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Assignment 9: Exploration of Docker Architecture and Containerization of a Python Application.	

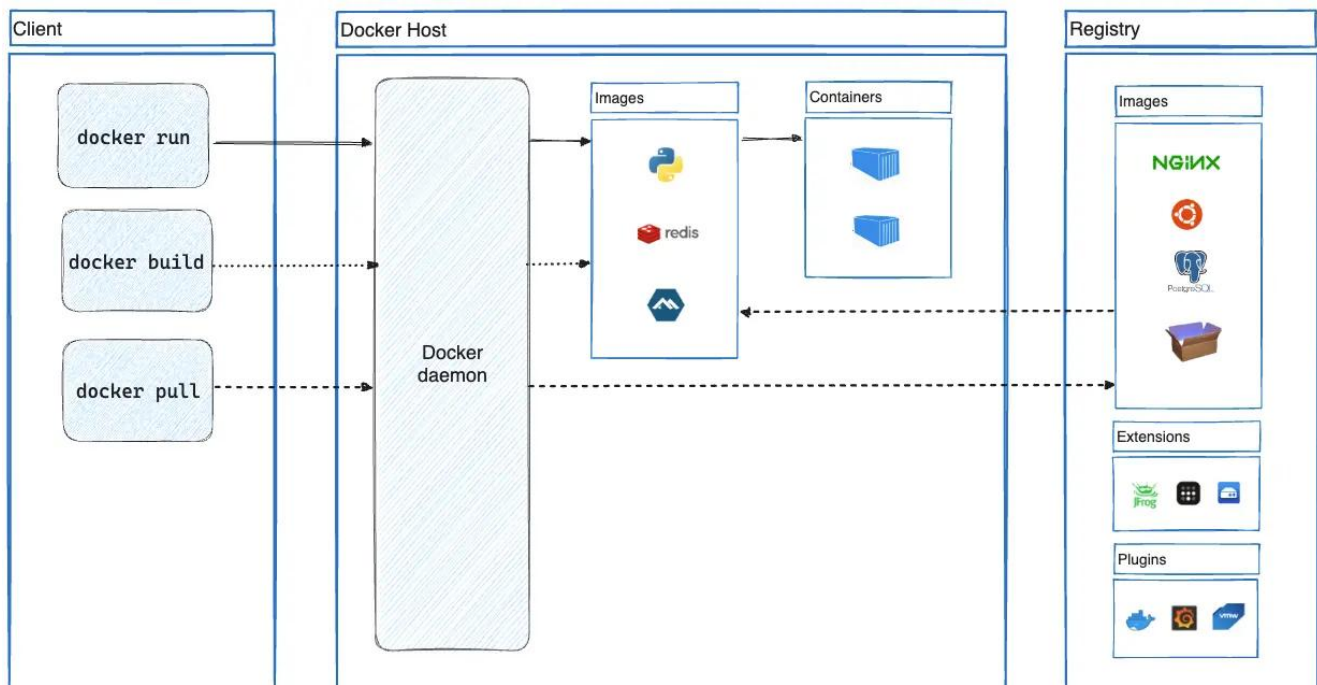
Aim: To explore Docker architecture and core commands by containerizing a Python Flask using a Dockerfile.

Objectives:

1. To understand the Docker Client-Server architecture.
2. To learn the syntax and instructions of a Dockerfile.
3. To build, run, and manage Docker containers using the CLI.

Theory

Docker Architecture



Docker uses a client-server architecture. The **Docker Client** talks to the **Docker Daemon (dockerd)**, which does the heavy lifting of building, running, and distributing your Docker containers.

- **The Docker Daemon:** A persistent background process that manages Docker objects such as images, containers, networks, and volumes.
- **The Docker Client:** The primary way that many Docker users interact with Docker. When you use commands such as `docker run`, the client sends these commands to `dockerd`, which carries them out.
- **Docker Registries:** A registry stores Docker images. Docker Hub is a public registry that anyone can use.
- **Docker Objects:**
- **Images:** A read-only template with instructions for creating a Docker container.
- **Containers:** A runnable instance of an image. You can create, start, stop, move, or delete a container using the Docker API or CLI.

Dockerfile Instructions

A Dockerfile is a text document that contains all the commands a user could call on the command line to assemble an image.

- **FROM:** Sets the Base Image for subsequent instructions.
- **WORKDIR:** Sets the working directory for any subsequent instructions.
- **COPY:** Copies new files or directories from the source and adds them to the filesystem of the container.
- **RUN:** Executes any commands in a new layer on top of the current image and commits the results.
- **EXPOSE:** Informs Docker that the container listens on the specified network ports at runtime.
- **CMD:** Provides defaults for an executing container. There can only be one CMD instruction in a Dockerfile.

Practical Procedure / Steps

Step 1: Application Structure

The application is a **Student Management System** built using the Flask framework. The project structure consists of the following files:

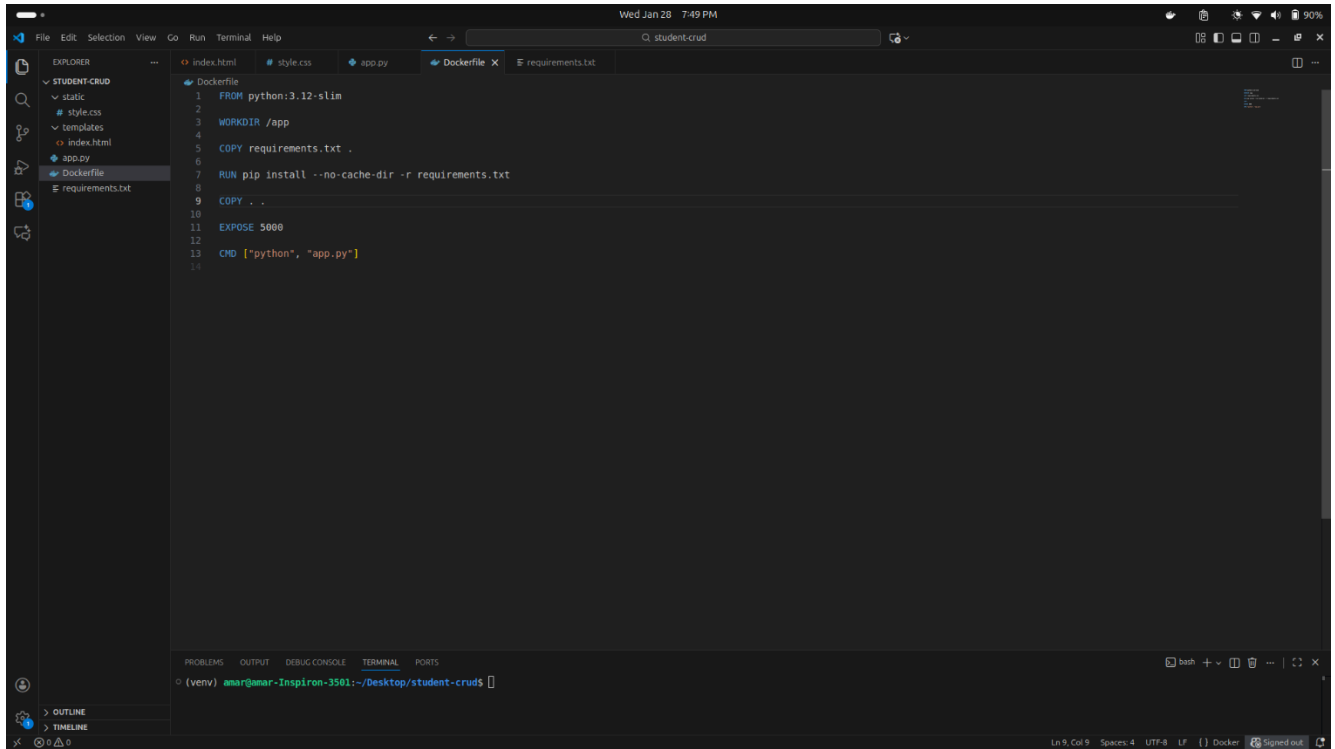
- `app.py`: The backend Flask logic for CRUD operations.
- `requirements.txt`: Lists the flask dependency.
- `templates/index.html`: The frontend UI.
- `static/style.css`: Custom CSS for the UI.

Step 2: Defining the Dockerfile

A Dockerfile was created in the root directory with the following configuration:

```
FROM python:3.12-slim
WORKDIR /app
COPY requirements.txt .
```

RUN pip install --no-cache-dir -r requirements.txt
COPY . .
EXPOSE 5000
CMD ["python", "app.py"]

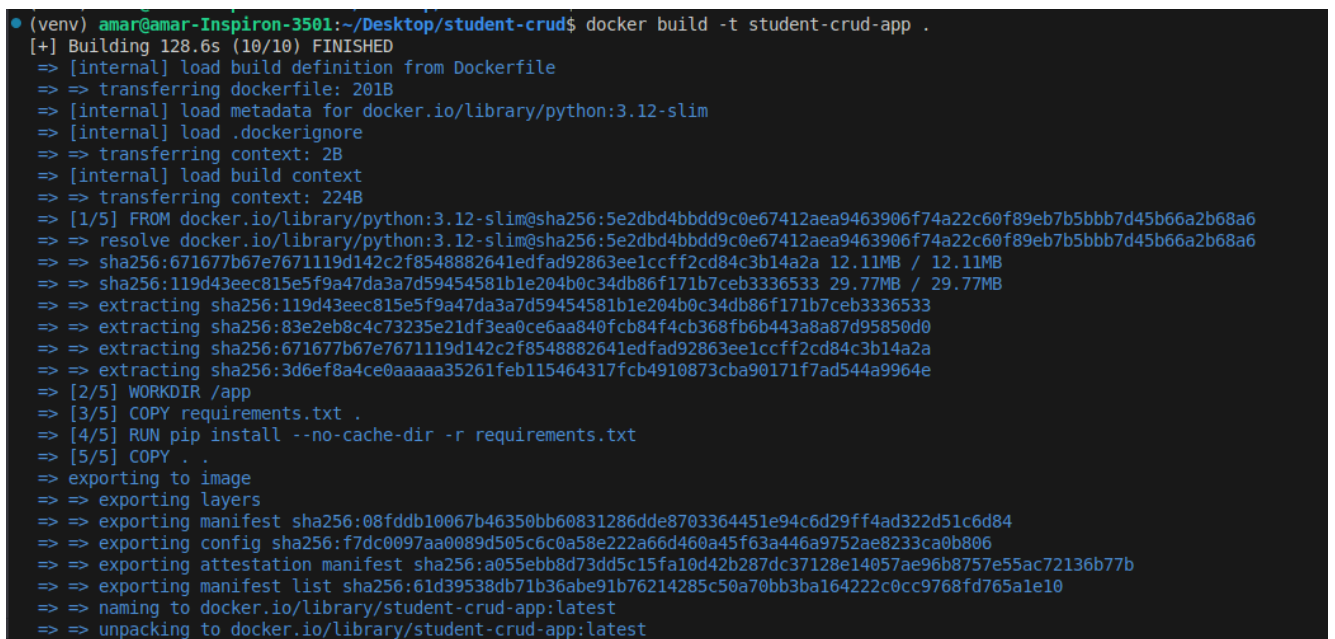


Step 3: Building the Docker Image

Using the terminal, the image was built and tagged as student-crud-app.

`docker build -t student-crud-app .`

The build process involves 10 steps, each creating a layer in the final image.



Step 4: Running the Container

The container was started by mapping the host port 3000 to the container port 5000.

```
docker run -p 3000:5000 student-crud-app
```

Verification was performed by accessing <http://localhost:3000> in the browser, showing the functional Student Management System.

The top screenshot shows the Student Management System web application running in a browser at localhost:3000. The application has a form to add a new student and a table listing existing students.

ID	Name	Roll	Department	Actions
1	Rahul	101	CSE	<button>Edit</button> <button>Delete</button>
2	Anita	102	ECE	<button>Edit</button> <button>Delete</button>
3	Karan	103	ME	<button>Edit</button> <button>Delete</button>
4	Sneha	104	IT	<button>Edit</button> <button>Delete</button>
5	Aman	105	CSE	<button>Edit</button> <button>Delete</button>

The bottom screenshot shows the Docker container logs for the `student-crud-app` container. The logs show the container starting successfully and serving the Flask application.

```
amar@amar-Inspiron-3501:~$ docker images
IMAGE                ID                                DISK USAGE  CONTENT SIZE  EXTRA
hello-world:latest   05813aedc15f                      25.9kB      9.52kB        U
student-crud-app:latest 61d39538db71                     197MB      48.1MB        U
amar@amar-Inspiron-3501:~$ docker run -p 3000:5000 student-crud-app

* Serving Flask app 'app'
* Debug mode: on
WARNING: This is a development server. Do not use it in a production deployment. Use a production WSGI server instead.
* Running on all addresses (0.0.0.0)
* Running on http://127.0.0.1:5000
* Running on http://172.17.0.2:5000
Press CTRL+C to quit
* Restarting with stat
* Debugger is active!
* Debugger PIN: 144-206-955
172.17.0.1 - - [28/Jan/2026 14:32:30] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 -
172.17.0.1 - - [28/Jan/2026 14:32:31] "GET /static/style.css HTTP/1.1" 200 -
172.17.0.1 - - [28/Jan/2026 14:32:31] "GET /students HTTP/1.1" 200 -
172.17.0.1 - - [28/Jan/2026 14:32:31] "GET /favicon.ico HTTP/1.1" 404 -
172.17.0.1 - - [28/Jan/2026 14:33:03] "POST /students HTTP/1.1" 200 -
172.17.0.1 - - [28/Jan/2026 14:33:03] "GET /students HTTP/1.1" 200 -
172.17.0.1 - - [28/Jan/2026 14:33:14] "DELETE /students/5 HTTP/1.1" 200 -
172.17.0.1 - - [28/Jan/2026 14:33:14] "GET /students HTTP/1.1" 200 -
172.17.0.1 - - [28/Jan/2026 14:33:32] "PUT /students/6 HTTP/1.1" 200 -
172.17.0.1 - - [28/Jan/2026 14:33:32] "GET /students HTTP/1.1" 200 -
```

Step 5: Managing Images and Containers

The following commands were used to verify the state of the Docker environment:

- `docker images`: Confirmed the creation of `student-crud-app:latest` with a size of approximately 197MB.
- `docker ps -a`: Showed the status of the container, including its ID and uptime.
- `sudo systemctl status docker`: Verified that the Docker daemon was active and running.

```
amar@amar-Inspiron-3501:~$ docker images
```

IMAGE	ID	DISK USAGE	CONTENT SIZE	EXTRA
hello-world:latest	05813aedc15f	25.9kB	9.52kB	U
student-crud-app:latest	61d39538db71	197MB	48.1MB	U

```
amar@amar-Inspiron-3501:~$ _
```

```
amar@amar-Inspiron-3501:~$ sudo systemctl status docker
```

```
[sudo] password for amar:
```

```
● docker.service - Docker Application Container Engine
   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/docker.service; enabled; preset: enabled)
   Active: active (running) since Wed 2026-01-28 17:09:45 IST; 3h 25min ago
     TriggeredBy: ● docker.socket
   Docs: https://docs.docker.com
   Main PID: 1588 (dockerd)
    Tasks: 10
   Memory: 50.1M (peak: 112.0M swap: 8.9M swap peak: 9.4M)
      CPU: 2.200s
   CGroup: /system.slice/docker.service
           └─1588 /usr/bin/dockerd -H fd:// --containerd=/run/containerd/containerd.sock
```

```
Jan 28 17:09:45 amar-Inspiron-3501 dockerd[1588]: time="2026-01-28T17:09:45.425424320+05:30" level=info msg="Docker daemon" commit=3b01d64 containerd-snapsho
Jan 28 17:09:45 amar-Inspiron-3501 dockerd[1588]: time="2026-01-28T17:09:45.469766461+05:30" level=info msg="Initializing buildkit"
Jan 28 17:09:45 amar-Inspiron-3501 dockerd[1588]: time="2026-01-28T17:09:45.869415810+05:30" level=info msg="Completed buildkit initialization"
Jan 28 17:09:45 amar-Inspiron-3501 dockerd[1588]: time="2026-01-28T17:09:45.931700388+05:30" level=info msg="Daemon has completed initialization"
Jan 28 17:09:45 amar-Inspiron-3501 dockerd[1588]: time="2026-01-28T17:09:45.931807675+05:30" level=info msg="API listen on /run/docker.sock"
Jan 28 17:09:45 amar-Inspiron-3501 systemd[1]: Started docker.service - Docker Application Container Engine.
Jan 28 17:29:50 amar-Inspiron-3501 dockerd[1588]: 2026/01/28 17:29:50 http2: server: error reading preface from client @: read unix /run/docker.sock->@: read
Jan 28 19:50:51 amar-Inspiron-3501 dockerd[1588]: 2026/01/28 19:50:51 http2: server: error reading preface from client @: read unix /run/docker.sock->@: read
Jan 28 19:50:52 amar-Inspiron-3501 dockerd[1588]: 2026/01/28 19:50:52 http2: server: error reading preface from client @: read unix /run/docker.sock->@: read
Jan 28 20:18:55 amar-Inspiron-3501 dockerd[1588]: 2026/01/28 20:18:55 http2: server: error reading preface from client @: read unix /run/docker.sock->@: read
lines 1-22/22 (END)
```

```
amar@amar-Inspiron-3501:~$ docker ps -a
```

CONTAINER ID	IMAGE	COMMAND	CREATED	STATUS	PORTS	NAMES
16978fad7dc1	student-crud-app	"python app.py"	2 minutes ago	Exited (0) 24 seconds ago		fervent_elion
1f5958291933	hello-world	"/hello"	13 days ago	Exited (0) 13 days ago		wonderful_darwin

Conclusion

The successful completion of Assignment 9 provides a comprehensive understanding of Docker's client-server architecture and the practical application of containerization. By developing a Dockerfile for the Student Management System, it was demonstrated how an application, along with its specific dependencies like Flask, can be packaged into a portable and immutable image. The build process highlighted the importance of Layer Caching, which optimizes efficiency by only rebuilding modified parts of the application. Furthermore, the successful verification on `localhost:3000` confirmed that Docker ensures environment consistency, allowing the application to run seamlessly across different systems.