

# Advanced Control Flow (2.1 legacy document)

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**Warning:**

This document was copied as is from the Cocoon 2.1 documentation, but has not yet been fully reviewed or moved to its new home.

## 1. JPath Logic Sheet

The JPath Logic Sheet is an [XSP](#) logic sheet that allows you to access data from a Cocoon Flowscript in an XSP page and inject it into a Cocoon pipeline. It provides a set of tags (similar to the those defined by [XSLT](#)) that allow you to iterate over Java collections (and Java or JavaScript arrays) and to test for the presence of optional or alternate bean properties. It is based on [Apache JXPath](#).

Samples of this Logic Sheet are available in the XSP implementation of the petstore block

## 2. Tags

The JPath tags are defined in the namespace

<http://apache.org/xsp/jpath/1.0>

### 2.1. if

The if tag allows the conditional execution of its body according to value of its test attribute:

```
<if test="XPathExpression"> body </if>
```

Example:

```
<jpath:if test="cart/numberOfItems = 0"> Your cart is empty </jpath:if>
```

### 2.2. choose

The choose tag performs conditional block execution by its embedded when sub tags. It renders the body of the first when tag whose test condition evaluates to true. If none of the test conditions of its nested when tags evaluate to true, then the body of its otherwise tag is evaluated, if present:

```
<choose> <when test="XPathExpression"> body </when>+ <otherwise> body </otherwise>? </choose>
```

Example:

```
<choose> <when test="not(user/loggedIn)"> You're not logged in </when> <otherwise> You're already logged in </otherwise> </choose>
```

### 2.3. value-of

The value-of tag evaluates an expression and outputs the result of the evaluation:

```
<value-of select="XPathExpression"/>
```

Example:

```
<value-of select="cart/numberOfItems">
```

### 2.4. for-each

The for-each tag allows you to iterate over a collection of objects:

```
<for-each select="XPathExpression"> body </for-each>
```

When using XPath expressions within for-each the current element is the context node and can be referenced with XPath dot operator:

Example:

```
<for-each select="cart/cartItems[position() <= $count]"> <td><value-of
select="./productId"></td> </for-each>
```

## 2.5. continuation

The continuation tag returns the id of the current web continuation of your Flowscript. You can refer to previous continuations by supplying the optional level attribute. Zero is the current level, -1 refers to the previous continuation, and so on.

```
<continuation [level="Number"]/>
```

Example:

```
<xsp:attribute
name="action"><xsp:expr><jpath:continuation/>+ ".form"</xsp:expr></xsp:attribute>
```

## 2.6. set-lenient

Since Cocoon 2.1.6

The set-lenient tag switch the lenient setting of xpath. By default it is set to false. If set to true, xpaths that don't point to an object or a set of them will return null (Instead of that annoying exception). Saves all the checking if you can accept nulls and are sure there are no typos.

If the tag contains child elements it will scope the setting for the enclosed elements, otherwise it is a global setting. You can't nest <jpath:set-lenient> tags.

```
<jpath:set-lenient lenient="true|false">
```

Example:

```
<jpath:set-lenient lenient="true">
```

## 1. Comments

add your comments