AZURE DEVOPS TUTORIAL: BUILDING CI/CD PIPELINE FOR JAVA APP WITH MYSQL

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KTH DEVOPS COURSE (DD2482)

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Overview:

Innovation and ability to compete in marketplace are some of the main factors to become successful in industry. Continuous integration and continuous delivery help companies to deliver well and deliver often and allows companies to compete in market. Azure DevOps makes this CI CD process setup easy and flexible. It can start with code available in git repository such as GitHub or by uploading the code in repo provided by Azure. You can build and deploy application in different azure services such as virtual machine, app service, Azure Kubernetes Service or even in on-premises. In this tutorial you will see how to setup a CI/CD pipeline starting from creating a project in azure to deploy application on live server.

Things covered in this tutorial:

- 1. Creation of project with scrum settings in azure portal.
- 2. Uploading code in azure repo.
- 3. Deploy an Azure Container Registration repo.
- 4. Setup build pipeline (continuous integration) for a java web application with MySql database.
- 5. Run build pipeline.
- 6. Deploy an Azure web app for container
- 7. Deploy an Azure MySQL database server.
- 8. Setup release pipeline (continuous delivery) for staging and production environment.
- 9. Run release pipeline.

Prerequisite:

- 1. Microsoft Azure account: To follow this tutorial you need to have an active Microsoft Azure Account. You can create free trial account.
- 2. Azure DevOps Account: You can create a DevOps account in Azure using this link.
- 3. A java web application with test project. You can use your own code, or the code used for this tutorial.
- 4. An Azure Container Registry service, an Azure web app service for container and an Azure MySql database server.

Java app: Overview

For this tutorial we will use Java maven project with MySQL to store and retrieve data. We will use this web app called **MyShuttle** where employees can login used login page and see their trip expenses. We need web server with tomcat 9 to deploy the web app and a MySQL database server. For this tutorial, we will create docker image to deploy application and use Azure web app service to host the app. dockerfile, Dockercompose file and database script file, all are included in code repo. You can download code from:

https://aviroy1988@dev.azure.com/aviroy1988/My Shuttel Web CI CD/ git/MyShuttelWeb

FUN FACT

Why is Azure DevOps most popular over other cloud vendors?

It allows users to prepare tasks or utilize the existing once i.e. facilitates the Power of open source Community.

Azure DevOps gives unlimited private agile planning, Git hosting, continuous integration and release management for continuous delivery to the cloud and on-premises as opposed to its rival AWS.

Part 1: Project creation in Azure

In this part of this tutorial, we will create a new project in Azure.

- 1. Sign into the Microsoft Azure Portal.
- 2. Select organization from left panel and then click New Project. Give a project name, visibility type (Public or Private).
- 3. Choose version control as Git and work item process as Scrum.

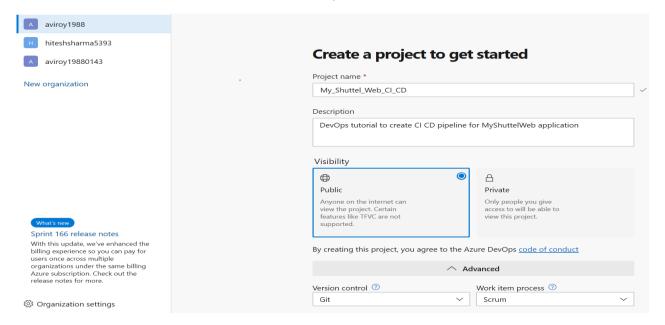


Figure 1: Project creation

This project demonstrates the complete structure of a project that we do in a project with actual industrial setup. Azure DevOps provides us all those necessary tools under one umbrella called Azure DevOps. It is interesting and easy for any DevOps team to manage. Figure 1 shows summary of newly created project.

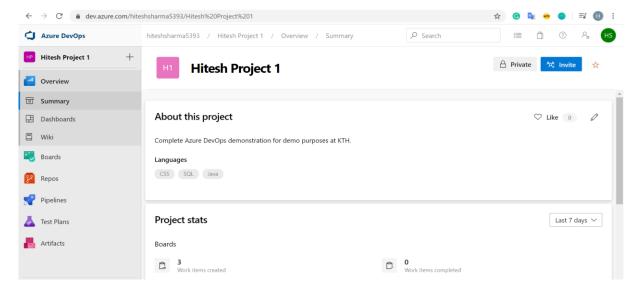


Figure 2: Project Summary

Azure provides azure boards that display the work items of the project depending on the work item process type. Scrum is used for this tutorial. Azure dashboard provides a customizable page to view work items, bugs, test cases and many more. You can add the widgets (what we call gadgets in Jira) from this side bar to get view of different items. It is just so easy method of drag and drop. It works in the same way just like any software development tool for Agile teams.

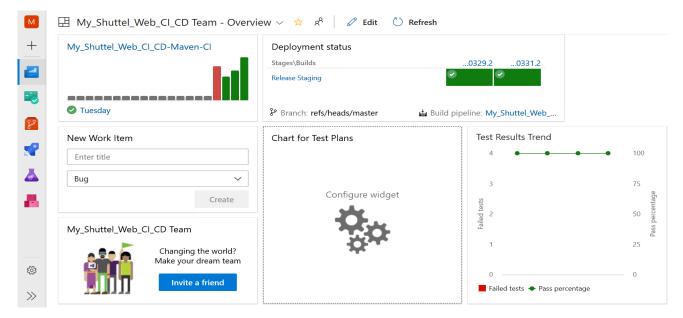


Figure 3: Project Dashboard

Wiki Page in Azure DevOps just like any other Wiki page used in Project documents of a company.

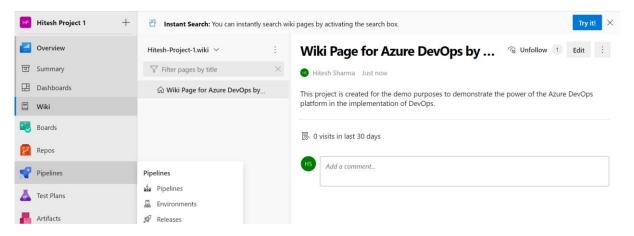


Figure 4: Project Wiki

Backlogs page provides backlogs view of the project.

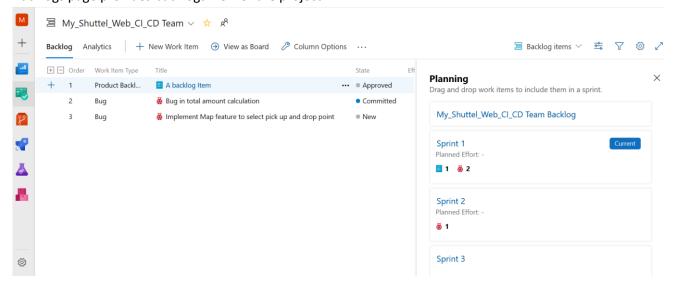


Figure 5: Project Backlogs

For making the document concise and meaningful for DevOps core viz. CI/CD. We jump to the next section now.

Jumping to the core of DevOps which are repos and pipelines that facilitates CI/CD in Azure DevOps.

Part 2: Repo creation and code upload

For this tutorial a dummy code has been taken from a random repository on GitHub and added to the Azure. This is done to show that instead of just integrating any version control system, Azure DevOps also provides its own code collaboration and version control tools for offering repository management. This can be accessed as shown in figure bellow. We can push the latest revision of code easily just like in any repository. If one has knowledge of setup of any such system, then implementation of version control system is straightforward here.

1. Create new repo in Azure Git Repo.

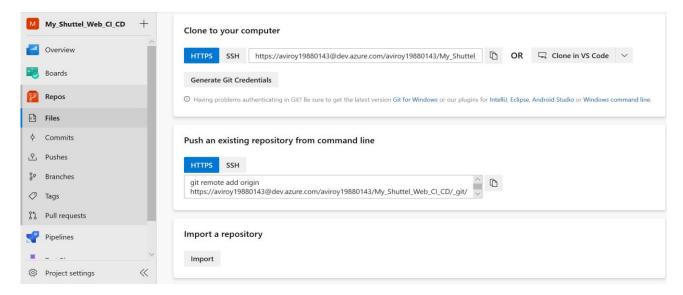


Figure 6: Azure Repo creation

- 2. Initialize empty repo in local where code is present using git init command in command prompt.
- 3. Add remote repo as Azure repo (As instructed in Azure repo).
- 4. Use **git add** command to add all file in local git repo.

```
Select C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe - git push --set-upstream origin master

Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.17763.1039]
(c) 2018 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\eirvayo\Downloads\MyShuttle1>git init
Initialized empty Git repository in C:/Users/eirvayo/Downloads/MyShuttle1/.git/

C:\Users\eirvayo\Downloads\MyShuttle1>git remote add origin https://aviroy19880143@dev.azure.com/aviroy19880143/My_Shuttel_Web_CI_CD

C:\Users\eirvayo\Downloads\MyShuttle1>git add .
```

Commit new files in local git repo using git commit.

```
C:\Users\eirvayo\Downloads\MyShuttle1>git commit -m "initial commit"

[master (root-commit) fd34b6c] initial commit

42 files changed, 8315 insertions(+)

create mode 100644 1.png

create mode 100644 2.png

create mode 100644 CreateMYSQLDB.sql

create mode 100644 README.md

create mode 100644 docker-compose.yml

create mode 100644 env/environment.json

create mode 100644 gradle/build.gradle
```

Push files in remote git repo (Azure git). Authorize using Azure portal credential.

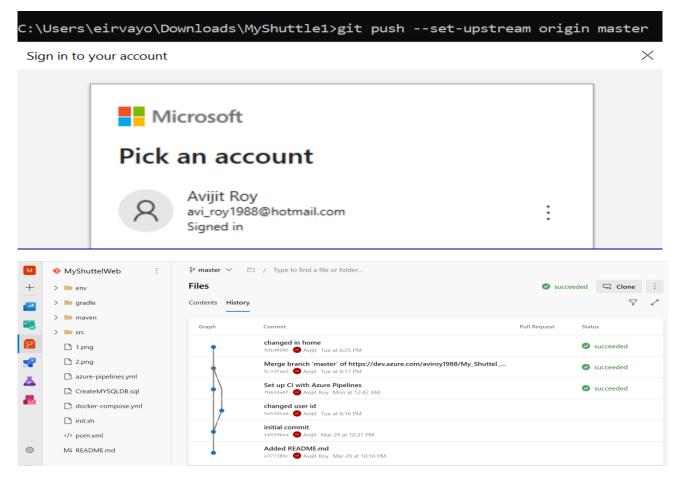


Figure 7: Repo view with uploaded code

For adding new folder or file directly in repo.:

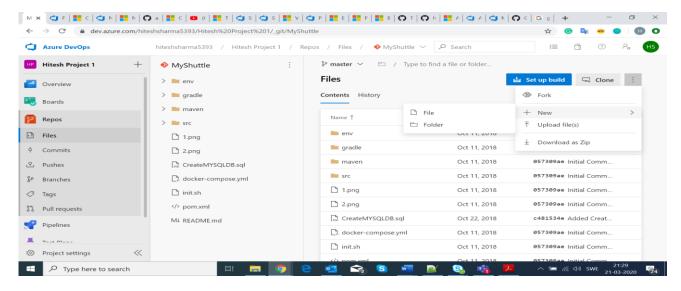


Figure 8: Option to upload files or folder directly on Azure repo

Now we have project and our repo ready, let go to next step to build the code. For this we will create build pipeline using pipelines option available in Azure.

Part 3: Create Azure Container Registry

Azure container registry is a private repo to store docker images. We are using Azure Container registry instead of public/ private registry of dockerhub. That is needed in any company when you don't want to expose your

product on public registry and don't have expertise in setting up all new registry server. Not only that, Azure never forces you to use its product, one is free to use other registry servers if you like. Integration with such services are comfortably enabled here. To create Azure Container Registry:

- Go to azure portal.
- Click "Create New resource", search for "container registries" and hit enter.
- Click + Add button to start creating new registry by providing subscription name, resource group name, registry name, location.
- Enable "Admin User" and select SKU as "Basic".

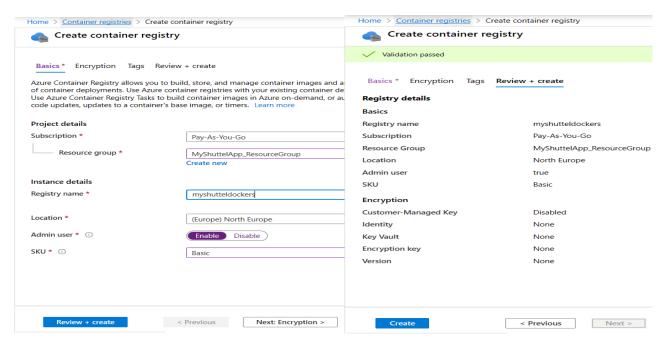


Figure 9: Azure container registry creation

FUN FACT

YAML is a human friendly format. It is the default configuration file format used by Ruby on Rails and used in a number of notable tools such as Ansible and Google App Engine. Here, we have used for Azure Tasks. It was released in 2001 but recently from 2015 it gained popularity.

Part 4: Create build pipeline

Going to the pipeline of DevOps that is quite famous. Azure DevOps provide a complete setup and facilitates the pipelines beautifully in yaml files (other formats are also allowed but it takes yaml by default) unlike the recommended Groovy of our old school Jenkins.

To start with pipeline, select pipelines from left menu, then create new pipeline. This will prompt to select repo for the build and deployment pipeline. Select appropriate repo from list of repos. Next step is to configure the pipeline.

In this step, you can find different option available to configure pipeline. These options are called tasks. Tasks are nothing but the building block to define the automation of build and release process. Task contains packaged scripts that are used to run a job, such as build or release. You can choose a predefined task from the list or create a custom task using yaml file. Figure 8 shows predefined tasks in azure pipeline. These tasks can either be drag and drop from the i) Azure Tasks or ii) its Marketplace or iii) can be self-created using YAML.

For this tutorial, All the following components were picked from the marketplace, it is just as easy as that. For any customisation required we need to modify its YAML and as we know YAML demand indentation rest it is so simple to understand and implement. This shows how Azure makes the so called 'complex tasks' really easy to implement. Code reusability is the power here.

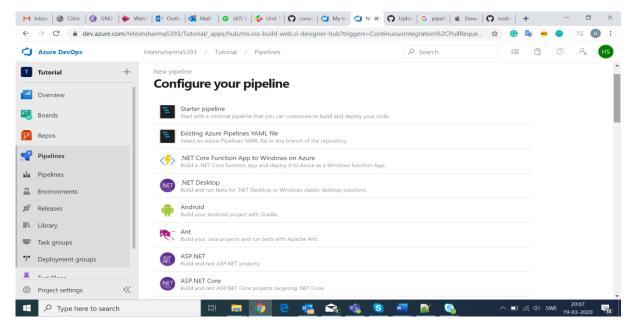


Figure 10: Task list available in Azure pipelines

For this project's implementation we have used following tasks (figure 9) in build pipeline:

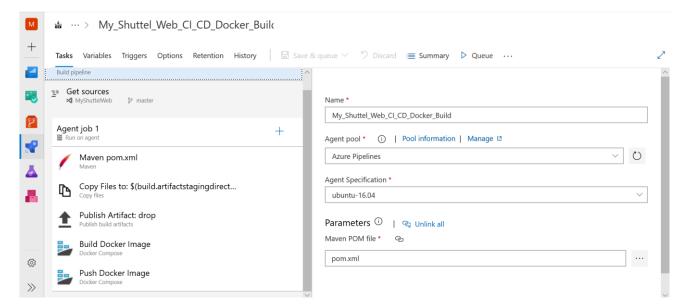


Figure 11: Steps used for build pipeline

• **Maven pom.xml**: here we have added our java code POM file. This will build the code and create package and change the highlighted fields.

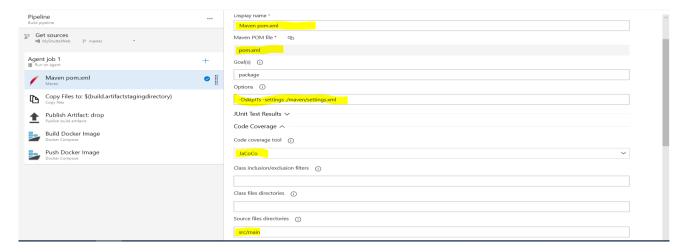


Figure 12: Pom xml step confiuration

• Copy files: To copy build package (war, jar files) into artifact library.

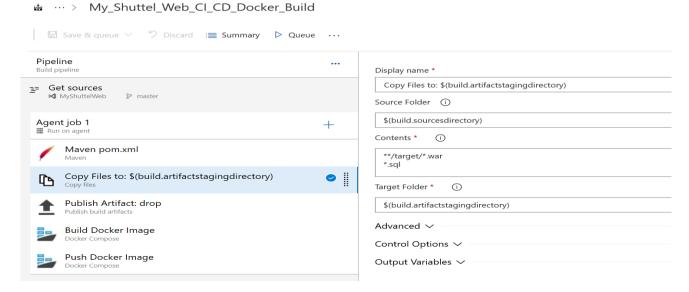


Figure 13: Copy files step configuration

• **Publish Artifact:** To publish artifacts from build into pipeline to make it available for release.

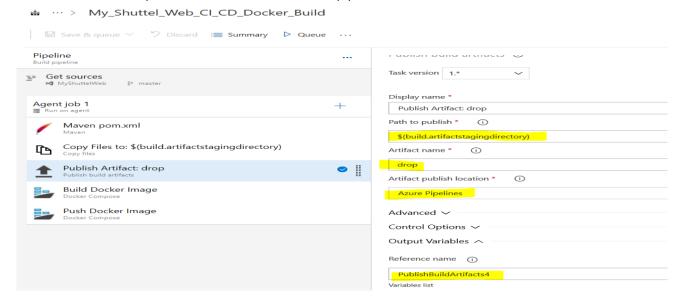


Figure 14: Publish Build Artifacts step configuration

FUN FACT

Containers packages up an application with all the dependencies, such as libraries, and deploy it as one single package. Docker is getting widely famous because it implements containers. So we have also included docker image in our tutorial.

• **Build Docker image:** To build a docker image using the docker compose task. Refer docker compose file in repo to find docker file to create docker image. Make the following changes for this task.

Parameter	Value	Comments
Azure Subscription	Your authorised subscription	
Container Registry Type	Azure Container Registry	
Azure Container Registry	Your container registry	
Docker Compose file	**/docker-compose.yml	Compose file present in
		repo.
Project Name	\$(Build.Repository.Name)	Name of you project
Action	Build Service Images	Create Docker image for
		deployment
Additional Image tags	\$(Build.BuildNumber)	
Include latest tag	True	
Qualify Image name	True	

• **Push Docker image:** Push the docker image in container registry. You can clone "Build Docker image" task and only change "Action" to "Push service images".

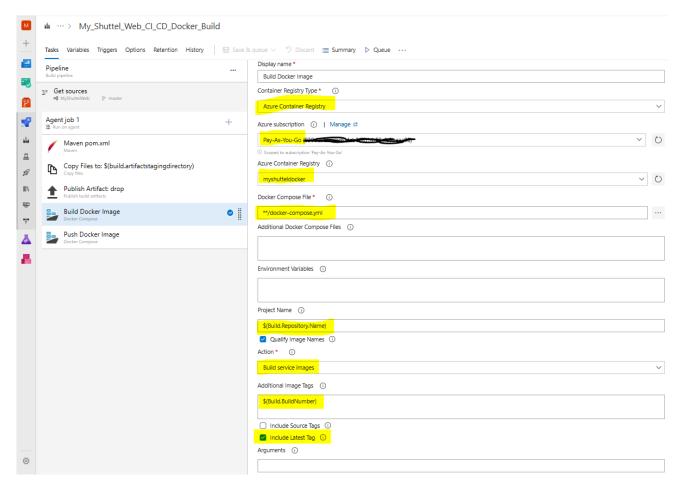


Figure 15: Build Docker Image step configuration

You can add these tasks using .yaml file other than user console. Here is the yaml file used for this pipeline.

```
Job Agent YAML, this includes all the tasks of pipeline:

pool:

name: Azure Pipelines

demands: maven

#Your build pipeline references an undefined variable named

'Parameters.mavenPOMFile'. Create or edit the build pipeline for this

YAML file, define the variable on the Variables tab. See

https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?linkid=865972

steps:

- task: Maven@3
```

```
displayName: 'Maven pom.xml'
  inputs:
   mavenPomFile: '$(Parameters.mavenPOMFile)'
   options: '-DskipITs -settings ./maven/settings.xml'
   codeCoverageToolOption: JaCoCo
   codeCoverageSourceDirectories: src/main
task: CopyFiles@2
 displayName: 'Copy Files to: $(build.artifactstagingdirectory)'
 inputs:
   SourceFolder: '$(build.sourcesdirectory)'
   Contents: |
    **/target/*.war
    *.sql
   TargetFolder: '$(build.artifactstagingdirectory)'
 condition: succeededOrFailed()
- task: PublishBuildArtifacts@1
 displayName: 'Publish Artifact: drop'
 inputs:
   PathtoPublish: '$(build.artifactstagingdirectory)'
 condition: succeededOrFailed()
- task: DockerCompose@0
 displayName: 'Build Docker Image'
 inputs:
   azureContainerRegistry: '{"loginServer":"myshutteldocker.azurecr.io",
"id": "/subscriptions/830d29b5-ebc6-4cb0-ab14-
52cfa5beaa98/resourceGroups/MyShuttelApp_ResourceGroup/providers/Microsof
t.ContainerRegistry/registries/myshutteldocker"}'
   action: 'Build services'
```

Once the configuration is finished build pipelines is available in pipelines Azure pipelines. They are nothing but yaml files associated with the Azure 'Tasks'

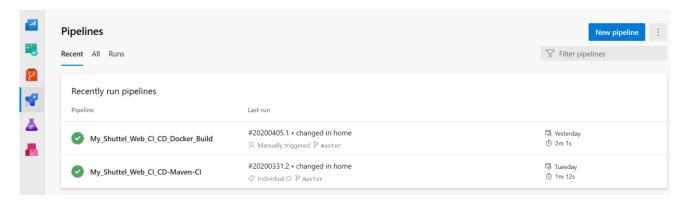


Figure 16: List of pipelines

Part 5: Running a build pipeline

Here it comes to running the pipeline that we just configured, and this is so easy just some click only.

You can run pipeline manually or setup to run automatically whenever there is any push to repository. For this setup trigger for the pipeline and enable continuous integration.

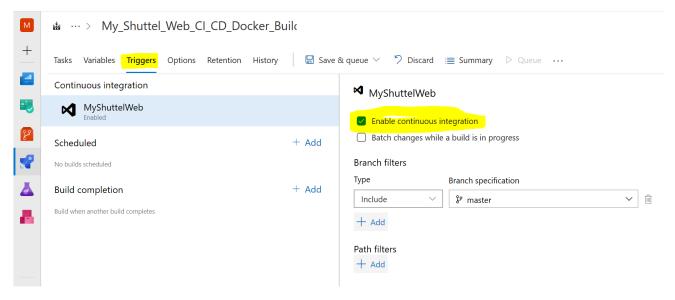


Figure 17: Enable Continuous integration in build pipeline

There are various conditions and parameters we can set like one has been shown in following diagram. By default, if all the previous steps in pipeline are success then forthcoming steps are initiated. However, we have opportunity to setup whether the next step in pipeline will be executed or not in case of previous job failure or success. These are self-explanatory options as shown in screenshot bellow:

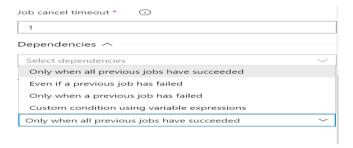


Figure 18: Dependency options to run a task

To run the pipeline, click on the pipeline that you want to run and click Run pipeline at right top corner.

Here, you have option to choose either default or some specified Linux or Windows machine. Likewise, you can select the branch from which you want the CI pipeline to execute. This makes the pipeline dynamic and gives user a flexibility to graphically interact without altering the underlying pipeline code.

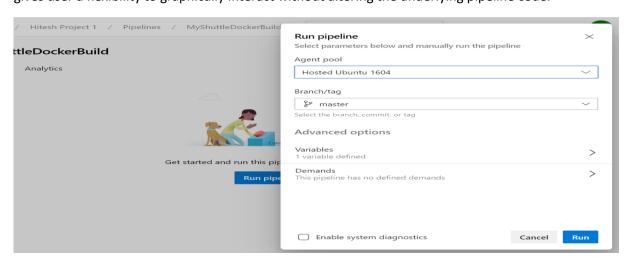


Figure 19: Pipeline run configuration

You can see the running status of all tasks form console. Moreover, once finished azure will send email notification about the run status.

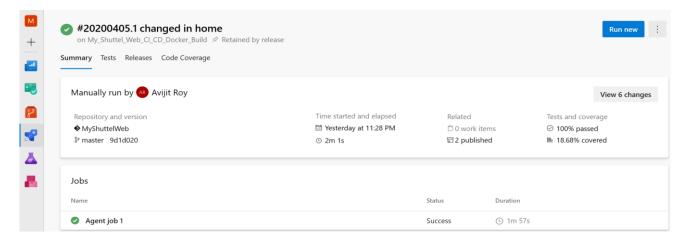


Figure 20: Pipeline run status

You can see the logs of every steps by clicking on "Agent job 1" for this run.

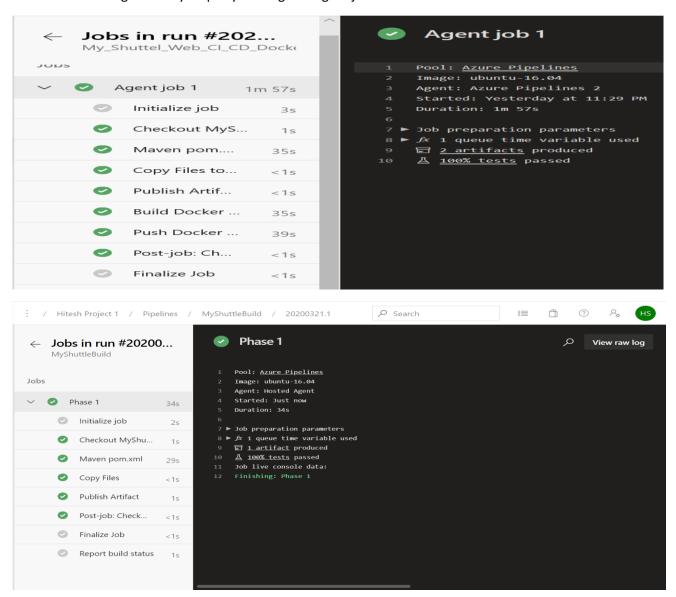
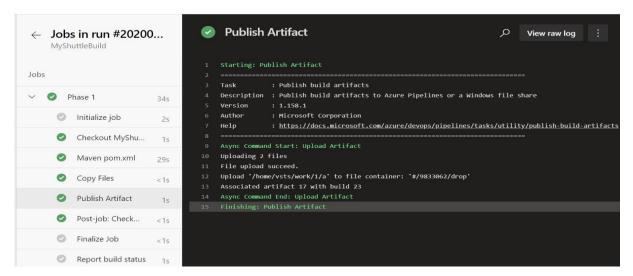
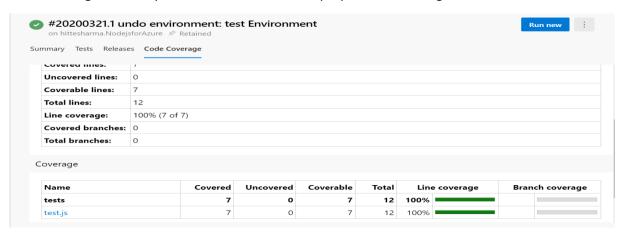


Figure 21: Build pipeline build steps logs

The deployable Artifact so produced could be seen in Azure 'Artifacts' section. They are versioned and kept successively like logs. This is another DevOps tool that Azure provides seamlessly without requiring any infrastructure configuration explicitly.



Code coverage can easily be seen if we have used a proper code coverage task for our code. It looks like this:



Artifacts

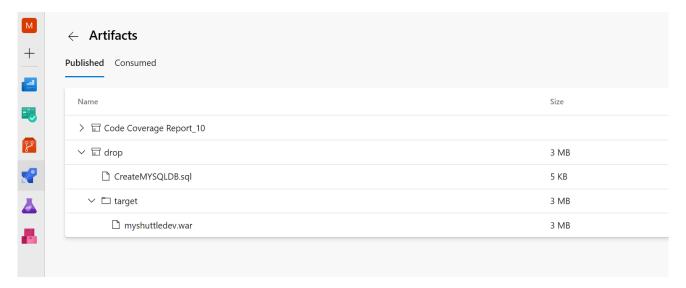


Figure 22: Artifacts after build run

Part 6: Release Pipeline

In this step you will create a release pipeline that will take the artifacts created in build pipeline and deploy. Our java application is a web application and you have created docker image for application. Now you will deploy an Azure web app for containers and Azure MySQL database server.

Azure web app for container – For our shuttle app

- Go to azure portal and choose to create new resource.
- Search "Web app for containers" and hit enter.
- Provide details to create web app with container,

Azure Subscription name

Azure Resource Group name (should be linked with same azure subscription)

Name of the web app: MyShuttelApp

App service plan

In Docker tab, select image source, registry, image name, image tags

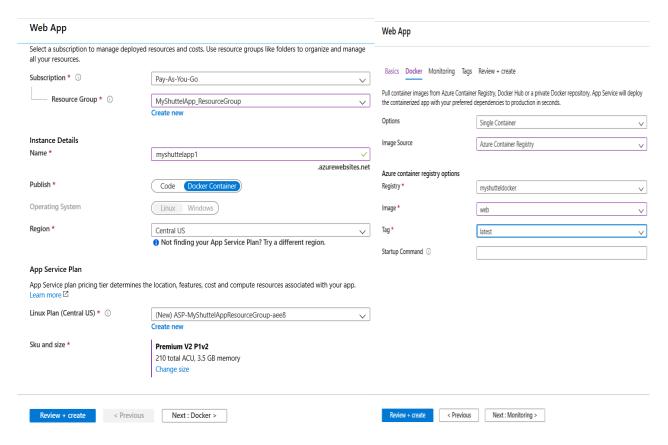


Figure 23: Azure Web app service creation

Complete other details by pressing next and finally create the resource.

Create Azure MySQL DB server

- Go to Azure portal and search "Azure Database for MySQL servers" and hit enter.
- Enter server details that you want to create as below

Subscription Name: {The subscription you are using for this tutorial}

Resource Group: {Where your other resources are present for this application}

Database Server Name: myshutteldb

Location, Version, Server configuration: {As per your deployment requirement}

Admin account details: username - myshutteladmin, password: {your_choice}

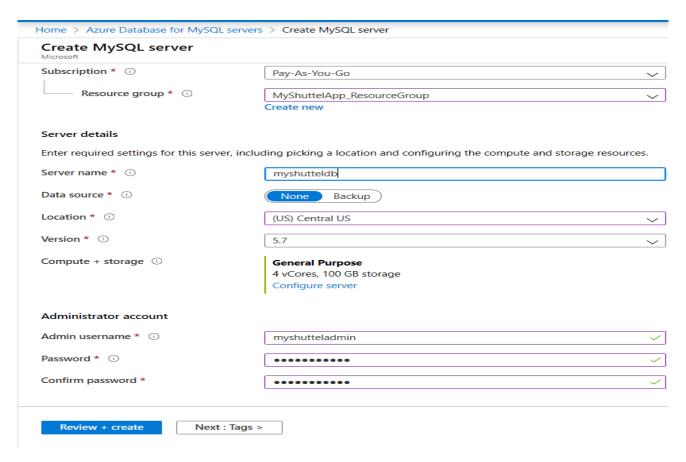


Figure 24: Azure MySql server setup

Once deployed, go to "myshutteldb" resource and change firewall rule to allow connection to database from other azure resource.

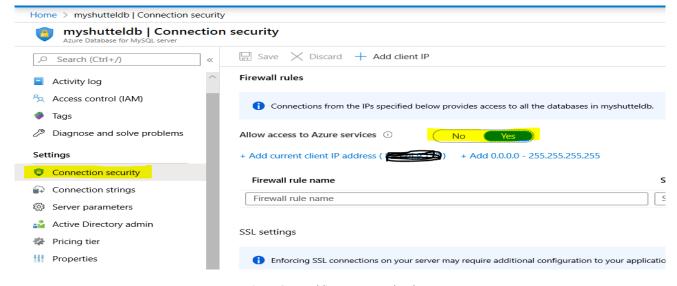


Figure 25: Enabling access to database

Change connectionstring in web app

- Go to web app "myshuttelapp" resource
- From left menu, open Configuration under Settings section and add a "New connection string" as below.

Name: MyShuttelDB

Value:

jdbc:mysql://myshutteldb.mysql.database.azure.com:3306/alm?useSSL=true&requireSSL=false&autoReconnect=true&user=myshutteladmin@myshutteldb&password={**Your_Password**}

Type: MySQL

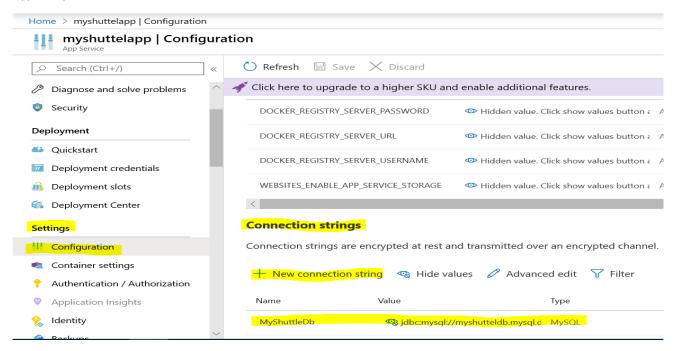


Figure 26: Adding database connection string for application

Release pipeline creation

Now all resources are set to create the release pipeline for your java app and finally deploy the artifacts created in build pipeline run.

To create release pipeline, go to **Pipelines** -> **Releases** in project menu and use **+ New** button. Start with **Empty job** from template selection.

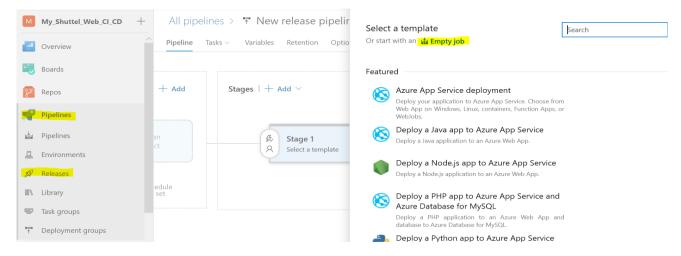


Figure 27: Release pipeline jobs

Now you have a screen with two section, "Artifact" and "Stages". In artifacts, you click add and give artifacts details. Here you should select artifact type as "Build" as you will deploy artifacts from your previous build pipeline.

Select other details as below and click Add.

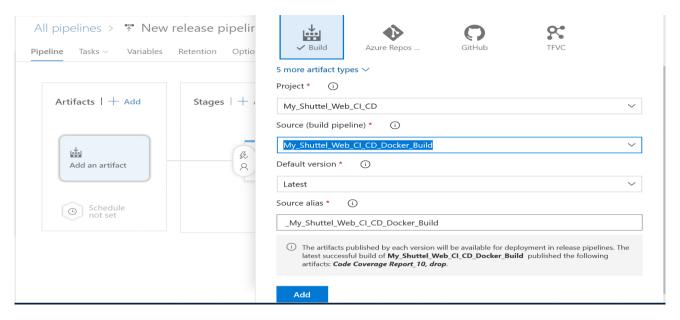


Figure 28: Setup artifacts for release pipeline

To enable continuous delivery, click on lightning symbol in "Artifact" section and enable "Continuous Deployment Trigger".

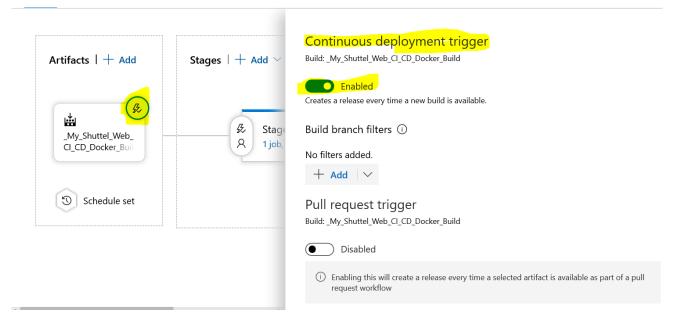


Figure 29: Enabling continuous deployment of release pipeline

Next step is to configure release stages. Here you can setup different stages such as staging, Test, production and configure each stage with deployment tasks, what to deploy and where to deploy.

To setup deployment tasks, click on **task**, **job** link in stages section and configure Agent Job that where all deployment task will run. Set details as below

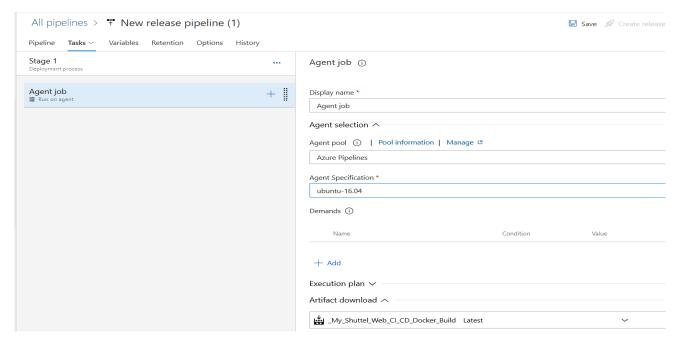


Figure 30: Release agent configuration

Click + sign on "Agent Job" to add new task. You need two tasks to complete the deployment process.

 Azure Database for MySQL deployment: This task will deploy the database script on the "myshutteldb" database server to create a database named as "alm" and database schema with users and their expenses table.

Configure the task with details as below

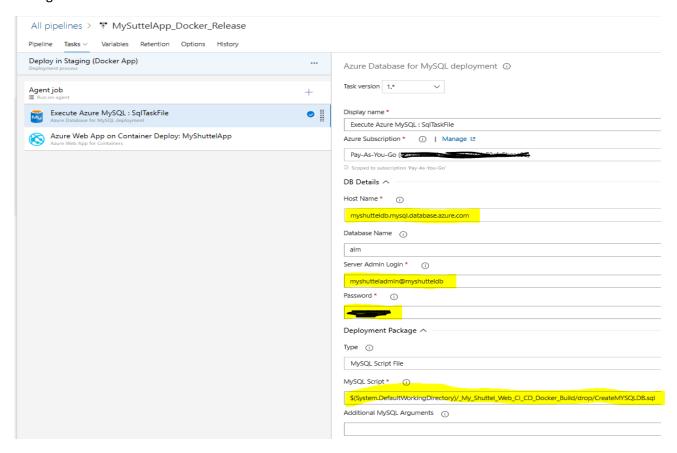


Figure 31: Database deployment task configuration

2. **Azure Web App for Containers:** This task is to deploy the MyShuttelApp docker image into "**MyShuttelApp**" azure web app. Configure the task as shown below.

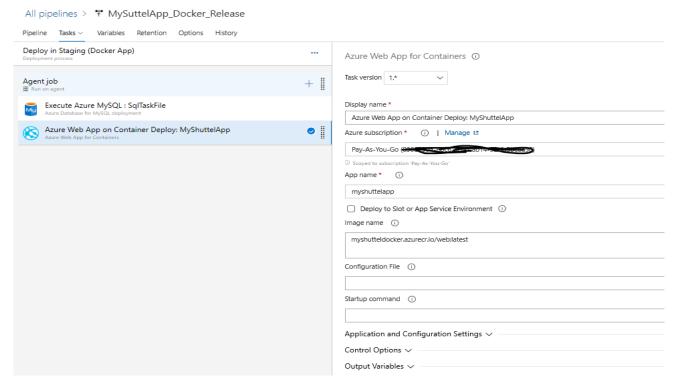


Figure 32: Web app deployment task configuration

Please Note: in Image name, fully qualified name is required which you can find from your Azure Container registry.

Once task setup is completed, save the task using **Save** button.

FUN FACT

Why is pipeline named so?

Pipeline is called so because it flows in the same fashion as a tubular water pipe flowing water. We can also say it performs compile, build and deploy one after the other where human generally see the input and the result at the two ends only, rest is all automated.

Part 7: Run Release pipeline

You can trigger release pipeline by creating a new build in build pipeline or trigger it manually. Here you will create a new release manually.

Click on "Create Release" button on release pipeline page and select the stage name that you want to run.

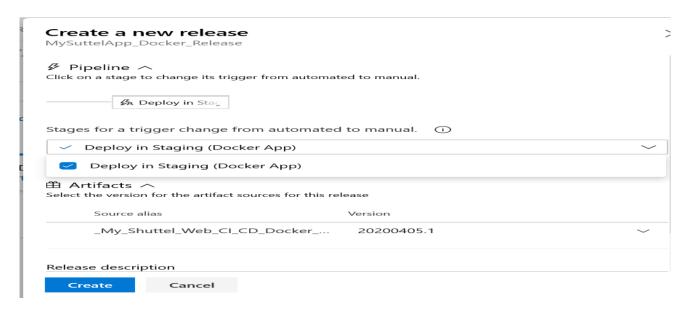


Figure 33: Adding release manually

Once release is saved, it will trigger the release and you can see the status in Releases section of release pipeline.

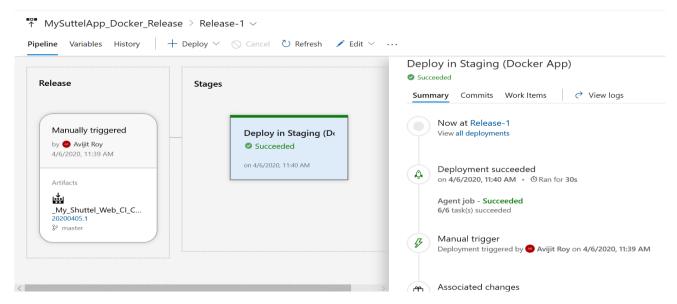


Figure 34: Running release pipeline

Similarly, we can clone the already created release to be released into production environment. That means once the release is successful in pre-prod a.k.a. Staging Environment, we should be confident enough to push to production with prerequisite pre and post deployment approvals (that can be done in Azure, as explained before). This makes the complete CI/CD pipeline under one roof of Azure, right from the requirement gathering in Agile board to the production. Azure made it simple and require not exhaustive expertise in every tool and technology.

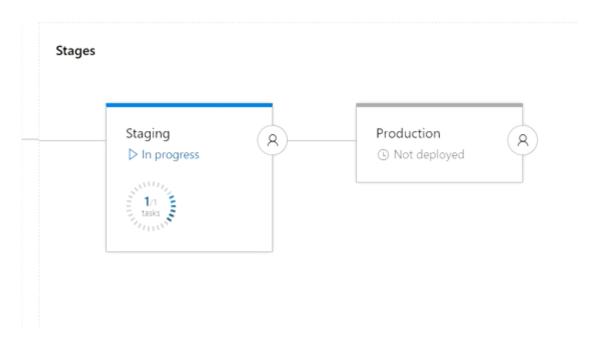
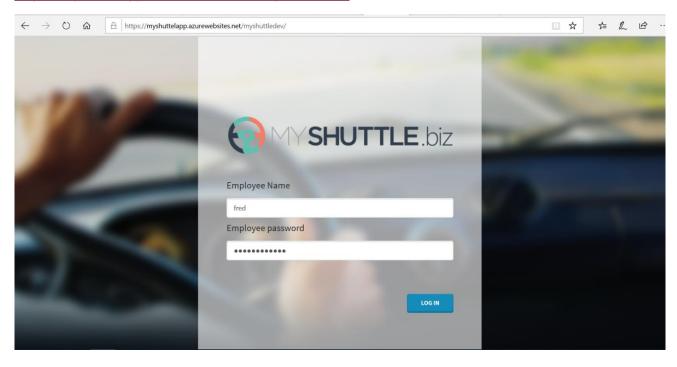


Figure 35: Different stages of deployment

Finally, MyShuttel app is deployed and ready to browse. You can go to MyshutteApp, Azure web app resource and use browse button or use following link to browse the tomcat default page.

https://myshuttelapp.azurewebsites.net/myshuttledev/



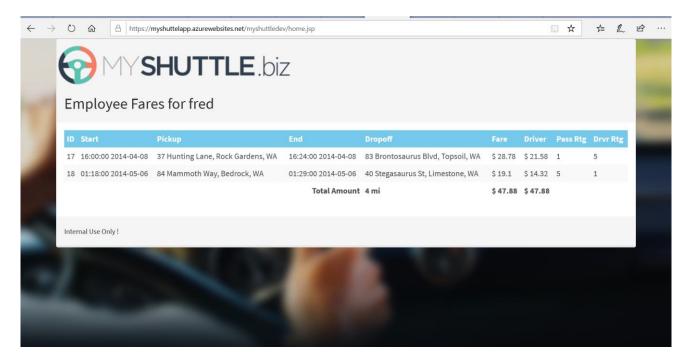


Figure 36: Browsing application after deployment

In this demo we presented the overall flow of Agile implementation of a project it is close to one that we practice in an industry. It gives clear idea of end to end flow starting from project planning to the deployment in Agile methodology.

References:

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/devops-project/azure-devops-project-java?toc=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.microsoft.com%2Fen-us%2Fazure%2Fdevops-project%2Ftoc.json&bc=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.microsoft.com%2Fen-us%2Fazure%2Fbread%2Ftoc.json

https://github.com/hsachinraj/GitHub-AzureDevOps