

Five Tips Every Admin Should Know about Visual Studio Code

**Presentation by
Robert Davis**

OUR SPEAKER



Robert Davis

Solution Architect, Hike2

Twitter: @robertdavis

LinkedIn: <https://bit.ly/3XcyG5d>



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Agenda

1 Moving Data between Salesforce Orgs

2 How to load records into Custom Metadata Records

3 Comparing differences in text files

4 Comparing differences in text files

5 Comparing differences in text files

What is Visual Studio Code

- Also known as VS Code
- Free open source text editor that can be used to edit and analyze and manage files.
- Configure, develop, backup, manipulate metadata files created by Salesforce



Terms

Repos – Git / Bitbucket

- Fancy name for place to store text files

Command Pallet – Command / Control Shift + P

- Replaces Command Line in Many Cases
- Powerful tool that create the commands for you
- Similar to the Setup menu in Salesforce

Folder Scaffolding – same as Windows Explorer

Terms

Code Editor / IDE – Notepad++, MavensMate, Sublime

Extension – a bit of code or command that automates a task

- Think Appexchange or App Store



Why Use Visual Studio Code

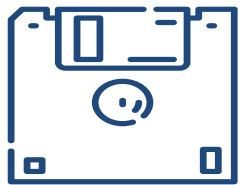


When used with the Salesforce CLI and Extensions written to solve specific problems one can do things other than simply write code.

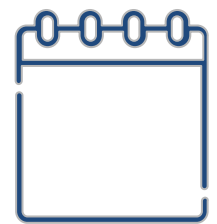


Move data between Salesforce Orgs

- Individually or as a group of metadata



Sign in and Open Salesforce Orgs



Query Records



A practical addition to your toolbox



Troubleshoot Issues



Backup Salesforce Org Metadata

Navigating Visual Studio Code

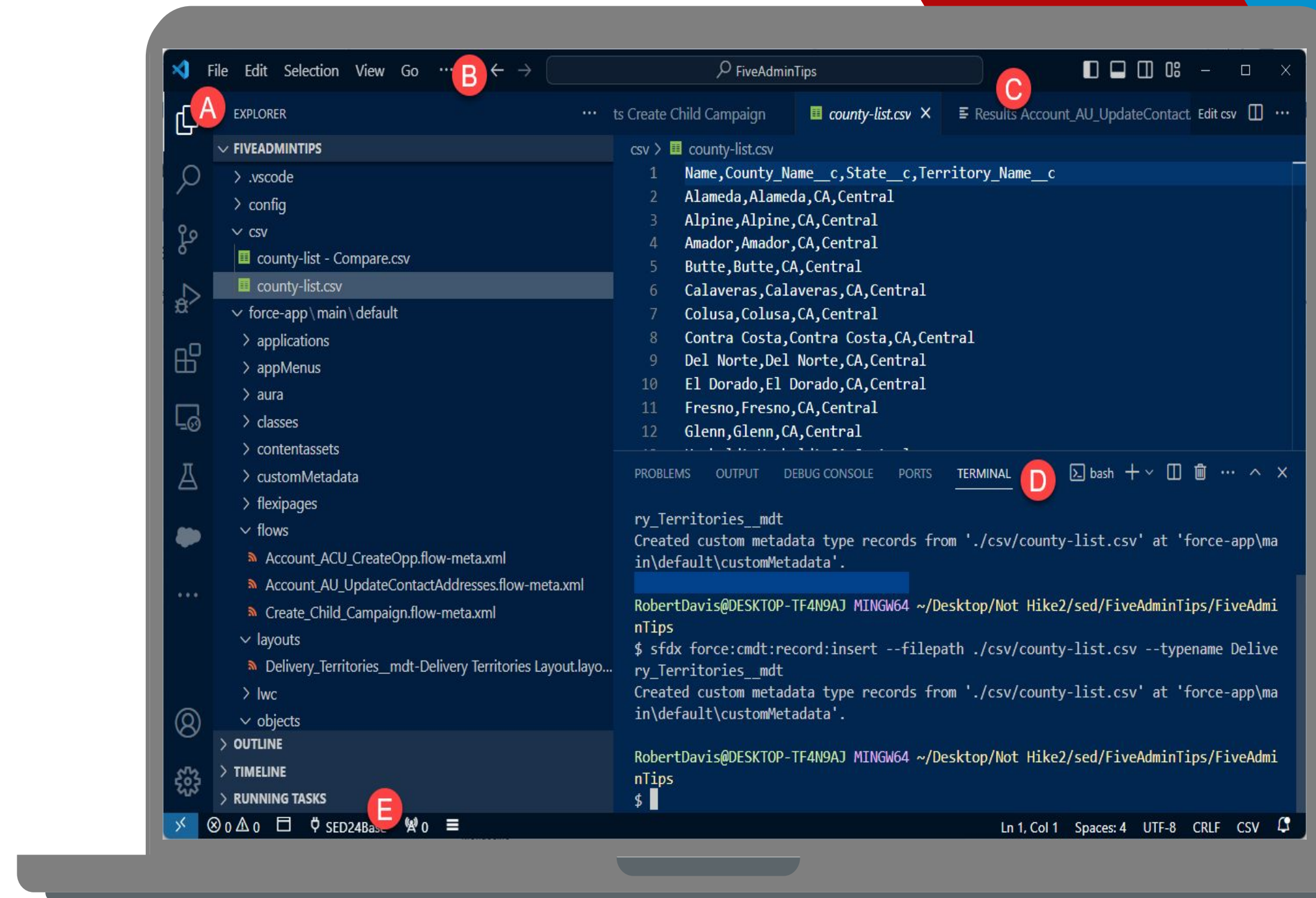
A – Activity Bar

B – Menu

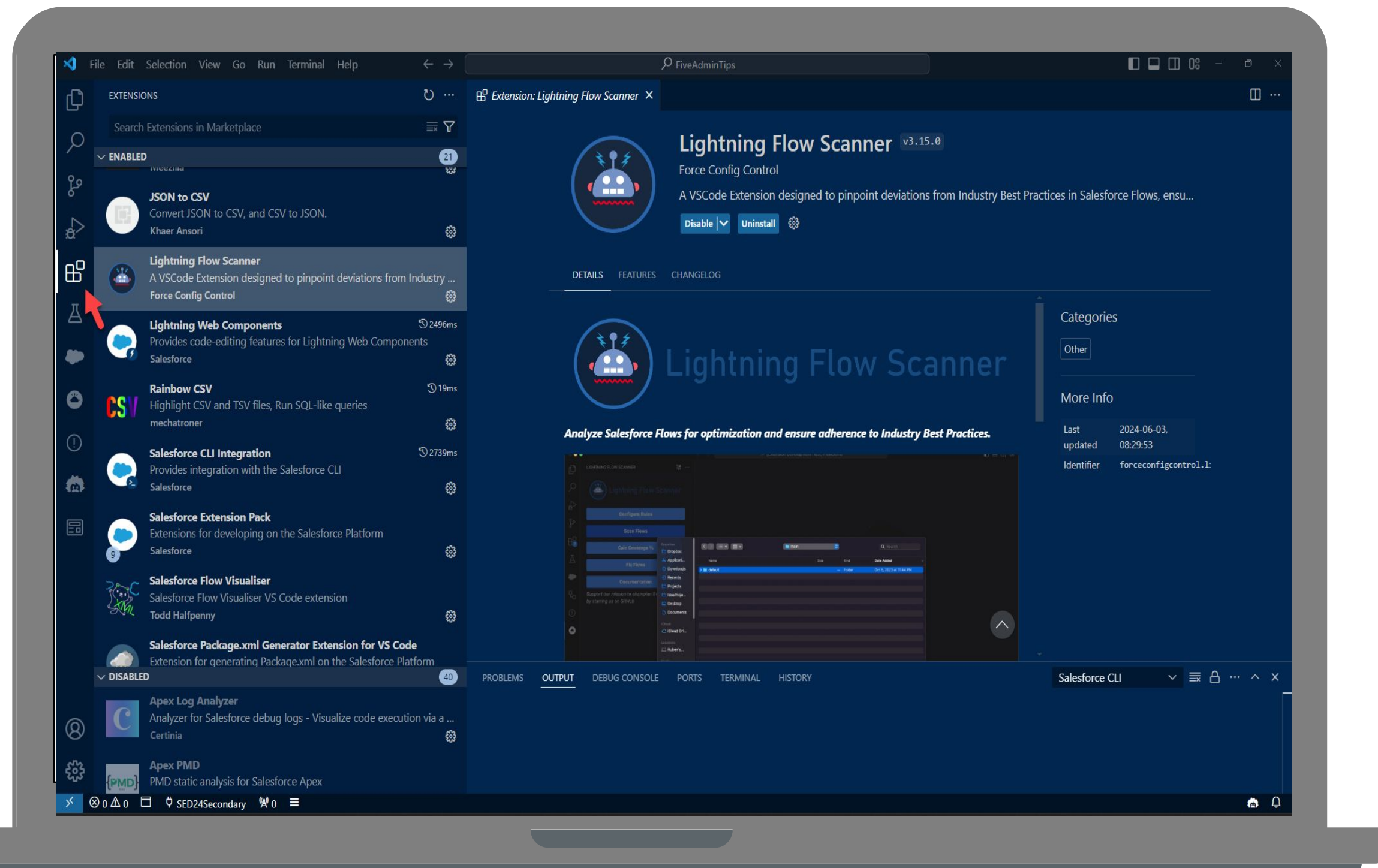
C – Editor Groups

D – Command Line /
Terminal

E - SideBar



Where do I find Extensions?



Where can I find and select extensions for installation

Prerequisites



Visual Studio Code
Consider CodeBuilder



Salesforce Command
Line



Salesforce Extension
Pack



Moving Data between Salesforce Orgs

Retrieve

- Via Project Manifest

Right click the package.xml file and select SFDX:Retrieve Source in Manifest from Org

- Individual Metadata

Find in Org Browser in Visual Studio Code

Select the object and select the little cloud icon beside its name.

Deploy

- Individual Metadata

Find in Org Browser in Visual Studio Code

Select the object and select the little cloud icon beside its name

- Individual Metadata
- Right click the component and select SFDX: Deploy Source to Org



Where Can I Use VS Code

Sandboxes

Production

- Will run all the test just like deploying with a Changeset
- All same requirements as any other push into Production

Extensions to help with deployments

Loading Data into Custom Metadata Objects

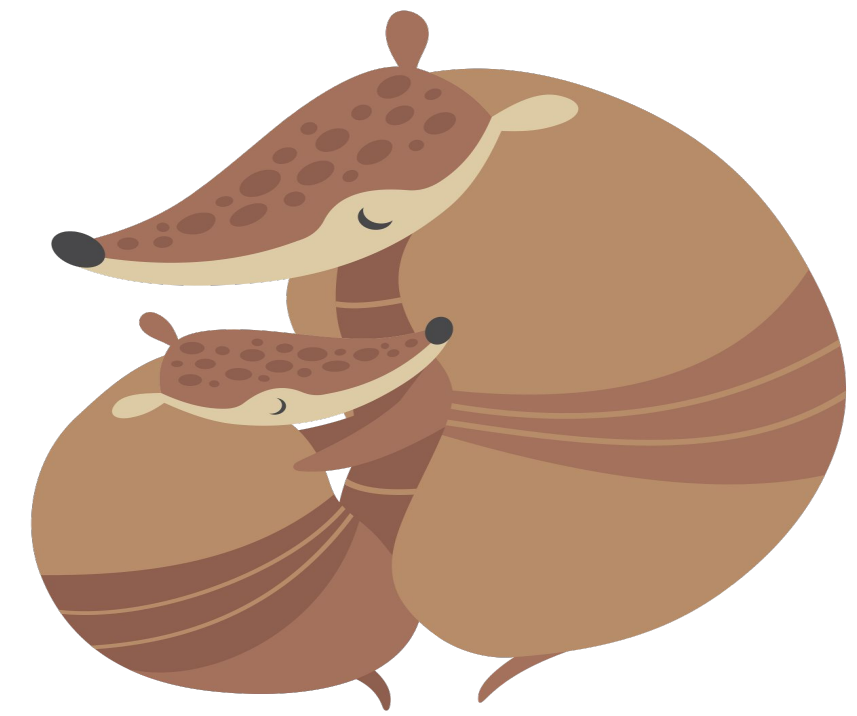
- Mass loading is not supported by Data Loader
- Loading in a few hundred records can be time consuming
- Usually to load territories or zips for some sort of Flow or Apex lookup
- Country Mappings
- Courthouse Mappings
- Command Line:

```
robert.davis_hike2@HIKE2-LT026 MINGW64 ~/Desktop/hike2/IDE Projects/one-view (main)  
$ fdx force:cmdt:record:insert --filepath FIVEADMINTIPS/csv/county-list.csv --typename Delivery_Territories_mdt
```

- Deploy to the Salesforce Org

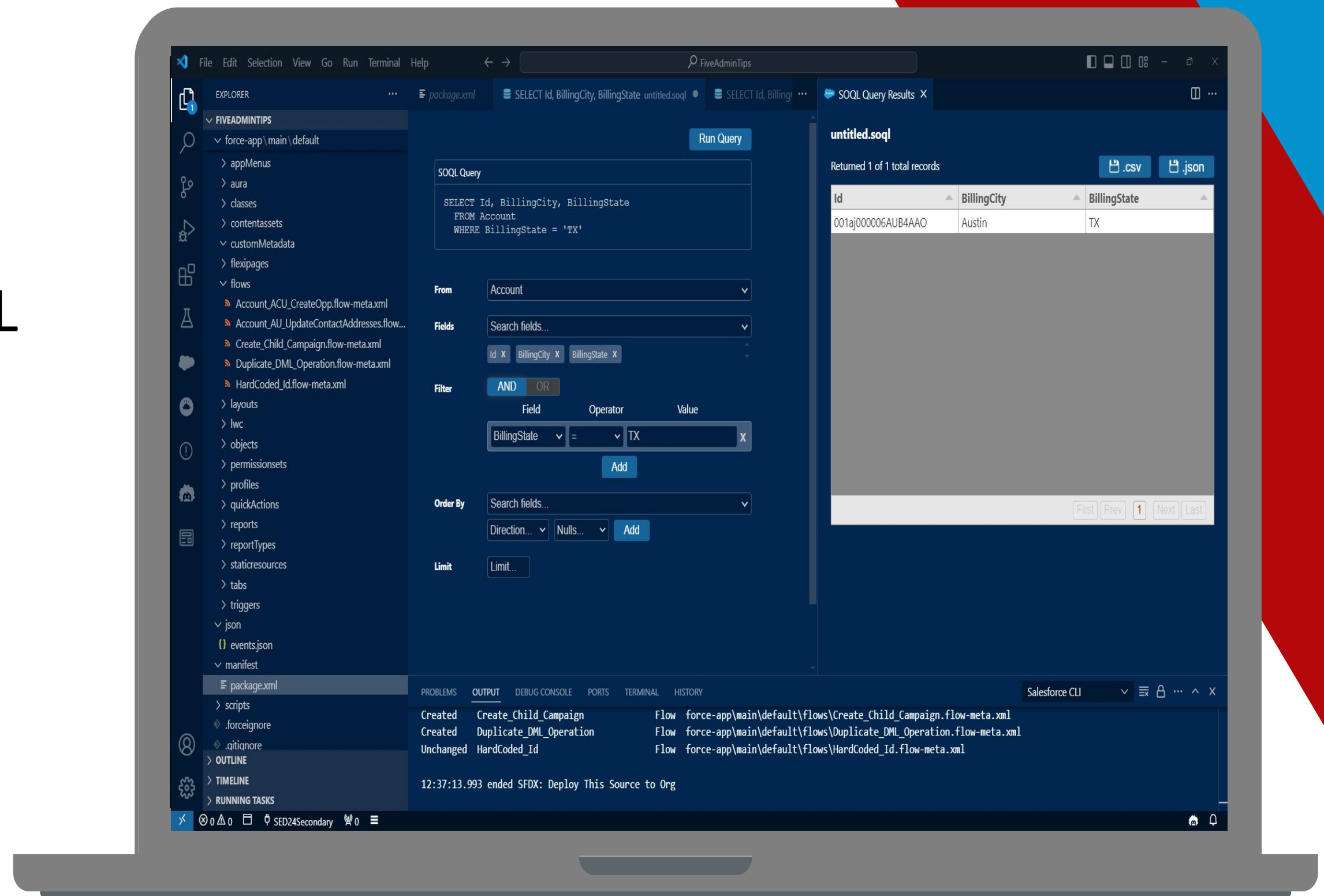
Differences in Text Files

- Large text file and you need to know if they are the same.
 - Example - troubleshooting long token
 - Example - comparing new values before uploading
- Using Visual Studio Code Extension named Diff Tool by jinsihou
 - Lots of Diff checker extensions
 - Like this one because I do not have to search for the other file like some ask
- Open the two files in VS Code
 - Control + Shift + P DiffTool Mark file 1
 - Control + Shift + P DiffTool Mark file 2
- Will get a file with differences highlighted



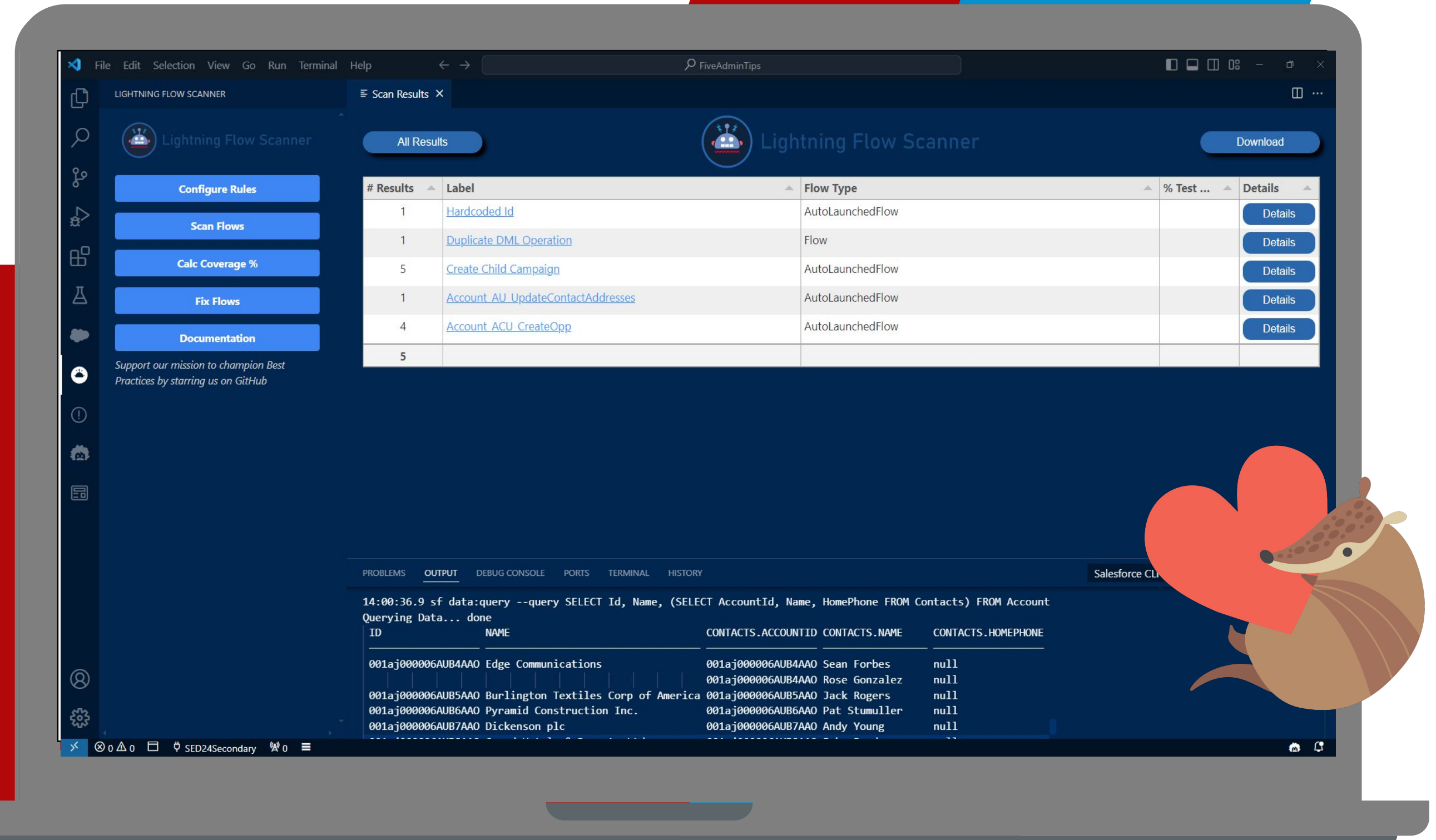
SOQL

- Visual Studio Code SOQL by Salesforce
- Easily Answer: “How many records have...”
- Easily Export to CSV or JSON

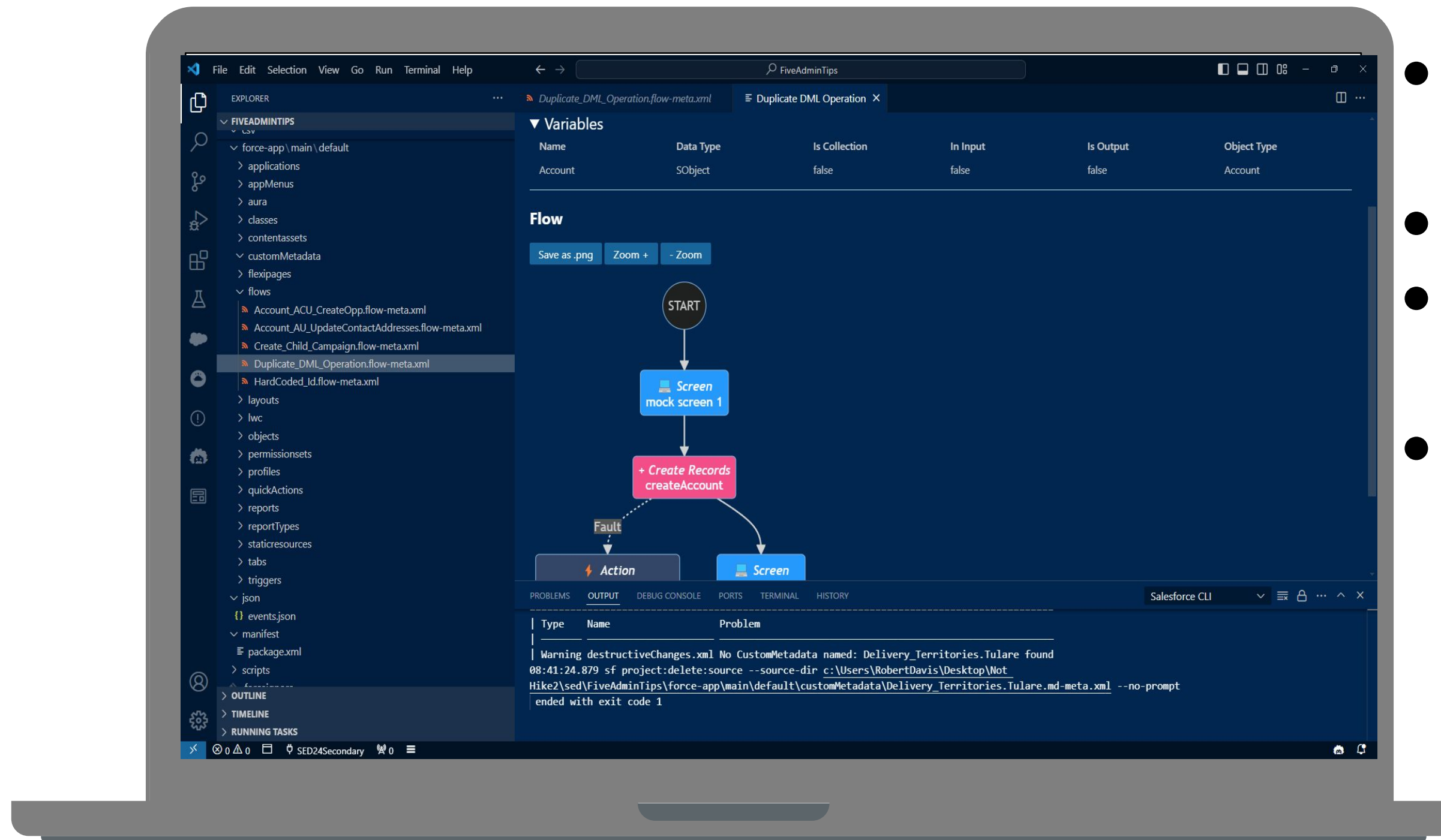


Flow Scanner

- Visual Studio Code Extension Lightning Flow Scanner by Force Fig Control
- Applies Standard Best practices by evaluating and surfacing
- Helps us build better flows



Flow Visualizer



- Flow Visualizer Render Command
- Shows image of process
- Shows variables and formulas
- Flow Visualizer by Todd Halfpenny

Security

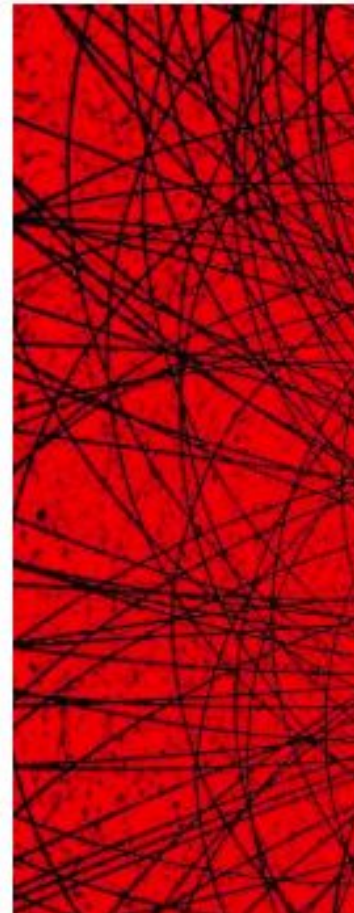
Content

- [Bleeping Computer headlines from February and March 2025](#)
- [Bleeping Computer Article: VS Code Extensions infected Windows with Cryptominers](#)
- Verified Publisher
- Reviews and Ratings and Repos
- [ExtensionTotal Security](#)

VSCode extensions with 9 million installs pulled over security risks

By **Bill Toulas**

February 26, 2025 02:10 PM 1



Microsoft apologizes for removing VSCode extensions used by millions

By **Bill Toulas**

March 13, 2025 04:53 PM 8



Salesforce CLI Integration

Salesforce  [salesforce.com](#) | 1,921,231 installs | ★★☆☆☆ (45) | Free

Provides integration with the Salesforce CLI

[Install](#)

[Trouble Installing?](#)

Resources

EXTENSIONS

- [Salesforce CLI Integration](#) by Salesforce
- [Diff Tool](#) by jinsihou
- [SOQL](#) by Salesforce
- [Lightning Flow Scanner](#) by Force Fig Control
- [Flow Visualizer](#) by Todd Halfpenny

REFERENCES

- [How to Setup Visual Studio Code](#) for Salesforce by Apex Hours
- [Quick Start: Visual Studio Code for Salesforce Development](#) by Trailhead
- [Visual Studio Code User Interface](#)
- [Mass Insert Custom Metadata Type Records](#) by SFDC Lessons
- [Write SOQL Queries](#) by Trailhead
- [Getting Started with Code Builder](#) by Mohith Shrivastava
- [Bulk Loading Custom Metadata Types](#) by Emily McCowan



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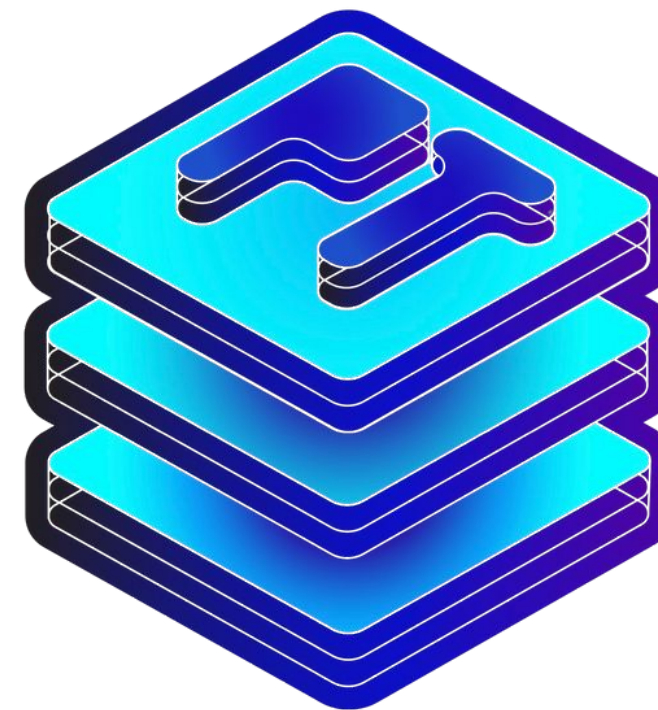
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Solution Architect, Hike2

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Questions?

