

## What's New in UDEC 7

Webinar

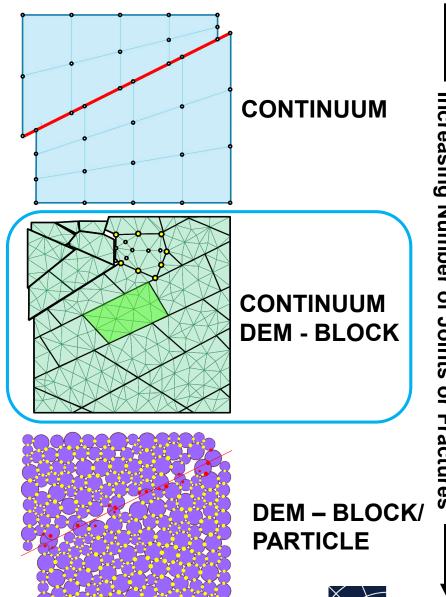
Presented on December 3, 2019

**Q&A** follow-up has been added post-webinar.

# Number Joints

## **Background**

- Universal Distinct Element Code (UDEC)
- 2D software first released in 1985 (33 years ago)
- Simulates the quasi-static or dynamic response to loading of media containing multiple, intersecting joint structures
- Large displacements along discontinuities and rotations of blocks can occur
- Models may contain a mixture of rigid or deformable (i.e., zoned) blocks (DEM, continuum, or combination)
- Version 7 represents a major transition from the GIIC (Graphical Interface for Itasca Codes) to the Common Framework (GUI) used by Itasca's 3D programs



#### **New Features**

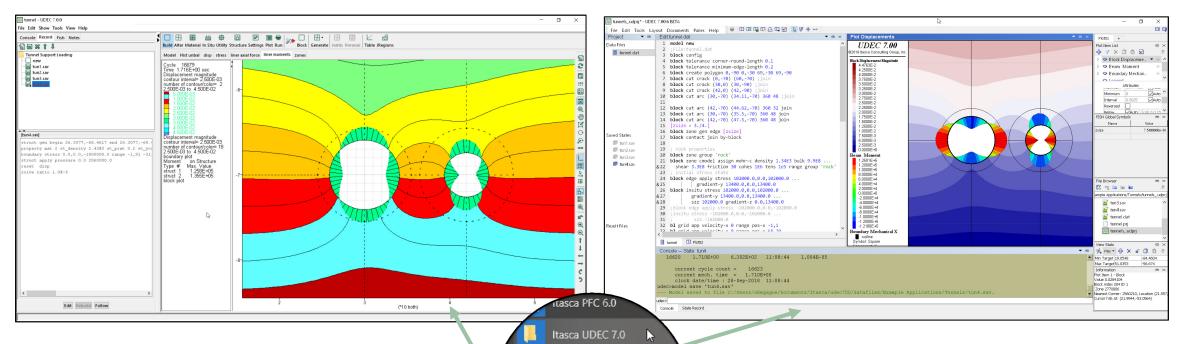
- Two flavors (GIIC and GUI)
- More online HELP
- Enhanced plotting [GUI]
- Updated Command and FISH (extended) syntax
- Advanced built-in text editor [GUI]
- New model construction tools
- New joint and Discrete Fracture Network (DFN) tools
- New analysis and data querying tools
- And more ...



#### **Two Flavors**

#### TRADITIONAL GIIC

#### **COMMON FRAMEWORK GUI**



UDEC 7.0 •

UDEC 7.0 GIIC

UDEC 7.0 Manual

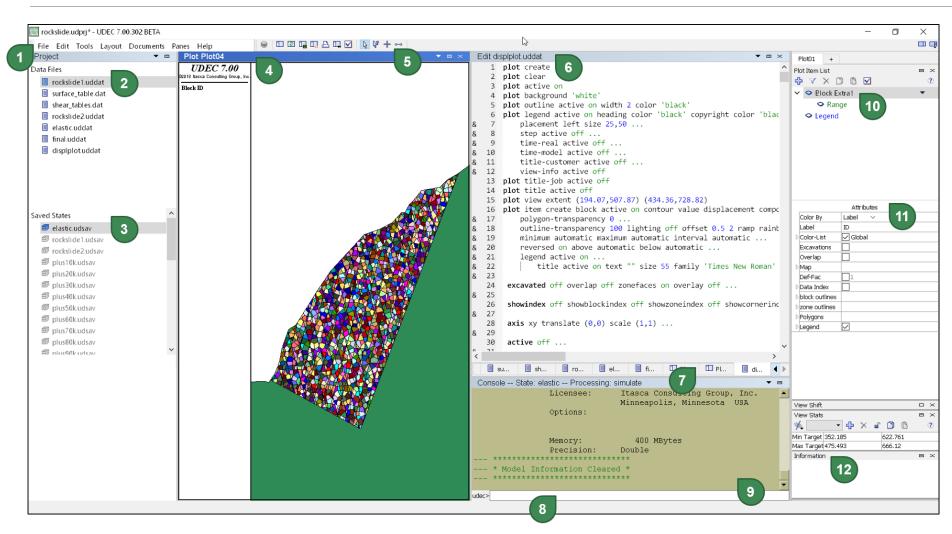
**UDEC 7.0 Command Refere** 

- Graphical Interface for Itasca Codes
- Interactive modeling tools
- Unique project files
- Common data & save files

- Graphical User Interface
- Powerful processing tools
- Unique project files
- · Common data & save files



#### **New GUI**



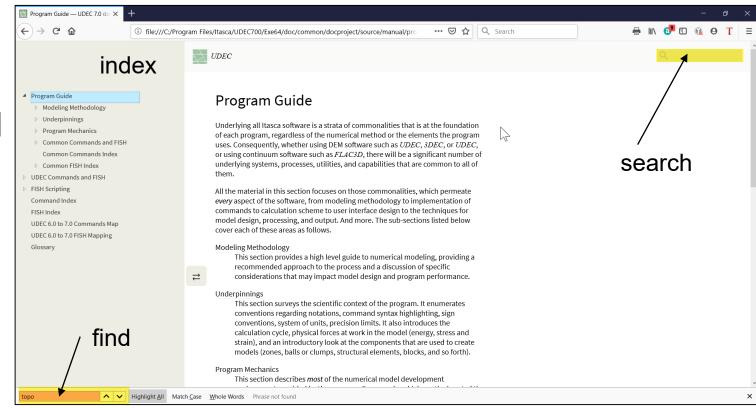
- (1) Main menu
- (2) & (3) Project pane
- (4) View pane
- (5) Contextual tool bar
- (6) Built-in text editor
- (7) Document tabs
- (8) Command line
- (9) Console pane
- (10) Plot items
- (11) Plot item attributes
- (12) Model information

**Control Panel** 



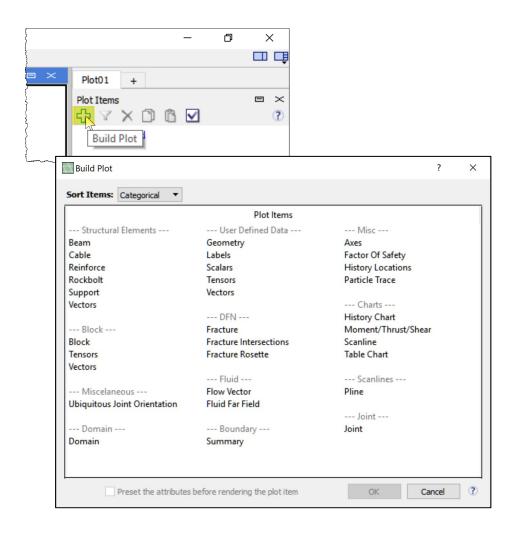
## **Online Help**

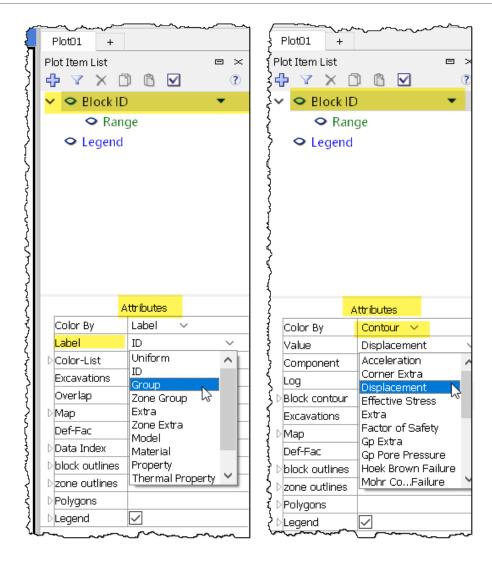
- Manual PDFs [GIIC]
- HTML-based system [both]
- Use Help → Help menu item [both]
- Use ? in command line [both]
- Use cursor and F1-key [GUI]
- Searchable across all content
- Use browser find tool within pages





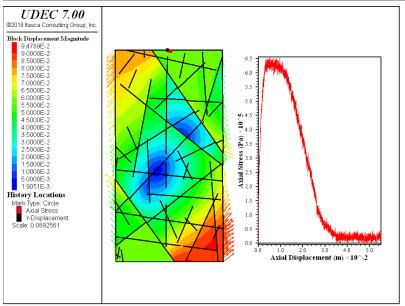
## **Enhanced Plotting**

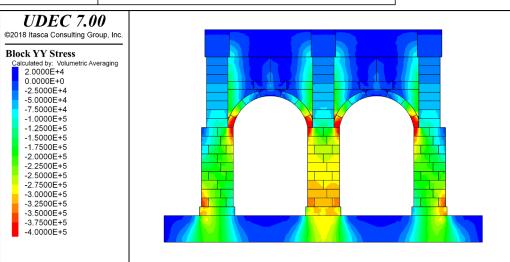


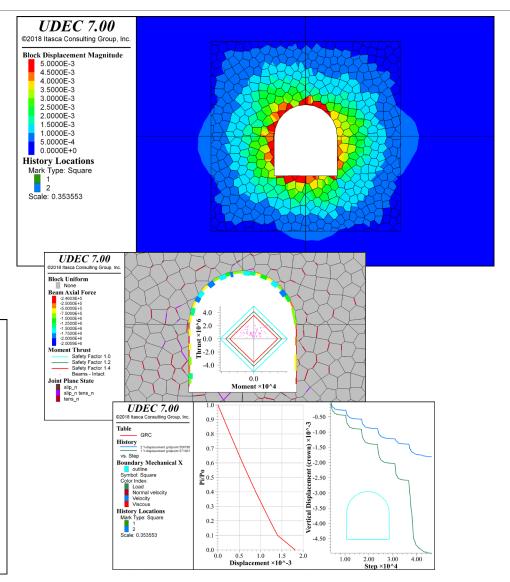




#### **Example Plots**

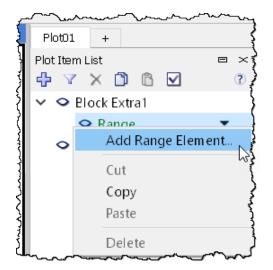


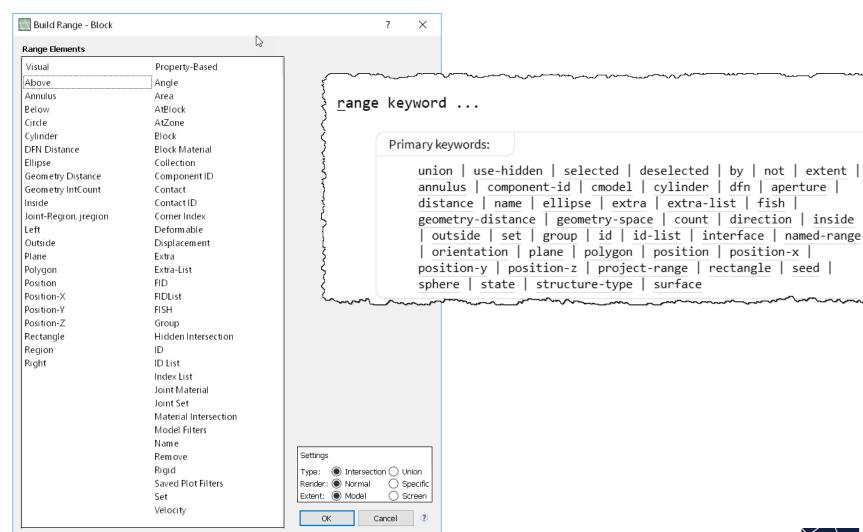






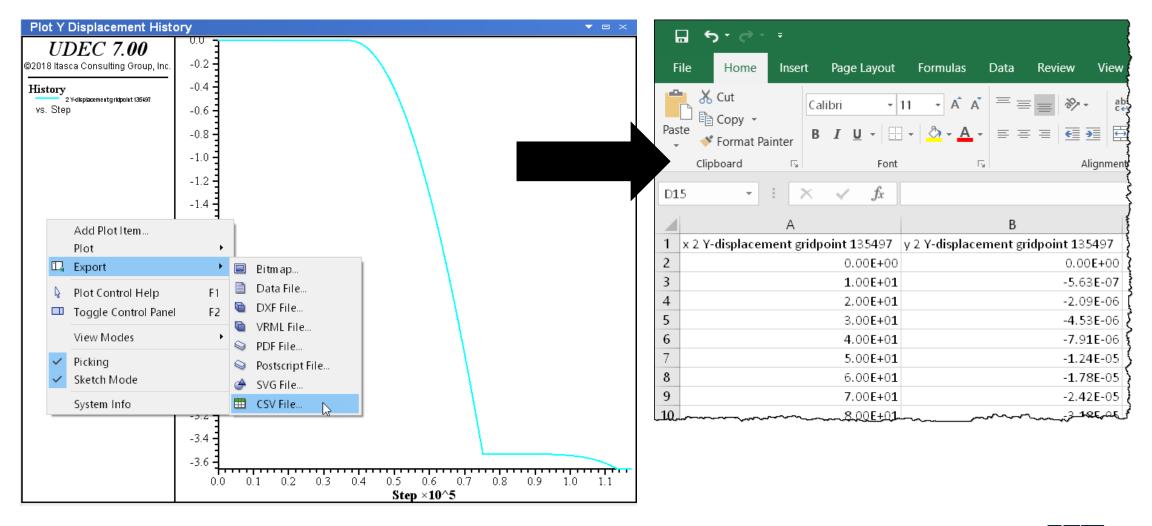
## **Enhanced Range Logic**







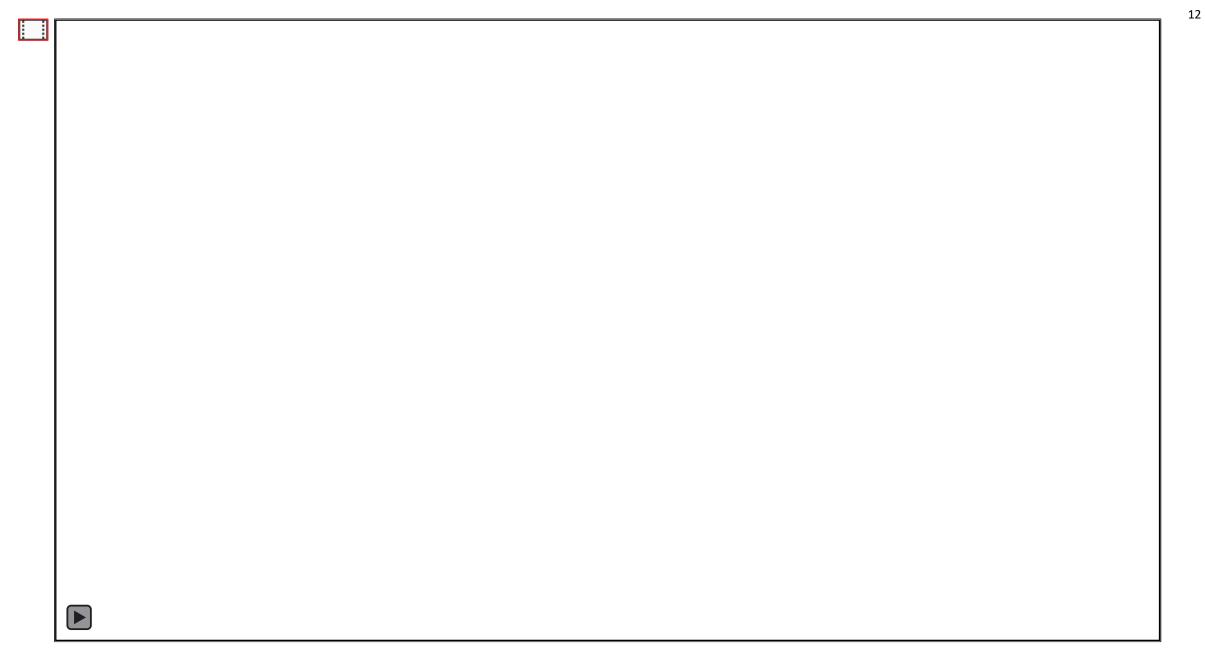
#### **Export Images and Chart Data**





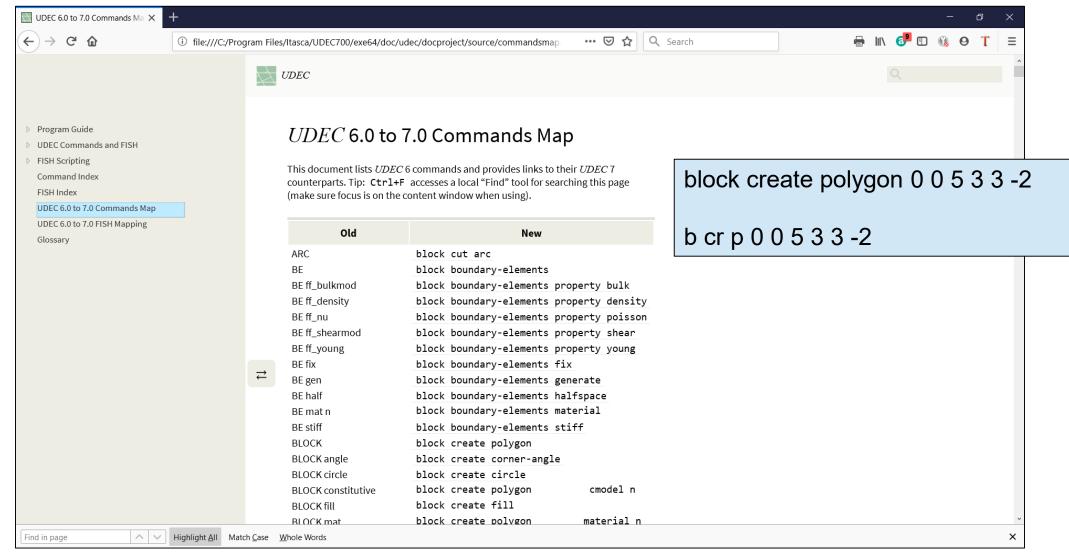
## **DEMO**







## **Updated Command Syntax**





## An Example

#### **UDEC 6 Commands**

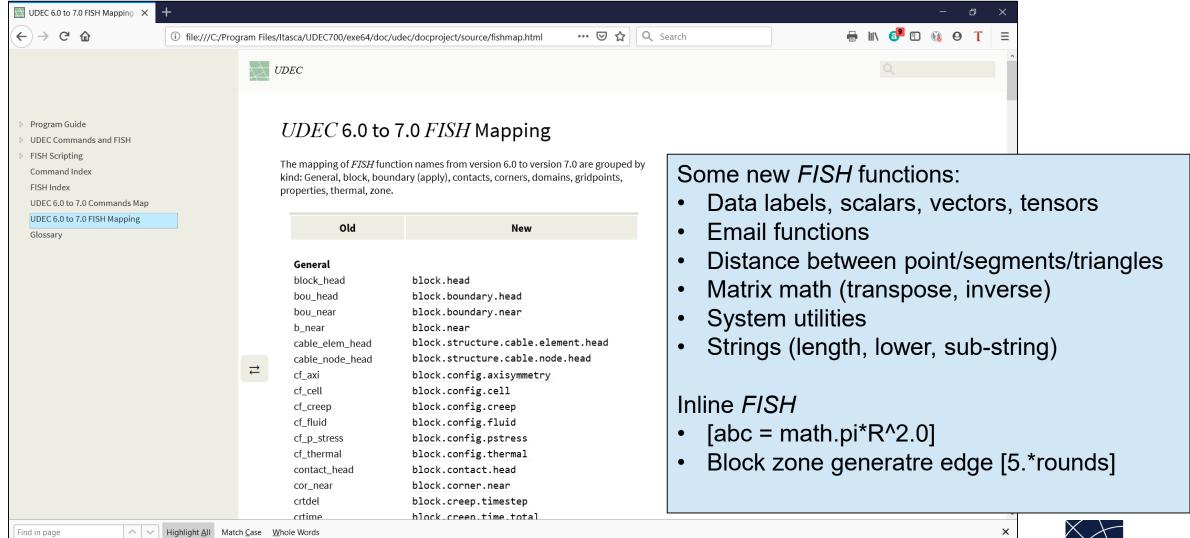
```
1 config
  2 round 5E-3
  3 edge 1E-2
    block 0,0 0,5 5,5 5,0
    gen edge 1.0
    group zone 'elastic'
    zone model elastic density 1E3 bulk 1E8 shear 3E7 ...
         range group 'elastic'
    boundary xvelocity 0 range -0.1.5.1 -0.1.0.1
    boundary yvelocity 0 range -0.1,5.1 -0.1,0.1
    boundary xvelocity 0 range -0.1,0.1 -0.1,5.1
    boundary xvelocity 0 range 4.9,5.1 -0.1,5.1
 13 struct rockbolt begin 2.5,5.0 end 2.5,2.5 seg 3 prop 1
    struct prop 1 cs scoh 1E20 cs sstiff 1E9 e 1E10 ...
         density 4000 radius 1 spacing 2 yield 1E20 ycomp 1E20
& 15
 16 struct node 1 load 0.0,1000000.0 0.0
    solve ratio 1.0E-5
```

#### **UDEC** 7 Commands After Conversion

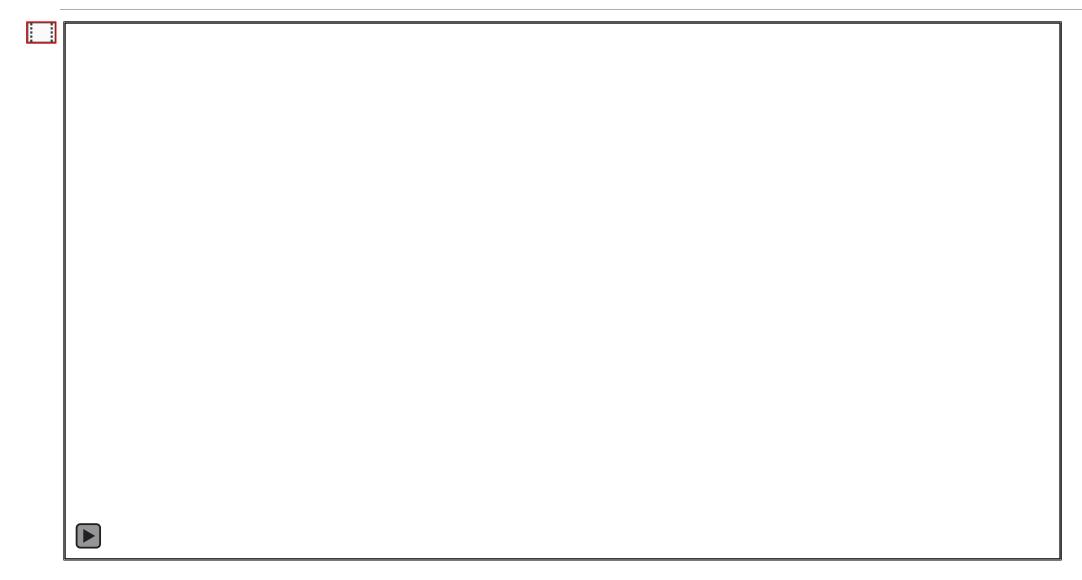
```
EUIT TESTAM - UTGO
    block config
    block tolerance corner-round-length 5E-3
  3 block tolerance minimum-edge-length 1E-2
    block create polygon 0 0 0 5 5 5 5 0
    block zone generate edge 1.0
    block zone group 'elastic'
     block zone cmodel assign elastic density 1E3 bulk 1E8 shear 3E7 ...
         range group 'elastic'
    block gridpoint apply velocity-x 0 range position-x -0.1 5.1 position-y -0.1 0.1
     block gridpoint apply velocity-y 0 range position-x -0.1 5.1 position-y -0.1 0.1
     block gridpoint apply velocity-x 0 range position-x -0.1 0.1 position-y -0.1 5.1
    block gridpoint apply velocity-x 0 range position-x 4.9 5.1 position-y -0.1 5.1
    block structure rockbolt create begin 2.5 5.0 end 2.5 2.5 segment 3 material 1
     block structure rockbolt property 1 coupling-cohesion-shear 1E20 ...
         coupling-stiffness-shear 1E9 young 1E10 density 4000 radius 1 ...
& 15
         spacing 2 yield-tension 1E20 yield-compression 1E20
& 16
 17 block structure beam node force 0.0 1000000.0 0.0 range id 1
 18 block solve ratio 1.0E-5
```



## **Updated** *FISH* **Syntax**

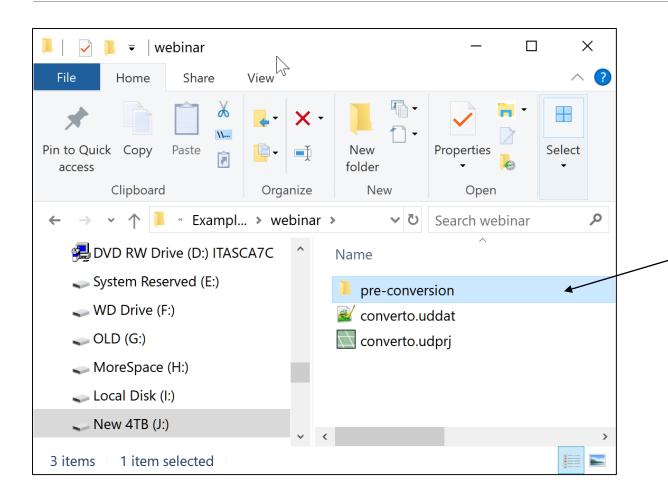


#### **Command Conversion Tool**





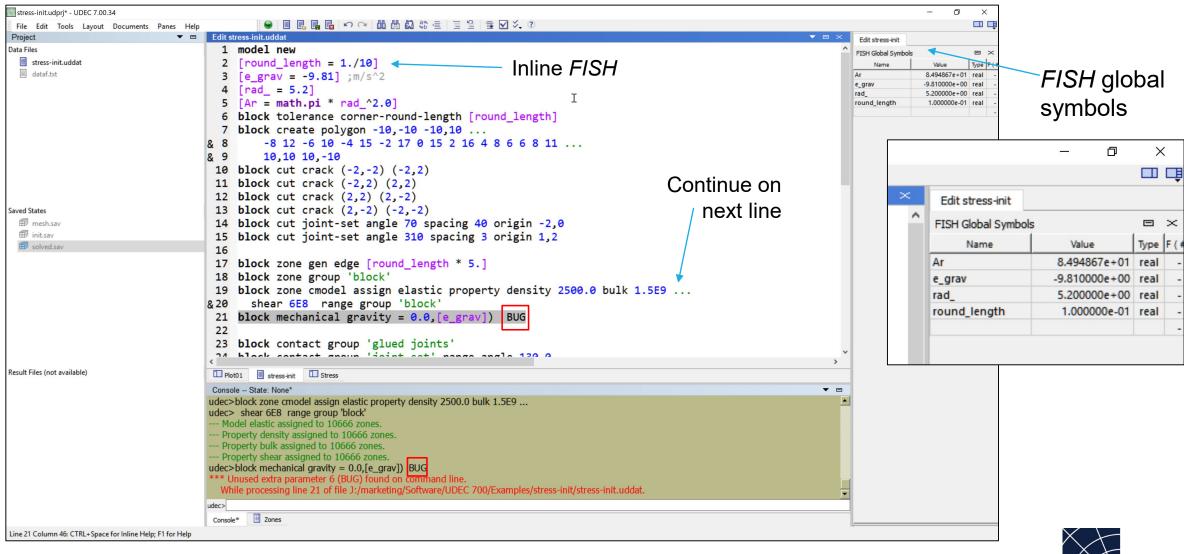
#### **Command Conversion Tool**



Original version is retained automatically



#### **Built-in Text Editor**



#### **Built-in Text Editor Tools and Options**



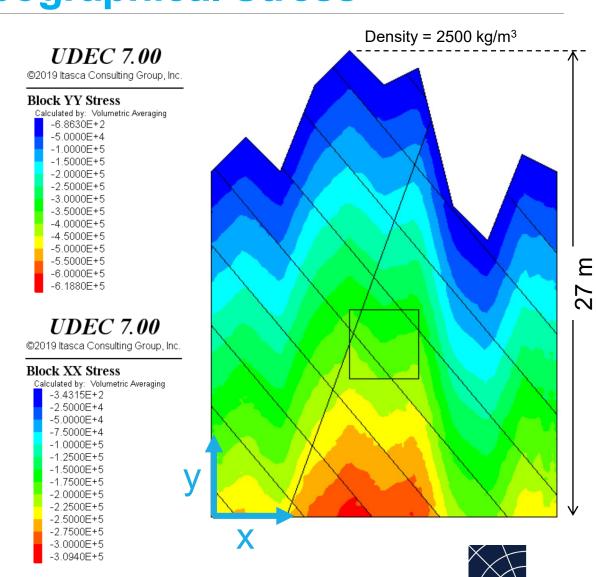
Options	? ×
Options  Editor	Font: Consolas
	Cut or copy line at cursor  Menu Command: Find  Shortcut Key: ✓ Control ☐ Alt ☐ Shift F ✓ In the Replace dialog, suggest replacement of backward slashes with forward slashes. (for file paths)  ✓ Ask whether to do command conversion when opening a file.  OK Cancel Apply



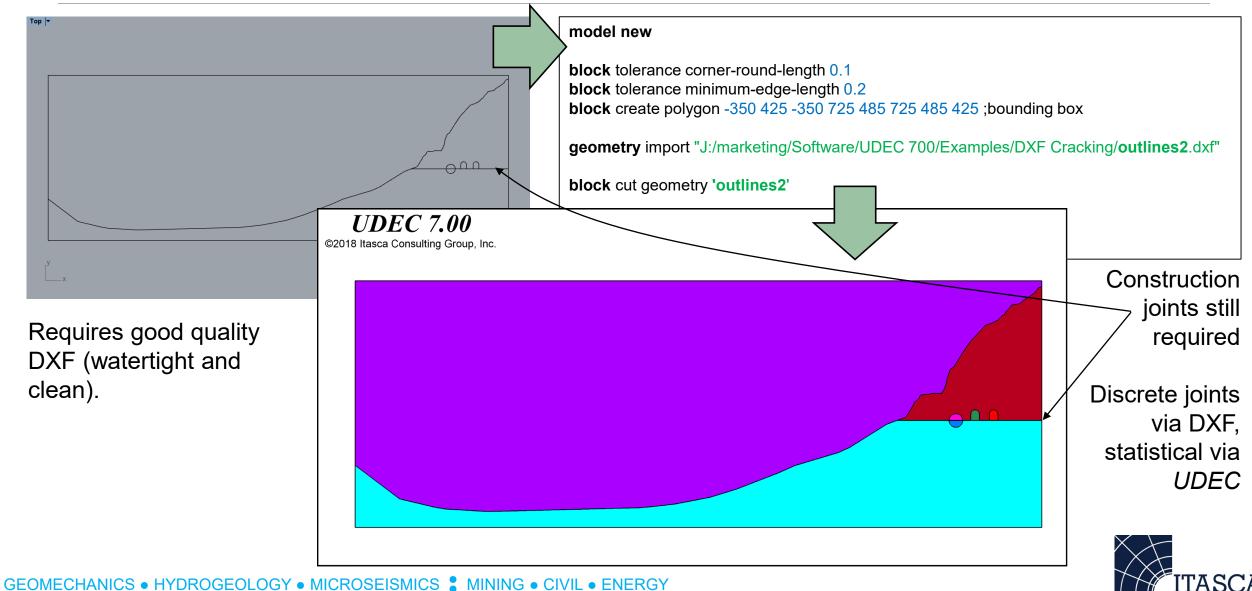
#### **New Construction Tools – Topographical Stress**

- Insitu stress command
- Gravity and material densities must be defined prior to use
- $k_0$  may be specified
- No manual calculations necessary
- FISH function not needed
- No cycling required upfront

block insitu stress-topography kox 0.5 koz 0.25



## Model (Crack) Generation from DXFs



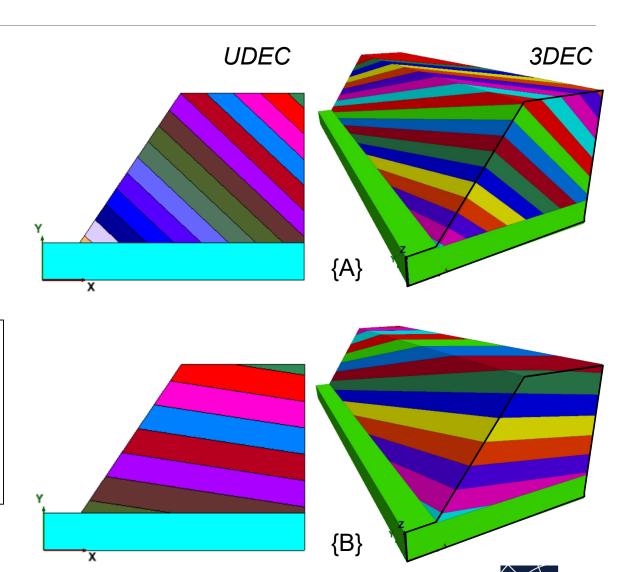
#### **3D Joint Generator**

- UDEC 6 uses angle keyword to specify orientation of jointing
- UDEC 7 allows specification of the UDEC model plane in 3D space
- Use Origin, Dip and Dip-Direction keywords to specify joint orientation

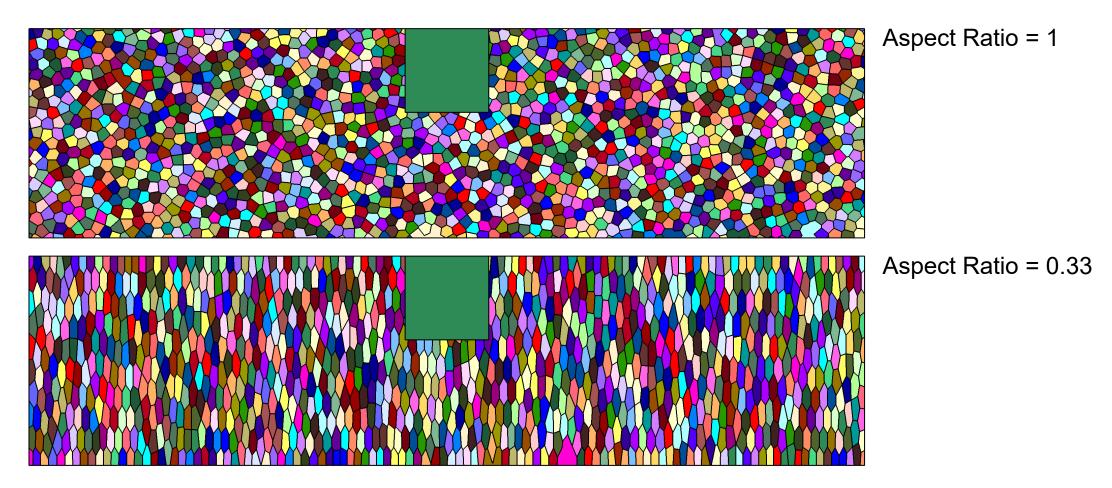
model orientation dip-dir 0 or 0 0 0

{A} block cut joint-set dip 45 dd 70 space 5 or 0 0

{B} block cut joint-set dip 15 dd 35 space 7 or 0 0



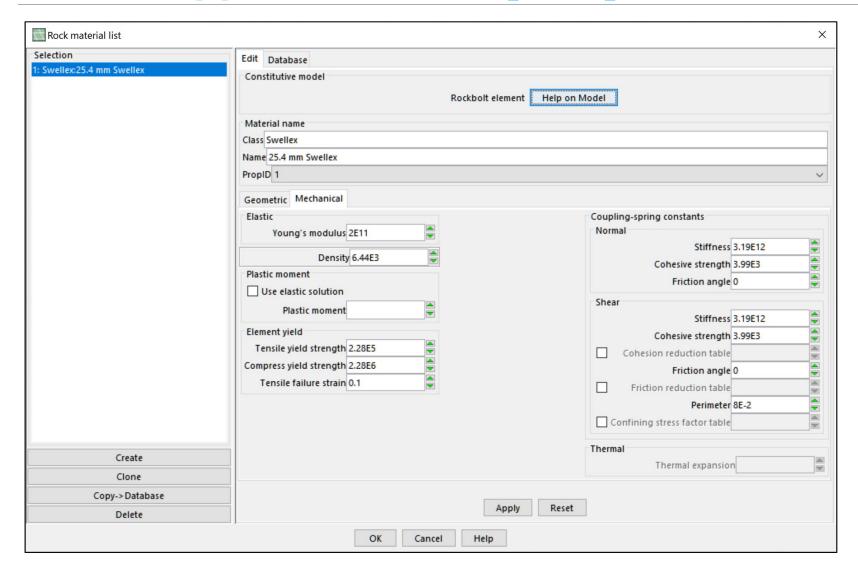
## **Asymmetric Voronoi Generation**



Voronoi (trigon) blocks are useful for Bonded Block Modeling (BBM) of intact rock).



## **Rock Support Database [GIIC]**





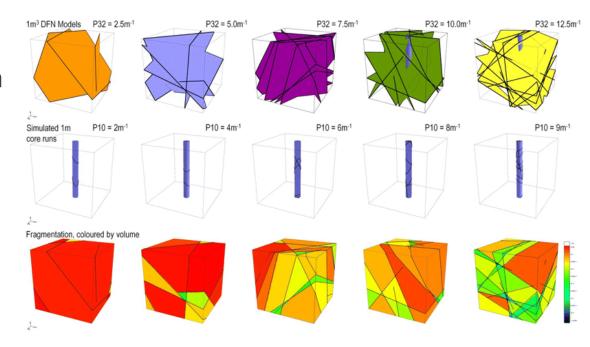
## **Fracture Generation (Statistical)**

#### • Fracture template create

 Parameters are the size distribution, the position distribution, and the orientation distribution.

#### Fracture generation

- Fractures are generated until a specified stopping criterion is met. These conditions include:
  - a target fracture number (fracture-count);
  - a target P<sub>10</sub> measured along either one or more scanlines;
  - a target density (P<sub>21</sub> in 2D; P<sub>32</sub> in 3D) (mass-density);
  - a target percolation volume (percolation);
  - DFN at the connectivity threshold (connectivity-threshold); and
  - user-defined criteria (fish-stop).



Rogers, S., Elmo, D., Webb, G. et al. Rock Mech Rock Eng (2015) 48: 633. https://doi.org/10.1007/s00603-014-0592-yebb.



#### **Fracture Generation**

#### Fracture combine

- Simplify fractures using reference fractures based on smaller fractures' relative angle and/or distance
- Prevent small angles between fractures, which can improve meshing
- Fracture import available
  - Several Itasca formats
  - 3D Fracman format
  - From UDEC geometry



#### **DFN Example**

```
; create fracture template specifying size distribution.
; orientations will be uniformly distributed by default
fracture template create 'example' size power-law 3 size-limit 1 100
; create one instance of a DFN within a defined box at a defined density (P10)
```

fracture generate template 'example' dfn 'fractures-1' gen-box -4 4 -8 8 p10 1.5 begin (-4,3.5) end (4,-3)

; merge fractures if they are sub-parallel (simplify fractures) fracture combine angle 30.0 distance 1.0 merge fracture combine angle 40.0 distance 1.0 merge

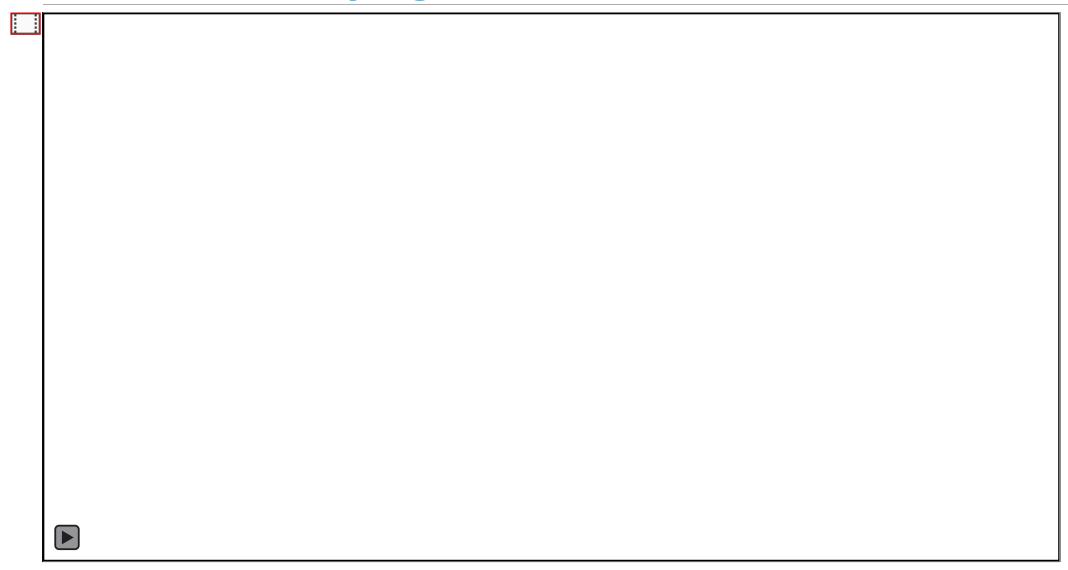
; cut fractures block cut dfn 'fractures-1'







## **New Data Querying Tools**





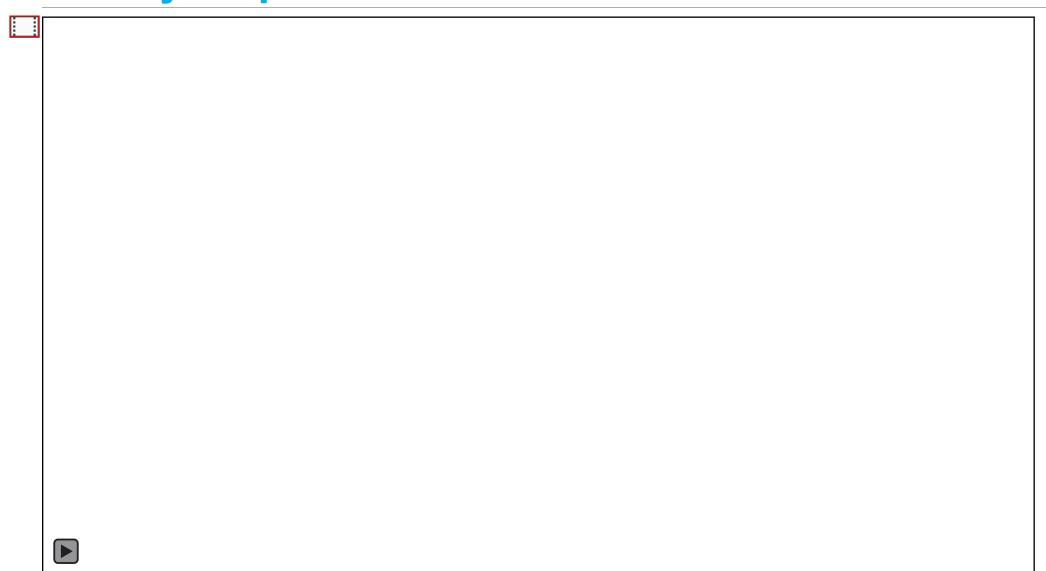
#### Interactive Help and Traditional Manual (slide added after webinar)



- Interactive online
   Help now
   available for FISH
   & Commands
- Traditional manual (PDF) available for background
- 3. Example data files may be loaded



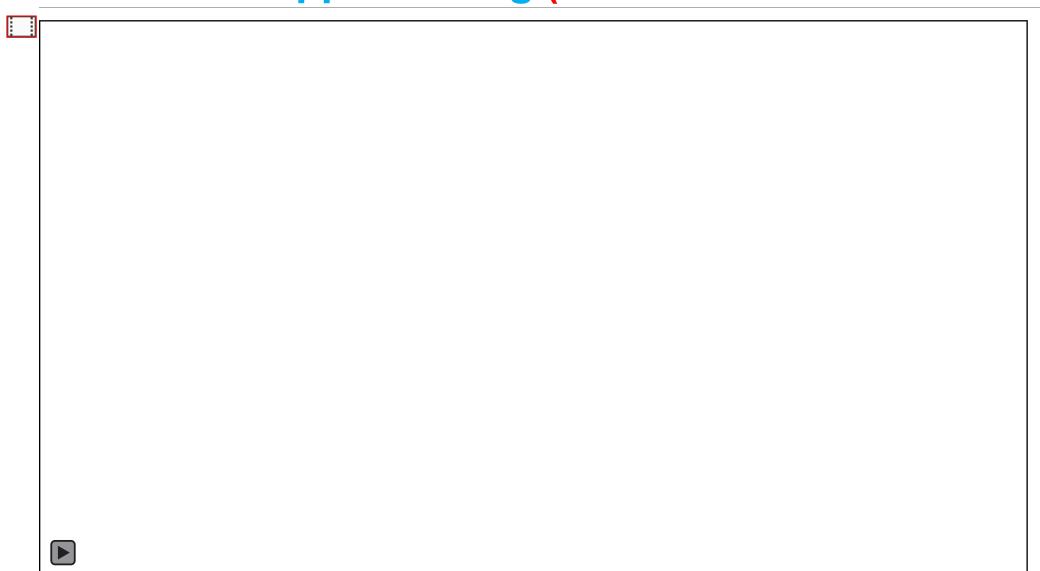
#### F1-key Help (slide added after webinar)



Use the
 F1-key in a
 data file or
 command
 line to
 reference
 the online
 Help.



## Technical support dialog (slide added after webinar)



- Use the built-in dialog form to ask technical questions, report bugs, or request features.
- Messages are routed to your regional software agent.



#### and more, including ...

- Eliminated save file incompatibility for future versions
- Up to 128 extra variables for all objects (blocks, zones, grid points, structural elements, etc.)
- Expand use of color for existing plots
- Expanded plotting of structural element results
- Track command to track blocks, zones, & grid points
- Automatic brick generator
- Failure states for all contact (joint) models
- Automatic stress initialization based on a stress measurement



# Thank You

Questions/Comments?



# **Question 1a**

Is there a scale box plot-item?



#### Scale box plot-item?

- No, there is currently not a scale-box plot item
- This is on the development list
- The GIIC flavor of *UDEC* still retains this plot-item if it is important for your plots
- A FISH function could be written to generate these plot-items using a combination of geometry (nodes, lines, polygons) and text labels.



### **Question 1b**

How to script plot-items?

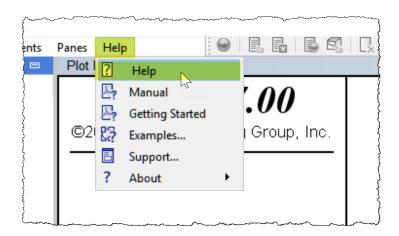


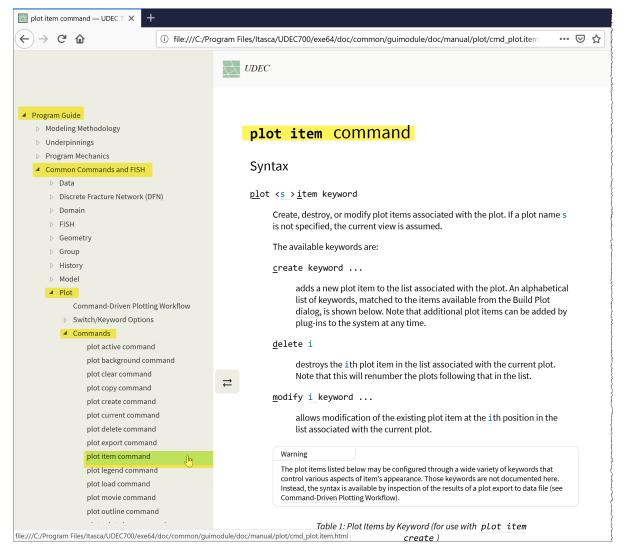
### To see how plot-item commands are scripted ...

- 1. Refer to *Plot Commands* in the online Help;
- 2. Use "?" in the command line; or
- Export existing plot(s) as data files to see command structure and reuse snippets.



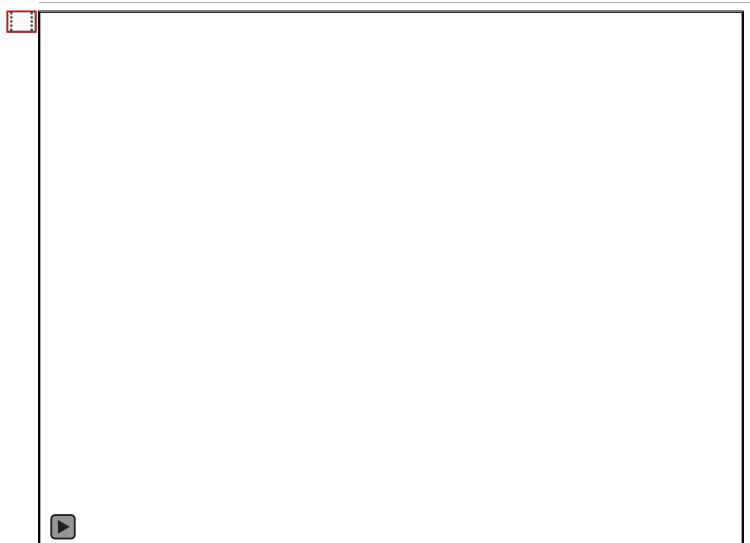
# (1) Primary plot-items and attribute switches/keywords are available in HELP







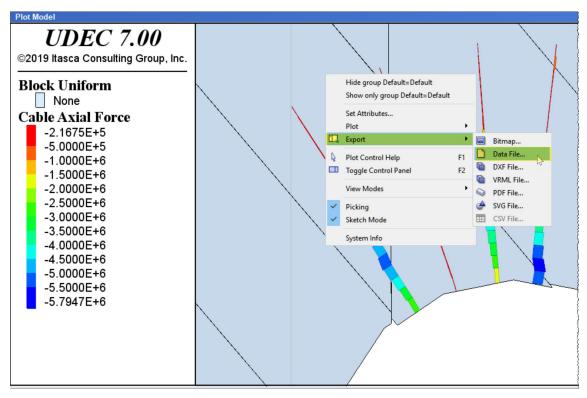
### (2) Prompt options using "?" in the command line



 HINT: You can display the previous command(s) issued in the command line using F3-key or the up-arrowkey.



### (3) Export plots as data files



Right-click on plot

```
1 plot create
  2 plot clear
  3 plot active on
  4 plot background 'white'
  5 plot outline active on width 2 color 'black'
  6 plot legend active on heading color 'black' copyright color 'black' ...
        placement left size 25,50 ...
        step active off ...
        time-real active off ...
        time-model active off ...
& 10
&11
        title-customer active off ...
        view-info active off
& 12
13 plot title-job active off
 14 plot title active off
 15 plot view extent (-10.745, 2.9945) (7.1239, 20.743)
    plot item create block active on label uniform color-list global off clear ...
            label "None" color 'xlightskyblue' ...
&18
        polygons fill on outline active off ...
&19
        polygon-transparency 0 ...
& 20
        outline-transparency 100 lighting on offset 0.5 2 ...
& 21
        zonelines color-list global on clear ...
& 22
            label "junk" color 'cyan' ...
& 23
        polygons fill off outline active off ...
& 24
        polygon-transparency ∅ ...
        outline-transparency 50 lighting on offset 0.5 2 ...
        text size 10 family 'Times New Roman' style normal ...
& 37
        uniform-color off ...
        color-list global off clear
    plot item create cable active on contour value aforce ... Cable plot-item command
        ramp rainbow ...
        minimum automatic maximum automatic interval automatic ...
& 41
        reversed off above automatic below automatic ...
& 42
& 43
        line width 2 style solid thick off ...
& 44
        mark ...
                                                                                  Cable plot-item
& 45
        mark type hourglass ...
        pixel-size 5 ...
                                                                                          attributes
& 47
        color-list global on clear ...
        bars polygons fill on outline active on width 1 color 'black' ...
                                                                                 (defaults used if
        polygon-transparency 0 ...
                                                                                    not specified)
۶ 50
        outline-transparency 80 lighting off offset 0.5 2 ...
& 51
        cut-line width 1 ...
```

Data file with all plot commands, attributes, and settings will be generated in the *UDEC* text-editor.

**&** 52

& 53 & 54 barscale 0.05 ...

legend active on ...



Are inline *FISH* variables global or local variables?



### Inline FISH global or local variables?

- Inline FISH variables are global by default. [abc = 3.14 \* 9.23]
- What are local variables?
  - ❖ Creates a local variable named "name." From this point until the end of the function (the end statement), this variable will supersede any existing global symbol with the same name. The variable is only available inside the function, and ceases to exist once the function has completed execution. A separate copy of the variable is created for each function execution.

```
DEF acalc
local abc = 3.14 * 9.23
END
[acalc]
```

- What are global variables?
  - Explicitly creates a global symbol name, if one does not already exist. By default, this is done by FISH automatically when an unrecognized name is encountered.

```
DEF acalc
global abc = 3.14 * 9.23
END
[acalc]
```

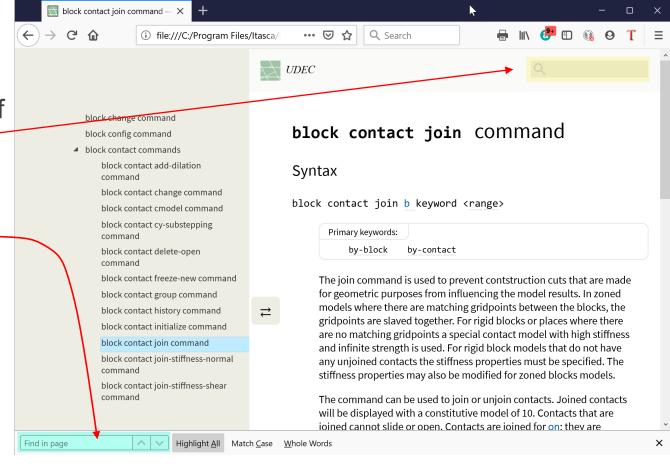


Find Tools



### Is there a find tool in "pages"?

- Assuming this is referring to the Help pages, there are two options:
- Index search (top, right-hand-side of Help pages) and;
- 2. Find tool (browser's built-in find too: CTRL + f-key).
- There is also a search/search-replace tool in the text-editor for data files



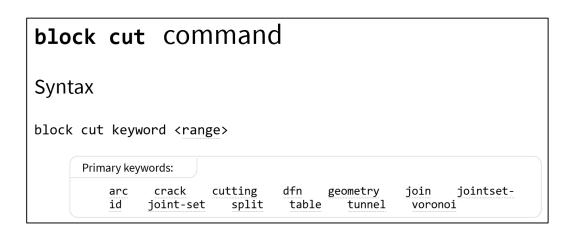


Modeling Faults



#### How to model a fault in *UDEC*?

- 1. Indirectly as zones, along the fault orientation, with different (weaker) properties from surrounding material (yielding and deformations are possible, but no sliding, separation, or closure along the fault.
- 2. By cutting the model into blocks and specifying the contacts between blocks to have fault properties. This represents a physical discontinuity such as a fault, contact plane, or interface between two different materials and sliding, opening, and closure is possible. Similar to an interface in *FLAC*.
  - Several contact models are available in UDEC:
    - Coulomb slip (area) contact model
    - Continuously yielding contact model
    - Coulomb slip (point contact) elastic model
    - Coulomb slip with residual strength model
    - Barton-Bandis contact model (optional)





### How to model fault seismic activity?

- Assuming seismicity due to slip on existing joints (distinguished from intact rock damage).
- All Itasca programs include the ability to consider pre-existing joints.
- How to get seismic information from slip on joints?
- Moment  $(M_0)$  calculated from shear modulus  $(\mu)$ , fault area (A) and fault slip  $(\Delta u)$ .

$$M_0 = \mu A \Delta u$$

• Magnitude  $(M_w)$  calculated by

$$M_w = \frac{2}{3} \log M_0 - 6$$

**For more information, refer to:** Fry, M. F. et al. "Discrete Element Modelling of Microseismic Energy Associated with Hydraulic Fracturing in Natural Fractures Reservoirs," in Proceedings, 49th US Rock Mechanics/Geomechanics Symposium (ARMA, San Francisco, June 2015), <u>ARMA 15-0806</u>. Alexandria, Virginia: ARMA, 2015



### Example: <u>3DEC</u> first approach

- "Frank" method
  - Consider each sub-contact a separate event location
  - Record total slip at each sub-contact over specified time intervals
  - Calculate magnitudes as above
  - Variation: Consider each contact an event and get average slip and total area over time interval
- Advantage: simple and fast
- Disadvantages
  - Magnitude strongly depends on time windows chosen
  - ❖ No spatial clustering (all events ~ same radius), or arbitrary spatial clustering (contact method)
- More complex, slower approaches have also been used that provide better temporal event definition or can differentiate between seismic and aseismic events.



Particle-Particle, Particle-Wall Interactions, and Fluid Flow



# Can particle-particle interactions and fluid flow be modeled?

- I am working on a flow application involving solid particles of different shapes. I would like to know if the DEM method in *UDEC* can be applicable to such fluid flows (suspension flow)? I would like to study the particle-particle and particle-wall interactions for jet polishing application.
- UDEC Contact Detection Option 1 (default): Domain Logic
- ❖ UDEC takes advantage of a network of "domains" created by the 2D block assembly. Domains are the regions of space between blocks, which are defined by the contact points. Domains are also used for calculating <u>fluid flow between blocks</u>.
- During one timestep, new contacts can only be formed between corners and edges within the same domain, so local updates can be executed efficiently whenever some prescribed measure of motion is reached within the domain.
- The main disadvantage of this scheme is that it cannot be used for very loose systems as the domain structure becomes ill-defined.
- UDEC Contact Detection Option 2: Cell Space Logic
  - The space containing the system of blocks is divided into rectangular cells. Each block is mapped into the cell or cells that its "envelope space" occupies. Once all blocks have been mapped into the cell space, it is an easy matter to identify the neighbors to a given block (via linked-list addresses of all blocks).
  - This allows models with blocks that may bounce from one block to another (e.g., rock fall model or bin flow).
  - \* However, <u>fluid flow is not available</u> with the cell logic and the cell space approach is slower than the "domain" logic.
- Therefore, for this specific case it is recommended that you consider PFC2D (or PFC3D) rather than UDEC, likely also incorporating a CFD solver (e.g., OpenFoam).

Grid and scale-box Plot-items



### **Grid and scale-box for plots?**

- When using *UDEC* 7 (GIIC) it remains possible to plot a grid or scale axes for you model.
- There is currently no plot-item in UDEC 7 (GUI) for this.
  - We have added this to the Common Framework development list.
  - If this is important, remember that GUI saved files may be restored in the GIIC.
  - A FISH function could be written to generate these plot-items using a combination of geometry and labels.

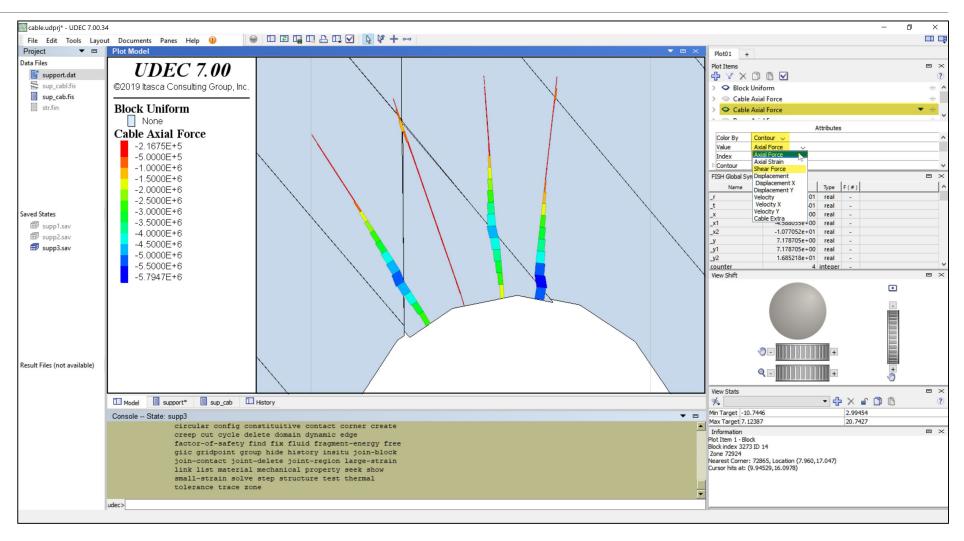


Cable Plot Items



# Can we plot the shear along with the axial forces on the bolts/nails?

- Yes
- Cable plot-item
- Contour
- Axial force
- See dropdown menu on RHS for additional options





Plot Reset and Scale Plot Item



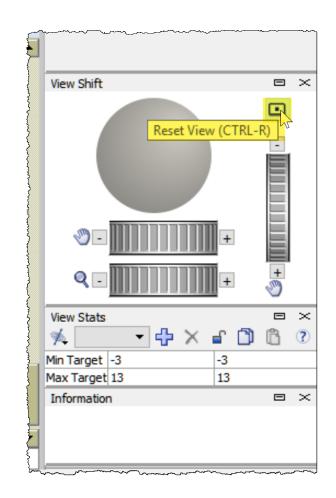
### Plot reset and scale plot item?

# 1. How can I reset (i.e., view maximum extents) the plot view?

- You can use CTRL + R-key to reset the view in any plot
- There is also a reset button (see RHS image) in the View Shift

#### 2. There doesn't appear to be a scale for a plot.

- When using UDEC 7 (GIIC) it remains possible to plot a grid or scale axes for you model.
- There is currently no plot-item in *UDEC* 7 (GUI) for this.
  - We have added this to the Common Framework development list.
  - If this is important, remember that GUI saved files may be restored in the GIIC.
  - A FISH function could be written to generate these plot-items using a combination of geometry and labels.





FOS solve after Dynamic analysis



#### **FOS** solve and dynamic analysis

- Can we do an FOS [factor of safety] solve after Dynamic analysis where we set damping as zero?
  - \* UDEC does not change the damping as part of the solve FOS process. So, local damping would need to be turned on after a dynamic analysis.
- Do we need to reset the damping or any other parameter to be able to run FOS?
- UDEC does internally turn off large-strain during solve FOS.

