

Azure Cloud Shell - your own bash shell and container - right inside Visual Studio Code

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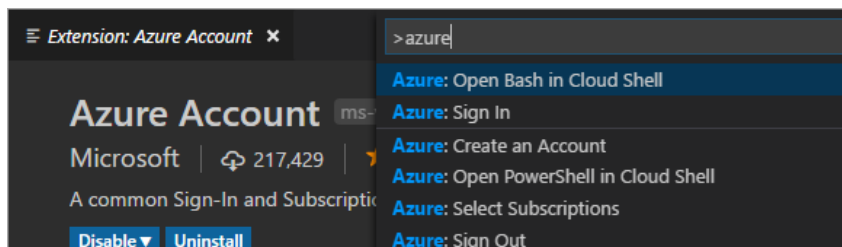


[Visual Studio Code](#) has a [HUGE extension library](#). There's also almost [two dozen very nice Azure specific extensions](#) as well as extensions for [Docker](#), etc. If you write an Azure extension yourself, you can depend on the [Azure Account Extension to handle the administivia](#) of the user logging into Azure and selecting their subscription. And of course, the [Azure Account Extension is open source](#).

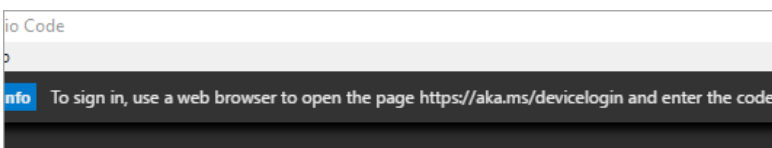
Here's the cool part - I think, since I just learned it. You can have the Azure Account Extension installed (again, you can install it directly or you can get it as a dependency) you also get the ability to get an Azure Cloud Shell directly inside VS Code. That means a little container spins up in the Cloud and you can get a real bash shell or a real PowerShell shell quickly. AND the [Azure Cloud Shell](#) automatically is logged in as you and already has a ton of tools pre-installed.

Here's how you do it.

- Install [Visual Studio Code](#)
- Install the [Azure Account Extension](#)
- run VS Code, then press Shift-Ctrl-P for the Command Palette
- Click Azure: Sign In

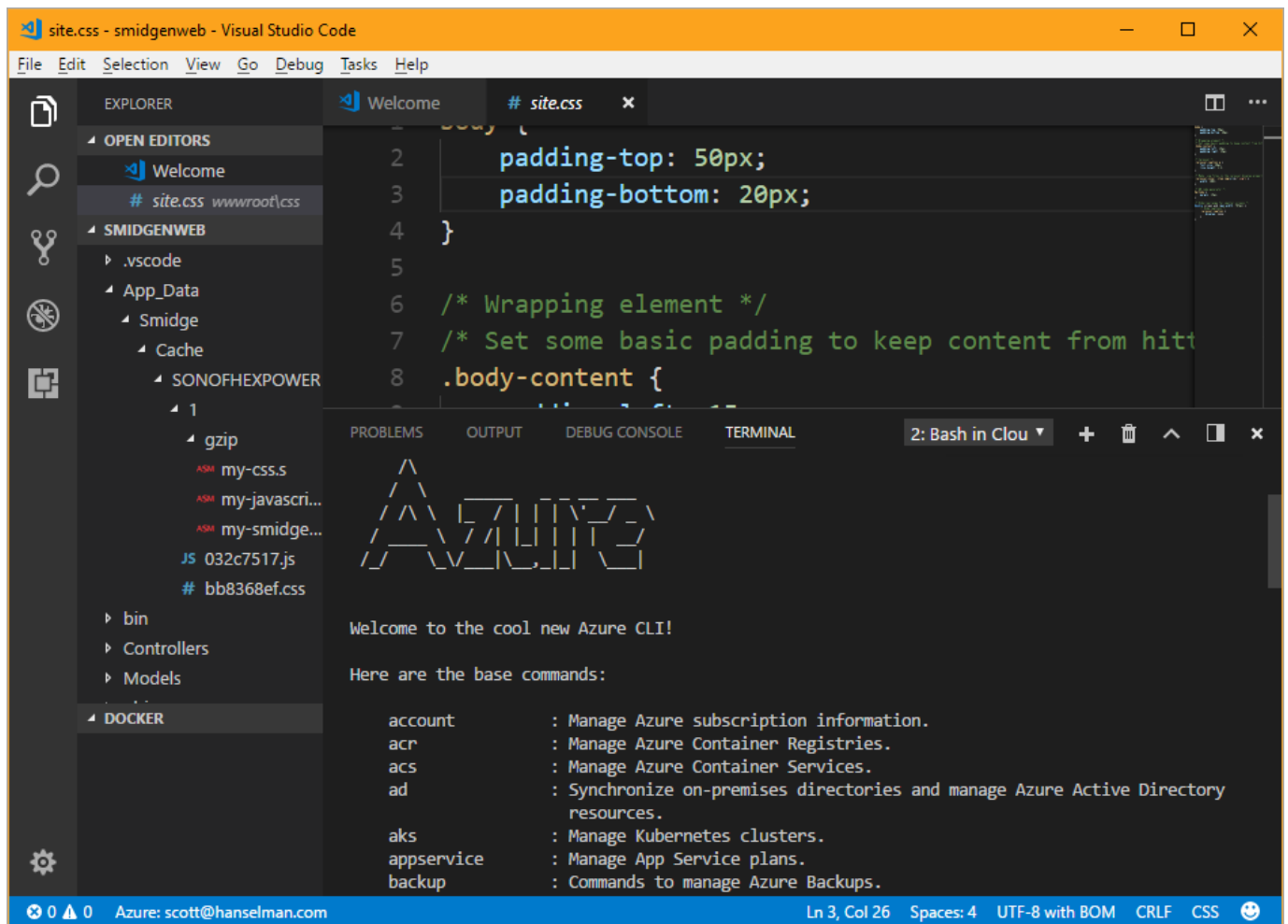


It will pop up a message with a "copy & open" button. It'll launch a browser, then you enter a special code after logging into Azure to OAuth VS Code into your Account account.



At this point, open a Cloud Shell with **Shift-Ctrl-P** and type **"Bash"** or **"PowerShell"** ...it'll autocomplete so you can type a lot less, or setup a hotkey.

Your Cloud Shell will appear along side your local terminals!



Note that there's a "clouddrive" folder mapped to your Azure Storage so you can keep stuff in there. Even though the Shell goes away in about 20 min of non-use, your stuff (scripts, whatever) is persisted.

```
scott@Azure:~$ ll
total 48
drwxr-xr-x 6 scott scott 4096 Dec  3 01:27 ./
drwxr-xr-x 1 root  root  4096 Dec  3 01:27 ../
drwx----- 2 scott scott 4096 May 22  2017 .azure/
-rw----- 1 scott scott  249 Dec  3 01:32 .bash_history
-rw-r--r-- 1 scott scott  220 May 22  2017 .bash_logout
-rw-r--r-- 1 scott scott 3969 Dec  1 18:38 .bashrc
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root  root    21 Dec  3 01:27 clouddrive -> /home/scott/.clouddrive/
drwxr-xr-x 3 scott scott 4096 May 22  2017 .dotnet/
drwxr-xr-x 4 scott scott 4096 Jul 25 18:18 .nuget/
-rw-r--r-- 1 scott scott  655 May 22  2017 .profile
drwxr-xr-x 3 scott scott 4096 Jul 25 18:19 .templateengine/
-rw-r--r-- 1 scott scott  42 Dec  1 18:38 .tmux.conf
-rw----- 1 scott scott  805 Jun 12 04:40 .viminfo
```

There's a bunch of tools preinstalled you can use as well!

```
scott@Azure:~$ node --version
v6.9.4
scott@Azure:~$ dotnet --version
2.0.0
scott@Azure:~$ git --version
git version 2.7.4
scott@Azure:~$ python --version
Python 3.5.2
scott@Azure:~$ lsb_release -a
No LSB modules are available.
Distributor ID: Ubuntu
Description:    Ubuntu 16.04.2 LTS
Release:        16.04
Codename:       xenial
```

And finally, when you type "azure" or "az" for the various Azure CLI (Command Line Interface) tools, you'll find you're already authenticated/logged into Azure, so you can create VMs, list websites, manage Kubernetes clusters, all from within VS Code. I'm still exploring, but I'm enjoying what I'm seeing.

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About Scott

Scott Hanselman is a former professor, former Chief Architect in finance, now speaker, consultant, father, diabetic, and Microsoft employee. He is a failed stand-up comic, a cornrower, and a book author.



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