

# The OSVVM Simulator Script Library

The OSVVM Simulator Script Library provides a simple way to create and activate libraries, compile designs, and run simulations.

The intent of this scripting approach is to:

- Run the same scripts on any simulator
- Be as easy to read as a compile order list.
- Know the directory the script is in, the script only manages relative paths to itself. No Awkward path management in the scripts.
- Simplify integration of other libraries that use the same approach

This is an evolving approach. So it may change in the future. Input is welcome.

## 1 Clone the OSVVM-Libraries directory

Lets start by doing. The library [OSVVM-Libraries](#) contains all of the OSVVM libraries as submodules. Download the entire OSVVM model library using git clone with the --recursive flag:

```
$ git clone --recursive https://github.com/osvvm/OsvvmLibraries
```

## 2 The Script Files

- StartUp.tcl
  - StartUp script for ActiveHDL, GHDL, Mentor, RivieraPro, and VSimSA (ActiveHDL)
  - Detects the simulator running and calls the VendorScript\_vendor-name.tcl. Also calls OsvvmProjectScripts.tcl and OsvvmScriptDefaults.tcl
- StartVCS.tcl
  - StartUp script for Synopsys VCS. Does what StartUp.tcl does except is specific to VCS
- StartXcelium.tcl
  - StartUp script for Cadence Xcelium. Does what StartUp.tcl does except is specific to Xcelium
- StartXSIM.tcl
  - StartUp script for Xilinx XSIM. Does what StartUp.tcl does except is specific to Xsim
  - Note, XSIM is currently a alpha level, experimental release.
- VendorScript\_tool-name.tcl
  - TCL procedures that do simulator specific actions.

- "tool-name" = one of (ActiveHDL, GHDL, Mentor, RivieraPro, VSimSA, VCS, Xcelium, Xsim)
  - VSimSA is the one associated with ActiveHDL.
  - Called by StartUp.tcl
- OsvvmProjectScripts.tcl
  - TCL procedures that do common simulator and project build tasks.
  - Called by StartUp.tcl
- OsvvmScriptDefaults.tcl
  - Default settings for the OSVVM Script environment.
  - Called by StartUp.tcl
- LocalScriptDefaults.tcl
  - User default settings for the OSVVM Script environment.
  - Not in OSVVM repository so it will not be replaced on OSVVM updates
  - If it exists, called by StartUp.tcl

### 3 Create a Sim directory

Create a simulation directory. Generally I name this "sim" or "sim\_vendor-name". Creating a simulation directory means that cleanup before running regressions is just a matter of deleting the sim directory and recreating a new one.

The following assumes you have created a directory named "sim" in the OsvvmLibraries directory.

Alternately, you can run simulations out of the Scripts, but cleanup is a mess as a simulator tends to create numerous temporaries.

## 4 Initialization

### 4.1 Aldec RivieraPRO, Siemens QuestaSim and ModelSim

Initialize the OSVVM Script environment by doing:

**source** <path-to-OsvvmLibraries>/OsvvmLibraries/Scripts/StartUp.tcl

Want to avoid doing this every time? In Aldec RivieraPro, set the environment variable, ALDEC\_STARTUPTCL to StartUp.tcl (including the path information). Similarly in Mentor QuestaSim/ModelSim, set the environment variable, MODELSIM\_TCL to StartUp.tcl (including the path information).

### 4.2 Aldec ActiveHDL

Before doing this in ActiveHDL and VSimSA (ActiveHDL's command window) instead do:

```
scripterconf -tcl  
do -tcl <path-to-OsvvmLibraries>/OsvvmLibraries/Scripts/StartUp.tcl
```

Want to avoid doing this every time? For ActiveHDL, edit /script/startup.do and add above to it. Similarly for VSimSA, edit /BIN/startup.do and add the above to it. Note, with 2021.02, you no longer need to set the "Start In" directory to the OSVVM Scripts directory.

### 4.3 GHDL

I currently run GHDL using MSYS2 64 bit under windows. The scripts must run under tcl (tclsh). As a result, to start the OSVVM scripting environment, in a shell window do:

```
winpty tclsh  
source <path-to-OsvvmLibraries>/OsvvmLibraries/Scripts/StartUp.tcl
```

To simplify this, I put the source ../StartUp.tcl in my .tclshrc file and as a result I do not have to do the source command. I have added a short cut that includes C:\tools\msys64\mingw64.exe winpty rlwrap tclsh. I added the short cut to my start menu. With these two, one click and you are running in the OSVVM tcl execution environment.

Alternately, if you are not running in windows, create the .tclshrc as above and then in your .bashrc create the alias alias gsim='winpty rlwrap tclsh' to simplify starting tclsh. From there, at the command line type gsim and you are running ghdl in the OSVVM environment.

### 4.4 Synopsys VCS

Synopsys scripts are beta level quality. VCS runs under Unix/Linux. The scripts must run under tcl (tclsh). As a result, to start the OSVVM scripting environment, in a shell window do:

```
rlwrap tclsh  
source <path-to-OsvvmLibraries>/OsvvmLibraries/Scripts/StartVCS.tcl
```

To simplify this, I put the source ../StartVCS.tcl in my .tclshrc file and as a result I do not have to do the source command.

### 4.5 Cadence Xcelium

Cadence Xcelium scripts are alpha level quality. Xcelium runs under Unix/Linux. The scripts must run under tcl (tclsh). As a result, to start the OSVVM scripting environment, in a shell window do:

```
rlwrap tclsh  
source <path-to-OsvvmLibraries>/OsvvmLibraries/Scripts/StartXcelium.tcl
```

To simplify this, I put the source ../StartXcelium.tcl in my .tclshrc file and as a result I do not have to do the source command.

## 4.6 Xilinx XSIM

Using OSVVM in Xilinx XSIM is under development. So far, Xilinx seems to be able to compile OSVVM utility library, however, we have not had any of our internal test cases pass.

To run OSVVM scripts in XSIM, start Vivado and then run the StartXSIM script shown below:

```
source <path-to-OsvvmLibraries>/OsvvmLibraries/Scripts/StartXSIM.tcl
```

If someone from XILINX is interested, the internal OSVVM utility library testbenches can be provided under an NDA.

## 5 Project Files

A project file is a TCL script that allows the specification of basic tasks to run a simulation:

- **library** - Make this library the active library. Create it if it does not exist.
- **analyze** - Compile the design into the active library.
- **Simulate** - Simulate the design using the active library.
- **RunTest** - compile and simulate in one step
- **include** - include another project script
- **build** - include + start a new log file for this task
- **TestSuite** - identifies the TestSuite that is active
- **TestCase** - identify the TestCase that is active

The above tasks are TCL procedures. Hence, a project file is actually a TCL file, and when necessary, TCL can be used, however, the intent is to keep it simple. The naming of the project file is of the form <Name>.pro.

### 5.1 Running a Simple Test

At the heart of running a simulation is setting the library, compiling files, and starting the simulation. To do this, we use **library**, **analyze**, and **simulate**.

The following is an excerpt from the scripts used to run OSVVM verification component library regressions.

```
library osvvm_TbAxi4_MultipleMemory
analyze TestCtrl_e.vhd
analyze TbAxi4_MultipleMemory.vhd
analyze TbAxi4_Shared1.vhd
simulate TbAxi4_Shared1
```

In OSVVM scripting, calling **library** activates the library. Hence, there is no need to specify the library in **analyze** and **simulate**. This is consistent with VHDL's sense of the "working library".

## 5.2 Adding Scripts to Simulate

Often with simulations, we want to add a custom waveform file. This may be for all designs or just one particular design. We may also need specific actions to be done when running on a particular simulator.

As a result, when simulate runs, it will also include the following files in order, if they exist:

- OsvvmLibraries/Scripts/"ToolVendor".tcl
- OsvvmLibraries/Scripts/"simulator".tcl
- "sim-run-dir"/"ToolVendor".tcl
- "sim-run-dir"/"simulator".tcl
- "sim-run-dir"/"LibraryUnit".tcl
- "sim-run-dir"/"LibraryUnit\_"simulator".tcl
- "sim-run-dir"/wave.do

ToolVendor is either {Aldec, Siemens, Cadence, Synopsys}. Simulator is one of {QuestaSim, ModelSim, RivieraPRO, ActiveHDL, VCS, Xcelium}. LibraryUnit is the name of the design being simulated. "Sim run dir" is the directory from which you run the simulator.

Currently GHDL does not run any extra scripts since it is a batch simulator.

## 5.3 Including Scripts

We build our designs hierarchically. Therefore our scripts need to be build hierarchically.

In TCL, source (or with EDA tools do) is used to run lower level scripts. For an EDA tool, there are two directories of interest, the directory the tool is running in and the script directory. EDA tool settings are directory dependent, so the script cannot change directories. This forces the script to manage the location of the files referenced in the script and makes scripting awkward.

To address this situation, OSVVM adds include. Include manages both the run directory and the script directory. All calls to the OSVVM script API that reference a file, reference the file relative to the current script directory – rather than the run directory. Hence, a script only needs to reference files relative to its location, making path references simple. It also simplifies making directory structure changes to a project.

The script, OsvvmLibraries.pro shown below, is the starting point for compiling all of OSVVM. It simply calls the scripts from the OSVVM Utility library, Verification Component Common library, UART verification component library, and AXI4 verification component libraries using include.

```
include ./osvvm/osvvm.pro
include ./Common/Common.pro
include ./UART/UART.pro
include ./AXI4/AXI4.pro
```

## 5.4 Building the OSVVM Libraries

Build is a layer on top of include (it calls include) that creates a logging point. For each build, OSVVM creates collects all tool output into a log file for the entire build in `./logs/<tool_name>-<version>/<build>.log`.

In addition, when a test is started with build, run with simulate, and includes a call to "EndOfTestReports" at the end of the VHDL testbench, a build report with the formats YAML, HTML, and JUnit XML reporting. In addition, a detailed test report (in YAML and HTML) will be created that lists out all AlertLogIDs and their state (PASSED, FAILED, Errors, ...) as well as reports of coverage models (if the test has any).

In general, build is called from the simulator API (when we run something) and include is called from scripts.

To compile all of the OSVVM libraries, use build as shown below.

```
build <path_to_OsvvmLibraries>/OsvvmLibraries.pro
```

## 5.5 Running OSVVM Libraries

To run the full OSVVM verification component regression suite use the build shown below.

```
build <path_to_OsvvmLibraries>/RunAllTests.pro
```

Everything in OSVVM is composed hierarchically. So if you want to run a regression on a particular verification component, you simply run its build. These are shown below.

```
build ../AXI4/Axi4/RunAllTests.pro
build ../AXI4/Axi4Lite/RunAllTests.pro
build ../AXI4/AxiStream/RunAllTests.pro
build ../UART/RunAllTests.pro
```

## 5.6 Build Summary Report

The build summary report is a summary of all tests run during that build in YAML, HTML, and JUnit XML. This report allows us to confirm that all tests finished successfully.

The best way to see the reports is run one of the OSVVM regressions. Run build OsvvmLibraries/RunAllTests.pro, then open the file OsvvmLibraries\_RunAllTests.html.

The following is an excerpt of OsvvmLibraries\_RunAllTests.html. Failures are shown in red (none here). Passing tests are shown in green.

### OsvvmLibraries\_RunAllTests Build Summary Report

Build	OsvvmLibraries_RunAllTests
Status	PASSED
PASSED	116
FAILED	0
SKIPPED	0
Elapsed Time (h:m:s)	0:04:48
Elapsed Time (seconds)	287.646
Date	2021-12-02T12:56-0800
Simulator	RivieraPRO
Version	RivieraPRO-2021.10.114.8313
OSVVM YAML Version	1.0

#### ▼ OsvvmLibraries\_RunAllTests Test Suite Summary

TestSuites	Status	PASSED	FAILED	SKIPPED	Requirements passed / goal	Disabled Alerts	Elapsed Time
<a href="#">Axi4Lite</a>	PASSED	9	0	0	0 / 0	0	21.755
<a href="#">Axi4Full</a>	PASSED	50	0	0	0 / 0	0	127.459
<a href="#">AxiStream</a>	PASSED	49	0	0	0 / 0	0	116.419
<a href="#">Uart</a>	PASSED	8	0	0	0 / 0	0	21.978

#### ▼ Axi4Lite Test Case Summary

Test Case	Status	Checks passed / checked	Errors	Requirements passed / goal	Functional Coverage	Disabled Alerts	Elapsed Time
<a href="#">TbAxi4_BasicReadWrite</a>	PASSED	60 / 60	0	0 / 0	-	0	1.054
<a href="#">TbAxi4_ReadWriteAsync1</a>	PASSED	60 / 60	0	0 / 0	-	0	0.797
<a href="#">TbAxi4_ReadWriteAsync2</a>	PASSED	60 / 60	0	0 / 0	-	0	0.923
<a href="#">TbAxi4_ReadWriteAsync3</a>	PASSED	60 / 60	0	0 / 0	-	0	0.799
<a href="#">TbAxi4_RandomReadWrite</a>	PASSED	3000 / 3000	0	0 / 0	-	0	0.996
<a href="#">TbAxi4_RandomReadWriteByte</a>	PASSED	3000 / 3000	0	0 / 0	-	0	1.122
<a href="#">TbAxi4_TimeOut</a>	PASSED	71 / 75	0	0 / 0	-	0	0.778
<a href="#">TbAxi4_WriteOptions</a>	PASSED	72 / 72	0	0 / 0	-	0	0.772
<a href="#">TbAxi4_MemoryReadWrite1</a>	PASSED	40 / 40	0	0 / 0	-	0	0.822

#### ▼ Axi4Full Test Case Summary

Test Case	Status	Checks passed / checked	Errors	Requirements passed / goal	Functional Coverage	Disabled Alerts	Elapsed Time
<a href="#">TbAxi4_BasicReadWrite</a>	PASSED	60 / 60	0	0 / 0	-	0	0.818
<a href="#">TbAxi4_RandomReadWrite</a>	PASSED	3000 / 3000	0	0 / 0	-	0	1.031
<a href="#">TbAxi4_RandomReadWriteByte1</a>	PASSED	3000 / 3000	0	0 / 0	-	0	1.337

## 5.7 Detailed Test Report

The detailed test report is a detailed report of alerts and coverage models. The best way to see the reports is run one of the OSVVM regression suites. After running one of the regressions, open one of the HTML files in the directory `./reports`.

The first half of the report is a summary of the alerts encountered for each AlertLogID during the test. This is shown in the following figure.

## TbAxi4\_RandomReadWrite Alert Report

#### ▼ TbAxi4\_RandomReadWrite Alert Settings

Setting		Value	Description
FailOnWarning		true	If true, warnings are a test error
FailOnDisabledErrors		true	If true, Disabled Alert Counts are a test error
FailOnRequirementErrors		true	If true, Requirements Errors are a test error
External	Failures	0	Added to Alert Counts in determine total errors
	Errors	0	
	Warnings	0	
Expected	Failures	0	Subtracted from Alert Counts in determine total errors
	Errors	0	
	Warnings	0	

#### ▼ TbAxi4\_RandomReadWrite Alert Results

[illegible]



The second half of the report is the coverage report for each coverage model defined in the test environment. Note that items with a triangle in front of them can be closed for more compact viewing. The coverage report below is for test TbCov\_CovDb\_2 in the OSVVM utility library regression suite. Note that coverage model "Test 3" is closed for more compact viewing.

## Uart7\_Random\_part3 Coverage Report

**Total Coverage: 100.00**

### ▼ UART\_RX\_STIM\_COV Coverage Model **Coverage: 100.0**

#### ▼ UART\_RX\_STIM\_COV Coverage Settings

CovWeight	1
Goal	100.0
WeightMode	at_least
Seeds	824213985 792842968
CountMode	count_first
IllegalMode	illegal_on
Threshold	45.0
ThresholdEnable	0
TotalCovCount	100
TotalCovGoal	100

#### ▼ UART\_RX\_STIM\_COV Coverage Bins

Name	Type	Mode	Data	Idle	Count	AtLeast	Percent Coverage
NORMAL	Count	1 to 1	0 to 255	0 to 0	63	63	100.0
NORMAL	Count	1 to 1	0 to 255	1 to 15	7	7	100.0
PARITY	Count	3 to 3	0 to 255	2 to 15	11	11	100.0
STOP	Count	5 to 5	1 to 255	2 to 15	11	11	100.0
PARITY_STOP	Count	7 to 7	1 to 255	2 to 15	6	6	100.0
BREAK	Count	9 to 15	11 to 30	2 to 15	2	2	100.0
<b>Total Percent Coverage:</b>		100.0					

### ▼ UART\_RX\_COV Coverage Model **Coverage: 100.0**

#### ► UART\_RX\_COV Coverage Settings

#### ▼ UART\_RX\_COV Coverage Bins

Name	Type	Mode	Count	AtLeast	Percent Coverage
NORMAL	Count	1 to 1	70	1	7000.0
PARITY	Count	3 to 3	11	1	1100.0

## 5.8 VHDL Aspects of Generating Reports

To generate reports, you need to have the following OSVVM test code in your VHDL testbench. More details of this are in OSVVM Test Writers User Guide in the documentation repository.

```
-- Reference to OSVVM Utility Library
library OSVVM ;
context OSVVM.OsvvmContext ;

. . .
TestProc : process
begin
    -- Name the Test
    SetAlertLogName("TestName") ;

    . . .
    -- Do some Checks
    AffirmIfEqual(Data, X"A025", "Check Data") ;

    . . .
    -- Generate Reports (replaces call to ReportAlerts)
    EndOfTestReports ;
    std.env.stop(GetAlertCount) ;
end process TestProc ;
```

## 5.9 Generating Reports and Simple Tests

If we have a simple test, where the design name is Dut.vhd and the testbench is TbDut.vhd, then we can run it with the following script

```
# File name: Dut.pro
analyze Dut.vhd
analyze TbDut.vhd
simulate TbDut
```

If we run this test with using build Dut.pro, Dut and TbDut will be compiled into the library named default. The simulation TbDut will run and a build summary report will be created with only one test case in it. The test suite will be named Default. The test case will be named TbDut. Be sure to name the test internally to TbDut using SetAlertLogName as otherwise, a NAME\_MISMATCH failure will be generated.

## 5.10 Generating Reports and Running Tests without Configurations

In OSVVM, we use the testbench framework shown in the OSVVM Test Writers User Guide (see documentation repository). The test harness in this example is named TbUart. The test sequencer entity is in file TestCtrl\_e.vhd. Tests are in architectures of TestCtrl in the files, TestCtrl\_SendGet1.vhd, TestCtrl\_SendGet2.vhd, and TbtCtrl\_Scoreboard1.vhd. The tests are run by calling "simulate TbUart". TestCase is used to specify the test name that is running. This is needed here as otherwise the name TbUart would be used. The test case that is run is the latest one that was analyzed.

```

TestSuite Uart
library   osvvm_TbUart
analyze   TestCtrl_e.vhd
analyze   TbUart.vhd

TestCase  TbUart_SendGet1
analyze   TestCtrl_SendGet1.vhd
simulate  TbUart

TestCase  TbUart_SendGet2
analyze   TestCtrl_SendGet2.vhd
simulate  TbUart

TestCase  TbUart_Scoreboard1
analyze   TestCtrl_Scoreboard1.vhd
simulate  TbUart

```

The above call to TestCase puts the TestCase name into the build test summary YAML file. If the simulation for any reason fails to run, there will be no test status information in the YAML file. As a result, when the build summary report is being created, it will detect this as a test failure.

Another possibility in the above test scenario is that a particular test case fails to analyze. In this case, if the script continues and calls simulate, the previously successfully compiled test will run. In this case, if each test is given a unique name in VHDL using SetAlertLogName (which is also recorded in the YAML file), then the VHDL test name will not match the test case name and a NAME\_MISMATCH failure will be generated by the scripts.

## 5.11 Generating Reports and Running Tests with Configurations

The OSVVM verification component regression suite uses configurations to specify an exact architecture to run in a given test. We give the configuration, the test case, and the file the same name. We also put the configuration declaration at the end of the file containing the test case (try it, you will understand why). When we run a test that uses a configuration, simulate specifies the configuration's design unit name. Hence, we revise the sequence of running one test to be as follows.

```

TestCase  TbUart_SendGet1
analyze   TbUart_SendGet1.vhd
simulate  TbUart_SendGet1

```

When running a large test suite, this gets tedious, so we added a shortcut named RunTest that encapsulates the above three steps into the single step. This changes our original script to the following. If the name in RunTest has a path, the path is only used with analyze.

```

TestSuite Uart
library   osvvm_TbUart
analyze   TestCtrl_e.vhd

```

```

analyze    TbUart.vhd

RunTest    TbUart_SendGet1.vhd
RunTest    TbUart_SendGet2.vhd
RunTest    TbUart_Scoreboard1.vhd

```

One advantage of using configurations is that on a clean build (library deleted before starting it), if a test case fails to analyze, then the corresponding configuration will fail to analyze, and the simulation will fail to run. If this happens, it will be detected and recorded as a test failure in the build summary report.

## 6 Command Summary

Command	Description
library <library>	Make the library the active library. If the library does not exist, create it and create a mapping to it. Libraries are created in the path specified by LIB_BASE_DIR in Scripts/StartUp.tcl.
analyze <file>	Compile the file. A path name specified is relative to the location of the current <file>.pro directory location. Library is the one specified in the previous library command.
simulate <design-unit>	Start a simulation on the design unit. Library is the one specified in the previous library command.
RunTest <file>	RunTest combines TestCase, analyze, and simulate. RunTest optionally takes two parameters. With two parameters, the first is the file name to analyze, the second is the design unit name to use for simulation and TestCase. With one parameter, the first parameter is the file name. The second parameter is the base name of the file name - any path and file extension are removed.
RunTest <file> <name>	
include <name>	<p>Include accepts an argument "name" that is either a file or a directory. If it is a file and its extension is .pro, .tcl, or .do, it will be sourced.</p> <p>If "name" is a directory, then files whose name is "name" and whose extension is .pro, .tcl, or .do, it will be sourced.</p> <p>Both &lt;name&gt; and &lt;path&gt;/&lt;name&gt; are relative to the current directory from which the script is running.</p> <p>Extensions of the form ".files" or ".dirs" is handled in a manner described in "Deprecated Descriptor Files".</p>
include <path>/<name>	
build <directory>	
build <path>/<file>	
SetVHDLVersion	Set VHDL analyze version. Valid values = (2008, 2019, 1993, 2002). OSVVM libraries require 2008 or newer

GetVHDLVersion	Return the current VHDL Version
SetSimulatorResolution	Set Simulator Resolution. Any value supported by the simulator is ok.
GetSimulatorResolution	Return the current Simulator Resolution
TestCase <name>	Set the test case name.
TestSuite <name>	Set the test suite name.
map <library> [<path>]	Create a mapping to a library
RemoveAllLibraries	Delete all of the working libraries.
LinkLibrary	Link libraries that are in the LibraryDirectory LibraryDirectory is the directory that contains an OSVVM created VHDL_LIBS directory
Undocumented Procedures	Any undocumented procedure is in development and may change in a future revision

## 7 Deprecated Descriptor Files

Include with a file extension of ".dirs" or ".files" is deprecated and is only supported for backward compatibility.

<Name>.dirs is a directory descriptor file that contains a list of directories. Each directory is handled by calling "include <directory>".

<Name>.files is a file descriptor that contains a list of names. Each name is handled by calling "analyze <name>". If the extension of the name is ".vhd" or ".vhdl" the file will be compiled as VHDL source. If the extension of the name is ".v" the file will be compiled as verilog source. If the extension of the name is ".lib", it is handled by calling "library <name>".

## 8 Release History

For the release history see, [CHANGELOG.md](#)

## 9 Participating and Project Organization

The OSVVM project welcomes your participation with either issue reports or pull requests. For details on [how to participate see](#)

You can find the project [Authors here](#) and [Contributors here](#).

## 10 More Information on OSVVM

**OSVVM Forums and Blog:** <http://www.osvvm.org/>

**SynthWorks OSVVM Blog:** <http://www.synthworks.com/blog/osvvm/>

**Gitter:** <https://gitter.im/OSVVM/Lobby>

**Documentation:** [Documentation for the OSVVM libraries can be found here](#)

## 11 Copyright and License

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