

Assignment 1 – Docker Containers

Cloud Computing for Data Analysis (ITCS 6190/8190, Fall 2025)

Overview

This project demonstrates a **multi-container Docker setup** consisting of:

1. A **PostgreSQL** database service, seeded with a `trips`` table and initial data.
2. A **Python application** service that connects to the database, queries data, computes basic statistics, and outputs results to both the terminal and a JSON file.

The goal is to practice container orchestration with **Docker Compose**, learn inter-container networking, and build reproducible workflows.

Prerequisites

Make sure you have the following installed:

- [Docker Desktop](https://docs.docker.com/get-docker/)
- [Docker Compose](https://docs.docker.com/compose/)
- GitHub Desktop or Git for version control
- IDE (VS Code, PyCharm, etc.)

Before starting:

- Verify you can run basic Docker commands (``docker build``, ``docker run``, ``docker ps``).
- Ensure **port 5432** is available, or update ``compose.yml`` if needed.

Project Structure

...

```
■■■ app/
■ ■■■ Dockerfile
■ ■■■ main.py
■■■ db/
■ ■■■ Dockerfile
■ ■■■ init.sql
■■■ compose.yml
■■■ Makefile
■■■ README.md
```

...

Running the Stack

Using Docker Compose directly

Build and run both containers:

```
```bash
docker compose up --build
```
```

Stop and remove containers:

```
```bash
docker compose down -v
```

...

### ### Using Makefile (recommended)

Run everything with:

```
```bash
make all
```
```

Other available targets:

- `make build` → Builds the images
- `make up` → Starts the services
- `make down` → Stops and removes services
- `make clean` → Cleans containers & recreates `out/` folder

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### ## Example Output

When the stack runs, the Python app will:

- Print a summary to the terminal
- Write results to `/out/summary.json`

Example:

```
```json
{
  "total_trips": 26,
  "avg_fare_by_city": [
    {"city": "Charlotte", "avg_fare": 22.84},
    {"city": "New York", "avg_fare": 28.30},
    {"city": "San Francisco", "avg_fare": 26.10},
    {"city": "Chicago", "avg_fare": 25.40},
    {"city": "Boston", "avg_fare": 22.00}
  ],
  "top_by_minutes": [
    {"city": "New York", "minutes": 52, "fare": 55.10},
    {"city": "San Francisco", "minutes": 55, "fare": 57.25},
    {"city": "Boston", "minutes": 50, "fare": 49.75}
  ]
}
```
```

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### ## Troubleshooting

- **\*\*Database not ready\*\*** → The Python app retries connection until Postgres is healthy.
- **\*\*Permission issues with `/out/`\*\*** → Ensure the folder exists and has write access.
- **\*\*Port conflicts\*\*** → Change the port mapping in `compose.yml` if 5432 is in use.

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