



VMAP Standard

IO-Lib, Wrappers and
Converters



www.vmap-standard.org

Andre Oeckerath

VMAP – IO-Lib, Wrappers and Converters

Agenda

- **VMAP IO-Lib 1.3**
 - Configurable floating-point precision
 - Enhanced data compression
- **VMAP - Wrappers and Converters**

VMAP – IO-Lib

Version 1.3

- Single / double floating-point precision flag added to all dataset

```
void writePointsBlock (const std::string &groupName, const sPointsBlock &points, bool useDoublePrecision=true)
```

Writes **sPointsBlock** to file; Creates DataSet "POINTS" in group "groupName".

```
void writeVariablesBlock (const std::string &groupName, const std::vector< VMAP::sStateVariable > &variables, bool useDoublePrecision=true)
```

Writes multiple **sStateVariable** to file; Creates list of variables in group "groupName".

```
void writeVariable (const std::string &groupName, const VMAP::sStateVariable &variable, bool useDoublePrecision=true)
```

Writes single **sStateVariable** to group "groupName".

```
void writeMeasurandValuesBlock (const std::string &groupName, const std::vector< VMAP::sMeasurandValues > &variables, bool useDoublePrecision=true)
```

Writes a vector measurand values to group "groupName".

```
void writeMeasurandValues (const std::string &groupName, const VMAP::sMeasurandValues &variable, bool useDoublePrecision=true)
```

Writes a measurand values as a group "myMeasurandName" from group "groupName".

```
void writeTable (const std::string &groupName, const sTable &table, bool useDoublePrecision=true)
```

Writes a 2D table to HDF.

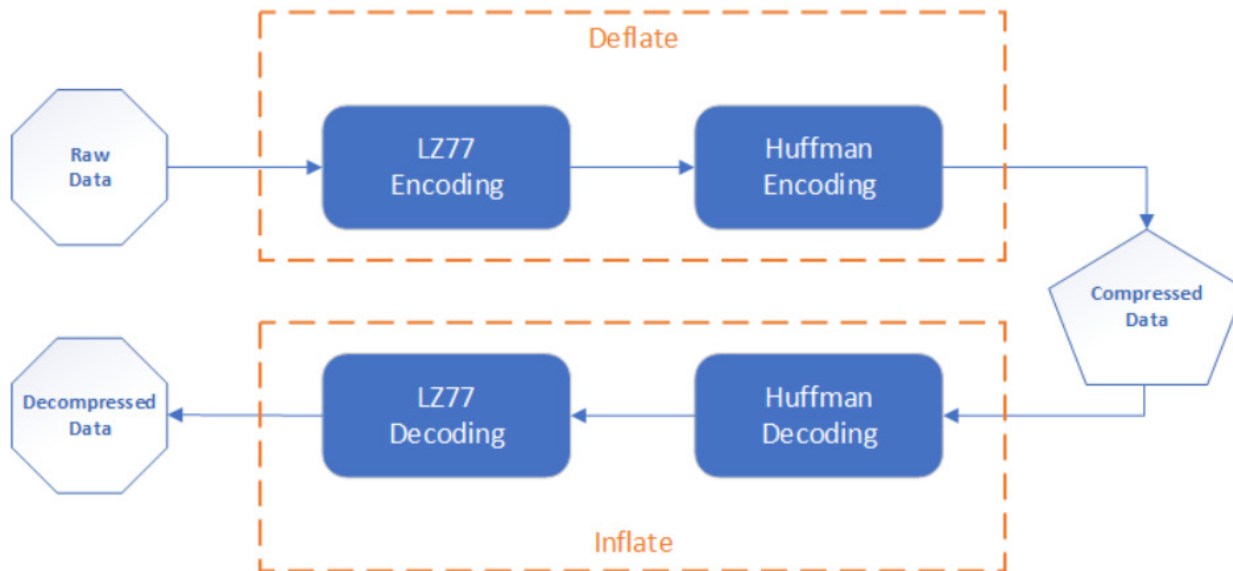
VMAP – IO-Lib

Version 1.3

- **Precision can be different per variable**
 - If precision is critical -> 64-bit double precision
 - In precision is uncritical -> 32-bit float precision
- **Precision can be different per time step**
 - For visualization -> 32-bit float precision
 - For Restart / Data Mapping -> 64-bit double precision for last time increment

VMAP - data size reduction by compression

zip compression – how does it work?



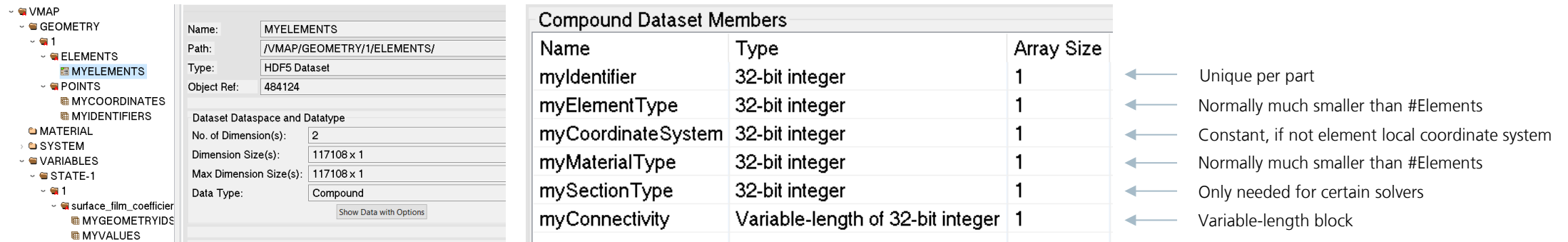
- LZ77 is a dictionary based lossless compression (basic idea is to replace an occurrence of a particular sequence of bytes in data with a reference to a previous occurrence of that sequence)
- Huffman encoding is a statistical compression method (data symbols are decoded by their frequency of appearance). Code for more frequently occurring data symbols are shorter than codes for less frequently occurring data symbols.

➔ VMAP compression can be improved, if compressed datasets are more homogenic

VMAP – IO-Lib

Consequences to VMAP data structures

- Avoid Compound data types, in particular the VMAP elements block



The screenshot displays the VMAP data structure. On the left is a tree view showing a hierarchy from VMAP down to MYVALUES. The middle panel shows the properties for the 'MYELEMENTS' dataset, including its path, type (HDF5 Dataset), and dimensions. On the right, a table titled 'Compound Dataset Members' lists several members with their types and array sizes. Arrows point from the table to explanatory text on the far right.

Name	Type	Array Size
myIdentifier	32-bit integer	1
myElementType	32-bit integer	1
myCoordinateSystem	32-bit integer	1
myMaterialType	32-bit integer	1
mySectionType	32-bit integer	1
myConnectivity	Variable-length of 32-bit integer	1

- ← Unique per part
- ← Normally much smaller than #Elements
- ← Constant, if not element local coordinate system
- ← Normally much smaller than #Elements
- ← Only needed for certain solvers
- ← Variable-length block

- ‘One’ dictionary per compound member seems to be more suitable than a dictionary for complete DataSet

VMAP – IO-Lib

Consequences to VMAP data structures

- **Split higher dimensional DataSets into its dimensions**
 - GEOMETRY/POINTS
 - VARIABLES
 - Vectors
 - Tensors
- **E.g. for a sPointsBlock of a model part, it is more likely that X-values are similar than a point has similar xyz values**

VMAP - data size reduction by compression

Lossy compression

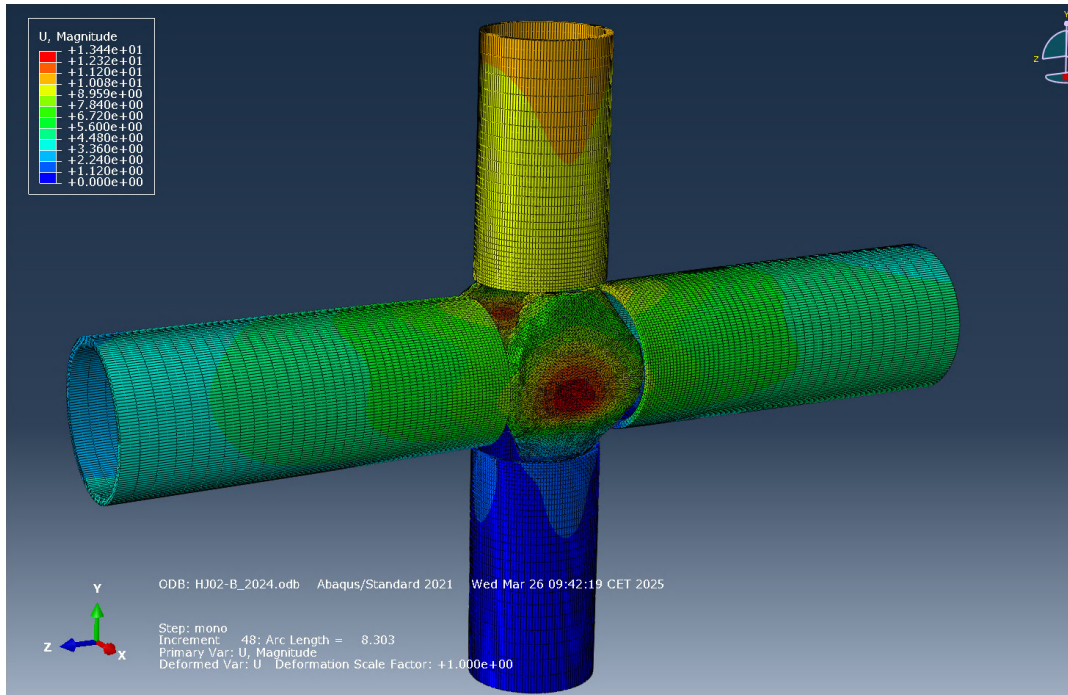
- For certain use of VMAP, e.g. result visualization, we can favor enhanced compression by accepting losing floating point precision
- E.g. for visualization "I can accept nodal coordinates to be rounded to 0.01 mm precision"

	0	1	2
0	-0.08500000039406967	0.090000000357627869	0.100000000449011612
1	-0.08490392535727234	0.090000000357627869	0.09902454912662506
2	-0.08461939543485641	0.090000000357627869	0.09808658063411713
3	-0.08415734767913818	0.090000000357627869	0.09722214937210083
4	-0.08353553712368011	0.090000000357627869	0.09646446257829666
5	-0.08277785032987595	0.090000000357627869	0.09584265202283859
6	-0.08191341906785965	0.090000000357627869	0.09538060426712036
7	-0.08097545057535172	0.090000000357627869	0.09509607404470444
8	-0.07999999821186066	0.090000000357627869	0.0949999988079071
9	-0.07999999821186066	0.09099999815225601	0.0949999988079071
10	-0.07999999821186066	0.09200000017881393	0.0949999988079071
11	-0.07999999821186066	0.09300000020537186	0.0949999988079071
12	-0.07999999821186066	0.09399999878134918	0.0949999988079071
13	-0.07999999821186066	0.0949999988079071	0.0949999988079071
14	-0.07999999821186066	0.09600000083446503	0.0949999988079071

➤ Floating points can be transformed to integers to allow better compression ratios

Results

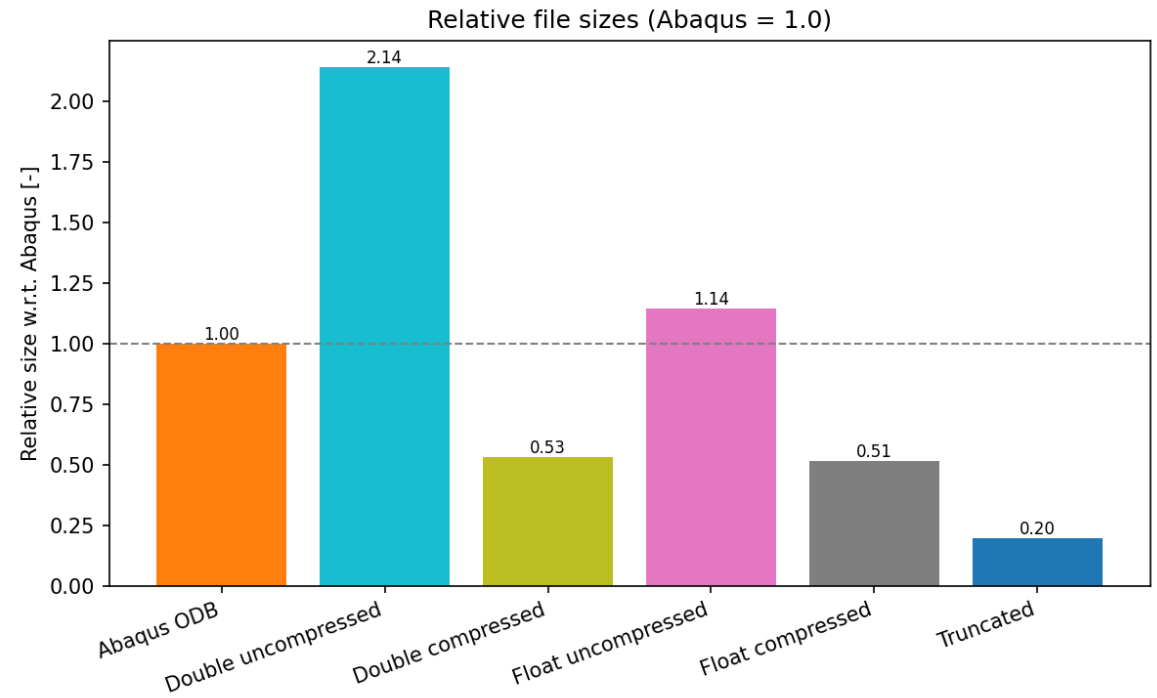
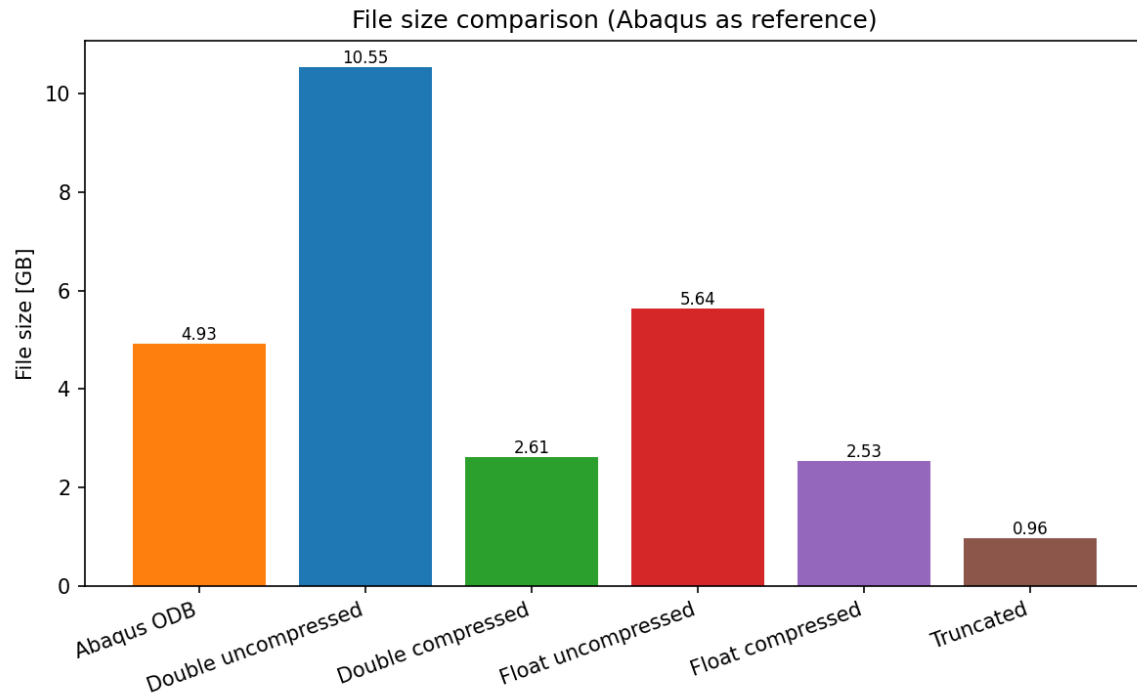
Sample data



- 2 parts
- ~450.000 nodes
- 150.000 elements (hexahedron 20, tetrahedron 10)
- 48 increments
- Abaqus ODB ~5 GB (single precision)

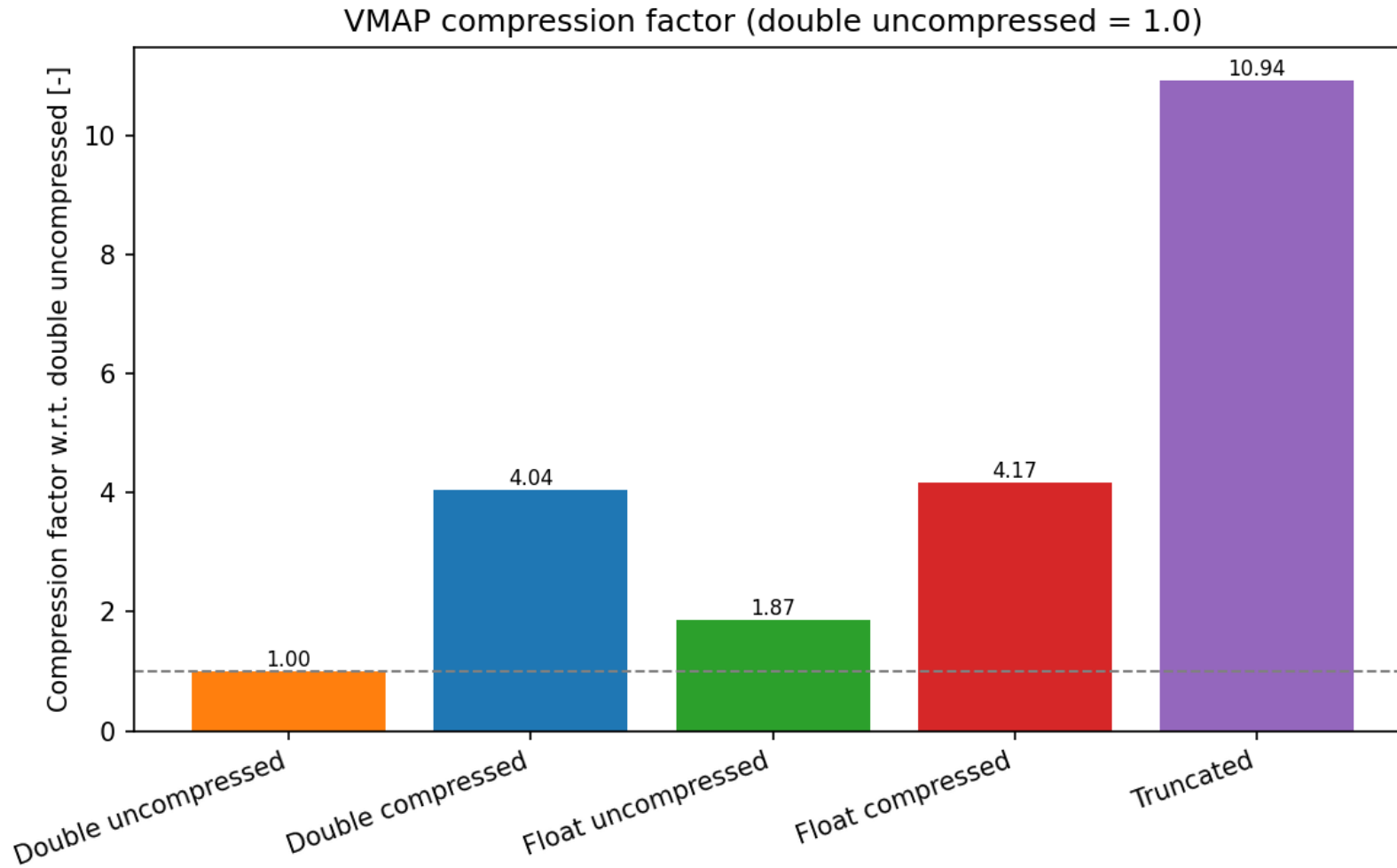
Result

Sample data file sizes



Results

VMAP



VMAP – IO-Lib

Summary

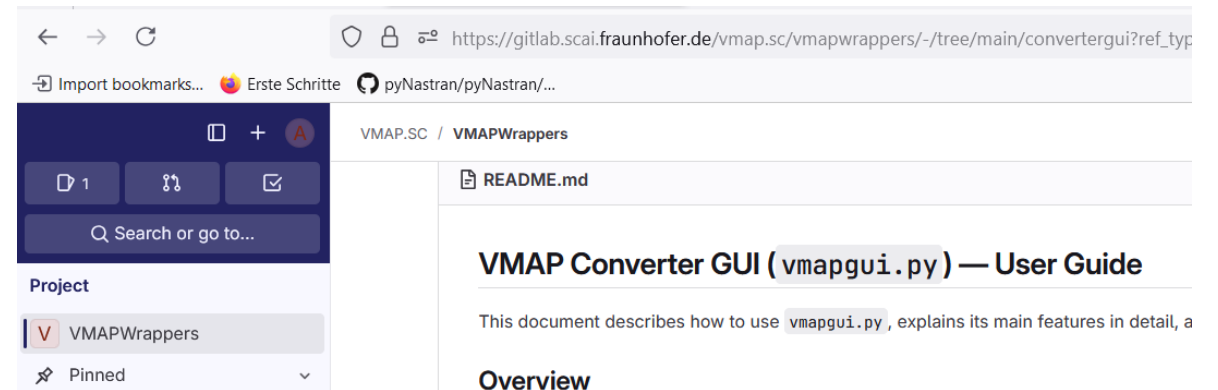
- **Single / double floating-point precision can be assigned individually to variables or time steps**
- **Data split has been applied to VMAP-IO Lib internally, so no changes to present use of lib is needed**
- **VMAP-IO Lib supports both, the compression optimized layout as well as the 'Standard' layout**

VMAP

Wrappers and Converters

VMAP Converter GUI

- Lightweight Python GUI on top of the vmapwrapper package
- Unified front-end to convert CAE, CFD, measurement and robot data into VMAP files
- Discovers converter modules via formats.ini and exposes them as selectable formats
- Build-in PyVMAP handler for Python 3.9-3.14



VMAP – Converter GUI

Supported formats

Finite Element

- **Abaqus (ODB)**
Abaqus Python
- **CalculiX (FRD)**
ccx2paraview + VTK
- **Ansys Mechanical APDL (RST)**
pyANSYS
- **LS-DYNA (D3Plot)**
VTK
- **Nastran (OP2)**
pyNastran
- **Marc (HDF5)**
h5py

CFD

- **OpenFOAM (foam)**
VTK
- **Fluent CFF (HDF5)**
VTK
- **EnSight Gold**
VTK

Measurement

- **Excel Spreadsheets**
pandas + matplotlib
- **STL Files**
stl
- **MX3D Files**
pandas + json
- **KUKA Robots Src**
pandas + json

General-purpose

- **VTK Unstructured Grid (VTU)**
VTK

VMAP – Converter GUI

FE code wrappers - features

Abaqus (ODB)

- **Mesh**
 - Nodes
 - Elements
 - Sets
 - Parts
- **Variables**
 - Displacement
 - Stress
 - Strain
 - Temperature
 - Forces
 - Others
- **Analysis**
 - Static
 - Transient

Ansys MAPDL (RST)

- **Mesh**
 - Nodes
 - ~30 solid and shell elements
- **Variables**
 - Displacement
 - Forces
 - Stress
 - Strain
 - Temperature
- **Analysis**
 - Static
 - Transient

LS-DYNA (D3Plot)

- **Mesh**
 - Nodes
 - Shell elements
 - Parts
- **Variables**
 - Displacement
 - Velocity
 - Acceleration
 - Stress/Strain
 - Energy
 - Thickness
 - History Variables
 - Element death
- **Analysis**
 - Transient

Nastran (OP2)

- **Mesh**
 - Nodes
 - Solid and Shell elements
- **Variables**
 - Displacement
 - Forces
 - Stress
 - Strain
- **Analysis**
 - Static
 - Transient

Marc (HDF5)

- **Mesh**
 - Nodes
 - Shell elements
- **Variables**
 - Displacement
 - Reaction forces
 - External forces
 - Stress
 - Strain
- **Analysis**
 - Static
 - Transient

CalculiX (FRD)

- **Mesh**
 - Nodes
 - Solid and Shell elements
 - Parts
- **Variables**
 - Displacement
 - Temperature
 - Reaction forces
 - Stress
- **Analysis**
 - Static
 - Transient

VMAP – Converter GUI

CFD code wrappers - features

OpenFOAM (foam)

- **Mesh**
 - Nodes
 - Elements
 - Parts
- **Variables**
 - Temperature
 - Pressure
 - Other scalar or vector fields
- **Analysis**
 - Transient
 - No-remeshing support

Fluent CFF (HDF5)

- **Mesh**
 - Nodes
 - Elements
 - Parts
- **Variables**
 - Any
- **Analysis**
 - single time step result

EnSight Gold

- **Mesh**
 - Nodes
 - Elements
 - Parts
- **Variables**
 - Displacement
 - Velocity
 - Acceleration
 - Stress/Strain
 - Energy
 - Thickness
 - History Variables
 - Element death
- **Analysis**
 - Transient

VMAP – Converter GUI

Measurement and general purpose wrappers - features

Excel Spreadsheets (.xls)

- **Sheet to VMAP Table**
- **Optional images / plots**

STL (stl)

- **Mesh**
 - Nodes
 - Elements
 -
- **Variables**
 - Normals

MX3D

- **Mesh**
 - Nodes
 - Elements
- **Variables**
 - Any
- **Analysis**
 - Transient

KUKA Robot

- **Trajectory path mesh**
 - Nodes
 - Beam elements
- **Variables**
 - Position
 - Orientation
 - Power
 - Velocity
- **Analysis**
 - Transient

VTK Unstructured Grid

- **Mesh**
 - Nodes
 - Elements
- **Variables**
 - Point data (scalar / vector / tensor)
 - Cell data (scalar / vector / tensor)
- **Analysis**
 - Transient

Converter GUI

Configurable and extensible design

- **Central configuration via formats.ini (one section per format)**
 - module → subfolder under vmapwrapper (e.g. abaqus, ansys, vtk, measurement, robots)
 - function → converter function or script entry point
 - extensions → file types offered in the file dialog
- **New formats can be added without changing the GUI core:**
- **Implement a converter function (recommended signature: myformat_to_vmap(input_path, output_path, compress, precision, timesteps, interval))**

Thank you very much.
Any questions?