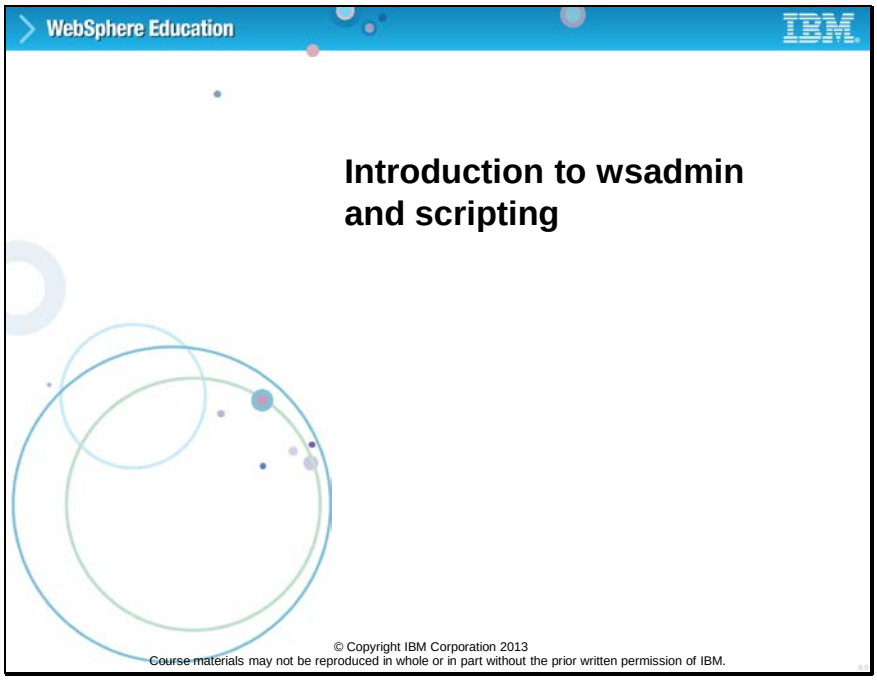
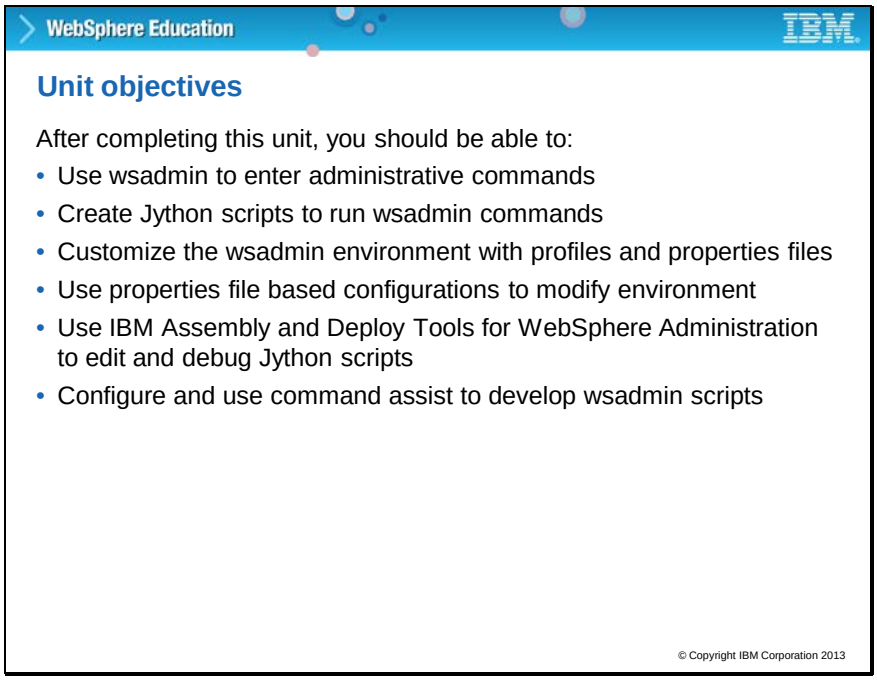
Slide 1



Unit 12: Introduction to wsadmin and scripting

This unit covers the use of the wsadmin tool and scripting capabilities.

Slide 2

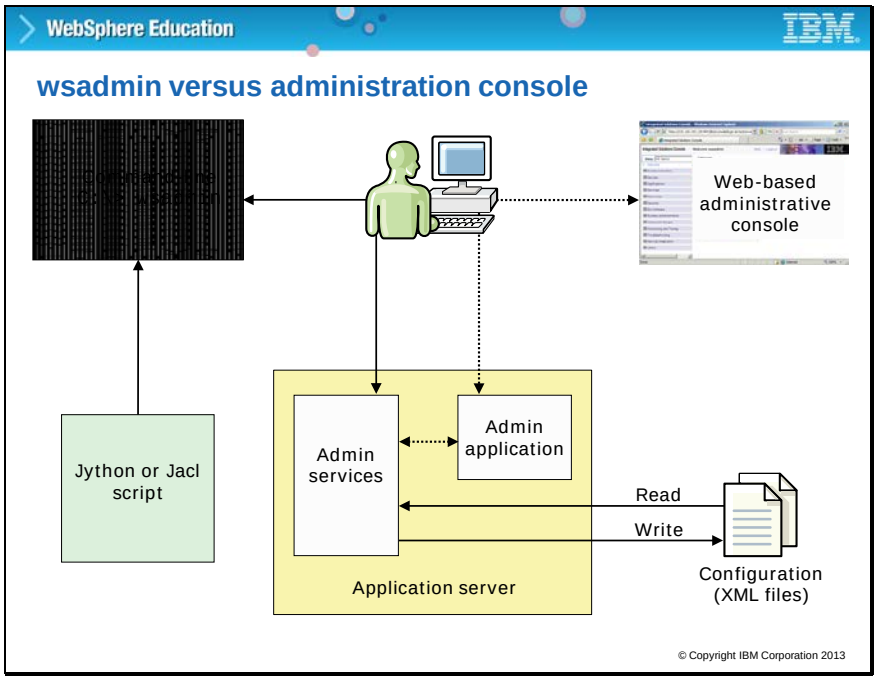


Title: Unit objectives

After completing this unit, you should be able to:

- Use wsadmin to enter administrative commands
- Create Jython scripts to run wsadmin commands
- Customize the wsadmin environment with profiles and property files
- Use property file based configurations to modify environment
- Use IBM Assembly and Deploy Tools for WebSphere Administration to edit and debug Jython scripts
- Configure and use command assist to develop wsadmin scripts

Slide 3



Title: wsadmin versus administrative console

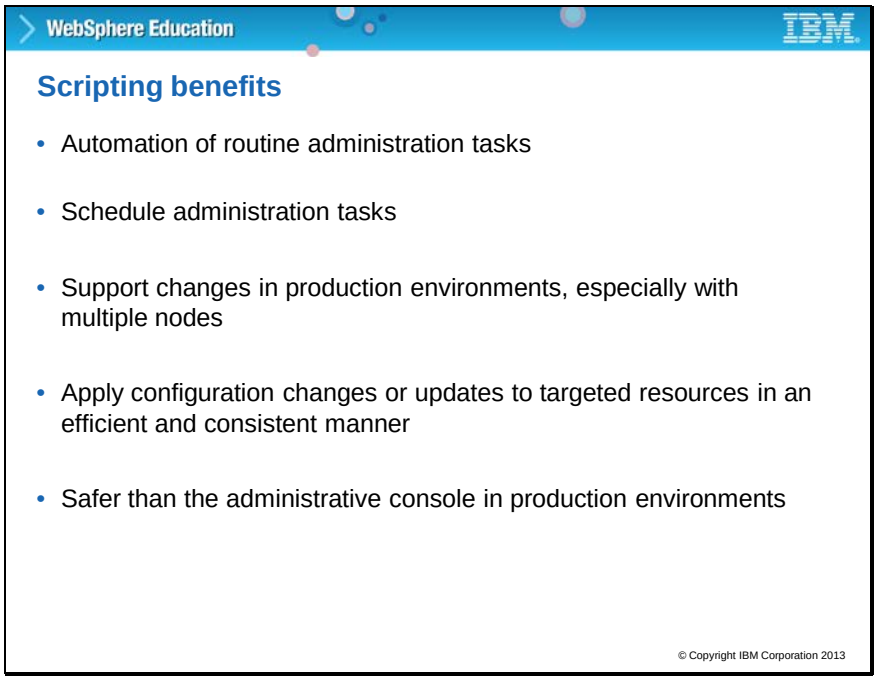
You can use the administrative console or wsadmin tool to manage an application server as well as the configuration, application deployment, and server runtime operations.

The administrative console is a graphical interface that allows you to manage your applications and do system administration tasks for your WebSphere Application Server environment. The administrative console runs in your web browser.

The wsadmin tool is a command-line client that runs Jython or Jacl scripts that allow you to manage your applications and do system administration tasks for your WebSphere Application Server environment.

The administrative console or wsadmin tool can access (read) and modify (write) a set of XML configuration files that are used to describe the application server environment.

Slide 4



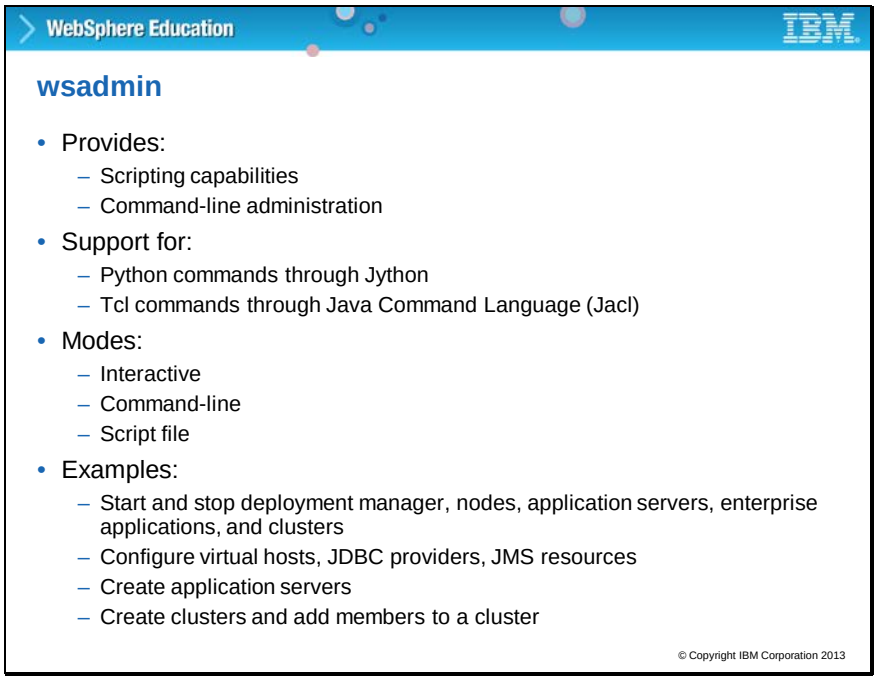
Title: Scripting benefits

There are several benefits of using scripting to manage an application server such as:

- Automation of routine administration tasks without relying on an operator to run the administrative console.
- Scheduling administration tasks to run at times when it might be inconvenient to have an operator to run the administrative console.
- Supporting changes in production environments, especially with multiple nodes.
- Applying configuration changes and updates to all targeted resources in an efficient and consistent manner.

Using wsadmin is safer than using the administrative console in production environments.

Slide 5



Title: wsadmin

The WebSphere administrative scripting program (wsadmin) is a powerful, non-graphical command interpreter environment that enables you to run administrative operations in a scripting language. The wsadmin tool is intended for production environments and unattended operations. The wsadmin tool provides both scripting capabilities and command-line administration.

The wsadmin tool uses the Bean Scripting Framework (BSF), which supports various scripting languages, to configure and control your WebSphere Application Server installation. The wsadmin tool provides support for:

- Python commands through Jython
- Tcl commands through Java Command Language Jacl

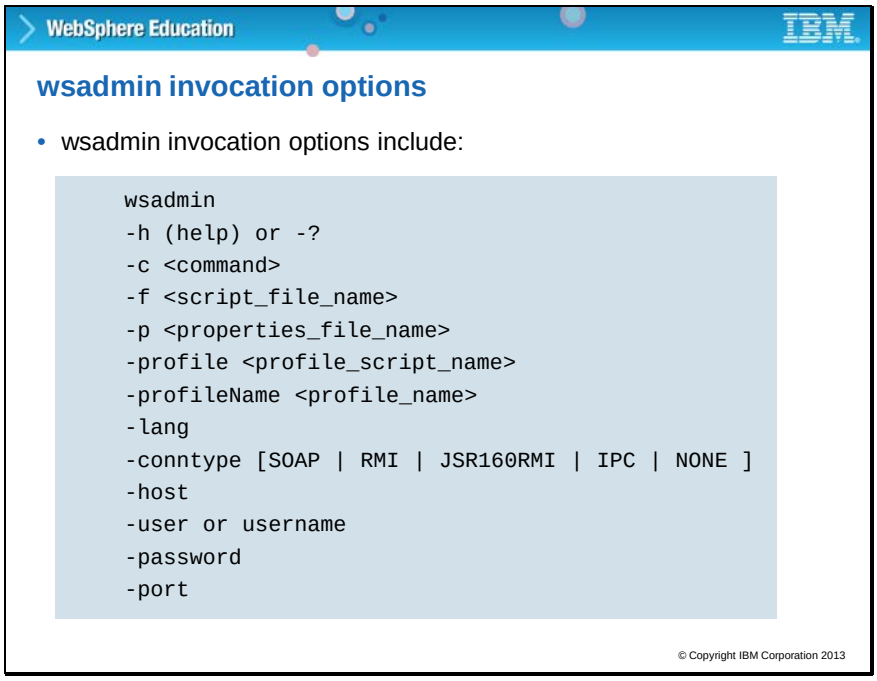
The wsadmin launcher makes administrative objects available through language-specific interfaces. Scripts use these objects for application management, configuration, operational control, and communication with MBeans running in WebSphere server processes. Three modes are used to start wsadmin:

- Interactive
- Command line
- Script file

You can use the wsadmin tool to do the same tasks that you can do by using the administrative console. You can use the wsadmin tool to manage a WebSphere Application Server V8.5 environment. Examples of tasks include:

- Start and stop deployment manager, nodes, application servers, applications, and clusters.
- Configure virtual hosts, JDBC providers, and JMS resources.
- Create application servers.
- Create clusters and add members to a cluster.

Slide 6



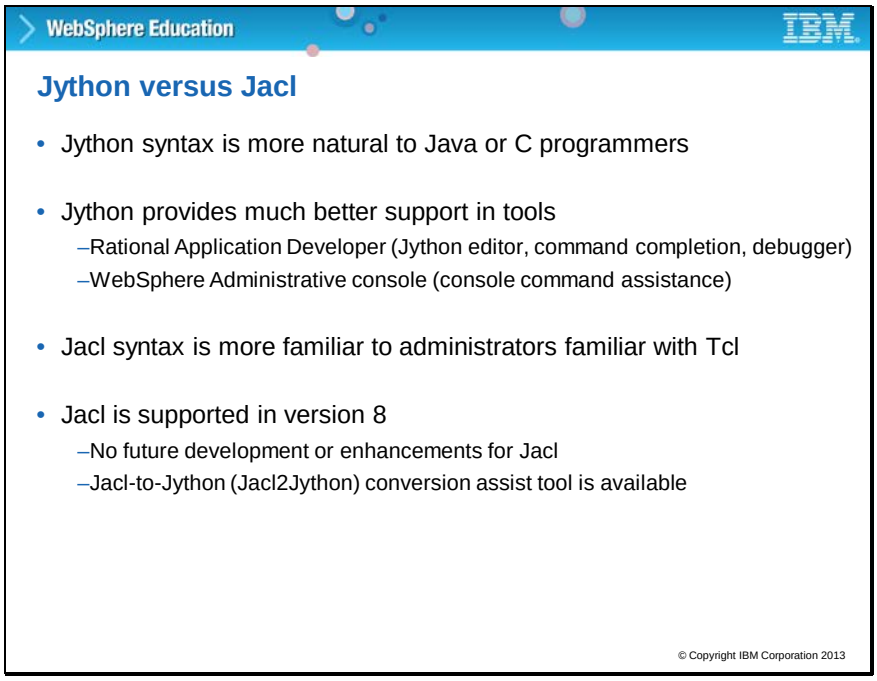
Title: wsadmin invocation options

There are several wsadmin invocation options available.

- -h, -help, -? Provides syntax help
- -c <command> Specifies to run a single command
- -f <script_file_name> Specifies a script to run

For a complete description of all the options, see the information center.

Slide 7



Title: Jython versus Jacl

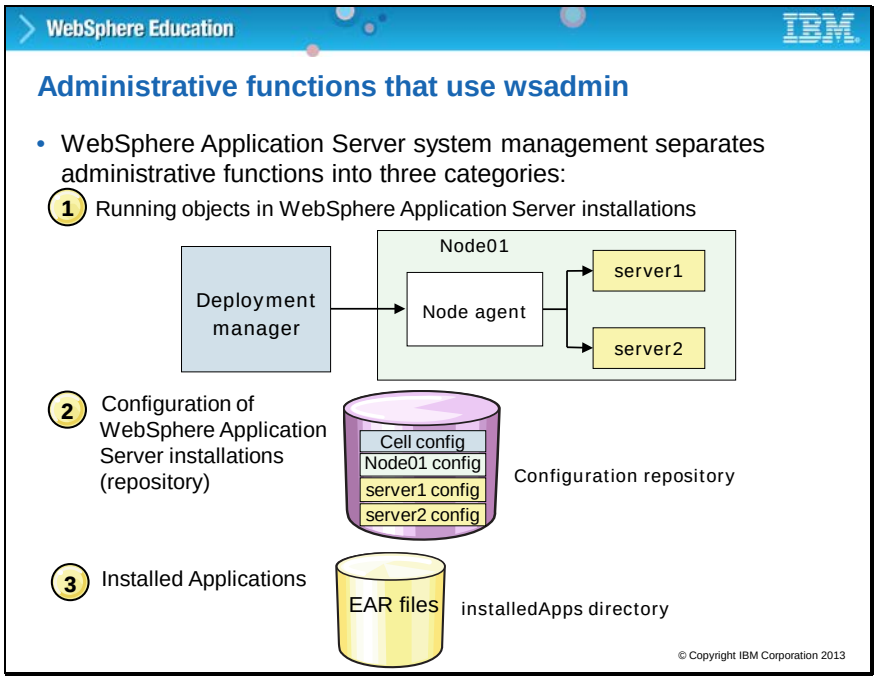
The wsadmin tool supports both Jython and Jacl scripting languages.

Jython is an alternative implementation of Python and is written entirely in Java. Jython syntax might seem more natural to Java or C programmers. Future investment and strategic direction is going to be focused on the Jython language. Jython has better tool support.

Jacl is an alternative implementation of Tcl and is written entirely in Java code. Jacl might seem more familiar to administrators familiar with Tcl. The Jacl language is stabilized in WebSphere Application Server V7.

Jacl-to-Jython (Jacl2Jython) is a conversion utility that converts Jacl syntax wsadmin scripts into equivalent Jython syntax wsadmin scripts.

Slide 8



Title: Administrative functions that use wsadmin

WebSphere Application Server system management separates administration functions into three categories:

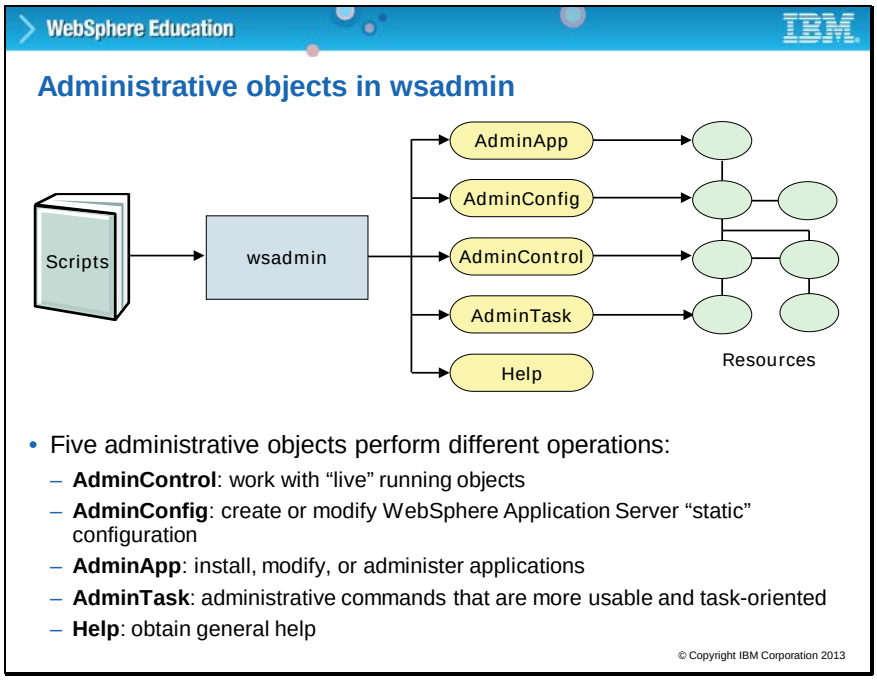
- Running objects in WebSphere Application Server installations
- Configuration of WebSphere Application Server installations (repository)
- Managing installed applications

Management Beans running in the WebSphere Application Server manage the runtime environment.

Configuration data is stored in several different XML files, which the server run time reads when it starts, and responds to the component settings stored there. The configuration data includes the settings for the run time, such as Java virtual machine (JVM) options, thread pool sizes, container settings, and port numbers the server uses. Other configuration files define the Java EE resources to which the server connects to obtain data for the application logic.

Administrative functions also manage installed application ear files that are typically stored in the installedApps directory.

Slide 9



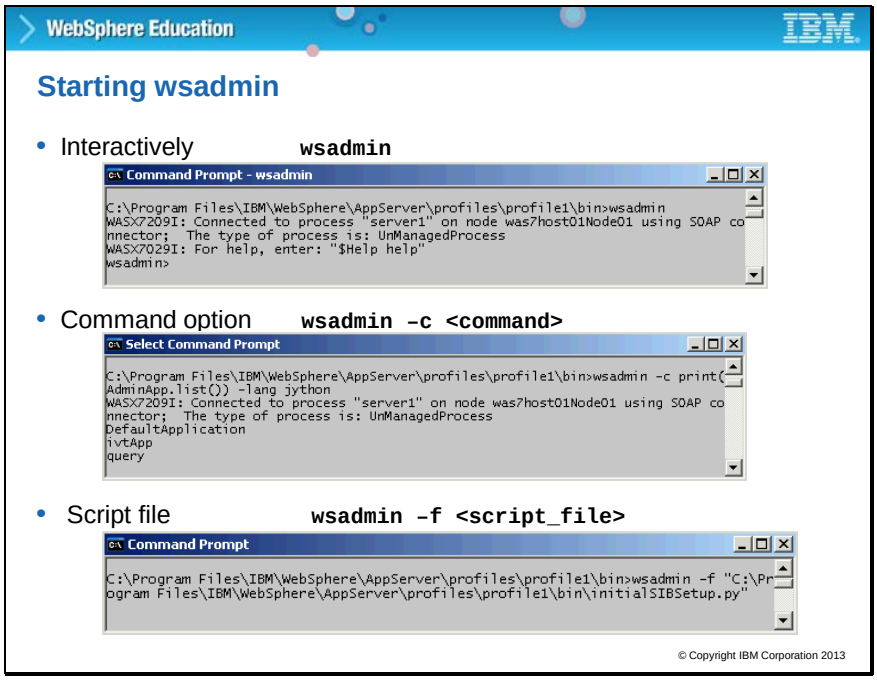
Title: Administrative objects in wsadmin

The wsadmin tool acts as an interface to Java objects by using scripts to access resources. The tool uses the same interface (through JMX) as the administrative console to make configuration changes and to control servers.

Five objects are available when you use scripts:

- Use **AdminControl** to run operational commands. This object allows you to work with "live" running objects, run traces, and make data type conversions.
- Use **AdminConfig** to run configurational commands to create or modify WebSphere Application Server "static" configurational elements.
- Use **AdminApp** to install, modify, or administer applications.
- Use **AdminTask** to run administrative commands that are easier to use and more task-oriented.
- Use **Help** to obtain general help.

Slide 10



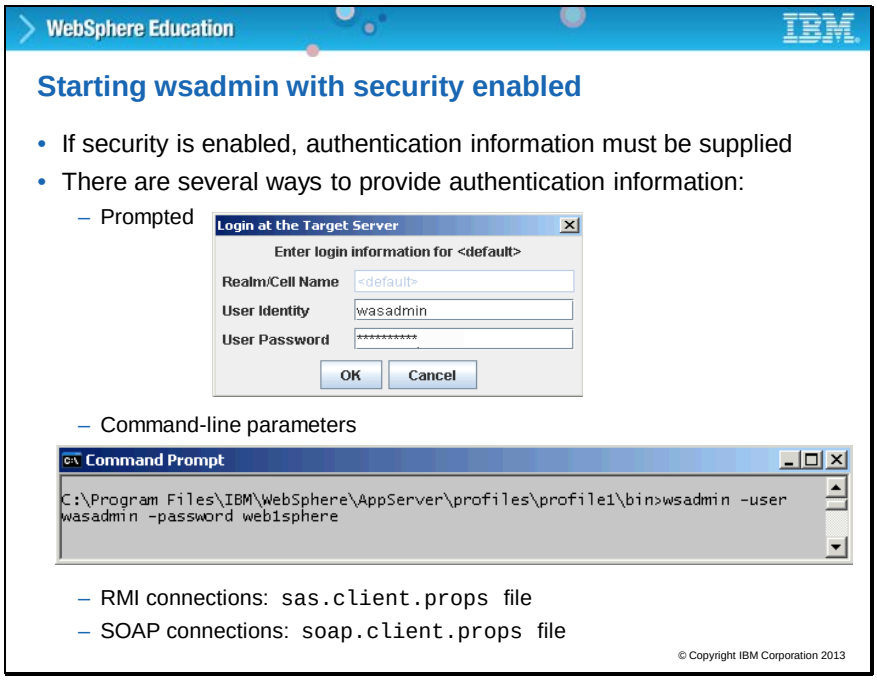
Title: Starting wsadmin

The wsadmin tool can be started in three ways:

- **Interactively by using wsadmin**
  You can run wsadmin with options such as -f and -c, or without an option. The wsadmin tool starts and provides an interactive shell with a wsadmin prompt. The screen capture demonstrates how to use wsadmin in the interactive mode.
- **Using the -c <command> option**
  Run the wsadmin tool with the noninteractive -c option. The screen capture demonstrates how to use the –c option to run a single command.
- **Using the -f <script_file> option**
  Run the wsadmin tool with the noninteractive **-f** option and place the commands that you want to run a script file. The screen capture demonstrates how to use to run a Jython script.

  When running **wsadmin** with the **-f** option, you do not need to specify the script language with the **-lang** command-line option. The wsadmin command recognizes the script language by looking at the extension of the file name (.py for Jython and .jacl for Jacl).

Slide 11



Title: Starting wsadmin with security enabled

WebSphere Application Server administrative security is enabled by default.

If security is enabled, authentication data must be supplied. There are several ways to provide authentication data.

If security is enabled and you do not provide credentials when you start wsadmin, you are prompted to provide them. You can profile authentication data by using command-line parameters.

-user or **-username** can be used interchangeably to provide a user ID

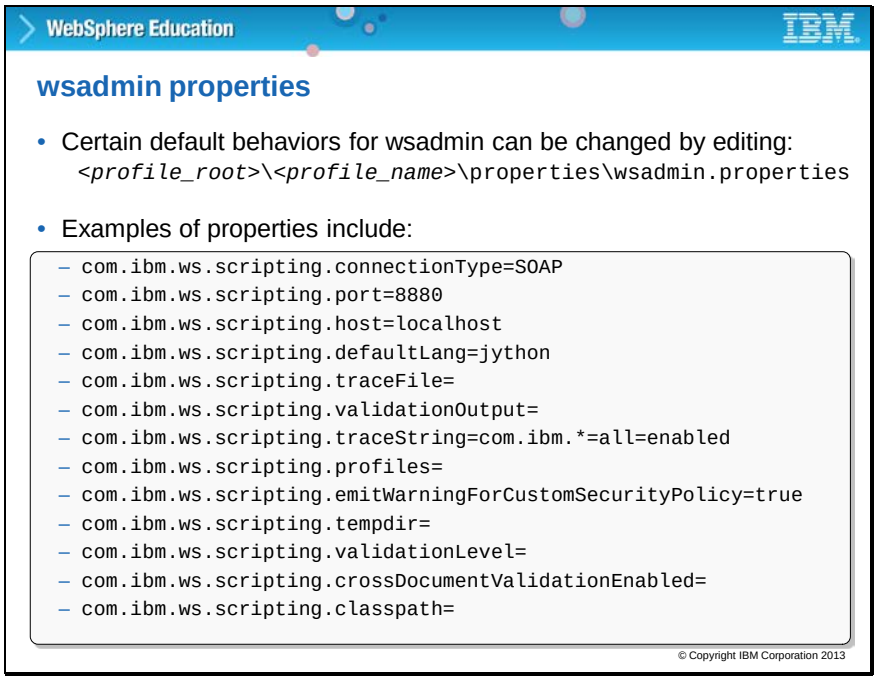
-password is used to provide a password

The screen capture demonstrates the use of command-line parameters to pass authentication credentials.

For RMI connections, authentication credentials can be provided in the **sas.client.props** file. This file is in the profile properties directory.

For SOAP connections, authentication credentials can be provided in the **soap.client.props** file. This file is in the profile properties directory.

Slide 12



Title: wsadmin properties

Scripting administration uses several Java properties files. Properties files can be used to control your system configurations. Before any properties file is specified on the command line, three levels of default properties files are loaded. These properties files include:

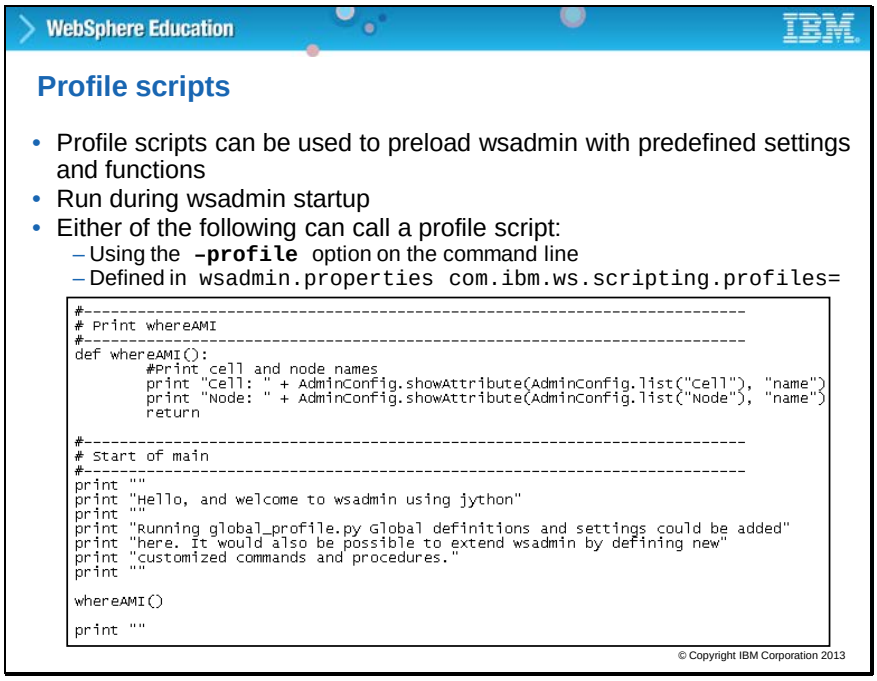
1. **Installation default file** represents an installation default that is in the profile properties directory for each application server profile and is called wsadmin.properties.
2. **User default file** represents a user default and is in the Java user.home property. This properties file is also called from the wsadmin.properties file.
3. **Properties file** is a properties file that is pointed to by the WSADMIN_PROPERTIES environment variable. This environment variable is defined in the environment where the wsadmin tool starts.

If one or more of these properties files are present, they are interpreted before any properties file that is present on the command line. The three levels of properties files load in the order that they are specified. The properties file that is loaded last overrides the ones that are loaded earlier.

Certain default behaviors for wsadmin can be changed by editing the wsadmin.properties file.

For complete details, see the information center.

Slide 13



Title: Profile scripts

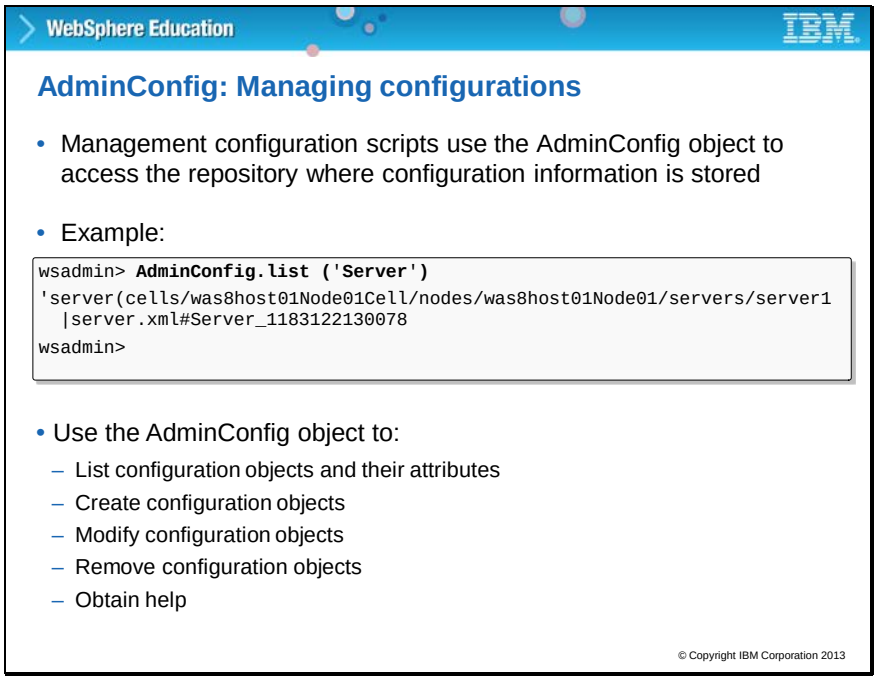
Profile scripts can be used to preload wsadmin with predefined settings and functions. Profile scripts are run during wsadmin startup. They can be called in one of two ways:

- Use the **-profile** option on the command line.
- Define the profile script in wsadmin.properties by using the **com.ibm.ws.scripting.profiles= property**.

The profile script runs before other commands, or scripts. If you specify **-c**, then the profile script runs before it starts this command. If you specify **-f**, then the profile script runs before it runs the script. In interactive mode, you can use the profile script to run any standard initialization that you want.

You can specify multiple **-profile** options on the command line and they start in the order that you supply them. The example on this slide shows a Jython script named **global_profile.py.**

Slide 14



Title: AdminConfig: Managing configurations

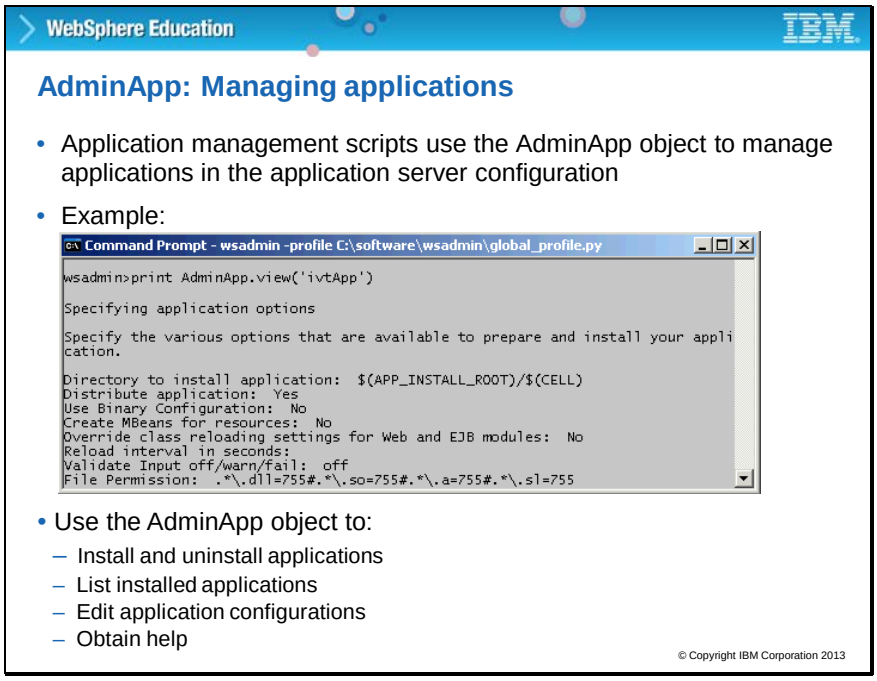
Management configuration scripts use the **AdminConfig** object to access the repository where configuration information is stored.

The screen capture shows an example of how to use the AdminConfig object to information about a server.

You can use the AdminConfig object to:

- List configuration objects and their attributes
- Create configuration objects
- Modify configuration objects
- Remove configuration objects
- Obtain help

Slide 15



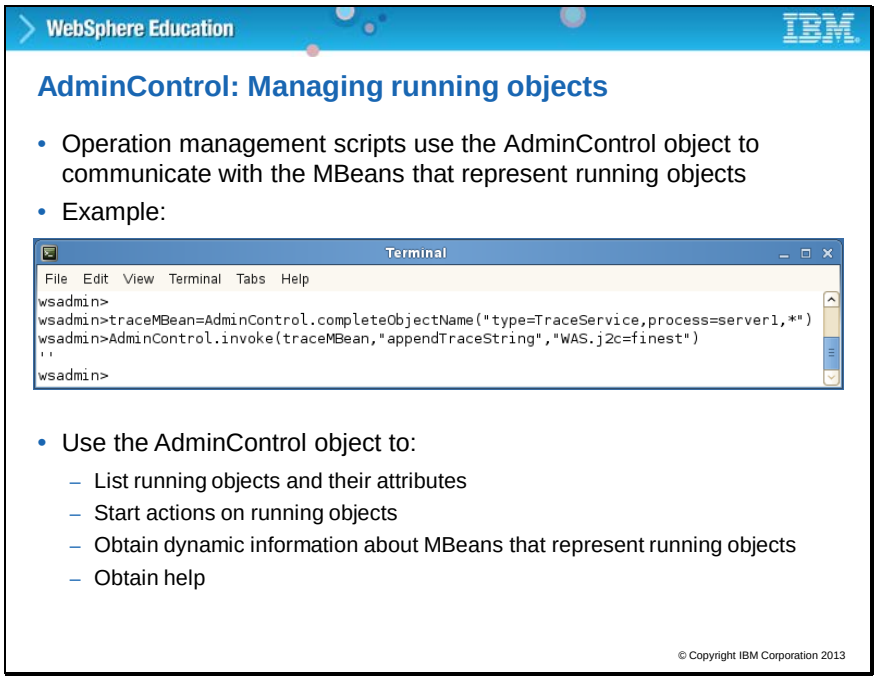
Title: AdminApp: Managing applications

Application management scripts use the **AdminApp** object to manage applications in the application server configuration.

Running the command produces output specific to the application. The Jython command output is easier to read when using the print option. You can use the **AdminApp** object to:

- Install and uninstall applications
- List installed applications
- Edit application configurations
- Obtain help

Slide 16



Title: AdminControl: Managing running objects

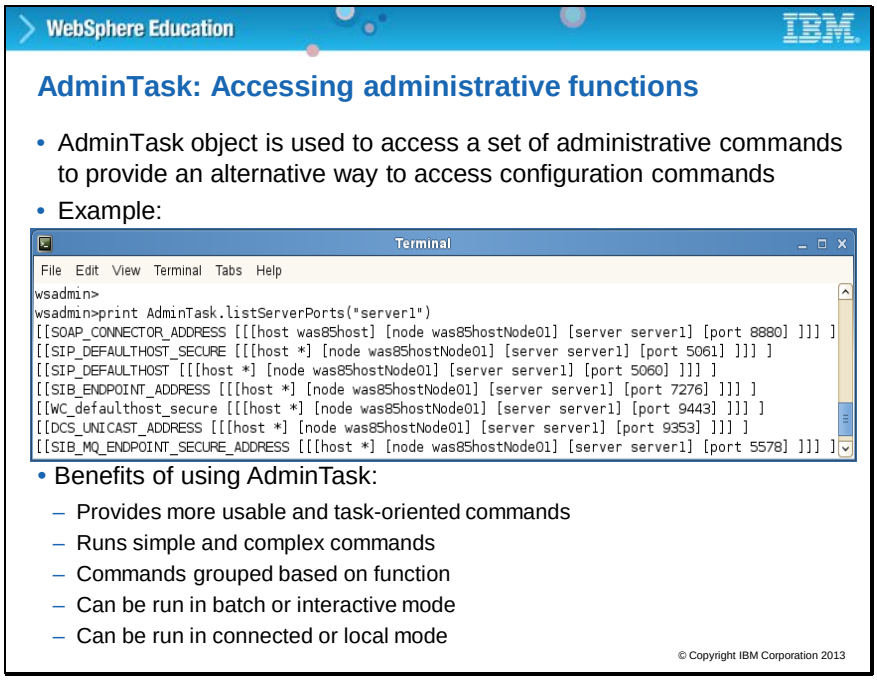
Operation management scripts use the **AdminControl** object to communicate with the MBeans that represent running objects.

You can use the **AdminControl** object to:

- List running objects and their attributes
- Start actions on running objects
- Obtain dynamic information about MBeans that represent running objects
- Obtain help

The number and type of MBeans available to the scripting client depends on the server to which the client is connected. If the client is connected to a deployment manager, then all the MBeans running in the deployment manager are visible. All the MBeans running in the node agents that are connected to this deployment manager, and all the MBeans running in the application servers on those nodes, are visible.

Slide 17



Title: AdminTask: Accessing administrative functions

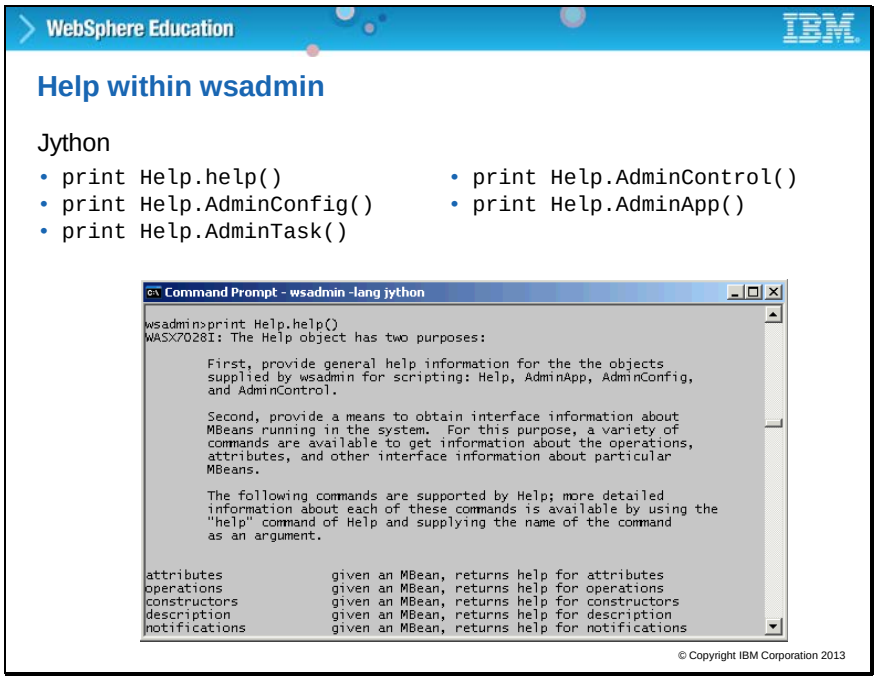
The AdminTask object is used to access a set of administrative commands that provide an alternative and easier way to access configuration commands. AdminTask commands enable you to run a single command to do administrative actions that might otherwise require multiple commands.

The benefits of using AdminTask include:

- Provides commands that are more task-oriented and easier to use
- Runs simple and complex commands
- Commands are grouped based on function
- Can be run in batch or interactive mode
- Can be run in connected or local mode

The administrative commands are discovered dynamically when you start a scripting client. The set of available administrative commands depends on the edition of WebSphere Application Server you install. You can use the AdminTask object commands to access these commands.

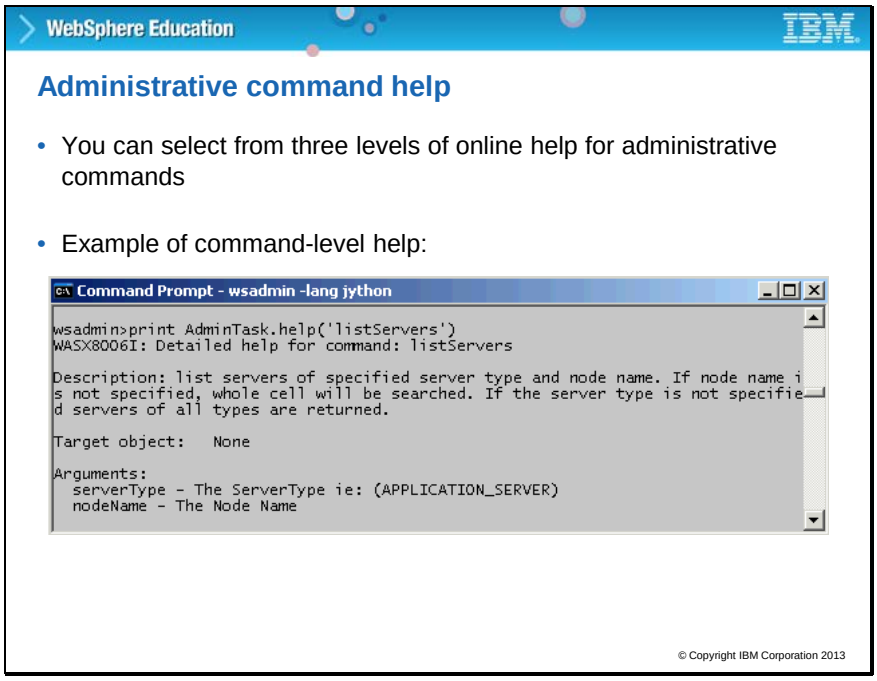
Slide 18



Title: Help within wsadmin

You can find general help and dynamic online information about the currently running MBeans with the wsadmin tool. Use the **Help** object as an aid in writing and running scripts with the **AdminControl** object.

Slide 19



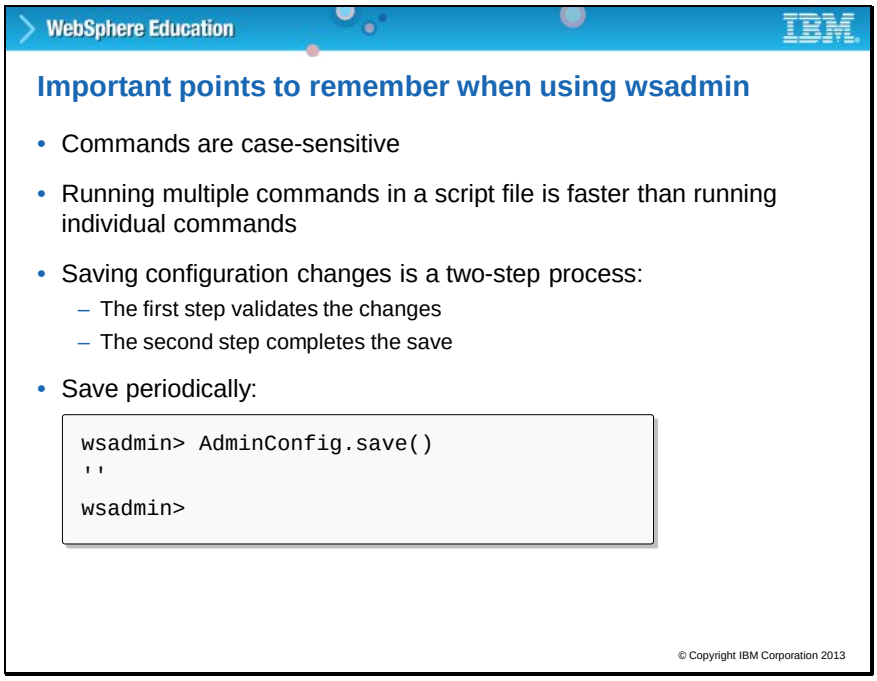
Title: Administrative command help

You can select from three levels of online help for administrative commands.

- Top-level help provides general information for the AdminTask object and associated commands.
- Second-level help provides information about all of the available administrative commands and command groups.
- Third-level help provides specific help on a command group, a command, or a step.

Command group-specific help provides descriptions for the command group that you specify and the commands that belong to the associated group. Command-specific help provides a description for the specified command and associated parameters and steps.
Step-specific help provides a description for the specified step and the associated parameters.
For command and step-specific help, required parameters are marked with an asterisk (*) in the help output.

Slide 20

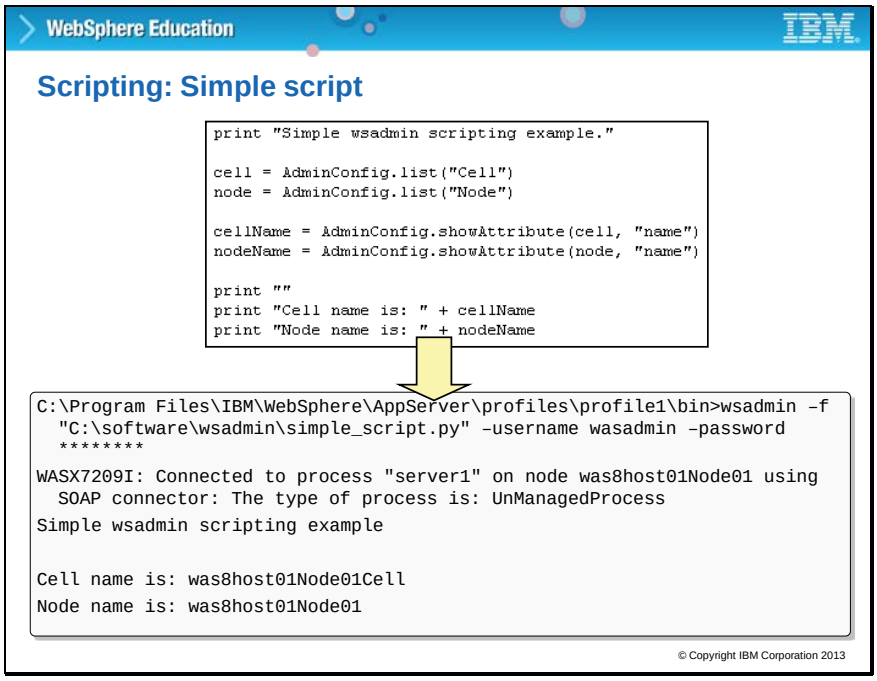


Title: Important points to remember when using wsadmin

When using wsadmin, remember the following important points:

- Commands are case-sensitive.
- Running multiple commands in a script file is faster than running individual commands. **wsadmin -f "script_file_name"** is faster than individual commands with **wsadmin –c.**
- Saving configuration changes is a two-step process:
    - The first step validates the changes.
    - The second step saves the changes.
- Run the save command periodically in the script file or in the interactive mode to persist configuration updates to the repository.

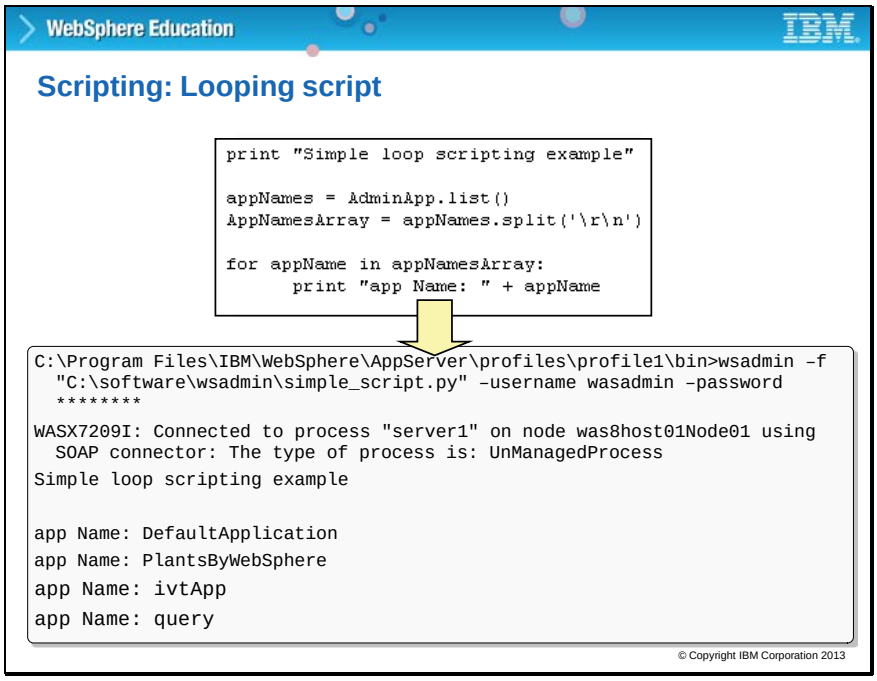
Slide 21



Title: Scripting: simple script

This example shows a simple script and the output from that script.

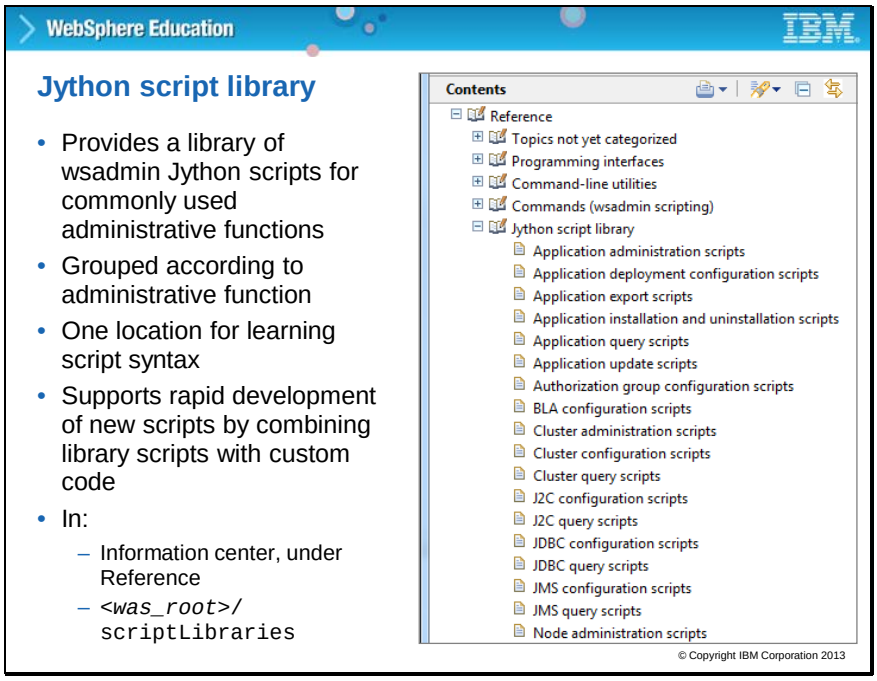
Slide 22



Title: Scripting: Looping script

This example shows a looping script and the output from that script.

Slide 23

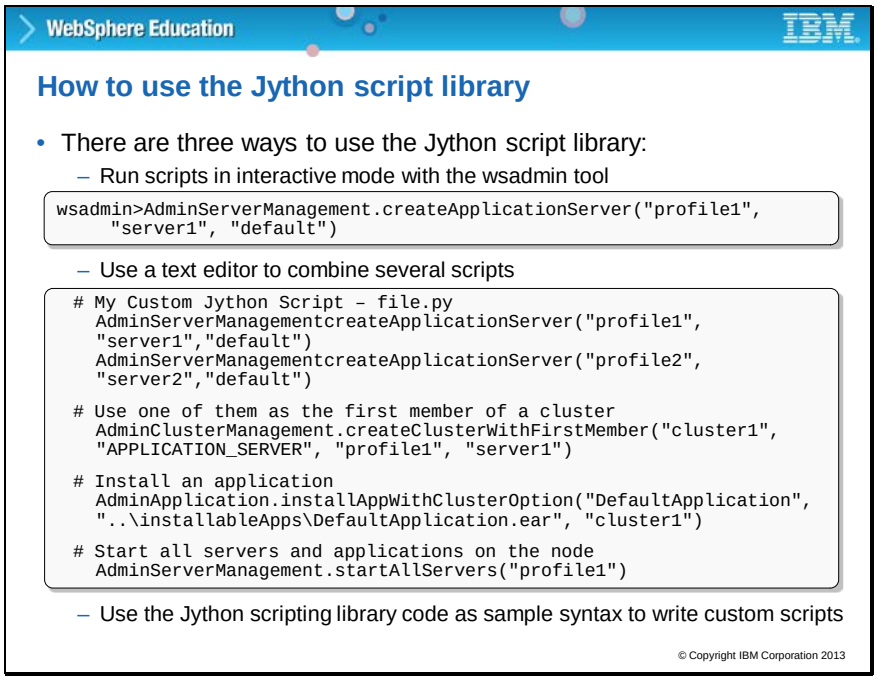


Title: Jython script library

The Jython script library provides a set of procedures to automate the most common application server administration functions. For example, you can use the script library to easily configure servers, applications, mail settings, resources, nodes, business-level applications, clusters, authorization groups, and more. You can run each script procedure individually, or combine several procedures to quickly develop new scripts.

The Jython script library is in ***<was_root>/scriptLibraries***. Information regarding the script library is available in the information center under the Reference topic.

Slide 24



Title: How to use the Jython script library

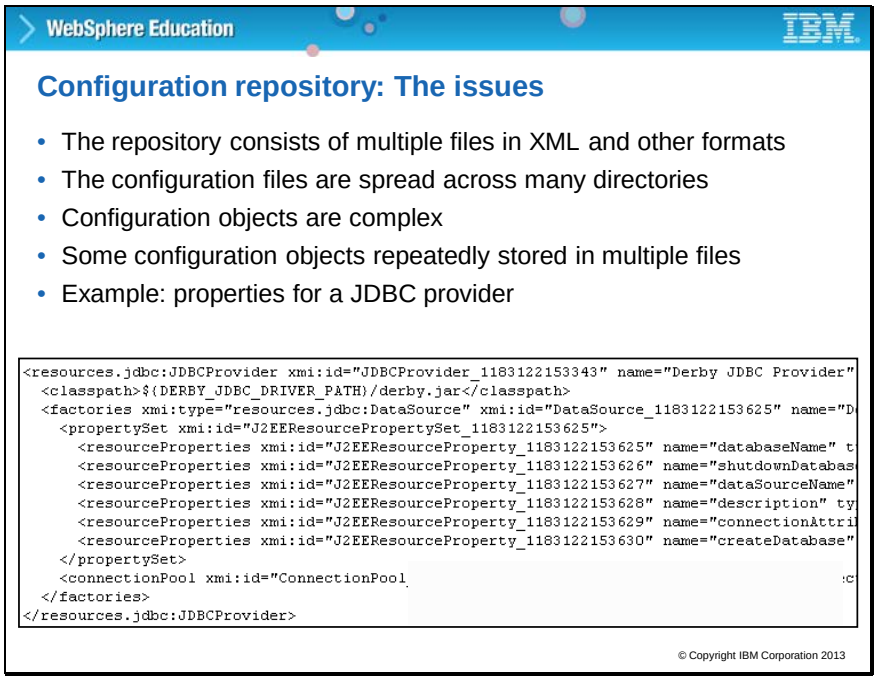
The scripting library provides a set of procedures to automate the most common application server administration functions. Each script in the script library demonstrates good examples and practices for writing wsadmin scripts.

The script library code is in the *<was_root>*/scriptLibraries directory. Within this directory, the scripts are organized into subdirectories according to function and version. For example, the *<was_root>*/scriptLibraries/application/V85 subdirectory contains procedures that run application management tasks that are applicable to version 8.5 and later of the product.

There are several ways to use the Jython script library.

- You can run scripts from the Jython script library in interactive mode with the wsadmin tool.
- You can start the wsadmin tool and run individual scripts that are included in the script library.
- You can use a text editor to combine several scripts from the Jython script library.
- You can use the Jython scripting library code as sample syntax to write custom scripts.

Slide 25



Title: Configuration repository: The issues

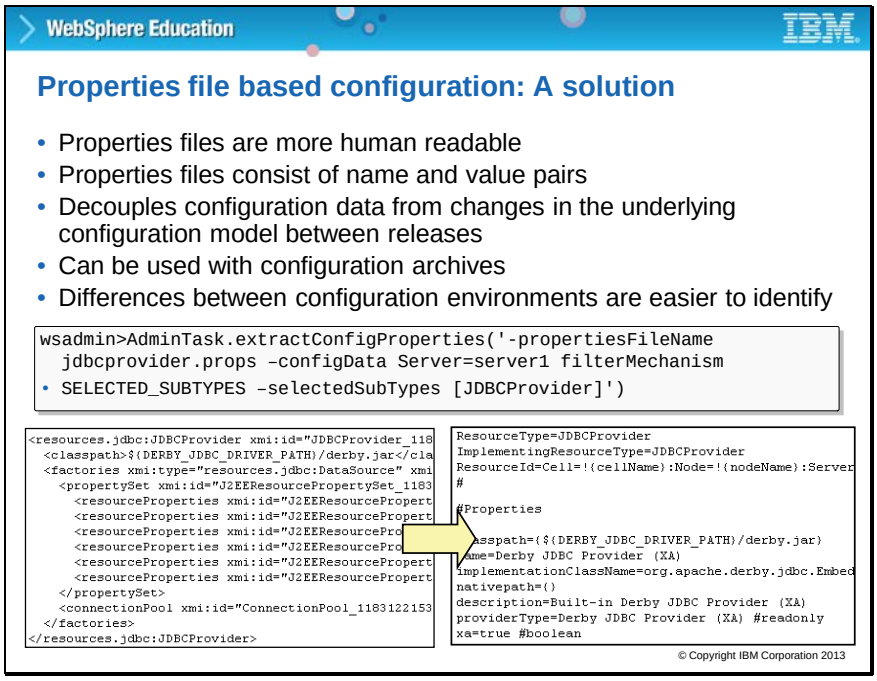
In previous releases of WebSphere Application Server, administrators used wsadmin, the administrative console, and Java APIs to query and modify configuration objects. With the WebSphere Application Server configuration repository, users are confronted with several issues:

- The repository consists of multiple files in XML and other formats.
- The configuration files are spread across many directories.
- Some files contain complex objects that are associated with the WebSphere Common Configuration Model.
- Some configuration objects are repeatedly stored in multiple files.

Properties-based file configuration is introduced as a tool to help users deal more easily with these issues. A new set of wsadmin commands is available that can extract and apply properties files to configuration objects.

The example on this slide shows JDBCProvider object content from the configuration XML file named resources.xml.

Slide 26



Title: Properties file based configuration: A solution

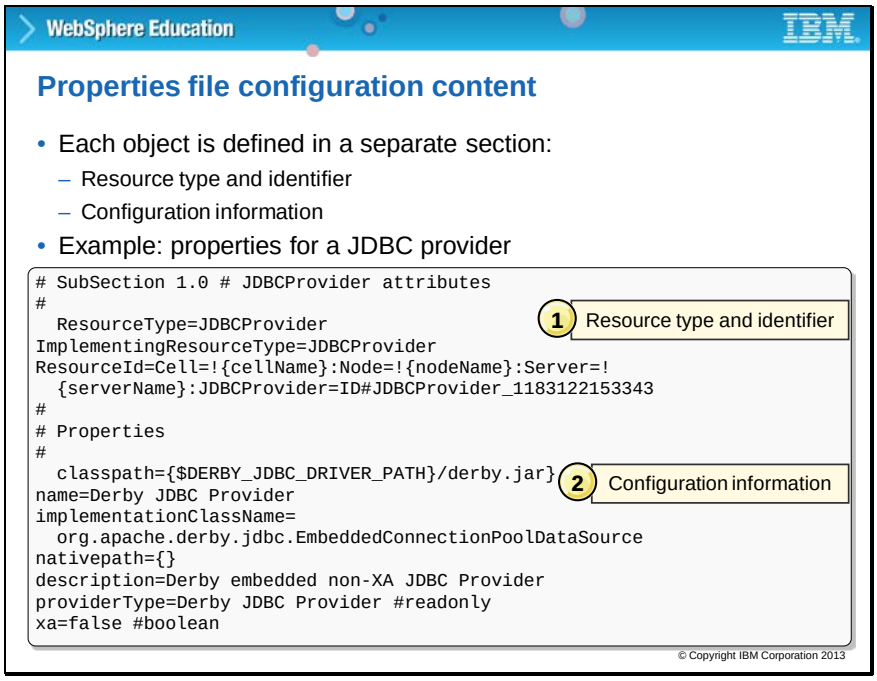
Using the **PropertiesBasedConfiguration** command group for the **AdminTask** object, you can extract the configuration attributes and values from your environment to properties files. You can use this feature for various purposes, such as:

- To modify your existing configuration in one location, instead of configuring multiple administrative console panels or running many commands.
- To improve the application development lifecycle.

WebSphere Application Server derives configuration information from the configuration repository, not from configuration properties files. To update the configuration repository to reflect the information in a configuration properties file, you must use wsadmin commands to apply the properties files to the configuration.

The graphic depicts the use of the **wsadmin extractConfigProperties** command to create a properties file with content based on information that is contained in the configuration XML file.

Slide 27



Title: Properties file configuration content

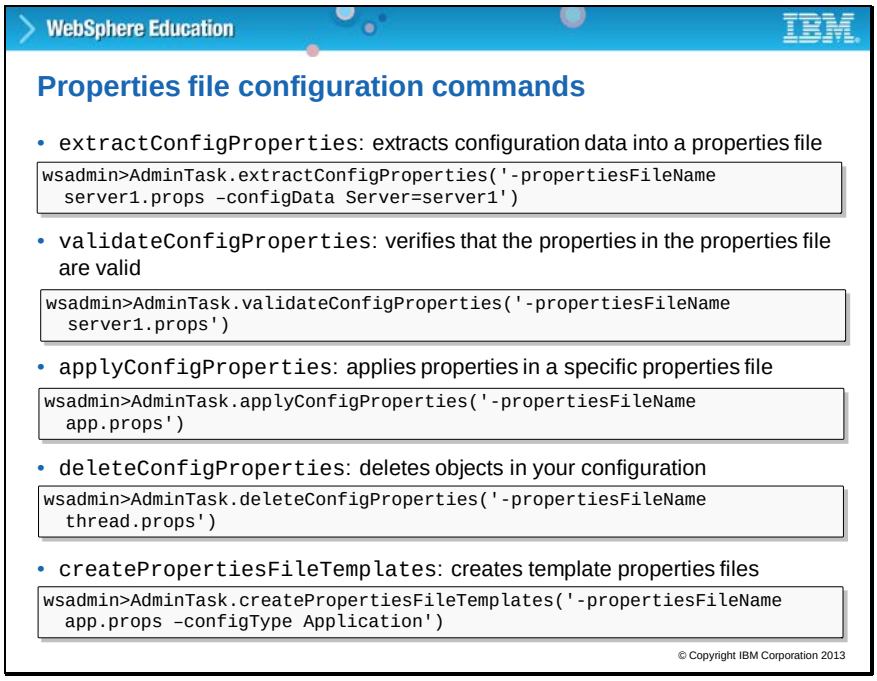
Configuration properties files contain a series of name-value pairs. Each configuration object is defined in two separate sections.

The first section of the example defines a resource type and a resource identifier. The identifier is often in a format that includes the cell, node, and server names, and ends with a string that contains the resource type and a large number.

In the example, the resource type is JDBC provider.

In the lower section, configuration information is specified by using name-value pairs.

Slide 28



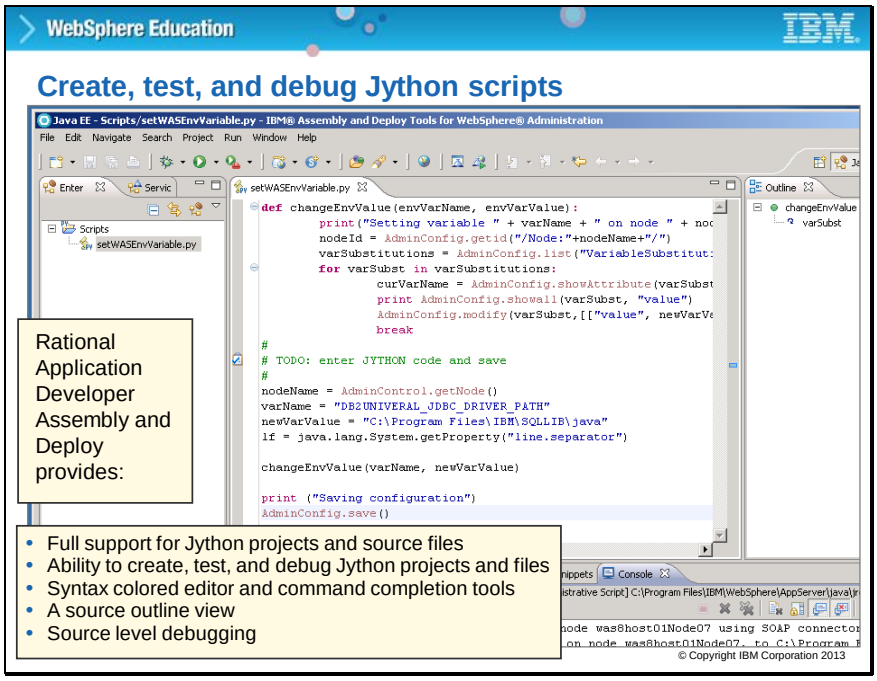
Title: Properties file configuration commands

Properties file-based configuration uses the five commands that are shown here.

- The **extractConfigProperties** command extracts configuration data in the form of a properties file.
- The **validateConfigProperties** command verifies that the properties in the properties file are valid and can be successfully applied to the new configuration.
- The **applyConfigProperties** command applies properties in a specific properties file to the configuration.
- The **deleteConfigProperties** command deletes properties in your configuration as designated in a properties file.
- Use the **createPropertiesFileTemplates** command to create template properties files to create or delete specific object types.

For more information, see the information center.

Slide 29

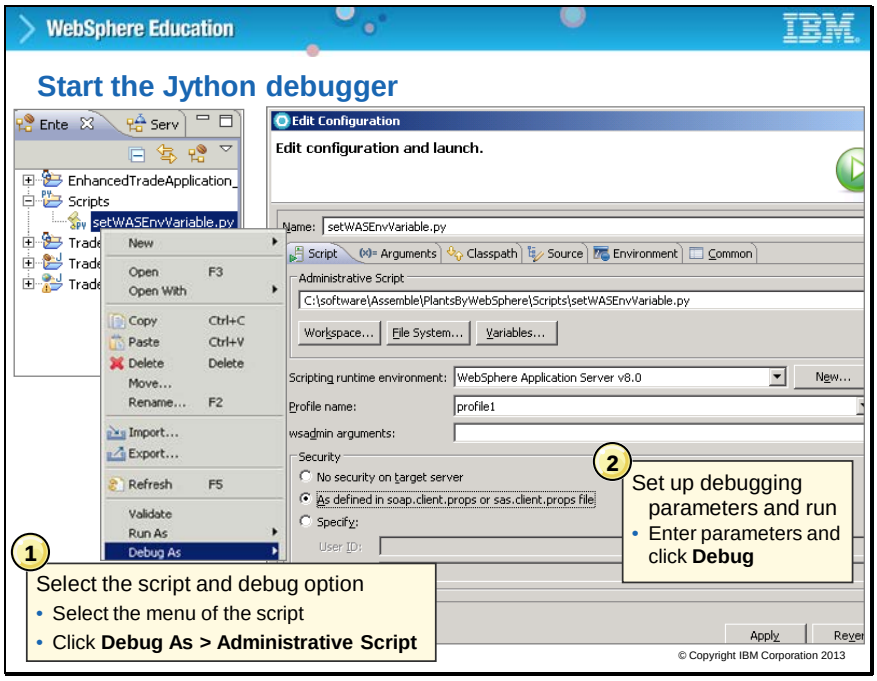


Title: Create, test, and debug Jython scripts

The IBM Assembly and Deploy Tool enables you to create, test, and debug Jython scripts. Jython projects and scripts are treated as first class objects. The Jython editor provides the same facilities as all other specialized editors, including:

- Full support for Jython projects and source files
- Ability to create, test, and debug Jython projects and files
- Syntax colored editor, automated formatting, and command completion tools
- A source outline view
- Source level debugging

Slide 30



Title: Start the Jython debugger

To start the Jython debugger:

- Select the script and debug option.
- Highlight the script and right-click it to open the menu.
- Click **Debug As > Administrative script** to open the debugger runtime and security parameters window.
- Set up debugging parameters and start the debugger.
- Enter debugging parameters as appropriate.

Debugging a script for the first time requires setup of runtime and security parameters that are defined under the Script tab. Click **Debug** when parameter input is complete to start the Debug perspective.

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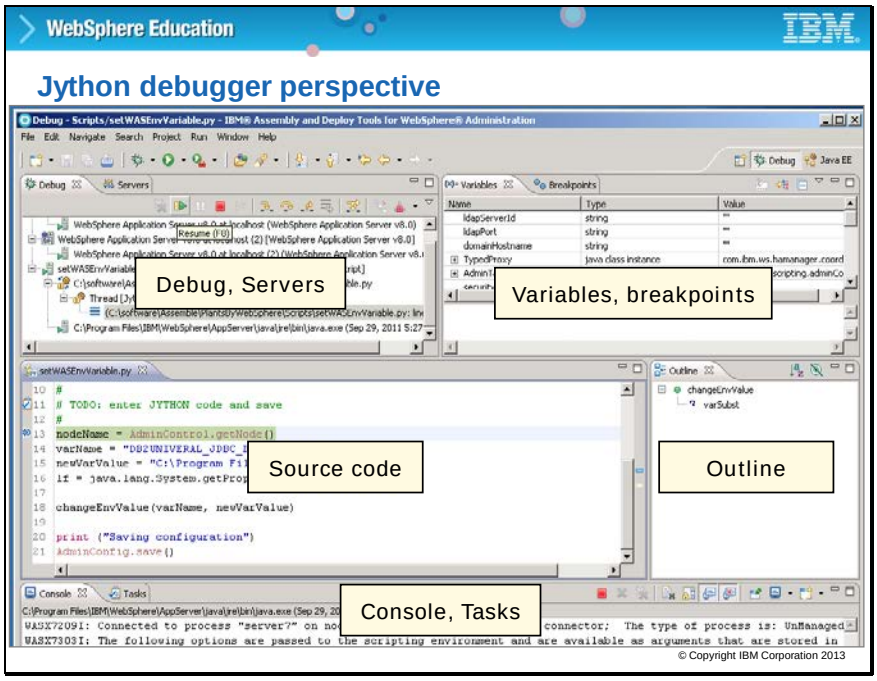

Title: Jython debugger perspective

The Jython debugger perspective is a tool that can help you track the behavior and state of your Jython scripts and easily pinpoint logic errors. Using the debugger, you can pause the running script to examine the working code. You can identify problems such as the source of the bug and contributing errors. The debugger perspective is divided into views:

- The **Debug** view (upper left pane)
- The upper right pane has multiple tabs, including:
    - The **breakpoints** view, which lists all the breakpoints that set in the workbench projects. You can double-click a breakpoint to show its location in the editor.
    - From the **Expressions** view, you can inspect data from a scrapbook page, a stack frame of a suspended thread, and other places.
    - The **Variables** view shows information about the variables in the currently selected stack frame.
- The **Source** view (middle left pane) shows the result of evaluating an expression in the context of the current stack frame.
- The **Outline** view (middle right pane) shows an outline of the structure of the currently active Jython script in the editor area.
- The **Console** view (lower pane) shows messages that result from the execution of the Jython script.

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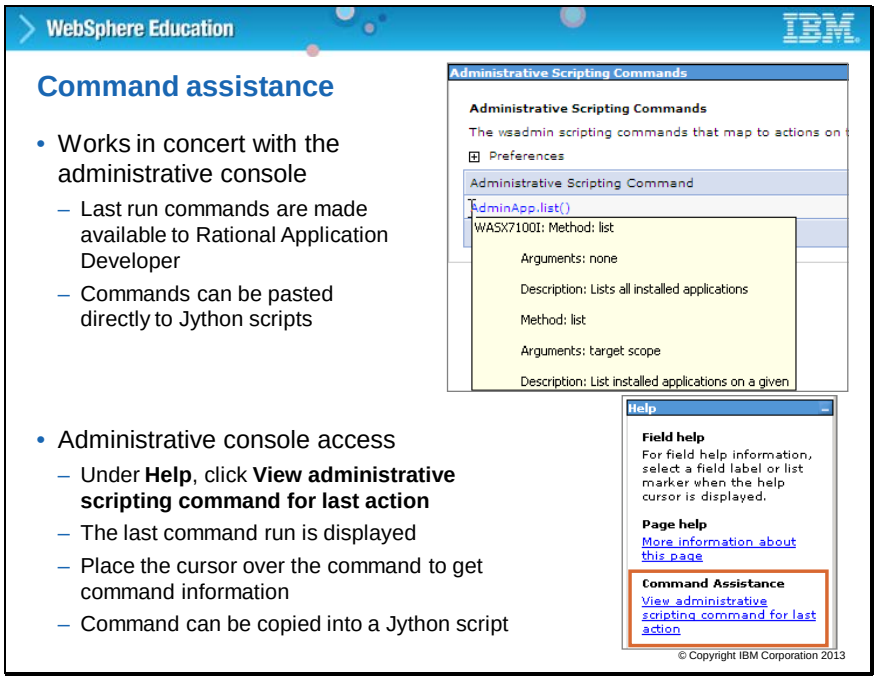


Title: Command assistance

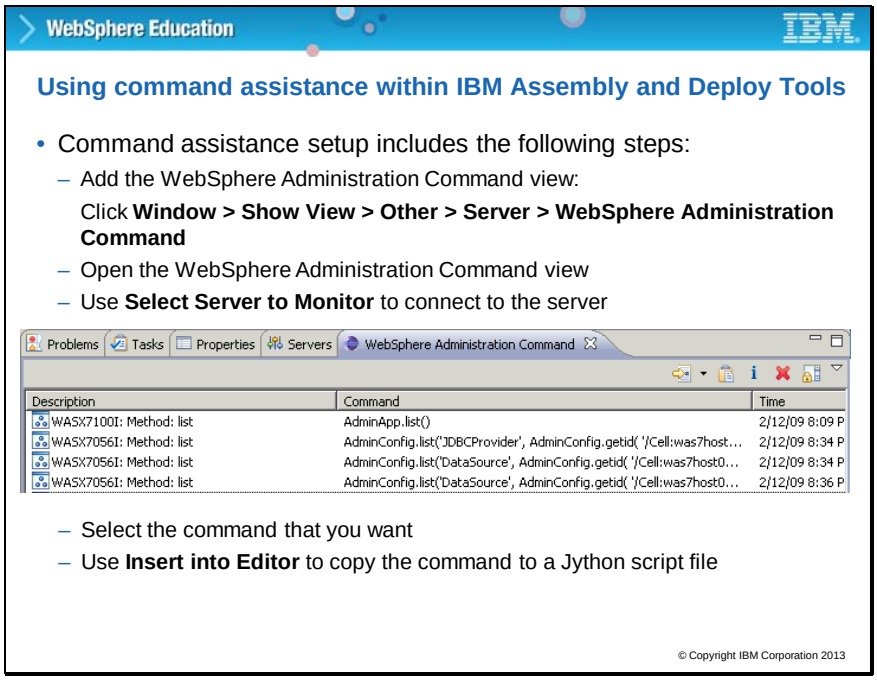
Using command assistance, you can see wsadmin scripting commands that correspond to actions in the administrative console. Seeing these commands might help you develop the commands necessary to administer WebSphere Application Server from the wsadmin utility. You can view wsadmin scripting commands in the Jython language for the last action that runs in the administrative console.

When you run server operations in the administrative console, the administrative command assistance tool captures and shows the wsadmin commands issued.

You can transfer the output from the administrative command view directly to a text editor, such as the Jython editor, enabling you to develop Jython scripts that are based on actual console actions.

Under **Help**, click **View administrative scripting command for last action**.

Slide 33



Title: Using command assistance within IADT

You can use command assistance from IADT and the administrative console. To enable command assistance from IADT, administrative console setup is required.

- Under **Help**, click **View administrative scripting command for last action**.
- Expand **Preferences** and enable both preference options:
    - **Log command assistance commands**
    - **Enable command assistance notifications**
- Click **Apply**.

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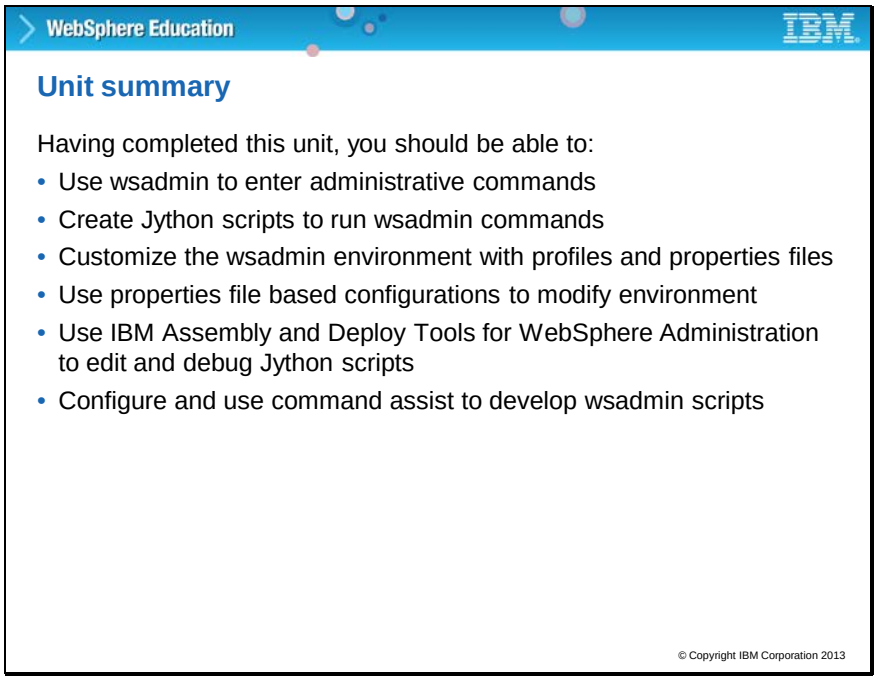

Title: Unit summary

Having completed this unit, you should be able to:

- Use wsadmin to enter administrative commands
- Create Jython scripts to run wsadmin commands
- Customize the wsadmin environment with profiles and property files
- Use property file based configurations to modify environment
- Use IBM Assembly and Deploy Tools for WebSphere Administration to edit and debug Jython scripts
- Configure and use command assist to develop wsadmin scripts