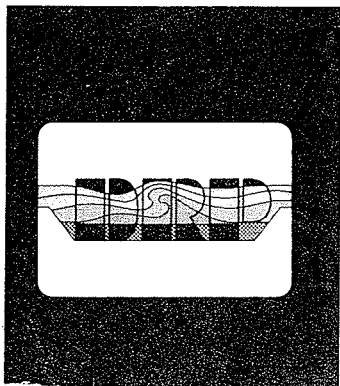
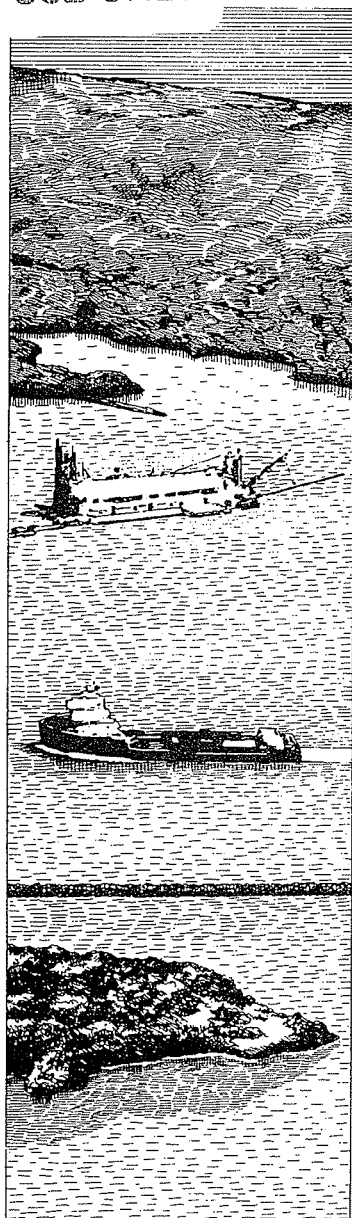


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## DREDGING RESEARCH PROGRAM

TECHNICAL REPORT DRP-91-3

# MOBILE, ALABAMA, FIELD DATA COLLECTION PROJECT, 18 AUGUST - 2 SEPTEMBER 1989

## Report 1

### DREDGED MATERIAL PLUME SURVEY DATA REPORT

edited by

Nicholas C. Kraus

Coastal Engineering Research Center

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

Waterways Experiment Station, Corps of Engineers  
3909 Halls Ferry Road, Vicksburg, Mississippi 39180-6199

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Under Measurement of Entrainment and Transport  
(Noncohesive Sediments) Work Unit 32464

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- Area 1 - Analysis of Dredged Material Placed in Open Waters
- Area 2 - Material Properties Related to Navigation and Dredging
- Area 3 - Dredge Plant Equipment and Systems Processes
- Area 4 - Vessel Positioning, Survey Controls, and Dredge Monitoring Systems
- Area 5 - Management of Dredging Projects

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Mobile, contract dredger, Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Company (GLD&D). Dr. White also participated in the field data collection. Mr. Timothy L. Fagerburg, Estuarine Processes Branch, Estuaries Division, Hydraulics Laboratory (HL), WES, led an HL team that obtained dredged material sediment samples from the disposal scows. Principal contacts at GLD&D were Mr. John Zenga, Project Superintendent; Mr. Kevin Holt, Project Engineer; and Mr. Ken Lago, Captain of the dredge *Chicago*. Mr. Steven Rabelais, Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium, Cocodrie, Louisiana, was the coordinator for the *R/V Pelican* used in the Mobile, Alabama, Field Data Collection Project, and Mr. Robert Cutting was the Captain. Appreciation is expressed to the captains of the GLD&D tug *Paul Candies*. Mr. Sam Corson, PMAB, EDD, CERC, and Ms. Sandra Staggs, Contracts Division, WES, assisted in EHI contract arrangements. Ms. Lee T. Byrne, Information Technology Laboratory, WES was the publications editor of the final report.

COL Larry B. Fulton, EN, was Commander and Director of WES. Dr. Robert W. Whalin was Technical Director.

Additional information can be obtained from Mr. E. Clark McNair, Jr., DRP Program Manager, at (601) 634-2070 or Dr. Nicholas C. Kraus, Principal Investigator, at (601) 634-2018.



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# CONVERSION FACTORS, NON-SI TO SI (METRIC) UNITS OF MEASUREMENT

Non-SI units of measurement used in this report can be converted to SI (metric) units as follows:

<u>Multiply</u>	<u>By</u>	<u>To Obtain</u>
cubic yards	0.7645549	cubic meters
degrees (angle)	0.01745329	radians
Fahrenheit degrees	5/9	Celsius degrees or kelvins*
feet	0.3048	meters
inches	25.4	millimeters
knots (international)	0.51444444	meters per second
miles (U.S. nautical)	1.852	kilometers
miles (U.S. statute)	1.609347	kilometers
ounces (U.S. fluid)	0.02957353	cubic decimeters

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\* To obtain Celsius (C) temperature readings from Fahrenheit (F) readings, use the following formula:  $C = (5/9) (F - 32)$ . To obtain kelvin (K) readings, use:  $K = (5/9) (F - 32) + 273.15$ .

## SUMMARY

This report consists of six separately authored chapters that collectively provide a data compilation and introduction to measurements made and procedures used during the Mobile, Alabama, Field Data Collection Project (MFDCP). The MFDCP was a major data collection project conducted during 18 August to 2 September 1989 in the Gulf of Mexico, off Mobile Harbor, Alabama, under the auspices of the Dredging Research Program (DRP). The MFDCP had four objectives: (a) to collect comprehensive data on sediment plume dynamics for verifying and improving numerical simulation models of the short-term fate (minutes to hours after release) of dredged material placed in open water; (b) to investigate and refine sediment plume monitoring procedures; (c) to evaluate acoustic instrumentation for measuring sediment plume dynamics, and (d) to collect field data on coastal bottom boundary layer processes.

This report presents MFDCP data for meeting the first three objectives and provides numerical simulation components of the DRP and the research community with reliable and comprehensive measurements of sediment plume dynamics in shallow water. It also contains information for conducting similar field data collection exercises. The data set on plume dynamics is believed to be superior to previous plume surveys in accuracy, length of measurement, capture of key features, and variety. Simultaneous measurement of backscatter intensity from the suspended sediments by two independent and different acoustic systems, made together with water sampling, allows inter-comparison of the acoustic instruments and provides a first step toward field calibration.

Excellent weather and instrument functioning resulted in a successful project yielding a high-quality data set of 18 dredged material plumes, of which 8 plume events are extensively analyzed in this report. Local oceanographic and meteorological conditions are also given. Plume monitoring was performed at two locations within the authorized disposal area at Mobile, nominally of 42- and 27-ft depths. The monitoring characterized the growth and decay of the main body of plumes generated in shallow water during dredged material placement operations. The recorded plume dynamics include the initial descent, bottom surge, generation of internal waves, and evolution of the plume under different current conditions.

**CHAPTER 1**  
**INTRODUCTION TO THE MOBILE, ALABAMA,**  
**FIELD DATA COLLECTION PROJECT**

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2. Objectives of the MFDCP
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6. Data Set
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## **1. Introduction**

### **Background and Motivation**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is responsible for assuring the navigability of the Nation's waterways, a responsibility that includes both dredging and managing dredged material disposal sites. This mission requires removal of sediments deposited within channels, inlets, and harbors and subsequent disposal in open-water sites. All types of sedimentary material are encountered in dredging projects, including rock, sand, and marine silt and clay, and mixtures of these components. The texture of this material includes large cohesive clay clumps, clastic rocks, sands composed of individual particles, and colloidal solutions of very fine particles. Proper disposition and management of dredged material into the ocean environment are conducted following regulatory guidelines administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and other Federal and State agencies.

Recognizing the dual responsibility of maintaining navigability of U.S. waters and protecting the environment in the process of dredging, transporting, and disposing or placing of dredged material, the USACE conducted a major research effort called the Dredged Material Research Program (DMRP) during the years 1973 through 1978 to study environmental effects associated with dredging (Saucier et al. 1978; Lazar, Calhoun, and Patin 1984). As one of its many contributions to the understanding of environmental effects of dredging, the DMRP issued a numerical simulation model of the short-term fate of dredged material released in open water (Johnson and Holliday 1978) that has seen widespread use and periodic updating (Johnson 1990). However, only limited field data have been available to verify and refine this model.

In 1988, the USACE established the Dredging Research Program (DRP) as a 7-year interlaboratory research effort to develop technologies to reduce the cost of dredging (McNair 1989). The DRP is organized into five technical areas that encompass the various aspects of dredging. Among these, DRP Technical Area 1 (TA1), "Analysis of Dredged Material Placed in Open Water," includes two activities: development of improved numerical simulation models to predict the movement of dredged material introduced to coastal and estuarine waters and development of techniques and equipment to monitor the movement of this material. The monitoring component encompasses data collection for model verification as well as production of equipment for dredged material monitoring at the project level. These research activities are

intended to reduce dredging costs by providing systematic, objective, and verified procedures capable of categorizing the physical behavior of material placed in disposal sites.

One of the most difficult aspects of monitoring dredged material in open water is measurement of the movement, type, and amount of material in the water column during the minutes to hours immediately following release from a barge or scow. The volume of material released is typically 500 to 5,000 cu yd\* and consists of both solids and water. Model predictions and laboratory and field observations, including observations described herein, indicate that the majority of the material falls to the bottom as a collective body at a rate much greater than the fall speed of an individual sediment particle (e.g., Biggs 1968; Sustar, Wakeman, and Ecker 1976; Bokuniewicz et al. 1978; Tsai and Proni 1985; Nichols, Diaz, and Schaffner 1990). A small portion of the fine-grained particles remains in the water column to disperse and settle as individual particles at relatively low concentration. The amount of material remaining in the water column and its movement must be known before dredged material disposal sites can be managed effectively.

The result of a typical placement operation is a plume of material, shown schematically in Figure 1.1, consisting of the combination of a cloud of particles (often visible on the water surface) and the main mass of material descending through the water column and spreading along the bottom. In this report, the term "plume" refers to all material in the water column. The shape and evolution of the plume depend upon the type of material, motion of the barge, method of discharge, local currents and waves, density structure of the water column, water depth, and other factors. Because of the many factors governing plume dynamics and the rapid changes in a plume occurring over substantial spatial extent, measurement of the short-term plume behavior is extraordinarily difficult, and such data are lacking. In fact, both the instrumentation and the procedures for making these measurements are in their infancy.

### **Field Data Collection Project**

To progress beyond limited measurement capabilities, as well as to collect high-quality data on the dynamics of dredged material plumes for simulation model verification, personnel of DRP TA1 planned and conducted a major field data collection project in the Gulf of Mexico at the site of dredged material placement operations carried out for Mobile Harbor deepening and improvement. This field effort, called the Mobile, Alabama, Field Data Collection Project (MFDCP), took place

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\* A table of factors for converting non-SI units of measurement to SI (metric) units is presented on page 5.

from 18 September to 2 August 1989. An overview of the MFDCP was given by Kraus and Prickett (1989), and a video documenting the MFDCP field activities was produced (Kraus 1990).

### **Scope of This Report**

The MFDCP was conducted in three phases: preproject planning, field measurements, and data compilation and analysis. This report is a product of the third phase, but it also contains discussion of measurement procedures employed during the field data collection and logistical arrangements. It consists of six chapters written by the individuals responsible for the data collection activities during the MFDCP and subsequent data reduction and interpretation. As a coordinated and edited report, the chapters are structured to optimize completeness and usefulness of the data, yet not overlap in coverage. Appendices are included as necessary to supplement the text with data listings, graphics, and explanations of more technical and specialized matter. The MFDCP produced a large quantity of diverse measurements, and it is not possible to include all the data at this stage of analysis. The raw data may be requested from the DRP Program Manager, Coastal Engineering Research Center (CERC), at the U.S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station (WES), or from the pertinent authors.

This report describes the scope of the MFDCP, procedures used in the field data collection, and data obtained during the observation of dredged material plumes. The intent is to provide sufficient documentation and analysis of the data set so that it may be used by modeling components of the DRP and others to test and refine numerical and physical models of plume dynamics and particle dispersion. The data are also useful for the intercomparison and testing of the plume-monitoring capabilities of acoustic instruments.

Chapter 1 describes the background of the MFDCP, orientation to the study site, and general procedures used in the data collection. It also introduces the remaining five chapters of the report containing the data and specific technical information. Chapter 2 presents the ambient meteorologic and oceanographic conditions that occurred during the MFDCP, including the wave, wind, and tidal current conditions. Chapter 3 concerns ship positioning and presents measurement procedures and results of accurate surveys of the positions of both the measurement vessel and the barges releasing the dredged material. Chapter 4 describes background measurements that provide basic information on the ambient water in which the dredged material was released, the sediment that was dredged, and sediment as it was found on the sea floor. Information pertaining to the aerial photographs taken during the MFDCP is also presented in Chapter 4.



Chapters 5 and 6 contain results obtained from two independent acoustic instruments forming the principal equipment suite used to measure plume dynamics and water current in the vicinity of the plumes. Chapter 5 presents results obtained with the Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (ADCP). This instrument was originally developed to measure the three-dimensional current velocity field in an open-water, typically oceanic environment. A 1.2-MHz ADCP was operated by the manufacturer, RD Instruments. During the MFDCP, the ADCP was tested to provide ship positioning by bottom tracking and also, importantly, to measure backscatter intensity associated with the particles composing the plume, thereby providing estimates of sediment concentration.

Chapter 6 contains results obtained with the Acoustic Concentration Profiler (ACP), an acoustic instrument specifically designed to measure sediment concentration (more generally, any particle concentration such as sewerage discharge constituents or biomass) in open water (Proni et al. 1975, Proni et al. 1976a, 1976b). The ACP, consisting of 20- and 200-kHz transducers, was operated by personnel from the developing organization, the Ocean Acoustics Division, Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration.

## **2. Objectives of the MFDCP**

The scope of the MFDCP was broader than measurement of dredged material plumes. The MFDCP was designed to meet four objectives:

1. Collect comprehensive data on plume dynamics for use in verifying and improving numerical simulation models.
2. Investigate and refine plume monitoring procedures.
3. Evaluate acoustic instrumentation for measuring plume dynamics.
4. Measure bottom boundary layer processes.

Objective 4 involved deployment of the Acoustic Resuspension Measurement System (ARMS) being developed by Ohio State University under contract for DRP TA1. The ARMS obtains comprehensive and accurate measurements of sediment and fluid movement in the lower 1 m of the water column above the sea floor. For the MFDCP, the ARMS was configured as an instrumented tripod approximately 10 ft high with a 15-ft span between the legs. The tripod contained a 3-MHz acoustic transducer to measure sediment concentration, two electromagnetic current meters, a pressure gage for water surface elevation measurement, and other sensors to

measure water properties. The ARMS was deployed in shallow water away from the site of dredged material placement operations and is not discussed further in this report. A companion report for the MFDCP (Bedford et al., in preparation) describes the ARMS data and preliminary analysis results.

Objective 3, evaluation of acoustic instrumentation, will evolve from the initial data analyses made in preparation of this report. In future work, concentrations inferred from backscatter information available from the two acoustic instruments will be compared with each other and the water samples.

This report focuses on MFDCP activities related to Objectives 1 and 2, field data collection on plume dynamics. It provides comprehensive documentation on the data and procedures used in the plume tracking, and it is intended to serve as a data source for furthering basic understanding of dredged material plume dynamics and for testing and refining predictive numerical models.

### **3. Project Organization**

#### **Scientific Staff**

An experienced team of oceanographic and coastal engineers and scientists was assembled to plan and conduct the MFDCP. Measurements at the dredged material placement site were made by this team operating onboard an oceanographic research vessel. Shipboard operations were supported by land-based surveyors providing accurate positioning (Chapter 3), by WES personnel who sampled the dredged material in the barge (Chapter 4), and by staff of the U.S. Army Engineer District (USAED), Mobile, who coordinated operations with the dredging contractor and with pertinent maritime organizational entities.

#### **Research Vessel**

A major logistical requirement for conducting the MFDCP was acquisition of a suitable vessel. It was necessary that the vessel support all scientific objectives and serve as a base for deploying equipment and making measurements without time lost in returning to port each day. Major considerations entering the vessel selection included:

1. Capability of supporting 12 scientific crew members and associated equipment for at least 2 weeks of continuous operations at sea.
2. Experience of crew with oceanographic measurement procedures.

3. Facilities meeting power, space, and cleanliness requirements for two independent sets of data loggers and peripheral computers and equipment associated with the acoustic instrumentation.
4. Capability of deploying simultaneously two independent sets of acoustic measurement instruments, together with collection of suspended sediment (water) samples through the water column.
5. Capability of deploying and recovering large instruments such as a moored current meter array (described below and in Chapter 2) and the ARMS.
6. Least cost for combined ship rental, transportation to and from the measurement site, and transportation for the scientific crew and equipment.

A vessel satisfying these requirements, the *R/V Pelican*, was contracted from the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON), Cocodrie, Louisiana. LUMCON is located 6 hr by ground travel from WES, which enabled most heavy equipment, such as chains, weights, and buoys, to be transported by truck. Moreover, Cocodrie is an 18-hr cruise from the project site. LUMCON also had facilities and experienced personnel to analyze the sediment samples immediately upon return from the data collection cruise, which substantially reduced associated logistical costs and possible sources of error in handling the considerable number of samples.

Figure 1.2 illustrates the configuration of the *R/V Pelican*, in which locations of MFDCP instrumentation is indicated in parentheses. The ship is 105 ft long, has a 26-ft beam, and draws 9 ft fully loaded. For the MFDCP, the *R/V Pelican* carried a crew of six: a captain, one mate, two deck hands, one specialist familiar with electronic and electrical equipment onboard, and a cook. The crew had considerable experience in conducting oceanographic research cruises and was quite competent at deploying and recovering unique, sensitive, and unwieldy instruments.

### **Schedule**

The crew and a 12-person scientific team remained at sea for the 12-day cruise period of the 16-day project. The project schedule is summarized in Table 1.1, and a detailed chronology of major events occurring during the 22-31 August data collection period is given in Appendix 1A.

#### 4. Project Site

The MFDCP took place at a dredged material placement site west of the navigation channel leading to Mobile Harbor, Mobile, Alabama (Figure 1.3). This site is an integral part of the National Berm Demonstration Project (NBDP) established by the USACE in 1988 in cooperation with local sponsors and navigation and environmental interests (McLellan and Langan, in preparation).

The objective of the NBDP is "to assess and document potential physical and fishery benefits associated with underwater berms as a beneficial-uses application of dredged material" (McLellan and Langan, in preparation). (In the present context, the word "berm" refers to an artificially constructed and well-defined subaqueous feature, such as a linear bar or a mound.) The MFDCP benefitted from the umbrella of background data and local instrumentation at the NBDP. The extensive data set, ongoing dredging operations, and excellent cooperation from all concerned parties fostered by the NBDP were the central reasons the MFDCP was conducted near Mobile.

Two notable subaqueous features have been created with dredged material at the NBDP site (Figure 1.4). The feeder berm was constructed as part of routine dredging and consists of beach-quality sand placed along the 18- and 19-ft depth contours along its central crest to an elevation reaching 7 or 8 ft above the original bottom. The feeder berm is intended to migrate onshore and enter the littoral zone. The ARMS was placed at the feeder berm, and this feature was also surveyed with the acoustic instrumentation.

All measurements of dredged material plumes were conducted in the vicinity of the stable berm, where placement operations were then taking place. The stable berm consists of estuarine mud, clay, silt, and sand and serves as a wave break and fish habitat. For the MFDCP, the dredging contractor arranged for disposal at two fixed locations, one in deeper water at a nominal depth of 40-ft and the other in shallower water at nominal 25-ft depth. To monitor releases at precise locations and closely coordinate the tug and monitoring vessel, the two locations were marked by a temporary buoy deployed from the *R/V Pelican*.

## 5. Plume Tracking Procedure

### Tracking Instrumentation

Plume tracking was conducted by four teams aboard the *R/V Pelican* (navigation, ACP, ADCP, and deck crew that handled sediment sampling). These teams kept closely coordinated via the *R/V Pelican's* internal phone system, via hand-held radio receivers for communication on deck, and via a marine radio on the bridge to shore and other vessels. Successful monitoring of a plume required knowledge of the exact location and time of disposal, rapid entry into the plume, and accurate tracking of the main plume body as it drifted with the current.

Plume tracking centered around three instruments: the ADCP, the ACP, and a rosette containing twelve 5-l sampling bottles activated electronically at specified depths. The rosette, referred to as a "CTD" for Conductivity, Temperature, and Depth-measuring capability, contained other instruments and is described in Chapter 4. The CTD yielded samples of suspended material in the water prior to the disposal (background) and in the plume to calibrate the acoustic instruments, and provided salinity samples at selected depths. The three instruments were deployed near each other amidship off the starboard side of the *R/V Pelican*, shown schematically in Figure 1.2.

Figures 1.5, 1.6, and 1.7 show the ADCP, ACP, and CTD, respectively, as they were deployed aboard the *R/V Pelican*. The ADCP was mounted on a 4-in.-diam pipe held vertical during monitoring. The depth of the 1.2-MHz ADCP sensor head when the pipe was fully vertical was approximately 3 m. The four ADCP transducers were arranged with one sensor aimed vertically and the other three aimed obliquely at 30 deg to vertical and directed forward, aft, and starboard. The ACP was mounted in a fish-shaped tow body tethered by a rope and suspended from a boom extending 15 ft off the starboard side. The towed body travelled about 1 m under the water surface with both the 20- and 200-kHz transducers directed vertically. Similarly, the CTD was also lowered and raised between the ACP and ADCP by a winch. Figure 1.8 is a photograph showing the ADCP, ACP, and CTD deployed during a plume monitoring operation.

### Plume Tracking

The barge was towed by the tug boat *Paul Candies* at speeds of 4 to 6 knots, and usually released material over a time interval from 10 to 20 sec, although slower releases also occurred. A surface plume was usually evident as a long, thin cloud of material, and the acoustic instruments indicated a localized column of material descending to the bottom in the region of the predominant discharge from the barge. For releases believed to consist primarily of sand, the surface plume was

barely detectible owing to the absence of fine particles, whereas releases believed to consist mainly of clay and silt were often accompanied by a milky grey surface plume. Figure 1.9 shows four photographs taken during the MFDCP at varying stages of release that form a sequence illustrating the dredged material placement process.

Two tracking procedures were used to monitor the evolution of the plumes (Figure 1.10). One is called transverse tracking and involves maneuvering the monitoring vessel such that the plume is entered perpendicular to its major axis produced by the motion of the barge in release of the material. After the perimeter of the plume is passed, the survey ship turns and attempts to reenter the plume at a right angle. In longitudinal tracking, the survey vessel follows the barge and passes through the plume along its major axis, turning to re-enter the plume after its perimeter is passed. These procedures are continued until the plume no is longer detected or another type of measurement, in particular a CTD cast, interrupts the survey.

Figure 1.11 displays two aerial photographs showing the *R/V Pelican* in initial entry to plumes on transverse and longitudinal transects. In Figure 1.11a, the *R/V Pelican* has begun crossing the plume as the tug begins a turn executed to both free the material rapidly and change course to return to Mobile Harbor. In Figure 1.11b, the *R/V Pelican* is entering behind the barge to follow it just prior to the release. This barge contained a mound of dry sand in its middle, with water ponded fore and aft.

The plume tracking procedure is not as straightforward as Figure 1.10 might suggest, because a plume will be advected by existing currents. Wind shear at the water surface and horizontal currents in the water column can translate the plume and shear it into separate bodies at various depths. For these reasons, visual observations of the plume at the water surface do not usually indicate the location of the main body of material settling through the water column. During MFDCP plume tracking, therefore, the plume was monitored visually and by the ADCP and ACP. Because of the capability of the ADCP software to display backscatter from the plume, current speed, and ship track in real-time (see Chapter 5), this instrument was often used to provide guidance to the bridge of the *R/V Pelican* on the best course for tracking the plume. Figure 1.12 is a photograph of the ADCP recorder and computer monitor located in the Dry Laboratory (Figure 1.2) of the *R/V Pelican* taken while course changes were being communicated to the bridge based on signals from the monitor. Figure 1.13 is a photograph of the ACP recorder system in the instrument room, the paper readout displaying passage through the plume in two transverse transects with the plume appearing as the narrow dark bands (see Chapter 6).

The advantage of the transverse transect survey procedure is that time development of the vertical and lateral extent of a plume can be observed in a series of relatively rapid passes through the material. This enables, for example, the speed of the leading edge of the bottom surge to be recorded, as well as descent of the main body of the plume to the bottom. The advantage of longitudinal tracking is that the length of the plume is surveyed at least once (on the first transect following the scow), giving more complete areal coverage of the plume.

Variations of the transverse and longitudinal tracking procedures were also performed. For example, in some surveys the *R/V Pelican* entered the plume on a transverse transect, then stopped in an attempt to remain on the center of a plume to make a CTD cast (labeled "*in situ* sampling" in Figure 1.10). If there were no wind and horizontal currents were steady through the water column, the vessel would in theory move with the plume, allowing a CTD cast to be made in the plume and continuous recording by the acoustic instruments of the evolution of the plume. However, this idealized situation was never encountered, and the *R/V Pelican* and the plume typically drifted away from each other, preventing adequate sampling in the core of the plume at all depths. Other sampling variations included executing a series of transects followed by a CTD cast, or performing one or two longitudinal transects followed by a series of transverse transects, or vice versa.

During the planning phase, the CTD was conceived as a reasonable approach to obtain sediment concentration samples at specified depths in the same water volume covered by the acoustic instruments. Indeed, the CTD obtained samples over a wide range of concentrations (Chapter 4), as illustrated by the variations in the shade of the recovered samples shown in Figure 1.14. However, use of the CTD was found to suffer two disadvantages: relative drifting of the sampling platform (the *R/V Pelican*) and the plume, and loss of plume tracking time while the cast was made, which typically required 20 min. In future plume tracking exercises, it is recommended that the CTD rosette be replaced by or used as a supplement to a continuous pump-out system mounted on a towed body that can be operated at different depths. Two disadvantages of using a towed body, and main reasons why a pump-out system was not employed during the MFDCP, are that the sampling spaces of the towed body and acoustic systems may be separated, and the time interval for passing a towed body through a plume at different depths will be substantial.

### **Underway Procedure**

This section gives an overview of procedures followed during a typical MFDCP plume tracking operation.

The approximate time of the survey was first determined through radio contact with the dredge and, later, the tug. A meeting of investigators and the ship's crew was then held to decide the type of plume survey as transverse or longitudinal and other particulars of the survey, such as if and when CTD casts will be made. The tug captain was contacted while the tug and barge were en route to the placement site, and confirmation was made of their approach and exact location of material release at the target buoy. The tug captain was also asked for estimates of the types and volume of material in the barge. During this standby period, instrument systems were checked, the CTD was prepared on deck, clocks were synchronized, and contact was established with the Mini-Ranger shore stations used to provide accurate positioning of the *R/V Pelican* (Chapter 3).

Approximately one-half hour before arrival of the tug at the release site, the *R/V Pelican* arrived on station, and range positioning of the tug and scow began (Chapter 3). The CTD was lowered to obtain background water samples at three depths in the water column (near-bottom, middepth, and near-surface), and, if time permitted, a grab sample of bottom sediments was taken (Figure 1.15). About 5 min before release of the dredged materials, the acoustic instruments were turned on to obtain background readings.

Through close coordination between the captains of the tug *Paul Candies* and the *R/V Pelican*, the position of barge opening was determined, and the *R/V Pelican* began the first transect as the barge opened. The time of barge opening and associated prerelease and postrelease drafts were recorded (Figure 1.16), as were other particulars of the release process (e.g., fast or slow release, texture and type of material in the barge, etc.). The main priorities of the two MFDCP navigation team members on the bridge were to record the position of the *R/V Pelican* from Loran-C (as a backup to the Mini-Ranger System), and measure the barge range and heading with respect to the *R/V Pelican*.

Several drogues were released from the deck of the *R/V Pelican* as it passed through the center of the surface plume as judged visually from the bridge. The drogues were used in attempts (sometimes successful, other times not) to track the surface plume, which became difficult to locate visually shortly after the release.

After the first transect, detection of the main body of the plume was usually made by the ADCP team using real-time readings of the current in the water column in the vicinity of the plume and the *R/V Pelican's* position obtained from bottom tracking displays incorporating headings via the ship's gyroscope (Chapter 5). By these means, an estimate of plume position was made to guide the *R/V Pelican* on a course for the next transect. During some surveys, the



*R/V Pelican* stopped to make a CTD cast in the plume, after which tracking was resumed. Other operations during the tracking included photographing the barge and plume from the bow of the *R/V Pelican* with a 35-mm camera, aerial photography for some surveys, and recovery, bottling, and logging of the CTD water samples. When the plume became weakly detectible and could no longer be tracked, the ship returned to the approximate location of the release, and another bottom grab sample was obtained.

During the survey, as time allowed, each individual measurement teams recorded observations about the survey, data, and procedures. These records were compared at the end of the survey to form a consistent overall description of the survey and to detect and correct simple errors in the records that might produce uncertainties in subsequent data interpretation. This coordinated summary of surveys is contained in Appendix 1A. Investigators met after the survey to discuss observed properties of the plume and critique performance of the monitoring effort with the aim of refining the measurement and recording procedures.

Dredged material samples were collected from two barges for use in calibrating the acoustic instruments and understanding in a qualitative manner the behavior of the plume in relation to its constituent material.

## 6. Data Set

Over the 10-day monitoring period, 18 plumes were surveyed. This number was almost double the anticipated 10 events (1 per day) originally estimated in MFDCCP planning. The quality of the data collection improved as experience was gained and skills polished. Also, with the opportunity to monitor many plumes, variations in plume surveying were made to increase the content and features of the data set.

It was considered the most fruitful approach and use of resources to focus on the highest quality surveys for analysis in this data report. The selection process took place at a meeting of all investigators, with input from numerical modeling components of the DRP. Through this procedure, 8 plume surveys of the 18 described in Appendix 1A were identified and subjected to detailed analyses. The shallow-water berm survey was also analyzed as a test of extreme shallow-water measurement capabilities.

The eight target surveys are listed in Table 1.2, which introduces notation and numbering conventions used in the other chapters of this report. Surveys were assigned the number of the

Julian day, together with the letter A or B to designate the first and second, respectively, on that day. All data were recorded and analyzed as referenced to Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), which is related to the local Eastern Daylight Savings Time (EDST) as time (EDST) = time (GMT) - 5 hr. The right-hand column in Table 1.2 gives the principal property of the plume that contributed to its selection for analysis.

## 7. Concluding Discussion

This chapter has served as an introduction to the MFDCP and the five technical chapters that follow in this report. The large and high-quality data set obtained by the MFDCP is the result of four factors: (a) careful planning and preparation, (b) favorable weather with calm seas, (c) full functioning of equipment, a factor in part due to experienced operators and technicians on board the *R/V Pelican*, and (d) excellent cooperation among all concerned parties. In summary, as presented in this and subsequent chapters, the following are considered to be the major accomplishments of the MFDCP:

1. A large, comprehensive, and varied data set on plume dynamics was obtained. Distinguishing features of the data set include: data collection at two shallow-water sites; simultaneous operation of two acoustic systems together with water and sediment sampling; measurement of the local current; precise measurement of monitoring vessel and hopper barge positions; and availability of bathymetric data and regional oceanographic and meteorological data provided by the NBDP.
2. The concept of an operational project-level plume monitoring instrument was verified. This instrument would have the capabilities, demonstrated in the MFDCP, of (1) measuring the three-dimensional plume concentration, (2) measuring the three-dimensional current velocity at the plume, and (3) tracking the position of the survey ship.
3. Data were collected that enable field calibration of the acoustic instruments used to infer sediment concentrations in the water column.
4. Plume monitoring procedures that can be recommended for future research and project-level use were tested and refined.
5. The ARMS obtained detailed and accurate information on boundary layer processes (wave, current, sand concentration) at a shallow-water berm site.

Other uses of the data and recommendations for further study are given in the succeeding chapters.

## Acknowledgments

A complex and comprehensive field data collection project such as the MFDCP can be successfully accomplished only through the positive interest and assistance of a large number of people. The following individuals contributed substantially in providing resources and expertise, but did not write sections of this report: USAED Mobile: Mr. Pat Langan, Operations Division, Navigation Branch; Dr. Susan Ivester Rees, Planning and Environment Division, Environment and Resources Branch; and Mr. Steven Sema, Operations Division, Mobile Area Office; Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Company (GLD&D): Mr. Kevin Holt, Project Engineer; Mr. Ken Lago, Captain of the dredge *Chicago*; Mr. John Zenga, Project Superintendent; and all the captains of the GLD&D tug *Paul Candies*; Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium: Mr. Steven Rabalais, Coordinator for the *R/V Pelican*, and Mr. Robert Cutting, Captain of the *R/V Pelican*; Evans-Hamilton, Inc: Mr. Douglas Evans, who contributed valuable navigation and positioning skills on board the *R/V Pelican*; U.S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station: Mr. Sam Corson and Dr. Thomas E. White, Prototype Measurement and Analysis Branch, Engineering Development Division, and Ms. Sandy Staggs, Contracting Division.

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Table 1.1  
Schedule Summary for the MFDCP

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No. of Days</u>
Mobilization	18-20 August	3
Transit to site	21 August	1
Data collection	22-31 August	10
Transit from site	1 September	1
Demobilization	2 September	1

Table 1.2  
List of Surveys Selected for Detailed Analysis\*

<u>Plume Survey</u>			
<u>Survey (Chron. Order)</u>	<u>Julian Day and Survey Designator</u>	<u>Starting Time GMT</u>	<u>Comments</u>
6	237A	14:18	Longitudinal sampling; deep site
8	238A	14:22	Transverse sampling; deep site
9	238B	21:55	Transverse sampling; many transects; deep site
10	239A	14:06	Three transverse transects followed by two longitudinal transects; strong shear current; deep site
11	239B	22:14	Transverse sampling (seven transects); good observation of plume dynamics and sediment fall behavior in a weak current; deep site
14	241A	11:44	Transverse sampling; rapid discharge and plume decay; shallow site
16	242A	16:06	Longitudinal sampling (six transects); high CTD concentrations; shallow site
18	243A	18:03	Transverse sampling (six transects over main plume); discharge may have been on edge of mound, not directly on top. Good quality plume dynamics at shallow site

<u>Shallow-Water Berm Survey</u>	
<u>Survey Time GMT</u>	<u>Comments</u>
18:00-21:00	Ten short diagonal transects over the shallow-water sand berm, going on and off the berm in zig-zag fashion

\* Note: Information taken from Appendix 1A, Coordinated Summary of Surveys.

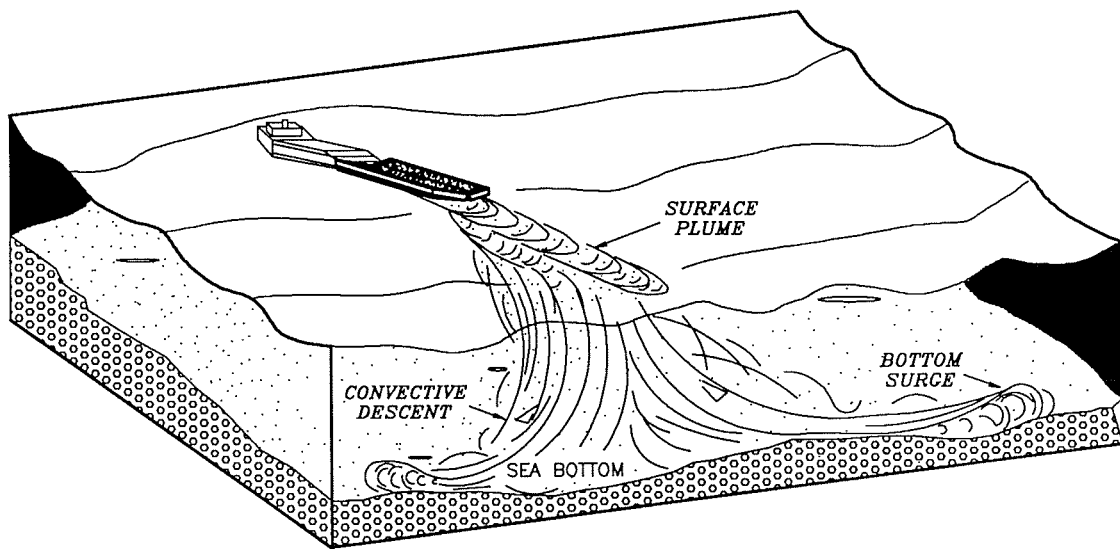


Figure 1.1. Schematic of dredged material plume.

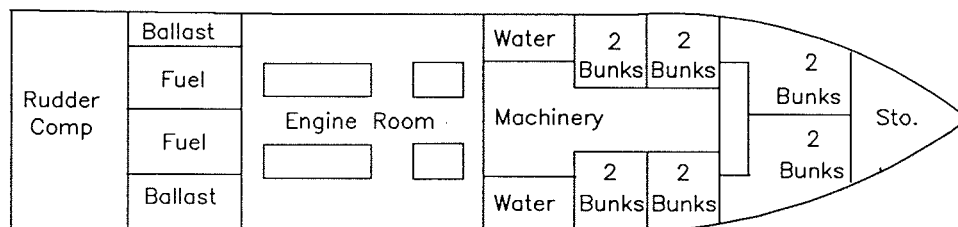
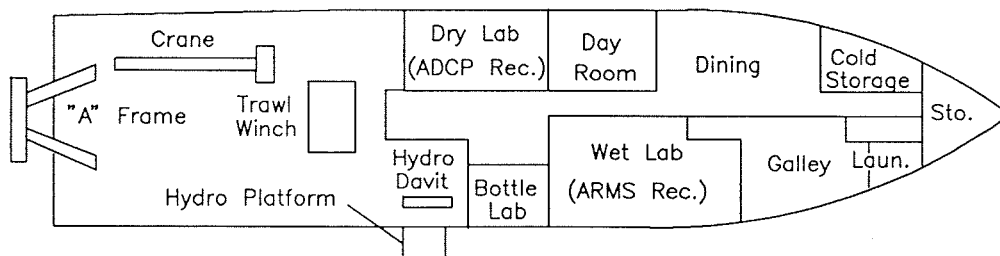
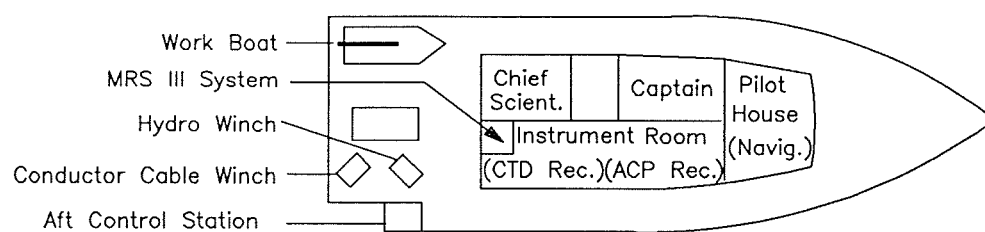
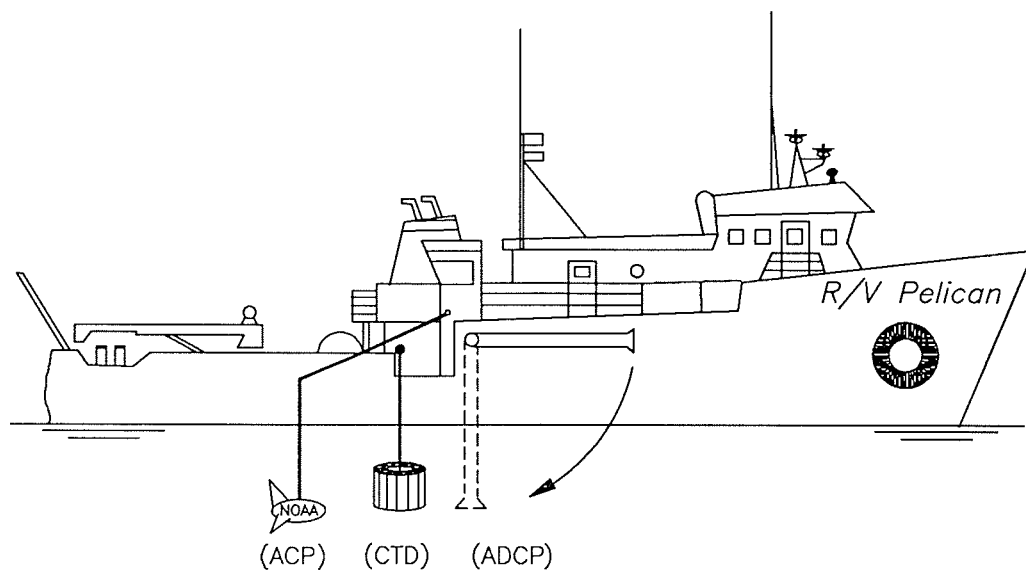


Figure 1.2. Schematic layout of the *R/V Pelican* and scientific equipment.



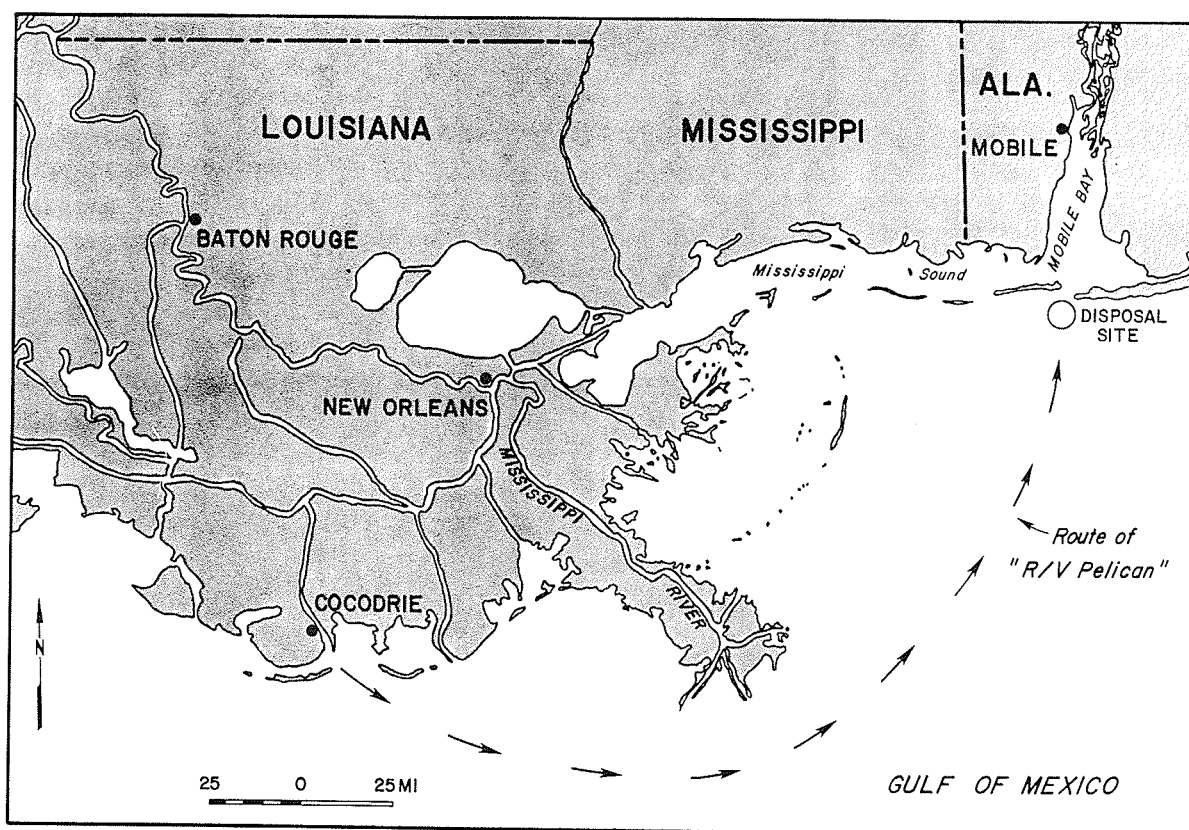


Figure 1.3. Location map for the MFDGP site.

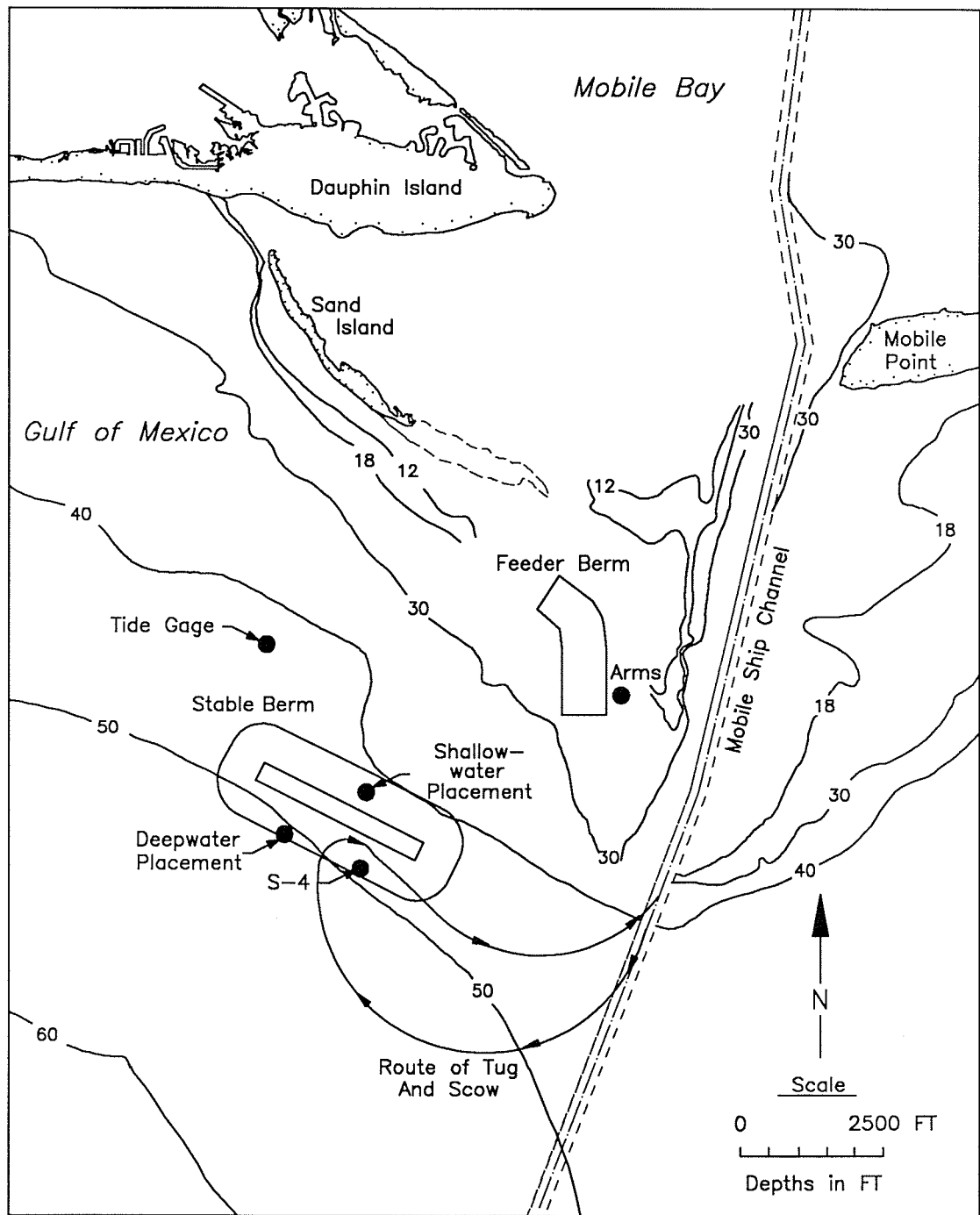


Figure 1.4. Dredged material placement sites, NBDP, Mobile, Alabama.

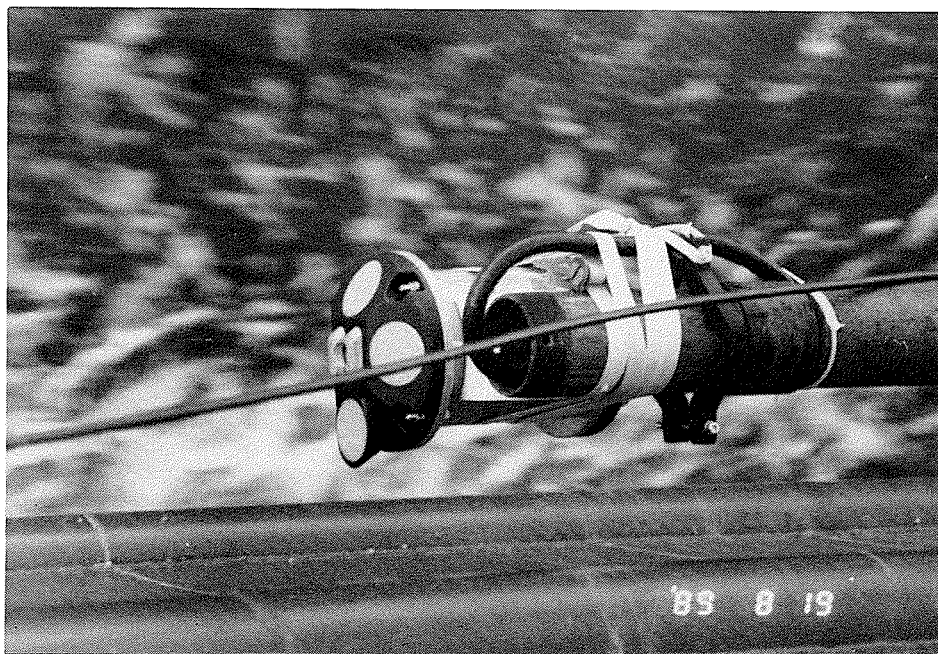


Figure 1.5. ADCP transducer head mounted on a pipe.

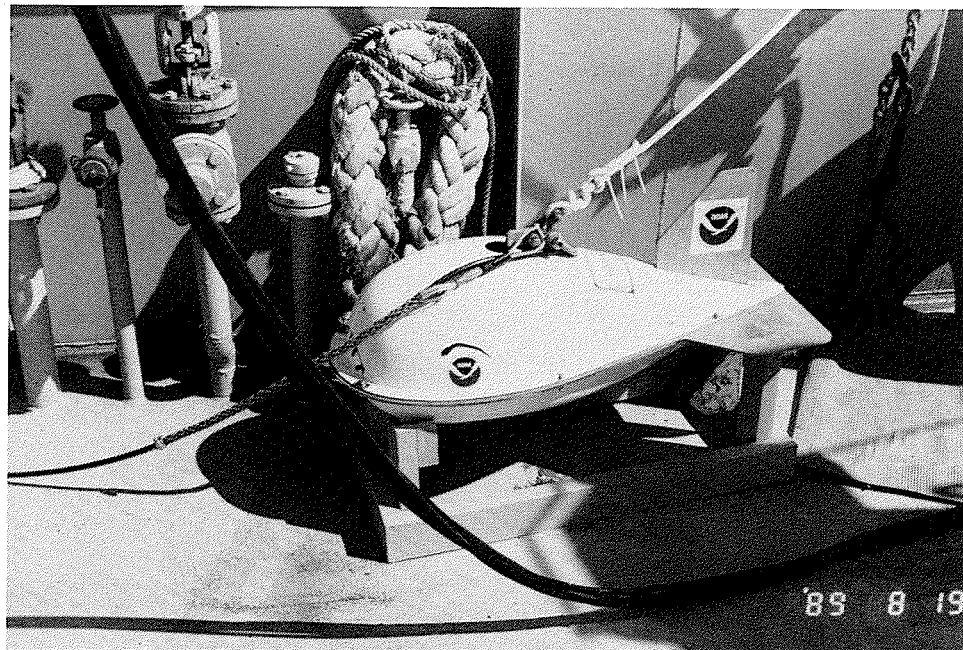


Figure 1.6. ACP tow body ready for deployment.

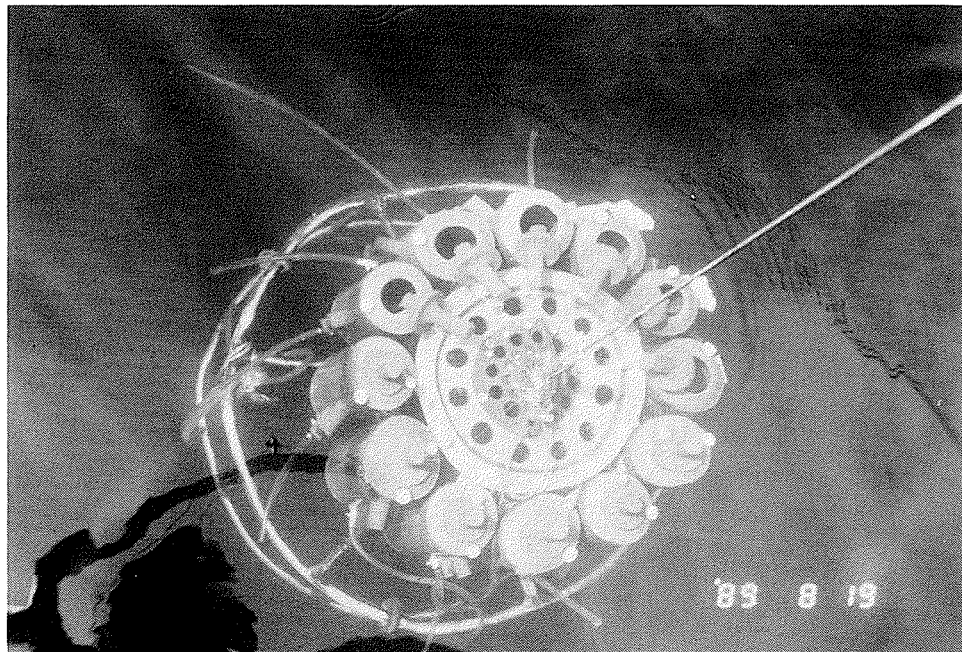


Figure 1.7. CTD sampling near the water surface.

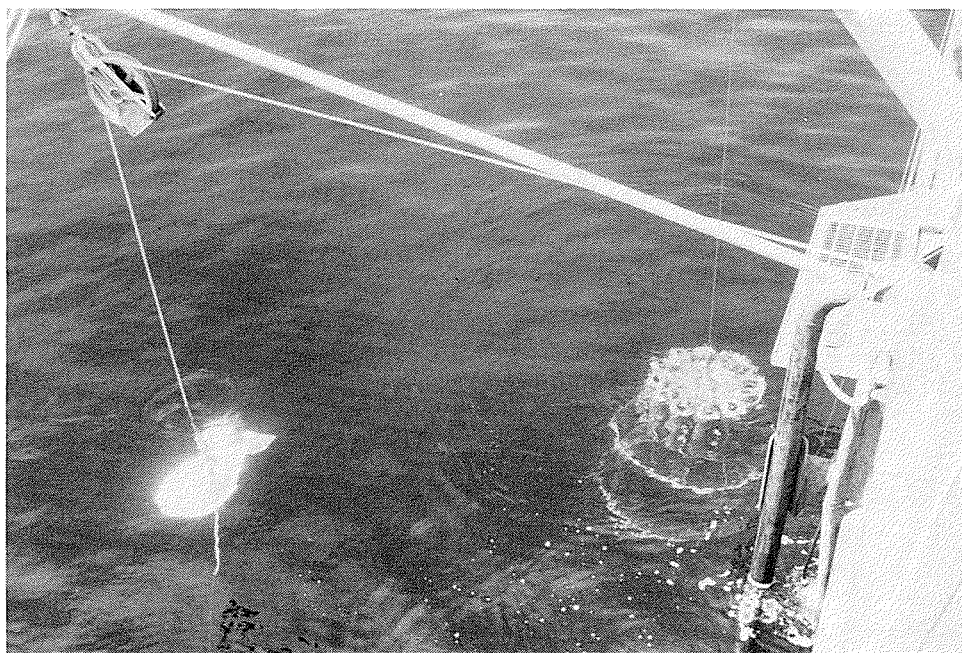
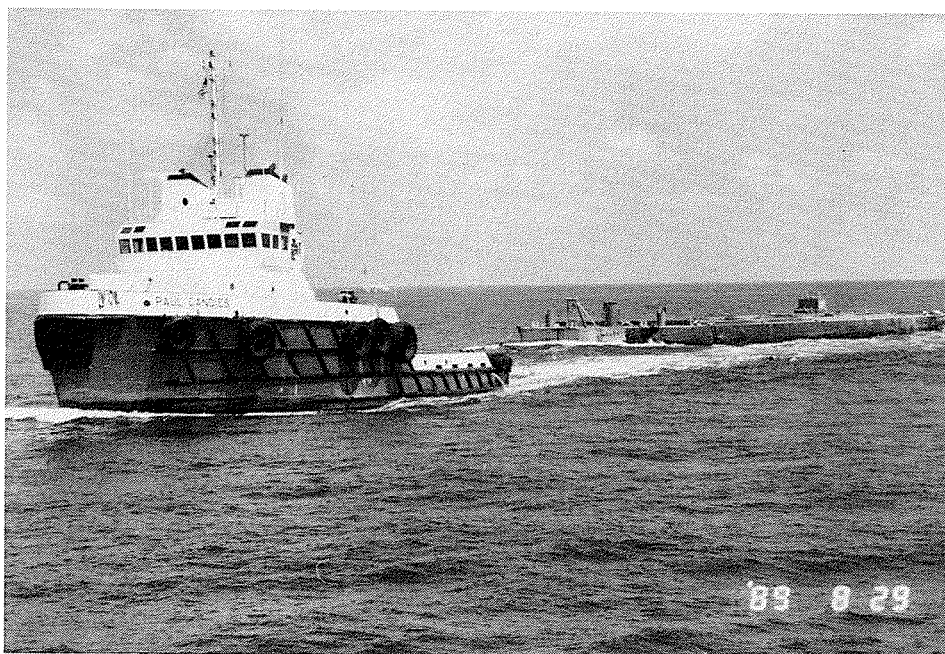
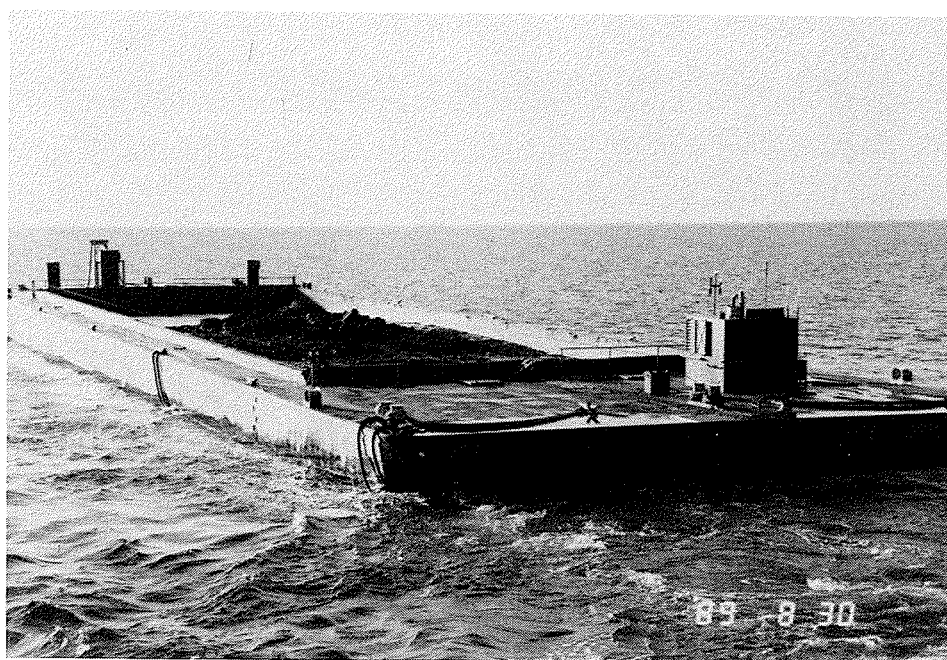


Figure 1.8. ADCP, ACP, and CTD deployed during a plume survey.



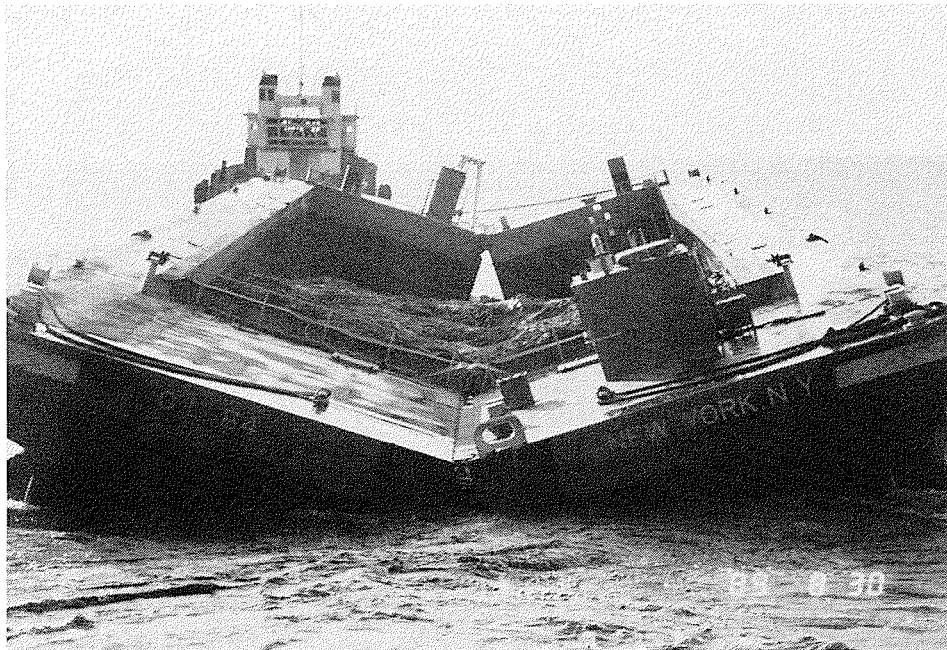
a. Tug with loaded scow prior to material release.



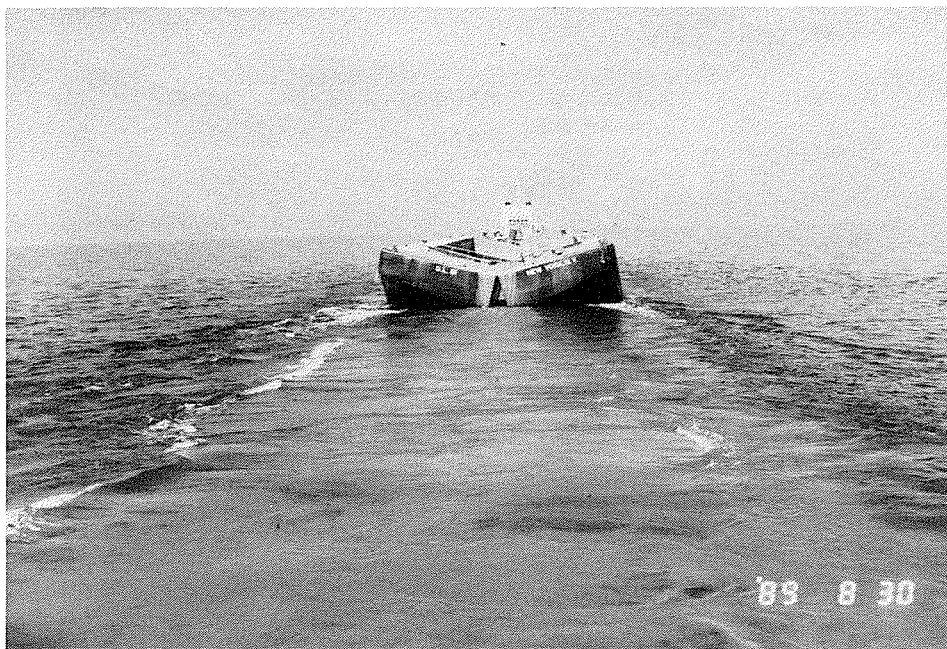
b. Closeup of loaded scow.

Figure 1.9. Dredged material placement during the MFDGP (Continued).





c. Release of material from scow.



d. Plume immediately after material release.

Figure 1.9. (Concluded)

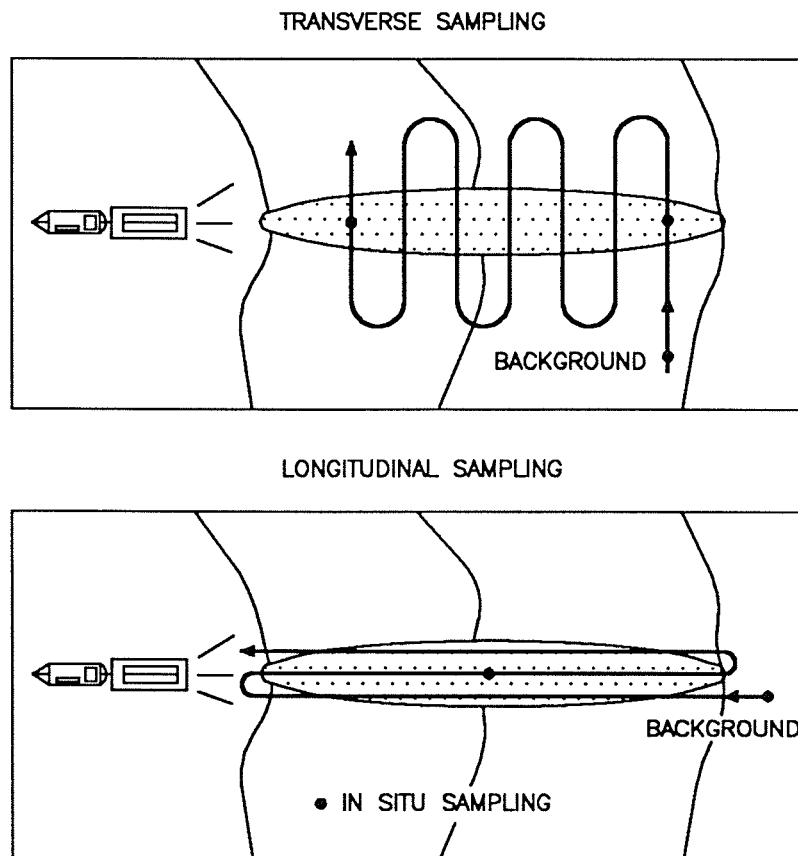
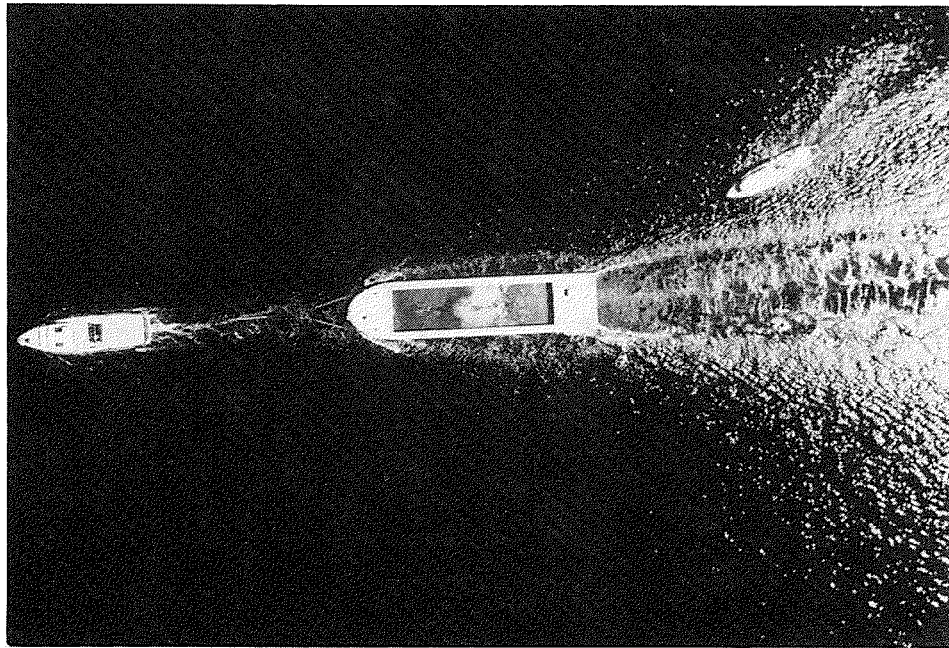
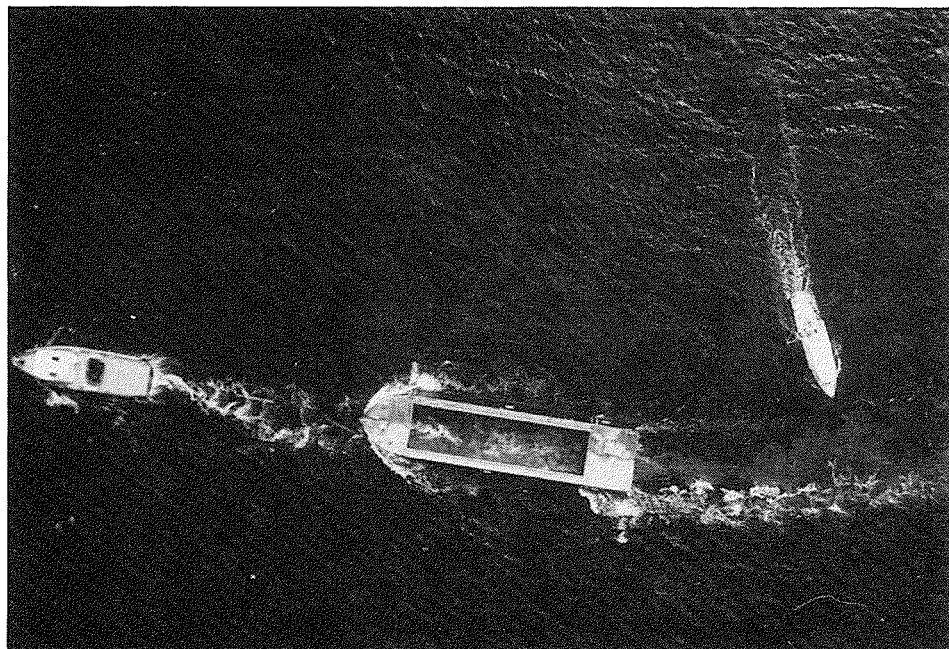


Figure 1.10. Schematic of two main plume sampling schemes.



a. Transverse entry.



b. Longitudinal entry.

Figure 1.11. Photographs showing start of plume surveys.





Figure 1.12. ADCP monitor during a plume survey.

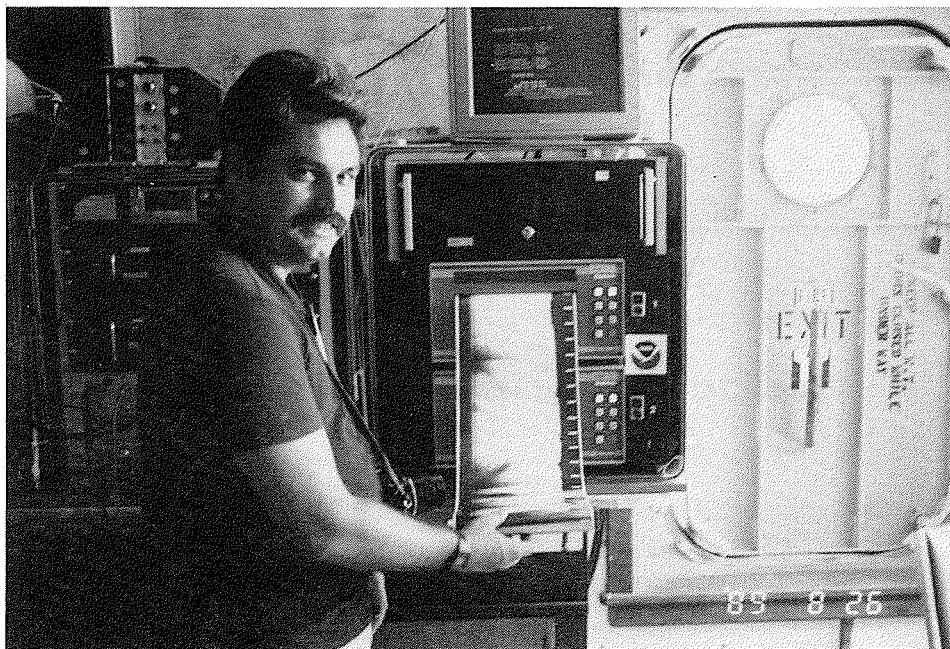


Figure 1.13. ACP paper readout during a plume survey.

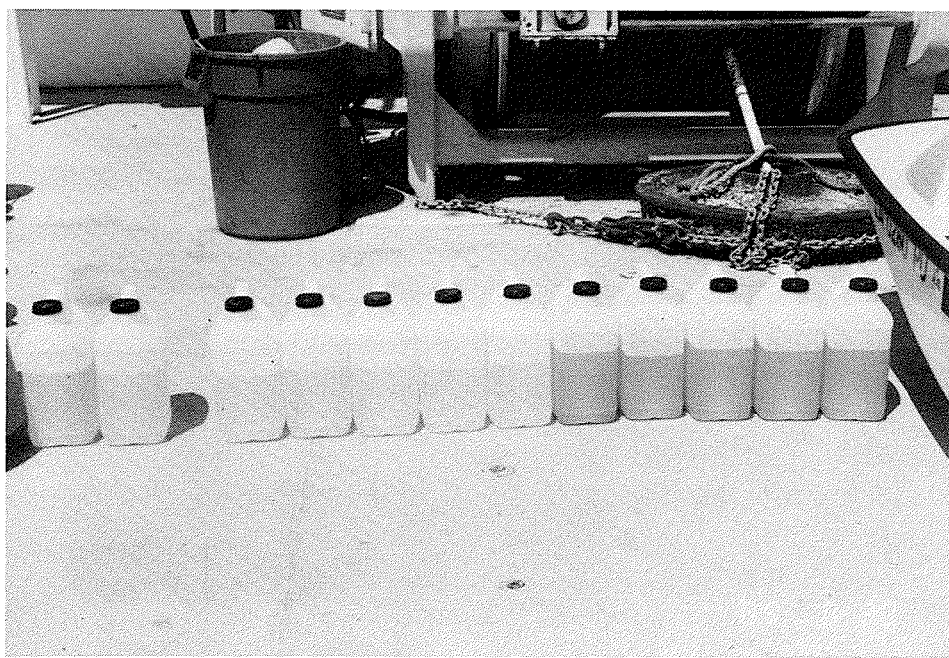


Figure 1.14. CTD water samples taken at various depths.



Figure 1.15. Bottom grab sampler being recovered.



Figure 1.16. Draft marks exposed on an open scow.



## **Appendix 1A: Coordinated Summary of Surveys**

This appendix contains summaries of the 18 dredged material plume surveys and other data collection activities performed during the Mobile, Alabama, Field Data Collection Project (MFDCP). The main source of information for compiling this appendix was a daily log maintained during the cruise. In keeping the log, an attempt was made to coordinate among the various data collection teams on board the *R/V Pelican* to obtain an integrated and consistent picture of operations being conducted. During writing of this appendix, information in the log was supplemented by information that became available after the cruise.

During compilation of the log, a quality rating of low, medium, or high (L, M, H) was assigned to each survey based on the performance of the survey, level of detail of the information obtained, and characteristics of the particular plume survey relative to other surveys. Every survey had one or more interesting features, however, and objectives of a particular analysis may change the quality rating of a survey and the associated data.

The quality rating of surveys was used, in part, to select the eight surveys targeted for the detailed analysis described in the main body of this report. For ease of reference, the titles of these eight plume survey events are marked by shadowing in the list given below.

The descriptions of the plume surveys are presented in chronological order and are designated by the number of the Julian Day (JD) and the letter A, B, or C to denote the first, second, or third survey of that day. Typically, two plume surveys were performed each day. Time of day is reported as Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). Local time at Mobile during the MFDCP was Eastern Daylight Savings Time (EDST) and is related to GMT by the relation  $\text{time (EDST)} = \text{time (GMT)} - 5 \text{ hr.}$

Surveys were performed in regions of two different depths in the authorized placement area and are referred to in the following as the "deep" site (nominal water depth of 12 to 13 m) and the "shallow" site (nominal water depth of 8 to 9 m).

The remainder of this appendix provides a description of major data collection activities in chronological order.

**Monday, 21 August 1989 (JD 233)**

The S-4 current meter array was moored at 18:10 GMT. Prior to placement of the array, a bathymetric survey of the mooring area was performed using the *R/V Pelican's* fathometer.

**Tuesday, 22 August 1989 (JD 234)**

**Acoustic Resuspension Measurement System (ARMS) Deployment**

The first of two deployments and data collection by the ARMS commenced at 18:01 GMT at the Sand Island berm (located south-southwest of Shell gas well 113 JA) on a flat, fine sand bottom) at 19-ft depth. The ARMS was ringed by four guard buoys. Two divers took water sample in the ARMS profilometer beam during deployment. Another water sample was taken by the Conductivity-Temperature-Depth (CTD) rosette at 20:35 GMT, together with a grab sediment sample.

**Survey 1 (234A) (Quality: M/H)**

The survey started 18:58:42 GMT at the deep site. The barge speed and heading were 5.0 knot and 013 deg from True North, respectively, and the prerelease draft was 17 ft. The material in the barge could not be seen. The barge did not open completely, producing a semi-continuous discharge. The *R/V Pelican* entered behind the barge in a longitudinal sampling track. The first longitudinal transect ended at 19:14:35. The water depth beneath the *R/V Pelican* changed from 40 to 57 ft over the course of the first transect.

**Wednesday, 23 August 1989 (JD 235)**

**ARMS Water Sample**

A water sample was taken near the ARMS at 13:50 GMT.

**Survey 2 (235A) (Quality: L/M)**

The survey started at 16:59:40 GMT at the deep site. The barge speed and heading were 4.1 knot and 018 deg, respectively, with a prerelease draft of 20 ft. Small clumps of material were observed in the middle of the barge prior to release. The *R/V Pelican* entered the plume at an angle and stopped to cast the CTD rosette to obtain water and sediment samples.

The ACP showed a bottom surge of material. The first transect had an 18-min interval to remain onsite for the CTD cast, and the plume concentration decreased notably after about 11 min. The plume, extending from the water surface to the Gulf bottom, drifted with the current (at 170 deg) and away from the initial placement site. We could not track both the plume and material near the bottom at the initial site, and indecision caused data some gaps.

A plume from the Mobile River was observed from the *R/V Pelican's* bridge. The CTD was first cast in the river plume and then at the saltwater edge of the plume to obtain an idea of the range of salinities at the site. The Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (ADCP) showed an increase in backscatter intensity in the salt water as compared with the fresh water.

#### **ARMS Water Sample**

A water sample was taken near the ARMS at 21:05 GMT.

#### **Survey 3 (236A) (Quality: L)**

The survey started at 00:19 GMT at the shallow site and proceeded along an irregular sampling pattern. The barge speed and heading were 7.1 knots and 290 deg, respectively, with a prerelease draft of 20 ft. The *R/V Pelican* entered the main plume at 00:20:35 (ACP), and the CTD was cast when the ship reached the center of the plume. The first exit of the major portion of the plume occurred at 00:27.

### **Thursday, 24 August 1989 (JD 236)**

#### **Survey 4 (236B) (Quality: M)**

The survey started at 15:00 GMT at the deep site. Barge GL-64 approached with a speed and heading of 3.2 knots and 355 deg, respectively, and the prerelease draft was 20 ft. Large grey and black clumps were observed in the middle of the barge. The tug captain estimated the barge contents to be 20-percent sand and 80-percent fines. By visual observation, the barge discharged very rapidly (approximately 10 sec).

The *R/V Pelican* entered the plume at 15:01:45. The ACP showed a clear thin layer of sediment at approximate 4.5-m depth, suggesting a density difference or current reversal. The ADCP showed a strong current moving south from 3 to 8 m below the water surface, and the backscatter intensity indicated most material immediately fell to the bottom, with little material remaining in suspension. The *R/V Pelican* drifted on to the site and cast the CTD. The CTD was



in the plume on the way down, but out of the plume on the way up; the cast started at 15:03 and lasted 14 min.

**Survey 5 (236C) (Quality: M/H)**

The survey started at 22:09 GMT at the deep site, executed as a longitudinal sampling track. Barge GL-63 approached with a speed and heading of 6.5 to 7.0 knots and 350 deg, respectively; the barge appeared to be leaking slightly prior to the main release and had to be opened manually. The prelease draft was 16 ft. The tug captain reported 4500 cu yd estimated as 80-percent sand and 20-percent fines.

The *R/V Pelican* entered the plume at 22:11 according to the ACP. Twenty-four 35-mm photographs were taken of the placement operation over an approximate 10-min period. The material in the barge could not be seen. The tug executed a sharp turn, which appeared to loosen a portion of material remaining in the barge. The ACP showed two distinct peaks in the discharge, passing into and out of the first peak at 22:12 and 22:13, and into and out of second peak at 22:15 and 22:19. The ADCP also detected two main discharges. A CTD cast was made at the end of the survey; the ADCP indicated clear water during the cast.

**Friday, 25 August 1989 (JD 237)**

**ARMS Water Sample**

A water sample was taken near the ARMS at 01:00 GMT.

**Survey 6 (237A) (Quality: M/H)**

The survey started at 14:18 GMT at the deep site. Barge GL-61 (first time this barge appeared) approached with a speed and heading of 5.6 knots and 354 deg, respectively, and the prelease draft was 19 ft at the bow and 20 ft at the stern. The tug captain reported 5,600 cu yd estimated to consist of 80-percent sand and 20-percent fines. One clump of material was observed in the middle of the barge; otherwise, the material appeared relatively flat. The barge opened with a crisp sound and fairly rapidly (but not the fastest so far).

The *R/V Pelican* entered the plume on a longitudinal transect at 14:18:30 and exited at 14:25 (ACP), then reentered the plume at 14:27 and turned at 14:32. The main body of the surface plume by visual observation could not be seen after 2 min. The current was strong and uniform (30 to 50 cm/sec to the south-east) in the upper layer (ADCP). The ADCP detected bottom

suspended material, a middepth plume, and a surface plume at different locations. This release appeared to have high values of the sediment vertical fall speed (ADCP).

#### **ARMS Recovery**

The ARMS was recovered at 17:10 GMT to end the first deployment. Upon recovery, the data collection was found to have lasted 55 hr and 32 min. Data collection ceased at 01:33.

#### **Sand Island Berm Survey**

The survey of the Sand Island shallow-water berm took place over the period 17:42 to 20:57 GMT and consisted of 10 oblique and continuous transects over the berm on a predetermined track designed to cover prominent depth features from most shallow to most deep. Mini-Ranger readings were recorded verbally at minute intervals, supplemented by range and bearing readings during brief interruptions of Mini-Ranger transmission. A plotted record from the *R/V Pelican's* Fathometer was made, and depths ranged from approximately 25 ft at the side of the berm to 10 ft at the berm crest.

#### **Survey 7 (237B) (Quality: L)**

The survey began at 22:14:30 GMT at the deep site. Barge GL-64 approached with a speed and heading of 5.1 knots and 005 to 010 deg, respectively, and the prelease draft was 19.5 ft. The tug captain estimated 80-percent sand and 20-percent fines. The barge was fully loaded, and the surface of the dredged material was relatively flat. The material was light brown, appearing to be sand. Although the barge opened rapidly, the discharge became stalled at an early stage because the sand appeared to be dry. White sand could be seen clinging to the sides of the barge, collapsing in discrete release events as the barge continued to open. At 22:16:30, the barge tilt reached a sufficiently large angle that the sand collapsed as a sheet, causing the barge to rise rapidly. During the entire release, the barge was on a course to the starboard of the tug (eastward) apparently due to a strong cross-current. The surface trace of released sediment looked brown, as opposed to a grey-to-black chalky color usually associated with fine-grained sediments.

The *R/V Pelican* entered the plume at 22:14:30 and exited at 22:22 (ACP). The plume was well recorded but not systematically sampled. A longitudinal sampling track of two passes was made, followed by a CTD cast.

Saturday, 26 August 1989 (JD 238)

**Survey 8 (238A) (Quality: H)**

The survey started at 14:22:09 GMT at the deep site. Barge GL-64 approached with a speed and heading of 5.1 knots and 001 deg, respectively, and the prelease draft was 20 ft. The tug captain reported 65-percent sand and 35-percent fines. The release was slow, but not as slow as for the previous survey (237B).

Based on visual observations from the bridge, the *R/V Pelican* turned to port and entered the plume on a transverse transect at a right angle in the region judged to correspond to the major portion of the released material. The center of the plume was crossed at 14:24:22, and the surface plume was 50 to 75 ft wide. The *R/V Pelican* completed crossing the surface plume and proceeded to a point judged to be beyond its edge; the ship then did a sharp, 180-deg turn called a "twist" turn and re-entered the plume at a right angle, as judged visually. After the plume was traversed for a second time, detection of the plume for tracking was turned over to the ADCP team.

According to the ACP observation, the *R/V Pelican* entered the plume at 14:24. A bottom surge was recorded, and the plume was first exited at 14:26:00. The twist turn occurred at 14:36:30, and re-entry was at 14:27:50 followed by exit at 14:29:51.

The survey continued for four transects; on the fifth transect, a CTD cast was made. After the CTD cast, one longitudinal transect was performed, and the survey was ended with transverse transects over the down-current surface plume (ADCP). The ACP 20-kHz record showed material advection through the water column on several transects. The current was strongly sheared, with the top 3 to 7 m moving at almost 50 cm/sec and the bottom 7 to 10 m moving about 10 cm/sec, both layers moving to the southeast (ADCP). The sediment plume also became sheared (ADCP).

**Survey 9 (238B) (Quality: H)**

The survey started at 21:55 GMT at the deep site. Barge GL-61 approached with a speed and heading of 6 knots and 351 deg, respectively, and the prelease draft was 21 ft. The tug captain reported 5,600 cu yd estimated as containing 70-percent sand and 30-percent fines. A mound of what appeared to be sand was located in the middle of the barge, with water at the fore and aft ends. The release was relatively rapid.

The *R/V Pelican* reached the middle of the plume at 21:56 on a transverse transect, and the ACP showed a bottom surge at each side. Five transverse transects were made, followed by a CTD cast, then three longitudinal transects (which revealed little material according to the ADCP).

Bottom mounding and the plume were easily identifiable by the ADCP, which allowed many transects to be made. It was speculated that identification was easy because the dredged material consisted mainly of sand.

### **Sunday 27 August 1989 (JD 239)**

#### **Survey 10 (239A) (Quality: L/M)**

The survey started at 14:06 GMT at the deep site, and the first aerial photographs were taken. Barge GL-61 approached with a speed and heading of 3.3 knots and 351 deg, respectively, and the prelease draft was 18.5 ft. The tug captain reported 75-percent sand and 25-percent fines.

The survey started with a CTD cast at 14:10 from a transverse entry, but the water samples did not contain appreciable sediment. After the cast was completed, there was difficulty finding the correct survey track to follow because surface marker buoys placed during the CTD cast had evidently drifted away from the plume. Three transverse transects were made followed by two longitudinal transects. A relatively strong wind (20 mph) moved the *R/V Pelican* out of the plume and also produced a 50 cm/sec current extending from the surface to 5 m (ADCP), with a strong shear at 5-m depth (ADCP). The ADCP showed that a plume extended approximately 300 m from the placement site on the first transect, and the plume grew to 500-m length on the second transect (the rapid increase attributed to the strong current and shear). The ADCP did rapid sampling to observe clumps. The ACP recorded a surge on both sides of the discharge during the first transect. The ADCP could clearly track the bottom and showed both peaked and flat mounds.

#### **ARMS Second Deployment**

The ARMS was deployed for the second time, and data collection commenced at 17:34 GMT. A water sample was taken in the profilometer beam at 17:37.

#### **Survey 11 (239B) (Quality: H+)**

The survey started at 22:14 GMT at the deep site. Barge GL-64 approached with a speed and heading of 6.5 knots and 340 deg, respectively, and the prelease draft was 17 ft at the bow and 18 ft at the stern. The tug captain reported 4,500 cu yd estimated to be 70-percent sand and 30-percent fines. The inside of the barge could not be seen during its approach, but at release the barge rose relatively rapidly and ridges of black-grey material were observed. A narrow black and chalk-colored plume appeared on the water surface after the release. Seven transverse transects

were made. There was minimal surface current and wind, and the water surface was flat. Light rain and fog precluded aerial photography. The ACP showed indications of internal waves through observation of trapping and movement of material in the water column; the presence of internal waves was verified by visual observation of the water surface. Several 35-mm photographs of the water surface were also taken. The internal waves appeared to originate at about 5-m depth (at 22:27:30) and had an amplitude on the order of 1.5 m. (The ACP gain was changed during mid-run for the first time to optimize the visual record; this procedure was followed in later runs as necessary.)

According to the ACP record, at later times of plume evolution the angle of the sides of plume was different, and it was hypothesized that the angle change was an indication of differential settling by particle classes of different grain size. The current was weak (less than 30 cm/sec, although there was a shear), and the suspended sediment pattern was considered as an almost perfect "laboratory plume" in postsurvey discussion. The pycnocline was located at depths of 3 to 5 m below the ADCP sensor. Widening of the plume near the water surface and at the bottom could be seen by the ADCP.

#### **Monday, 28 August 1989 (JD 240)**

##### **Survey 12 (240A) (Quality: L/M)**

The survey started at 13:35:14 GMT at the deep site. Barge GL-64 approached with a speed and heading of 5.5 knots and 335 deg, respectively, and the prelease draft was 18 ft at the bow and 19 ft at the stern. The tug captain reported 4,500 cu yd estimated to be 50-percent sand and 50-percent fines. One large black clump was visible in the barge, and 35-mm pictures were obtained of black material on the inside of the barge as it was splitting open. The CTD was cast on the first transverse entry; the *R/V Pelican* intentionally overshot the plume to drift back during the CTD cast, but the return took longer than expected. The CTD water samples visually showed the highest concentrations to date.

The plume exhibited typical behavior (ADCP). The wait for completion of the initial CTD cast precluded observation of the initial dynamic behavior of the plume. There was slight evidence of

bottom surge on the entry side of the plume, and there also appeared to be an indication of a shear on the sediment (ACP). Schools of large fish were observed in the ACP record.

**Survey 13 (240B) (Quality: H)**

The survey started at 20:35:17 GMT at the deep site, and the decision was made for this survey to be the last one at the deep site. Barge GL-61 approached with a speed and heading of 6.0 knots and 345 deg, respectively, and the prelease draft was 18 ft at the bow and 17 ft at the stern. At 19:06 the tug captain had reported a draft of 19.5 ft at the bow and 16.5 ft at the stern; it was speculated that the material had subsequently settled and redistributed. The tug captain reported 4,400 cu yd estimated to be 70-percent sand and 30-percent fines. The barge had large black and grey clumps in the middle and front and was fishtailing due to the skewed weight distribution. The release was rapid and lasted about 10 sec.

The CTD was cast from a transverse entry, and, after sampling was completed, the *R/V Pelican* continued with transverse transects followed by longitudinal transects. Visually, the CTD appeared to be in the vicinity of the plume for the entire cast, but it may have drifted away during initial portion of sampling, later returning to the plume. The current was relatively weak, and the material remained localized (ADCP). The ADCP recorded a steady decrease in backscatter amplitude over 4-1/2 longitudinal transects. (Interpretation of the ADCP record indicated that the transverse transects were made south of the main discharge, at the site of the marker buoys of the main plume. It was speculated that the main discharge moved north in the water column.) The longitudinal extent of the bottom discharge was approximately 700 m (ADCP). The ACP indicated a bottom surge on the entry side.

**Tuesday, 29 August 1989 (JD 241)**

**Survey 14 (241A) (Quality: M/H)**

The survey started at 11:44 GMT at the shallow site. Barge GL-61 approached with a speed and heading of 6.7 knots and 288 deg, respectively, and the prelease draft was 20 ft. The tug captain reported 5,600 cu yd estimated to be 90-percent fines (as 75-percent clay and 15-percent mud) and 10-percent sand. Many black clumps were observed in the barge, and the release was

rapid, on the order of 10 sec. The resultant surface plume had a narrow width compared with previously observed plumes. The *R/V Pelican* began sampling on a transverse entry at an oblique angle away from the direction of barge motion. The current was weak (10 to 20 cm/sec to east), and the plume decayed rapidly (ADCP). The ACP showed a bottom surge on both sides and clear signals on all transects.

**Survey 15 (241B) (Quality: M/H)**

The survey started at 18:46 GMT at the shallow site. Barge GL-64 approached with a speed and heading of 6.2 knots and 292 deg, respectively, and the prelease draft was 21 ft. The tug captain reported 5,600 cu yd estimated to be 70-percent sand and 30-percent fines (mud). Large brown clumps were located in the middle of barge, and the release lasted 30 sec. The CTD was cast on the first transverse entry. The *R/V Pelican* drifted out of the plume during the cast; therefore, the CTD was hoisted, and the ship was put on the track of the plume through guidance by the ADCP; the CTD samples contained several water samples of high concentration.

The plume suspension pattern was similar to others previously observed and had no unusual characteristics (ADCP). The ADCP did rapid sampling to obtain vertical velocities of sediment clumps. The ACP showed a surge upon entry during the first transect; also, the sediment concentration appeared to decay rapidly, but the ship track must be checked to see if this apparent decay is an artifact caused by ship drift.

**Wednesday, 30 August 1989 (JD 242)**

**ARMS Recovered (Second Deployment)**

Recovery of the ARMS was made at 03:35 GMT. Inspection of the data canister revealed that the collection had malfunctioned shortly after deployment, resulting in very limited data acquisition.

**Survey 16 (242A) (Quality: M/H)**

The survey started at 16:06 GMT at the shallow site. Barge GL-61 approached with a speed and heading of 5.5 knots and 292 deg. The tug captain reported that he had slightly "cracked" the hopper to provide us with a fast opening. In approach, the barge had a draft of 16 ft, slowly decreasing to approximately 14 ft upon start of full opening. The release was rapid, and a grey-brown plume emerged. The tug captain reported 4,000 cu yd estimated to be 80-percent sand and 20-percent fines (mud).

The CTD was cast from a longitudinal entry and was located slightly off the center of the plume as judged visually; however, it was always located well within the central portion of the surface plume. The CTD samples contained the highest concentrations obtained to date as estimated visually. After the CTD cast, sampling continued on longitudinal transects.

The plume was approximately 600 m long as judged by the ADCP. The ACP showed a bottom surge on the trailing edge of the longitudinal entry side, a phenomenon not previously noted. The ADCP showed a 30 to 40-cm/sec current near the water surface. Six longitudinal transects (largest number of longitudinal transects) were made. The backscatter of the ADCP signal decreased as the plume dissipated and became indistinct. Small concentrations over a wide area suggested that the plume consisted of fine-grained material.

**Survey 17 (242B) (Quality: L/M)**

The survey started at 23:30 at the shallow site. Barge GL-64 approached with a speed and heading of 5.5 knots and 295 deg, respectively, and the prelease draft was 19 ft. The tug captain reported 5,200 cu yd estimated to be 70-percent sand and 30-percent fines (mud). The barge contained several large brown clumps, but most material appeared to be black during the release. The load appeared to be dry or cohesive, and discharge took approximately 2 min. The last material remaining in the barge was black-colored and clung to the sides of the barge until the rising sides reached a large oblique angle (a 35-mm photograph was obtained of this material).

The CTD was cast from a longitudinal entry. The cast was in the center of a dense plume and remained in the plume; the resultant water samples were extremely dense and denser than any samples previously taken, including the Survey 242A samples. The area was very shallow (3 to 5-m depth), and the tug touched bottom shortly after completion of the release. The shallow water may have contributed to produce the high concentrations, but also the suspended material appeared to be fine grained with some lipids. No surge was evident in the ACP record. The CTD became entangled with the ADCP, and about 30 min of the ADCP record was lost. Three longitudinal transects were made after the CTD cast, but the backscatter level was weak because of the wait for disentanglement of the CTD. The survey was not considered valuable for characterizing plume dynamics in postsurvey discussion, but it is very important for calibrating the acoustic instruments with the water samples.



Thursday, 31 August 1989 (JD 243)

**Survey 18 (243A) (Quality: H)**

The survey started at 18:03 at the shallow site. Barge GL-64 approached with a speed and heading of 6.7 knots and 307 deg, respectively, and the prelease draft was 20 ft. The tug captain reported 5,600 cu yd estimated to be 60-percent sand and 40-percent fines (mud). The barge contained small brown clumps in the middle; the release was complete within 10 to 15 sec, and the plume was relatively narrow and readily visible.

Sampling began as a slightly diagonal transverse entry. Six transverse transects were made over the main plume and two over a more northerly smaller plume generated as the tug and barge turned back (ADCP). The ACP showed a strong surge. The impression from the ADCP record was that the release was on the edge of the placement mound, not at the top. The current speed was approximately 25 cm/sec, and the current was toward the south-southeast in the surface layer. The plume had the characteristic inverted mushroom pattern found in previous MFDGP surveys (ADCP). This survey was considered to be of good quality because it contains many transects in shallow water. However, the first transect was on a slight diagonal, and second transect was believed to be slightly southeast of the main plume.

**CHAPTER 2**  
**AMBIENT METEOROLOGIC AND OCEANOGRAPHIC CONDITIONS**

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## **1. Introduction**

The Mobile Field Data Collection Project (MFDCP) incorporated a variety of measurements of ambient local conditions to fully define the physical setting and driving forces controlling the dispersion of dredged material at the site. These measurements include hydrographic surveys of the site (bathymetry), surface wave time series, water level time series, and current measurements at two depths. The locations of the measurements, details of the data collection equipment and procedures, and analysis of the data are described in this chapter. Ambient water properties were measured in the course of surveying dispersion events and are described in Chapter 4. No significant regional meteorological or oceanographic events affected the site from 21 August to 1 September 1989 during the field data collection effort. Conditions were quiescent on a regional scale, and any atmospheric or oceanic driving forces entering the measurements were probably of local origin.

## **2. Regional Meteorological and Oceanographic Conditions**

### **Weather**

Weather was mild throughout the field work because of the presence of a stable high-pressure system that extended from the tropical Atlantic across the southeastern United States and Gulf of Mexico (Climate Analysis Center 1989a, 1989b). Daily high temperatures were consistently in the 90's (deg F) and night time lows in the 70's. Wind direction was variable, but was often offshore, and the wind speed seldom exceeded 15 knots. Seas were usually calm, though periods of light chop occurred intermittently. No significant precipitation was encountered by the *R/V Pelican*.

### **Oceanographic Conditions**

Sea surface temperatures over the Gulf of Mexico were essentially uniform, nominally 29 deg C, as interpreted on a large scale from satellite data (National Weather Service 1989). The monthly sea surface temperature anomaly, the difference between the monthly mean and the climatological mean, was less than 0.5 deg C, above average in the northern gulf along the Continental Shelf of Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida. The typically high seasonal sea surface temperatures precluded clear resolution of Gulf Loop Current features from satellite imagery, but a strong eddy, dubbed "Nelson Eddy," was reported during the period of the field data collection

by oil platforms much farther offshore in the Gulf of Mexico. There was no indication that this phenomenon had any direct effect on the measurements made near Mobile Bay.

### **Tides**

The 1989 Tide Tables (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) 1989b) predict a mean diurnal range of tidal elevations of 1.3 ft at the entrance to Mobile Bay. Tidal elevations predicted for the period of the field data collection (21 August to 1 September 1989) were as low as 0.1 ft mean lower low water (mllw) and as high as 2.0 ft mllw. This extreme range was predicted for 25 August 1989 and decreased to lower low water of 0.7 ft mllw and higher high water of 1.4 ft mllw for 1 September 1989. Only diurnal predicted variations (i.e., high water levels 24.8 hr apart) were significant enough to report during this period. The 1989 Tidal Current Tables (NOAA 1989a) predict a maximum flood current of 2.5 knots and ebb of 2.6 knots 12.4 hr later for 25 August at the entrance to Mobile Bay. The predicted flood and ebb currents decreased to 0.9 and 0.7 knots, respectively, by 1 September. The long-term average speed and direction at this location are 1.4 knots flowing toward 27 deg for the flood and 1.5 knots toward 190 deg for the ebb. Directions in this chapter are defined with respect to True North.

## **3. Moored Current Meter Array (Tidal Current)**

### **Introduction**

Three InterOcean S4 current meters were deployed from the *R/V Pelican* at the start of the field data collection program (21 August 1989) on a fixed mooring in a vertical array located at 30°09.02' N 88°06.63' W (Figure 1.4). The centers of the three meters were located at 4.30, 7.68, and 11.09 m below the surface (Figure 2.1). The upper and middle current meters were equipped to record horizontal current speed components electromagnetically with a nominal accuracy of  $\pm 1$  cm/sec. These instruments recorded current direction with a flux-gate compass with a nominal accuracy of  $\pm 2$  deg. Internal clocks assigned a Julian date, hour, and minute (Greenwich Mean Time (GMT)) to the beginning of each of the records. The bottom (deepest) current meter contained sensors to measure temperature, conductivity, and pressure. Sampling intervals were set at 2 min for the top meter, 1 min for the middle meter, and 0.5 min for the bottom meter. The mooring was retrieved on the final day of field work at the project site (31 August), for a total deployment of 10 days.

## Procedure

The digital data of the three current meters were downloaded to a microcomputer aboard the *R/V Pelican* immediately after retrieval. These data were subsequently checked for gaps and errors. For an undetermined reason, only temperature was recorded by the bottom meter. Complete data from the upper and middle meters were recorded.

Current directions from the upper and middle meters were converted from magnetic north to true north. A 1-min time correction was added to all records to account for a known offset from the NOAA clock aboard the *R/V Pelican* used as a time standard for other measurements during the project. Percent occurrence of current speed toward specific directions for the upper and middle meter records are listed in Table 2.1. Vector stick plots of the upper and middle meter records are shown in Figures 2.2 to 2.6, and time series are shown in Figures 2.7 to 2.16. In the lower panels showing the current direction, values appearing as spikes or bad data correspond to changes in the northerly current direction between 330 to 30 deg. Time series for the temperature record of the bottom meter are shown in Figures 2.17 to 2.19. Current vectors and time series from the meter records during each release are shown in an expanded scale in Appendix 2A.

The Julian date, hour, and minute format was converted to a single time variable as decimal Julian days. The cross-shore and longshore components (positive southward and eastward, respectively) were computed from speed and direction and then subjected to a 3-hr low-pass (digital convolution) filter, which further decimated the data to 1-hr intervals. The time series for the cross-shore and longshore components of the upper and middle meter records are shown in Figures 2.20 and 2.21, prior to low-pass filtering, and after filtering in Figures 2.22 and 2.23. Scattergrams of concurrent offshore and longshore components are shown in Figure 2.24 for the unfiltered records of the top and middle current meters. Auto-spectra for the cross-shore and longshore components of the currents were computed by Fourier transformation which averaged 10 of 129 frequency bands at equal intervals between 0 and 0.5 cycles per hour (cph) (Figure 2.25). A 10-percent cosine window was applied to the data before transformation by Singleton Fast Fourier Transform. For reference, the frequencies of the strongest diurnal (K1) and semidiurnal (M2) tidal components of the tidal tractive force are superimposed as vertical dashed lines.

## Results

The low tidal energy of the study area was confirmed by the moderate peak of the auto-spectra at the M2 frequency and minimal response at K1 frequency. Atmospheric events (e.g., sea breeze or synoptic scale wind stress), long-period oceanographic phenomena in the Gulf of Mexico, or freshwater discharge from Mobile Bay could have significantly influenced the flow at the mooring. The limited duration of the measurements (10 days) precluded resolution of longer periods; therefore, synoptic effects were discernible to a limited degree as periodic phenomena. Sea breezes probably imparted energy with a diurnal period (approximately 24 hr), providing an explanation of the moderate response in otherwise mild conditions of the upper meter in a broad band surrounding the K1 frequency. The middle meter responded weakly at both the M2 and K1 frequencies.

Estimated water particle trajectories associated with tidal waves propagating along the coast most commonly appear as elliptical paths, with clockwise rotation in the Northern Hemisphere. In most cases, the major axes of ellipses are oriented with the direction of wave propagation. Bottom friction tends to exaggerate the major axis (i.e., cause water particle motion to be more rectilinear) and, as the bottom is approached, to veer its orientation in the counterclockwise direction. Bottom currents tend to reach their maxima earlier than near-surface currents; therefore, a phase lag is to be expected. A phase lag approaching 180 deg is evident by inspection of the superimposed time series of the offshore and longshore components of the top and middle meter records (Figure 2.26).

The rotary spectral characteristics of the current meter records were calculated by the procedure of Fofonoff (1969). The orientation of the major elliptical axes at each frequency is presented for the top current meter in Figure 2.27a and for the middle meter in Figure 2.28a. The top current meter shows a significant orientation at the M2 frequency of about 135 deg from the longshore direction (225 deg True North), whereas data from the middle meter indicate an orientation at the M2 frequency of about 45 deg (135 deg True North).

The average direction of the maximum ebb predicted by NOAA (1989a), which generally corresponds to a surface current, because the entrance to Mobile Bay is directed at 190 deg True. This predicted current lies roughly halfway between the M2 orientations of the data from the top and middle meters, along the channel orientation at the bay entrance. The top current meter thus indicates a dominant direction 35 deg clockwise from that predicted, or further toward the longshore direction. This measured current orientation reflects a transition from channel-oriented

tidal flow to that of the open Continental Shelf. The 90-deg counterclockwise veering of the axis orientation of the top to the middle current meter is explained in part by effect of bottom friction, but could also be related to the strong density stratification measured throughout the project.

Ellipse stability is displayed for the top and middle meters (Figures 2.26b, 2.27b). This parameter has a larger value if directionality is strong, and a smaller value if the direction is not a dominant factor. Directionality is shown to be relatively stronger for the top meter. The top meter shows a significant peak in stability at near-diurnal frequencies, which may be associated with sea breeze effects. The lower meter lacks this peak, possibly as a result of its being closer to the bottom and having stronger influence of friction.

Eccentricity is the ratio of the minor to the major elliptical axes. A ratio of zero corresponds to purely rectilinear motion, a ratio of one indicates circular motion, and a negative ratio denotes counterclockwise rotation. The ratio for the top meter is also plotted in Figure 2.26b and for the middle meter in Figure 2.27b. Without further analysis, the significance of the counterclockwise current vector rotation indicated by both meters at tidal frequencies is unclear.

Maximum and minimum rotary coherences are plotted in Figures 2.27c and 2.28c for each current meter. Simultaneously high minimum and maximum coherences indicate coherent elliptical motion; a low minimum and a high maximum indicate rectilinear motion. Simultaneously low minimum and maximum coherences denote incoherent motion. A tendency toward coherent elliptical motion at both diurnal and semidiurnal frequencies is evident for the top meter. The middle meter indicates less coherent motion in general, with motion tending to be rectilinear at the M2 frequency and incoherent at the K1 frequency.

In summary, tidal influences were clearly stronger in the upper portion of the water column than they were at middepth during the current meter deployment. The site was apparently located near a transition between channel-dominated and Continental Shelf tidal circulation. Tidal energy was confirmed to be low relative to many other coastal sites. Meteorological effects (in particular, sea breeze) appear to have influenced current speed and direction. The differences in directionality and overall response at tidal frequencies between the top and middle meters indicate that the strong stratification measured during the deployment may have also significantly affected the currents. Conditions at the surface, which tended to be more predictable, thus did not control the long-term (scale of days) fate of suspended matter at the site.

#### 4. Local Waves, Currents, and Weather

Fair weather conditions were experienced during the MFDCP, with only a trace of precipitation and fog occurring on 27 August (Exxon Well MO-112-1). The National Data Buoy Center (NDBC), NOAA, provided local meteorological data and wave measurements for the project operating period from a pitch-roll buoy (NDBC-42016) located near the stable berm off Mobile Bay (Figure 2.29). The buoy was placed at the site in May 1988, in a depth of 42 ft to monitor the ambient wave and wind climate of the stable berm. For documenting climatic conditions during the project, information taken from the buoy consists of wave height and period, wind direction and speed, air and water surface temperature, and barometric pressure.

Significant wave heights ( $H_s$ ) and the periods associated with the spectral peak ( $T_p$ ) are presented in Figures 2.30 and 2.31, respectively. Figure 2.30 shows highest waves (approximately 1 m) were experienced during 21-23 August (Julian Days 233-235); thereafter, the sea was relatively calm for the remainder of the operating period with wave heights averaging 0.3 m.

Wind speed and direction were measured from an anemometer on the buoy at an approximate elevation of 5 m. Figure 2.32 shows peak wind speed of approximately 7 m/sec during the beginning of the cruise, corresponding with the period of peak wave heights, and averaging approximately 3 m/sec for the remainder of period on site. Figure 2.33 shows the wind was directed from the east and southeast during the period of maximum speed, changing to west and northwest directions during 25-28 August (Julian Days 236-240), then shifting from south to southwest direction towards the end of the cruise.

Figure 2.34 shows air temperatures ranged from 26 to 29 deg C, and sea surface water temperatures were slightly higher, averaging 28 to 32 deg C. Temperature gradually rose as the project proceeded. Atmospheric pressure at sea level was steady, varying between 1,014 to 1,017 mb.

Water elevations (Figure 2.35), given in feet, were obtained from a pressure-type tide gage mounted by the U.S. Army Engineer District, Mobile, on Exxon Well MO-112-1, located north of the monitoring operations (Figure 2.29). The water elevation reached a maximum of 2.6 ft mllw on 22 August (Julian Day 234), when wave heights were greatest, and a minimum of 0.4 ft mllw on 25 August (Julian Day 237). The mean water surface elevation was approximately 1.6 ft. Maximum fluctuation of the water elevation (2.1 ft), occurred on 25 August (Julian Day 237), and a minimum fluctuation of 0.5 ft occurred on 1 September (Julian Day 244).



Figure 2.36 presents the water level measurements of the tide gage at Exxon Well MO-112-1, corrected to meters with reference to the Julian Date (local time). These water level data were smoothed with a 3-hr low-pass convolution filter. Predicted high and low tide levels, connected by a cubic spline fit curve, for Station No. 3665, Fort Gaines, Mobile Bay Entrance at 30°15' N 88°04' W (NOAA 1989b) are superimposed for comparison. A 0.2-m adjustment was added to predicted water levels to match the predicted mean level with the measured mean level. The comparison shows that measured water level variations departed little from predicted tides. This conformance to predictions indicates that the astronomical tractive force, on which the predictions are based, was the only significant force controlling water level during the field measurements.

Figure 2.37 presents the auto-spectrum of the measured water levels, band averaged over each four adjacent frequency bands. The spectrum shows significant peaks at the principle diurnal (K1) and semidiurnal (M2) tidal frequencies. No energy peaks are discernible at lower frequencies, and energy levels at higher frequencies are not significant. This frequency domain treatment of the measured water levels supports the observation that only astronomical forces had significant effect on water levels during the field measurements offshore of Mobile Bay.

Current velocities during the project operating period were calculated using data obtained from a combined pressure gage (P) and two-component (u,v) current meter mounted on a steel frame and located southeast of the feeder berm (Figure 2.29). The Puv gage was deployed by the Dredging Research Program in June 1989 in a depth of 20 ft to monitor directional wave and current velocity characteristics in the outer boundary of the stable berm. Data were collected for 17 min at 6-hr intervals. Figure 2.38 shows an average current velocity of 0.09 m/sec at the beginning of the project and increasing to a maximum current velocity of 0.35 m/sec during the period 24-28 August (Julian Days 236-240). For the remainder of the project operating period, current velocities decreased to an average of approximately 0.10 m/sec.

Average current directions were calculated from the Puv data by taking the average of instantaneous current directions. Figure 2.39 shows that average current direction during the project was directed from a south-to-southeast direction during the beginning of the cruise, shifting to a southwest direction during the period of maximum current velocities (Julian Days 236-240). Thereafter, current directions shifted to the predominantly northeast direction for the remainder of the project period.

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Fofonoff, N. P. 1969. "Spectral Characteristics of Internal Waves in the Ocean," *Deep Sea Research*, Vol. 16, Suppl., pp. 59-71.

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National Weather Service. 1989. "Oceanographic Monthly Summary, August, 1989," Vol. IX, No. 8, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C.

Table 2.1

## Percent Occurrence for the Top and Middle Current Records

Speed cm/sec		Direction, deg True North																		Total									
		Top Meter																											
		0- 20	20- 40	40- 60	60- 80	80- 100	100- 120	120- 140	140- 160	160- 180	180- 200	200- 220	220- 240	240- 260	260- 280	280- 300	300- 320	320- 340	340- 360										
0 - 5	0.33	0.09	0.14	0.07	0.24	0.26	0.26	0.65	0.67	0.87	0.77	0.99	1.02	0.82	0.96	0.52	0.50	0.17	9.34										
5 - 10	0.29	0.37	0.23	0.19	0.40	1.02	0.82	1.03	1.58	3.54	1.51	0.72	0.86	1.12	1.58	1.12	0.76	0.66	17.79										
10 - 15	0.90	0.09	0.22	0.56	0.79	0.22	1.19	3.11	2.35	0.86	0.93	0.50	0.26	0.63	0.92	0.65	0.07	0.53	14.77										
15 - 20	0.72	0.17	0.00	0.72	0.72	0.63	1.76	2.38	2.54	1.15	0.72	0.69	0.17	0.62	0.37	0.13	0.13	0.52	14.13										
20 - 25	0.47	0.09	0.52	0.56	0.36	0.66	1.46	3.96	2.32	0.59	0.62	0.29	0.27	0.40	0.96	0.11	0.23	0.34	14.21										
25 - 30	0.03	0.00	0.00	1.38	0.43	1.51	2.52	3.21	1.48	0.11	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.56	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.57										
30 - 35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.37	0.39	2.41	5.46	0.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.69	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.14										
35 - 40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	1.52	2.60	0.82	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.33	0.01	0.00	0.00	5.45										
40 - 45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.29	0.30	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.39	0.99	0.00	0.00	1.98										
45 - 50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.49	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.52										
50 - 55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10										
55 - >	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00										
Total	2.74	0.80	1.10	3.89	5.13	9.60	14.31	15.13	10.94	7.13	4.56	3.20	2.60	4.91	6.48	3.56	1.69	2.22	100.00										
Speed cm/sec		Middle Meter																		Total									
		Middle Meter																											
		0- 5	5- 10	10- 15	15- 20	20- 25	25- 30	30- 35	35- 40	40- 45	45- 50	50- 55	55- >	0- 20	20- 40	40- 60	60- 80	80- 100	100- 120		120- 140	140- 160	160- 180	180- 200	200- 220	220- 240	240- 260	260- 280	280- 300
0 - 5	1.45	0.95	0.96	1.07	1.54	1.30	1.66	1.91	1.00	0.86	0.44	0.27	0.24	0.52	0.46	0.54	0.83	1.47	17.46										
5 - 10	1.63	0.50	0.44	0.74	2.53	4.03	4.34	4.91	3.62	1.23	0.30	0.13	0.04	0.90	0.85	1.20	1.07	1.78	30.24										
10 - 15	0.07	0.13	0.01	0.09	2.19	1.80	1.47	1.71	1.73	1.08	0.11	0.25	0.37	1.66	1.24	0.54	1.13	0.90	16.50										
15 - 20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.13	1.82	2.18	5.30	3.89	0.45	0.07	0.00	0.32	1.07	0.43	0.47	0.63	0.04	0.00	16.80										
20 - 25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.19	4.13	4.04	1.13	0.27	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.59	0.52	0.26	0.00	0.00	11.22										
25 - 30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.54	1.62	0.27	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.41	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.66										
30 - 35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.77	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.91										
35 - 40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.44										
40 - 45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.70	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.84										
45 - 50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.47	0.39	0.00	0.00	0.85										
50 - 55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08										
55 - >	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00										
Total	3.15	1.57	1.41	2.03	8.27	13.97	18.54	13.83	7.18	3.26	0.86	0.97	1.82	5.35	6.87	3.69	3.07	4.15	100.00										

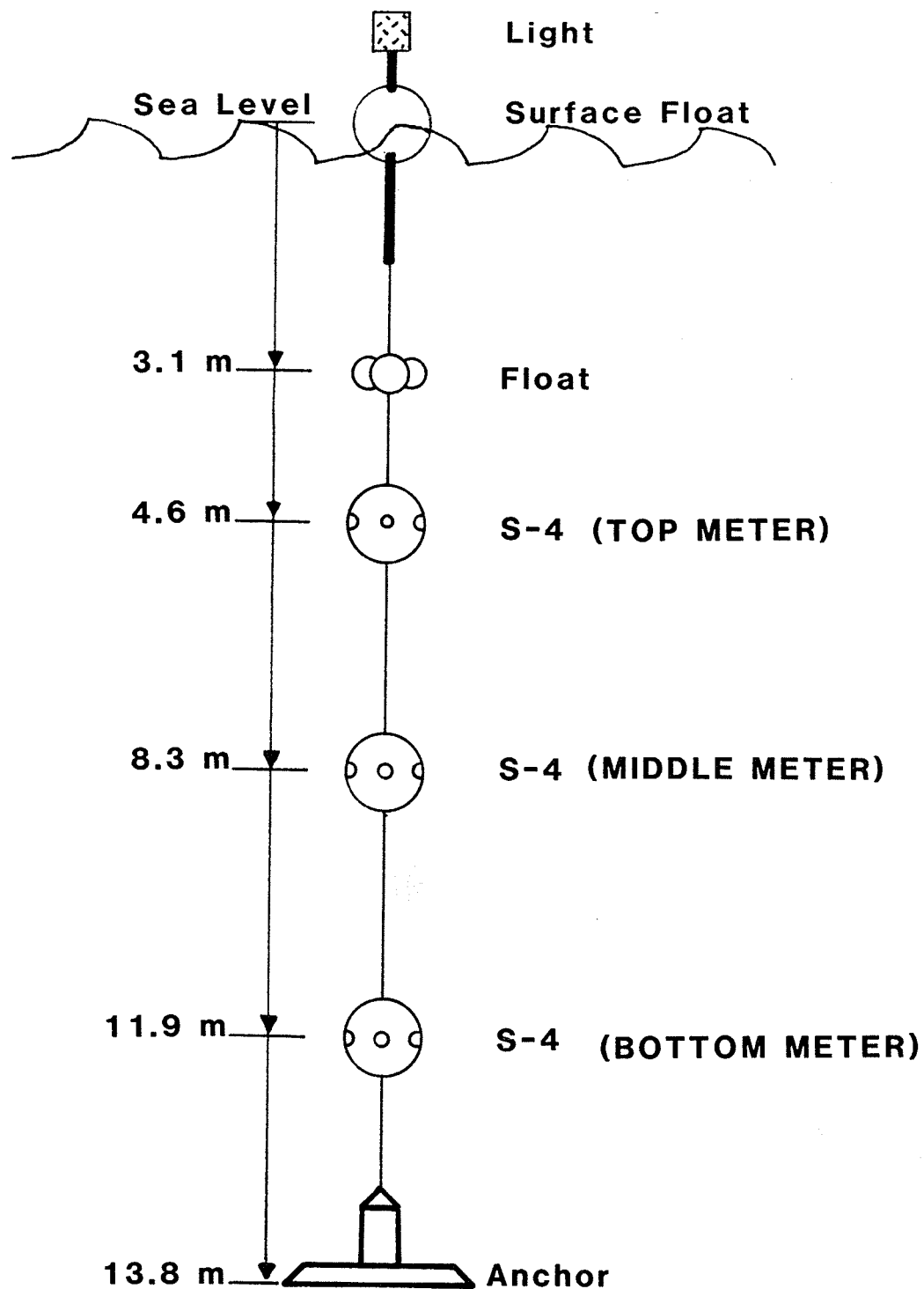


Figure 2.1. Schematic diagram of the vertical array current meter mooring near the site of the MFDCCP ship operations.

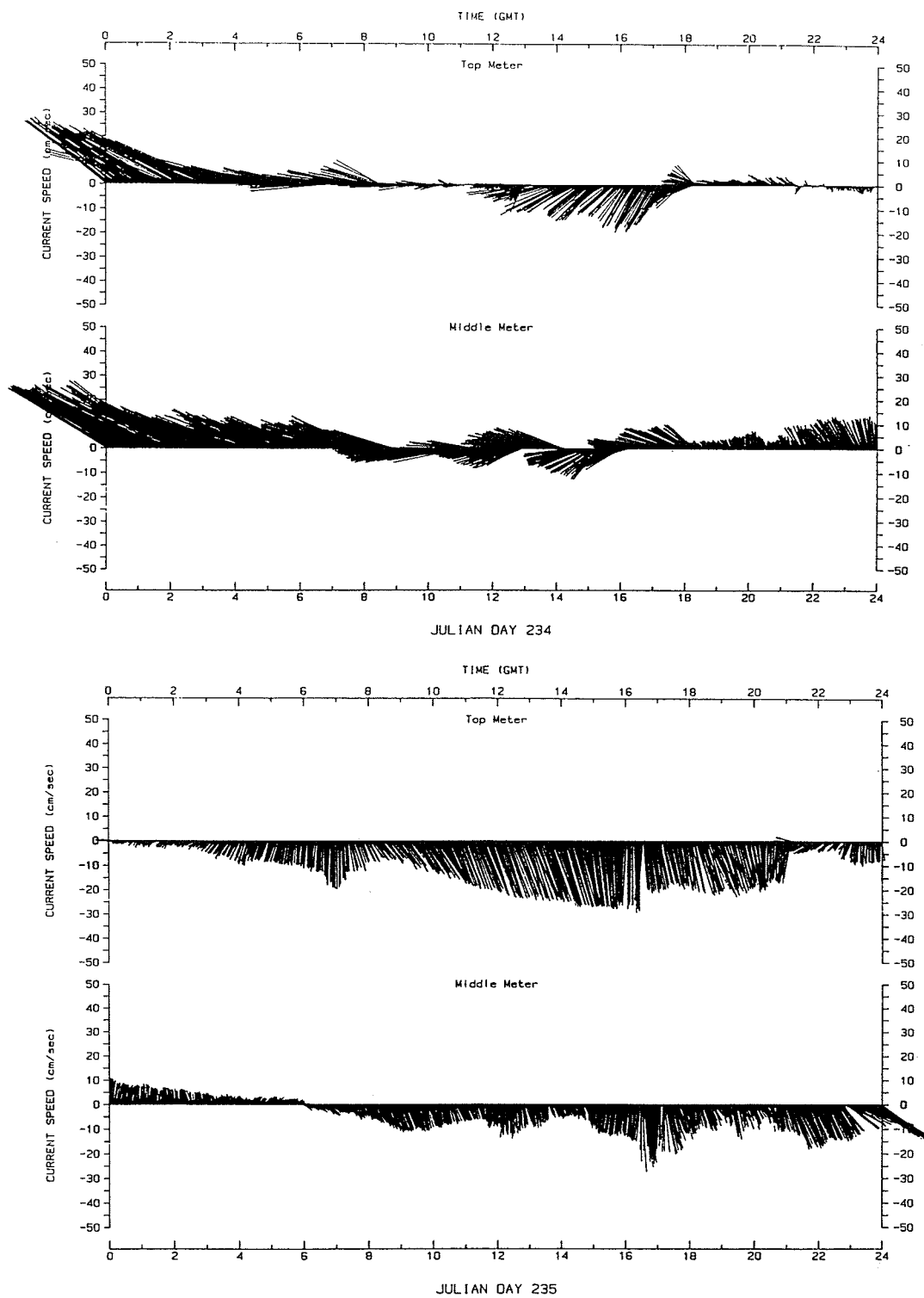


Figure 2.2. Vector plots of currents recorded by the top and middle meters for Julian Days 234 and 235.

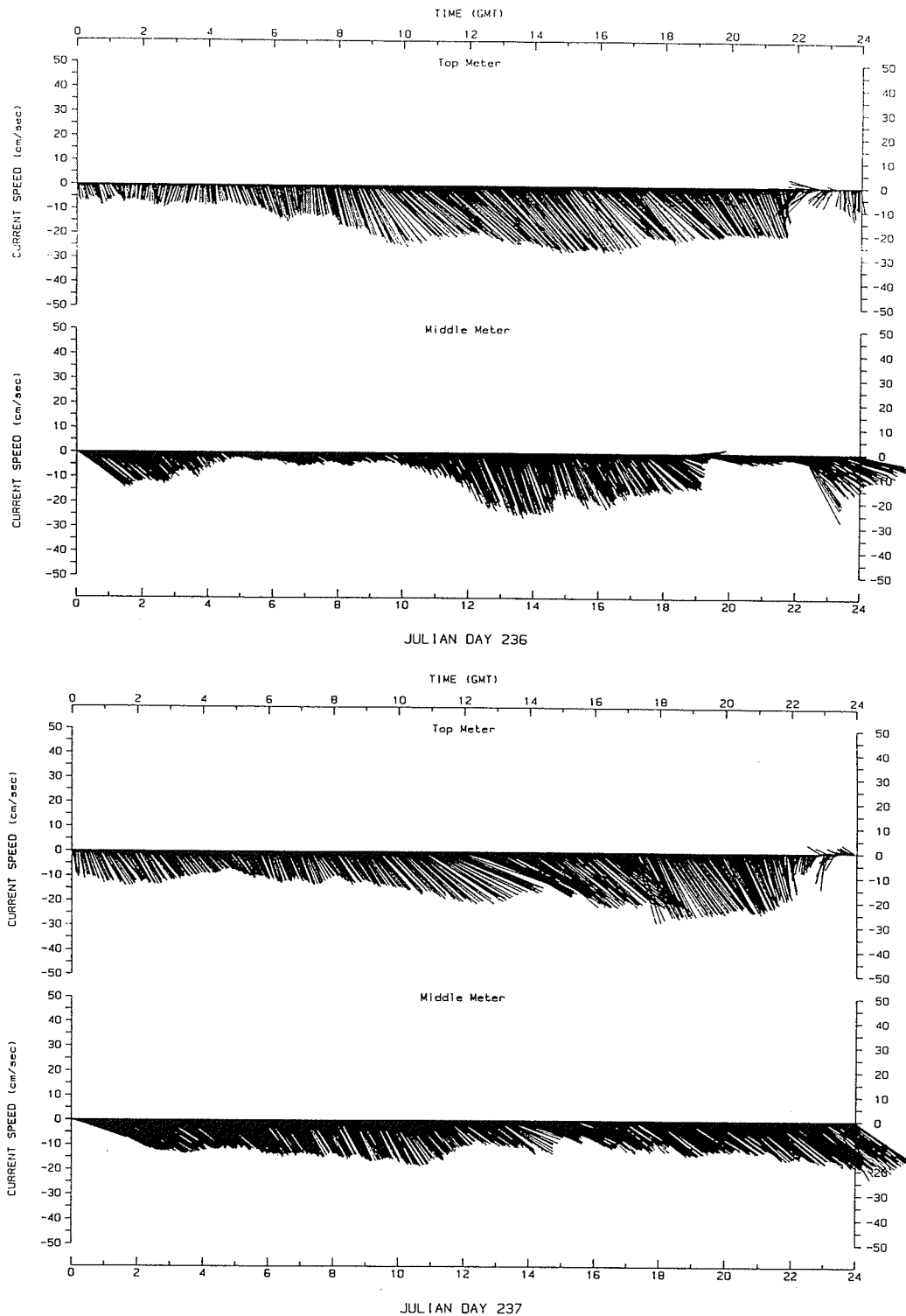


Figure 2.3. Vector plots of currents recorded by the top and middle meters for Julian Days 236 and 237.

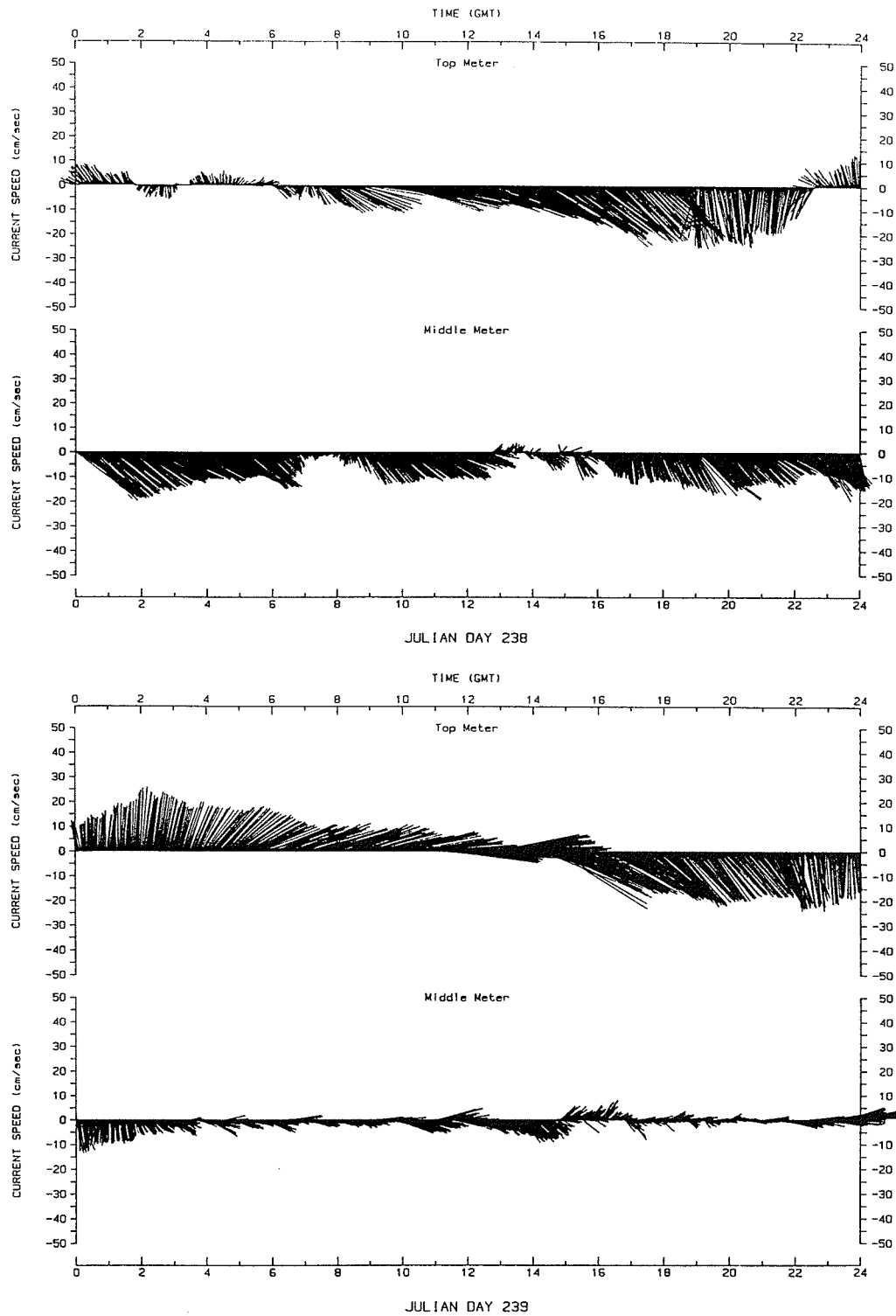


Figure 2.4. Vector plots of currents recorded by the top and middle meters for Julian Days 238 and 239.

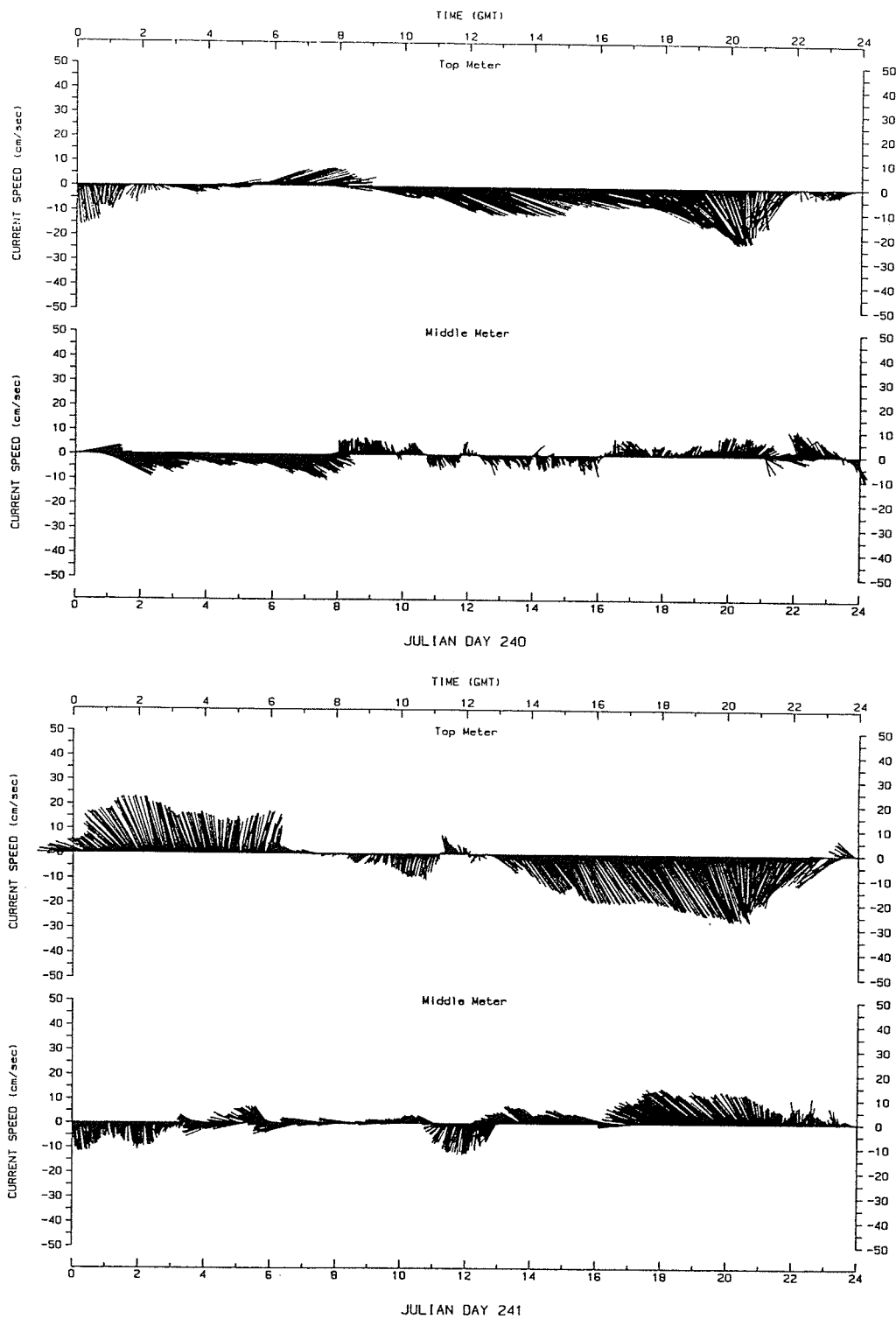


Figure 2.5. Vector plots of currents recorded by the top and middle meters for Julian Days 240 and 241.



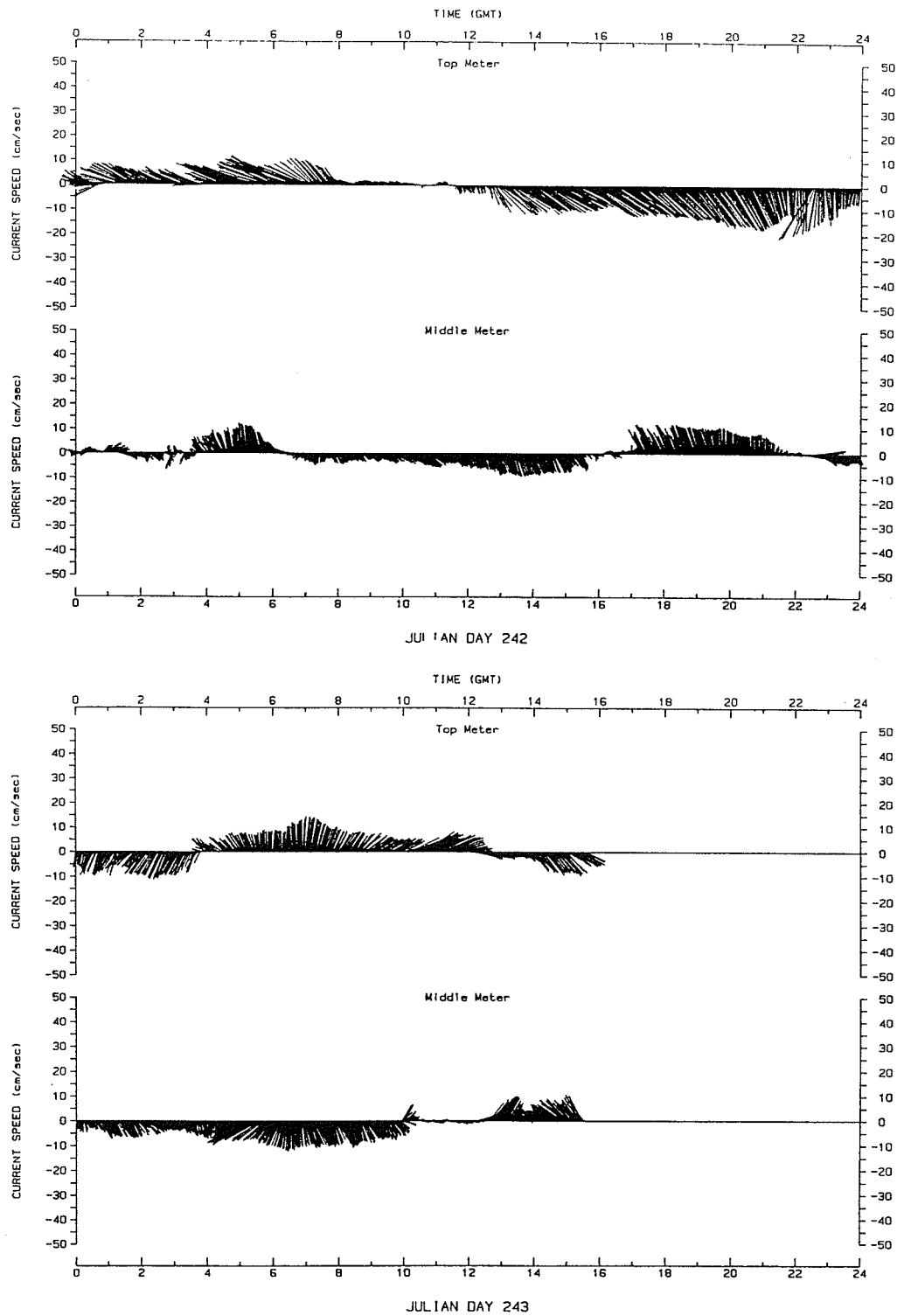


Figure 2.6. Vector plots of currents recorded by the top and middle meters for Julian Days 242 and 243.

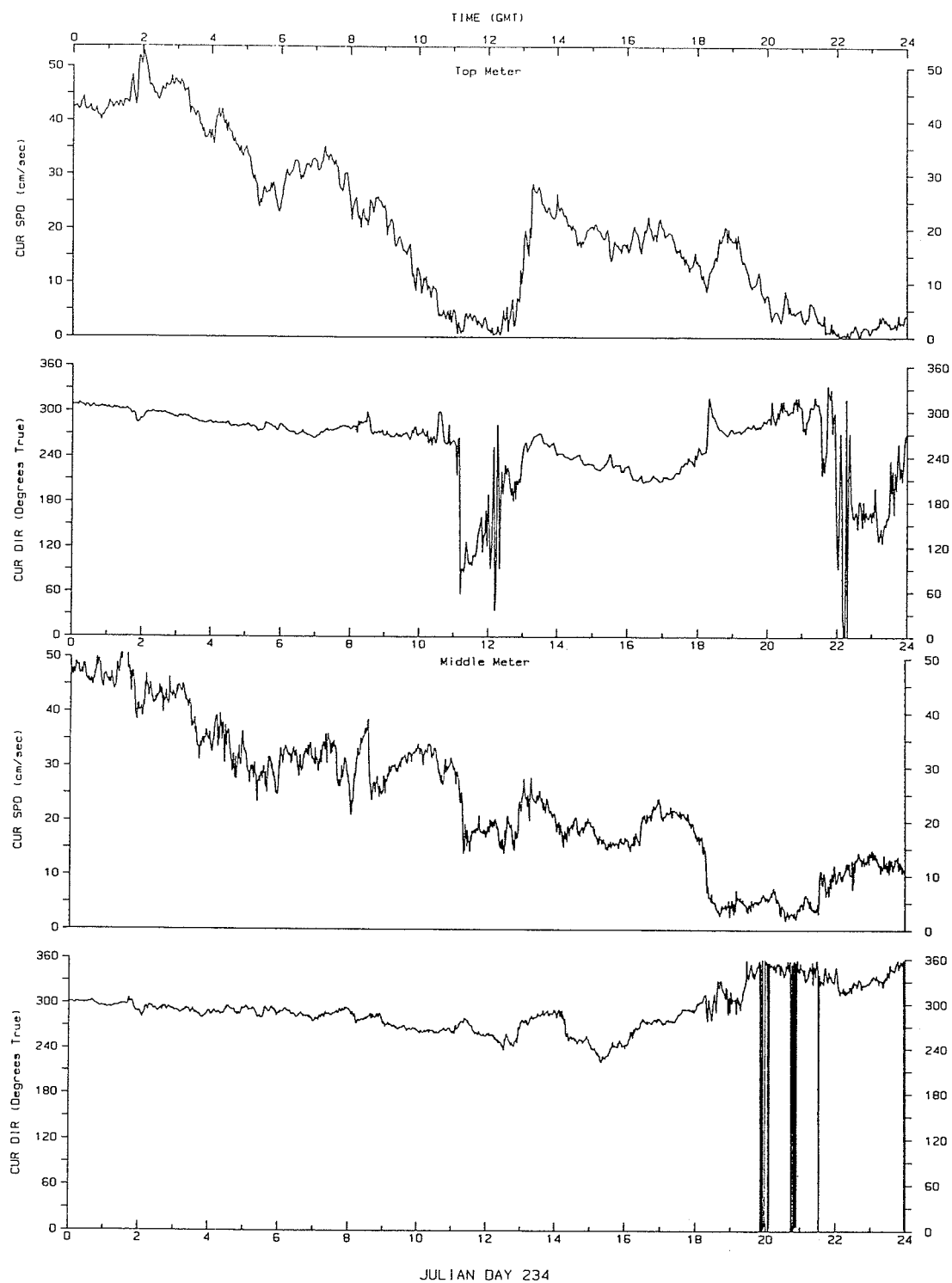


Figure 2.7. Time series of current speed and direction for the top and middle meter records for Julian Day 234.

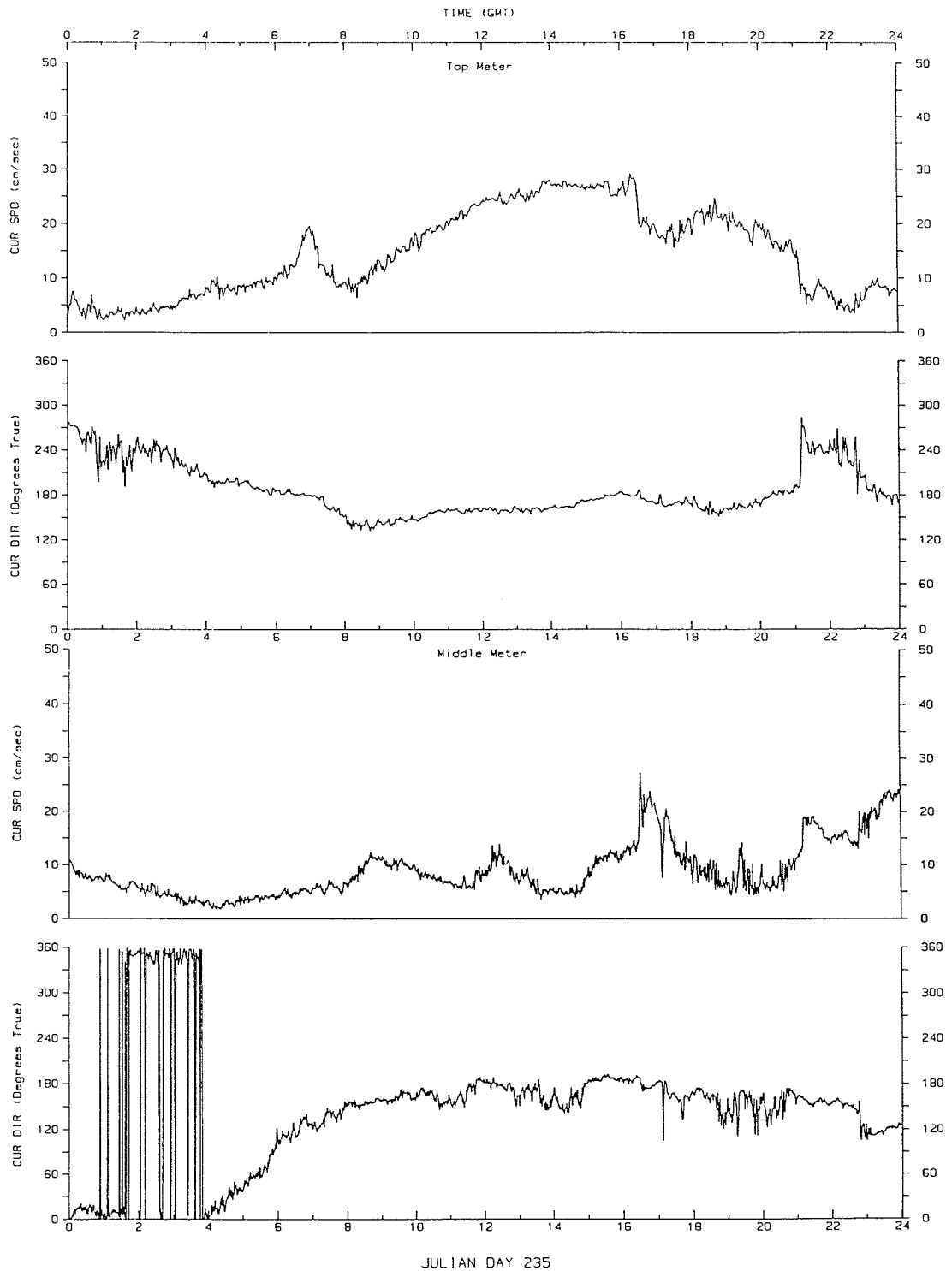


Figure 2.8. Time series of current speed and direction for the top and middle meter records for Julian Day 235.

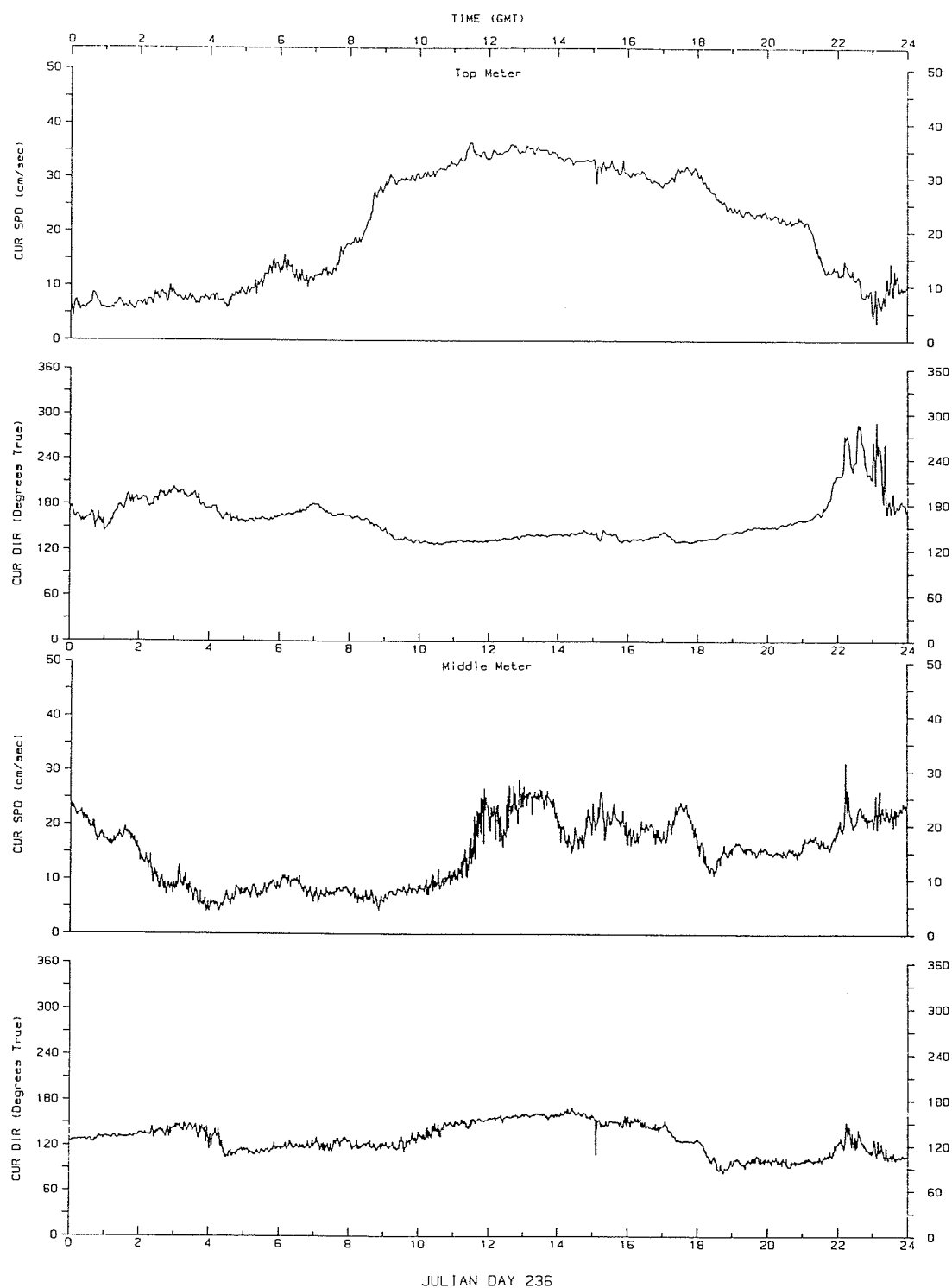


Figure 2.9. Time series of current speed and direction for the top and middle meter records for Julian Day 236.

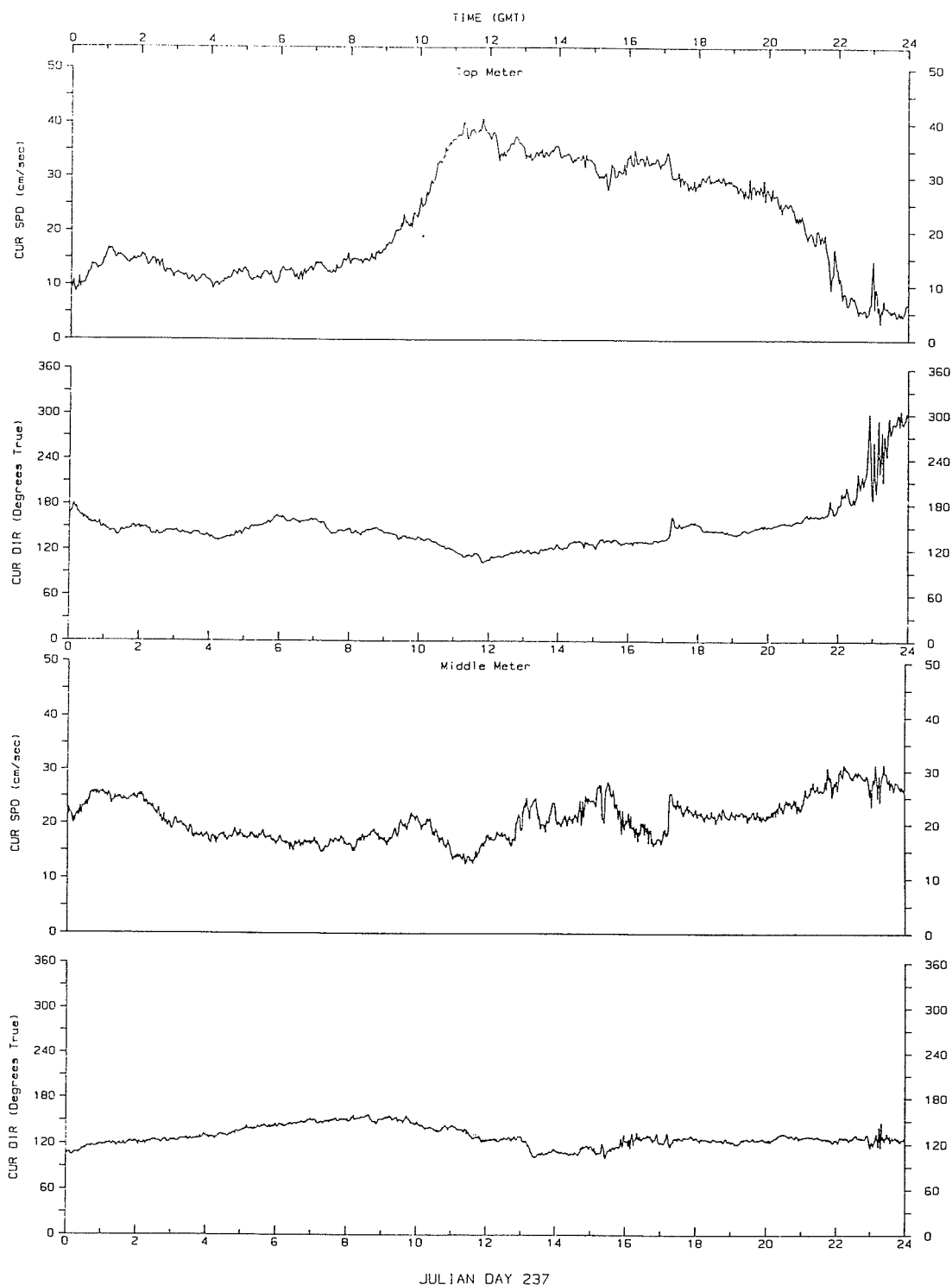


Figure 2.10. Time series of current speed and direction for the top and middle meter records for Julian Day 237.

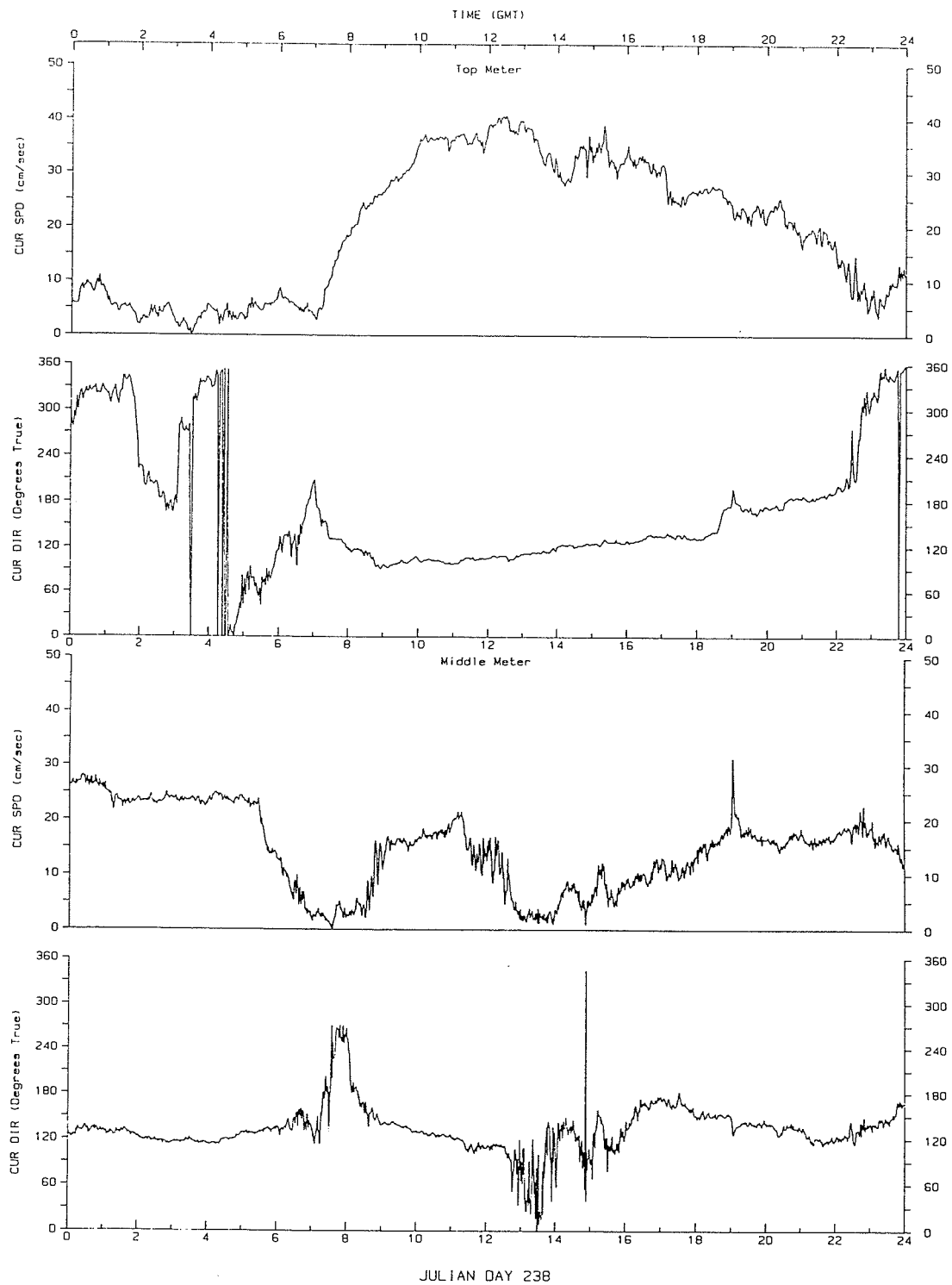


Figure 2.11. Time series of current speed and direction for the top and middle meter records for Julian Day 238.

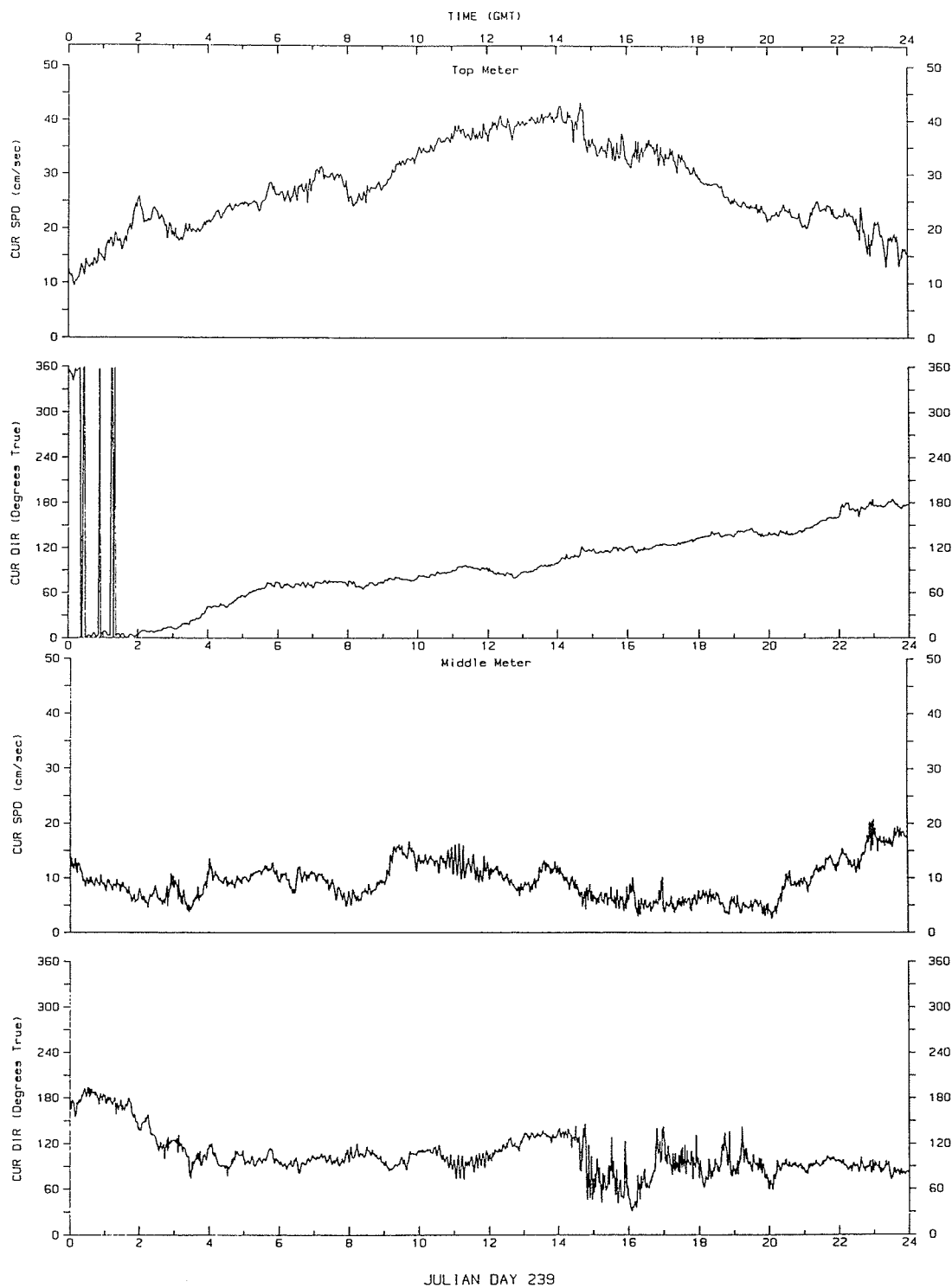


Figure 2.12. Time series of current speed and direction for the top and middle meter records for Julian Day 239.

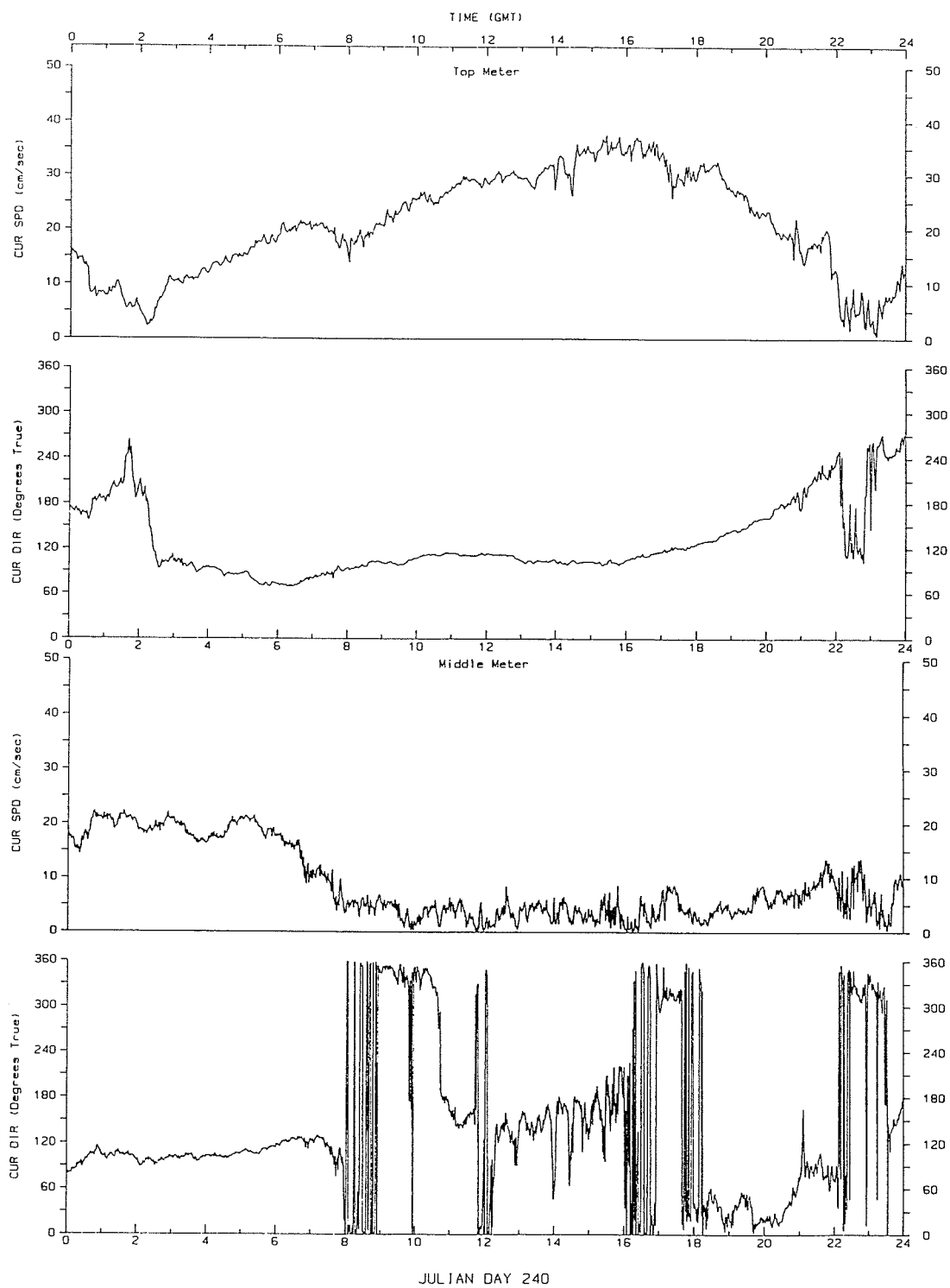


Figure 2.13. Time series of current speed and direction for the top and middle meter records for Julian Day 240.



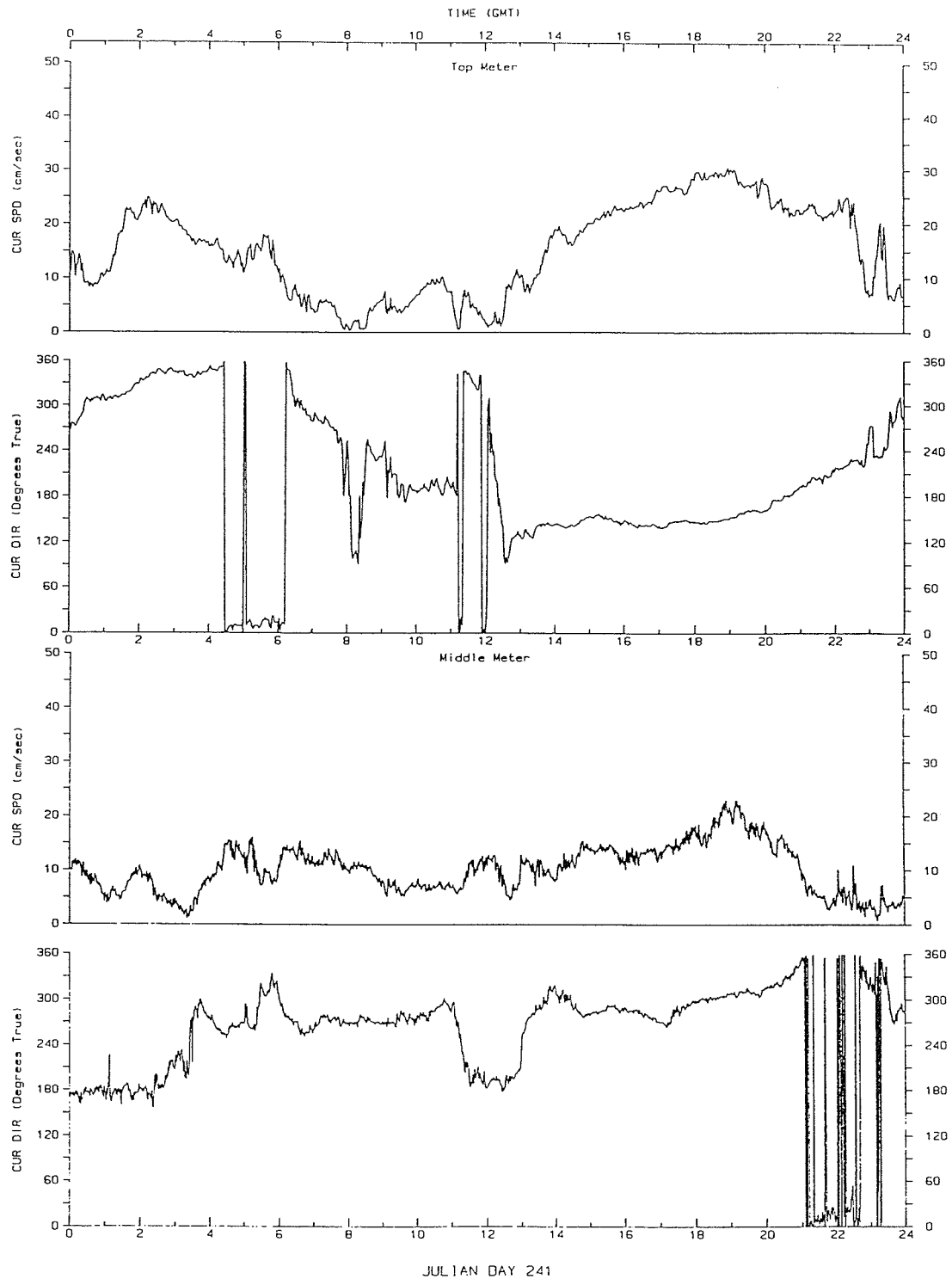


Figure 2.14. Time series of current speed and direction for the top and middle meter records for Julian Day 241.

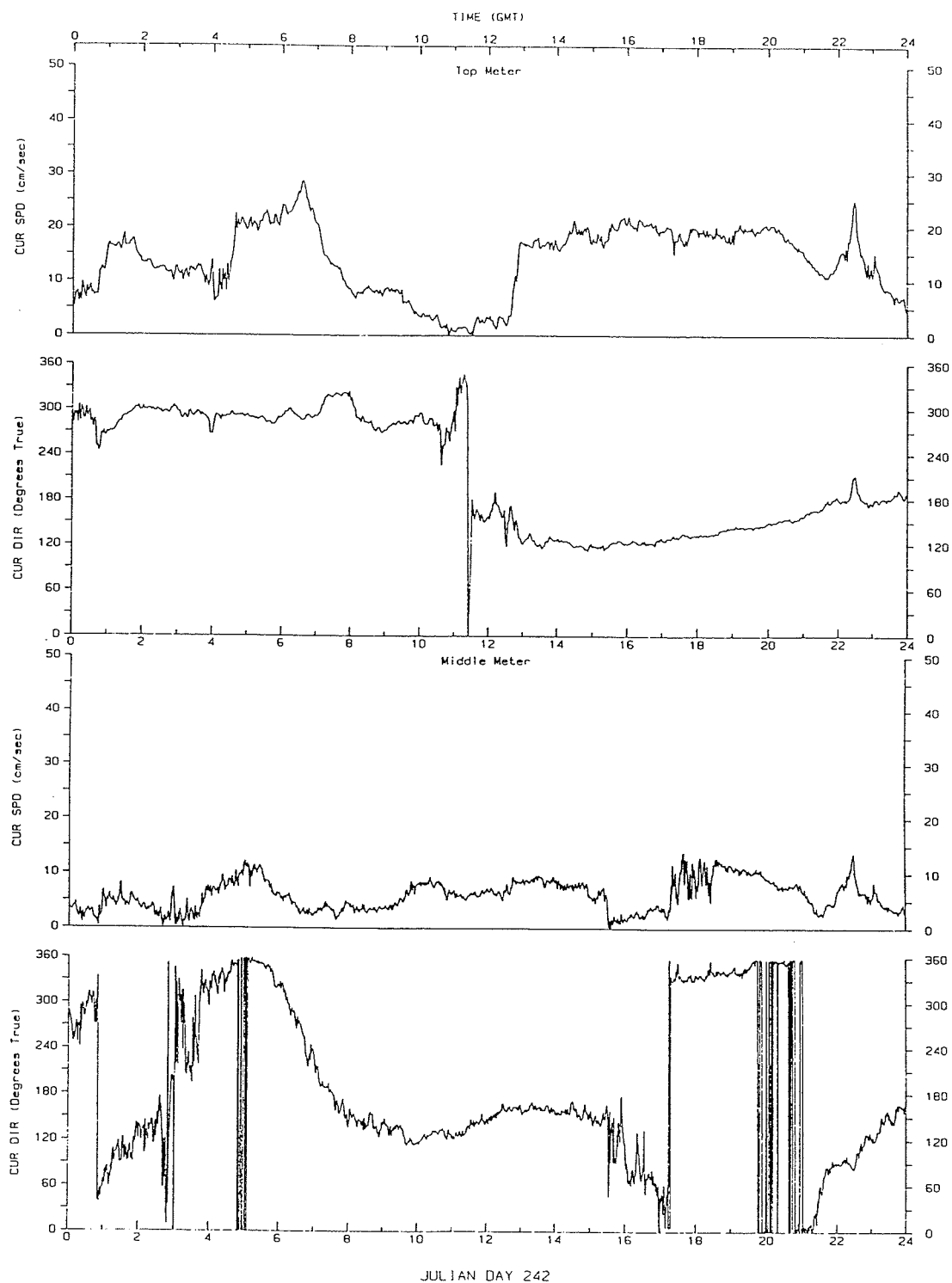


Figure 2.15. Time series of current speed and direction for the top and middle meter records for Julian Day 242.

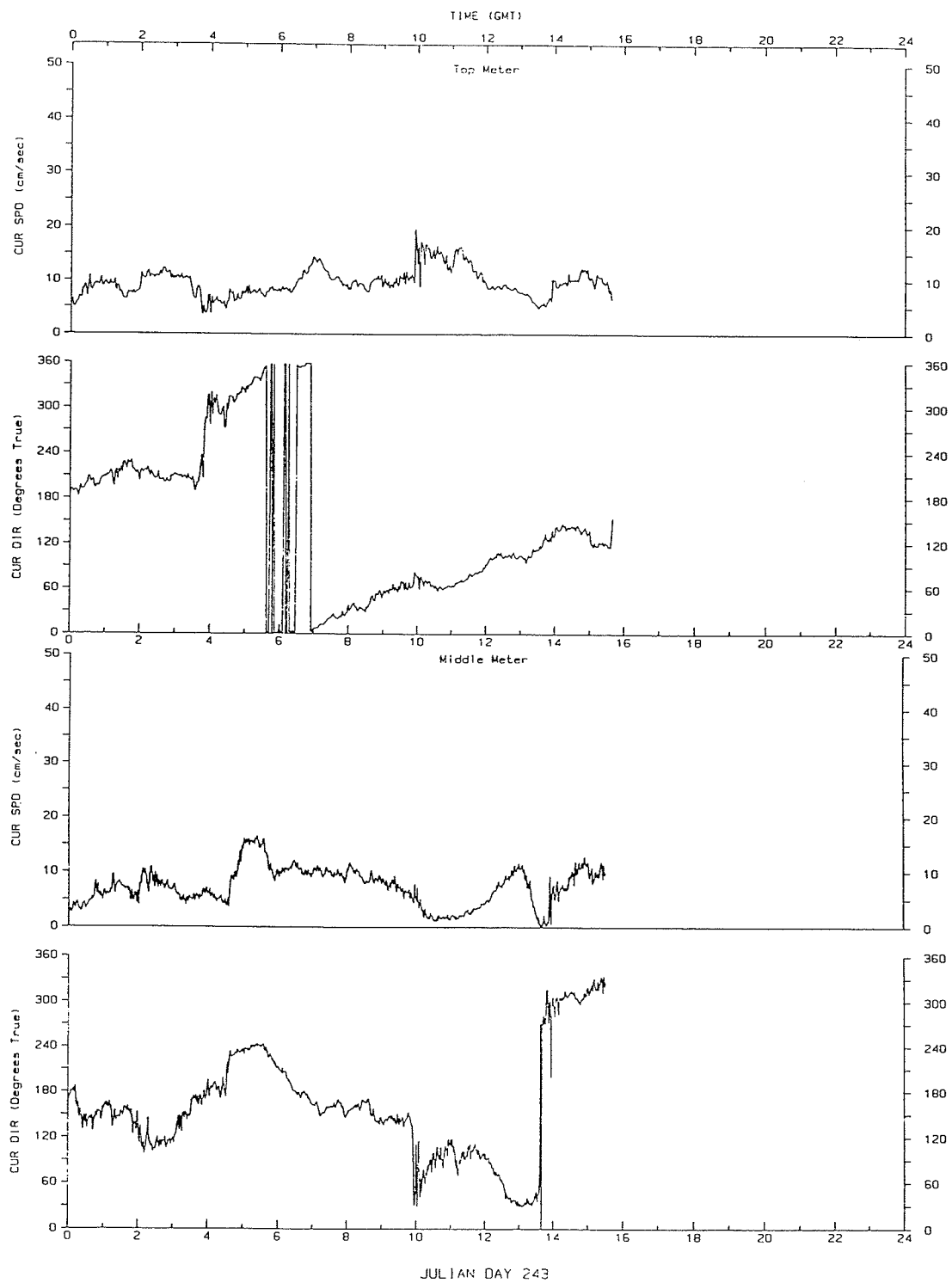


Figure 2.16. Time series of current speed and direction for the top and middle meter records for Julian Day 243.

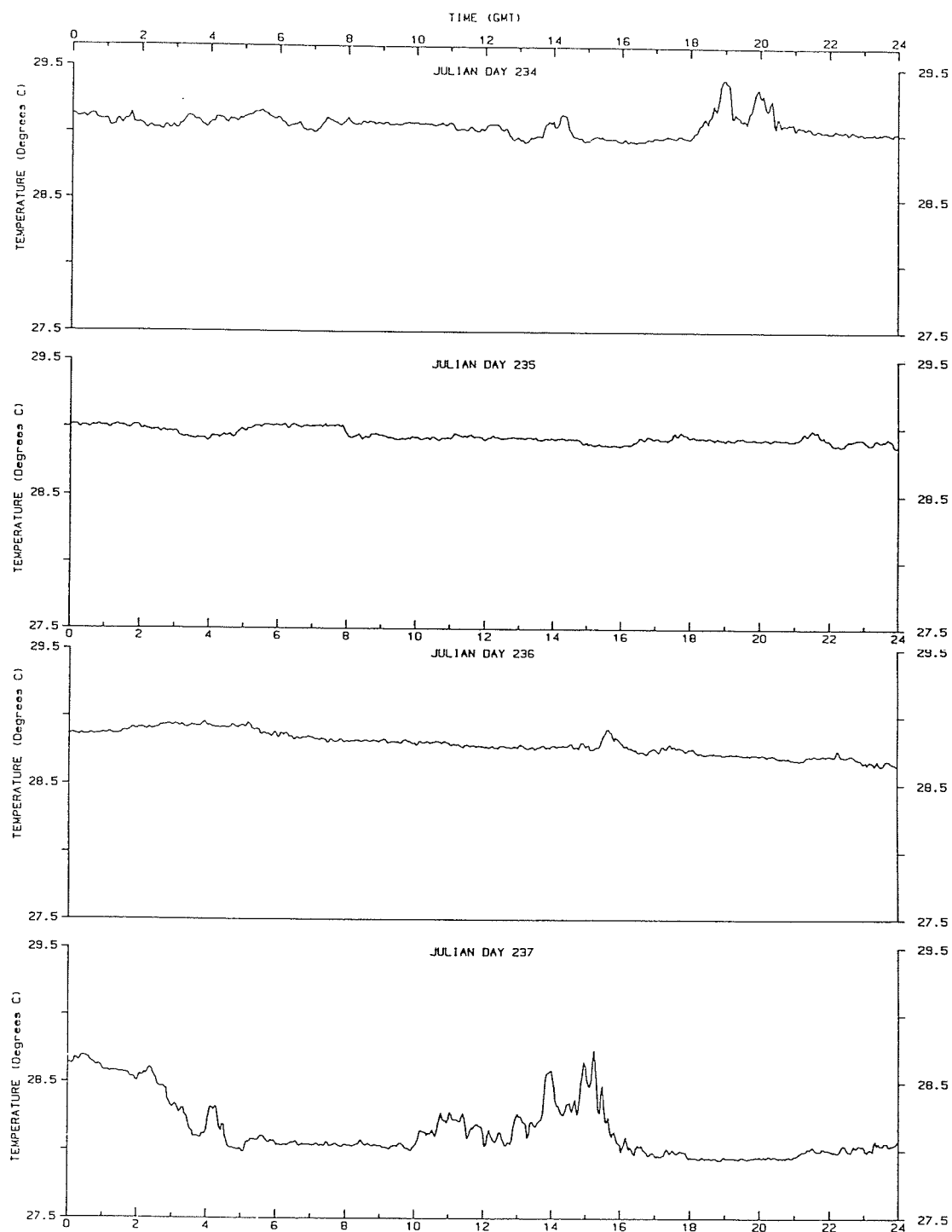


Figure 2.17. Time series of temperatures for the bottom meter record for Julian Days 234, 235, 236, and 237.

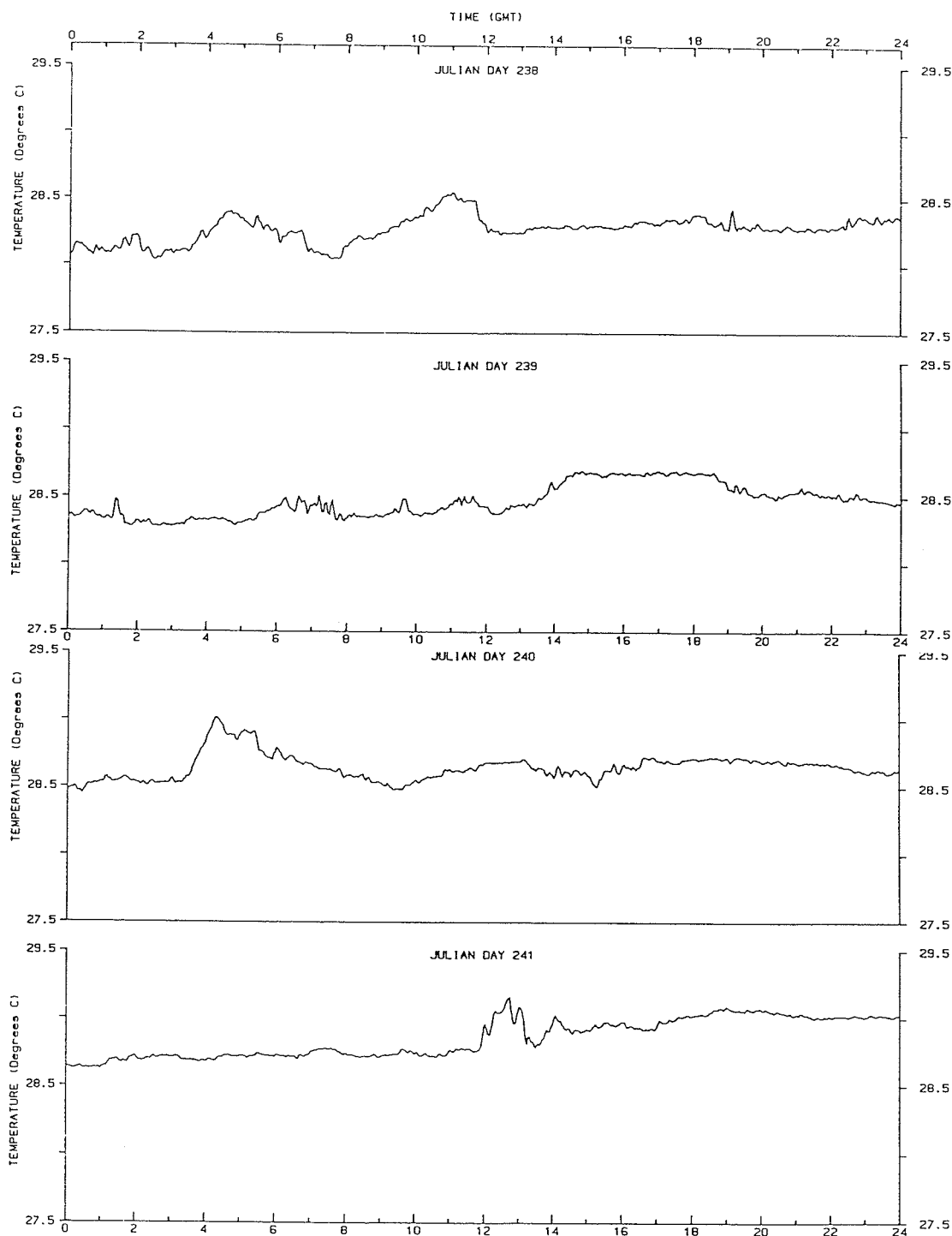


Figure 2.18. Time series of temperature for the bottom meter record for Julian Days 238, 239, 240, and 241.

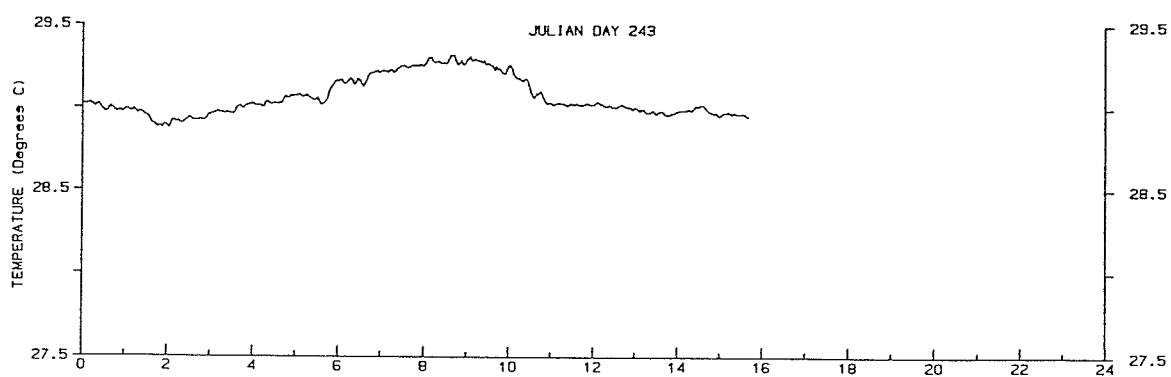
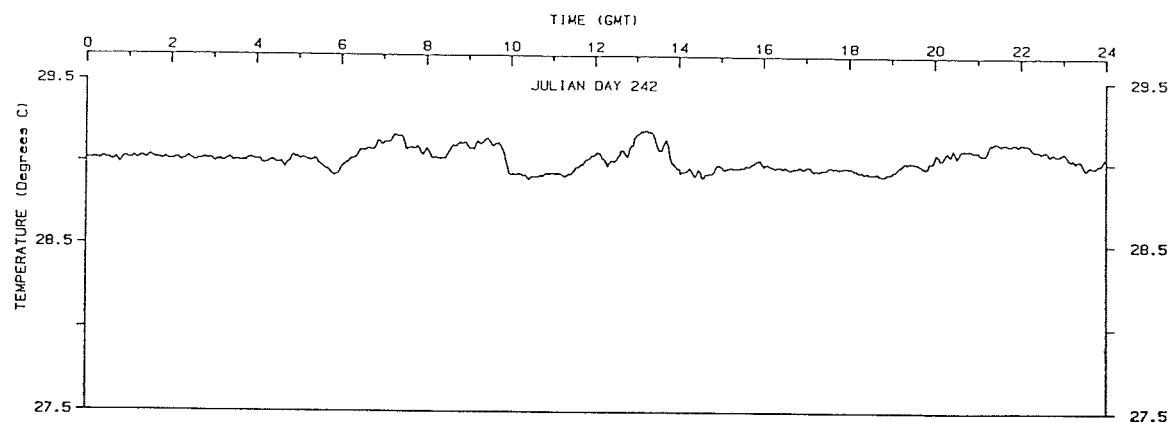
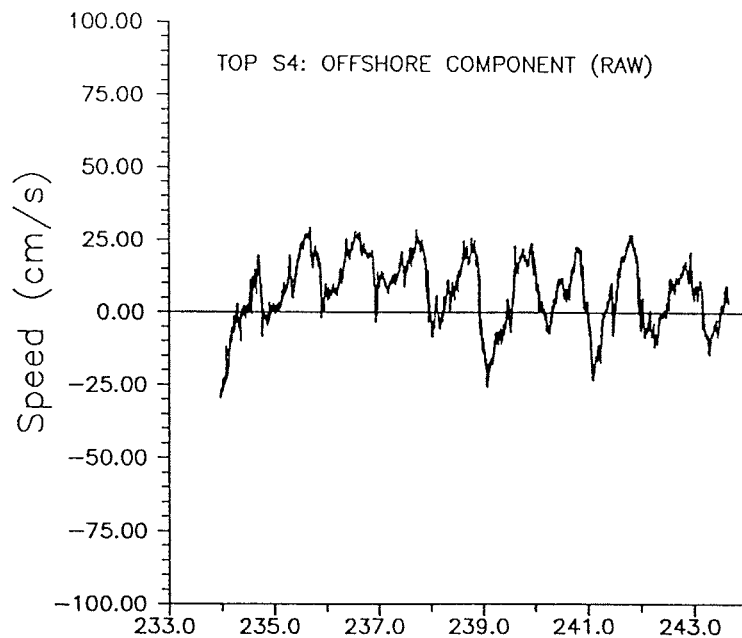
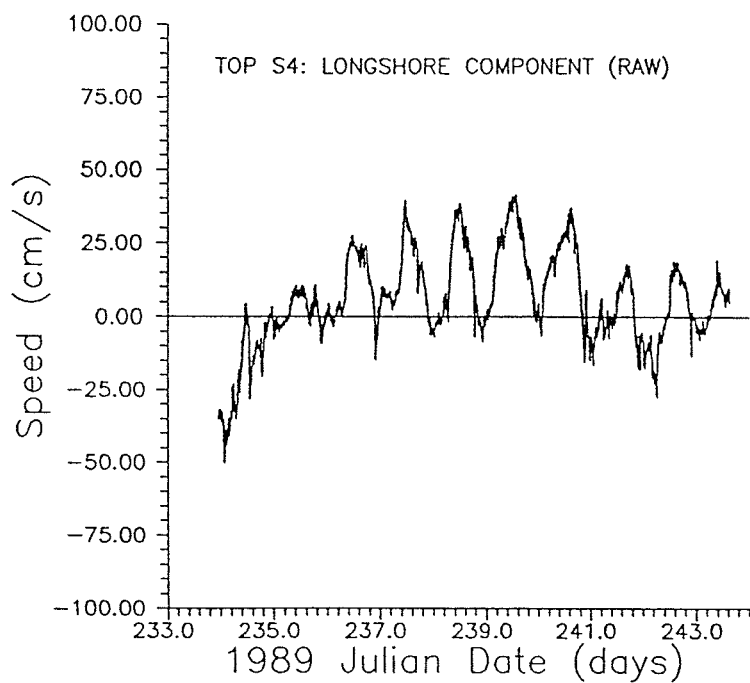


Figure 2.19. Time series of temperature for the bottom meter record for Julian Days 242 and 243.

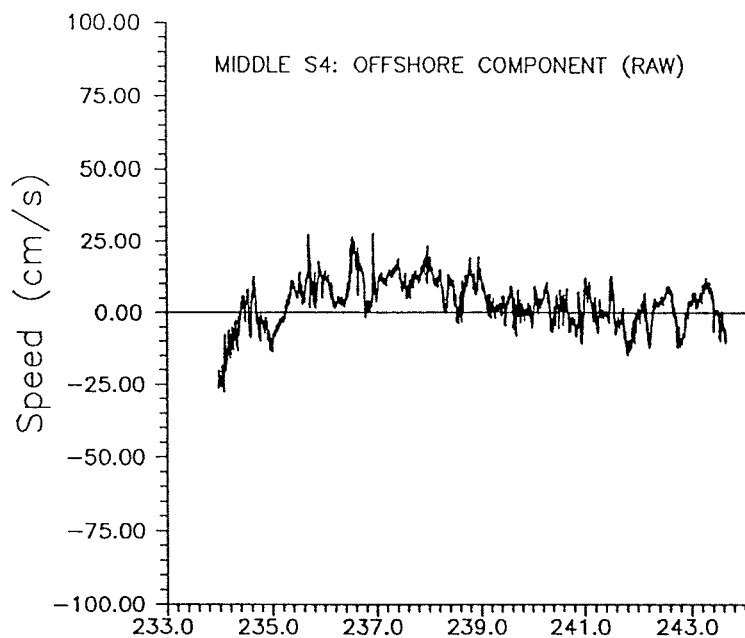


a. Cross-shore current.

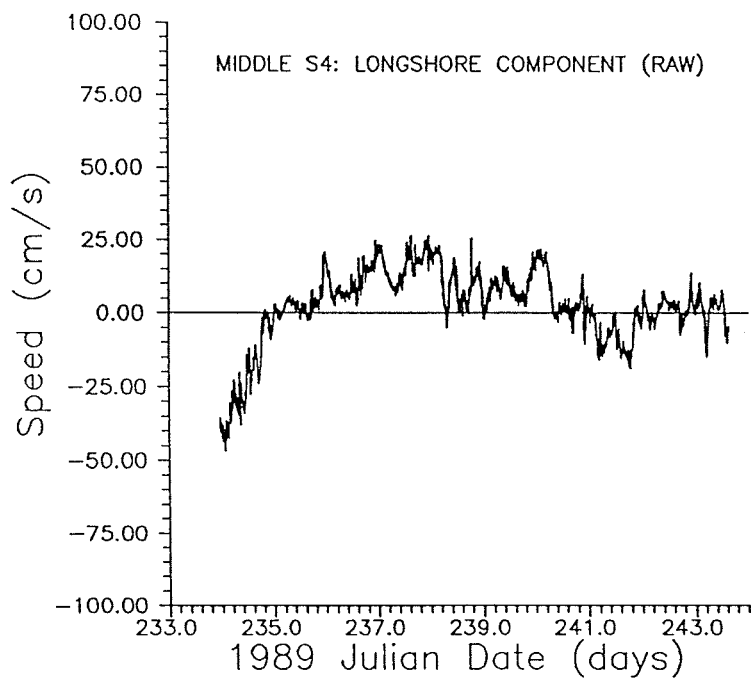


b. Longshore current.

Figure 2.20. Unfiltered time series of current components recorded by the top current meter.



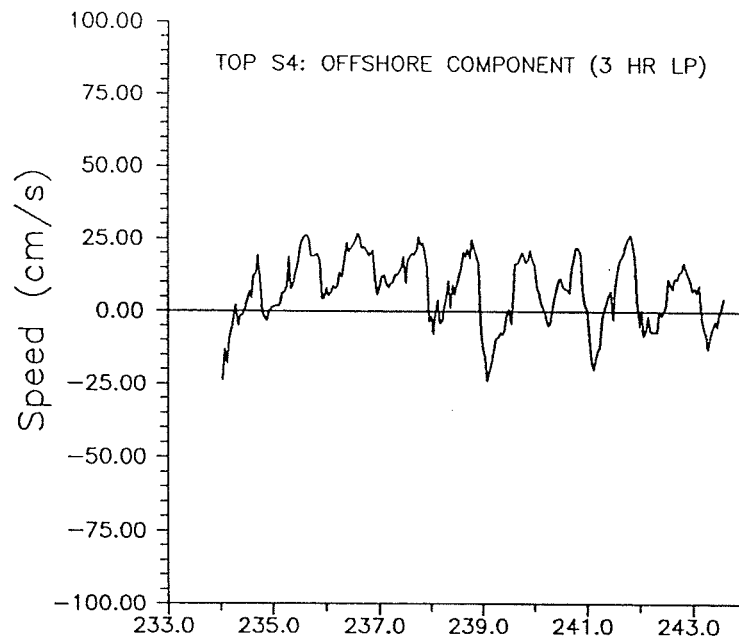
a. Cross-shore current.



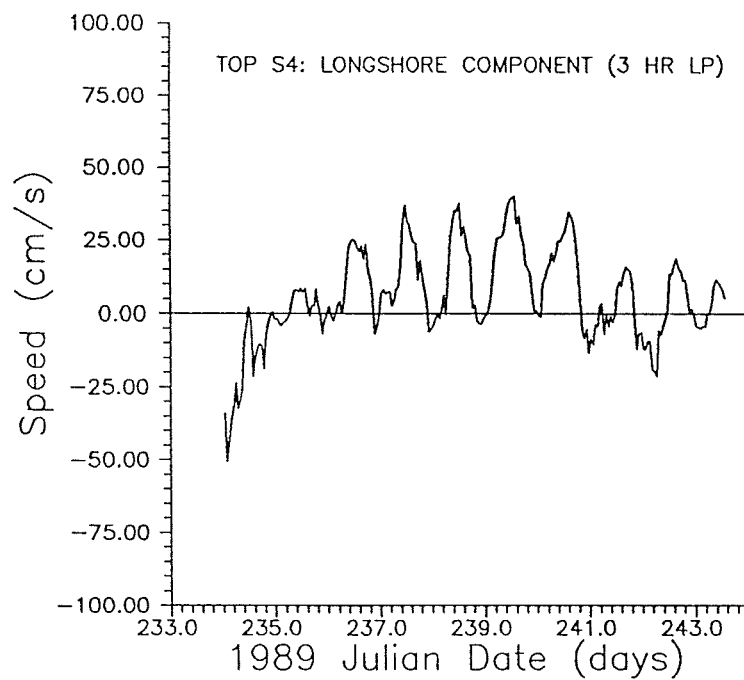
b. Longshore current.

Figure 2.21. Unfiltered time series of current components recorded by the middle current meter.



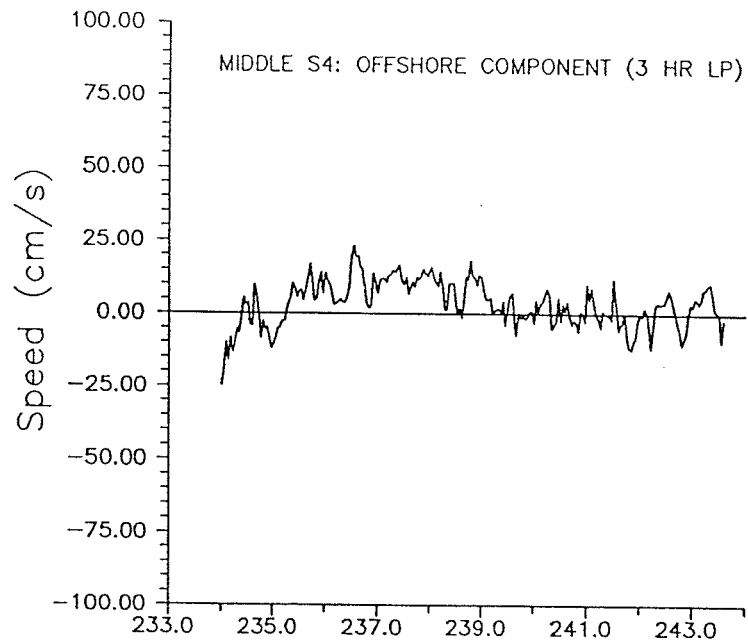


a. Cross-shore current.

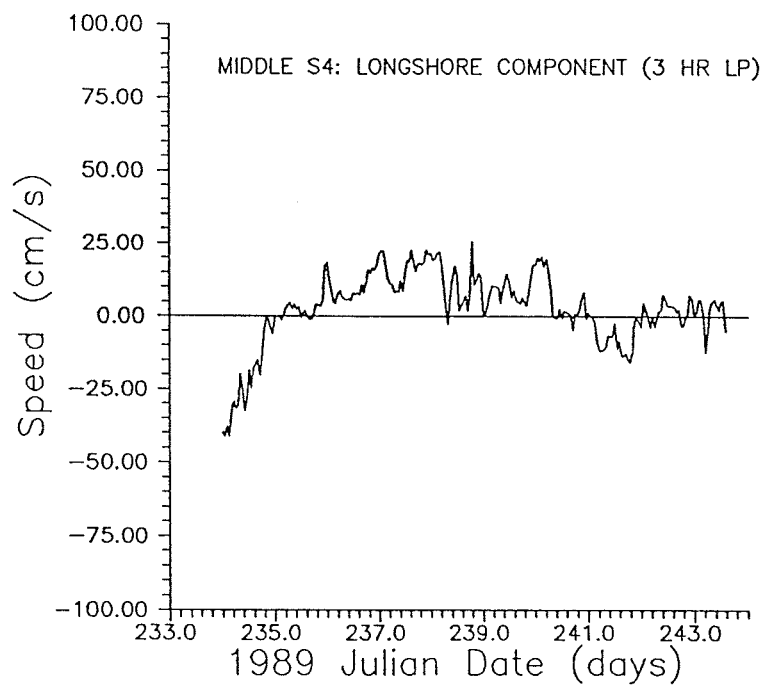


b. Longshore current.

Figure 2.22. Three-hour low-pass filtered time series current components recorded by the top current meter.

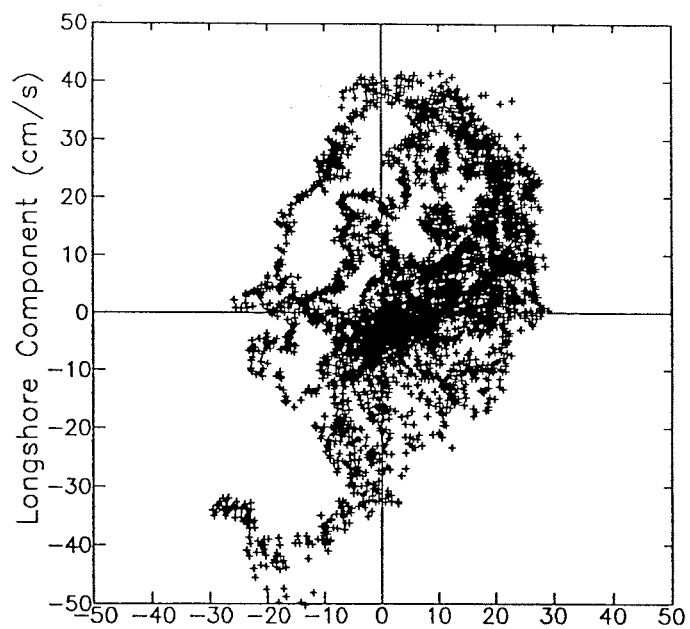


a. Cross-shore current.

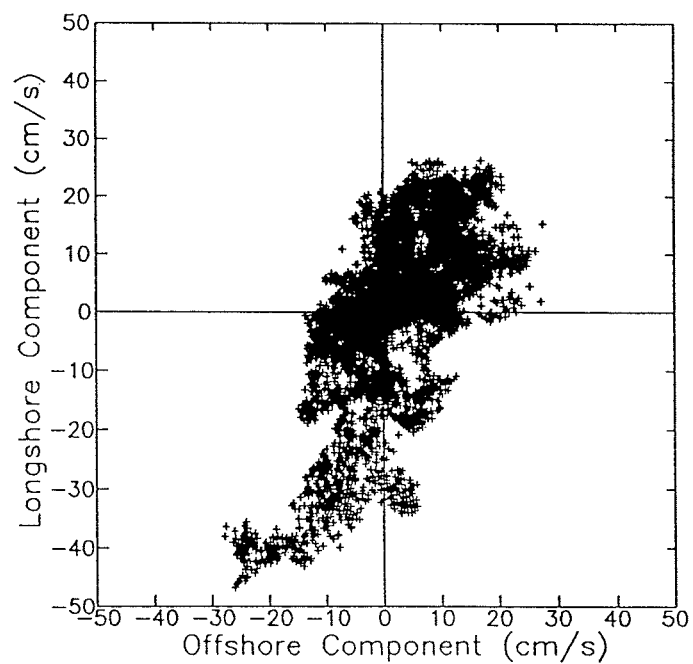


b. Longshore current.

Figure 2.23. Three-hour low-pass filtered time series of current components recorded by the middle current meter.

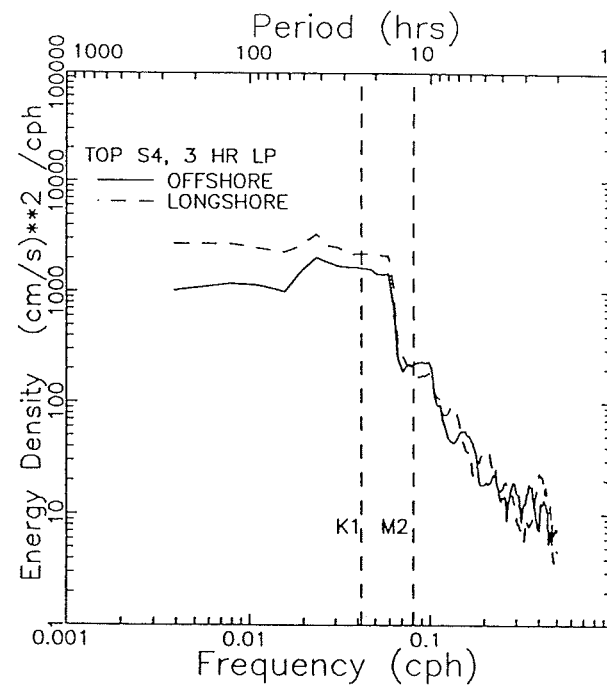


a. Top current meter.

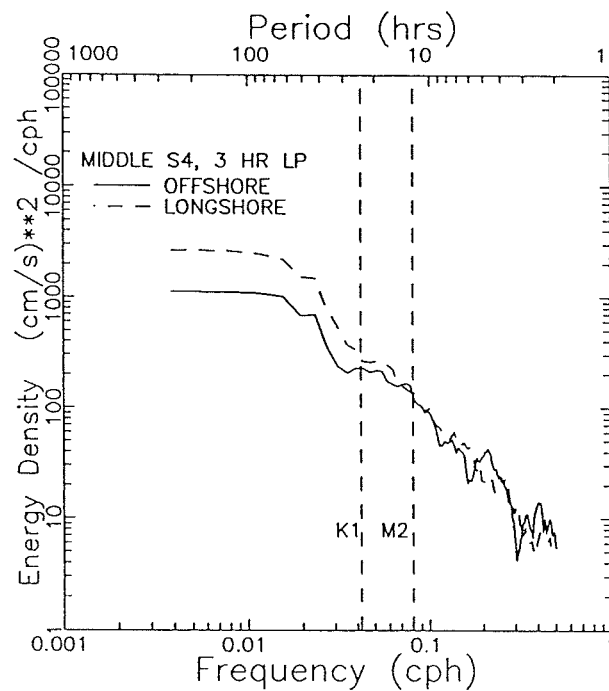


b. Middle current meter.

Figure 2.24. Scattergrams of unfiltered cross-shore versus longshore current components.

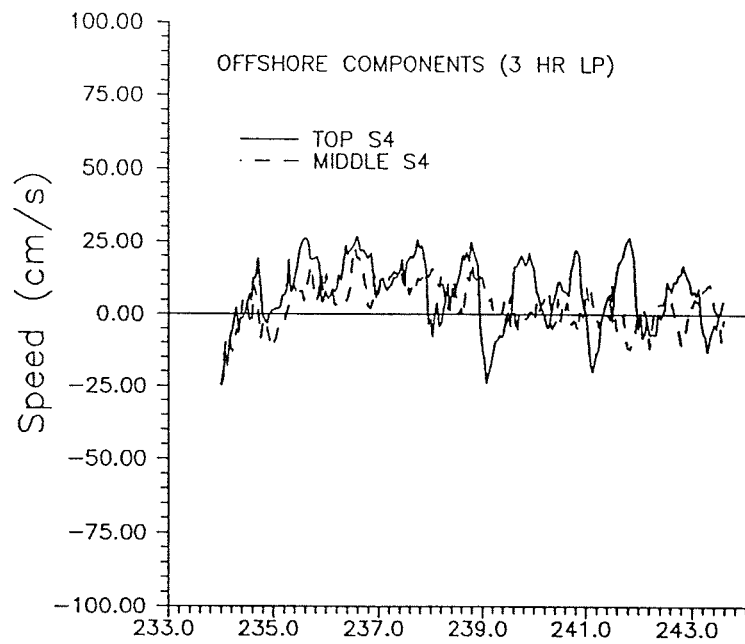


a. Top current meter.

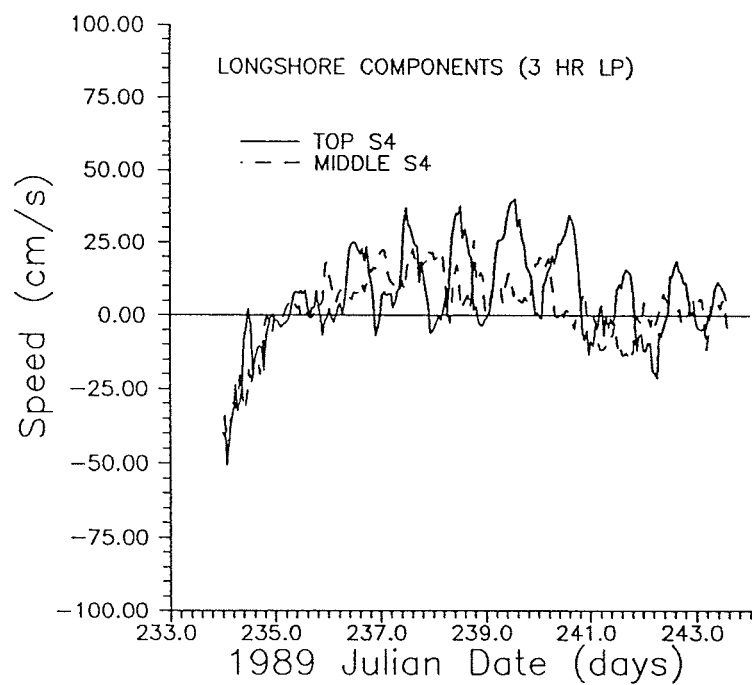


b. Middle current meter.

Figure 2.25. Auto-spectra of the cross-shore and longshore (positive eastward) current components.

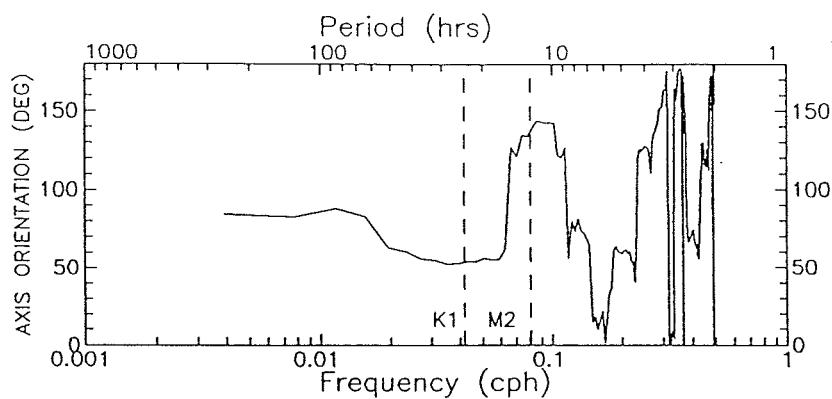


a. Top current meter.

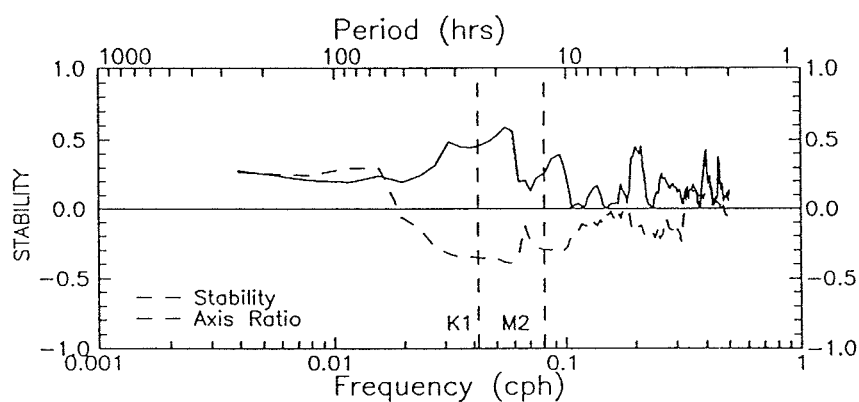


b. Middle current meter.

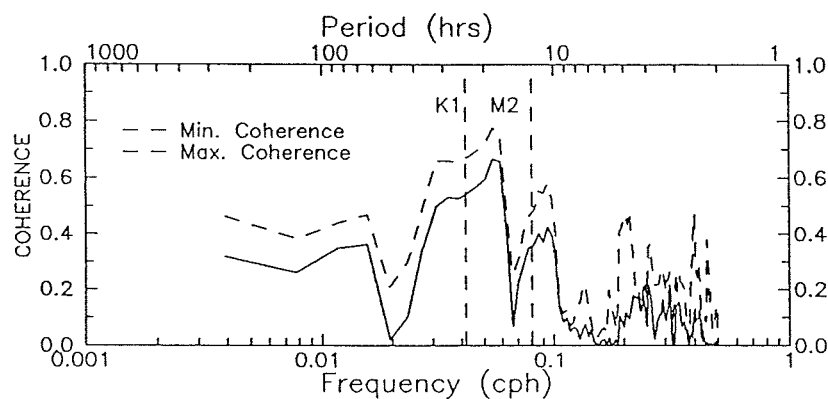
Figure 2.26. Superimposed time series recorded by the top and middle current meters.



a. Semimajor elliptical axis orientation as a function of frequency.

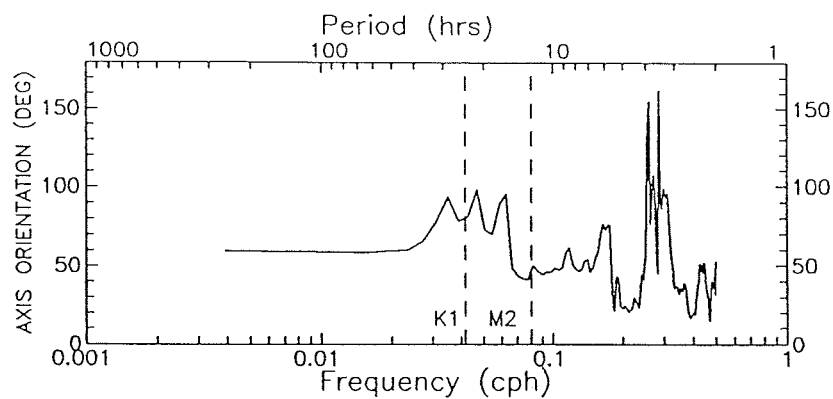


b. Stability (relative directionality) of the elliptical motion and ratio of minor to major axes ranging from (0) rectilinear to (1) circular motion.

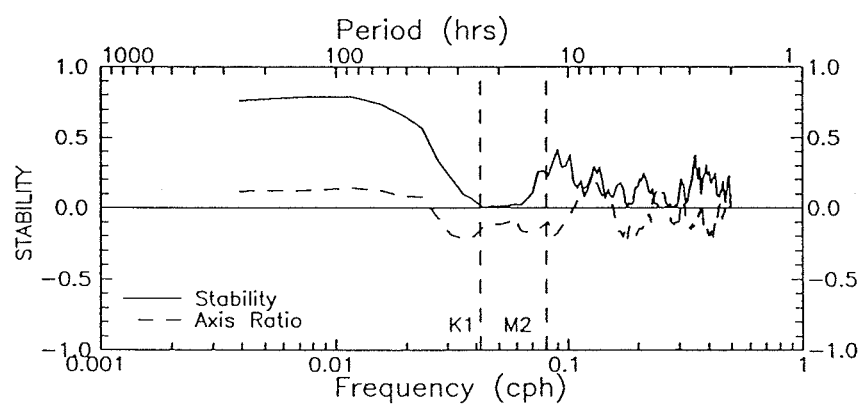


c. Maximum and minimum coherences of the rotary motion.

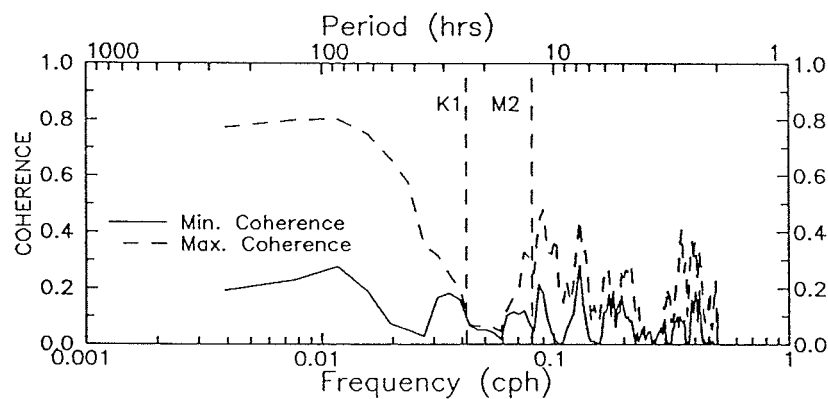
Figure 2.27. Rotary spectral characteristics for the top current meter.



a. Semimajor elliptical axis orientation as a function of frequency.



b. Stability (relative directionality) of the elliptical motion and ratio of minor to major axes ranging from (0) rectilinear to (1) circular motion.



c. Maximum and minimum coherences of the rotary motion.

Figure 2.28. Rotary spectral characteristics for the middle current meter.

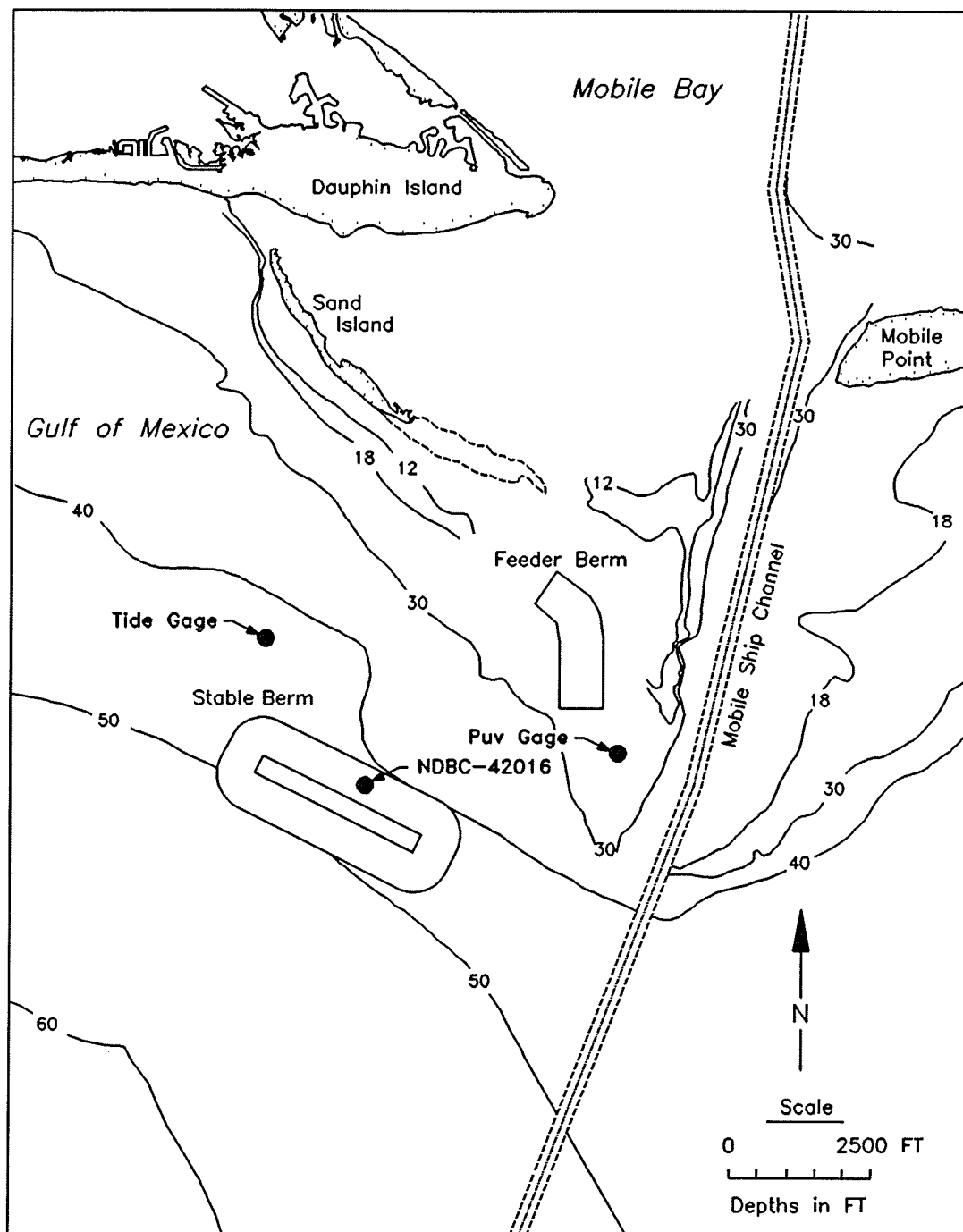


Figure 2.29. Locations of pitch-roll buoy NDBC-42016, tide gage and Puv gage off Mobile Bay.



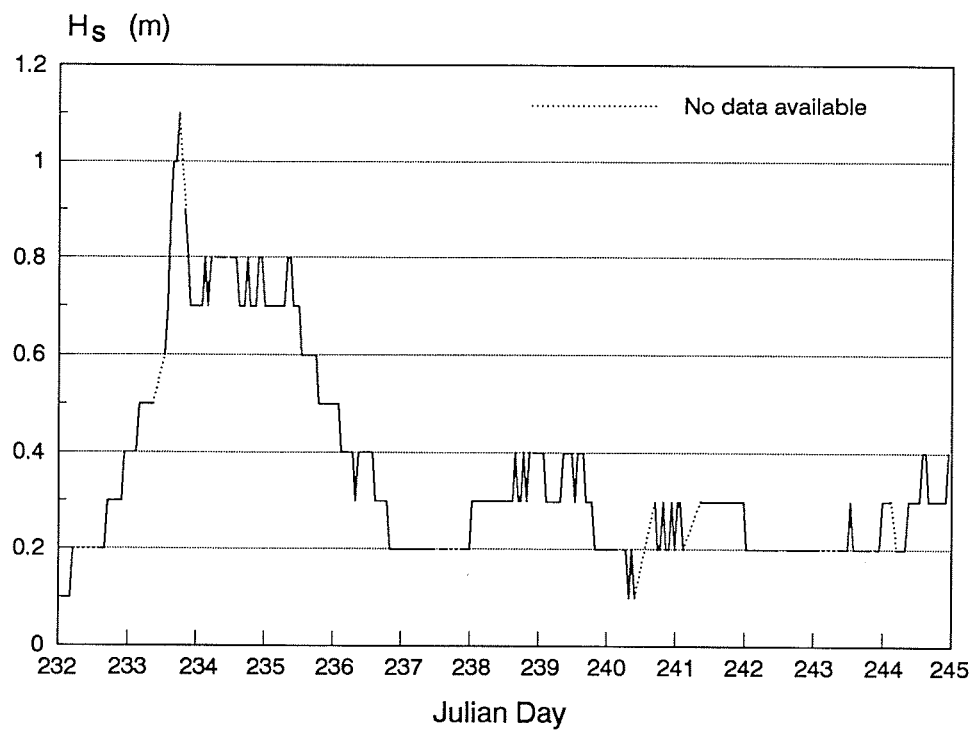


Figure 2.30. Significant wave height.

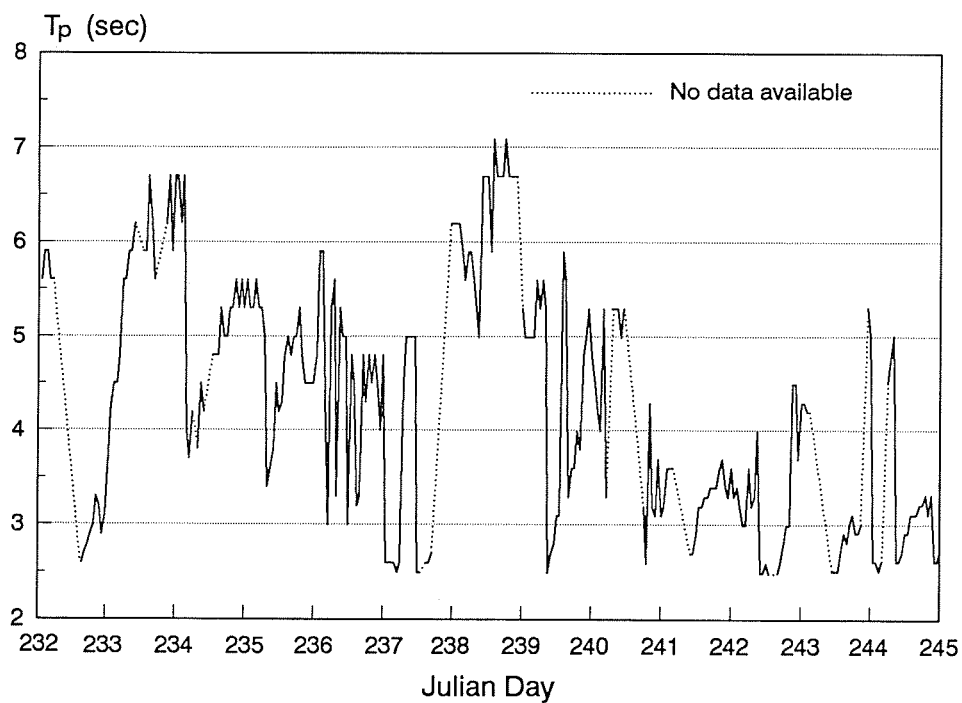


Figure 2.31. Spectral peak wave period.

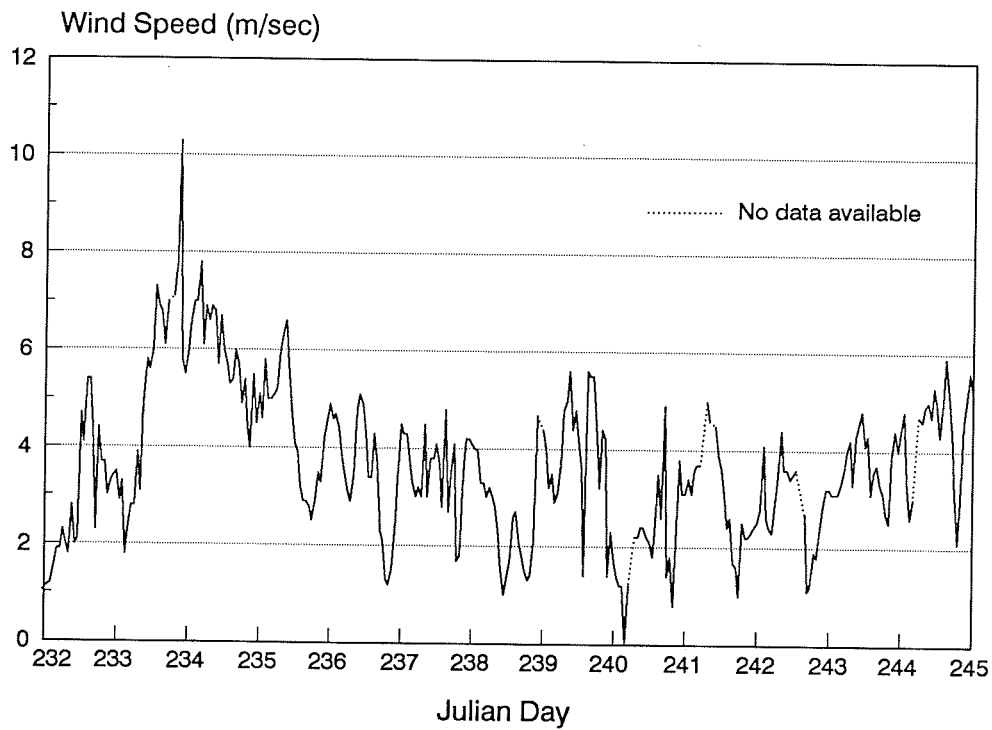


Figure 2.32. Wind speed.

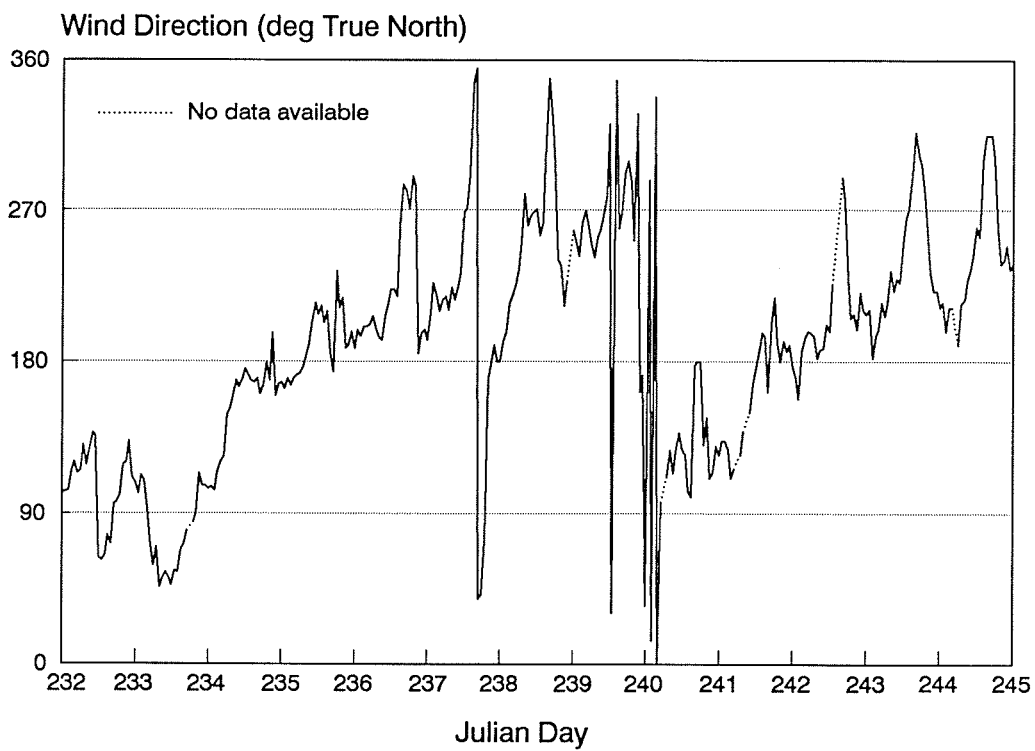


Figure 2.33. Wind direction.

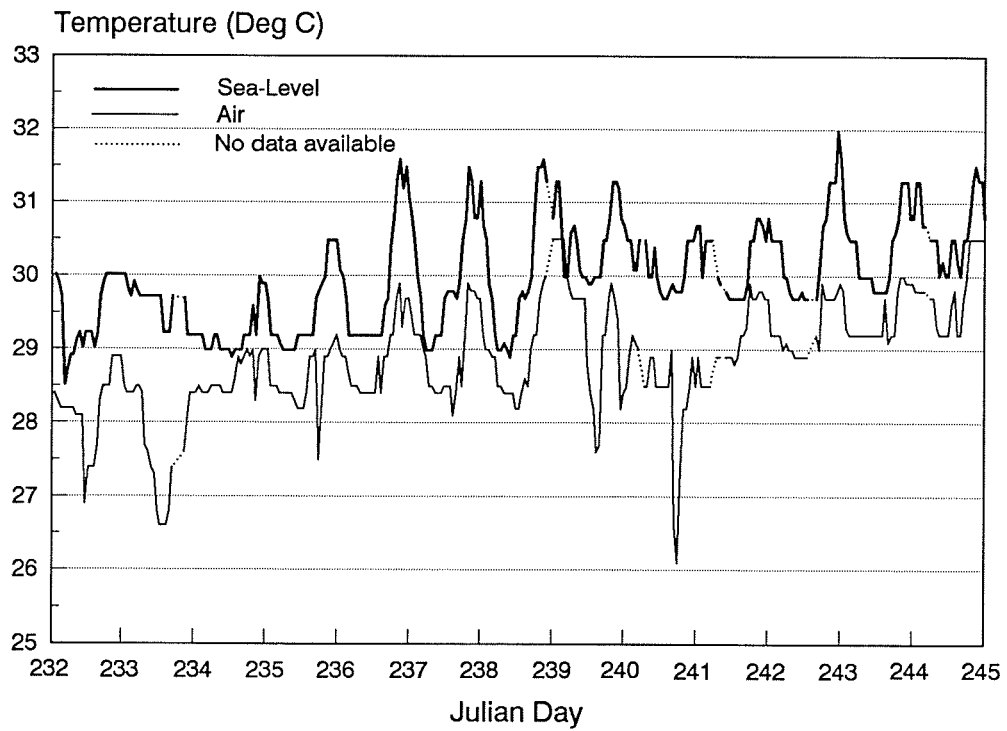


Figure 2.34. Sea level and air temperatures.

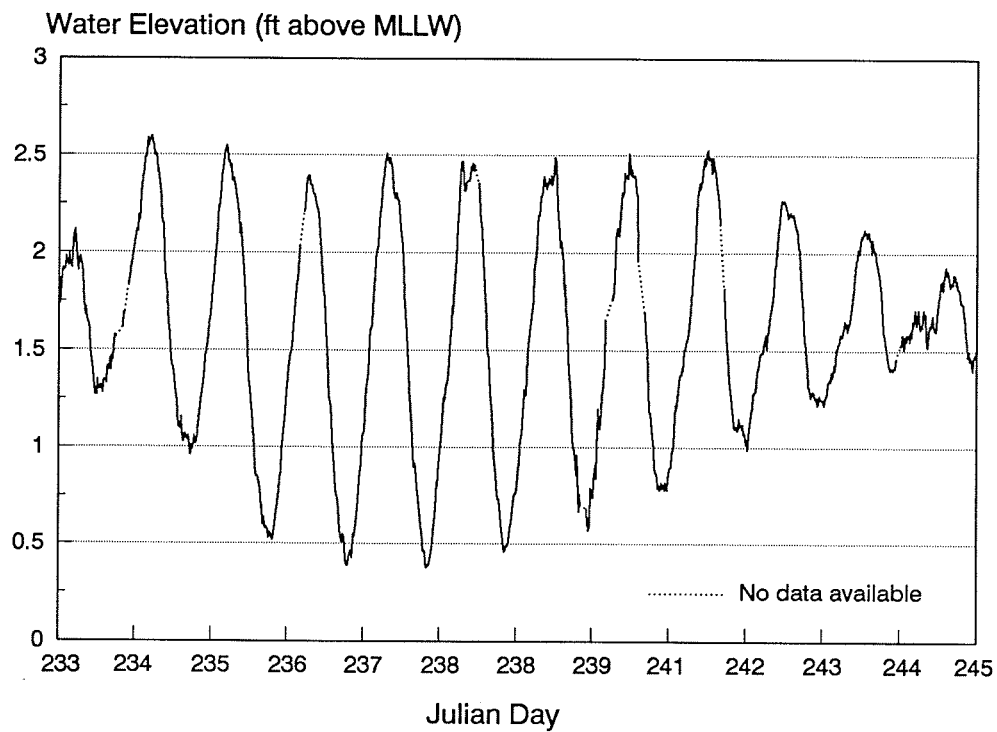


Figure 2.35. Water elevation.

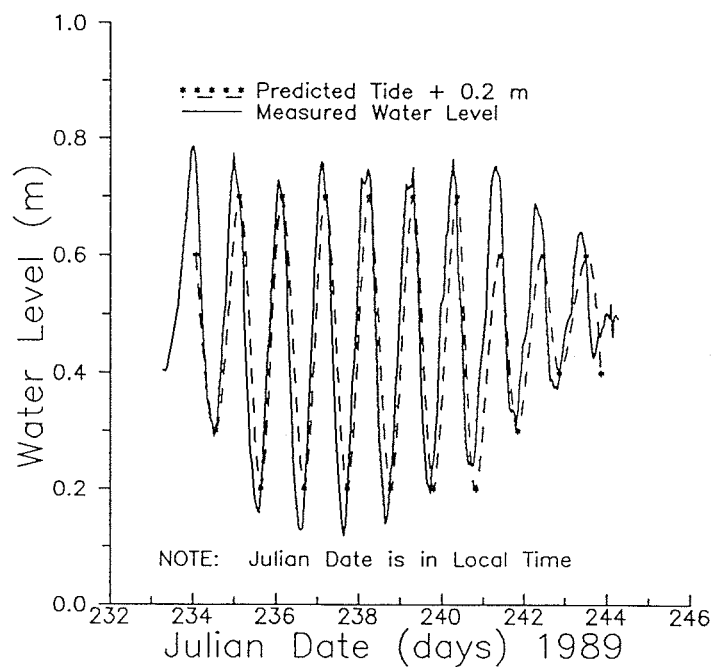


Figure 2.36. Water level measurements converted to meters and smoothed with a 3-hr low-pass convolution filter.

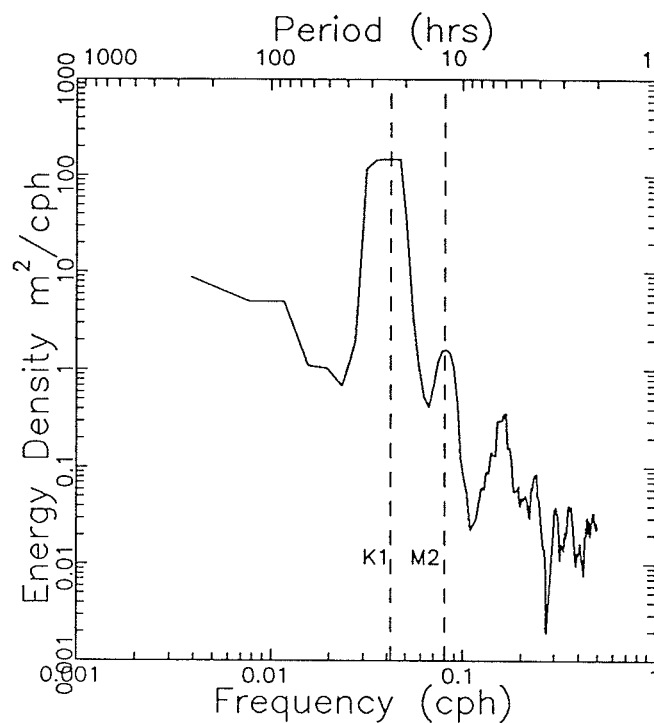


Figure 2.37. Auto-spectrum of measured water levels.

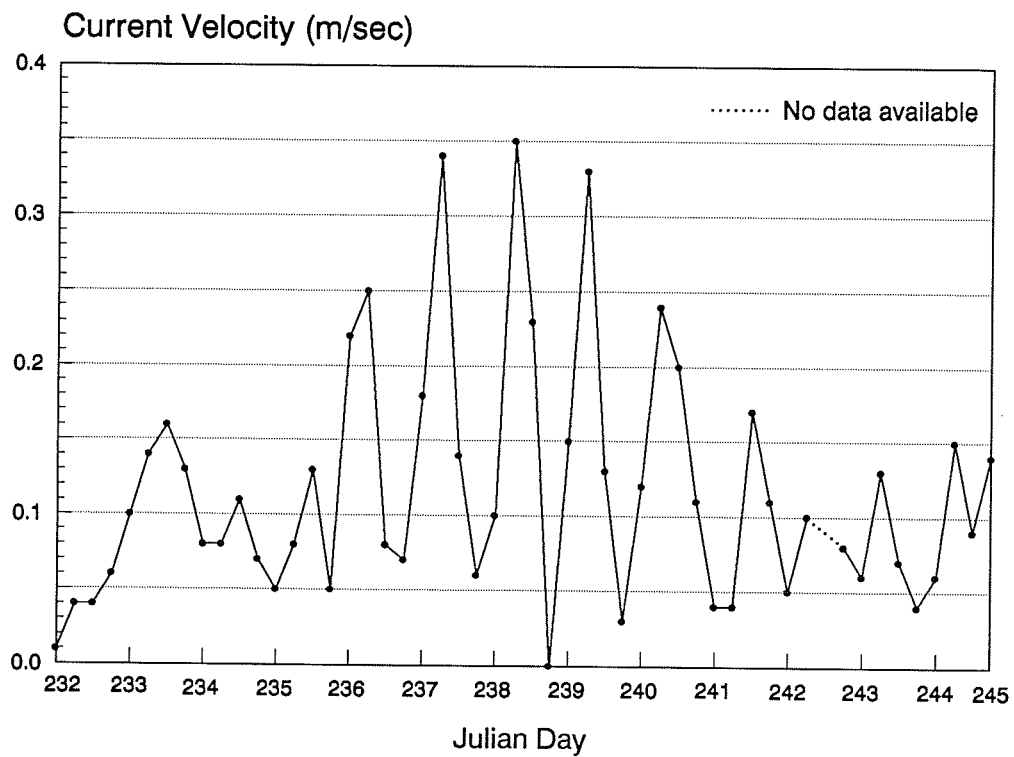


Figure 2.38. Average current velocity.

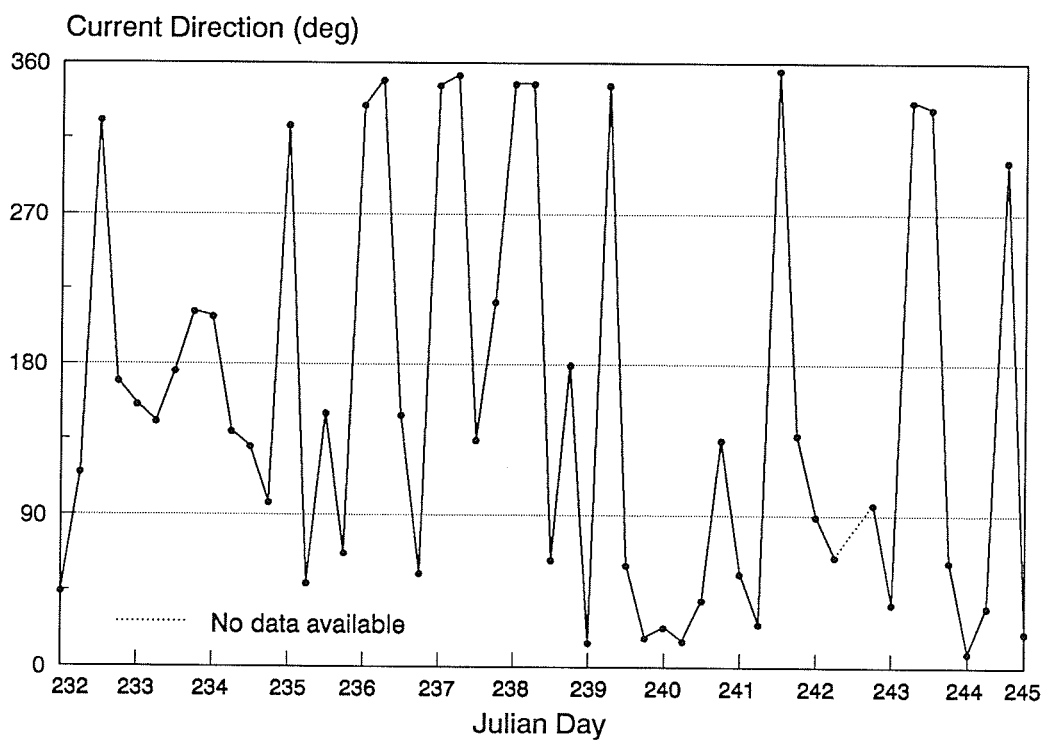
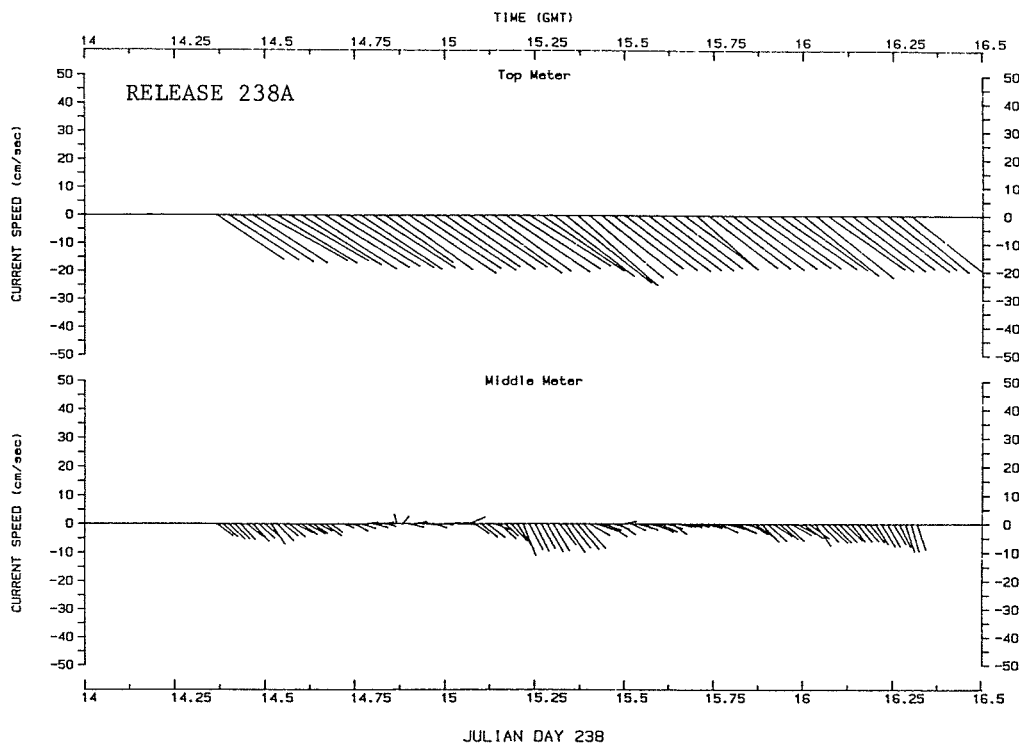
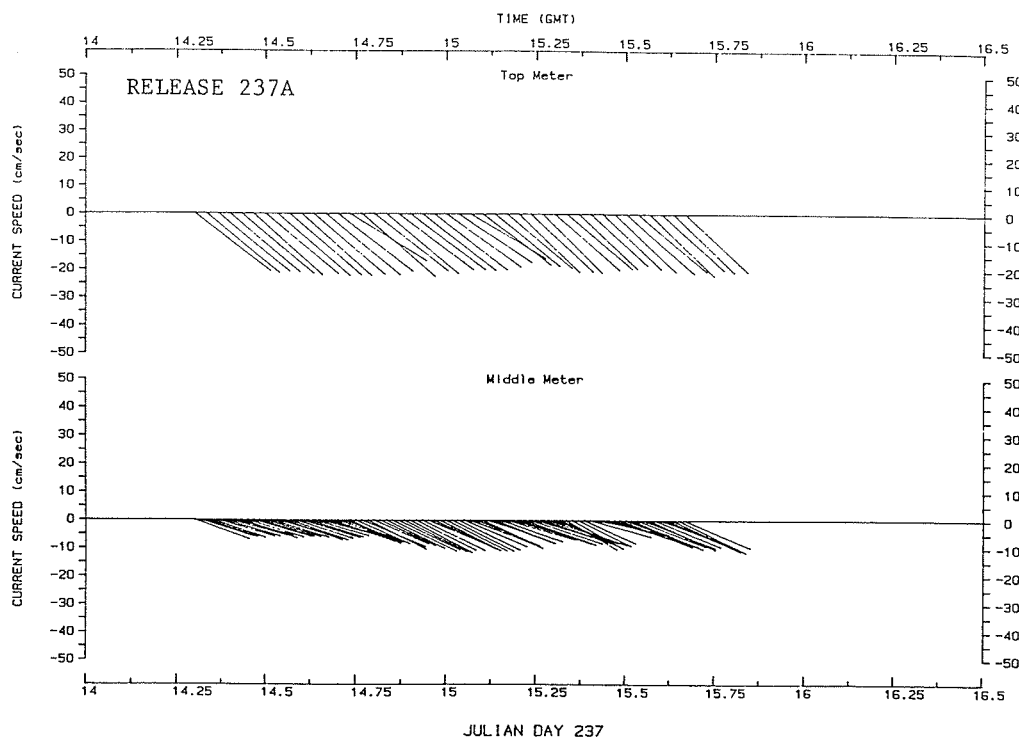


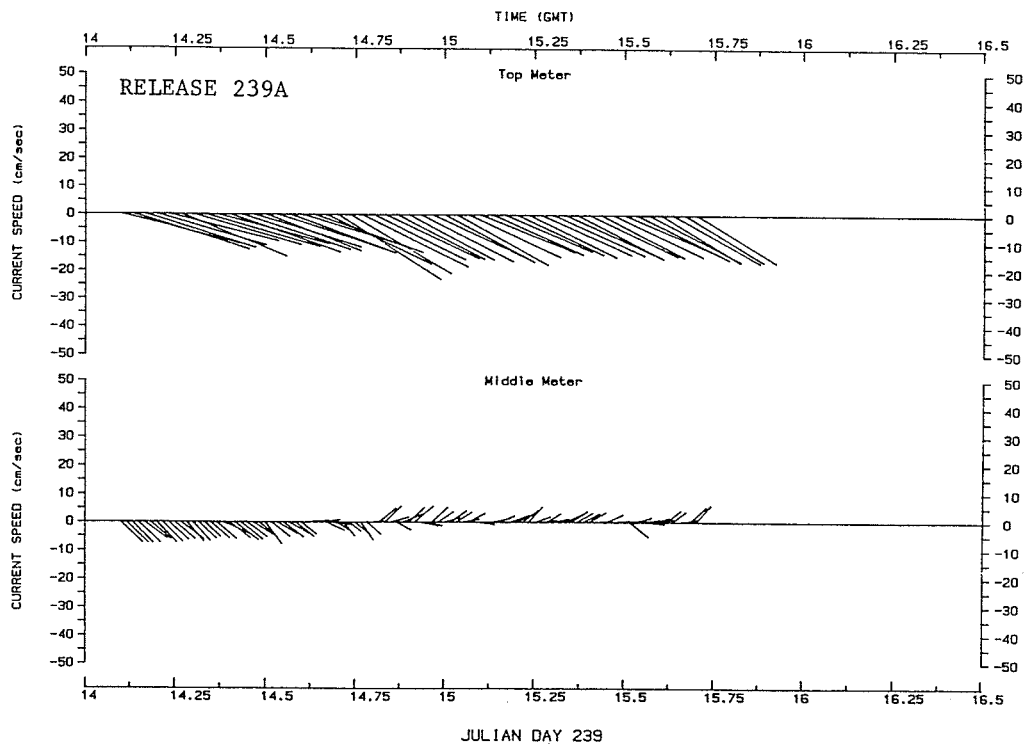
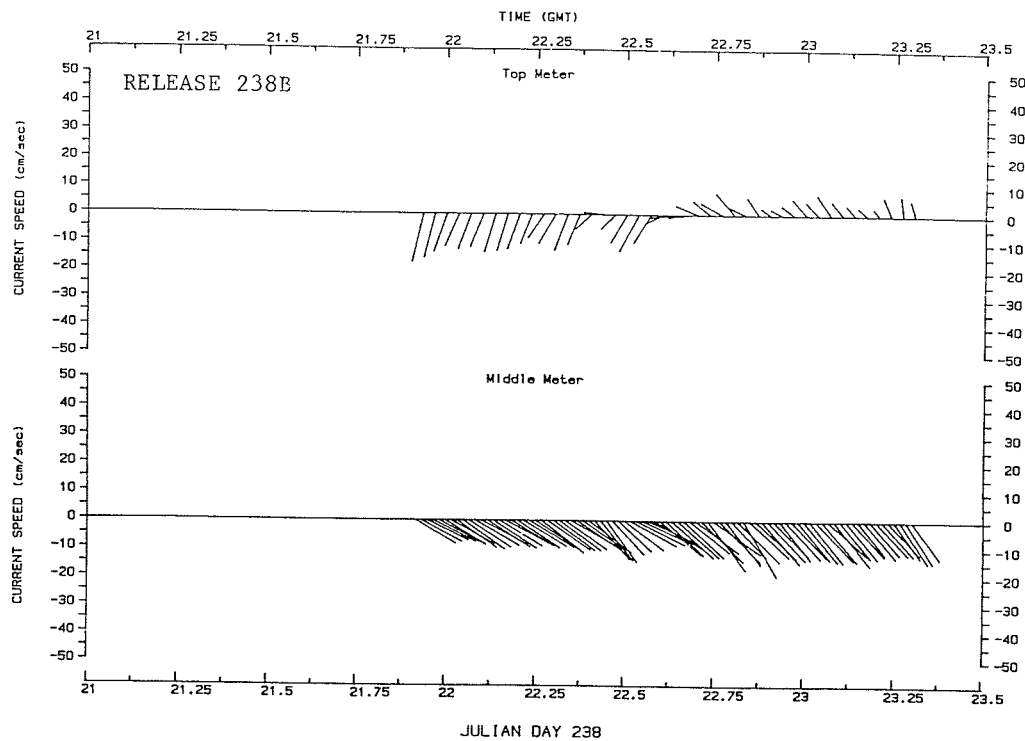
Figure 2.39. Average current direction.

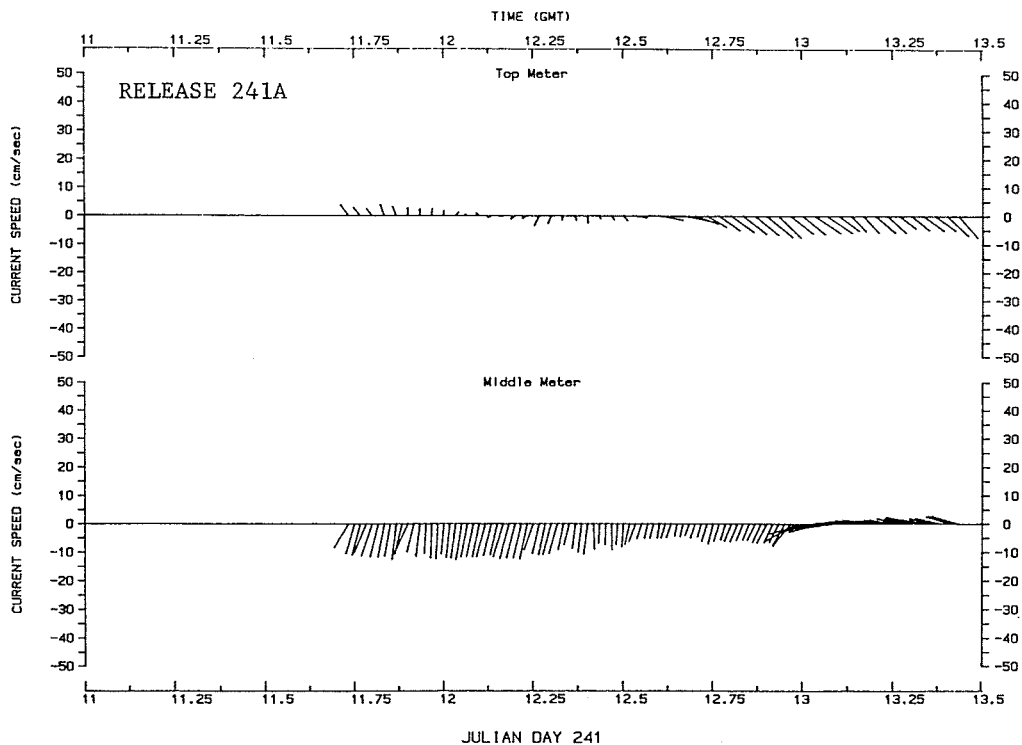
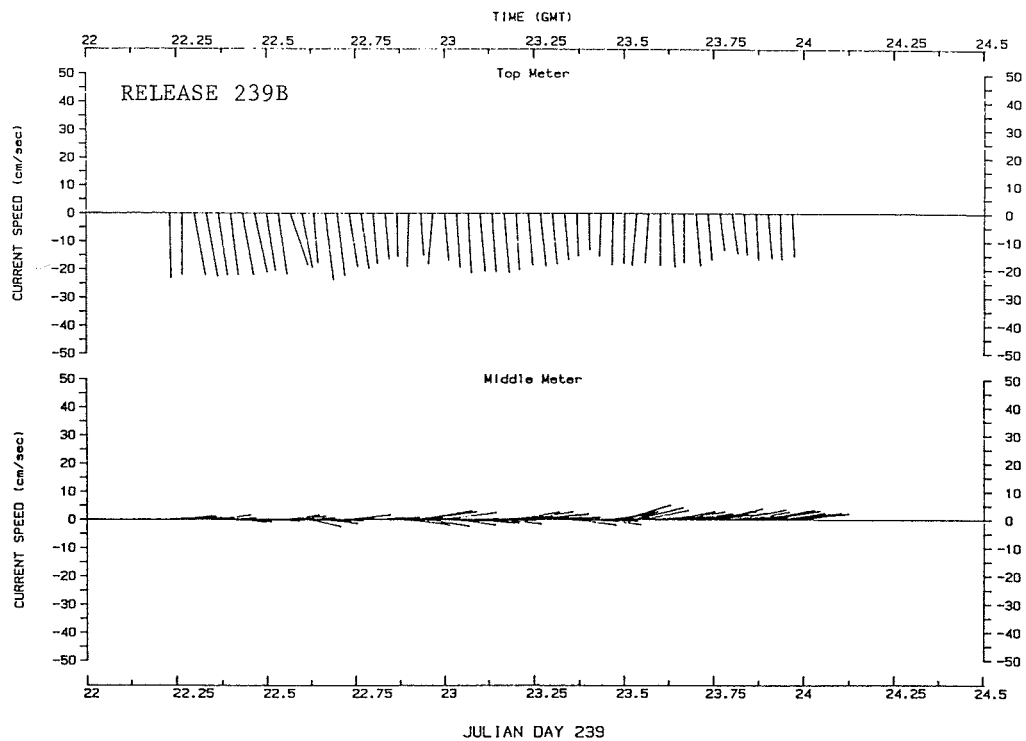


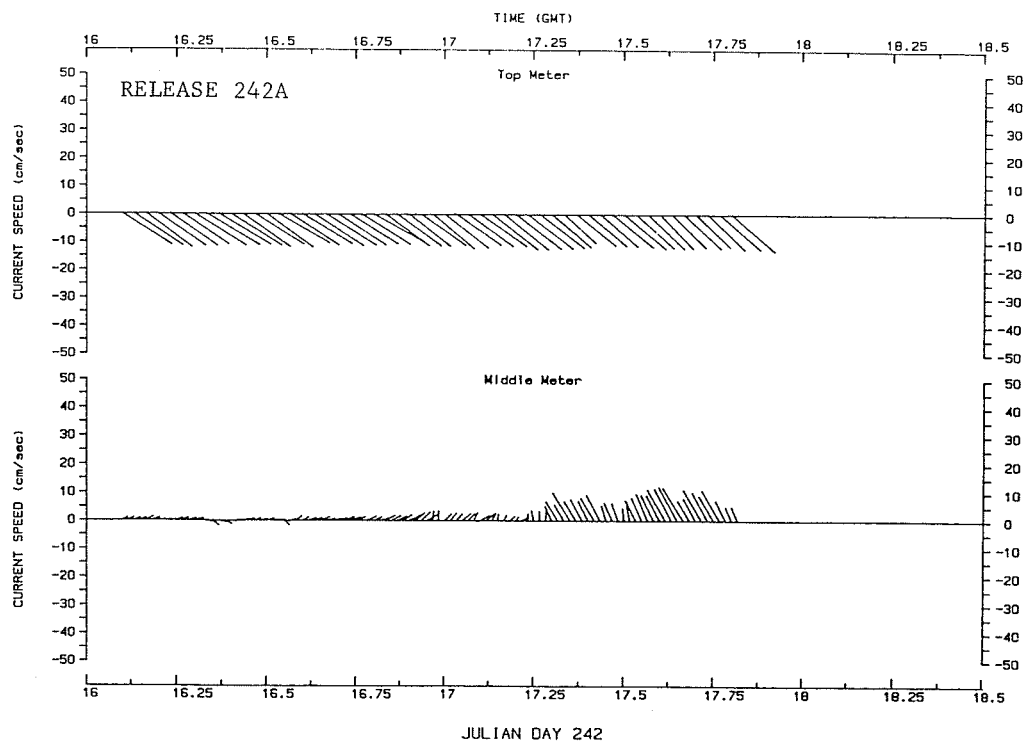
## **Appendix 2A: Current Vector Plots and Time Histories During Releases**

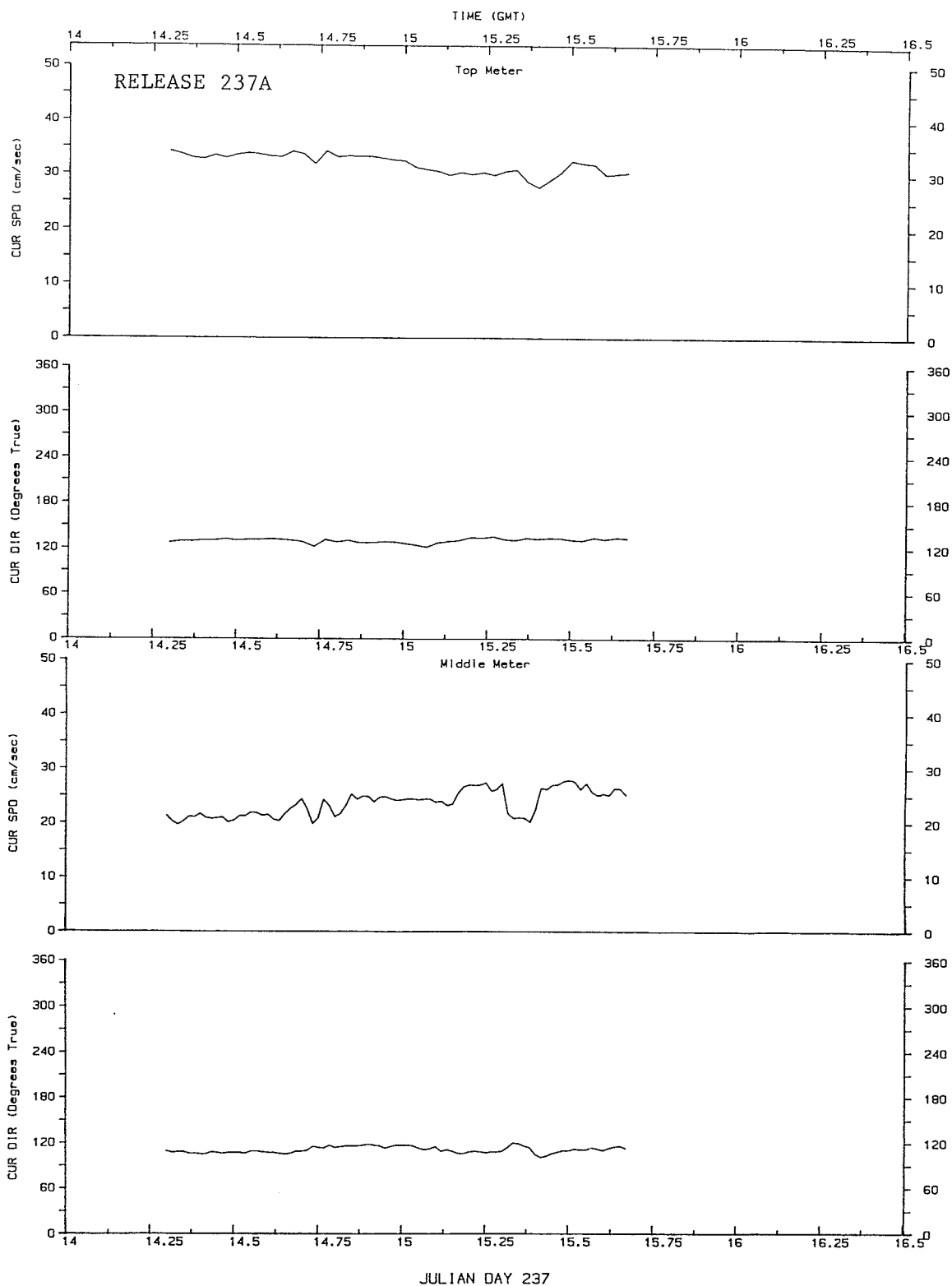


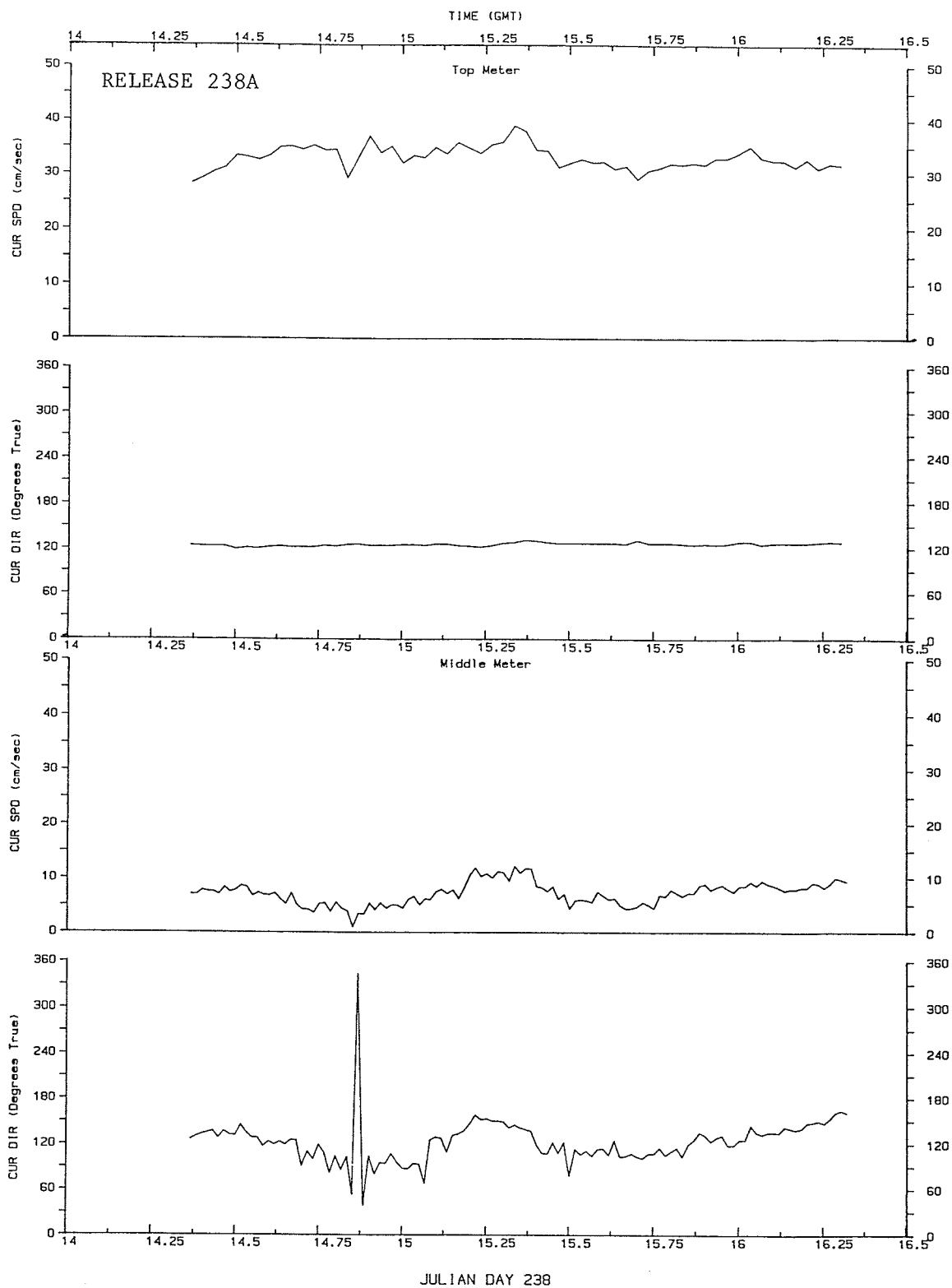


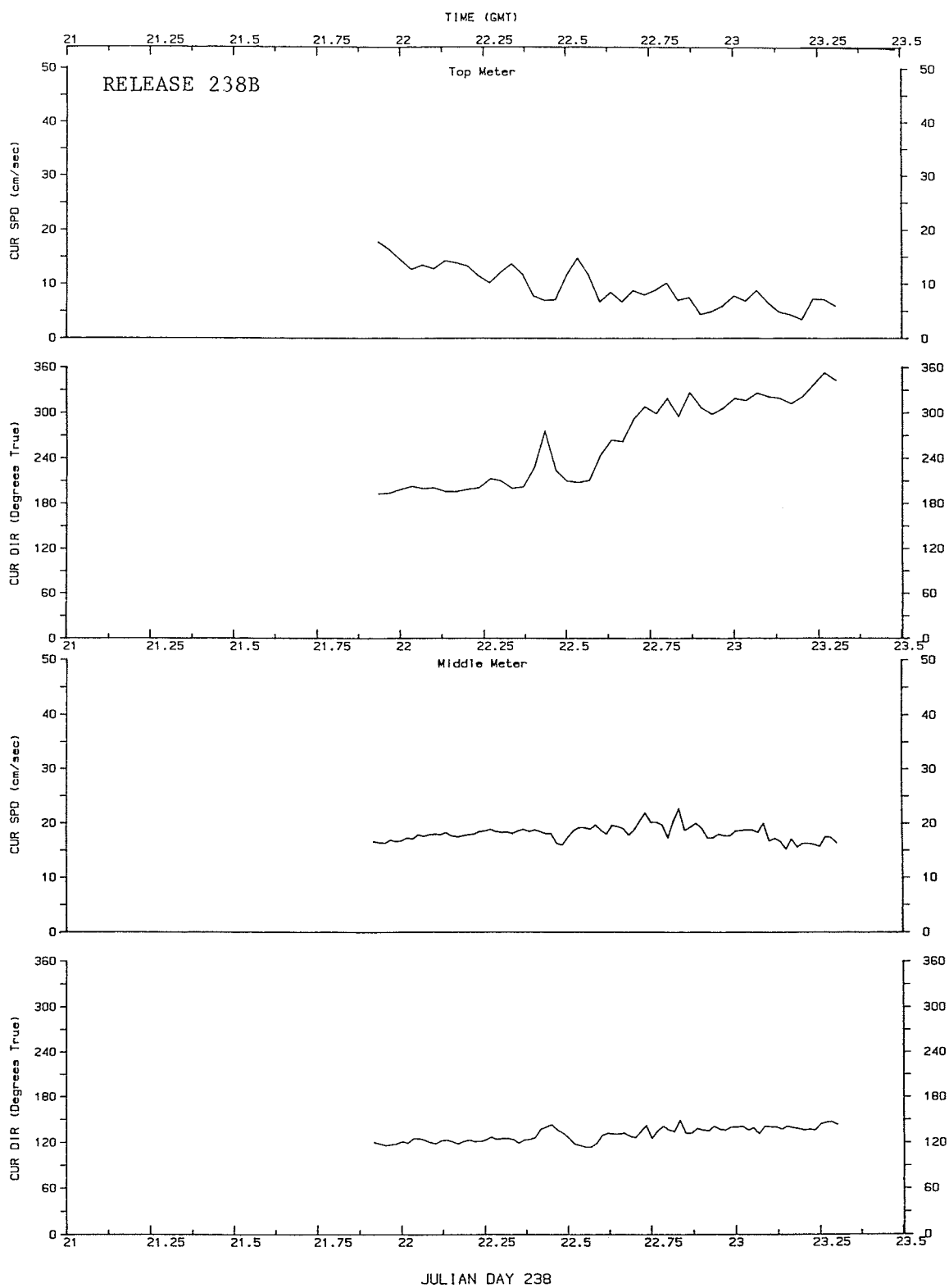


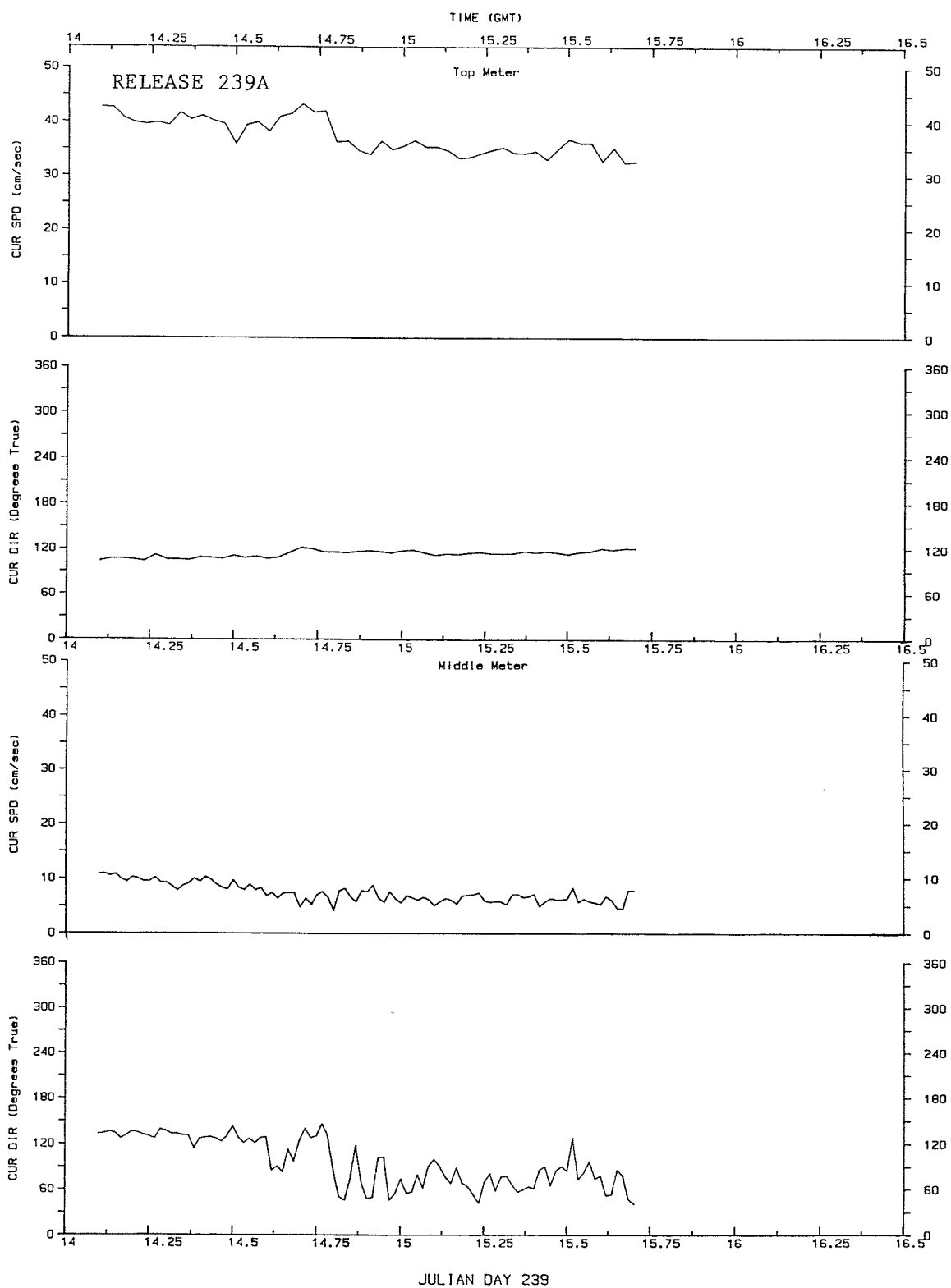




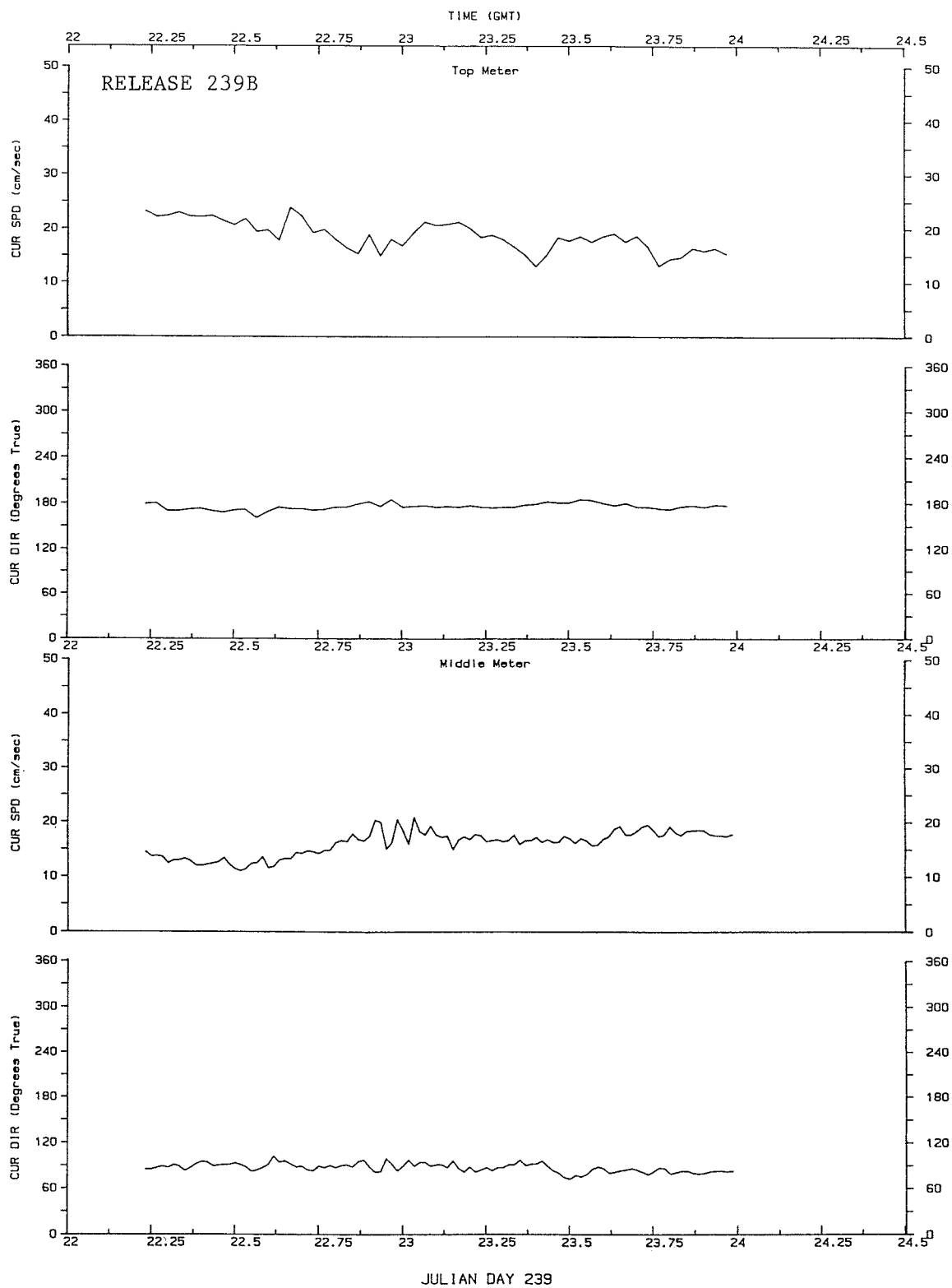


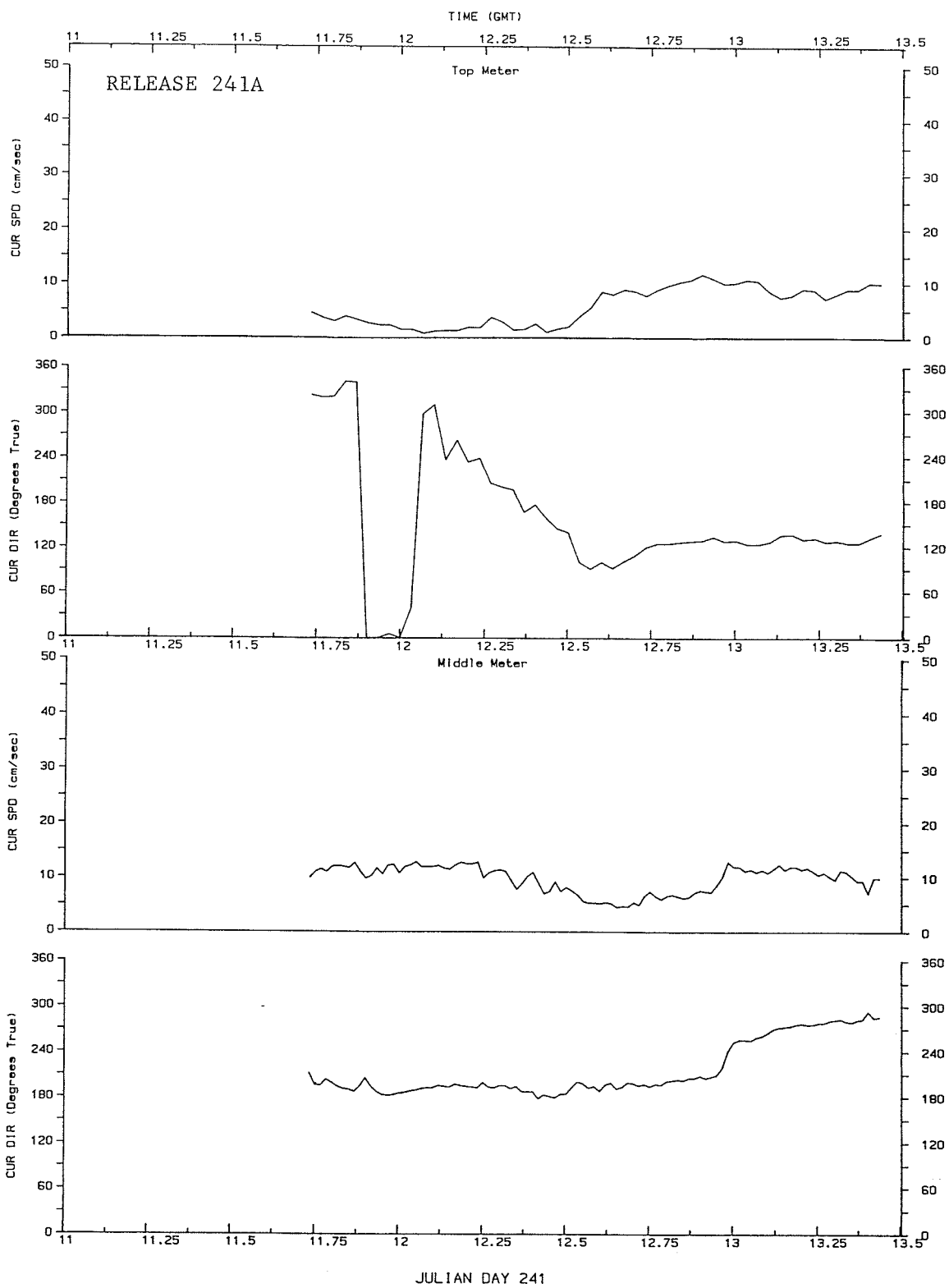


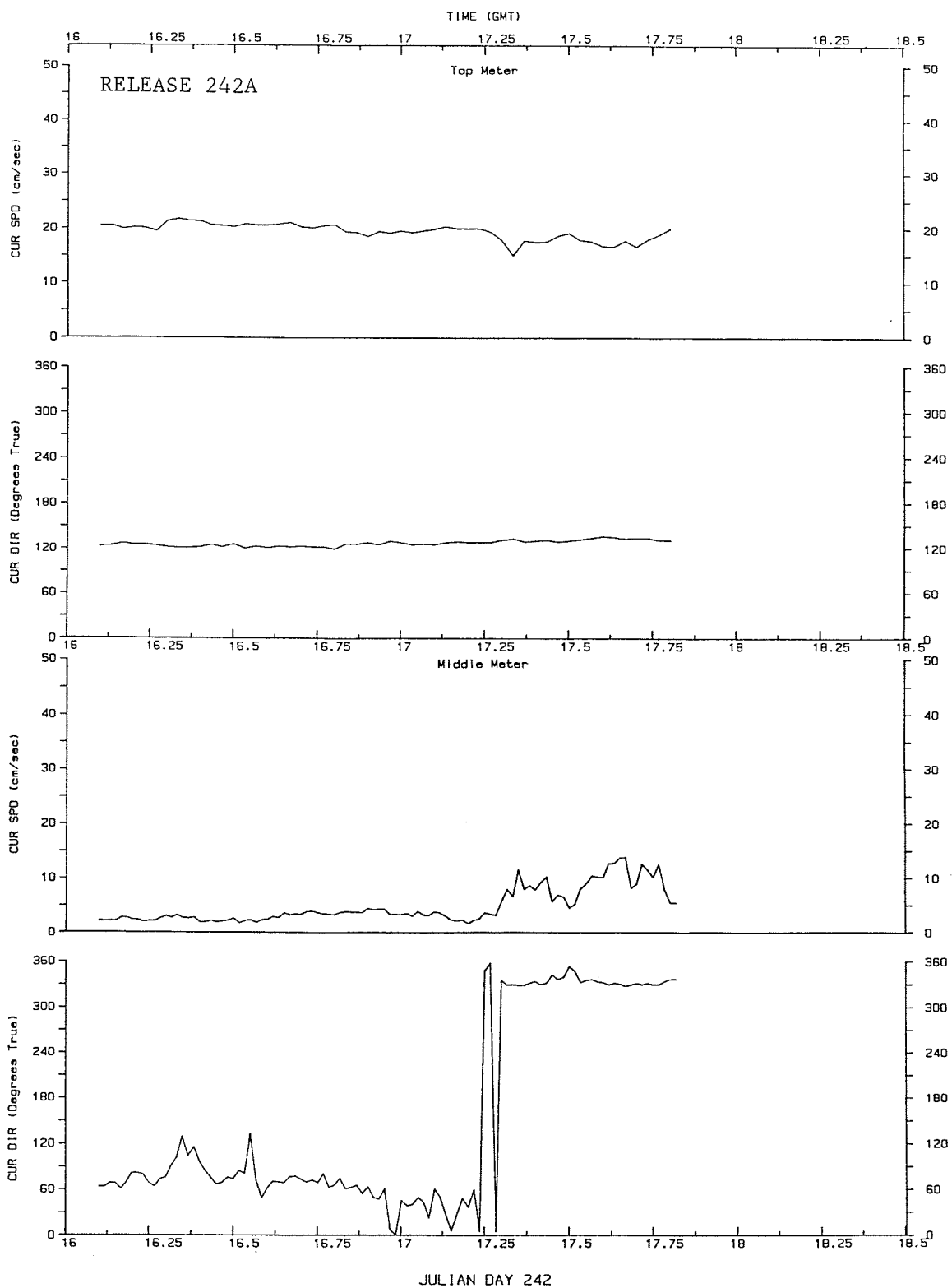












**CHAPTER 3**  
**SHIP AND BARGE POSITIONING**

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## 1. Introduction

Accurate positioning of the *R/V Pelican* was required to record the track of the ship while surveying dredged material plumes. A Motorola Mini-Ranger III microwave positioning system was utilized to obtain the accuracy dictated by the Mobile, Alabama, Dredging Program Field Data Collection Project (MFDCP). In addition, the loaded hopper barge for each survey was tracked by radar before and during survey operations to maneuver the *R/V Pelican* into position near the placement site and to determine the position of the plume at the time of release. Accurate ship and barge positions were also required as basic data for interpreting dredged material behavior by the Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (Chapter 5) and Acoustic Concentration Profiler (Chapter 6).

## 2. Ship Positioning During Survey Operations

### Introduction

To track dredged material placement operations at Mobile, a continuously recording positioning system with an accuracy of  $\pm 3$  m was required. Loran-C, the most common positioning system of vessels, has an accuracy of  $\pm 15$  m at best, which did not meet the MFDCP criterion. A Motorola Mini-Ranger III microwave positioning system was therefore installed aboard the *R/V Pelican*, which operates at line-of-site ranges up to 37 km with a range measurement error of  $\pm 1$  to 3 m. The positioning system consisted of a range input device, a Mini-Ranger Data Processor (MRDP), and a portable computer. Procedures used to determine the positions of both the survey vessel and the hopper barge are described in this chapter.

### Procedure

The Mini-Ranger III Positioning System (MRS III) locates the position of a vessel with respect to two known geographical locations (reference points). It operates on the principle of pulse radar, with a radar interrogator (Receiver Transmitter (RT)) located on the vessel and a radar transponder (Reference Station) positioned at each reference site. The reference stations for the study were located at previously established survey sites (Figure 3.1) and were powered from 24-V battery sources.

The system operates at microwave frequencies and requires that line-of-site be maintained between the Reference Stations and the RT. Obstructions, such as offshore drilling rigs, will

interfere with the operation of the system, causing vertical or horizontal multipaths. Vertical multipath is a phenomenon where direct and reflected signals (from the water surface) arrive at the antenna simultaneously and cancel (e.g., reflection from the water surface). This lack of signal results in a "range hole." The overall effects of horizontal multipath are "range jumps" or "unstable readings" that result from signal cancellation when direct signals and reflections from buildings, ships, bridges, or oil tanks arrive at the antenna at the same time.

The MRS III was located in the instrument room/electronics lab of the *R/V Pelican*. The RT unit was located on an antenna directly above the electronics lab. The MRDP gathered positioning information in the form of ranges to the two known reference points, and, from those range data, computed the position of the *R/V Pelican* in Alabama State Plane Coordinates (ASPC).

Data were output to a portable computer that also recorded time in Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). The clocks on the portable computer and MRDP were set to the time generator on National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration data collection equipment on board the *R/V Pelican*.

The position fixing rate for the MRDP was set to 2 sec. The system provided error messages to aid in elimination of operational problems when they occurred. When problems were encountered (e.g., when the ship was within a range hole or the system received microwave interference from drilling rigs in the vicinity), the system often quickly corrected itself. When necessary, pressing the reset control on the MRDP and restarting the Execute mode usually brought the system back on-line. When both of these methods failed, a call was made to the operator of the shore-based reference stations to try to correct the problem.

The data were recorded to the portable computer in the following format: time (HR:MIN:SEC), position east (x-value), position north (y-value), and error messages. Possible errors and their explanations are:

1. LOOP - The positioning system uses tracking loop filters to refine the position calculation data. This message indicates that the system has been unable to maintain the tracking loop within limits. This may be due to inadequate range data because of inadequate power to the reference stations or failure because line-of-sight has not been maintained. The latter may include significant obstructions such as land masses or buildings that will interfere with the operation of the system. Failure to maintain adequate geometry in the work areas may also cause loop errors. The positional accuracy of the computation is dependent upon the angle of intersection of the range lines that should be maintained between 30 and 150 deg, 90 deg being the best.

2. RS - RIGHT SITE - This message indicates that the system is not receiving adequate range data from the site selected as the right site, the reference station near Fort Gaines on the tip of Dauphin Island (Figure 3.1).
3. LS - LEFT SITE - This message is the same as RS, but applies to the left site (Figure 3.1).

When an error occurred, the position data were printed in the Range-Range form instead of ASPC. When the system first entered the Run mode, it was normal to have a loop error message printed. This message indicated that the filter was acquiring the position.

The range was recorded incorrectly several times, although no error message was received. In these cases the ranges were offset by a specific amount, and a correction factor was applied at the time of editing. The most probable cause for the offset was an interference or signal bounce from rig or oil structures in the vicinity of operation. All corrected ranges were compared with bridge readings of latitude and longitude to ensure the correct position was obtained. Check readings of the Mini-Ranger at Exxon Well MO-868-1 during the course of the surveyed dredged material placement showed that the positioning system did not drift significantly during the course of the experiment.

The data files for eight surveys (237A, 238A, 238B, 239A, 239B, 241A, 242A, and 243A) and the shallow-water berm survey were edited in the following manner. The data corresponding to the time interval of 10 min prior to a release until the end of the observation for each survey were extracted from the raw data files. The extracted files were then run through a computer program to strip them of several columns of trailing zeros and comments to produce data files containing only time, Easting coordinate, and Northing coordinate in ASPC. Each file was plotted and inspected for obvious spurious points, which were then deleted. Several files showed parts of the cruise tracks to be offset from the rest of the track. The difference was calculated and applied to the offset portion.

## **Results**

Figures 3.2 to 3.9 show the pattern of the cruise tracks for the surveys of dredged material plumes, and Figure 3.9b gives the cruise track for the shallow-water berm survey. Table 3.1 provides the times and general comments concerning each survey. Table 3.2 is a sample of the edited data file for Survey 237A.

The survey cruise tracks in Figures 3.2 to 3.9 are labeled with three specific time events: a start time denoting the ship orientation 10 min prior to the release, a dredged material release time, and an end time denoting the conclusion of all observations for the release. Tick marks on the cruise tracks indicate 15-min intervals during each survey, and arrows show the direction the *R/V Pelican* took while sampling. In addition, specific portions of five cruise tracks (238A, 238B, 239B, 241A, and 242A) have been enlarged for a clearer picture of the ship's direction during the survey. As outlined in Table 3.1, the first five surveys occurred while observing releases made at the deepwater placement site. The following three surveys were made at the shallow-water site. The survey track over the shallow-water berm followed a zig-zag pattern of 10 transects (Figure 3.10).

The Mini-Ranger malfunctioned, losing transmission on one or both of the ranges, during two surveys. Transmission was lost at the start of Survey 241A during the interval 11:35-12:07. Latitude/longitude readings recorded on the bridge as backup during this time interval were converted to ASPC and added to the Mini-Ranger file. Because the bridge readings were recorded approximately every 2 min compared with every 2 sec on the Mini-Ranger, the cruise track for this starting interval appears angular. Transmission on the Mini-Ranger failed during the entire observation for Survey 243A. Therefore, the data file and cruise track consist of converted latitude/longitude readings recorded from the bridge.

### 3. Hopper Barge Tracking During Survey Operations

To maneuver the *R/V Pelican* in position to commence survey operations, each hopper barge was tracked as it approached the placement site. This tracking was done by obtaining periodic fixes (distance and direction) on the barge in relation to the concurrent position of the *R/V Pelican*. Also, by tracking the barge, the exact position of the plume at the time of the release was obtained. The barge was tracked for approximately 30 min prior to the release at approximately 5-min intervals. While a release occurred, the barge position was recorded approximately every 2 min. Following the release, tracking continued in 5-min intervals for approximately 30 min. The Motorola Mini-Ranger System III tracking system described previously was used to determine the precise location of the *R/V Pelican* during monitoring operations.

Onboard instruments were used to determine the barge's position during the monitoring period. These instruments were a radar system to obtain range and bearing of the barge, a gyro-compass



to reference the heading of the ship with respect to True North, and a Loran-C navigational system to determine the latitude and longitude of the *R/V Pelican*. Loran-C coordinates were used together with the range and bearing to plot the barge track during operations and to provide a backup of the Mini-Ranger system for determining the *R/V Pelican*'s position. The Loran-C system has an estimated accuracy of  $\pm 100$  m.

In the tracking procedure, which required two people, the barge was sighted on radar, and the radar range and bearing from the bow of the ship to the barge were noted. The tug *Paul Candies* is a 140-ft vessel with a 300-ft tow line connected to a hopper barge, which is approximately 250 ft long. At great distances, the tug and barge were relatively easy to identify on radar because of their configuration. All fixes were made relative to the position of the barge. The barge ranges recorded varied between 0.02 to 3.4 nautical miles. Simultaneously, a heading of the ship in relation to True North was obtained together with latitudes and longitudes of the position of the *R/V Pelican* from Loran-C. The bearing of the barge was added to the heading of the *R/V Pelican* to calculate the barge heading relative to True North.

After the cruise, the positions of the barge were calculated from Mini-Ranger data for the nine target surveys. The Easting or x-coordinate of the barge was obtained by using the equation,

$$X_b = X_p + R \sin \theta \quad (3.1)$$

where

$X_b$  = Easting coordinate of the barge, ft

$X_p$  = Easting coordinate of the *R/V Pelican*, ft

$R$  = Range from the ship to the barge, ft

$\theta$  = Barge angle with respect to True North, deg

The Northing or y-coordinate was obtained by using the equation,

$$Y_b = Y_p + R \cos \theta \quad (3.2)$$

where

$Y_b$  = Northing coordinate of the barge, ft

$Y_p$  = Northing coordinate of the *R/V Pelican*, ft

Table 3.3 contains a summary of barge positions for the 18 dredged material placement surveys approximately 5 to 10 min before and after the release. Release times are indicated with an asterisk. An example of a hopper barge track (Survey 239B) is given in Figure 3.11.

The volume and content of the material in the barge as estimated by the captains of the tug *Paul Candies* were obtained during tracking operations for background information relative to the acoustic data and prerelease and postrelease dredged material samples, and are summarized in Table 3.4. The number of the barge and its prerelease draft were observed as the barge came into view to obtain a visual record of the approximate volume and distribution of material within the barge. Because of uneven distributions of material in the barges, the draft sometimes varied as much as 1 ft from bow to stern.

### **Acknowledgment**

T. L. Prickett acknowledges Mr. Douglas Evans, Evans-Hamilton, Inc., for his guidance in the navigation and tracking tasks.

Table 3.1  
Mini-Ranger Information for Nine Surveys

<u>Survey No.</u>	<u>Start GMT</u>	<u>Time Release GMT</u>	<u>End GMT</u>	<u>Comments</u>
237A	14:08:00	14:18:00	15:40:00	Longitudinal transects through deepwater release.
238A	14:12:01	14:22:01	16:18:59	Transverse and far-field transects through deepwater release.
238B	21:45:00	21:55:00	23:17:58	Five transverse transects followed by four longitudinal transects through deepwater release.
239A	13:56:01	14:06:01	15:41:59	Four transverse transects followed by five longitudinal transects through deepwater release.
239B	22:05:06	22:14:00	23:59:58	Seven transverse transects through deepwater release.
241A	11:35:00	11:44:00	13:25:58	Transverse-longitudinal-transverse transect pattern through shallow-water release; mini-ranger malfunction at beginning of cruise track.
242A	15:59:04	16:06:00	17:48:58	Six longitudinal transects and one transverse transect through shallow-water release.
243A	17:53:00	18:03:00	18:58:00	Six transverse transects through shallow-water release. Mini-ranger malfunction throughout entire cruise track.
Shallow-water berm	18:24:02	--	20:59:16	Ten transects forming a zig-zag pattern across berm.

Table 3.2  
Sample of Edited Mini-Ranger Data File for Cruise Track 237A

<u>Time</u> <u>GMT</u>	<u>Easting</u> <u>ft</u>	<u>Northing</u> <u>ft</u>
14:08:00	304191	55426
14:08:02	304194	55425
14:08:04	304192	55426
14:08:06	304195	55428
14:08:08	304192	55430
14:08:10	304191	55432
14:08:12	304192	55435
14:08:14	304189	55439
14:08:16	304186	55443
14:08:18	304185	55447
14:08:20	304184	55450
14:08:22	304183	55455
14:08:24	304179	55461
14:08:26	304174	55468
14:08:28	304171	55474
14:08:30	304167	55479
14:08:32	304166	55485
14:08:34	304161	55492
14:08:36	304157	55500
14:08:38	304156	55506
14:08:40	304151	55514
14:08:42	304146	55521
14:08:44	304143	55526
14:08:46	304144	55531
14:08:48	304145	55536
14:08:50	304138	55544
14:08:52	304134	55550
14:08:54	304130	55555
14:08:56	304130	55559
14:08:58	304128	55563
14:09:00	304124	55567
14:09:02	304122	55570
14:09:04	304119	55574
14:09:06	304117	55577
14:09:08	304112	55582
14:09:10	304110	55586
14:09:12	304107	55590
14:09:14	304105	55594
14:09:16	304103	55597

Table 3.3  
Hopper Barge Positions During Surveys

Survey No.	Time of Reading GMT	Barge Position, ASPC, ft	
		Easting	Northing
234A	1854	304751	53105
	*1859	--	--
235A	1654	305269	53310
	1655	305528	53862
	1657	305709	54490
	*1658	--	--
236A	0006	320297	54808
	0013	313318	56884
	*0020	--	--
236B	1445	308038	50916
	1448	307487	51802
	*1450	--	--
	1453	307125	52685
236C	2204	304852	52278
	2206	304088	53886
	*2208	304061	54890
237A	1410	303579	51866
	1413	303573	53079
	1415	303596	54585
	1417	303711	56416
	*1418	--	--
237B	2206	306728	51981
	2212	303611	54561
	*2215	304014	56436
238A	1418	302782	54194
	1420	303002	55170
	*1423	--	--
	1426	303745	56977
	1430	307989	56379
(Continued)			

\* Barge release time.

(Sheet 1 of 4)

Table 3.3 (Continued)

Survey No.	Time of Reading GMT	Barge Position, ASPC, ft	
		Easting	Northing
238B	2150	304592	54739
	2152	304102	55575
	2154	303557	56441
	*2155	--	--
	2157	303052	58180
	2200	302615	59612
239A	1401	303571	53145
	1403	303526	54228
	1405	303561	54950
	*1406	303658	55650
	1409	304355	57580
239B	2207	305285	52706
	2209	304969	53742
	2210	304813	54440
	2211	304590	55034
	*2213	304570	56071
	2215	304197	57174
	2218	305148	57766
240A	1329	304804	52947
	1331	304359	54278
	1333	303860	55318
	1334	303788	56126
	*1335	--	--
	1339	303987	58594
	1341	306378	57721
	1343	307573	57255
240B	2031	304018	51835
	2033	303386	52934
	2035	303103	54180
	*2036	--	--
	2039	303176	56420
	2041	305665	56234

(Continued)

\* Barge release time.

(Sheet 2 of 4)

Table 3.3 (Continued)

Survey No.	Time of Reading GMT	Barge Position, ASPC, ft	
		Easting	Northing
241A	1139	311085	58679
	1141	310266	59015
	1143	309394	59561
	*1144	--	--
	1145	306852	60447
	1149	309266	61351
241B	1840	313161	57263
	1842	312090	57831
	1843	311218	58251
	1845	309921	58631
	*1846	--	--
	1847	308325	59233
	1849	308644	60461
	1852	310612	59727
242A	1600	311783	57901
	1601	311099	58437
	1603	310630	58664
	1604	310041	59205
	1605	309116	59507
	*1606	--	--
	1607	308027	59983
	1608	307510	60116
	1609	306714	60639
	1611	306194	61474
242B	2325	309144	58646
	2326	308559	59145
	2327	308037	59288
	2328	307375	59710
	*2330	--	--
	2331	306544	59861
	2332	306058	60311
	2336	303911	61429

(Continued)

\* Barge release time.

(Sheet 3 of 4)

Table 3.3 (Concluded)

Survey No.	Time of Reading GMT	Barge Position, ASPC, ft	
		<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>
243A	1758	311517	57763
	1800	310450	58596
	*1803	308990	59503
	1805	307468	60718
	1806	307947	61743
	1807	308793	61355
	1808	309488	61101

---

\* Barge release time.

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Table 3.4  
Hopper Barge Information for All Surveys

<u>Event</u>	<u>Barge No.</u>	<u>Prerelease Barge Draft ft</u>	<u>Estimated Sediment Volume cu yd</u>	<u>Estimated Sediment Content Percent</u>		
				<u>Sand</u>	<u>Fines</u>	<u>Clay</u>
234A	GL-64	17.0	--	--	--	--
235A	GL-63	20.0	--	--	--	--
236A	GL-64	20.0	--	--	--	--
236B	GL-64	20.0	--	20	80	--
236C	GL-63	16.0	4500	80	20	--
237A	GL-61	19.5	5600	80	20	--
237B	GL-64	*19.0, 20.0	--	80	20	--
238A	GL-64	20.0	--	65	35	--
238B	GL-61	21.0	5600	70	30	--
239A	GL-61	18.5	--	75	25	--
239B	GL-64	*17.0, 18.0	4500	70	30	--
240A	GL-64	18.5	4500	50	50	--
240B	GL-61	18.0	4400	70	30	--
241A	GL-61	20.0	5600	10	15	75
241B	GL-64	21.0	5600	70	30	--
242A	GL-61	**16.0, 14.0	4000	80	20	--
242B	GL-64	19.0	5200	70	30	--
243A	GL-64	20.0	5600	60	40	--

\* First number indicates the draft observed at the bow, and the second number indicates the draft observed at the stern.

\*\* Hopper barge was slightly opened, and some material had drained out before the main release.

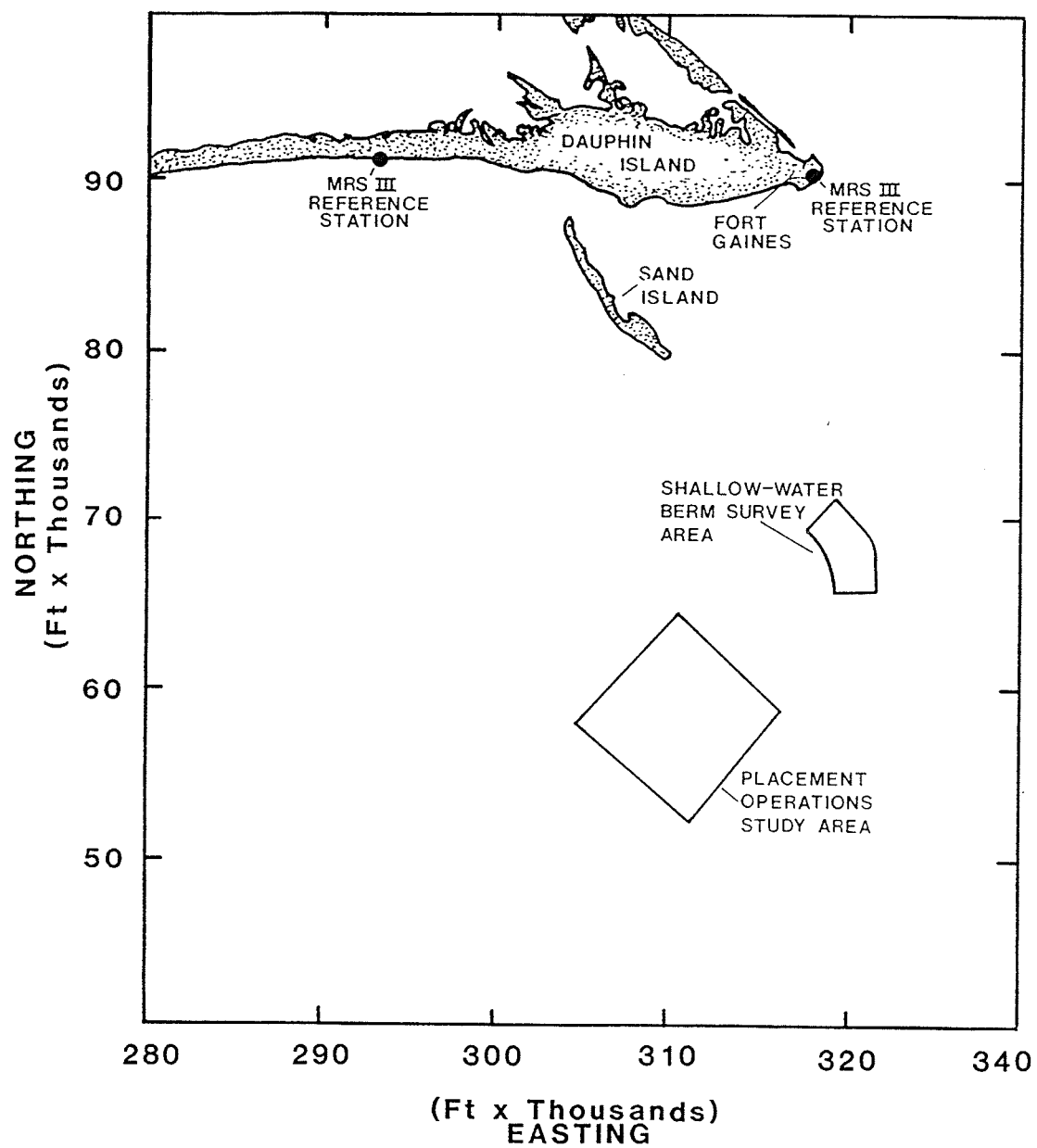


Figure 3.1. Location of the two shore-based RT units.  
Scale: Alabama State Plane Coordinates.

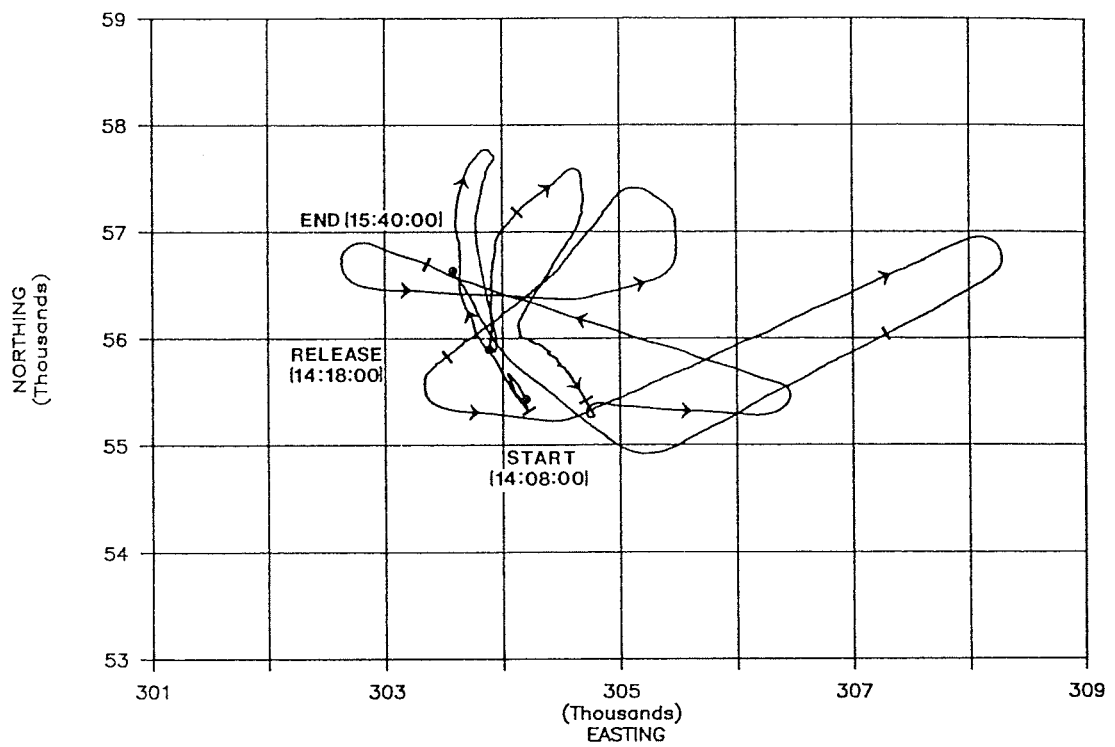
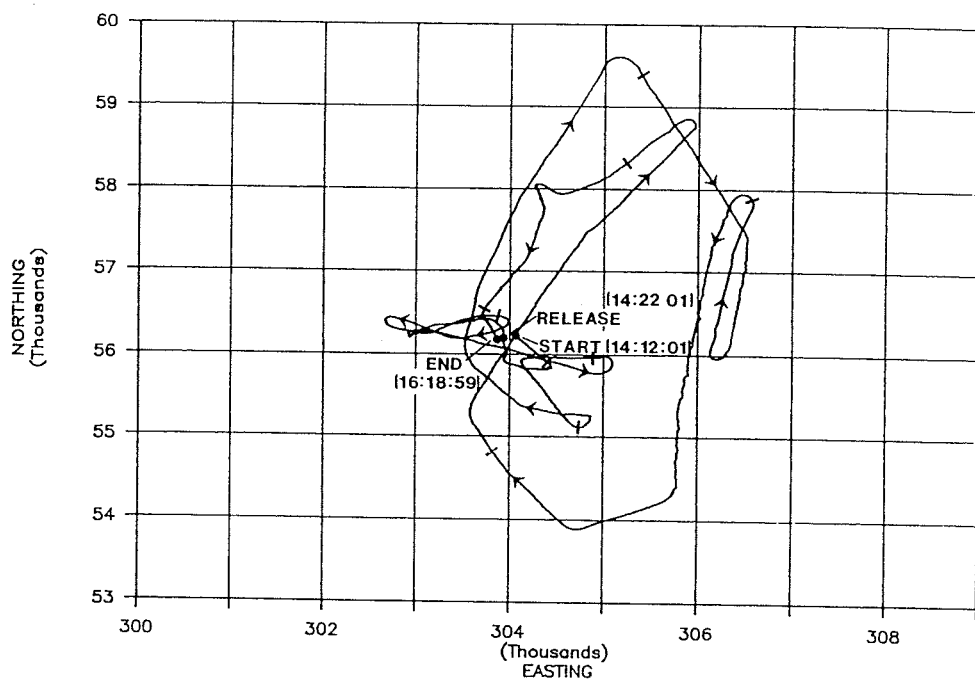
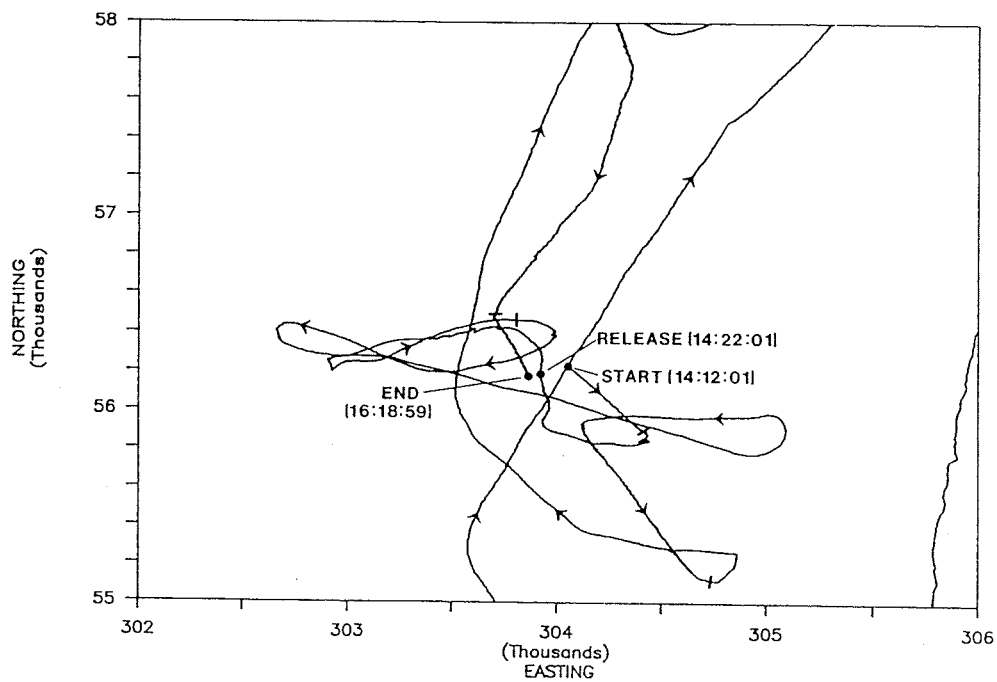


Figure 3.2. Cruise track for Survey 237A.

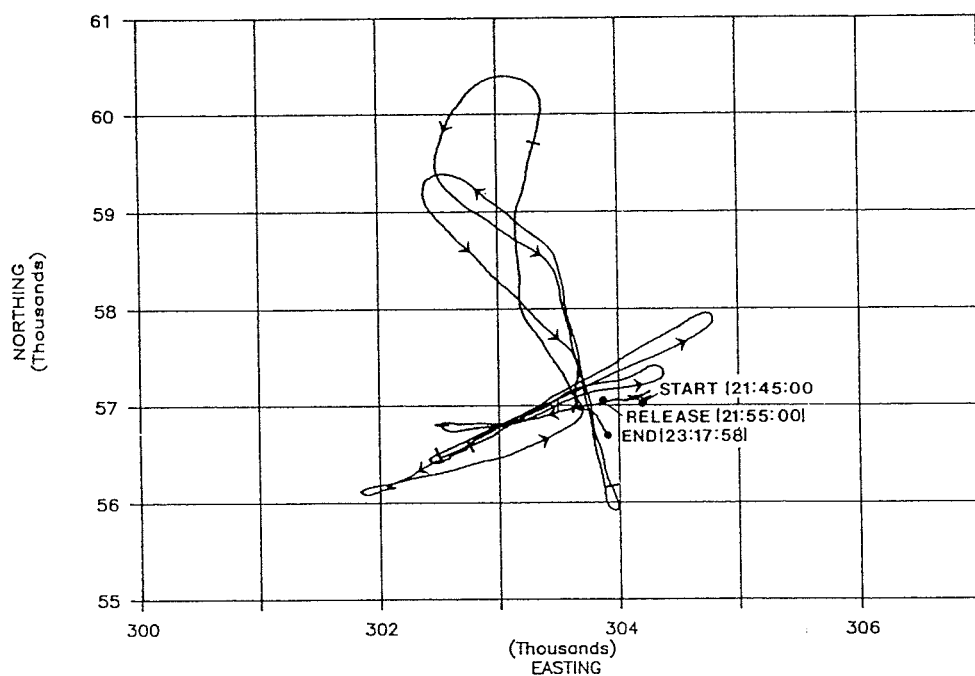


a. Complete track.

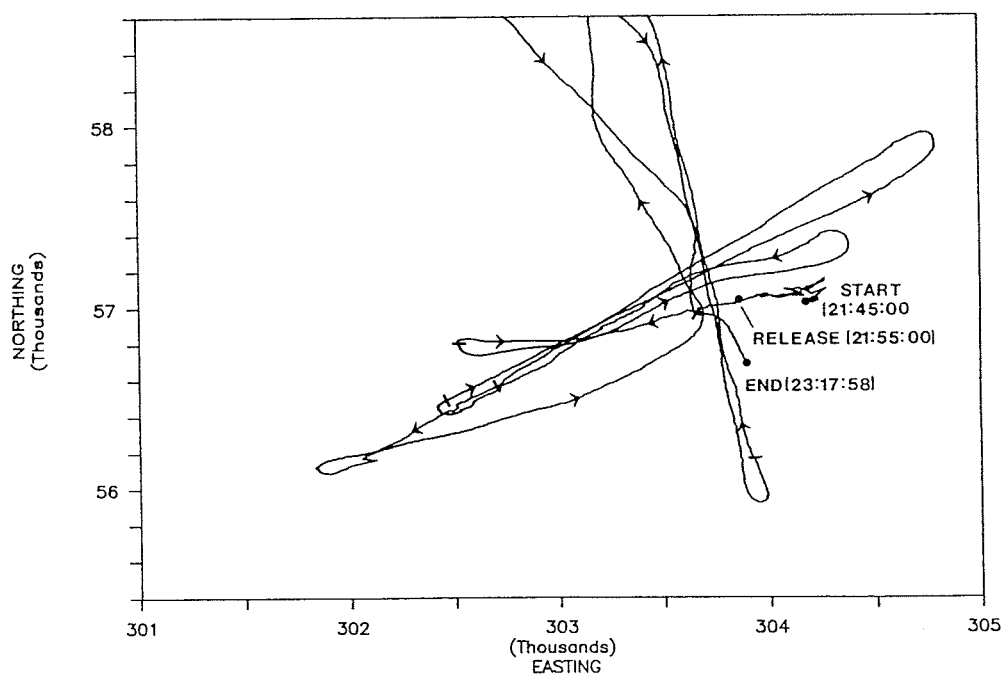


b. Enlargement of transects.

Figure 3.3. Cruise track for Survey 238A.



a. Complete track.



b. Enlargement of transects.

Figure 3.4. Cruise track for Survey 238B.

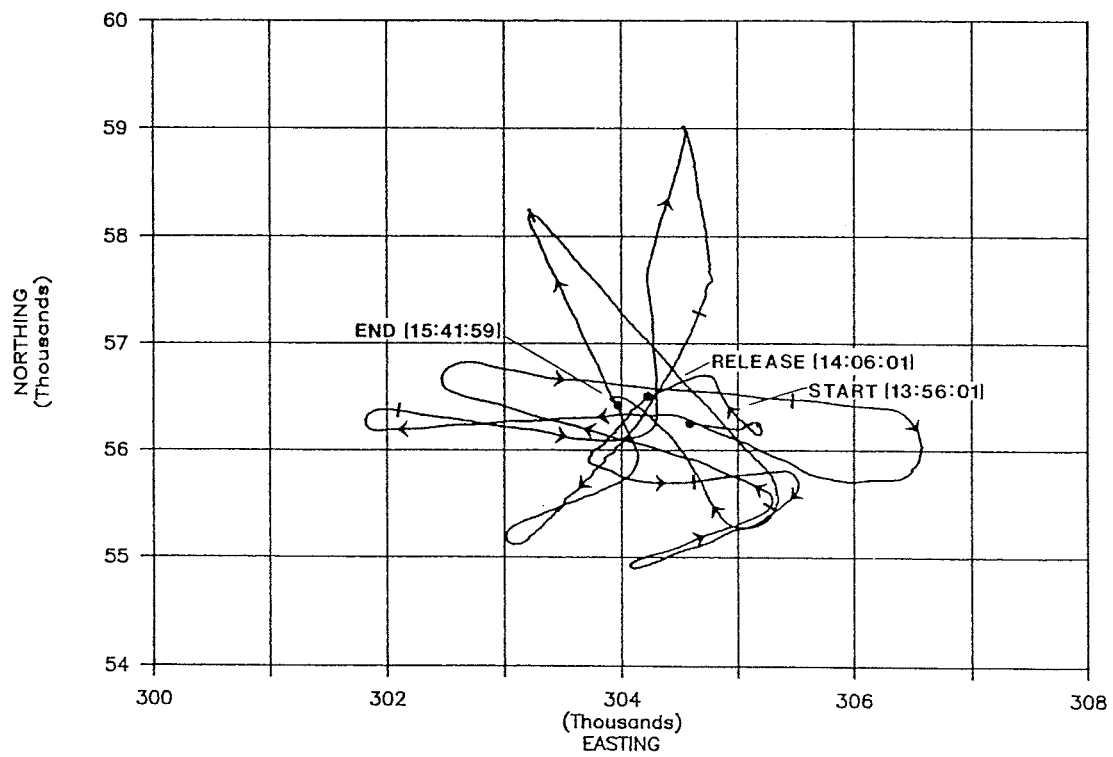
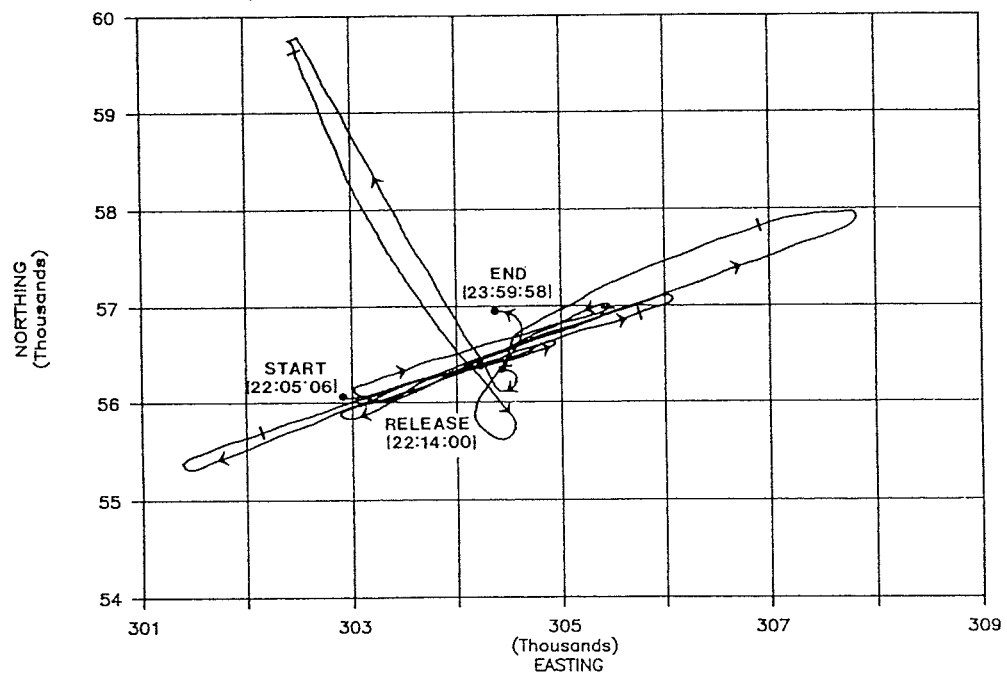
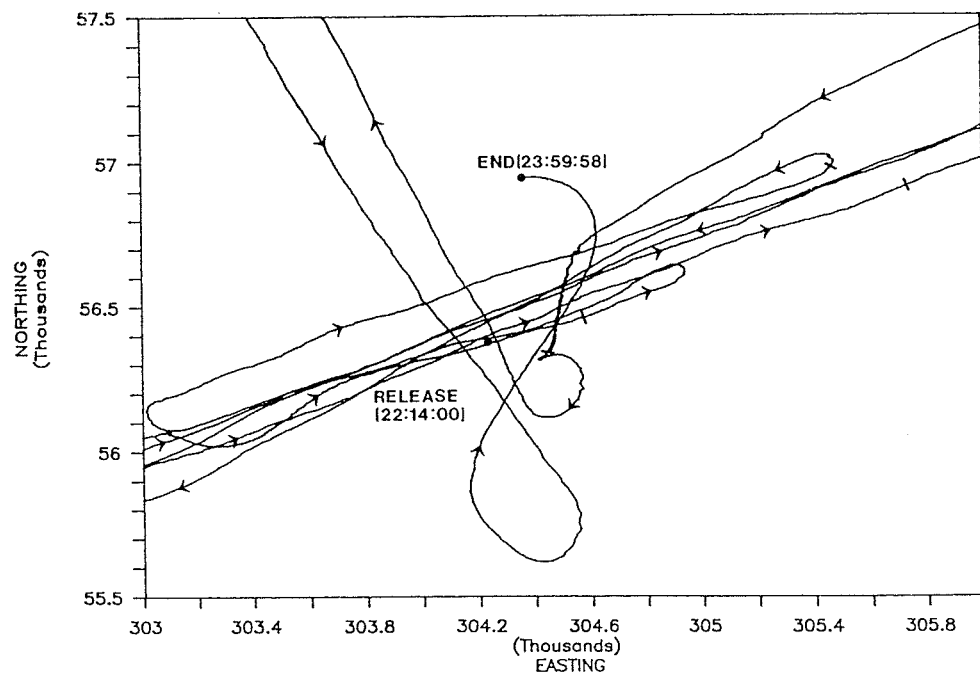


Figure 3.5. Cruise track for Survey 239A.



a. Complete track.



b. Enlargement of transects.

Figure 3.6. Cruise track for Survey 239B.

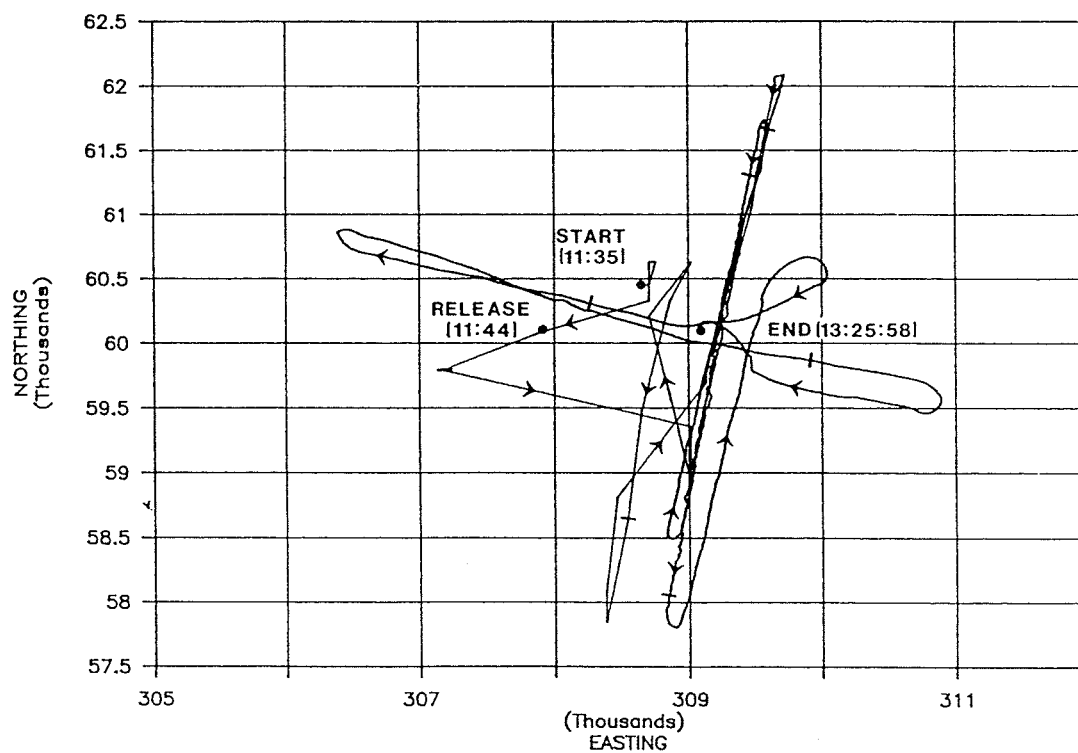
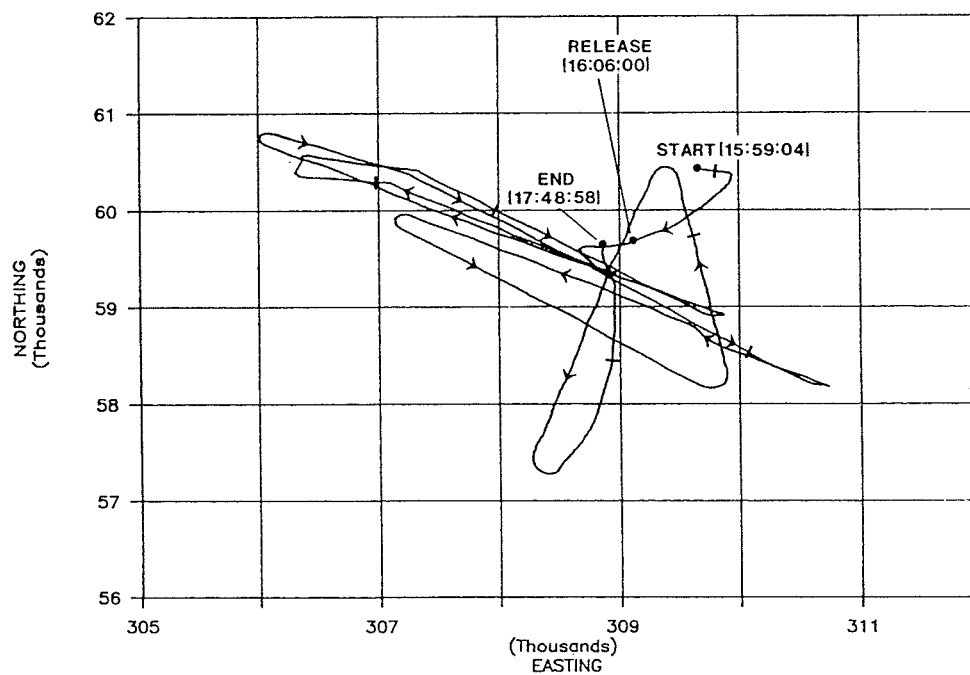
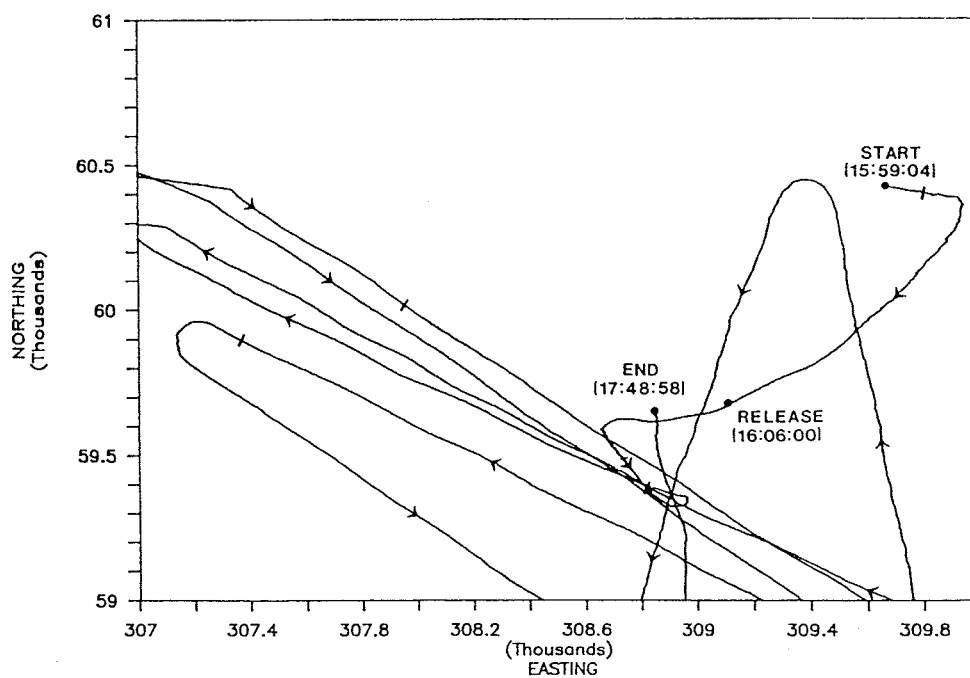


Figure 3.7. Cruise track for Survey 241A.





a. Complete track.



b. Enlargement of transects.

Figure 3.8. Cruise track for Survey 242A.

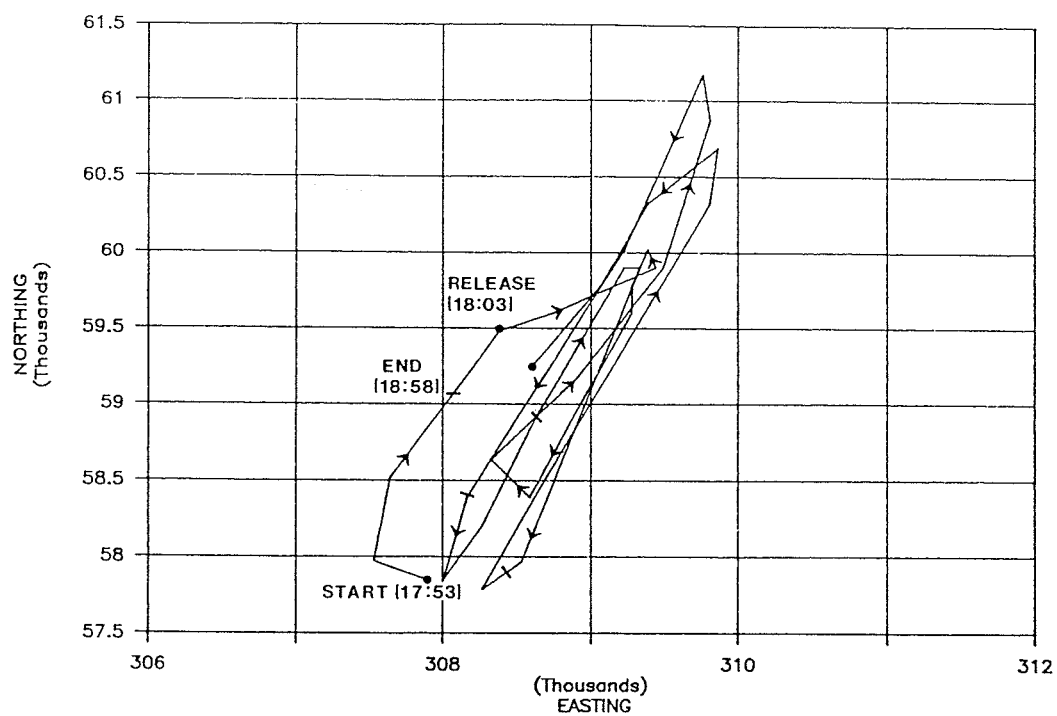


Figure 3.9. Cruise track for Survey 243A.

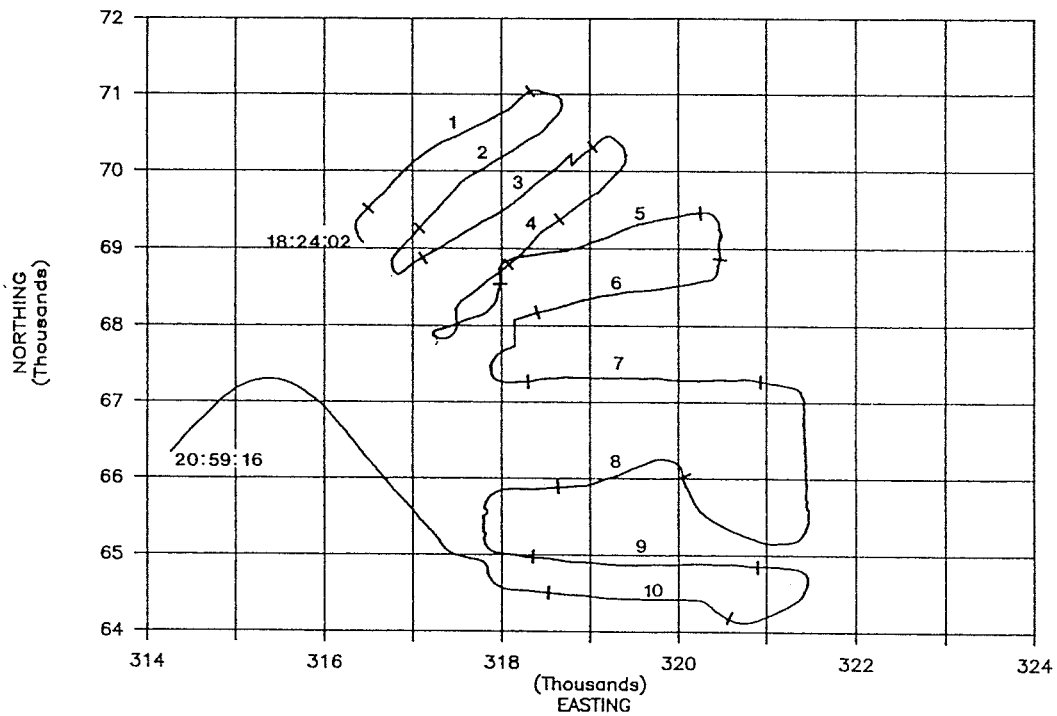


Figure 3.10. Cruise track for shallow-water berm survey.

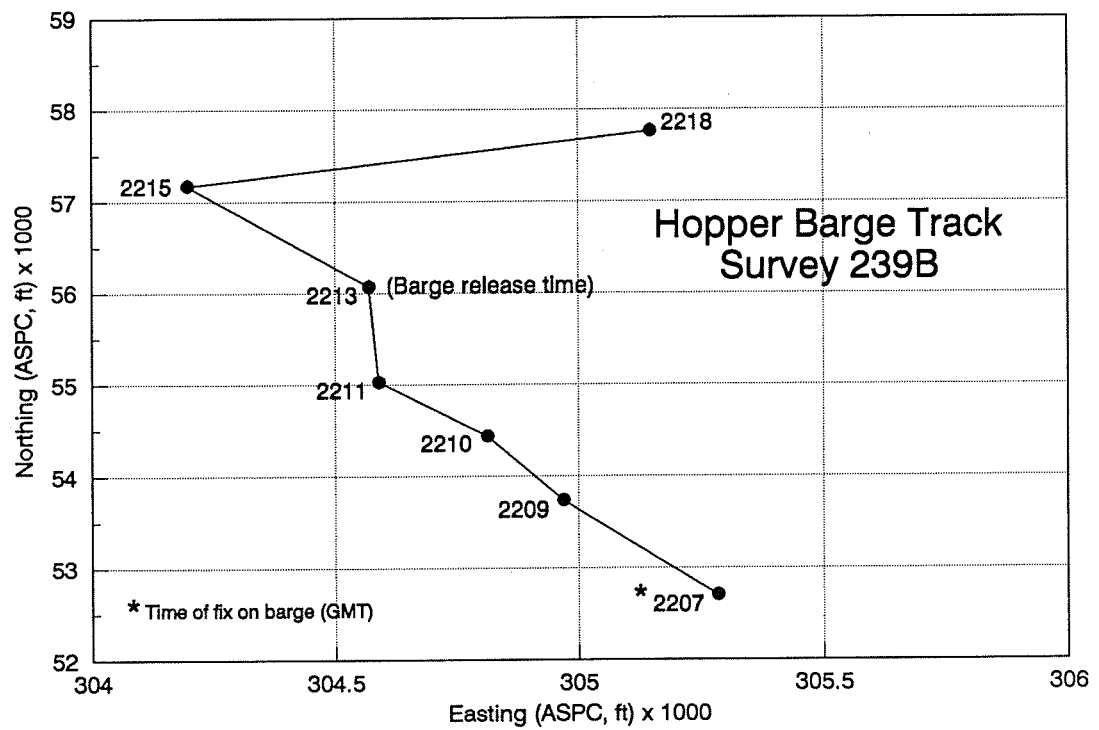


Figure 3.11. Barge track for Survey 239B as computed from periodic fixes.

**CHAPTER 4**

**PROJECT MEASUREMENTS: IN SITU WATER PROPERTIES,  
SUSPENDED AND BOTTOM SEDIMENT, AND AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY**

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## **1. Introduction**

A significant portion of the effort to characterize the dispersion of dredged material in the coastal waters at the Mobile Field Data Collection site was spent measuring in situ water properties and collecting water and sediment samples for independent laboratory analysis of water properties. This information is relevant in its own right to the research objectives of the Mobile Field Data Collection Project (MFDCP), and it is also vital for calibration, verification, and interpretation of the concurrent acoustic measurements. The data are also pertinent to formulation of numerical models of open-water dredged material dispersion. Stratification of the water column at the site, nature of the sediments suspended in the water column from dispersion of dredged material, and nature of sediments found at the site of release after dispersion were carefully measured. The data collection equipment and procedures and data analysis are described in this chapter. Aerial photography taken during some of the surveyed dredged material placement operations is also described.

## **2. In Situ Water Property Measurements, Samples, and Analysis**

### **Measurement and Sampling Equipment**

During the data collection efforts offshore of Mobile, the equipment aboard the *R/V Pelican* included a Sea-Bird model SBE 9 data logger with sensors for measuring temperature, conductivity, pressure, dissolved oxygen, fluorescence, light transmission, and sediment concentration with an optical backscatter sensor (OBS). The manufacturers' stated resolutions of selected sensors were 0.0003 deg C temperature, 0.00004 Siemens/m conductivity, and 0.004 percent of full-depth scale (600 m). All instruments performed as anticipated with the exception of the OBS sensor. The OBS circuitry was accidentally damaged during an attempted suspended sediment calibration procedure at the start of the cruise and could not be repaired at sea. The outputs of all sensors were digitized by the SBE 9 at 32 Hz. The submersible sensor and data logger assembly were mounted within a General Oceanics rosette sampling apparatus, which was equipped with twelve 5-l Niskin sampling bottles. The rosette was lowered via a starboard davit on a single conductor cable. A shipboard microcomputer, operating Sea-Bird "Seasoft" (Sea-Bird Electronics, Inc. 1989) data acquisition software, controlled recording and real-time display of sensor data. The time and sequence of sampling were controlled by a General Oceanics rosette deck box.

## Measurement and Sampling Procedures

Water depth at the field data collection site varied from 4 to 15 m. The *R/V Pelican* was either positioned at the site of a pending barge release for measurement of background conditions or placed in the plume of dredged material by visual observations of the surface and by acoustical echo amplitude indications from either the Acoustic Concentration Profiler (ACP) or Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (ADCP). The rosette was lowered at 10 m/min or slower to within 1 to 2 m above the bottom, and closure of two Niskin bottles was signaled after a 30-sec minimum flushing period. The rosette was then raised to intermediate depths selected by review of real-time screen plots of temperature, salinity, and percent light transmission profiles, and flushed 15 to 30 sec at each depth before additional bottles were closed. Background casts typically involved closure of five bottles: two at the bottom, one at an intermediate depth, and two at the nominal surface (about 1-m depth at the pressure sensor). On deck, the first bottle at the bottom and the last bottle at the surface were sub-sampled in 8-oz glass bottles for later salinity measurements. Other full Niskin bottles were drained and flushed with the deck hose (salt water) into 10-l plastic containers. The 10-l containers were sterilized with 5 to 10 ml of full strength formaldehyde to minimize the effects of biological activity on later suspended sediment measurements.

The depths were recorded as measured by the Sea-Bird pressure sensor at the bottom of the rosette, about 20 cm below the bottom of the 5-l Niskin bottles. Depths varied with heave of the ship, which usually was less than 0.2 m during the field data collection effort. The Niskin bottles filled from both their tops and bottoms, so the recorded depth could be considered the bottom of an approximately 1-m-deep layer from which the Niskin bottles filled.

Information including release number, cast number, date, time, position, ambient weather conditions, and depth of bottle closure was manually recorded during each cast on laboratory log sheets. A software event marker was applied to record the value of all measured parameters at the time each bottle closure was signaled. The signal to close a bottle did not result in closure until several seconds later, so the times of actual closure were 5 to 7 sec after the times noted in the marker files. The entire cast was continuously recorded as a time series of all measured parameters on a separate file. The unique serial numbers of each salinity and suspended sediment sample container were noted after each cast beside the associated Niskin bottle (rosette) number on a deck log sheet, along with the date, time, release, and cast number. The duration of each cast, from the time the rosette went over the side to its return on deck, was 15 to 20 min.

Forty-two casts were completed, which included collection of 110 suspended sediment samples and 82 salinity subsamples.

Water samples were initially taken at the bottom and intermediate depths, when the rosette was positioned in a plume of dredged material. This system was later changed to leave the rosette about 2 m above the bottom and to close bottles at that depth according to guidance from the real-time acoustics. The latter system proved to be more effective for capturing sediment during the transient plume events.

Positioning the ship in the heart of a plume of dredged material for a time interval long enough to collect a stationary series of in situ samples proved to be difficult. A number of clear water samples in 10- $\ell$  containers from earlier casts were sacrificed midway through the cruise to provide additional containers. Background samples were thus reduced to one or two suspended sediment samples and one salinity sample per cast.

#### **Analysis of Water Property Measurements**

Salinity samples were tested with an AGE 2100 automatic temperature compensating salinometer at the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON) laboratory complex at Cocodrie, Louisiana.\* Salinities were recorded as the mean of three instrument readings. These data are presented in Table 4.1 with the associated marker file depth and time and the cast number during which the samples were collected.

The Seasoft software automatically computed temperature in degrees Celcius, salinity in practical salinity units (PSU) (e.g., Perkin and Lewis 1980), various density parameters in kilograms per cubic meter, and depth in meters. Temperature and salinity raw data were played back as depth profiles and anomalous spikes noted. The downcast (descending portion) and upcast (ascending) were next split into separate files. All of the data in the downcast files were averaged into 0.5-m-depth bins and again reviewed. Bins with obvious spikes were deleted from these averaged downcast files. A few casts lacked sufficient data points in the downcast at some depths, in which case data from the corresponding depth-bin averaged upcast were added to the file. Temperature (T), salinity (S), and potential density ( $\sigma_\theta$ ) were next plotted as depth profiles for each cast and reviewed a third time for consistency with each other and general knowledge of prevailing oceanographic conditions at the site. Potential density ( $\sigma_\theta$ ) is generally defined as the

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\* Personal Communication, 12 September 1989, Dr. Denise J. Reed, Marine Geologist, Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium, Chauvin, LA.

density a parcel of water would have if it were adiabatically raised to atmospheric pressure, less  $1,000 \text{ kg/m}^3$  (nominal density of pure water). Salinities measured in the laboratory from samples collected during the upcast were superimposed for comparison to in situ-measured salinities. Unusual discrepancies led to correction of transposed data points and a few data point deletions.

A conventional procedure of curve-fitting salinity profiles with systematic rejection of outliers beyond a residual threshold criterion was discontinued because of complications associated with the shallow depths of the casts and the strong vertical stratification present in the water column. This procedure, routinely used for much deeper casts in the open ocean, vertically smooths the data and fits a polynomial curve to each cast for derivation of sensor-sample calibration statistics. Polynomial curves fit to the 4- to 15-m depth and 5 to 6 PSU vertical salinity variations at the site produced unrealistic profiles, and other common curve forms (e.g., power, log, and exponential curves) produced similar aberrations. Visual inspection revealed that salinities measured from bottle samples are consistently very close to the salinities concurrently measured by the conductivity and temperature sensors.

Depth profiles of temperature, salinity, sigma-theta (density), velocity of sound, light transmission, and Brunt-Väisälä frequency are displayed in Appendix 4A. Casts are noted by the survey (release) number, the cast number during that survey, and "D" for descending (downcast) data only. Data are plotted as points with a cubic spline curve (tension factor 2) superimposed. Square data points superimposed on salinity profiles indicate salinities measured in the laboratory from samples collected during the ascending (upcast) portion of the cast from the depths at which the points are plotted.

Sound velocity  $V_s$  was computed as a function of temperature, salinity, and pressure (depth) for each cast, according to Chen and Millero (1977). This parameter did not change greatly in the shallow depths encountered. The stratification revealed in the salinity and  $\sigma_\theta$  profiles corresponds to a speed of sound variation of only a few percent.

Light transmission was reported as percentage of the transmitted beam intensity received across the 5-cm path length of the transmissometer. No statistical calibration of this transmission scale with bottle concentration data was attempted, since visual inspection indicated large scatter (poor correlation) over the range of concentrations encountered. During one cast (C244B002), the transmission was essentially zero, indicating a suspended sediment concentration higher than about  $100 \text{ mg/l}$ , the nominal limit of the transmissometer.



The buoyant stability of water masses in a stratified ocean is usually considered in terms of the rate of change of density with depth. The stability parameter,  $E$ , is defined as:

$$E = - \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial z} - \frac{g}{V_s^2} \quad (4.1)$$

where

- $\rho$  = seawater density
- $z$  = vertical coordinate, positive upward
- $g$  = acceleration of gravity
- $V_s$  = velocity of sound, m/sec

The first term in Equation 4.1 is on the order of  $10^{-3}$  for the MFDCP data, and the second term is on the order of  $10^{-6}$ ; therefore, stability can be practically estimated by:

$$E = \frac{-1}{\rho_{s,\theta,0}} \frac{\partial \sigma_\theta}{\partial z} \times 10^{-3} \quad (4.2)$$

where  $\rho_{s,\theta,0}$  is the density corresponding to  $\sigma_\theta$  at a given depth. The Brunt-Väisälä frequency,  $N$ , conceptually is the rate at which a parcel of water displaced vertically from its equilibrium depth would oscillate up and down about its equilibrium position (Knauss 1978). It is related to stability by:

$$N = (gE)^{1/2} \quad (4.3)$$

The corresponding period of the oscillation is:

$$T_N = \frac{2\pi}{N} \quad (4.4)$$

The frequency of oscillations along density interfaces (internal waves) cannot be higher than the Brunt-Väisälä frequency, nor lower than the inertial frequency, whose corresponding period in hours,  $T_I$ , is:

$$T_I = \frac{12 \text{ hr}}{\sin \phi} \quad (4.5)$$

where  $\phi$  is latitude in degrees. Brunt-Väisälä periods are rarely as small as a minute and are commonly several hours in the deep ocean. Profiles of sound velocity, light transmission, and Brunt-Väisälä frequency are included in Appendix 4A. Data are plotted as points with a cubic spline curve (tension factor 2) superimposed on the sound velocity and light transmission profiles.

A peak in Brunt-Väisälä frequency denotes a density interface or layer of strong vertical density gradient, which for the MFDCP data appears to correspond primarily to salinity variations. The consistent lower density above a saltier and denser layer implies that fresher water from Mobile Bay was flowing out over saltier gulf water throughout most of the field data collection effort. Significant vertical gradients of horizontal currents revealed by both moored current meters and ADCP support this hypothesis.

A Brunt-Väisälä frequency peak near  $0.004 \text{ sec}^{-1}$ , corresponding to a period of about 26 min, was observed during Survey 239B on the evening of 27 August 1989 (Julian date 239, cast C239B003) in the water column at about 5-m depth at the time a surface slick (in phase convergent zone) was observed propagating outward from the path of the tug and hopper barge. There was a notable minimum in light transmission, denoting a layer of higher suspended sediment concentration, at this same depth. The dispersion relation for internal waves in a two-layer system, assuming both layers are shallow with respect to the wavelength, reduces to

$$C^2 = \frac{gh''h'}{h'' + h'} \left(1 - \frac{\rho'}{\rho''}\right) \quad (4.6)$$

where  $h'$  and  $h''$  are the depths of the upper and lower layers, and  $\rho'$  and  $\rho''$  are the layer densities (Knauss 1978). An estimate of the observed internal wave's propagation speed,  $C$ , is thus about 0.4 m/sec or about 1 knot, based on water property profiles measured by cast C239B003. The slick appeared to be moving away from the track of the barge at walking speed, or about 1 to 2 mph, as observed from the stationary bridge of the *R/V Pelican*.

## Laboratory Treatment and Analysis of Water Samples

**Filtration.** Water samples were left standing still for 72 hr to allow settling of sediment. As much as 60 percent of the water was then decanted to minimize the filtration time. The remainder of the sample, which included all the sediment, was filtered through a preweighed cellulose Millipore filter with a 0.45- $\mu$  retention rating. Because of the high suspended sediment concentration in some samples, multiple filter papers were used if necessary on individual samples. Filter papers were dried and reweighed to determine the amount of sediment retained. A correction factor to account for changes in filter paper weight caused by salt or the wetting/drying process was determined by treating clean filters with filtered water. Weights were summed for all filters as total dry weight in grams of sediment in each sample.

**Grain Size Distributions.** The dry filter papers obtained from the filtration procedure were combusted in a muffled furnace for 16 hr at 375 deg C. The sediment residue was treated with 30-percent hydrogen peroxide to remove organics. The small remaining amount of sediment was subjected to a multitube Coulter Multisizer analysis. The three tubes used included 280, 140, and 50- $\mu$  ratings. Continuous grain size distributions were derived using Coulter AccuComp software.

The summarized sample information of Table 4.2 is consolidated from field laboratory log sheets, deck log sheets, Seasoft event marker files, and filtered sediment dry weights. The laboratory and deck logs and marker files were used to match a cast number with each sample bottle number and identify the corresponding depth and time at which the rosette bottle was closed.

Suspended sediment concentrations assume a 5- $\ell$  volume of water in each Niskin bottle. No bottles that showed signs of leakage were flushed into sample containers. Spillage was never more than 10 to 20 ml, so the concentrations can be considered to have less than 1-percent error because of volume measurement.

**Grain Size Statistics.** The grain size distributions from the fine suspended sediments sampled during the field data collection effort were reported as percentages finer than increments of 0.5  $\phi$ , from 2.5  $\phi$  (177  $\mu$ ) to 9.0  $\phi$  (1.95  $\mu$ ). The differences in percentages finer than the consecutive size classes reported are displayed in Appendix 4B as density function of sizes in each sample. The first and last data points are understood to be the percentage finer than 1.95  $\mu$  and percentage coarser than 177  $\mu$ , respectively. The classes between these limits are (in microns): 1.95 to 2.76, 2.76 to 3.96, 3.96 to 5.5, 5.5 to 8, 8 to 11, 11 to 16, 16 to 22, 22 to 31, 31 to 44, 44 to 63, 63 to 88, 88 to 125, and 125 to 177.

Table 4.3 presents statistical parameters based on the distributions of Appendix 4B. The parameters  $\phi_{16}$ ,  $\phi_{50}$ ,  $\phi_{84}$ ,  $D_{40}$ ,  $D_{50}$ , and  $D_{90}$  are the  $\phi$  values or diameters for which the percentage denoted by the subscript is finer. The parameters  $\bar{\phi}$  and  $\bar{D}$  are mean values estimated (*Shore Protection Manual* 1984) as

$$\bar{\phi} = \frac{\phi_{16} + \phi_{50} + \phi_{84}}{3} \quad (4.7)$$

and

$$\bar{D} = 2^{-\bar{\phi}} \quad (4.8)$$

The sample grain size standard deviation is estimated as

$$\sigma_{\phi} = \frac{\phi_{84} - \phi_{16}}{2} \quad (4.9)$$

and

$$\sigma_D = 2^{-\sigma_{\phi}} \quad (4.10)$$

Sample kurtosis (skewness) is computed as

$$\alpha_{\phi} = \frac{\bar{\phi} - \phi_{50}}{\sigma_{\phi}} \quad (4.11)$$

A symmetrical distribution would have no kurtosis, and the median would equal the mean. A negative kurtosis as computed here denotes a right skewness (shallow slope to the right of the peak density). Virtually all the samples are right skewed, but those with small positive kurtosis can be seen to have minimum probability density to the right of the peak.

The uniformity coefficient (Sowers and Sowers 1970) is computed as

$$C_u = \frac{D_{40}}{D_{90}} \quad (4.12)$$

Samples with  $C_u$  less than 4 are generally uniform, and those with  $C_u$  greater than 6 are generally well graded, assuming a smooth and roughly symmetrical distribution.

### 3. Prerelease Dredged Material Samples and Analysis

During 28-29 August 1989, personnel from the U. S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station's Hydraulics Laboratory (WES/HL) obtained sediment surface samples of dredged sediment from two fully loaded hopper barges corresponding to Surveys 240B and 241B. Representative sediment samples were also obtained at different depths within one barge as it was being loaded. The barge load from which the profile samples were taken corresponds to a night release that was not monitored by the MFDCP. All samples were analyzed to determine bulk density and moisture content. Grain size distributions were determined by sieving selected samples.

The sampling team, composed of three persons, boarded two fully loaded barges to obtain water surface and grab samples of the solid material in the barge. A 1-l bottle was lowered and filled approximately 1 ft below the water level at several stations around the inside perimeter of the barge to sample the muddy water standing above the settled dredged material. These sampling locations, labeled arbitrarily, are shown in Figure 4.1. A clamshell grab sampler was lowered at the same stations to the sediment surface beneath the surface water layer to obtain samples of the settled material (Figure 4.2). Depth of the grab samples, measured in feet by a lead line, varied from station to station in both barges (Table 4.4), indicating uneven distribution of material within the barges after completion of loading. The uneven surface also indicates the material was largely consolidated (lumpy). The barge corresponding to Survey 240B had been en route to the placement site for approximately 90 min when the water surface and grab samples were taken, and the barge corresponding to Survey 241B had been en route for approximately 30 min.

Grain size analysis of the solids from one of the water surface samples in the barge load of Survey 240B indicated approximately equal amounts of fine sand and silt/clay. Moisture content ranged from 61 to 91 percent with bulk densities varying between 1.06 to 1.31 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, as shown in Table 4.4. As expected, moisture content of the grab sample material was somewhat lower, with a range of 54 to 62 percent, and bulk densities were higher, ranging from 1.27 to 1.38 g/cm<sup>3</sup>.

Grain size analysis of solids in the water surface samples from the barge load of Survey 241B showed an approximate 40:60 ratio of fine-grained sand to silt/clay. The moisture contents of samples ranged from 81 to 97 percent with bulk densities of 1.02 to 1.09 g/cm<sup>3</sup>. The grab sample material had a moisture content range of 55 to 62 percent with bulk densities of 1.30 to 1.37 g/cm<sup>3</sup>.

A representative sediment sample of the dredged material in a loaded barge was obtained using 18 containers designed by WES/HL for sampling clamshell dredge loading operations and

positioned in the empty barge prior to loading (Figures 4.3, 4.4). The sampling devices were strung together with cable at distances of 4, 11, and 21 ft, lowered into the barge, and anchored from the deck at six stations around the inside perimeter of the barge. These sampling stations were in approximately the same location as the water surface and grab samples described earlier (Figure 4.1). The samplers were filled as the material rose above the selected elevation, providing a representative sample of the material upon initial loading. The samplers were recovered, and sediment was removed for analysis after the barge released the material. The dredged material from which the samples were taken was released after daylight hours on 28 August and was not monitored by the MFDCP, but these representative samples do provide important information of material variability within a barge and the effect of compaction upon the material.

Analysis of the material removed from the profile samplers (Table 4.5) revealed primarily fine-grained sand and larger amounts of coarse sand than in previously described samples. Moisture content reached a maximum of 49 percent in the samplers placed at the 4-ft depth, but decreased to 17 percent in the samplers at the 21-ft depth. This decrease is attributable to the expulsion of pore water by compression from the overburden material during and after loading of the barge. The bulk densities increased through compaction from a range of 1.5 to 1.9 g/cm<sup>3</sup> at the 4-ft depth to a range of 1.9 to 2.1 g/cm<sup>3</sup> at the 21-ft depth.

#### **4. Postrelease Bottom Grab Samples and Analysis**

Following most surveys, the *R/V Pelican* returned to the location of the release site (recorded from the *R/V Pelican*'s Loran C navigational system) to obtain bottom sediment samples. The samples were acquired in an attempt to measure grain size characteristics of the newly released dredged material that had settled at the disposal site. Unfortunately, it cannot be conclusively proven that samples obtained from the postrelease grabs were composed of the newly released dredged material. The location of each release site is ambiguous because of continued movement of the barge as the material was released and positioning accuracy of Loran C (+/-100 m). The bottom samples probably represent a mixture of newly released dredged material, previously released dredged material, and some native sediments as suggested by the presence of polychaete worms and oxidized wood found in some samples.

The bottom samples were obtained by using a Peterson clamshell grab sampler, that was lowered over the side of the *R/V Pelican*. In several cases, the grab sampler had to be reset and

lowered as many as four times to obtain a proper sample. Most samples were collected 1.6 to 3.2 hr after the barge release. Grab samples were not taken after Survey 234A, and a sample from Survey 239A was taken approximately 2 min after the release. Field observations associated with each sample are shown in Table 4.6.

After the MFDGP cruise, the samples were dried for several days, ground, and split by the cone quartering method. One quarter of the sample was then sieved at 1- $\phi$  intervals from 1 mm to 63  $\mu$ . Silts and clays remaining in the pan were analyzed on a Coulter Multisizer, using a 2-tube technique (140 and 150  $\mu$ ). Grain size distributions of sand from the sieve analyses were combined with silt and clay grain size distributions using Coulter AccuComp software. Data from both techniques were combined under the assumption that particle volume and weight were equivalent measures. The grain size distribution of the sediment was recorded as cumulative percent greater than the phi size.

Most bottom grab samples consisted of a medium- to fine-grained sand containing less than 5-percent silts and clays (Table 4.7). Prerelease samples obtained from the hopper barges corresponding to Surveys 240B and 241B indicate that a larger percentage of silts and clays was released. Also, field estimates of sediment content for most surveys indicate a higher percentage of silts and clays (Table 3.4).

## **5. Aerial Photography**

Seven hopper barge releases were photographed from the air during the period 27-31 August (Julian Days 239-243) to record the size and configuration of the surface sediment plume. The photography corresponds to Surveys 239A, 240A, 240B, 241A, 242A, 242B, and 243A.

The photography was performed by Woolpert Consultants, located in Mobile, Alabama. A Wild RC20 camera with a yellow D filter, loaded with color infrared film type 2443, was mounted from a Cessna 210 aircraft. Photographs were taken at altitudes of 1,000 to 1,100 ft above sea level during 7- to 120-min periods that included the barge release (typically lasting for 20 min). Following a release, photographs were taken at 3,100- to 6,700-ft altitudes in approximately 5-min intervals as long as the sediment plume remained visible to the pilot. A total of approximately 14.5 hr of flight time was clocked including preparation for takeoff and photography.

Many of the photographs taken during periods with little or no cloud cover contained considerable sun glare with the result that the tug, ship, and sediment plume were barely detectable in the

photographs. Also, limited visibility during periods of cloud cover, and lack of light during the late afternoon releases produced dark photographs. However, a few useful photographs were obtained. A list of the photographs including a quality rating is given in Table 4.8.

Based on the experience gained, the wide turning radius of a fixed-wing plane proved inappropriate for documenting the movement of a barge, plume, and sampling vessel. A helicopter for this type of photography is recommended for future monitoring operations. It is also recommended that several film types be tested for best recording of the plume.

### Acknowledgments

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Table 4.1  
In Situ Salinity Sample Data

<u>Bottle No.</u>	<u>Average Salinity PSU</u>	<u>Cast No.</u>	<u>Depth m</u>	<u>Time GMT*</u>
1	28.31	C234A001	4.31	20:36:23
2	25.86	C234A001	1.26	20:38:17
3	29.20	C235A001	4.46	13:49:05
4	28.17	C235A001	1.43	13:50:48
5	29.23	C235B001	5.56	17:07:13
6	31.18	C235B002	11.35	17:10:43
7	27.20	C235B002	1.27	17:15:25
8	31.19	C235A003	11.85	18:24:00
9	29.28	C235B003	8.10	--**
10	29.00	C235B003	1.25	18:27:50
11	31.27	C235B004	11.51	18:40:25
12	29.73	C235B004	8.12	18:43:59
13	28.36	C235B004	1.48	18:48:56
14	29.23	C236A001	7.06	00:22:56
15	26.41	C236A001	1.20	00:25:01
16	30.84	C236A002	9.55	00:26:14
17	26.76	C236A002	1.75	00:28:21
18	30.38	C236A003	8.58	01:18:07
19	26.27	C236A003	1.20	--
20	31.22	C236B001	11.37	15:06:35
21	29.23	C236B001	1.27	15:11:56
22	31.26	C236B002	9.55	15:14:07
23	29.20	C236B002	1.37	15:17:24
24	31.73	C236B003	12.01	16:02:51
25	28.48	C236B003	1.10	--
26	30.66	C236B004	9.84	16:40:46
27	28.35	C236B004	1.33	16:44:24
28	31.73	C236C001	13.15	20:20:29
29	25.96	C236C001	1.30	20:25:50
30	31.44	C236C002	11.21	22:35:22
31	26.11	C236C002	1.29	22:40:58
32	33.04	C237A001	13.53	13:23:32
33	28.77	C237A001	0.98	13:27:23

(Continued)

\* Greenwich Mean Time.

\*\* Not available.

(Sheet 1 of 3)

Table 4.1 (Continued)

<u>Bottle No.</u>	<u>Average Salinity PSU</u>	<u>Cast No.</u>	<u>Depth m</u>	<u>Time GMT</u>
34	32.02	C237A002	12.37	14:40:33
35	28.81	C237A002	0.91	14:45:04
36	33.31	C237B001	12.77	21:49:41
37	26.51	C237B001	0.95	21:52:31
38	33.02	C237B002	11.47	22:49:56
39	25.86	C237B002	1.14	22:53:22
40	32.61	C238A001	11.45	12:46:52
41	32.89	C238A002	10.79	14:54:12
42	28.78	C238A002	1.12	14:56:51
43	33.06	C238B001	12.06	21:27:04
44	27.07	C238B001	1.12	21:30:11
45	33.14	C239A001	13.56	12:42:19
46	27.52	C239A001	1.06	12:46:11
47	32.55	C239A002	11.19	14:13:44
48	27.50	C239A002	1.28	14:19:23
49	32.64	C239B002	10.38	21:48:08
50	28.17	C239B002	0.97	21:49:54
51	33.32	C239B003	12.18	23:24:13
52	30.15	C239B003	5.77	23:26:22
53	26.92	C239B003	1.48	23:28:18
54	32.89	C240A001	11.50	13:07:30
55	28.05	C240A001	6.11	13:10:07
56	26.50	C240A001	1.16	13:12:25
57	32.01	C240A002	10.73	13:41:54
58	27.31	C240A002	4.34	13:44:36
59	26.49	C240A002	1.25	13:46:01
60	31.65	C240A003	10.20	--
61	27.21	C240A003	1.10	--
62	33.13	C240B002	11.46	19:53:32
63	27.12	C240B002	1.16	19:55:46
64	32.82	C240B003	9.75	20:39:28
65	32.60	C240B003	9.72	20:45:24
66	32.66	C241A002	10.53	11:04:56
67	27.92	C241A002	1.13	11:07:43
68	32.36	C241B001	11.13	18:17:24
69	26.84	C241B001	1.05	18:20:08
70	27.03	C241B002	5.50	--
71	27.13	C241B002	1.48	19:00:55
72	27.48	C242A001	1.25	15:44:56

(Continued)

(Sheet 2 of 3)

Table 4.1 (Concluded)

<u>Bottle No.</u>	<u>Average Salinity PSU</u>	<u>Cast No.</u>	<u>Depth m</u>	<u>Time GMT</u>
73	27.88	C242A002	7.18	16:08:52
74	28.58	C242A002	7.15	16:13:09
75	32.39	C242B001	11.08	22:46:44
76	31.70	C243A001	8.71	17:18:21
77	36.31	C244MRP1*	35.19	05:53:59
78	21.78	C244MRP1	1.61	06:00:57
79	35.50	C244MRP2	23.20	09:14:10
80	21.62	C244MRP2	1.40	09:20:11
81	35.60	C244MRP3	20.10	--
82	21.43	C244MRP3	1.10	--

\* Mississippi River plume survey samples.

(Sheet 3 of 3)

Table 4.2

Suspended Sediment Sample Summary Information

Survey No.	Cast No.	Bottle No.	Depth m	Time GMT	T deg C	S PSU	V, m/sec	Trans. percent	Sed. Wt. g	Conc. mg/l	Remarks
234A	1	1002	1.3	20:38:17	30.1	25.63	1,536.0	83.2	0.0963	19.3	ARMS* site, surface
235A	1	1003	4.2	13:49:22	29.2	29.13	1,537.8	80.6	0.0450	9.0	ARMS site, bottom
235A	1	1004	1.4	13:51:03	29.3	28.00	1,536.8	85.5	0.0259	5.2	ARMS site, surface
235B	1	1005	5.6	17:07:32	29.6	29.08	1,538.8	66.1	0.0552	11.0	Bottom
235B	1	1006	2.2	17:08:18	29.8	28.75	1,538.6	67.4	0.1218	24.4	
235B	2	1008	11.2	17:11:15	29.0	20.32	1,528.4	74.0	0.0412	8.2	Maybe fouled sensors
235B	2	1009	5.9	17:13:05	29.7	20.08	1,529.6	84.7	0.0795	15.9	Maybe fouled sensors
235B	3	1012	11.8	18:24:16	29.1	24.64	1,533.1	84.2	0.0455	9.1	
235B	3	1013	4.2	18:26:54	29.6	28.94	1,538.5	92.4	0.0083	1.7	
235B	4	1015	11.5	18:40:49	29.1	21.71	1,529.9	75.4	0.0330	6.6	Maybe fouled sensors
235B	4	1016	4.4	18:46:37	29.8	21.36	1,531.1	92.0	0.0119	2.4	Maybe fouled sensors
235C	1	--**	4.3	21:03:35	29.3	29.13	1,538.1	80.2	--	--	ARMS site, no samples
236A	1	1018	7.4	00:23:18	29.5	29.45	1,539.0	92.8	0.0558	11.2	
236A	1	1019	4.2	00:24:06	29.7	28.87	1,538.7	93.7	0.0207	4.1	
236A	1	1020	1.1	00:24:39	30.0	26.51	1,536.7	56.8	0.1077	21.5	

\* ARMS: Acoustic Resuspension Measurement System; discussed in Chapter 1.

\*\* Not available.

Table 4.2 (Continued)

Survey No.	Cast No.	Bottle No.	Depth m	Time GMT	T deg C	S PSU	V, m/sec	Trans. percent	Sed. Wt. g	Conc. mg/l	Remarks
236A	2	1021	9.4	00:26:34	29.0	30.79	1,539.2	63.7	0.0656	13.1	Same spot as 1st cast
236A	2	1022	5.4	00:27:17	29.7	29.24	1,539.1	94.3	0.0076	1.5	
236A	2	1023	1.6	00:28:05	30.0	26.70	1,537.0	77.2	0.0574	11.5	
236A	3	1024	8.6	01:18:42	29.2	30.41	1,539.2	87.8	0.0234	4.7	Bottom
236B	1	1027	11.4	15:06:52	28.8	31.76	1,539.9	77.4	0.0312	6.2	Bottom
236B	1	1028	9.2	15:08:36	29.1	30.90	1,539.5	86.2	0.0240	4.8	
236B	1	1030	1.3	15:11:40	29.6	29.02	1,538.6	84.0	0.0450	9.0	Surface
236B	2	1031	9.4	15:14:23	29.0	31.10	1,539.6	79.7	0.0407	8.1	Same spot as 1st cast
236B	2	1033	1.2	15:17:08	29.7	28.98	1,538.7	92.9	0.0088	1.8	
236B	3	1034	12.0	16:03:35	28.8	31.72	1,539.9	79.3	0.0377	7.5	Postrelease fluff sample
236B	3	1035	12.0	16:03:50	28.8	31.72	1,539.9	81.0	0.0292	5.8	Postrelease fluff sample
236B	4	1036	9.8	16:41:07	29.0	31.07	1,539.6	80.6	0.0347	6.9	
236C	1	1038	13.2	20:20:46	28.7	31.75	1,539.7	28.9	0.1562	31.2	
236C	2	1041	11.2	22:35:37	28.7	31.66	1,539.7	--	--	--	
236C	2	1042	11.1	22:35:55	28.8	31.63	1,539.7	31.5	0.1713	34.3	
236C	2	1043	8.8	22:36:59	29.1	31.42	1,540.2	89.2	0.0404	8.1	
236C	2	1044	6.6	22:38:08	29.4	30.31	1,539.6	90.7	0.0682	13.2	
236C	2	1045	4.2	22:39:20	29.8	29.26	1,539.3	89.7	0.0257	5.1	

(Continued)

Table 4.2 (Continued)

Survey No.	Cast No.	Bottle No.	Depth m	Time GMT	T deg C	S PSU	V <sub>s</sub> m/sec	Trans. percent	Sed. Wt. g	Conc. mg/l	Remarks
236C	2	1046	1.3	22:40:40	30.7	26.06	1,537.8	85.9	0.0285	5.7	
237A	1	1048	13.5	13:23:51	28.0	33.04	1,539.4	28.1	0.0369	7.4	Background
237A	2	1050	12.4	14:40:50	28.2	32.50	1,539.3	91.2	0.0218	4.4	
237A	2	1051	8.2	14:42:07	29.9	29.24	1,539.5	95.5	0.0239	4.8	
237B	1	1054	12.8	21:49:57	28.0	33.18	1,539.7	51.3	0.0791	15.8	Background
237B	2	1056	11.3	22:50:22	28.0	33.02	1,539.5	81.2	0.8319	166.4	
237B	2	1057	6.7	22:51:39	29.6	30.83	1,540.5	95.9	0.0033	0.7	
238A	1	1059	11.6	12:47:25	28.3	32.94	1,539.9	73.5	0.0108	2.2	Background
238A	1	1060	1.2	12:50:20	29.9	28.25	1,538.3	95.3	0.0036	0.7	
238A	2	--	--	14:52:00	--	--	--	--	--	--	Salinity samples only
238B	1	1061	12.2	11:27:19	28.2	33.25	1,540.1	81.6	0.0218	4.4	Background
239A	1	1063	13.6	12:42:36	28.3	33.14	1,540.2	52.6	0.0486	9.7	Background
239A	2	1065	11.0	14:13:28	28.8	32.67	1,540.7	86.4	0.0623	12.5	
239A	2	1066	11.1	14:13:44	28.8	32.66	1,540.7	85.5	0.0447	8.9	
239A	2	1067	11.1	--	--	--	--	--	0.0514	10.3	No marker file
239A	2	1068	11.0	--	--	--	--	--	0.0207	4.1	No marker file
239A	2	1069	8.7	14:16:15	29.3	31.94	1,541.0	95.8	0.0085	1.7	
239A	2	1070	8.8	14:16:41	29.3	31.88	1,541.0	95.9	0.0052	1.0	

(Continued)

(Sheet 3 of 7)

Table 4.2 (Continued)

Survey No.	Cast No.	Bottle No.	Depth m	Time GMT	T deg C	S PSU	V, m/sec	Trans. percent	Sed. Wt. g	Conc. mg/l	Remarks
239A	2	1073	1.2	14:19:05	30.2	27.39	1,538.1	92.5	0.0123	2.5	
239B	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Equipment check
239B	2	1074	10.4	21:47:34	28.6	33.07	1,540.8	88.7	0.0115	2.3	
239B	3	--	--	23:21:00	--	--	--	--	--	--	Salinity samples only
240A	1	1082	11.5	13:07:55	28.6	32.95	1,540.8	79.9	0.0382	7.6	
240A	1	1083	1.2	13:12:06	30.1	26.21	1,536.9	91.9	0.0288	5.8	
240A	2	1084	10.7	13:42:11	28.9	32.56	1,540.8	89.0	0.6208	124.2	
240A	2	1085	10.7	13:42:26	28.9	32.61	1,540.9	89.1	0.3144	62.9	
240A	2	1086	10.7	13:42:44	28.9	32.51	1,540.9	88.96	0.1019	20.4	
240A	2	1087	4.3	13:44:16	30.3	27.25	1,538.3	94.6	0.0317	6.3	
240A	2	1088	1.3	13:45:44	30.2	26.40	1,537.0	91.1	0.0167	3.3	
240A	3	--	--	15:16:00	--	--	--	--	--	--	Salinity samples only
240B	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	ARMS site, no samples kept
240B	2	1089	11.4	19:53:47	28.8	33.38	1,541.5	87.7	0.0174	3.5	Background
240B	2	1091	9.8	20:39:44	28.9	33.16	1,541.4	93.4	0.0181	3.6	
240B	2	1092	9.8	20:39:59	28.9	32.96	1,541.3	92.4	0.0200	4.0	
240B	2	1093	9.8	20:40:17	29.0	32.64	1,541.1	90.9	0.0141	2.8	
240B	2	1094	9.8	20:40:58	29.0	32.70	1,541.1	91.4	0.0282	5.6	

(Continued)

Table 4.2 (Continued)

Survey No.	Cast No.	Bottle No.	Depth m	Time GMT	T deg C	S PSU	V <sub>s</sub> m/sec	Trans. percent	Sed. Wt. g	Conc. mg/l	Remarks
240B	2	1095	9.8	20:41:36	28.8	33.42	1,541.5	88.8	0.0285	5.7	
240B	2	1096	9.8	20:41:54	28.8	33.47	1,541.5	89.6	0.0248	5.0	
240B	2	1097	9.8	20:42:53	28.8	33.44	1,541.6	91.7	0.0092	1.8	
240B	2	1098	9.8	20:43:45	28.9	32.64	1,541.0	90.6	0.0334	6.7	
240B	2	1099	9.8	20:44:05	28.9	32.68	1,541.1	90.7	0.0379	7.6	
240B	3	1100	9.8	20:45:06	28.9	33.06	1,541.3	92.0	0.0293	5.9	
241A	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	ARMS site, no samples
241A	2	1101	10.5	11:05:42	28.7	32.76	1,540.7	85.8	0.5436	108.7	Background
241A	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	ARMS site, no samples
241B	1	1076	11.1	18:17:53	28.8	32.94	1,541.0	67.5	0.0269	5.4	Background
241B	2	1107	5.5	18:52:34	28.9	27.09	1,537.2	91.1	0.0104	2.1	
241B	2	1108	5.6	18:53:42	29.9	27.09	1,537.2	91.2	0.8989	179.8	
241B	2	1109	5.6	18:58:21	29.9	27.38	1,537.6	17.9	0.4503	90.1	
241B	2	1110	5.5	18:58:47	29.9	27.32	1,537.6	15.5	0.8909	178.2	
241B	2	1111	5.6	18:59:04	30.0	27.21	1,537.5	25.0	0.5621	112.4	
241B	2	1112	5.5	18:59:24	29.9	27.18	1,537.4	60.3	0.4957	99.1	
241C	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	ARMS site, no samples
242A	1	1078	5.8	15:43:34	30.0	28.34	1,538.9	89.7	0.0177	3.5	Background

(Continued)



Table 4.2 (Continued)

Survey No.	Cast No.	Bottle No.	Depth m	Time GMT	T deg C	S PSU	V <sub>r</sub> m/sec	Trans. percent	Sed. Wt. g	Conc. mg/l	Remarks
242A	2	1103	7.2	16:08:37	30.0	28.26	1,538.6	52.2	0.1473	29.5	
242A	2	1104	7.2	16:09:07	29.9	28.31	1,538.6	53.4	0.1558	31.2	
242A	2	1105	7.2	16:09:39	29.9	28.41	1,538.6	22.8	0.1975	39.5	
242A	2	1106	7.2	16:09:56	29.9	28.76	1,538.9	19.1	0.2517	50.3	
242A	2	1113	7.2	16:10:12	29.9	28.87	1,539.1	21.6	0.2075	41.5	
242A	2	1114	7.2	16:10:29	29.9	29.09	1,539.3	59.5	0.2285	45.7	
242A	2	1115	7.2	16:11:05	29.9	28.48	1,538.8	52.6	0.1820	36.4	
242A	2	1116	7.1	16:11:44	29.9	28.46	1,538.8	53.3	0.5849	117.0	
242A	2	1117	7.2	16:12:12	29.9	28.55	1,538.9	44.8	0.2104	42.1	
242A	2	1118	7.2	16:12:29	29.9	28.46	1,538.8	49.2	0.2044	40.9	
242B	1	1077	11.0	22:46:01	29.1	32.28	1,541.0	74.2	0.0526	10.5	Background
242B	2	1001	5.0	23:33:37	30.3	28.23	1,539.2	0.0	6.5300	1306.0	
242B	2	1007	4.8	23:33:54	30.3	28.27	1,539.2	0.0	1.7663	353.3	
242B	2	1010	5.0	23:34:11	30.2	28.40	1,539.3	0.0	10.7490	2149.8	
242B	2	1014	4.9	23:34:29	30.0	28.71	1,539.2	0.0	16.7842	3356.8	
242B	2	1017	3.8	23:35:03	30.1	28.82	1,539.4	0.0	8.7464	1749.3	
242B	2	1025	3.9	23:35:22	30.3	28.48	1,539.5	0.2	4.3927	878.5	
242B	2	1026	3.9	23:35:44	30.2	28.37	1,539.3	0.2	1.2156	243.2	

(Continued)

Table 4.2 (Concluded)

Survey No.	Cast No.	Bottle No.	Depth m	Time GMT	T deg C	S PSU	V <sub>s</sub> m/sec	Trans. percent	Sed. Wt. g	Conc. mg/l	Remarks
242B	2	1029	3.9	23:36:00	30.2	28.60	1,539.4	0.0	3.1089	621.8	
242B	2	1032	3.8	23:36:15	30.3	28.38	1,539.4	0.0	3.3047	660.9	
242B	2	1037	3.8	23:36:33	30.1	28.62	1,539.3	0.1	2.2373	447.5	
242B	2	1039	3.8	23:36:50	30.1	28.92	1,539.6	0.4	2.9658	593.2	
242B	2	1040	3.8	23:37:08	30.2	28.57	1,539.3	0.8	3.4035	680.7	
243B	1	1090	8.8	17:18:02	29.2	31.65	1,540.7	55.3	0.1127	22.5	Background
244MRP	1	1064	35.1	05:54:23	25.5	36.15	1,537.4	76.2	0.0181	3.6	Mississippi River plume
244MRP	1	1071	27.4	05:56:00	26.4	36.14	1,539.5	88.8	0.0074	1.5	
244MRP	1	1072	19.9	05:57:34	28.2	35.61	1,542.7	89.4	0.0100	2.0	
244MRP	1	1075	10.0	05:59:24	29.1	31.92	1,540.6	91.4	0.0045	0.9	
244MRP	2	1047	23.2	09:14:26	28.4	35.45	1,543.0	91.0	0.0179	3.6	
244MRP	2	1049	19.8	09:16:02	28.4	35.39	1,543.0	88.7	0.0023	0.5	
244MRP	2	1052	15.5	09:18:05	28.8	33.94	1,542.2	87.0	0.0073	1.5	
244MRP	2	1053	1.5	09:19:55	30.9	21.86	1,533.9	89.1	0.0038	0.8	
244MRP	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Salinity samples only

Table 4.3

Grain Size Statistics for Suspended Sediment Samples

<u>Survey No.</u>	<u>Bottle No.</u>	$\phi_{16}$	$\phi_{50}$	$\phi_{84}$	$\phi$	$\sigma_\phi$	$\alpha_\phi$	$D_{40}^*$	$D_{50}^*$	$D_{90}^*$	$\bar{D}^*$	$\sigma_D^*$	$C_u$
234A	1002	5.56	6.38	7.77	6.57	1.11	0.17	14.3	12.2	3.4	10.5	464.3	4.2
235A	1003	4.23	5.55	6.29	5.36	1.03	-0.19	24.8	21.3	11.2	24.4	490.7	2.2
235A	1004	3.95	5.73	6.48	5.39	1.27	-0.27	22.0	19.2	9.0	23.9	415.2	2.4
235B	1005	4.42	5.78	6.62	5.61	1.10	-0.16	21.3	18.6	8.2	20.5	465.1	2.6
235B	1006	4.62	5.60	6.41	5.54	0.89	-0.06	24.4	20.8	9.8	21.5	538.5	2.5
235B	1008	3.44	4.64	6.42	4.83	1.49	0.13	58.7	40.4	9.2	35.1	356.3	6.4
235B	1009	3.52	4.87	6.12	4.84	1.30	-0.03	46.3	34.3	12.1	35.0	405.6	3.8
235B	1012	4.32	6.06	7.30	5.89	1.49	-0.11	19.7	15.4	4.7	16.8	355.6	4.2
235B	1013	4.42	5.78	6.70	5.63	1.14	-0.13	21.5	18.6	7.8	20.1	454.5	2.8
235B	1015	4.90	5.77	6.59	5.75	0.84	-0.02	21.0	18.8	7.7	18.6	558.2	2.7
235B	1016	4.60	6.30	7.50	6.13	1.45	-0.12	16.7	13.0	3.8	14.2	365.2	4.3
236A	1018	5.80	6.42	7.44	6.56	0.82	0.16	13.3	11.8	4.4	10.6	566.7	3.0
236A	1019	3.93	5.43	6.85	5.40	1.46	-0.02	31.1	23.2	6.5	23.6	363.4	4.8
236A	1020	5.69	6.29	7.25	6.41	0.78	0.16	14.8	13.1	5.4	11.8	583.8	2.8
236A	1021	4.48	5.56	6.34	5.46	0.93	-0.11	25.3	21.3	11.0	22.7	526.2	2.3
236A	1022	3.95	6.24	7.32	5.84	1.68	-0.24	20.3	13.6	5.2	17.5	311.1	3.9
236A	1023	5.16	5.91	6.56	5.87	0.70	-0.05	19.2	17.1	8.8	17.1	615.1	2.2
236A	1024	3.86	5.83	6.53	5.41	1.33	-0.32	21.3	18.0	9.0	23.6	397.0	2.4
236B	1027	4.17	5.64	6.41	5.40	1.12	-0.21	24.0	20.3	10.0	23.6	459.6	2.4
236B	1028	6.11	6.76	7.98	6.95	0.94	0.20	10.8	9.5	2.9	8.1	521.4	3.7
236B	1030	4.58	5.58	6.35	5.50	0.88	-0.08	24.7	21.1	10.9	22.1	542.6	2.3
236B	1031	3.98	5.84	7.38	5.74	1.70	-0.06	21.6	17.9	4.2	18.8	307.6	5.2

(Continued)

\* D (diameter) in microns = 0.001 mm.

(Sheet 1 of 5)

Table 4.3 (Continued)

Survey No.	Bottle No.	$\phi_{16}$	$\phi_{50}$	$\phi_{84}$	$\bar{\phi}$	$\sigma_{\phi}$	$\alpha_{\phi}$	$D_{40}$	$D_{50}$	$D_{90}$	$\bar{D}$	$\sigma_D$	$C_u$
236B	1033	4.80	5.91	6.72	5.81	0.96	-0.11	19.7	17.0	7.2	17.8	514.1	2.7
236B	1034	5.18	5.88	6.48	5.85	0.65	-0.05	19.2	17.4	8.9	17.4	636.6	2.2
236B	1035	5.03	5.74	6.50	5.75	0.74	0.02	21.1	19.1	7.9	18.5	600.5	2.7
236B	1036	5.03	5.65	6.29	5.65	0.63	0.01	22.1	20.3	11.5	19.9	645.5	1.9
236C	1038	4.67	5.48	6.34	5.50	0.83	0.02	25.6	22.3	10.2	22.2	561.8	2.5
236C	1041	4.94	5.85	6.63	5.81	0.84	-0.05	20.2	17.8	8.4	17.9	556.9	2.4
236C	1042	4.93	5.95	6.83	5.91	0.95	-0.05	19.4	16.6	7.1	16.7	518.2	2.7
236C	1043	3.23	5.05	6.45	4.91	1.61	-0.09	49.2	30.1	8.5	33.2	327.4	5.8
236C	1044	4.30	5.78	6.49	5.52	1.09	-0.24	21.3	18.6	8.8	21.7	468.9	2.4
236C	1045	5.36	6.45	7.45	6.42	1.04	-0.03	13.7	11.5	4.3	11.7	485.2	3.2
236C	1046	4.95	6.09	6.80	5.95	0.93	-0.16	17.5	15.1	7.9	16.2	525.8	2.2
237A	1048	5.06	5.67	6.34	5.69	0.64	0.03	21.8	20.0	11.0	19.4	641.5	2.0
237A	1050	0.00	6.12	7.31	4.48	3.65	-0.45	18.3	14.8	4.6	44.9	79.4	3.9
237A	1051	3.66	4.86	6.76	5.09	1.55	0.15	47.8	34.7	7.2	29.3	341.9	6.6
237B	1054	5.31	6.21	7.05	6.19	0.87	-0.02	15.6	13.9	6.0	13.7	547.2	2.6
237B	1056	5.04	5.92	6.49	5.82	0.73	-0.15	19.2	16.9	9.4	17.7	605.0	2.0
237B	1057	3.62	5.82	7.64	5.70	2.01	-0.06	25.6	18.1	2.9	19.3	247.9	8.9
238A	1059	3.89	6.09	7.10	5.69	1.61	-0.25	20.7	15.1	6.0	19.3	327.9	3.5
238A	1060	3.76	5.33	7.37	5.48	1.80	0.09	43.9	25.1	4.7	22.4	286.4	9.3
238B	1061	5.81	6.37	7.36	6.51	0.78	0.19	13.6	12.3	4.7	10.9	583.4	2.9
239A	1063	5.03	5.72	6.49	5.75	0.73	0.03	21.7	19.3	8.7	18.6	602.8	2.5
239A	1065	4.86	6.29	7.26	6.13	1.20	-0.13	14.9	13.1	5.2	14.2	435.8	2.9
239A	1066	5.03	5.68	6.32	5.68	0.64	-0.00	21.7	19.9	11.4	19.6	640.3	1.9
239A	1067	3.35	5.52	6.41	5.09	1.53	-0.28	28.2	21.8	9.6	29.3	345.3	2.9
239A	1068	3.92	6.02	6.98	5.64	1.53	-0.25	20.2	15.8	6.2	20.1	346.1	3.3
239A	1069	5.03	6.72	7.68	6.48	1.33	-0.18	10.9	9.7	3.8	11.2	398.4	2.9

(Continued)

Table 4.3 (Continued)

Survey No.	Bottle No.	$\phi_{16}$	$\phi_{50}$	$\phi_{84}$	$\phi$	$\sigma_{\phi}$	$\alpha_{\phi}$	$D_{40}$	$D_{50}$	$D_{90}$	$\bar{D}$	$\sigma_D$	$C_u$
239A	1070	4.01	5.67	7.16	5.61	1.57	-0.03	30.4	20.0	5.6	20.4	336.4	5.4
239A	1073	4.15	5.80	6.58	5.51	1.22	-0.24	20.8	18.3	7.8	21.9	430.0	2.7
239B	1074	4.47	6.39	7.30	6.05	1.41	-0.23	14.1	12.1	5.2	15.1	375.3	2.7
240A	1082	4.86	5.88	7.06	5.93	1.10	0.05	20.1	17.4	5.1	16.4	466.3	4.0
240A	1083	3.77	5.38	7.81	5.66	2.02	0.14	41.7	24.1	3.4	19.8	246.7	12.4
240A	1084	4.29	6.11	7.54	5.98	1.62	-0.08	19.1	14.9	3.9	15.8	325.3	4.9
240A	1085	4.35	5.38	6.25	5.33	0.95	-0.06	27.9	24.1	11.3	24.9	517.7	2.5
240A	1086	5.19	5.90	6.82	5.97	0.82	0.09	19.4	17.2	7.2	15.9	567.6	2.7
240A	1087	3.11	5.22	6.33	4.89	1.61	-0.21	39.5	27.1	10.8	33.8	327.8	3.7
240A	1088	4.06	5.48	7.58	5.71	1.76	0.13	32.8	22.3	4.0	19.1	295.2	8.2
240B	1089	3.61	5.17	6.71	5.16	1.55	-0.01	43.2	27.9	7.5	27.9	342.1	5.7
240B	1091	3.45	4.55	7.04	5.01	1.79	0.26	54.9	42.8	6.0	31.0	288.7	9.1
240B	1092	3.76	5.12	6.63	5.17	1.43	0.04	38.2	28.9	8.0	27.8	370.0	4.8
240B	1093	3.54	6.12	7.41	5.69	1.94	-0.22	29.1	14.8	4.7	19.4	261.4	6.2
240B	1094	4.80	6.19	7.99	6.32	1.59	0.09	17.1	14.1	2.5	12.5	331.2	6.8
240B	1095	4.74	7.36	>10	--	--	--	8.5	6.1	<2	--*	--	--
240B	1096	3.58	6.26	7.60	5.81	2.01	-0.22	16.0	13.4	3.3	17.8	248.8	4.9
240B	1097	3.28	5.86	6.61	5.25	1.66	-0.37	21.1	17.7	8.5	26.3	315.6	2.5
240B	1098	3.27	5.92	6.87	5.35	1.80	-0.32	20.7	17.0	5.9	24.5	287.6	3.5
240B	1099	3.21	5.83	8.01	5.68	2.40	-0.06	39.1	18.1	2.6	19.5	189.0	15.3
240B	1100	3.71	5.75	6.68	5.38	1.49	-0.25	28.6	19.0	8.1	24.0	356.6	3.5
241A	1101	4.57	5.41	6.59	5.52	1.01	0.11	27.7	23.5	8.1	21.8	496.2	3.4
241B	1076	4.82	6.04	6.82	5.90	1.00	-0.15	18.1	15.6	7.5	16.8	499.2	2.4

(Continued)

\* Not available.

Table 4.3 (Continued)

Survey No.	Bottle No.	$\phi_{16}$	$\phi_{30}$	$\phi_{84}$	$\bar{\phi}$	$\sigma_{\phi}$	$\alpha_{\phi}$	$D_{40}$	$D_{50}$	$D_{90}$	$\bar{D}$	$\sigma_D$	$C_u$
241B	1107	2.97	3.79	5.95	4.24	1.49	0.30	85.4	73.4	9.1	53.0	355.6	9.4
241B	1108	4.48	5.57	6.48	5.51	1.00	-0.06	25.2	21.1	8.8	21.9	501.2	2.8
241B	1109	5.17	6.10	7.00	6.09	0.91	-0.01	17.4	15.0	6.1	14.7	530.4	2.9
241B	1110	4.85	5.89	6.95	5.89	1.05	0.01	20.3	17.4	6.4	16.8	482.4	3.2
241B	1111	4.78	5.52	6.33	5.54	0.78	0.03	24.9	21.8	10.8	21.4	583.7	2.3
241B	1112	4.86	5.61	6.30	5.59	0.72	-0.03	23.2	20.7	11.2	20.8	606.9	2.1
242A	1078	3.52	4.85	6.76	5.05	1.62	0.12	42.6	34.9	5.8	30.3	325.3	7.4
242A	1103	3.92	4.67	6.11	4.90	1.10	0.21	47.7	39.5	11.5	33.5	467.9	4.1
242A	1104	4.37	5.29	6.25	5.31	0.94	0.02	29.5	25.8	11.1	25.3	520.9	2.7
242A	1105	3.28	4.44	5.95	4.56	1.34	0.09	60.7	46.4	12.7	42.4	396.3	4.8
242A	1106	5.22	5.88	6.50	5.86	0.64	-0.02	19.5	17.5	8.9	17.2	641.8	2.2
242A	1113	5.25	6.06	6.91	6.07	0.83	0.02	17.8	15.4	6.8	14.8	564.1	2.6
242A	1114	5.24	6.48	7.51	6.41	1.13	-0.06	13.6	11.2	4.4	11.8	455.9	3.1
242A	1115	5.39	6.27	7.28	6.31	0.95	0.05	15.5	13.3	5.4	12.6	519.3	2.9
242A	1116	3.73	5.13	6.43	5.10	1.35	-0.03	38.3	28.6	8.9	29.2	392.1	4.3
242A	1117	4.09	5.19	6.23	5.17	1.07	-0.02	33.2	27.7	11.3	27.8	477.0	2.9
242A	1118	3.09	6.56	8.86	6.17	2.88	-0.14	20.5	10.6	0.0	13.9	135.4	--
242B	1077	3.33	4.56	6.31	4.74	1.49	0.12	55.3	42.3	10.2	37.5	356.5	5.4
242B	1001	3.88	4.94	5.86	4.89	0.99	-0.05	39.9	32.5	14.9	33.7	503.7	2.7
242B	1007	5.13	5.78	6.56	5.82	0.72	0.06	20.8	18.6	8.4	17.7	607.9	2.5
242B	1010	3.34	4.72	6.11	4.72	1.38	-0.00	53.0	38.2	12.1	37.9	383.0	4.4
242B	1014	4.20	5.24	6.28	5.24	1.04	0.00	30.8	26.7	10.7	26.5	487.7	2.9
242B	1017	3.68	5.19	6.32	5.07	1.32	-0.10	36.3	27.6	10.4	29.9	401.0	3.5
242B	1025	3.80	5.19	6.41	5.14	1.31	-0.04	33.9	27.5	8.9	28.5	403.9	3.8
242B	1026	4.69	5.64	6.77	5.70	1.04	0.06	24.1	20.4	7.2	19.2	485.9	3.4
242B	1029	4.51	5.52	6.44	5.49	0.96	-0.03	25.9	21.8	9.1	22.2	512.8	2.8
242B	1032	4.23	5.38	6.64	5.42	1.20	0.03	28.9	24.1	7.4	23.4	434.3	3.9

(Continued)

Table 4.3 (Concluded)

Survey No.	Bottle No.	$\phi_{16}$	$\phi_{30}$	$\phi_{84}$	$\bar{\phi}$	$\sigma_{\phi}$	$\alpha_{\phi}$	$D_{40}$	$D_{50}$	$D_{90}$	$\bar{D}$	$\sigma_D$	$C_d$
242B	1037	5.18	5.97	6.98	6.04	0.90	0.08	18.8	16.3	6.1	15.2	534.5	3.1
242B	1039	4.61	5.67	6.71	5.66	1.05	-0.01	23.3	19.9	7.6	19.7	482.3	3.1
242B	1040	3.71	4.99	6.00	4.90	1.14	-0.08	42.0	31.2	13.0	33.5	453.1	3.2
243B	1090	5.48	6.18	6.97	6.21	0.74	0.04	15.9	14.2	6.5	13.5	597.0	2.4
244MRP*	1064	4.49	5.68	6.75	5.64	1.13	-0.03	22.5	19.8	6.5	20.0	457.4	3.5
244MRP	1071	4.14	6.32	7.98	6.15	1.92	-0.09	15.4	12.8	2.4	14.1	264.4	6.5
244MRP	1072	3.82	5.83	7.16	5.60	1.67	-0.14	23.9	18.0	5.1	20.6	314.8	4.7
244MRP	1075	5.22	6.21	7.26	6.23	1.02	0.02	15.8	13.9	5.3	13.3	493.2	3.0
244MRP	1047	3.68	4.76	7.16	5.20	1.74	0.26	48.4	37.3	4.8	27.2	299.4	10.2
244MRP	1049	3.45	5.59	7.17	5.40	1.86	-0.10	27.6	20.9	4.9	23.6	275.5	5.6
244MRP	1052	3.57	5.50	6.91	5.33	1.67	-0.11	32.2	22.0	6.0	24.9	314.0	5.3
244MRP	1053	4.61	6.17	7.34	6.04	1.36	-0.10	16.9	14.3	4.4	15.2	388.6	3.8

\* Mississippi River plume samples.

Table 4.4  
Dredged Material Surface and Grab Samples from Hopper Barge

Sample Location No.	Depth ft	Bulk Density g/cm <sup>3</sup>	Moisture Content Percent	Sediment Content			
				Percent			
				Sand*		Fine	Silt/Clay
Coarse	Medium						
Survey 240B							
1	S**	1.270	78.6	--	--	--	--
2	S	1.270	65.6	--	--	--	--
2A	S	1.306	61.0	--	--	--	--
3	S	1.056	90.1	--	--	--	--
4	S	1.073	86.9	--	--	--	--
5	S	1.070	88.9	--	--	--	--
6	S	1.218	71.4	--	--	--	--
1	10	1.270	53.8	--	--	--	--
2	2	1.305	61.9	--	--	--	--
3	2	1.345	59.8	--	--	--	--
4	12	1.377	54.6	--	--	--	--
5	2	1.344	59.6	--	--	--	--
6	4	1.328	60.7	--	--	47	53
Survey 241B							
1	S	1.035	93.4	--	--	47	53
2	S	1.016	96.7	--	1	52	47
3	S	1.018	95.8	--	--	35	65
4	S	1.025	95.2	--	--	17	83
5	S	1.094	80.8	--	--	29	71
6	S	1.044	89.8	--	--	30	70
1	1	1.379	55.8	--	3	57	40
2	6	1.338	58.6	--	--	--	--
3	16	1.325	58.4	--	--	--	--
4	12	1.301	61.8	--	--	--	--
5	2	1.356	55.3	--	--	--	--
6	8	1.369	56.2	--	--	--	--

\* Coarse-grained sand particles range from 2 to 5 mm in diameter.  
Medium-grained sand particles range from 0.42 to 1.99 mm in diameter.  
Fine-grained sand particles range from 0.072 to 0.41 mm in diameter.

\*\* S = Surface water samples.



Table 4.5  
Dredged Material Representative Samples from Hopper Barge\*

<u>Sample Location No.</u>	<u>Depth ft</u>	<u>Bulk Density g/cm<sup>3</sup></u>	<u>Moisture Content Percent</u>	<u>Sediment Content Percent</u>			
				<u>Sand**</u>			<u>Silt/Clay</u>
				<u>Coarse</u>	<u>Medium</u>	<u>Fine</u>	
1	4	1.509	45.0	--	4	58	38
	11	1.706	33.9	--	1	84	15
	21	1.883	26.1	--	1	41	58
2	4	1.721	27.2	--	6	77	17
	11	1.713	31.9	--	2	48	50
	21	2.036	22.0	7	25	62	6
3	4	1.748	28.3	--	3	82	15
	11	1.681	29.9	--	7	79	14
	21	1.995	19.3	1	6	86	7
4	4	1.896	23.2	2	9	82	7
	11	1.777	30.0	--	3	87	10
	21	2.020	18.1	--	9	87	4
5	4	1.947	20.2	--	10	74	16
	11	1.893	22.5	--	4	82	14
	21	2.058	16.9	1	24	72	3
6	4	1.458	49.2	--	1	61	38
	11	1.171	35.5	--	1	64	35
	21	1.905	24.8	--	4	73	23

\* Hopper Barge load samples from unmonitored night release (28 August 1989).

\*\* Coarse-grained sand particles range from 2 to 5 mm in diameter.  
Medium-grained sand particles range from 0.42 to 1.99 mm in diameter.  
Fine-grained sand particles range from 0.072 to 0.41 mm in diameter.

Table 4.6  
Dredged Material Bottom Grab Samples

Survey No.	Release Time GMT	Sampling Time GMT	Sample No.	Field Observations
235A	1658	1800	2002	Silt/clay, some lumps
		1802	2003	Silt/clay, some lumps
236A	0020	0137	2004	Silt/clay, one piece hard clay, 3-in. irregular shape
		0139	2005	Silt/clay, some lumps
236B	1500	1628	2006	Silt/clay, some lumps, 2-in. oxidized pine cone, 4-in. polychaete worm
236C	2208	2330	2007	Silt/clay, some lumps, 6-in. polychaete worm
237A	1418	--	2008	Uniform soupy silt/clay
237B	2215	2335	2009	Lumpy silt/clay, some sand
		2340	2010	Lumpy silt/clay, with higher sand content
		2344	2011	Lumpy silt/clay, with higher sand content
238A	1423	1605	2012	Silt/clay, no sand, one 2-in. piece oxidized wood
		1611	2013	Sandy silt/clay
		1617	2014	Sandy silt/clay, some lumps
238B	2155	2300	2015	Sandy silt/clay, some lumps
239A	1406	1345	2016	Silt/clay, very little sand, 6-in. polychaete worm
239A	1406	1408	2017	Sandy silt in large lumps

(Continued)

Table 4.6 (Concluded)

<u>Survey No.</u>	<u>Release Time GMT</u>	<u>Sampling Time GMT</u>	<u>Sample No.</u>	<u>Field Observations</u>
239B	2213	0000	2018	Silt/mud, with sandy clumps
240A	1335	1505	2019	Large sandy clumps, some fine silty/clay lumps
		1510	2020	Loose sand, some clay lumps
240B	2036	2226	2021	Clay lumps, no sand
241A	1144	1324	2022	Sandy silt, clay lumps, little sand
241B	1846	2025	2023	Lumpy clay
		2030	2024	One large lump of clay ~8 in., broken into two pieces
242A	1606	1742	2025	Silty sand, some clay lumps
242B	2330	1014	2026	Silty sand to sandy silt with clay lumps
		1017	2027	Silty sand to sandy silt with clay lumps
243A	1803	1900	2029	Almost pure fine sand, a few small clay lumps

Table 4.7  
Grain Size Distribution of Bottom Grab Samples

Survey No.	Sample No.	Phi Size									
		Sand					Silt				Clay $\geq 9$
		Medium 0	1	Fine 2 3		4	5	6	7	8	
235A	2002	1*	29	61	86	95	96	97	99	99	100
	2003	2	35	68	87	94	94	96	98	99	100
236A	2004	0	30	60	83	93	94	94	96	97	99
	2005	3	27	51	82	94	94	96	98	99	100
236B	2006	1	28	54	83	94	94	96	97	99	100
236C	2007	0	40	65	80	90	91	92	95	97	99
237A	2008	2	33	65	89	94	95	97	99	100	100
237B	2009	0	19	48	90	96	97	98	99	100	100
	2010	0	16	62	92	99	99	100	100	100	100
	2011	0	22	75	92	96	96	98	99	100	100
238A	2012	0	18	48	87	93	95	97	99	99	100
	2013	0	13	53	87	95	96	98	99	99	100
	2014	0	7	52	92	99	99	100	100	100	100
238B	2015	0	15	50	86	92	93	96	98	99	100
239A	2016	0	25	55	85	92	93	97	99	99	100
	2017	0	9	37	82	95	96	98	99	99	100
239B	2018	3	17	44	93	97	98	99	99	100	100
240A	2019	3	19	61	95	98	98	99	99	100	100
	2020	0	11	61	93	99	99	100	100	100	100
240B	2021	1	26	57	87	94	94	95	97	98	100
241A	2022	2	19	60	93	98	99	99	100	100	100
241B	2023	0	19	65	87	93	95	97	98	99	100
	2024	0	10	21	60	81	89	94	97	98	100
242A	2025	0	8	30	82	94	95	97	99	99	100
242B	2026	3	33	62	87	94	94	96	97	99	100
	2027	0	2	48	94	98	98	99	100	100	100
243A	2029	1	8	46	78	89	92	95	97	99	100

\* Cumulative percent larger than phi size.

Table 4.8  
Mobile Field Data Collection Project Aerial Photographs

Survey No.	Film Positive No.	Time GMT	Altitude ft	Photo Scale in.:ft	Quality Rating*	Remarks
239A	--**	13:55:09	--	--	H	Tug and loaded barge
		13:55:11	--	--	H	Tug and loaded barge
	--	13:56:15	1050	--	H	Tug and loaded barge
	1	14:03:07	1175	1:13200	M	Beginning of release
	2	14:03:10	1200	1:13200	H	Barge and plume
	3	14:06:44	1000	1:12000	H	Barge and plume
	4	14:06:48	1000	1:12000	H	Barge and plume
	5	14:11:46	3050	1:36000	H	Plume and <i>R/V Pelican</i>
	6	14:11:55	3070	1:36000	H	Plume and <i>R/V Pelican</i>
	7	14:18:05	4650	1:45000	M	Sediment plume
	8	14:18:18	4620	1:45000	M	Sediment plume
	9	14:18:31	4650	1:45000	X	--
	10	14:23:07	4650	1:45000	X	--
	11	14:23:23	4650	1:45000	M	Sediment plume
	12	14:27:54	4625	1:45000	L	Sediment plume
	13	14:28:05	4650	1:45000	X	--
	14	14:32:42	4700	1:45000	X	--
	15	14:32:54	4700	1:45000	X	--
	16	14:38:16	5025	1:60000	X	--
	17	14:38:28	5075	1:60000	X	--
	18	14:42:13	5050	1:57600	X	--
	19	14:42:28	5125	1:57600	X	--
	20	14:47:55	5175	1:60000	X	--
	21	14:48:07	5200	1:60000	X	--
	22	14:53:21	5125	1:60000	X	--
	23	14:53:36	5125	1:60000	X	--
	24	14:58:39	5250	1:60000	X	--
	25	14:58:56	5250	1:60000	X	--
	26	15:03:04	5125	1:60000	X	--
	27	15:03:17	5150	1:60000	X	--
	28	15:07:52	5175	1:60000	X	--
	29	15:08:07	5175	1:60000	X	--

(Continued)

\* Quality Rating: H = high, M = medium, L = low, and X = not usable.

\*\* Not available.

(Sheet 1 of 6)

Table 4.8 (Continued)

Survey No.	Film Positive No.	Time GMT	Altitude ft	Photo Scale in.:ft	Quality Rating	Remarks
240A	--	12:59:54	1250	--	H	Loaded hopper barge
	--	12:59:57	2225	--	H	Beginning of release
	1	13:34:54	1075	1:12000	H	Barge and plume
	2	13:59:56	1100	1:12000	H	Plume, <i>R/V Pelican</i> , tug and barge
	3	13:40:15	3175	1:36000	H	Sediment plume
	4	13:40:21	3175	1:36000	H	
	5	13:45:14	3250	1:36000	M	
	6	13:45:20	3250	1:36000	H	
	7	13:50:54	3225	1:36000	M	
	8	13:51:00	3225	1:36000	H	
	9	13:56:20	3250	1:36000	M	
	10	13:56:25	3225	1:36000	H	
	11	14:00:57	3150	1:36000	H	
	12	14:01:04	3150	1:36000	L	
	13	14:07:30	3300	1:37200	L	--
	14	14:07:37	3300	1:37200	X	
	15	14:10:39	3250	1:36000	X	
	16	14:10:46	3250	1:36000	X	
	17	14:17:08	3300	1:37200	X	
	18	14:17:08	3300	1:37200	X	
240B	--	20:20:24	1450	--	H	Beginning of release
	19	20:35:48	1100	1:12000	H	Barge and plume
	20	20:35:51	1100	1:12000	H	Plume, <i>R/V Pelican</i> , tug and barge
	21	20:42:03	3650	1:42000	H	Plume and <i>R/V Pelican</i>
	22	20:42:13	3700	1:42000	H	
	23	20:47:00	4675	1:54000	H	
	24	20:47:09	4625	1:54000	H	
	25	20:51:55	4650	1:54000	H	
	26	20:52:02	4650	1:54000	M	
	27	20:56:49	4675	1:54000	H	
	28	20:56:57	4650	1:54000	M	
	29	21:01:30	4625	1:54000	M	
	30	21:01:39	4620	1:54000	L	
	31	21:07:20	4625	1:53400	M	
	32	21:07:29	4625	1:53400	M	

(Continued)

(Sheet 2 of 6)

Table 4.8 (Continued)

Survey No.	Film Positive No.	Time GMT	Altitude ft	Photo Scale in.:ft	Quality Rating	Remarks
240B	33	21:12:59	4625	1:53400	M	Plume and <i>R/V Pelican</i>
	34	21:13:05	4625	1:54000	L	Sediment plume
	35	21:17:07	4675	1:54000	L	Sediment plume
	36	21:17:15	4675	1:54000	L	Sediment plume
	37	21:22:28	4675	1:54000	X	--
	38	21:22:35	4650	1:54000	L	Sediment plume
	39	21:25:52	4600	1:54000	X	--
	40	21:25:59	4575	1:54000	X	--
	41	21:31:28	4725	1:54000	L	Sediment plume
	42	21:31:37	4700	1:54000	X	--
	43	21:35:04	4725	1:54000	X	--
	44	21:35:15	4700	1:54000	X	--
241A	All positives (Nos. 0-24)				X	--
242A	--	15:47:45	1250	1:12000	H	Tug and loaded barge
	1	16:05:30	1125	1:12000	H	Sediment plume
	2	16:05:36	1125	1:54000	H	Plume, <i>R/V Pelican</i> , tug and barge
	3	16:12:28	4550	1:54000	H	Plume and <i>R/V Pelican</i>
	4	16:12:37	4600	1:54000	H	Plume, <i>R/V Pelican</i> , tug and barge
	5	16:12:45	4625	1:54000	M	Plume, <i>R/V Pelican</i> , tug and barge
	6	16:16:09	4700	1:54000	M	Plume, <i>R/V Pelican</i> , tug and barge
	7	16:16:20	4700	1:54000	H	Plume, <i>R/V Pelican</i> , tug and barge
	8	16:16:29	4700	1:54000	L	Plume and <i>R/V Pelican</i>
	9	16:20:47	4700	1:54000	L	↓
	10	16:20:57	4700	1:54000	H	
	11	16:21:06	4700	1:54000	M	
	12	16:25:48	4650	1:54000	L	
	13	16:25:56	4650	1:54000	H	
	14	16:26:05	4650	1:54000	M	
	15	16:30:19	4650	1:54000	M	
	16	16:30:29	4650	1:54000	H	

(Continued)

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Table 4.8 (Continued)

Survey No.	Film Positive No.	Time GMT	Altitude ft	Photo Scale in.:ft	Quality Rating	Remarks
242A	17	16:30:38	4650	1:54000	M	Plume and <i>R/V Pelican</i>
	18	16:35:12	4675	1:54000	M	Plume and <i>R/V Pelican</i>
	19	16:35:22	4675	1:54000	M	Plume and <i>R/V Pelican</i>
	20	16:35:32	4675	1:54000	X	--
	21	16:42:21	4625	1:54000	X	--
	22	16:42:29	4625	1:54000	M	Plume and <i>R/V Pelican</i>
	23	16:42:37	4725	1:54000	L	↓
	24	16:46:37	4700	1:54000	L	
	25	16:46:47	4725	1:55200	L	
	26	16:46:57	4725	1:55200	L	
	27	16:50:47	4700	1:54000	L	
	28	16:50:57	4700	1:54000	L	
	29	16:51:04	4675	1:54000	L	
	30	16:55:12	4675	1:54000	L	
	31	16:55:21	4675	1:54000	L	
	32	16:55:29	4675	1:54000	X	--
	33	17:00:32	4675	1:54000	X	--
	34	17:00:41	4675	1:54000	L	Plume and <i>R/V Pelican</i>
	35	17:00:52	4700	1:54000	X	--
	36	17:05:47	4700	1:54000	X	--
	37	17:06:00	4700	1:54000	L	Plume and <i>R/V Pelican</i>
	38	17:06:09	4700	1:54000	X	--
	39	17:10:19	4725	1:54000	X	--
	40	17:10:28	4725	1:54000	L	Plume and <i>R/V Pelican</i>
	41	17:10:32	4725	1:54000	L	Plume and <i>R/V Pelican</i>
	42	17:10:32	4700	1:54000	X	--
242B	41	23:23:00	1250	--	X	--
	42	23:23:06	1300	1:12000	H	Tug and loaded barge
	43	23:29:36	1100	1:12000	M	Plume and <i>R/V Pelican</i>
	44	23:29:41	1150	1:54600	H	Plume and <i>R/V Pelican</i>
	45	23:35:28	4825	1:54600	H	Plume, <i>R/V Pelican</i> , tug and barge track
	46	23:35:33	4800	1:55200	H	↓
	47	23:39:47	4800	1:55200	H	
	48	23:39:53	4825	1:55200	H	
	49	23:45:18	4825	1:55200	L	
	50	23:45:22	4825	1:55200	L	

(Continued)

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