Automated Continious Integration with Travis

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1 Project definition

Goal This project was pulled from a Lynda tutorial teaching the basics of Docker, the Docker container created runs an express backend using MongoDB as the database server.

1.1 Running the application locally

The first order of business was to ensure that the application was able to run locally before deploying it in a Docker container. To do this we ran the following commands in the main directory:

```
$ npm install
$ npm start
```

To start the backend locally $\mathbf{MongoDB}$ is required to have a local install. An example of the backen is shown in $\mathbf{Figure\ 1}$

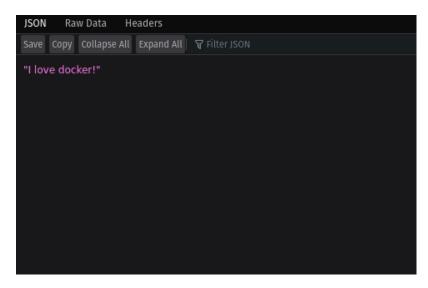


Fig. 1: The root route of the backend running

1.2 Exporting to docker

The next step was to export the image to docker locally, to ensure the setup was running before deploying the automation of the Docker image to the TravisCI servers. To build a Docker image, I had to create a Dockerfile specifying the steps that needed to be taken to deploy the Express backend in a Docker container. The Dockerfile is shown in **Figure 2**.

```
FROM node
RUN mkdir /usr/src/app
WORKDIR /usr/src/app
ENV PATH /usr/src/app/node_modules/.bin:$PATH
COPY package.json /usr/src/app
RUN npm install
COPY . /usr/src/app

EXPOSE 4000
CMD [ "npm", "start"]
```

Fig. 2: The dockerfile containing the instructions for building the container

To prevent any unnecessary files being transferred to the Docker container, a .dockerignore file is defined. We ignored the Node Modules folder and the debug log from the Node Package Manager, thus reducing the total size of the container. Now we could build the image with following command (assuming you are in the root folder of the repository):

```
$ docker build . -t [domain]/[name]
$ docker run -p [local port]:[docker port]
-d [domain]/[name]
```

1.3 Configuring TravisCI

Now that I ensured the backend runs locally, we were ready to automate the building of the docker image on Travis. To configure Travis, a .travis.yml file was created to specify the instructions for the CI tool. In Figure 3 the configuration is shown of the travis file.

```
sudo: required
services:
- docker

script:
- docker build -t johngh/node .
- docker images johngh/node
```

Fig. 3: The configuration file of for the CI tool