

Knowledge Base

Information



Plug-in utility to save field output created in Abaqus/Viewer

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

QA Article: QA00000008750e
Last Update Date: 03/11/2020
Rating: 4.5
Views: 987

QUESTION

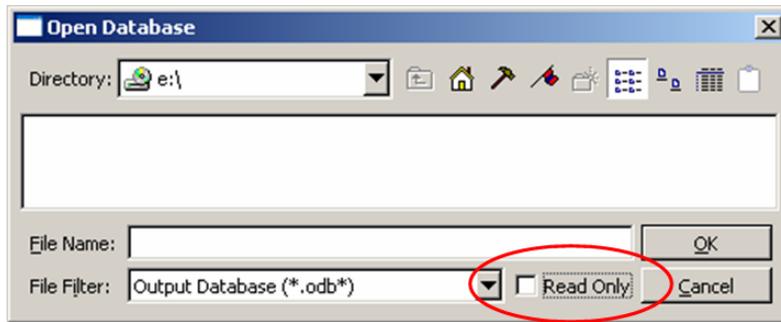
I have created some field output in Abaqus/Viewer or the Visualization module of Abaqus/CAE and would like to save it to the output database. How can I do this?

ANSWER

(The following applies to Abaqus/CAE Versions 6.5 and higher.)

Field output that you have created is stored in the Abaqus/CAE session step until you end the session or close the output database (.odb) from which the field output originates. An Abaqus/CAE plug-in utility that allows session step output to be saved is attached to this article.

To permanently save the session step output, the plug-in takes all the session step data associated with the current .odb and writes it to the .odb. Note that to add data to an .odb, the **Read Only** checkbox in the **Open Database** dialog must be un-set:



The **Read Only** status of the .odb cannot be altered once it is opened.

Installation and Usage

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

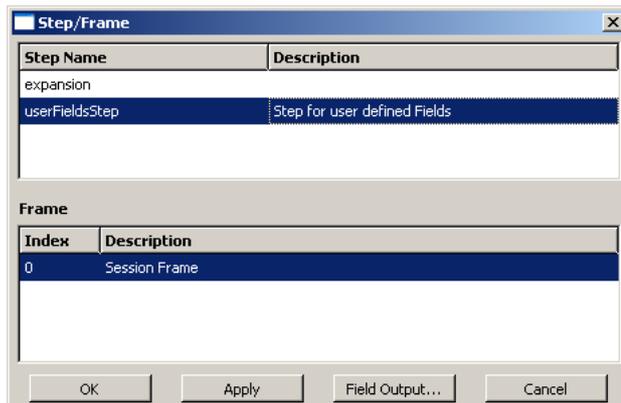
- abaqus_dir*\abaqus_plugins where *abaqus_dir* is the Abaqus parent directory
- home_dir*\abaqus_plugins where *home_dir* is your home directory
- current_dir*\abaqus_plugins where *current_dir* is the current directory

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'`

The next time Abaqus/CAE is started, a menu item named **Save User Defined Fields...** will be available in the **Plug-ins** pull down menu in the **Visualization** module. Select **Plug-ins** → **Tools** → **Save User Defined Fields...** to invoke the following dialog:



After the user-defined field output is saved, and the .odb is closed and re-opened, a step containing the user-defined field output, named *userFieldsStep*, appears in the **Step/Frame** dialog box:



MY FAVORITE CONTENT

The user-defined output variables will be available in the **Field Output** dialog box after selecting step userFieldsStep from the **Step/Frame** dialog box. The plug-in can be run any number of times for a given .odb.

Revision History

16 Jan 07	Version 1.1-1 of plug-in released.
24 Jul 08	Version 1.1-2 released to check for implicit step requirement.
01 Jul 10	Version 1.1-3 released.

Disclaimer

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

KEYWORDS plugin, plug-in, script, customization, 3189

ATTACHMENT

- [Answer_3189_Fig3.png](#)
- [Answer_3189_Fig2.png](#)
- [Answer_3189_Fig4.png](#)
- [saveUserFields.zip](#)

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

[See Comments \(2\)](#)