#### **EXPERIMENT NO: 09**

Aim: To understand Docker Architecture and Container Life Cycle, install Docker and execute docker commands to manage images and interact with containers.

#### Theory:

Dockerfiles are the cornerstone of creating Docker images. They contain a set of instructions that automate the process of building a Docker image, specifying everything from the base operating system to the application code, dependencies, and configuration settings.

#### What is a Dockerfile?

A **Dockerfile** is a plain text file that defines the steps required to build a Docker image. It contains a series of commands (or instructions) that specify how the image should be constructed.

- **Purpose:** Automate the creation of Docker images for reproducibility, scalability, and consistency.
- **Format:** Written in a simple scripting language, using instructions like FROM, RUN, COPY, CMD, etc.

#### **Basic Structure of a Dockerfile**

A typical Dockerfile looks like this:

# Use an official Python runtime as a parent image FROM python:3.9-slim

# Set the working directory inside the container WORKDIR /app

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# Copy the current directory contents into the container at /app COPY . /app

# Install any necessary dependencies

RUN pip install --no-cache-dir -r requirements.txt

# Make port 80 available to the world outside this container EXPOSE 80

# Define environment variable ENV NAME World

# Run app.py when the container launches CMD ["python", "app.py"]

#### **Common Dockerfile Instructions**

# 1. FROM(Base Image)

• **Purpose:** Specifies the base image for your Docker image.

#### **Example:**

FROMubuntu:20.04 FROM node:14

FROM python:3.9-slim

• Note: This is the first instruction and is mandatory in most cases.

# 2. WORKDIR(Set Working Directory)

 Purpose: Defines the directory inside the container where subsequent instructions will be executed.

#### **Example:**

WORKDIR /app

#### 3. COPY(Copy Files)

• **Purpose:** Copies files or directories from the host system into the container.

# **Example:**

COPY./app

#### • Variants:

- COPY <src> <dest>: Copies a file or directory from the build context to the container.
- O ADDis similar but supports remote URLs and tar file extraction.

# 4. RUN(Execute Commands)

• **Purpose:** Executes commands inside the container during the image build process.

# **Example:**

RUN apt-get update && apt-get install -y curl RUN pip install --no-cache-dir -r requirements.txt

• Tip: Each RUNcreates a new layer in the image. Combine commands with &&to reduce image size.

#### 5. EXPOSE(Expose Ports)

• **Purpose:** Informs Docker that the container will listen on the specified network ports at runtime.

# **Example:**

#### **EXPOSE 80**

• Note: This does not publish the port; it's just a way to document which ports should be exposed.

# 6. ENV(Set Environment Variables)

• **Purpose:** Sets environment variables inside the container.

# **Example:**

**ENV APP ENV=production** 

# 7. CMD(Default Command)

• Purpose: Specifies the default command to run when the container starts.

# **Example:**

CMD ["python", "app.py"]

- Key Points:
  - Only **one** CMDinstruction is allowed.
  - If you provide a command when running the container (docker run), it will override CMD.

# 8. ENTRYPOINT(Set Entry Point)

• Purpose: Defines a command that will always be executed when the container starts.

#### **Example:**

ENTRYPOINT["python"] CMD ["app.py"]

• **Difference from CMD:** ENTRYPOINTis not overridden unless explicitly done with --entrypointin docker run.

# 2. Building Images from a Dockerfile

To build an image, use the docker buildcommand:

docker build -t myapp:latest.

- -t myapp:latest: Tags the image as myappwith the latesttag.
- : Specifies the build context (the current directory).

# **Build Options:**

- -f <file>: Specify a custom Dockerfile name.
- --no-cache: Build the image without using the cache.
- --build-arg <arg>: Pass build-time arguments.

# 3. Managing Docker Images

**List Images:** 

docker images

#### Remove an Image:

docker rmi myapp:latest

# Run a Container from an Image:

docker run -p 8080:80 myapp:latest

# 4. Multi-Stage Builds (Advanced)

Multi-stage builds help reduce image size by separating the build environment from the runtime environment.

# Stage 1: Build stage FROM node:14 AS build WORKDIR /app
COPY package.json./ RUN npm
install

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Krisha Rathod
T23 - 2311135

COPY . .

# Stage 2: Production stage FROM node:14-slim
WORKDIR /app
COPY --from=build /app /app CMD ["node",
```

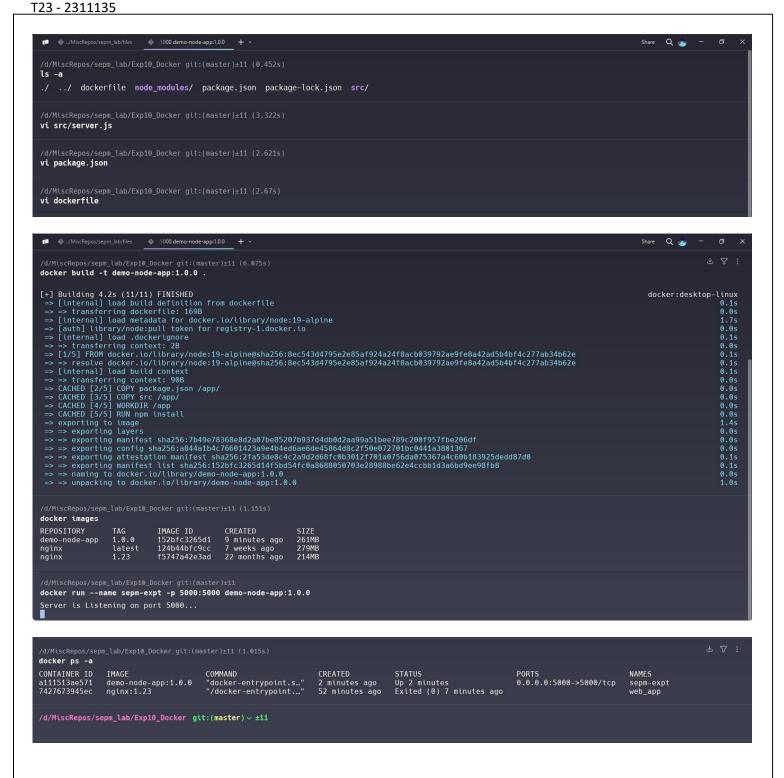
• This technique helps keep the final image lean by excluding unnecessary build tools.

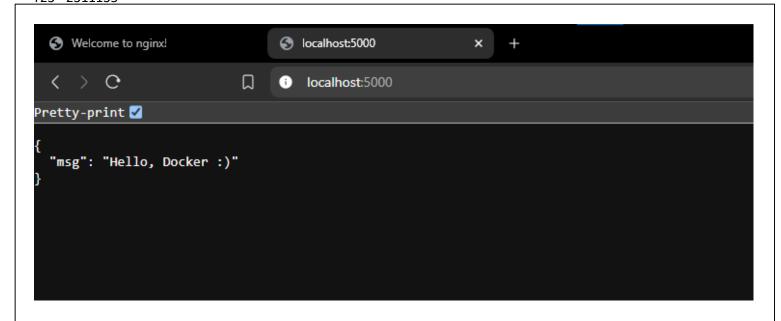
# **5.** Best Practices for Dockerfiles

"server.js"]

- 1. Use Minimal Base Images: e.g., alpinefor small image sizes.
- 2. Leverage Caching: Order instructions from least to most frequently changing.
- 3. Reduce Layers: Combine RUNcommands with &&.
- 4. Avoid Root: Run applications as non-root users when possible.
- **5.** Clean Up: Remove unnecessary files after installation to reduce image size.

Screenshots:





# <u>Conclusion</u>:

We have learnt Dockerfile instructions, built an image for a sample web application using DOCKERFILE