

**DISTRIBUTION OF BIVALVES IN RELATION TO SEDIMENT COMPOSITION
IN A SHALLOW CHANNEL OFF THE COAST
OF PHUKET ISLAND, THAILAND**

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ABSTRACT

Five transects samplings were made in a channel located between Lon and Phuket Islands, Thailand. The channel was influenced by semidiurnal tidal currents. Connections between bottom conditions and presence of bivalves were investigated. Two separate subtidal hard-bottom areas with high density of bivalves were found. In both areas *M. odiolus philippinarum* (Janley, 1843) was the dominant species. Outside these areas very few bivalves were present. A clear relationship between granulometrics, organic composition of sediments and bivalve diversity could not be shown (regression analysis).