Basic CI/CD for Python projects with Docker and Jenkins

Yen Hoang
Jan 5, 2019 · 6 min read

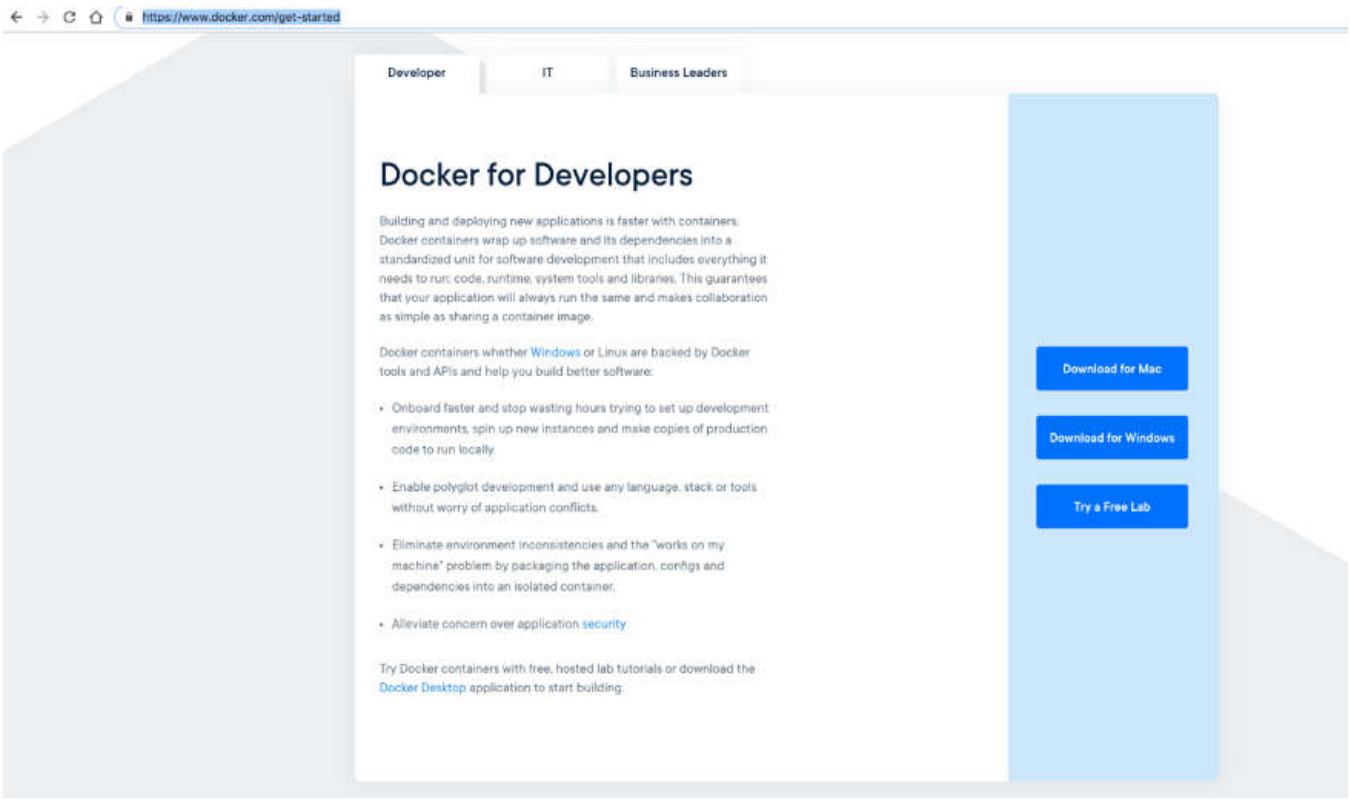
You are a newbie in Docker and Jenkins? You find it's too complicated to set up continuous integration for a Python project with Docker and Jenkins? Don't worry, you are in the right place. This step-by-step guide is firstly written for me (a newbie as well) and I hope that it is useful to you somehow when it comes to continuous integration.

Note: This guide is applied to MacOS only (sorry for that) but to Windows, everything should behave similarly.

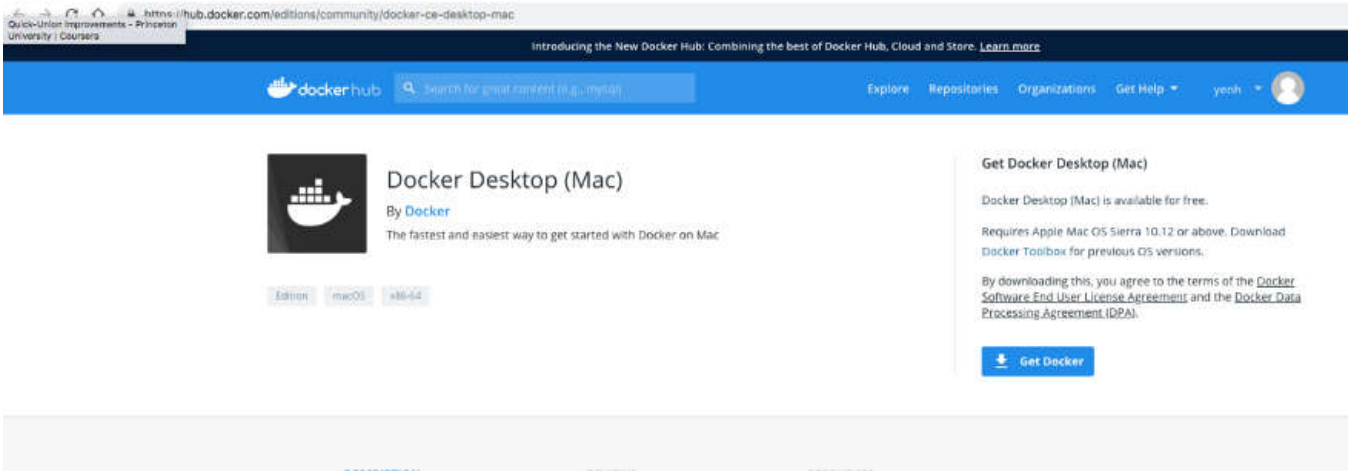
Part I: Set up Docker

1. Download and install Docker from the Docker site

_ Go to https://www.docker.com/get-started



_ Choose the version compatible with your OS (you will be required to signup/login to download it).



_ Once you have Docker installed and running, open a terminal window and type docker –version to make sure that everything is set up appropriately.

2. Build a customized docker image of Jenkins with *dockerfile*

_ Create a folder with a name of your choice, mine is *python_docker_jenkins*, and change to the folder.

_ In *python_docker_jenkins* folder, create a file named *dockerfile or Dockerfile* both work (without extension) with content as below:

```
FROM jenkins:lates
USER root
RUN mkdir /my_app
WORKDIR /my_app
COPY requirements.txt /my_app
RUN pwd
RUN ls -la
RUN apt-get update
RUN apt-get install -y python-pip
```

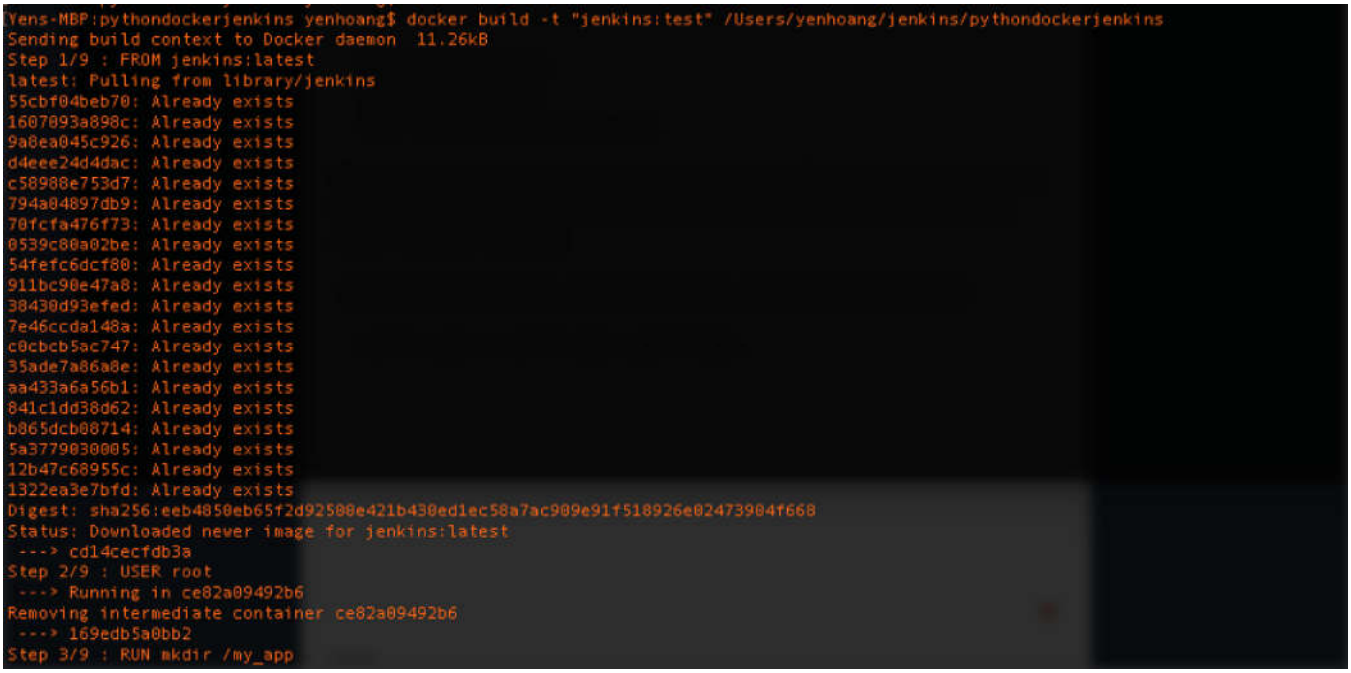
(let me explain a little bit: when we build the image, it will clone the Jenkins image, install pip, and set the user to root). You might question 3 lines:

```
RUN mkdir /my_app
WORKDIR /my_app
COPY requirements.txt /my_app
```

They are used to create a *my_app* folder and copy file *requirements.txt* to that folder (because this is a testing project so I want to separate it from source code in the repo — github).

_ Build the docker image using the following command in the terminal:

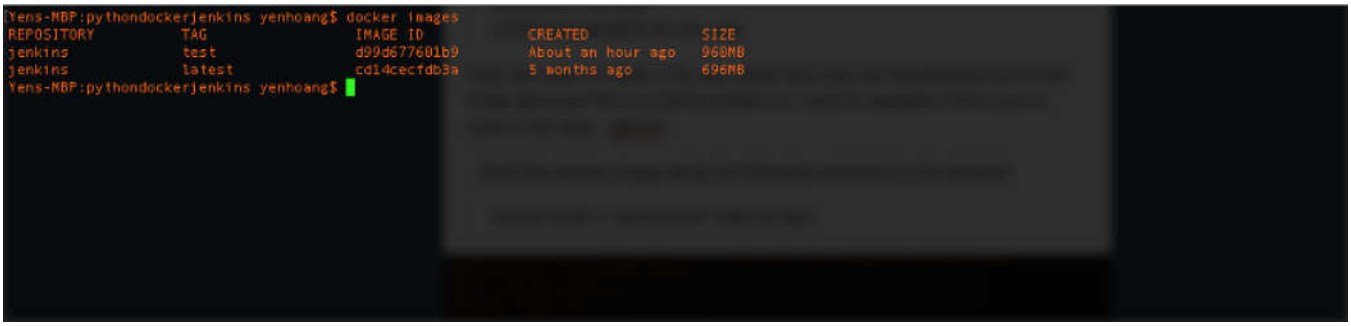
```
docker build -t "jenkins:test" path/to/repo
```



Docker will look for the *dockerfile* in the given path, and build that image. In this example, its name is *jenkins* with the tag *test* (you can change test to a name of your choice).

3. Run the docker image

_ Check the jenkins imaged newly created:

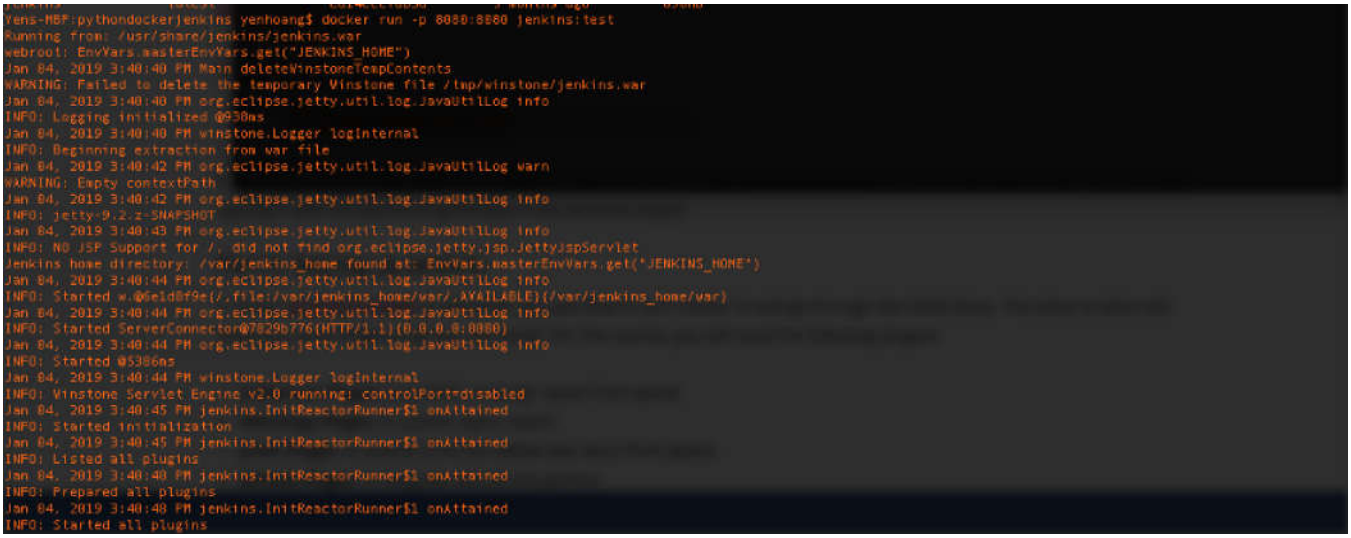


You will see 2 images in which the image with ID = cd14cecfdb3a is the standard one pulled from Docker Hub (parent), the other is our customised one (is a node of the

parent).

_ Run the command:

```
docker run -p 8080:8080 jenkins:test
```

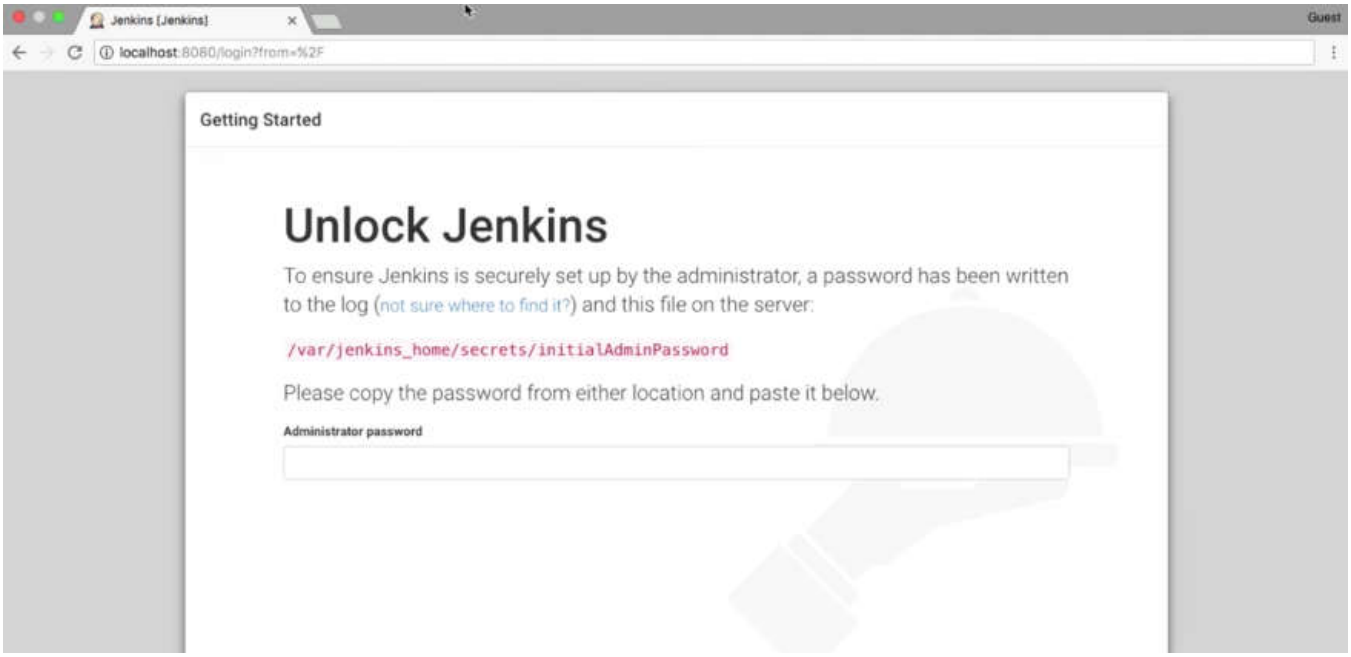


_ Go to the port you specified in a browser window- in this example, localhost:8080 Here, you will need to setup Jenkins after signing in with the password generated in the terminal output.

Part II: Set up Jenkins

1. Getting started with Jenkins

_ Go to localhost:8080, you will see passwords prompted as below:

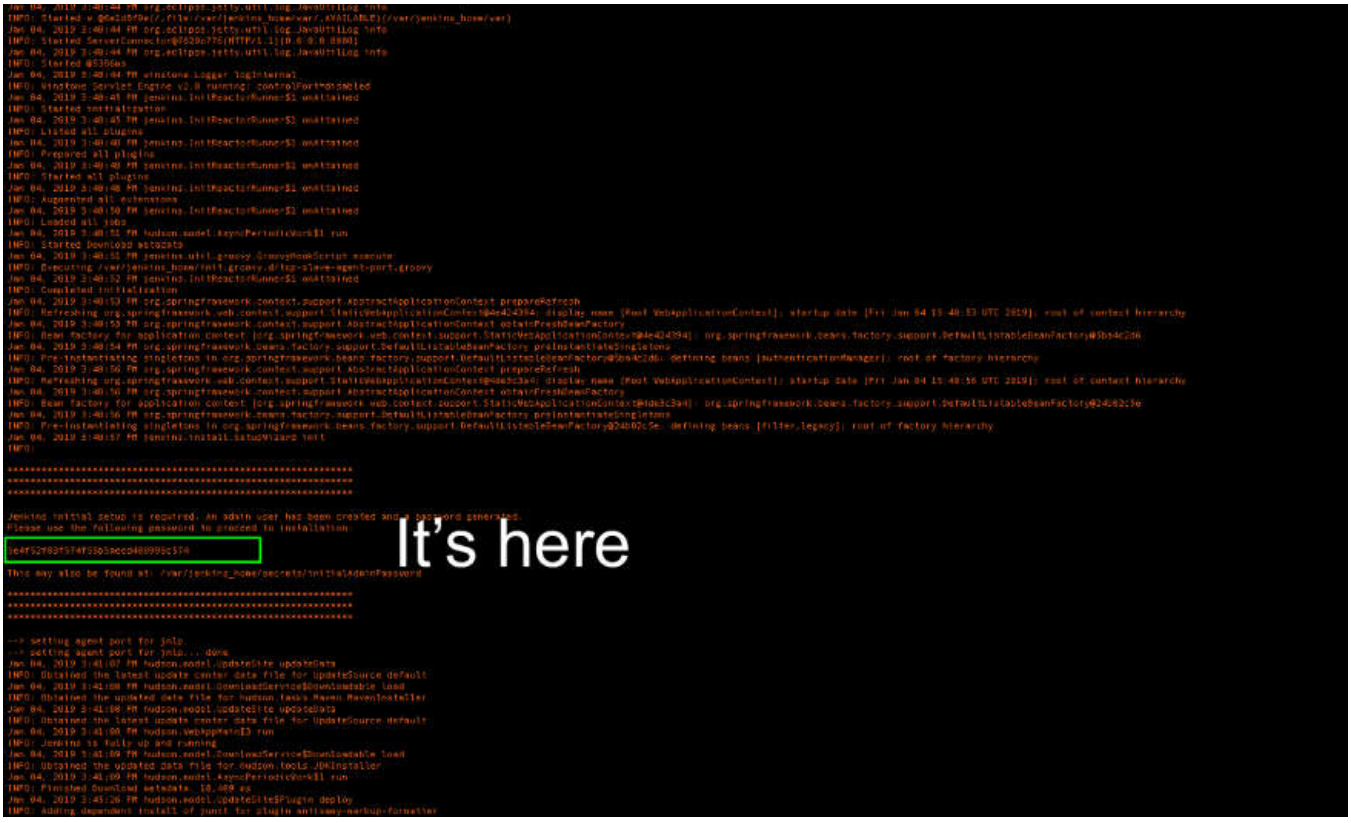


_ New Jenkins installations are locked down by default, and you need to get that password to log in. But if Jenkins is running on the docker container rather than directly on your system how can you get the initial admin password? The easiest way is to run the following command:

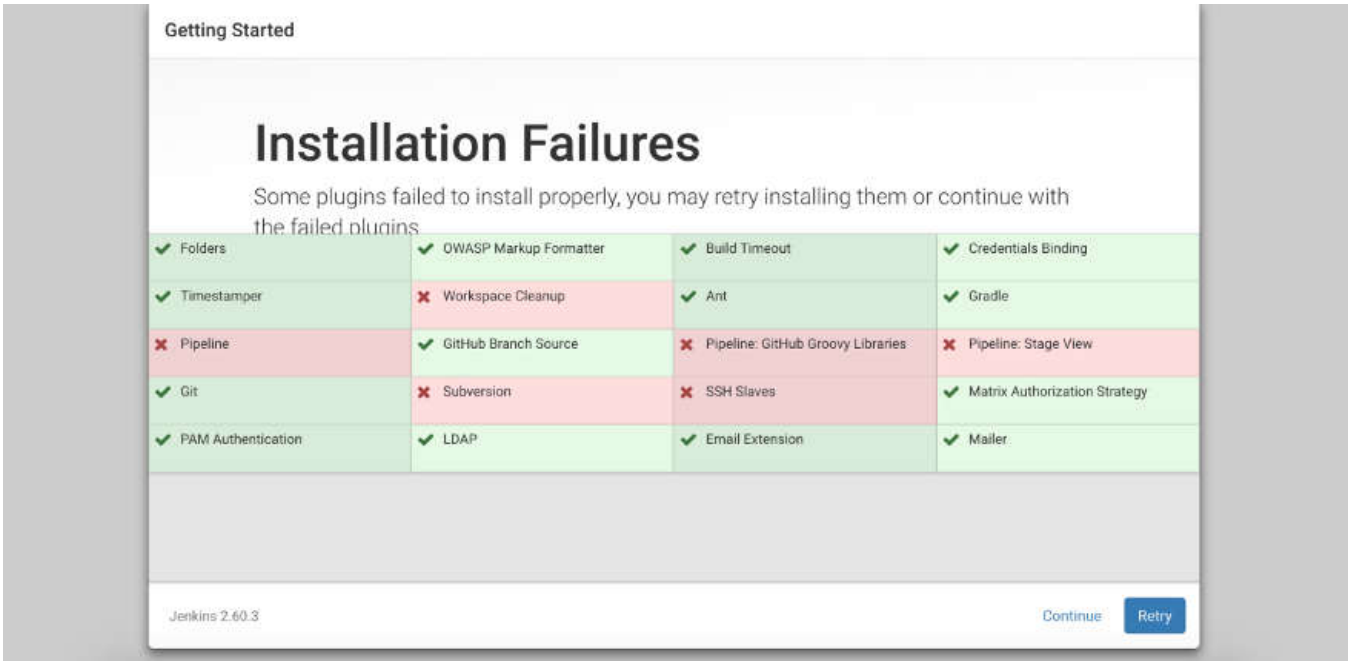
```
docker exec 693358e8c3d5 cat /var/jenkins_home/secrets/initialAdminPassword
```

(*693358e8c3d5* is my jenkins container ID, get yours by running the command: docker container ls)

(another way is to find in the log when running the docker image)

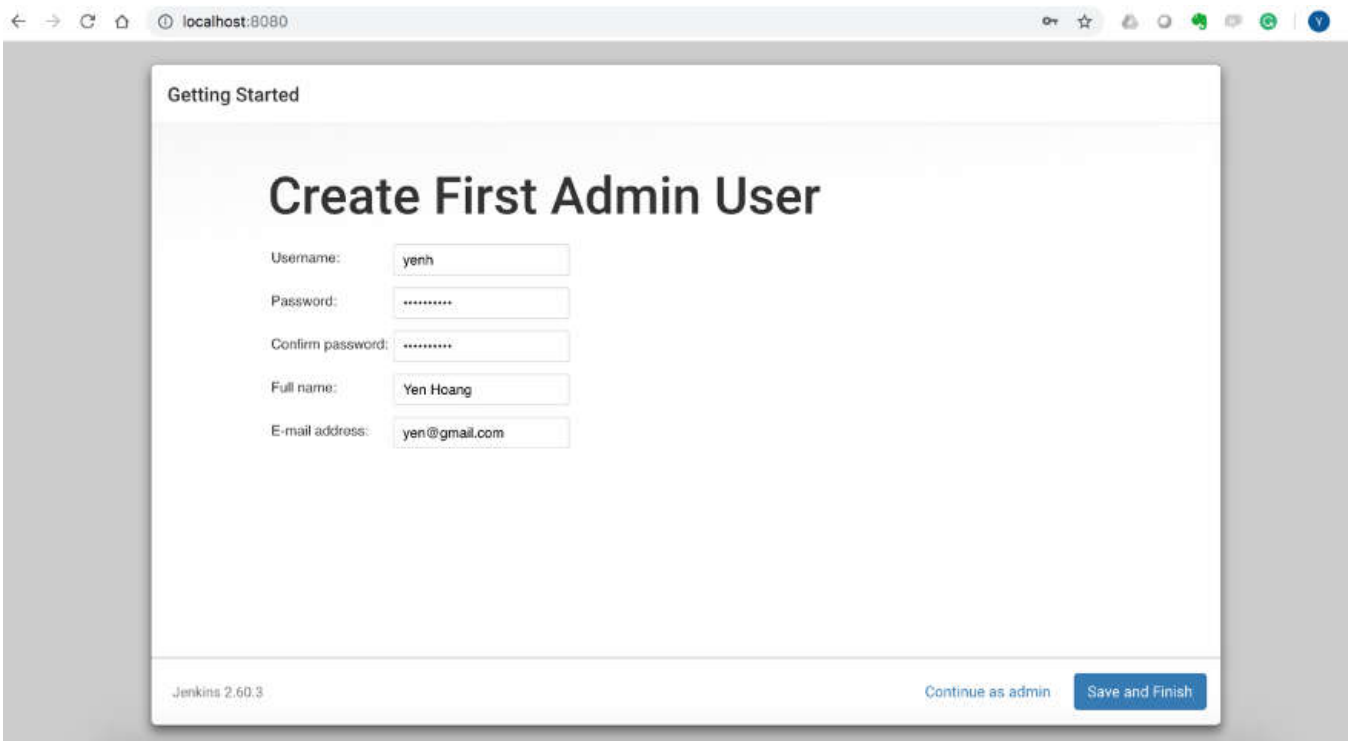


_ Copy the string then open localhost:8080 in your browser. In the browser, enter the admin password and click continue. Then click install suggested plugins. This will complete the Jenkins by installing the plugins that are most commonly used by Jenkins. Depending on the speed of your laptop and your internet connection, this may take several minutes to complete.

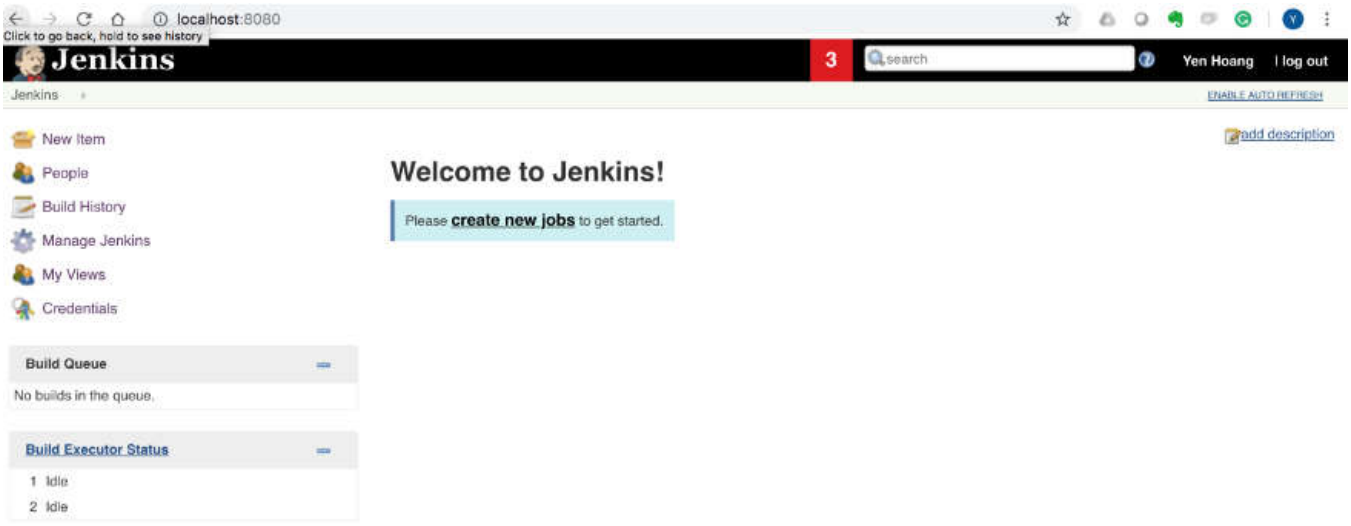


Unfortunately, not everything is green (aka successful). The tricky part is that the failures are due to this Jenkins version of Docker is outdated. I will show you how to resolve this issue later, now just click **Continue** to move on.

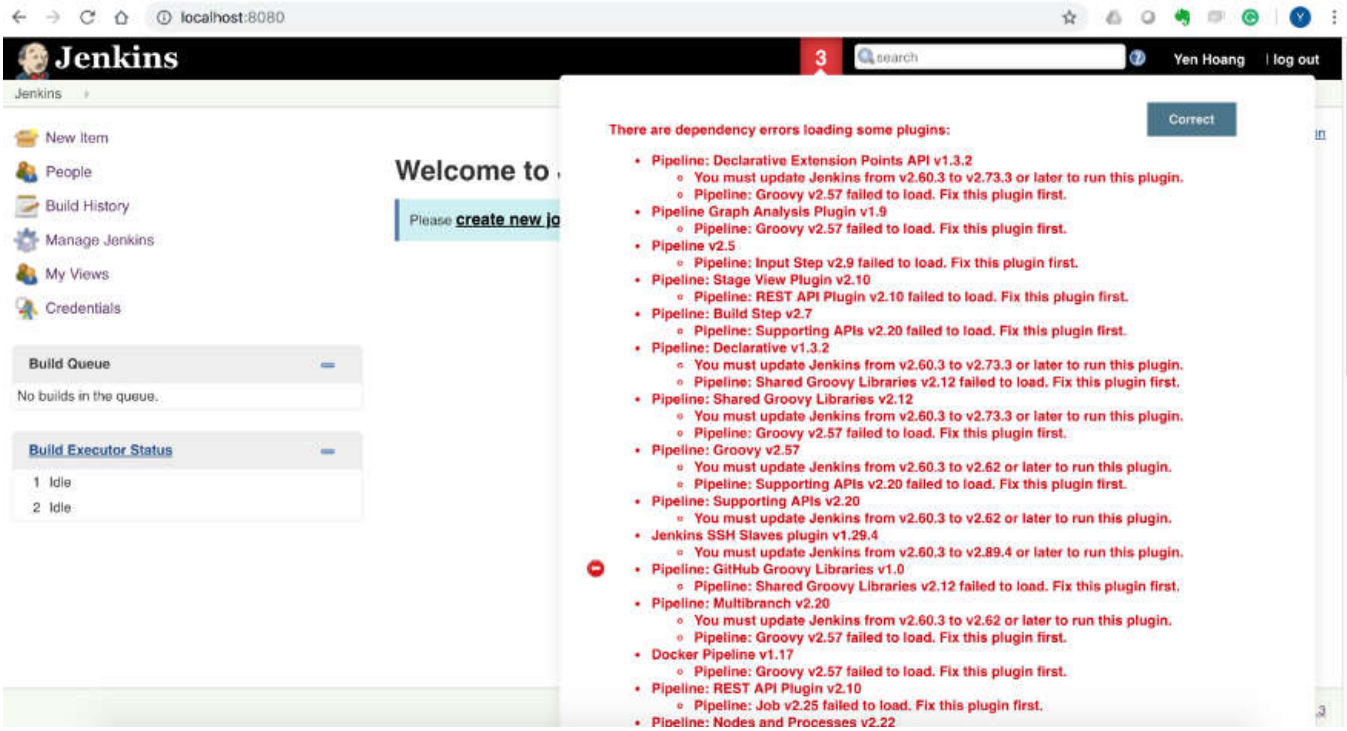
_ Now you'll be prompted to create your first admin user. At this point, you should create your account, with a username of your choice and a password that's easy to remember but hard for others to guess.



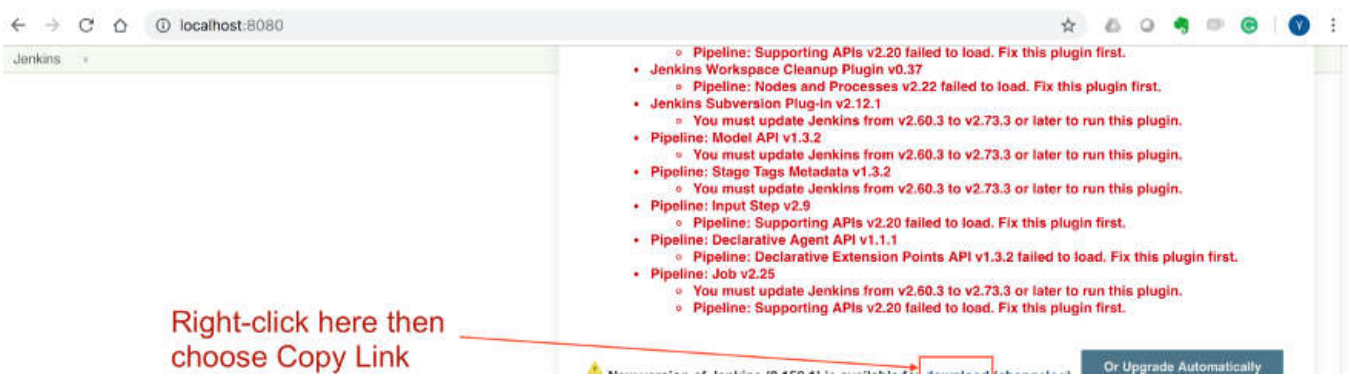
_ Upon click **Save and Finish**, you will be navigated to Jenkins Dashboard as you expected huh.

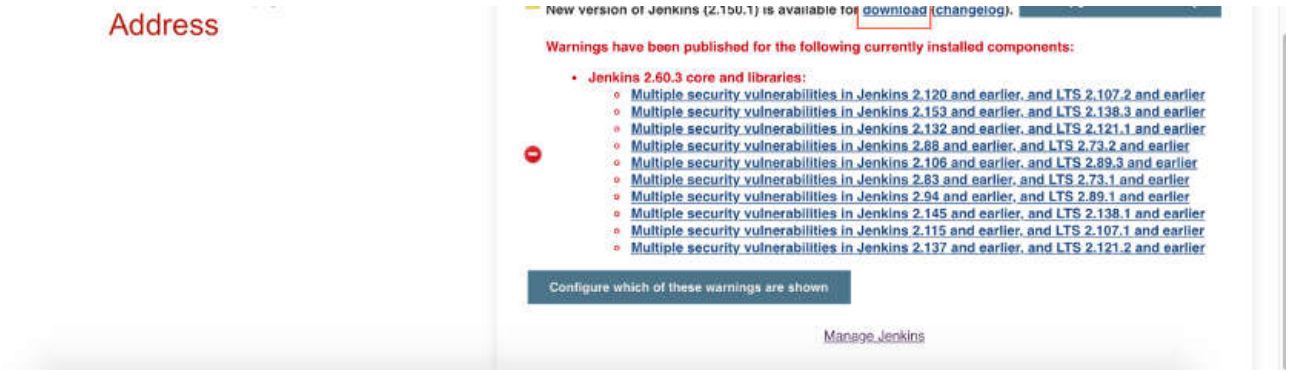


2. Now let's go back to the issue of plugin installation failure above. Click on the red notification on the top you will be given the causes.



_ To solve that scroll down the notification then right click on download as below:





_ Go back to the Terminal, list all containers:

_ Log in to the Jenkins container (I use its ID got from above command):

```
docker container exec -u 0 -it CONTAINER_ID bash
```

_ Download the update with the link copied above:

```
wget http://updates.jenkins-ci.org/download/war/2.150.1/jenkins.war
```

_ Move it to the appropriate place:

```
mv ./jenkins.war /usr/share/jenkins
```

_ Change permission:

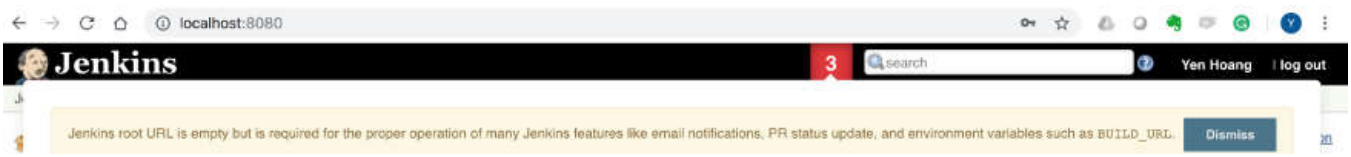
```
chown jenkins:jenkins /usr/share/jenkins/jenkins.war
```

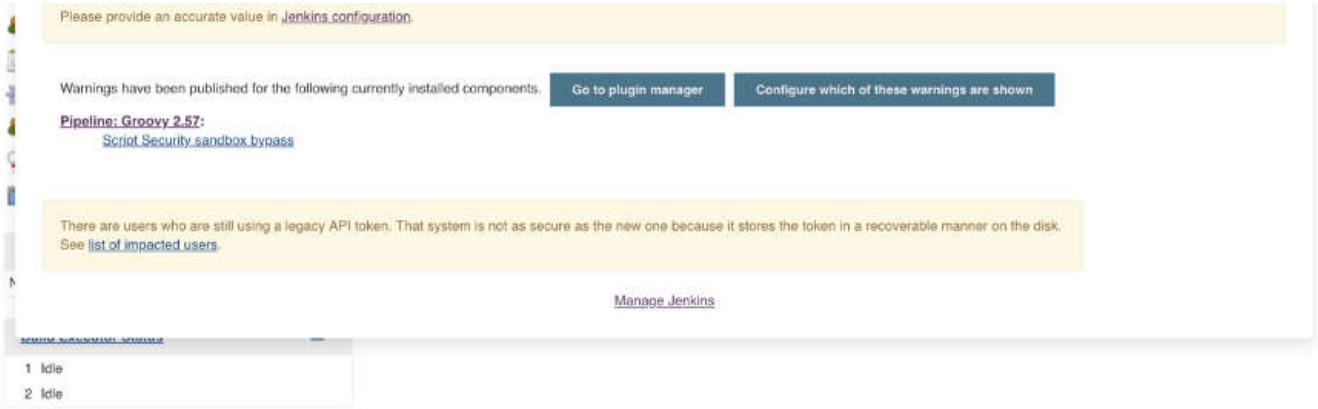
_ Exit container and restart the container:

```
exit

docker container restart CONTAINER_ID
```

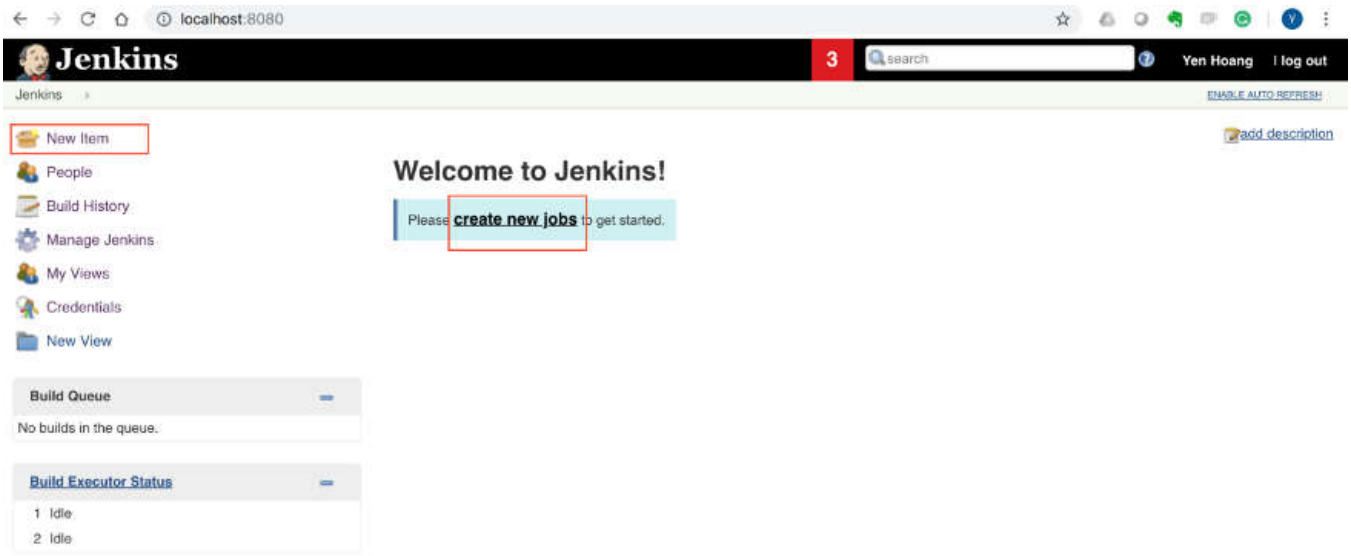
_ Go back to localhost:8080, the errors have been resolved.



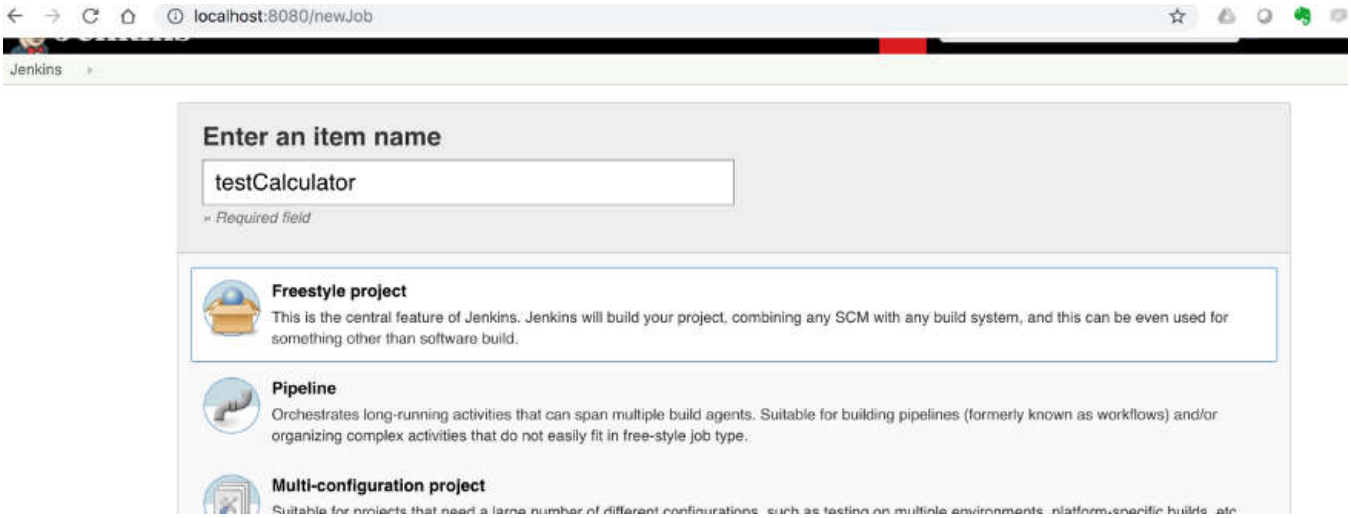


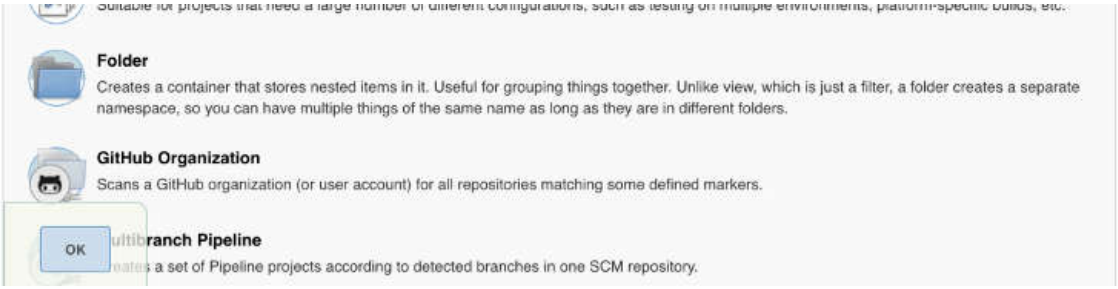
3. Create Jenkins Jobs

_ From Jenkins dashboard, click *create new job* or *New Item* to create a job.

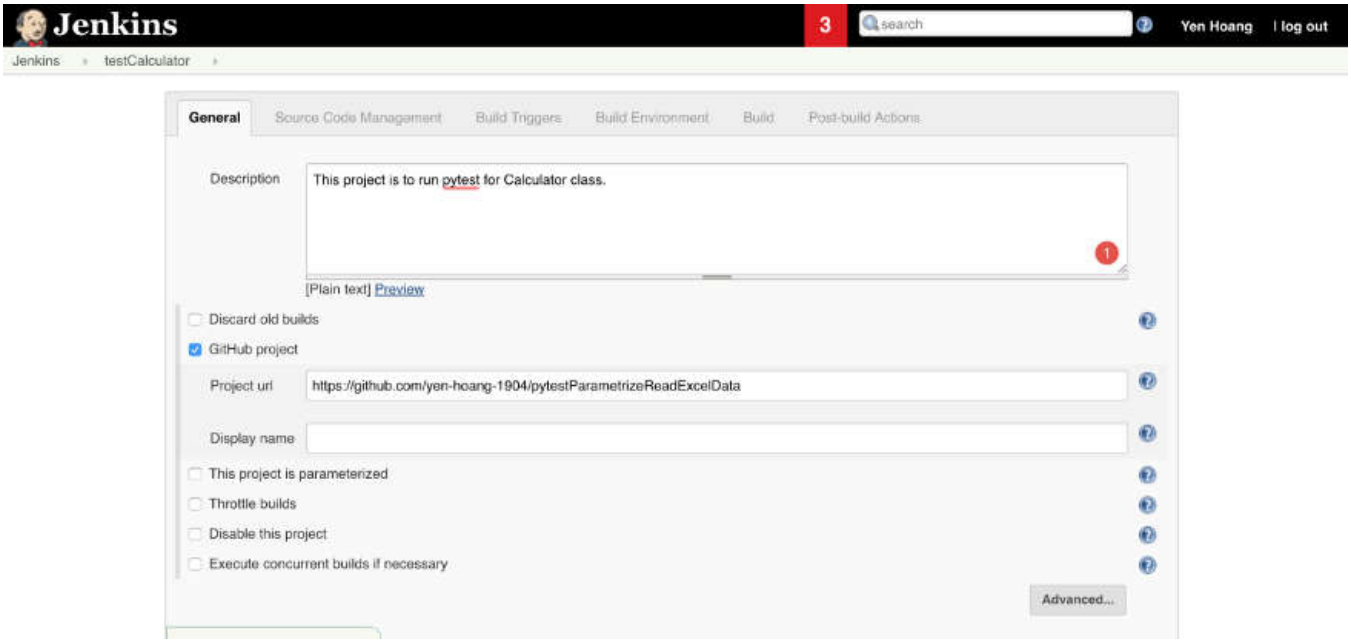


_ Enter an item name then choose project type (I choose Freestyle project in this case).

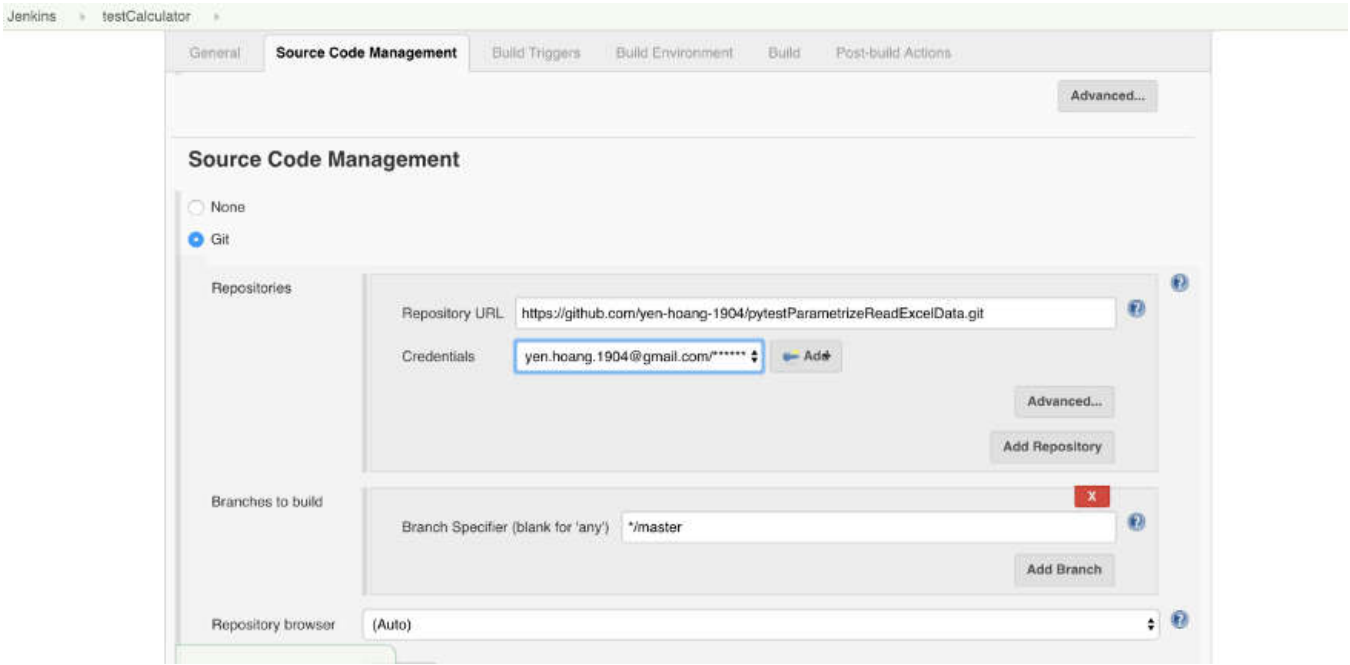




_ Now we have to config some things to run the test. Under **General**section, provide some description then check the GitHub Project box and enter the URL to your GitHub project.



_ Under **Source Code Management**, click on Git and add the repository URL again. You will be able to add credentials here as well and specify the branch to build.



_ Under **Build Triggers**, select Github hook trigger for GITScm polling

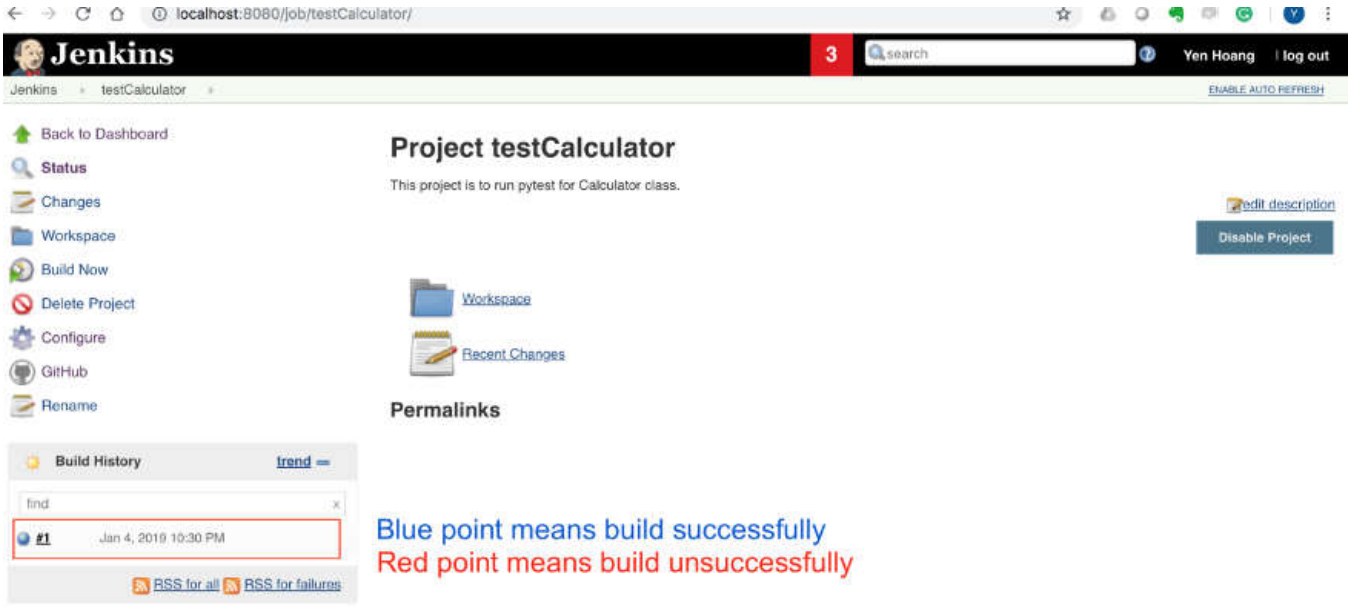
_ Under **Build**, click on Add a build step and select Execute Shell. This is a place to put the test commands that you need to execute during the build:

```
echo 'Start installing dependencies'

#!/bin/bash
pip install -r /my_app/requirements.txt

echo 'Start running test cases'
pytest testCalculator.py
```

_ Save and go back to the job then click Build Now on the sidebar.



_ You can click on the blue (or red) point to view Console output:

Hurray, you are reaching the end of this guide. There are many other things to learn about continuous integration but these are basically what you need to run a CI/CD for python project with Docker and Jenkins. Hope it can help you!