



# ANSYS ACT 2020 R1 Known Issues and Limitations

---

## Copyright and Trademark Information

© 2020 ANSYS, Inc. Unauthorized use, distribution or duplication is prohibited.

ANSYS, ANSYS Workbench, AUTODYN, CFX, FLUENT and any and all ANSYS, Inc. brand, product, service and feature names, logos and slogans are registered trademarks or trademarks of ANSYS, Inc. or its subsidiaries located in the United States or other countries. ICEM CFD is a trademark used by ANSYS, Inc. under license. CFX is a trademark of Sony Corporation in Japan. All other brand, product, service and feature names or trademarks are the property of their respective owners. FLEXIm and FLEXnet are trademarks of Flexera Software LLC.

## Disclaimer Notice

THIS ANSYS SOFTWARE PRODUCT AND PROGRAM DOCUMENTATION INCLUDE TRADE SECRETS AND ARE CONFIDENTIAL AND PROPRIETARY PRODUCTS OF ANSYS, INC., ITS SUBSIDIARIES, OR LICENSORS. The software products and documentation are furnished by ANSYS, Inc., its subsidiaries, or affiliates under a software license agreement that contains provisions concerning non-disclosure, copying, length and nature of use, compliance with exporting laws, warranties, disclaimers, limitations of liability, and remedies, and other provisions. The software products and documentation may be used, disclosed, transferred, or copied only in accordance with the terms and conditions of that software license agreement.

ANSYS, Inc. and ANSYS Europe, Ltd. are UL registered ISO 9001: 2015 companies.

## U.S. Government Rights

For U.S. Government users, except as specifically granted by the ANSYS, Inc. software license agreement, the use, duplication, or disclosure by the United States Government is subject to restrictions stated in the ANSYS, Inc. software license agreement and FAR 12.212 (for non-DOD licenses).

## Third-Party Software

See the [legal information](#) in the product help files for the complete Legal Notice for ANSYS proprietary software and third-party software. If you are unable to access the Legal Notice, contact ANSYS, Inc.

Published in the U.S.A.

## Contents

ANSYS ACT 2020 R1 Known Issues and Limitations.....	1
ACT Online API and XML Reference Guide display issues.....	5
After installation, the ACT Start Page sometimes appears blank.....	5
VPN conflicts can arise if IP information is retained .....	5
Enabled FIPS security policy .....	5
Workbench customization.....	6
For DesignModeler, the ACT Console, Extensions Log File, and ACT wizards are supported on Windows platform only .....	6
ACT for Fluent is supported on Windows platform only .....	6
ACT Debugger and App Builder are supported on Windows platform only.....	6
Limited ACT localization support .....	6
Default location of ACT extensions for SpaceClaim .....	6
Mechanical read-only mode .....	7
Captions for custom objects cannot contain a space followed by a number.....	7
ExtAPI.Extension.Attributes does not support OrderedDict values .....	7
Saving dictionaries in attributes slows the opening of Mechanical significantly .....	7
Accessing UserInterface on ExtAPI in Mechanical from an onInit callback or globally causes errors .....	7
Electronics Desktop module CoreGlobalScriptContextFunctions unavailable.....	7

Limitations Unique to Linux .....	8
Starting the ACT Start Page can cause an unexpected shutdown .....	8
ACT App Builder is not available on Linux platforms.....	8
Some Linux versions contain a JPEG library that conflicts with the ANSYS package .....	8
Graphics API issues in ANSYS DesignModeler and Mechanical when no extensions are loaded.....	8

# ANSYS ACT 2020 R1 Known Issues and Limitations

This document lists known issues and limitations in the ACT 2020 R1 release.

## Note:

- This document might contain entries that do not appear in “Migration Notes” in the *ACT Developer’s Guide* because they were found after this guide’s publication.
- For known issues and limitations specific to Mechanical APIs, see “Mechanical API Known Issues and Limitations” in the *Scripting in Mechanical Guide*.

## ACT Online API and XML Reference Guide display issues

On the **Help & Support** tab of the [App Developer Resources page](#), the **Online API and XML Reference Guide 2020 R1** and **Online API and XML Reference Guide 19.5/2019 R3** links do not display guide content properly due to known issues with the hosting vendor site. **Workaround:** Click the **Downloadable** link for the desired online guide to download a ZIP file. After extracting the files to a local directory, double-click the `index.html` file. The local copy will display the guide content properly.

## After installation, the ACT Start Page sometimes appears blank

If after installing ANSYS products, you see that the **ACT Start Page** is blank, right-click inside the blank window and select **Reload**.

## VPN conflicts can arise if IP information is retained

When using a VPN, IP information can be retained, even after turning off the VPN and rebooting the computer. The workaround is to release the IP configuration using the following script:

```
echo Releasing IP
ipconfig /release > NUL
echo Acquiring new IP
ipconfig /renew > NUL
```

## Enabled FIPS security policy

When running with an enabled FIPS security policy, ACT User Interface elements are not supported.

## Workbench customization

When using ACT to create Workbench custom workflows, not all optional attributes for the tag `<property>` are currently supported. For example, `visibleon` is not supported.

## For DesignModeler, the ACT Console, Extensions Log File, and ACT wizards are supported on Windows platform only

For DesignModeler, the **ACT Console**, **Extensions Log File**, and ACT wizards are supported only when DesignModeler is running on the Windows platform.

## ACT for Fluent is supported on Windows platform only

When using ACT for Fluent customization, ACT is supported only when Fluent is running on the Windows platform.

## ACT Debugger and App Builder are supported on Windows platform only

The **ACT Debugger** is supported only on the Windows platform from the **Project** page in ANSYS Workbench and from DesignModeler and Mechanical. The **ACT App Builder** is supported only on the Windows platform.

## Limited ACT localization support

Localization of ACT is limited to the languages currently supported in ANSYS Workbench. This limitation does not apply to the ability to manage various languages within the extension. For example, the property names created by an extension do not have to be in the same language as the current activated language in Workbench.

There is no mechanism to integrate localization for the property names defined by an extension. To manage different languages for your property names, you must develop localization yourself. Both regional settings based on the "." or the "," decimal symbol are available. However, the implementation of the extension should use the "." symbol for any value defined at the XML or IronPython level.

## Default location of ACT extensions for SpaceClaim

The default location in which SpaceClaim is to look for ACT extensions is `%ANSYSversion_DIR%\scdm\Addins`. However, SpaceClaim is not currently recognizing this location. Workarounds include either installing extensions in `%APPDATA%\Ansys\v201\ACT\extensions` or using the gear icon on the graphic-based **Extension Manager** accessed from the **ACT Start Page** to add the folder for the default location or the folder to which you installed the extension.

## Mechanical read-only mode

ACT does not support Mechanical read-only mode. If you launch Mechanical and see read-only mode, avoid interactions with ACT extensions and features as changes could result in unexpected application behavior.

## Captions for custom objects cannot contain a space followed by a number

When renaming a caption for a custom object, do not follow a space with a number. While no error appears, the caption is not renamed. **Workaround:** When renaming a caption for a custom object, always follow a space with a non-numeric character before using a number. For example, rather than renaming a caption to "my custom object 2", rename it to "my custom object n2".

## ExtAPI.Extension.Attributes does not support OrderedDict values

When `ExtAPI.Extension.Attributes` is used to store a value of type `OrderedDict`, an empty dictionary is stored instead of the supplied value.

## Saving dictionaries in attributes slows the opening of Mechanical significantly

When loading a project with custom ACT objects whose attributes have been filled with dictionaries, it takes Mechanical much more time to open. In cases where these dictionaries are very large, Mechanical may be unable to recreate results as ACT results, displaying user-defined results instead.

## Accessing UserInterface on ExtAPI in Mechanical from an onInit callback or globally causes errors

Accessing `UserInterface` on `ExtAPI` in Mechanical from an `onInit` callback or globally causes errors to be thrown in the **Extensions Log File**, resulting in instability. **Workaround:** Access `UserInterface` from an `onload` callback or any place other than the `onInit` callback. Keep in mind that an `onLoad` callback is invoked only when Mechanical is started. Reloading an extension using the button in the GUI will not invoke an `onLoad` callback.

## Electronics Desktop module CoreGlobalScriptContextFunctions unavailable

The Electronics Desktop module `CoreGlobalScriptContextFunctions` is unavailable in ACT. The following functions are available only through the **Command** window in Electronics Desktop:

- `AddErrorMessage`
- `AddFatalMessage`
- `AddInfoMessage`
- `AddWarningMessage`
- `LogDebug`
- `LogError`

As alternatives, you can use the following:

- `oDesktop.AddMessage`
- Python logging functionality (for example, "`import logging`" and use the logging module)

## Limitations Unique to Linux

If you are running on Linux, you should be aware of the following limitations:

### Starting the ACT Start Page can cause an unexpected shutdown

When you start the **ACT Start Page** on Linux, an unexpected shutdown can occur. On some Linux operating system variants such as Red Hat, removing the package `totem-mozplugin` resolves the issue:

```
yum remove totem-mozplugin
```

### ACT App Builder is not available on Linux platforms

The ACT App Builder is not available on Linux platforms. It is, however, available on Windows platforms.

### Some Linux versions contain a JPEG library that conflicts with the ANSYS package

In some Linux versions, a JPEG library conflicts with the ANSYS package. When using ACT wizards with JPEG images, this conflict can produce a SIGSEV error and an application crash. If this occurs, you can convert your images to other file formats such as GIF or PNG.

### Graphics API issues in ANSYS DesignModeler and Mechanical when no extensions are loaded

When no extensions are loaded, there are some limitations on the `Graphics` API from the **ACT Console** in ANSYS DesignModeler and Mechanical. For instance, the `Factory2D` does not work. Therefore, you should load one or more extensions before using the `Graphics` API from the **ACT Console**.