

Nested Flow File based Data Controls

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Table Of Contents



Introduction	1
Excel Sheets	2
Read Excel:	2
Write Excel:	5
Text Files	8
Read Text:	8
Write Text:	10
XML Files	13
Read XML:	13
Write XML:	17
Accessing the Data	18

Introduction

NestedFlow framework supports multiple file based test data options to support data driven automation scripting methodologies. This document explains each of those options and their usage.

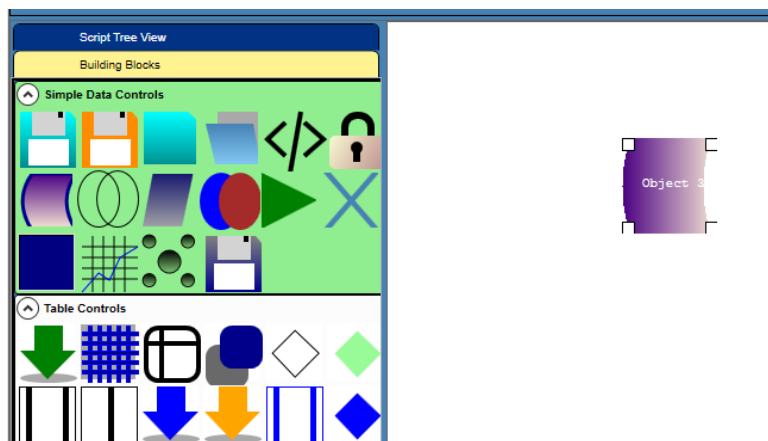
Excel Sheets

Excel sheets are most frequently used test data options used universally while deploying the data driven test framework. Nestedflow provides 2 components to satisfy Excel operation needs.

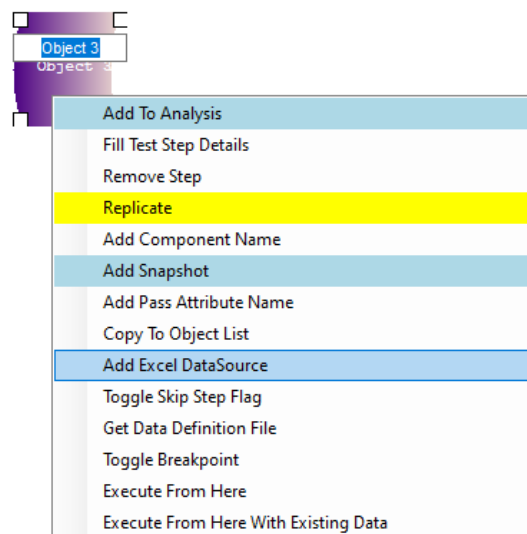
Components	Operation
	Read Excel Files
	Convert Data Table to Excel

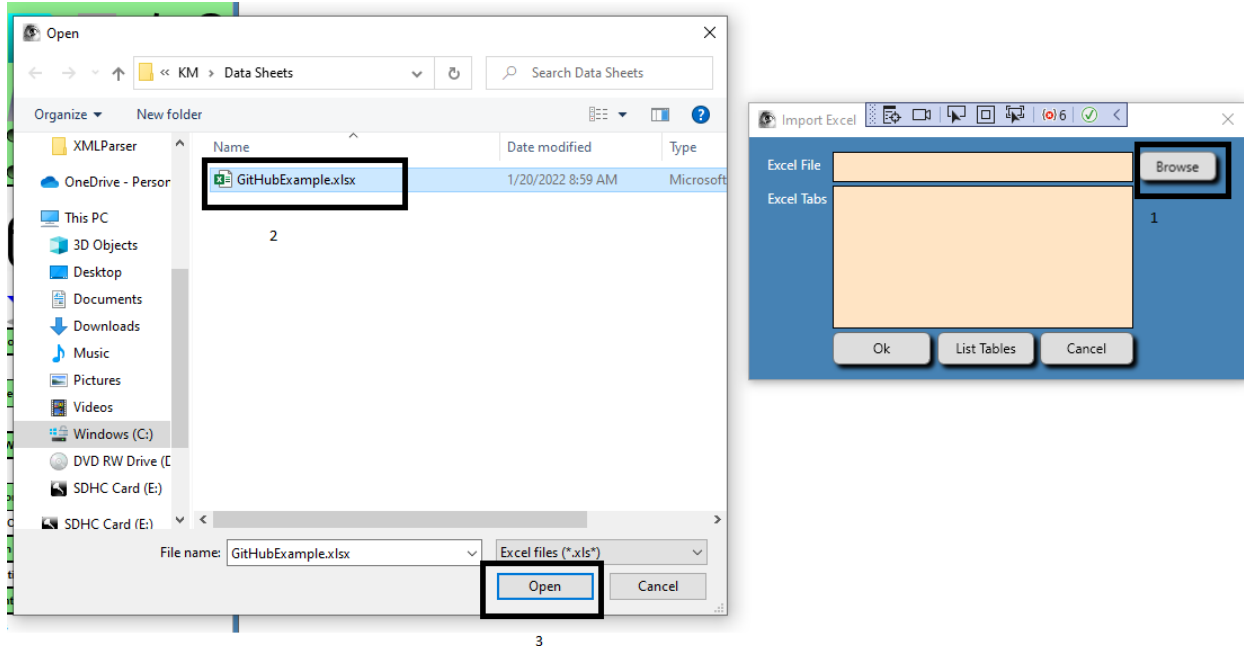
Read Excel:

Drag the Read Excel component to test canvas



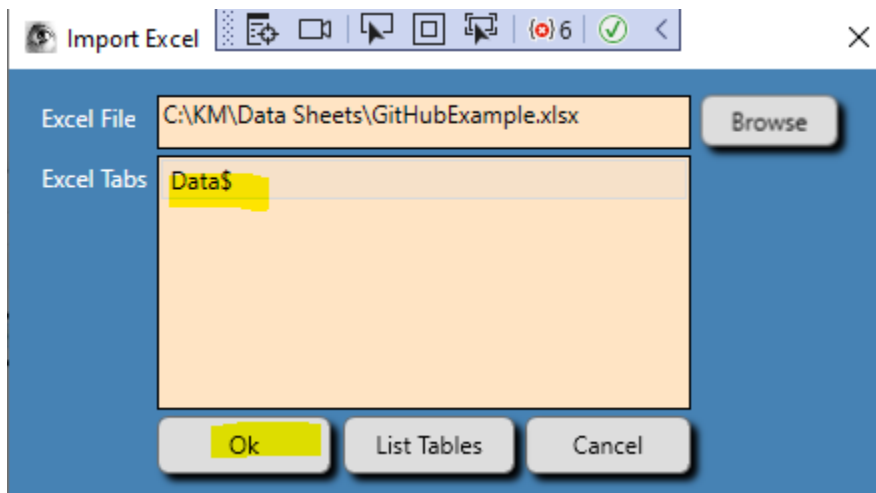
Right click on the component and click on: **Add Excel DataSource**





Click on **Browse** button, Choose the Excel file from file navigation window and click on **Open** button

Click on the data sheet relevant from the automatically updated list and click on **Ok** button

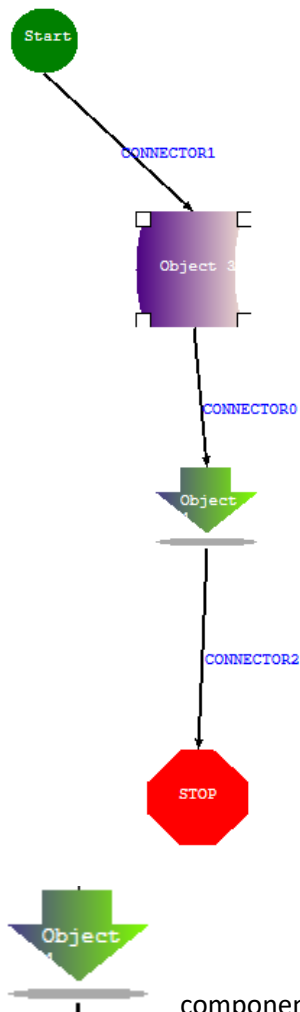


Object properties get updated as per the selection.

The screenshot shows the 'Object Properties' panel with the following data:

Attribute	Value
Display Name Of The Object	Object 3
Code/Data Path	C:\KM\Data Sheets\GitHubExample.xlsx
Object Type	Step
Object Sub Type	Excel
Object Name	Step 3
Attributes XML	Data\$
Maximum Iterations	1
Mandatory Columns	

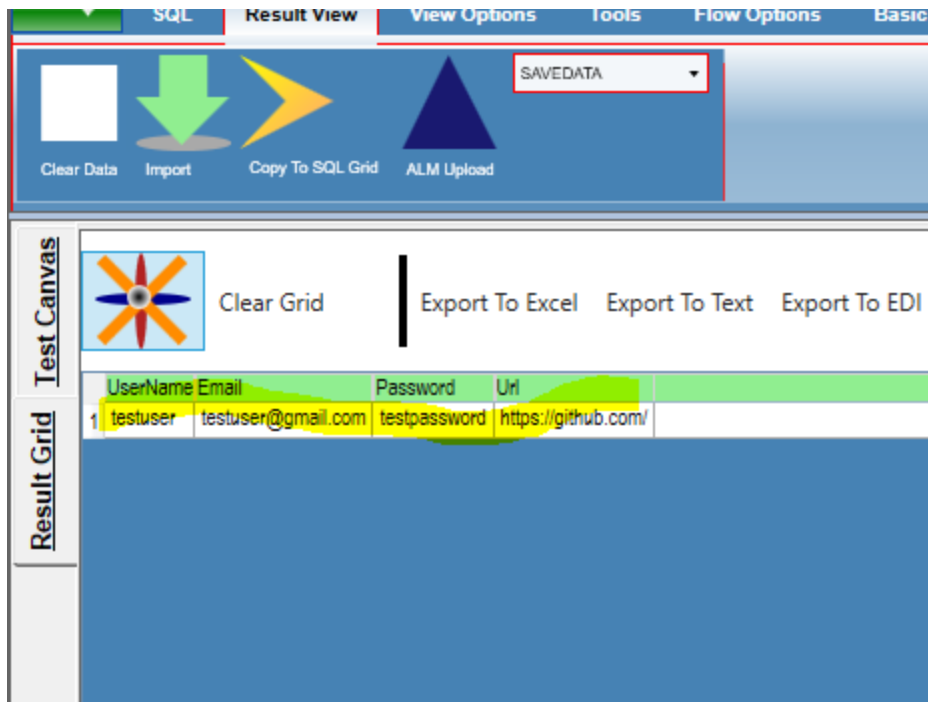
When we create a flow using the component



component is used to save the data retrieved in the data block to a named data table (I have entered SAVEDATA as the table name)

When the flow is executed:

Data will be saved to the table mentioned when we see in the **Result Grid** tab.

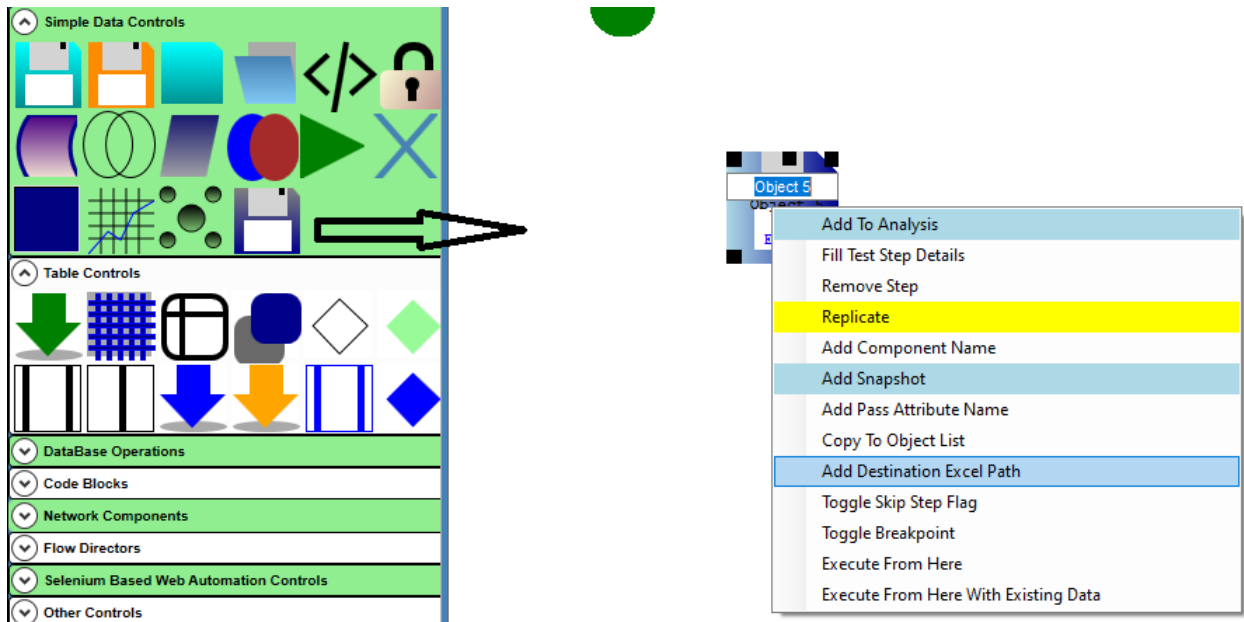


Write Excel:

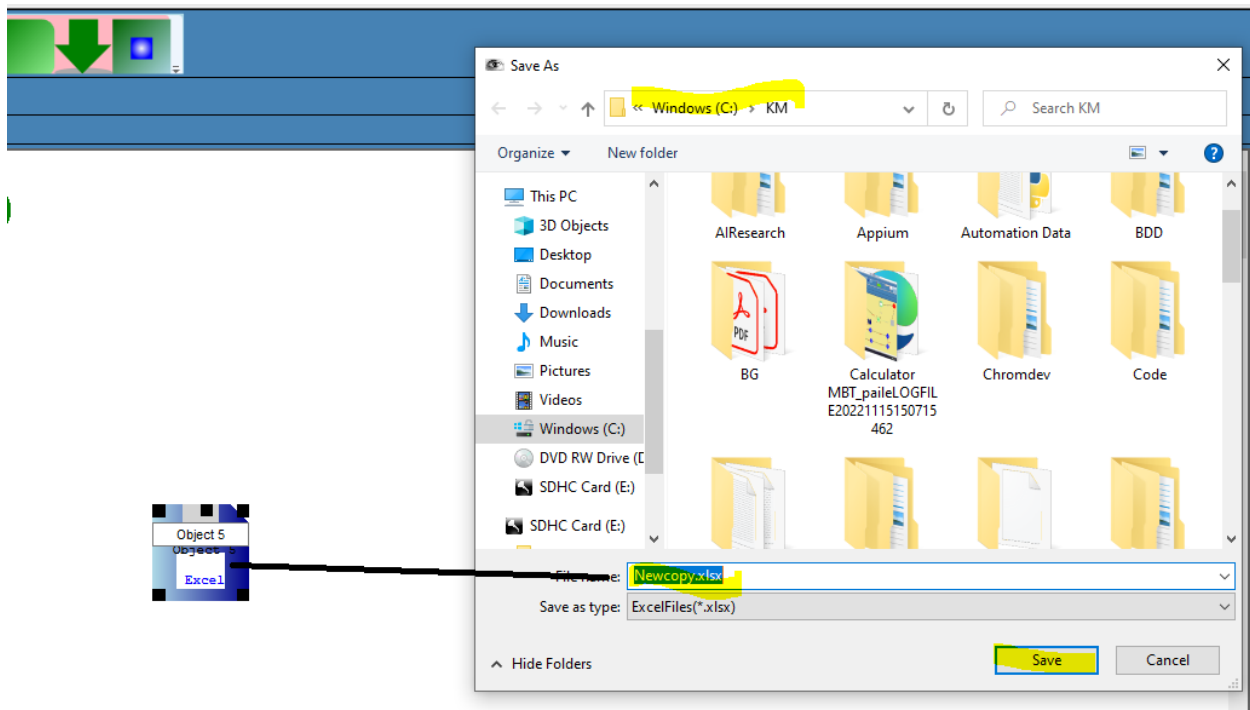
Drag the Read Excel component to test canvas



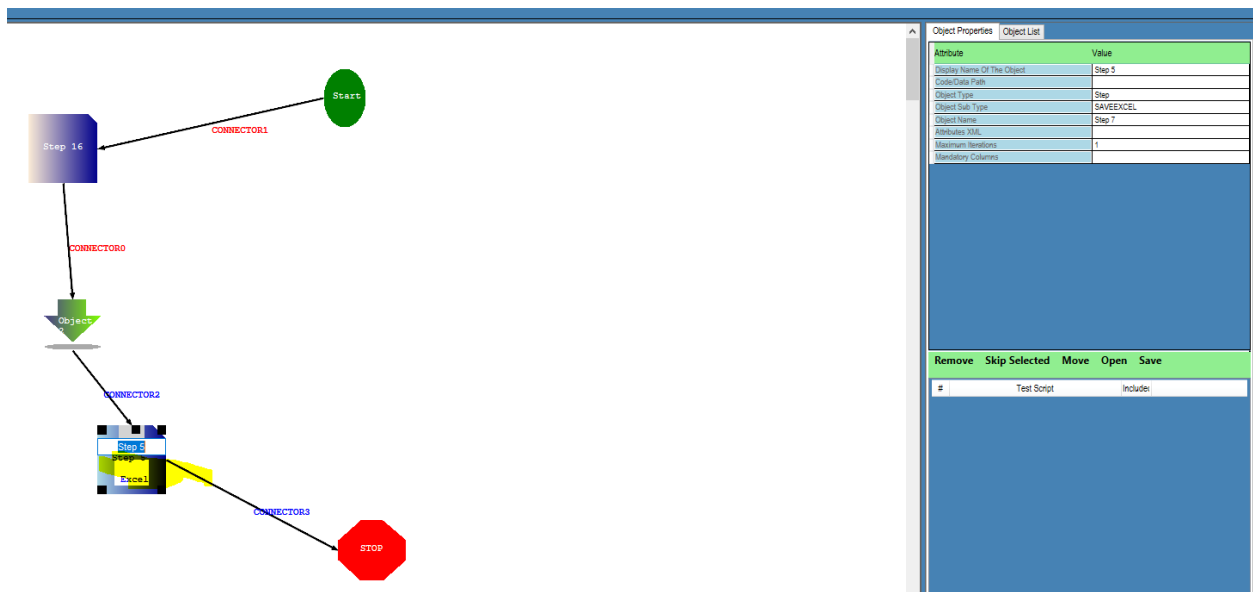
Right click on the component and click on: **Add Excel DataSource**



Enter Destination file and click on **Save** button



In the example below we are reading data from a text file and saving it to Excel.



Microsoft Excel Screenshot (DataSheet.xlsx):

AutoSave: Off

File | Home | Insert | Draw | Page Layout | Formulas | Data

Font: Calibri, 11, Bold, Italic, Underline, Color, Background Color, Text Color

Alignment: Left, Center, Right, Indent, Wrap

Clipboard: Paste

Formula Bar: First Name

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	First Name	Last Name	Address Line	City	State	Zip	
2	First Name	Last Name	Address Line	City	State	Zip	
3	Ramesh	Nalem	1234 Cypress	Fremont	CA	95354	
4	Jayesh	Patel	14608 Highway	Little Elm	TX	75068	
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							



Right-hand panel (Flowchart diagram):

- Start (Green circle) connects to Step 16 (Blue box) via **CONNECTOR1**.
- Step 16 connects to an Object (Green arrow) via **CONNECTOR0**.
- The Object connects to Step 5 (Blue box) via **CONNECTOR2**.
- Step 5 connects to a STOP sign (Red octagon) via **CONNECTOR3**.

Text Files

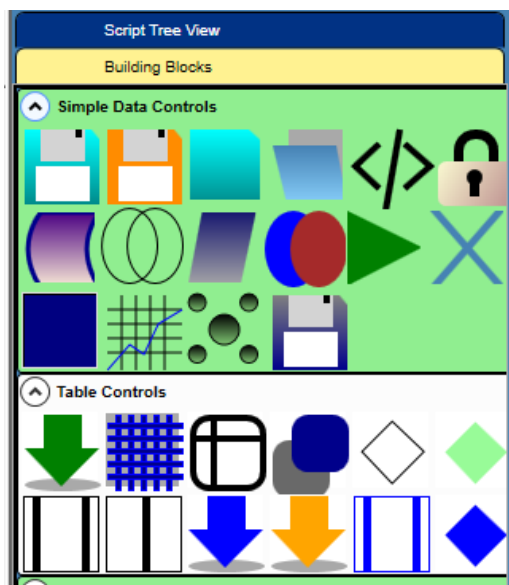
NestedFlow supports both delimited and fixed length text files which can be used as the data files.

Below are the components used for text handling:

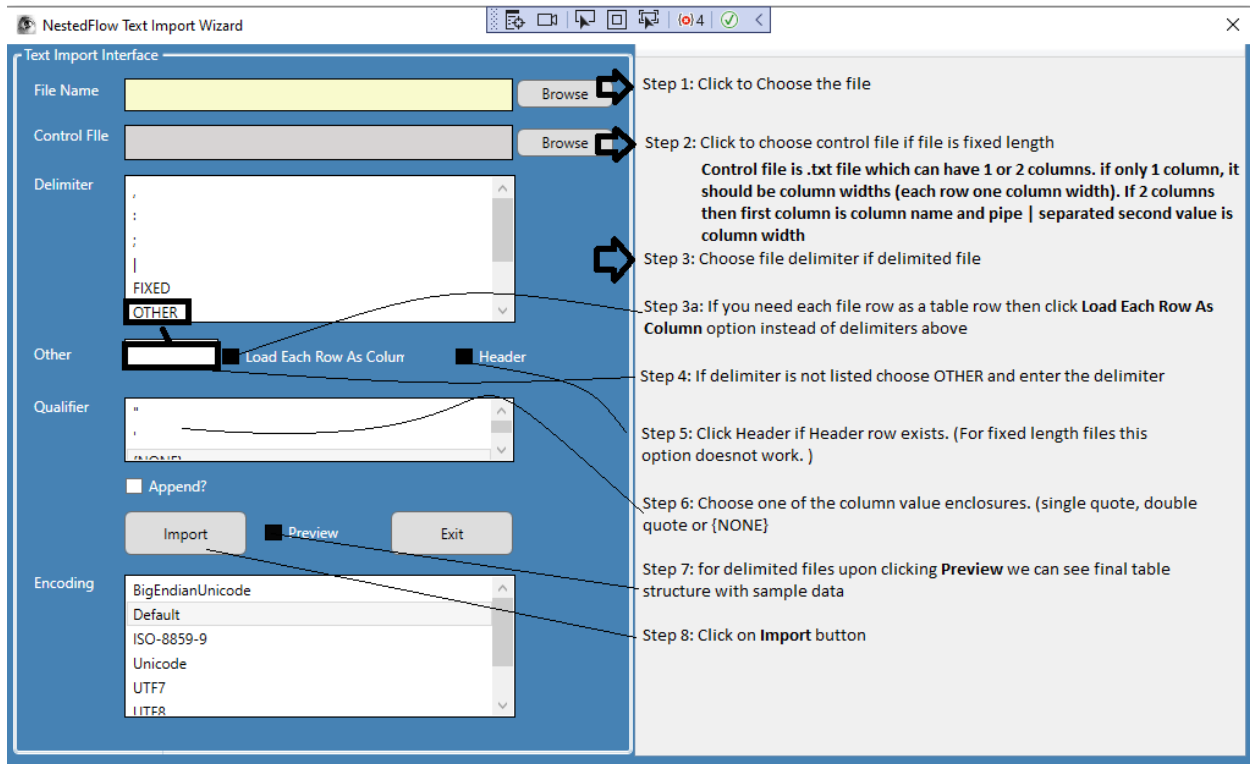
Components	Operation
	Read Text files
	Convert Data Table to Text files

Read Text:

Drag the Read Text component to test canvas

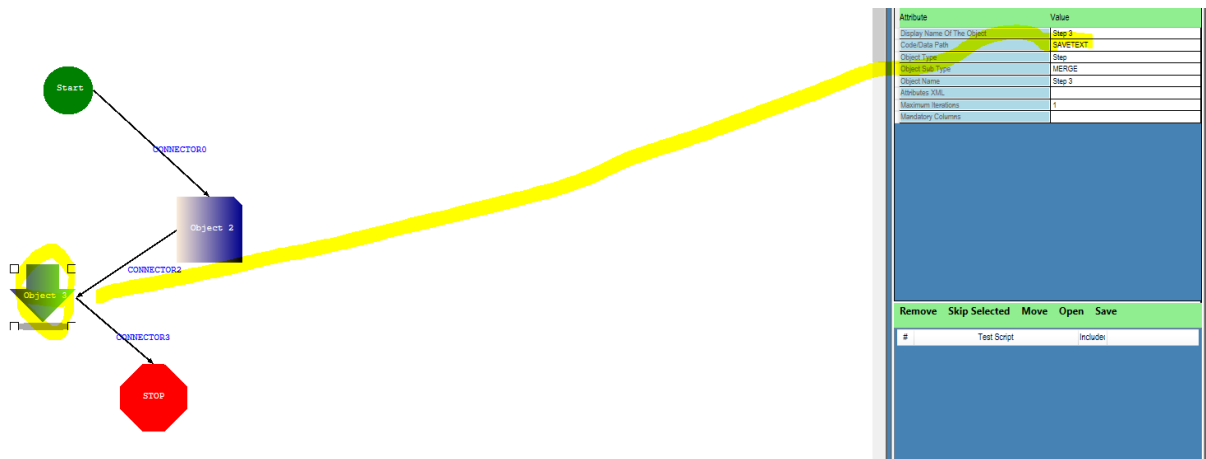


Right click on the component and click on: **Add Text Data Source** menu

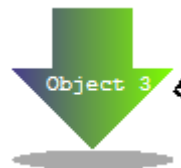


Object Properties	
Object List	
Attribute	Value
Display Name Of The Object	Step 2
Code/Data Path	C:\KM\Data Sheets\FixedLength.txt
Object Type	Step
Object Sub Type	TEXT
Object Name	Step 2
Attributes XML	<pre><NewDataSet> <Table1> <Delimiter>FIXED</Delimiter> <OtherDelimiter /> <Encoding>Default</Encoding> <Qualifier>(NONE)</Qualifier> <HeaderRow>True</HeaderRow> <ControlFile>C:\KM\Data Sheets\fixedcontrol </Table1> </NewDataSet></pre>
Maximum Iterations	1
Mandatory Columns	

Executing a sample flow:



When the flow is executed:



Data will be saved to the table mentioned in block when we see in the **Result Grid** tab.

SQL Result View View Options Tools Flow Options Basic Charting

Clear Data Import Copy To SQL Grid ALM Upload SAVETEXT

Test Canvas

Clear Grid Export To Excel Export To Text Export To EDI Export To XML Export To JSON

	First Name	Last Name	Address Line 1	City	State	Zip
1	Ramesh	Nalem	1234 Cypress Way	Fremont	CA	95354
2	Jayesh	Patel	14608 H way	Little Elm	TX	75068

Result Grid

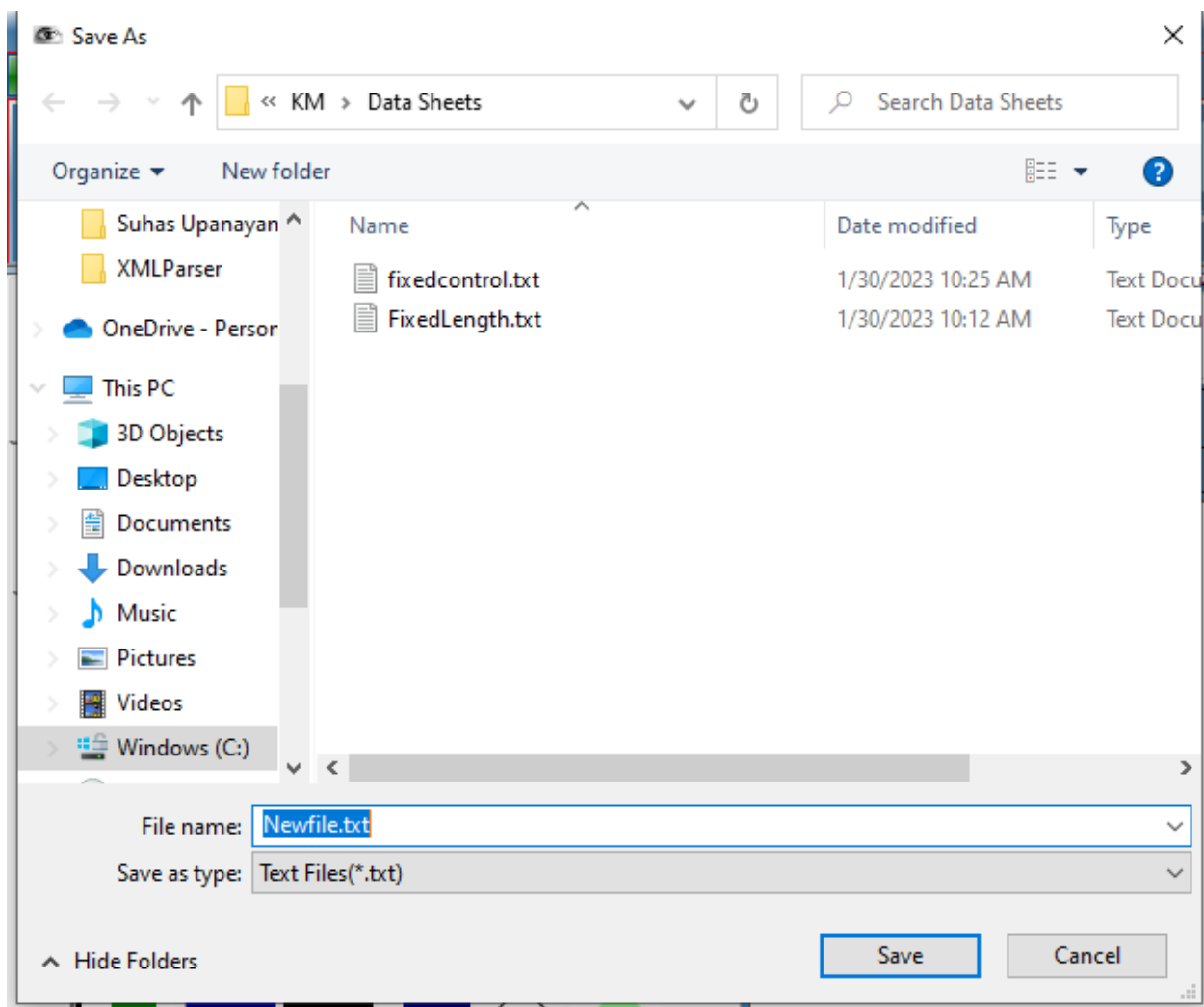
Write Text:

Drag the Read Excel component to test canvas



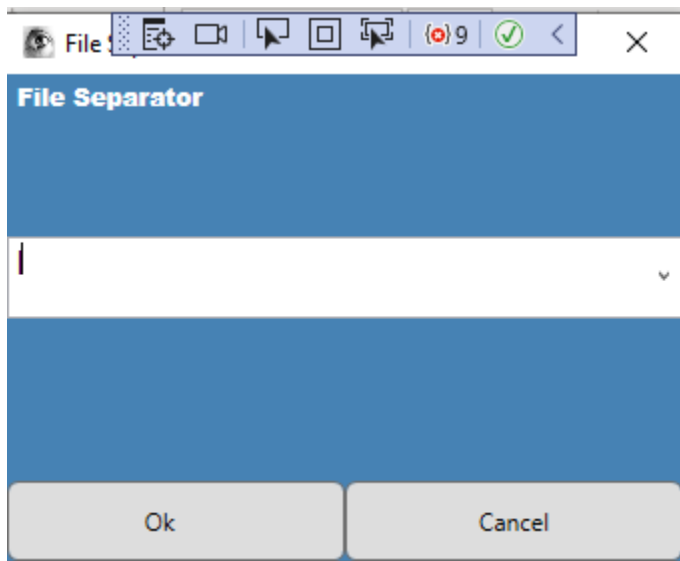
Right Click on the component and click on the menu option: **Add Destination Text File**

Enter File Name:



Click on **Save** button. Another window will be opened asking for delimiter to be used.

Enter Delimiter and click on **Ok** button





Note: The option allows only delimited files to be created

XML Files

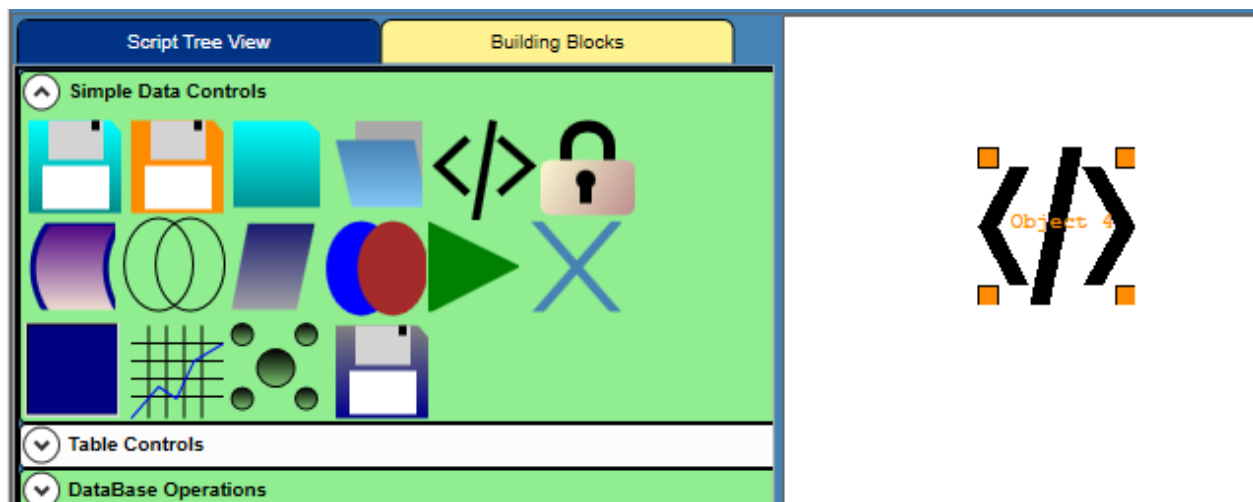
NestedFlow tool allows XML files to be used as data files (as long as the files are in plain Table and rows format)

Below are the components used for text handling:

Components	Operation
	Read XML files
	Convert Data Table to XML files

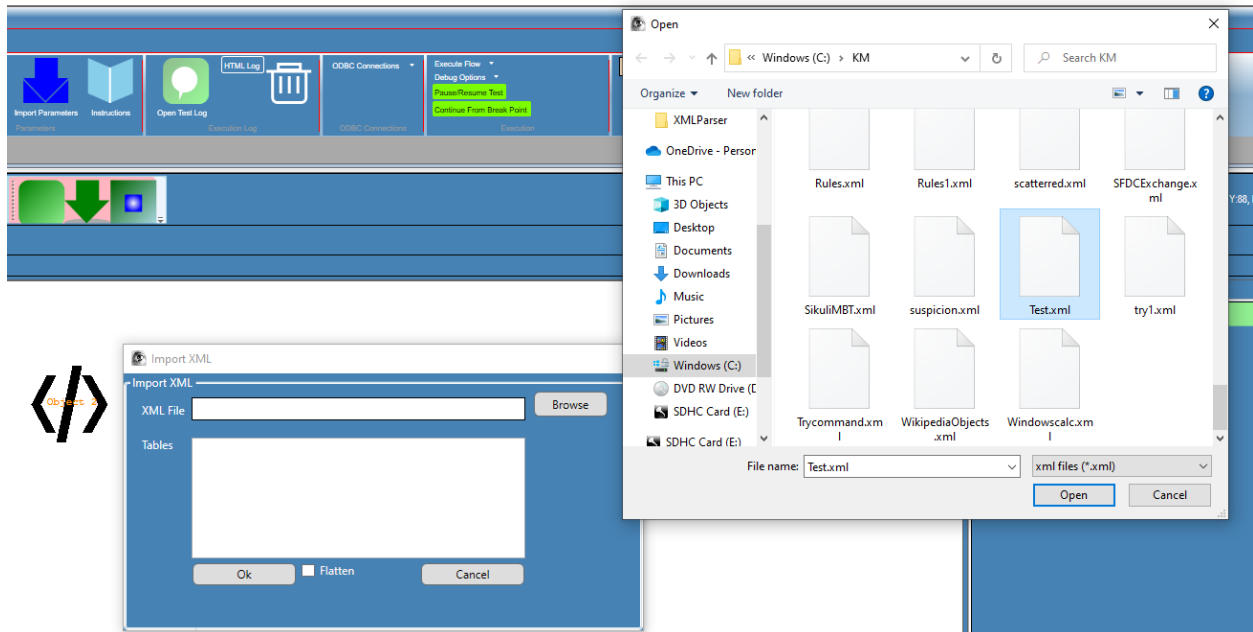
Read XML:

Drag the Read Text component to test canvas



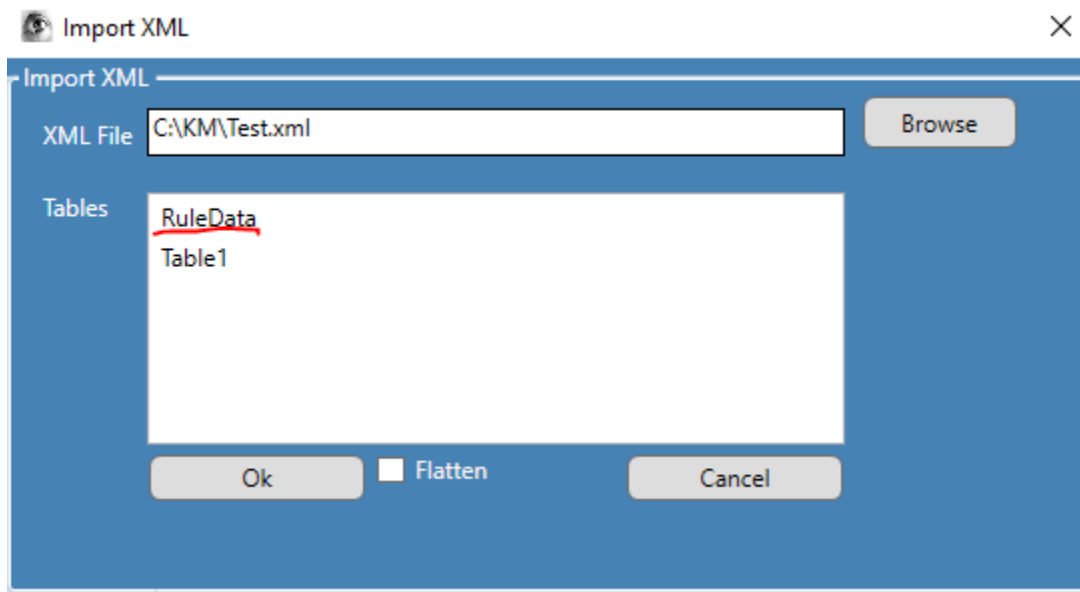
Right click on the component and choose menu option: **Add XML DataSource**

Click on **Browse** button



Choose a file and click on **Open** button.

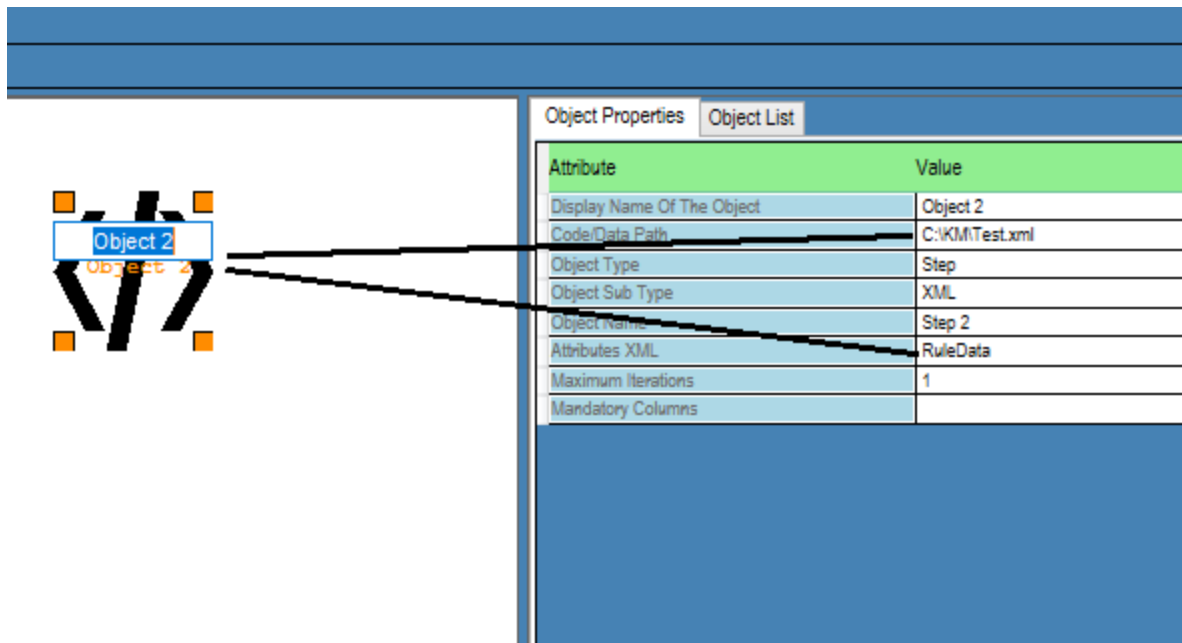
The Tables in the XML will be displayed.



Click on the Table intended and click on **OK** button.

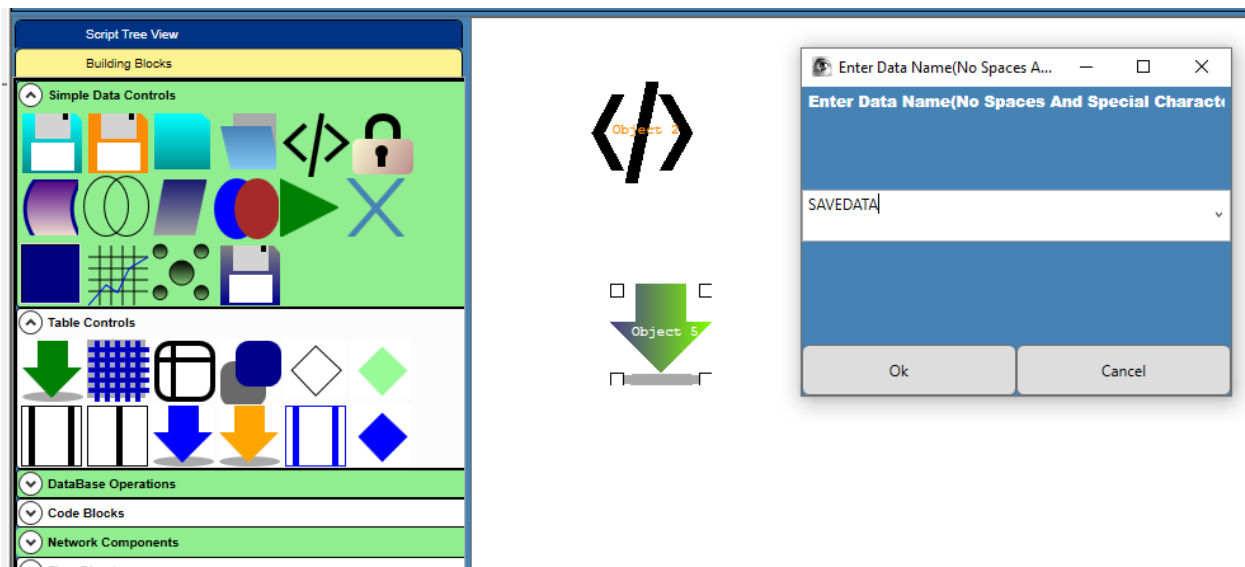
OR

Double click on the table name

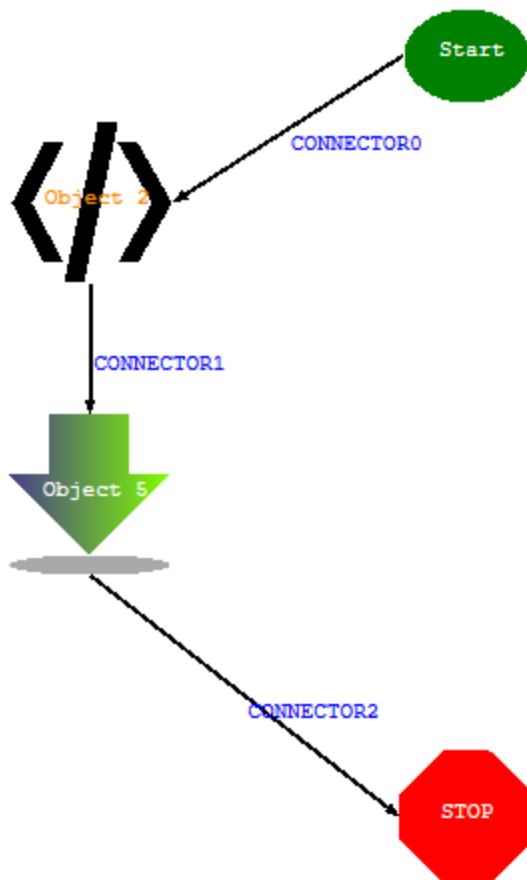


Drag the Merge component from the building blocks to the canvas.

Enter Data name window will open. Enter Data Name and click on **Ok** button



Create a flow using both blocks.



Result grid will show the data.

Clear Data

Import

Copy To SQL Grid

ALM Upload

SAVEDATA

Test Canvas

Clear Grid

Export To Excel

Export To Text

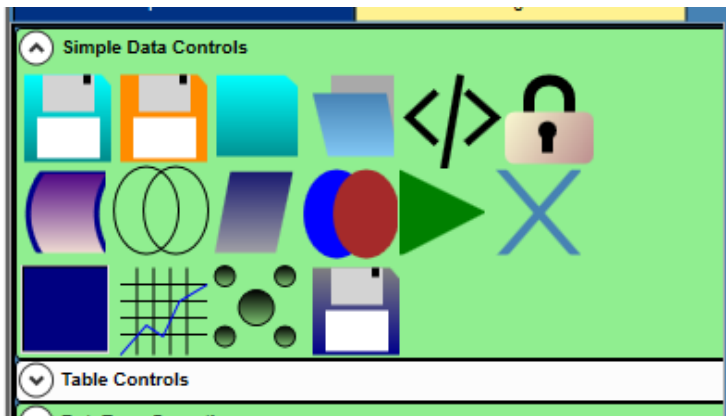
Export To EDI

Result Grid

Rule Name	Format Text	Column 1	Column 2	Init Val	Aux	End Val
1 Increment		Columns0		1	1	
2 Custom String	nnnnnnnn	Columns0		nnnnnnnn	nnnnnnnn	nnnnnnnn

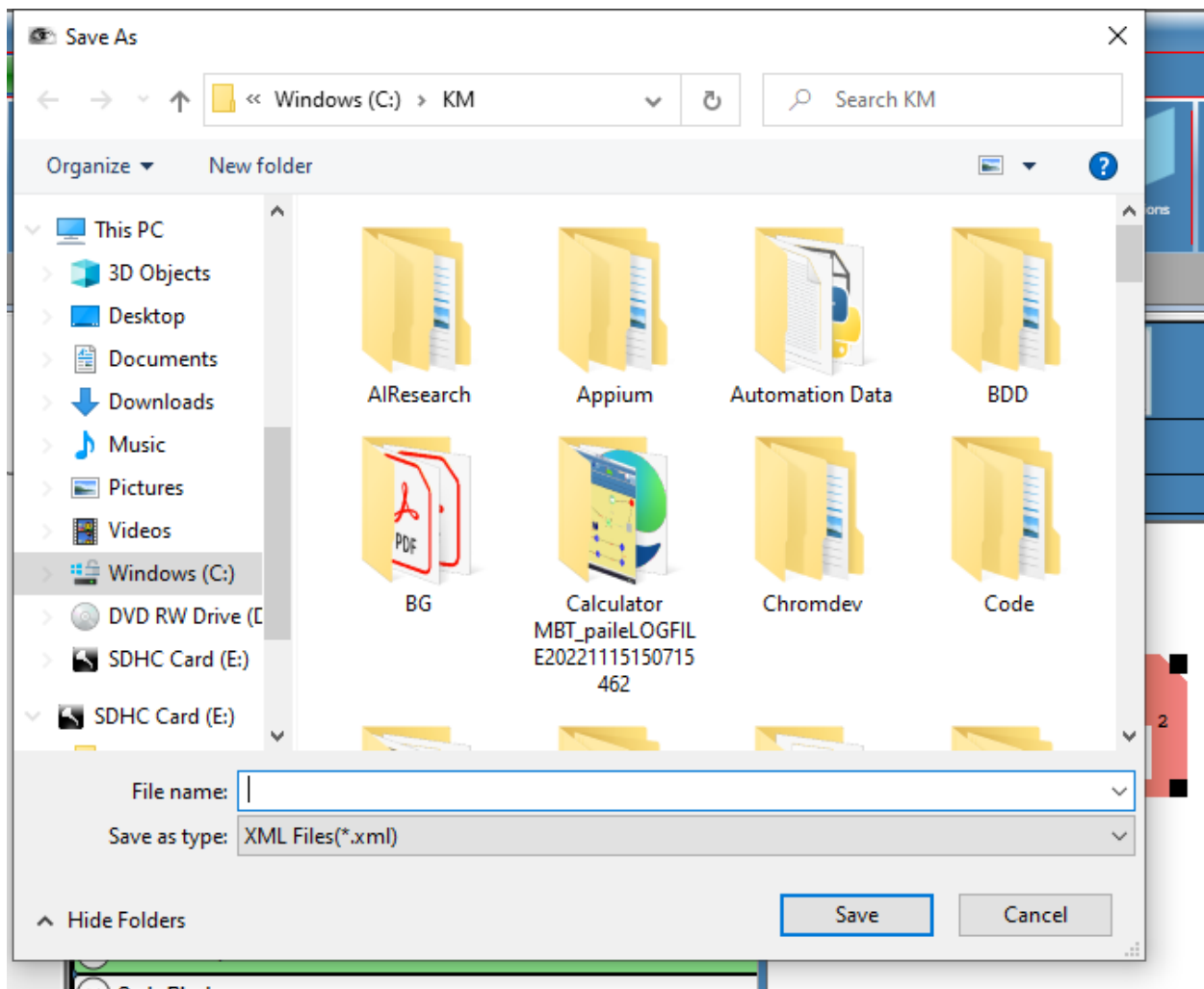
Write XML:

Drag the component to the canvas.



Right click on the document and click on **Add Destination XML Path** menu item.

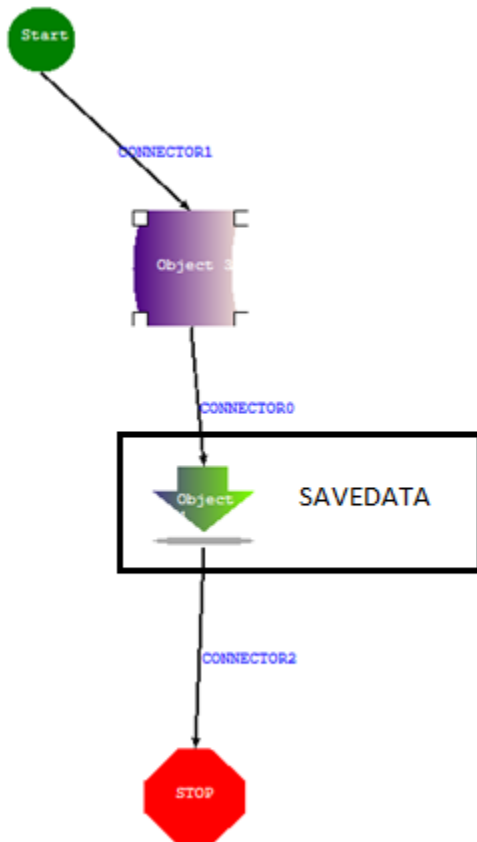
Enter file name and click on **Save** button



Accessing the Data

This section explains the means of accessing the data which is created using any of the methods (file types) explained above.

For example, let us revisit the flow we created in Excel read block.



Merged Data will have Data table name saved as: **SAVEDATA**.

The table looks like this:

	First Name	Last Name	Address Line 1	City	State	Zip	
1	First Name	Last Name	Addr Line	City	state	Zip	
2	Ramesh	Nalem	1234 Cypress Way	Fremont	CA	95354	
3	Jayesh	Patel	14608 H way	Little Elm	TX	75068	

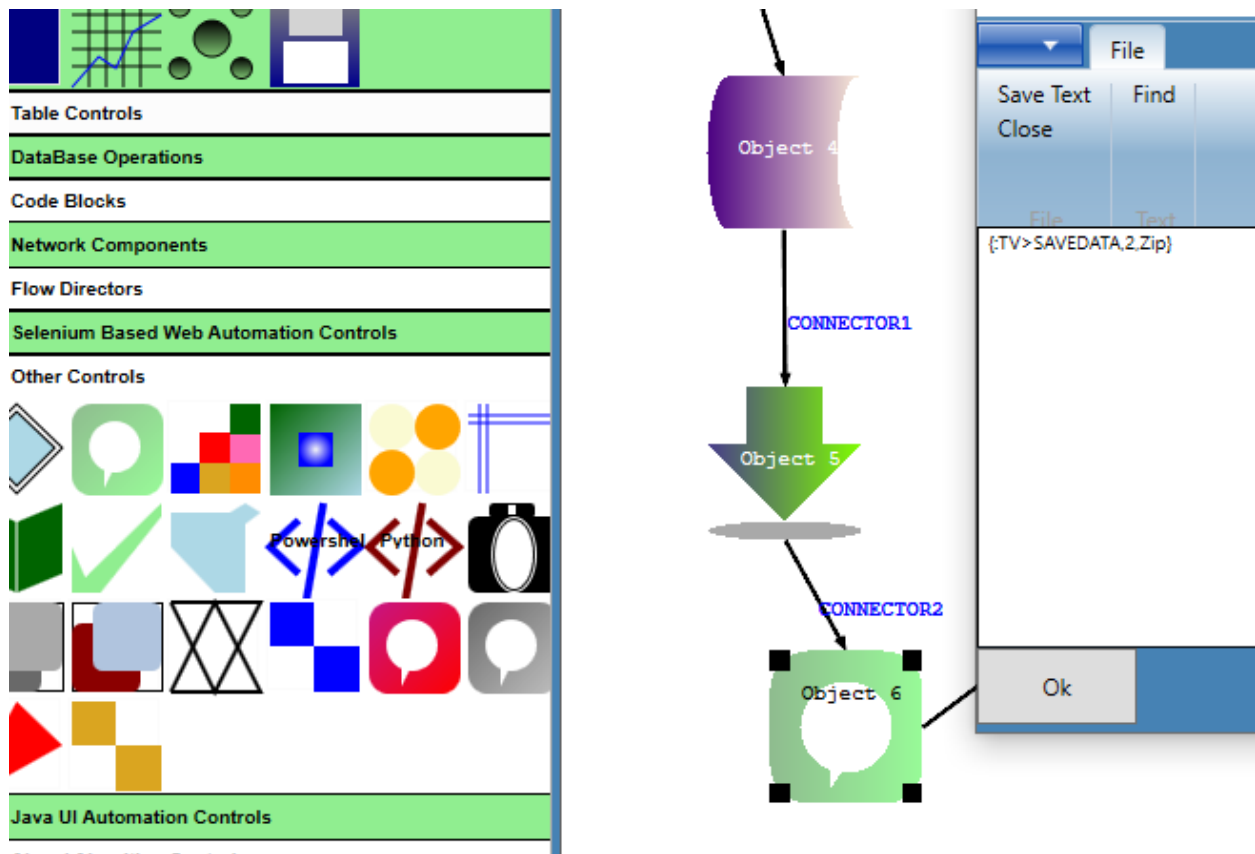
We can access any value using dynamic variables.

{:TV>TABLENAME,ROWNUM,COLUMNNAME}

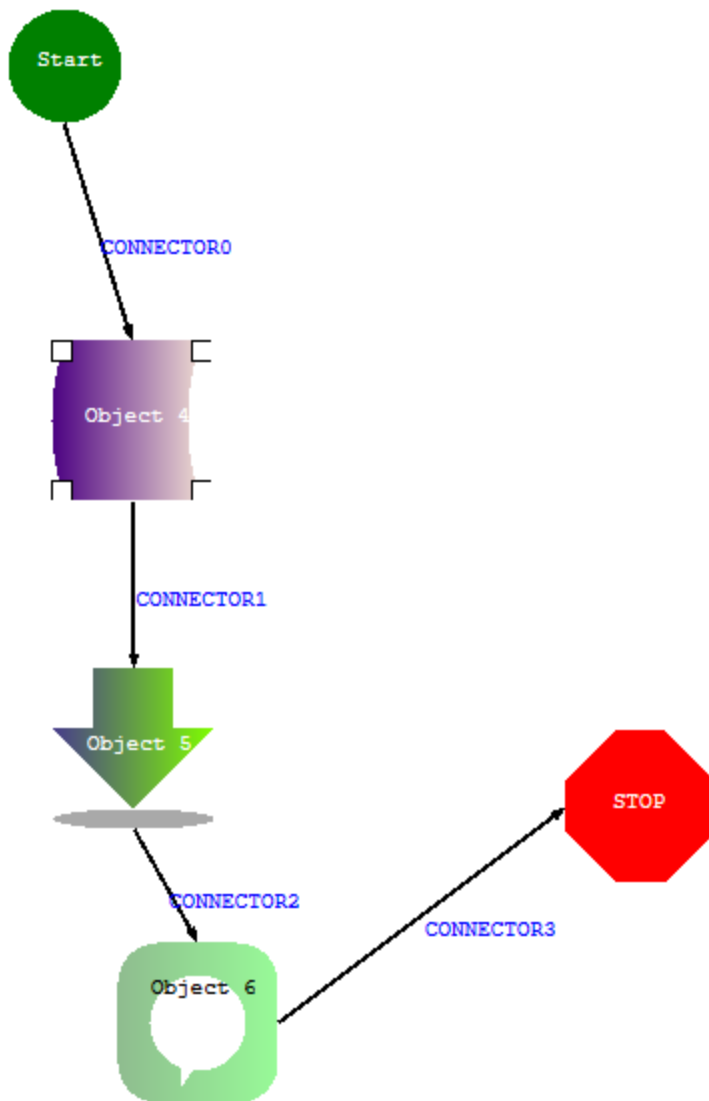
For example, let us choose 3rd row 6th column (Zip) which is 75068

The variable description will be: {:TV>SAVEDATA,2,Zip}

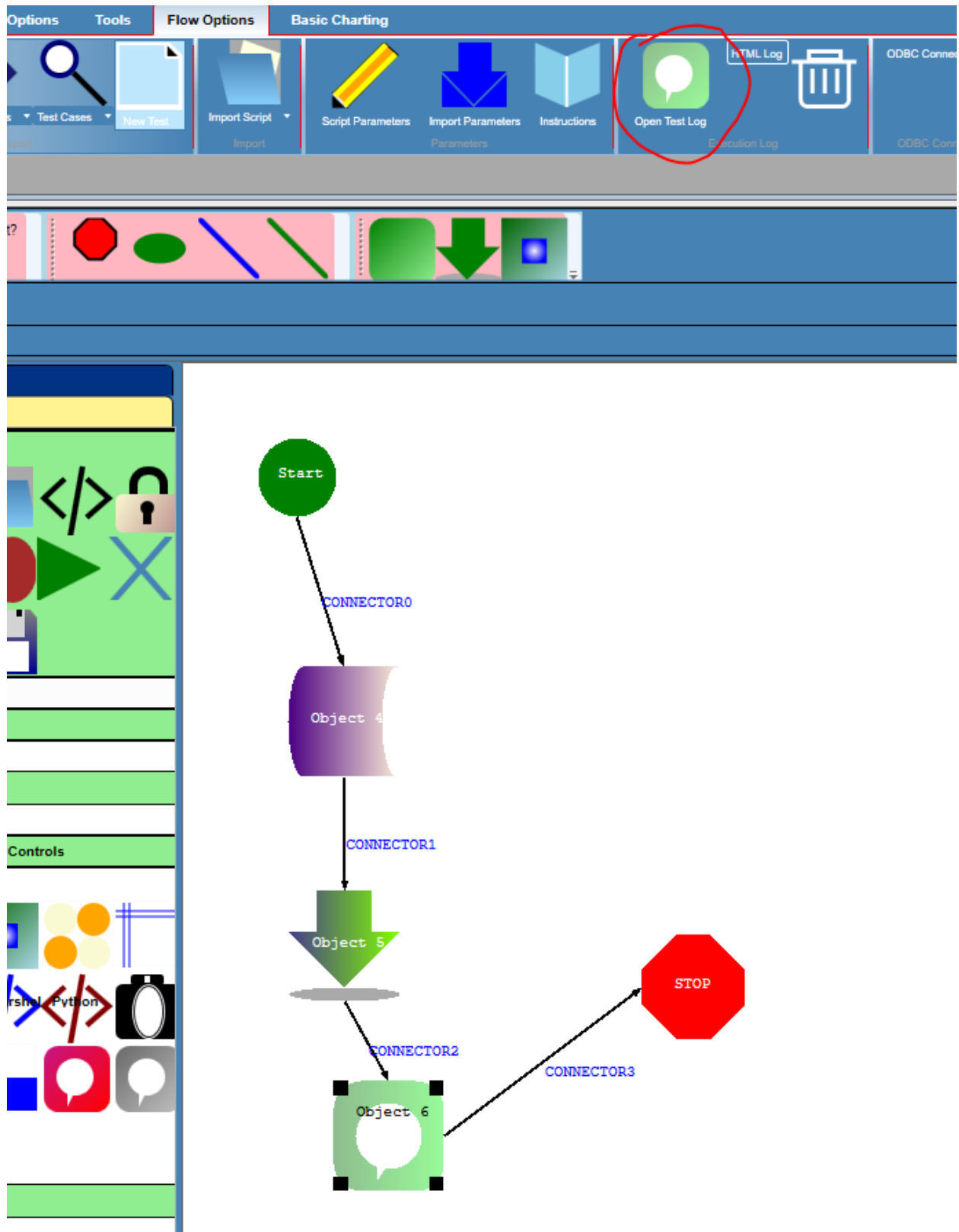
Add a logmessage block and enter message to display the value:



Join components and run the flow.



Once the flow completes, click on **Open Test Log** button



Log file will display the intended value:

CONNECTOR0

Object 4

_paileLOGFILE20230131115033469.txt - Notepad

File Edit Format View Help

LOGTYPEINFO	2023-01-31-11-50:33	This Data Source Has Rows: 3
LOGTYPEINFO	2023-01-31-11-50:33	This Data Source Has Columns: 6
LOGTYPEINFO	2023-01-31-11-50:33	Next Step: Step 5
LOGTYPEINFO	2023-01-31-11-50:33	Adding Data Source To Data Store
LOGTYPEINFO	2023-01-31-11-50:33	Next Step: Step 6
LOGTYPEINFO	2023-01-31-11-50:33	Log Message
LOGTYPEINFO	2023-01-31-11-50:33	75068

Object 6