Tips for Running LightSIDE on PC

LightSIDE is designed for Java 8 (also called "Java 1.8"). If you will have multiple versions of Java, you can manage your Java versions so that Java 8 will be used for LightSIDE – sample instructions for this are provided on page 2. Alternatively, it is simpler to remove other Java versions from your system.

1. ***** Optional ***: Uninstall other versions of Java**. (Alternatively, if you will have more than one Java version, sample instructions for managing multiple versions are provided on page 2.)

    a. Windows 10 and previous: https://www.java.com/en/uninstall/uninstall_instructions.html

    b. Windows 11: https://www.testingdocs.com/uninstall-java-on-windows-11/

2. **Install Java 8**.

    a. Link: https://www.oracle.com/java/technologies/downloads/

    b. Scroll down to "Java SE subscribers have more choices" >>> Java 8 tab >>> Java SE Development Kit 8u321 >>> Windows tab

    c. Download the installer that corresponds to your machine's architecture:
        i. 64-bit (most machines these days): jdk-8u321-windows-x64.exe
        ii. 32-bit: jdk-8u321-windows-i586.exe

    d. Double-click on the installer and follow the prompts.

After Java 8 installation:
- *If you have more than one Java, see page 2 for instructions on managing Java versions.*
- *See page 3 for instructions on running LightSIDE.*

3. **If you have more than one Java, you can manage them so that you use Java 8 for LightSIDE.** A relatively easy method is described below with a link along with specific tips for using the link.

   a. Follow the instructions at https://medium.com/test-automation-hub/how-to-switch-between-multiple-jdks-java-on-windows-abb884d9c22c.

   b. *Your other versions of Java should be installed in the same directory as Java 8 – e.g., C:\Program Files\Java\. The remainder of this help assumes the same directory path. If your path is different, adjust accordingly.*

   c. Sample content of C:\Program Files\Java\ for Java versions 8 (i.e., 1.8), 11, and 17 follow. *Again, if your Java version paths are different (which is likely because there are many Java versions), adjust accordingly.*
      i. jdk1.8.0_321
      ii. jdk-11.0.14
      iii. jdk-17.0.2

   d. To edit System environment variables, in your Windows search box, enter "environment variables" and then select "Edit the system environment variables."

   e. Edit System Variable JAVA_HOME to set your default Java version. C:\Program Files\Java\jdk1.8.0_321
      i. *Adjust according to your particular path and preferred default Java. This particular path is set for a version of Java 8 (1.8).*

   f. Edit User environment variable 'Path'. Add the following if they are not already present:
      i. C:\Program Files]\Common Files\Oracle\Java\javapath
      ii. %JAVA_HOME%\bin
      iii. C:\Program Files\Java\scripts

   g. Sample scripts are provided in the *lightside.zip* file in directory *sample_java_version_scripts_for_pc*: java8.bat, java11.bat, java17.bat. Place the individual scripts (not the sample_... directory) in a \scripts\ directory within the same directory as your Java versions – e.g., \Program Files\Java\scripts\. *These scripts are samples for the particular Java versions listed in item (c). If your paths are different or your Java versions are different (again, this is likely), adjust accordingly.*

   h. After the above is completed, you may need to restart your PC for all of the updates to take effect.

   i. To check your current Java version:
      i. In a command prompt terminal, enter *java -version.*

   j. **To switch java versions**: Enter the name of the corresponding script from step (g), omitting the '.bat' at the end.
      i. E.g., enter *java8*
      ii. You can then check your current Java version using the command above.

4. Run LightSIDE.

Finder method – If this method doesn't work for you, try the Terminal Method below.
a. Open a Finder window.
b. Navigate to the directory where LightSIDE is installed – the same directory that this document is in. E.g., Desktop\lightside.
c. Make sure you are running Java 8. (See the previous pages for help installing Java 8 and/or managing multiple versions of Java.)
d. Double-click file LightSIDE.bat. If you get a message that it is from an unidentified developer, approve it.

Terminal Method
a. In a terminal window, navigate to the directory where LightSIDE was downloaded (or if you moved it, where it is installed) – the same directory that this document is in. E.g.: *cd Desktop\lightside*

b. Verify that your current Java version is Java 8 (aka 1.8): java -version
   i. *If it is not, see the preceding instructions on installing Java 8 and, if necessary, managing multiple versions of Java.*

c. Enter: *.\LightSIDE.bat*. (Include the period "." at the beginning of the command.)