

Modality Documentation

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Introduction

What is Modality?

Modality is an open-source, Java-based, hospitality-oriented booking system. Multiple organisations, events and properties are supported, together with a wide range of hospitality-related add-ons, such as meals, transport, translation, special needs and more.

Why the name?

'Modality' is a fusion of two words, 'modular' and 'hospitality', a nod to both the software's design and purpose.

Open-source

Modality is licensed under the [Apache License Version 2.0](#), is completely free to use and modify, and is available on [GitHub](#).

The Modality Architecture

Modality is developed using the following technologies:

Technology	Purpose	Version
Java	Codebase	18
JavaFX	Desktop + mobile user interfaces	18
WebFX	Web user interfaces	Latest (Beta)

...consists of three end-user client applications:

Application	Used By	Compilation Toolchain
Front-Office (Mobile)	Customer	Gluon
Front-Office (Web)	Customer	WebFX + GWT
Back-Office (Web)	Administrator	WebFX + GWT

...two developer client applications:

Application	Used By	Compilation Toolchain
Back-Office (Desktop)	Developer	JavaFX
Front-Office (Desktop)	Developer	JavaFX

...one web server:

Application	Purpose	Version
Vert.x	Interface between client apps and back-end services; serves the SPA	Latest

...and depends on the following services:

Service	Purpose	Version
Postgres	Database	14.2
Redis	Session management	6.2.6
Flyway	Database schema updates	Latest

The services are orchestrated by [Docker](#) when running Modality on development machines (instructions given later in this document).

Native web applications

Modality is the first large-scale Java project to use [WebFX](#) - a toolkit that transpiles JavaFX applications into pure JavaScript web apps for direct execution in the browser.

Native mobile applications

Modality uses the [Gluon](#) toolchain to compile the codebase into native, installable apps ready for inclusion into the Google Play and Apple App stores.

Native desktop applications

Modality also provides desktop apps, which provide exactly the same UI as the web apps generated from the same source. This is useful for developers, allowing Java code to be rapidly developed and tested via the desktop, before subsequent transpilation into JavaScript and mobile (which takes time).

Installation

1. Install Java

Modality is developed entirely in the Java language, and requires at least JDK 17+. Check whether

this is installed:

```
java --version
```

If it is not installed, or is an older version, please refer to [this guide](#).

2. Install JavaFX

The user interfaces in Modality are partly built with JavaFX. Check whether JavaFX is installed with the following command:

```
echo $PATH_TO_FX
```

If it is not installed, please refer to [this guide](#).

3. Install IntelliJ IDEA

We develop Modality using the free, community edition of [IntelliJ IDEA](#), and recommend you install this if you do not already have an IDE. IntelliJ allows you to easily compile and run the Modality server and clients, for the purpose of local development and testing.



All subsequent IDE-based examples given in this documentation will be based on IntelliJ.

4. Install Docker

During development, Modality uses Docker for all external services, including the database and the in-memory datastore for sessions.

Please install Docker on your local machine if you do not have it already. If using a Mac, the easiest way is to install using [brew](#). Please provide Docker with a minimum of 8GB of RAM, ideally more.



Insufficient RAM may result in `java.lang.OutOfMemoryError` errors when importing the [modality-dev-db](#).

5. Install Git

A git client is needed to retrieve the Modality codebase from GitHub. Check if git is installed:

```
git --version
```

If it is not installed, you may wish to refer to [this guide](#).

6. Create the Modality root

```
mkdir -vp modality
export MODALITY_ROOT=${PWD}/modality
```

7. Clone the codebase

Git clone the Modality codebase via the terminal (or IntelliJ etc):

```
cd $MODALITY_ROOT
git clone https://github.com/mongoose-project/modality.git .
```

8. Prepare Docker environment variables

Environment variables store the Postgres database name, username and password. Defaults are provided in the `.env-template`. Use this template file as the basis for your Docker-based configuration, by creating an `.env` file from it. You may leave the defaults, or provide new values accordingly:

```
cd $MODALITY_ROOT/docker
cp .env-template .env
source .env # make the environment variables available to the shell
```

9. Build the Docker containers

```
cd $MODALITY_ROOT/docker
docker-compose build --no-cache
```

10. Start the containers to build the database

```
cd $MODALITY_ROOT/docker
docker-compose up
```

The database scripts are stored in the `modality-base/modality-base-server-datasource/src/main/resources/db/` folder, and are executed sequentially by the [Flyway](#) database version control container.

Please allow several minutes for Flyway to complete. Once finished, you will now up and running with all the external services that Modality depends on.

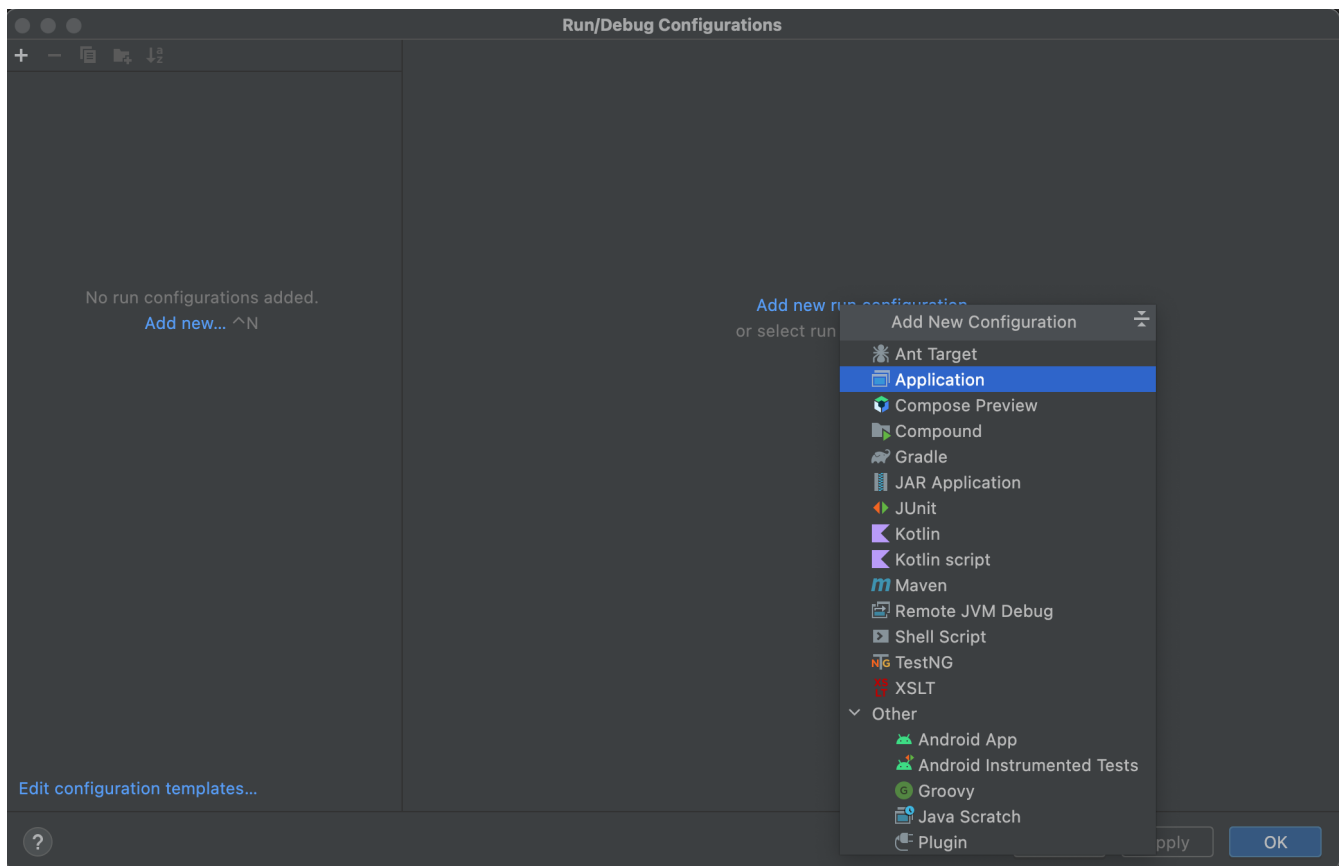
Configure Modality for Development

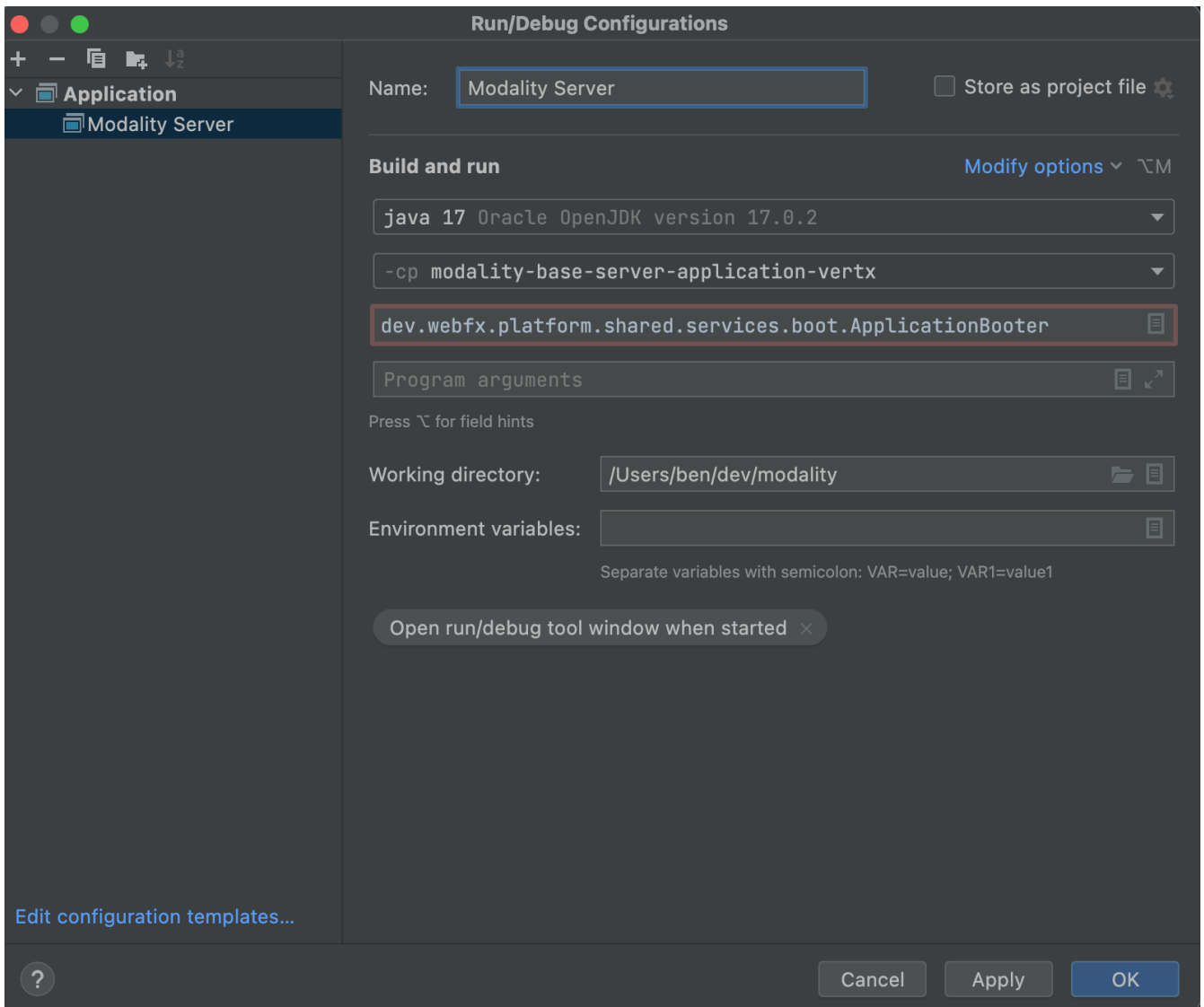
Create a Run Configuration for Modality Server

In order to run any of the Modality client applications, the Modality Server should first be running. The Modality Server is a [Vert.x](#) server that proxies requests to the database and is responsible for establishing and maintaining user sessions.

The easiest way to stand up the server locally is to create an application run configuration in your IDE.

In the IntelliJ menu, click **Run** → **Edit Configurations** to display the following dialog, and populate with the same details:



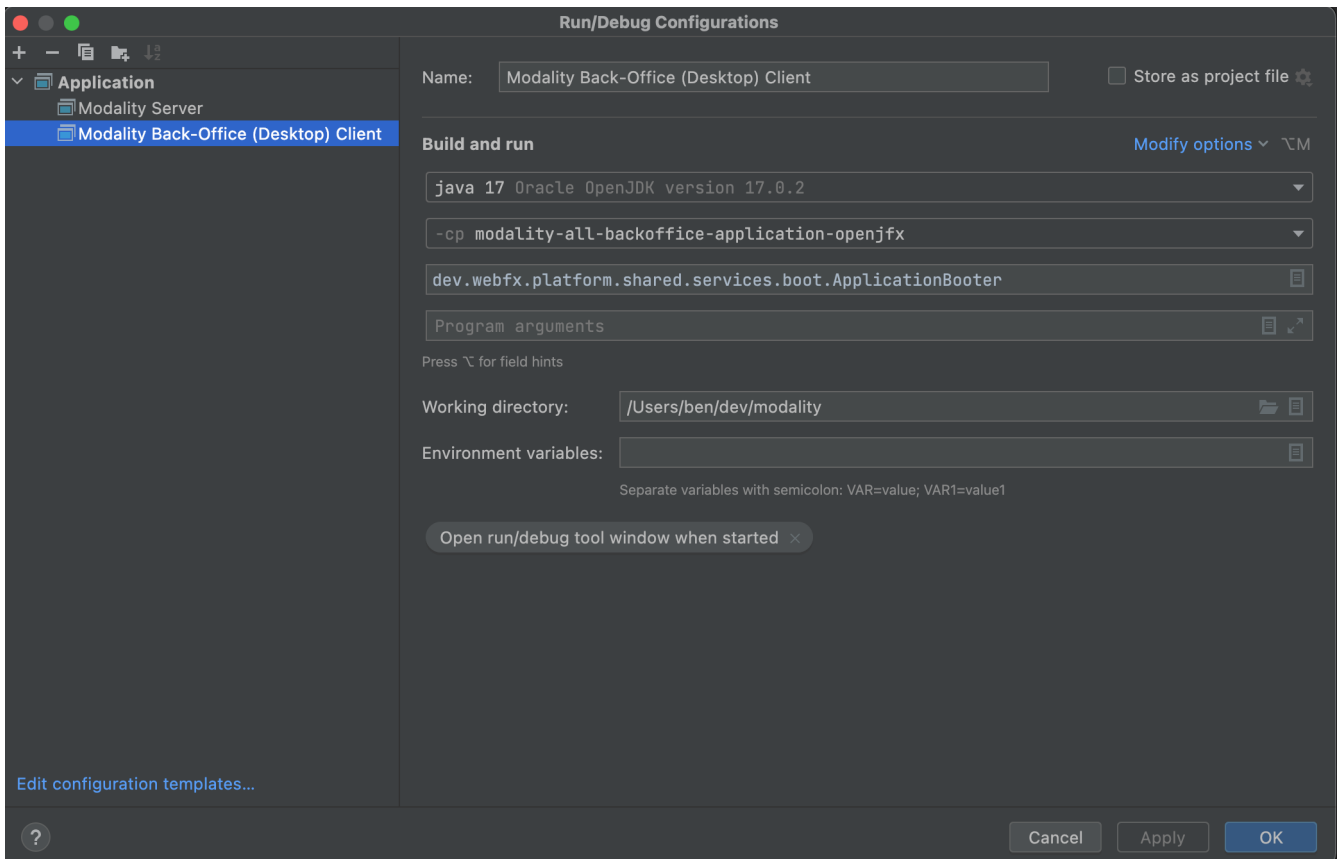


Click 'OK' to save the configuration and close the dialog.

Create a Run Configuration for Modality Back-Office (Desktop) client

The Modality Back-Office (Desktop) client is the application used by administrators of Modality, and is where new organisations and events are created etc.

Create another run configuration and populate it with the details given in the screenshot below:



Click 'OK' to save the configuration and close the dialog.

Create a Run Configuration for Modality Back-Office (Web) client



Documentation not yet available.

Create a Run Configuration for Modality Front-Office (Mobile) client



Documentation not yet available.

Create a Run Configuration for Modality Front-Office (Web) client



Documentation not yet available.

Run Modality on Development

The Modality clients run independently of each other, but all require the Modality Server to be running, which in turn requires Docker to be running the service containers described above. Therefore, the first two steps below are mandatory before running one or more of the Modality

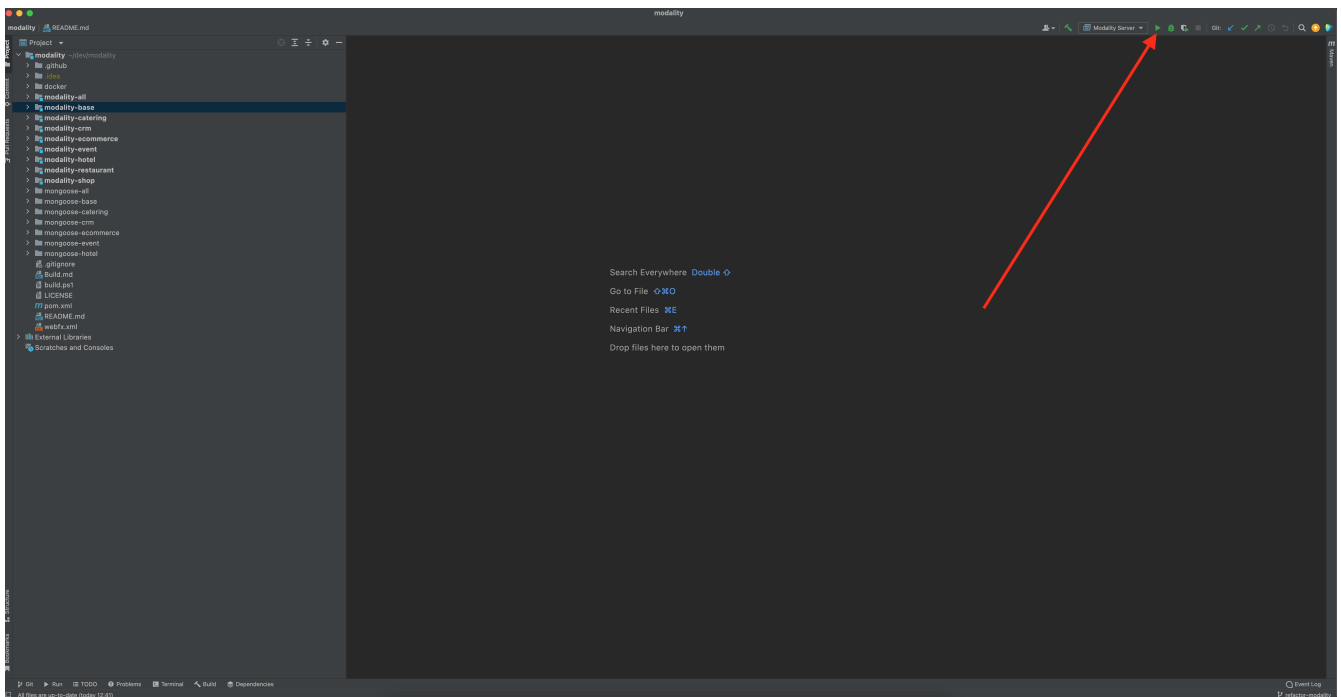
clients locally.

Ensure Docker is running *

```
cd $MODALITY_ROOT/docker
docker-compose up
```

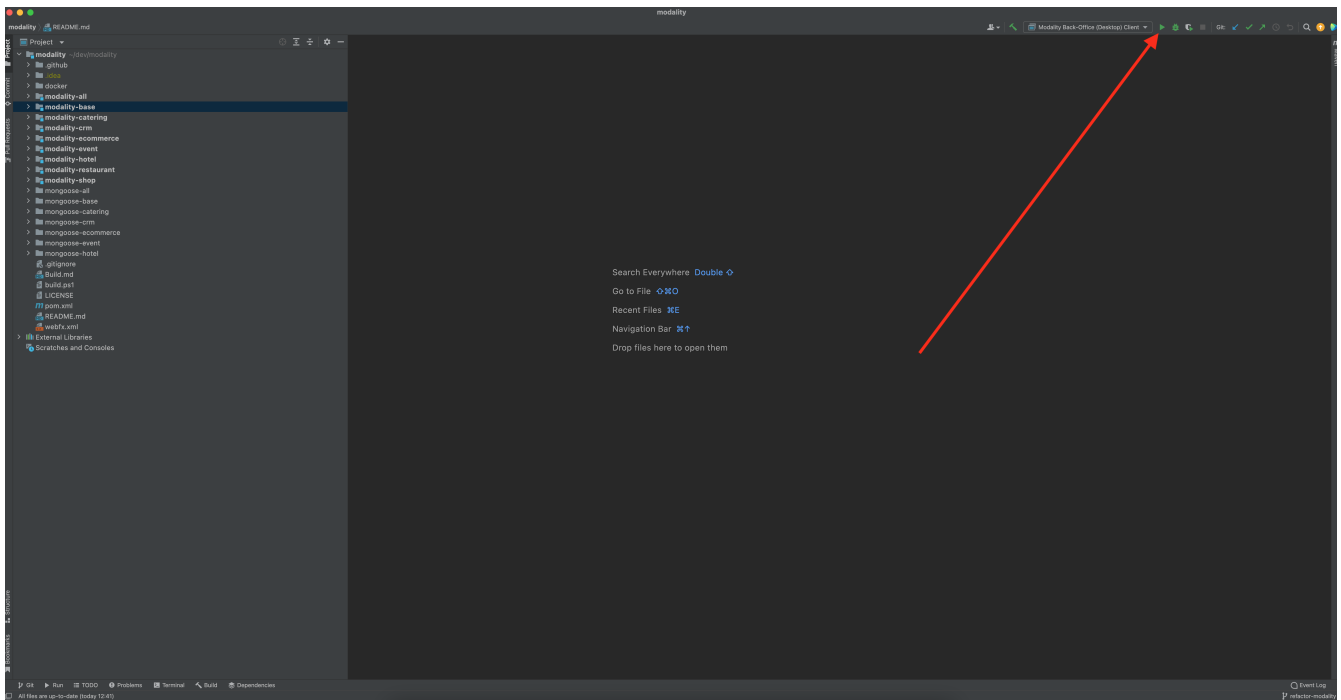
Start the Modality Server *

Start the Modality server by executing the run configuration:

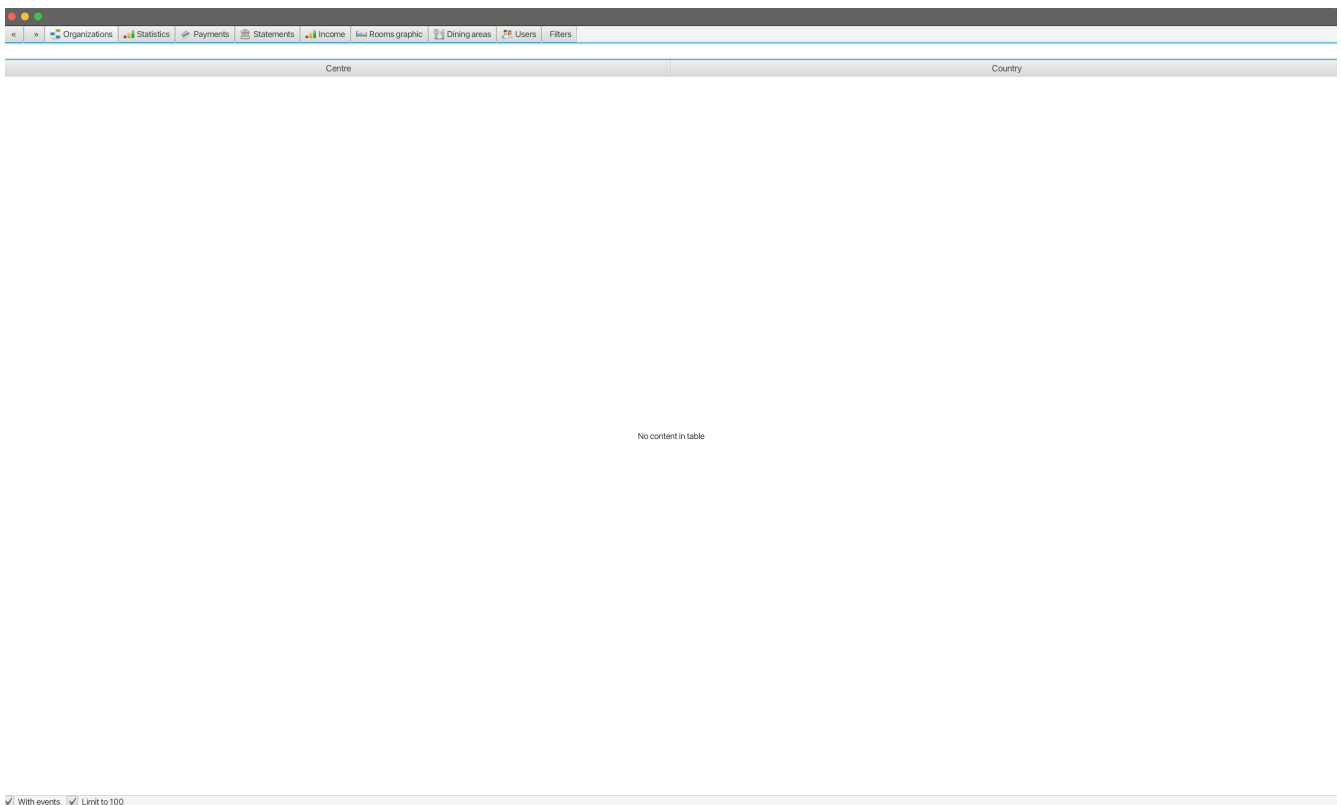


Start Modality Back-Office (Desktop) client

Start the Modality Back-Office (Desktop) client by executing run configuration:



The Back-Office (Desktop) client should then display:



Start Modality Back-Office (Web) client



Documentation not yet available.

Start Modality Front-Office (Mobile) client



Documentation not yet available.

Start the Modality Front-Office (Web) client



Documentation not yet available.

Modality Database

All database setup scripts are stored in the `modality-base/modality-base-server-datasource/src/main/resources/db/` folder, and are numbered in order of execution. Execution of the database scripts is performed automatically by the Flyway container, which runs on Docker startup. All the data is stored on the host, in directory:

```
$MODALITY_ROOT/docker/data/postgres/*
```

This provides persistence, and the container can be safely shut down and restarted without losing data.

Any new database scripts must be:

- ① added to the same `modality-base/modality-base-server-datasource/src/main/resources/db/` folder
- ② named according to the convention used in the folder: `V{number}__{desc}.sql`

Once a new script has been added to the folder, the Flyway container should be restarted, in order to apply the change. The easiest way to do this is to simply restart docker-compose:

```
cd $MODALITY_ROOT/docker
docker-compose down
docker-compose up
```

Modality Development Database

The Modality project additionally provides a development database that is pre-populated with test data, available from the [modality-dev-db](#) repository.

If you wish to import this database, you will need to:

- ① shut down the Modality server
- ② shut down the docker containers
- ③ delete the `docker/data/` folder
- ④ download the [modality-dev-db](#) repository
- ⑤ decompress the `V0001__modality_dev_db.sql.zip` file in the `modality-dev-db` repository
- ⑥ move the unzipped `V0001__modality_dev_db.sql` to the `modality-base/modality-base-server-datasource/src/main/resources/db/` folder

- ⑦ move all the other scripts temporarily out of the folder
- ⑧ restart the docker containers - this will auto-import the development database
- ⑨ wait until the import is complete. Due to the size of the development database, it can take 20+ minutes to import. Modality will not be usable during this time.

Modality Session

The session data is controlled by the docker-based Redis container and is not persisted locally. The data persists only as long as the container is running.

Using Docker

Connect to the Docker database container

Connection is easily made via any Postgres client (e.g. DBeaver). Use the following credentials (contained within the `docker/.env-template` file):

- Server: 127.0.0.1
- Port: 5432
- Database: modality
- User: modality
- Password: modality

Connect to the Docker session container

Connection can be made through the Docker terminal:

```
cd $MODALITY_ROOT/docker
docker exec -ti session /bin/sh
redis-cli
keys *
```

Shut down Docker

```
cd $MODALITY_ROOT/docker
docker-compose down
```

Destroy & rebuild the Docker containers

Sometimes you will want a fresh set of containers. The simplest way to do this is:

```
cd $MODALITY_ROOT/docker
docker-compose down
docker ps -a # Lists all Docker containers
docker rm <container-id> # Remove any docker containers listed
docker images # Lists all Docker images
docker image rm <image-id> # Remove any docker images listed
docker volume ls # Lists all Docker volumes
docker volume rm <volume-id> # Remove all docker volumes listed
docker system prune # Removes build cache, networks and dangling images
rm -rf data # Removes locally stored database tables
```

You can now rebuild the Docker containers:

```
docker-compose build --no-cache
docker-compose up
```

Deploy Modality to Heroku



Procedures for this coming soon!