



# Session Handling

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# Topics

- Sessions
- Session Variables
- Site Properties

# Sessions

Web requests are stateless

- Each request to the server is not aware of the previous ones

**Sessions** are a mechanism that can be used to store state between requests

A session keeps the context of the end-user interactions with the application

- Session data is stored in the database

A session is created on the first end-user request to the server

- Session data is retrieved by the server in every browser request
- It times out after a period of inactivity and session data is discarded

# Session Data

OutSystems supports two types of cross-request data

## User **Session Variables**

- Available while a user is using the application
- Values are stored per user
- Values expire when session times out

## Cross-session (**Site**) **Properties**

- Always available to all users
- Values are shared between all user sessions
- Values never time out

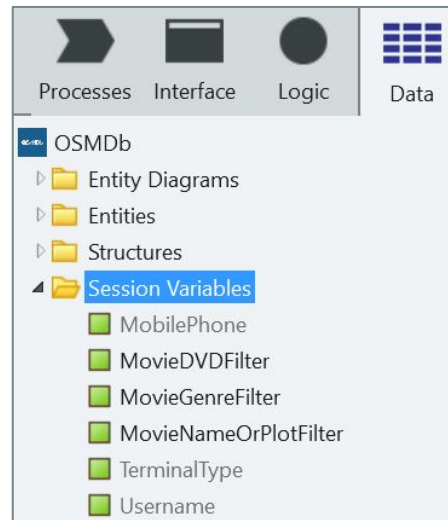
# Session Variables

## Data Types

- Basic Types
- Entity Identifiers
- All others should be avoided

## Value

- Can be assigned in any action
- Persists across requests
- Is reset to its default value when:
  - The session ends (Timeout)
  - The users log out



| MovieNameOrPlotFilter<br>Session Variable |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| Name                                      | MovieNameOrPlotFilter |
| Description                               | ...                   |
| Data Type                                 | Text ▼                |
| Default Value                             |                       |

# User Session Start and End

Session starts automatically on first access

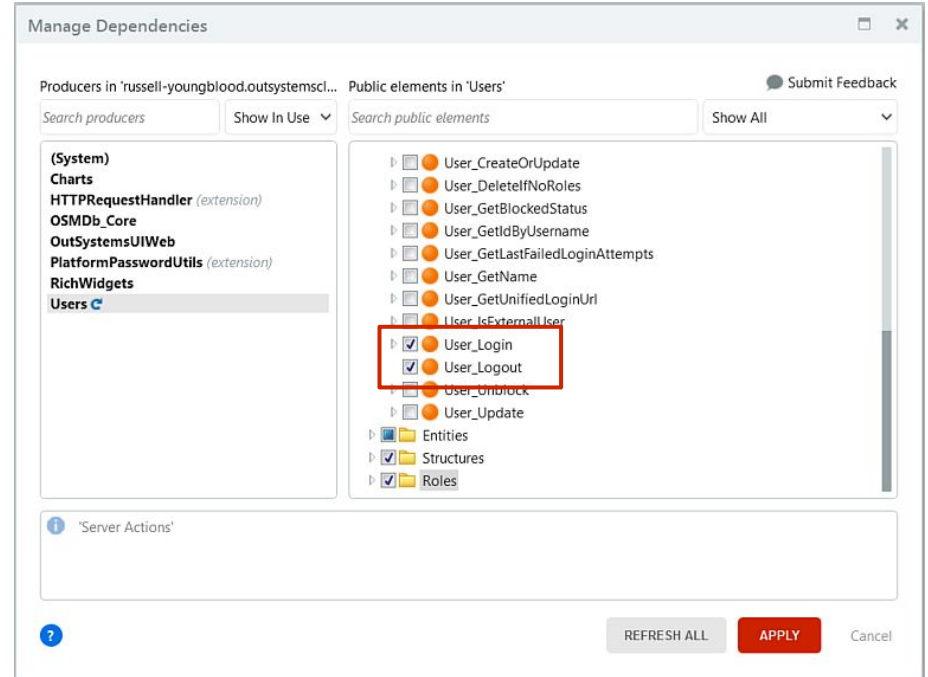
- Anonymous session

Session ends automatically after a timeout

- Usually 20 min

The same session id is kept after login (User\_Login) or logout (User\_Logout)

- Values of session variables are:
  - kept after login
  - reset after logout



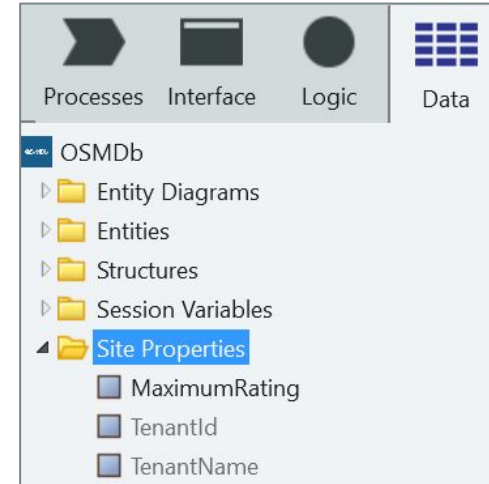
# Site Properties

## Data Types

- Basic Types
- Entity Identifiers

## Value

- Can be assigned in any action
  - Should be avoided for performance issues
- Can be modified in Service Center
- Persists across requests and sessions
- Is *never* reset



| MaximumRating<br>Site Property |               |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Name                           | MaximumRating |
| Description                    | ...           |
| Data Type                      | Integer ▼     |
| Default Value                  | 5             |

# Summary

- Sessions
- Session Variables
- Site Properties



A blurred city skyline at night, featuring tall buildings and light trails from traffic and buildings, creating a sense of motion and energy.

**Session Handling**  
**Thank You!**