# THE 5C5 SURVEY OF RADIO SOURCES 

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## SUMMARY

The ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 5$ survey, made with the Cambridge One-Mile telescope, covers an area about $4^{\circ}$ in diameter at 408 MHz centred at $\alpha=09^{\mathrm{h}} 40^{\mathrm{m}}, \delta=47^{\circ} 00^{\prime}$ to a limiting flux density of $8.7 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$ at the centre, and a concentric area of diameter about $I^{\circ}$ at 1407 MHz to a limiting flux density of $\mathrm{r} \cdot 8 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$. The positions and flux densities of 230 sources observed at 408 MHz , and of 52 observed at 1407 MHz , are listed in Table I, with suggested optical identifications for some of the sources. The flux density and spectral index distributions are similar to those of the earlier ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ surveys and there is no evidence for significant anisotropy in either distribution. New observations of some $5 \mathrm{C}_{1}$ sources included in the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{5}$ survey show that the flux densities measured in ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ I were in error.

## I. INTRODUCTION

This fifth Cambridge deep survey of weak radio sources was undertaken in order to improve the statistics of the flux density distribution of sources at the lowest detectable levels, and to determine whether or not the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 2$ survey (Pooley \& Kenderdine 1968), the results of which have been extensively used in observational cosmology, provides a fair sample of these faint sources $\left(S_{408} \gtrsim 10^{-28} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2}\right.$ $\mathrm{Hz}^{-1}$ ). Of the four previous $5_{5} \mathrm{C}$ surveys, $5^{\mathrm{C}} 3$ (Pooley 1969) and $5 \mathrm{C}_{4}$ (Willson 1970) were of atypical areas of sky centred on M3I and on the Coma cluster of galaxies respectively; and the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{1}$ and ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{2}$ surveys, although of areas of sky exceptional only for the absence of bright sources, were not strictly comparable with each other, owing to instrumental differences. ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{\text {I }}$ (Kenderdine, Ryle \& Pooley 1966) was the first survey to be made with a new instrument, and suffered from severe terrestrial radio interference and from an offset primary reception pattern; it was also less sensitive than the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{2}$ survey. Pooley \& Ryle (1968) excluded ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ I from their compilation of 408 MHz source counts for these reasons. A comparison of the results of $5_{5} \mathrm{C}_{1}$ and ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{2}$ (Maslowski 1972a, 1974) suggests that there is anisotropy in the source distribution, but this effect may be due in part to the instrumental differences, and has been questioned on these grounds (Condon \& Jauncey 1973).

The ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 5$ survey was centred $3{ }^{\circ}$ south of the nominal centre of the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ I survey, with about 30 per cent of its area in common with ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{1}$, enabling the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{1}$ results to be checked. The new survey is more nearly comparable, in its instrumental properties, with ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{2},{ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{3}$ and ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{4}$ than is ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{1}$, and its results are to be preferred to those of ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ I for any statistical investigations. There is no evidence from a
comparison of the flux density distribution or spectral index distribution of ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{5}$ with those of $5 \mathrm{C}_{2}$ for any significant difference in the distribution of sources between these two areas; a comparison with ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ i, however, has revealed errors in the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ I 408 MHz flux densities.

The methods of observation and data reduction are described in Sections 2 and 3, and a list of the radio sources observed is given in Table I. The measurements of flux density and position are compared with those of ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{1}$ in Section 4 . The statistical results of the survey, and their comparison with other observations, can be found in Section 7 (source counts) and Section 8 (spectra).

## 2. OBSERVATIONS

As in the previous ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ surveys, the Cambridge One-Mile telescope was used to observe simultaneously at 408 MHz a field approximately $4^{\circ}$ in diameter, and at 1407 MHz a concentric field approximately $\mathrm{I}^{\circ}$ in diameter. The field centre was $\alpha=09^{\mathrm{h}} 40^{\mathrm{m}} 00^{\mathrm{s}}, \delta=47^{\circ} 00^{\prime}$ (1950.0). This region is free from intense sources (there are no 4 C sources in the field, with the exception of $4_{4} \mathrm{C} 8.26$ on the extreme western margin).

The technical details of the observations were similar to those of the previous ${ }_{5}$ C surveys (described by Kenderdine, Ryle \& Pooley 1966; Pooley \& Kenderdine 1968) and will be only briefly summarized here. A circular aperture was synthesized from 12 -hr runs at each of 127 different aerial separations, ranging from
 1407 MHz ) in steps of 11.7 m . The aperture grading was the usual gaussian function falling to 0.3 of its maximum at the largest aerial separation, so that the synthesized beam (which is elliptically symmetrical, with its major axis in the declination direction) had a half-power width $80^{\prime \prime} \times 109^{\prime \prime}(408 \mathrm{MHz})$ or $23^{\prime \prime} \times 3 \mathrm{I}^{\prime \prime}$ ( 1407 MHz ). With this grading, none of the sidelobes exceeds 6 per cent of the maximum, with the exception of a series of 'grating rings' whose radii are multiples of $\mathrm{r} / D$, where $D$ is the spacing increment in wavelengths. As in the previous surveys, the first grating ring of a source at one edge of the map appears near the opposite edge. At 408 MHz , some of the observations had to be omitted from the analysis because of terrestrial radio interference; this had little effect on the shape of the synthesized beam, but necessitated a correction of about 3.5 per cent to the observed flux densities.

The observations were made in 1973 March-May using new feed assemblies which accepted linearly polarized radiation with the E-vector in p.a. $0^{\circ}$ at both frequencies. The new first-stage amplifiers at each aerial were, at 408 MHz , a bipolar transistor r.f. amplifier giving a system noise temperature of about 160 K ; and, at 1407 MHz , a Ferranti non-degenerate parametric amplifier pumped at ${ }_{17} \mathrm{GHz}$ giving a system noise temperature of about 115 K . The bandwidths were 4 MHz at 408 MHz and io MHz at 1407 MHz . The sensitivity at 408 MHz was similar to that of the earlier 5 C surveys: the rms noise level on the map (before correction for the primary aerial envelope response) was about $1.7 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2}$ $\mathrm{Hz}^{-1}$ per beam area (cf. $\mathrm{r} \cdot 6 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$ for ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 2$ ). Of this the system noise temperature contributes $0.5 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$, and sources below the limiting flux density of the survey $0.2 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$. The largest contribution to the noise is made by the sidelobes of the stronger sources and grating rings of sources outside the mapped area. Unfortunately it was not possible to improve the noise
level by removing sources and their associated sidelobes owing to the large amount of computing time that would have been required, and because the accuracy with which sidelobes can be eliminated is limited by instrumental instabilities to about 0.5 per cent of the flux density of the strongest sources, that is, about $1.5 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W}$ $\mathrm{m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$. At 1407 MHz , confusion by sidelobes is less important, the system noise contributing $0.22 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$ to the total rms noise level of $0.35 \times$ $10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$. This figure is an improvement on the earlier surveys (e.g. ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{2}$ : $1.5 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$ ) owing to the improved first-stage amplifier and the larger bandwidth; consequently more sources have been detected at 1407 MHz than were before. In order to reduce confusion by sidelobes at this frequency, most of the analysis was done on a map with the strong source ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 5.175$ removed by the procedure of Neville, Windram \& Kenderdine (1969). The maps were made by the same Fourier Transform techniques as the earlier 5C maps; they represent the sky brightness attenuated towards the edge of the map by the envelope response of the individual dishes, and by other effects mentioned in Section 3.2.

## 3. SOURCE LIST

The coordinates (reduced to 1950 。) and flux densities of all the sources found in the survey with apparent intensities (before correction for the envelope response) $S^{\prime}{ }_{408}>8 \cdot 7 \times 1^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$ or $S^{\prime}{ }_{1407}>\mathrm{I} \cdot 8 \times \mathrm{IO}^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$ are listed in Table I. The positions and flux densities of unresolved sources were determined with the beamshape-fitting program used in the earlier surveys; sources which could not be fitted closely to the ideal beamshape, or which appeared resolved on contour maps, were treated separately. A number of spurious sources, arising from the intersection of grating rings or sidelobes of bright sources, were eliminated by hand.

### 3.1 Positions

The positions of the sources found at 408 MHz were adjusted by the mean difference between the 408 and 1407 MHz positions of 18 unresolved sources observed at both frequencies ( $+0^{\mathrm{s} \cdot} \cdot 32 \pm 0^{\mathrm{s} \cdot 05},+0^{\prime \prime} \cdot 8 \pm \mathrm{I}^{\prime \prime} \cdot \mathrm{I}$ ); this difference is due mostly to ionospheric refraction, which has only a small effect ( $\sim 0^{\prime \prime} \cdot 1$ arc) at the higher frequency. For sources observed at both frequencies the positions given are those derived from the 1407 MHz map. The coordinates of resolved sources were measured from contour maps; they refer to the peaks of radio brightness. Such sources are marked 'e' (' extended ') in Table I.

The positional uncertainties attributable to noise and confusion were estimated as a function of uncorrected flux density by a Monte Carlo method (Kenderdine et al. 1966). The rms uncertainty in right ascension for each source is given in Table I (column 4) in arcsec; the uncertainties in declination are greater by a factor $\operatorname{cosec}(\delta)=\mathrm{r} \cdot 37$. These estimated errors do not include systematic effects, among which are the following:
(i) The effect of an asymmetry in the beamshape (ignored in the source-finding program) due to phase errors or to the holes in the aperture left after the removal of interference. Any such fitting error is small at $1407 \mathrm{MHz}\left(<0^{\prime \prime} \cdot 1\right.$ arc) and at 408 MHz it is mostly removed by the ionospheric refraction correction mentioned above. Because it is impossible to adjust the path compensators correctly for all parts of the map, the finite bandwidth introduces an attenuation which varies with
Table I


| 8＊＊＊ | $n \rightarrow \infty$ | 06 | $\pm$ ninmo | $n=m o n *$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
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501.31

## Confused by sidelobe of 37；slightly extended NE－SW

## ARG 1 Extended 11.5 towards E

## ARG 3

5C1． 38 ARG 4 Component $2^{\prime} \mathrm{W}$ with 0.3 of flux density；KPD6

Slightly extended
Slightly extended


Spectral
index
Notes
ARG 5
ARG 6

## 5C1. 44 ARG 7

ARG 8
ARG 9
5C1. 48 ARG 10

5C1.50 ARG 11

Confused, perhaps extended

Slightly extended?
0.78 Confused at 408 by sidelobe of 80 ; two components at 1407: $\mathrm{a}: \mathrm{b}=3: 4$

5C1.54 ARG 13

| 093726.9 | $4614 \quad 1$ | 3 | 44 | 3 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3729.8 | 46226 | 3 | 42 | 4 |
| 3733.0 | 474029 | 4 | 29 | 3 |
| 3735.24 | 465752.2 | 2.0 | 17 | 2 |
| 3737.52 | 47321.3 | 0.2 | 136 | 5 |
| 093740.3 | 461545 | 6 | 18 | 3 |
| 3741.4 | 475036 | 4 | 27 | 3 |
| 3742.4 | 474310 | 2 | 45 | 3 |
| 3742.6 | 451732 | 6 | 43 | 8 |
| 3744.8 | 46714 | 8 | 15 | 3 |
| 093754.6 | 47191 | 8 | 12 | 2 |
| 3755.1 | 475625 | 1 | 472 | 22 |
| 3757.3 | 454825 | 5 | 32 | 4 |
| $38 \quad 0.34$ | $47 \quad 738.9$ | 1.3 |  |  |
| 3810.5 | 483416 | 1 | 345 | 30 |
| 093815.32 |  | 0.9 | 28 | 2 |
| 3816.5 | 46718 | 1 | 120 | 6 |
| 3816.9 | 491236 | 9 | 73 | 24 |
| 3817.4 | 45128 | 2 | 180 | 29 |
| 3819.1 | 49713 | 5 | 110 | 26 |
| 093819.42 | 471949.5 | 1.1 | 23 | 2 |
| 3822.6 | 465023 | 8 | 11 | 3 |
| 3823.24 | 47625.9 | 2.3 |  |  |
| 3825.3 | 47467 | 8 | 13 | 3 |
| 3831.0 | 463259 | 5 | 18 | 2 |



| 5 C 5 | R.A. (1950) |  | Dec. (1950) | R.A. error |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 101 | 09 | 3833.87 | 47325.3 | 1.7 |
| 22 |  | 3837.9 | 469 | 8 |
| 103 |  | 3846.4 | 464229 | 7 |
| 104 |  | 3848.2 | 481828 | 1 |
| 105 |  | 3850.5 | 475329 | 9 |
| 106 | 09 | 3850.7 | 493 | 1 |
| 107 |  | 3851.40 | 471048.2 | 0.5 |
| 108 |  | 3852.9 | 481435 | 7 |
| 109 |  | 3853.3 | 461925 | 6 |
| 110 |  | 3854.8 | 453325 | 4 |
| 11 |  | 3855.25 | 46413.6 | 2.2 |
| 12 |  | 394.19 | 464151.2 | 0.6 |
| 13 |  | 39.6 | 46544 | 8 |
| 114 |  | 398.97 | 47351.6 | 0.2 |
| 115 |  | $39 \quad 9.29$ | 471630.5 | 0.8 |
| 116 | 09 | 3912.2 | 481726 | 1 |
| 117 |  | 3912.61 | 463635.5 | 2.1 |
| 118 |  | 3917.65 | 47853.9 | 2.1 |
| 119 |  | 3918.7 | 45660 | 4 |
| 120 |  | 39.19.90 | 465314.0 |  |
| 121 | 09 | 3922.52 | 46390.5 | 1.8 |
| 122 |  | 3923.0 | 452644 | 8 |
| 123 |  | 3938.1 | 4652 | 1 |
| 124 |  | 3942.12 | 471233.8 | 2.3 |
| 125 |  | 3945.88 | 471510.7 | 1.8 |




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$10.2 \quad 1.5 \quad 0.64$
Confused by sidelobe of 175
$23.9 \quad 4.5 \quad 0.60$

ARG 37 Extended：see map
ARG
38
5 C 1.85 AFG 39

| 10.7 | 1.2 | 0.67 |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 23.7 | 5.0 | 1.06 |
| 7.7 | 1.8 | 1.04 |

Confused at 408 by sidelobe of 175
Extended at 1407；confused at 408 2nd component $1^{1}$ NE of peak position ARG 41 Extended：see contour map ARG 42 Confused by 192 at 408 and 80 at 1407 Slightly confused by 191

## Extended towards NW

Table I-continued

| 5C5 |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { R.A. (1950) } \\ & \text { h m s } \end{aligned}$ | Dec. (1950) | R.A. | $\underset{\left(\mathrm{IO}^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}\right)}{S_{1407}}$ |  | Spectral index | Notes |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 201 |  | 4352.3 | 47446 | 8 | 12 | 3 |  |  |
| 202 |  | 4356.2 | 462415 | 3 | 42 | 4 |  |  |
| 203 |  | 446.0 | 45344 | 2 | 286 | 52 |  |  |
| 204 |  | 4420.3 | 445022 | 4 | 180 | 55 |  |  |
| 205 |  | 4426.5 | 46025 | 6 | 27 | 4 |  |  |
| 206 | 09 | 4428.0 | 46548 | e | 234 | 50 |  | Extended ${ }^{1 \prime}$ towards N |
| 207 |  | 4437.4 | 49156 | 4 | 238 | * |  | 5C1.94 ARG 43 |
| 208 |  | 4443.6 | 46223 | 3 | 45 | 4 |  |  |
| 209 |  | 4448.8 | 473220 | e | 118 | 20 |  | Extended 2' ${ }^{\prime \prime}$ towards N |
| 210 |  | 4449.5 | 471028 | 8 | 14 | 3 |  |  |
| 211 | 09 | 458.8 | 474636 | e | 675 | 130 |  | 5C1.96 ARG 45 Extended; see map |
| 212 |  | 458.5 | 455820 | 2 | 88 | 7 |  | ¢1.g ARG 45 Extended; see map |
| 213 |  | 4511.4 | 461246 | 9 | 17 | 4 |  |  |
| 214 |  | 4514.3 | 454647 | 6 | 39 | 6 |  |  |
| 215 |  | 4517.1 | 474351 | e | 67 | 18 |  | See map |
| 216 | 09 | 4525.6 | 464840 | 7 | 18 | 3 |  |  |
| 217 |  | 4529.0 | 473452 | 7 | 20 | 4 |  |  |
| 218 |  | 4530.4 | 47054 | 4 | 35 | 4 |  | Slightly extended |
| 219 |  | 4543.7 | 463149 | 2 | 70 | 5 |  |  |
| 220 |  | 4545.5 | 46253 | 3 | 43 | 5 |  |  |
| 221 |  | 4557.3 | 48655 | 8 | 27 | 6 |  |  |
| 222 |  | 4557.7 | 464846 | 3 | 46 | 4 |  |  |
| 223 |  | 466.5 | 482646 | 2 | 175 | 23 |  | 5C1.98 ARG 46 |
| 224 |  | 468.9 | 463715 | e | 185 | 30 |  |  |
| 225 |  | 4632.4 | 455951 | 8 | 29 | 6 |  |  |Extended ${ }^{\prime \prime}$ towards N5C1.94 ARG 435C1.96 ARG 45 Extended; see map


| 094643.7 |  | 2 | 343 | 81 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 4644.4 | 472441 | 4 | 39 | 5 |  |
| 4646.5 | 463432 | 8 | 21 | 5 |  |
| 4649.4 | 47327 | 7 | 25 | 5 |  |
| 470.8 | 46728 | e | 141 | 35 | Smaller component $2^{\prime \prime}$ to $W$ with 0.4 of flux density |
| 09474.9 | 472656 | 3 | 51 | 6 |  |
| 4717.5 | 484942 | 2 | 322 | 89 | 5C1.100 ARG 49 |
| 4746.5 | 48184 | 4 | 89 | 16 |  |
| 480.6 | 453013 | 7 | 70 | 19 |  |
| 4812.7 | 49550 | 8 | 220 | * | 5C1. 103 |
| 094817.3 | 47261 | 4 | 61 | 8 |  |
| 4850.6 | 473439 | 7 | 39 | 8 |  |
| 4853.9 | 481935 | 6 | 90 | 22 |  |
| 4912.8 | 472040 | 1 | 219 | 25 | Confused by grating ring |
| 4915.9 | 464333 | 4 | 79 | 11 |  |
| 094930.3 | 445360 | 8 | 332 | * | Confused by grating ring |
| 4937.4 | 471520 | 4 | 87 | 13 |  |
| 4942.8 | 465212 | e | 81 | 21 | Small extension to NW; confused by grating ring |
| 5023.7 | 463934 | 2 | 223 | 36 | Confused by grating ring |
| 5024.4 | 473828 | 5 | 91 | 20 | Perhaps slightly extended |
| 095039.0 | 452437 | 6 | 266 | * |  |
| 514.5 | 46228 | 4 | 180 | 56 | Confused by grating ring |
| 516.8 | 472013 | e | 93 | 35 | Confused by grating ring |
| 5130.4 | 475050 | 3 | 313 | * | Slightly confused by grating ring |
| 5141.0 | 472951 | 4 | 155 | 44 |  |

hour angle and causes the beamshape to depart from the ideal elliptical symmetry at the edges of the map; this should not introduce any systematic errors in fitting the position of an ideal beamshape, although it may cause a bias in the fitted flux density.
(ii) Errors in the calibration and geometry of the telescope in observations at higher frequencies ( $2 \cdot 7$ and 5 GHz ) lead typically to uncertainties of about 0 " $\cdot 5$ arc in source positions (Smith 1971). At lower frequencies the phase stability is better and the accuracy is limited by errors in the instrumental phase calibration at each aerial separation; in the present survey these were better than $5^{\circ}$ and the systematic positional uncertainties less than $\mathrm{I}^{\prime \prime}$ arc.
(iii) The formal standard error in the ionospheric refraction correction is about $\mathrm{I}^{\prime \prime} \cdot 2$ arc, but the actual error may be larger.

The presence of systematic positional errors in the earlier 5 C surveys has been suggested by comparison with independent surveys: e.g. van der Kruit \& Katgert (1972), comparing 5 C 3 with a 1415 MHz survey made at Westerbork, found a mean difference in declination of $3^{\prime \prime}$ arc (Cambridge minus Westerbork); but Parkes \& Penston (1973) found no significant discrepancy when comparing ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{3}$ positions with those of optical identifications, the difference (optical minus radio) being $\overline{\Delta \alpha}=0^{\prime \prime} \cdot 24 \pm 0^{\prime \prime} \cdot 70, \overline{\Delta \delta}=-\mathrm{I}^{\prime \prime} \cdot 22 \pm \mathrm{I}^{\prime \prime} \cdot 05$. Differences of this magnitude are consistent with the estimated systematic errors.

### 3.2 Flux densities

The source-finding program produces estimates of the apparent flux densities $S^{\prime}$ of the sources on the synthesized map; these flux densities have been corrected for the following effects:
(i) The attenuation at the edge of the map due to the envelope response of the individual aerials, which was remeasured after the installation of the new feeds. The details are given in the Appendix.
(ii) The attenuation due to the finite bandwidth of the receivers, which increases towards the edges of the map where the equalization of the signal paths via the two aerials is not correct. The maximum correction is about 20 per cent. A small error recently discovered in the cabling of the telescope has been allowed for in this correction. This error will have affected by a few per cent the measured flux densities of sources near the edges of the earlier ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ regions.
(iii) The attenuation due to the finite time-constant of the receivers, which also is greatest at the edges of the map. This correction does not exceed 2 per cent for any of the sources.

The rms uncertainties in flux density given in Table I (columns 6 and 8) include the contribution of random noise and confusion, which were determined in the Monte Carlo experiments, and an estimate of the uncertainty in the above three correction factors. It should be noted, however, that errors in the measured envelope response are likely to be correlated over large areas. Sources outside the io per cent contour of the 408 MHz envelope response, or the 15 per cent contour of the 1407 MHz response, for which the error in flux density may exceed 20 per cent, are marked with an asterisk in Table I.

The flux density scale was established by reference to 3 C 48 , for which the
following values were assumed:

$$
\begin{aligned}
S_{408} & =35 \times 10^{-26} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1} \\
S_{1407} & =15.8 \times 10^{-26} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}
\end{aligned}
$$

(Kellermann, Pauliny-Toth \& Williams 1969; the value for $S_{408}$ being derived by interpolation). The scale adopted here is uniform with the earlier ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ surveys. To be consistent with the absolute scale of Wyllie (Wyllie 1969; Conway \& Munro 1972) the 408 MHz flux densities in Table I should be increased by 9 per cent.

The flux densities at the two frequencies have been used to calculate spectral indices $\alpha(408,14 \circ 7$ ) (column 9$)$, according to the convention $S \propto \nu^{-\alpha}$.

## 4. COMPARISON WITH OTHER SURVEYS

## 4. $15{ }^{2}$ I

Thirty-one of the sources observed at 408 MHz in ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{5}$ are identified with ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ I sources by positional agreement, and these are indicated in Table I (column 10). These include all but four of the 5 C I sources south of $49^{\circ}$ declination, and the four excluded would be expected from their $5_{5} \mathrm{C}_{1}$ flux densities to fall below the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 5$ limit. None of the sources in common was observed at 1407 MHz in either survey.

There is a small systematic discrepancy between the two sets of positions of these sources. The mean difference ( $5 \mathrm{C}_{5-5} \mathrm{C}_{1}$ ) in the right ascensions is $-\mathrm{I}^{\mathrm{s}} \cdot 27 \pm 0^{\mathrm{s} \cdot \mathrm{I}} 3$ (s.e.) and in the declinations $-5^{\prime \prime} \cdot 8 \pm \mathrm{I}^{\prime \prime} \cdot 6$. There is no systematic variation of this difference with position, in so far as such a variation could be detected in a small sample. Although the difference is rather larger than the estimated errors in either survey, it can perhaps be explained by errors in the ionospheric refraction correction or in the geometry of the telescope assumed for ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{I}}$.

The 408 MHz flux densities of 15 of the common sources, those that lie within both the 20 per cent contour of the $5 \mathrm{C}_{1}$ envelope pattern and the 10 per cent contour of the $5_{5} \mathrm{C}_{5}$ envelope pattern, are compared in Fig. I. Differences in flux density could arise from the effects of receiver noise, secular variation or polarization (the two surveys were made using orthogonally-polarized receivers); but confusion should affect both surveys equally, except in the case of confusion by grating rings. Fig. I shows that, as well as these random differences, there is a systematic difference between the two flux density scales. On average, the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{5}$ flux densities are greater than those of ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{1}$, with a mean ratio (weighted according to the estimated variances) of $1 \cdot 25$. The underestimation of the 5 C I flux densities causes an underestimation in spectral index $\alpha(408,1400)$ of about $0 \cdot 2$; this accounts for a large part of the difference in mean spectral index found by Maslowski (1972a, 1974) between the $5_{5} \mathrm{C}_{1}$ and $5_{5} \mathrm{C}_{2}$ regions (see Section 8). The errors in the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{\text {I }}$ flux densities show some positional dependence: considering only the sources within the 10 per cent contour of 5 C 5 all the sources with $S\left({ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 5\right)$ / $S\left(5^{\mathrm{C}}\right.$ 1) $<\mathrm{I} \circ$ o lie to the east of $\alpha=09^{\mathrm{h}} 40^{\mathrm{m}}$, and all but one of those with $S\left({ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{5}\right)$ / $S\left({ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{1}\right)>\mathrm{I} \cdot 2$ lie to the west of this line. This is consistent with the results of Condon \& Jauncey (1973) and confirms that there were errors in the envelope response correction in the outer parts of the $5_{5} \mathrm{C}_{\text {I }}$ survey. The new observations, however, cannot confirm Condon \& Jauncey's suggestion that a similar effect was present in ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ 2. The flux density errors in ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ I may be attributed to the difficulty of removing the effects of the primary beam offset and heavy interference with which this early survey was unfortunately afflicted.


Fig. i. Comparison of 408 MHz flux densities measured in the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ 1 and ${ }_{5} C 5$ surveys. The error bars show the quoted errors. The straight line has unit slope. The scales show $S_{408}$ in units of $10^{-29} W^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$.

### 4.2 Half-Mile telescope survey at I42I MHz (Gillespie, in preparation)

This survey was made with an instrument having the same resolution at 142 IMHz as $5_{5} \mathrm{C}$ and $5_{5} \mathrm{C}$ at 408 MHz , and was centred midway between the (nominal) centres of ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{1}$ and ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 5$. The ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 5$ sources observed are indicated by the symbol ARG in column io of Table I. The spectral indices $\alpha(408,142 \mathrm{I})$ computed from the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 5408 \mathrm{MHz}$ flux densities and Gillespie's 142 I MHz flux densities show no dependence on the position of the sources relative to the two map centres. This suggests that there are no gross errors in the envelope correction of either ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 5$ or the Half-Mile survey.

### 4.3 The GB survey ( 1400 MHz ) (Maslowski 1971, 1972a, 1972b)

The resolving power of this survey ( $\mathrm{HPBW} \mathrm{IO}^{\prime} \cdot 3$ arc in right ascension, $1 \mathrm{I}^{\prime} \cdot \mathbf{1}$ arc in declination) is very much worse than that of 5 C 5 , and the catalogue is limited to sources with $S_{1400}>90 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$. It is possible to identify some of the GB sources with groups of ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ sources, as Maslowski has done for ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ I and ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 2$ sources, but this is an unreliable process, particularly if the results are to be used to derive spectral indices (Condon \& Jauncey 1973). It would be more satisfactory
to convolve the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{5}$ map with the beamshape of the GB survey before making the comparison. For the present, no attempt has been made to collate the GB and ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 5$ sources by this method, although Gillespie (1975) has repeated Maslowski's simpler analysis, using the $5_{5} \mathrm{C}_{5} 408 \mathrm{MHz}$ flux densities in place of those of ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 1$ in order to compare the spectral properties of the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{1} / 5 \mathrm{C}_{5}$ and ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{2}$ regions (see Section 8).

### 4.4 The KPD survey ( 5 GHz ) (Kellermann et al. 1968)

This survey (HPBW $6^{\prime} \times 6^{\prime}$ ) detected some of the brighter ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ I sources, including four $5_{5}{ }_{5}$ sources; these are noted in Table I.

## 5. OPTICAL IDENTIFICATIONS

The positions of the sources in Table I were examined on a copy of the National Geographic Society-Palomar Sky Survey (Plate No. 672) using computer-drawn transparent overlays. In Table II brief descriptions are given of any optical objects which lie within about 2.5 standard deviations of the radio position, the standard deviation being a combination of the error in the radio position (column 4 of Table I) and the positioning error of the overlay, estimated to be about $5^{\prime \prime}$ arc rms. The search area thus defined was about $20^{\prime \prime}$ arc in radius for most sources. The positions of the optical objects are given relative to the radio position, rounded to the nearest $5^{\prime \prime}$ arc, and are omitted when the radio object is extended or the optical object is less than $5^{\prime \prime}$ arc from the radio position. The estimated magnitudes may be in error by $\pm \mathrm{I}^{\mathrm{m}}$.

A total of about 120 objects is listed in Table II, in the fields of 102 of the 250 radio sources. Taking account of the large search areas and the density of ' objects' on the Sky Survey plates, the fraction of the listed objects that can be attributed to chance coincidences unrelated to the radio sources may be more than two-thirds. To reduce this fraction, we must reduce the search area by improving the accuracy of either the radio positions or the optical positions. A very much smaller number of identifications emerges from identification programmes using more accurate techniques for measuring the optical positions, e.g. Parkes \& Penston (1973) examined $209{ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{3}$ sources and found seven quasar and nine radio galaxy candidate identifications satisfying their positional agreement criterion, with an expected chance coincidence rate of 2.2 quasar candidates and 3.6 galaxies.

Four of the suggested identifications are with bright galaxies listed in the catalogue of Vorontsov-Velyaminov \& Krasnogorskaja (1962). All of these are spiral galaxies; three (VV 8-18-19, -22, -33) are identified with unresolved sources apparently coincident with the optical nucleus (respectively $5 \mathrm{C} 5.58,82$ and 217); the fourth (VV 8-18-13,5C5.26) is one of a pair of interacting spiral galaxies, but the radio position does not coincide with the centre of the galaxy and a more likely candidate is a $17^{\mathrm{m}}$ red object $25^{\prime \prime}$ arc south of the galaxy.

Fifteen of the sources lie in the direction of groups or clusters of galaxies. One of these sources, ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 5.125$, appears to be associated with the cluster $0939 \cdot 8+4714$ listed by Zwicky \& Herzog (1966) and described as ' compact, extremely distant '. The radio position is near the edge of the cluster, which has a diameter of about $7^{\prime}$ arc, but it is notable that the radio source has a very steep spectrum ( $\alpha(408$, 1407) $=1 \cdot 21$ ). This is an example of the association between steep spectrum and cluster identification that has been noticed by Baldwin \& Scott (1973).

## Table II

## Optical objects in the fields of the radio sources

5C5
I
2
$19^{\mathrm{m}}$ red object, perhaps in a group.
$19^{\mathrm{m}}$ red object in a cluster.
Some faint objects, on edge of cluster (see text).
$19^{m}$ red object $15^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{p}$.
18-19 ${ }^{\mathrm{m}}$ red object.
$19^{m}$ red object $10^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{Sp}$.
$17{ }^{\mathrm{m}}$ star.

| ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 5$ |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| 137a | $19^{\text {m object }} 15^{\prime \prime}$ Sf. |
| 140 | Group of red objects about 20 m . |
| 143 | $20^{\mathrm{m}}$ object. |
| 146 | $20^{\text {m object } 15}{ }^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{N}$. |
| 148 | $17^{\mathrm{m}}$ object $5^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{p}$. |
| 151 | $19^{\mathrm{m}}$ blue object $15^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{N}$. |
| 152 | $18-19^{\text {m }}$ red object $10{ }^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{Sp}$. |
| 153 | $19^{\mathrm{m}}$ blue object. |
| 154 | $17^{\text {m }}$ galaxy $10^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{Sf}$; $18^{\mathrm{m}}$ galaxy $10^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{Np}$. |
| 156 | $18^{\mathrm{m}}$ galaxy $15^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{S}$ (one of a pair). |
| 157 | $19^{\text {m }}$ blue object. |
| 160 | 18-19 ${ }^{\mathrm{m}}$ red object $5^{\prime \prime}$ f. |
| 163 | $17^{\mathrm{m}}$ red object. |
| 165 | $19^{m}$ red object 1010 Sp . |
| 167 | $19^{\mathrm{m}}$ red object $20^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{Sp}$. |
| 170 | $18^{\mathrm{m}}$ object $15^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{p}$. |
| 171 | 17-18 $8^{\text {m }}$ galaxy $1010 \mathrm{Nf}$. |
| 172 | $18^{\mathrm{m}}$ star 10 " f . |
| 174 | Group of 19-20m red objects. |
| 177 | $17-18{ }^{\mathrm{m}}$ blue object. |
| 178 | $17^{\text {m object } 15^{\prime \prime}} \mathrm{Sp}$. |
| 179 | $20^{m}$ red object $5^{\prime \prime}{ }^{\prime \prime}$ Nf. |
| 180 | $16^{\mathrm{m}}$ star. |
| 181 | Four objects $10^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{f}$ : two $17-18^{\mathrm{m}}$ stars? and two 19 m galaxies. |
| 185 | $19^{\text {m }}$ object. |
| 187 | $19^{m}$ galaxy $10^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{Sp}$, in a cluster. |
| 188 | A number of faint red objects within the extent of the source. |
| 194 | $20^{\mathrm{m}}$ red object. |
| 196 | $20^{\mathrm{m}}$ red object. |
| 199 | $20^{\mathrm{m}}$ red object $15^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{p}$. |
| 202 | $18^{\mathrm{m}}$ star. |
| 203 | $20^{\mathrm{m}}$ red object. |
| 208 | $19^{\mathrm{m}}$ object $15^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{f}$. |
| 209 | $18^{\mathrm{m}}$ red object $15^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{S}$. |
| 211 | 19 m object. |
| 215 | $18^{\mathrm{m}}$ blue object 1010 p . |
| 217 | Nucleus of $15^{\text {m }}$ galaxy VV 8-18-33. |
| 218 | $19^{\mathrm{m}}$ red galaxy + similar galaxy $10^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{p}$. |
| 223 | Two $18{ }^{\text {m }}$ galaxies $5^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{f}$ in a cluster. |
| 227 | ${ }_{18-19}{ }^{\mathrm{m}}$ red object in a small group $5^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{S}$. |
| 228 | $13-14^{\mathrm{m}}$ galaxy, centre $15^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{f}$. |
| 230 | $18^{\mathrm{m}}$ object $5^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{S}$. |
| 235 | $16^{\mathrm{m}}$ star. |
| 237 | $20^{\mathrm{m}}$ red object $\mathrm{I}^{\prime \prime \prime}$ f. |
| 241 | Several faint red objects in the search area. |
| 242 | $17^{\text {m }}$ star $15^{\prime \prime}$ f. |
| 244 | $20^{\text {m }}$ object $5^{\prime \prime}$ f. |
| 249 | $20^{\text {m object }} 15^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{Sf}$. |

## 6. Notes on some of the sources

Contour maps of the sources which were appreciably resolved at either frequency are shown in Fig. 2. In some cases, the maps show that sources which were listed separately in Table I should be regarded as components of a single source, joined by low-brightness emission.


Fig. 2. Contour maps of some of the sources. The declination scales have been compressed by a factor $\sin 47^{\circ}$ so that the beamshape appears circular. The scales are indicated by L-shapes. The contour interval (c.i.) is shown for each map in units of $10^{-29} \mathrm{Wm}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$ per beam area; the first full contour is at approximately one-half the contour interval above zero, and the dotted contours are negative. For 5C 5.211, 215 alternate contours above the fnuvth avo mmittor
${ }_{5}$ C 5.165 and 169
Both sources are resolved at 1407 MHz , and their proximity suggests that they are the two components of a double source. There are several optical objects in the field, including a $19^{\mathrm{m}}$ red object and a $17^{\mathrm{m}}$ star.
${ }_{5}$ C 5.182 and 190
The weaker component (182) is appreciably resolved. The flux density of the ' central' component is included with that of the unresolved stronger component (190) in Table I. The angular separation of the two peaks of emission is about $5^{\prime}$ arc; because of the large size, it is difficult to make a convincing optical identification.

## 5C 5.211 and 215

2II has an extension to the NW and with 215 appears to form a triple source with a strong central component. The contour map is distorted by the sidelobes of the central component. There is a $19^{\mathrm{m}}$ red stellar object coincident with the central component.
5C 5.I3I
This source is of interest for its spectrum. Its flux density at 1407 MHz is $65 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$, but it was not detected at 408 MHz , leading to an upper limit on its spectral index $\alpha(408,1407) \leqslant-1 \cdot 74$ (Table IV). It was observed at 5000 MHz with the Cambridge $5-\mathrm{km}$ telescope: its flux density at this frequency is $(78 \pm 4) \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$, and it is unresolved (HPBW $2^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{arc}$ ). The steep inverted low-frequency spectrum therefore flattens at higher frequencies, with $\alpha(1407,5000)=-0.05$. The source is tentatively identified with a $19^{\mathrm{m}}$ red object (Table II).

## 7. SOURCE COUNTS

The flux density distribution (source count) of the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 5$ sources at each of the two frequencies was computed by the method outlined by Katgert et al. (1973). That is, the contribution of each source was weighted by the inverse of the area over which it could have been observed, determined from the noise level, the chosen completeness limit (in this case six times the rms noise level), and the flux density correction factors discussed in Section 3. The weighting functions for the two frequencies are shown in Fig. 3. Two corrections to the derived source counts were made, both of which may be regarded as modifications of the weighting function:
(i) The population-law-dependent correction for confusion and noise. This correction was evaluated by the method of Murdoch et al. (1973), approximating the flux density error distribution by a Gaussian curve, and using the correction factors given by Murdoch et al. (Table 2 of their paper) for a power-law cumulative source count $N(S) \propto S^{-1}$, which is a fair approximation in the range of interest. The weight attached to each source was reduced by the correction factor appropriate to the signal-to-noise ratio with which it was observed. The corrections derived in this way are slightly larger than those obtained with the series-expansion method of Bennett (1962).
(ii) Obscuration of weak sources by stronger. If a weak source falls within about $I^{\prime}$ arc of a stronger source it will not have been detected separately; this means that the area over which a source could have been observed is slightly smaller than


Fig. 3. The area of sky observed as a function of flux density limit (six times the rms noise level) at the two frequencies. The units of area are $10^{-4} \mathrm{sr}(1407 \mathrm{MHz})$ or $\mathrm{IO}^{-3} \mathrm{sr}$ ( 408 MHz ).
the value derived earlier. The necessary correction was calculated from a preliminary determination of the source count. The concomitant overestimation of the flux density of the obscuring source is simply a case of confusion, and is accounted for by correction (i). The possibility that two sources separated by more than $I^{\prime}$ arc may be the unrecognized components of a single source was ignored; that is, the associations noted in Section 6 were here regarded as separate sources.

There is a third error which affects the source count at low flux densities: the omission of weak extended sources. An extended source may have a total flux density greater than the completeness limit, while its peak flux density is too small for inclusion in the source-list. It is very difficult to correct this error, owing to the difficulty of determining the number of such sources. If the number were known, the correction could be included by adapting the Monte Carlo method used to derive the correction (i). The error is reduced by evaluating the source counts to a higher flux density limit than the nominal limit of the source-list; it is for this reason that sources with a signal-to-noise ratio of less than 6 have been omitted from the source-count analysis. For some resolved sources, however, the total flux density is up to three times the flux density found by the beamshape-fitting programme, which suggests that the source-counts will be unreliable below about 15 times the noise level (that is, $2.6 \times 10^{-28} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$ at 408 MHz or $5.4 \times$ ${ }^{10} 0^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$ at 1407 MHz ) particularly at 1407 MHz where an appreciable fraction of sources is resolved. In view of the probable error, the source-counts at the lowest flux densities should be treated with caution.

The source counts from the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{5}$ survey are presented in Table III in numerical form and in Fig. 4 in the form of ' normalized ' differential source counts $\Delta N / \Delta N_{0}$; the corrected number $\Delta N$ of sources in each flux density interval has been divided by the number $\Delta N_{0}$ to be expected if the cumulative source count were of the form $N(S) \propto S^{-1.5}$.


Fig. 4. The source counts from the $5_{5} C_{5}$ survey. (a) One hundred and sixty-eight sources observed at 408 MHz with $\mathrm{II} \leqslant S_{408}<500 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{Wm}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$. Sources with a signal-to-noise ratio less than 6, or outside the 15 per cent contour of the reception pattern, have been omitted. The arbitrary normalizing count is $N_{0}=750 \mathrm{sr}^{-1}\left(S / 0^{-26} \mathrm{Wm}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}\right)^{-1 \cdot 5}$. The error bars represent $m^{1 / 2}$ statistical errors, based on the number $m$ of sources contributing (see Table III(a)). The dotted line is the ${ }_{5} C_{2}$ count, with error bars omitted for clarity (Longair 1974). (b) Thirty-four sources observed at 1407 MHz , with $2 \cdot 2 \leqslant S_{1407}<100 \times$ ${ }_{10}{ }^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$; sources outside the 20 per cent contour of the reception pattern have been omitted. The normalizing count is $N_{0}=150 \mathrm{sr}^{-1}\left(S / \mathrm{I}^{-26} \mathrm{~W} m^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}\right)^{-1 \cdot 5}$. The dotted lines are (a) the 142 I MHz count of Gillespie (1975) and (b) the 1415 MHz count of Katgert et al. (1973).

Table III
Source counts

|  | $S$ | $m$ | $\Delta N^{\prime}$ | $\Delta N$ | $\Delta N / \Delta N_{0}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (a) 408 MHz | 11.0 | 13 | 0.218 | 0.225 | 0.0735 |
|  | 16.8 | 22 | 0.155 | 0.158 | 0.0973 |
|  | 25.7 | 25 | 0.108 | 0.109 | 0.127 |
|  | 39.3 | 29 | 0.093 | 0.094 | 0.206 |
|  | 60.0 | 34 | 0.087 | 0.087 | 0.360 |
|  | 91.7 | 11 | 0.028 | 0.028 | 0.220 |
|  | 140.1 | 16 | 0.041 | 0.041 | 0.608 |
|  | 214.1 | 13 | 0.033 | 0.033 | 0.935 |
|  | 327.2 | 5 | 0.013 | 0.013 | 0.681 |
|  | 500.0 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2.2 | 12 | 1.766 | 1.643 | 0.149 |
|  | 5407 MHz | 14 | 0.450 | 0.440 | 0.167 |

Explanation: $S$ is flux density ( $1 \mathrm{o}^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$ ); $m$ is the number of sources observed in the flux density range; $\Delta N^{\prime}$ is the equivalent number in $10^{-5} \mathrm{sr} ; \Delta N$ is the corrected equivalent number; $\Delta N_{0}$ is the expected number if $N(S) \propto S^{-1 \cdot 5}$ (see caption to Fig. 4).
(a) 408 MHz

The source count is plotted in Fig. 4(a) with the results derived from the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 2$ survey (Pooley \& Ryle 1968; Longair 1974). It is clear that the two histograms coincide, within the statistical uncertainty: there is no significant difference in the flux-density distribution of sources between ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{2}$ and ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{5}$ (in the range II $\leqslant S_{408}<500 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$ ). In view of this agreement the distributions from the two areas can be combined to give a distribution which, to the best of our knowledge, is typical of the whole sky; this is shown in Fig. 5, with the data of Mills, Davies \& Robertson (1973) at higher flux densities-for uniformity the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ flux densities have been increased by 9 per cent to conform to the scale used by Mills et al. (that of Wyllie 1969). There is good agreement in the region of overlap $\left(220 \leqslant S_{408}<500 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}\right)$ between the small areas $5 \mathrm{C}_{2}$ and ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{5}$ (total about 0.008 sr ) and the larger area from which the results of Mills et al. are derived ( $0 \cdot 160$ sr at declination about $-20^{\circ}$ ). There is no evidence from the present results that, at 408 MHz , sources are not uniformly distributed over the sky, at least in the region of convergence of the source counts below the maximum of $d N / d N_{0}$.

Fig. 5. Combined differential source counts from 5C 5, 5C 2 and Mills et al. (1973; i.e. the Molongo MCi survey for $220 \leqslant S_{408}<$ $10000 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} m^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$, and a whole-sky compilation for $S_{408} \geqslant 10^{25} \mathrm{Wm}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$ ). The normalization is to $\mathrm{N}_{0}=750 \mathrm{sr} r^{-1}$ (S/ro $\left.{ }^{-26} W^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}\right)^{-1 \cdot 5}$ but note that in this Figure the flux densities are on the scale of Wyllie so that both fux densities and normalization differ from those of Fig. 4 (a). The lowest flux density range ( $12.0 \leqslant S_{408}<21 \cdot 3 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$ ) includes only the ${ }_{5} C 5$ sources.
(b) 1407 MHz

The number of sources observed at this frequency is small but, allowing for the large statistical errors, the source count shown in Fig. 4(b) agrees fairly well with those of Katgert et al. (1973) and Gillespie (1975) shown in the same Figure. The anisotropy in source counts at 1400 MHz found by Machalski, Zieba \& Maslowski (1974) in the GB survey suggests that the $5_{5}{ }_{5} 1407 \mathrm{MHz}$ source count might not be typical of the whole sky. Gillespie (1975), however, found no significant difference between the 1420 MHz source counts from his survey area, adjacent to the area surveyed at 1407 MHz in ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 5$, and those from other ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ regions. There is an apparent change in the slope of the source count in Fig. 4(b) at low flux densities, but in view of the possible errors mentioned earlier, this cannot be regarded as significant.

## 8. SPECTRA

The spectral indices $\alpha(408,1407)$ of the sources which were observed at both frequencies are given in column 9 of Table I. Formal errors can be derived from the uncertainties in the flux density measurements (columns 6 and 8) by assuming that the errors in measurement at the two frequencies are uncorrelated, which is valid for receiver noise and for confusion by sidelobes and grating rings (which change their position with frequency of observation). Typical uncertainties in spectral index are about $0 \cdot \mathrm{I}$.

In order to obtain a complete sample of spectral indices for sources selected at $1407 \mathrm{MHz}, S_{408}$ was estimated for the 18 sources which fall below the completeness limit at 408 MHz . These estimates, or in some cases upper limits corresponding to four times the rms noise level, are given in Table IV, with the corresponding spectral indices.

Table IV
Sources observed at 1407 MHz but not at 408 MHz

| ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 5$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Estimated } S_{408}{ }^{\star} \\ \left(10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\alpha(408,1407)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 89 | $7 \cdot 7$ | $\bigcirc \cdot 10$ |
| 98 | $<7 \cdot 6$ | $<0.72$ |
| 101 | $<7 \cdot 6$ | $<0.56$ |
| III | $<7 \cdot 7$ | $<0.57$ |
| 112 | $<7 \cdot 7$ | $<-0.44$ |
| 118 | $<7 \cdot 5$ | $<0.92$ |
| 124 | $<7 \cdot 5$ | $<0.99$ |
| 129 | $<7 \cdot 6$ | $<0 \cdot 78$ |
| 131 | $<7.5$ | $<-\mathrm{I} \cdot 74$ |
| 132 | $<7 \cdot 4$ | $<0.94$ |
| 138 | $8 \cdot 3$ | 0.85 |
| 143 | $<7 \cdot 5$ | $<0.18$ |
| 144 | $8 \cdot 5$ | $0 \cdot 90$ |
| 147 | $9 \cdot 4$ | $0 \cdot 67$ |
| 149 | $7 \cdot 6$ | $0 \cdot 70$ |
| 150 | 8.1 | 0.68 |
| 162 | $<7 \cdot 8$ | $<0.44$ |
| 174 | $<8 \cdot 0$ | $<0.48$ |

[^0]

Fig. 6. Spectral distributions of sources observed in the ${ }_{5} C_{5}$ surveys; arrows indicate upper limits to spectral index. (a) All sources observed at 1407 MHz in ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{5}$. (b) Sources with $10 \leqslant S_{1407}<200 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$ observed in $5 \mathrm{C} 2,3$ and 4 (Willson 1972). (c) The distribution (b) together with the 20 sources from (a) having $10 \leqslant S_{1407}<200 \times$ ${ }_{1} 0^{-29} W m^{-2} H z^{-1}$.

The spectral index distribution for the complete sample of 47 sources is shown in Fig. 6(a). This sample excludes the sources $5_{5} \mathrm{C}_{5}$.191 and 193, which lie outside the 15 per cent contour of the 1407 MHz reception pattern, and assumes ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 5.165$ to be part of ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 5 . \mathrm{I} 69$ as mentioned in Section 6. Note that the sample is not complete above a fixed limiting flux density, because of the variation of the limiting flux density across the field, and is therefore not an example of a ' spectral index distribution $S_{\nu}(\alpha)$ ' according to the definition of Fanaroff \& Longair (1973). The distribution can be 'corrected' by weighting the sources according to the area observed, but it is then dominated by a small number of weak sources which have large weights, and is difficult to assess statistically. Note that the sensitivity at 408 MHz is almost uniform over the region surveyed at 1407 MHz , so that the


Fig. 7. Weighted spectral index distribution for the 29 sources observed at 1407 MHz with flux density greater than $4 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{Wm}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$ and signal-to-noise ratio greater than six.
uncorrected distribution is unbiased, and only differs significantly from the corrected distribution if there is a strong dependence of $S f_{1407}(\alpha)$ on flux density $S$ over the range represented ( $2 \leqslant S_{1407}<250 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$ ). A corrected distribution is shown in Fig. 7, where sources fainter than $4 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$ have had to be omitted to prevent the weight of any source exceeding three times the minimum weight, and sources with a signal-to-noise ratio less than six (at 1407 MHz ) have also been omitted.

The distribution of Fig. 6(a) is very similar to that derived by Willson (1972) from the three surveys ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{2}, 5 \mathrm{C}_{3}$ and ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{4}$ for sources with $10 \leqslant S_{1407}<200 \times$ $10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$ which is shown in Fig. 6(b) ${ }^{\star}$; the $20{ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{5}$ sources in this flux density range were added to Willson's distribution to derive Fig. 6(c). Some characteristic statistics of the three distributions (Fig. 6(a)-(c)) are tabulated in Table V.

There is no evidence for anisotropy from the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ spectral index distributions. Indeed, the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{5}$ survey shows the same 'excess' of steep-spectrum sources at low flux densities that Willson found in $5 \mathrm{C} 2,3$ and 4 . The difficulties of explaining this excess have been discussed by Willson (1972) and by Fanaroff \& Longair (1972). It cannot be explained simply by selection against flat-spectrum sources. Fanaroff \& Longair noticed a correlation between steep spectrum and large angular size in Willson's sample; this correlation, however, is not obvious in 5 C 5 . Six of the 47 sources in Fig. 6(a) are extended (see Table I), but all have $0 \cdot 7<\alpha<1 \cdot 1$, and they do not include the sources with the steepest spectra.

The good agreement of the spectral index distribution of the present sample with that of Willson is to be contrasted with the assertion of Maslowski (1972a, 1974) that, for $S_{1400}>150 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$, the distributions of $\alpha(408,1400)$ and of $\alpha(1400,2695)$ are markedly different in the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{1}$ and ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{2}$ survey areas, with generally flatter spectra occurring in 5 C 1 . For $\alpha(408,1400)$ the effect is largely due to the errors in the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ i survey, but these do not affect the $\alpha$ (1400, 2695) distributions, and there still appears to be real anisotropy. However, the present observations show that the 'spectral anomaly' associated with the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{I}}$ area either does not extend to the adjacent region surveyed at 1407 MHz in ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 5$, or is confined to sources with $S_{1407}>150 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$, of which there are

[^1]
## Table V

| Statistics of the spectral index distribution <br> No. of <br> sources | Mean | Median | Fraction <br> $\alpha<0.5$ | Mean and standard deviation <br> (excluding $\alpha<0.3$ ) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 47 | $0.67 \pm 0.07$ | 0.79 | $0.21 \pm 0.06$ | $0.85 \pm 0.03$ | 0.20 |
| 38 | $0.72 \pm 0.06$ | 0.77 | $0.26 \pm 0.07$ | $0.83 \pm 0.04$ | 0.25 |
| 58 | $0.63 \pm 0.07$ | 0.75 | $0.24 \pm 0.06$ | $0.85 \pm 0.03$ | 0.23 |

I. All sources observed at 1407 MHz in 5 C 5
2. $10<S_{1407}<200 \times$ 10 $^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$
(5C 2, 3, 4) (Willson 1972)
3. $10<S_{1407}<200 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~W} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}$
(5C 2, 3, 4, 5)
The mean is unduly affected by the sources of negative spectral index and the median and mean (excluding $\alpha \geqslant 0.3$ ) are more characteristic statistics. The latter has been chosen because there is a clear division in all three samples between $\alpha<0.3$ and $\alpha \geqslant 0.4$. The statistics have been calculated by including upper limits and true estimates with equal weight.
few in the present sample. The spectra of the $5_{5} \mathrm{C}$ sources which were re-observed at 408 MHz in ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{5}$ are discussed by Gillespie (1975) who used the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{5}$ flux densities and new measurements at 1421 MHz (see Section 4.2) to re-derive the distribution of $\alpha(408,1400)$ for part of the $5^{2} \mathrm{C}_{1}$ region (his Fig. 2). He found no significant differences in spectral distribution between the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{2},{ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{3},{ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{4}$ and ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 5$ areas. Gillespie also repeated Maslowski's analysis, using the new 408 MHz flux densities from ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{5}$ in place of the less satisfactory results of ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{1}$; although there is still a difference in mean spectral index ( $\bar{\alpha}\left({ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{5}\right)=0.57 \pm 0.06$, $\bar{\alpha}\left(5 \mathrm{C}_{2}\right)=0.79 \pm 0.06$ ), this difference is not incompatible with the expected sampling fluctuations. The reduction of the difference in $\bar{\alpha}$ is due primarily to the difference in flux density scale between $5_{5} \mathrm{C}_{5}$ and ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ ( Section 4.1 ); but it should be noted that there may be a further scaling difference of a few per cent between ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 5$ and ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C} 2$.

## 9. CONCLUSIONS

The following are the principal results of the $5 \mathrm{C}_{5}$ survey:
(a) Two hundred and thirty sources have been observed at 408 MHz ; of these about 150 have not been observed before.
(b) Fifty-two sources have been observed at 1407 MHz , including 32 of those observed at 408 MHz .
(c) Suspected errors in the flux densities observed in the ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ I survey have been confirmed by direct observation.
(d) There is no evidence for anisotropy in the radio source distribution. The flux density distributions of $5 \mathrm{C}_{5}$ and $5 \mathrm{C}_{2}$ are in good agreement, and the spectral index distribution of ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}_{5}$ is similar to those of the earlier ${ }_{5} \mathrm{C}$ surveys.

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## APPENDIX

## THE ENVELOPE RESPONSE OF THE ONE-MILE TELESCOPE

The polar diagrams of the three primary aerials of the telescope were measured by making observations of an intense point source, one aerial of each interferometer pair being offset by a variable angle from the direction of the source. The combined envelope responses of the three aerials for the two frequencies, taking into account the grading used in the synthesis, are given in Fig. Ar, which shows radial profiles in the East-West direction. In the North-South direction the 1407 MHz profile is identical, and the 408 MHz profile has the same shape but is 10 per cent wider; limited observations in other directions of offset are consistent with the response having elliptical symmetry. The rms error in the measured values of the response is estimated to be 3 per cent. The direction of maximum response is slightly offset from that assumed-in the present survey the maximum is $2^{\prime} \cdot 6$ East and $o^{\prime} \cdot 4$ North of the quoted survey centre.


Fig. Ai. East-West radial profiles of the envelope responses of the One-Mile telescope at 408 MHz (a) and 1407 MHz (b).


[^0]:    * The upper limits are four times the rms noise level.

[^1]:    * Willson's spectral indices were calculated according to the flux density scale (KPW) used in the present survey.

