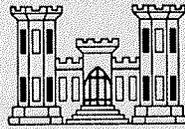


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MISCELLANEOUS PAPER H-78-5

# AN OPEN-COAST MATHEMATICAL STORM SURGE MODEL WITH COASTAL FLOODING FOR LOUISIANA

Report I

## THEORY AND APPLICATION

by

John J. Wanstrath

Hydraulics Laboratory

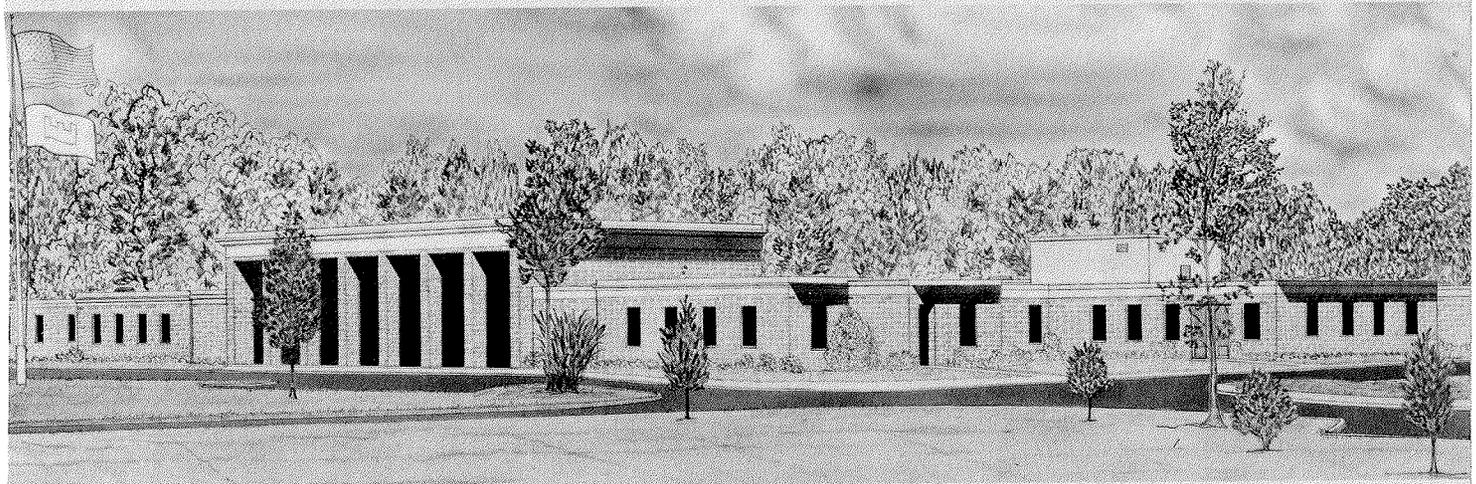
U. S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station

P. O. Box 631, Vicksburg, Miss. 39180

February 1978

Report I of a Series

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| 20. ABSTRACT (Continue on reverse side if necessary and identify by block number)<br><br>A two-dimensional time-dependent, open-coast, long-wave, shallow-water model is presented. The model employs an orthogonal curvilinear coordinate system with telescoping computing cells. This permits greater resolution of the wave in the nearshore coastal region where principal interest is focused rather than at the continental shelf break or at far lateral distances from the region. The model treats the coastline as a finite height barrier which<br><br>(Continued) |                       |   |

20. ABSTRACT (Continued)

is broken with bay entrances. Coastal overtopping and bay communication with the open sea provide the means for the transport of water across the nominal coastline. Mass is conserved with all water lost from the ocean during the flood stage being stored in discrete bay ponding areas. Each ponding area is described by its particular storage area curve and its particular series of coastline computing grid segments. A prediction/correction method is employed for the computation of the coastal water level.

The model has been employed in various tide and storm surge studies. In particular, surge results are presented from four historical hurricanes that affected the Louisiana coast.

The numerical programs are documented in Report 2 of this series.

## PREFACE

The investigation reported herein was conducted in response to a request from the U. S. Army Engineer District, New Orleans (NOD). Funds were authorized by NOD on 3 January 1977.

The study was conducted by Dr. John J. Wanstrath of the Coastal Branch, Wave Dynamics Division, Hydraulics Laboratory, U. S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station (WES), under the general supervision of Dr. C. L. Vincent, Chief of the Coastal Branch, Dr. R. W. Whalin, Chief of the Wave Dynamics Division, and Mr. H. B. Simmons, Chief of the Hydraulics Laboratory.

Director of WES during the conduct of the investigation and the preparation and publication of this report was COL John L. Cannon, CE. Technical Director was Mr. F. R. Brown.

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CONVERSION FACTORS, METRIC (SI) TO U. S. CUSTOMARY AND  
 U. S. CUSTOMARY TO METRIC (SI) UNITS OF MEASUREMENT

Units of measurement used in this report can be converted as follows:

| <u>Multiply</u>                       | <u>By</u>  | <u>To Obtain</u>         |
|---------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------|
| <u>Metric (SI) to U. S. Customary</u> |            |                          |
| metres                                | 3.280839   | feet                     |
| kilometres                            | 0.5399568  | miles (U. S. nautical)   |
| metres per second                     | 3.280839   | feet per second          |
| square centimetres<br>per second      | 0.1550     | square inches per second |
| millibars                             | 0.01450377 | pounds per square inch   |
| <u>U. S. Customary to Metric (SI)</u> |            |                          |
| inches                                | 25.4       | millimetres              |
| feet                                  | 0.3048     | metres                   |
| miles (U. S. nautical)                | 1.852      | kilometres               |
| miles (U. S. statute)                 | 1.609344   | kilometres               |
| square feet                           | 0.09290304 | square metres            |
| cubic feet                            | 0.02831685 | cubic metres             |
| pounds (force) per<br>square inch     | 6894.757   | pascals                  |
| feet per second                       | 0.3048     | metres per second        |
| miles per hour<br>(U. S. statute)     | 1.609344   | kilometres per hour      |
| degrees (angle)                       | 0.01745329 | radians                  |

AN OPEN-COAST MATHEMATICAL STORM SURGE MODEL WITH  
COASTAL FLOODING FOR LOUISIANA

THEORY AND APPLICATION

PART I: INTRODUCTION

1. Three-dimensional partial differential equations govern the motion of an infinitesimal fluid element. These equations result from basic considerations of mass conservation and Newton's second law of motion. The assumptions involving the incompressibility and homogeneity of the water, negligible vertical accelerations of the fluid parcel, reasonably uniform horizontal flow over the fluid depth, and others result in the classical, vertically integrated long-wave equations of motion and mass conservation. Energy is supplied at the free surface, in general, through the action of the wind and dissipated at the seabed through friction. The system of equations is time-dependent, two-dimensional in terms of the horizontal coordinates, and readily integrable through numerical techniques. These equations are applicable to the study of storm surge generation<sup>1</sup> on the continental shelf and to the degree that the assumptions are valid, nearshore astronomical tide simulation.

2. In the past, numerical integration of the two-dimensional as well as the three-dimensional equations of motion have been performed using rectilinear grids. Recently, curvilinear coordinates<sup>2,3,4</sup> have been employed in two-dimensional models, with particular applications to free and forced long-wave simulations for large (hundreds of miles\*) open-coast stretches of the continental shelf.

3. Open-coast curvilinear models are considered superior to rectilinear models because rectilinear models must represent the coast boundary as a series of straight-line segments connected at right angles.

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\* A table of factors for converting metric (SI) units of measurement to U. S. customary units and U. S. customary units to metric (SI) units is presented on page 3.

Spurious oscillations are injected into the calculation by the boundary. Furthermore, the stair-step boundary must retain more water over that natural coastal configuration where water is free to move artificially unobstructed and in accord with the forces.

4. The use of any of the previously mentioned open-coast models in simulating circulation and water level conditions is made difficult because of the requirement of specifying appropriate boundary conditions. This is especially the case in the nearshore region where these models simulate the coast boundary as an infinitely high, continuous wall. This boundary condition neglects overtopping of low-lying land and bay communication with the open sea. These coastal processes have a considerable effect on the nearshore water levels and fluid velocities. Furthermore, it is precisely this zone where much environmental interest is focused and the use of numerical models should prove beneficial.

5. This report describes a more appropriate open-coast boundary condition and presents results from four historical hurricane surges which affected the Louisiana coast from Atchafalaya Bay to the Mississippi River. The boundary conditions is termed the Finite Height Barrier Coast (FHBC) and is incorporated into a two-dimensional model that employs an orthogonal curvilinear coordinate system with telescoping computing cells. This hydrodynamic model with the FHBC is named SSURGE III. In a companion report,<sup>5</sup> results from other verification studies of SSURGE III are presented.

6. Three numerical programs are required for staging the production of surge or tide computations. The first numerical program determines the conformal mapping coefficients for the particular study region of the continental shelf. The actual coastline, as seen on National Ocean Survey (NOS) nautical charts, is smoothed relative to portraying small-scale features. This continuous coastline and a deep-sea boundary curve (perhaps, following the 300- or 600-ft isobath) are the input to the conformal mapping program. The coefficients are determined and input to the second numerical program which determines the computing grid data relative to a particular design by the user. The grid data are, in part, the input to the SSURGE III program. Other

input includes the shelf bathymetry, FHBC data, hydrograph and velocity output locations, and other readily determinable parameters. In actual practice, the entire process is not time-consuming or expensive.

## PART II: CONFORMAL MAPPING

7. It is desired to conformally map a spatial region of prototype space of the continental shelf into a rectangle in a mathematical image plane in which the coastline and deep-sea boundary curves are specifically transformed into the image plane as constant values of  $\eta$ . \* Figure 1 shows the details of the transformation.

8. It can be shown<sup>3</sup> that a conformal transformation satisfying the above constraints is

$$x(\xi, \eta) = \xi + \sum_{n=1}^N (B_n \sinh nk\eta + C_n \cosh nk\eta) \sin nk\xi \quad (1)$$

and

$$y(\xi, \eta) = B_0 + \eta + \sum_{n=1}^N (B_n \cosh nk\eta + C_n \sinh nk\eta) \cos nk\xi \quad (2)$$

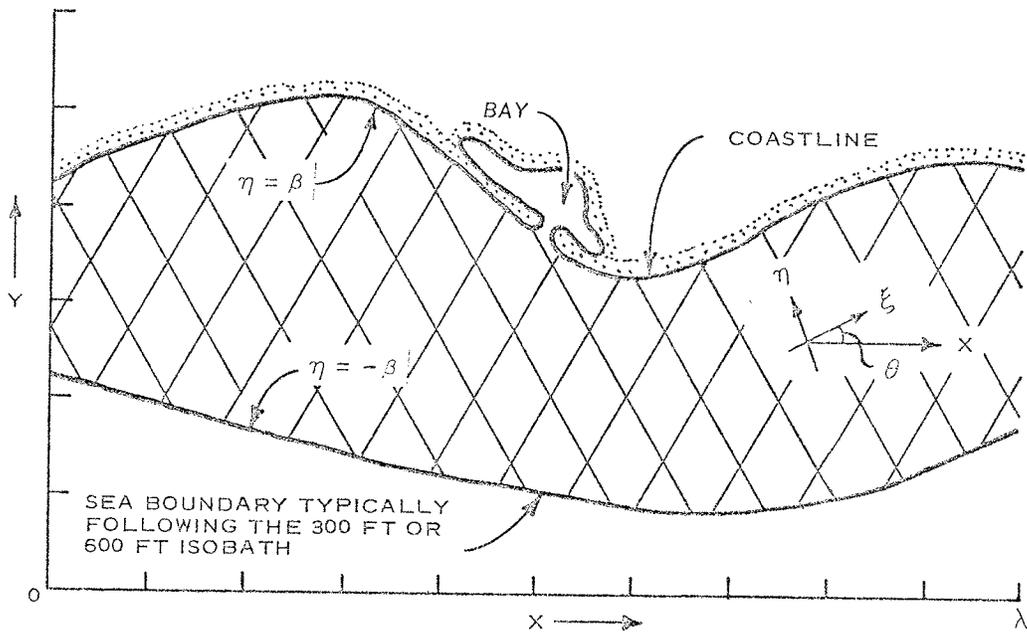
where

$$\begin{aligned} k &= \pi/\lambda \\ 0 &\leq x \leq \lambda ; 0 \leq \xi \leq \lambda \\ -\beta &\leq \eta \leq \beta \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

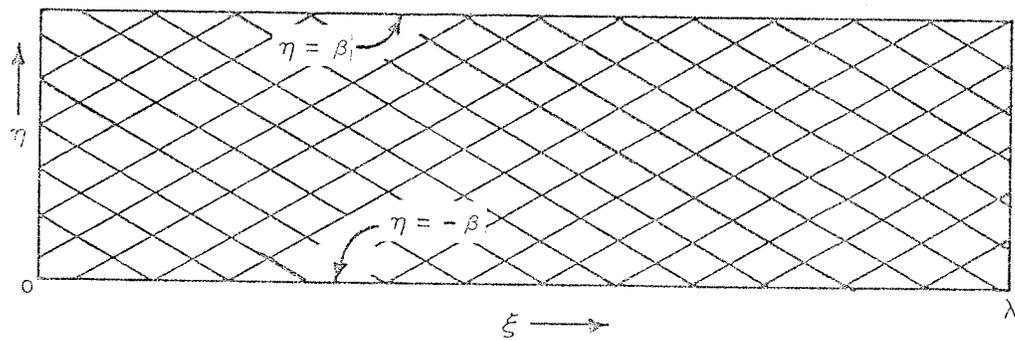
The  $N$  values of  $B_n$  and  $C_n$  and  $B_0$  constitute the bi-curve fitting conformal mapping coefficients. These coefficients are determined by matching the prototype coastline and sea boundary curves at  $\eta = \pm \beta$ , respectively,  $\beta$  also being a parameter to be determined. An iterative procedure is required for determining  $\beta$  and the coefficients.<sup>3</sup> Essentially, the procedure is terminated after convergence of  $\beta$  and the coefficients or after the transform-generated coastline and sea boundary curves are in good portrayal of those specified (personal view of the user). Typical standard deviation between transform-generated and prototype (slightly smoothed version) over the length of the curve is of the order of 2000 ft. This is achieved with 40 iterations,

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\* For convenience, symbols and unusual abbreviations are listed and defined in the Notation (Appendix A).



a. PROTOTYPE SPACE



b. IMAGE SPACE

Figure 1. Conformal transformation mapping prototype space into image space

$N = 100$  and at a cost of 9 min of CDC 6600 central processing time. Furthermore, the conformal mapping procedure need only be accomplished once for any large stretch of continental shelf. The computing grids appropriate to areas within that region are generated depending on the nature of the particular study, using the mapping coefficients previously determined. The computer cost in generating the grid is inconsequential to the personnel time required in the grid makeup or assigning the cell-averaged fluid depth. The cost in generating a grid covering a relatively small extent of coast must be weighed against a large grid of similar high resolution over a long reach of coastline which costs more per prototype hour and even more so when numerous simulations are required.

### PART III: MATHEMATICAL MODEL .

#### Stretched Shelf Coordinate System

9. Consider the transform-generated coastline and sea boundary curves shown in Figure 2. The orthogonal curvilinear mesh associated with the  $(\xi, \eta)$  coordinates in prototype space is designated the shelf coordinate system. The display of that system in prototype space is shown in Figure 2a and its image in Figure 2b. Notice that only a portion of the entire shelf mapped area is subsequently employed for long-wave computations. Furthermore, the calculations cannot readily be performed in the image space because the cells are unevenly spaced. Centered computations are a prerequisite for finite differencing of partial differential equations. To provide an evenly spaced computing grid and, at the same time, to obtain the desired spatial resolution with the fewest possible computational points require a second transformation. This transformation preserves the orthogonal property and allows for the independent stretching of  $\xi$  and of  $\eta$ . The grid resulting from the second transformation is the evenly spaced computing grid, Figure 2c. The coordinate system is termed the stretched shelf coordinate system (S,T).

10. The stretched shelf coordinate system is generated by independently transforming the  $\xi$  and  $\eta$  axes in the following manner:

- a. Given the nearshore region of principal interest, the values of  $\xi$  along the coastline are determined which will produce a constant relatively fine increment of coastline arc length,  $S_p$ . In this area of prime interest, the line BC in Figure 2a, the constant increment of arc length is equal to  $\Delta S$ . However, regions AB and CD show that for the same  $\Delta S$  as above, there is a relative expansion of the increment of the coastline arc length. The functional relation between  $\xi$  and  $S$  is

$$S = S(S_p(\xi)) \quad (4)$$

where the expansion of  $S_p$  with respect to  $S$  is specified by an (arbitrary) expression of the form

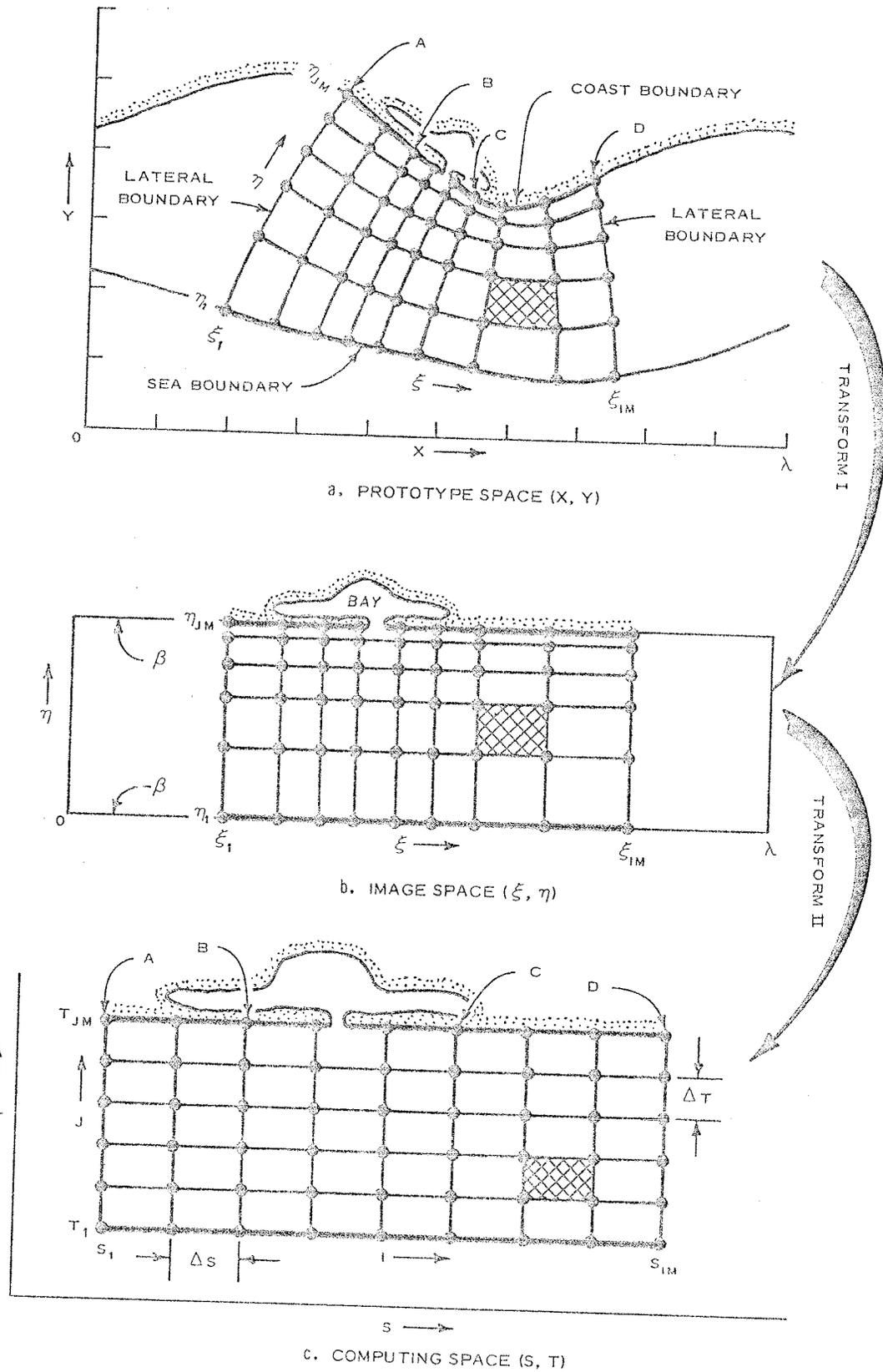


Figure 2. Grid transformations for H computing grid

$$S_p = k_A + k_B (S)^{k_C} \quad (5)$$

where A , B, and C are constants for each expansion region (k). For the example in Figure 2, there are three expansion regions. The ensemble function, k = 1, 2, and 3 , is determined such that at interface points the function is continuous and has continuous first derivatives.

- b. Along a particular isoline of  $\xi$  ,  $\xi^\dagger$  , the values of  $\eta$  are determined which will yield a constant change in the time,  $\Delta T$  , required for a long wave traveling at the local free wave celerity to proceed from the sea boundary ( $-\beta$ ) to the coast ( $\beta$ ). The long-wave travel time,  $T_n$  , is calculated by

$$T_n = \int_{S_n(\eta)} \frac{ds}{\sqrt{gD_o}} \quad (6)$$

where  $S_n$  is the distance along  $\xi^\dagger$  ,  $g$  is the acceleration due to gravity, and  $D_o$  is the local depth relative to mean sea level for a standard basin. This procedure provides a fine grid spacing in the nearshore and a coarse grid near the deep sea boundary. The relation between  $\eta$  and  $T$  is given by

$$T = T(T_n(S_n(\eta))) \quad (7)$$

The incremental values of  $T$  are determined from Equation 6 subject to the (arbitrary) expansion relation of  $T(T_n)$  which is the counterpart of Equation 5. Actually, the relation  $T(T_n)$  is a convenience (seldom used in applications) which permits an additional degree of freedom in adjusting the relative spacing between isolines of  $\eta$  . In most applications,  $T = T_n$  and the value of  $\Delta T$  is that which divides the total long-wave travel time by an integer number of lines of  $\eta$  . The selection of  $\Delta T$  relative to the coarse deep sea spacing is based upon a compromise for providing adequate resolution of the hurricane winds and the deepwater surge with a minimum number of points. At first glance, it would appear that the  $T$  axis for hydrodynamic long-wave calculations is time; however, this is not the case. Scale factors relating the transformation of  $\eta$  to  $T$  are involved in the equations resulting in dimensions of length for the  $T$  independent variable.

11. The stretched shelf coordinate system provides a grid system

with a finer resolution near the coast than at the deep sea boundary. The expansion curve,  $S(S_p)$ , stretches the alongshore reach of the grid while maintaining a finer grid in the area of principal interest. In this manner, an economy is achieved in terms of the number of grid points required for long-wave simulation. However, because the preferred expansion curves dictate the locations (in prototype space) of the fluid depths required for the long-wave calculations, the depth field must be redefined for different combinations of stretching functions.

### Governing Equations

12. The vertically integrated form of the quasi-linear long-wave equations in a Cartesian system is well known.<sup>1</sup> The appropriate forms of these equations in the stretched shelf coordinate system are

#### Transport (momentum) equations

$$\frac{\partial Q_S}{\partial t} - fQ_T + \frac{gD}{Fu} \frac{\partial}{\partial S} (H - H_B) = \tau_S - \sigma_S \quad (8)$$

$$\frac{\partial Q_T}{\partial t} + fQ_S + \frac{gD}{Fv} \frac{\partial}{\partial T} (H - H_B) = \tau_T - \sigma_T \quad (9)$$

and

#### Continuity equation

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{F^2} \left[ \frac{1}{u} \frac{\partial}{\partial S} (FQ_S) + \frac{1}{v} \frac{\partial}{\partial T} (FQ_T) \right] = 0 \quad (10)$$

where  $Q$  is the volume transport per unit width (units of length<sup>2</sup>/time),  $\tau$  is the wind stress divided by water density,  $\sigma$  is the bottom frictional resistance stress divided by water density,  $f$  is the Coriolis parameter,  $g$  is the acceleration due to gravity,  $H$  is the sea surface elevation relative to mean sea level,  $D$  is the total

instantaneous depth of water ( $=H - D_0$ ),  $D_0$  the water depth relative to mean sea level, and  $H_B$  is the hydrostatic elevation of the sea surface corresponding to the atmospheric pressure anomaly. The independent variables are time ( $t$ ) and the coordinates ( $S, T$ ). The terms  $F$ ,  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  are variable scale factors associated with the transformations. It can be shown that  $F$  is nondimensional and given by

$$F = \left[ \left( \frac{\partial x}{\partial \xi} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\partial y}{\partial \xi} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} \quad (11)$$

The  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  scale factors are

$$\mu = \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial S_p} \frac{\partial S_p}{\partial S} \quad (12)$$

and

$$\nu = \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial S_n} \frac{\partial S_n}{\partial T_n} \frac{\partial T_n}{\partial T} \quad (13)$$

It can be shown that  $\mu(\delta S)$  and  $\nu(\delta T)$  have the dimensions of length. Furthermore,  $F^2 \mu \nu$  corresponds to the Jacobian of the transformation in the sense that

$$A = \iint_R F^2 \mu \nu \, dS \, dT \quad (14)$$

where  $A$  is the area of a closed region in prototype space whose corresponding area in the computing space is  $R$  (see Figure 2 for details). This relation assures that all area enclosed by the limits of the curvilinear grid in prototype space is accounted for in the computing space by use of the scale factors.

13. The kinematic wind-stress components  $\tau_S$  and  $\tau_T$  are related to their  $x, y$  component counterparts ( $\tau_x, \tau_y$ ) at a given point in prototype space by

$$\tau_S = \tau_x \cos \theta + \tau_y \sin \theta \quad (15)$$

and

$$\tau_T = -\tau_x \sin \theta + \tau_y \cos \theta \quad (16)$$

where

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\partial y / \partial \xi}{\partial x / \partial \xi} \right) \quad (17)$$

The relation between the wind stress and wind speed at a reference anemometer level (usually taken near the water surface) is taken as

$$\tau = K W_{10}^2, \quad K = \frac{\rho_a}{\rho_w} C_d \quad (18)$$

where  $\rho_a$  is air density and  $\rho_w$  is water density,  $C_d$  is a non-dimensional drag coefficient, and  $W_{10}$  is the wind speed at an elevation of 10 meters above the water surface. The value of  $K$  is taken as

$$K = \begin{cases} 1.1 \times 10^{-6} & , \text{ if } W_{10} \leq 13.58 \text{ knots} \\ \left[ 1.1 + 2.5 \left( 1 - 13.58/W_{10} \right)^2 \right] 10^{-6} & , \text{ if } W_{10} > 13.58 \text{ knots} \end{cases} \quad (19)$$

This form for  $K$  was used in previous studies.<sup>3,6</sup> Recent compilation<sup>7</sup> of various results relating  $C_d$  to the wind speed at 10 meters is shown in Figure 3. As reference, the dashed line in Figure 3 shows the  $C_d$  relation based on Equation 19 with  $\rho_a/\rho_w = 0.0012$ . In the middle to low wind speed range (say, less than 60 knots), Equation 19 is representative of the data. It is this range of wind speeds that were used by Reid and Bodine<sup>6</sup> in studies of historical storm surges in Galveston Bay. Wanstrath<sup>3</sup>, on the other hand, in studying three historical storm surges, each in different coastal regions, computed coastal water levels in good agreement with observed conditions using

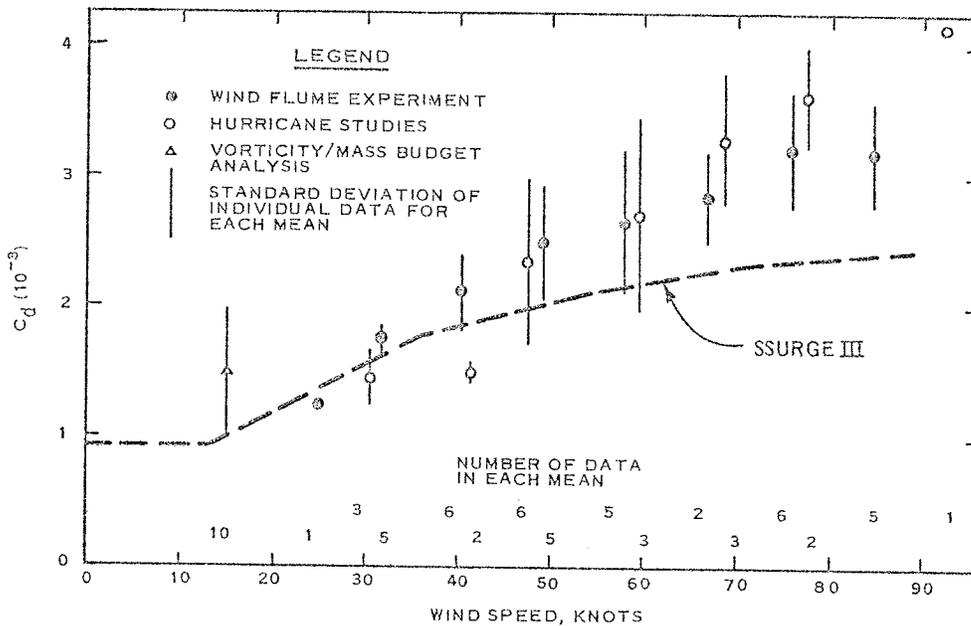
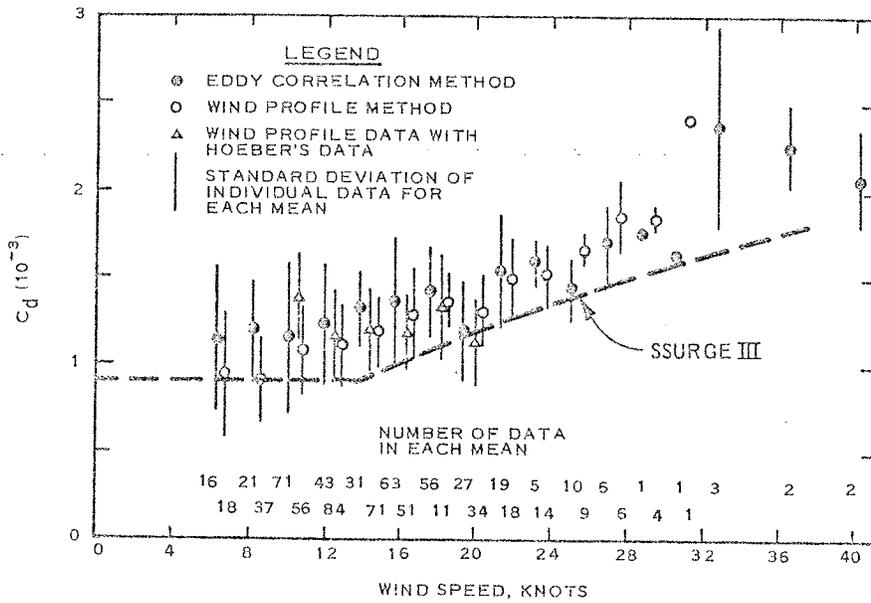


Figure 3. Mean values of the neutral drag coefficient as a function of low and high wind speeds at 10-m height (from Garratt, 1977) and that used in SSURGE III

Equation 19 and estimates of the wind furnished by the Hydrometeorological Section (Hydromet) of the National Weather Service (NWS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Those maximum winds ranged from 95 to 120 knots. However, the current understanding of the surface winds from hurricanes obtained by aerial reconnaissance, anemometer records from oil platforms, and sophisticated numerical marine boundary layer models<sup>8,9</sup> is that the surface winds at 10 meters are not as severe as thought. Consequently, with liberal estimates for the maximum winds, a conservative drag coefficient at high wind speeds is necessary. The procedure does provide good surge results as evidenced by these and previous studies. Actually, all previously reported open-coast surge models are subject to recalibration given the recent findings of hurricane surface winds.

14. The forms of the seabed frictional resistance terms are

$$\sigma_S = \frac{K_o Q}{D^2} Q_S \quad (20)$$

and

$$\sigma_T = \frac{K_o Q}{D^2} Q_T \quad (21)$$

where

$$Q = \left( Q_S^2 + Q_T^2 \right)^{1/2} \quad (22)$$

and  $K_o$  is a variable nondimensional drag coefficient that depends on the seabed condition and water depth. For typical seabed conditions,

$$K_o = \frac{g(0.025)^2}{(1.49)^2} (D^*)^{-1/3} \quad (23)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} D^* &= 0.25, \text{ if } D < 0.5 \\ D^* &= 1.0, \text{ if } 0.5 \leq D < 1.5 \\ D^* &= 2.0, \text{ if } 1.5 \leq D < 2.5 \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

and all depths  $D$  and  $D^*$  are in feet.

## Recursion Equations

15. The numerical analogs of Equations 8-10 are based on centered difference approximations of all terms. The algorithm treats the time dependency explicitly and employs computing lattices as shown in Figure 4. The recursion equations require two time levels to complete the cycle.  $H$  values as well as  $H_B$  and  $\tau$  are computed on the lattice at time level  $n$ . This lattice also contains the permanent storage data of  $D_o$ ,  $\theta$ ,  $X_g$ , and  $Y_g$  where  $X_g$  and  $Y_g$  are the x and y grid coordinates of  $H$  points. For a reference index  $(I,J)$ , the transports  $Q_S$  and  $Q_T$  are computed at  $\Delta S/2$  and  $\Delta T/2$ , respectively, from the  $H$  point in the positive axes direction. The transports are computed on the lattice at time level  $n+1$ . For small time steps,  $\Delta t$ , it is inconsequential that  $\tau$  is computed at  $n$  and applied at  $n+1$ . Furthermore,  $\tau$  is computed at  $H$  point locations and averaged with its neighbor in the  $S$  and  $T$  directions, respectively, for determination of  $\tau_S$  and  $\tau_T$ . These approximations for  $\tau$  are a result of efficient utilization of computer time and memory considerations and can be shown through numerical experiments to be accurate.

16. Consider that the transports are known at time level  $n-1$  and the  $H$  field is known at time level  $n-2$ . The recursion formula for interior grid  $H$  points is

$$H(I,J,n) = H(I,J,n-2)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & - \frac{2\Delta t \left[ F_U(I,J)Q_S(I,J,n-1) - F_U(I-1,J)Q_S(I-1,J,n-1) \right]}{M_T \Delta S \mu_H(I) \left[ F_H(I,J) \right]^2} \\
 & - \frac{2\Delta t \left[ F_V(I,J)Q_T(I,J,n-1) - F_V(I,J-1)Q_T(I,J-1,n-1) \right]}{M_T \Delta T \nu_H(J) \left[ F_H(I,J) \right]^2} \quad (25)
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $I$ ,  $J$ , and  $n$  indices express the  $S$ ,  $T$ , and time

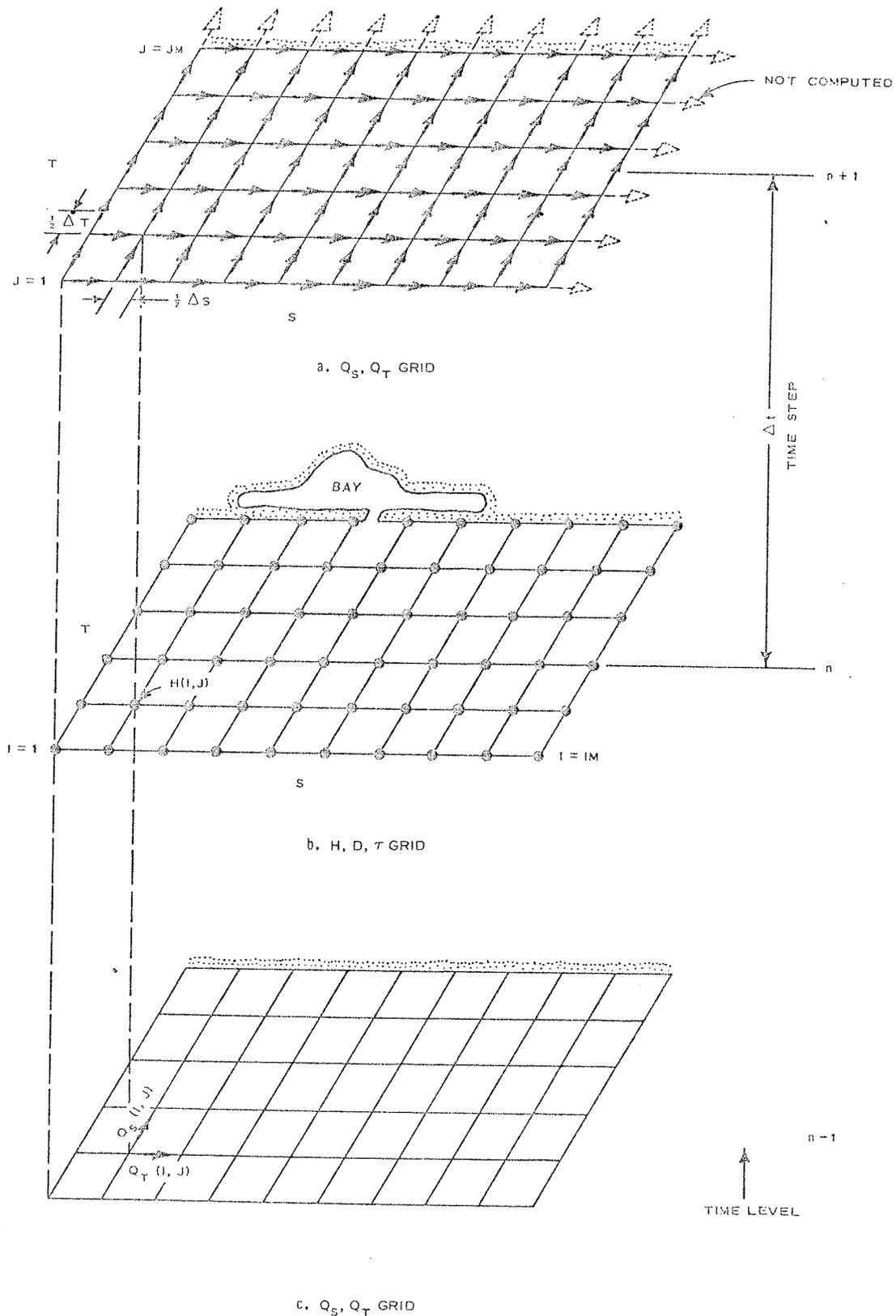


Figure 4. Time-dependent scheme for computed variables

coordinates, respectively,  $\Delta t$  is the numerical time step,  $F_U$ ,  $F_V$ , and  $F_H$  are the point values of  $F$  from Equation 11 determined at  $Q_S$ ,  $Q_T$ , and  $H$  points, respectively,  $\mu_H$  is the point value of  $\mu$  from Equation 12 at  $S_I$  (typical  $H$  grid points in  $S$  direction),  $v_H$  is the point value of  $v$  from Equation 13 at  $T_J$  (typical  $H$  grid points in  $T$  direction), and  $M_f$  is the map factor relating prototype length (feet) to  $x,y$  units. The simulation is initiated at  $n = 1$  with all transports and previous  $H$  field equal to zero.

17. Given the  $H$  field just computed at level  $n$  and the previous transports, the recursion formulas for interior grid transports are.

$$Q_S(I,J,n+1) = \frac{Q_S(I,J,n-1)}{G_S} + \frac{2\Delta t f \bar{Q}_T}{G_S} - \frac{2\Delta t g \bar{D}_S [H(I+1,J,n) - H(I,J,n) - H_B(I+1,J,n) + H_B(I,J,n)]}{M_f \Delta S G_S \mu_U(I) F_U(I,J)} + \frac{\Delta t}{G_S} [\tau_S^H(I,J,n) + \tau_S^H(I+1,J,n)] \quad (26)$$

and

$$Q_T(I,J,n+1) = \frac{Q_T(I,J,n-1)}{G_T} - \frac{2\Delta t f \bar{Q}_S}{G_T} - \frac{2\Delta t g \bar{D}_T [H(I,J+1,n) - H(I,J,n) - H_B(I,J+1,n) + H_B(I,J,n)]}{M_f \Delta T G_T v_V(J) F_V(I,J)} + \frac{\Delta t}{G_T} [\tau_T^H(I,J,n) + \tau_T^H(I,J+1,n)] \quad (27)$$

where

$$\bar{D}_S = 0.5 [H(I+1,J,n) - D_O(I+1,J) + H(I,J,n) - D_O(I,J)] \quad (28)$$

$$\bar{D}_T = 0.5 \left[ H(I, J+1, n) - D_O(I, J+1) + H(I, J, n) - D_O(I, J) \right] \quad (29)$$

$$\bar{Q}_S = \left[ 0.25 Q_S(I, J+1, n-1) + Q_S(I, J, n-1) + Q_S(I-1, J-1, n-1) + Q_S(I-1, J, n-1) \right] \quad (30)$$

$$\bar{Q}_T = 0.25 \left[ Q_T(I+1, J, n-1) + Q_T(I, J, n-1) + Q_T(I, J-1, n-1) + Q_T(I+1, J-1, n-1) \right] \quad (31)$$

$$G_S = 1 + K_O^S \left\{ \left[ Q_S(I, J, n-1) \right]^2 + \left( \bar{Q}_T \right)^2 \right\}^{1/2} / \left( \bar{D}_S \right)^2 \quad (32)$$

$$G_T = 1 + K_O^T \left\{ \left[ Q_T(I, J, n-1) \right]^2 + \left( \bar{Q}_S \right)^2 \right\}^{1/2} / \left( \bar{D}_T \right)^2 \quad (33)$$

$\mu_U$ , in a similar manner, is the point value of  $\mu$  from Equation 12 at  $S_I + \Delta S/2$  (typical  $Q_S$  grid points in the S direction),  $v_V$  is the point value of  $v$  from Equation 13 at  $T_J + \Delta T/2$  (typical  $Q_T$  grid points in the T direction),  $\tau_S^H$  and  $\tau_T^H$  are the wind stresses in the S, T directions, respectively, which are computed at H points, and  $K_O^S$ ,  $K_O^T$  are the seabed drag coefficients computed from Equation 23 with D in Equation 24 given by  $\bar{D}_S$  and  $\bar{D}_T$ , respectively.

#### Boundary Condition

18. For closure of the system of equations, the open sea and lateral boundaries require specification appropriate to the hurricane-induced surge computation. Many different continuum type boundary conditions are reported in the literature. In principle, it should

not matter which of these is used. If the computing grid is of sufficiently large extent, the solution in the central part of the grid near the coast should be insensitive to the particular one used. A popular lateral boundary condition which is also used in SSURGE III is

$$\frac{\partial Q_S}{\partial S} = 0 \quad (34)$$

The sea boundary condition is that the water-surface elevation is placed in equilibrium with the atmospheric pressure anomaly

$$H(I,1,n) = H_B(I,1,n) \quad (35)$$

Along the lateral and sea boundaries, the transports are computed using modified forms of Equations 30 and 31. The modification is to compute an average value using only the two adjacent interior points.

19. It has long been recognized that the coast boundary condition plays a major role in the nearshore hydrodynamic solution of the governing equations. Most open-coast shelf models (whether curvilinear, rectilinear, finite element, implicit, or explicit) treat the coast as an infinitely high, continuous wall. The use of numerical models in simulating circulation and water level conditions is made difficult because of application of such a condition. The coast boundary condition developed and incorporated into SSURGE III is the Finite Height Barrier Coast (FHBC). The FHBC provides for the overtopping of low-lying land and bay communication with the open sea.

20. The FHBC condition is to allow for potential ponding areas landward of the shoreline. Figure 5 shows the conceptual design of the barrier coast and adjacent bay. The bay is shown to be of several increments of  $\Delta S$  in length. The coast flooding routine permits a volume of water to be transported across the nominal shoreline which is dependent upon barrier heights, predicted water level at the coast, channel entrance characteristics, and the water level in the ponding area,  $H_b$ . The routine is applied at the  $H$  time levels as shown in Figure 4.

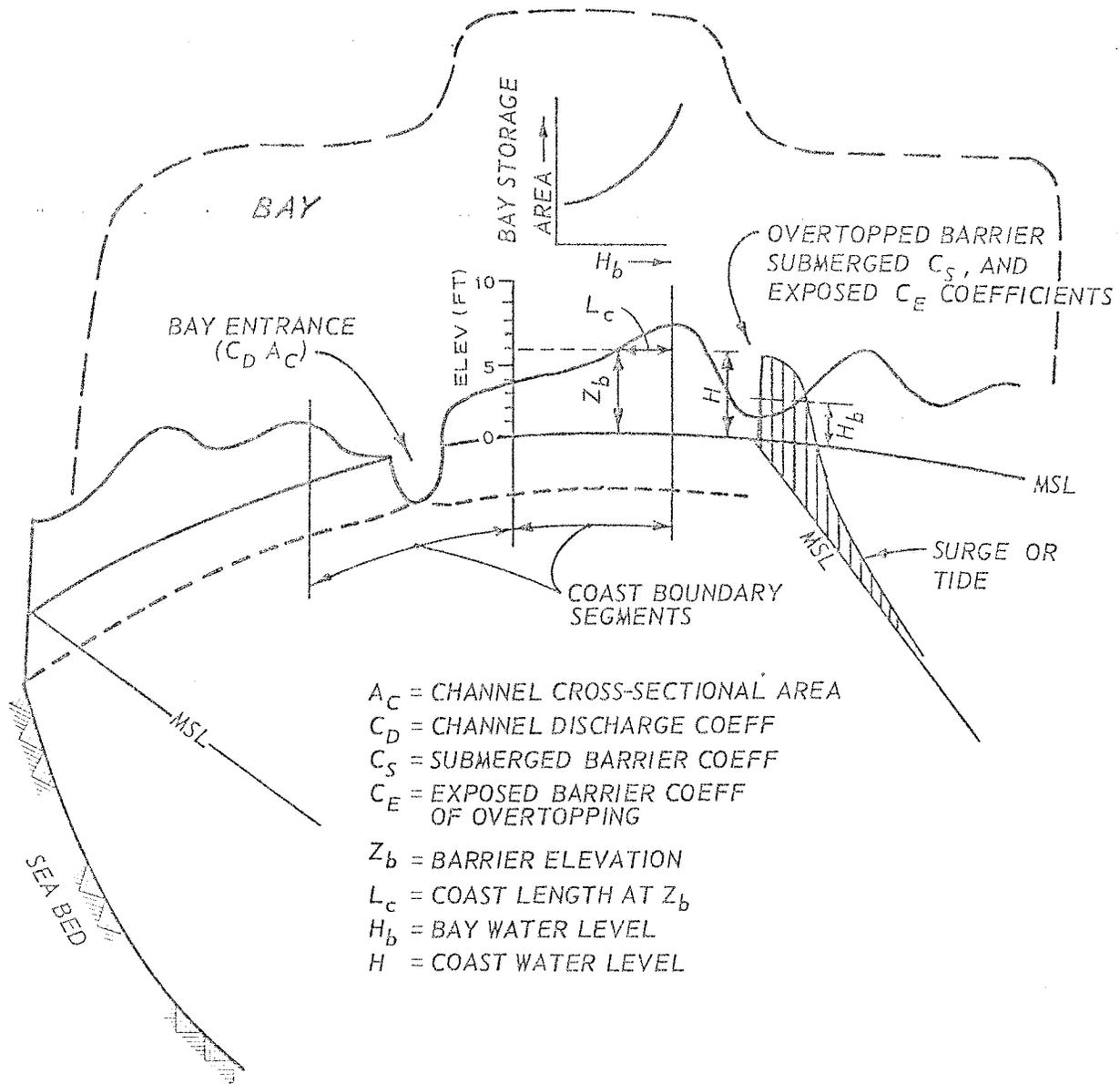


Figure 5. Finite height barrier coast boundary

21. A prediction/correction method is used to compute  $H(I, JM, n)$ . The philosophy is taken that the coast barrier as viewed by the long wave is essentially a wall over much of the time of surge development, reflecting the majority of the long-wave energy. This results from the consideration that long-wave reflection occurs when the wave experiences a significant change in fluid depth over distances that are small relative to the wavelength.<sup>10,11</sup> The typical nearshore bathymetry combined with coastal barrier elevations assures that the coast is essentially a wall which leaks water.

22. The prediction/correction method is to first assume total reflection at the boundary and then to correct that prediction of  $H$  based on a finite height coast. In this manner, the method provides a smooth transition from the time-dependent circumstances where the boundary is not flooded and no corrections are required to the catastrophic flooding coast. Other relations for predicting  $H$  at the coast than that of total reflection were considered. In particular, a water-surface slope projection method was tested. Results of these tests show the method to be inappropriate for surge simulations.<sup>5</sup> Other tests imply that the slope projection method is applicable to tidal (free wave) simulations.

23. At time level  $n$ , the water level at the coast,  $H^+$ , is predicted. If the water levels,  $H^+$  and  $H_b$ , exceed the minimum height of the coast, then a volume of water is transported across the nominal coast for the time interval,  $n-1$  to  $n+1$ ,

Submerged barrier

$$V_A^k = 2C_{S D_h} \Delta t \Delta L_c^k \sqrt{g |D_h|} \quad (35)$$

where

$$D_h = H^+ - H_b \quad (36)$$

$$\Delta L_c^k = |L_c^k - L_c^{k+1}| \quad (37)$$

$C_S$  is a nondimensional submerged barrier coefficient taken as 0.4,  $L_c^k$  and  $L_c^{k+1}$  are lengths of the coast at elevations  $Z_b^k$  and  $Z_b^{k+1}$ , respectively, and the direction of the flow is determined by the sign of  $D_h$  (positive means water is removed from the coastal cell and placed in the ponding area). Barrier heights per  $\Delta S$  section centered on H points are discretized into unit elevations (k). The length of the coast at each elevation is obtained from topographic maps, beach surveys, etc. The total volume of water crossing the submerged coast is the summation of Equation 35 for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, K$  where K is the integer of the lesser of  $H^+$  or  $H_b$ . Considering large ponding areas and high minimum coastal heights, this volume is generally small compared with that which is transported through channels or which overtopped the exposed (on one side) section of the barrier. These submerged barrier equations reflect the assumption that frictional effects are dominant in the bottom layer which is continuous across the boundary.

24. For the overtopped barrier, the volume of water crossing the coast is

Exposed (on one side) barrier

$$V_B^k = 2C_E D_b^k \Delta t \Delta L_c^k \sqrt{g |D_b^k|} \quad (38)$$

where

$$D_b^k = \begin{cases} Z_b^k - H_b, & \text{if } H^+ < Z_b^k < H_b \\ H^+ - Z_b^k, & \text{if } H_b < Z_b^k \leq H^+ \end{cases} \quad (39)$$

$C_E$  is a nondimensional exposed barrier coefficient taken as 0.2 and the direction of flow is determined by the sign of  $D_b$ . The total volume of water overtopping the coast is the summation of Equation 38 for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, M$  where M is the integer of the greater of  $H^+$  or  $H_b$ .

25. The volume of water associated with channel communication is

$$V_C = \pm 2\Delta t C_{Dc} A_c g |H^+ - H_b| + W_c D_c g D_c \quad (40)$$

where

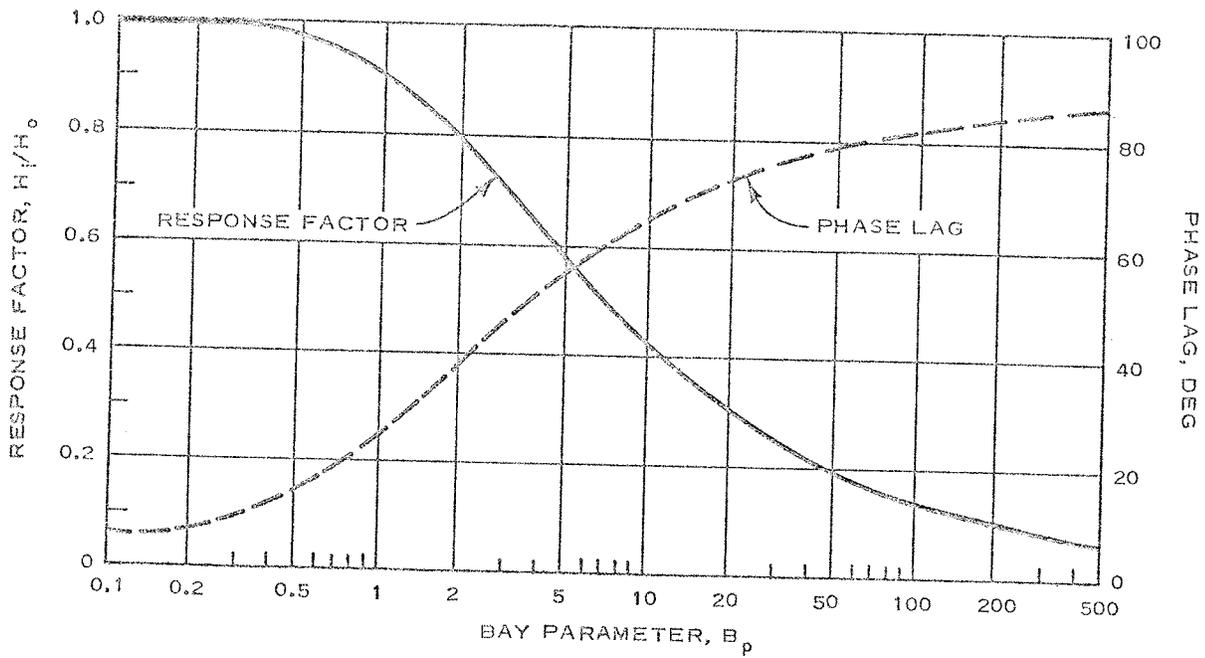
$$D_c = \begin{cases} |H^+ - H_b|, & \text{if } H^+ > 0 \text{ and } H_b > 0 \\ H^+, & \text{if } H^+ > 0 \text{ and } H_b < 0 \\ H_b, & \text{if } H^+ < 0 \text{ and } H_b > 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } H^+ < 0 \text{ and } H_b < 0 \end{cases} \quad (41)$$

$W_c$  is the channel width,  $C_{Dc}$  is a nondimensional channel discharge coefficient determined for each entrance,  $A_c$  is the channel cross-sectional area at mean sea level, and the sense of the flow is taken toward the low head side. An estimate of  $C_{Dc} A_c$  is possible if tidal observations are available inside and outside a bay with a constricted opening to the sea

$$C_{Dc} A_c = \frac{A_s}{T} \sqrt{\frac{32\pi H_o}{3g B_p}} \quad (42)$$

where  $A_s$  is the surface area of the bay at mean sea level,  $T$  is the tidal period,  $H_o$  is the tidal range outside the bay, and  $B_p$  is a nondimensional bay parameter that is dependent on the response ( $H_o/H_i$ ) or phase lag.  $H_i$  is the tidal range inside the bay. The bay parameter as a function of response or phase lag is shown in Figure 6.<sup>12</sup>

26. Consider that  $H^+$  values along the coast (uncorrected for flooding) are known at time level  $n$  and  $H_b$  and  $A_b$  are known at level  $n-2$  where  $A_b$  is the bay storage area. The volume of water entering (or leaving) the ponding area is determined for each segment by the appropriate sum of  $V_A^k$ ,  $V_B^k$ , and  $V_C$ . The ratio of that volume to the surface area of the grid block representative of  $H^+$ ,  $A_I$ , provides the incremental correction to the predicted coastal water level to conserve mass. This value is stored in  $H(I, JM, n)$  for use in



NOTE:  $H_i$  = TIDAL RANGE  
INSIDE THE BAY  
 $H_o$  = TIDAL RANGE  
OUTSIDE THE BAY

Figure 6. Bay parameter  $B_p$  as a function of response factor or phase lag

the transport computations at level n+1. The new value of  $H_b$  at time level  $n$  is  $H_b$  at  $n-2$  plus the incremental water-level change from the instantaneous and even distribution of the entering volume (the sum for all appropriate  $\Delta S$  segments) on  $A_b$  at level  $n-2$ . From  $H_b$  at  $n$ , a new bay storage area is obtained. The above is repeated for each ponding area and its designated coastal segments.

### Hurricane Wind and Atmospheric Pressure Models

27. The hurricane wind and atmospheric pressure models as given by Jelesnianski<sup>13</sup> are employed in the surge studies with some minor additions. The x,y-wind components for a stationary storm at the H grid points are

$$w_x = \frac{W_R}{r_H} [-(X_g - X_e) \sin \phi - (Y_g - Y_e) \cos \phi] F(r_H) \quad (43)$$

and

$$w_y = \frac{W_R}{r_H} [(X_g - X_e) \cos \phi - (Y_g - Y_e) \sin \phi] F(r_H)$$

where

$$r_H = [(X_g - X_e)^2 + (Y_g - Y_e)^2]^{1/2} \quad (44)$$

$$F(r_H) = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{r_H}{R_H}\right)^{3/2}, & \text{if } r_H < R_H \\ \left(\frac{R_H}{r_H}\right)^{1/2}, & \text{if } r_H \geq R_H \end{cases} \quad (45)$$

$W_R$  is the stationary storm maximum wind,  $\phi$  is the wind ingress angle reflecting the inward flow relative to that wind vector tangent to the isovel,  $R_H$  is the distance from the storm center  $(X_e, Y_e)$  to region of maximum winds, and  $X_g$  and  $Y_g$  are the (x,y) coordinates of H grid

points. The translation of the storm provides an alteration in the wind field. The x,y supplemental wind components due to storm translation are

$$t_x = (T_x \cos \psi + T_y \sin \psi)G(r_H) \quad (46)$$

and

$$t_y = (-T_x \sin \psi + T_y \cos \psi)G(r_H) \quad (47)$$

where

$$\psi = \alpha - \phi - 90 \quad (48)$$

$$G(r_H) = \begin{cases} \frac{r_H}{r_H + R_H} & , \text{ if } r_H < R_H \\ \frac{R_H}{R_H + r_H} & , \text{ if } r_H \geq R_H \end{cases} \quad (49)$$

$T_x$  and  $T_y$  are x,y components of the forward speed of the storm and  $\alpha$  is a rotation angle used, primarily, to fine tune the alignment of maximum winds. For standard operation of the wind model,  $\alpha$  is set equal to  $90^\circ + \phi$ . The x,y-wind stress components for a moving storm are

$$\tau_x = K \left( W_x^2 + W_y^2 \right)^{1/2} W_x \quad (50)$$

and

$$\tau_y = K \left( W_x^2 + W_y^2 \right)^{1/2} W_y \quad (51)$$

where

$$W_x = w_x + t_x \quad (52)$$

$$W_y = w_y + t_y \quad (53)$$

and  $K$  is given by Equation 19. The stress components in the stretched shelf coordinate system are determined by applying Equations 50 and 51 in Equations 15 and 16. In an alternate manner,

$$W_S = W_x \cos \theta + W_y \sin \theta \quad (54)$$

and

$$W_T = -W_x \sin \theta + W_y \cos \theta \quad (55)$$

where  $\theta$  is given by Equation 17 and  $W_S$  and  $W_T$  are the wind components in the (S,T) system. The stress components are

$$\tau_S = K \left( W_S^2 + W_T^2 \right)^{1/2} W_S \quad (56)$$

and

$$\tau_T = K \left( W_S^2 + W_T^2 \right)^{1/2} W_T \quad (57)$$

28. The surface atmospheric pressure field associated (but not dynamically coupled) with the hurricane wind is

$$P = P_0 + (P_\infty - P_0) e^{-R_H/r_H} \quad (58)$$

where  $P_0$  is the central pressure and  $P_\infty$  is the far-field pressure. It is often observed that relatively high winds remain along the coast after the storm has proceeded inland. Through numerical experiments, it is found that reasonably good comparison between observed (Hydromet) and computed winds is obtained by setting  $R_H$  to be the distance the storm center is from the coast, specifying  $W_P$  to be desired winds at the coast and setting  $\alpha$  (measured clockwise from the storm movement) such that the maximum wind region is along the coast. This procedure allows slightly longer simulations to be performed after landfall than would be permitted otherwise due to poor wind-field portrayal. However,  $R_H$  in the pressure expression (Equation 58) is not allowed to increase.

If this procedure is followed in the numerical program (it is optional),  $R_H$  is held constant at a value  $R_{HIT}$  in nautical miles (n.mi.) after the time of storm landfall ( $THIT$ ) which is input in hours after the start of the simulation.

29. The various program parameters that are used to generate the wind and atmospheric pressure fields for Hurricanes Flossy,<sup>14</sup> Hilda,<sup>15</sup> Betsy,<sup>16</sup> and Carmen are given in Tables 1-4. Only for the postlandfall winds from Hurricanes Hilda, Betsy, and Carmen were the normal routines modified in the above manner. This is seen by noting the number for  $THIT$ . For comparison, the computed and observed (Hydromet) wind field at selected times are presented in Plates 1-3 for Hurricane Hilda and in Plates 4-6 for Hurricane Betsy.

30. The term  $H_B$  in Equations 8, 9, 26, 27, and 35 is computed in feet of water by

$$H_B = 0.0328(P_\infty - P) \quad (59)$$

where  $P_\infty$ , named  $PINF$  in Tables 1-4, and  $P_0$  are in pressures of millibars.

31. For historical storms, all necessary input parameters can be determined if Hydromet has assessed the maximum winds  $W_R$  following the same procedures. This procedure probably results in a liberal estimate for  $W_R$ . Storm surge simulations for forecasting purposes typically involve storm parameters of track,  $P_\infty$ ,  $P_0$ , and  $R_H$ . The only other necessary input for this wind model is  $W_R$ . This can be determined from the correlation of a few severe historical storms where Hydromet has estimated  $W_R$  and that value which is predicted by the Standard Project Hurricane (SPH) method<sup>17</sup> using only the required forecast storm parameters. A cursory examination shows that the ratio  $W_R$  to  $W_{max}$  (SPH) is probably in the range 1.2 to 1.3. This approach is suggested only as a temporary solution. Actually, a dynamic marine boundary layer hurricane model is needed that is independently calibrated to several storms of record and verified against even more historical storms. This wind model is comparable to the treatment of the physics of the atmosphere as SSURGE III is to the hydrodynamics.

PART IV: HURRICANES FLOSSY, HILDA, BETSY, AND CARMEN  
SURGE STUDY

32. Hurricanes Flossy, Hilda, Betsy, and Carmen affected the Louisiana coast from Atchafalaya Bay to the Mississippi River. Hurricane Flossy is the only storm in this study that paralleled this coastal region with subsequent landfall near Pensacola, Fla. Plate 7 shows the location map, the four storm tracks, and the computing grid. The Mississippi River delta region and the adjacent levees are simulated as nonovertopping barriers protruding from the coast in the manner shown in Plate 7. For three of these hurricanes, Hydromet has estimated the surface wind fields at various storm locations.<sup>14,15,16</sup> Information about Hurricane Carmen is from personal communication with Dr. Joe Pellissier, National Hurricane Center (NHC), NOAA, Miami, Fla. It is noted that the storm tracks as observed from Hydromet, other weather bureau offices as noted in poststorm damage survey reports of the U. S. Army Engineer District, New Orleans (NOD), and from the NHC in-house historical storm track record are, in most cases, somewhat different--in particular, the track of Hurricane Flossy as it crossed the Mississippi River delta and Hurricane Carmen as it approached Lake Charles, La., in which the storm was decaying (filling) rapidly. The storm tracks presented in this report are from the NHC record except that the track of Hurricane Hilda prior to landfall is moved 6 n.mi. to the east and the track of Hurricane Flossy in the Mississippi River region is a compromise between the NOD report and NHC.

33. Six discrete ponding areas with storage area information and FHBC data are presented in Table 5. Flood Region I is from Marsh Is. to Point Au Fer Is. and bounded inland by elevated railroads or highways, spoil banks of canals, bayous, or other waterways. Flood Region II is from the terminal point of Flood Region I to Wine Is. and bounded inland by the spoil banks of the Houma Navigation Canal to the east and Bayou Chene to the west and highway U.S. 90 to the north. Flood Region III is from Wine Is. to Belle Pass and bounded inland by the Houma Navigation Canal, Bayou Lafourche to the east, and Bayou Blue and

a portion of U.S. 90 to the north. Flood Region IV is from Belle Pass to Barataria Pass and bounded inland by Bayou Lafourche, Barataria Bay Waterway, and U.S. 90 to the north. Flood Region V is from Barataria Pass to the west bank of the Mississippi River levee and bounded inland by the Barataria Bay Waterway which closes with the levee near New Orleans, La. Flood Region VI is from the east bank of the Mississippi River levee to the entrance of Lake Borgne following the seaward extent of the marsh area and bounded inland by New Orleans and U.S. 90. All the above-mentioned bayous, canals, etc., have spoil or natural alluvial banks associated with them that would have the tendency to limit flows from one flood region to another.

34. For Hurricane Flossy which occurred in September 1956, the coastal surge envelope for a wall and flooding coast boundary conditions is presented in Plate 8. The comparison of computed water-level envelope and observed high-water conditions is presented in Table 6 for coastal areas. Table 7 shows the peak value of  $H_b$  and the observed conditions for each flood region. The observed conditions are taken from the NOD poststorm survey<sup>18</sup> which is presented in Plate 9. The comparison of computed and observed conditions is not as good as should be expected.

35. The term "coastal surge envelope" refers to the peak surge water elevations along the coast without regard to the time of its occurrence. Whereas, the computed coastal water-level envelope is the peak water level from the time-record made by the superposition of the expected tide and the surge hydrographs at a particular location without regard to the time of its occurrence. It is more difficult to compare computed  $H_b$  and observed inland high-water levels because the tide cannot be simply added to the computed surge. Furthermore,  $H_b$  loses some meaning in surge simulations where for inland locations, the local wind setup is of major importance. Consider a surge of 5 ft occurring at a time of low tide which is expected to be -5 ft relative to msl. The surge model would compute flooding relative to barrier elevations based on msl and surge levels (rel msl). The result is an erroneous computation for  $H_b$  and, to a lesser degree, also for the coastal

surge. However, for small tide ranges such as exist in the Gulf of Mexico, the computations for the open-coast water level are representative of the superposition of tide and surge. This problem can be, in general, avoided if the tide function is input at the sea boundary and dynamically computed along with the surge. It is recommended that this should be pursued when a generalized predictive tide function appropriate to the edge of the continental shelf becomes available.

36. Hurricane Hilda occurred in October 1964. Plates 10-15 show the water-surface topography together with the depth-averaged velocity field for a wall and flooding coast boundary in 6-hr intervals over a 30-hr period. The role of the Mississippi River delta in limiting the free transport in the continental shelf waters is clearly seen in the series of the above snapshots. The effect of a flooding boundary relative to a wall is seen to enhance the onshore-directed transport of water in the nearshore and not-so-nearshore region. This would result in more sea sediment and suspended material transported to (and over) the coast than that computed in nonflooding open-coast models. The principal surge area occurs at Caillou Bay as seen in Plates 12 and 16, which show the surge envelopes. The coastal barrier in this area is typically a beach berm, generally less than 3 ft in height (msl). Consequently, significant flooding occurred from 1800Z (Z referring to Greenwich Mean Time), 3 October, to approximately 0300Z the next day. The winds at 0300Z, 4 October, are directed more alongshore, forcing the inland surge to the east. The highest observed water level of 9.8 ft occurred inland, to the east of Caillou Bay along the Houma Navigation Canal. It is seen that the difference in surge envelopes for a wall and flooding coast conditions (Plate 16) is at most 2 to 3 ft. This difference, although seemingly small, reflects a significant flooding condition. In proper perspective, the volume of water flooding the coast is inconsequential to that volume entrained in the nearshore open-sea circulation. Consequently, water can be removed from the coast and be almost instantaneously replaced without significant effect on the nearshore water level. The circulation pattern, however, is greatly changed due to the flooding.

37. Tables 8 and 9 compare the computed and observed high-water levels for coastal and inland regions, respectively. The observed water-level record and that computed (superposition of surge and expected tide as determined from the National Ocean Survey tide table) at various coastal locations are presented in Plates 17-19. An oscillation of 8 hr in period is shown in the computed hydrograph at Biloxi, Miss. (Plate 19). The period of oscillation is characteristic of an edge wave. Multioscillations occur from the trapping of energy between the right lateral boundary and the protruding Mississippi River levee. However, other computed water levels in this region do not exhibit such oscillations as shown in Plates 18 and 20. Plate 17 shows another typical problem in open-coast surge computations--that of proper wind specification. Before storm landfall, the analytically computed winds at Eugene Is. are always directed offshore, resulting in the enhanced drawdown of the water. Moreover, the island is on the leeward side of the coast and land frictional influence on the wind is not considered in the hurricane model. Further complication occurs in light of recent developments which shows that the surface winds in the forward section of the storm may be outflowing (a negative ingress angle).<sup>19</sup> The results presented in the comparison tables and in Plates 17-19 are in good agreement with the observed; however, improvement should be expected with a better wind model. Plate 21 presents the observed high-water levels as reported in the poststorm survey.<sup>20</sup>

38. Hurricane Betsy occurred in September 1965. The water-surface topography and velocity field comparing a wall and flooding coast boundary are shown in Plates 22-26. The effects of the flooding boundary on the nearshore water levels and currents are most dramatically demonstrated in Plate 23. Without overtopping, the wall condition is trapping water in excess of 18 ft at the corner between the east Mississippi levee and coastal wall. With flooding of the marsh area, only 12 ft of water is computed along the levee. The coastal surge envelope (Plate 27) clearly shows the effect of a flooding boundary versus that with a wall. The velocity fields are considerably different with, again, the enhancement of the onshore velocity for the flooding

boundary. Plate 23 also shows that the surge is just beginning to develop on the western side of the Mississippi River levee. Plate 24, 3 hr later than that snapshot in Plate 23, shows the developed surge in this area while to the east, sustained relatively high water is continuing. Plates 25 and 26 show the decreasing surge and the reentrance of the water from the ponding areas.

39. Tables 10 and 11 compare the computed and observed high-water levels for coastal and inland regions, respectively. Furthermore, observed and computed hydrographs at two coastal locations are presented in Plates 28 and 29. The hydrograph location in Plate 28 is to the left of landfall. The problems associated with the computed large drawdown have been discussed previously. No presurge water-level anomaly is added to any of the computed results in any study reported herein, although after viewing the observed hydrograph at Biloxi, it may seem appropriate. The results from this surge simulation, more than in any other presented in this report, show the necessity in treating the coast as a finite barrier. The comparison of the computed and observed water-level conditions are in excellent accord. Plate 30 presents the observed high-water levels as reported in the poststorm survey.<sup>21</sup>

40. Hurricane Carmen occurred in September 1974. Snapshots of the water-surface topography, together with the depth-averaged velocity field for a wall and flooding coast, are shown in Plates 31-33. The principal surge developed between Caillou Bay and the entrance to Terrebonne Bay, as shown in the surge envelope (Plate 34), at approximately 0900Z, 8 September (between the time of Plates 31 and 32). The surge does not develop in Atchafalaya Bay until 1800Z. After this time, the forward motion and location of the storm are in question due to its rapid decay. Since the surge developed in East Cote Blanche Bay during the decay stage of the storm, it is viewed as fortuitous that the peak computed and observed water levels are in good agreement (Plate 35). The phasing of the peak water levels at Luke's Landing, La., is in poor agreement probably due to the storm proceeding faster on the track than that used in the simulation.

41. Plates 36-38 present computed and observed hydrographs at

other coastal locations. The observed hydrographs in the region to the east of the Mississippi River (Plates 37 and 38) show a considerable initial water elevation at the start of computations. This elevation is not totally a presurge condition because the action of the wind is seen to reflect the observed peak levels some 20 hr later. On the other hand, this initial condition, especially at the Gulf Outlet Canal, is not due to the hurricane since the winds on the continental shelf are very weak at the start of computations; that is, if the surge simulation had begun at 1200Z, 6 September (24 hr in advance of the starting time in Plate 76), the model would not have shown over 4 ft of water at the canal entrance at 1200Z, 7 September. Other processes are occurring, presumably not assignable to the storm surge, for whatever caused the transient water-level bump at 1700Z, 7 September (Plate 37) is probably responsible for a similar, well-correlated bump at 2200Z, 7 September, at Biloxi (Plate 38).

42. Tables 12 and 13 compare the computed and observed high-water levels for coastal and inland regions, respectively. There are no observations along the coast in the principal surge area for comparison with the computed value. In other places and subject to the above discussion, the comparison between computed and observed water levels is in good agreement. Plate 39 presents the observed high-water levels as reported in the poststorm survey.<sup>22</sup>

## PART V: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

43. The development of a two-dimensional, time-dependent, curvilinear, open-coast storm surge model is presented. In particular, the model treats the coast boundary as a finite height barrier which is broken with bay entrances. The flooding coast routine in its treatment of submerged and exposed (on one side) barriers is considered conservative.

44. Results of four storm surge simulations are presented in which observed and computed conditions are compared. Model results compare most favorably with those observed. The finite height barrier approach does indeed improve the hydrodynamic model's behavior in the nearshore region of the open coast but does not prove an accurate presentation of inland flooding levels where local wind setup is of major importance. Other techniques are required utilizing the results from the open-coast model for accurate modeling of inland flooding processes. From currently available data, a relatively low value for the wind drag coefficient at high wind speeds is used. This is necessary to compensate for the liberal estimate for the maximum winds. In hindcasting situations, it is not guaranteed that the same procedure is used for estimating the maximum wind. The wind model employed in these surge simulations from historical storms requires input of the maximum wind. The problem can be resolved by using a wind model based on the physics of the marine boundary layer that will provide a wind field as a result of dynamic meteorological computations. It is recommended that such a model be obtained (as they do exist) and incorporated into the hydrodynamic flooding coast model. The resulting composite model, therefore, would be appropriate for both forecasting and hindcasting and involve a drag coefficient reflective of the currently available data.

45. The following recommendations are secondary to that of incorporating a dynamic wind model in SSURGE III. It can be shown that the astronomical tide does distort the predicted coastal and inland flood-water levels when it is not incorporated into the dynamic computations; that is, equivalent results are not obtained by the superposition of

surge and tide and that simulation where the tide is included in the sea boundary forcing condition. For the east coast of the United States where there are some locations with large tidal ranges, the tide should be included in the computation. The results of the four storm surge simulations performed for this study are considered sufficiently accurate using superposition of surge and tide since they occurred in Gulf of Mexico waters where the tidal range is small. It is recommended that a generalized tide prediction function which is appropriate to the edge of the continental shelf be incorporated into the surge computations.

46. It is recognized that other approaches, equations and coefficients are reported or can be developed for the treatment of a flooding, finite height barrier coast. These should be investigated and the more promising approach tested against the one reported herein.

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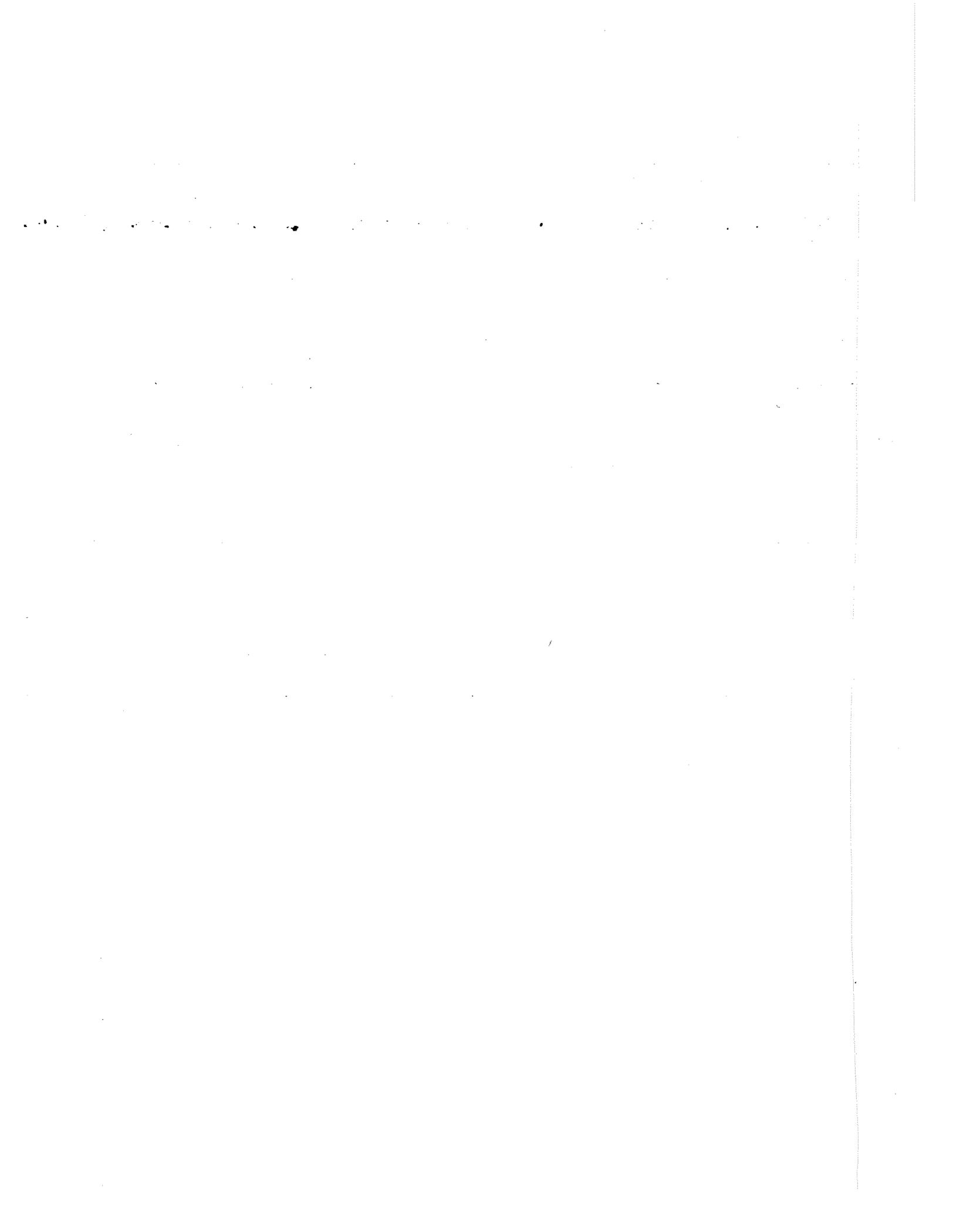


Table 1

## Program SSURGE III Wind Data for Hurricane Flossy Surge Simulation

PHI = 25.0  
 THIT = 9999.  
 RHIT = 9999.  
 PINF = 1014.56

| Program<br>Time<br>(hrs) | Track Location |               |                | Y <sub>e</sub> | Rotation<br>(°) | Radius To<br>Maximum Wind<br>(n. mi.) | Stationary<br>Storm Maximum<br>Wind (Knots) | Central<br>Pressure<br>(mb) |
|--------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
|                          | Lat.<br>(°N)   | Long.<br>(°W) | X <sub>e</sub> |                |                 |                                       |   |                             |
| 0*                       | 25°50.2'       | 90°59.8'      | 282.2          | -196.5         | 115.0           | 22.0                                  | 60.0  | 984.0                       |
| 6                        | 27°9.3'        | 90°54.5'      | 290.1          | -69.5          | 115.0           | 22.0                                  | 60.0  | 984.0                       |
| 12                       | 27°58.8'       | 90°34.5'      | 318.0          | 8.5            | 115.0           | 22.0                                  | 60.0  | 984.0                       |
| 15                       | 28°22.9'       | 90°12.3'      | 349.0          | 46.5           | 115.0           | 22.0                                  | 65.0  | 982.0                       |
| 18                       | 28°44.8'       | 89°48.5'      | 382.0          | 81.5           | 115.0           | 22.0                                  | 70.0  | 979.0                       |
| 21                       | 29°4.0'        | 89°25.6'      | 414.0          | 112.0          | 115.0           | 22.0                                  | 75.0  | 975.0                       |
| 24                       | 29°21.5'       | 89°3.3'       | 445.0          | 140.0          | 115.0           | 22.0                                  | 75.0  | 975.0                       |
| 27                       | 29°41.6'       | 88°31.9'      | 489.0          | 172.5          | 115.0           | 22.0                                  | 75.0  | 974.0                       |
| 30                       | 29°48.0'       | 87°39.1'      | 562.0          | 182.5          | 115.0           | 22.0                                  | 75.0  | 974.0                       |

\* Program Time of 0 hrs = 1230 GMT, 23 Sept 1959.

Table 2

## Program SSURGE III Wind Data for Hurricane Hilda Surge Simulation

PHI = 25.0  
 THIT = 23.0  
 RHIT = 24.0  
 PINF = 1014.56

| Program Time (hrs) | Track Location |            |                               | Rotation (°) | Radius To Maximum Wind (n. mi.) | Stationary Storm Maximum Wind (Knots) | Central Pressure (mb) |
|--------------------|----------------|------------|-------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
|                    | Lat. (°N)      | Long. (°W) | X <sub>e</sub> Y <sub>e</sub> |              |                                 |                                       |                       |
| 0*                 | 27°11.7'       | 91°12.2'   | 265.0 -65.6                   | 115.0        | 22.0                            | 100.0                                 | 956.3                 |
| 6                  | 27°43.4'       | 91°9.4'    | 269.0 -15.3                   | 115.0        | 22.0                            | 98.0                                  | 958.0                 |
| 12                 | 28°16.4'       | 91°9.4'    | 269.0 36.5                    | 115.0        | 23.0                            | 92.0                                  | 959.4                 |
| 18                 | 28°54.5'       | 91°19.5'   | 255.0 97.0                    | 115.0        | 24.0                            | 92.0                                  | 960.7                 |
| 24                 | 29°35.8'       | 91°23.0'   | 250.0 162.7                   | 135.0        | 24.0                            | 90.0                                  | 961.7                 |
| 30                 | 30°16.7'       | 91°0.8'    | 281.5 228.8                   | 150.0        | 50.0                            | 60.0                                  | 970.5                 |
| 36                 | 30°35.5'       | 90°5.8'    | 358.3 259.0                   | 70.0         | 50.0                            | 60.0                                  | 985.4                 |
| 42                 | 30°43.8'       | 88°58.4'   | 452.0 272.0                   | 60.0         | 22.0                            | 65.0                                  | 990.2                 |

\* Program Time of 0 hrs = 0000 GMT, 3 Oct 1964.

Table 3

Program SSURGE III Wind Data for Hurricane Betsy Surge Simulation

PHI = 30.0  
 THIT = 16.0  
 RHIT = 32.0  
 PINF = 1014.56

| Program Time (hrs) | Track Location |            |                               | Rotation (°) | Radius To Maximum Wind (n. mi.) | Stationary Storm Maximum Wind (Knots) | Central Pressure (mb) |
|--------------------|----------------|------------|-------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
|                    | Lat. (°N)      | Long. (°W) | X <sub>e</sub> Y <sub>e</sub> |              |                                 |                                       |                       |
| 0*                 | 26°21.3'       | 86°45.5'   | 639.0 -145.9                  | 75.0         | 23.5                            | 90.0                                  | 951.0                 |
| 6                  | 27°8.3'        | 88°3.5'    | 529.0 -71.5                   | 75.0         | 27.0                            | 90.0                                  | 949.0                 |
| 9                  | 27°43.8'       | 88°34.6'   | 485.6 -15.7                   | 75.0         | 28.5                            | 94.0                                  | 944.0                 |
| 12                 | 28°20.4'       | 89°10'     | 436.0 42.2                    | 75.0         | 30.0                            | 96.0                                  | 941.0                 |
| 15                 | 28°56.4'       | 89°50.5'   | 379.3 99.5                    | 75.0         | 32.0                            | 96.0                                  | 941.0                 |
| 18                 | 29°35.5'       | 90°31.8'   | 321.5 161.8                   | 215.0        | 32.0                            | 88.0                                  | 948.0                 |
| 21                 | 30°4.2'        | 91°3.9'    | 276.3 208.0                   | 245.0        | 45.0                            | 75.0                                  | 955.0                 |
| 24                 | 30°38.1'       | 91°33.2'   | 235.5 262.5                   | 220.0        | 65.0                            | 60.0                                  | 965.0                 |
| 27                 | 31°11.6'       | 91°55.9'   | 203.3 315.9                   | 230.0        | 105.0                           | 40.0                                  | 975.0                 |

\* Program Time of 0 hrs = 1200 GNT, 9 Sept 1965.

Table 4

## Program SSURGE III Wind Data for Hurricane Carmen Surge Simulation

PHI = 25.0  
 THIT = 24.0  
 KHLT = 20.0  
 PINF = 1014.56

| Program Time (hrs) | Track Location |            |                               | Rotation (°) | Radius To Maximum Wind (n. mi.) | Stationary Storm Maximum Wind (Knots) | Central Pressure (mb) |
|--------------------|----------------|------------|-------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
|                    | Lat. (°N)      | Long. (°W) | Y <sub>e</sub> X <sub>e</sub> |              |                                 |                                       |                       |
| 0*                 | 25°43.2'       | 90°13.0'   | 340.8 -207.6                  | 115.0        | 17.0                            | 90.0                                  | 950.0                 |
| 6                  | 26°52.5'       | 90°13.0'   | 340.8 -103.0                  | 115.0        | 17.0                            | 100.0                                 | 950.0                 |
| 12                 | 27°48.0'       | 90°24.1'   | 332.4 -8.8                    | 115.0        | 17.0                            | 100.0                                 | 944.0                 |
| 18                 | 28°41.6'       | 90°48.3'   | 298.6 76.0                    | 115.0        | 17.0                            | 110.0                                 | 937.0                 |
| 24                 | 29°24.0'       | 91°8.3'    | 256.8 144.0                   | 115.0        | 20.0                            | 90.0                                  | 960.0                 |
| 30                 | 30°0.0'        | 92°6.3'    | 189.3 201.3                   | 115.0        | 24.0                            | 70.0                                  | 982.0                 |
| 36                 | 30°24.0'       | 92°41.7'   | 140.0 240.0                   | 115.0        | 30.0                            | 45.0                                  | 993.0                 |

\* Program Time of 0 hrs = 1200 GMT, 7 Sept 1974.



Table 6  
Comparison of Computed and Observed Coastal  
High Water Levels for Hurricane Flossy

| <u>Coastal<br/>Location</u>                                | <u>Computed*<br/>High Water<br/>Level (ft)</u> | <u>Observed<br/>High Water<br/>Level (ft)</u> |
|--|--|---|
| 6.1 n.mi. East of<br>East Timbalier I.<br>at Bay Champagne | 2.3  | 3.7 (EST**)                                   |
| Southwest Pass Ent.  | 2.0  | 3.7   |
| Quarantine Bay   | 9.6  | 10.8, 11.9, 12.1                              |
| Pointe A La Hache, LA to<br>Point Pleasant, LA             | 8.9  | 10.3, 10.5 (EST)<br>10.7, 11.0 (EST)          |
| Breton I.  | 6.0  | 7 to 8 (EST)                                  |

\* Adjusted for astronomical tide.

\*\* Furnished by various oil companies and by the Freeport Sulphur Co.

Table 7  
Comparison of Computed and Observed Inland  
High Water Levels for Hurricane Flossy

| Inland<br>Location   | Computed*<br>High Water<br>Level (ft) | Observed<br>High Water<br>Level (ft)                                      |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| Barataria Bay to<br>Mississippi River Levee,<br>Flood Region 5 | 0.4                                   | 3.6**, 3.6**, 5.2**, 5.5**,<br>6.9**, 7.3**, 8.0**                        |
| Lake Borgne,<br>Flood Region 6                                 | 2.5                                   | 4.0, 5.2, 6.3, 8.5, 6.2†, 6.4†,<br>6.9†, 7.7†, 8.1†, 8.6†, 9.4†,<br>10.9† |

NOTE: Flood Regions 1 - 4 not affected.

\* Not adjusted for astronomical tide.

\*\* Observations were located along landward side of coastal barrier.

† Observations were located along southwest side of Lake Borgne.

Table 8  
Comparison of Computed and Observed Coastal  
High Water Levels for Hurricane Hilda

| Coastal<br>Location   | Computed*<br>High Water<br>Level (ft) | Observed<br>High Water<br>Level (ft) |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Gulf Ent., Freshwater Bayou                                   | 1.5                                   | 2.3                                  |
| East Cote Blanche Bay at<br>Lukes Landing, LA                 | 2.5                                   | 4.4                                  |
| Atchafalaya Bay at Eugene I.                                  | 3.8<br>(w/o flooding coast, 4.3)      | 3.3                                  |
| Lake Pelto, 2.4 n.mi. Landward<br>from Ent. to Terrebonne Bay | 6.8<br>(w/o flooding coast, 7.2)      | 7.4                                  |
| Grand I.  | 3.2<br>(w/o flooding coast, 3.2)      | 4.0                                  |
| East Side Barataria Bay near<br>Gulf Ent.                     | 5.0                                   | 5.5                                  |
| Southwest Pass, Mississippi<br>River                          | 1.5                                   | 3.2, 3.5                             |
| Quarantine Bay at Ostrica, LA                                 | 4.0<br>(w/o flooding coast, 4.4)      | 4.6                                  |
| Ent. Mississippi River - Gulf<br>Outlet Canal                 | 4.0<br>(w/o flooding coast, 4.4)      | 4.6                                  |
| Biloxi, MS  | 5.2<br>(w/o flooding coast, 5.2)      | 4.6                                  |

\* Adjusted for astronomical tide.

Table 9  
Comparison of Computed and Observed Inland  
High Water Levels for Hurricane Hilda

| <u>Inland<br/>Location</u>                                     | <u>Computed*<br/>High Water<br/>Level (ft)</u> | <u>Observed<br/>High Water<br/>Level (ft)</u>               |
|--|--|---|
| Atchafalaya Bay,<br>Flood Region I                             | 0.   | 3.8, 5.1  |
| Atchafalaya River<br>to Houma Canal,<br>Flood Region II        | 3.8  | None  |
| Terrebonne-Timbalier Bay,<br>Flood Region III                  | 3.4  | 3.0, 3.8, 4.0, 4.7,<br>5.4, 6.6, 6.9, 6.9,<br>7.0, 7.4, 9.8 |
| Bayou Lafourche<br>to Barataria Bay,<br>Flood Region IV        | 0.5  | None  |
| Barataria Bay to<br>Mississippi River Levee,<br>Flood Region V | 1.6  | 4.0   |
| Lake Borgne,<br>Flood Region VI                                | 3.3  | 3.8, 4.5, 4.7, 5.0,<br>5.2, 5.3                             |

\* Not adjusted for astronomical tide.

Table 10  
Comparison of Computed and Observed Coastal  
High Water Levels for Hurricane Betsy

| Coastal<br>Location   | Computed*<br>High Water<br>Level (ft)                 | Observed<br>High Water<br>Level (ft) |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| East Cote Blanche Bay at<br>Lukes Landing, LA   | 4.5   | 3.8                                  |
| Grand I.  | 7.2<br>(w/o flooding 7.4)                             | 8.8                                  |
| East Side Barataria Bay<br>near Gulf Ent.   | 8.5<br>(w/o flooding coast, 9.8)                      | 7.6                                  |
| West Side Mississippi<br>River Levee; Empire, LA,<br>to Venice, LA                                | 6.2 to 12.2<br>(w/o flooding coast,<br>6.2 to 16.1)   | 5.7, 7.4, 7.7,<br>8.8, 9.2, 10.4     |
| East Side Mississippi<br>River Levee; Pointe A La<br>Hache, LA, to Ostrica<br>(Brenton Sound), LA | 12.4 to 15.2<br>(w/o flooding coast,<br>12.8 to 23.1) | 13.6, 13.7,<br>14.4, 14.5, 15.7      |
| Gulfport, MS  | 9.0 (Approx.)   | 10.7                                 |
| Biloxi, MS  | 7.6   | 8.6                                  |

---

\* Adjusted for astronomical tide.

Table 11  
Comparison of Computed and Observed Inland  
High Water Levels for Hurricane Betsy

| <u>Inland<br/>Location</u>                                     | <u>Computed*<br/>High Water<br/>Level (ft)</u> | <u>Observed<br/>High Water<br/>Level (ft)</u>                    |
|--|--|--|
| Atchafalaya Bay,<br>Flood Region I                             | 0.   | 2.9, 3.9   |
| Atchafalaya River<br>to Houma Canal,<br>Flood Region II        | 0.9  | 3.0, 4.3<br>(along Houma Canal)                                  |
| Terrebonne-Timbalier Bay,<br>Flood Region III                  | 1.8  | 2.8, 3.0, 4.3  |
| Bayou Lafourche<br>to Barataria Bay,<br>Flood Region IV        | 0.5  | 3.4, 5.4   |
| Barataria Bay to<br>Mississippi River Levee,<br>Flood Region V | 2.1  | 3.4, 5.0, 5.3  |
| Lake Borgne,<br>Flood Region VI                                | 7.1  | 6.4, 8.3, 8.8, 9.1,<br>9.3, 9.8, 10.1, 10.7,<br>11.0, 11.7, 14.4 |

\* Not adjusted for astronomical tide.

Table 12  
Comparison of Computed and Observed Coastal  
High Water Levels for Hurricane Carmen

| Coastal<br>Location                            | Computed*<br>High Water<br>Level (ft)  | Observed<br>High Water<br>Level (ft) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| East Cote Blanche Bay at<br>Lukes Landing, LA  | 4.3**                                  | 4.5                                  |
| Atchafalaya Bay at<br>Lower Atchafalaya River  | 4.5**                                  | 4.9                                  |
| Atchafalaya Bay at<br>Eugene I.                | 3.8<br>(w/o flooding coast, 4.0)       | 3.7                                  |
| Grand I.                                       | 4.7<br>(w/o flooding coast, 4.8)       | 4.2                                  |
| Ent. Mississippi River --<br>Gulf Outlet Canal | 5.1<br>(w/o flooding coast, 5.4)       | 5.7                                  |
| Biloxi, MS                                     | 4.0<br>(w/o flooding coast, no change) | 4.5                                  |
| Caillou Bay                                    | 9.2<br>(w/o flooding coast, 11.6)      | None                                 |
| Ent. Terrebonne Bay                            | 8.7<br>(w/o flooding coast, 11.1)      | None                                 |

\* Adjusted for astronomical tide.

\*\* The time of high water occurred after 1200 CST 8 Sept 1974. The water level is approximate because the structure of the storm after 1200 CST is uncertain due to its rapid decay. Computations ended at 1800 CST 8 Sept.

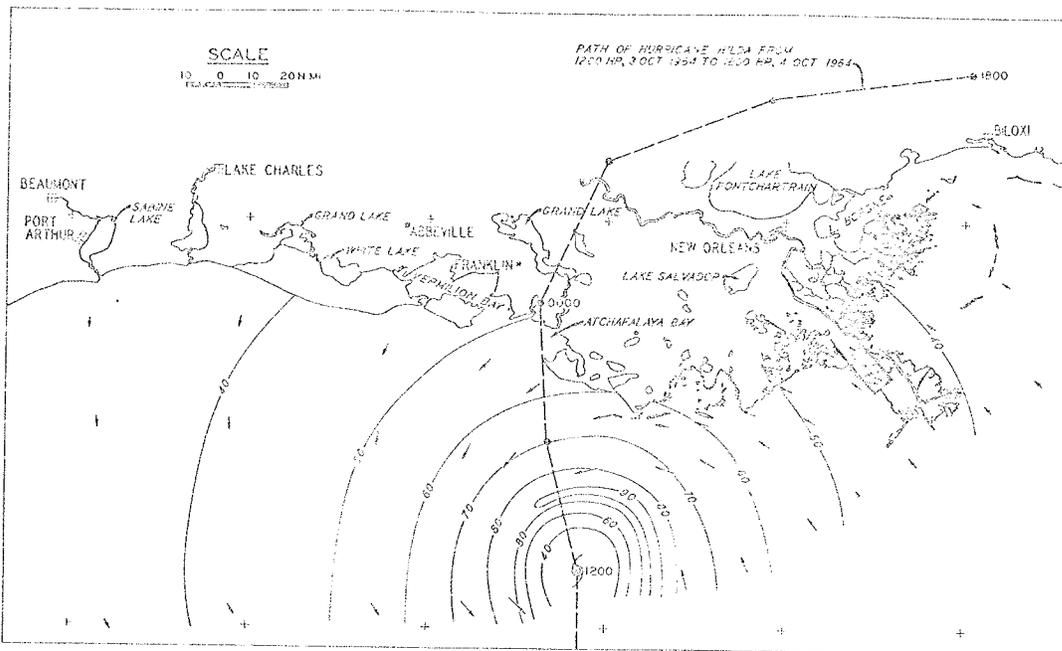
Table 13  
Comparison of Computed and Observed Inland  
High Water Levels for Hurricane Carmen

| <u>Inland<br/>Location</u>                                     | <u>Computed*<br/>High Water<br/>Level (ft)</u> | <u>Observed<br/>High Water<br/>Level (ft)</u> |
|--|--|---|
| Atchafalaya Bay,<br>Flood Region I                             | 0.6**  | 2.8, 3.2, 3.8,<br>4.0, 4.8                    |
| Atchafalaya River to<br>Houma Canal,<br>Flood Region II        | 3.8  | 3.3   |
| Terrebonne-Timbalier Bay,<br>Flood Region III                  | 4.4  | 2.9, 3.8, 4.6,<br>5.9, 11.6                   |
| Bayou Lafourche to<br>Barataria Bay,<br>Flood Region IV        | 0.5  | None  |
| Barataria Bay to<br>Mississippi River Levee,<br>Flood Region V | 1.4  | 3.1   |
| Lake Borgne,<br>Flood Region VI                                | 3.4  | 5.0, 6.0                                      |

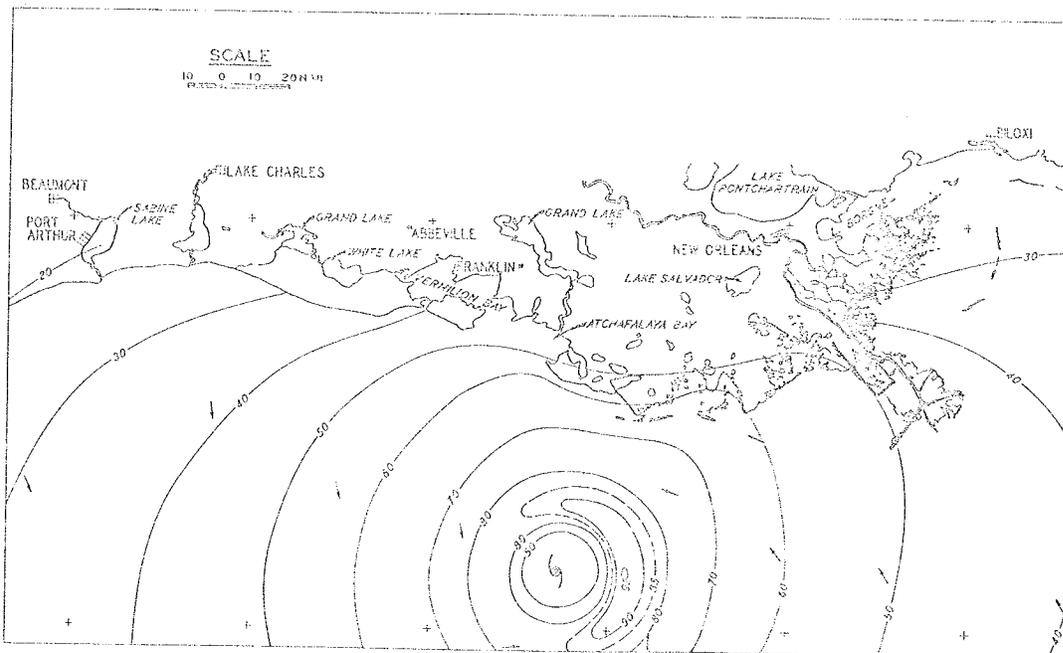
\* Not adjusted for astronomical tide.

\*\* Computed bay level rising at end of computation. See footnote \*\*, Table 18.





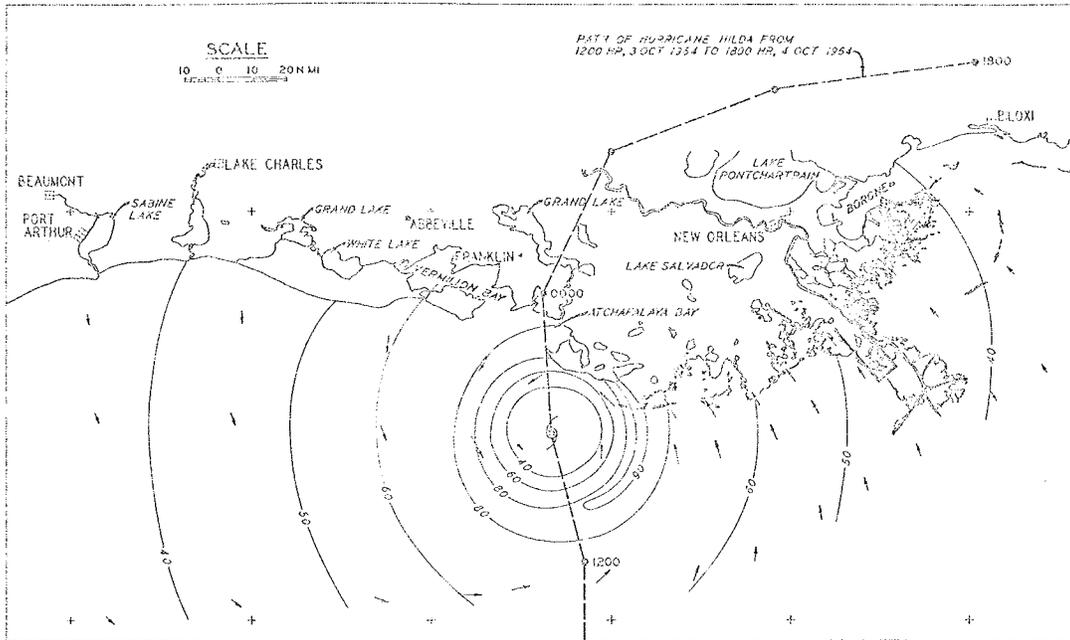
ANALYTICAL



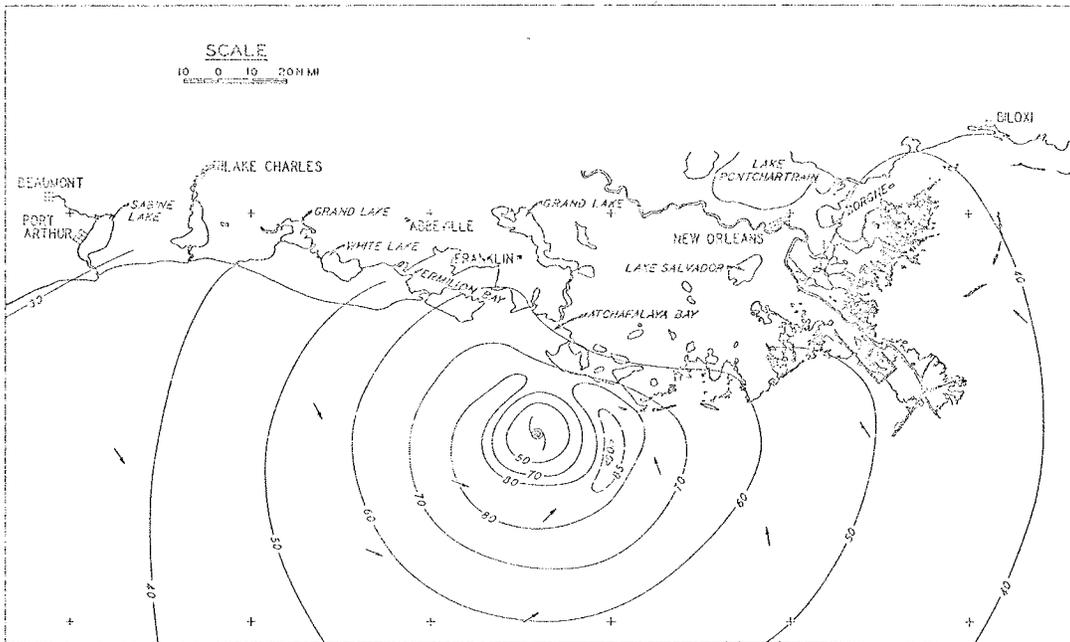
OBSERVED

NOTE: ALL TIME REFERENCES ARE IN GMT.  
 SURFACE WIND CONTOURS ARE IN KNOTS.  
 ARROWS SHOW WIND DIRECTION.

LOUISIANA COAST SURGE STUDY  
 HURRICANE HILDA  
 ANALYTICAL AND OBSERVED  
 SURFACE WIND FIELD  
 AT 1200 HRS, 3 OCT 1964



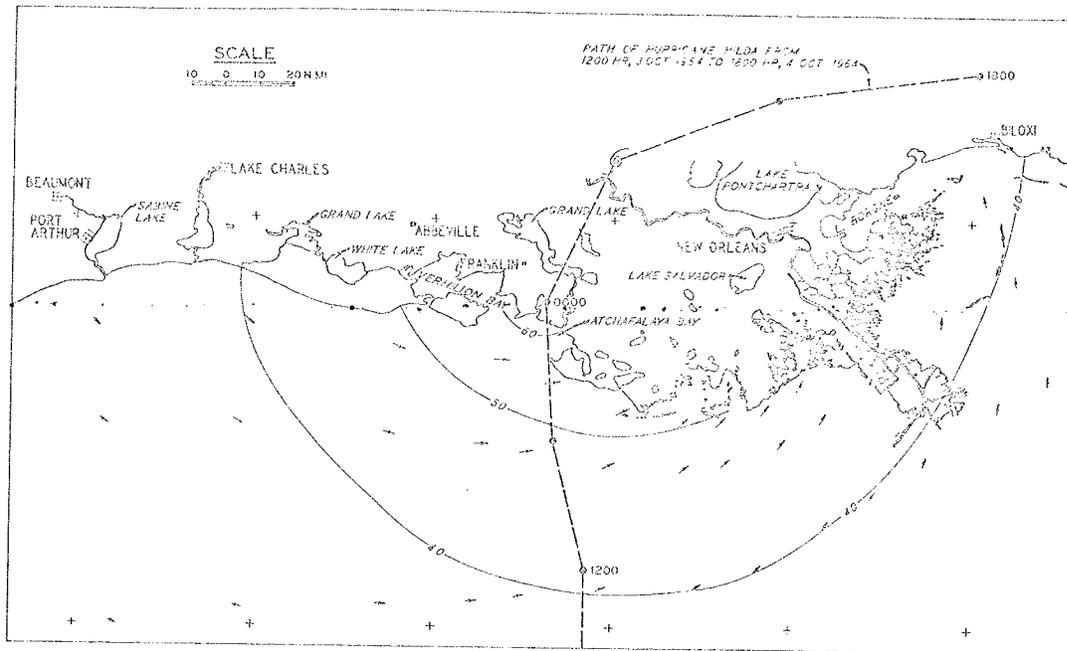
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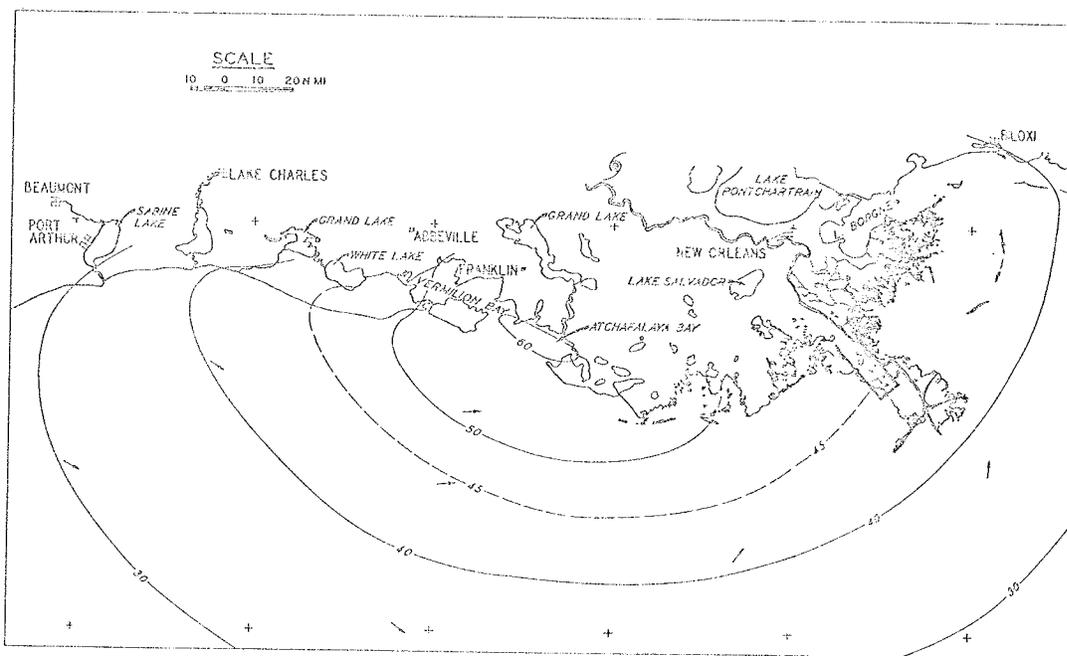
OBSERVED

NOTE: ALL TIME REFERENCES ARE IN GMT.  
 SURFACE WIND CONTOURS ARE IN KNOTS.  
 ARROWS SHOW WIND DIRECTION.

LOUISIANA COAST SURGE STUDY  
 HURRICANE HILDA  
 ANALYTICAL AND OBSERVED  
 SURFACE WIND FIELD  
 AT 1800 HRS, 3 OCT 1964



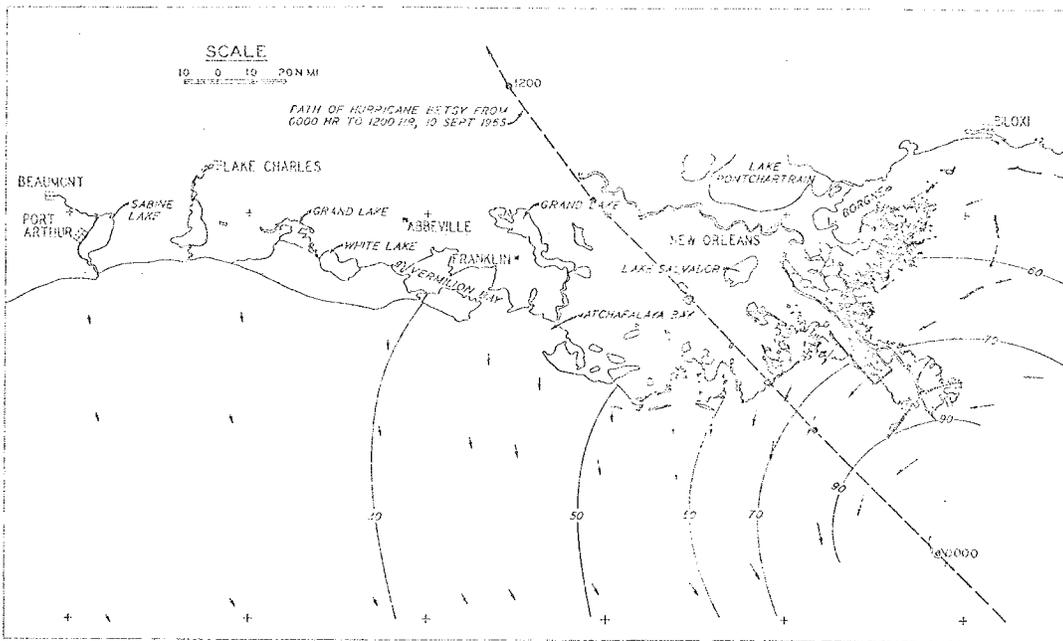
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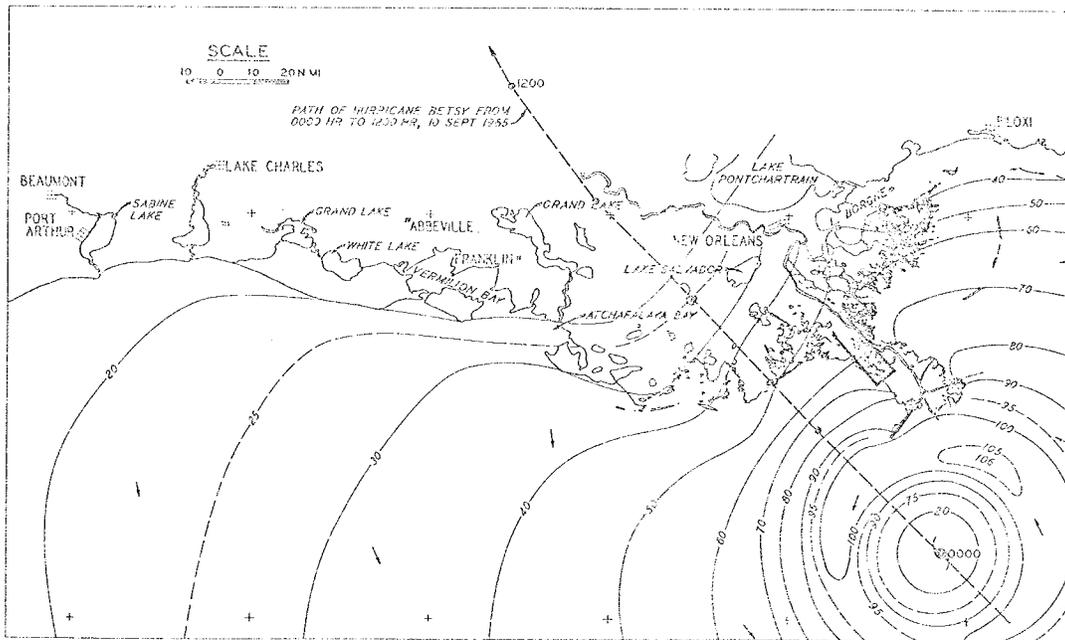
OBSERVED

NOTE: ALL TIME REFERENCES ARE IN GMT.  
 SURFACE WIND CONTOURS ARE IN KNOTS.  
 ARROWS SHOW WIND DIRECTION.

LOUISIANA COAST SURGE STUDY  
 HURRICANE HILDA  
 ANALYTICAL AND OBSERVED  
 SURFACE WIND FIELD  
 AT 0600 HRS, 4 OCT 1964



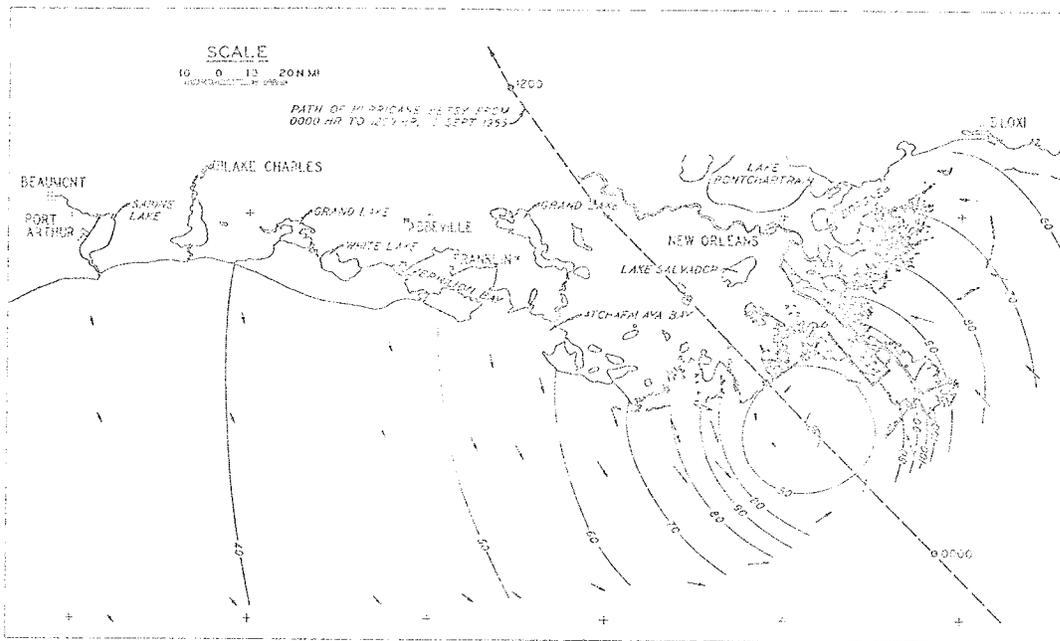
ANALYTICAL



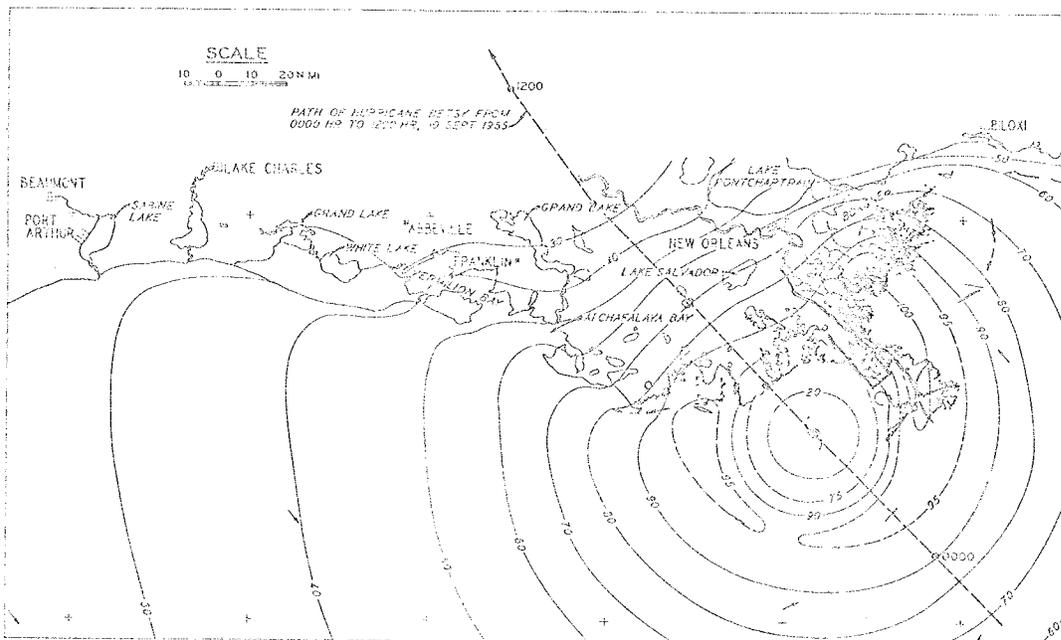
OBSERVED

NOTE: ALL TIME REFERENCES ARE IN GMT.  
 SURFACE WIND CONTOURS ARE IN KNOTS.  
 ARROWS SHOW WIND DIRECTION.

LOUISIANA COAST SURGE STUDY  
 HURRICANE BETSY  
 ANALYTICAL AND OBSERVED  
 SURFACE WIND FIELD  
 AT 0000 HRS, 10 SEPT 1965



ANALYTICAL



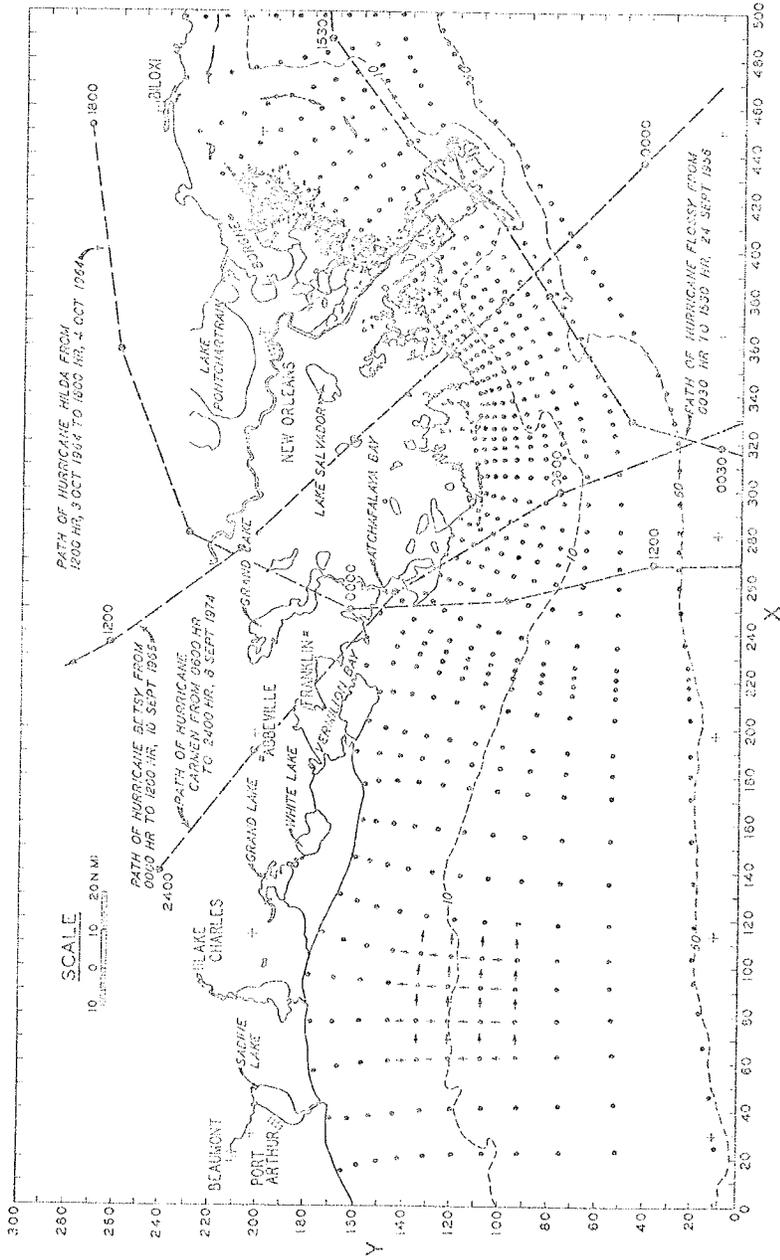
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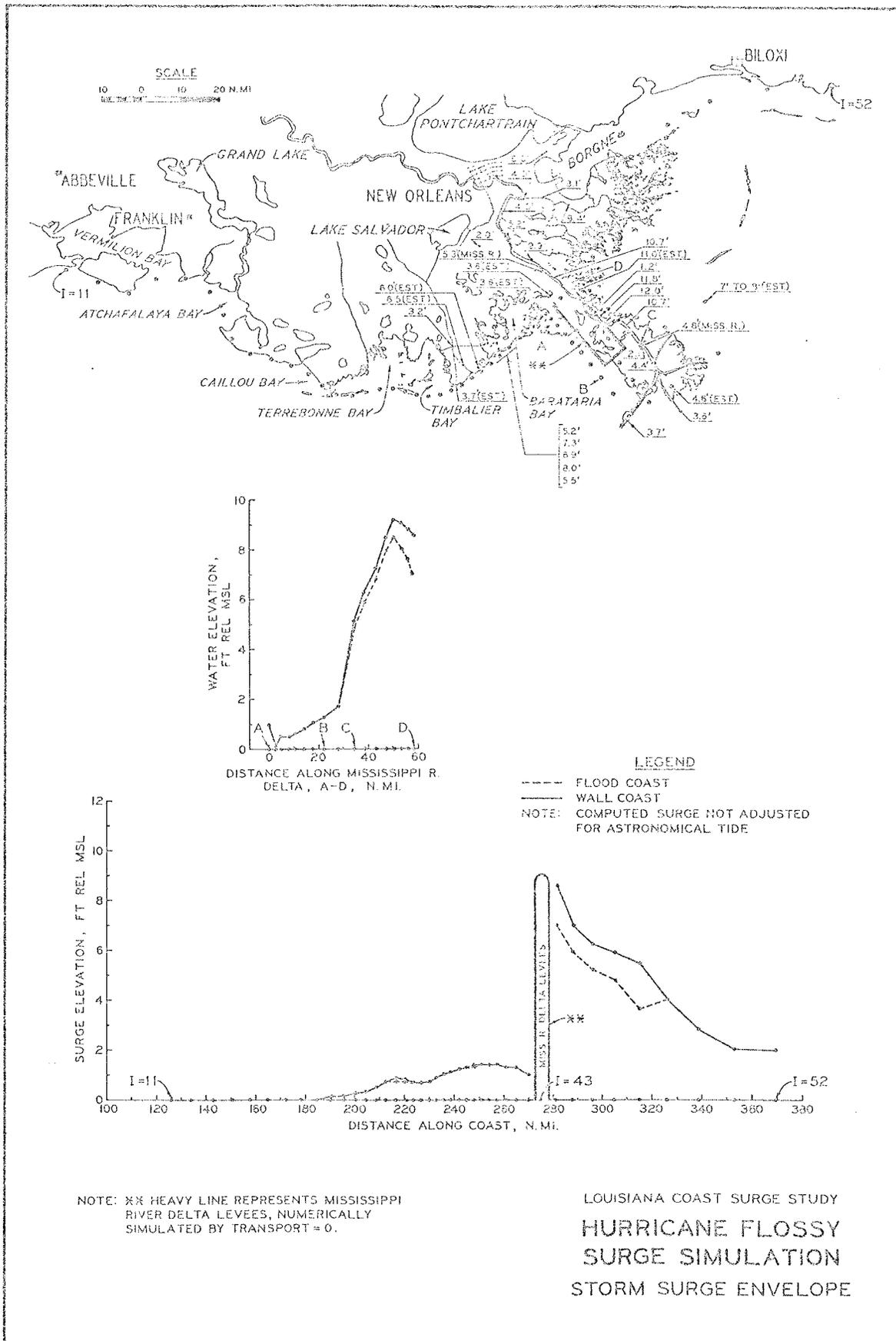
NOTE: ALL TIME REFERENCES ARE IN GMT.  
 SURFACE WIND CONTOURS ARE IN KNOTS.  
 ARROWS SHOW WIND DIRECTION.

LOUISIANA COAST SURGE STUDY  
 HURRICANE BETSY  
 ANALYTICAL AND OBSERVED  
 SURFACE WIND FIELD  
 AT 0300 HRS, 10 SEPT 1965

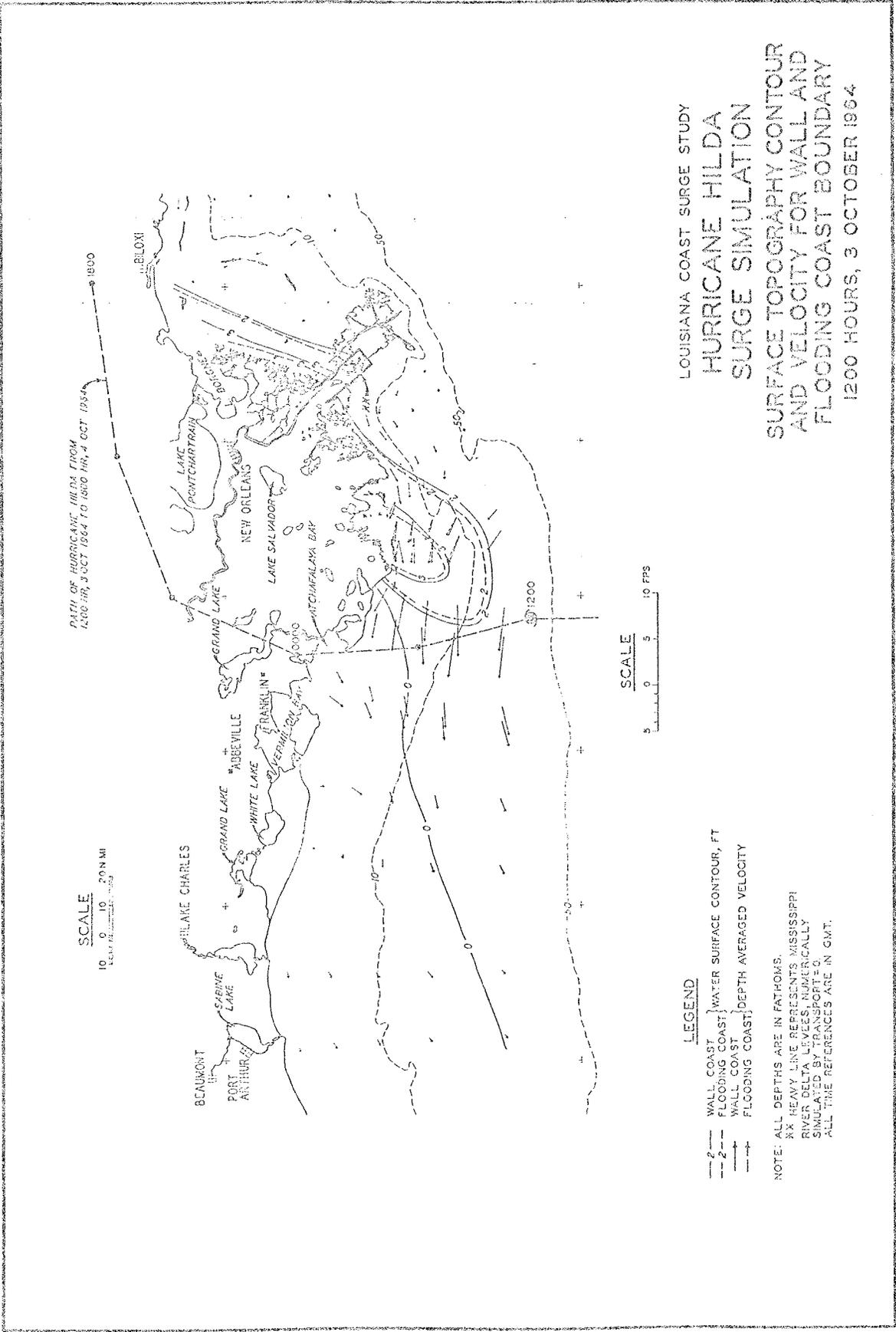


# LOUISIANA COAST SURGE STUDY LOCATION MAP AND COMPUTING GRID









PATH OF HURRICANE HILDA FROM  
1200 HR, 3 OCT 1964 TO 1800 HR, 4 OCT 1964

SCALE  
10 0 10 20 NM  
10 0 10 20 KM

SCALE  
5 0 5 10 FPS

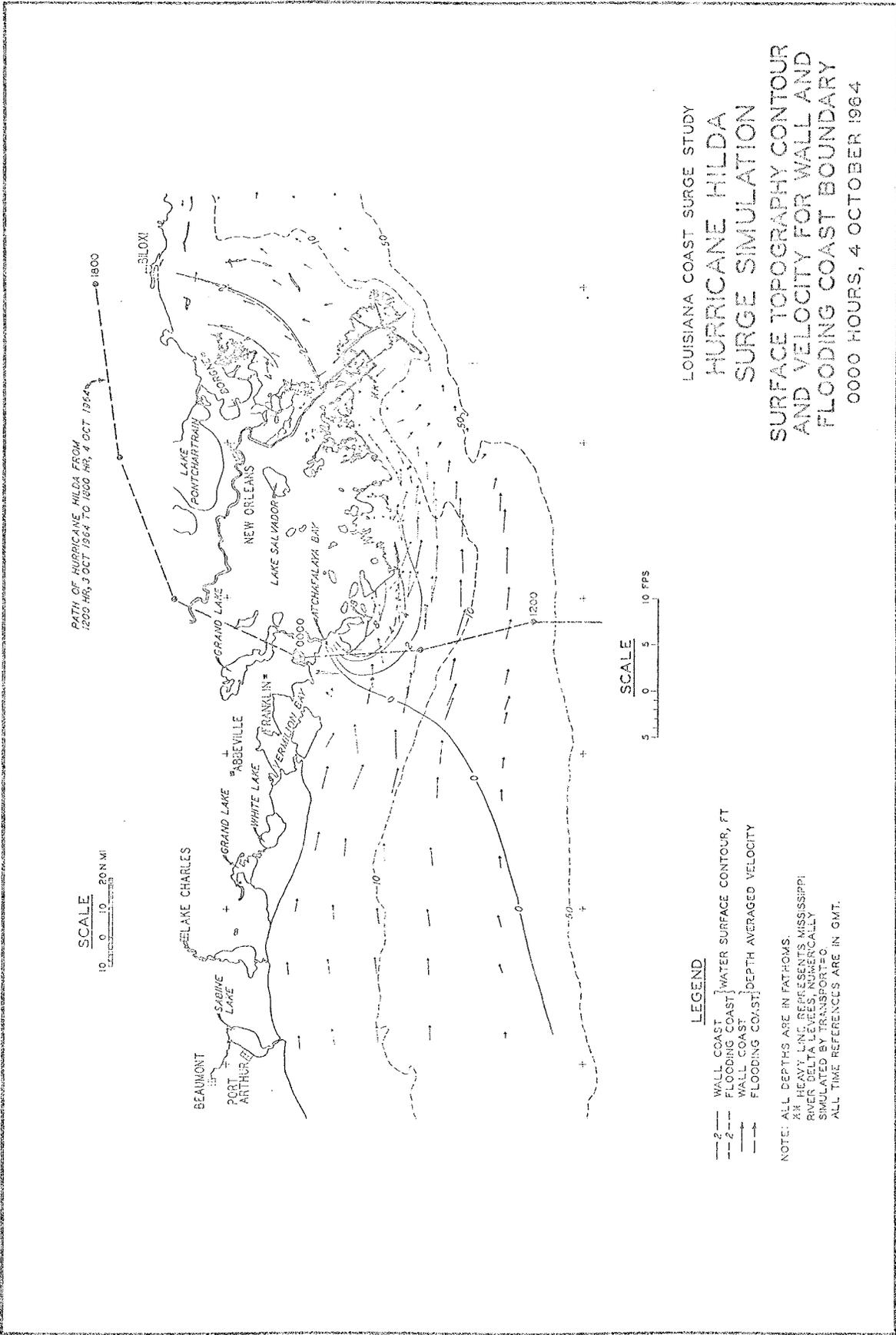
LOUISIANA COAST SURGE STUDY  
HURRICANE HILDA  
SURGE SIMULATION  
SURFACE TOPOGRAPHY CONTOUR  
AND VELOCITY FOR WALL AND  
FLOODING COAST BOUNDARY  
1200 HOURS, 3 OCTOBER 1964

LEGEND

- WALL COAST
- - - FLOODING COAST
- WATER SURFACE CONTOUR, FT
- WALL COAST
- FLOODING COAST
- DEPTH AVERAGED VELOCITY

NOTE: ALL DEPTHS ARE IN FATHOMS.  
XX HEAVY LINE REPRESENTS MISSISSIPPI  
RIVER DELTA LEVELS, NUMERICALLY  
SIMULATED BY TRANSPORT = 0.  
ALL TIME REFERENCES ARE IN GMT.





LOUISIANA COAST SURGE STUDY  
 HURRICANE HILDA  
 SURGE SIMULATION  
 SURFACE TOPOGRAPHY CONTOUR  
 AND VELOCITY FOR WALL AND  
 FLOODING COAST BOUNDARY  
 0000 HOURS, 4 OCTOBER 1964

PATH OF HURRICANE HILDA FROM  
 1200 HR, 3 OCT. 1964 TO 1800 HR, 4 OCT. 1964

SCALE  
 0 10 20 N.M.  
 0 5 10 K.M.

SCALE  
 0 5 10 FPS

LEGEND

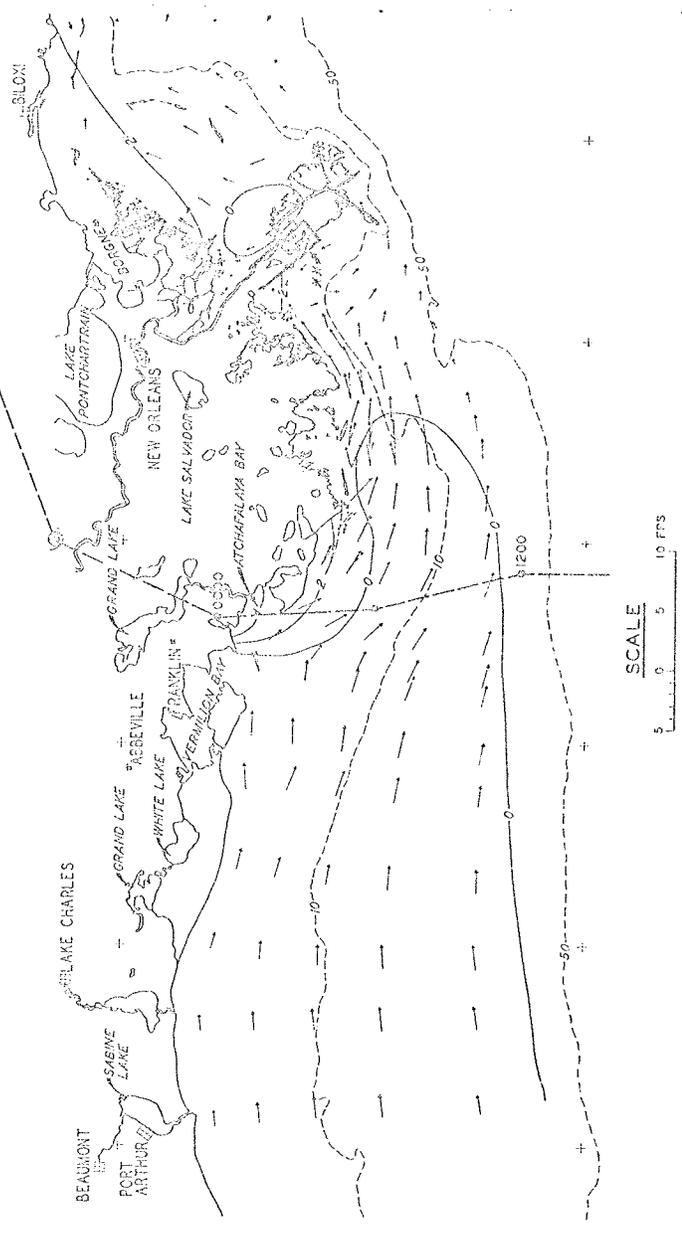
- WALL COAST
- - - FLOODING COAST
- WATER SURFACE CONTOUR, FT
- WALL COAST
- FLOODING COAST
- DEPTH AVERAGED VELOCITY

NOTE: ALL DEPTHS ARE IN FATHOMS.  
 RR HEAVY LINE REPRESENTS MISSISSIPPI  
 RIVER DELTA LEVEES, NUMERICALLY  
 SIMULATED BY TRANSPORT=0  
 ALL TIME REFERENCES ARE IN GMT.

SCALE  
10 0 10 20 NMI

SCALE  
5 0 5 10 FFS

PATH OF HURRICANE HILDA FROM  
1200 HR. 3 OCT 1964 TO 1800 HR. 4 OCT 1964



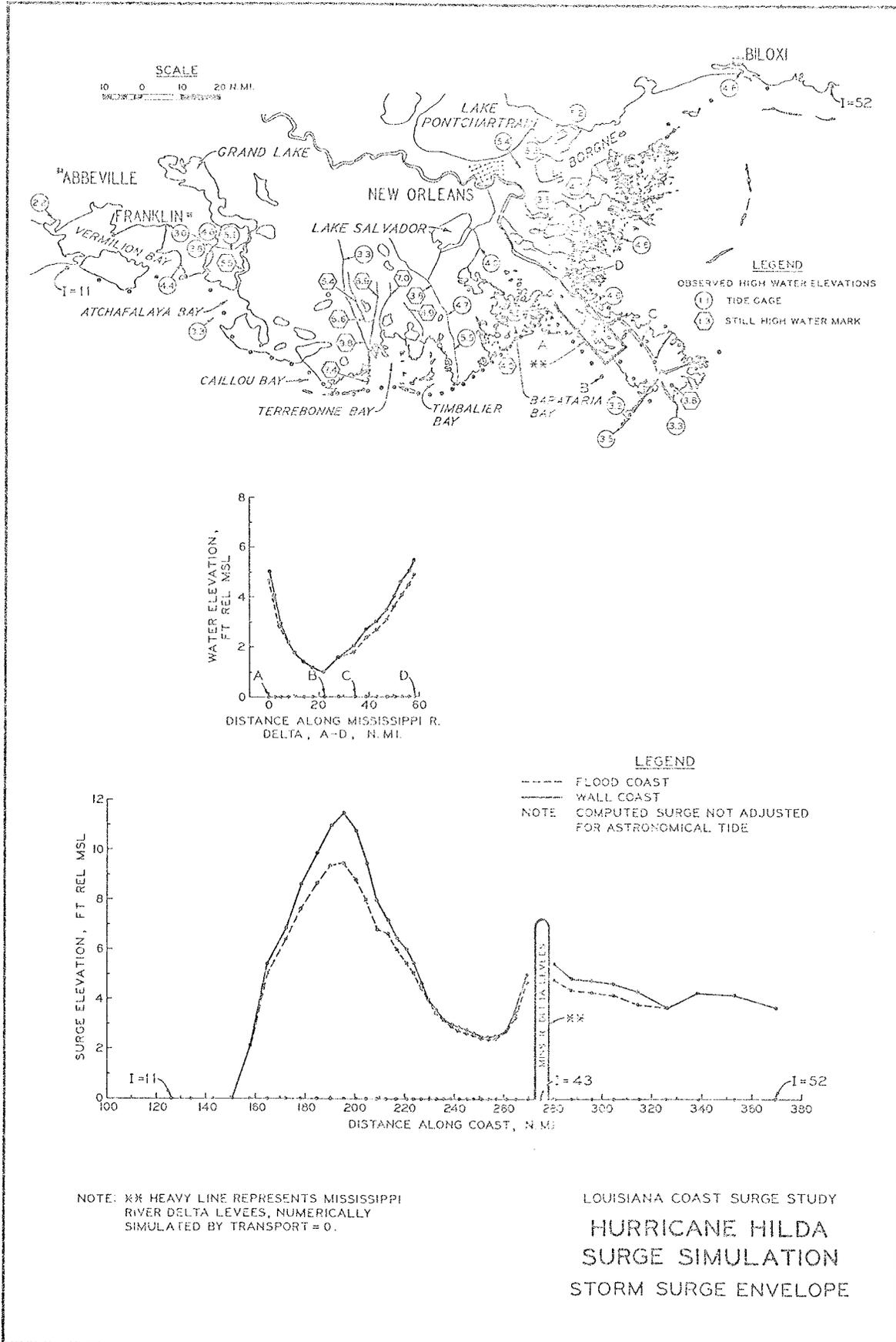
LOUISIANA COAST SURGE STUDY  
HURRICANE HILDA  
SURGE SIMULATION  
SURFACE TOPOGRAPHY CONTOUR  
AND VELOCITY FOR WALL AND  
FLOODING COAST BOUNDARY  
0600 HOURS, 4 OCTOBER 1964

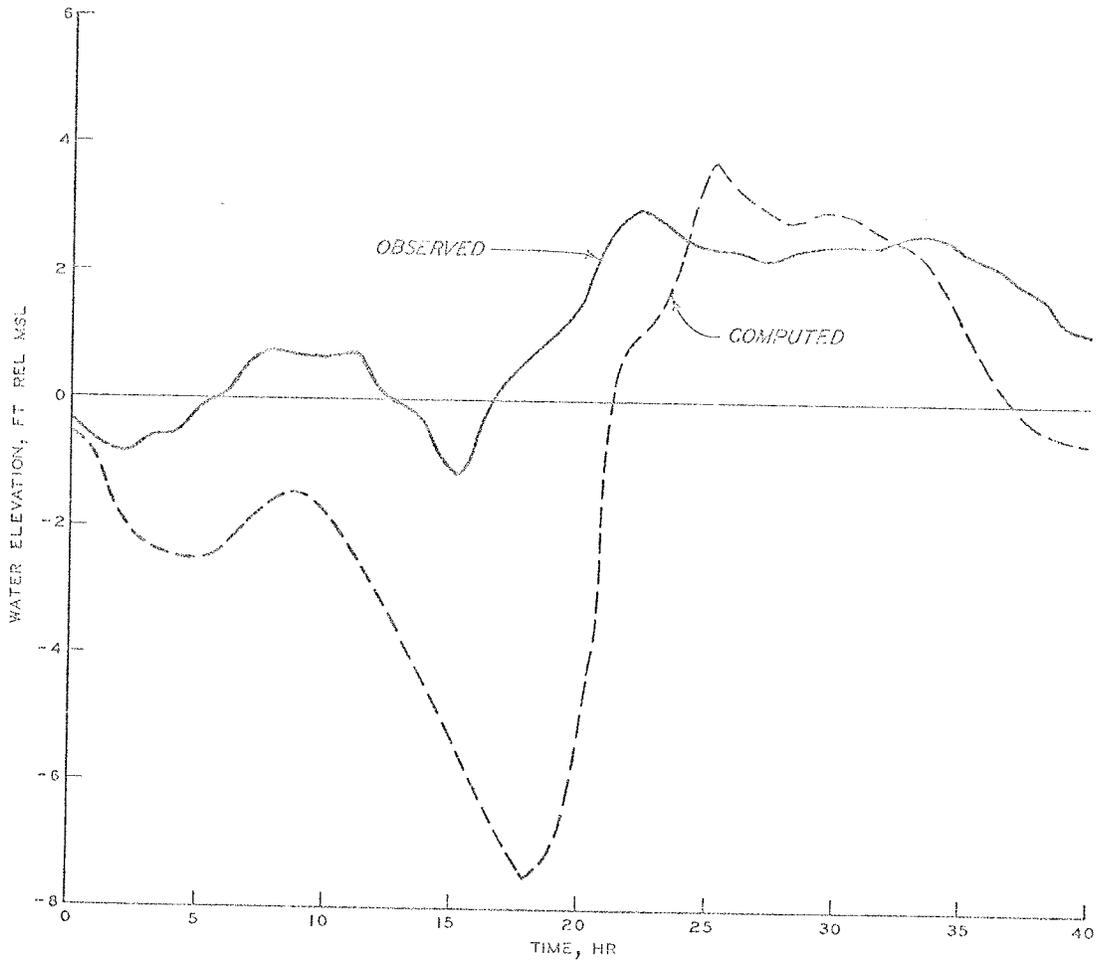
- LEGEND
- WALL COAST
  - - - FLOODING COAST
  - WATER SURFACE CONTOUR, FT
  - WALL COAST
  - - - FLOODING COAST
  - DEPTH AVERAGED VELOCITY

NOTE. ALL DEPTHS ARE IN FATHOMS.  
XX HEAVY LINE REPRESENTS MISSISSIPPI  
RIVER DELTA LEVELS, NUMERICALLY  
SIMULATED BY TRANSPORT = 0  
ALL TIME REFERENCES ARE IN GMT



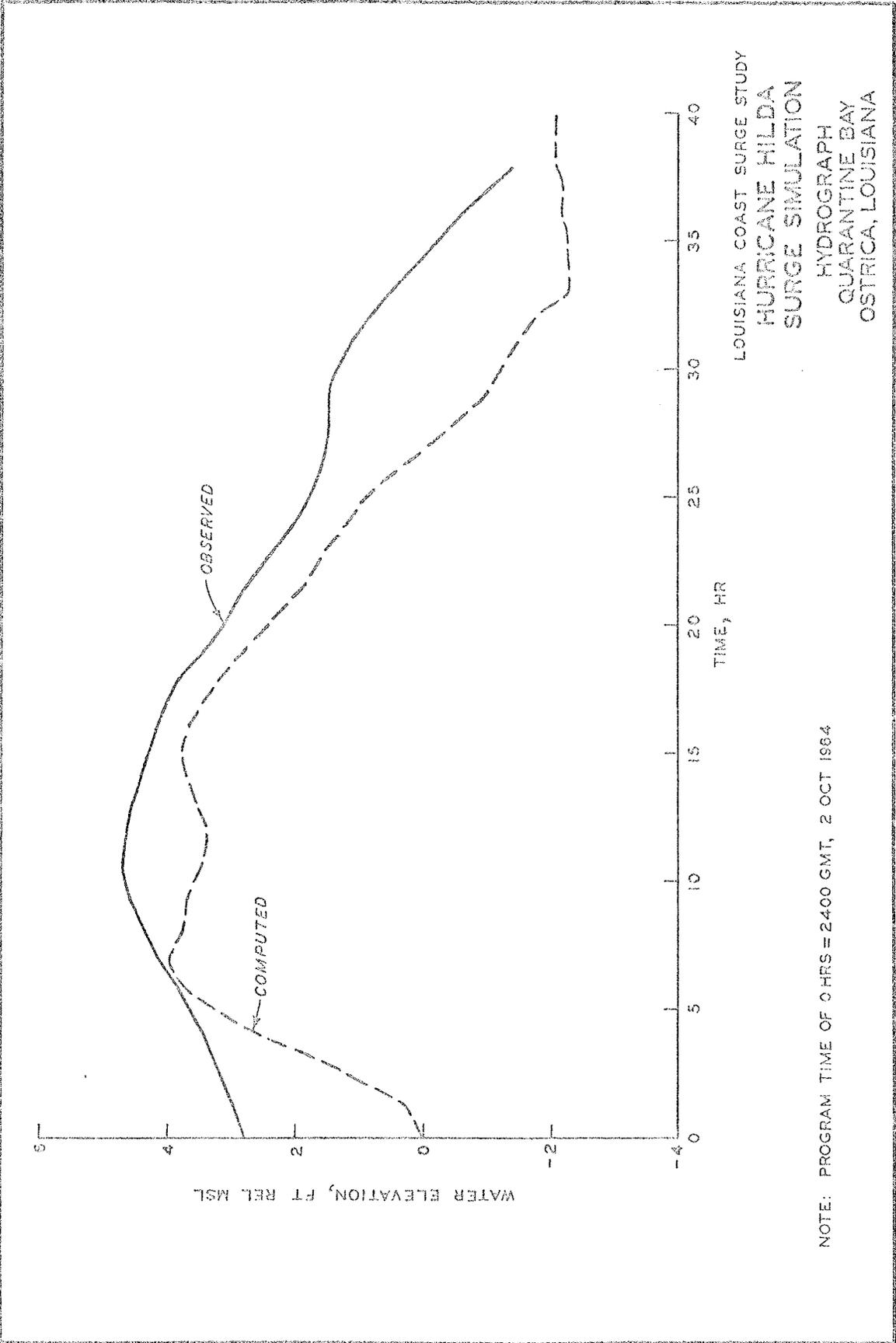


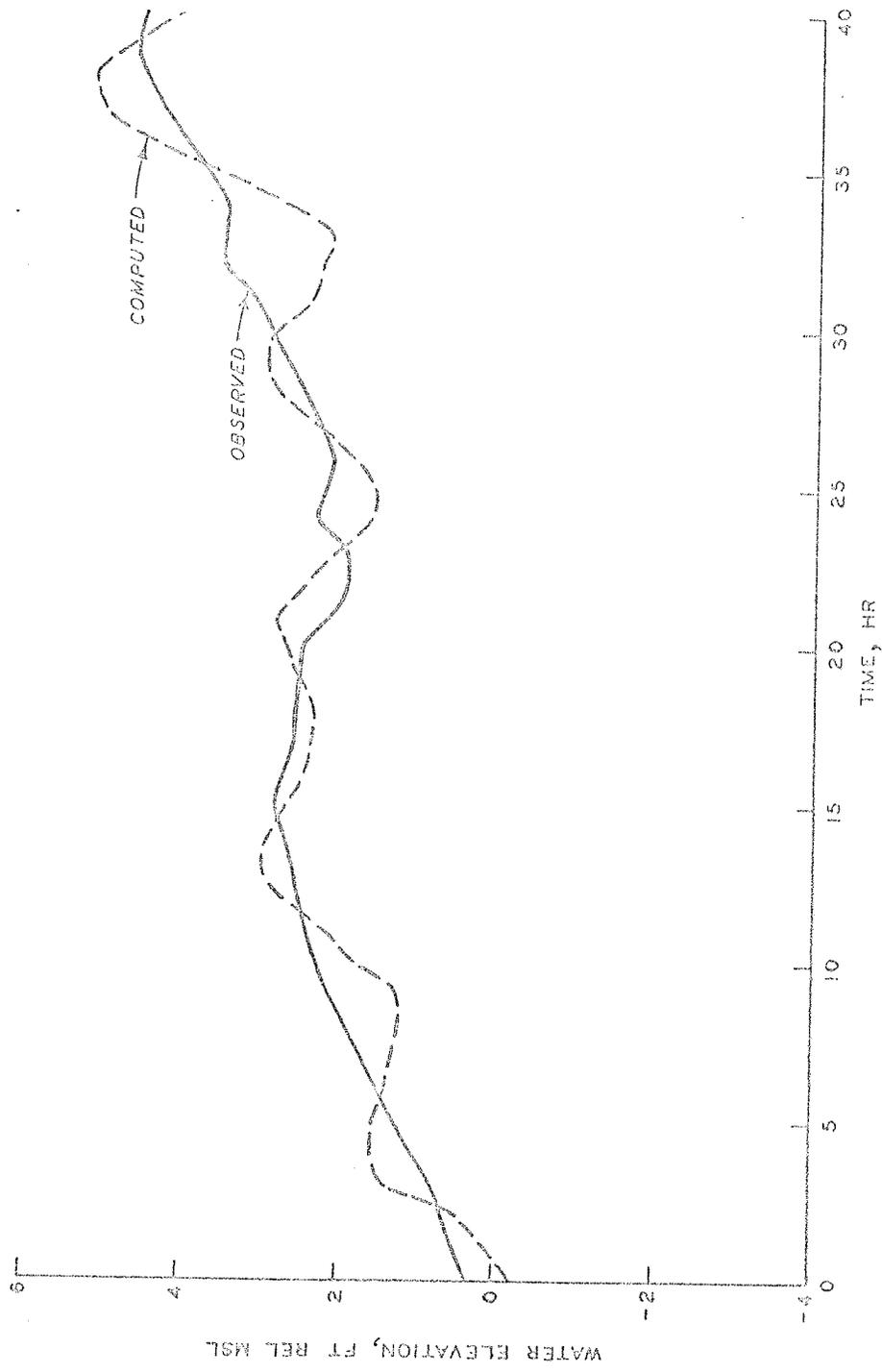




NOTE: PROGRAM TIME OF 0 HRS = 2400 GMT, 2 OCT 1964

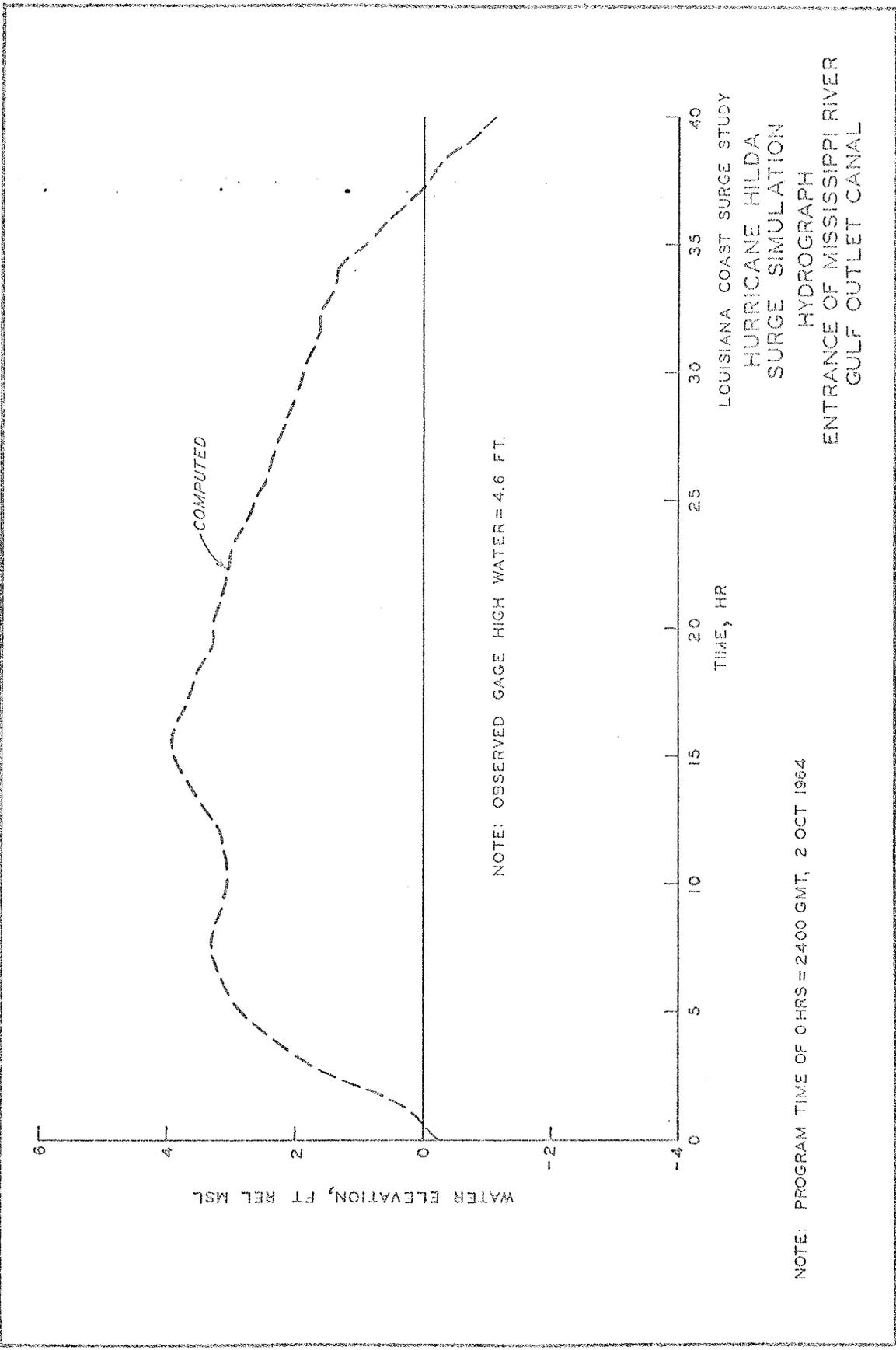
LOUISIANA COAST SURGE STUDY  
HURRICANE HILDA  
SURGE SIMULATION  
HYDROGRAPH  
ATCHAFALAYA BAY  
EUGENE ISLAND, LOUISIANA





LOUISIANA COAST SURGE STUDY  
 HURRICANE HILDA  
 SURGE SIMULATION  
 HYDROGRAPH  
 BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

NOTE: PROGRAM TIME OF 0 HRS = 2:400 GMT, 2 OCT 1964



NOTE: PROGRAM TIME OF 0 HRS = 24:00 GMT, 2 OCT 1964

LOUISIANA COAST SURGE STUDY  
HURRICANE HILDA  
SURGE SIMULATION  
HYDROGRAPH  
ENTRANCE OF MISSISSIPPI RIVER  
GULF OUTLET CANAL

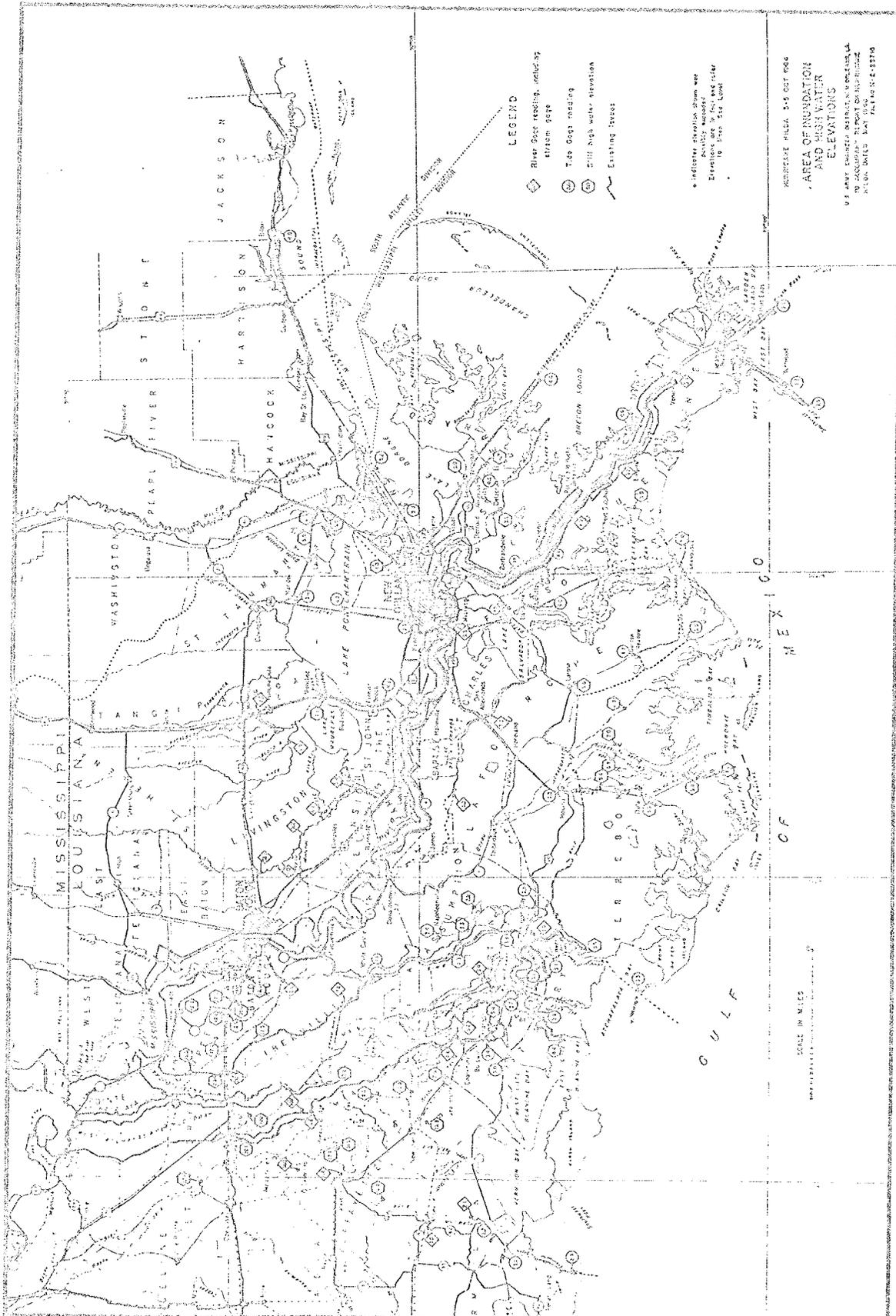
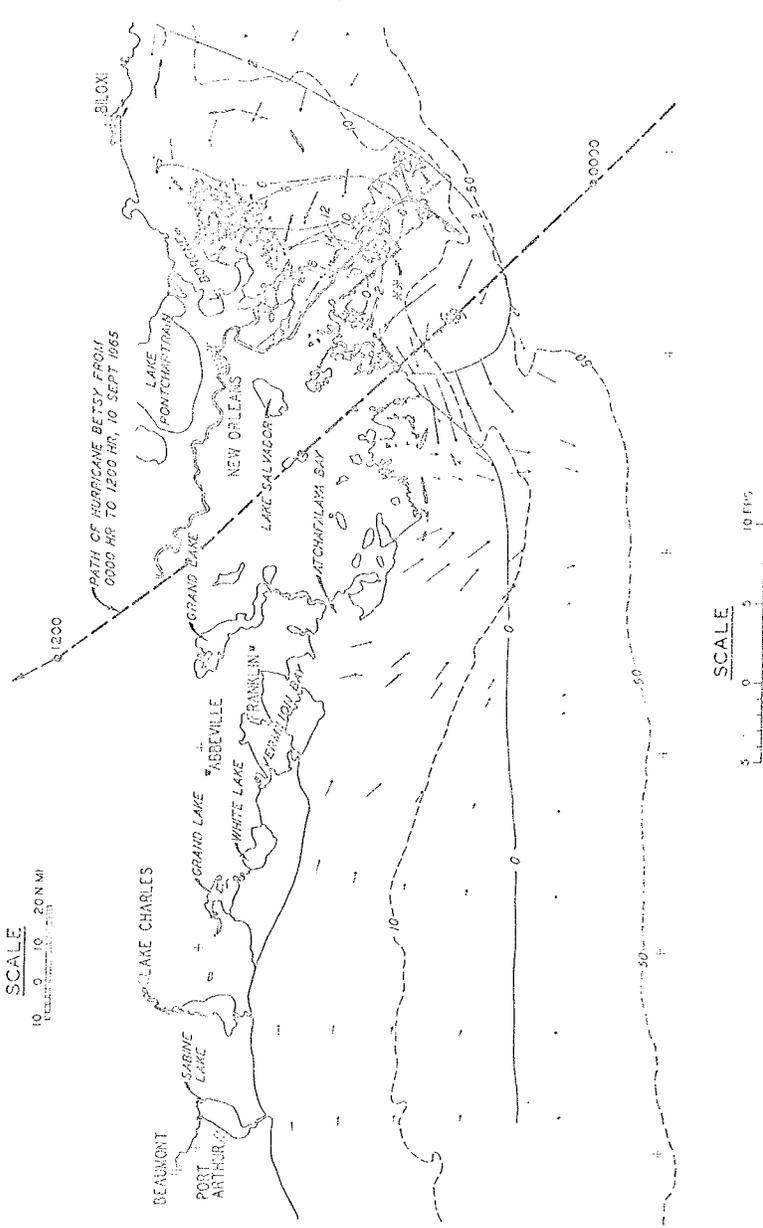


PLATE 21



SCALE  
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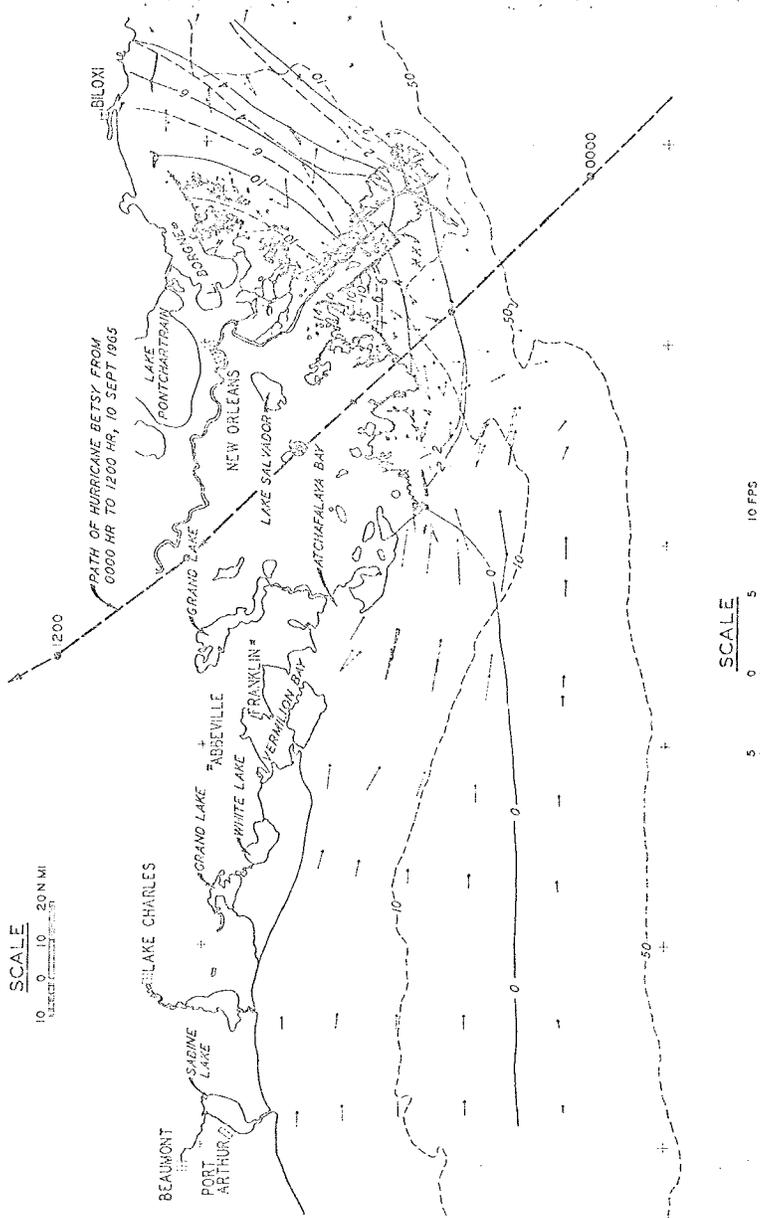
SCALE  
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LOUISIANA COAST SURGE STUDY  
 HURRICANE BETSY  
 SURGE SIMULATION  
 SURFACE TOPOGRAPHY CONTOUR  
 AND VELOCITY FOR WALL AND  
 FLOODING COAST BOUNDARY  
 0300 HOURS, 10 SEPTEMBER 1965

LEGEND

- WALL COAST
- FLOODING COAST
- WALL COAST
- FLOODING COAST
- DEPTH AVERAGED VELOCITY

NOTE: ALL DEPTHS ARE IN FATHOMS.  
 \*X\* HEAVY LINE REPRESENTS MISSISSIPPI  
 RIVER DELTA LEVELS, NUMERICALLY  
 SIMULATED BY TRANSPORT-C.  
 ALL TIME REFERENCES ARE IN GMT.



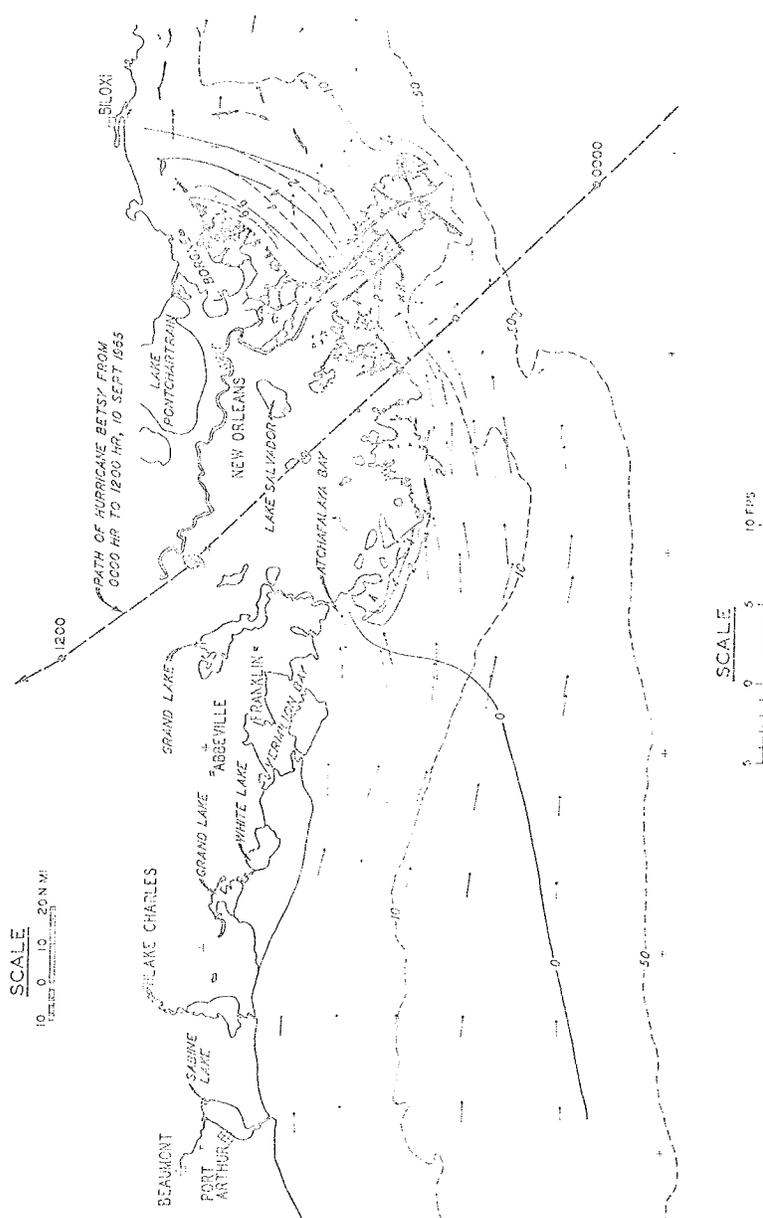
LOUISIANA COAST SURGE STUDY  
 HURRICANE BETSY  
 SURGE SIMULATION  
 SURFACE TOPOGRAPHY CONTOUR  
 AND VELOCITY FOR WALL AND  
 FLOODING COAST BOUNDARY  
 0600 HOURS, 10 SEPTEMBER 1965

LEGEND

- WALL COAST
- - - FLOODING COAST
- WATER SURFACE CONTOUR, FT
- WALL COAST
- FLOODING COAST
- DEPTH AVERAGED VELOCITY

NOTE: ALL DEPTHS ARE IN FATHOMS.  
 \*\* HEAVY LINE REPRESENTS MISSISSIPPI  
 RIVER DELTA LEVELS, NUMERICALLY  
 SIMULATED BY TRANSPORT = 0  
 ALL TIME REFERENCES ARE IN GMT.

SCALE  
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1:50,000



SCALE  
0 5 10 FPS

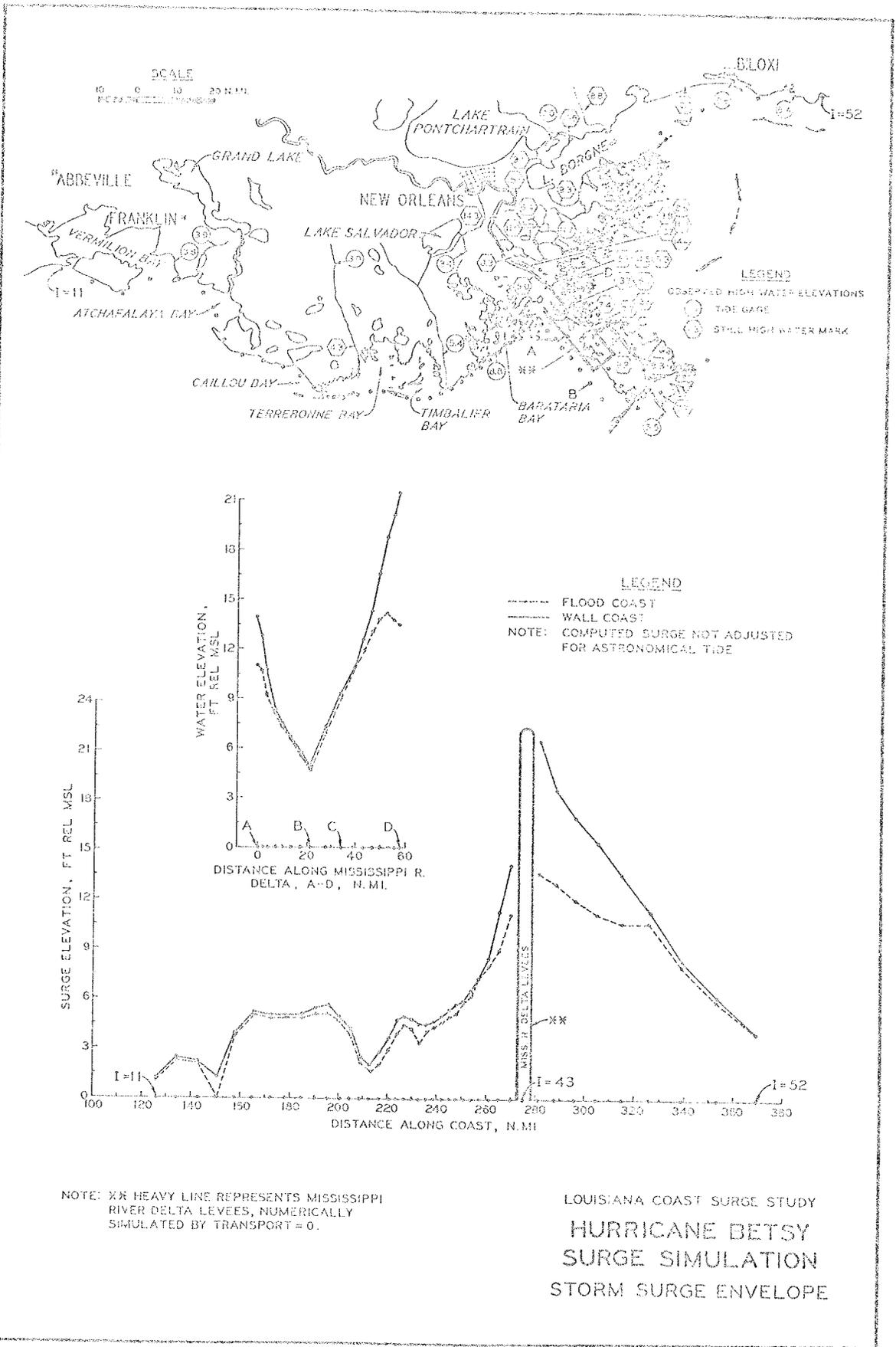
LEGEND

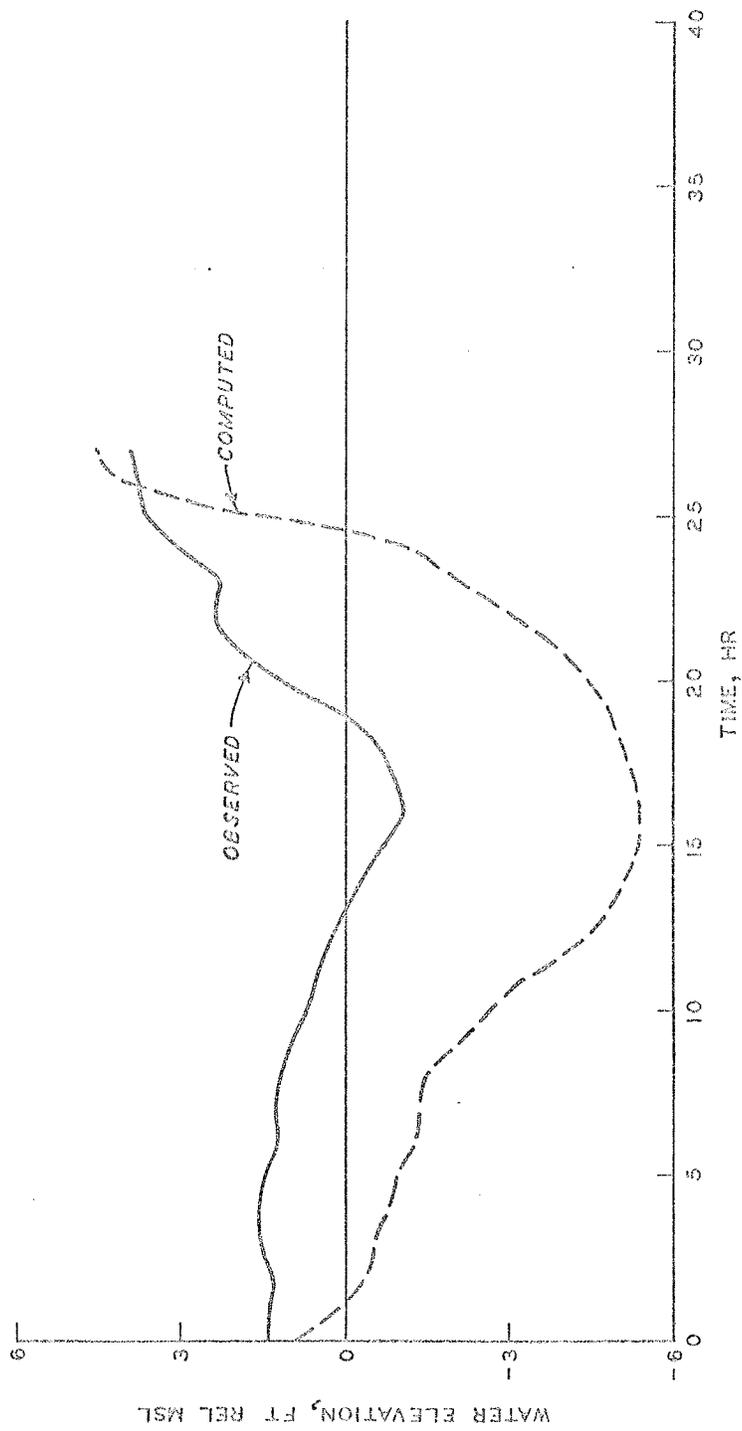
- WALL COAST
- FLOODING COAST
- WALL COAST
- FLOODING COAST
- DEPTH AVERAGED VELOCITY

NOTE: ALL DEPTHS ARE IN FATHOMS.  
 NY HEAVY LINE REPRESENTS MISSISSIPPI  
 RIVER DELTA LEVELS, NUMERICALLY  
 SIMULATED BY TRANSPORT #0  
 ALL TIME REFERENCES ARE IN GMT.

LOUISIANA COAST SURGE STUDY  
 HURRICANE BETSY  
 SURGE SIMULATION  
 SURFACE TOPOGRAPHY CONTOUR  
 AND VELOCITY FOR WALL AND  
 FLOODING COAST BOUNDARY  
 0900 HOURS, 10 SEPTEMBER 1965

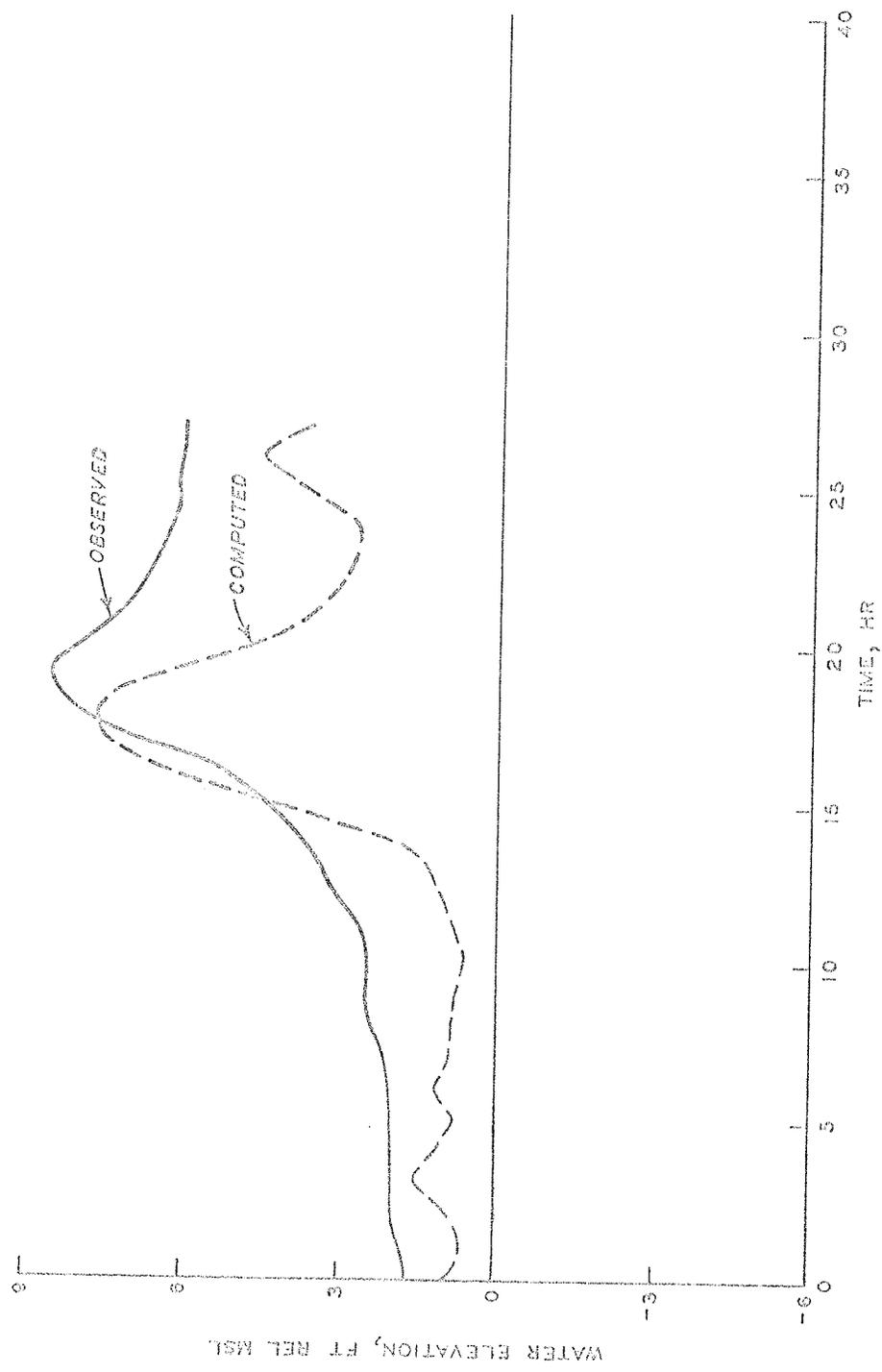






LOUISIANA COAST SURGE STUDY  
 HURRICANE BETSY  
 SURGE SIMULATION  
 HYDROGRAPH  
 EAST COTE BLANCHE BAY  
 LUKE'S LANDING, LOUISIANA

NOTE: PROGRAM TIME OF 0 HRS=1200 GMT, 6 SEPT 1965



LOUISIANA COAST SURGE STUDY  
 HURRICANE BETSY  
 SURGE SIMULATION  
 HYDROGRAPH  
 BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

NOTE: PROGRAM TIME OF 0 HRS=1200 GMT, 9 SEPT 1965

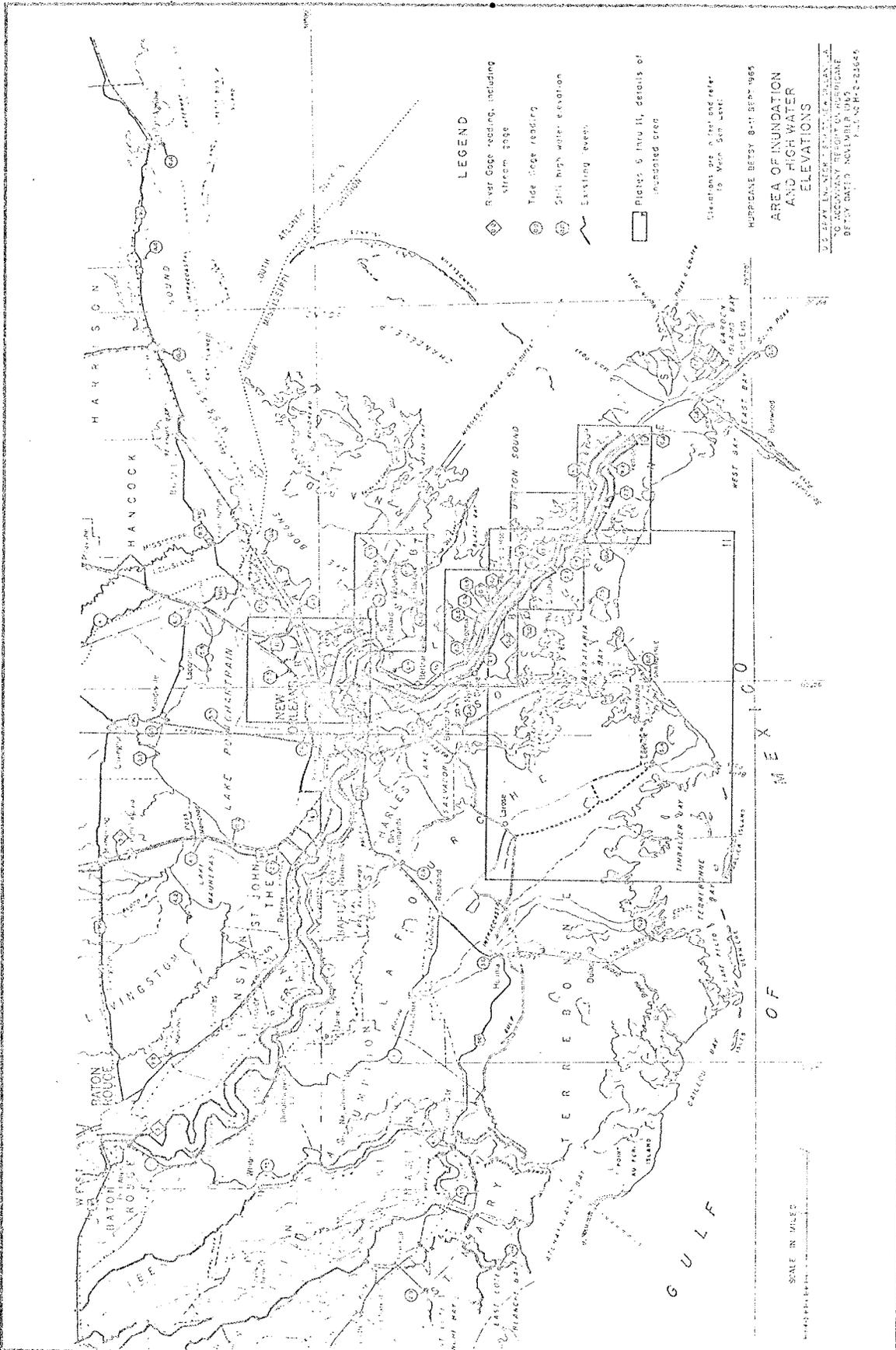
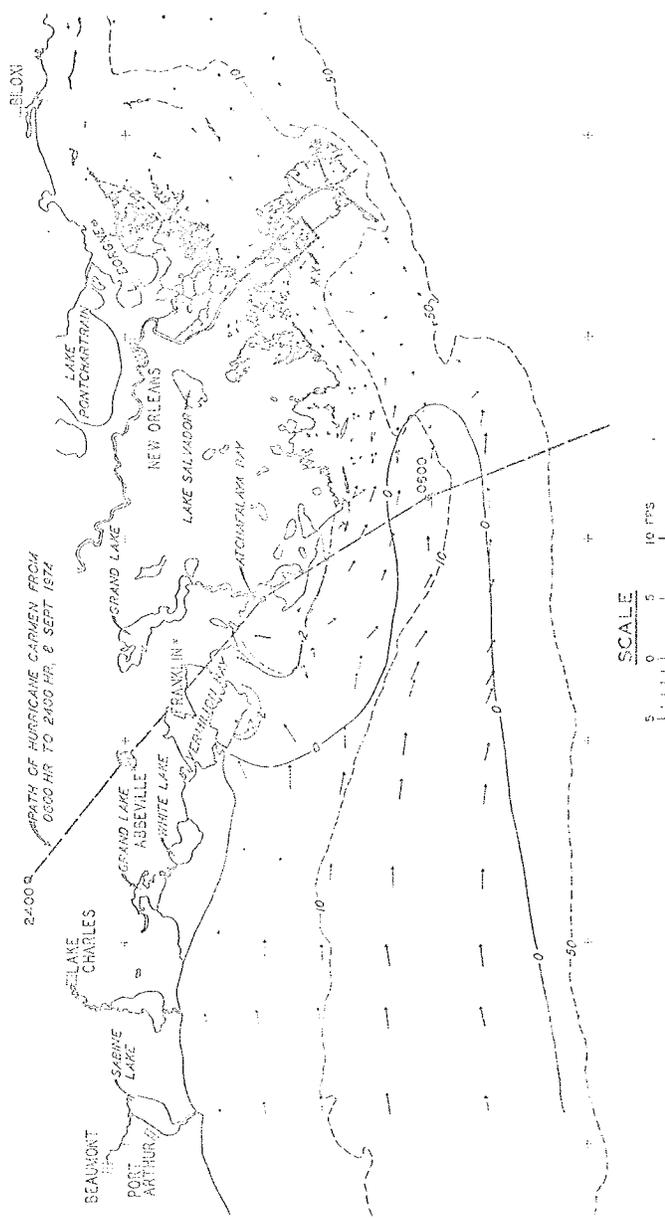


PLATE 30





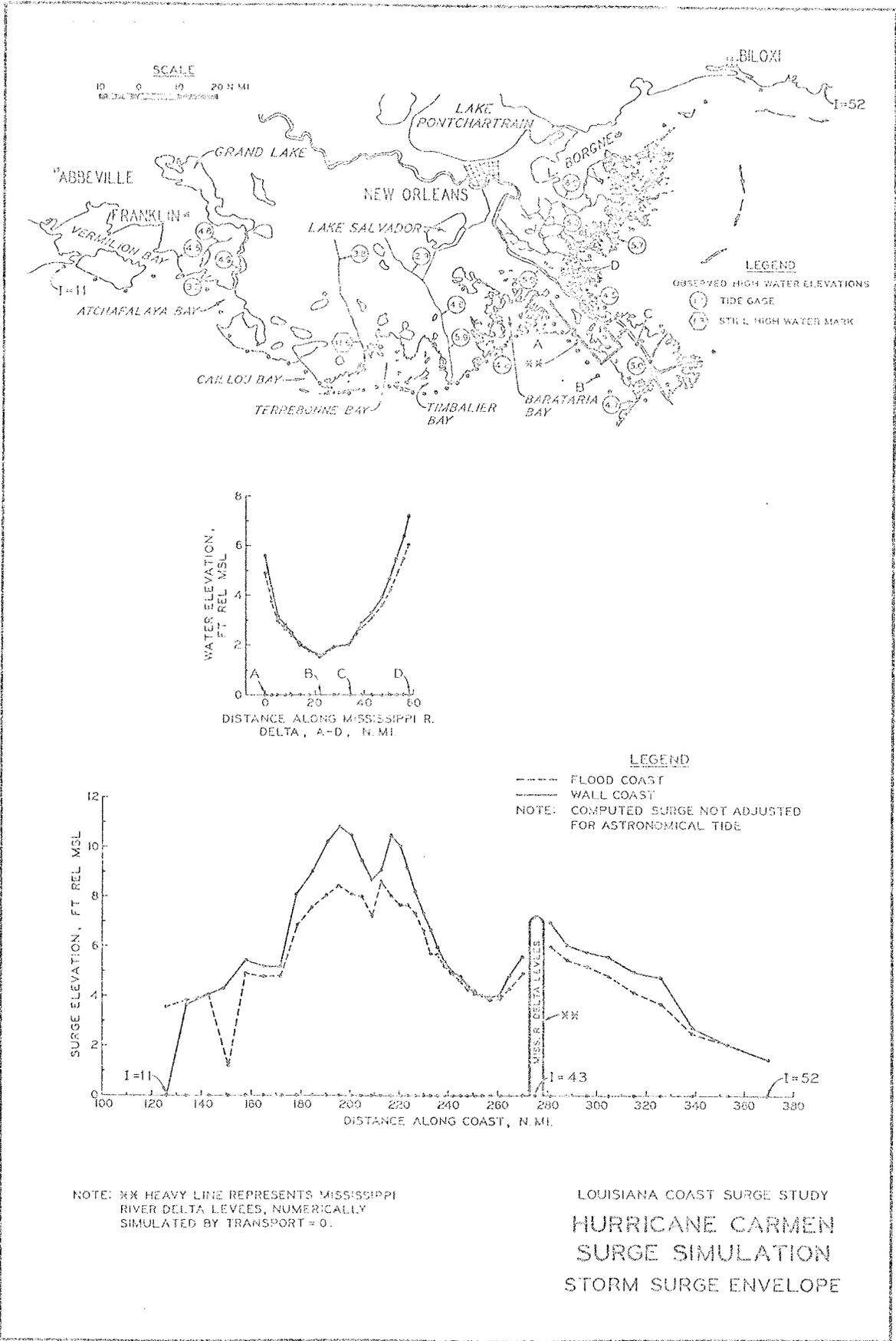
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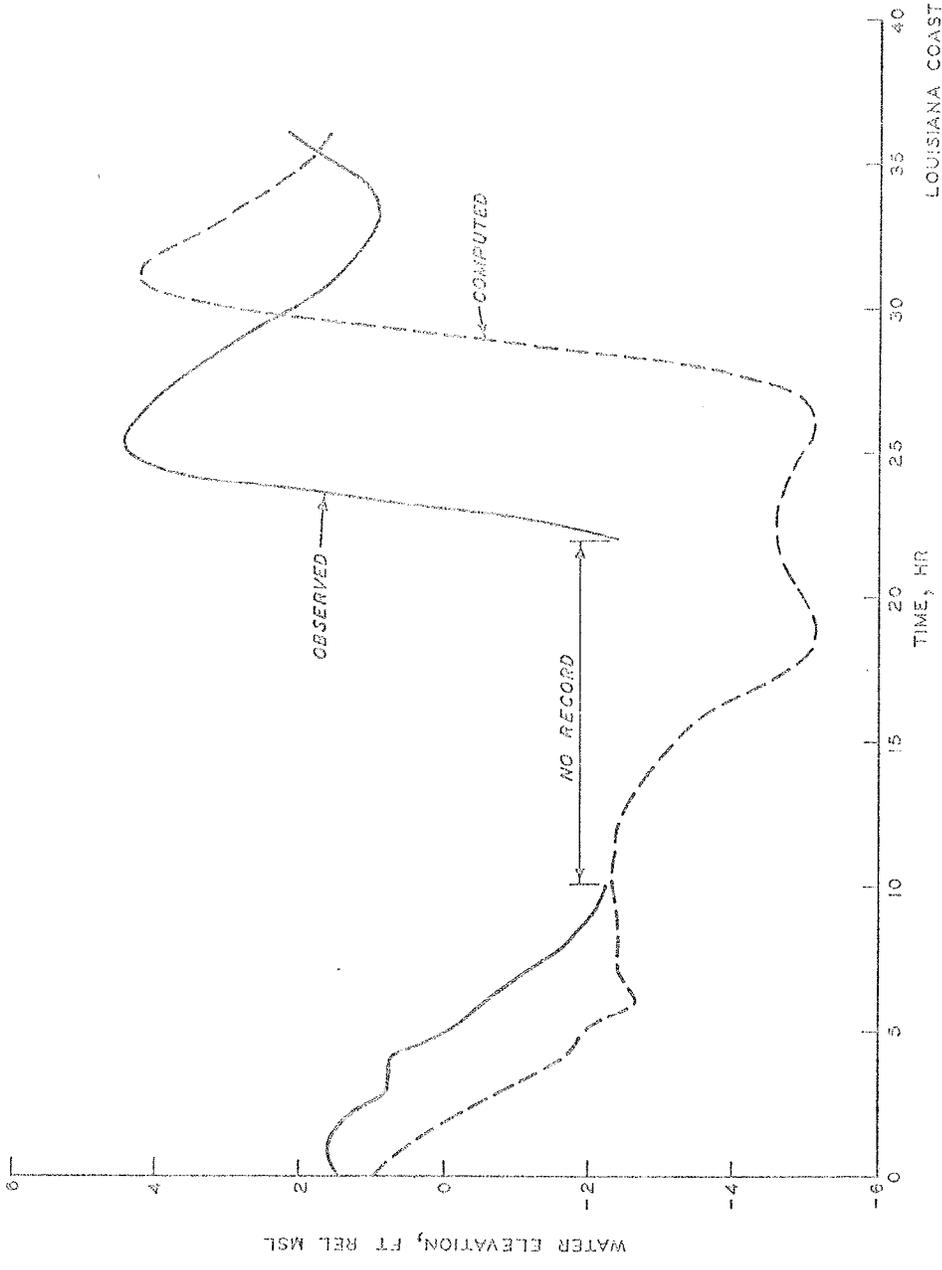


LOUISIANA COAST SURGE STUDY  
 HURRICANE CARMEN  
 SURGE SIMULATION  
 SURFACE TOPOGRAPHY CONTOUR  
 AND VELOCITY FOR WALL AND  
 FLOODING COAST BOUNDARY  
 1800 HOURS, 8 SEPTEMBER 1974

- LEGEND
- WALL COAST
  - FLOODING COAST
  - WATER SURFACE CONTOUR, FT
  - WALL COAST
  - FLOODING COAST
  - DEPTH AVERAGED VELOCITY

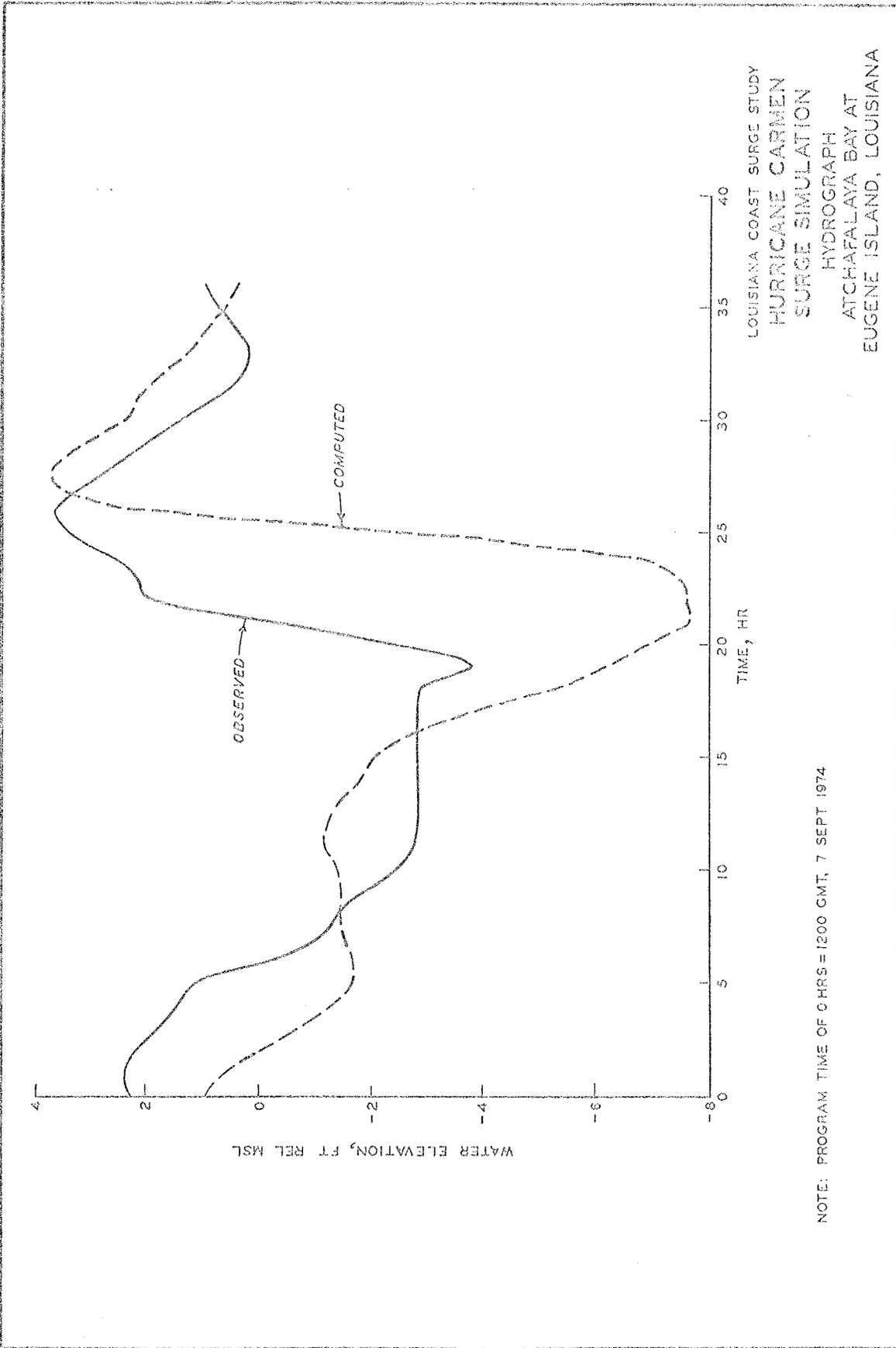
NOTE ALL DEPTHS ARE IN FATHOMS  
 XX HEAVY LINE REPRESENTS MISSISSIPPI  
 RIVER DELTA LEVELS, NUMERICALLY  
 SIMULATED BY TRANSPORT=0  
 ALL TIME REFERENCES ARE IN GMT.

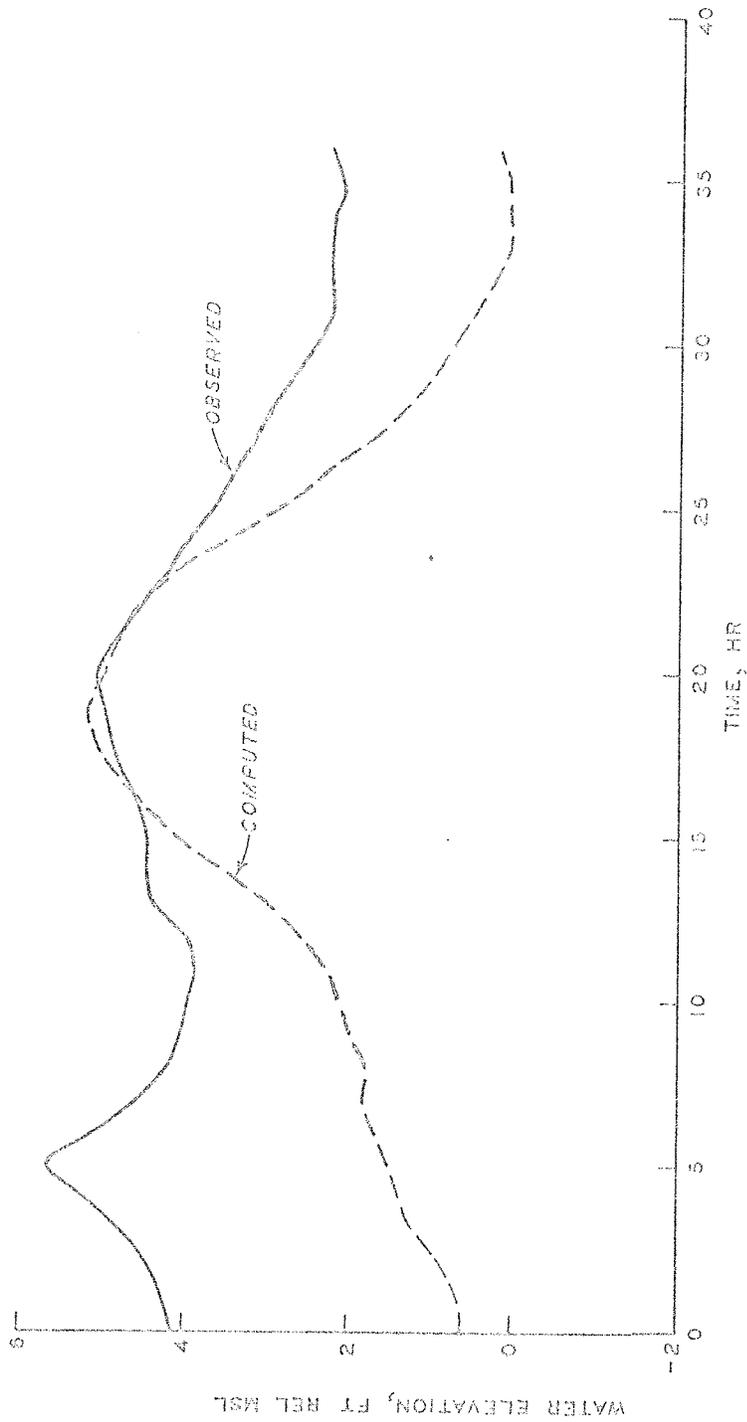




LOUISIANA COAST SURGE STUDY  
 HURRICANE CARMEN  
 SURGE SIMULATION  
 HYDROGRAPH  
 EAST COTE BLANCHE BAY  
 LUKE'S LANDING, LOUISIANA

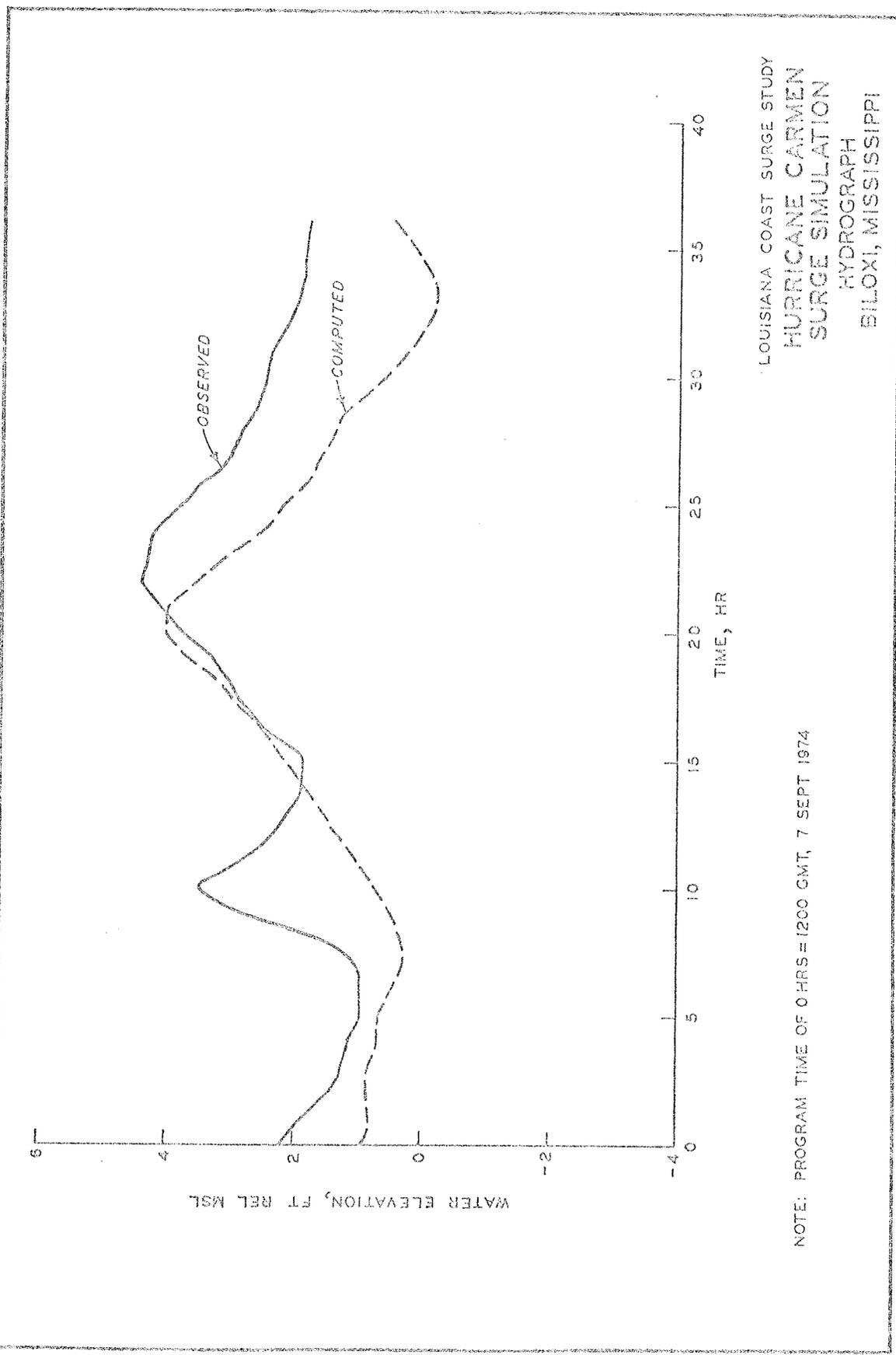
NOTE: PROGRAM TIME OF 0 HRS = 1200 GMT, 7 SEPT 1974

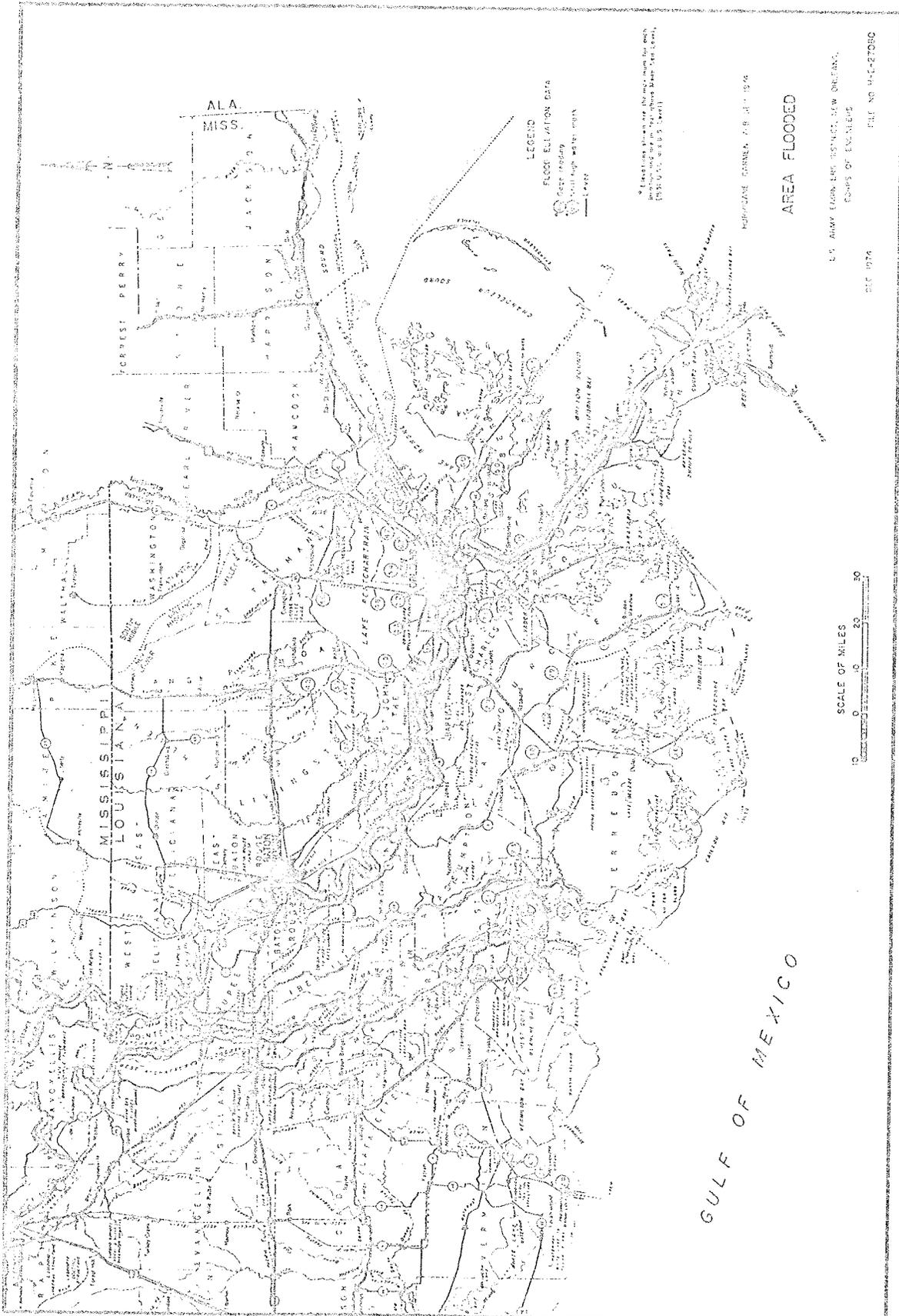




LOUISIANA COAST SURGE STUDY  
 HURRICANE CARMEN  
 SURGE SIMULATION  
 HYDROGRAPH  
 GARDNER ISLAND, LOUISIANA  
 ENTRANCE OF MISSISSIPPI RIVER  
 GULF OUTLET CANAL

NOTE: PROGRAM TIME OF 0 HRS = 1200 GMT, 7 SEPT 1974







APPENDIX A: NOTATION

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| $A_b$        | Storage area of the attached bay known as a function, $H_b$  |
| $A_c$        | Channel cross-sectional area at mean sea level   |
| $A_I$        | Surface area at mean sea level of the grid cell representative of $H^+$  |
| $A_s$        | Surface area of the attached bay at mean sea level   |
| $B_n$        | Transformation coefficients  |
| $C_d$        | Nondimensional variable wind drag coefficient  |
| $C_n$        | Transformation coefficient   |
| $C_D$        | Nondimensional channel discharge coefficient   |
| $C_E$        | Nondimensional coefficient for an overtopping barrier which is exposed on one side                               |
| $C_S$        | Nondimensional coefficient for a submerged barrier   |
| $D$          | Depth of water ( $H - D_0$ )   |
| $D_0$        | Local water depth relative to mean sea level   |
| $f$          | Coriolis parameter   |
| $F$          | Scale factor associated with the orthogonal curvilinear coordinate system  |
| $g$          | Acceleration due to gravity  |
| $H$          | Water level relative to mean sea level   |
| $H_b$        | Water level relative to mean sea level in the ponding area   |
| $H_B$        | Hydrostatic elevation of the sea surface corresponding to the departure of the atmospheric pressure from ambient |
| $H^+$        | Predicted water level at the coast barrier without correction for flooding                                       |
| $M, M$       | Number of grid points per computational lattice along the S and T axes   |
| $K_0$        | Nondimensional variable seabed drag coefficient that depends on the seabed condition and water depth             |
| $L_c^k$      | Length of coastline at unit elevations, $Z_b^k$ , $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$   |
| $M_T$        | Map factor relating prototype length to x,y units  |
| $P$          | Atmospheric pressure   |
| $P_0$        | Central atmospheric pressure of hurricane  |
| $P_{\infty}$ | Far-field atmospheric pressure   |

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| $Q_S, Q_T$ | Volume transport per unit width in the S and T directions or, equivalently, in the local direction of $\xi$ and $\eta$ in prototype space     |
| $r_H$      | Distance from hurricane center to H grid points   |
| $R_H$      | Distance from the storm center to the region of maximum winds   |
| S          | Ordinate axis of the stretched shelf coordinate system  |
| $S_n, S_p$ | Distance normal to the seaward boundary and along the coast   |
| T          | Abscissa axis of the stretch shelf coordinate system  |
| $T_n$      | Long-wave travel time   |
| $T_x, T_y$ | The x and y components of the forward speed of this hurricane center  |
| $W_c$      | Bay entrance channel width  |
| $W_x, W_y$ | The x and y wind-speed components for a moving hurricane  |
| $W_R$      | The maximum wind speed for the stationary hurricane   |
| $W_{10}$   | Wind speed at an elevation 10 meters above the water surface  |
| x          | Rectilinear coordinate in prototype space   |
| $X_e$      | The x coordinate of the hurricane center in prototype space   |
| $X_g$      | The x coordinate of the H grid points in prototype space  |
| y          | Rectilinear coordinate in prototype space   |
| $Y_e$      | The y coordinate of the hurricane center in prototype space   |
| $Y_g$      | The y coordinate of the H grid points in prototype space  |
| $Z_b^k$    | Unit elevations of coastal barrier as denoted by $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$   |
| $\beta$    | The extent of $\eta$ ( $\pm$ ) in the image space of $(\xi, \eta)$  |
| $\Delta S$ | Constant spaced computing grid increment between dependent variables in the S direction   |
| $\Delta t$ | Algorithm time increment between computing lattices   |
| $\Delta T$ | Constant spaced computing grid increment between dependent variable in the T direction  |
| n          | The offshore curvilinear coordinate in prototype space and the abscissa in the image space of $(\xi, \eta)$                                   |
| $\theta$   | The local angle between the $\xi$ and x axis in prototype space   |
| $\lambda$  | The positive horizontal extent of the region to be mapped in prototype space and constrained to equal the extent of $\xi$ in the image space. |
| $u, v$     | Functions transforming $\xi$ and $\eta$ to the stretched shelf coordinate system (S,T)  |

$\xi$  The alongshore curvilinear coordinate in prototype space and the ordinate in the image space of  $(\xi, \eta)$   
 $\phi$  Hurricane wind ingress angle  
 $\rho_a, \rho_w$  Density of air and water  
 $\sigma_S, \sigma_T$  Seabed resistance stress divided by  $\rho_w$  in the S and T directions  
 $\tau_S, \tau_T$  Wind stress divided by  $\rho_w$  in the S and T directions



In accordance with letter from DAEN-RDC, DAEN-ASI dated 22 July 1977, Subject: Facsimile Catalog Cards for Laboratory Technical Publications, a facsimile catalog card in Library of Congress MARC format is reproduced below.

Wanstrath, John J

An open-coast mathematical storm surge model with coastal flooding for Louisiana; Report 1: Theory and application / by John J. Wanstrath. Vicksburg, Miss. : U. S. Waterways Experiment Station ; Springfield, Va. : available from National Technical Information Service, 1978.

41, [55] p., 39 leaves of plates : ill. ; 27 cm. (Miscellaneous paper - U. S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station ; H-78-5, Report 1)

Prepared for U. S. Army Engineer District, New Orleans, New Orleans, Louisiana.

References: p. 40-41.

1. Computer programs. 2. Conformal mapping. 3. Hydrodynamics.  
4. Long waves. 5. Mathematical models. 6. Storm surges.  
7. Water waves. I. United States. Army. Corps of Engineers.  
New Orleans District. II. Series: United States. Waterways  
Experiment Station, Vicksburg, Miss. Miscellaneous paper ;  
H-78-5, Report 1.  
TA7.W34m no.H-78-5 Report 1