

SESAM™

For fixed offshore wind turbine structures

Software for ultimate strength and fatigue analysis of offshore wind turbine substructures



DNV's Sesam software offers a tailor-made solution for structural strength analysis of offshore wind turbine structures addressing the industry's need to account for the combined effect of wind and hydrodynamic loads, and is based on international standards.

Building on years of experience as a leading tool for engineering of offshore structures, Sesam software is applicable for analyses of wind turbine structures of any complexity, from monopiles to tripods and jacket structures.

Modelling in Sesam

Sesam provides a 3D modelling environment for beam, shell and solid elements. Beams are typically used for the frame substructure and tower. The transition piece may be modelled by beams for global stiffness representation or shell/solid elements for a more refined stress response analysis. Local joints can also be transformed from beam to shell elements for determination of stress concentration factors and detailed fatigue analysis. It is also possible to include external matrices obtained from another software to represent parts of the model.

Superelement/sequential analysis

Sesam offers an interface for easy use of time domain wind turbine interface loads from commercial aero-elastic codes such as Bladed, BHawC, VTS/Flex5, HawC2 and FAST. The imported interface loads may be combined with the hydro-

dynamic loads from waves and current generated in Sesam, as well as seismic input, to produce a single time series for structural analysis. In addition, model and (wave and seismic) load conversion into a superelement is available for Bladed, Siemens Gamesa's BHawC and MHI Vestas' VTS/Flex5. Conversion of interface loads back into Sesam is also included.

10 good reasons for choosing Sesam:

1. One complete, intuitive and user-friendly solution
2. Powerful parametric modelling and scripting possibilities
3. Full 3D modelling in Sesam's proven software for offshore engineering including structure, pile/soil and hydrodynamic properties
4. Re-use of the model within the different analyses throughout the complete lifecycle
5. Post-processing of integrated design member loads from Bladed
6. Superelement/sequential analysis using wind turbine interface loads from Bladed or any other 3rd party tool, such as BHawC, VTS/Flex5, HawC2 or FAST.
7. Efficient and fast redesign process
8. Visualization gives more confidence in results
9. Easy import of models from multiple systems such as SACS, Ansys, Staad, Solidworks and others
10. Perform multiple iterations in a single day by using Sesam Cloud, enabling further optimization and cost reduction

Integrated design and Superelement analysis workflows when using Sesam and Bladed

Integrated design

Fully integrated dynamic analysis is possible using Bladed, which is well integrated with Sesam. Bladed is the world's leading wind turbine design tool. Models can be taken from Sesam into Bladed and member loads can be converted from Bladed into Sesam format for post-processing in Sesam. The integrated analysis includes wind, hydrodynamic and seismic loads, control system and finite element model of the complete wind turbine, tower and substructure in a single solver. The user-friendly combination gives a complete tool for modelling, testing and code checking of offshore wind turbines. You will save time and money by optimization of the wind turbine design and work processes:

- Reduce uncertainties and improve work efficiency in design and verification of offshore wind turbines
- Use one consistent model throughout the wind turbine and substructure analysis
- Leave behind challenging interfaces and iterative work for tuning the wind turbine model and the substructure model

Fatigue and ultimate strength analysis

Sesam provides fatigue analysis of damage equivalent loads and time domain loads, as well as ultimate strength analysis of simplified extreme loads, time domain loads and earthquake loads, based on IEC61400-3-1, DNVGL-ST-0126, DNVGL-RP-C203, DNVGL-ST-0437 and DNV-RP-0585. For time domain analyses, a list of all design load cases can be specified to be checked. For fatigue this includes libraries of SN curves, automatic computation of stress concentration factors (SCFs), using different SN curves over the lifetime of the structure, using the rainflow counting methodology, and summing damage over all design load cases. Similarly, all design load cases can be checked for ultimate strength based on the API, AISC, Eurocode, ISO and Norsok offshore standards, and aggregated results can be presented.

Sesam Cloud

All time domain analyses can be run in parallel, either locally or in the Sesam Cloud, significantly reducing analysis time

required. With Sesam Cloud, multiple design iterations can be performed in a single day, allowing for further optimization and cost reduction.

Verification reports

Verification reports exist for the Sesam interfaces with Bladed and BHawC. These include further details on and verification of the conversion process and a verification study of the results.

Why Sesam?

A fully integrated analysis system will reduce uncertainties and improve work efficiency in design and verification of offshore wind turbines. Besides primary steel design, Sesam can be used for secondary steel design of boat landings and J-tubes, including (operational and accidental) boat impact analysis and vortex-induced vibration analysis of J-tubes. Also transportation, lifting and corrosion protection analysis are available. All Sesam modules use the same model, thereby easing the process of running multiple analyses.

How is Sesam unique?

Sesam offers coupled dynamic analysis of a fully integrated wind turbine system, including wind turbine, substructure/foundation and environmental loads. With Sesam you can do fatigue and ultimate strength analyses of the substructure, based on DNV's 50+ years of experience providing software solutions to the offshore industry.

Sesam modules for fixed offshore wind turbine structures

Sesam offers modules for modelling (GeniE), wave load calculations (Wajac), soil-pile-structure interaction (Splice), linear static or dynamic structural analysis (Sestra), fatigue assessment (Framework), and code checks (GeniE and Framework), with all time domain FLS and ULS analyses being controlled from an intuitive user interface (Sesam Wind Manager). Optional modules exist for result visualization (Xtract) and boat impact and non-linear analysis (Usfos). Visualization and collaboration on model and results is available online as well (Sesam Insight).