## How to Run a Jar File in Windows by Double-Clicking

Prepared by Prof. Haiping Xu, Feb. 8, 2012

Jar (Java ARchive) is a type of Java executable program. On Win32 systems, the installation program in the Java 2 Runtime Environment can register a default association for Jar files so that double-clicking a Jar file on the desktop will automatically run it with "javaw - jar". This feature makes the end-user runtime environment much easy to use on Win32 systems.

If a Jar file does not run by double-clicking in your Windows system, you can associate the .jar file extension with Java interpreter to make it executable by double-clicking.

Here is how to associate files with .jar extension to the Java interpreter, **java** or **javaw**, in a Windows environment.

1. In Windows File Explorer, select Tools->Folder Options...



2. Click File Types tab and select JAR Executable Jar File option. Click Advanced button.

Folder Options			×		
General View	File Types Offline Files				
Registered file types:					
Extensions	File Types	^			
ITSS I IVF I	Microsoft Infotech Storage System File VF File				
1W4 /	ACDSee IW4 Image		U		
JAR I	IAVA File				
JDF .	Job Definition Format				
JFIF .	JPEG Image				
JIF /	ACDSee JIF Image	~			
	New Dele	te	]		
Details for 'JAR' extension					
Opens with: 🛃 Java(TM) Platform SE binary Change					
Files with extension 'JAR' are of type 'Executable Jar File'. To change settings that affect all 'Executable Jar File' files, click Advanced.					
	Advance	d			
	OK Cancel	Apply			

3. In the Edit File Type dialog box, select open in Actions box and click Edit...

Edit File Type	? 🗙
Executable Jar File	Change Icon
open	New
	Edit
	Remove
	Set Default
Confirm open after download Always show extension Browse in same window	
OK	Cancel

4. If you have JRE 1.6 installed on your machine, the interpreter java or javaw is usually found at C:\Program Files\Java\jre6\bin\javaw.exe. Type "C:\Program Files\Java\jre6\bin\javaw.exe" - jar "%1" %\* in Application used to perform action field and click OK.

Editing action for type: E.	? 🗙
Action:	
open	ОК
Application used to perform action:	Cancel
1 Files\Java\jre6\bin\javaw.exe" -jar "%1" %*	Browse
DDE Message: Application:	
javaw	
DDE Application Not Running:	
Topic:	
System	

5. Done. You now can launch .jar program by double-clicking it.