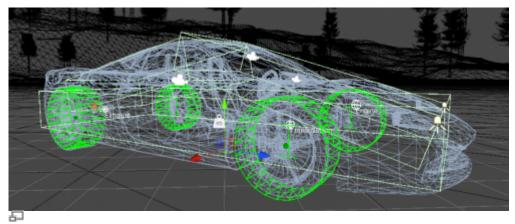
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Manual for VehicleController

Before starting with detailed vehicle setup it is recommended to check out Quick Start guide as this page assumes a minimal working setup has been done.



One of the included, fully configured vehicle examples.

VehicleComponent

VehicleComponent is a building block of NWH Vehicle Physics 2. VehicleController is a collection of VehicleComponents, which includes VehicleModules, Effects and SoundComponents - both of which inherit from VehicleComponent. For class reference click here.

States

Each VehicleComponent can:

- Be turned on or off.
- Be enabled or disabled.
- Have LOD set.

IsEnabled

- VehicleComponent that is enabled is updated.
- If the component will never be used is 0n can be used instead.
- Disabled components are not initialized until they get enabled for the first time.



Disabled VehicleComponent.

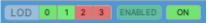
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LOD Index

- If the component's lodIndex value is lower than vehicleController.activeLodIndex it will be enabled, otherwise it will be disabled.
- Set lodIndex to a value less than 0 to ignore LODs.
- If adjusting LODs through inspector click on the currently active LOD to disable LOD system:



LOD system is inactive and the VehicleComponent will be active until manually disabled.



LOD system is active. VehicleComponent will be enabled while active LOD is 0 or 1 and disabled while active LOD is 1 or 2.

IsOn

VehicleComponents that have isOn set to false are disabled and can not be enabled by LODs. Turning components off should be used for components that will never be used.

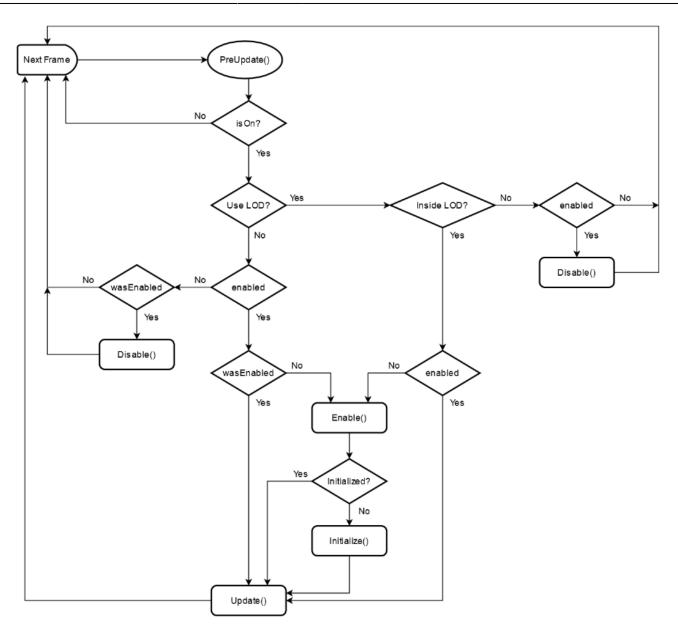


VehicleComponent turned off. Once it is off it can only be turned on manually. LODs are ignored when off.

State Diagram

Diagram below demonstrates how a VehicleComponent determines if it should be updated:

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State Bar

Each VehicleComponent has a state bar which is visible in play mode:



This is where the state of the VehicleComponent can be checked and changed. Note that changing the state through state bar only affects runtime values and will revert after exiting play mode. The state bar is intended for previewing the current state and testing different values during run-time. For persistent state check *StateSettings*.

Using State Bar

- Click on "On" button to turn the component on or off.
- Click on "Enabled" button to enable or disable the component.
- Click on any of the LOD numbers to set LOD. Click again on the same number to disable LODs. Component will be enabled if the current LOD number is green, and disabled if it is red. When LODs are active Enabled button is greyed out as the LODs determine if the component will be

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enabled or disabled.



State Settings

- To prevent having to adjust the states of each VehicleComponent on each VehicleController, a ScriptableObject StateSettings was introduced.
- StateSettings for each vehicle can be assigned under VehicleController ⇒ Settings tab.
- More about StateSettings on StateSettings page.

Scripting

To change VehicleComponent state through scripting following can be done:

```
myVehicleComponent.IsEnabled= myBoolValue;
myVehicleComponent.IsOn = myBoolValue;
myVehicleComponent.LodIndex = myIntValue;
```

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Input

- Vehicles retrieve user input through Input class which retrieves input from active InputProvider and fills the InputStates struct with the retrieved data.
- Input is stored inside InputStates object and can be copied over from one vehicle to another. This is what is done when a trailer is connected to a towing vehicle.
- To manually set the InputStates make sure Auto Settable is set to false.

All input providers inherit from abstract class InputProvider but have different implementations:

- DesktopInputProvider for handling keyboard and mouse or gamepad input.
- NewDesktopInputProvider same as DesktopInputProvider but for new Unity Input System.
- MobileInputProvider GUI based input.
- SteeringWheelInputProvider steering wheel based input with force feedback support.

Check the Scripting section of this page on info how to make a custom Input Provider.

Only one InputProvider can be active in the scene at one time. If there is more than one, only the last to initialize will be used.

Available Bindings

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Name	Туре	Default Binding	Description
Horizontal	axis	X axis	Steering.
Vertical	axis	Y axis	Throttle/brakes.
Clutch	axis		Manual clutch. 0 for disengaged and 1 for engaged.
Handbrake	axis	Space	
EngineStartStop	Button	E	
ShiftUp	button	R	
ShiftDown	button	F	
ShiftIntoR1	button	`	Shift into 1st reverse gear.
ShiftIntoN	button	0	Shift into neutral.
ShiftInto1	button	1	Shift into 1st forward gear.
ShiftInto[n]	button	2,3,4,etc.	Shift into [n]th gear.
ChangeVehicle	button	V	Also acts as enter/exit input.
ChangeCamera	button	С	
LowBeamLights	button	L	
HighBeamLights	button	K	
HazardLights	button	J	
ExtraLights	button	;	
LeftBlinker	button	Z	
RightBlinker	button	X	
Horn	button	Н	
Flip0ver	button	M	Used for FlipOverModule.
Boost	button	Left Shift	Used for NOSModule.
Cruise Control	N	Used for CruiseControlModule.	
TrailerAttachDetach	Т	Used for Trailer and TrailerHitch modules.	

Standard/Old Unity Input

- Make sure to set up all the required bindings under Edit ⇒ Projects Settings ⇒ Input or extract and copy the provided InputManager.asset to the project's ProjectSettings directory.
- Add DesktopInputProvider to the scene.

If the asset throws a warning along the lines of "Input Binding Missing", make sure that the binding have been set up under ProjectSettings ⇒ Input (first step above)

New Unity Input System

Only supported on Unity versions 2019.3 and up (Input System 1.0 and up). If using demo scripts it is best to set ActiveInputHandling to Both as some demo and camera scripts are still using UnityEngine.Input.

- Install Unity Input System package through Window ⇒ Package Manager
- Under Edit ⇒ Project Settings ⇒ Player ⇒ Other Settings ⇒ Active Input Handling select Both or Input System Package

- Unpack the input provider, package location is: Scripts ⇒ Vehicle ⇒ Control ⇒ Input ⇒
 InputProviders ⇒ NewUnityInputSystem. Input bindings can be set by opening
 VehicleInputActions.inputactions file in Unity.
- Add NewDesktopInputProvider to the scene.

Mobile Input Provider

- Add MobileInputProvider to the scene.
- Create a few UI ⇒ Button objects inside your canvas. Make sure that they are clickable.
- Remove the UnityEngine.UI.Button component and replace it with MobileInputButton.
 MobileInputButton inherits from UnityEngine.UI.Button and adds hasBeenClicked and isPressed fields which are required for Mobile Input Provider
- Drag the buttons to the corresponding fields in the MobileInputProvider. Empty fields will be ignored.

Steering Wheel Input Provider

For more info visit SteeringWheelInputProvider page.

Scripting

Retrieving Input

InputProvider uses singleton pattern which means that input can be retrieved from any script, e.g.:

```
float horizontalInput = InputProvider.Instance.Horizontal();
```

Manually Setting Input

Input in each vehicle is stored in InputStates struct:

```
myVehicleController.input.states
```

In case input should not be retrieved from user but from another script - as is the case when AI is used - AutoSettable should be set to false. This will disable automatic input fetching from the active InputProvider.

Input now can be set from any script:

```
myVehicleController.input.Horizontal = myFloatValue; // Using getter/setter.
```

myVehicleController.input.states.horizontal = myFloatValue; // Directly
accessing states.

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Custom InputProvider

Custom input providers can easily be written:

 Create a new class, e.g. ExampleInputProvider and make it inherit from InputProvider class:

```
public class ExampleInputProvider : InputProvider {}
```

- Implement missing methods. Most IDEs can do this automatically.
- Methods that are not used should return false, 0 or -999 in case of ShiftInto() method.
- Example implementation:

```
public override float Horizontal()
{
    return Input.GetAxis("Horizontal");
}
```

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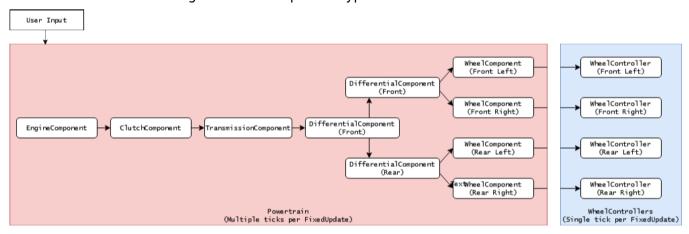
Powertrain

NWH Vehicle Physics 2 uses different solver from NWH Vehicle Physics 1. Solver in NWH Vehicle Physics uses multiple ticks per one FixedUpdate and is physically accurate. The only component that is approximated is the clutch and that is due to performance reasons.

Powertrain in NWH Vehicle Physics 2 is a collection of *Powertrain Components* such as EngineComponent, ClutchComponent, DifferentialComponent, etc.



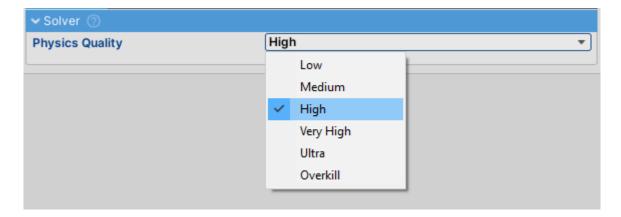
Powertrain menu for filtering between component types.



Example of typical Powertrain setup for 4-wheel, 4WD vehicle.

- Each component outputs to one or more PowertrainComponents, except for WheelComponent which always outputs to WheelController.
- EngineComponent which acts as a power source and Wheel Component acts as a power sink. The components in-between determine how the power/torque will be transmitted.

Solver



The only setting available for solver is Physics Quality. Physics Quality changes the number of ticks per one FixedUpdate:

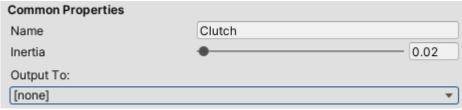
- Low 8 ticks
- Medium 12 ticks
- High 16 ticks
- Very High 24 ticks
- Ultra 32 ticks
- Overkill 48 ticks
- Performance impact is directly proportional to the number of ticks. Powertrain code is heavily optimized.
- Using very low values (<8) can result in low simulation fidelity and/or instability, especially if used with high power vehicles, high gear ratios or complex differential setups.

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PowertrainComponent

PowertrainComponent is a base class for all powertrain components: EngineComponent, ClutchComponent, TransmissionComponent, etc.

- All the PowertrainComponents have the following common fields in the inspector:
 - Name name of the component. Changing the Nameof a component will reset Outputon any components that are using that component.
 - Inertia inertia of the component. Inertia of each component contributes to the total system inertia. How much depends on the clutch engagement and current gear ratio.
 - Output Powertrain Component to which the torque is forwarded. In cases such as Differential Component there can be multiple outputs (e.g. left and right wheel).



Common PowertrainComponent fields.

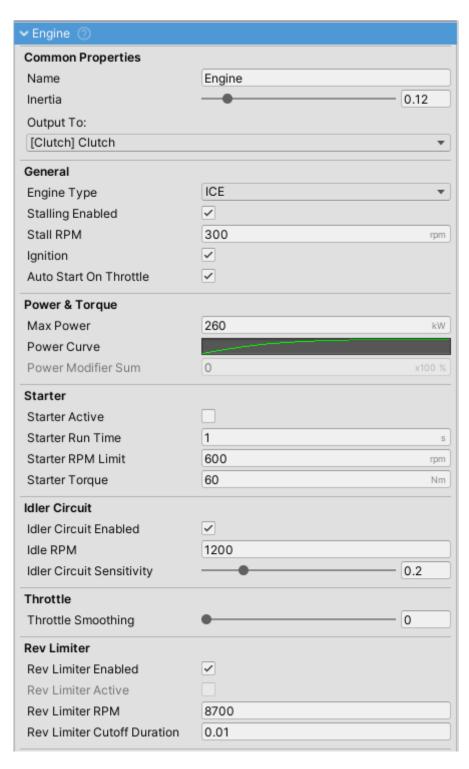
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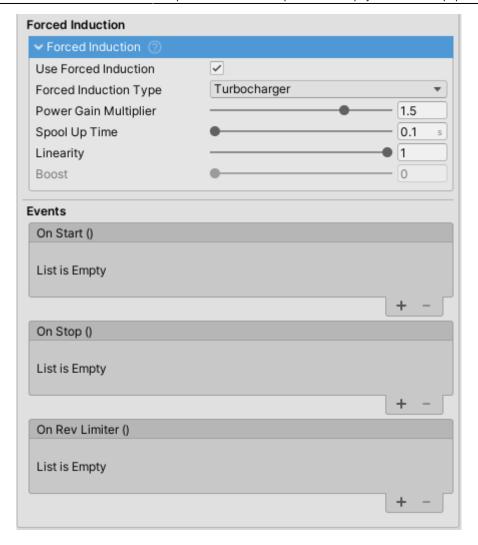
- Changing the name field on component will reset all the Outputs on other PowertrainComponents that use that component as an output.
- Increasing Inertia will will make the component spin up slower if the same torque is applied.
- Inertia of WheelComponent is calculated from WheelControllers mass and radius settings.

Inertia must always be larger than 0!

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Engine





EngineComponent is a mandatory Powertrain component. It is always first in the Components list.

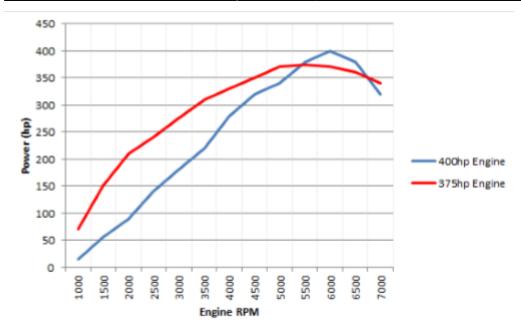
Inertia

Higher engine inertia results in an engine that is harder to stall. Such engine will also take longer to spin up.

Power Curve

Power curve represents engine power across its RPM range. Both X and Y values are normalized where X (0 to 1) represents RPM as a percentage of Rev Limiter RPM and Y (0 to 1) represents power as a percentage of Max Power.

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Similar power output, different power curves.

Idler Circuit

Idler circuit tries to keep RPM at Idle RPM when there is no user input.

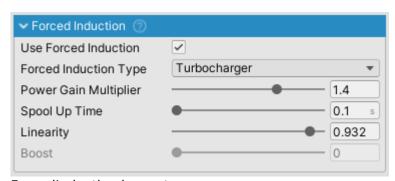
Starter

Starter spins up the engine to try and reach the RPM at which the power generated by the engine is enough for it to spin by itself. If too low Starter Torque is used or Starter RPM Limit is lower than Stall RPM of the engine, the engine will fail to start.

Rev Limiter

Cuts throttle to the engine when RPM reaches Rev Limiter RPM for a duration of Rev Limiter Cutoff Duration.

Forced Induction



ForcedInduction inspector.

• ForcedInduction is a part of EngineComponent. It can be used for both turbocharging and supercharging the vehicle.

- Power Gain Multiplier adds power on top of the existing Max Power so the vehicle with 100kW and Power Gain Multiplier of 1.5 will actually produce 150kW.
- Boost value affects sound components TurboWhistleComponent and TurboFlutterComponent. If forced induction is to be used just for the sound effects Power Gain Multiplier should be set to 1.

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Power Modifiers

Power modifiers can be used through scripting to modify the power of the engine. These are functions that return a float which denotes an engine power coefficient. Example:

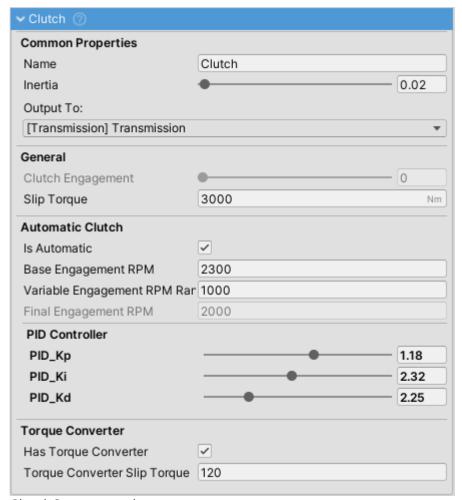
```
public float AddBoost()
{
    if(boostIsActive)
    {
       return 1.5f; // Increases power for 50%.
    }
}
...
myVehicleController.powertrain.engine.powerModifiers.Add(AddBoost);
```

This is a fictional example. A concrete example can be found inside TCS module which uses this mechanic to limit power when there is wheel spin.

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Clutch

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ClutchComponent inspector.

ClutchComponent is a mandatory Powertrain component. It is always second in the Components list.

• ClutchComponent can be bypassed by setting the output of EngineComponent directly to the desired PowertrainComponent but this is not recommended as it will cause stalling in most cases.

Manual Control

- Untick Is Automatic to use manual clutch.
- Clutch can be controlled through Clutch axis check Input section for more info on setting up axes.

PID Controller

PID controller is used to control Clutch Engagement when Is Automatic is true.

- More about PID controllers here.
- In general default clutch settings should be adequate for most setups.
- PID Coefficient can be adjusted to slow down or speed up clutch engagement.

Slip Torque

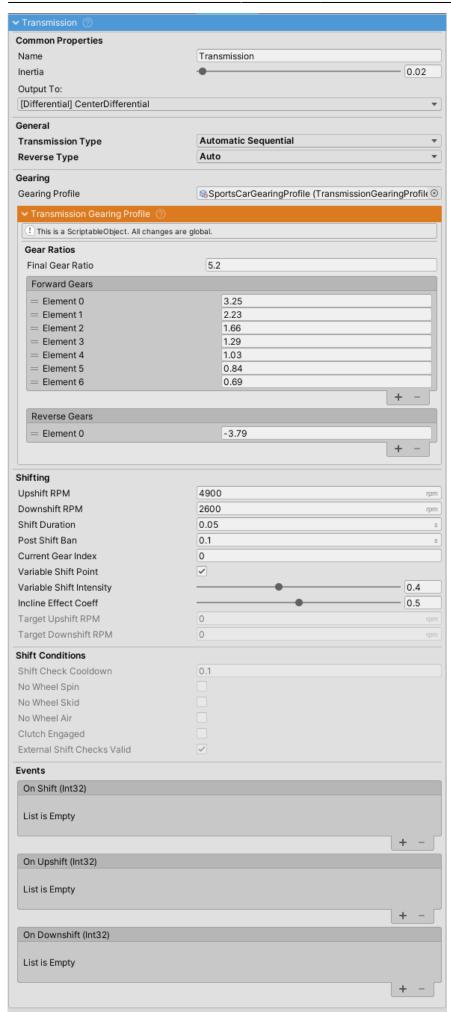
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- When Has Torque Converter is false Slip Torque is used. Otherwise, clutch will use Torque Converter Slip Torque.\\]
- Slip torque for a normal clutch should be a bit higher than the maximum engine torque. Usually a few hundred to a few thousand Nm.
- Too high Slip Torque will result in grabby clutch.
- Using too high Slip Torque values can result in torque spikes when clutch is suddenly released which can impact solver stability in extreme cases.
- Values near zero will result in engine spinning up as if the clutch is not engaged due to clutch slip.

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Transmission

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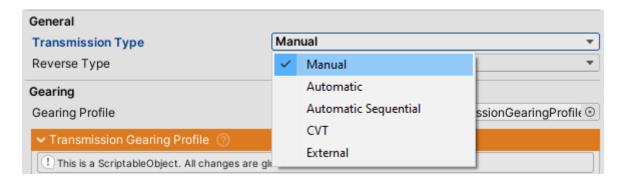
TransmissionComponent inspector.

- TransmissionComponent is a mandatory Powertrain component. It is always third in the Powertrain. Components list.
- NWH Vehicle Physics uses gear ratios just like the real transmission does.
- If gears are not set up properly the vehicle will not move.
- There are a few included TransmissionGearingProfiles which can be used as an example.

Gearing

- Gearing is assigned through TransmissionGearingProfile ScriptableObject.
- Gear ratios can be adjusted during run-time.
- For more info check *TransmissionGearingProfile* page.

Transmission Types



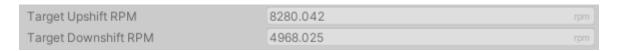
Manual

 Changing gears can only be done through user input. Check Input Setup for more info on input bindings.

Automatic

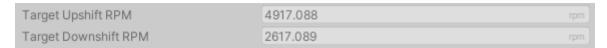
- Vehicle shifts gears based on the gear ratios and Upshift RPM, Downshift RPM, Variable Shift Intensity and Incline Effect Coeff variables. Gear skipping is enabled (e.g. it is possible that the vehicle will shift from 1st to 3rd if conditions are right).
- You can check the current Target Upshift RPM and Target Downshift RPM under the Shifting section of the TransmissionComponent inspector. These values vary depending on the variables mentioned above.

Vehicle under full throttle:



Same vehicle with 0 throttle:

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Automatic Squential

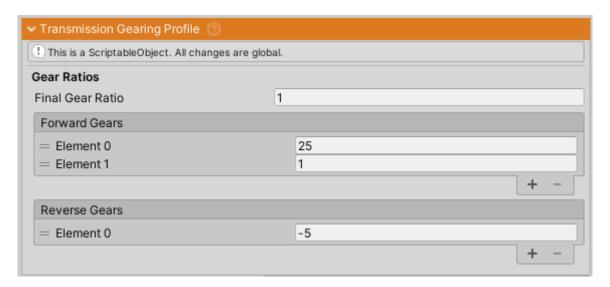
Same as Automatic but without gear skipping.

CVT

- CVT (and eCVT) transmissions have variable gearing ratio dependent on load.
- Gear ratio will be interpolated between first and second element in *Forward Gears* list based on input torque

and Cvt Max Input Torque field value.

Example transmission gearing profile for CVT transmission:



External

- Shift delegate is used for changing gears.
- This allows for external shifting logic.
- If the delegate is not assigned this option will result in no gear shifts.

Timing

To make shifting more realistic two timers have been added:

- Shift Duration time Transmission takes to change from one gear to another. During this time EngineComponent's throttle is cut off. Works for all transmission types that shift gears.
- Post Shift Ban timer. This field determines minimum time between two shifts. Used to prevent transmission for shifting too often. Only affects automatic transmission types.

Shift Conditions

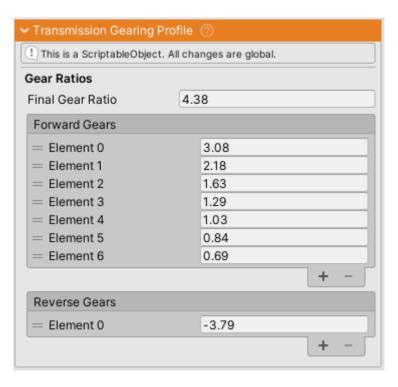
Transmission will only shift in automatic mode if ALL of the following conditions are met and after they have been met for Shift Check Cooldown seconds:

- No Wheel Spin longitudinal slip on all wheels is less than Longitudinal Slip Threshold(Settings)
- No Wheel Skid-lateral slip on all wheels is less than Lateral Slip Threshold(Settings)
- No Wheel Air-none of the wheels are in the air.
- Clutch Engaged-clutch is fully engaged.
- External Shifts Checks Valid-list of ShiftCheckdelegates. All external shift checks must be valid for transmission to be able to shift.

You can check the state of shift conditions in the inspector:



Transmission Gearing Profile



TransmissionGearingProfile is a ScriptableObject that determines the gear ratios for the TransmissionComponent.

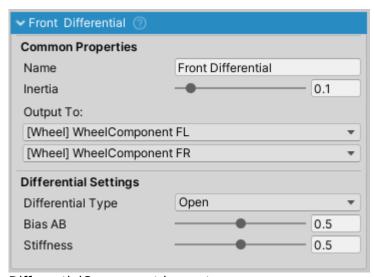
• Forward Gears list contains all forward gear ratios in order from 1st gear up. In the example above:

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- ∘ 1st gear = 3.25 ratio
- ∘ 2nd gear = 2.23 ratio
- ∘ 3rd gear = 1.66 ratio
- o ...
- Reverse Gears list contains all reverse gear ratios. Multiple reverse gears can be added, e.g.
 - ∘ 1st reverse gear = -3.79 ratio
 - ∘ 2nd reverse gear = -2.61 ratio
 - o ...
- Final Gear Ratio is the coefficient by which all the gears are multiplied. This is very similar to differential gear ratio and can be used to tune the gearing without having to adjust the gearing between individual ratios.

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Differentials



DifferentialComponent inspector.

DifferentialComponent is a type of PowertrainComponent that splits input torque between two or more outputs.

There can be multiple DifferentialComponents present on one vehicle and one differential can output to other differentials which is useful for 4WD setup with center differential.

Differential Types

Open

Torque in open differential is equally split between the left output and right output.

Locked

Locked differential keeps both outputs rotating at same angular velocity.

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Viscous LSD

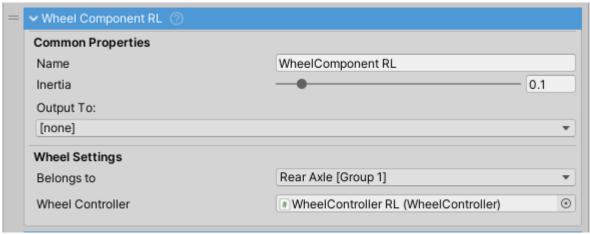
A type of limited slip differential (LSD). Torque is split based on difference in speed between the two outputs.

Clutch LSD

Also known as cone-type or plate limited slip differential (LSD). Torque is split based on speed difference between the two inputs and the input torque.

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WheelComponents



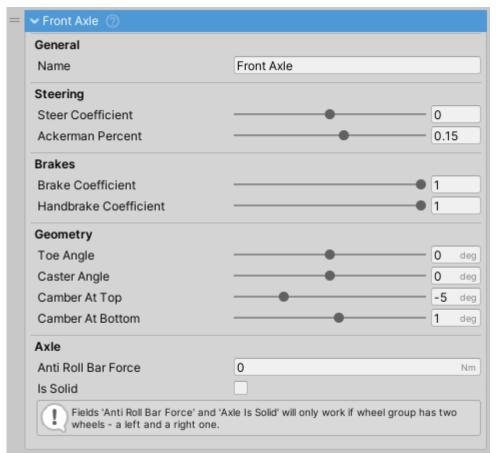
WheelComponent inspector.

- WheelComponent is a PowertrainComponent. It acts as a torque sink and can not output to another PowertrainComponent
- WheelComponent should not be mixed up with WheelController which is a replacement for Unity's WheelCollider.
- Belongs To field determines to which WheelGroup the WheelComponent belongs to. This will determines values such as braking and steering coefficients and geometry.
- Inertia field gets auto-calculated from assigned WheelController's mass and radius.

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Wheel Groups / Axles

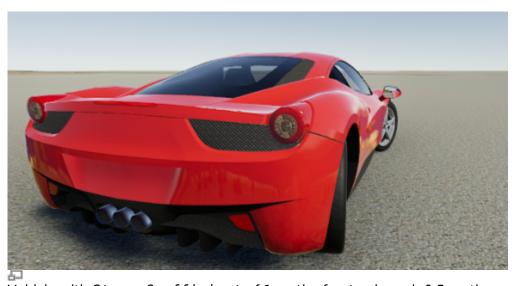
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WheelGroup inspector.

Steering

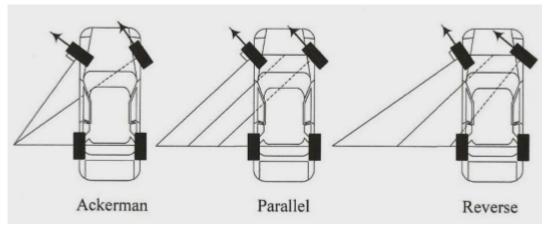
- Steer Coefficient determines how much the wheel will steer depending on input. In general cars would have Steer Coefficient of 1 in front and 0 in the back, except for four wheel steering cars where rear axle usually steers opposite of the front so the value would be negative. Examples:
 - $\circ~1$ 100% steering.
 - 0 no steering.
 - ∘ -0.5 50% steering in the opposite direction.



Vehicle with Steer Coefficient of 1 on the front axle and -0.5 on the rear axle. Steering wheel

turned fully to the right.

• Ackerman Percent - check this Wikipedia link for more info about Ackerman Steering setup. Set to <0 for Reverse or Anti Ackermann or >0 for Ackermann steering. Field represents percent where 0.12 equals 12% of the steer angle. Following image describes the effect:



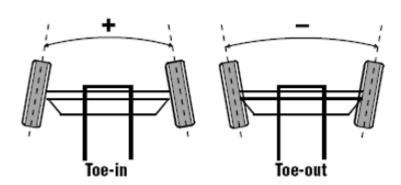
Effect of Ackerman setting on steering.

Brakes

- Brake Coefficient amount of brake torque used as a percentage of Brakes ⇒ Max Torque.
- Handbrake Coefficient amount of brake torque applied when handbrake is activated.

Geometry

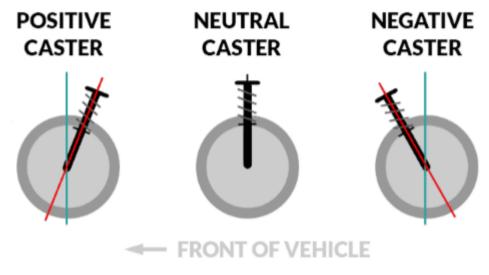
• Toe Angle - toe angle in degrees.



Toe angle. Positive on the left (toe-in) and negative on the right (toe-out).

• Caster Angle - caster angle in degrees.

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ImageCaption

• Camber At Top and Camber At Bottom - camber angle in degrees at the top (fully compressed) and the bottom (fully relaxed) of suspension travel. Current value will be an interpolated result between the two.

Axle

Axle settings are used only if there are exactly two wheels in the WheelGroup.

- Anti Roll Bar Force force that imitates anti-roll bar in a vehicle. Before increasing value it is best to make sure that the center of mass of the vehicle is correct as too high center of mass can result in unstable vehicle. Too high values can introduce jitter to the vehicle as the ARB will try to equalize the suspension travel of both wheels
- Is Solid Imitates solid axle and auto-adjusts camber to make sure that both wheels always stay parallel to each other.

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Sound

Sound

Sound system in NVP2 consists of SoundManager and multiple SoundComponents. Disabling SoundManager also disables all the SoundComponents.

- SoundComponent and SoundManager are VehicleComponents. Check VehicleComponent page for more info.
- Each SoundComponent (type of Vehicle Component) is responsible for one sound, e.g. EngineRunningComponent or EngineStartingComponent.
- AudioSources are not added manually but are instead generated by the script when scene is started. Some SoundComponents can have more than one AudioSource e.g. wheel related SoundComponents have one AudioSource for each wheel.

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• Each field affects only the vehicle to which the script is attached. To modify audio output for all the vehicles VehicleAudioMixer (VehicleAudioMixer.mixer) can be used.

Requirements

• Mixer field must have AudioMixer assigned. By default VehicleAudioMixer will be used.

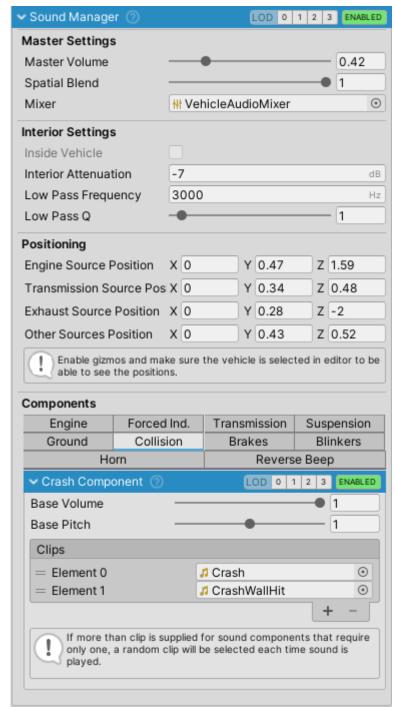
SoundComponent

SoundComponent inherits from VehicleComponent. Check VehicleComponent page for more info.

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SoundManager

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SoundManager inspector.

SoundManager is the main class for handling sound. It contains all the global sound settings and also manages individual SoundComponents.

Also check Sound page.

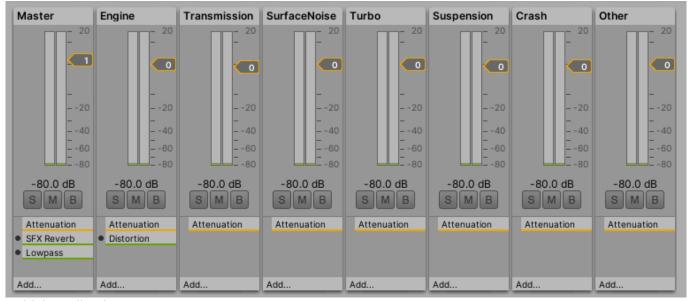
Settings

Master Settings

Master settings affect all the SoundComponents

Equalizer

Each sound component belongs to one of the Audio Mixer groups: Engine, Transmission, SurfaceNoise, Turbo, Suspension, Crash or Other. Here you can add additional effects and modify the sound. One example of this is distortion which is added to the engine sound based on load through the Audio Mixer.



VehicleAudioMixer 2020/04/08 12:36

Available Sound Components

Blinker Component



BlinkerComponent inspector.

- Click-clack of the working blinker.
- Accepts two clips, first is for the blinker turning on and the second is for blinker turning off.

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Brake Hiss

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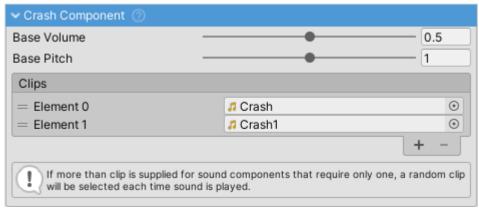


BrakeHissComponent inspector.

• Imitates brake hiss on vehicles with pneumatic brake systems such as trucks and buses.

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Crash

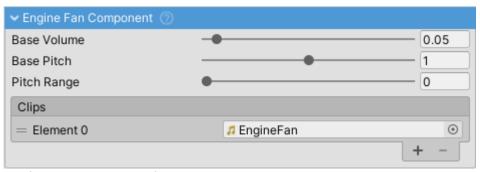


CrashComponent inspector.

- Sound of vehicle crashing.
- Supports multiple audio clips of which one will be chosen at random each time this effect is played.
- Volume is dependent on collision intensity. This can be adjusted through Velocity Magnitude Effect.
- Pitch is random. Randomness can be adjusted through Pitch Randomness field.

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Engine Fan



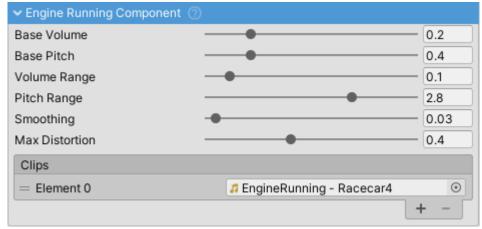
EngineFanComponent inspector.

EngineFanComponent is used to imitate engine fan running, the sound especially prominent in commercial vehicles and off-road vehicles with clutch driven fan.

AudioSource of EngineFanComponent is positioned at Engine Position (Settings tab).

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Engine Running



EngineRunningComponent inspector.

EngineRunningComponent is a SoundComponent responsible for the engine sound. A pitch based approach using a single pre-recorded engine sound clip is used along with filters to achieve relatively realistic sound.

Big upside of this approach is that only a single clip is required which is ideal for small game studios, as opposed to layering approach where usually tens of clips of engine at different loads, positions and RPMs are used to achieve the engine sound effect. Of course, the downside is that realism suffers.

If you need the layering feature please make a feature request through support.

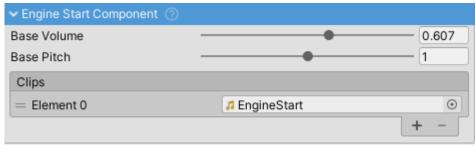
 AudioSource of EngineRunningComponent is positioned at Exhaust Position (Settings tab).

Notes

Distortion affects volume so when high levels of distortion are used it is usually a good idea to reduce volume range proportionately.

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Engine Start



EngineStartComponent inspector.

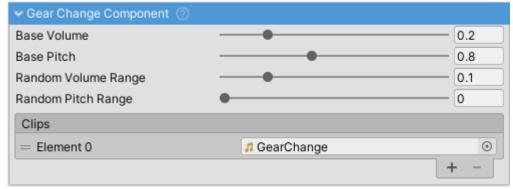
- EngineStartComponent plays when starter is active.
- Starter settings can be adjusted under Powertrain ⇒ Engine tab.
- AudioSource of EngineStartComponent will be positioned at Settings ⇒ Engine

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Position.

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Gear Change



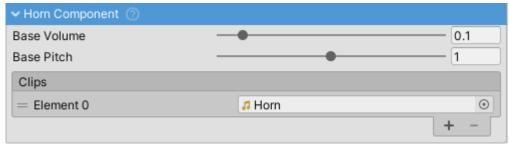
GearChangeComponent inspector.

Sound of changing gears.

- Supports multiple audio clips of which one is chosen at random each time the effect is played.
- AudioSource of GearChangeComponent is positioned at Settings ⇒ Transmission Position.

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Horn

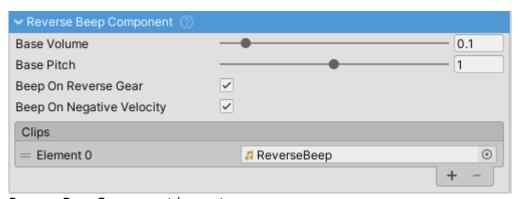


HornComponent inspector.

• Vehicle horn sound.

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Reverse Beep

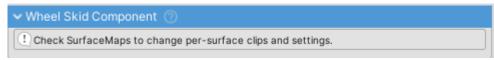


ReverseBeepComponent inspector.

• Beeping sound commercial vehicles make when driving in reverse.

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Skid



SkidComponent inspector.

- Sound produced by tire skidding/slipping over a surface.
- SkidComponent gets clips, volume and pitch settings from active SurfaceMap. TODO

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Surface



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Suspension Bump



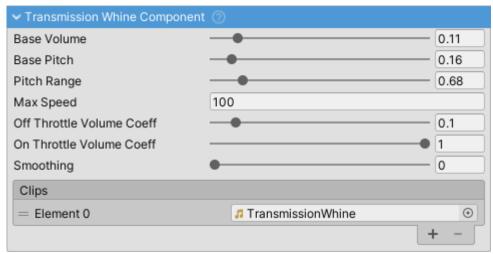
Sound of tire going over obstacle.

Each time the clip is played volume and pitch are changed to reduce repetitiveness. Multiple clips can also be used for the same reason.

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Transmission Whine

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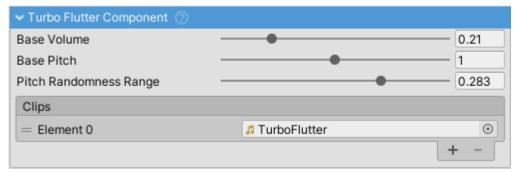
TransmissionWhineComponent inspector.

Sound of vehicle transmission. Most prominent on rally and racing cars with straight cut gears in the gearbox.

 AudioSource of TransmissionWhineComponent is positioned at Settings ⇒ Transmission Position.

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Turbo Flutter



TurboFlutterComponent inspector.

Sound of a wastegate releasing air on turbocharged vehicles.

- Gets triggered after releasing throttle if there is adequate boost build up in ForcedInduction.
- AudioSource of TurboFlutterComponent is positioned at Settings ⇒ Engine Position.

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Turbo Whistle



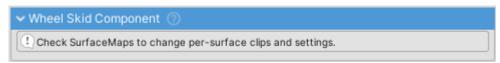
TurboWhistleComponent inspector.

Imitates high-pitched sound of forced induction.

- Can be used for both turbocharger and supercharger sound.
- Sound depends on EngineComponent.ForcedInduction.
- AudioSource of TurboWhistleComponent is positioned at Settings ⇒ Engine Position.

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Wheel Skid

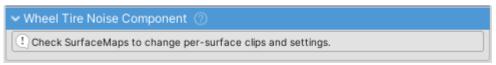


WheelSkidComponentInspector

- Sound produced by slipping/skidding over a surface.
- WheelSkidComponent gets clips, volume and pitch settings from active SurfaceMap. TODO
- An AudioSource gets generated for each WheelComponent.

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Wheel Tire Noise



WheelTireNoiseComponent

- Sound produced by tire rolling over a surface.
- WheelTireNoiseComponent gets clips, volume and pitch settings from active SurfaceMap.
 TODO
- An AudioSource gets generated for each WheelComponent.

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Effects



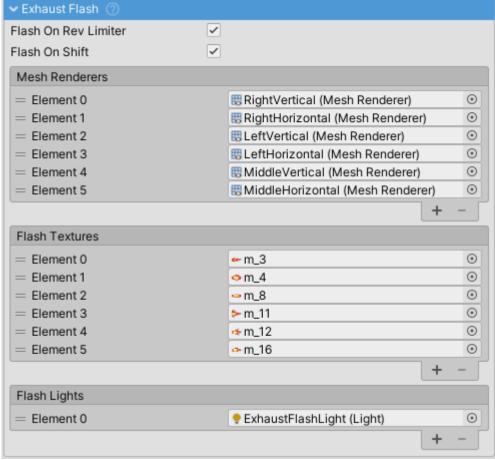
EffectsManager menu.

Effect system makes use of VehicleComponents and therefore each Effect can be turned on or off, be enabled or disable or have LOD set.

 All Effects with manager in the name manage multiple instances of the effect, usually one for each wheel - e.g. skidmarks or surface particles.

Exhaust Flash

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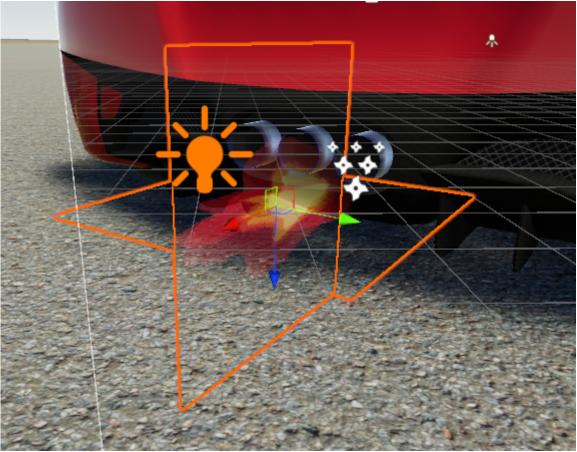
ExhaustFlash inspector.

ExhaustFlash Effect is used to imitate flames shooting out of exhaust. The method to achieve this is identical to the one used for most muzzle flash in FPS games; that is a set of images gets enabled and disabled at rapid rate with different sprite and scale each time. This is a performant way to achieve the effect while avoiding particle effects.

Setup

Adding Quads

- Create and place two Quads perpendicular to each other. Move them to the location of the exhaust.
- Remove any colliders from Quads.
- Create a new material that uses Particles/Standard Unlit (Unity 2019) or equivalent shader with Transparent rendering and Multiply color mode. The included example on *Sports Car* prefab can be copied. Assigning one of the included flame textures will show if the rotation of the Quad is correct. Rotate Quad if needed.



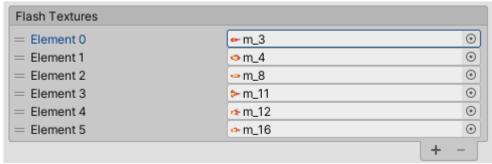
Two perpendicular quads with flame sprites.

 Assign the MeshRenderers from the newly created Quads to the ExhaustFlash ⇒ Mesh Renderers list.

Assigning Textures

To make flames look more convincing a random texture is assigned to each Quad on each flash. A number of default textures is included.

Assign textures to Flash Textures list.



Flash Textures list.

Adding Point Lights

If the material used for exhaust flash is not emisive adittional PointLight(s) can be added to light the surrounding area on flash.

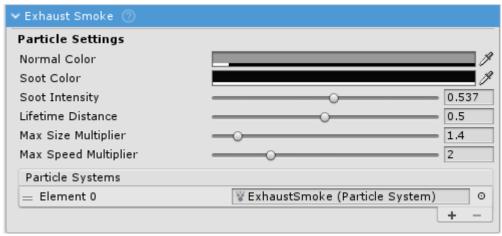
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- Set up a PointLight and place it at the exhaust location.
- After configuring, disable the light.
- Add the light to the Flash Lights list.



Flash Lights list. 2020/04/08 12:36

Exhaust Smoke



ExhaustSmoke inspector.

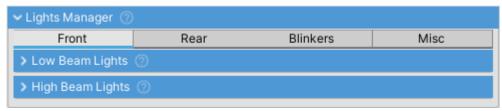
ExhaustSmoke controls exhaust ParticleSystem color, size and emission speed. It interpolates between NormalColor and SootColor based on engine state.

Setup

- Position ParticleSystems at vehicle exhaust position. Prefab of pre-configured ParticleSystem comes with the asset (*Effects > Particles > Prefabs*).
- Assign the ParticleSystems to the Particle Systems list inside ExhaustSmoke inspector.

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Lights Manager

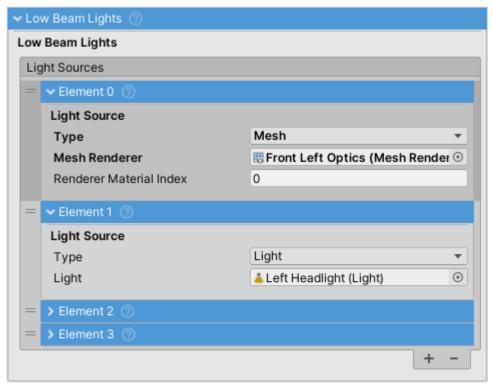


LightsManager inspector.

LightsManager is tasked with turning VehicleLights on or off depending on user input.

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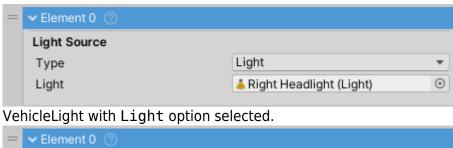
Vehicle Light



VehicleLight inspector.

VehicleLight is a collection of LightSources. When the light is turned on all LightSources are turned on and vice versa.

Light Source





VehicleLight with Mesh option selected.

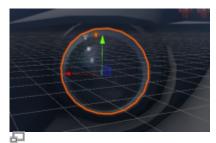
One vehicle light source. Can be a Light or emissive Mesh.

- If Light is selected as Type any Unity Light can be assigned. It will be turned on and off according to user input.
- If Mesh is selected as Type any Mesh with Standard shader can be used. It's Emission field will be toggled to imitate a working light. Since this does not emit enough light to be a headlight usually another light source is used in tandem, this one with SpotLight assigned.

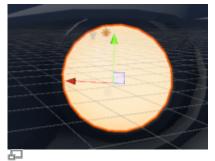
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For an emissive mesh light to work it needs to be a separate object. If the model does not come with lights and blinkers as separate objects these will need to be separated in 3D modelling software such as Blender (free, open source).

When using Mesh light source make sure to tick the Emission checkbox on the material. This lets Unity know that this variant of the material is in use and should be included in the build.



Mesh with Emission turned on.

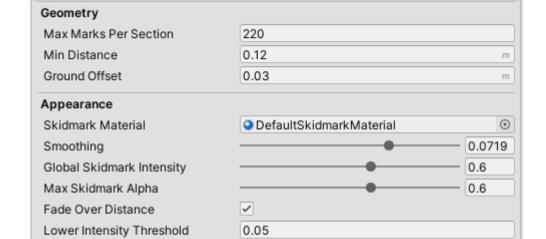


Mesh with Emission turned off.

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Skidmark Manager

🕶 Skidmark Manager 🕜



To change appearance of skidmarks on different surfaces, check GroundDetection

SkidmarkManager inspector.

preset.

Persistent Skidmarks
Persistent Skidmarks

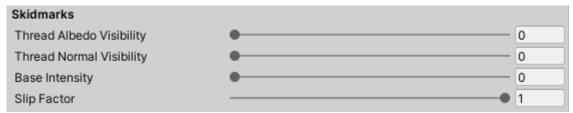
Persistent Skidmark Destroy Distar 100

Skidmarks are generated when wheel skids / slips over a surface.

- Skidmarks are achieved by procedurally generating a mesh. One mark consists of two triangles and the number of triangles per one section can be calculated as Max Marks Per Section *
 2.
- Min Distance is the distance a wheel needs to travel before a new mark is created.
- Default behavior is to delete the oldest triangles as soon as number of marks reaches Max Marks Per Section similar to the old snake game. To make this transition smooth Fade Over Distance can be enabled or Peristent Skidmarks can be used. Check the section below for more info.
- If skidmarks are not visible or clip into the terain GrounOffset needs to be increased.
- To define when the wheel is slipping Longitudinal Slip Threshold and Lateral Slip Threshold from vehicle settings tab are used.

Surface-based Skidmarks

• Skidmarks use settings of currently active SurfacePreset to get the settings for the current surface type.



Skidmark section of AsphaltTireFrictionPreset.

Also check GroundDetection page for more info.

Persistent Skidmarks



Persistent skidmarks enabled.

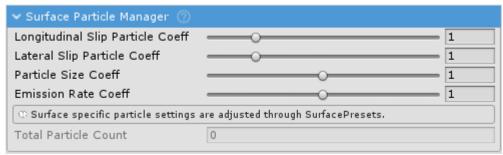
- Persistent skidmarks get stored into sections of Max Marks Per Section size.
- Sections do not get destroyed as longs as the the player is under Peristent Skidmark Destroy Distance.
- Downside to this approach is that over time this will cause the number of triangles in the view-

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port to increase.

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Surface Particle Manager



SurfaceParticleManager inspector.

SurfaceParticleManager creates and manages particles based on current SurfacePreset settings.

- Particles are emitted on per-wheel basis. Total surface particle count is a sum of particle counts from all the wheels' ParticleSystems.
- Lateral Slip Threshold and Longitudinal Slip Threshold under Settings tab determine the lowest wheel slip threshold needed for wheel to be considered to be slipping. This affects particle effects.

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Ground Detection



GroundDetection inspector.

GroundDetection is one of the most important aspects of NWH Vehicle Physics. It determines which WheelFrictionPreset will be used for calculating friction, which effects will be active and which sounds will play. In short, it determines which wheel is on which surface.

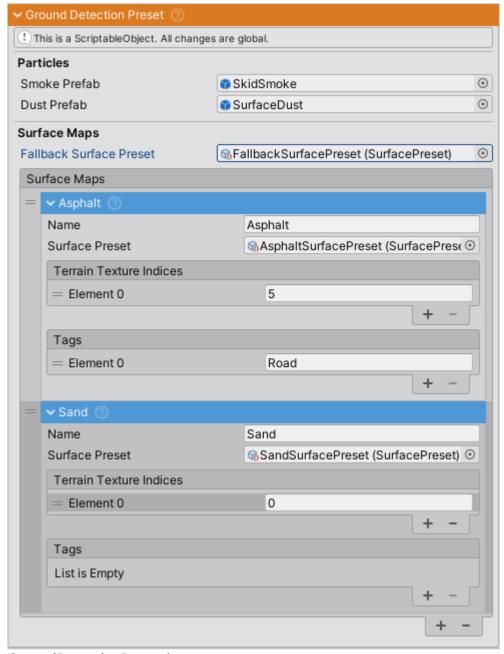
Ground detection works based on Terrain texture indices and object tags so it is very important how many textures there are assigned to the Terrain and in which order.

To prevent having to change the settings across all the vehicles GroundDetectionPreset ScriptableObject was introduced in NWH Vehicle Physics 2.

- NWH Vehicle Physics 2 supports ground detection with multiple Terrains in one scene.
- GroundDetection runs checks for a maximum of one wheel at a time. This is to improve on performance but it can introduce a small delay from the time the surface has been changed to the time GroundDetection registers it.

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Ground Detection Preset

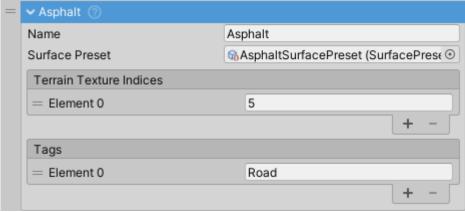


GroundDetectionPreset inspector.

GroundDetectionPreset is a ScriptableObject that determines which SurfacePreset will be used on which terrain texture and object. This is done through SurfaceMaps.

Surface Map

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SurfaceMap inspector.

SurfaceMap tells GroundDetection which SurfacePreset to use for which terrain texture and/or object tag.

GroundDetection runs a check for each WheelComponent to determine which surface that WheelComponent is on. This is done by checking all the assigned SurfaceMaps in order and if any SurfaceMap has a matching terrain texture index in Terrain Texture Indices list, or the object the wheel is on has the tag from Tags list, Surface Preset will be assigned to that WheelComponent.



Terrain texture indices. Note that counting starts from 0.

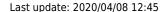
Adding a New Surface Map

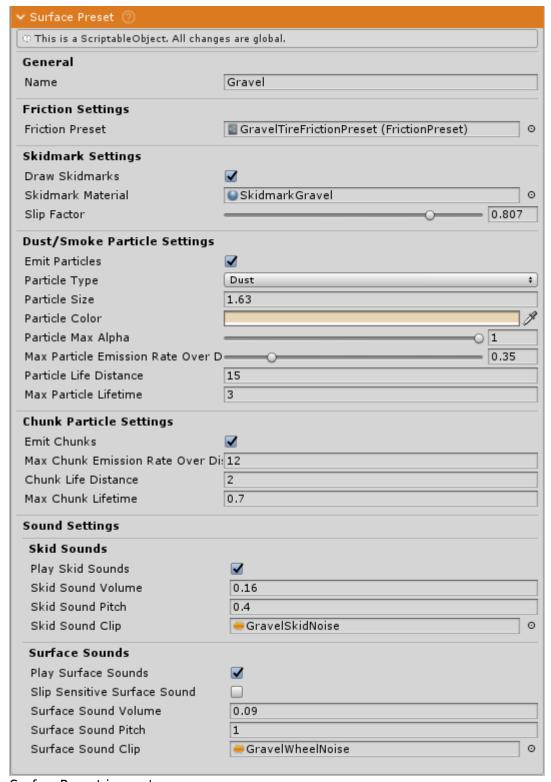
Adding a gravel SurfaceMap will be used as an example.

- Add a new SurfaceMap by clicking on + button on the bottom of the list.
- Check on which texture positions are the gravel textures. In the image above that would be 5 and 7. Add those numbers to the Terrain Texture Indices list.
- If there are objects that should represent gravel in the scene, assign a tag (e.g. GravelRoad) to those objects and add it to Tags list.

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Surface Preset





SurfacePreset inspector.

SurfacePreset tells the VehicleController which settings to use for which surface.

This determines tire friction, the look of effects such as skidmarks and particle effects. It also changes sounds to match the surface.

Once set up, SurfacePreset can be used for different terrains, scenes or even across games since SurfacePresets do not carry any scene-specific fields.

Setup

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Right click on empty space in Project window and select Create ⇒ NWH Vehicle Physics
 ⇒ Surface Preset. This will create a new SurfacePreset ScriptableObject in the current directory.

• Assign a name to it for easier debugging later.

Friction

• Assign a Friction Preset. This is a ScriptableObject with settings for tire friction so that WheelController can adjust its behavior according to the surface type. With asset come multiple Friction Presets so just pick one of those for now.

Skidmarks

- Adjust skidmark settings according to the surface type. More about skidmark settings on Skidmarks page.
- Skidmark Material will be used on generated skidmarks while the wheel is on this surface type.
- Slip Factor determines if the skidmarks are slip dependent. On soft surfaces such as sand this value should be 0 as the skidmarks/thread-marks should always be visible, no matter the slip. On hard surfaces such as asphalt skidmarks are only visible when there is wheel slip.

Dust/Smoke Particles

- ParticleType Smoke should be used for hard surfaces (asphalt, concrete), Dust for dusty surfaces (gravel, sand). The difference between the two is in the way the emission rates are calculated. If Smoke is selected this will be related to the wheel slip while it will depend on vehicle speed for Dust.
- Particle Life Distance is used to calculate ParticleSystem's Start Lifetime. The faster the vehicle is going the shorter the lifetime of the particles will be.
- Max Particle Emission Rate Over Distance determines amount of particles emitted over distance of one meter.
- Max Particle Lifetime determines the absolute maximum time a particle can be alive. When still this value determines how long the particle lives. When moving Particle Life Distance is used instead.

Chunk Particles

Chunk particles represent pieces of dirt, debris, sand or pebbles thrown behind the tire when there is wheel spin.

Depending on speed the lifetime of a a particle is calculated from Max Chunk Lifetime (when near still) or Chunk Life Distance (when moving).

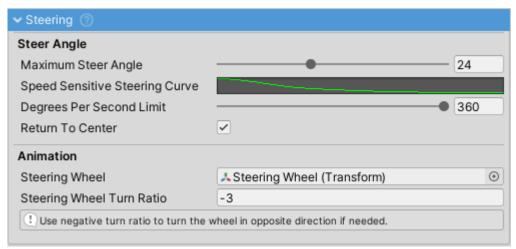
Sounds

• SkidSound and SurfaceSound settings are used to set WheelSkidComponent and WheelTireNoiseComponent SoundComponents values for current surface.

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Steering



Steering inspector.

Controls vehicle's steering. Speed sensitive.

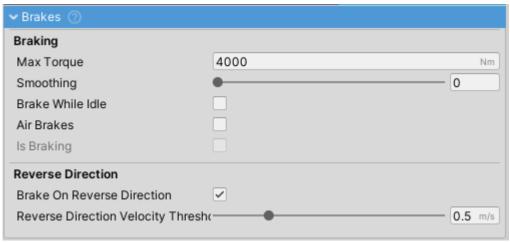
• If the vehicle is not steering also check WheelGroup settings. It is most likely that all WheelGroups have SteerCoefficient set to 0 which means no axles will steer.

Related:

- Input Setup
- · WheelGroup Steering

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Brakes



Brakes inspector.

Controls brakes.

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• Avoid using too high Max Torque as it might introduce jitter. Usually the best value is the one just above the point where the wheels lock up under heavy braking.

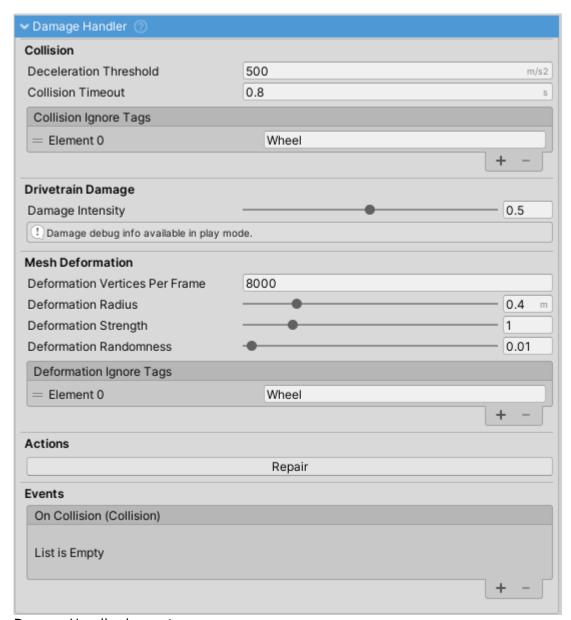
• Smoothing can be used to make braking more progressive when using binary input.

Related:

- Input Setup
- BrakeHissComponent (SoundComponent)
- WheelGroup Brakes

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Damage



DamageHandler inspector.

DamageHandler deforms the meshes on the vehicle (skinned meshes are not supported due to performance reasons).

• Damage depends on deceleration at the moment of impact meaning that the faster the vehicle

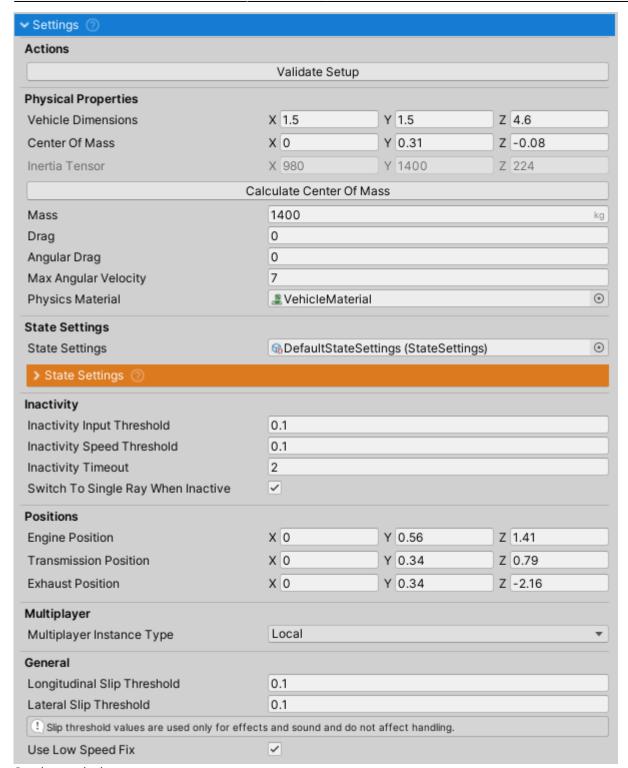
goes and the faster it stops on collision the more damage vehicle will take.

- As the vehicle gets damaged more and more engine power will reduce, some randomness will be added to the engine sound and if the crash happened near the wheel (all the wheel meshes need to be tagged as "Wheel") wheel will start steering in a random direction degrading the handling of the vehicle. There is also a wheel wobble effect added.
- Mesh deformation that is the product of crashing is queue based. This means that only limited number of meshes will be deformed per frame. This value can be adjusted by changing the Deformation Vertices Per Frame field. Higher value will result in deformation being completed in less frames while lower value will stretch the deformation over the higher number of frames – and will also cause less frame dropping. It is best to adjust this value to as high as it is possible without causing frame drops. This will depend on the device the final game will run
- Deformation Radius, Deformation Strength and Deformation Randomness all affect how the mesh will be deformed how far the vertex can be moved from the original position, how much it will be moved for the given deceleration and how random the final result will be. Setting randomness to 0 will cause final mesh to be smooth and setting randomness to a high value will result in noisy looking mesh.
- Deceleration Threshold is the minimum deceleration value needed for collision to be registered by DamageHandler.

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Settings

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Settings window.

Settings can be accessed through Settings tab in the VehicleController inspector.

Actions

 Validate Setup - when clicked Validate() function gets called on VehicleController and all of its VehicleComponents. If there are any issues with the vehicle setup a message will pop up in the console.

- 1 [21:16:27] Sports Car: Validating VehicleController setup. If no other messages show up after this one, vehicle is good to go.
- [1] [21:16:27] Audio mixer of 'SoundManager' is not assigned.

Example Validate Setup output with missing audio mixer.

Physical Properties

Physical properties section mostly relates to the vehicle Rigidbody. Rigidbody properties are set by VehicleController.

- Vehicle Dimensions dimensions of the vehicle in meters. Width x Height x Length. Has impact on aerodynamic drag calculation if Aerodynamics module is active.
- Center Of Mass is a point relative to the vehicle's coordinate system at which the center of mass of the Rigidbody will be. There is a gizmo of a weight at the center of mass position. Longitudinal positioning of center of mass heavily affects vehicle handling. Avoid using high centers of mass.
- Calculate Center Of Mass will auto-center center of mass to be exactly between the wheels. This is a good starting point but does not guarantee the best weight distribution and should be manually tweaked for best results.

Positions

- Positions determine the location of different vehicle parts. These positions are used for positioning sound sources, effects, etc.
- Coordinates are in local space.

Multiplayer

• Multiplayer Instance Type determines if the current vehicle instance is Local (i.e. controlled by a local player) or Remote (i.e. controlled by another player over network).

General

- Longitudinal Slip Threshold and Lateral Slip Threshold determine the amount of slip a wheel can have before it is considered to be slipping/skidding. Most sounds and effects will not trigger while the slip value is below the threshold value.
- Use Low Speed Fix if true drag will be added to Rigidbody when vehicle velocity is ~0 to prevent vehicle from creeping on slopes due to the nature of slip calculation.

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Modules

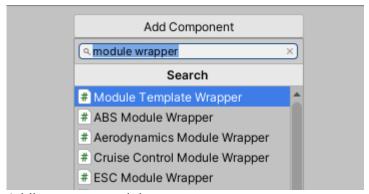
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Modules

NWH Vehicle Physics 2 is a collection of VehicleComponents. All aspects of it are a component - sound components, effect components, etc. - they all inherit from VehicleComponent. The only way that a module is different from an inbuilt component is that it can be added or removed as needed. Modules carry over state system from the VehicleComponent which means that each module can be turned on or off, enabled or disabled or have LOD set.

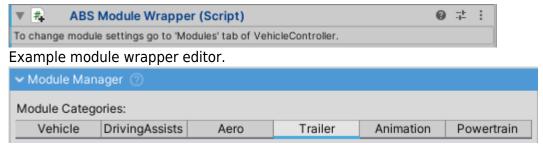
Usage

- To add a module click on *Add Component* button at the bottom of the Inspector. Modules must be added to an object that already contains VehicleController.
- Each module is wrapped in a MonoBehaviour wrapper ModuleWrapper. This is a way to work around lack of multiple inheritance in C#. So, to add a module just add its wrapper to the vehicle:



Adding a new module.

 Modules get drawn inside ModuleManager drawer. Go to Modules tab of VehicleController to see all of the available modules. This is to avoid cluttering the inspector with a multitude of different editors. Modules can also be filtered by category to make navigation easier.



Module category selector inside ModuleManager.

Module Wrapper

Each module is wrapped in a MonoBehaviour wrapper called ModuleWrapper. This is a way to get around lack of multiple inhertance in C#.

VehicleModule inherits from VehicleComponent, but it also needs to be serialized and for that it needs to be a MonoBehaviour. The new attribute [SerializeReference] has been present in Unity since 2019.3 and original implementation used that but the amount of bugs and lack of backwards-compatibility with older versions of Unity resulted in the wrappers being used instead.

Scripting

Adding a Module

To add a module use:

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```
myVehicleController.moduleManager.AddModule<MyModuleWrapperType,
MyModuleType>();
```

Example (adding an ABSModule):

```
ABSModule absModule = myVehicleController.moduleManager.AddModule<ABSModuleWrapper, ABSModule>();
```

Getting a Module

To get a module use:

```
myVehicleController.moduleManager.GetModule<ModuleWrapperType,
ModuleType>();
```

Example (getting ABSModule):

```
ABSModule absModule = myVehicleController.moduleManager.GetModule<ABSModuleWrapper, ABSModule>();
```

Removing a Module

To remove a module use:

```
myVehicleController.moduleManager.RemoveModule<ModuleWrapperType>();
```

```
Example (removing ABSModule): <code>
myVehicleController.moduleManager.RemoveModule<ABSModule>();
```

Class Reference

For class reference click here.

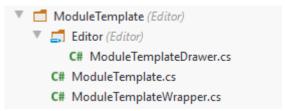
Creating a New Module

- In the Scripts ⇒ Vehicle ⇒ Modules ⇒ ModuleTemplate folder there is an empty example module. Copy ModuleTemplate to create a starting point for a new module.
- Modules can be placed anywhere in the project and do not have to be in the same namespace

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as included modules.

• Directory structure of a module should be as following:



Example module directory structure.

- Each module must have at least three files:
 - ModuleDrawer (a type of CustomPropertyDrawer) placed in Editor folder.
 - Module file(s).
 - ModuleWrapper
- Each module must have a property drawer. All module drawers inherit from ModuleDrawer which uses NUI editor GUI framework (developed by NWH coding) to render custom property drawers and editors through simplified syntax. This also makes the created module compatible with ModuleManager drawer.

Scripting Reference

Check out this link for NWH Vehicle Physics scripting reference. TODO

Module Manager



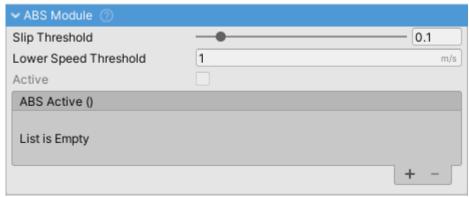
ModuleManager inspector.

ModuleManager is a VehicleComponent that manages VehicleModules.

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Included Modules

ABS



ABSModule inspector.

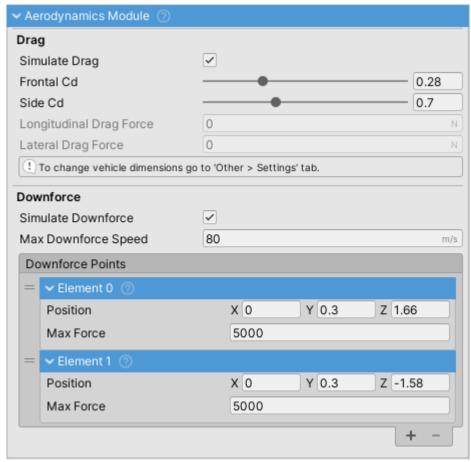
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Anti-lock Braking System module.

Prevents wheels from locking up by reducing brake torque when slip reaches too high value. Slip value above which ABS is activated can be adjusted through Slip Threshold field.

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Aerodynamics



AerodynamicsModule inspector.

Calculates and applies aerodynamic drag and downforce.

Drag

- Drag depends on vehicle dimensions. Those can be adjusted under vehicle's *Settings* tab.
- Drag is calculated bot in longitudinal and lateral directions. Intensity of drag can be adjusted through Frontal Cd and Side Cd (Cd = coefficient of drag) fields. Data for different vehicles is available here.

Downforce

Downforce is calculated in a simplified fashion by applying downforce to a number of points over the vehicle. In the simplest form a single downforce point at the center of the vehicle can be used, or one point at the front and one point at the end of the vehicle.

Vertical position of Downforce Points should be below the WheelController position, or

even as low as the floor of the vehicle. This is because all the force is applied in a single point which, if applied too high, can cause the vehicle to snap oversteer when changing direction.

- Downforce is not dependent on vehicle shape or dimensions. It is calculated through Downforce Points and Max Downforce Speed.
- Downforce increases exponentially from 0 to Max Downforce Speed at which it reaches Max Force value.
- Enable Gizmos to be able to see downforce points (red sphere).

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Cruise Control

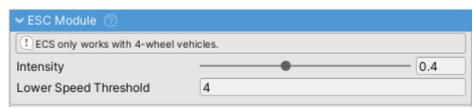


CruiseControl module.

- Cruise Control implemented through a PID controller.
- Target Speed value sets the speed that cruise control will try to achieve. Ignored in reverse.
- Can apply throttle and braking.

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ESC



ESC module inspector.

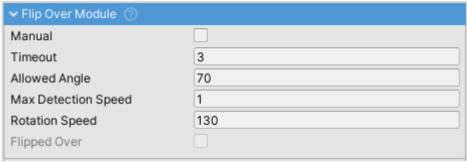
Electronic Stability Control (ESC) module.

Applies braking on individual wheels to try and stabilize the vehicle when the vehicle velocity and vehicle direction do not match.

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Flip Over

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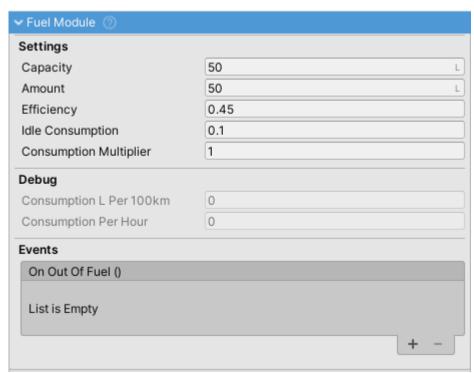
FlipOver module.

If the vehicle gets flipped over FlipOverModule will flip it to be right side up again.

• If Manual is set user will have to press a button to flip the vehicle over.

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Fuel



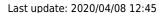
FuelModule inspector.

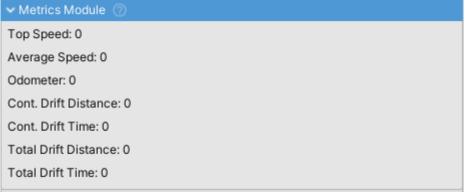
Module for simulating the fuel system in a vehicle. Fuel consumption gets automatically generated from engine efficiency (average ICE efficiency is used) and fuel energy content. Consumption can be adjusted through Consumption Multiplier.

- Prevents engine from running when out of fuel.
- Amount indicates the amount of fuel currently in the tank while Capacity indicates maximum tank capacity.

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Metrics



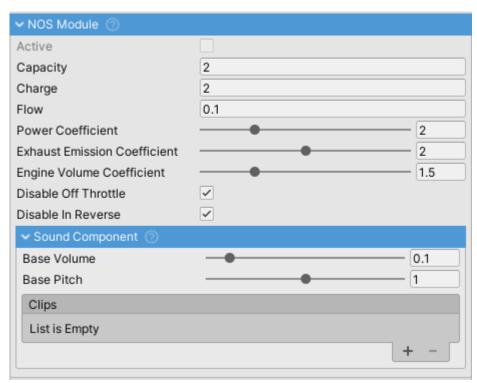


MetricsModule inspector.

MetricsModule is used to record data about vehicle behavior. That data can then be used for display purposes, achievements or e.g. a boost system using NOS.

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NOS



NOSModule inspector.

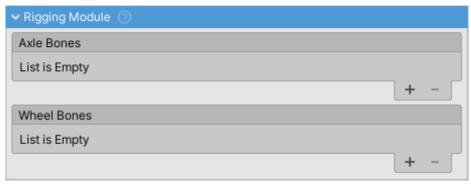
NOS (Nitrous Oxide System) module.

- Adds power to the engine.
- Affects engine sound by increasing volume.
- Has it's own SoundComponent which imitates hiss caused by releasing highly pressurised NOS from the bottle.
- If ExhaustFlash effect is enabled it will be active while NOS is active.

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Rigging

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RiggingModule inspector.

Module used to animate rigged models by moving the axle/wheel bones.

- Axle Bones list of handles controlling the axle bones. Each item is a single axle handle.
- Wheel Bones list of handles controlling the wheel bones. Each item is a single wheel bone handle.

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Speed Limiter



SpeedLimiter module inspector.

Module that limits vehicle speed to the set speed limit.

Only limits throttle application, does not apply brakes. For that use CruiseControlModule.

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TCS



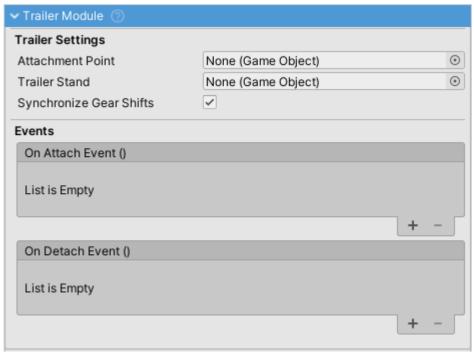
TCSModule inspector.

Traction Control System (TCS) module. Reduces engine throttle when excessive slip is present.

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Trailer



TrailerModule inspector.

TrailerModule works in tandem with TrailerHitchModule. VehicleController that has TrailerModule is able attach to a VehicleController that has TrailerHitchModule.

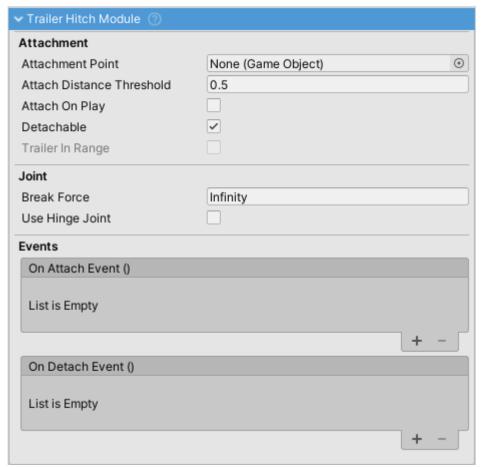
- One vehicle can have both TrailerHitchModule and TrailerModule.
- Attachment Point is the point at which the trailer will be attached to the towing vehicle.
- Trailer Stand is the object which will be enabled if the trailer is detached and vice versa. It prevents the trailer from tipping forward on trailers with only the back axle.
- If Synchronize Gear Shifts is enabled the trailer object will be kept in the same gear. This allows for powered trailer or vehicles that are constructed out of two Rigidbodies.

Also check Trailer Hitch module.

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Trailer Hitch

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TrailerHitch module.

VehicleController with TrailerHitchModule can attach a VehicleController with TrailerModule as a trailer.

- Both TrailerHitchModule and TrailerModule can be present on one vehicle at the same time.
- AttachmentPoint is the point at which the trailer will be attached. The trailer will be moved so that both trailer and hitch AttachmentPoints are at the same position. This is where the physics joint gets created.

Also check Trailer module.

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