



# vRealize Orchestrator Plug-In Development Guide

Development Guide  
Version 7.x

TECHNICAL WHITE PAPER

DECEMBER 2016

VERSION 1.0

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**Revision History**

DATE	VERSION	DESCRIPTION
Dec 2016	1.0	Initial version

## Introduction

This document describes the steps to build plug-ins for vRealize Orchestrator 7.x by using the model-driven framework.

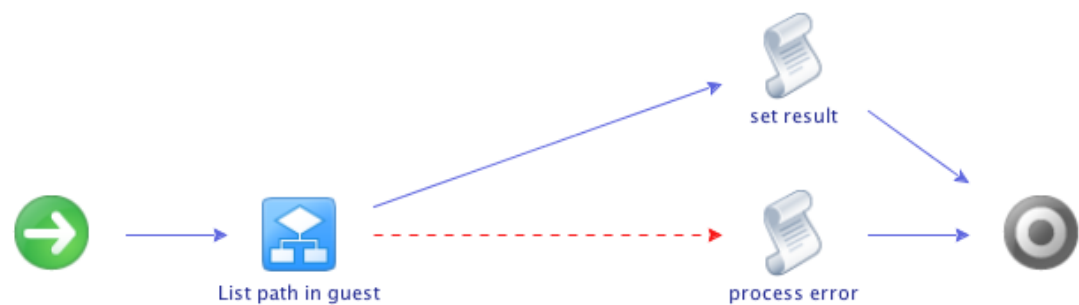
## Basic Plug-In Concepts

Plug-ins in Orchestrator rely on a few key features:

### Checkpointing

The checkpointing feature makes it possible for Orchestrator to store the state of a running workflow and resume the workflow run from where it stopped. Checkpointing occurs every time a workflow completes a step and switches to the next element.

**FIGURE 1 SHOWS A SAMPLE OF A WORKFLOW RUN.**



The sample workflow first invokes another workflow – **List path in guest**, and then calls the `set result` scripting element. When the workflow run switches from the **List path in guest** workflow to the scripting element, the engine creates a checkpoint by storing all input and output parameters, and attributes.

The sample workflow verifies if a folder exists in the file system of a specified virtual machine.

**FIGURE 2 SHOWS THE INPUT PARAMETERS OF THE SAMPLE WORKFLOW.**

General Inputs Outputs Schema Presentation Parameters References Workflow Tokens Events Permissions			
Parameters			
#	Name	Type	Description
➡	vmUsername	string	Username for the virtual machine
➡	vmPassword	SecureString	Password for the virtual machine
➡	vm	VC:VirtualMachine	Virtual machine
➡	path	string	Path in virtual machine to check

This workflow includes four input parameters. Two of them are strings, one is a custom SDK object that derives from the vRealize Orchestrator vCenter Server plug-in, and the fourth one is a secure string.

During the sample workflow run, when the **List path in guest** workflow step is completed, the engine serializes the state of the workflow, which is called token, and stores it in the Orchestrator database. When the workflow run passes to the `set result` scripting element, the engine deserializes the token and tries to resume the parameters and attributes that are associated with the workflow.

Parameter types are serialized in a different way. Serializing string types consists in storing and reading the value of the string. However, `VC:VirtualMachine` is a scripting object that contains data and methods, so serializing and deserializing it requires the use of a plug-in.

Scripting objects, whose serialization and deserialization involves using a plug-in, are known as SDK objects or finders. Such finder objects are not serialized by value but rather by a reference.

The reference has two components – object type, for example `VC:VirtualMachine` and the ID of the object. The engine delegates the deserialization of finder objects to a plug-in and invokes that plug-in by the prefix in the parameter name. The engine strips the `VC` prefix from the `VC:VirtualMachine` parameter type and invokes the `finder` and the associated ID for type `VirtualMachine`.

## Finders

Custom SDK objects are defined by the underlying plug-ins. Finders create the custom SDK objects and pass them to the platform. The platform exposes an interface that includes three methods for retrieving these objects - `findById`, `findAll` and `findRelation`.

In the example described in Figure 1 and Figure 2, on every checkpoint, the engine invokes the `findById` method to restore the object. If you set a property to the virtual machine from the example, without storing this property on a third-party system, the next checkpoint retrieves a new object from the platform but does not save the assigned property. This means that the platform retains only a reference to the custom SDK object, without serializing the objects.

# Developing Plug-Ins with Model-Driven

The sample code is available at:

HTTPS	<a href="https://github.com/dimitrovvlado/o11n-plugin-redis">https://github.com/dimitrovvlado/o11n-plugin-redis</a>
SSH	<a href="git@github.com:dimitrovvlado/o11n-plugin-redis.git">git@github.com:dimitrovvlado/o11n-plugin-redis.git</a>

Model-driven is a framework that exposes the model of third-party libraries, which makes it suitable for creating plug-ins for specific integrations. Model-driven is included in the vRealize Orchestrator 7.x SDK.

## Creating an Integration with Redis

You can use the model-driven framework included in the Orchestrator SDK to create an integration with the [Redis](#) data structure project.

### Prerequisites

- Java Development Kit 8 installation
- [Maven](#) build tool installation
- Orchestrator Appliance on version 7.0 or later
- Knowledge on [Spring IoC](#)

## Create the Skeleton of the Plug-In

The Orchestrator Appliance includes a Maven repository that contains the registered [Maven archetypes](#). You can use these archetypes to develop a plug-in.

1. From the Orchestrator welcome page, navigate to **Develop with the Orchestrator Server**.
2. In the **Develop an Orchestrator plug-in** section, copy the first command and run it in the command line of the machine you use for building the plug-in.

```
mvn archetype:generate -DarchetypeCatalog=https://{vro_host}:8281/vco-repo/archetype-catalog.xml
-DrepoUrl=https://{vro_host}:8281/vco-repo -Dmaven.repo.remote=https://{vro_host}:8281/vco-repo
-Dmaven.wagon.http.ssl.insecure=true -Dmaven.wagon.http.ssl.allowall=true
```

With this command, Maven generates a project by using the archetype catalog in the internal Maven repository of the Orchestrator Appliance. The command is interactive and requires specifying several parameters.

- a. Select the numeric option that corresponds to the model-driven archetype.

```
Choose archetype:
1:  https://{vro_host}:8281/vco-repo/archetype-catalog.xml  ->  com.vmware.olln:olln-plugin-
archetype-inventory (ollnplugin-project-archetype)
2:  https://{vro_host}:8281/vco-repo/archetype-catalog.xml  ->  com.vmware.olln:olln-package-
archetype (ollnplugin-project-archetype)
3:  https://{vro_host}:8281/vco-repo/archetype-catalog.xml  ->  com.vmware.olln:olln-archetype-
inventory-annotation (ollnplugin-project-archetype)
4:  https://{vro_host}:8281/vco-repo/archetype-catalog.xml  ->  com.vmware.olln:olln-plugin-
archetype-simple (ollnplugin-project-archetype)
5:  https://{vro_host}:8281/vco-repo/archetype-catalog.xml  ->  com.vmware.olln:olln-archetype-
spring (ollnplugin-spring-archetype)
6:  https://{vro_host}:8281/vco-repo/archetype-catalog.xml  ->  com.vmware.olln:olln-plugin-
archetype-modeldriven (ollnplugin-project-archetype)
7:  https://{vro_host}:8281/vco-repo/archetype-catalog.xml  ->  com.vmware.olln:olln-client-
archetype-rest (ollnplugin-project-archetype)
Choose a number or apply filter (format: [groupId:]artifactId, case sensitive contains): : 6
```

- b. Enter the group ID according to the naming convention that your company uses. For more information, see the **Guide to naming conventions on groupId, artifactId and version** in the official Maven documentation.

```
Define value for property 'groupId': : com.vmware.olln.plugin
[INFO] Using property: groupId = com.vmware.olln.plugin
```

- c. Enter the artifactId that corresponds to the developed integration. In the example – Redis.

```
Define value for property 'artifactId': : redis
[INFO] Using property: artifactId = redis
```

- d. Enter the name of the package.

The package name should correspond to the `groupId` value and must be compliant with the Java packages naming convention. For more information, see **Naming a Package** in the official Java documentation.

```
Define value for property 'package': com.vmware.o11n.plugin: : com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis
[INFO] Using property: package = com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis
```

- e. Enter name and alias of the plug-in.

```
Define value for property 'pluginAlias': : Redis
Define value for property 'pluginName': : Redis
```

The alias must not contain spaces because it is used as a prefix for the scripting objects. The archetype also uses the alias to prefix the adaptor and the factory of the plug-in.

**NOTE** If the prefix contains spaces or invalid characters, Java classes with invalid names might be generated and the plug-in might not compile successfully.

When you output all parameters, you will be prompted to confirm the information.

```
Confirm properties configuration:
groupId: com.vmware.o11n.plugin
groupId: com.vmware.o11n.plugin
artifactId: redis
artifactId: redis
version: 1.0.0-SNAPSHOT
package: com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis
package: com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis
pluginAlias: Redis
pluginName: Redis
repoUrl: https://{vro_host}:8281/vco-repo
vcoVersion: {vro_version}
```

**NOTE** The `vcoVersion` value depends on the version of the Orchestrator SDK that you use.

3. Navigate to the project directory. Verify that the directory structure corresponds to the example.

```
drwxr-xr-x  9 vdimitrov staff  306 Feb  7 11:08 .
drwxr-xr-x 46 vdimitrov staff 1564 Feb  6 10:34 ..
drwxr-xr-x  4 vdimitrov staff  136 Feb  7 11:08 o11nplugin-redis
drwxr-xr-x  4 vdimitrov staff  136 Feb  7 11:08 o11nplugin-redis-core
drwxr-xr-x  4 vdimitrov staff  136 Feb  7 11:08 o11nplugin-redis-custom
drwxr-xr-x  3 vdimitrov staff  102 Feb  7 11:08 o11nplugin-redis-gen
drwxr-xr-x  6 vdimitrov staff  204 Feb  7 11:08 o11nplugin-redis-package
-rw-r--r--  1 vdimitrov staff 2519 Feb  7 11:08 pom.xml
```

4. Run the `mvn clean install` command to build the plug-in.

```
mvn clean install -Dmaven.wagon.http.ssl.insecure=true -Dmaven.wagon.http.ssl.allowall=true
```

**NOTE** When you build a project from the repository, you must add the Orchestrator IP address or DNS name in the root `pom.xml`. By default, the archetype does this automatically.

```
mvn clean install -Dmaven.wagon.http.ssl.insecure=true -Dmaven.wagon.http.ssl.allowall=true -Drepo.host={vro_host}
```

If the build is successful, the console displays the [INFO] BUILD SUCCESS message.

**NOTE** If you generate the Redis integration plug-in with Orchestrator 7.0, the build might fail because of a missing file. To work around the problem, you must open the {plug-in-home}/o11nplugin-redis-core/src/main/resources/com/vmware/o11n/plugin/redis/plugin.xml file and append the following content:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
  <beans xmlns="http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans"
    xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
    xmlns:context="http://www.springframework.org/schema/context"
    xmlns:util="http://www.springframework.org/schema/util"
    xmlns:task="http://www.springframework.org/schema/task"
    xsi:schemaLocation="http://www.springframework.org/schema/task
http://www.springframework.org/schema/task/spring-task-3.0.xsd
    http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans
http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans/spring-beans-3.0.xsd
    http://www.springframework.org/schema/context
http://www.springframework.org/schema/context/spring-context-3.0.xsd
    http://www.springframework.org/schema/util
http://www.springframework.org/schema/util/spring-util-3.0.xsd">
    <context:component-scan base-package="com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis" />

    <import resource="classpath:com/vmware/o11n/plugin/sdk/spring/pluginEnv.xml"
/>

    <bean class="com.vmware.o11n.sdk.modeldriven.impl.PolicyService" />
    <bean class="com.vmware.o11n.sdk.modeldriven.impl.DefaultInventoryService" />
    <bean class="com.vmware.o11n.sdk.modeldriven.impl.DefaultObjectFactory" />
    <bean class="com.vmware.o11n.sdk.modeldriven.impl.DefaultCollectionFactory" />
    <bean class="com.vmware.o11n.sdk.modeldriven.impl.DefaultProxyResolver" />
    <bean
class="com.vmware.o11n.sdk.modeldriven.impl.DefaultRuntimeConfiguration">
      <property name="properties">
        <util:properties location="com/vmware/o11n/plugin/redis_gen/runtime-
config.properties" />
      </property>
    </bean>

    <bean
id="pluginFactory"
class="com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis.RedisPluginFactory"
autowire-candidate="false" scope="prototype" />
  </beans>
```

## Postrequisites



- The `PluginFactory` class must match your factory, namely `RedisPluginFactory`.
- The `redis_gen` directory that contains the `runtime-config.properties` file must match the folder of your plug-in project.

## File Structure

The home folder of the plug-in contains five Maven modules.

### `o11nplugin-redis`

The `o11nplugin-redis` folder contains the plug-in deliverables.

#### **.dar archive**

- Contains the plug-in JAR files and the dependable JAR files.
- Contains the plug-in icons.
- Contains the `.package` archive that includes the workflows and actions.

#### **.vmoapp file**

- Contains one or multiple DAR archives.
- Contains the End-User License Agreement.

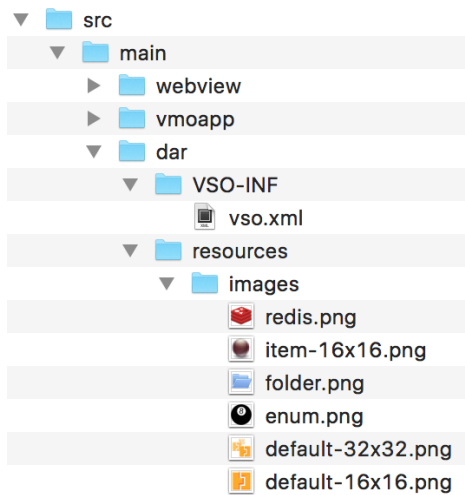
#### **vso.xml descriptor file**

- Contains information about the plug-in.
- Contains system information about the plug-in, such as name, scripting objects, inventory objects, name of the `.package` file.

#### **Images folder**

- Contains icons that you can associate inventory objects with.

**FIGURE 3** SHOWS HOW THE STRUCTURE OF THE `O11NPLUGIN-REDIS` FOLDER LOOKS LIKE.



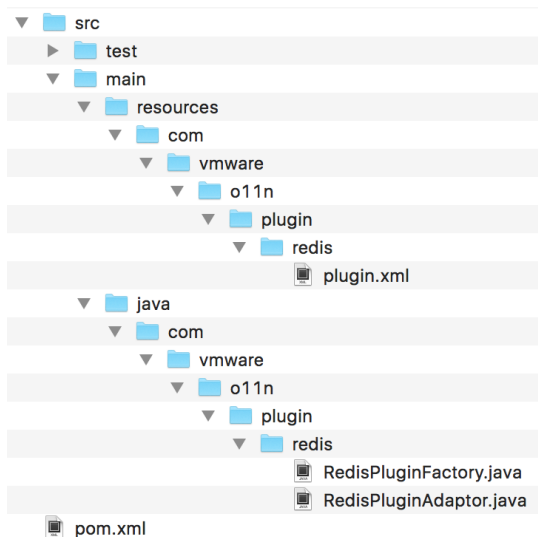
## o11nplugin-redis-core

This folder contains implementations that are related to the persistence, inventory objects and their mutual relations, scripting objects, caching, unit tests, and others. The `o11nplugin-redis-core` folder also includes the `PluginAdaptor` class, which is the entry point for the plug-in, and `PluginFactory`, which is a method of finding inventory objects but model-driven does not use this method.

### plugin.xml file

The `plugin.xml` file is a spring configuration file. This file defines a set of beans for the model-driven framework.

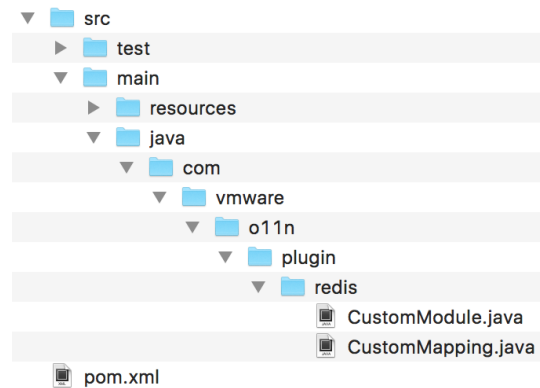
**FIGURE 4 SHOWS HOW THE STRUCTURE OF THE O11NPLUGIN-REDIS-CORE FOLDER LOOKS LIKE.**



## o11nplugin-redis-custom

The `o11nplugin-redis-custom` folder is essential for the model-driven-based plug-ins because it stores all scripting objects and their finders.

**FIGURE 5 SHOWS THE STRUCTURE OF THE O11NPLUGIN-REDIS-CUSTOM FOLDER.**



### CustomModule.java file

In the `CustomModule.java` file, you apply modifications to the `vso.xml` descriptor file.

```

public CustomModule() {
    this.plugin = new Plugin();
    plugin.setApiPrefix("Redis");
    plugin.setIcon("default-32x32.png");
    plugin.setDescription("Redis");
    plugin.setDisplayName("Redis");
    plugin.setName("Redis");
    plugin.setPackages(Collections.singletonList("o11nplugin-example-package-
${project.version}.package"));
    plugin.setAdaptorClassName(com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis.RedisPluginAdaptor.class);
}
  
```

In this file, you define the name and the prefix of the plug-in, and the content of the `.package` file. Here you also define the `PluginAdaptor` class that points the plug-in entry point to the platform.

### CustomMapping.java file

This is the Java class that contains all scripting objects, singleton objects, and finders of the plug-in. In the `CustomMapping.java` file you bind all dynamic parts of the plug-in.

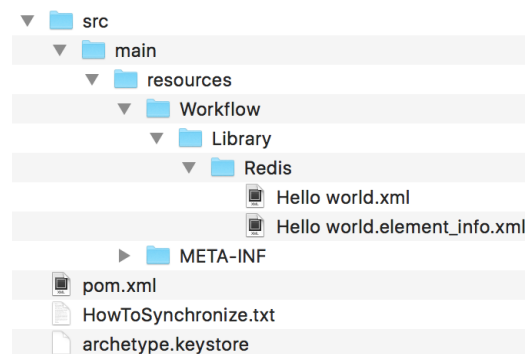
## o11nplugin-redis-gen

The `o11nplugin-redis-gen` folder stores all the generated code. You do not use this module for building the Redis integration plug-in. The `pom.xml` file in this folder contains a custom Maven plug-in.

## o11nplugin-redis-package

This folder includes the text representation of the plug-in, such as workflows, actions, resource elements, configurations but without their corresponding binary files.

**FIGURE 6 SHOWS THE STRUCTURE OF THE O11NPLUGIN-REDIS-PACKAGE FOLDER.**



## HelloWorld.xml file







The `HelloWorld.xml` file is a sample workflow text representation file.

## Deploy the Plug-In

After you confirm that the plug-in built is successful, you upload the plug-in to the Orchestrator server.

1. Log in to Control Center as **root**.
2. Go to the **Manage Plug-ins** page.
3. Browse to the `o11nplugin-redis.vmoapp` file that is located in the `{plug-in-home}/o11nplugin-redis/target` directory.
4. Click **Install** to install the plug-in.
5. Restart the Orchestrator server service from the **Startup Options** page in Control Center.
6. Log in to the Orchestrator client.
7. Click **Help > Installed plug-ins...**
8. Verify that the Redis plug-in is available in the **Plug-ins installed in the server** list.

**FIGURE 7 SHOWS THE REDIS PLUG-IN IN THE LIST OF AVAILABLE PLUG-INS THAT ARE INSTALLED ON THE ORCHESTRATOR SERVER.**

	SNMP	1.0.3	Simple Network Manageme...
	PowerShell	1.0.7	Power Shell Plug-in
	Net	7.0.0	Wrapper to Jakarta Apache ...
	AMQP	1.0.4	AMQP Plug-in
	Redis	1.0.0-SNAPSHOT	Redis
	XML	7.0.0	XML Plug-in

## Modify the Plug-In Descriptor File

You can customize the plug-in further, for example by changing the plug-in icon that appears in Control Center and in the Orchestrator client.

1. Open the `CustomModule.java` file in the `o11nplugin-redis-custom` folder and change the icon and the description of the Redis plug-in.

```
public CustomModule() {
    this.plugin = new Plugin();
    plugin.setApiPrefix("Redis");
    plugin.setIcon("redis.png");
    plugin.setDescription("Redis plug-in for vRO");
    plugin.setDisplayName("Redis");
    plugin.setName("Redis");
    plugin.setPackages(Collections.singletonList("o11nplugin-redis-package-
${project.version}.package"));
    plugin.setAdaptorClassName(com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis.RedisPluginAdaptor.class);
}
```

2. Run the `mvn clean install` command to rebuild the plug-in.

```
mvn clean install -Dmaven.wagon.http.ssl.insecure=true -Dmaven.wagon.http.ssl.allowall=true
```

3. (Optional) During the installation, you can change the build number, the version and the installation mode of the plug-in, by adding the corresponding properties to the `install` command.

For example:

```
mvn clean install -Dbuild.number=999 -Dinstallation.mode=always
```

**NOTE** The `installation mode` is a property that defines the behavior of the newly-built plug-in content. The value of the installation mode can be either `never`, `always` or `version`.

VALUE	DESCRIPTION
never	The new content never overwrites the existing content.
always	The new content always overwrites the existing content. For example, if the new content has a lower version number compared to the existing one.

version	Compare the versions and update the plug-in only if the new version number is higher than the existing one.
---------	---

When the new build completes, the `vso.xml` file in the `{plug-in-home}/o11nplugin-redis/src/main/dar/VSO-INF` directory shows the new values for the icon and for the description.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" standalone="yes"?>
<module name="Redis" version="${project.version}" build-number="${build.number}"
image="images/redis.png" display-name="Redis">

    <description>Redis plug-in for vRO</description>

    <installation mode="${installation.mode}">

        <action resource="packages/o11nplugin-redis-package-${project.version}.package"
type="install-package"/>

    </installation>

    <inventory type="_ROOT"/>

    <finder-datasources>

        <finder-datasource name="main-datasource" adaptor-
class="com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis.RedisPluginAdaptor" concurrent-call="false" anonymous-
login-mode="internal"/>

    </finder-datasources>

    <finders>

        <finder hidden="true" datasource="main-datasource" type="_ROOT">

            <inventory-children/>

            <relations/>

        </finder>

    </finders>

    <scripting-objects/>

</module>
```

## Create a Scripting Object

Besides changing the basic plug-in configuration options, you can add some code that makes the plug-in complete a task. You can create a scripting object and statically invoke its methods, by using a scripting singleton.

1. Under the `{plug-in-home}/o11nplugin-redis-core/src/main/java/com/vmware/o11n/plugin/redis` create a new directory with name `singleton`.

This directory constitutes the `com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis.singleton` package of the plug-in.

2. Create a `ConnectionManager` scripting class in the `com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis.singleton` package.
3. Save the `ConnectionManager` scripting class as a `ConnectionManager.java` file in the `singleton` directory.

```
package com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis.singleton;
/**
```

```

* A scripting singleton for managing redis connections.
*/
public class ConnectionManager {
    /**
     * This method creates a redis connection by the provided name, host and
     * port.
     *
     * @param connectionName
     *         the name of the connection, only one with the same name can
     *         exist
     * @param redisHost
     *         the redis host, cannot be null
     * @param redisPort
     *         redis port
     * @return the ID of the newly created connection
     */
    public String save(String connectionName, String redisHost, int redisPort) {
        return null;
    }
}

```

1. Add the singleton (ConnectionManager.class) line to the CustomMapping.java file so that the plug-in can expose the ConnectionManager class as a scripting object.

```

package com.vmware.olln.plugin.redis;

import com.vmware.olln.plugin.redis.singleton.ConnectionManager;
import com.vmware.olln.sdk.modeldrivengen.mapping.AbstractMapping;

public class CustomMapping extends AbstractMapping {
    @Override
    public void define() {
        singleton(ConnectionManager.class);
    }
}

```

2. Build the plug-in again, by running the mvn clean install command.
3. Verify the changes in the vso.xml file.

```

<scripting-objects>
    <object create="false" java-
class="com.vmware.olln.plugin.redis_gen.ConnectionManager_Wrapper" script-
name="_RedisConnectionManager">
        <description></description>
    </object>
</scripting-objects>

```

```

<singleton script-name="RedisConnectionManager" datasource="main-datasource"/>
<attributes/>
<constructors/>
<methods>
  <method script-name="save" java-name="save" return-type="String">
    <description></description>
    <parameters>
      <parameter type="String" name="connectionName"></parameter>
      <parameter type="String" name="redisHost"></parameter>
      <parameter type="Number" name="redisPort"></parameter>
    </parameters>
  </method>
</methods>
</object>
</scripting-objects>

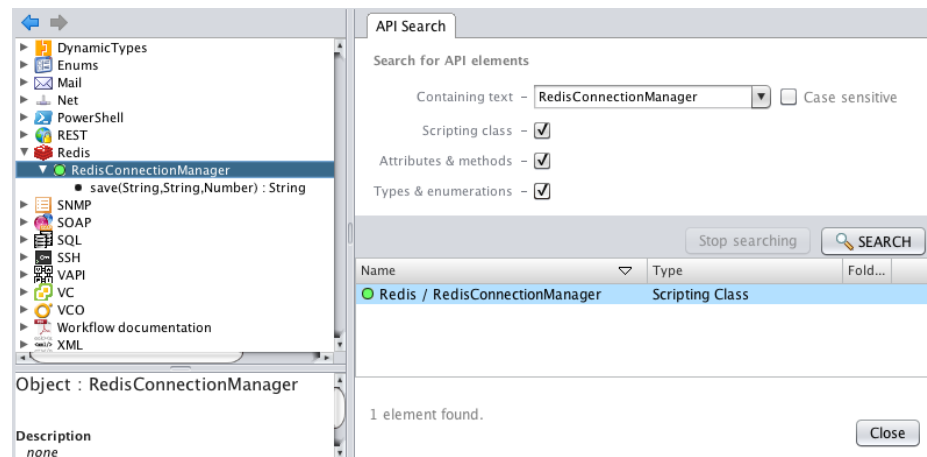
```

The Orchestrator platform can interpret the scripting-objects tag. `RedisConnectionManager` is a scripting object associated to the `ConnectionManager` class.

With model-driven you can extend objects with different functionalities. For example, in this example, the `vso.xml` file points to a wrapper class, instead of pointing to the scripting object itself.

4. Install the modified version of the plug-in to the Orchestrator server. See [Deploy the Plug-In](#).
5. Log in to the Orchestrator client.
6. Navigate under **Tools > API Explorer**.
7. Expand the Redis plug-in to browse through the API elements.

**FIGURE 8 SHOWS THE API ELEMENTS OF THE REDIS PLUG-IN.**



The `ConnectionManager` class is exposed as a scripting object together with the `save` method.



**NOTE** By default, the code generator adds the name of the plug-in as a prefix of the plug-in objects. For example, `ConnectionManager` becomes `RedisConnectionManager`.

## Add Endpoint Configuration

1. Under the `{plug-in-home}/o11nplugin-redis-core/src/main/java/com/vmware/o11n/plugin/redis` create a new directory with name `model`.

This directory constitutes the `com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis.model` package of the plug-in.

2. Create an endpoint configuration.

Most of the Orchestrator plug-ins require an endpoint configuration. An endpoint is a location where the plug-in stores connection details for the instances, with which Orchestrator communicates.

The following example shows a plain old Java object (POJO) that is used to store connection details for the plug-in endpoint, such as connection name, host name and host port. For more information on the available interfaces and configuration services, see [Plug-In SDK Guide for vRealize Orchestrator](#).

```
package com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis.model;
import org.springframework.util.Assert;
import com.vmware.o11n.sdk.modeldriven.Sid;
/**
 * Object for all the redis connection details.
 */
public class ConnectionInfo {
    /**
     * Name of the connection as defined by the user when creating a connection
     */
    private String name;
    /**
     * ID of the connection
     */
    private final Sid id;
    /**
     * Service URI of the third party system
     */
    private String host;
    /**
     * Port of the connection, defaults the to redis default port number
     */
    private int port = 6379;
    public ConnectionInfo() {
        this.id = Sid.unique();
    }
}
```

```

    }
    /*
     * Verify that each ConnectionInfo has an ID.
     */
    public ConnectionInfo(Sid id) {
        super();
        Assert.notNull(id, "Id cannot be null.");
        this.id = id;
    }
    public String getName() {
        return name;
    }
    public void setName(String name) {
        this.name = name;
    }
    public String getHost() {
        return host;
    }
    public void setHost(String host) {
        this.host = host;
    }
    public Sid getId() {
        return id;
    }
    public void setPort(int port) {
        this.port = port;
    }
    public int getPort() {
        return port;
    }
    @Override
    public String toString() {
        return "ConnectionInfo [name=" + name + ", id=" + id + ", uri=" + host + ", port=" +
port + "]";
    }
}

```

1. Specify an ID, so that the default constructor can find a unique ID.

Plug-ins use `Sid` instead of a string ID. When you build hierarchies of object, each child object must know its parent ID. A `Sid` wraps multiple key-value objects and you can identify a single object by different properties.

For example, a single configuration can have multiple connections, each connection has a list of locations and each location has a list of virtual machine images. When you run certain operation, for example delete, on a virtual machine image, you must know the specific connection, to which you run the command. By using a `Sid`, you can identify the virtual machine image object by connection ID, name and location.

2. Save the endpoint configuration as a `ConnectionInfo.java` file in the `model` directory.
3. Wrap `ConnectionInfo` to `Connection` to expose the actual object as a scripting object.

```
package com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis.model;

import org.springframework.beans.factory.annotation.Qualifier;
import org.springframework.context.annotation.Scope;
import org.springframework.stereotype.Component;

@Component
@Qualifier(value = "connection")
@Scope(value = "prototype")
public class Connection {

    /*
     * The connectionInfo which stands behind this live connection.
     */
    private ConnectionInfo connectionInfo;

    /*
     * There is no default constructor, the Connection must be initialized only
     * with a connection info argument.
     */
    public Connection(ConnectionInfo info) {
        init(info);
    }

    public synchronized ConnectionInfo getConnectionInfo() {
        return connectionInfo;
    }

    public String getDisplayName() {
        return getConnectionInfo().getName() + " [" + getConnectionInfo().getHost() + "];"
    }

    /*
     * Updates this connection with the provided info. This operation will
     * destroy the existing third party client, causing all associated
     * operations to fail.
     */
    public synchronized void update(ConnectionInfo connectionInfo) {
        if (this.connectionInfo != null &&
            !connectionInfo.getId().equals(this.connectionInfo.getId())) {
            throw new IllegalArgumentException("Cannot update using different id");
        }
    }
}
```

```

    }
    destroy();
    init(connectionInfo);
}
private void init(ConnectionInfo connectionInfo) {
    this.connectionInfo = connectionInfo;
}
public synchronized void destroy() {
    // Destroy the third party client
}
}

```

**NOTE** After the Connection object is exposed as a scripting, it will also be exposed as an inventory object.

4. Save the Connection object as a Connection.java file in the model directory.
5. Under the {plug-in-home}/o11nplugin-redis-core/src/main/java/com/vmware/o11n/plugin/redis create a new directory with name config.

This directory constitutes the com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis.config package of the plug-in.

6. Add to the com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis.config package a connection, a persister, and an interface to use for object messaging.
  - a. Add ConnectionPersister and save it as a ConnectionPersister.java file.

**NOTE** ConnectionPersister invokes the Orchestrator Persistence SDK.

```

package com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis.config;
import java.util.List;
import com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis.model.ConnectionInfo;
import com.vmware.o11n.sdk.modeldriven.Sid;
public interface ConnectionPersister {
    /**
     * Returns a collection of all stored configurations (resources under a
     * folder with the plug-in name)
     */
    public List<ConnectionInfo> findAll();
    /**
     * Returns a collection by its ID or null if not found
     */
    public ConnectionInfo findById(Sid id);
    /**
     * Stores a connection info or updates it if already available. The
     * persister checks the availability of a connection by its ID
     */
}

```

```

public ConnectionInfo save(ConnectionInfo connection);
/**
 * Deletes a connection info. The persister will use the ID of the
 * connection
 */
public void delete(ConnectionInfo connectionInfo);
/**
 * Allows us to subscribe to the events of the persister. For example, if a
 * connection is deleted, the persister will trigger an event, notifying all
 * subscribers. This is an implementation of the observer pattern.
 */
void addChangeListener(ConfigurationChangeListener listener);
/**
 * Forces the persister to read all the configurations and trigger the
 * events. This method is invoked when the plug-in is loaded on server
 * start-up.
 */
public void load();
}

```

b. Add `DefaultConnectionPersister` and save it as a `DefaultConnectionPersister.java` file.

```

package com.vmware.olln.plugin.redis.config;
import java.io.IOException;
import java.util.ArrayList;
import java.util.Collection;
import java.util.List;
import java.util.concurrent.CopyOnWriteArrayList;
import org.apache.commons.lang.Validate;
import org.slf4j.Logger;
import org.slf4j.LoggerFactory;
import org.springframework.beans.factory.annotation.Autowired;
import org.springframework.stereotype.Component;
import com.vmware.olln.plugin.redis.model.ConnectionInfo;
import com.vmware.olln.sdk.modeldriven.Sid;
import ch.dunes.vso.sdk.endpoints.IEndpointConfiguration;
import ch.dunes.vso.sdk.endpoints.IEndpointConfigurationService;
@Component
public class DefaultConnectionPersister implements ConnectionPersister {
    private static final Logger log =
        LoggerFactory.getLogger(DefaultConnectionPersister.class);

```

```

/**
 * A list of listeners, who have subscribed to any configuration events,
 * such as connection updates and deletions.
 */
private final Collection<ConfigurationChangeListener> listeners;
public DefaultConnectionPersister() {
    // Initialise the listeners
    listeners = new CopyOnWriteArrayList<ConfigurationChangeListener>();
}
/**
 * Constants of the key names under which the connection values will be
 * stored.
 */
private static final String ID = "connectionId";
private static final String NAME = "name";
private static final String SERVICE_HOST = "serviceHost";
private static final String SERVICE_PORT = "servicePort";
/**
 * The platform-provided service for configuration persistence
 */
@Autowired
private IEndpointConfigurationService endpointConfigurationService;
/**
 * Returns a collection of all stored configurations for this plug-in only
 * The service is aware of the plug-in name, thus will return only
 * configurations for this plug-in.
 */
@Override
public List<ConnectionInfo> findAll() {
    Collection<IEndpointConfiguration> configs;
    try {
        // Use the configuration service to retrieve all configurations.
        // The service is aware of the plug-in name, thus will return only
        // configurations for this plug-in.
        configs = endpointConfigurationService.getEndpointConfigurations();
        List<ConnectionInfo> result = new ArrayList<>(configs.size());
        // Iterate all the connections
        for (IEndpointConfiguration config : configs) {
            // Convert the IEndpointConfiguration to our domain object - the

```

```

        // ConnectionInfo
        ConnectionInfo connectionInfo = getConnectionInfo(config);
        if (connectionInfo != null) {
            log.debug("Adding connection info to result map: " + connectionInfo);
            result.add(connectionInfo);
        }
    }

    return result;
} catch (IOException e) {
    log.debug("Error reading connections.", e);
    throw new RuntimeException(e);
}
}

/**
 * Returns a ConnectionInfo by its ID The service is aware of the plug-in
 * name, thus cannot return a configuration for another plug-in.
 */
@Override
public ConnectionInfo findById(Sid id) {
    // Sanity checks
    Validate.notNull(id, "Sid cannot be null.");
    IEndpointConfiguration endpointConfiguration;
    try {
        // Use the configuration service to retrieve the configuration
        // service by its ID
        endpointConfiguration =
            endpointConfigurationService.getEndpointConfiguration(id.toString());
        // Convert the IEndpointConfiguration to our domain object - the
        // ConnectionInfo
        return getConnectionInfo(endpointConfiguration);
    } catch (IOException e) {
        log.debug("Error finding connection by id: " + id.toString(), e);
        throw new RuntimeException(e);
    }
}

/**
 * Save or update a connection info. The service is aware of the plug-in
 * name, thus cannot save the configuration under the name of another
 * plug-in.
 */

```

```

@Override
public ConnectionInfo save(ConnectionInfo connectionInfo) {
    // Sanity checks
    Validate.notNull(connectionInfo, "Connection info cannot be null.");
    Validate.notNull(connectionInfo.getId(), "Connection info must have an id.");
    // Additional validation - in this case we want the name of the
    // connection to be unique
    validateConnectionName(connectionInfo);
    try {
        // Find a connection with the provided ID. We don't expect to have
        // an empty ID
        IEndpointConfiguration endpointConfiguration = endpointConfigurationService
            .getEndpointConfiguration(connectionInfo.getId().toString());
        // If the configuration is null, then we are performing a save
        // operation
        if (endpointConfiguration == null) {
            // Use the configuration service to create a new (empty)
            // IEndpointConfiguration.
            // In this case, we are responsible for assigning the ID of the
            // configuration,
            // which is done in the constructor of the ConnectionInfo
            endpointConfiguration = endpointConfigurationService
                .newEndpointConfiguration(connectionInfo.getId().toString());
        }
        // Convert the ConnectionInfo to the IEndpointConfiguration
        addConnectionInfoToConfig(endpointConfiguration, connectionInfo);
        // Use the configuration service to save the endpoint configuration
        endpointConfigurationService.saveEndpointConfiguration(endpointConfiguration);
        // Fire an event to all subscribers, that we have updated a
        // configuration.
        // Pass the entire connectionInfo object and let the subscribers
        // decide if they need to do something
        fireConnectionUpdated(connectionInfo);
        return connectionInfo;
    } catch (IOException e) {
        log.error("Error saving connection " + connectionInfo, e);
        throw new RuntimeException(e);
    }
}

```



```

/**
 * Delete a connection info. The service is aware of the plug-in name, thus
 * cannot delete a configuration from another plug-in.
 */
@Override
public void delete(ConnectionInfo connectionInfo) {
    try {
        // Use the configuration service to delete the connection info. The
        // service uses the ID

endpointConfigurationService.deleteEndpointConfiguration(connectionInfo.getId().toString());

        // Fire an event to all subscribers, that we have deleted a
        // configuration.
        // Pass the entire connectionInfo object and let the subscribers
        // decide if they need to do something
        fireConnectionRemoved(connectionInfo);
    } catch (IOException e) {
        log.error("Error deleting endpoint configuration: " + connectionInfo, e);
        throw new RuntimeException(e);
    }
}

/**
 * This method is used to load the entire configuration set of the plug-in.
 * As a second step we fire a notification to all subscribers. This method
 * is used when the plug-in is being loaded (on server startup).
 */
@Override
public void load() {
    List<ConnectionInfo> findAll = findAll();
    for (ConnectionInfo connectionInfo : findAll) {
        fireConnectionUpdated(connectionInfo);
    }
}

/**
 * Attach a configuration listener which will be called when a connection is
 * created/updated/deleted
 */
@Override
public void addChangeListener(ConfigurationChangeListener listener) {
    listeners.add(listener);
}

```

```

    }
    /*
     * A helper method which iterates all event subscribers and fires the update
     * notification for the provided connection info.
     */
    private void fireConnectionUpdated(ConnectionInfo connectionInfo) {
        for (ConfigurationChangeListener li : listeners) {
            li.connectionUpdated(connectionInfo);
        }
    }
    /*
     * A helper method which iterates all event subscribers and fires the delete
     * notification for the provided connection info.
     */
    private void fireConnectionRemoved(ConnectionInfo connectionInfo) {
        for (ConfigurationChangeListener li : listeners) {
            li.connectionRemoved(connectionInfo);
        }
    }
    /*
     * A helper method which converts our domain object the ConnectionInfo to an
     * IEndpointConfiguration
     */
    private void addConnectionInfoToConfig(IEndpointConfiguration config, ConnectionInfo info)
    {
        try {
            config.setString(ID, info.getId().toString());
            config.setString(NAME, info.getName());
            config.setString(SERVICE_HOST, info.getHost());
            config.setInt(SERVICE_PORT, info.getPort());
        } catch (Exception e) {
            log.error("Error converting ConnectionInfo to IEndpointConfiguration.", e);
            throw new RuntimeException(e);
        }
    }
    /*
     * A helper method which converts the IEndpointConfiguration to our domain
     * object the ConnectionInfo
     */
    private ConnectionInfo getConnectionInfo(IEndpointConfiguration config) {

```

```

        ConnectionInfo info = null;
        try {
            Sid id = Sid.valueOf(config.getString(ID));
            info = new ConnectionInfo(id);
            info.setName(config.getString(NAME));
            info.setHost(config.getString(SERVICE_HOST));
            info.setPort(config.getAsInteger(SERVICE_PORT));
        } catch (IllegalArgumentException e) {
            log.warn("Cannot convert IEndpointConfiguration to ConnectionInfo: " +
config.getId(), e);
        }
        return info;
    }
    /*
     * A helper method which validates if a connection with the same name
     * already exists.
     */
    private void validateConnectionName(ConnectionInfo connectionInfo) {
        ConnectionInfo configurationByName = getConfigurationByName(connectionInfo.getName());
        if (configurationByName != null
            &&
!configurationByName.getId().toString().equals(connectionInfo.getId().toString())) {
            throw new RuntimeException("Connection with the same name already exists: " +
connectionInfo);
        }
    }
    /*
     * A helper method which gets a connection by name.
     */
    private ConnectionInfo getConfigurationByName(String name) {
        Validate.notNull(name, "Connection name cannot be null.");
        Collection<ConnectionInfo> findAllClientInfos = findAll();
        for (ConnectionInfo info : findAllClientInfos) {
            if (name.equals(info.getName())) {
                return info;
            }
        }
        return null;
    }
}

```

The `DefaultConnectionPersister` class includes the `IEndpointConfigurationService` service that is specific for Orchestrator. `IEndpointConfigurationService` stores in the resources of the Orchestrator platform simple key-value objects called `IEndpointConfiguration` objects. This service saves and deletes configuration, and also validates connection configurations if these configurations have a unique name system-wide.

- c. Add a collection of `ConfigurationChangeListener` interfaces.
- d. Save the interface as a `ConfigurationChangeListener.java` file in the `config` directory.

You can use the `ConfigurationChangeListener` interfaces as an extension point of the `IEndpointConfigurationService` service.

```
package com.vmware.olln.plugin.redis.config;
import com.vmware.olln.plugin.redis.model.ConnectionInfo;
/**
 * An extension point of the configuration persister. Serves the role of an
 * Observer when a certain connection is created, modified or deleted.
 */
public interface ConfigurationChangeListener {
    /**
     * Invoked when a connection is updated or created
     */
    void connectionUpdated(ConnectionInfo info);
    /**
     * Invoked when the ConnectionInfo input is deleted
     */
    void connectionRemoved(ConnectionInfo info);
}
```

In this way, you implement the Observer pattern. If you want to cache all live connections, you must know which of the connections are deleted, so that you can remove them from the local cache.

- e. Create a local cache by using `ConnectionRepository` saved as a `ConnectionRepository.java` file in the `config` directory.

```
package com.vmware.olln.plugin.redis.config;
import java.util.Collection;
import java.util.Map;
import java.util.concurrent.ConcurrentHashMap;
import org.springframework.beans.BeansException;
import org.springframework.beans.factory.InitializingBean;
import org.springframework.beans.factory.annotation.Autowired;
import org.springframework.context.ApplicationContext;
import org.springframework.context.ApplicationContextAware;
import org.springframework.stereotype.Component;
import com.vmware.olln.plugin.redis.model.Connection;
```

```

import com.vmware.olln.plugin.redis.model.ConnectionInfo;
import com.vmware.olln.sdk.modeldriven.Sid;

@Component
public class ConnectionRepository implements ApplicationContextAware, InitializingBean,
ConfigurationChangeListener {

    /*
     * Injecting the ConnectionPersister
     */

    @Autowired
    private ConnectionPersister persister;
    private ApplicationContext context;

    /*
     * The local map (cache) of live connections
     */

    private final Map<Sid, Connection> connections;
    public ConnectionRepository() {
        connections = new ConcurrentHashMap<Sid, Connection>();
    }

    /**
     * Returns a live connection by its ID or null if no such connection has
     * been initialised by this ID
     */
    public Connection findLiveConnection(Sid anyId) {
        return connections.get(anyId.getId());
    }

    /**
     * Returns all live connections from the local cache
     */
    public Collection<Connection> findAll() {
        return connections.values();
    }

    /*
     * Spring-specifics - storing a reference to the spring context
     */

    @Override
    public void setApplicationContext(ApplicationContext context) throws BeansException {
        this.context = context;
    }

    /*
     * Spring specifics - this method is being called automatically by the

```

```

    * spring container after all the fields are set and before the bean is
    * being provided for usage. This method will be called when the plug-in is
    * being loaded - on server start-up.
    */

    @Override
    public void afterPropertiesSet() throws Exception {
        // Subscribing the Repository for any configuration changes that occur
        // in the Persister
        persister.addChangeListener(this);
        // Initialising the Persister. By doing that, the persister will invoke
        // the connectionUpdated() method
        // and since we are subscribed to those events, the local cache will be
        // populated with all the available connections.
        persister.load();
    }

    private Connection createConnection(ConnectionInfo info) {
        // This call will create a new spring-managed bean from the context
        return (Connection) context.getBean("connection", info);
    }

    /*
    * This method will be called from the ConnectionPersister when a new
    * connection is added or an existing one is updated.
    */

    @Override
    public void connectionUpdated(ConnectionInfo info) {
        Connection live = connections.get(info.getId());
        if (live != null) {
            live.update(info);
        } else {
            // connection just added, create it
            live = createConnection(info);
            connections.put(info.getId(), live);
        }
    }

    /*
    * This method will be called from the ConnectionPersister when a connection
    * is removed.
    */

    @Override

```

```

public void connectionRemoved(ConnectionInfo info) {
    Connection live = connections.remove(info.getId());
    if (live != null) {
        live.destroy();
    }
}
}
}

```

You can use `ConnectionRepository` as a local cache to read a single connection or all available connections. A data structure keeps all connections and every time the platform requests a connection, the local cache retrieves the same connection instance.

**NOTE** You use `ConnectionRepository` for read operations and `ConnectionPersister` for create, update, and delete operations. When a connection is created, the persister notifies all listeners, for example `ConnectionRepository` and the local cache stores every new connection.

For performance reasons, using `ConnectionRepository` is the preferred method for handling connections. Reading connections with `IEndpointConfigurationService` might unnecessarily increase the plug-in load.

7. Use `ConnectionManager` from the `singleton` directory to expose the configuration-specific options in the scripting.

```

package com.vmware.olln.plugin.redis.singleton;
import org.springframework.beans.factory.annotation.Autowired;
import org.springframework.context.annotation.Scope;
import org.springframework.stereotype.Component;
import com.vmware.olln.plugin.redis.config.ConnectionPersister;
import com.vmware.olln.plugin.redis.model.ConnectionInfo;
import com.vmware.olln.plugin.sdk.spring.platform.GlobalPluginNotificationHandler;
/**
 * A scripting singleton for managing redis connections.
 */
@Component
@Scope(value = "prototype")
public class ConnectionManager {
    @Autowired
    private ConnectionPersister persister;
    /**
     * A vRO SDK object which is responsible for notifying the platform of
     * changes in the inventory of the plug-in
     */
    @Autowired
    private GlobalPluginNotificationHandler notificationHandler;
    /**
     * This method creates a redis connection by the provided name, host and

```

```

* port.
*
* @param connectionName
*         the name of the connection, only one with the same name can
*         exist
* @param redisHost
*         the redis host, cannot be null
* @param redisPort
*         redis port
* @return the ID of the newly created connection
*/
public String save(String connectionName, String redisHost, int redisPort) {
    ConnectionInfo info = new ConnectionInfo();
    info.setName(connectionName);
    info.setHost(redisHost);
    if (redisPort > 0) {
        info.setPort(redisPort);
    }
    // Save the connection through the persister
    info = persister.save(info);
    // Invalidate all elements of the redis inventory
    notificationHandler.notifyElementsInvalidate();
    // Return the ID of the newly created connection
    return info.getId().toString();
}
}

```

When you invoke the save method of the singleton scripting object, new `ConnectionInfo` class is constructed. You save the connection by using the newly created persister.

**NOTE** You must annotate the class, otherwise the dependency injection does not work.

8. Build the plug-in again and deploy it to the Orchestrator server. See [Deploy the Plug-In](#).

## Create a Workflow

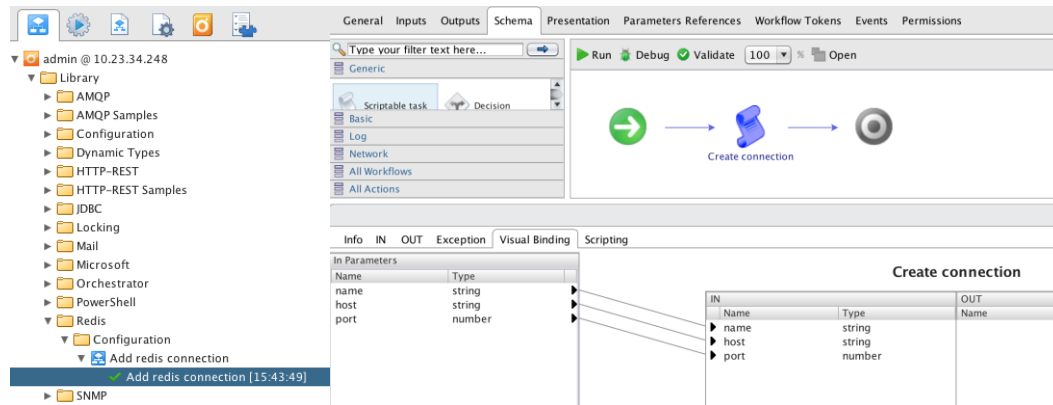
After you install the Redis plug-in and install it to the Orchestrator server, you can create workflows. The **Add redis connection** workflow is a sample workflow that requires three input parameters: a name, a host name and a port.

1. Log in to the Orchestrator client.
2. Navigate to the **Workflows** view and expand **Redis**.
3. Right-click **Configuration** and select **New workflow**.

**FIGURE 9 SHOWS THE FOLDER STRUCTURE OF THE REDIS PLUG-IN WITHIN THE WORKFLOW LIBRARY.**



FIGURE 10 SHOWS THE SCHEMA OF THE ADD REDIS CONNECTION WORKFLOW.



4. Add a scripting element.

The **Create connection** scriptable task invokes the save method of the scripting object and displays the generated ID.

```
var connectionId = RedisConnectionManager.save(name, host, port);
System.log("Created connection with ID: " + connectionId);
```

5. Right-click the workflow and select **Start workflow**.
6. Enter a name, a host name and a port to complete the workflow.

The printed connection ID displays in the Logs tab.

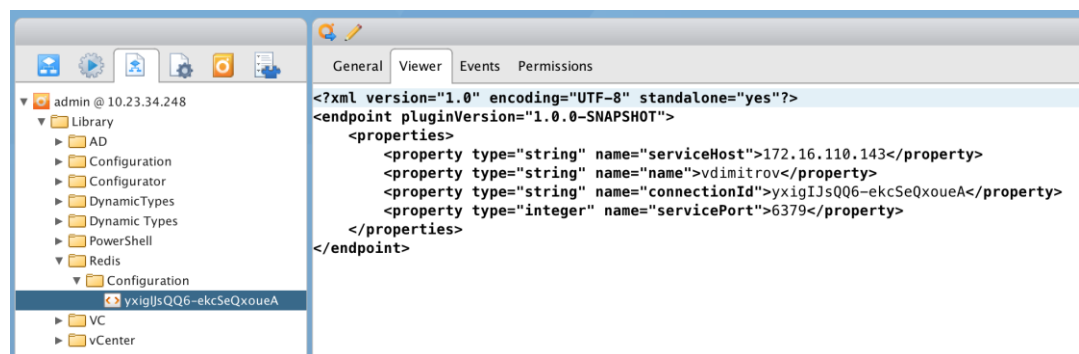
[2016-02-08 15:43:51.274] [I] Created connection with ID: yxigIJsQQ6-ekcSeQxoueA

7. Navigate to the **Resources** view and expand **Redis > Configuration**.

**Redis** and **Configuration** are resource categories that the Orchestrator platform creates. **Redis** is the prefix of the plug-in and **Configuration** is the location where `IEndpointConfigurationService` stores its configuration parameters.


In the **Viewer** tab, you can review the input parameters that you used to run the workflow.

FIGURE 11 SHOWS THE RESOURCES OF THE REDIS PLUG-IN.



## Export the Content

After you install a plug-in in Orchestrator, you can create and run workflows. If you want to include these workflows in the plug-in package, you must export the content of the workflows to the plug-in project.

1. Log in to the Orchestrator client and go to the **Packages** view.
2. Click **Add package** to create a package and enter `com.vmware.library.redis` as a **Package name...**
3. Right-click the `com.vmware.library.redis` package and select **Edit**.
4. Go to the **Workflows** tab in the pop-up window.
5. Click the  icon and search for the **Add redis connection** workflow.
6. Select the workflow and click **Save and close**.
7. On the machine where you are building the Redis plug-in, open the `pom.xml` file of the package `o11nplugin-redis-package` module.
8. Modify the `packageName` property of the plug-in package configuration.

```
<plugin>
  <groupId>com.vmware.o11n.mojo.pkg</groupId>
  <artifactId>maven-o11n-package-plugin</artifactId>
  <version>${vco.version}</version>
  <extensions>true</extensions>
  <configuration>
    <packageName>com.vmware.o11n.library.redis</packageName>
    <!-- Set the local path to the *.vmokeystore file used to sign the content -->
    <keystoreLocation>${keystoreLocation}</keystoreLocation>
    <keystorePassword>${keystorePassword}</keystorePassword>
    <includes>
      <include>*/Library/Redis/**/*element_info.xml</include>
    </includes>
    <packageFileName>o11nplugin-redis-package-${project.version}</packageFileName>
    <allowedMask>vef</allowedMask>
    <exportVersionHistory>>false</exportVersionHistory>
  </configuration>
</plugin>
```

9. Go to the `o11nplugin-redis-package` folder and run the `mvn import` command.

```
mvn o11n-package:import-package -DserverUrl={vro_user}:{vro_pass}@{vro_host}:8281 -
Dmaven.wagon.http.ssl.insecure=true -Dmaven.wagon.http.ssl.allowall=true
```

You must replace the placeholders with the parameters of your environment. If the user name you use requires a domain, for example `administrator@vsphere.local`, you must write the user name with a slash.

```
vsphere.local\administrator
```

Two new files appear under the `o11nplugin-redis-package/src/main/resources/Workflow/Library` folder.

If you want to include an additional content to the plug-in project, you must add this content to the plug-in package and run the `mvn import` command.

## Adding Inventory Objects

With the Redis plug-in, you can store connections and make them visible in the plug-in inventory. Model-driven defines three types of interfaces that you can use to display objects in the plug-in inventory.

INTERFACE	DESCRIPTION	USE
<code>ObjectRelater</code>	Describes the relation between two model objects.	In the example in <a href="#">Step 2 of Add Endpoint Configuration</a> , this class holds the code that lists all virtual machines by their location.
<code>ObjectFinder</code>	Finds objects of a certain type by ID or by using a query.	Finders are a key concept in plug-in development. You use finders in plug-in checkpointing. For more information, see <a href="#">Checkpointing</a> .
<code>Extension</code>	Extends the functionality of a model object.	You can add methods and fields to model objects in your code repository. If you expose model objects that derive from third-party libraries, you must wrap these objects and delegate calls to the wrapped object.  <b>NOTE</b> Model-driven does this wrapping in a transparent way.

## Add Inventory Objects

If you want to define the `Connection` class as a finder object, you must create a new finder object that implements the `ObjectFinder` interface. This automatically exposes the object as a scripting object but does not add it to the inventory tree.

1. Create a `Connection` class as a finder object or modify the `Connection.java` file in the `model` directory.

```
@Component
@Qualifier(value = "connection")
@Scope(value = "prototype")
public class Connection implements Findable {
    ...
    @Override
    public Sid getInternalId() {
        return getConnectionInfo().getId();
    }
    @Override
```

```

public void setInternalId(Sid id) {
    // do nothing, we set the Id in the constructor
}
...
}

```

**NOTE** If you want the platform to query objects by a filter, the `Connection` class must implement the `Findable` interface.

1. Under the `{plug-in-home}/o11nplugin-redis-core/src/main/java/com/vmware/o11n/plugin/redis` create a new directory with name `finder`.
2. Create the finder and save it as a `ConnectionFactory.java` file in the `finder` folder.

```

package com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis.finder;
import java.util.Collection;
import java.util.LinkedList;
import java.util.List;
import org.springframework.beans.factory.annotation.Autowired;
import com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis.config.ConnectionRepository;
import com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis.model.Connection;
import com.vmware.o11n.sdk.modeldriven.FoundObject;
import com.vmware.o11n.sdk.modeldriven.ObjectFinder;
import com.vmware.o11n.sdk.modeldriven.PluginContext;
import com.vmware.o11n.sdk.modeldriven.Sid;
public class ConnectionFinder implements ObjectFinder<Connection> {

    @Autowired
    private ConnectionRepository connectionRepository;

    /*
     * When a connection is found, we need to assign an ID. However, the
     * Connection has its own ID, so we don't need to do anything here, aside
     * from return the connection.
     */

    @Override
    public Sid assignId(Connection obj, Sid relatedObject) {
        return obj.getInternalId();
    }

    /*
     * Finds the connection by ID
     */

    @Override

```

```

public Connection find(PluginContext ctx, String type, Sid id) {
    return connectionRepository.findLiveConnection(id);
}

@Override
public List<FoundObject<Connection>> query(PluginContext ctx, String type, String query) {
    Collection<Connection> allConnections = connectionRepository.findAll();
    List<FoundObject<Connection>> result = new LinkedList<>();
    boolean returnAll = "".equals(query);
    for (Connection connection : allConnections) {
        if (returnAll ||
connection.getName().toLowerCase().startsWith(query.toLowerCase())) {
            FoundObject<Connection> foundObject = new FoundObject<>(connection);
            result.add(foundObject);
        }
    }
    return result;
}
}

```

**NOTE** You can inject `ConnectionRepository` directly to the finder.

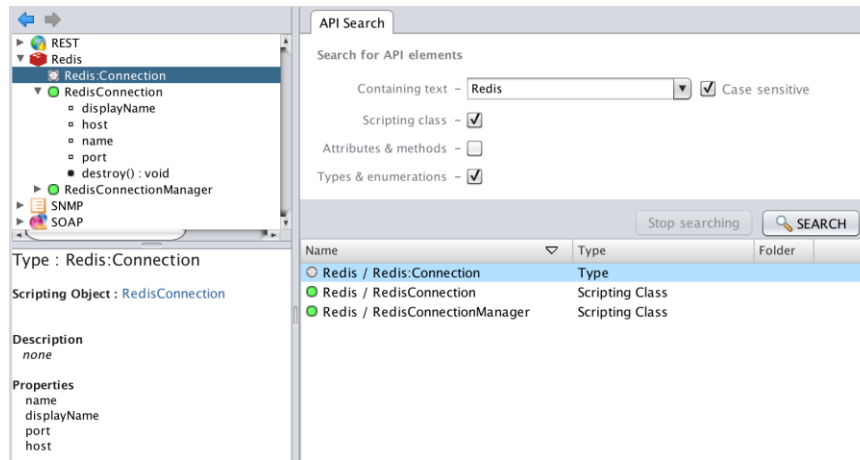
The `find` method is invoked every time the platform retrieves a `Connection` by its ID. When the plug-in returns a model object to the platform, it uses `assignedId`. The `assignedId` method sets an ID to the object that is returned to the platform. You might use this ID to restore the object later.

- Expose the finder object as a scripting object, by defining it in `CustomMapping`.

```
wrap(Connection.class).andFind().using(ConnectionFinder.class).withIcon("connection.png");
```

- Build the plug-in.
- Install the modified version of the plug-in to the Orchestrator server. See [Deploy the Plug-In](#).
- Log in to the Orchestrator client.
- Navigate under **Tools > API Explorer**.
- Expand the Redis plug-in to browse through the API elements.

**FIGURE 12 SHOWS THE API ELEMENTS OF THE REDIS PLUG-IN AFTER ADDING THE CONNECTION OBJECT.**

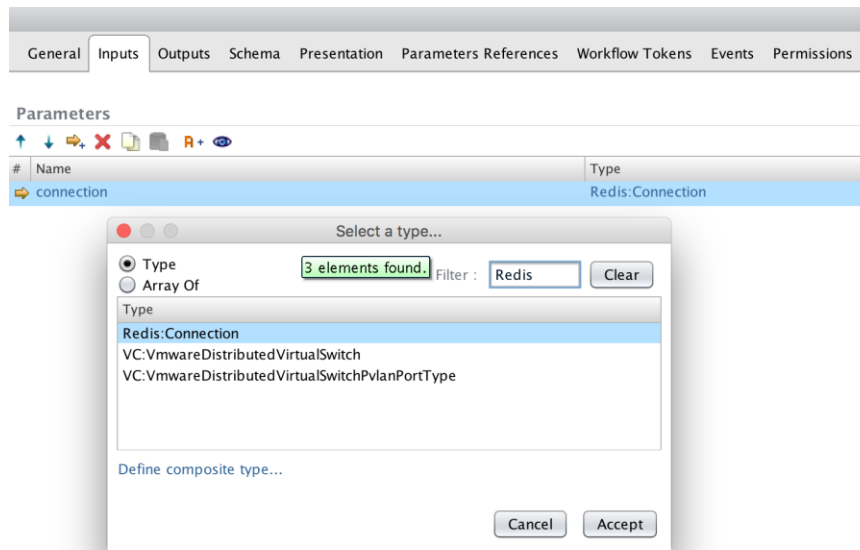


The `Connection` object is exposed as a scripting object and is also defined as a type, or a findable object. You can set this type as an input, output or an attribute of a workflow.

### Create a Redis Connection Workflow

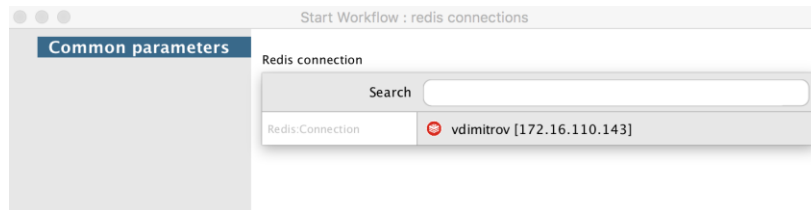
1. Navigate to the **Workflows** view and expand **Redis**.
2. Right-click **Configuration** and select **New workflow**.
3. Create a workflow where `Redis:Connection` is an input parameter.

**FIGURES 13 AND 14 SHOWS THE INPUT PARAMETERS OF THE REDIS CONNECTION WORKFLOW.**



4. Right-click the workflow and select **Start workflow**.

The **Search** text box appears.



The search string you enter is delegated to the `query` method of the `ConnectionFinder`. If you leave the text box empty, the plug-in returns all available connections.

**NOTE** The `wrap` method exposes the `Connection` as a scripting object and the `andFind` method marks the object as a type. You cannot define an object as a findable type if you do not use a finder class. So, you can use a `ConnectionFinder`.

Although there is a findable object and you can use a query to search for this object, the plug-in inventory tree is empty. If you want to see the available connections in the inventory tree, you must define the relation of the findable object.

The platform cannot identify the parent object of the `Connection` object and cannot retrieve objects of this type. The platform only can search for the object by ID.

5. Under the `{plug-in-home}/o11nplugin-redis-core/src/main/java/com/vmware/o11n/plugin/redis` create a new directory with name `relater`.
6. Use the `ObjectRelated` interface to create a `RootHasConnections` `relater`.

```
package com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis.relater;

import java.util.ArrayList;
import java.util.List;
import org.springframework.beans.factory.annotation.Autowired;
import com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis.config.ConnectionRepository;
import com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis.model.Connection;
import com.vmware.o11n.sdk.modeldriven.ObjectRelater;
import com.vmware.o11n.sdk.modeldriven.PluginContext;
import com.vmware.o11n.sdk.modeldriven.Sid;

public class RootHasConnections implements ObjectRelater<Connection> {

    @Autowired
    private ConnectionRepository connectionRepository;

    @Override
    public List<Connection> findChildren(PluginContext ctx, String relation, String parentType,
        Sid parentId) {
        return new ArrayList<>(connectionRepository.findAll());
    }
}
```

The `RootHasConnections` relater creates the relation between the root of the inventory and a list of connection.

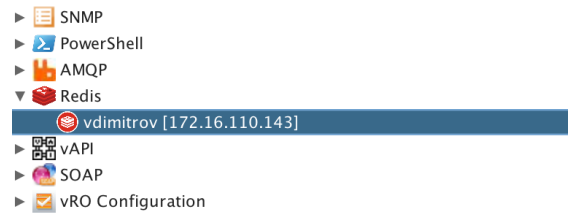
**NOTE** The relater only returns all connection objects. When you relate the root of a tree to an object, the arguments of the `findChildren` method become irrelevant.

7. Use the `define` method to define the relation in `CustomMapping`.

```
relateRoot().to(Connection.class).using(RootHasConnections.class).as("connections");
```

8. Build the plug-in.
9. Install the modified version of the plug-in to the Orchestrator server. See [Deploy the Plug-In](#).
10. Log in to the Orchestrator client.
11. Go to the **Inventory** view and expand the Redis plug-in inventory.

**FIGURE 15 SHOWS THE INVENTORY OF THE REDIS PLUG-IN.**



The `relateRoot()` method relates objects to the root of the tree. There is one additional method for adding inventory objects to the tree – `relate()`.

## Wrap the Client

The above steps are rather generic and common for all custom Orchestrator plug-ins. To create the integration with the third-party system, for which you design the plug-in, you must add the Maven dependencies. You introduce a dependency with a small Java-based client called [Jedis](#) and the [Apache common pool](#) library, on which the Jedis library depends.

1. Define the dependency in the main `pom.xml` file.

```
...
<properties>
    <jedis.version>2.8.0</jedis.version>
    <commons.pool.version>2.4.2</commons.pool.version>
</properties>
...
<dependency>
    <groupId>redis.clients</groupId>
    <artifactId>jedis</artifactId>
    <version>${jedis.version}</version>
</dependency>
<dependency>
```



```

<groupId>org.apache.commons</groupId>
<artifactId>commons-pool2</artifactId>
<version>${commons.pool.version}</version>
</dependency>

```

2. Add dependency in the `pom.xml` file in the `ollnplugin-redis-core` folder.

```

<dependency>
  <groupId>redis.clients</groupId>
  <artifactId>jedis</artifactId>
</dependency>
<dependency>
  <groupId>org.apache.commons</groupId>
  <artifactId>commons-pool2</artifactId>
</dependency>

```

3. Define the use of [Jedis](#).

```

//Construct a pool of redis connections
JedisPool pool = new JedisPool(new JedisPoolConfig(), "localhost");

// Jedis implements Closable. Hence, the jedis instance will be auto-closed after the last
statement.

try (Jedis jedis = pool.getResource()) {
    // ... do stuff here ... for example
    jedis.set("foo", "bar");
    String foobar = jedis.get("foo");
    jedis.zadd("sose", 0, "car"); jedis.zadd("sose", 0, "bike");
    Set<String> sose = jedis.zrange("sose", 0, -1);
}

// ... when closing your application:
pool.destroy();

```

Multiple threads, such as workflows and user interactions, will access the `Connection` class. You must make sure that you have either a pool of Redis connections, which is provided by default, or a thread-safe connection.

- a. When you create the `Connection` object, you initialize the `JedisPool`.
- b. Retrieve the `Jedis` object in the try-statement as a resource.
- c. Close the resource by returning it to the `JedisPool`, when it is not used any more.
- d. When the connection is destroyed, you must destroy the `JedisPool`.

```

@Component
@Qualifier(value = "connection")
@Scope(value = "prototype")
public class Connection implements Findable {

```

```

...
private JedisPool pool;

@ExtensionMethod
public String ping() {
    try (Jedis jedis = getResource()) {
        return jedis.ping();
    }
}

@ExtensionMethod
public String set(String key, String value) {
    try (Jedis jedis = getResource()) {
        return jedis.set(key, value);
    }
}

@ExtensionMethod
public String get(String key) {
    try (Jedis jedis = getResource()) {
        return jedis.get(key);
    }
}

public synchronized void destroy() {
    if (pool != null) {
        pool.destroy();
    }
}

/**
 * Returns a redis connection from the pool.
 */
public Jedis getResource() {
    return getPool().getResource();
}

/**
 * Lazy initialization of the pool.

```

```

    */
    private synchronized JedisPool getPool() {
        if (pool == null) {
            JedisPoolConfig jedisConfig = new JedisPoolConfig();
            pool = new JedisPool(jedisConfig, connectionInfo.getHost(),
            connectionInfo.getPort());
        }
        return pool;
    }
    ...
}

```

### Important Notes on the Jedis Code

The Jedis implementation initializes only when you attempt to perform an operation over the `Connection` object. This type of initialization is useful when you manage thousands of connections.

When you destroy a connection, you must destroy all related resources. To prevent a state of inconsistency, the `destroy` and the `getPool` methods are synchronized.

You must explicitly close the Jedis connection. If, for example, you use the `ping` method, you retrieve a connection from the pool, run a call and close the connection, by returning it to the pool. If you want to run multiple calls, you must retrieve a connection multiple times. For performance reasons, you can expose the Jedis object to the users.

### Create a Testing Redis Connection Workflow

After you add the Jedis functionality to the `Connection` object, you can use this functionality by creating a workflow.

#### Prerequisites

- Build the plug-in.
- Install the modified version of the plug-in to the Orchestrator server. See [Deploy the Plug-In](#).

#### Procedure

1. Log in to the Orchestrator client.
2. Navigate to the **Workflows** view and expand **Redis**.
3. Right-click **Configuration** and select **New workflow**.
4. Use `Redis:Connection` as a connection type to create an input parameter of the workflow.
5. Create a **Scriptable task** element by inserting the following code:

```

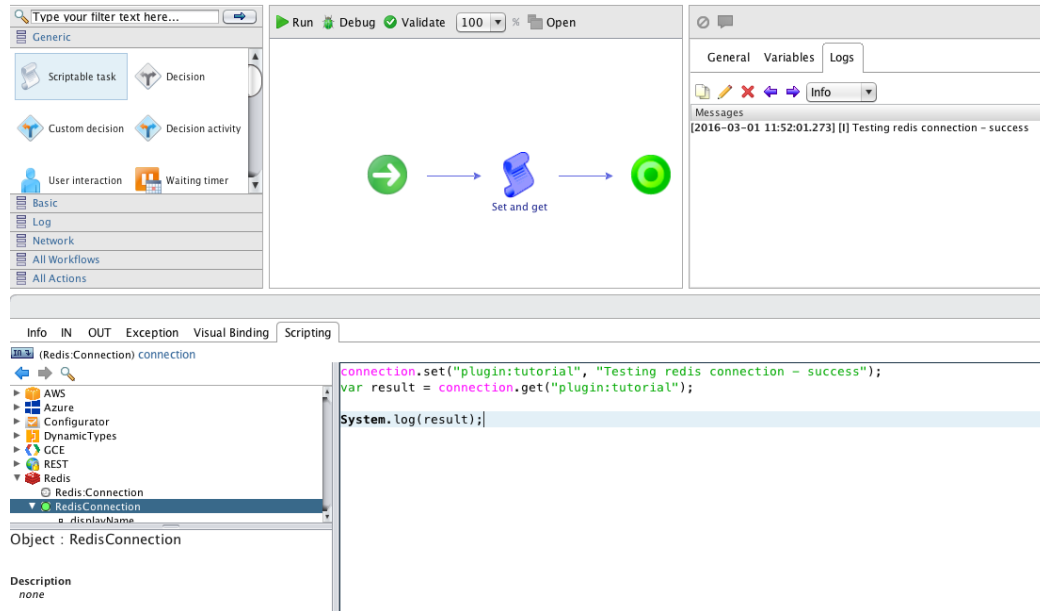
connection.set("plugin:tutorial", "Testing redis connection - success");
var result = connection.get("plugin:tutorial");
System.log(result);

```

6. Save the workflow and run it.

7. When the workflow completes, verify the output in the **Logs** tab.

**FIGURE 16 SHOWS THE SCRIPTING TAB OF THE TESTING REDIS CONNECTION WORKFLOW.**



## Additional Relations

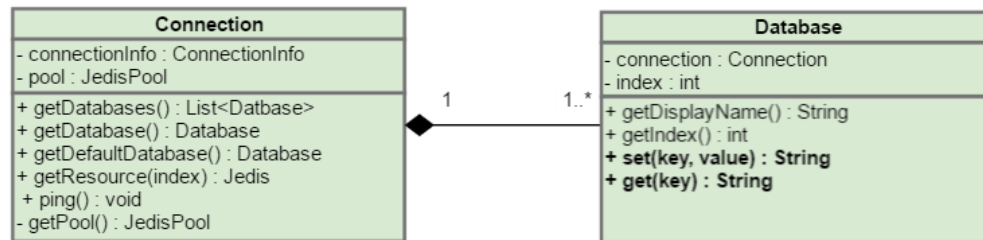
Redis is a data structure store and therefore you can use it as a database. In Redis there can be multiple databases identified by a number and the number of the default database is 0. The commands you run through the Redis plug-in target the default Redis database, unless you specify otherwise.

```
Jedis jedis = getPool().getResource();
jedis.select(3); //Selects database with index 3
jedis.set("plugin:tutorial", "Using another database");
```

You can add to the plug-in the option to select a database that is different from the default one. To achieve this, you can use either of the two available methods.

METHOD	DESCRIPTION
Expose database index as part of the scripting API	When a user calls a <code>set</code> method, for example, he can pass the database index as an additional function argument.
Present a new inventory object, <code>Database</code> , that wraps the index	You must move all current methods from the <code>Connection</code> to the <code>Database</code> model object.

FIGURE 17 SHOWS A MODEL DIAGRAM OF THE SECOND METHOD.



You define the `Database` object in the `model` package. The `Database` object that you invoke instead of `get`, `set` or other methods, includes the following code.

```

public class Database {

    private final Connection connection;
    private final int index;

    public Database(Connection connection, int index) {
        Assert.notNull(connection, "Connection cannot be null.");
        Assert.isTrue(index >= 0, "Index must be a positive number.");

        this.connection = connection;
        this.index = index;
    }

    public String getDisplayName() {
        return "db" + index;
    }

    public int getIndex() {
        return index;
    }

    @ExtensionMethod
    public String ping() {
        try (Jedis jedis = connection.getResource(index)) {
            return jedis.ping();
        }
    }

    @ExtensionMethod

```

```

    public String set(String key, String value) {
        try (Jedis jedis = connection.getResource(index)) {
            return jedis.set(key, value);
        }
    }

    @ExtensionMethod
    public String get(String key) {
        try (Jedis jedis = connection.getResource(index)) {
            return jedis.get(key);
        }
    }

    @ExtensionMethod
    public String get(String key) {
        try (Jedis jedis = connection.getResource(index)) {
            return jedis.get(key);
        }
    }
}

```

The Connection object also requires some changes. Some of them consist in removing methods, such as get, set, append.

```

@Component
@Qualifier(value = "connection")
@Scope(value = "prototype")
public class Connection implements Findable {
    private static final int DEFAULT_REDIS_DATABASE_INDEX = 0;

    /*
     * The connectionInfo which stands behind this live connection.
     */

    private ConnectionInfo connectionInfo;
    private Map<Integer, Database> databases = null;
    ...

    public List<Database> getDatabases() {
        if (databases == null) {
            databases = new HashMap<>(16);
            //Issue a call to Redis, to see how many databases are configured, default is 16
            List<String> configs =
getResource(DEFAULT_REDIS_DATABASE_INDEX).configGet("databases");
            int numberOfInstances = Integer.parseInt(configs.get(1));

```

```

        for (int index = 0; index < numberOfInstances; index++) {
            databases.put(index, new Database(this, index));
        }
    }

    return new ArrayList<>(databases.values());
}

@ExtensionMethod
public Database getDatabase(int index) {
    return getDatabases().get(index);
}

@ExtensionMethod
public Database getDefaultDatabase() {
    return getDatabase(DEFAULT_REDIS_DATABASE_INDEX);
}

...
}

```

The modified `Connection` model initializes a map of database instances. You can find a database by its index. The `getDatabases()` method invokes a configuration command against the Redis instance and retrieves the count of the supported database instances. By default, the number of supported instances is 16.

You use `CustomMapping` to add a relation between a `Connection` object and a `Database` object.

```

public class CustomMapping extends AbstractMapping {
    @Override
    public void define() {
        //@formatter:off
        ...
        wrap(Database.class).
            andFind().
            using(DatabaseFinder.class).
            withIcon("database.png");
        ...
        relate(Connection.class).
            to(Database.class).
            using(ConnectionHasDatabases.class).
            as("databases");
        //@formatter:on
    }
}

```

**NOTE** After you add a new inventory object, you must create a new `Finder` implementation and a new `Relater` implementation.

```
public class DatabaseFinder implements ObjectFinder<Database> {
    @Autowired
    private ConnectionRepository connectionRepository;

    @Override
    public Database find(PluginContext ctx, String type, Sid id) {
        Connection connection = connectionRepository.findLiveConnection(id);
        if (connection != null) {
            return connection.getDatabase((int) id.getLong("dbid", 0));
        }
        return null;
    }

    @Override
    public List<FoundObject<Database>> query(PluginContext ctx, String type, String query) {
        //Return null for now
        return null;
    }

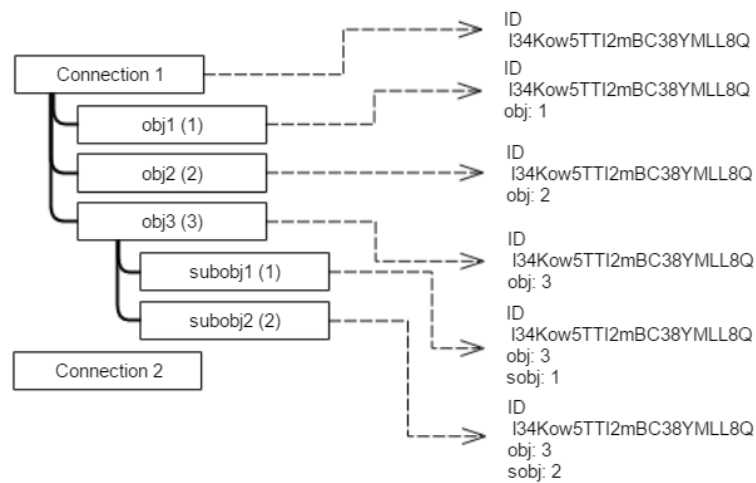
    @Override
    public Sid assignId(Database obj, Sid relatedObject) {
        return relatedObject.with("dbid", obj.getIndex());
    }
}
```

Although the finder of the `Database` object is similar to `ConnectionFinder`, some major differences exist between these finders. While the `Connection` object is related to the root of the inventory tree and does not have a parent object, the `Database` object is a child object of the `Connection` object. When you invoke the `assignId` method, the `relatedObject` argument is the ID of the parent object, or the ID of the `Connection` object. You can track a child object by the ID of its parent object.

The `relatedObject.with("dbid", obj.getIndex());` implementation creates a new ID based on the connection ID. The `Database` object ID includes the `Connection` object ID and the index of the database instance. By using this method, you identify a single database instance among all `Connection` objects.

**FIGURE 18 SHOWS THE RELATION BETWEEN SEVERAL LAYERS OF OBJECTS AND THEIR CORRESPONDING IDs.**





For example, Connection 1 has an ID 134Kow5TTI2mBC38YMLL8Q. Connection 1 also has subobjects: obj1, obj2 and obj3, whose natural IDs are 1, 2, and 3 respectively. obj3 has a set of subobjects, namely subobj1 and subobj2.

There are three types of objects, so you need three finders – for Connections, for obj and for subobj objects.

The `assignId` method for the connection returns only the ID of the connection. The `assignId` method for the finder of the first-level objects, `obj`, returns the ID of the connection and the ID of the `obj`. The `assignId` method for the finder of the `subobj` objects returns the ID of the parent object and the ID of the subobject.

A structure, similar to a map, stores the values of the ID for each object.

**NOTE** During checkpointing, the Orchestrator server stores only the ID of the object, the method that mixes the IDs makes it possible to retrieve the connection ID of a subobject and, at the same time, retrieve the ID of the `Connection` object.

Defining the finder of the `Database` object is not enough to show the database objects in the inventory tree. By using `CustomMapping`, you need to define the parent object of the `Database` object and pass it to the Orchestrator platform. By introducing the `ConnectionHasDatabase` class, you can find a set of databases for a certain connection.

```

public class ConnectionHasDatabases implements ObjectRelater<Database> {

    @Autowired
    private ConnectionRepository connectionRepository;

    @Override
    public List<Database> findChildren(PluginContext ctx, String relation, String parentType,
    Sid parentId) {
        Connection connection = connectionRepository.findLiveConnection(parentId);
        if (connection != null) {

```

```

        return connection.getDatabases();
    }

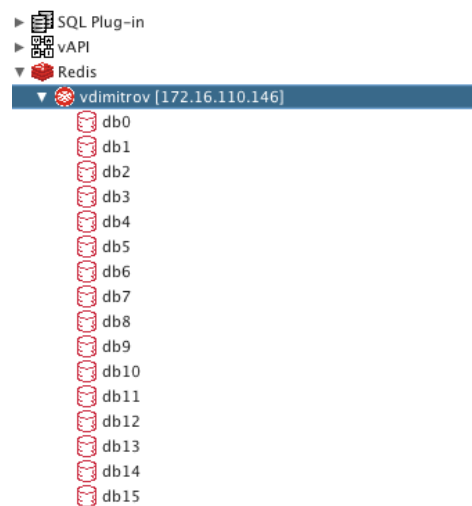
    return Collections.emptyList();
}
}

```

Similarly to using the `ConnectionFactory` class, when you know the ID of the `Connection` object, which is a parent object, you can use `ConnectionRepository` to find the connection instance. To retrieve the result, you must invoke the `getDatabases()` method.

After you rebuild the Redis plug-in and redeploy it to the Orchestrator server, you see all database instances in the plug-in inventory.

**FIGURE 19 SHOWS HOW THE PLUG-IN INVENTORY LOOKS LIKE AFTER ADDING THE RELATION BETWEEN THE CONNECTION AND THE DATABASE OBJECTS.**



If you run the workflow in the [Wrap the Client](#) paragraph, an `TypeError: Cannot find function set in object DynamicWrapper (Instance) : [RedisConnection]-[class com.vmware.o11n.plugin.redis_gen.Connection_Wrapper] -- VALUE : error message` appears.

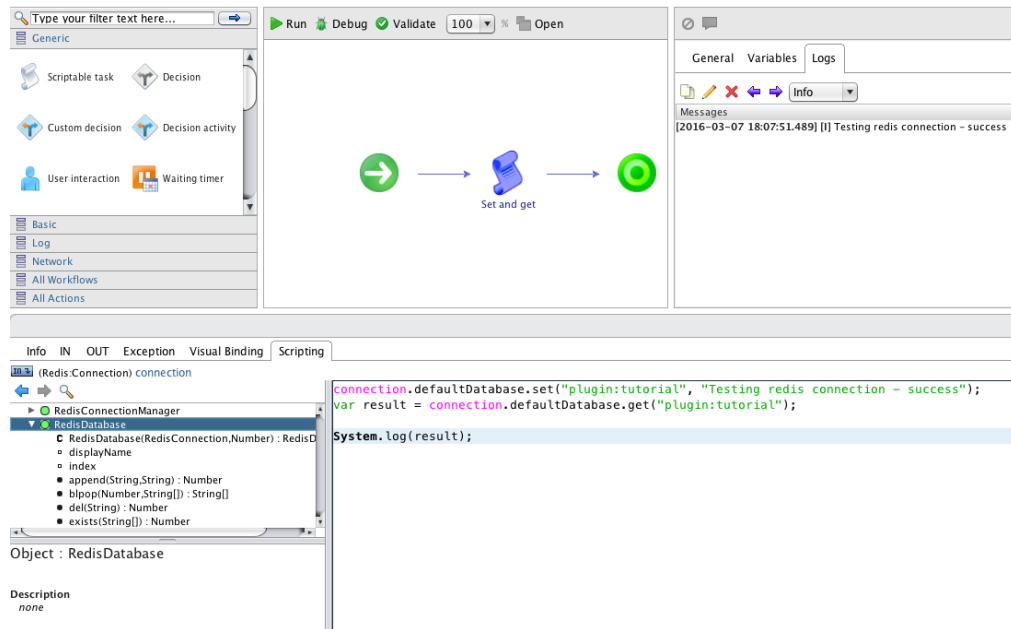
To fix the error, you must recreate the scripting of the **Testing Redis Connection** workflow.

```

connection.defaultDatabase.set("plugin:tutorial", "Testing redis connection - success");
var result = connection.defaultDatabase.get("plugin:tutorial");
System.log(result);

```

**FIGURE 20 SHOWS THE TESTING REDIS CONNECTION WORKFLOW AFTER YOU MOVED THE COMMANDS FROM THE CONNECTION OBJECT TO THE DATABASE OBJECT.**



The modified workflow uses the same `Redis:Connection` connection parameter but retrieves the default database.