

UNDERWATER GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH OF THE PALAEORELIEF OF LITTORAL SECTIONS OF THE BULGARIAN BLACK SEA COAST

Abstract

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Underwater archaeology is essential for the history of all maritime nations. It is known that the localization of the coastal settlements and the livelihood of their population are predetermined to a considerable extent by the coastal relief. It is also known that the littoral sections of the Black Sea coast are constantly undergoing slow vertical motions at different velocities, direction and amplitude in various sections and in various time periods. Methods which reconstruct the palaeo-relief of parts of the aquatoria of interest to us are needed in order to achieve highly efficient prospecting for underwater settlements and equipment. Attempts have been made in this respect by the Archaeometry Laboratory of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. All measurements are made using a modern under-water geophysical complex, which comprises: side scan sonar, echo sounder, magnetometer, photo-robot, probe, etc.

The paper gives information about some of the first attempts to reconstruct the palaeorelief of littoral sections of the Bulgarian Black Sea coast and their results.

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