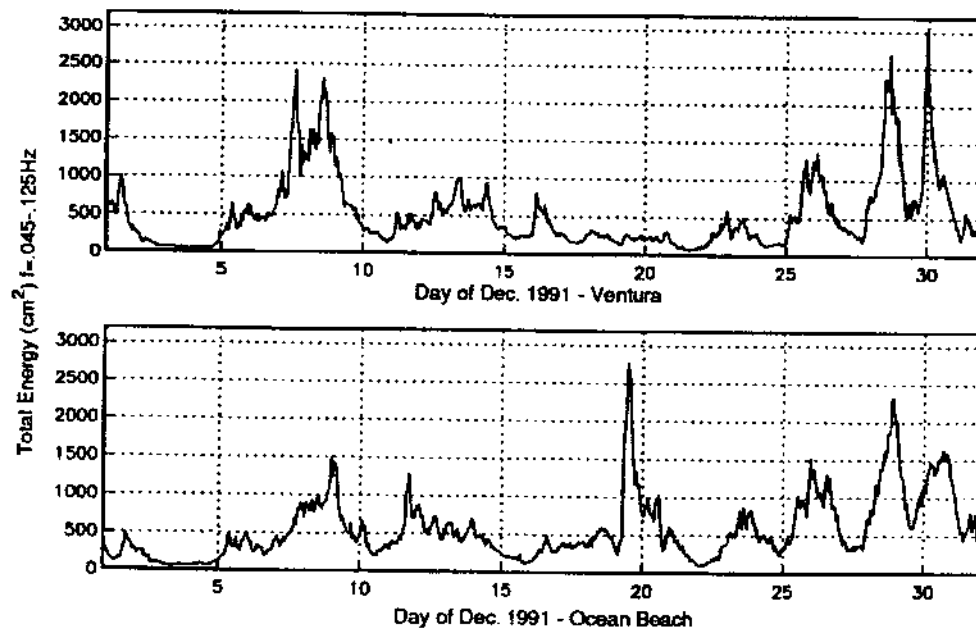


LOAN COPY ONLY

Data Report: Southern California Wave Experiment**CIRCULATING COPY
Sea Grant Depository**

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Center for Coastal Studies
La Jolla, California 92093-0209



Data report prepared for

California Department of Boating and Waterways
1629 "S" Street
Sacramento, California 95814

April 1992

SIO Reference Series No. 92-14

CALIFORNIA SEA GRANT
(Guza; R/CZ-90)

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ABSTRACT

This report contains data from Southern California Wave Experiment, funded by the California Department of Boating and Waterways and Sea Grant. Eleven pressure sensors were deployed throughout the Southern California Bight in two, three-month experiments, designed to test numerical wave modeling techniques in this bathymetrically complex region. The fall deployment took place from 14 August 1991 to 4 November 1991, and the winter deployment was from 4 November 1991 until 14 February 1992. All the sensors were deployed at a depth of approximately 30m and sampled continuously at 0.5Hz. This data report contains hourly estimates of wave energies between 0.035Hz and 0.125Hz, at the measurement sites.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The following wave data were collected from August, 1991 to February, 1992, during the Southern California Wave Experiment. The instrument deployments were extremely successful, with a 90% data return from the fall deployment and nearly 100% return from the winter deployment. This high rate of data return was primarily due to the work of Walt Waldorf, who was in charge of building and testing the instrumentation as well as designing the moorings and orchestrating their deployment and recovery. The reliability of the pressure sensing and cassette data acquisition systems was due to the electrical and mechanical design skills of Mike Kirk and Mike Clifton, respectively. Bill Boyd assisted in testing and deploying the instruments and handled the majority of the data playback from the cassettes. We wish to thank Steve Elgar, Ron Flick, Ron George, and Tom Herbers for assisting in the deployment and recovery of the instrument moorings, and the captain and crew of the R/V *Robert Gordon Sproul* for their expert ship handling and general hospitality.

The Southern California Wave Experiment was funded by the California Department of Boating and Waterways, as part of their continuing program of studies to enhance boating safety and to prevent beach erosion, and Sea Grant. This work is the result of research sponsored in part by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Sea Grant College Program, Department of Commerce, under grant number NA89AA-D-SG138, project number R/CZ-90, through the California Sea Grant College, and in part the California State Resources Agency. The U.S. Government is authorized to reproduce and distribute this report for governmental purposes.

1. Overview

The Southern California wave climate is spatially complex due the partial sheltering effects of the offshore islands and shoals and the nearshore influence of coastal submarine canyons (Figure 1). Compared to open coastlines, the wave conditions within the Bight are much more sensitive to the frequency and direction of the incident deep ocean waves. Spectral refraction and refraction-diffraction wave propagation models have been adapted for use in the Bight; however, there is insufficient field data available at the present time to assess the accuracy of these numerical methods. The wave prediction problem in the Bight is further complicated by the fact that relatively high resolution deep ocean directional spectra are required as input to the models. It has been shown that a pitch-and-roll buoy alone is of too low a resolution, and more advanced methods (e.g. SAR) have not yet reached the point where they are practical options.

To address this resolution problem, a linear inverse technique has been developed which uses sheltered wave data and the previously mentioned wave propagation models to infer the shape of the deep ocean directional spectra. These estimates can in turn be used as input to the wave model to predict the wave field at all coastal locations. Applications of this technique to several historical wave events have been quite promising, but the method has been limited by the the number and locations of the wave data stations operating in the Bight. Simulations with the inverse method suggest that more optimal locations exist for wave data collection.

The goal of the field experiment is to use 10 or 11 wave energy gages in the Bight at optimally selected sites for inverse estimates. The resulting deep ocean spectra will then be used with the wave models to predict wave energies and directional moments at other instrumented locations in the Bight. The comparisons of model predictions and field measurements will be used to assess the viability of these optimal networks for Bight-wide wave monitoring. Although a direct evaluation of the wave propagation models is impossible without high resolution deep ocean spectra, successful predictions by the inverse scheme would be an indirect verification of their accuracy.

2. Experiment Plan

Two field deployments were made, the first from mid-August to early November, 1991, and the second from early November until mid-February, 1992. The first deployment was designed to monitor Southern Hemisphere wave events, or more specifically, waves coming from compass headings 180-235°. The 10 deployed gages will be used with 3 existing offshore gages (Harvest Platform, NOAA buoy 46023, and the San Nicolas Island buoy) to provide inverse estimates of the deep ocean spectrum with 5° resolution. Because the Southern Hemisphere wave spectra are typically energetic at low frequencies, .04-.07Hz (i.e. generated by large storm events), it was assumed that all the wave energy would be from the south-southwest at these frequencies during most of the time period from August to September. October tends to be a period when Northern

and Southern Hemisphere swell mix, so the data will have to be used more selectively, based on available wave hindcast information. The 11 winter deployment locations were designed to monitor North Pacific swell (waves from compass headings 245-330°). The inverse estimates will have 5° resolution between 260° and 300° and 10° resolution for the more southwesterly and northwesterly directions.

The wave energy gages are bottom pressure sensors, deployed at a depth of $\approx 30m$. The gages were mounted in the anchor of a mooring system consisting of a sub-surface buoy and a surface marker buoy, and were deployed and recovered by the R/V Robert Gordon Sproul. The first deployment cruise was from August 14-16, 1991. A turn-around cruise from November 4-8 recovered the gages from their fall sites and redeployed them at their winter locations. The final recovery of the gages took place February 16-18, 1992.

3. Instrument Description

The wave gage is a single pressure sensor which is completely self-contained, with internal battery power and cassette data tape storage. The gages stored up to 103 days of data on a 120 minute audio cassette, sampling continuously at .5Hz. A Setra 100 psi pressure transducer was integrated with a 16 bit Crystal Semiconductor analog to digital converter (ADC). The ADC contains a six-pole gaussian filter to avoid aliasing problems in the wave frequency range of interest (.04-.12Hz). Field testing of the instruments at the end of Scripps pier included simultaneous deployments with a "standard" sensor used extensively in past nearshore experiments.

4. Wave Data

Maps showing the approximate locations of the gages for the fall and winter deployments are shown in Figures 1 and 2. The exact locations and depths of the sensors are given in Tables 1 and 2. The instruments were designed to measure wave energy between .04 and .12Hz. The continuous time series from the gages was broken down in records of approximately one hour (68 min 16s, or 2048 samples at .5Hz), centered on the hour. The records were FFT'd and the resulting energy spectra were merged into .01Hz frequency bands. The total energy between .04 and .12Hz, and the energy in the individual .01Hz bands are plotted vs. time on pages 9-44 for the fall deployment and pages 46-94 for the winter deployment.

Only one sensor failed to work properly during the experiment, and it was located at Site #5 in the fall deployment. This sensor was repaired after the turn-around cruise in November and deployed at winter Site #2. A number of wave records had glitches which were replaced by previous segments of good data if they did not exceed one half an hour in length. There are several gaps which exceeded 30 minutes and these appear as zero energies in the appropriate plots.

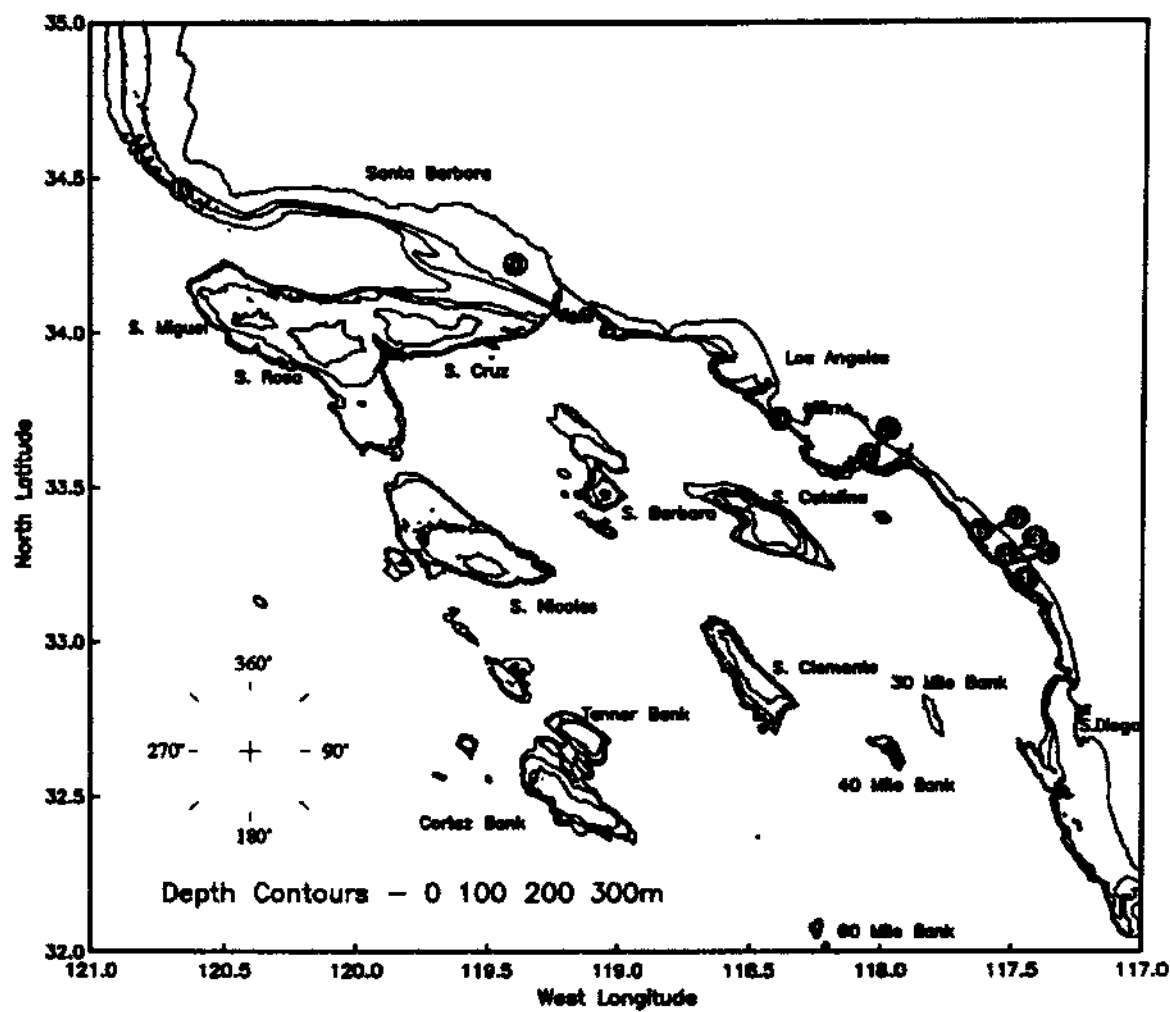


FIGURE 1. Fall Deployment Sites - SoCal Wave Experiment

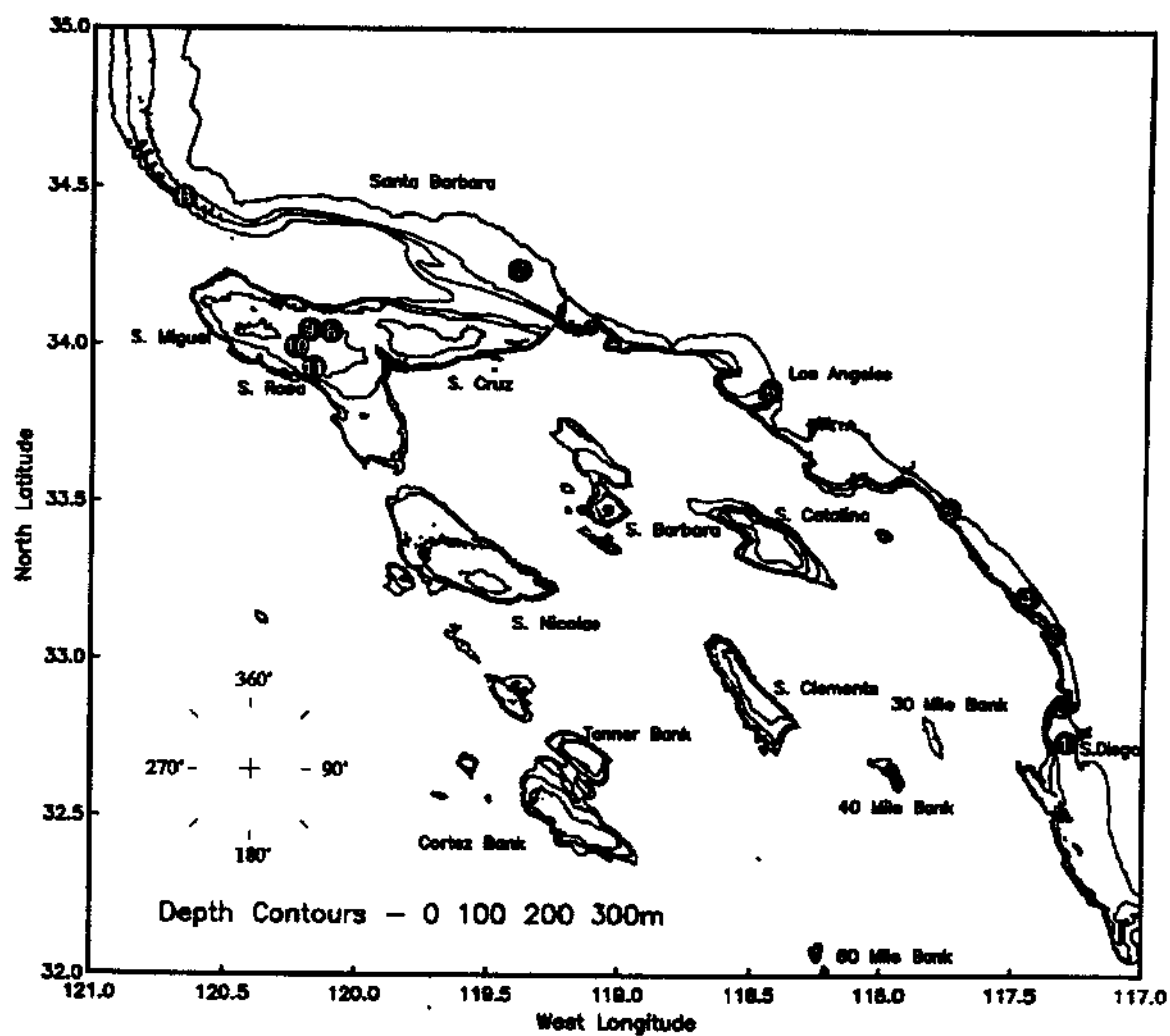


FIGURE 2. Winter Deployment Sites - SoCal Wave Experiment

SoCal Wave Experiment - Fall Deployment Sites					
August 14, 1991 to November 4, 1991					
Site #	Lat.	Lon.	Depth(m)	Region	Sensor #
1	33 11.90	117 26.47	31	Oceanside	1
2	33 15.17	117 28.99	29	Pendleton S	2
3	33 15.80	117 29.90	32	Pendleton	3
4	33 16.56	117 30.59	31	Pendleton N	4
5	33 20.76	117 35.75	32	San Onofre S	5
6	33 21.53	117 36.54	30	San Onofre N	6
7	33 36.39	118 02.65	33	Long Beach W	7
8	33 36.50	118 01.52	30	Long Beach E	8
9	33 43.57	118 21.99	28	Palos Verdes	9
10	34 13.72	119 24.52	32	Ventura	10

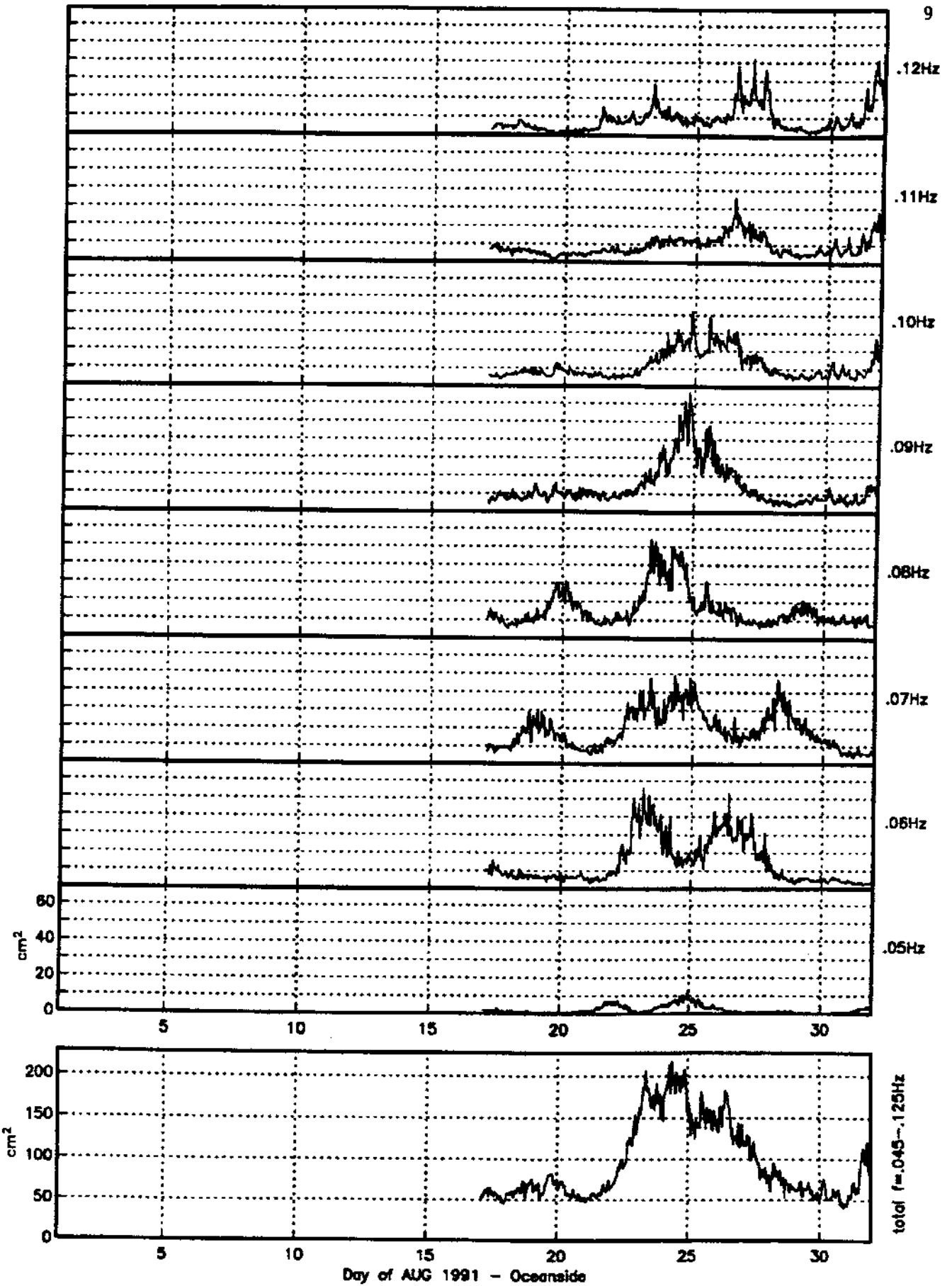
Table 1. Fall Deployment Information

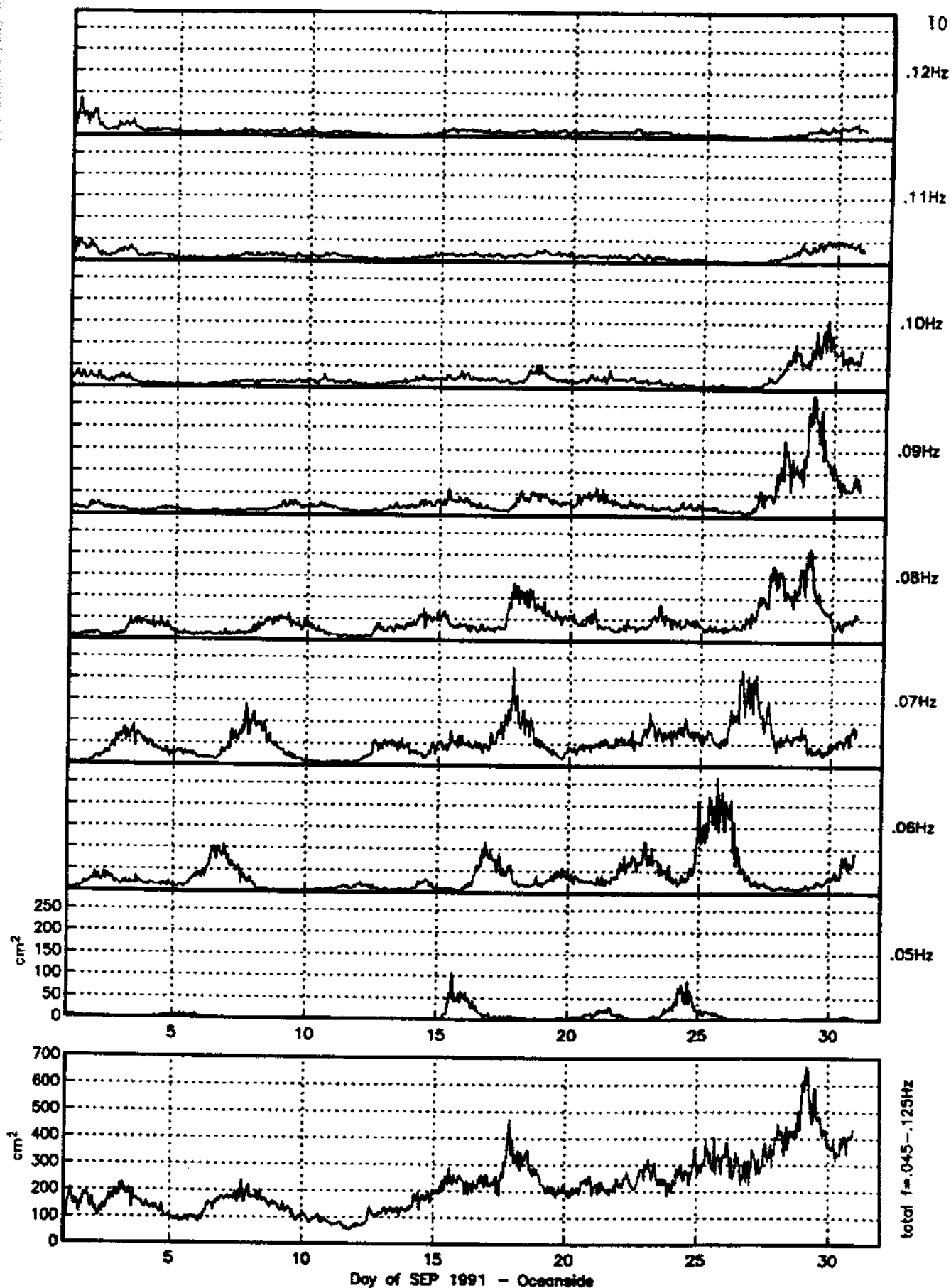
SoCal Wave Experiment - Winter Deployment Sites					
November 4, 1991 to February 18, 1992					
Site #	Lat.	Lon.	Depth(m)	Region	Sensor #
1	32 44.32	117 16.85	27	Ocean Beach	11
2	32 50.78	117 18.15	31	Pt. La Jolla	5
3	33 05.48	117 19.97	29	Batiquitos	1
4	33 11.63	117 26.05	30	Oceanside	10
5	33 28.58	117 44.32	30	Dana Point	2
6	33 51.80	118 25.75	30	Redondo	3
7	34 15.35	119 24.28	32	Ventura	4
8	34 03.03	120 08.45	29	Santa Rosa NE	6
9	34 03.25	120 11.42	33	Santa Rosa NW	7
10	34 00.45	120 15.95	30	Santa Rosa W	8
11	33 55.80	120 12.20	32	Santa Rosa SW	9

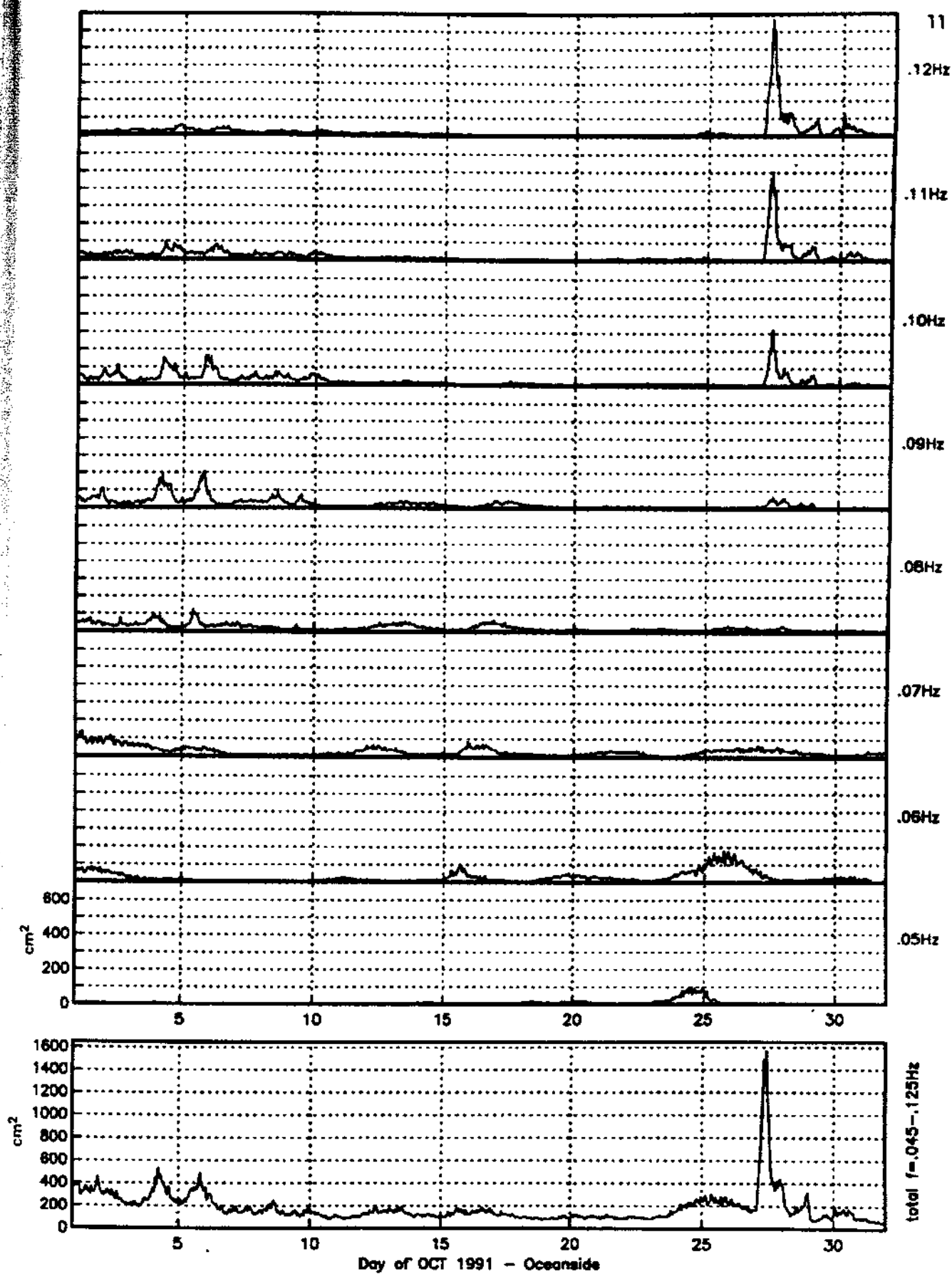
Table 2. Winter Deployment Information

Fall Deployment Data

Site No.	Location	Page No.
1	Oceanside	9-12
2	Pendleton S	13-16
3	Pendleton	17-20
4	Pendleton N	21-24
5	San Onofre S	NO DATA
6	San Onofre N	25-28
7	Long Beach W	29-32
8	Long Beach E	33-36
9	Palos Verdes	37-40
10	Ventura	41-44







.12Hz

.11Hz

.10Hz

.09Hz

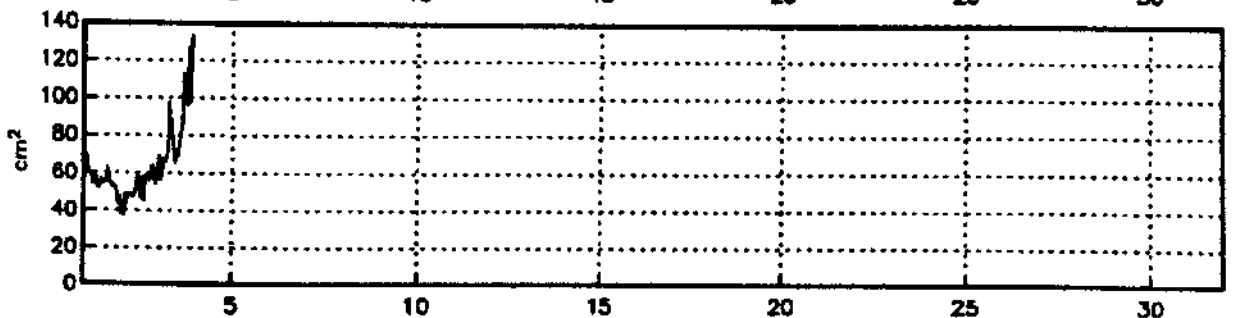
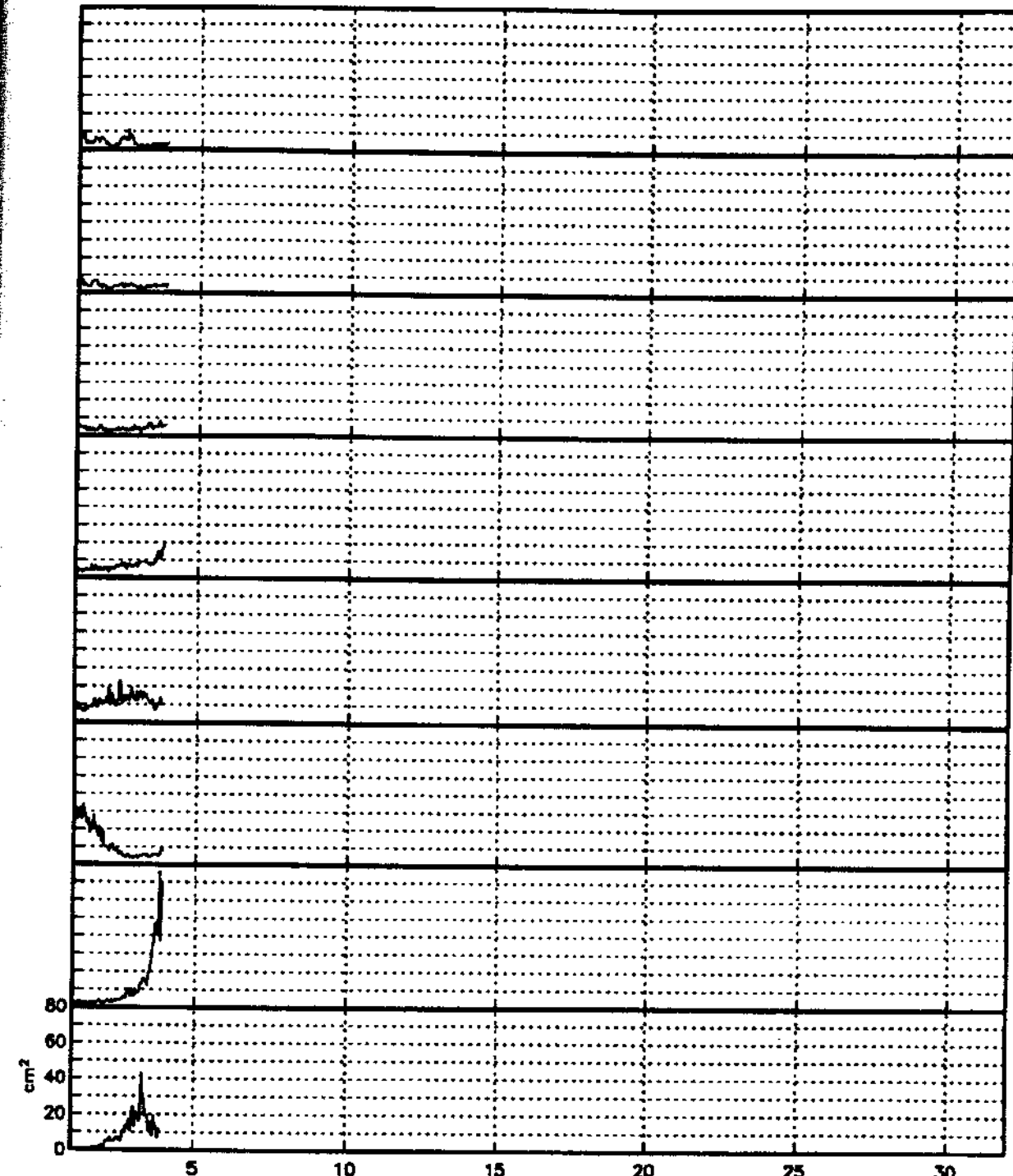
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.07Hz

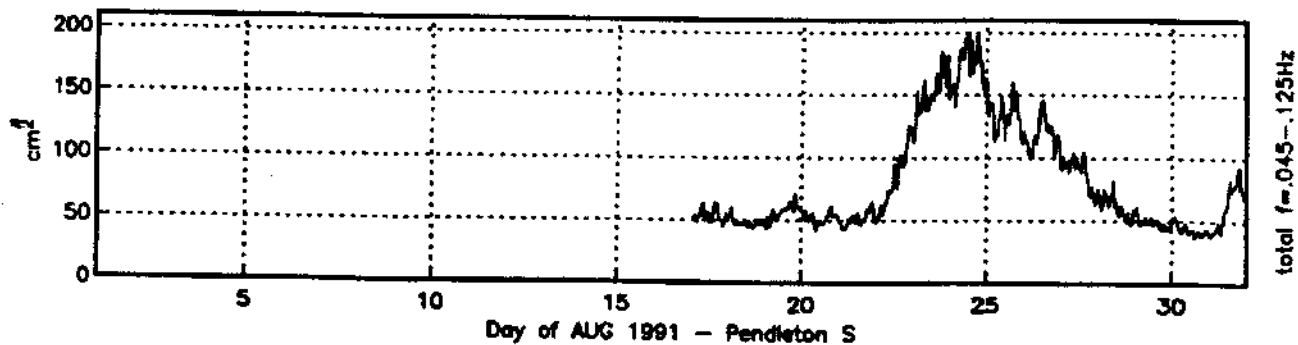
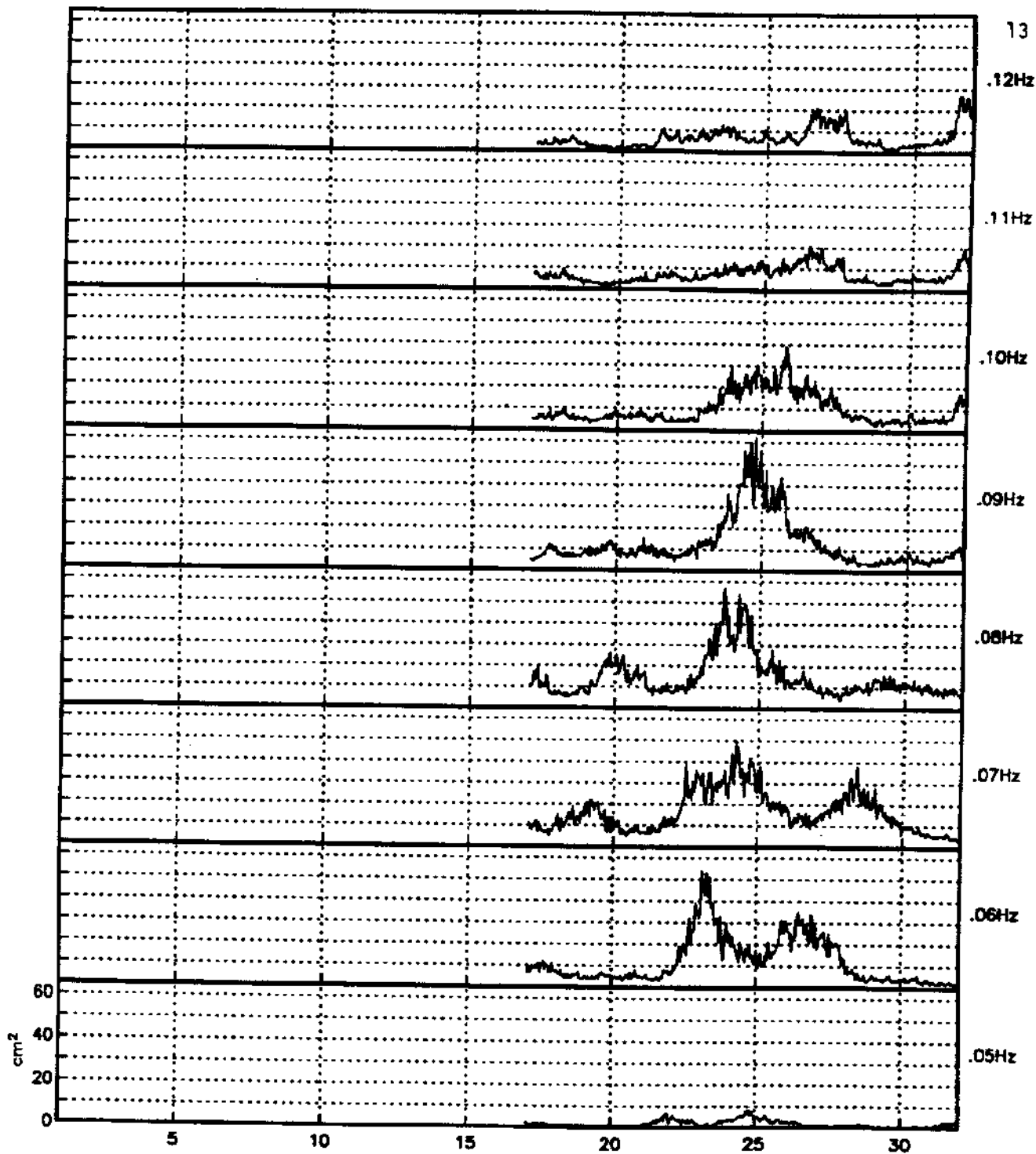
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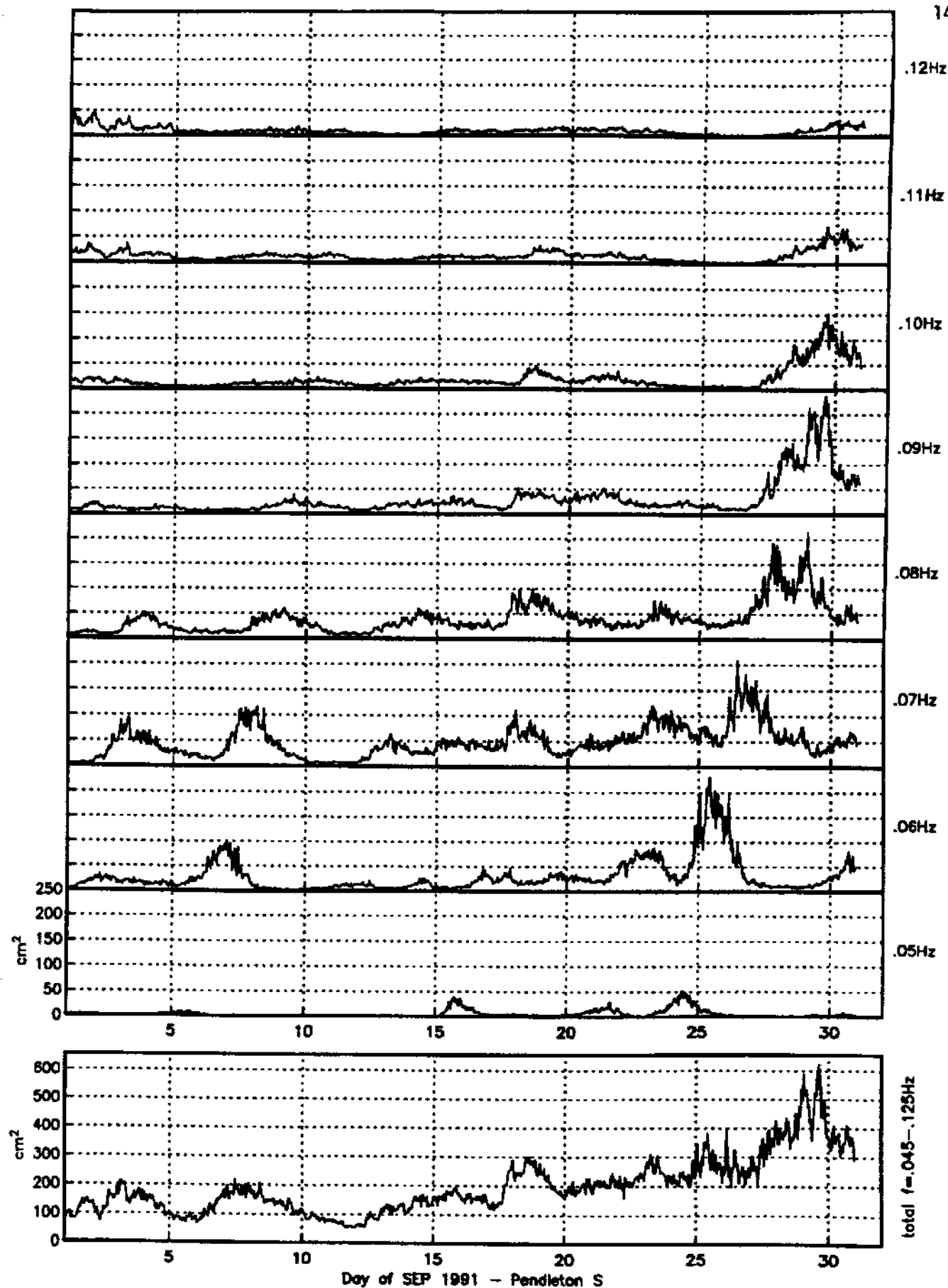
.05Hz

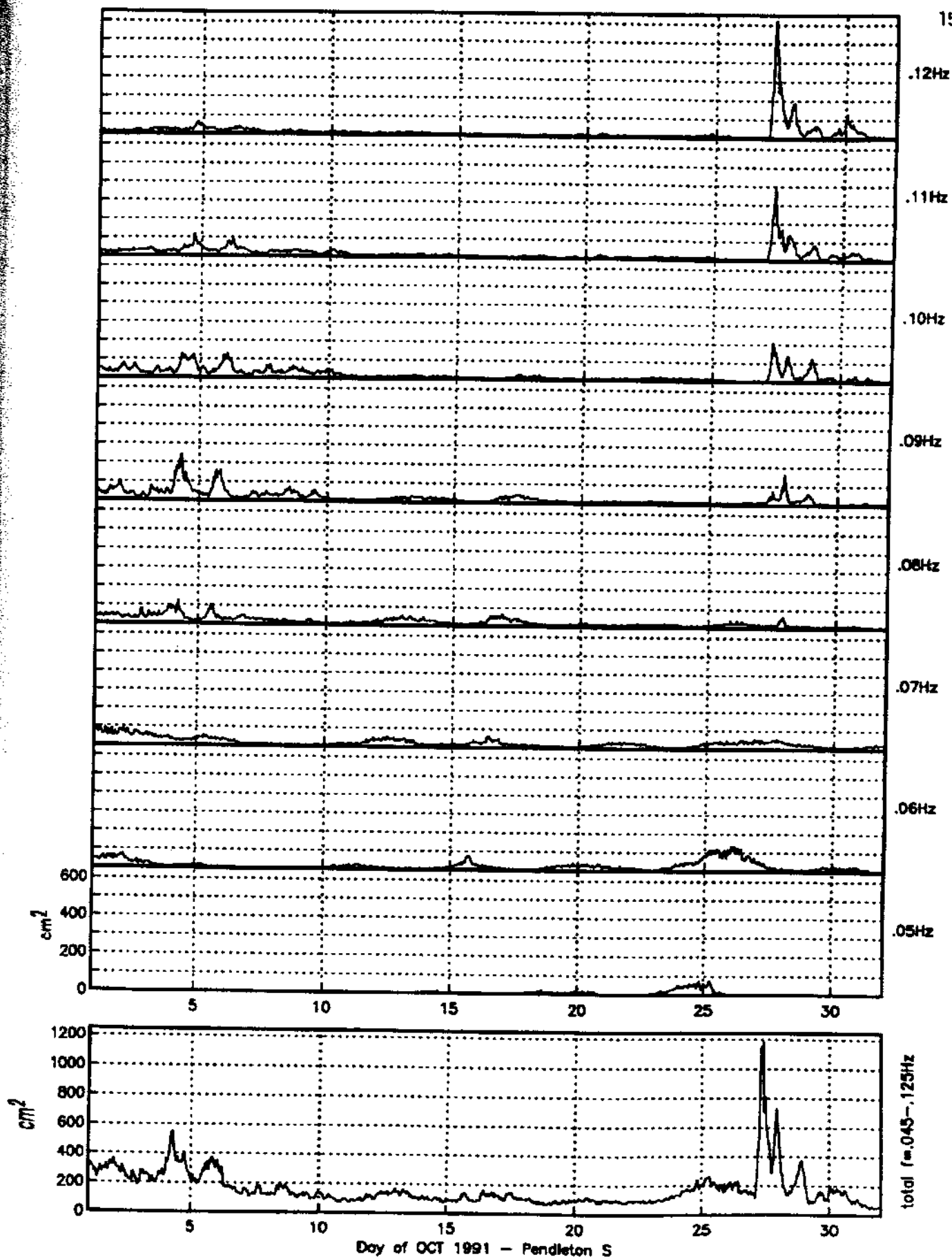
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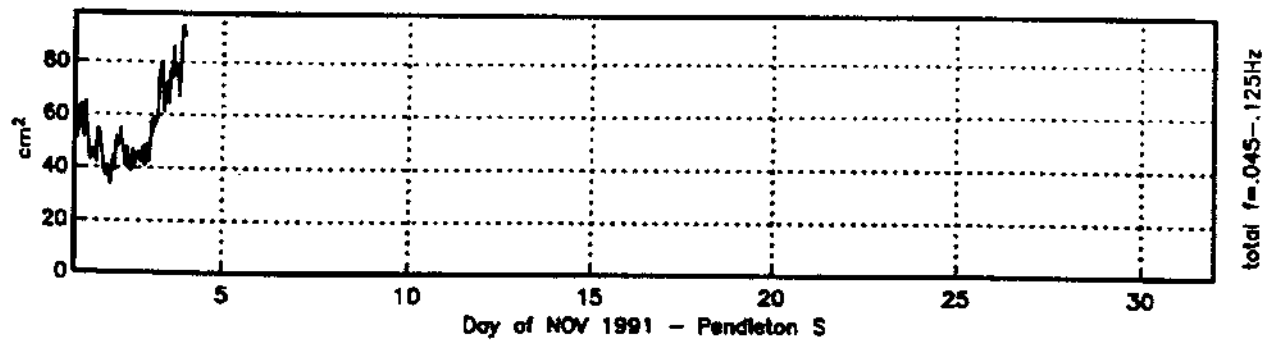
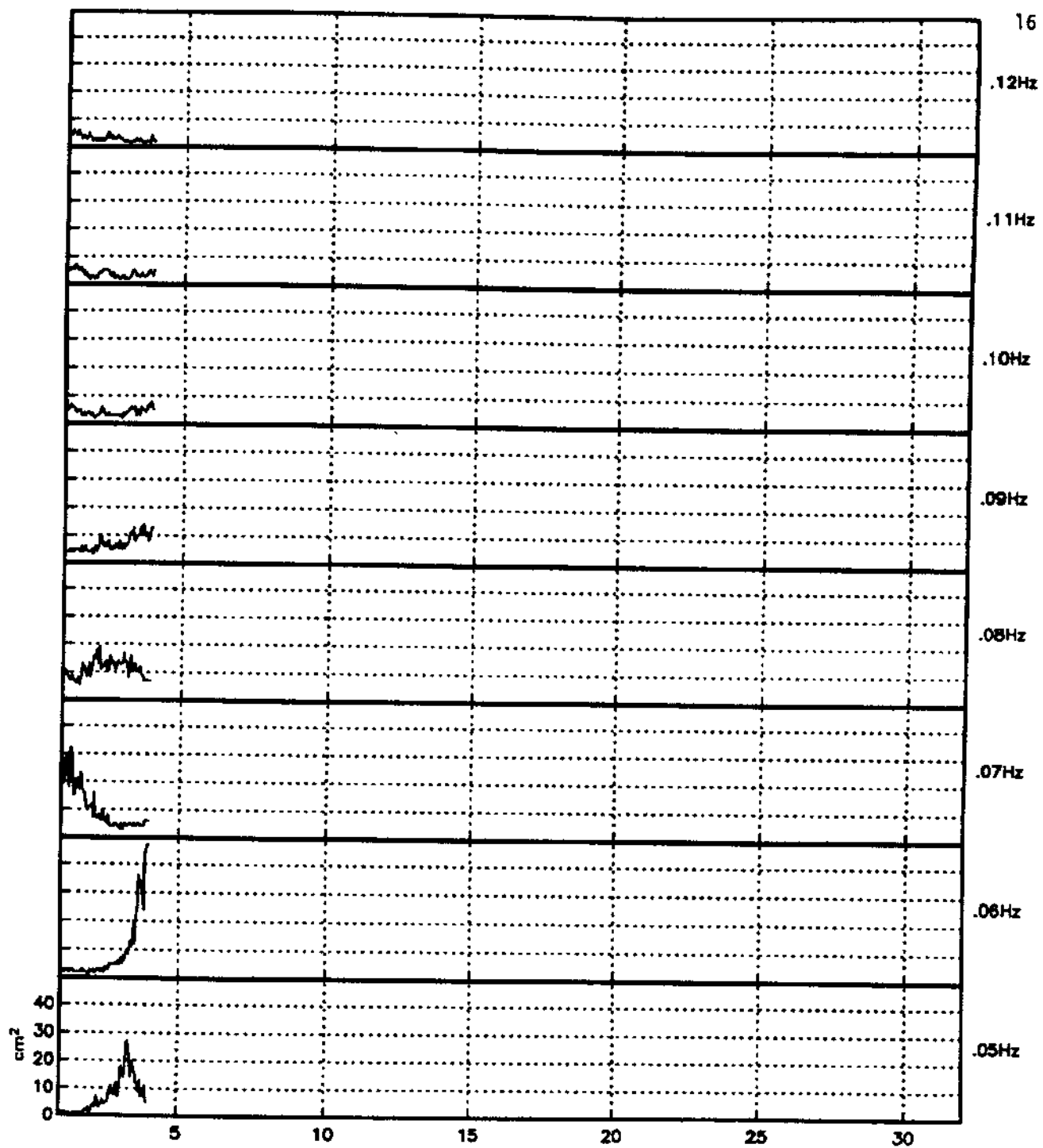


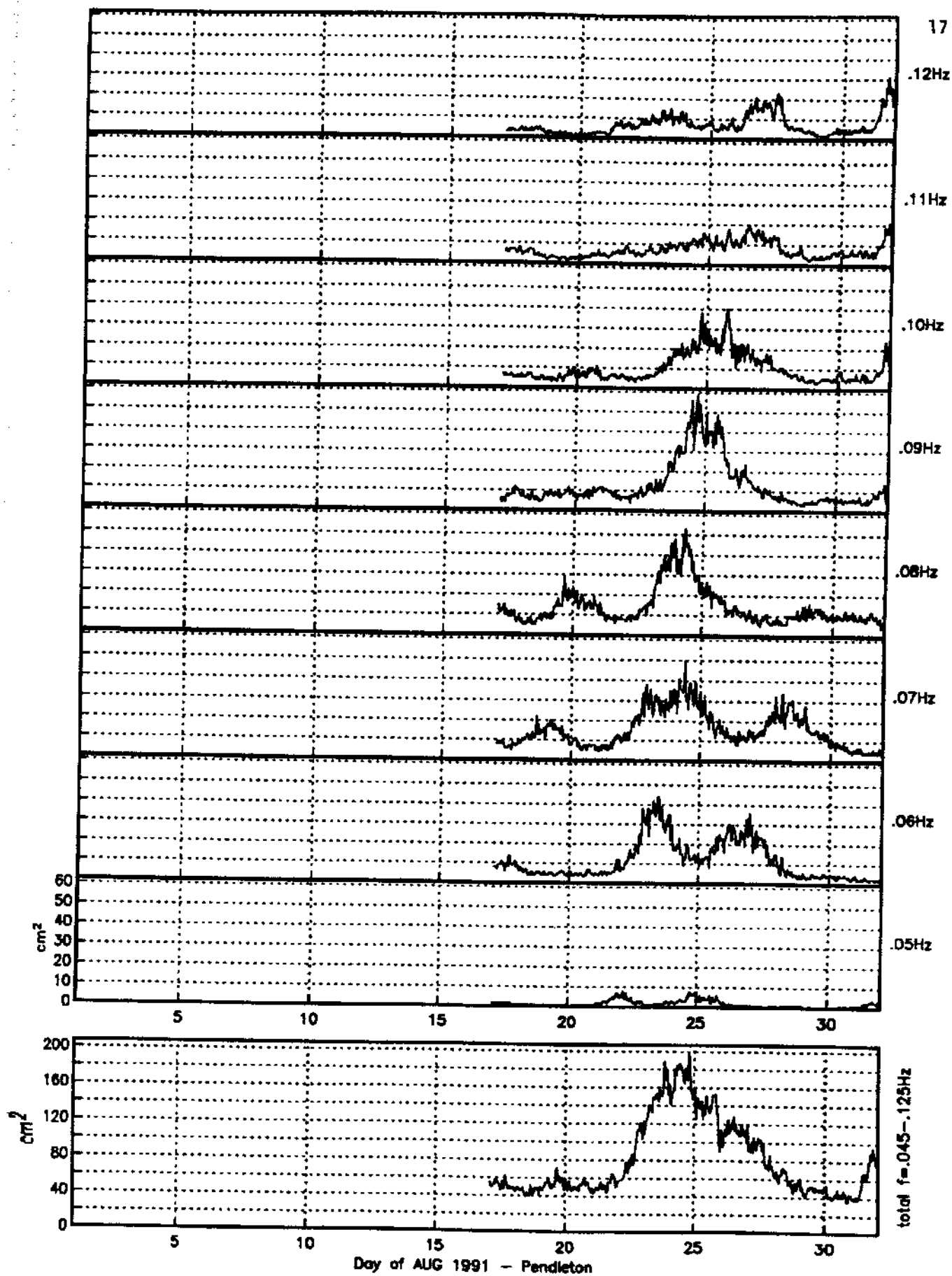
Day of NOV 1991 - Oceanside

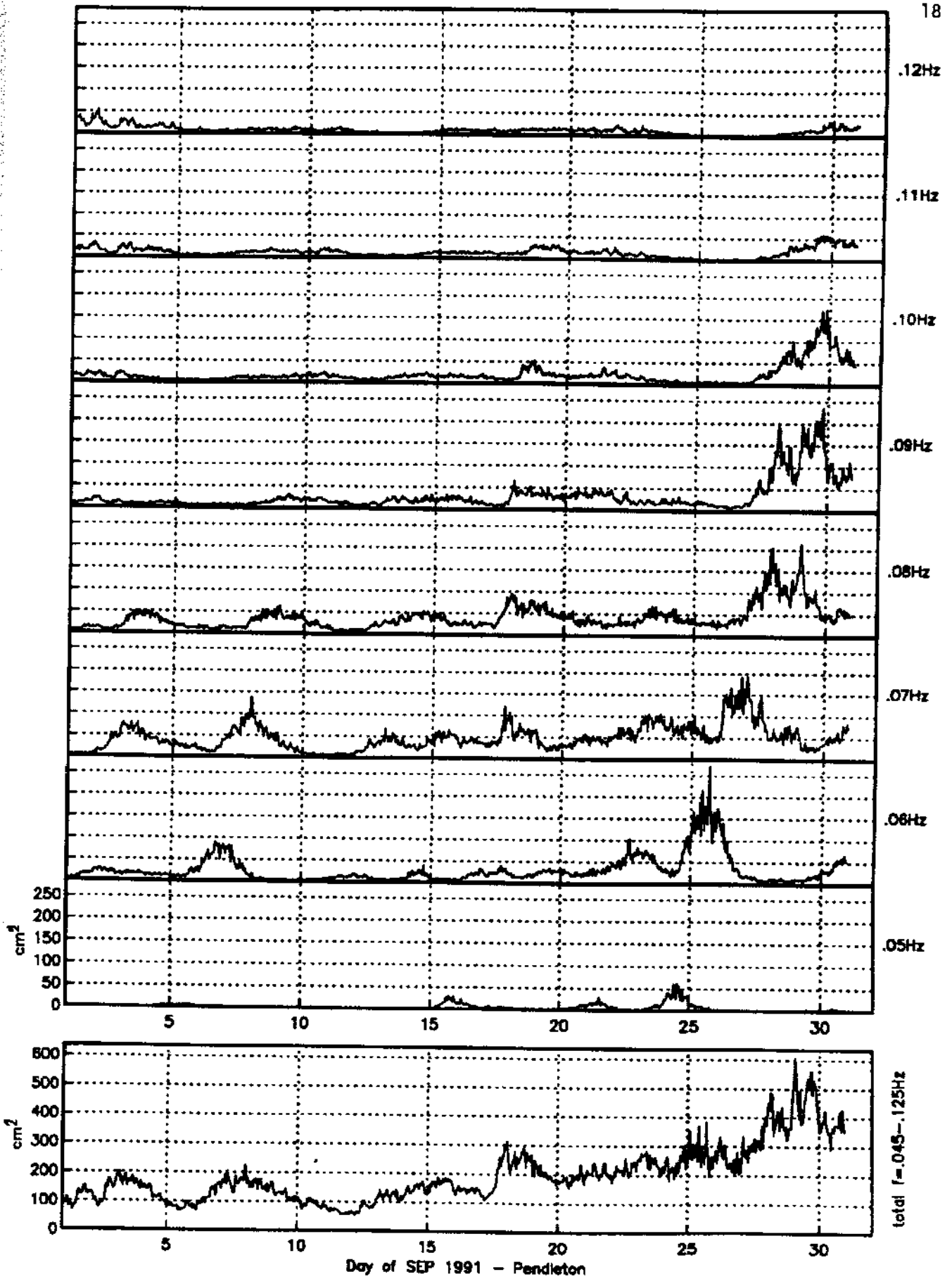


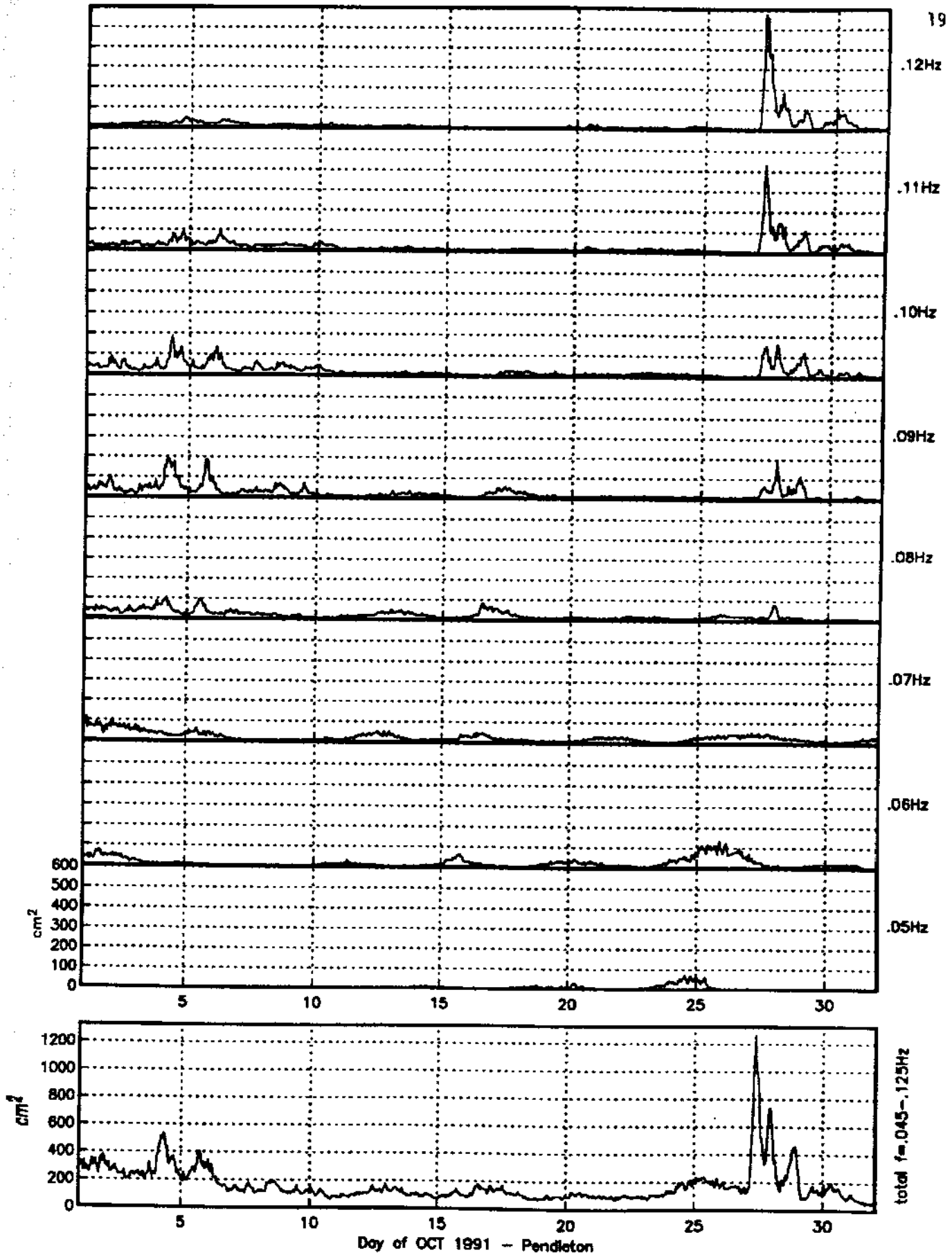


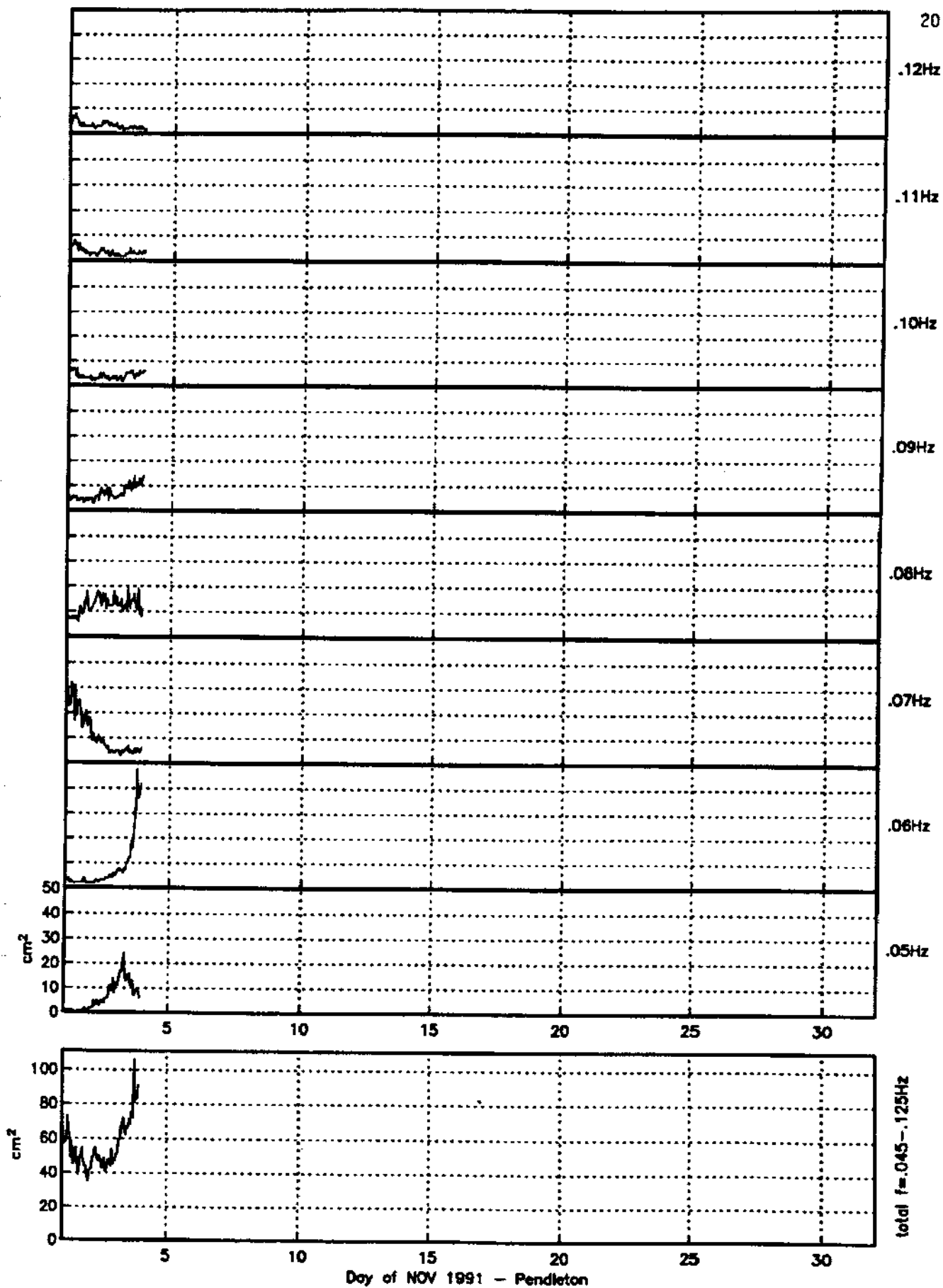


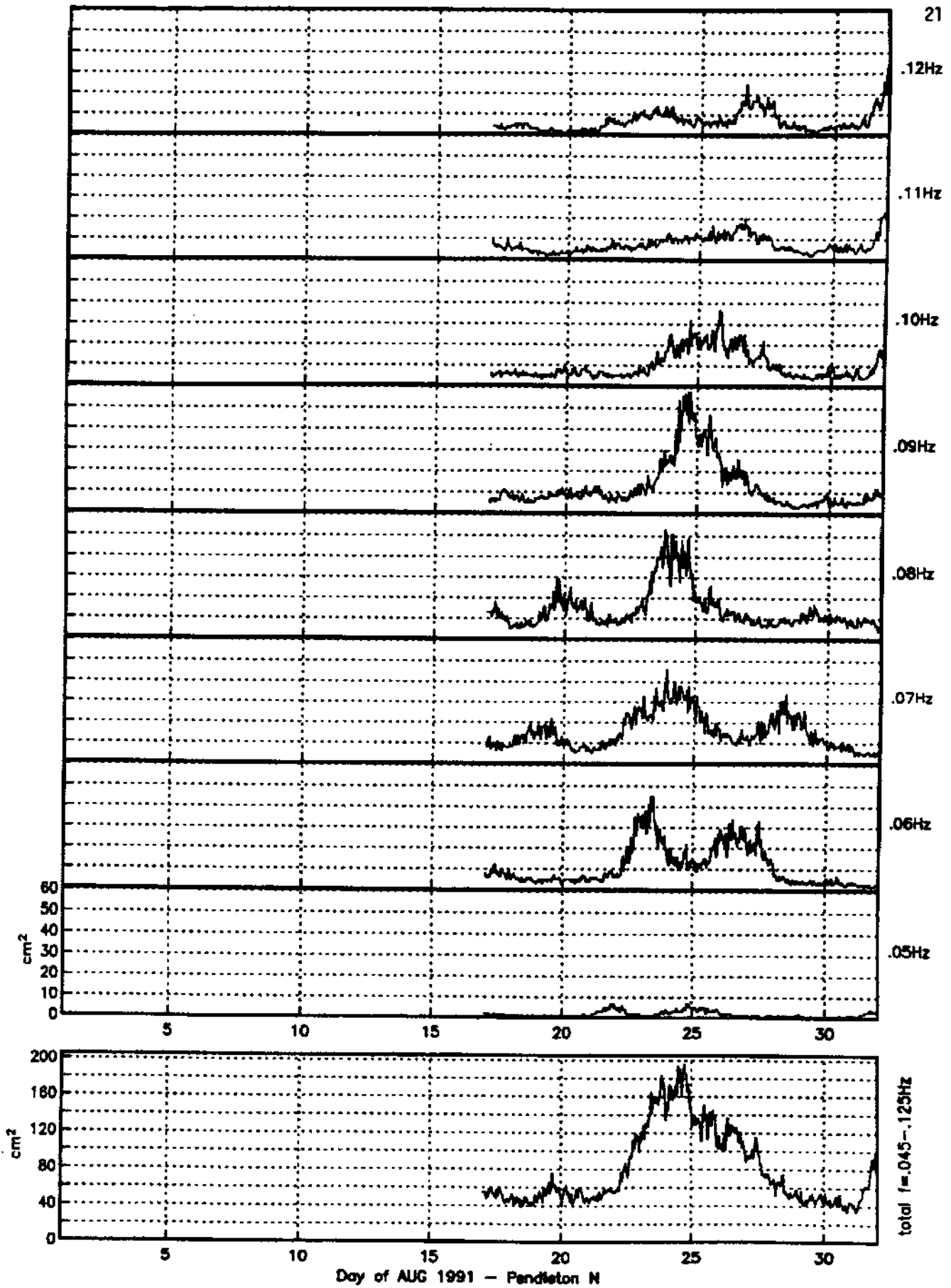


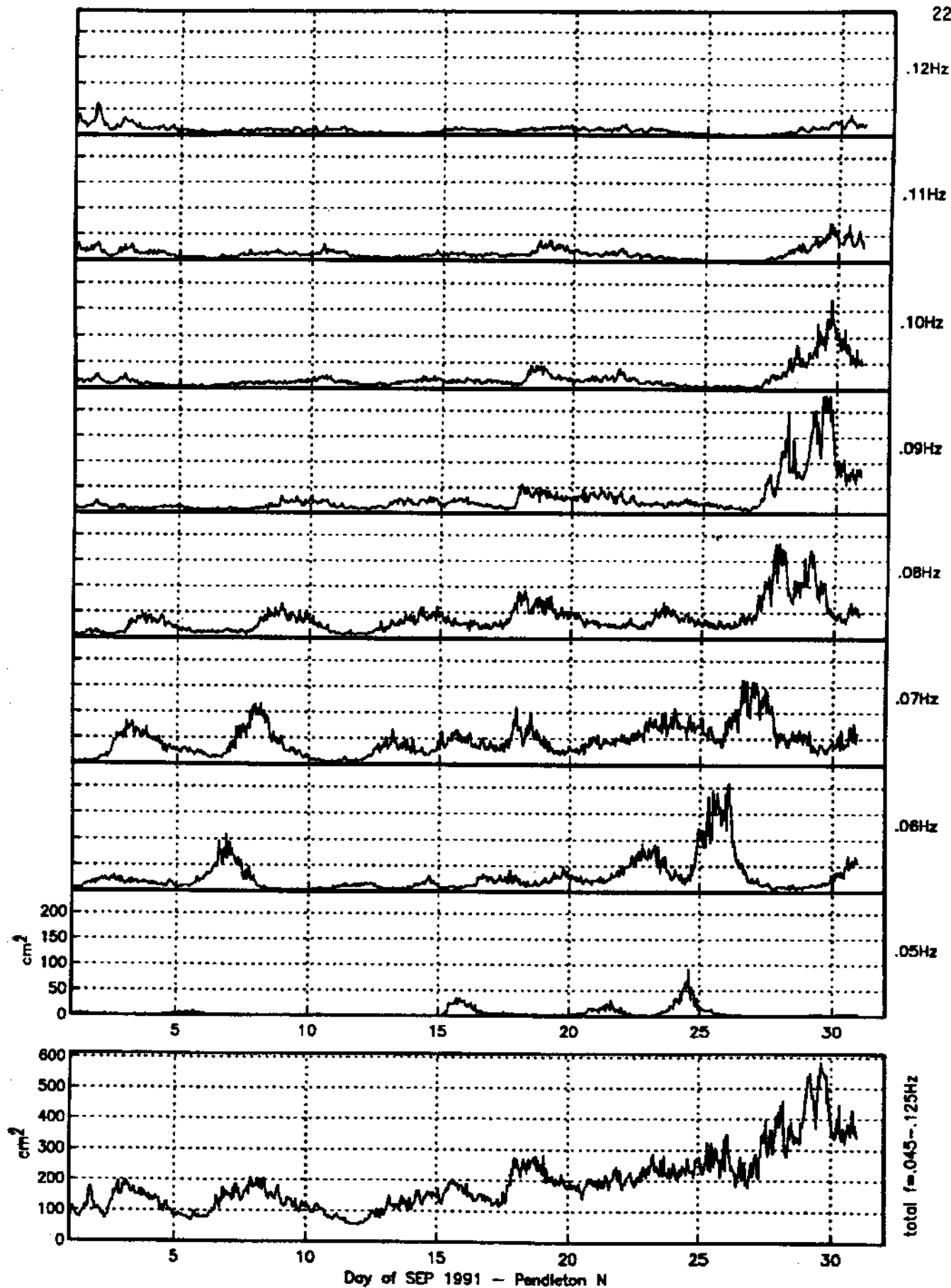












23

.12Hz

.11Hz

.10Hz

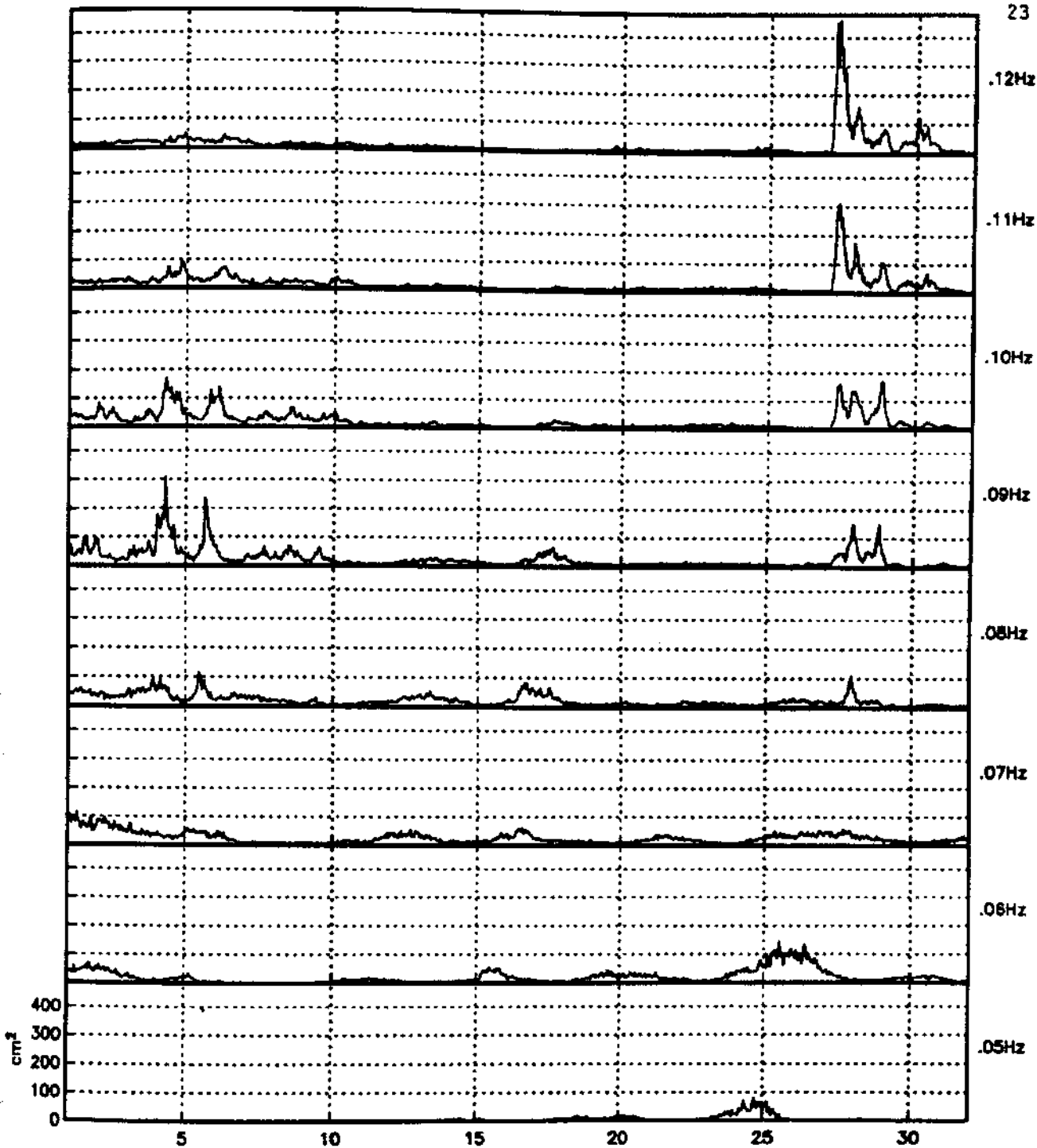
.09Hz

.08Hz

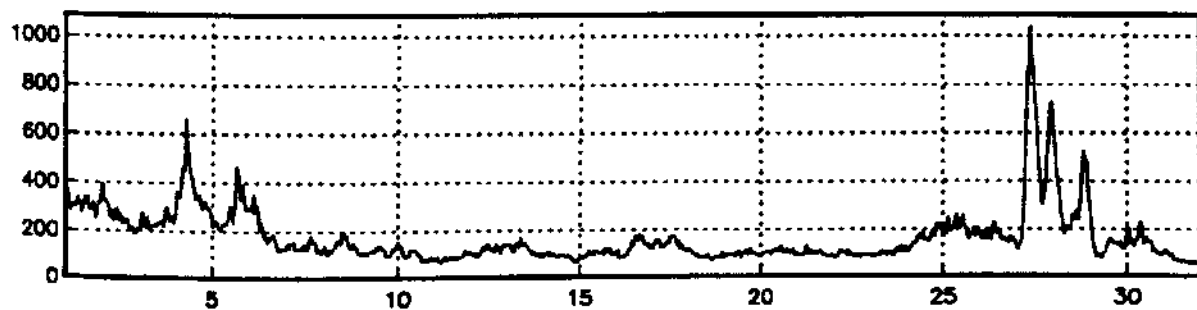
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.06Hz

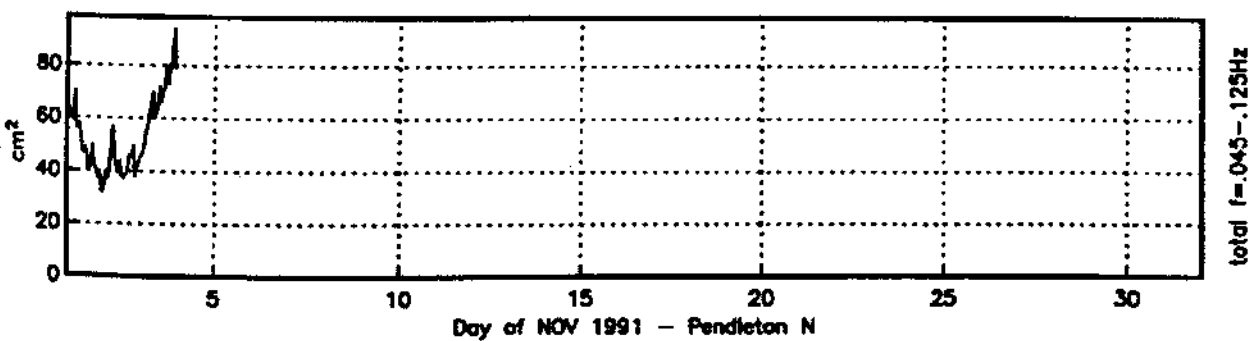
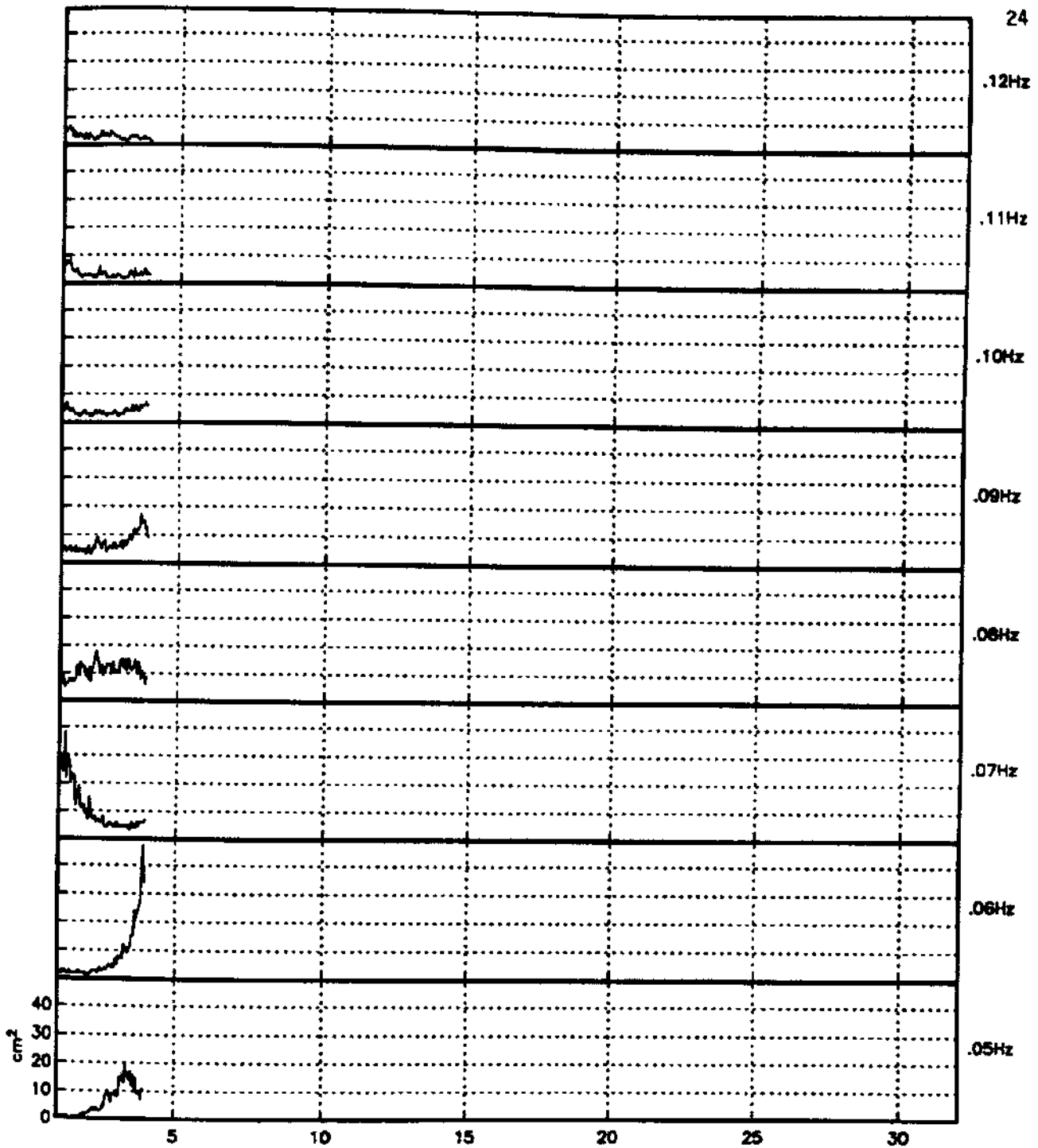
.05Hz



total f=.045-.125Hz



Day of OCT 1991 — Pendleton N



25

.12Hz

.11Hz

.10Hz

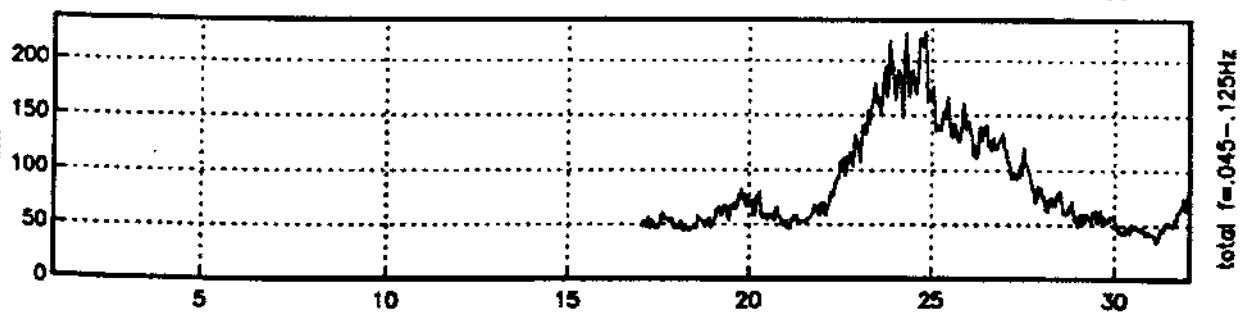
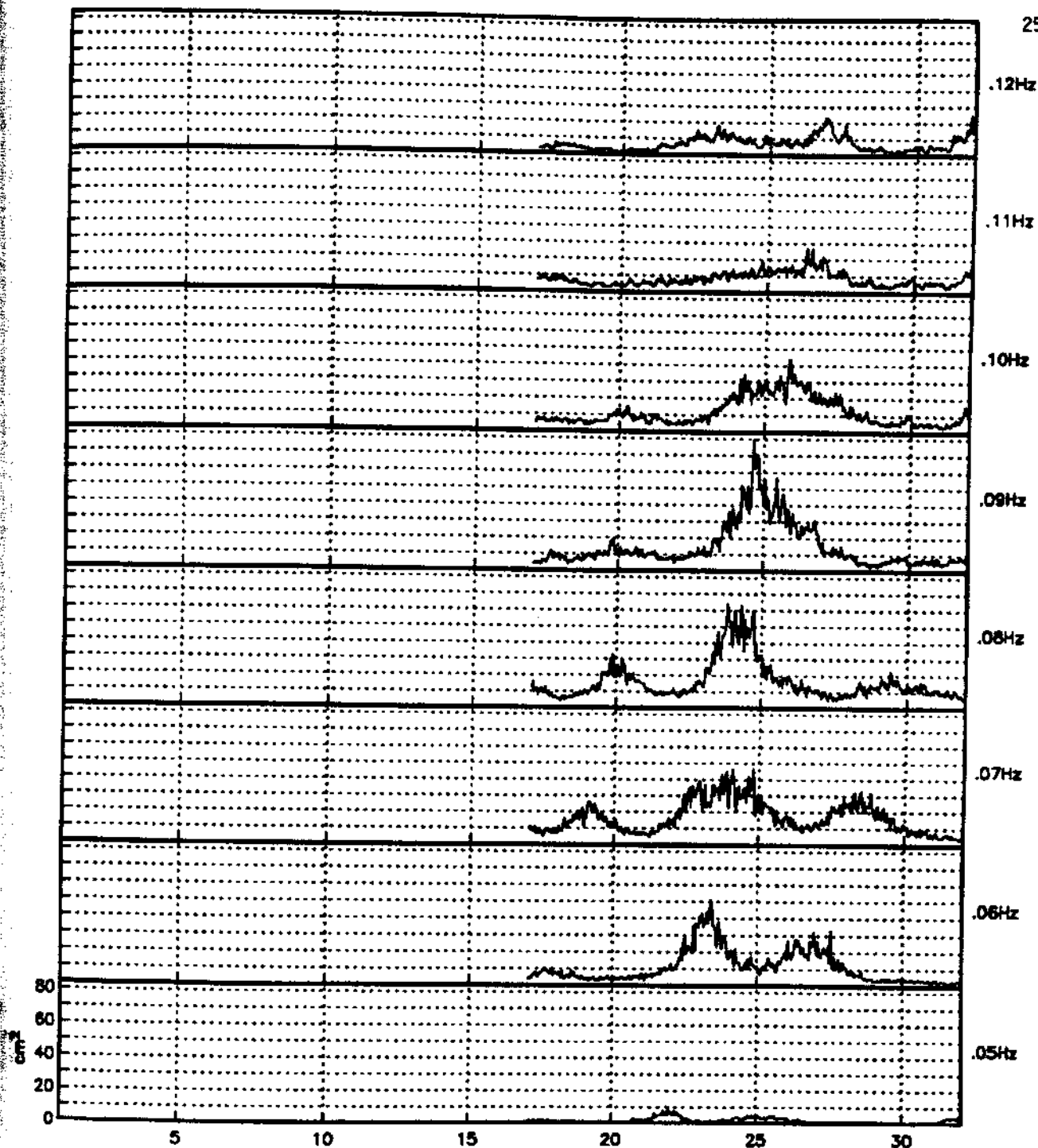
.09Hz

.08Hz

.07Hz

.06Hz

.05Hz



Day of AUG 1991 - San Onofre N

total f=.045-.125Hz

.12Hz

.11Hz

.10Hz

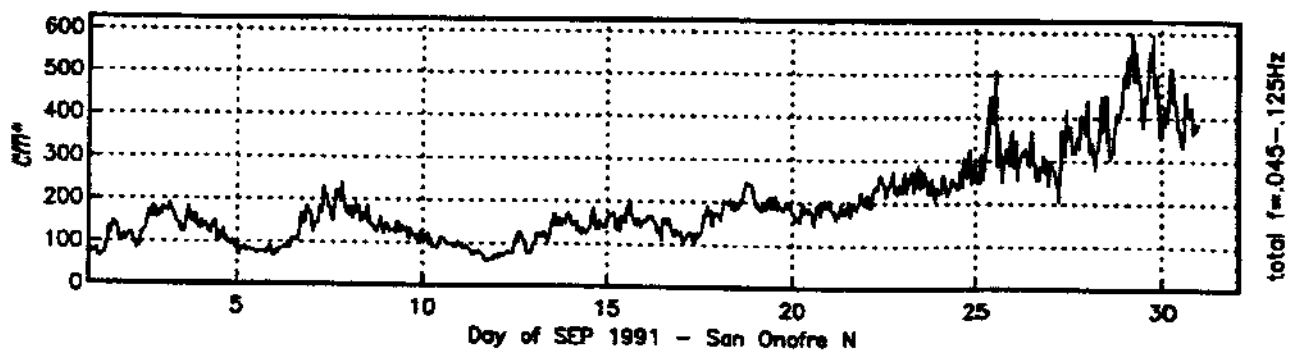
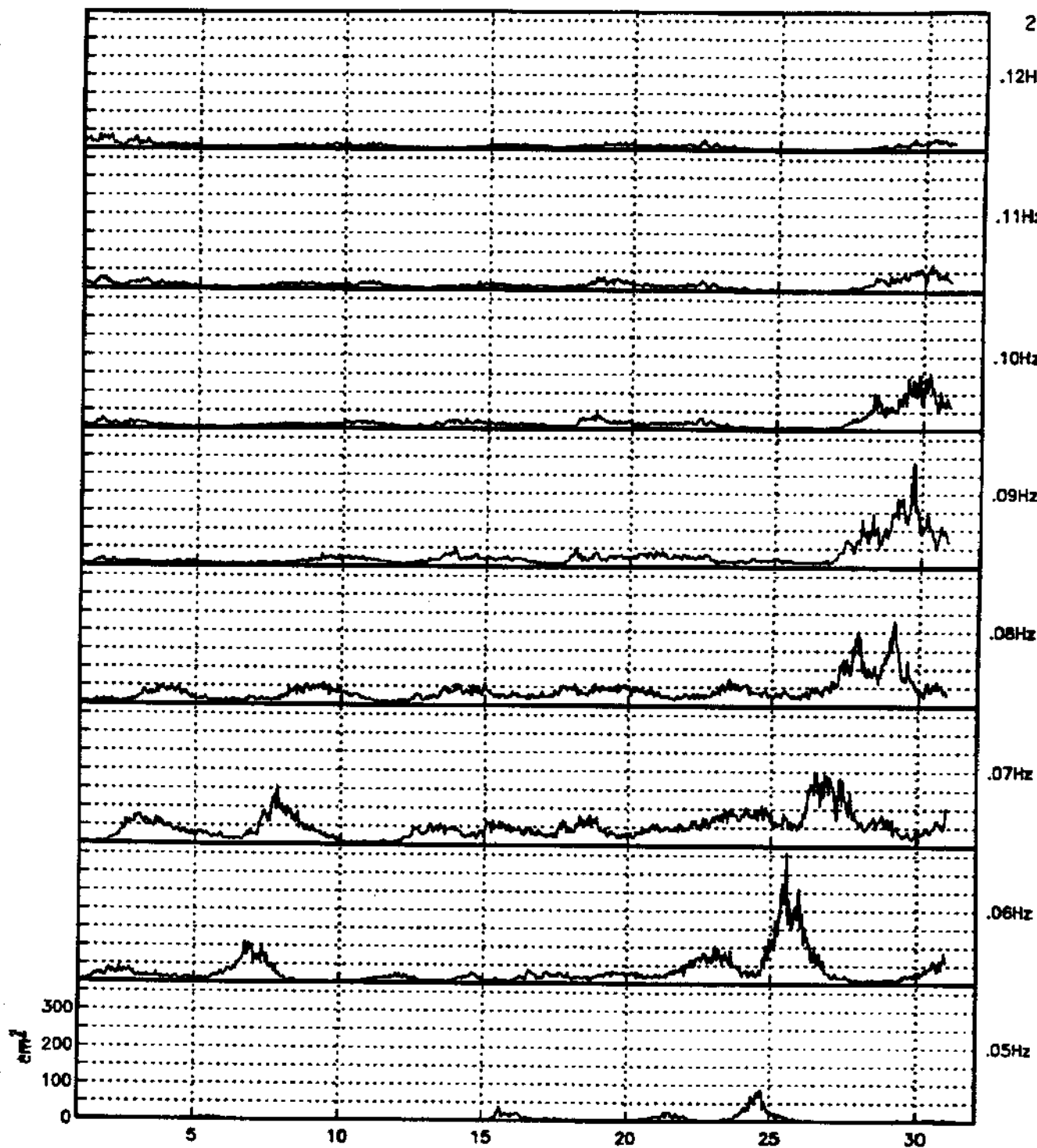
.09Hz

.08Hz

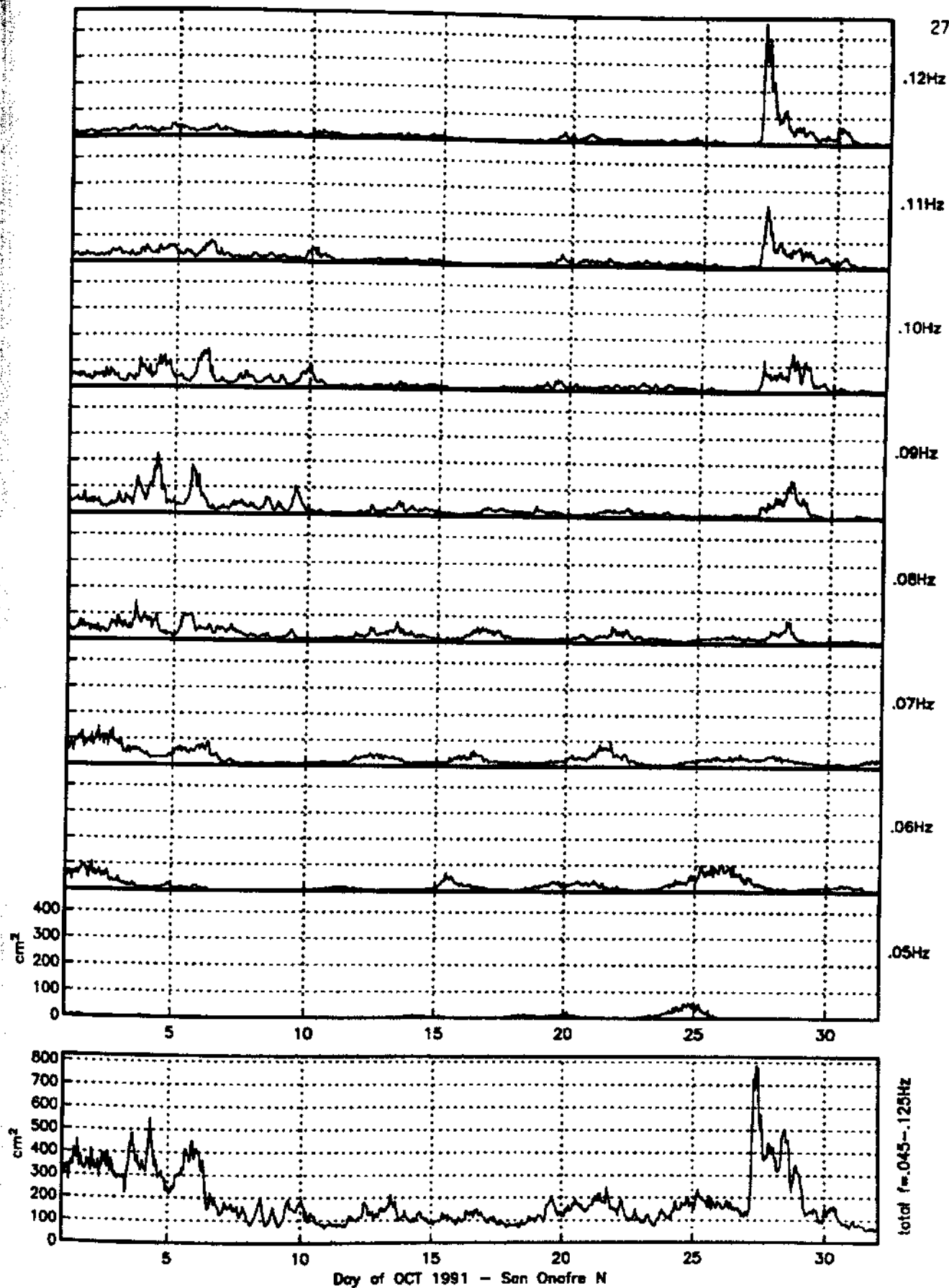
.07Hz

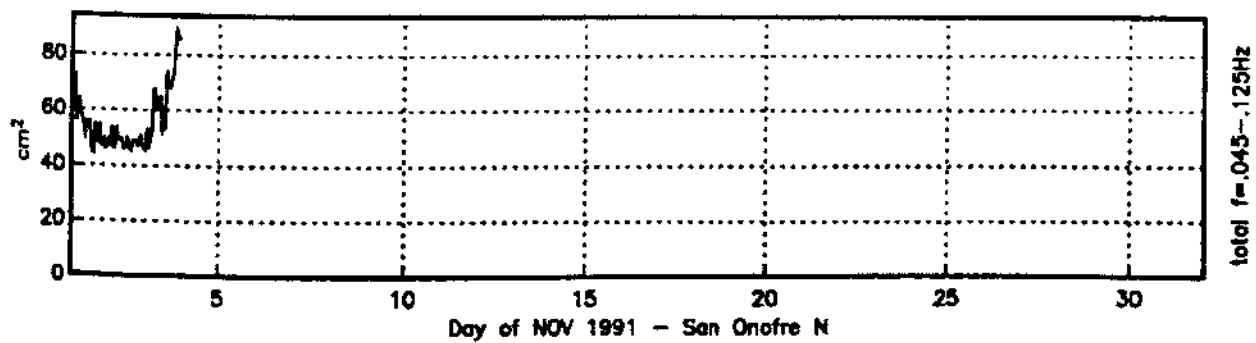
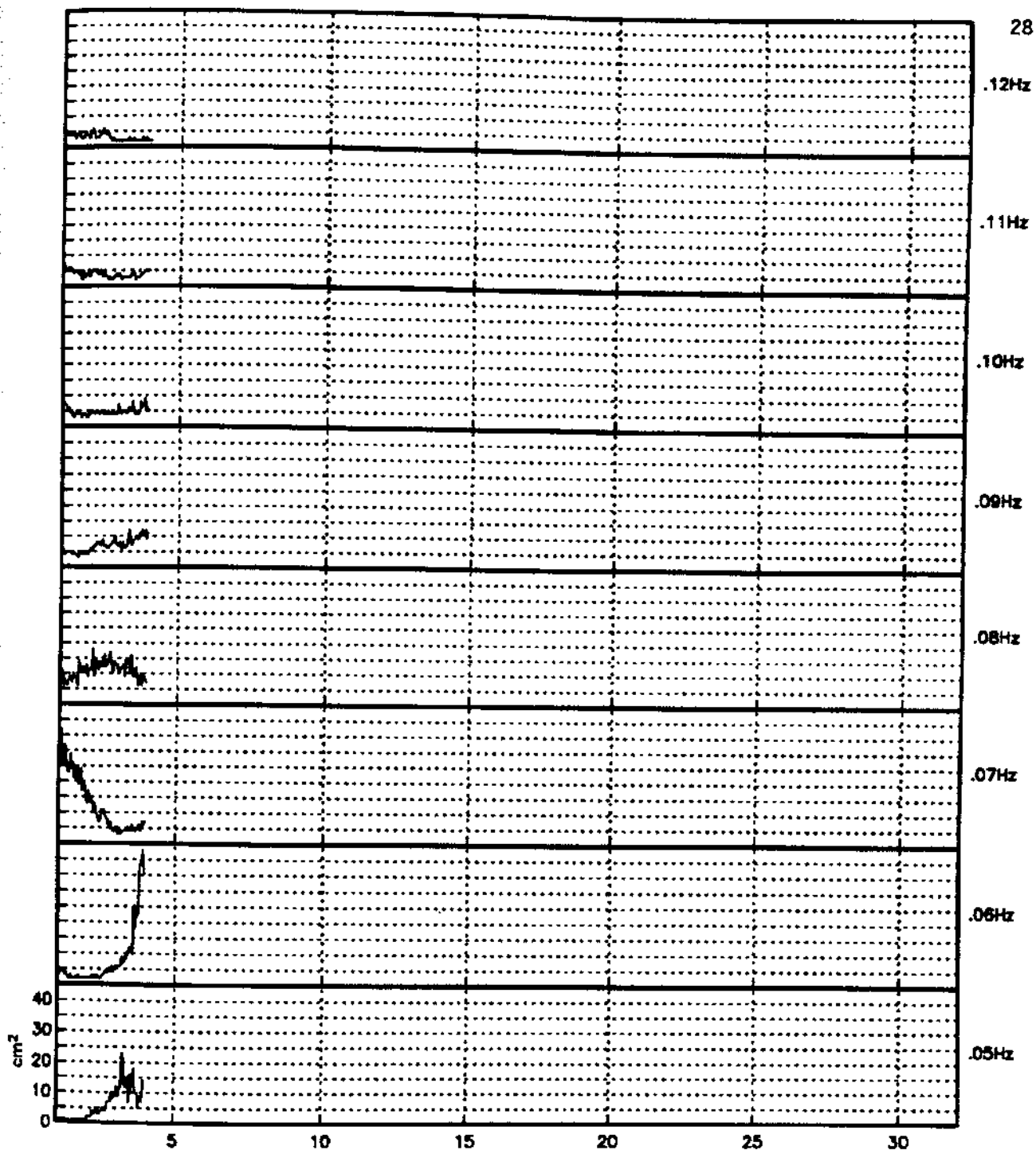
.06Hz

.05Hz

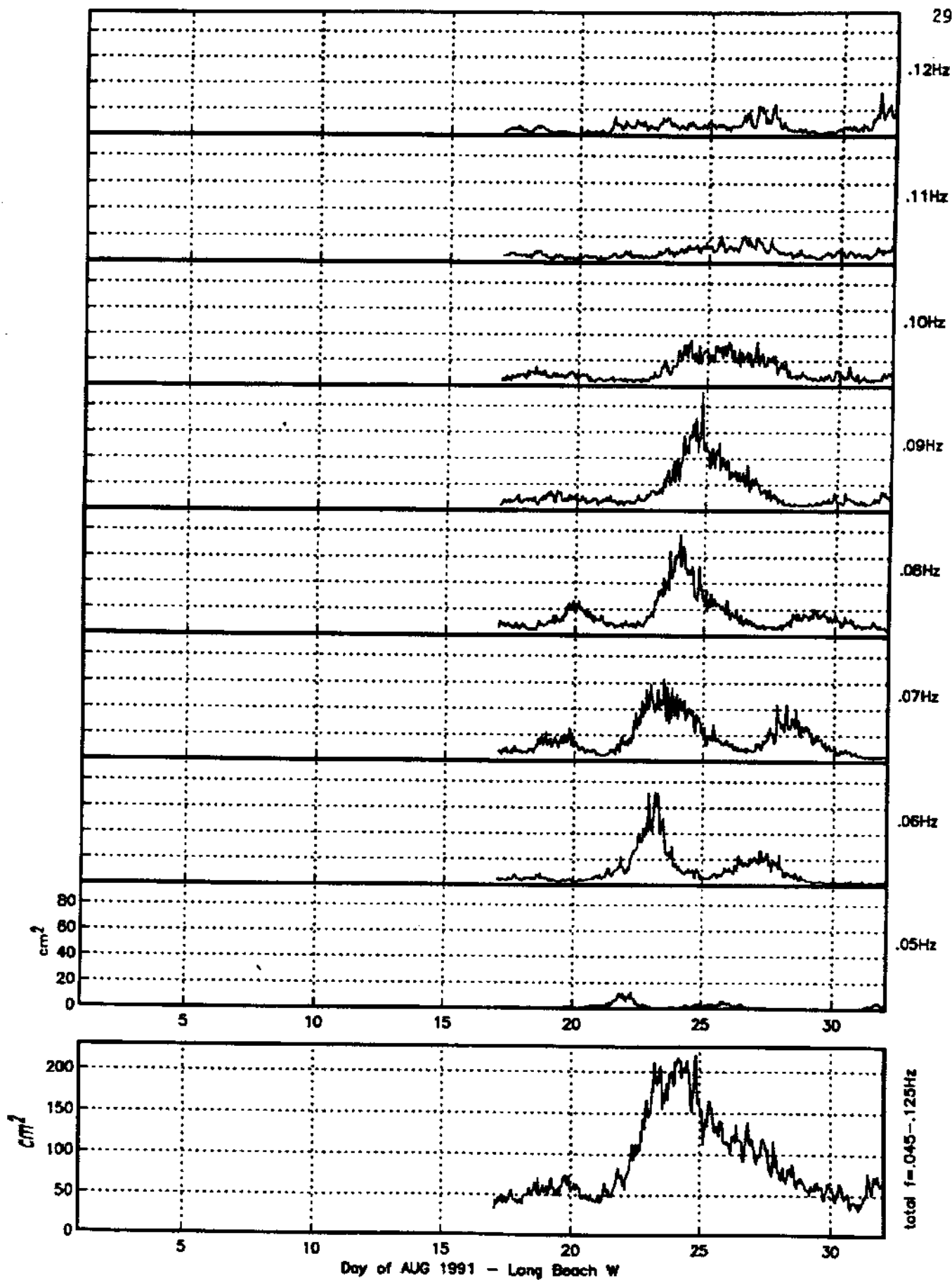


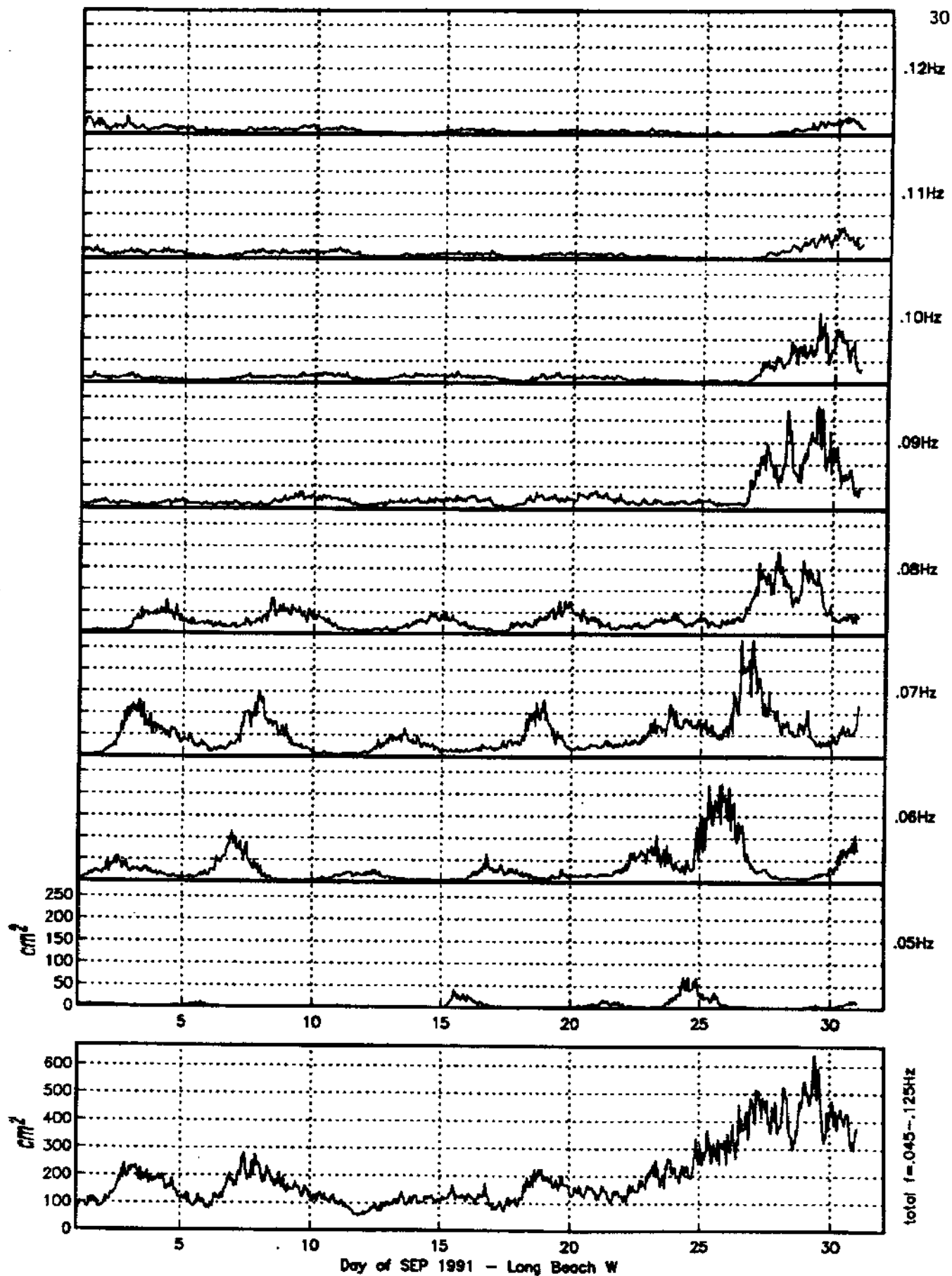
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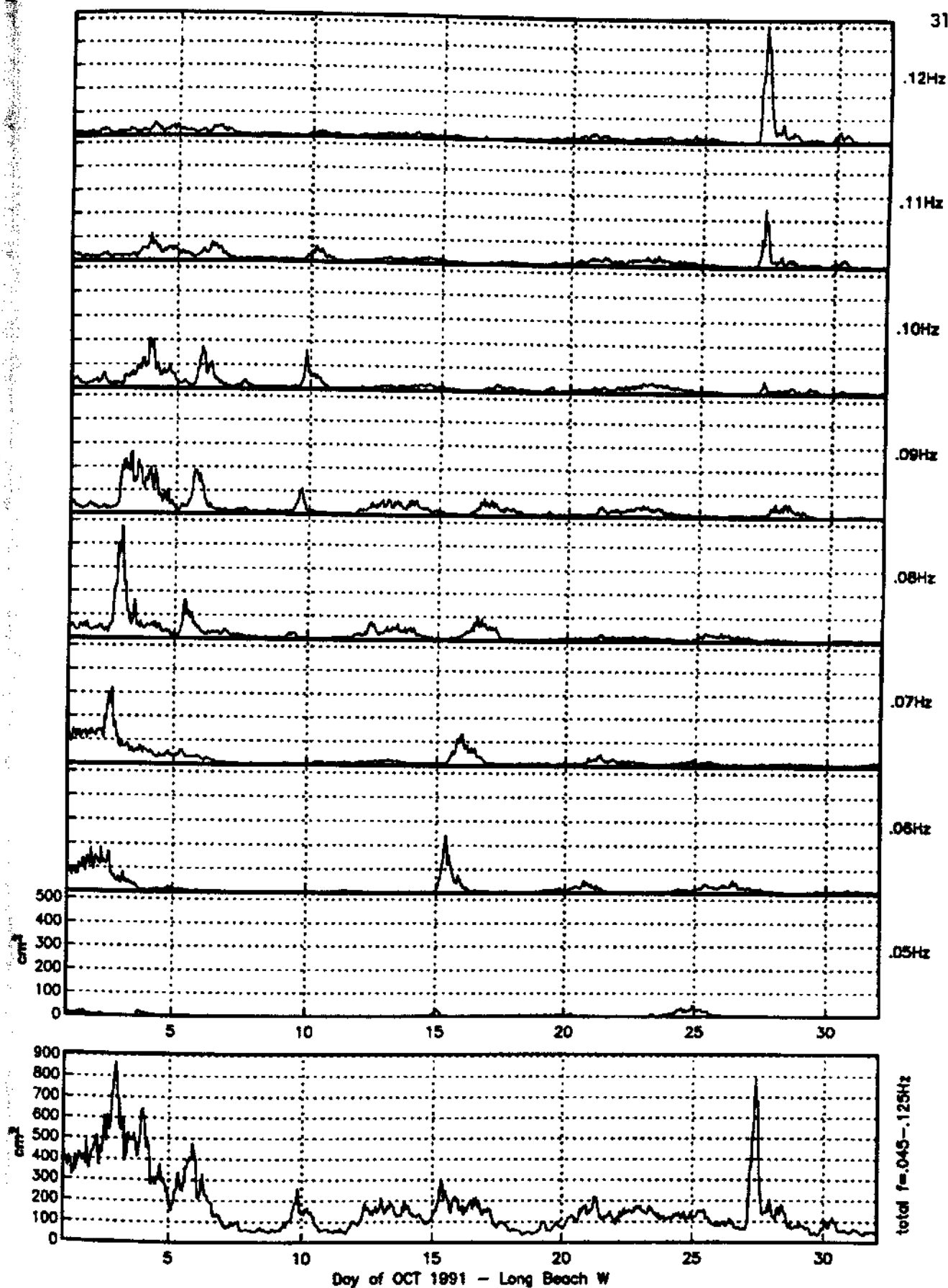




Day of NOV 1991 - San Onofre N







32

.12Hz

.11Hz

.10Hz

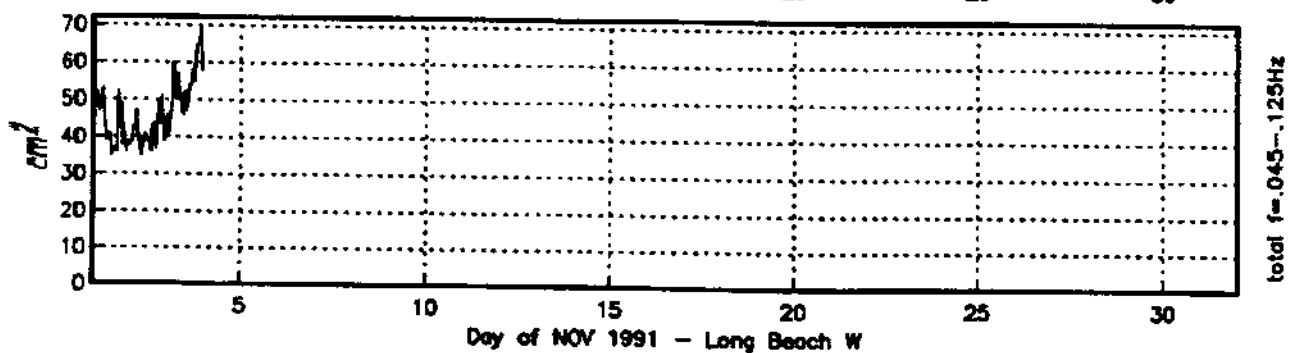
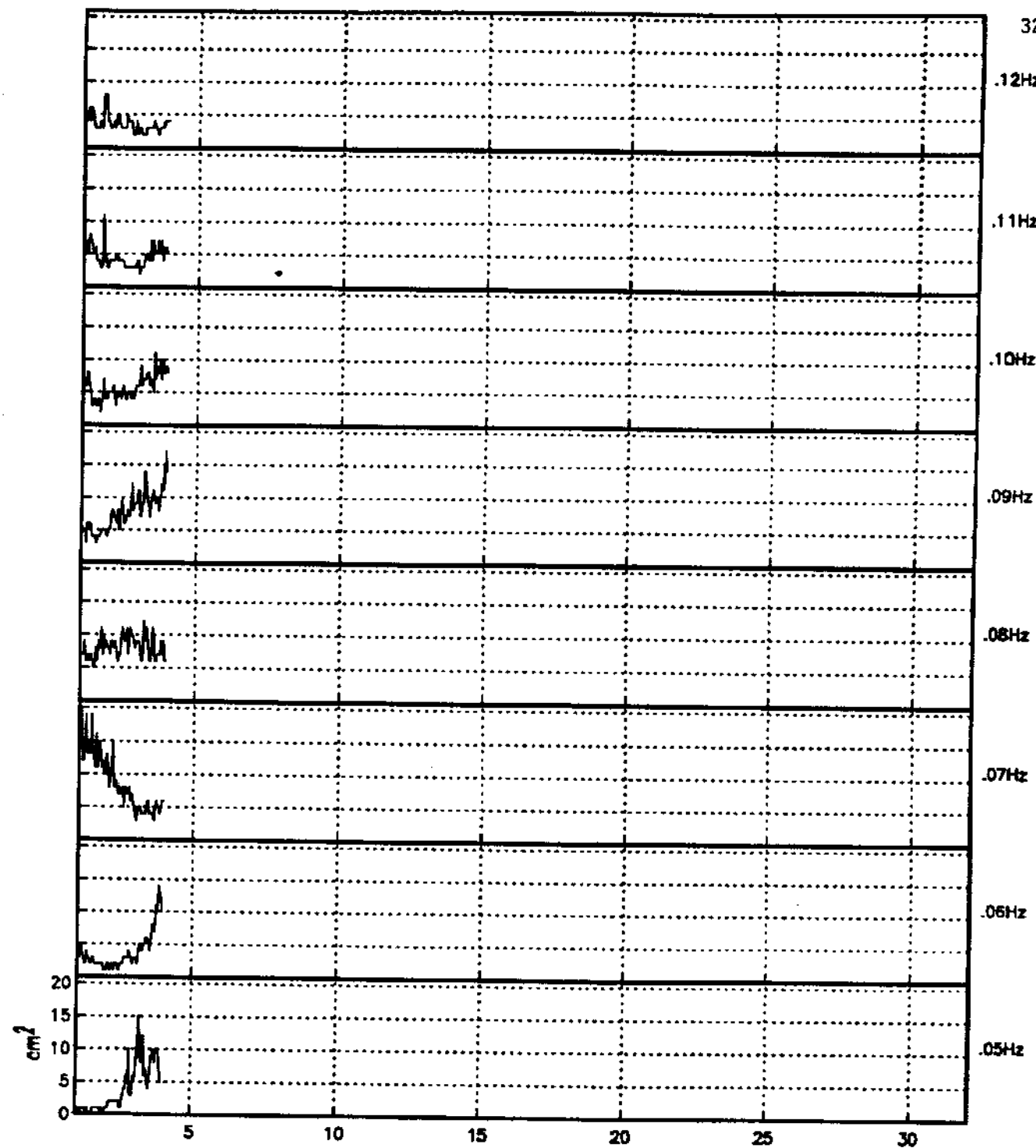
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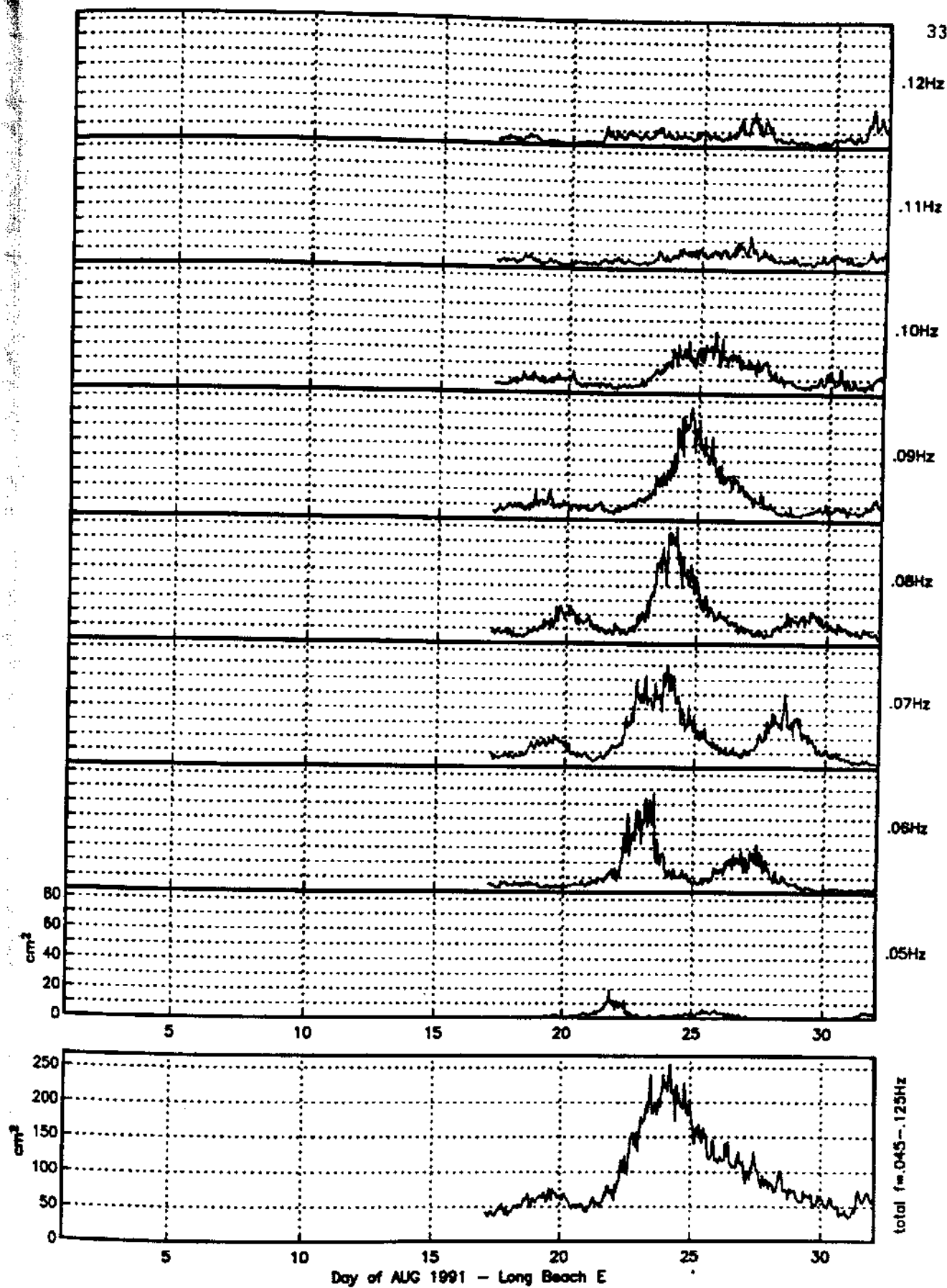
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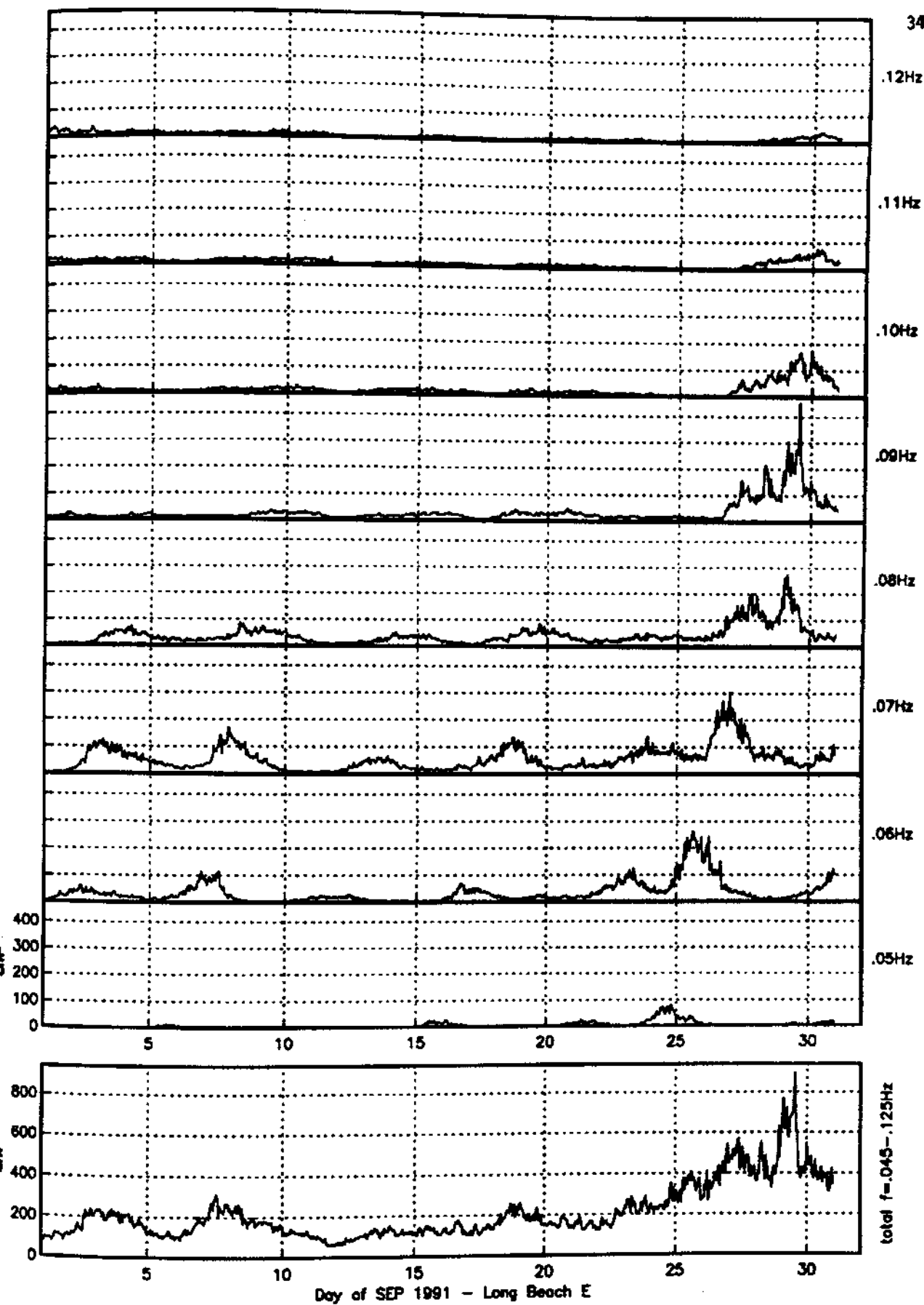
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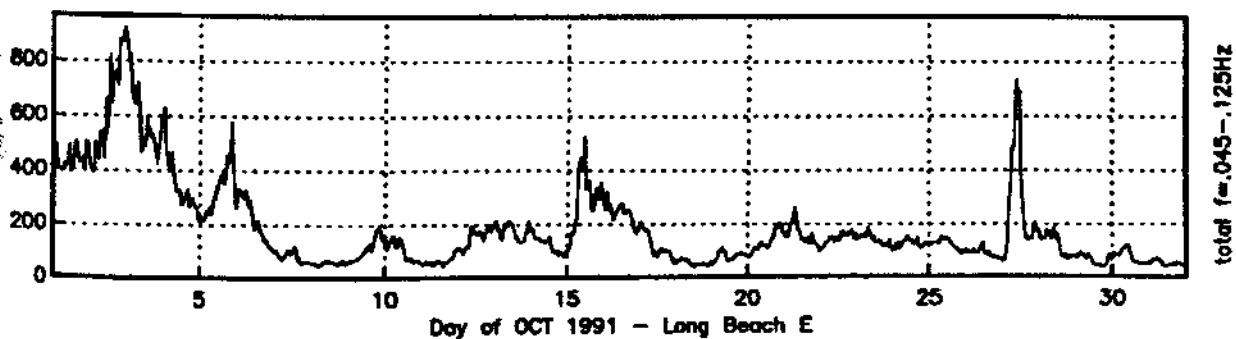
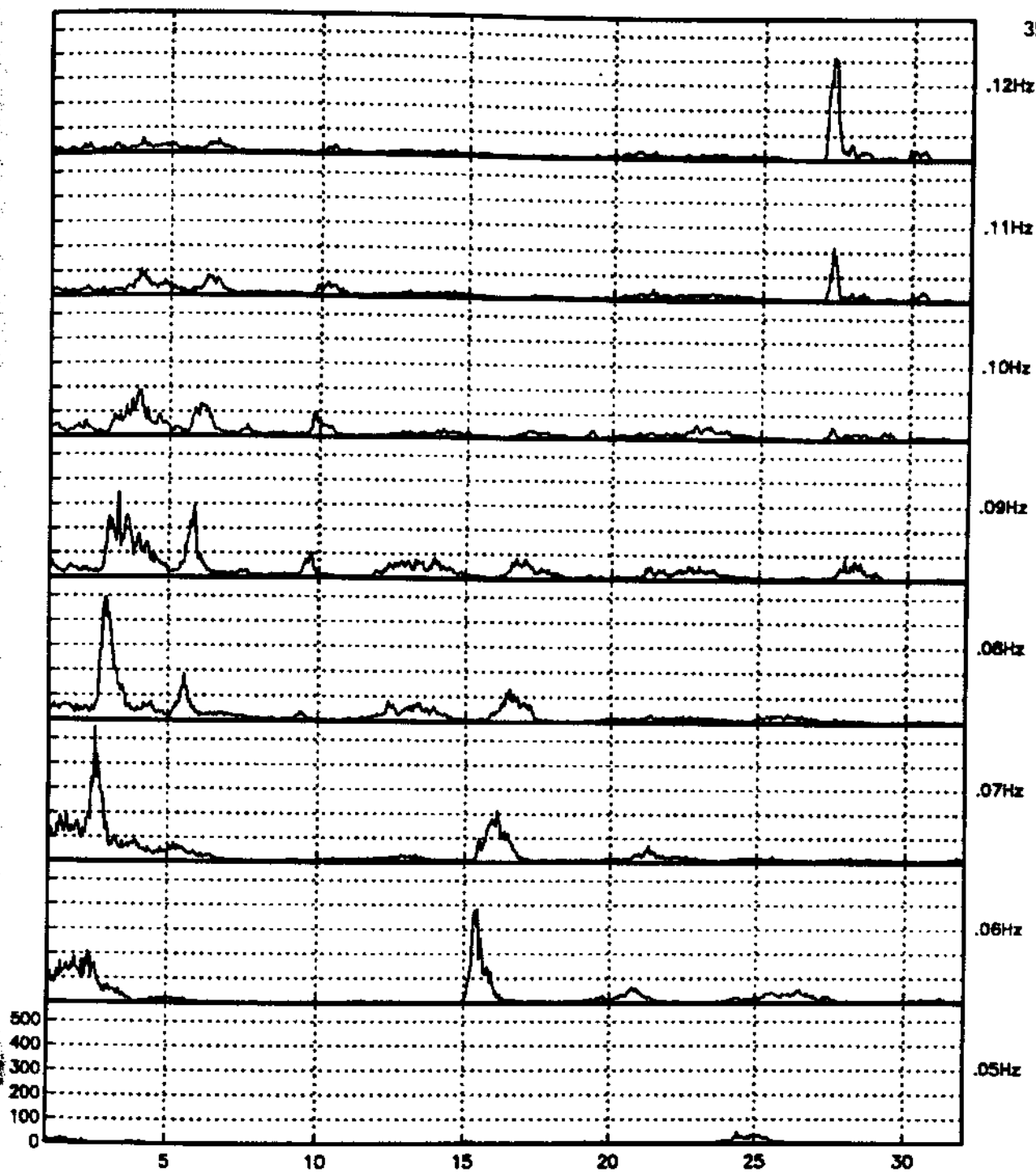
.06Hz

.05Hz

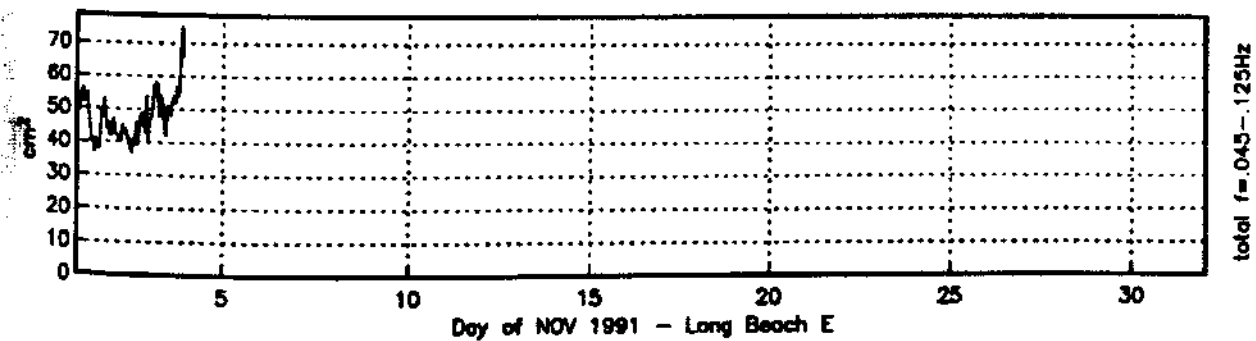
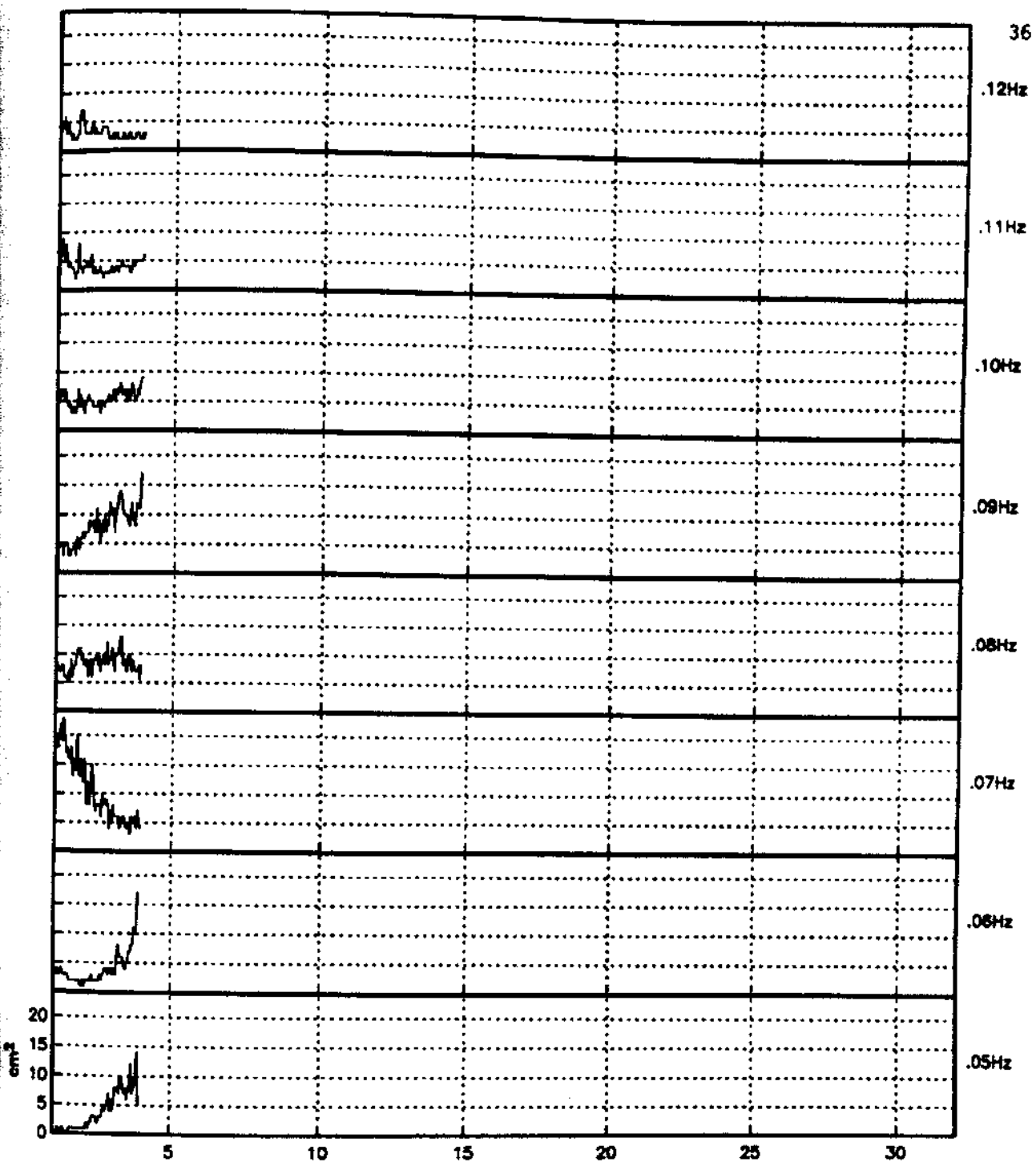


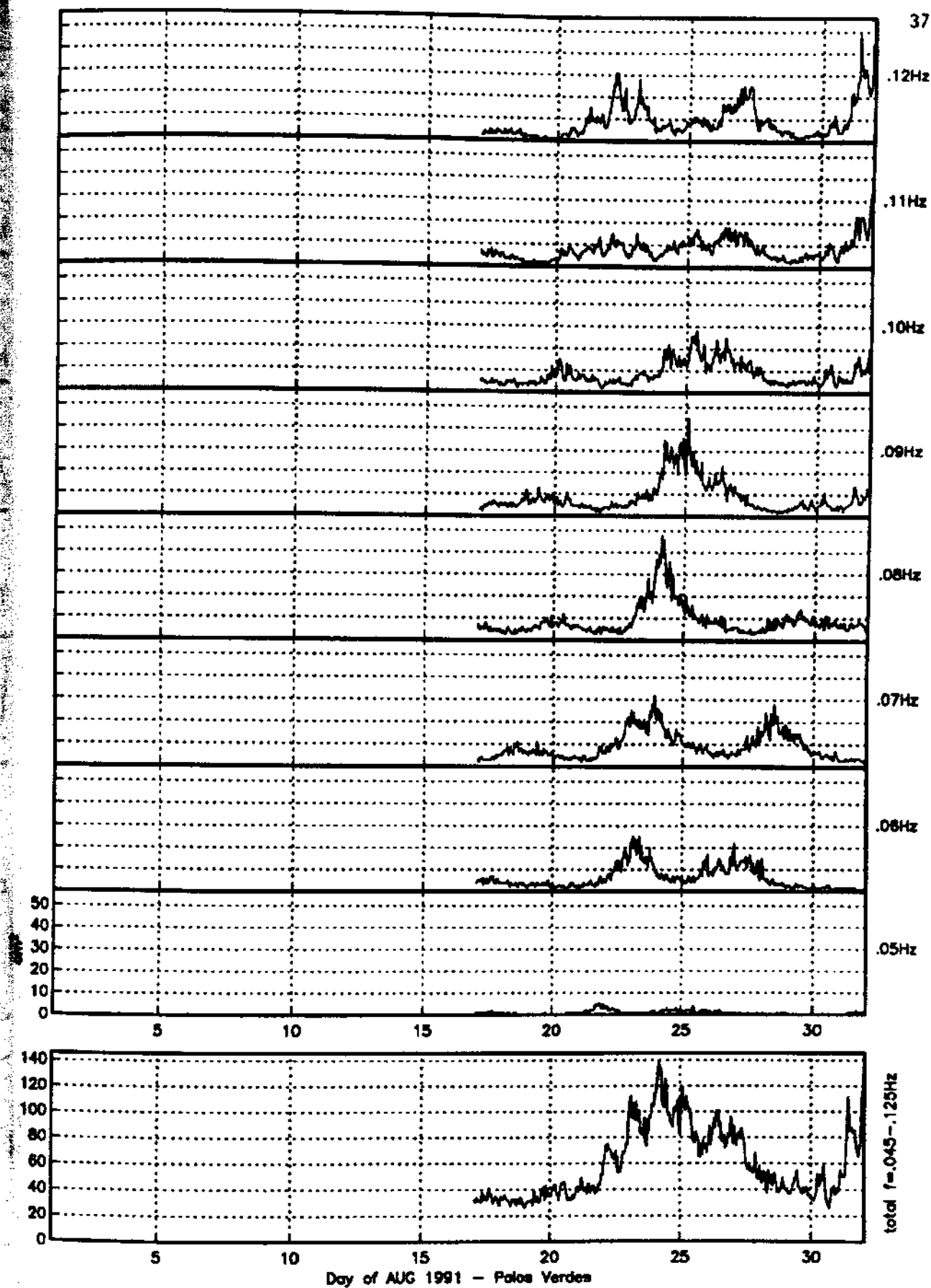


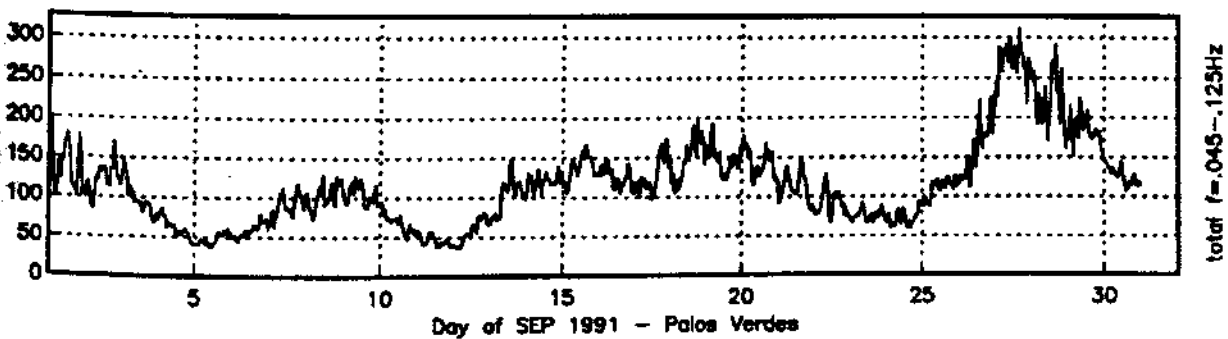
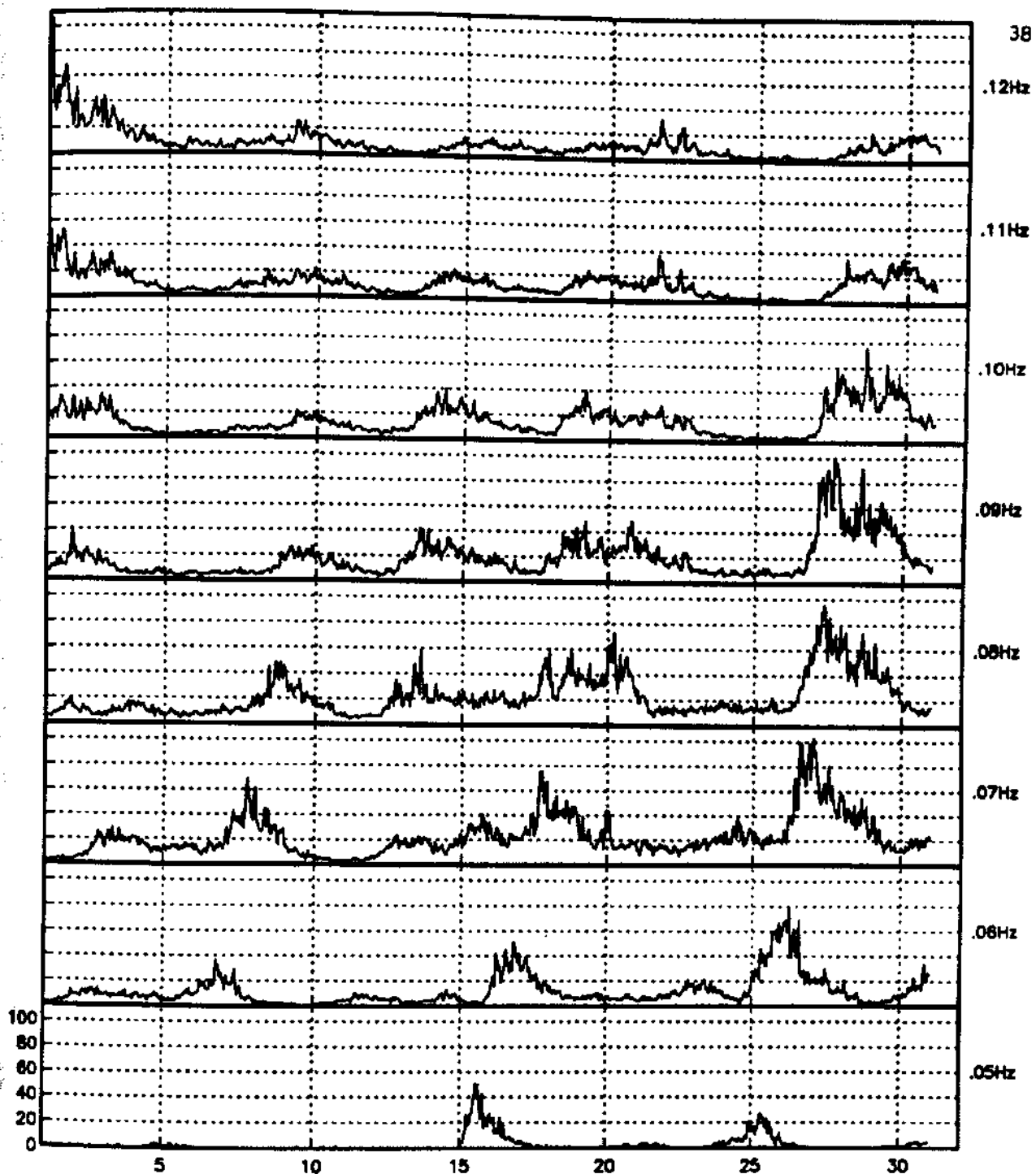


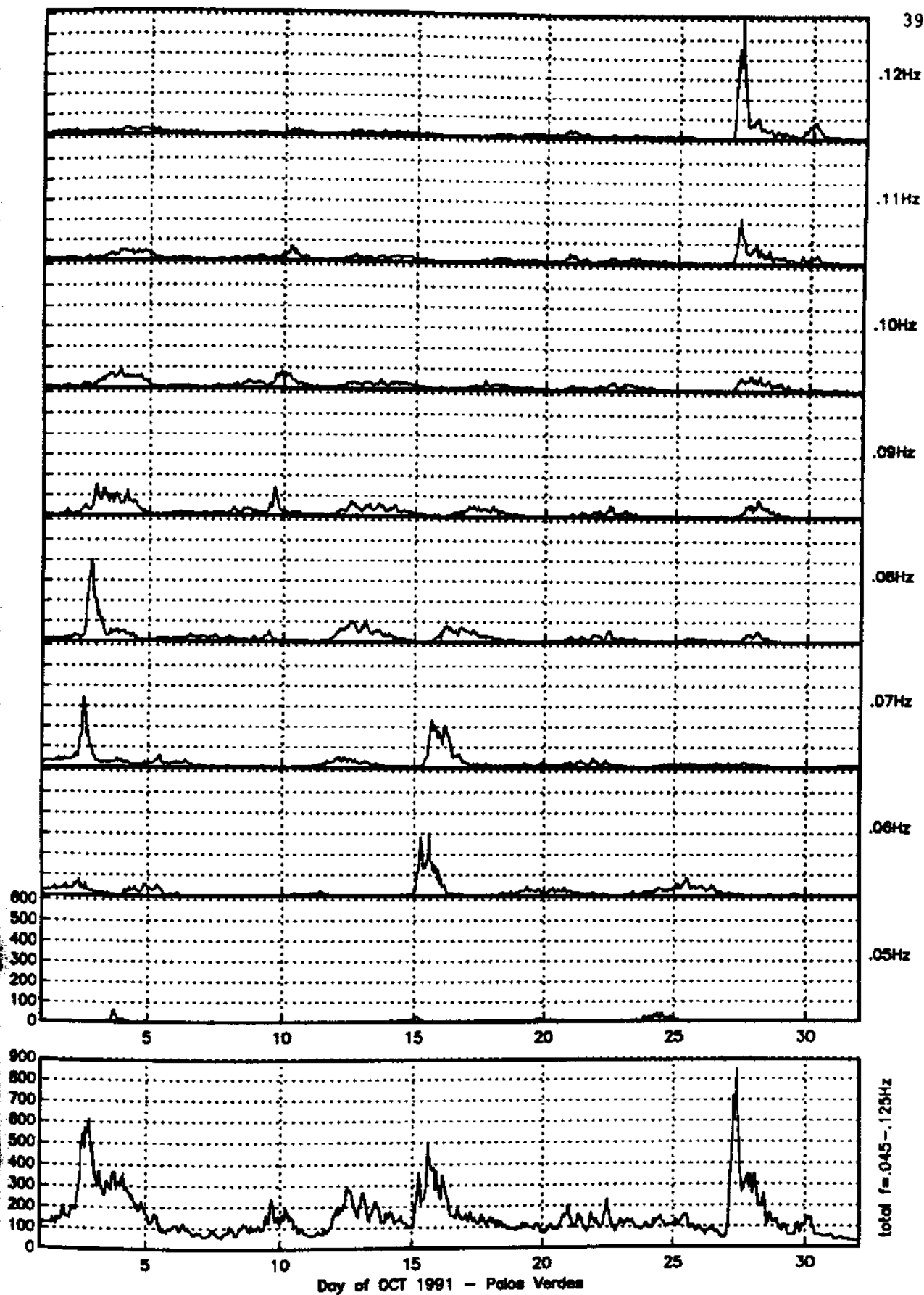


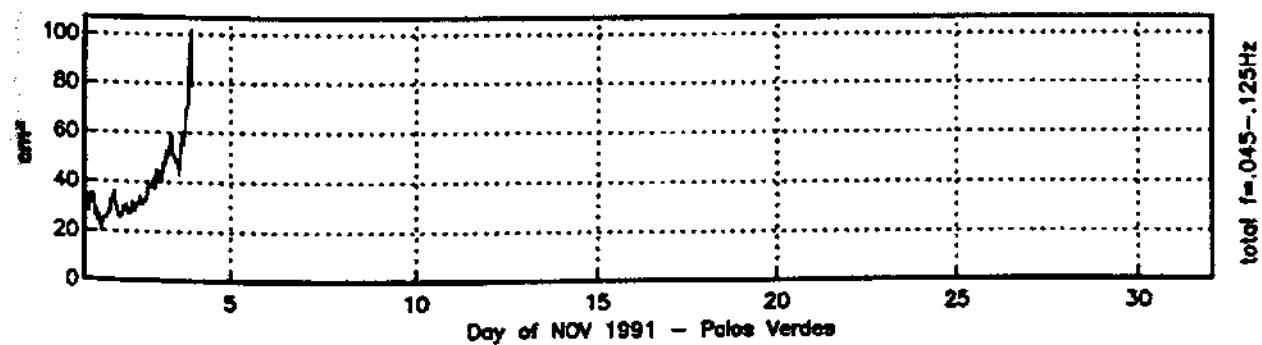
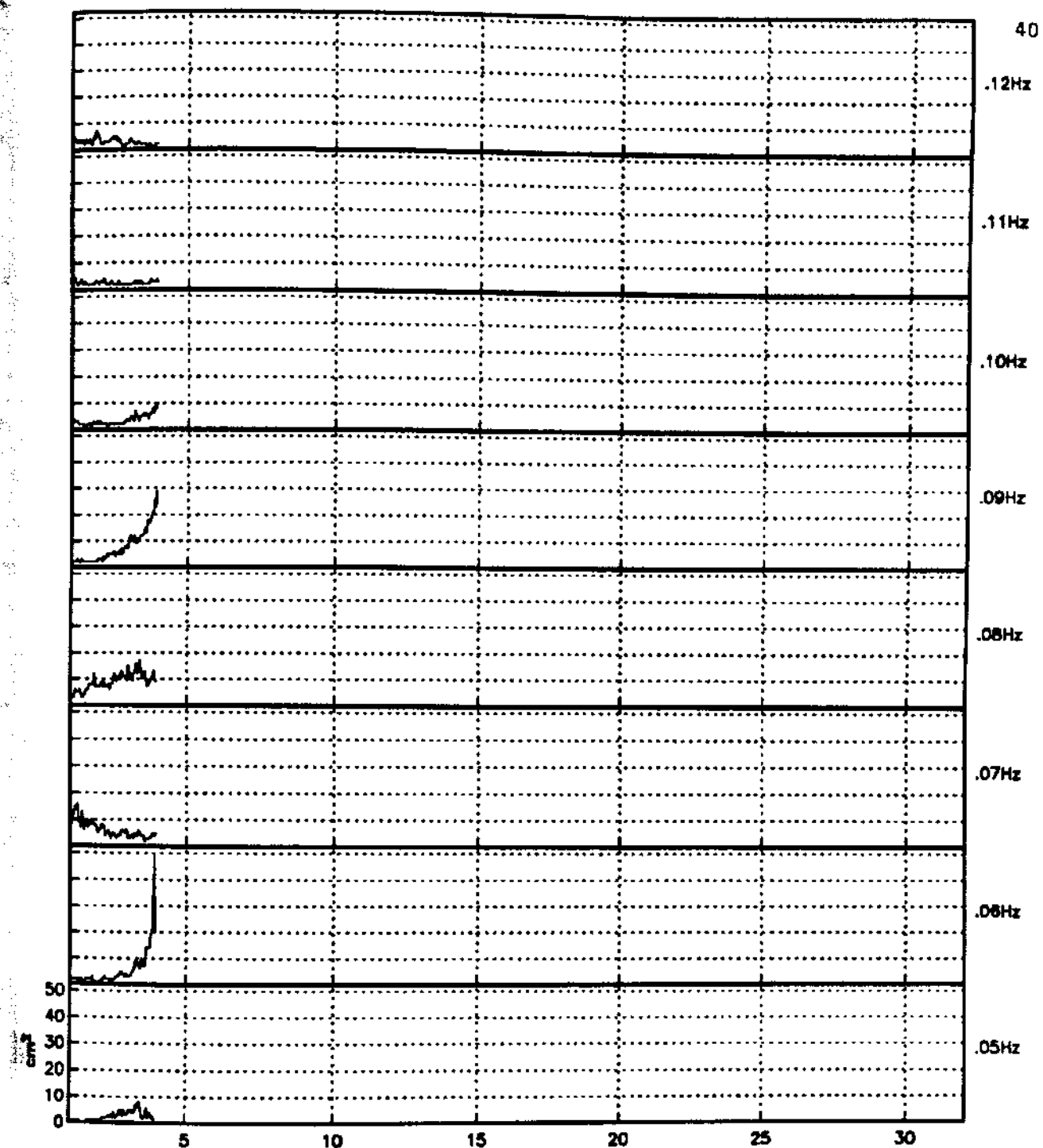
Day of OCT 1991 - Long Beach E

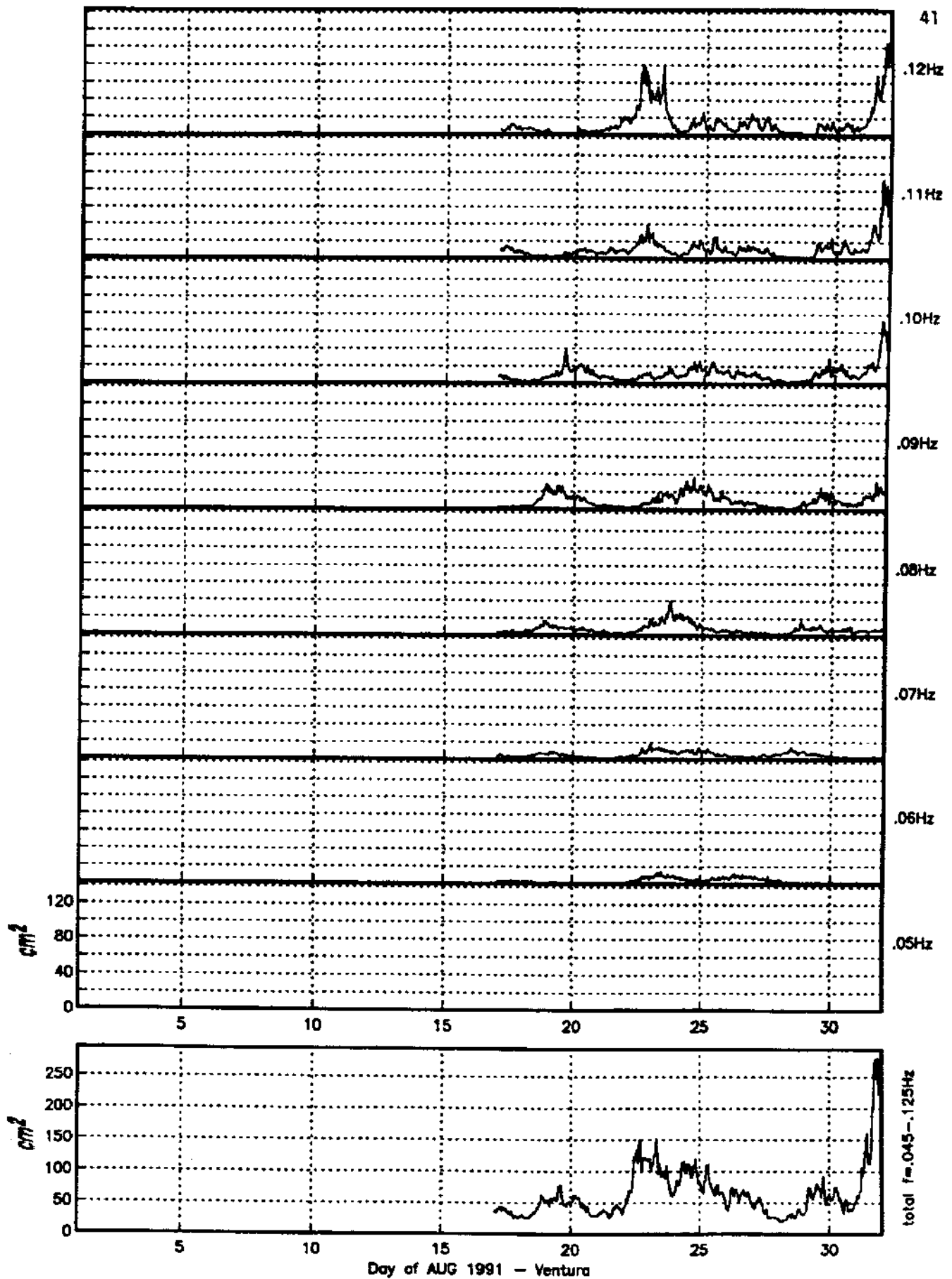


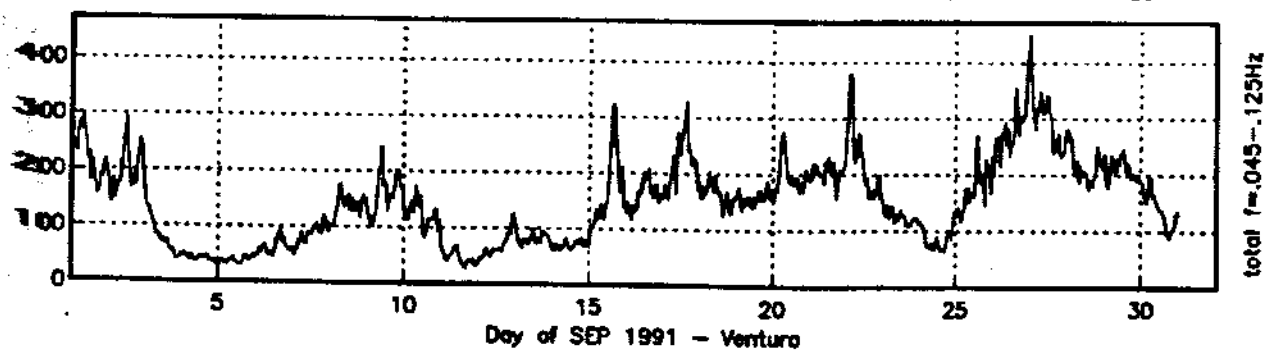
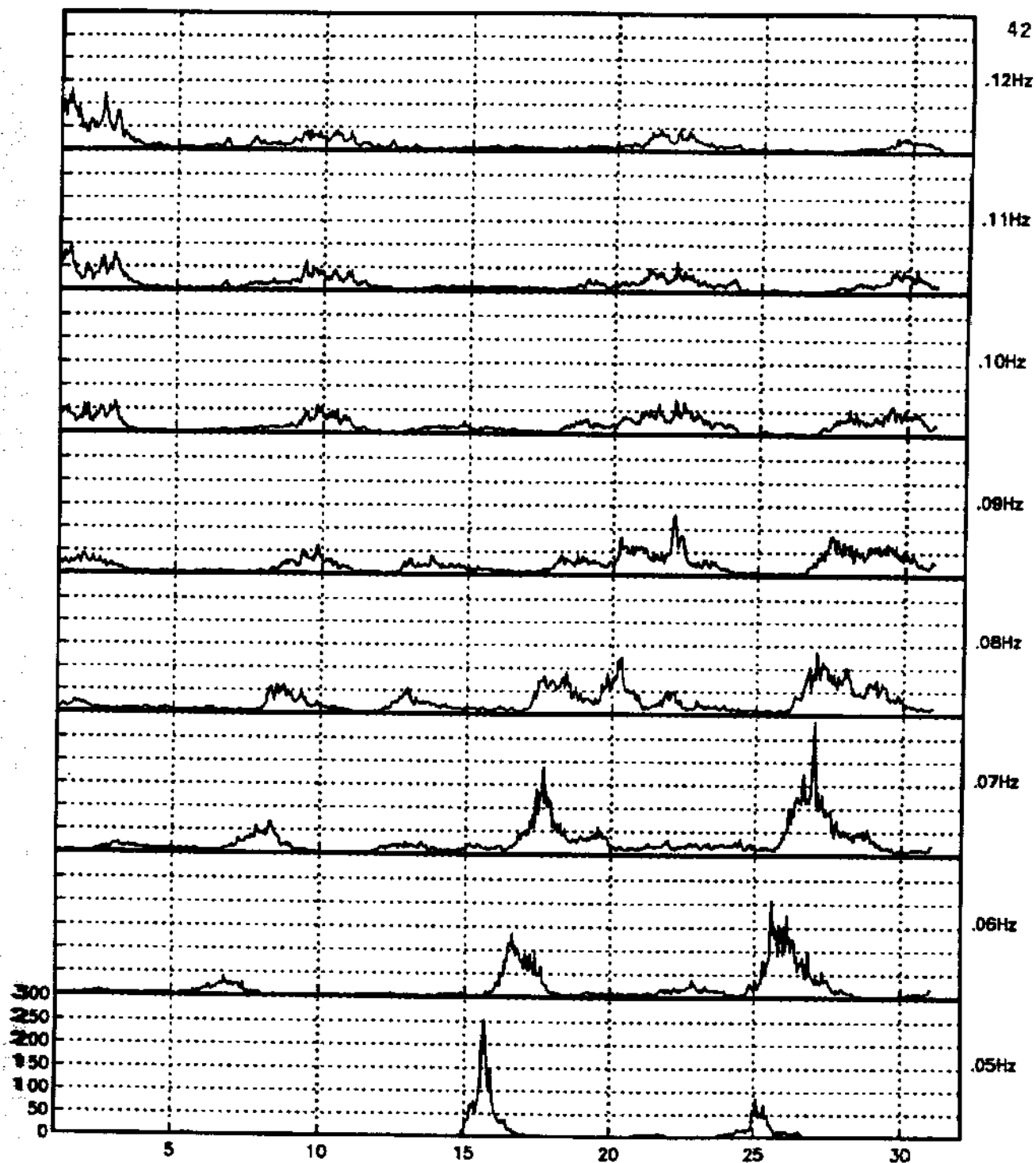












43

.12Hz

.11Hz

.10Hz

.09Hz

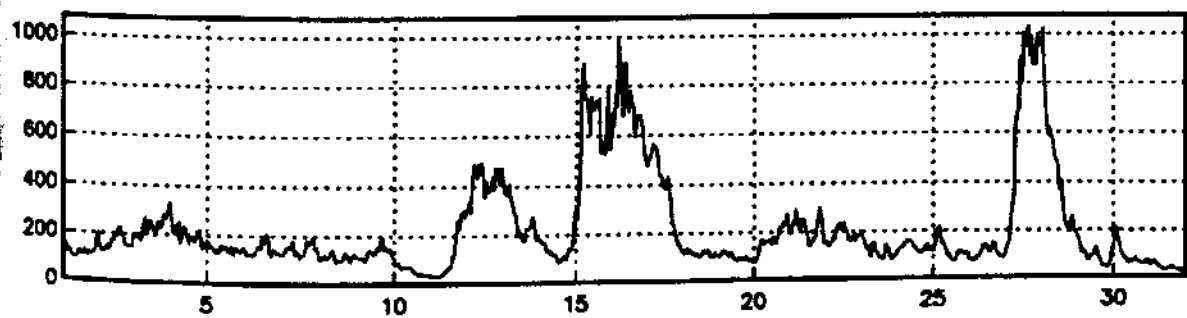
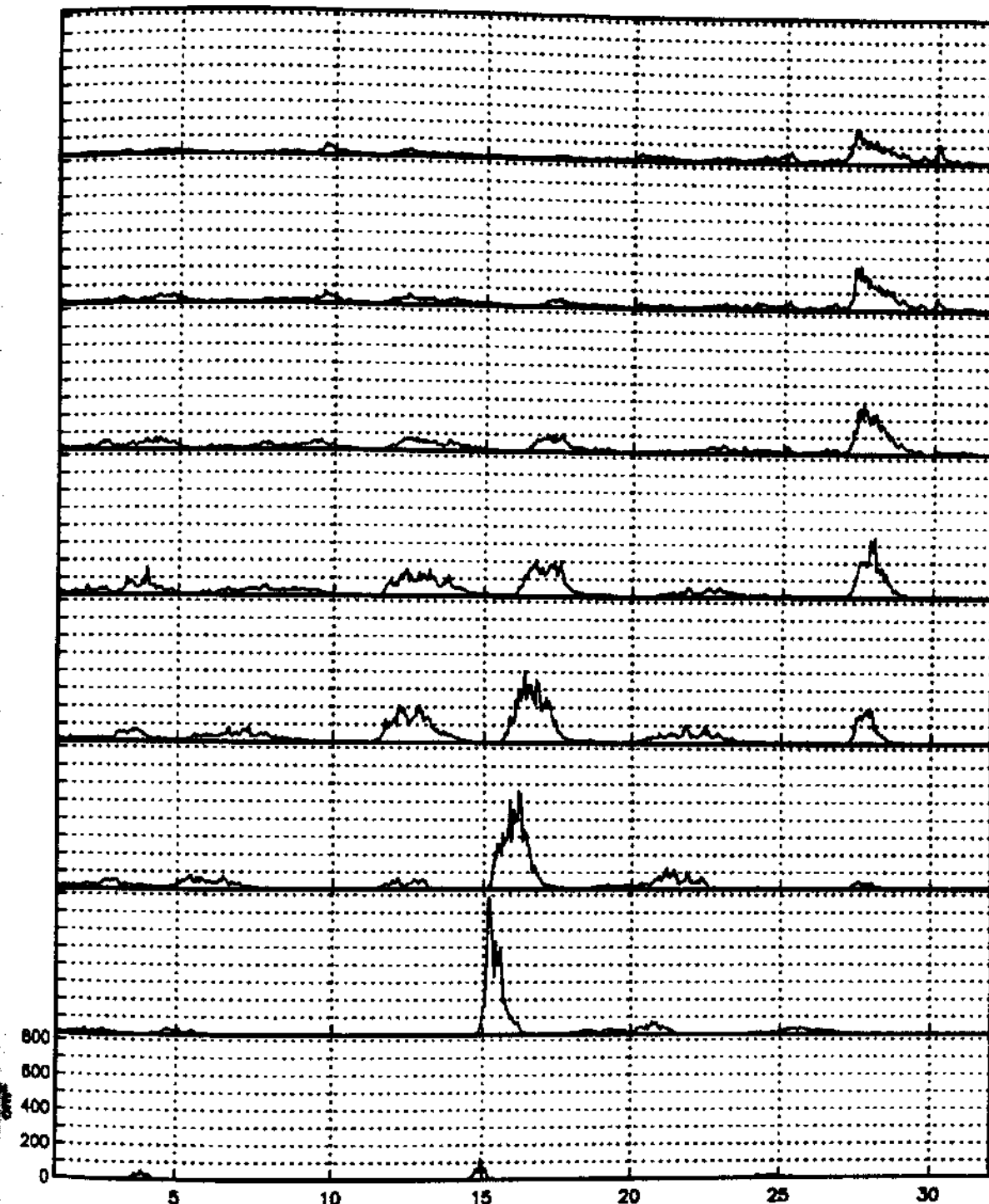
.08Hz

.07Hz

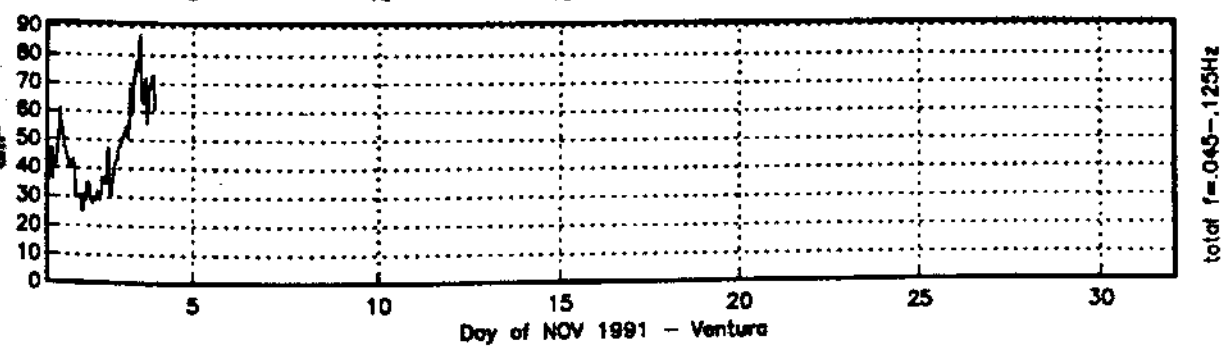
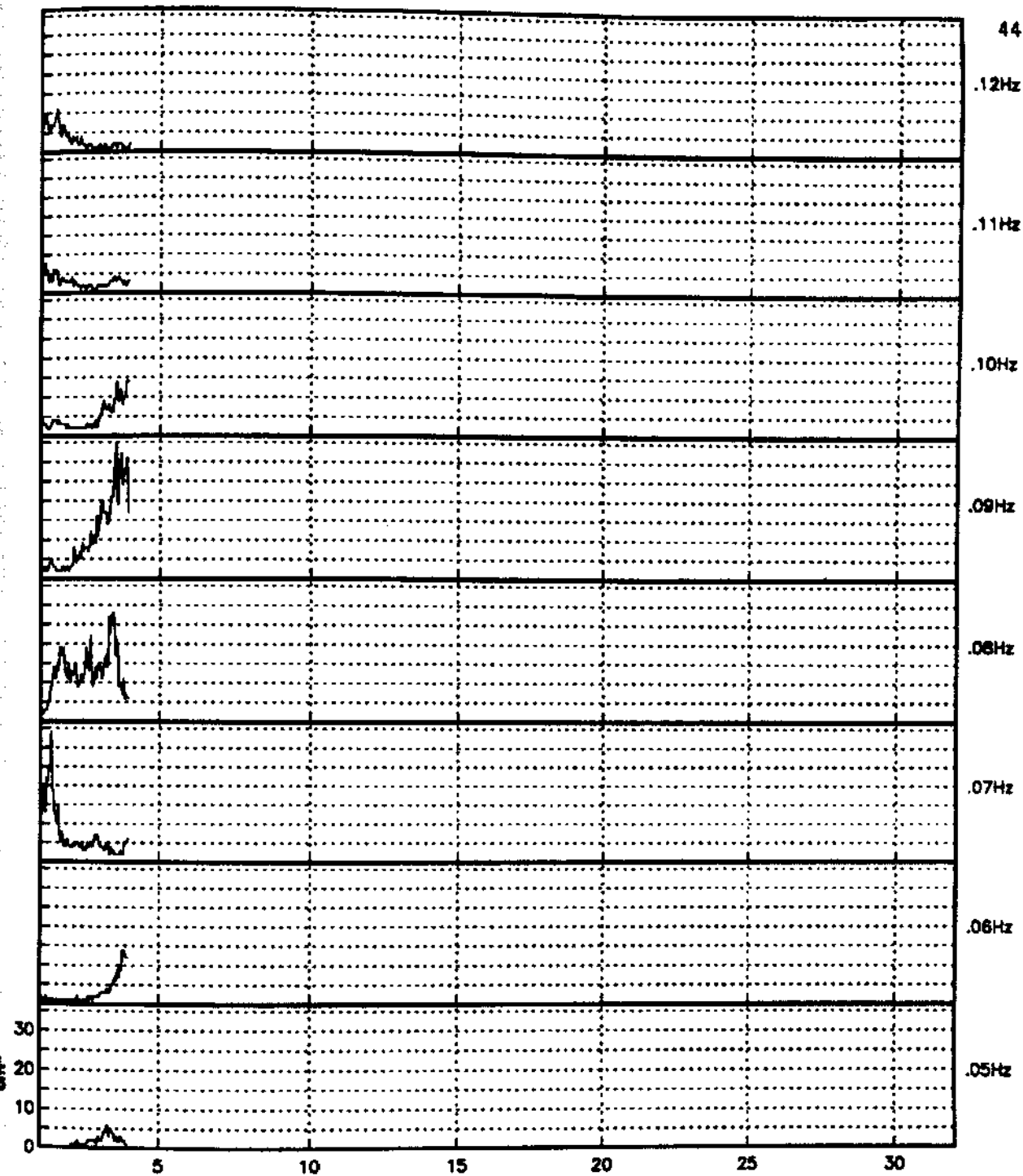
.06Hz

.05Hz

total f=.045-.125Hz



Day of OCT 1991 - Ventura



Winter Deployment Data

Site No.	Location	Page No.
1	Ocean Beach	46-49
2	Pt. La Jolla	50-53
3	Batiguitos	54-57
4	Oceanside	58-61
5	Dana Point	62-65
6	Redondo	66-69
7	Ventura	70-73
8	Santa Rosa NE	74-77
9	Santa Rosa NW	78-81
10	Santa Rosa W	82-85
11	Santa Rosa SW	86-89

46

.12Hz

.11Hz

.10Hz

.09Hz

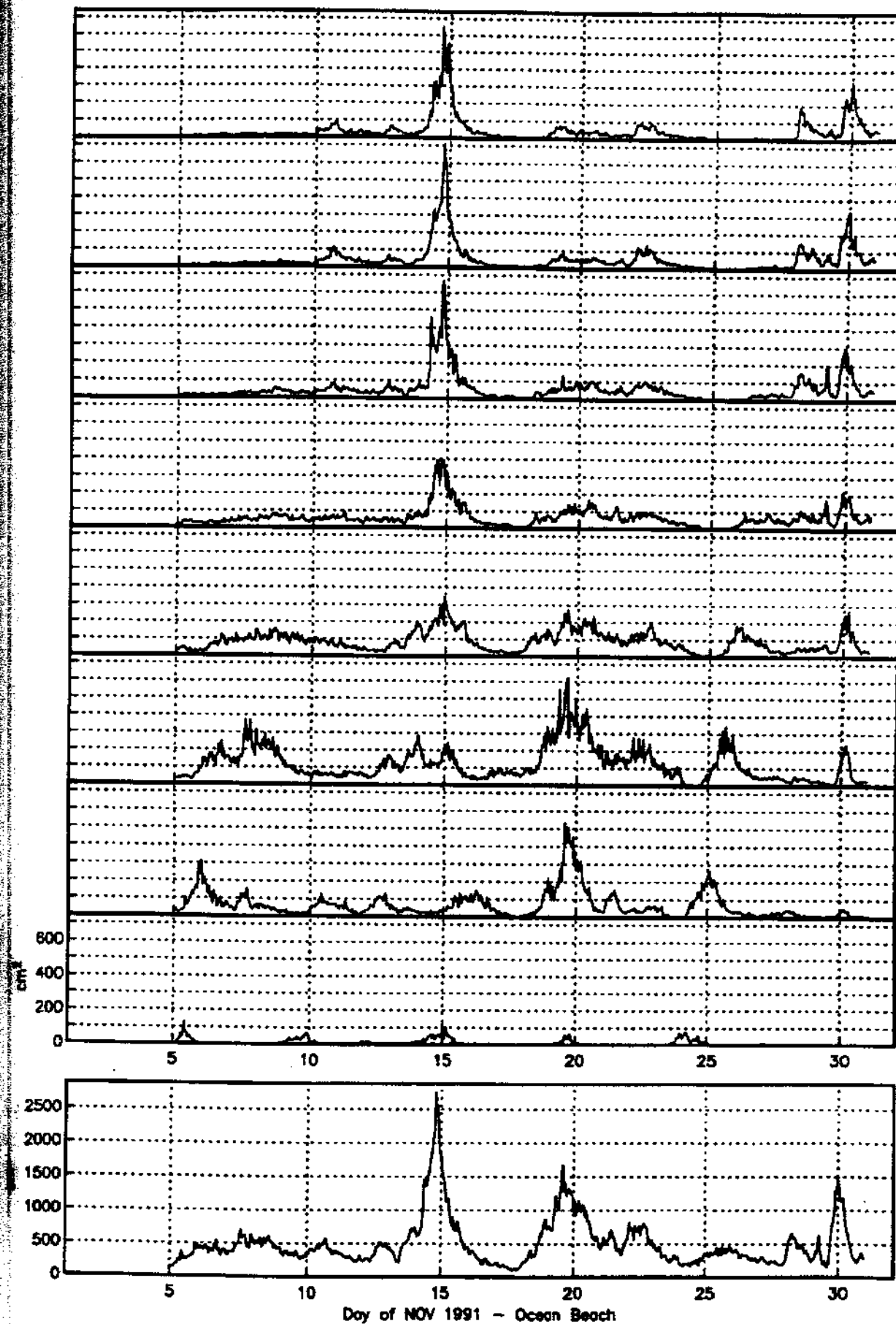
.08Hz

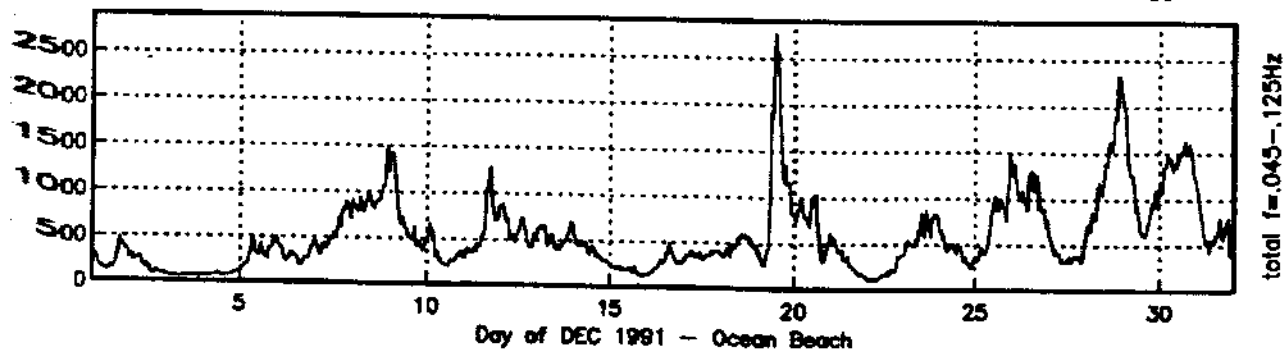
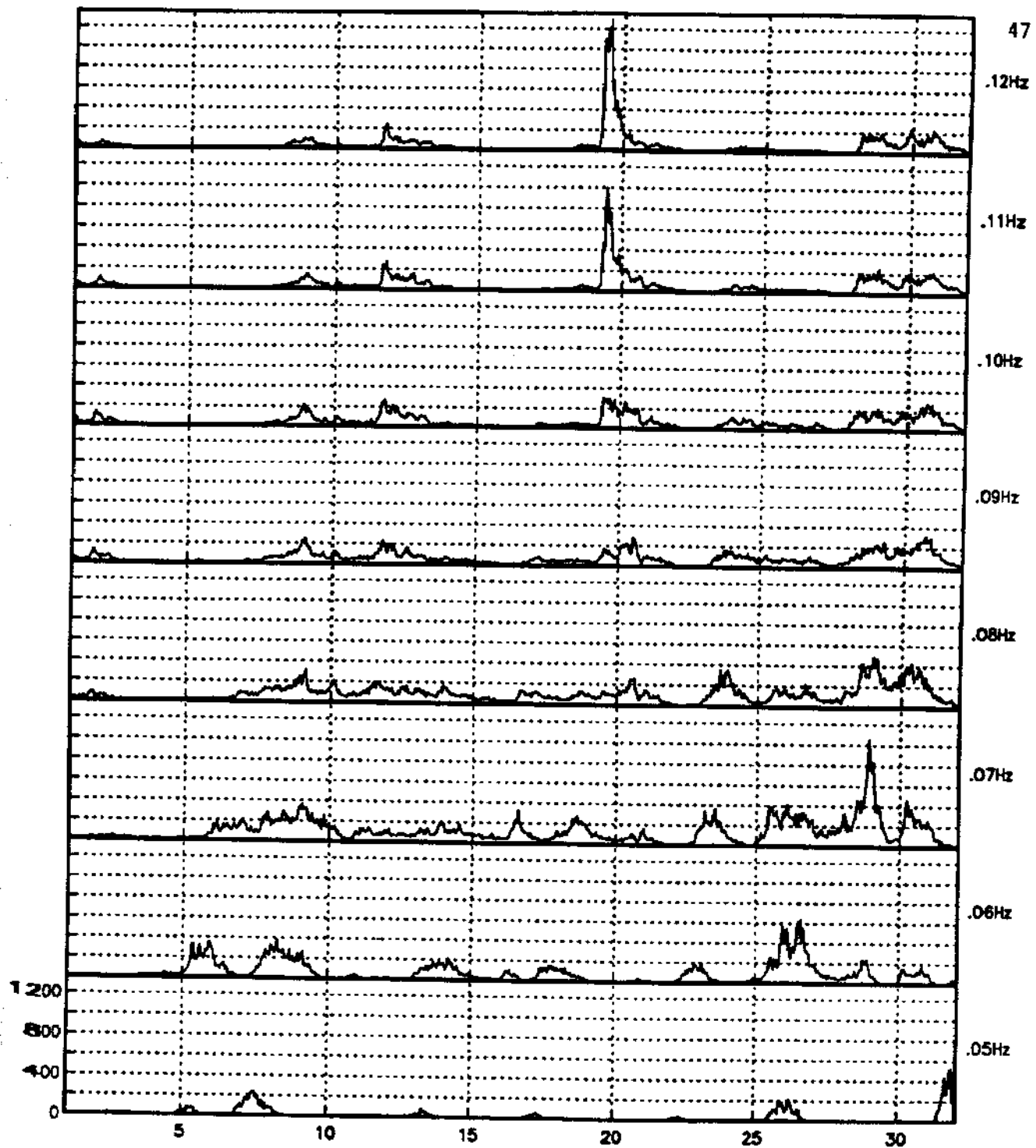
.07Hz

.06Hz

.05Hz

total f=.045-.125Hz





48

.12Hz

.11Hz

.10Hz

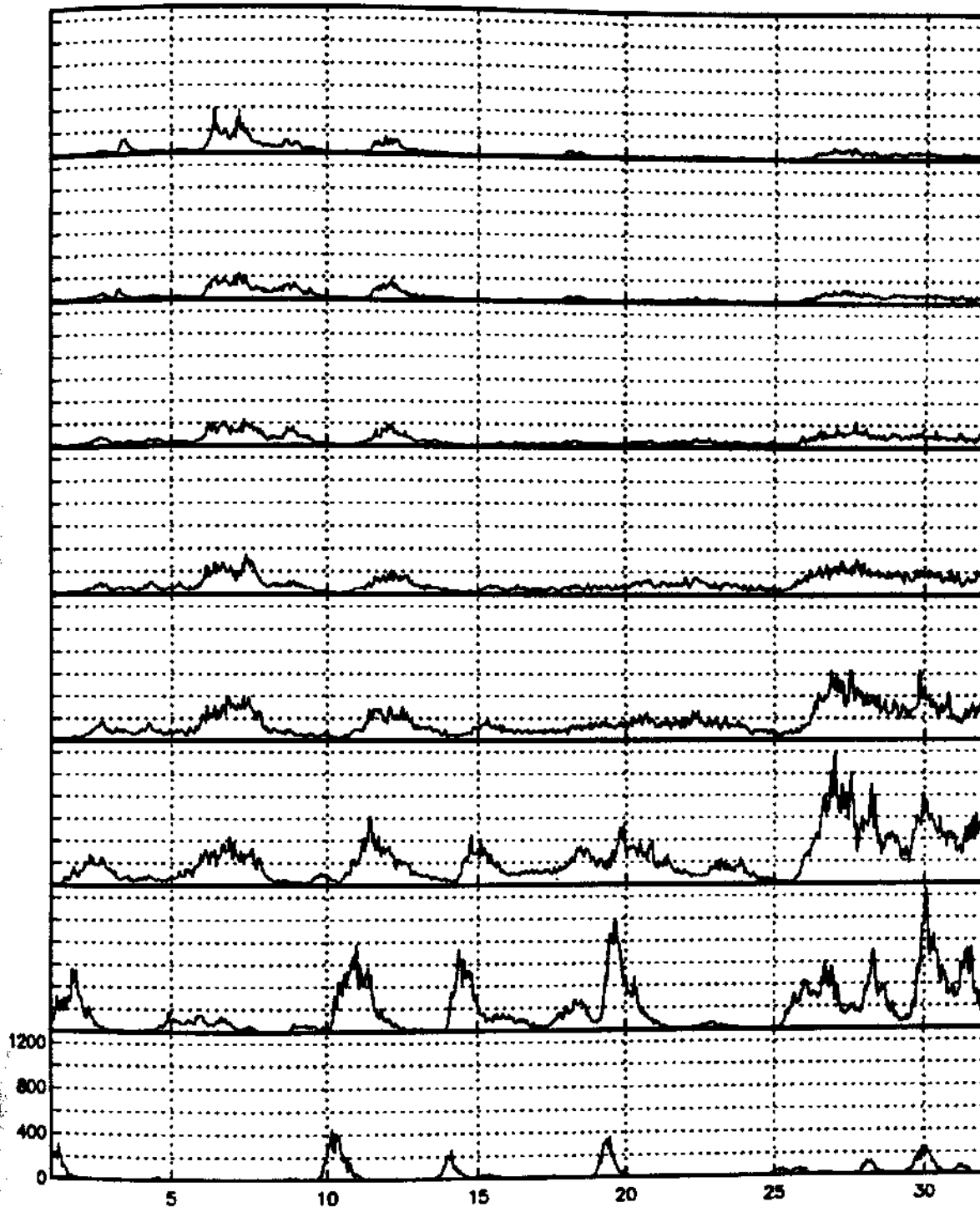
.09Hz

.08Hz

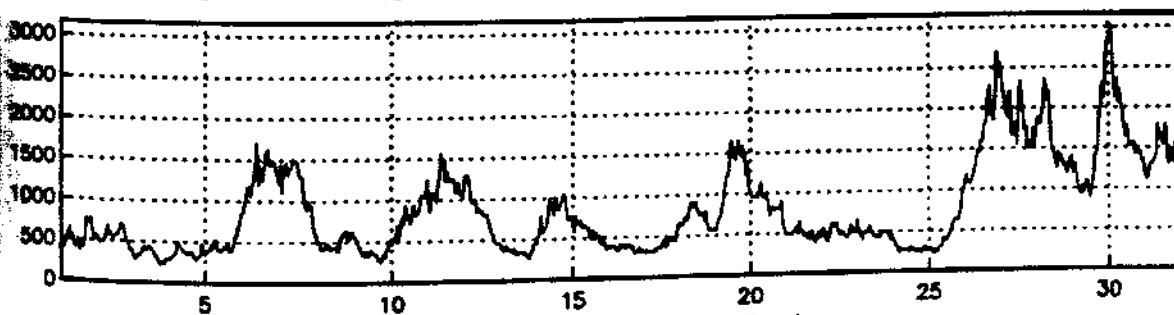
.07Hz

.06Hz

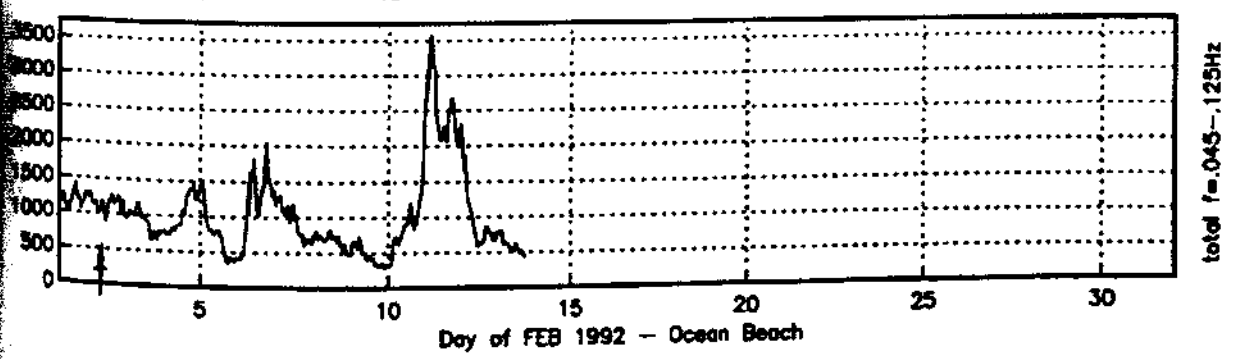
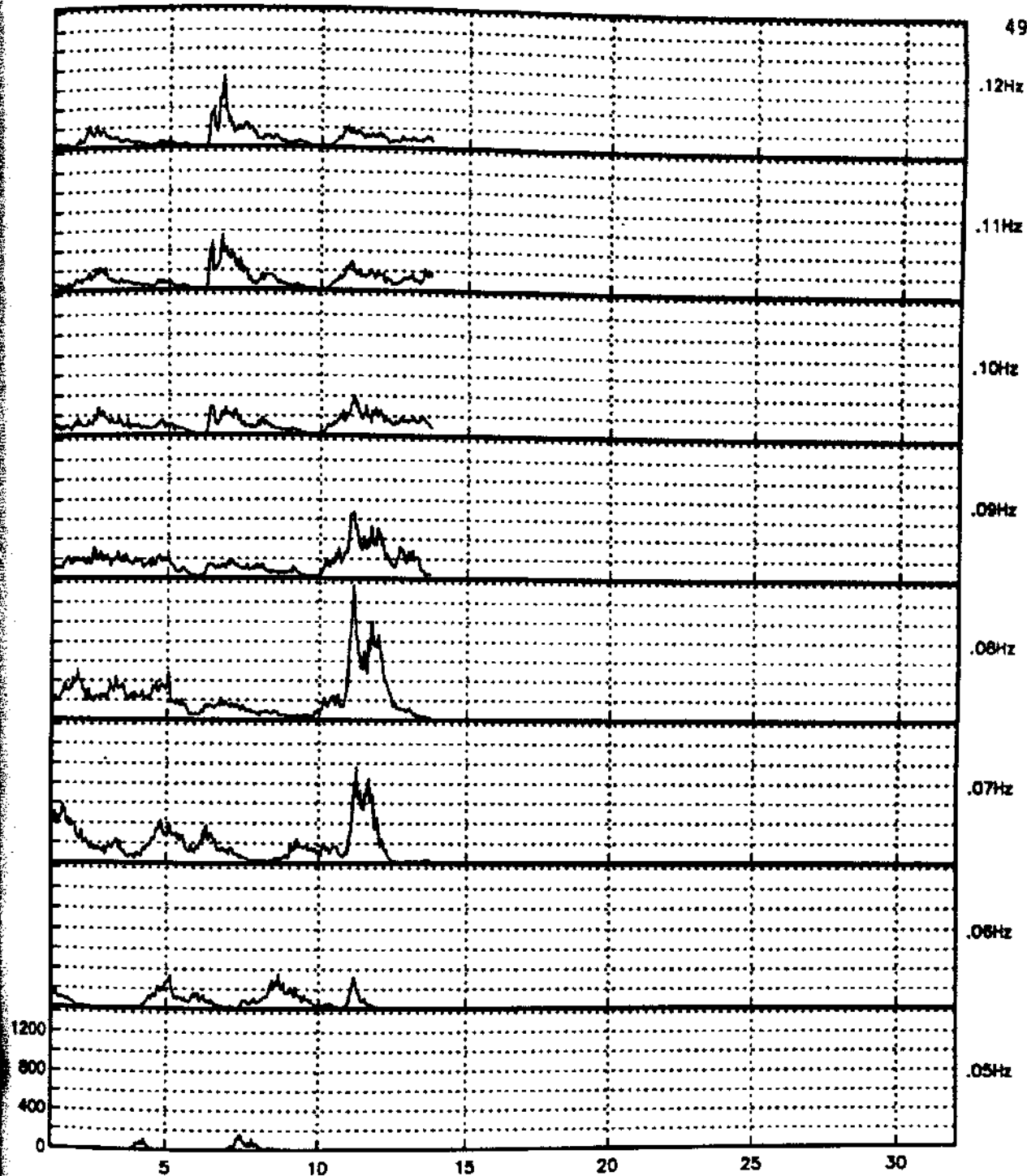
.05Hz

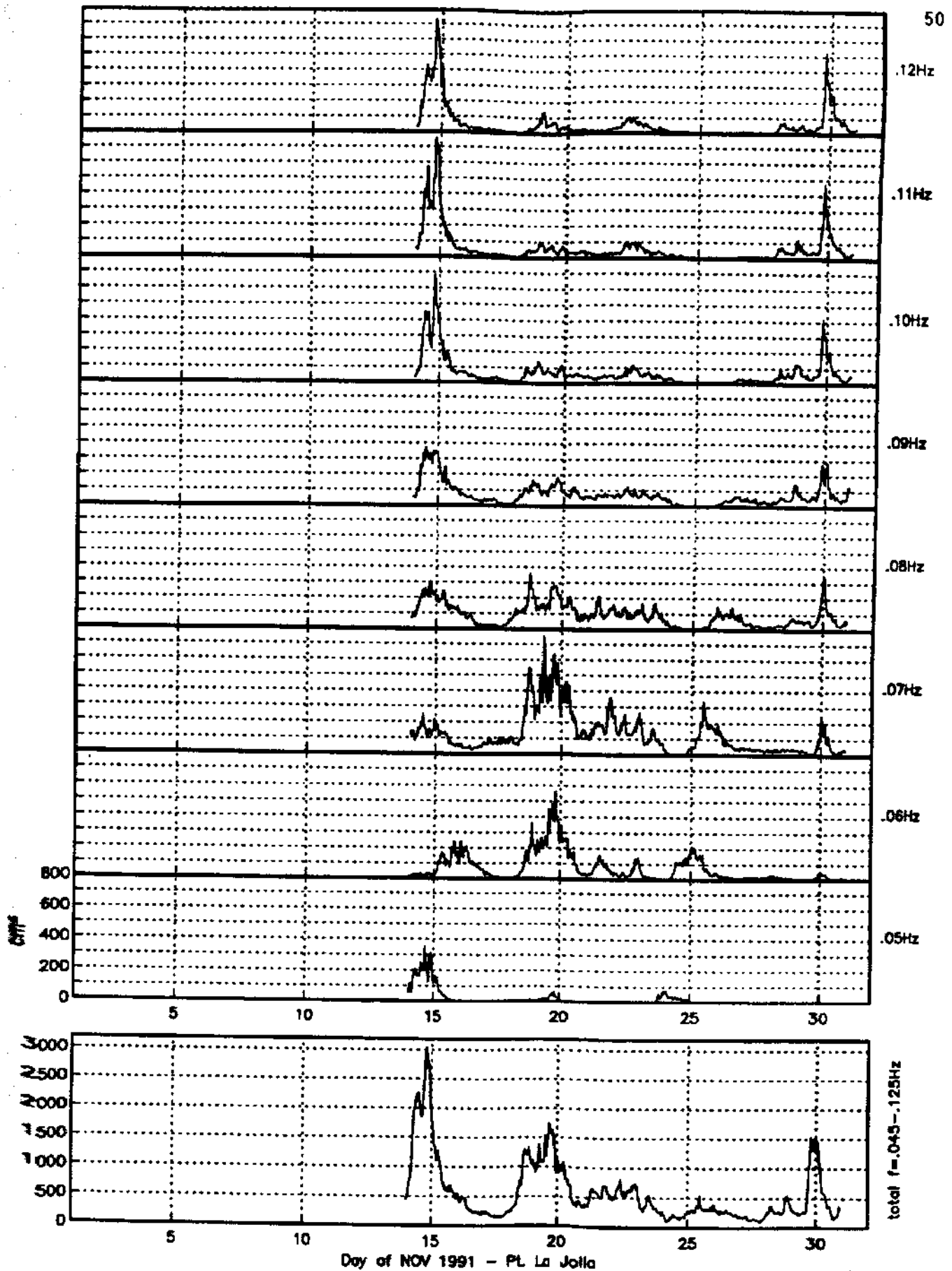


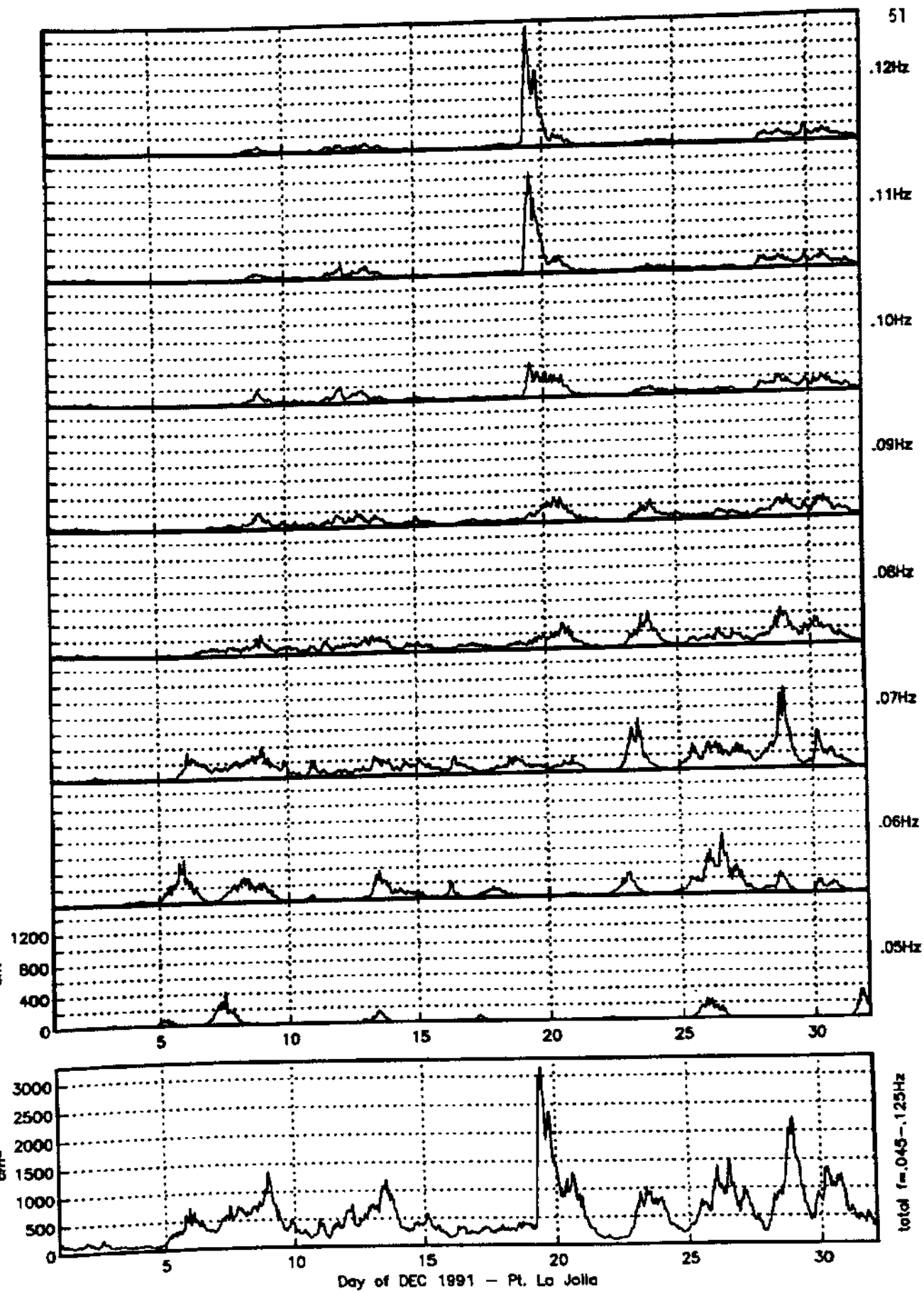
total f= .045-.125Hz

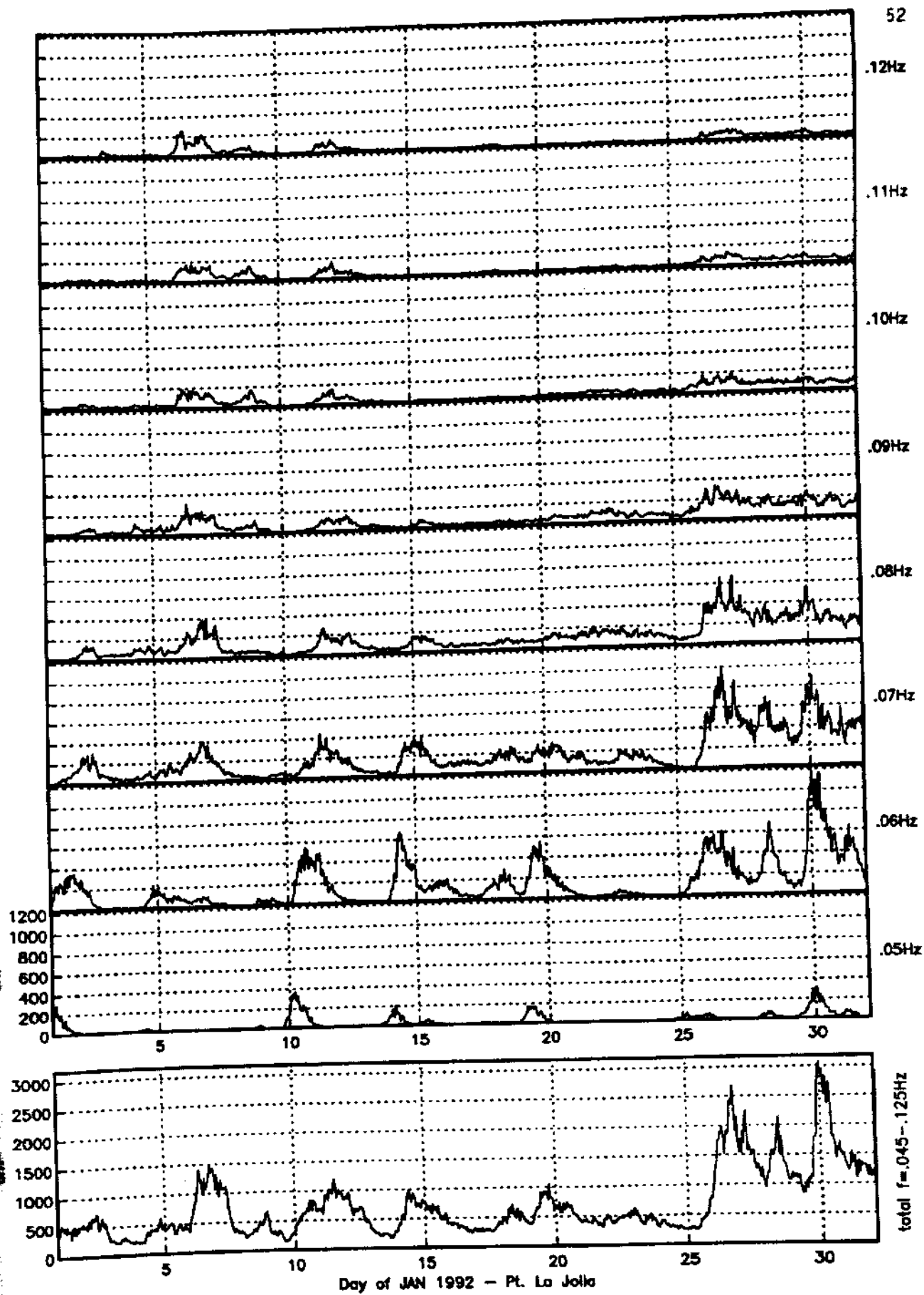


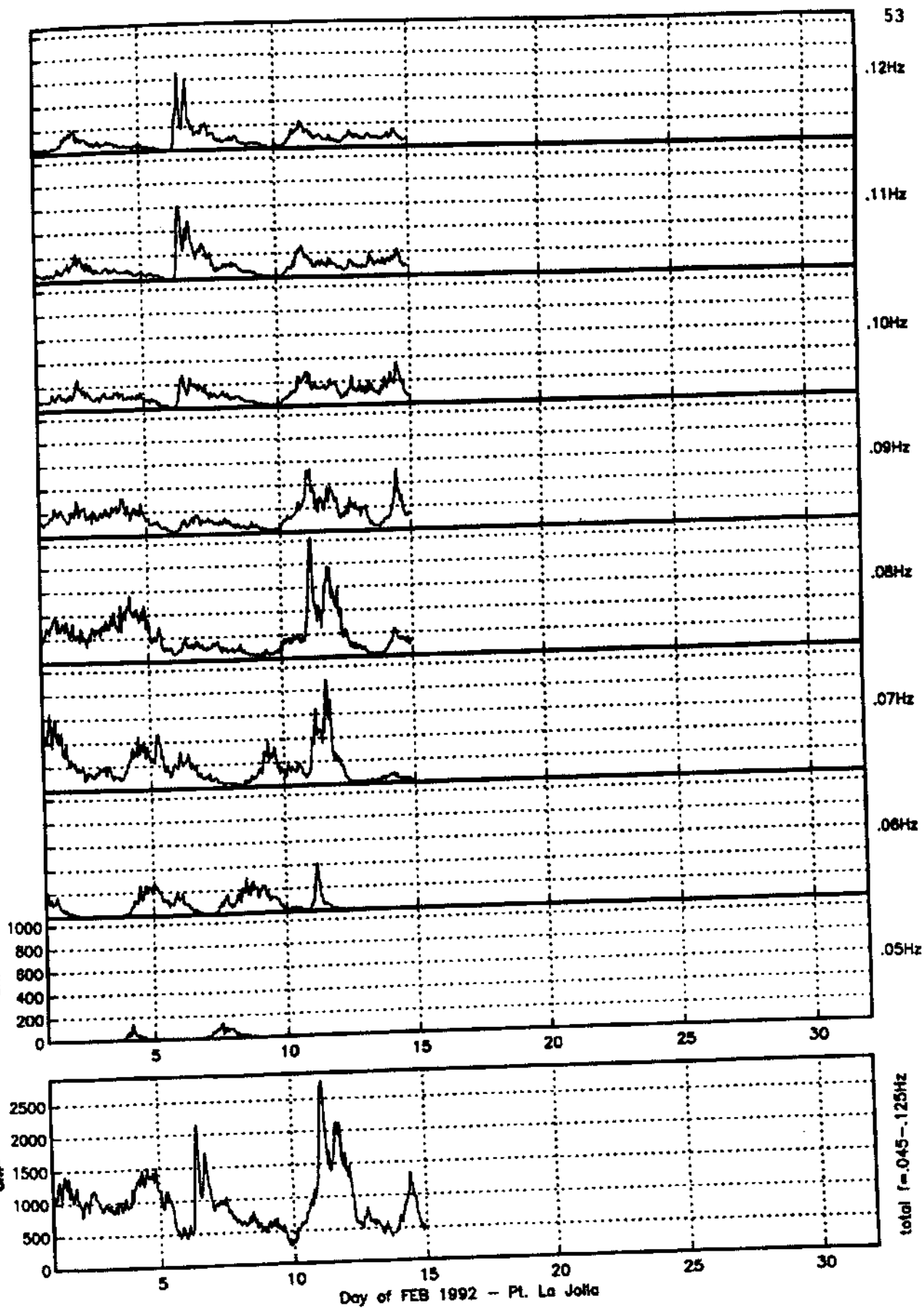
Day of JAN 1992 - Ocean Beach

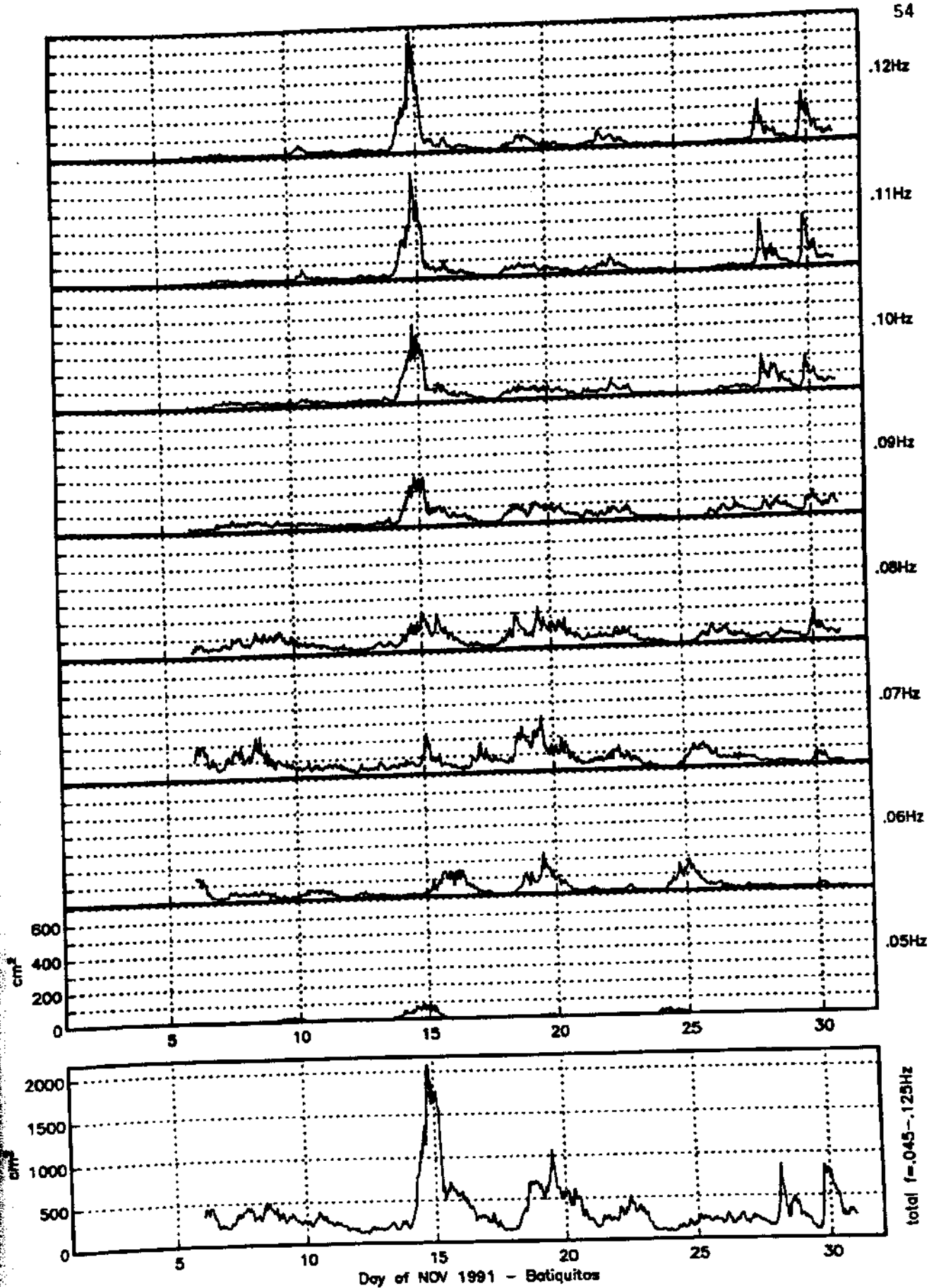


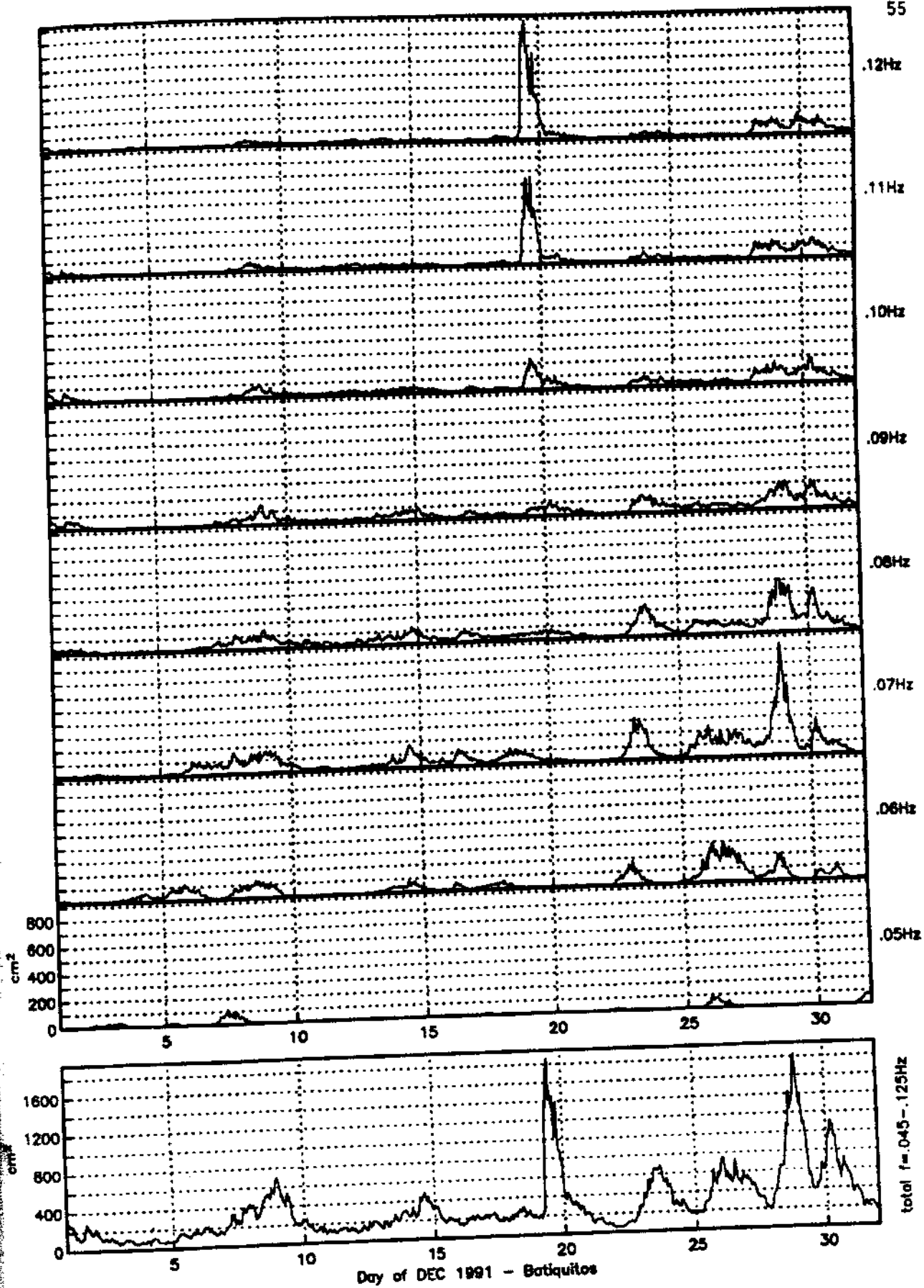


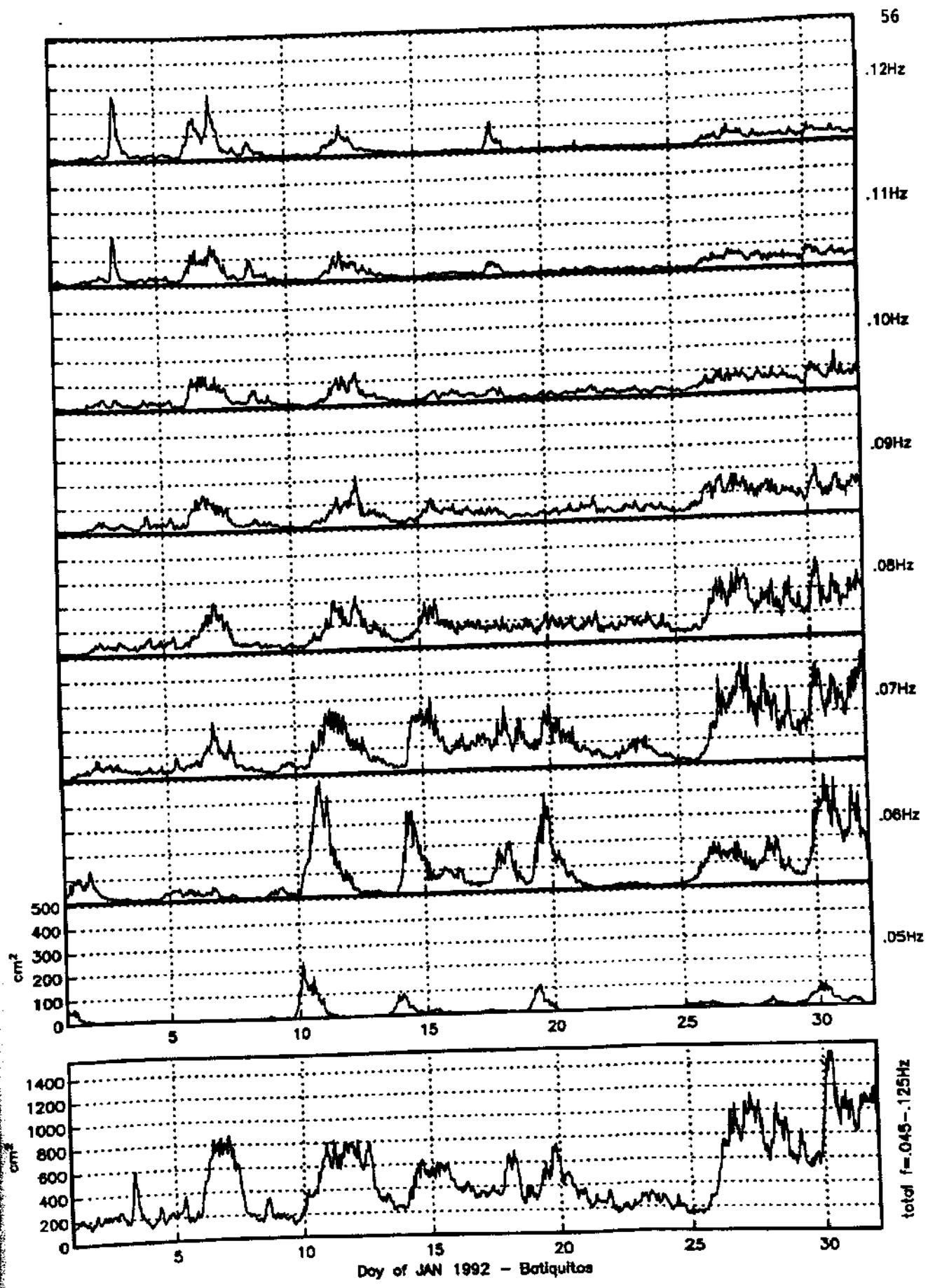












57

.12Hz

.11Hz

.10Hz

.09Hz

.08Hz

.07Hz

.06Hz

.05Hz

cm²600
400
200
0

5

10

15

20

25

30

cm²2000
1600
1200
800
400
0

5

10

15

20

25

30

Day of FEB 1992 - Botiquitos

total f=.045-.125Hz

