Knowledge Base

Abaqus/CAE plug-in to save default views

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Information

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QUESTION

I have used the Views toolbar to modify the view of my model. Is there an option in Abaqus/CAE to save the 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 Abaqus/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

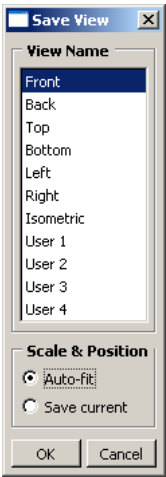Save the attached archive file in the `caeXML` directory where the XML core files have been saved.

On Windows platforms, right click on the archive file and select **WinZip → Extract to here**. On Linux platforms, type **unzip saveViews.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. Open Abaqus/CAE and use the view manipulation tools to position the model as you desire. If you do not have the Views toolbar open, select **Views → View Toolbars → Views**. The Views toolbar will appear on the screen:

Select the right most icon to save the view. The following dialog will appear:

Figures 1a & 1b

You may select any name from the list. Note however, that if you select one of the pre-defined views (first seven in the list), the existing definition will be overwritten by the view that you are saving.

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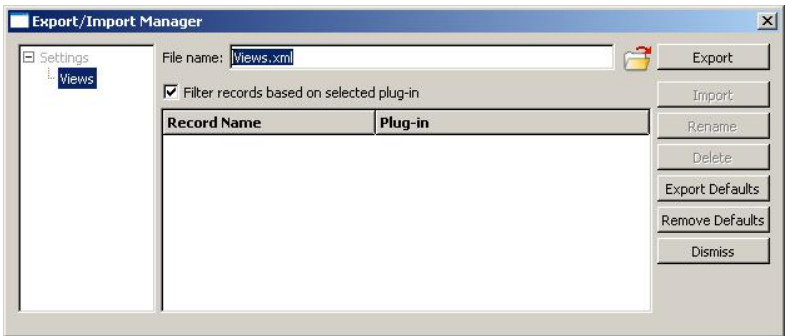

Figure 2

3. In **File name:** type the name of the file where the settings will be exported. If the file does not exist, it will be created in the directory from which you launched Abaqus/CAE.

   In the **File name:** field enter the name of the file where the settings 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 settings in the current model database then select the **MDB** radio button. Or if you wish to save the settings in any currently open output database then select the **ODB** option and choose appropriate ODB from the combo box.

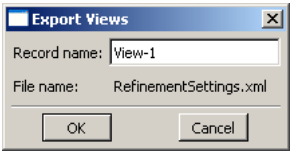4. Select **Export** to receive the following dialog:

Figure 3

5. Enter a name for this record in the **Record name:** field. For details on records, please see Abaqus/CAE plug-in for XML-based save and import of session-specific settings.

6. Press **OK** to export. The default views found in the database will be exported. What this means is that *all* of the views listed in the **Save View** dialog (Figure 1b) will be exported simultaneously.

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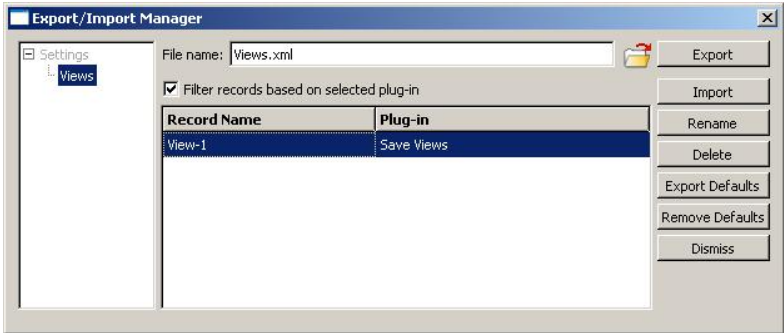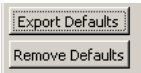

Figure 4

8. Select **Import**. Note that while importing settings in Abaqus/CAE, the plug-in will overwrite all existing settings for views found in the current session.

   The **Save Views** plug-in allows for current views to be set as defaults views for future sessions. To accomplish this, select the **Export Defaults** button as shown in the following dialog:

A message in the command line interface (CLI) will show where the default settings file (named `defaultSettings.xml`) is saved. The next session of Abaqus/CAE using the **Save Views** plug-in will automatically import the views found in the default settings XML file. This will not work if the default settings file is moved and/or the plug-in is installed in a directory without write permission.

The **Remove Defaults** button removes any views saved in the default settings file.

Notes

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, 3625

ATTACHMENT   Answer_3625_Fig5.png   Answer_3625_Fig4.jpg   views.zip   Answer_3625_Fig3.png

Answer_3625_Fig2.jpg   Answer_3625_Fig4.png   Answer_3625_Fig2b.png

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