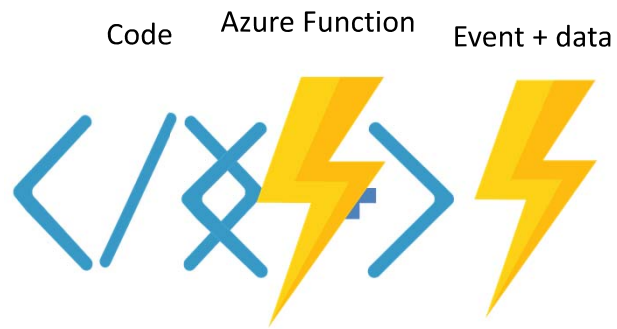


What is Azure Functions?

CA(7)



## What is a Function?

- Function as the unit of work
- Functions are executed; they start and finish
- Functions have inputs and outputs

## Slide 3

---

**CA7** Talk about dynamic compute + input/output bindings

Chris Anderson (ZUMO), 3/24/2016

## Azure Functions: Open Source

- <https://github.com/Azure/azure-webjobs-sdk>
- <https://github.com/Azure/azure-webjobs-sdk-extensions>
- <https://github.com/Azure/azure-webjobs-sdk-script>
- <https://github.com/Azure/azure-webjobs-sdk-templates>
- <https://github.com/ProjectKudu/WebJobsPortal>



## Function Examples

- Timer Based
- Transform CSV to Blob storage
- SaaS event processing. Excel to Graph API
- Web hook to create ad based on user profile
- Async image processing or map data processing
- Real time stream processing
- Real time bot messaging
- CRM System integration

## Real World Scenarios

- Package tracking
- Vehicle tracking
- Data cleanup and ETL
- Batch processing
- IoT Solutions
  - snow depth monitor; football equipment monitor
- Internet traffic report aggregator

## Function Apps vs API Apps

### Function Apps

- Data Processing
- Microservice & serverless architecture
- Performs executable routine
- Does not have to be RESTful
- Service and software integration

### API Apps

- CRUD operations
- API Architecture
- Manipulates or retrieves data
- RESTful
- Not generally for service and software integration

# Serverless Computing

Run code, not computers

## Serverless Computing

- What is serverless?
  - PaaS
- Stateless is scalable
- Complicated
- Sporadic workload
- Perform an action rather than return data
  - APIs return data
- Event driven

## Serverless Code

- Microservices
- Variety of Languages
  - C#, F#
  - Node
  - Python, PHP, Batch, Bash
- Event driven
- Expose HTTP Endpoints

## Scenarios for serverless patterns

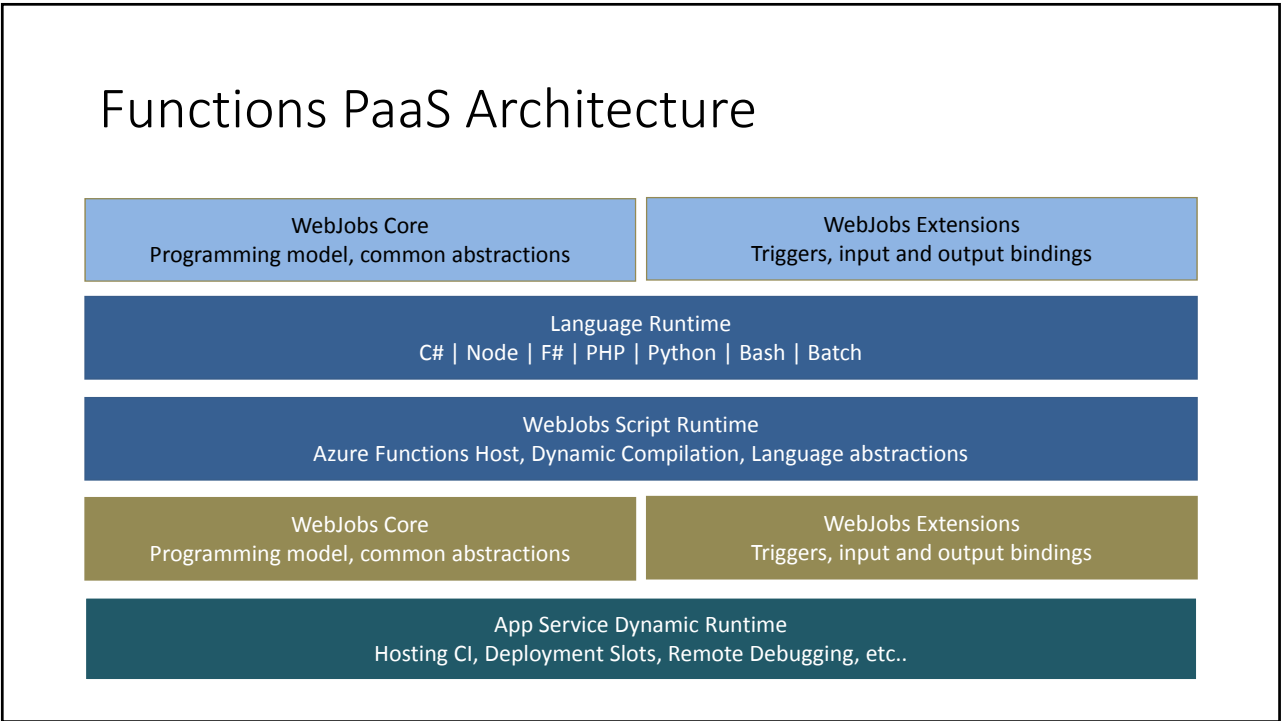
- Stateless and scale
- Too complicated for a traditional project structure
- Too simple for a traditional project structure
- Workload is sporadic (very low or high)
- Human involvement needs to stay low
- Lots of different services involved
- Integration of services or systems

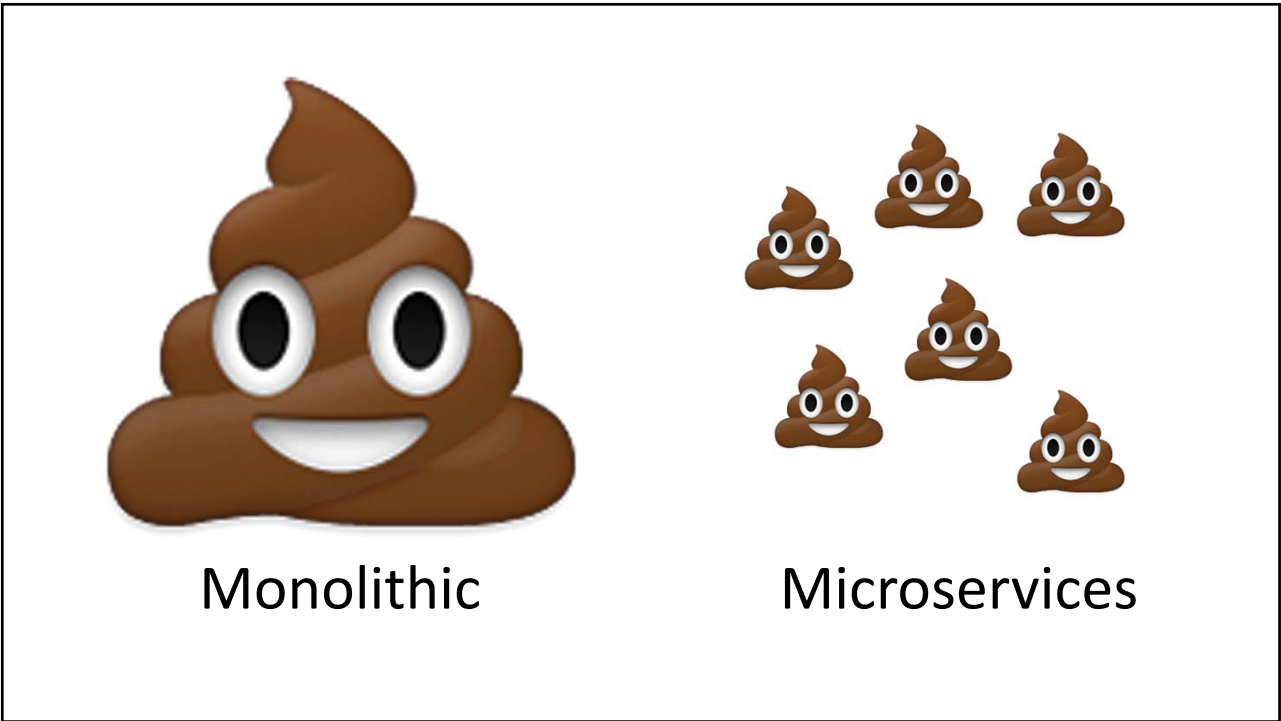
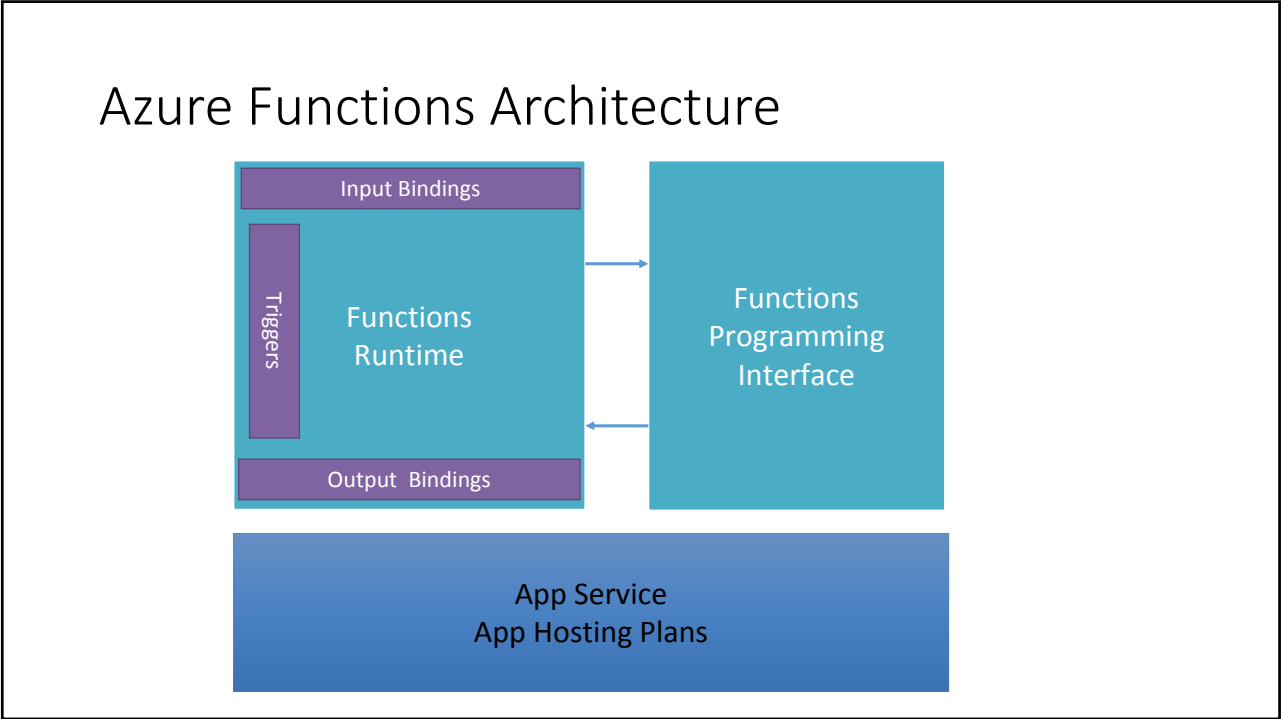
## Features & Benefits

- Focus on business problems
- No worries about infrastructure
- No deployment
- Lightweight
- Cross-platform



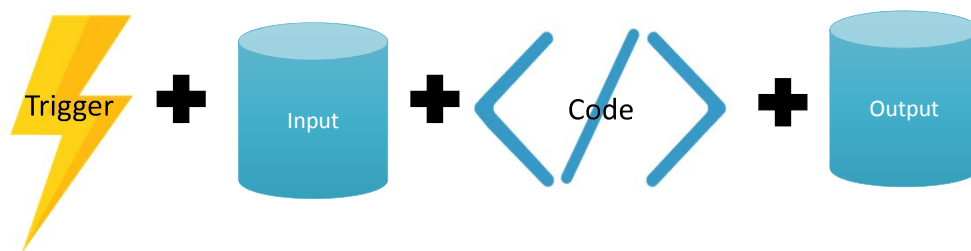
# Azure Functions Architecture





# Programming Functions

## Anatomy of a Function



## A trigger causes a function to run

- Blob Trigger
- Event Hub Trigger
- Generic Webhook Trigger
- Github Webhook Trigger
- Http Trigger
- Manual Trigger
- Queue Trigger
- Service Bus Trigger
- Timer Trigger

Only one trigger per function allowed.

## Bindings: Input and Output

- Access objects outside of your function from within it
  - Queues, tables, blobs, endpoints, etc...
- A function may have multiple input or output bindings
- Many bindings use Azure services or 3<sup>rd</sup> party services

## Input bindings

- Azure Blob Storage
- External File (Preview)
- External Table (Experimental)
- Azure Storage Table
- Azure DocumentDB Document
- Azure Mobile Table Record
- Bot Framework

## Output bindings

- |                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Azure Event Hub               | • Azure Service Bus         |
| • Azure Queue Storage           | • Azure Table Storage       |
| • Azure Blob Storage            | • Azure DocumentDB Document |
| • External File (Preview)       | • Azure Mobile Table Record |
| • External Table (Experimental) | • Azure Notification Hub    |
| • HTTP                          | • SendGrid (Preview)        |
| • Bot Framework                 | • Twilio SMS (Preview)      |

Output

Trigger

Input

Output

```
public static async Task<object> Run(HttpRequestMessage req, TraceWriter log, ICollector<Subscription> outputTable)
{
    log.Info($"Webhook was triggered!");

    // more code ...

    return req.CreateResponse(HttpStatusCode.OK, new {
        greeting = $"Hello {data.first} {data.last}!"
    });
}
```

Microsoft Azure AzureNewsFlash

Search resources

rachel@rachelappel.c... RACHEL APPEL

Functions

SendNews

Subscribe

Develop

Integrate

Manage

Monitor

Proxies (preview)

Function app settings

Quickstart

Refresh

Triggers

Inputs

Outputs

HTTP (req)

+ New Input

HTTP (\$return)

Azure Table Storage (outputTable)

+ New Output

HTTP trigger (req) delete

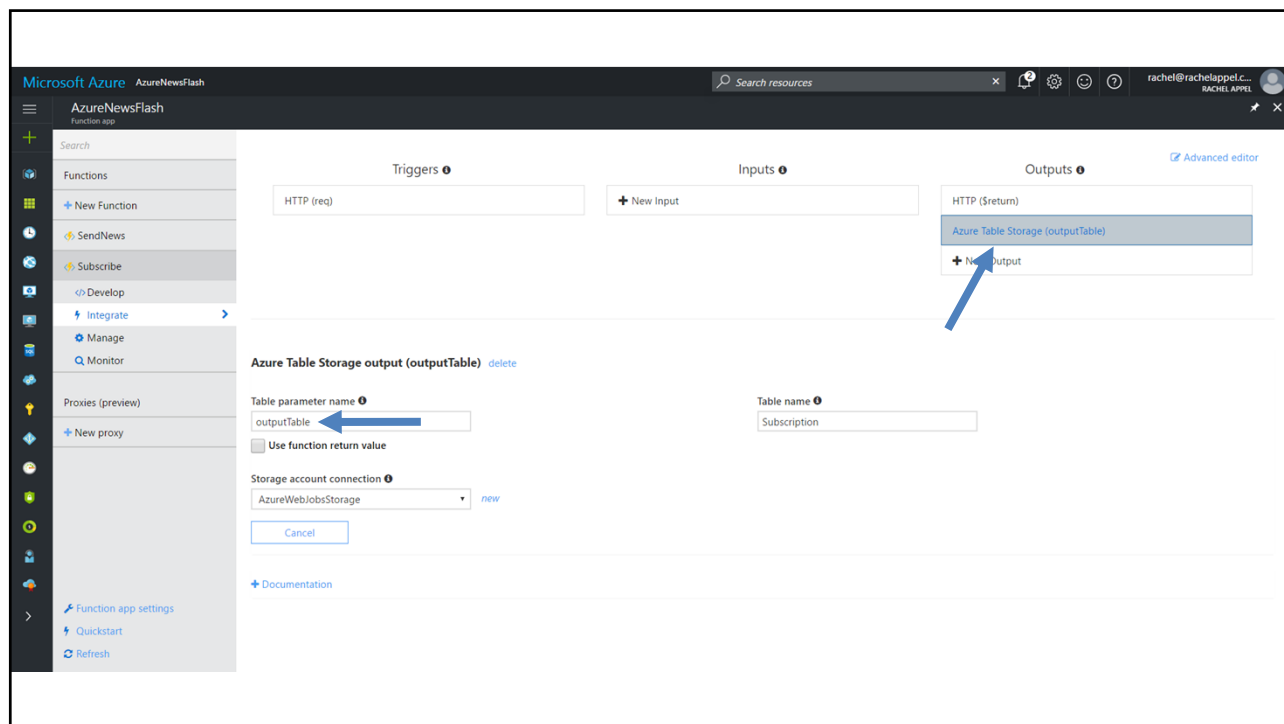
Allowed HTTP methods

Request parameter name

Authorization level

Mode

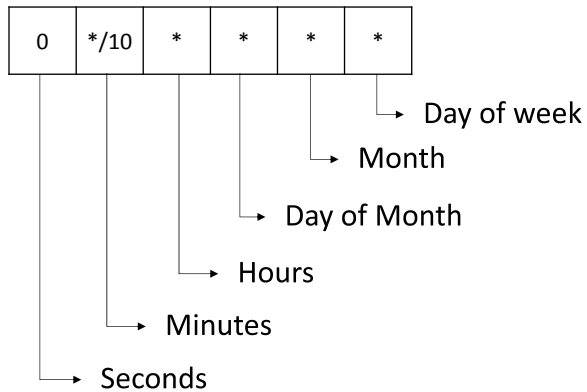
Route template



## Bindings in Depth

- Timer Trigger
- HTTP Request/Webhook
- Azure Storage Table
- Blob Trigger
- Queue Trigger

## Timer Triggers



"/" helps produce step values

"\*" matches all values

"0" matches only 0

## HTTP & Webhook bindings

```
{
  "bindings": [
    {
      "authLevel": "function",
      "name": "req",
      "type": "httpTrigger",
      "direction": "in",
      "methods": [
        "get",
        "post"
      ]
    }
  ],
  "disabled": false
}
```

```
{
  "bindings": [
    {
      "type": "httpTrigger",
      "direction": "in",
      "webHookType": "genericJson",
      "name": "req",
      "methods": [
        "post"
      ]
    }
  ],
  "disabled": false
}
```



## HTTP & Webhook bindings

```
{  
  "type": "http",  
  "name": "res",  
  "direction": "out"  
}
```

# Advanced Programming Techniques

## Calling Other Functions

- Use an output trigger followed by that same trigger, but as an input trigger to the next function to trigger
- Must be inside same Function App

## Reusing .csx code

`#load "file.csx"`

load classes, or functions

You can use a relative path with the `#load` directive:

`#load "file.csx"` loads a file located in the function folder.

`#load "shared\file.csx"` loads a file located in the shared folder in the function folder.

`#load "..\shared\folder.csx"` loads a file located in a folder at the same level as the function folder, that is, directly under `wwwroot`.

## Imperative Binding

- <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/azure-functions/functions-triggers-bindings#advanced-binding-at-runtime-imperative-binding>

## Environment Variables

To get an environment variable or an app setting value, use `System.Environment.GetEnvironmentVariable`, as shown in the following code example:+

Copy

C#

```
public static void Run(TimerInfo myTimer, TraceWriter log)
{
    log.Info($"C# Timer trigger function executed at: {DateTime.Now}");
    log.Info(GetEnvironmentVariable("AzureWebJobsStorage"));
    log.Info(GetEnvironmentVariable("WEBSITE_SITE_NAME"));
}

public static string GetEnvironmentVariable(string name)
{
    return name + ": " +
        System.Environment.GetEnvironmentVariable(name, EnvironmentVariableTarget.Process);
}
```

# Tools

## Tools

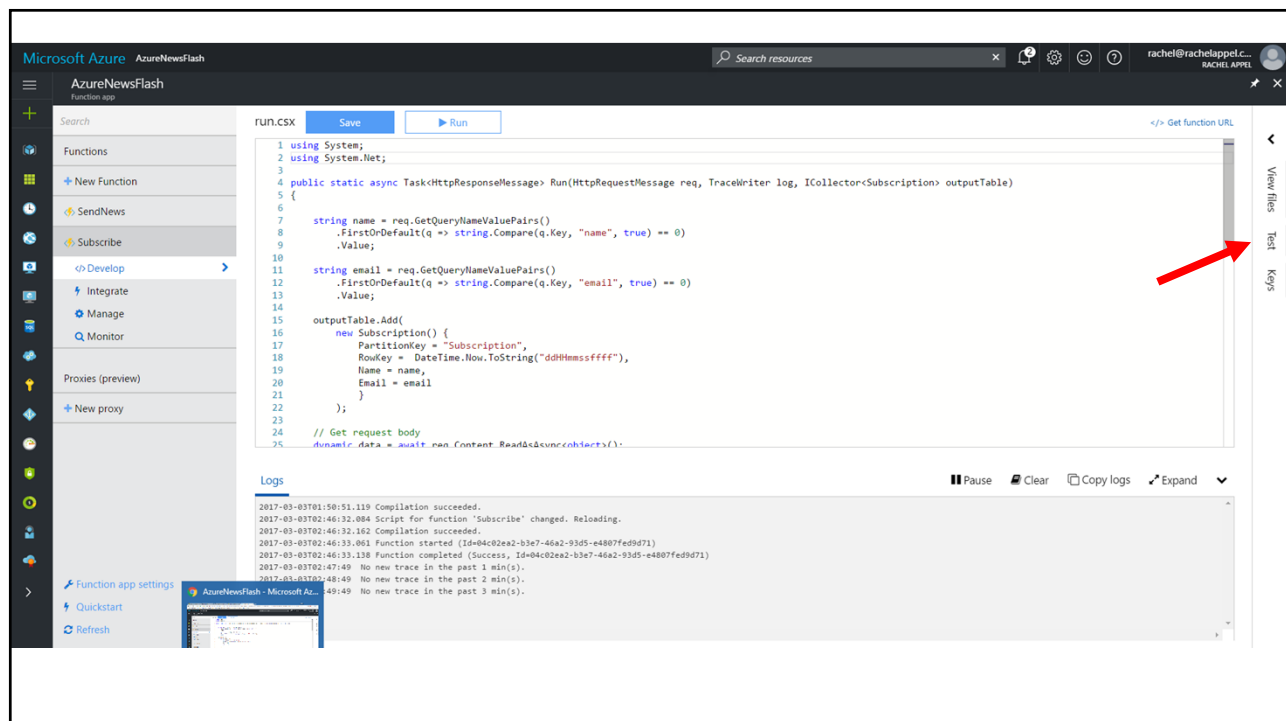
Visual Studio Cloud Explorer  
-and-  
Visual Studio Tools for Azure Functions

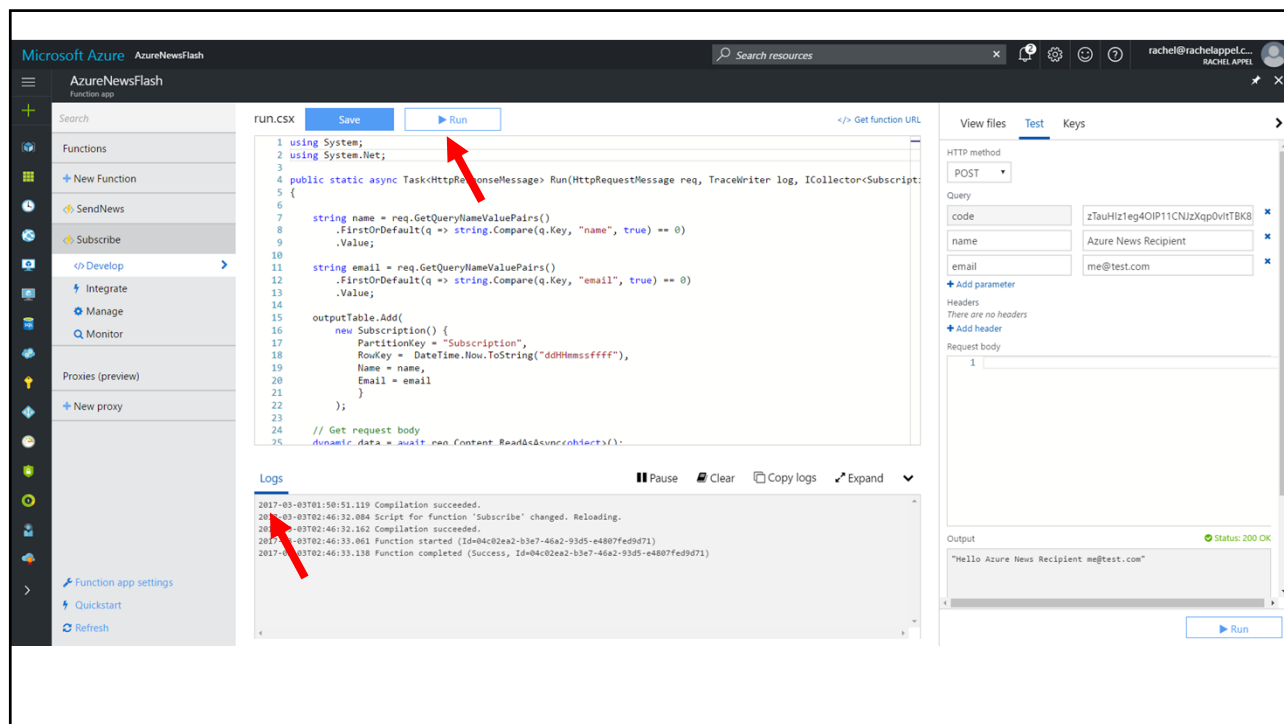
Visual Studio **Code** Azure-functions  
extension

Microsoft Azure Storage Explorer

## Debugging Function Apps

- Postman
- Test/Run in cloud
- Visual Studio





## Scaling & Best Practices

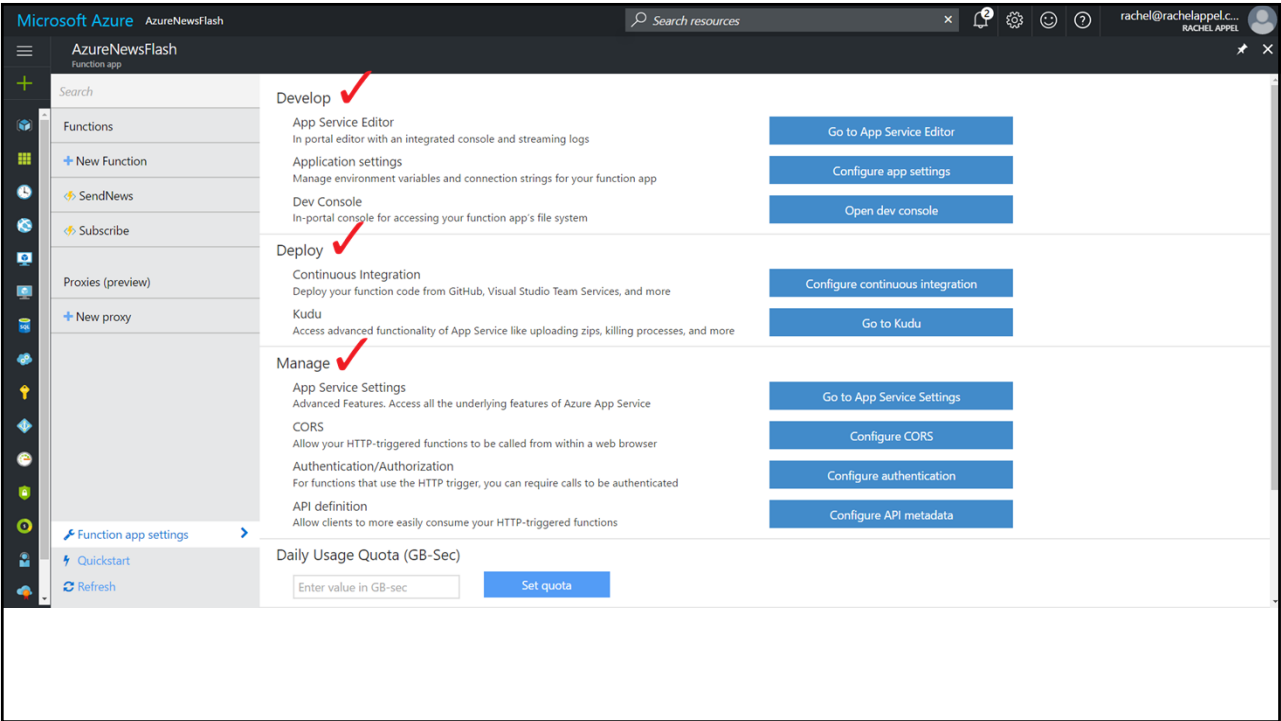
## Managing Workloads/Scaling

- Keep functions idempotent and stateless
- Async is best but avoid Task.Result
- Avoid long running functions
- Queues are best for cross function communication
- Code in exception management

## Best Practices

- Small, fast-running functions
- Asynchronous > Synchronous
- Caching and singletons (memory is shared between functions)
- Avoid disk operations (shared across functions)
- Use App Service guidelines

# Settings & Deployment





## Deployment

- Functions are an App Service
- Continuous Integration
- Download and setup in Github locally, then push

- <https://blogs.msdn.microsoft.com/appserviceteam/2017/03/16/publishing-a-net-class-library-as-a-function-app/>



## Questions?

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<http://rachelappel.com>