Indexing and searching NuGet.org with Azure Functions and Search

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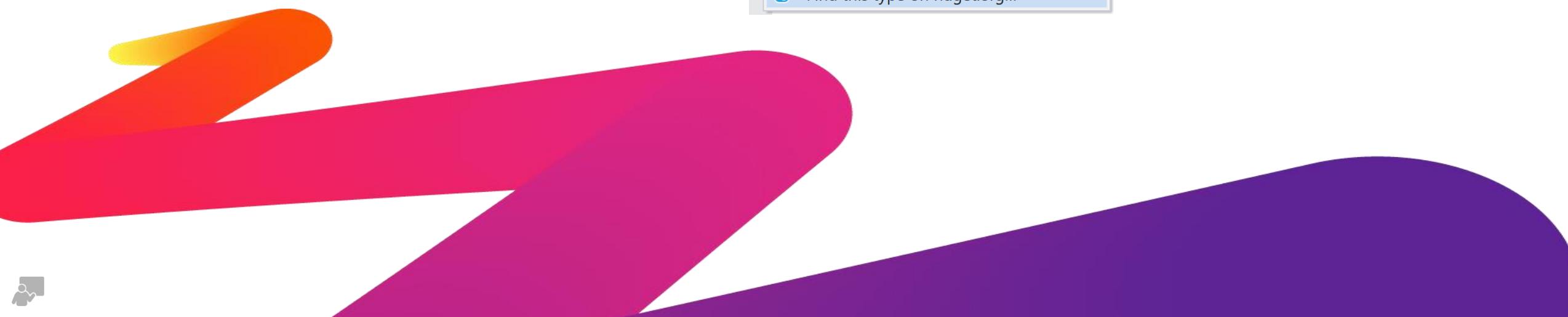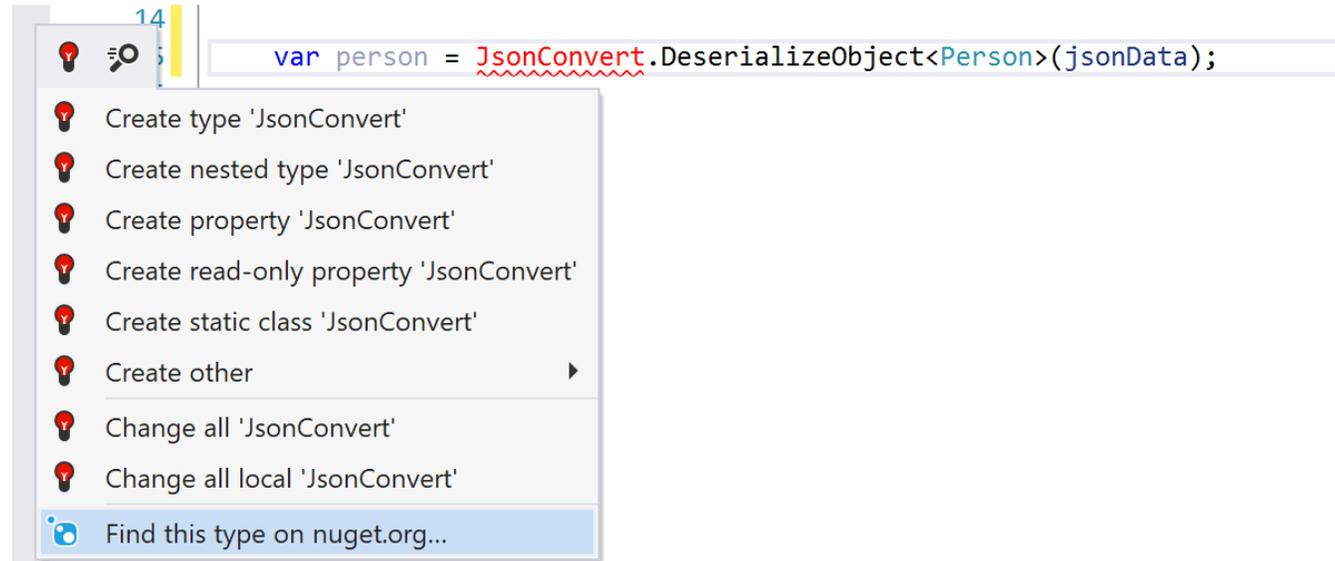
"Find this type on NuGet.org"

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In ReSharper and Rider

Search for namespaces
& types that are not yet referenced

"Find this type on NuGet.org"

Idea in 2013, introduced in ReSharper 9

(2015 - https://www.jetbrains.com/resharper/whatsnew/whatsnew_9.html)

Consists of

ReSharper functionality

A service that indexes packages and powers search

Azure Cloud Service (Web and Worker role)

Indexer uses NuGet OData feed

https://www.nuget.org/api/v2/Packages?$select=Id,Version,NormalizedVersion,LastEdited,Published&$orderby=LastEdited%20desc&$filter=LastEdited%20gt%20datetime%272012-01-01%27
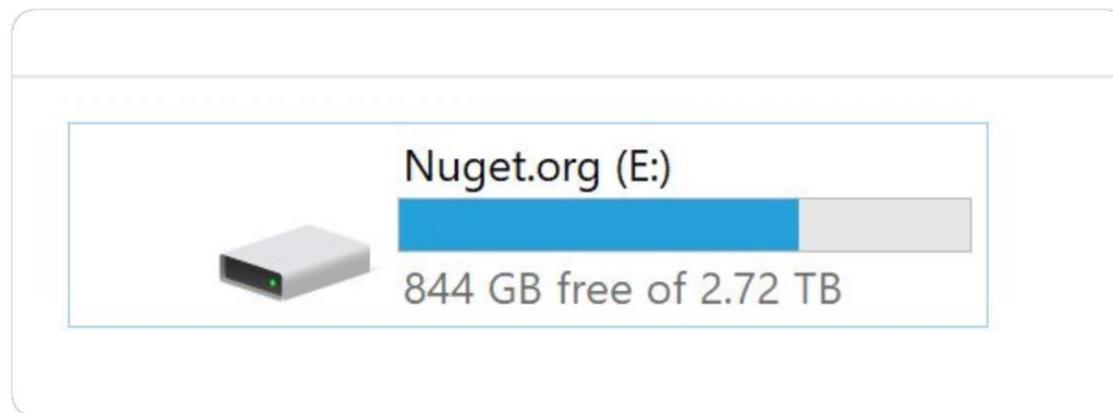
NuGet over time...

Alexander Shvedov
@controlflow

huh, nuget.org repo is 1.9Tb now... was like 250Gb in a year 2015

🌐 Tweet vertalen

Nuget.org (E:)

844 GB free of 2.72 TB

11:20 - 28 nov. 2018
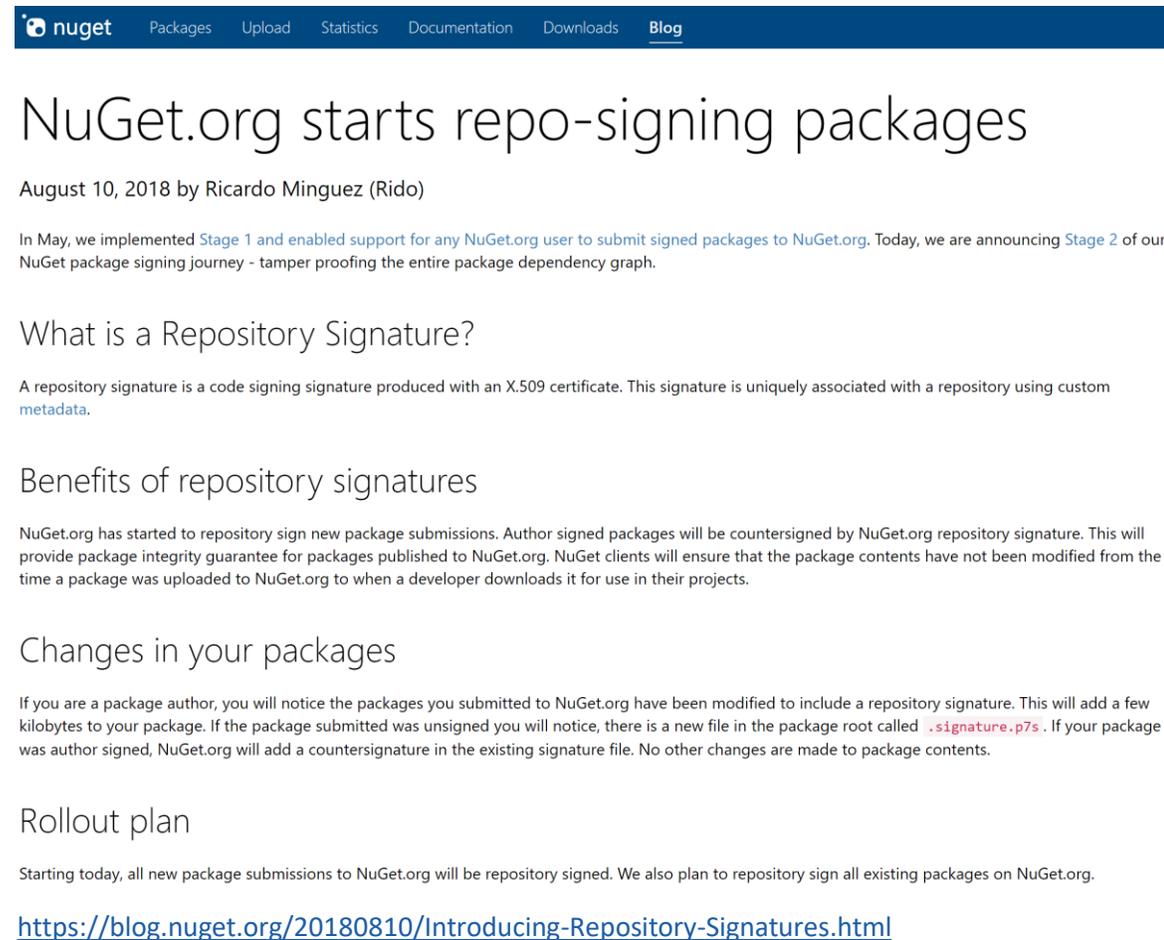
6 retweets 22 likes

💬 4   ↻ 6   ♡ 22   ✉

NuGet over time…

Repo-signing announced August 10, 2018

Big chunk of packages signed
over holidays 2018/2019

Re-download all metadata & binaries
Very slow over OData

NuGet.org starts repo-signing packages

August 10, 2018 by Ricardo Minguez (Rido)

In May, we implemented Stage 1 and enabled support for any NuGet.org user to submit signed packages to NuGet.org. Today, we are announcing Stage 2 of our NuGet package signing journey - tamper proofing the entire package dependency graph.

What is a Repository Signature?

A repository signature is a code signing signature produced with an X.509 certificate. This signature is uniquely associated with a repository using custom metadata.

Benefits of repository signatures

NuGet.org has started to repository sign new package submissions. Author signed packages will be countersigned by NuGet.org repository signature. This will provide package integrity guarantee for packages published to NuGet.org. NuGet clients will ensure that the package contents have not been modified from the time a package was uploaded to NuGet.org to when a developer downloads it for use in their projects.

Changes in your packages

If you are a package author, you will notice the packages you submitted to NuGet.org have been modified to include a repository signature. This will add a few kilobytes to your package. If the package submitted was unsigned you will notice, there is a new file in the package root called `.signature.p7s`. If your package was author signed, NuGet.org will add a countersignature in the existing signature file. No other changes are made to package contents.

Rollout plan

Starting today, all new package submissions to NuGet.org will be repository signed. We also plan to repository sign all existing packages on NuGet.org.

https://blog.nuget.org/20180810/Introducing-Repository-Signatures.html

NuGet over time…

OData API being deprecated!

https://github.com/NuGet/Announcements/issues/37

NuGet server-side API

NuGet talks to a repository

Can be on disk/network share or remote over HTTP(S)

HTTP(S) API's
   V2 – OData based (used by pretty much all NuGet servers out there)
   V3 – JSON based (NuGet.org, TeamCity, MyGet, Azure DevOps, GitHub repos)

V3 Protocol

JSON based

A "resource provider" of various endpoints per purpose

Catalog (NuGet.org only) – append-only event log
Registrations – materialization of newest state of a package
Flat container – .NET Core package restore (and VS autocompletion)
Report abuse URL template
Statistics

…

https://api.nuget.org/v3/index.json (code in https://github.com/NuGet/NuGet.Services.Metadata)

How does NuGet.org work?

User uploads to NuGet.org

Data added to database

Data added to catalog (append-only data stream)

Various jobs can run over catalog using a cursor

Registrations (last state of a package/version), reference catalog entry

Flatcontainer (fast restores)

Search index (search, autocomplete, NuGet Gallery search)

...

Catalog seems interesting!

Append-only stream of mutations on NuGet.org
    Updates (add/update) and Deletes

Chronological
    Can continue where left off (uses a timestamp cursor)
    Can restore NuGet.org to a given point in time

Structure
    Root https://api.nuget.org/v3/catalog0/index.json
       + Page https://api.nuget.org/v3/catalog0/page0.json
          + Leaf https://api.nuget.org/v3/catalog0/data/2015.02.01.06.22.45/adam.jsgenerator.1.1.0.json

"Find this type on NuGet.org"

Refactor from using OData to using V3?

Mostly done, one thing missing: download counts (using search now)

https://github.com/NuGet/NuGetGallery/issues/3532

Build a new version?

Welcome to this talk ☺

Building a new version

What do we need?

Watch the NuGet.org catalog for package changes

For every package change
    Scan all assemblies
    Store relation between package id+version and namespace+type
API compatible with all ReSharper and Rider versions

What do we need?

Watch the NuGet.org catalog for package changes periodic check

For every package change based on a queue

    Scan all assemblies

    Store relation between package id+version and namespace+type

API compatible with all ReSharper and Rider versions always up, flexible scale

Sounds like functions!

Collecting from catalog

demo

Functions best practices

@PaulDJohnston https://medium.com/@PaulDJohnston/serverless-best-practices-b3c97d551535

Each function should do only one thing

Easier error handling & scaling

Learn to use messages and queues

Asynchronous means of communicating, helps scale and avoid direct coupling

…

Bindings

	Trigger	Input	Output
Timer	✔		
HTTP	✔		✔
Blob	✔	✔	✔
Queue	✔		✔
Table		✔	✔
Service Bus	✔		✔
EventHub	✔		✔
EventGrid	✔		
CosmosDB	✔	✔	✔
IoT Hub	✔		
SendGrid, Twilio			✔
…			✔

Help a function do only one thing
    Trigger, provide input/output
    Function code bridges those

Build your own!*
    SQL Server binding
    Dropbox binding
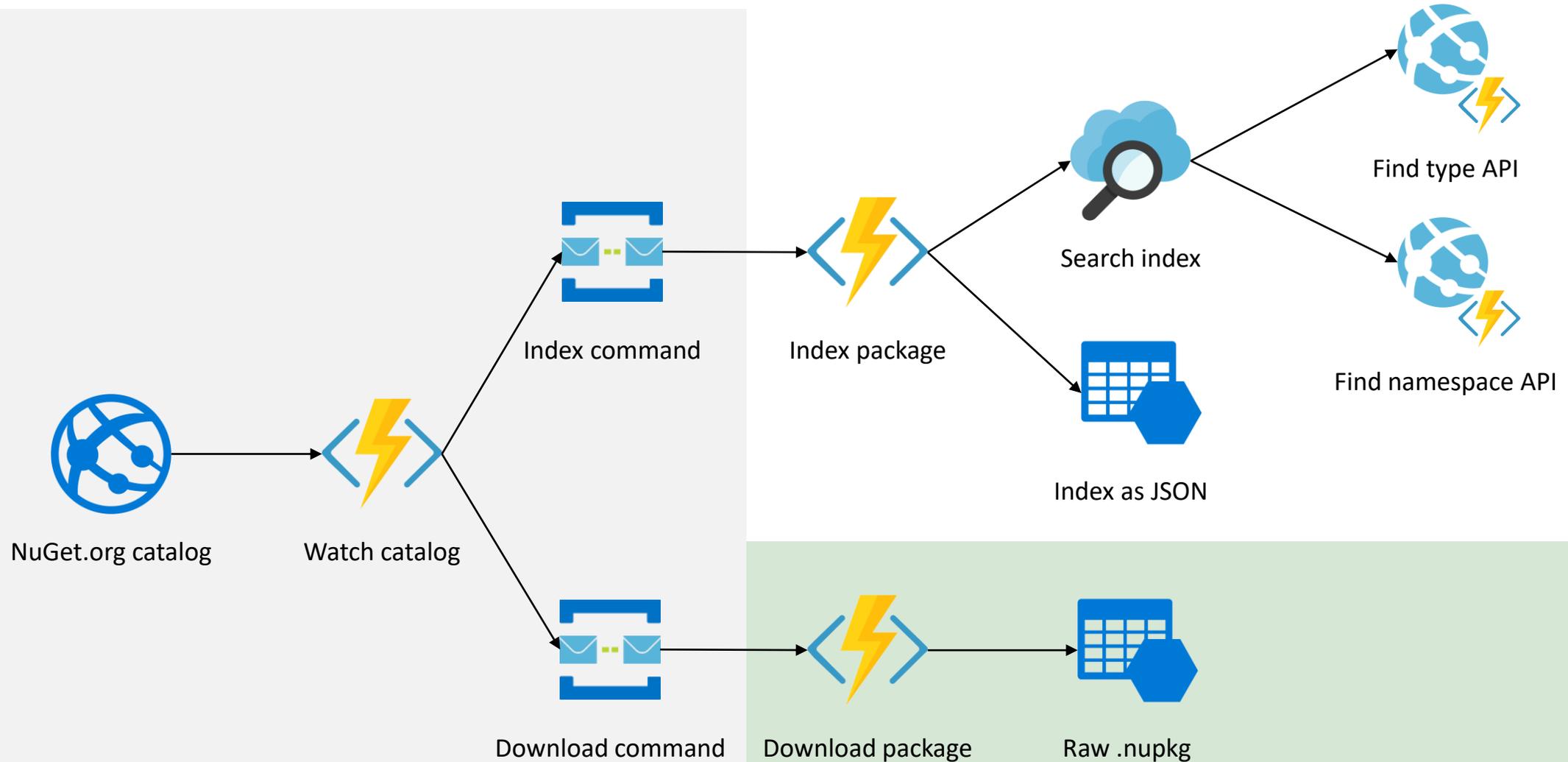   …
    NuGet Catalog

*Custom *triggers* not officially supported (yet?)

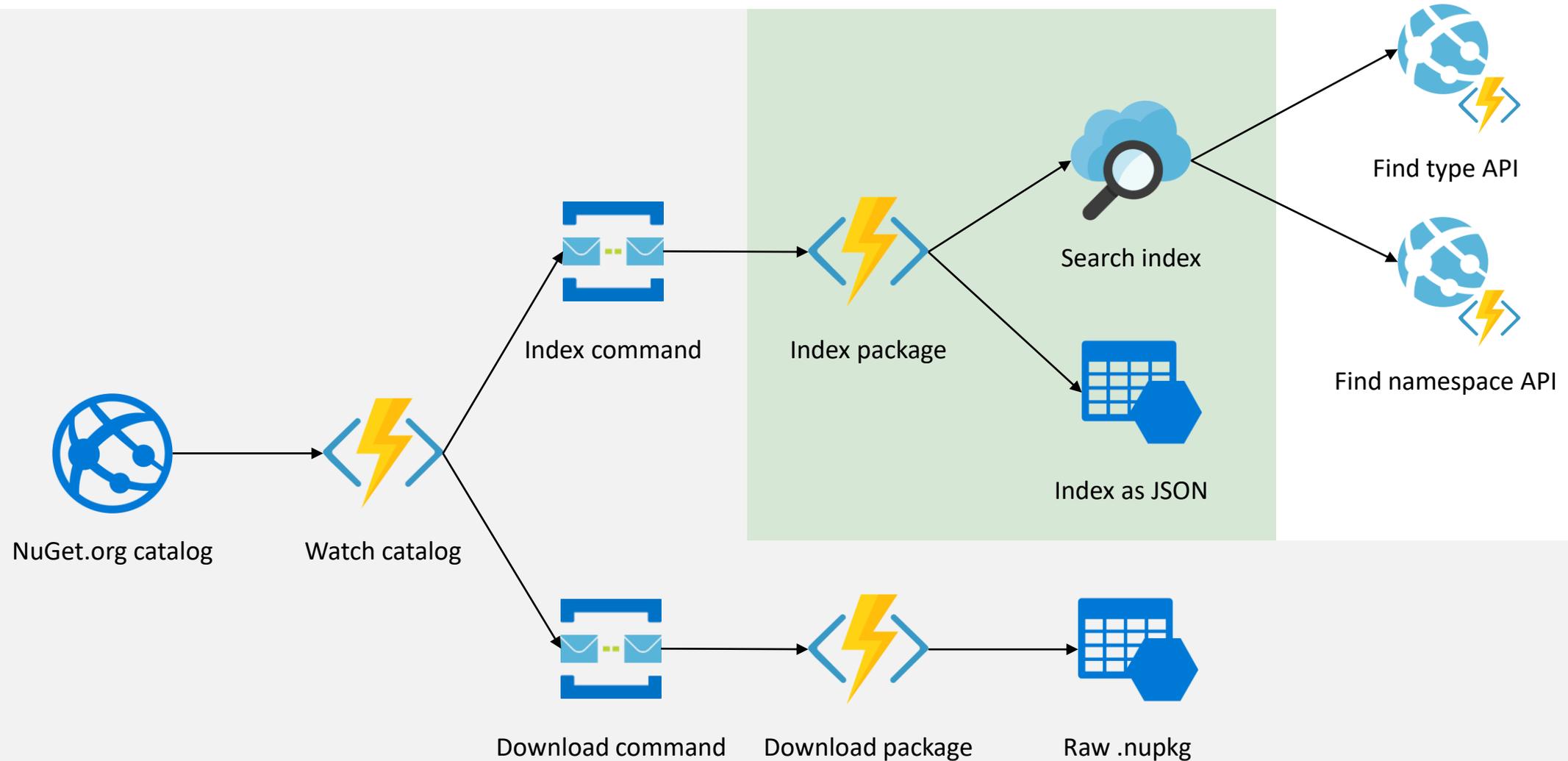# Creating a trigger binding

demo

We're making progress!

Downloading packages

demo

Next up: indexing

Indexing

Opening up the .nupkg and reflecting on assemblies

`System.Reflection.Metadata`

Does not load the assembly being reflected into application process

Provides access to Portable Executable (PE) metadata in assembly

Store relation between package id+version and namespace+type

Azure Search? A database? Redis? Other?

System.Reflection.Metadata

Free decompiler

www.jetbrains.com/dotpeek

System.Reflection.Metadata

```csharp
using (var portableExecutableReader = new PEReader(assemblySeekableStream))
{
    var metadataReader = portableExecutableReader.GetMetadataReader();
    foreach (var typeDefinition in metadataReader.TypeDefinitions.Select(metadataReader
        .GetTypeDefinition))
    {
        if (!typeDefinition.Attributes.HasFlag(TypeAttributes.Public)) continue;

        var typeNamespace = metadataReader.GetString(typeDefinition.Namespace);
        var typeName = metadataReader.GetString(typeDefinition.Name);

        if (typeName.StartsWith("<") || typeName.StartsWith("__Static") ||
            typeName.Contains("c__DisplayClass")) continue;

        typeNames.Add($"{typeNamespace}.{typeName}");
    }
}
```

Azure Search

"Search-as-a-Service"

Define an index that will hold documents consisting of fields
   Fields can be searchable, facetable, filterable, sortable, retrievable

Structure can't be changed easily
   Think what we want to search, and what we want to display

Indexing packages

demo

"Do one thing well"

Our function shouldn't care about creating a search index.

Better: return index operations, have something else handle those

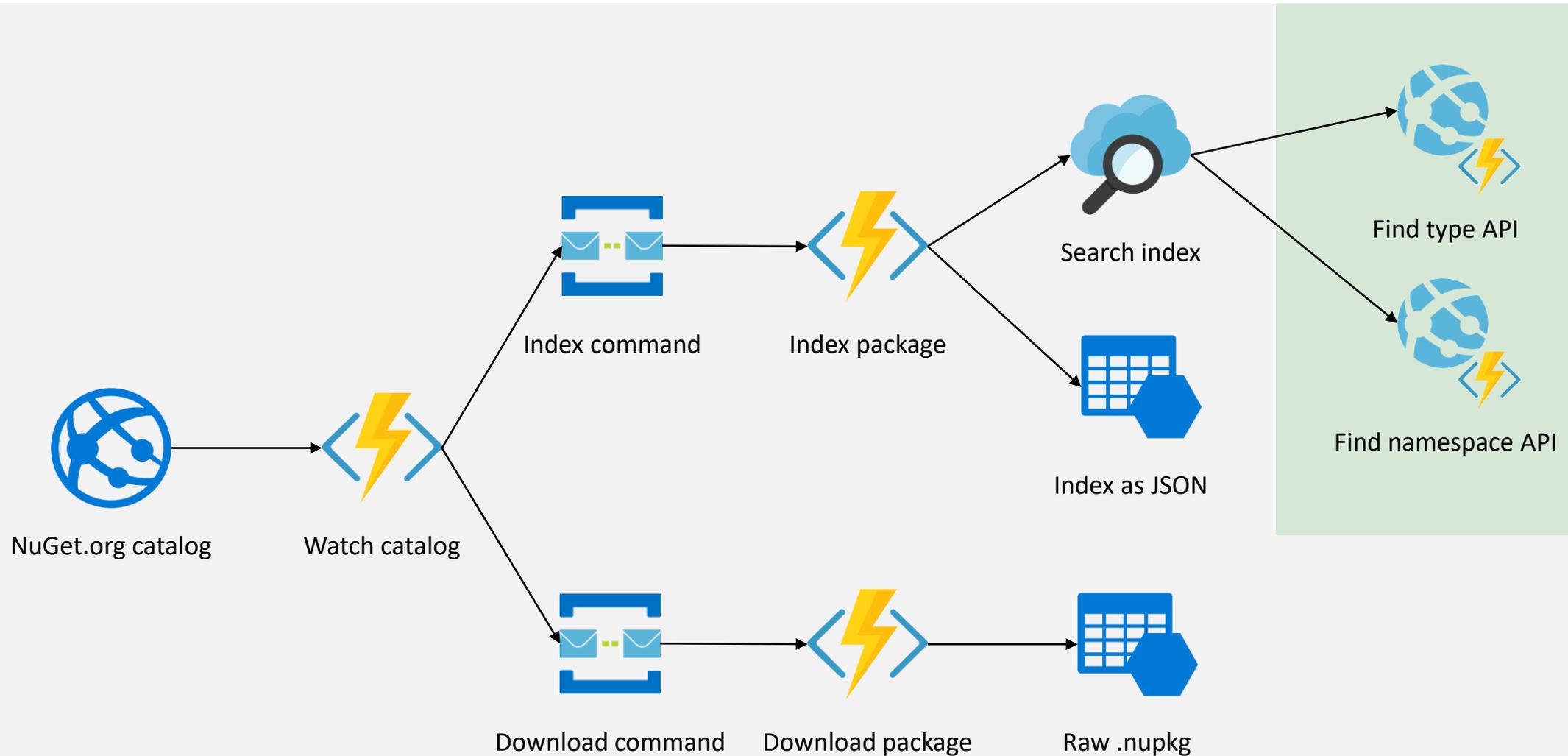Custom output binding?

Indexing packages (better version)

demo

Almost there...

HTTP trigger binding

```
[HttpTrigger(AuthorizationLevel.Anonymous,
    "get", Route = "v1/find-type")] HttpRequest request
```

Options for trigger
    Authentication (anonymous, a function/host key, a user token)
    HTTP method
    What the route looks like

Making search work with ReSharper and Rider

demo

One issue left…

Download counts - used for sorting and scoring search results
    Change continuously on NuGet
    Not part of V3 catalog
    Could use search but that's N(packages) queries
    https://github.com/NuGet/NuGetGallery/issues/3532

If that data existed, how to update search?
    Merge data! new PackageDocumentDownloads(key, downloadcount)

We're done!

NuGet org catalog → Watch catalog → Index command → Index package → Search index → Find type API

Search index → Find namespace API

Index package → Index as JSON

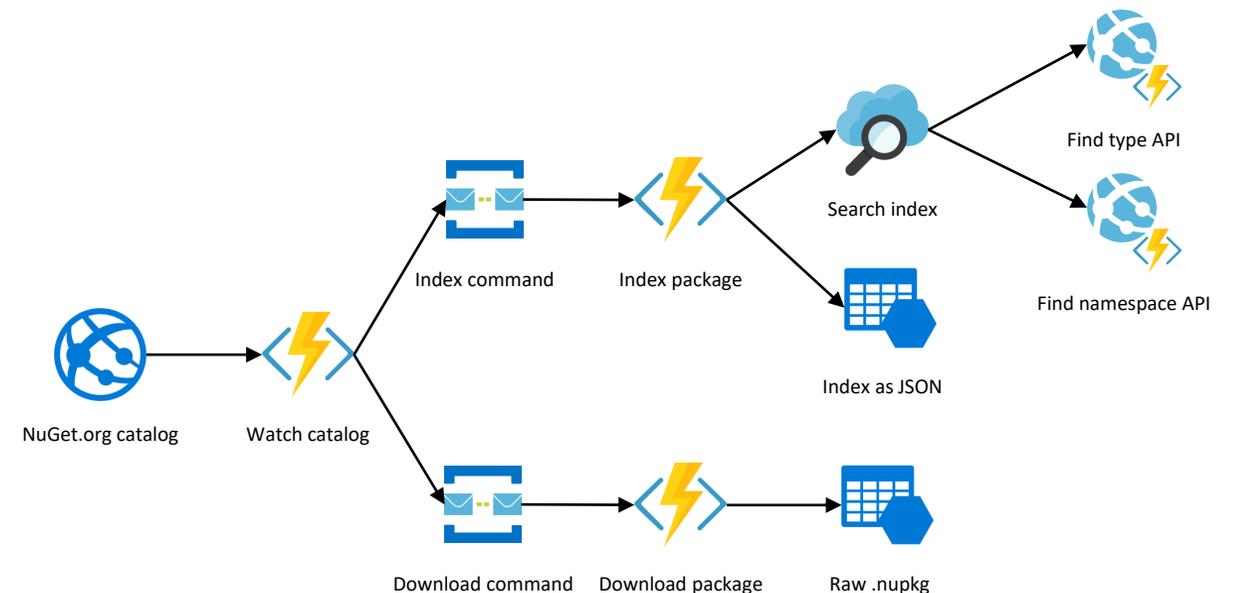Watch catalog → Download command → Download package → Raw .nupkg

We're done!

Functions
  Collect changes from NuGet catalog
  Download binaries
  Index binaries using PE Header
  Make search index available in API

Trigger, input and output bindings
  Each function should do only one thing

We're done!

All our functions can scale (and fail) independently

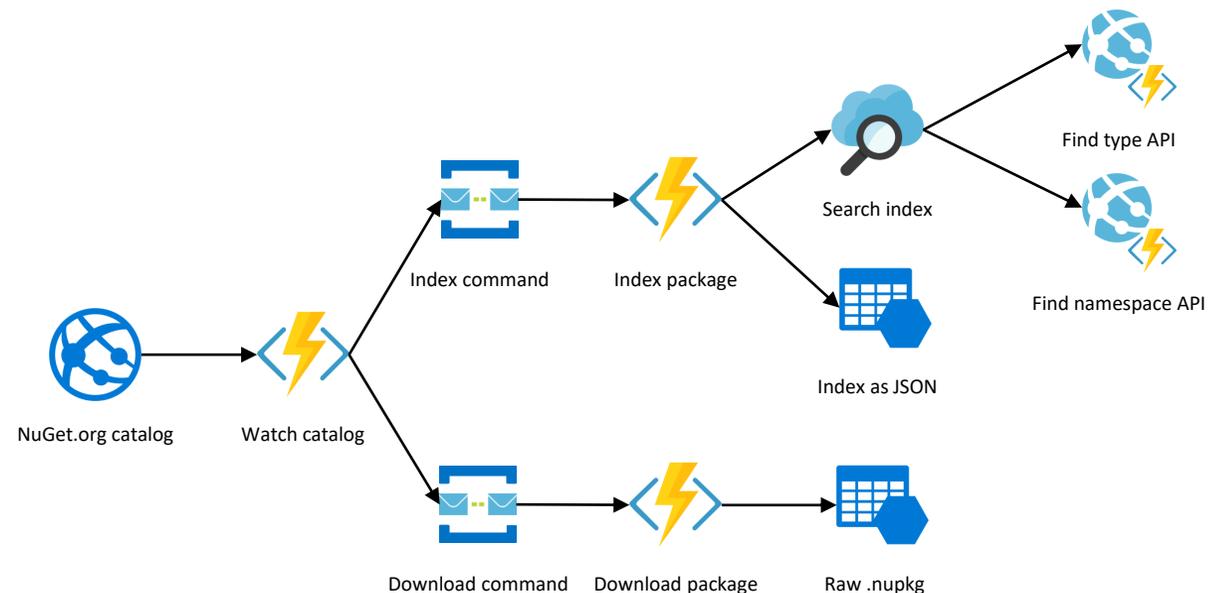Full index in May 2019 took ~12h on 2 B1 instances

~ 1.7mio packages (NuGet.org homepage says)

~ 2.1mio packages (the catalog says ☺)

~ 8 400 catalog pages

with ~ 4 200 000 catalog leaves
(hint: repo signing)

January 2020: ~ 2.6 mio packages / 3.5 TB

NuGet.org catalog → Watch catalog → Index command → Index package → Search index → Find type API / Find namespace API

Index as JSON

Download command → Download package → Raw .nupkg

Closing thoughts...

Would deploy in separate function apps for cost
   Trigger binding collects all the time so needs dedicated capacity (and thus, cost)
   Others can scale within bounds/consumption (think of $$$)

Would deploy in separate function apps for failure boundaries
   Trigger, indexing, downloading should not affect health of API

Are bindings portable...?
   Avoid them if (framework) lock-in matters to you
   They are nice in terms of programming model...

Thank you!

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