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000253

EPR.120ES.76

SOURCE ANALYSES OF CANNED
CUTTINGS FROM 15/6-4, OFFSHORE NORWAY

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Reservoir Evaluation Division

November, 1976

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000253

Technical Service Report

EXXON PRODUCTION RESEARCH COMPANY

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FROM 15/6-4, OFFSHORE NORWAY

R.E. Metter
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SOURCE ANALYSES OF CANNED CUTTINGS

FROM 15/6-4, OFFSHORE NORWAY

R.E. Metter

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Canned cuttings from the interval 180-3500 meters were analyzed routinely for hydrocarbon source characteristics.

Charges for this service work were billed to our Nob No. 8570. Preliminary results were sent to Esso Norway on October 8, 1976.

The analytical results are interpreted as follows:

<u>Approx. Interval (meters)</u>	<u>Maturity</u>	<u>Richness</u>	<u>Indigenous Hydrocarbons Expected if Reservoired</u>
180-1170	Immature	Various	Lean
1170-1650	Immature	Shales rich	Lean
1650-2190	Immature	Poor	Lean
2190-2690	Algal transitional; the rest immature	Fair to Good	Minor gas, liquids
2690-3170	Mature?	Poor	Lean
3170-3290	Mature?	Rich	Oil
3290-3500	Mature?	Poor to Fair	Minor oil, gas

The analytical data are listed in detail in Tables 1 thru 4, and they are summarized graphically in Fig. 1

There are two intervals of interest. The rich, dark shales from about 3170 meters to 3290 meters are rich in oil-prone organic matter. The high total gas yields, the high percentages of C_2-C_4 gases in total hydrocarbon gas, and the appreciable yields of gasolines all suggest a mature oil source. However, the "I+" kerogen alterations suggest that these beds are not yet fully mature, and we have seen similar shales elsewhere yield many times as much gasoline as was observed in the 15/6-4 samples. The latter observations suggest that a "transitional" maturity rating may be more appropriate for this interval, and we would expect still greater oil generation at full maturity.

The interval from 2190 to 2690 meters contains potential source materials of hydrocarbon gases and liquids. High percentages of C_2-C_4 and appreciable gasoline yields were obtained from the samples from this interval. The C_2-C_4 and the gasolines probably came mainly from the algal and some of the herbaceous material, which was rated above as "transitional" in maturity. The woody, coaly and some of the herbaceous kerogen would still be immature. This interval, at a little more mature stage, could be a "fair to good" source of hydrocarbon gases and liquids.

PROCEDURES

Compositions and concentrations of hydrocarbon gases in the air spaces above the cuttings in the sample cans were determined by gas chromatography. Similar data were obtained on gases released from standard mixtures of cuttings and tap water after two minutes of agitation in a Waring blender. Combined results on the air space gas plus the cuttings gas were calculated for each sample. The data were plotted graphically to show vertical variations in total gas (C_1-C_4) and wet gas (C_2-C_4), and a graphical plot was also made of the percent wet gas in total gas (Fig. 1). Detailed results of the analyses are listed in Table 1.

Chips of uniform lithologies were picked by hand from the heterogeneous mixtures of chips in 24 of the original samples. These are described in Table 2. Our routine analytical procedures were used for determining the light gasoline (C_4-C_7) content and the total organic content of the "picked" chips. These results are given in Table 3, and they are plotted graphically in Fig. 1. Visual kerogen characteristics were also determined on the "picked" samples (Table 2).

Five gross cuttings samples were analyzed for heavy ($C_{15}+$) soluble organic matter (Table 4). Gas chromatograms were run on the saturated fractions of the soluble organic extracts (Figs. 2-6).

DISCUSSION

Some of the shales down to 1650 meters could be prolific gas sources if they were mature, but in their present state of maturation at 15/6-4 we would not expect them to have generated much reservoir gas.

The 2190-2690 meter interval gave $C_{15}+$ yields more suggestive of a gas and condensate source section than of a medium-gravity oil source. The chromatograms in Figs. 2 thru 4 and the analyses in Table 4 both suggest this. The high C_2-C_4 percentages and the good gasoline yields could indicate either an oil or a condensate source.

The sample from 3170 meters contained laminae and thin lenses of silt and sand, and its high $C_{15}+$ yield is attributed to migrated hydrocarbons concentrated in these "microreservoirs."

The 3170'-3290 meter zone is outstanding in this profile, and is undoubtedly a rich potential oil source. Timing of migration and trap formation would be the most important prospect evaluation problem where this interval is fully mature.

Table 2 Description of "Picked" Cuttings and Visual Kerogen Characteristics
(Kerogen by J.L. Morgan)

Depth (meters)	EPR No.	Gross Lithology	GSA Color Code (dry)	TOCC	LOMT	OMT					
				Total Organic Matter (%)	Kerogen Alteration	(Types of Kerogen (% of Total on Slide))					
						Algal	Amorphous	Herbaceous	Woody	Coaly	Other*
1170	67304-N	Med. olive gray silty shale and lt. olive gray siltstone, sl. calc.	5Y5/1-6/1	2.25	1	30	-	10	40	tr	10M
1350	67304-T	Shale, med. olive gray, silty, trace of mica.	5Y 5/1	3.39	1+	20	-	10	50	tr	20N
1500	67305-E	Shale, brownish gray, silty	5YR4/1	3.68	1+	10	-	30	50	tr	10N
1650	67305-J	Claystone, olive gray, sl. silty.	5Y4/1	4.47	1+	20	-	10	30	tr	30N
1830	67305-P	Shale, med. gray to greenish gray.	N5-5GY6/1	.35	1+	-	-	60	20	20	-
1950	67305-T	Shale, olive gray to greenish gray trace pyrite.	5Y4/1-5GY6/1	.47	1+	-	-	40	30	20	trA1?
2070	67306-D	Shale, med. greenish gray.	5GY5/1	.72	1+	-	-	40	20	10	30A1?
2190	67306-H	Shale, as above, plus traces of chalk and pyrite	5GY5/1	.25	1+	-	-	40	30	10	20A1?
2310	67306-L	Shale, med. gray to med. dk. gray, finely disseminated pyrite.	N5-N4	1.39	1+	30	-	50	20	tr	-
2430	67306-P	Shale, med. dk. gray, trace fine gr. white calc. sandstone.	N4	1.07	1+	20	-	40	20	20	-
2550	67306-T	Shale, med. dk. gray to med. gry, large thin prisms.	N4-N5	1.89	1+	30	-	40	20	10	-
2630	67307-C	Shale, as above, large flakes	N4-N5	1.57	1+	-	-	50	20	10	20 A1?
2690	67307-E	Shale, as above, some finely micaceous, sl. calc.	N4-N5	.86	2-	-	-	30	30	30	10A1?
2780	67307-H	Chalk, pinkish white	5YR9/1	.07	2+	-	-	-	60	30	trA1?

Table 2 Continued -----

Depth (meters)	EPR No.	GSA Color Code (dry)	Total Organic Matter (%)	Kerogen Alteration	Types of Kerogen (% of Total on Slide)					
					Algal	Amorphous	Herbaceous	Woody	Coaly	Other*
2840	67307-J	Shale, med. dk. gray to med. gray- large, very thin flakes mod. calc. or dol. N4-N5	.30	1+	-	-	40	30	20	trAl?
2900	67307-L	Shale, as above, dol. and calc. N4-N5	.24	2+	-	-	-	40	50	trM
2990	67307-O	Shale, as above, plus limestone, chalk N4-N5	.13	3-	-	-	-	50	50	-
3080	67307-R	Mixture of calc. shale, limestone, chalk; med. gray to lt. gray; chips sand-sized N5-N7	.14	3-	-	-	-	50	50	-
3170	67308-A	Shale, med. gray with lt. gray sandy laminae, calc.; large thin prisms N5; N7	.27	3-	20	20	tr	20	30	trM
3230	67308-C	Shale, dk, brownish gray, thin flakes, looks rich 5YR 3/1	3.74	1+	30	20	10	20	20	-
3260	67308-D	Shale, dk. gray to dk. olive gray, thin flakes N3-5Y3/1	4.14	1+	30	-	10	30	30	-
3350	67308-G	Shale, med. gray, calc. N5	.24	3-	-	-	-	50	50	trM
3440	67308-J	Mixture of lt. olive gray sandstone, med. dk. gry shale, and grayish brown shale, trace pyrite N4, 5YR7/4	1.08	1+	20	20	10	20	30	-
3500	67308-L	As above, variety of shales -	.88	1+	20	20	10	20	30	-

* M- Microplankton
Al? - Possibly Algal
N - Nonfilamentous Algal

Table 3 Light Gasolines (C₄-C₇) and Organic Carbon
(Analyses by H.M. Fry)

Depth (meters)	EPR No.	(C ₄ -C ₇) Organic Hydro- Carbon carbons		Correlation Ratios			
		(%)	(ppm)	C ₁ /C ₂	A/D ₂	C ₁ D ₂	CH/MCP
1170	67304-N	1.84	0.9	1.41	6.84	13.5	.96
1350	67304-T	2.78	0.0	-	-	-	-
1500	67305-E	3.02	0.4	.85	6.93	8.79	.55
1650	67305-J	3.66	0.0	-	-	-	-
1830	67305-P	.29	0.0	-	-	-	-
1950	67305-T	.39	0.0	-	-	-	-
2070	67306-D	.59	0.2	1.09	3.06	3.01	.64
2190	67306-H	.20	11.2	3.03	6.85	11.8	1.98
2310	67306-L	1.14	33.6	2.86	10.8	47.0	1.91
2430	67306-P	.88	33.3	3.26	11.0	53.2	2.03
2550	67306-T	1.55	50.6	1.93	4.62	16.1	1.30
2630	67307-C	1.28	27.5	.95	.95	2.92	1.31
2690	67307-E	.71	24.8	2.25	5.26	10.8	1.47
2780	67307-H	.06	.7	2.84	3.82	9.27	1.73
2840	67307-J	.25	5.1	4.29	10.2	18.6	2.06
2900	67307-L	.20	1.2	3.70	5.58	10.2	1.60
2990	67307-O	.11	1.6	3.03	10.1	7.74	1.59
3080	67307-R	.11	.9	5.42	4.81	4.08	1.40
3170	67308-A	.22	7.4	1.82	3.97	5.72	.95
3230	67308-C	3.07	228.	1.44	18.0	9.18	.09
3260	67308-D	3.39	125.	1.89	9.63	21.3	1.46
3350	67308-G	.20	11.8	2.24	8.12	14.7	1.34
3440	67308-J	.88	12.2	2.21	8.67	14.8	1.35
3500	67308-L	.72	11.6	2.02	8.68	13.5	1.23

Table 4 Heavy (C₁₅+) Soluble Organic Matter
(Analysis by GeoChem)

<u>Depth (meters)</u>	<u>2190</u>	<u>2310</u>	<u>2630</u>	<u>3170</u>	<u>3230</u>
<u>EPR No.</u>	67306-H	67306-L	67307-C	67308-A	67308-C
<u>Total Organic Matter (%)</u>	.82	1.00	.78	.56	3.82
<u>Soluble Organic Matter (ppm)</u>	245	489	405	1286	2045
<u>Composition of Soluble OM (%)</u>					
Saturates*	6.7	5.5	--**	29.3	15.5
Aromatics	7.7	2.6	-	21.2	29.5
NSO's	27.4	8.2	-	18.3	22.4
Noneluted NSO's	32.2	33.7	-	12.4	3.2
Asphaltenes	26.0	50.0	71.5	18.8	29.4
<u>Hydrocarbons</u>					
ppm of rock	35	40	probably <40	649	920
% of T.O.M.	.43	.40	probably < .5	11.6	2.41
Sats./Arom.	.9	2.1	---	1.4	.5
<u>Source Interpretation</u>	Marginal Gas Source	Fair Gas Source	Marginal Gas Source	Stain Source (Mi- grated Oil	Rich Oil Source

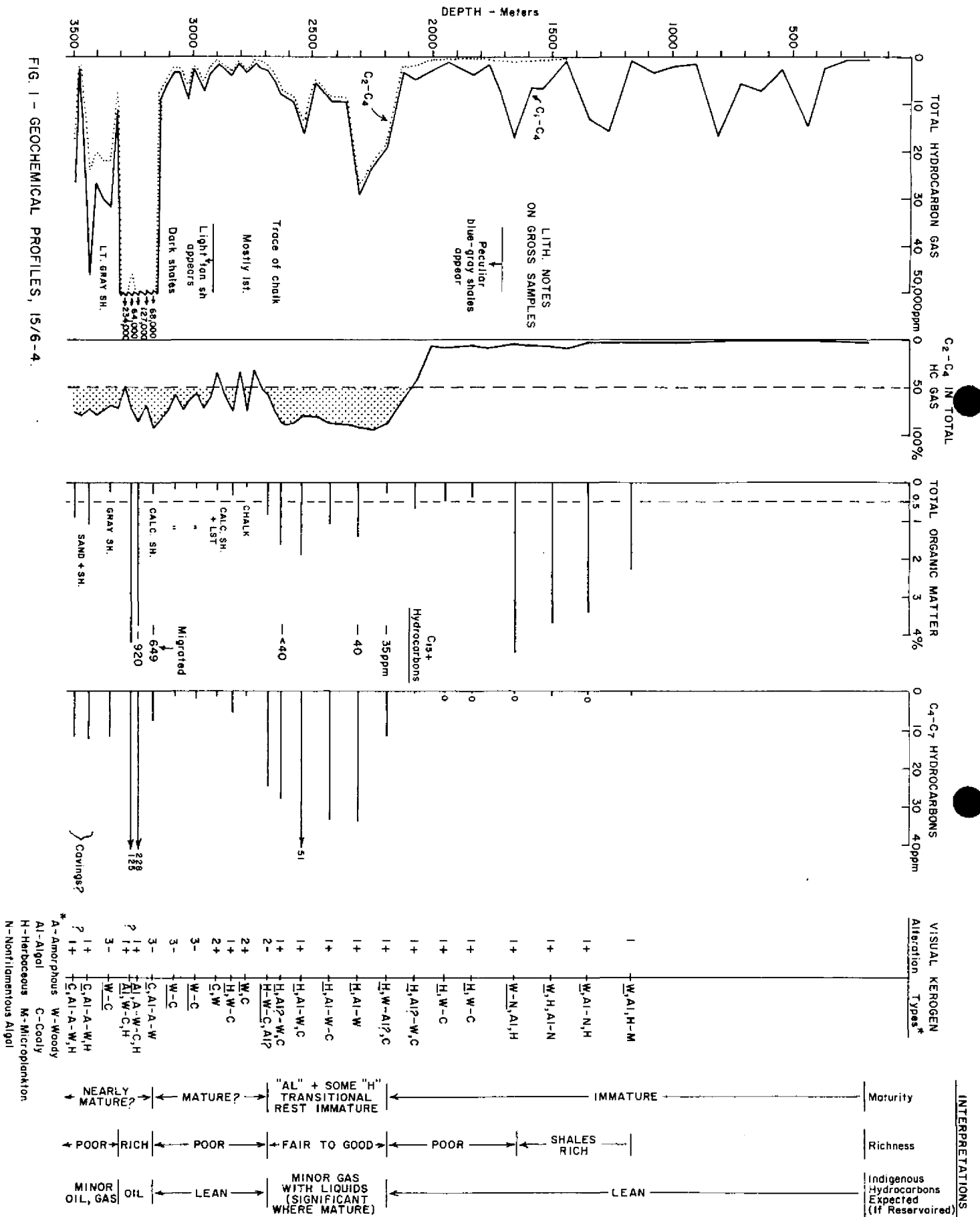
* Gas chromatograms in Figs. 2 thru 6.

** Pentane - soluble fraction too small for further analysis.

Lithologies of C₁₅+ samples (all were mixtures)

67306-H	Med. greenish gray to dark greenish gray shale (SGY5/1-4/1) plus minor "red" beds (SYR4/1)
67306-L	Greenish gray to med. greenish gray shales (SG6/1-5/1) plus med. lt. gray shale (N6) and brownish gray (SYR4/1) "red beds" as above.
67307-C	Med. gray to med. dk. gray shales (N5-N4) and med. greenish gray shale (SG5/1)
67308-A	Calc. and dol. shales; lt. gray (N7), med. gray (N5) to med. dk. gray; plus red beds (10R4/2 and 5R4/2)
67308-C	Shale, dk. gray (N3) to brownish gray (SYR4/1), looks "rich"

FIG. 1 - GEOCHEMICAL PROFILES, 15/6-4.



$C_{15}+$

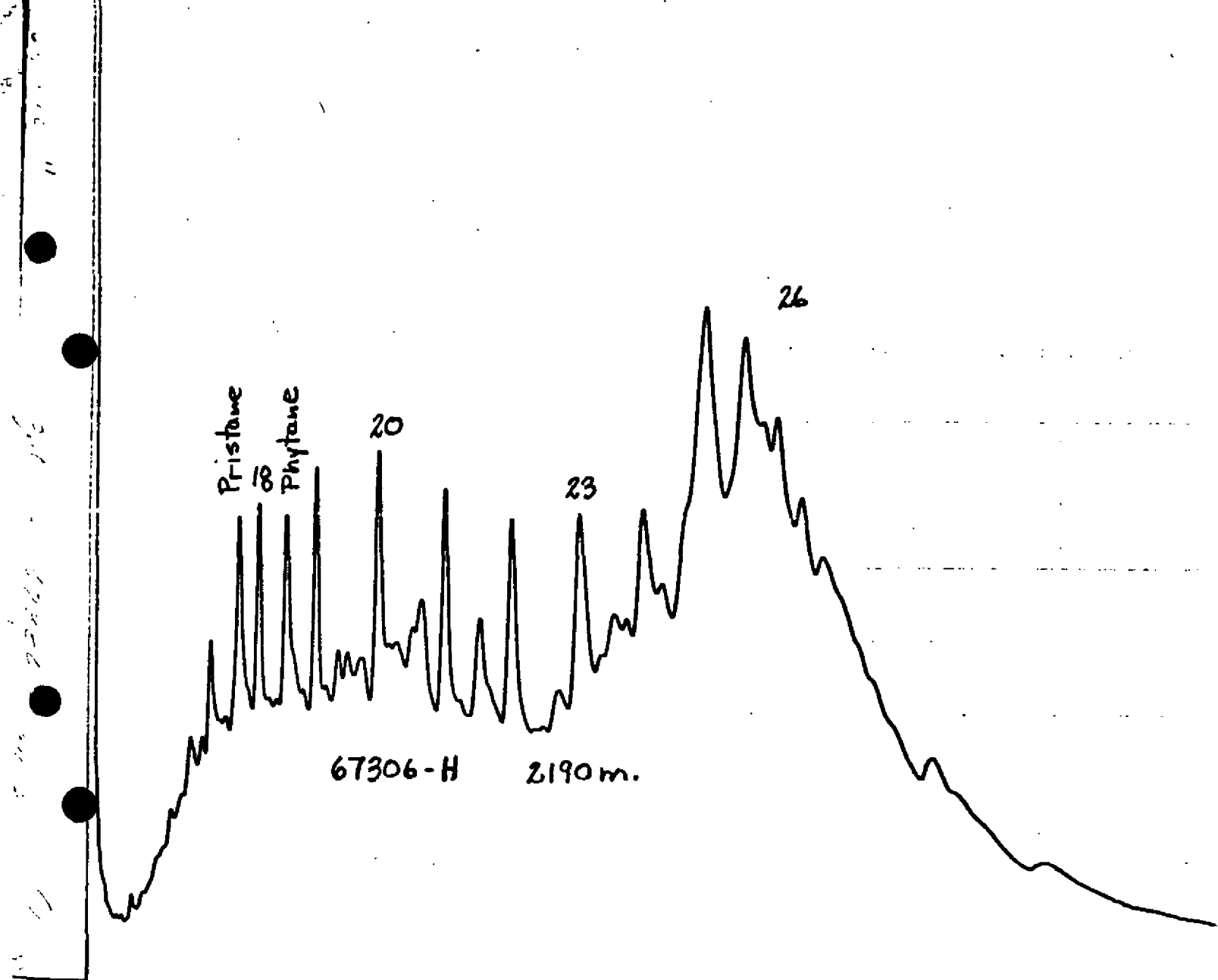


Fig. 2 $C_{15}+$ Saturates

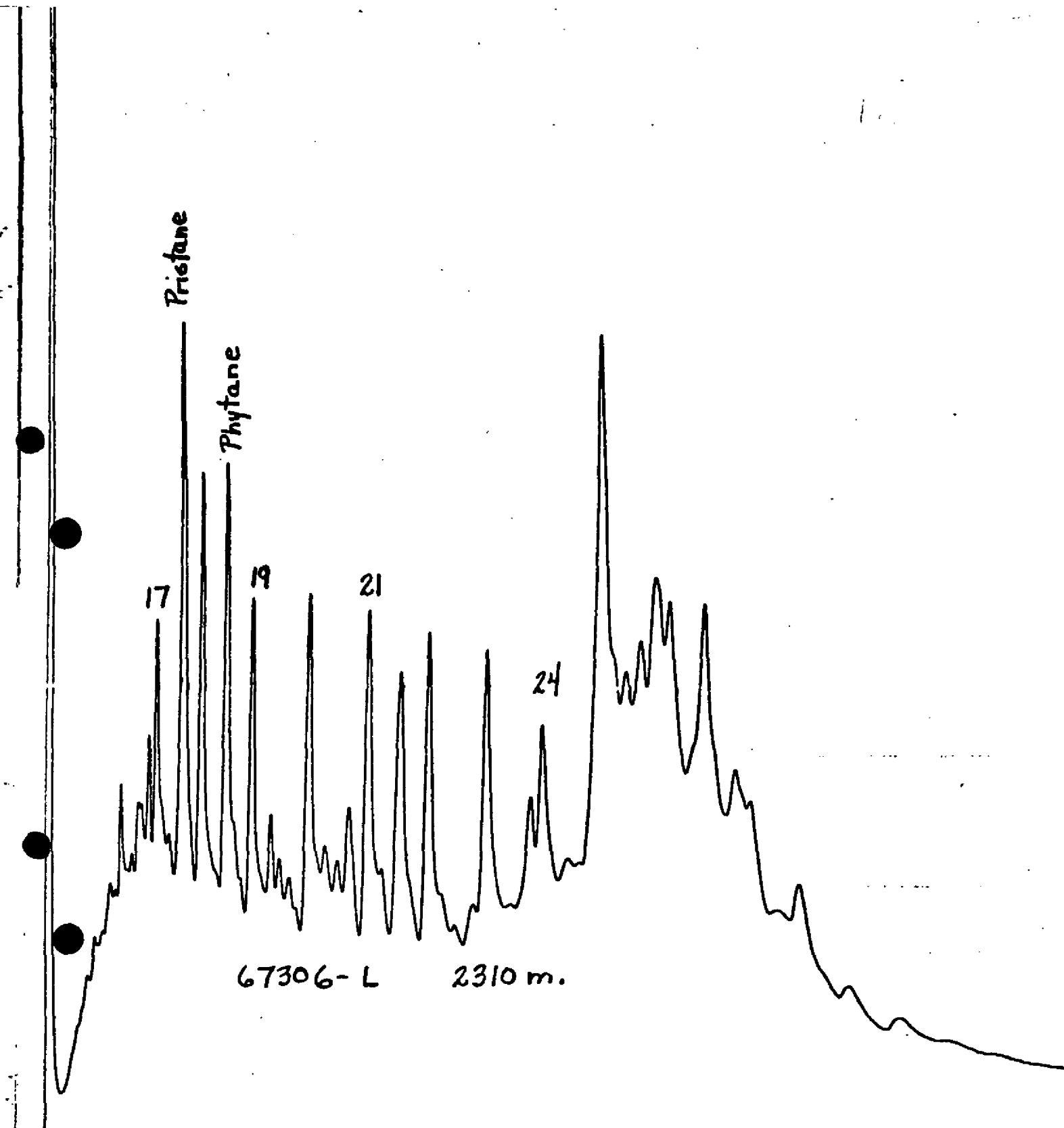


Fig. 3 C₁₅+ Saturates

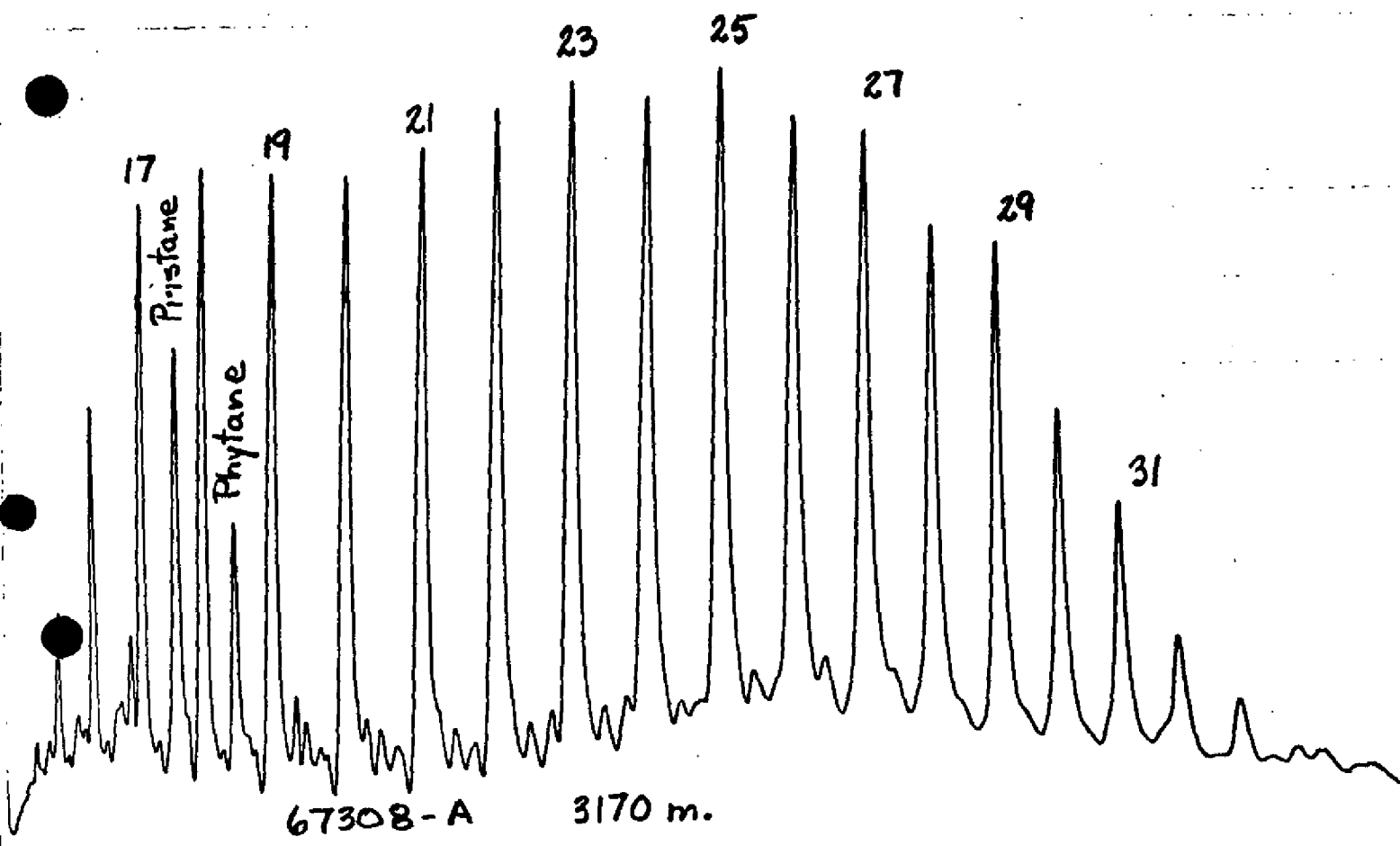


Fig. 4 C₁₅⁺ Saturates

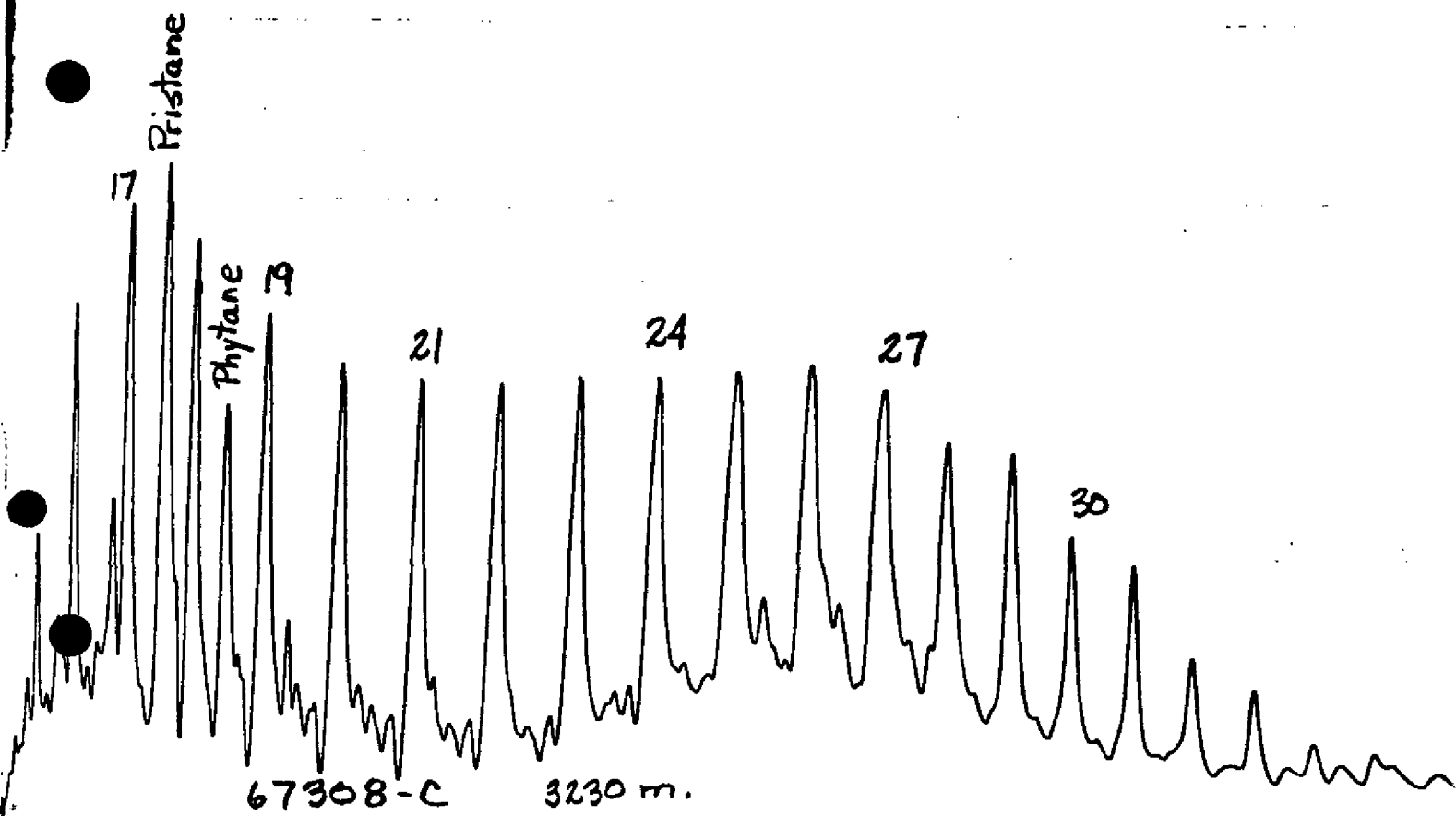


Fig. 5 C₁₅⁺ Saturates

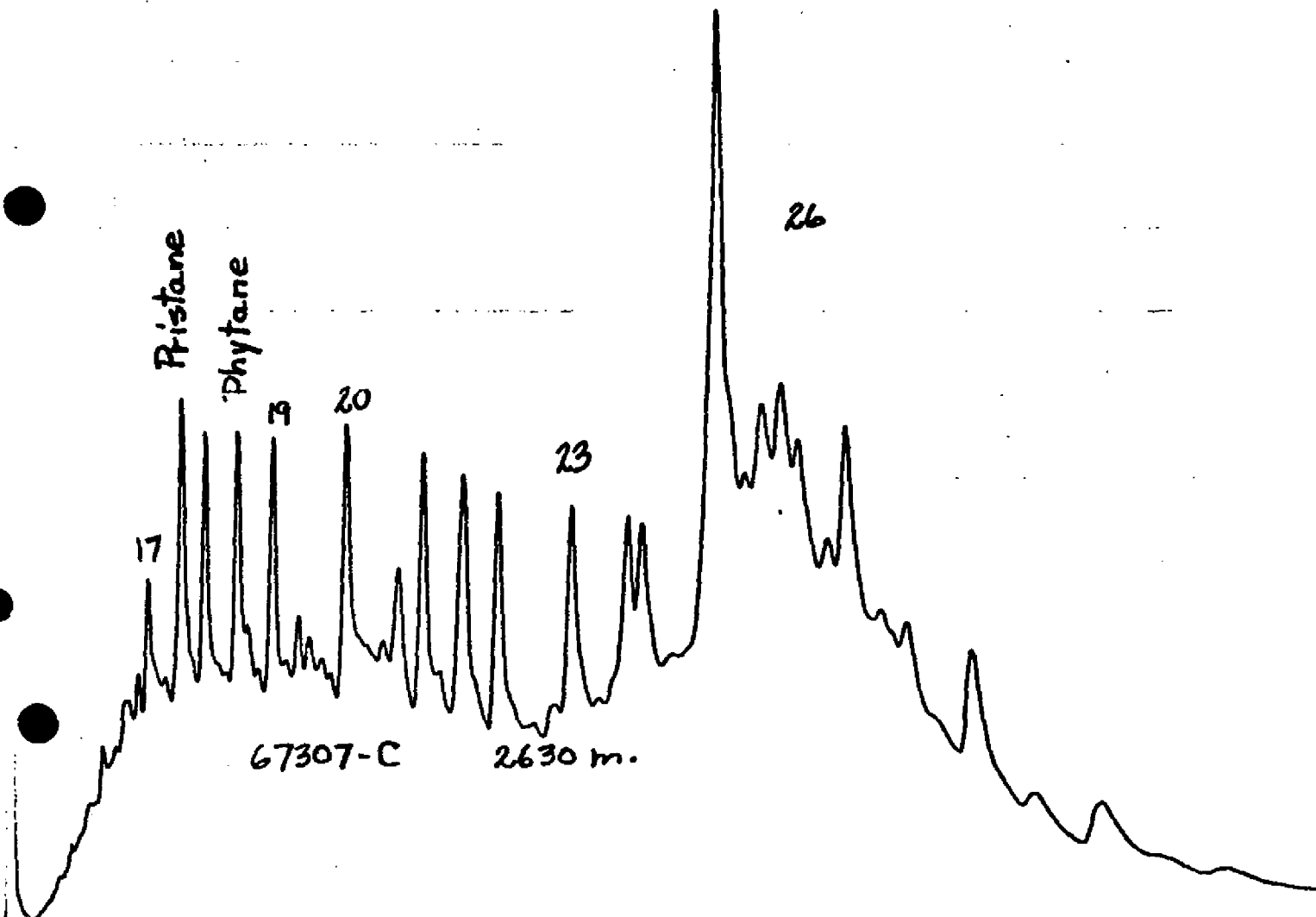


Fig. 6 C₁₅+ Saturates