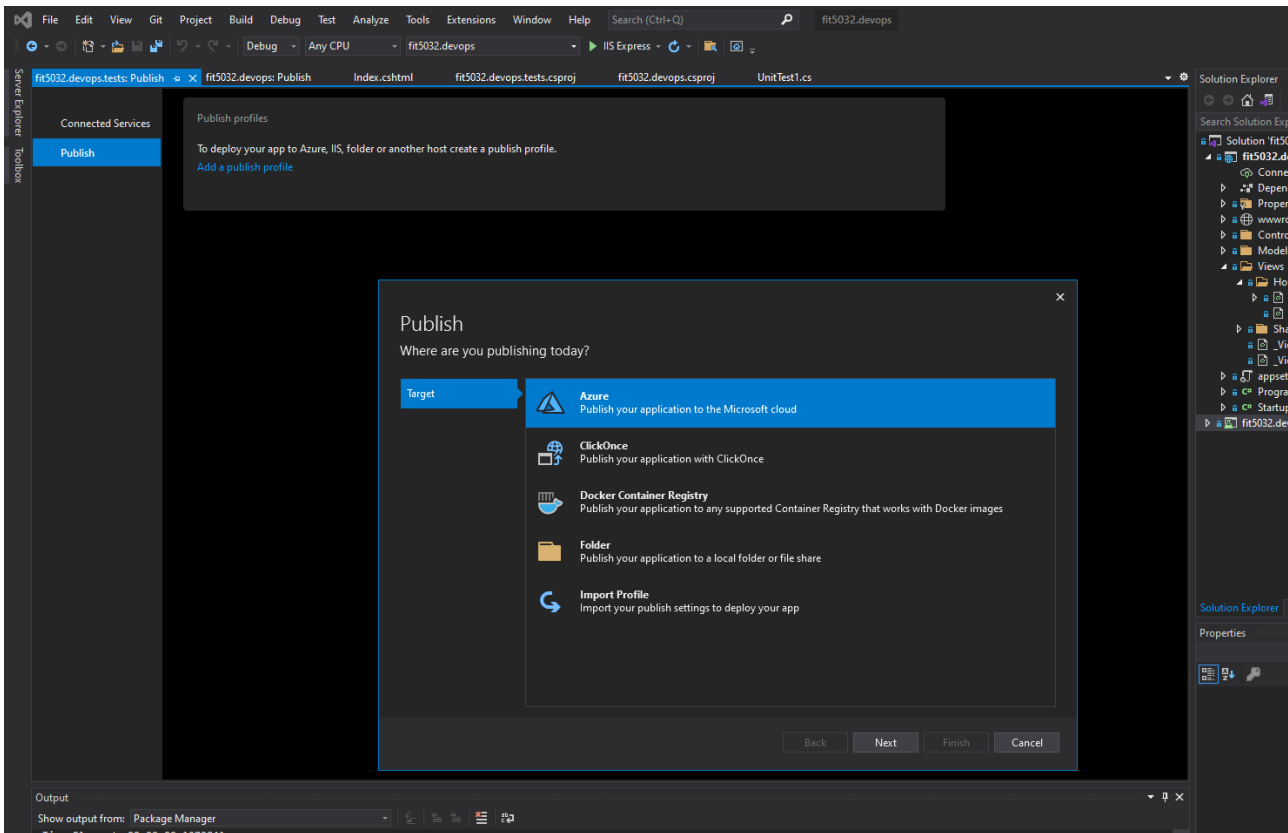
Set up CI/CD using GitHub Actions

Visual Studio helps us to set up the CI/CD pipeline using GitHub Actions in few steps. Right click on the web app project and select Publish option.



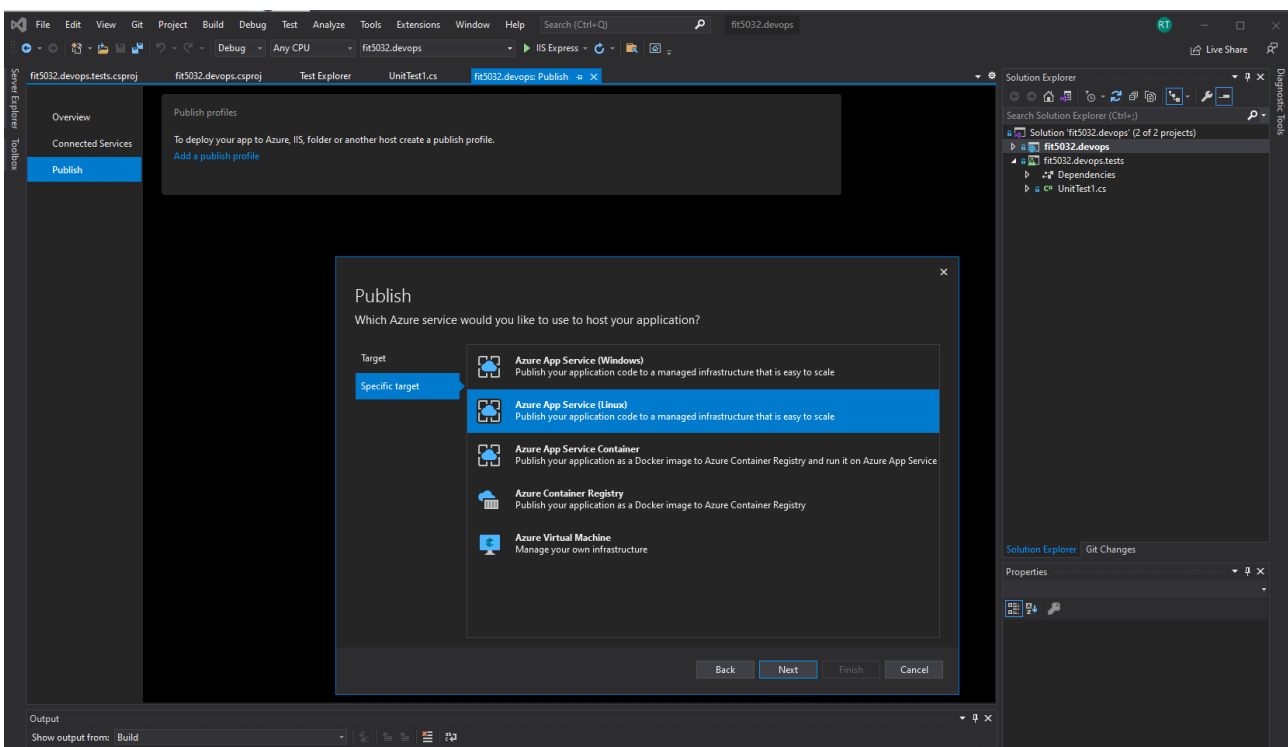
The screenshot shows the Visual Studio IDE with the 'fit5032.devops' project selected in the Solution Explorer. The context menu is open, and the 'Publish...' option is highlighted with a red rectangle. The menu also shows other options like 'Build', 'Rebuild', 'Clean', 'View', 'Analyze and Code Cleanup', 'Run Tests', 'Debug Tests', 'Overview', 'Scope to This', 'New Solution Explorer View', 'File Nesting', 'Edit Project File', 'Build Dependencies', 'Add', 'Manage NuGet Packages...', 'Manage Client-Side Libraries...', 'Manage User Secrets', 'Remove Unused References...', 'Set as Startup Project', and 'Debug'.

Select Azure as the Target

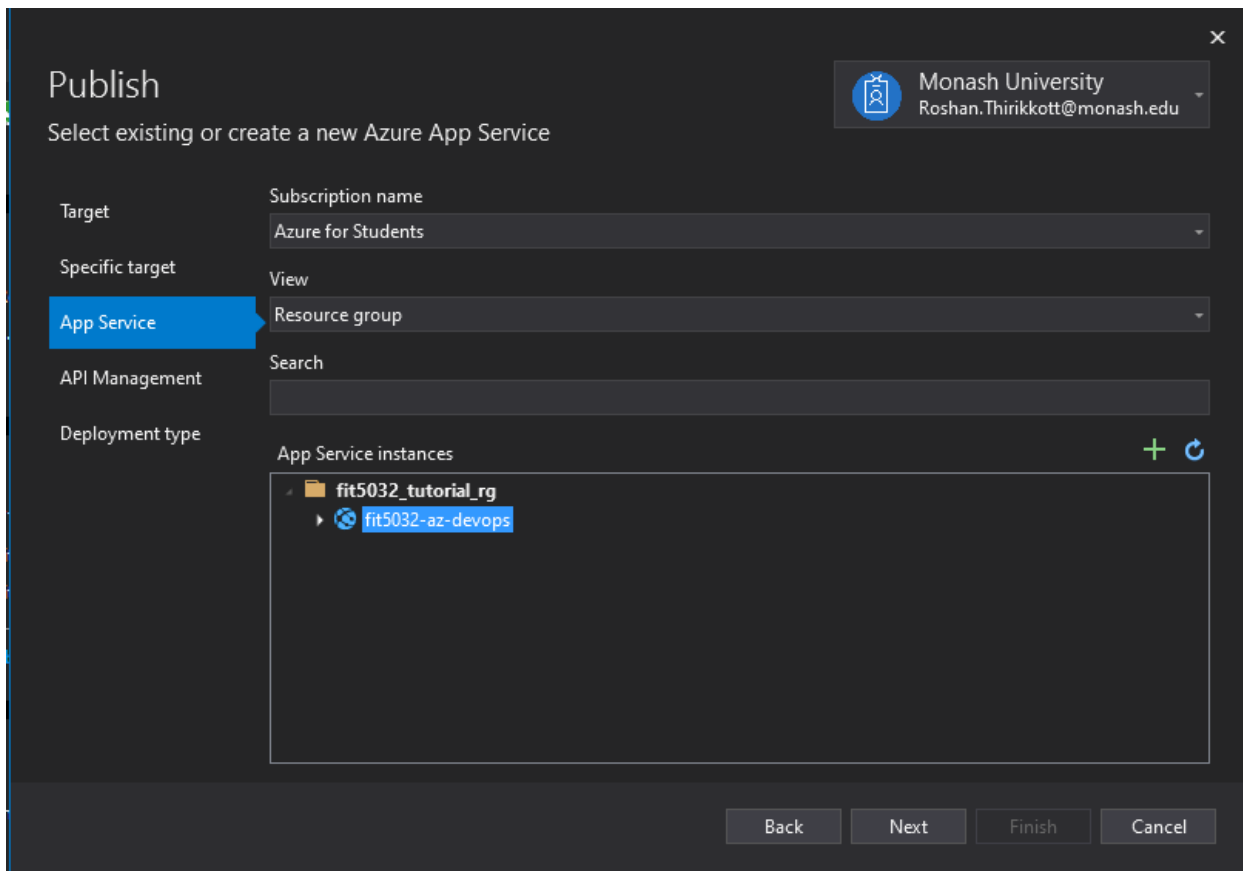


Select the option Specific Target and choose the option Azure App Service (Linux).

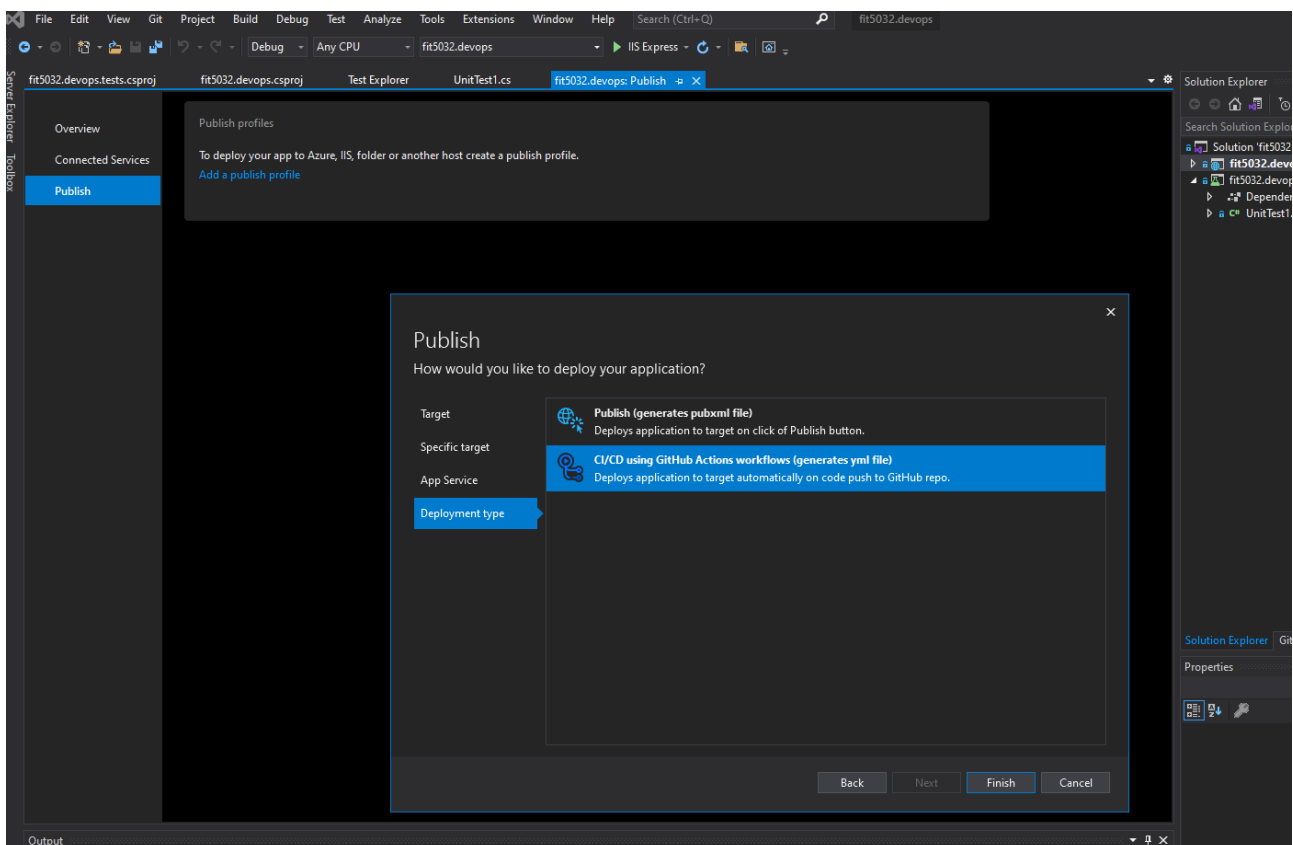
Note: Choose Azure App Service (Windows) if you had created the App Service to run on Windows



Select the App Service that you had created in the previous step.

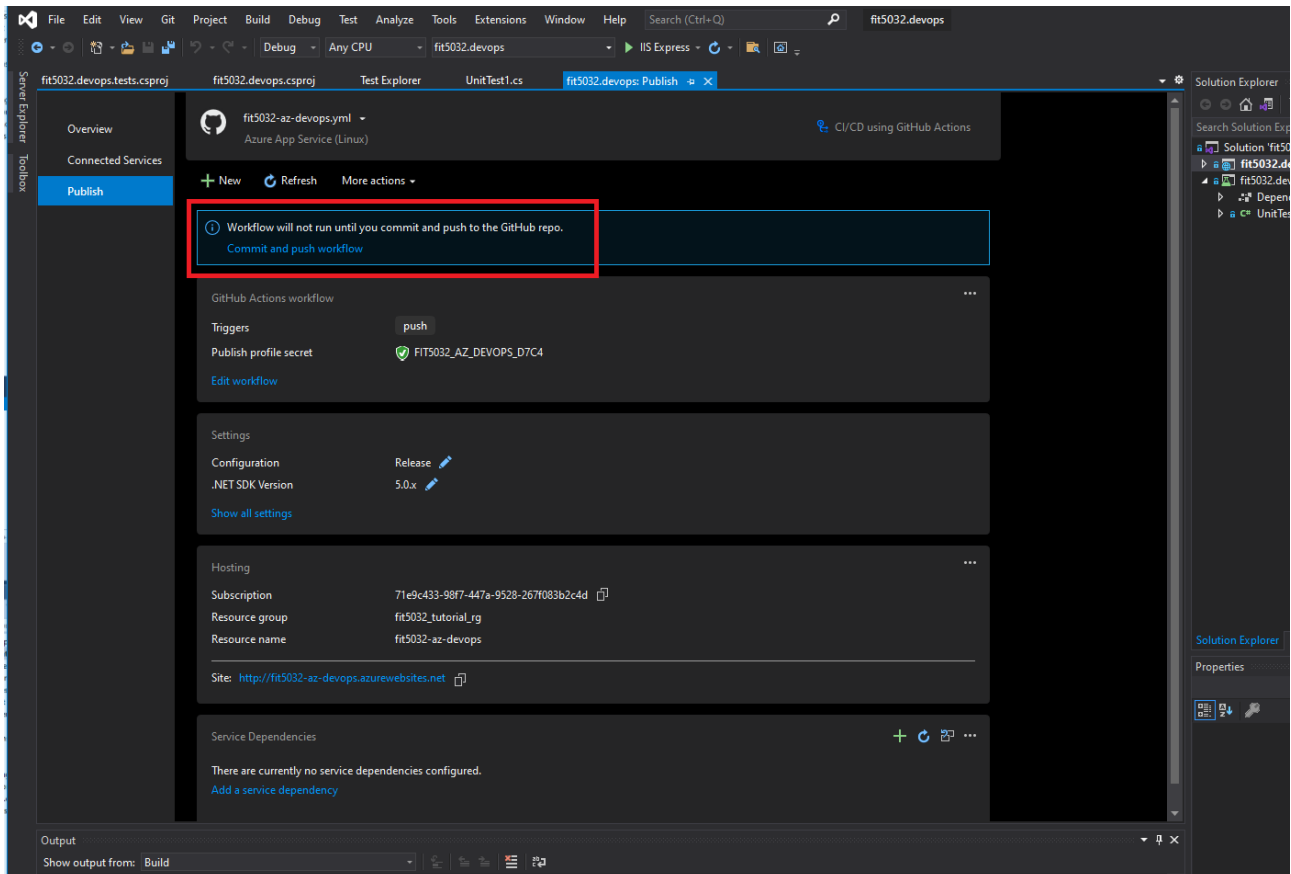


Deployment Type -> Choose option CI/CD using GitHub Actions workflows



The previous steps will build your deployment template for you. The triggers we select here will determine how the workflow runs. Here the default trigger is push, which means that as soon as you push changes to your master branch in your GitHub repo, it will trigger a GitHub Actions CI/CD pipeline run. You can setup more triggers by clicking on Edit Workflow. For now, let us go with the default workflow.

Now we need to commit the changes that were created.

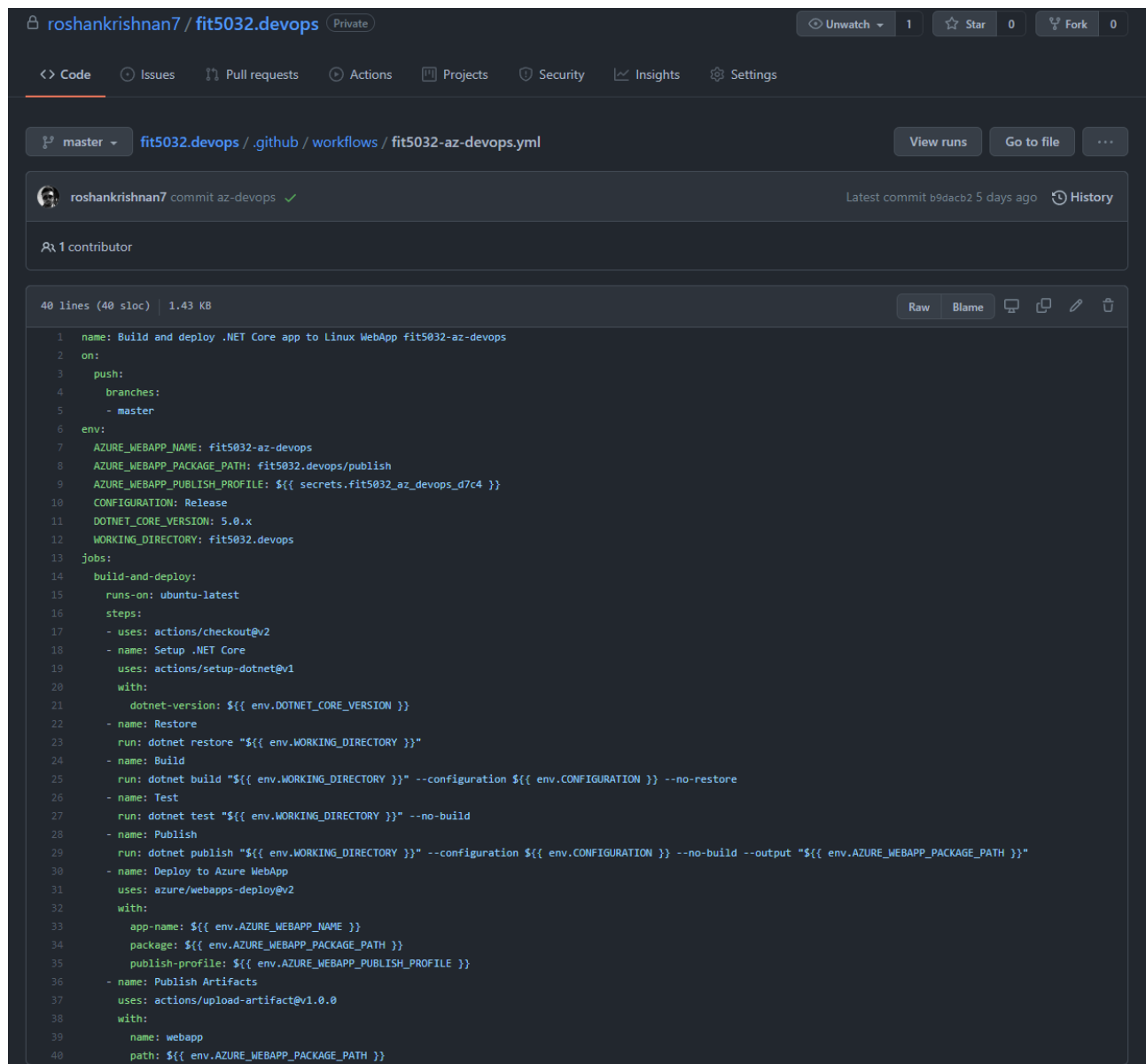


The template file used for deployment that was generated in your previous steps is located inside your repository as follows:

`.github/workflows/<name of your project>.yml`

Note: This is a YAML file. YAML is a serialization language that is used often for configuration files.

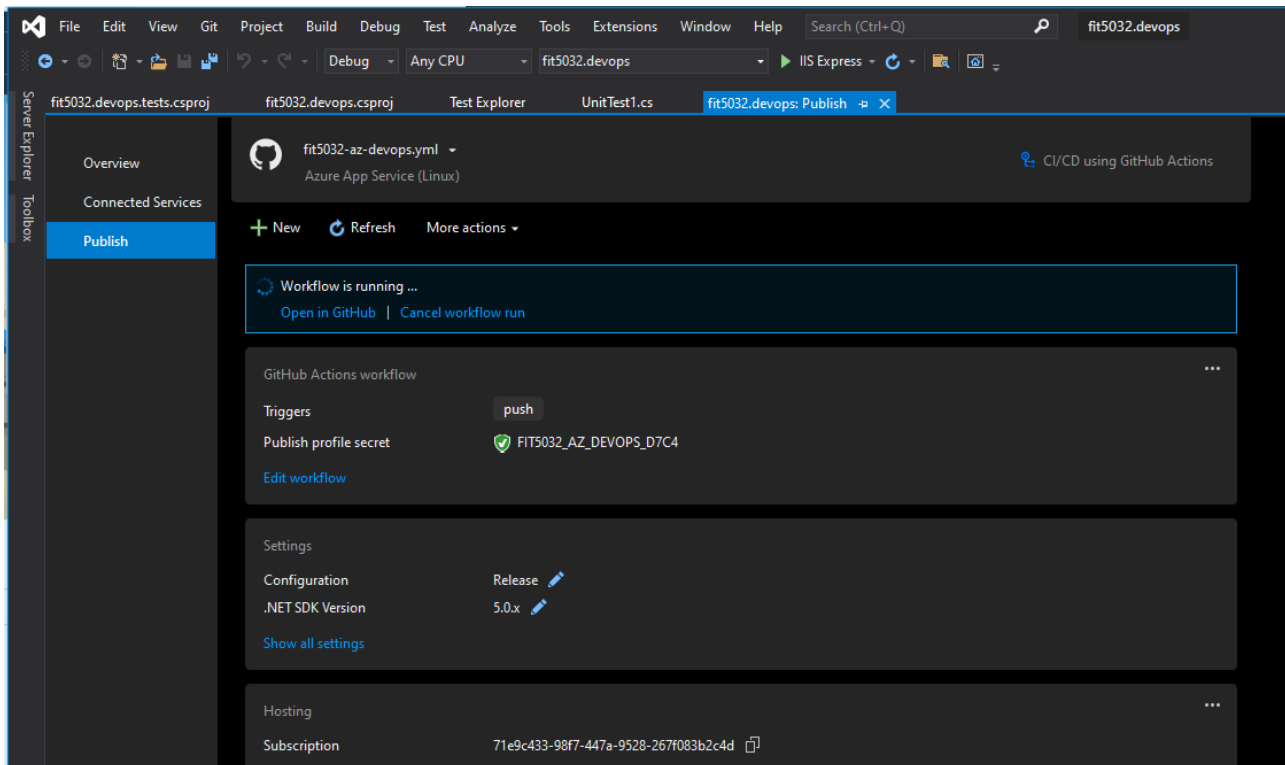
This file contains all the steps that are involved in the CI/CD pipeline



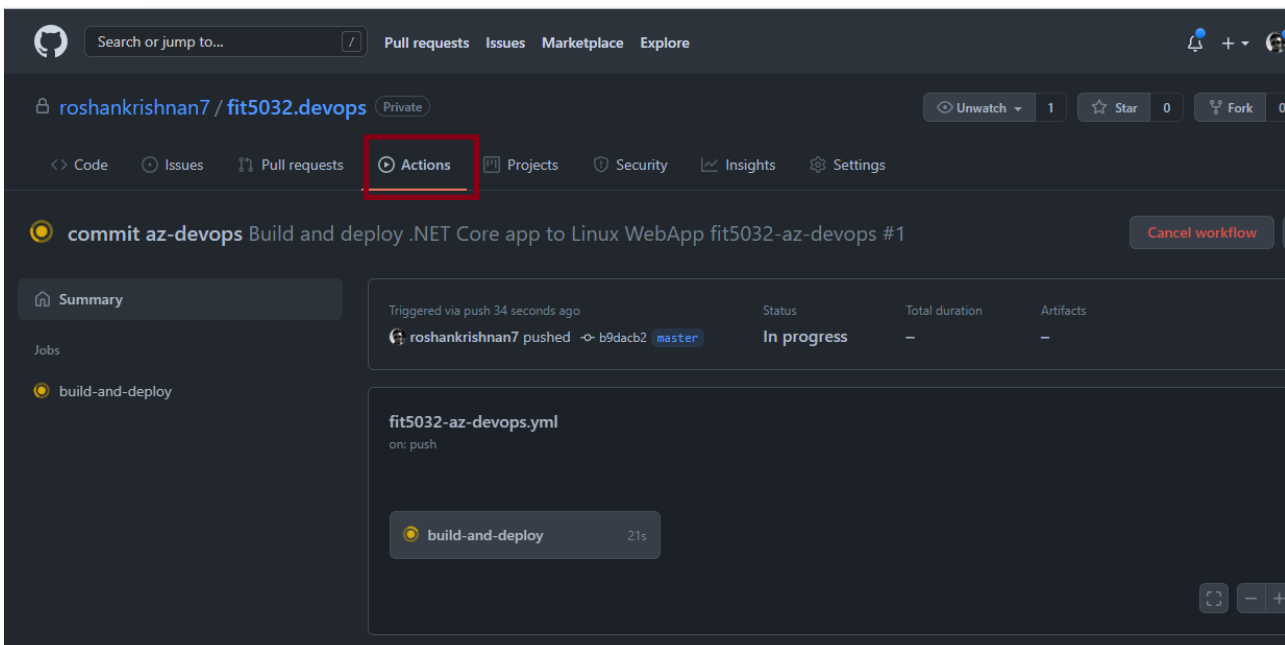
The screenshot shows a GitHub repository for 'roshankrishnan7 / fit5032.devops'. The file path is '.github / workflows / fit5032-az-devops.yml'. The file is 40 lines long (40 sloc) and 1.43 KB. It is a YAML file defining a CI/CD pipeline. The pipeline is triggered on a push to the master branch. It sets up the environment with variables for the Azure WebApp name, package path, publish profile, configuration, and .NET Core version. The pipeline consists of a single job named 'build-and-deploy' that runs on 'ubuntu-latest'. The job steps include: checkout, setup .NET Core, restore, build, test, publish, and deploy to Azure WebApp. The deploy step uses the 'azure/webapps-deploy@v2' action.

```
1 name: Build and deploy .NET Core app to Linux WebApp fit5032-az-devops
2 on:
3   push:
4     branches:
5       - master
6   env:
7     AZURE_WEBAPP_NAME: fit5032-az-devops
8     AZURE_WEBAPP_PACKAGE_PATH: fit5032.devops/publish
9     AZURE_WEBAPP_PUBLISH_PROFILE: ${ secrets.fit5032_az_devops_d7c4 }
10    CONFIGURATION: Release
11    DOTNET_CORE_VERSION: 5.0.x
12    WORKING_DIRECTORY: fit5032.devops
13  jobs:
14    build-and-deploy:
15      runs-on: ubuntu-latest
16      steps:
17        - uses: actions/checkout@v2
18        - name: Setup .NET Core
19          uses: actions/setup-dotnet@v1
20          with:
21            dotnet-version: ${ env.DOTNET_CORE_VERSION }
22        - name: Restore
23          run: dotnet restore "${ env.WORKING_DIRECTORY }"
24        - name: Build
25          run: dotnet build "${ env.WORKING_DIRECTORY }" --configuration ${ env.CONFIGURATION } --no-restore
26        - name: Test
27          run: dotnet test "${ env.WORKING_DIRECTORY }" --no-build
28        - name: Publish
29          run: dotnet publish "${ env.WORKING_DIRECTORY }" --configuration ${ env.CONFIGURATION } --no-build --output "${ env.AZURE_WEBAPP_PACKAGE_PATH }"
30        - name: Deploy to Azure WebApp
31          uses: azure/webapps-deploy@v2
32          with:
33            app-name: ${ env.AZURE_WEBAPP_NAME }
34            package: ${ env.AZURE_WEBAPP_PACKAGE_PATH }
35            publish-profile: ${ env.AZURE_WEBAPP_PUBLISH_PROFILE }
36        - name: Publish Artifacts
37          uses: actions/upload-artifact@v1.0.0
38          with:
39            name: webapp
40            path: ${ env.AZURE_WEBAPP_PACKAGE_PATH }
```

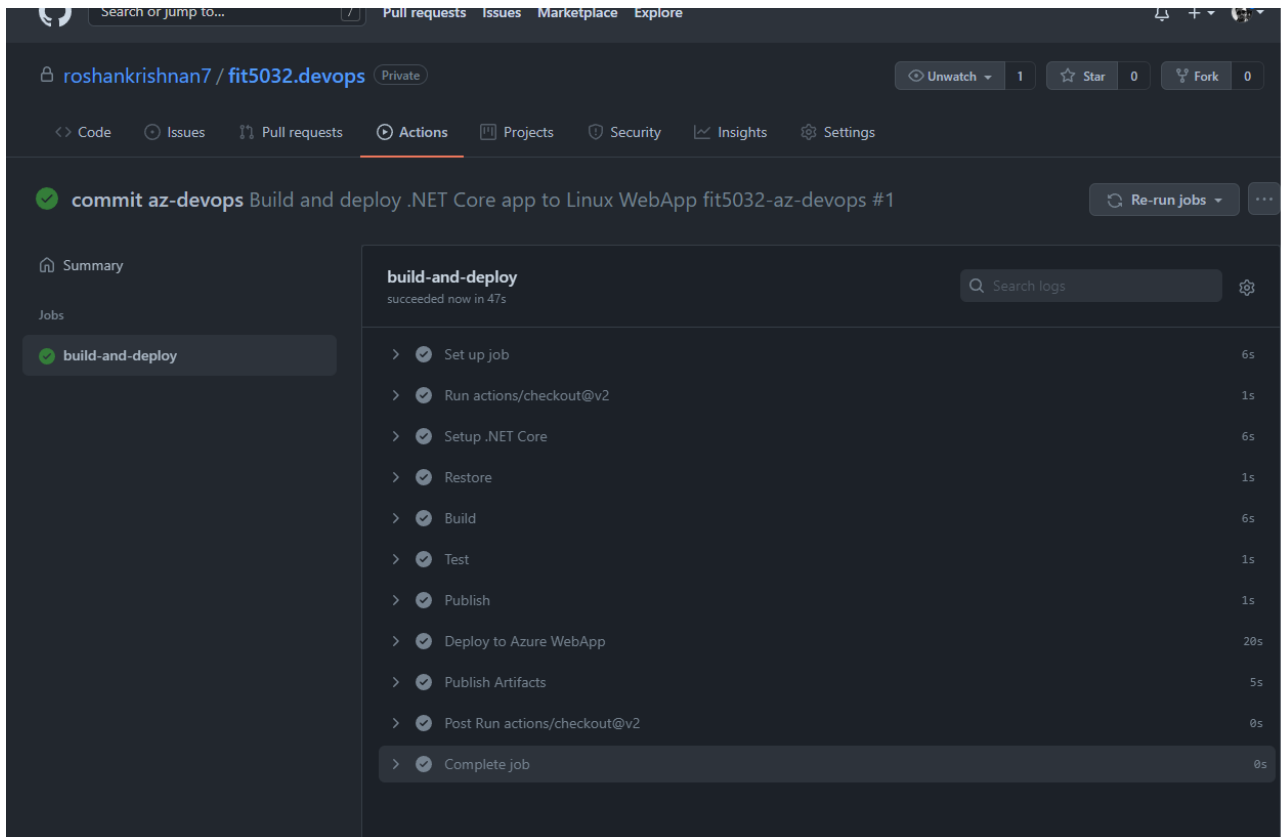
In Visual Studio, it would show that the workflow is running



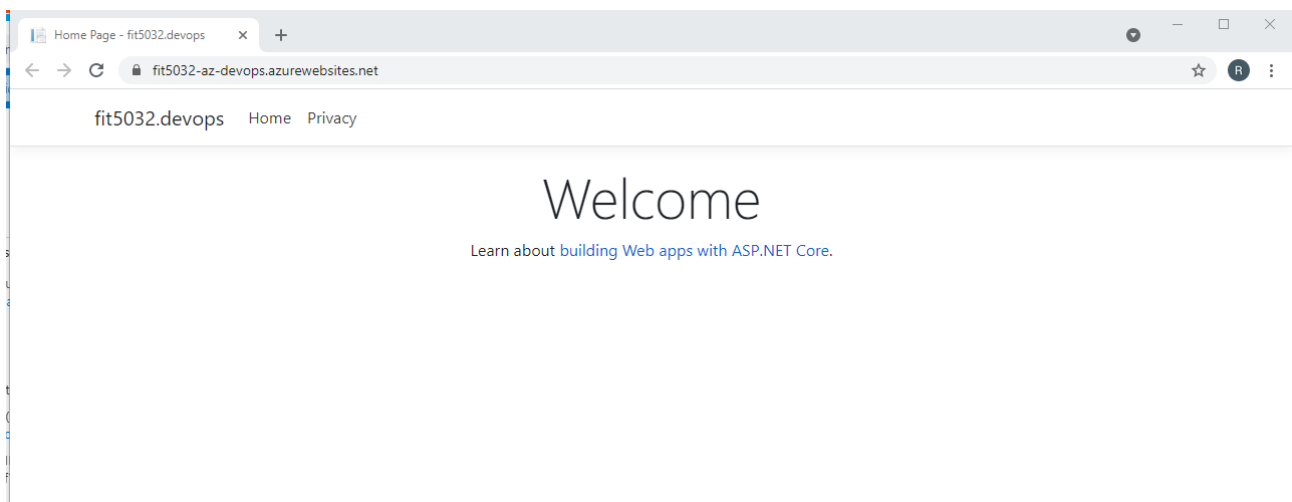
Go to your GitHub repo and Look under the Actions tab, you should see that the CI/CD pipeline is now running



Once the run is successfully completed, you should see the various steps that the CI/CD pipeline executed, including Build, Test and Deploy to Azure Web App.



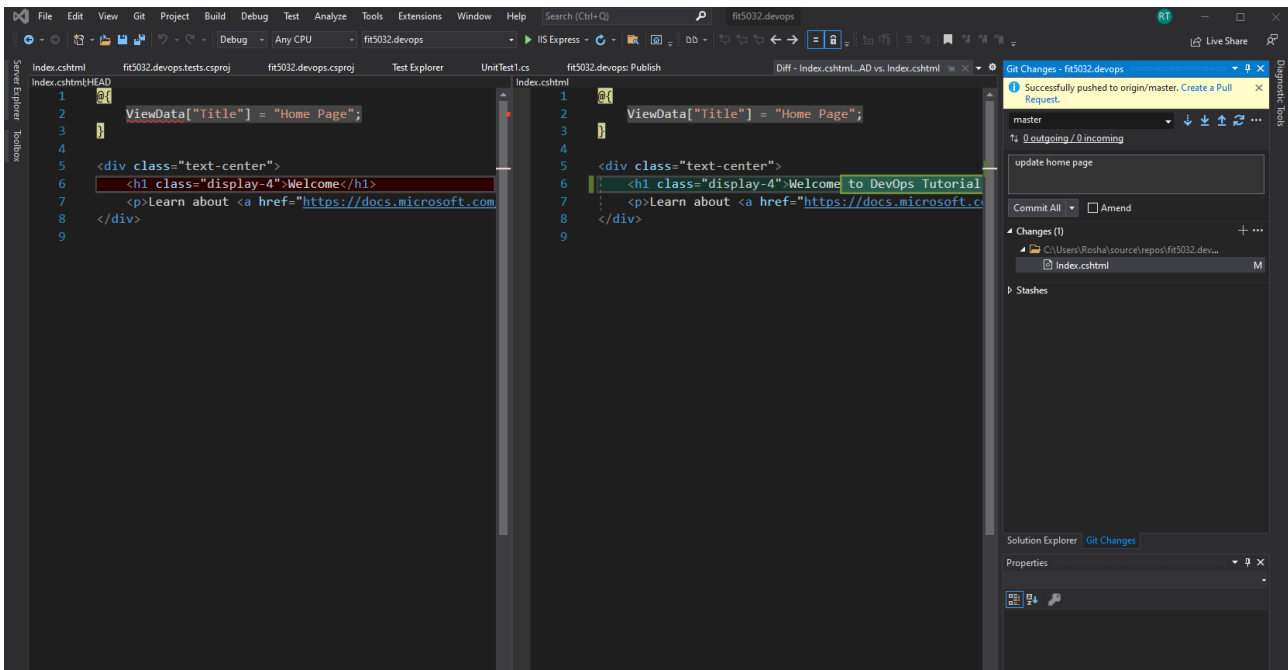
Go to the URL for the app service that you have created (<https://<name of app service>.azurewebsites.net>). You should see your MVC web application hosted there.



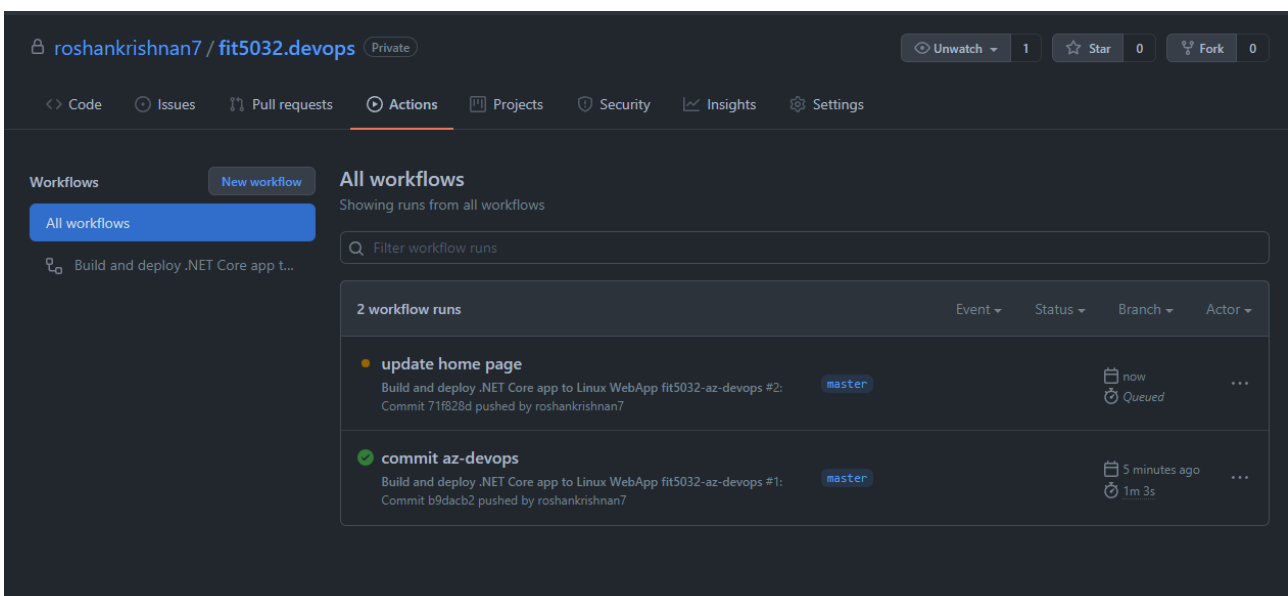
Step 5:

CI/CD in Action

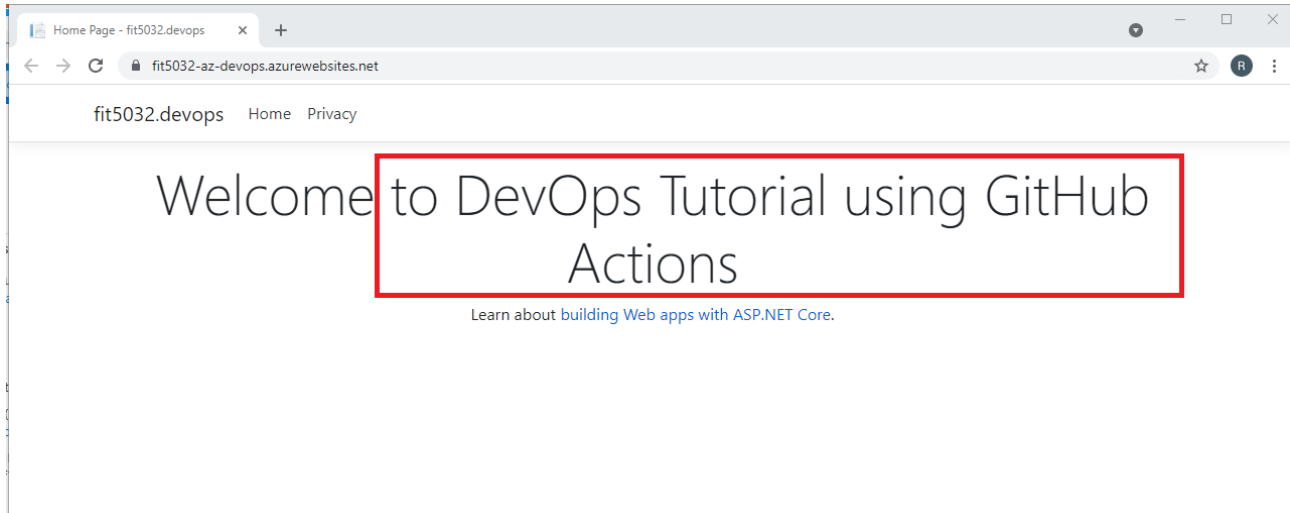
Now let us see how automated CI/CD pipeline works as soon as you make code changes to your repository. Let us go ahead and make some changes to your code. Let us modify the text displayed in our Default landing page. Commit and push the changes to GitHub repository.



Go to GitHub and look under Actions tab. You should now see a new workflow running. This was triggered by our commit and push to the repository.



Visit the web page again once the new workflow finishes executing. You should see the changes that you made



By now, you would have setup a CI/CD pipeline using GitHub actions to continuously build, test and deploy your code changes to your web application hosted in Azure App Service.

REFERENCES:

<https://docs.github.com/en/actions>

<https://azure.microsoft.com/en-au/services/app-service/#overview>

<https://www.c-sharpcorner.com/article/github-actions-azu-continuous-deployment-of-asp-net-core-with-dotvvm-applic/>