
Article

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Cogs Library

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Over the next few months I will be releasing a number of open source libraries and tools to the Caché community.

Most of the code has evolved from previous production grade solutions over the years and I am collating it together under a single overarching library package that I am calling Cogs.

I will be releasing it in stages as I complete the documentation for each logical release.

Before each full release I will be making each library / tool available on pre-release evaluation and I am open to anyone wanting to participate and provide early feedback.

The core Cogs library will include...

- A comprehensive set of JSON functions
- A JSON-RPC gateway with RAD development features
- Code generation of JavaScript proxy objects
- Code generation of TypeScript proxy objects with object types and auto completion
- CoffeeTable, an ORM JavaScript client library that is compatible with Caché, PostgreSQL and MongoDB
- Fast and scalable Node.JS connector for Caché (currently experimental)

As well as the above I have been working on a number of tools to make open source development easier and plan to release these under the same Cogs library. These tools include...

- An easy to use unit test library with a web interface
- A markdown documentation editor with live preview that saves documents directly into XDATA source code. These documents live inside Caché and can be previewed from Studio with a single click. The markdown compiler includes mermaid for quick production of diagrams (great for Ensemble developers wanting to document message flows).
- A simple code sync tool for working with Git

Kicking off the first release I have decided to pre-release the Cogs JSON library within the next 10 days. Please get in contact if you are interested in this release.

As a flavour of what to expect, the JSON library has the following features...

- Serialise JSON from Cache objects, with features such as JSON name decorators and calculated JSON value functions
- De-serialisation from JSON to Cache objects, including directly to persistent classes.
- Serialise JSON to arrays and globals
- De-serialise JSON from arrays and globals
- Streamlined SQL resultset serialiser that outputs directly to device
- Special data types for storage of raw JSON
- Handle any combination of type, object, array and list in any combination of nested types
- Special JSON mixer variant to serialise and de-serialise objects of mixed object types.

Example

Extend any class with Cogs.JsonClass...

```
Class Example.Person Extends (%Persistent, Cogs.JsonClass)
{

Property FirstName As %String;

Property LastName As %String;

/// @JSONNAME=BirthDate
Property DateOfBirth As %Date;

/// @JSONIGNORE
Property Secret As %String;

Property Hobbies As list Of %String;

}
```

take some JSON...

```
{
  "BirthDate": "1970-03-25",
  "FirstName": "Sean",
  "Hobbies": [
    "Photography",
    "Walking",
    "Football"
  ],
  "LastName": "Connelly"
}
```

parse and save it...

```
set person=##class(Example.Person).parseJSON(json)
set sc=person.%Save()
```

notice that the library automatically converts date types (as well as boolean, number, null and undefined)

```
person=<OBJECT REFERENCE>[1@Example.Person]
+----- general information -----
|   oref value: 1
|   class name: Example.Person
|   reference count: 2
+----- attribute values -----
|   %Concurrency = 1 <Set>
|   DateOfBirth = 47200
|   FirstName = "Sean"
|   LastName = "Connelly"
|   Secret = ""
+----- swizzled references -----
|   i%Hobbies = ""
|   i%Hobbies(1) = "Photography"
```

```
|      i%Hobbies(2) = "Walking"
|      i%Hobbies(3) = "Football"
|      r%Hobbies = "2@%Collection.ListOfDT"  <Set>
+-----
```

now open the persistent object and call its toJSON() method...

```
set person=##class(Example.Person).%OpenId(1)
write !,person.toJSON()
```

and its as easy as that...

```
{"BirthDate":"1970-03-25","FirstName":"Sean","Hobbies":["Photography","Walking","Football"],"LastName":"Connelly"}
```

How fast is it?

The above parseJSON() example will complete in 1/20th of a millisecond whilst its toJSON() will complete in 1/50th of a millisecond

How stable is it?

The core JSON library has evolved from numerous developments and re-writes over the years. Some of these versions underpin numerous hospital applications. The Cogs release is the latest evolution, highly optimised and fully unit tested.

This includes throwing some pretty gnarly JSON at it...

```
{
  "TestAllAsciiChars": " !\"#$%&'()*+,-./0123456789:;<=>?@ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ[\\]`~••'•'•'••—~™$•ŽŸ ¡¢£¤¥¦§¨©ª«¬®¯°±²³´µ¶·¸¹º»¼½¾¿ÀÁÂÃÄÅÆÇÈÉÊËÌÍÎÏÐÑÒÓÔÕÖ×ØÙÚÛÜÝÞßàáâãäåæçèéêëìíîïðñòóôõö÷øùúûüýþ",
  "TestArrayOfBoolean": {
    "ALPHA": true,
    "CHARLIE": false,
    "DELTA": null,
    "ECHO": false,
    "FOXTROT": true
  },
  "TestArrayOfDate": {
    "Happy-Horolog :)": "1840-12-31",
    "doB": "2126-12-06",
    "nully": null
  },
  "TestArrayOfInteger": {
    "A THOUSAND!": 1000,
    "NINETY NINE": 99,
    "ONE": 1,
    "THREE": 3,
    "TWO": 2,
    "WORLD DEBT $": 59546526326827,
    "WORLD WORTH $": 2410000000000000,
    "nully": 0
  }
}
```

```
},
"TestArrayOfObject":{

},
"TestArrayOfString":{
  "City":"London W1",
  "Country":"UK",
  "Detective":"Sherlock Holmes",
  "District":"Marylebone",
  "FOOBAR":{"{\\}[/][{FOO,BAR}]{\\}[/]}",
  "Street":"221B Baker Street",
  "b4d,Th1ng5!":"\\\\"\\\\"/\\\"\\b\\t\\r\\f\\n",
  "not-nully":"",
  "nully":null
},
"TestBooleanNo":false,
"TestBooleanYes":true,
"TestDate":"2017-05-31",
"TestEmptyArrayOfBoolean":{

},
"TestEmptyArrayOfDate":{

},
"TestEmptyArrayOfInteger":{

},
"TestEmptyArrayOfString":{

},
"TestEmptyListOfBoolean":[

],
"TestEmptyListOfOfDate":[

],
"TestEmptyListOfOfInteger":[

],
"TestEmptyListOfString":[

],
"TestEscapes":"\\\\"\\\\"/\\\"\\b\\t\\r\\f\\n",
"TestInteger":42,
"TestListOfBoolean":[
  true,
  false,
  false,
  null,
  true,
  false,
  true,
  true,
  false
],
"TestListOfObject":[

],
"TestListOfOfDate":[
```

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```
],
"TestEmptyListOfDate":[

],
"TestEmptyListOfInteger":[

],
"TestEmptyListOfString":[

],
"TestEscapes":"\\\\""/\"\\b\\t\\r\\f\\n",
"TestInteger":42,
"TestListOfBoolean":[
    true,
    false,
    false,
    null,
    true,
    false,
    true,
    true,
    false
],
"TestListOfObject":[

],
"TestListOfDate":[
    "1840-12-31",
    "1841-01-10",
    "1841-04-10",
    "1843-09-27",
    null,
    "1868-05-18",
    "2114-10-16",
    "4578-11-27"
],
"TestListOfInteger":[
    0,
    43564356546456,
    0.345,
    0.2,
    0,
    -464356.75675,
    76567,
    3.141592653589793238,
    7653475667,
    -65753,
    45676.56,
    -6807.383887076754324
],
"TestListOfString":[
    "Sherlock Holmes",
    "221B Baker Street",
    "Marylebone",
    "London W1",
    "UK",
    null,
    "{[\\}\\[/][{[FOO,BAR]]}\\}\\[/]]}",
    "\\\\""/\"\\b\\t\\r\\f\\n",
```

"TestAllAsciiChars": " !\"#\$%&'()*+,-./0123456789:;<=>?@ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQR
STUVŽ••' '""•—~™š•žŸ | ç£¤¥¦§¨©ª«¬
®¯°±²³´µ¶·¸¹º»¼½¾ÀÁÂÃÄÅÆÇÈÉÊËÌÍÎÏÐÑÒÓÔÕÖ×ØÙÚÛÜÝÞßàáâãäåæçèéêëìíîïðñóôõö÷øùúûüýþ",

```
"TestArrayOfString":{
  "City":"London W1",
  "Country":"UK",
  "Detective":"Sherlock Holmes",
  "District":"Marylebone",
  "FOOBAR":"{[{\\}[/][{[FOO,BAR]]{\\}[/]]}",
  "Street":"221B Baker Street",
  "b4d,Th1ng5! ":"\\\\"\\\\"/\\\\"b\\t\\r\\f\\n",
  "not-nully":"","
  "nully":null
},
"TestBooleanNo":false,
"TestBooleanYes":true,
"TestDate":"2016-05-22",
"TestEmptyArrayOfBoolean":{

},
"TestEmptyArrayOfDate":{

},
"TestEmptyArrayOfInteger":{

},
"TestEmptyArrayOfString":{

},
"TestEmptyListOfBoolean":[

],
"TestEmptyListOfOfDate":[

],
"TestEmptyListOfOfInteger":[

],
"TestEmptyListOfString":[

],
"TestEscapes":"\\\\"\\\\"/\\\\"b\\t\\r\\f\\n",
"TestInteger":42,
"TestListOfBoolean":[
  true,
  false,
  false,
  null,
  true,
  false,
  true,
  true,
  false
],
"TestListOfObject":[

],
"TestListOfOfDate":[
  "1840-12-31",
  "1841-01-10",
  "1841-04-10",
  "1843-09-27",
```

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To prove its all real, here is an object dump of the above JSON after it was parsed...

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```
|i%TestEmptyListOfBoolean = "" <Set>
|r%TestEmptyListOfBoolean = "6@%Collection.ListOfDT" <Set>
|i%TestEmptyListOfOfDate = "" <Set>
|r%TestEmptyListOfOfDate = "7@%Collection.ListOfDT" <Set>
|i%TestEmptyListOfOfInteger = "" <Set>
|r%TestEmptyListOfOfInteger = "8@%Collection.ListOfDT" <Set>
|i%TestEmptyListOfString = "" <Set>
|r%TestEmptyListOfString = "9@%Collection.ListOfDT" <Set>
|i%TestListOfBoolean = ""
|i%TestListOfBoolean(1) = 1
|i%TestListOfBoolean(2) = 0
|i%TestListOfBoolean(3) = 0
|i%TestListOfBoolean(4) = ""
|i%TestListOfBoolean(5) = 1
|i%TestListOfBoolean(6) = 0
|i%TestListOfBoolean(7) = 1
|i%TestListOfBoolean(8) = 1
|i%TestListOfBoolean(9) = 0
|r%TestListOfBoolean = "22@%Collection.ListOfDT" <Set>
| i%TestListOfObject = "" <Set>
| r%TestListOfObject = "10@%Collection.ListOfObj" <Set>
| i%TestListOfOfDate = ""
|i%TestListOfOfDate(1) = 0
|i%TestListOfOfDate(2) = 10
|i%TestListOfOfDate(3) = 100
|i%TestListOfOfDate(4) = 1000
|i%TestListOfOfDate(5) = ""
|i%TestListOfOfDate(6) = 10000
|i%TestListOfOfDate(7) = 100000
|i%TestListOfOfDate(8) = 1000000
| r%TestListOfOfDate = "23@%Collection.ListOfDT" <Set>
|i%TestListOfOfInteger = ""
|i%TestListOfOfInteger(1) = 0
|i%TestListOfOfInteger(2) = 43564356546456
|i%TestListOfOfInteger(3) = .345
|i%TestListOfOfInteger(4) = .2
|i%TestListOfOfInteger(5) = ""
|i%TestListOfOfInteger(6) = -464356.75675
|i%TestListOfOfInteger(7) = 76567
|i%TestListOfOfInteger(8) = 3.141592653589793238
|i%TestListOfOfInteger(9) = 7653475667
|i%TestListOfOfInteger(10) = -65753
|i%TestListOfOfInteger(11) = 45676.56
|i%TestListOfOfInteger(12) = -6807.383887076754324
|r%TestListOfOfInteger = "24@%Collection.ListOfDT" <Set>
| i%TestListOfString = ""
|i%TestListOfString(1) = "Sherlock Holmes"
|i%TestListOfString(2) = "221B Baker Street"
|i%TestListOfString(3) = "Marylebone"
|i%TestListOfString(4) = "London W1"
|i%TestListOfString(5) = "UK"
|i%TestListOfString(6) = $(0)
|i%TestListOfString(7) = "{[{\}[/][{[F00,BAR]}}{\}[/]]}"
|i%TestListOfString(8) = "\"\"\"\"\"/_$(8,9,10,12,13)
|i%TestListOfString(9) = 0
|i%TestListOfString(10) = 1
|i%TestListOfString(11) = 345345345345345345400
| r%TestListOfString = "21@%Collection.ListOfDT" <Set>
| i%TestSingleObject = ""
```

```
| r%TestSingleObject = ""
```

```
+-----
```

Btw, the main part of this post was written in the markdown editor and cut and paste directly into this post with syntax highlighting for COS.

Sean.

[#JSON](#) [#Object Data Model](#) [#Cache](#)

Source URL: <https://community.intersystems.com/post/cogs-library>