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ELECTRONICS RESEARCH LABORATORY

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TECHNICAL REPORT
ERL-0344-TR

THE RADAR CROSS SECTION OF PERFECTLY-CONDUCTING RECTANGULAR
FLAT PLATES AND RECTANGULAR CYLINDERS –
A COMPARISON OF PHYSICAL OPTICS, GTD AND UTD SOLUTIONS

W.C. ANDERSON

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THE RADAR CROSS SECTION OF PERFECTLY-CONDUCTING RECTANGULAR FLAT PLATES AND
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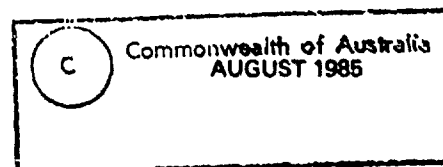AND UTD SOLUTIONS

W.C. Anderson

S U M M A R Y

The method of Physical Optics, the Geometrical Theory of
Diffraction and the Uniform Geometrical Theory of
Diffraction are applied here to electromagnetic scattering
from flat plates and rectangular cylinders. The results
are compared with experimental measurements to establish
the domains of validity of the theoretical techniques.

POSTAL ADDRESS: Director, Electronics Research Laboratory,
Box 2151, GPO, Adelaide, South Australia, 5001.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The radar scattering properties of rectangular flat plates and rectangular cylinders are of concern for a number of reasons of which the following are perhaps the most important:

(i) Some targets of interest can be approximated by one of these shapes, in which case the results apply directly,

(ii) Many targets can be approximated by a composition of these primitive shapes; calculation of the radar scattering properties of complex targets may then reduce to an iterative procedure employing the scattering properties of the primitives,

(iii) Since these shapes are easily fabricated, they are convenient for anechoic chamber experiments; such measurements may be used to validate theoretical predictions or to assist in calibrating the anechoic chamber itself.

In this report, the radar cross sections of flat plates and rectangular cylinders are calculated using Physical Optics, the Geometrical Theory of Diffraction and the Uniform Geometrical Theory of Diffraction. The theoretical predictions are then compared with experimental measurements obtained in the ERL anechoic chamber.

In the present context the primary motivation was one of establishing the domains of validity of three important theoretical techniques for calculating radar cross sections: physical optics, the geometrical theory of diffraction and the uniform geometrical theory of diffraction. This objective is part of a broader investigation which aims at deriving guidelines for employing the various techniques available to the electromagnetics researcher. At present it appears to be the case that some methods yield sensible results over a wider range of situations than might be expected. In other circumstances the opposite holds. It is difficult to predict this behaviour from the isolated theory; one must apply the techniques to real problems and confirm their validity by comparison with experiment.

Obviously even this methodology has its limitations but there is no clear alternative if one wishes to be able to select and apply theoretical methods with confidence that the results will be meaningful.

The remainder of this paper is organised as follows. First the method of physical optics (PO) is described and applied in turn to the flat plate and the rectangular cylinder. Next the geometrical theory of diffraction (GTD) and the uniform geometrical theory of diffraction (UTD) are applied to the same targets. A brief description of the experimental measurements carried out in the anechoic chamber is then given, followed by a discussion of the comparisons between theories and experiment. Some limited comparisons with solutions obtained using the method of moments are included.

Finally, some conclusions are drawn regarding the domains of validity of the theoretical techniques.

2. SCATTERING ANALYSIS USING PHYSICAL OPTICS

2.1 The method of physical optics

Physical optics determines the field scattered from a scatterer by assuming that the field on the surface of the scatterer is the geometric optics surface field. At each point on the geometrically illuminated side of the body, the induced surface current is the same as that on an infinite

tangent plane at the point, whereas over the shadowed body, the surface
field is zero. For a perfectly conducting body, the surface current
distribution on the scatterer is then

$$
\underset{\sim}{J}_{po} = \begin{cases} 2\hat{n} \times \underset{\sim}{H}^i & \text{in the illuminated region, } S_i \\[2em] 0 & \text{in the shadowed region} \end{cases}
\tag{1}
$$

where $\hat{n}$ is a unit vector normal drawn outwards from the body and $\underset{\sim}{H}^i$ is the
incident magnetic field. This is only valid for wavelengths very much
smaller than the dimensions of the object. When this surface current is
substituted into the magnetic field integral equation, the physical optics
approximation for the scattered magnetic field $\underset{\sim}{H}^s$ is obtained, that is,

$$
\underset{\sim}{H}^s = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{S_i} 2(\hat{n} \times \underset{\sim}{H}^i) \times \nabla \left(\frac{e^{-ikR}}{R} \right) dS_i
\tag{2}
$$

where $k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$, R is the distance between the field point and the integration
point on the scatterer and $\displaystyle\int_{S_i}$ denotes the integral over the illuminated

surface S_i of the body. The time factor $e^{i\omega t}$ is assumed and suppressed.

When the field point is a large distance from the body, the scattered
magnetic field simplifies to

$$
\underset{\sim}{H}^s = \frac{ik}{4\pi} \frac{e^{-ikr}}{r} \int_{S_i} 2(\hat{n} \times \underset{\sim}{H}^i) \times \hat{r} \; e^{ik\hat{r}\cdot\underset{\sim}{r}'} \, dS_i
\tag{3}
$$

where $\hat{r}$ is the unit vector from the origin to the field point, r is the
distance from the origin to the field point and $\underset{\sim}{r}'$ is the radius vector
from the origin to the integration point. For backscattering $\hat{r} = -\hat{k}$ ($\hat{k}$
being the unit wave vector), so the backscattered magnetic field, valid in
the far field limit, is

$$
\underset{\sim}{H}^s = \frac{ik}{4\pi} \frac{e^{-ikr}}{r} \int_{S_i} 2(\hat{n} \times \underset{\sim}{H}^i) \times (-\hat{k}) \; e^{-ik\hat{k}\cdot\underset{\sim}{r}'} \, dS_i
\tag{4}
$$

Useful accounts of the application of physical optics to radar scattering
can be found in references 1 and 2.

2.2 Backscattering from a rectangular flat plate

A rectangular flat plate of sides 2a and 2b lies in the y-z plane as shown
in figure 1.

A plane wave is incident on the plate in the azimuthal plane making an angle ϕ with the x-axis. Thus $\hat{k} = -\cos\phi\hat{i}_x - \sin\phi\hat{i}_y$. Let the incident magnetic field be $\underline{H}^i = \hat{\ell}H_o e^{-ik\hat{k}\cdot\underline{r}'}$. If the incident wave is a horizontally polarised wave, $\hat{\ell} = \hat{i}_z$, $\hat{n} = \hat{i}_x$, $\underline{r}' = y\hat{i}_y + z\hat{i}_z$ so that the backscattered field is

$$\underline{H}^s = \hat{i}_z \frac{ik}{4\pi} \frac{e^{-ikr}}{r} 2H_o \cos\phi \int_{S_i} e^{2iks\sin\phi y} dS_i$$

$$= \hat{i}_z \frac{ik}{4\pi} \frac{e^{-ikr}}{r} 2H_o 4ab \cos\phi \frac{\sin(2kas\sin\phi)}{2kas\sin\phi} \tag{5}$$

Hence the monostatic radar cross section of the flat plate is

$$\sigma_{po} = \lim_{r\to\infty} 4\pi r^2 \left|\frac{\underline{H}^s}{\underline{H}^i}\right|^2$$

$$= \frac{64\pi}{\lambda^2} a^2 b^2 \cos^2\phi \left[\frac{\sin(2kas\sin\phi)}{2kas\sin\phi}\right]^2 \tag{6}$$

If the incident wave is a vertically polarised wave, $\hat{\ell} = \sin\phi\hat{i}_x - \cos\phi\hat{i}_y$ and the backscattered field is determined by equation (4) to be

$$\underline{H}^s = (\sin\phi \cos\phi\hat{i}_x - \cos^2\phi\hat{i}_y) \frac{ik}{4\pi} \frac{e^{-ikr}}{r} 2H_o 4ab \frac{\sin(2kas\sin\phi)}{2kas\sin\phi} \tag{7}$$

yielding a monostatic radar cross section equal to that given by equation (6) for horizontal polarisation. Although the physical optics radar cross section is polarisation independent in this case, this is not necessarily true of composite targets where multiple reflections can occur; this has been strikingly demonstrated in an analysis of the orthogonal trihedral corner reflector(ref.3).

2.3 Backscattering from a rectangular cylinder

A cylinder of height 2b has a rectangular cross section of sides 2a, 2c. The axis of the cylinder lies along the z-axis as shown in figure 2.

A plane wave is incident on the cylinder in the azimuthal plane making an angle of ϕ with the x-axis so $\hat{k} = -\cos\phi\hat{i}_x - \sin\phi\hat{i}_y$. Let the incident magnetic field be $\underline{H}^i = \hat{\ell}H_o e^{-ik\hat{k}\cdot\underline{r}'}$. If the incident wave is horizontally polarised, $\hat{\ell} = \hat{i}_z$ and the scattered field is given by

$$\underline{H}^s = \hat{1}_z \frac{ik}{4\pi} \frac{e^{-ikr}}{r} 2H_o \; 4b \left[a \; \cos\phi \; e^{2ikc\cos\phi} \; \frac{\overline{\sin(2ka\sin\phi)}}{2ka\sin\phi} \right.$$

$$\left. + \; c \; \sin\phi \; e^{2ika\sin\phi} \; \frac{\overline{\sin(2kc\cos\phi)}}{2kc\cos\phi} \right] \tag{8}$$

The monostatic radar cross section is then

$$\sigma_{po} = \frac{64\pi b^2}{\lambda^2} \left| a \; \cos\phi \; e^{2ikc\cos\phi} \; \frac{\sin(2ka\sin\phi)}{2ka\sin\phi} \right.$$

$$\left. + \; c \; \sin\phi \; e^{2ika\sin\phi} \; \frac{\sin(2kc\cos\phi)}{2kc\cos\phi} \right|^2 \tag{9}$$

This expression is also valid for a vertically polarised incident wave as well.

3. SCATTERING ANALYSIS USING KELLER'S GEOMETRICAL THEORY OF DIFFRACTION

3.1 The geometrical theory of diffraction

In geometrical optics only incident, reflected and refracted rays are described. Keller's geometrical theory of diffraction is an extension of geometrical optics in which diffracted rays are introduced by a generalisation of Fermat's principle. Diffracted rays are produced when incident rays hit edges, corners or vertices of scattering surfaces, or when incident rays impinge tangentially on smoothly curved boundaries. Diffracted rays can penetrate into the shadow regions and account for the fields there. The initial value of the field on a diffracted ray is obtained by multiplying the field on the incident ray at the point of diffraction by an appropriate diffraction coefficient. Diffraction is treated as a local phenomenon determined entirely by the local properties of the field, the media and the boundary in the immediate neighbourhood of the point of diffraction. Thus the diffraction coefficient is determined from the solution of the simplest boundary value problems having these local properties; these problems are called canonical problems. Away from the diffracting surfaces, the diffracted rays behave just like the ordinary rays of geometrical optics. As before, a time factor $e^{i\omega t}$ is assumed and is suppressed throughout the work.

3.2 Backscattering from a rectangular flat plate

A rectangular flat plate of sides 2a, 2b becomes an infinite strip of width 2a when b→∞. Ross(ref.4) has shown that the results for an infinite strip can be adapted to that for the rectangular flat plate. A plane wave is incident on the flat plate in the azimuthal plane making an angle of φ with the x-axis as shown in figures 1 and 3. It can be seen that, if corner diffraction is neglected, only edge diffracted fields from edges AD and BC will contribute to the backscattered field for angles of incidence φ≠0 as for the infinite strip.

The backscattered far field is derived for an infinite strip and the radar cross section per unit length, σ(length), is then calculated. The area backscatter radar cross section, σ(area), for the rectangular plate is obtained using the formula which relates area and length cross sections(ref.5)

$$\sigma(\text{area}) \;=\; \frac{8b^2}{\lambda} \; \sigma(\text{length}) \tag{10}$$

Both vertical and horizontal polarisations are considered here.

3.2.1 Vertical polarisation

Following James(ref.6), the diffracted field for normal incidence of a plane wave on a straight edge of a half-plane is

$$E_v(s^d) \;=\; D^e E_v^i(P_o) \; (s^d)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \; e^{-iks^d} \tag{11}$$

where D^e is the half-plane diffraction coefficient for vertical polarisation, $E_v^i(P_o)$ is the incident field at the point of diffraction P_o and s^d is the distance of the field point from the diffraction point. The diffracted field E_v and incident field E_v^i have only z-components. These diffracted rays lie in a plane perpendicular to the edge. When a diffracted ray hits another edge it can again produce diffracted rays and so on. Thus one has not only singly diffracted rays from the ~~two parallel edges~~ contributing to the backscattered field but also doubly, triply and other higher order multiply diffracted rays contributing as well. The diffracted far field is given by equation (11) with

$$D^e(\phi_P, \phi_o) \;=\; - \; \frac{1}{\sqrt{8i\pi k}} \; [\sec \tfrac{1}{2}(\phi_P - \phi_o) - \sec \tfrac{1}{2}(\phi_P + \phi_o)] \tag{12}$$

where ϕ_o is the incident angle measured from the half plane faces and ϕ_P is the angle of the diffracted ray measured from the same half-plane face at the point of diffraction. The singly diffracted ray from diffraction point A' is given by equations (11) and (12) with $s^d = \rho + a\sin\phi$ where ρ is the distance between O, the coordinate origin, on the plate and the field point and $\rho \gg a\sin\phi$. Referring the phase of the incident field to O, the incident wave at A' is $E_v^i(A') = E_o \, e^{-ika\sin\phi}$. The singly diffracted field scattered back towards the source is thus

$$E_v^{A'} \;\sim\; -[\sec \tfrac{1}{2}(\phi_{A'} - \phi_o) - \sec \tfrac{1}{2}(\phi_{A'} + \phi_o)] \, E_o \, e^{-2ika\sin\phi} \; \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \tag{13}$$

Figure 3 shows $\phi_{A'} = \phi_o = \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi$, so

$$E_v^{A'} \;\sim\; -\left(1 - \frac{1}{\sin\phi}\right) E_o \, e^{-2ika\sin\phi} \; \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \tag{14}$$

The singly diffracted ray from B' is given by equations (11) and (12) with $s^d = \rho - a\sin\phi$, $E_v^i(B') = E_o \, e^{ika\sin\phi}$, $\phi_{A'} = \phi_o = \frac{\pi}{2} + \phi$; thus

$$E_v^{B'} \sim -\left(1 + \frac{1}{\sin\phi}\right) E_o \, e^{2ikasin\phi} \, \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{i\pi k\rho}} \qquad (15)$$

The total singly diffracted field from A' and B' backscattered towards the source is

$$E_v^S \sim -2\left[\cos(2kasin\phi) + 2ika \, \frac{\sin(2kasin\phi)}{2kasin\phi}\right] E_o \, \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \qquad (16)$$

The singly diffracted ray from A' in the direction of $\phi_{A'} = 0, 2\pi$ hits B' when $s^d = 2a$ on the front and rear of the strip respectively; equations (11) and (12) constrain this field to be zero. In order to calculate the doubly diffracted rays from B', a higher order edge diffraction term has to be considered - this is called the slope diffraction term where the diffracted field is not proportional to the incident field but to the normal derivative of the incident field at the point of diffraction. This is given by James(ref.6) to be

$$E_v \sim \frac{1}{2ik} \, \frac{1}{\sqrt{8i\pi k}} \left[\sin \tfrac{1}{2}(\phi_P - \phi_o)\sec^2 \tfrac{1}{2}(\phi_P - \phi_o) \right.$$
$$\left. + \sin \tfrac{1}{2}(\phi_P + \phi_o)\sec^2 \tfrac{1}{2}(\phi_P + \phi_o) \right] \frac{\partial E_v^i}{\partial n} \, (s^d)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \, e^{-iks^d} \qquad (17)$$

for a vertically polarised incident wave at normal incidence on the edge of a half-plane. In calculating the multiply diffracted fields, the factor $\frac{1}{2}$ for grazing incidence(ref.6) is dropped. This is equivalent to adding the backscattered field resulting from the diffraction of the surface wave on the front of the strip to the backscattered field resulting from diffraction of the surface wave on the rear of the strip, both front and rear waves contributing equally. Thus the doubly diffracted field from B' in the backscatter direction is given by equation (17) with the normal derivative of the incident field

$$\frac{\partial E_v^i}{\partial n} \sim \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2a} E_o \, e^{-ikasin\phi} \, \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \, \frac{\sqrt{1 - sin\phi}}{1 + sin\phi} \qquad (18)$$

and

$$\phi_{B'} = \frac{\pi}{2} + \phi, \quad \phi_o = 0, \quad s^d = \rho - asin\phi$$

whence

$$E_v^{B'} \sim \frac{E_o}{ika} \, \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \, \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \, \frac{1}{\cos\phi} \qquad (19)$$

Similarly the doubly diffracted field from A' is given by equation (17) with the normal derivative of the incident field

$$\frac{\partial E_v^i}{\partial n} \sim \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2a} E_o \, e^{ikasin\phi} \, \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \sqrt{\frac{1 + sin\phi}{1 - sin\phi}} \,, \tag{20}$$

$\phi_{A'} = \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi$, $\phi_o = 0$, $s^d = \rho + asin\phi$ whence

$$E_v^{A'} \sim \frac{E_o}{ika} \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \frac{1}{cos\phi} \tag{21}$$

Thus the total doubly diffracted field in the backscattered direction is

$$E_v^d \sim \frac{2E_o}{ika} \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \frac{1}{cos\phi} \tag{22}$$

To calculate the triply diffracted fields from A' and B', equation (17) has to be used as the doubly diffracted rays that hit A' and R' to produce triply diffracted fields are zero so that once again higher order diffraction terms have to be considered. The triply diffracted field from A' is given by equation (17) with the normal derivative of the incident field,

$$\frac{\partial E_v^i}{\partial n} \sim \frac{\sqrt{2}}{8ika^2} E_o \, e^{-ikasin\phi} \left(\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \right)^2 \sqrt{\frac{1 - sin\phi}{1 + sin\phi}} \,, \tag{23}$$

$\phi_{A'} = \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi$, $\phi_o = 0$, $s^d = \rho + asin\phi$ whence

$$E_v^{A'} \sim - \frac{E_o}{4a^2k^2} e^{-2ikasin\phi} \left(\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \right)^2 \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \frac{(1 - sin\phi)}{(1 + sin\phi)^2} \tag{24}$$

Similarly, the triply diffracted field from B' is given by equation (17) with the normal derivative of the incident field,

$$\frac{\partial E_v^i}{\partial n} \sim \frac{\sqrt{2}}{8ika^2} E_o \, e^{ikasin\phi} \left(\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \right)^2 \sqrt{\frac{1 + sin\phi}{1 - sin\phi}} \,, \tag{25}$$

$\phi_{B'} = \frac{\pi}{2} + \phi$, $\phi_o = 0$, $s^d = \rho - asin\phi$ whence

$$E_v^{B'} \sim - \frac{E_o}{4a^2k^2} e^{2ikasin\phi} \left(\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \right)^2 \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \frac{(1 + sin\phi)}{(1 - sin\phi)^2} \tag{26}$$

Thus the total diffracted field is

$$E_v^T \sim - \frac{E_o}{4a^2k^2} \left(\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \right)^2 \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \left[\frac{(1 - \sin\phi)}{(1 + \sin\phi)^2} e^{-2ikasin\phi} \right.$$

$$\left. + \frac{(1 + \sin\phi)}{(1 - \sin\phi)^2} e^{2ikasin\phi} \right] \tag{27}$$

Higher order multiply diffracted fields can be obtained in a similar way by applying equation (17) repeatedly for the various incident fields on the edges and summing the results. It would be tedious indeed to have to evaluate each higher order field this way. It transpires, however, that the contribution from all the multiply diffracted fields can be accounted for in a very simple way if one observes that all multiply diffracted fields from doubly diffracted fields onwards can be divided into two general cases.

(a) The incident ray hits one edge and then undergoes 2, 4, 6, 8, ... diffractions before being backscattered from the other edge to the one it was incident on.

(b) The incident ray hits one edge and then undergoes 3, 5, 7, 9, ... diffractions before being backscattered from the same edge it was incident on.

These diffracting mechanisms are illustrated in figures 4 and 5. In summing the contributions from these multiply diffracted rays, it is seen that the doubly diffracted field given by equation (22) is a common multiple in case (a) so that the total field from the contributions is

$$E_v^{MI} \sim \frac{2E_o}{ika} \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \frac{1}{\cos\phi} (1 + x^2 + x^4 + \ldots.) \tag{28}$$

where

$$x = \frac{1}{ik} \frac{1}{2a} \frac{\partial}{\partial\phi_p} \left\{ \frac{1}{2\sqrt{8i\pi k}} \left[\sin \tfrac{1}{2}(\phi_p - \phi_c)\sec^2 \tfrac{1}{2}(\phi_p - \phi_o) \right.\right.$$

$$\left.\left. + \sin \tfrac{1}{2}(\phi_p + \phi_o)\sec^2 \tfrac{1}{2}(\phi_p + \phi_o) \right] \right\} (s^d)^{-\tfrac{1}{2}} e^{-iks^d}$$

evaluated at $s^d = 2a$ and $\phi_p = \phi_o = 0$, that is,

$$x = \frac{1}{4ika} \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \tag{29}$$

and

$$x^2 = - \frac{e^{-ik4a}}{256i\pi k^3a^3} \tag{30}$$

Thus the sum is the sum of an infinite geometric series and

$$E_v^{M1} \sim \frac{2E_o}{ika} \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \frac{1}{\cos\phi} \left(1 + \frac{e^{-ik4a}}{256i\pi k^3 a^3}\right)^{-1} \tag{31}$$

The triply diffracted field given by equation (27) is a common multiple in case (b) so that the total field can be written as

$$E_v^{M2} \sim -\frac{E_o}{4a^2 k^2} \left(\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}}\right)^2 \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \left[\frac{(1-\sin\phi)}{(1+\sin\phi)^2} e^{-2ikasin\phi}\right.$$

$$\left. + \frac{(1+\sin\phi)}{(1-\sin\phi)^2} e^{2ikasin\phi}\right] (1 + x^2 + x^4 + \ldots) \tag{32}$$

where x^2 is as given by equation (30).

Thus

$$E_v^{M2} \sim -\frac{E_o}{4a^2 k^2} \left(\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}}\right)^2 \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \left[\frac{(1-\sin\phi)}{(1+\sin\phi)^2} e^{-2ikasin\phi}\right.$$

$$\left. + \frac{(1+\sin\phi)}{(1-\sin\phi)^2} e^{2ikasin\phi}\right] \left(1 + \frac{e^{-ik4a}}{256i\pi k^3 a^3}\right)^{-1} \tag{33}$$

The total backscattered field for the plate is then

$$E_v^{tot} \sim -2E_o \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} K_1 \tag{34(a)}$$

where

$$K_1 = \cos(2kasin\phi) + 2ika \frac{\sin(2kasin\phi)}{2kasin\phi}$$

$$- \left(1 + \frac{e^{-ik4a}}{256i\pi k^3 a^3}\right)^{-1} \left\{\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \frac{1}{ikacos\phi}\right.$$

$$- \frac{1}{8a^2 k^2} \left(\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}}\right)^2 \left[\frac{(1-\sin\phi)}{(1+\sin\phi)^2} e^{-2ikasin\phi}\right.$$

$$\left.\left. + \frac{(1+\sin\phi)}{(1-\sin\phi)^2} e^{2ikasin\phi}\right]\right\} \tag{34(b)}$$

The monostatic radar cross section per unit length for vertical polarisation is defined to be

$$\sigma_v(\text{length}) \;=\; \lim_{\rho\to\infty} 2\pi\rho \left|\frac{E_v^{tot}}{E_o}\right|^2 \;=\; \frac{|K_1|^2}{k} \tag{35}$$

and the area backscatter radar cross section of the rectangular plate is given by equation (10) to be

$$\sigma_v^{GTD} \;=\; \frac{4b^2}{\pi}\,|K_1|^2 \tag{36}$$

3.2.2 Horizontal polarisation

The diffracted field for normal incidence of a plane wave on a straight edge is

$$E_H(s^d) \;=\; D^m\, E_H^i(P_o)(s^d)^{-\frac{1}{2}}\, e^{-iks^d} \tag{37}$$

where D^m is the half-plane diffraction coefficient for horizontal polarisation, $E_H^i(P_o)$ is the incident field at the point of diffraction and s^d is the distance between the diffraction point and the field point.

$$D^m(\phi_p,\phi_o) \;=\; -\,\frac{1}{\sqrt{8i\pi k}}\,[\sec \tfrac{1}{2}(\phi_p - \phi_o) + \sec \tfrac{1}{2}(\phi_p + \phi_o)] \tag{38}$$

Singly diffracted rays from A' and B' are calculated in the same way as for vertical polarisation and the total singly diffracted field is

$$E_H^s \;\sim\; -\,2\left[\cos(2ka\sin\phi) - 2ika\,\frac{\sin(2ka\sin\phi)}{2ka\sin\phi}\right]E_o\,\frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \tag{39}$$

The singly diffracted field from B' in the direction $\phi_B = 0$ hits A' when $s^d = 2a$. Thus the incident field at A' that gives rise to doubly diffracted field from A' is

$$E_H^i \;\sim\; -\,2\sqrt{2}\,E_o\, e^{ika\sin\phi}\,\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}}\,\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \sin\phi}} \tag{40}$$

The doubly diffracted field from A' is given by equations (37), (38) and (40) to be

$$E_H^{A'} \sim 8 E_o \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \frac{1}{\cos\phi} \qquad (41)$$

Again, the grazing incidence factor $\frac{1}{2}$ is dropped in the derivation for multiply diffracted fields to allow for the rear surface wave contributions.

Similarly the doubly diffracted field from B' can be found to be

$$E_H^{B'} \sim 8 E_o \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \frac{1}{\cos\phi} \qquad (42)$$

Accordingly, the total doubly diffracted field is

$$E_H^d \sim 16 E_o \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \frac{1}{\cos\phi} \qquad (43)$$

Using equations (37) and (38) again with the appropriate incident field, the triply diffracted field is found to be

$$E_H^T \sim - 16 E_o \left(\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}}\right)^2 \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \left[\frac{e^{2ikasin\phi}}{1 - sin\phi} + \frac{e^{-2ikasin\phi}}{1 + sin\phi}\right] \qquad (44)$$

All multiply diffracted fields can be accounted for in the same simple way as for vertical polarisation (figures 4 and 5). The backscattered field for doubly, triply and all other higher order diffraction is given by

$$E_H^M \sim \left\{16 E_o \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \frac{1}{\cos\phi} - 16 E_o \left(\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}}\right)^2 \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \cdot \right.$$

$$\left. \left[\frac{e^{2ikasin\phi}}{1 - sin\phi} + \frac{e^{-2ikasin\phi}}{1 + sin\phi}\right]\right\}(1 + x^2 + x^4 + \ldots) \qquad (45)$$

where

$$x = - \frac{1}{\sqrt{8i\pi k}} [\sec \tfrac{1}{2}(\phi_P - \phi_o) + \sec \tfrac{1}{2}(\phi_P + \phi_o)] (s^d)^{-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-iks^d}$$

evaluated at $\phi_P = \phi_o = 0$ and $s^d = 2a$. So

$$x = - \frac{2e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \qquad (46)$$

and

$$x^2 = \frac{e^{-ik4a}}{4i\pi ka} \tag{47}$$

This gives

$$E_H^M \sim \left\{ 16 \, E_o \, \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \, \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \, \frac{1}{\cos\phi} \right.$$

$$\left. - 16 \, E_o \left(\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}}\right)^2 \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \left[\frac{e^{2ika\sin\phi}}{1 - \sin\phi} + \frac{e^{-2ika\sin\phi}}{1 + \sin\phi} \right] \right\} \left(1 - \frac{e^{-ik4a}}{4i\pi ka} \right)^{-1} \tag{48}$$

Thus the total backscattered field for the plate for horizontal polarisation is

$$E_H^{tot} \sim - 2E_o \, \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} \, K_2 \tag{49(a)}$$

where

$$K_2 = \cos(2ka\sin\phi) - 2ika \, \frac{\sin(2ka\sin\phi)}{2ka\sin\phi}$$

$$- 8 \, \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \left(1 - \frac{e^{-ik4a}}{4i\pi ka} \right)^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{\cos\phi} - \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k2a}} \left[\frac{e^{2ika\sin\phi}}{1 - \sin\phi} + \frac{e^{-2ika\sin\phi}}{1 + \sin\phi} \right] \right\} \tag{49(b)}$$

The area backscatter radar cross section of the rectangular plate for horizontal polarisation is then

$$\sigma_H^{GTD} = \frac{4b^2}{\pi} \, |K_2|^2 \tag{50}$$

3.3 Backscattering from a rectangular cylinder

The rectangular cylinder is shown in figure 2. A view of it in the azimuthal plane is shown in figure 6. Three diffracting edges AE, BF and CG contribute to the backscattered field for the rectangular cylinder. From the results of the flat plate it was seen that for vertical polarisation the doubly diffracted field which results from the higher order slope diffraction term (of order k^{-2}) is weak in comparison with the singly diffracted field of order $k^{-\frac{1}{2}}$. Thus for vertical polarisation only the singly diffracted field needs to be considered. For horizontal polarisation, the singly diffracted field is of order $k^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ while the doubly and triply diffracted fields are of order k^{-1} and $k^{-\frac{3}{2}}$ respectively. Hence multiply diffracted fields need only be considered for horizontal polarisation. The technique used to handle multiply diffracted fields in Section 3.2 proved rather cumbersome and would be even more so for the

rectangular cylinder. Rudduck(ref.7) has pointed out a much more elegant way of computing the nett multiply diffracted field. This approach, known as the self-consistent field method is employed here to calculate the multiply diffracted field for the case of horizontal polarisation.

3.3.1 Vertical polarisation

The diffracted field for normal incidence of a vertically polarised plane wave on the straight edge of a wedge of angle $\frac{\pi}{2}$ is(ref.6),

$$E_v(s^d) \sim D^e E_v^i(P_o)(s^d)^{-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-iks^d} \tag{51}$$

where

$$D^e(\phi_P, \phi_o) = \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3\sqrt{81\pi k}} \left\{ \left[\cos \frac{2\pi}{3} - \cos \frac{2}{3}(\phi_P - \phi_o) \right]^{-1} \right.$$
$$\left. - \left[\cos \frac{2\pi}{3} - \cos \frac{2}{3}(\phi_P + \phi_o) \right]^{-1} \right\} \tag{52}$$

is Keller's diffraction coefficient for vertical polarisation for a wedge of angle $\frac{\pi}{2}$, ϕ_o is the incident angle measured from one of the wedge faces and ϕ_P is the angle of the diffracted ray measured from the same wedge face. Referring to figure 6, the singly diffracted far field from A', B' and C' can be calculated using equations (51) and (52) with the following information for A', B' and C':

TABLE 1.   EXPRESSIONS FOR INCIDENT FIELD, DIFFRACTING ANGLE AND DISTANCE TO
           THE FAR-FIELD POINT FOR DIFFRACTING POINTS A', B' AND C'

A'	$s^d = \rho + a\sin\phi - c\cos\phi$	$\phi_{A'} = \phi_o = \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi$	$E^i(A') = E_o e^{-ik(a\sin\phi - c\cos\phi)}$
B'	$s^d = \rho - a\sin\phi - c\cos\phi$	$\phi_{B'} = \phi_o = \frac{\pi}{2} + \phi$	$E^i(B') = E_o e^{ik(a\sin\phi + c\cos\phi)}$
C'	$s^d = \rho - a\sin\phi + c\cos\phi$	$\phi_{C'} = \phi_o = \phi$	$E^i(C') = E_o e^{ik(a\sin\phi - c\cos\phi)}$

The phase of the incident wave is referred to the coordinate origin, O. ρ is the distance between O and the field point and for far field, $\rho \gg a\sin\phi$, $\rho \gg c\cos\phi$. The total singly diffracted field for vertical polarisation is

$$E_v \sim \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3} E_o \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{81\pi k\rho}} F \tag{53}$$

where

$$F = -\frac{4}{3}\cos(2ka\sin\phi)\,e^{2ikc\cos\phi} + \frac{e^{2ikc\cos\phi}}{2\sin\frac{2\phi}{3}}\left[\frac{e^{-2ika\sin\phi}}{\sin\frac{2}{3}(\pi-\phi)}\right.$$

$$\left.- \frac{e^{2ika\sin\phi}}{\sin\frac{2}{3}(\pi+\phi)}\right] + e^{2ik(a\sin\phi-c\cos\phi)}\left[-\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{2\sin\frac{1}{3}(\pi+2\phi)\sin\frac{1}{3}(\pi-2\phi)}\right]$$

$$(54)$$

The monostatic radar cross section per unit length for vertical polaris-
ation is given by

$$\sigma_v(\text{length}) = \lim_{\rho\to\infty} 2\pi\rho\left|\frac{E_v}{E_o}\right|^2 = \frac{|F|^2}{3k} \qquad (55)$$

so the area monostatic radar cross section is

$$\sigma_v^{GTD} = \frac{4b^2}{3\pi}|F|^2 \qquad (56)$$

3.3.2 Horizontal polarisation

The diffracted field for normal incidence of a horizontally polarised
plane wave on the straight edge of a wedge of angle $\frac{\pi}{2}$ is(ref.6),

$$E_H(s^d) \sim D^m E_H^i(P_o)(s^d)^{-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-iks^d} \qquad (57)$$

where

$$D^m(\phi_p,\phi_o) = \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3\sqrt{81\pi k}}\left\{\left[\cos\frac{2\pi}{3} - \cos\frac{2}{3}(\phi_p-\phi_o)\right]^{-1}\right.$$

$$\left.+\left[\cos\frac{2\pi}{3} - \cos\frac{2}{3}(\phi_p+\phi_o)\right]^{-1}\right\} \qquad (58)$$

is Keller's diffraction coefficient for horizontal polarisation for a
wedge of angle $\frac{\pi}{2}$. The total backscattered field can be represented as
the sum of the singly diffracted field and the multiply diffracted
fields.

(a) Singly diffracted field

Referring to figure 6 the singly diffracted field is calculated from
equations (57) and (58) for A', B', C' with Table 1 giving the
required information. Thus the total singly diffracted field for
horizontal polarisation is

$$E_H^s \sim \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3} E_o \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{8i\pi k\rho}} G_1 \qquad (59(a))$$

where

$$G_1 = -\frac{4}{3} e^{2ikc\cos\phi} \cos(2ka\sin\phi) + \frac{e^{2ikc\cos\phi}}{2\sin\frac{2\phi}{3}}\left[\frac{e^{2ika\sin\phi}}{\sin\frac{2}{3}(\pi+\phi)} \right.$$

$$\left. - \frac{e^{-2ika\sin\phi}}{\sin\frac{2}{3}(\pi-\phi)} \right] - e^{2ik(a\sin\phi-c\cos\phi)} \left[\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{2\sin\frac{1}{3}(\pi+2\phi)\sin\frac{1}{3}(\pi-2\phi)} \right]$$

$$(59(b))$$

(b)   The self-consistent GTD formulation for the multiply
      diffracted fields

The multiply diffracted fields result from waves travelling at least
once along the surface of the cylinder. There are infinitely many of
these waves on each face of the cylinder. The self-consistent GTD
concept combines all the waves on each face into two waves travelling
in opposite directions with unknown complex amplitudes as shown in
figure 7.

The complex amplitudes C_1, C_2, ... C_8 are determined by a self-
consistent field procedure. E_o, the amplitude of the incident wave,
is factorised out so that the unknown $\{C_k\}$ result from a unit
amplitude incident wave.

At A'

$$C_1 = V_1 + \frac{1}{2} C_3 D^m(0, 0) \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} + \frac{1}{2} C_4 D^m\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}, 0\right) \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} \qquad (60(a))$$

V_1 represents the direct source contribution to C_1, that is, the wave
diffracted from B' to A' for a unit amplitude wave incident on B',
the second term represents the contribution from the wave travelling
along surface A' - B' being diffracted at B' to A' and the third
term gives the contribution from the wave travelling along
surface C' - B' being diffracted at B' to A'. The diffraction
coefficient is multiplied by $\frac{1}{2}$ for grazing incidence(ref.6).

Similarly,

$$C_2 = V_2 + \frac{1}{2} C_8 D^m(0, 0) \frac{e^{-ik2c}}{\sqrt{2c}} + \frac{1}{2} C_7 D^m\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}, 0\right) \frac{e^{-ik2c}}{\sqrt{2c}} \qquad (60(b))$$

At B'

$$C_3 = V_3 + \frac{1}{2} C_1 D^m(0, 0) \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} + \frac{1}{2} C_2 D^m\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}, 0\right) \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} \qquad (60(c))$$

$$C_4 = V_4 + \frac{1}{2} C_5 D^{\blacksquare}(0, 0) \frac{e^{-ik2c}}{\sqrt{2c}} + \frac{1}{2} C_6 D^{\blacksquare}\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}, 0\right) \frac{e^{-ik2c}}{\sqrt{2c}} \qquad (60(d))$$

At C'.

$$C_5 = V_5 + \frac{1}{2} C_4 D^{\blacksquare}(0, 0) \frac{e^{-ik2c}}{\sqrt{2c}} + \frac{1}{2} C_3 D^{\blacksquare}\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}, 0\right) \frac{e^{-ik2c}}{\sqrt{2c}} \qquad (60(e))$$

$$C_6 = V_6 + \frac{1}{2} C_7 D^{\blacksquare}(0, 0) \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} + \frac{1}{2} C_8 D^{\blacksquare}\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}, 0\right) \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} \qquad (60(f))$$

At D',

$$C_7 = V_7 + \frac{1}{2} C_6 D^{\blacksquare}(0, 0) \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} + \frac{1}{2} C_5 D^{\blacksquare}\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}, 0\right) \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} \qquad (60(g))$$

$$C_8 = V_8 + \frac{1}{2} C_2 D^{\blacksquare}(0, 0) \frac{e^{-ik2c}}{\sqrt{2c}} + \frac{1}{2} C_1 D^{\blacksquare}\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}, 0\right) \frac{e^{-ik2c}}{\sqrt{2c}} \qquad (60(h))$$

The waves excited by the incident wave are given by

$$V_1 = e^{ik(a\sin\phi + c\cos\phi)} D^{\blacksquare}\left(0, \frac{\pi}{2} + \phi\right) \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} \qquad (61(a))$$

$$V_2 = 0 \qquad (61(b))$$

$$V_3 = e^{-ik(a\sin\phi - c\cos\phi)} D^{\blacksquare}\left(0, \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi\right) \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} \qquad (61(c))$$

$$V_4 = e^{ik(a\sin\phi - c\cos\phi)} D^{\blacksquare}(0, \phi) \frac{e^{-ik2c}}{\sqrt{2c}} \qquad (61(d))$$

$$V_5 = e^{ik(a\sin\phi + c\cos\phi)} D^{\blacksquare}(0, \pi - \phi) \frac{e^{-ik2c}}{\sqrt{2c}} \qquad (61(e))$$

$$V_6 = 0 \qquad (61(f))$$

$$V_7 = e^{ik(a\sin\phi - c\cos\phi)} D^{\blacksquare}\left(0, \frac{3\pi}{2} - \phi\right) \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} \qquad (61(g))$$

$$V_8 = e^{-ik(a\sin\phi - c\cos\phi)} D^{\blacksquare}(0, \pi + \phi) \frac{e^{-ik2c}}{\sqrt{2c}} \qquad (61(h))$$

Equation (60) can be written in matrix form,

$$\underset{\sim}{T}\underset{\sim}{C} = \underset{\sim}{V} \tag{62}$$

where

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & T1 & T2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & T4 & T3 \\ T1 & T2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & T3 & T4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & T4 & T3 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & T1 & T2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & T2 & T1 & 1 & 0 \\ T4 & T3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \tag{63(a)}$$

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} C_1 \\ C_2 \\ C_3 \\ C_4 \\ C_5 \\ C_6 \\ C_7 \\ C_8 \end{bmatrix}, \tag{63(b)}$$

$$V = \begin{bmatrix} V_1 \\ V_2 \\ V_3 \\ V_4 \\ V_5 \\ V_6 \\ V_7 \\ V_8 \end{bmatrix} \tag{63(c)}$$

and

$$T1 = \frac{1}{2} D^=(0, 0) \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} , \tag{64(a)}$$

$$T2 = \frac{1}{2} D^=\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}, 0\right) \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} , \tag{64(b)}$$

$$T3 = \frac{1}{2} D^=(0, 0) \frac{e^{-ik2c}}{\sqrt{2c}} , \tag{64(c)}$$

$$T4 = \frac{1}{2} D^=\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}, 0\right) \frac{e^{-ik2c}}{\sqrt{2c}} . \tag{64(d)}$$

The unknown complex amplitudes can then be solved by matrix inversion,

$$\underset{\sim}{C} = \underset{\sim}{T}^{-1} \underset{\sim}{V} \tag{65}$$

The total backscattered field. E_H^M, from these waves diffracted at A', B' and C' is

$$E_H^M \sim E_0 \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{\rho}} G_2 \tag{66(a)}$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
G_2 = \frac{1}{2} \Bigg\{ & \left[C_1 \, D^m\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \phi, \, 0\right) + C_2 \, D^m(\pi + \phi, \, 0) \right] e^{-ik(a\sin\phi - c\cos\phi)} \\
& + \left[C_3 \, D^m\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + \phi, \, 0\right) + C_4 \, D^m(\pi - \phi, \, 0) \right] e^{ik(a\sin\phi + c\cos\phi)} \\
& + \left[C_5 \, D^m(\phi, \, 0) + C_6 \, D^m\left(\frac{3\pi}{2} - \phi, \, 0\right) \right] e^{ik(a\sin\phi - c\cos\phi)} \Bigg\}
\end{aligned}
\tag{66(b)}
$$

(c)   The total backscattered field

The total backscattered field is defined by $E_H^{tot} = E_H^S + E_H^M$, that is,

$$E_H^{tot} \sim E_0 \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{\rho}} \left[\frac{G_1}{\sqrt{6i\pi k}} + G_2 \right] \tag{67}$$

The area monostatic radar cross for horizontal polarisation can then be written

$$\sigma_H^{\overline{GTD}} = 8b^2 k \left| \frac{G_1}{\sqrt{6i\pi k}} + G_2 \right|^2 \tag{68}$$

4.   SCATTERING ANALYSIS USING THE KOUYOUMJIAN-PATHAK UNIFORM GEOMETRICAL THEORY OF DIFFRACTION

4.1 The uniform geometrical theory of diffraction

GTD, as originally developed by Keller, fails in the transition regions adjacent to shadow and reflection boundaries where the solution becomes infinite and discontinuous. Kouyoumjian and Pathak(ref.8) modified Keller's diffraction coefficients in the GTD solution by a multiplication factor involving a Fresnel integral. When the observation point is close to a shadow boundary, the modification factor approaches zero so as to compensate for the singularity in Keller's diffraction coefficients, and to give rise to a finite field solution there. They refer to this approach as the uniform GTD or UTD, a name adopted here to distinguish it from GTD with Keller's diffraction coefficients.

For normal incidence on a wedge with exterior angle $n\pi$, the Kouyoumjian-Pathak diffraction coefficients D^e, D^m for vertical and horizontal polarisation respectively are

$$D^{e,m}(L, \phi_P, \phi_o) = -\frac{e^{-i\pi/4}}{2n\sqrt{2\pi k}} \left\{ \cot\left(\frac{\pi + \beta^-}{2n}\right) F(kLa^+(\beta^-)) \right.$$

$$+ \cot\left(\frac{\pi - \beta^-}{2n}\right) F(kLa^-(\beta^-)) \mp \left[\cot\left(\frac{\pi + \beta^+}{2n}\right) F(kLa^+(\beta^+)) \right.$$

$$\left. \left. + \cot\left(\frac{\pi - \beta^+}{2n}\right) F(kLa^-(\beta^+)) \right] \right\} \qquad (69)$$

where

$$\beta^- = \phi_P - \phi_o,$$

$$\beta^+ = \phi_P + \phi_o,$$

ϕ_P, ϕ_o as defined in Section 3.

$$F(x) = 2i\sqrt{x}\, e^{ix} \int_{\sqrt{x}}^{\infty} e^{-i\tau^2}\, d\tau; \qquad (70)$$

$$a^{\pm}(\beta) = 2 \cos^2 \frac{2\pi n N^{\pm} - \beta}{2} \qquad (71)$$

in which $N^{\pm}$ are the integers which most nearly satisfy the equations

$$2\pi n\, N^+ - \beta = \pi, \qquad (72(a))$$

$$2\pi n\, N^- - \beta = -\pi. \qquad (72(b))$$

L is the distance parameter given by

$$L = \begin{cases} s^d & \text{for plane-wave normal incidence} \\[2mm] \dfrac{rr'}{r + r'}, & \text{for cylindrical-wave incidence} \\[3mm] \dfrac{s^d s^i}{s^d + s^i} & \text{for conical- and spherical-wave normal incidence} \end{cases} \qquad (73)$$

where s^i is the distance of the source point to the diffraction point, s^d is the distance of the field point to the diffraction point, r' is the radius of the incident cylindrical wave and r is the perpendicular distance of the field point from the edge.

If the arguments of the four transition functions in equation (69) exceed ~10, the transition functions are approximately equal to one and equation (69) reduces to Keller's diffraction coefficients.

4.2 Backscattering from a rectangular flat plate

The UTD backscattered radar cross section of the rectangular flat plate is derived here. As discussed in Section 3.3 multiply diffracted fields are only significant for horizontal polarisation. In handling the multiply diffracted fields for horizontal polarisation, the more elegant self-consistent field method is employed.

For diffraction from a half-plane, n = 2 and the diffraction coefficients in equation (69) reduce to

$$D^{e,m}(L, \phi_p, \phi_o) = -\frac{e^{-i\pi/4}}{2\sqrt{2\pi k}} \left[\frac{F(kLa(\beta^-))}{\cos(\beta^-/2)} \mp \frac{F(kLa(\beta^+))}{\cos(\beta^+/2)} \right] \tag{74}$$

where

$$a^{\pm}(\beta) = a(\beta) = 2 \cos^2(\beta/2).$$

4.2.1 Vertical polarisation

The multiply diffracted fields are negligible. The singly diffracted fields from edges A' and B' (figure 3) are given by equation (11) with D^e as defined in equation (74). The distance parameter L for plane wave incidence and far-field backscattered field is very large so that the Kouyoumjian-Pathak diffraction coefficient reduces to that of Keller. The singly diffracted field is thus given by equation (16) and the area backscatter radar cross section is

$$\sigma_v^{UTD} = \frac{4b^2}{\pi} \left| \cos(2ka\sin\phi) + 2ika \frac{\sin(2ka\sin\phi)}{2ka\sin\phi} \right|^2 \tag{75}$$

4.2.2 Horizontal polarisation

(a)   Singly diffracted field

As in Section 4.2.1, the singly diffracted field is the same as that obtained with Keller's diffraction coefficient. Thus the singly diffracted field E_H^S is given by equation (39).

(b)   The self-consistent UTD formulation for the multiply diffracted fields

The diffracted waves travelling in opposite directions with unknown complex amplitudes $C_1 E_o$, $C_3 E_o$ on one side of the strip and $C_2 E_o$, $C_4 E_o$ on the back side of the strip are illustrated in figure 8.

At B'

$$C_1 = e^{-ik a \sin\phi} \, D^m\left(2a, 0, \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi\right)\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} + \frac{1}{2}\left[C_3 \, D^m(a,0,0) + C_4 \, D^m(a,2\pi,0)\right]\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}}$$

(76(a))

$$C_2 = e^{-ik a \sin\phi} \, D^m\left(2a, 2\pi, \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi\right)\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} + \frac{1}{2}\left[C_4 \, D^m(a,0,0) + C_3 \, D^m(a,2\pi,0)\right]\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}}$$

(76(b))

At A',

$$C_3 = e^{ik a \sin\phi} \, D^m\left(2a, 0, \frac{\pi}{2} + \phi\right)\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} + \frac{1}{2}\left[C_1 \, D^m(a,0,0) + C_2 \, D^m(a,2\pi,0)\right]\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}}$$

(76(c))

$$C_4 = e^{ik a \sin\phi} \, D^m\left(2a, 2\pi, \frac{\pi}{2} + \phi\right)\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} + \frac{1}{2}\left[C_2 \, D^m(a,0,0) + C_1 \, D^m(a,2\pi,0)\right]\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}}$$

(76(d))

From equation (74), it is seen that

$$D^m(a,0,0) = -D^m(a,2\pi,0),$$

$$D^m\left(2a,0,\frac{\pi}{2} - \phi\right) = -D^m\left(2a,2\pi,\frac{\pi}{2} - \phi\right) \text{ and}$$

$$D^m\left(2a,0,\frac{\pi}{2} + \phi\right) = -D^m\left(2a,2\pi,\frac{\pi}{2} + \phi\right).$$

Substituting these into equation (76) gives $C_1 = -C_2$, $C_3 = -C_4$ and the following equations for C_1 and C_3,

$$C_1 = e^{-ik a \sin\phi} \, D^m\left(2a,0,\frac{\pi}{2} - \phi\right)\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} + C_3 \, D^m(a,0,0,)\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}}$$

(77(a))

$$C_3 = e^{ik a \sin\phi} \, D^m\left(2a,0,\frac{\pi}{2} + \phi\right)\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} + C_1 \, D^m(a,0,0)\frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}}$$

(77(b))

Solution of equation (77) yields

$$C_1 = \frac{X + ZY}{1 - Z^2},$$

(78(a))

$$C_3 = \frac{Y + ZX}{1 - Z^2} \qquad (78(b))$$

where

$$X = e^{-ika\sin\phi} \, D^m\!\left(2a, 0, \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi\right) \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}}, \qquad (78(c))$$

$$Y = e^{ika\sin\phi} \, D^m\!\left(2a, 0, \frac{\pi}{2} + \phi\right) \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}}, \qquad (78(d))$$

$$Z = D^m(a, 0, 0) \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}}. \qquad (78(e))$$

From B', the multiply diffracted field in the backscattered direction is

$$E_H^{M1} \sim \frac{1}{2}\left[C_1 E_0 \, D^m\!\left(2a, \frac{\pi}{2} + \phi, 0\right) + C_2 E_0 \, D^m\!\left(2a, \frac{3\pi}{2} - \phi, 0\right)\right] \frac{e^{-ik(\rho - a\sin\phi)}}{\sqrt{\rho}} \qquad (79(a))$$

and from A',

$$E_H^{M2} \sim \frac{1}{2}\left[C_3 E_0 \, D^m\!\left(2a, \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi, 0\right) + C_4 E_0 \, D^m\!\left(2a, \frac{3\pi}{2} + \phi, 0\right)\right] \frac{e^{-ik(\rho + a\sin\phi)}}{\sqrt{\rho}} \qquad (79(b))$$

But $C_1 = -C_2$, $C_3 = -C_4$ and equation (74) gives

$$D^m\!\left(2a, \frac{\pi}{2} + \phi, 0\right) = -D^m\!\left(2a, \frac{3\pi}{2} - \phi, 0\right)$$

$$D^m\!\left(2a, \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi, 0\right) = -D^m\!\left(2a, \frac{3\pi}{2} + \phi, 0\right).$$

Thus

$$E_H^{M1} \sim C_1 E_0 \, D^m\!\left(2a, \frac{\pi}{2} + \phi, 0\right) \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{\rho}} e^{ika\sin\phi}, \qquad (80(a))$$

$$E_H^{M2} \sim C_3 E_0 \, D^m\!\left(2a, \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi, 0\right) \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{\rho}} e^{-ika\sin\phi}. \qquad (80(b))$$

The total backscattered field from multiply diffracted rays is

$$E_H^M \sim E_o \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{\rho}} \left[C_1 \, D^m\left(2a, \frac{\pi}{2} + \phi, 0\right) e^{ikasin\phi} + C_3 \, D^m\left(2a, \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi, 0\right) e^{-ikasin\phi} \right] \tag{81}$$

(c)   The total backscattered field

The total backscattered field, E_H^{tot}, is the sum of the singly and multiply diffracted fields,

$$E_H^{tot} \sim E_o \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{\rho}} Q \tag{82(a)}$$

where

$$Q = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2i\pi k}} \left[\cos(2kasin\phi) - \frac{2ikasin(2kasin\phi)}{2kasin\phi} \right]$$

$$+ C_1 \, D^m\left(2a, \frac{\pi}{2} + \phi, 0\right) e^{ikasin\phi} + C_3 \, D^m\left(2a, \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi, 0\right) e^{-ikasin\phi}, \tag{82(b)}$$

C_1 and C_3 are given by equation (78).

The area backscatter radar cross section for horizontal polarisation is then given by

$$\sigma_H^{UTD} = 8kb^2 |Q|^2 \tag{83}$$

4.3   Backscattering from a rectangular cylinder

The UTD backscatter radar cross sections for the rectangular cylinder (figures 2 and 6) are derived here. The derivation follows that of Section 3.3 closely with the diffraction coefficients of Kouyoumjian and Pathak (equation (69)) used instead of those of Keller. The wedge angle in this case is $\frac{\pi}{2}$ so that $n\pi = \frac{3\pi}{2}$.

4.3.1   Vertical polarisation

Only singly diffracted field contributions are significant. As in Section 4.2, the Kouyoumjian-Pathak diffraction coefficient reduces to the Keller diffraction coefficient for far-field backscattered singly diffracted fields so that the backscattered radar cross section is the same as that given by equation (56), that is,

$$\sigma_v^{UTD} = \frac{4b^2}{3\pi} |F|^2 \tag{84}$$

with F defined in equation (54).

4.3.2 Horizontal polarisation

The singly diffracted field is again the same as that derived using Keller's diffraction coefficient and is given by equation (59).

The multiply diffracted fields (figure 7) are as given by equation (65) with the elements of matrices $\underline{V}$ and $\underline{T}$ now defined by

$$V_1 \; = \; e^{ik(a\sin\phi + c\cos\phi)} \; D^m\left(2a, 0, \frac{\pi}{2} + \phi\right) \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} \; , \tag{85(a)}$$

$$V_2 \; = \; 0 , \tag{85(b)}$$

$$V_3 \; = \; e^{-ik(a\sin\phi - c\cos\phi)} \; D^m\left(2a, 0, \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi\right) \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} \; , \tag{85(c)}$$

$$V_4 \; = \; e^{ik(a\sin\phi - c\cos\phi)} \; D^m(2c, 0, \phi) \frac{e^{-ik2c}}{\sqrt{2c}} \; , \tag{85(d)}$$

$$V_5 \; = \; e^{ik(a\sin\phi + c\cos\phi)} \; D^m(2c, 0, \pi - \phi) \frac{e^{-ik2c}}{\sqrt{2c}} \; , \tag{85(e)}$$

$$V_6 \; = \; 0 , \tag{85(f)}$$

$$V_7 \; = \; e^{ik(a\sin\phi - c\cos\phi)} \; D^m\left(2a, 0, \frac{3\pi}{2} - \phi\right) \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} \; , \tag{85(g)}$$

$$V_8 \; = \; e^{-ik(a\sin\phi - c\cos\phi)} \; D^m(2c, 0, \pi + \phi) \frac{e^{-ik2c}}{\sqrt{2c}} \; , \tag{85(h)}$$

$$T1 \; = \; \frac{1}{2} D^m(a, \, 0, \, 0) \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} \; , \tag{86(a)}$$

$$T2 \; = \; \frac{1}{2} D^m\left(\frac{2ac}{a + c}, \, \frac{3\pi}{2}, \, 0\right) \frac{e^{-ik2a}}{\sqrt{2a}} \; , \tag{86(b)}$$

$$T3 \; = \; \frac{1}{2} D^m(c, \, 0, \, 0) \frac{e^{-ik2c}}{\sqrt{2c}} \; , \tag{86(c)}$$

$$T4 \; = \; \frac{1}{2} D^m\left(\frac{2ac}{a + c}, \, \frac{3\pi}{2}, \, 0\right) \frac{e^{-ik2c}}{\sqrt{2c}} \; . \tag{86(d)}$$

The multiply diffracted field in the backscattered direction is

$$E_H^M \sim E_o \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{\rho}} G_3 \qquad (87(a))$$

where

$$G_3 = \frac{1}{2}\left\{ \left[C_1 \, D^m\!\left(2a, \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi, 0\right) + C_2 \, D^m(2c, \pi + \phi, 0) \right] e^{-ik(a\sin\phi - c\cos\phi)} \right.$$

$$+ \left[C_3 \, D^m\!\left(2a, \frac{\pi}{2} + \phi, 0\right) + C_4 \, D^m(2c, \pi - \phi, 0) \right] e^{ik(a\sin\phi + c\cos\phi)}$$

$$\left. + \left[C_5 \, D^m(2c, \phi, 0) + C_6 \, D^m\!\left(2a, \frac{3\pi}{2} - \phi, 0\right) \right] e^{ik(a\sin\phi - c\cos\phi)} \right\} \qquad (87(b))$$

The total backscattered field is thus

$$E_H^{tot} \sim E_o \frac{e^{-ik\rho}}{\sqrt{\rho}} \left[\frac{G_1}{\sqrt{61\pi k}} + G_3 \right] \qquad (88)$$

where G_1 is as given in equation (59(b)).

The area monostatic radar cross section for horizontal polarisation is then

$$\sigma_H^{UTD} = 8b^2 k \left| \frac{G_1}{\sqrt{61\pi k}} + G_3 \right|^2 \qquad (89)$$

5. EXPERIMENTAL MEASUREMENTS

5.1 The anechoic chamber

The experimental observations carried out to check the theoretical predictions were performed in the DRCS anechoic chamber. This facility has a normal source-target separation of 12 m, a frequency range extending from 2.5 GHz to 40 GHz, and analogue recording of measurements(ref.9).

A problem that has to be combatted in the anechoic chamber measurements is null drift, that is, a drift in the adjustment for background cancellation. This can arise from frequency instability and temperature variation in passive components. The low power returns are especially susceptible to any null drift that occurs as is evident in the high incidence of data asymmetry in the flat plate results, particularly at the lower frequencies, and in the 10 cm cylinder at 4 GHz for vertical polarisation.

In general the performance of the chamber improves with increasing frequency because the antenna gains are higher, the antenna beamwidths are narrower so that less of the wall is illuminated and the radar absorbent material is more effective. However, there are some isolated narrow bandwidths within the operating frequency range for which the chamber performance is uncharacteristically poor. The 12 GHz frequency has been identified as one of them; a dramatic increase in background noise being experienced at the time of measurements at this frequency.

Apart from the poor chamber performance another contributing factor to the
unreliable results at 12 GHz could be the frequency instability of the
Klystron oscillator used. Frequency instability increases with frequency
and will result in null drift problems. Some of the 10 GHz results seem to
be similarly affected, the 10 GHz and 12 GHz measurements are done using
the same Klystron oscillator while the 4 to 8 GHz measurements are done
using another*.

As the operating frequency increases other problems are decreased sensitiv-
ity of the receiver and components and greater attenuation in the cables.

5.2 Flat plate experiments

The flat plate measurements were conducted using a brass rectangular plate
10 cm x 10 cm and thickness 1 mm (figure 1). Five frequencies were
employed, viz 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 GHz, corresponding to values of $\frac{2a}{\lambda}$ as
shown in Table 2. Measurements were made over the range -90° to +90° so
that symmetry could be used to assess system errors. The analogue X-Y
plotter output was sampled at 2° intervals for analysis.

TABLE 2.   DIMENSIONS OF FLAT PLATES IN TERMS OF WAVELENGTH

Frequency (GHz)	4	6	8	10	12
Ratio of side of plate to wavelength, $\frac{2a}{\lambda}$	1.3	2.0	2.7	3.3	4.0

5.3 Rectangular cylinder measurements

The method adopted in the theoretical analysis using the Geometrical Theory
of Diffraction ignores diffraction from the ends of the cylinder. In order
to assess the significance of this effect, three cylinders of equal cross
sections 10 cm x 10 cm but with lengths 10, 30 and 50 cm were used. The
cylinders were fabricated of brass of thickness 1 mm to a nominal tolerance
of 0.5 mm.

Again, five frequencies were employed, namely, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 GHz. The
dimensions of the targets in terms of incident wavelength are given in
Table 3. Measurements were made over the range -90° to +90°; the analogue
X-Y plotter output was sampled at 2° intervals for analysis.

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*. The frequency stability has since been improved by phase locking the
Klystron to a stable source.

TABLE 3.   DIMENSIONS OF RECTANGULAR CYLINDER IN TERMS OF WAVELENGTH

Frequency (GHz)	Ratio of width of cylinder to wavelength, $\frac{2a}{\lambda}$	Ratio of length of cylinder to wavelength, $\frac{2b}{\lambda}$		
		Length of cylinder, 2b (cm)		
		10	30	50
4	1.3	1.3	4.0	6.67
6	2.0	2.0	6.0	10.0
8	2.7	2.7	8.0	13.3
10	3.3	3.3	10.0	16.7
12	4.0	4.0	12.0	20.0

5.4 Asymmetry of anechoic chamber measurements

One of the features of the anechoic chamber measurements presented in figures 9 to 48 is the occasional asymmetry between the 0 to 90° data and the 0 to -90° data. The models were not of high quality machine-shop standard so a certain amount of asymmetry was anticipated but several of the RCS patterns for the flat plate show inexplicable variations. Possible explanations for these variations include (i) model construction errors, such as curvature resulting in focussing effects, (ii) errors in mounting the models vertically in the chamber, leading to sampling over oblique $\theta - \phi$ arcs, (iii) errors in orienting the model at $\phi = 0°$ leading to a translation of the pattern across ϕ (see figure 31), (iv) null drift problems discussed in Section 5.1 and (v) errors introduced by the analogue plotting equipment.

Of these, (v) is believed to be most unlikely while the effect of null drift is expected to be more significant at the lower frequencies, 4 to 6 GHz, when power returns are low. (iii) could explain small deviations but not the larger ones. (i) would be an appealing solution were it not for the fact that for both flat plate and cylinder, the errors are greatest at 4 GHz, decreasing through 6 GHz to only $\sim$2 dB for most measurements at 8 GHz and 10 GHz, but increasing again at 12 GHz. If the 12 GHz results are discounted because of the poorer performance of the chamber at 12 GHz, neither (i), (ii) nor (iii) would seem to account for the asymmetry because errors in θ and ϕ would be much more critical owing to the finer lobe structure at higher frequencies. Thus the most likely explanation of the discrepancies is unidentified problems with the anechoic chamber itself.

Unfortunately other demands on the anechoic chamber resources made a second series of measurements out of the question so the analysis has been undertaken in the knowledge that the deviations from symmetry may well reflect a variety of errors as discussed above. The majority of the measured data shows no significant asymmetry (compared with the variations of RCS with ϕ), however, so there seems to be a strong case for retaining the experimental points for comparison with the theoretical results.

6. RESULTS

6.1 Flat plate

6.1.1 Vertical polarisation

At 4 GHz the PO, GTD, UTD and anechoic chamber (AC) estimates agree to
within 1 dB out to about 15° from normal incidence, after which the
theoretical values depart grossly from the measured RCS (figure 9). The
AC values are symmetric within ±2 dB, increasing confidence in their
accuracy. The 6 GHz AC measurements are, by contrast, in fair agreement
with PO, GTD and UTD out to 45° (figure 10). Beyond 45° the 0 to 90° AC
values diverge significantly from the 0 to -90° AC values, differing by
14 dB at 62°. The UTD estimates near grazing incidence agree best with
AC values, PO grossly underestimates it while GTD is singular there.

The agreement between AC, GTD and UTD values at 8 GHz is excellent out
to 55° where measurements show a shallow minimum which is not predicted
by GTD, UTD or PO (figure 11). Again UTD succeeds best near grazing
incidence while PO and GTD exhibits the same problems as at 6 GHz. At
10 GHz agreement between UTD and AC is within ±2 dB over the entire
range (figure 12) while GTD only fails near grazing incidence. The
12 GHz results (figure 13) are in conflict with the trend shown from 4
to 10 GHz. As mentioned in Section 5.4, the 12 GHz AC data is unrelia-
ble and so this deviation from the observed trend may be an artifact.

In all cases reviewed above, PO consistently underestimates the RCS for
aspect angles away from broadside, in addition to predicting unphysical
nulls. The GTD and UTD solutions are identical up to within 10° or, in
some cases 5° of grazing incidence. The infinite fields predicted by
GTD at grazing incidence are unphysical whereas those predicted by UTD
remain finite and agree with AC values to within ±3 dB at 6, 8 and
10 GHz.

6.1.2 Horizontal polarisation

PO solutions for convex targets are independent of polarisation; this
is not the care for GTD and UTD.

The 4 GHz results show an agreement between theory and experiment out to
18°, beyond that to 70° the GTD and UTD solutions match the AC values to
within ±8 dB (figure 14). Beyond 70° UTD and PO values decrease very
rapidly while AC values remain fairly constant and GTD becomes singular
at grazing incidence. Again the AC values show marked asymmetry,
similar to that obtained for vertical polarisation at 6 GHz with the 0
to 90° measurements up to 11 dB above the 0 to -90° measurements. The
values for 6 GHz are also asymmetric but with the 0 to 90° values
falling some 10 dB below the 0 to -90° measurements (figure 15). Once
again, theoretical estimates fall well below measured values.

At 8 GHz the theoretical and experimental values agree to within ±2 dB
over most of the range; interestingly the exceptions to this are the
minima at 22° and 48° where the deeper nulls of the PO solution are more
suggestive of the AC data than the GTD and UTD solutions which have
shallow minima some 8 dB above the measured values (figure 16). Near
grazing incidence UTD and PO estimates are well below AC values while
GTD values are well above, becoming infinite at grazing incidence.

The AC data at 10 GHz show significantly greater oscillatory behaviour
than the GTD and UTD solutions, though the "phase" of the variations is
in rough agreement at all angles (figure 17). Asymmetry in the AC data

suggests measurements are affected by the problems discussed in Section 5.4.

Measurements at 12 GHz are in slightly better agreement with the GTD and UTD solutions than the corresponding vertical polarisation values at this frequency but variations of up to 5 dB occur (figure 18). The asymmetry scatter in AC data again calls in question their reliability.

Summarising the results, one can observe that at the lower frequencies systematic AC data structure departs significantly from theoretical predictions. At the intermediate frequencies, 8 and 10 GHz, agreement is generally very good particularly for vertical polarisation. The 12 GHz results are less reliable for the reasons mentioned in Section 5.4.

Except at the lowest frequency, it is true that the PO solutions are satisfactory for representing the main lobe of the pattern, near normal incidence; at higher frequencies reasonable agreement (± several decibels) holds for the second and third lobes as well. Of course, near the minima PO must not be used. At higher frequencies it locates the positions of the minima reasonably well but at low frequencies it fails even to do that.

The GTD solutions have a singularity at grazing incidence, a failure of the method. Apart from angles near edge on, the GTD and UTD solutions are in better agreement with AC measurements virtually everywhere, though at low frequencies discrepancies of 6 to 16 dB occur. At 8 and 10 GHz the GTD and UTD solutions are in excellent agreement with AC data but data unreliability at 12 GHz precludes any extension of the observed trend to that frequency. For angles near grazing incidence GTD fails whereas UTD solutions remain finite; agreement between UTD solutions and AC data is reasonable for vertical polarisation but not so for horizontal polarisation, UTD solutions being much lower than AC data there.

6.2 Rectangular cylinder

6.2.1 Vertical polarisation

For the 10 cm cylinder the AC measurements are up to 12 dB greater than PO, GTD and UTD predictions, though a marked systematic asymmetry in the experimental values accounts for some of this (figure 19). The expected symmetry about 45° is, however, only present in the 0 to 90° measurements which are the ones which differ most from the theoretical curves. The 30 cm cylinder results show agreement to within 2 dB everywhere except at the sharp minima near 22° and 68°, where GTD and UTD are too conservative while PO exaggerates the minima (figure 20). At 50 cm cylinder lengths even the minima are accurately predicted by GTD and UTD, with excellent agreement at all angles (figure 21).

The 6 GHz measurements for the 10 cm cylinder lie well above theoretical predictions at intermediate angles but agree reasonably well near 0°, 45° and 90° (figure 22). It is interesting to note that the AC data show slight maxima around 45° as predicted by PO but not by GTD and UTD. The 30 cm cylinder measurements are in much closer agreement with the GTD and UTD calculations, differing by at most 3 dB (figure 23). PO consistently underestimates the RCS, especially near minima. For the 50 cm cylinder the GTD and UTD solutions match the AC data equally well, to within less than the difference between the 0 to 90° and 0 to -90° measurements (figure 24). The PO disagrees as before.

At 8 GHz the theoretical results for the 10 cm cylinder match well out
to 20° where they all underestimate the RCS (figure 25). Near ϕ = 45°
the GTD and UTD estimates overestimate and predict a shallow minimum;
PO is in better agreement over this region but discrepancies of up to
7 dB are present. The reverse is true for the 30 cm cylinder
(figure 26). Near ϕ = 45° the theoretical results are too low but the
GTD and UTD values are only a few decibels in error. The nulls at 11°
and 22° and their complementary angles are accurately modelled by GTD
and UTD while PO locates them correctly but overestimates their depths.
For the 50 cm cylinder GTD and UTD provide accurate solutions at all
aspects (figure 27). A slight asymmetry in the experimental results
suggests an equipment effect.

Turning to the figures for 10 GHz, the 10 cm cylinder AC measurements
show deep nulls at 37° and 53° (45° ± 8°) which are not adequately
predicted by PO and are only hinted at by GTD and UTD (figure 28).
Elsewhere the agreement between theory and experiment is less satisfac-
tory than at 8 GHz. The 30 cm cylinder results are in much better
accord, however, with GTD and UTD estimates within 2 dB of measured
values (figure 29). Apart from the nulls, the PO estimates are also
good everywhere except near ϕ = 45° where they depart from AC data by
several decibels. Similar remarks can be made about the 50 cm cylinder
RCS pattern at 10 GHz though here one cannot observe any superior
performance of GTD and UTD over PO near ϕ = 45° (figure 28).

It is apparent that measured values of the RCS of the 10 cm rectangular
cylinder at 12 GHz are scattered more widely about the theoretical
curves than at lower frequencies (figure 31). The unreliability of the
12 GHz AC data has been noted in Section 5.4.

At a cylinder length of 30 cm the agreement between theory and experi-
ment is certainly not as good as at 10 GHz. The shape of the patterns
agree everywhere but deviations of 3 or 4 dB occur for ϕ > 15°; the
scatter in AC data may explain this excursion (figure 32).

The 50 cm cylinder results are similarly slightly less impressive than
at lower frequencies but the greater asymmetry in the anechoic chamber
data may account for this (figure 33). The PO solutions in this case
tend to underestimate the widths of the lobes for ϕ > 20°.

6.2.2 Horizontal polarisation

The anechoic chamber measurements of the 10 cm cylinder at 4 GHz are
generally in better accord with GTD and UTD solutions than was the case
for vertical polarisation. The nulls in the pattern are much more
pronounced for horizontal polarisation (figure 34). There is reasonable
agreement between the UTD solution and AC data in the general shape of
the curve, though discrepancies of several decibels are observed and
UTD's locations of the nulls are out by ~3° from AC results. The same
is true of GTD solutions except near ϕ = 0° and ϕ = 90° where GTD
solutions are infinite. PO's prediction of the main lobes agrees well
with AC data but it fails to describe the behaviour outside the main
lobes; in particular, it misses the lobe at 45° entirely.

The AC data for the 30 cm cylinder are marked by four outliers in the 0
to 90° measurements (figure 35). These suggest nulls of 25 dB but the 0
to -90° and theoretical curves are in agreement that the nulls are only
~15 dB. Apart from these outlier points the AC data is in fair agree-
ment with UTD and with GTD except near the singularities at 0° and 90°.
The PO curve is within 1 dB over the main lobes but again PO fails to
predict the lobe at 45°.

At a cylinder length of 50 cm, PO again represents the main lobes to
within 1 or 2 dB and misses the lobe at 45° (figure 36). UTD and, apart
from the effects of the singularities at 0° and 90°, GTD are in good
agreement with AC data on the shape of the curve but AC data consis-
tently indicates deeper nulls than predicted by UTD or GTD.

The 6 GHz measurements of the 10 cm cylinder reveal an almost global
underestimation of RCS by the theories, ranging from a few decibels
around the main lobe for UTD and PO to 10 dB for UTD, 10 dB for GTD and
15 dB for PO near 45° (figure 37), GTD again predicting infinite fields
in the main lobes at 0° and 90°. The theories fail to predict curves
that agree in shape with that of measurements between 30° and 60°. This
is uncharacteristic of the GTD and UTD solutions thus far. While some
asymmetry between the 0 to 90° and 0 to -90° measurements is evident for
φ > 75°, the theories are clearly inadequate for this case. It is worth
noting that the vertical polarisation results showed similar underesti-
mates of the RCS at intermediate angles.

The 30 cm cylinder data are, in contrast, quite well matched by UTD and,
apart from the lobe at 45°, by PO (figure 38). GTD besides having
singularities at 0° and 90°, estimates broader main lobes than UTD, PO
and AC data.

The results for the 50 cm cylinder show excellent agreement between UTD
and the AC measurements (figure 39). Again GTD estimates broader main
lobes than UTD, PO and AC data.

At 8 GHz the theories exaggerate the second and third nulls somewhat but
generally the 10 cm cylinder RCS pattern is quite well modelled
(figure 40), especially compared with the performance of the theories at
4 and 6 GHz. UTD and GTD disagree with PO in the location of the second
nulls and there is some scatter in the measurements making location of
them by the AC data uncertain. UTD's estimates of the first nulls agree
very well with AC data, while GTD underestimates them somewhat and PO
grossly exaggerates them as it does the second nulls.

The GTD and UTD calculations for the 30 cm cylinder predict a distortion
of the second lobe near 22° and 68° which does not appear to be present
in the AC data (figure 41). Again UTD has the best estimates of the
first nulls while both UTD and GTD underestimate the second nulls and,
as before, GTD is singular at 0° and 90°. PO exaggerates the first and
second nulls but underestimates the lobes at 30° and 60°.

The situation is much the same for the 50 cm cylinder (figure 42). The
distortion of the second lobe is again apparent in the GTD and UTD
solutions and some suggestion of a genuine asymmetry near the peak of
the lobe is present in the AC data. The match between theory and
equipment is quite good elsewhere, within 2 to 3 dB everywhere for UTD
except for the second null, within 2 to 3 dB for GTD except for the
first and second nulls and near 0° and 90° and within 2 to 4 dB for PO
except at the nulls.

The anechoic chamber measurements at 10 GHz for the 10 cm cylinder are
somewhat erratically distributed with gross variations between the 0 to
90° and 0 to -90° pattern - in some cases they differ by 18 dB
(figure 43). Characterisation of the main lobes (away from 0° and 90°
for GTD) is good but the scatter of the measurement makes further
interpretation difficult.

More sense can be made of the result for the 30 cm cylinder (figure 44).
Here the agreement between theory and experiment is obviously very good,
typically ±1 to ±2 dB, with only isolated exceptions. For instance, PO
appears to mislocate the null near 29°, placing it at 27° whereas GTD
and UTD matches the measured data. GTD underestimates the first nulls
while UTD overestimates the second nulls.

The 50 cm cylinder likewise shows very good agreement between UTD and
measurements though there is more scatter in the measurements for
$\phi > 60°$ (figure 45). Away from 0° and 90°, GTD, apart from under-
estimating the first nulls, is equally impressive. PO again fails to
predict the correct behaviour for 20° to 30° and its image for 70° to
60°. Apart from this, it too agrees well with measurements.

The measurements at 12 GHz for the 10 cm cylinder (figure 46) show a
fair amount of scatter between 20° to 70° as is the case for the 10 GHz
measurements of the 10 cm cylinder. Outside of the 20° to 70° region,
agreement between theories and measurements is good (away from 0° and
90° for GTD). In the 20° to 70° region PO's prediction departs signifi-
cantly from that of GTD and UTD; in particular the peaks predicted by
GTD and UTD at 30° and 60° are missed by PO which places deep nulls
there instead. Despite the poor measurements here, more confidence is
to be placed in the GTD and UTD results.

The results for the 30 cm cylinder show very good agreement between UTD
and AC data apart from an overestimation of the peaks at 30° and 60° by
UTD (figure 47). The same is true of GTD away from 0° and 90°. PO
overestimates the first two nulls from the main lobes and replaces the
peaks at 30° and 60° by deep nulls as before; apart from that, it
agrees well with measurements.

The 50 cm cylinder measurements have more scatter, particularly from 70°
to 90° (figure 48). Good agreement is obtained between UTD and AC data
and, away from 0° and 90°, between GTD and AC data, especially with the
0 to 90° measurements. PO suffers from the same deficiencies as men-
tioned for the 30 cm cylinder. Nevertheless, the height of the peaks as
predicted by PO matches that of measurements better than that of GTD and
UTD which overestimate them particularly away from the main lobes
directions.

6.3 Comparison with moment method solution

The results obtained in this paper for the flat plate and finite
rectangular cylinder using the normalisation scheme through equation (10)
must involve termination errors, the significance of which must increase
with decreasing plate size and cylinder length. Comparison with
experimental results attests to this expected trend in the cylinder case,
agreement is good down to a length of 2λ but in the case of the flat plate
it is hard to assess the accuracy of the solutions obtained as there is
much more scatter in the AC data as has been mentioned in Section 5.4.

In view of the unreliability of the AC data at low power return, the PO and
UTD results are compared here with moment method (MM) solutions of the
integral equation for the flat plate at 4 GHz, that is, for $\frac{2b}{\lambda} = \frac{2a}{\lambda} = 1.3$.
Comparison is not made with GTD as it gives the same results as UTD away
from grazing incidence. The MM solutions were obtained using the NEC wire
grid modelling code available at DRCS. Agreement between PO and MM
solutions is only good for the main lobes, that is, near the specular
directions (figures 49 and 50). On the other hand agreement between UTD
and MM solutions at 4 GHz is very good - within 1 dB up to 25° and within

2 dB beyond 25° for vertical polarisation (figure 49), within 1 dB up to
40° and within 4 dB beyond 40° for horizontal polarisation (figure 50).
These results indicate that termination effects are not significant even
for plate lengths as small as 1.3λ.

Figures 51 and 52 compare UTD, PO and MM solutions for the flat plate at
2 GHz, that is, for $\frac{2b}{\lambda} = \frac{2a}{\lambda} = 0.7$, for vertical and horizontal polarisation
respectively. At this frequency, even PO's prediction of the specular
return from the plate is several decibels out from that of MM. UTD's
solution deviates from that of MM by as much as 2 dB up to 40° and 8 dB
beyond 40°, agreement being slightly better for horizontal polarisation.
Thus if a limit has to be placed on the method of UTD and GTD (away from
its singularities) and equation (10) in the prediction of the RCS of the
flat plate it is for a plate of size $\sim 1\lambda$.

The UTD solution for the rectangular cylinder has been shown to be good
down to cylinder width = 1.3λ and length 2.0λ. Comparison of results with
MM solutions would reveal the lower limit of validity, independent of data
reliability. This comparison is scarcely feasible as can be appreciated by
noting that the MM solution for the 1.3λ flat plate took 30 min of CPU
time. In view of this no attempt was made to obtain MM solutions for the
rectangular cylinder.

6.4 Deficiencies of the theories

6.4.1 Physical Optics

It is a common feature of the PO solutions that they possess deep nulls
in RCS which are not realised in the experimental measurements. This
effect could have been eliminated from the figures by, for example,
convolving the PO solutions with a windowing function. More conve-
niently, smoothing could have been done by weighting in the transform
domain. No such processing has been performed here to emphasise the
fact that simple methods such as PO do yield unphysical results.

In general, PO proves to be accurate in the prediction of the main lobes
of the RCS patterns, accuracy falls away for aspect angles away from
these regions. This arises from the fact that the surface field is
taken to be the geometric optics field. A method developed by
Ufimtsev(ref.10) known as the physical theory of diffraction corrects
for this surface field in PO by including an additional term in the
induced surface current – this 'nonuniform' component is due to pertur-
bations created by the departure of the surface from an infinite plane
and may arise from the curvature of the surface at a shadow boundary or
from geometrical discontinuities such as edges.

The backscattered RCS as predicted by PO is polarisation independent, a
result of the tangent plane approximation. This is a fundamental
weakness of PO in general though it can yield polarisation dependent
results in the case of scatterers with multiple reflections, eg ref-
erence 3.

6.4.2 Geometrical theory of diffraction and uniform geometrical theory
        of diffraction

GTD fails in the transition regions adjacent to shadow and reflection
boundaries where the solution becomes infinite and discontinuous. This
limitation is overcome by the uniform GTD(UTD) developed by Kouyoumjian
and   Pathak(ref.8)   and   by   the   uniform   field   introduced   by
Ahluwalia et al(ref.11,12). Both approaches yield high-frequency fields

that are continuous at shadow and reflection boundaries and that reduce
to the fields predicted by GTD away from such transition regions.

The singularities that arise in the GTD solution for the strip and the
cylinder appear in the multiple diffraction terms at shadow boundaries.
They are a consequence of using Keller's plane wave diffraction coeffi-
cients in the treatment of higher order diffraction. When the higher
order diffraction terms are formulated in terms of cylindrical wave
diffraction, as in UTD, the results are finite.

It is interesting to note that the singly diffracted GTD or UTD field
for the strip (equation (16) for vertical polarisation and equation (39)
for horizontal polarisation), is finite at $\phi = 0°$ despite the fact that
the individual terms are infinite there. The same is observed to hold
for the rectangular cylinder (equation (53) for vertical polarisation
and equation (59) for horizontal polarisation), at $\phi = 0°$ and $\phi = 90°$.
This is a phenomenon that occurs frequently in GTD/UTD analysis of
radiation and scattering problems. It was noted by James(ref.6) that
the endpoint infinities would cancel to yield a finite result if the
aperture had a symmetrical field distribution, though in general this
result is not expected to be the same as that obtained by a direct
evaluation of the aperture field integral.

A fundamental limitation of GTD and UTD, in common with other ray
techniques, is the prediction of infinite fields at caustics. This does
not correspond to physical reality and caustic corrections have to be
introduced. No general techniques valid for an arbitrary body are
available for finding caustic corrections; this involves generating
matching functions that provide a smooth transition into a finite value
at the caustics(ref.13,14,15). The GTD and UTD edge diffraction
concepts are suitable for the analysis of geometries where diffraction
appears to come from a single point or group of single isolated points
along an edge. At $\phi = 0°$ for the flat plate, and $\phi = 0°$ and $90°$ for the
finite rectangular cylinder, there is a congruence of backscattered
rays, that is, caustics occur. Thus GTD and UTD fail to predict the
field in the backscattered directions. In these cases it is convenient
to use the physical optics approximation to correct the scattered field
determined by GTD and UTD; this caustic correction technique is useful
for the flat plate structures treated here. Another technique for
caustic correction is to employ equivalent electric and magnetic edge
currents derived from the GTD/UTD diffracted field away from the
caustics. These equivalent currents are substituted in the radiation
integral to give the caustic field.

In this paper the flat plate and finite rectangular cylinder have not
been treated as three dimensional scattering targets; rather the
results were obtained by using a normalisation scheme (equation (10)) to
reduce the two dimensional infinite strip and infinite cylinder solu-
tions to ones applicable to the finite problems. Interestingly, the
solutions thus obtained in the backscattered directions corresponding to
caustics for the finite target problem, yield finite values that agree
with PO even though the geometrical optics reflection terms were not
included. This effect has been observed by James(ref.6) in his
treatment of radiation from a parallel-plate waveguide as has the
cancellation of the singularities in the singly diffracted field terms
mentioned earlier.

7. CONCLUSIONS

PO proves to be very accurate in the neighbourhood of specular reflections, that is, in the region of the main lobes of the RCS curves, at least down to plate sizes 2a $\sim$ 1.3λ. Its performance deteriorates with aspect angle away from the specular direction where polarisation dependent effects become evident but are not predicted by PO, though the range of reliable prediction increases with plate size. It should be noted, however, that apart from a substantial overestimation of the depths of the nulls, PO's domain of applicability is extended to the next sidelobes along with increasing $\frac{2a}{\lambda}$.

Singularities exist in the GTD solution for both polarisations at grazing incidence on the flat plate. Away from the neighbourhood of these singularities, the GTD solution for the flat plate agrees with the UTD solution. GTD and UTD results for the flat plate improve as $\frac{2a}{\lambda}$ increases. The AC data at the smaller values of $\frac{2a}{\lambda}$ are erratic but comparison with MM solutions has demonstrated the accuracy of UTD solution down to plate dimensions of one wavelength.

An ideal thin flat plate should yield a zero RCS at grazing incidence for horizontal (that is, transverse) polarisation in the limit of zero thickness, yet the measured RCS for horizontal polarisation does not diminish to zero at grazing incidence as expected. This suggests that the plate is not a "thin" plate as assumed or that an unexpectedly significant contribution comes from vertex diffraction. The thickness of the edge ranges from 0.01λ at 4 GHz to 0.04λ at 12 GHz. No exact solution is available for diffraction from an edge with finite thickness, however references 16 and 17 present solutions for a thick edge modelled as two 90° wedges. The application of this model to the present case has not been attempted.

The GTD solution for the rectangular cylinder for horizontal polarisation has singularities at $\phi = 0$ and 90°. Away from the neighbourhood of these singularities close agreement is obtained between GTD and UTD solutions. The results for the rectangular cylinder at 4 GHz work well down to $\frac{2a}{\lambda} = 1.3$ for the 30 cm and 50 cm cylinders where termination errors are not significant. Agreement of the UTD solution with measured results is definitely not good for the 10 cm cylinder, particularly at the lower frequencies of 4 and 6 GHz; data reliability is questionable in these cases and in the absence of comparison with accurate numerical solutions of the exact integral equations for scattering from the cylinder, it is difficult to assess the performance of the method for these cases. It could well be that termination errors arising from the assumptions implicit in equation (10) are more significant for the cylinder of length 1.3λ than for the flat plate of length 1.3λ. It seems more likely, however, that the poor agreement for the 10 cm cylinder is due to errors in the anechoic chamber measurements, as in the case of the flat plate, and that UTD with equation (10) is a good description of scattering from a finite cylinder down to cylinder lengths of the order of a wavelength.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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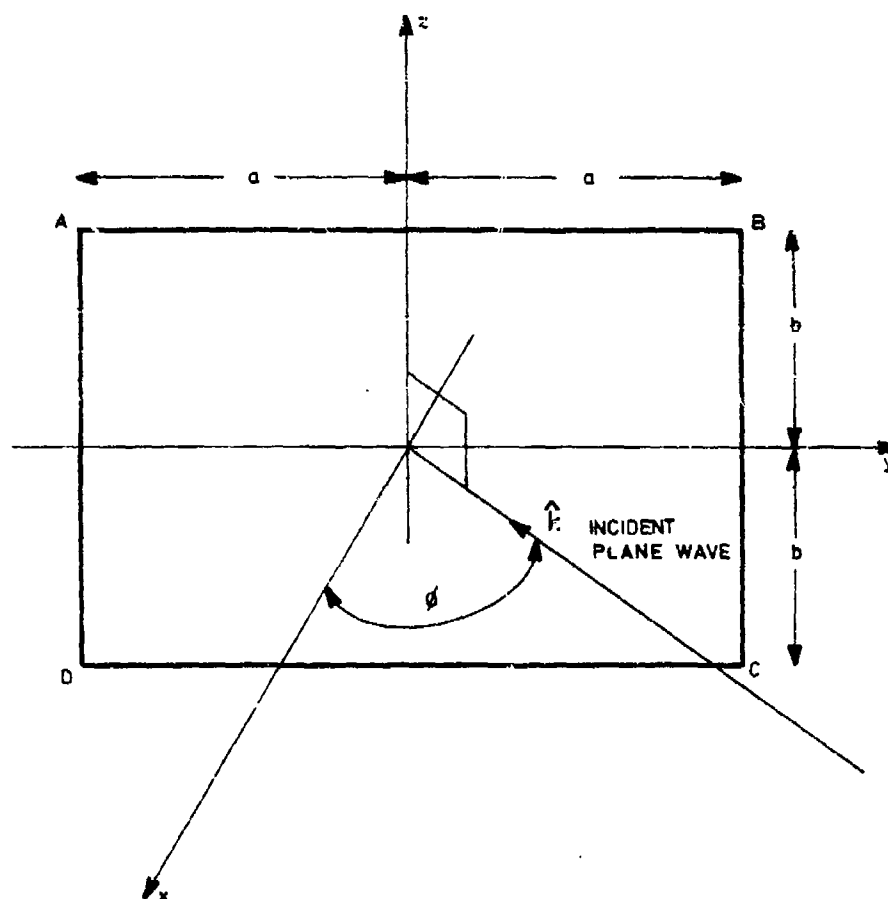
Figure 1.   Flat plate
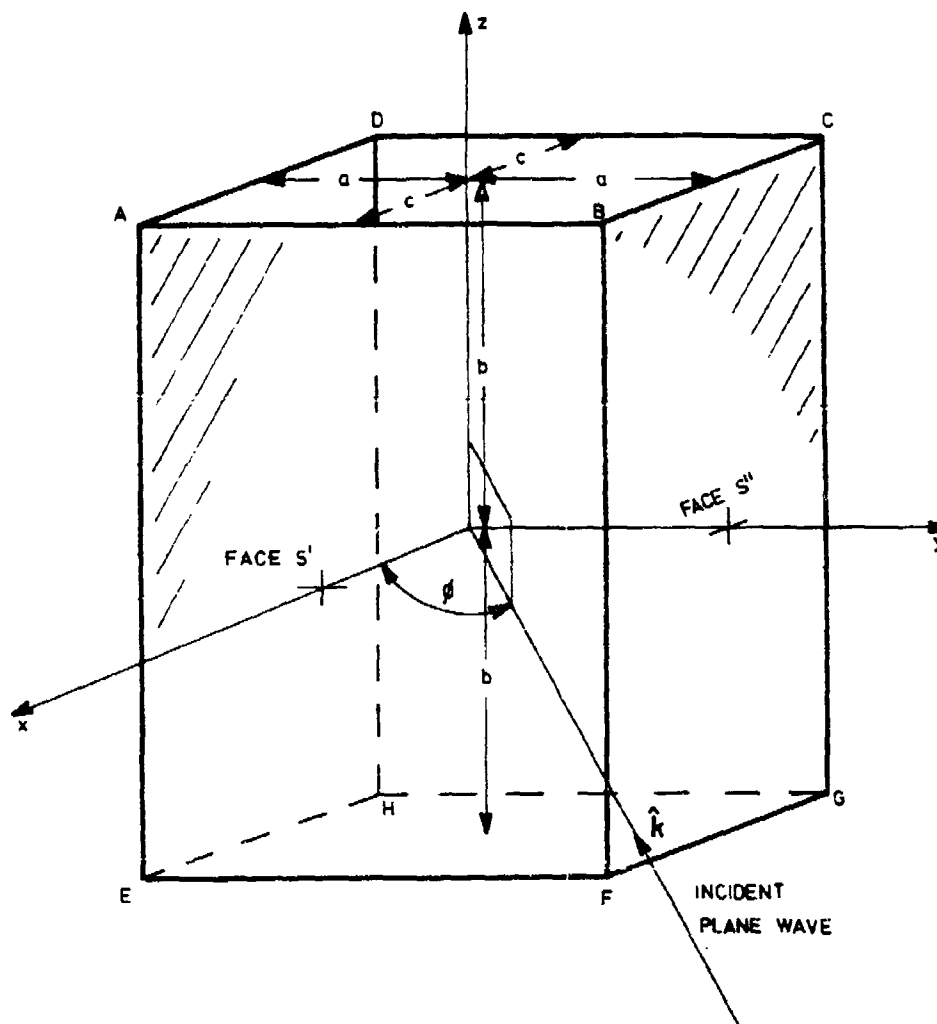
Figure 2. Rectangular cylinder
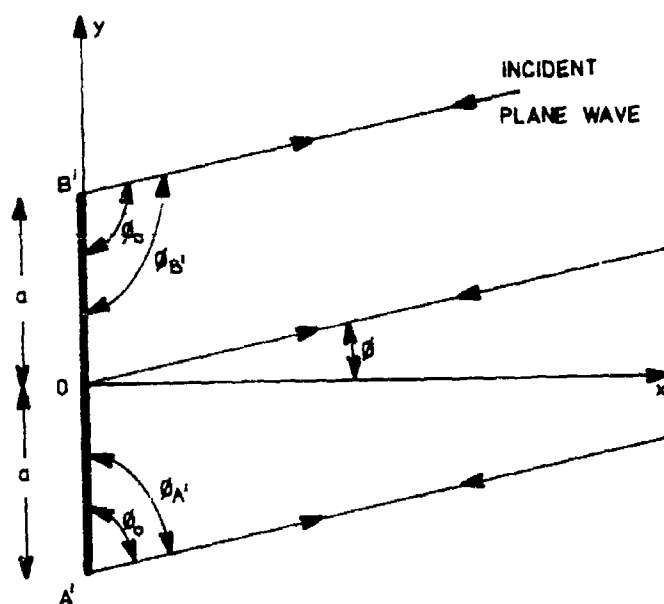
Figure 3. Top view of flat plate in azimuthal plane
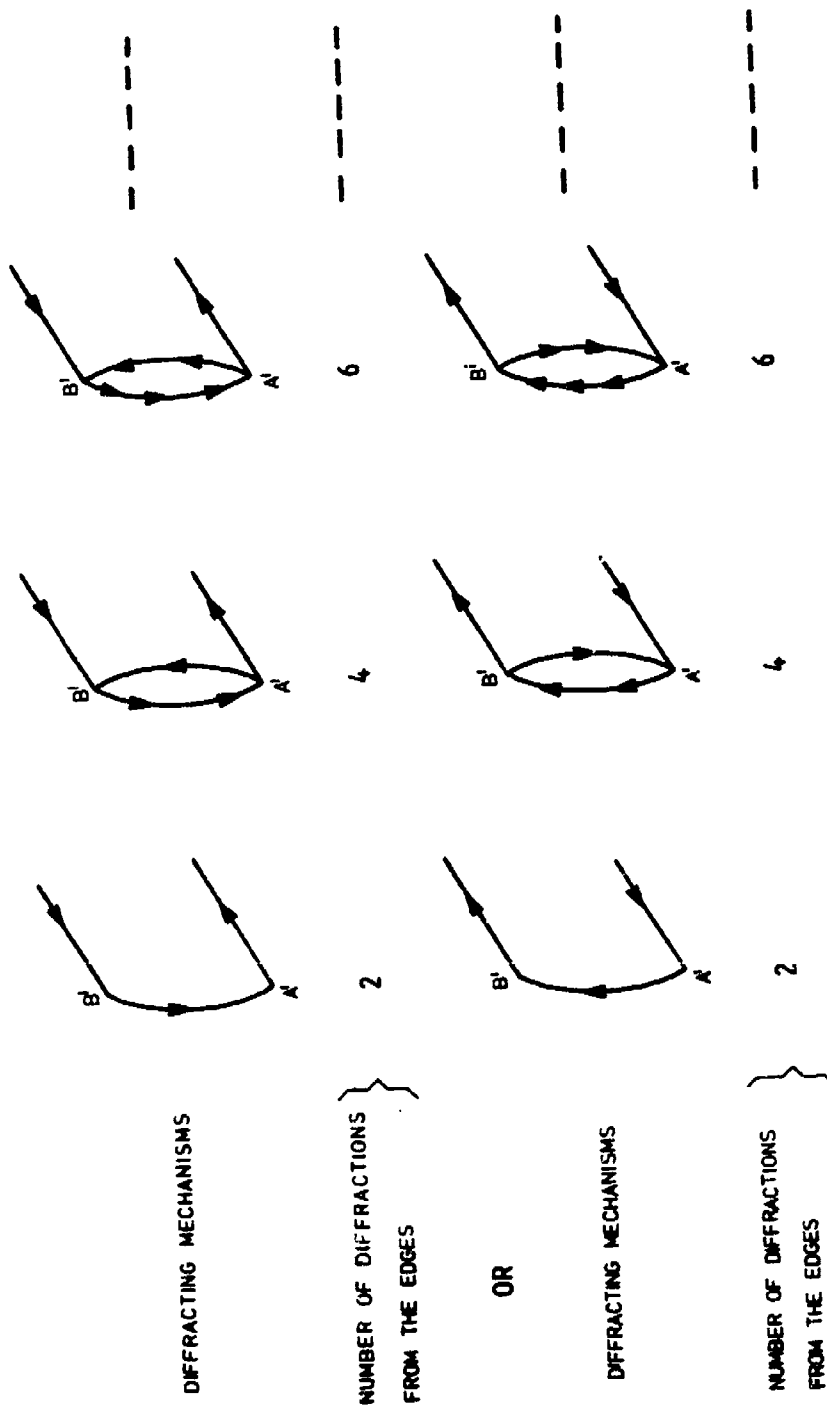
Figure 4. Case (a) Multiple diffraction processes
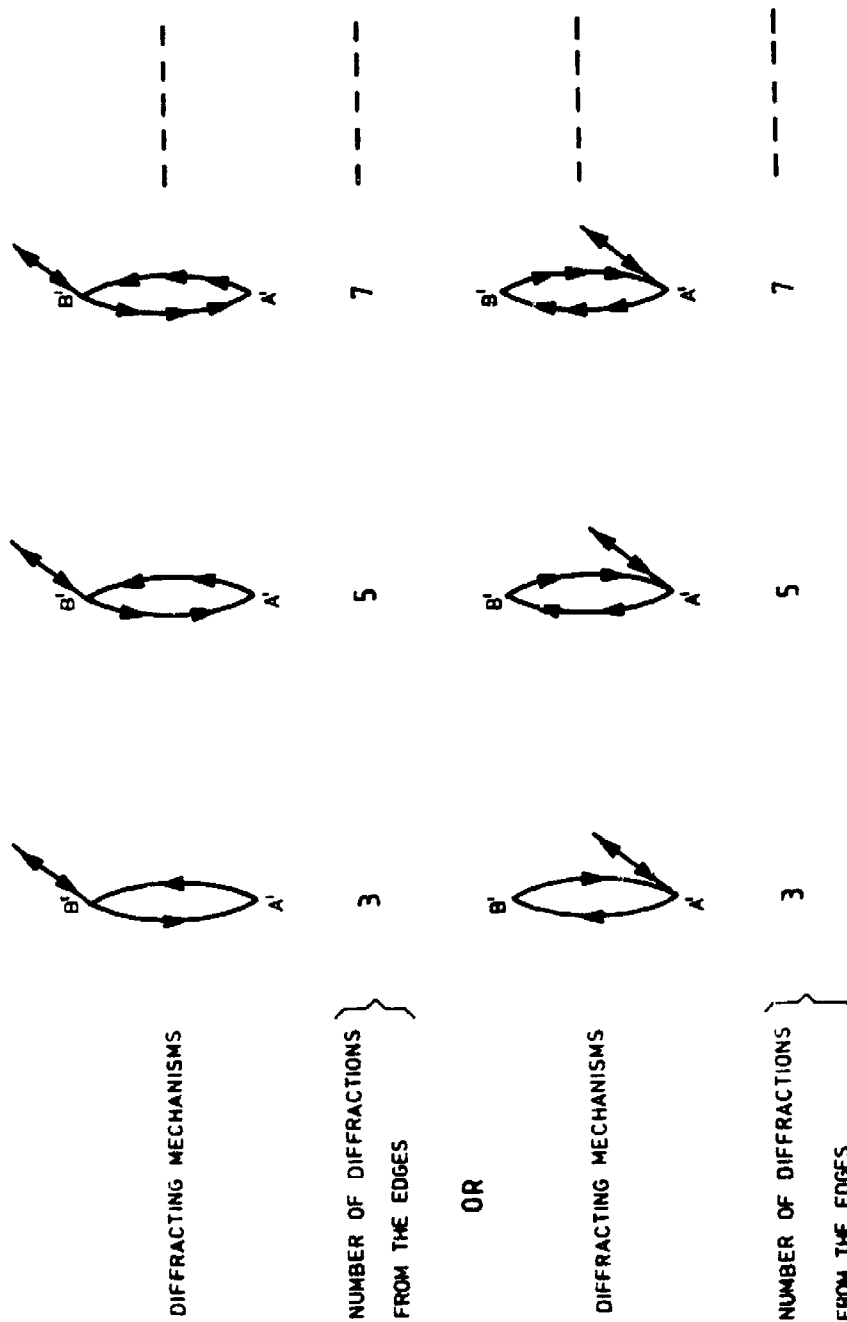
Figure 5. Case (b) Multiple diffraction processes
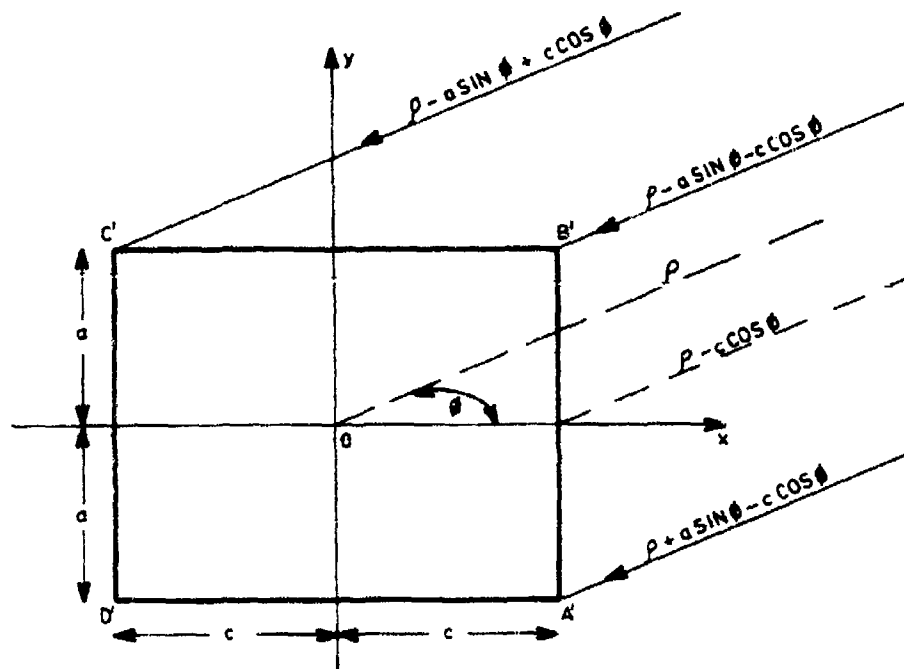
Figure 6. Top view of rectangular cylinder in azimuthal plane
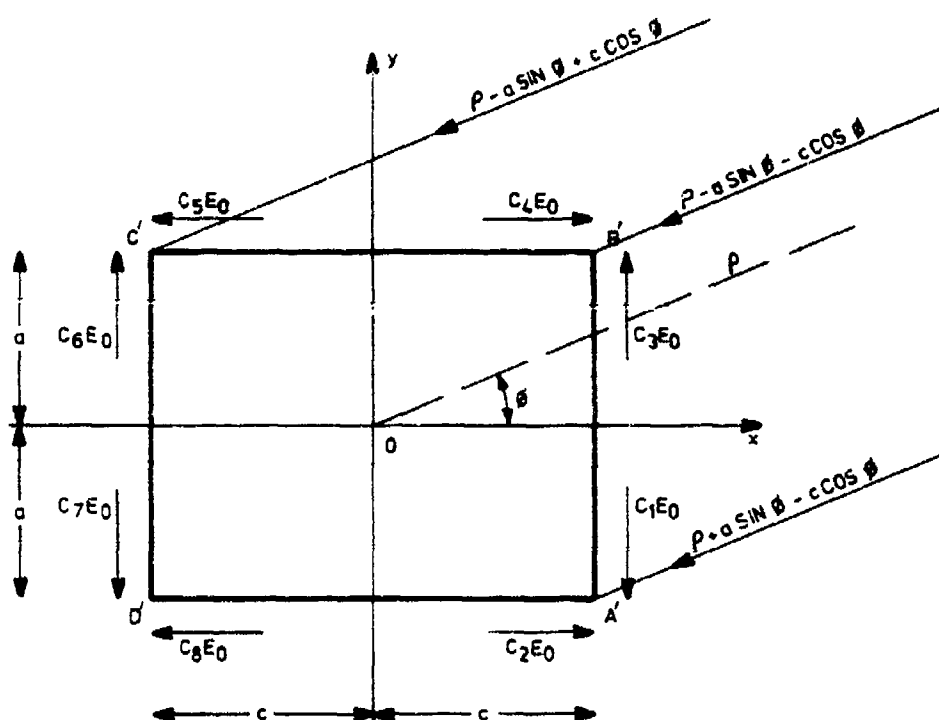
Figure 7.   Self-consistent representation of surface waves on the
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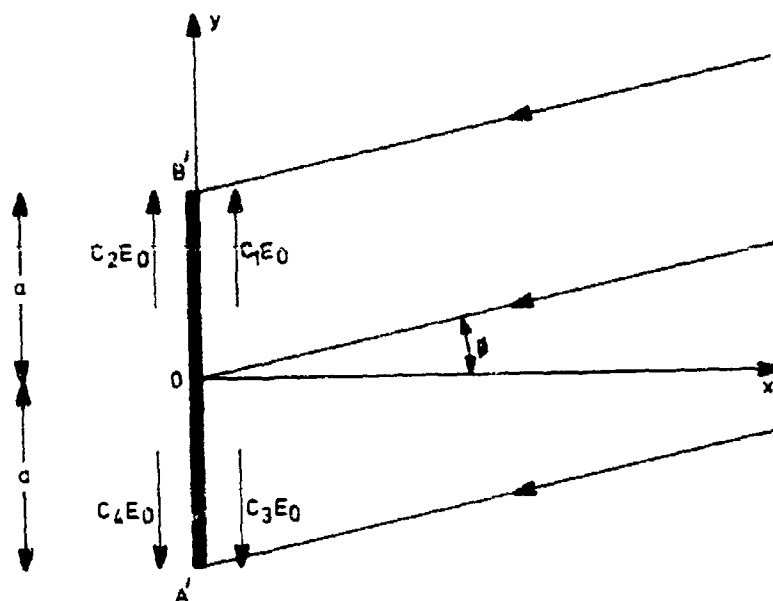
Figure 8. Self-consistent representation of surface waves on the strip
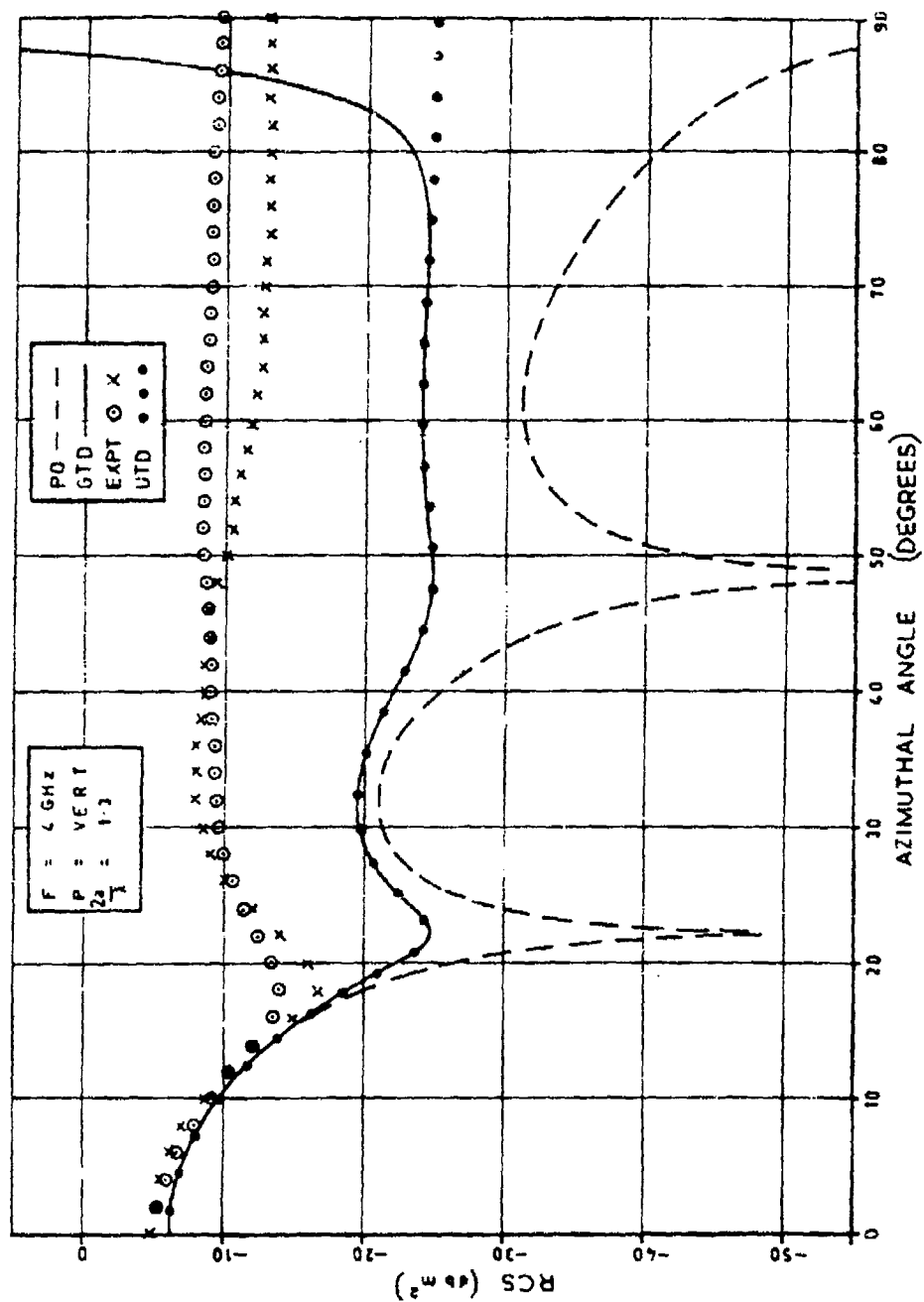
Figure 9. RCS for flat plate at 4 GHz (vertical polarisation)
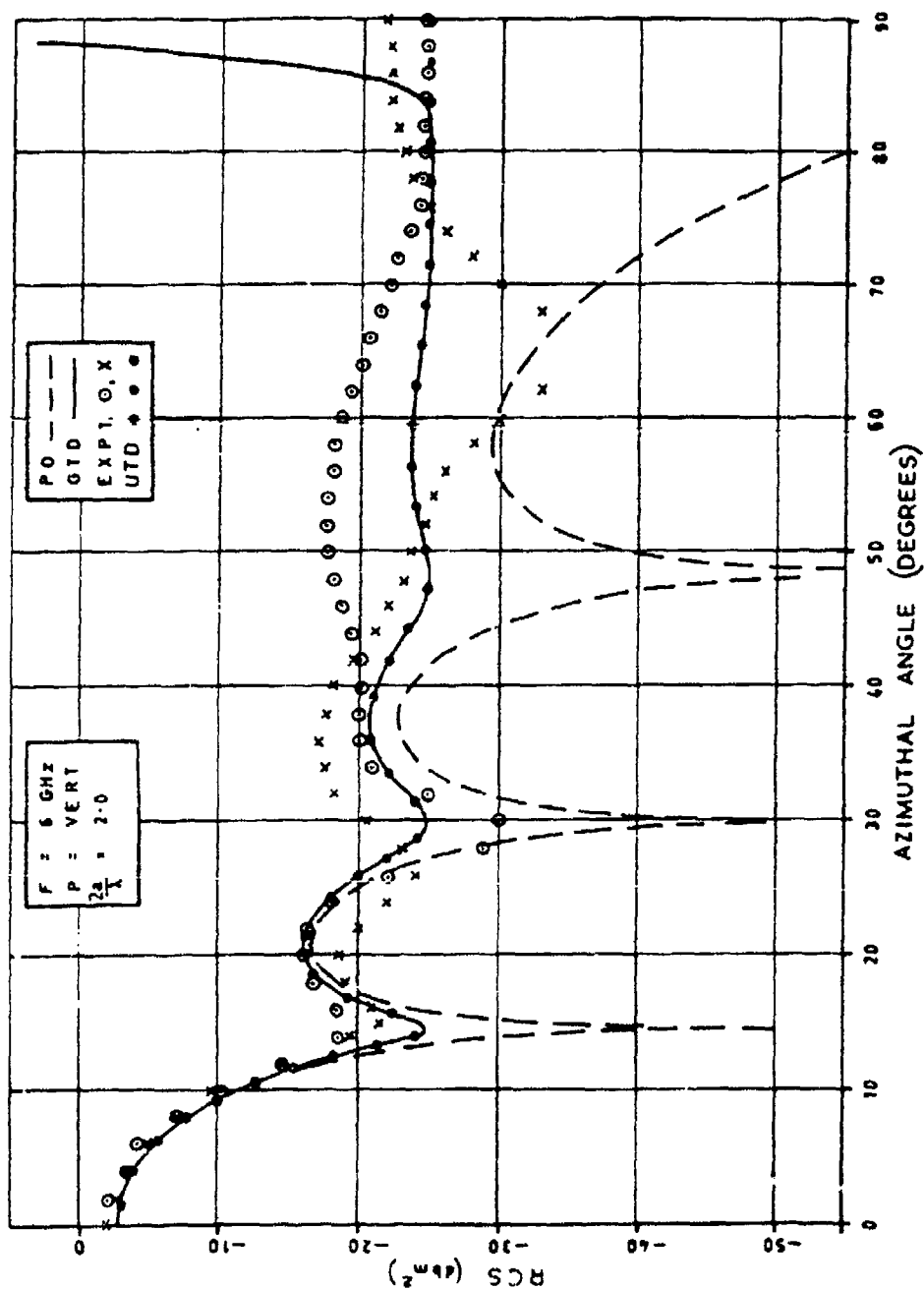
Figure 10. RCS for flat plate at 6 GHz (vertical polarisation)
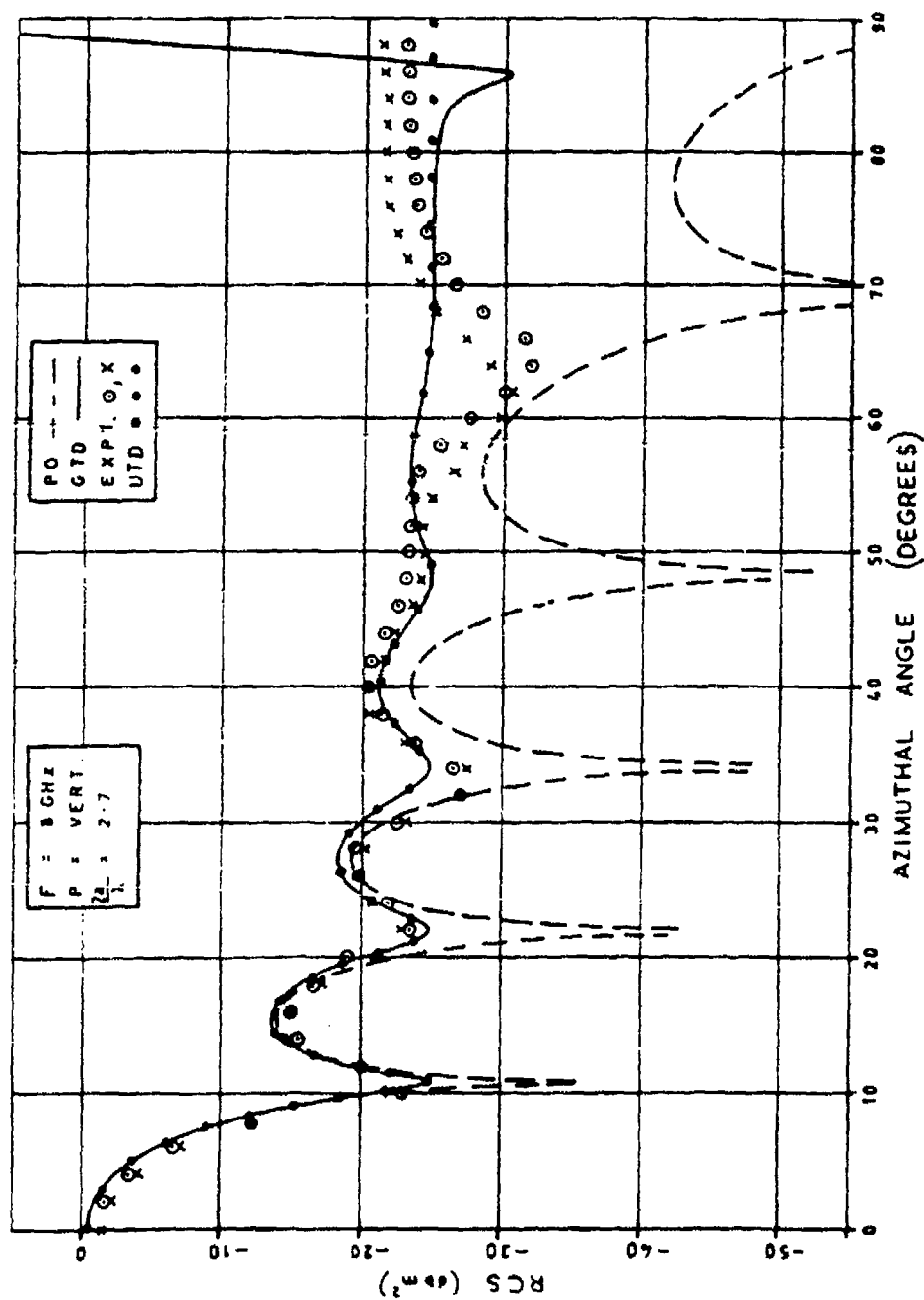
Figure 11. RCS for flat plate at 8 GHz (vertical polarisation)
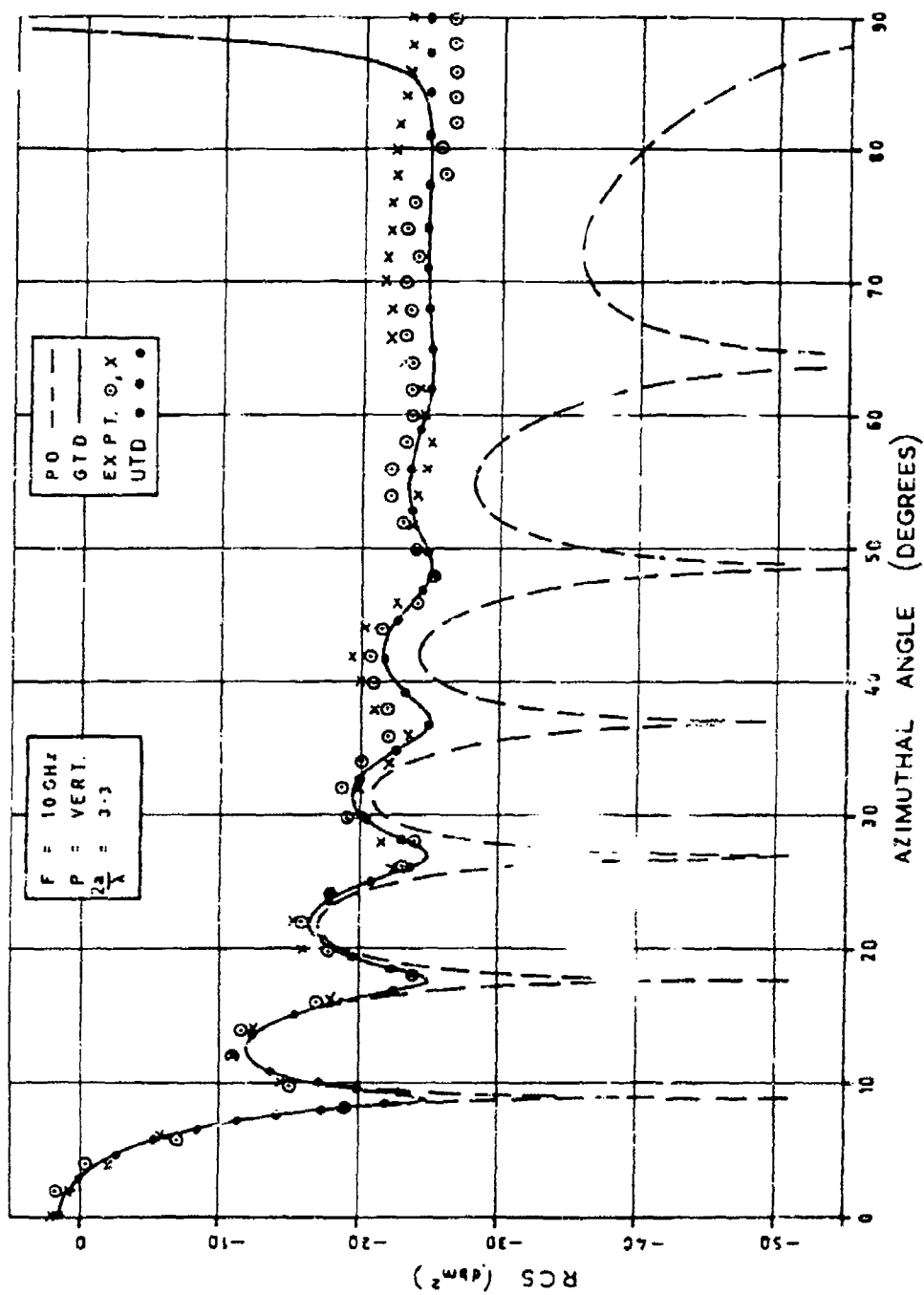
Figure 12. RCS for flat plate at ;; GHz (vertical polarisation)
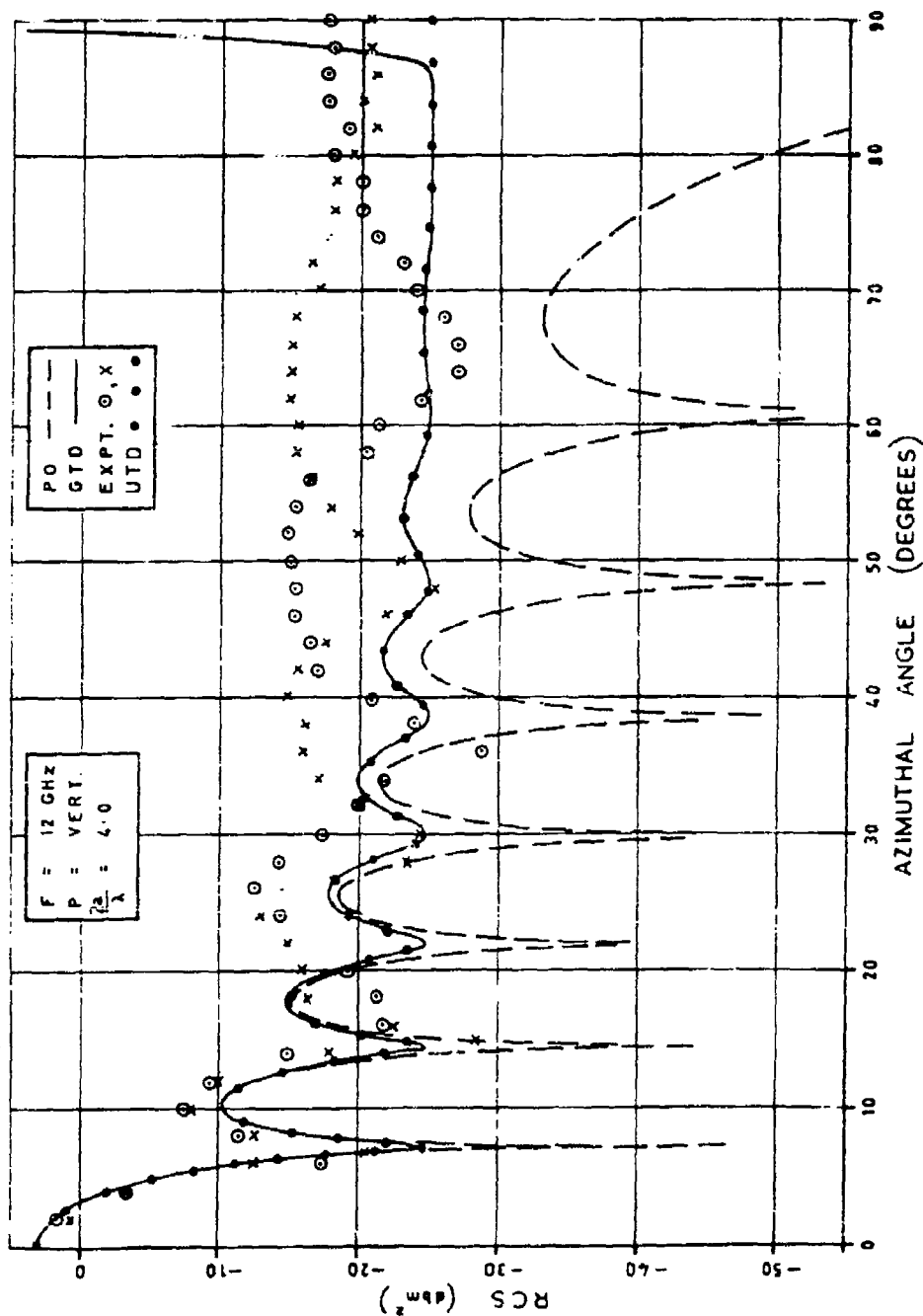
Figure 13. RCS for flat plate at 12 GHz (vertical polarisation)
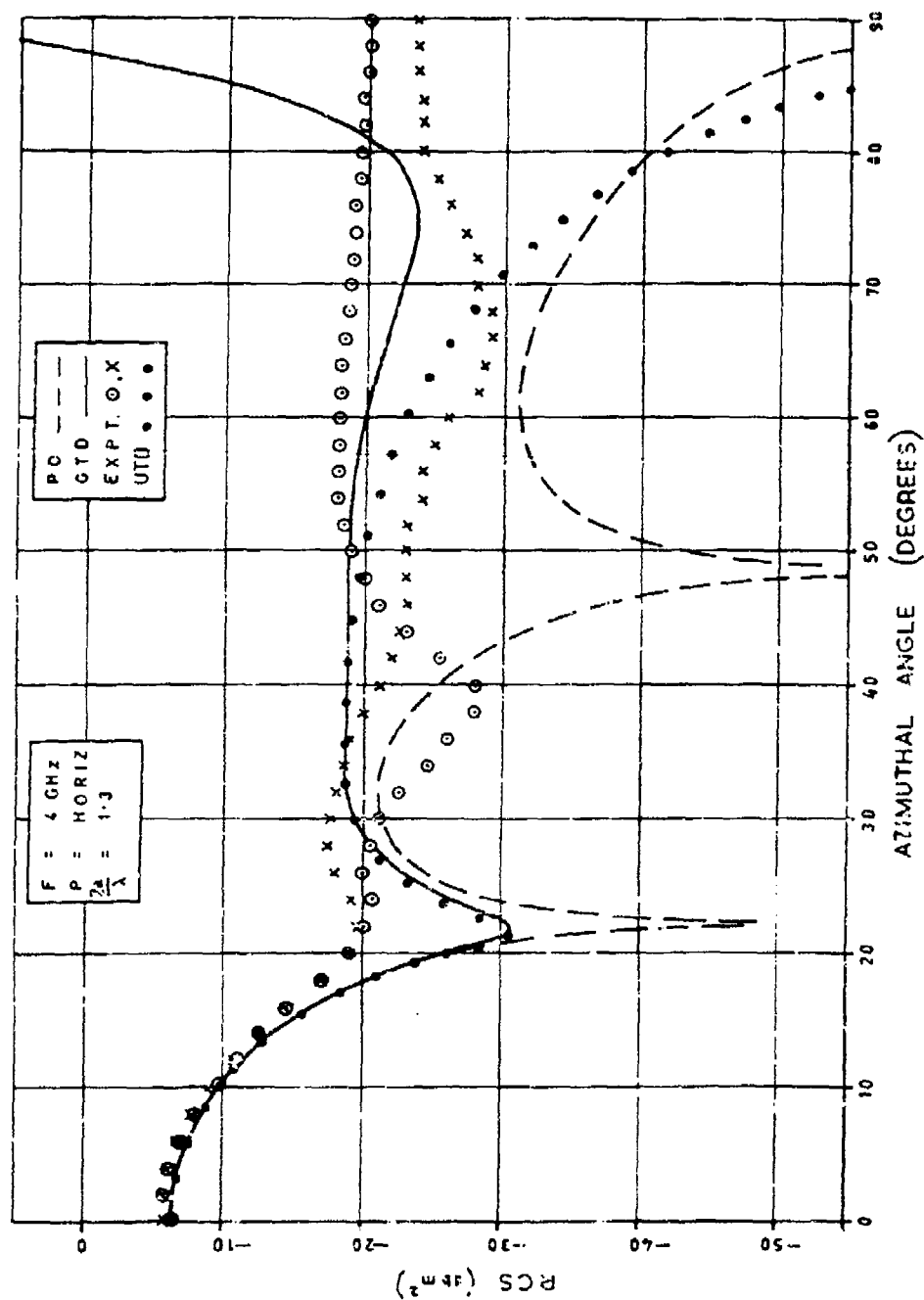
Figure 14.   RCS for flat plate at 4 GHz (horizontal polarisation)
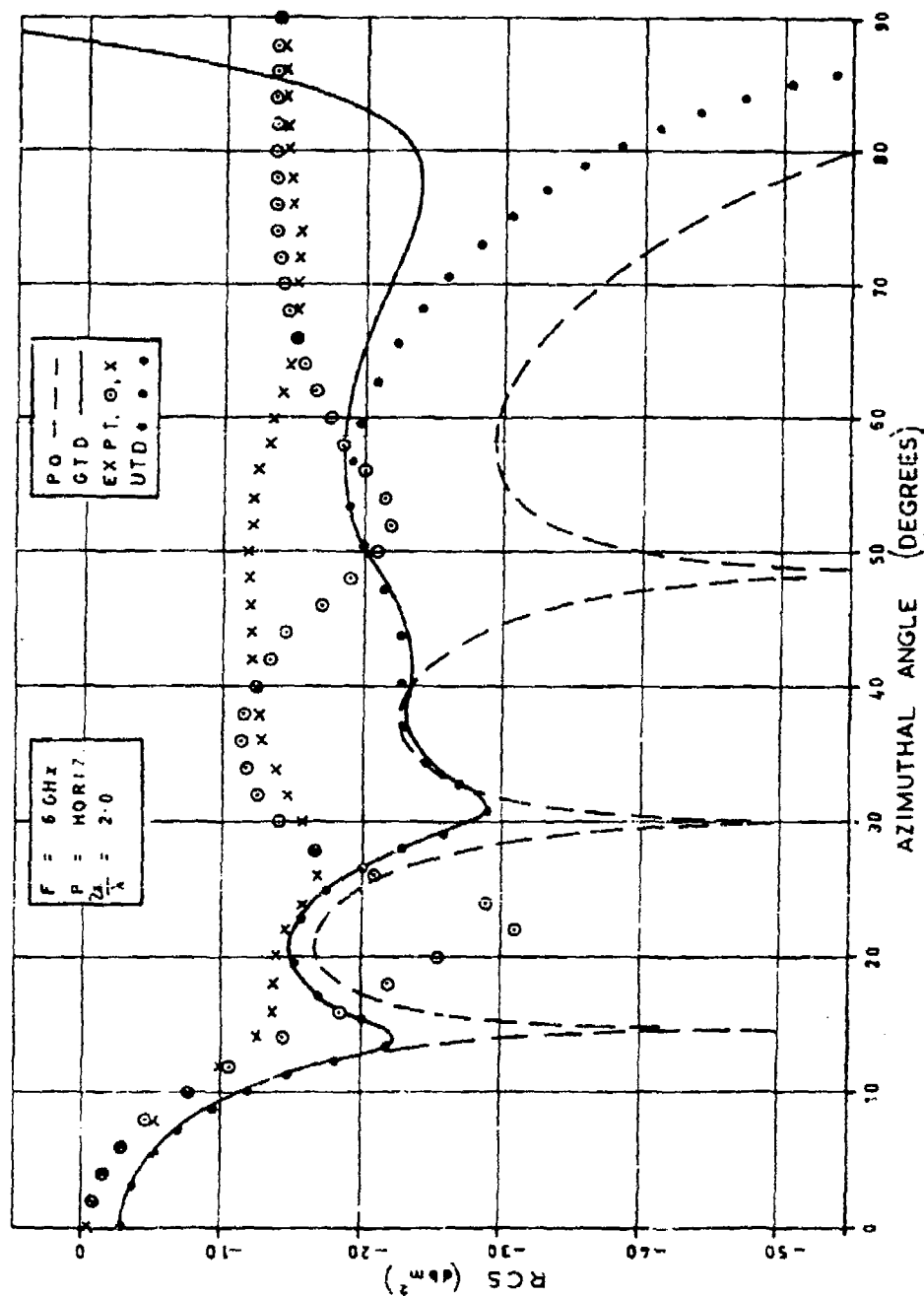
Figure 15.   RCS for flat plate at 6 GHz (horizontal polarisation)
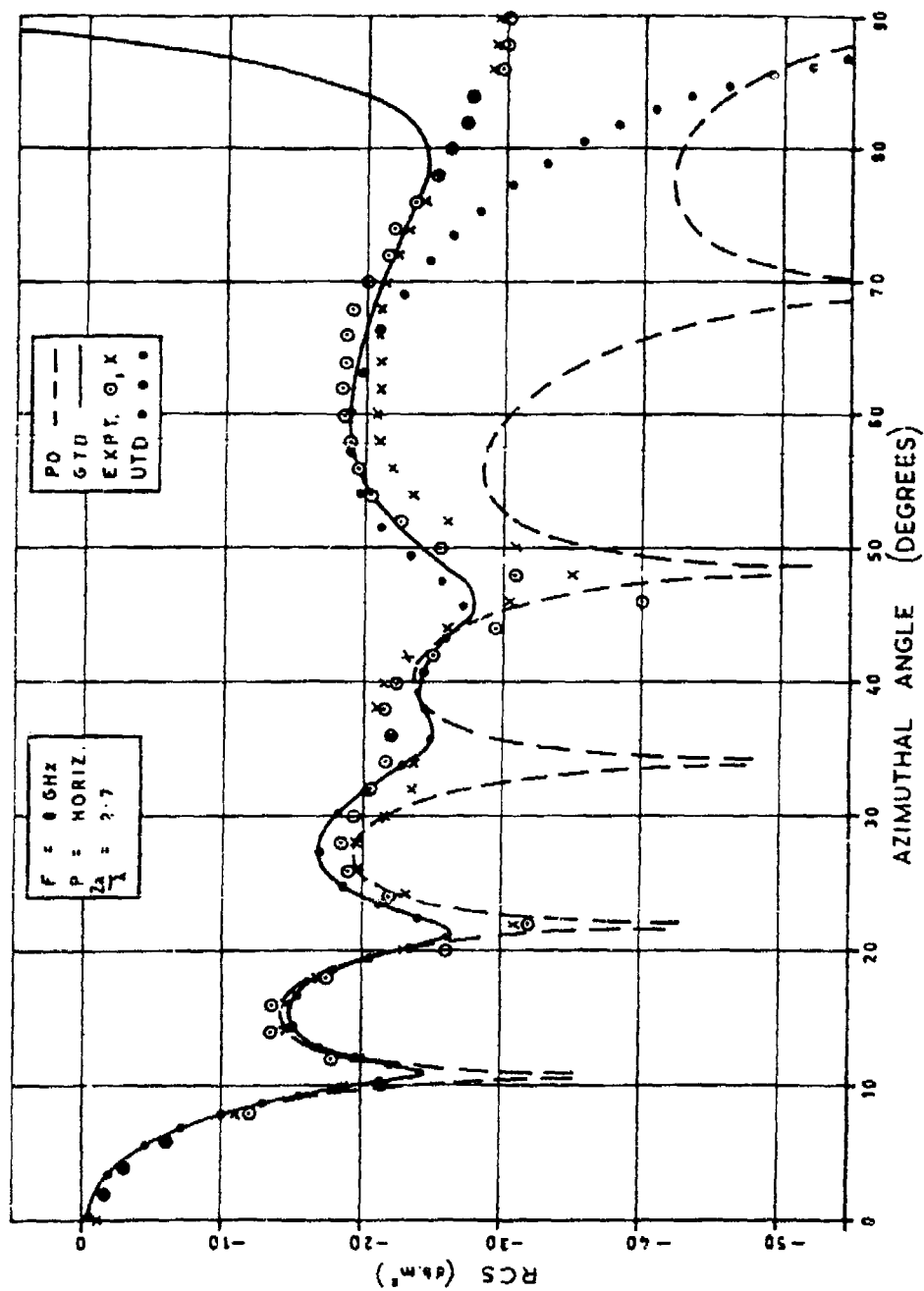
Figure 16. RCS for flat plate at 8 GHz (horizontal polarisation)
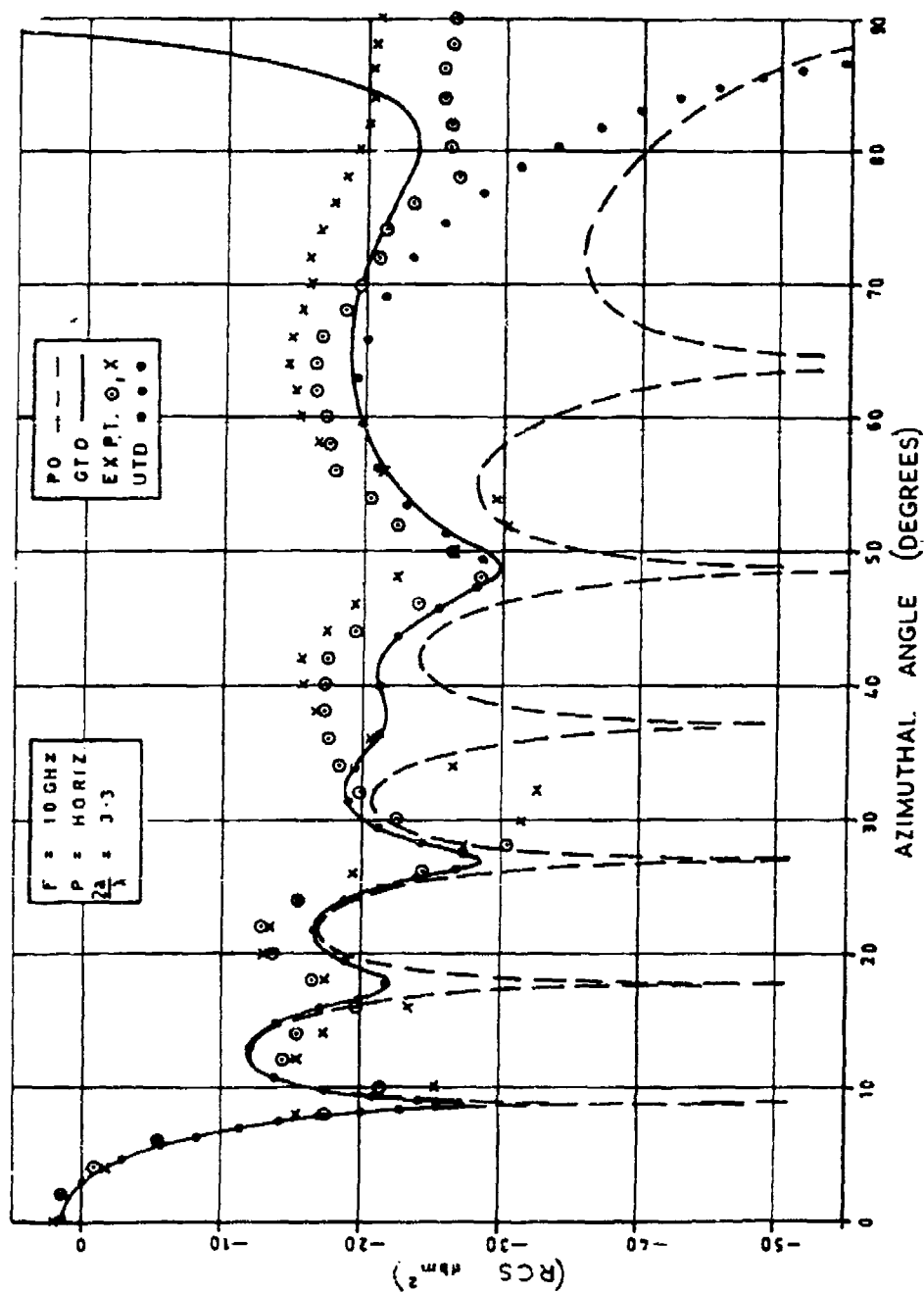
Figure 17. RCS for flat plate at 10 GHz (horizontal polarisation)
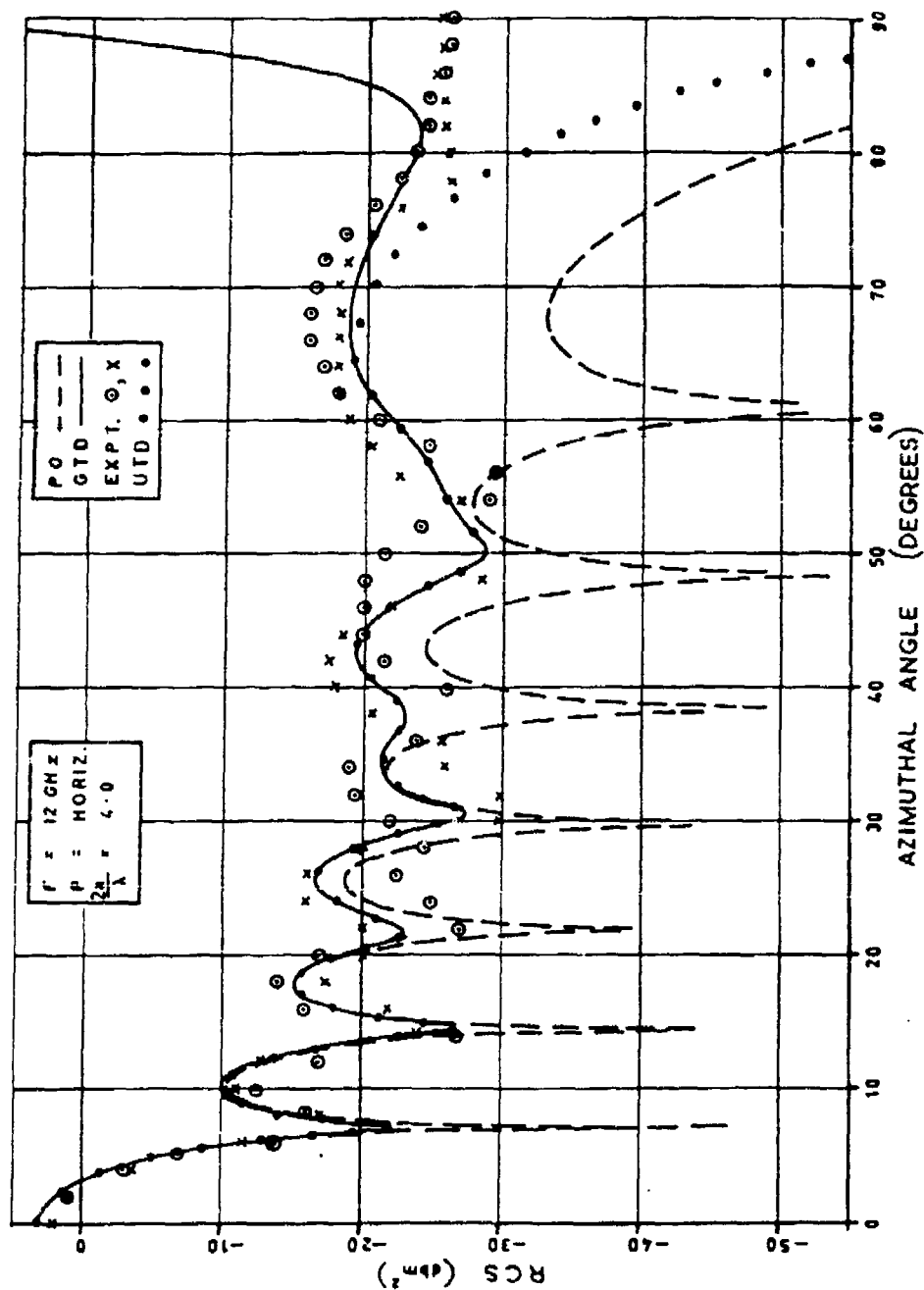
Figure 18.   RCS for flat plate at 12 GHz (horizontal polarisation)
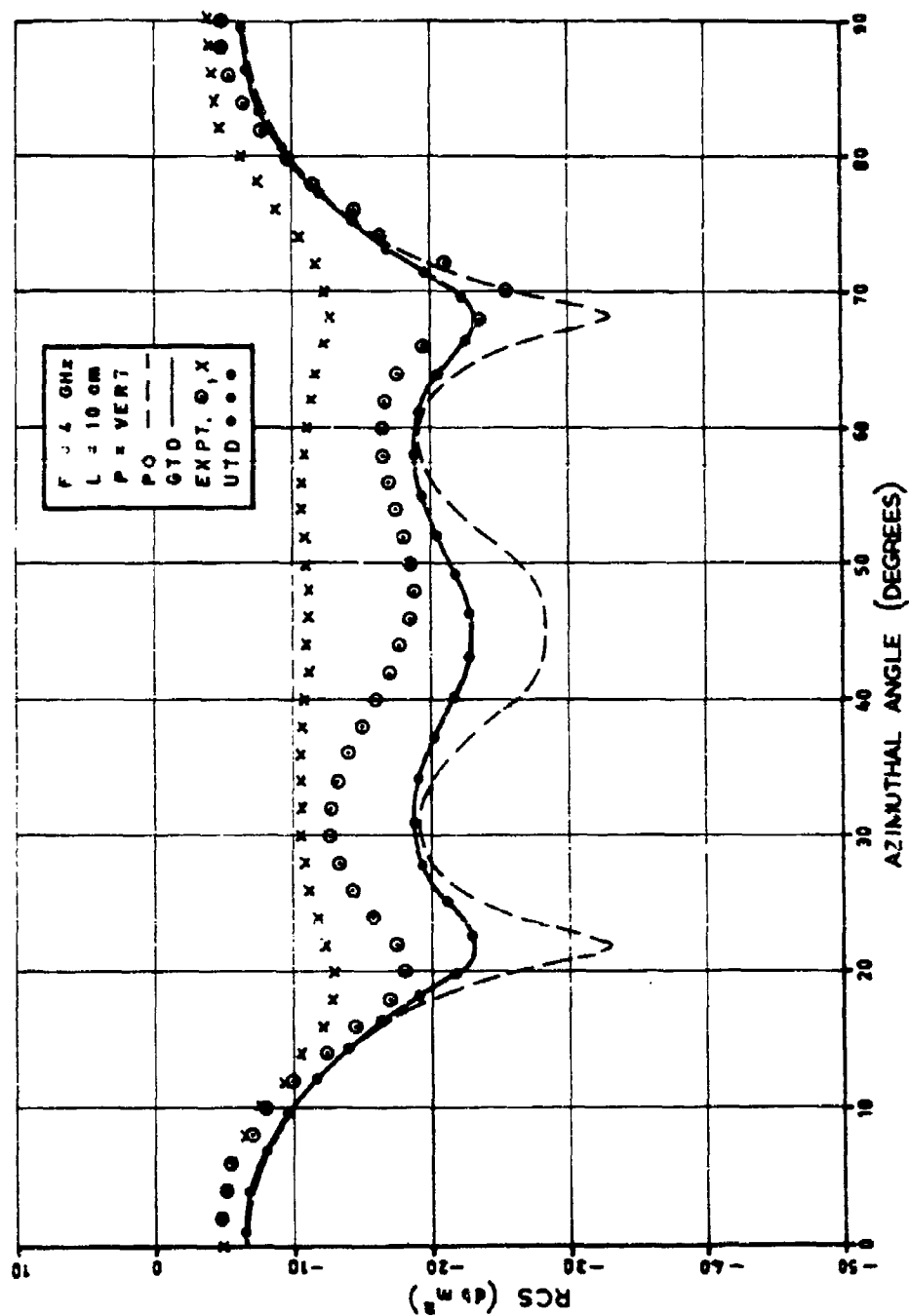
Figure 19. RCS for 10 cm cylinder at 4 GHz (vertical polarisation)
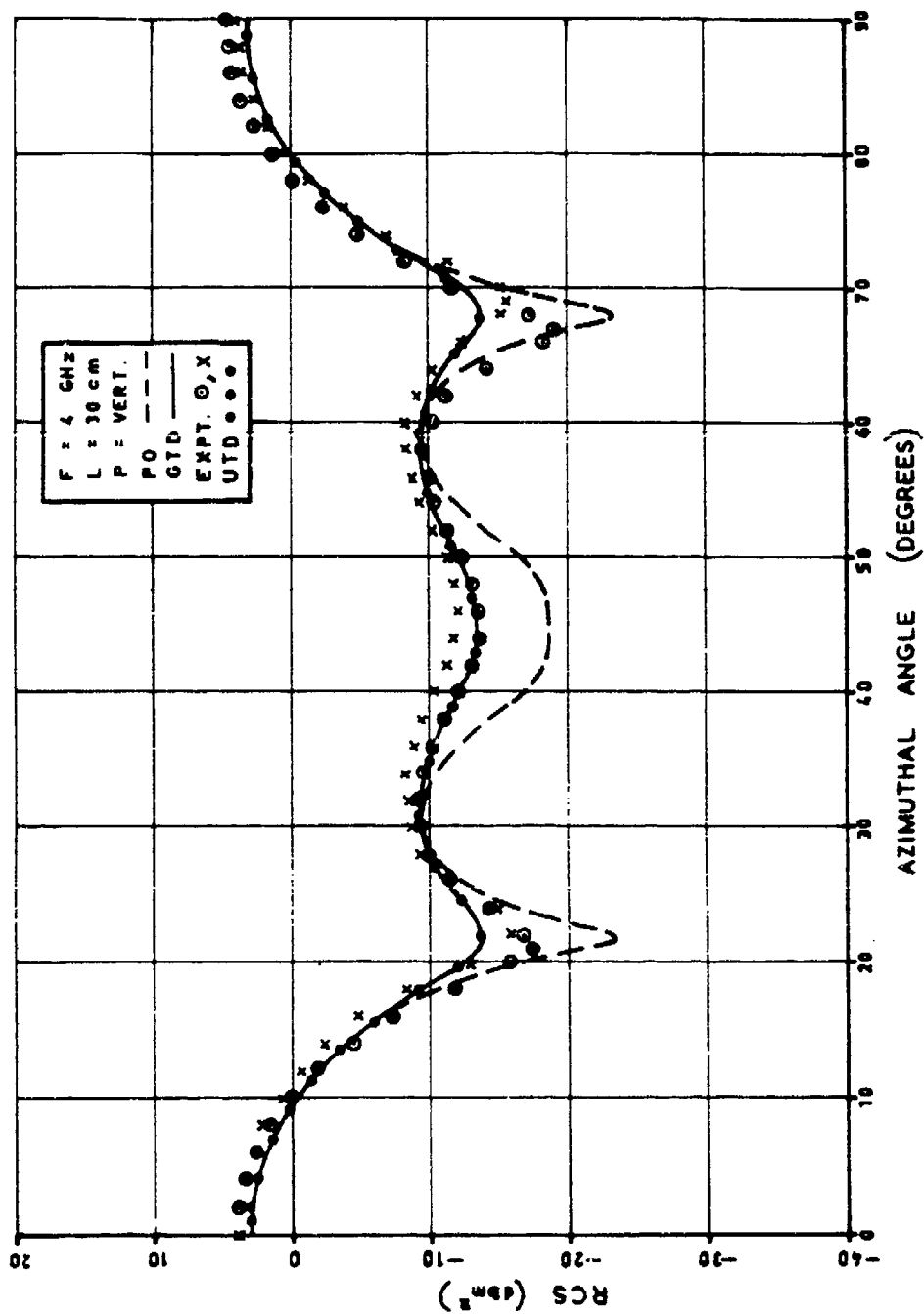
Figure 20. RCS for 30 cm cylinder at 4 GHz. (vertical polarisation)
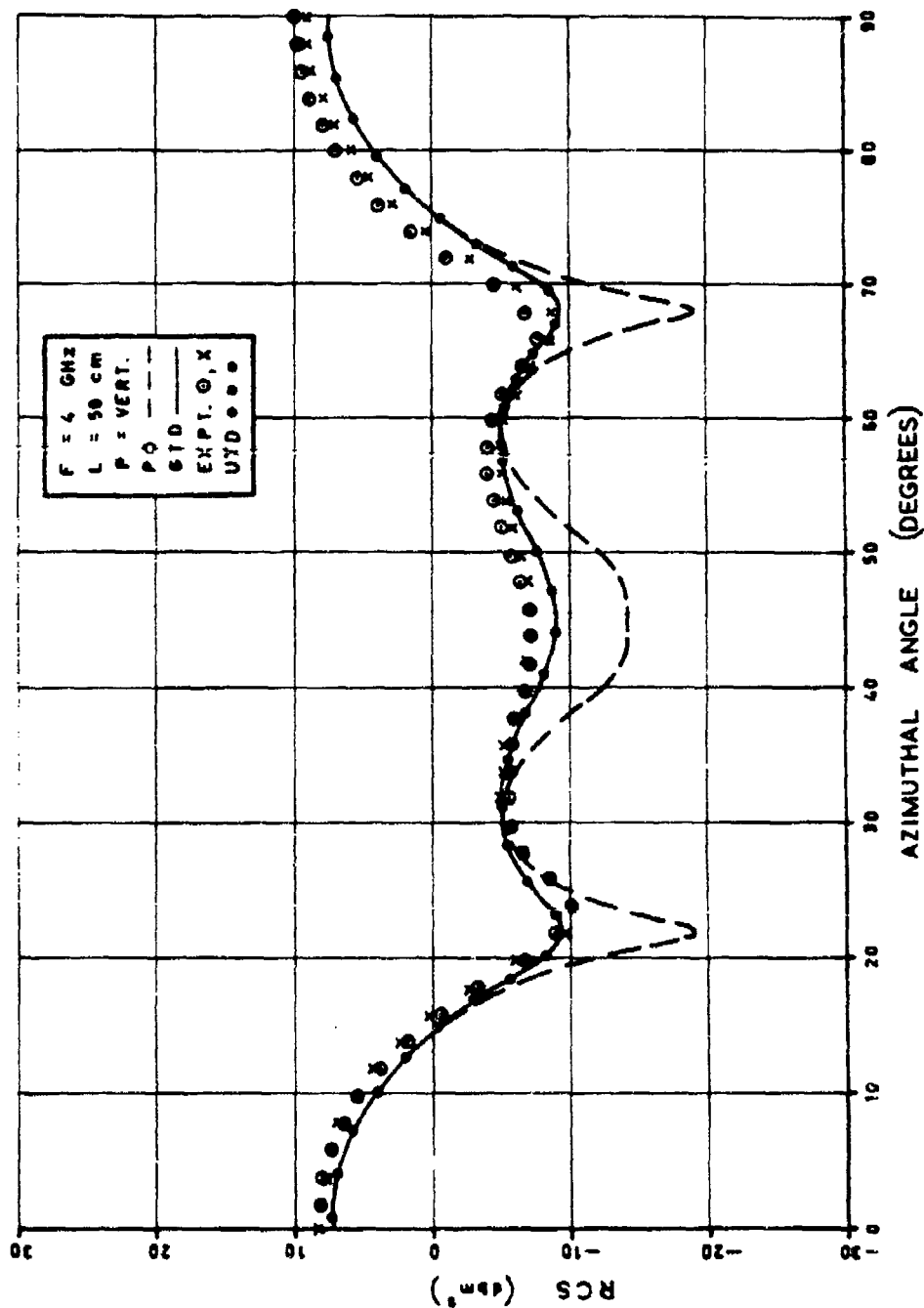
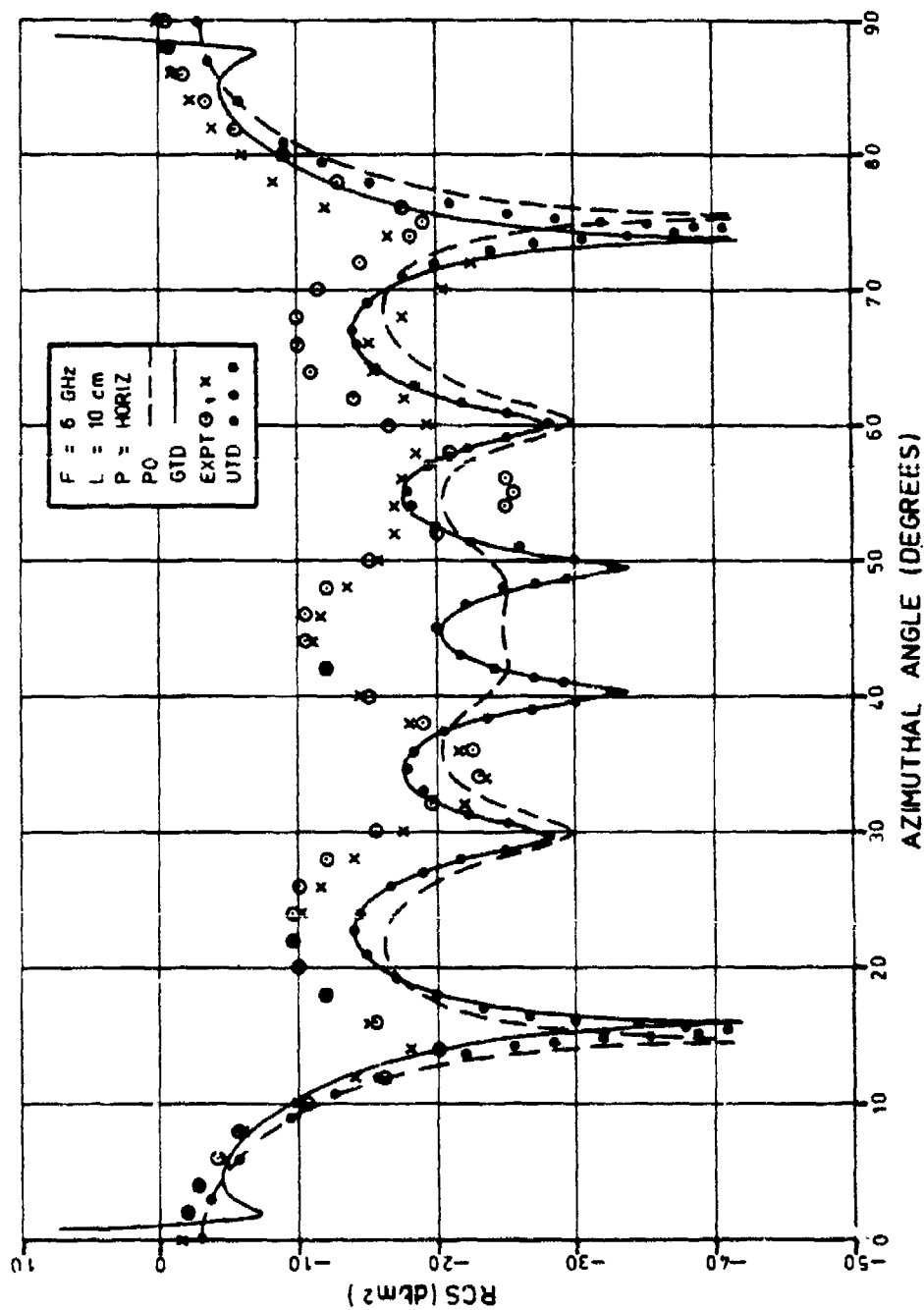Figure 21. RCS for 50 cm cylinder at 4 GHz (vertical polarisation)
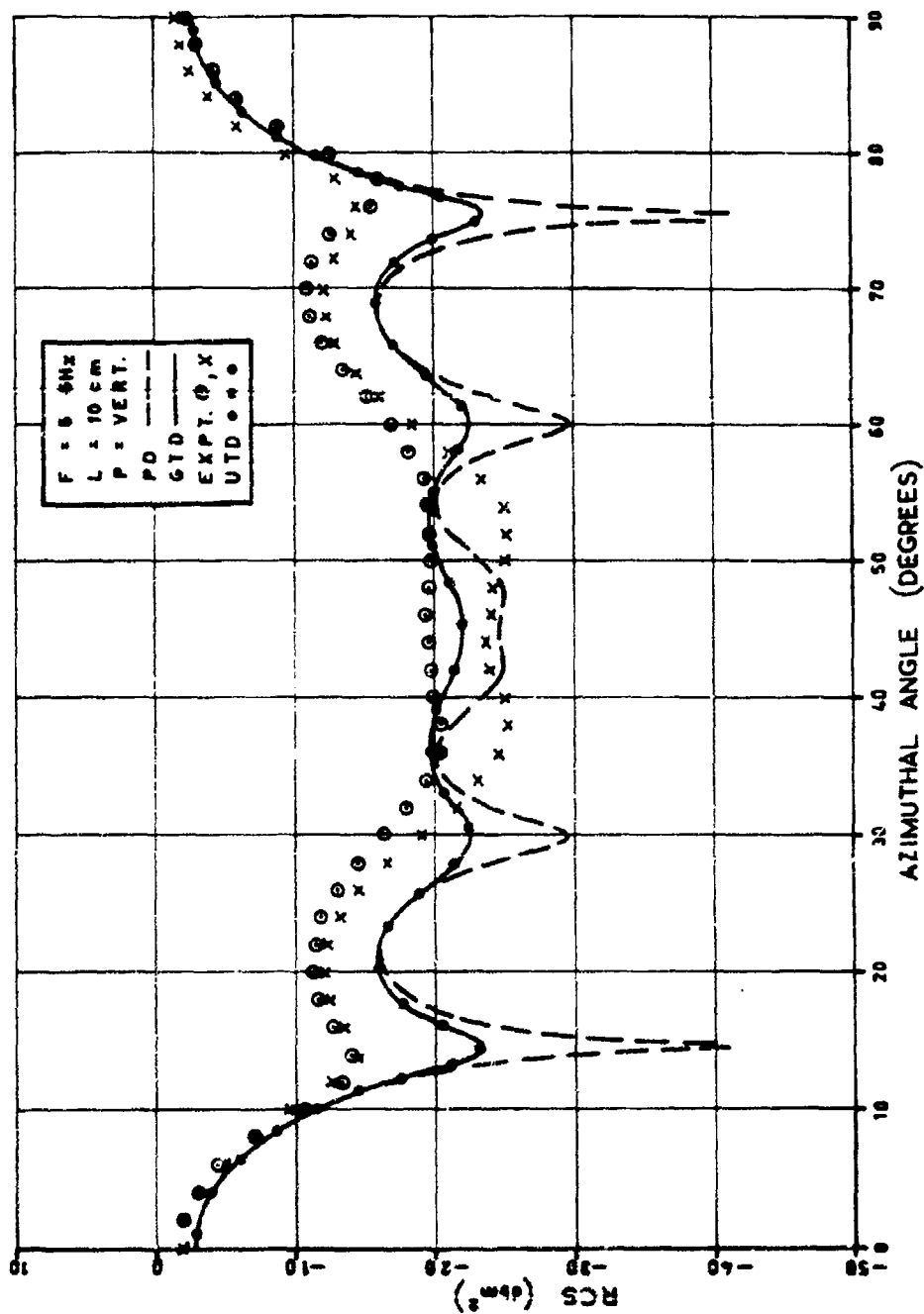
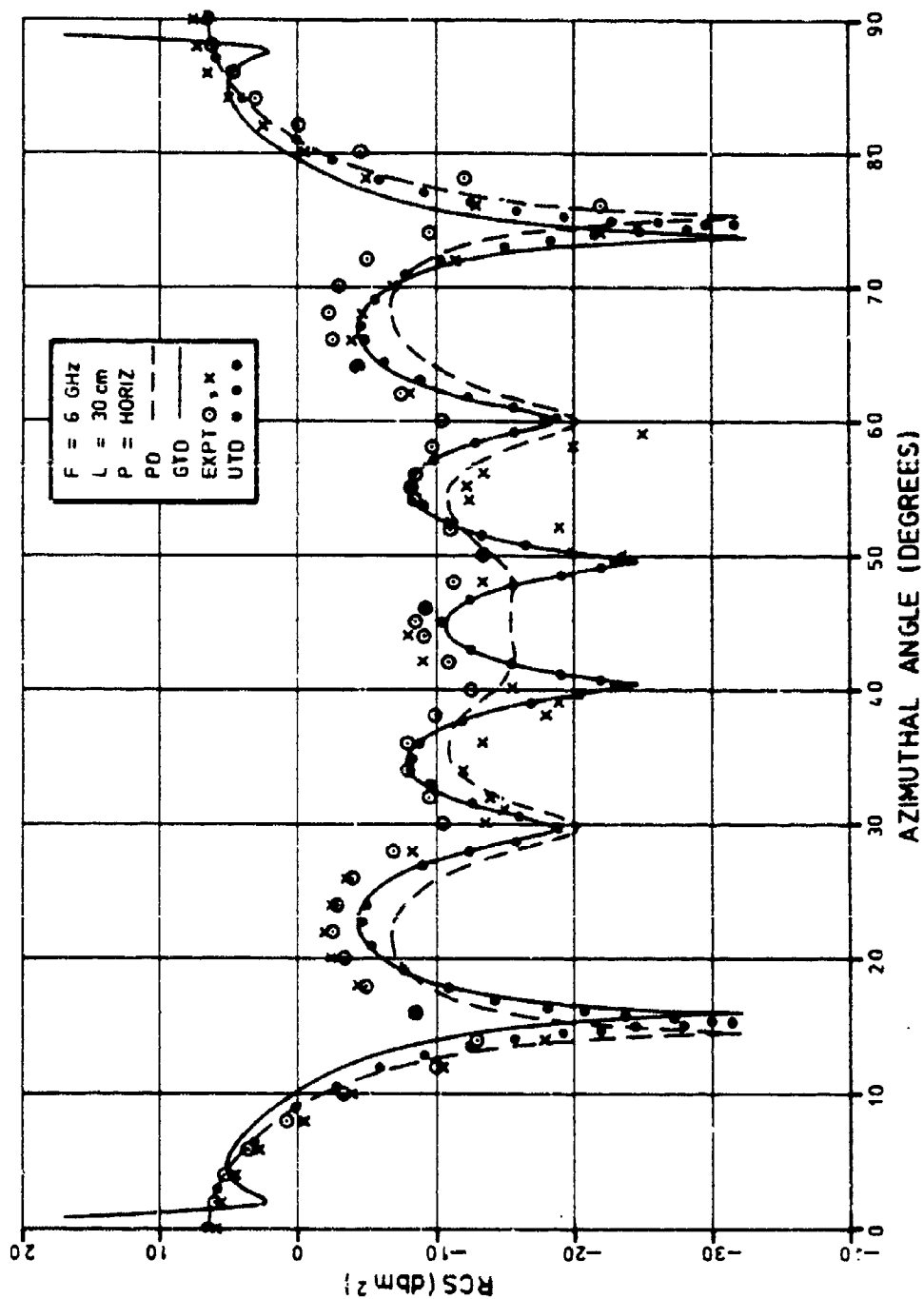Figure 22. RCS for 10 cm cylinder at 6 GHz (vertical polarisation)
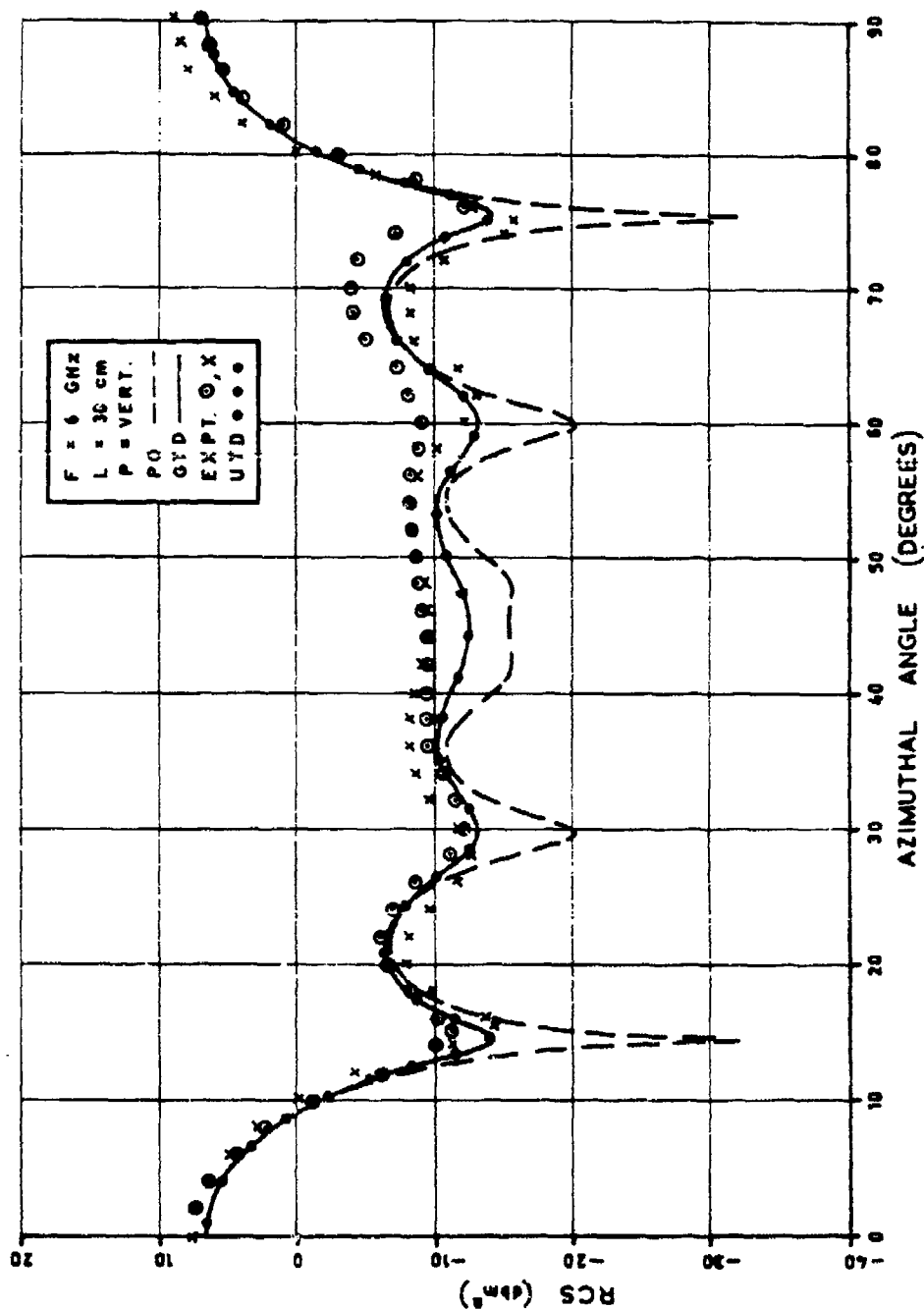
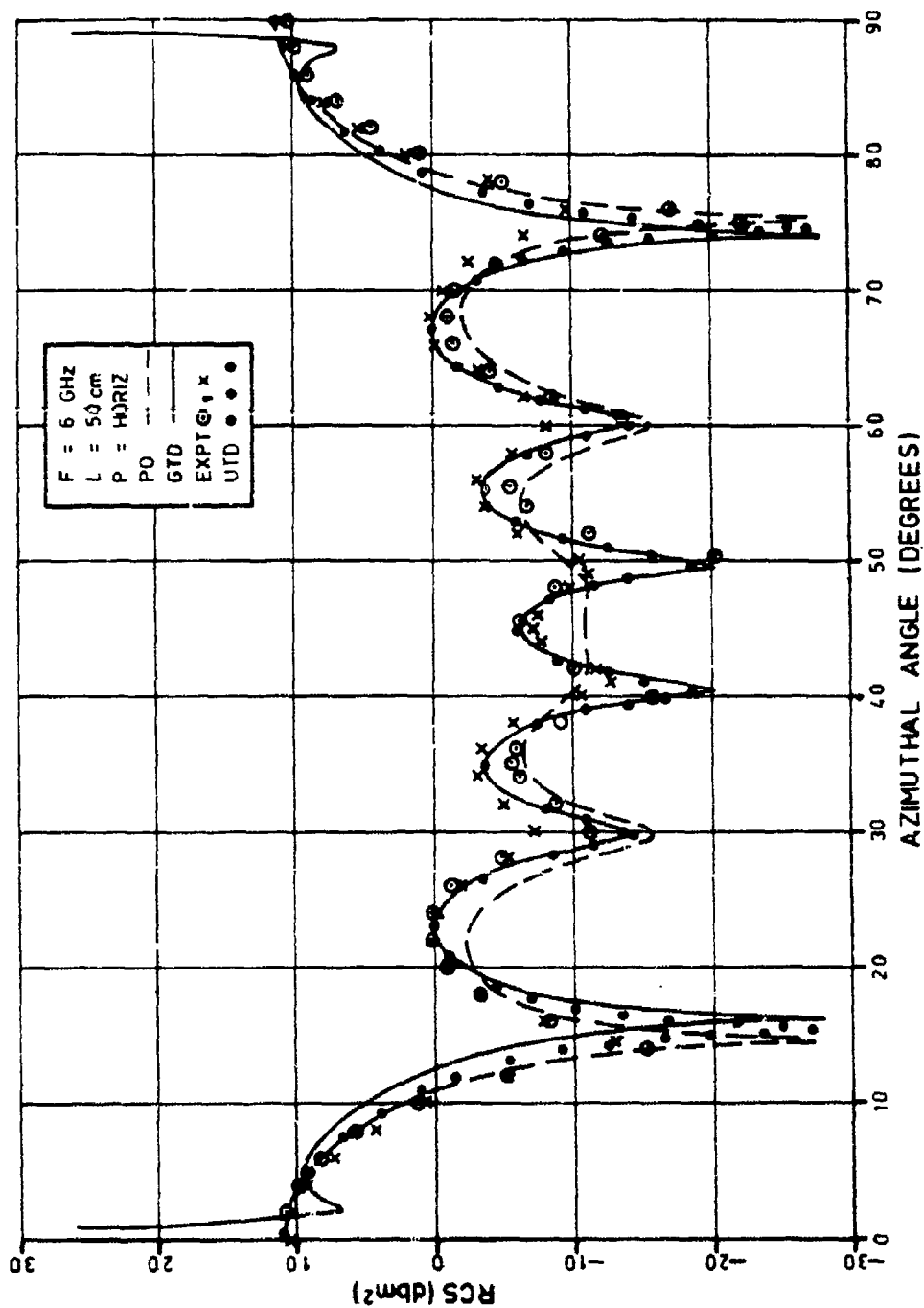Figure 23. RCS for 30 cm cylinder at 6 GHz (vertical polarisation)

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Figure 24
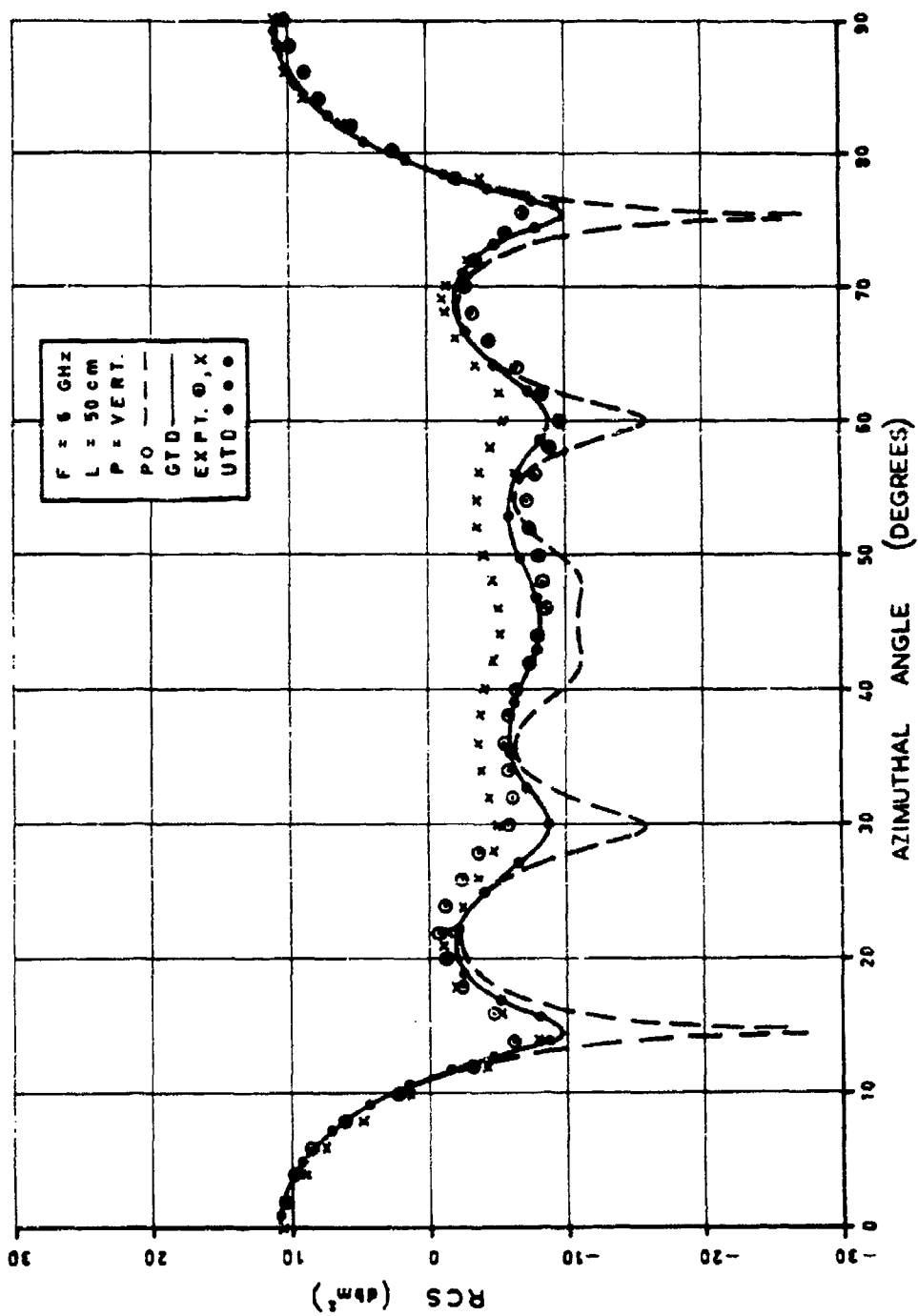
Figure 24. RCS for 50 cm cylinder at 6 GHz.(vertical polarisation)
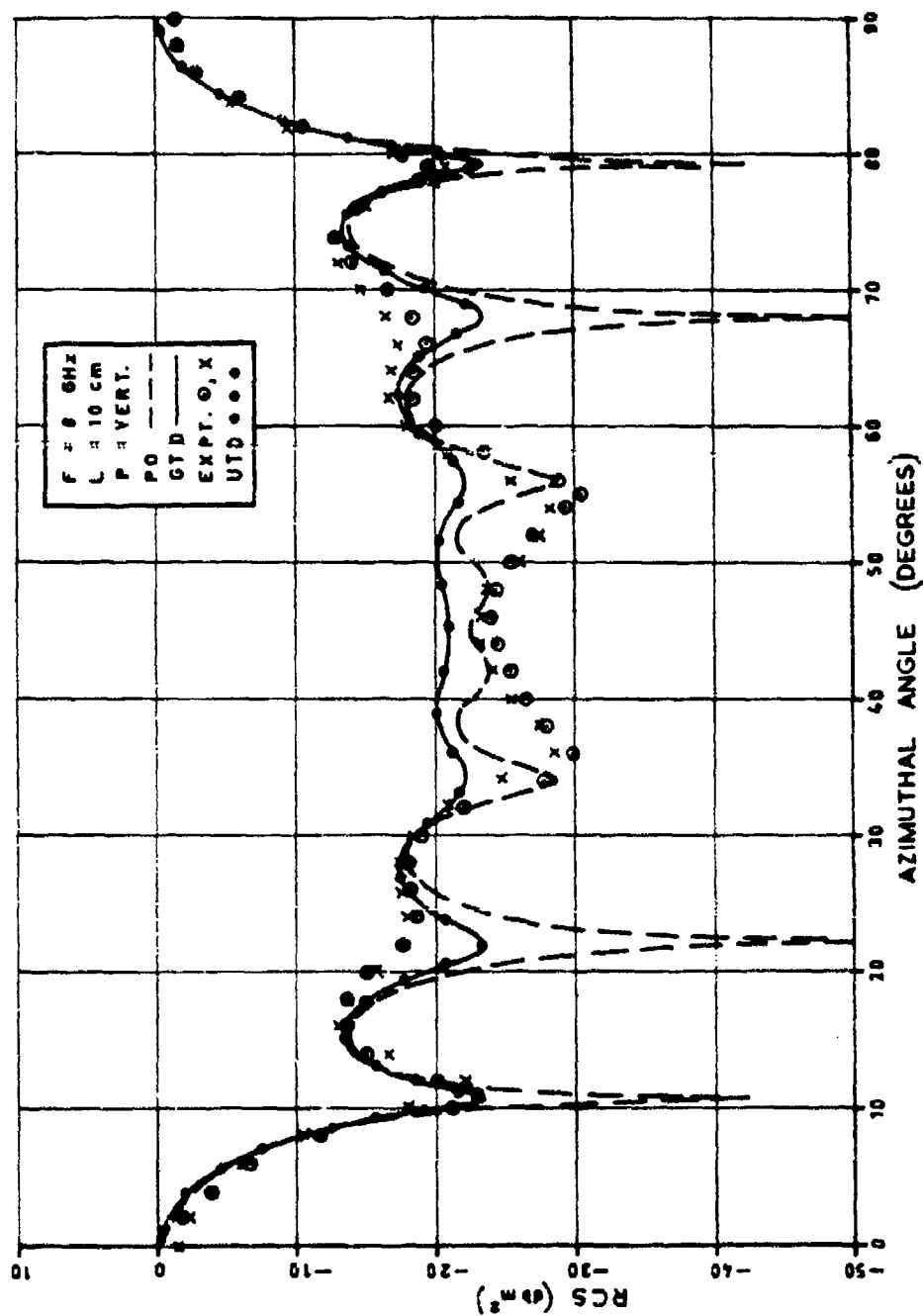
Figure 25. RCS for 10 cm cylinder at 8 GHz (vertical polarisation)

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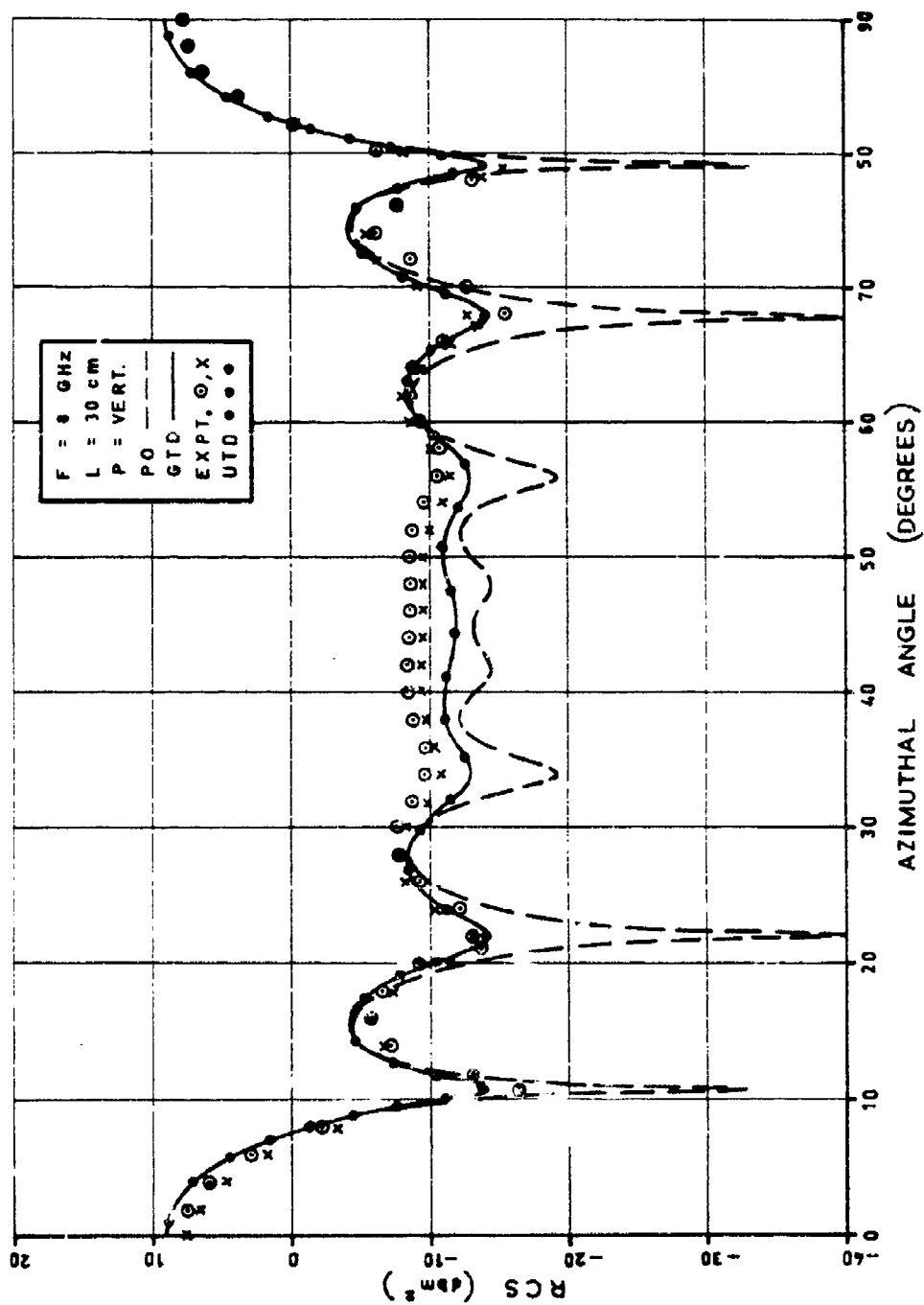
Figure 26. RCS for 30 cm cylinder at 8 GHz (vertical polarisation)
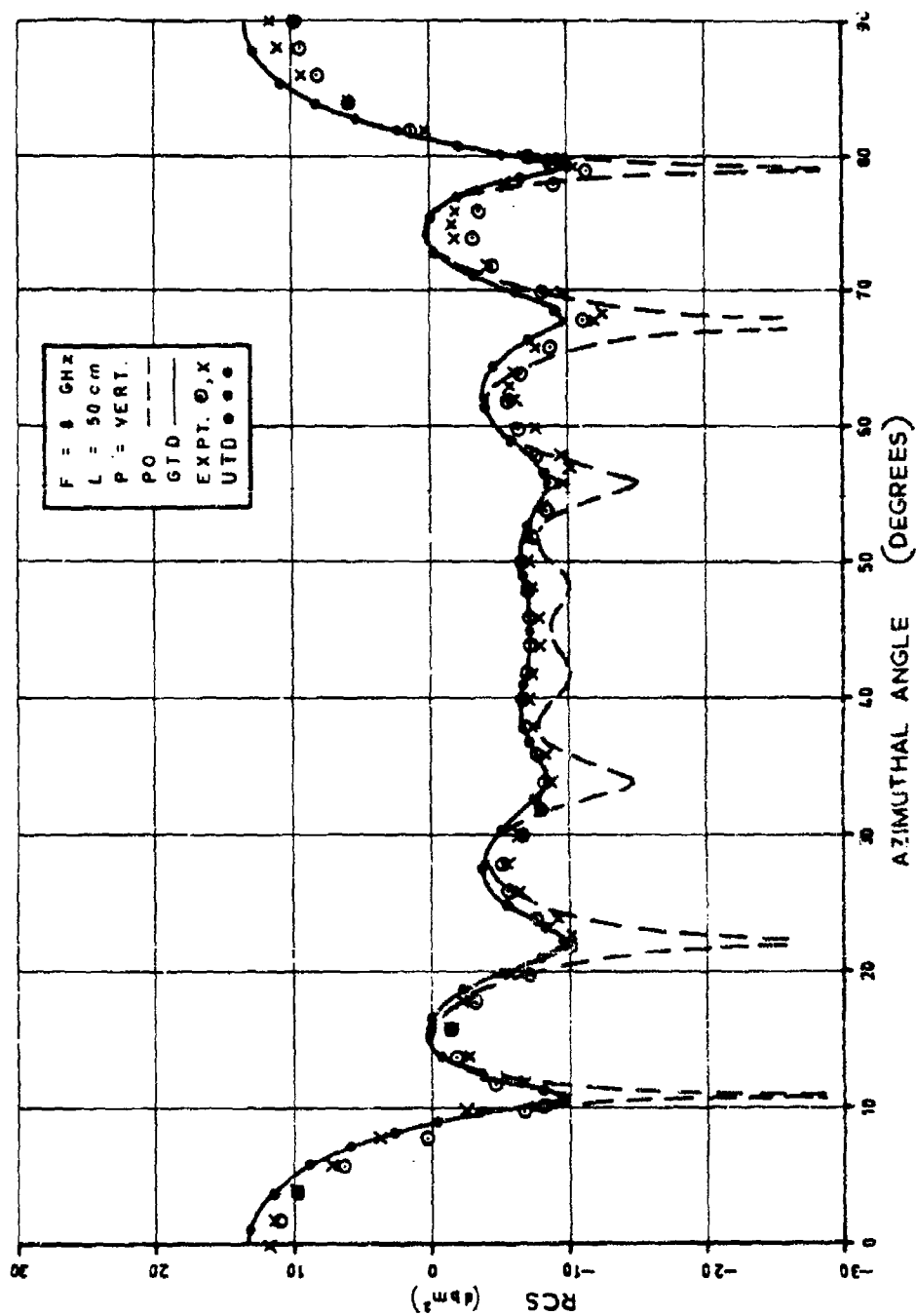
Figure 27. RCS for 50 cm cylinder at 8 GHz (vertical polarisation)
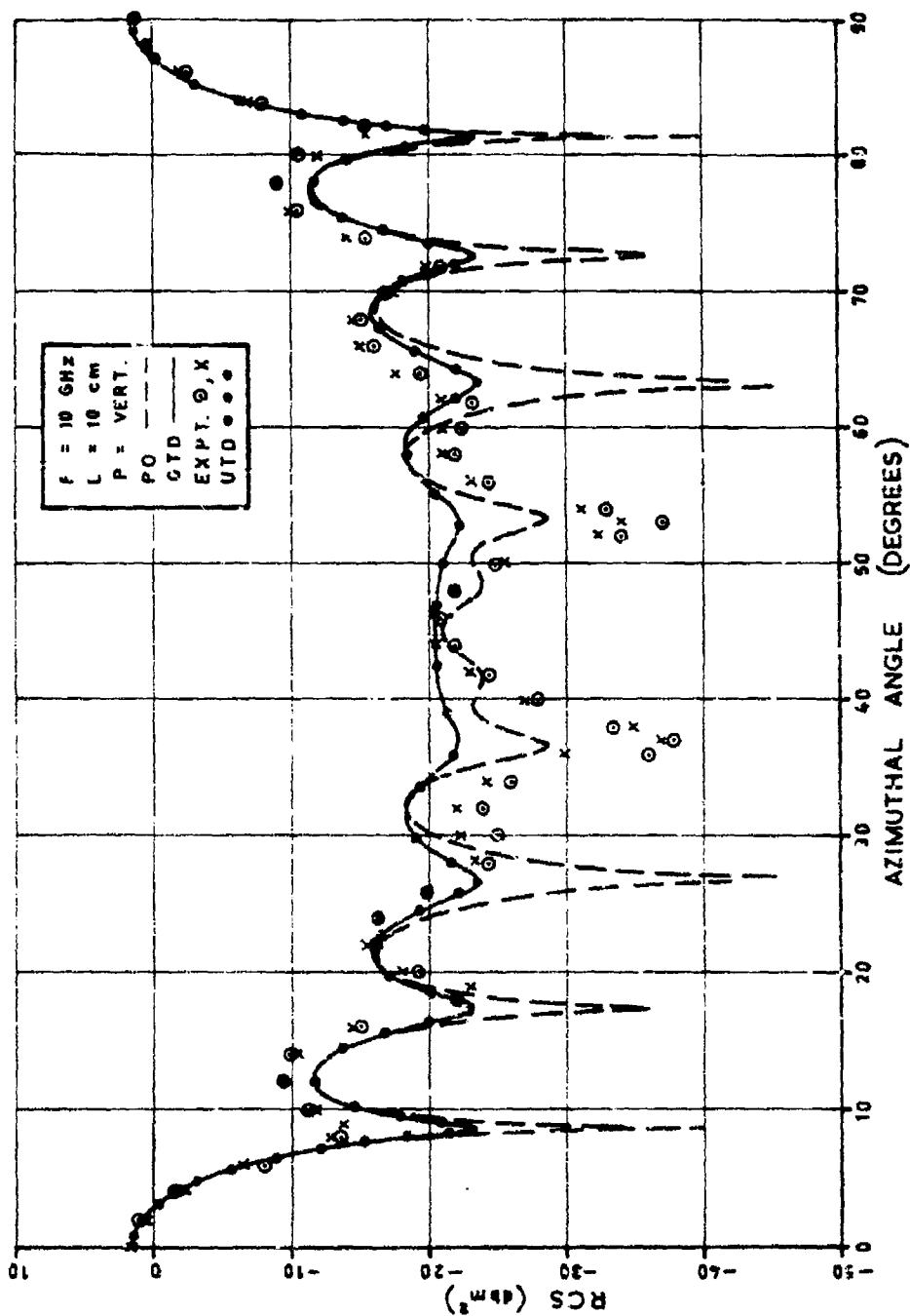
Figure 28.   RCS for 10 cm cylinder at 10 GHz (vertical polarisation)
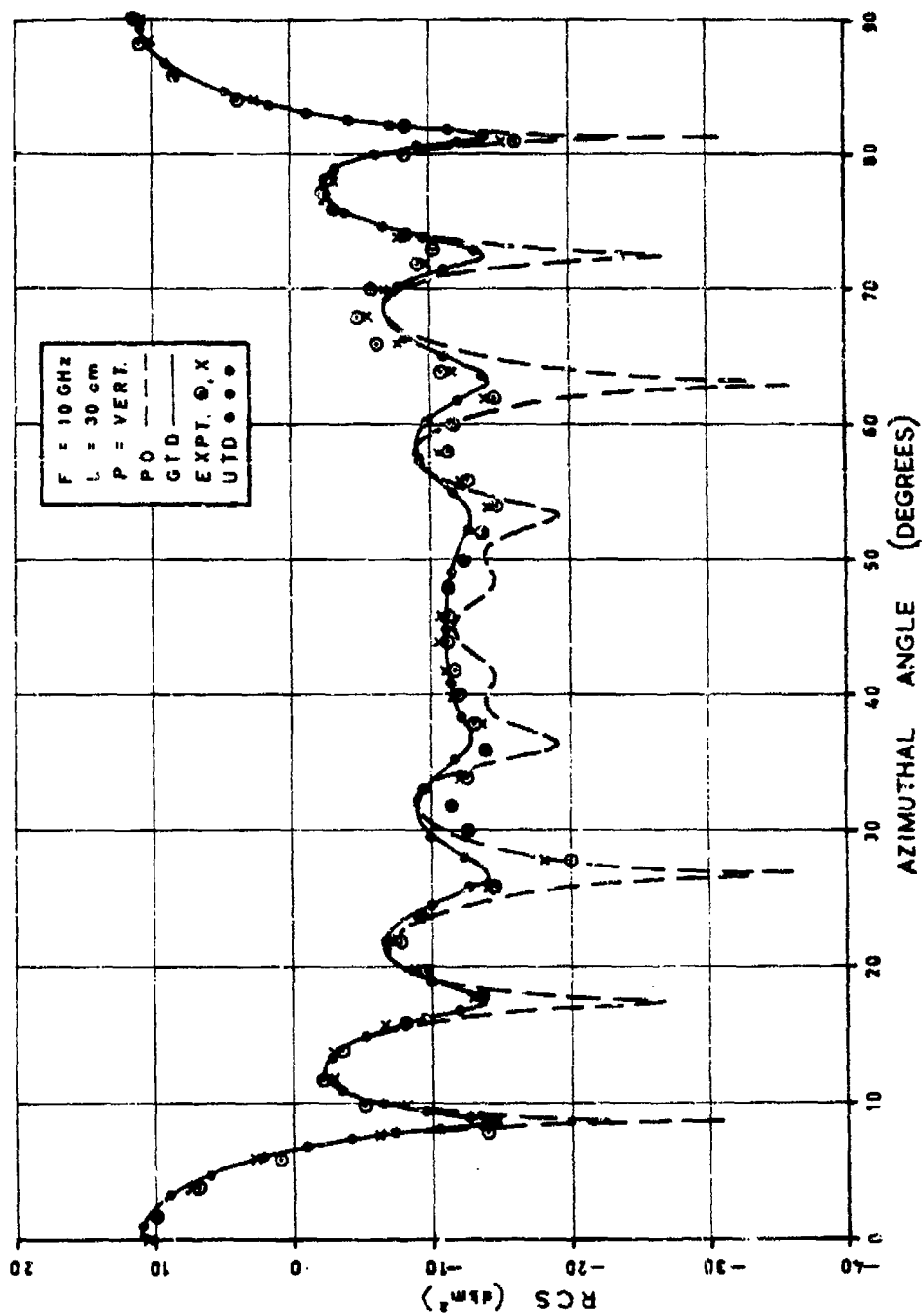
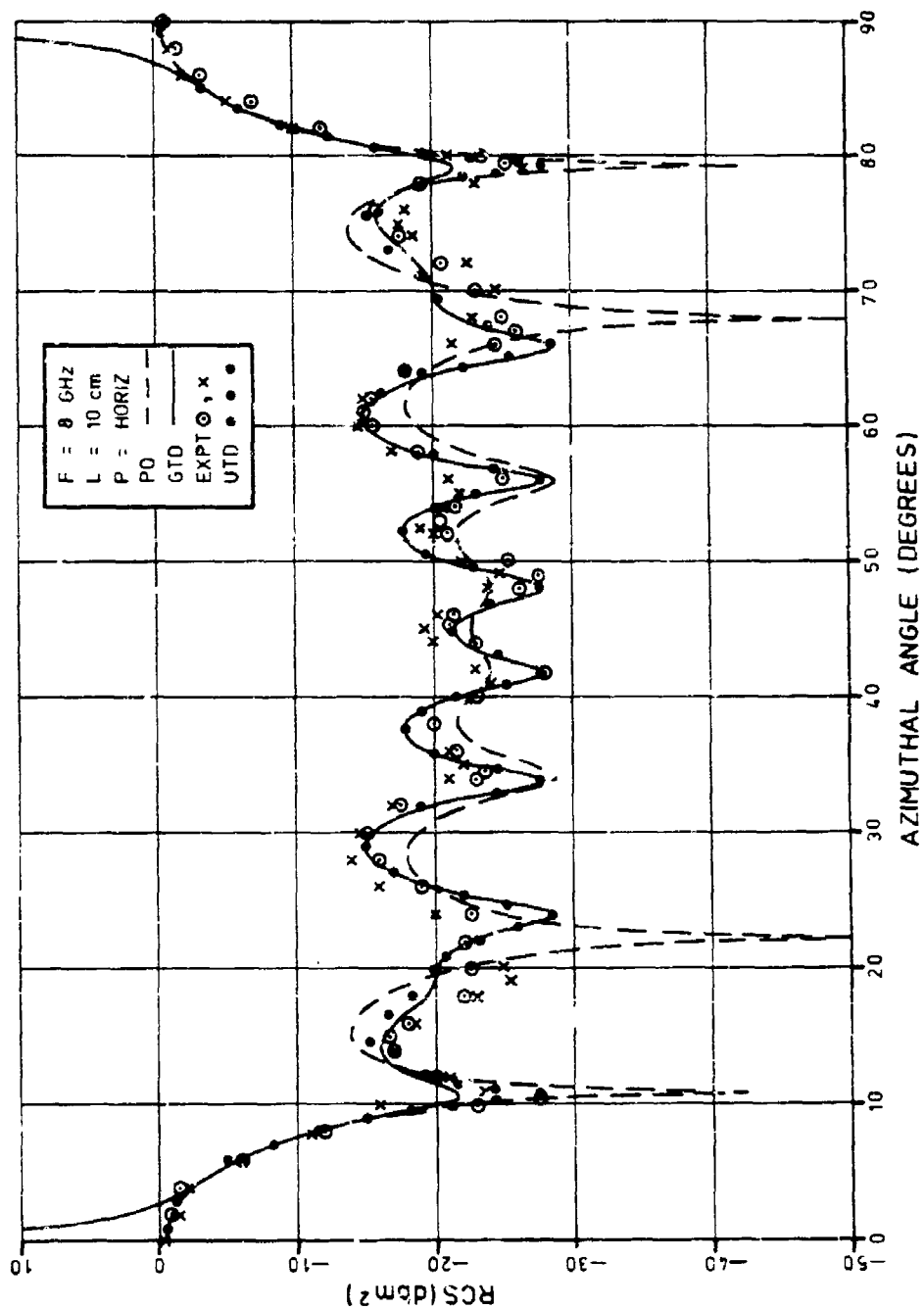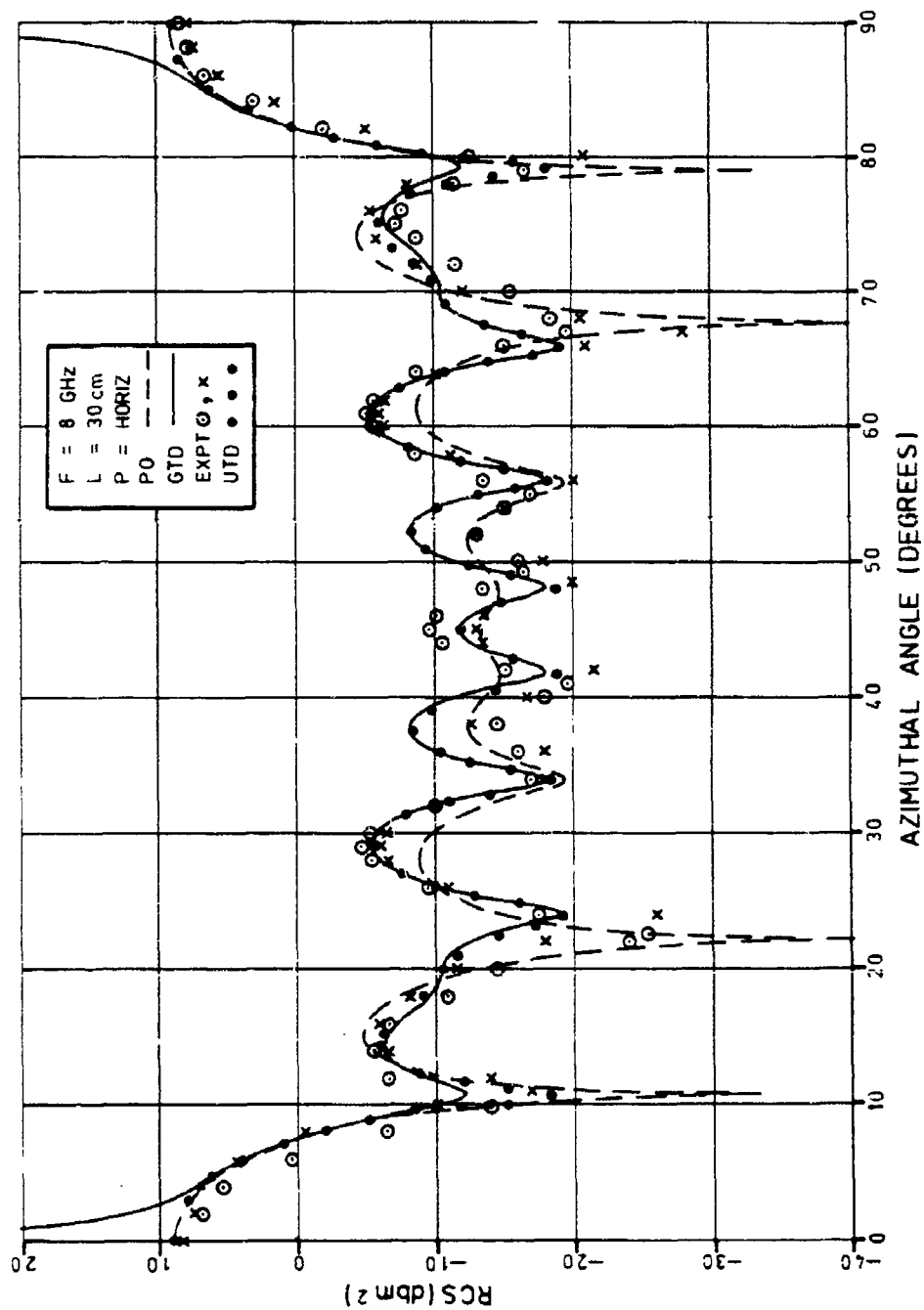Figure 29.   RCS for 30 cm cylinder at 10 GHz (vertical polarisation)
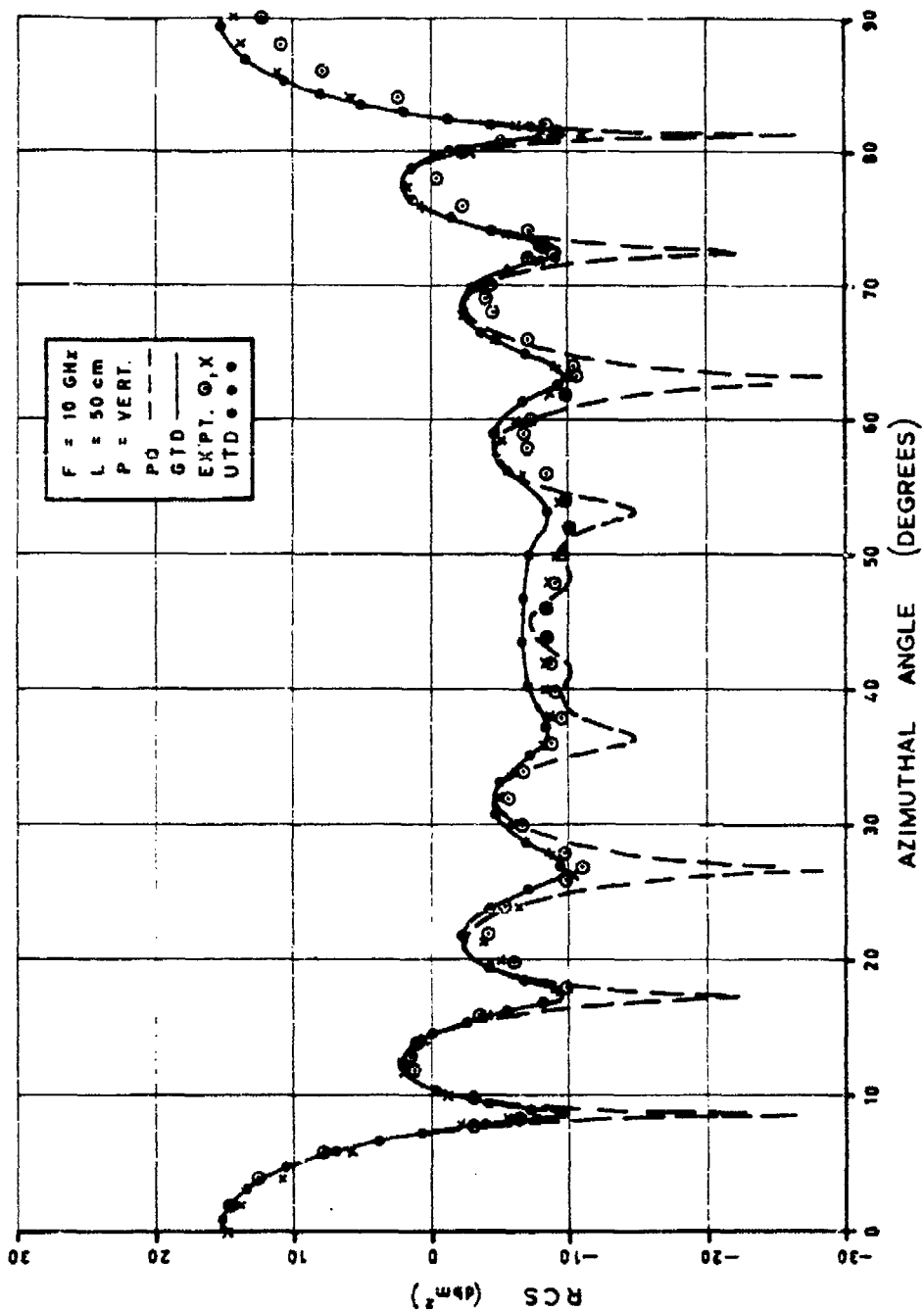
Figure 30. RCS for 50 cm cylinder at 10 GHz. (vertical polarisation)
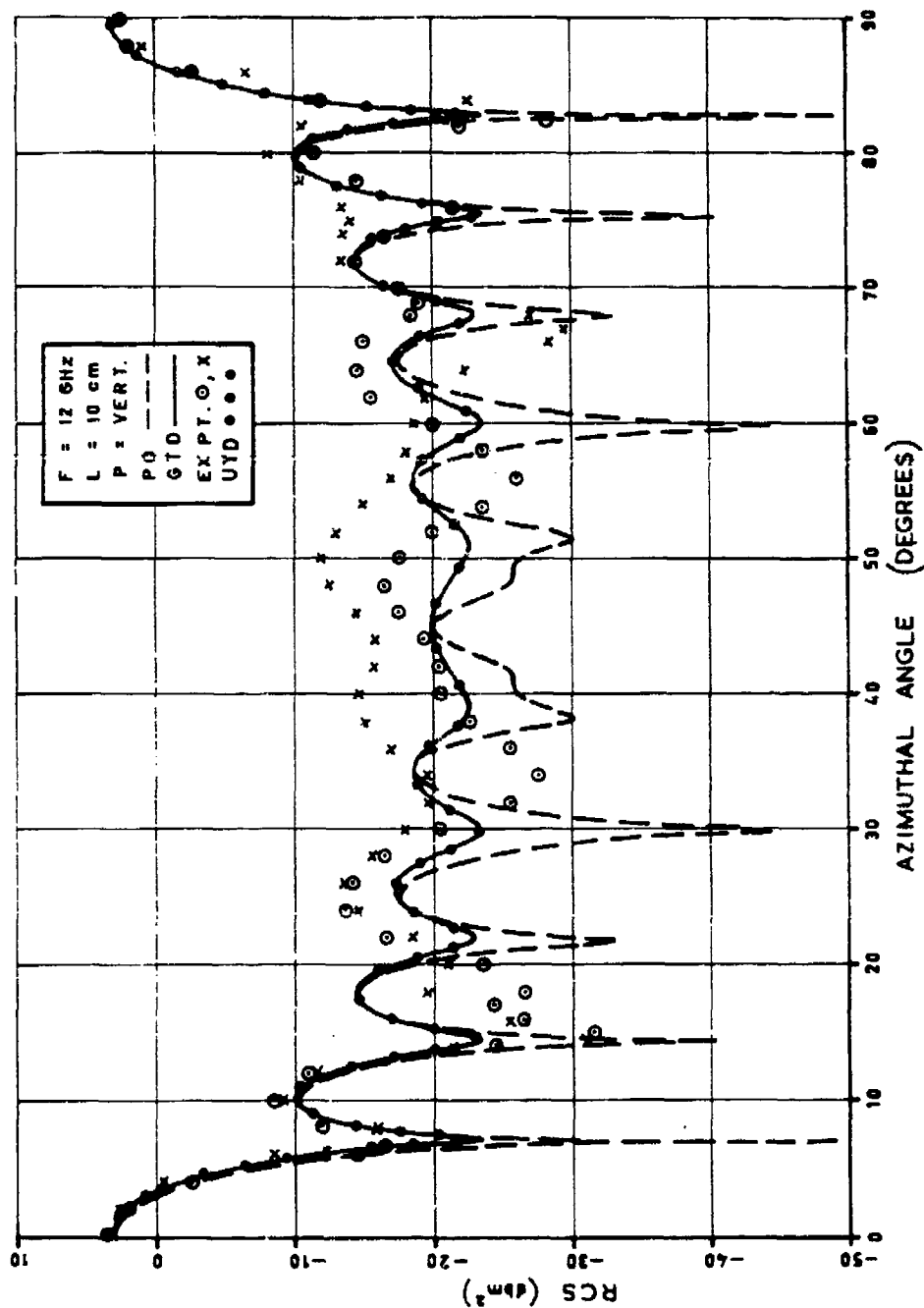
Figure 31. RCS for 10 cm cylinder at 12 GHz (vertical polarisation)
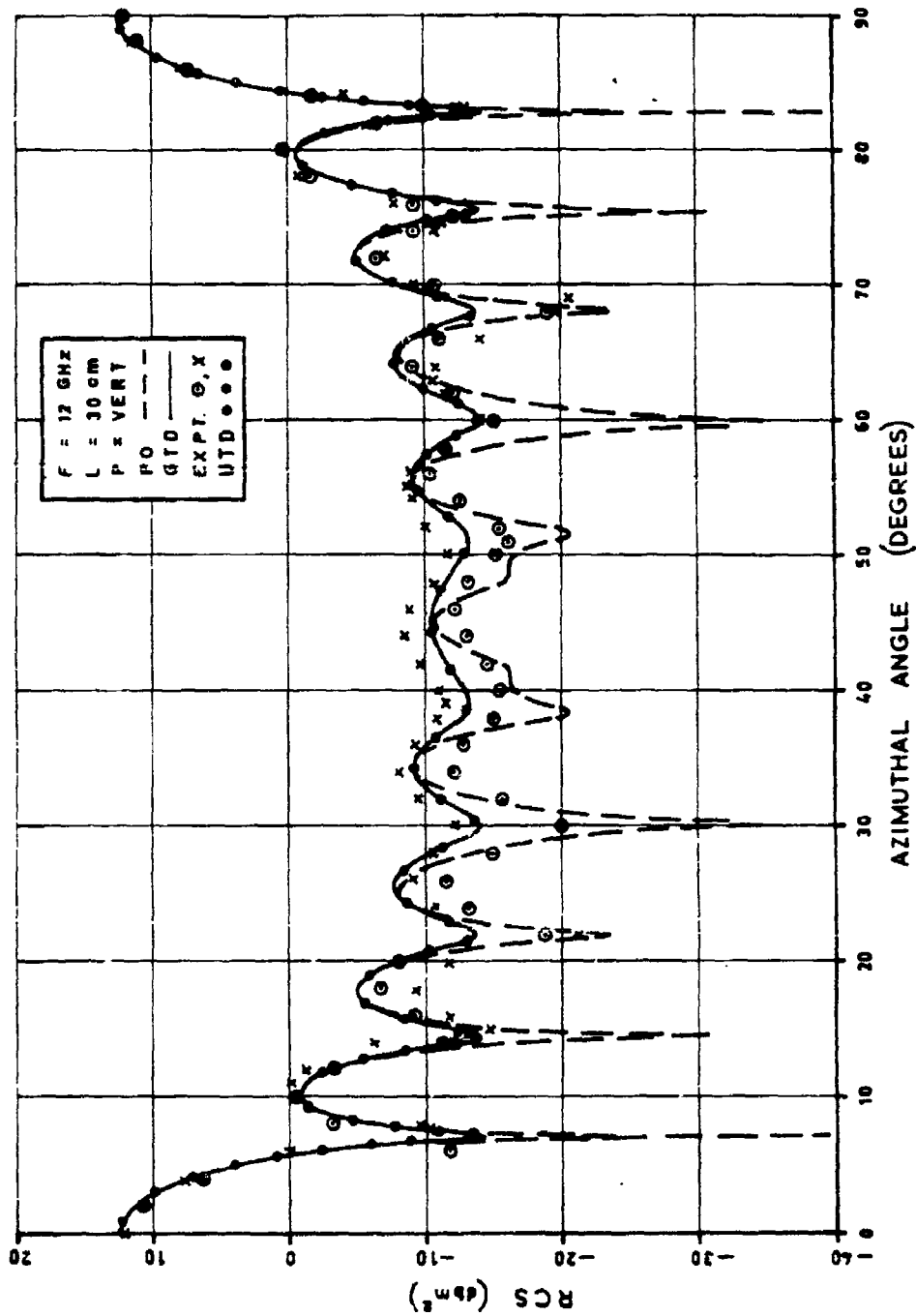
Figure 32. RCS for 30 cm cylinder at 12 GHz (vertical polarisation)
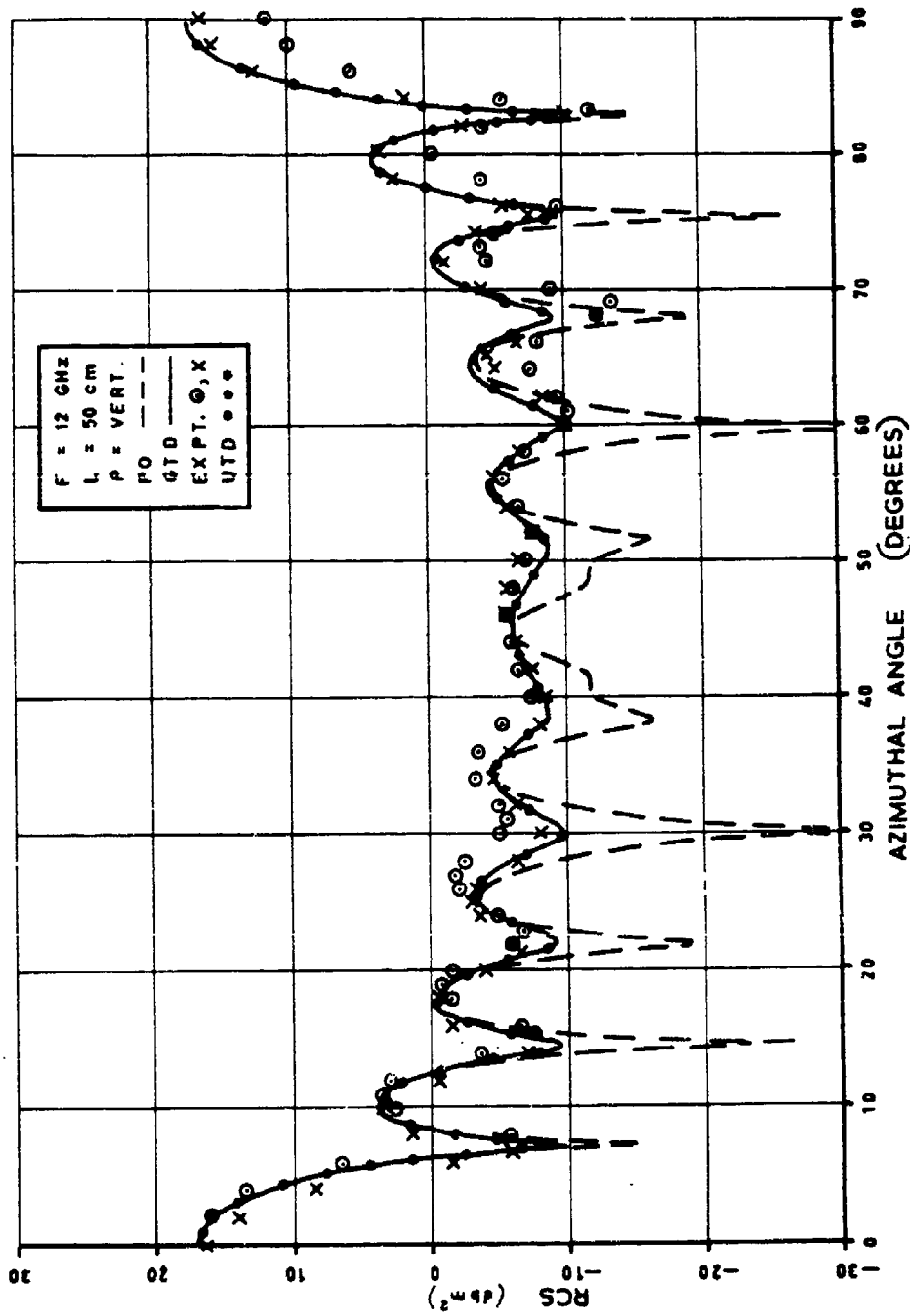
Figure 33. RCS for 50 cm cylinder at 12 GHz (vertical polarisation)
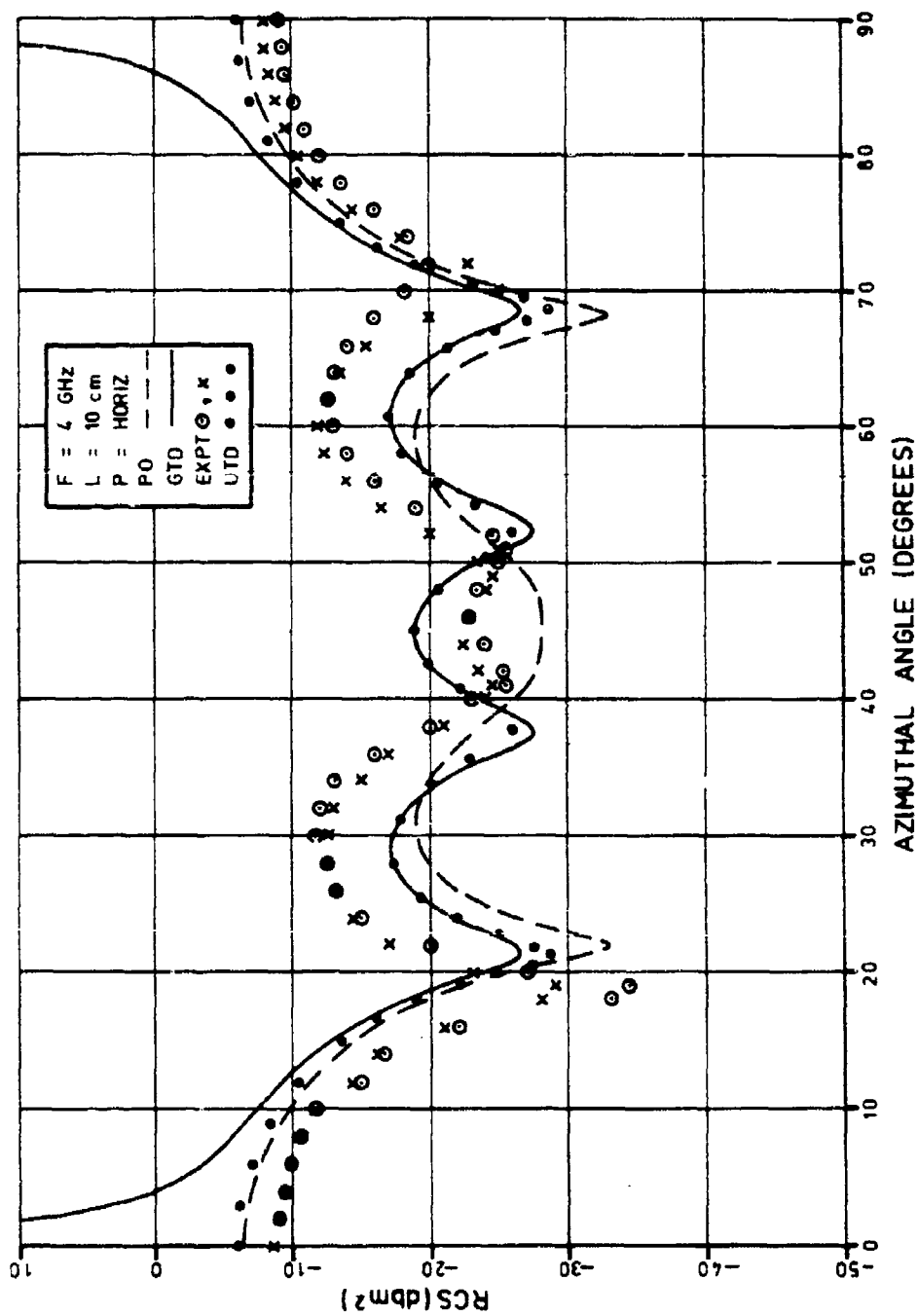
Figure 34. RCS for 10 cm cylinder at 4 GHz (horizontal polarisation)
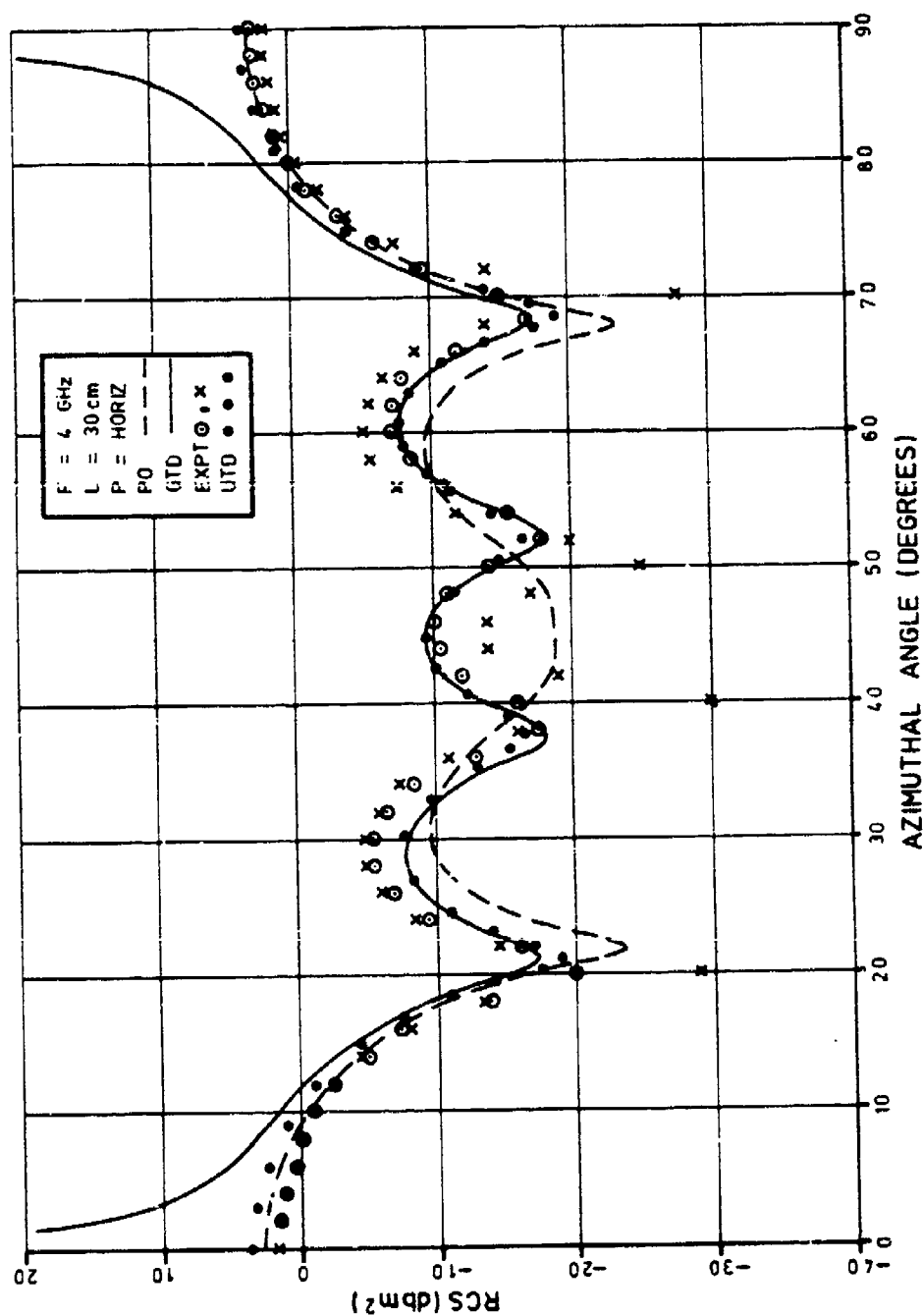
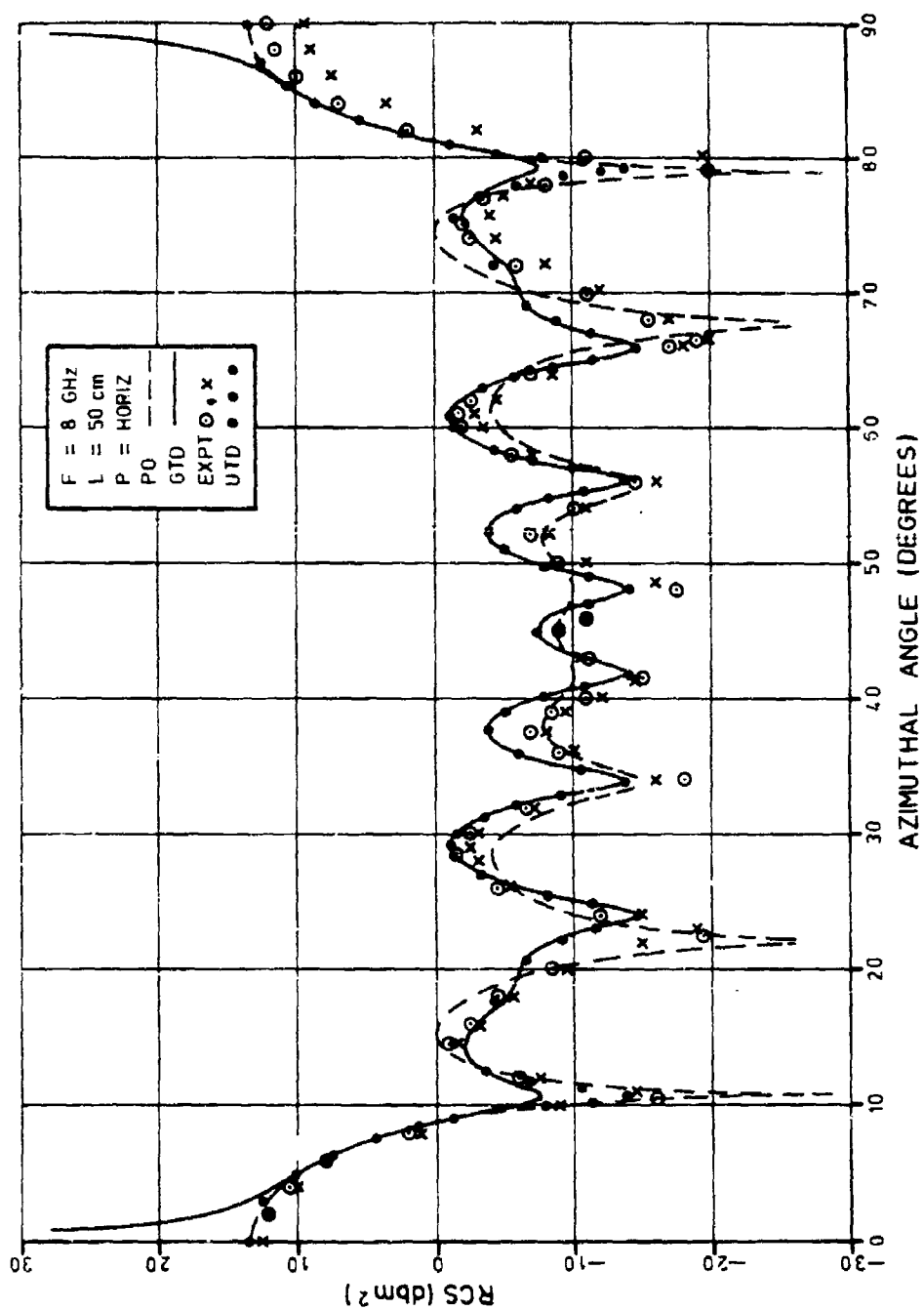Figure 35. RCS for 30 cm cylinder at 4 GHz (horizontal polarisation)
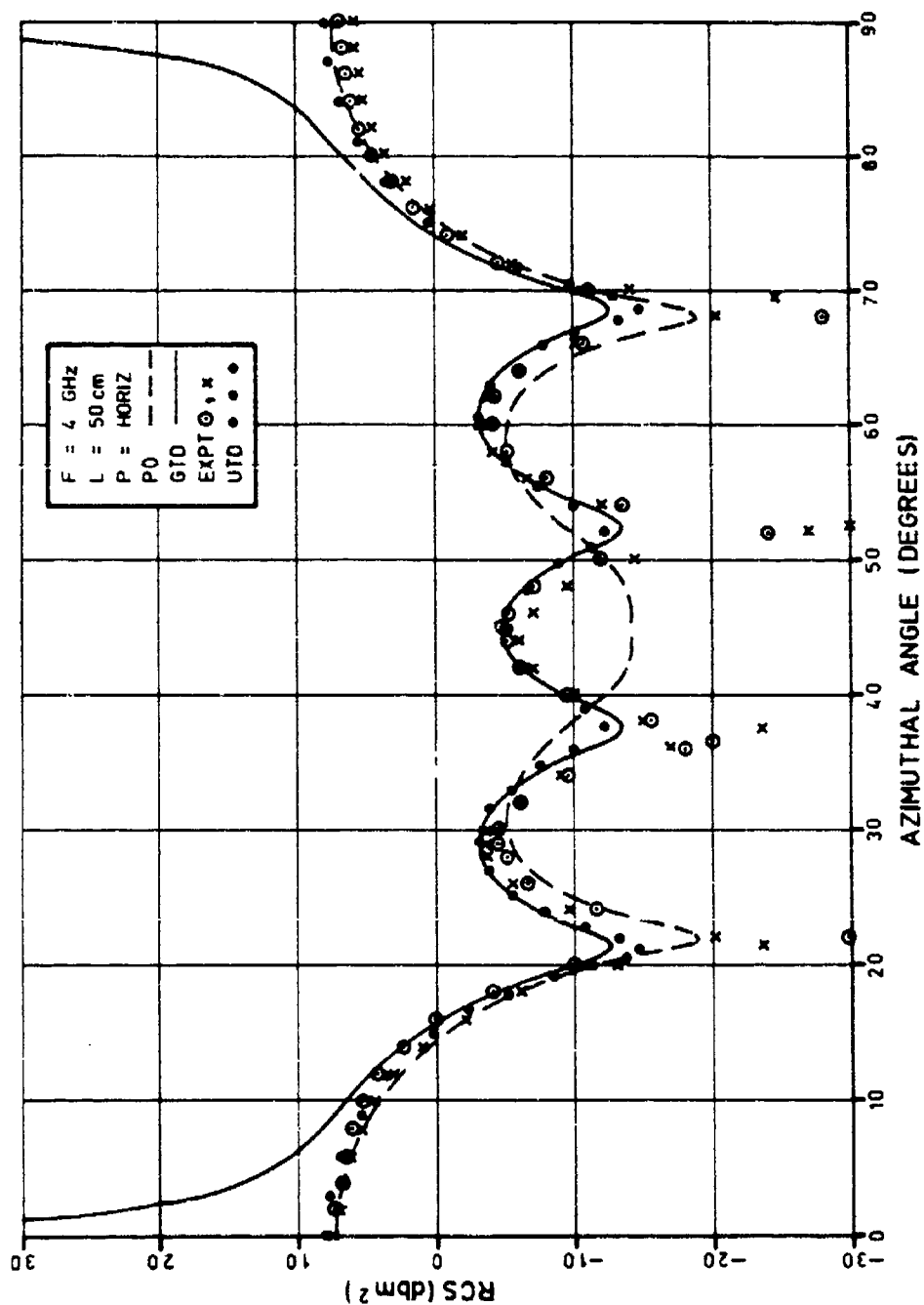
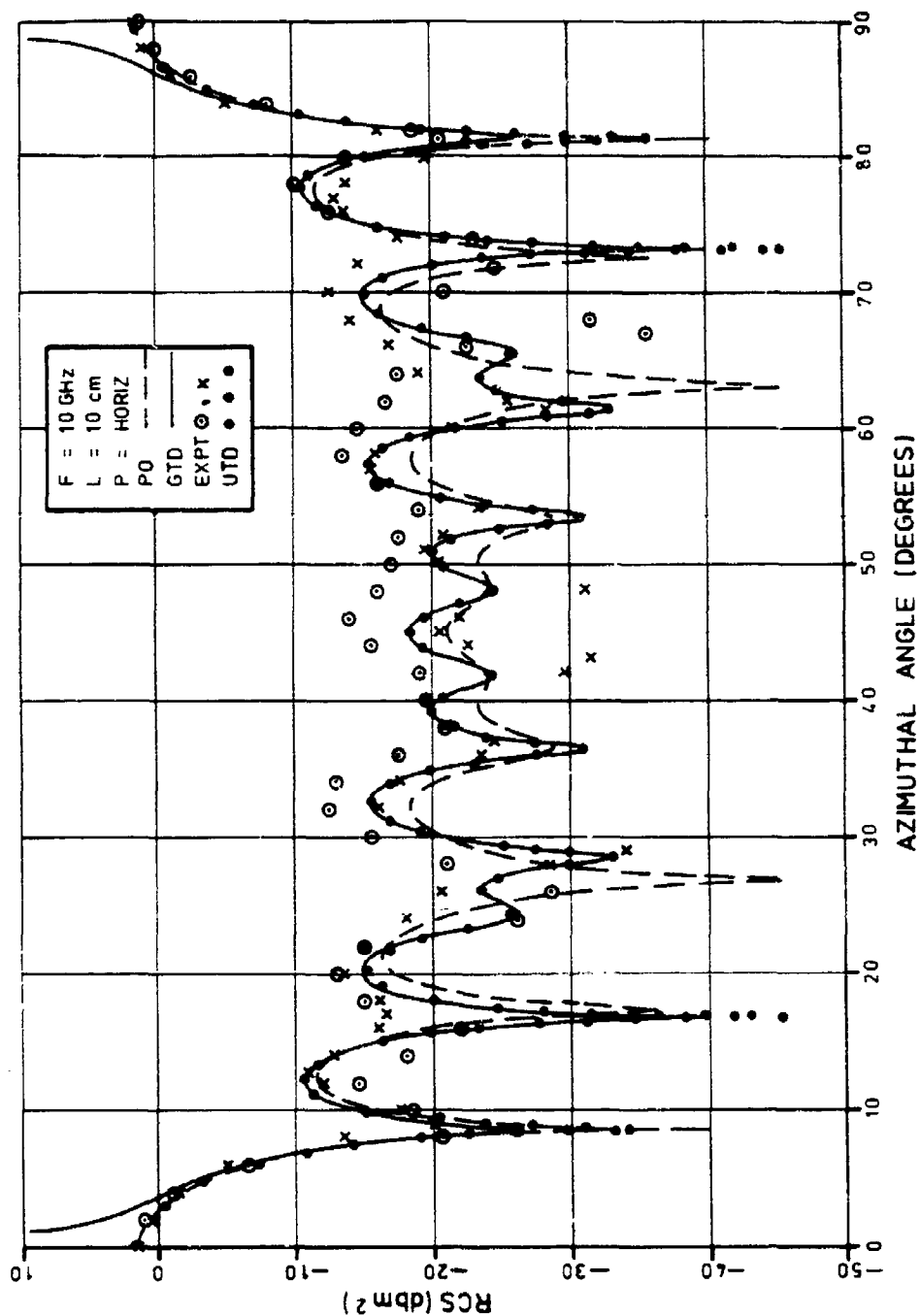Figure 36.   RCS for 50 cm cylinder at 4 GHz (horizontal polarisation)

Figure 37. RCS for 10 cm cylinder at 6 GHz (horizontal polarisation)

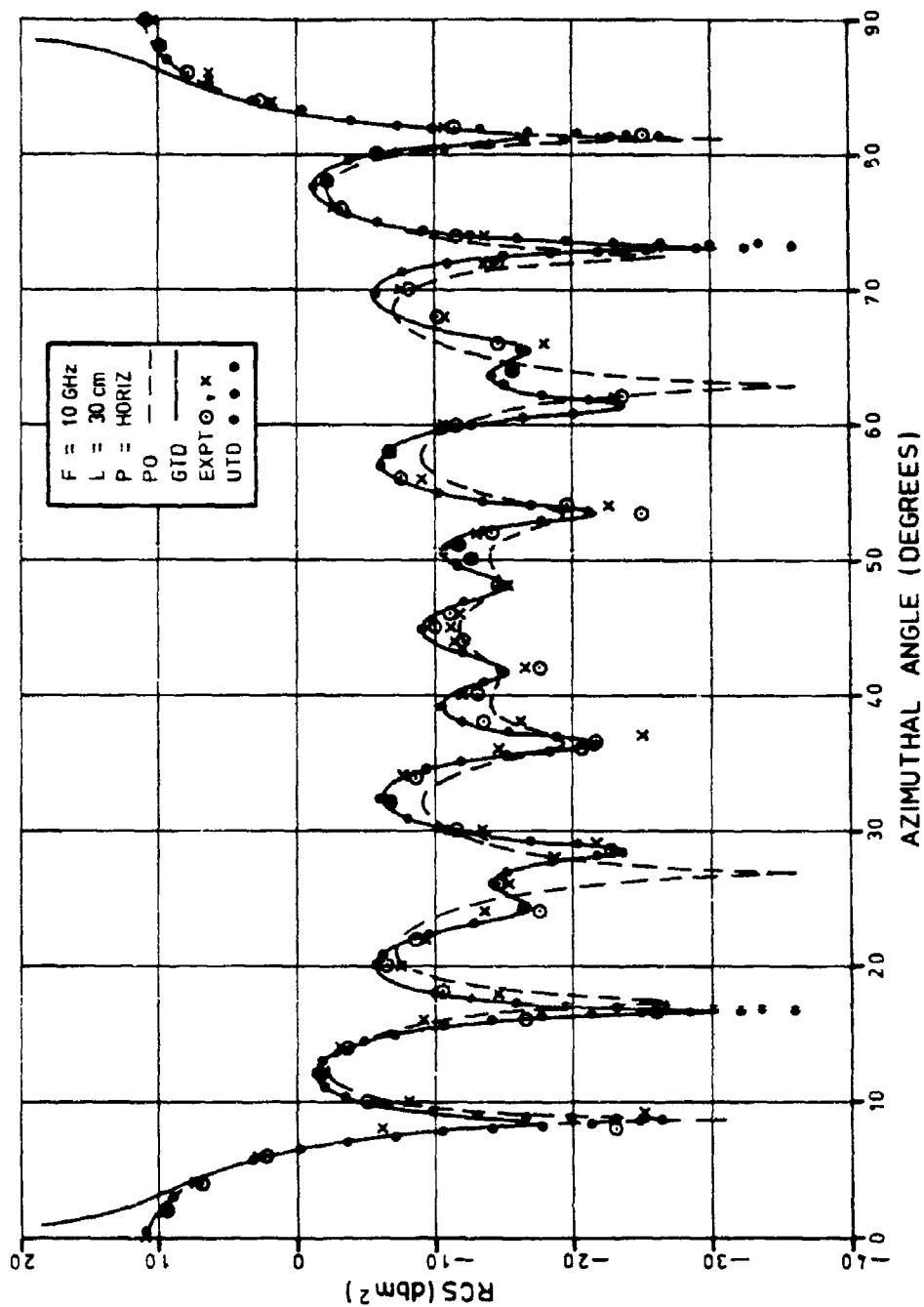Figure 38. RCS for 30 cm cylinder at 6 GHz (horizontal polarisation)

Figure 39. RCS for 50 cm cylinder at 6 GHz (horizontal polarisation)

Figure 40. RCS for 10 cm cylinder at 8 GHz (horizontal polarisation)

Figure 41.   RCS for 30 cm cylinder at 8 GHz (horizontal polarisation)

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Figure 42

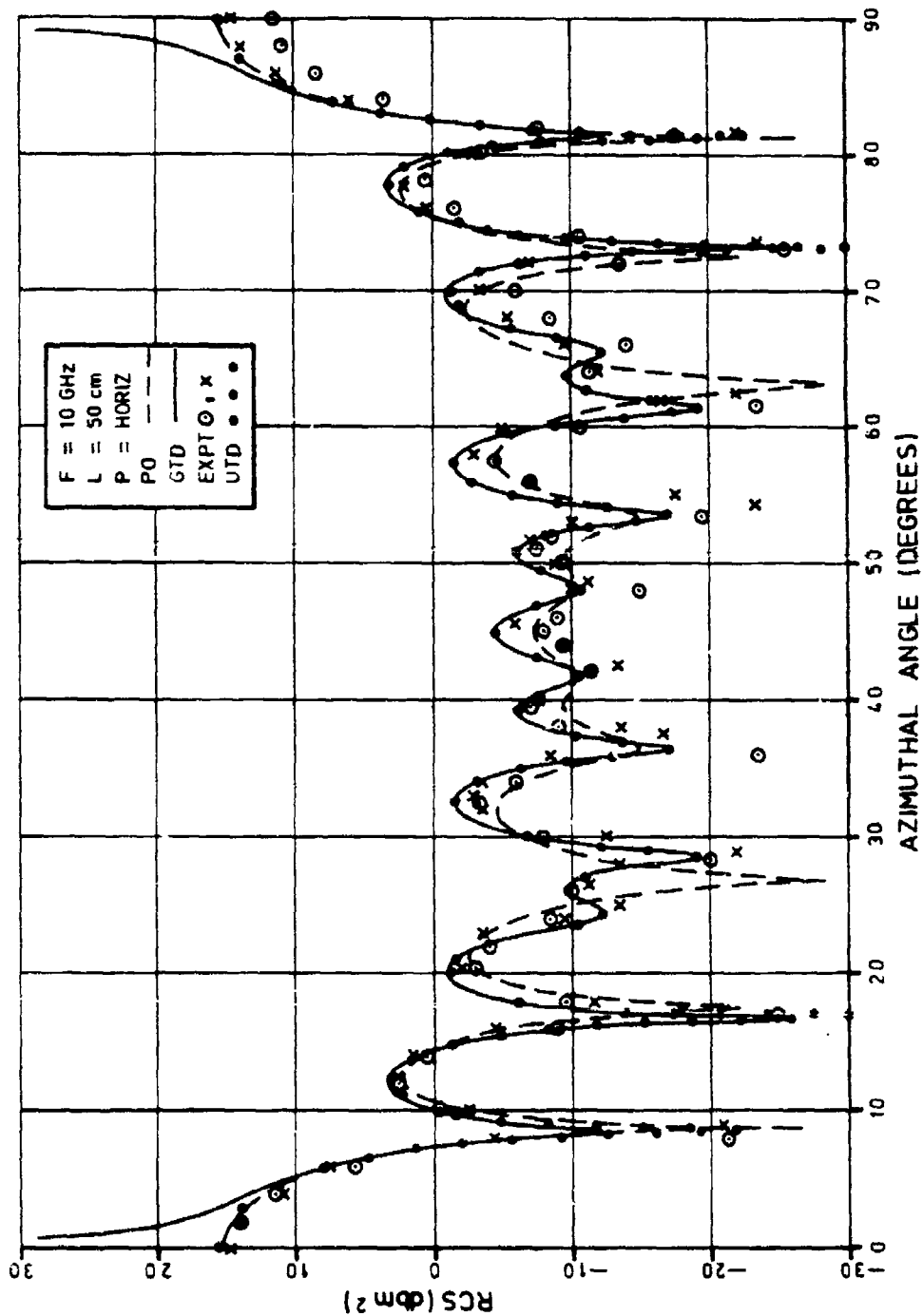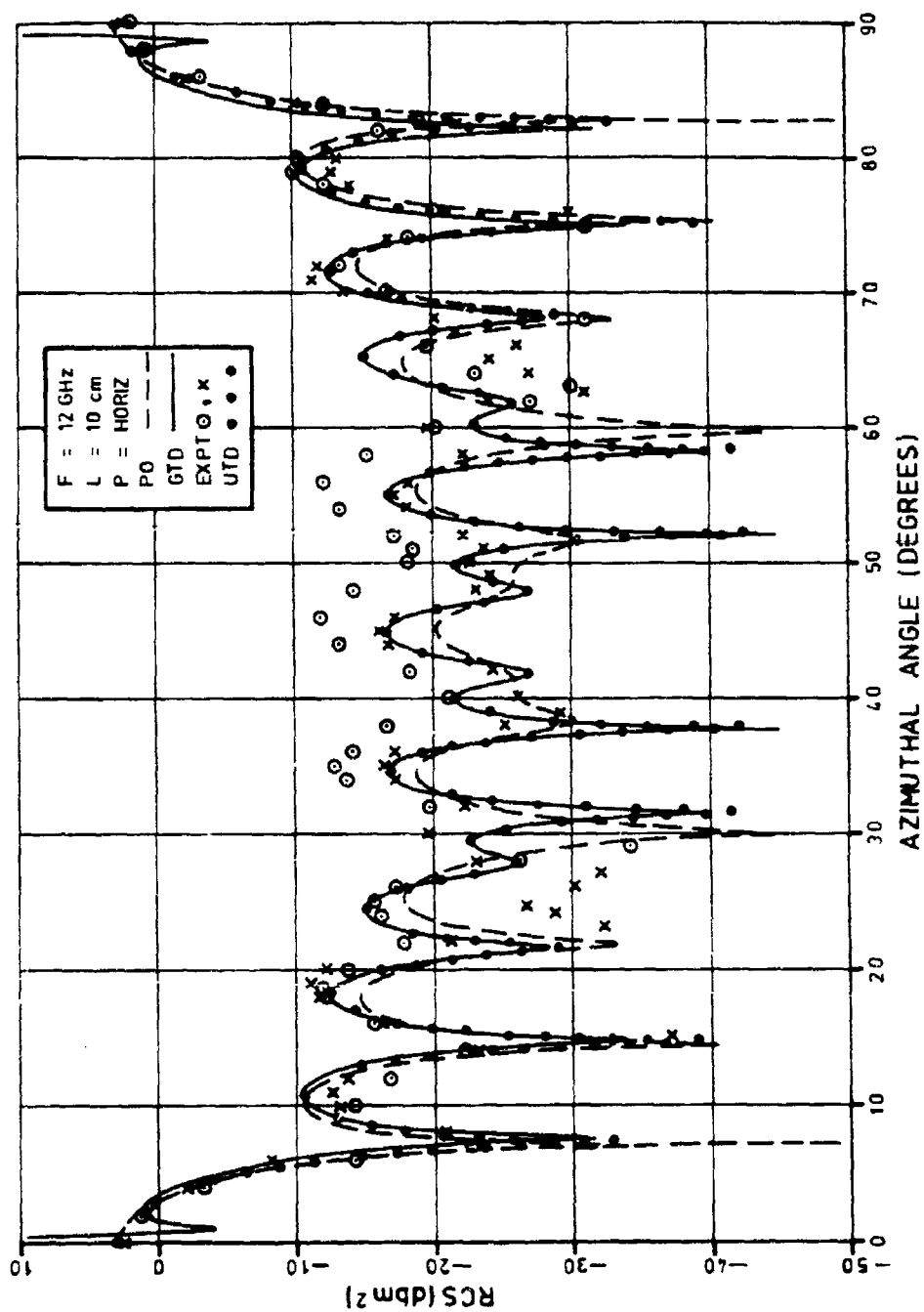Figure 42. RCS for 50 cm cylinder at 8 GHz (horizontal polarisation)

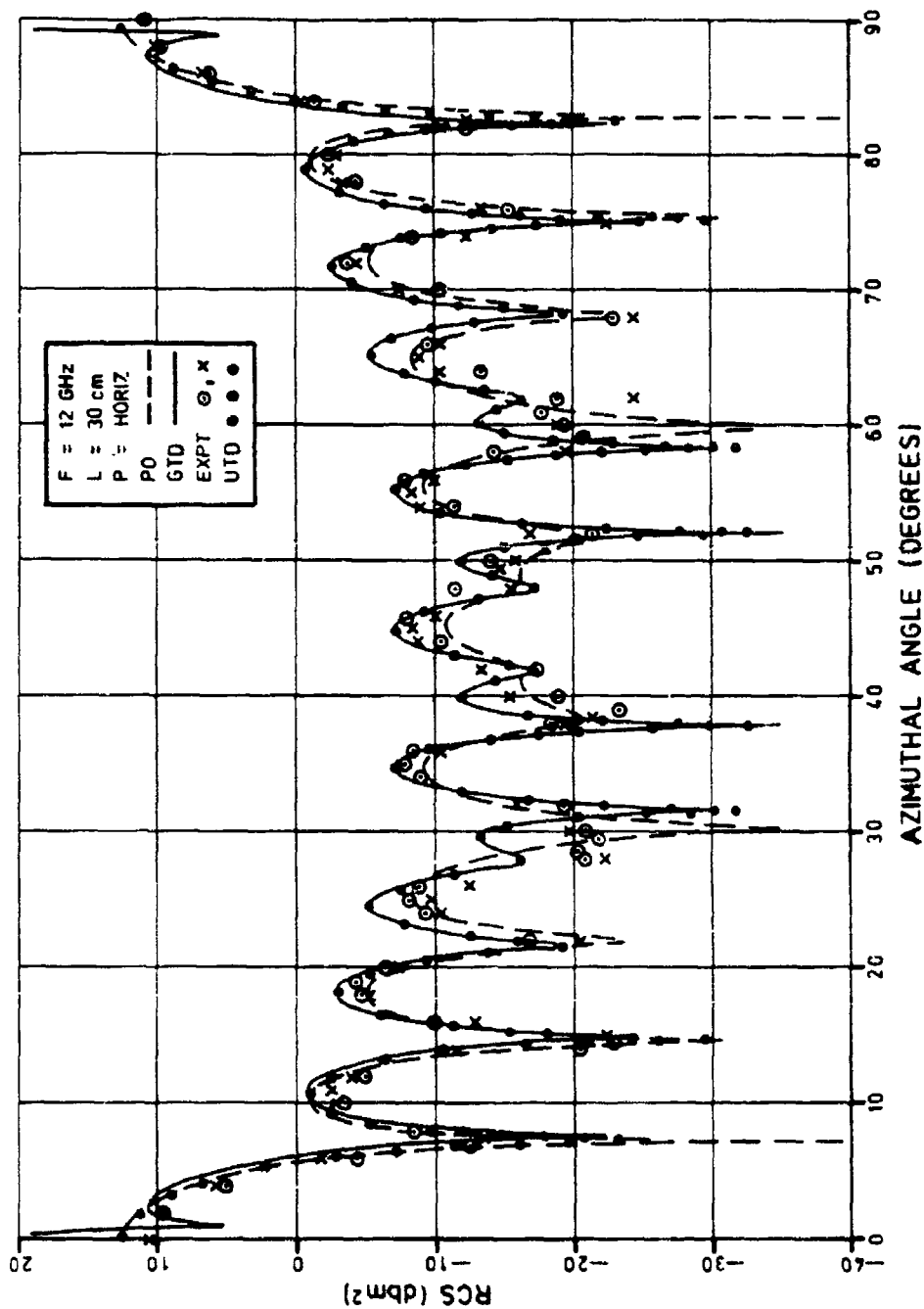Figure 43. RCS for 10 cm cylinder at 10 GHz (horizontal polarisation)

Figure 44.   RCS for 30 cm cylinder at 10 GHz (horizontal polarisation)

Figure 45. RCS for 50 cm cylinder at 10 GHz (horizontal polarisation)

Figure 46. RCS for 10 cm cylinder at 12 GHz (horizontal polarisation)

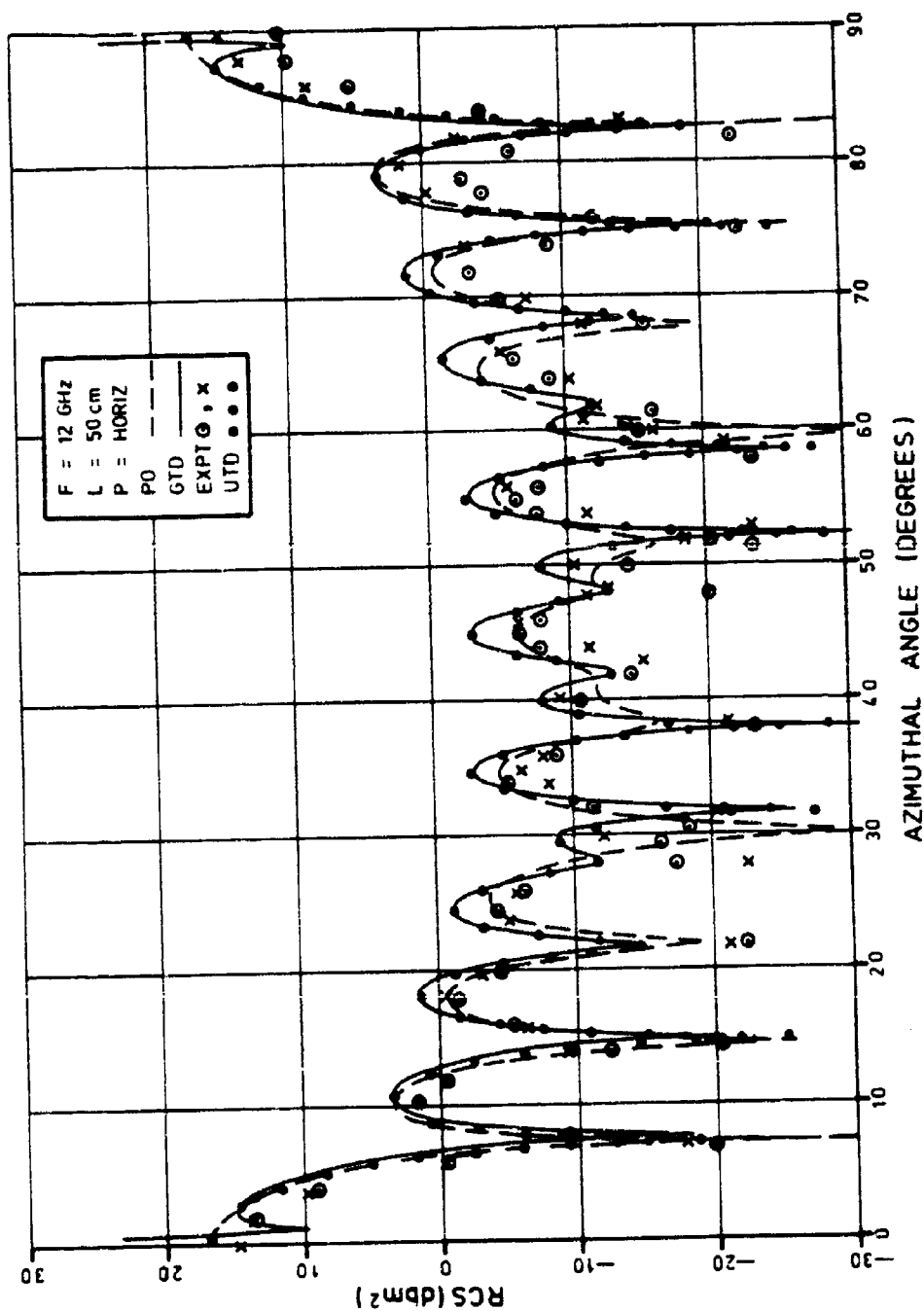Figure 47. RCS for 30 cm cylinder at 12 GHz (horizontal polarisation)

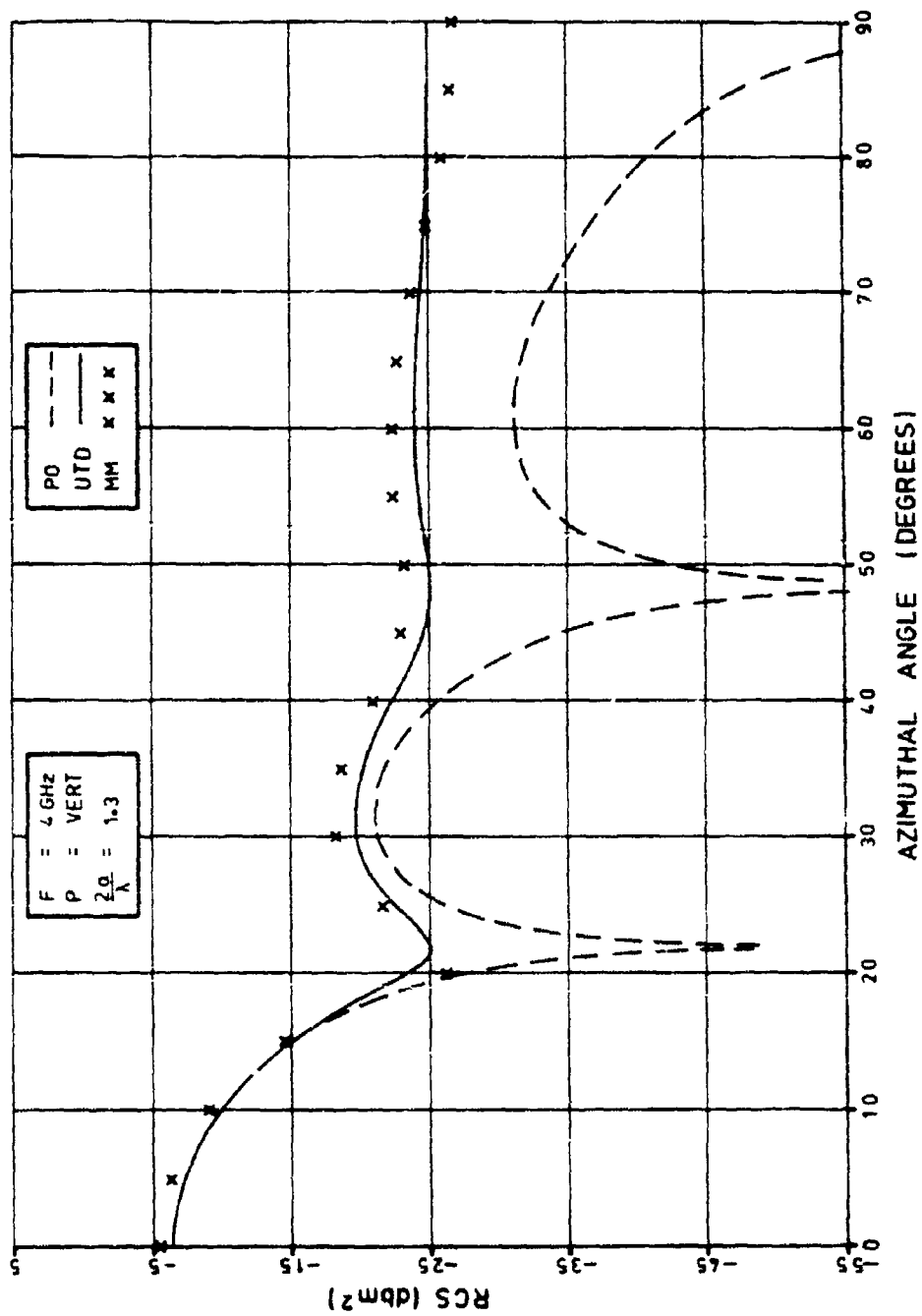Figure 48. RCS for 50 cm cylinder at 12 GHz (horizontal polarisation)

Figure 49. Comparison of UTD, PO and MM solutions for the flat plate at 4 GHz (vertical polarisation)
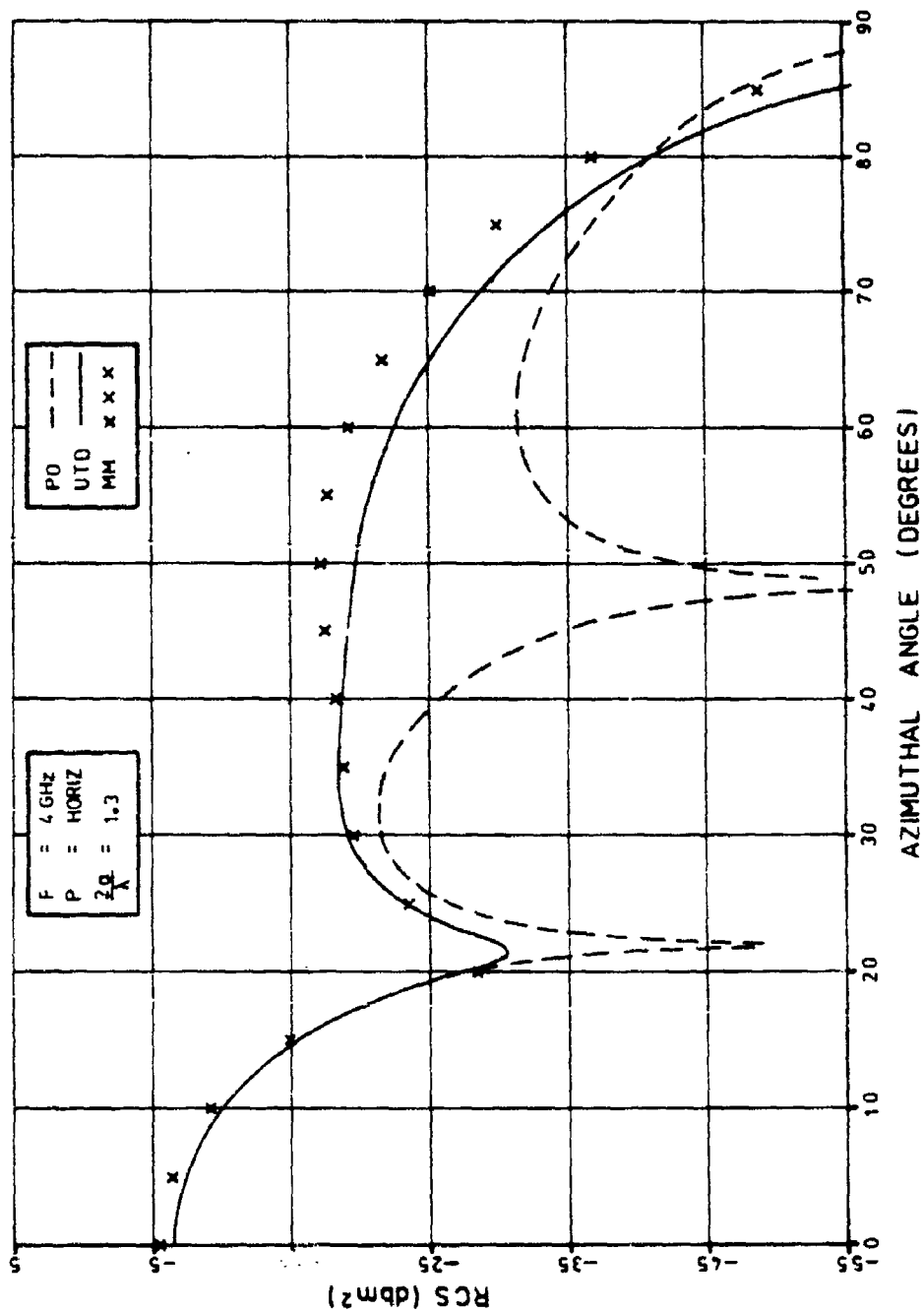
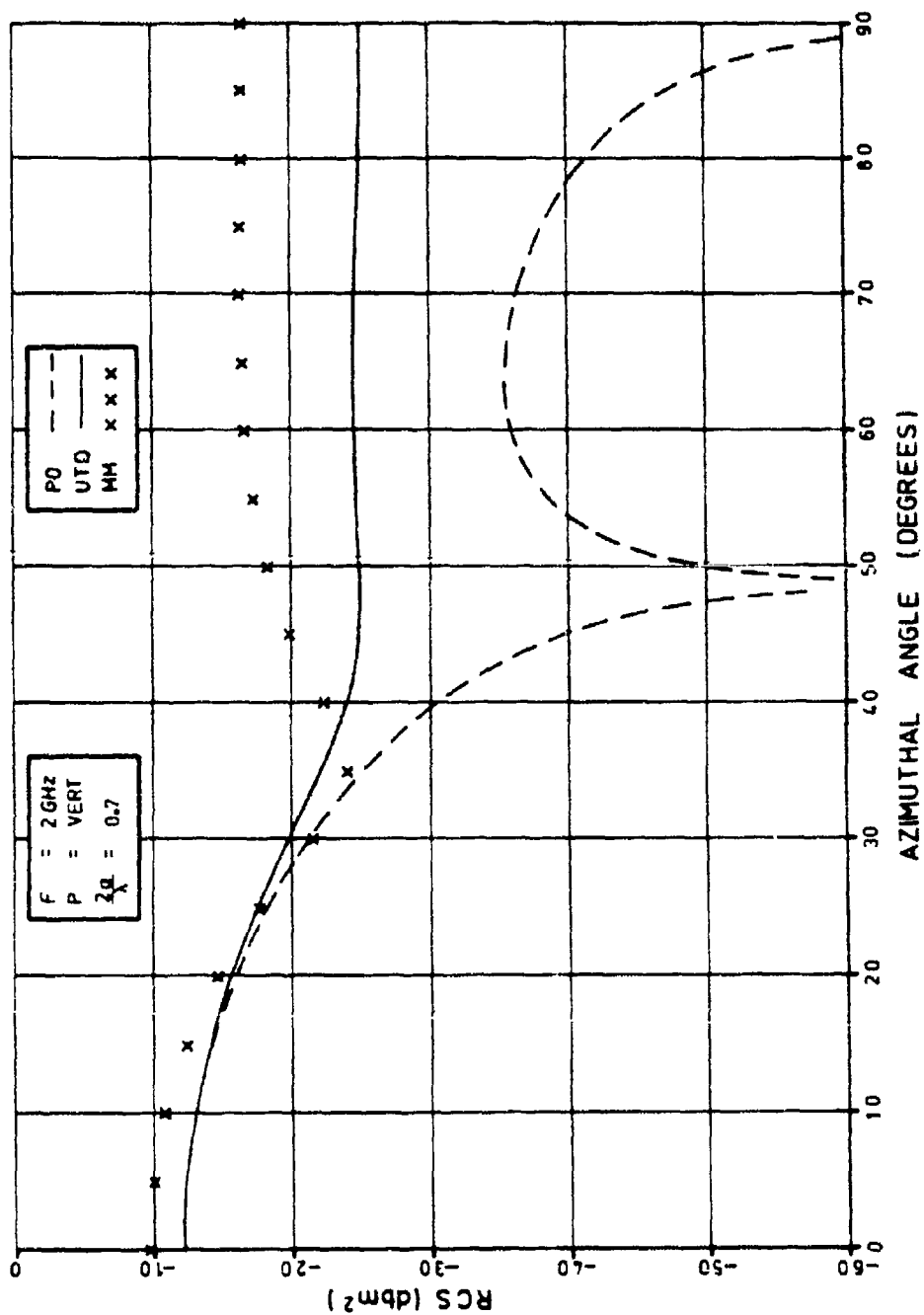Figure 50.   Comparison of UTD, PO and MM solutions for the flat plate at 4 GHz (horizontal polarisation)

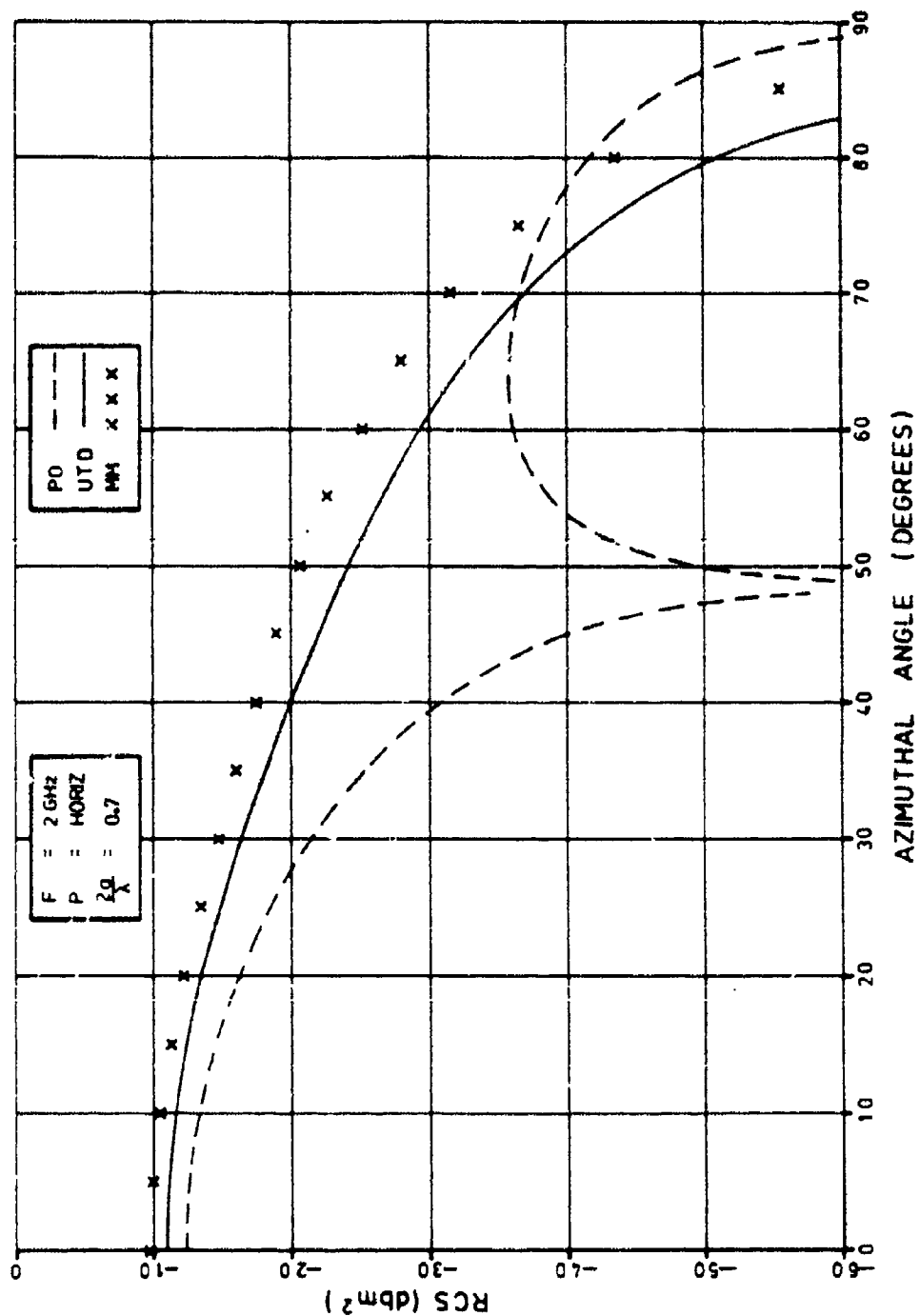Figure 51. Comparison of UTD, PO and MM solutions for the flat plate at 2 GHz (vertical polarisation)

Figure 52. Comparison of UTD, PO and MM solutions for the flat plate at 2 GHz (horizontal polarisation)

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The method of Physical Optics, the Geometrical Theory of Diffraction
and the Uniform Geometrical Theory of Diffraction are applied here to
electromagnetic scattering from flat plates and rectangular cylinders.
The results are compared with experimental measurements to establish
the domains of validity of the theoretical techniques.

regards include!

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