Knowledge Base

Abaqus/CAE plug-in to save results visualization plot options

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

QUESTION

I have set a number of options while plotting my analysis results. Is there a way to save them so they can be quickly loaded in the next session of Abaqus/Viewer?

ANSWER

(The following applies to Abaqus 6.9 and higher)

An Abaqus/CAE plug-in application for this purpose is attached below. This plug-in saves results visualization plotting options in XML format and allows you to import them in a later session and/or use them with a different model.
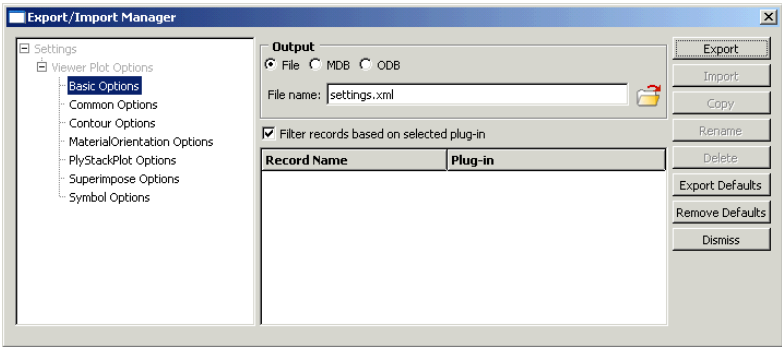
Installation

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 files in the caeXML directory where the XML core files have been saved.
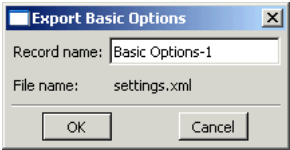
On Windows platforms, right click on the archive file and select **WinZip → Extract to here**. On Linux platforms, type **unzip viewerPlotOptions.zip** at the command prompt. A folder, named viewerPlotOptions, and various sub-folders will be extracted. Note that the plug-in will not function properly if this procedure is not followed.

Usage

1. Open an Abaqus/CAE output database and set your desired plotting options. These may include settings from **ODB Display Options**, **Common Options**, **Contour Plot Options**, **Material Orientation Plot Options**, **Ply Stack Plot Options**, **Superimpose Plot Options** and/or **Symbol Plot Options**. Note that the attached plug-in offers seven add-ons with one plug-in .zip file. Below, we refer to all plot options emcompassed by the seven plot option settings listed above.

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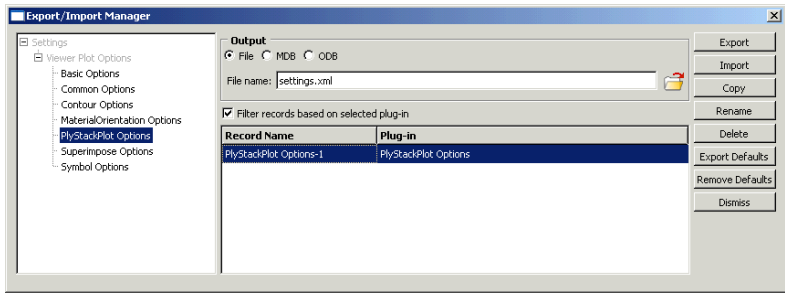

3. In the **File name:** field enter the name of the file where the definitions will be exported. If the file does not exist, it will be created in the directory from which you launched Abaqus/CAE. If you wish to save the option settings in the current model database then select the **MDB** radio button.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

4. If not selected already, select any entry below **Viewer Plot Options** from the left pane list (such as **Basic Options**, **Common Options**, **Contour Options**, **MaterialOrientation Options**, **PlyStackPlot Options**, **Superimpose Options** or **Symbol Options**) in the **Export/Import Manager** and press the **Export** button to receive the following dialog:

5. Enter a name for this 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. To load previous settings, first open the model or output database for which the settings were created.

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

7. Select **Import**. Note that while importing settings in Abaqus/CAE, the plug-in will overwrite all existing settings for any model/part combination found in the current session that has the same name as in the XML 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	plug-in, plugin, save, contour, option, viewer, plug, persistent, load, import, export, xml,

ATTACHMENT	answer_4278_fig2.png	answer_4278_fig3.png	viewerPlotOptions.zip	answer_4278_fig1.png

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