Kazakh British Technical University Web Application Development

Assignment II: Exploring Django with Docker

by Moldir Polat
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Table of contents

•	Introduction	3
•	Docker Compose	4
•	Docker Networking and Volumes	7
•	Django Application Setup	12
•	Conclusion	-17

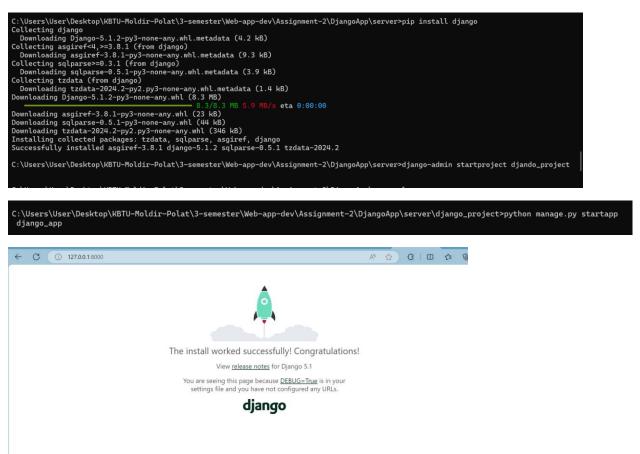
Introduction

Assignment has 3 sections to complete: Docker Compose, Docker Networking and Volumes, Django Application setup.

The goal of this assignment is to gain hands-on experience with Django and Docker, focusing on Docker Compose, Docker networking, and volumes. Students will set up a Django application within a Docker environment and document the process.

Docker Compose

At first we created Django project with Django app locally.



• Configuration: We can define and manage multiple Docker containers in docker-compose.yml file. Here we will have web container and database cantainer. docker-compose.yml file content

.env file content:

• **Build and Run:** We use command docker-compose up --build

It pulls the Python image, installs Django and PostgreSQL inside the containers, sets up the services.

web service builds the Django app from the server directory, runs the development server on port 8000, and uses environment variables for database configuration.

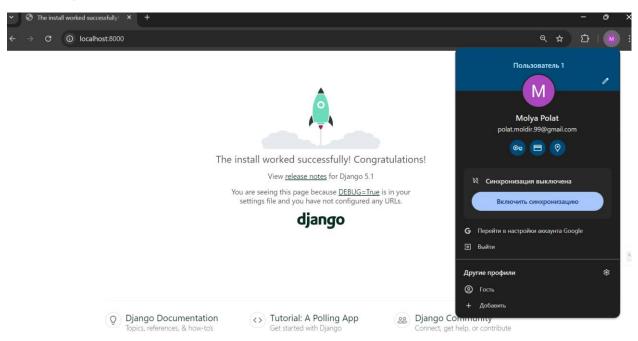
db service uses the official PostgreSQL image, exposing port 5432 and initializing with environment variables from the .env file for database credentials.

volumes persistent storage for PostgreSQL is configured using a named volume (postgres data).

Built containers (output of *docker-compose up -d -build* command):

```
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```

Checking localhost:8000



Postgre sql checking:

```
C:\Users\User\Desktop\KBTU-Moldir-Polat\3-semester\Web-app-dev\Assignment-2\DjangoApp>docker exec -it djangoapp-db-1 psql -U my_user -d my_database_name psql (17.0 (Debian 17.0-1.pgdg120+1))
Type "help" for help.

my_database_name=# \dt
Did not find any relations.
```

All services are running:

```
C:\Users\User\Desktop\KBTU-Moldir-Polat\3-semester\Web-app-dev\Assignment-2\DjangoApp>docker ps
CONTAINER ID IMAGE COMMAND CREATED STATUS PORTS
640bbblacdd4 djangoapp-web "python manage.py ru-" 7 minutes ago Up 7 minutes 0.0.0.8:5432->5432/tcp djangoapp-web-1 djangoapp-web-1 djangoapp-db-1
```

Challenges:

Django required python version 3.10.

Docker Networking and Volumes

• Set Up Docker Networking

We modified previous docker-compose.yml file as following:

```
Tile Edit Selection View Go Run

    # docker-compose.yml C:\...\DjangoNetworking X
    # docker-compose.yml C:\...\DjangoApp

        C: > Users > User > Desktop > KBTU-Moldir-Polat > 3-semester > Web-app-dev > Assignment-2 > DjangoNetworking > 👉 docker-compose.yml
مړه
                        - ./server:/app
- static_volume:/app/static
                     depends_on:
                    environment:

- DEBUG=1

- DB_NAME=${DB_NAME}

- DB_USER=${DB_USER}

- DB_PASSWORD=${DB_PASSWORD}

- DB_HOST=db

- DB_PORT=5432
                    image: postgres environment:
                       POSTGRES_DB: ${DB_NAME}
POSTGRES_USER: ${DB_USER}
POSTGRES_PASSWORD: ${DB_PASSWORD}
(8)
                          - db_data:/var/lib/postgresql/data
                   db_data:
static_volume:
(8)
```

We added *networks*: section to both web and db services to specify a custom network called *app_network*. This will allow these services to communicate with each other.

We updated *setting.py* to connect with Postgresql service:

Started containers with Docker compose:

Containers are running:

```
C:\Users\User\Desktop\KBTU-Moldir-Polat\3-semester\Web-app-dev\Assignment-2\DjangoNetworking>docker ps
CONTAINER ID IMAGE COMMAND CREATED STATUS PORTS NAMES
b4d47e7b10af djangonetworking-web "python manage.py ru..." 4 seconds ago Up 3 seconds 0.0.0.0:8000->8000/tcp djangonetworki
ng-web-1
2f0ec94ae60f postgres "docker-entrypoint.s..." 5 seconds ago Up 4 seconds 0.0.0.0:5432->5432/tcp djangonetworki
ng-db-1
```

To verify the connection we created models:

```
C:\Users\User\Desktop\KBTU-Moldir-Polat\3-semester\Web-app-dev\Assignment-2\DjangoNetworking>docker-compose exec web python manage.py makemigrations
time="2024-10-13T01:57:53+05:00" level=warning msg="C:\Users\User\Desktop\KBTU-Moldir-Polat\\3-semester\Web-app-dev\\Assignment-
2\DjangoNetworking\\docker-compose.yml: the attribute `version` is obsolete, it will be ignored, please remove it to avoid potential confusion"

Migrations for 'django_app': django_app/migrations/0001_initial.py

+ Create model Author

+ Create model Author

+ Create model Book

+ Create model Review
```

Migrated data:

```
C:\Users\User\Desktop\KBTU-Moldir-Polat\3-semester\Web-app-dev\Assignment-2\DjangoNetworking>docker-compose exec web python manage.py
migrate
time="2024-10-13T01:58:57+05:00" level=warning msg="C:\Users\User\Desktop\KBTU-Moldir-Polat\\3-semester\Web-app-dev\Assignment-
2\DjangoNetworking\\docker-compose.yml: the attribute `version` is obsolete, it will be ignored, please remove it to avoid potential
confusion"

Operations to perform:
Apply all migrations: admin, auth, contenttypes, django_app, sessions
Running migrations:
Applying contenttypes.0001_initial... OK
Applying admin.0001_initial... OK
Applying admin.0002_logentry_remove_auto_add... OK
Applying admin.0002_logentry_remove_auto_add... OK
Applying admin.0003_logentry_add_action_flag_choices... OK
Applying contenttypes.0002_remove_content_type_name... OK
Applying auth.0003_alter_user_move_ename.max_length... OK
Applying auth.0003_alter_user_last_login_null... OK
Applying auth.0006_require_contenttype_50002... OK
Applying auth.0006_require_contenttype_50002... OK
Applying auth.0006_require_contenttype_50002... OK
Applying auth.0006_alter_user_last_login_null... OK
Applying auth.0006_alter_user_last_mam_max_length... OK
Applying auth.0009_alter_user_last_name_max_length... OK
Applying auth.0009_alter_user_last_name_max_length... OK
Applying auth.0000_alter_user_last_name_max_length... OK
Applying auth.0000_alter_user_last_name_max_length... OK
Applying auth.0000_alter_user_insions... OK
Applying auth.0001_initial... OK
Applying dauth.001_update_proxy_permissions... OK
Applying dauth.001_update_proxy_permissions... OK
Applying dauth.0001_initial... OK
Applying dauth.0001_initial... OK
Applying sessions.0001_initial... OK
Applying sessions.0001_initial... OK
Applying sessions.0001_initial... OK
Applying sessions.0001_initial... OK
```

Here we loaded initial data fom fixtures:

docker-compose exec web python manage.py loaddata fixtures/initial data.json

C:\Users\User\Desktop\KBTU-Moldir-Polat\3-semester\Web-app-dev\Assignment-2\DjangoNetworking>docker-compose exec web python manage.py loaddata fixtures/initial_data.json time="2024-10-13702:00:22+05:00" level=warning msg="C:\\Users\\User\\Desktop\\KBTU-Moldir-Polat\\3-semester\\Web-app-dev\\Assignment-2\DjangoNetworking\\docker-compose.yml: the attribute `version` is obsolete, it will be ignored, please remove it to avoid potential confusion"

Installed 2 object(s) from 1 fixture(s)

Now let's check databse directly using Postgre CLI:

Exactly 2 objects are present in database which means that aour application successfully connected with db service – successful networking.

• Implement Docker Volumes

We have already configured a volume for PostgreSQL data in docker-compose.yml file in previous task. This volume will ensure that PostgreSQL database keeps its data even if the container is stopped or even deleted.

```
db:
    image: postgres
    environment:
        POSTGRES_DB: ${DB_NAME}
        POSTGRES_USER: ${DB_USER}
        POSTGRES_PASSWORD: ${DB_PASSWORD}

ports:
        - "5432:5432"
    volumes:
        - db_data:/var/lib/postgresql/data
    networks:
        - app_network
```

For web service we added 2 volumes: *media_volume* – will store uploaded files; *static_volume* – will store static files.

To verify let's rebuild all containers:

Volumes were created (last 3):

```
C:\Users\User\Desktop\KBTU-Moldir-Polat\3-semester\Web-app-dev\Assignment-2\DjangoNetworking>docker volume ls
DRIVER VOLUME NAME
local 66a6f2f88a705acfa9a4ld2d99b75e6736576744ac5b03f1e13ad97e75100607
local 795c5dd79d52c64d98f81e17b328da97e67cedfc4ald5c0eff56ee6ca3e8b3e4
local b6c943ac44482cc0862f8cd5cd11fbc6275664951194e3341f3b46fe52094ffc6
local djangoapp_db_data
local djangonetworking_db_data
local djangonetworking_media_volume
local djangonetworking_media_volume
local djangonetworking_static_volume
```

Let's check initial data in database:

They remained there even after stopping the container.

- Networking: we set up custom network by using services' names, so that they can communicate with each other without port exposing, which is more secure.
- Volumes: PostgreSQL data volumes remain all records of the application safe, and Django volumes save uploaded and static files outside of the container after rebuilds.
- Findings: Networking provided a communication between services improving isolation, security, and scalability. Volumes allowed us to keep all migrated data, files in the storage outside of the container without doing extra additional manipulation with data after restarting containers, so it represents efficient architecture of the application.

Django Application Setup

• Create a Django Project

Created the project and the application:

```
C:\Users\User\Desktop\KBTU-Moldir-Polat\3-semester\Web-app-dev\Assignment-2\DjangoAppSetup>django-admin startproject django_setup_project

C:\Users\User\Desktop\KBTU-Moldir-Polat\3-semester\Web-app-dev\Assignment-2\DjangoAppSetup>cd django_setup_project

C:\Users\User\Desktop\KBTU-Moldir-Polat\3-semester\Web-app-dev\Assignment-2\DjangoAppSetup\django_setup_project>python manage.py star tapp django_blog_app

C:\Users\User\Desktop\KBTU-Moldir-Polat\3-semester\Web-app-dev\Assignment-2\DjangoAppSetup\django_setup_project>
```

Registered the application:

```
File Edit Selection View Go Run

∠ django_setup_project

                                                                        settings.py X admin.py
   EXPLORER
                                      models.py
                                                       views.py

✓ DJANGO_SETUP_PROJECT

                                       django_setup_project > 🗣 settings.py > ...

√ django_blog_app

                                              ALLOWED_HOSTS = []

→ migrations

     _init_.py
                                              # Application definition
    __init__.py
    admin.py
                                              INSTALLED_APPS = [
    apps.py
    models.py
                                                  'django.contrib.auth',
    tests.py
                                                  'django.contrib.contenttypes',
    views.py
                                                  'django.contrib.sessions',

√ django_setup_project

                                                  'django.contrib.messages',
                                                   'django.contrib.staticfiles',
    > _pycache_
                                        40
                                                   'django_blog_app
    __init__.py
```

Our simple model Post and simple view to display a list of posts:

```
★ File Edit Selection View Go Run ···

∠ django_setup_project

        EXPLORER
                                            django_blog_app > @ models.py > 😝 Post > 🛇 __str__

√ DJANGO_SETUP_PROJECT

                                                    from django.db import models

√ django_blog_app

         \vee migrations
                                                    class Post(models.Model):
         __init__.py
                                                       title = models.CharField(max_length=200)
         __init__.py
                                                        content = models.TextField()
         admin.py
                                                        created_at = models.DateTimeField(auto_now_add=True)
         apps.py
                                                        def __str__(self):
    return self.title
         models.py
         tests.py
         🕏 views.py
        django_setup_project
         > _pycache_
```

```
🗙 File Edit Selection View Go Run …

∠ django_setup_project

                                                            🕏 views.py 🗙 🟓 tests.py

∨ DJANGO_SETUP_PROJECT [ → □ ] django_blog_app > • views.py > · post_list

                                             1 from django.shortcuts import render

√ django_blog_app

                                                  from .models import Post

→ migrations

        __init__.py
                                                  def post_list(request):
        _init_.py
                                                      posts = Post.objects.all()
                                                    posts = Post.objects.air()
return render(request, 'blog/post_list.html', {'posts': posts})
        apps.py
        models.py
        de tests.py
       views.py

√ django_setup_project

        > _pycache_
```

• Configure the Database

Updated settings.py to use the PostgreSQL database that we set up with Docker Compose, integrating it to our Django application.

Environment variables were used to keep sensitive information secure.

Run the migrations inside the Docker container to set up the database schema before starting the services:

Started both services:

Our site:

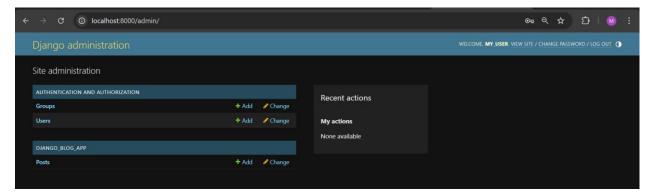


Posts of Moldir Polat

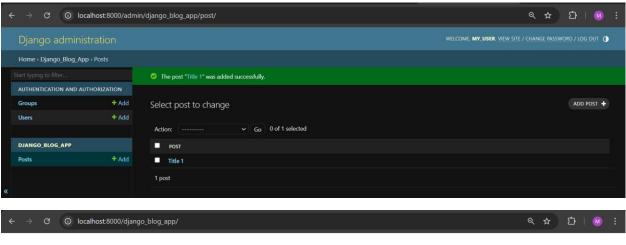
Created superuser to add some data:

```
\Users\User\Desktop\KBTU-Moldir-Polat\3-semester\Web-app-dev\Assignment-2\DjangoAppSetup\django_setup_project>docker-compose run web python manage.py crea
THIS PASSWORD IS TOO COMMON.
Bypass password validation and create user anyway? [y/N]: N
Password:
password:
Password (again):
Superuser created successfully.
C:\Users\User\Desktop\KBTU-Moldir-Polat\3-semester\Web-app-dev\Assignment-2\DjangoAppSetup\django_setup_project>
```

Admin page:



Added data:



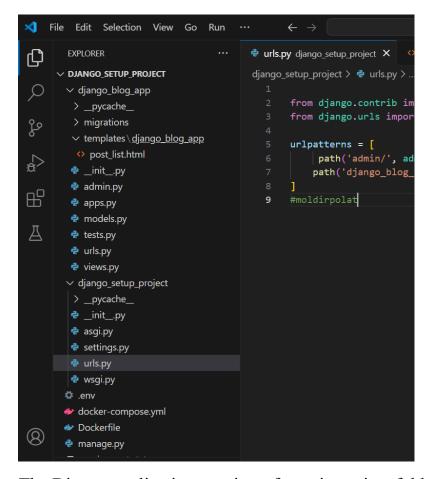
Posts of Moldir Polat

- Title 1 Oct. 13, 2024, 6:06 p.m. Title 2 Oct. 13, 2024, 6:06 p.m.

Document the Process

All process, models, views, and mingrations were captured above.

Final project structure:



The Django application consists of a main project folder (django_setup_project), which contains the core settings and configuration files, and an app folder (django_blog_app) that handles specific features like models, views, and templates. Docker was used to create isolated containers for the web application and the PostgreSQL database. The **Dockerfile** defines the environment for the Django application, including dependencies, and sets up the working directory. **Docker Compose** (docker-compose.yml) manages the orchestration of multiple services. The web service uses the configuration provided in the **Dockerfile** to build the application, while the db service uses the official PostgreSQL image.

Our findings:

It is easier to work with Docker because it can handle dependencies and database configuration. The challenge was to ensure all services communicated correctly, but Docker Compose simplified linking the database to the application.

Conclusion

Docker Compose can define and manage multiple services, such as a Django web application and a PostgreSQL database, with ease.

Docker Networking makes managing services efficient, provides secure communication between them.

Docker volumes allow data persistence.

The most important takeaway from the assignment is ability to configure files correctly in order to containerize the Django application in Docker, along with databse settings, environment variables, volumes, migrations.