

Basic Practices for Custom Scripts Developers

This article answers the following questions:

1. [Which built-in methods/properties do custom scripts have?](#)
2. [How to debug a custom script?](#)
3. [Where to find the information about the MI API?](#)

Most Used Custom Script Commands

Any Custom Script is represented by the **customScript** object that encapsulates a set of methods and properties. These methods and properties can be utilized to simplify the creation and usage of Custom Scripts. This section considers the most used of them in a more detail.

Methods

customScript.runApiRequest()

The `runApiRequest()` method utilizes jQuery's `ajax()` method.

It accepts two parameters:

- `url`: the URL to which the request is sent
- `settings`: a set of key/value pairs that configure the Ajax request; if no settings are passed, the default settings are used

Example: Obtain a list of all Datasets and their metadata by executing

```
customScript.runApiRequest(customScript.homeSite+'api/dataset');
```

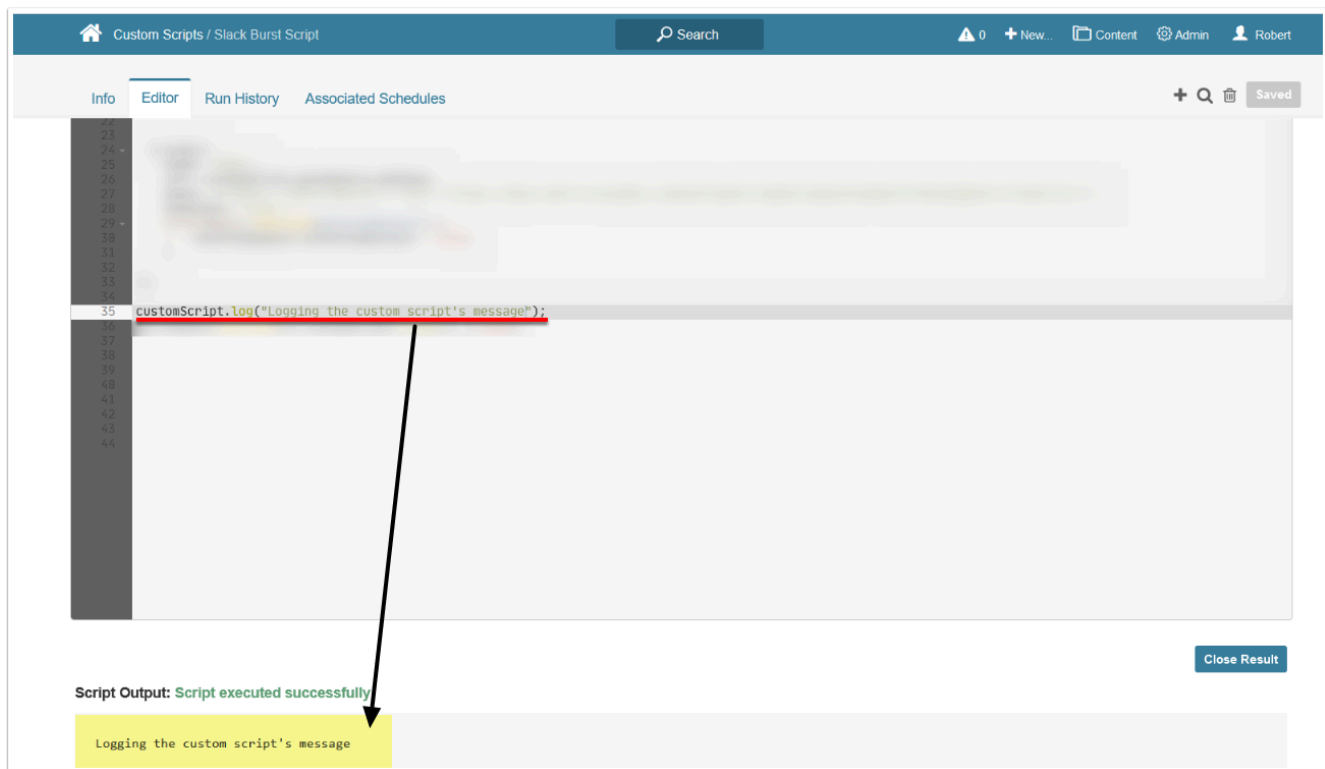
customScript.close()

Finishes the script's execution.

Example:

```
setTimeout(function(){ customScript.close(); },1000);
```

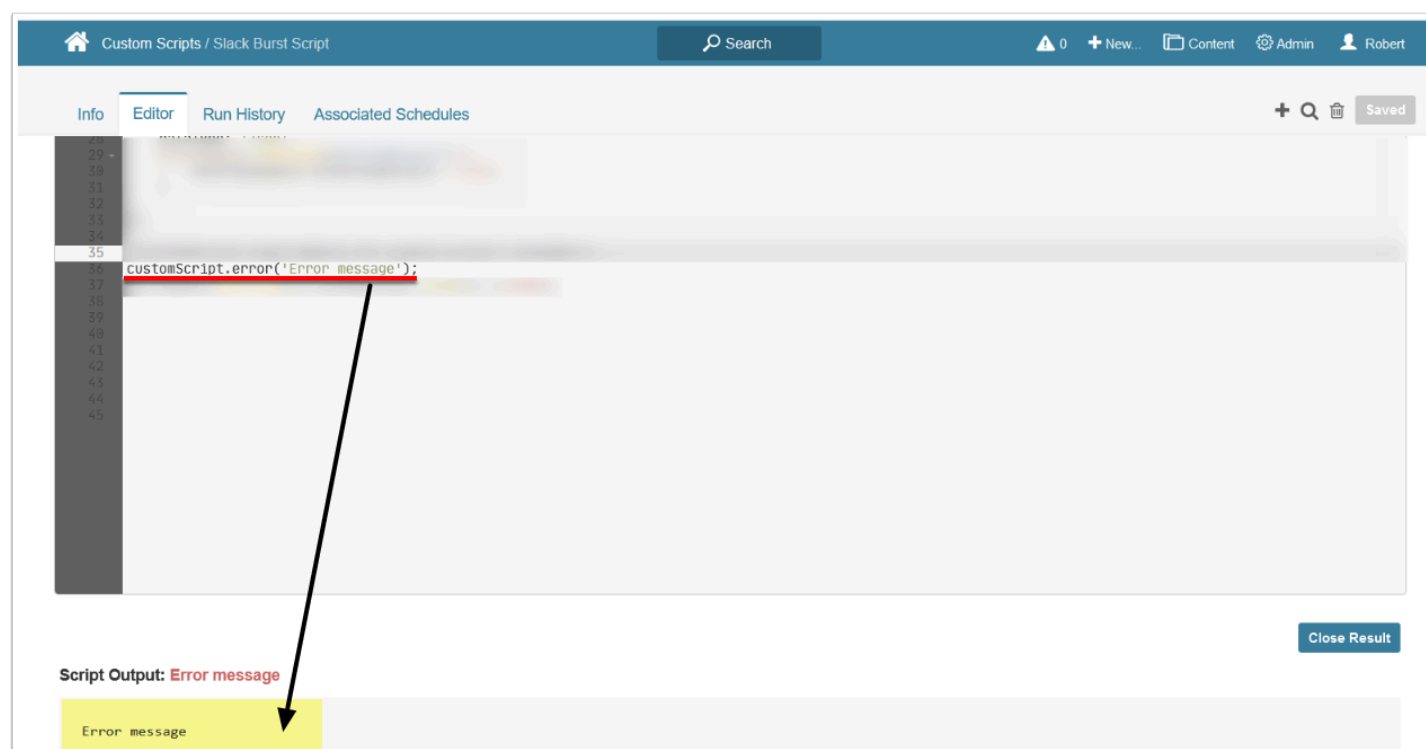
customScript.log()



This method is an analogue of the `console.log()` method. The output is displayed in the **Script Output** section and on the *Run History* tab.

Example: `customScript.log("Logging the custom script's message");`

customScript.error()



Outputs an error that is displayed in the **Script Output** section and on the *Run History* tab.

Example: `customScript.error('Dataset with name '+customScript.parameters.datasetName+' is not found');`

Properties

customScript.parameters

`customScript.parameters.<parameter name>` is used to access [Custom Script's parameters](#), that were specified in the **Custom Script Editor**.

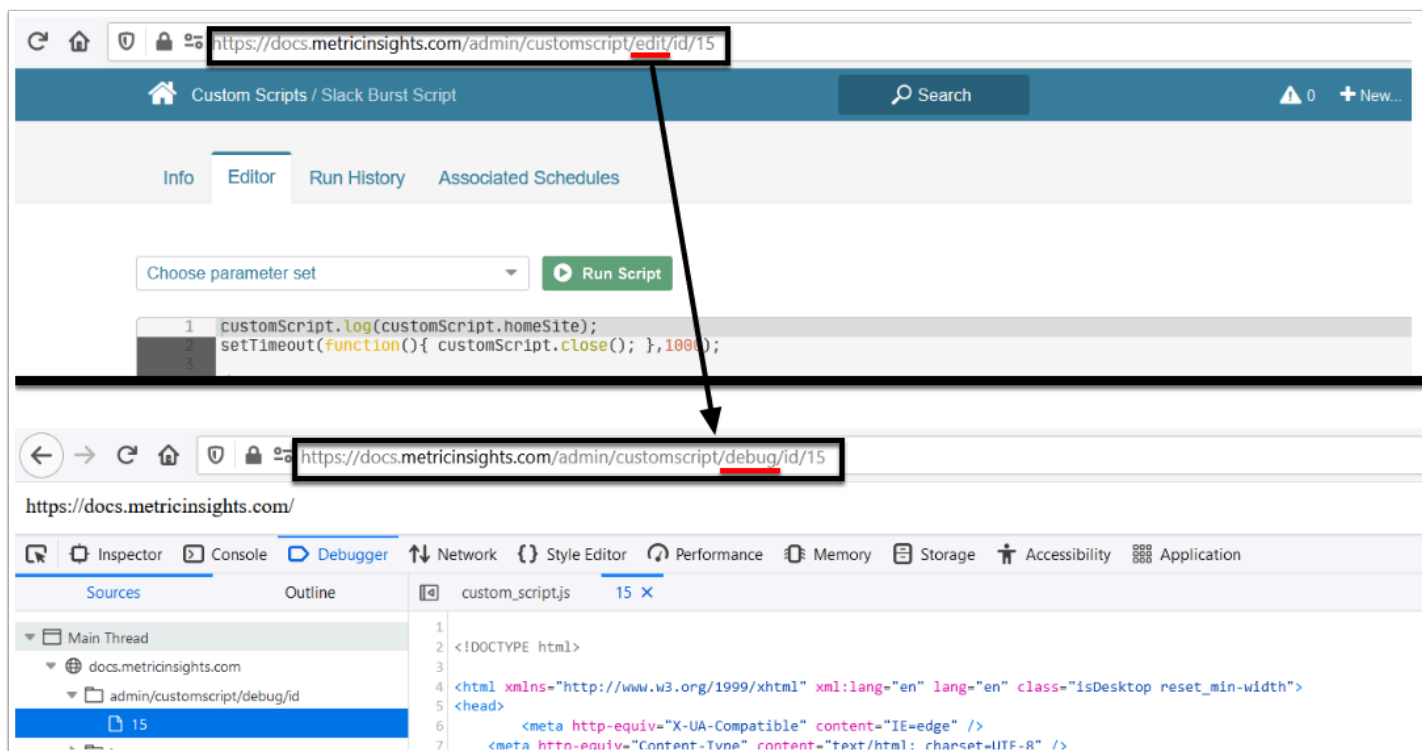
Example: `customScript.log(customScript.parameters.datasetName);` logs the script's `datasetName` parameter value

customScript.homeSite

The `customScript.homeSite` property holds the value of the MI instance's URL

Example: `customScript.log(customScript.homeSite);` logs the URL of the MI instance

Debugging Custom Scripts



To execute your Custom Script in the debug mode, simply replace `edit` in the script's URL with `debug`: `<hostname>/admin/customscript/edit/id/<script ID>` ?
`<hostname>/admin/customscript/debug/id/<script ID>`

Useful Links

- [Set up API Access](#): describes how to configure your Metric Insights instance for API Access.
- [Using API test tool](#): a chapter that explains how to test various API calls using API test tool
- [MI API calls](#): a chapter describing API calls for different MI elements
- [Examples of API calls in JavaScript](#): more examples of using the API in JavaScript