

# Knowledge Base

Information



## Abaqus/CAE plug-in to save custom views

Portfolio / Domain: SIMULIA Abaqus Unified FEA / n/a  
Product: n/a

QA Article: QA00000008516e  
Last Update Date: 29.09.2020  
Rating: Not Rated  
Views: 351

QUESTION

I would like to export the currently displayed view and import it at a later time. Is there an option in Abaqus/CAE to save the custom view so it can be loaded in the next session of Abaqus/CAE?

ANSWER

(The following applies to Version 6.7 and higher)

An Abaqus/CAE plug-in application for this purpose is attached below. The plug-in saves the current view settings into XML format and then allows you to import this XML object in a later session.

Installation

**Important:** The latest XML core module must be installed before this plug-in can be used. Please refer to AnswerAbaqus/CAE plug-in for XML-based save and import of session-specific settings for details about obtaining and installing the XML core module.

When the XML core module is installed, one of the following directories is created:

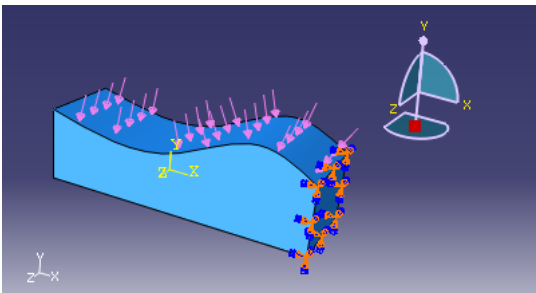
- `abaqus_dir\abaqus_plugins\caeXML` where `abaqus_dir` is the Abaqus parent directory
- `home_dir\abaqus_plugins\caeXML` where `home_dir` is your home directory
- `current_dir\abaqus_plugins\caeXML` where `current_dir` is the current directory

Save the attached archive file in the `caeXML` directory where the XML core files have been saved.

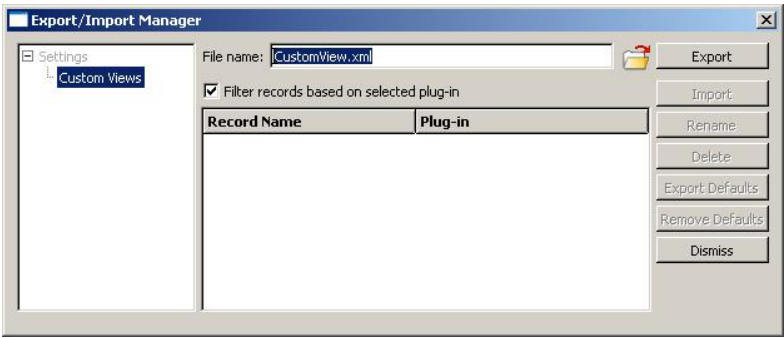
On Windows platforms, right click on the archive file and select WinZip → Extract to here. On Linux platforms, type `unzip customViews.zip` at the command prompt. A folder named `saveViews` and sub-folders will be extracted. Note that the plug-in will not function properly if this procedure is not followed.

Usage

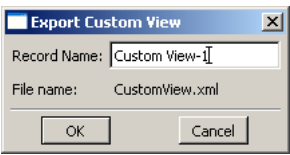
1. In the Abaqus/CAE viewport, set your desired view orientation. For example, the figure below shows a part in the **Load** module in an arbitrary view orientation.



2. From any module, select **Plug-ins** → **Export/Import Manager...** to receive the following dialog:



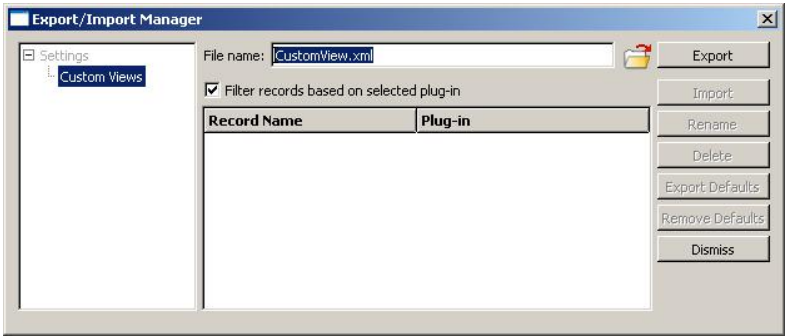
3. In the **File name:** field enter the name of the file where the custom views will be exported. If the file does not exist, it will be created in the directory from which you launched Abaqus/CAE. If you wish to save the custom views in the current model database then select the **MDB** radio button. Or if you wish to save the custom views in any currently open output database then select the **ODB** option and choose appropriate ODB from the combo box.
4. Select **Export** to receive the following dialog:



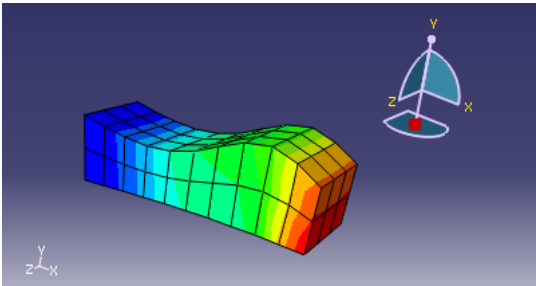
5. Enter a name for this custom view (record) in the **Record name:** field. For details on records, please see AnswerAbaqus/CAE plug-in for XML-based save and import of session-specific settings.
  6. Press **OK** to export. The custom view will be exported.
- Repeat steps 3 through 6 for other custom views.

7. To load previously saved settings, first open the model database or the output database for which the settings were created if the information was saved to an **MDB** or **ODB** database, respectively.

If saved settings were previously saved to an XML file, load the appropriate XML file. Then select a record that has been previously created by the **Custom Views** plug-in, as shown in following dialog:



8. Select **Import** and the view settings will be immediately applied. As an example, importing the view in the **Visualization** module allows you to have the same view previously defined in **Part** module:



Notes

When importing views on different models than the ones used during export, unexpected behavior may occur. It is suggested to use the **Auto-Fit View** in those occasions.

The XML schema used when storing object information may change in future releases of Abaqus/CAE. Thus, future versions of this plug-in may not be able to import XML files created from previous versions.

Disclaimer

The attachments to this article are subject to certain usage conditions. Please [click here](#) for details.

KEYWORDS      save, view, plug-in, persistent, load, import, export, display, xml, 3753

ATTACHMENT

customviews.zip

answer\_3753\_fig2.jpg

answer\_3753\_fig3.png

answer\_3753\_fig4.jpg

answer\_3753\_fig5.png

answer\_3753\_fig2.png

SUBSCRIBE TO CHANGES      ☐

RATING      On a scale of 1-5, how would you rate the technical content of the article?  
Please rate this article...

LET US KNOW IF THIS ARTICLE NEEDS TO BE ENHANCED

UNCLEAR      MISSING INFO      DUPLICATE      OUT OF DATE      ERROR DETECTED