

QUICK FATIGUE TOOL FOR MATLAB®

User Settings Reference Guide

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1. Job file options

1.1 Overview

The job file contains a list of options which define a specific analysis. The options are separated into the following categories:

1. Job
2. Material
3. Loading
4. High frequency loadings
5. Abaqus RPT / data set file
6. Analysis
7. Surface finish / notch effects
8. Virtual strain gauges
9. Output requests
10. ODB Interface
11. BS 7608 weld definition
12. Additional material data

Job files are created either from the template located in *Project\job\template_job.m*, or from a user-defined text file. Guidance on creating and submitting jobs for analysis is provided in Section 2.4 “Configuring and running an analysis” of the *Quick Fatigue Tool User Guide*.

If the user modified the template job file and wishes to revert back to the original, a back-up template is contained in *Application_Files\default\default_job.m*.

1.2 Job file options table

The following table provides a description of each option in the job file.

| Option | Description |
|------------------------|--|
| JOB_NAME | <p>Specify the name of the analysis job. This is also the name given to the results output directory.</p> <p><i>Job file usage:</i> JOB_NAME='job name'</p> |
| JOB_DESCRIPTION | <p>Specify a description of the analysis.</p> <p><i>Job file usage:</i> JOB_DESCRIPTION='job description'</p> |
| CONTINUE_FROM | <p>Specify the name of the job onto which field data from the current job will be superimposed.</p> <p><i>Job file usage:</i> CONTINUE_FROM='job name'</p> |
| DATA_CHECK | <p>Specify the analysis type.</p> <p><i>Job file usage:</i> DATA_CHECK={0.0 1.0}</p> <p>Run the pre-processor and the analysis processor: DATA_CHECK=0.0</p> <p>Run the pre-processor only: DATA_CHECK=1.0</p> <p>The job files are checked for consistency and no fatigue analysis is performed. The message (.msg) file is still written to the output directory.</p> |

MATERIAL

Specify the materials used for analysis. The *.mat* file extension is optional.

Job file usage for a single analysis group:

MATERIAL='material-name.mat'

Job file usage for n analysis groups:

MATERIAL={'material-1.mat',... , 'material-n.mat'}

USE_SN

Specify the source of the stress-life data.

Job file usage:

USE_SN={0.0 | 1.0}

Use Basquin (fatigue strength) coefficients σ_f' and b :

USE_SN=0.0

Use stress-life ($S - N$) data points:

USE_SN=1.0

SN_SCALE

Specify uniform scale factor for S -values on the stress-life curve.

Job file usage for a single analysis group:

SN_SCALE= k

Job file usage for n analysis groups:

SN_SCALE=[k_1, \dots, k_n]

This option must be used in conjunction with stress-life ($S - N$) data points:

USE_SN=1.0

SN_KNOCK_DOWN

Specify individual scale factors for S -values on the stress-life curve.

Job file usage for a single analysis group:

SN_KNOCK_DOWN={'knockdown-file-name.*'}

Job file usage for n analysis groups:

SN_KNOCK_DOWN={'knockdown-file-name-1.*', ..., [], ..., 'knockdown-file-name-n.*'}

Square brackets ([]) are used to indicate groups for which no knockdown factors are defined.

This option must be used in conjunction with stress-life ($S - N$) data points:

USE_SN=1.0

DATASET

Specify stress data for fatigue analysis.

Job file usage for uniaxial load history:

DATASET=' '

Job file usage for simple loading:

DATASET='dataset-file-name.*'

Job file usage for multiple load history (scale and combine):

DATASET={'dataset-file-name-1.*', ..., 'dataset-file-name-n.*'}

Job file usage for dataset sequence loading:

DATASET={'dataset-file-name-1.*', ..., 'dataset-file-name-n.*'}

Unless the loading is a dataset sequence, this option must be used in conjunction with **HISTORY**.

HISTORY

Specify load history data for fatigue analysis.

Job file usage for uniaxial load history:

HISTORY={'history-file-name.*' | [h_1, \dots, h_n]}

Job file usage for simple loading:

HISTORY={'history-file-name.*' | [h_1, \dots, h_n]}

Job file usage for multiple load history (scale and combine):

HISTORY={'history-file-name-1.*', ..., 'history-file-name-n.*'}

Simple and scale and combine loadings must be used in conjunction with **DATASET**.

For scale and combine loading, this option can be defined by any combination of load history files and numerical inputs.

Job file usage for dataset sequence loading:

HISTORY=[]

UNITS

Specify the units of the stress data.

Job file usage:

UNITS={'user' | 'pa' | 'kPa' | 'MPa' | 'psi' | 'ksi' | 'Msi'}

If **UNITS**='user', a conversion factor must also be specified with **CONV**.

CONV

Specify the conversion factor for user-defined units.

Job file usage:

CONV= k

The stress dataset units are converted according to the following relation:

$$[Pa] = k \cdot [dataset]$$

LOAD_EQ

Specify the loading equivalence in terms of a unit, *unit*, and its magnitude, n .

Job file usage:

LOAD_EQ={' k ', '*unit*'}

SCALE

Specify load history scale factors.

Job file usage for uniaxial load history and simple loading:

SCALE= k

Every point in the load history is scaled by k .

Job file usage for multiple load history (scale and combine):

SCALE=[k_1, \dots, k_n]

Every point in load history n is scaled by k_n .

Job file usage for dataset sequence loading:

SCALE=[k_1, \dots, k_n]

Every point in dataset n is scaled by k_n .

OFFSET

Specify load history offset values.

Job file usage for uniaxial load history and simple loading:

OFFSET= k

Every point in the load history is offset by k .

Job file usage for multiple load history (scale and combine):

OFFSET=[k_1, \dots, k_n]

Every point in load history n is offset by k_n .

This option cannot be used with dataset sequence loading.

REPEATS

Specify the number of repeats of the loading.

Job file usage:

REPEATS= k

HF_DATASET

Specify high frequency stress data for fatigue analysis.

Job file usage for uniaxial load history:

HF_DATASET=' '

Job file usage for simple loading:

HF_DATASET='dataset-file-name.*'

Job file usage for multiple load history (scale and combine):

HF_DATASET={'dataset-file-name-1.*',..., 'dataset-file-name-n.*'}

Job file usage for dataset sequence loading:

HF_DATASET={'dataset-file-name-1.*',..., 'dataset-file-name-n.*'}

Unless the loading is a dataset sequence, this option must be used in conjunction with **HF_HISTORY**.

HF_HISTORY

Specify high frequency load history data for fatigue analysis.

Job file usage for uniaxial load history:

HF_HISTORY={'history-file-name.*' | [h_1, \dots, h_n]}

Job file usage for simple loading:

HF_HISTORY={'history-file-name.*' | [h_1, \dots, h_n]}

Job file usage for multiple load history (scale and combine):

HF_HISTORY={'history-file-name-1.*',..., 'history-file-name-n.*'}

Simple and scale and combine loadings must be used in conjunction with **HF_DATASET**.

For scale and combine loading, this option can be defined by any combination of load history files and numerical inputs.

Job file usage for dataset sequence loading:

HF_HISTORY=[]

HF_TIME

Specify the time period for the low and high frequency data sets.

Job file usage:

HF_TIME={ t_1 , t_2 }

t_1 is the time period of the low frequency data

t_2 is the time period of the high frequency data

This option must be used in conjunction with **HF_DATASET** and **HF_HISTORY**.

HF_SCALE

Specify load history scale factors for high frequency loading.

Job file usage for uniaxial load history and simple loading:

HF_SCALE= k

Every point in the load history is scaled by k .

Job file usage for multiple load history (scale and combine):

HF_SCALE=[k_1, \dots, k_n]

Every point in load history n is scaled by k_n .

Job file usage for dataset sequence loading:

HF_SCALE=[k_1, \dots, k_n]

Every point in dataset n is scaled by k_n .

This option must be used in conjunction with **HF_DATASET** and **HF_HISTORY**.

PLANE_STRESS

Specify how Quick Fatigue Tool treats the element format of stress datasets.

Job file usage:

PLANE_STRESS={0.0 | 1.0}

Allow datasets with 3D elements only:

PLANE_STRESS=0.0

Allow datasets with 2D and 3D elements:

PLANE_STRESS=1.0

GROUP

Specify analysis groups for individual property assignments.

Job file usage:

GROUP={'group-file-name-1.*',..., 'group-file-name-n.*'}

Use the **DEFAULT** parameter to specify a group containing items which are not excluded by any preceding group:

GROUP={'group-file-name-n.*',..., 'DEFAULT'}

Use of the **DEFAULT** parameter by itself includes all analysis items in a single group.

ALGORITHM

Specify the fatigue analysis algorithm.

Job file usage:

ALGORITHM={'DEFAULT' | 'UNIAXIAL STRAIN' | 'SBBM' | 'NORMAL' | 'FINDLEY' | 'INVARIANT' | 'WELD' | 'NASALIFE' | 'UNIAXIAL STRESS' | 'USER'}

The parameters of **ALGORITHM** are described in Section 6.1 “Analysis algorithms” of the *Quick Fatigue Tool User Guide*.

MS_CORRECTION

Specify the mean stress correction.

Job file usage:

MS_CORRECTION={'DEFAULT' | 'MORROW' | 'GOODMAN' | 'SODERBERG' | 'WALKER' | 'SWT' | 'GERBER' | 'RATIO' | 'NONE'}

Specify a user-defined mean stress correction:

MS_CORRECTION='user-msc-file-name.msc'

The parameters of **MS_CORRECTION** are described in Section 7.1 “Mean stress corrections” of the *Quick Fatigue Tool User Guide*.

ITEMS

Specify the analysis region.

Job file usage:

ITEMS={'ALL' | 'SURFACE' | 'MAXPS' | 'file-name.*' | [k_1, \dots, k_n]}

Analyse all items:

ITEMS='ALL'

Restrict the analysis region to surface elements from an Abaqus Output Database (.odb) file:

ITEMS='SURFACE'

When the SURFACE parameter is specified, this option must be used in conjunction with **OUTPUT_DATABASE**, **PART_INSTANCE** and **RESULT_POSITION**.

Restrict the analysis region to the item with the largest principal stress range:

ITEMS='MAXPS'

Restrict the analysis region to the items listed in a text file:

ITEMS='file-name.*'

Restrict the analysis region to a list of item IDs:

ITEMS=[k_1, \dots, k_n]

When **ITEMS** is defined as a list of item IDs, Quick Fatigue Tool uses k to search the row numbers of the stress dataset. Since the order of dataset items can be arbitrary, the ID k_n does not necessarily correspond to element n .

DESIGN_LIFE

Specify the design life of the component.

Job file usage:

DESIGN_LIFE={CAEL | k }

Specify the design life as the material's constant amplitude endurance limit:

DESIGN_LIFE='CAEL'

If the analysis contains multiple group definitions with **GROUP**, the constant amplitude endurance limit is taken from the material defined in the last group.

Specify a user-defined design life:

DESIGN_LIFE= k

The design life is given in cycles to failure (N_f).

FACTOR_OF_STRENGTH

Enable Factor of Strength (FOS) iterations.

Job file usage:

FACTOR_OF_STRENGTH={0.0 | 1.0}

FATIGUE_RESERVE_FACTOR

Specify the life envelope for the Fatigue Reserve Factor (FRF) calculation.

Job file usage for a single analysis group:

FATIGUE_RESERVE_FACTOR={1.0 | 2.0 | 3.0 | 'frf-file-name.msc'}

Specify the Goodman envelope:

FATIGUE_RESERVE_FACTOR=1.0

Specify the Goodman B envelope:

FATIGUE_RESERVE_FACTOR=2.0

If the proof stress is not defined, the standard Goodman envelope will be used by default.

Specify the Gerber envelope:

FATIGUE_RESERVE_FACTOR=3.0

Specify a user-defined FRF envelope:

FATIGUE_RESERVE_FACTOR='frf-file-name.msc'

Job file usage for n analysis groups:

FATIGUE_RESERVE_FACTOR={ k_1, \dots, k_n }

This value of k can be any combination of FRF envelope files and numerical inputs.

HOTSPOT

Save items below the design life to a text file.

Job file usage:

HOTSPOT={0.0 | 1.0}

This option must be used in conjunction with **DESIGN_LIFE**.

KT_DEF

Specify the surface finish of the component.

Job file usage for a single analysis group:

KT_DEF={ K_t | 'kt-file-name.kt' | 'ktx-file-name.ktx'}

Define the surface finish as the surface finish factor:

KT_DEF= K_t

Define the surface finish as a function of R_a data:

KT_DEF='kt-file-name.kt'

Define the surface finish as a function of R_z data:

KT_DEF='ktx-file-name.ktx'

Job file usage for n analysis groups:

KT_DEF={ k_1, \dots, k_n }

The value of k can be any combination of R_a data files, R_z data files and numerical inputs.

Unless the surface finish is defined as the surface finish factor, this option must be used in conjunction with **KT_CURVE**.

KT_CURVE

Specify the curve given by R_a or R_z data.

Job file usage for a single analysis group:

KT_CURVE= k

If **KT_DEF** is specified for R_a data, k is the surface finish curve. If **KT_DEF** is specified for R_z data, k is the surface roughness.

Job file usage for n analysis groups:

KT_CURVE={ $k_1, \dots, [\] , \dots, k_n$ }

Square brackets ([]) are used to indicate groups for which the surface finish is defined as the surface finish factor, K_t .

The value of k can be any combination of R_a data files, R_z data files and numerical inputs.

This option must be used in conjunction with **KT_DEF**.

NOTCH_CONSTANT

Specify the fatigue notch factor, K_f , as a function of K_t . The method used to calculate K_f is specified by the `notchSensitivityMethod` environment variable.

Job file usage for a single analysis group:

NOTCH_CONSTANT= k

Job file usage for n analysis groups:

NOTCH_CONSTANT=[k_1, \dots, k_n]

Unless `notchSensitivityMethod` is specified as *Peterson* or *Notch sensitivity*, this option must be used in conjunction with **NOTCH_RADIUS**.

This option is ignored if the calculated surface finish factor is 1.0.

NOTCH_RADIUS

Specify the notch root radius.

Job file usage for a single analysis group:

NOTCH_RADIUS= k

Job file usage for n analysis groups:

NOTCH_RADIUS=[k_1, \dots, k_n]

Use *Peterson* or *Notch sensitivity* to calculate K_f :

NOTCH_RADIUS=[]

Unless `notchSensitivityMethod` is specified as *Peterson* or *Notch sensitivity*, this option must be used in conjunction with **NOTCH_CONSTANT**.

RESIDUAL

Specify an in-plane residual stress.

Job file usage for a single analysis group:

RESIDUAL= k

The residual stress is applied uniformly to all analysis items.

Job file usage for n analysis groups:

RESIDUAL=[k_1, \dots, k_n]

The residual stress, k_n , is applied uniformly to group n .

Positive values of k correspond to a tensile residual stress, while negative values are compressive.

The residual stress is given in megapascals (MPa).

GAUGE_LOCATION

Define virtual gauges to simulate a rectangular rosette strain gauge at selected analysis items.

Job file usage:

GAUGE_LOCATION={' $m_1.s_1$ ', ' $m_2.s_2$ ', ..., ' $m_n.s_n$ '}

' $m_n.s_n$ ' is the main and sub position ID of the location of gauge n . The IDs must be separated by a decimal point.

For integration point or element-nodal positions, m_n is the element number and s_n is the integration point/node number.

For centroidal or unique nodal positions, m_n is the centroid/node number, and s_n is always 1.0.

This option must be used in conjunction with

GAUGE_ORIENTATION.

GAUGE_ORIENTATION

Specify gauge orientations for virtual strain gauges.

Job file usage:

GAUGE_ORIENTATION=[$\alpha_1, \beta_1, \gamma_1$], [$\alpha_2, \beta_2, \gamma_2$],..., [$\alpha_n, \beta_n, \gamma_n$]

α_n is the angle measured counter clockwise from the positive global (Cartesian) x-direction to rosette arm *A* of gauge *n*.

β_n is the angle measured counter clockwise from rosette arm *A* to *B* of gauge *n*.

γ_n is the angle measured counter clockwise from rosette arm *B* to *C* of gauge *n*.

Angles are measured in degrees.

Define gauge orientations using flags instead of angles:

GAUGE_ORIENTATION={'RECTANGULAR' | 'DELTA'}

The parameter **RECTANGULAR** corresponds to gauge angles $[\alpha, \beta, \gamma] = [0, 45, 45]$.

The parameter **DELTA** corresponds to gauge angles $[\alpha, \beta, \gamma] = [30, 60, 60]$.

OUTPUT_FIELD

Specify a field data output request.

Job file usage:

OUTPUT_FIELD={0.0 | 1.0}

OUTPUT_HISTORY

Specify a history data output request.

Job file usage:

OUTPUT_HISTORY={0.0 | 1.0}

OUTPUT_FIGURE

Specify a MATLAB figure output request.

Job file usage:

OUTPUT_FIGURE={0.0 | 1.0}

OUTPUT_DATABASE

Specify an Abaqus Output Database (.odb) file to associate with the fatigue analysis.

Job file usage:

OUTPUT_DATABASE='odb-file-name.odb'

This option is required if **ITEMS**='SURFACE' and when fatigue results are written to the .odb file.

This option must be used in conjunction with **PART_INSTANCE**, **EXPLICIT_FEA**, **STEP_NAME** and **RESULT_POSITION**.

PART_INSTANCE

Specify the part instance in the Abaqus .odb file to which field data is written.

Job file usage:

PART_INSTANCE='part-instance'

Specify multiple part instances for results output:

PART_INSTANCE={'part-instance-1', ..., 'part-instance-n'}

EXPLICIT_FEA

Specify the analysis procedure which was used to calculate the FE stresses.

Job file usage:

EXPLICIT_FEA={0.0 | 1.0}

Specify output for a valid Abaqus/Explicit .odb file:

EXPLICIT_FEA=1.0

Specify output for a valid Abaqus/Standard .odb file:

EXPLICIT_FEA=0.0

Quick Fatigue Tool requires this information from the user in order to avoid errors from the Abaqus Python API.

STEP_NAME

Specify the name appended to the results ODB step.

Job file usage:

STEP_NAME='step-name'

This option is not compulsory, but minimizes the risk of naming clashes which would prevent Quick Fatigue Tool from successfully writing field data to the .odb file.

RESULT_POSITION

Specify the results position of the exported field data.

Job file usage:

RESULT_POSITION={'ELEMENT NODAL' | 'UNIQUE NODAL' |
'INTEGRATION POINT' | 'CENTROID'}

WELD_CLASS

Specify the $S_r - N$ curve for the BS 7608 analysis algorithm.

Job file usage:

WELD_CLASS='weld-identifier'

Specify the $S_r - N$ curve as the weld class:

WELD_CLASS={'B' | 'C' | 'D' | 'E' | 'F' | 'F2' | 'G' | 'W' | 'S' | 'T'}

Specify the $S_r - N$ curve as an axially-loaded bolt:

WELD_CLASS='X'

Specify the $S_r - N$ curve as user-defined data:

WELD_CLASS={'user-weld-file-name.sn', ['ROW' | 'COL']}

The **ROW** and **COL** parameters tell Quick Fatigue Tool in which direction the user-data should be read.

If the $S_r - N$ curve is specified as user-defined data and the second parameter is omitted, the **COL** parameter is assumed.

This option must be used in conjunction with **DEVIATIONS_BELOW_MEAN**, **FAILURE_MODE** and **CHARACTERISTIC_LENGTH**.

YIELD_STRENGTH

Specify the yield strength of the weld plate material for BS 7608 analysis.

Job file usage:

YIELD_STRENGTH= k

The yield strength is given in megapascals (MPa).

This option is not compulsory. If the yield strength is not specified, Quick Fatigue Tool does not define the extrapolation limit for large cycles.

UTS

Specify the ultimate tensile strength of the bolt section for BS 7608 analysis

Job file usage:

UTS=*k*

The ultimate tensile strength is given in megapascals (*MPa*).

This option is only required for axially-loaded bolts.

DEVIATIONS_BELOW_MEAN

Specify the number of standard deviations below the mean $S_r - N$ curve for BS 7608 analysis.

Job file usage:

DEVIATIONS_BELOW_MEAN=*k*

FAILURE_MODE

Specify the crack initiation criterion for BS 7608 analysis.

Job file usage:

FAILURE_MODE={'**NORMAL**' | '**SHEAR**' | '**COMBINED**'}

CHARACTERISTIC_LENGTH

Specify the characteristic length for BS 7608 analysis.

Job file usage:

CHARACTERISTIC_LENGTH=*k*

The characteristic length is given in millimetres (*mm*).

If **WELD_CLASS** is specified as a weld, the characteristic length defines the plate thickness. If **WELD_CLASS** is specified as an axially-loaded bolt, the characteristic length defines the bolt diameter.

This option is not required if the characteristic length is not important. If the characteristic length is not specified, Quick Fatigue Tool will not correct the loading for the effect of plate thickness or bolt diameter.

SEA_WATER

Specify the environmental conditions for BS 7608 analysis.

Job file usage:

SEA_WATER={0.0 | 1.0}

Specify fresh air as the environment:

SEA_WATER=0.0

Specify sea water as the environment:

SEA_WATER=1.0

If the environmental condition is specified as fresh air, Quick Fatigue Tool does not apply the correction for salt water corrosion.

B2

Specify the secondary Basquin exponent, b_2 , to be used above a user-defined knee point.

Job file usage:

B2= k

This option must be used in conjunction with **B2_NF**.

B2_NF

Specify the life above which the secondary Basquin's exponent, b_2 , is used.

Job file usage:

B2_NF= k

UCS

Specify the ultimate compressive strength.

Job file usage:

UTS= k

The ultimate compressive strength is given in megapascals (MPa).

This option is not compulsory. The ultimate compressive strength is used by **FATIGUE_RESERVE_FACTOR** to normalize the compressive side of the FRF envelope. If the ultimate compressive strength is not specified, Quick Fatigue Tool uses the ultimate tensile strength to normalize compressive cycles for the FRF calculation.

2. Environment variables

2.1 Overview

The environment file contains a list of variables which define the general behaviour of Quick Fatigue Tool. Environment variables are applied *globally* and *locally*. Global environment variables define the behaviour of the program for all analysis jobs executed in the current Quick Fatigue Tool directory, whereas local environment variables define the behaviour of the program for a specific job.

2.2 Global environment file

The global environment variables are contained in *Application_Files\default\environment.m*. Changes made to this file will affect all jobs submitted in the current working directory. In the event that the user wishes to revert to the original environment settings, a list of environment variables with their default values can be found in *Application_Files\default\default_environment.m*.

2.3 Local environment files

Local environment variables may be defined for a particular job. This is done by making a copy of the global environment file and placing it in *Project\job*. Alternatively, the user may create a blank text file and specify only the environment variables they wish to define for that job. However, for the analysis to run properly, the global environment file must always be available.

The local environment file must obey the naming convention *<jobName>_env.m*, otherwise it will not be processed by Quick Fatigue Tool.

2.4 Processing of environment variables

At the beginning of each analysis, Quick Fatigue Tool searches *Application_Files\default* for the global environment file. It then searches *Project\job* for the local environment file. Local environment settings supersede global environment settings.

Before each analysis, it is compulsory for all environment variables to be defined. Even if the user specifies non-default values in a local environment file, the global environment file must still exist and contain all of the variables. If the global environment file is modified or lost, and the default environment file is no longer available, the fastest way to recover the settings is to re-download the application from the MATLAB File Exchange.

2.5 Environment variables table

The following table provides a description of each variable in the environment file.

| Variable | Description |
|----------------------------|---|
| <code>gateTensors</code> | <p>Controls whether the peak-valley analysis algorithm is used for tensors.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> <code>setappdata(0, 'gateTensors', n);</code></p> <p>n has the following definitions: 0: Off 1: Gate tensors (as % of max tensor) 2: Gate tensors (Nielsony's method)</p> |
| <code>tensorGate</code> | <p>Tensor gating values.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> <code>setappdata(0, 'tensorGate', n);</code></p> <p>n has the following definitions: 0: Zero-derivative method N: % of max tensor</p> |
| <code>gateHistories</code> | <p>Controls whether the peak-valley analysis algorithm is used for load histories.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> <code>setappdata(0, 'gateHistories', n);</code></p> <p>n has the following definitions: 0: Off 1: Pre-gate load histories (as % of max tensor) 2: Pre-gate load histories(Nielsony's method)</p> |

historyGate

Load history gating values.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'historyGate', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

0: Zero-derivative method

N: % of max tensor

noiseReduction

Noise reduction algorithm applied to load history.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'noiseReduction', n)
```

n is 1.0 or 0.0.

numberOfWindows

Number of averaging windows used by the noise reduction algorithm.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'numberOfWindows', n)
```

n is a positive integer.

groupDefinition

Controls how Quick Fatigue Tool should treat a group definition file.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'groupDefinition', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

0: Program controlled

1: Always read group data as an FEA subset

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| searchRegion | <p>Specify the scope of the surface detection algorithm.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'searchRegion', n);</p> <p>n has the following definitions: 0: Search elements in dataset file(s) only 1: Search elements in ODB part instance</p> |
| shellFaces | <p>Specify how the surface detection algorithm treats shell elements.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'shellFaces', n);</p> <p>n has the following definitions: 0: Treat shell surface as whole shell (all faces) 1: Treat shell surface as free shell faces</p> |
| modifiedGoodman | <p>Defines the envelope for the Goodman mean stress correction.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'modifiedGoodman', n);</p> <p>n has the following definitions: 0: Use the standard Goodman envelope 1: Use the intersection of the Buch with the Goodman envelope</p> |
| goodmanMeanStressLimit | <p>Defines the horizontal (mean stress) axis intercept for the Goodman mean stress correction.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'goodmanMeanStressLimit', [n 'string']);</p> <p>n has the following definitions: 'UTS': Use the material UTS 'PROOF': Use the material proof stress 'S-N': Use the S-N intercept stress (at 1 repeat) n: User-defined</p> <p>User-defined values are not supported if the modified Goodman envelope is selected.</p> |

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| walkerGammaSource | <p>Controls how the Walker gamma parameter is calculated.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'walkerGammaSource', n);</p> <p>n has the following definitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1: Calculate the gamma parameter from the Walker regression fit 2: Use Dowling's approximation for steel and aluminium 3: User-defined |
| userWalkerGamma | <p>User-defined value of the Walker gamma parameter if walkerGammaSource = 2.0.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'userWalkerGamma', n);</p> <p>n is a real number, positive number.</p> |
| rainflowAlgorithm | <p>Selects the rainflow cycle counting algorithm.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'rainflowAlgorithm', n);</p> <p>n has the following definitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1: De Morais (Legacy) 2: Vallance <p>The second version is a more recent implementation and has been found to produce much better results. The original algorithm is available for regression and testing purposes.</p> |
| rainflowMode | <p>Specify the order of operations for the selected rainflow algorithm for two-parameter cycle counting.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'rainflowMode', n);</p> <p>n has the following definitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1: Combine parameters, count cycle 2: Count parameters, combine cycles <p>This setting currently only applies to the Brown-Miller algorithm.</p> <p>Stress-based</p> |

shellLocation

Sets the default face from which to read shell element stresses.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'shellLocation', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

1: LOC 1 (SNEG)

2: LOC 2 (SPOS)

nlMaterial

Controls which material model is used for the analysis.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'nlMaterial', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

0: Linear (Hookean) material model

1: Nonlinear elastic (Ramberg-Osgood) material model

A linear elastic material model is acceptable for most stress-based analyses. Use with caution.

cssTolerance

Precision of the iterative Ramberg-Osgood solver for the nonlinear material model.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'cssTolerance', n);
```

n is a positive real number.

cssMaxIterations

Maximum number of iterations performed by the iterative Ramberg-Osgood solver before accepting the solution.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'cssMaxIterations', n);
```

n is a positive integer.

nodalElimination

Controls whether the nodal elimination algorithm is being used for analysis.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'nodalElimination', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

0: Analyse all nodes

1: Nodal elimination based on material's CAEL

2: Nodal elimination based on user design life

thresholdScaleFactor

A factor which scales the conditional stress, σ_{COND} , for the nodal elimination algorithm.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'thresholdScaleFactor', n);
```

n is a real number. The default value is 0.8.

yieldCriterion

Perform static strength yield calculations.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'yieldCriterion', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

0: Do not perform yield calculations

1: Perform yield calculations based on the total strain energy theory

2: Perform yield calculations based on the shear strain energy theory

stepSize

The step size for the critical plane analysis algorithm.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'stepSize', n);
```

n must be a factor of 180. The default step size is 15 degrees.

checkLoadProportionality

Enables load proportionality checking to determine if the critical plane step size may be increased.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'checkLoadProportionality', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

0: Use step size defined by `stepSize`

1: Check for load proportionality and increase the step size to 45 degrees if applicable

proportionalityTolerance

The tolerance angle for the load proportionality check. The load is considered to be proportional if the maximum deviation in the principal directions does not exceed this angle.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'proportionalityTolerance', n);
```

n is an angle in degrees. The default tolerance angle is 1 degree.

cpSample

The re-sample rate for the critical plane analysis plots.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'cpSample', n);
```

n is a real number.

The re-sample rate only affects the smoothness of the MATLAB figure data. It does not affect the tabulated data from which the plots are created.

cpShearStress

Specify how the maximum shear stress history is determined on the critical plane.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'cpShearStress', n)
```

n has the following definitions:

1: Maximum chord method

2: Maximum resultant shear stress

signConvention

The default sign convention for effective stress quantities.

When using the Stress-Based Brown-Miller, Normal Stress, Findley's Method or BS 7608, the effective stress quantity is the resultant shear stress on the critical plane. When using the von Mises algorithm, the effective stress quantity is the von Mises stress.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'signConvention', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

- 1: Sign from the hydrostatic stress
- 2: Sign from the largest stress

nasalifeParameter

The effective stress parameter for the NASALIFE analysis algorithm.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'nasalifeParameter', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

- 1: Manson-McKnight
- 2: Sines
- 3: Smith-Watson-Topper
- 4: R-Ratio Sines
- 5: Effective

plasticSN

Specifies which region(s) of the stress-life curve to consider for analysis when using the stress-based Brown-Miller analysis algorithm.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'plasticSN', n)
```

n has the following definitions:

- 0: Use elastic region of S-N curve only (S_f' and b)
- 1: Include plastic region of S-N curve (E_f' and c)

findleyNormalStress

Specify how the normal stress is matched with shear cycles for Findley's Method.

Environment file usage:

setappdata(0, 'findleyNormalStress', n)

n has the following definitions:

- 1: Use the maximum normal stress over the loading
- 2: Use the maximum normal stress over the maximum shear cycle interval
- 3: Use the average normal stress over the maximum shear cycle interval

stressInvariantParameter

Specify the damage parameter for the Stress Invariant Parameter algorithm.

Environment file usage:

setappdata(0, 'stressInvariantParameter', n)

n has the following definitions:

- 0: Program controlled
- 1: von Mises
- 2: Principal
- 3: Hydrostatic (pressure)
- 4: Tresca

nasalifeParameter

Specify the damage parameter for the NASALIFE algorithm.

Environment file usage:

setappdata(0, 'nasalifeParameter', n)

n has the following definitions:

- 1: Manson-McKnight
- 2: Sines
- 3: Smith-Watson-Topper
- 4: R-Ratio Sines
- 5: Effective

ndCompression

Controls whether damage is calculated for compressive cycles.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'ndCompression', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

1: No damage in compression

0: Compressive cycles cause damage

The default value of n is 1.

fatigueLimitSource

Controls how the fatigue limit is calculated.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'fatigueLimitSource', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

1: Calculate the fatigue limit from Basquin material coefficients (S_f and b)

2: Calculate the fatigue limit from algorithm-specific equation

3: User-defined

The default value of n is 1. When using Basquin coefficients, the fatigue limit is calculated from $\sigma_\infty = \sigma'_f (CAEL)^b$, where σ_∞ is the fatigue limit stress, σ'_f is the fatigue strength coefficient, $CAEL$ is the constant amplitude endurance limit ($2N_f$) and b is the fatigue strength exponent.

The algorithm-specific equations only apply to the Stress-based Brown-Miller and the Findley algorithms.

Stress-based Brown-Miller (without fatigue ductility):

$$\sigma_\infty = \sigma'_f (1.65 \times CAEL)^b$$

Stress-based Brown-Miller (with fatigue ductility):

$$\sigma_\infty = E \left(\frac{1.65 \sigma'_f}{E} (CAEL)^b + 1.75 \varepsilon'_f (CAEL)^c \right)$$

Findley's method:

$$\sigma_\infty = \tau^*_f (CAEL)^b$$

If $USE_SN = 1.0$ in the job file, the fatigue limit will be calculated by interpolating the S-N data points, unless a user-defined endurance limit is specified.

userFatigueLimit

User-defined value of the endurance limit if **fatigueLimitSource** = 3.0.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'userFatigueLimit', n);
```

n is a real number, positive number.

Custom values of the fatigue limit are not supported by the BS 7608 analysis algorithm.

ndEndurance

Assumes no damage for cycles below the endurance limit.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'ndEndurance', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

0: Program-controlled

1: Calculate damage for cycle below the endurance limit

2: Assume no damage for cycles below the endurance limit

For a detailed explanation of the way Quick Fatigue Tool treats the endurance limit, consult Appendix I: Fatigue analysis techniques.

modifyEnduranceLimit

Reduces the endurance limit for damaging cycles.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'modifyEnduranceLimit', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

0: Damaging cycles do not affect the endurance limit

1: Damaging cycles reduce the endurance limit to 25% of its original value

enduranceScaleFactor

The amount by which the endurance limit is scaled after a damaging cycle, if **modifyEnduranceLimit**=1.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'enduranceScaleFactor', n);
```

The default value of n is 0.25.

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| cyclesToRecover | <p>The number of non-damaging cycles before the endurance limit returns to its original value, if modifyEnduranceLimit=1.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'cyclesToRecover', n);</p> <p>n is an integer number of cycles. The default value of n is 50.</p> |
| fosTarget | <p>Target life for the FOS calculations</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'fosTarget', n);</p> <p>n has the following definitions:</p> <p>1: Perform FOS calculations for user-defined design life</p> <p>2: Perform FOS calculations for infinite design life (CAEL)</p> |
| fosMaxValue | <p>The maximum reported value of the FOS.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'fosMaxValue', n);</p> <p>n is a real number. The default value of n is 2.</p> |
| fosMaxFine | <p>The maximum FOS value at which fine increments are performed.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'fosMaxFine', n);</p> <p>n is a real number. The default value of n is 1.5.</p> |
| fosMinFine | <p>The minimum FOS value at which fine increments are performed.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'fosMinFine', n);</p> <p>n is a real number. The default value of n is 0.8.</p> |

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| fosMinValue | <p>The minimum reported value of the FOS.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'fosMinValue', n);</p> <p>n is a real number. The default value of n is 0.5.</p> |
| fosCoarseIncrement | <p>The step size used for FOS iterations outside the fine bands.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'fosCoarseIncrement', n);</p> <p>n is a real number. The default value of n is 0.1.</p> |
| fosFineIncrement | <p>The step size used for FOS iterations within the fine bands.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'fosCoarseIncrement', n);</p> <p>n is a real number. The default value of n is 0.01.</p> |
| fosMaxCoarseIterations | <p>The maximum number of coarse iterations for the FOS calculation.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'fosMaxCoarseIterations', n);</p> <p>n is a positive integer. The default value of n is 4.</p> |
| fosMaxFineIterations | <p>The maximum number of fine iterations for the FOS calculation.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'fosMaxFineIterations', n);</p> <p>n is a positive integer. The default value of n is 6.</p> |
| fosTolerance | <p>The percentage tolerance value for the FOS calculation.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'fosTolerance', n);</p> <p>n is a real number. The default value of n is 5%.</p> |

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| fosBreakAfterBracket | <p>Terminates FOS iterations if the most recently calculated life crosses the target life.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'fosBreakAfterBracket', n);</p> <p>n has the following definitions: 1: Enable bracketing 2: Disable bracketing</p> |
| fosAugment | <p>Enables augmented FOS iterations. If the current FOS increment meets the threshold criterion set by fosAugmentThreshold, the increment is scaled by the factor fosAugmentFactor.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'fosAugment', n);</p> <p>n has the following definitions: 1: Enable augmented iterations 2: Disable augmented iterations</p> |
| fosAugmentThreshold | <p>Threshold value for augmented FOS iterations.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'fosAugmentThreshold', n);</p> <p>n is a number between 0.0 and 1.0.</p> |
| fosAugmentFactor | <p>Scale factor for augmented FOS iterations.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'fosAugmentFactor', n);</p> <p>n is a real number.</p> |

fosDiagnostics

Diagnostic output for the FOS calculation.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'fosDiagnostics', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

1: Write output

2: Do not write output

frfInterpOrder

Interpolation order for user-defined FRF data.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'frfInterpOrder', '<ARG>');
```

The following strings are accepted for <ARG>:

'NEAREST', 'LINEAR', 'SPLINE', 'PCHIP'.

For a description of each argument, see Section 8.2.5, or type doc [interp1](#) in the MATLAB command window.

frfNormParamMeanT

Normalization parameter for tensile mean stress user-defined FRF data.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, ['frfNormParamMeanT' | '<param>' | n]);
```

'<param>' has the following definitions:

'UTS': Ultimate tensile strength

'UCS': Ultimate compressive strength

'PROOF': 0.2% Proof stress

n is a user-defined normalization parameter.

frfNormParamMeanC

Normalization parameter for compressive mean stress user-defined FRF data.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, ['frfNormParamMeanC' | '<param>' | n]);
```

'<param>' has the following definitions:

'UTS': Ultimate tensile strength

'UCS': Ultimate compressive strength

'PROOF': 0.2% Proof stress

n is a user-defined normalization parameter.

frfNormParamAmp

Normalization parameter for stress amplitude user-defined FRF data.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, ['frfNormParamAmp' | '<param>' | n])
```

'<param>' has the following definitions:

'LIMIT': Fatigue limit

n is a user-defined normalization parameter.

frfTarget

Target life for the FRF calculations.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'frfTarget', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

1: Perform FRF calculations for user-defined design life

2: Perform FRF calculations for infinite design life (CAEL)

frfMaxValue

The maximum reported value of the FRF.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'frfMaxValue', n);
```

n is a real number. The default value of n is 10.

frfMinValue

The minimum reported value of the FRF.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'frfMinValue', n);
```

n is a real number. The default value of n is 0.01.

frfDiagnostics

Diagnostic output for the FRF calculation when user-defined envelopes are specified.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'frfDiagnostics', [I1, I2, ..., In]);
```

n has the following definitions:

[]: Disabled

I_n: Write output for item number I_n in the data set

notchFactorEstimation

Method for approximating the fatigue notch factor based on the elastic stress concentration factor.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'notchFactorEstimation', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

1: Peterson (default)

2: Peterson B

3: Neuber

4: Harris

5: Heywood

6: Notch sensitivity

eigensolver

Eigensolver used to calculate the principal stress history.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'eigensolver', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

1: MATLAB (built-in)

2: Luong

numberOfBins

The number of range bins used for the rainflow cycle histogram plot, RHIST.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'numberOfBins', n);
```

n is a positive integer.

figureFormat

File format for MATLAB figures.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'figureFormat', '<format>');
```

<format> specifies the file format. e.g.:

'fig': MATLAB Figure

'png': Portable Network Graphics

'jpg': JPEG

fieldFormatString

Specify output format of field output file.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'fieldFormatString', '<format>');
```

historyFormatString

Specify output format of history output files.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'historyFormatString', '<format>');
```

echoMessagesToCWIN

Echo message file contents to the MATLAB command window.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'echoMessagesToCWIN', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

1: Enabled

0: Disabled

cleanAppData

Controls when the session application data should be cleaned.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'cleanAppData', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

- 1: Before the analysis
- 2: After the analysis
- 3: Before and after the analysis
- 4: Never

workspaceToFile

Cache the workspace variables and associated APPDATA into a MATLAB binary (.mat) file.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'workspaceToFile', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

- 0: Disabled
- 1: Every n analysis items
- 2: n evenly spaced analysis items
- 3: From analysis item IDs

The analysis item interval/IDs are specified with `workspaceToFileInterval`.

workspaceToFileInterval

Set the frequency at which workspace variables and APPDATA are written.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'workspaceToFileInterval', {n, '<OPTION>'});
```

If `workspaceToFile` = 1.0 | 2.0, n is the interval number.

If `workspaceToFile` = 3.0, n is an analysis item ID list: $[ID_1, \dots, ID_n]$.

<OPTION> has the following definitions:

'OVERLAY': Overwrite the cache file. Only the cache file at the last interval/ID is retained.

'RETAIN': Create an individual cache file for each interval/ID.

autoExport_ODB

Enables automatic export of field data to an Abaqus output database (.odb) file.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'autoExport_ODB', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

1: Enabled

0: Disabled

autoExport_stepType

Controls whether field output is written to a new ODB step, or an existing step from a previous Quick Fatigue Tool analysis.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'autoExport_stepType', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

1: Export results to new step

2: Export results to existing step

autoExport_autoPosition

Allow Quick Fatigue Tool to determine the data position automatically, based on the format of the field data position IDs.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'autoExport_autoPosition', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

1: Enabled

0: Disabled

If the data position is already known, a value of 0 is strongly advised.

autoExport_upgradeODB

Specify whether the model ODB file should be upgraded.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'autoExport_upgradeODB', n);
```

n has the following definitions:

1: Upgrade the model ODB file

0: Do not upgrade the model ODB file

The Abaqus version to which the model ODB file is upgraded depends on the setting of [autoExport_abqCmd](#).

autoExport_abqCmd

Specify the Abaqus API version used by the ODB Interface.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'autoExport_abqCmd', '<abaqus_command>');
```

<abaqus_command> is the name of the batch file used to launch Abaqus and is usually located in <Abaqus_installation_directory>\Commands. If the ODB upgrade utility is enabled with autoExport_upgradeODB, this is the Abaqus version to which the file is upgraded.

autoExport_createODBSet

Write an element or node set to the output database file containing the elements or nodes used for analysis.

If the input stresses are at the unique nodal position, a node set containing these nodes is written to the .odb file.

If the input stresses are at the element-nodal position, both element and node sets containing the element-nodes used for analysis are written to the .odb file.

If the input stresses are at the integration point or centroidal position, an element set constituting the domain of the integration points or centroids is written to the .odb file.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'autoExport_createODBSet', 1.0);
```

autoExport_ODBSetName

Name of the ODB element/node set if createODBSet = 1.0. If this variable is left blank, a default name is used, composed of the part instance name and the step name.

Environment file usage:

```
setappdata(0, 'autoExport_ODBSetName', [ ]);
```

```
setappdata(0, 'autoExport_ODBSetName', '<name>');
```

autoExport_executionMode

Controls the visibility of the Python script used by the Abaqus API.

Environment file usage:

setappdata(0, 'autoExport_executionMode', n);

n has the following definitions:

- 1: Create ODB, discard Python script
- 2: Create ODB, retain Python script
- 3: Write Python script only

autoExport_selectionMode

Output variable selection type.

Environment file usage:

setappdata(0, 'autoExport_selectionMode', n);

n has the following definitions:

- 1: Select the output variables from a list
- 2: Use preselected defaults
- 3: Select all available output variables

If $n = 1$, the output variable selection is taken from the definitions of **autoExport_<field_name>**.

If $n = 2$, the following variables are requested by default:

BS 7608 analysis: LL, SMAX, WCM, WCA

All other analyses:

LL, FRFR, FRFV, FRFH, FRFW, SMAX, WCM, WCA

If the factor of strength or yield calculations are enabled, the *FOS* and *YIELD* variables are automatically written to the ODB.

Note that output to the ODB file is not supported by the Uniaxial Stress-Life algorithm.

If $n = 3$, all available output variables are written to the ODB file.

autoExport_<field_name>

Controls which fields are written to the Abaqus .odb file if the variable selection type is set to "Select from list below" by **autoExport_selectionMode**.

Environment file usage:

setappdata(0, 'autoExport_<field_name >', n);

n has the following definitions:

- 1: Export field <field_name>
- 0: Do not export field <field_name>

3. Material keywords

3.1 Overview

This section describes all of the keywords that are available for defining materials in a text file format in Quick Fatigue Tool. Materials are defined by lines in the text file. Three types of input lines are used in a material text file: *keyword* lines, *data* lines, and *comment* lines. A carriage return is required at the end of each line in a material text file.

- Keyword lines introduce options and often have *parameters*, which appear as words or phrases on the keyword line. Parameters can stand alone or have a value, and they may be required or optional.
- Data lines, which are used to provide numeric or alphanumeric entries, follow most keyword lines.
- Any line that begins with stars in columns 1 and 2 (**) is a comment line. Such lines can be placed anywhere in the file. They are ignored by Quick Fatigue Tool.

3.2 Keyword lines

The following rules apply when entering a keyword line:

- The first non-blank character of each keyword line must be a star (*).
- The keyword must be followed by a comma (,) if any parameters are given.
- Blanks on a keyword line are ignored.
- Keywords and parameters are not case sensitive.
- Keywords and parameters need not be spelled out completely, but there must be enough characters given to distinguish them from other keywords and parameters that begin in the same way.
- You should not use case as a method of distinguishing values. For example, Quick Fatigue Tool does not distinguish between the following definitions:

```
*USER MATERIAL, NAME=STEEL  
*USER MATERIAL, NAME=Steel
```

3.3 Data lines

Data lines are used to provide data that are more easily given in lists than as parameters. Most options require one or more data lines; if they are required, the data lines must immediately follow the keyword line introducing the option. The following rules apply when entering a data line:

- All data lines must be separated by commas (,). An empty data field is specified by omitting data between commas.
- Empty data fields at the end of a line can be ignored.
- Floating point numbers can be given with or without an exponent. Any exponent, if input, must be preceded by E and an optional (-) or (+), as per the usual MATLAB syntax.

3.4 Material keywords table

The following table provides a description of each material keyword and their associated parameters.

***USER MATERIAL**

Begin the definition of a material.

This option is used to indicate the start of a material definition.

Required parameter:

NAME

Set this parameter to a label that will be used to refer to the material with the job file option MATERIAL.

There are no data lines associated with this option.

***DESCRIPTION**

Provide a description of the material.

This option is used to provide a summary for the material.

There are no parameters associated with this option.

Data line to provide a description:

First line:

1. The description.

Repeat this data line as often as necessary to define the material description.

***DEFAULT ALGORITHM**

Specify the default analysis algorithm.

This option is used to specify the analysis algorithm which is used when ALGORITHM=default in the job file.

Required, mutually exclusive parameters:

UNIAXIAL STRESS | UNIAXIAL STRAIN | SBBM | NORMAL | FINDLEY | INVARIANT | NASALIFE

Uniaxial Stress-Life, Uniaxial Strain-Life, Stress-based Brown-Miller, Normal Stress, Findley's Method, Stress Invariant Parameter, and NASALIFE, respectively.

There are no data lines associated with this option.

***DEFAULT MSC**

Specify the default mean stress correction.

This option is used to specify the mean stress correction which is used when MS CORRECTION=default in the job file.

Required, mutually exclusive parameters:

MORROW | GOODMAN | SODERBERG | WALKER | SWT | GERBER | RATIO | NONE

There are no data lines associated with this option.

***CAEL**

Specify the constant amplitude endurance limit.

This option is used to specify the constant amplitude endurance limit of the material. This is the life below which Quick Fatigue Tool assumes the material experiences no fatigue damage.

There are no parameters associated with this option.

Data line to define the constant amplitude endurance limit:

First (and only) line:

1. The constant amplitude endurance limit ($2N_f$).
2. A flag (1 or 0) indicating if this variable is active in the material.

***REGRESSION**

Specify the regression algorithm.

This option is used to specify the regression algorithm for undefined material properties.

Required, mutually exclusive parameters:

UNIFORM | UNIVERSAL | MODIFIED | 9050 | NONE

Uniform Law (Baumel & Seeger), Universal Slopes (Manson), Modified Universal Slopes (Muralidharan), 90/50 Rule, none, respectively.

There are no data lines associated with this option.

***MECHANICAL**

Specify mechanical constants.

This option is used to define mechanical properties.

There are no parameters associated with this option.

Data lines to define mechanical properties:

First line:

1. Young's Modulus (E).
2. Poisson's ratio (ν).
3. Ultimate tensile strength (σ_U).
4. Yield (proof) stress (σ_Y).

Second (optional) line:

1. A flag (1 or 0) indicating if E is active in the material.
2. A flag (1 or 0) indicating if ν is active in the material.
3. A flag (1 or 0) indicating if σ_U is active in the material.
4. A flag (1 or 0) indicating if σ_Y is active in the material.

***FATIGUE**

Specify fatigue properties.

This option is used to define fatigue properties. Fatigue properties can be supplied as constants for the stress-life and strain-life equations, and/or as test data defining the stress-life curve.

Required, mutually exclusive parameters:

CONSTANTS | TEST DATA

Data lines to define fatigue properties (CONSTANTS):

First line:

1. Fatigue strength coefficient (σ_f').
2. Fatigue strength exponent (b).
3. Fatigue ductility coefficient (ϵ_f').
4. Fatigue ductility exponent (c).

Second (optional) line:

1. A flag (1 or 0) indicating if σ_f' is active in the material.
2. A flag (1 or 0) indicating if b is active in the material.
3. A flag (1 or 0) indicating if ϵ_f' is active in the material.
4. A flag (1 or 0) indicating if c is active in the material.

Data lines to define fatigue properties (TEST DATA):

First line:

1. First N-value.
2. Corresponding S-value for the first load ratio.
3. Corresponding S-value for the second load ratio.

Continue this data line until the S-values are provided for all load ratios.

Second line:

1. Second N-value.
2. Corresponding S-value for the first load ratio.
3. Corresponding S-value for the second load ratio.

Repeat this data line as often as necessary to define all N-values. A minimum of two N-values is required.

***R RATIOS**

Specify load ratios for S-N data.

This option is used to define a list of load ratios. It is only required if the **TEST DATA** parameter is used with ***FATIGUE** and more than one S-value is provided for each N-value.

There are no parameters associated with this option.

Data line to define load ratios:

First (and only) line:

1. First load ratio.

Continue this data line until the load ratios are provided for all S-N curves.

***CYCLIC**

Specify cyclic properties.

This option is used to define cyclic hardening properties. These properties are required for the following features in Quick Fatigue Tool:

- plasticity correction;
- yield calculation; and
- damage calculation for Multiaxial Gauge Fatigue analysis.

There are no parameters associated with this option.

Data lines to define cyclic properties:

First line:

1. Cyclic strain hardening coefficient (K').
2. Cyclic strain hardening exponent (n').

Second (optional) line:

1. A flag (1 or 0) indicating if K' is active in the material.
2. A flag (1 or 0) indicating if n' is active in the material.

***NORMAL STRESS SENSITIVITY**

Specify the normal stress sensitivity constant for Findley's Method.

This option is used to define the normal stress sensitivity constant, k , if ALGORITHM=findley in the job file.

Required, mutually exclusive parameters:

USER | SOCIE | GENERAL | DANGVAN | SINES | CROSSLAND

Data line to specify a user-defined value of k (USER):

First (and only) line:

1. Normal stress sensitivity constant (k).

Data line to define k based on the general formula (GENERAL):

First (and only) line:

1. Reference load ratio (R_i).
2. Tensile fatigue limit at R_i .
3. Torsional fatigue limit at $R = -1$.

Data line to define k based on the Dang Van formula (DANGVAN):

First (and only) line:

1. Tensile fatigue limit at $R = -1$.
2. Torsional fatigue limit at $R = -1$.

Data line to define k based on the Sines formula (SINES):

First (and only) line:

1. Tensile fatigue limit at $R = -1$.
2. Torsional fatigue limit at $R = -1$.
3. Ultimate tensile strength.

Data line to define k based on the Crossland formula (CROSSLAND):

First (and only) line:

1. Tensile fatigue limit at $R = -1$.
2. Torsional fatigue limit at $R = -1$.

***CLASS**

Specify the material class.

This option is used to specify the material class.

If ALGORITHM=findley in the job file, the material class is used along with the normal stress sensitivity constant, k , to determine the value of the modified fatigue shear strength coefficient, τ_f^* .

If ndEndurance = 0 in the environment file, the material class is used to determine whether damage is calculated below the material's endurance limit.

Required, mutually exclusive parameters:

WROUGHT STEEL | DUCTILE IRON | MALLEABLE IRON | WROUGHT IRON | CAST IRON | ALUMINIUM | OTHER

There are no data lines associated with this option.

***END MATERIAL**

End the definition of a material.

This option is used to indicate the end of a material definition.

There are no parameters or data lines associated with this option.