

Elements of Dashboard Design - Variables and Widgets

Dashboard Design – Controls & Local Variables

- The Controls tab features objects that allow you to issue action commands and update local variables that may be used to control other objects in the display.
- The value, valueString and selectedValue properties allow you to set the value for the controls. The varToSet property allows you to update the attached local variable with the value from the control.
- The actionCommand property allows you to set up a command which will be executed from the control. This actionCommand can reference the value from the control by using the keyword \$value.
- To enable selecting, moving and editing the controls without activating the associated action command, the controls are not active in the main window of the Display Builder. To activate the controls, open your display in a drill down window or in the Display Viewer Application or Display Viewer Applet.

Dashboard Design – Controls & Local Variables

- In most cases, the easiest thing is to create a local variable that is also a substitution. Then the variable can be used in all situations.
- Tools>Local Variables. In the dialog, check “Use As Substitution”
- If the local variable name is preceded with „\$, it is naturally assumed to be a substitution as well.

	Substitutions	Local Variables
Can be used within data attachment dialogs and command dialogs?	Yes, as parameters in dialog fields	No
Can be used as a data source?	No	Yes
Are values passed down to drill down windows?	Yes	No
Can be used to store control widget values?	No	Yes

Exercises

Ex 1: Add combo box widgets to filter table values.

1. File->Open class_tables.rtv
2. Add two new combo box widgets (obj_c1combobox) from the Object Palettes->Controls Tab and place them at the top of the page.
Label the left combo box "Server" and the right combo box "Component".
3. Click on "Server" combo box and bring up Object Properties. Select "listValues" property and attach to Cache Data:
Cache: JmsSimdata
Table: current
Column(s): Account
4. Object Properties->selectedValue. Right click on selectedValue->
Attach to Data->Variable->\$server
Object Properties->varToSet is also attached to \$server.
5. The "Component" Combo Box is set up the same way as "Server" combo box, with two differences. The Cache Data attachment uses Column(s) Symbol. The varToSet and selectedValue properties use \$component
6. The "Current Table" data attachment should also be filtered by both \$server and \$component.

Exercises

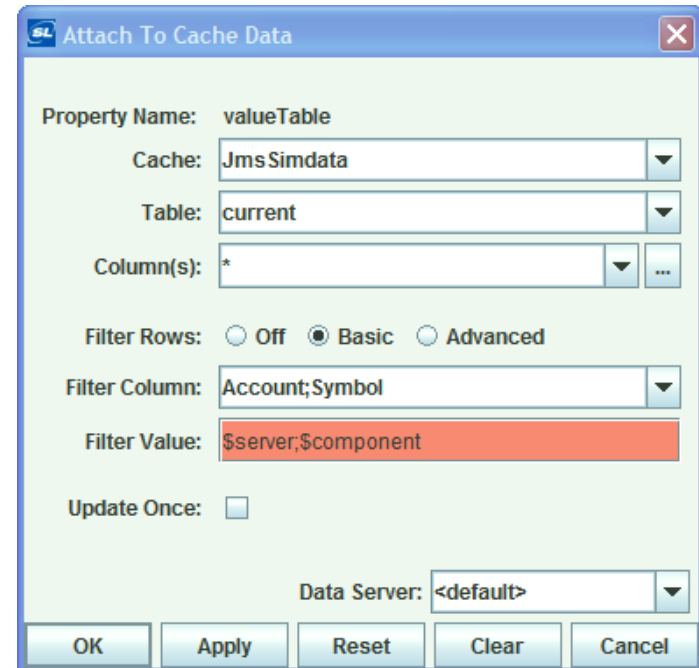
Ex 1: Add Combo Box widgets to filter table values. (continued)

7. Modify the “Current Table” data attachment:

8. File->Save class_tables.rtv

9. Test with run_viewer.

If selected, the “Server” list box will be populated with Server names, the “Component” list box, with component names. Choosing “Servers” and “Components” will filter the “Current Table”.



The image shows a dialog box titled "Attach To Cache Data" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The dialog contains the following fields and options:

- Property Name: valueTable
- Cache: Jms Simdata (dropdown menu)
- Table: current (dropdown menu)
- Column(s): * (dropdown menu with a three-dot menu icon to its right)
- Filter Rows: Off Basic Advanced
- Filter Column: Account;Symbol (dropdown menu)
- Filter Value: \$server;\$component (text field with a red background)
- Update Once:
- Data Server: <default> (dropdown menu)

At the bottom of the dialog are five buttons: OK, Apply, Reset, Clear, and Cancel.