

# Knowledge Base

## Information



## Abaqus/CAE plug-in to export model database and session information in XML format

**Portfolio / Domain:** SIMULIA Abaqus Unified FEA / SIMULIA Abaqus Unified FEA  
**Product:** SIMULIA Abaqus/CAE

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**Rating:** Not Rated  
**Views:** 405

### QUESTION

Is there an option in Abaqus/CAE to export the model database and session information?

### ANSWER

(The following applies to Abaqus 6.7 and higher)

An Abaqus/CAE plug-in application for this purpose is attached below. The plug-in exports the model database or session information. Currently, the information cannot be imported back at a later session.

#### Installation

**Important:** The latest XML core module must be installed before this plug-in can be used. Please refer to article [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 files in the caeXML directory where the XML core files have been saved.

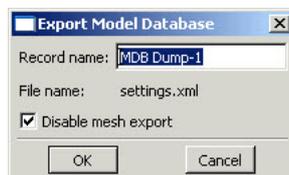
On Windows platforms, right click on the archive file and select **WinZip** → **Extract to here**. On Linux platforms, type **unzip dumpXML.zip** at the command prompt. Folders named mdbDump and sessionDump will be extracted. Note that the plug-in will not function properly if this procedure is not followed.

#### Usage

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



- To export the model database, select **MDB Dump** from the left tree. In the **Output** panel, select the destination of the exported data: **File**, model database (**MDB**) or session database (**ODB**). If **File** is selected, in the **File name:** field enter the name of the XML 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.
- Select **Export** to receive the following dialog. You can deselect **Disable mesh export**, if you wish to export the mesh. Also, note that dumping mesh might cause some performance issues.



- Enter a name for this record in the **Record name:** field. For details on records, please see [Answer Abaqus/CAE plug-in for XML-based save and import of session-specific settings](#).
- Press **OK** to export. The model database information will be exported.
- Similarly, select **Session Dump** from the left tree to dump session information. Select **Export** to receive following dialog. You can deselect **Disable ODB export** if you wish to export the ODB.



Also, note that dumping ODB might cause some performance issues. Note that while importing in Abaqus/CAE, the plug-in may prompt you to overwrite existing display group definitions if the same display group name is found in

the current database.

**Notes**

The plug-ins could potentially be used for following:

- Learning purposes - note that the dumps (session and mdb) will look identical to the Abaqus python object model, and thus they can be used as learning tools.
- Diagnostic purposes - information within the model database and session is consistent with the object tree.
- Information Interchange - users can read dumped information into other software through third-party utilities.

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**    **plug-in, plugin, session, xml, dump, export, write, model, information, save, 4256**

**ATTACHMENT**

- [answer\\_4256\\_fig3.jpg](#)
- [answer\\_4256\\_fig1.jpg](#)
- [answer\\_4256\\_fig2.jpg](#)
- [dumpXML.zip](#)

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