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RESULTS OF CUTTINGS GAS ANALYSIS FROM
25/2-5 WELL (Norway)

P.R.S.T. n°1.02.1.030

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REGISTRAR

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SCIENTIFIQUE ET TECHNIQUE
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GEO/LAB.PAU n° 182/78 RS

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SUMMARY

Cuttings ranging from 1550m to 3997m from 25/2-5 borehole (Norway) were analysed for gaseous hydrocarbons by mechanical extraction.

Results obtained show the presence of fair quantities of cuttings gas in the Paleocene (Lower Sand/Shale Group) within the 2200-2400m interval and very high amounts of cuttings gas in the Jurassic (Brent sands, upper part of the Lias and Statfjord Sands) associated with high organic carbon contents.

These gases contain of a good deal of higher homologs C₄ and C₅ indicating that the relevant series are within the oil window. On the other hand tertiary sediments down to 2000m are immature and triassic sediments are very poor both in cuttings gas and in organic carbon.

The main conclusions from this study are in agreement with the results from a geochemical study of the Jurassic of that well (Report GEO/LAB.BSS n°7/1492 RP) and from a petrological study of the organic matter within the 2000-4000 range (report not yet issued).

INTRODUCTION

25/2-5 well (location in figure 1), drilled down to 4000m with the Jurassic sands as targets, encountered oil in the Brent sands and Statfjord sands (figure 2).

For the purpose of characterizing the hydrocarbon potential of the sediments, seventy-four samples of unwashed cuttings were taken from 1500m to 3997m and submitted for analysis in the same way as described in the previous report dealing with 15/3-1 well (GEO/LAB.PAU n°5/78 RP).

The main data are tabulated in tables I and II and the reduced gas chromatograms are presented in figure 3.

CUTTINGS GAS FROM TERTIARY and CRETACEOUS SEDIMENTS

Samples from the Eocene down to 2000m are poor in dry cuttings gas (figures 4 and 5), though the organic carbon content is not very low (figure 9). These data indicate that the sediments from depths shallower than 2000m are from immature facies.

In the lower Eocene, within the 2000-2200m interval, there appears a slight increase in the concentration of cuttings gas, yet a strong increase in their degree of wetness, due principally to the prominent presence of C₅ (chromatograms of figure 3).

These wet gases precede the fairly high quantities of extremely wet gases from the Paleocene, within the 2200-2400m interval, where the proportion of higher homologues C₄ + C₅ makes up nearly 90 % of the gas mixture (figures 5 and 6 and chromatograms of figure 3). Such a degree of wetness is rather exceptional. A similar wetness affects, in the same well, the tremendous quantities of cuttings gas one thousand metres below, within the Jurassic section. It is possible that this feature is related to the overpressured and undercompacted nature of the sediments from the relevant horizons.

The presence of unsaturated hydrocarbons in these wet gases is to be noticed (chromatograms from figure 3), in particular the relatively high concentration of ethylene as compared to ethane is obvious.

From 2450m to 3300m, lower Tertiary and upper Cretaceous sediments are again poor in cuttings gas. In this interval the gas is growing increasingly dry, but the amounts are anyhow very low, particularly in the lower part of the interval, making the data unreliable for interpretation in terms of wetness and degree of catagenesis. The poorness of cuttings gas within the lower six hundred meters is concomitant with the low content of organic carbon (essentially carbonate sediments from 2700m to 2880m and shales in the lowermost four hundred meters).

CUTTINGS GAS FROM JURASSIC SEDIMENTS

A very sharp break occurs at the top of the Jurassic with the sample at 3315m
A similar feature has already been found for the Jurassic from the well 15/3-1.

It seems that the sample at 3310m is not representative of the Jurassic, but more likely of the overlying Cretaceous.

The increase in cuttings gas from sample 3310m to sample 3315m is overwhelming, confirming a strong reservoir effect at the top of the Jurassic and a good seal at the unconformity between the Jurassic and the Cretaceous.

Furthermore, the gas is drastically wet, compatible with the occurrence of oil.

High yields of wet cuttings gas are recorded throughout the 3315-3572m interval, with particular intensity in the lower part of the Dogger (Brent sands) and at the top of the Lias. Then obviously, there is a decrease, and again an increase within the Starfjord sands where the amounts of cuttings gas are however smaller than in the Brent sands.

The high concentrations of cuttings gas in the Jurassic are linked with high insoluble organic carbon contents which vary from 2.5 % to 4 % for most of the samples. Even higher values of IOC are recorded in the 3438-3495m range (fig.9).

CUTTINGS GAS FROM TRIASSIC SEDIMENTS

The samples from the Triassic are very poor in both cuttings gas and organic carbon content. As a result, it is not possible to ascertain the degree of catagenesis of the relevant layers which, in any case, present no interest.

CONCLUSIONS

Great amounts of wet cuttings gas associated with high organic carbon contents are detected throughout the whole section of the Jurassic with particular intensity within the 3315-3580m interval. It is felt that the bulk of sediment from these layers, rich in organic matters (shales), is the source rock for the hydrocarbons encountered.

The lower part of the Dogger, where great values in both cuttings gas and organic carbon content are recorded, has a high hydrocarbon potential.

The sands within the Jurassic series (Brent Sands and Statfjord Sands) constitute effective and efficient reservoirs for hydrocarbons generated by the shales in these series. Difference in temperature explains the change in the gas composition between the two reservoirs, the lowermost reservoir (Statfjord Sands) having lower proportion of $C_4 + C_5$, yet the gas is still very wet, compatible with liquid hydrocarbon occurrence.

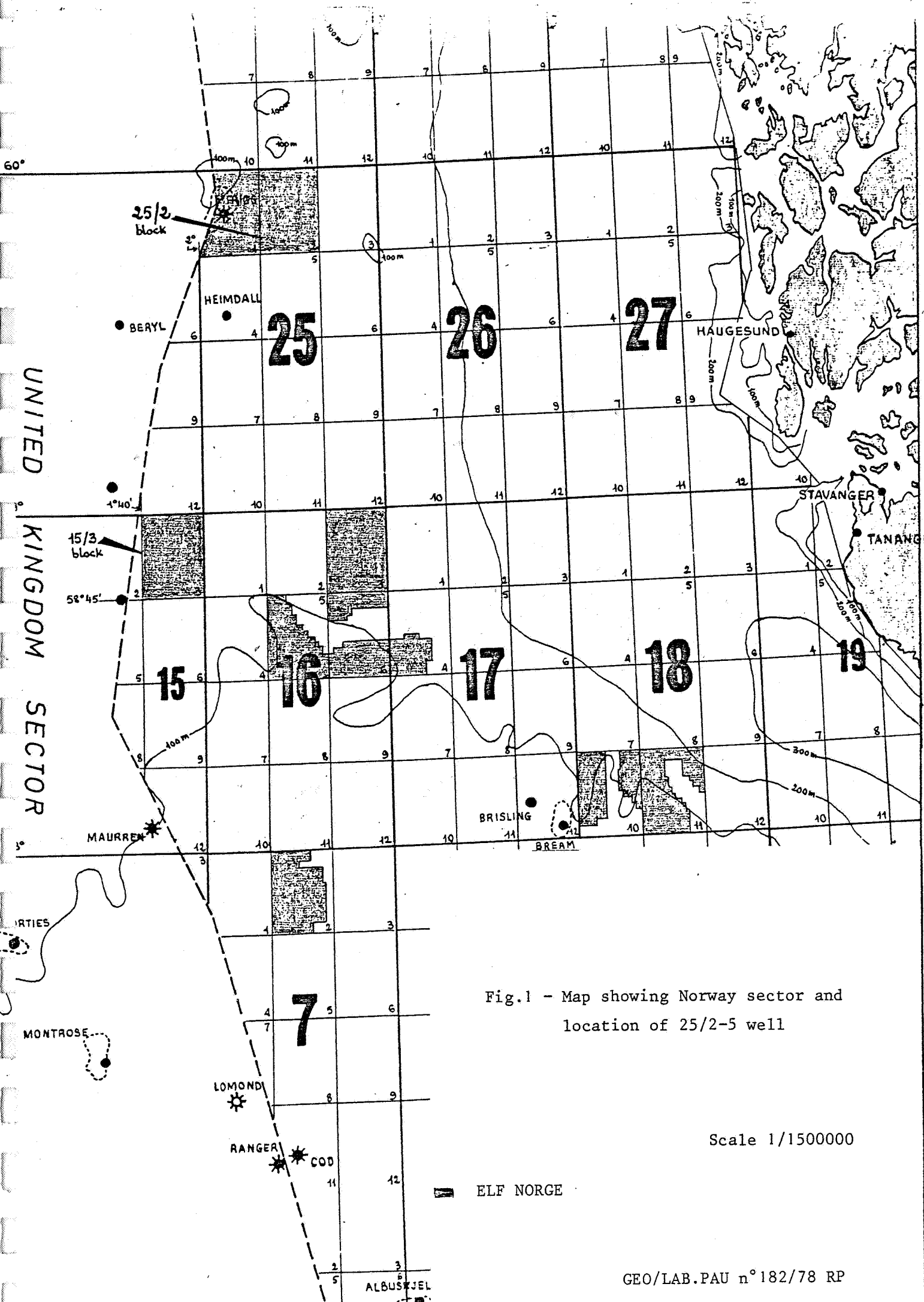


Fig.1 - Map showing Norway sector and location of 25/2-5 well

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Figure 2. 25/2-5. Main data and litho-stratigraphical section

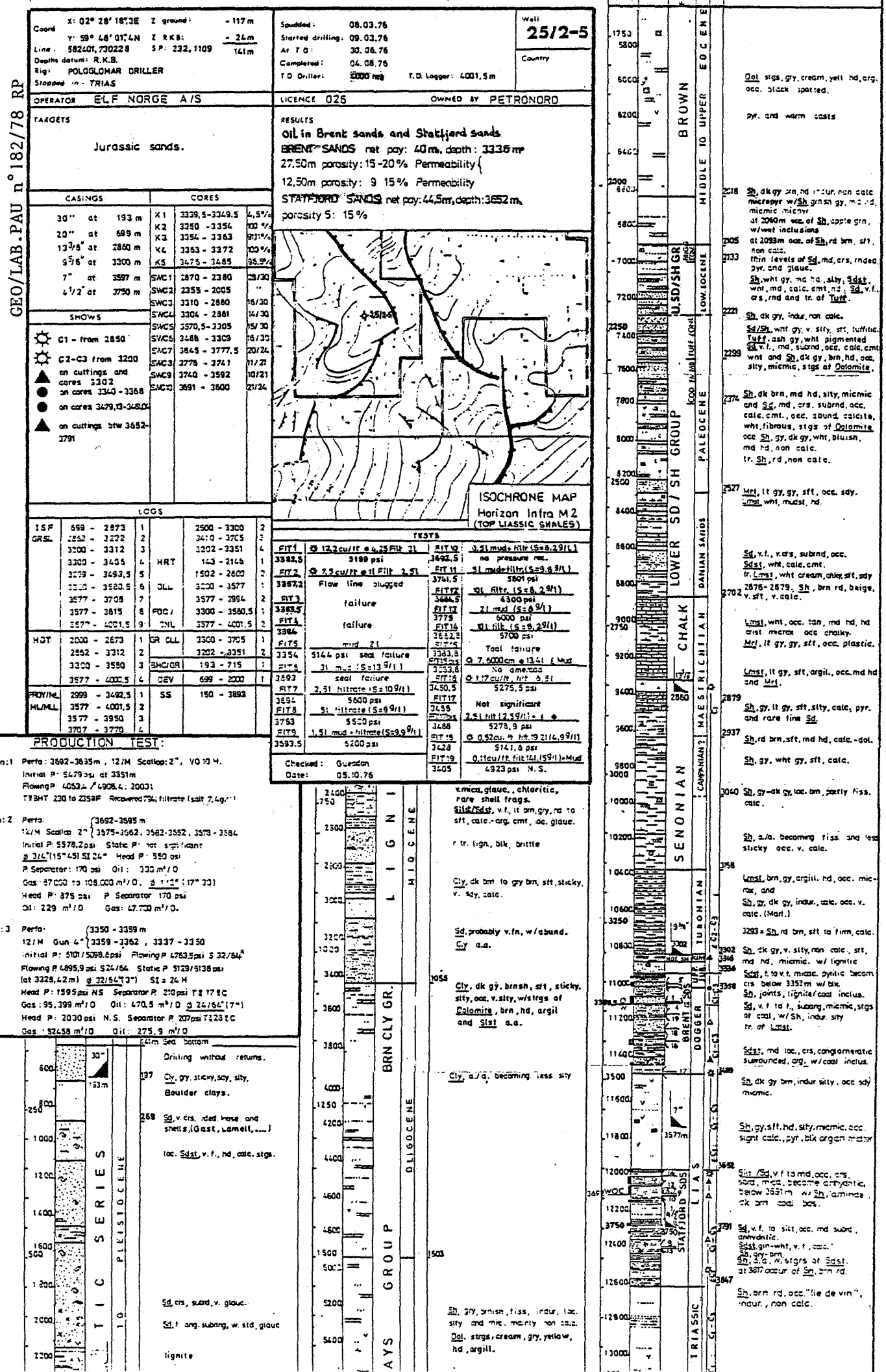


Figure 3. 25/2-5 (Norway) - Reduced gas chromatograms

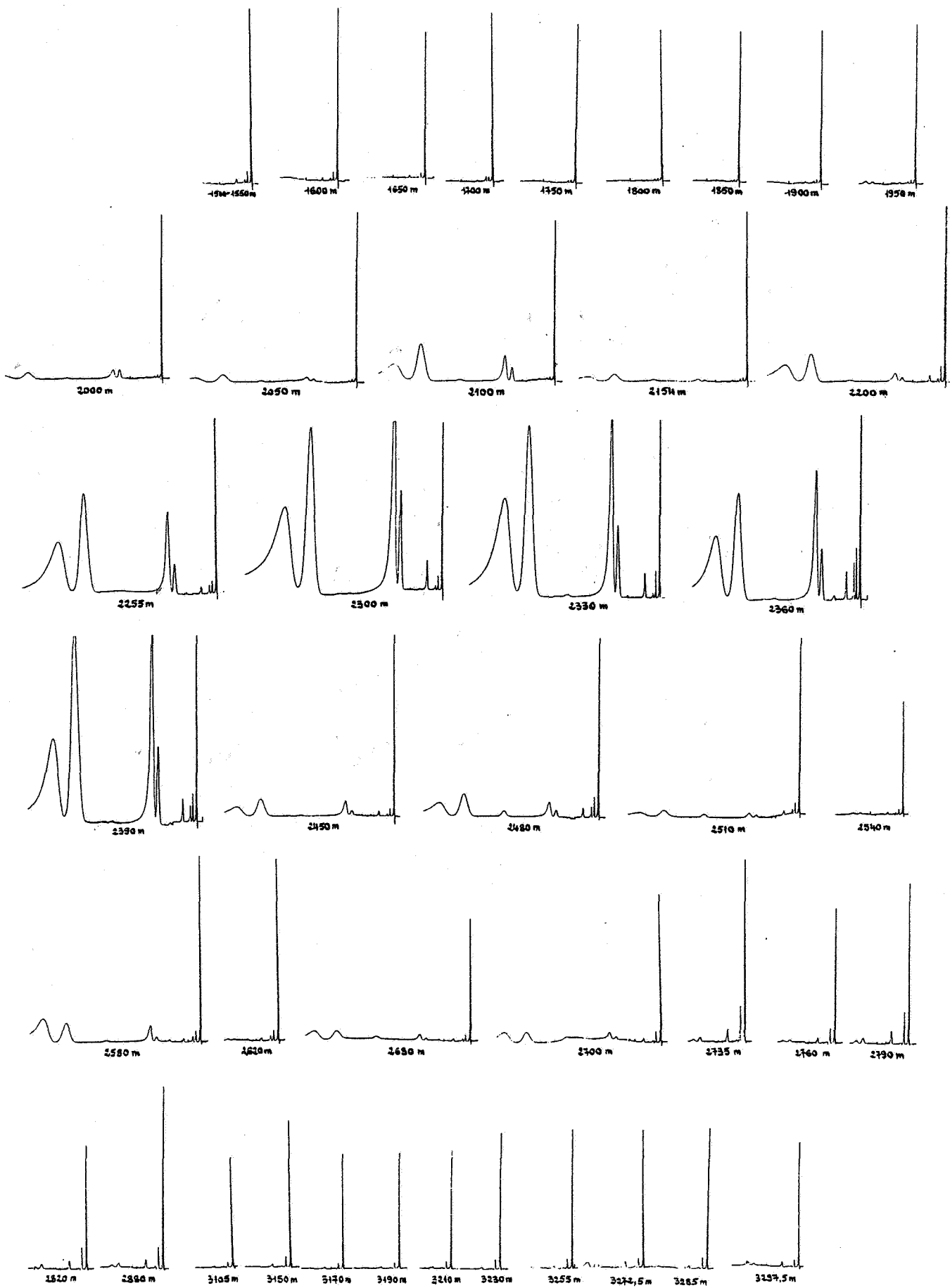


Figure 3A. 25/2-5 (Norway) - Reduced gas chromatograms

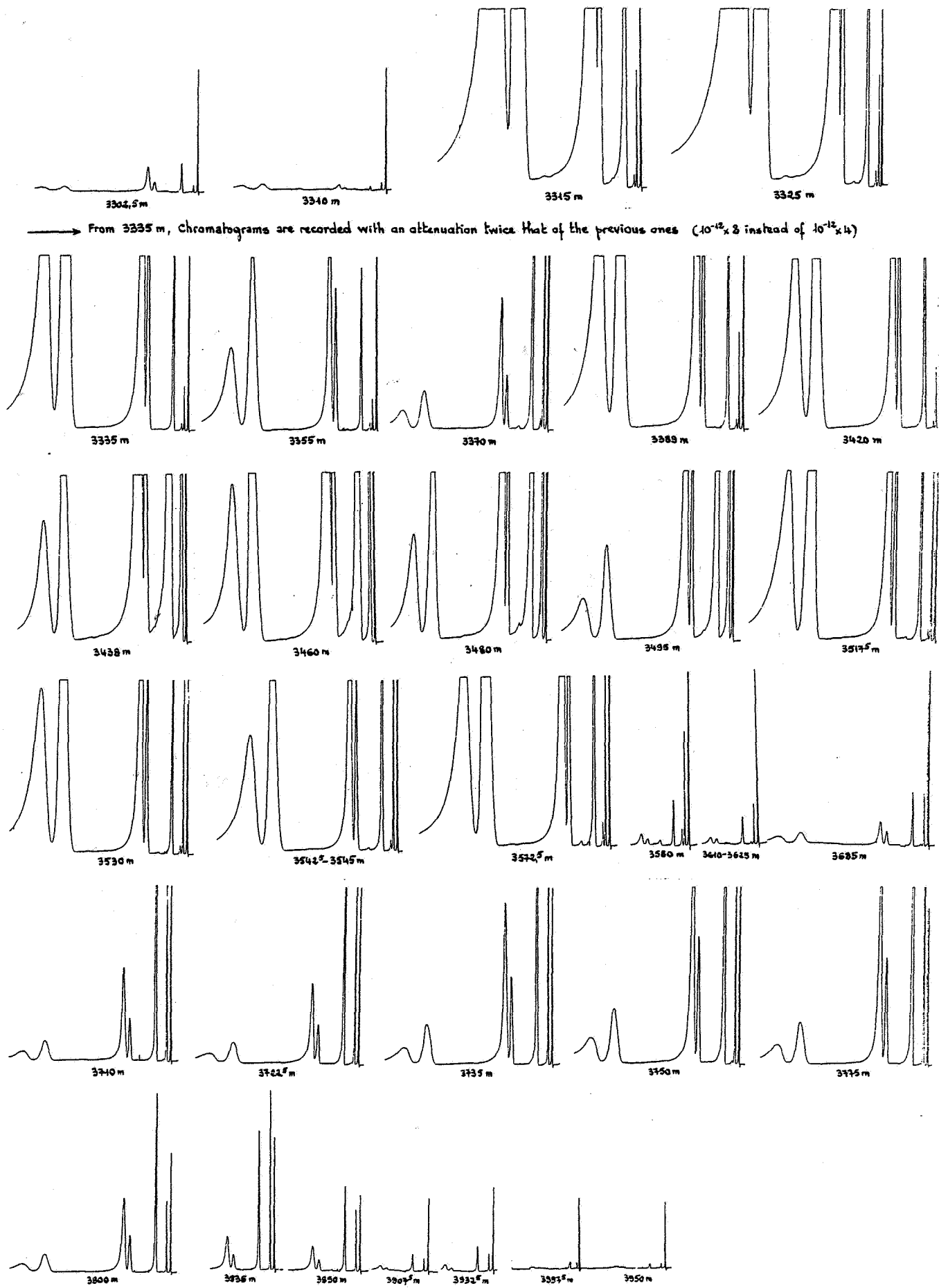


Figure 4. 25/2-5 . Vertical distribution of the concentration of cuttings gas throughout the well section

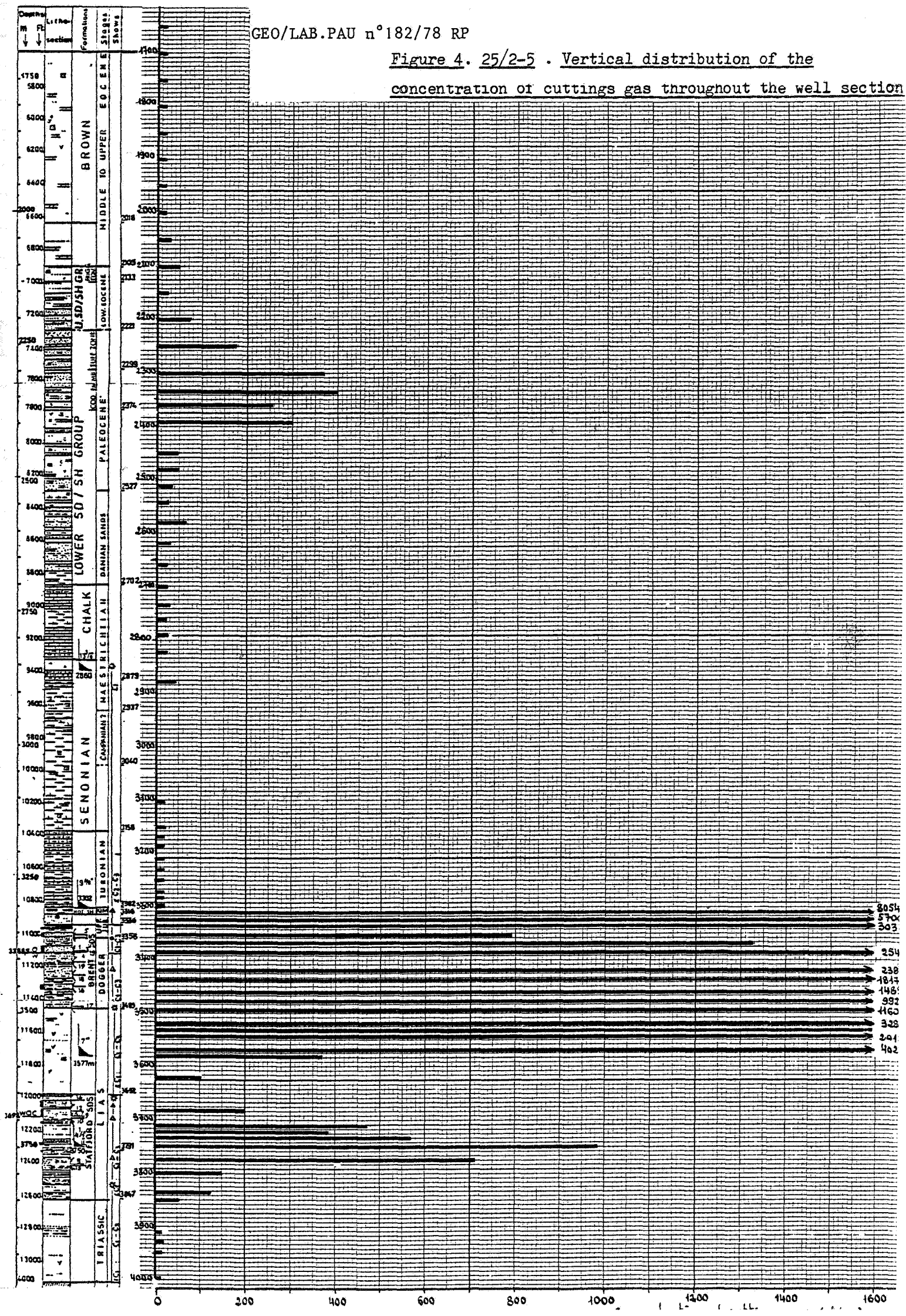


Figure 5. 25/2-5.

Variation of the composition of cuttings gas throughout the well section

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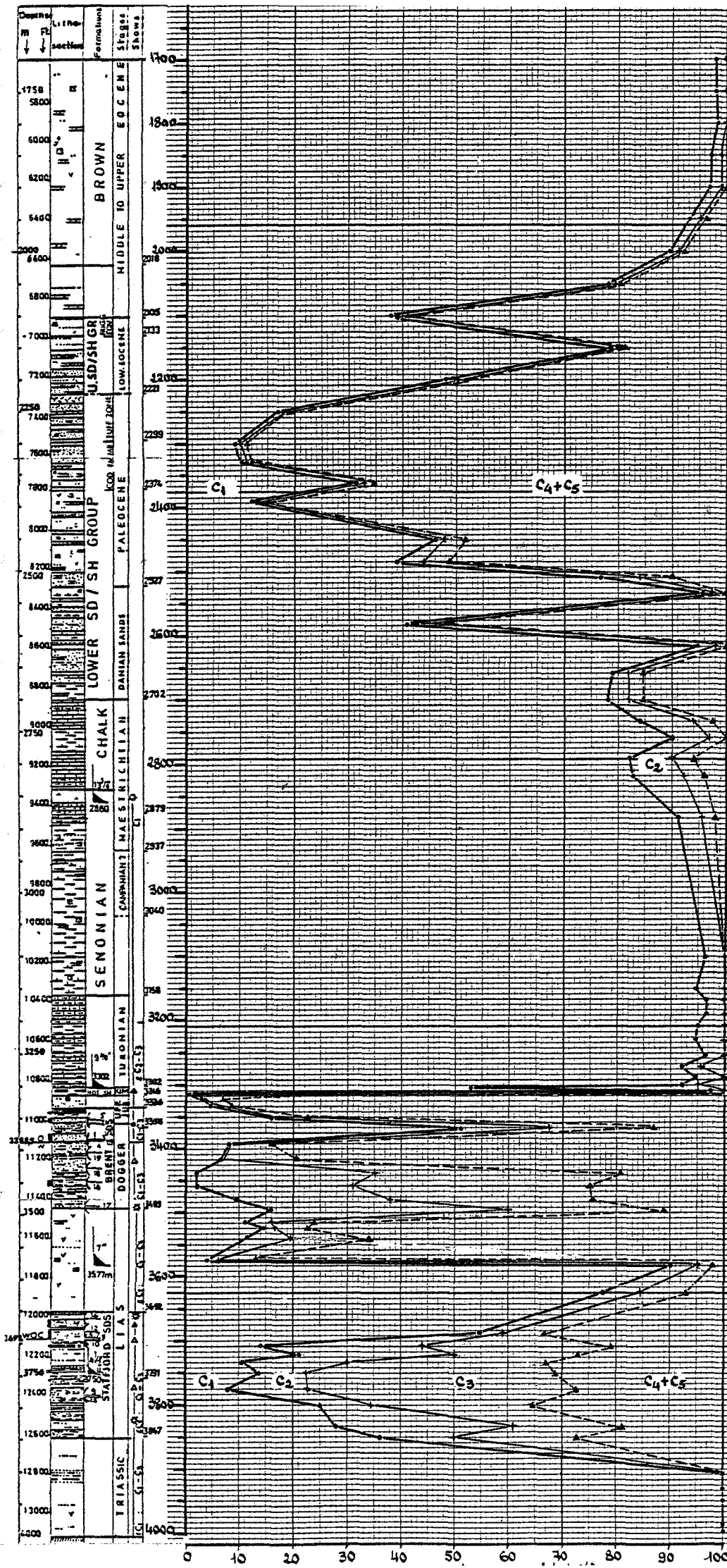


Figure 7. 25/2-5. Vertical distribution of the concentration of higher homologues C4+C5 throughout the well section

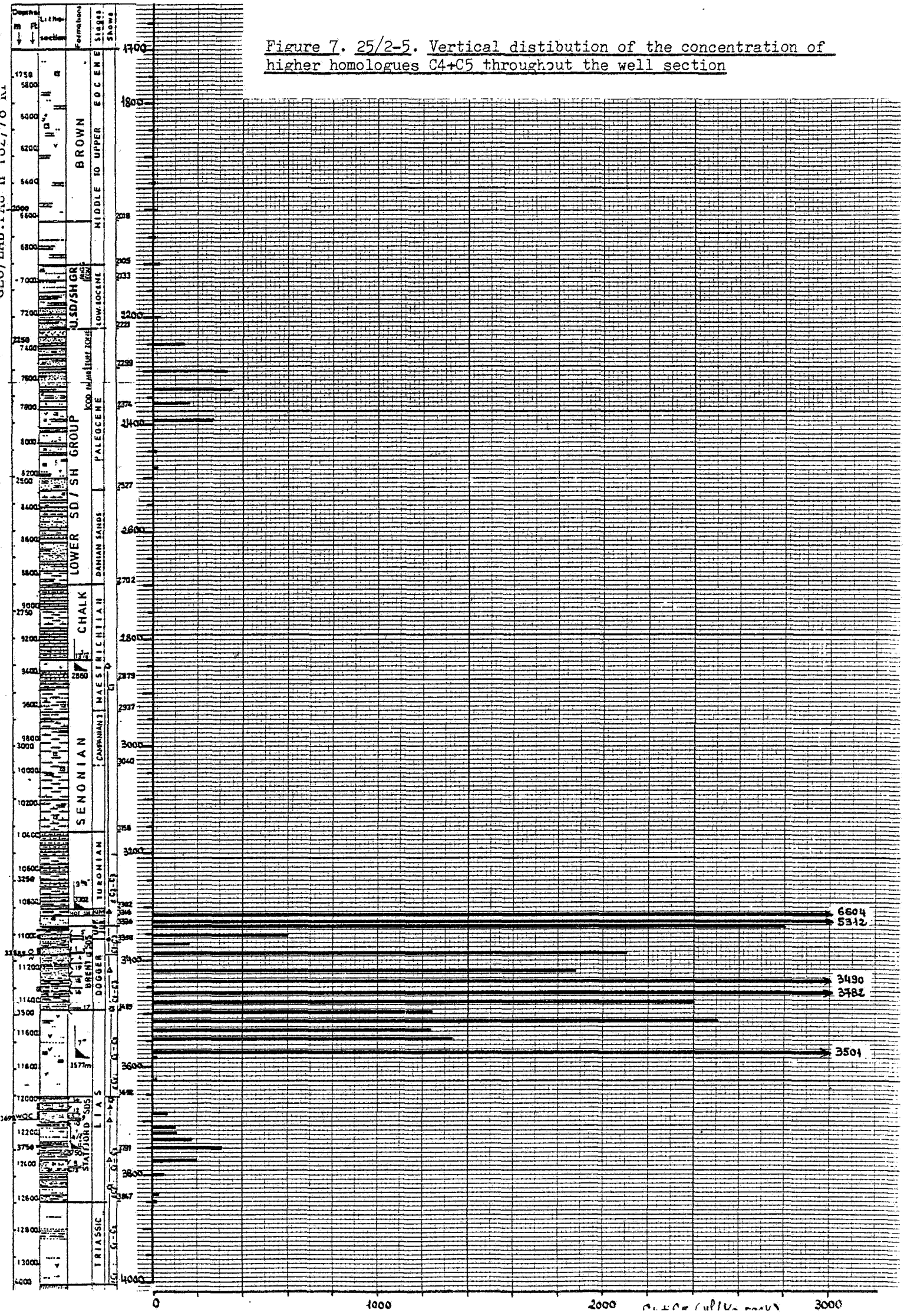


Figure 8. 25/2-5. Variation of the couple $(D, \sin \phi)$ throughout the well section

GEO/LAB.PAU n°182/78 RP

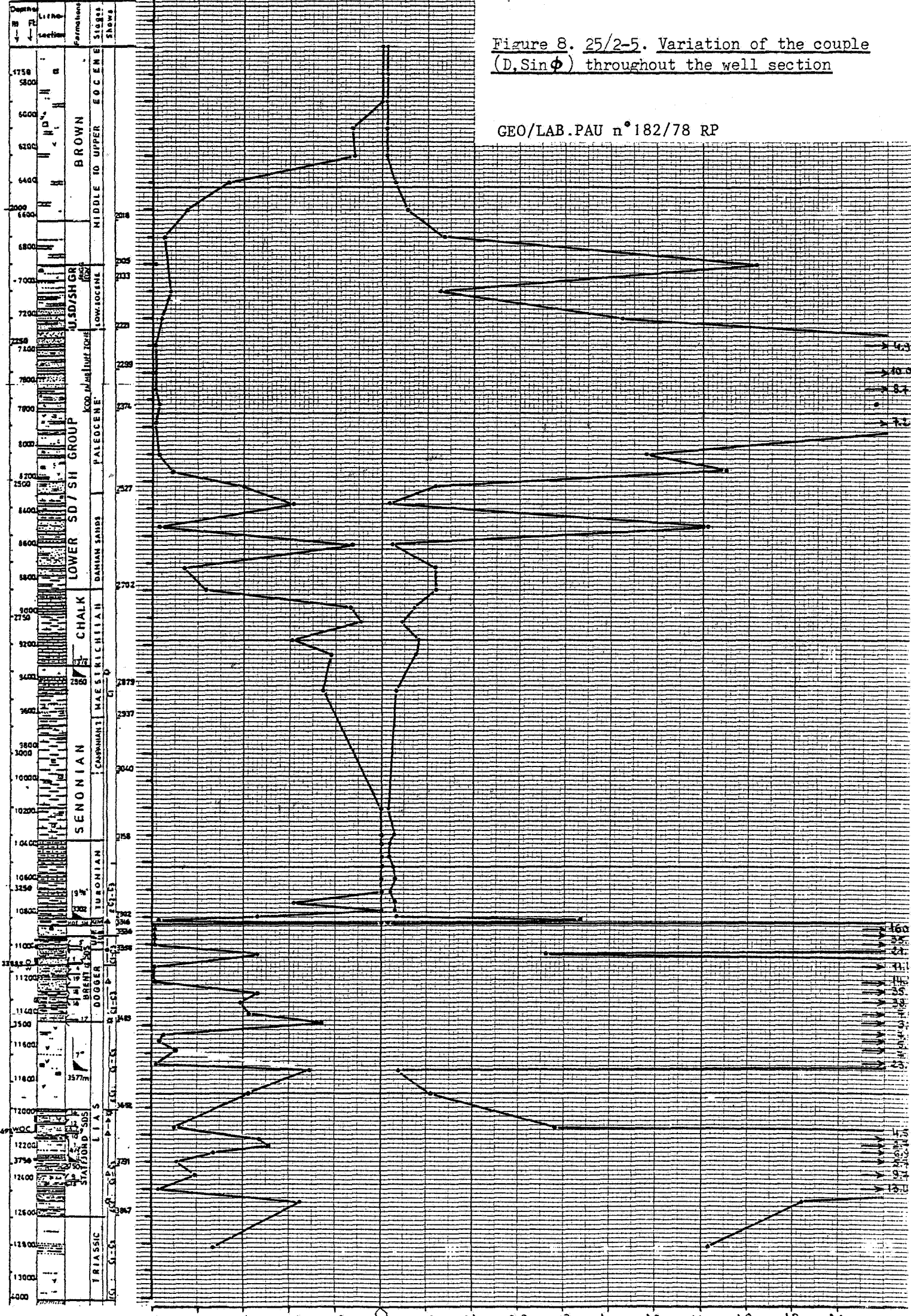


TABLE I. 25/2-5 . Main data from cuttings gas

Depth (m)	METHANE (%)	ETHANE (%)	ETHYLENE (%)	PROPANE (%)	I-BUTANE (%)	N-BUTANE (%)	I-PENTANE (%)	N-PENTANE (%)	ΣC ₁ -C ₅ (μl/lq)	Depth (m)	C ₁ +C ₂ (%)	IR (% rock)	IOC (% rock)	GC/IOC (μl/lq)
1500-1550	92.79	3.69	1.62	1.89	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	28.89	1550	0	84.9	107	3
1600	93.40	3.37	1.46	1.76	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	22.59	1600	0	84.1	0.80	3
1650	94.01	2.96	0.97	2.07	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	16.71	1650	0	84.3	0.58	3
1700	94.50	2.06	3.44	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	17.77	1700	0	76.7	0.52	3
1750	96.61	1.88	1.52	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	16.45	1750	0	84.8	0.51	3
1800	96.98	1.50	1.52	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	16.56	1800	0	83.9	0.63	3
1850	95.84	1.78	1.36	1.02	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	15.64	1850	0	86.3	0.57	3
1900	95.67	2.08	1.37	1.11	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	16.86	1900	0	85.6	0.55	3
1950	92.24	1.74	1.49	1.00	1.49	2.22	0.0 B	0.0 B	19.55	1950	3.9	86.5	0.47	4
2000	88.44	1.41	0.83	1.04	8.28	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	19.31	2000	8.3	87.7	0.30	5
2050	77.41	1.11	0.73	0.55	2.06	5.15	12.99	0.0 B	29.65	2050	12.1	88.8	0.43	6
2100	37.42	0.64	0.75	0.43	5.15	16.83	38.79	0.0 B	50.99	2100	60.8	90.6	0.46	11
2154	77.81	1.50	1.06	0.83	0.93	2.97	14.90	0.0 B	25.16	2154	18.8	89.5	0.48	6
2200	47.48	2.20	0.63	1.31	1.03	3.74	19.99	23.62	71.99	2200	48.4	87.0	0.47	15
2255	16.77	0.22	0.42	0.22	3.09	16.35	28.65	34.28	174.57	2255	88.4	83.6	0.55	32
2300	9.04	0.36	0.14	1.09	5.01	22.66	23.57	30.14	371.71	2300	89.4	88.0	0.41	52
2330	10.26	0.62	0.13	0.81	3.14	15.78	26.10	43.15	400.23	2330	88.1	84.1	0.66	41
2360	30.76	1.73	1.36	1.30	3.60	15.23	20.27	25.75	255.76	2360	84.8	83.5	0.65	47
2390	12.03	0.80	0.54	0.96	4.56	20.88	30.79	29.27	303.45	2390	85.5	88.5	0.55	36
2450	45.44	1.58	0.58	3.47	1.75	8.23	19.46	19.49	44.83	2450	48.5	89.4	0.69	7
2480	37.68	6.98	1.43	4.52	1.69	7.11	20.99	21.59	44.71	2480	51.4	86.8	0.52	6
2510	76.71	7.13	0.9	6.06	5.21	6.89	0.0 B	0.0 B	35.18	2510	10.1	83.9	0.36	3
2540	94.26	1.99	1.21	2.55	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	23.34	2540	0	83.9	0.34	3
2580	40.43	1.56	0.68	0.97	1.24	5.49	12.64	35.98	66.49	2580	56.3	82.3	0.56	18
2620	92.90	3.54	1.58	1.98	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	28.38	2620	0	87.3	0.44	4
2660	78.30	2.62	1.08	2.42	2.37	13.22	0.0 B	0.0 B	24.00	2660	15.6	85.1	0.54	4
2700	77.10	4.10	1.17	2.42	2.32	12.90	0.0 B	0.0 B	25.11	2700	15.4	77.6	0.51	5
2735	83.09	9.97	1.03	3.65	2.26	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	30.83	2735	2.3	81.0	0.68	38
2760	89.75	6.97	0.0 B	3.27	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	19.66	2760	0	58.0	0.28	7
2790	81.83	7.91	0.0 B	3.88	2.84	3.55	0.0 B	0.0 B	34.43	2790	6.4	84.0	0.10	34
2820	82.53	9.63	0.0 B	3.93	3.90	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	23.08	2820	3.9	84.9	0.34	18
2880	91.15	4.31	0.62	2.12	1.80	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	44.74	2880	1.8	87.4	0.12	10
3105	96.69	3.31	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	12.93	3105	0	80.0	0.23	6
3150	94.36	5.64	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	18.46	3150	0	82.7	0.28	8
3170	96.58	3.42	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	14.01	3170	0	77.4	0.68	3
3190	96.67	3.33	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	13.63	3190	0	82.7	0.28	3
3210	95.12	4.88	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	12.93	3210	0	82.3	0.32	4
3230	94.46	5.54	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	17.91	3230	0	81.6	0.25	7
3255	96.30	3.70	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	18.13	3255	0	82.8	0.34	8
3272.5	91.92	3.54	0.0 B	4.53	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	19.75	3272	0	83.5	0.22	7
3285	94.42	5.58	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	19.36	3285	0	81.5	0.24	8
3297.5	91.97	2.74	0.0 B	5.29	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	16.21	3297	0	79.9	0.29	6
3302.5	52.04	1.35	0.0 B	10.71	8.72	26.57	0.0 B	0.0 B	30.65	3302	36.3	82.4	0.23	13
3310	97.46	2.54	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	27.48	3310	0	81.2	0.28	8
3315	0.62	0.16	0.01	17.21	7.76	32.00	20.68	20.75	8054.75	3315	82.0	84.9	1.42	339
3325	2.75	0.23	0.02	3.83	5.55	26.62	30.52	30.48	5699.69	3325	93.2	83.7	3.36	148
3335	0.38	0.26	0.0 B	3.41	6.36	28.66	32.10	24.83	3034.74	3335	92.0	85.4	3.30	32
3355	15.71	0.67	0.0 B	6.39	5.90	29.88	23.23	18.21	788.25	3355	74.1	80.2	2.65	30
3370	50.77	0.15	0.15	19.16	0.67	3.80	2.63	6.03	1328.04	3370	13.4	87.6	3.26	41
3389	8.01	0.79	0.07	3.19	5.82	32.57	24.39	20.16	2549.06	3389	92.5	82.3	3.34	24
3420	6.52	0.64	0.07	13.99	5.80	28.19	22.14	22.85	2384.78	3420	78.9	85.1	3.34	21
3438	2.03	0.13	0.0 B	45.63	3.12	13.70	1.52	0.88	18176.38	3438	13.8	80.4	23.63	39
3460	1.90	28.87	0.0 B	43.89	4.11	13.48	3.96	3.60	14892.54	3460	25.4	92.6	30.68	49
3480	9.60	28.56	0.30	37.41	2.94	13.57	3.96	3.67	9925.86	3480	34.1	90.8	9.10	109
3495	16.19	43.95	0.0 B	29.14	1.56	7.03	1.30	0.84	11604.44	3495	10.7	82.2	14.90	98
3517	11.02	4.63	0.0 B	7.56	5.17	22.96	23.76	24.60	3288.39	3517	16.5	82.4	2.68	122
3530	14.28	2.08	0.0 B	5.35	3.97	23.91	31.19	19.23	1506.88	3530	78.3	82.1	3.67	43
3542.5-3545.5	11.38	8.27	0.0 B	14.10	4.22	22.28	18.39	21.40	2012.61	3545	66.3	91.1	4.01	50
3572	3.96	2.05	0.0 B	6.96	7.26	33.52	22.13	24.13	4024.56	3572	87.0	84.9	3.77	107
3580	90.05	4.86	0.0 B	2.68	0.83	1.58	0.0 B	0.0 B	369.02	3580	2.4	64.3	2.55	15
3625	77.44	7.19	0.0 B	8.53	2.87	3.96	0.0 B	0.0 B	101.47	3625	6.8	72.7	1.10	9
3685	54.76	3.48	0.0 B	7.52	4.36	5.48	3.27	20.63	194.99	3685	35.7	86.6	1.88	10
3710	14.14	3.48	0.0 B	35.10	3.14	7.34	1.73	8.79	472.17	3710	21.0	80.4	3.51	13
3722.5	21.12	29.24	0.0 B	22.73	3.78	9.89	7.11	10.13	386.34	3722	48.9	77.2	4.63	15
3735	10.48	19.39	0.0 B	37.29	5.52	18.27	4.03	5.02	566.33	3735	31.6	80.3	4.03	14
3750	13.73	8.70	0.0 B	46.16	4.48	21.75	3.79	1.39	986.99	3750	31.4	90.1	5.40	18
3775	8.14	14.56	0.0 B	49.49	4.12	15.56	5.77	2.35	707.79	3775	23.8	90.4	5.67	13
3800	24.8	3.6	0.0	30.6	6.8	48.3	4.6	5.5	446.0	3800	35.2	91.5	1.52	10
3835	27.85	33.45	0.0	19.65	5.73	13.13	0.0 B	0.0 B	125.39	3835	48.3	91.9	0.85	15
3850	36.23	13.80	0.0	22.46	13.85	13.66	0.0 B	0.0 B	53.47	3850	27.5	91.3	1.00	5
3907.5	100.00	0.0 B	0.0	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	15.78	3907	0	90.0	0.24	6
3932.5	100.00	0.0 B	0.0	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	18.35	3932	0	90.3	0.14	8
3950	100.00	0.0 B	0.0	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	15.68	3950	0	90.3	0.14	9
3997.5	100.00	0.0 B	0.0	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	0.0 B	15.92	3997	0	89.8	0.16	10

