

Using DataFlex 2017's Server Web Properties

Harm Wibier Data Access Worldwide



WebApp Framework

- Web Objects
 - DataFlex Classes <> Matching JavaScript Classes
- Definitions are sent to the client
 - Structure of objects with their properties and child objects
- JavaScript Engine renders the WebApp



What are web properties?

- Properties available on Web Objects
- Are sent to the client
- Invented to configure the User Interface
- Can change on the client
- JavaScript classes know how to handle them

{ WebProperty=True }
Property String psValue ""



Flow

- View is loaded
 - Object definitions are loaded to the client
 - Web properties with their initial values are included
- User finds data
 - Event is sent to the server
 - Server changes web properties and sends new values to the client (WebSet)
- User enters data
 - Changes a web property on the client (psValue)
- User saves data
 - Event is sent to the server
 - Changed web properties are sent to inform the server of their state
 - Web properties are read from the request (WebGet) and are used to save the record



Application State

- There is no persistency on the server
- Web Properties do provide persistency
 - Turned out to be a convenient place
- Application state is stored on the client

{ WebProperty=True } Property String psFollowUpRowId ""

{ WebProperty=True }
Property String psFilter ""



Security

- Web properties can be seen and edited using browser development tools!
- Encrypted properties have been requested
- Rowld's are protected by a checksum

{ WebProperty=True }
Property Integer piTennantId 1



Performance

- Web properties are sent back an forth with each request!
- Mobile devices can run on slow connections

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Why send data to the client that is not used on the client?



Server side web properties

- Same syntax as existing web properties
- Handled by the framework

{ WebProperty=Server }
Property String psFilter ""

Procedure OnConstrain String sFilter

WebGet psFilter of oView to sFilter



Flavors

- { WebProperty=Server }
 - Lifetime equal to client web properties
- { WebProperty=ServerSession }
 - Lifetime equal to sessions
 - Survives page reload!
 - Shared across browser tabs



Implementation

- Stored in a single database table
 - WebAppServerProps
- Serialized to JSON by the runtime
- Page lifetime or session lifetime

{ WebProperty=Server }
Property String[] paCustomers ""

{ WebProperty=ServerSession }
Property String[] paCustomers ""



Upgrade

- New projects will have the table
- Migration will add the table

 When converting to MS SQL the WebAppServerProps.Data will be converted to varchar(MAX)



Migration

- {WebProperty=True } continues to works as {WebProperty=Client }
- Basically all web properties within your application can be changes to {
 WebProperty= Server } unless they have custom JavaScript using them

Thank you for your time

Have a nice day!

MacBook Air

Using DataFlex 2017's Server Web Properties by Harm Wibier