

Structural Search and Replace. Edit Variable Dialog

Edit | Find | Search Structurally | Edit variables

Use this dialog to define constraints for the variables of a [search template](#).

The contents of the dialog box depend on the selected variable type.

Item	Description
Variables	This area shows a list of variables used in the current search template.
Text constraints	<p>In this area define the following constraints of the selected variable regarding text:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Text/regular expression - in this text box, type a perl-like expression or a class name to be used as a variable constraint. Basic code completion is available for class names.■ Invert condition - select this check box to have the text pattern inverted.■ Apply constraint within type hierarchy - select this check box to have the search according to the pattern performed both in type names and in parents (within the hierarchy).■ Whole words only - when this check box is selected, only whole words within text are matched. This option recognizes string literals and comments.
Occurrences count	<p>In this area, define how pattern hits will be counted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Minimum count - in this text box, type the minimum number of elements in the list.■ Maximum count - in this text box, type the maximum number of elements in the list.■ Unlimited - select this check box to allow unlimited number of elements in the list.

Item	Description
Expression constraints	<p>In this area, define how expressions should be processed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Value is read - if this check box is selected, the matching variable is to be read. ■ Value is written - if this check box is selected, the matching variable is to be written. ■ Text/regular expression for java expression type - if the calculated variable is a java expression, this constraint checks its type. For instance, for the <code>foo(\$a\$)</code> expression the type of the method parameter would be checked. ■ Text/regular expression for formal argument type of the method - if the calculated variable is a java expression in a method call, this constraint checks the parameter type. For instance, correspondence between the method parameter type (e.g. <code>\$a\$</code>) in method calls will be checked for methods like <code>foo(\$a\$)</code>. ■ Apply constraint within type hierarchy - select this check box to have the search according to the pattern performed both in type names and in parents (within the hierarchy). ■ Invert condition - select this check box to have the value of the corresponding check box changed to the opposite one.
Script constraints	<p>In this area, define a variable constraint via a script. Specify the script in the text box or click the  button to open the Edit Script Constraint dialog box.</p>
This variable is target of the search	<p>If this check box is selected, the search results will show not the entire expression but the selected variable(s) only.</p>

See Also

Concepts:

- [Search Templates](#)

Procedures:

- [Creating and Editing Search Templates](#)

Reference:

- [Structural Search and Replace Dialogs](#)

Web Resources:

- [Developer Community](#) 