To use **PyODM** without Docker on Windows, you'll need to install it manually along with its dependencies. Follow these steps:

**1. Install Python**

Ensure you have **Python 3.8+** installed on your system. You can download it from [python.org](https://www.python.org/downloads/).

* During installation, check the box **"Add Python to PATH"**.
* Verify installation by running in Command Prompt (CMD):

**python --version**

**2. Install OpenDroneMap (ODM) Server**

Since PyODM is just a Python client that interacts with an ODM server, you'll need to run an ODM processing server locally. Instead of Docker, you can install **NodeODM** manually.

1. **Download NodeODM** from [GitHub](https://github.com/OpenDroneMap/NodeODM/releases)
2. Extract the ZIP file.
3. Open CMD and navigate to the extracted folder.
4. Run:

**node index.js**

This will start a local ODM processing server.

**3. Install PyODM**

Now, install PyODM using pip:

**pip install pyodm**

**4. Test PyODM**

Once installed, create a simple script (test\_pyodm.py) to test connectivity with the NodeODM server:

**import pyodm**

**# Connect to the local NodeODM server**

**client = pyodm.Node("http://localhost:3000")**

**# Print server info**

**print(client.info())**

Run the script:

**python test\_pyodm.py**

If everything is set up correctly, you should see server details printed in the terminal.

**5. Processing Drone Images**

Once connected to the NodeODM server, you can send drone images for processing like this:

**task = client.create\_task(["/path/to/images"], options={})**

**task.wait\_for\_completion()**

**print("Task completed!")**

**Troubleshooting**

* If pyodm fails to install, ensure you have **pip** and **setuptools** updated:

**python -m pip install --upgrade pip setuptools**

* If the server doesn't start, check if **Node.js** is installed ([Download Node.js](https://nodejs.org)).

While running node index.js get the error 'node' is not recognized as an internal or external command, operable program or batch file.

**ChatGPT said:**

The error **"'node' is not recognized as an internal or external command"** means that **Node.js** is not installed or not added to the system's PATH. Follow these steps to fix it:

**Step 1: Install Node.js**

1. Download and install **Node.js** from the official website:  
   👉 <https://nodejs.org/>
2. Choose the **LTS (Long-Term Support) version** for stability.
3. During installation, **check the box** that says **"Add to PATH"**.

**Step 2: Verify Installation**

After installation, **restart your Command Prompt** and check if Node.js is installed by running:

**node -v**

If installed correctly, this should return a version like:

**v18.16.0**

**Step 3: Fix PATH Manually (If Needed)**

If node -v still doesn't work, you need to manually add Node.js to your system PATH.

1. Open **File Explorer** and go to:

**C:\Program Files\nodejs\**

(or C:\Users\YourUsername\AppData\Local\Programs\nodejs\ if installed per user)

1. Copy the folder path.
2. Add it to the **System Environment Variables**:
   * Press Win + R, type sysdm.cpl, and press **Enter**.
   * Go to the **Advanced** tab → Click **Environment Variables**.
   * Under **System Variables**, find and select **Path**, then click **Edit**.
   * Click **New** and paste the copied Node.js path.
   * Click **OK** to save.
3. Restart **Command Prompt** and try running:

**node -v**

**Step 4: Run NodeODM Again**

Now, navigate to your **NodeODM** folder and try running:

**node index.js**

If you see Listening on 0.0.0.0:3000, it means NodeODM is running successfully! 🚀