



FREE eBook

LEARNING system.reactive

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About

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Chapter 1: Getting started with `system.reactive`

Remarks

This section provides an overview of what `system.reactive` is, and why a developer might want to use it.

It should also mention any large subjects within `system.reactive`, and link out to the related topics. Since the Documentation for `system.reactive` is new, you may need to create initial versions of those related topics.

Examples

Using Rx in your project

Install the NuGet package `System.Reactive`, then add this using statement to access the Rx extension methods:

```
using System.Reactive.Linq;
```

Filtering the values of an observable

```
emails.Where(email => email.From == "John")
```

Selecting a new value for each value in an observable

```
emails.Select(email => email.Body)
```

Subscribing/unsubscribing to an observable (IDisposable)

Subscription returns an `IDisposable`:

```
IDisposable subscription = emails.Subscribe(email =>  
    Console.WriteLine("Email from {0} to {1}", email.From, email.To));
```

When you are ready to unsubscribe, simply dispose the subscription:

```
subscription.Dispose();
```

Subscribing to an observable (CancellationToken)

```
emails.Subscribe(email =>
    Console.WriteLine("Email from {0} to {1}", email.From, email.To),
    cancellationToken);
```

Wrapping an async method as an observable

Given an `async` method like this:

```
Task<string> GetNameAsync(CancellationTokentoken cancellationToken)
```

Wrap it as an `IObservable<string>` like this:

```
Observable.FromAsync(cancellationTokentoken => GetNameAsync(cancellationTokentoken))
```

Sharing a single subscription (Publish)

Given an `IObservable<Offer>` of `offers` from merchants to buy or sell some type of item at a fixed price, we can match pairs of buyers and sellers as follows:

```
var sellers = offers.Where(offer => offer.IsSell).Select(offer => offer.Merchant);
var buyers = offers.Where(offer => offer.IsBuy).Select(offer => offer.Merchant);
var trades = Observable.Zip(sellers, buyers, (seller, buyer) => new Trade(seller, buyer));
```

The problem with this is that each subscription to `trades` will subscribe to `offers` twice. We can make `sellers` and `buyers` share a single subscription to `offers` by using `Publish`:

```
var trades = offers.Publish(_offers =>
{
    var sellers = _offers.Where(offer => offer.IsSell).Select(offer => offer.User);
    var buyers = _offers.Where(offer => offer.IsBuy).Select(offer => offer.User);
    return Observable.Zip(sellers, buyers, (seller, buyer) => new Trade(seller, buyer));
});
```

Sharing a single subscription (Publish + RefCount)

This code will subscribe to the `emails` observable twice:

```
emails.Where(email => email.From == "John").Subscribe(email => Console.WriteLine("A"));
emails.Where(email => email.From == "Mary").Subscribe(email => Console.WriteLine("B"));
```

To share a single subscription to `emails`, we can use `Publish` and `RefCount` instead:

```
var _emails = emails.Publish().RefCount();
_emails.Where(email => email.From == "John").Subscribe(email => Console.WriteLine("A"));
_emails.Where(email => email.From == "Mary").Subscribe(email => Console.WriteLine("B"));
```

Installation or Setup

Reactive Extensions are published on both [NuGet](#) and [MyGet](#).

Installing and using them is therefore the same as any other NuGet package:

```
Install-Package System.Reactive
```

NB package names changed between v2 and v3. [See the README on Github for more info](#)

Breaking changes

The NuGet packages have changed their package naming in the move from v2.x.x to >v3.0.0

Rx-Main is now System.Reactive Rx-Core is now System.Reactive.Core Rx-Interfaces is now System.Reactive.Interfaces Rx-Linq is now System.Reactive.Linq Rx-PlatformServices is now System.Reactive.PlatformServices Rx-Testing is now Microsoft.Reactive.Testing

Throttling a stream

Let's say you need to implement an automatic search box, but the search operation is somewhat costly, like sending a web request or hitting up a database. You may want to limit the amount of search being done.

For example, the user is typing "C# Reactive Extensions" in the search box :

```
IObservable<string> TypingSearchText ()
{
    return Observable.Create<string>(o =>
    {
        const string SearchText = "C# Reactive Extensions";

        var builder = new StringBuilder();
        foreach (var c in SearchText)
        {
            builder.Append(c);

            // notify that the search text has been changed
            o.OnNext(builder.ToString());

            // pause between each character to simulate actual typing
            Thread.Sleep(125);

            // spent some time to think about the next word to type
            if (c == ' ')
                Thread.Sleep(1000);
        }

        o.OnCompleted();

        return () => { /* nothing to dispose here */ };
    });
}
```

Now, we don't want to perform the search every time the user presses a key. Instead, it will be done whenever the user stops typing longer than half a second :

```
TypingSearchText()
    // print the changes
    .Do(x => Console.WriteLine("Typing: " + x))

    // ignore changes that happens within 500ms of each other
    .Throttle(TimeSpan.FromMilliseconds(500))

    // some costly operation
    .Subscribe(x => Console.WriteLine("Searching: " + x));
```

Output :

```
Typing: C
Typing: C#
Typing: C#
Searching: C#
Typing: C# R
Typing: C# Re
...
Typing: C# Reactive
Typing: C# Reactive
Searching: C# Reactive
Typing: C# Reactive E
Typing: C# Reactive Ex
...
Typing: C# Reactive Extension
Typing: C# Reactive Extensions
Searching: C# Reactive Extensions
```

Ignoring repeated values

There are two operators for filtering duplicates:

```
emails.Distinct(); // Never see the same value twice
emails.DistinctUntilChanged(); // Never see the same value twice in a row
```

You can also pass in a predicate:

```
emails.DistinctUntilChanged(x => x.Length); // Never see the same length email twice in a row
```

Get a running aggregation

Suppose you have a hot observable for which you would love to keep the count of. It could be the `IObservable<StockTick>` and you want to keep count of the average trade volume. You can use `Scan` for that.

```
var tradeVolume = stockTicks.Select(e => e.Price)
    .Scan(0.0m, (aggregated, newtick) => aggregated + newtick)
    .Select((aggregated, index) => aggregated / (index + 1))
```

Now you can simply subscribe to your trade volume which is live updated upon receipt of every new Tick.

```
var subscription = tradeVolume.Subscribe(vol => Console.WriteLine("New trade volume is {0}",  
vol);
```

Read [Getting started with system.reactive](https://riptutorial.com/system-reactive/topic/1325/getting-started-with-system-reactive) online: <https://riptutorial.com/system-reactive/topic/1325/getting-started-with-system-reactive>

Credits

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