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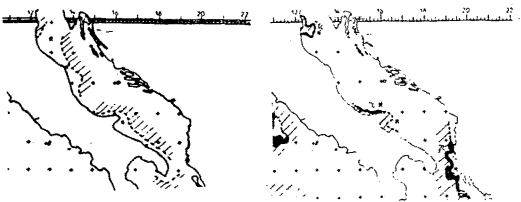
Thermal Fronts in the Adriatic Sea

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Analysis of infra-red images of surface temperature published in monthly bulletin SATMER were used to study thermal fronts in the Adriatic sea in the period from september 1980 to january 1987.

The largest part of the period studied there were thermal fronts in the Adriatic sea ,showing regular changes in the course of year. Mostly fronts are typical coastal fronts parallel to the coast but sometimes are broken into several transversal fronts or form small eddies ,at the edges of coastal fronts. The most frequent seasonal shapes of thermal fronts were identified (see fig.),and their existence understood in relation to freshwater inflow,seasonal heating and cooling,synoptic disturbances and advection of warmer water through Otranto strait.



Thermal fronts in spring and summer.



Thermal fronts in autumn and winter.

Satelite infra-red images provide more complex isotherm pattern than it was obtained with temperature measurements at sea. Surface isotherms were also used for comparison with typical Adriatic water types formation,