Saving projects

> ⊙ The native modeling tool format is *.mdzip and *.mdxml. You can also save projects as *.xml and *.xml.zip.

To save changes for later sessions, projects must be saved. While saving, you can edit the name of the project and its file format.

To save the project

1. From the **File** menu, select **Save Project** or **Save Project As**. Alternatively, you can click the **Save** button on the main toolbar or press the shortcut keys Ctrl + S. The **Save** dialog opens.
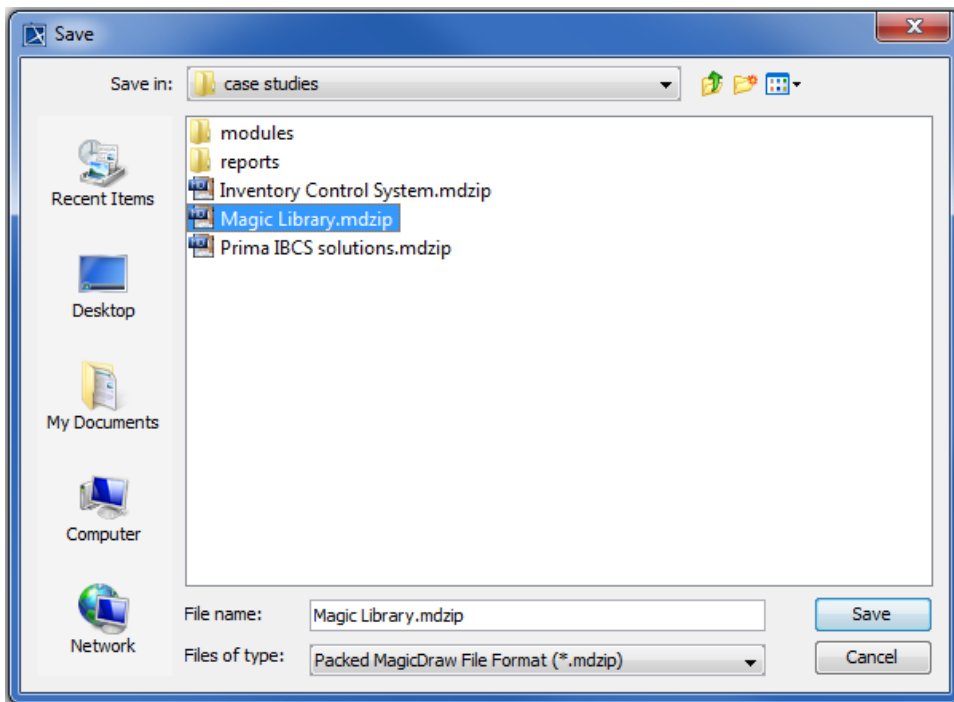2. Select the destination directory (where you want the project to be saved) and type the chosen file name.

> ⚠ The default project saving location is set according to your operating system:
>
> - **Windows**: My Documents/
> - **Linux**: /home/<username>/
> - **OS X**: Users/Documents/

3. Select the format for saving a project:

   - Packed MagicDraw File Format (*.mdzip) (default). *.mdzip is a MagicDraw native format. It contains various parts of the project compressed. You should select it if you intend to work with the project only in the MagicDraw environment.
   - MagicDraw File Format (*.mdxml). You should choose it if you intend to analyze the project's structure, xml, or for other purposes. You can open *.mdxml projects with other UML tools as well.
   - XML (*.xml). It is the same file format as *.mdxml, only that *.mdxml files can be opened with MagicDraw or other UML tools, whereas *.xml files can only be opened with an XML editor.

> ⚠
> - If the **Create Backup File** check box is selected in the **Environment Options** dialog, MagicDraw automatically creates a backup file of the previously saved project. The backup is held in a file with a name identical to that of the project.
> - If you want to save maximum additional information to an *.xmi file, select the **Rich XMI** check box in the **Environment Options** dialog.