

# Indexing and searching NuGet.org with Azure Functions and Search

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**JET  
BRAINS**



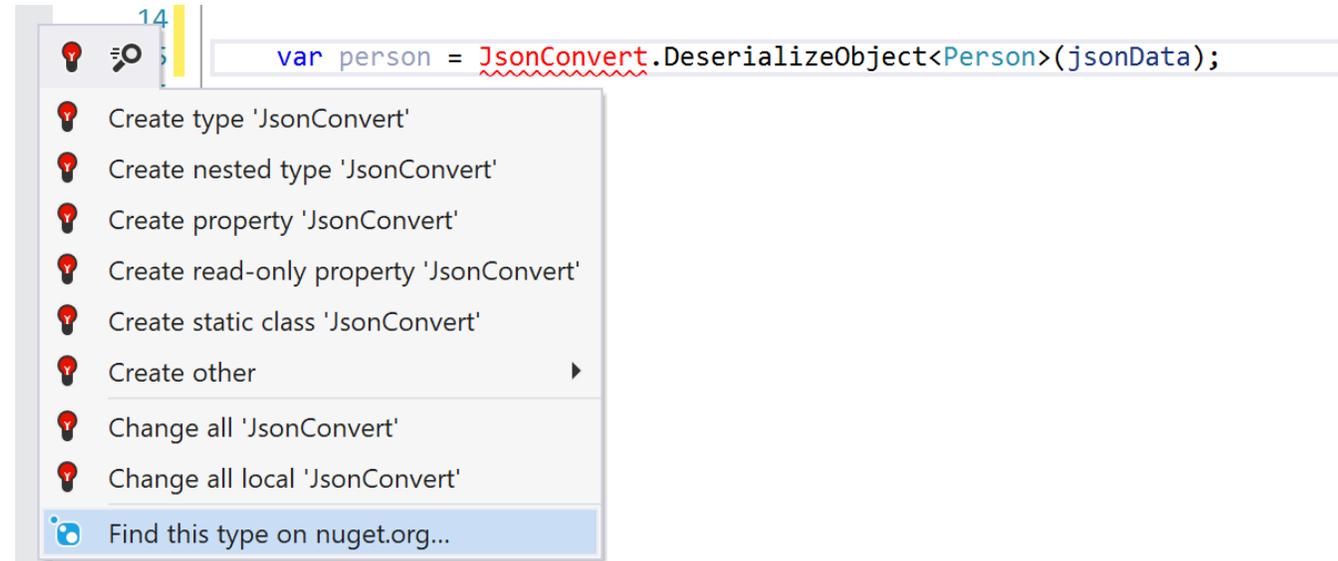
**WAZUG.NL**  
AZURE USER GROUP NL

A misty forest scene with a wooden tower in the background. The text "Find this type on NuGet.org" is overlaid in white.

“Find this type on NuGet.org”

# “Find this type on NuGet.org”

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](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](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...



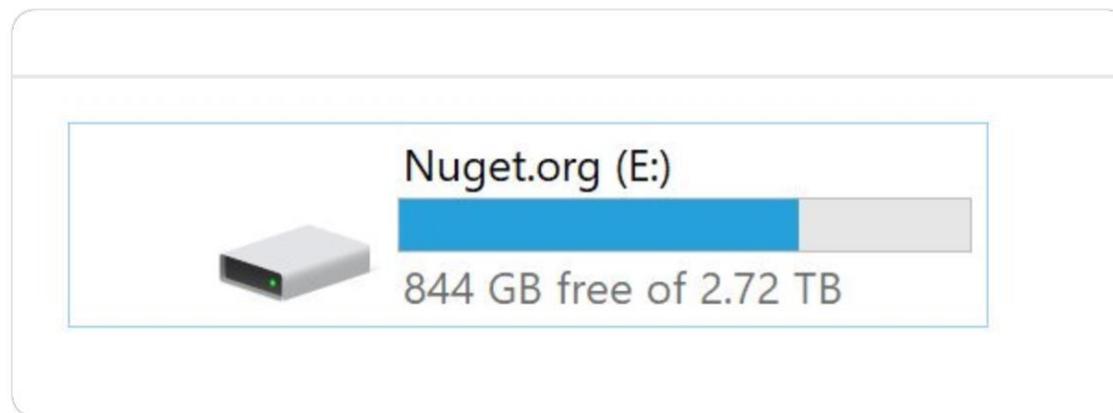
**Alexander Shvedov**

@controlflow



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

 Tweet vertalen



11:20 - 28 nov. 2018

6 retweets 22 likes



<https://twitter.com/controlflow/status/1067724815958777856>

# 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!

Search or jump to... Pull requests Issues Marketplace Explore

NuGet / Announcements Unwatch 192 Star 38 Fork 3

<> Code Issues 37 Pull requests 0 Projects 0 Security Insights

## Using OData to query NuGet.org repository is being deprecated #37

Open anangaur opened this issue 26 days ago · 0 comments

anangaur commented 26 days ago · edited

We introduced `v3 APIs` in early 2016. We have made continuous investments to make it more reliable, performant and secure. Going forward, we plan to bring all new features and improvements only to the newer `v3 APIs`. As part of this strategy, we are deprecating the usage of `odata` queries. Subsequently, we plan to **disable the `odata` queries starting Feb 5th, 2020**.

**Call to Action: Transition to V3 APIs**

Here are some resources to help you with the migration:

- [NuGet Server v3 APIs reference](#)
- [Guide to transition from NuGet v2 API to v3 API](#)
- [Blog post: Switching from WCF OData to Web API](#)

If you need further help in moving your use case to `v3 APIs`, do reach out to us at [support@nuget.org](mailto:support@nuget.org) or by commenting on the discussion issue: [NuGet/NuGetGallery#7423](#)

**Note:**  
This does not impact the official legacy clients (nuget.exe 2.x or Visual Studio 2013) that rely on the V2 endpoints (<https://www.nuget.org/api/v2>)

anangaur added **Breaking Change** **Announcement** labels 26 days ago

anangaur locked and limited conversation to collaborators 26 days ago

Assignees: No one assigned

Labels: **Announcement** **Breaking Change**

Projects: None yet

Milestone: No milestone

Notifications: **Unsubscribe** Customize

You're receiving notifications because you're watching this repository.

1 participant

<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>

# NuGet.org catalog

demo



# “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 😊

A misty forest landscape with a wooden tower in the background. The scene is bathed in a soft, golden light, suggesting early morning or late afternoon. The foreground is filled with tall grasses and small plants, while the middle ground is dominated by a dense forest of evergreen trees. A wooden tower with a small roof is visible in the distance, partially obscured by the trees and mist. The overall atmosphere is serene and quiet.

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**

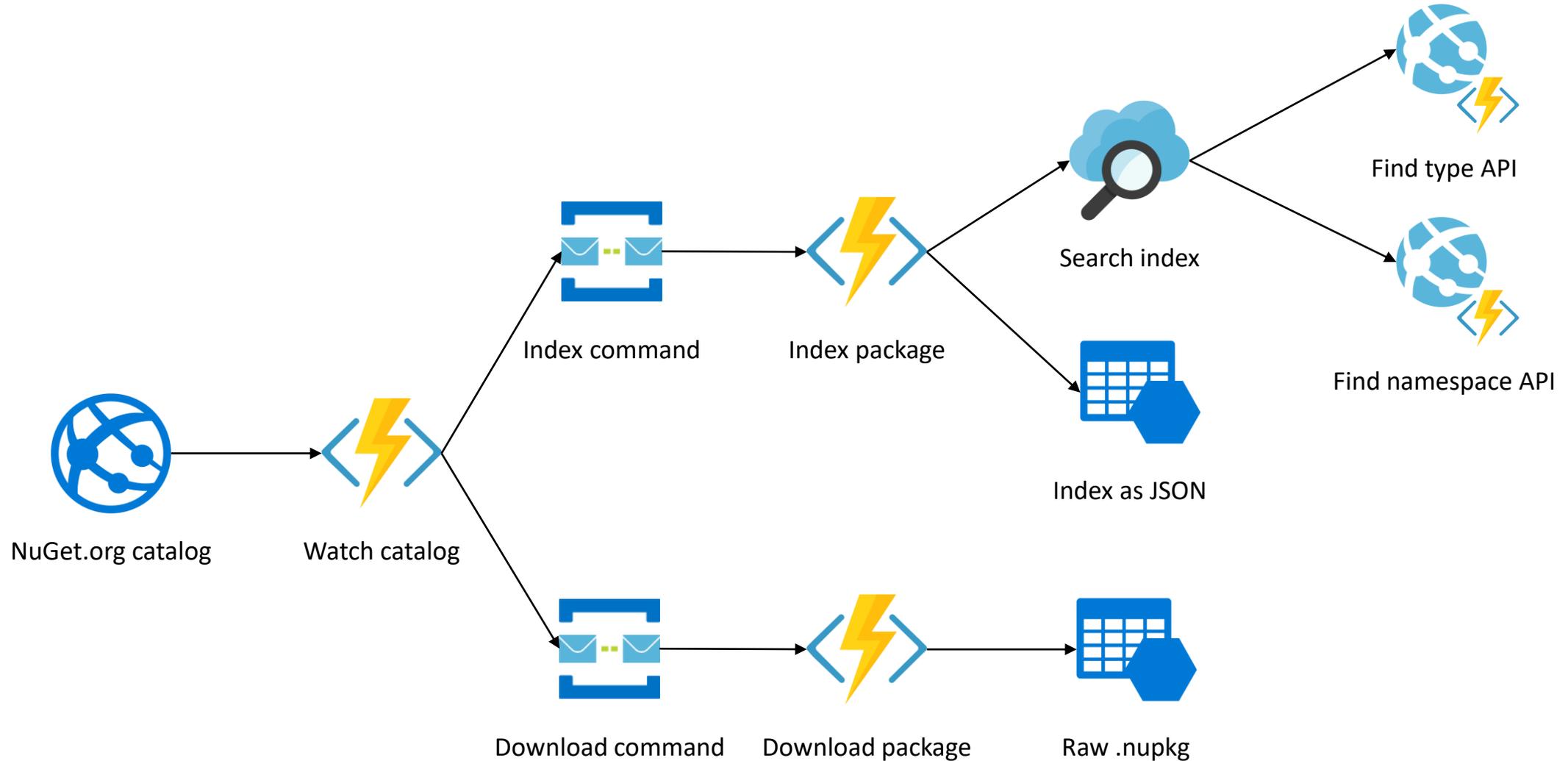
For every package change **based on a queue**

- 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) <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

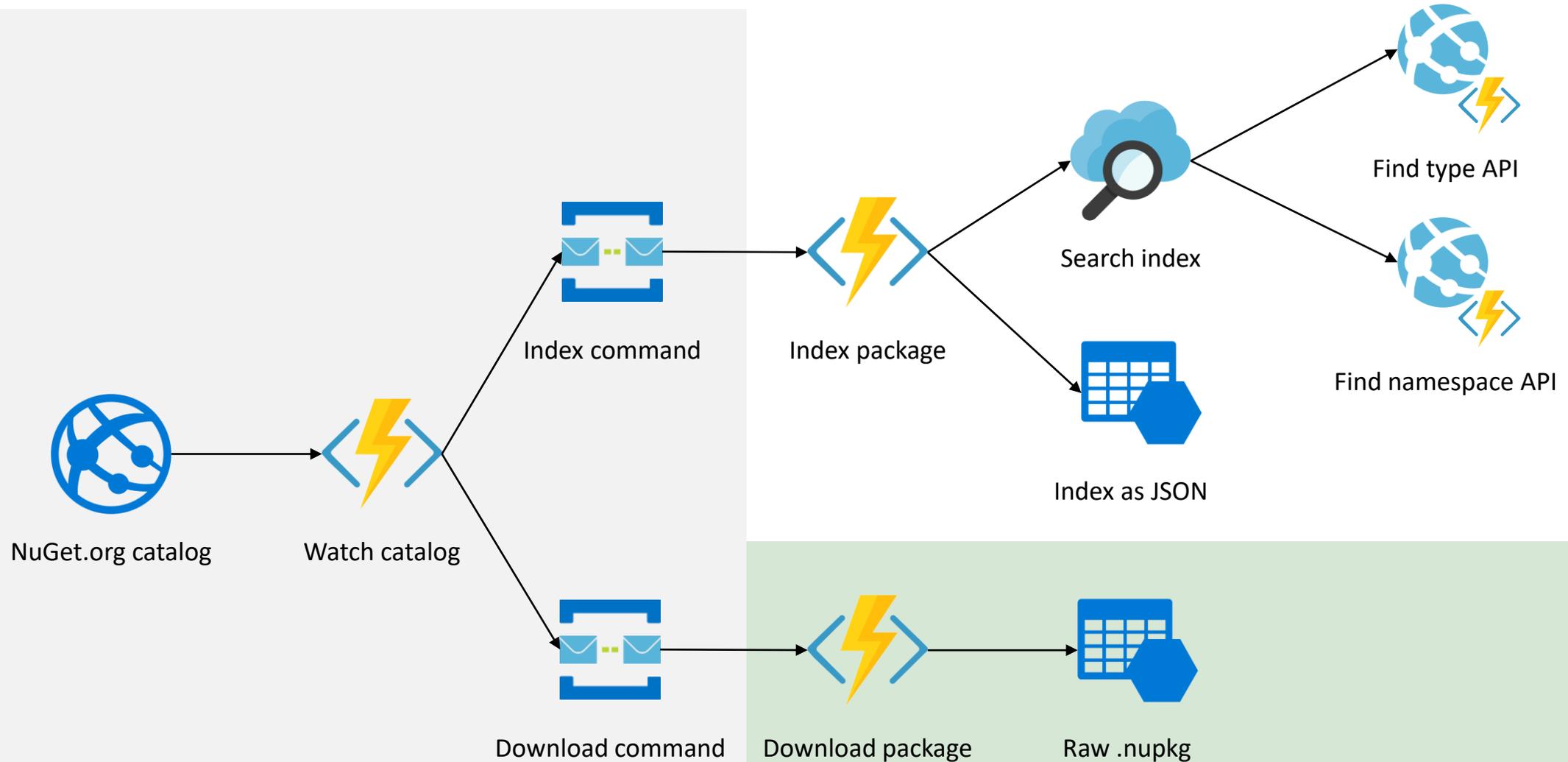
\*Custom *triggers* not officially supported (yet?)

# Creating a trigger binding

demo



# We're making progress!

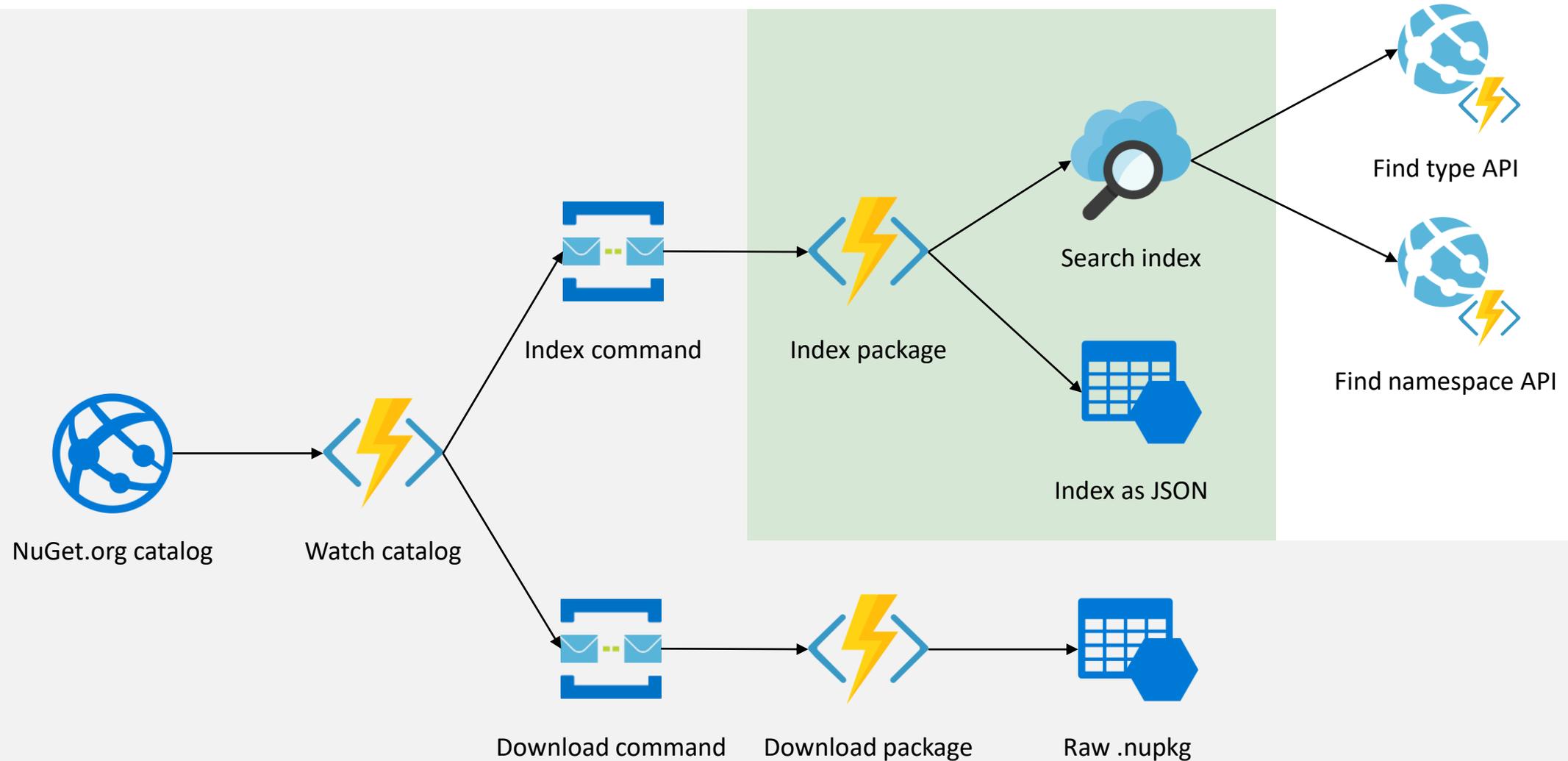


# Downloading packages

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](http://www.jetbrains.com/dotpeek)



Assembly Explorer

Type to search

- ▶ YouTrackSharp (2019.1.0)
  - ▶ Dependencies
    - ▶ YouTrackSharp (2019.1.0.0, msil, .NETStandard v2.0)
      - ▶ Metadata
        - ▶ Headers
        - ▶ #Strings (946)
        - ▶ #Us (167)
        - ▶ #GUID (1)
        - ▶ #Blob (983)
        - ▶ 00 Module (1): Generation - 2b | Name - string | Mvid - guid | EncId - guid | EncBaseId - guid
        - ▶ 01 TypeRef (124): ResolutionScope - ResolutionScope | TypeName - string | TypeNamespace - string
        - ▶ **02 TypeDef (121):** Flags - 4b | TypeName - string | TypeNamespace - string | Extends - TypeDefOrRef | FieldList - Field | MethodList - MethodDef
          - ▶ 02000001 0x00000000 | <Module> | | null | \_httpClient | .ctor
          - ▶ **02000002 0x00100001 | BearerTokenConnection | YouTrackSharp | Connection | \_httpClient | .ctor**
            - ▶ Usages (1)
            - ▶ Flags: TypeAttributes 0x00100001 | Visibility (Public), Layout (AutoLayout), ClassSemantics (Class), StringFormat (AnsiClass), CustomStringFormat (0x00000000), BeforeFieldInit
            - ▶ “” Name: string 00002391 BearerTokenConnection
            - ▶ “” Namespace: string 0000259A YouTrackSharp

# System.Reflection.Metadata

```
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](#), [facettable](#), [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

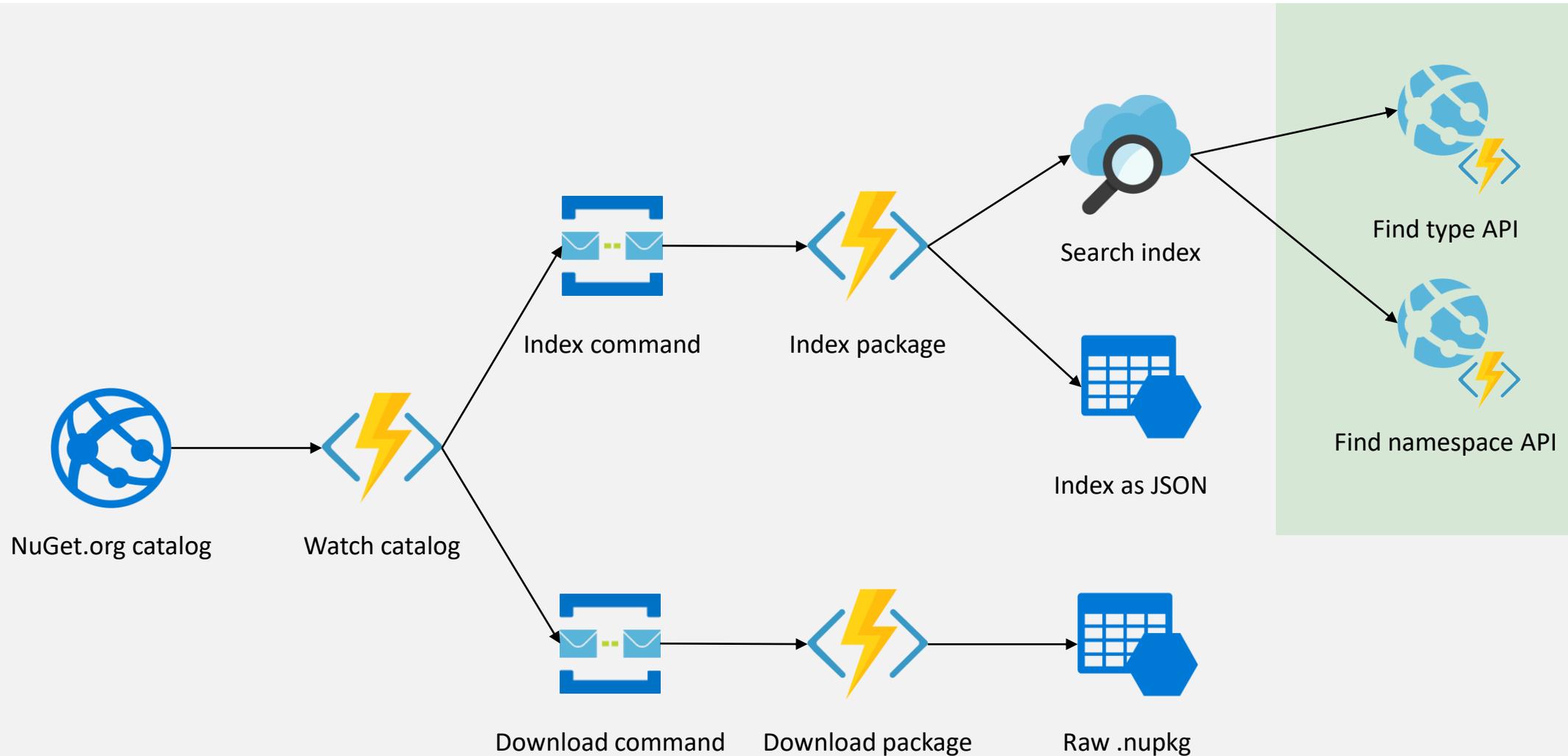
Custom output binding?

# 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

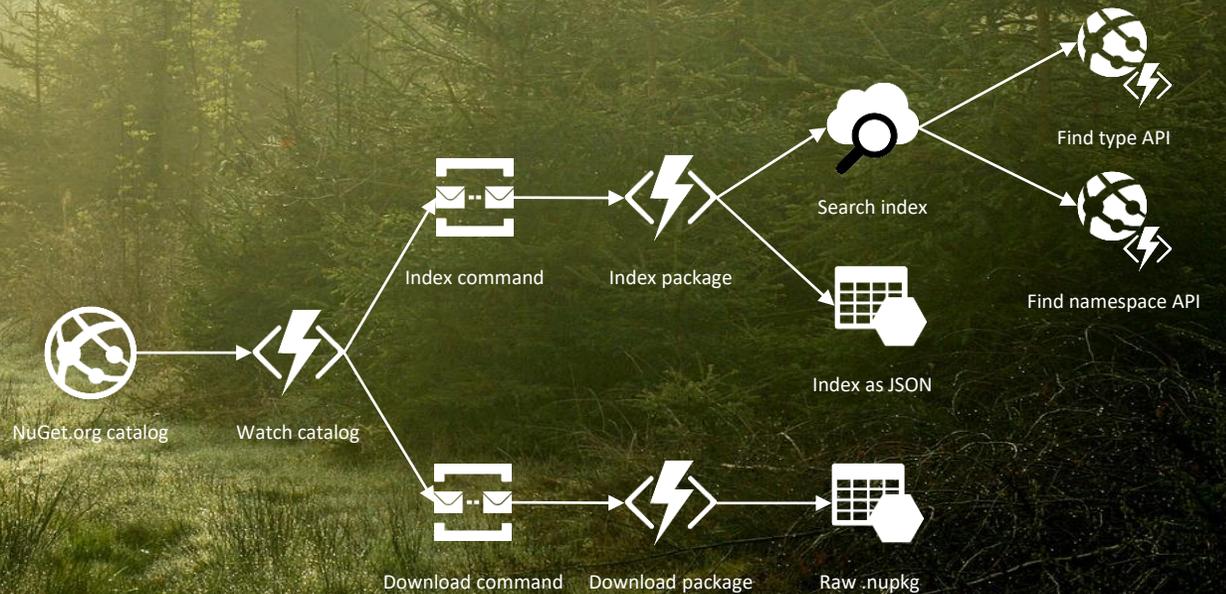
Could use search but that's  $N(\text{packages})$  queries

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

If that data existed, how to update search?

Merge data! new `PackageDocumentDownloads(key, downloadcount)`

# We're done!

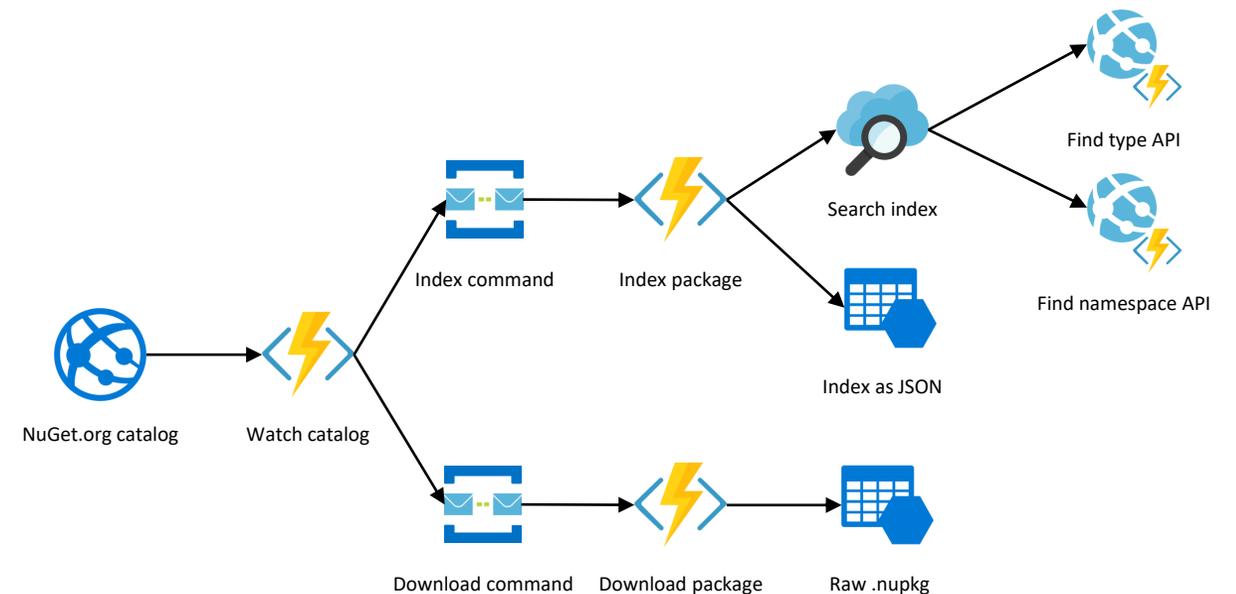


# We're done!

## 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

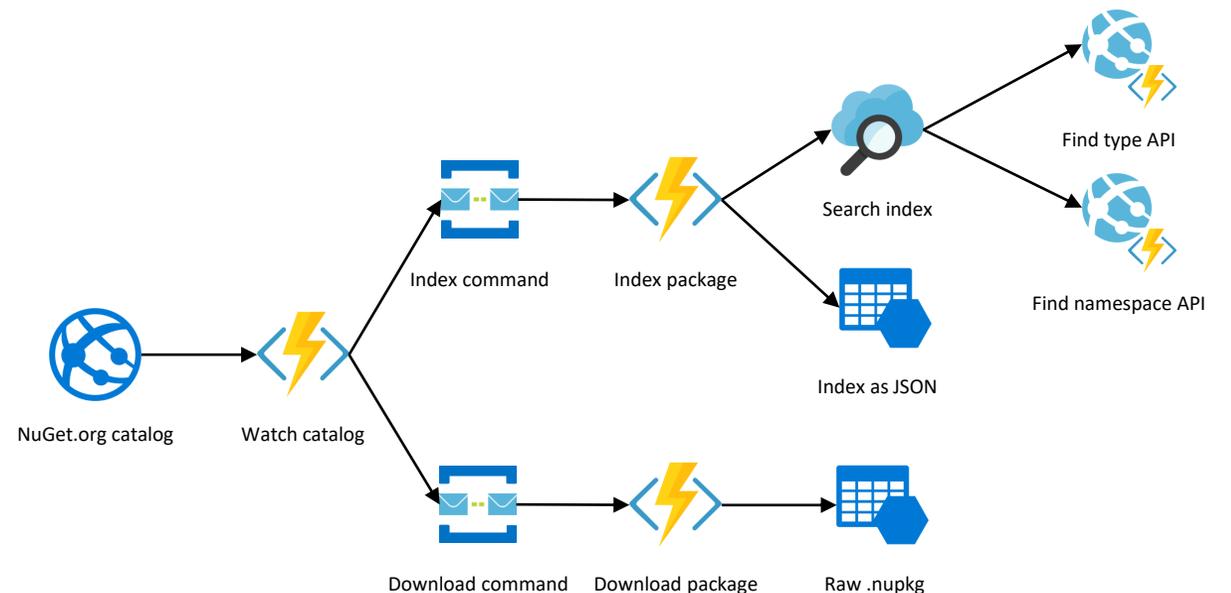
~ 1.7mio packages (NuGet.org homepage says)

~ 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



# 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!

<https://blog.maartenballiau.be>  
@maartenballiau

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BRAINS**

