

ASEE Introduction to Abaqus Workshop



What we will cover today

- What is Finite Element Analysis
- What can we use Finite Element Analysis for
- Overview of how to navigate Abaqus
- Overview of the basic procedure for performing Finite Element Analysis
- Specific instructions for performing static structural analysis

What is the Finite Element Method?

The finite element method (FEM) is a numerical technique for finding approximate solutions to boundary value problems for partial differential equations. FEM subdivides a large problem into smaller, simpler, parts, called finite elements. The simple equations that model these finite elements are then assembled into a larger system of equations that models the entire problem. FEM then uses variational methods from the calculus of variations to approximate a solution by minimizing an associated error function.



Definitions

Elements: smaller simpler parts in with equations are solved over Nodes: corners of the elements Mesh: pattern in which you subdivide your problem into

Modal Analysis What can you do with FEA?



Element Types



Simplifying Models







Simplifying Models





Meshes







Detailed Procedure

- Part: Create the Part
- Property
 - Create the Materials
 - Create the Section
 - Assign the Section to the Part
- Assembly: Create the Assembly
- Step: Define the Analysis Type
- Interaction: Define how different parts interact within an assembly (if there is only one part this will be skipped)
- Load
 - Define Loads
 - Define Boundary Conditions
- Mesh: Create the Mesh
- Job: Run the analysis
- Visualization: View the results

Part Property Assembly Step Interaction l oad Mesh. Optimization Job Visualization

Units in Abaqus

Abaqus does not have units, therefore you must use consistent units

Quantity	SI	SI (mm)	US Unit (ft)	US Unit (inch)
Length	m	mm	ft	in
Force	N	Ν	lbf	lbf
Mass	kg	tonne (10^3 kg)	slug	lbf s²/in
Time	s	S	S	S
Stress	Pa (N/m ²)	MPa (N/mm ²)	lbf/ft ²	psi (lbf/in ²)
Energy	J	mJ (10 ⁻³ J)	ft lbf	in lbf
Density	kg/m ³	tonne/mm ³	slug/ft ³	lbf s ² /in ⁴

Other Abaqus Tips

- Files
 - .CAE is a file that contains everything needed to run the analysis
 - .ODB is the file created while the analysis is being run and contains the results of the simulation
- View the part
 - Ctrl + Alt + Left Button: Rotate Part
 - Ctrl + Alt + Center/Scroll Button: Translate Part

Example #1





References

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