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Release Notes USFOS Version 7-6					
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Tore Holmås		18			

Release notes
USFOS 7-6 1999

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1. Introduction

The current version of USFOS (version 7-6, 99-04-20) is the final release of the 97-98 user group development period.

The 7-6 version is the USFOS version, which will be used when the next millennium is entered. As USFOS does *not* use date as input to the calculations (print of time for analysis initiation only), the change from year 1999 to 2000 is assumed to cause no problems.

By artificially changing the date to the year 2000 one customer has tested the USFOS package on their own computers with following conclusion: *“We have successfully tested USFOS , XFOS and POSTFOS thru 2-3 crucial date changes and has worked in all cases.”*

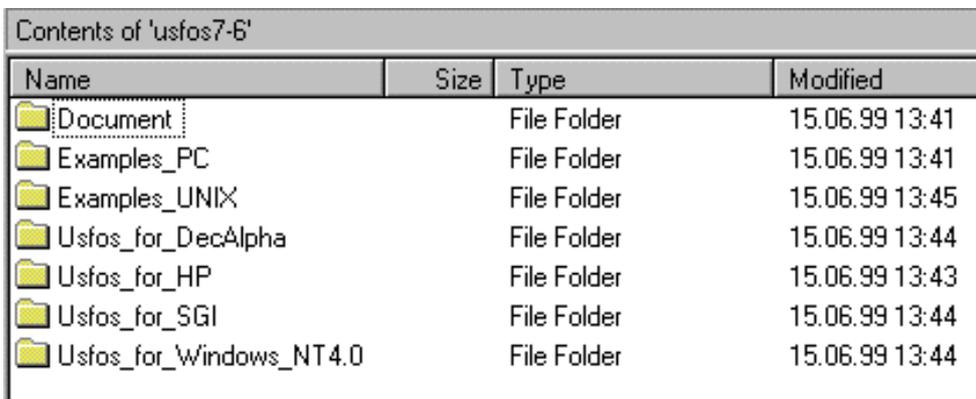
The current release with date 1999-04-20 contains following:

- CD-ROM
- Updates of User’s Manual
- Release Notes (this MEMO)

2. Contents of CD-ROM

2.1. Overview

The CD contains documentation, examples and new versions of the program codes, and the organisation is described in Figure 2.1-1. Both UNIX and NT solutions are collected in the same CD.



Name	Size	Type	Modified
Document		File Folder	15.06.99 13:41
Examples_PC		File Folder	15.06.99 13:41
Examples_UNIX		File Folder	15.06.99 13:45
Usfos_for_DecAlpha		File Folder	15.06.99 13:44
Usfos_for_HP		File Folder	15.06.99 13:43
Usfos_for_SGI		File Folder	15.06.99 13:44
Usfos_for_Windows_NT4.0		File Folder	15.06.99 13:44

Figure 2.1-1 Contents of CD-ROM

2.2. New versions of the program codes

Under each file folder (f ex “USFOS_for_Windows_NT4.0”), two folders, (bin and etc) are located. The “*bin*” folder contains the program code, while the “*etc*” folder contains set up files.

Contents of 'Usfos_for_Windows_NT4.0'		
Name	Size	Type
bin		File Folder
etc		File Folder

Contents of 'bin'		
Name	Size	Type
a2ps.exe	62KB	Application
gnuplot.exe	439KB	Application
gnuplot_x11.exe	57KB	Application
mbox.exe	100KB	Application
postfos.exe	1 036KB	Application
struman.exe	1 268KB	Application
usfos.exe	2 821KB	Application
x2ps.exe	149KB	Application
xfos.exe	2 431KB	Application

Figure 2.2-1 Program Code located in “bin” folder



Figure 2.2-2 Files in “etc” folder. NT (to the left) and UNIX (to the right)

Installation on UNIX:

- ❑ Create a root directory for USFOS, (the new “*USFOS_HOME*” directory)
- ❑ Copy the actual “bin” and “etc” directories to *USFOS_HOME*
- ❑ Copy the “Examples_UNIX” and “Document” directories to *USFOS_HOME*.
- ❑ Define the *USFOS_HOME* variable in the *USFOS.cshrc/USFOS.kshrc* files

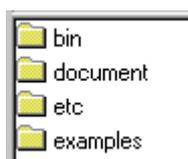


Figure 2.2-3 Contents of “\$USFOS_HOME” folder after installation

Installation on Windows NT 4.0

- ❑ Copy the new “.exe” files located in the “bin” folder to the existing “USFOS_HOME/bin” folder
- ❑ Copy the new “postfos.inca” file located in the “etc” folder to the existing “USFOS_HOME/etc” folder
- ❑ Copy the “Examples_PC” and “Document” folders to the existing USFOS_HOME.

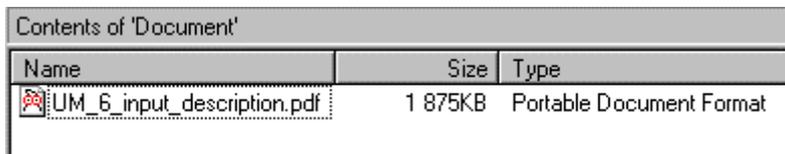
NOTE ! : *If USFOS has never been installed on NT before, please contact SINTEF.*

For all systems:

- ❑ Copy the file: “USFOS.key” (delivered on a separate diskette) to the actual “USFOS_HOME/etc” directory.

2.3. Manual

The User’s manual is updated, and (paper) copies of the actual pages are delivered. In addition, the most important part of the manual, the “Input Description” is available for “on-line” reading using f ex. Adobe Acrobat Reader or any other "PDF readers".



Name	Size	Type
 UM_6_input_description.pdf	1 875KB	Portable Document Format

A *free* "PDF-reader" is available on www.adobe.com .

2.4. Examples

Approx. 40 examples are given under the “Examples” directories. The contents of the UNIX and PC examples are identical, (the only reason for having two folders is due to computer compatibility, UNIX and PC represent the files differently).

The input files are located in separate folders, one example per folder, see Figure 2.4-1. In each folder, following files are found:

Head.fem : USFOS control parameters

Stru.fem : Structure and load description in either SESAM or UFO file format. In some cases *both* SESAM and UFO formats are given for the same example, and then the “stru-file” has a postfix, u for UFO and s for SESAM. Any of the two variants (stru_u.fem or stru_s.fem) should produce the same results. The USFOS control parameters are unaffected by the file format used to describe the structure and loads. (See also Chapter 3).

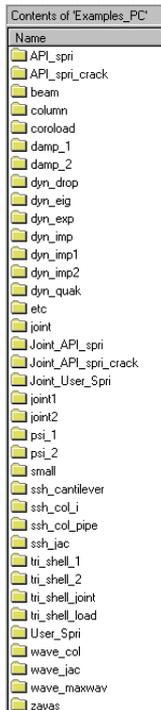


Figure 2.4-1 Example folders available for UNIX and NT(PC)

3. Input File Formats

In the current version of the User's manual, one chapter describing the UFO file format is added. The UFO file format is used to describe the same type of information, which normally is described in SESAM file format, and has been used since 1994 by non-SESAM users. The type of information is: Nodal ID's, Coordinates and Boundary conditions, Element ID's, connectivity and properties etc. USFOS recognises the file format automatically, and the results are unaffected by the structural/load file format used. **However, *mixing* commands from the two input formats are not possible.**

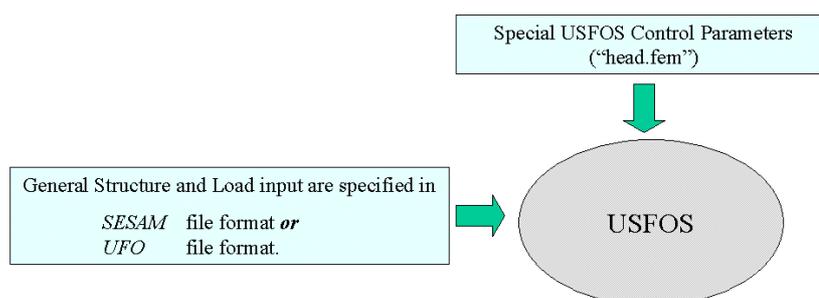


Figure 2.4-1 Input files to USFOS

In the USFOS User's manuals, following sections are found:

- 6.3 USFOS Control Parameters
- 6.4 SESAM Structure and Load
- 6.5 UFO Structure and Load

Following "style guide" is recommended see Figure 2.4-1:

- Use the "USFOS control file" for the USFOS control parameters.
- Use the "Structural file" for the structure and load input (described in either SESAM or UFO). Sometimes it's convenient to spread the structure/load input in two files ("Structure file" and "Load file").

4. New Features

4.1. Shell Element

From version 7-6, a non linear triangular shell element is available. The element is specified through general SESAM input format, element type 25, or using the TRISHELL command (UFO input). The thickness is specified similar to the existing membrane element. The non linear material parameters are given in the "usual" MISOIEP record. Both concentrated load, conservative distributed load and pressure load are available. In Table 4.1-1, the necessary input records are given for both file formats.

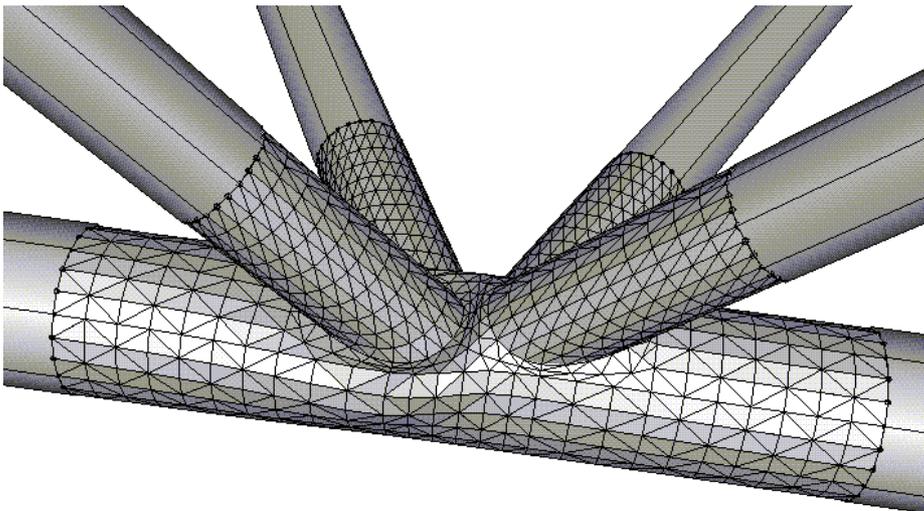


Figure 4.1-1 Non linear shell element in USFOS. (Example tri_shell_joint)

Item	SESAM file format	UFO file format
Element definition	GELMNT1/GELREF1	TRISHELL
Plate thickness	GELTH	PLTHICK
Material properties	MISOIEP	MISOIEP
Concentrated (nodal) Load	BNLOAD	NODELOAD
Pressure load (non-conservative)	BEUSLO	PRESSURE
Distributed (conservative) load		SHELLOAD

Table 4.1-1 Input records for triangular shell element

For more detailed description, see User's manual Ch. 6. See also following example folders:

- ❑ *tri_shell_1*
- ❑ *tri_shell_2*
- ❑ *tri_shell_joint*
- ❑ *tri_shell_load*

Result presentation:

The results for the shell element is presented in XFOS and available element results are plastic strain and plastic utilisation. These result types are new, and are accessed through the new "button":



In Figure 4.1-2, the dialogue box used for shell element selection is shown.

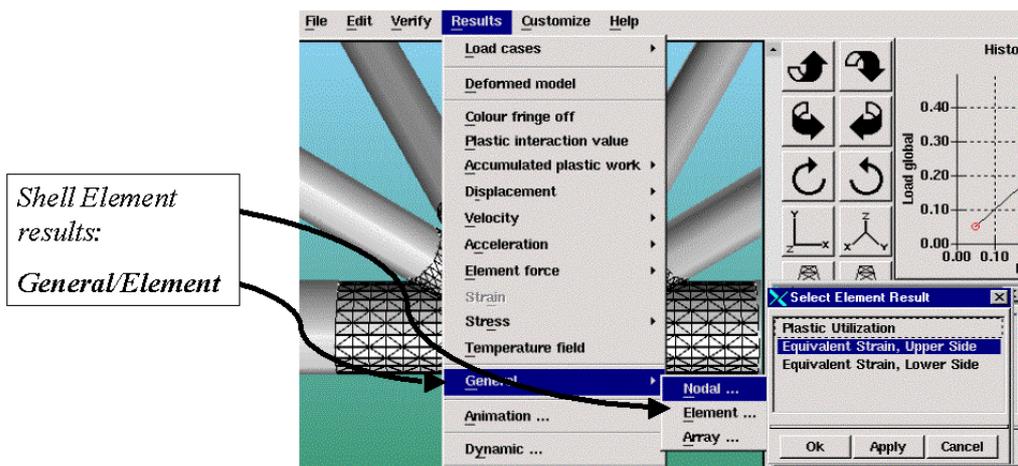


Figure 4.1-2 Selecting Shell Element Result

By default, no element mesh is shown on the model image, but using the *Verify/Show Mesh* option as shown in Figure 4.1-3, the user may switch on the mesh. The same button is used to switch off the mesh visualization.

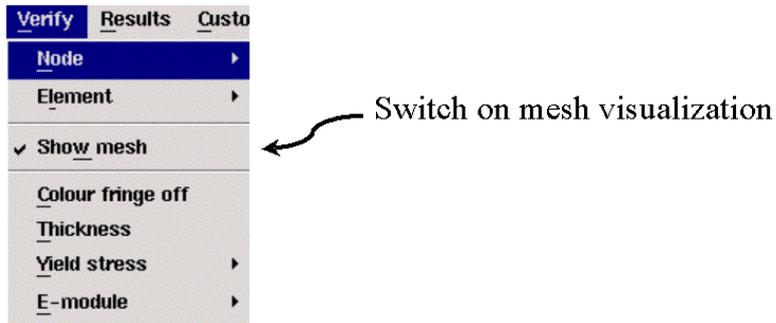


Figure 4.1-3 Switching ON/OFF mesh visualization

4.2. Shell formulation for beams

In addition to having the triangular, shell element available directly "one by one" as an ordinary element, the shell element is possible to access through the shell sub structure option. An ordinary beam element (pipe, box etc) is then represented by shell elements (in stead of the normal beam formulation, see Figure 4.2-1). As the physical member is represented by shell elements, effects like local buckling, torsion buckling, etc is predicted with high accuracy. The necessary commands (subshell and meshpipe) used to define one "shell-beam" element are described in figure Table 4.2-1 overleaf.

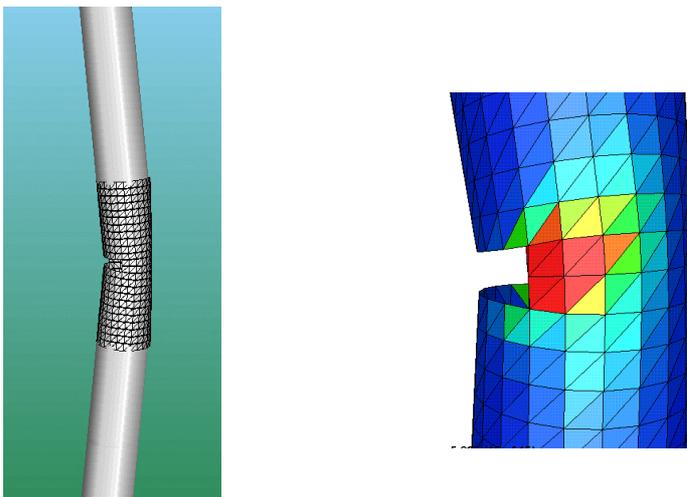


Figure 4.2-1 Shell formulation on selected beam element

Several simple examples are given on the CD-ROM:

- ssh_cantilever
- ssh_col_I
- ssh_col_pipe
- ssh_jac

'				- Use Shell_Beam for elem 12
'	Elem_Id			
'	SUBSHELL	12		
'				- Define mesh density
'	n_Length	n_Circ	Elem_Id	
'	MESHPIPE	6	12	12

Table 4.2-1 Input commands defining shell formulation on beam elements

4.3. Extreme Wave calculation/Automatic member imperfections

Modules for calculation of hydrodynamic forces are included in USFOS. This means that using separate wave load pre processor is not needed. Using the USFOS hydrodynamic in connection with *static* "push over" analysis will typically contain following:

- ❑ Specify the actual wave (type, height, period, direction...)
- ❑ Specify the corresponding current (if any)
- ❑ Switch on buoyancy (optional)
- ❑ Specify criterion to be used for selecting worst wave position (max base shear or max overturning moment)

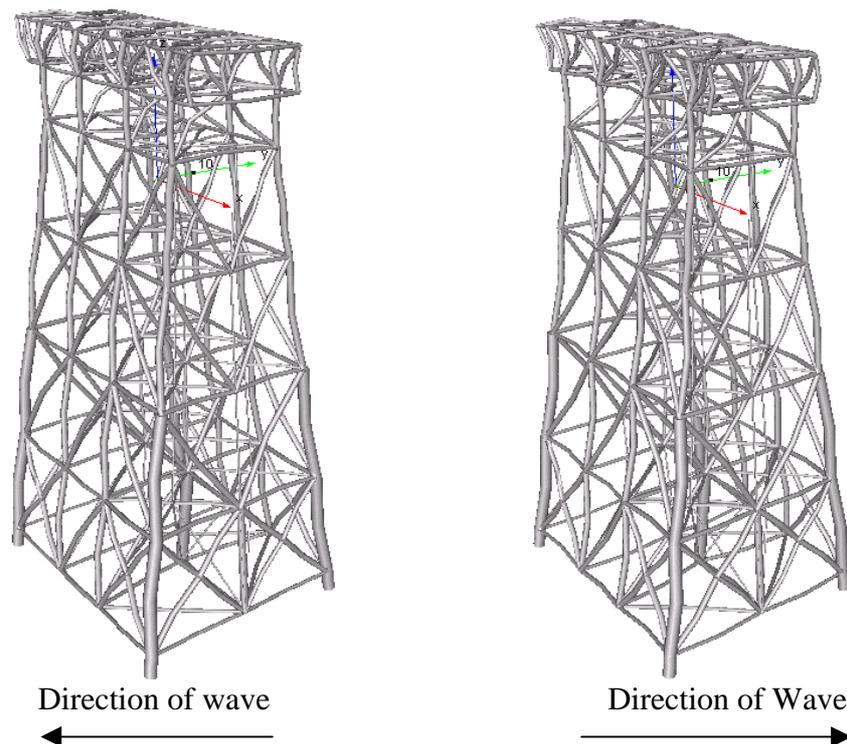


Figure 4.3-1 Automatic member imperfection according to wave force direction

USFOS will then step through the actual wave and identify the worst wave position (the position causing the highest base shear or overturning moment). The hydrodynamic forces from this wave phase (position) are saved (in memory) to be used in the pushover analysis. The calculated *buoyancy* forces are possible to separate from the other hydrodynamic forces, and the user may specify how to use the buoyancy forces, (add to an existing deadweight loadcase etc.).

Applying member imperfections, one by one, is a time consuming task, but by using the new option **CINIDEF**, the correct member imperfection is applied automatically for all beam elements. The most common buckling curves are available defining the size of the imperfection, (see User's manual Ch. 6). The *direction* of the imperfections follow the direction of the loads for a specified load case.

In Figure 4.3-1, the jacket to the right is exposed to waves with direction 45°, while the jacket to the left is exposed to a wave with opposite direction (225°). It is seen that the direction of the imperfections are opposite in the two cases (size is scaled).

All necessary input is shown in Table 4.3-1, and it should be noted that these few commands replace 1000's of input lines and use of separate wave load pre-processor / load files.

Comments to the input given in Table 4.1-1 (see also example folder *wave_maxwav*):

- ❑ Load case 1 is used for "dead weight" and calculated buoyancy
- ❑ Load case 2 is used for the extreme wave

Load case 1 is not scaled beyond factor 1.0 (that's why the calculated buoyancy forces is separated from the other hydro. forces and added to this load case). Load case 2 forces are scaled to platform collapse.

- ❑ The direction of the member imperfections (CINIDEF par. no 2 and 3) follows the direction of the member forces defined by load case 2 (which is the calculated wave forces).
- ❑ The size of the imperfection (CINIDEF par. no 1) is calculated according to "Chen column curve".
- ❑ A Stoke 5'th wave with height 25m, period 16s, 45° direction is applied. The sea surface is located for global Z-coordinate=0.0. Water depth is 100m.
- ❑ A current profile with peak value 2 m/s is defined with same direction as the wave. From depth 20m (Z=-20m relative to the sea surface), the current is reduces linearly.
- ❑ The actual wave is 'stepped through' the structure with time increment 1 s. The wave position giving the highest *base shear* in the interval Time = 0 -20s is used in the "push over" analysis.

NOTE As all hydrodynamic calculations are using SI units, the forces are calculated in N (Newton). If f ex. MN is used as force unit, the wave forces must be scaled before they are used in the "pushover" analysis. The command **WAVMXSCL** <factor> is used, (see also User's manual, Ch 6). In the current example, the wave forces are scaled with a factor 1.3 (just for demo purpose).

- ❑ For both the buoyancy forces and the wave forces, it is possible to print the calculated forces to separate files, but in the example, printing is switched off (nowrite).

4.4. Pile – Soil / Automatic generation of piles and soil capacity

The automatic generation of piles and corresponding soil capacities is a powerful option, which requires a few input lines only. The user's structure ends at "mud line", and all elements below mud line are generated automatically by USFOS, see Figure 4.4-1. In Table 4.4-1 overleaf, the necessary commands used to produce the foundation model shown in the figure are given.

See also the example in folder PSI_2.

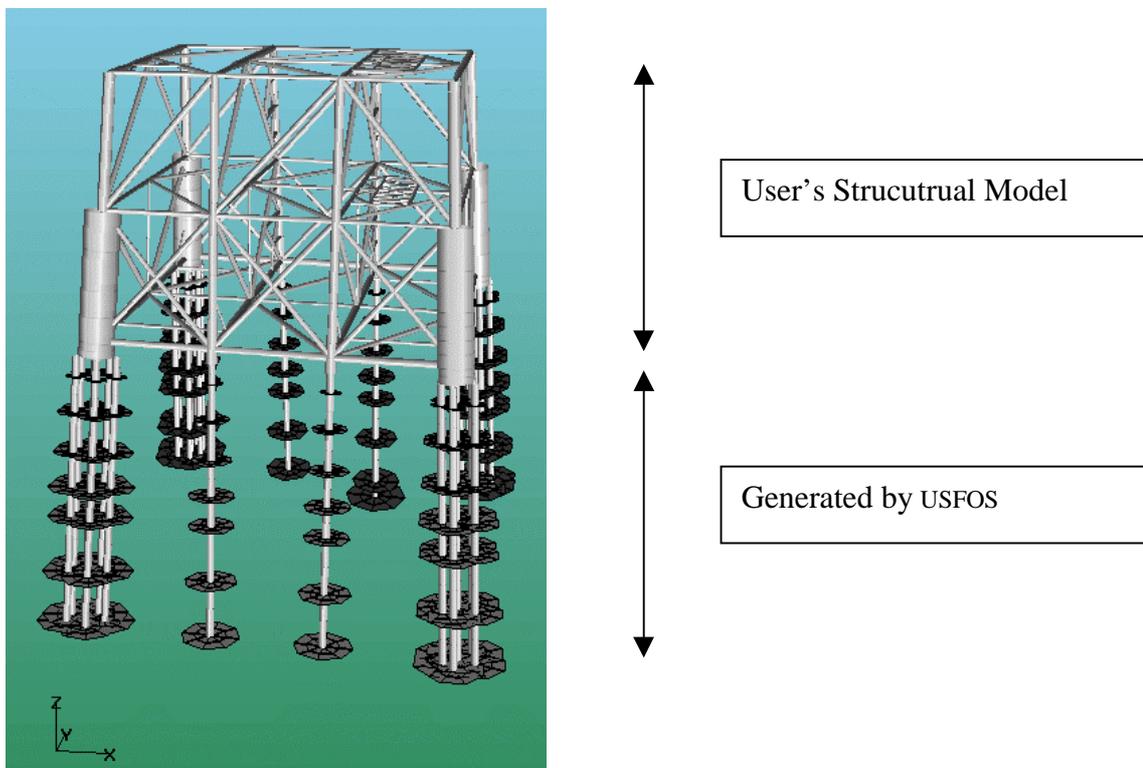


Figure 4.4-1 Automatic generation of piles and soil capacity

Comments to the input in Table 4.4-1:

- ❑ The foundation consists of 4 pile clusters, each with 7 piles, and 4 single piles.
- ❑ This foundation is defined as 8 **PILE** elements, which refer to one of the two **PILEGEO** records.
- ❑ **PILEGEO** number 1 consists of 7 pipes with diameter 1.22m. The individual positions are specified through local Y- and Z-co ordinates referring to the **PILE** local axis.
- ❑ The **PILE** local x-axis goes (downwards) from the pile head towards the pile tip.
- ❑ **PILEGEO** number 2 is a single pile, here defined as a group with only one pipe in the centre of the pile element axis. (The single pile option could also been used, see UM Ch 6).

- ❑ For all the 8 piles, the same soil exists (refer all to the same **SOILCHAR** record)
- ❑ The **SOILCHAR** is specified with 3 clay layers and 3 sand layers. However, in order to obtain a reasonable element density in the rather thick sand layer no. 2 (-24.1 to -48.8m), the same soil property (no. 501) is referred to three times. (The soil spring is inserted in the middle of the layers defined under **SOILCHAR**.)
- ❑ The soil strength is calculated according to API 1993 by specifying the geotechnical data in the command **API_SOIL**.

```

'
      Elem ID  np1  np2  Soil ID  Pile_mat  Pile_geo  lcoor  Imper
PILE      1    1    1001    10         99         1      0
PILE      2    2    1002    10         99         2      0
PILE      3    3    1003    10         99         2      0
PILE      4    4    1004    10         99         1      0
PILE      5    5    1005    10         99         1      0
PILE      6    6    1006    10         99         2      0
PILE      7    7    1007    10         99         2      0
PILE      8    8    1008    10         99         1      0
'
'
      ID      Type  Do     T      Npile      Y_loc  Z_loc
PILEGEO    1      2     1.22  0.05     7        0.0   0.0
           2.1   2.1
           3.0  -1.4
           0.6  -2.5
           -1.65 -1.65
           -2.5  0.6
           -1.5  2.7
PILEGEO    2      2     1.22  0.05     1        0.0   0.0
'
      ID  Type  Z_Mud  D_ref  Ffac  Lfac  Z1    Z2    API_Soil  ID
SOILCHAR 10  API  -93.725  1.0  1.0  1.0  -1.0  -5.2  101    ! Clay
           -5.2 -12.5  201    ! Clay
           -12.5 -18.3  301    ! Clay
           -18.3 -24.1  401    ! Sand
           -24.1 -28.3  501    ! Sand
           -28.3 -42.7  501    ! Sand
           -42.7 -48.8  501    ! Sand
           -48.8 -67.0  601    ! Sand
'
      ID  Type  load  Gam  Plug  Su  eps50  APIJ  Tresf  QPLim  iDyn
API_SOIL 101 SoftClay Static 9500 1 50E3 0.013 0.25 0.74 0.2E6 0
API_SOIL 201 StifClay Static 9500 1 120E3 0.012 0.25 0.72 1.2E6 0
API_SOIL 301 StifClay Static 9500 1 150E3 0.010 0.25 0.73 1.0E6 0
API_SOIL 401 StifClay Static 9500 1 190E3 0.019 0.25 0.75 1.9E6 0
'
      ID  typ  load  Gam  Plug  Phi  Delta  rNq  QPlim  iDyn
API_SOIL 501 Sand Static 8000 0 33 22 22 1.4E7 0
API_SOIL 601 Sand Static 8000 0 37 26 23 1.1E7 0
    
```

Table 4.4-1 Input for automatic calculation of piles and soil capacities

4.5. Dynamic Analysis results. Time Series

A dynamic analysis may involve a large number of analysis steps (1000 - 100 000), and saving of analysis results is then a challenge. It is then necessary to select a few results, which could be saved every analysis step, while the rest of the results could be saved more seldom. In this way, the user obtain following:

- ❑ High density on the time series of the selected (most important) results
- ❑ Acceptable density on the results presented in XFOS for inspection of the global behaviour of the structure (f ex generation of animation etc).

The few, selected result quantities are stored in a separate file with extension *.dyn* in addition to the usual *.raf* file. The dynamic results are accessed from XFOS through the result/dynamic_result dialogue box, see Figure 4.5-1.

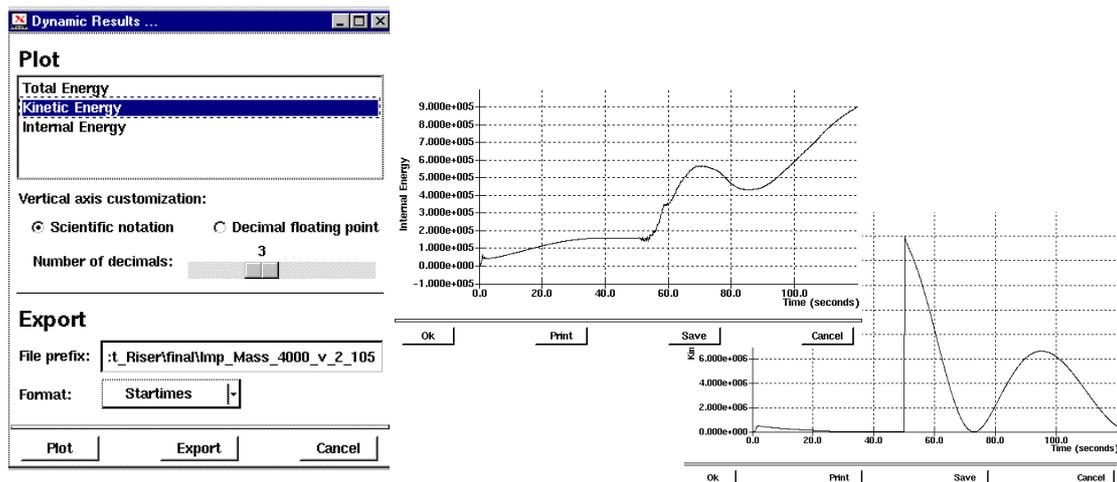


Figure 4.5-1 Selecting Dynamic Results from XFOS

Following results are

- ❑ NODAL
 - Displacement
 - Velocity
 - Acceleration
 - Relative displacement (between two nodes)
- ❑ ELEMENT
 - Displacement
 - Force

- GENERAL
 - Internal Energy
 - Plastic Energy
 - Kinetic Energy
 - Total Energy

See Table 4.5-1 for example of use:

'	Type	Node_ID	Dof		
DYNRES_Node	Dis	10	1		
DYNRES_Node	Dis	130	1		
DYNRES_Node	Vel	130	1		
DYNRES_Node	Acc	130	1		
'					
'	Type	Node_ID	Dof	Node_ID	Dof
DYNRES_Node	RelDis	10	1	130	1
'					
'	Type	Elem_ID	End	Dof	
DYNRES_Elem	Disp	20	2	1	
DYNRES_Elem	Force	20	1	1	
	Type				
DYNRES_General	Wint				
DYNRES_General	Wplast				
DYNRES_General	Wkin				
DYNRES_General	Wtot				

Table 4.5-1 Input for "Dynamic result" saving

See also in the example folders:

- dyn_drop
- dyn_imp
- dyn_imp2
- dyn_quak

4.6. Impact Analysis including “dash-pot” dampers

As an alternative to the standard impact options (BIMPACT, DYNIMPCT), it is sometimes necessary to model *both* the structure *and* the impacting object. The impacting object is defined as a separate structure and is assigned the appropriate properties (mass, initial velocity etc). In order to determine the contact between the two structures, a non linear spring is used. In Figure 4.6-1 this spring is seen between the impacting structure (the pipe) and the slender frame. The spring properties (P_d curve) is shown in the figure, and the curve is specified in the example file described in Table 4.6-1. See also example folder *damp_2*.

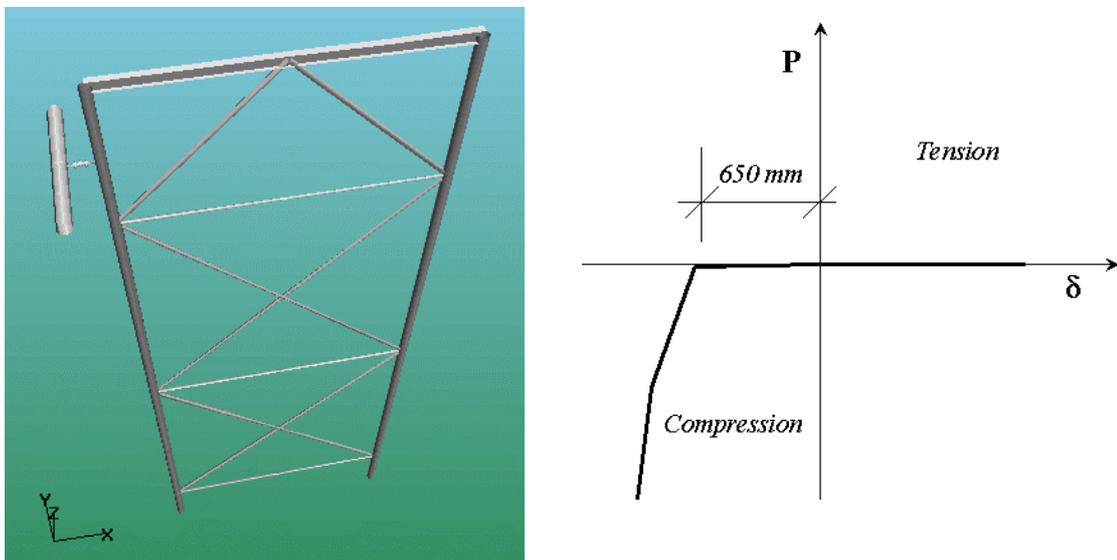


Figure 4.6-1 Slender frame impacted by a separate structure with contact spring

The presence of physical dampers (like the ones in your car) will reduce the damage on the structure, and boat fenders is often equipped with dampers mounted in parallel with springs. USFOS 7-6 is extended to cover this type of 'suspension details', and the 'dash pot' damper characteristics (C) for a given non linear spring is specified in the input file.

Comments to the input in Table 4.6-1:

- ❑ The impacting object (just a pipe) consists of 3 nodes and 3 beam elements.
- ❑ One beam element (the contact spring) refers to **MREF** material, and is then automatically transferred to a 2 node non linear spring
- ❑ The MREF material refers further to P_d curves, one per degree of freedom. In this example, only axial stiffness is included, and the other references are set equal to zero (means no stiffness in theses degree of freedoms)

5. New/modified input identifiers

Since last main release (7.4), following input identifiers are added/extended:

TRISHELL	:	Specification of triangular non linear shell element.
SHELLOAD	:	Specification of distributed (conservative) load for shell element.
SUBSHELL	:	Switch ON shell formulation for specified beam element.
INI_VELO	:	Initial velocity of specified node(s) or bodies (materials).
DampRatio	:	Structural damping given in terms of damping ratios (and associated frequencies). Time dependent (optional).
DynRes_N	:	Dynamic Result, Nodal data
DynRes_E	:	Dynamic Result, Element data
DynRes_G	:	Dynamic Result, Global data
CINIDEF	:	Analysis Calibration to column buckling curves
API_SOIL	:	Automatic calculation of P-Y, T-Z and Q-Z according to API 1993
MAXWAVE	:	Automatic selection of the “worst” wave load phase to be applied in a ‘pushover’ analysis (used together with <i>Wavadata/Current</i>).
WAVMXSCL	:	Scaling (du to units) the wave forces found using the MaxWave option.
WAVE_INT	:	User control of the number of integration points to be used along the different beam elements when calculating wave loads.
BUOYANCY	:	Calculate and add buoyancy forces to specified loadcomb.
COROLOAD	:	Specification of distributed element loads in local coordinate system.
INVISIBLE	:	Making non-linear springs invisible in xfos, (f ex contact springs).
WET_ELEM	:	Check all elements for hydrodynamic forces
USERFRAC	:	User defined fracture. “Old” identifier, but extended options (Loadcomb/Loadlevel, Time, Utilization, Strain)
ACTIVELM	:	Specification of elements to be “waked up” at a given loadcomb. “Old” identifier, but extended to Dynamic Analysis.