



**CNR IAMC – Institute for  
Coastal Marine  
Environment**



**CNR ISMAR – Marine  
Science Institute**

# MEDGOOS 11

## - Cruise Report -

16<sup>th</sup> November 2005 – 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2005



**ENEA - CRAM**



**University of Florence**



**CNR ISAC Institute for  
Atmospheric and  
Climatic Science  
Institute**



**University of Pisa**



**NURC Undersea  
Research Centre**



**University of Tuscia**

**Edited by M. Borghini**

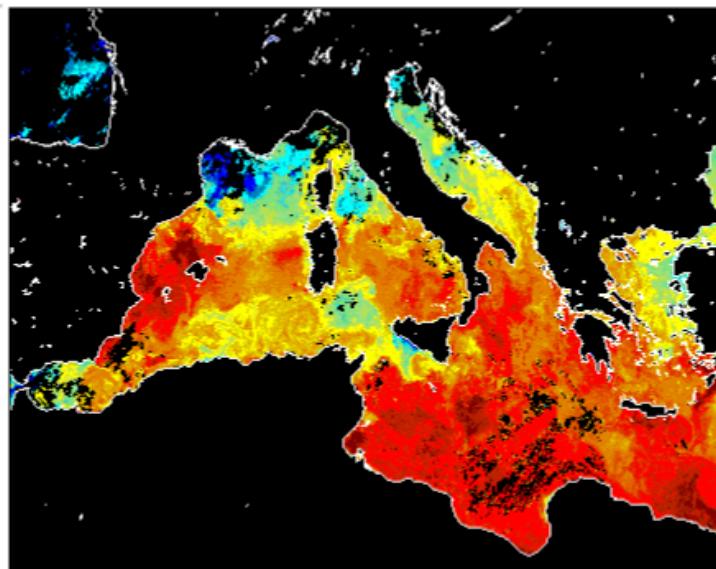
**K. Schröder**

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## Cruise Particulars

<b>NAME</b>	<i>MEDGOOS 11</i>
<b>DATES</b>	<i>16<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2005 – 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER 2005</i>
<b>STUDY AREA</b>	<i>CORSICA CHANNEL CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN SEA TYRRHENIAN SEA</i>
<b>HEAD PROJECT</b>	<i>MASSIMILIANO DIBITETTO CNR-IAMC</i>
<b>SCIENTIFIC HEAD</b>	<i>ANGELO PERILLI CNR-IAMC</i>
<b>HEAD OF MISSION</b>	<i>MIRENO BORGHINI, CNR-ISMAR</i>
<b>PARTICIPANT INSTITUTES</b>	<i>CNR – IAMC CNR – ISMAR ENEA – CRAM CNR – ISAC UNIVERSITY OF FLORENCE UNIVERSITY OF TUSCIA UNIVERSITY OF PISA NURC – UNDERSEA RESEARCH CENTRE</i>
<b>RESEARCH VESSEL</b>	<i>URANIA</i>
<b>DEPARTURE PORT</b>	<i>CIVITAVECCHIA</i>
<b>ARRIVAL PORT</b>	<i>NAPOLI</i>



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## Scientific objectives

This report presents the preliminary results obtained during the MEDGOOS 11 cruise, carried out from 16<sup>th</sup> November – 03<sup>rd</sup> December 2005, on board of the Italian R/V URANIA in the Western Mediterranean Sea.

The cruise was planned in order to achieve the following objectives:

- 1. Water mass properties and biological features**  
to define the principal circulation paths and the physical-chemical-biological properties (temperature, salinity, oxygen, nutrients, chlorophyll, phytoplankton, primary production, bacteria, etc) of the surface, intermediate and deep water masses in the Western Mediterranean Sea, through measurements along key sections located in the interior and at the boundaries of the basin;
- 2. Methodological development**
  - to measure velocity profiles by using Lowered ADCPs;
  - to measure salinity and temperature in the surface layer with an oscillating vehicle, the Nv Shuttle;
  - to test the correct functioning of a Tflap probe (temperature, salinity and fluorescence);
  - to proceed with the periodical maintenance of the moorings;
  - to compare different chlorophyll quantification methods and to calibrate the fluorimeter coupled with the CTD-probe with different photochemical techniques.

# Scientific Background

## General description

The **Central Mediterranean** is characterised by a very complicated bottom topography, which directly affects the water exchange between the two Mediterranean basins (western and eastern Mediterranean Sea). The most salient features are the unequal depths of the boundary sections (Astraldi et al., 2002). In the Sardinia Channel (section D13-D21 in Figure 1), the silldepth is at about 1900 m, allowing the free exchange of the deep waters with the WMED, but in the Sicily Strait (section 410-432), the deeper sill is at about 430 m, thus imposing strong constraints on the exchanges with the EMED. In between, a wide area of very shallow waters off Tunisia provides a further obstacle to a direct connection between the two basins. All water masses outflowing at depth, both from the WMED (Krivosheya and Ovchinnikov, 1973; Hopkins, 1988) and from the EMED (Astraldi et al., 1996), are conveyed into the **Tyrrhenian Sea**, an intermediate basin whose southern part strongly interacts with the central Mediterranean. Section 212-291 is substantially formed by two main channels with a wide plateau in between. The deeper one, in the central part, directly connects the Tyrrhenian Sea with the Sardinia Channel and the WMED, and the other, adjacent to the Sicilian slope, connects, with an increasing depth, the Sicily Strait with the Tyrrhenian Sea.

Hence, this study area is a very complex system, with even extreme climatic conditions in its northern part and an almost sub-tropical climate in its southern part. It sustains one of the most productive areas of the whole Mediterranean Sea, with the vastest marine mammals and large fishes community.

Further interesting aspects regard the hydrological properties (temperature and salinity) of the deep and intermediate layers, which have presented a positive trends for some decades. The reasons of this trend are not yet known. Furthermore, the water masses coming from this area constitute the principal source of the outflowing Mediterranean water at Gibraltar.

An increased knowledge about all these aspects will permit a more complete understanding of the role and the functioning of the Western Mediterranean Sea.

## Cruise Plan

The following table summarizes the parameters that have been measured and the sampling group involved in the operation, while table 2 lists the sampling equipment and the methods of analysis.

Parameter/Instrument	Sampling Group
CTD/O2/rosette	CNR-ISMAR - ENEA
Salinity	CNR-ISMAR
XBT	CNR-ISMAR
Dissolved Oxygen	CNR-ISMAR
NO <sub>3</sub> , P04, SiO <sub>4</sub>	CNR-ISMAR – ENEA
Chlorophyll	IAMC, NURC, Universities of Florence and of Tuscia
Phytoplankton	Universities of Florence and Pisa
Spectroradiometer	IAMC, University of Florence

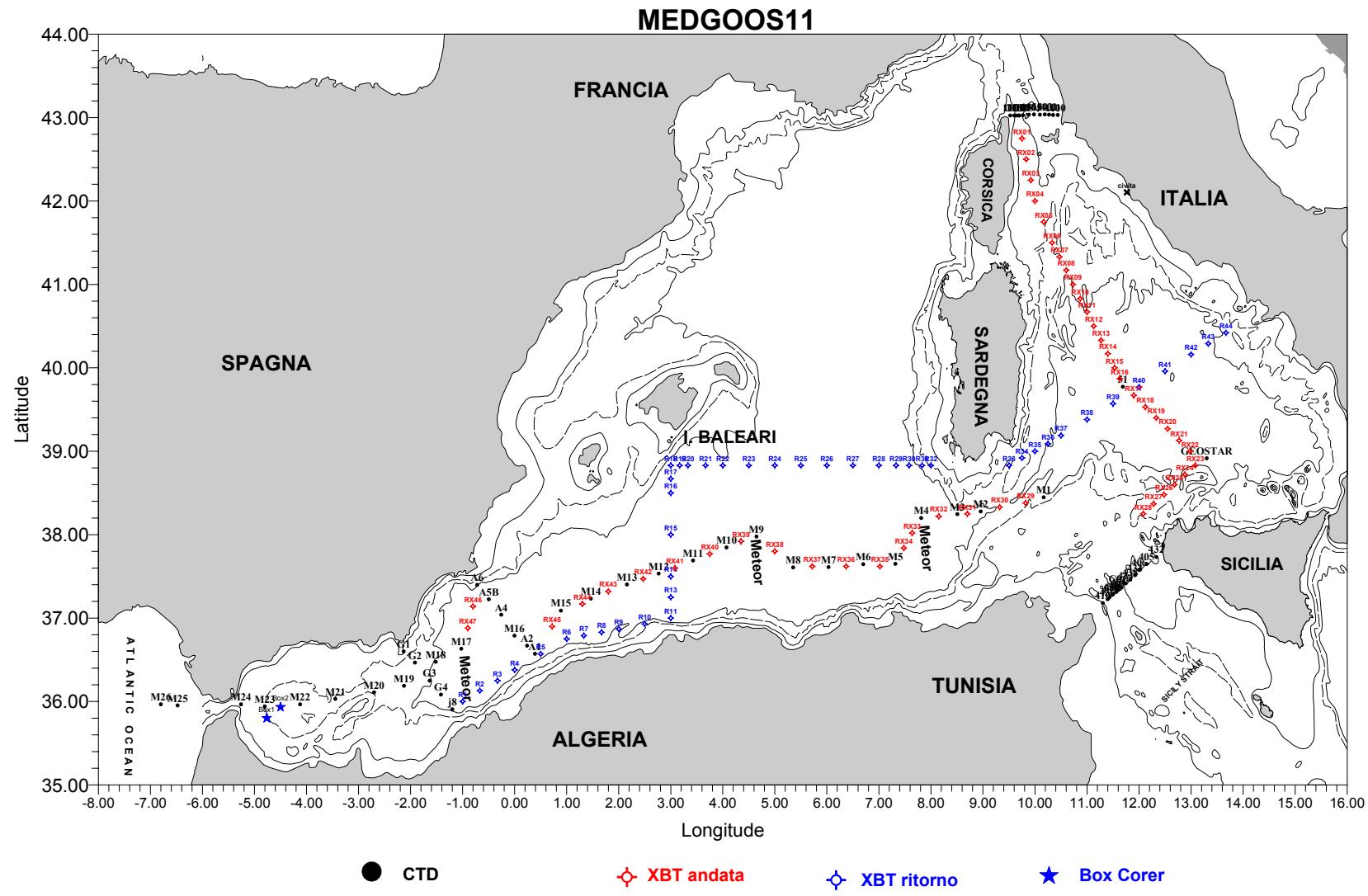
**Table 1 Measured Parameters**

Small-Volume Sampling	General Oceanics 24-place rosette with 10-liter bottles
CTD System	CTD SBE 911 plus
XBT	T4, T5 and Deep Blue (Sippican Inc.)
Salinometer	AUTOSAL
Oxygen	Winkler titration
Nutrients	Samples only, no on board analyses
Chlorophyll	Filtration
Phytoplankton	Filtration
Solar spectra transmission	Spectroradiometer

**Table 2 Sampling equipment and analysis methods**

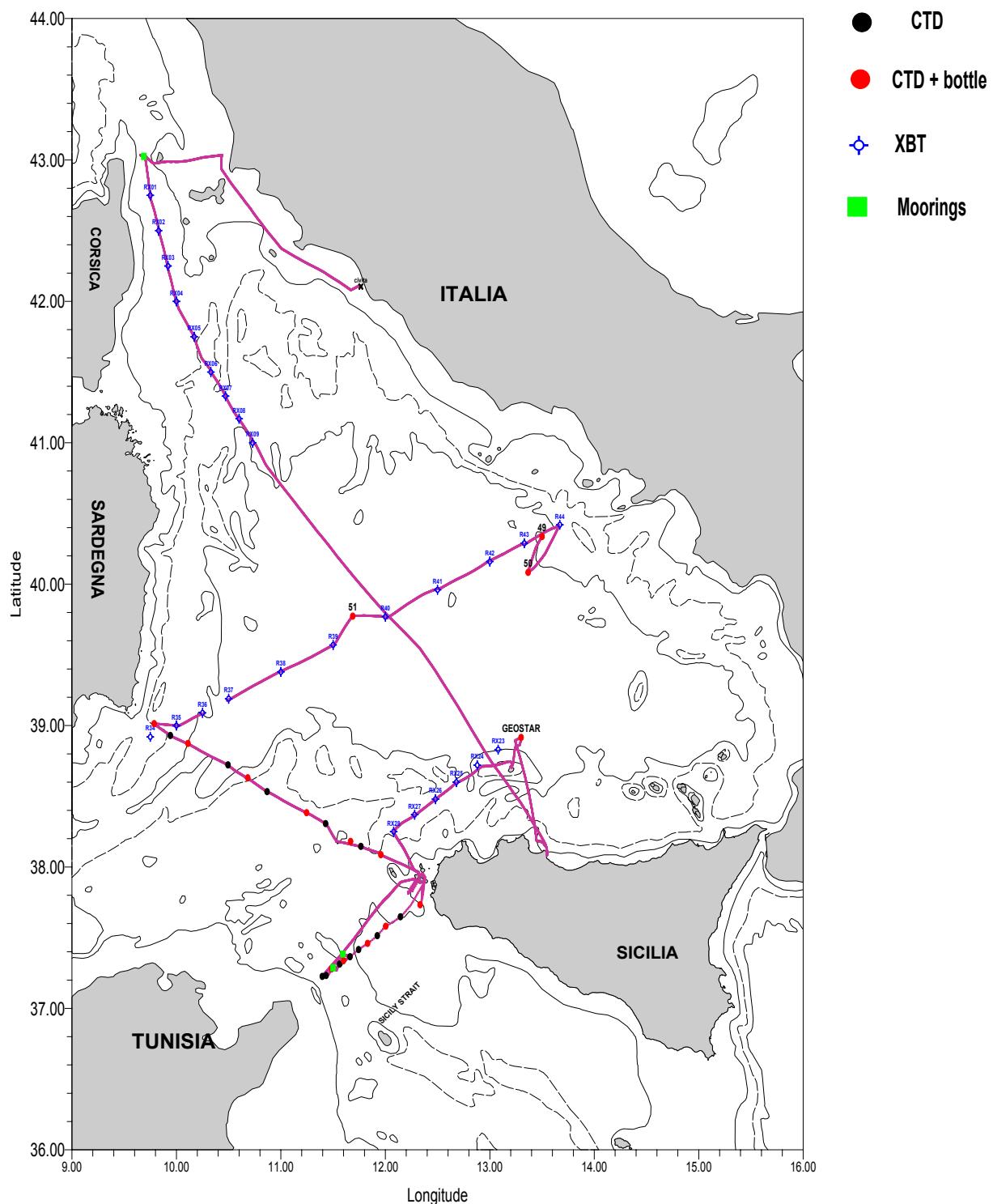
The planned track is shown in Figure 1. We planned to spend 17 days at sea. The geographic boundaries of the survey are 35.00 °N - 43.00 °N latitude and -8.00 °E – 14.00 °E longitude. Because of the meteorological and marine conditions, the effective cruise track is the one showed in fig. 2. The station list is shown in table 3.

## Cruise Maps



**Figure 1** Planned cruise map

Cruise Report – R/C MEDGOOS 11

**MEDGOOS11****Figure 2 Effective cruise map**

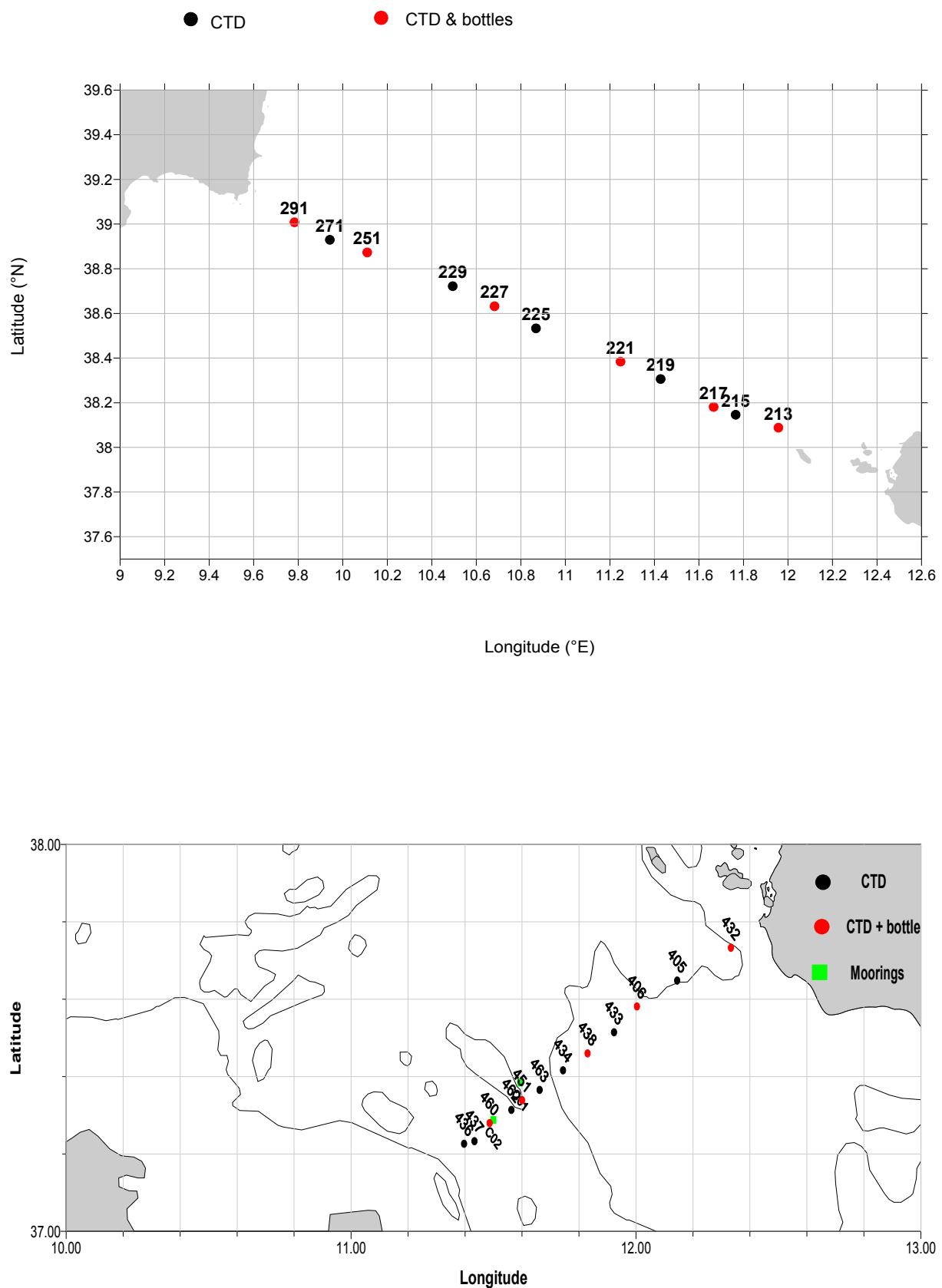


Figure 3 Zoomed maps

## Cruise Stations

Station	Date	Long (°E)	Lat (°N)	Depth (m)	Type
<b>GEOSTAR</b>	19/11/2005	13° 17.96	38° 54.98	3445	CTD, rosette
<b>Testflap</b>	19/11/2005	13° 12.59	38° 42.99	238	CTD
<b>Testflap1</b>	20/11/2005	12° 17.54	37° 53.66	70	CTD
<b>Testflap3</b>	20/11/2005	12° 17.09	37° 53.88	70	CTD
<b>Testflap4</b>	20/11/2005	12° 17.54	37° 54.68	69	CTD
<b>Testflap5</b>	20/11/2005	12° 13.06	37° 49.44	156	CTD
<b>Testflap6</b>	20/11/2005	12° 13.10	37° 48.81	162	CTD
<b>Testflap7</b>	21/11/2005	12° 15.15	37° 50.04	139	CTD
<b>Testflap8</b>	21/11/2005	12° 15.51	37° 49.97	121	CTD
<b>432</b>	21/11/2005	12° 20.30	37° 43.62	170	CTD, LADCP, rosette
<b>405</b>	21/11/2005	12° 08.70	37° 38.86	93	CTD, LADCP
<b>406</b>	21/11/2005	12° 00.20	37° 34.83	148	CTD, LADCP, rosette
<b>433</b>	21/11/2005	11° 55.38	37° 30.09	106	CTD, LADCP
<b>438</b>	21/11/2005	11° 49.75	37° 07.63	74	CTD, LADCP, rosette
<b>434</b>	22/11/2005	11° 44.60	37° 24.98	86	CTD, LADCP
<b>463</b>	22/11/2005	11° 39.66	37° 21.92	94	CTD, LADCP
<b>451</b>	22/11/2005	11° 36.00	37° 20.35	541	CTD, LADCP, rosette
<b>460</b>	22/11/2005	11° 29.12	37° 16.76	545	CTD, LADCP, rosette
<b>462</b>	22/11/2005	11° 39.66	37° 21.94	94	CTD, LADCP
<b>437</b>	22/11/2005	11° 25.99	37° 13.95	445	CTD, LADCP
<b>436</b>	22/11/2005	11° 23.74	37° 13.60	416	CTD, LADCP
<b>213</b>	29/11/2005	11° 57.42	38° 05.23	410	CTD, LADCP, rosette
<b>215</b>	29/11/2005	11° 45.96	38° 08.75	1207	CTD, LADCP
<b>217</b>	29/11/2005	11° 31.94	38° 10.86	368	CTD, LADCP, rosette
<b>219</b>	29/11/2005	11° 25.68	38° 18.41	888	CTD, LADCP
<b>221</b>	29/11/2005	11° 14.75	38° 23.06	699	CTD, LADCP, rosette
<b>225</b>	29/11/2005	10° 52.09	38° 31.96	728	CTD, LADCP
<b>227</b>	29/11/2005	10° 40.96	38° 37.89	1523	CTD, LADCP, rosette
<b>229</b>	30/11/2005	10° 29.61	38° 43.34	2485	CTD, LADCP
<b>251</b>	30/11/2005	10° 06.64	38° 52.41	2191	CTD, LADCP, rosette

<b>271</b>	30/11/2005	09° 56.51	38° 55.80	1377	CTD, LADCP
<b>291</b>	30/11/2005	09° 47.20	39° 00.84	1026	CTD, LADCP, rosette
<b>51</b>	01/12/2005	11° 41.20	39° 46.40	3266	CTD, LADCP, rosette
<b>50</b>	01/12/2005	13° 22.05	40° 04.98	2778	CTD, LADCP, rosette
<b>49</b>	02/12/2005	13° 30.01	40° 20.18	1962	CTD, rosette
<b>XBT</b>	17/11/2005	009° 44.98'	42° 45.21'	-	T4
<b>XBT</b>	17/11/2005	009° 50.00'	42° 29.86'	-	T4
<b>XBT</b>	17/11/2005	009° 54.80'	42° 15.06'	-	T4
<b>XBT</b>	17/11/2005	010° 00.15'	41° 59.56'	-	T4
<b>XBT</b>	17/11/2005	010° 10.74'	41° 43.45'	-	T4
<b>XBT</b>	17/11/2005	010° 19.84'	41° 30.31'	-	T4
<b>XBT</b>	17/11/2005	010° 28.00'	41° 19.99'	-	T5
<b>XBT</b>	18/11/2005	012° 56.05'	38° 42.77'	-	DB
<b>XBT</b>	19/11/2005	012° 40.62'	38° 35.58'	-	DB
<b>XBT</b>	19/11/2005	012° 17.12'	38° 29.26'	-	DB
<b>XBT</b>	20/11/2005	012° 56.05'	38° 22.04'	-	DB
<b>XBT</b>	20/11/2005	012° 05.00'	38° 14.93'	-	DB
<b>XBT</b>	30/11/2005	009° 44.98'	38° 59.98'	-	T4
<b>XBT</b>	30/11/2005	010° 14.92'	39° 05.00'	-	T4
<b>XBT</b>	30/11/2005	010° 30.06'	39° 11.00'	-	T4
<b>XBT</b>	30/11/2005	010° 59.21'	39° 22.75'	-	T5
<b>XBT</b>	30/11/2005	011° 29.55'	39° 33.76'	-	T5
<b>XBT</b>	01/12/2005	012° 00.00'	39° 46.00'	-	T5
<b>XBT</b>	01/12/2005	012° 30.19'	39° 58.07'	-	T5
<b>XBT</b>	01/12/2005	012° 59.99'	40° 09.99'	-	T5
<b>XBT</b>	01/12/2005	013° 19.05'	40° 17.02'	-	T5
<b>XBT</b>	01/12/2005	013° 39.00'	40° 24.65'	-	T4

**Table 3 Station list**

# Onboard Operations

## CTD casts

At all the hydrological stations, pressure (P), salinity (S), potential temperature ( $\theta$ ) and dissolved oxygen concentration (DO) were measured with a CTD-rosette system consisting of a CTD SBE 911 plus, and a General Oceanics rosette with 24 12-l Niskin Bottles. Temperature measurements were performed with a SBE-3/F thermometer, with a resolution of  $10^{-3}$  °C, and conductivity measurements were performed with a SBE-4 sensor, with a resolution of  $3 \times 10^{-4}$  S/m. In addition, salinities of water samples were analysed on board using a Guildline Autosal salinometer. Dissolved oxygen was measured with a SBE-13 sensor (resolution 4.3  $\mu$ M), and data were checked against Winkler titration. The vertical profiles of all parameters were obtained by sampling the signals at 24 Hz, with the CTD/rosette going down at a speed of 1 m/s. The data were processed on board, and the coarse errors were corrected.

## Nutrients

Seawater samples for nutrient measurements were collected at different depths, when the system CTD/rosette was going up, according to the vertical profiles of salinity, potential temperature and dissolved oxygen, recorded in real time. No filtration was employed, nutrient samples were stored at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  and nitrate, orthosilicate and orthophosphate concentrations will be determined later in the laboratory, using a hybrid Brän–Luebbe AutoAnalyzer following classical methods (Grasshoff et al., 1983) with slight modifications.

*Laboratory: ENEA-CRAM, University of Florence*

## LADCP

Velocity profiles measurement were performed by means of two Lowered Acoustic Doppler Current Profilers (LADCP), mounted on the rosette. We used RDI Workhorse 300 kHz ADCPs. For the data postprocessing we used the LDEO LADCP software, version 8.1.

*Laboratory: CNR-ISMAR, ENEA-CRAM*



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**Further On Board Operations:**

**Ship mounted ADCP (SADCP)**

*Laboratory: CNR-ISMAR*

**Mooring recovery and maintenance**

*Laboratory: CNR-ISMAR*

**Tflap – PrimProd**

*Laboratory: University of Tuscia*

**Chlorophyll**

*Laboratory: IAMC ,NURC, University of Florence, University of Tuscia*

**Phytoplankton**

*Laboratory: University of Florence, University of Pisa*

**Bacteria**

*Laboratory: IAMC*

**Yellow substances**

*Laboratory: University of Florence*

**Spectroradiometer**

*Laboratory: IAMC, University of Florence*

# Preliminary Results

## Hydrology

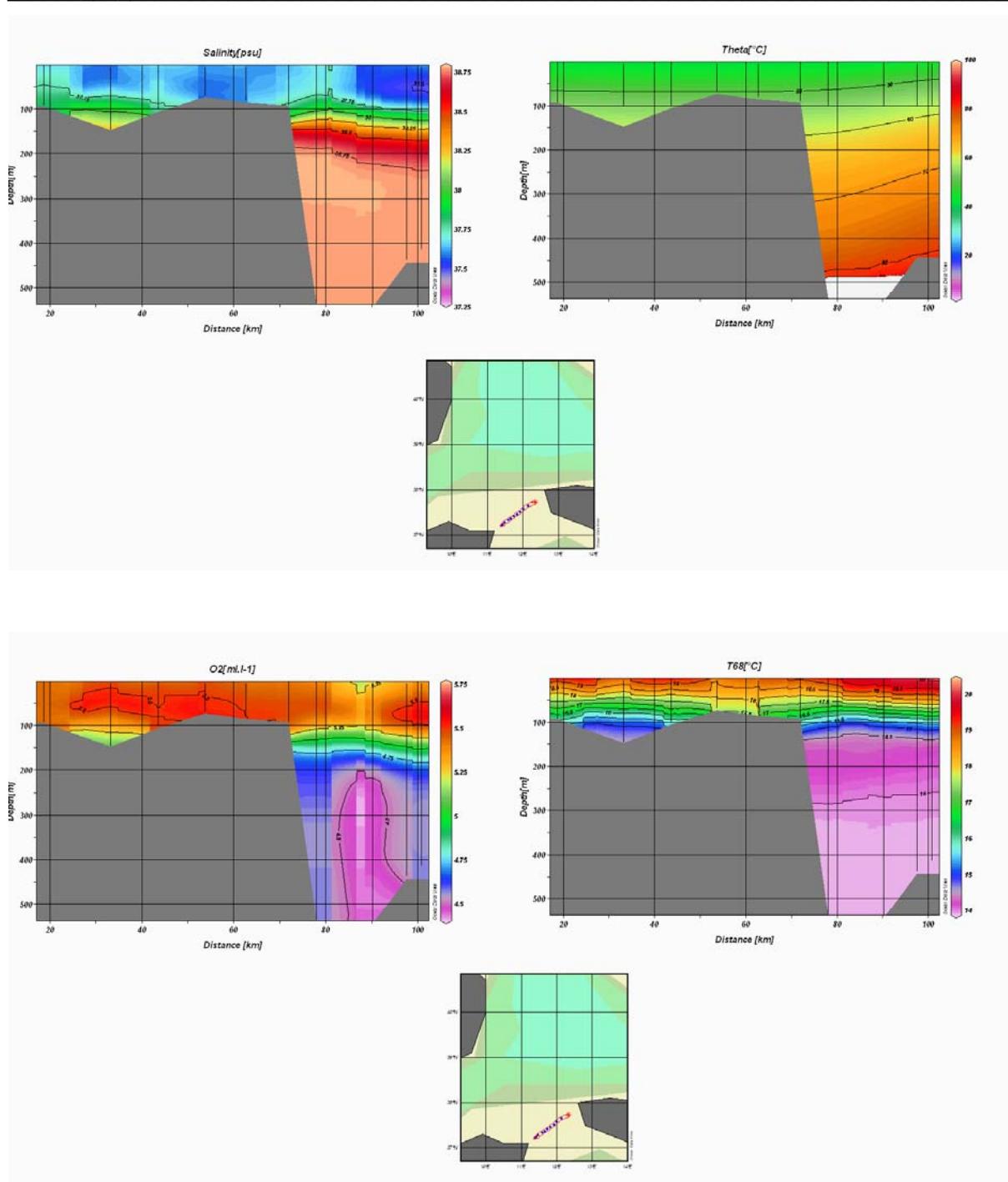
In the following pages are presented the first graphic elaborations of the CTD data (salinity, psu, potential temperature, °C, and dissolved oxygen, ml/l).

From the plots we can note different characteristics of the superficial layers (MAW), the intermediate layers (LIW) and the deep ones (WMDW). The highly saline intermediate water in the Sicily Strait (figure 7) is very evident and probably denotes the presence of Cretan Intermediate Water (CIW).

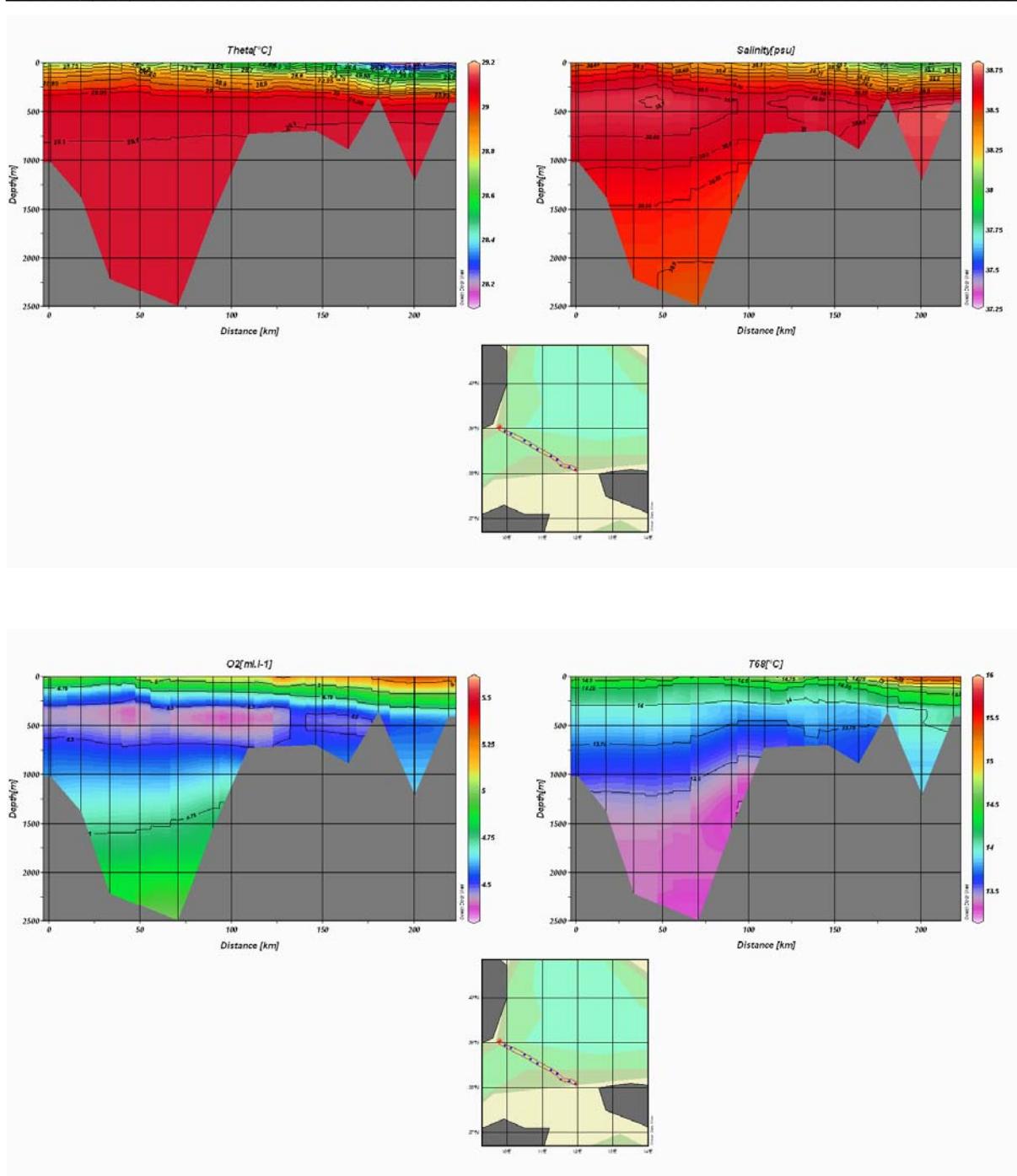
The **MAW** enters in the Sardinian Channel, on the south. MAW also occupies the whole transect in the Sicily Channel, with lower salinities on the Tunisian side, where it enters in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea. MAW reaches the Tyrrhenian Sea with a higher salinity, through the Sardinia-Sicily transect.

**LIW** comes from the Eastern Mediterranean and is identified by a salinity and potential temperature maximum and, for his greater age, by an oxygen minimum. It enters in the Western Mediterranean Sea, through the Sicily Strait, where it is visible at 150-250 m depth. After entering the western basin, it turns toward the Tyrrhenian Sea, through the Sardinia-Sicily transect ( $S>38.65$ , figures 17 and 18).

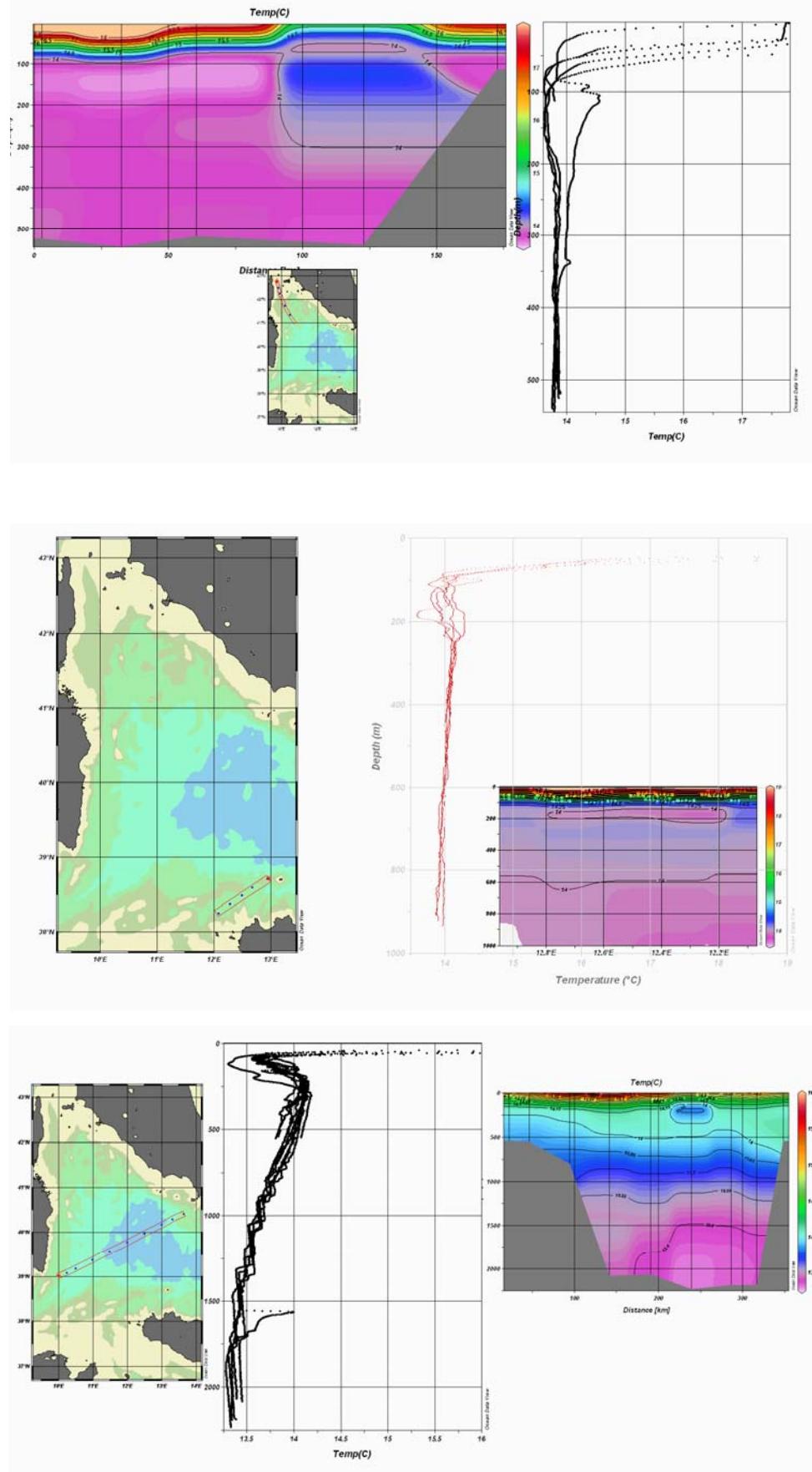
The **WMDW** forms in the Gulf of Lions during winter. It moves on the Tunisian side towards the Tyrrhenian Sea. The Channel of Sardinia is a key place for the circulation of WMDW. The bottom water in the Sicily Strait, indeed, comes from the Eastern Mediterranean Sea (Eastern Mediterranean Deep Water, **EMDW**) and is directed to the Tyrrhenian Sea.



**Figure 4a CTD Section (Strait of Sicily)**



**Figure 4b CTD Section (Sardinia – Sicily passage)**



**Figure 5 XBT Sections and profiles**

## CANALE DI CORSICA

Latit.:  
Long.:  
Prof. : 440

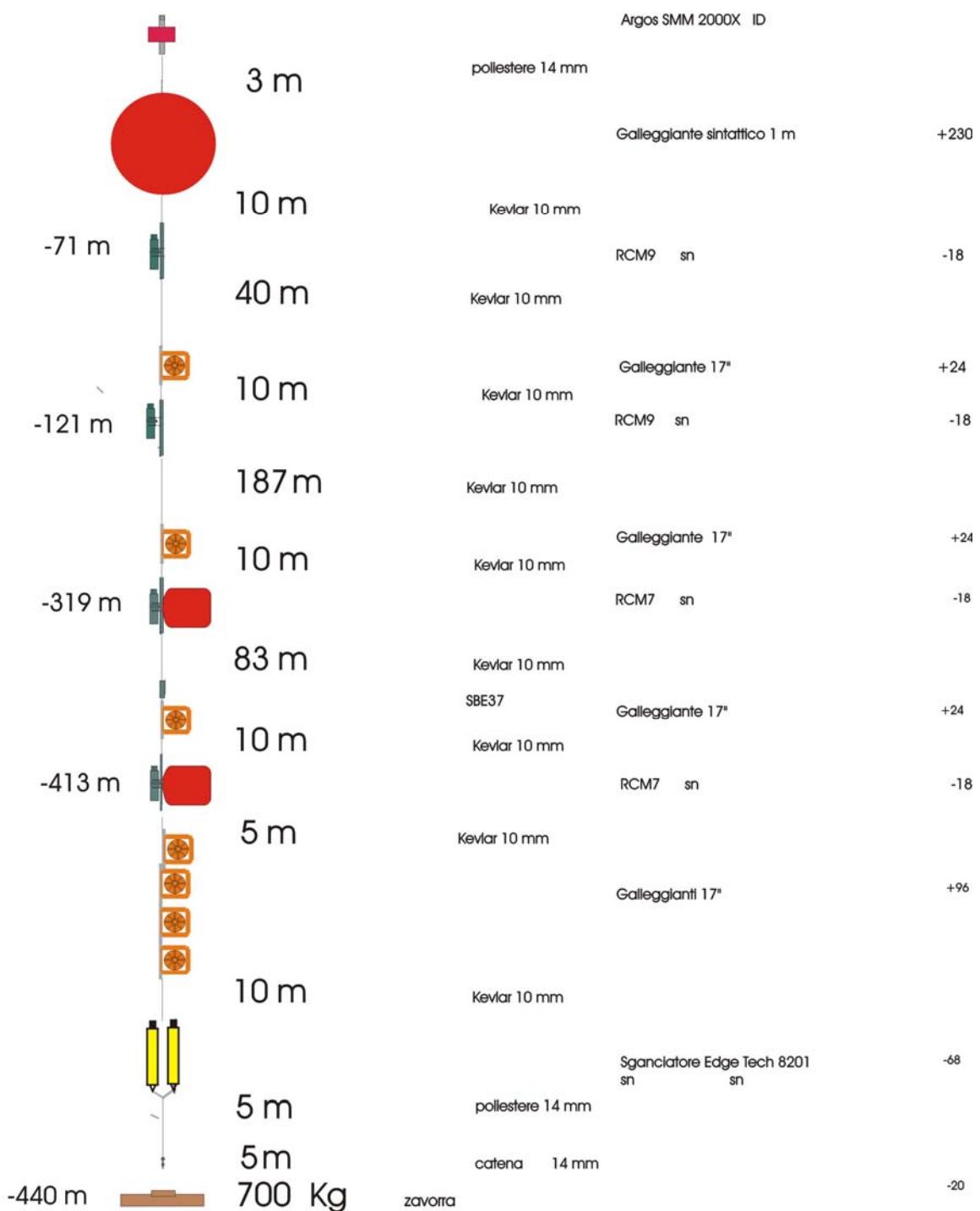


Figure 6 Mooring scheme (Corsica Channel)

## CATENA C01

Latit.:  
Long.:  
Data :  
Prof. : 457

Pos : Canale di Sicilia

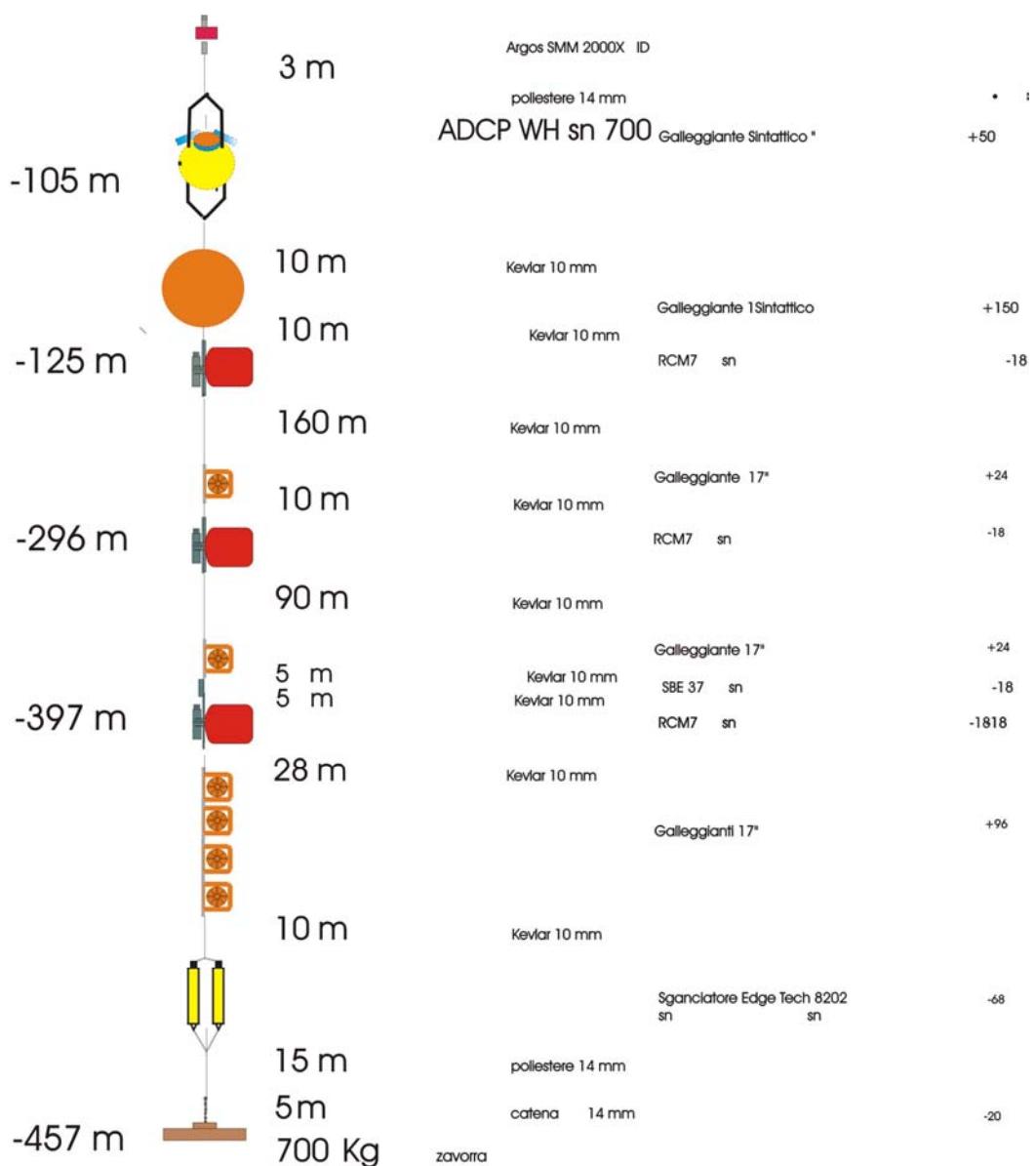


Figure 7 Mooring scheme C01 (Sicily Channel)

## CATENA C02

Latit.:  
Long.:  
Data:  
Prof. : 527

Pos : Canale d Sicilia

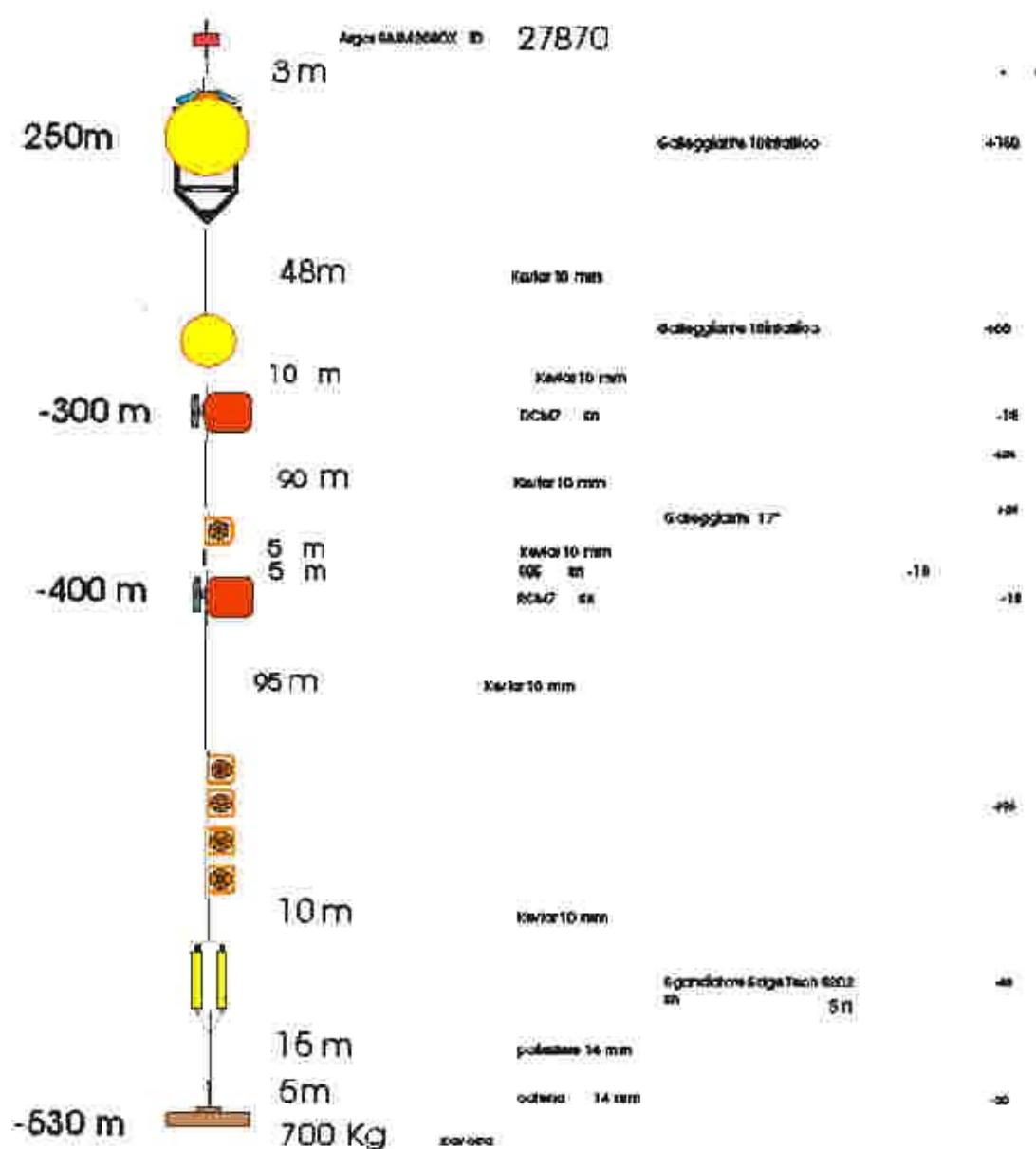
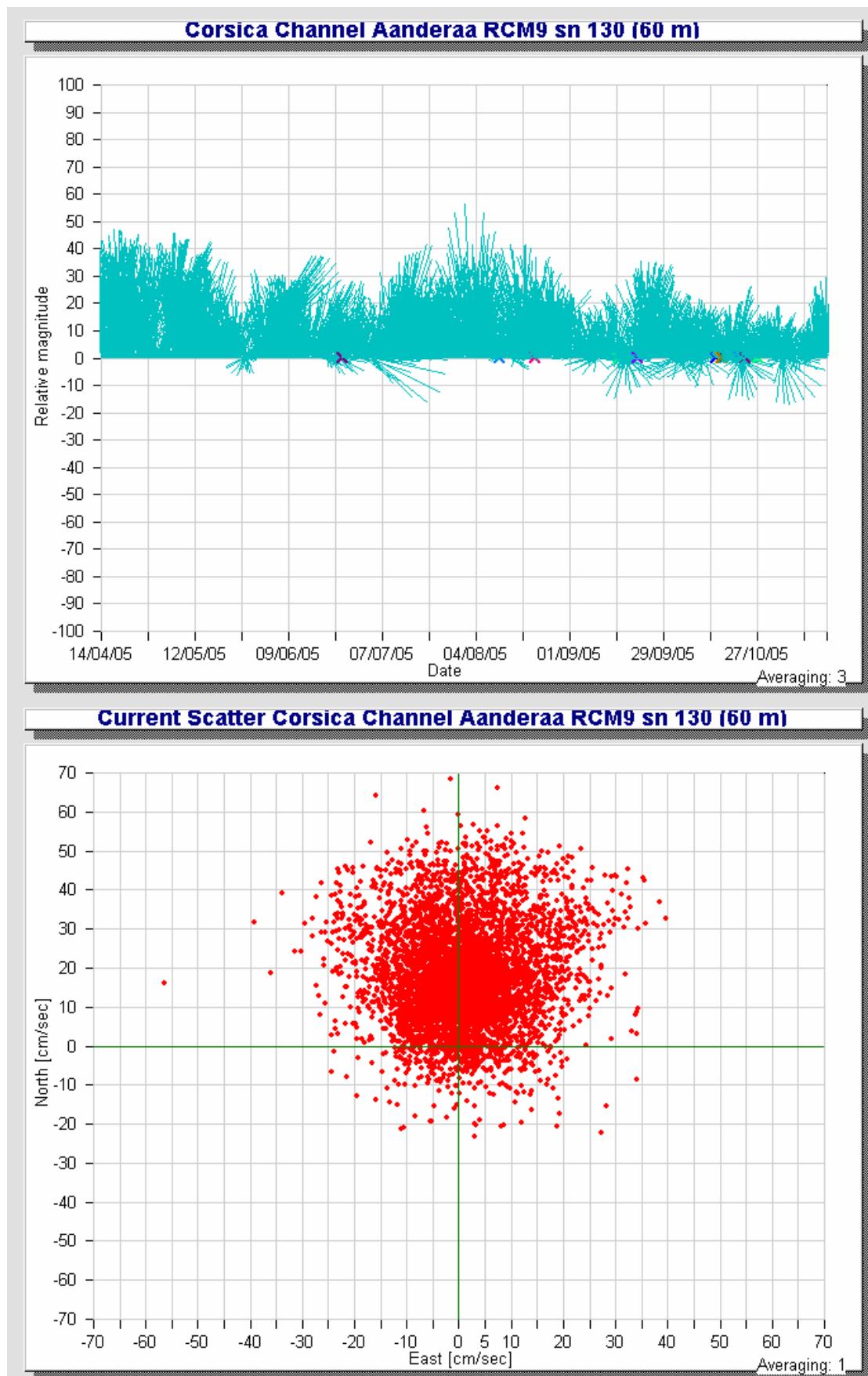
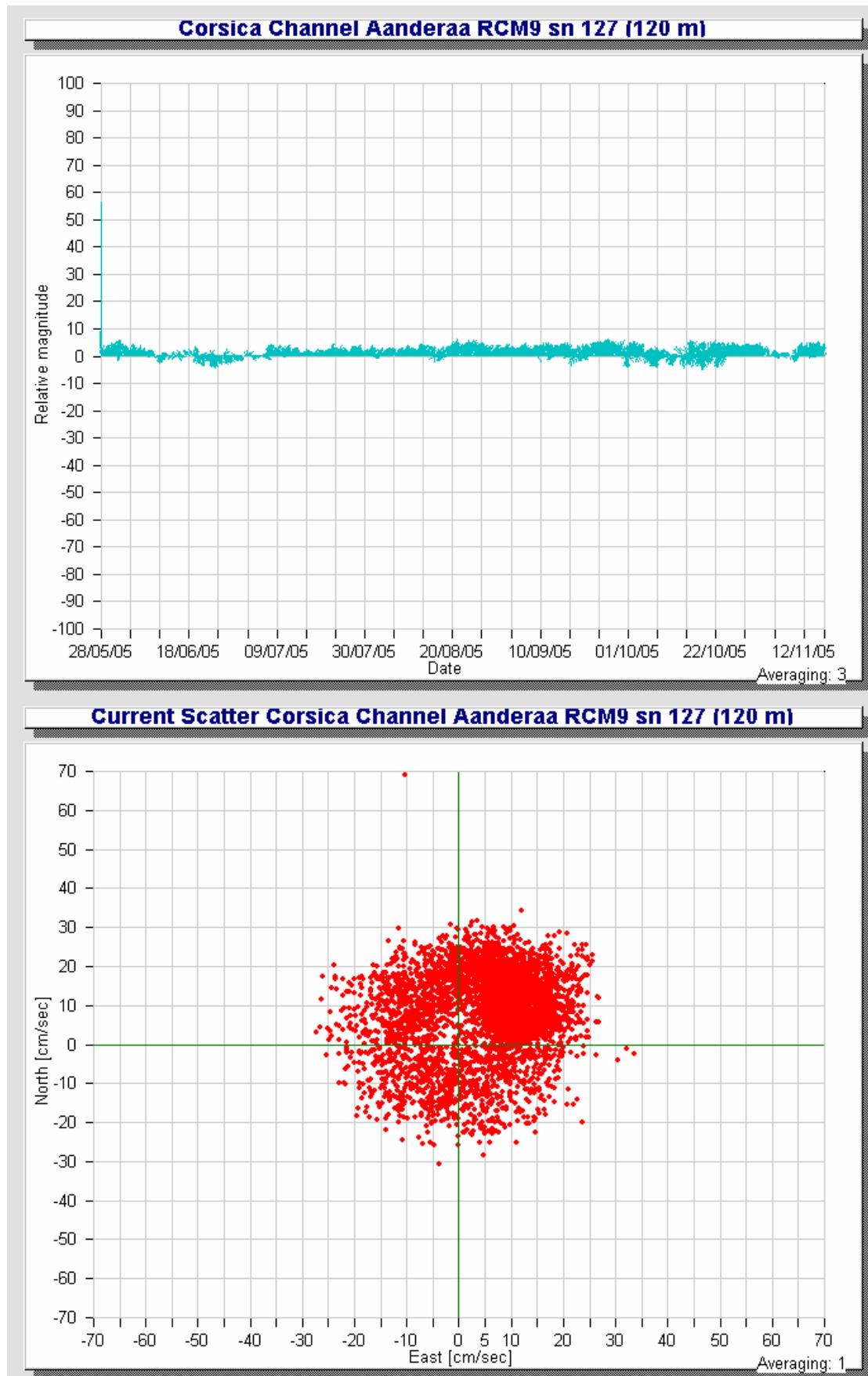


Figure 8 Mooring scheme C02 (Sicily Channel)

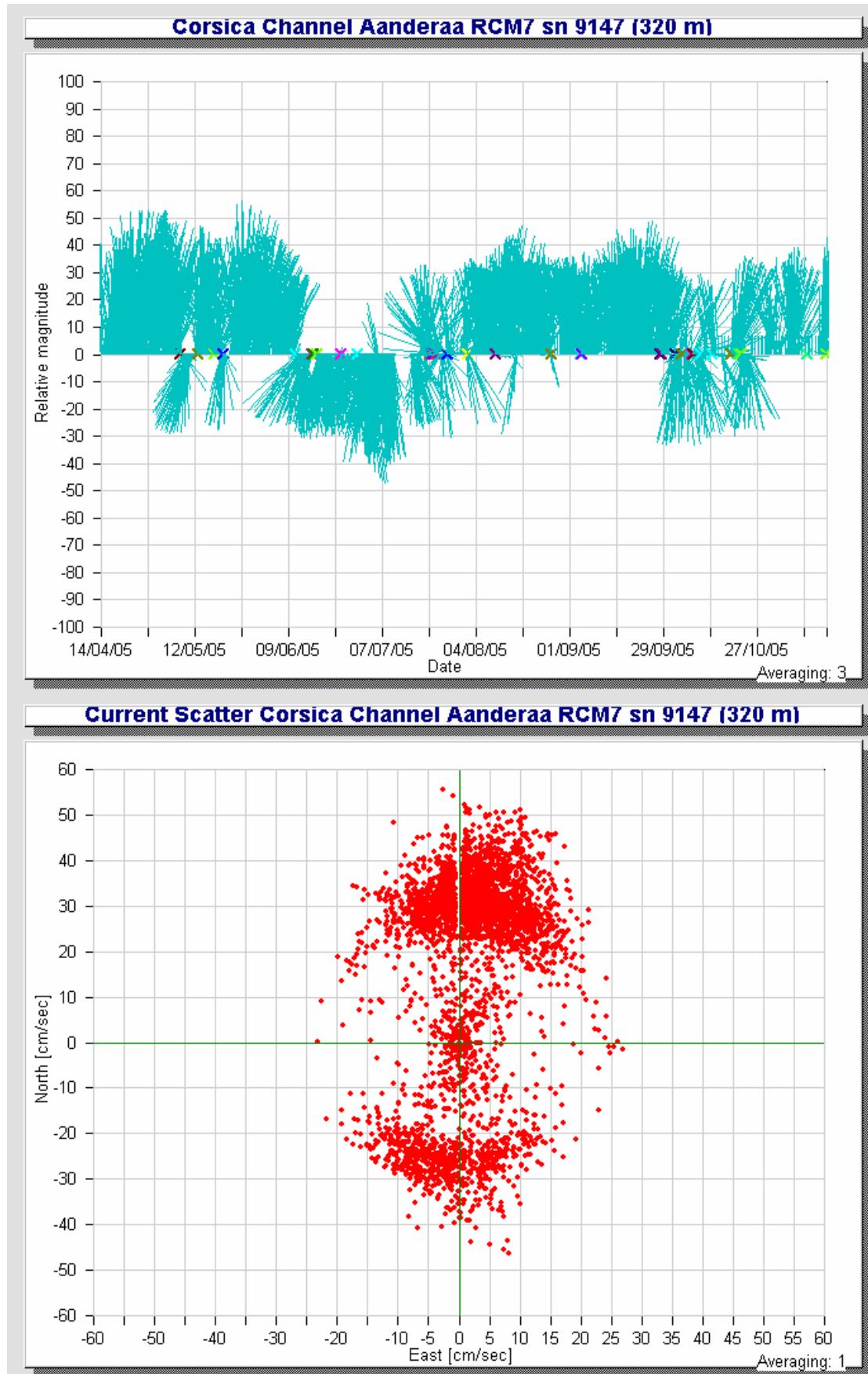




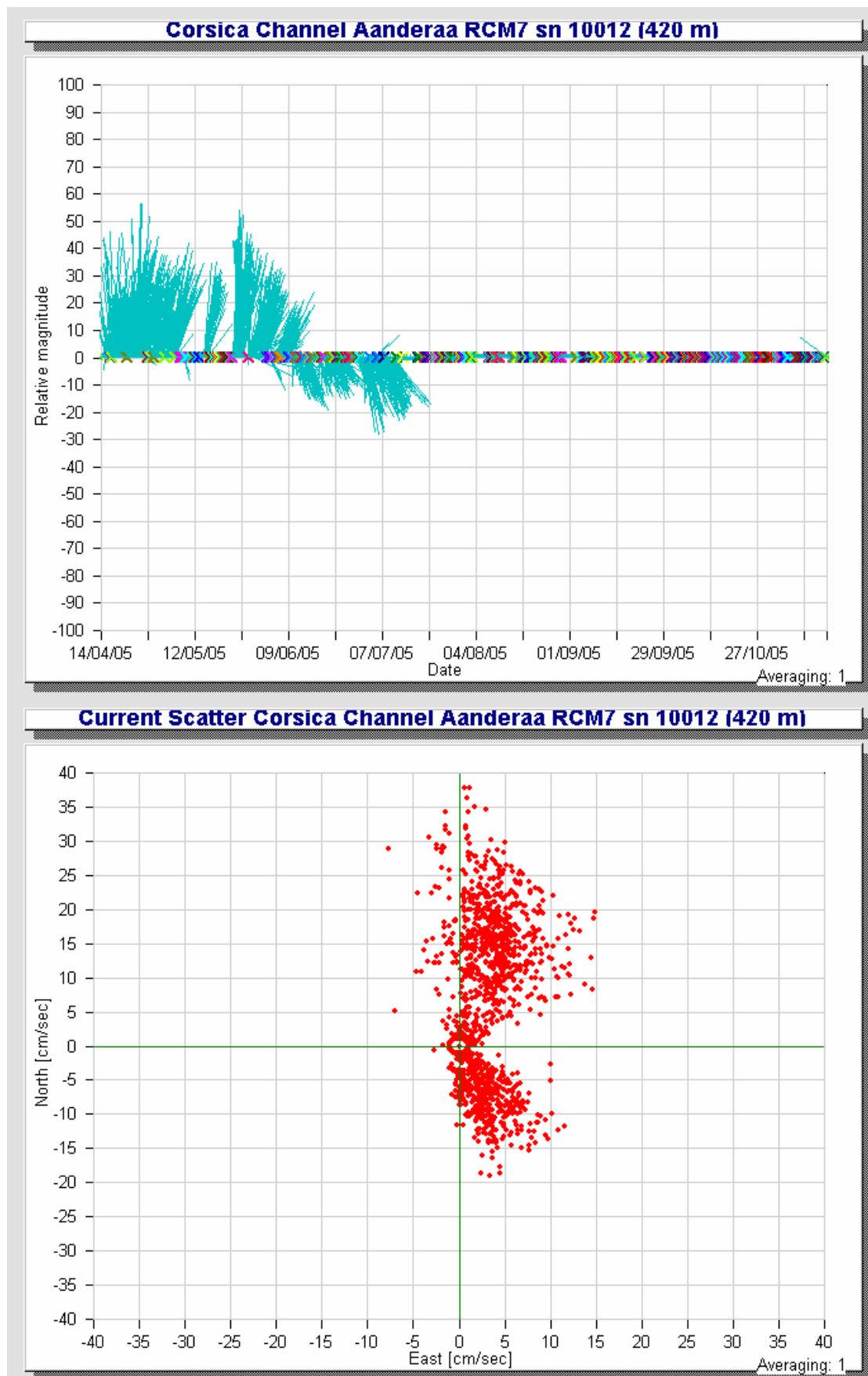
**Figure 9 Stick plot and current scatter diagram (60 m, Corsica mooring)**



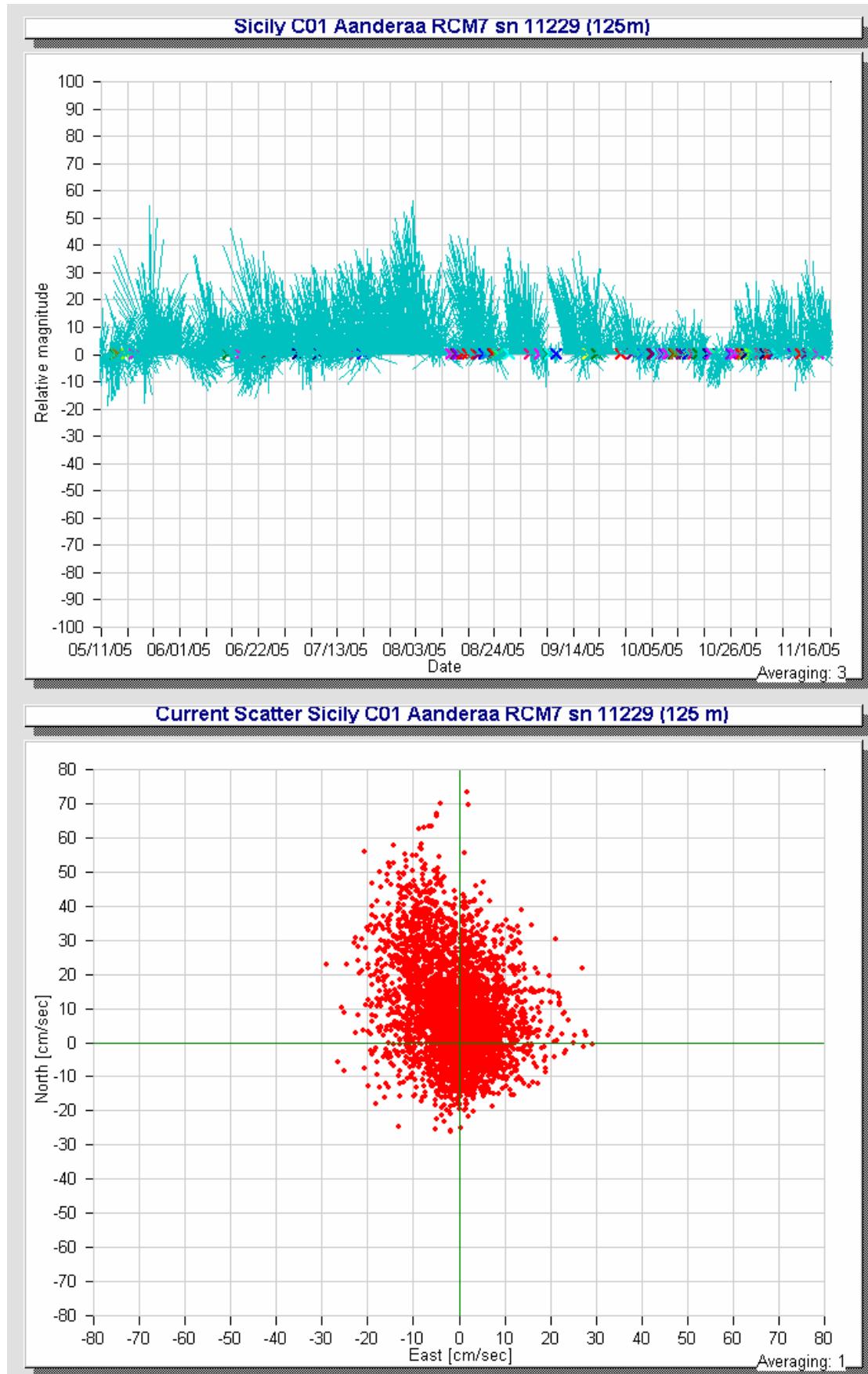
**Figure 10 Stick plot and current scatter diagram (120 m, Corsica mooring)**



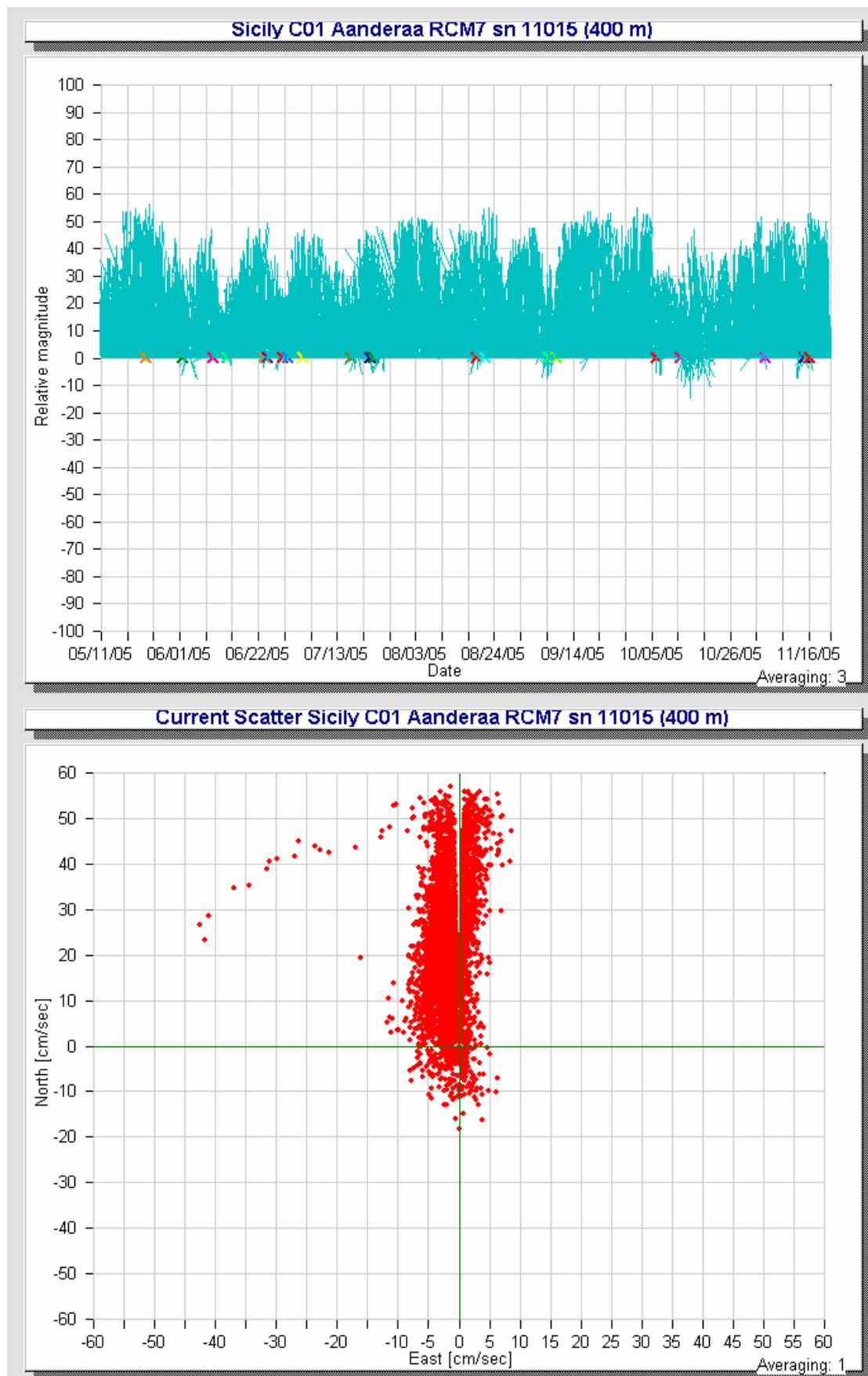
**Figure 11 Stick plot and current scatter diagram (320 m, Corsica mooring)**



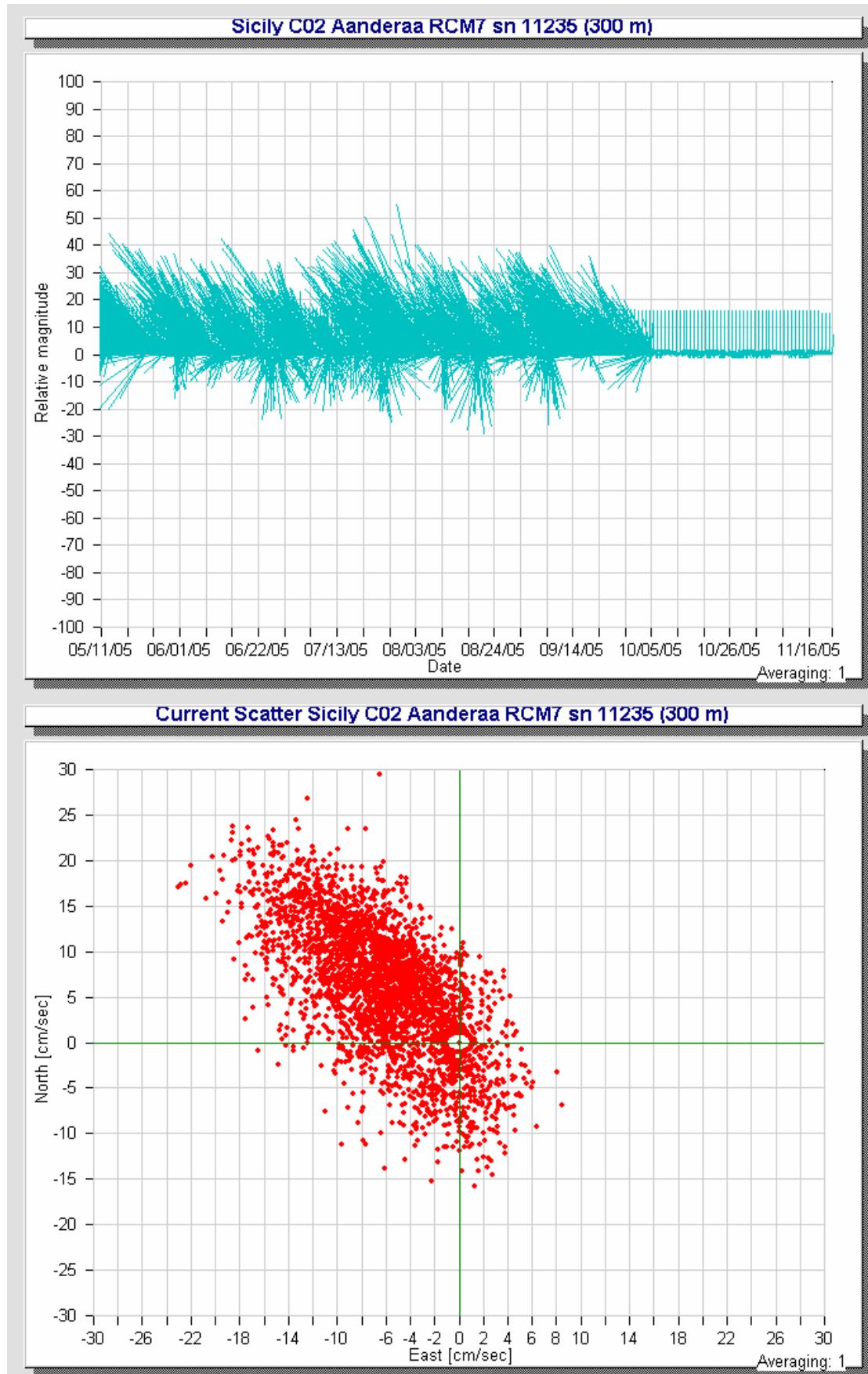
**Figure 12 Stick plot and current scatter diagram (420 m, Corsica mooring)**



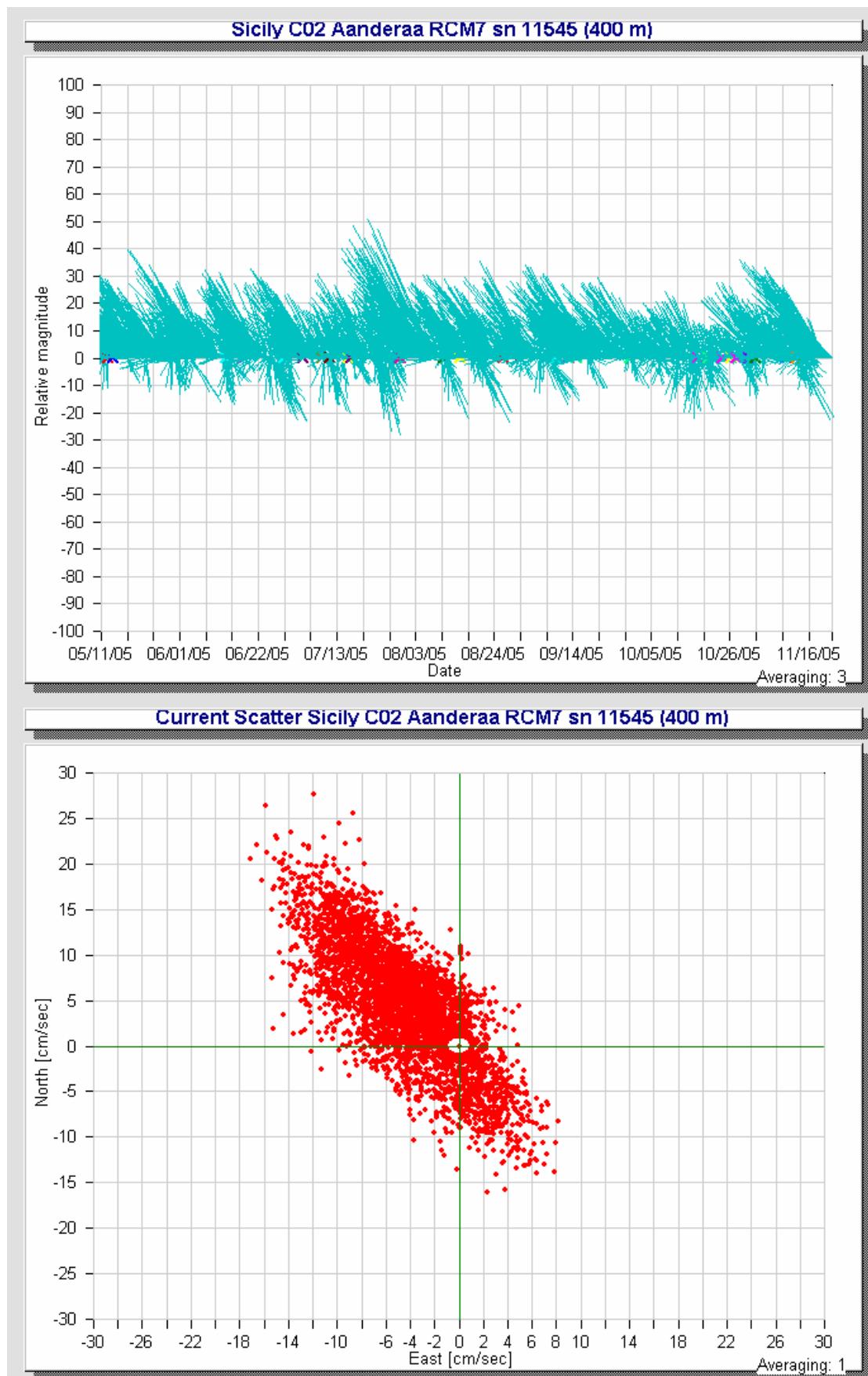
**Figure 13 Stick plot and current scatter diagram (125 m, Sicily mooring C01)**



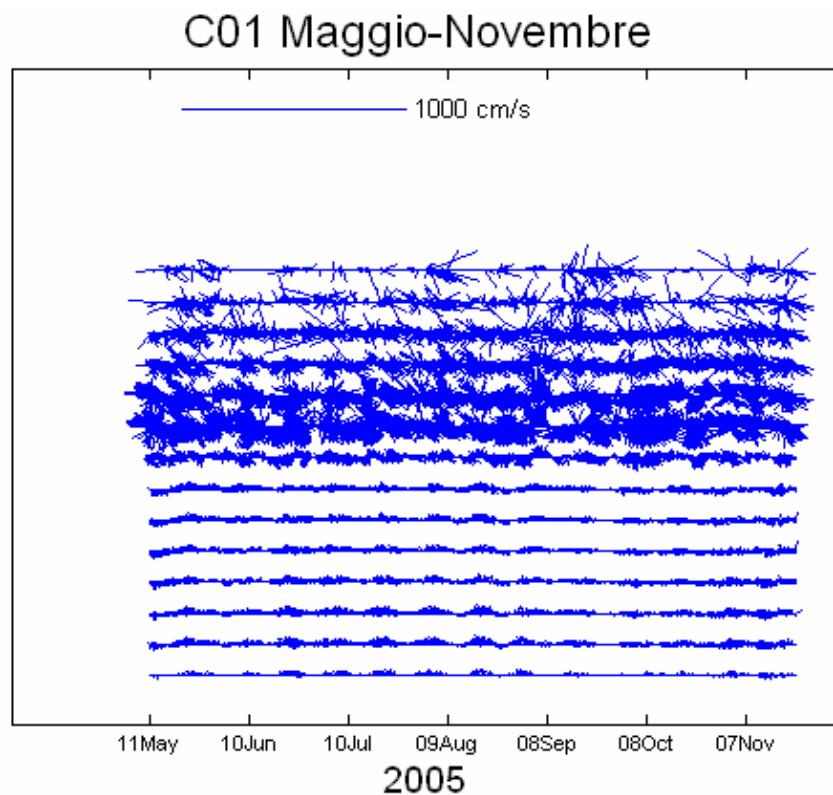
**Figure 14 Stick plot and current scatter diagram (400 m, Sicily mooring C01)**



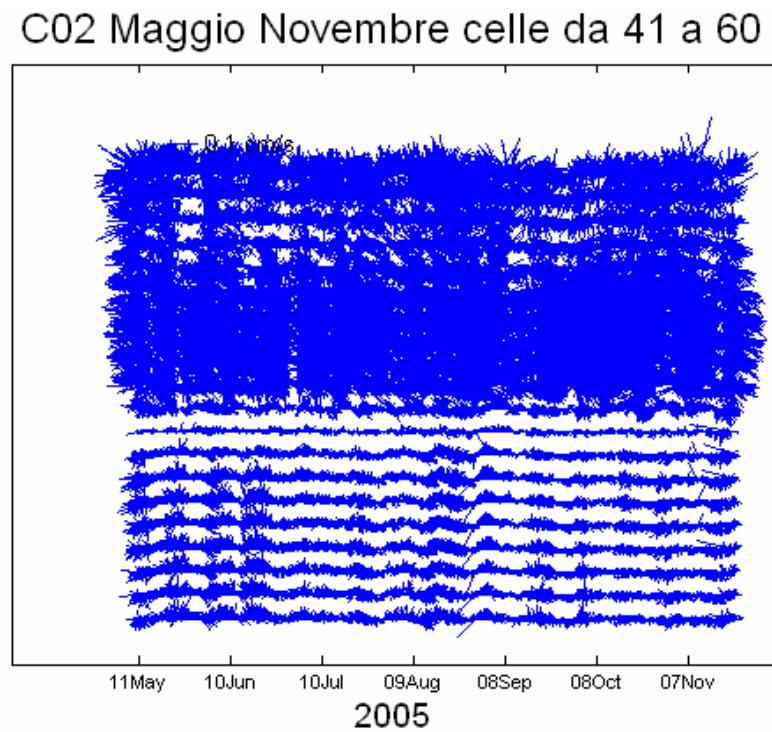
**Figure 15 Stick plot and current scatter diagram (300 m, Sicily mooring C02)**



**Figure 16 Stick plot and current scatter diagram (400 m, Sicily mooring C02)**

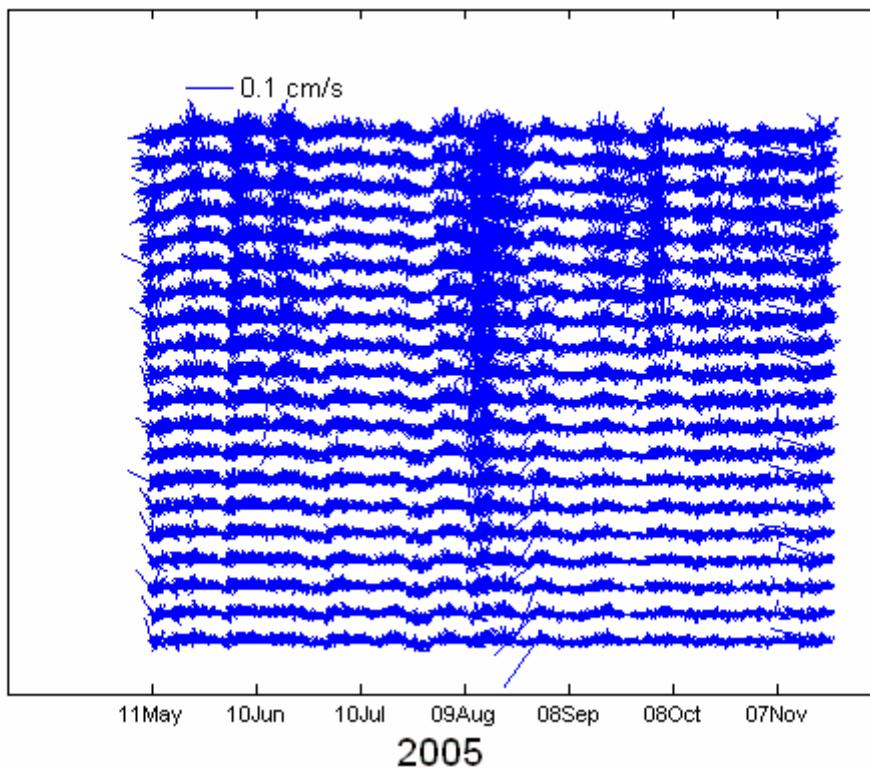


**Figure 17 Stick plots of the moored RDI ADCP (mooring C01)**

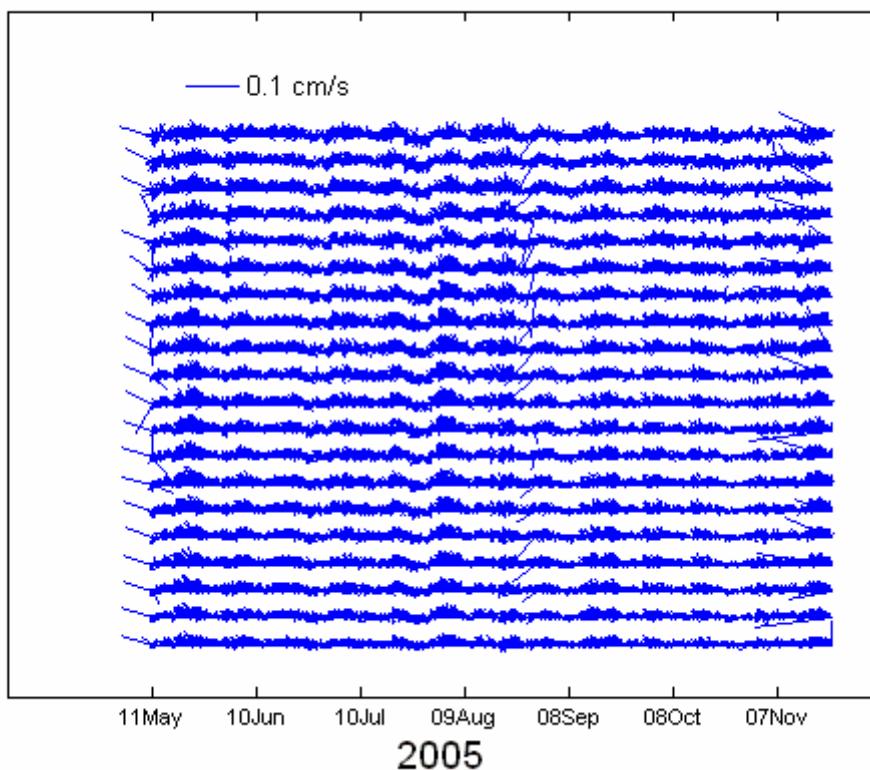


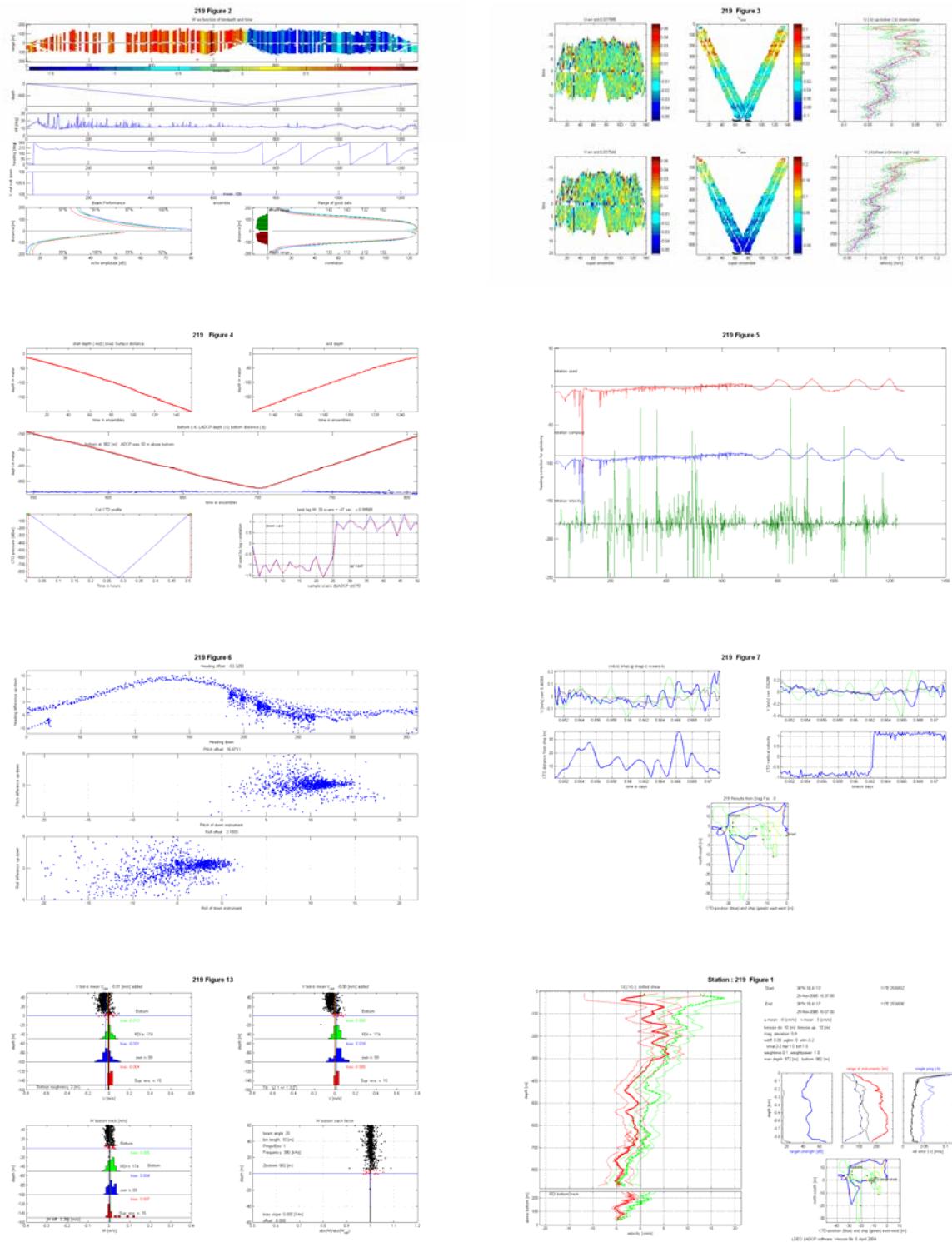
**Figure 18 Stick plots of the moored NORTEK ADCP (mooring C02) (continues in the following page)**

C02 Maggio Novembre celle da 21 a 40



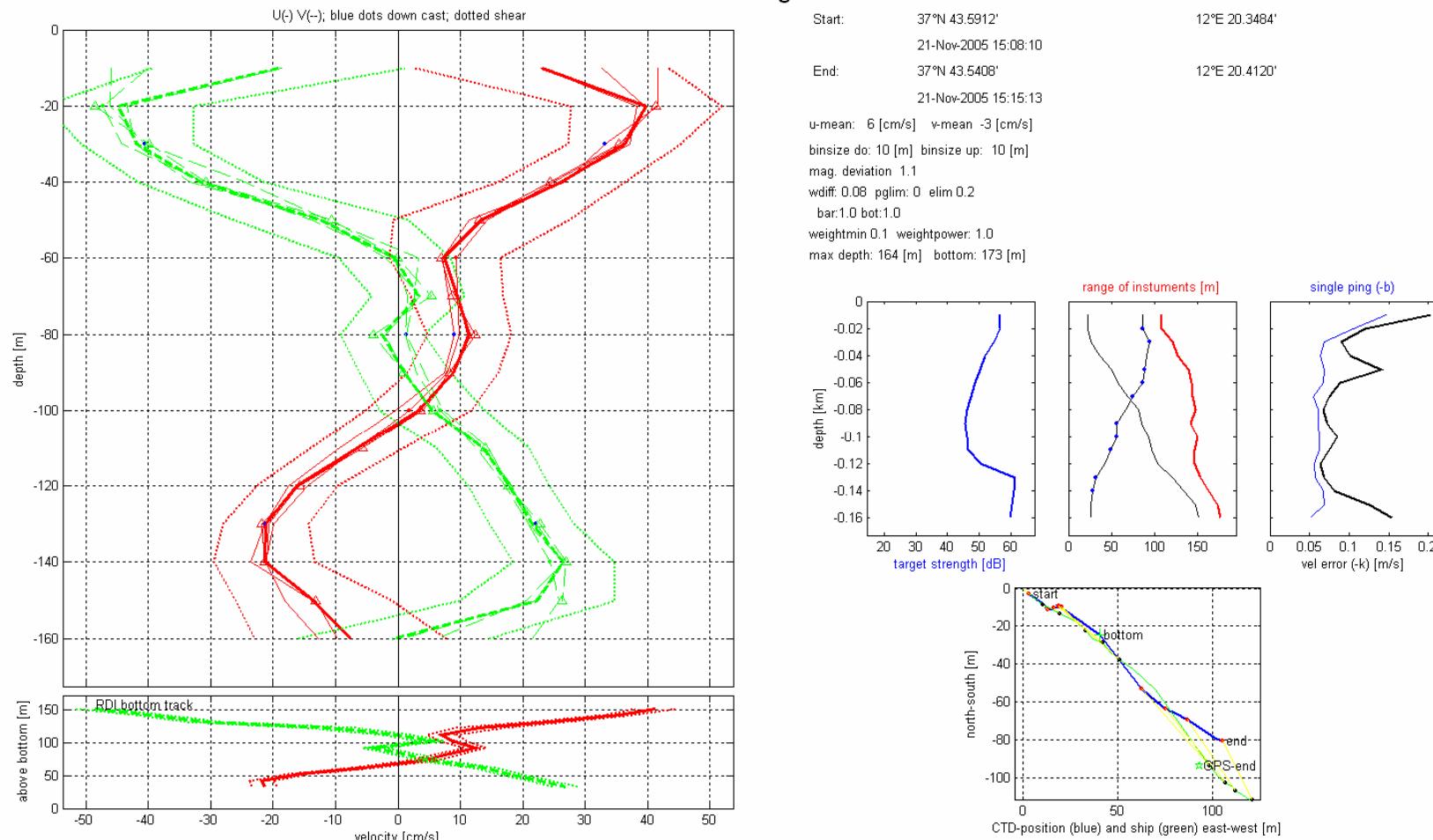
C02 Maggio Novembre celle da 01 a 20



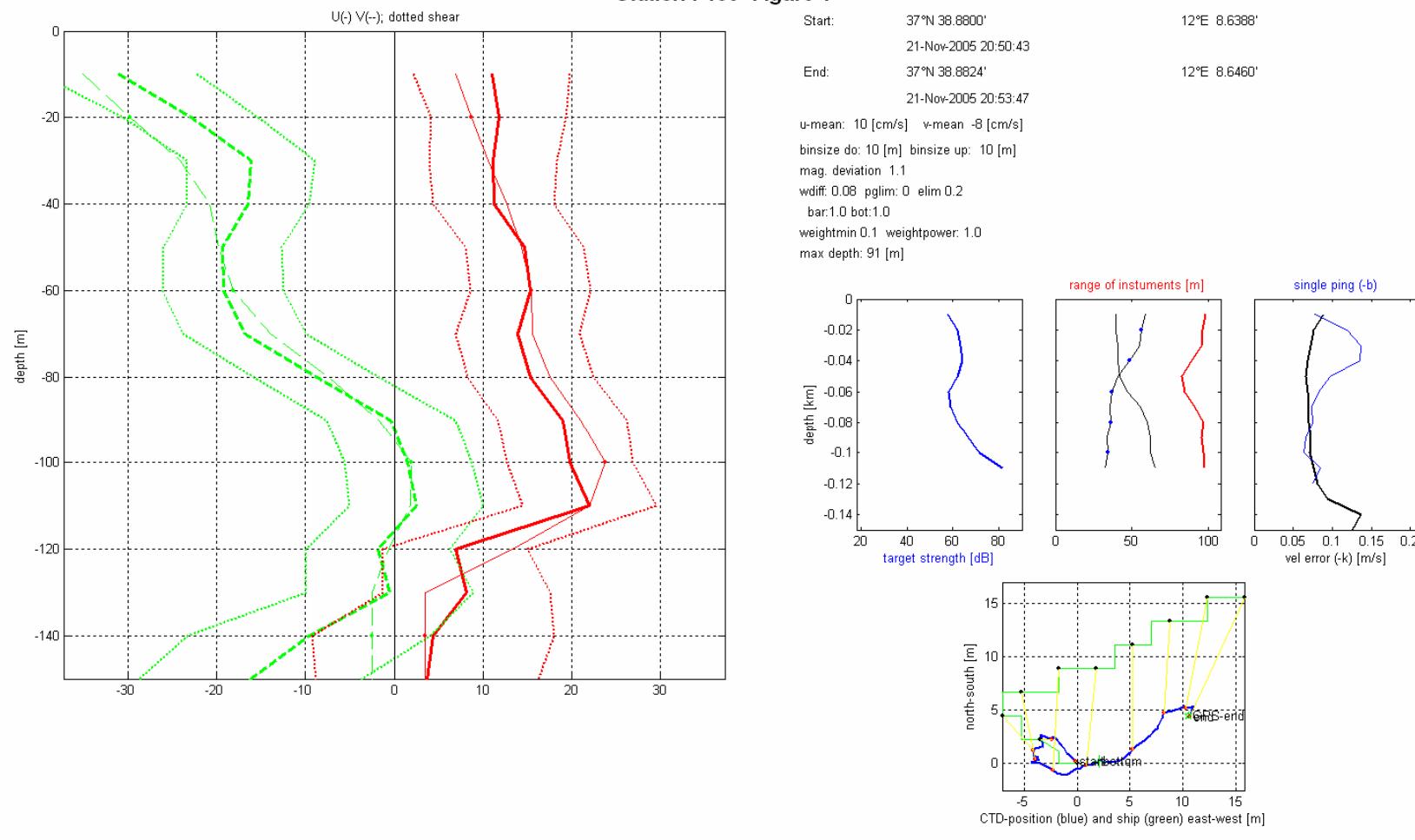
**Figure 19 Graphic output of the LDEO LADCP software ver. 8b****Figures 20-41 (following pages) Graphic results for each station**



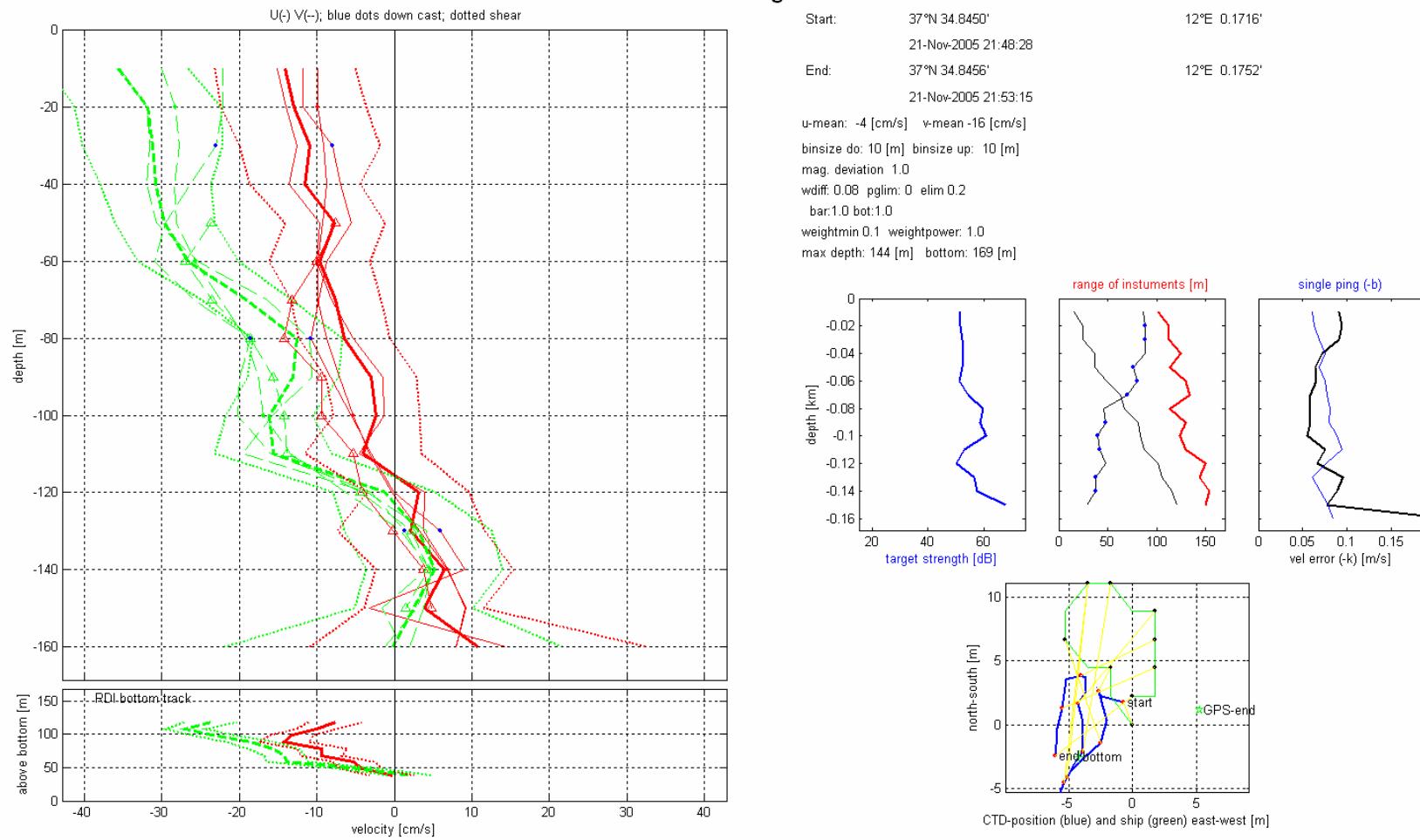
Station : 432 Figure 1



Station : 405 Figure 1

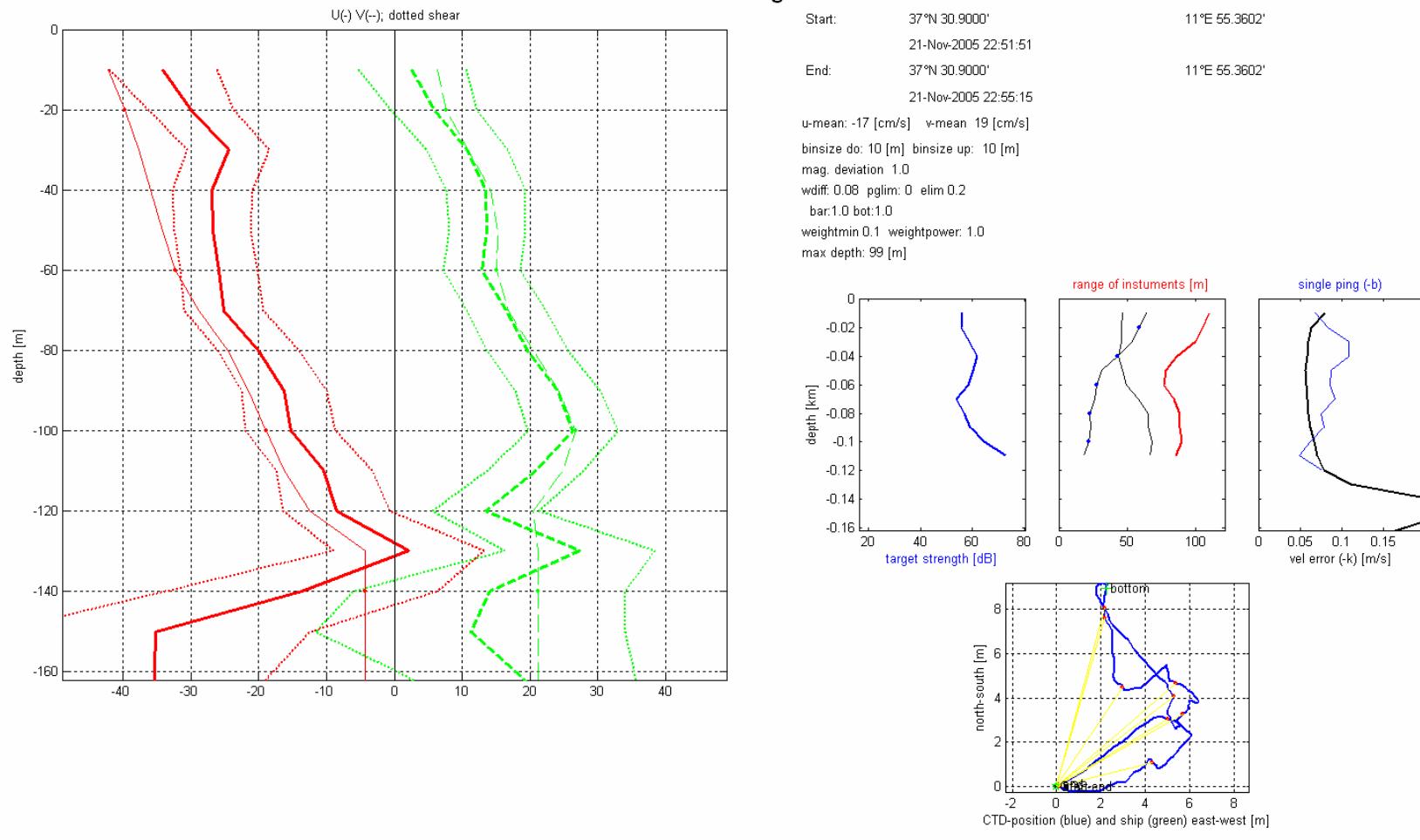


## Station : 406 Figure 1

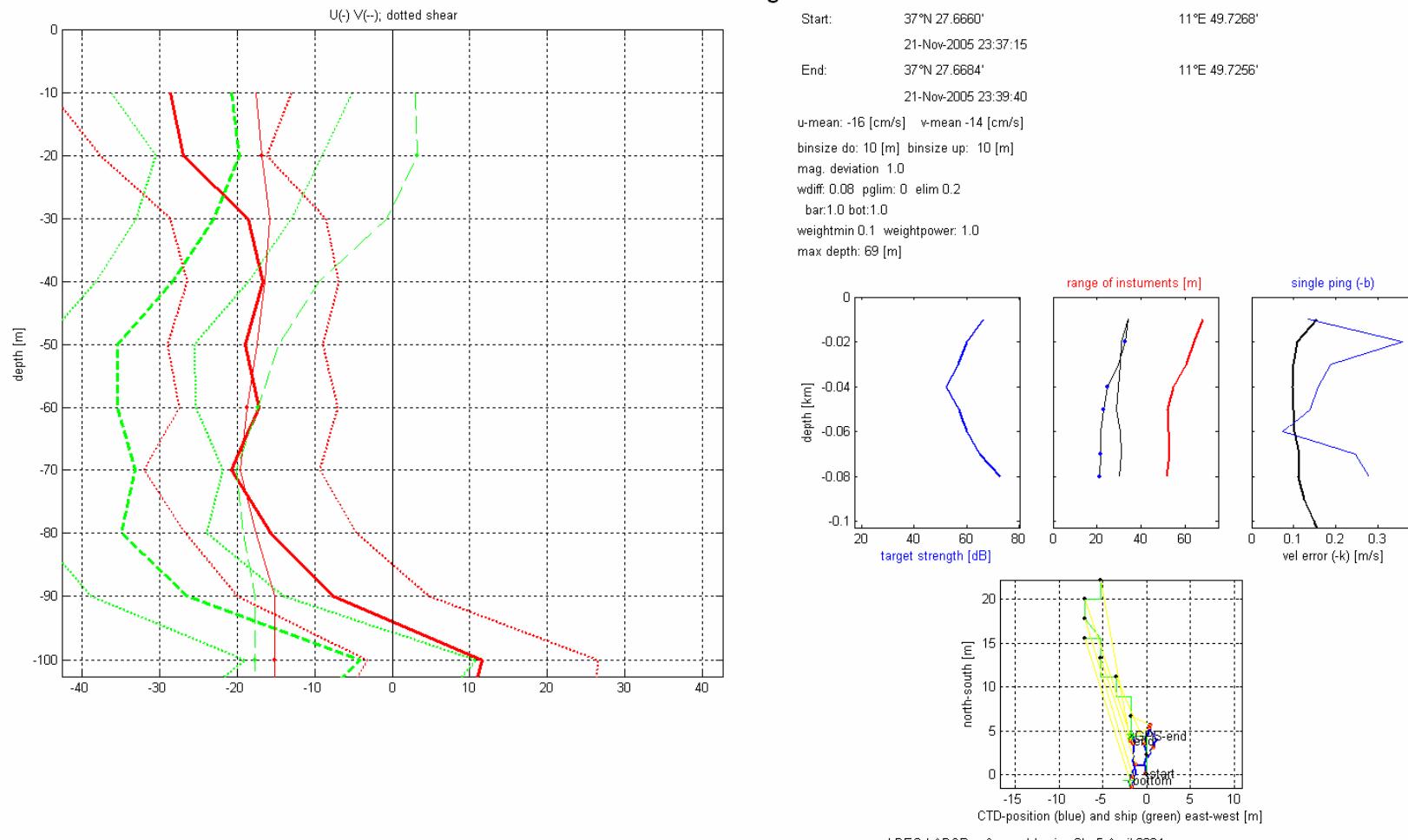


LDEO LADCP software: Version 8b: 5 April 2004

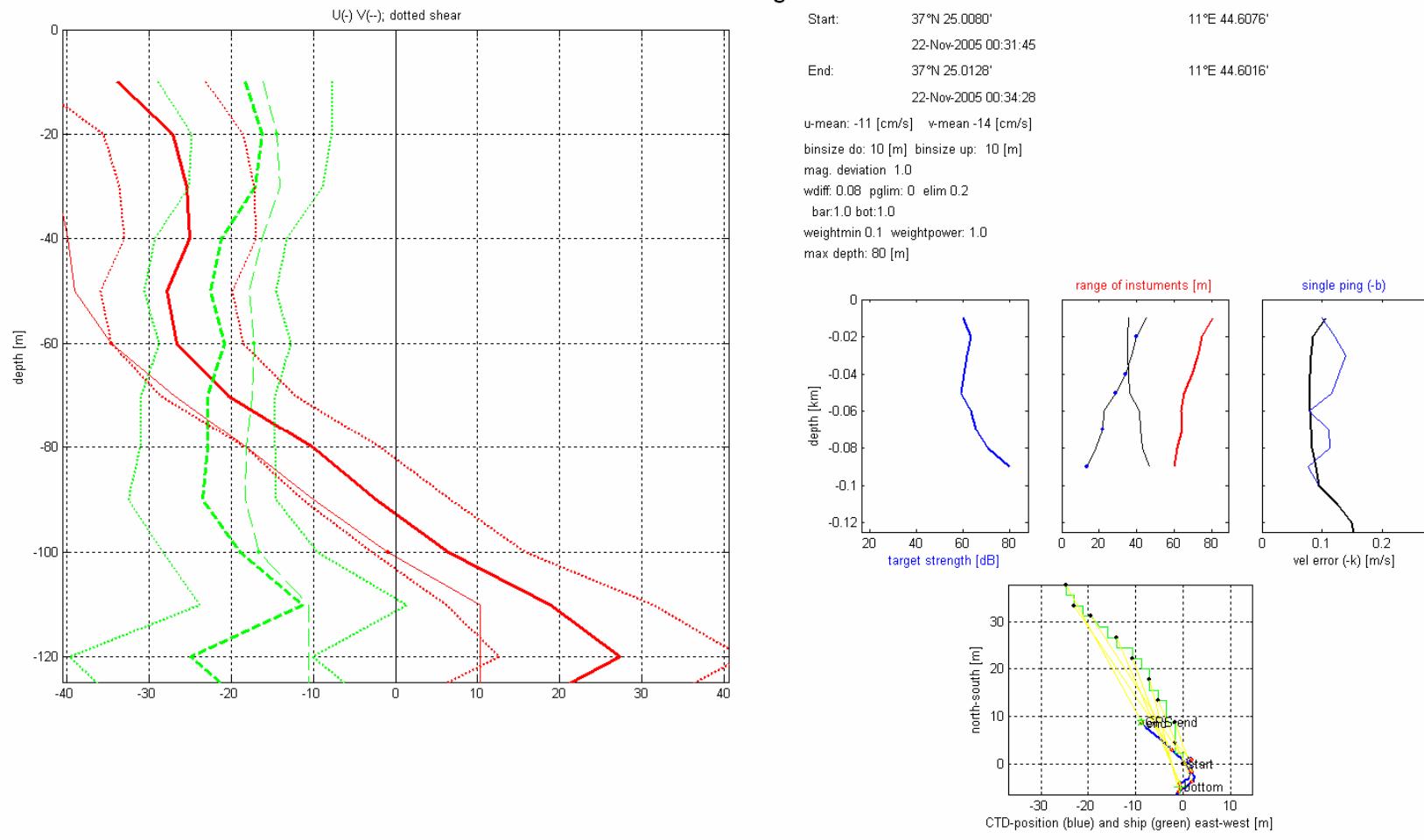
Station : 433 Figure 1



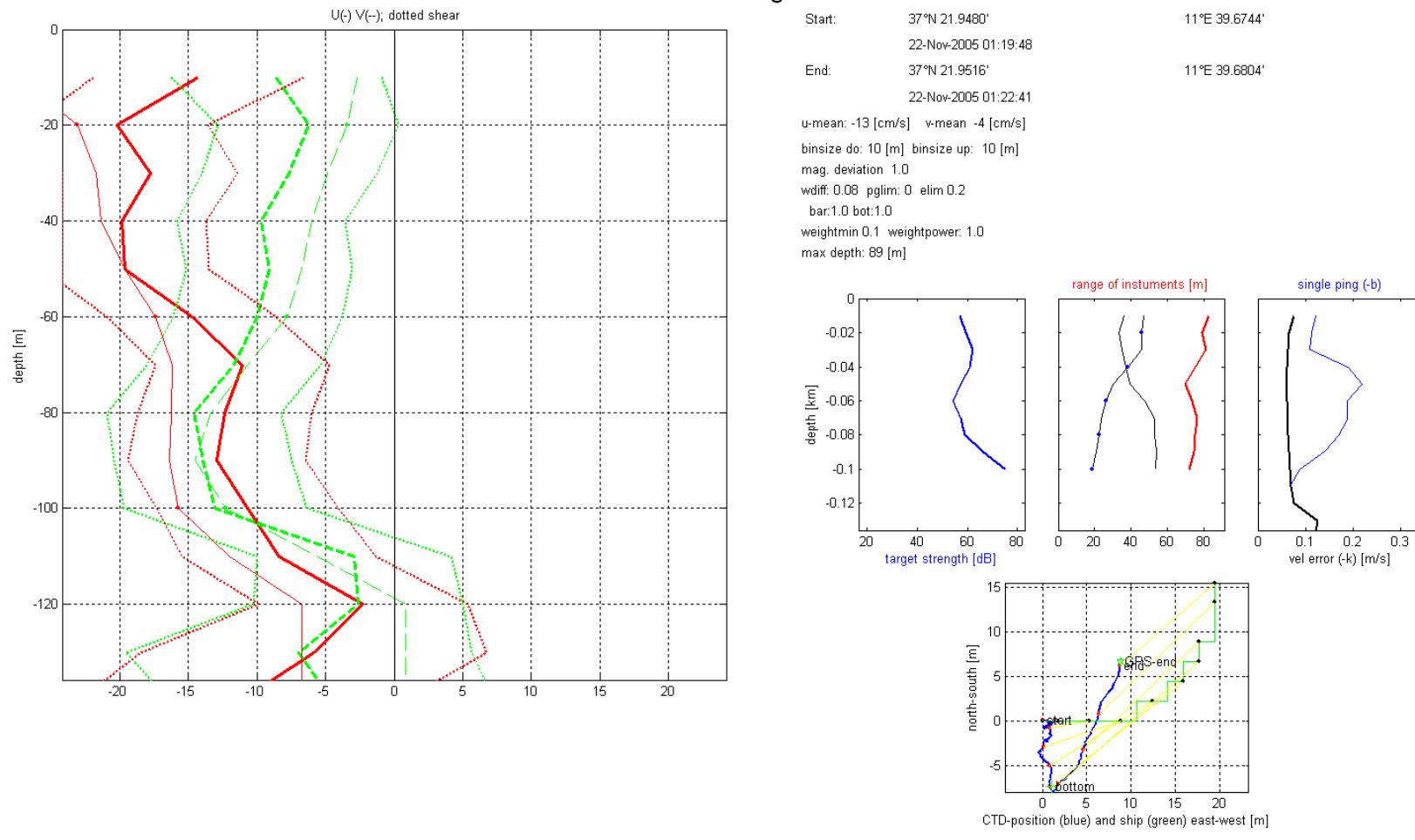
## Station : 438 Figure 1

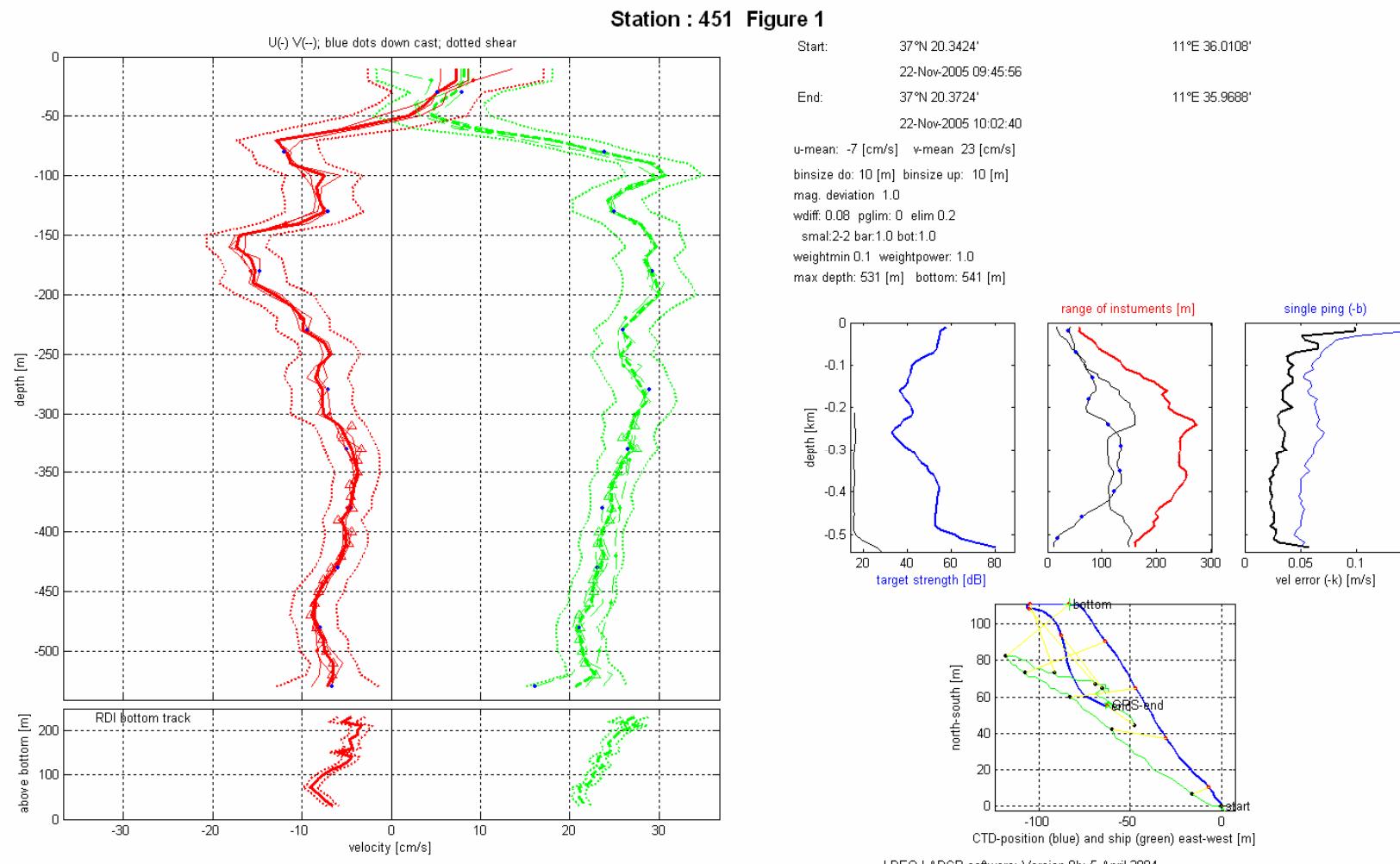


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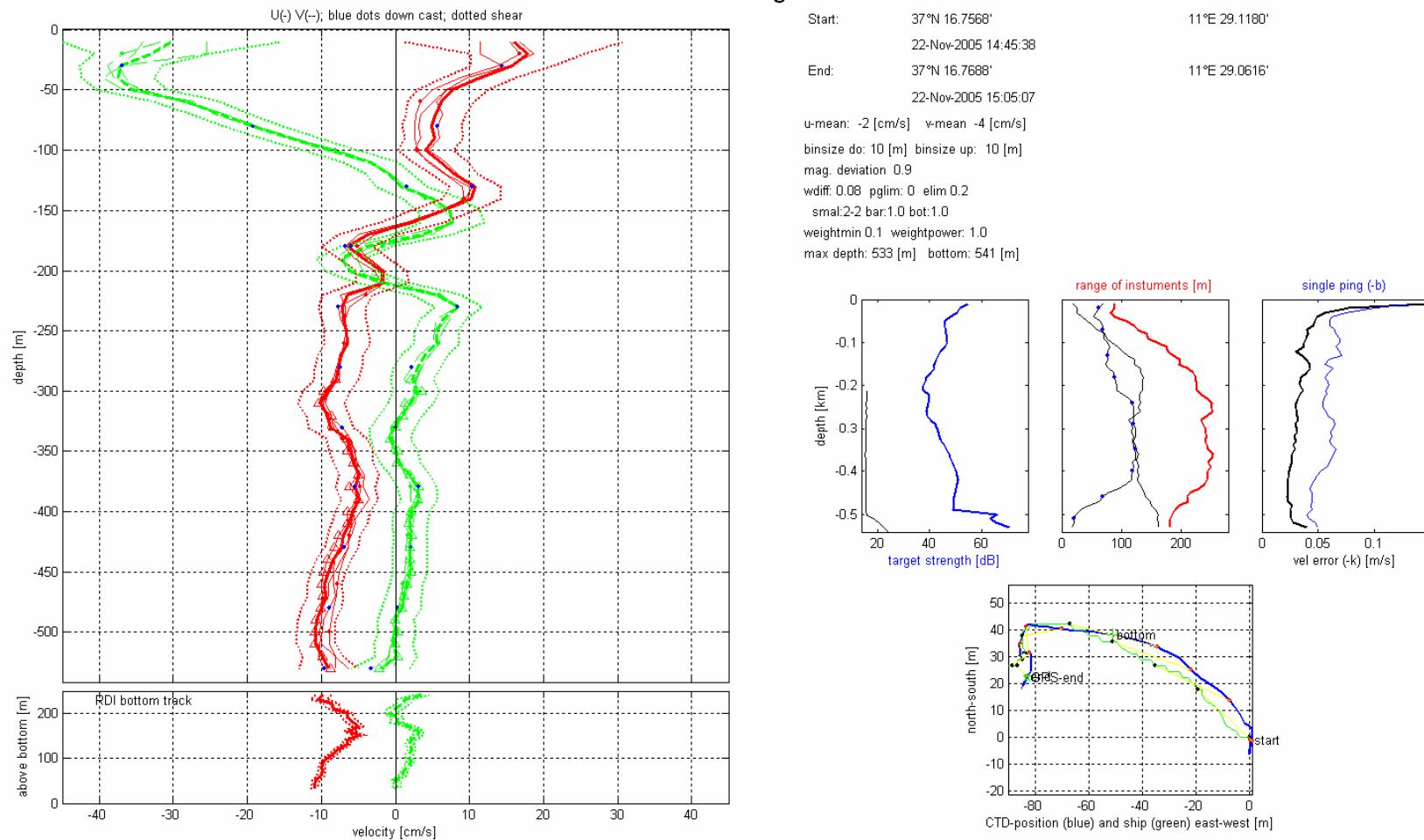


## Station : 463 Figure 1

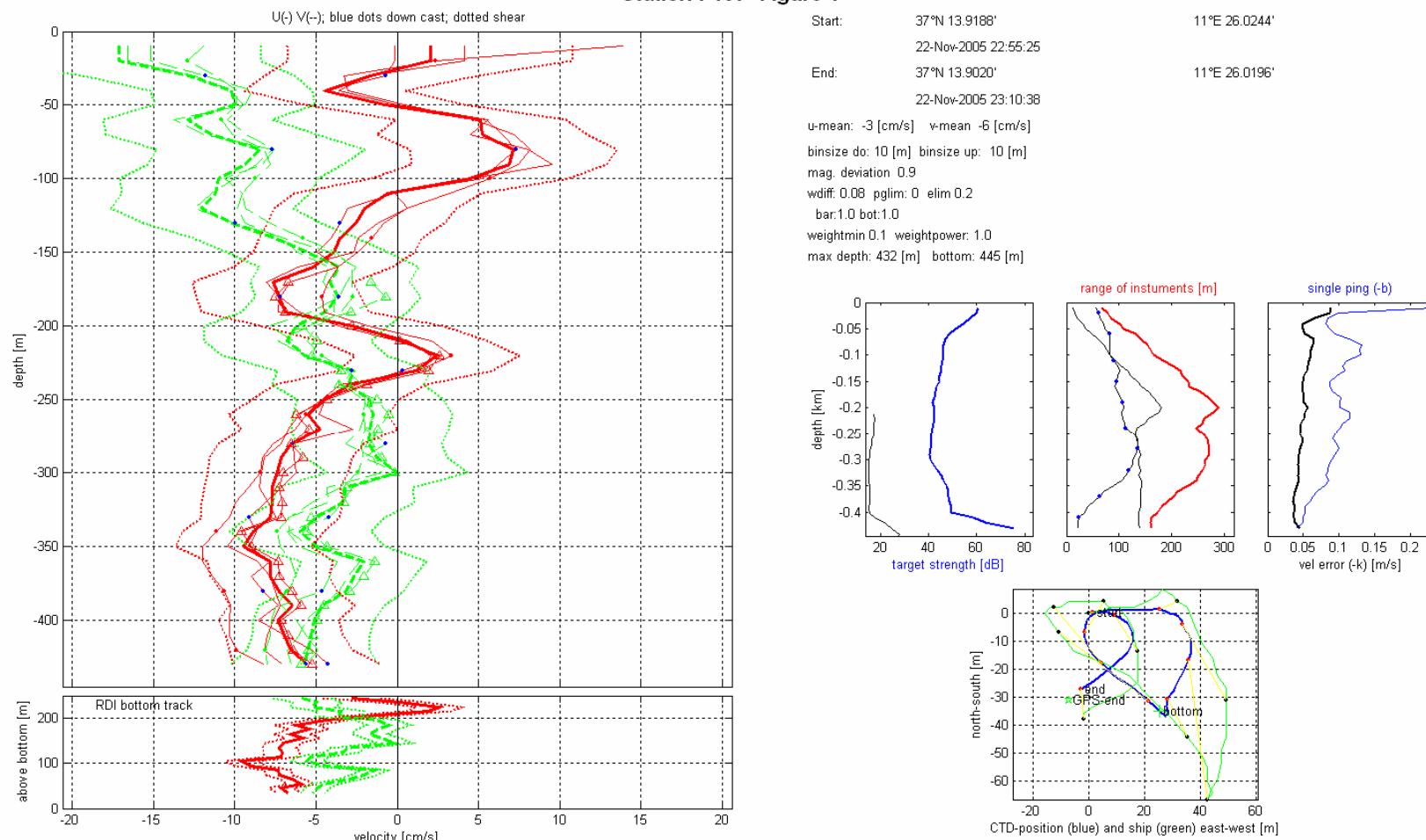


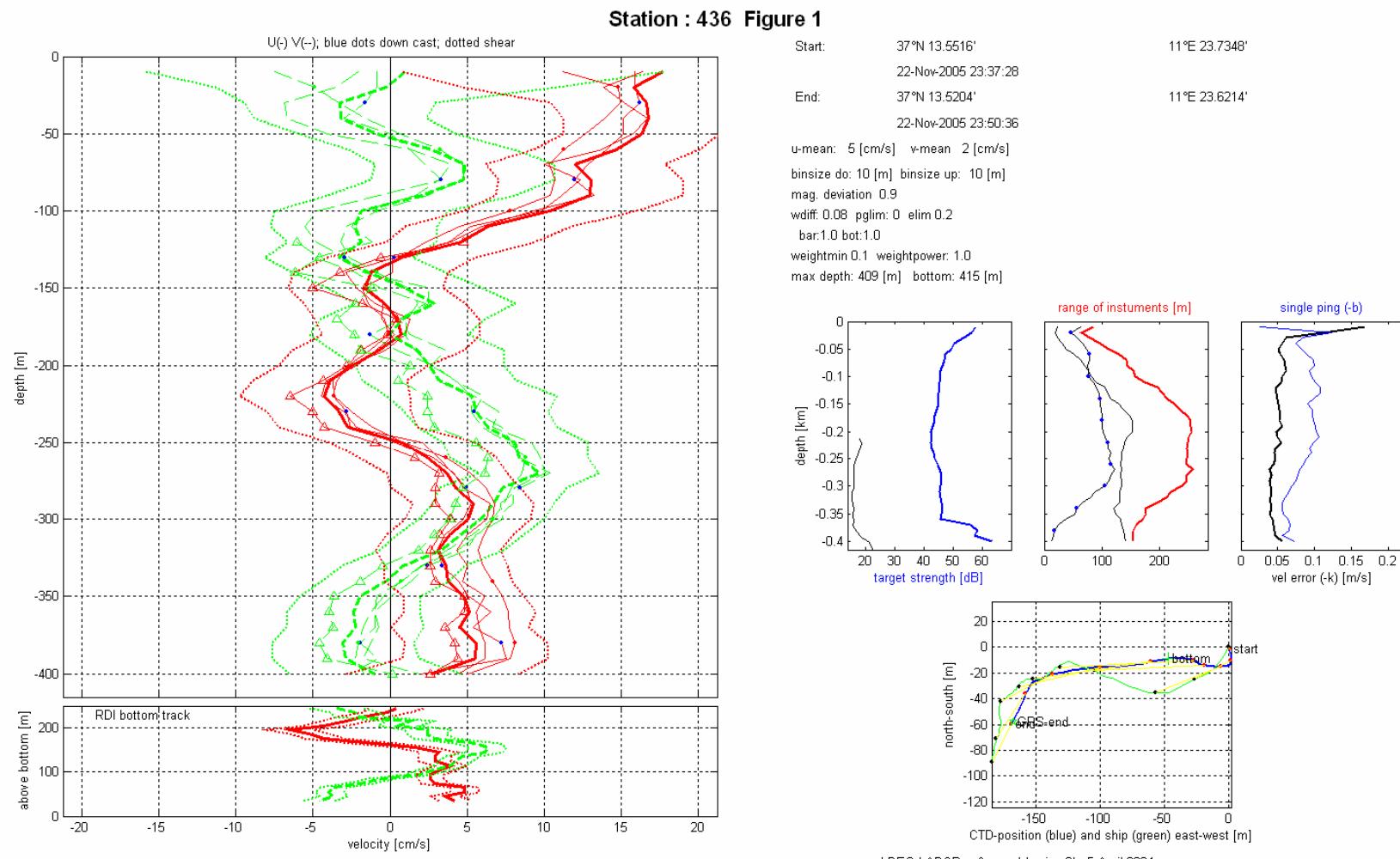


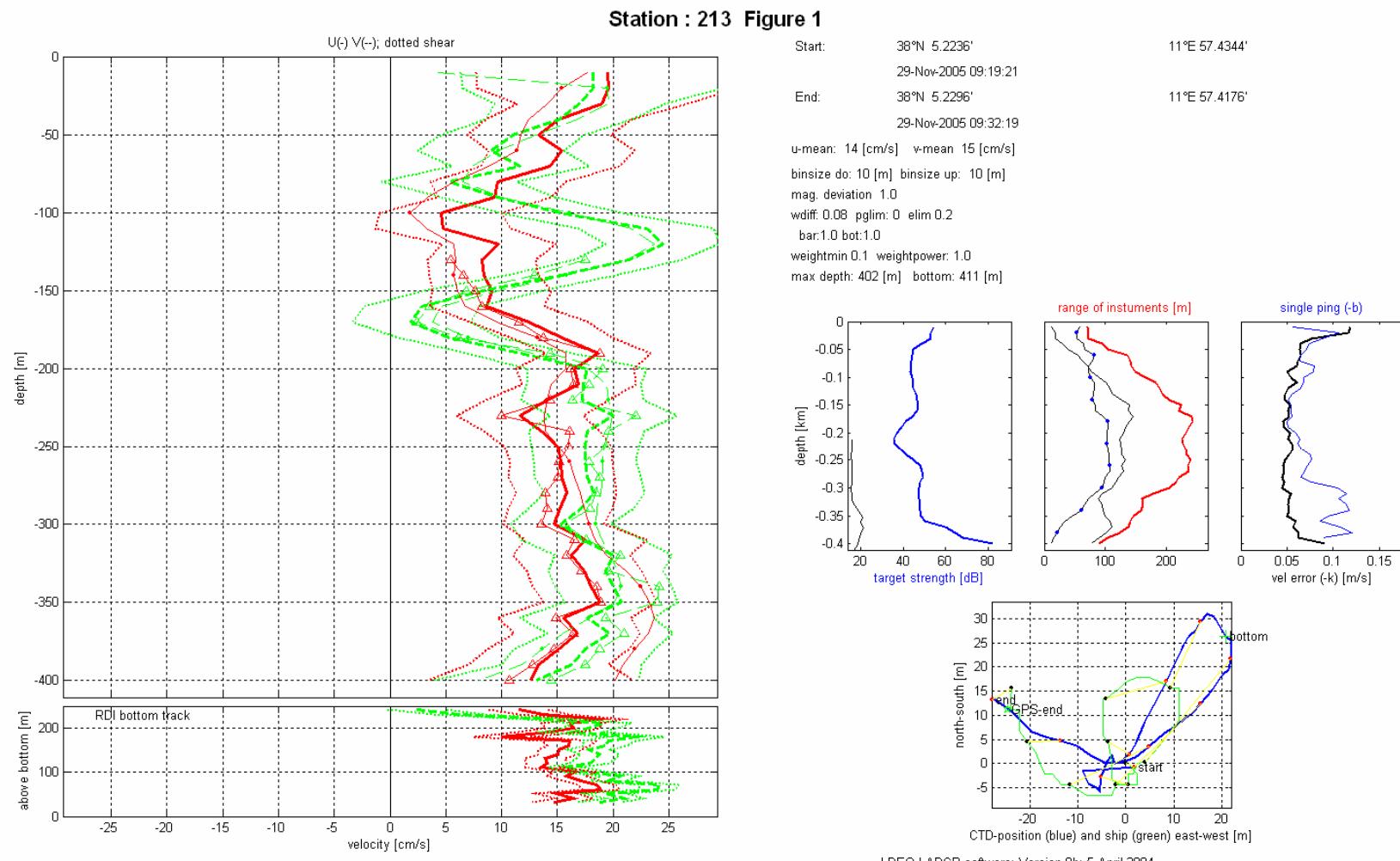
## Station : 460 Figure 1



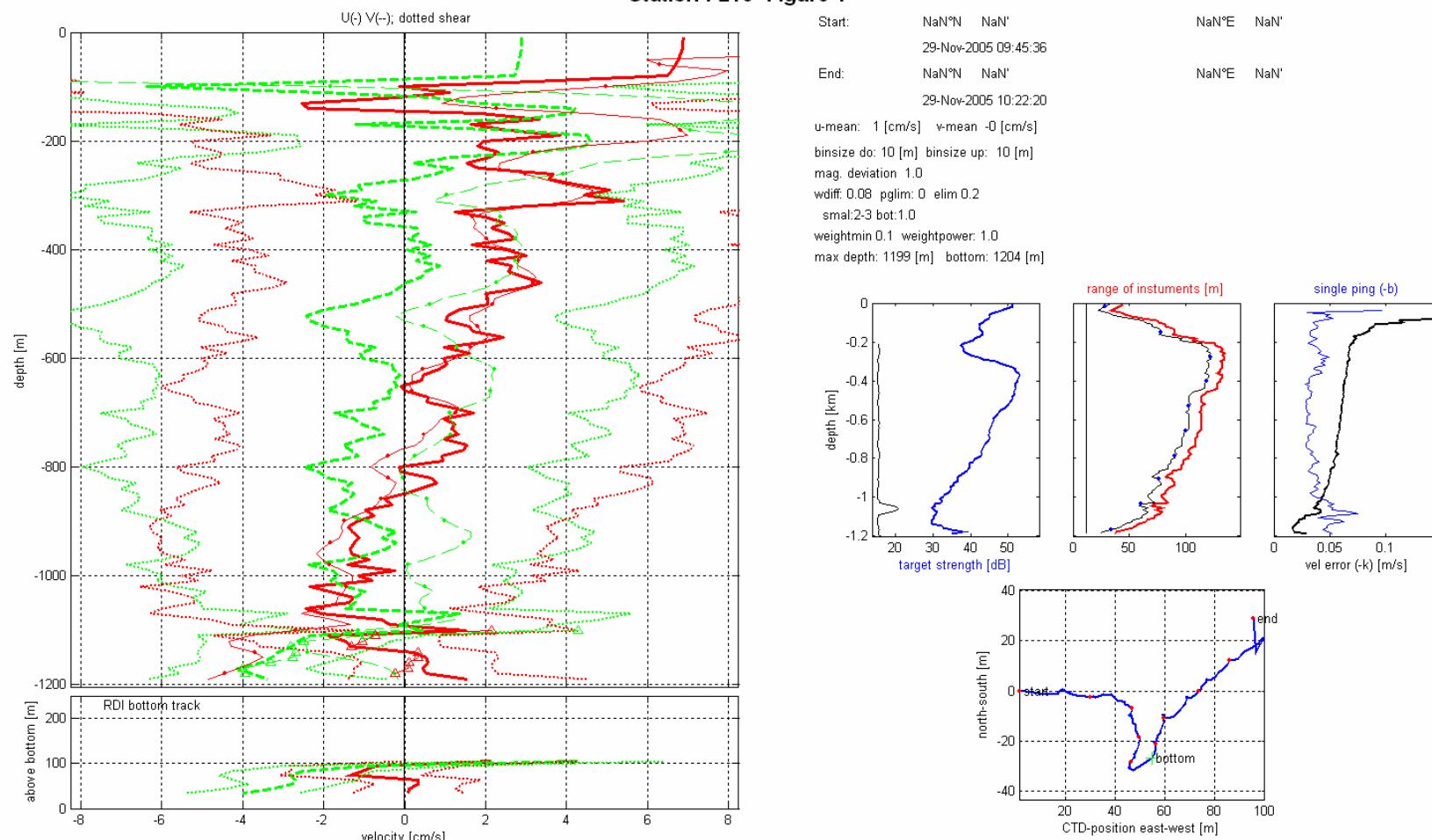
Station : 437 Figure 1



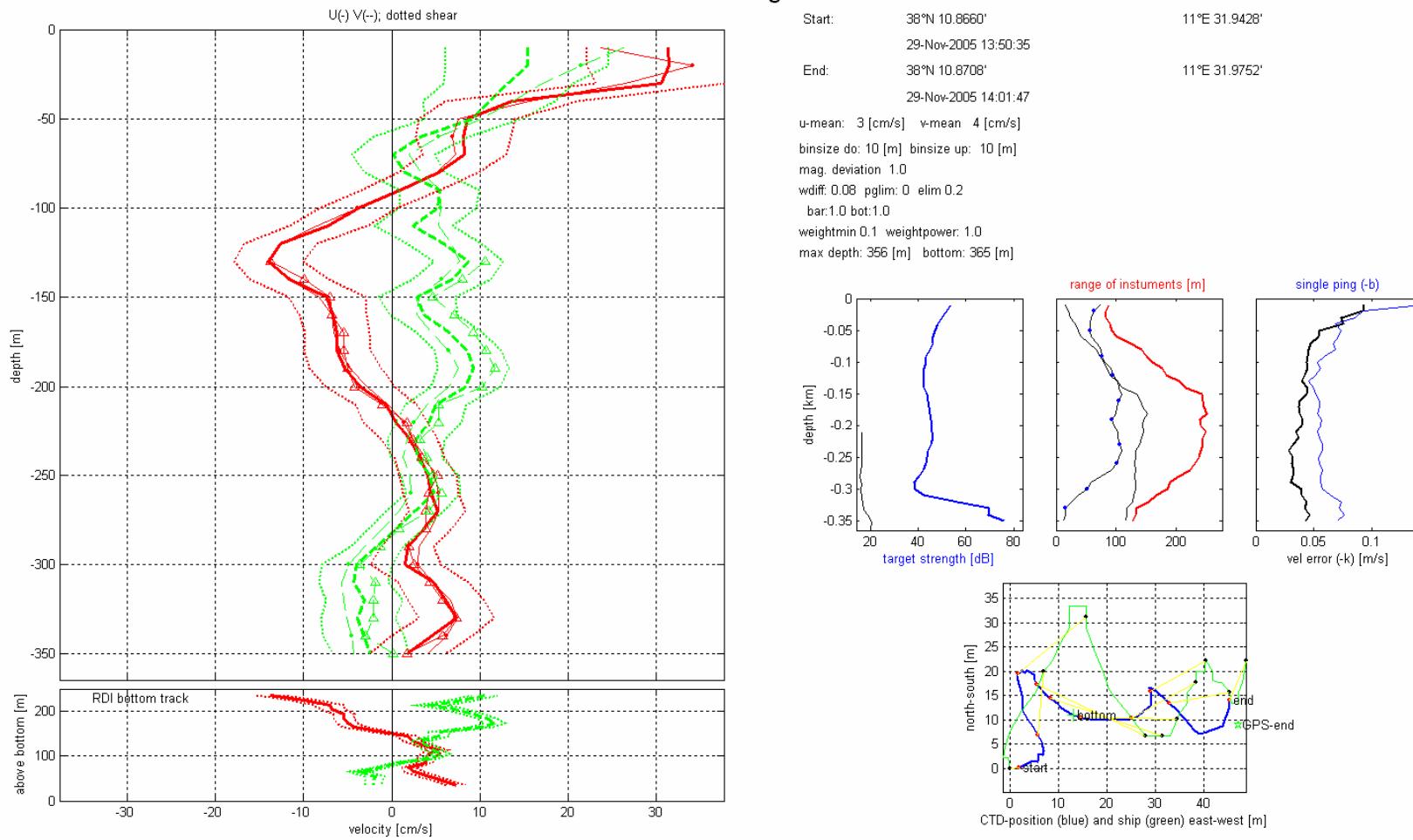




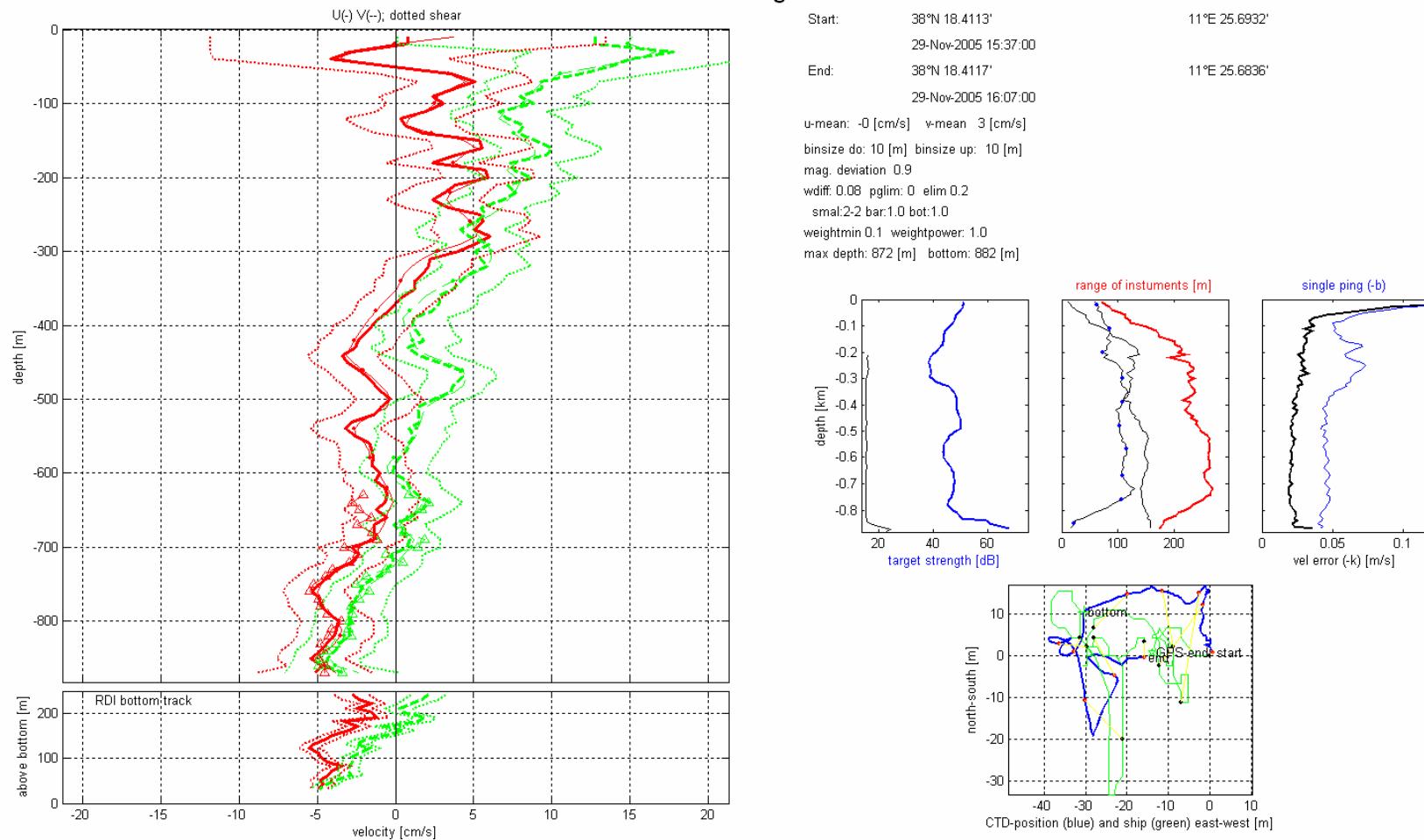
Station : 215 Figure 1



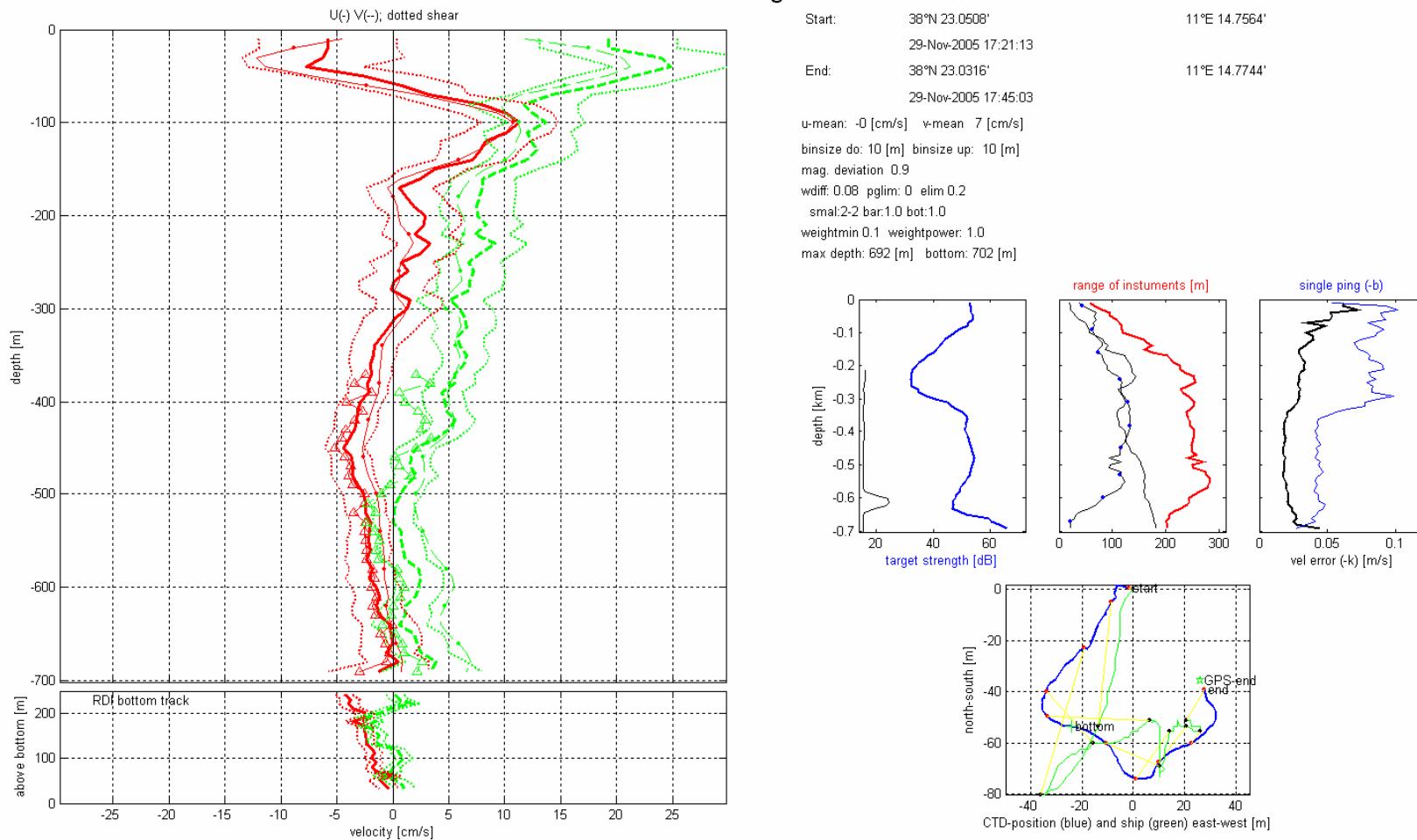
Station : 217 Figure 1



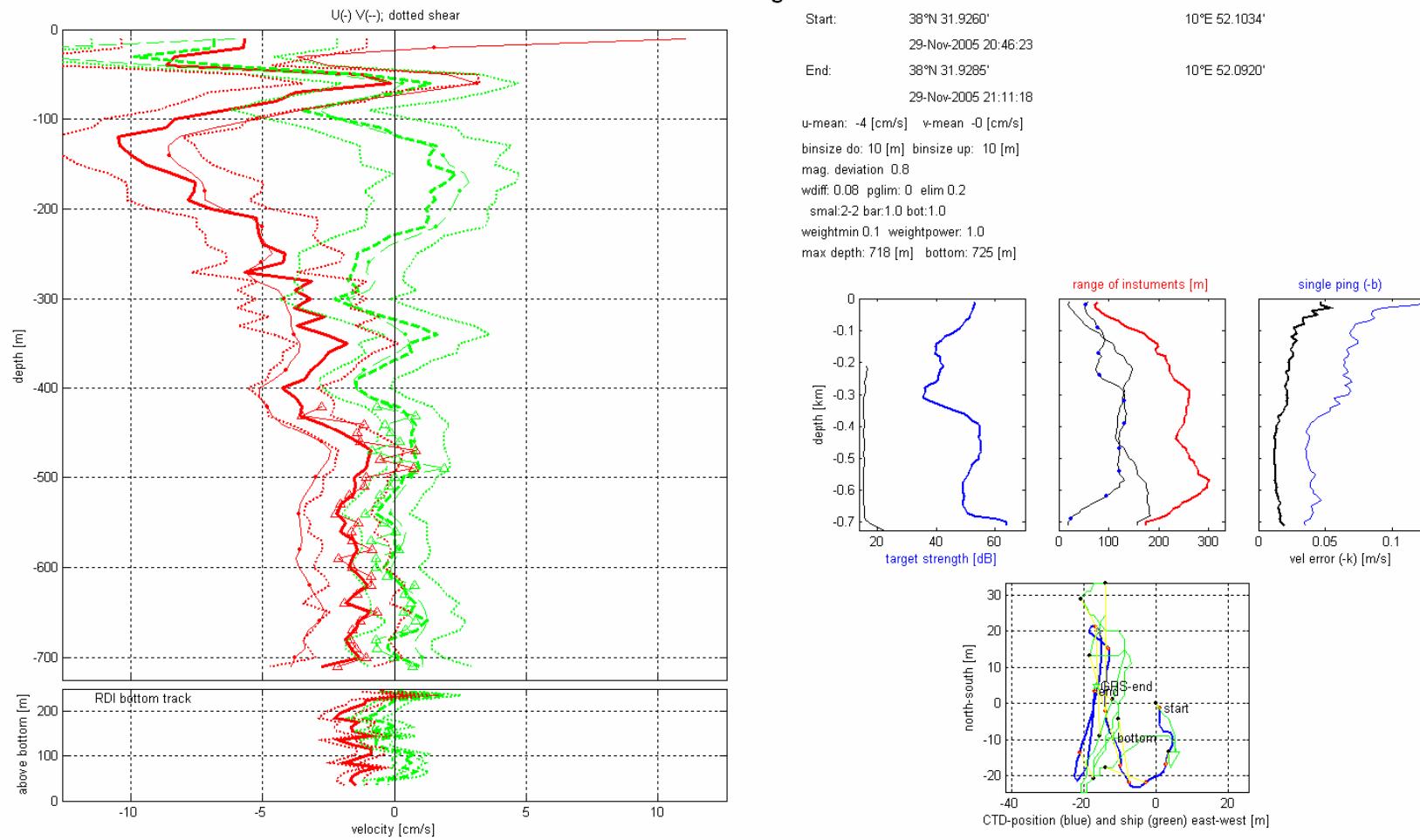
Station : 219 Figure 1



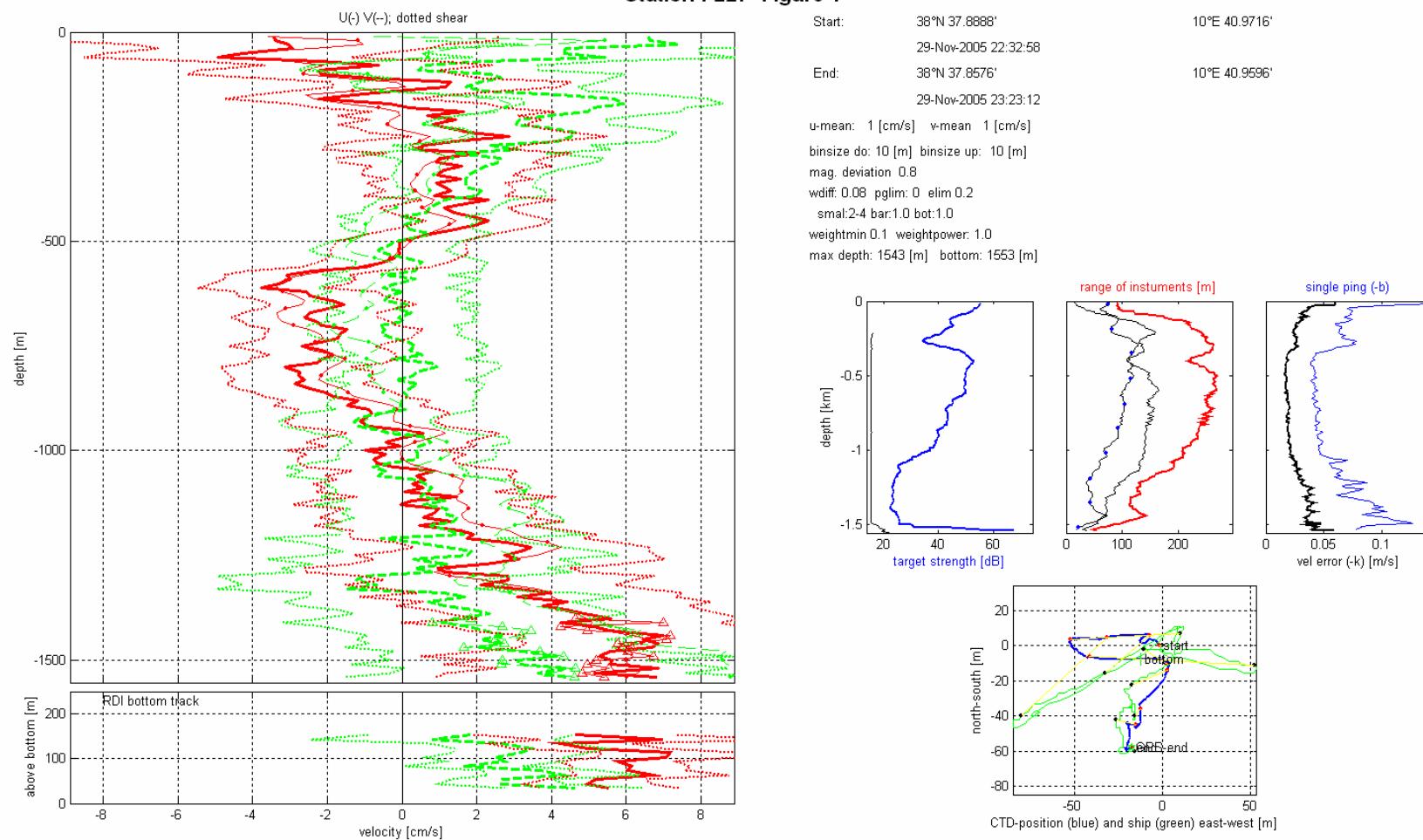
Station : 221 Figure 1



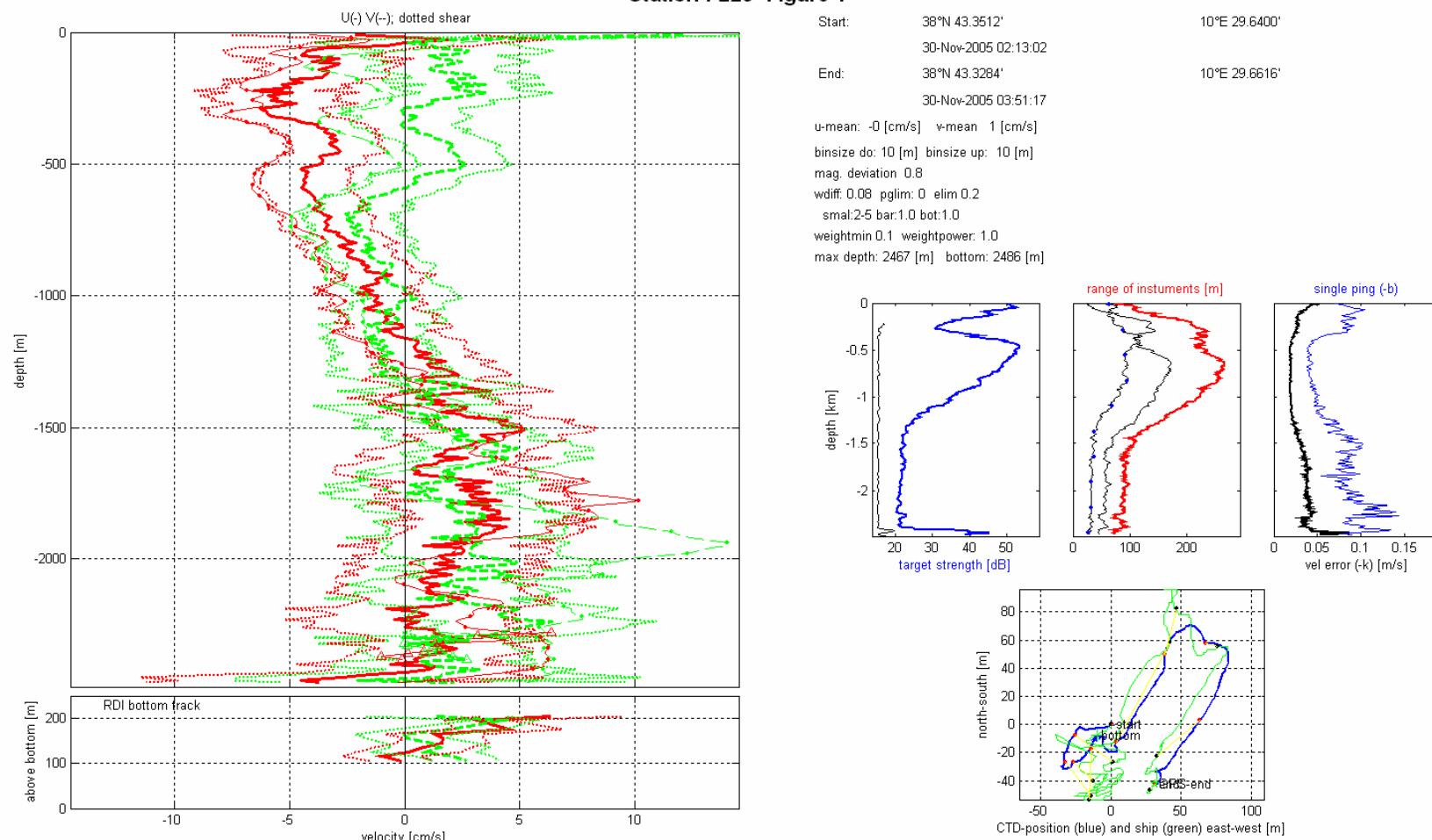
Station : 225 Figure 1



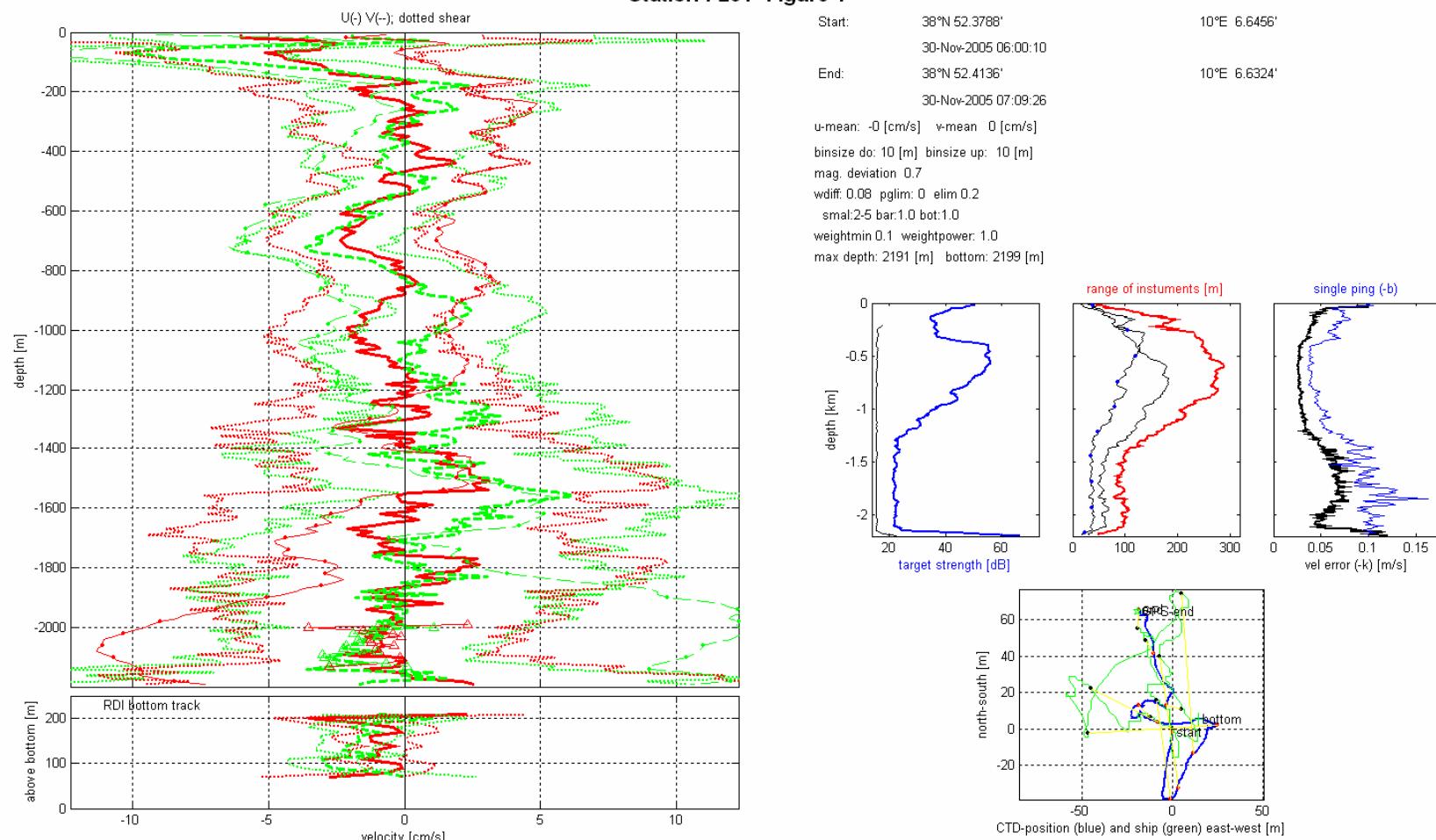
Station : 227 Figure 1



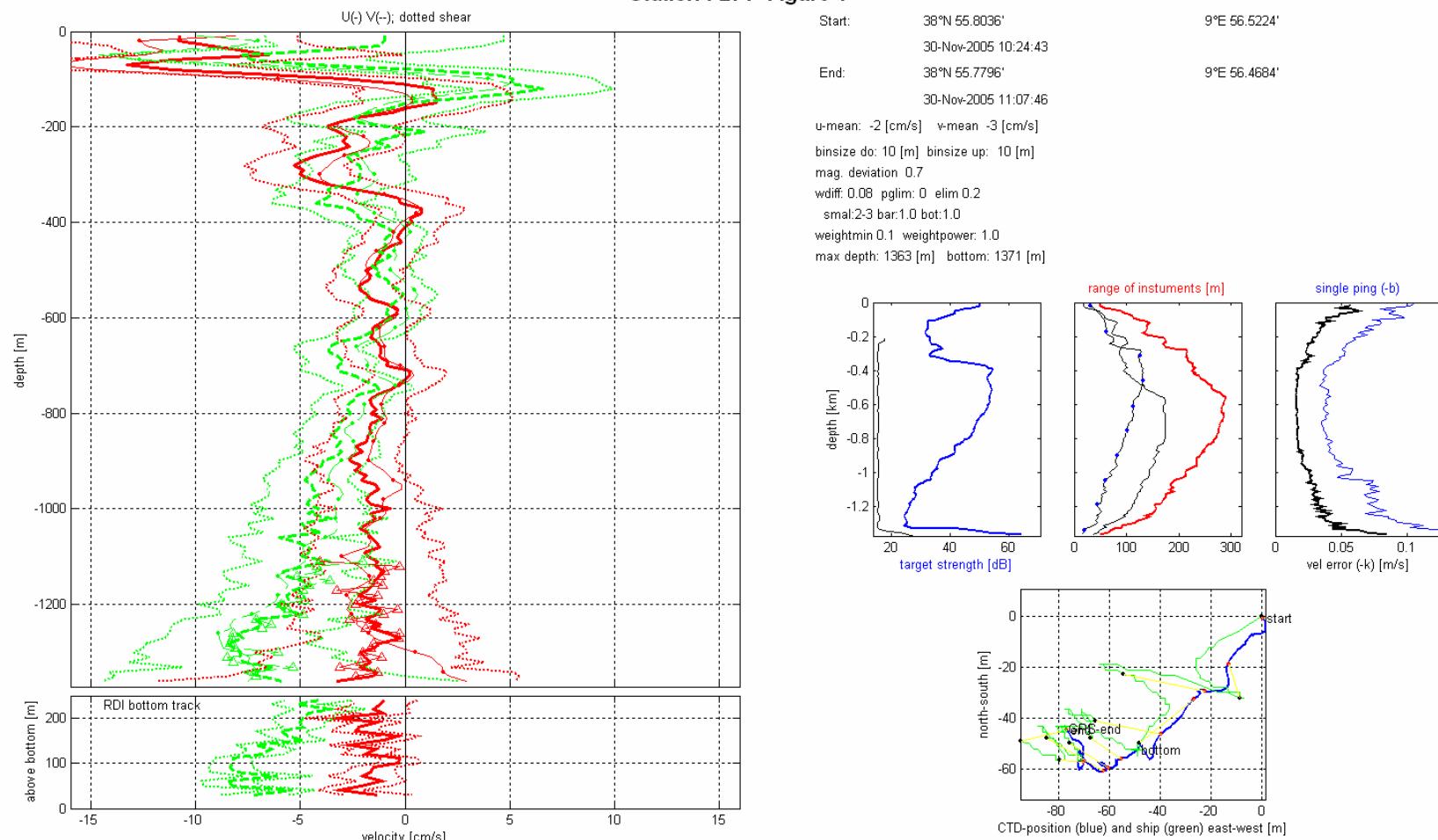
Station : 229 Figure 1



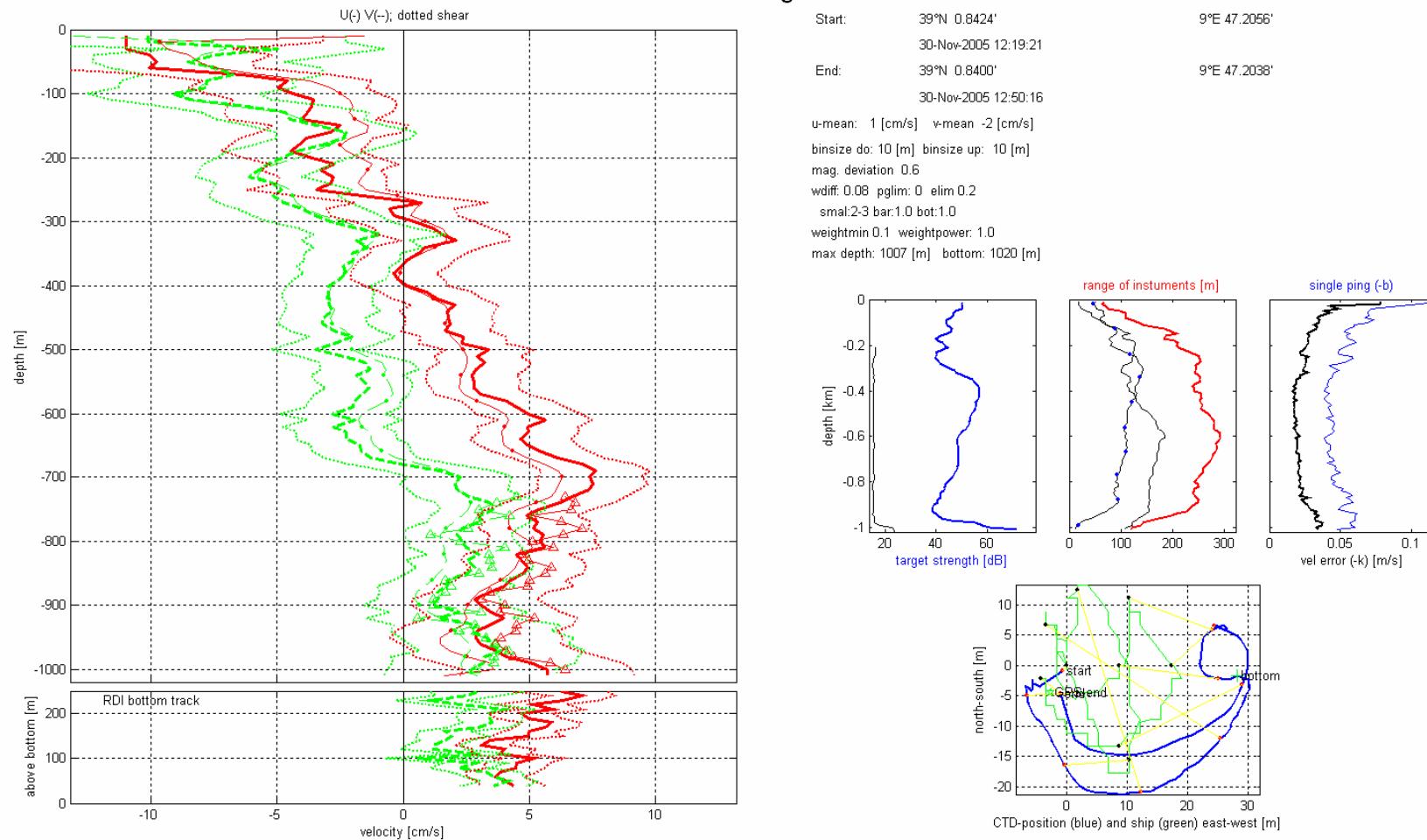
Station : 251 Figure 1



## Station : 271 Figure 1



## Station : 291 Figure 1



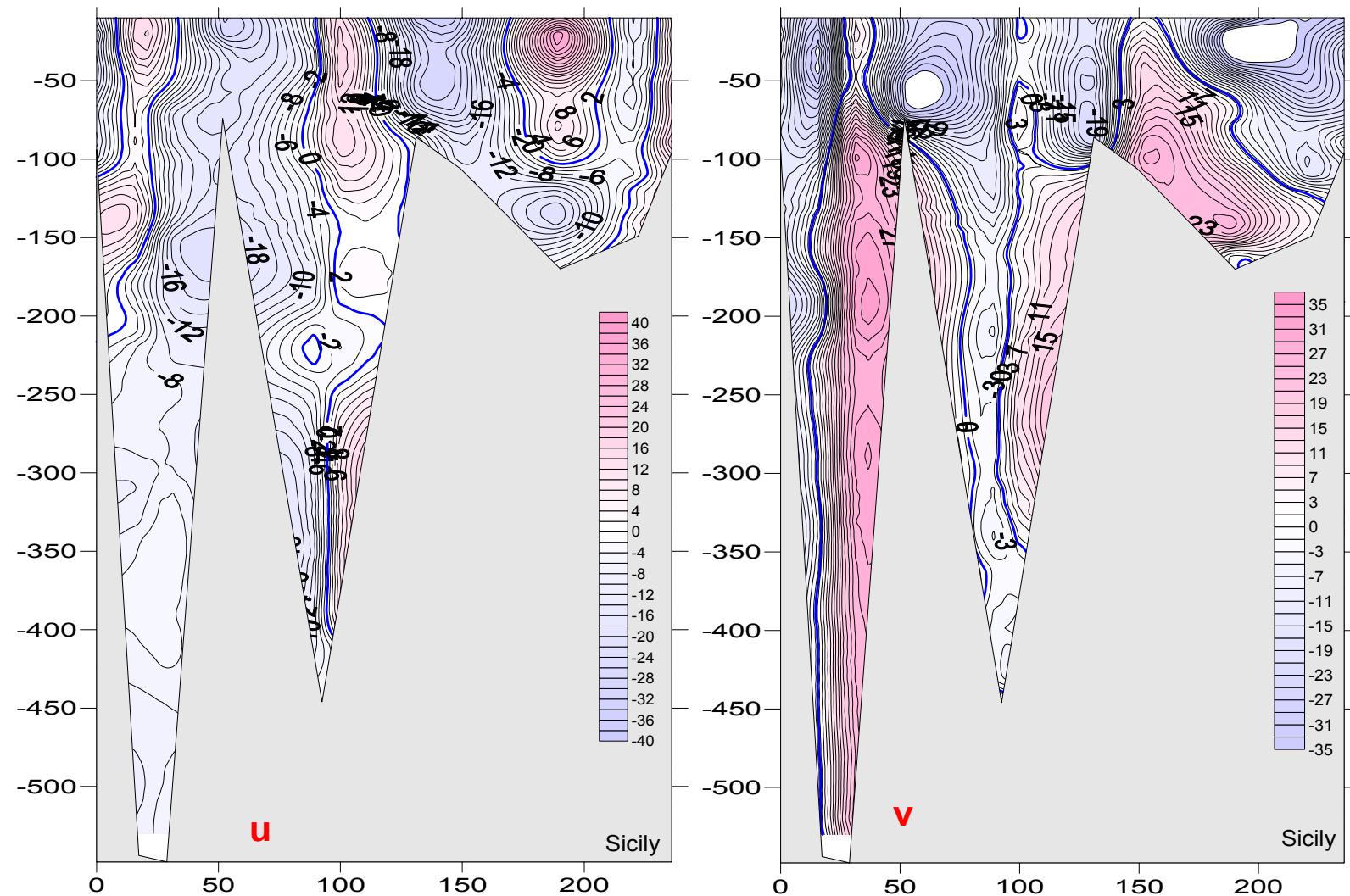
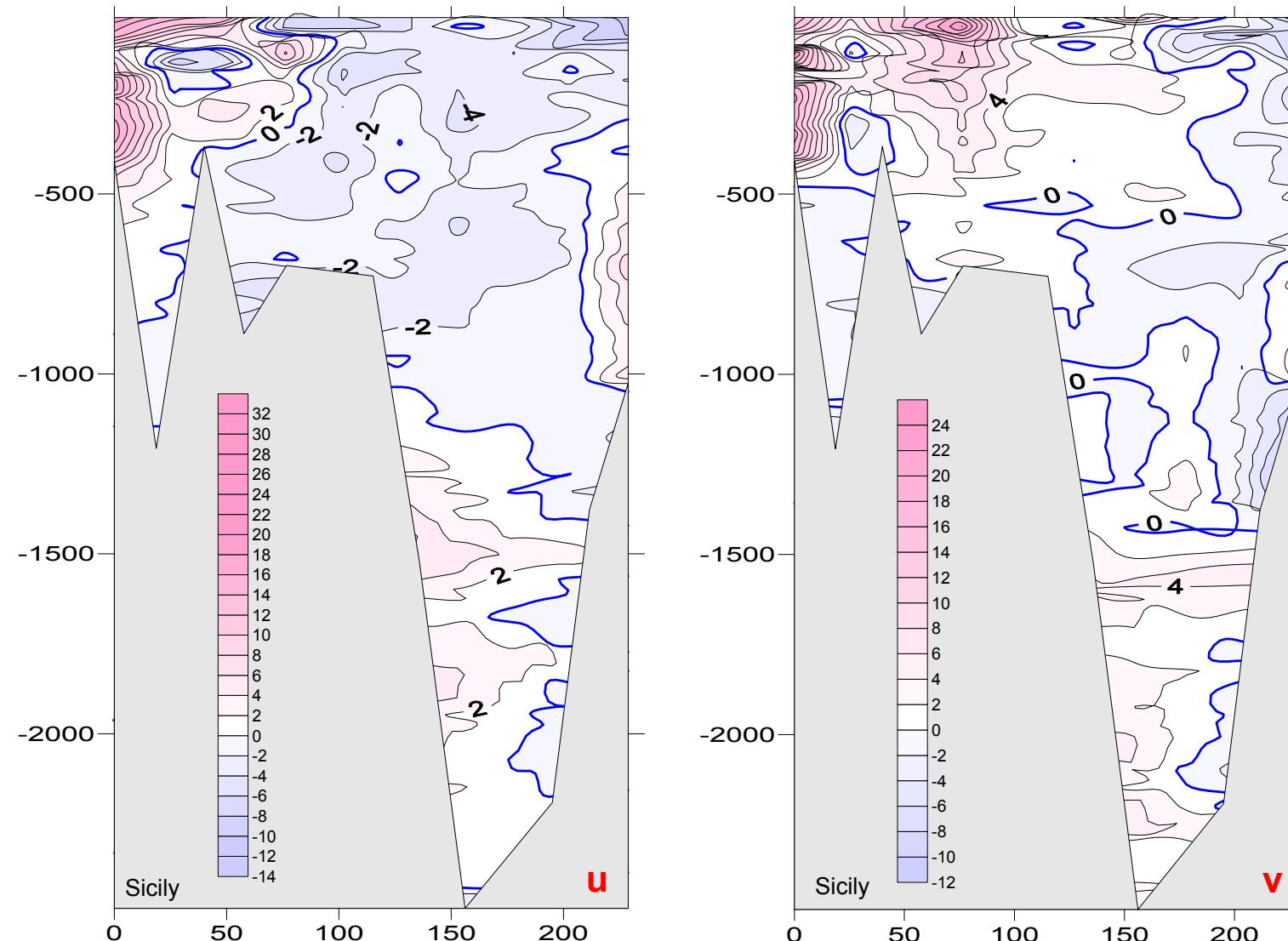
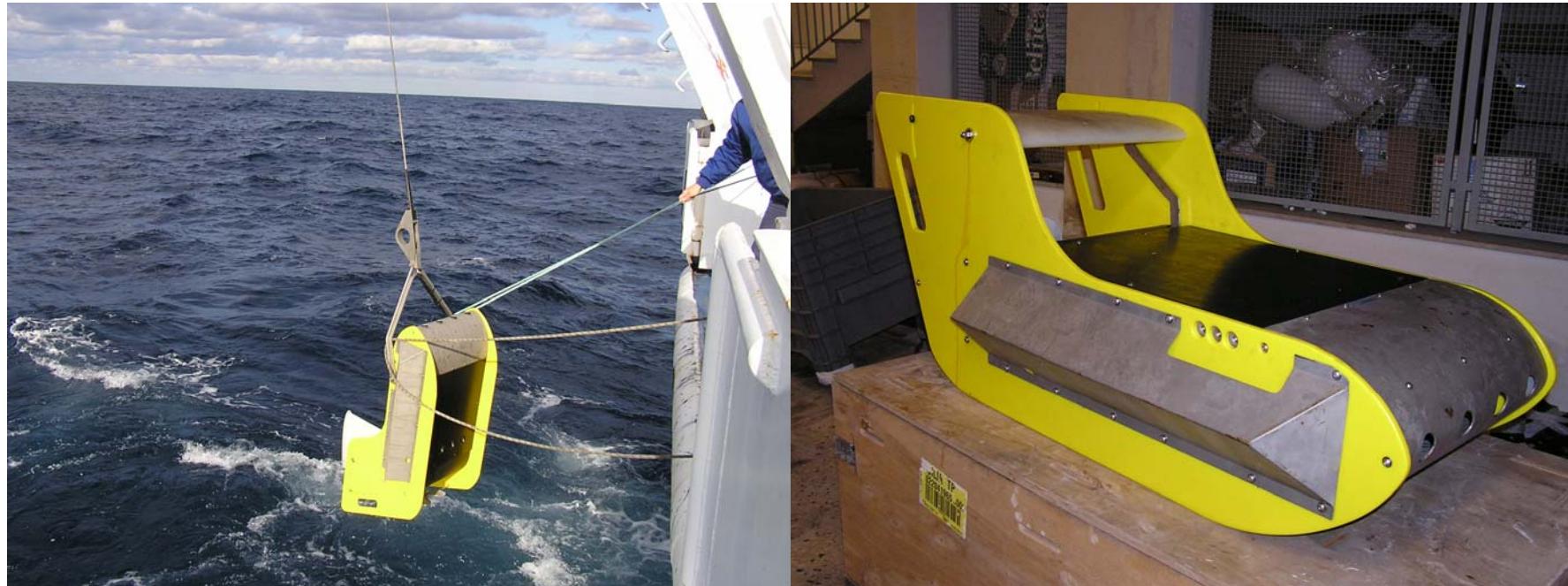


Figure 42 Velocity sections of the north and the east components, respectively u and v, in the Sicily Strait



**Figure 43 Velocity sections of the north and the east components, respectively u and v, in the Sardinia - Sicily passage**



**Figure 43 Nv Shuttle**

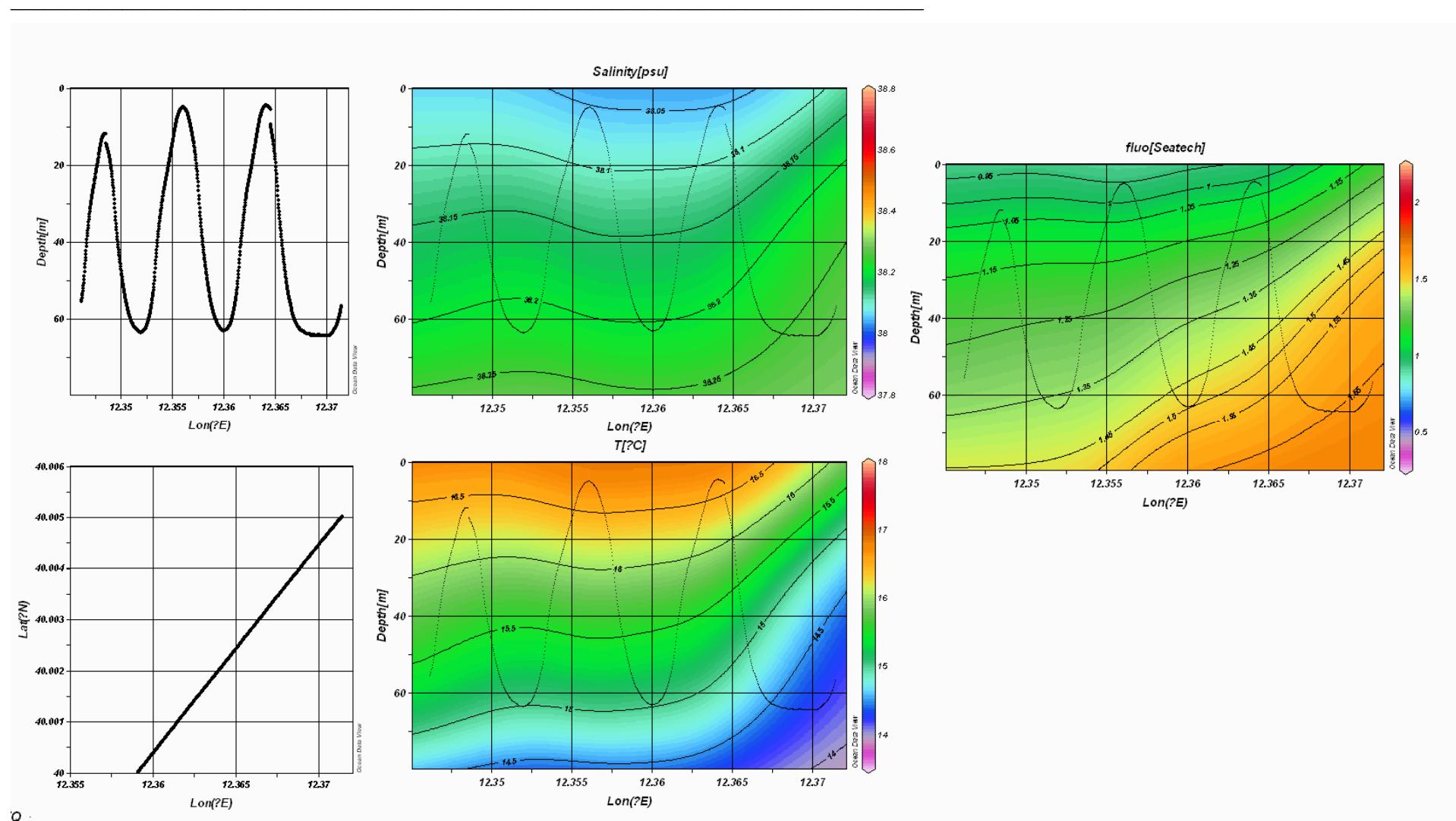


Figure 44 Nv Shuttle temperature, salinity and fluorescence profiles

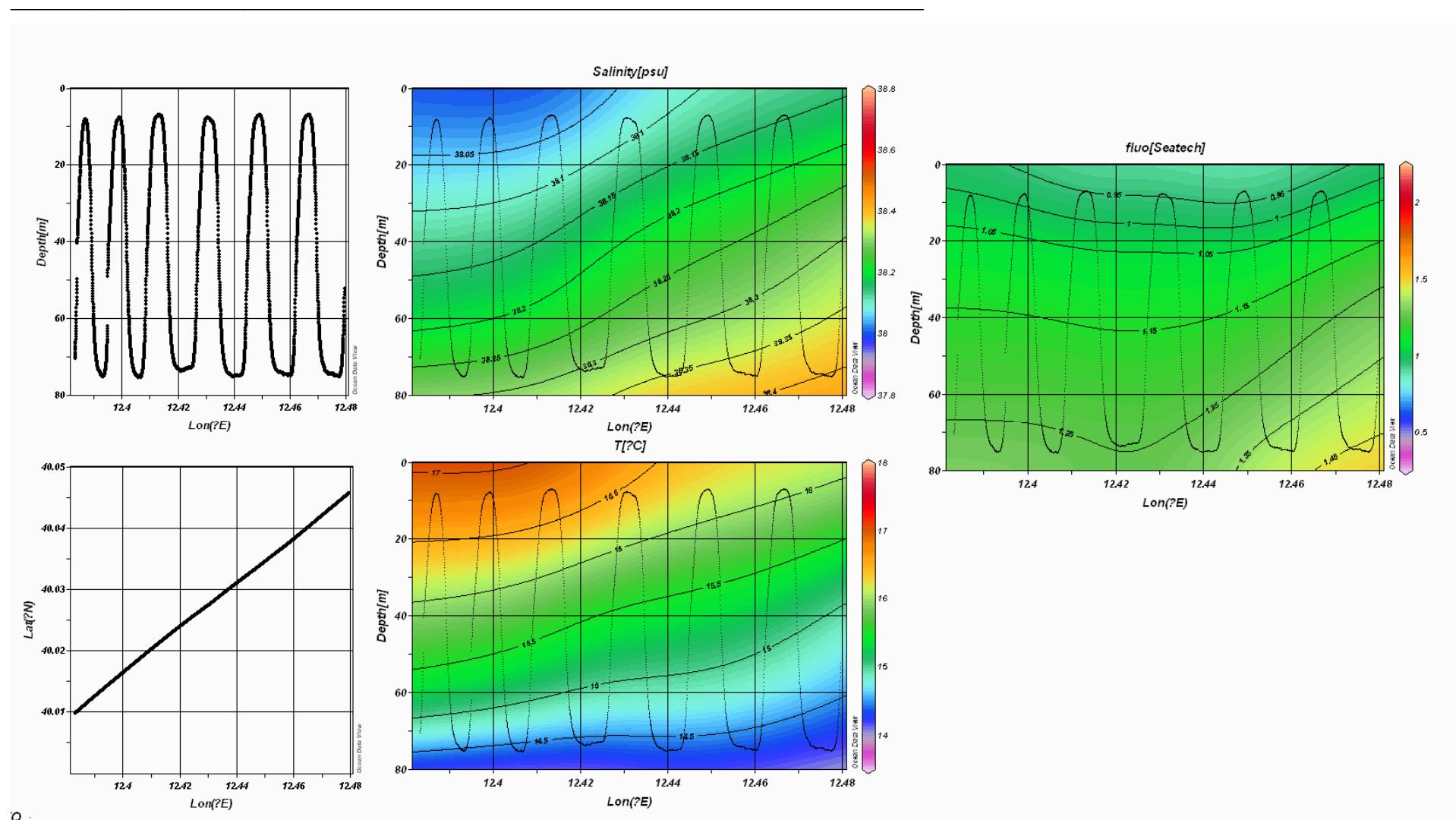
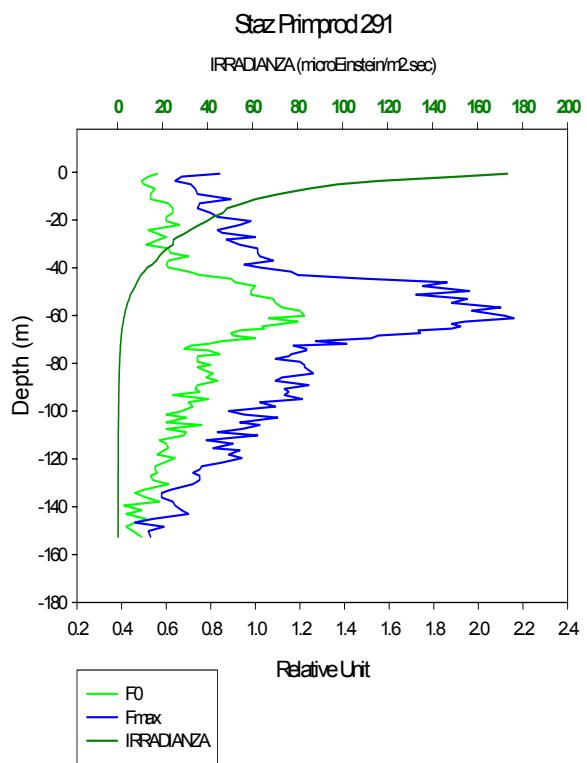
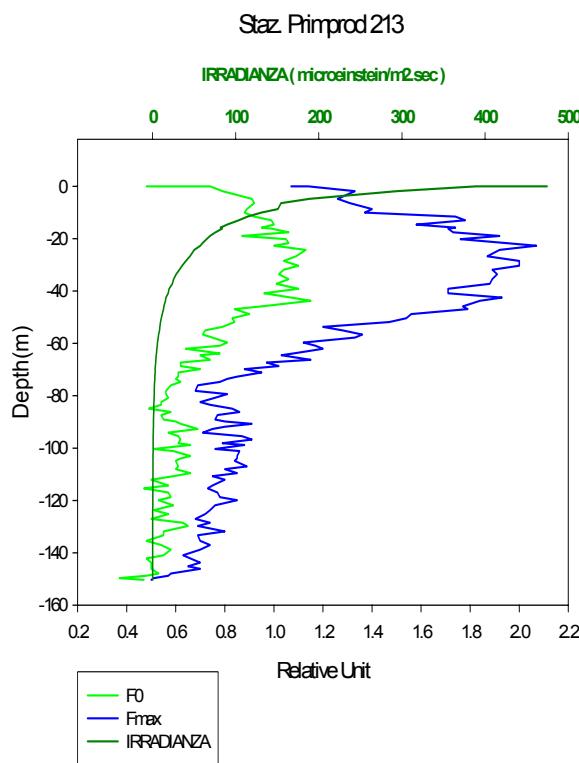
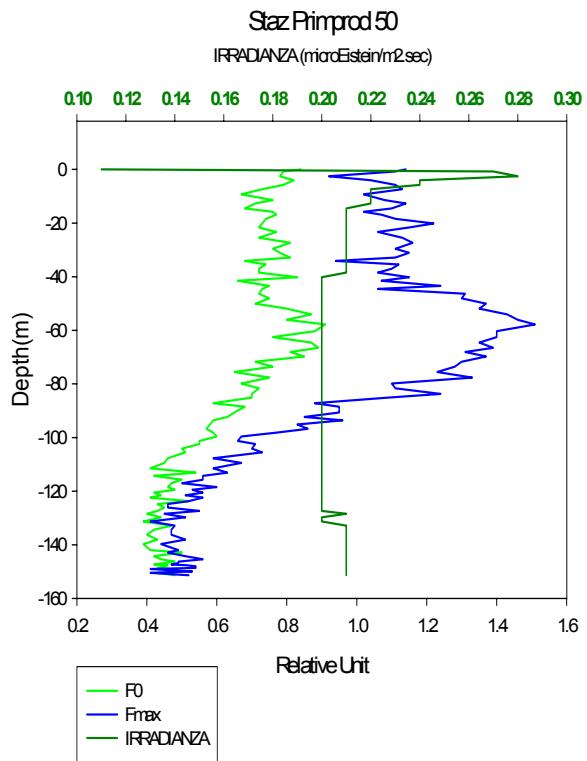
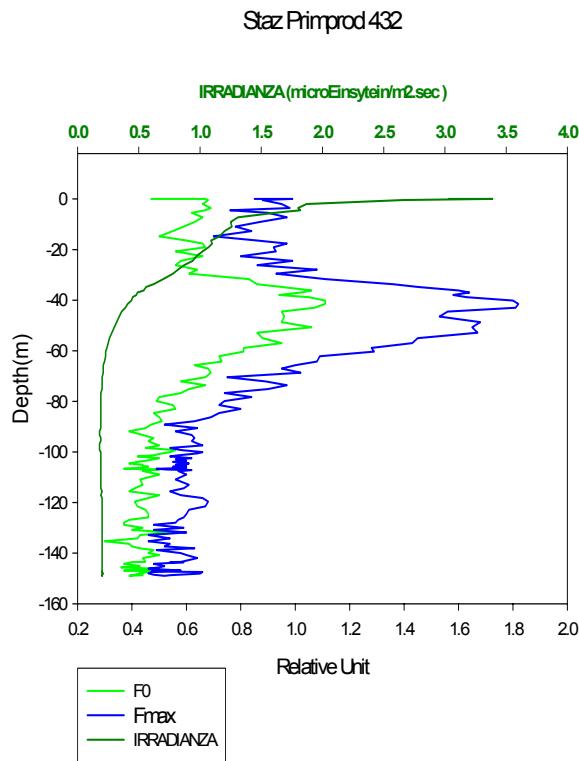
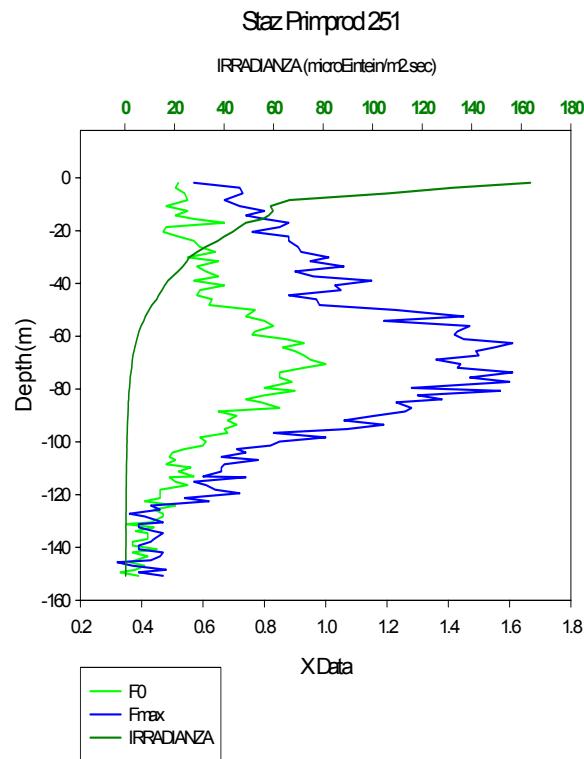


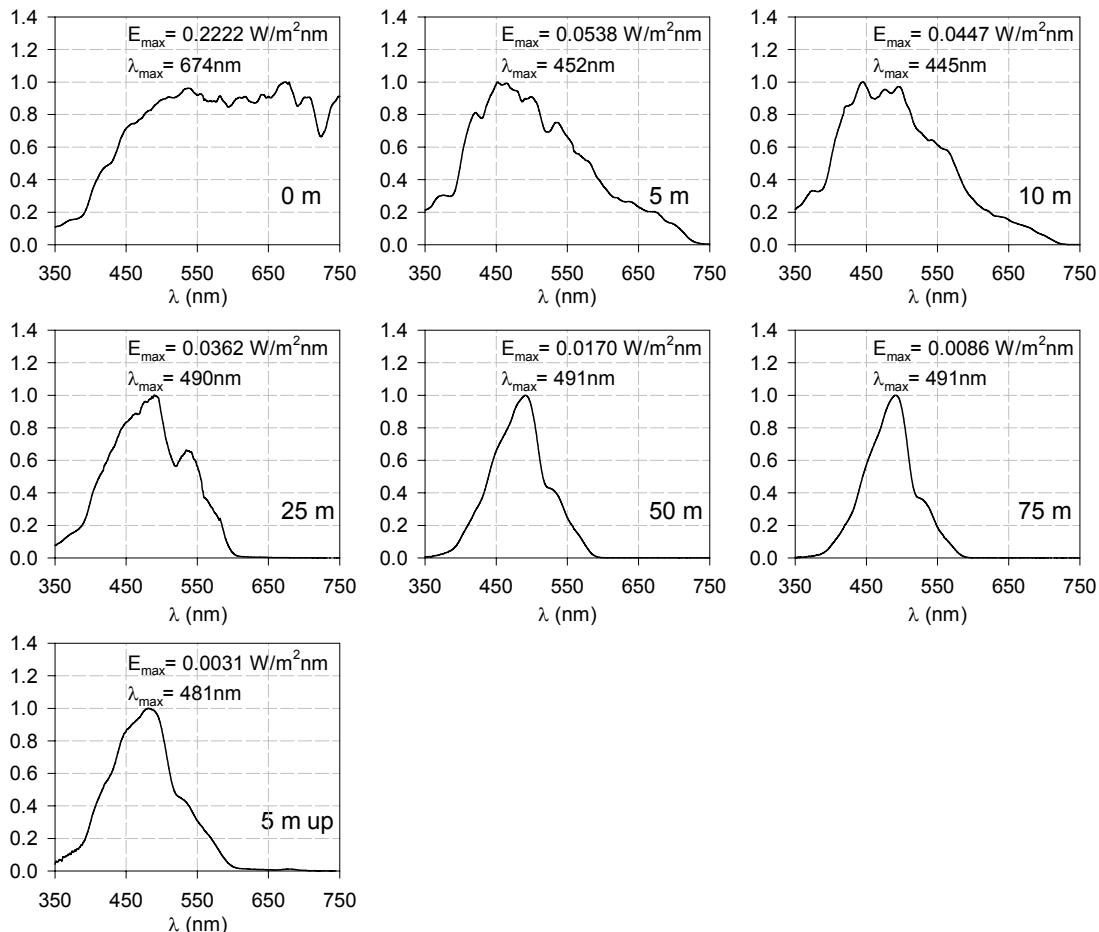
Figure 45 Nv Shuttle temperature, salinity and fluorescence profiles

## Prim Prod Station

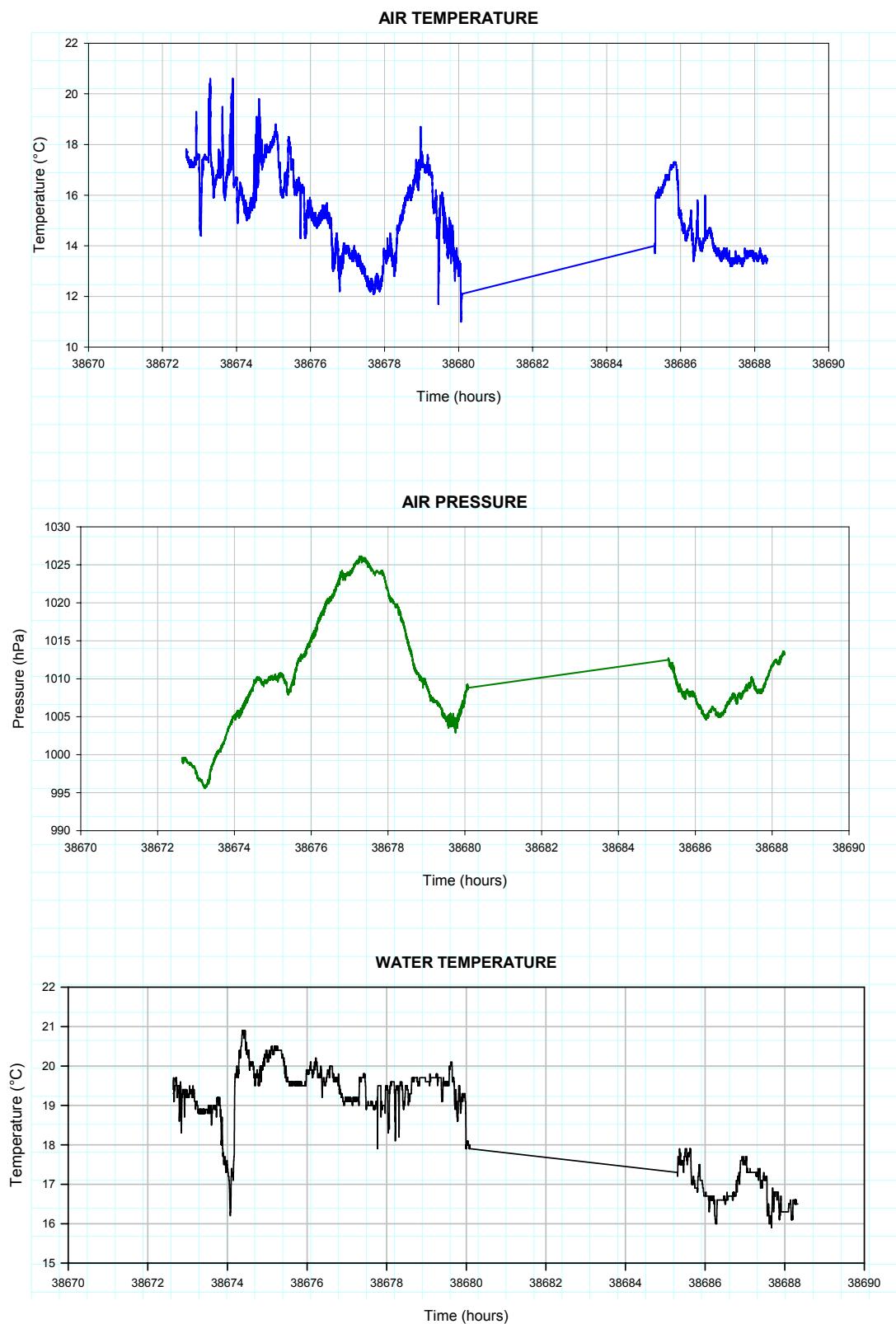




**Figure 46 PrimProd fluorescence and irradiance profiles**



**Figure 47 PAR irradiance measured at station 432**



**Figure 48 Meteorological data during cruise Medgoos11**

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The scientific staff of MEDGOOS11 wishes to thank the Italian National Research Council (CNR), which made the R/V URANIA available for the cruise.

We also owe thanks to the Captain, the Officers and the Crew of the URANIA, without whose cooperation this work could not have been carried out.