I.O.S.

MOORED CURRENT METER RECORDS

by

M J HOWARTH AND S G LOCH

DATA REPORT



MOORED CURRENT METER RECORDS

Morecambe Bay 11 Oct - 1 Nov 1972 St. George's Channel 1 Feb - 5 Mar 1973 ICOT Moorings 25-29

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1974

DATA REPORT 🏓 🦊

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Introduction

This report describes the results from ICOT moorings 25-29 which were deployed in two separate exercises, one in Morecambe Bay and the other in St. George's Channel. In October, 1972, four rigs containing eight current meters were moored on the seaward boundary of Morecambe Bay (see map A and table 1) to provide tidal current data for input into a numerical model of the area (R. A. Flather and N. S. Heaps, in press). For February, 1973, an experiment was planned to investigate the tides and residual current patterns in the Celtic Sea in which an array of seven current meter rigs would be deployed. However, because of rough weather and an unsuitable ship, only one rig was moored (mooring 29) which consisted of three meters (see map B and table 1).

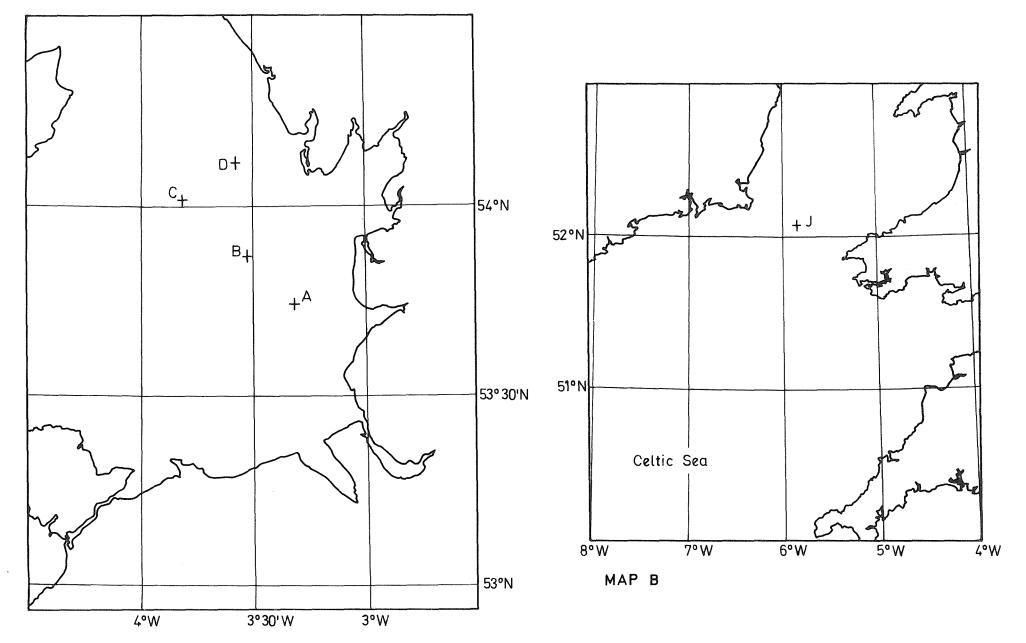
Hence eleven current meters were deployed on the five rigs, all Bergen meters (Aanderaa, 1964). The resulting data was of good quality and 100% of maximum possible data was returned.

Mooring	Rig	Latitude	Longitude	Water depth below chart datum (m)	Day Launched	Day Recovered	Height of meter above sea floor(m)	Tape No.
25	Α	$53^{0}44.7'$ N	3 ⁰ 19.2'W	15	11 Oct 72	31 Oct 72	7	531/2
26	В	53 ⁰ 52.7'N	3 ⁰ 31.9'W	22	11 Oct 72	1 Nov 72	$13 \\ 5$	213/6 530/2
27	C	54 ⁰ 00.8'N	3 ⁰ 44.4'W	33	11 Oct 72	31 Oct 72	$\begin{array}{c} 25\\ 15\\ 5\end{array}$	$417/4 \\ 532/2 \\ 212/7$
28	D	54 ⁰ 06.8'N	3 ⁰ 33.4'W	22	11 Oct 72	32 Oct 72	$\begin{array}{c} 13\\5\end{array}$	533/2 415/4
29	J	52 ⁰ 04.1'N	5 ⁰ 47.0'W	91	1 Feb 73	5 Mar 73	$71 \\ 56 \\ 15$	$563/1 \\ 564/1 \\ 565/1$

Table 1 : Summary of current meter deployment, times and positions

MAP A

POSITION OF CURRENT METER RIGS



Current meter moorings

A schematic diagram of the mooring arrangement is shown in figure 1. The Bergen meter spindles were spliced into a taut line supported by a sub-surface buoy, of which there were three different types.

- A) A bullet shaped buoy about 1.1 m long and 0.65 m in diameter made from high density polyurethane foam in a fibreglass shell approx. 1 cm thick. It has a buoyancy of 160 kg and is manufactured by Cosalt Ltd.
- B) A solid speroid about 1 m in diameter made from a heterogeneous mix of syntactic foam and 38 mm diameter pressure resistant spheres all inside a fibreglass casing. It has a buoyancy of 225 kg and is manufactured by Slingsby Sailplanes Ltd.
- C) A free-flooding spheroid about 1 m in diameter made from a hollow fibreglass shell containing 38 mm diameter pressure resistant spheres encased in a net. The shell is perforated to render the buoy free-flooding. It has a buoyancy of 225 kg and is manufactured by Slingsby Sailplanes Ltd.

The position of the rig was marked by a toroidal surface buoy supporting a radar reflector and a flashing light. Two scrap chain anchors were used, one of 700 kg under the surface buoy and one of 450 kg below the sub-surface buoy. In four of the rigs wire rope of 8 mm diameter galvanised, flexible steel was used for the line supporting the meters, 12 or 16 mm wire for the ground line (approx. 200 m long) and the line to the surface toroid. However, on the fifth, rig B in Morecambe Bay, Nilspin jacketed wire was used throughout. The wire had a core of $\frac{1}{4}$ in diameter galvanized basic grade steel which was coated with polypropolene so that the overall diameter was 5/16 in. A 2 m length of scrap chain was attached to the bottom of the surface buoy to give it some form of stability, but despite this the buoys overturned several times.

The rigs were deployed by first launching the subsurface float, then the meters and the meter anchor, paying out the ground line, the anchor under the surface buoy, the surface

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Current meters

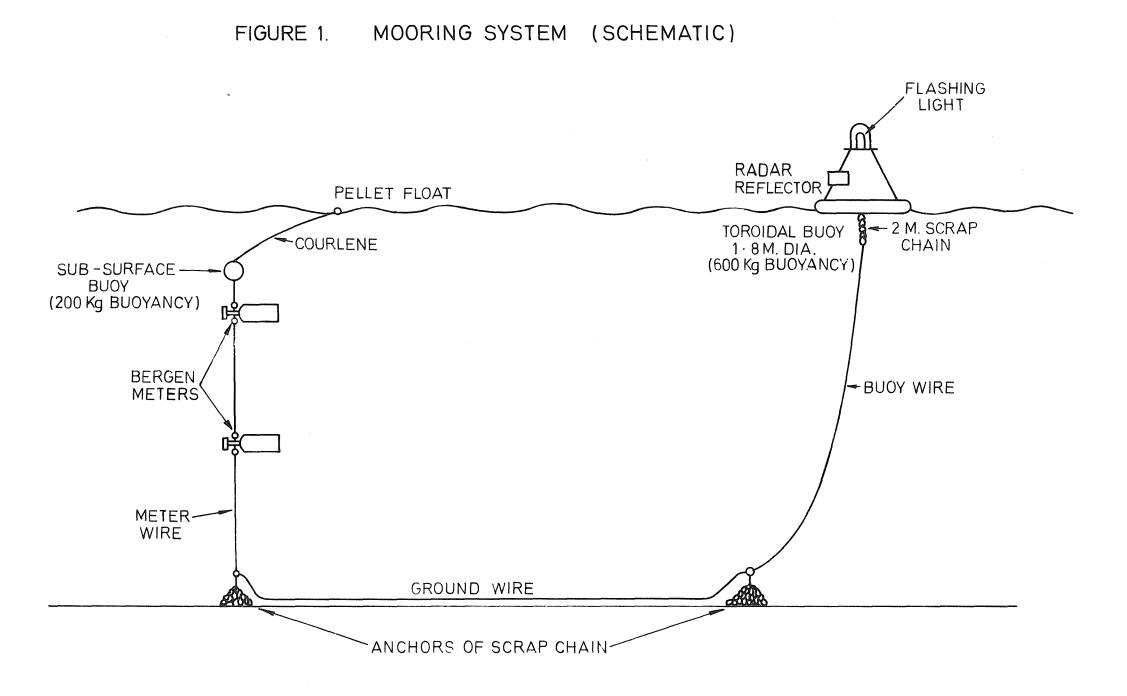
Bergen current meters record onto magnetic tape, at a fixed sampling interval, temperature, current direction and integrated rotor count, and the top meter each at rigs B and C in Morecambe Bay also recorded pressure. The sampling interval for each of the meters was 10 min and was controlled by a quartz-crystal clock rated at ± 2 secs/day in nine of the meters and by an electro-mechanical clock in the remaining two. In fact, ten out of the eleven meters kept to within 3 secs/day - timing errors being determined by comparing the number of samples recorded with the times of starting and stopping the meters. The meters were started on board ship but were stopped and had pre- and post-cruise checks performed on them in the laboratory.

All meters were calibrated after their recovery and, in addition, the three meters of mooring 29 were calibrated before their launch. The compasses were calibrated every 10° with particular attention to the dead-space and the rotors were tested over the range 0 - 150 cm/sec in the wave tank at Wormley. The thermistors were calibrated over the range $-2^{\circ}C$ to $20^{\circ}C$ and the pressure sensors, bourdon tubes, over the range 0 to 13.5 bars above atmospheric pressure.

In all, eleven records were obtained, since all the meters were recovered and all appeared to have functioned satisfactorily.

buoy line and finally launching the surface buoy. This procedure was reversed for recovery. Snap shackles were used, where possible, to minimise handling problems and generally to speed up both launch and recovery. Where snap shackles were not used connections were made by $\frac{5}{8}$ in D shackles with $\frac{3}{4}$ in pins and reciprous bearing swivels.

During the two exercises three ships were used - r.r.s. John Murray for the launch of the first, r.v. Edward Forbes for its recovery and r.v. Researcher for the launch and recovery of the second. The first two vessels were each equipped with an 'A' frame so that launch and recovery were conducted over the stern whilst on the third operations were conducted over the side. The skill and experience of their masters and crew contributed greatly to the success of the programme.



Data processing

The data on the magnetic tapes from the Bergen meters was translated at Bergen onto punched paper tape which was input into the Institute's IBM 1130 computer. Errors in the data were discovered by noting either discontinuities in the records or consecutive readings with the same value; the most common errors being :-

- (a) a large change in direction between adjacent readings at times of reasonable speed (> 25 cm/ sec). This is probably caused by the meter's encoder misreading the compass.
- (b) The rotor count going backwards. This often occurs when the rotor potentiometer is in its dead-space.

Errors of type (b) were corrected and the meter calibrations were then used to calculate the temperature and the North (true) and East components of velocity. Because the meter integrates the rotor count but records instantaneous directions, some further averaging was necessary to derive a simultaneous reading of speed and direction. Consider three adjacent readings of rotor count and direction at times t1, t2, t3. The value for speed and direction at t2 was derived by associating the speed given by the rotor count at t3 minus that at t1 with the instantaneous measurement of direction at time t2.

After the components of velocity had been calculated errors of type (a), which were more common than those of type (b), were corrected using a cubic spline routine on each velocity component.

Format

The report is split into sections, one for each mooring, each section beginning with a page of mooring details showing :-: ICOT reference number Mooring number Station identification letter, Position of rig : latitude and longitude from the appropriate Admiralty Depth of water : Chart Tidal heights from the tidal predictions for : the nearest port giving the heights above chart datum of the mean high water springs MHWS MHWN mean high water neaps mean low water springs MLWS mean low water neaps MLWN the meter number, the type of Meter information : meter, the height of the meter rotor above the anchor Time of set the time that the surface buoy : was released from the ship Time of recovery the time that the surface buoy : was brought on board the ship any additional information on Mooring : the mooring

Another page of information is included before the results from each meter. This contains :-

Meter information	•	manufacturer and meter identif- ication number
Tape number	:	identification of the record
Times	:	the times when the meter was started and stopped together with the calculated timing error and the total number of readings
Length of useful record	:	times of start and end of velocity time series, total length of useful data
Comments	:	comments on the meter, its behaviour and the quality of the record

The results are displayed in five graphs produced on a Computer Instrumentation Limited 6011 plotter linked to the Institute's IBM 1130 computer. The diagrams are :-

1) A plot of the temperature, pressure (if appropriate) and the North and East components of velocity against time. The whole data series obtained (10 minute values in this case) is used as the input for this graph. The lines on the time axis indicate midnight (0000 GMT).

2) Histograms of speed and direction. Plots of the percentage of the data which lie within a certain interval of speed or direction. The direction histogram is split into intervals of 18⁰, the speed range is flexible depending on the maximum speed recorded.

3) A scatter diagram of the North component of velocity against the East component. The scale is in cm/sec, each dot representing a reading of the meter. The eccentricity of the tidal ellipse is clearly indicated, showing the contrast between the almost rectilinear tidal stream in the upper layers and the noticeably elliptical motion nearer the bed. This diagram is particularly useful in revealing malfunctions in the meter's compass or in the rig itself.

4) Two progressive vector diagrams. One uses the same data as diagram 1; the other uses the data averaged over a period of 24 hrs 50 mins (two tidal cycles) to remove most of the tidal signal and hence show the residual movement more clearly. For any record, the scale (in kms) and orientation are the same for both graphs. A drift of 1 km/day is equivalent to a residual speed of 1.16 cm/sec. The crosses mark mid-day (1200 GMT) each day. Care is needed in interpreting these graphs, they indicate the time variation of the current vector at the meter and not the path of a particle.

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank Mr A J Harrison for the care he has taken in looking after the instruments, the marine operations section for the help they have given in launching and recovering the instruments and the computer operators for their patience and help in running our programs.

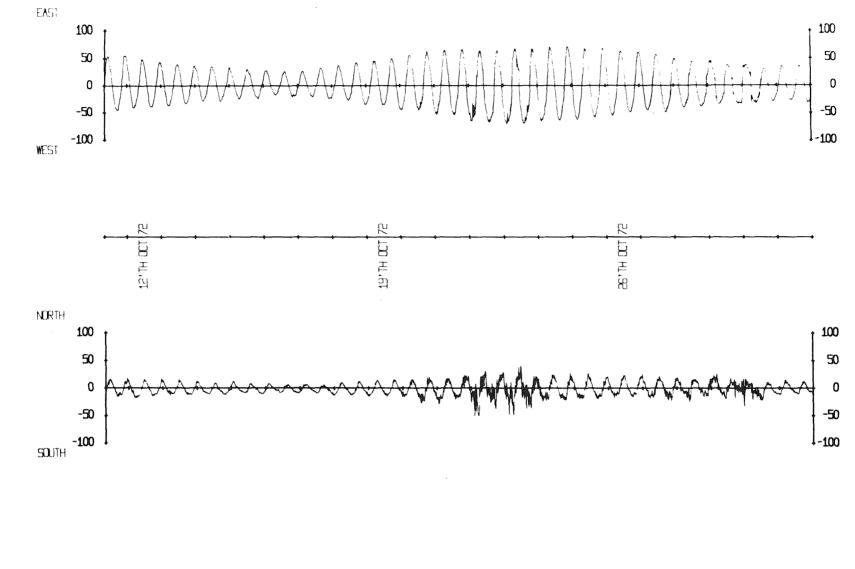
References

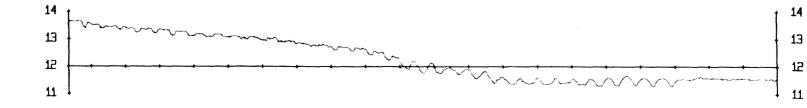
Aanderaa, I. 1964	A recording and telemetering instrument.
	Nato subcommittee on oceanographic research.
	Tech. report <u>16</u> - fixed buoys project.

Flather, R.A. and
Heaps, N.S.In Press. Tidal computations for Morecambe
Bay. Geophys. J.R. astr. Soc.

Mooring number	r	:	25			
Position of r	ig	:	Lat 53	3 ⁰ 44.7'N	Long 3 ⁰	19.2'W (rig A)
Depth of wate:	r	:	15 m 1	below cha	art datum	
Tidal heights, in metres		s :	MHWS	MHWN	MLWN	MLWS
above chart da Liverpool	atum, at		8.8	6.9	2.4	0.5
Meter	Type	Height floor		sea		g interval min)
531	Bergen		7		-	LO
Rig set		:			Oct 1972 Dhn Murray	7
Rig recovered		:			Oct 1972 ward Fort	Des
Mooring		:	Standa buoy	urd with	a Cosalt	sub-surface
Comments		:				re successfully st attempt

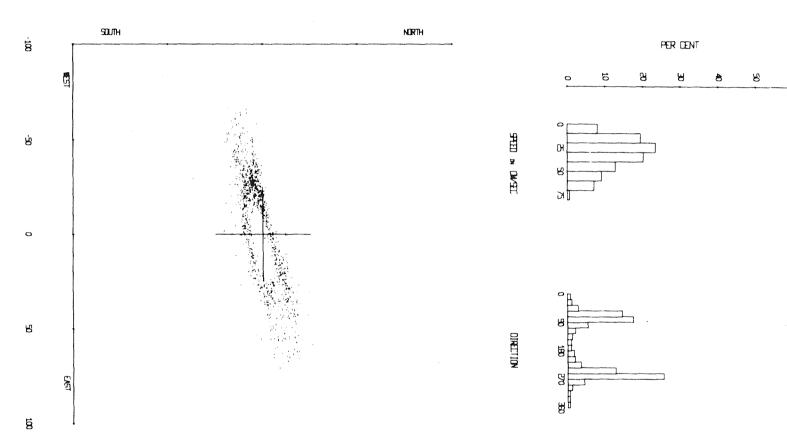
Meter	:	Bergen 531
Tape number	:	531/2
Meter started	:	17.59.07 GMT 10 Oct 1972
Meter stopped	:	10.08.33 GMT 8 Nov 1972
Total number of readings	:	4130
Timing error	:	34 s fast
Start of useful record	:	07.59 GMT 11 Oct 1972
End of useful record	:	23.39 GMT 31 Oct 1972
Length of useful record	:	495 h
Comments	:	Good record. The meter was fitted with a quartz-crystal clock.





VELOCITY IN DM/SEC

TEMPERATURE IN DEG C

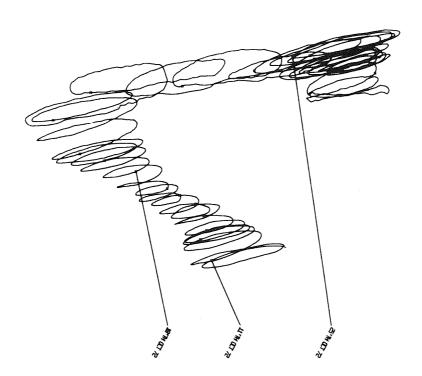


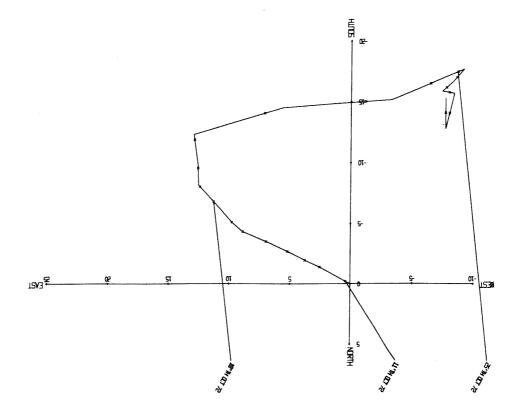
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Mooring numbe	er	:	26					
Position of m	rig	:	Lat 53	⁰ 52.7'N	Long 3 ⁰	31.9' W	(rig B)	
Depth of wate	er	:	22 m b	22 m below chart datum				
Tidal heights above chart d		s :	MHWS	MHWN	HLWN	MLWS		
at Liverpool			8.8	6.9	2.4	0.5		
Meter	Туре		t above oor (m)	sea	Recordin (m	g inter in)	val	
213	Bergen		13			10		
530	Bergen		5			10		
Rig set		:			Oct 1972 hn Murra	У		
Rig recovered	I	:		GMT 1 N r.v. Ed	ov 1972 ward For	bes		
Mooring		:		rface bu	free-fle oy. Nils			
Comments		:			success: t first a		•	
			ashøre had oc few da have b buoy t whose	on Blac curred d ys and t roken fr here was free end	toroid wa kpool bea uring the he buoy a ee since about 3 showed s whose cov	ach. A e previe appeare beneat m of N signs of	storm ous d to h the ilspin f	
			recove and th line w	ry the p e rig dra as succe	the stat ellets we agged for ssfully s the rig	ere sigl c. The snagged	hted ground on the	

Meter	:	Bergen 213
Tape number	:	213/6
Meter started	:	20.40.20 GMT 10 Oct 1972
Meter stopped	:	14.19.46 GMT 7 Nov 1972
Total number of readings	:	3995
Timing error	:	34 s fast
Start of useful record	:	10.01 GMT 11 Oct 1972
End of useful record	:	09.20 GMT 1 Nov 1972
Length of useful record	:	503 h
Comments	:	Good record. The meter was fitted with a pressure transducer and quartz-crystal clock.

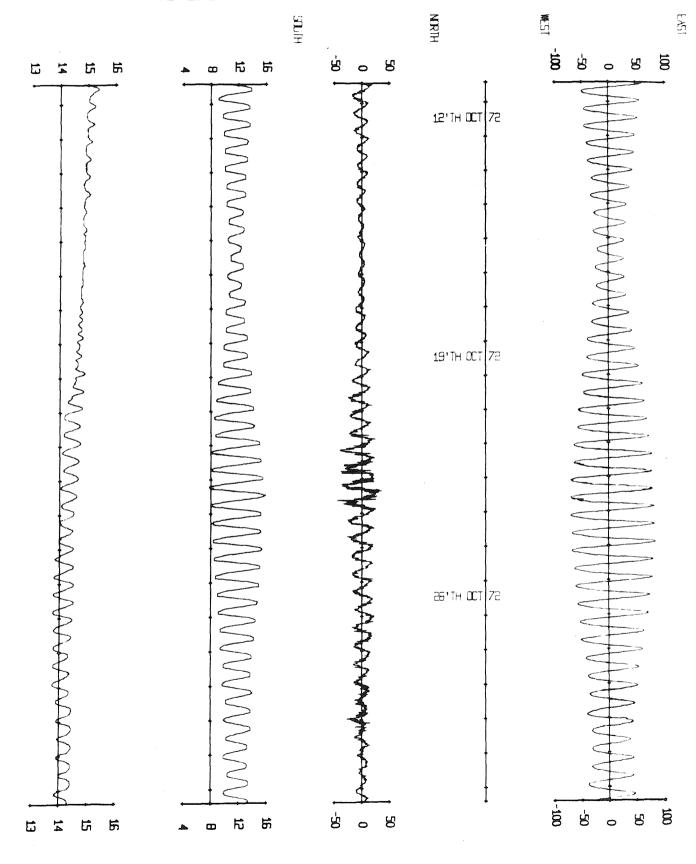


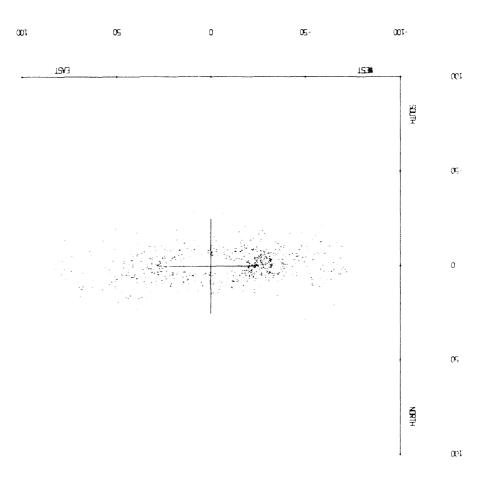


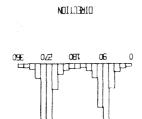
VELOCITY IN DWSEL

METRES OF WATER

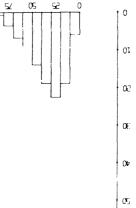
PRESSLIRE IN



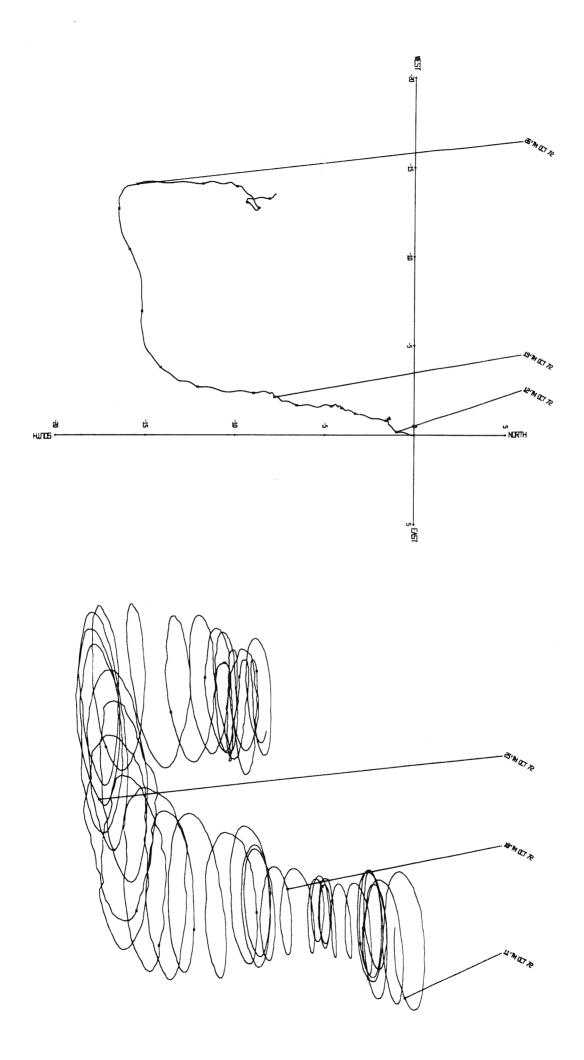




15/10 N 11365



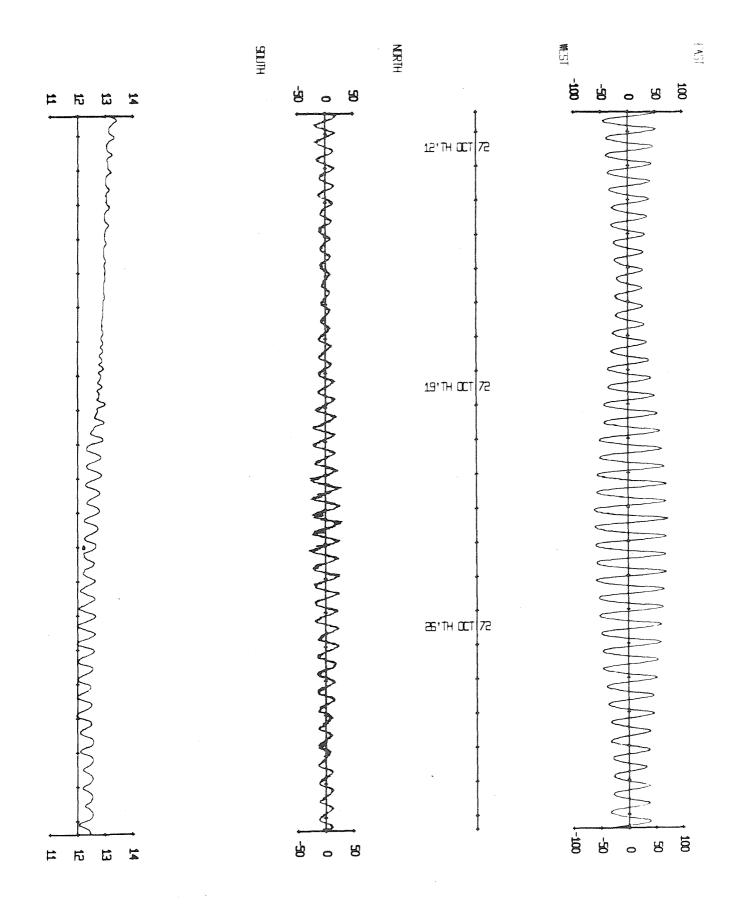
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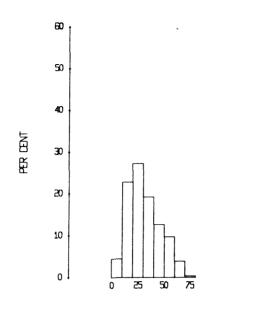


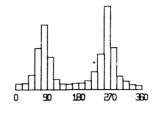
Meter	:	Bergen 530
Tape number	:	530/2
Meter started	:	16.30.00 GMT 10 Oct 1972
Meter stopped	:	09.18.44 GMT 8 Nov 1972
Total number of readings	:	4134
Timing error	:	1 min 16 s fast
Start of useful record	:	10.00 GMT 11 Oct 1972
End of useful record	:	09.19 GMT 1 Nov 1972
Length of useful record	:	503 h
Comments	:	Good record. The meter was fitted with a quartz-crystal clock.

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VELOCITY IN CM/SEC



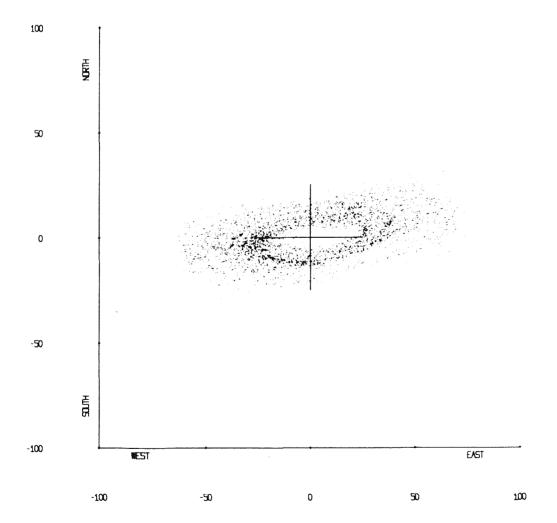


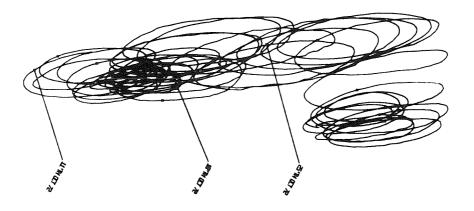


SPEED ™ DM/SEE

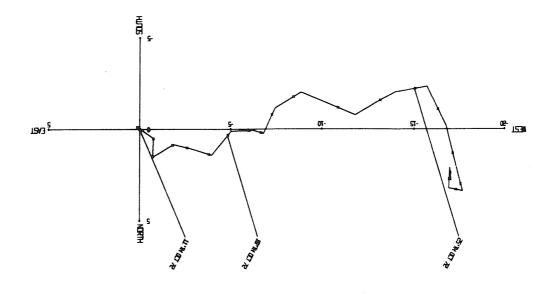


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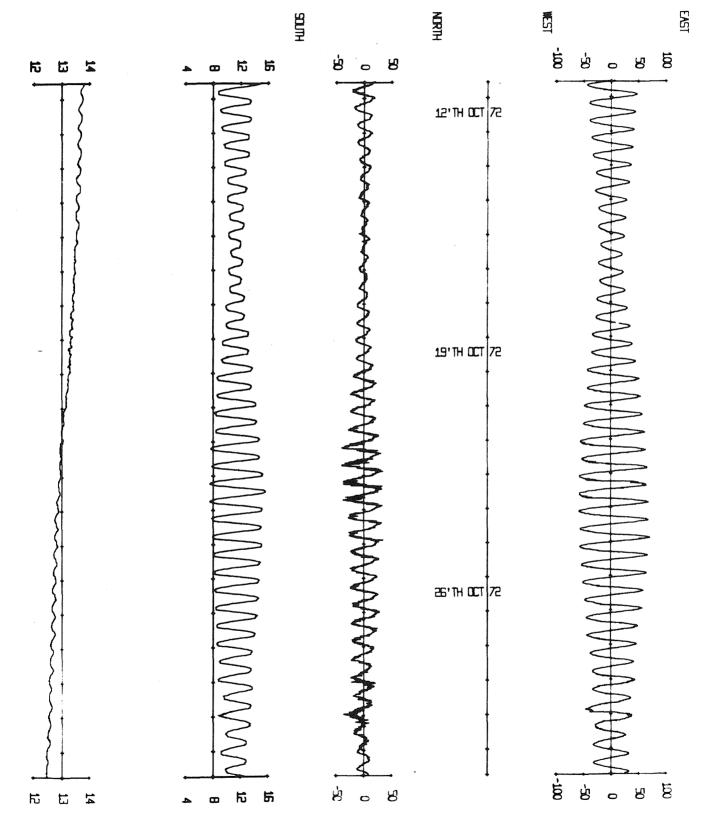


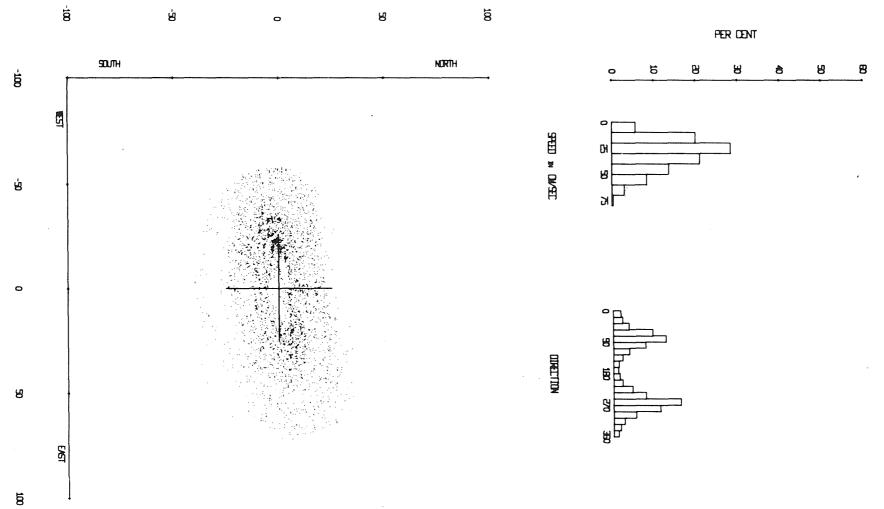
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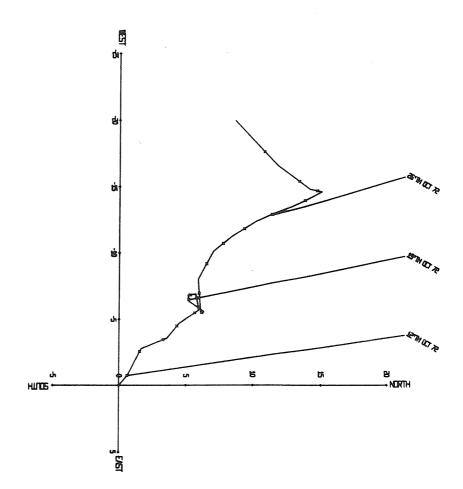
Mooring numb	er	:	27				
Position of	rig	:	Lat 3	54 ⁰ 00.8'N	Long 3 ⁰	44.4'N	(rig C)
Depth of wat	er	:	33 m	below cha	ırt datum	l ,	
Tidal height		es :	MHWS	MHWN	MLWN	MLWS	
above chart at Liverpool	uatum,		8.8	6.9	2.4	0.5	
Meter	Type	Height floo	above r (m)	sea R	lecording (mi		al
417	Bergen		25	4	1	0	
432	Bergen		15		1	0	
212	Bergen		5		1	0	
Rig set		. :		GMT 11 r.r.s. Jo			
Rig recovered	3	:	17.52 from	GMT 31 r.v. Ed	Oct 1972 ward For	bes	
Mooring		:		ard with ce buoy	a solid S	Slingsby	sub-
Comments		:		h and rec plished a			

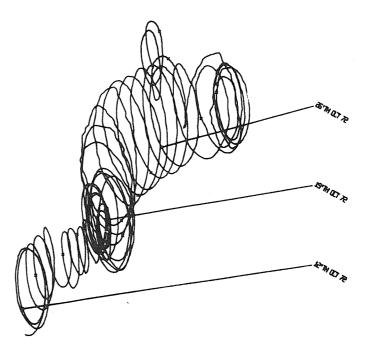
Meter	:	Bergen 417
Tape number	:	417/4
Meter started	:	08.49.21 GMT 11 Oct 1972
Meter stopped	:	16.28.46 GMT 7 Nov 1972
Total number of readings	:	3935
Timing error	:	35 s fast
Start of useful record	:	13.00 GMT 11 Oct 1972
End of useful record	:	17.39 GMT 31 Oct 1972
Length of useful record	:	484 h
Comments		Good record. The meter was fitted with a pressure transducer and quartz-crystal clock. Its spindle was designed and made at Bidston.

METRES OF WATER

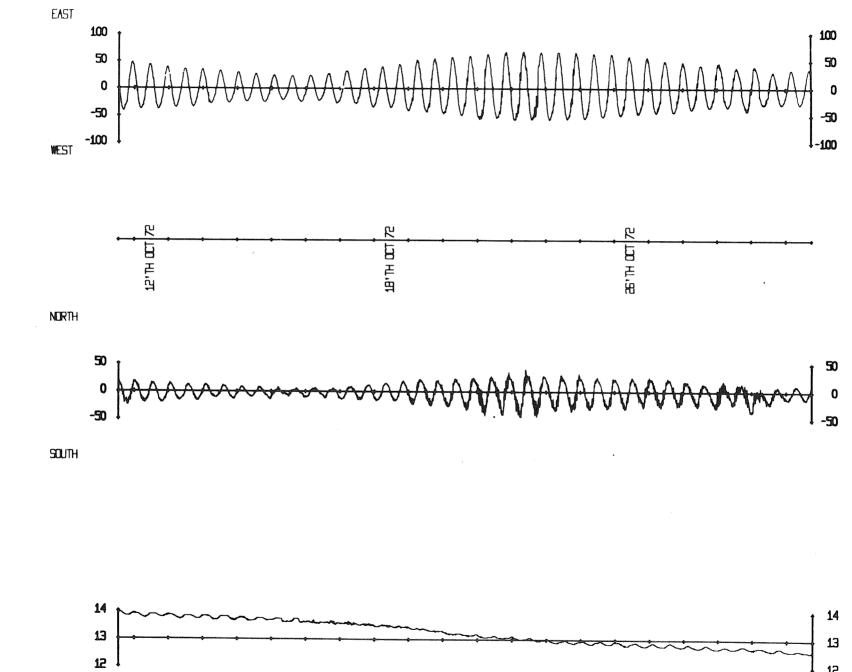








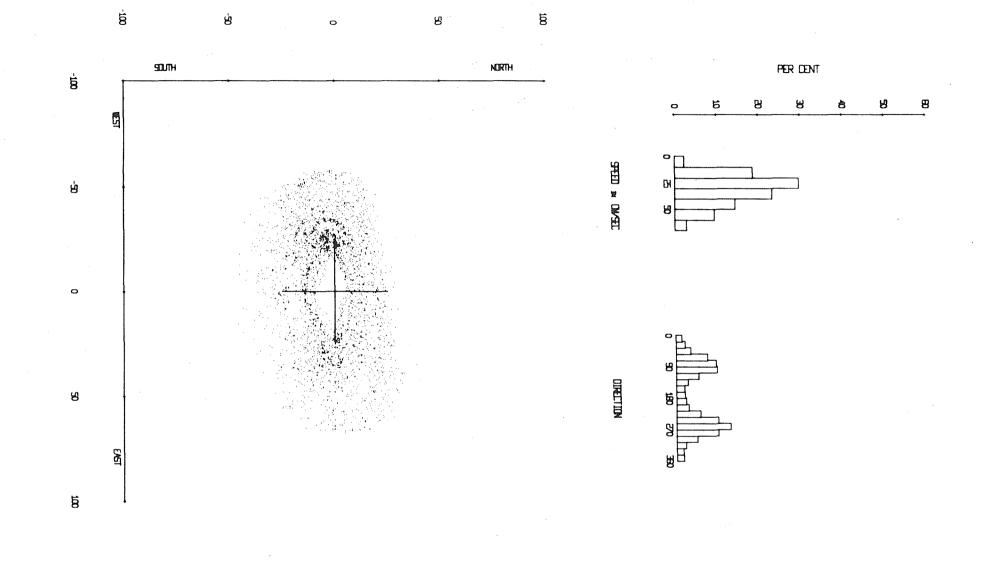
Meter	:	Bergen 532
Tape number	:	532/2
Meter started	:	18.47.43 GMT 10 Oct 1972
Meter stopped	:	10.59.10 GMT 8 Nov 1972
Total number of readings	:	4130
Timing error	:	l min 27 s slow
Start of useful record	:	12.58 GMT 11 Oct 1972
End of useful record	:	17.39 GMT 31 Oct 1972
Length of useful record	:	484 h
Comments	:	Good record. The meter was fitted with a quartz-crystal clock.

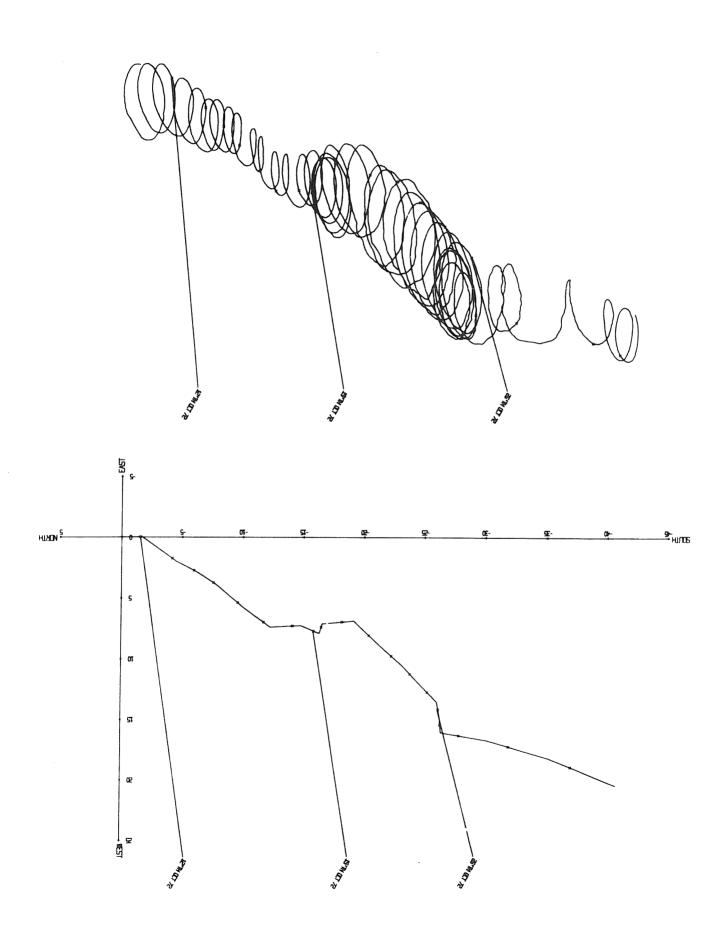


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VELOCITY IN ON/SEC

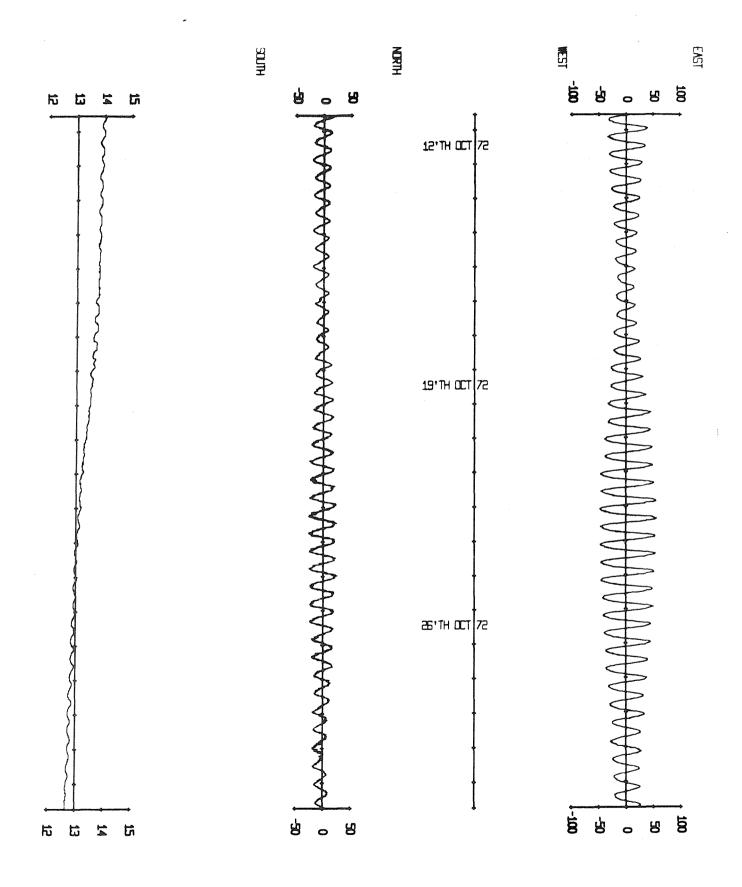
TEMPERATURE IN DEG C

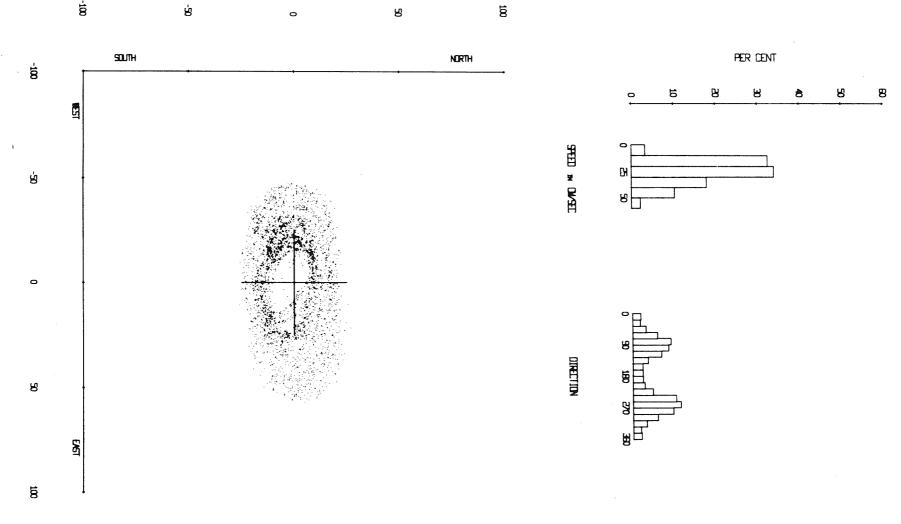




Meter	:	Bergen 212
Tape number	:	212/7
Meter started	:	10.46.11 GMT 11 Oct 1972
Meter stopped	:	12.57.39 GMT 7 Nov 1972
Total number of readings	:	3902
Timing error	:	l min 28 s slow
Start of useful record	:	12.56 GMT 11 Oct 1972
End of useful record	:	17.38 GMT 31 Oct 1972
Length of useful record	:	484 h
Comments	:	Good record

VELOCITY IN DW/SEC



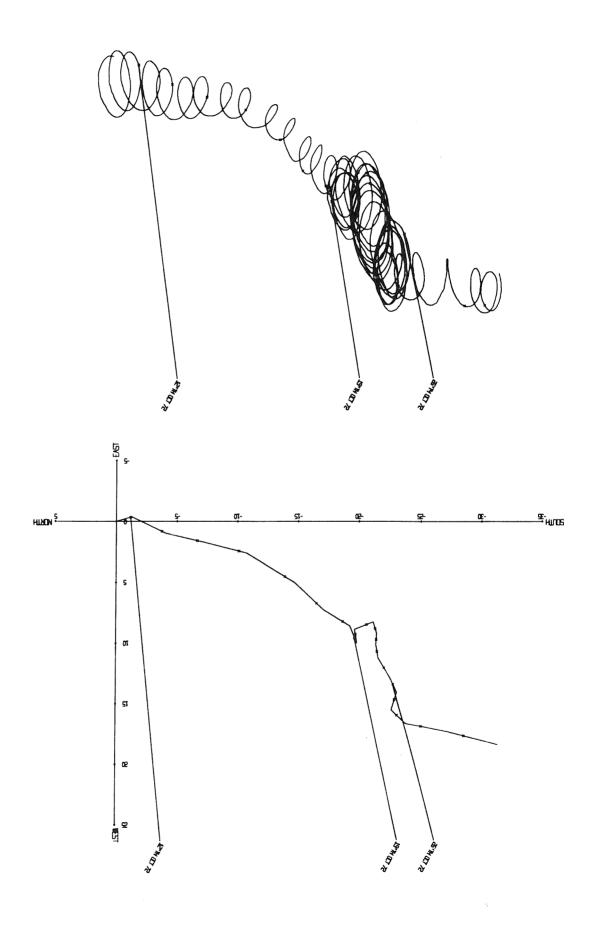


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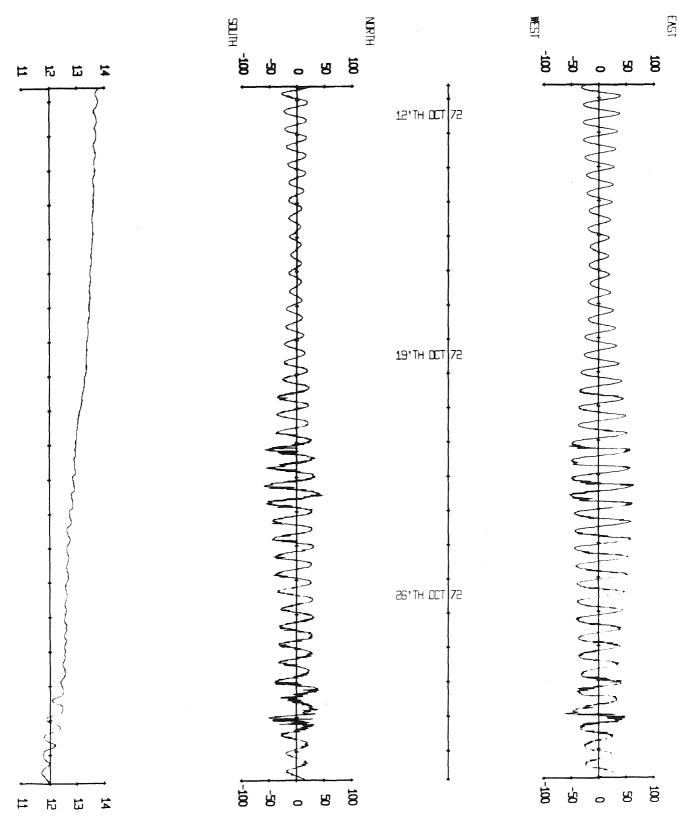
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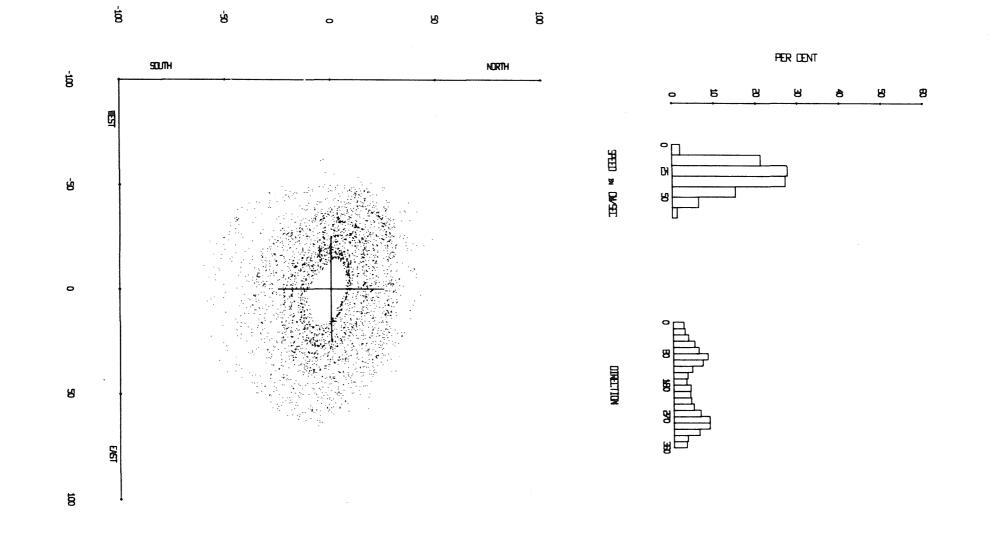


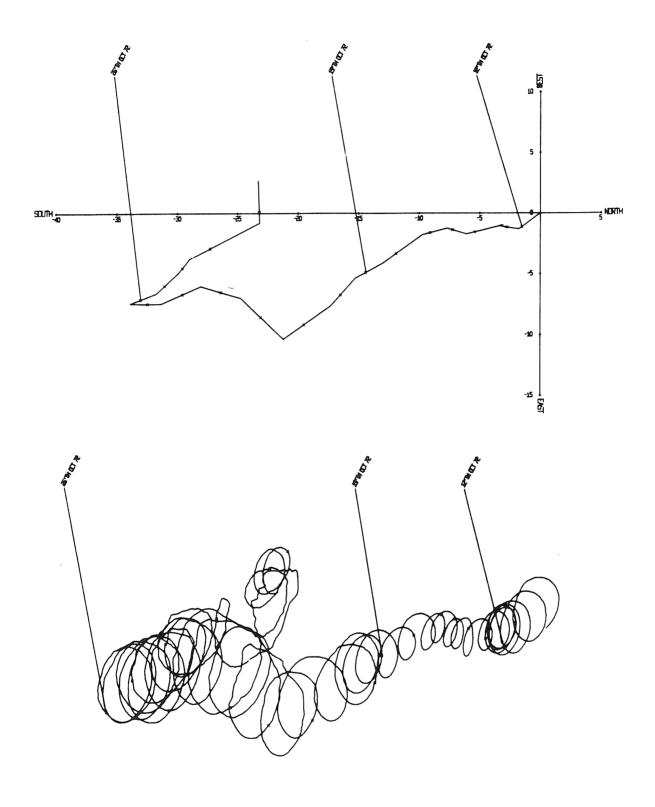
Mooring number	:	28			
Position of rig	:	Lat 54 ⁰ 06	6.8'N Long	3 ⁰ 33.4'W	(rig D)
Depth of water	:	22 m belo	w chart dat	tum	
Tidal heights, i		MHWS M	HWN MLWN	MLWS	
above chart datu at Liverpool	ш,	8.8 6	6.9 2.4	0.5	
Meter Ty		above sea (metres)	Record	ding interv (min)	al
533 Ber	gen	13		10	
415 Ber	gen	5		10	
Rig set	:		T 11 Oct 1 s. John Mur		
Rig recovered	:		T 31 Oct 1 v. Edward F		
Mooring	:	Standard	with Cosalt	sub-surfa	ce buoy.
Comments	:		d recovery hed at the		

Meter	:	Bergen 533
Tape number	•	533/2
Meter started	:	19.40.36 GMT 10 Oct 1972
Meter stopped	:	16.01.10 GMT 8 Nov 1972
Total number of readings	:	4155
Timing error	:	34 s slow
Start of useful record	:	14.31 GMT 11 Oct 1972
End of useful record	:	19.51 GMT 31 Oct 1972
Length of useful record	:	485 h
Comments	:	Good record. Some marine growth was noticed on the meter when it was recovered. The meter was fitted with a quartz-crystal clock.

VELOCITY IN OW/SEC



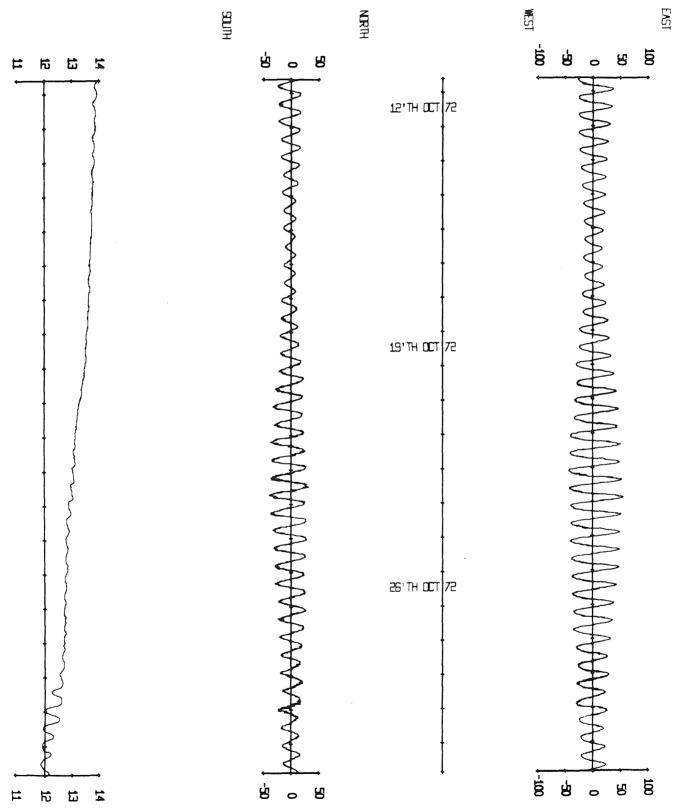


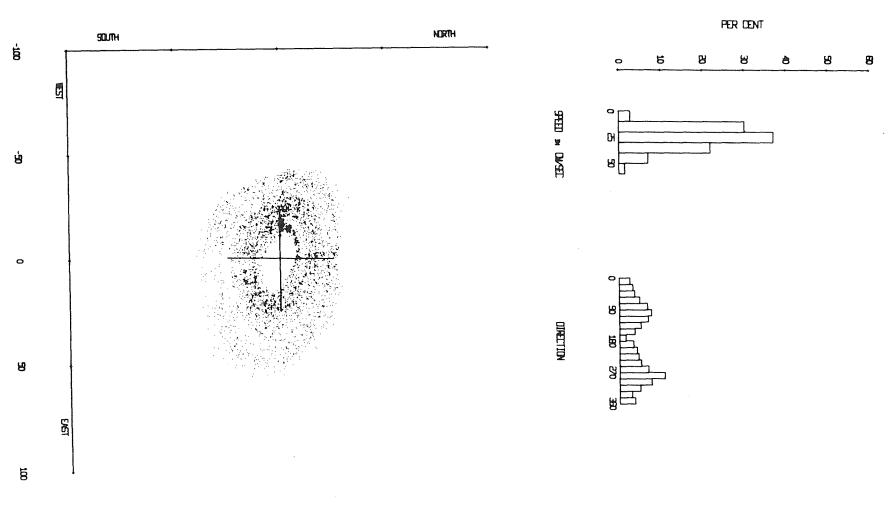


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Meter	:	Bergen 415
Tape number	*	415/4
Meter started	:	13.35.28 GMT 11 Oct 1972
Meter stopped	:	15.17.34 GMT 7 Nov 1972
Total number of readings	:	3900
Timing error	:	7 min 54 s fast
Start of useful record	:	14.26 GMT 11 Oct 1972
End of useful record	:	19.50 GMT 31 Oct 1972
Length of useful record	:	485 h
Comments	:	Good record. Some marine growth was noticed on the meter when it was recovered.

VELOCITY IN CM/SEC





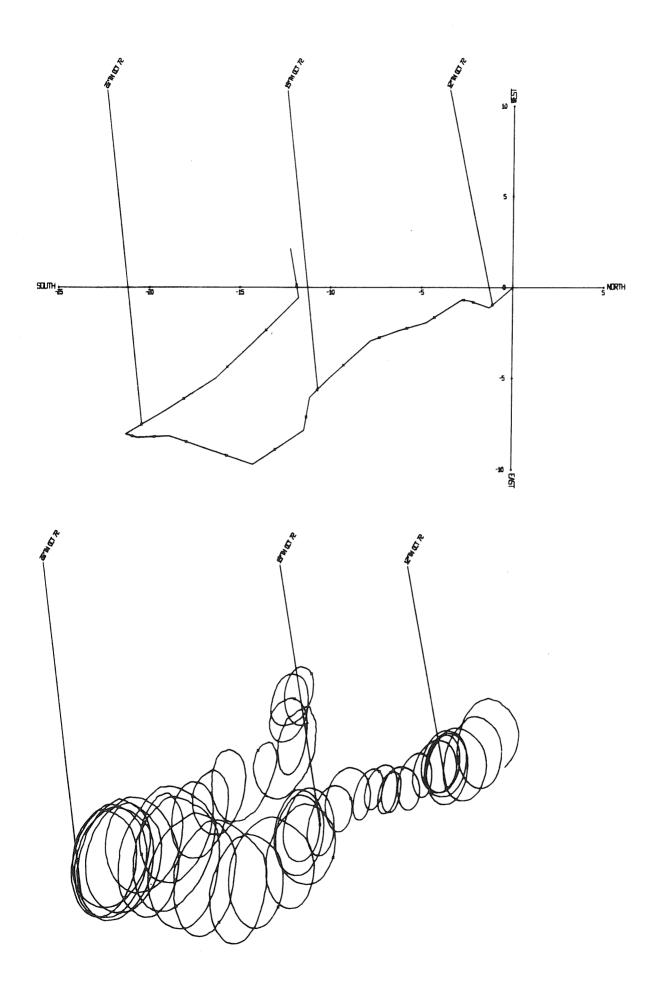
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Mooring number	:	29				
Position of rig	:	Lat 52	⁰ 04.1'N	Long 5 ⁰	47.0'W	(rig J)
Depth of water	:	91 m b	elow cha	rt datum		
Tidal heights, in metres		MHWS	MHWN	MLWN	MLWS	
above chart datum, at Fishguard		4.7	3.4	1.9	0.8	

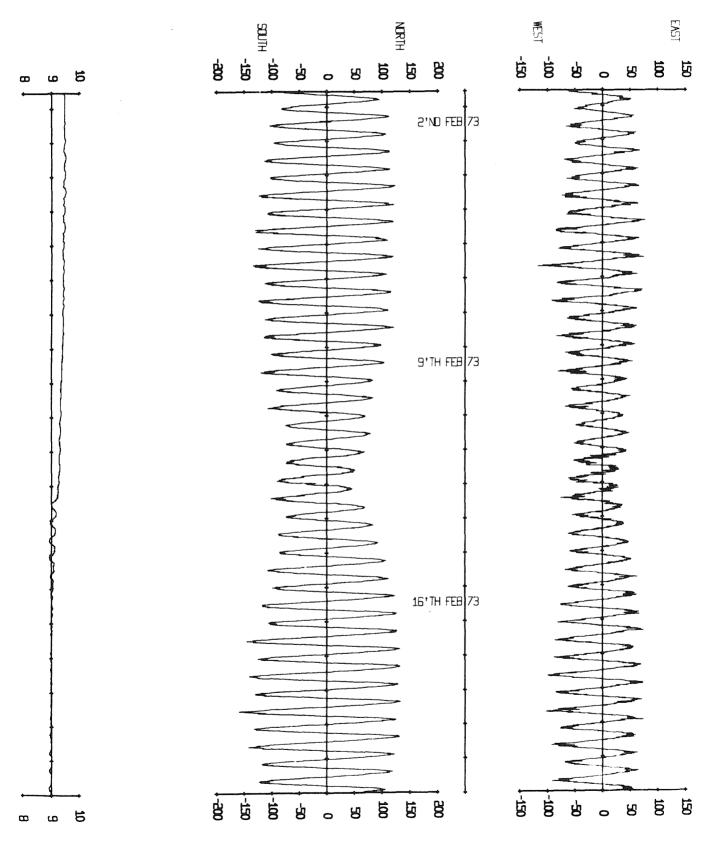
Meter	Type		above sea (metres)	Recording interval (min)
563	Bergen		71	10
564	Bergen		56	10
565	Bergen		15	10
Rig set		:	12.43 GMT 1 from r.v. Res	
Rig recover	red	:	10.22 GMT 5 from r.v. Res	
Mooring		:	Standard with surface buoy.	solid Slingsby sub-
Comments		:	successfully first attempt both taking o the recovery	d recovery were accomplished at the with some difficulty - ver 2 hours. During the bottom meter was en the side of the meter anchor.

.

Meter	:	Bergen 563
Tape number	:	563/1
Meter started	:	10.40.00 GMT 31 Jan 1973
Meter stopped	:	17.10.38 GMT 9 Mar 1973
Total number of readings	:	5368
Timing error	:	38 s slow
Start of useful record	:	13.00 GMT 1 Feb 1973
End of useful record	:	10.10 GMT 5 Mar 1973
Length of useful record	:	765 h
Comments	:	Good record. The meter was fitted with a quartz-crystal clock and its spindle had nylon gimbals.

-

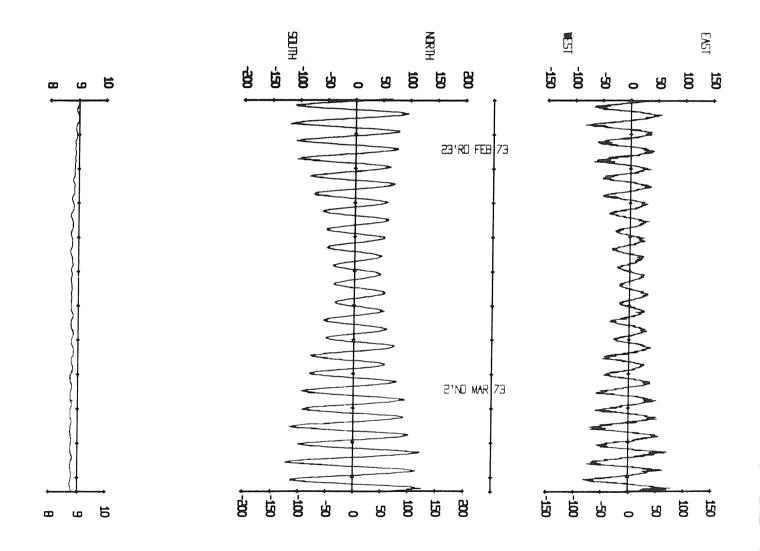
VELOCITY IN CM/SEC

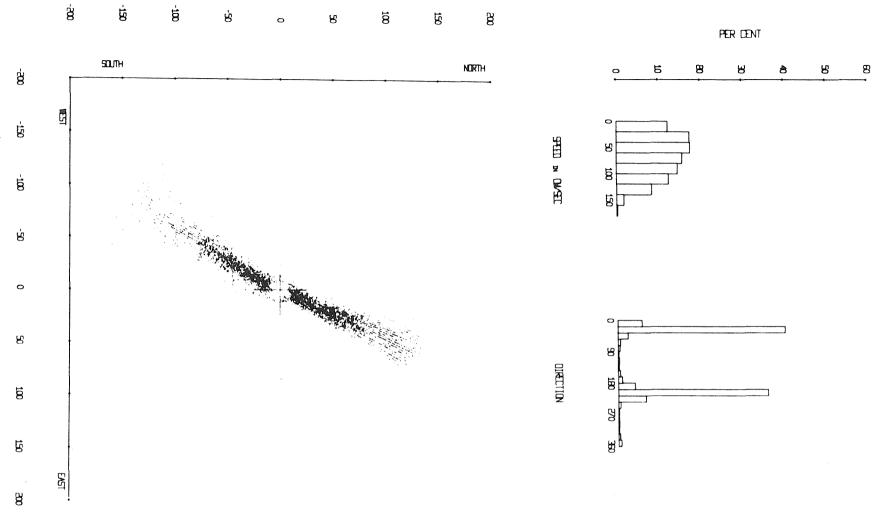


and the second

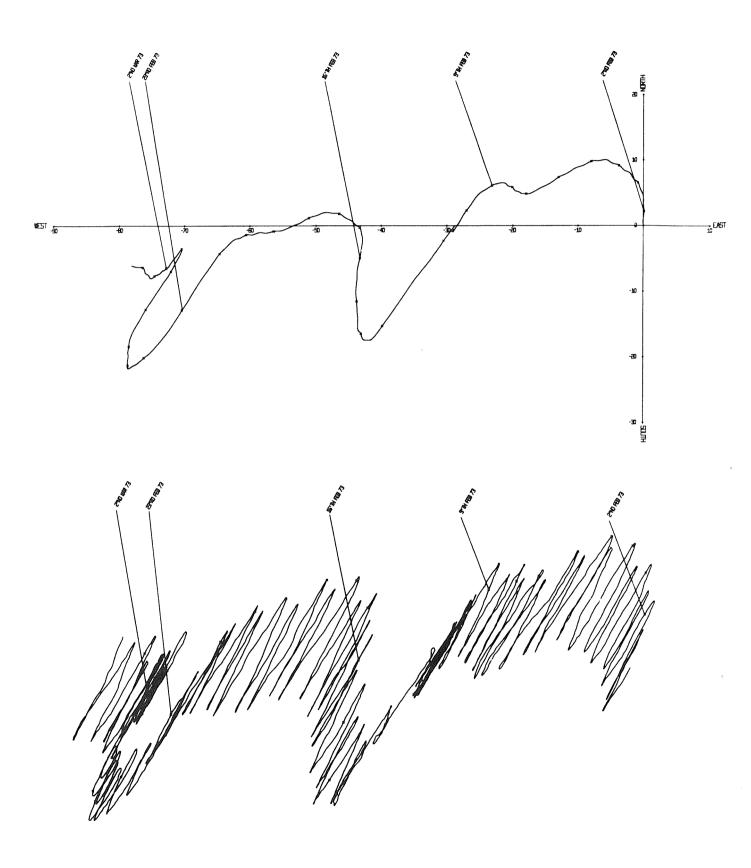


VELOCITY IN CM/SEC

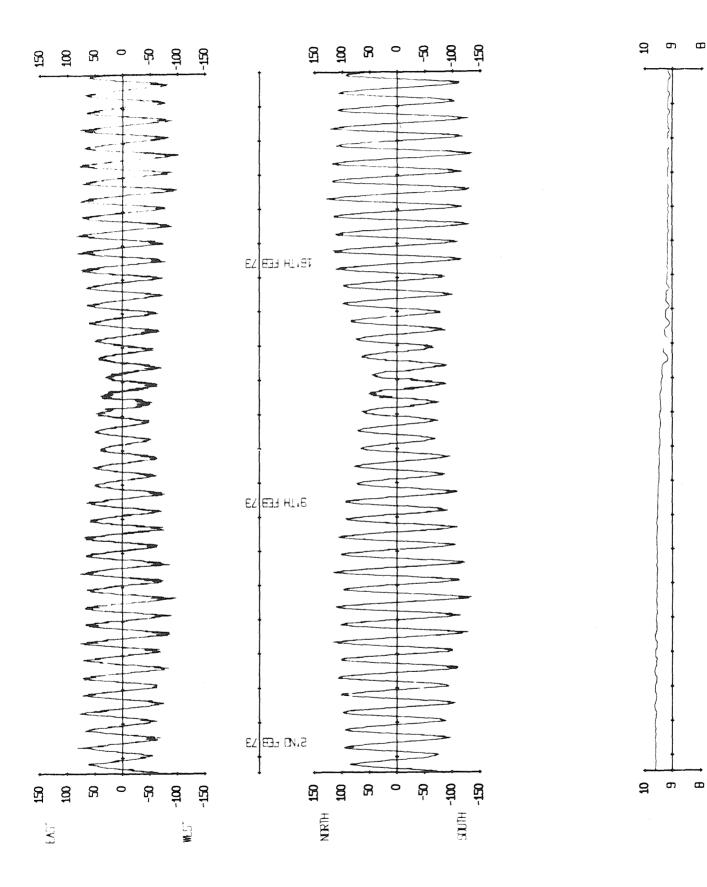


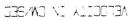


Ŗ В 0

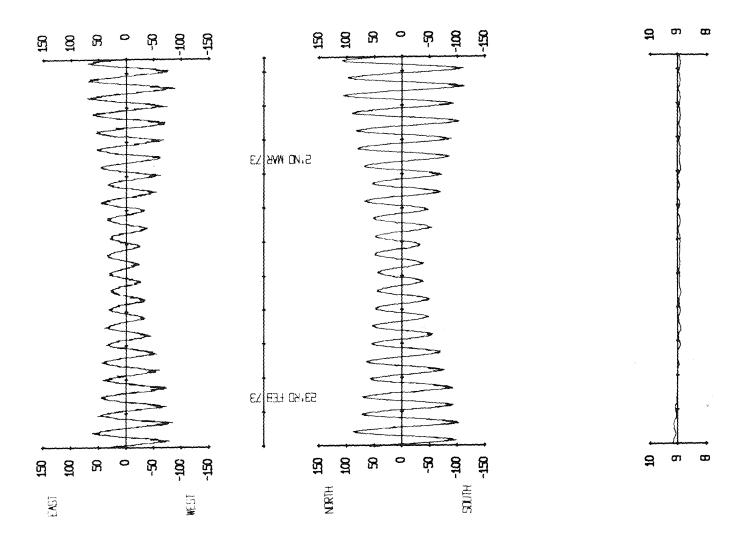


Meter	:	Bergen 564
Tape number	:	564/1
Meter started	:	14.40.00 GMT 30 Jan 1973
Meter stopped	:	17.20.18 GMT 9 Mar 1973
Total number of readings	:	5489
Timing error	:	18 s slow
Start of useful record	:	13.00 GMT 1 Feb.1973
End of useful record	:	10.10 GMT 5 Mar 1973
Length of useful record	:	765 h
Comments	:	Good record. The meter was fitted with a quartz-crystal clock.



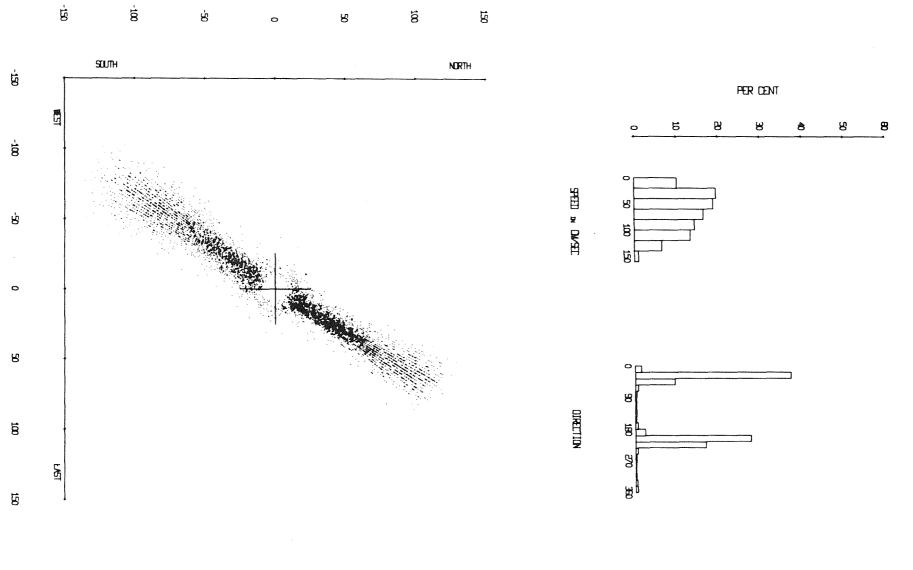


TEMPERATURE IV DEC C



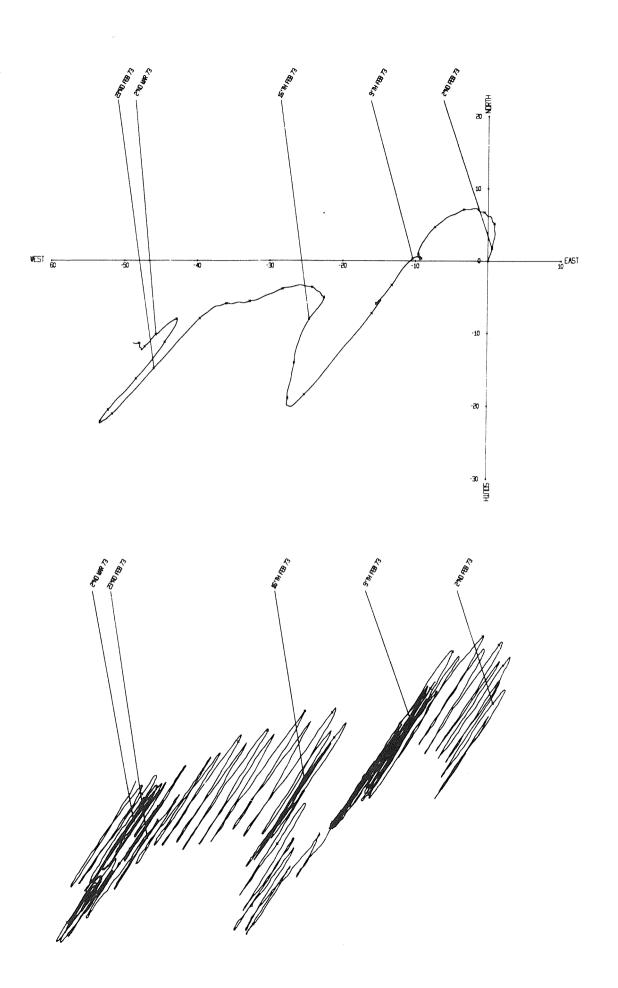
AFFDDILK IN GWRED

LEMELY FILLER IN DEB C



18 Я 0

-100 Ŗ



Meter

Tape number

Meter started

Meter stopped

Total number of readings

Timing error

Start of useful record

End of useful record

Length of useful record

gtil of useful fecolu

Comments

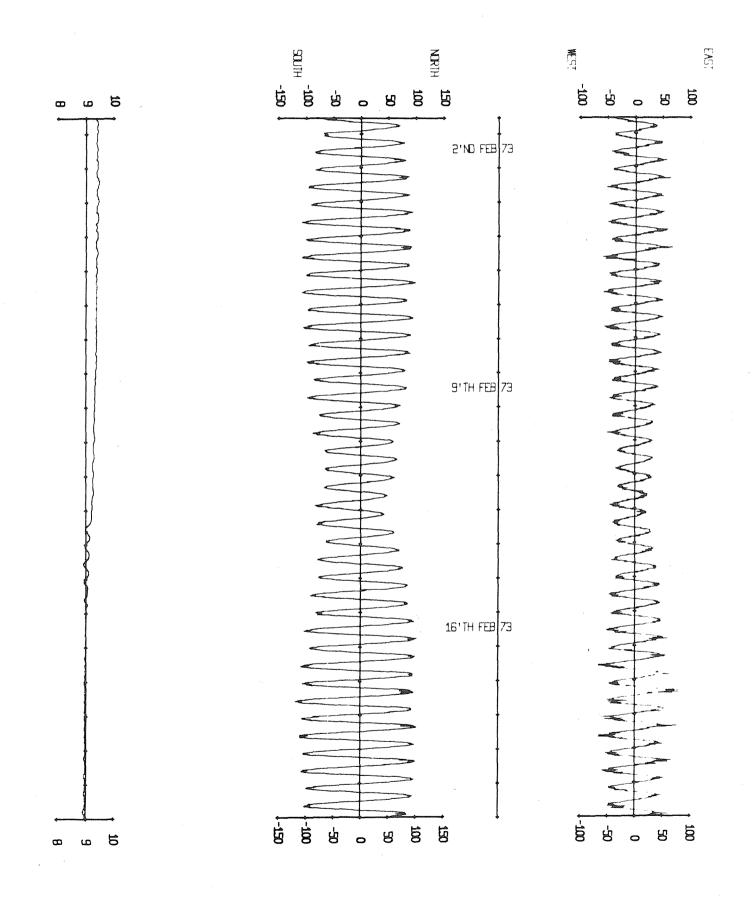
565/1: : 16.20.00 GMT 30 Jan 1973 9 Mar 1973 : 17.22.56 GMT 5479 : 2 min 56 s slow : 13.00 : GMT 1 Feb 1973 10.13 5 Mar 1973 : GMT : 765 h

Bergen 565

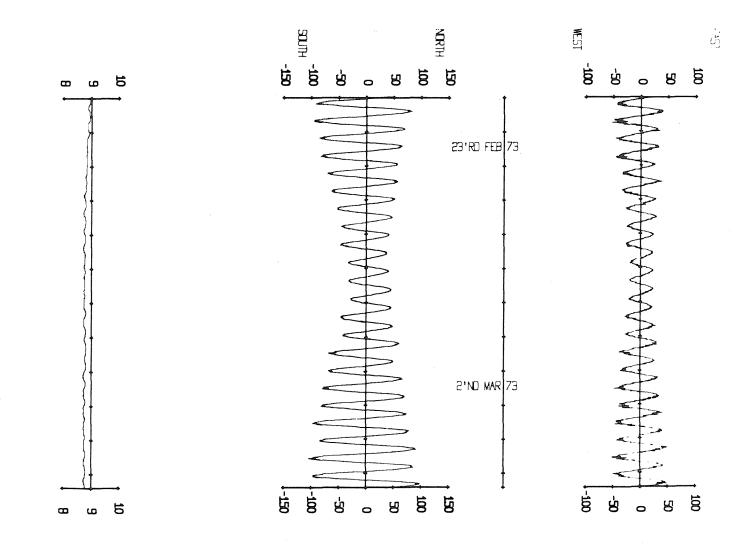
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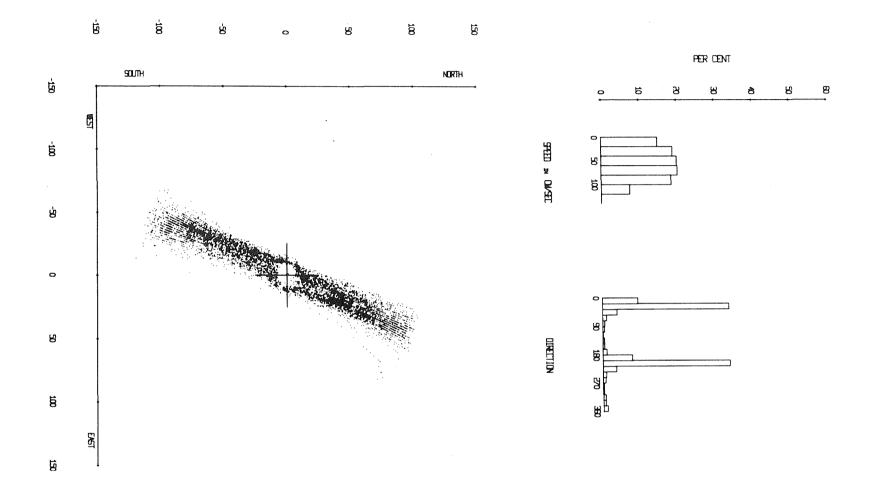
:

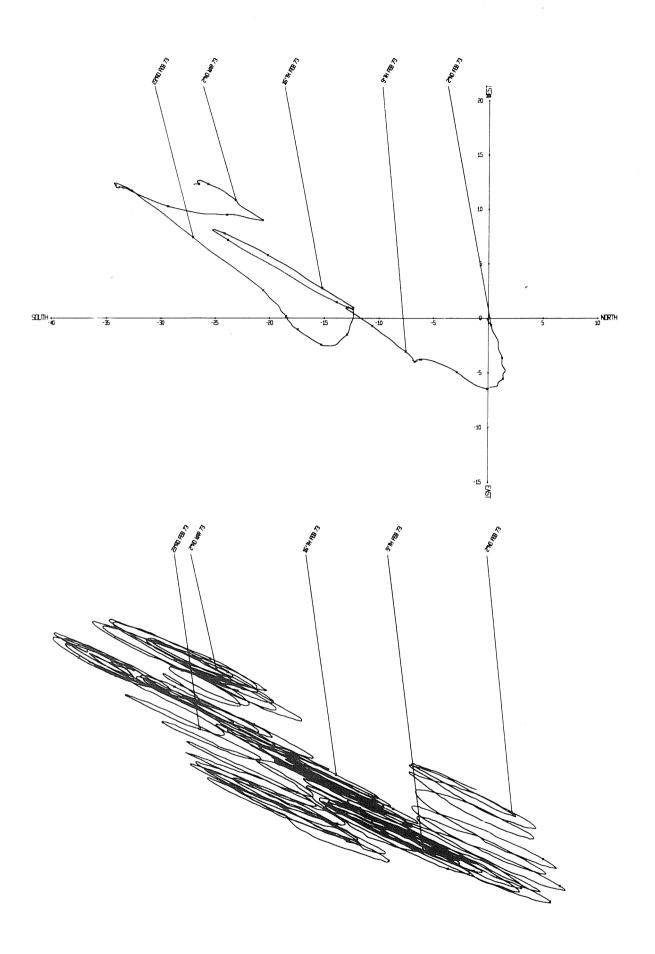
Good record. The meter was fitted with a quartz-crystal clock and a spindle designed and made by the Institute. During the recovery the meter was trapped between the side of the ship and the meter anchor and its rotor was knocked out.



VELOCITY IN CM/SEC







PAGE 1

// JOB

LOG DRIVE CART SPEC CART AVAIL PHY DRIVE 0000 0001 0001 0000

V2 M09 ACTUAL 32K CONFIG 32K

// FOR
*EXTENDED PRECISION
*iOCS(CARD,TYPEWRITER,1403 PRINTER)
*ONE WORD INTEGERS
*NAME POLRG

UNREFERENCED STATEMENTS 100 110 150 220

FEATURES SUPPORTED ONE WORD INTEGERS EXTENDED PRECISION LOCS

CORE REQUIREMENTS FOR POLKG COMMON 2 VARIABLES 15476 PROGRAM 1108

END OF COMPILATION

// XEQ

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