

miniurl - URL shortener service for eatigo

Features

- Create unique short URL for each request URL/Link.
- Has cache support which will remain stored for 30 days. Cache will refresh for 30 days again if it is used before expiration.
- Basic authentication service implemented with jwt token.
- Unit test added.
- Has docker support for both local and prod environment with separate configuration.

Tool & Reason

- Primary database is Dyanmo DB
 - It is a faster & simple key-value store.
 - For this project it is a good option, since in my design i have simple model to save. I am generating unique short id(key) for each requested url and save them in dynamo. It will be fast to fetch them by the id since it is primary key.
 - I am generating unique id for each request because it will keep the implementation simple & we have enough space to accommodate more than ~100 years data in 100k write scale.
- Redis cache
 - docker for local, ElastiCache in AWS for PROD.
 - Redis support TTL (time to live) for cache which is handy.
- Snowfalke Id Generator
 - Snowflake is twitter's popular distributed id generator.
 - I have used this as a package in this project because in real scenario this id generator should be separate microservice.
- OAuth/JWT Token
 - I have created a dummy jwt token from jwt.io website. I have used HMAC algorithm & **"my_super_secret_key"** as a secret key to demonstrate that this app can parse jwt token from bearer token and authenticate request.
 - In real scenario, token /refresh token generation will be handled by separate microservice.
- docker-compose file
 - docker-compose.dev.yml file is to support local development whereas docker-compose.prod.yml will support prod deployment.
 - I have listed all necessary environment variables in docker-compose file which should be saved in PROD env variable or CI/CD secret in real scenario.

How to Run

Local Environment

Running below command in console will fetch docker images and run miniurl app on port 9000 & 9001 in local environment:

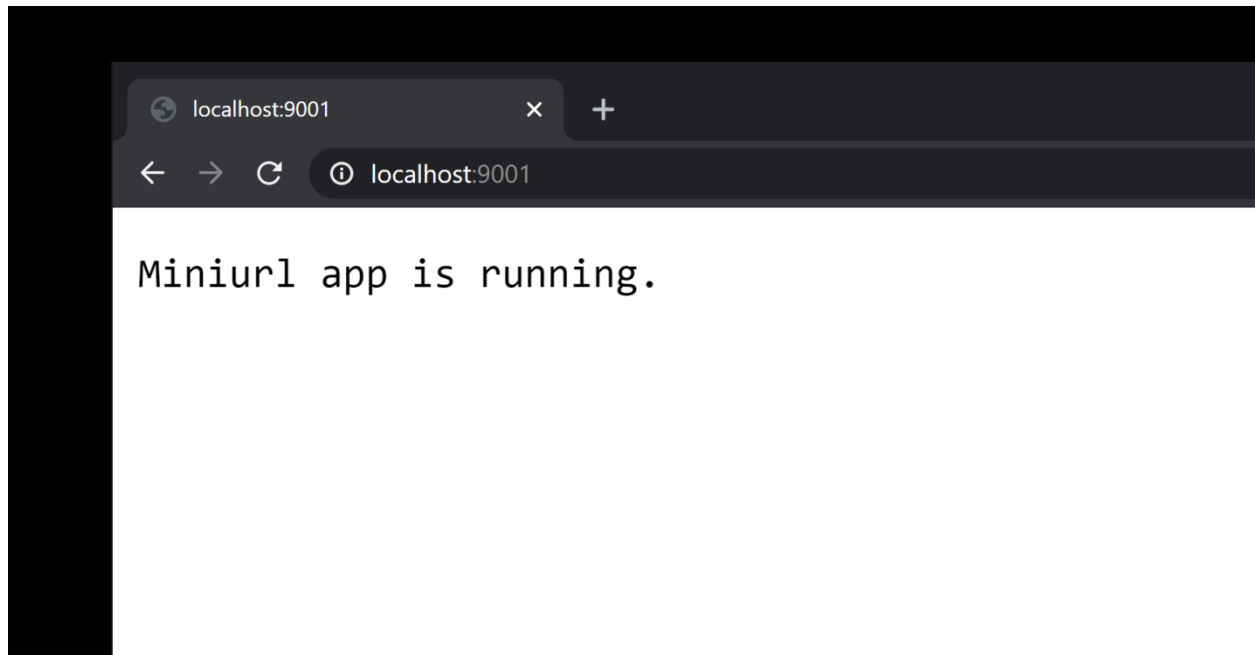
docker-compose -f docker-compose.dev.yml up

Please notice that environment variables are mandatory in docker-compose file:

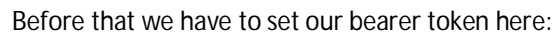
```
AWS_REGION=ap-southeast-1
AWS_ACCESS_KEY=XXXXXXXXXX
AWS_SECRET_KEY=XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
REDIS_URL=redis:6379
REDIS_TTL=10 //TTL is saved in second(s). locally it is 10 second.
JWT_SECRET=my_super_secret_key //secret key for jwt token
```

Local environment is using AWS dynamoDB as main db, redis docker as cache db. To connect with the dynamo db, we need the Access & Secret Keys.

After executing docker-compose, go to localhost: 9001 or 9002.



We can now save data using Post call to our app. Using Postman, it will be like below:



eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJhcHAiOiJtaW5pdXJzIn0.IYWHPDPJYf5NjJQIYCLgzmiOeqfKL7V5qEheyTmOUc

JWT token can be generated from jwt.io webpage. *miniurl* app only checks if it has any claim with **id: "app"** & **value: "miniurl"**. Currently it does not check any expiration data. Notice, the secret key is defined as **"my_super_secret_key"**

The screenshot shows the JWT.io website interface. At the top, the 'Algorithm' is set to 'HS512'. The 'Encoded' section on the left displays a long JWT token string. A red arrow labeled '3' points to this string. The 'Decoded' section on the right shows the token's structure:

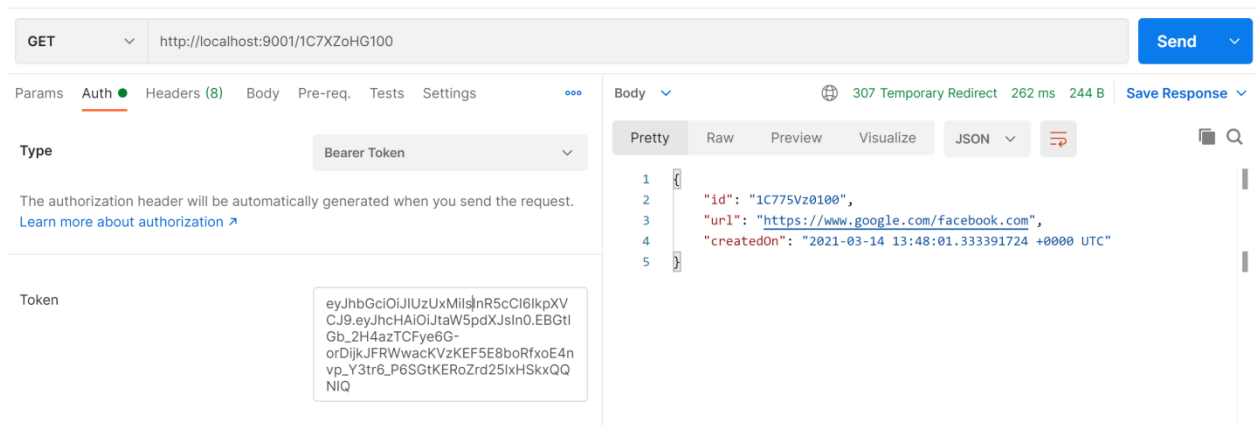
- HEADER:** A JSON object with 'alg': 'HS512' and 'typ': 'JWT'.
- PAYLOAD:** A JSON object with 'app': 'miniurl'. A red arrow labeled '1' points to this claim.
- VERIFY SIGNATURE:** A section showing the signature verification process using HMACSHA512. It includes the header and payload, followed by the secret key 'my_super_secret_key'. A red arrow labeled '2' points to this key. Below the key is a checkbox labeled 'secret base64 encoded'.

At the bottom left, a blue checkmark icon is next to the text 'Signature Verified'. At the bottom right, there is a blue button labeled 'SHARE JWT'.

Copying the token from Encoded section (3) and putting it as bearer token will be sufficient for now. Both **GET** & **POST** is validating our basic JWT token.

GET Call/ Fetch URL:

Setting the jwt token & putting **{id}** in the route will fetch the stored long URL



For now, app is returning 307 (temporary redirect) with full response.

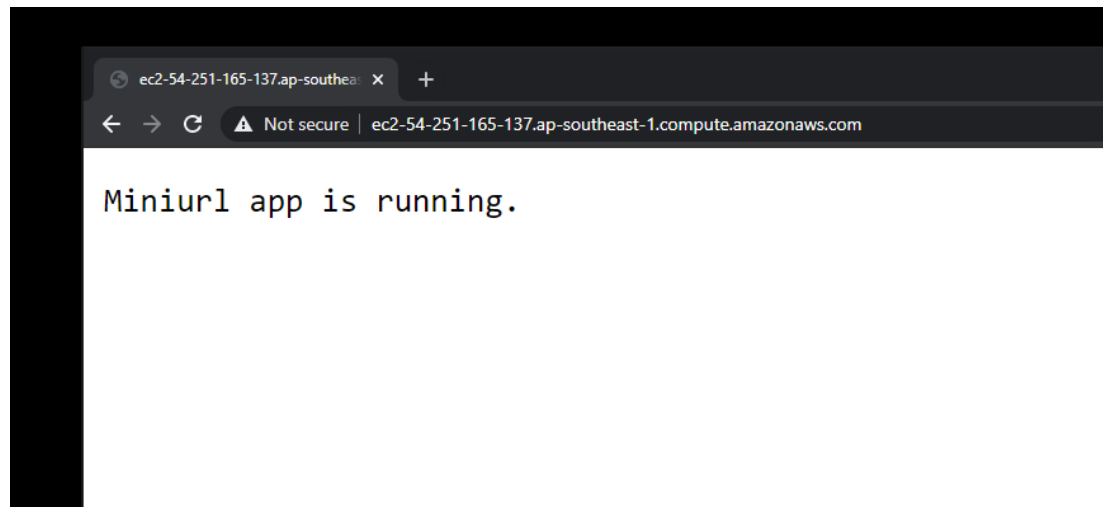
PROD Environment

In production, miniurl is running on AWS free tier only.

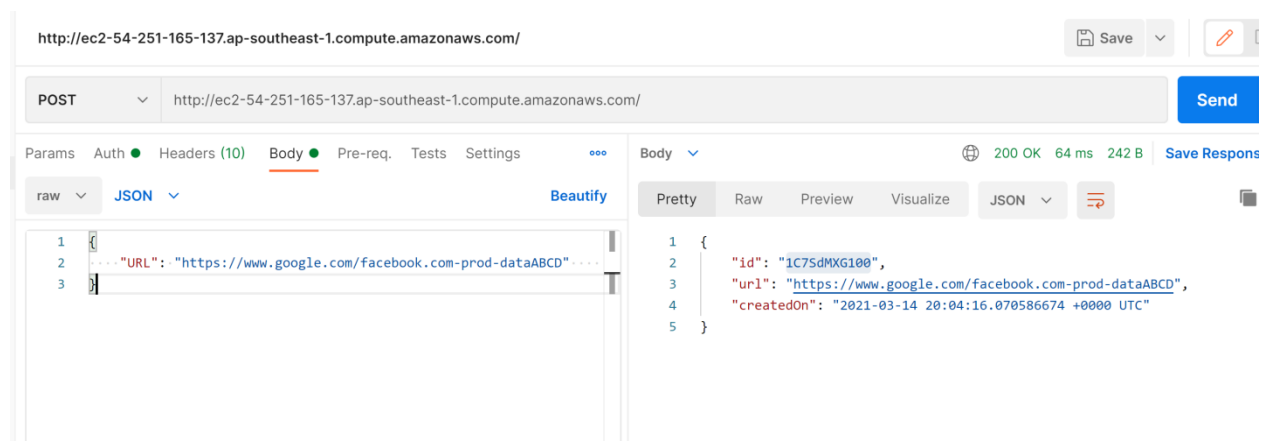
- Deployed on a docker container inside free ec2 instance.
- PROD and Local app using same dynamo db table.
- PROD using AWS ElastiCache (redis) free version.

Testing PROD instance is same like local instance. Both needs same bearer token now. PROD web URL:

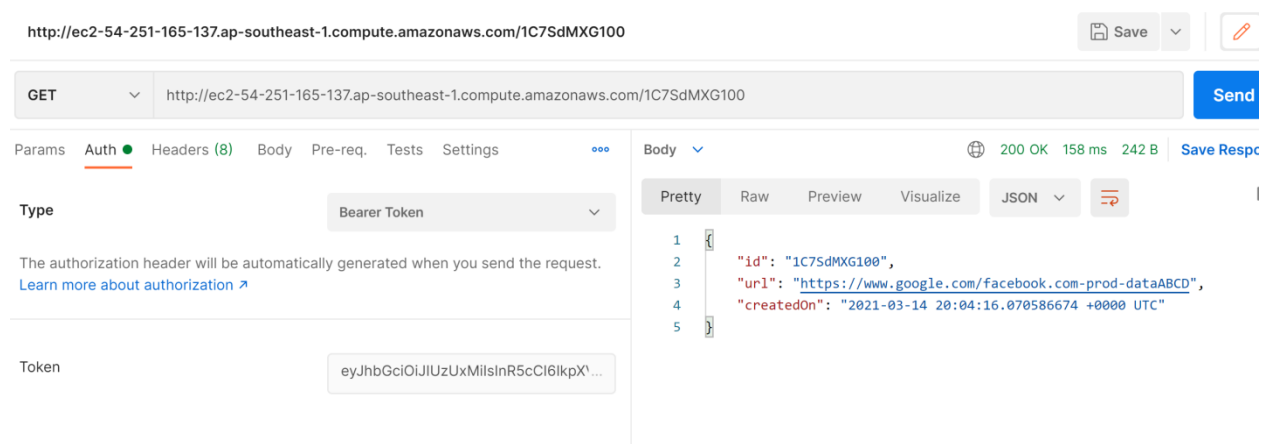
<http://ec2-54-251-165-137.ap-southeast-1.compute.amazonaws.com/>



POST data in PROD:



GET data in PROD:



Please feel free to knock me for further details.

Regards

Z Ahmed Chisty