

List of Figures

No.	Caption	Page
2.1a	Location of corals from the Indian coast and tree sampled for proxy climate records	13
2.1b	Coral sample location (Stanley Reef, Australia)	14
2.2	Coral sectioning and sampling for X-radiography and tracer measurements	16
2.3a	Reproducibility of oxygen and carbon isotopic ratios of Z-Carrara	18
2.3b	Reproducibility of oxygen and carbon isotopic ratios of Makrana marble	19
2.4	^{14}C blank (background) count-rates of marble	24
2.5	Count-rates of NBS Oxalic acid II standard (4990C)	26
2.6	Determination of Cd concentration by standard addition method	31
3.1	X-ray positive of a coral slice <i>P. compressa</i> , from the Lakshadweep Is.	34
3.2	Variations in bandwidth with time in corals from the Lakshadweep, Gulf of Kutch and Stanley Reef	36
3.3	Variations in $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ with distance in <i>P. compressa</i> (KV-1) from the Kavaratti lagoon, Lakshadweep islands	39

3.4	Mean monthly SST, salinity, $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ of water and expected $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ of coral carbonate for the Lakshadweep region	41
3.5	Plot of observed vs. calculated SST using coral thermometry	44
3.6	$\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ variations with time in a 25 year old <i>P. compressa</i> coral (KV-2) from the Kavaratti lagoon, Lakshadweep Is.	46
3.7	Plot showing observed and calculated SST based on coral (KV-2) $\delta^{18}\text{O}$	48
3.8	Intercomparison of the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ of the two <i>P. compressa</i> corals from the Lakshadweep region (1983-1987)	50
3.9	Relationship between $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and extension rate in coral KV-2	55
3.10	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ records of the coral <i>F. speciosa</i> from the Gulf of Kutch	58
3.11	Seasonal SST variations in the Gulf of Kutch near the coral site	60
3.12	$\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ minima of the GK coral and interannual rainfall variability in the Kutch & Saurashtra region	62
3.13	Sampling of the sine curve representing coralline oxygen isotopic variations	65
3.14	Result of the simulation study on the dependence of retrieved $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ seasonal amplitude on sampling parameters for a constant annual increment; $g=5$ mm	67
3.15	Result of the simulation study on the dependence of retrieved $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ seasonal amplitude on sampling parameters for a constant annual increment; $g=10$ mm	69

3.16	Plot of retrieved amplitude vs growth rate	69
3.17	Result of the simulation study on the dependence of retrieved $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ seasonal amplitude on sampling parameters for variable annual increment	71
3.18	Relationship between calcification rate and extension rate in the coral <i>P. lutea</i> from the Stanley Reef	73
3.19	Covariation of SST and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ of <i>P. lutea</i>	75
3.20	Growth rate variability in Tr-1 and Tr-2 in the coral <i>P. lutea</i>	77
3.21	Density, $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ variations along Tr-1 of <i>P. lutea</i>	79
3.22	Density, $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ variations along Tr-2 of <i>P. lutea</i>	81
3.23	$\Delta^{14}\text{C}$ time series in coral <i>F. speciosa</i> from the Gulf of Kutch	84
3.24	$\Delta^{14}\text{C}$ time series of NH and Thane (near Bombay) air	86
3.25	Calculated time variations of radiocarbon activity in the Gulf of Kutch considering only air-sea exchange of CO_2	91
3.26	Two box model of the northern Arabian Sea	93
3.27	Calculated time variations of radiocarbon activity in the mixed layer of the northern Arabian Sea	95
3.28	Calculated time variations of radiocarbon activity in the Gulf of Kutch	97
3.29	Temporal variations in Cd concentration and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ in coral KV-1	103