

OptiSPICE 5.3.1 Release Notes

IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ ME

Installation Notes:

- The OptiSPICE 5.3.1 installer will perform a full installation of OptiSPICE. It is recommended to uninstall all previous versions of OptiSPICE (5.3.0 and earlier) prior to starting the installation of OptiSPICE 5.3.1.
NOTE: If a previous version of OptiSPICE 5 is detected by the installer, a message will appear advising you to un-install the older version
- If the length of the installation directory path is too long, it can cause the installation to fail. To avoid this, it is recommended that you not exceed the length of the default installation path.
- OptiSPICE 5.3.1 provides users with the option to install OptiSPICE samples during (or any time after) installation. By default the OptiSPICE 5.3.1 samples folder will be installed in *C:\Users\username\Documents\OptiSPICE 5.3.1 Samples*.
NOTE: It is not recommended to install the OptiSPICE 5.3.1 samples in a location that contains OptiSPICE designs or samples from previous releases.

Minimum hardware and software requirements

OptiSPICE requires the following minimum/recommended system configuration:

- Minimum PC configuration: PC with Pentium 4 processor or equivalent with 2G MB RAM.
- Recommended PC configuration: PC with a clock speed > 2 GHz with 2-4 cores (e.g. Intel i7 3rd/4th Gen, AMD Athlon/Athlon II) and 8MB RAM.
- Operating Systems: Microsoft Windows 7/8.1/10 (**64-bit only!**)
- 400 MB free hard disk space
- 1024 x 768 graphic resolution, minimum 65536 colors
- Internet Explorer 5.5 or higher (to enable VBScript functionality)

Application execution

- When running OptiSPICE under a Restricted User Profile, place all sample files in the Restricted User's folder, or wherever the user has Read/Write access. It may also be necessary to remove the Read-only flag from the file after the copy is made. This has to do with file permissions - OptiSPICE needs to open the file in a read/write mode. Please contact your network administrator if you need assistance with this.
NOTE: By default the OptiSPICE 5.3.1 samples folder will be installed in the following location: *C:\Users\username\Documents\OptiSPICE 5.3 Samples*. This location should provide you with read and write access.
- **IMPORTANT:** By default the “models” and “libraries” folders will be installed under *Program Files/Optiwave Software/OptiSPICE 5*. You may not have read/write access to these folders. If you need to save any new devices or models (to be accessed from other designs) it is highly recommended to create new folders for your devices and models in a location that provides you with read/write access (for example under *C:\Users\username\Documents*). See the tutorial “Creating Sub-circuits” (in *OptiSPICE Tutorials - Advanced* guide) for instructions on how to setup your own device and model libraries. For further assistance you can also contact Optiwave technical support at support@optiwave.com.
- Some computers provide a power saving feature, Hibernation. If available, this feature is controlled by opening Power Options in Control Panel. Clicking the Hibernate tab, and then selecting the Enable hibernate turns it on. After the computer goes into hibernation, it won't find the Optiwave protection key, and the simulation will stop with a message that the protection key can't be found. Disable the hibernation feature of the computer in order to avoid this problem.

OptiSPICE 5.3.1 New Features

The following new features have been included with OptiSPICE 5.3.1

- Channel wavelengths displayed in the waveform viewer are now sorted in ascending order.
- VC-Laser now allows the frequency sweeps in addition to wavelength sweeps. Frequency sweeps can be enabled by changing the VC-Laser unit parameter to HZ or THZ and connecting a voltage source to the laser through the carrier frequency node
- A new Launch Waveform Viewer button was added under Analysis->Setup. It is now possible to retrieve the last simulation results any time after the simulation has been completed.