.NET CORE AZURE UBUNTU VM DEPLOY GUIDE

PETRO KOLOSOV

ABSTRACT. Simple and easy way to deploy your .NET Core web application to the Azure Ubuntu-based virtual machine.

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1. VIRTUAL MACHINE CREATION

Firstly, it is necessary to create a virtual machine (unexpectedly) where deployment to be hosted on. In this guide is considered free virtual machine of type Standard B1ms (1 vcpu, 2 GiB memory) with Ubuntu 20.04 operating system. Definitely it won't be considered step by step creation in this document, however required VM parameter are as follows:

- Size: Standard B1ms (1 vcpu, 2 GiB memory)
- OS: Ubuntu Server 20.04 LTS Gen2
- Availability options: No infrastructure required
- Authentication type: SSH public key

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²⁰¹⁰ Mathematics Subject Classification. 26E70, 05A30.

 $Key\ words\ and\ phrases.$ Azure, DevOps, Virtual machine, Deploy, Nginx, SSH, CI/CD, Azure pipelines, Github actions .

- SSH public key source: Use existing public key (create it before you created VM)
- Public inbound ports: HTTP(80), HTTPS(443), SSH(22)
- OS disk type: Standard SSD
- Encryption type: Default
- Public IP: Basic SKU, Static (be sure to create static IP)
- Select inbound ports: HTTP(80), HTTPS(443), SSH(22)
- Boot diagnostics: Disabled

Chosen parameters of the virtual machine are collected in order to minimize vm's cost. If you are not sure, refer to the screenshots via the reference [Kol22c].

2. Connect to VM VIA SSH

In order to configure virtual machine manually (as this guide tends to describe), we have to connect to it via SSH using the specified RSA private and public key-pair. It is assumed that programmer uses WSL2 under Windows 10 in order to work with VM via the SSH. By default, SSH keys are stored under the path c/Users/username/.ssh. Assume that RSA key-pair is stored there and have the names id_rsa and id_rsa.pub for private and public keys respectively. In order to interact the VM via SSH it is necessary to copy RSA keypair to the WSL username/.ssh folder, we use the commands under WSL

- cp /mnt/c/Users/pkolosov/.ssh/id_rsa /.ssh/
- cp /mnt/c/Users/pkolosov/.ssh/id_rsa.pub /.ssh/

Then connection is available now using the command

• ssh -i /.ssh/id_rsa razumovsky_r@MachineStaticIP



Figure 1. SSH connected successfully.

Therefore, the SSH connection between WSL2 under Windows 10 is established so that we are able to configure our virtual machine as per our needs.

3. INSTALL .NET SDK AND RUNTIME TO THE UBUNTU 20.04

Next, we should install the .NET SDK (unexpectedly again) in order to run our application. Proceeding, we refer to the Microsoft documentation article named Install the .NET SDK or the .NET Runtime on Ubuntu [Cor22], precisely the version is 20.04. As per documentation, consider the following commands to install .NET 6.0 SDK to your Ubuntu VM

∞ 20.04

Installing with APT can be done with a few commands. Before you install .NET, run the following commands to add the Microsoft package signing key to your list of trusted keys and add the package repository.

Open a terminal and run the following commands:

Bash	🔁 Сору
wget https://packages.microsoft.com/config/ubuntu/20.04/packages-microsoft-prod.deb -O packa sudo dpkg -i packages-microsoft-prod.deb rm packages-microsoft-prod.deb	ges-micros

Install the SDK

The .NET SDK allows you to develop apps with .NET. If you install the .NET SDK, you don't need to install the corresponding runtime. To install the .NET SDK, run the following commands:

Bash
sudo apt-get update; \
sudo apt-get install -y apt-transport-https && \
sudo apt-get update && \
sudo apt-get install -y dotnet-sdk-6.0

(i) Important

If you receive an error message similar to **Unable to locate package dotnet-sdk-6.0**, see the APT troubleshooting section.



Prepare your virtual machine applying the commands

- wget https://packages.microsoft.com/config/ubuntu/20.04/packages-microsoft-prod.de
 -0 packages-microsoft-prod.deb
- sudo dpkg -i packages-microsoft-prod.deb
- rm packages-microsoft-prod.deb

The terminal output is as follows

Copy



Figure 3. Virtual machine preparation..

Apply the following commands in order to install the SDK

- sudo apt-get update
- sudo apt-get install -y apt-transport-https
- sudo apt-get update
- sudo apt-get install -y dotnet-sdk-6.0

The terminal output after .NET 6.0 SDK installation is as follows



Figure 4. Ubuntu 20.04 install .NET 6.0 SDK terminal output.



Figure 5. Ubuntu 20.04 install .NET 6.0 SDK terminal output.



Figure 6. Ubuntu 20.04 install .NET 6.0 SDK terminal output.

In order to install the .NET Runtime we refer again to the Microsoft documentation, that

Install the runtime

The ASP.NET Core Runtime allows you to run apps that were made with .NET that didn't provide the runtime. The following commands install the ASP.NET Core Runtime, which is the most compatible runtime for .NET. In your terminal, run the following commands:



Figure 7. Install the .NET SDK or the .NET Runtime on Ubuntu MSDN.

We install .NET runtime using the commands

- sudo apt-get update
- sudo apt-get install -y apt-transport-https
- sudo apt-get update
- sudo apt-get install -y aspnetcore-runtime-6.0

Terminal output as follows



Figure 8. Ubuntu 20.04 install .NET 6.0 Runtime terminal output.

Therefore, the .NET SDK and Runtime are installed so that we are able to run specified .NET app on behalf of our Ubuntu virtual machine.

4. Copy build files to the VM via SSH

Now we have to build our .NET Core Web Application to the specified folder, say /mango-linux-build/src. Note that it is much better to build it on behalf of Windows 10 main machine, not WSL 2.0 one. We use the following commands to build .NET Core Web App with Release configuration

- cd E:/RiderProjects/MangoMessengerAPI/MangoAPI.Presentation
- dotnet publish "MangoAPI.Presentation.csproj" -r linux-x64
 - -o /mango-linux-build/src

Terminal output is as follows

Figure 9. Publish .NET Web app terminal output.

Let's create the folder mango-backend where build files to be stored. Do not forget to connect to your Azure VM via SSH. Do not also forget to assign read-write privileges to the folder, using the commands

- sudo mkdir /mango-backend
- sudo chmod a+rwx /mango-backend

Terminal output:



Figure 10. Create folder at remote VM.

As next step consider to copy build files to the remote folder on your Azure VM so that we execute our program after. We copy the build files on behalf of WSL2 this time. In order to copy the build files we use following commands

- cd /mnt/e/mango-linux-build
- scp -r -i /.ssh/id_rsa ./src/* razumovsky_r@VM_IP_ADDRESS:/home/razumovsky_r/mango-backend

where id_rsa is the private key. Terminal output:

🗼 razumovsky_t@mango-ga-vm: X 📓 Windows PowerShell X 🗼 pkolosov@DESKTOP-NDC7K7 X + -			- o ×
pkolosov@DESKTOP-NDC7K70:~\$ cd /mnt/e/mango-linux-build			
pkolosov@DESKTOP-NDC7K70:/mnt/e/mango-linux-build\$ scp -r -i ~/.ssh/id_rsa ./src/* razumovsky_r@20.185.240.255:/home/razumovsky_r/mango-backend			
AutoMapper.Extensions.Microsoft.DependencyInjection.dll	100%	13KB 42.3KB/s	00:00
AutoMapper.dll	100%	248KB 401.9KB/s	00:00
Azure. Core. dll	100%	245KB 863.3KB/s	00:00
Azure.Storage.Blobs.dll	100%	1035KB 2.2MB/s	00:00
Azure.Storage.Common.dll	100%	85KB 520.2KB/s	00:00
FluentValidation.DependencvInjectionExtensions.dll	100%	16KB 102.0KB/s	00:00
FluentValidation.dll	100%	433KB 1.1MB/s	00:00
Humanizer.dll	100%	334KB 1.5MB/s	00:00
MangoAPI.Application.dll	100%	24KB 138.7KB/s	00:00
MangoAPI.Application.pdb	100%	19KB 120.5KB/s	00:00
MangoAPI.BusinessLogic.dll	100%	274KB 1.1MB/s	00:00
MangoAPI,BusinessLogic.pdb	100%	72KB 308.0KB/s	00:00
MangoAPI.DataAccess.dll	100%	197KB 1.1MB/s	00:00
MangoAPI.DataAccess.pdb	100%	26KB 157.6KB/s	00:00
MangoAPI.Domain.dll	100%	29KB 166.9KB/s	00:00
MangoAPI.Domain.pdb	100%	17KB 109.0KB/s	00:00
MangoAPI.Presentation	100%	139KB 734.3KB/s	00:00
MangoAPI.Presentation.deps.ison	100%	199KB 1.1MB/s	00:00
MangoAPI.Presentation.dll	100%	89KB 504.0KB/s	00:00
MangoAPI.Presentation.pdb	100%	40KB 202.7KB/s	00:00
MangoAPI.Presentation.runtimeconfig.json	100%	424 2.0KB/s	00:00
MediatR.Contracts.dll	100%	6656 41.3KB/s	00:00
MediatR.Extensions.Microsoft.DependencyInjection.dll	100%	18KB 115.9KB/s	00:00
MediatR.dll	100%	47KB 296.6KB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AI.DependencyCollector.dll	100%	128KB 500.1KB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AI.EventCounterCollector.dll	100%	41KB 209.6KB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AI.PerfCounterCollector.dll	100%	209KB 920.5KB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AI.ServerTelemetryChannel.dll	100%	116KB 688.1KB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AI.WindowsServer.dll	100%	68KB 421.4KB/s	00:00
Microsoft.ApplicationInsights.AspNetCore.dll	100%	100KB 606.5KB/s	00:00
Microsoft.ApplicationInsights.dll	100%	374KB 1.7MB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AspNetCore.Antiforgery.dll	100%	100KB 635.2KB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AspNetCore.Authentication.Abstractions.dll	100%	53KB 335.7KB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AspNetCore.Authentication.Cookies.dll	100%	105KB 563.2KB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AspNetCore.Authentication.Core.dll	100%	80KB 389.7KB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AspNetCore.Authentication.JwtBearer.dll	100%	40KB 250.6KB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AspNetCore.Authentication.OAuth.dll	100%	95KB 468.3KB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AspNetCore.Authentication.dll	100%	144KB 695.8KB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AspNetCore.Authorization.Policy.dll	100%	57KB 366.4KB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AspNetCore.Authorization.dll	100%	86KB 509.2KB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AspNetCore.Components.Authorization.dll	100%	46KB 206.4KB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AspNetCore.Components.Forms.dll	100%	61KB 396.5KB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AspNetCore.Components.Server.dll	100%	715KB 1.7MB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AspNetCore.Components.Web.dll	100%	286KB 1.4MB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AspNetCore.Components.dll	100%	544KB 1.7MB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AspNetCore.Connections.Abstractions.dll	100%	64KB 312.0KB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AspNetCore.CookiePolicy.dll	100%	48KB 300.7KB/s	00:00
Microsoft.AspNetCore.Cors.dll	100%	79KB 464.6KB/s	00:00

Figure 11. Copy build files via SSH.

Ensure build files are copied successfully to the remote VM, use the command ls -l mango-backend. Terminal output:

🗼 razumovsky_r@mango-qa-vm X 🛛 🛛 Windows PowerShell	×		pkolosov	@desktop-Ndc7k7c x + ~ - C X
razumovsky_r@mango-qa-vm:~\$ ls -l mango-back	end/			
total 109356				
-rwxrwxr-x 1 razumovsky_r razumovsky_r 133	312 May	24	18:26	AutoMapper.Extensions.Microsoft.DependencyInjection.dll
-rwxrwxr-x 1 razumovsky_r razumovsky_r 253	440 May	24	18:26	AutoMapper.dll
-rwxrwxr-x 1 razumovsky_r razumovsky_r 251	304 May	24	18:26	Azure.Core.dll
-rwxrwxr-x 1 razumovsky_r razumovsky_r 1060	240 May	24	18:26	Azure.Storage.Blobs.dll
-rwxrwxr-x 1 razumovsky_r razumovsky_r 87	440 May	24	18:26	Azure.Storage.Common.dll
-rwxrwxr-x 1 razumovsky_r razumovsky_r 15	372 May	24	18:26	FluentValidation.DependencyInjectionExtensions.dll
-rwxrwxr-x 1 razumovsky_r razumovsky_r 442	380 May	24	18:26	FluentValidation.dll
-rwxrwxr-x 1 razumovsky_r razumovsky_r 342	L20 May	24	18:26	Humanizer.dll
-rwxrwxr-x 1 razumovsky_r razumovsky_r 24	064 May	24	18:26	MangoAPI.Application.dll
-rwxrwxr-x 1 razumovsky_r razumovsky_r 19	104 May	24	18:26	MangoAPI.Application.pdb
-rwxrwxr-x 1 razumovsky_r razumovsky_r 280	576 May	24	18:26	MangoAPI.BusinessLogic.dll
-rwxrwxr-x 1 razumovsky_r razumovsky_r 73	596 May	24	18:26	MangoAPI.BusinessLogic.pdb
-rwxrwxr-x 1 razumovsky_r razumovsky_r 201	728 May	24	18:26	MangoAPI.DataAccess.dll
-rwxrwxr-x 1 razumovsky_r razumovsky_r 27	972 May	24	18:26	MangoAPI.DataAccess.pdb
-rwxrwxr-x 1 razumovsky_r razumovsky_r 29	596 May	24	18:26	MangoAPI.Domain.dll
-rwxrwxr-x 1 razumovsky_r razumovsky_r 17	536 May	24	18:26	MangoAPI.Domain.pdb
-rwxrwxr-x 1 razumovsky_r razumovsky_r 142	340 May	24	18:26	MangoAPI.Presentation
-rwxrwxr-x 1 razumovsky_r razumovsky_r 203	748 May	24	18:26	MangoAPI.Presentation.deps.json
-rwxrwxr-x 1 razumovsky_r razumovsky_r 90	524 May	24	18:26	MangoAPI.Presentation.dll
-rwxrwxr-x 1 razumovsky_r razumovsky_r 40	580 May	24	18:26	MangoAPI.Presentation.pdb

Figure 12. Check files at remote VM.

Therefore, the specified .NET Core web application is copied to the Ubuntu virtual machine so that it can be executed thanks to the previously installed .NET SDKs and runtimes.

5. Configure Ubuntu service

In this section the main aim is to implement an Ubuntu service such that runs our previously built .NET Core web application. It means that we have to configure the environment variables used in our application as well as to configure the firewall rules so that application will be able to communicate with another resources like databases, blobs etc. Ubuntu server refers to the entry point of the web app, that is

/home/razumovsky_r/mango-backend/MangoAPI.Presentation

Use the command to create service

```
sudo vim /etc/systemd/system/mangoback.service
```

Paste the following text there

[Unit]

Description=Mango Messenger Backend Service for Azure Dev Environment After=network.target

[Service]

```
Environment=ASPNETCORE_URLS=http://+:8080/
Environment=MANGO_JW_ISSUER="https://front.mangomessenger.company"
Environment=MANGO_JWT_AUDIENCE="https://back.mangomessenger.company"
Environment=MANGO_JWT_SIGN_KEY="d32d7cea-4cb8-4488-aa94-323ffb8cbdf4"
Environment=MANGO_EMAIL_NOTIFICATIONS_ADDRESS="mango@gmail.com"
Environment=MANGO_FRONTEND_ADDRESS="https://front.mangomessenger.company/"
Environment=MANGO_DATABASE_URL="database.connection.string"
Environment=MANGO_SEED_PASSWORD="seedPass"
Environment=MANGO_BLOB_URL="blob.url.connection.string"
Environment=MANGO_BLOB_CONTAINER="container.name"
Environment=MANGO_BLOB_ACCESS="blob.access.url"
Environment=MANGO_MAILGUN_API_KEY="mailgun.api.key"
Environment=MANGO_MAILGUN_API_BASE_URL="https://api.mailgun.net"
Environment=MANGO_MAILGUN_API_BASE_DOMAIN="back.mangomessenger.company"
Environment=MANGO_BACKEND_ADDRESS="https://back.mangomessenger.company/"
Type=simple
WorkingDirectory=/home/razumovsky_r/mango-backend
ExecStart=/home/razumovsky_r/mango-backend/MangoAPI.Presentation
User=razumovsky_r
Group=razumovsky_r
```

[Install]

WantedBy=multi-user.target

From the vim it should look as follows [Kol22b]

🗼 razumovsky j@mango-qa-vm X 🗶 Windows PowerShelt X 🎄 pkolosov@BESKTOP-NDC7K7C X + V	-	o	×
[Unit] Description≡Mango Messenger Backend Service for Azure Dev Environment After≡network.target			
Environment=ASPNETCORE URLS=http://+:8080/			
Environment=NANGO_JWT_ISSUER="https://front.mangomesenger.company"			
Environment=MANG0_JWT_SIGN_KEY=""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""			
Environment=MANGO_EMAIL_NOTIFICATIONS_ADDRESS="mango.messenger.notify@gmail.com"			
Environment=MANGO_FRONTEND_ADDRESS="https://front.mangomessenger.company/"			
Environment=MANGO_DATABASE_URL="			
Environment=MANGO_SEED_PASSWORD="""			4
Environment=MANGO_BLOB_URL="			
Environment=MANGO_BLOB_CONTAINER="mangodevgastoragecontainer"			
Environment=VANGO_BLOB_ACCESS="			
Environment=HANGO_NAILGUN_API_KEY="""""			
Environment=MAKO_MAILGON_API_BKSE_UKL="https://api.mailgun.net"			
Environment=MANGU_MAILGUN_API_BKSE_UUNAIN="Dack.mangomesenger.company"			
Environment=hando_backend_abbkess="https://back.mangomesenger.company/"			
Type=simple Newtring for the second			
WorkingDirectory-/nome/razamovsky_r/mange-backend			
Exectstall=/indm//iazamovsky_1/mango=backend/hangokr1.Flesentallon			
WantedBy=multi-user_target			

Figure 13. Ubuntu service opened in vim.

Make sure all resources are listening from the outside, check firewall rules on database side prior to run the service. Start and check health of the service using

- sudo systemctl start mangoback
- sudo systemctl status mangoback

Terminal output:

razumovsky_r@mango-qa-vm:~/mango-backend\$ sudo systemctl status mangoback
• mangoback.service - Mango Messenger Backend Service for Azure Dev Environment
Loaded: loaded (/etc/systemd/system/mangoback.service; disabled; vendor preset: enabled)
Active: active (running) since Tue 2022-05-24 20:57:05 UTC; 13s ago
Main PID: 24932 (MangoAPI.Presen)
Tasks: 16 (limit: 2289)
Memory: 55.3M
CGroup: /system.slice/mangoback.service
└24932 /home/razumovsky_r/mango-backend/MangoAPI.Presentation
May 24 20:57:09 mango-qa-vm MangoAPI.Presentation[24932]: dbug: 05/24/2022 20:57:09.455 CoreEventId.ContextDisposed[10407] (Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.Infrastructure)
May 24 20:57:09 mango-qa-vm MangoAPI.Presentation[24932]: 'MangoPostgresDbContext' disposed.
May 24 20:57:09 mango-qa-vm MangoAPI.Presentation[24932]: info: Microsoft.Hosting.Lifetime[14]
May 24 20:57:09 mango-qa-vm MangoAPI.Presentation[24932]: Now listening on: http://[::]:8080
May 24 20:57:09 mango-qa-vm MangoAPI.Presentation[24932]: info: Microsoft.Hosting.Lifetime[0]
May 24 20:57:09 mango-qa-vm MangoAPI.Presentation[24932]: Application started. Press Ctrl+C to shut down.
May 24 20:57:09 mango-qa-vm MangoAPI.Presentation[24932]: info: Microsoft.Hosting.Lifetime[0]
May 24 20:57:09 mango-qa-vm MangoAPI.Presentation[24932]: Hosting environment: Production
May 24 20:57:09 mango-qa-vm MangoAPI.Presentation[24932]: info: Microsoft.Hosting.Lifetime[0]
May 24 20:57:09 mango-qa-vm MangoAPI.Presentation[24932]: Content root path: /home/razumovsky_r/mango-backend
razumovsky_r@mango-qa-vm:~/mango-backend\$

Figure 14. Run ubuntu service and check status, terminal output.

As a result of this section, we have created a specified ubuntu service that runs our previously copied .NET Core web application using installed .NET SDK and runtime.

6. INSTALL AND CONFIGURE NGINX SERVER

Now we have to configure the **nginx** server in order to expose our .NET Core web application to the outside. As a result of this section web app will be exposed and accessible via VM's external IP address. Let's install it using the commands

- sudo apt update -y
- sudo apt install -y nginx build-essential

Terminal output:

Figure 15. Ubuntu install nginx terminal output.

Next, it is necessary to create nginx configuration [Kol22a] that exposes our application, that is

```
server {
    server_name STATIC_IP_ADDRESS_OF_VM;
    location / {
        include proxy_params;
        proxy_pass http://127.0.0.1:8080;
    }
    location /swagger {
        include proxy_params;
        proxy_pass http://127.0.0.1:8080;
    }
    location /api {
    }
}
```

```
include proxy_params;
proxy_pass http://127.0.0.1:8080;
}
location /notify {
    proxy_pass http://127.0.0.1:8080;
    proxy_http_version 1.1;
    proxy_set_header Upgrade $http_upgrade;
    proxy_set_header Upgrade $http_upgrade;
    proxy_set_header Connection "upgrade";
    proxy_set_header Host $host;
    proxy_cache_bypass $http_upgrade;
}
```

We create it at the following path on behalf of our Azure VM via SSH

sudo vim /etc/nginx/conf.d/back.mangomesenger.company.conf

Restart nginx and validate its state using the commands

- sudo systemctl restart nginx
- sudo nginx -t

Terminal output:



Figure 16. Restart and test nginx terminal output.

Now we must be able to find our application listening to the

http://STATIC_IP_ADDRESS_OF_THE_VM

And actually it works as expected

$(\epsilon) \rightarrow \mathbf{C} \ \mathbf{C} \ \mathbf{A}$	Not secure /swagger/index.html			e 🖈 🔤 🛛 💈	⊧ ≅ ⊡ 🥹 :_
(+)	Swagger.	Select a definition	MangoAPI v1	~	Î
Ма	ingoAPI 🖤 🏧				
/swagge	r/v1/swagger.json				
				Authorize 🔒	
Co	mmunities			^	
G	ET /api/communities Gets all user's chats.			∨ 🔒	
PC	/api/communities/channel Creates new group of specified type: Public Channel (2).			~ ≜	
PC	/api/communities/chat/{userId} Creates new chat with specified user by user ID. If chat already exists: returns its	ID.		∨ ≜	
G	ET /api/communities/searches Searches chats by display name.			∨ 🌢	
PC	>>> /api/communities/picture/{chatId} Updates picture of particular channel.			∨ 🋍	
Co	ntacts			^	
PC	ST /api/contacts/{contactId} Adds particular user to the contacts			∨ 🗎	
DE	/api/contacts/{contactId} Deletes particular contact from the contacts.			∨ 🋍	
G	ET /api/contacts Returns list of user's contacts.			~ ≜	
G	i /api/contacts/searches Searches user by display name.			∨ ≜	

Figure 17. .NET Core web app accessed via browser using static IP address of the virtual machine.

In this section we have installed and configured the nginx web server so that it exposes our .NET Core web application (run on behalf of Ubuntu service) from the previous section and makes it available from the web browser under the url http://STATIC_IP_ADDRESS_OF_THE_VM.

7. Configure domain name and SSL

In this section our main aim is to assign specified (previously bought) domain name to our .NET Core web application as well as to configure SSL certificate for it. What is domain name?

Domain name – is a string of text that maps to a numeric IP address, used to access a website from client software [Clo22]. The actual address of a website is a complex numerical IP address (e.g. 103.21.244.0), but thanks to DNS, users are able to enter human-friendly domain names and be routed to the websites they are looking for.

7.1. Buy and configure domain name using Cloudflare. For instance, the domain name can be bought on the one of the following resources

- https://www.name.com
- https://www.namecheap.com
- https://get.tech

After that we have to associate our domain with the cloudflare.com service in order to manage out domain name and get some free DDoS protection and request analytics. For instance, I have bought a domain name withing name.com service and configured it using the following DNS records:

- hassan.ns.cloudflare.com
- sonia.ns.cloudflare.com

So it looks like as follows

EXPIRES QU	ICK ACTIONS					
() 12 Mar 2023	Domain Locked WHOIS PRIVACY	ON ,	Automatic Renewal	RENEW \$19.99		
Domain Details						
REGISTRANT CONTACTS	NAMESERVERS hassan.ns.cloudflare.com sonia.ns.cloudflare.com Manage Nameservers	DNS O Not using Name.com Nameservers <u>Manage DNS Records</u>	TRANSFER AUTH CODE			

Figure 18. Domain name configuration at name.com.

After that we have to configure our domain name at cloudflare providing an IP address of the virtual machine we host our .NET Core web application, that is

A few mor	e steps are required t	o complete your setup.			Hide				
✓ Add ar	✓ Add an A, AAAA, or CNAME record for www so that www.mangomesenger.company will resolve.								
✓ Add ar	✓ Add an A, AAAA, or CNAME record for your root domain so that mangomesenger.company will resolve.								
 ✓ Add an set up 	 Add an MX record for your root domain so that mail can reach @mangomesenger.company addresses or set up restrictive SPF, DKIM, and DMARC records to prevent email spoofing. New Alert 								
DNS mar	nagement for ma Records	ngomesenger.company							
٩			Search	Advanced	Add record				
Туре	Name	Content	Proxy status	TTL	Actions				
А	back	IP_ADDRESS_OF_THE_VM	📥 DNS only	Auto	Edit 🕨				
Cloudflare Nameservers To use Cloudflare, ensure your authoritative DNS servers, or nameservers have been changed. These are your assigned Cloudflare nameservers.									
Туре	Value								
NS	hassan.ns.cloudfla	ire.com							
NS	sonia.ns.cloudflare	e.com							

Figure 19. Domain name configuration at cloudflare.com.

7.2. Configure nginx for the Domain name. Now our aim is to make sure that nginx server accepts connections to the VM via the Domain name we previously bought and configured. Yet again we use SSH + RSA key pair and change the address in our nginx configuration as follows

```
server {
   server_name back.mangomesenger.company;
   location / {
      include proxy_params;
      proxy_pass http://127.0.0.1:8080;
   }
   location /swagger {
      include proxy_params;
      proxy_pass http://127.0.0.1:8080;
   }
```

```
location /api {
    include proxy_params;
    proxy_pass http://127.0.0.1:8080;
}
location /notify {
    proxy_pass http://127.0.0.1:8080;
    proxy_http_version 1.1;
    proxy_set_header Upgrade $http_upgrade;
    proxy_set_header Connection "upgrade";
    proxy_set_header Host $host;
    proxy_cache_bypass $http_upgrade;
}
```

We, actually, have changed only the top line server_name to the

server_name back.mangomesenger.company;

Let's restart and test the nginx server using the commands

- sudo systemctl restart nginx
- sudo nginx -t

So that our web application is available now under the HTTP external url, yet without SSL certificate

http://back.mangomesenger.company/swagger

And it works as desired

\leftrightarrow \rightarrow C \Diamond	Not secure back.mangomesenger.company/swagger/index.html			Ŀ \$
•	Swagger	Select a definition	MangoAPI v1	
N	langoAPI 🖤 🏎			
/swa	igger/v1/swagger.json			
				A
C	Communities			
	GET /api/communities Gets all user's chats.			
	POST /api/communities/channel Creates new group of specified type: Public Channel (2).			
	POST /api/communities/chat/{userId} Creates new chat with specified user by user ID. If chat already exists: returns its ID.			
	GET /api/communities/searches Searches chats by display name.			
	POST /api/communities/picture/{chatId} Updates picture of particular channel.			
C	Contacts			
	POST /api/contacts/{contactId} Adds particular user to the contacts			
	DELETE /api/contacts/{contactId} Deletes particular contact from the contacts.			
	CET /api/contacts Returns list of user's contacts.			
	GET /api/contacts/searches Searches user by display name.			

Figure 20. Application is available under the Domain name.

7.3. Configure the HTTPS using LetsEncrypt Certbot. Configuring the HTTPS for our nginx server we are going to use the CertBot tool from the LetsEncrypt. We install it to the Ubuntu virtual machine using the following commands:

- sudo apt update -y
- sudo apt install -y python3 python3-pip python3-dev build-essential
- sudo pip3 install --upgrade pip
- sudo pip3 install certbot
- sudo pip3 install certbot-nginx

A partial terminal output is as follows

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Figure 21. Install CertBot tool terminal output.

Last part remaining is to certify out nginx web server so that it will accept HTTPS connections, we do it using the commands:

- sudo certbot --nginx
- sudo systemctl restart nginx
- sudo nginx -t

The terminal output is as follows

Figure 22. sudo certbot --nginx terminal output.

Finally, our web application accepts the HTTPS connections now

https://back.mangomesenger.company/swagger

And certificate looks as follows

← → C △ 🍈 https://back.mangomesenger.company/swagger/index.html	
Swagger. Supported by SMARTBEAR	Select a definitio
Certificate is intended for the following purpose(s): Proves your identity of a remote computer Proves your i	Select a definitio
OK GET /api/communities/searches Searches chats	new chat with specified user by user ID. If chat already exists: returns its ID.
POST /api/communities/picture/{chatId} Updates picture of particular channel.	

Figure 23. sudo certbot --nginx terminal output.

This completes the current section.

8. Conclusions

We have reviewed ways to deploy ASP. NET Core Web API to the Ubuntu virtual machine using nginx server. Also, we have bind vm under specified domain name and implemented HTTPS via lets encrypt certbot.

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Email address: kolosovp94@gmail.com
URL: https://razumovsky.me/