

Altair® FluxMotor® 2025

Motor Factory – Design, Test, Export

Introduction

General user information

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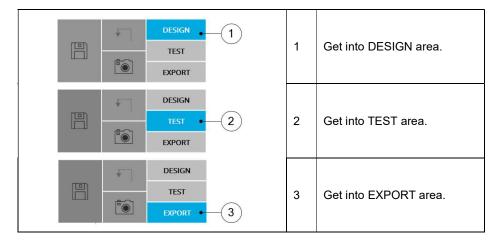
1 MOTOR FACTORY OVERVIEW

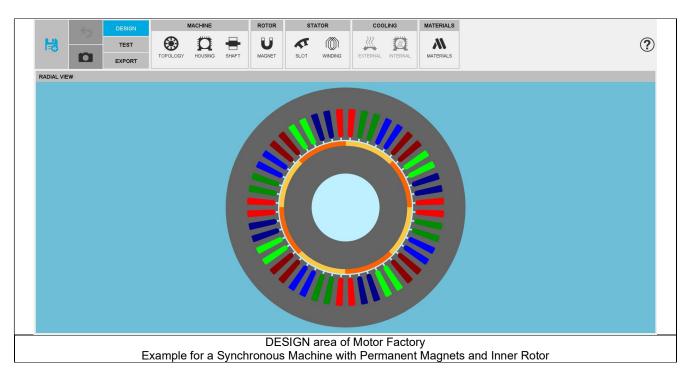
1.1 Main areas of Motor Factory

Motor Factory is a dedicated application to design and test motors. Motor Factory consists of three main areas:

- The DESIGN area to design the motor (topology, winding, materials etc....).
- The TEST area to perform tests and performance analysis of motors.
- The EXPORT area to export documents or models to perform advanced studies.

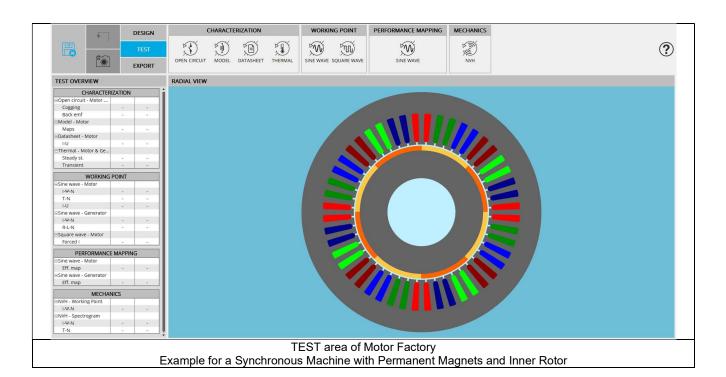
To reach one of these areas just click on the corresponding button.

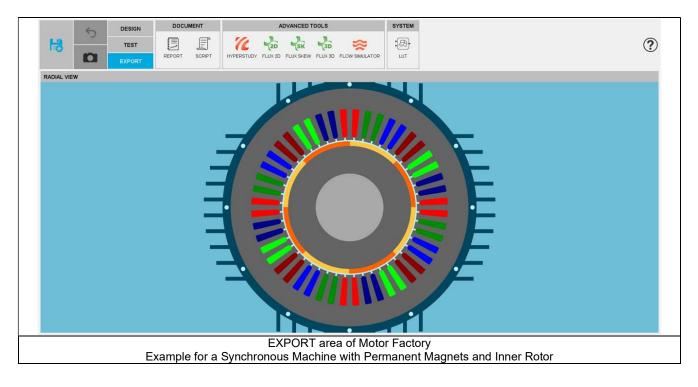




Note: By default, accesses to External cooling and Internal cooling environments are locked. See how to consider thermal cooling properties in the section below.





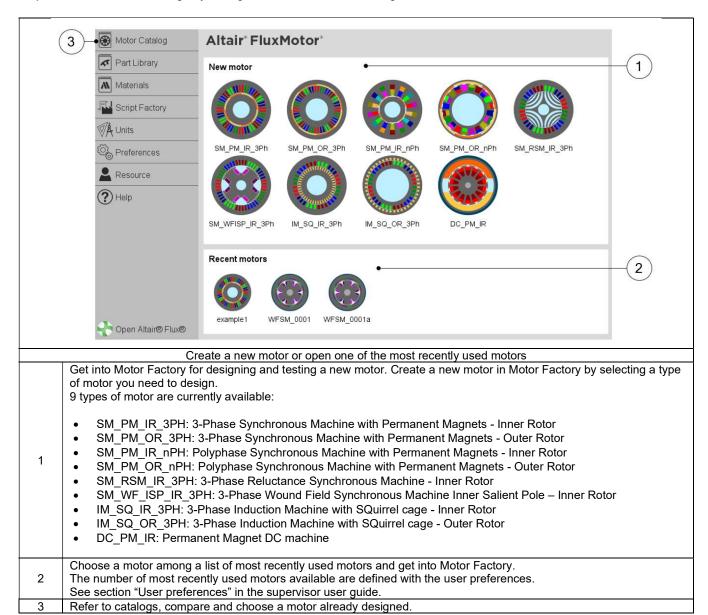


1.2 How to get into Motor Factory

1.2.1 Introduction

Two ways are possible to get into Motor Factory:

- 1) From the supervisor, select the type of motor you want to design
- 2) From the "Motor Catalog", by editing a selected motor in a catalog

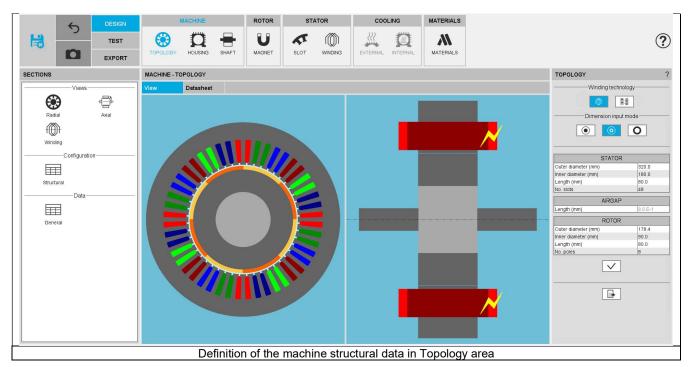




1.2.2 Get into Motor Factory for designing and testing a new motor

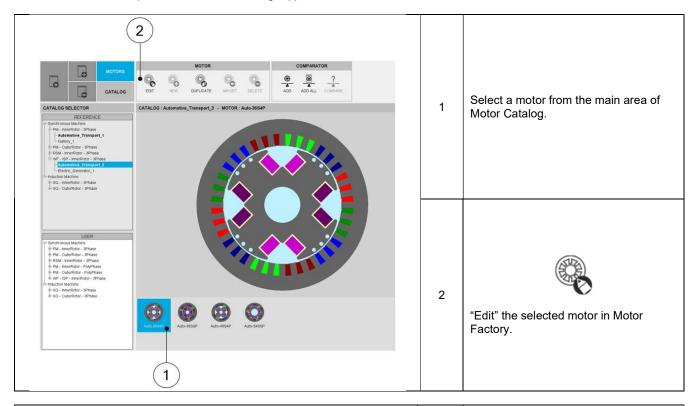
From supervisor, clicking on a motor from the "New motor" section or from the "Recent motors" section opens directly Motor Factory environment.

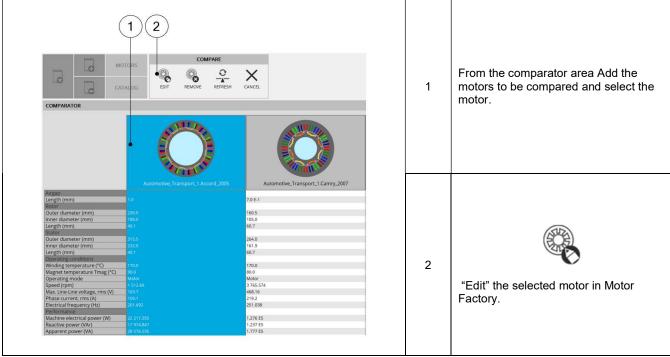
Structural data (outer and inner diameters, number of poles, number of slots, etc. must be defined from the sub area "Topology" when designing a new machine.



1.2.3 Edit a motor from Motor Catalog

For additional information, please see "Motor Catalog" application.

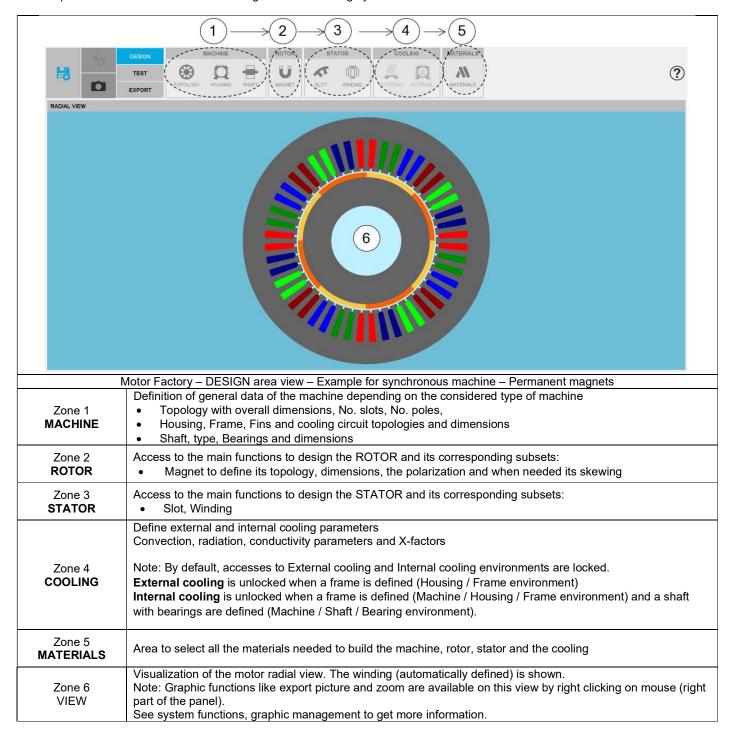




2 OVERVIEW MOTOR FACTORY – DESIGN AREA

2.1 Home page view

The Motor Factory – DESIGN area is the first environment of Motor Factory. It is composed of five main zones. This is the guided line to design your machine.

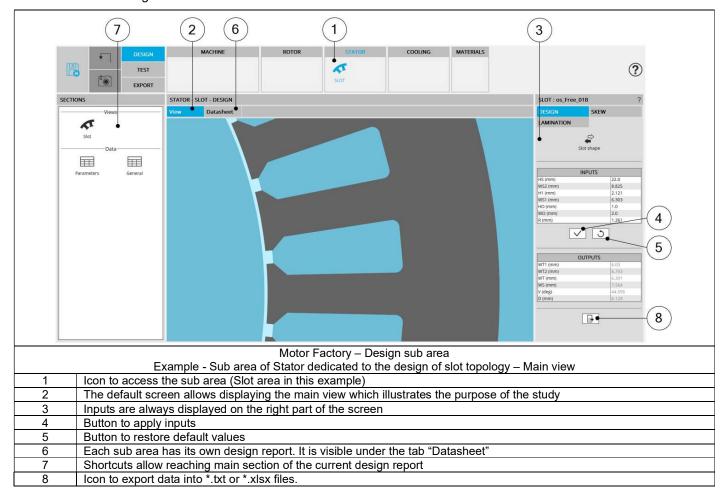




2.2 Description of Sub areas

In each of three main areas (Machine, Rotor and Stator), there are sub areas, which allows defining a sub section of the machine such as shaft, housing, slots, winding, magnets, polarization, materials.

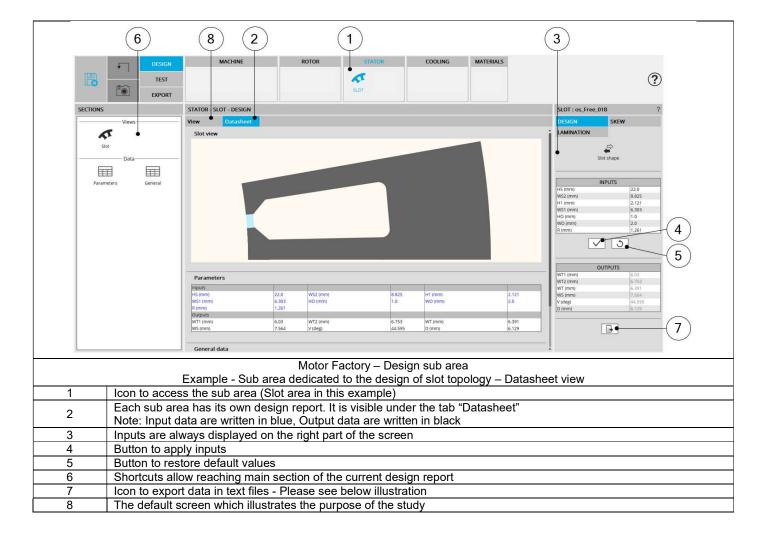
2.2.1 Sub area design view



The next table described the tab "Datasheet"

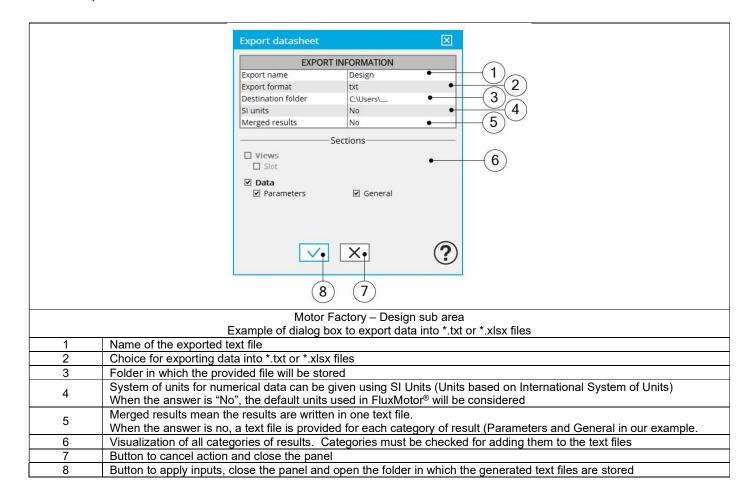


2.2.2 Sub area Datasheet





2.2.3 Export of data

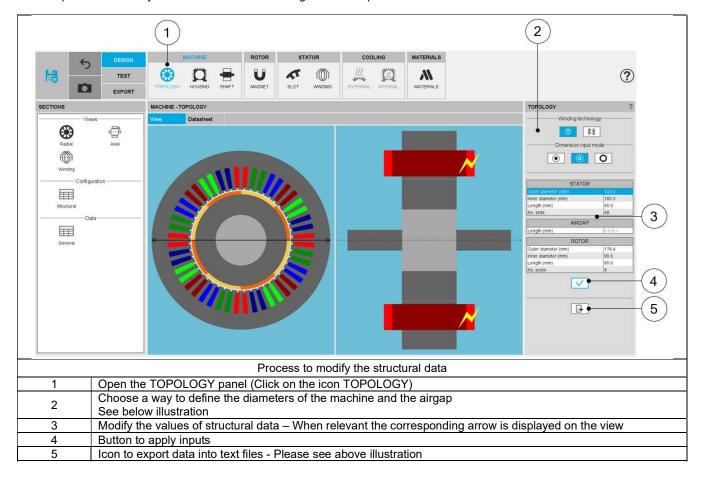




2.3 Structural data

The first step of the design consists of defining structural data of the machine.

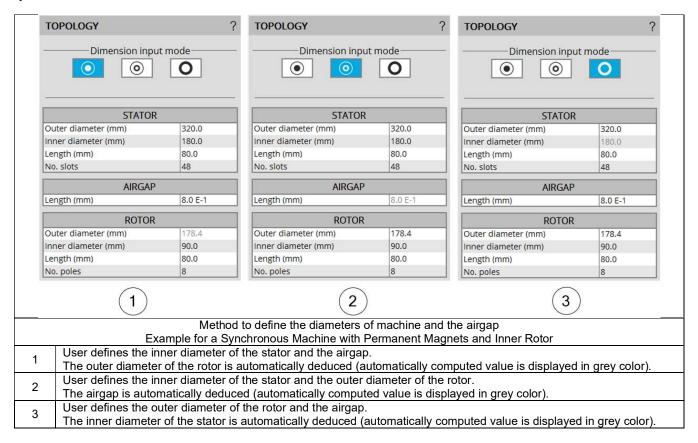
However, at any time, it is possible to reach and modify the structural data from the Motor Factory design environment. Here is the process to modify the structural data from the general data panel.





2.4 Method to define the airgap

In the topology sub area, three ways are possible to define the structural data of the machine based upon the diameters and the airgap. They are illustrated below.

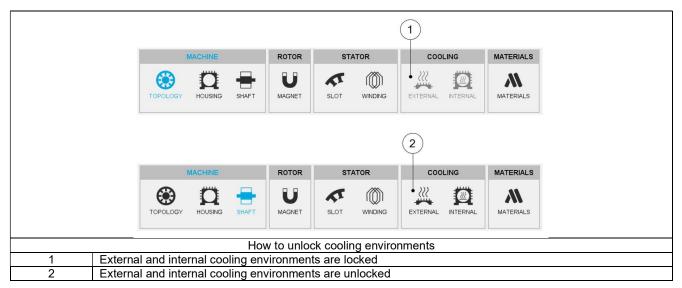


2.5 Consideration of thermal properties

By default, accesses to External cooling and Internal cooling environments are locked.

External cooling is unlocked when a frame is defined (Housing / Frame environment)

Internal cooling is unlocked when on the one hand a frame is defined (Machine / Housing / Frame environment) and on the other hand a shaft with bearings are defined (Machine / Shaft / Bearing environment). See below illustrations.





2.6 Advice for use

The choice of diameters is possible over the range [1, 20000] mm.

The number of slots is possible over the range [3, 2400].

The number of poles is possible over the range [2, 400].

The number of bars (induction machines) is possible over the range [5, 500].

For more information, see the list of allowed combinations between the number of slots and the number of poles, synthesized in the section dedicated to winding.

Note: Our process for building and computations have been qualified over the following data ranges:

For Synchronous Machines with Permanent Magnets – Inner or Outer Rotor Or for Reluctance Synchronous Machines – Inner Rotor Range for diameters [1, 1000] mm.
Range for number of slots [3, 90].
Range for number of poles [2, 80].

For Induction Machines with Squirrel Cage – Inner or Outer Rotor Range for diameters [1, 1000] mm.
Range for number of slots [3, 144].
Range for number of poles [2, 20].
Range for number of bars (induction machines) [5, 180].

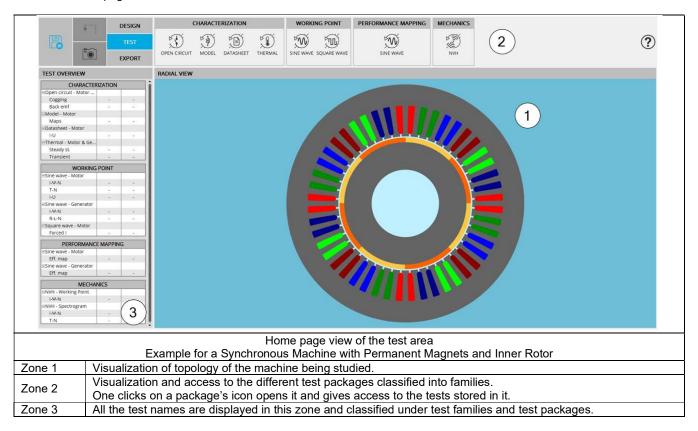
Working beyond these limits is possible but accurate results are the responsibility of the user.



3 OVERVIEW MOTOR FACTORY – TEST AREA

3.1 Home page view

The test area home page includes three main zones



When no test package is selected, an overview ("TEST OVERVIEW") appears, giving more details about the status of each test. Here is an illustration for Synchronous Machine with Permanent Magnets

TEST OVERVIEW			TEST OVERVIEW CHARACTERIZATION			TEST OVERVIEW CHARACTERIZATION			
CHARACTERIZ	ATION								
⊡Open circuit - Motor &			⊡Open circuit - Motor &			⊡Open circuit - Motor &			
Cogging	_	-	Cogging	_	200	Cogging	-	-	
Back emf	R	-	Back emf	~	-	Back emf	~	(1)	
⊡Model - Motor			⊟Model - Motor			⊟Model - Motor			
Maps	-	ā.	Maps	5		Maps	-	-	
□ Datasheet - Motor			□Datasheet - Motor			⊡ Datasheet - Motor			
I-U	-	-	I-U	-	-	I-U	-	-	
⊡Thermal - Motor & Gen			⊟Thermal - Motor & Gen			⊟Thermal - Motor & Gen			
Steady st.	-	5.1	Steady st.	-	(5.)	Steady st.	-	-	
« R »: Test is running			« ν »: Test is already performed			« (1) » One test is saved			

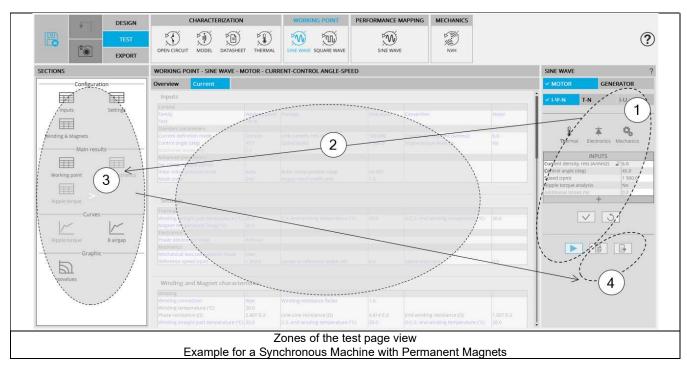
Clicking on a test row shows the operational area dedicated to the corresponding test.



3.2 Test page view

3.2.1 Overview

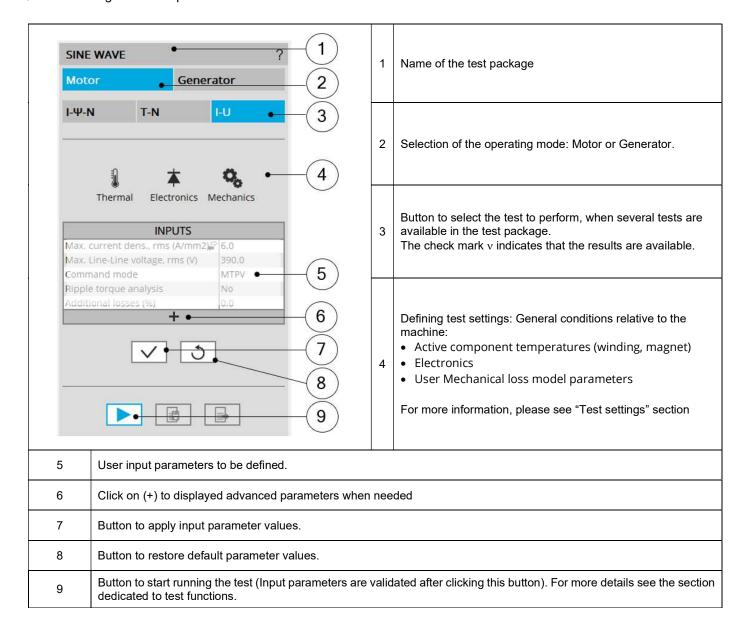
The test page view is composed of four main zones.



Zone 1	Management of inputs and test execution
	Defining test settings
Zone	Defining test parameters
	Buttons apply parameter values, restore default parameter values and to start running the test
	Once a test is finished, corresponding results are automatically displayed in this zone. Visualization of the test reports
Zone 2	(inputs, data, curves etc) are possible.
Zone z	Scrollbars allow browsing the whole document rapidly and having an overview of all the results.
	Using scrollbars, complete data can be accessed and visualized.
Zone 3	Shortcuts for displaying quickly the corresponding chapter of the test report.
Zone 4	Buttons to save and export test results.



3.2.2 Management of inputs – Overview





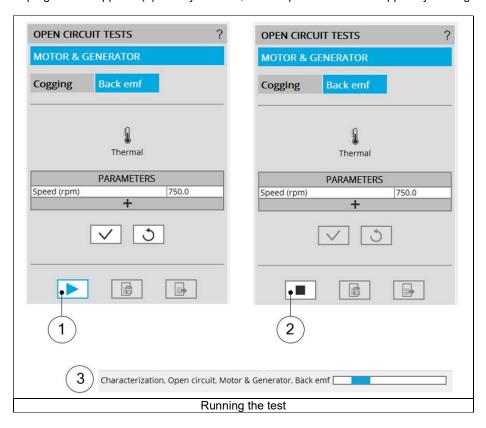
3.2.3 Start and stop

To start the test, click on the Start test button (1).

Note that before running the test, even if the dedicated button to validate input parameters has not been used, FluxMotor® automatically validates and records all the input parameters.

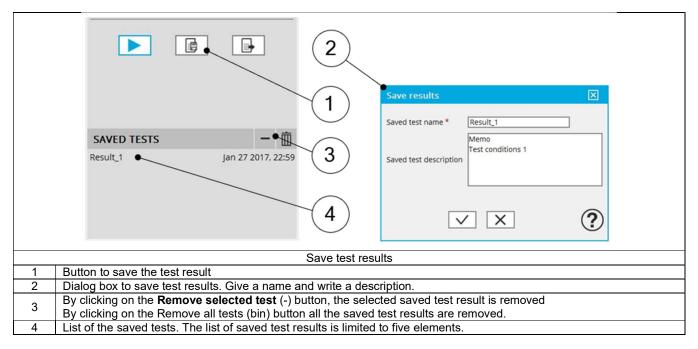
When the solving begins, the **Start test** button (1) turns into **Stop** button (2).

During the computation a progress bar appears (3). At any moment, the computation can be stopped by clicking on the **Stop** button (2).

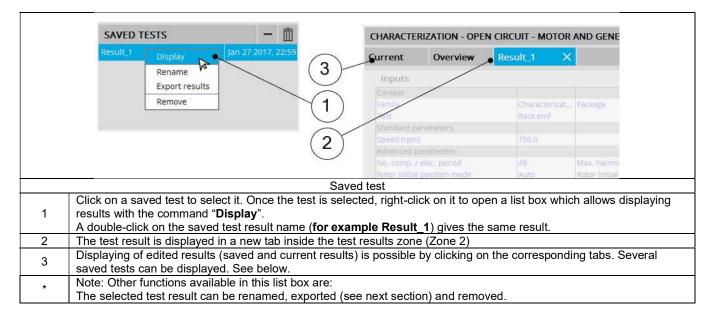


3.2.4 Save the results

Once a test is completed, the corresponding results can be saved by using the Save test results button (1).

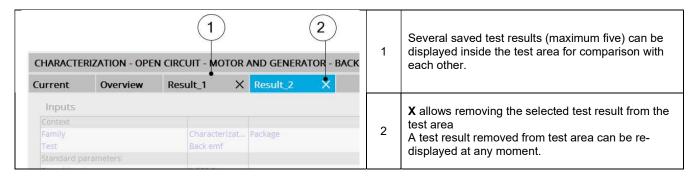


Saved results can be displayed in the test area for analysis. See below to know how to do that.

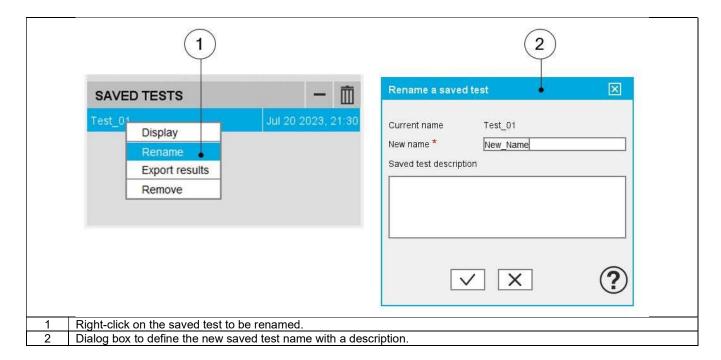




Additional information about the saved test results



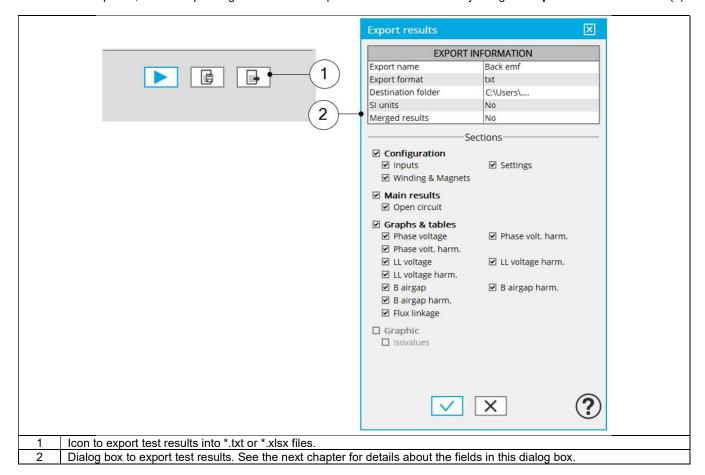
3.2.5 Rename a saved test





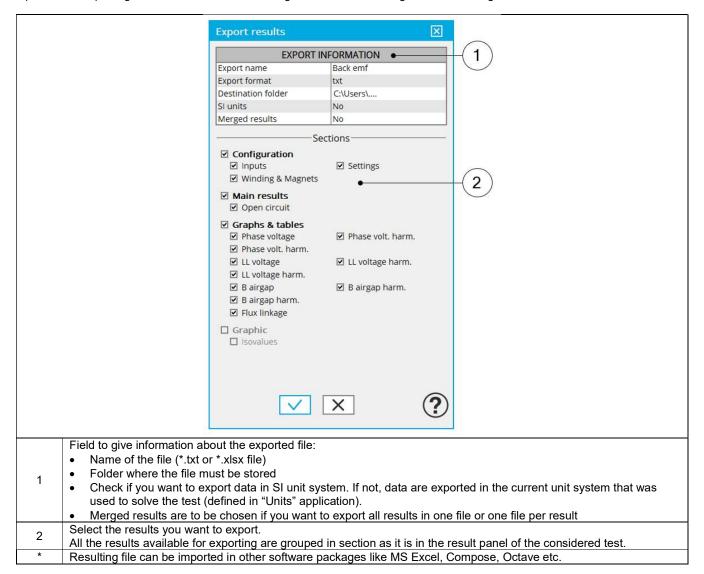
3.2.6 Export test results

When a test is completed, the corresponding results can be exported in a text file format by using the Export test results button (1)





The process of exporting results into a text file is managed inside the following dedicated dialog box.

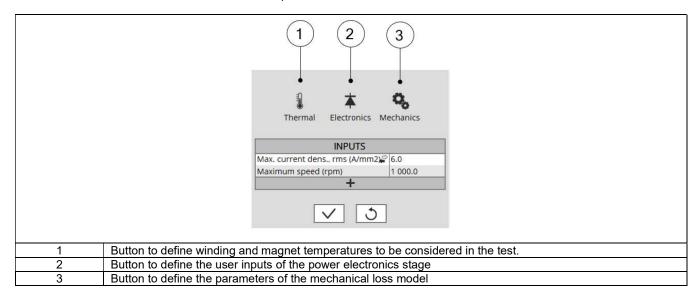


3.3 Test settings

The settings allow defining the context in which the tests are going to be performed. Their definition is specific to each test.

Settings are defined into three main domains:

- Thermal: To define active components temperature (magnets and winding)
- Electronics: To define the power electronics stage feeding the machine
- Mechanics: To define the mechanical loss model parameters



For more details refer to the dedicated section "Test settings" in the user help document to each type of machine and test.



4 MOTOR FACTORY – EXPORT AREA

4.1 Home page view

The area "EXPORT" of Motor Factory groups two main families of functions:

1) "DOCUMENT"

In "DOCUMENT" area the function "REPORT" allows building reports automatically to describe all the work achieved in the design as well as for the tests.

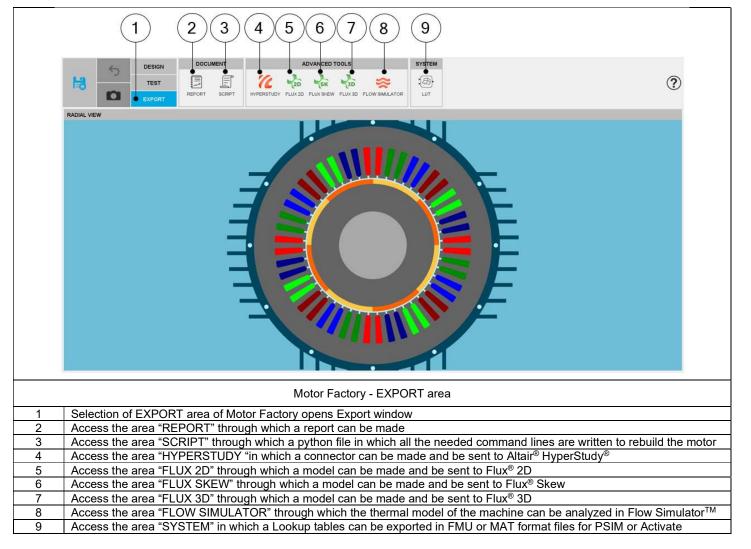
Then, the function "SCRIPT" allows to build and export a python script of a current motor in the application Script Factory or in a targeted folder. "ADVANCED TOOLS "

2) In "ADVANCED TOOLS" area the function "HYPERSTUDY" allows to build and to export a connector in Altair® HyperStudy® for performing studies like optimization or Design Of Experiment (DOE).

Then, the functions "FLUX2D", Flux Skew, Flux 3D allow to build and export a model in Altair® Flux® environment (2D, Skew or 3D) for performing advanced studies either with magneto static or transient applications.

"SYSTEM"

Last, the function "SYSTEM" allows exporting files in FMU (Functional Mock-up Unit) format file or in MAT format file from FluxMotor® for PSIM or Activate.



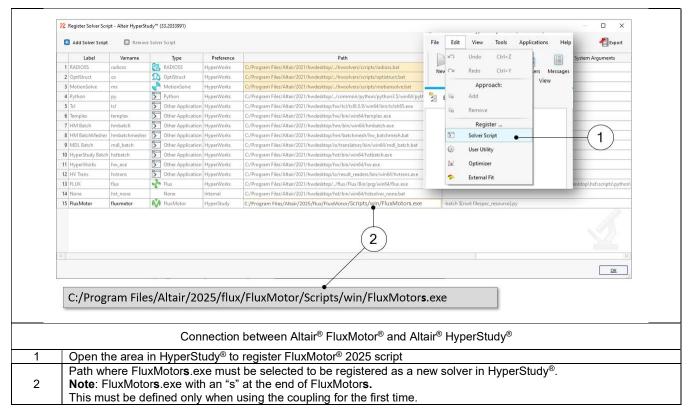
For more information, please, refer to the user guide dedicated to Motor Factory – Export environment.



4.2 Export environment – HyperStudy®

4.2.1 New solver script to be registered

Before starting new studies in Altair[®] HyperStudy[®] by using connectors exported from Altair[®] FluxMotor[®], FluxMotor[®] must be registered as a new solver script in HyperStudy[®]. This must be defined only while using the coupling for the first time.



Note: In the version 2022.1 of HyperStudy, the FluxMotor solver script is automatically registered, when the default path installation is selected while installing Flux and FluxMotor.

Note: The new auto generation of the HyperStudy study in HyperStudy Application (described above) allows to automatically register FluxMotor® as a new solver script in HyperStudy®. If HyperStudy is not installed in the same folder (by default: C:\Program Files\Altair\2025\hwdesktop\hst), the path must be defined in the user preferences via the supervisor of FluxMotor (Path to HyperStudy – Needed for HyperStudy export).

Warning: Mandatory synchronization between connector and FluxMotor versions

The connectors used in HyperStudy must be synchronized with the FluxMotor solver version. An error message (inside the log files) is generated while performing HyperStudy studies with a connector provided with a former version of FluxMotor solver.

4.2.2 Export a connector for HyperStudy studies – Process.

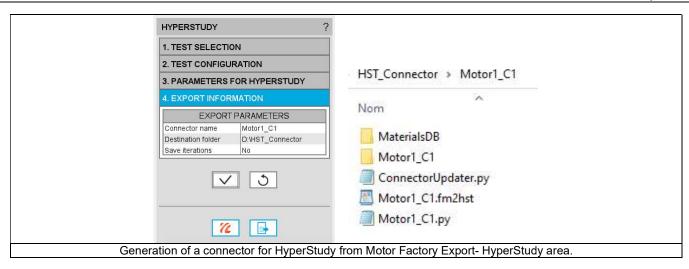
4.2.2.1 What happens while using a compatible HyperStudy connector?

Illustration of the problem when one uses a non-compatible HyperStudy connector with the selected solver in HyperStudy application (Refer to the Register Solver Script).

Open the FluxMotor project (example Motor1) with the version FluxMotor 2022.3 Get into the EXPORT area and select HyperStudy workspace

- Select the test to be performed.
- Select the test configuration.
- Select the parameters for HyperStudy
- Define the Export information: Connector name: Motor1 C1, for example, and the destination folder
- Then, export the connector.





In the HyperStudy software, create a new study:

- Give a name to this study.
- Locate the connector to be considered.
- Select the Solver Execution Script.

In a first step, let's select the FluxMotor 2022.3 solver

- Import variables
- Define inputs (and constraints if needed)
- Run the definition of the model

In such a case, the Test Models execution (Write / Execute / Extract) must pass (all the indicators are green) since the Connector exported from FluxMotor 2022.3 is compatible with the FluxMotor Solver used in HyperStudy.

4.2.2.2 What happens while using a non-compatible HyperStudy connector?

Now, what happens if one selects the FluxMotor 2023 solver instead of the FluxMotor 2022.3 solver i.e., if one uses a FluxMotor solver newer than the version with which the connector has been generated?

So, let's modify the Solver Execution Script by targeting the FluxMotor 2023 solver.

And operate all the same previous steps:

- Import variables.
- Define inputs (and constraints if needed).
- Run the definition of the model.

In that case, the Test Models execution do not pass (the indicator write is green but the two other ones - Execute and Extract are red). If you get into the folder where the runs are stored, in the log.out file you'll see the following error message:

The Hyperstudy connector version 2022.3.0 is incompatible with the FluxMotor solver version 2023.0.0#100.6.268 (FluxMotorLogger.java:212)

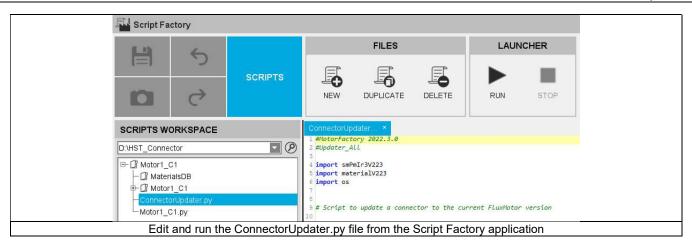
4.2.2.3 How can a non-compatible HyperStudy connector be made compatible?

Since FluxMotor 2023 version, a solution exists to update the connector and make it compatible with a more recent FluxMotor Solver Script. This consists of running the ConnectorUpdater.py file which is provided and located in the same folder as the connector. This allows us to update the connector and make it usable with a newer version of the FluxMotor solver.

To apply this new process, one must open FluxMotor 2023 and get into Script Factory. Then, in the Script Workspace, one must select the folder in which the previous connector is stored.

Then, open the ConnectorUpdater.py file located in this folder and run it.



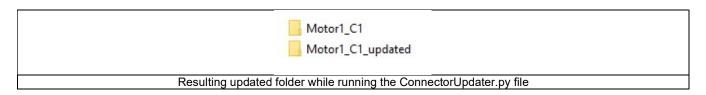


Warning: It is mandatory to run the ConnectorUpdater.py file in the folder where the Connector to be updated is located (the default location) otherwise the updating process will fail.

The ConnectorUpdater.py file must remain in the same folder as the connector to be updated.

A new folder containing the previous connector is then built at the same level as the former folder.

Its name is the same with the additional following extension: "_updated". For example, if the former connector was "Motor1 C1", the new one is "Motor1 C1 updated".



Now, in HyperStudy, you can build a new Study, by selecting this new resource and then run the Study with the new FluxMotor Solver Script, i.e., FluxMotor 2023.

Thanks to the updated connector the test Models (Write / Execute / Extract) pass (all the indicators are green).

4.2.3 General rules

- A connector provided with FluxMotor version N-1 (or older) cannot be used in HyperStudy where the FluxMotor Solver Version N
 (or newest) is selected.
- However, since the FluxMotor 2022.3 version, each time you generate a connector, a ConnectorUpdater.py file is provided and located in the same folder as the connector.
- Thanks to this script, the user can update an older HyperStudy connector generated with a former version of FluxMotor.
- This process is fully operational with FluxMotor 2023.
- Indeed, FluxMotor 2022.3 was the very first version where a ConnectorUpdater.py file was automatically generated each time a HyperStudy connector is provided from the Export/HyperStudy workspace of Motor Factory.
- Hence, when using the FluxMotor 2023 solver in HyperStudy, one can update the connector provided with FluxMotor 2022.3 by using the ConnectorUpdater.py file generated with the previous version, i.e., FluxMotor 2022.3.
- Note: as indicated, for FluxMotor versions older than 2022.3, the ConnectorUpdater.py is not available and consequently, the generated HyperStudy connectors with such versions cannot be updated.



5 SYSTEM FUNCTIONS

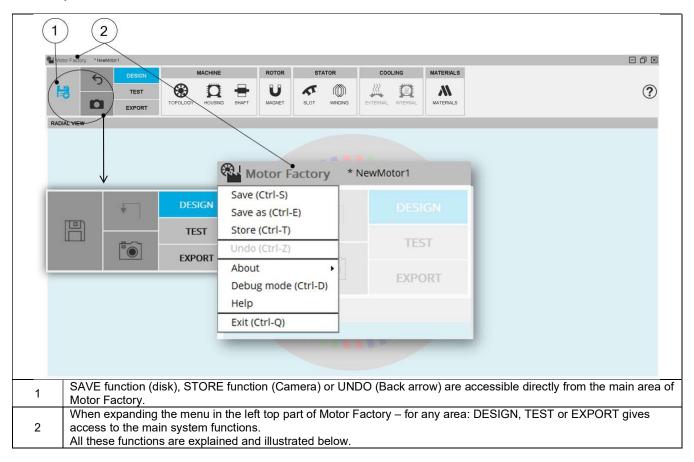
5.1 Overview

The main system functions are accessible from the top menu of Motor Factory.

Expanding the menu in the left top part of Motor Factory – for any area: DESIGN, TEST or EXPORT allows to visualize and select these functions.

Note: Some of these functions are directly available from the Motor Factory area.

The main ways to access to the functions like SAVE, SAVE AS or STORE are illustrated below.

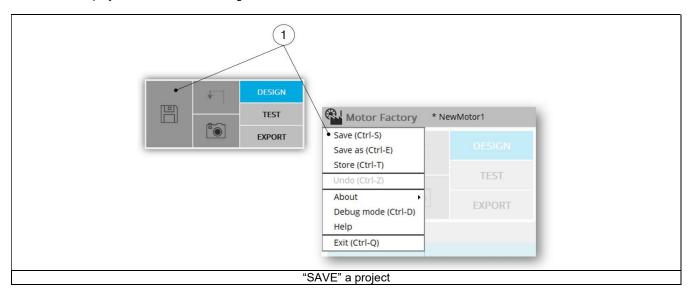


5.2 File management

5.2.1 Save, Save as

5.2.1.1 SAVE a project

"SAVE" a project is possible, directly from the top part of the Motor Factory or via the top expanded menu. Saving a project keeps the same name of the project and the same catalog.

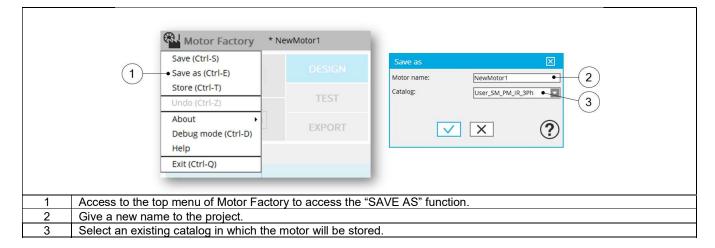


5.2.1.2 SAVE AS a project

SAVE AS" a project is possible only via the top expanded menu.

"SAVE AS" a project allows to choose a new name for the project and save it in another catalog.

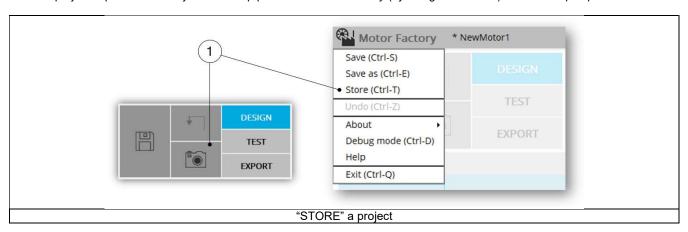
User must give a new name to the motor and select an existing catalog in which the motor will be stored.



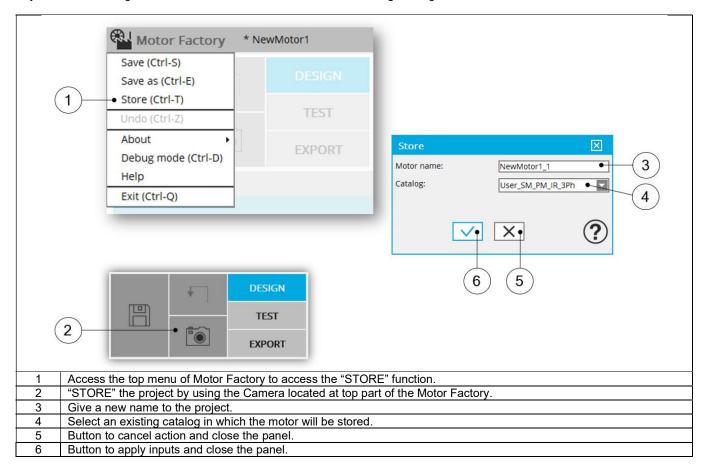


5.2.2 Store

"STORE" a project is possible directly from the top part of the Motor Factory (by using the camera) or via the top expanded menu.



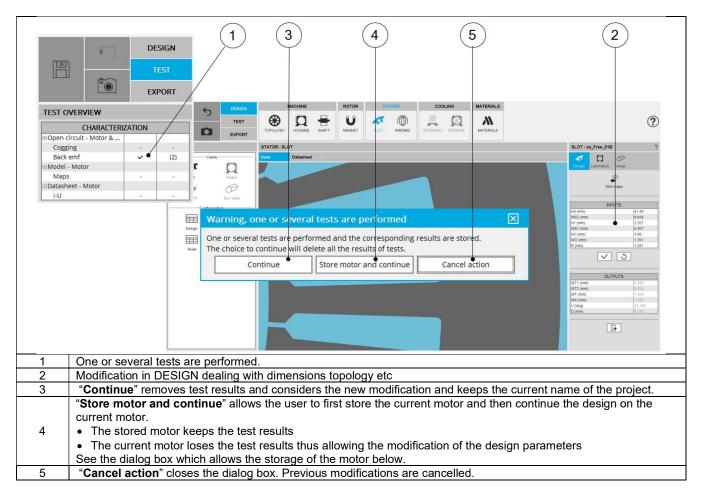
In any case, user must give a new name of the motor and select an existing catalog in which the motor will be stored.

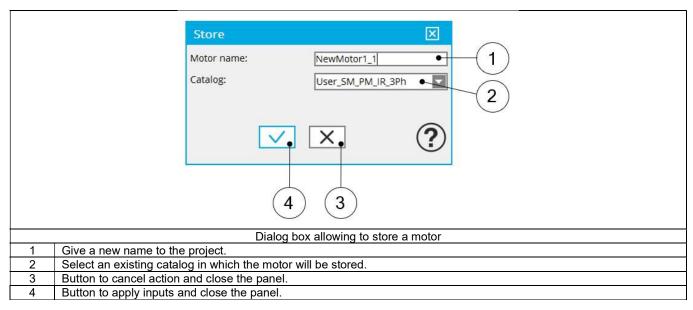




5.2.3 Store and continue

The conditions to use this function are described below.





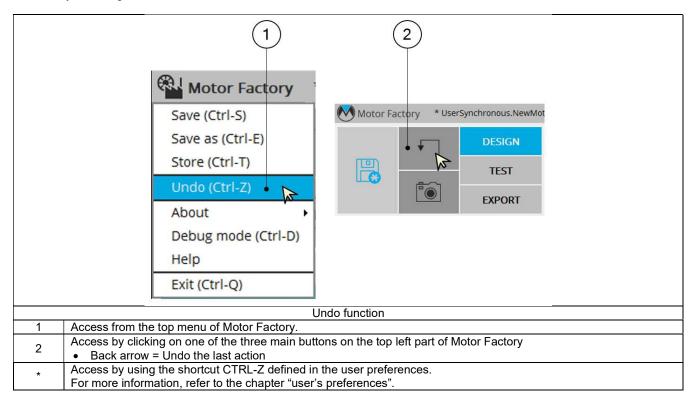


5.3 User actions

5.3.1 Undo

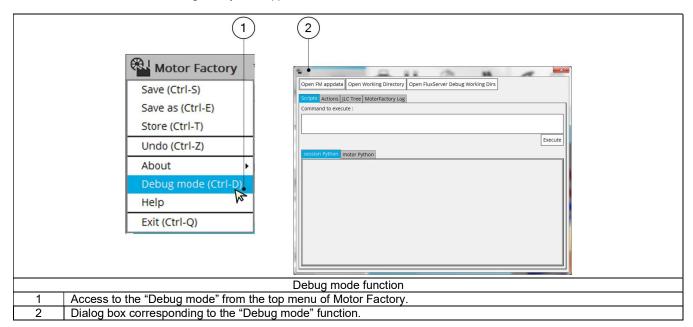
Undo function cancels the last action.

The three ways allowing to access the undo function are illustrated below.



5.3.2 Debug mode function

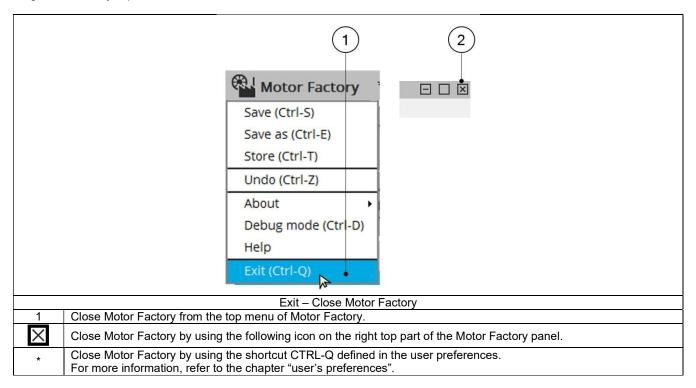
The Debug mode function is dedicated to solving of problem in the use of Motor Factory. In case of trouble, instructions will be given by our support team to use this function.





5.3.3 Exit

Closing Motor Factory is possible

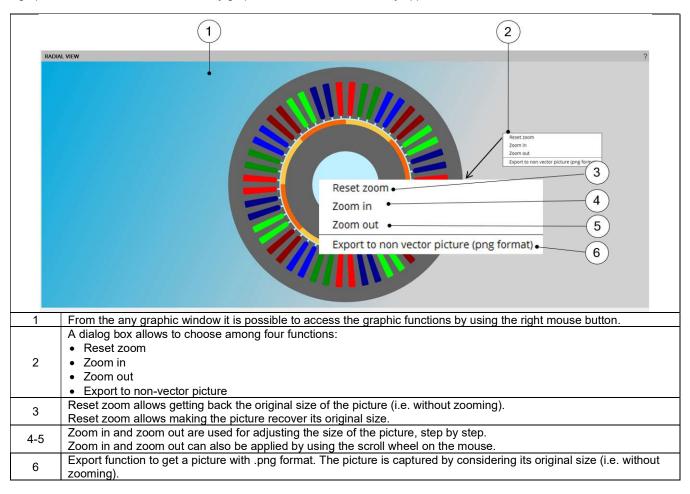




5.4 Graphic management

5.4.1 Overview

The graphic functions are available on every graphic area of the Motor Factory application.

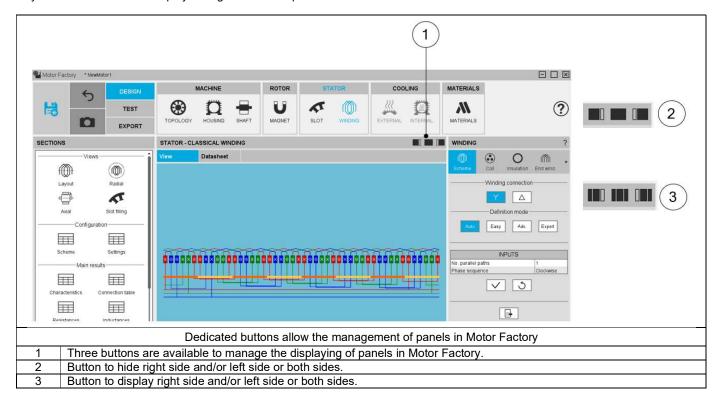


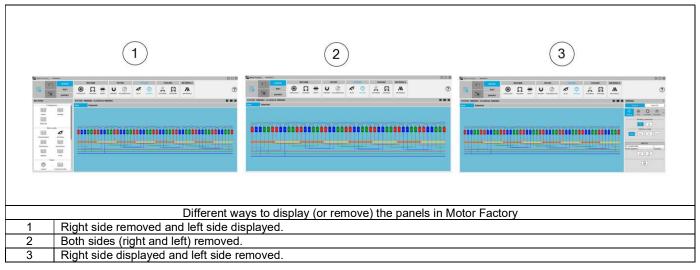


5.4.2 Management of panels in Motor Factory

When the computer screen is too small or when the resolution of the screen is too low, three buttons appear on the top part of Motor Factory panels.

They allow to remove or to display the right and/or left panels of the screen. See illustrations below.



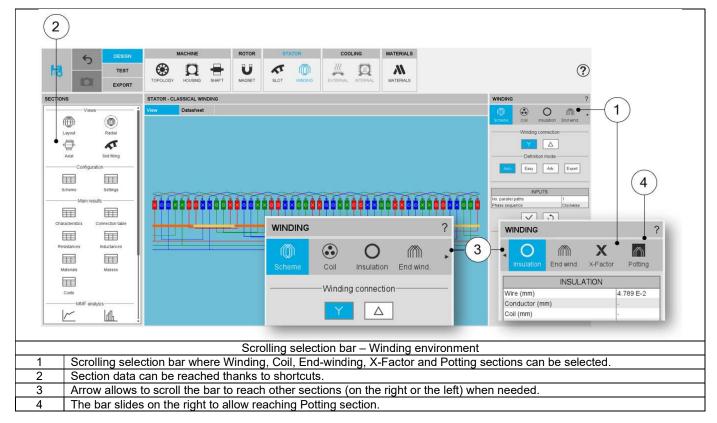




5.5 Selection modes in GUI

5.5.1 Section selection mode

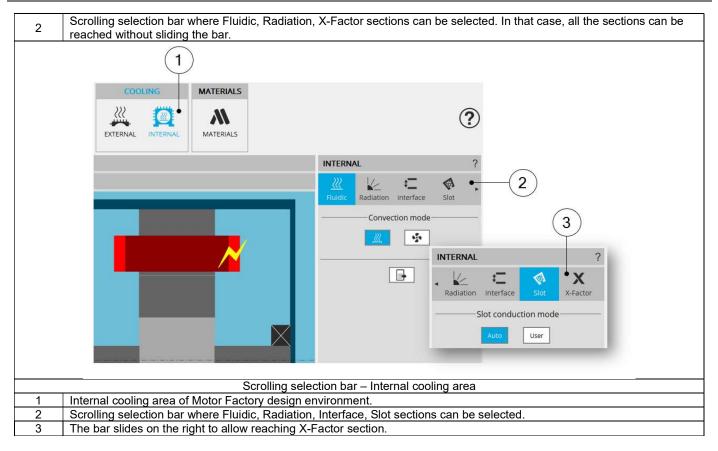
The process for choosing the section in which user inputs are defined is implemented in the winding area as illustrated below



Note: This new way of selection has been implemented in the design environment of Motor Factory for external and internal cooling as illustrated bellow.

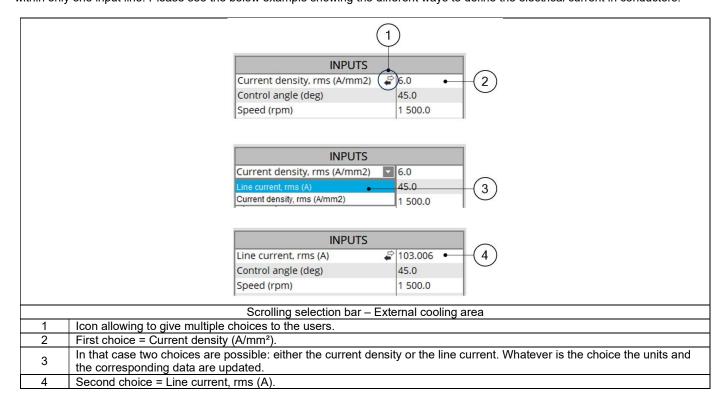






5.5.2 Multiple choices for inputs

A process allowing Multiple choices for selecting the type of user's inputs has been implemented. This allows giving users several choices within only one input line. Please see the below example showing the different ways to define the electrical current in conductors.

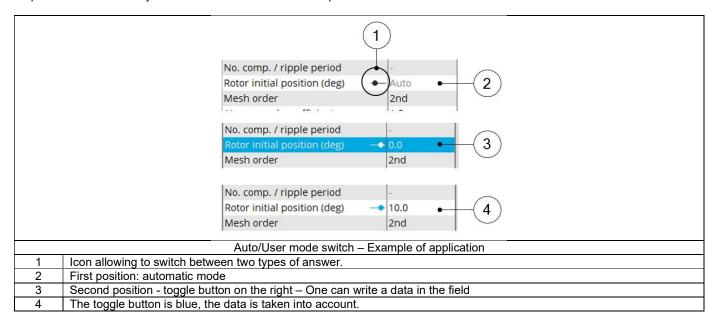


5.5.3 Auto/User mode switch

A process allowing to switch between two types of answer (Auto or user for example) has been implemented.

For example, when the "Rotor initial position mode" is set to "Auto", the initial position of the rotor is automatically defined by an internal process of FluxMotor®.

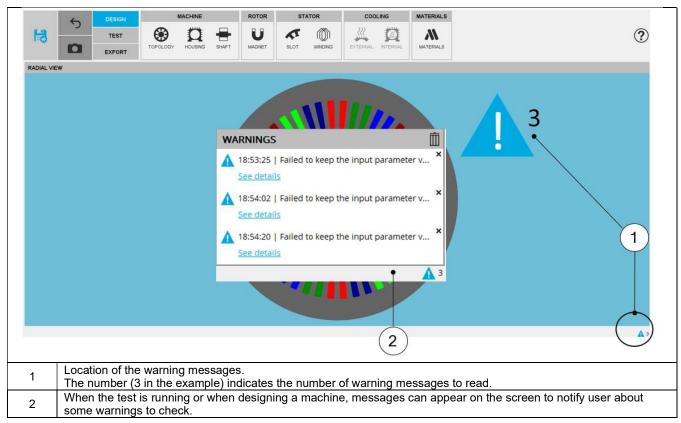
When the "Rotor initial position" is set to "User input" (i.e. toggle button on the right), the initial position of the rotor to be considered for computation must be set by the user in the field « Rotor initial position ».

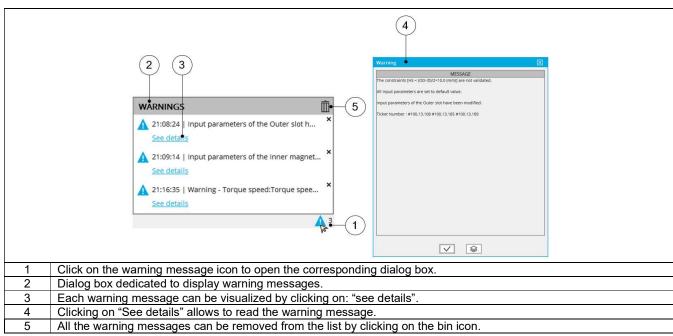


5.6 Warning messages

5.6.1 Standard warnings

In the DESIGN, TEST or EXPORT area of Motor Factory, warning messages can be issued. They are stored on the right bottom part of the screen.







5.6.2 Case of a design fault

Motor Factory Design environment button and winding icon in the Stator section can be colored in red. This meaning that a design fault must be corrected in the winding section of the design environment.

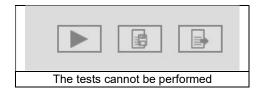


Motor Factory Design environment button and the winding icon in the Stator section are colored in red.

= a design fault must be corrected

Therefore, the tests cannot be performed; the tooltip message indicates that the slot filling is not valid, and the user must modify the slot filling parameters to unlock the test.

At the same time, a warning message indicates that there is not enough space for the specified number of wires. The allowed number of wires is mentioned in comparison with the targeted ones.

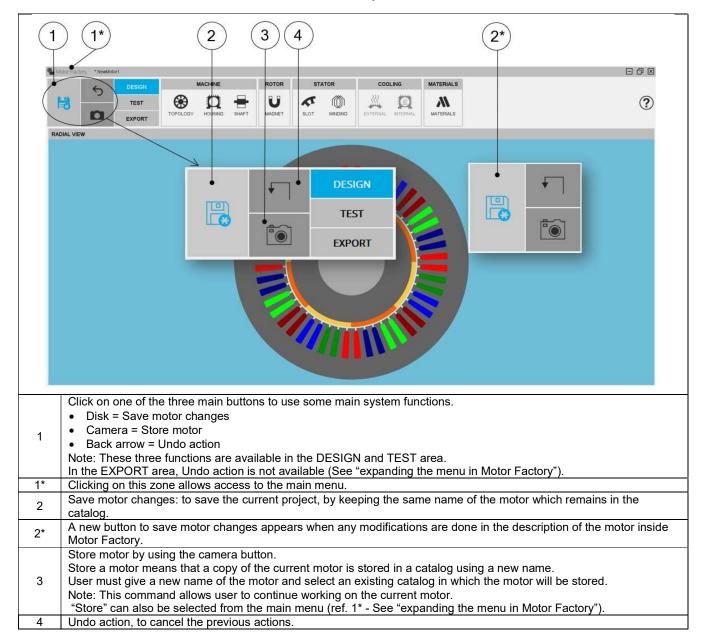




5.7 System functions

5.7.1 Direct access to some system functions

All the functions listed below are described in the section dedicated to system functions.





5.7.2 Expanding the menu in Motor Factory

This menu gives access to some system functions.

All the functions listed below are described in the section dedicated to system functions.

