# visualeyes 

# GLUE Reference Guide 

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In VisualEyes, using GLUE items is the heart of making interactive visualizations. This is the most difficult concept in VisualEyes to understand, but it is simple in principle. GLUE is an acronym, the General Language to Unite Events with two primary functions: To cause resources, such as images, paths, and charts, to show up on the screen, automatically or on command and to connect the data resources to data consumers, such as through display tables, popup windows, charts, and data-driven maps, using small scripts.

## Screen Redraw

Because VisualEyes projects are highly interactive, the screen constantly needs to be redrawn to reflect the changing visualization. We call this a screen redraw, and it may be the result of clicking on a control panel item, scrolling of the timeline, or clicking on a screen it.

Your project is made up of a number of items such as such as a resource, logo or frame items within your project file. These items are loaded by VisualEyes when it first starts up and provide the "building blocks" your project will use.

Items such as the controlPanel, timeline, and logo show up automatically, but resources need to be "told" to draw themselves on a screen redraw, and that's what adding a GLUE item can do.

## When a GLUE Item is "run"

A GLUE item is different from other items, in that it is active. GLUE items cause something to happen, such as an image to be displayed, some values retrieved from a data source, etc.

The screen is redrawn at startup, or as a result of a user's action, such as clicking on a control panel item or scrolling of the timeline. Each time the screen is redrawn, VisualEyes looks at the GLUE items in the view and if the GLUE is set to be activated, it will be run.

Being run means the resource the GLUE is connected (via the from attribute) to will be displayed, and/or the script within the GLUE item will be executed line by line. This occurs each time the screen is redrawn if the init attribute is set to "true." GLUE can also be run by items such as checkboxes in a controlPanel by referring to its id attribute.

## The Format of a GLUE item

A GLUE item is an item like any other item in VisualEyes, such as a resource, logo or frame item:

```
id="name"
from="name of resource"
init="false"
once="false"
[script] (optional)
```

There are four possible attributes to a GLUE item:

1. The id attribute allows you to give the GLUE item a unique name to by.
2. The from attribute specifies the resource to display on the screen.
3. The init attribute causes the GLUE run each time the screen in drawn.
4. Once causes the GLUE run only once (useful for initialization).

Aside from the 4 attributes, you can optionally add a script that will support calculating tables and fields within resources - and many common types of operations can be defined between these two elements, to relate and display rich data relationships between them on a spatial and temporal basis.

You do not need to specify all of the attributes, as they have default values if left out. The init and once attributes are assumed false if not present, and unless the GLUE item will be called by a controlPanel item, the id can be blank.

## A Simple GLUE Example

The simplest case for using GLUE in VisualEyes is to get an image to appear on the screen. Assume we have created an image resource in VisualEyes called myPic:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { id="myPic" } \\
& \text { type="image" } \\
& \text { src="www.mysite.com/pic.jpg }
\end{aligned}
$$

To make myPic appear, we need to "GLUE" it to the screen each time the screen is drawn, so we add the GLUE command below. It has the init attribute set to "true" and the from attribute set to "myPic":

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { from="myPic" } \\
& \text { init="true" }
\end{aligned}
$$

We did not need to name this GLUE with an id because it will be called each time the screen is redrawn. So when the user clicks on something, moves the timeline, or the project simply starts up, the image referred to by "myPic" will be drawn on the screen.

## GLUE Scripts

Scripts can be thought of as a kind of "to-do list" of things to be done in your project when the GLUE item is run, at startup or in response to some action your user has done, like a clicking on a control panel item, clicking on a map, or scrolling a timeline. The lines on the GLUE script are individual actions that are executed in the order that they appear, much the way a computer program acts on lines of code.

OK. I've been trying to hide it, but scripts ARE lines of code - but designed to simplify the process for creating complex visualizations. This part of VisualEyes will be the hardest for many you to grasp in doing your projects, but the payoff is big: With GLUE scripts, you will be able to do things easily in your projects that had to be programmed by a computer programmer with years of experience.

Each line in a GLUE script contains a combination of GLUE methods and GLUE lists.

## GLUE Methods

Methods are of built-in activities you can call upon to put in your GLUE scripts, such as:

- Running a query on a table of data
- Controlling a digital movie
- Animating items on the screen, or
- Calling up web pages

You can see a list of all of these activities in the appendix of this guide. These methods are also available to select from in VisEdit when you are editing a script in your project.

In a GLUE script, a method consists of the following:

- A name
- One or more parameters enclosed in parentheses

VisualEyes, all of the activities or methods except for the list() method expect a of parameters. Parameters are bits of information the GLUE method needs to perform its function. If more than one parameter is required by a method, they are separated by commas, i.e. add (\$total,1,2)

As an example, one of the simplest methods is status(), which causes a bannerlike message to appear at the bottom of the screen. For example, this script will print "Hello digital humanists!" whenever it is called, which in this case, is each time the screen is refreshed:
init="true
[script] status(Hello digital humanists!)

Note that the GLUE did not need an id, since its init was set to "true" nor a from, since we aren't looking to show a resource, such as an image. When called, VisualEyes will look at each line of the text script in the order it appears. In this case, just one line is involved.

1. The first line of this item instructs the VisualEyes to run the GLUE method each time the screen is refreshed.
2. The second line of this item is the script, and shows the name of the method (in this case, status) and one or more parameters enclosed in parentheses (Hello digital humanists!).
3. The third line of this item indicates the end of this method.

## Lists

## Understanding Variables/Lists

Whether it's a hangover from poorly taught 7th grade Algebra, or just a hard concept in its own right, the concept of variables is difficult for EVERYONE at first. It is an abstract way at looking at things that many people, especially humanists find foreign. In VisualEyes, a variable is called a list.

The bad news first: having a good idea of what we mean by variables in VisualEyes (we call them lists) is important for being able to make interesting VisualEyes projects. The good news is that this is a pretty simple concept to follow, if presented properly, and once you get it, everything else in VisualEyes will be easier.

## Variables Defined

Variables are ways to describe a data element without having to say exactly what that something's value is. They are called variables because their contents can vary. They are used to take a concrete thing like a number, a word, or a list of words, and give it a name to call those items by.

This is useful so we can think about something like a year and not have say it is 1960 or 2010, so we can say things like, "if the year is 1980, show the picture with the big hair."

So, for example, in a VisualEyes project, a year could be a variable. But that year could change depending on the data you are working with or the data you want to display with that year. So you will want to create a list of all of the years you will want to use and to which you will want to associate your data. Hence, the year varies because it's a variable. We call these variables lists.

## Lists Are Containers

Here is another way to see how these lists work in managing and displaying data in VisualEyes:

- Imagine an office with a wall of filing cabinets made up of many drawers.
- Each drawer has a label on it to identify the contents within the drawer.
- Each drawer can contain one or many items of different types.
- Lists are like drawers, because they contain items we find by looking at the name we gave the
 drawer.


## Lists are named containers that hold many kinds of items



Just as a drawer can contain papers, envelopes, and photographs, lists are containers because they hold one or more things we want to save, such as a number, a list of names, a URL, or any combination of these.

If there was to be just one drawer, we wouldn't need to label each drawer but we can have a number of drawers. To find the drawer we want, we make up a name to uniquely identify the drawer.

Just like naming two drawers with the same name would be confusing, naming two lists the same name would make it hard to know which one we were talking about, so the names of each list should be unique.

## Lists are named containers that hold many kinds and number of items



To further stretch the "drawers" analogy, the individual items in a drawer are in folders, numbered from 0 to however many items are in the drawer. Computers start numbering their lists at zero rather than one, so the 1 st folder is labeled 0 , the 2 nd labels 1 , and so on.

We find an item in the drawer by telling the drawer's label and the number of the folder, such as the 5th folder in the drawer called myDrawer. Needless to say, it makes sense to put related item in the same drawer.

For example, here are three lists:


## VisualEyes Lists

When you write GLUE for your project scripts in VisualEyes, you will use two types of lists within GLUE items:

- Global lists are set by the program to respond when you click on a screen element to run an animation, for example, or to move the timeline. In a GLUE script, global lists are prefaced with two dollar signs (\$\$).
- Local lists are those that you create yourself to use temporarily to figure out a date to correlate with a data display, or to join some words together In a GLUE script, local lists are prefaced with one dollar sign (\$).


## Using Global Lists

Global list values are automatically set by the VisualEyes application in response to user actions like clicking on map area or moving the timeline slider, and are available to all GLUE items in the view.

For example, if you wanted to display the current year below the screen as you moved along the timeline, the GLUE script would look like this:

```
status($$curYear)
```

This script uses the status() GLUE method to display the current year on the screen.

In the second line of this script, you are calling on the global list, \$\$curYear. This global list, \$\$curYear, contains several dates. The dates will be called upon to change based on where the user moves along the timeline.

In drawer-speak, VisualEyes has created a drawer and labeled it \$\$curYear. Each time the timeline is moved, the item in that drawer, in this case a number representing the current year, is called upon. When the GLUE item runs, the status() method looks in that drawer called $\$ \$$ curYear, pulls out the item within it and writes it on the screen.

## Global Lists in VisualEyes

There are a number of global lists that are useful to see what time the timeline is at and what dot or map feature was clicked on:
\$\$click Gives the feature index of the clicked on map feature
\$\$param Gives the index of the currently clicked on a dot
\$\$now $\quad$ The time in the timeline from 0-1
\$\$curYear The current year in the timeline
\$\$curMonth The current month in the timeline expressed as mo/year
\$\$curDays The current date in the timeline expressed as days +/- 1970
\$\$zoomBox Coord's of box chosen in by zoom magnifier (left,top,right,bot)

## Using Local Lists

If we wanted to move the timeline with the mouse, and rather than display the year we were over, we wanted to add 10 years to the display (i.e. 1970 would show as 1980), we would need to make our own local list:

```
add($myYear,$$curYear,10)
status($myYear)
```

Here we used the add() GLUE method to create a local list called \$myYear, and set its value to the timeline's year (\$\$curYear) plus 10.

In drawer-speak, we have created a new drawer labeled \$myYear. When the GLUE item runs, the add() method takes the following actions:

1. Looks in that drawer called \$\$curYear
2. Pulls out the value of the item in the drawer
3. Adds $\mathbf{1 0}$ to the value of the item in the drawer
4. Looks in the drawer called \$myYear
5. Sets the item in that drawer to the value.

In addition, the status() method:

1. Looks in the drawer called \$myYear
2. Pulls out the item
3. Writes it on the screen

## Using Lists with many items

The examples of lists we've used so far only had one item in them, but as the name implies, lists can contain any number of items within them. Being able to include many items is very convenient, as we can create a script to talk about a lot of items without having to make a separate list for each one. For example, we could make a list containing the days of the week like this:

```
list($days,Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri)
status($days.1)
```

In drawer-speak, when the GLUE item runs the list() method, the following actions take place:

1. The list() method creates a drawer labeled \$days
2. The list() method adds 5 new folders to the drawer: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, and Fri , respectively. The word Mon placed in the 1st, Tue in the 2nd, etc.
3. The status() method looks in that drawer called \$days
4. The status() method pulls out the 2 nd item within it (in this case, Tue)
5. The status() method writes Tue on the screen. Remember that computers start numbering their lists at zero rather than one.

## Commenting out lines

You can comment out lines of GLUE script by using /* */ to bracket the area, like this:

```
    list($myData1, 1, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)
    /* list($myData3,9,9,9,2,2,9,9,9,9,9)
    dataset(myGraph,1,Set two,$myData2) */
dataset(myGraph,2,Set three,$myData3)
```

Or use // to comment from that point to the end of the line. This is useful for documenting the script:

```
    list($myData1,1,1, 2, 3,4,5,6,7,8,9)
    list($myData2,38,20,37, 22, 27,30, 32,3,36,40)
// list($myData3,9,9,9,2,2,9,9,9,9,9)
```

```
// Data set 1
```

// Data set 1
// Data set 2
// Data set 2
// Commented out

```
// Commented out
```


## Special Characters in glue scripts

When you want to use HTML macros within a glue script, you have to be careful about two characters interfering with the parsing of the script, namely the comma and the right parenthesis. If you need to put a ")" in a script, use the " $\sim$ " (tilde) instead, and use """ (accent) in place of a ",".

Tables

## Accessing individual data elements in a table

Tables are typically accessed by querying the data with a query() method, but you can access individual elements by specifying them by field. For example, if we had a resource with the id of "myTable" and a field called "name", status(*myTable.name) would print a list of all the rows of the name field on the screen and status(*myTable.name.1) would print the $2^{\text {nd }}$ name (the count starts at zero).

## Querying a Table

The process of "asking" a table for certain data is called querying. You do queries all the time on the web when you conduct a search. For example, when you try to find a movie in Netflix, you ask the Netflix server to search its table of movies by matching the words you typed in. Behind the scenes, your search words are sent to the server at Netflix, which "asks" the database to look through the genre you are in and return the titles of any films in which all your search words can be found. After a few seconds, Netflix displays a list of search results. The same process occurs when you search for books at the library website, Google, and even Apple's iTunes, which is no more than a simple database.

## The Parts of a Query

To conduct a query in VisualEyes, you need three basic pieces of information to get the data you want from a given table:

1. The name of the table
2. The conditions
3. The desired fields from the source if the conditions are met

## 1. The name of the table

The name of the table that contains the raw information you want to pick and choose from. Since any given project might have many tables, to choose from, you need to specify one of them by giving its name.

## 2. The conditions

The conditions that need to be met before any rows are retrieved from the source table. Conditions are statements like, "all the people who scored below 70" but in a form that the computer can understand, such as "grade LT 70 . We take advantage of the structured nature of our data and look at the "grade" field to return only people who have grades less than (LT) 70.

A single condition like "grade LT 70" is called a clause. Each clause is said to be true if the condition is met (i.e. the grade is 50 ) or false if the condition is not met (i.e. the grade is 80 ).

Each clause had three parts:

1) the field to look at
2) the conditional (i.e. GT, LT, EQ ...), and
3) the value to compare with: a number, word(s), or another field name.

The conditions can get more specific by adding multiple clauses like any Boolean search. In our example, "men who scored over 60 and are under 40" is a condition that translates into three clauses joined by "sex EQ male" AND "grade GT 60" AND "age LT 40." The AND that separates each clause is called an operator and says "return rows if both the clauses it is between are true." Alternatively, we could use the OR operator which says "return rows if either of the clauses it is between are true."

## 3. Which fields to return

Your table might have 5 fields, but you may only need to get one, such as the "name". To do this, you need to specify which fields to include in the results. Specifying "name" will return just the name (i.e. Bob), and "name+age" will return the name and age (i.e. Bob, 22). If you want all the fields, use a star ("*") (i.e. Bob,male,22,100,0).

## Queries in VisualEyes

VisualEyes allows you to query locally without needing to send a request to a server. This is a big advantage in terms of performance over traditional web queries. In the Netflix example, we had to send a message via the Internet to the Netflix server, where it searched its database and returned the results back to us in a message. The query process we use in VisualEyes is modeled after the standard Boolean queries done by most commercial databases such as SQL, just simplified.

Queries are done using the query() method in a GLUE item. Just as was outlined earlier, a query() has three basic parts: the source table; the conditions; and the desired fields from the source if the conditions are me -- plus the name of a list to put the results in and how they are ordered.

The form of query is query(resultsID, tableID, fields, conditions, orderBy), where the results of the query are returned in a resultsID from a table (tableID) consisting of the fields and rows meeting certain conditions, ordered by a field name (orderBy).

## 1. The name of the table

This is the id of the resource that holds the XML table. Assuming we wanted to load the example we've been working with, you would add a resource to your view something like this:

```
id="myData"
```

src="http://www.viseyes.org/data/1-BobTed.xml

Which assigns the name "myData" to the data loaded from the url "http://www.viseyes.org/data/1-BobTed.xml", making "myData" is the tableID for the query().

## 2. The conditions

The conditions determine what rows will be included and contains one or more conditional clause. Each clause consists of a field name, a condition, and a value (i.e. name EQ Bob, age LT 30, etc.). Putting a * in the conditions place will cause all the data in the table to be sent to the list.

## These are the following conditionals possible:

| EQ | Field is exactly equal to value |
| :--- | :--- |
| NE | Field is not equal to value |
| LK | Field contains the value with its string (like) |
| NL | Field does not contain the value with its string (not like) |
| LT | Field is less than to value |
| GT | Field is greater than the value |
| LE | Field is less than or equal to value |
| GE | Field is greater than or equal to the value |

The LK (like) conditional is a "fuzzier" search, used to find the occurrence of a word in an item, regardless of case. For example, "name LK bo" would return Bob's row. If the field contains multiple values, separated by a; (semi-colon), each value will be searched and items that match will be included in the search results. For example, if Bob was in both classes, the class field would be "1;2", and our condition looked for people in class 1 (i.e. "class EQ 1"), Bob's row would be included in the results.

For example, if we wanted to know all the people who scored below 70, the conditions would be "grade LT 70". Individual clauses may be joined by AND or OR operators to create more sophisticated queries, such as "grade GE 70 AND sex EQ men" if we wanted to know all the men who scored greater than or equal to 70 .

Conditionals test on numeric order, which works well with numbers, but not dates. The clause date GT 1/12/1800 will incorrectly return a row dated $6 / 12 / 1700$, because 6 comes after 1 . To overcome this, you can tell the query() method to treat the fields as dates by prefixing the date: to the field and test, like this: date:date GT date:1/12/1800.

## 3. Which fields to return

To specify which fields within a row are added to the results, set an individual field name (ie. "name"), two or more fields, separated by a + sign (i.e. "name+age"), or a * (star), which will return all the fields on rows where the conditions are met.

## 4. List to hold the results

We need a place to put the results of our query. The resultsID can be an existing list, or query() will create one if it doesn't exist. We would then use this list to fill an information box, or any other data display option.

If you are only looking for one field (e.g. field="name") all items matching your conditions will be returned in the list (e.g. "Bob,Alice"). If multiple fields are selected (e.g. field="name+age"), only the first match is chosen and all the desired fields in that match are returned (e.g. field= Bob,22").

## 5. What order

Finally, you can specify what order the rows are placed in the list by specifying the name of the field to order them in ascending order. Putting a 0 in will not order them. Putting a minus sign before the field (i.e. "-age") will sort the rows in descending order.
6. The results

The results are a list of items that your query found. This is usually in the form of a list object, but you can also provide a field in another trable to capture the results by providing the table's name and the field within it you want to fill with the results of the query. Add a star, the table name a dot and the field name like this: *myTable.age would fill the age field in the myTable table with the results from the query.

## Some Query Examples

| name | sex | age | grade | class |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Bob | male | 22 | 100 | 1 |
| Ted | male | 43 | 40 | 2 |
| Carol | female | 33 | 90 | 1 |
| Alice | female | 23 | 75 | 2 |

Using this simple table, called "myData", let's work out some queries to pull out some specific items from it.

All examples assume we will place their results in a list called \$results, order the results by class and use the following resource to load the table from the VisualEyes server.

```
<resource id="myData" src="http://www.viseyes.org/data/1-BobTed.xml>
```

- Find all Males

```
query($results,myData, name, sex EQ male,class)
```

status(\$results)

Results are: Bob,Ted

- Find all people younger than 40

```
query($results,myData, name,age LT 40,class)
```

status(\$results)

Results are: Bob,Carol,Alice

- Find a man older than 40 that passed

```
query($results,myData, name+age+score,sex EQ male AND age GT 40 AND score GT
70,class)
status($results)
Results are: Bob,22,100
```


## GLUE METHODS REFERENCE

The following GLUE methods are available. They are functionally listed below, followed by an alphabetical list. Be sure and include ALL parameters shown in the documentation.

List Management

| copy | (dest,source) | Copy one list to another |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| list | (dest,a,b,c...) | Create a new list |
| listfill | (dest,source,match,default) | t) Fill a list with matching |
| listjoin | (dest,source) | Join two lists together |
| listmerge | (dest,source,spacer) | Merge a list into a single string |
| listnum | (num, list) | Find number of members in a list |
| listsplit | (source,separator) Ad | Add members to list that have separator |
| lookup | (dest,source,find,deliver) | Lookup table |
| segment | (dest,source,slots,values) | Sort list data into categories |
| select | (source,result,which) | Select member of a list |
| set | (dest,source) | Set data in a list or resource |
| tweenlist | (dest,from,to,percent,eases) | s) Animate between two lists |

## String Management

```
datetodays (days,date)
daystodate (date,days, format)
join (dest,str1,str2, ...)
replace (infobox,search,replace)
replaceword (infobox,words)
split (source,dest,separator) Split word(s) by a character or word
Convert a date to number of days Convert number of days to a date Join multiple strings together Search and replace replaceword (infobox,words)
Replace \$\$ holder with text in infobox split (source,dest,separator) Split word(s) by a character or word
```

Math

| abs | (result,source) |
| :--- | :--- |
| add | (result,num1,num3) |
| ceil | (num) |
| div | (result,dividend, divisor) |
| inc | (result) |
| floor | (num) |
| max | (result,num1,num2) |
| min | (result,num1,num2) |
| mod | (result,num,divisor) |
| mul | (result,num1,num2) |
| random | (result,min,max,integer) |
| round | (result) |
| sqrt | (result,num) |
| sub | (result,num1,num2) |

Absolute value of a number Add two numbers Get ceiling
Divide two numbers
Increment value by one
Make number integral Find maximum of two numbers
Find minimum of two numbers Get modulo remainder of a number Multiply two numbers
Get a random number
Round a number up
Find square root of a number
Subtract two numbers

```
average (result,list)
stdev (result,list)
correlate (result,list1,list2)
```

Calculate mean average
Calculate standard deviation
Calculate Pearson-style correlation

Logic

| call | (glue) | Call another glue item |
| :--- | :--- | ---: |
| if | Conditional |  |
| (var,conditional,value,lines) | Repeat line(s) in script |  |
| repeat | (lines) | Make a view active |

Data Management

| fill | (display,datares,num) | Add dots to a band |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| dataset | (display,setnum,legend,data) | Set a display's data set |
| datatime | (graph,time) Shows | s a portion of a graph's time |
| tfill | (display,data) Add | dots to a path or map display |
| featureid | (map,idlist) | Replace ids in vector map |
| filldocviewer | (viewer,title,data) Set text | to display in docview display |
| efill | (line,data) | Adds lines to a path or map |
| ormalizegraph | (graph,max) | Normalize a chart's data 0-n |
| query | (result,table.fields,conds,order) | SQL-like query on a table |
| efill | (path,data) | Add routes to a pathway |
| dot | (path,bandnum,dotnum,field,val) | Set a dot's attribute |
| table | (action,table,row,field,val) Se | ments of a table resource |
| timerfill | (timer,data) | trigger dots to timer widget |

## Everything else



## abs(result, num)

This method takes the absolute value (ie. positive numbers only) of source and places the result in the list called dest. If dest list does not exist, it is created.
result $\quad$ Name of list to store result
num Number to abs
abs(\$age,\$age)

## add

## mul(result, num1, num2)

This method adds num1 and num2 and places the result in the list called result (i.e result=num1+num2).
result $\quad$ Name of list to store result
num1
Number to add
num2
Number to add
add(\$tot,\$age,10)
average

## average(result, data)

This method averages numbers in data and places the result in the list called result..
result $\quad$ Name of list to store result
data List of number to average
average(\$avg,\$myList)

## bandfill

Add dots to a timeview or shelf band

## bandfill(path, dataRes, bandNum, [start])

This method will fill a container object, such as a path or concept with dot data from a data source (i.e. an XML file, or table resource). See the dot specification for more information. The bandNum specifies which band to load. By default, dots will be added to the dots already in the timeview or shelf, making it convenient to specify the first dot, and letting the table to be loaded only have the dot attributes that change, since they will be inherited from the first. Setting the start parameter to "1" will leave the first dot as is and fill beyond it.
path ID of timeview display
dataRes ID of resource where data are
bandNum Number of band to fill
start Dot number to start filling path at (optional)
bandfill(myTimeView,myData,0)

## call

Call a GLUE method by name
call(glue)
This method will call a GLUE method, like a subroutine.
glue ID of GLUE method to call
call(myGLUE)
ceil

## ceil( num)

The ceil method returns the ceiling value (highest integer) of num and places in num.
num Number to be ceiled
ceil(123.456)

## copy

Copy one list contents to another

```
copy(dest, source)
```

This method will copy a member or members from one resource or list to another. If the dest is prefaced with "\$\$";, a global list will be created if it doesn't already exist, whose scope is beyond the current GLUE script.

```
dest ID of list to or resource to copy to
source ID of list to or resource to copy from
copy($to,$from)
```


## correlate(result, data1, data2)

This method performs a Pearson's product-moment coefficient of correlation between numbers in data1 and data2 and places the result in the list called result.

```
result Name of list to store result
data1 List of numbers in data set 1
data2 List of numbers in data set 2
```

correlate(\$cor,\$myList1, \$myList2)

## dataset

## dataset(graph, set, legend, dataRes)

This method adds a row of data to a graph. If the set number is set to clear, all the sets will be removed from the graph.

```
graph ID of graph
set index of dataset
legend Name of legend
dataRes ID of resource where data are
dataset(myGraph,2,Sales,$mydata)
```


## datatime

Set percentage of graph to display

## datatime(graph,time)

This method controls how much of a graph to show, to help make charts that grow over time. The time parameter goes from 0 to 1 .

```
graph ID of graph
time Amount to show (0-1)
datatime(myGraph..5)
```


## datetodays

 Convert date to days```
datetodays(days, date)
```

This method will convert a date expressed as a year, month/year, or day/month year (separators can be $\backslash-/$ or ;) into a single number representing the number of days +/- of January 1, 1970 1/1/1980 would convert to 3650 and 1/1/1960 would be -3650 .
days ID of list to put days into
date Days
datetodays(\$days,1/1/2009)
daystodate (date, days, format)
This method will convert the number of days +/- of January 1, 1970 into a readable date in the form described by format (dy/mo/yr, mo/yr, yr, mo/dy/yr).
date ID of list to put date into
days Days
format Date format
daystodate(\$date,3650,mo/yr)

## dissolve

## dissolve(in, out, start, end, dur)

This method will dissolve between two resources. Times are expressed as $0-1$, with one being the length of the timeline and 0 its start.

```
in ID of incoming resource
out ID of outgoing resource
start Start time of outgoing res (0-1)
end Start time of incoming res (0-1)
dur Duration of dissolve transition (0-1)
```

dissolve(\$pic1,pic2,0,.5,1)

## div(result, num1, num2)

This method divides var1 by var2 and places the result in the list called result (i.e result =var1/var).

```
result ID of list to store result
num1 Number to be divided
num2 Number to divide
```

$\operatorname{div}(\$ p c t, \$ s u m, 100)$

## dotfill(path, data, [start])

This method will fill a container object, such as a path or concept with dot data from a data source (i.e. an XML file, or table resource). See the dot specification for more information. By default, dots will be added to the dots already in the path, making it convenient to specify the first dot, and letting the table to be loaded only have the dot attributes that change, since they will be inherited from the first. Setting the start parameter to "1" will leave the first dot as is, clear all dots beyond it, and fill from the second dot. Setting the start parameter to "0" will clear out all existing dots, and then fill from the start.

```
path ID of path
dataRes ID of resource where data are
start Dot number to start filling path at (optional)
dotfill(myPath,myData)
```


## featureid

Replace ids in a map

## featureid(mapID, idList)

This method will replace the id attribute of each of the features in a map resource with a list specified by the idList parameter.

```
mapID ID of map resource
idList List of map ids to replace
featureid(myMap,$ids)
```


## filldocviewer

## docfillviewer(viewerID, title, dataID)

This method will fill a document viewer object with data from a data source (i.e. an XML or CSV file). You can select a specific item in the data source by setting the title parameter in the GLUE call to the number prefaced with a \# sign (i.e. \#32).

```
vewerID ID of viewer
title Name title page to fill
dataID ID of resource where data are
docfillviewer(myDocViewer,Title of it,myData)
```


## floor(num)

The round method returns the rounded value of num and places the back in num.
num $\quad$ Number to be floored
floor(123.456)

## gototime

gototime(days)
This method will cause the timeline to go to the date specified in when, the number of days +/- of January 1, 1970. If you set days to a number between 0 and 1 , it will be interpreted as the percentage of the timeline (i.e. . 33 would move the timeline $1 / 3$ of the total length.
days When to go on the timeline
gototime(4000)
gototime(.5)

## highlight

## highlight(infoxbox, start, end, col)

This method will highlight a line or lines(s) in an infoBox or a docViewer with a transparent colored bar. Setting the start to -1 will remove the highlight.
infobox ID of infobox to highlight
start Line in text to start highlighting
end Line in text to start highlighting
col Color of highlight"
highlight(myInfoBox,\$s,\$e,0x990000

## if(var1, condition, var2, lines)

This method will execute the number of lines specified if condition between var1 and var2 is met. The if method tests on numeric order, which works well with numbers, but not with dates. if( $\mathbf{6 / 1 2 / \mathbf { 1 8 0 0 } , \mathbf { G T } , \mathbf { 1 / 1 2 / 1 8 0 0 , 1 ) } \text { ) will run true because } 6}$ comes after 1 . To overcome this, you can tell the if() method to treat the fields as dates, by prefixing the date: to the field and test, like this:
if(date: 6/12/1800,GT, date:1/12/1800,1)
NOTE: There is no space between "if" and "("!

```
var1
    Test }
```

```
condition
Condition (GT, LT, EQ NE, LE GE,LK,NL)
var2
Test 2
```

if(\$age, EQ,34,2)
inc
inc(num)
This method increments the number in the list called num by one. (i. e. num=num+1)
num ID of list to increment
inc(\$count)

## join

Joins multiple strings together into one
join(dest, str1, str2, ... )
This method will join any number strings together return the combined list into dest.
dest ID of list hold combined strings
str1 1st string to combine
$\cdots \quad$ Last string to combine
join(\$dest,\$first,\$second,A 3rd literal)

## linefill

## linefill(line,data)

Fill lines from a data table

| line | Name of line object to fill |
| :--- | :--- |
| data | Name of data table |

linefill(myLine,myData)
link
Open a new web page
link(url, target, clickParam)
This method will cause a webpage to open. The "http://"; portion of the URL is not required. You can specify the name of a list method in place of a URL, in which case, the URL name can respond to a click, say from a path object. Target sets where the page will open, which can be set to the frame's name or the preset values of _blank, _self, _parent, or _overlay.

The clickParam will cause the current click parameter ( 0 if none) to be appended to the url as ?id=\# (or \& id=\# if there is a name=value pair already there). When a map is clicked on, the feature number associated with the feature clicked on will be available to methods that support the clickParam option, such as the link method.

```
url Full URL of page to load, or ID name of list
target browser window or frame (_self, _blank or _overlay)
clickParam If set to true, ?id= will be added to url
link(www.mysite.org,_blank,false)
```

list
list(val1, val2, ... valN)
This method will create an array of elements (numbers, colors, or strings) under a named id for use in other methods. It can also create an array with only 1 element, for use as a variable. All lists is names are preceded by a dollar sign (i.e. \$myList) Global lists (meaning their scope is view-wide) are preceded by 2 dollar signs (i.e. $\$ \$ g L i s t)$.

```
listID Name of list l($+name=local, $$+name=global)
val1 Element to add to list
val2 Element to add to list
... Any number of elements
valueN Element to add to list
```

list(\$years,1865,1866,1877,\$id,\$\$param)

## listfil|

## listfill(dest, source, match, default)

This method sets any values in a list called dest whose index appears in a list called source to the value specified in matchVal. All those not specifically in source would be set to the default value.
dest $\quad$ Name of list to store result
source $\quad$ Name of list
match Value to set matching indices in dest to
default Value to set all other indices in dest to
listfill(\$a,\$b,yes,no)

## Iistjoin

## listjoin(dest,source)

This method will join the second list to the end of the first list and return the combined list in the first parameter.

```
dest Name of first list to combine
source \(\quad\) Name of second list to combine
```

listjoin(\$first,\$second)

## Iistmerge

listmerge(dest, source, spacer)
This method will join the separated members of a list separated by any spacer set and return that string in the first parameter.
dest $\quad$ Name of list to store combined
source Name of list
spacer Value to between entries
listmerge(\$joined,\$separate, )

Iistnum
Get length of list
listnum(num,source)
This method puts the length of the source list into the dest list to get the number of members is holds. If dest does not exist, it is created.

```
num
ID of list to place count in
source
ID of list to count members of
```

listnum(\$num,\$myList)

## listsplit

## listsplit(source,separator)

This method will look at each member of source list, and if it contains the separator, the member will be split and added as a new member of the list.

| source | ID of list |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| separator | String | Separator character or string |
| listsplit(\$myList, \|) |  |  |

## lookup

## lookup(result, source, find, deliver)

This method will search for a value in a table's field, and return a different field on the same row of that table.

```
result Name of list to store result
source Name of list or resource data
find Field in data set to search in
deliver Field in data set to return
lookup($t,Lincoln,myTable,name,age)
```

max(result, num1, num2)
This method compares num1 and num2 and places the largest in the list called result.
result $\quad$ Name of list to store result
num1 Number to be compared
num2 Number to be compared
max(\$biggest,\$sum,100)

## menuitem

## menuitem(control, title, glue, value)

This method will change an item in a control panel to a new title, GLUE or value.
Setting a parameter "undefined" keeps its old value.
control ID of control panel item
title String
glue String
value $\quad$ String | Number
menuitem(myCheckBox,A new title,undefined,true)

## min

$\min ($ result, num1, num2)
This method compares num1 and num2 and places smallest in the list called result.
result $\quad$ Name of list to store result
var1 Number to be compared
var2 Number to be compared
min(\$smallest,\$sum,100)
move(resource, startX, startY, startZ, endX, endY, endZ, timing, eases)
This method will move a resource over time. If the timing is set to 0 , the resource will always be positioned at the starting positions specified. An id of screen can be use to move entire screen

```
resource ID of resource or &quot;&quot;screen&quot;&quot;
startX Starting horizontal position
startY Starting vertical position
startZ starting zoom percent
endX Ending horizontal position
endY Ending vertical position
endZ Ending zoom percent
timing ID of timing source (i.e. timeline, var, 0)
eases Motion slows (0=none1=start 2=end 3=both)
move(\$myPic,100,200,100,200,300,150,\$\$param,3)
```


## movie

movie(player, command, value)
This method will control a movie resources transport functions such as play or stop. Current movie commands are 1.) play - The param is the time in seconds to start playing the movie from. 2.) stop, 3.) seek - The param is set to the time in seconds to cue the movie to. 4.) time - The param the name of the list to store the current time in seconds. 5.) start - The param is the time in seconds of movie's start time. 6.) end The param is the time in seconds of movies end time. 7.) load - The param is the src/path of the movie to load.

| player | Name of movie to control |
| :--- | :--- |
| command | Command to send to player |
| value | Value to send to player |

movie(myMovie,play,12)
$\bmod (r e s u l t$, num, divisor)

This method multiplies gets the modulo (remainder) a number into result (i.e result=num\%divisor).
result $\quad$ Name of list to store result
num Number to multiply
divisor $\quad$ Number to divide by
mod(\$thisDay,\$totalDays,7)

## mul

mul(result, num1, num2)
This method multiplies num1by num2 and places the result in the list called result (i.e result=num1*num2).
result $\quad$ Name of list to store result
num1 Number to multiply
num2 Number to multiply
mul(\$tot,\$age,10)
normalizegraph
normalizegraph(graph, max)
This method will set the status of a graph set by graphID to plot the data as raw numbers by setting max to 0 (its default condition) or normalize the data from 0 to the number set by max, typically 100 . This is useful when trying to compare datasets with wildly different ranges.

```
graph ID of graph
max Maximum value of }Y\mathrm{ axis
```

normalizegraph(\$myGraph,100)

## play

play(startTime)
This method will cause the timeline to play from the time specified in startTime. It is the same as if you dragged the timeline slider with the mouse and clicked the play button.
startTime Starting time
play(1/1/1780)

## query(result, tableRes ,fields, conditions, orderBy)

This method works in a similar fashion to a SQL query on a table, but performs conditional searches on data contained in a resource called tableRes that is in row/column format. The results are placed in a new list specified by results. You can specify the fields to include using the fields id. A * will include all fields. Multiple fields are set by separating them with plus signs. The conditions are similar to SQL WHERE conditions, with AND indicating "AND" and "OR" indicating OR. Possible operators are EQ, NE, GT, LT, LE, GE, LK, NL, (like/not-like).

Conditionals test on numeric order, which does not work with dates. The clause date GT 1/12/1800 will incorrectly return a row dated $6 / 12 / 1700$, because 6 comes after 1 . To overcome this, tell query() to treat the fields as dates by prefixing the date: to the field and test, like this: date: date GT date:1/12/1800.

The result attribute can be a list, table field, or a table with multiple fields. A list (i.e. \$myList) and a table field (i.e. *myTable.field) can only contain one field, but you can fill a table with multiple fields by specifying a table with no field defined (i.e *myTable) and whatever fields that are defined in the fields attribute will be copied (in that order) into the fields of the table. Be sure to pay attention to the order, so the right field in the tableRes ends un in the result table.

```
result ID of list where results are placed
tableRes ID of resource where data are
fields Fields to include, separated by a + sign, or * for all
conditions Inclusion conditions, separated by AND or OR
orderBy Field to order row results by (0=none, add - for reverse sort)
query($myList,myData,year+county,year GT 1847 OR county NE LA)
```

```
random(result, min, max, integer)
```

This method returns into result a random number between min and max. If integer is set to "true", no decimal places will be added.

| result | Name of list to store result |
| :--- | :--- |
| min | Minimum number |
| max | Maximum number |
| integer | I |

random(\$num,0,100,true)

## radioshow(select, opacity, resources)

This method acts like a radio button, and sets the visibility of a list of resources such that only one is visible at any given time. The selected resource can be rendered fully transparent (opacity=0) to fully opaque (opacity=100) or any point in between. All others are hidden. Setting select to 0 hides them all. The select can also reference an ID of a list. When using radioshow to select between dot object, use the word dot the resources list.
select Which resource index to select (0-n)
opacity Opacity of resource 0-100
resources ID of list of resource IDs
radioshow(3,60,\$list)
refresh
refresh(resource, [param] )
This method will cause the resource identified to be re-drawn. Some elements can pass a parameter to the refresh, such as time, or item to highlight. This is optional and currently used in the shelf resource to highlight a particular dot within the shelf.

```
    resource ID of resource
    param Optional
```

refresh(myPic)

## repeat

## repeat(times)

This method will repeat the script lines between the first time it is called with a number (the number of times to repeat) and the second time it is called with 'end' as its parameter (no quotes!). Useful for looping things, as a traditional do or for loop in programming .A new list called $\$ \mathbf{i x}$ will be created and set to 0 at the start, and each time the script is repeated, that number will increase by one, making it easy to iterate.
times $\quad$ Number of repeats or end
repeat(4) - or- repeat(end)

## replace(infobox, search, replace)

This method looks at some text and replaces an occurrence of search with a word or words identified by replace.
infobox ID of infobox
search Value to look for
replace Value to replace it with
replace(myBox,jump,howfar)

## replaceword

replaceword(infobox, words)
This method looks at some text and replaces special symbols with a word or words. The symbols such as $\$ \$ 1, \$ \$ 2$, etc., where the $\$ \$$ identifies it as a symbol and the number following it says which one in the list it should be replaced with. The replacement parameter is the ID of a list of replacement word or words. $\$ \$ 1$ would be replaced by the first member in the list, $\$ \$ 2$ would replace the second member, etc.

```
infobox ID of infobox
words List of replacement values
```

replaceword(myBox,\$words)

This method returns rounded up of source and places the result back in to source.
source $\quad$ Name of list to store result and the
round(123.456)

## routefill

Add routes to a path via a data element
routefill(path, dataRes)
This method will fill a container object, such as a path or concept with route data from a data source (i.e. A an XML file, or a SQL database query). The data source must contain the start, end, and pathway fields.

```
path
ID of path
dataRes
ID of resource where data are
```

routefill(myPath,myData)

## segment(dest, source, slots, values)

This method will sort data into a number of preset categories and use those as criteria to create a new list. The slots contains a list of numbers that sets the ranges, and values (which must have the same number of items as slots) contains the values to use. The source points at a list of data to compare against the slots, and the dest is where the converted list goes. If the source contains multiple items, the each item will be converted and placed in the dest list. For example suppose we wanted to show some text when certain dates are reached. (i.e. "1968" will yield "The Sixties".) The timeline changes the year, which is reflected in the \$\$curYear global.

1. Making a list called \$slots like this: list(\$dates,0,1950,1963,1975) sets up 4 date ranges: before 1950, 1950 to 1963, 1963 to 1975 and past 1975.
2. When a year is in one of those ranges, we want to display the era, so we set up an list of values like this: list(\$eras,The War Years,Happy Days,The Sixties,Modernity).
3. This call: segment(\$name,\$\$curYear,\$dates,\$eras) will look at the current year, decide which slot it is in and put the era's name in \$name.
```
dest ID of destination data resource
source ID of source data resource
slots ID of list of slots data
values ID of list of values to assign segmented data
segment(myData.pop, myMap.col, $slots, $colors)
```


## select

```
select(source, result, which)
```

This method selects one member of a source list based on the first member of a which list and places it in the result list. NOTE: the result parameter must be a regular (not global) list. Alternatively, if you want to used select() to find a member of a list, you can set which to one of the member rather than a number, and the index of that member in the source list

```
source ID of list of values to select from
result String of list where selection is placed (or index)
which Selection number (or source member to find)

\section*{set(dest, source)}

This method copies srcID and places the result in the list or resource called destID.
\(\begin{array}{ll}\text { dest } & \text { Name of list to store result } \\ \text { source } & \text { Name of source }\end{array}\)
set(\$b,\$a)
setatt

\section*{setatt(element, attribute, value)}

Set an element's attribute. If you are trying to access an element within another element, such as a frame, use a dot to separate the sub-element's attribute in the attribute. For example: setatt (myGraph, frame. backCol, 0x990000).
element ID of element
attribute Name of attribute to set
value \(\quad\) Value of attribute to
setatt(myElement,src,\$\$param)

\section*{setdot}

\section*{setdot(path, bandNum, dotNum, field, value)}

This method will set a field (attribute) of a dot in a path or TimeView band.
path ID of path or timeview band
bandNum Number of band (if in a TimeView)
dotNum Number of dot to set
field Name of dot field to set
value Value to dot field to
setdot(myPath,0,5,col,\$\$param)

\section*{setimage}
setimage(image, src, overview)
This method will cause a new image to be loaded into an existing image resource. If overview attribute is set to true, the overview's image is loaded to src as well.
\begin{tabular}{ll} 
image & ID of image resource \\
src & URL of image to load \\
overview & Load overview (true or false)
\end{tabular}
setimage(mylmage,http://www.mypic.jpg,true)

\section*{setview(view)}

This method will cause the view identified to be drawn. If the view is invisible, it will be drawn in the current view, otherwise the tabs will change to that view
view ID of view
setview(myView)

\section*{show}

\section*{show(resource, opacity)}

This method sets the visibility of a resource. The resource can be rendered fully transparent (opacity=0) to fully opaque (opacity=100) or any point in between.
resource ID of resource
opacity Opacity of resource 0-100
show(\$myRes,100)

\section*{split}

\section*{split(dest, source, separator)}

This method splits a string in parts separated by some letter or letters, and places the result in the list called destID.
dest \(\quad\) Name of list to store result source \(\quad\) String to be split apart separator Letter(s) that separate things to be split
split(\$t,Split by colons, )
status
status(message)
This method prints a message in the status area at the bottom of the screen.
message Message to show
status(Double click to see)

\section*{stdev(result, data)}

This method calculated the standard deviation of numbers in data and places the result in the list called result.
result \(\quad\) Name of list to store result
data List of number to average
stdev(\$sd,\$myList)

\section*{sqrt}

\section*{sqrt(result, source)}

This method takes the square root of source and places the result in the list called result. If result list does not exist, it is created.
result \(\quad\) Name of list to store result
source Number to take square root of
sqrt(\$num,\$age)

\section*{sub}
sub(result, var1, var2)
This method subtracts var1 from var2 and places the result in the list called result , result \(\quad\) Name of list to store result var1 Number to subtract
var2 Number to subtract from
sub(\$tot,2,100)

\section*{table}

\section*{Modify a table}

\section*{table(action, table, row, field, value)}

This method will modify the contents of a table resource. There are three possible actions: addrow, which adds a row, set, which set's the value of an item, and sort, which sorts the table by a field. Row numbers start at 0 .
addrow: If you put in -1 as the row, it will add a new row to the end of the table, otherwise it will put it at the specified row. The field parameter should be a list of field values you want to add to that row.
set: The row parameter sets the row you want to change, field is the field name, and value is the value you want to set the item to. If you put in -1 as the row, the field name in all the rows will be filled with value.
sort: Set field parameter to the field to sort by. Putting a -1 in the value parameter will sort in descending order instead of ascending.
empty: This option will empty the data from all the fields, like starting afresh.
```

action Table action to perform: addrow|set|sort
table ID of table to modify
row Number of row
field Field(s)
value Value of data (set action)
table(addrow,myTable,-1,$data,0) adds new row at end
table(addrow,myTable,4,$data,0) adds new row at row 5
table(set,myTable,4,name,smith) sets name field at row 5 to "smith"
table(sort,myTable,0,age,-1) sort table by "age" field in descending order
table(empty,myTable,0,0,0) empty table

```

\section*{timelinelabels}

Add timeline Data Labels

\section*{timelinelabels(dates, labels )}

This method will add labels for a timeline. Add a list of dates and a list of labels to show at each date
```

dates ID of list of dates
labels ID of list of labels
timelinelabels($myDates,$myLabels)

```

\section*{timerfill}

\section*{linefill(line,data)}

Fill timer trigger dots from a data table. The table must contain the time and glue fields and they need to be in ascending time order.
time \(\quad\) Name of time widget to fill
data Name of data table
timerfill(myTimer,myData)

\section*{tween}

Animate a resource field over time
tween(field, start, end, timing, eases)
This method will set a resource field to some position over time. If the timing is set to 0 , the resource will always be positioned at the starting positions specified.
field ID of resource
start Starting position
end Ending position
timing ID of timing source (i.e. timeline, var, 0)
eases Motion slows (0=none1=start 2=end 3=both)
tween(myPic.rot,100,200,\$\$param,3)
tweenlist

\section*{tweenlist(dest, from, to, percent, eases)}

This method will set a list to tween between two other lists over time.
dest Name of list to store result
from Name of list to tween from"
to Name of list to tween to
percent \(\quad\) Number Percent of tween (0-1)
eases Motion slows (0=none1=start 2=end 3=both)
tweenlist(\$myList,\$list1,\$list2,\$\$now,3)```

