

Sketchify Tutorial

Properties and Variables

sketchify.sf.net

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Properties and Variables

- Properties of active regions and sketches can be given directly, or indirectly through variables
 - Directly specify the value
 - 90
 - Indirectly specify the value through variables
 - Using formulas
 - =variable
 - = $a + (b-c) / 50$
 - Using string templates
 - You said <%=text%>



Why Variables?

- Benefits of indirect specification
 - One variable can control several properties
 - Through variables, objects in sketches can communicate with each other and with external services (such as Wii, text-to-speech service)

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Interface for Working with Variables

- Variables can be accessed through a spreadsheet-like interface, making all data immediately visible and manipulatable.
- A designer can directly observe and update variables; useful to explore and play with the functionality.

The screenshot shows a software interface for managing variables, resembling a spreadsheet. The top bar includes a 'Variables' button, a search icon, a 'sort by creation' dropdown, and a help icon. The main area displays a table with columns for Variable Name, Value, and Descr. Several rows are listed, including 'trajectory_position', 'trajectory_position_2', 'trajectory_position_3', 'query', 'babelfish-status', and 'test'. The 'test' row is selected, highlighted in blue. A context menu is open over this row, listing options: 'Edit...', 'Derive New Variable(s)', 'Copy Variable Names', 'Copy Spreadsheet Formulas', 'Copy Script Expressions', 'Remove', and 'Set count filter...'. The bottom of the interface features a toolbar with icons for adding new variables, deleting selected variables, derived variables, remote updates, and disabling variable updates. It also shows a count of 12 variables and a red square icon.

Variable Name	Value	Descr
trajectory_position	1.0	
trajectory_position_2	1.0	
trajectory_position_3	0.0	
query		[in,trigger]
babelfish-status	ready	[out] SI
test	this	
hallo		
r		
r+rob+		
babelfis		

Annotations:

- Filter: Points to the search bar at the top left.
- Sort: Points to the 'sort by creation' dropdown at the top right.
- Add new variable: Points to the plus sign icon in the toolbar.
- Delete selected variables: Points to the trash bin icon in the toolbar.
- Derived variables: Points to the icon with two overlapping circles in the toolbar.
- Count filter: Points to the icon with a gear and a bar chart in the toolbar.
- Remote updates: Points to the icon with a computer monitor in the toolbar.
- Disable variables' updates: Points to the red square icon in the toolbar.



Connecting Variables and Properties

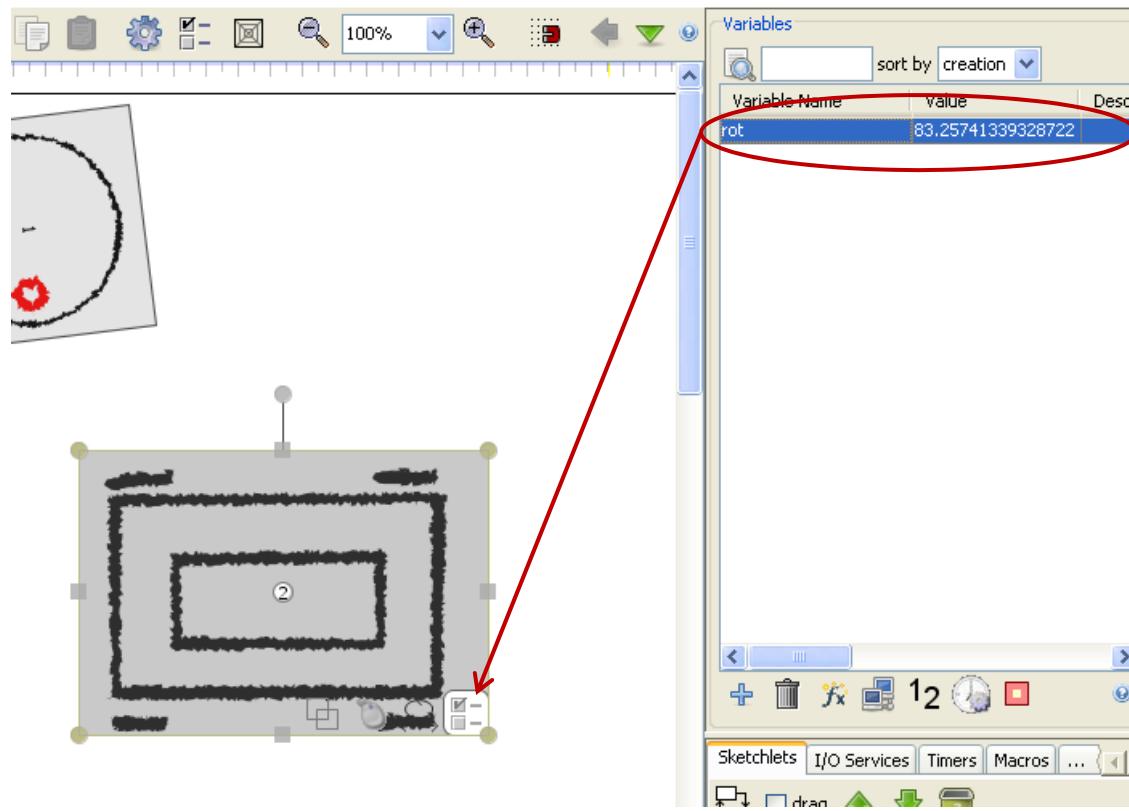
- Drag-and-Drop
 - You can drag a variable and drop it on the region or sketch to set its properties
- Specifying property value in region setting
 - With expressions and formulas
 - With string templates



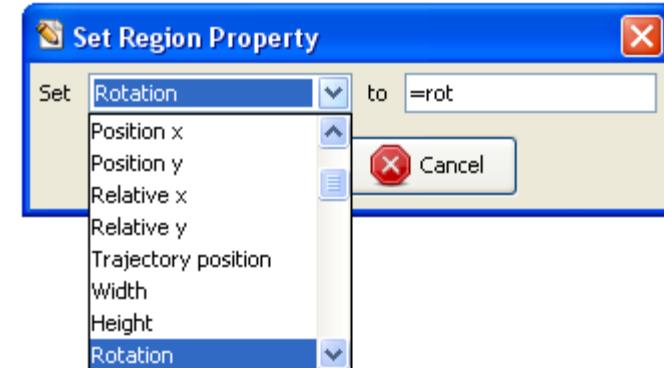
Drag-and-Drop Connection

between Variables and Properties

- You can drag-and-drop the variable on the region properties icon, and select property



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Specifying in the Properties Tab

- You can also specify properties by going to the properties tab of the region
- Instead of giving the value directly, you can use the expression “=variable”
- This means that value will be taken from the variable

The screenshot shows the 'Properties' tab of a software interface, likely for a design or simulation tool. The left sidebar lists categories: 'Image', 'Properties', 'Move & Rotate', 'Mouse Events', 'Overlap & Touch', and 'Embedded Sketch'. The 'Properties' category is selected. The main area displays a table of properties:

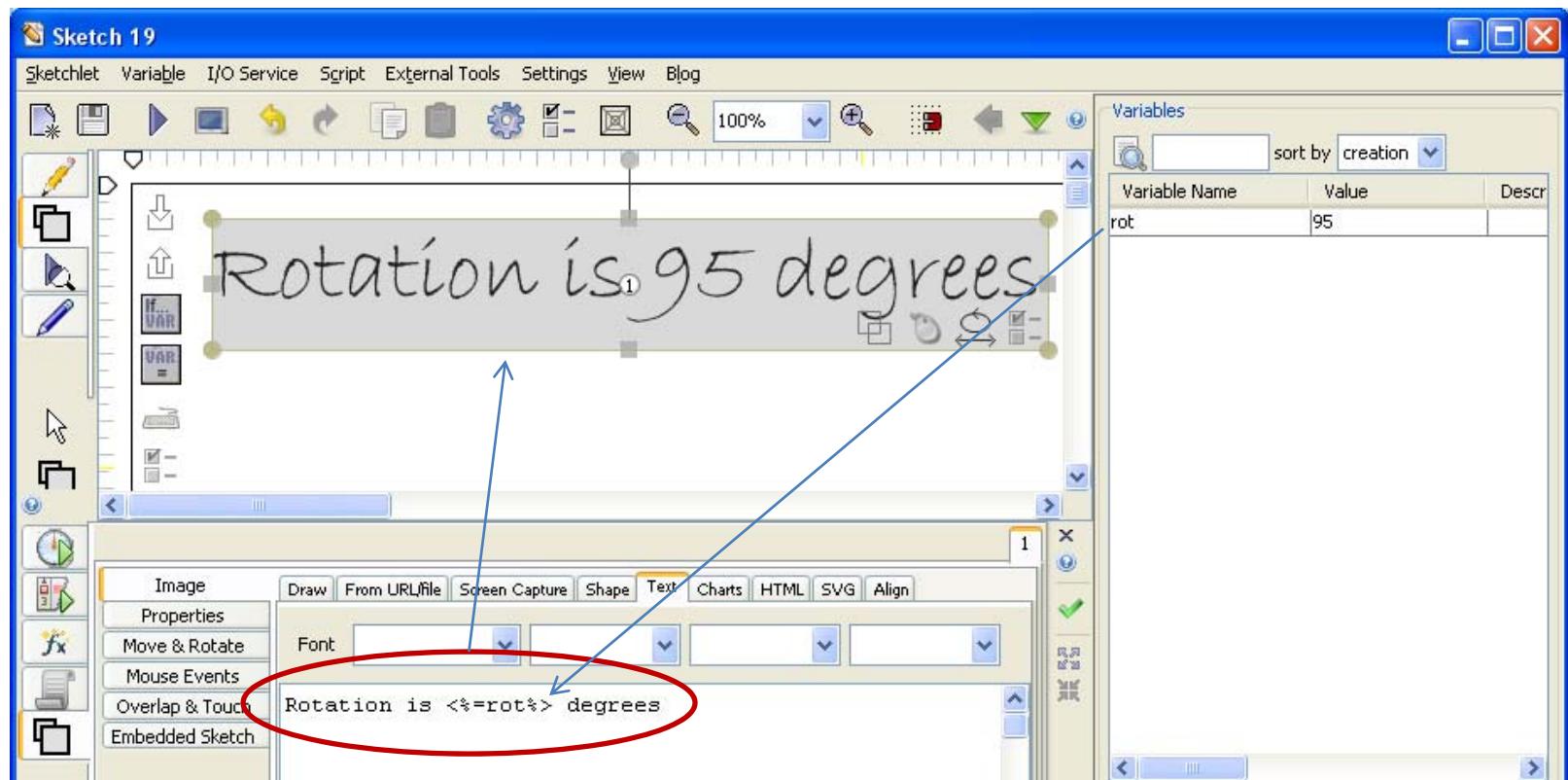
Property	Value	Description
position x		horizontal position (lef...
position y		vertical position (top, ...
relative x		relative horizontal pos...
relative y		vertical position (0.0 t...
trajectory position		0.0 to 1.0
Size		
width		region width
height		region height
Orientation		
rotation	=rot	angle
Transparency		0.0 to 1.0
transparency		0.0 to 1.0
Visible area		
visible area x		

A blue selection bar highlights the 'rotation' row, which has the value '=rot' and the description 'angle'. The right side of the interface includes a vertical toolbar with icons for 'Explore', 'Clear', and other controls.



Variables and Templates

- Templates are simple way to define a text with some part of it will be replaced with the variable value:
“Rotation is <%=rot%> degrees”





Variables and Formulas

- You can also use more complex formulas to derive values using diverse operators and function
- Examples

$=\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$

$=\text{rot} * 3$

$=100 + 50 * \sin(\text{rot})$

Property	Value	Description
position x		horizontal position (left)
position y		vertical position (top)
relative x		relative horizontal position
relative y		vertical position (0.0 to 1.0)
trajectory position		
Size		
width		region width
height		region height
Orientation		
rotation	$=\text{rot} * 3$	angle
Transparency	$0.0 \text{ to } 1.0$	
transparency		0.0 to 1.0
Visible area		
visible area x		

- Expression with formulas have to start with “=”
- **NOTE:** If the variable name contains operator, such as “-”, you have to put the name within apostrophes, for example ““movement-intensity’ / 2”.

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Formulas

- All common arithmetic operators are supported. Boolean operators are also fully supported.
- You can also derive the value conditionally using the **if** command.
 - For example, the formula "**if(a > -0.1 && a < 0.1, b, 1.0)**" will return the value of variable **b** if the variable **a** is within **-0.1** and **0.1**, or **1.0** otherwise. Boolean expressions are evaluated to be either 1 or 0 (true or false respectively).



Operators

Power	\wedge
Boolean Not	!
Unary Plus, Unary Minus	$+x, -x$
Modulus	$\%$
Division	/
Multiplication	*
Addition, Subtraction	$+, -$
Less or Equal, More or Equal	$=, >=$
Less Than, Greater Than	$, >$
Not Equal, Equal	$!=, ==$
Boolean And	$\&\&$
Boolean Or	$\ $

Functions

Sine	$\sin(x)$
Cosine	$\cos(x)$
Tangent	$\tan(x)$
Arc Sine	$\text{asin}(x)$
Arc Cosine	$\text{acos}(x)$
Arc Tangent	$\text{atan}(x)$
Arc Tangent (with 2 parameters)	$\text{atan2}(y, x)$
Hyperbolic Sine	$\sinh(x)$
Hyperbolic Cosine	$\cosh(x)$
Hyperbolic Tangent	$\tanh(x)$
Inverse Hyperbolic Sine	$\text{asinh}(x)$
Inverse Hyperbolic Cosine	$\text{acosh}(x)$
Inverse Hyperbolic Tangent	$\text{atanh}(x)$
Natural Logarithm	$\ln(x)$
Logarithm base 10	$\log(x)$
Exponential (e^x)	$\exp(x)$
Absolute Value / Magnitude	$\text{abs}(x)$
Random number (between 0 and 1)	$\text{rand}()$
Modulus	$\text{mod}(x,y) = x \% y$
Square Root	\sqrt{x}
Min	$\text{mix}(x,y)$
Max	$\text{max}(x,y)$
Sum	$\text{sum}(x,y,z)$
If	$\text{if}(\text{cond}, \text{trueval}, \text{falseval})$
Str (number to string)	$\text{str}(x)$
Binomial coefficients	$\text{binom}(n,i)$