

Introduction

The organisation of symposia and workshops is a part of the Centre's activity. This publication contains the proceedings of a seminar on "Graphical Applications in Meteorology" which was held at ECMWF, Shinfield Park, Reading, from 19 to 23 October 1981.

The Centre has, over the past 6 years, been involved in a series of meetings on the important topic of computer graphics in meteorology, namely:

"Informal meeting on graphical applications"

ECMWF, 7-9 July 1975

"Informal planning meeting on graphical problems"

Finnish Meteorological Institute, 8-10 December 1976

"Expert meeting on graphical applications in meteorology"

Espoo, Finland, 8-10 June 1977

"Workshop on ECMWF future graphical systems,

ECMWF, 10-13 July 1979

"Workshop on implementation of GKS at ECMWF"

ECMWF, 14-15 May 1981

These series of meetings have helped the Centre considerably in exploiting computer graphics developments for use in meteorology, and also in keeping Member States abreast with the Centre's activities.

The aim of this particular seminar was twofold. On one hand, it was to assemble meteorologists from the Member States responsible for and/or particularly involved with graphics in order to review the present situation as far as graphical applications are concerned. On the other hand, it was to present to the participants the current situation in the field of graphics in general (hardware and software) as well as future developments, e.g. ECMWF experiments on the AYDIN colour raster display system. The problem of the graphical exploitation of the Centre's products was also discussed.

The seminar was organised in a series of sessions, each session covering one particular aspect of the topic. Within each session, a series of papers were presented by participants. These papers are reproduced in their original format in the main body of these proceedings. Two main discussion periods took place where the views of the participants on many graphical questions were elicited. These two discussion periods are reported immediately following this introduction, as they constitute, in the way of a summary, much of what took place elsewhere in the seminar.