Core Config'n Properties

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Chapter 1. Configuration Properties

Apache Isis' own configuration properties are simple key-value pairs, typically held in the WEBINF/isis.properties file and other related files. This guide describes how to configure an Apache Isis application.



This guide covers only the core configuration properties (relating to Apache Isis' metamodel and runtime management). Configuration properties for the viewers can be found in the Wicket Viewer guide and the RestfulObjects viewer guide. Likewise details of configuring security (Apache Shiro) can be found in the Security guide, and details for configuring the DataNucleus Object Store can be found in the DataNucleus guide.



By default the configuration values are part of the built WAR file. Details on how to override these configuration properties externally for different environments can be found in the Beyond the Basics guide, (deployment chapter).

1.1. Other Guides

Apache Isis documentation is broken out into a number of user, reference and "supporting procedures" guides.

The user guides available are:

- Fundamentals
- Wicket viewer
- Restful Objects viewer
- DataNucleus object store
- Security
- Testing
- Beyond the Basics

The reference guides are:

- Annotations
- Domain Services
- Configuration Properties (this guide)
- · Classes, Methods and Schema
- Apache Isis Maven plugin
- Framework Internal Services

The remaining guides are:

• Developers' Guide (how to set up a development environment for Apache Isis and contribute back to the project)	ļ
• Committers' Guide (release procedures and related practices)	

Chapter 2. Deployment Types

Apache Isis distinguishes between the application being run in development mode vs running in production mode. The framework calls this the "deployment type" (corresponding internally to the DeploymentType class).

(For mostly historical reasons) development mode is actually called SERVER_PROTOTYPE, while production mode is called just SERVER. (There is also a deprecated mode called SERVER_EXPLORATION; for all intents and purposes this can considered as an alias of SERVER_PROTOTYPE).

When running in development/prototyping mode, certain capabilities are enabled; most notably any actions restricted to prototyping mode (using <code>@Action#restrictTo()</code>) will be available.

2.1. Using the Wicket Viewer

Most of the you're likely to run Apache Isis using the Wicket viewer. In this case Apache Isis' "deployment type" concept maps to Wicket's "configuration" concept:

Table 1. Apache Isis' deployment type corresponds to Apache Wicket's configuration

Apache Isis (Deployment Type)	Apache Wicket (Configuration)	Notes
SERVER_PROTOTYPE	development	running in development/prototyping mode
SERVER	deployment	running in production mode

Wicket's mechanism for specifying the "configuration" is to use a context parameter in web.xml; Apache Isis automatically infers its own deployment type from this. In other words:

• to specify SERVER (production) mode, use:

web.xml

```
<context-param>
  <param-name>configuration</param-name>
  <param-value>deployment</param-value>
</context-param>
```

• to specify SERVER_PROTOTYPING (development) mode, use:

web.xml

```
<context-param>
    <param-name>configuration</param-name>
    <param-value>development</param-value>
    </context-param>
```

2.2. Restful Objects viewer only

Most Apache Isis applications will consist of at least the Wicket viewer and optionally the RestfulObjects viewer. When both viewers are deployed in the same app, then the bootstrapping is performed by Wicket, and so the deployment type is configured as described in the previous section.

In some cases though you may be using Apache Isis to provide a REST API only, that is, you won't have deployed the Wicket viewer. In these cases your app will be bootstrapped using Apache Isis' IsisWebAppBootstrapper.

In this case the deployment type is specified through an Apache Isis-specific context parameter, called isis.deploymentType:

• to specify SERVER (production) mode, use:

```
web.xml
```

```
<context-param>
  <param-name>isis.deploymentType</param-name>
  <param-value>server</param-value>
  </context-param>
```

• to specify SERVER_PROTOTYPE (development) mode, use:

```
web.xml
```

```
<context-param>
    <param-name>isis.deploymentType</param-name>
    <param-value>server-prototype</param-value>
</context-param>
```

2.3. Overriding the deployment type

If bootstrapping the application using Apache Isis' org.apache.isis.WebServer then it is possible to override the deployment type using the -t (or --type) flag.

For example:

```
java -jar ... org.apache.isis.WebServer -t SERVER
```

where "..." is the (usually rather long) list of JAR files and class directories that will make up your application.

This works for both the Wicket viewer and the RestfulObjects viewer.

Chapter 3. Configuration Files

When running an Apache Isis webapp, configuration properties are read from configuration files held in the WEB-INF directory.

The WEBINF/isis.properties file is always read and must exist.

In addition, the following other properties are searched for and if present also read:

- viewer_wicket.properties if the Wicket viewer is in use
- viewer_restfulobjects.properties if the RestfulObjects viewer is in use
- viewer.properties for any other viewer configuration (but there are none currently)
- persistor_datanucleus.properties assuming the JDO/DataNucleus objectstore is in use
- persistor.properties for any other objectstore configuration.

This typically is used to hold JDBC URLs, which is arguably a slight violation of the file (because there's nothing in Apache Isis to say that persistors have to use JDBC. However, it is generally convenient to put these JDBC settings into a single location. If you want, they could reside inin any of persistor_datanucleus.properties, persistor.properties or (even) isis.properties

• authentication_shiro.properties, authorization_shiro.properties

assuming the Shiro Security is in use (but there are no security-related config properties currently; use shiro.ini for Shiro config)

• authentication.properties, authorization.properties

for any other security-related config properties (but there are none currently).

You can if you wish simply store all properties in the isis.properties file; but we think that breaking properties out into sections is preferable.

Chapter 4. Specifying components

Bootstrapping an Apache Isis application involves identifying both:

- the major components (authentication, persistence mechanisms, viewers) of Apache Isis, and also
- specifying the domain services and persistent entities that make up the application itself.

As of 1.9.0 there are two different ways to perform this bootstrapping. The recommended (newer) approach is to use an AppManifest, specified either programmatically or through the configuration properties. This allows the components, services and entities to be specified from a single class. The alternative (and older, pre 1.9.0) approach is to specify this information individually, through configuration properties.

To specify the AppManifest as a configuration property, use:

Table 2. Core Configuration Properties (ignored if isis.appManifest is present)

Property	Value (default value)	Implements
isis.appManifest	FQCN	o.a.i.applib.AppManifest By convention this implementation resides in an myapp-app Maven module (as opposed to myapp-dom or myapp-fixture). See the SimpleApp archetype for details.

From this the framework can determine the domain services, persistent entities and security (authentication and authorization) mechanisms to use. Other configuration (including fixtures) can also be specified this way.

If the AppManifest approach is *not* being used, then the following configuration properties are used to specify the major components of Apache Isis to use:

Table 3. Core Configuration Properties (ignored if isis.appManifest is present)

Property	Value (default value)	Implements
isis.authentication	shiro, bypass, FQCN (shiro)	o.a.i.core.runtime.authentication. AuthenticationManagerInstaller This property is IGNORED if the isis.appManifest configuration property is specified, or if an AppManifest is provided programmatically.
isis.authorization	shiro, bypass, FQCN (shiro)	o.a.i.core.runtime.authorization. AuthorizationManagerInstaller This property is IGNORED if the isis.appManifest configuration property is specified, or if an AppManifest is provided programmatically.

Property	Value (default value)	Implements
isis.persistor	datanucleus (datanucleus)	o.a.i.core.runtime.installerregistry.installer api. PersistenceMechanismInstaller This property is IGNORED completely in 1.9.0+; the datanucleus implementation is always used.
isis.services-installer	configuration, configuration-and-annotation, FQCN (configuration)	org.apache.isis.core.runtime.services. ServicesInstaller The mechanism to discover and load domain services: * configuration-and-annotation will search for @DomainService-annotated classes and also read from isis.services configuration property * configuration will only read from the isis.services configuration property. * Otherwise an alternative implementation of the o.a.i.core.runtime.services.ServicesInstaller internal API can be provided. This property is IGNORED if the isis.appManifest configuration property is specified, or if an AppManifest is provided programmatically. This property is also IGNORED completely in 1.13.0+; the configuration-and-annotation implementation is always used.



The values "shiro", "bypass" etc are actually aliases for concrete implementations. It is also possible to specify a fully qualified class name to replace either of the two security components, implementing the appropriate interface.

If the AppManifest is *not* being used then there are number of other configuration properties that also must be specified: isis.services, isis.services.ServicesInstallerFromAnnotation.packagePrefix and isis.persistor.datanucleus.RegisterEntities.packagePrefix and isis.fixtures; these are listed in the sections below.

4.1. Viewer Configuration

Viewers are specified by way of the filters and servlets in the web.xml file; these are not bootstrapped by the framework, rather it is the other way around.

In versions prior to 1.13.0, the "isis.viewers" context parameter was used to hint which configuration files should be read (corresponding to the viewers in use). As of 1.13.0, however, the configuration property has no effect: the viewer_wicket.properties and viewer_restulobjects.properties are always loaded if available.

Chapter 5. Configuring Core

This section lists the core/runtime configuration properties recognized by Apache Isis.



Configuration properties for the JDO/DataNucleus objectstore can be found in the Configuring DataNucleus section later in this chapter, while configuration properties for the viewers can be found in the their respective chapters, here for Wicket viewer, and here for the Restful Objects viewer.

5.1. Domain Events

Table 4. Core Configuration Properties for Domain Events

Property	Value (default value)	Description
<pre>isis.reflector.facet. actionAnnotation. domainEvent.postForDefault</pre>	true,false (true)	Whether an event should be posted if @Action#domainEvent() is not specified (is set to ActionDomainEvent.Default).
<pre>isis.reflector.facet. collectionAnnotation. domainEvent.postForDefault</pre>	true,false (true)	Whether an event should be posted if <code>@Collection#domainEvent()</code> is not specified (is set to <code>CollectionDomainEvent.Default)</code> .
isis.reflector.facet. propertyAnnotation. domainEvent.postForDefault	true,false (true)	Whether an event should be posted if @Property#domainEvent() is not specified (is set to PropertyDomainEvent.Default).

5.2. Lifecycle Events

Table 5. Core Configuration Properties for Lifecycle Events

Property	Value (default value)	Description
<pre>isis.reflector.facet. domainObjectAnnotation. createdLifecycleEvent. postForDefault</pre>	true,false (true)	Whether an event should be posted if <code>@DomainObject#createdLifecycleEvent()</code> is not specified (is set to <code>ObjectCreatedEvent.Default)</code> .
<pre>isis.reflector.facet. domainObjectAnnotation. loadedLifecycleEvent. postForDefault</pre>	true,false (true)	Whether an event should be posted if <pre>@DomainObject#loadedLifecycleEvent()</pre> is not specified (is set to ObjectLoadedEvent.Default).
isis.reflector.facet. domainObjectAnnotation. persistingLifecycleEvent. postForDefault	true,false (true)	Whether an event should be posted if <code>@DomainObject#persistingLifecycleEvent()</code> is not specified (is set to <code>ObjectPersistingEvent.Default)</code> .

Property	Value (default value)	Description
isis.reflector.facet. domainObjectAnnotation. persistedLifecycleEvent. postForDefault	true,false (true)	Whether an event should be posted if <code>@DomainObject#persistedLifecycleEvent()</code> is not specified (is set to <code>ObjectPersistedEvent.Default)</code> .
<pre>isis.reflector.facet. domainObjectAnnotation. removingLifecycleEvent. postForDefault</pre>	true,false (true)	Whether an event should be posted if <code>@DomainObject#removingLifecycleEvent()</code> is not specified (is set to <code>ObjectRemovingEvent.Default)</code> .
<pre>isis.reflector.facet. domainObjectAnnotation. updatingLifecycleEvent. postForDefault</pre>	true,false (true)	Whether an event should be posted if <code>@DomainObject#updatingLifecycleEvent()</code> is not specified (is set to <code>ObjectUpdatingEvent.Default)</code> .
<pre>isis.reflector.facet. domainObjectAnnotation. updatedLifecycleEvent. postForDefault</pre>	true,false (true)	Whether an event should be posted if <code>@DomainObject#updatedLifecycleEvent()</code> is not specified (is set to <code>ObjectUpdatedEvent.Default)</code> .

5.3. UI Events

Table 6. Core Configuration Properties for UI Events

Property	Value (default value)	Description
<pre>isis.reflector.facet. domainObjectLayoutAnnotation. cssClassUiEvent.postForDefault</pre>	true,false (true)	Whether an event should be posted if @DomainObjectLayout#cssClassUiEvent() is not specified (is set to CssClassUiEvent.Default).
<pre>isis.reflector.facet. domainObjectLayoutAnnotation. iconUiEvent.postForDefault</pre>	true,false (true)	Whether an event should be posted if @DomainObjectLayout#iconUiEvent() is not specified (is set to IconUiEvent.Default).
isis.reflector.facet. domainObjectLayoutAnnotation. titleUiEvent.postForDefault	true,false (true)	Whether an event should be posted if @DomainObjectLayout#titleUiEvent() is not specified (is set to TitleUiEvent.Default).

5.4. Services

Table 7. Core Configuration Properties for Services

Property	Value (default value)	Description
isis.services	FQCN,FQCN2,	Fully qualified class names of classes to be instantiated as domain services. Each entry can be optionally prefixed by "n:" specifying the relative order on the menu (corresponds to <code>@DomainServiceLayout#menuOrder())</code> . This property is IGNORED if the <code>isis.appManifest</code> configuration property is specified, or if an <code>AppManifest</code> is provided programmatically.
isis.services. applicationFeatures.init	lazy, eager (lazy)	Whether the application features repository (which surfaces the framework's metamodel) should be initialized lazily or eagerly. Lazy initialization can speed up bootstrapping, useful while developing and running tests. The default prior to 1.13.0 was eager initialization.
isis.services. audit.objects	all, none (all)	Whether the changed properties of objects should be automatically audited (for objects annotated with <code>@DomainObject(auditing=Auditing.AS_CONFIGURED)</code> .
isis.services. command.actions	all, ignoreSafe, none (all)	Whether action invocations should be automatically reified into commands (for actions annotated with <code>@Action(command=CommandReification.AS_CONFIGURED)</code> . ignoreQueryOnly is an alias for ignoreSafe.
isis.services. command.properties	all, none (all)	(Whether property edits should be automatically reified into commands (for properties annotated with @Property(command=CommandReification.AS_CONFIGURED).
isis.services. container.disableAutoFlush	true,false (false)	Whether the DomainObjectContainer should automatically flush pending changes prior to querying (via allMatches(), firstMatch() and so on).
isis.services. ContentNegotiation- ServiceXRoDomainType .prettyPrint	true,false (depends)	If a domain object has been mapped to the specified JAXB x-ro-domain-type, then determines whether the result is pretty-printed or not. + If no configuration property is available, then the defaults is determined by the deployment type: production mode disables pretty printing, while prototype mode enables it.

Property	Value (default value)	Description
isis.service. email.tls.enabled	true,false (true)	Whether to enable TLS for the email SMTP connection (used by EmailService). NB: note that the key is mis-spelt, (isis.service.email rather than isis.services.email)
isis.service. email.sender.hostname	<pre>host (smtp.gmail.com)</pre>	The hostname of the external SMTP provider (used by EmailService). NB: note that the key is mis-spelt, (isis.service.email rather than isis.services.email)
isis.service. email.port	port number (587)	The port number for the SMTP service on the the external SMTP host (used by EmailService). NB: note that the key is mis-spelt, (isis.service.email rather than isis.services.email)
isis.service. email.sender.address	email address	The email address to use for sending out email (used by EmailService). Mandatory. NB: note that the key is mis-spelt, (isis.service.email rather than isis.services.email)
isis.service. email.sender.password	email password	The corresponding password for the email address to use for sending out email (used by EmailService). Mandatory. NB: note that the key is mis-spelt, (isis.service.email rather than isis.services.email)
isis.services. eventbus.implementation	guava, axon, FQCN (guava)	which implementation to use by the EventBusService as the underlying event bus.
isis.services. eventbus.allowLateRegistration	true,false (false)	whether a domain service can register with the EventBusService after any events have posted. Since this almost certainly constitutes a bug in application code, by default this is disallowed.
isis.services. exceprecog.logRecognizedExcept ions	true,false (false)	whether recognized exceptions should also be logged. Generally a recognized exception is one that is expected (for example a uniqueness constraint violated in the database) and which does not represent an error condition. This property logs the exception anyway, useful for debugging.

Property	Value (default value)	Description
isis.services. ExceptionRecognizerComposite- ForJdoObjectStore.disable	true,false (false)	whether to disable the default recognizers registered by ExceptionRecognizerCompositeForJdoObjectStore . This implementation provides a default set of recognizers to convert RDBMS constraints into user-friendly messages. In the (probably remote) chance that this functionality isn't required, they can be disabled through this flag.
isis.services. injector.injectPrefix	true,false (false)	(Whether the framework should support inject…() as a prefix for injecting domain services into other domain objects. + By default this is disabled. The default prior to 1.13.0 was enabled. If the setting is left as disabled then this may reduce application start-up times.
isis.services. injector.setPrefix	true,false (true)	Whether the framework should support set…() as a prefix for injecting domain services into other domain objects. + By default this is enabled (no change in 1.13.0). If the setting is changed to disabled then this may reduce application start-up times.
isis.services. publish.objects	all, none (all)	Whether changed objects should be automatically published (for objects annotated with <code>@DomainObject(publishing=Publishing.AS_CONFIGURED)</code> .
isis.services. publish.actions	all, ignoreSafe, none (none)	Whether actions should be automatically published (for actions annotated with @Action(publishing=Publishing.AS_CONFIGURED).
isis.services. publish.properties	all, none (none)	Whether properties should be automatically published (for properties annotated with <code>@Property(publishing=Publishing.AS_CONFIGURED)</code> .
isis.services. ServicesInstallerFromAnnotatio n. packagePrefix	fully qualified package names (CSV)	to search for domain services (including all subpackages). This property is IGNORED if the isis.appManifest configuration property is specified, or if an AppManifest is provided programmatically.
isis.services. translation.po.mode	read,write	Whether to force the TranslationService into either read or write mode. See i18n support to learn more about the translation service.

5.5. Other Config Properties

Table 8. Other Core Configuration Properties

Property	Value (default value)	Description
isis.objects. editing	true,false (true)	Whether objects' properties and collections can be edited directly (for objects annotated with <code>@DomainObject#editing())</code> ; see below for further discussion.
<pre>isis.persistor. disableConcurrencyChecking</pre>	true,false (false)	Disables concurrency checking globally. Only intended for "emergency use" as a workaround while pending fix/patch to Apache Isis itself. (Note that there is no "datanucleus" in the property).
isis.reflector.facet. cssClass.patterns	regex:css1, regex2:css2,	Comma separated list of key:value pairs, where the key is a regex matching action names (eg delete.*) and the value is a Bootstrap CSS button class (eg btn-warning) to be applied (as per '@CssClass()) to all action members matching the regex. See UI hints for more details.
isis.reflector.facet. cssClassFa.patterns	regex:fa- icon,regex2:fa- icon2,	Comma separated list of key:value pairs, where the key is a regex matching action names (eg create.*) and the value is a font-awesome icon name (eg fa-plus) to be applied (as per @CssClassFa()) to all action members matching the regex. See UI hints for more details.
isis.reflector.facet. filterVisibility	true,false (true)	Whether objects should be filtered for visibility. See section below for further discussion.
isis.reflector.facets	FQCN	This property is now ignored. + To customize the programming model, use facets.exclude and facets.include. See finetuning the programming model for more details.
isis.reflector.facets. exclude	FQCN,FQCN2,	Fully qualified class names of (existing, built-in) facet factory classes to be included to the programming model. See finetuning the programming model for more details.

Property	Value (default value)	Description
isis.reflector.facets. ignoreDeprecated	true,false (false)	Whether deprecated facets should be ignored or honoured. + By default all deprecated facets are honoured; they remain part of the metamodel. If instead this property is set to true then the facets are simply not loaded into the metamodel and their semantics will be excluded. + In most cases this should reduce the start-up times for the application. However, be aware that this could also substantially alter the semantics of your application. To be safe, we recommend that you first run your application using isis.reflector.validator.allowDeprecated set to false; if any deprecated annotations etc. are in use, then the app will fail-fast and refuse to start.
isis.reflector.facets. include	FQCN,FQCN2,	Fully qualified class names of (new, custom) facet factory classes to be included to the programming model. See finetuning the programming model for more details.
isis.reflector. layoutMetadataReaders	FQCN,FQCN2,	Fully qualified class names of classes to be instantiated to read layout metadata, as used in for dynamic layouts. See Layout Metadata Reader for more information.
isis.reflector.validator	FQCN	Custom implementation of MetaModelValidator (in the org.apache.isis.core.metamodel.specloader.validator package) See Custom Validator to learn more.
isis.reflector.validator. allowDeprecated	true,false (true)	Whether deprecated annotations or naming conventions are tolerated or not. If not, then a metamodel validation error will be triggered, meaning the app won't boot (fail-fast). + See also isis.reflector.facets.ignoreDeprecated.
isis.viewers. paged.parented	positive integer (12)	Default page size for parented collections (as owned by an object, eg Customer#getOrders())
isis.viewers. paged.standalone	positive integer (25)	Default page size for standalone collections (as returned from an action invocation)
isis.viewers. propertyLayout.labelPosition	TOP, LEFT (LEFT)	Default for label position for all properties if not explicitly specified using <code>@PropertyLayout#labelPosition()</code>

5.5.1. Filtering visibility

The framework provides the isis.reflector.facet.filterVisibility configuration property that influences whether a returned object is visible to the end-user:

• Action invocations:

If an action returns a collection that includes the object, then the object will be excluded from the list when rendered. If it returns a single object and the user does not have access to that object, then the action will seemingly return null

• Collections:

If a parent object has a collection references another object to which the user does not have access, then (as for actions) the object will not be rendered in the list

• Properties:

If an parent object has a (scalar) reference some other object to which the user does not have access, then the reference will be rendered as empty.

• Choices and autoComplete lists:

If an object is returned in a list of choices or within an auto-complete list, and the user does not have access, then it is excluded from the rendered list.

The original motivation for this feature was to transparently support such features as multitenancy (as per the (non-ASF) Isis addons' security module). That is, if an entity is logically "owned" by a user, then the multi-tenancy support can be arranged to prevent some other user from viewing that object.

By default this configuration property is enabled. To disable the visibility filtering, set the appropriate configuration property to false:

```
isis.reflector.facet.filterVisibility=false
```

Filtering is supported by the Wicket viewer and the Restful Objects viewer, and also by the WrapperFactory domain service (provided the wrapper's execution mode is *not* "skip rules").

In order for the framework to perform this filtering of collections, be aware that the framework takes a *copy* of the original collection, filters on the collection, and returns that filtered collection rather than the original.



There are no major side-effects from this algorithm, other than the fact that the referenced objects will (most likely) need to be resolved in order to determine if they are visible. This could conceivably have a performance impact in some cases.

5.5.2. objects.editing

This configuration property in effect allows editing to be disabled globally for an application:

```
isis.objects.editing=false
```

We recommend enabling this feature; it will help drive out the underlying business operations (processes and procedures) that require objects to change; these can then be captured as business actions.

5.5.3. propertyLayout.labelPosition

If you want a consistent look-n-feel throughout the app, eg all property labels to the top, then it'd be rather frustrating to have to annotate every property.

Instead, a default can be specified in isis.properties:

```
isis.viewers.propertyLayout.labelPosition=TOP
```

or

```
isis.viewers.propertyLayout.labelPosition=LEFT
```

If these are not present then Apache Isis will render according to internal defaults. At the time of writing, this means labels are to the left for all datatypes except multiline strings.