Apex Sharing in Salesforce

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There will be some scenarios in organization where you want to share a record based on some complex scenario, but you cannot define the complex scenario as a criterion in sharing rule. Then the question is how you can share a record, of course you can share them manually. But how many times you can share records manually, trust me its annoying to share records manually again and again.

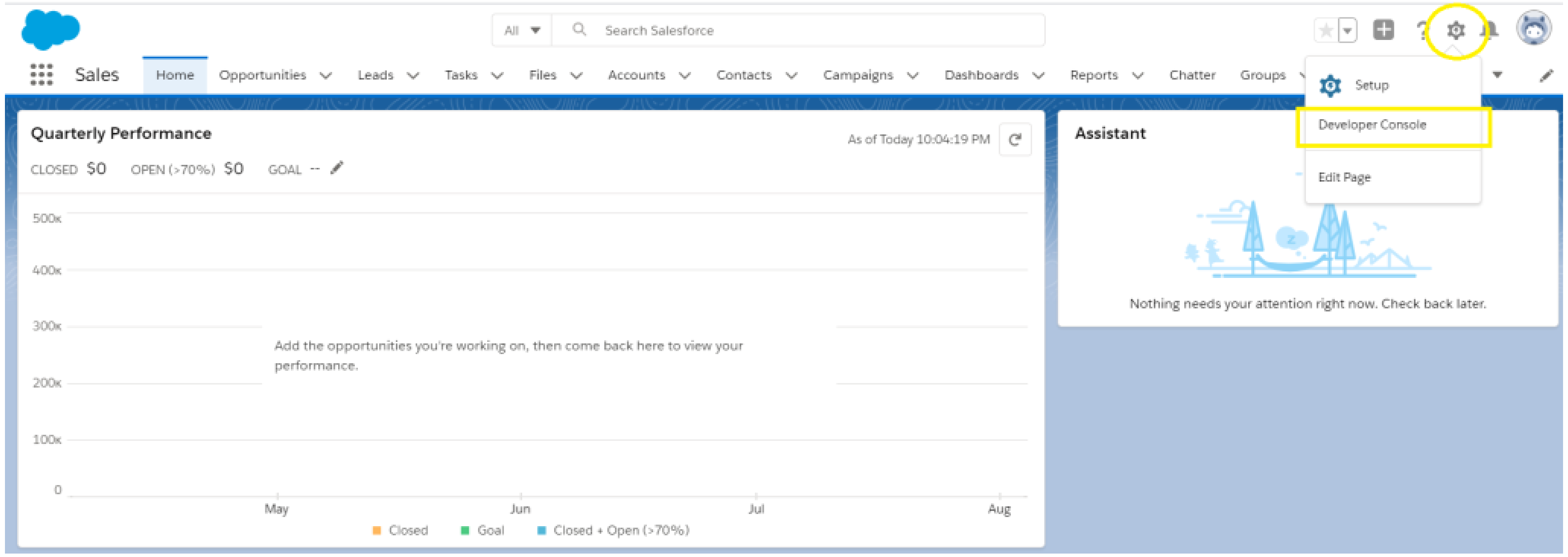
Salesforce provides another way to share a record and that is through apex code via share object. So what is Share object? Every standard and custom object will have a share object in salesforce with predefined fields as shown below.

- Standard Object's Share object will be "sObject+Share". For example, Account objects Share Object is AccountShare. Similarly, Opportunity objects Share object will be OpportunityShare.
- Custom Object's Share object will be "CustomObjectName + __Share". For example, if your custom object name is MyCustomObject, then its **API name** will be MyCustomObject__c and **share object** will be MyCustomObject__Share.

Where can you see share object in salesforce?

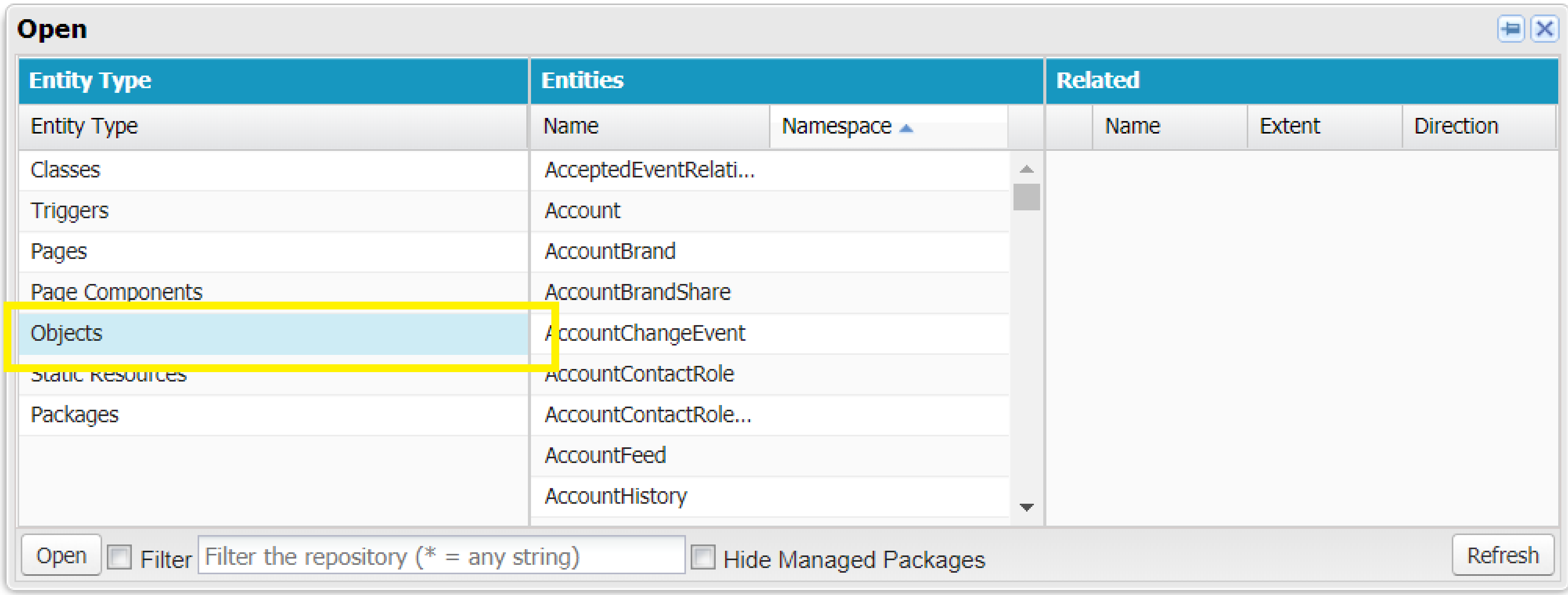
You can see the object and its fields from your developer Console.

Step 1: login into salesforce and open Developer Console.



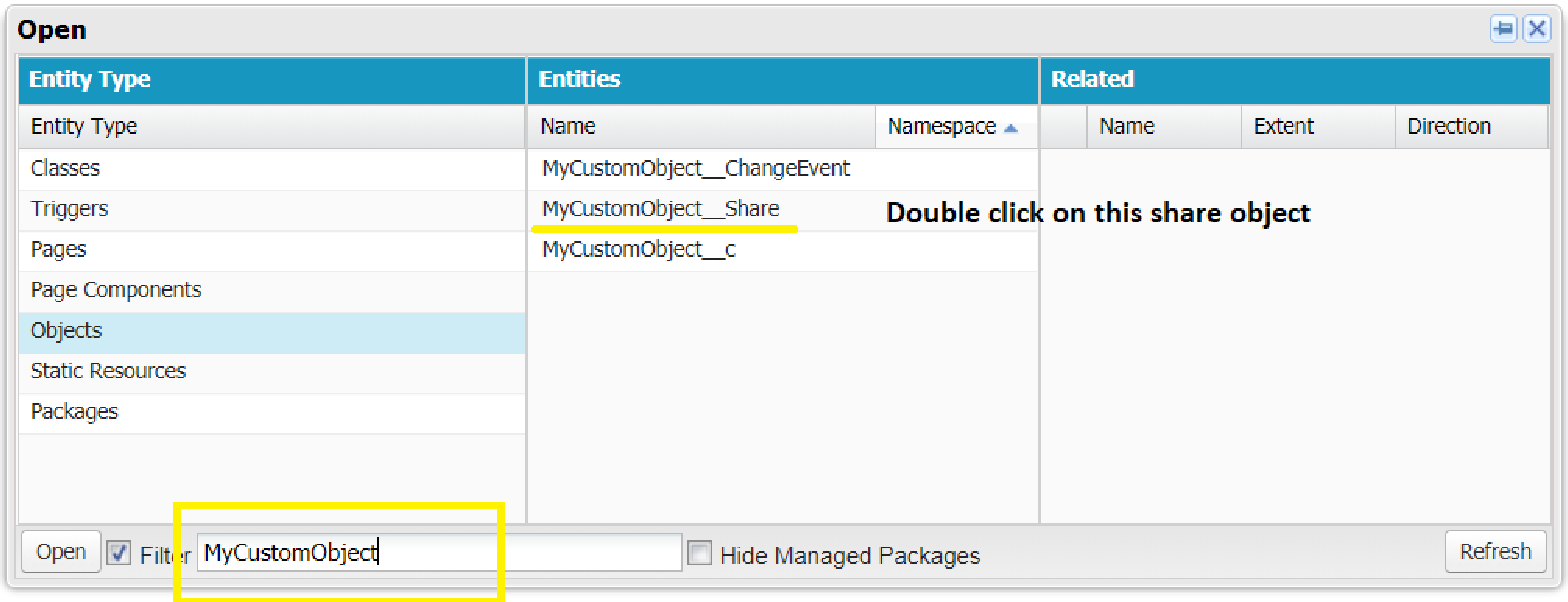
Home page of salesforce

Step 2: in developer console, Click on File – Open (Or Press Ctrl+O).



Open window in developer console

Step 3: In open screen, under Entity Type select “Objects” and in filter the repository section type name of object (Standard or custom). Once you see Share object in entity, double click on the share object.



Share object

MyCustomObject__Share.obj

Name	Apex Type
Id	id
ParentId	reference
UserOrGroupId	reference
AccessLevel	picklist
RowCause	picklist
LastModifiedDate	datetime
LastModifiedById	reference
IsDeleted	boolean

Share object fields.

Here,

ParentId is the Id of the record which you want to share.

UserOrGroupId is the Id of the user or public group or roles with whom you want to share the record.

AccessLevel is the level of access that you want to give to that user or group. It can be Read, Edit or All. All is given only by system so you can only view if permission is given you cannot assign to any user or group through code.

RowCause is the reason which can be helpful when reading the shared record's reason. Which gives a glimpse of why the record is shared with specific group or user.

Note: Apex Sharing Reason is only available in Classic version of salesforce.

All other fields are system generated.

How can you share record?

Sample Code: To **share a Custom object** record.

I have created a Sharing Reason. You can create a custom sharing rule reason or use "Manual" as reason while writing code, its default from salesforce.

[Know more about Sharing Reason]