

Parameterizing Tools with Variables

Variables can be used to parameterize text field values in tool editors (e.g., input tabs, request/response message fields, and tool configuration fields). A text field might reference environment variables, a data source column, a data bank column, or a variable defined for the current suite.

To reference a variable in this manner, you use the `${var_name}` notation: a dollar sign with the variable's name wrapped in curly braces.

Static Variables

Static variables represent values that remain constant during the execution of a tool. This includes:

- **Environment variables:** Values that come from the environment that is currently enabled for the active suite.

▼ Environment Variables

| | Name | Value |
|---|-------------------------|---|
| 1 | CALCULATOR_HOST | ws1.parasoft.com |
| 2 | CALCULATOR_PORT | 80 |
| 3 | CALCULATOR_PATH | /glue/calculator |
| 4 | WSDL | http://soatest.parasoft.com/store-01.wsdl |
| 5 | ENDPOINT_2 | http://ws1.parasoft.com/glue/store-01 |
| 6 | LOCALHOST:8080_BASE_URL | http://localhost:8080 |

- **IDE variables:** Eclipse variables, such as `project_loc`, as well as Parasoft variables, such as

`test_suite_loc` (test suite location). For example:

```
${project_loc:MyProject}/DataSource/${soa_env:CVS_DIR}/my_csv_file.csv
```

```
${test_suite_loc}/../${soa_env:XLS_DIR}/my_excel_file.xls
```

Dynamic Variables

Dynamic variables represent values that may change during tool execution—for example, data source columns, data bank columns, and suite-level variables. Data source columns depend on the current data source row.

Additional Information

- Some tool editors that take a file input have an option to conditionally resolve variables in the external file before the file is read from disk.
- Some fields support only static variables—typically in cases where an editor needs to directly resolve a variable outside the context of tool execution. For example, this is the case with file path fields in Excel and CSV data source editors, WSDL/WADL/XSD fields in messaging tools, and suite fields.
- Any data source columns referenced by a tool will cause the tool to iterate over the data source's rows.