

Deep sea subbottom temperature observation by multi-sensor equipment off Okinawa Island in VENUS project

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A multi-sensor deep sea floor observation equipment was developed and was deployed at a depth of 2,156m off Okinawa Island on the landward slope of Nansei Shoto Trench in VENUS (Versatile Ecomonitoring Network by Undersea cable System) project. The project was supported by the special coordination funds for promoting science and technology of Science and Technology Agency. By the real time observation carried out for one and half months, diurnal and semi-diurnal changes of water temperature and deepsea current were observed. Although subbottom temperatures were largely affected by the water temperature change, subbottom temperature gradient was estimated to be 0.05degreeC/m.

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