



Azure App Services Part I

CSCI E-94

Fundamentals of Cloud Computing - Azure

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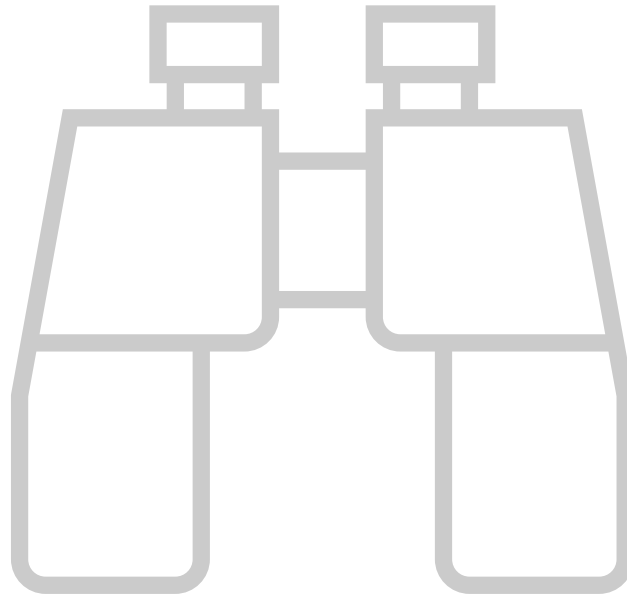


Agenda

- Azure App Service
 - Overview
 - What is it?
 - Why do you care?
 - Essentials
 - ASP.NET Core Essentials
 - Weather Azure App Service
 - Supporting REST Documentation (Swagger)
 - Publishing to Azure



Overview





Azure App Service – Overview

- What is an Azure App Service?
 - A fully managed “VM”
 - With an HTTP server
 - Fully locked down
 - A place to host your
 - REST API and/or Website
 - A place to run
 - Background jobs (Webjobs)
 - What about the “server”?
 - It's defined by an App Service Plan



Azure App Service – Overview

Scale Out

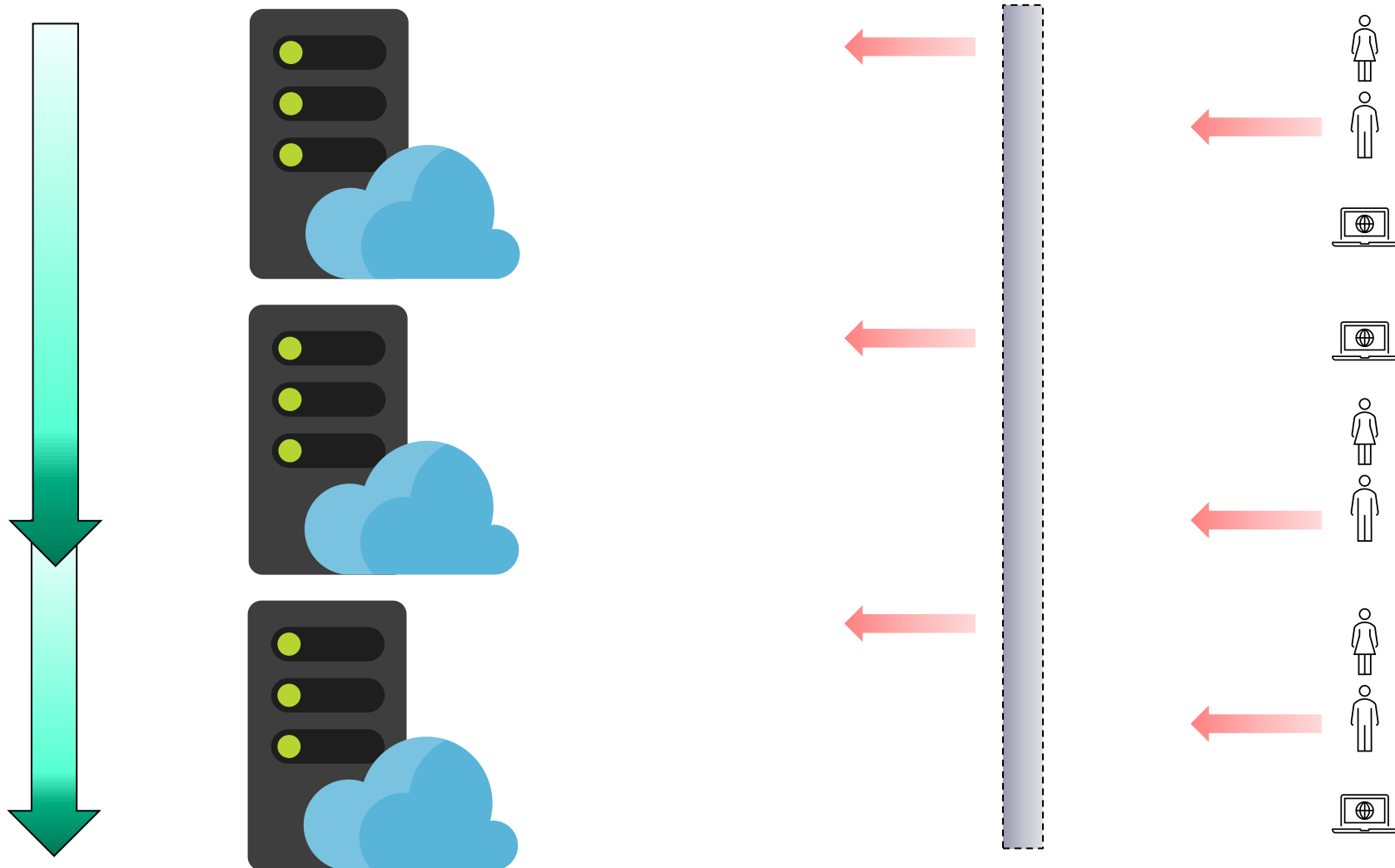
Service Plan Instances

App Service(s)

Traffic Mgr

Requests

Cost Increases ->





Azure App Service – Overview

- Why do I care ?
 - Excellent for rich client applications
 - Web apps that rely on AJAX
 - Vue.js
 - KnockoutJS
 - Jquery
 - Etc...
 - Single Page Applications (SPA)
 - AngularJS
 - ReactJS
 - Etc...



Azure App Service – Overview

Why do I care ? ...

- Excellent for clients needing cloud services
 - Internet of things IoT
 - Progressive Web Apps (PWA)
 - OS X applications
 - MAUI & Win32 Applications
 - Linux applications
 - Clients that need to use REST
- For gRPC support: Requires Linux
 - [gRPC on .NET supported platforms](#)
 - [Configure gRPC on App Service](#)



Azure App Service – Overview

Why do I care ? ...

■ SLA and Cost - App Service

■ Uptime

- As of 10/15/2024 (Basic Tier and Above)
 - 99.95% -> App Services 100% Credit
 - See [SLA for App Service](#)

■ Cost

- Check out the Azure calculator
 - See: <http://bit.ly/1Mc1JxQ>
 - Roughly – Configured for the Uptime above...



 **Windows \$54.75** USD Per month

 **Linux: \$12.41** USD Per Month



Azure App Service – Overview

Essentials

- Platform **as a Service** offering
 - Operating system security updates
 - Automatically handled
 - Fully managed
- Supports  Windows &  Linux
- Built in
 - Authentication support
 - Load balancing & Auto-scaling
 - Built in traffic manager



Azure App Service – Overview

Essentials ...

- Custom Domain & SSL Certs
- Language agnostic
 - .NET / .NET Core
 - Node.JS
 - PHP
 - Java
 - Python
 - Ruby



Azure App Service – Overview

Essentials ...

- DevOps
 - Continuous Deployment
 - Azure DevOps
 - GitHub
 - Docker Hub
 - Others ...
 - Deployment slots facilitate
 - Live updating & rollback
 - Testing in production
 - Light weight A/B Testing



Azure App Service – Overview





ASP.NET Core - Essentials

- ASP.NET Core
 - Easy creation of REST services
 - Excellent support for HTTP Responses
 - Automatic documentation
 - Asynchronous execution
 - Support for key media types
 - JSON
 - XML
 - Plain Text
 - BSON



ASP.NET Core - Essentials

- CORS

Cross Origin Request Sharing support

- Support for browsers to allow some CORS
 - While rejecting others
 - See: [Enable Cross-Origin Requests \(CORS\) in ASP.NET Core](#)

- Middleware

- Centralized handling of requests & responses
 - See: [ASP.NET Core Middleware](#)



ASP.NET Core - Essentials

- Supports several authentication schemes
 - ASP.NET Identity
 - See: [Configure ASP.NET Core Identity](#)
 - Individual Accounts (Custom)
 - Creating projects managed in a local database
 - External Authentication Services
 - Facebook
 - Google
 - Microsoft
 - Twitter
 - Azure Active Directory
 - ...



ASP.NET Core – Essentials

Supports several authentication schemes ...

- Azure Active Directory B2C
- Basic Authentication
- Forms Authentication
- Integrated Windows Authentication
- OAUTH 2.0
- OpenID Connect
- ...



ASP.NET Core - Essentials

- Support for OpenAPI 3
 - Open API JSON document
 - Useful for
 - Generating client-side SDK
 - Integration into Azure services such as API Management
 - Interactive UI
 - Allows for a “Developer” playground
 - Try out your APIs
 - Customizable
 - Style it to your liking

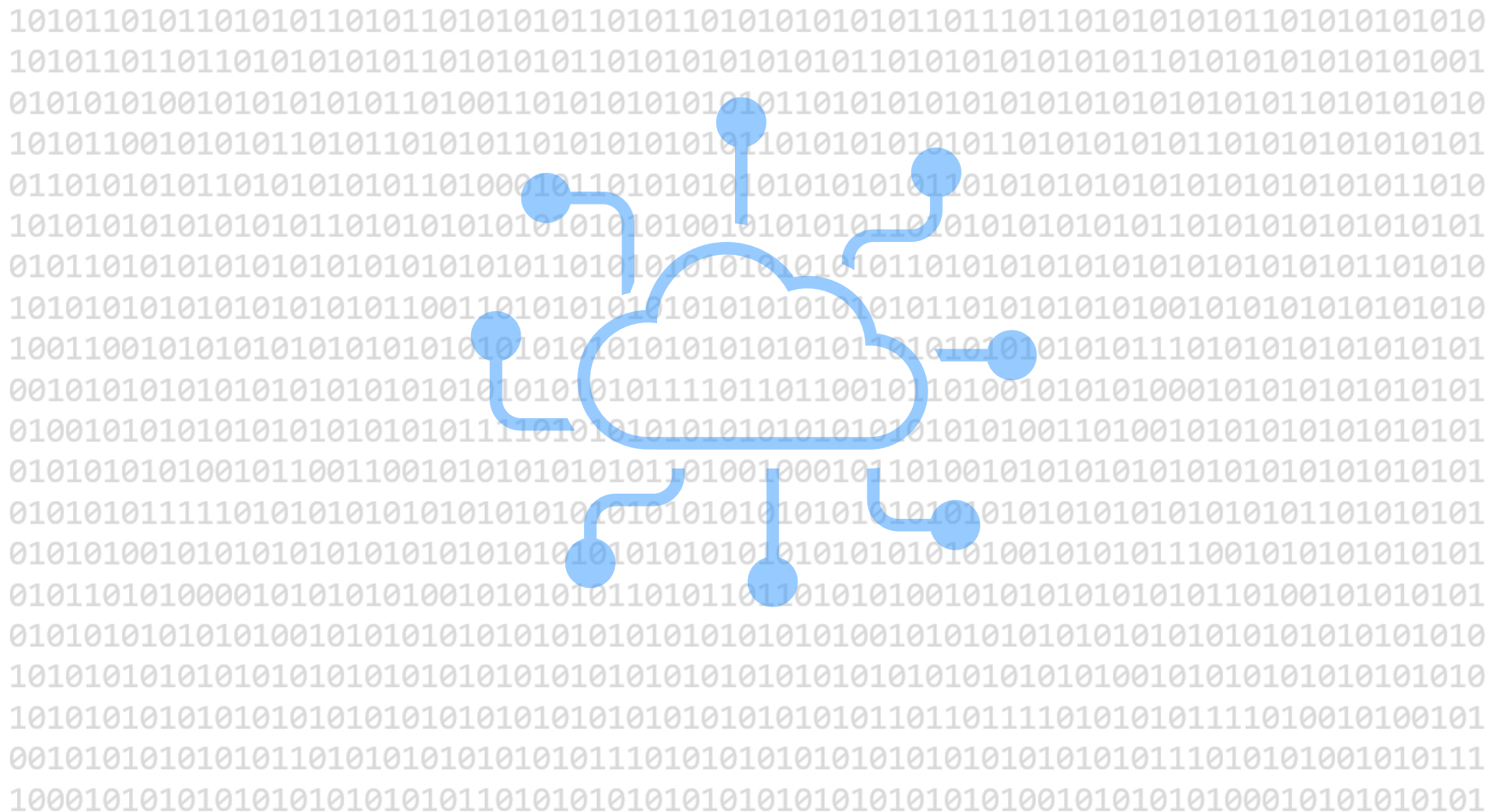


Overview





Let's Code!



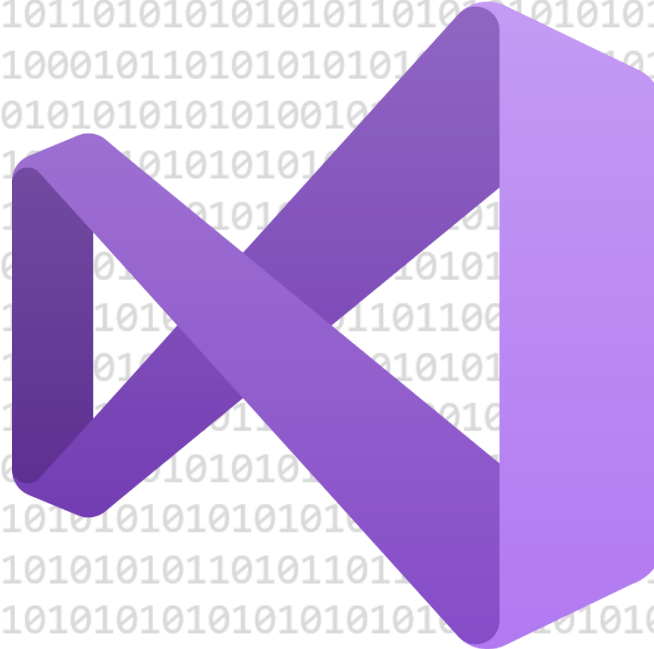


Weather Azure App Service

- Several templates available for .NET 9
 - ASP.NET Core Empty
 - ASP.NET Core Web App
 - **ASP.NET Core Web API**
 - ASP.NET Core Web API (native AOT)
 - ASP.NET Core Web App (Model-View-Controller)
 - ASP.NET Core gRPC Service
 - ASP.NET Core Web App (Razor Pages)
 - ...



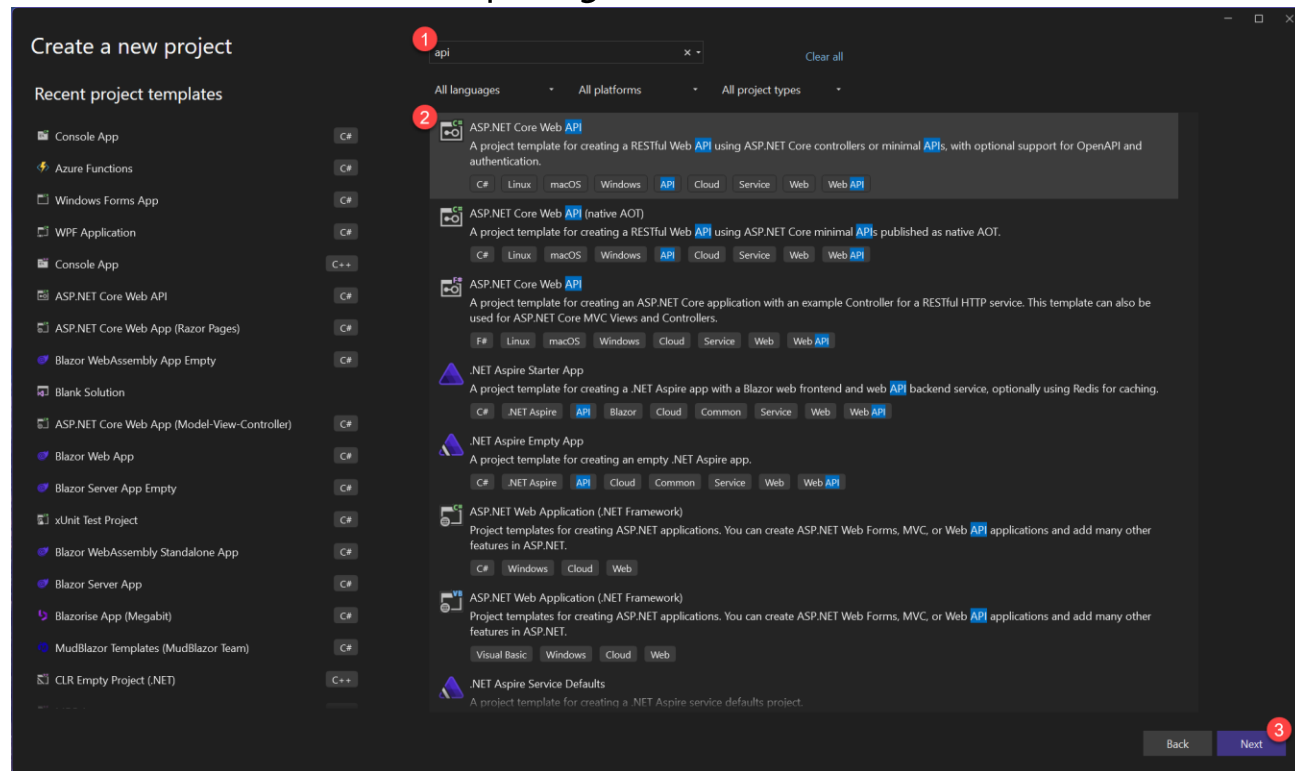
Visual Studio 2022





Weather Azure App Service

- Starting with the default template ...
 - Create a new project





Weather Azure App Service

- Additional Information
 - Name your project and solution

Configure your new project

ASP.NET Core Web API C# Linux macOS Windows API Cloud Service Web Web API

Project name

1 WeatherForecast

Location

2 D:\Harvard\2025\Research

Solution name ⓘ

3 WeatherForecastSolution

☐ Place solution and project in the same directory

Project will be created in "D:\Harvard\2025\Research\WeatherForecastSolution\WeatherForecast\"

Back Next 4



Weather Azure App Service

■ Additional Information

Additional information

ASP.NET Core Web API C# Linux macOS Windows API Cloud Service Web Web API

Framework ⓘ

1 .NET 9.0 (Standard Term Support) ▼

Authentication type ⓘ

2 None ▼

3 ☒ Configure for HTTPS ⓘ

☐ Enable container support ⓘ

Container OS ⓘ

Linux ▼

Container build type ⓘ

Dockerfile ▼

4 ☒ Enable OpenAPI support ⓘ

5 ☒ Do not use top-level statements ⓘ

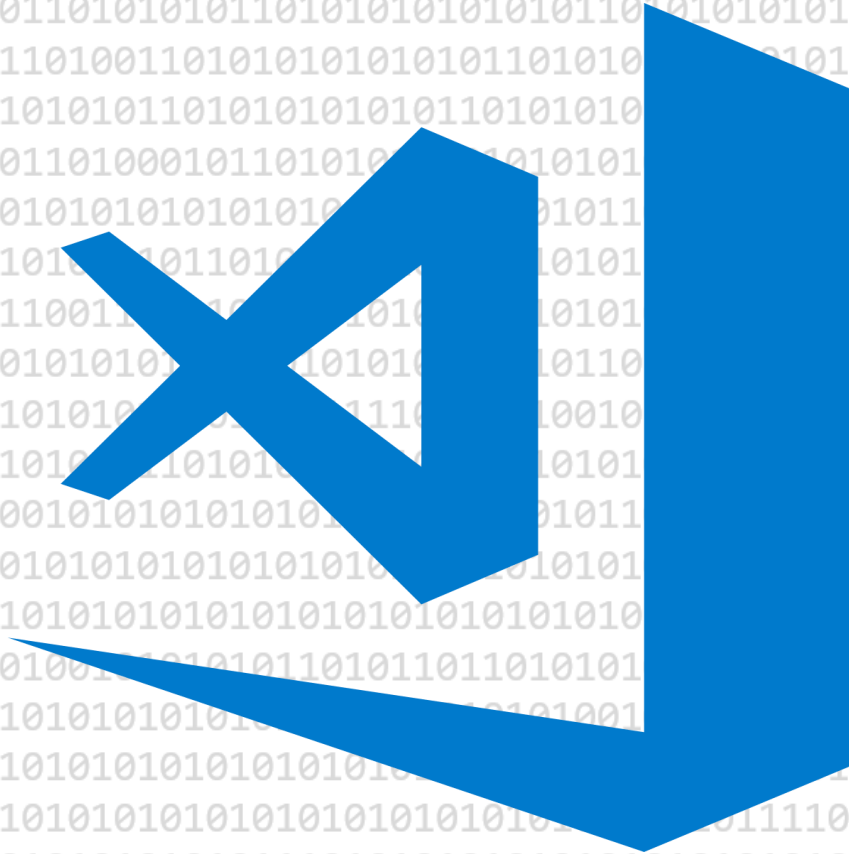
6 ☒ Use controllers ⓘ

☐ Enlist in .NET Aspire orchestration ⓘ

Back Create 7



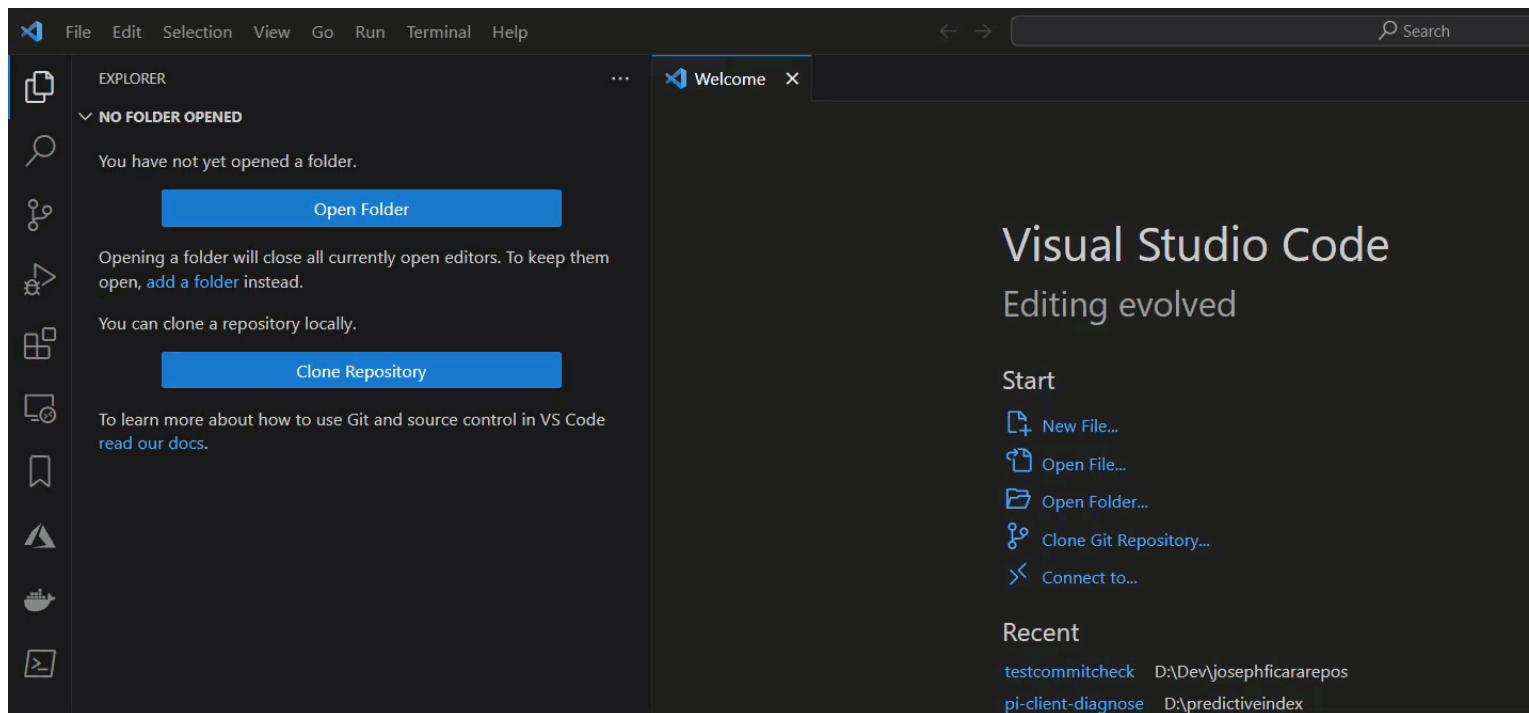
VS Code





Weather Azure App Service

- VS Code
 - Install the VS Code Dev Kit Extension

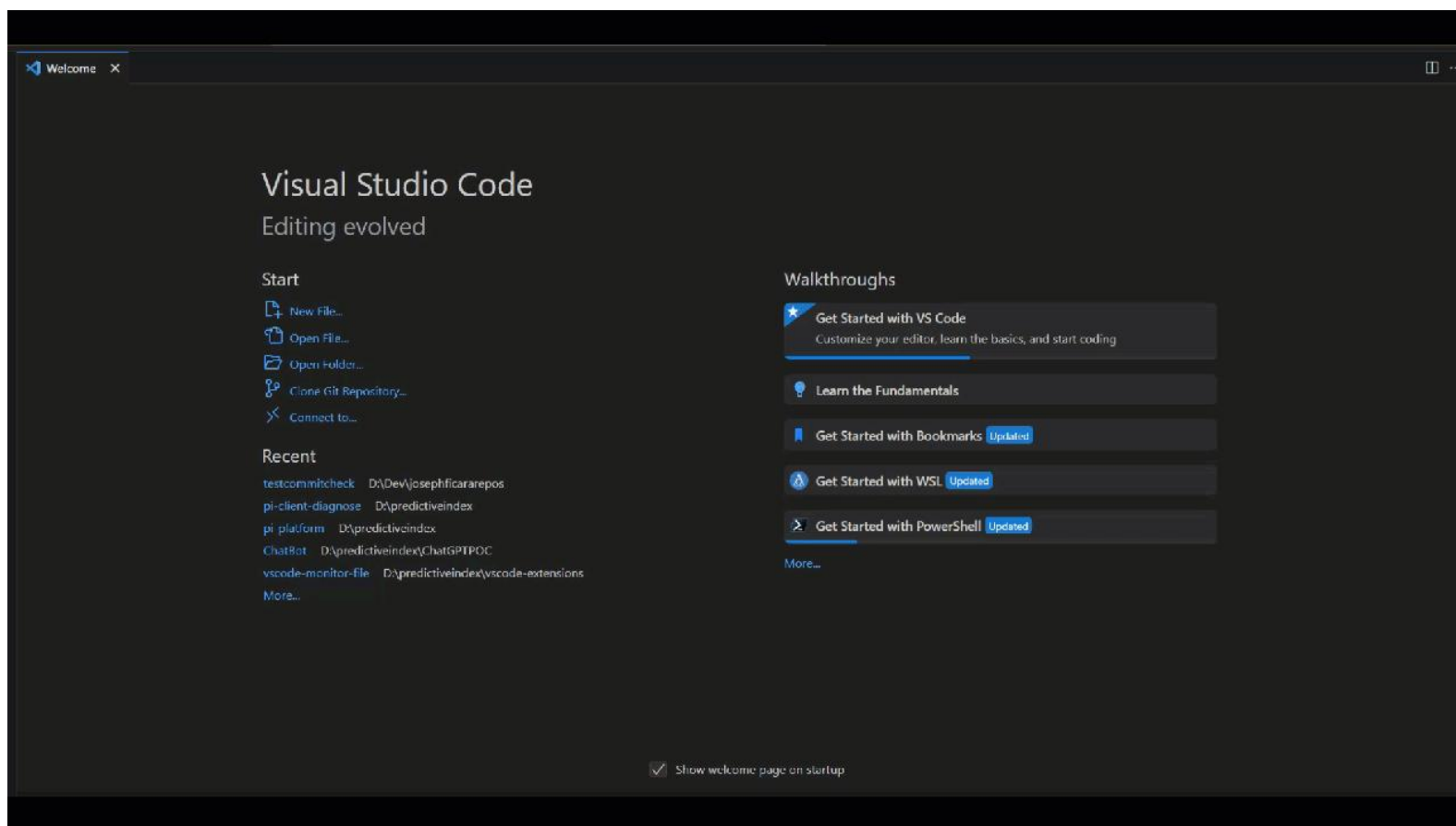




Weather Azure App Service

VSCode

- Follow steps Getting Started with C# Dev Kit





Weather Azure App Service

VSCode

- .NET 9 SDK Download & Install
 - [Download .NET 9.0](#)

Build apps - SDK ⓘ

SDK 9.0.102

OS	Installers	Binaries
Linux	Package manager instructions	Arm32 Arm32 Alpine Arm64 Arm64 Alpine x64 x64 Alpine
macOS	Arm64 x64	Arm64 x64
Windows	x64 x86 Arm64 winget instructions	x64 x86 Arm64
All	dotnet-install scripts	



Weather Azure App Service

VSCode

- Verify .NET 9 SDK is Installed

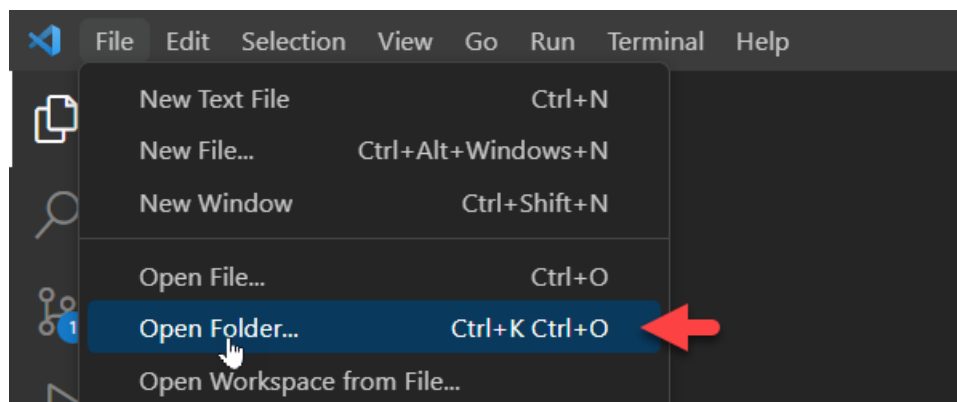




Weather Azure App Service

VSCode

- Select an empty folder in VS Code



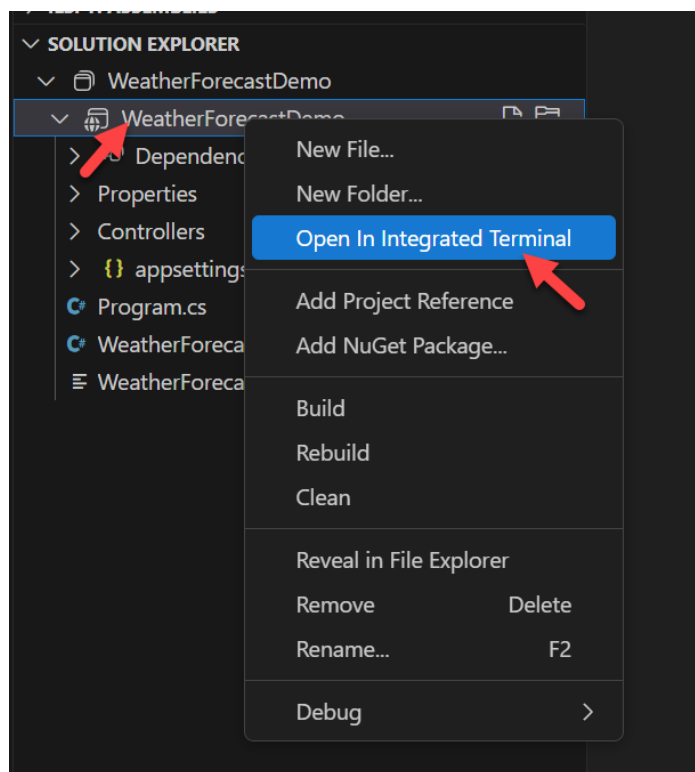
- Use the command line to create your project
 - `dotnet new webapi`
`--framework net9.0 --use-controllers`
`--use-program-main -n <project name>`



Weather Azure App Service

VSCode

- Generate your **secrets.json** file
 - Open a terminal in your project directory





Weather Azure App Service

VSCode

- Generate your **secrets.json** file ...
 - Verify that you are in your project directory
 - Run **dotnet user-secrets init**

```
PROBLEMS  OUTPUT  DEBUG CONSOLE  TERMINAL  PORTS  AZURE  COMMENTS

Terminal-Icons loading time: 00:00:00.4676255
Oh-My-Posh initialization time: 00:00:00.4458649
dotnet-suggest loading time: 00:00:00.0000675
WeatherForecastDemo > pwd
Path
----
D:\Harvard2025\Research\TestVSCodeApp\WeatherForecastDemo
Joseph > WeatherForecastDemo > main > ?1 ~6 > dotnet user-secrets init
```




Weather Azure App Service

VSCode

- Generate your **secrets.json** file ...
 - Result should look like this

```
Terminal-Icons loading time: 00:00:00.4676255
Oh-My-Posh initialization time: 00:00:00.4458649
dotnet-suggest loading time: 00:00:00.0000675
```

```
WeatherForecastDemo > pwd
```

Path

```
D:\Harvard2025\Research\TestVSCodeApp\WeatherForecastDemo
```

```
WeatherForecastDemo > dotnet user-secrets init
```

```
Set UserSecretsId to 'dfc90806-db35-46c9-ae13-19553038e0f6' for MSBuild project 'D:\Harvard2025\Research\TestVSCodeApp\WeatherForecastDemo.csproj'.
```

```
Joseph > WeatherForecastDemo > main > ?1 ~7
```



Weather Azure App Service

VSCode

- Generate your **secrets.json** file ...
 - Set a test value
 - To generate the **secrets.json** file

```
WeatherForecastDemo > dotnet user-secrets set "test" "value"
```

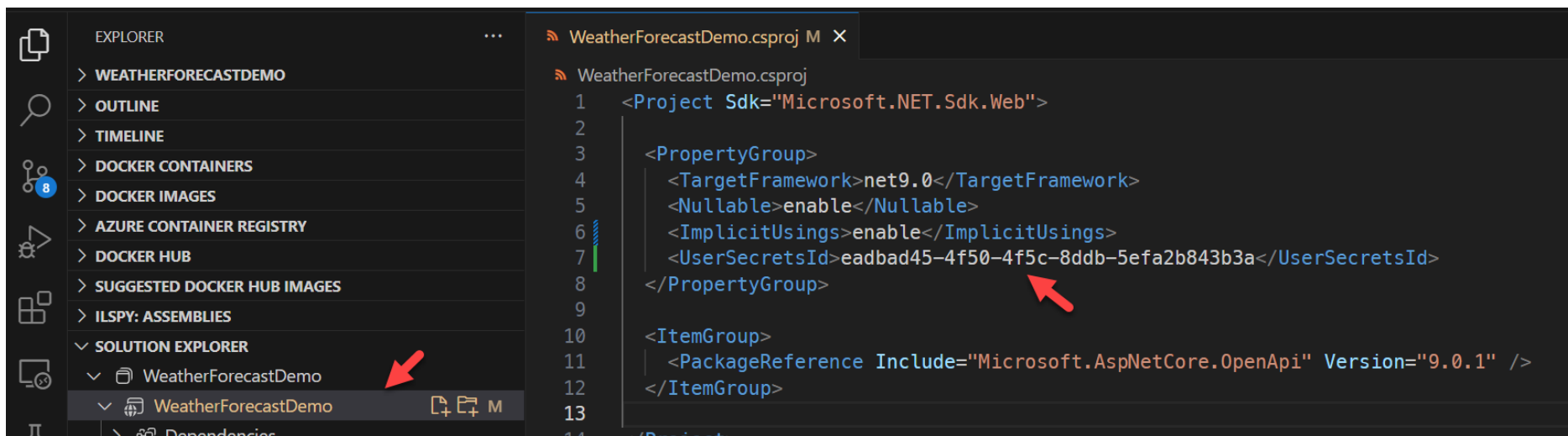
Successfully saved test to the secret store.

Joseph > WeatherForecastDemo main ?1 ~7



Weather Azure App Service VSCode

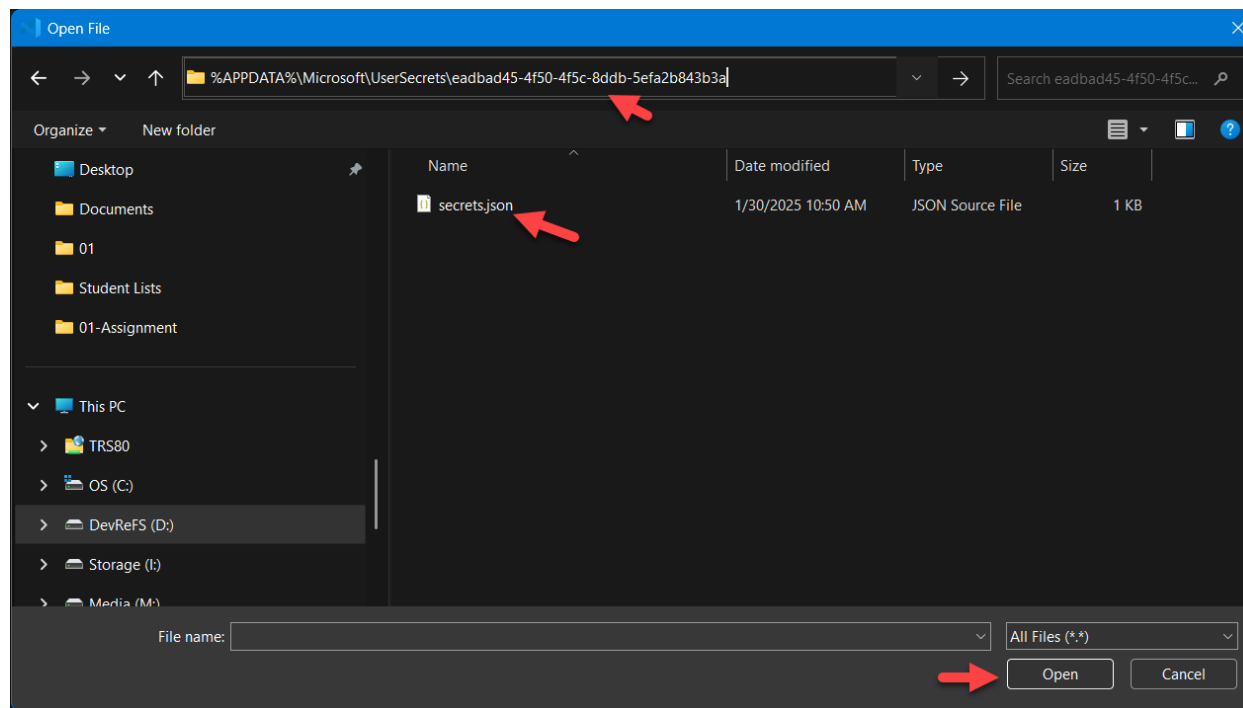
- Generate your **secrets.json** file ...
 - Double click on your project file
 - To verify the secret folder name





Weather Azure App Service VSCode

- Edit the **secrets.json** file in vs code
 - The windows path will be
`%APPDATA%\Microsoft\UserSecrets\eadbad45-4f50-4f5c-8ddb-5efa2b843b3a`





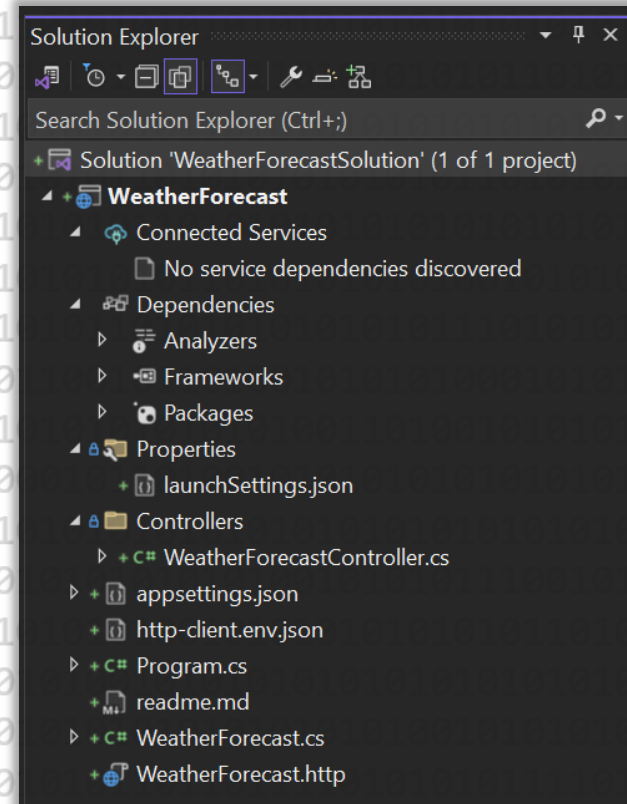
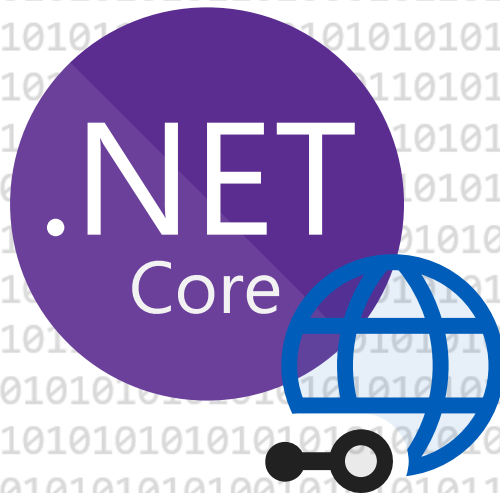
Weather Azure App Service

VSCode

- **secrets.json** folder paths for
 - Windows
 - %APPDATA%\Microsoft\UserSecrets\{UserSecretsId}\secrets.json
 - macOS/Linux
 - ~/.microsoft/usersecrets/{UserSecretsId}/secrets.json



ASP.NET Core Web API Structure





Weather Azure App Service

- ASP.NET Core Web API template
 - Project structure
 - Properties
 - Publisher profiles will reside here
 - Used to define how to publish your Web API to Azure
 - Don't share them or put them in source control
 - Service Dependencies
 - Azure Resource Templates that define the resources used
 - launchSettings.json
 - Used by Visual Studio to direct how to run the app locally



Weather Azure App Service

ASP.NET Core Web API template ...

- Project structure ...

- Controllers

- Classes that handle HTTP requests go here
 - Http Verbs automatically routed to methods
 - HTTP Verb GET routes to a method called `Get()`
 - *Clearer to use the C# Attribute* `[HttpGet]`
 - Controllers/`WeatherForecastController.cs`
 - Sample code that generates random weather results



Weather Azure App Service

ASP.NET Core Web API template ...

■ Project structure ...

- `appsettings.json`
 - Contain configuration in JSON format
 - `appsettings.development.json`
 - Settings used for local development
- `Program.cs`
 - Main entry point for the Web API app
- `WeatherForecast.cs`
 - Class that defines result of GET action
- `WeatherForecast.http`
 - A .http file used for testing your Web APIs



Weather Azure App Service

ASP.NET Core Web API template ...

■ Project structure ...

- `http-client.env.json`
 - Not added by default
 - Used to define the environments for the .http file
- `readme.md`
 - Not added by default
 - Used to describe / provide notes about the application



Demo

ASP.NET Core API Template Example

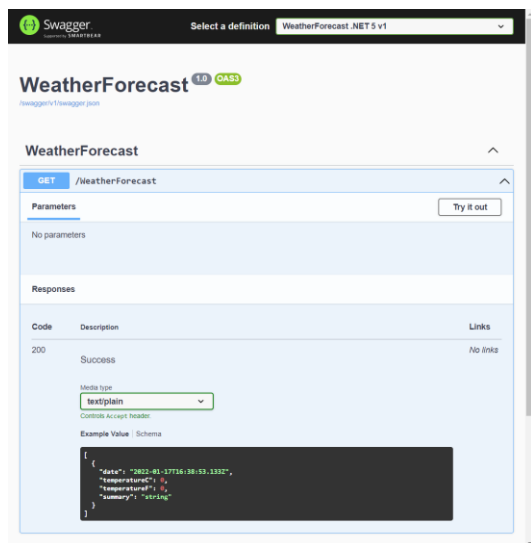
WeatherForecastSolution.sln

WeatherForecast.csproj



Adding REST Documentation

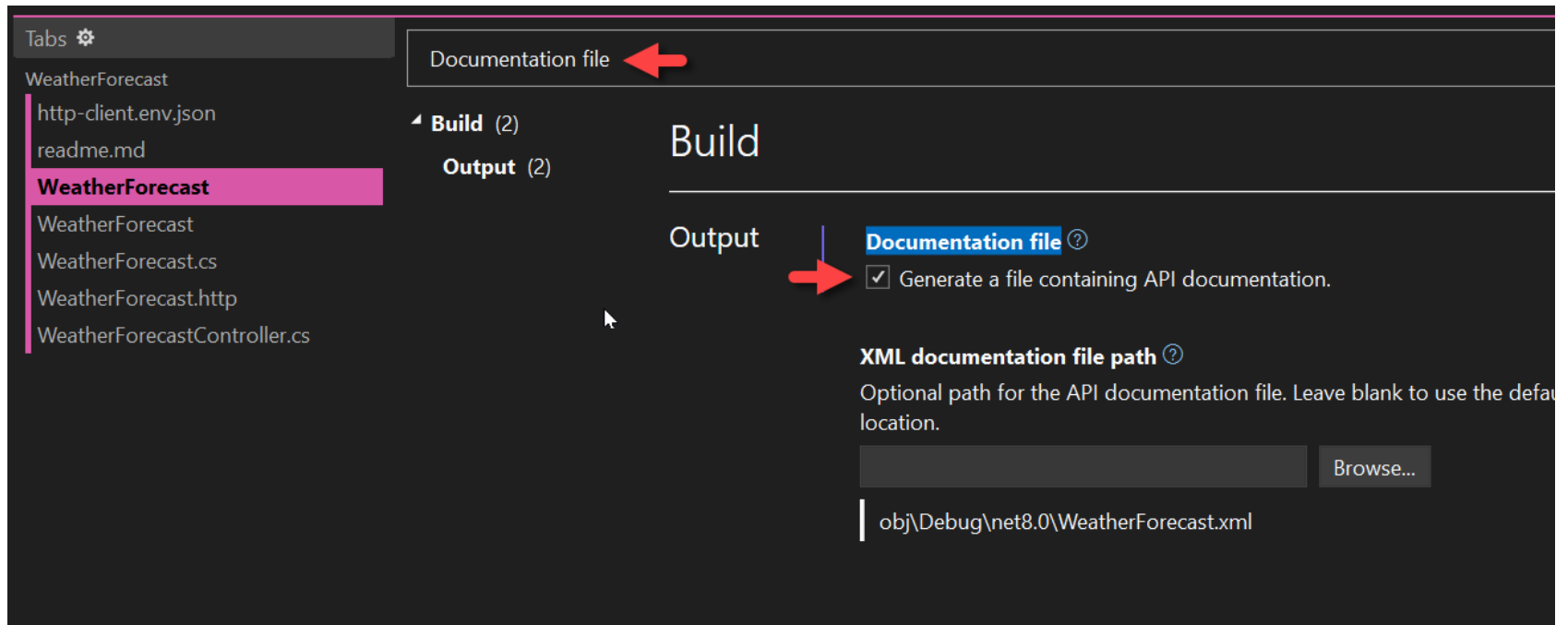
- Web API supports documentation
 - UI Needs to be added manually
 - Via Swashbuckle nuget package
Swashbuckle.AspNetCore (7.x)





Adding REST Documentation

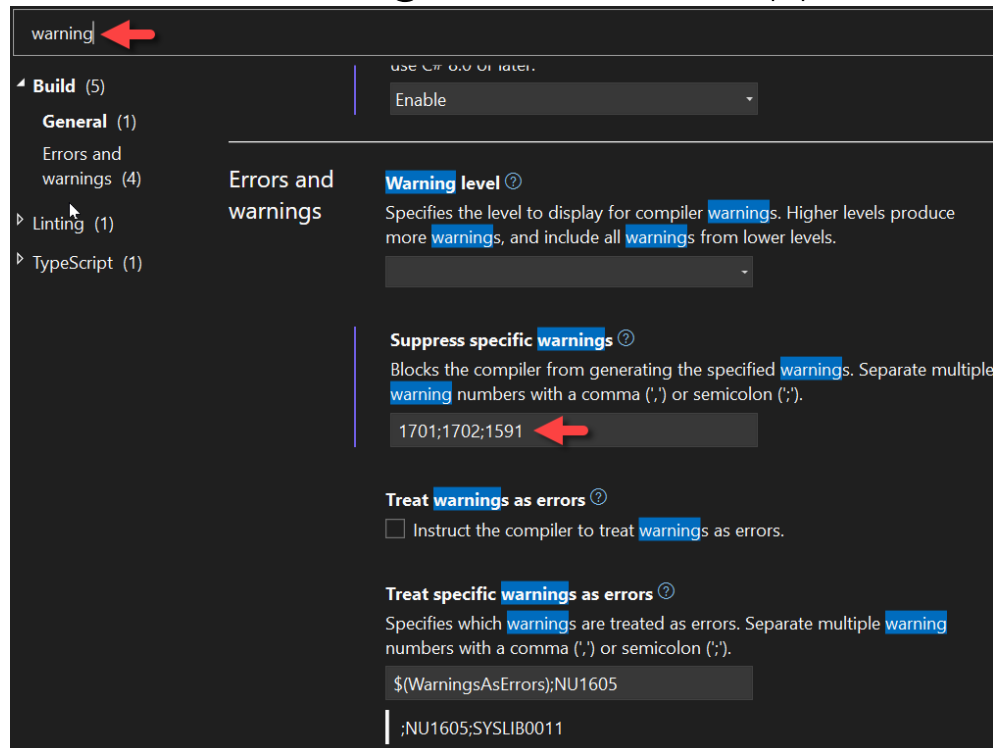
- Generate suppress warnings
 - Right click on the project and choose properties
 - Search for **documentation file**





Adding REST Documentation

- Generate suppress warnings
 - Right click on the project and choose properties
 - Search for **warning**, add **1591** to suppress comment warnings





Adding REST Documentation

ASP.NET Core Web API App supports documentation ...

Swagger Initialization code

```
var builder = WebApplication.CreateBuilder(args);

// Add services to the container.
builder.Services.AddControllers();

// Learn more about configuring OpenAPI at https://aka.ms/aspnet/openapi
builder.Services.AddOpenApi();
builder.Services.AddSwaggerGen(c =>
{
    // Add nice title
    c.SwaggerDoc("v1", new OpenApiInfo { Title = "WeatherForecast Testing", Version
= "v1" });

    // Add documentation via C# XML Comments
    var xmlFile = $"{Assembly.GetExecutingAssembly().GetName().Name}.xml";
    var xmlPath = Path.Combine(AppContext.BaseDirectory, xmlFile);
    c.IncludeXmlComments(xmlPath);
});
```



Adding REST Documentation

■ Title and Version Example

```
builder.Services.AddSwaggerGen(setupAction: c =>
{
    // Add nice title
    c.SwaggerDoc(name: "v1", info: new OpenApiInfo { Title = "Weather Forecast", Version = "v1" });
});
```

Weather Forecast

v1

OAS 3.0

</swagger/v1/swagger.json>



Adding REST Documentation

- Don't forget add the code to include the xml file
 - Why?
 - To see the C# XML API Comments, you added

```
builder.Services.AddSwaggerGen(setupAction: c =>
{
    // Add nice title
    c.SwaggerDoc(name: "v1", info: new OpenApiInfo { Title = "Weather Forecast", Version = "v1" });

    // Add documentation via C# XML Comments
    var xmlFile = $"{Assembly.GetExecutingAssembly().GetName().Name}.xml";
    var xmlPath = Path.Combine(AppContext.BaseDirectory, xmlFile);
    c.IncludeXmlComments(filePath: xmlPath);
});
```





Adding REST Documentation

■ XML Comments Example

```
... /// <summary>
... /// Provides a randomly generated set of weather forecasts
... /// </summary>
... /// <returns>A list of weather forecasts</returns>
... /// <remarks>
... /// Sample request:
... ///
... /// GET /weatherforecast
... ///
... /// </remarks>
... /// <response code="200">Indicates the request was successful</response>
... [HttpGet(Name = "GetWeatherForecast")]
... public IEnumerable<WeatherForecast> Get()
{
```

WeatherForecast v1 OAS3

/swagger/v1/swagger.json

WeatherForecast

GET

/WeatherForecast Provides a randomly generated set of weather forecasts



Adding REST Documentation

ASP.NET Core Web API App supports documentation ...

Swagger Initialization code

```
...  
// Code Note: Moved outside of env.IsDevelopment() so both  
// Debug and Release are supported  
app.UseSwagger();  
  
// Customize the UseSwaggerUI()  
app.UseSwaggerUI(c =>  
{  
    // 1. Display a friendly title  
    c.SwaggerEndpoint("/swagger/v1/swagger.json", "v1");  
  
    // Code Note:  
    // Launch the Swagger UI by default  
    // Serving the Swagger UI at the app's root  
    // (http://localhost:<port>)  
    c.RoutePrefix = string.Empty;  
});  
...
```



Adding REST Documentation

- Don't forget to move out of `IsDevelopment()`
 - Why?
 - Won't see swagger UI when deployed to Azure



```
// Configure the HTTP request pipeline.  
if (app.Environment.IsDevelopment())  
{  
    app.UseSwagger();  
    app.UseSwaggerUI();  
}
```



```
// Configure the HTTP request pipeline.  
if (app.Environment.IsDevelopment())  
{  
    // Add anything needed only during development here  
}
```



```
// Code Note: Moved outside of env.IsDevelopment() so both  
// Debug and Release are supported  
app.UseSwagger();
```



```
// Customize the UseSwaggerUI()  
app.UseSwaggerUI(setupAction: c =>  
{  
    // 1. Display a friendly title  
    c.SwaggerEndpoint(url: "/swagger/v1/swagger.json", name: "v1");  
})
```



Adding REST Documentation

Extending WeatherForecast API App with Swagger Doc
WeatherForecastSolution.sln
WeatherForecast.csproj



Publishing to Azure





Publishing to Azure

- There are two basic steps in publishing
 - Creating the Azure resources
 - Resource Group
 - App Service Plan
 - App Service
 - Publishing
 - The .NET Core app to the App Service
- Both can be done from Visual Studio
- Several other options ...



Publishing to Azure

- Create the App Service using
 - Portal & PowerShell
 - [Azure Resource Manager \(ARM\) Templates](#)
 - [Bicep](#)
 - [REST Interface](#)
 - And more...
- Publish from
 - Git
 - CI/CD pipeline
 - And more ...



Publishing to Azure

- Some key items in Azure
 - Resource groups Manage Azure resources
 - Collections of resources
 - Resources are services/resources in azure:
 - App Services
 - Azure SQL
 - Azure Storage
 - Etc...
 - Group associated services with the same lifetime
 - Useful to organize and manage resources
 - Note: Location of the resource group defines:
 - Where metadata resides, not where resources reside



Publishing to Azure

Some key items in Azure ...

■ App Service Plan

[Azure App Service plan overview](#)

- This is **what you are paying** for
 - Defines size of the "**server**" used for **app services**
 - Run many **app services** on the same **app service plan**
 - **Load them up!**
 - Billed by the hour **on app service plan instances**
 - **Not the app service**
 - **Not the VMs running in the instance(s)**
 - Scale **up** the app **Is Development service plan**:
 - **Bigger "server"**
 - Scale **out** the service plan:
 - **More "server instances"**



Publishing to Azure

Some key items in Azure ...

■ App Service

[App Service documentation](#)

- **PaaS** instance software is deployed to
 - Runs your code
- Code is isolated from other **App Services**
 - In the same **app service plan**
 - Not isolated from noisy neighbors



Publishing to Azure

Some key items in Azure ...

- Storage Account

[Azure Storage documentation](#)

- Resource used for storage
 - Blobs, Files, Tables, Queues
- Typical uses
 - Uploaded files
 - Producer / Consumer pattern with Queues
 - NoSql support with Tables
 - SDK Dependencies for WebJobs
 - Specifically, the dashboard



Publishing to Azure

- Let's walk through a live demo
 - Portal to create
 - Resource Group
 - App Service Plan
 - App Service
 - Pin resources to custom dashboard
 - Visual Studio to deploy
 - Software to the App Service



Demo

Publishing to Azure

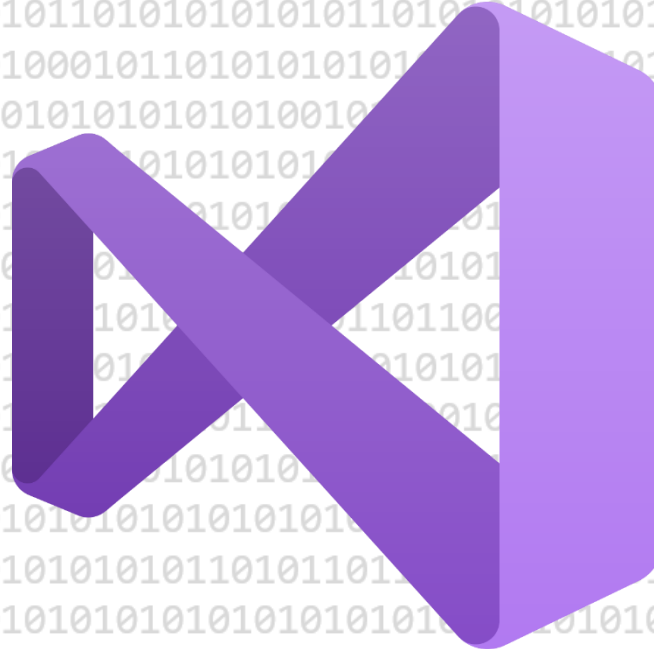
Portal + Visual Studio

WeatherForecastSwaggerSolution

WeatherForecastSwagger



Visual Studio 2022





Visual Studio - Don't Forget

■ Use the Linux Basic B1

☒ Hardware ☐ Features

	Name	ACU/vCPU	vCPU	Memory (GB)	Remote Storage (GB)	Scale (instance)	SLA
▼	Dev/Test (For less demanding workloads)						
	Free F1	60 minutes/day co	N/A	1	1	N/A	N/A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Basic B1	100	1	1.75	10	3	99.95%
	Basic B2	100	2	3.5	10	3	99.95%
	Basic B3	100	4	7	10	3	99.95%
▼	Production (For most production workloads)						
	Premium v3 P0V3	195*	1	4	250	30	99.95%
	Premium v3 P1V3	195	2	8	250	30	99.95%
	Premium v3 P1mv3	195*	2	16	250	30	99.95%
	Premium v3 P2V3	195	4	16	250	30	99.95%
	Premium v3 P3V3	195	8	32	250	30	99.95%
	Premium v3 P2mv3	195*	4	32	250	30	99.95%
	Premium v3 P3mv3	195*	8	64	250	30	99.95%
	Premium v3 P4mv3	195*	16	128	250	30	99.95%

Select

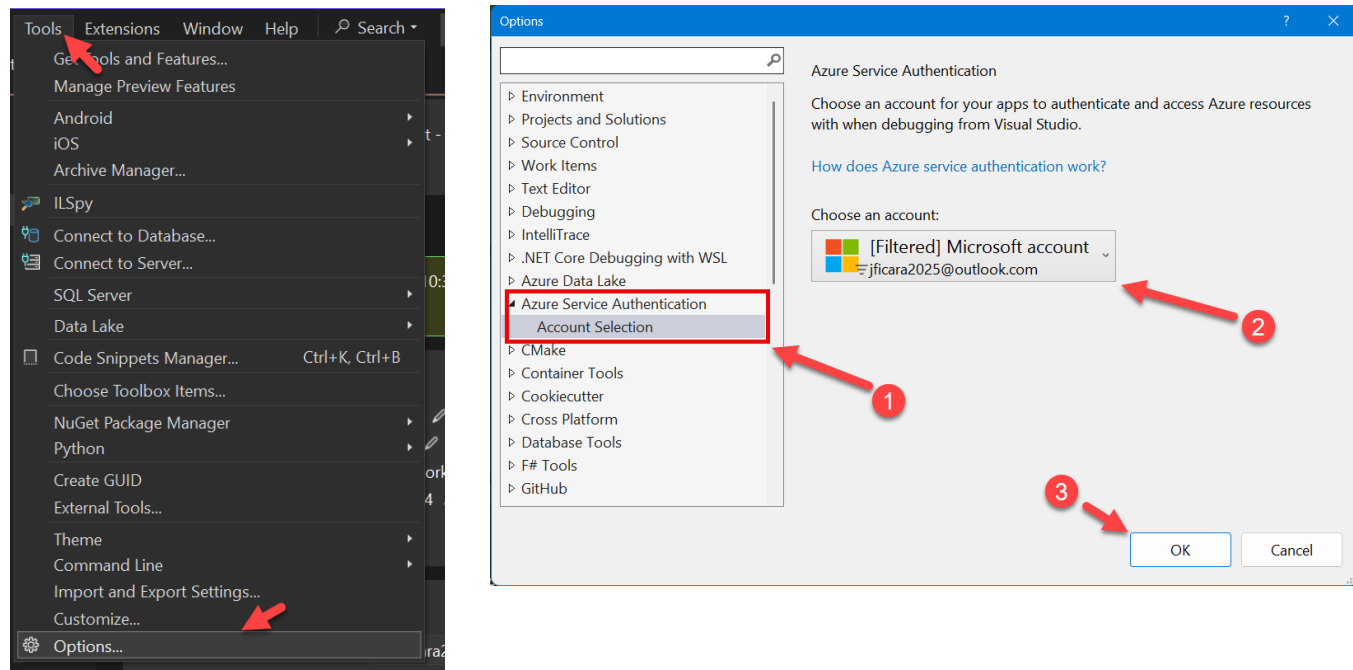
*ACU/vCPU is an approximation of the SKU's relative performance.

[Learn more about pricing](#)



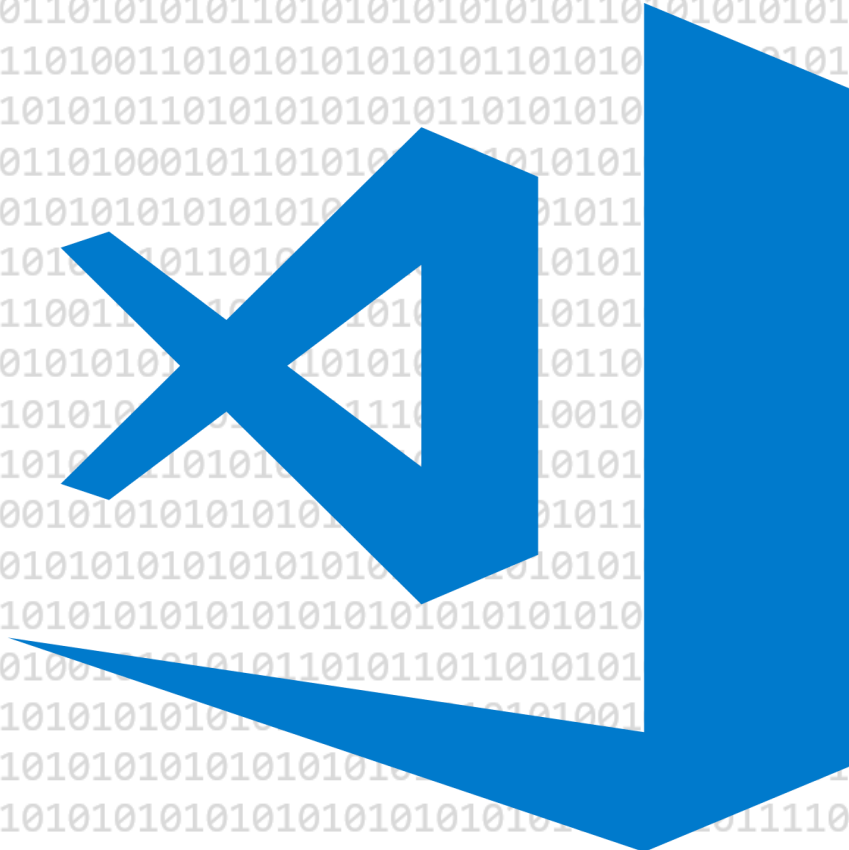
Visual Studio - Don't Forget

- Ensure correct account is used
 - In Visual Studio





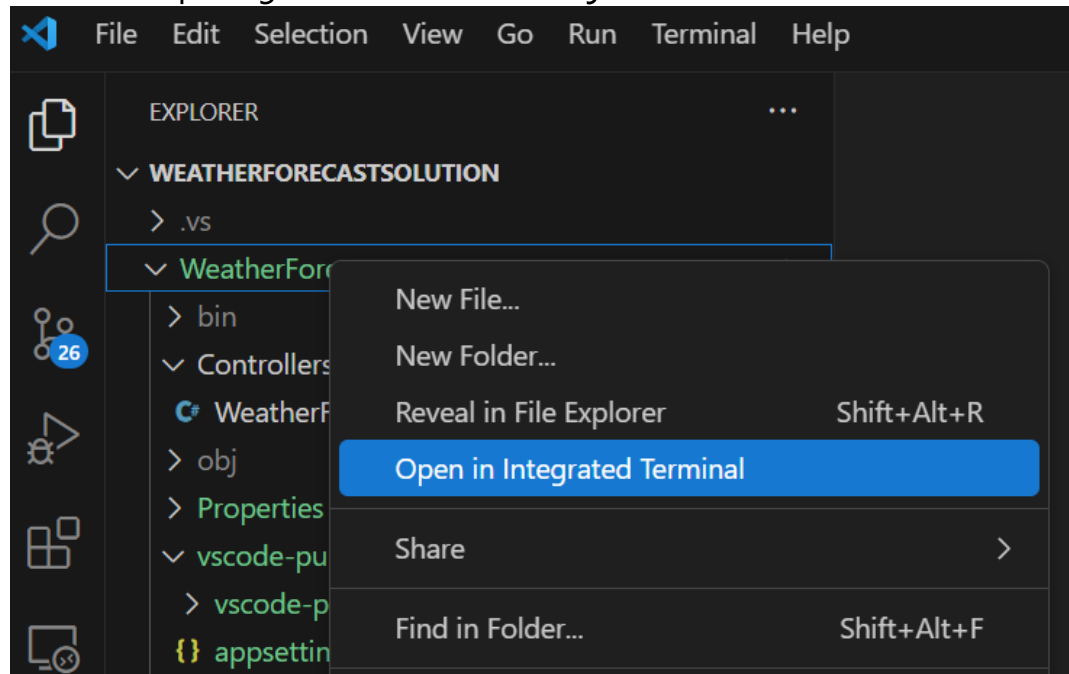
VS Code





VS Code Notes

- To Publish from VS Code
 - Open an integrated terminal
 - In the project directory





VS Code Notes

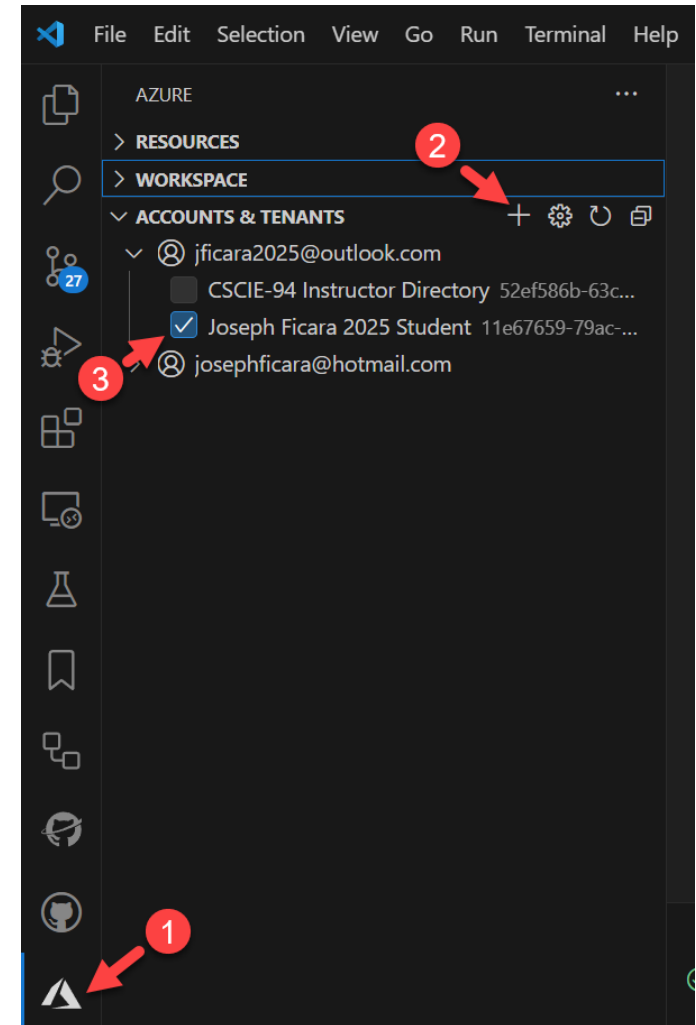
- Publish the code **locally**
 - `dotnet publish -c Release -o ./vscode-publish`

```
PROBLEMS  OUTPUT  DEBUG CONSOLE  TERMINAL  PORTS  AZURE  COMMENTS
WeatherForecast > dotnet publish -c Release -o ./vscode-publish
Restore complete (0.4s)
WeatherForecast succeeded (0.5s) → vscode-publish\
Build succeeded in 1.5s
Workload updates are available. Run `dotnet workload list` for more information.
Joseph > WeatherForecast > main ↑1 ↗?3 > ✓
```



VS Code - Don't Forget

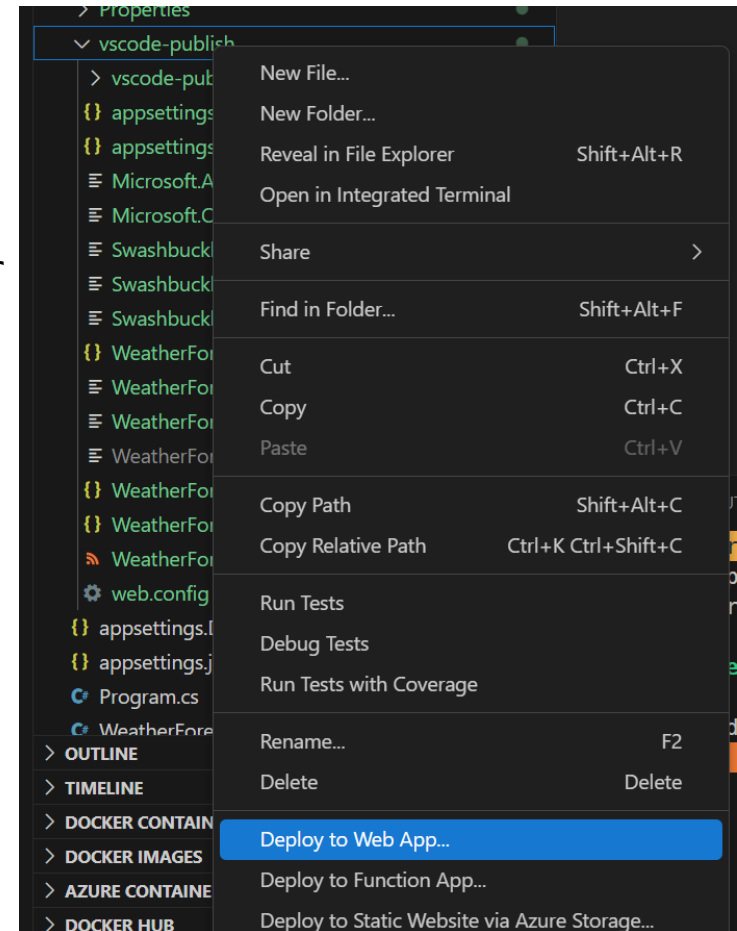
- 1 Select Azure
- 2 Add **your** account
- 3 Select **your** directory





VS Code Notes

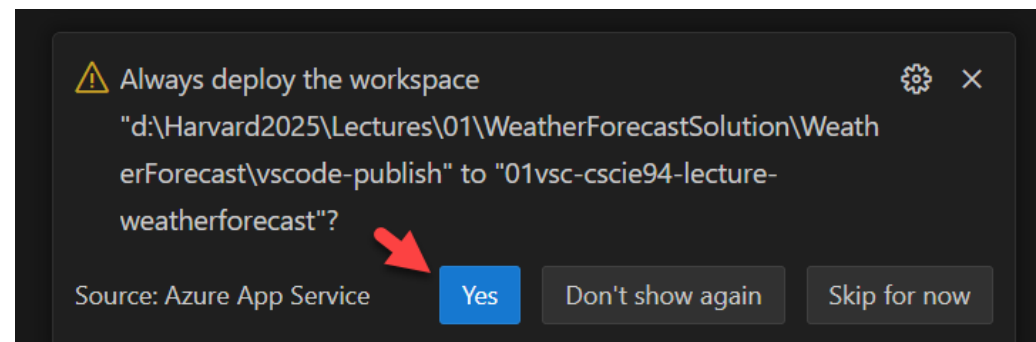
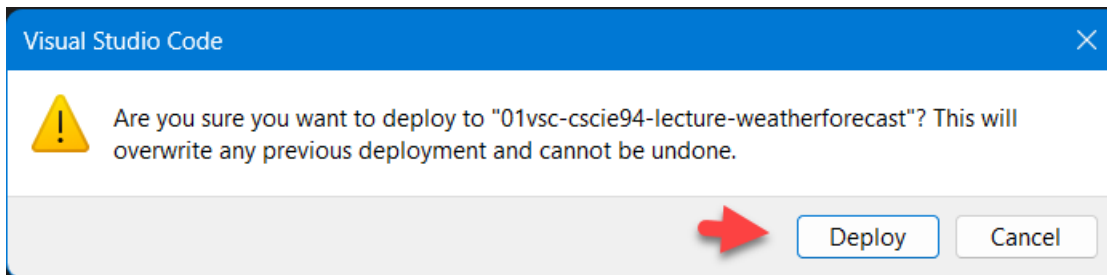
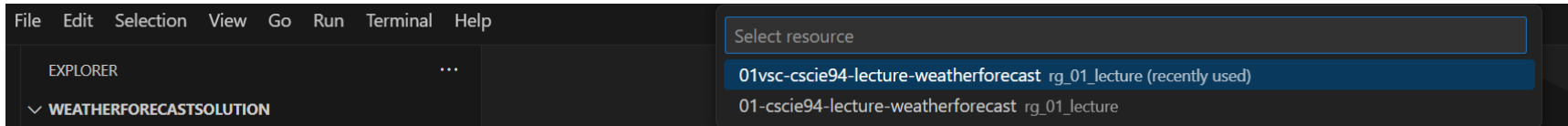
- Deploy to the web app
 - Right click
 - parent vscode-publish folder
 - Choose deploy to Web App ...





VS Code Notes

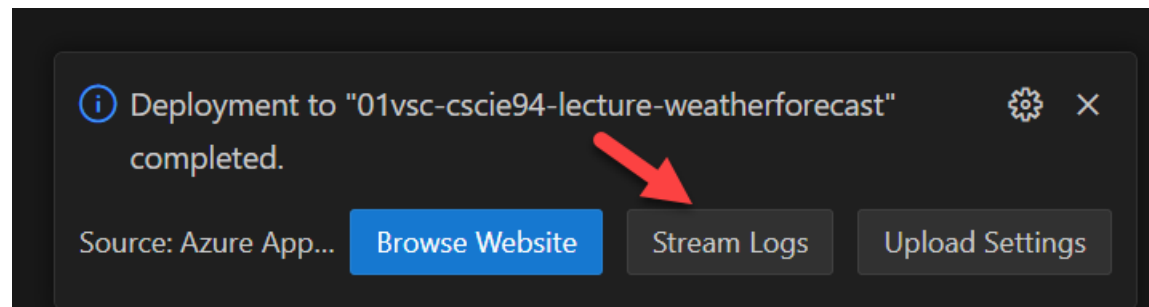
- Choose the Web App to deploy to





VS Code Notes

- Stream logs locally
 - To see diagnostic data from your web app
 - In vscode





General Notes

- You may get gateway errors
 - Just wait a bit for the website to start
 - Why does this happen?
 - Typically, due to low resources
 - When using a smaller tier such as **Basic B1**



Questions





Best Practices

- Be stateless
- Be asynchronous
 - Execute I/O operations on non request thread
- Measure then optimize
- Cache as close to the wire as possible
 - Think carefully about your caching policy
- Servers shall be expendable
 - **They will fail, plan for it in your design**



Further Reading

- Azure for Developers: Implement rich Azure PaaS ecosystems using containers, serverless services, and storage solutions, 2nd Edition
 - Author: Kamil Mrzygłód
 - ISBN: 978-1803240091
 - Chapter 1



Further Reading

- Pro ASP.NET Core 6
 - Author: Adam Freeman
 - ISBN: 978-1484279564
 - Chapter 19
 - *OR* --
- Pro ASP.NET Core 7
 - Author: Adam Freeman
 - ISBN: 1633437825
 - Chapter 19



Further Reading

- Building Cloud Apps with Microsoft Azure
 - Authors: Scott Guthrie, Mark Simms, Tom Dkystra, Rick Anderson, Mike Wasson
 - ASIN: B00LXAAMSG
 - Chapters: 4, 9, 11



Links

- Azure App Services (API and Web)
 - [App Service documentation](#)
- ASP.NET Core
 - [ASP.NET documentation](#)
- Create a web API with ASP.NET Core and Visual Studio for Windows
 - [Tutorial: Create a web API with ASP.NET Core](#)
 - [Generate OpenAPI documents | Microsoft Learn](#)



Links

- [Publish an ASP.NET Core app to Azure with Visual Studio](#)
- [Publish an ASP.NET Core app to Azure with Visual Studio Code](#)
- [Publish an ASP.NET Core web app with CLI tools](#)



Links

- Visual Studio 2022
 - Built in support for .http files
- Visual Studio Code
 - REST Client



REST Utilities

- Postman
 - Make REST calls from a richly featured UI
 - <https://www.getpostman.com/>
- Nightengale
 - <https://nightingale.rest/>
- cURL
 - Included in Windows 11
 - Rest calls from the command line



REST Utilities

- Fiddler
 - Make REST Calls
 - Examine / Debug request/response
 - <http://www.telerik.com/fiddler>
- Firefox extension:
 - RESTClient