

# FRANC3D Training Workshop: Part 4

## FRANC3D User Interface

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# Workshop Agenda

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- Part 1: Introduction to Fatigue and Damage Tolerance
- Part 2: Introduction to Fracture Mechanics Analysis
- Part 3: Introduction to FRANC3D
- **Part 4: FRANC3D User Interface**
- Part 5: Finite Element (FE) Model Import
- Part 6: Crack Insertion
- Part 7: Static Crack Analysis & SIF Computation
- Part 8: SIFs from FE Analysis
- Part 9: Crack Growth
- Part 10: SIF History & Fatigue Life
- Part 11: Miscellaneous Topics

# FRANC3D User Interface

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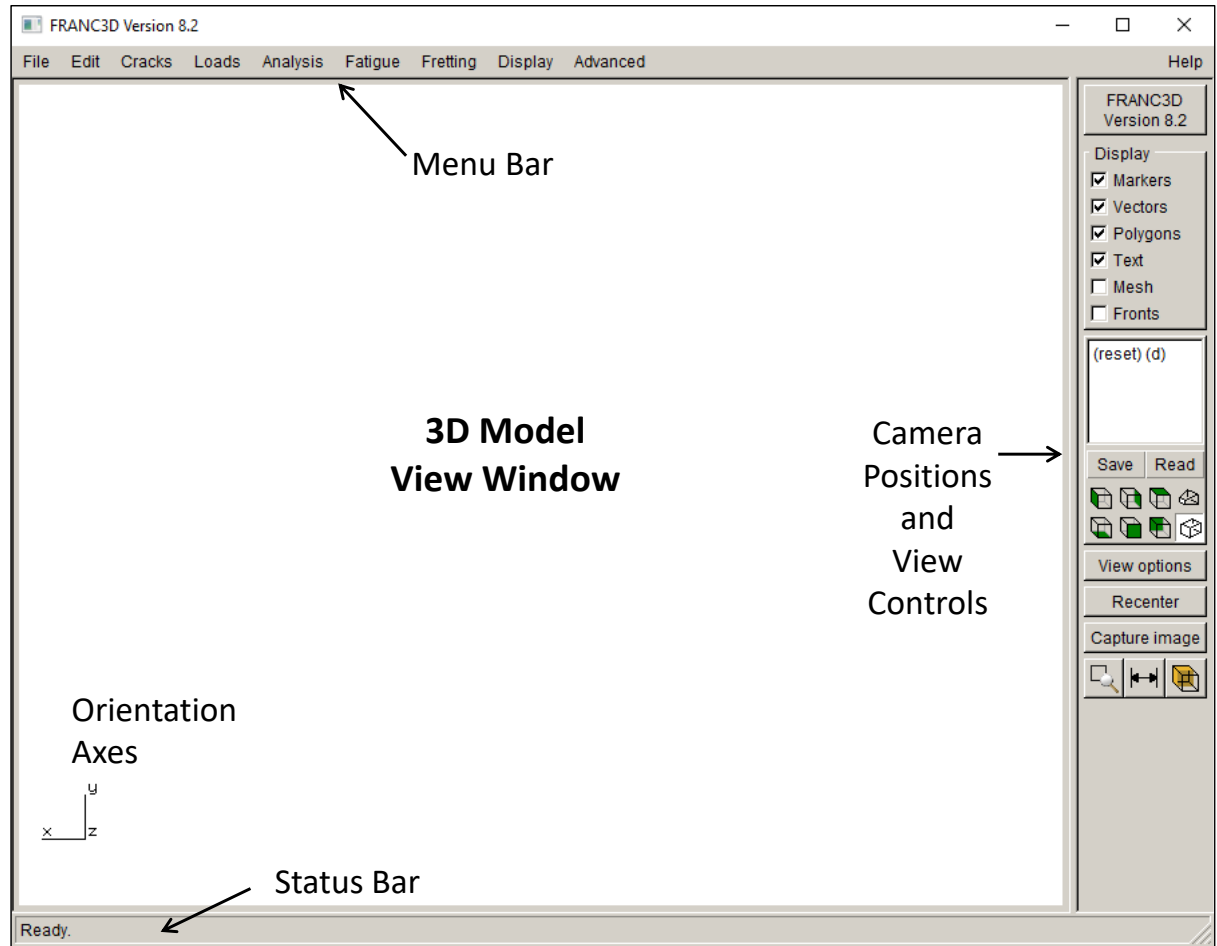
- FRANC3D Main Window
- 3D View Manipulation
- Menus
- Preferences
- FRANC3D Files
- FRANC3D Session Log

# FRANC3D Main Window

The view manipulations are:

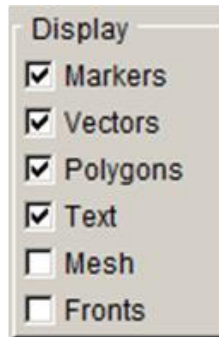
- Rotate (left mouse button, no keyboard keys)
- Pan (center mouse button or wheel, no keyboard keys)
- Zoom/Spin (right mouse button, no keyboard keys)
- Front Clip (center mouse button or wheel plus shift key)
- Back Clip (right mouse button or wheel plus shift key)

*These defaults can be modified in the Preferences.*



# 3D View Manipulation

Graphical Element Toggles



View options: displays a dialog that allows one to change the rotation, pan and zoom speeds.

Named Camera Positions



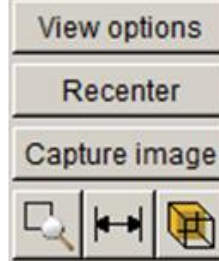
Recenter: allows one to change the center of rotation.

Preset Camera Positions



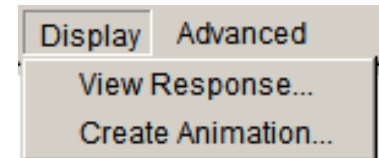
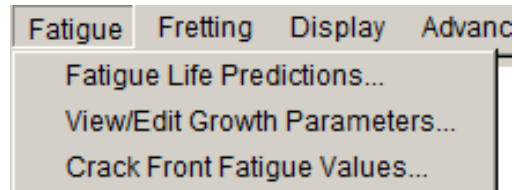
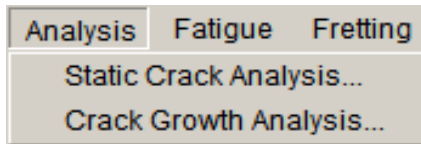
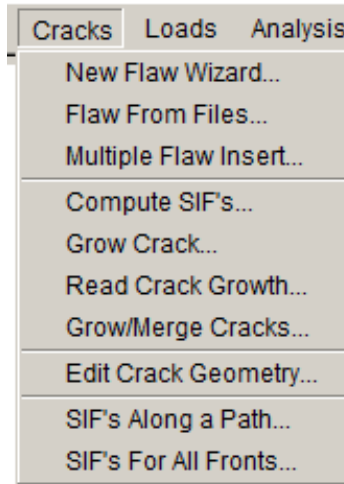
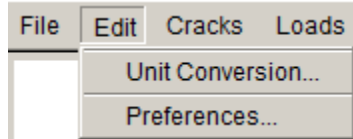
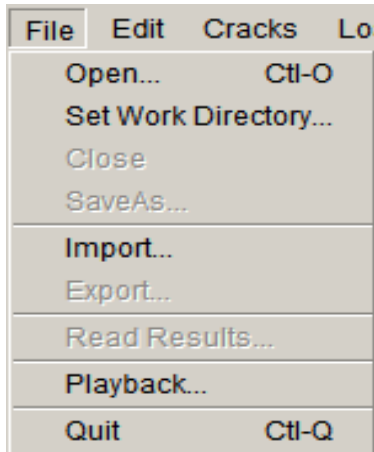
Capture: Displays the Save File As dialog. The current view of the model is captured and saved to a file. Either a .png or .jpg file can be saved.

View Options



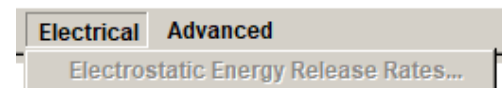
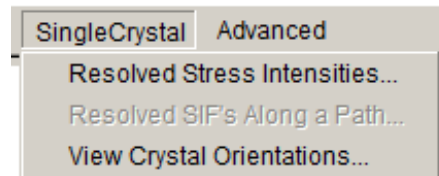
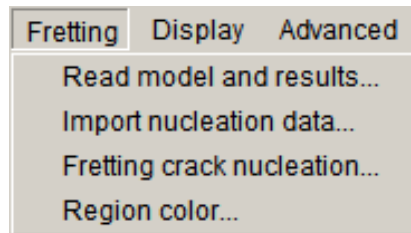
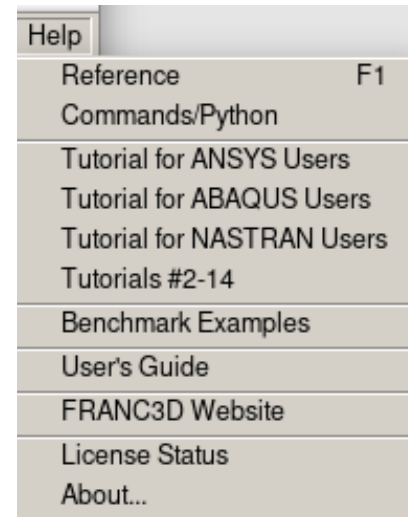
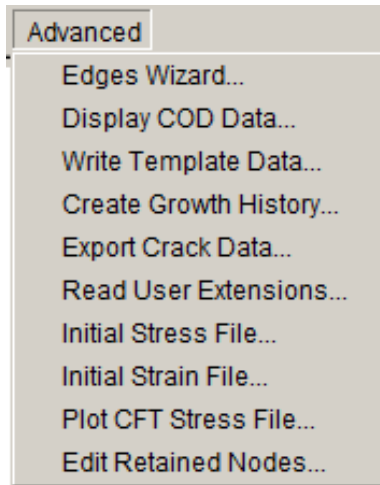
# Menus

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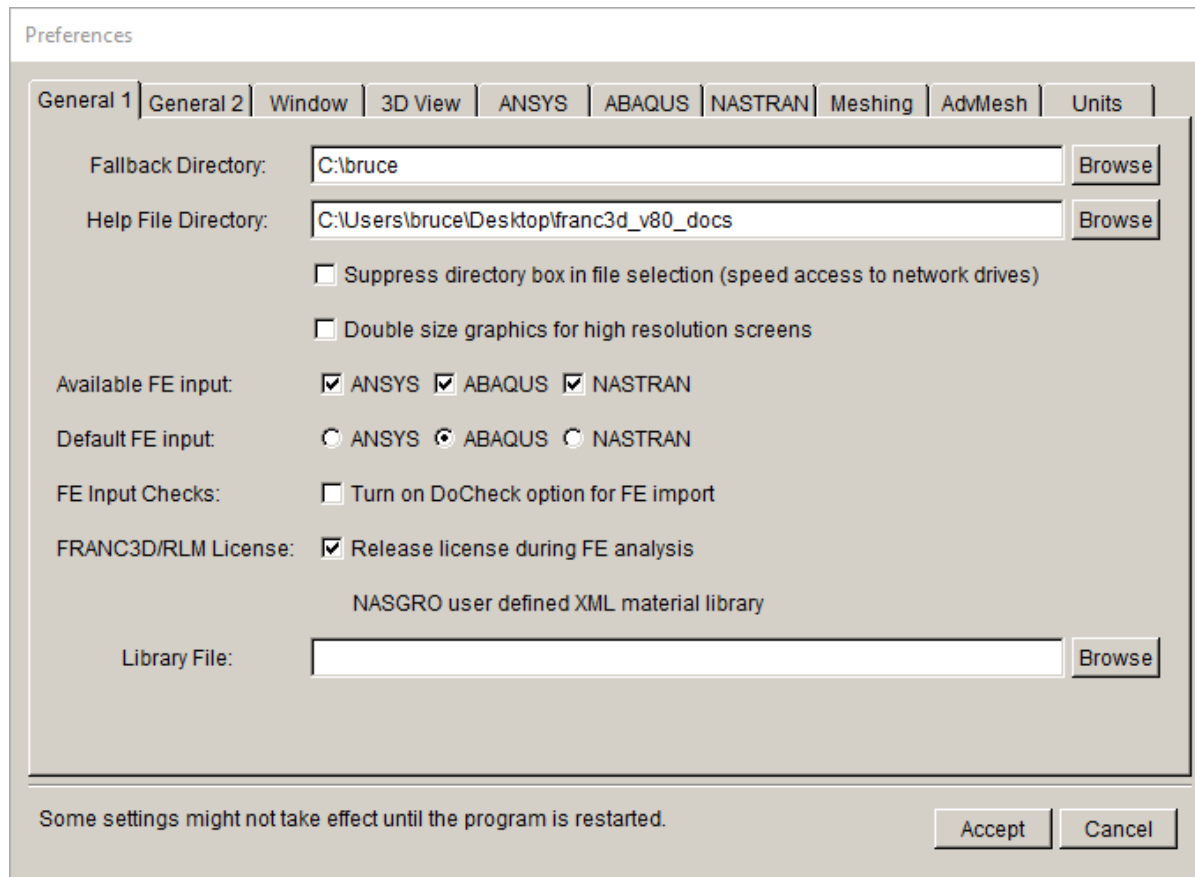
# Menus

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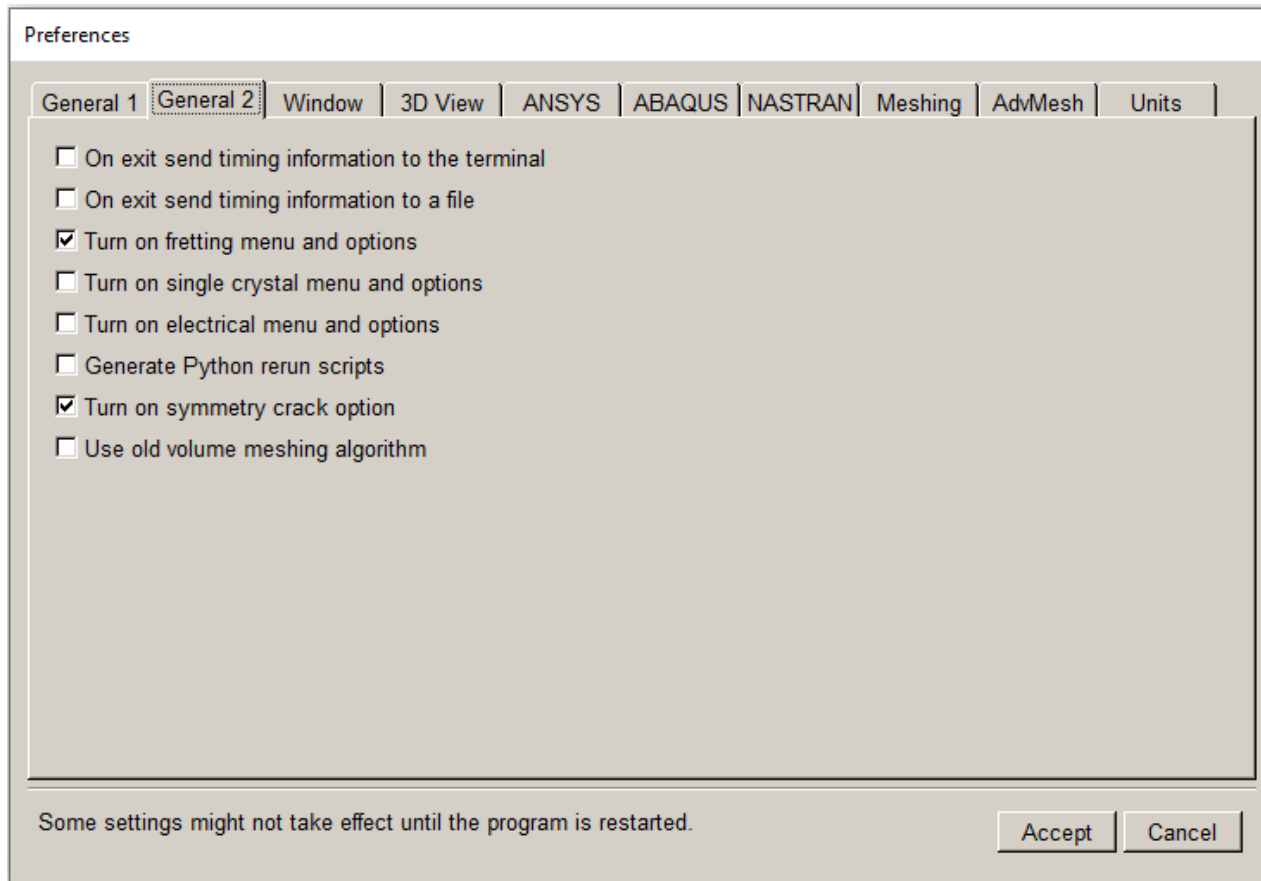
# Preferences

- Selecting the Edit → Preferences menu item invokes the Preferences dialog, which allows one to set program-wide configurations.



# Preferences Tabs

- General 2 Tab



# Preferences Tabs

- ANSYS Tab

Preferences

General 1 | General 2 | Window | 3D View | **ANSYS** | ABAQUS | NASTRAN | Meshing | AdvMesh | Units

ANSYS Executable:

ANSYS License:

Job Name:  none  cdb name  specify jobname:

Total memory:  Database memory:  (0 lets ANSYS choose)

Number of processors:   Use mpi:  platform mpi  intel mpi

Add to command:

Include full path in file names

Delete unnecessary analysis files

Output results:  last substep  every substep

Output results:  full model  submodel  template

Some settings might not take effect until the program is restarted.

# Preferences

- ABAQUS Tab

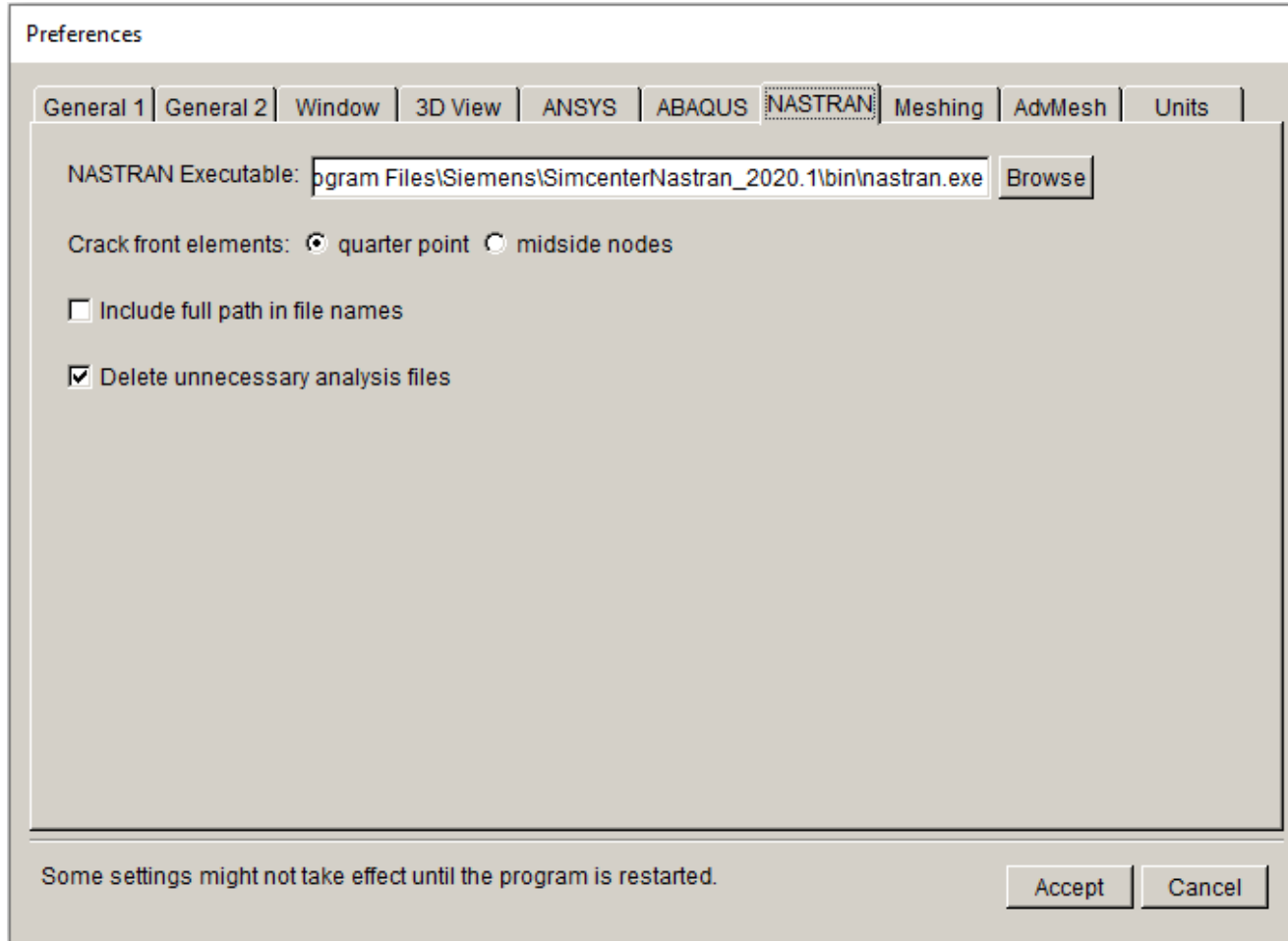
The image shows a screenshot of the 'Preferences' dialog box in a software application, specifically the 'ABAQUS' tab. The dialog has a title bar 'Preferences' and a tabbed interface with the following tabs: 'General 1', 'General 2', 'Window', '3D View', 'ANSYS', 'ABAQUS' (selected), 'NASTRAN', 'Meshing', 'AdMesh', and 'Units'. The 'ABAQUS' tab contains the following settings:

- ABAQUS Executable:
- Number of processors:
- Include full path in file names
- Delete unnecessary analysis files
- Ask: 'Old job files exist. Overwrite? (y/n)'
- Output results:  last frame  every frame
- Output results:  full model  submodel  template

At the bottom of the dialog, there is a note: 'Some settings might not take effect until the program is restarted.' and two buttons: 'Accept' and 'Cancel'.

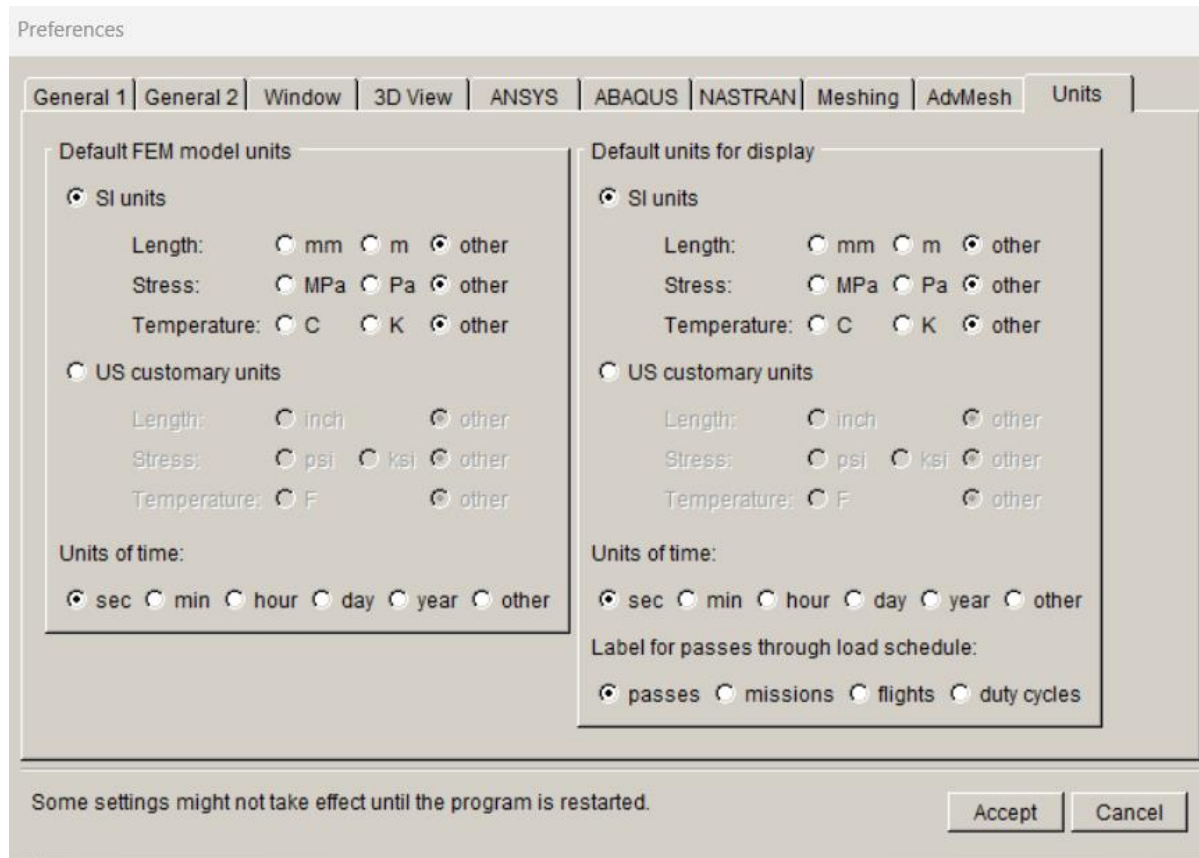
# Preferences

- NASTRAN Tab



# Preferences

- Allows the user to set default units for the FE model and for display



# Preferences

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- Preferences are stored in a database that is read when FRANC3D is started.
- Some Preference settings might not take effect until the program is restarted, so if you change settings, it is best to quit and restart.

# FRANC3D Files

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.fdb – FRANC3D restart file

stores crack geometry, growth model, SIF history,  
reference to other files described below

.cdb/.inp/.bdf – original uncracked FE model and cracked FE model files

.dtp – results file with displacements, temperatures, contact pressures

.crk – crack geometry

.log – GUI session log file contains FRANC3D commands

.fcg – fatigue crack growth data (SIF history and crack growth model)

\_STEP\_####.\* – automatically named and numbered crack growth step files

FE analysis code files: *i.e.* .db & .rst for ANSYS, .odb for ABAQUS

# Analysis Results

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- **File** → **Read Results** menu item allows one to choose the analysis results file.
- For ANSYS, FRANC3D reads
  - \*.dtp file (contains displacements, temperatures, contact pressure) that is created using the ANSYS APDL macro generated by FRANC3D
- For ABAQUS, FRANC3D reads
  - \*.dtp file (contains displacements, temperatures, contact pressure) that is created using the FRANC3D generated ABAQUS Python script
- For NASTRAN, FRANC3D reads
  - \*.pch file, which contains displacements; temperatures are based on the input temperature for the uncracked model

# FRANC3D Session Log and Playback

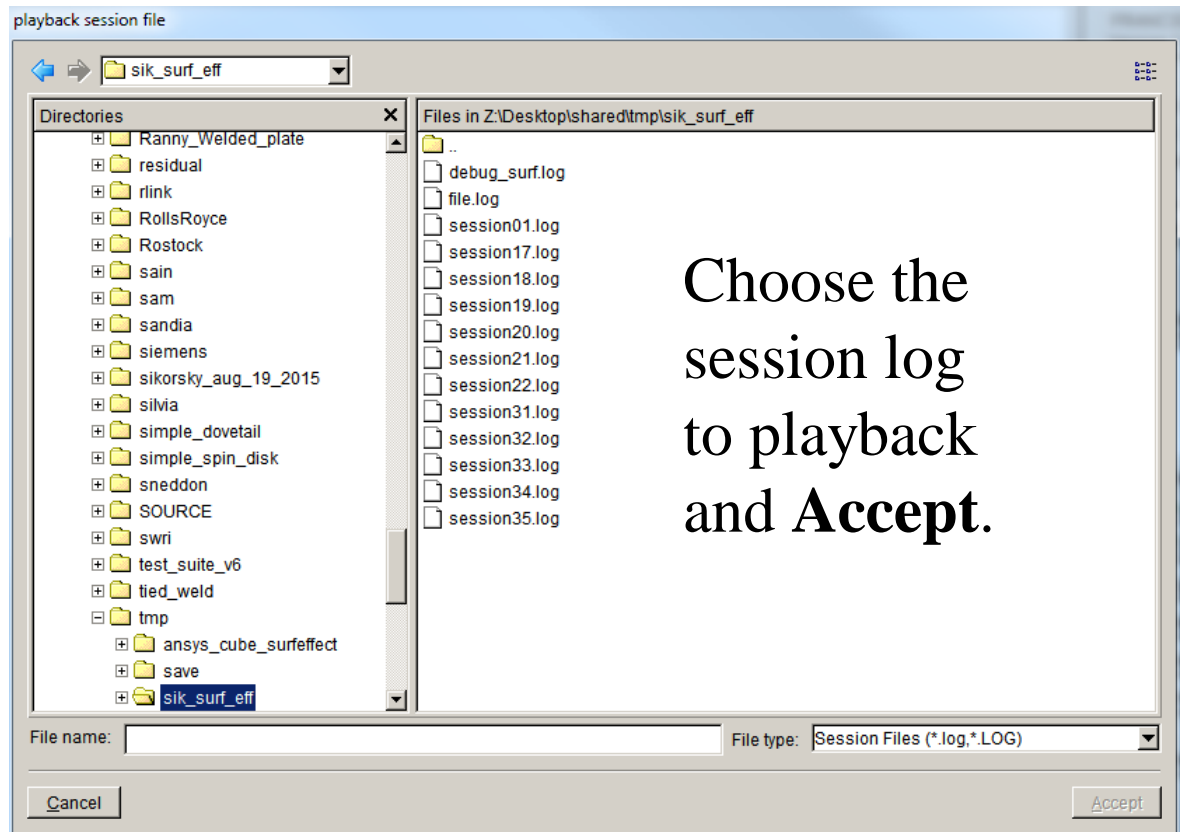
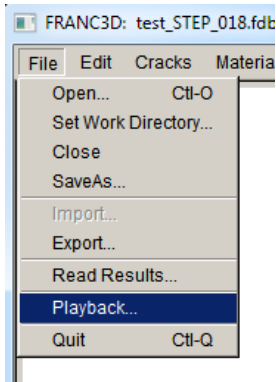
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A session##.log file is saved for each FRANC3D GUI session. As GUI commands are executed, each command is written to the session log. An example session:

```
OpenMeshModel(  
  model_type=ANSYS,  
  file_name='cube_orig.cdb',  
  retained_nodes_file='cube_orig_RETAINED.txt')  
  
InsertFileFlaw(  
  file_name='test.crk',  
  radius=0.0081)  
  
RunAnalysis(  
  model_type=ANSYS,  
  file_name='test.fdb',  
  flags=[TRANSFER_BC,NO_CFACE_TRACT,NO_CFACE_CNTCT],  
  connection_type=MERGE,  
  command=""ANSYS222.exe" -b -p ansys -i "test.macro" -o "test.out"")  
  
ComputeSif(  
  do_therm_terms=true,  
  ref_temp=71.6)
```

# FRANC3D Session Log and Playback

The session can be played back in the GUI:  
from FRANC3D menu, choose **File** → **Playback**



Choose the  
session log  
to playback  
and **Accept**.

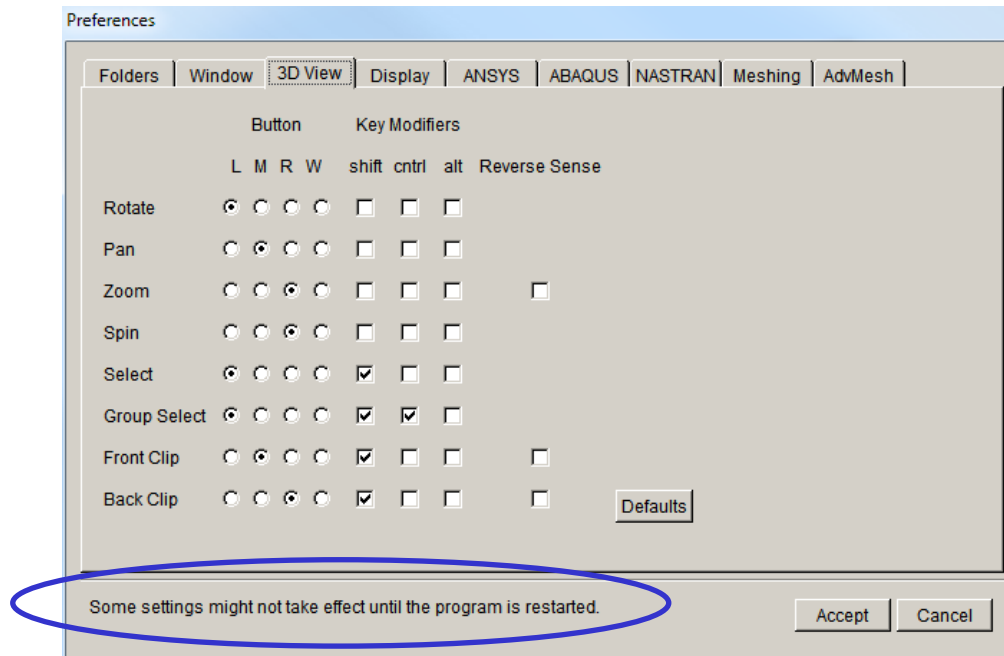
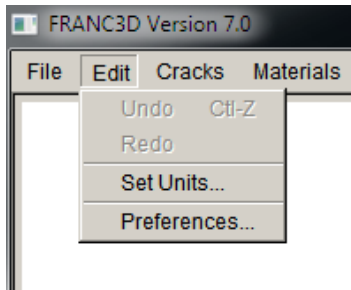
The log file can also  
be played back from a  
Command/Terminal:

➤ `franc3d -batch ses.log`

# Demo/Hands On (Homework): Set Preferences, Work Directory and Units

# FRANC3D Tutorial 1 – before you start

Set your Preferences, **Accept** and then quit and restart FRANC3D.



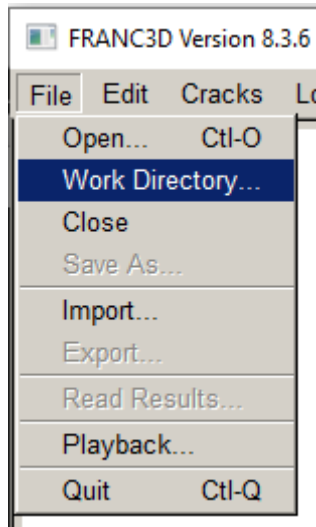
It is usually best to quit and restart the program after changing settings. Settings are saved to text file in user's home folder:

*franc3d.ini* for MS Windows

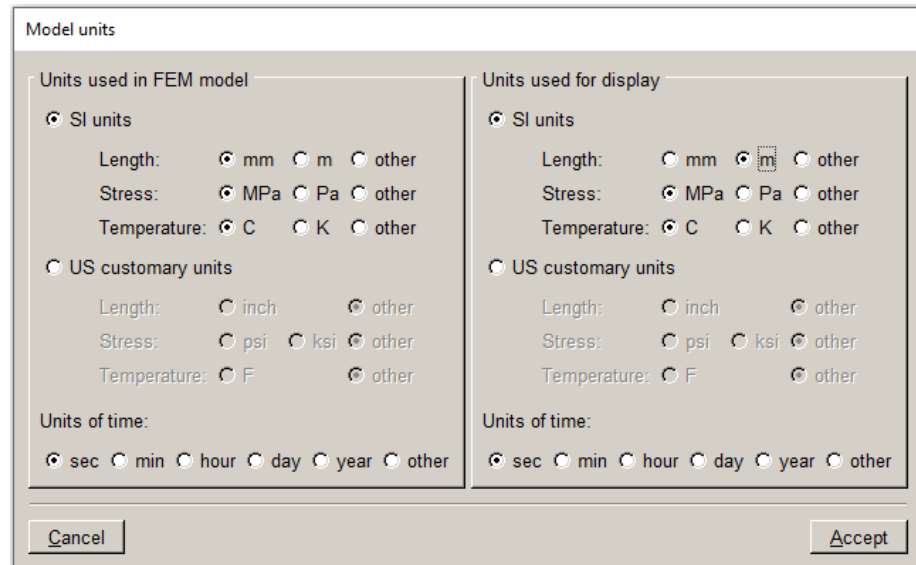
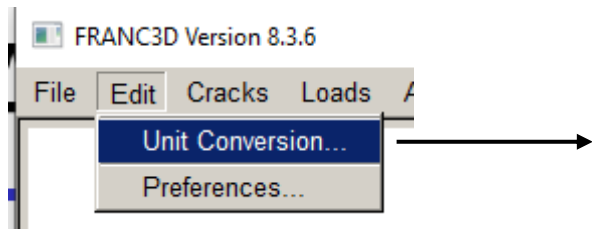
*.franc3d.rc* for Linux

# FRANC3D Tutorial 1 – before you start

Set your Work Directory and your FE model units.



Use separate folders for each new model.  
Lots of files are generated during analysis and growth.



# Demo & Hands On (Homework): Download Tutorial Doc / Files

## FRANC3D Documentation

Download & Install  
Instructions

Brochure

Reference Manual

Tutorial for ABAQUS Users

Tutorial for ANSYS Users

Tutorial for NASTRAN Users

Tutorial for SIERRA Users

Tutorials 2-14

User's Guide

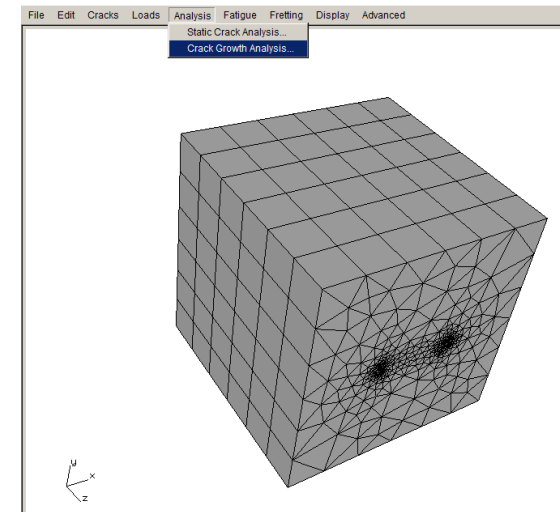
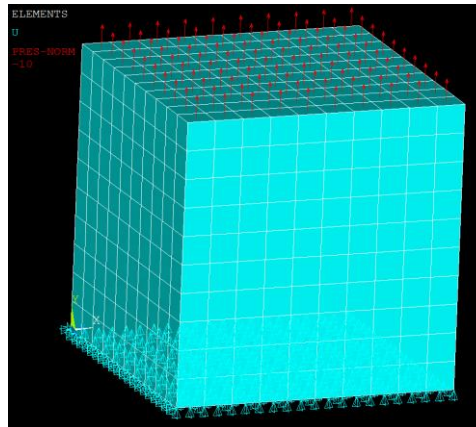
Command Line & Python  
Interface

Benchmark Reference

Training Slides

Download Files

## Tutorial #1: Crack Insertion and Growth in a Cube



<http://www.fracanalysis.com/software.html>

End Part 4