Application installation

Unit objectives

After completing this unit, you should be able to:

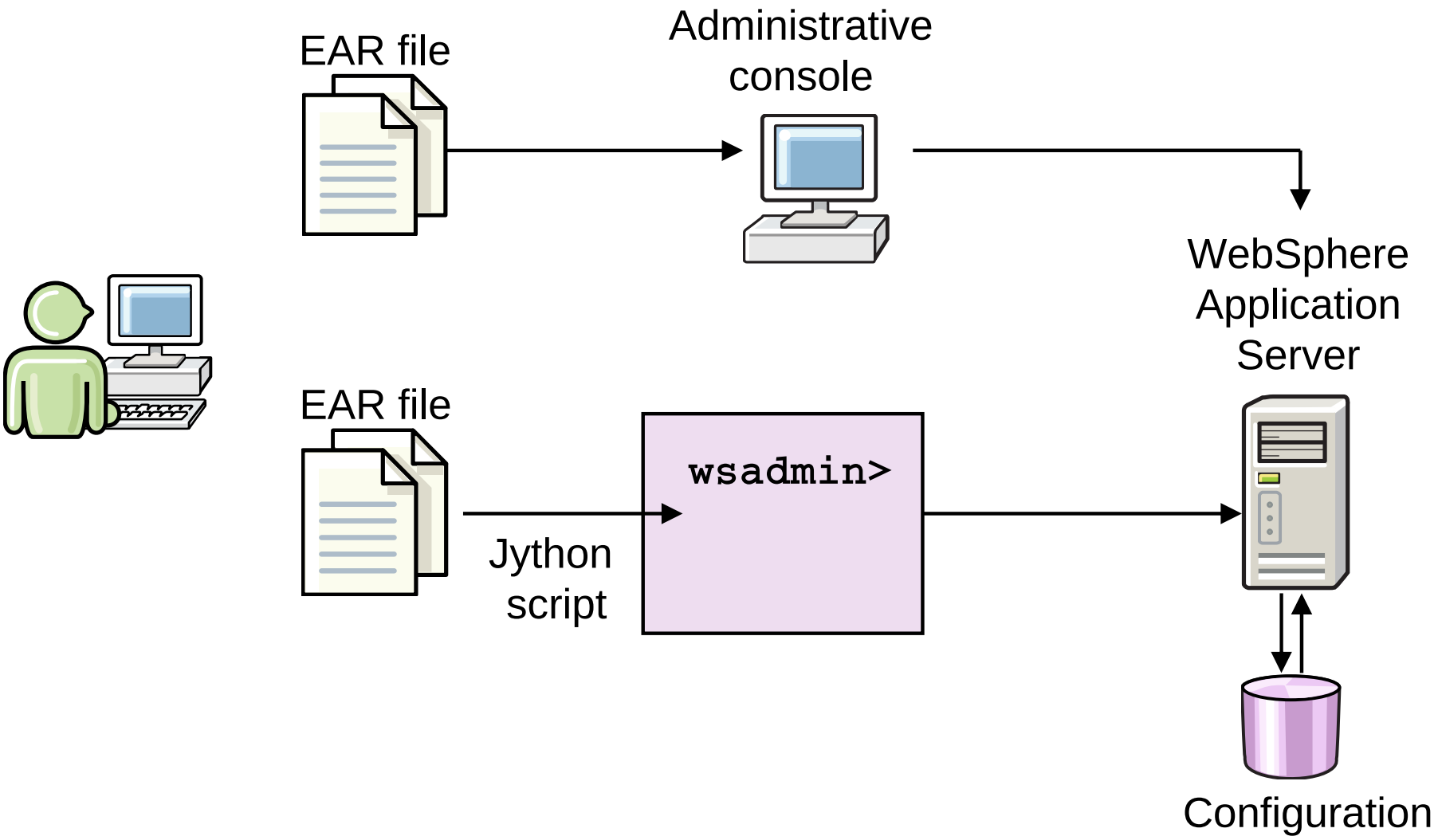
- Describe methods of installing enterprise applications in WebSphere Application Server
- Explain how fine-grained application updates work
- Describe enterprise application properties
- Enable monitored directories
- Deploy an application by using the monitored directory
- Use a profile-file-based configuration with monitored directories to deploy an application

Topics

- Application installation
- Application settings and interaction
- Monitored directory

Application installation

Installing enterprise applications

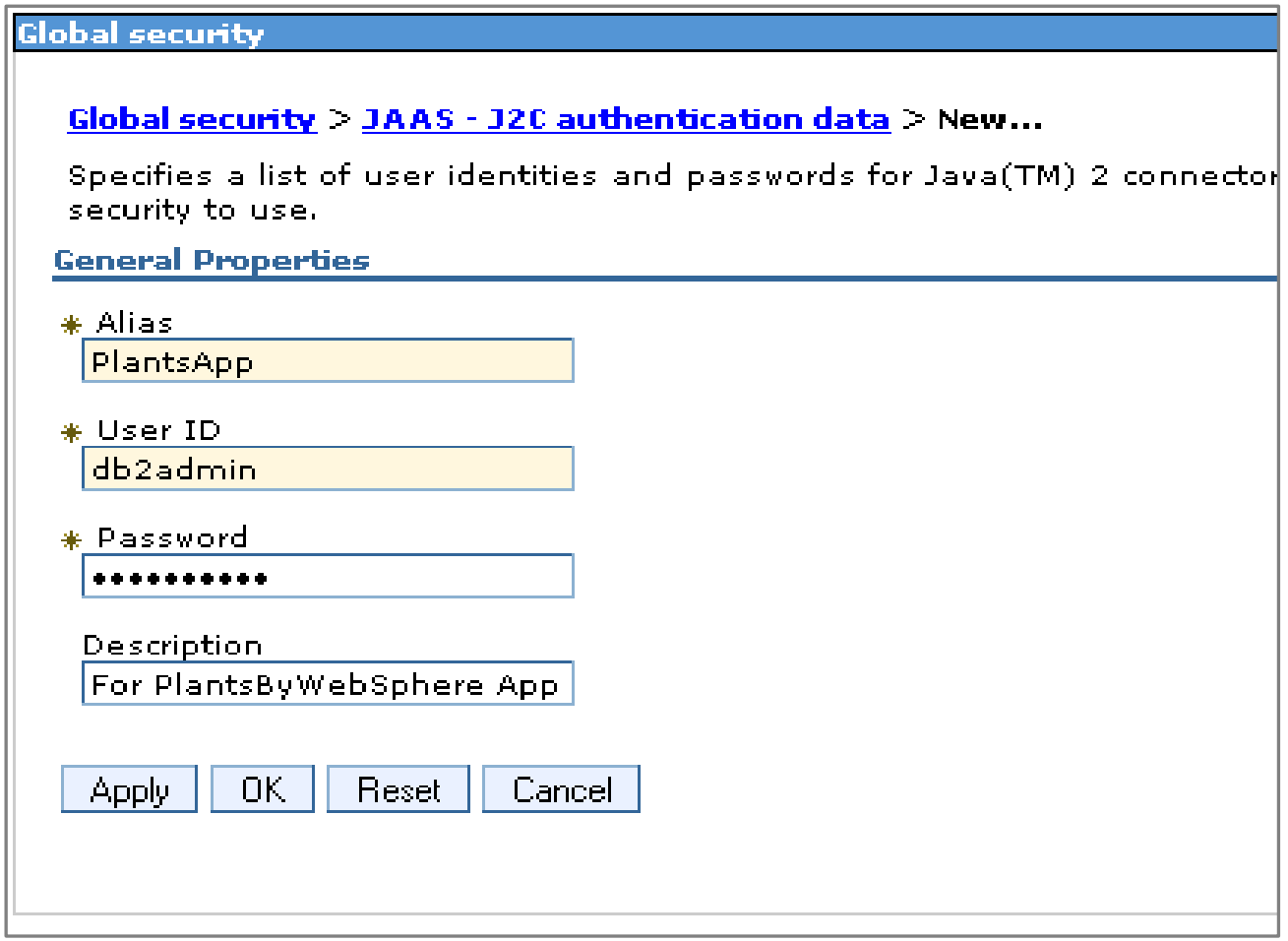


Installation tasks

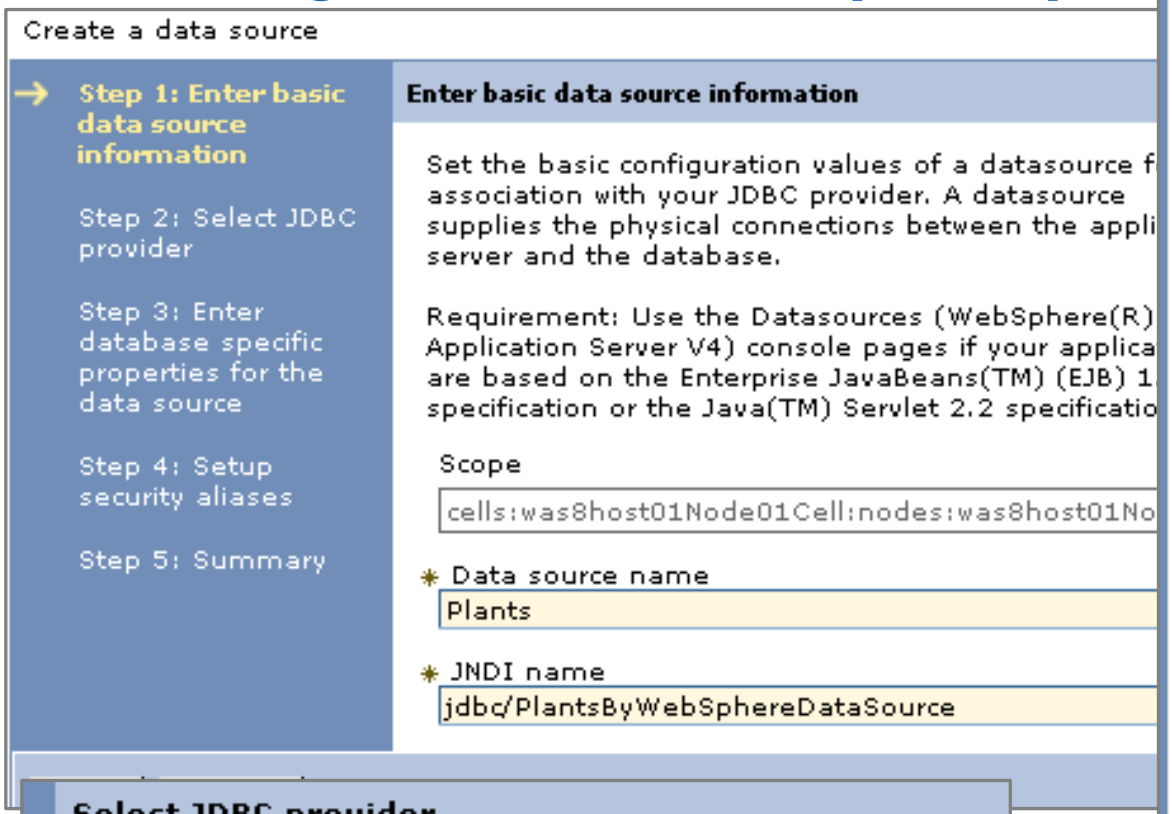
- Configure the application environment as required
  - Variables, virtual hosts, class path, security
- Configure application resources
  - JDBC provider, data sources, JMS resources, or SIBus, if applicable
- Install the application
  - The default directory that is assigned to hold the EAR file before it is installed is `<profile_root>\<profile>\installableApps`
  - Most often, the application file you receive is an enterprise archive (`.ear`) file
- Manage static content
  - Web server serves files, not in EAR file
  - Leave static content in EAR file

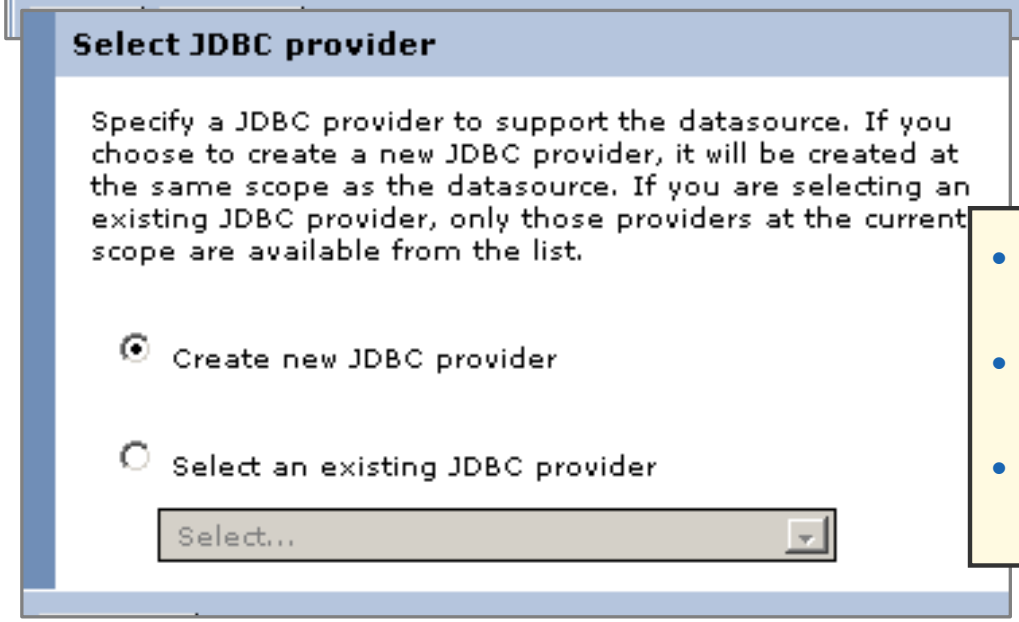
Creating a J2C authentication alias

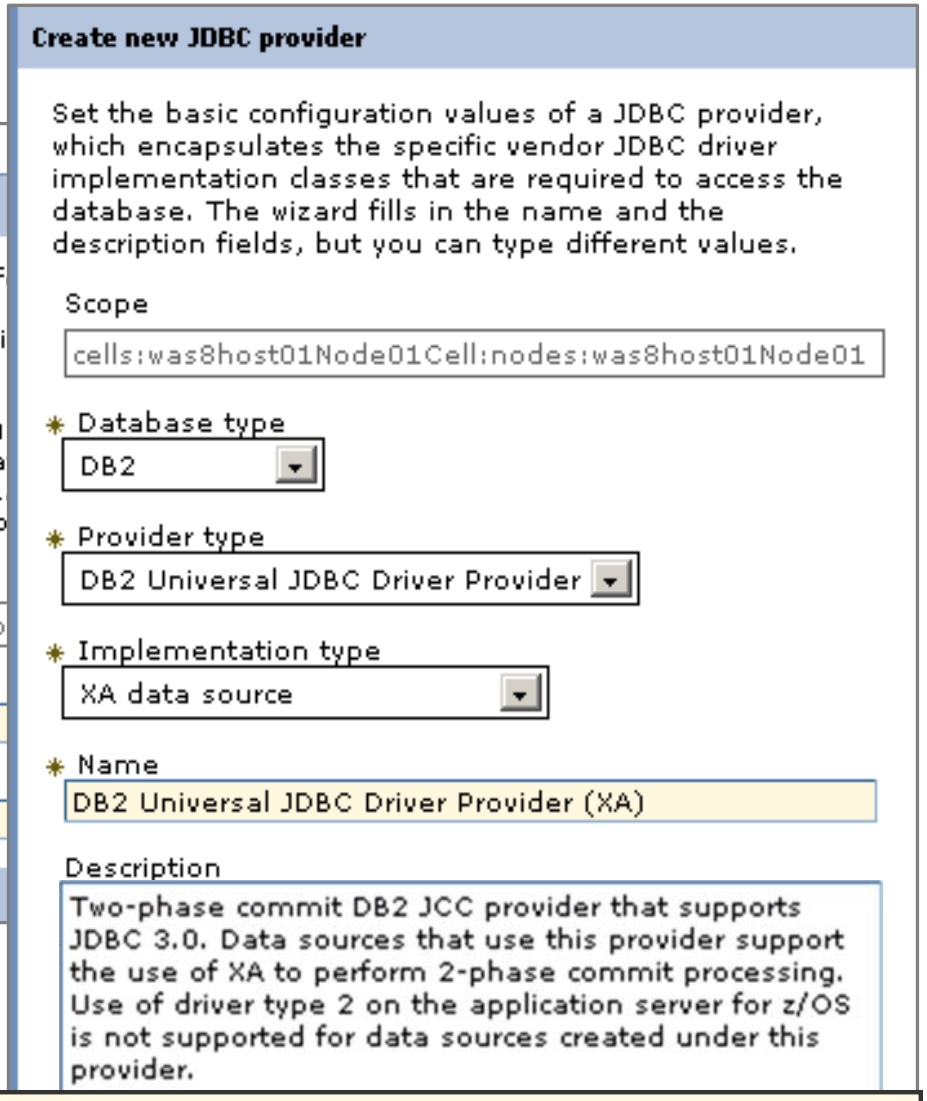
- Wizard can be reached from many pages in the administrative console
  - **Security > Global Security > Authentication > Java Authentication and Authorization Service > J2C authentication data**
- Provide
  - Alias name: console prefixes name with node name
  - User ID and corresponding password
  - Optional description
  - EJBs, data sources, JMS resources, and SIBus resources use them



Creating a data source (1 of 3)



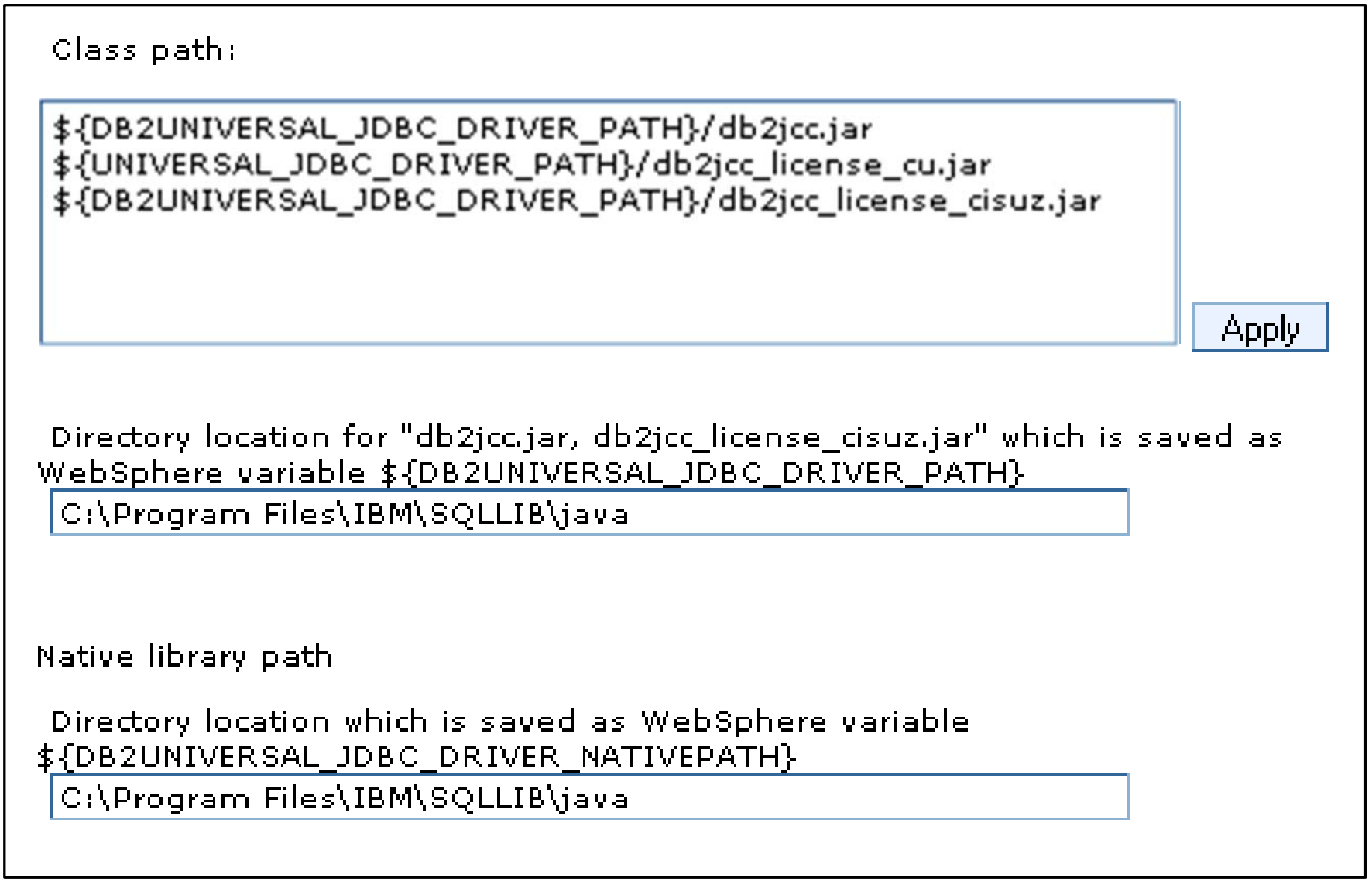




- Create JDBC provider before or while defining data sources
- One JDBC provider is needed for each database driver type
- JDBC providers can be defined at cell, node, server, or application scope (in an enhanced EAR file)

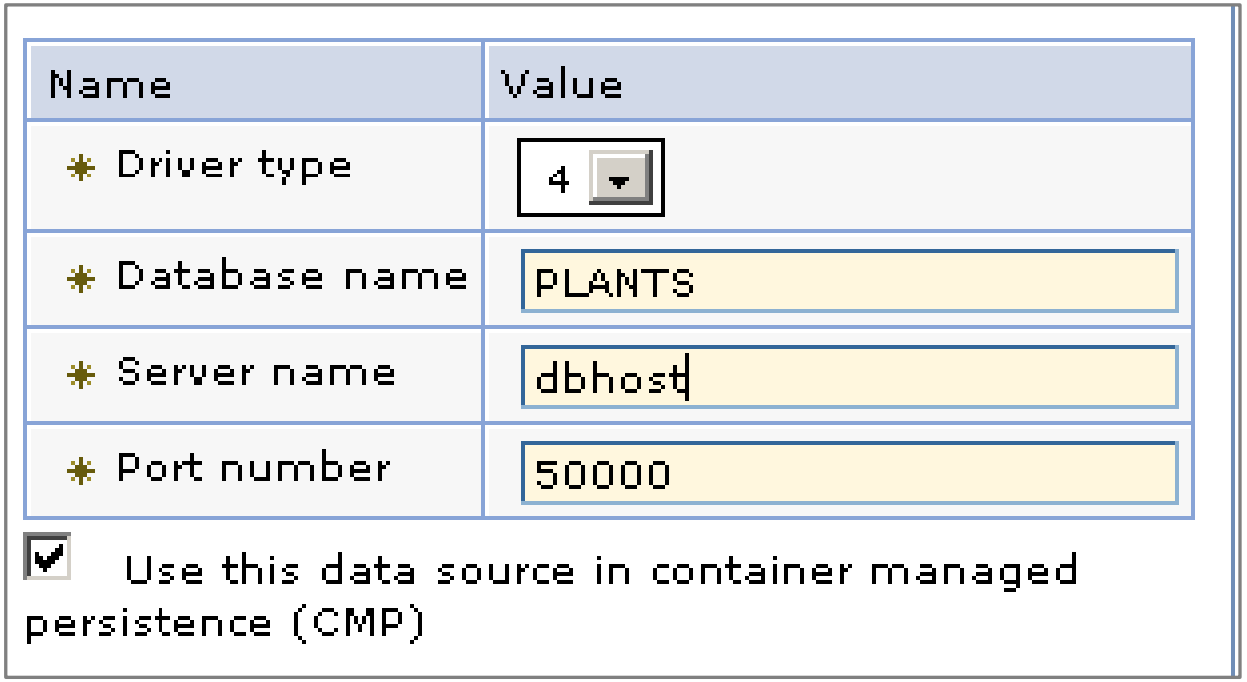
Creating a data source (2 of 3)

- JDBC driver paths can be defined in the wizard



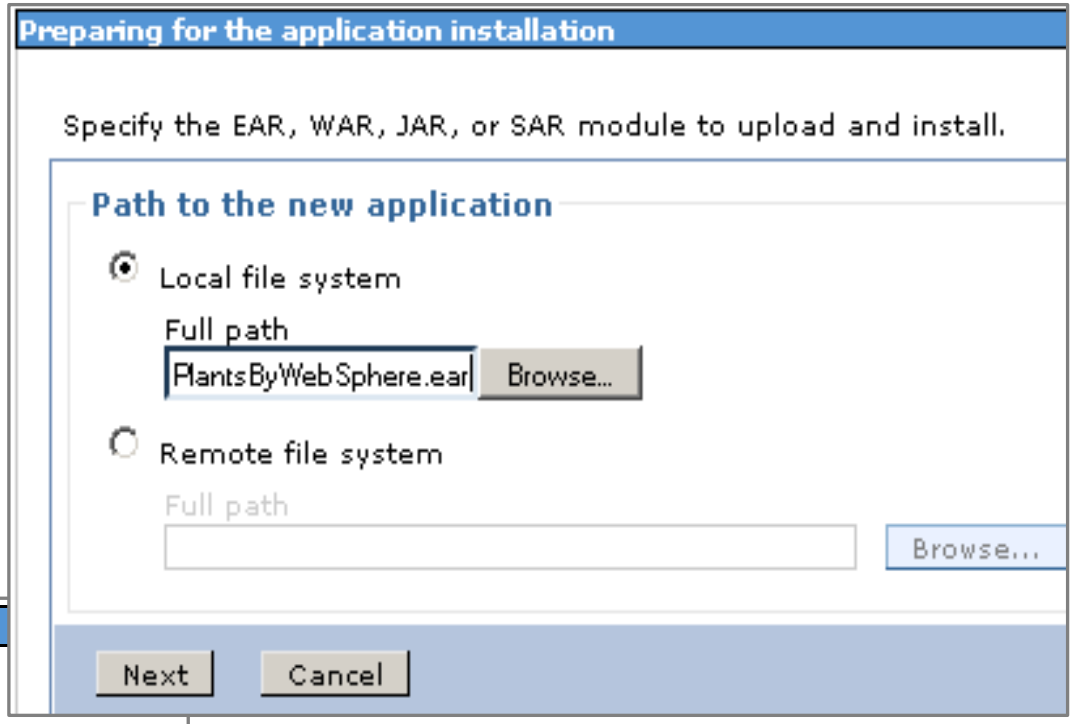
Creating a data source (3 of 3)

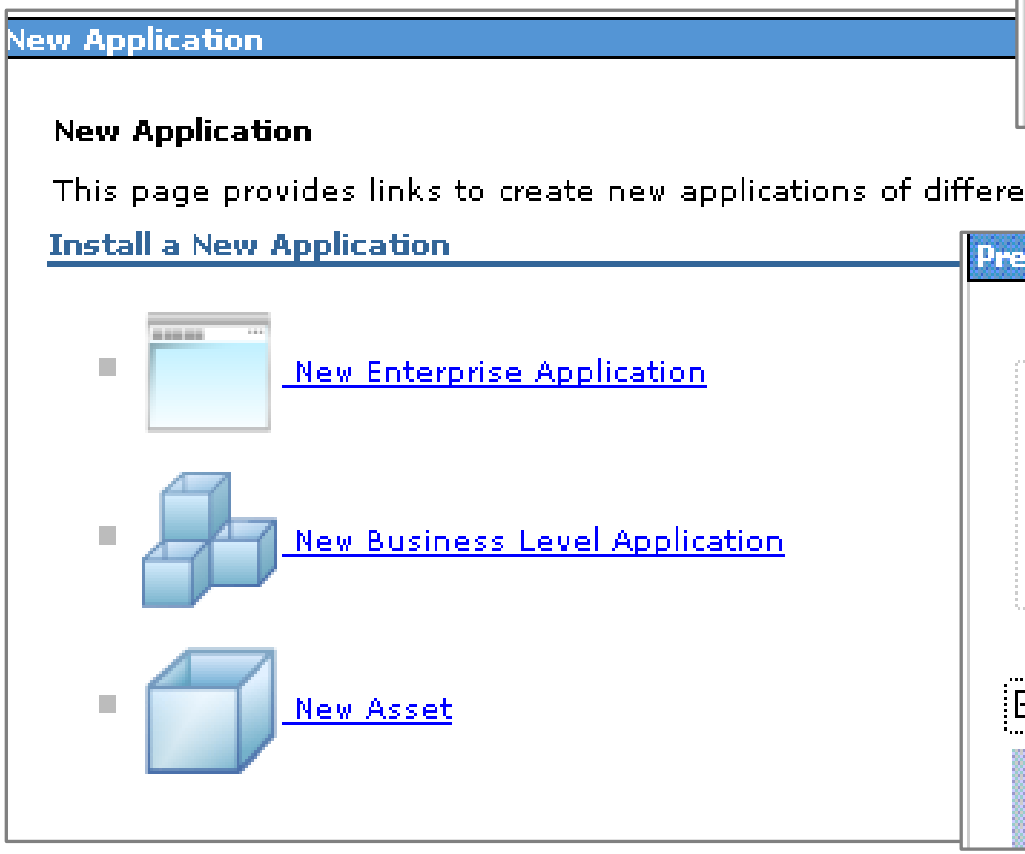
- Provide the database-specific parameters:
  - Driver type
  - Database name
  - Database server name and communication port number
- Choose whether data source is going to be used with CMP beans

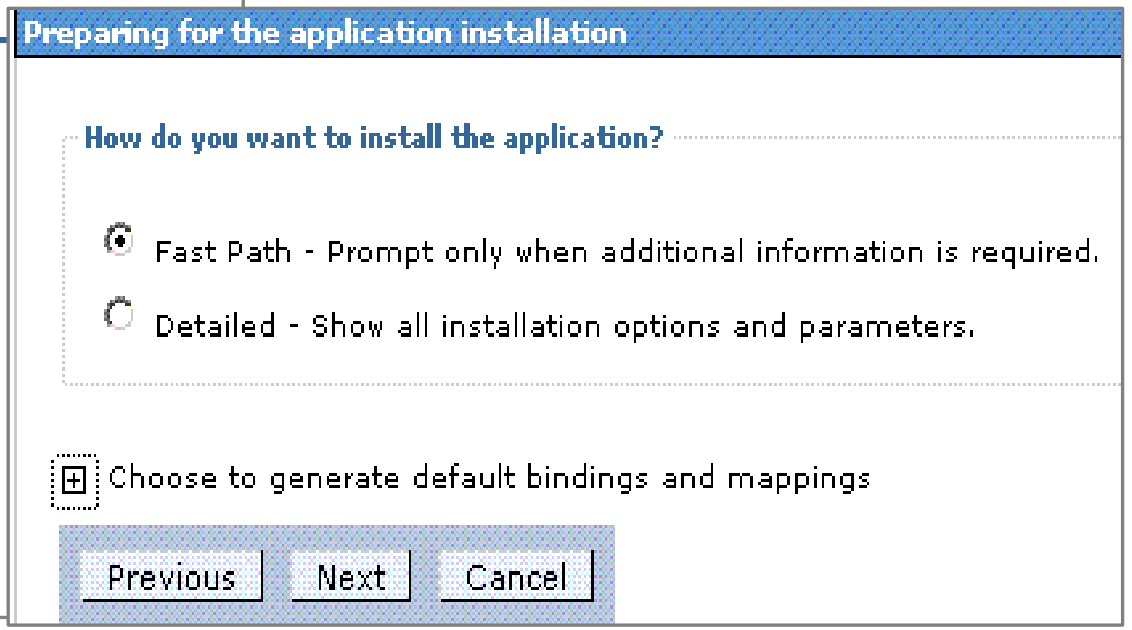


Installing a new application

- Select **Applications > New Application > New Enterprise Application**

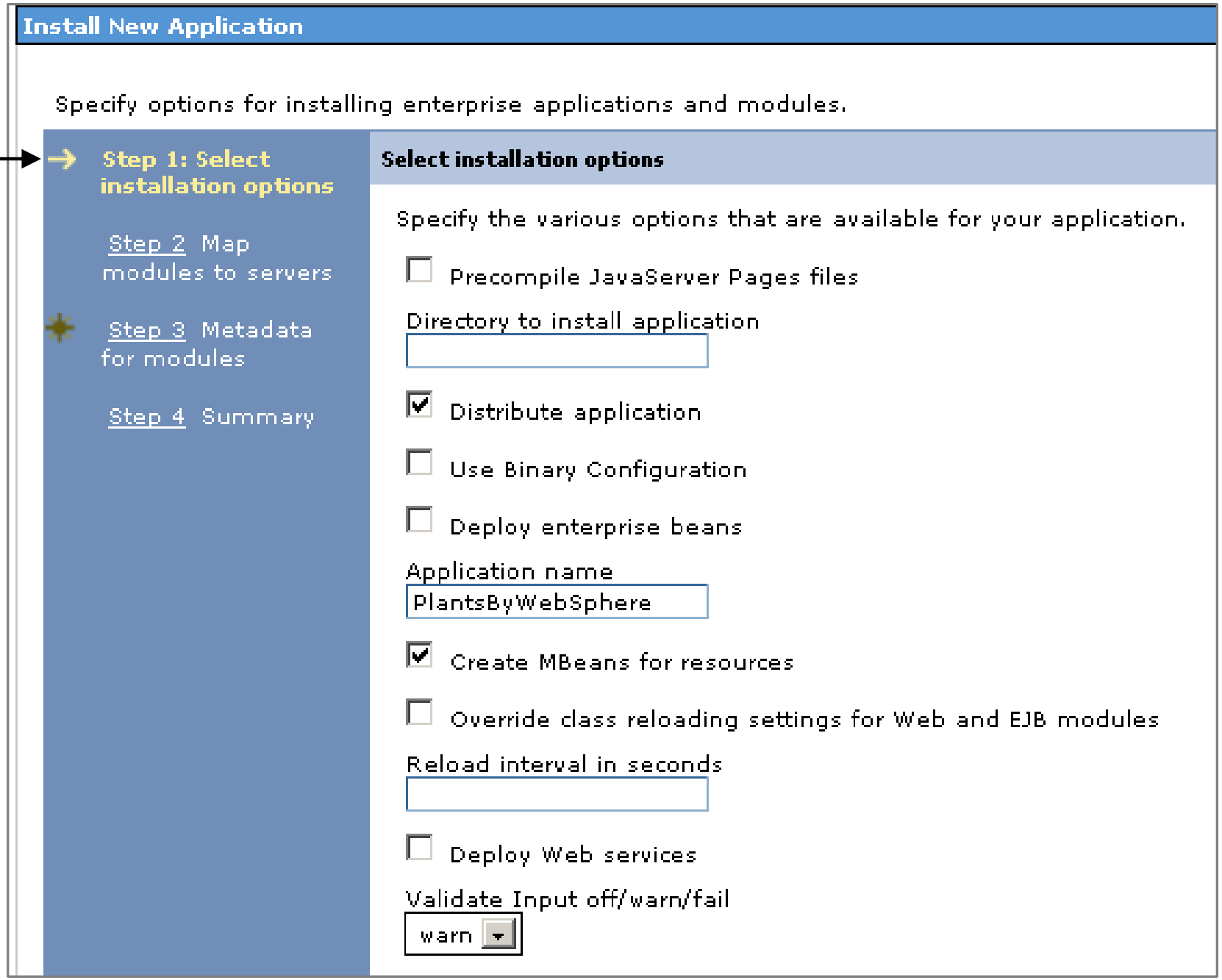






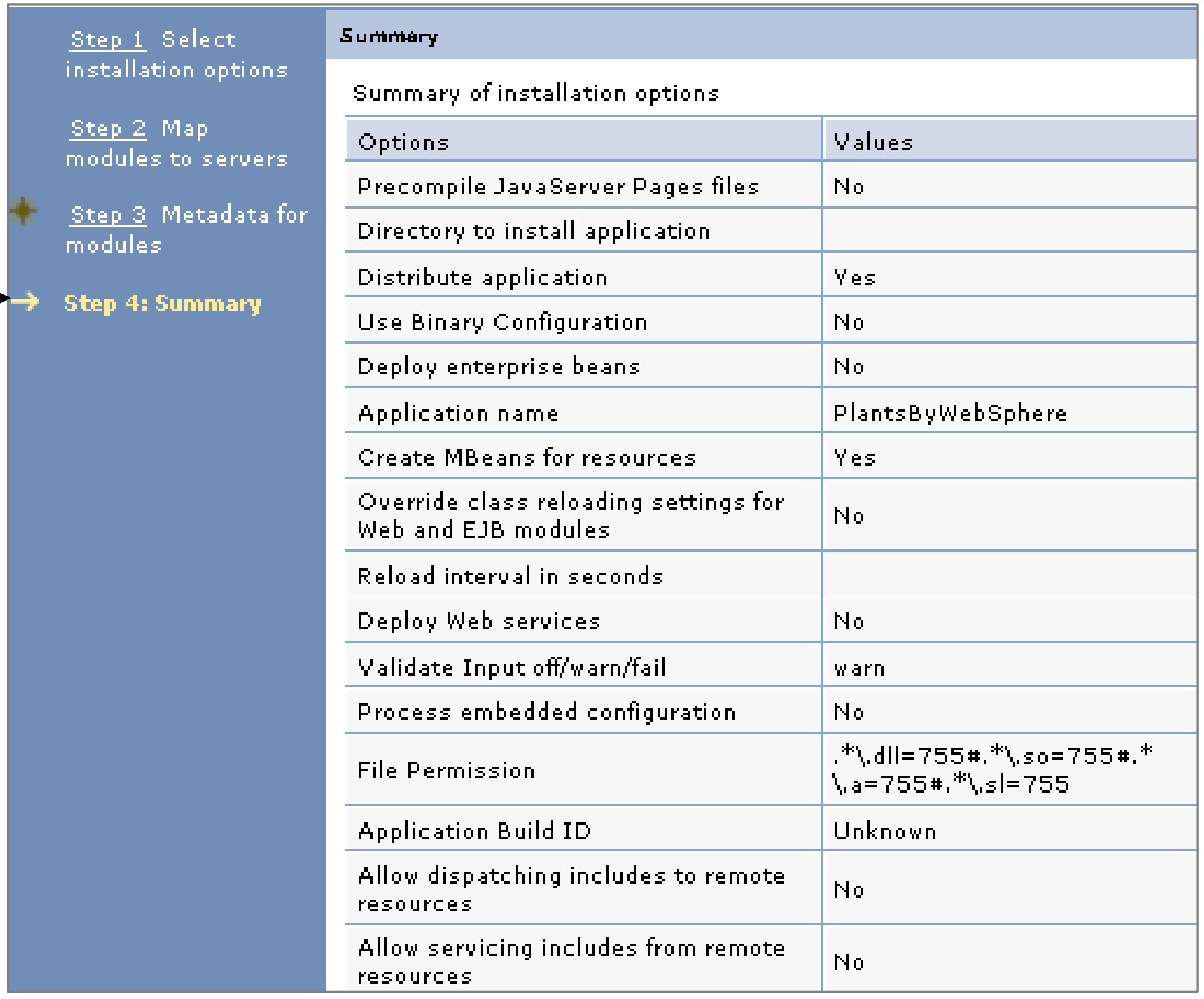
Example of fast path installation

Step 1: Select installation options



Example of detailed installation

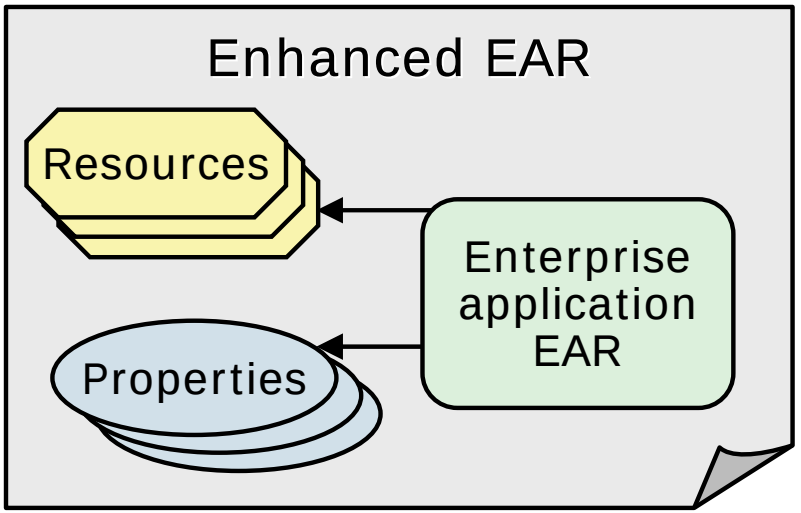
Summary step



Options	Values
Precompile JavaServer Pages files	No
Directory to install application	
Distribute application	Yes
Use Binary Configuration	No
Deploy enterprise beans	No
Application name	PlantsByWebSphere
Create MBeans for resources	Yes
Override class reloading settings for Web and EJB modules	No
Reload interval in seconds	
Deploy Web services	No
Validate Input off/warn/fail	warn
Process embedded configuration	No
File Permission	.*\.dll=755#.*\.so=755#.*\.a=755#.*\.sl=755
Application Build ID	Unknown
Allow dispatching includes to remote resources	No
Allow servicing includes from remote resources	No

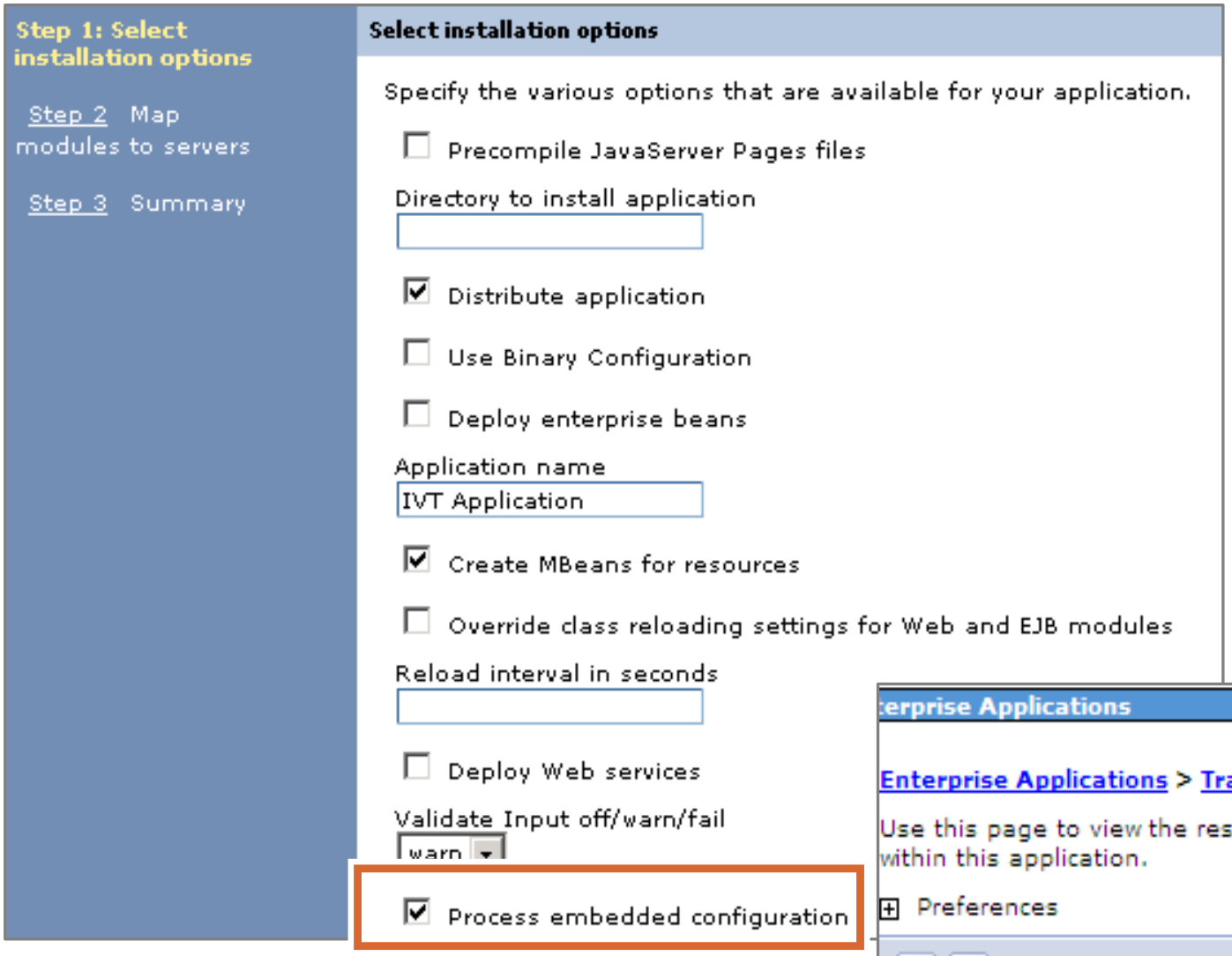
Enhanced EAR

- Enterprise archive that contains Java EE artifacts plus resource information necessary to install on WebSphere Application Server
  - JDBC resources (data sources)
  - Class loader
  - JAAS authentication aliases
  - Shared libraries
  - Virtual host information

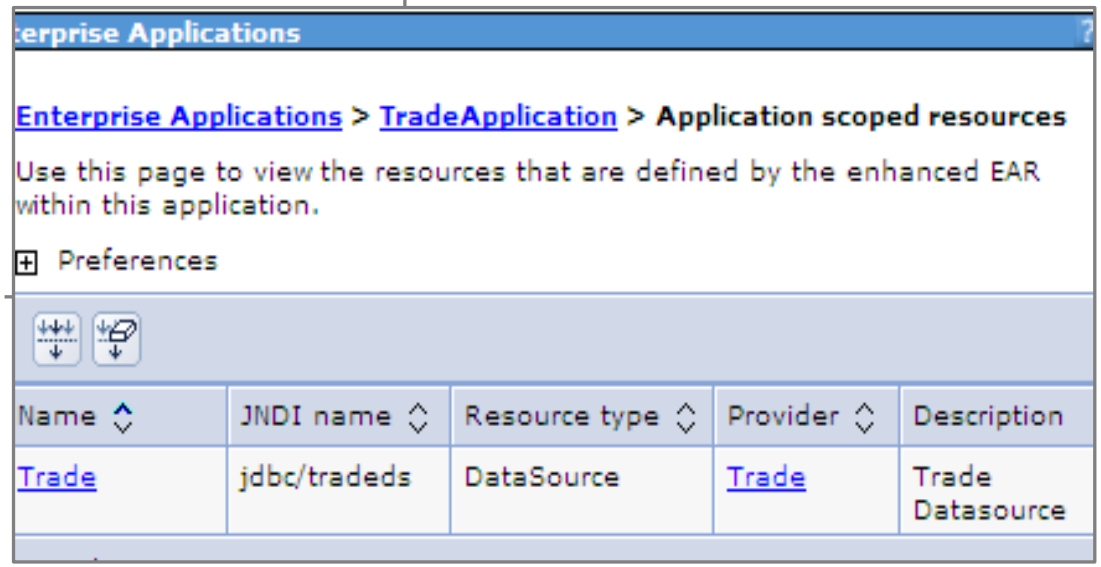


- Benefits: improved productivity
  - Application resources and properties come with the application
  - Application installation process creates the necessary resources within the server or cluster
  - Moving application from one server to another also moves the resources
- Support integrated with the IBM Rational Development and Assembly and Deployment tools
  - Found on Deployment page of application deployment descriptor
- **Warning**: Can possibly cause problems if unintended application scoped resources are used in production
  - Enhancements can be removed or ignored during application installation

Removing enhancements



- Resources can be ignored
  - Remove enhancements from EAR before deploying (preferred)
  - Clear **Process embedded configurations**
  - Is prechecked only if there are enhancements

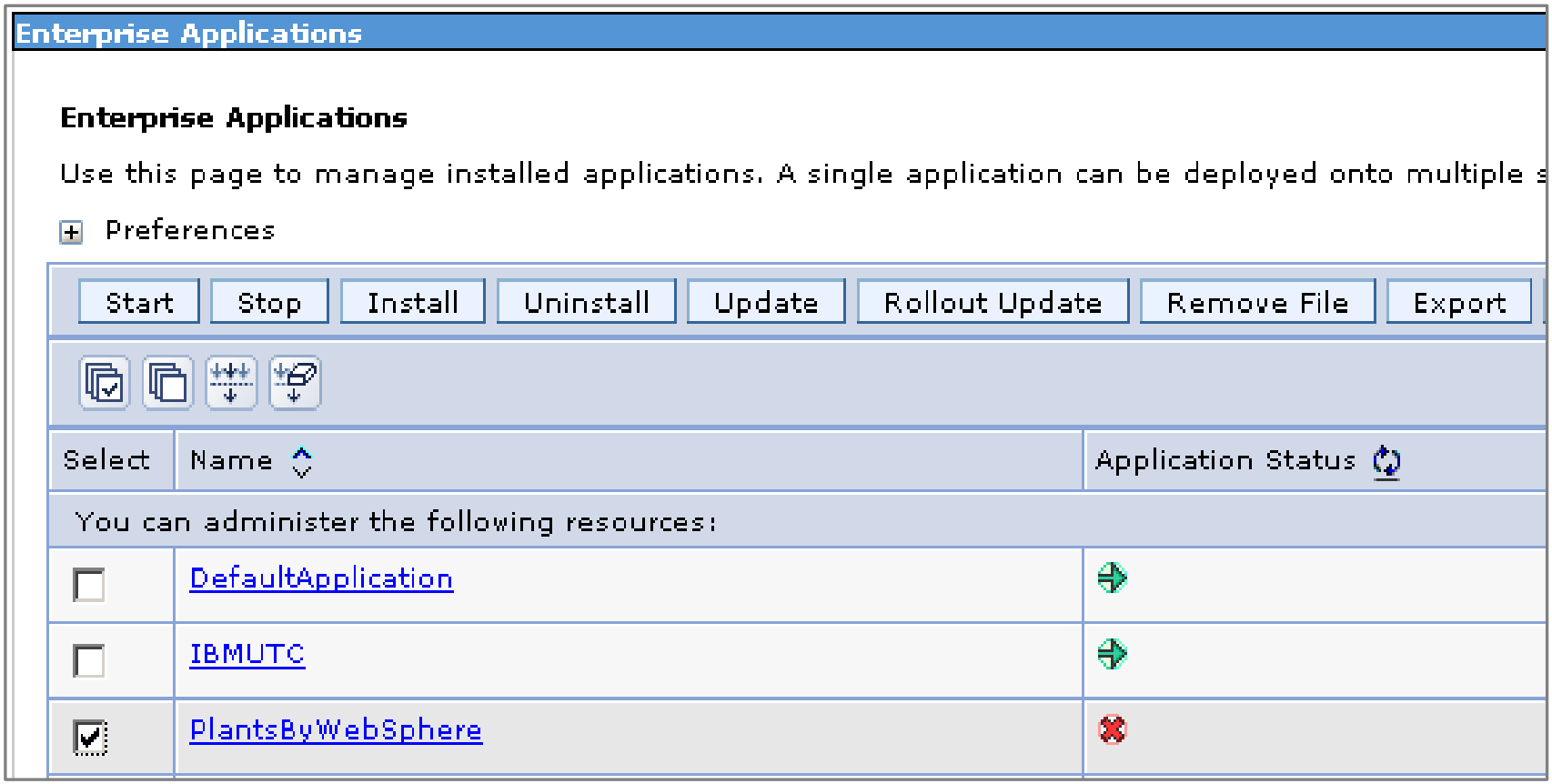


- Resources can be viewed, but not through the normal screens
  - Click **Application scoped resources** under the enterprise application

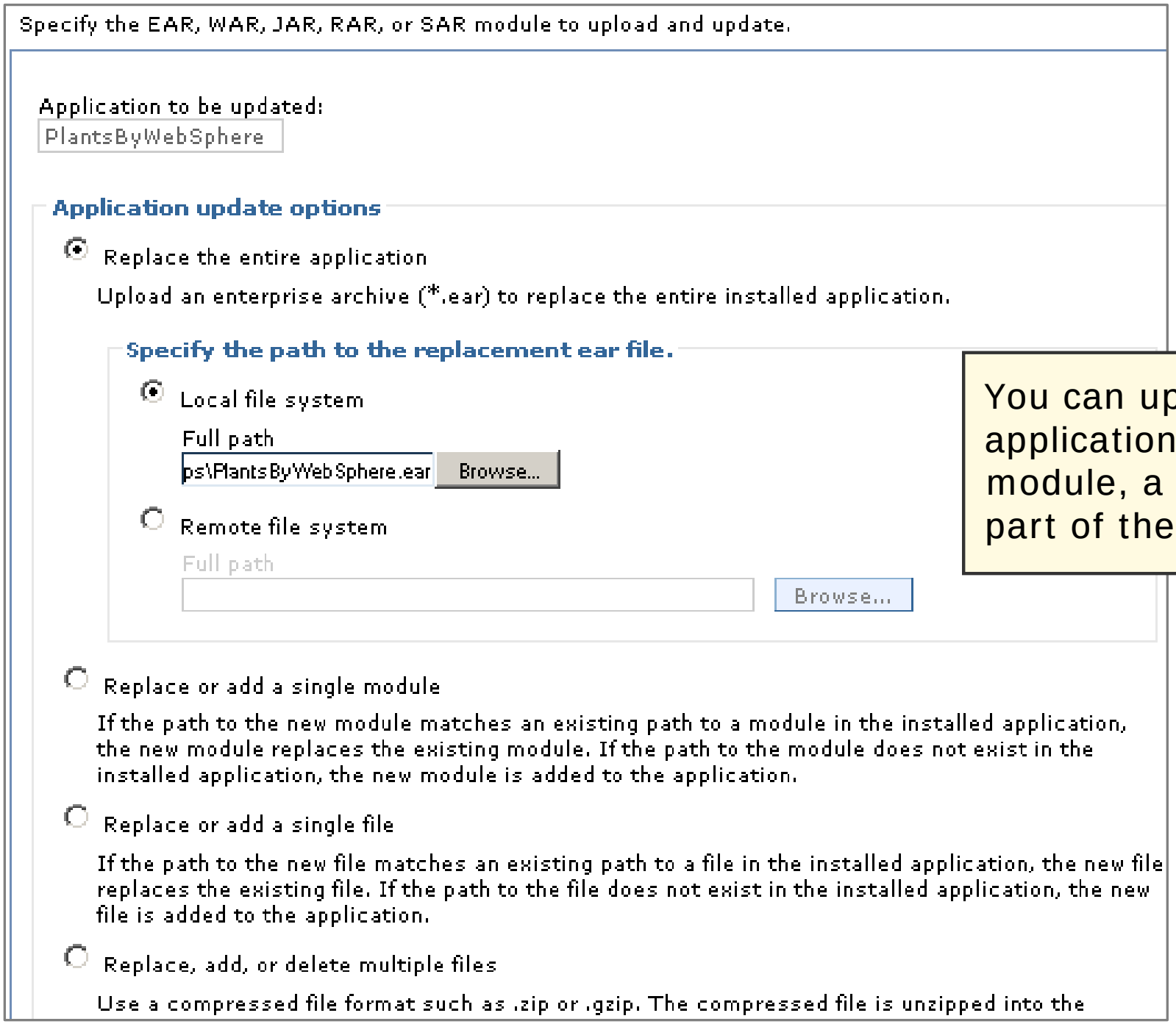
Application settings and interaction

Starting an application

- After the application is installed, you can select from a number of options to manage the application
  - Click **Applications > Application types > WebSphere enterprise applications**

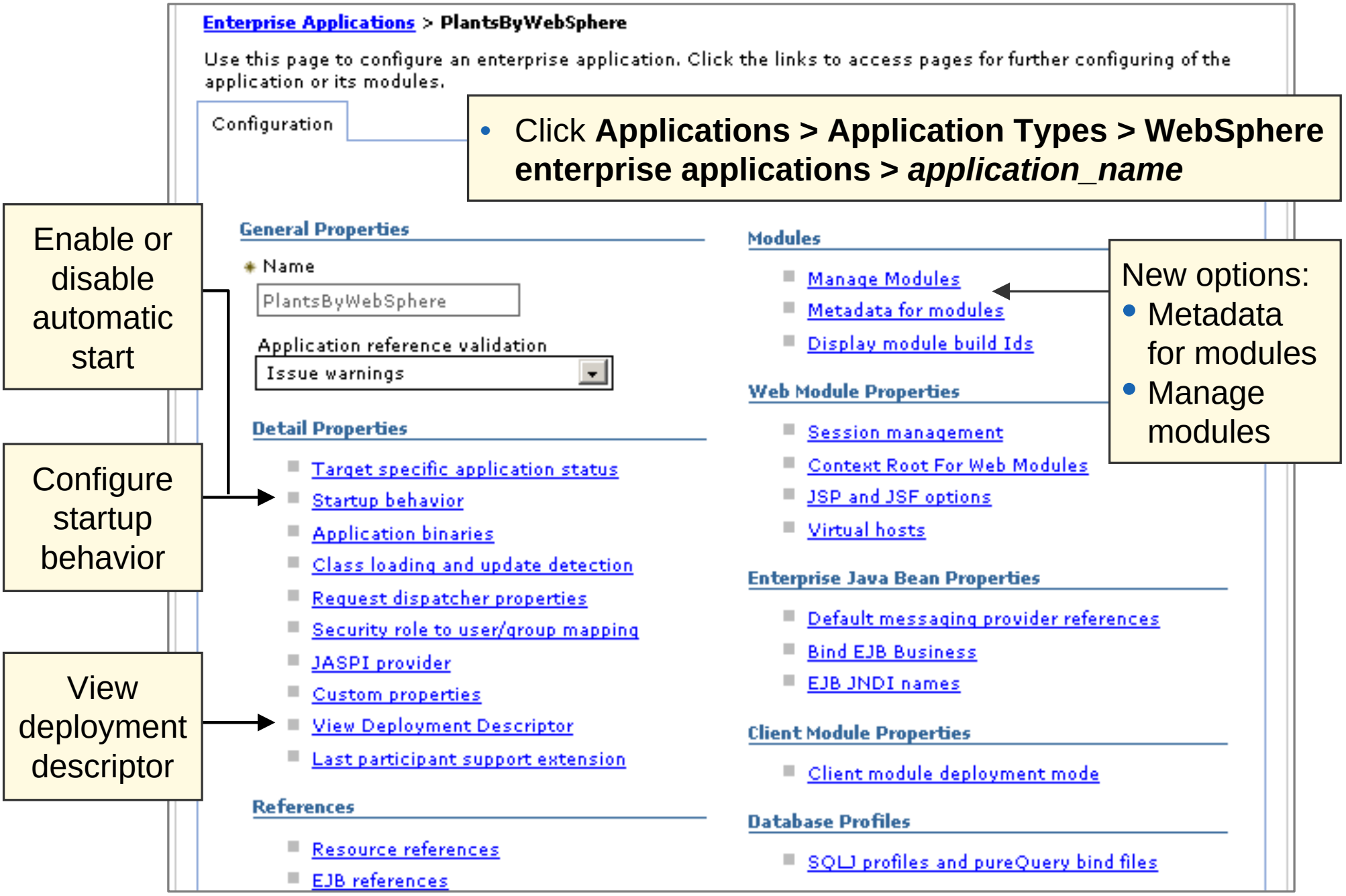


Application update



You can update the full application, a single module, a single file, or part of the application

Other application configuration settings

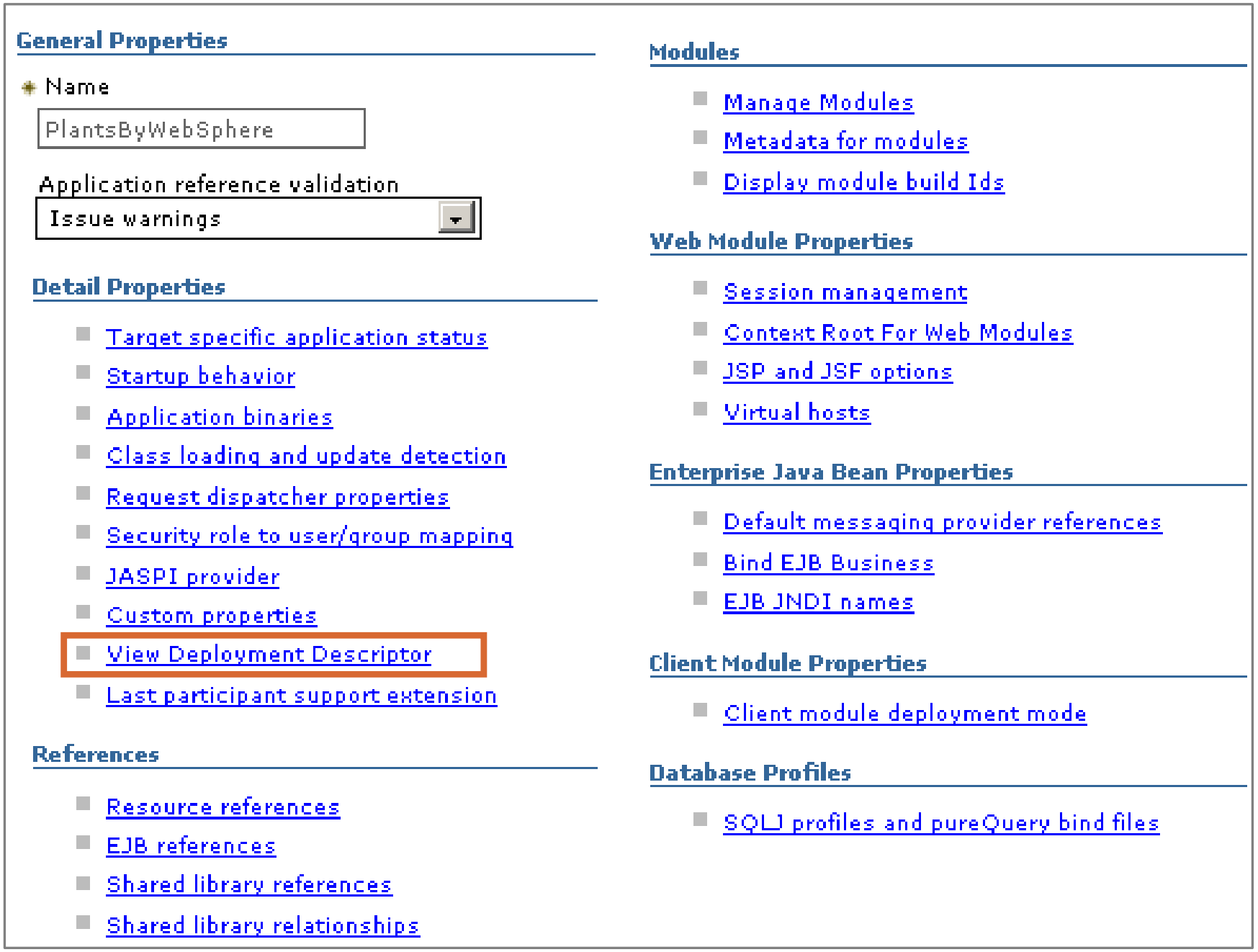


Application startup behavior and auto start

- Start up behavior of an application
  - The values set affect how quickly an application starts and what occurs when an application starts
  - Click **Applications > Application Types > WebSphere enterprise applications > *application_name* > Startup behavior** in the console navigation tree to configure startup behavior settings

- Automatic starting of an application
  - By default, an installed application starts automatically when the server starts on which the application is deployed
  - Click **Applications > Application Types > WebSphere enterprise applications > *application_name* > Target specific application status** to configure auto startup

View the application deployment descriptor



The application deployment descriptor

Enterprise Applications

Enterprise Applications > PlantsByWebSphere > Deployment Descriptor

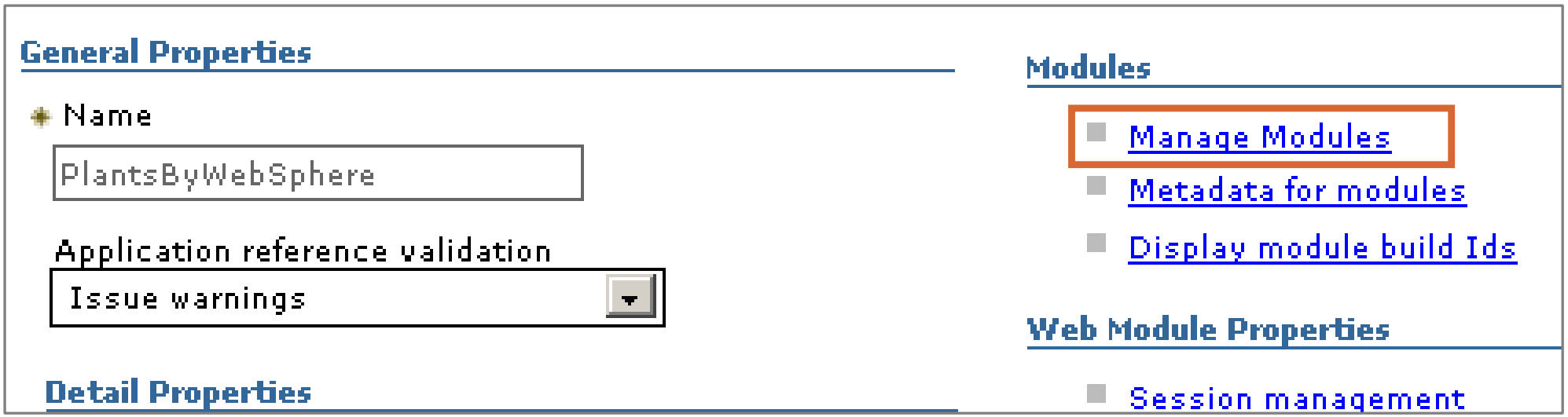
Expand and collapse the application deployment descriptor data to view.

Expand All | Collapse All

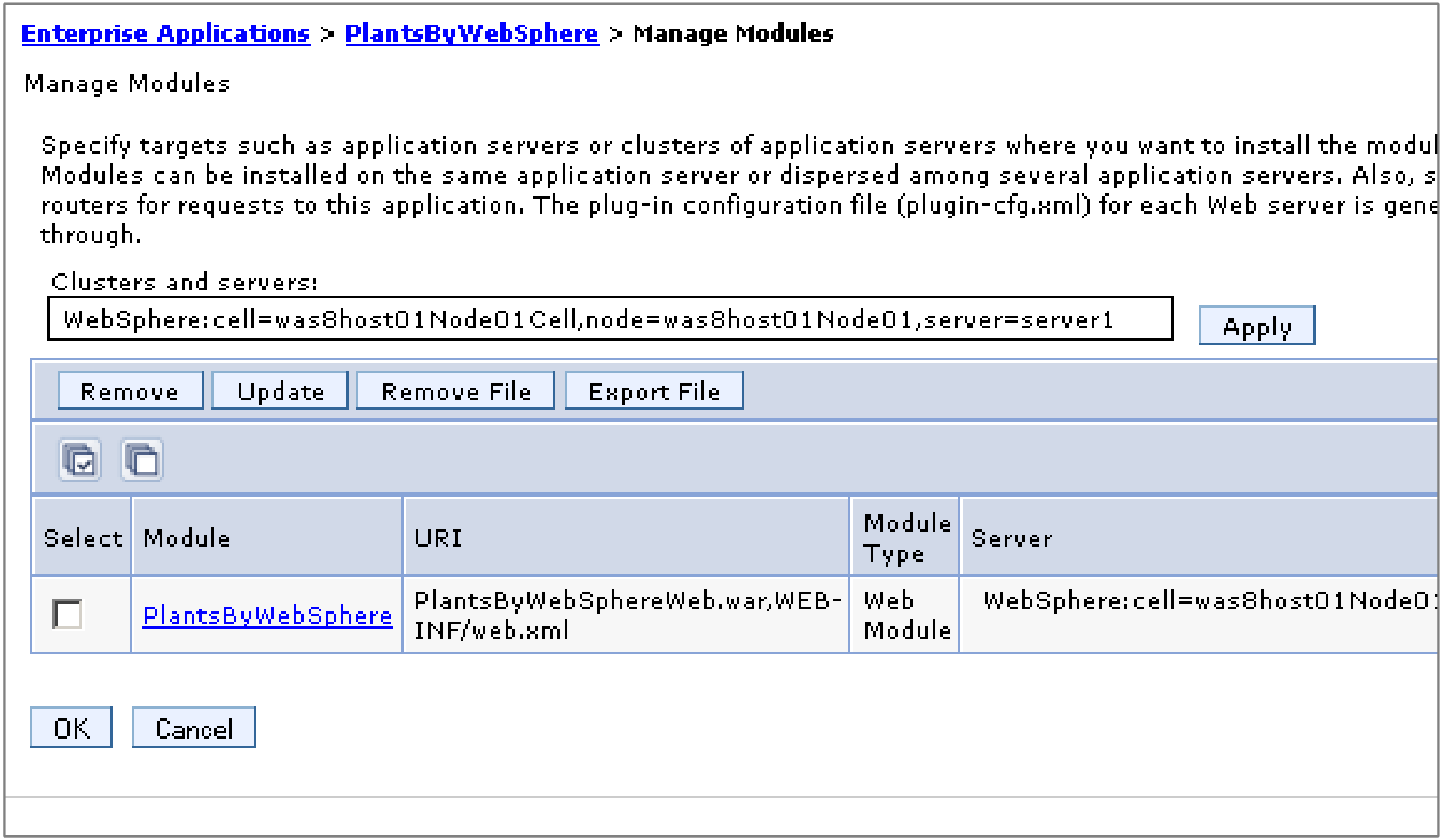
```
<application version="5"
xsi:schemaLocation="http://java.sun.com/xml/ns/javaee
http://java.sun.com/xml/ns/javaee/application_5.xsd" >
  <module>
    <web>
      <web-uri> PlantsByWebSphereWeb.war</web-uri>
      <context-root> PlantsByWebSphere</context-root>
    </web>
  </module>
  <security-role>
    <description> Samples Administrator</description>
    <role-name> SampAdmin</role-name>
  </security-role>
</application>
```

Manage modules (1 of 4)

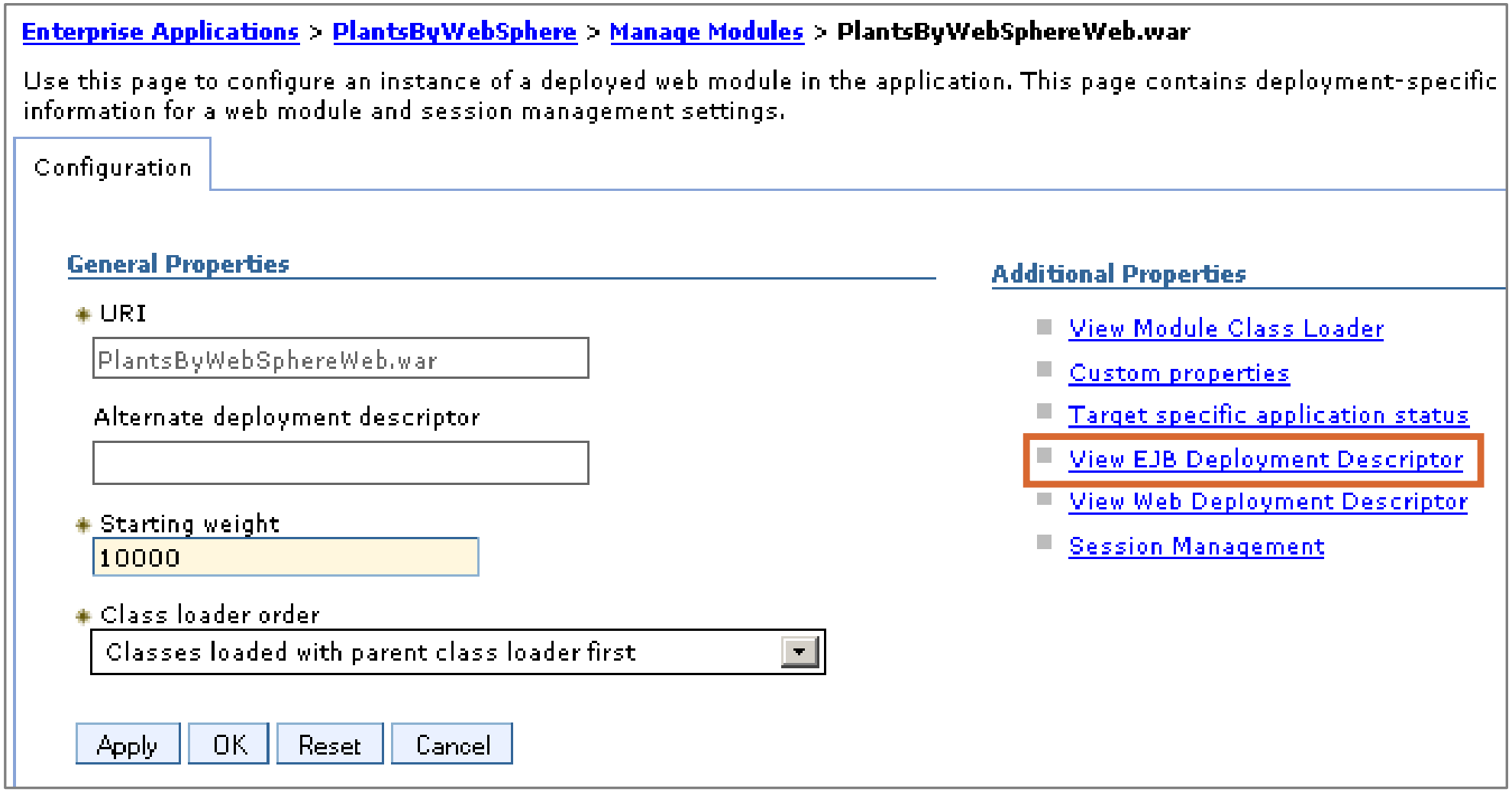
- To view the web or EJB deployment descriptors for an enterprise application
  - Click **Manage Modules**



Manage modules (2 of 4)



Manage modules (3 of 4)



Manage modules (4 of 4)

Enterprise Applications > PlantsByWebSphere > Manage Modules > PlantsByWebSphereWeb.war > Deployment Descr

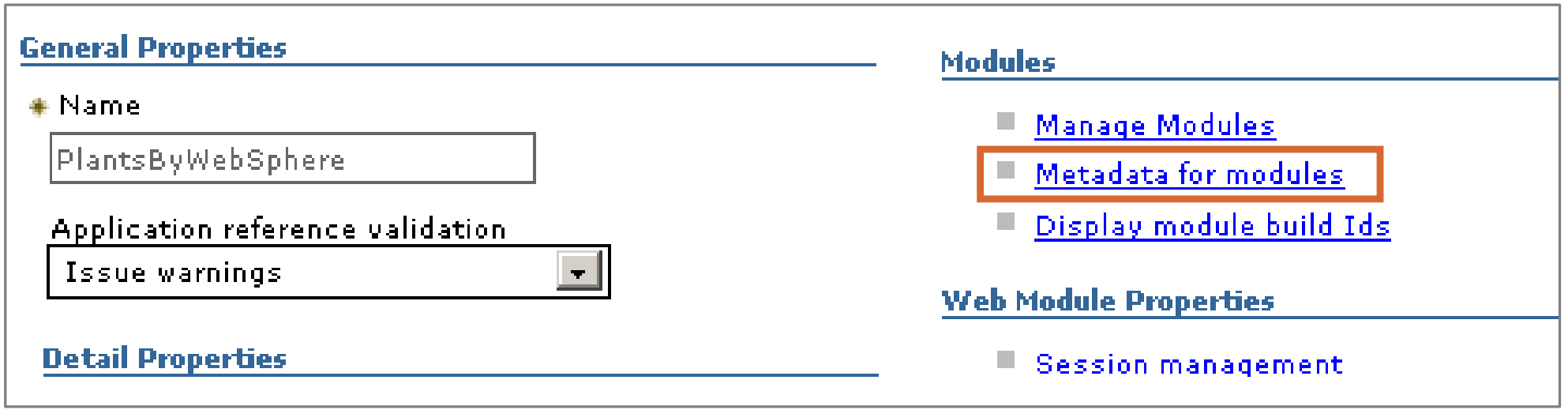
Expand and collapse the application deployment descriptor data to view.

Expand All Collapse All

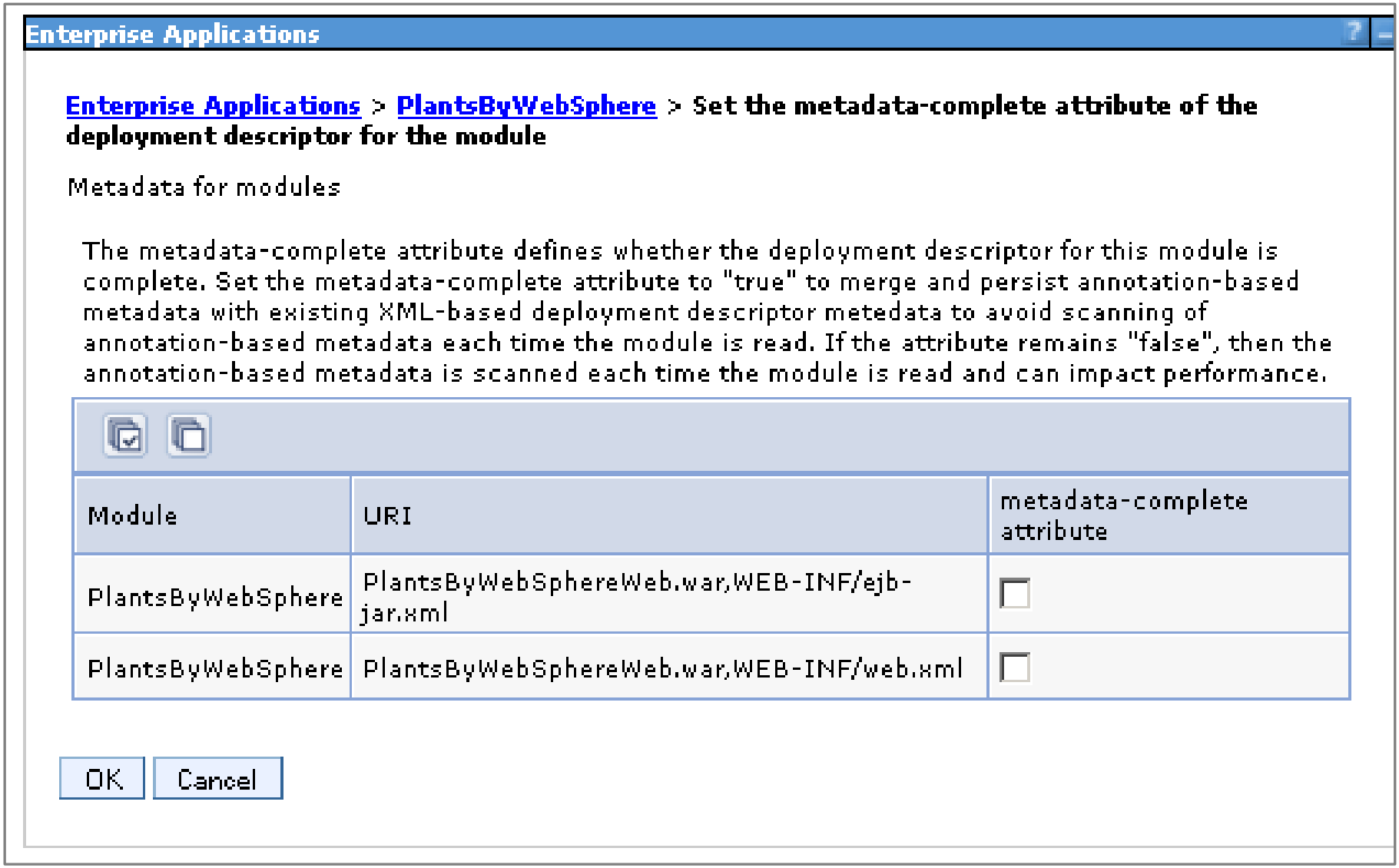
```
<ejb-jar id="ejb-jar_ID" version="3.1" metadata-complete="false" xsi:schemaLocation="http://java.sun.
/xml/ns/javaee http://java.sun.com/xml/ns/javaee/ejb-jar_3_1.xsd" >
  <enterprise-beans>
    <session>
      <ejb-name> CatalogMgr</ejb-name>
      <mapped-name/>
      <ejb-class> com.ibm.websphere.samples.pbw.ejb.CatalogMgr</ejb-class>
      <session-type> Stateless</session-type>
      <init-on-startup> False</init-on-startup>
      <concurrency-management-type> Container</concurrency-management-type>
      <local-bean/>
      <persistence-context-ref>
        <persistence-context-ref-name> com.ibm.websphere.samples.pbw.ejb.CatalogMgr/em</persistence
        context-ref-name>
        <persistence-unit-name> PBW</persistence-unit-name>
        <persistence-context-type> Transaction</persistence-context-type>
        <injection-target>
          <injection-target-class> com.ibm.websphere.samples.pbw.ejb.CatalogMgr</injection-target
          <injection-target-name> em</injection-target-name>
        </injection-target>
      </persistence-context-ref>
    </session>
```

Metadata for modules (1 of 2)

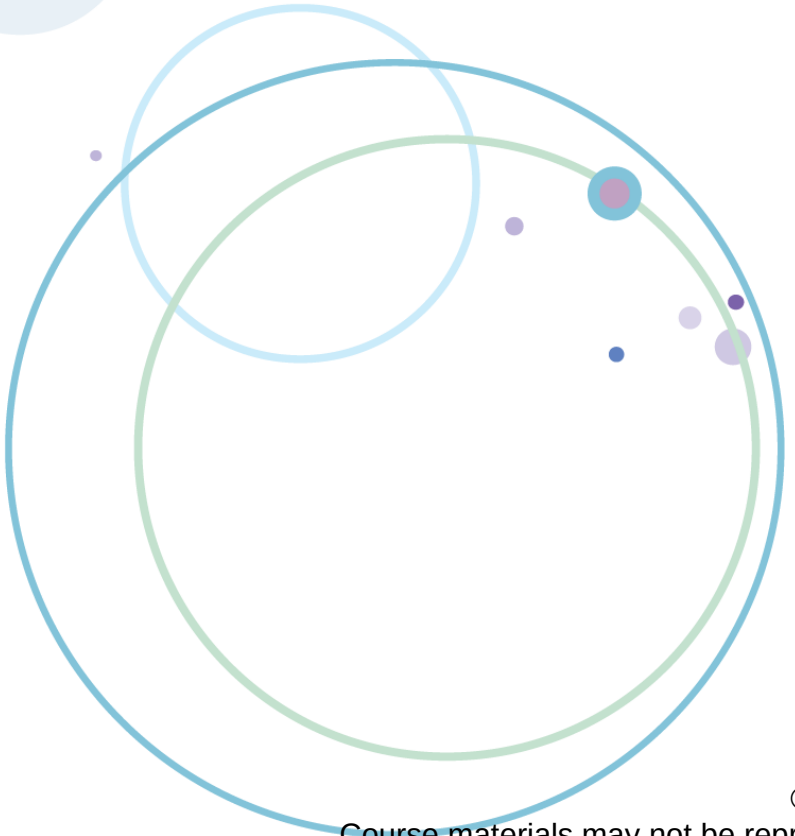
- This option enables you to either allow or ignore metadata that is coming from annotations in source code



Metadata for modules (2 of 2)



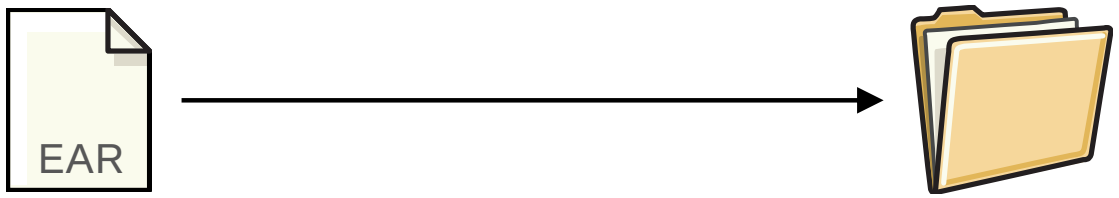
Monitored directory



Overview of monitored directory deployment

- A simple and fast way to install, update, and uninstall applications without:
  - The administrative console
  - Rational Application Developer
  - wsadmin
  - A specially configured environment

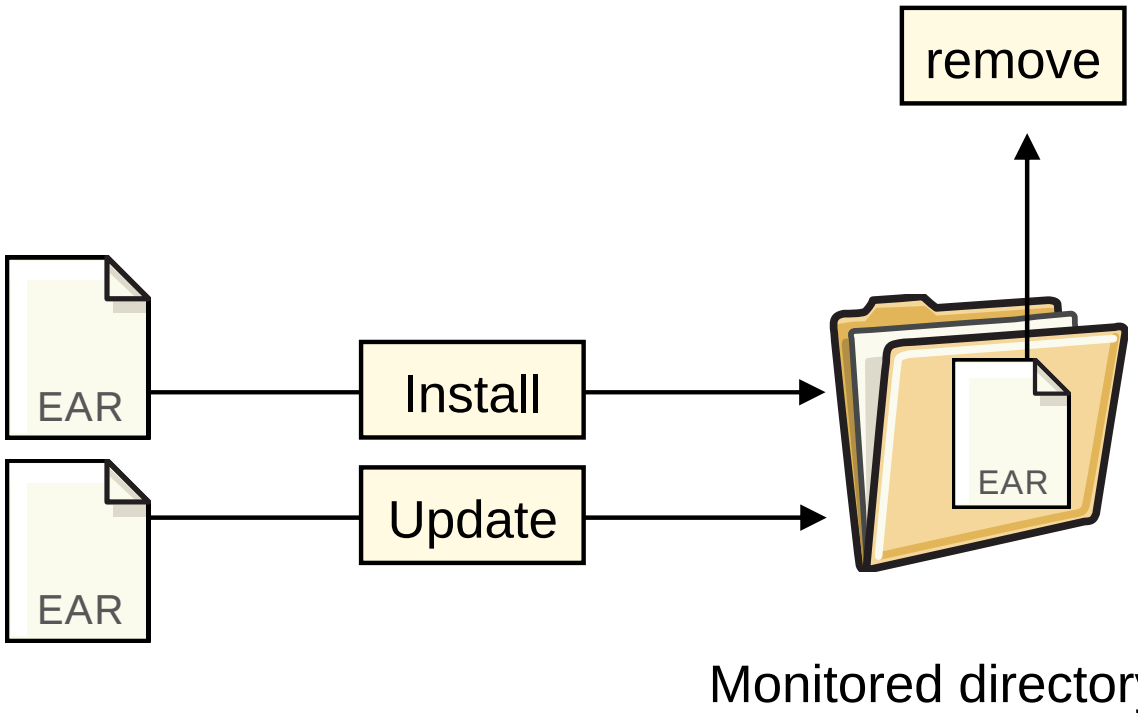
- Tasks can be accomplished by copying archive files in or out of a monitored directory
  - The application must be an EAR, JAR, WAR, or SAR



Monitored directory

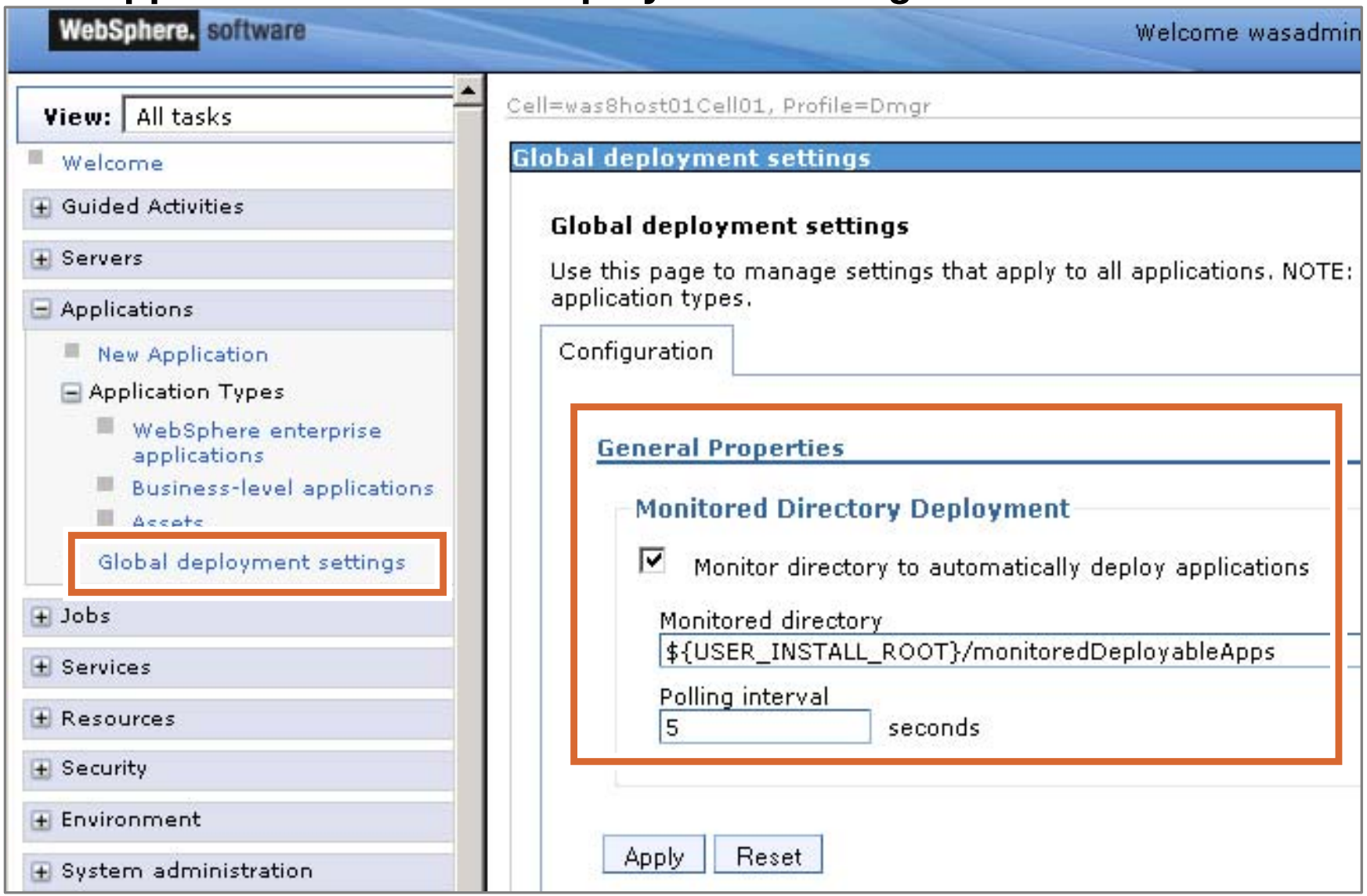
Supported tasks

- Install: place an archive file into the monitored directory
- Uninstall: remove an archive file from the monitored directory
- Update: move or copy a new archive file with the same name as an existing archive file in the monitored directory



Enabling the monitored directory

- Disabled by default in both stand-alone federated environments
  - Click **Applications > Global deployment settings**

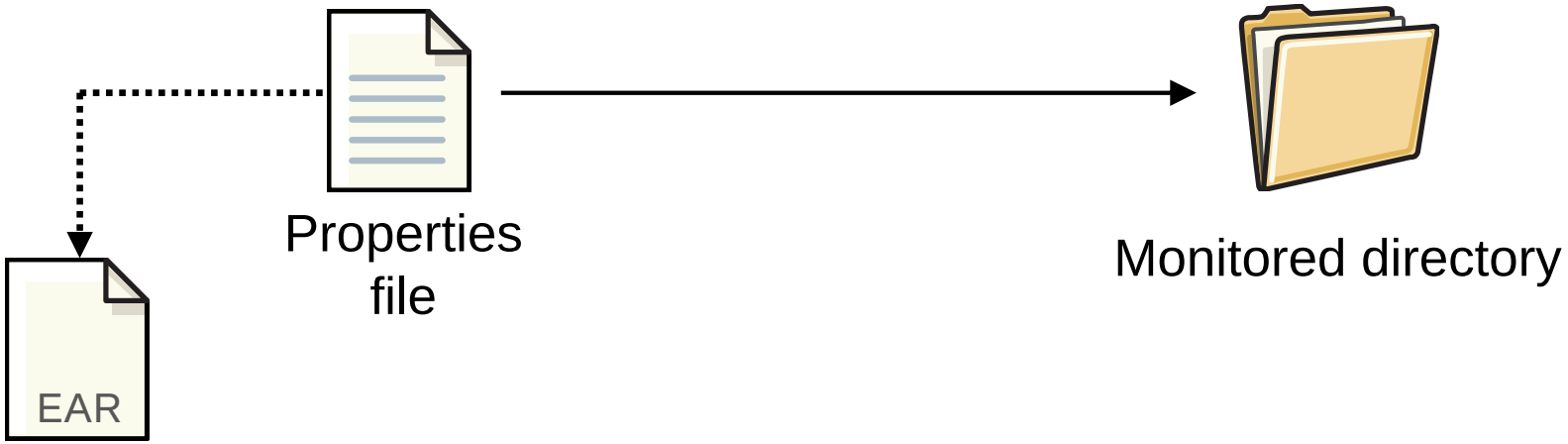


Notes about the monitored directory

- Within the existing directory structure, it is possible to create specific server, cluster, and even node directories
  - These additional structures allow tasks to be directed to specific elements of your environment
- Directory location:
  - Stand-alone: `<profile_root>/monitoredDeployableApps/servers/<servername>`
  - Federated: `<dmgr_profile>/monitoredDeployableApps/servers/<servername>`
- For clusters:
  - Create a clusters directory: `.../monitoredDeployableApps/clusters/<clustername>`
- For servers with the same name on federated nodes:
  - Applications are deployed to all servers with the same name
  - Create: `.../monitoredDeployableApps/nodes/nodename/servers/<servername>`

Drag-and-drop properties files

- The standard drag-and-drop approach lacks the ability to do anything but the default
  - There is no ability to customize a deployment in any way
- Drag-and-drop technique also supports properties file based configuration
  - A property file can define which EAR file to install, and also configure any of the necessary attributes



Properties file based configuration

- Provides a group of administrative commands
- Manage system configuration
- Troubleshoot configuration issues
- Replicate configuration properties across profiles, nodes, servers, or applications
- Use properties file on monitored directory deployment to deploy applications
- Introduced in WebSphere Application Server V7.0

Steps to use properties file to deploy applications (1 of 2)

- Step 1: create a properties file that defines deployment options
  - Use properties file based configuration command to create an application properties file
  - Extract application properties to a file with version 7 output format

```
AdminTask.extractConfigProperties('[-propertiesFileName
  myApp.props -configData Deployment=MyApplication]')
```

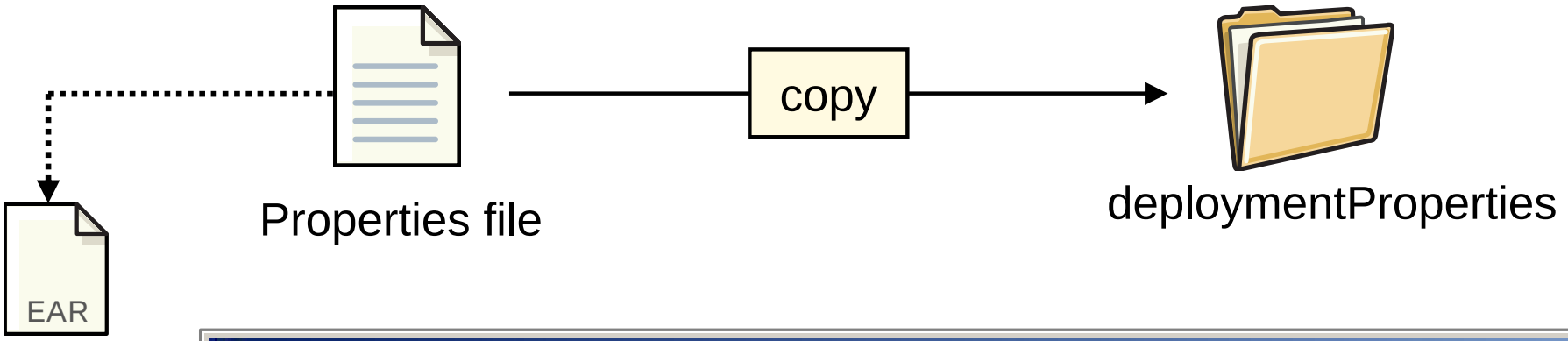
  - Extract application properties to a file with simple output format

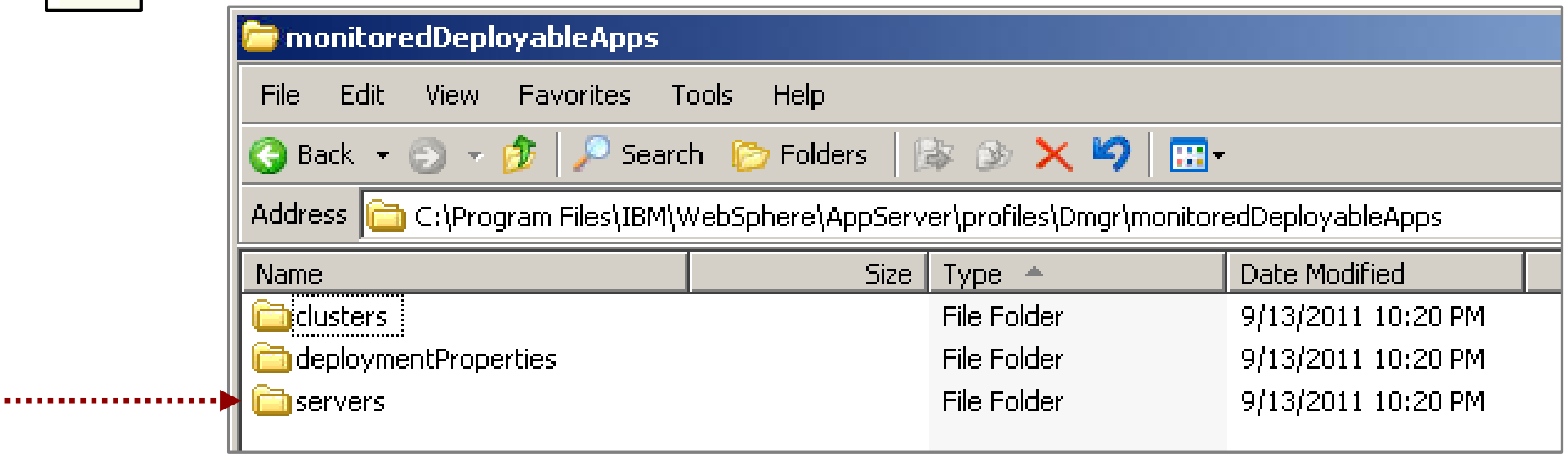
```
AdminTask.extractConfigProperties('[-propertiesFileName
  myApp.props -configData Deployment=MyApplication -
  options [[SimpleOutputFormat true]]]')
```

  - Note: the monitored directory installation process uses only the properties that relate to an application
  - Create the file manually

Steps to use properties file to deploy applications (2 of 2)

- Step 2: verify that the targeted server or cluster member is running
- Step 3: verify that monitored directory deployment is enabled
- Step 4: copy the properties file to the `deploymentProperties` directory





Unit summary

Having completed this unit, you should be able to:

- Describe methods of installing enterprise applications in WebSphere Application Server
- Explain how fine-grained application updates work
- Describe enterprise application properties
- Enable monitored directories
- Deploy an application by using the monitored directory
- Use a profile-file-based configuration with monitored directories to deploy an application

Checkpoint questions

1. True or false: You can update a single module or part of an application in the console.

2. True or false: The default startup behavior for an application is to automatically start when the server starts.

3. True or false: Monitored directory is supported in a federated environment.

Checkpoint answers

1. True. You can update a single module or part of an application.

2. True. The default startup behavior for an application is to automatically start when the server starts.

3. True. Monitored directory is supported in a federated environment.

Exercise 6

Installing an application

Exercise objectives

After completing this exercise, you should be able to:

- Use the administrative console to install an application
- Use a web browser to test the application
- Use the drag-and-drop function to deploy an application