

Using the Formula Editor

This chapter covers the following topics:

- About the Formula Editor
 - Opening the Formula Editor
 - Adding a New Formula
 - Displaying an Overview of All Defined Formulae
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About the Formula Editor

The formula editor can be used, for example, to define that the sum of the fields A and B is to be shown in field C. In this case, the formula has to be added to field C.

Important:

The formula is processed on the client side.

Opening the Formula Editor

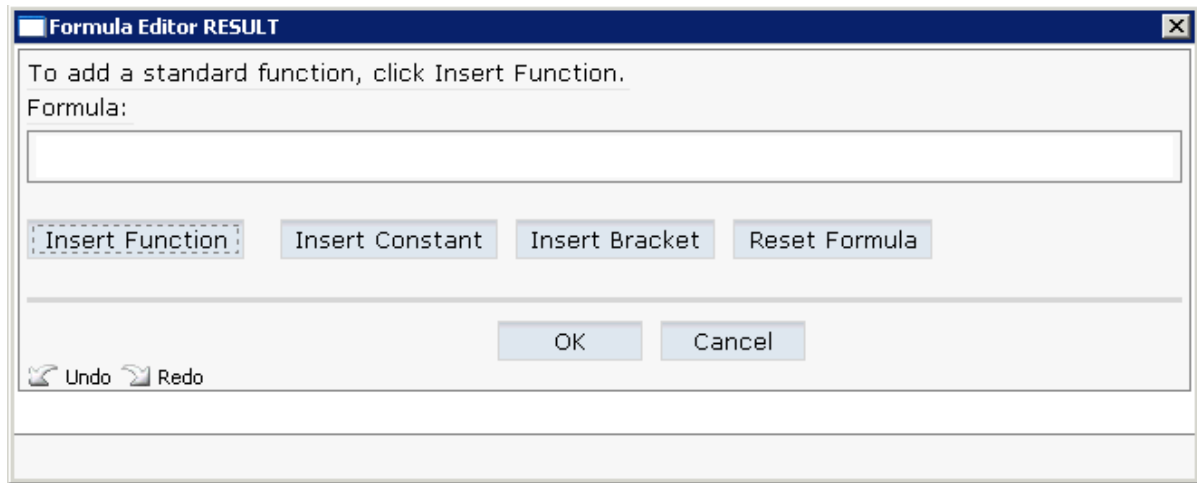
When you open the formula editor, you can add or remove a formula.

The prerequisite for adding a formula for a field is that an adapter class or Natural adapter with the corresponding code exists. The formula editor only works with fields that have valid declared properties on the adapter side.

To open the formula editor

1. In the layout area or preview area, select the field control for which you want to add a formula.
2. From the **Ajax Developer** menu, choose **Insert/Edit Formula**.

A dialog appears. If a formula has already been defined for the selected field, it is shown in the dialog.

**Important:**

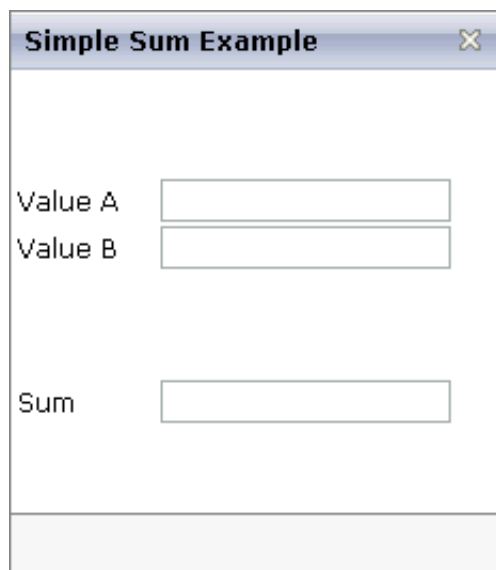
A function is always defined from the left to the right. It is not possible to go back in the function, for example, in order to insert a missing operator. Therefore, you should already have a plan of your function in mind before you compose the function using the controls in the formular editor.

The following command buttons are provided:

Command Button	Description
Insert Function	Allows you to select a function (such as sum) from a drop-down list box. After you have selected a function, you define the required fields using an "insert field" link. A simple example is provided below; see <i>Adding a New Formula</i> .
Insert Operator	This button is only shown when applicable, that is, if at least one expression has been entered. Allows you to select an operator (such as the plus sign) from a drop-down list box.
Insert Constant	Allows you to define a constant (for example, the number "77") in a text box.
Insert Bracket	Allows you to select brackets from a drop-down list box.
Reset Formula	Deletes the formula.

Adding a New Formula

This section explains how to define a simple formula: the sum of the fields **Value A** and **Value B** is to be shown in the **Sum** field.



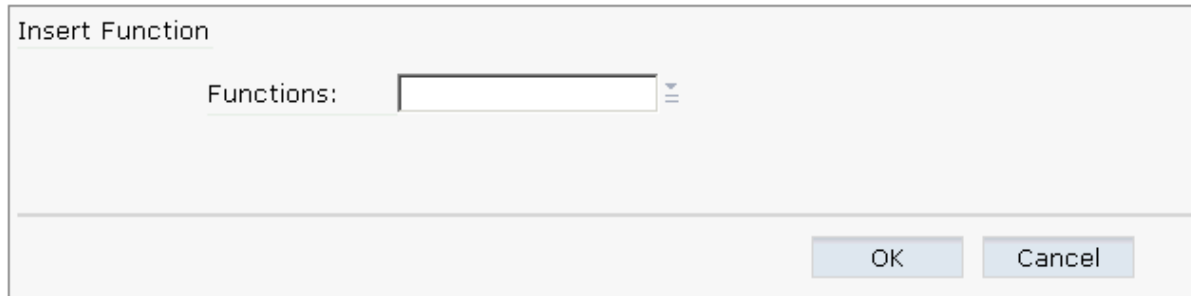
A dialog box titled "Simple Sum Example" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. It contains three input fields: "Value A", "Value B", and "Sum". The "Sum" field is highlighted with a light blue background.

▶ **To add a simple formula**

It is assumed that the formula editor has been invoked as described above (the field was selected in which the sum is to be shown).

1. Choose the **Insert Function** button.

The following information is now shown at the bottom of the dialog.



A dialog box titled "Insert Function" with a "Functions:" label and a drop-down list box. The list box is empty. At the bottom right, there are "OK" and "Cancel" buttons.

2. Select the required function (for this example, select **sum**) from the **Functions** drop-down list box and choose the **OK** button.

The information at the bottom of the dialog is no longer shown. The selected function is now shown in the **Formula** text box, together with the link "insert field".

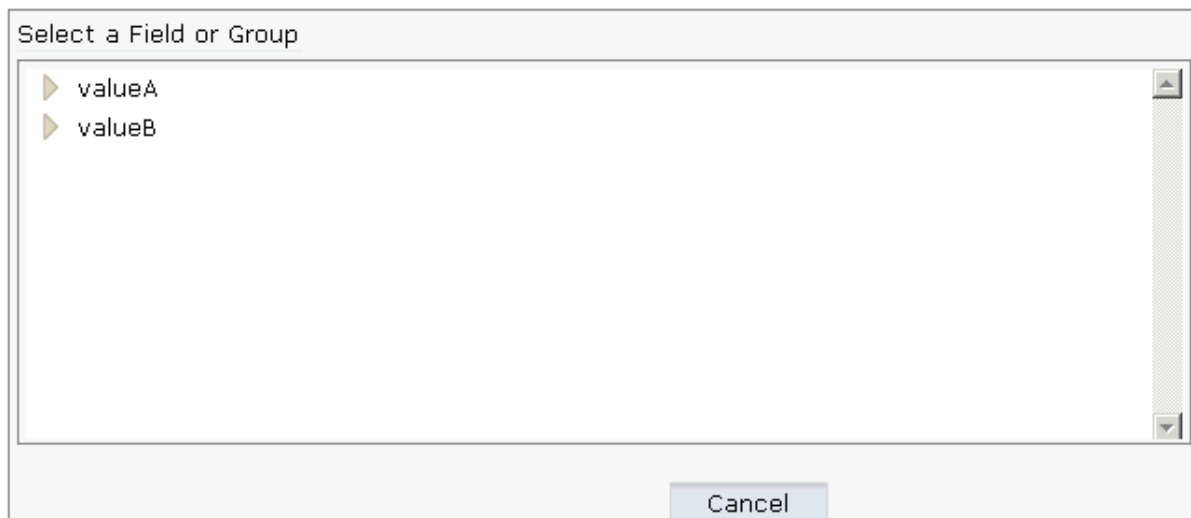
Note:

It is not possible to edit the formula in the **Formula** text box.

3. Choose the "insert field" link in the **Formula** text box.

The fields that are currently defined in the layout are now shown at the bottom of the dialog.

Example:



4. Choose a field (for this example, choose **valueA**).

The selected field is now shown in the **Formula** text box. The link "insert field" is still shown in case you want to insert more fields.

5. Insert all required fields as described above (for this example, choose **valueB**).

For this example, the formula should look as follows:

```
sum(valueA,valueB)
```

6. When the formula is complete, choose the **Cancel** button.
7. To close the formula editor, choose the **OK** button.

You can now test the formula in the preview area.

Displaying an Overview of All Defined Formulae

You can display a list of all formulae which are defined in the current layout.

▶ To display an overview

- From the **Ajax Developer** menu, choose **Formula Overview**.

A dialog appears. When formulae have been defined in the current layout, they are listed in this dialog.

The image shows a dialog box titled "Formula Editor" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. Inside the dialog is a table with four columns: an asterisk (*), "No.", "Field", and "Value". The first row contains a checked checkbox, the number "1", the word "sum", and the formula "sum(valueA,valueB)". There are five empty rows below the first one.

*	No.	Field	Value
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	sum	sum(valueA,valueB)

When you click on a formula, the formula editor appears and you can change the formula as described above.