

TABLE 1. Normal mode characteristics. Values for H_m , A_m were based on stratification typical of the equatorial Pacific near the dateline (Eriksen *et al.*, 1983). The depth $D = 5000$ m, $\tau \sim 0.5$ dyn cm⁻² and $L_F \sim 1000$ km were used for the sea-level parameters.

	m								
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Equivalent depth H_m (cm)	5×10^5	86	32	13	7.0	4.3	3.3	2.3	1.8
Surface amplitude $A_m(0)$	1.00	4.22	4.02	2.05	1.61	2.08	2.10	1.50	1.22
Wave speed, $c_m = (gH_m)^{1/2}$ (m/s)	222.	2.91	1.78	1.13	0.83	0.65	0.57	0.47	0.42
Time scale, $T_m = (\beta c_m)^{-1/2}$ (day)	0.16	1.42	1.80	2.28	2.66	3.00	3.21	3.53	3.74
Length scale, $L_m = (c_m/\beta)^{1/2}$ (km)	3117	357	279	222	190	168	158	144	135
Sea level scale η_m [Eq. (7)] (cm)	0.32	0.65	0.46	0.10	0.05	0.07	0.07	0.03	0.01
Sea level estimate η_m^* [Eq. (12)] (cm)	0.03	1.82	1.65	0.43	0.26	0.44	0.45	0.23	0.15

EQUATORIAL REGION BAROCLINIC MODES AT 179°E

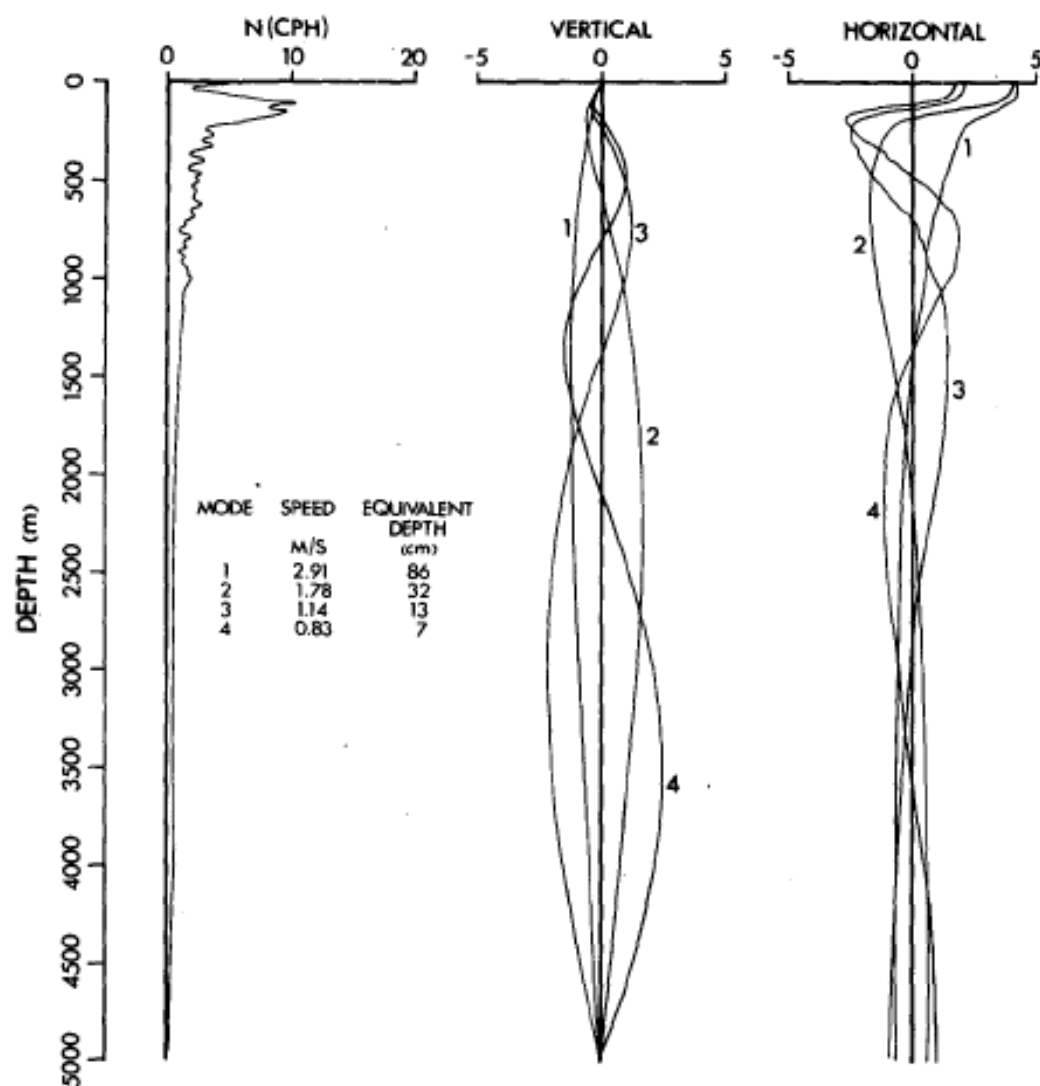


FIG. 4. Profiles of buoyancy frequency N and the first four baroclinic-mode shapes of vertical displacement and horizontal current computed from average $N^2(z)$ profiles between 3°N and 30°S along 179°E.