

CRUISE REPORT

Frederick Russell 10/84 Leg 1

05/06/84 - 10/06/84

Participants

R D Pingree	IOS/MBA	Principal Scientist
G T Mardell	IOS/MBA	
D Leighton	IOS Bidston	
D Flatt	IOS Bidston	
P Taylor	RVS	
R Longmore	MBA	
M Sawkins	IOS Bidston	

Aims

This section of the cruise was devoted to laying moorings in the shelf break area around 47°40'N 6°30'W. In all, ten mooring rigs were to be deployed and two recovered from the previous cruise in March. Mooring hardware and instrumentation were supplied by IOS Wormley and Bidston and RVS Barry. Three extra thermistor chains and loggers were supplied by Menai Bridge.

Procedure

The vessel sailed from Plymouth at 2100 hours 05/06/84 and arrived at the working area at 1200 hours 06/06/84. A meteorological data buoy was deployed close to position 079. As the cruise was devoted to servicing mooring rigs, this narrative is best followed by reference to the map of positions and the table of moorings. Rig 076, laid on a previous cruise was checked and located acoustically but was not released. The vessel proceeded to deep water to tension the CTD wire for the next leg of the cruise, and en route rig 077 was located, but not without a two hour search. A current meter rig was prepared for laying in 3000 m of water, but the stopping off rope parted at 0200 resulting in the loss of all gear. Rig 080 with four current meters was successfully laid in 1500 m of water, the operation, including a test of the acoustic release, taking four hours and finishing at 1000 hours 07/06/84. Rig 081, also with four current meters was laid by 1545 hours, and the rest of the afternoon and evening spent trying to fire the releases on rigs 076 and 077. The signals for 076 indicated that the release fired, but nothing surfaced. At midnight, the acoustic release for rig 079 was tested and the rig deployed 0.4 nm from

the meteorological buoy by 0245 hours 08/06/84.

The thermistor chain rig 082 was laid 3 nm to the west in 150 m water by 0700 hours, and then a similar rig 083 laid to the east of rig 079.

The vessel returned to rig 076 and grappled for two hours, when only the bottom section was recovered, but no instruments. Rig 077B with two current meters and a thermistor chain was deployed close to the position for rig 077, the task being completed at 2230 hours 08/06/84.

The next rig 084, with a thermistor chain, was deployed in 170 m by 0210 hours 09/06/84, and once again the acoustic release for rig 077 located. Grappling for 40 minutes resulted in only the anchor clump of chain and acoustic release being recovered.

At midday the wire test for rig 085 was done and the rig with three current meters deployed by 1430 hours 09/06/84.

The final task, to test and deploy rig 078, further on shelf in 133 m of water was completed at 2110 hours 09/06/84 and the vessel returned to Plymouth arriving 0800 hours 10/06/84.

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MOORING POSITIONS

RIG	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	DEPTH M
076	47 50.74'N	6 21.15'W	156
077A	47 36.19'N	6 32.62'W	172
077B	47 35.75'N	6 33.20'W	179
078	48 14.50'N	6 17.20'W	133
079	47 50.30'N	6 31.30'W	165
080	47 24.35'N	6 38.75'W	1500
081	47 29.00'N	6 37.00'W	525
082	47 50.90'N	6 36.50'W	150
083	47 49.70'N	6 27.10'W	164
084	47 36.34'N	6 39.78'W	170
085	47 30.00'N	6 43.80'W	456

FR 10/84

