

# **QUICK FATIGUE TOOL FOR MATLAB®**

## **User Settings Reference Guide**



# Version Information

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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.

### 1.2.1 Job definition

Option	Description
<b>JOB_NAME</b>	<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> <b>JOB_NAME</b>='job name'</p>
<b>JOB_DESCRIPTION</b>	<p>Specify a description of the analysis.</p> <p><i>Job file usage:</i> <b>JOB_DESCRIPTION</b>='job description'</p>
<b>CONTINUE_FROM</b>	<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> <b>CONTINUE_FROM</b>='job name'</p>
<b>DATA_CHECK</b>	<p>Specify the analysis type.</p> <p><i>Job file usage:</i> <b>DATA_CHECK</b>={0.0   1.0}</p> <p>Run the pre-processor and the analysis processor: <b>DATA_CHECK</b>=0.0</p> <p>Run the pre-processor only: <b>DATA_CHECK</b>=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>

### 1.2.2 Material

#### **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  $\sigma_f'$  and  $b$ :

**USE\_SN**=0.0

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

**USE\_SN**=1.0

#### **SN\_SCALE**

Specify uniform scale factors 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

### 1.2.3 Loading

## 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 and its magnitude.

*Job file usage:*

**LOAD\_EQ**={ $k$ , 'unit'}

The default load equivalence is 1.0 repeat.

## 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**= $k$

### 1.2.4 High frequency loading

#### 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**.

### 1.2.5 Abaqus RPT / dataset file

## 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

### 1.2.6 Analysis

#### 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 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**.



### 1.2.7 Surface finish / notch effects

#### 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; negative values are compressive.

The residual stress is given in megapascals (MPa).

### 1.2.8 Virtual strain gauges

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

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

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

$\gamma_n$  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].

### 1.2.9 Output requests

#### 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}

### 1.2.10 Abaqus ODB interface

#### 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. If the ODB step name is not specified, Quick Fatigue Tool uses a default step name.

## RESULT\_POSITION

Specify the results position of the exported field data.

*Job file usage:*

**RESULT\_POSITION**={'ELEMENT NODAL' | 'UNIQUE NODAL' | 'INTEGRATION POINT' | 'CENTROID'}

### 1.2.11 BS 7608 weld definition

## 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 unimportant. 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.

### 1.2.12 Additional material data

#### 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:*

**UCS**= $k$

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 for any files named *<jobName>\_env.m* in the MATLAB search path, followed by *Project\job*. Local environment settings supersede global environment settings, and environment files placed in *Project\job* supersede all other environment files.

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.

### 2.5.1 Load gating

Variable	Description
<b>gateTensors</b>	<p>Specify the gating criterion for tensor histories.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> <b>gateTensors</b>={0.0   1.0   <u>2.0</u>}</p> <p>Retain all data points in the tensor history: <b>gateTensors</b>=0.0</p> <p>Gate tensors as % of maximum tensor value: <b>gateTensors</b>=1.0</p> <p>This setting must be used in conjunction with <b>tensorGate</b>.</p> <p>Gate tensors using Nielsony's method: <b>gateTensors</b>=2.0</p>
<b>tensorGate</b>	<p>Specify the tensor gating value.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> <b>tensorGate</b>=<i>k</i></p> <p>The gating value is given as the percentage of the maximum value in the tensor history (%).</p> <p>This setting is only required if <b>gateTensors</b>=1.0.</p>

### gateHistories

Specify the pre-gating criterion for load histories.

*Environment file usage:*

**gateHistories**={0.0 | 1.0 | 2.0}

Retain all data points in the load history:

**gateHistories**=0.0

Gate tensors as % gate:

**gateHistories**=1.0

This setting must be used in conjunction with **historyGate**.

Gate tensors using Nielson's method:

**gateHistories**=2.0

### historyGate

Specify the history gating value.

*Environment file usage:*

**historyGate**=*k*

The gating value is given as the percentage of the maximum value in the load history (%).

This setting is only required if **gateHistories**=1.0.

### noiseReduction

Specify noise reduction to be applied to the load history.

*Environment file usage:*

**noiseReduction**={0.0 | 1.0}

This setting must be used in conjunction with

**numberOfWindows**.

### numberOfWindows

Specify the number of averaging windows used by the noise reduction algorithm.

*Environment file usage:*

**numberOfWindows**=*k*

## 2.5.2 Group definition

### **groupDefinition**

Specify how Quick Fatigue Tool recognises analysis groups.

*Environment file usage:*

**groupDefinition**={0.0 | 1.0}

Program controlled:

**groupDefinition**=0.0

If the group definition file does not contain position IDs, the group is treated as an item ID list.

Always treat the group as a subset of the FEA model:

**groupDefinition**=1.0

## 2.5.3 Surface detection

### **searchRegion**

Specify the scope of the surface detection algorithm.

*Environment file usage:*

**searchRegion**={0.0 | 1.0}

Search elements within the dataset file(s):

**searchRegion**=0.0

This setting only applies when

**RESULT\_POSITION**={'ELEMENT NODAL' | **CENTROID**'}.

Search elements within the ODB part instance:

**searchRegion**=1.0

### **shellFaces**

Specify how the surface detection algorithm treats shell elements.

*Environment file usage:*

**shellFaces**={0.0 | 1.0}

Treat the shell surface as the whole shell:

**shellFaces**=0.0

Treat the shell surface as free shell faces:

**shellFaces**=1.0

## 2.5.4 Mean stress correction

### **modifiedGoodman**

Specify the formulation for the Goodman mean stress correction.

*Environment file usage for a single analysis group:*

**modifiedGoodman**={0.0 | 1.0}

Use the standard Goodman envelope:

**modifiedGoodman**=0.0

Use the modified Goodman envelope:

**modifiedGoodman**=1.0

This setting requires a value for the proof stress. If no proof stress is available, the standard Goodman envelope is used by default.

*Environment file usage for  $n$  analysis groups:*

**modifiedGoodman**= $[k_1, \dots, k_n]$

### **goodmanMeanStressLimit**

Specify the horizontal (mean stress) axis intercept for the Goodman mean stress correction.

*Environment file usage for a single analysis group:*

**goodmanMeanStressLimit**={'UTS' | 'PROOF' | 'S-N' |  $k$ }

Limit the Goodman envelope to the ultimate tensile strength:

**goodmanMeanStressLimit**='UTS'

Limit the Goodman envelope to the proof stress:

**goodmanMeanStressLimit**='PROOF'

Limit the Goodman envelope to the S-N intercept (1 repeat):

**goodmanMeanStressLimit**='S-N'

Specify a user-defined Goodman envelope limit stress:

**goodmanMeanStressLimit**= $k$

The limit stress is given in megapascals ( $MPa$ ).

This setting is ignored when **modifiedGoodman**=1.0.

*Environment file usage for  $n$  analysis groups:*

**goodmanMeanStressLimit**= $\{k_1, \dots, k_n\}$

The value of  $k$  can be any combination of string and numerical inputs.

### **walkerGammaSource**

Specify how the Walker gamma parameter ( $\gamma$ ) is calculated.

*Environment file usage:*

**walkerGammaSource**={1.0 | 2.0 | 3.0}

Define  $\gamma$  from regression fit (Walker):

**walkerGammaSource**=1.0

Define  $\gamma$  from standard values (Dowling):

**walkerGammaSource**=2.0

This setting is recommended only for steel and aluminium.

Specify a user-defined value of  $\gamma$ :

**walkerGammaSource**=3.0

### **userWalkerGamma**

Specify a user-defined value of the Walker gamma parameter when **walkerGammaSource**=3.0.

*Environment file usage for a single analysis group:*

**userWalkerGamma**= $k$

*Environment file usage for  $n$  analysis groups:*

**userWalkerGamma**=[ $k_1, \dots, k_n$ ]

### 2.5.5 Rainflow cycle counting

#### **rainflowAlgorithm**

Specify the rainflow cycle counting algorithm.

*Environment file usage:*

**rainflowAlgorithm**={1.0 | 2.0}

Use De Morais method:

**rainflowAlgorithm**=1.0

This method has been deprecated. The Vallance method is recommended.

Use Vallance method:

**rainflowAlgorithm**=2.0

#### **rainflowMode**

Specify the order of operations of rainflow cycle counting for the Stress-based Brown-Miller analysis algorithm.

*Environment file usage:*

**rainflowMode**={1.0 | 2.0}

Combine parameters, count cycles:

**rainflowMode**=1.0

Count parameters, combine cycles:

**rainflowMode**=2.0

### 2.5.6 Shell elements

#### **shellLocation**

Specify the default face from which to read shell element stresses in an Abaqus *.rpt* file.

*Environment file usage:*

**shellLocation**={1.0 | 2.0}

Use LOC 1 (SNEG):

**shellLocation**=1.0

Use LOC 2 (SPOS):

**shellLocation**=2.0

### 2.5.7 Nonlinear material properties

#### **nlMaterial**

Specify the material model to be used for stress-based fatigue analysis.

*Environment file usage:*

**nlMaterial**={0.0 | 1.0}

Use the linear elastic (Hookean) material model:

**nlMaterial**=0.0

Use the nonlinear elastic (Ramberg-Osgood) material model:

**nlMaterial**=1.0

This setting must be used in conjunction with **cssTolerance** and **cssMaxIterations**.

#### **cssTolerance**

Specify the precision of the nonlinear elastic solver.

*Environment file usage:*

**cssTolerance**=*k*

The default value of *k* is 3e-04.

#### **cssMaxIterations**

Specify the maximum number of iterations for the nonlinear elastic solver.

*Environment file usage:*

**cssMaxIterations**=*k*

The default value of *k* is 5.5e+06.



### 2.5.8 Nodal elimination

#### **nodalElimination**

Specify the nodal elimination algorithm.

*Environment file usage:*

**nodalElimination**={0.0 | 1.0 | 2.0}

Do not perform nodal elimination:

**nodalElimination**=0.0

Perform nodal elimination based on material constant amplitude endurance limit:

**nodalElimination**=1.0

Perform nodal elimination based on design life:

**nodalElimination**=2.0

The design life is specified with **DESIGN\_LIFE**.

#### **thresholdScaleFactor**

Specify the conditional stress scaling factor for the nodal elimination algorithm.

*Environment file usage:*

**thresholdScaleFactor**= $k$

The default value of  $k$  is 0.8 (80%).

### 2.5.9 Yield calculation

#### **yieldCriterion**

Specify the static yield strength calculation.

*Environment file usage:*

**yieldCriterion**={0.0 | 1.0 | 2.0}

Do not perform yield calculations:

**yieldCriterion**=0.0

Yield calculations based on the total strain energy theory:

**yieldCriterion**=1.0

Yield calculations based on the shear strain energy theory:

**yieldCriterion**=2.0

### 2.5.10 Critical plane analysis

#### **stepSize**

Specify the step size for the critical plane analysis algorithm.

*Environment file usage:*

**stepSize**= $k$

The step size is given in degrees, and must be a factor of 180.

The default value of  $k$  is 10.0.

#### **checkLoadProportionality**

Specify an additional check to modify the critical plane step size if the load history is proportional.

*Environment file usage:*

**checkLoadProportionality**={0.0 | 1.0}

Use the step size specified by **stepSize**:

**checkLoadProportionality**=0.0

Check for load proportionality:

**checkLoadProportionality**=1.0

If the load history is proportional, the value of **stepSize** may be overridden to decrease the analysis time.

This setting must be used in conjunction with

**proportionalityTolerance**.

#### **proportionalityTolerance**

Specify 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:*

**proportionalityTolerance**= $k$

The tolerance angle is given in degrees.

The default value of  $k$  is 1.0.

### **cpSample**

Specify the sample rate for the critical plane analysis plots.

*Environment file usage:*

**cpSample**= $k$

The sample rate is given as an integer.

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.

The default value of  $k$  is 0.0.

### **cpShearStress**

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

*Environment file usage:*

**cpShearStress**={1.0 | 2.0}

Maximum chord method:

**cpShearStress**=1.0

Maximum resultant shear stress method:

**cpShearStress**=2.0

### 2.5.11 Sign convention

#### **signConvention**

Specify the convention for signed parameters.

The signed quantity is the resultant shear stress on the critical plane when:

**ALGORITHM**={'SBBM' | 'NORMAL' | 'FINDLEY' | 'WELD'}

The signed quantity is the von Mises stress when:

**ALGORITHM**={'NASALIFE'}

The signed quantity is the effective stress when:

**ALGORITHM**={'INVARIANT'}

*Environment file usage:*

**signConvention**={'1.0' | 2.0 | 3.0}

Take the sign from the hydrostatic stress:

**signConvention**=1.0

Take the sign from the largest stress:

**signConvention**=2.0

Take the sign from Mohr's circle:

**signConvention**=3.0

### 2.5.12 Analysis algorithm

#### **importMaterialState**

Specify that the stress-strain configuration from the previous analysis is imported when using the Uniaxial Strain-Life algorithm with **CONTINUE\_FROM**='job name'.

*Environment file usage:*

**importMaterialState**={0.0 | 1.0}

Reset the stress-strain configuration:

**importMaterialState**=0.0

Import the stress-strain configuration from the previous job:

**importMaterialState**=1.0

#### **plasticSN**

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

*Environment file usage:*

**plasticSN**={0.0 | 1.0}

Use elastic region of the S-N curve only ( $\sigma_f'$ ,  $b$ ):

**plasticSN**=0.0

Include plastic region of the S-N curve ( $\sigma_f'$ ,  $b$ ,  $\varepsilon_f'$ ,  $c$ ):

**plasticSN**=1.0

#### **findleyNormalStress**

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

*Environment file usage:*

**findleyNormalStress**={1.0 | 2.0 | 3.0}

Use the maximum normal stress of the load history:

**findleyNormalStress**=1.0

Use the maximum normal stress over the maximum shear cycle:

**findleyNormalStress**=2.0

Use the average normal stress over the maximum shear cycle:

**findleyNormalStress**=3.0

### **stressInvariantParameter**

Specify the damage parameter for the Stress Invariant Parameter algorithm.

*Environment file usage:*

**stressInvariantParameter**={0.0 | 1.0 | 2.0 | 3.0 | 4.0}

Program controlled:

**stressInvariantParameter**=0.0

von Mises:

**stressInvariantParameter**=1.0

Principal:

**stressInvariantParameter**=2.0

Hydrostatic:

**stressInvariantParameter**=3.0

Tresca:

**stressInvariantParameter**=4.0

### **nasalifeParameter**

Specify the effective stress parameter for the NASALIFE analysis algorithm.

*Environment file usage:*

**nasalifeParameter**={1.0 | 2.0 | 3.0 | 4.0 | 5.0}

Manson-McKnight:

**nasalifeParameter**=1.0

Sines:

**nasalifeParameter**=2.0

Smith-Watson-Topper:

**nasalifeParameter**=3.0

R-Ratio Sines:

**nasalifeParameter**=4.0

Effective:

**nasalifeParameter**=5.0

### 2.5.13 Compressive cycles

#### **ndCompression**

Specify the treatment of fully-compressive cycles.

*Environment file usage:*

**ndCompression**={0.0 | 1.0}

Fully-compressive cycles can be damaging:

**ndCompression**=0.0

Fully-compressive cycles are non-damaging:

**ndCompression**=1.0

## 2.5.14 Fatigue/endurance limit

### **fatigueLimitSource**

Specify how the fatigue limit is calculated.

*Environment file usage:*

**fatigueLimitSource**=**{1.0 | 2.0 | 3.0}**

Calculate the fatigue limit from stress-life data:

**fatigueLimitSource**=1.0

If **USE\_SN**=0.0, the fatigue limit is calculated from

$\sigma_{\infty} = \sigma'_f (N_{\infty})^b$ , where  $\sigma_{\infty}$  is the fatigue limit stress,  $\sigma'_f$  is the fatigue strength coefficient,  $N_{\infty}$  is the constant amplitude endurance limit ( $2N_f$ ) and  $b$  is the fatigue strength exponent.

If **USE\_SN**=1.0, the fatigue limit is calculated from the S-N data points. If a user-defined value of  $N_{\infty}$  is found in the material, the fatigue limit is calculated interpolating the S-N curve at  $N_{\infty}$ . If  $N_{\infty}$  is not explicitly defined, the fatigue limit is taken as the last S-value on the S-N curve.

Calculate the fatigue limit from the algorithm-specific equation:

**fatigueLimitSource**=2.0

The algorithm-specific equations only apply when

**ALGORITHM**=**{'SBBM' | 'FINDLEY'}**.

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

$$\sigma_{\infty} = \sigma'_f (1.65 N_{\infty})^b$$

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

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

Findley's method:

$$\sigma_{\infty} = \tau^*_f (N_{\infty})^b$$

Specify a user-defined fatigue limit:

**fatigueLimitSource**=3.0

This setting must be used in conjunction with **userFatigueLimit**.



### **userFatigueLimit**

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

*Environment file usage for a single analysis group:*

**userFatigueLimit**= $k$

*Environment file usage for  $n$  analysis groups:*

**userFatigueLimit**=[ $k_1, \dots, k_n$ ]

The user-defined fatigue limit is given in megapascals (*MPa*).

Custom values of the fatigue limit are not supported when **ALGORITHM**='WELD'.

### **ndEndurance**

Specify whether cycles below the endurance limit can be damaging.

*Environment file usage:*

**ndEndurance**={0.0 | 1.0 | 2.0}

Program-controlled:

**ndEndurance**=0.0

Cycles below the endurance limit are damaging:

**ndEndurance**=1.0

Cycles below the endurance limit are non-damaging:

**ndEndurance**=2.0

This setting must be used in conjunction with **modifyEnduranceLimit**.

### **modifyEnduranceLimit**

Specify endurance limit modification for damaging cycles.

*Environment file usage:*

**modifyEnduranceLimit**= $\{0.0 \mid \underline{1.0}\}$

Damaging cycles do not affect the endurance limit:

**modifyEnduranceLimit**=0.0

Damaging cycles reduce the endurance limit:

**modifyEnduranceLimit**=1.0

The endurance limit is only modified if **ndEndurance**=2.0.

This setting must be used in conjunction with **enduranceScaleFactor** and **cyclesToRecover**.

### **enduranceScaleFactor**

Specify the amount by which the endurance limit is scaled after a damaging cycle.

*Environment file usage:*

**enduranceScaleFactor**= $k$

The default value of  $k$  is 0.25 (25%).

This setting is only enforced if **modifyEnduranceLimit**=1.

### **cyclesToRecover**

Specify the number of non-damaging cycles before the endurance limit returns to its original value, if **modifyEnduranceLimit**=1.

*Environment file usage:*

**cyclesToRecover**= $k$

The default value of  $k$  is 50.

This setting is only enforced if **modifyEnduranceLimit**=1.

### 2.5.15 Factor of strength

<b>fosTarget</b>	<p>Specify the target for Factor of Strength (FOS) calculations.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> <b>fosTarget</b>=<u>{1.0   2.0}</u></p> <p>Target FOS towards design life: <b>fosTarget</b>=1.0</p> <p>This setting defines the FOS target as the life specified by <b>DESIGN_LIFE</b>.</p> <p>Target FOS towards infinite life (<math>N_{\infty}</math>): <b>fosTarget</b>=2.0</p> <p>This setting defines the FOS target as the constant amplitude endurance limit defined in the material.</p>
<b>fosMaxValue</b>	<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>
<b>fosMaxFine</b>	<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>
<b>fosMinFine</b>	<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>
<b>fosMinValue</b>	<p>The minimum reported value of the FOS.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'fosMinValue', n);</p>

	n is a real number. The default value of n is 0.5.
<b>fosCoarseIncrement</b>	<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>
<b>fosFineIncrement</b>	<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>
<b>fosMaxCoarseIterations</b>	<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>
<b>fosMaxFineIterations</b>	<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>
<b>fosTolerance</b>	<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>
<b>fosBreakAfterBracket</b>	<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>
<b>fosAugment</b>	<p>Enables augmented FOS iterations. If the current FOS increment meets the threshold criterion set by <b>fosAugmentThreshold</b>, the increment is scaled by the factor <b>fosAugmentFactor</b>.</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>
<b>fosAugmentThreshold</b>	<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>
<b>fosAugmentFactor</b>	<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>
<b>fosDiagnostics</b>	<p>Diagnostic output for the FOS calculation.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i>  setappdata(0, 'fosDiagnostics', n);</p> <p>n has the following definitions:  1: Write output  2: Do not write output</p>

### 2.5.16 Fatigue reserve factor

<b>frfInterpOrder</b>	<p>Interpolation order for user-defined FRF data.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'frfInterpOrder', '&lt;ARG&gt;');</p> <p>The following strings are accepted for &lt;ARG&gt;: 'NEAREST', 'LINEAR', 'SPLINE', 'PCHIP'.</p> <p>For a description of each argument, see Section 8.2.5, or type doc <b>interp1</b> in the MATLAB command window.</p>
<b>frfNormParamMeanT</b>	<p>Normalization parameter for tensile mean stress user-defined FRF data.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, ['frfNormParamMeanT'   '&lt;param&gt;'   n]);</p> <p>'&lt;param&gt;' has the following definitions: 'UTS': Ultimate tensile strength 'UCS': Ultimate compressive strength 'PROOF': 0.2% Proof stress</p> <p>n is a user-defined normalization parameter.</p>
<b>frfNormParamMeanC</b>	<p>Normalization parameter for compressive mean stress user-defined FRF data.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, ['frfNormParamMeanC'   '&lt;param&gt;'   n]);</p> <p>'&lt;param&gt;' has the following definitions: 'UTS': Ultimate tensile strength 'UCS': Ultimate compressive strength 'PROOF': 0.2% Proof stress</p> <p>n is a user-defined normalization parameter.</p>
<b>frfNormParamAmp</b>	<p>Normalization parameter for stress amplitude user-defined FRF data.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, ['frfNormParamAmp'   '&lt;param&gt;'   n])</p>

	<p>'&lt;param&gt;' has the following definitions:</p> <p>'LIMIT': Fatigue limit</p> <p>n is a user-defined normalization parameter.</p>
frfTarget	<p>Target life for the FRF calculations.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'frfTarget', n);</p> <p>n has the following definitions:</p> <p>1: Perform FRF calculations for user-defined design life 2: Perform FRF calculations for infinite design life (CAEL)</p>
frfMaxValue	<p>The maximum reported value of the FRF.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'frfMaxValue', n);</p> <p>n is a real number. The default value of n is 10.</p>
frfMinValue	<p>The minimum reported value of the FRF.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'frfMinValue', n);</p> <p>n is a real number. The default value of n is 0.01.</p>
frfDiagnostics	<p>Diagnostic output for the FRF calculation when user-defined envelopes are specified.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'frfDiagnostics', [I<sub>1</sub>, I<sub>2</sub>, ..., I<sub>n</sub>]);</p> <p>n has the following definitions:</p> <p>[ ]: Disabled I<sub>n</sub>: Write output for item number I<sub>n</sub> in the data set</p>

### 2.5.17 Notch factor

notchFactorEstimation	Method for approximating the fatigue notch factor based on the elastic stress concentration factor.
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	<p><i>Environment file usage:</i>  setappdata(0, 'notchFactorEstimation', n);</p> <p>n has the following definitions:  1: Peterson (default)  2: Peterson B  3: Neuber  4: Harris  5: Heywood  6: Notch sensitivity</p>
--	---

### 2.5.18 Eigensolver

eigensolver	<p>Eigensolver used to calculate the principal stress history.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i>  setappdata(0, 'eigensolver', n);</p> <p>n has the following definitions:  1: MATLAB (built-in)  2: Luong</p>
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### 2.5.19 MATLAB figure appearance

numberOfBins	<p>The number of range bins used for the rainflow cycle histogram plot, RHIST.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i>  setappdata(0, 'numberOfBins', n);</p> <p>n is a positive integer.</p>
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### 2.5.20 Output individual control

figureFormat	<p>File format for MATLAB figures.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i>  setappdata(0, 'figureFormat', '&lt;format&gt;');</p> <p>&lt;format&gt; specifies the file format. e.g.:</p> <p>'fig': MATLAB Figure  'png': Portable Network Graphics  'jpg': JPEG</p>
fieldFormatString	Specify output format of field output file.



	<i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'fieldFormatString', '<format>');
historyFormatString	Specify output format of history output files.  <i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'historyFormatString', '<format>');
echoMessagesToCWIN	Echo message file contents to the MATLAB command window.  <i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'echoMessagesToCWIN', n);  n has the following definitions: 1: Enabled 0: Disabled

### 2.5.21 Application data

cleanAppData	Controls when the session application data should be cleaned.  <i>Environment file usage:</i> 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
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### 2.5.22 Workspace caching

workspaceToFile	Cache the workspace variables and associated APPDATA into a MATLAB binary (.mat) file.  <i>Environment file usage:</i> 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
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	The analysis item interval/IDs are specified with <b>workspaceToFileInterval</b> .
<b>workspaceToFileInterval</b>	<p>Set the frequency at which workspace variables and APPDATA are written.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i>  setappdata(0, 'workspaceToFileInterval', {n, '&lt;OPTION&gt;'});</p> <p>If <b>workspaceToFile</b> = 1.0   2.0, n is the interval number.</p> <p>If <b>workspaceToFile</b> = 3.0, n is an analysis item ID list: <math>[ID_1, \dots, ID_n]</math>.</p> <p>&lt;OPTION&gt; has the following definitions:  '<b>OVERLAY</b>': Overwrite the cache file. Only the cache file at the last interval/ID is retained.  '<b>RETAIN</b>': Create an individual cache file for each interval/ID.</p>

### 2.5.23 Abaqus ODB interface

<b>autoExport_ODB</b>	<p>Enables automatic export of field data to an Abaqus output database (.odb) file.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i>  setappdata(0, 'autoExport_ODB', n);</p> <p>n has the following definitions:  <b>1: Enabled</b>  <b>0: Disabled</b></p>
<b>autoExport_stepType</b>	<p>Controls whether field output is written to a new ODB step, or an existing step from a previous Quick Fatigue Tool analysis.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i>  setappdata(0, 'autoExport_stepType', n);</p> <p>n has the following definitions:  <b>1: Export results to new step</b>  <b>2: Export results to existing step</b></p>
<b>autoExport_autoPosition</b>	<p>Allow Quick Fatigue Tool to determine the data position automatically, based on the format of the field data position IDs.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i></p>

	<p>setappdata(0, 'autoExport_autoPosition', n);</p> <p>n has the following definitions:</p> <p>1: Enabled 0: Disabled</p> <p>If the data position is already known, a value of 0 is strongly advised.</p>
autoExport_upgradeODB	<p>Specify whether the model ODB file should be upgraded.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'autoExport_upgradeODB', n);</p> <p>n has the following definitions:</p> <p>1: Upgrade the model ODB file 0: Do not upgrade the model ODB file</p> <p>The Abaqus version to which the model ODB file is upgraded depends on the setting of autoExport_abqCmd.</p>
autoExport_abqCmd	<p>Specify the Abaqus API version used by the ODB Interface.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i> setappdata(0, 'autoExport_abqCmd', '&lt;abaqus_command&gt;');</p> <p>&lt;abaqus_command&gt; is the name of the batch file used to launch Abaqus and is usually located in &lt;Abaqus_installation_directory&gt;\Commands. If the ODB upgrade utility is enabled with autoExport_upgradeODB, this is the Abaqus version to which the file is upgraded.</p>
autoExport_createODBSet	<p>Write an element or node set to the output database file containing the elements or nodes used for analysis.</p> <p>If the input stresses are at the unique nodal position, a node set containing these nodes is written to the .odb file.</p> <p>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.</p>

	<p>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.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i>  setappdata(0, 'autoExport_createODBSet', 1.0);</p>
autoExport_ODBSetName	<p>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.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i>  setappdata(0, 'autoExport_ODBSetName', [ ]);  setappdata(0, 'autoExport_ODBSetName', '&lt;name&gt;');</p>
autoExport_executionMode	<p>Controls the visibility of the Python script used by the Abaqus API.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i>  setappdata(0, 'autoExport_executionMode', n);</p> <p>n has the following definitions:  1: Create ODB, discard Python script  2: Create ODB, retain Python script  3: Write Python script only</p>
autoExport_selectionMode	<p>Output variable selection type.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i>  setappdata(0, 'autoExport_selectionMode', n);</p> <p>n has the following definitions:  1: Select the output variables from a list  2: Use preselected defaults  3: Select all available output variables</p>

	<p>If <math>n = 1</math>, the output variable selection is taken from the definitions of <code>autoExport_&lt;field_name&gt;</code>.</p> <p>If <math>n = 2</math>, the following variables are requested by default:  <i>BS 7608 analysis: LL, SMAX, WCM, WCA</i>  <i>All other analyses:</i>  <i>LL, FRFR, FRFV, FRFH, FRFW, SMAX, WCM, WCA</i></p> <p>If the factor of strength or yield calculations are enabled, the <i>FOS</i> and <i>YIELD</i> variables are automatically written to the ODB. Note that output to the ODB file is not supported by the Uniaxial Stress-Life algorithm.</p> <p>If <math>n = 3</math>, all available output variables are written to the ODB file.</p>
<code>autoExport_&lt;field_name&gt;</code>	<p>Controls which fields are written to the Abaqus .odb file if the variable selection type is set to “Select from list below” by <code>autoExport_selectionMode</code>.</p> <p><i>Environment file usage:</i>  <code>setappdata(0, 'autoExport_&lt;field_name &gt;', n);</code></p> <p><math>n</math> has the following definitions:  1: Export field &lt;field_name&gt;  0: Do not export field &lt;field_name&gt;</p>

## 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 ( $\nu$ ).
3. Ultimate tensile strength ( $\sigma_U$ ).
4. Yield (proof) stress ( $\sigma_Y$ ).

**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  $\nu$  is active in the material.
3. A flag (1 or 0) indicating if  $\sigma_U$  is active in the material.
4. A flag (1 or 0) indicating if  $\sigma_Y$  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 ( $\sigma_f'$ ).
2. Fatigue strength exponent ( $b$ ).
3. Fatigue ductility coefficient ( $\epsilon_f'$ ).
4. Fatigue ductility exponent ( $c$ ).

##### **Second (optional) line:**

1. A flag (1 or 0) indicating if  $\sigma_f'$  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  $\epsilon_f'$  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,  $\tau_f^*$ .

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.**