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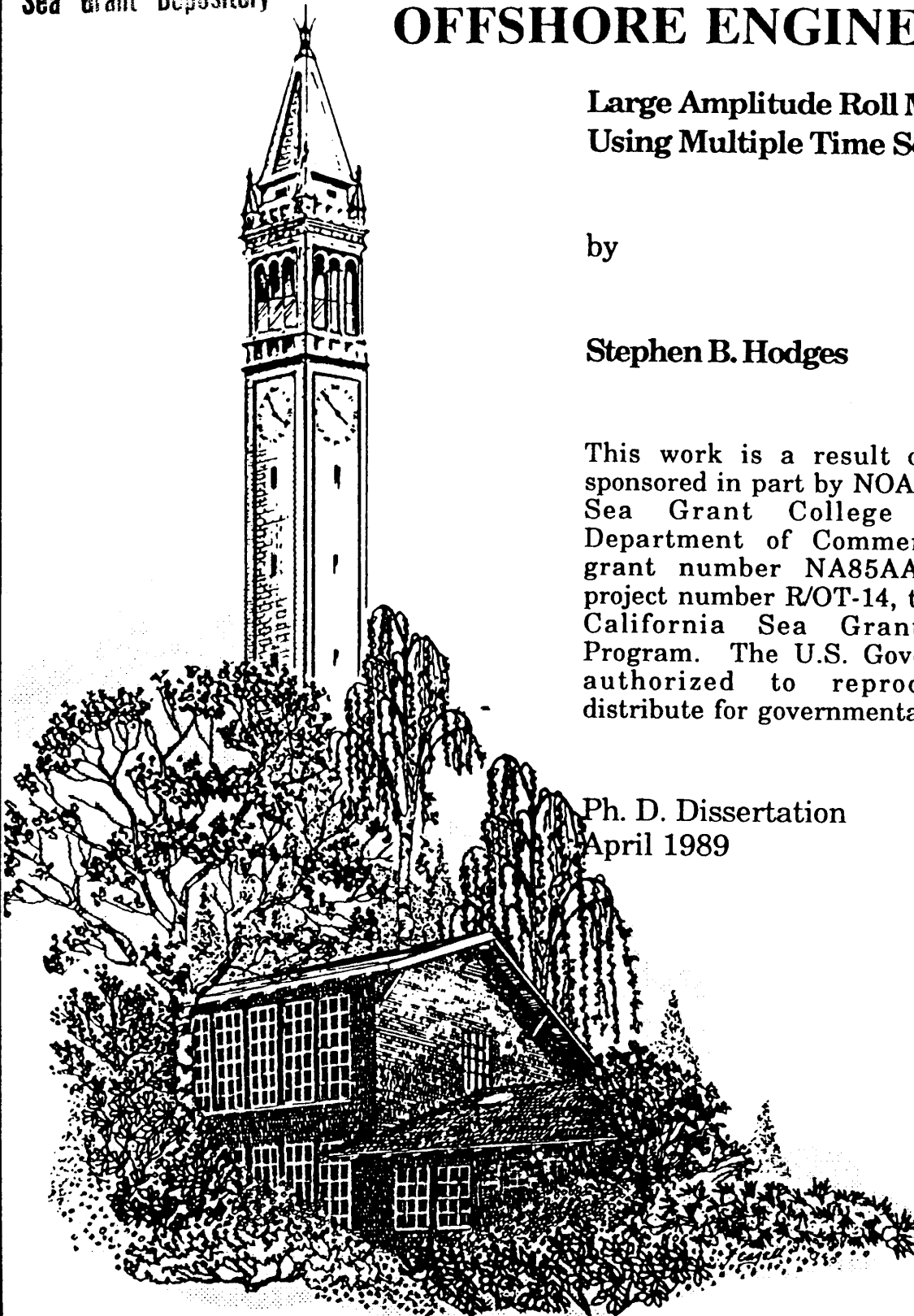
**Large Amplitude Roll Motions
Using Multiple Time Scales**

by

Stephen B. Hodges

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Large Amplitude Roll Motions Using Multiple Time Scales

By

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B.S. (Northwestern University) 1983

M.S. (University of California) 1985

DISSERTATION

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Chair
..... J. R. Paulding Date April 20, 1989
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ABSTRACT

In this work, a mathematical model is developed to predict large-amplitude roll motions of a ship with low initial stability in a narrow-banded seastate. The condition of low stability implies that the natural roll frequency is low compared to the frequencies contained in the incident waves. Experimental studies of such vessels indicate that large amplitude roll motions can be excited by nonlinear interactions between closely spaced frequency components in the incident waves which yield second-order moments at frequencies near the low natural roll frequency. The experimental results also suggest that if the difference between the wave frequencies and the roll frequency is large enough then the roll motion appears to be made up of two distinct components: one small in amplitude and near the wave frequencies, and the other large in amplitude and at a much lower frequency.

The model developed in this work exploits this apparent distinction between the wave-frequency and low-frequency responses. The problem is solved using a multiple time-scale perturbation involving two perturbation parameters: one related to the smallness of the waves and the high-frequency motions, and the other related to the ratio of the natural roll frequency to the wave frequencies. The resulting first-order equations are similar to a linear small-motions theory except that the body geometry is allowed to vary with the slow time scale. The second-order equation for the slow, large-amplitude roll motion is formed by retaining only the terms that have slow time-scale components. The separation into the two time-scales

is crucial because it allows the low and high frequency (slow and fast) components to be decoupled in a mathematically consistent fashion.

The theoretical model was tested for a body subjected to regular wave groups and the character resulting slow-roll motions were quite reasonable. Although the two-dimensional model cannot be directly compared with experimental results, the character of the motions compares favorably.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William C. Webster", is written over a horizontal line.

William C. Webster
Committee Chairman

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