Deploying Applications

At the end of this module you will be able to:

- ✓ Describe the Web server capabilities of WebLogic Server
- ✓ Use static and dynamic deployment
- ✓ Work with the built-in WebLogic Server Servlets
- ✓ Define and Work with Enterprise Applications

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Road Map

1. **Web Servers**
   - Web Servers Defined
   - HTTP
   - Static & Dynamic Content
2. Web Applications
3. EJB Applications
4. Enterprise Applications
5. Deployment
6. Advanced Deployment

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The Role of Web Servers

- Web servers are responsible for handling HTTP requests from clients.
- Web servers typically return:
  - static content (HTML pages, graphics, …)
  - dynamic content (Servlet, JSPs, CGIs, …)

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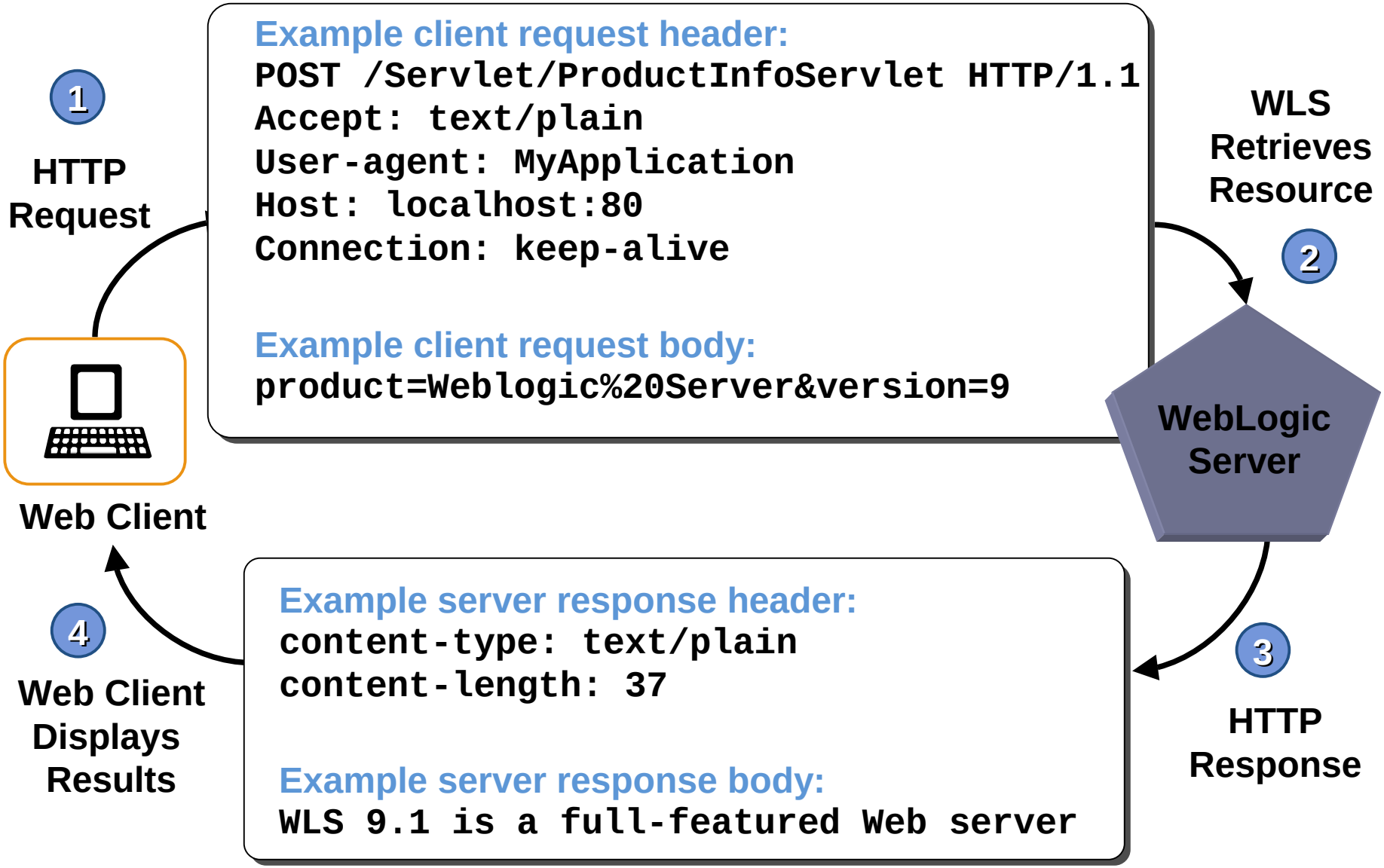
A Typical Web Interaction



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MIME Types

- Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions (MIME) is a protocol for identifying and encoding binary data.
- All HTTP response data is encoded with a MIME content type.
- Browsers interpret HTTP response data differently depending upon the MIME type of the data:
  - HTML pages are parsed and displayed
  - PDF documents can be sent to Adobe Acrobat
  - application code can be directly executed

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HTTP Status Codes

- HTTP status codes:
  - indicate to the client whether or not the request was successful
  - provide the client a reason for a failed request
  - used by clients to provide alternate behavior

Indicating success:
The default status code is 200, which indicates success.

Reason for failure:
A status code of 404 tells the client the requested resource was not found.

Providing alternate behavior:
If a browser receives a 401 status code, the browser can prompt the user for an ID and password to login. WLS 9.1 is a full-featured Web server.

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Static Content

- Static content documents are predefined on the server and do not change.
- WebLogic Server can be used to serve static content such as:
  - HTML documents
  - images
  - PDF documents
- WebLogic Server can serve static documents:
  - over standard HTTP
  - through SSL using HTTPS

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Dynamic Content

- Dynamic content documents may change based on the client's request.
- HTML documents can be created on the fly by using:
  - Servlets
  - JavaServer Pages (JSPs)
  - Common Gateway Interface (CGI) programs

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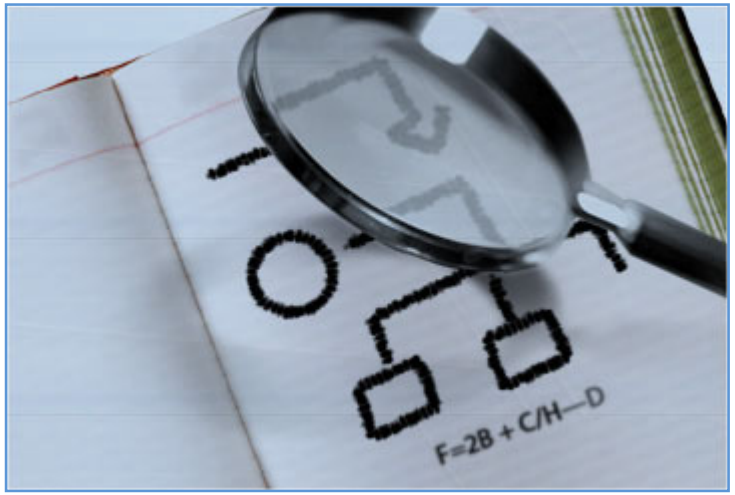
Section Review

In this section we discussed:

- ✓ The role of Web servers
- ✓ HTTP requests, responses, MIME types, status codes
- ✓ Serving static HTML, images and files
- ✓ Serving JSP and Servlet requests



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Road Map

1. Web Servers
2. **Web Applications**
   - Web Applications
   - Directory Structure and Deployment Descriptors
   - Using the Console to Deploy Web Applications
   - Monitoring Web Applications
3. EJB Applications
4. Enterprise Applications
5. Deployment
6. Advanced Deployment

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What Is a Web Application?

- A *Web Application* is a group of server-side resources that create an interactive online application.
- Server-side resources include:
  - Servlets (small server-side applications)
  - JavaServer Pages (dynamic content)
  - static documents (HTML, images)
  - server-side classes
  - client-side applets and beans

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Packaging Web Applications

- Before deploying an application package and registering it with a WLS server.
- Follow these steps to package a Web App:

1. Arrange resources in a prescribed directory structure
2. Develop `web.xml` Deployment Descriptor (or copy as required)
3. Develop `weblogic.xml` Deployment Descriptor (WLS-Specific)
4. Archive Web App into `.war` file using jar
5. Deploy Web App onto WLS
6. Configure Web App with WLS Administration Console

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Web Application Structure

- The structure of Web Applications is defined by the Servlet specification.
- A Web Application can be either:
  - an archived file (`.war` file)
  - An expanded directory structure

Directory/File	Description
MyWebApplication	Document root of Web Application
META-INF	Information for archive tools (manifest)
WEB-INF	Private files that will not be served to clients
classes	Server-side classes such as Servlets and applet
lib	`.jar` files used by Web App
web.xml	Web App deployment descriptor
weblogic.xml	WLS-specific deployment descriptor

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Configuring Web Applications

- Web applications are configured through *deployment descriptors* `web.xml` and `weblogic.xml` which:
  - Define run-time environment
  - Map URLs to Servlets and JSPs
  - Define application defaults such as welcome and error pages
  - Specify J2EE security constraints
  - Define work managers for applications
  - Set the context-root for the application

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The `web.xml` File

- The `web.xml` file is a deployment descriptor for configuring:
  - Servlets and JSP registration
  - Servlet initialization parameters
  - JSP tag libraries
  - MIME type mappings
  - Welcome file list
  - Error pages
  - Security constraints and roles
  - Resources
  - EJB references

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The `weblogic.xml` File

- The `weblogic.xml` is a WebLogic Server specific deployment descriptor for configuring:
  - JSP properties
  - JNDI mappings
  - security role mappings
  - HTTP session parameters
  - Work managers
  - Context root
  - Virtual directory mappings
  - Logging parameters
  - Library modules

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weblogic.xml Deployment Descriptor

- Example of `weblogic.xml` deployment descriptor.

```
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='utf-8'?>
<weblogic-web-app
 xmlns="http://www.bea.com/ns/weblogic/90"
 xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">

</weblogic-web-app>
```


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Web Application Archive…

- Web Application archives (`.war` files)
  - are compressed files that contain directory structures that represent Web Applications
  - simplify the distribution and sharing of Web Applications across a network
  - can share common resources
  - can be combined into larger applications
- For ease of development and debugging Web Applications are not archived until the end of production.

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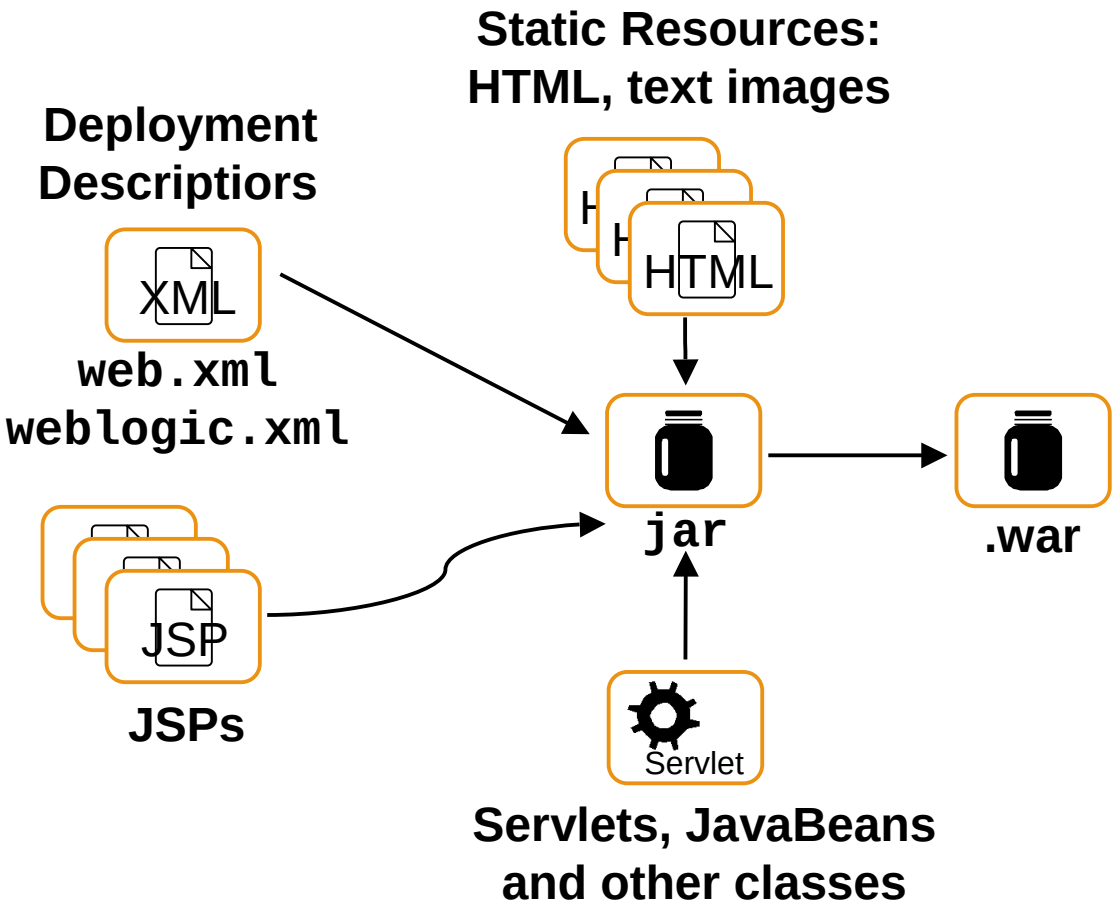
...Web Application Archive

- Web archives are created using the `jar` utility:



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URLs and Web Apps

- The URL used to reference a resource in a Web Application must include the name of the Web Application.

Accessing a resource in a Web Application:

`http://hostname:port/MyWebApplication/resource`

Where:

Hostname	**Host name mapped to virtual host or** *hostname:port*
MyWebApplication	**Name of the Web Application; not necessary if this is the default Web Application**
resource	**Static page, Servlet mapping, or JSP**

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Virtual Directory Mappings

- Virtual directories:
  - can be used to refer to physical directories
  - let you avoid the need to hard-code paths to physical directories
  - allow multiple Web applications to share common physical directories for specific requests such as images
  - decrease duplication of files across applications
  - are configured in `weblogic.xml`

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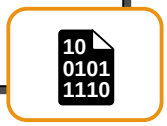
Virtual Directory Mapping Example

Virtual Directory Mapping Example:

```
<virtual-directory-mapping>
   <local-path>c:/usr/gifs</local-path>
   <url-pattern>/images/*</url-pattern>
   <url-pattern>*.jpg</url-pattern>
</virtual-directory>
<virtual-directory-mapping>
   <local-path>c:/usr/common_jsps.jar</local-path>
   <url-pattern>*.jsp</url-pattern>
</virtual-directory>
```



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Archive vs. Expanded Directory

- Archive Web Applications if:
  - in production phase
  - deploying to several machines
- Do not archive Web Applications if:
  - in development/debugging phase
  - application will be updated frequently
  - deploying to a single machine (Administration server)

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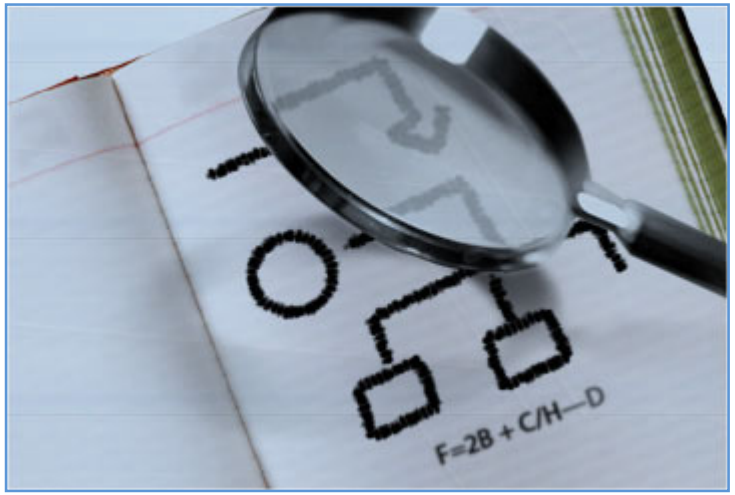
Section Review

In this section we discussed:

- ✓ Web applications
- ✓ Deployment descriptors
- ✓ Deployment & monitoring of Web Application
- ✓ Updating production Web Applications
- ✓ Virtual directories



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Road Map

1. Web Servers
2. Web Applications
3. **EJB Applications**
   - Major EJB Types and Their Purpose
4. Enterprise Applications
5. Deployment
6. Advanced Deployment

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Enterprise JavaBeans™

- *Enterprise JavaBeans*™ (EJB) standardizes development and deployment of Java server components.
- The EJB specification defines relationships between:
  - the EJB and its container
  - the container and the application server
  - the container and the client

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Types of EJBs

EJB Type	Description	Example
Stateless Session	▸Do not maintain state ▸Are synchronous ▸Are maintained in memory	▸Check validity of stock symbol ▸Calculate billing of a phone call
Stateful Session	▸Conversational interaction ▸Maintain state for client ▸Are synchronous	▸Book a flight & car rental for travel ▸Manage a shopping cart
Entity	▸Represent persisted data ▸Are synchronous	▸Represent a player's statistics ▸Represent a stock's history
Message Driven	▸Asynchronous & stateless ▸Consume JMS messages	▸Store logging messages

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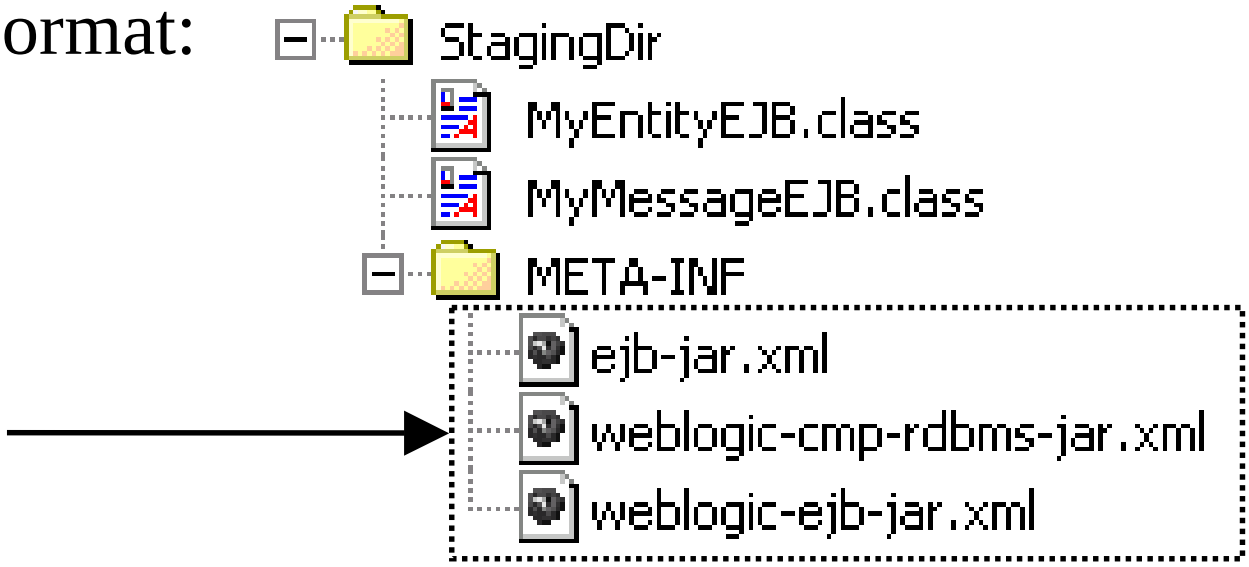
EJB Application Directory Structure

- EJB components come packaged in JAR files.
- EJBs are configured by modifying deployment descriptors.

EJB App JAR Format:



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EJB Administrator Tasks with WLS

- EJB administrator tasks include:
  - configure and deploy
  - resolve JNDI and other infrastructure issues
  - monitor EJB caches and pools

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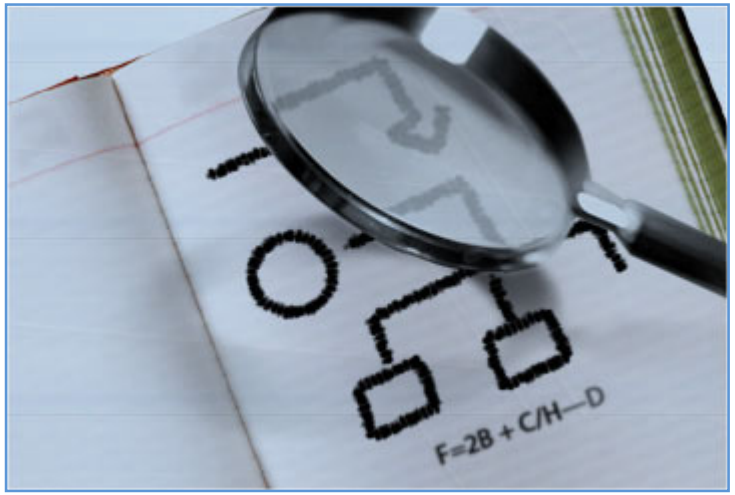
Section Review

In this section we discussed:

- ✓ EJB applications
- ✓ Major types of Enterprise JavaBeans (EJBs)



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Road Map

1. Web Servers
2. Web Applications
3. EJB Applications
4. **Enterprise Applications**
   - Enterprise Application Concepts
   - Enterprise Archive (.ear) File Structure
   - Enterprise Application Configuration
5. Deployment
6. Advanced Deployment

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What Is an Enterprise Application?

- An *enterprise application* is a grouping of several resources into one deployable unit packaged in an `.ear` file.
- These resources include:
  - Web applications (`.war`)
  - EJB applications (`.jar`)
  - Java applications (`.jar`)
  - Resource adapters (`.rar`)

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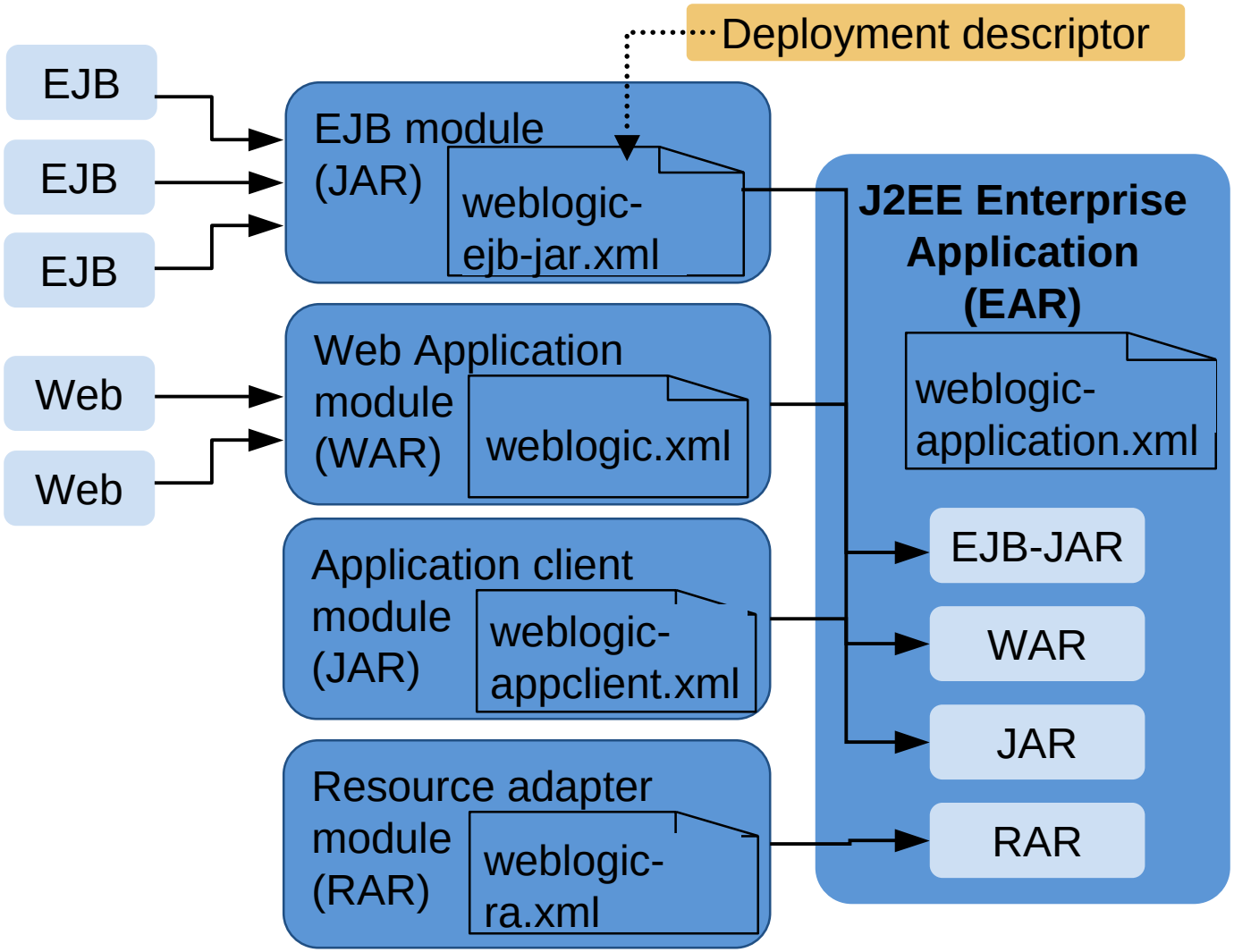
J2EE Enterprise Application



J2EE Modules

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Why Enterprise Applications?

- Use enterprise applications to:
  - Avoid name space clashes
  - Declare application-wide security roles
  - Deploy an application as one unit
  - Share application-wide EJB resources
  - Configure local JDBC datasources
  - Configure local JMS resources
  - Configure local XML resources

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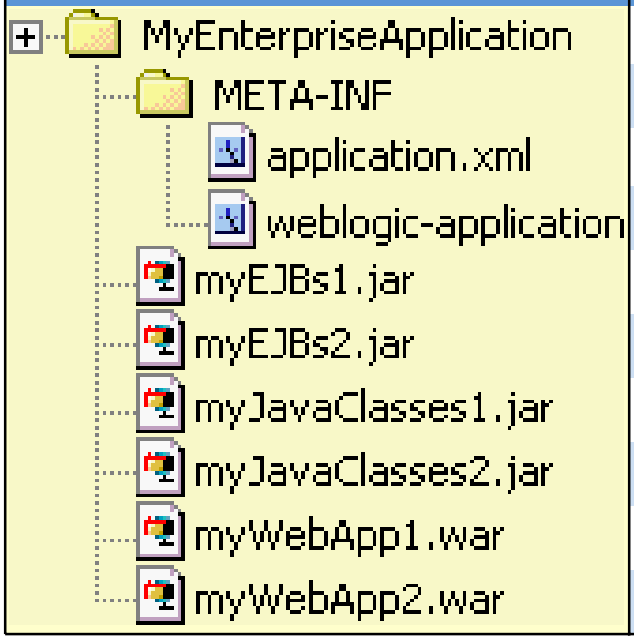
EAR File Structure

- An example directory structure of an enterprise application is shown below:

Directory / File	Description
 MyEnterpriseApplication	Document root of enterprise application
META-INF	META-INF directory
application.xml	Enterprise application deployment descriptor
weblogic-application	WLS Enterprise application deployment descriptor
myEJBs1.jar	An EJB module
myEJBs2.jar	Another EJB module
myJavaClasses1.jar	A Java module
myJavaClasses2.jar	Another Java module
myWebApp1.war	A Web Application module
myWebApp2.war	Another Web Application module

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Configuring WLS Specific Features

- Configure Enterprise-wide WLS specific features with `weblogic-application.xml` deployment descriptor:
  - XML parsers
  - XML entity mappings
  - JDBC datasources
  - JMS connection factories and destinations
  - Security realms

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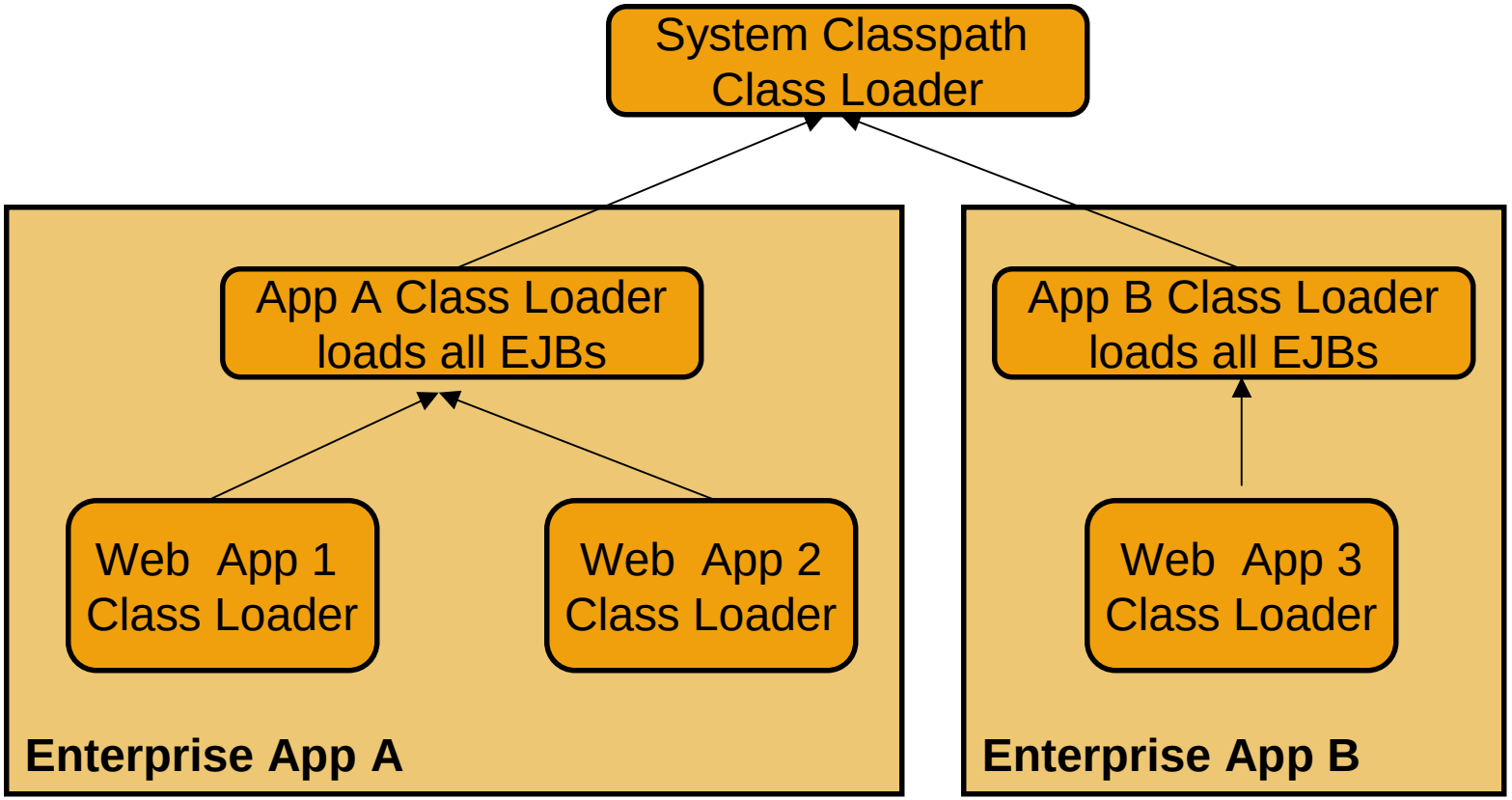
WLS Application Class Loader

- Each application receives its own class loader hierarchy with the system class loader as its parent.



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EAR Class Libraries

- Extending the J2EE spec, BEA has added `APP-INF/lib` and `APP-INF/classes` to the standard J2EE ear file structure.
- When the application is initialized, paths extracted are appended to the beginning of the application's CLASSPATH
- Classes are added to the root classloader of the application.

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J2EE Library Support

- To make things easier, you can create a library of J2EE modules, package them into an Enterprise application (EAR) then deploy and register it with the application container.
- Afterwards, other applications can use the modules as if they were packaged in their own EAR files.
- This allows for more reusability between applications.

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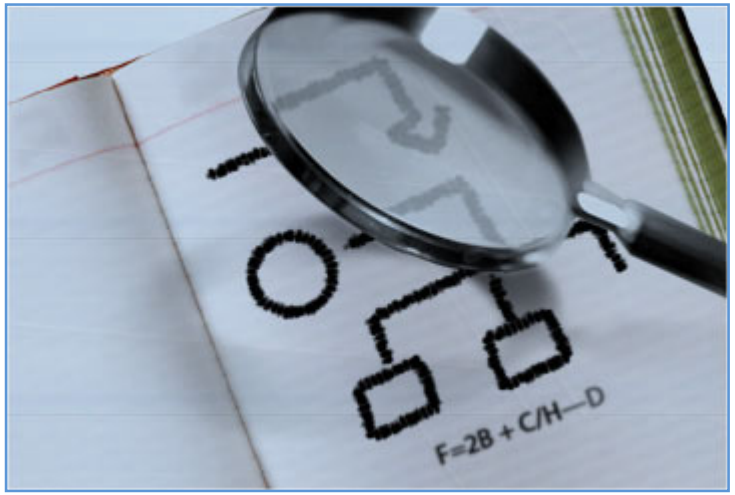
Section Review

In this section we discussed:

- ✓ The structure of Enterprise Applications
- ✓ Deploying Enterprise Applications



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Road Map

1. Web Servers
2. Web Applications
3. EJB Applications
4. Enterprise Applications
5. **Deployment**
   - Auto-deployment
   - Console Deployment
   - Command-line Deployment
6. Advanced Deployment

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Deployment Process Overview

- Deploying an application involves the following tasks:
  1. *Preparing* - Choosing whether to package the application as an archived file or keeping it in an exploded directory
  2. *Configuring* – Creating a deployment plan to maintain configuration changes without changing the deployment descriptors
  3. *Deploying* – Targeting and distributing the application to WebLogic servers in a domain

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Deployment Methods

- WLS supports three deployment methods:
  - auto-deployment
  - console deployment
  - command-line deployment
- You can deploy:
  - Enterprise applications
  - Web applications
  - Web Services
  - J2EE libraries
  - EJB components
  - Resource adapters
  - Optional packages
  - Client application archives
  - JDBC, JMS and Diagnostic Framework modules
- Applications and EJBs can be deployed:
  - in an archived file (.ear, .war, .jar)
  - or in exploded (open) directory format

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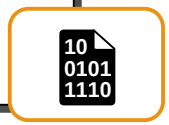
Auto-Deployment – Copying Files

- If Production Mode is OFF:
  - You can *install* an application simply by copying it (manually or using the console) to the '`autodeploy`' folder of the domain
  - The Administration Server monitors this folder for new, changed or removed applications
  - This *configures*, *targets* and *deploys* the application to the Administration server only

Location of Applications Directory:
`%BEA_HOME%\user_projects\domains\`*`domain_name`*`\autodeploy`



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Development vs. Production Modes

- An Administration server starts either using:
  - *development mode*, which turns auto-deployment on
  - *production mode*, which turns auto-deployment off
- The Administration server starts in the mode selected at domain creation time.
- The mode is set for all WebLogic servers in a given domain.

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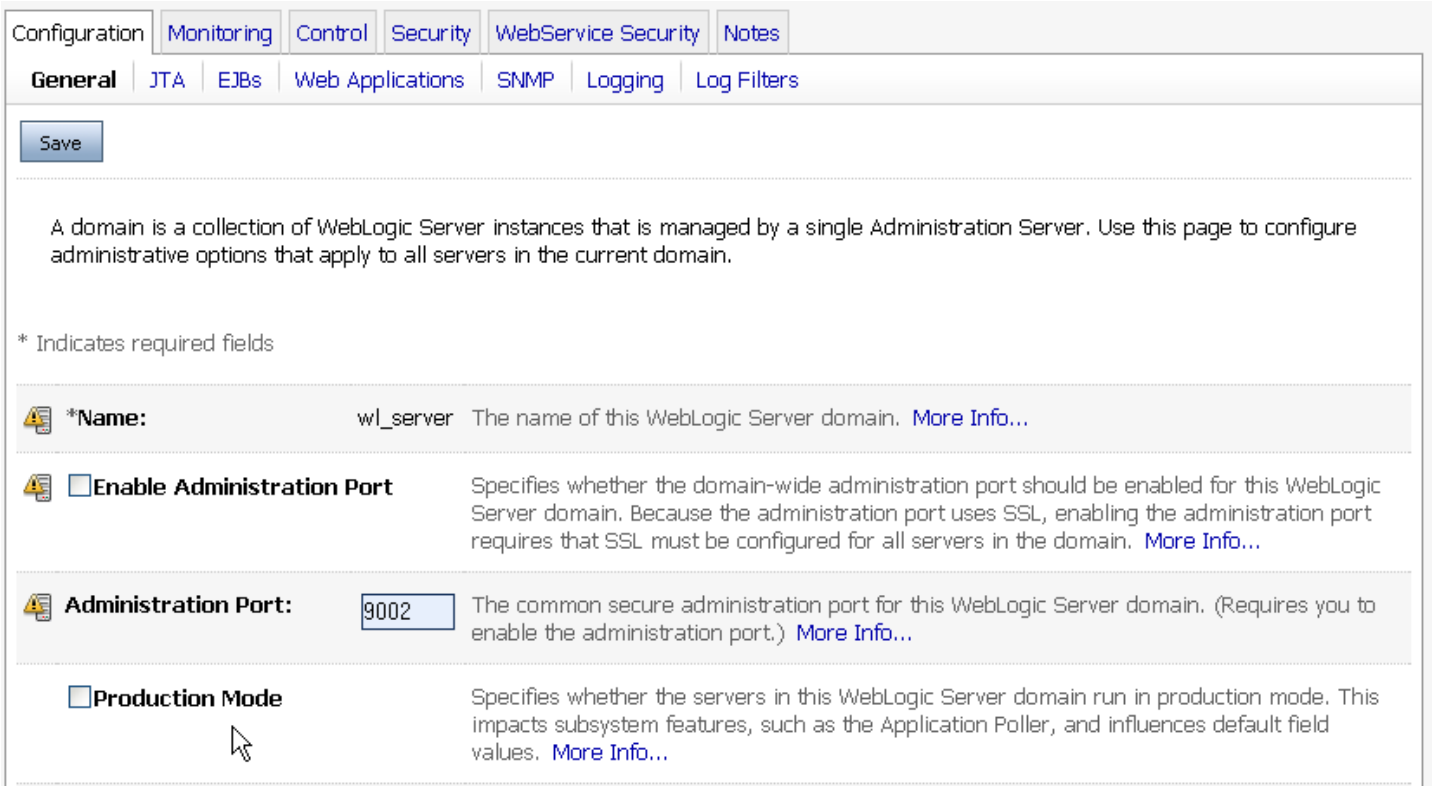
Production Mode Flag

- When Production mode is disabled, applications can be dynamically deployed.
  - Application poller will be enabled in Development Mode.



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Console Deployment Method…

- Deploying with the console allows full administrator control:
  - *Installation* from a location of your choice
  - Manual *configuration* of application name
  - *Targeting* of application to individual servers and/or clusters
  - *Configuring* the application without targeting it
  - Activating *deployment* when desired

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...Console Deployment Method

- Best used with Production Mode

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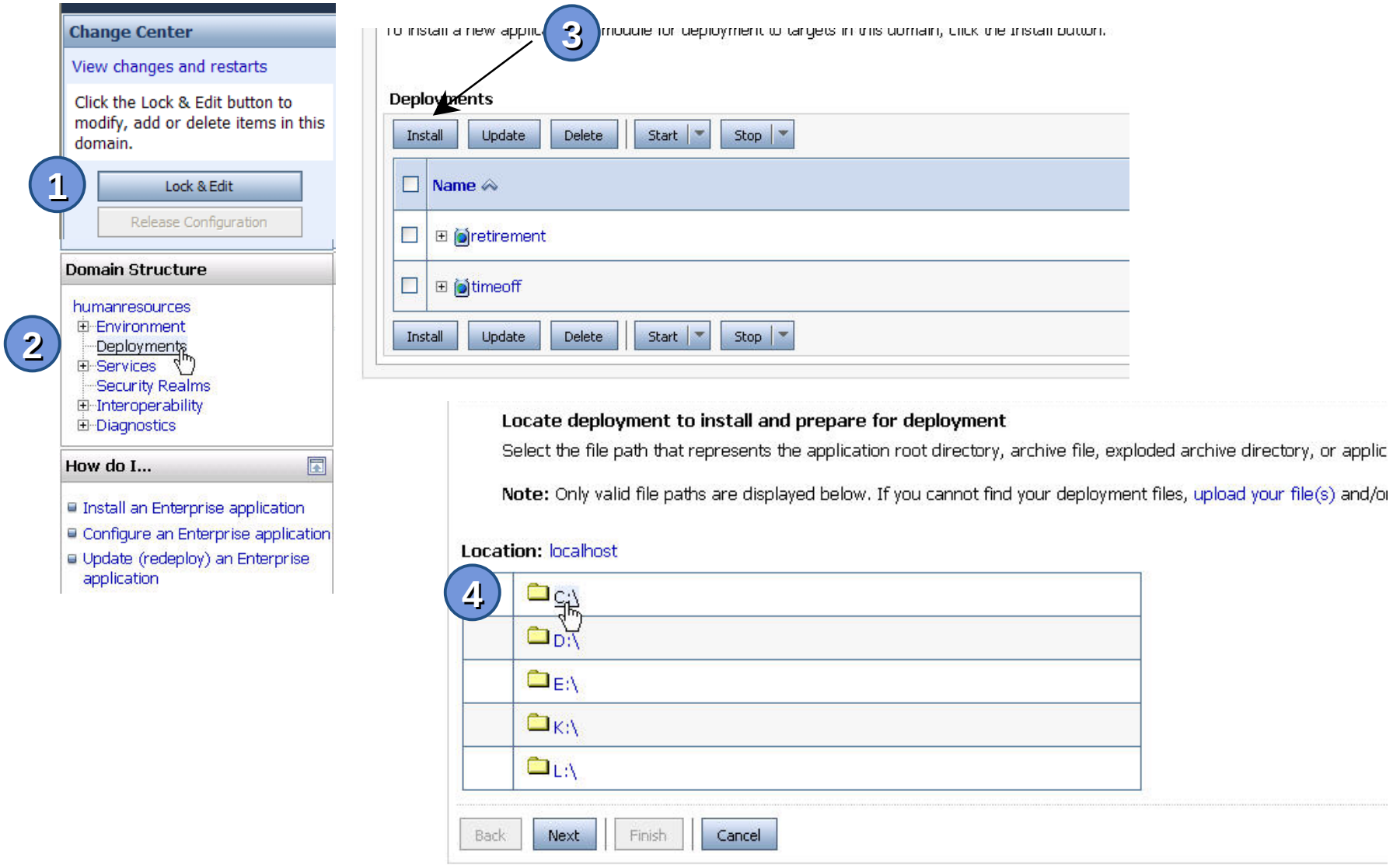
Console Deployment…



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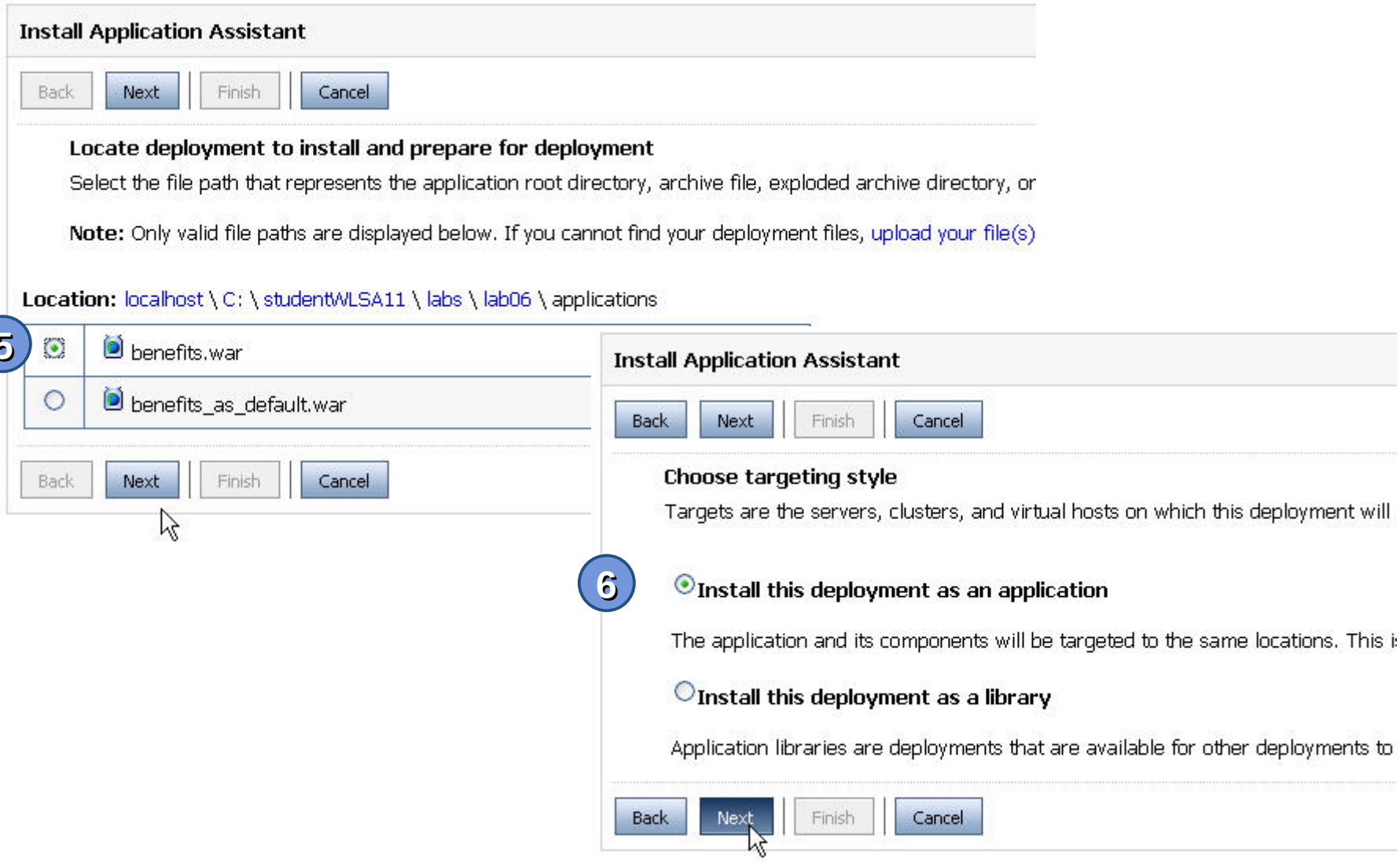
…Console Deployment…



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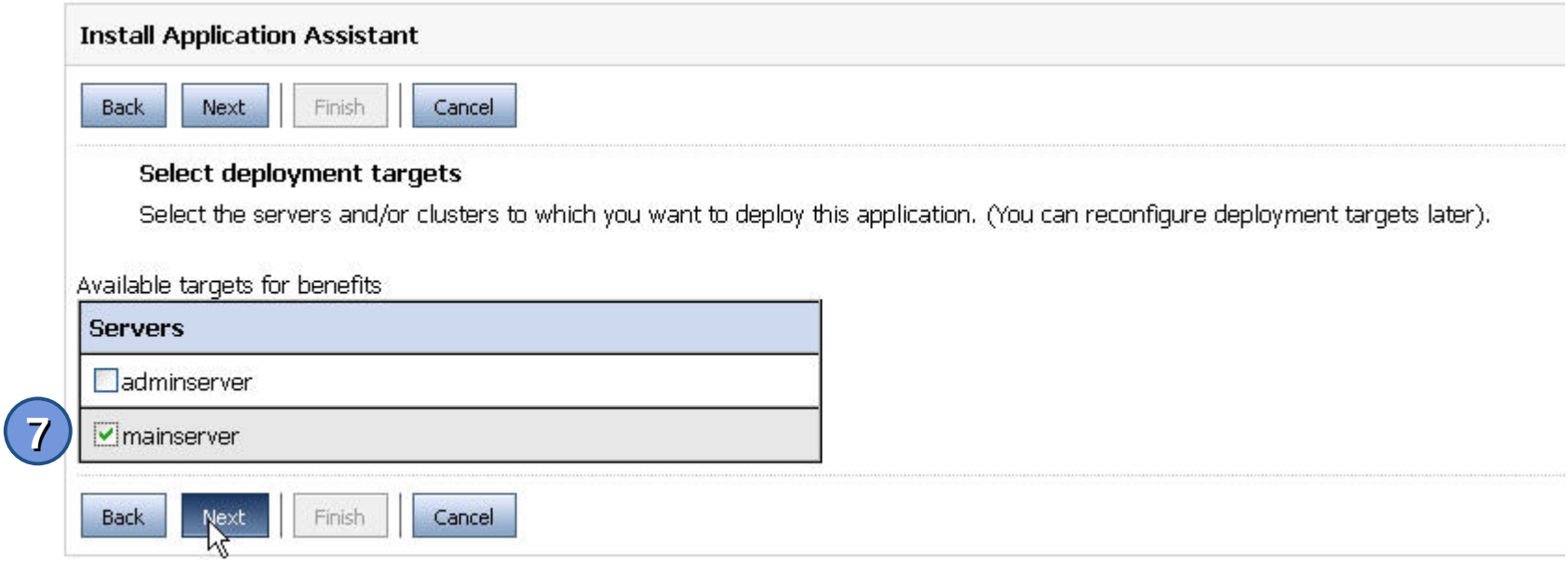
...Console Deployment...



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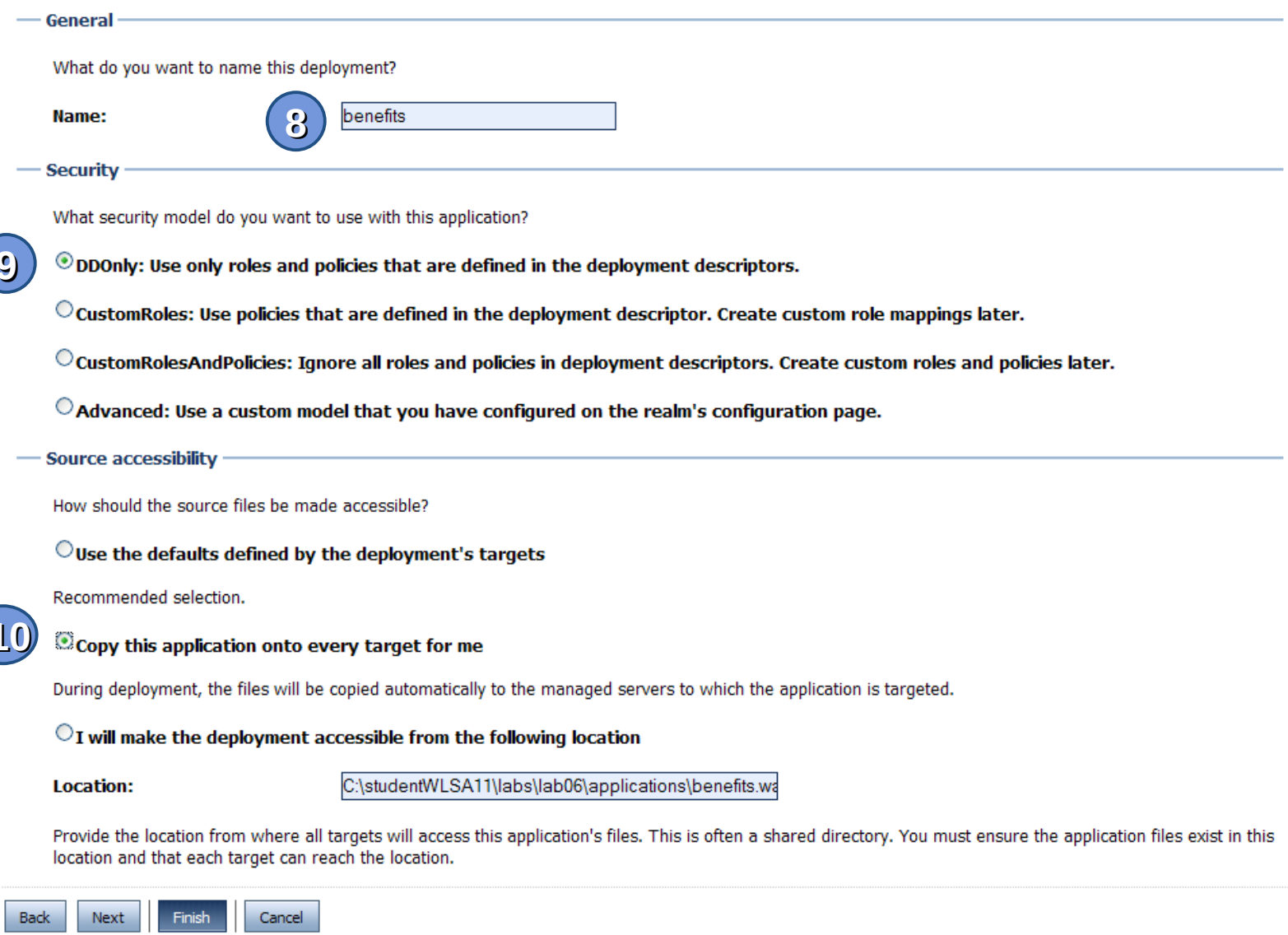
…Console Deployment…



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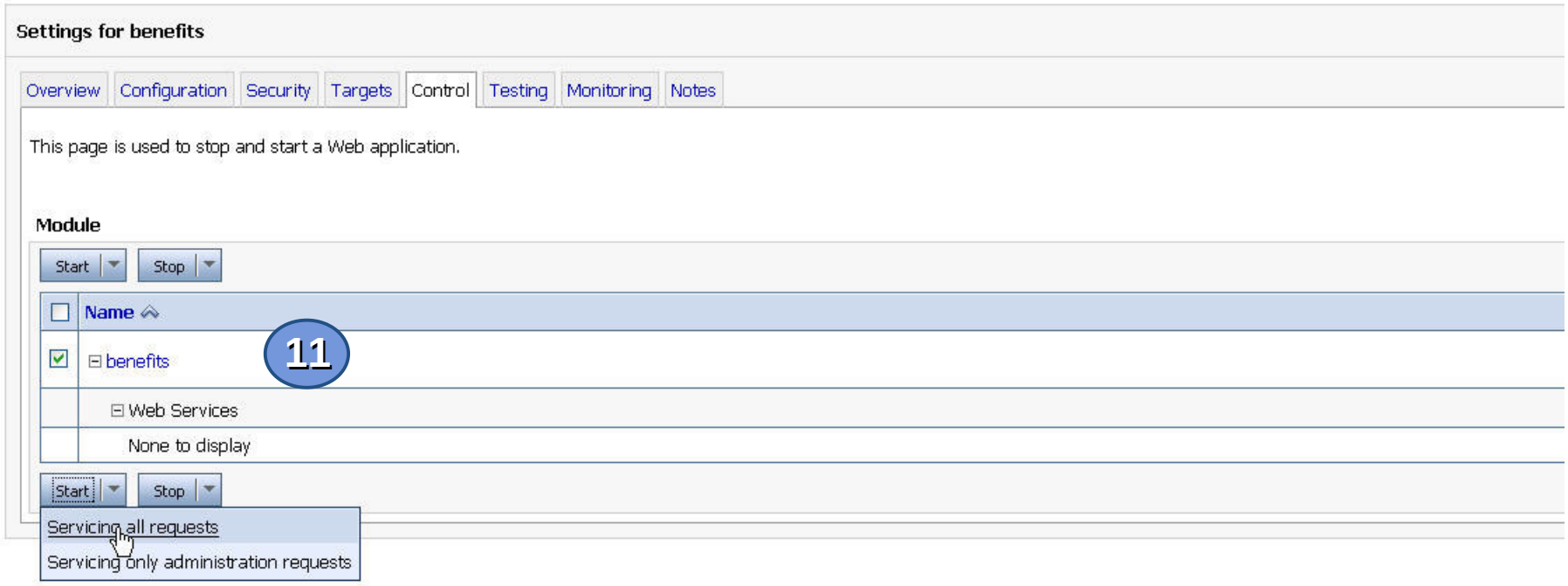
…Console Deployment



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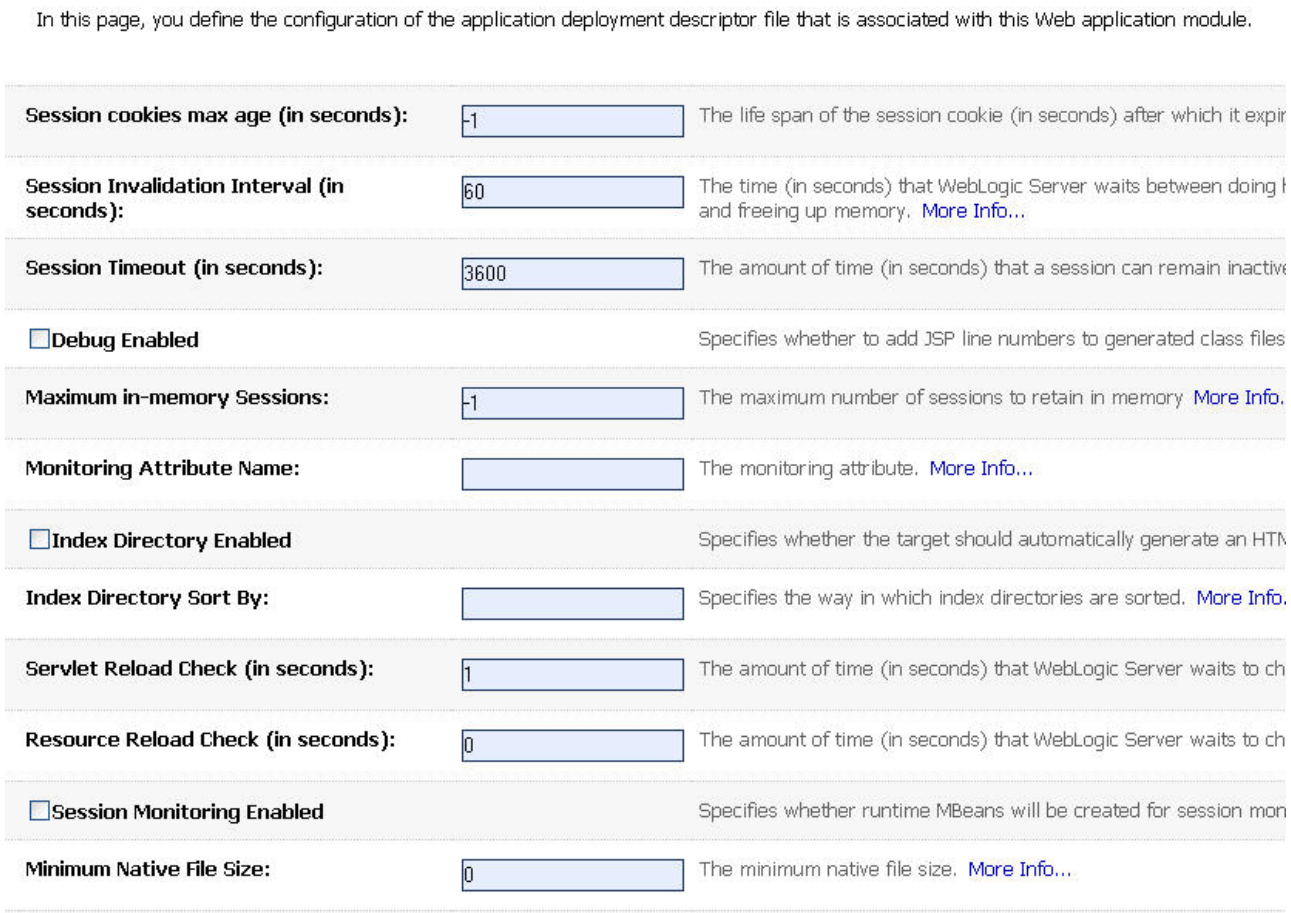
DD Editing

- Some deployment descriptor elements are editable via the console



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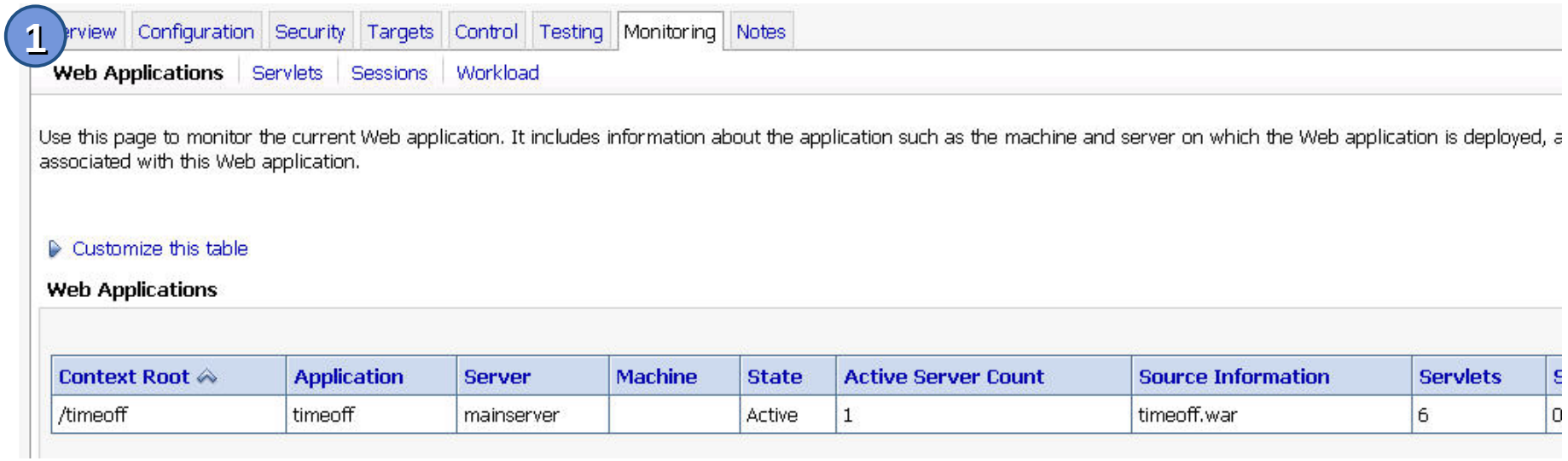
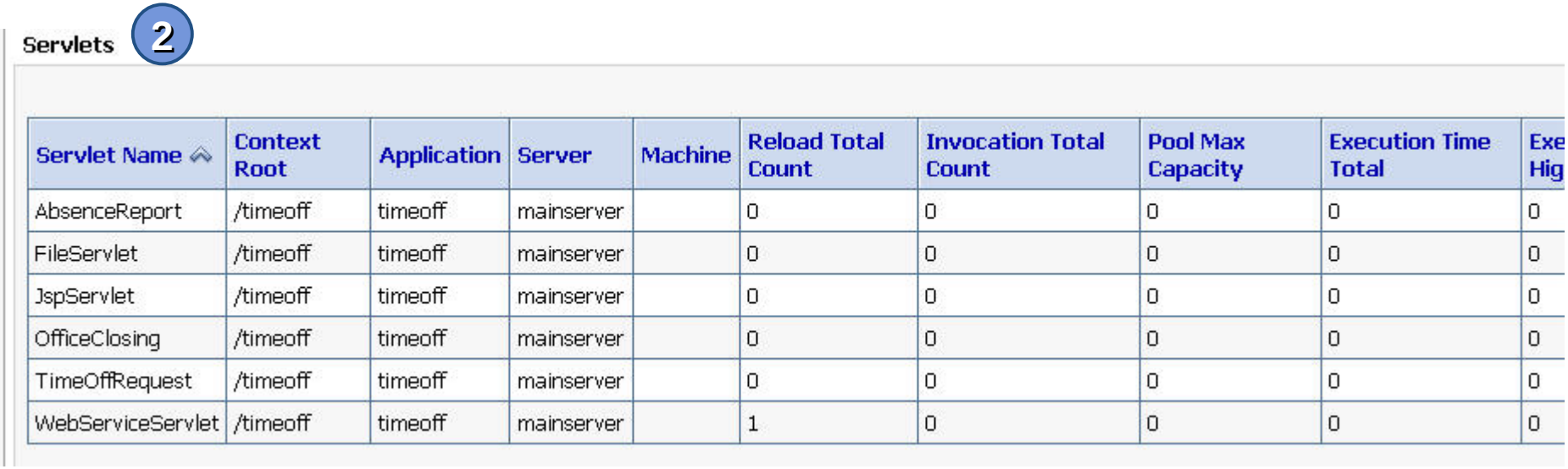
Application Monitoring





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Application Testing

- You can test a deployed application using the administration console.

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Application Update and Delete…

- Using the console, applications can be *updated (redeployed)* after configuration or component changes, or *deleted (undeployed).*
- All concurrent deployment activity is tracked by the Administration server in a series of tasks:
  - Task progress and outcome can be queried for each application
  - Reasons for failure are logged

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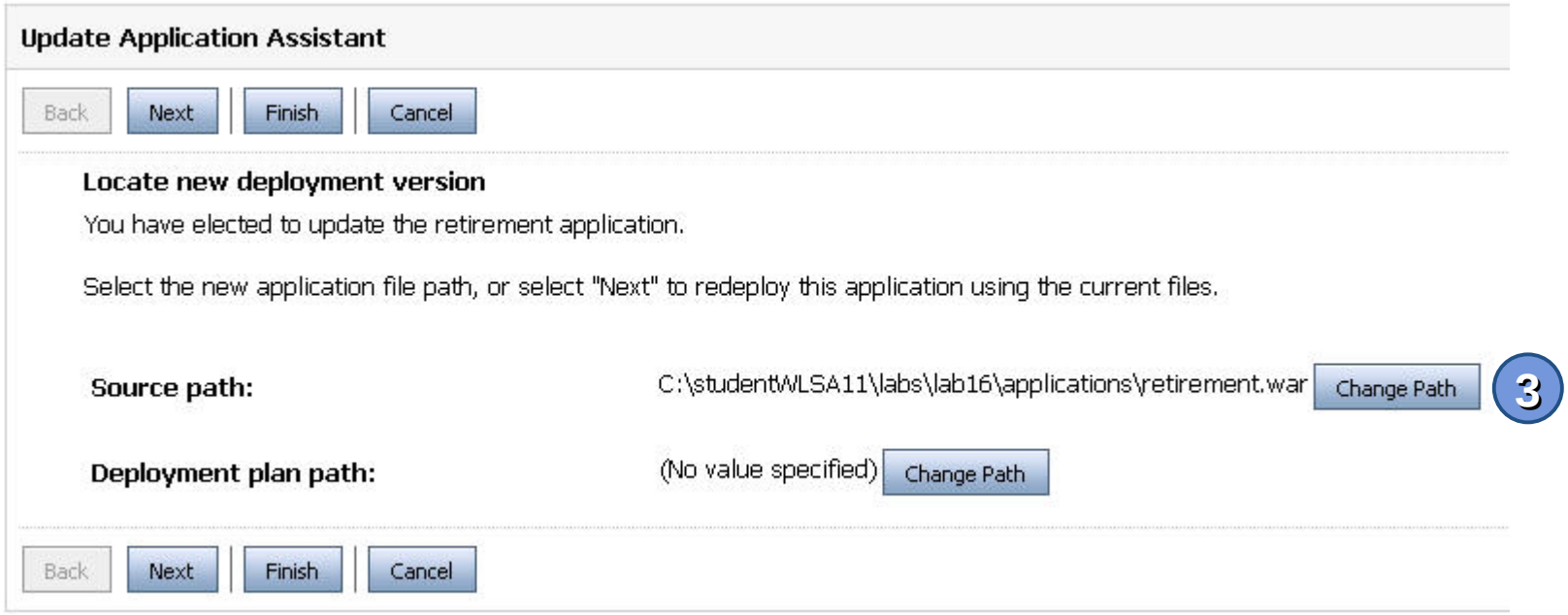
…Application Update and Delete…



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…Application Update and Delete

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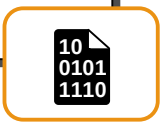
Command-Line Deployment

- The `weblogic.Deployer` utility allows you to do deployment operations similar to those available in the console.
- `weblogic.Deployer` actions can be also be scripted with the ant task `wldeploy`

`weblogic.Deployer` Syntax:

```
% java weblogic.Deployer [options]
       [-deploy|-undeploy|-redeploy|-start|-stop|-listapps]
              [file(s)]
```



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weblogic.Deployer Examples...

weblogic.Deployer Examples:

To deploy a new application:

```
java weblogic.Deployer -adminurl t3://localhost:7001
     -username system -password weblogic
     -name app -source /myapp/app.ear
     -targets server1,server2 -deploy
```

To redeploy an application:

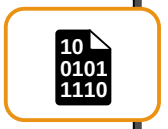
```
java weblogic.Deployer -adminurl t3://localhost:7001
     -username system -password weblogic -name app –redeploy
```

To redeploy part of an application:

```
java weblogic.Deployer -adminurl t3://localhost:7001
     -username system -password weblogic
     -targets server1,server2 -redeploy jsps/*.jsp
```

To undeploy an application:

```
java weblogic.Deployer -adminurl t3://localhost:7001
     -username system -password weblogic -undeploy
     -name myapp –targets server1,server2
```



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...weblogic.Deployer Examples

More weblogic.Deployer Examples:

To list all deployed applications:

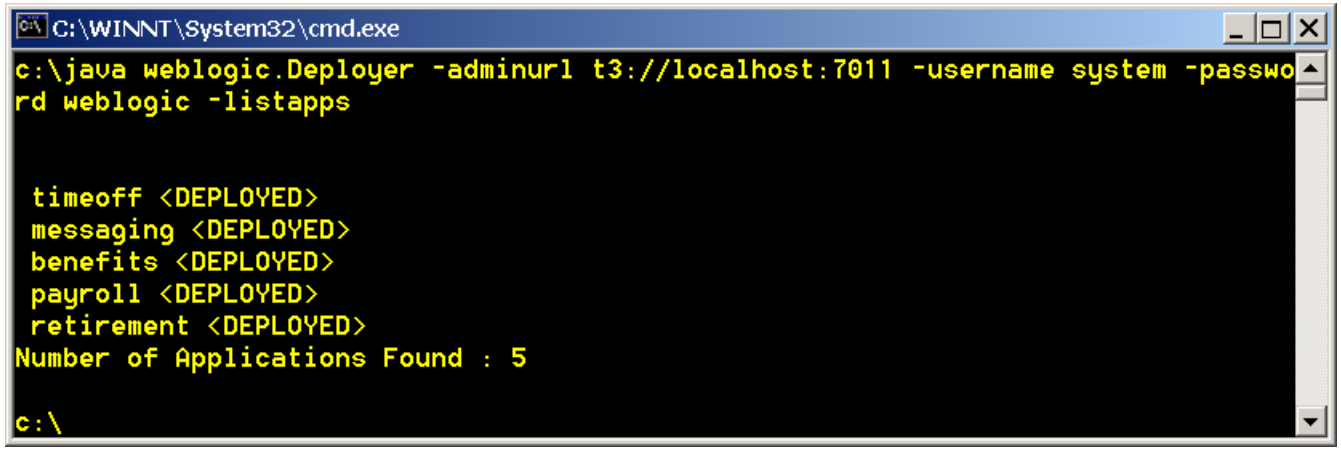
```
java weblogic.Deployer -adminurl t3://localhost:7001
     -username system -password weblogic -listapps
```

To list all deployment tasks:

```
java weblogic.Deployer -adminurl http://localhost:7001
     -username system –password weblogic -listtask
```

To cancel a deployment task:

```
java weblogic.Deployer -adminurl http://localhost:7001
     -username system –password weblogic -cancel -id tag
```



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Deploying Applications with WLST

- WLST provides a number of deployment commands
- You can use these commands to:
  - Deploy, undeploy, and redeploy applications and standalone modules to a WebLogic Server instance
  - Update an existing deployment plan
  - Start and stop a deployed application

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Deploying an Application with WLST

Deploy an application (deployapp.py):

```
#                                                                    #
# WLST script for Deploying J2EE Application                          #
#                                                                    #

# Connect to the server
print 'Connecting to server  .... '
connect('system','weblogic','t3://localhost:7001')

appname = "mbeanlister"
applocation = "c:/domains/dizzyworld/apps/mbeanlister"

# Start deploy
print 'Deploying application ' + appname
deploy(appname, applocation, targets='myserver',
   planPath='c:/myapps/plan/plan.xml')
print 'Done Deploying the application '+ appname
exit()
```


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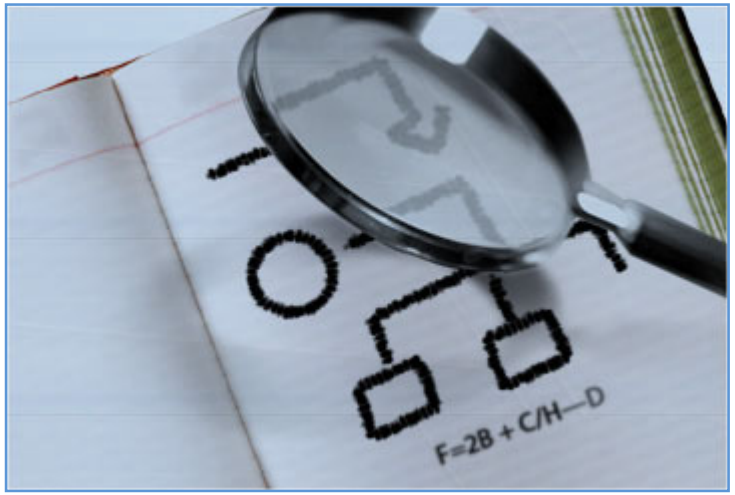
Section Review

In this section we discussed:

- ✓ Auto-deployment
- ✓ Console deployment
- ✓ Command-line deployment



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Exercise

Deploying & Undeploying Web Applications

- In this lab you will learn about deploying and Undeploying Web Applications.
- Ask the instructor for any clarification.
- The instructor will determine the stop time.

Lab Exercise

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Road Map

1. Web Servers
2. Web Applications
3. EJB Applications
4. Enterprise Applications
5. Deployment
6. **Advanced Deployment**
   - Deployment Plans
   - Staged Deployment
   - Side-by-Side Deployment

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What Is a Deployment Plan?

- It is an optional XML document that resides outside an application archive.
- It configures an application for deployment to a specific WLS environment.
- It is created and owned by Administrators or developers for a particular environment.

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Advantages of Deployment Plan

- Works by setting/overriding deployment property values defined in application's WLS deployment descriptor.
- Helps easily modify an application's WLS configuration for deployment into different multiple WLS environments without modifying the deployment descriptor files included in the application archive.
- Enables an application to be deployed to multiple domains or to multiple target servers and clusters that have different configuration within the same domain.

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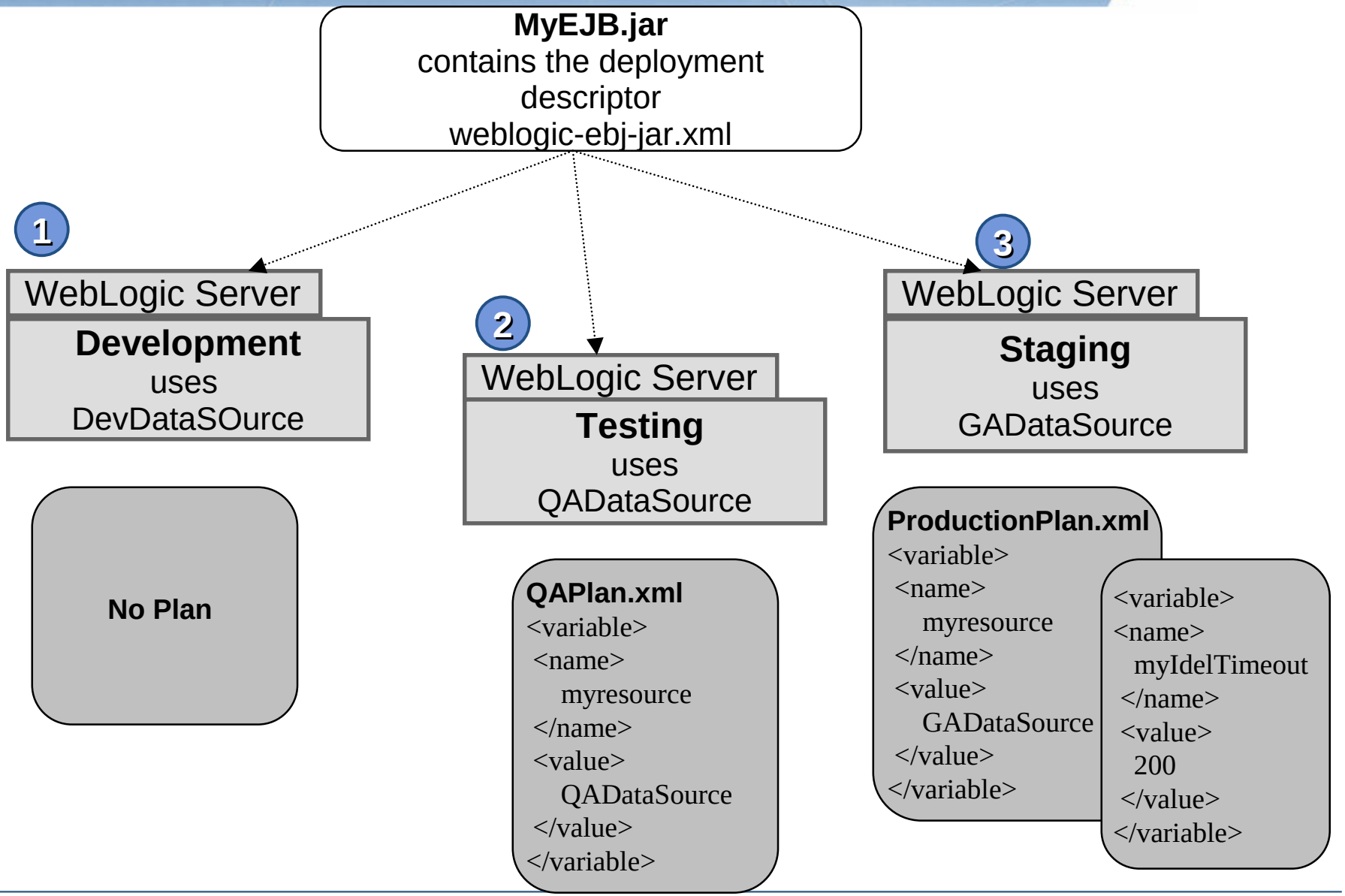
Configuring an Application for Multiple Deployment Environments



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Sample Deployment Plan

```
<deployment-plan xmlns="http://www.bea.com/ns/weblogic/90">
      <application-name>sample_root</application-name>
        <variable-definition>
        <variable>      <name>SessionDescriptor_InvalidationIntervalSecs_11029744771850</name>
          <value>80</value>
        </variable>
        <variable>
          <name>SessionDescriptor_TimeoutSecs_11029744772011</name>
          <value>8000</value>
        </variable>
        </variable-definition>
      <module-override>
        <module-name>jspExpressionEar.ear</module-name>
        <module-type>ear</module-type>
        <module-descriptor external="false">
          <root-element>weblogic-application</root-element>
          <uri>META-INF/weblogic-application.xml</uri>
        </module-descriptor>
        <module-descriptor external="false">
          <root-element>application</root-element>
          <uri>META-INF/application.xml</uri>
        </module-descriptor>
      </module-override>
      <module-override>
        <module-name>jspExpressionWar</module-name>
        <module-type>war</module-type>
        <module-descriptor external="false">

    …
```


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Creating a Deployment Plan

- Tools for creating a deployment plan
  - weblogic.PlanGenerator
  - Administration Console
- Goals for creating a deployment plan
  - To expose the external resource requirements of the application as variables in the deployment plan
  - To expose additional configurable properties, such as tuning parameters as variables in the deployment plan

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weblogic.PlanGenerator

- Java-based deployment configuration tool.
- It is primarily intended for developers who want to export portions of a WebLogic Server deployment configuration into an XML deployment plan.
- Enables you to generate a basic WebLogic Server configuration for applications that have only J2EE deployment descriptors.

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Using the Admin Console to Generate a Deployment Plan

- Administration Console automatically generates or updates the deployment plan.
- Generating a deployment plan using the Administration Console involves the following steps:
  - Preparing the deployment files
  - Installing the application archive
  - Saving configuration changes to a deployment plan

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Using an Existing Deployment Plan to Configure an Application

1. Prepare application.
2. Place the existing deployment plan in the plan subdirectory of the application root.
3. Install the application.
4. Administration console validates deployment plan configuration against the target servers and clusters selected during installation.
5. Use Administration console or the weblogic.Deployer utility to identify the application and plan to use for deployment.

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Directory Structure for Easier Production Deployment…

- The application directory structure separates generated configuration files from core application files.
- This allows configuration files to be easily changed or replaced without disturbing the application itself.
- Applications can be deployed simply by specifying the installation root.

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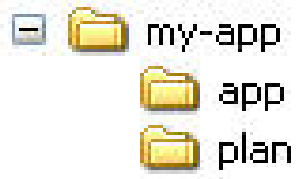
...Directory Structure for Easier Production Deployment

Directory Tree	Description
	Application root
	Application deployment files (archive or exploded)
	`plan.xml`

- This allows deployment configuration files to be located in a well-known location.

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Sanity Checking in Production Without Disruption to Clients

- Using Administration mode, administrators can deploy an application into a production environment without exposing the application to external clients.
- Access to the application is restricted to a configured Administration channel.
- A final (“sanity”) check can be performed on the application directly in the production environment without disruption to clients.

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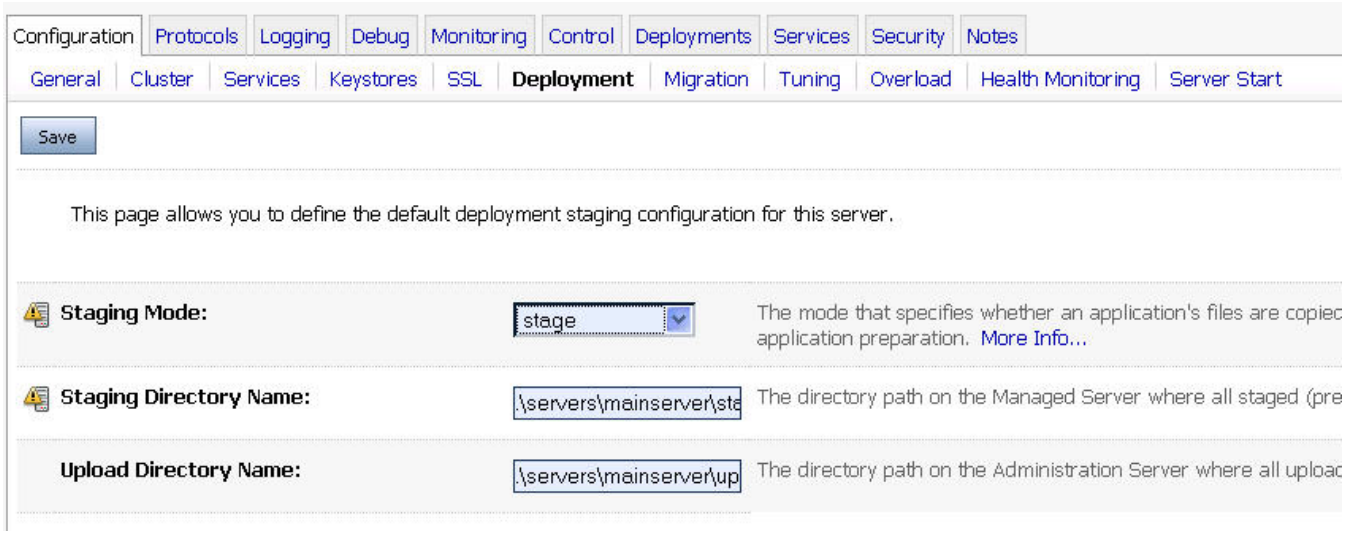
Staged Deployment

- Deployment can be configured per server or for each application as:
  - *staged* (default)—files copied to preconfigured staging directory for preparation and activation
  - *no-stage*—files deployed from static location
  - *external_stage*—files copied by user or third-party tool prior to deployment



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Side-by-Side Deployment…

- A revised version of a production application can be redeployed alongside the older version:
  - Without affecting the existing clients to the application
  - Without interrupting the availability of the application to the new client request
- WebLogic Server automatically manages client connections so that:
  - Existing clients continue to use the older application
  - New client requests are directed to the newer application
- The older version is undeployed after all current clients complete their work.

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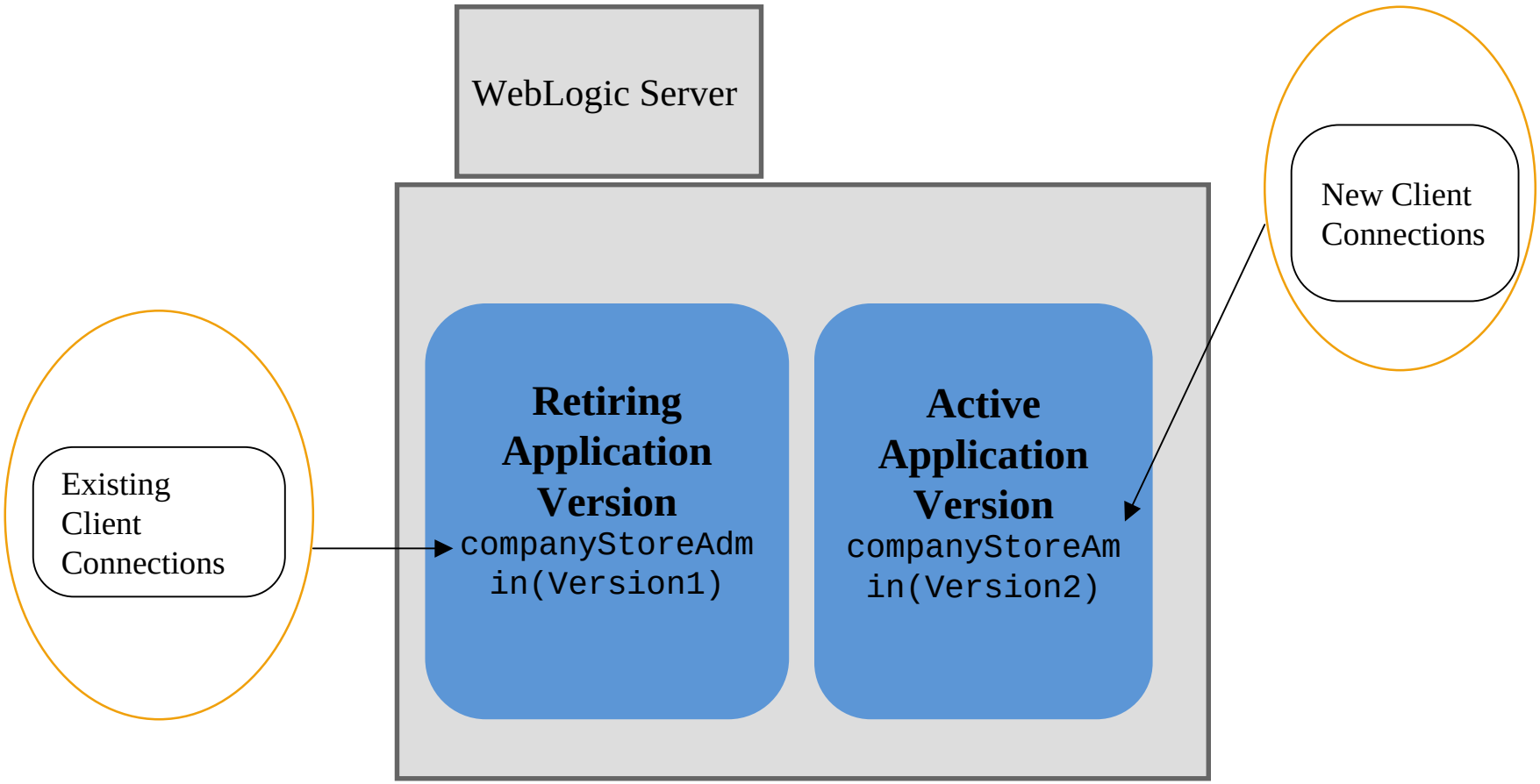
…Side-by-Side Deployment…



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… Side-by-Side Deployment

- To support the production redeployment strategy, WebLogic Server now recognizes a unique version string entry in the Enterprise `MANIFEST` file.
- When a redeployment operation is requested, WebLogic Server checks the version string to determine whether to deploy a new version of the application.
- Side-by-Side deployment is performed automatically if:
  - An application supports production redeployment
  - Its deployment configuration is updated with changes to resource bindings
- This occurs even if no version string is specified in the application's manifest file.

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Advantages of Side-by-Side Deployment

Saves the trouble of:

1. Scheduling application downtime
2. Setting up redundant servers to host new application versions
3. Managing client access to multiple application versions manually
4. Retiring older versions of an application manually

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Requirements and Restrictions for Side-by-Side Deployment

Production redeployment is supported for:

1. Stand-alone Web Application (WAR) modules.
2. Enterprise Applications (EARs) whose client access the application via a Web Application (HTTP)

Production redeployment is not supported for:

1. EJB or RAR modules
2. Stand-alone or embedded Web Service modules
3. Applications that use JTS drivers
4. Applications that obtain JDBC data sources via the DriverManager API instead of using the JNDI lookup
5. Applications that include EJB 1.1 container-managed persistence (CMP) EJBs

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Requirements and Restrictions for Side-by-Side Deployment

1. A deployed application must specify a version number.
2. WLS can host a maximum of two different versions of an application at one time.
3. On redeploying a new version of an application the followings features can not change:
    1. Deployment targets
    2. Security model
    3. Persistent store settings

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Redeploying a New Application Version

1. Verify only one version of the application is currently deployed.
2. Verify the MANIFEST.MF files to ensure both applications have different versions.
3. Copy new version into a suitable directory.
4. Redeploy the new application version and specify updated deployment files.
5. Verify both versions are deployed and new requests are being sent to the new version.

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Redeploy vs. Distribute

- Distributing is an alternative to deploying an application.
  - Distributing an application prepares it for deployment by copying its files to all target servers and validating it.
  - You can start a distributed application in Administration mode. Access to the application is then restricted to a configured Administration channel.
- Distributing a new version of the application makes it available for testing prior to being released for general consumption.
- Redeploying a new version of an application will place the application immediately into use and will make it available to new client requests.

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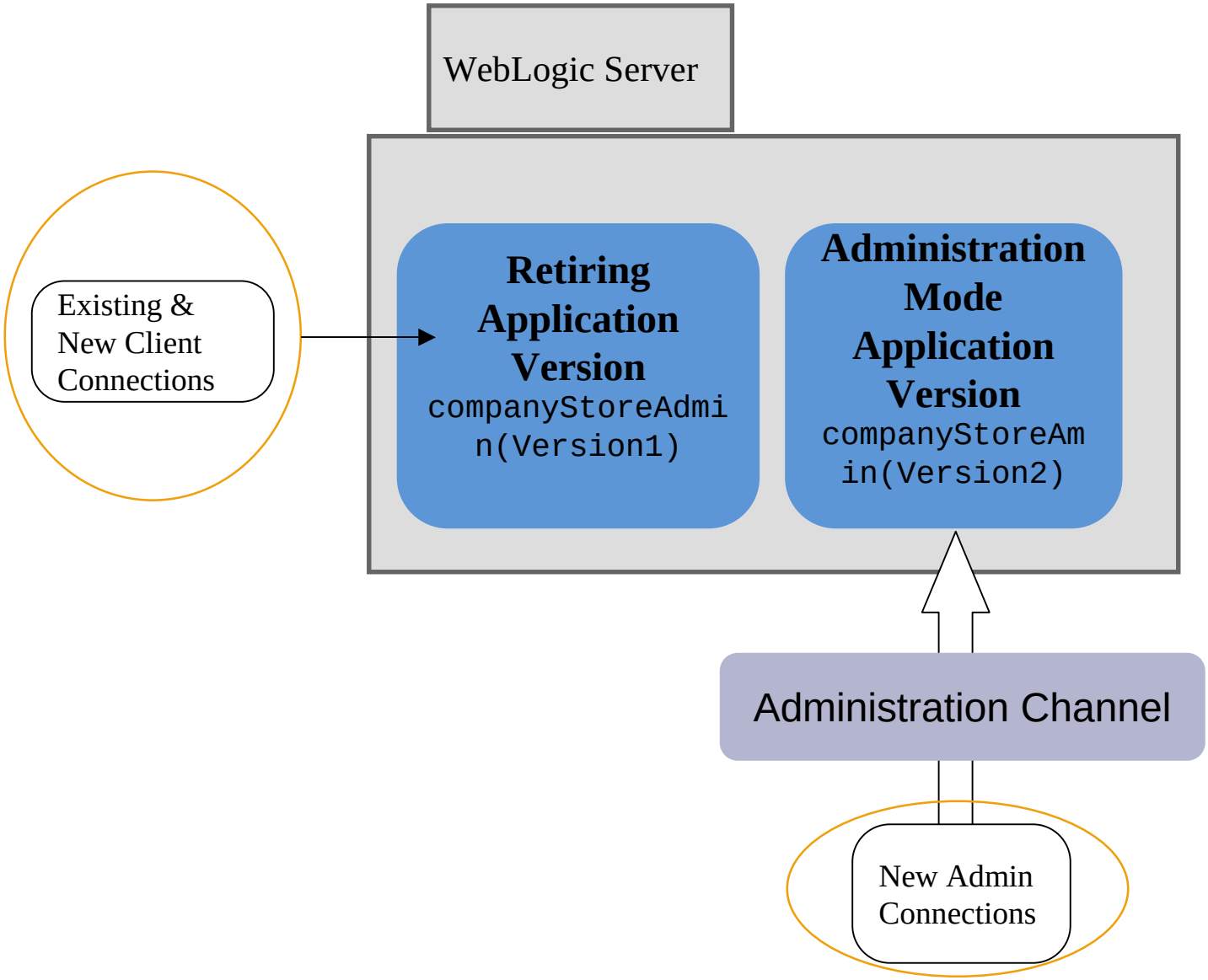
Distributing a New Version of Production Application



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Distributing a New Application Version

1. Use the weblogic.Deployer `-distribute` command
2. Once the application is distributed, start the application in Administration mode
3. Test the application
4. When ready, start the application (without using –adminmode)
5. Optionally set a retirement timeout for the older version of the application.

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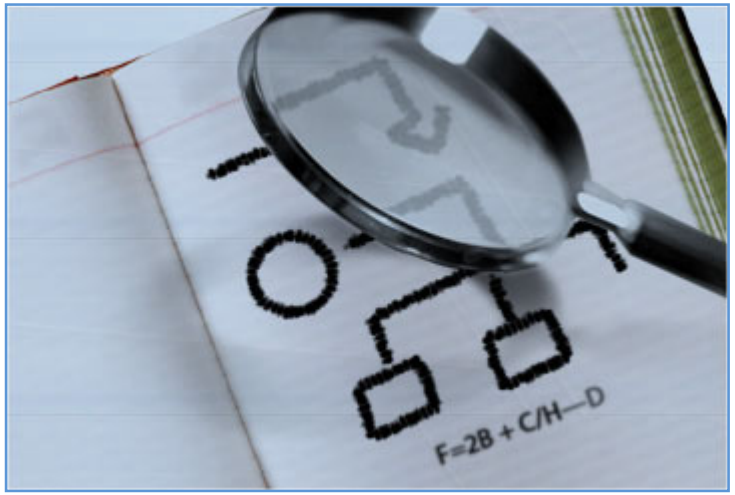
Section Review

In this section we discussed:

- ✓ Deployment Plans
- ✓ Deployment staging
- ✓ Side-by-Side Deployment



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Exercise

Using a Deployment Plan

- In this lab you will learn about using a deployment plan for deploying applications.
- Ask the instructor for any clarification.
- The instructor will determine the stop time.

Lab Exercise

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Exercise

Side-by-Side deployment

- In this lab you will learn about Side-by-Side deployment.
- Ask the instructor for any clarification.
- The instructor will determine the stop time.

Lab Exercise

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Module Review

In this module we discussed:

- ✓ Web server and Web Application basics
- ✓ Packaging and deploying Web Applications
- ✓ Enterprise JavaBeans concepts
- ✓ EJB configuration
- ✓ Enterprise Application concepts

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