

Wave Spectra used in OrcaFlex

Formulae for OrcaFlex random wave spectra

OrcaFlex can simulate waves from a number of the more commonly used random wave spectra. This document gives details of the spectral formulae for these wave spectra.

1 ISSC spectrum

The ISSC spectrum $S_{\text{ISSC}}(f)$ for frequency $f \ge 0$ is given by the formula

$$S_{\rm ISSC}(f) = \left(\frac{5H_s^2 f_m^4}{16}\right) f^{-5} \exp\left[-\frac{5}{4} \left(\frac{f}{f_m}\right)^{-4}\right]$$

where f_m is the peak frequency; H_s is the significant wave height.

See Tucker MJ, Waves in Ocean Engineering, p107. Note that in this reference the ISSC spectrum is called the generalised Pierson-Moskowitz spectrum and the notation differs slightly.

2 JONSWAP spectrum

The JONSWAP spectrum $S_{\text{JONSWAP}}(f)$ for frequency $f \ge 0$ is given by the formula

$$S_{\text{JONSWAP}}(f) = \left(\frac{\alpha g^2}{(2\pi)^4}\right) f^{-5} \exp\left[-\frac{5}{4} \left(\frac{f}{f_m}\right)^{-4}\right] \gamma^{\exp\left[-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left(\frac{f}{f_m}-1\right)^2\right]}$$

where f_m is the peak frequency; g is the gravitational constant; $\sigma = \sigma_1$ for $f \le f_m$, $\sigma = \sigma_2$ for $f > f_m$; γ , α , σ_1 and σ_2 are OrcaFlex data items.

See

- Barltrop NDP and Adams AJ, Dynamics of Fixed Marine Structures (3rd edition), p277.
- Tucker MJ, Waves in Ocean Engineering, p108.
- Isherwood R M, 1987. Applied Ocean Research, Vol 9, No. 1 (January), pp 47-50.

Note that the notation differs in these references.

3 Ochi-Hubble spectrum

The Ochi-Hubble spectrum $S_{\text{Ochi-Hubble}}(f)$ for frequency $f \ge 0$ is given by the formula

$$S_{\text{Ochi-Hubble}}(f) = \sum_{j=1}^{2} \left[\frac{\left(\frac{4\lambda_j+1}{4}\right)^{\lambda_j} f_{mj}^{4\lambda_j} H_{s_j}^2}{4\Gamma(\lambda_j)} \right] f^{-(4\lambda_j+1)} \exp\left[-\left(\frac{4\lambda_j+1}{4}\right) \left(\frac{f}{f_{mj}}\right)^{-4} \right]$$

where $\Gamma(\cdot)$ is the gamma function; H_{s_1} , f_{m_1} , λ_1 , H_{s_2} , f_{m_2} and λ_2 are OrcaFlex data items.

See equation 10 in Ochi M K and Hubble E N, 1976, Six-parameter wave spectra; Proc 15th Coastal Engineering Conference, 301-328.