ArtiSynth Installation Guide for Windows

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Contents

1   Overview

ArtiSynth is an open-source Java-based platform that supports combined multibody/FEM modeling in an interactive simulation environment. Users may build their own models using Java code, or load preexisting models from either files or Java classes. This document describes how to install and run ArtiSynth on 64-bit Windows machines.

ArtiSynth's prerequisites are listed in Section 2. A Java JDK must be installed on your system; information on this is given in Section 4.

There are two ways to obtain ArtiSynth:

1. **Install a precompiled release** - the fastest way to quickly install ArtiSynth to try out some of the demo programs. Instructions for this are given in Section 5.

2. **Install from GitHub** - recommended for more serious developers who want to keep their codebase current and easily install new features and bug fixes. When installing from GitHub, you also need to download the runtime libraries, and compile ArtiSynth. GitHub installation instructions are given in Section 6.

Once ArtiSynth is installed, it can be run and various demonstration models can be loaded. Some simple details on this are given in Section 7; complete instructions on running and interacting with models are provided in the ArtiSynth User Interface Guide.

Many users will want to create their own models in Java. This is done by creating Java classes to implement these models, as described in the ArtiSynth Modeling Guide, and then integrating them into ArtiSynth, as described in Section 8. When creating models, users may want to use an integrated development environment (IDE) for editing and compiling their Java code. At present, most of the ArtiSynth community uses the Eclipse IDE (Section 13), but other IDEs such as NetBeans and IntelliJ could be used as well.

Users may also want to install and run external models and projects that have been created either by others or by themselves. In particular, the project artisynth_models contains an open source set of models primarily related to head and neck anatomy. Installation of artisynth_models is discussed in Section 11.

It is also possible to interface ArtiSynth with, or run it under, MATLAB. For information on this, see the guide Interfacing ArtiSynth to MATLAB.

2   Prerequisites

To install ArtiSynth on Windows, you will need:

- A 64 bit version of Windows running on either an Intel-based machine, or an ARM-based machine that implements an Intel compatibility layer.

- A Java development kit (JDK) for 64 bit machines. If your machine is based on the ARM processor, you must still use an Intel-based JDK. See Section 4 for details.

> You will need a Java development kit (JDK) that lets you actually compile Java code. A Java runtime environment (JRE) will not be sufficient.

> If you are planning to use ArtiSynth with MATLAB, there are restrictions on which JDK you can use, as described in the guide Interfacing ArtiSynth to MATLAB.

- A three-button mouse is useful for GUI interaction.

- A machine with a good graphics card and a decent amount of memory. We recommend 16 Gbytes, or more if you are doing FEM analysis with larger numbers of elements.

3   The ArtiSynth installation folder

You can install ArtiSynth in any location you like. In this document, the location of the ArtiSynth installation folder will be denoted by `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>`. For example if ArtiSynth is installed in

```
C:\people\roger\artisynth_core
```

then `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>` denotes this folder and `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>\lib` denotes the sub-folder

```
C:\people\roger\artisynth_core\lib
```

> It recommended that ArtiSynth be installed in a location where none of the folder names contain spaces (e.g., avoid placing it under `Program Files`). This will help ensure that all ArtiSynth utilities function correctly.

4   Java JDK Requirements

ArtiSynth requires that you have a full 64-bit Java development kit (JDK) installed. A JDK comes with a Java compiler, whereas the simpler Java run time environment (JRE) does not.

> Important: on ARM-based machines, you must still install a 64-bit *Intel-based* JDK which must then execute through an Intel compatibility layer. Invocation of the compatibility layer should generally be invisible to the user. 64-bit Intel-based JDKs contain the string `x64` in their download names, whereas ARM-based JDKs contain `aarch64` or `arm32`.

You will require JDK version 8 or higher. The most recent JDK with long term support is version 21. If you are planning to use ArtiSynth with MATLAB, there are restrictions on which JDK you can use, as described in the guide Interfacing ArtiSynth to MATLAB.

If you need a JDK, we recommend installing one from Oracle. At the time of this writing, the download page is at:

www.oracle.com/java/technologies/downloads.

Download tabs for JDK 22, 21 and 17 are located near the top. Tabs for downloading JDK 8 and 11 are located further down the page. Downloads are available for all systems (Linux, macOS and Windows); be sure to choose the link appropriate to yours. For Windows, the easiest option may be to choose "x64 Installer".

4.1   Ensuring the JDK is visible to your system

After the JDK has been installed, it is important to ensure that it is visible to your system and that it supersedes any other Java installations. One test for this is to open a `CMD` window and run the command

```
> javac -version
```

The output should match the version of the installed JDK. If it does not, or if the command `javac` is not found, then one fix is to add the folder `<JDK_HOME>\bin` to your system Path, as described in Section 14.1, where `<JDK_HOME>` is the JDK installation directory. On Windows, your JDK is likely to be installed under `Program Files\Java`. For example, if your JDK is 21, then `<JDK_HOME>` will likely be

```
C:\Program Files\Java\jdk-21
```

JDK 8 is named a little differently, and is likely to be located in

```
C:\Program Files\Java\jdk-1.8
```

When adding `<JDK_HOME>\bin` to your Path, it should be added *ahead* of any other Java installations that might be specified. To see the current contents of the Path, open a `CMD` window and run the command

```
> echo %PATH%
```

> If you are using an integrated development environment (IDE), such as Eclipse (Section 13), for compiling
> and running ArtiSynth programs, you should also ensure that this IDE is configured to use the installed JDK.
> Instructions on how to do this for Eclipse are given in Section 13.1.1.

5 Installing a Precompiled Release

Installing one of the precompiled releases is the easiest way to obtain ArtiSynth for running demo programs or some
existing models. To do this, go to www.artisynth.org/downloads, download the distribution you want, and unzip it in an
appropriate location on your computer.

5.1 Running from the file browser

Once ArtiSynth is downloaded and unzipped, it should be possible to run it immediately by using a file browser to locate
and then double click on the batch file

```
<ARTISYNTH_HOME>\bin\artisynth.bat
```

You can create a shortcut to this batch file (by right clicking on it and selecting Create Shortcut), and then place the
shortcut in either the START menu or on the Desktop. However, the file itself must remain in `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>\bin`.

5.2 Running from a terminal window

ArtiSynth can also be run from a terminal window.

To do this, open a terminal (CMD) window, set the current folder to `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>`, and run the command
`bin\artisynth`:

```
> cd <ARTISYNTH_HOME>
> bin\artsiynth
```

> If you place `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>\bin` in your Path environment variable (Section 14.1), then ArtiSynth can be run
> from a terminal window with the simple command
>
> ```
> > artisynth
> ```
>
> regardless of the current folder.

Details on how to load and run demo models are given in Section 7.

A precompiled ArtiSynth distribution can also be imported into an integrated development environment (IDE), such
as Eclipse, to facilitate compilation and execution. To import ArtiSynth into Eclipse, follow the instructions in Section
13.2, using `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>` as the project directory.

6 Installing from GitHub

For most users doing active modeling work, we recommend installing the current ArtiSynth development version from
GitHub, which will provide ongoing access to updates and bug fixes. GitHub is a web-based repository service based on
the source control management system Git. A very brief summary of Git is given in Section 14.5.

ArtiSynth is available from GitHub at the URL

```
https://github.com/artisynth/artisynth_core.git
```

After installation, users can continually update the ArtiSynth codebase to the latest version using *pull* operations (Section 12). In some cases, developers we work with closely can also obtain, by mutual arrangement, write access to our GitHub repository, allowing them to also commit changes.

> Users who have a GitHub account combined with SSH keys may instead wish to clone using the SSH URL
>
> ```
> git@github.com:artisynth/artisynth_core.git
> ```
>
> For users with repository write access, this will allow them to perform subsequent push operations without having to enter a username and password.

6.1   Installation using Eclipse

If you are planning to use the Eclipse IDE (Section 13), you can install from GitHub directly into Eclipse. Directions on installing Eclipse and configuring it for ArtiSynth development are given in Section 13.1. Once Eclipse is installed, ArtiSynth can be installed as follows:

1. From the main menu, select "File > Import ...". This will cause an Import dialog to appear, as shown below. Open "Git > Projects from Git", and then click Next.
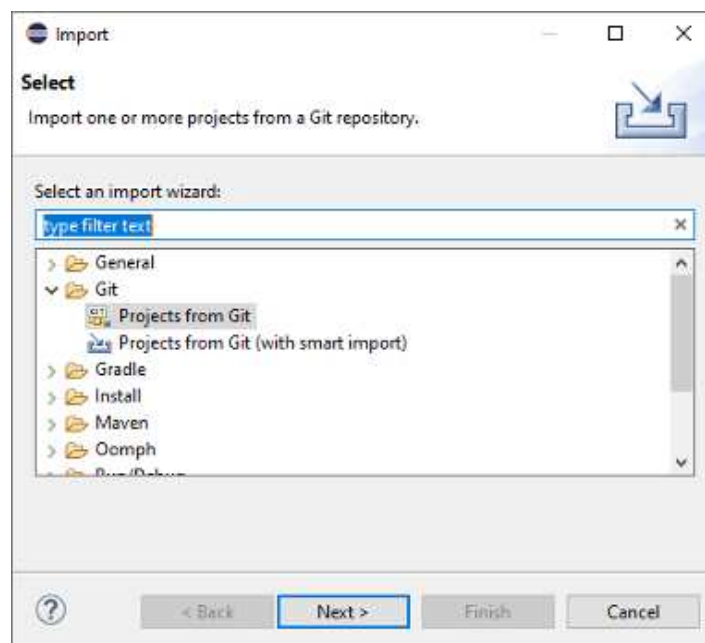
2. In the next dialog, choose Clone URI, and click Next.

3. A Source Git Repository dialog will appear, as shown below. In the URI field at the top, enter
   https://github.com/artisynth/artisynth_core.git
   This will automatically fill the Host and Repository path fields. Click Next.

4. A Branch Selection dialog will appear; uncheck `svn`, so that only `master` is selected. Click Next.

5. A Local Destination dialog will appear as shown below, indicating the folder into which ArtiSynth will be placed locally. Use the default location, or edit it to the desired location. This will be your *ArtiSynth home* folder, and will be referred to later in this document as `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>`. Click Next.

6. ArtiSynth will now be downloaded; this may take a few minutes, depending on your network connection speed. Another dialog will appear, asking you to select to project import wizard. Leave the default ("Import existing Eclipse projects") selected, and click Next.

7. An Import Projects dialog will appear, confirming that you want to import `artisynth_core`. Leave everything as is, and click Finish.

`artisynth_core` has now been imported into Eclipse as a project. However, we are not quite done. Eclipse will try to compile `artisynth_core`, but will fail because some Java and native libraries are missing. (These libraries are not included in the GitHub repository because they are quite large.) The compile failure will be indicated by a red exclamation mark to the left of the `artisynth_core` project entry in the Package Explorer:
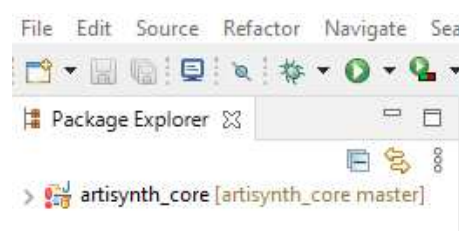
The Java and native libraries must be downloaded separately, *outside* of Eclipse. Open a file explorer, navigate to the `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>` folder (described above), open the `bin` folder, and click on the `updateArtisynthLibs` batch file (Figure 1). This will load the libraries, temporarily displaying a terminal window while doing so. The process may take a few minutes, depending on network speed.

Figure 1: `updateArtisynthLibs` batch file in `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>\bin`.

When the libraries are loaded, return to Eclipse, click on the `artisynth_core` project to select it, then "refresh", either by right clicking and selecting Refresh, or by hitting the F5 key. Eclipse should now find the libraries and compile ArtiSynth; a green progress bar will appear at the lower right while compilation is in progress.

> Regardless of the JDK version, ArtiSynth is compiled to be compliant with Java 8, to ensure compatibility with MATLAB. The Eclipse settings supplied in `artisynth_core\.settings` will ensure Java 8 compliance.

After compilation is complete, ArtiSynth can be run by simply choosing Run > Run from the main menu. This works by invoking a predefined *launch configuration* named ArtiSynth. In some cases, one may wish to adjust this launch configuration to set environment variables, command line arguments, or Java JVM arguments that affect how ArtiSynth behaves. Instructions for doing so are contained in Sections 13.3 and 13.4.

It is also possible to run ArtiSynth from either a file browser or a terminal window, as described in Sections 5.1 and 5.2, respectively. Detail on how to load and run demo models are given in Section 7.

6.2   Installation using Git for Windows

Git for Windows is an application that provides the user with a terminal window interface that can be used for entering Git commands. Users can choose between `GitBash`, which provides a Unix-like `bash` shell, or `GitCMD`, which provides a Windows `CMD` shell. `GitBash` has several advantages, such as allowing users to easily set environment variables in a `.bashrc` file (Section 14.2.3), and supplying a number of Unix-like commands that can be convenient for tasks other than those involving Git.

At the time of this writing, Git for Windows can be installed from git-scm.com/download/win.

Once installed, ArtiSynth can then be installed and compiled by opening a `GitBash` window and entering the following commands (where the '`$`' character indicates the `GitBash` prompt and should not be entered):

```
$ cd /path/to/install
$ git clone https://github.com/artisynth/artisynth_core
$ cd artisynth_core
$ bin/updateArtisynthLibs
$ bin/compile
```

The first line simply sets the current folder to the one under which you wish to install ArtiSynth, as indicated by `/path/to/install`. (Note that `GitBash` follows the Unix convention of using forward slash ('/') instead of back-slash ('\') to separate files.) The `git clone` command then downloads ArtiSynth and extracts it to a folder named `artisynth_core`, so that the ArtiSynth installation directory (or `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>`) is `/path/to/install/artisynth_core`. The `updateArtisynthLibs` command fetches additional libraries that are not included in the GitHub repository for space reasons, and the `bin/compile` command on the last line is an ArtiSynth-supplied utility that compiles all `.java` files located under the current folder.

If you have `GNU make` installed on your system, then you can use that instead of the `compile` command, replacing

```
$ bin/compile
```

with

```
$ make
```

> Regardless of the JDK version, ArtiSynth is compiled to be compliant with Java 8, to ensure compatibility with MATLAB. The `make` or `compile` commands described above are configured to ensure Java 8 compliance.

> The `compile` (or `make`) command automatically determines the Java classpath needed to compile ArtiSynth. However, if you have explicitly set the `CLASSPATH` environment variable, then that will be used to define the classpath instead, in which case it must contain both the ArtiSynth `classes` folder and `.jar` files in the `lib` folder. See Sections 10.1.2 and 14.2.

Once built, ArtiSynth can then be run (from within `artisynth_core`) using the command

```
$ bin/artisynth
```

> For convenience, if you place `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>\bin` in your `Path` environment variable (Section 14.1), then ArtiSynth can be run independently of the current directory using the simple command
>
> ```
> % artisynth
> ```

ArtiSynth can also be installed and compiled using `GitCMD`, with an analogous command sequence:

```
> cd \path\to\install
> git clone https://github.com/artisynth/artisynth_core
> cd artisynth_core
> bin\updateArtisynthLibs
> bin\compile
```

The only real difference is using backslash ('\') instead of forward slash ('/') as a file separator.

Details on how to load and run demo models are given in Section 7.

Note that once you have installed ArtiSynth, you still have the option to later import it into an IDE such as Eclipse. For Eclipse specifically, this is done by importing it as an *external project*, as described in Section 13.2.

7 Loading and Running Models

7.1 Using the Models menu

After ArtiSynth starts up, you can load and run demonstration models. Do this by selecting Models > Demos from the main menu and choosing a demo model (Figure 2).

Once a model is loaded, it will appear in the viewer, and simulation can be controlled using the "play" controls located at the upper right of the application window:
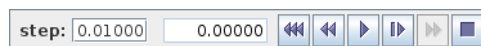
From left to right, these are: step size control, which controls the simulation step size (in seconds); current simulation time (in seconds); and the reset, skip-back, play/pause, single-step, skip-forward and stop-all buttons. Starting and stopping a simulation is done by clicking play/pause, while reset resets the simulation to time 0. The single-step button advances the simulation by one time step. The stop-all button will also stop the simulation, as well as any Jython commands or scripts that are running.

Detailed information on how to use the ArtiSynth GUI for model visualization, navigation and simulation control is given in the ArtiSynth User Interface Guide.

Figure 3 shows ArtiSynth with the Spring Net demo loaded.
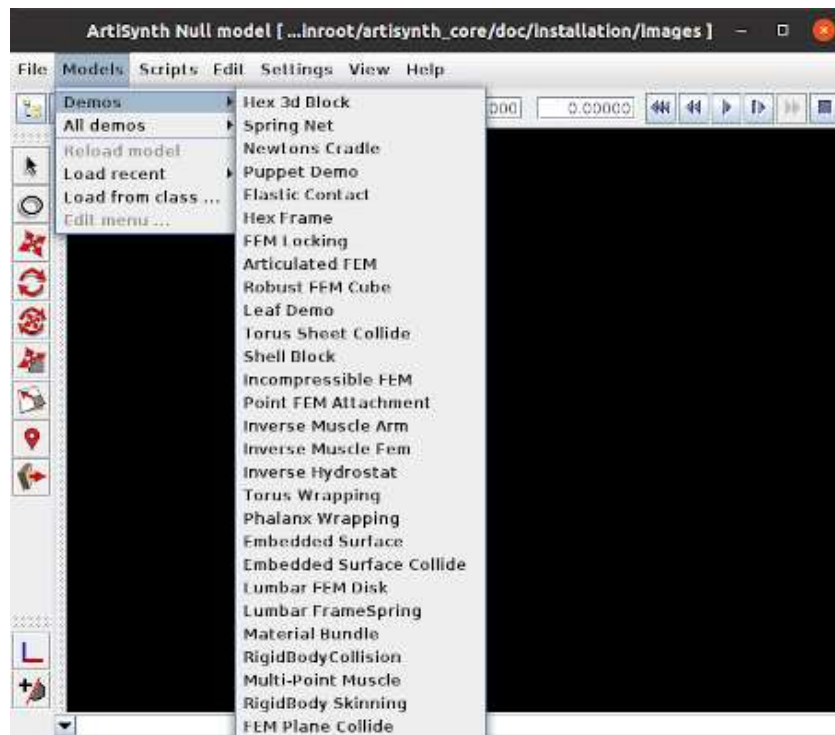
Figure 2: The ArtiSynth model selection menu.

7.2   Other ways to load models

It is possible to load models in several ways:

- Using a model menu entry, as described above;

- Specifying the Java class describing the model ("Load from class ..." from the Models menu);

- Specifying a .art file containing a text representation of the model ("Load model ..." from the File menu);

- Reloading a recently loaded model ("Load recent" from the Models menu).

It is also possible to configure ArtiSynth to load a specific model when it starts up; see "Loading, Simulating and Saving Models" in the ArtiSynth User Interface Guide. The model menu can also be customized, as described in "Customizing the Model Menu".

7.3   Viewing and interacting with models

The ArtiSynth user interface provides a variety of tools for exploring and interacting with models, as described in depth in the ArtiSynth User Interface Guide, including:

- 3D viewers with grids and clipping planes;

- Component selection using either a viewer or a tree-based navigation panel;

- Property inspection and editing for selected components;

- 3D fixtures for translating, rotating and applying forces to models and their components;

- A timeline for viewing and organizing input/output data streams known as *probes*;

- Some simple model editing, including the ability to interactively delete components and add marker points;

- Making movies from simulations.

Figure 3: ArtiSynth with the Spring Net demo loaded.

7.4   Command line arguments

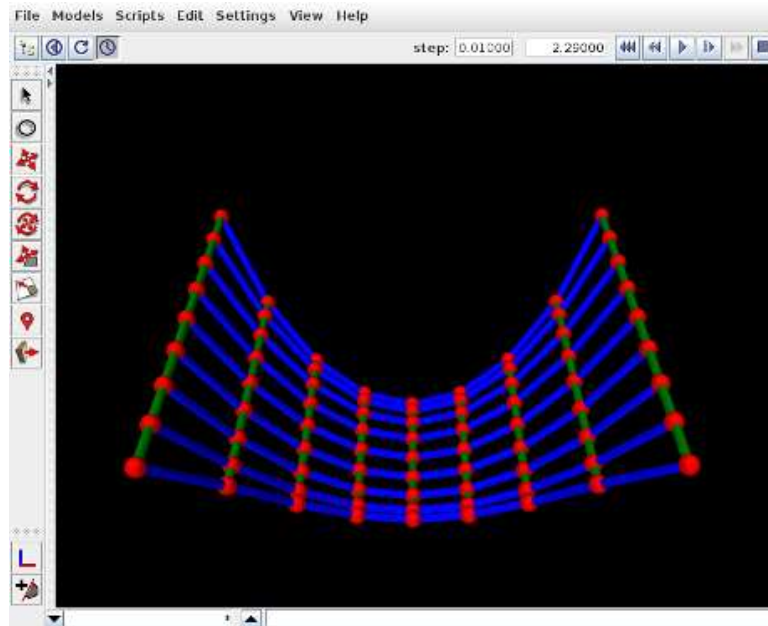If you are running ArtiSynth from a terminal window (Section 5.2) or `GitBash` (Section 6.2) then you can supply it with command line arguments to control different aspects of its behavior. A full list of these can be seen by running `artisynth` with the `-help` option:

```
> artisynth -help
```

Descriptions of these options appear in various places within the ArtiSynth documentation. For example, one commonly used option is `-model <modelClassName>`, which instructs ArtiSynth to preload a model associated with a given class name:

```
> artisynth -model artisynth.demos.mech.SpringMeshDemo
```

If you are running under Eclipse, command line arguments can be set in the launch configuration, as described in Section 13.4.

8   Creating and Adding Models

Most users will want to develop their own ArtiSynth models using Java code. This is done by creating a special Java *model* class, which is a subclass of RootModel and which contains a `build()` method that assembles the model from the various Java components that ArtiSynth provides. For example, suppose your model class is called `MyModel`. This will be implemented inside a Java source file called `MyModel.java`, a skeleton implementation of which might look like this:

```java
package artisynth.models.mymodels;

// import statements to access classes:
import maspack.matrix.*;              // vectors and matrices
import artisynth.core.mechmodels.*;   // mechanical models and components
import artisynth.core.workspace.RootModel;

// model class definition:
public class MyModel extends RootModel {
```

```
    public void build (String[] args) {
        // ... model is assembled here ...
    }
}
```

Full details on how to create a model in Java and the components that are available to do so are given in the
[ArtiSynth Modeling Guide](). For this discussion, we will consider only how to add a model to ArtiSynth once it has been
created. The easiest way to do this is to add its source code to the ArtiSynth source code, as described below. However,
as a general practice, it is recommended that the model source code be kept separate from ArtiSynth, as described in
Section 10.

8.1   Model packages

A model should be implemented inside a Java *package*, which will contain the model class, and perhaps other support-
ing classes used to implement it. The package is defined by the package statement at the beginning of each .java file.
For the MyModel example above, the package is artisynth.models.mymodels.

Java enforces certain rules for how its source code is organized. In particular, all the .java files associated with a
specific package must be placed in the same folder, which in turn must be located in a folder tree that reflects the
package hierarchy. For example, source code for the package pack.foo.bar must be placed in a folder whose path
(relative to the top of the source tree) is pack\foo\bar. For the MyModel example, MyModel.java must be placed in a
folder artisynth\models\mymodels relative to the top of the source tree.

The source code tree for ArtiSynth is rooted at <ARTISYNTH_HOME>\src. It already contains a large number of model
classes located in packages such as artisynth.demo.mech, whose source code is therefore located at

<ARTISYNTH_HOME>\src\artisynth\demos\mech

The easiest way to add your own model to ArtiSynth is to simply add the source code for its package to the appropriate
location under <ARTISYNTH_HOME>\src. For MyModel, the source code would therefore be placed in

<ARTISYNTH_HOME>\src\artisynth\models\mymodels

Since the ArtiSynth source tree already contains the (empty) folder artisynth\models, in this case it would only be
necessary to add the mymodels folder below it.

> Multiple models may be placed in any given package. For example, artisynth.demos.tutorial contains a large
> number of models used as examples for the Modeling Guide.

8.2   Compiling models

When source code is added or modified within the ArtiSynth source tree, it needs to be compiled. How this is done
depends on your development environment.

If you are using Eclipse and automatic building is enabled for a project (such as artisynth_core), compilation will
occur automatically whenever that project's .java files are modified. To see if automatic building is enabled, select
the project in the Package Explorer, open the Project menu and check Build Automatically. If automatic building is not
enabled, the project can be built by selecting Build Project.

> If you add or edit source files from *outside* Eclipse, for example by using an external text editor, then you need to
> *refresh* the project in order for Eclipse to notice the changes. To refresh, select the project in the Package Explorer,
> and then either right-click and choose Refresh, or simply hit the F5 key.

If you are compiling from the command line or GitBash, using either the make or compile commands described earlier,
then running these in any given source folder will compile all the .java files contained below it. This will typically be
faster than compiling the entire source tree by running make or compile from <ARTISYNTH_HOME>.

> To be able to run compile from any folder, place <ARTISYNTH_HOME>\bin in your Path environment variable
> (Section 14.1).

> If you add a *new* package folder and want to run `make` from that folder, you will need to add a `Makefile` to it. The easiest way to do this is to simply copy an existing `Makefile` from another package and adjust the `PACKAGE_NAME` and `ROOT_DIR` entries; the number of '`..`' entries in `ROOT_DIR` should equal the number of "up" steps needed to reach `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>`.

8.3   Finding models in the model menu

Once a model has been added to ArtiSynth, it is useful to be able to run it directly from the *model menu*, located under Models in the main menu bar.

By default, the model menu locates all models in the packages (and subpackages) of `artisynth.demos` and `artisynth.model`, and makes then available under the entries All demos > and All models >, respectively. Therefore, if your model is located in one of these packages, it will automatically appear in the Models menu. If your model is located in a different package, you can load it either by directly specifying its class path, or by customizing the Models menu. These options are described in the sections "Loading by class path" and "Customizing the Model Menu" of the ArtiSynth User Interface Guide,

9   Settings and the user configuration folder

When ArtiSynth is first run, it creates a configuration folder named `ArtiSynthConfig` beneath the user's home folder. Various subfolders within this are used to store startup settings, model menu customizations, etc.

Startup settings that can be configured include those for the viewer, mouse bindings, model interaction and simulation, as discussed in the "Preferences" section and elsewhere in the ArtiSynth User Interface Guide.

10   Integrating external models

While it is easiest to add a model to ArtiSynth by simply placing its source code under `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>\src`, as described in Section 8, it is usually best practice to keep model source code separate from ArtiSynth. This is largely to avoid conflicts when ArtiSynth is updated (Section 12) or reinstalled.

When model source code is external to ArtiSynth, one must manage two things:

1. Making the ArtiSynth classes visible to the Java compiler when compiling the code;

2. Making the model classes visible to ArtiSynth when running the model.

This involves managing the class path used by either the Java compiler or by ArtiSynth.

For purposes of this discussion, we will assume that the model is contained under a top-level folder denoted by `<MYPROJECT>`, and that the root folders for the Java source code and class files are `<MYPROJECT>\src` and `<MYPROJECT>\classes`, respectively. This Java file structure is common, and is used by `artisynth_core` and most other projects currently associated with ArtiSynth.

10.1   Making ArtiSynth visible to the compiler

How this is done depends on your development environment.

10.1.1   Eclipse development

When using Eclipse, the project will also be associated with an Eclipse project name, which we will call `myproject`. In order for `myproject` to compile, the ArtiSynth project `artisynth_core` should be added to the *build path* of `myproject`, as described in Section 13.5. This will ensure that the ArtiSynth classes are added to the class path used by the Java compiler.

Some projects, such as `artisynth_models`, already have their build path preconfigured to contain `artisynth_core`, and so for them this step is unnecessary.

10.1.2   Command line development

If you are compiling from the command line or `GitBash`, then the `compile` command described earlier will still work, provided that, as assumed above, `<MYPROJECT>` contains the source and classes folders `src\` and `classes\`. The `compile` command will supply the Java compiler with a class path containing all the ArtiSynth classes, plus `<MYPROJECT>\classes`. If *additional* classes are needed (such as external JAR files or class folders from other projects), they may be added by setting them in the `CLASSPATH` environment variable (Section 14.2).

Use of the `make` command will require setting up `Makefiles` in the folders in which you wish to run `make`. It will also (usually) require setting the `CLASSPATH` environment variable to contain the ArtiSynth class path entries,

`<ARTISYNTH_HOME>\classes;<ARTISYNTH_HOME>\lib\*`

where as usual `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>` should be expanded to the path for the ArtiSynth installation directory. The character '`*`' functions as a wildcard to specify all the JAR files in `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>\lib`.

10.2   Making external models visible to ArtiSynth

10.2.1   Running from Eclipse

When running ArtiSynth under Eclipse, you can make `myproject`'s models visible by adding `myproject` to the ArtiSynth launch configuration, as described in Section 13.6.

10.2.2   Using the external classpath

External models can be made visible to ArtiSynth by adding any needed class folders and JAR files to the *external class path*. The easiest way to do this is to select "Settings > External classpath ..." from the Settings menu, which will open an external classpath editor as shown in Figure 4, allowing the necessary class folders and JAR files to be added. The classpath entries are displayed in a large panel on the left (which will initially be blank after ArtiSynth is first installed).
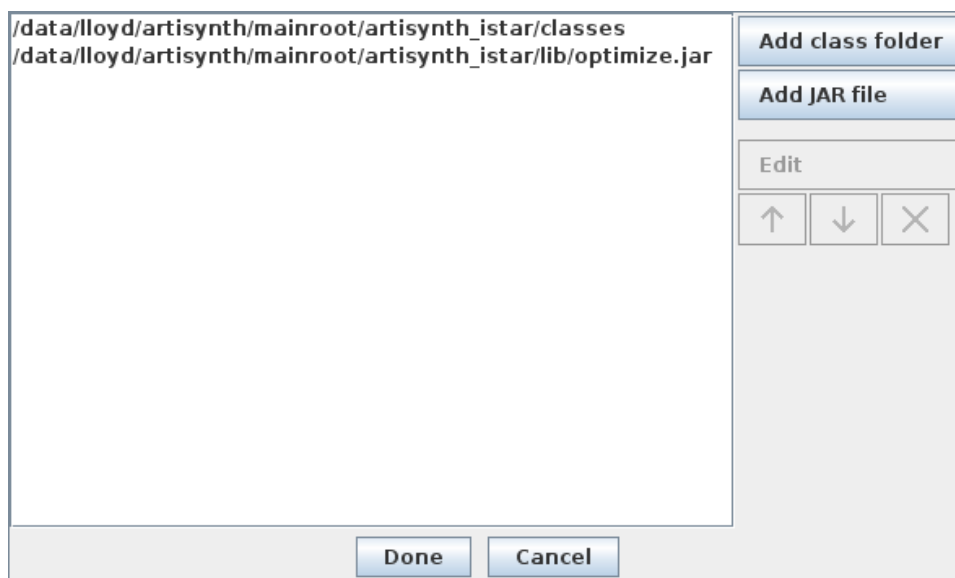

Figure 4: The external classpath editor.

As an example, assume that the model class files are contained under `<MYPROJECT>\classes`, and that the JAR file `<MYPROJECT>\lib\dicom.jar` is also required. If `<MYPROJECT>` is located at `C:\research\myproject`, then the following entries should be added to the external classpath:

```
C:\research\myproject\classes
C:\research\myproject\lib\dicom.jar
```

> ArtiSynth must be restarted for external classpath changes to come into effect.

More details are given in the section "Setting the external classpath" of the ArtiSynth User Interface Guide. The external classpath is stored in the file EXTCLASSPATH in the user configuration folder and can be edited directly (Section 14.4).

The external classpath can be used when running from Eclipse or any other IDE.

10.2.3   Setting the CLASSPATH environment variable

When running ArtiSynth from the command line, external models can also be made visible by adding class folders and JAR files to the CLASSPATH environment variable, as described in Section 14.2. For the example of Section 10.2.2, we could instead add the following to CLASSPATH:

```
C:\research\myproject\classes;C:\research\myproject\lib\dicom.jar
```

Note that in this situation the ArtiSynth class files *do not* need to be included in CLASSPATH, as they will be added automatically.

10.2.4   Using the -cp option

ArtiSynth also provides the command line option -cp which allows a class path to be specified directly:

```
> artisynth -cp "C:\research\myproject\classes;C:\research\myproject\lib\dicom.jar"
```

Class paths specified using -cp will *replace* any specified through the CLASSPATH variable.

11   Installing artisynth_models

artisynth_models is an open source collection of anatomical models, focused primarily on the head and neck region (see www.artisynth.org/models). It can be obtained either as a precompiled release, or from GitHub.

Once installed, the models will appear in the ArtiSynth Models menu under Models > and All models >.

11.1   Installing a precompiled release

If you are running a precompiled release of ArtiSynth, then you will need to use the corresponding precompiled release of artisynth_models, which can be obtained from

```
www.artisynth.org/Software/ModelsDownload
```

Download the distribution you want and unzip it in your desired location; the recommended spot is right next to artisynth_core.

artisynth_models comes preconfigured with Eclipse project files, and so can be immediately imported into Eclipse as an external project, as described in Section 13.2. To make the models visible to ArtiSynth when running from Eclipse, it will be necessary to add artisynth_models to the ArtiSynth launch configuration, as described in Section 13.6.

If you are running ArtiSynth from the command line or the artisynth.bat file, you will need to ensure that the class folder artisynth_models\classes is visible to ArtiSynth, as described in Section 10.2.

11.2   Installing from GitHub

The latest development version of artisynth_models is available from GitHub at the URL

```
https://github.com/artisynth/artisynth_models.git
```

11.2.1 Installation using Eclipse

If you are using Eclipse, you can install `artisynth_models` in the same way as for `artisynth_core` (Section 6.1):

1. Select "File > Import ...", open "Git > Projects from Git" in the Import dialog, and click Next.

2. In the Select Repository Source dialog, choose Clone URI, and click Next.

3. In the Source Git Repository dialog, enter
   `https://github.com/artisynth/artisynth_models.git`
   in the URI field at the top, and click Next.

4. In the Branch Selection dialog, uncheck `svn` and click Next.

5. In the Local Destination dialog, adjust the install location if desired, and click Next.

6. `artisynth_models` will now be downloaded. A "wizard" dialog will then appear. Leave the default ("Import existing Eclipse projects") selected, and click Next.

7. In the Import Projects dialog, click Finish.

`artisynth_models` should now compile automatically; there is no need to download external libraries. However, to make the models visible to ArtiSynth when running from Eclipse, it will be necessary to add `artisynth_models` to the ArtiSynth launch configuration, as described in Section 13.6.

11.2.2 Installation using Git for Windows

If you have Git for Windows installed (Section 6.2), *and* you have placed `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>\bin` in your `Path` environment variable (Section 14.1), allowing the `compile` command to be called from any folder, then `artisynth_models` can be installed from `GitBash` as follows:

```
$ cd /path/to/install
$ git clone https://github.com/artisynth/artisynth_models
$ cd artisynth_models
$ compile
```

The last line uses the `compile` command instead of `make` because the latter will not work unless the `CLASSPATH` environment variable has been set to include the ArtiSynth class path entries, as described in Section 10.1.2.

If you run ArtiSynth from the command line, you will need to ensure that `artisynth_models\classes` is visible to ArtiSynth, as described in Section 10.2.

12 Updating ArtiSynth

One reason to install ArtiSynth from GitHub is to be able to update the codebase to incorporate new features and bug fixes. When a significant update occurs, a posting is made to the ArtiSynth update log, currently located at www.artisynth.org/doc/html/updates/updates.html. Users may also be notified via the `artisynth-updates` email list.

Eclipse users may update simply by selecting the `artisynth_core` in the Package Explorer and then right clicking and choosing Team > Pull.

If Git for Windows is installed (Section 6.2), then updating may be done using `GitBash`:

```
$ cd <ARTISYNTH_HOME>
$ git pull
```

> If local changes have been made to `artisynth_core` that interfere with the changes made by the update, a Git pull operation may result in a *conflict*. Conflict resolution is outside the scope of this document, but documentation on this is available online. Conflicts should not occur if local changes have not been made to `artisynth_core`.

Other Git-based projects, such as `artisynth_models`, may be updated similarly.

12.1 Library updates

Occasionally, a software update will be accompanied by a change in the libraries located in `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>\libs`. When this happens, it will be indicated on the ArtiSynth update log and appropriate instructions will be given. In these cases, one should also update the ArtiSynth libraries.

The easiest way to do this is from within ArtiSynth, by selecting "Update Libraries" at the bottom of the File menu.

Libraries can also be updated using the command `updateArtisynthLibs` located in `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>\bin`. This can be done from a terminal window:

```
> cd <ARTISYNTH_HOME>
> bin\updateArtisyntnLibs
```

It can also be done from a file browser, by navigating to `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>` and clicking on `updateArtisynthLibs.bat`. (Figure 1).

13   The Eclipse IDE

Eclipse is an integrated development environment (IDE) commonly used for Java code development, and many ArtiSynth developers use it for both developing models in Java and for running the system. This section describes how to install Eclipse and provides some other information relevant to ArtiSynth users. A general introduction to Eclipse is beyond the scope of this document, but there are many Eclipse resources available online.

13.1 Installing Eclipse

This document describes specifically the installation of Eclipse 2020-12; other versions should be similar.
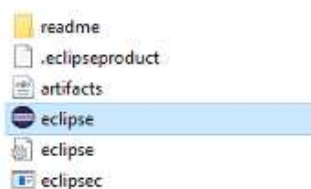
Eclipse can be downloaded from www.eclipse.org/downloads/packages. From this page, choose "Eclipse IDE for Java Developers", Windows x86_64, which will download the file

```
eclipse-java-2020-12-R-win32-x86_64.zip
```

Unzip this into a convenient folder, such as for example:

```
C:\eclipse\eclipse-2020-12
```

Open this folder with a file explorer, and you will see the eclipse application:

Click on this to open it. A dialog will appear, asking you to select a workspace folder (Figure 5). This is where Eclipse settings and project information will be stored. Unless you have a another Eclipse already installed, the default location should be fine. (Remember also to check the "Use this as the default ..." box so that this query won't appear every time you open Eclipse.) Next, click Launch. A welcome page will appear; close this. A "donate" panel may also appear; close this too. You should then see an empty Eclipse display, similar to Figure 6.

This is where Eclipse settings and project information will be stored. Unless you have a another Eclipse already installed, the default location should be fine. (Remember also to check the "Use this as the default ..." box so that this query won't appear every time you open Eclipse.) Next, click Launch. A welcome page will appear; close this. A "donate" panel may also appear; close this too. You should then see an Emily Eclipse display, similar to Figure 6.
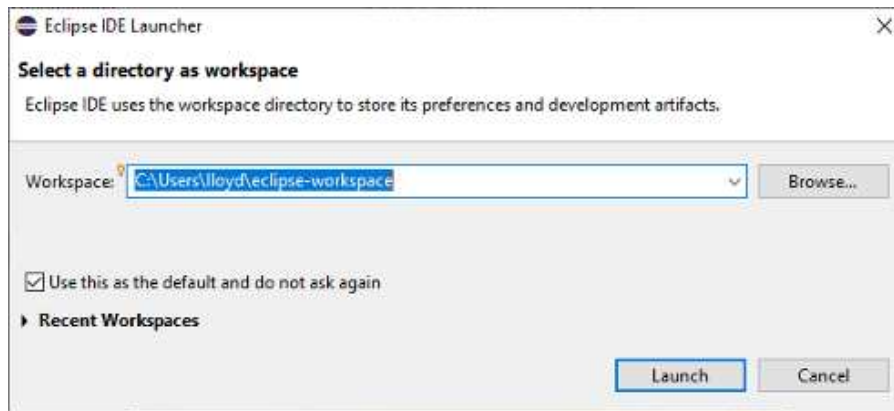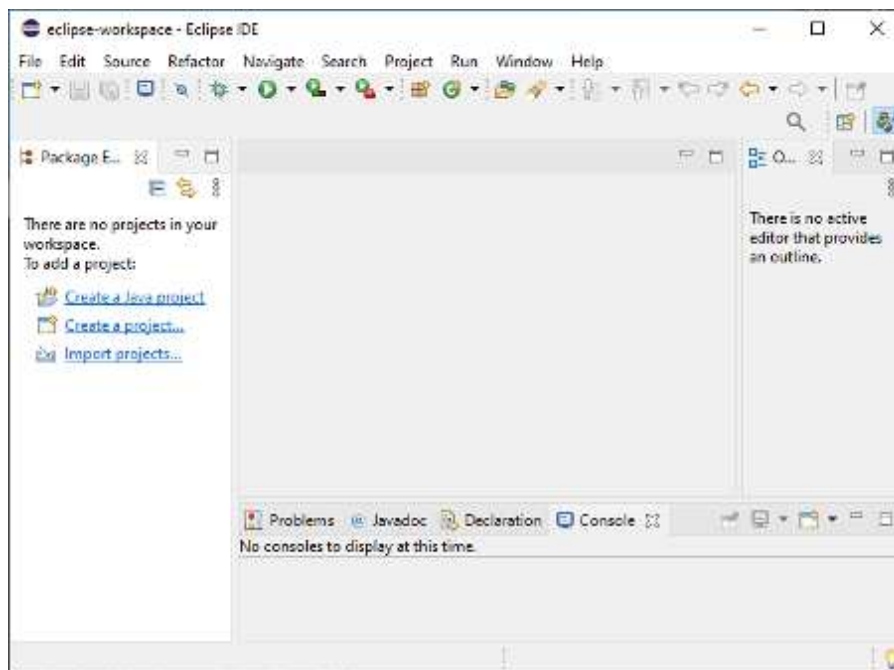
Figure 5: Eclipse Workspace dialog.

Figure 6: An empty, newly initialized Eclipse console.

13.1.1 Setting Eclipse to use the correct Java JDK

Newer versions of Eclipse come with their own version of Java. However, if we are using our own JDK (as described in Section 4), we need to configure Eclipse to use that instead.

Eclipse can be configured to use your JDK as follows:

1. From the main menu, select "Window > Preferences".

2. A Preferences dialog will open. In the left panel, select "Java > Installed JREs", which will open an Installed JREs panel. Click the Add... button at the right.

3. A JRE Type dialog will appear. Leave "Standard VM" selected in the dialog and click Next.

4. A JRE Definition dialog will appear. In the "JRE home" field at the top, enter the installation folder for your JDK. On Windows, this is likely to be a location like C:\Program Files\Java\jdk-21. Specifying the java home folder will cause some other fields to fill in automatically, as seen in Figure 7.

5. Click Finish. Your Java JDK will now show up in the list of installed JREs. Click on the left box to select it, as shown in Figure 8 (ignore any warnings about Java 15 compatibility).
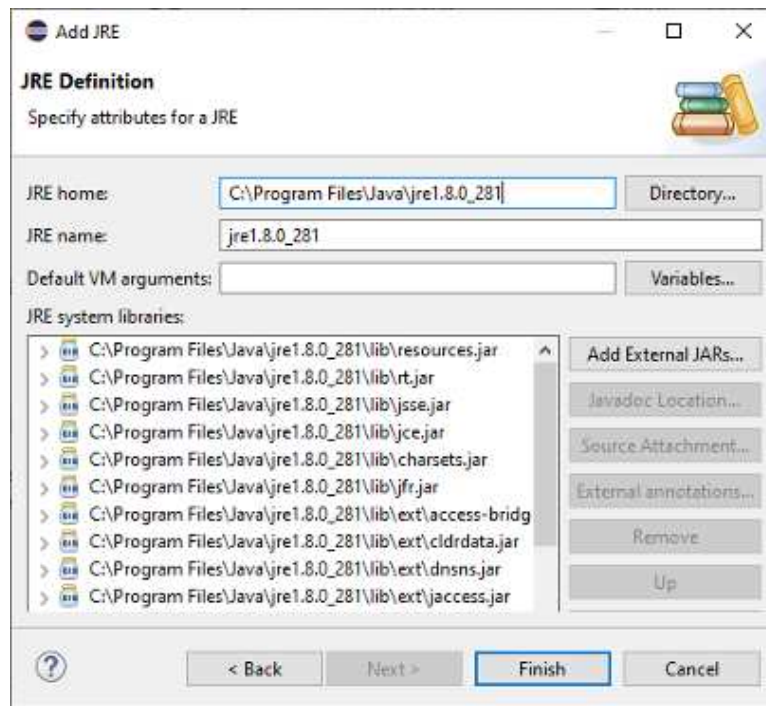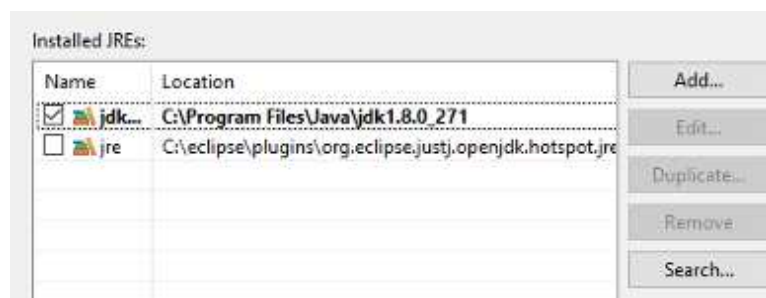
Figure 7: Eclipse JRE Definition dialog.

Figure 8: Eclipse Installed JREs dialog.

6. Finish by clicking the "Apply and Close" button at the bottom of the Preferences dialog.

13.1.2 Preventing excess resource copying

By default, ArtiSynth classes are placed in file tree located beneath `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>\classes` that is separate from the source tree located beneath `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>\src`. That means that Eclipse will try to copy all non-Java files and folders from the source tree into the build tree. For ArtiSynth, this is excessive, and results in many files being copied that don't need to be, since ArtiSynth looks for resources in the source tree anyway.

To prevent this copying:

1. Choose "Window > Preferences".

2. Select Java > Compiler > Building.

3. Open Output folder, and in the box entitled Filter resources, enter the single character '*'.

13.2 Importing external projects

Let `<PROJECT_DIR>` denote the top-level folder of the project to be imported. (In the case of `artisynth_core`, this will also be `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>`.) Assuming that `<PROJECT_DIR>` contains an Eclipse `.project` file, you can import it into
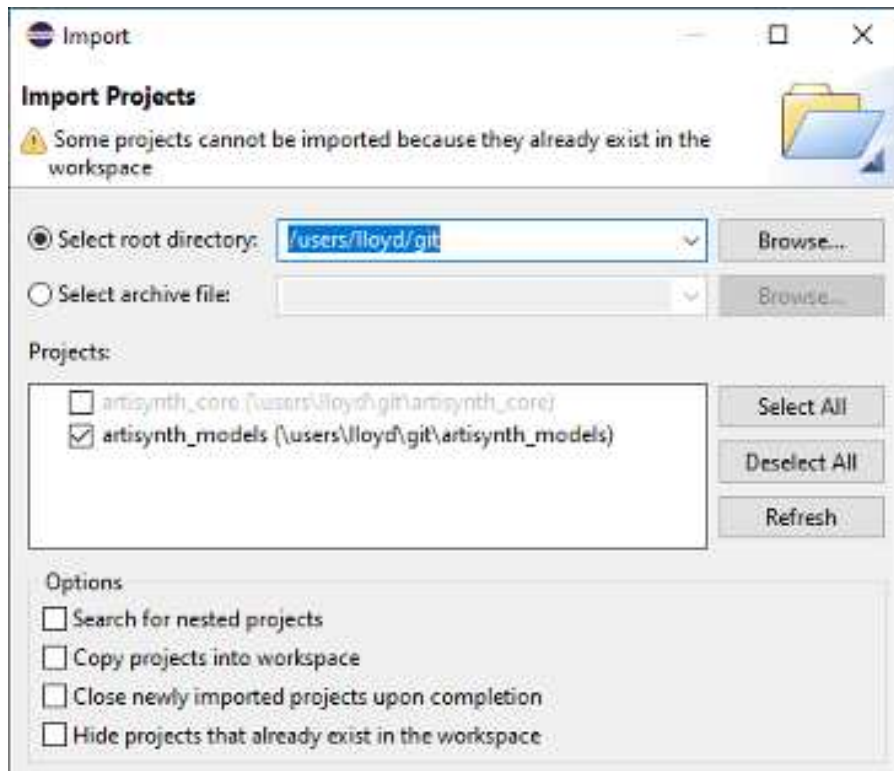
Figure 9: Partial view of the Eclipse Import Projects dialog.

Eclipse as follows:

1. From within Eclipse, choose "File > Import ...".

2. An Import dialog will appear. Select General > Existing Projects into Workspace and click Next.

3. An Import Projects dialog will appear. In the field Select root directory, enter (or browse to) the *parent* folder of `<PROJECT_DIR>`. The project itself should now appear in the Projects box (Figure 9). (If other projects are contained in the parent folder, these will appear as well.) Make sure that the desired project is selected and then click Finish.

> If Eclipse complains that "No projects are found to import", or does not otherwise show the project as available for import, then most likely the `<PROJECT_DIR>` folder does not contain a `.project` file.

13.3   Configuring environment variables

While it is generally *not* necessary to set environment variables in Eclipse, it may be useful to do this on occasion to control certain aspects of ArtiSynth's operation. Directions on setting the environment variables are given in Section 13.3.1, and descriptions of the variables themselves may be found in Section 14.2.

If any environment variables have already been set externally in Windows (Sections 14.2.1 and 14.2.2), such that they are visible to Eclipse at start-up, then they do *not* need to be set in the launch configuration.

13.3.1   Setting environment variables

To set environment variables within Eclipse:

1. Open a java perspective if necessary by choosing Window > Open Perspective > Java.

2. Select the ArtiSynth project in the Package Explorer form.

3. Choose "Run > Run Configurations..." to open the Run Configurations window.

4. In the left panel, under Java Application, select the launch configuration (the default is named ArtiSynth).

5. In the right panel, select the Environment tab.

6. To create a new environment variable, click the New button and enter the name and value in the dialog box.

7. When finished, make sure that Append environment to native environment is selected, and click Apply.

13.4   Command line and JVM arguments

As described in Section 7.4, the artisynth command accepts command line arguments. To invoke these when running from Eclipse, it is necessary to set the desired arguments in the launch configuration, as described below.

Sometimes it may also be necessary to set JVM arguments, which control the Java virtual machine running ArtiSynth. An example of such an argument is -Xmx, which can be used to increase the maximum amount of memory available to the application. For example, -Xmx6g sets the maximum amount of memory to 6 gigabytes.

13.4.1   Setting command line and JVM arguments

To set command line arguments for your Eclipse application:

1. Open a java perspective if necessary by choosing Window > Open Perspective > Java.

2. Select the ArtiSynth project in the Package Explorer form.

3. Choose "Run > Run Configurations..." to open the Run Configurations window.

4. In the left panel, under Java Application, select the launch configuration (the default is named ArtiSynth).

5. In the right panel, select the Arguments tab.

6. Program arguments (which are passed directly to ArtiSynth) should be specified in the Program arguments box. JVM arguments should be specified in the VM arguments box. See Figure 10.

7. When finished, click Close.

13.5   Adding projects to the build path

A project imported into Eclipse may depend on the packages and libraries found in other projects to compile properly. For example, ArtiSynth applications which are external to artisynth_core will nonetheless depend on artisynth_core. To ensure proper compilation, project dependencies should be added to each dependent project's build path.

1. Select the dependent project in the Package Explorer form.

2. Right click and choose "Build Path > Configure Build Path..."

3. In the right panel, select the Projects tab.

4. Click the Add button, select the project dependencies, and click OK

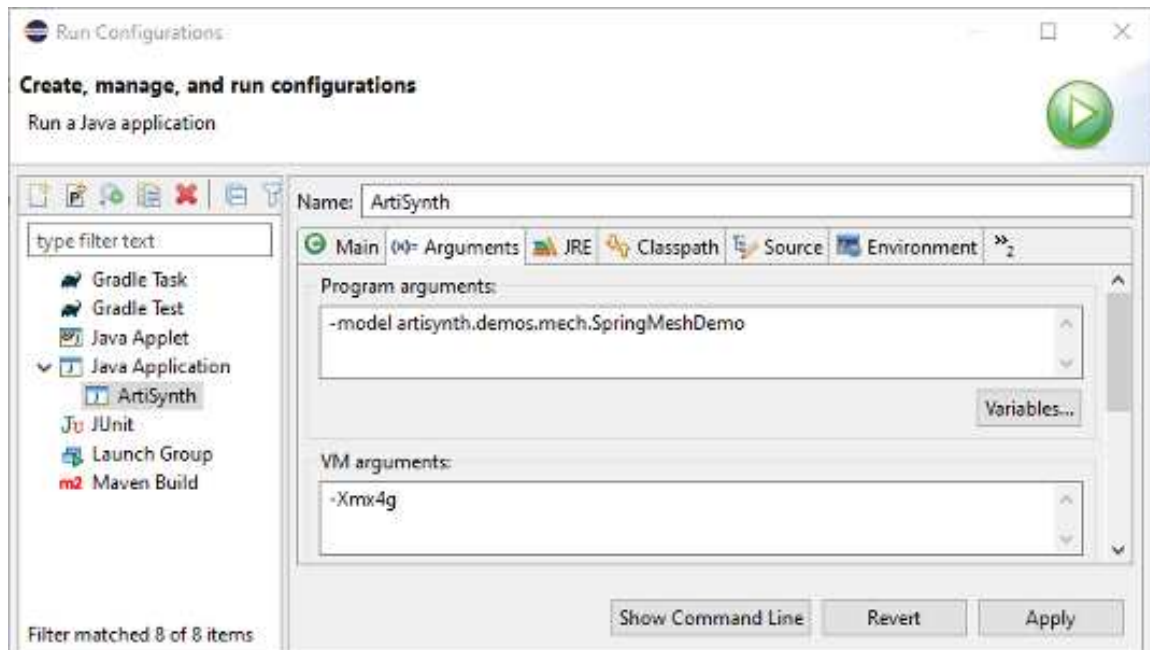5. Click OK in the Java Build Path panel

Figure 10: Editing command line and JVM arguments for a run configuration.

13.6   Adding projects to the ArtiSynth launch configuration

The classes of external projects can be made visible to ArtiSynth by adding the projects themselves to the Classpath of the ArtiSynth launch configuration.

1. From the main menu, choose "Run > Run Configurations..." to open a Run Configurations dialog.

2. In the left panel, under Java Application, select your ArtiSynth launch configuration (the default one is called ArtiSynth). This may already be selected when you open the panel.

3. In the right panel, select the Classpath tab.

4. In the Classpath window, select User Entries, and then click the Add Projects button.

5. In the Project Selection dialog, select the external projects that you wish to add. Generally, the boxes "Add exported entries ..." and "Add required projects ..." can be unchecked. Click OK.

6. Close the Run Configurations dialog.

14   Additional Information

14.1   Adding Directories to the System Path

The system "Path" is a list of directories which the system searches in order to find executables. Adding a directory to the path allows executables contained in that directory to be called directly from a command window such as CMD.

14.1.1   Windows 10

1. Open the Start search, enter "env", and choose "Edit the system environment variables".

2. Click on Environment Variables.

3. Under User variables (the top window), click on Path and click Edit. If Path does not exist, click New.

4. In the Edit environment variable dialog, click New and enter the full path name for each directory you wish to add.

5. Close each dialog by clicking OK.

14.1.2   Windows 8 and earlier

1. Right-click My Computer, and then click Properties.

2. Click the Advanced tab.

3. Click Environment variables.

4. In the top User variables window, click on Path and then Edit. If Path does not exist, click New.

5. In the edit window, add the full path name for each new directory, separated by semi-colons ';'.

6. Close each dialog by clicking OK.

For example, if ArtiSynth is installed at `C:\artisynth\artisynth_core` and the desired `JDK` is at `C:\Program Files\Java\jdk-21`, then we can add the `bin` directories for both by setting the User path to

```
C:\artisynth\artisynth_core\bin;C:\Program Files\Java\jdk-21\bin
```

> Most most command windows and applications need to be restarted in order to get them to notice changes to `Path`.

14.2   Environment variables

This is a glossary of all the environment variables that are associated with building or running ArtiSynth. Often, the system can detect and set appropriate values for these automatically. In other cases, as noted in the above documentation, it may be necessary or desirable for the user to set them explicitly.

`ARTISYNTH_HOME`

> The path name of the ArtiSynth installation folder.

`CLASSPATH`

> A list of folders and/or JAR files, separated by semi-colons ';', which Java uses to locate its class files.

`Path`

> A list of folders, separated by semi-colons ';', which the operating system uses to locate executable programs and applications. Placing `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>\bin` in `Path` (as described in Section 14.1) will allow you to run `artisynth` and related commands directly from a command window.

`OMP_NUM_THREADS`

> Specifies the maximum number of processor cores that are available for multicore execution. If not set, the system uses the maximum number of cores available. Users can also set this number from within ArtiSynth by setting the configuration property numSolverThreads, either for the current session by choosing "Settings > Interaction ..." from the main menu, or for all sessions by choosing "Settings > Preferences ... > Interaction".

Note that settings for most of the above can be derived from the value of `ARTISYNTH_HOME`.

14.2.1   Setting environment variables

On Windows, a user can view, set, or change environment variables via the following steps:

Windows 10:

1. Open the Start search, enter "`env`", and choose "Edit the system environment variables".

2. Click on Environment Variables.

3. Choose one of the following options:

   • Click New to add a new variable name and value.

- Click an existing variable, and then Edit to change its name or value.
- Click an existing variable, and then Delete to remove it.

4. Close each dialog by clicking OK.

Windows 8 and earlier:

1. Right-click My Computer, and then click Properties.

2. Click the Advanced tab.

3. Click Environment variables.

4. Choose one of the following options:

   - Click New to add a new variable name and value.
   - Click an existing variable, and then Edit to change its name or value.
   - Click an existing variable, and then Delete to remove it.

5. Close each dialog by clicking OK.

Variable settings can reference other environment variables by surrounding them with percent signs, as in `%VAR_NAME%`. For example, suppose you already have an environment variable `HOME` that gives the location of your home folder, and your ArtiSynth distribution is located in `packages\artisynth_core` relative to your home folder. Then the environment variable `ARTISYNTH_HOME` can be specified as

```
%HOME%\packages\artisynth_core
```

14.2.2 Typical environment settings

Typical settings for the environment variables described above might look like this:

```
ARTISYNTH_HOME c:\users\joe\artisynth_core
CLASSPATH %ARTISYNTH_HOME%\classes;%ARTISYNTH_HOME%\lib\*
PATH %ARTISYNTH_HOME%\bin;%PATH%
```

14.2.3 GitBash environment settings

When using `GitBash` (Section 6.2), it is possible to set environment variables in a `.bashrc` file located in the user's home folder. The file entries corresponding to the settings of Section 14.2.2 would look like this:

```
# set ARTISYNTH_HOME to the appropriate location ...
export ARTISYNTH_HOME=C:/users/joe/artisynth_core
# Windows file notation is needed for CLASSPATH:
AH="C:\users\joe\/artisynth_core"
export CLASSPATH="$AH\classes;$AH\lib\*"
export PATH=$ARTISYNTH_HOME/bin:$PATH
```

Note that the `CLASSPATH` environment variable must be set using a Windows format, with backslash ('\') to separate files and semicolon (';') to separate path entries. This requirement is imposed by the Java compiler.

14.3 ArtiSynth Libraries

ArtiSynth uses a set of libraries located under `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>\lib`. These include a number of JAR files, plus native libraries located in architecture-specific sub-folders (`Windows64` for 64-bit Windows systems).

As described in Section 6, these libraries need to be downloaded automatically if the system is obtained from the GitHub repository. The required libraries are listed in the file `<ARTISYNTH_HOME>\lib\LIBRARIES`. This file is checked into the repository, so that the system can always determine what libraries are needed for a particular checkout version.

Occasionally the libraries are changed or upgraded (Section 12). If you run ArtiSynth with the `-updateLibs` command line option, the program will ensure that not only are all the required libraries present, but that they also match the latest versions on the ArtiSynth server.

14.4 The EXTCLASSPATH File

The `EXTCLASSPATH` file is stored in the user configuration folder (Section 9) and contains the entries for the external class path (Section 10.2.2). It is usually edited within ArtiSynth by selecting "External classpath ..." from the Settings menu but can also be edited directly. Each file entry describes a class folder or JAR file needed to run models external to the core ArtiSynth package. Entries are usually placed one per line, but multiple entries can be made on the same line if separated by semi-colons ';'.

The syntax rules for `EXTCLASSPATH` are:

1. Entries on the same line should be separated semi-colons ';'.

2. The '`#`' character comments out all remaining characters to the end of line.

3. The '`$`' character can be used to expand environment variables.

4. Any spaces present *will* be included in the entry name.

An example `EXTCLASSPATH` might look like this:

```
C:\research\artisynth_models\classes
C:\research\models\special.jar
$HOME\projects\crazy\classes
```

14.5 Quick Git Summary

Git is a distributed source control management (SCM) system that is widely used in the software industry. A full discussion of Git is beyond the scope of this document, but a large literature is available online. Generally, when you *clone* a Git repository, you create a local copy of that repository on your machine, along with a checked out working folder containing the most recent version of the code (which is referred to as the HEAD).

Unlike client/server SCMs, Git is distributed, with users maintaining their own private copies of a repository. This allows a great deal of flexibility in usage, but also adds an extra "layer" to the workflow: when you "checkout" from a repository or "commit" to it, you do so with respect to your own *local* copy of that repository, *not* the original (*origin*) repository from which you performed the original clone. The process of merging in changes from the origin to the local repository is known as "pulling", while committing changes from the local repository back to the origin is known as "pushing".

There is also another layer of interaction when you commit changes to the local repository: you first *add* them to a staging area (also known as the "index"), and then commit them using the `commit` command.

A very simple workflow for a typical ArtiSynth user is summarized below. The actions are described in command-line form, but the same commands can generally be issued through Eclipse or other interfaces. First, clone the most recent version of the ArtiSynth repository on GitHub:

```
git clone https://github.com/artisynth/artisynth_core.git [<dir>]
```

This will create a local copy of the GitHub repository, along with a checked out "working copy", in the folder specified by `<dir>`, or in `artisynth_core` if `<dir>` is omitted. The repository itself will be located in a sub-folder called `.git`.

Other Git repositories can be cloned in a similar manner. If the repository has read access restrictions, then when performing a checkout it may also be necessary to specify a user name for which the repository has granted read access. This is typically done by embedding the user name in the URL, as in (for example):

```
https://user@host.xz/path/to/repo.git
```

Later, to fetch the latest updates from the GitHub repository and merge them into your working copy, from within the working copy folder you can do

```
git pull
```

If you make changes to some files in your working copy and wish to commit these to your local repository, you first *add* (or remove them) from the staging area using commands such as:

```
git add <fileName>    # add a new (or modified) file
git add *             # add all files
git rm <fileName>     # remove a file
```

and then commit them to your local repository using

```
git commit -m "commit message"
```

Note that you can also add modified files and commit them using the single command

```
git commit -m -a "commit message"
```

To see the current status of the files in your working copy and the staging area, use the command

```
git status
```

and to see the commit history for particular files or folders, use

```
git log [ <filename> ... ]
```

Finally, to push your changes back to the GitHub repository (assuming you have permission do so), you would do so using the command

```
git push origin master
```

Note that the above commands all have various options not mentioned. There are also numerous topics that haven't been discussed, including the creation and merging of branches, but there are many useful online resources that describe these in detail. Some current references include

```
https://git-scm.com/docs
http://rogerdudler.github.io/git-guide
```