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IRD to Composer Migration

IRD Variable Handling

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IRD Variable Handling

In IRD 8.0.1, additional variable scopes have been introduced that do not exist within Orchestration. These new scopes for variables are not supported because of the significant ramifications on how variables can be accessed and/or defined with Orchestration Server's ability to operate in a fully distributed, multi-threaded environment.

Orchestration only supports LOCAL scoped variables as these map directly to variables that can be created within SCXML. For the remaining sets of more global scopes exposed by IRD, the following table provides the current recommended approach. In general, the use cases for these are seen to be more business application related and as such should be stored within a centralized database that can manage concurrent access and transactional-based locking, or by other similar means that can provide global access control to data.

Variable Scope	Description	Migration Notes
SCRIPT	A SCRIPT variable is created when the strategy is preloaded and is destroyed when the strategy is released from URS's memory. Every run of the strategy can change the value of the same SCRIPT variable. Use SCRIPT variables with caution. (One possible use is as counters over all interactions processed by the same strategy.) Values are shared within a single strategy.	If the SCRIPT variable is only used for read purposes, then this could be populated via the provision definition and provided when script is invoked. However, this variable then need to be passed as a parameter to subroutines or other workflows. If the variable is not read only, then a DB block or other mechanism would need to be used.
USER	A USER variable is created when the tenant is active and is destroyed when the tenant is released from URS's memory. Everything running within the tenant can change the value of the same USER variable. Values are shared within the current tenant.	Since a single ORS node may provide support for multiple tenants, it is recommended that this variable be stored and operated upon in a centralized DB accessed via the DB blocks.
GLOBAL	A GLOBAL variable is created when the particular instance of URS runs and is destroyed when the URS stops running or is released from memory. Everything running on this instance of URS can change the value of the same GLOBAL variable. Values are shared within the entire URS instance.	Since Sessions may be swapped between Orchestration nodes, this is not really a real concept within Orchestration because sessions are not sticky. Any session can be executed on a multitude of nodes through its life cycle. There is currently no other recommendation other than possibly a centralized DB accessed via DB blocks.
INTERACTION	An INTERACTION variable is created when a particular interaction is active and is destroyed when the interaction ends. The value of an INTERACTION variable for one interaction has no effect on the value of the same INTERACTION variable for another interaction. Values are shared for the current interaction only.	Since this is related to the actual interaction data, it can be used to accomplish this task. This would ensure that the data is shared across Orchestration Nodes as well as any other component whenever an interaction is on.