Knowledge Base

Abaqus/CAE plug-in utility to save and apply current display during a session

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

QUESTION

I have created a display group in Abaqus/CAE and it has become invalid after performing some geometry operations on the model. Is there any way to restore the display?

ANSWER

(The following applies to Version 6.9 and higher)

An Abaqus/CAE plug-in application for this purpose is attached below. Display groups are useful when you need to visualize a subset of your model. Unfortunately, various operations in Abaqus/CAE will render a display group invalid, restoring the display to contain all objects in the current part or assembly. This utility allows you to return the display to its state prior to the operation that restored all objects.

Installation

To install the plug-in, save the attached archive file to one of the following directories:

abaqus_dir\abaqus_plugins where *abaqus_dir* is the Abaqus parent directory

home_dir\abaqus_plugins where *home_dir* is your home directory

current_dir\abaqus_plugins where *current_dir* is the current directory

Note that if the abaqus_plugins directory does not exist in the desired path, it must be created. The *plugin_dir* directory can also be used, where *plugin_dir* is a directory specified in the abaqus_v6.env file by the environment variable **plugin_central_dir**. You can store plug-ins in a central location that can be accessed by all users at your site if the directory to which **plugin_central_dir** refers is mounted on a file system that all users can access. For example,

plugin_central_dir = r'\\fileServer\sharedDirectory'

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

Usage

From any module except **Visualization** or **Sketch**, a new toolbar named **Save-Apply Display** will be available. This toolbar contains two icons:
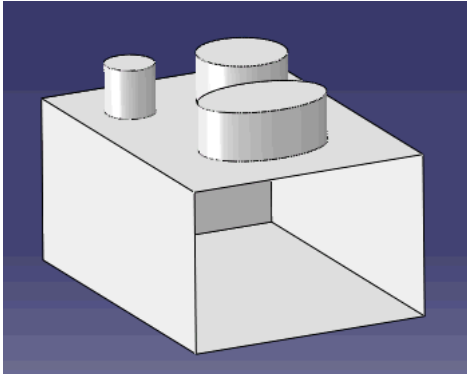

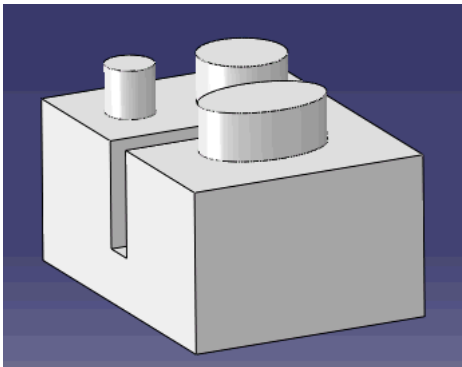**Save Display** temporarily saves the current viewport's display information.

Apply Display applies the temporarily saved display information.

For example, suppose the current Abaqus/CAE display information has been changed. Here, we see that the face on the end of a part has been removed:
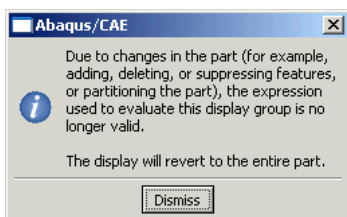

Click on **Save Display** in order to temporarily save the display information. This information is stored internally and is not available through the model tree or a menu dialog.
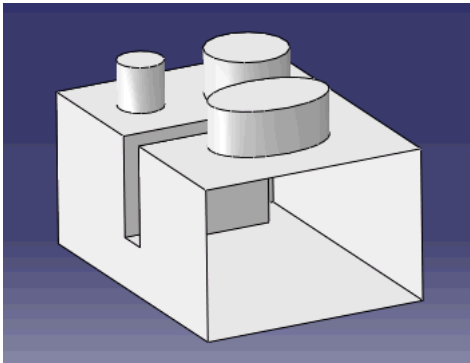
The Abaqus/CAE subset display will become invalid if an operation such as an extrude cut is performed on the part. The previously removed face is thus restored:

And Abaqus/CAE will issue the following informative message:

By selecting on **Apply Display**, the previous display information will be applied, restoring the viewport to the its previous state:

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Notes

1.
  Display Groups are not affected by this utility operations. It is not possible to save the temporary session display group information.

2.

Revision History

25 Oct 09	Release of Version 1.1-1

Disclaimer

The attachments to this article are subject to certain usage conditions. Please click here for details.

KEYWORDS plug-in, plugin, gui, application, save, apply, display, group, retain,

ATTACHMENT answer_4319_fig4.png SaveApplyDisplay.zip answer_4319_fig5.png answer_4319_fig1.png

         answer_4319_fig3.png answer_4319_fig2.png

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