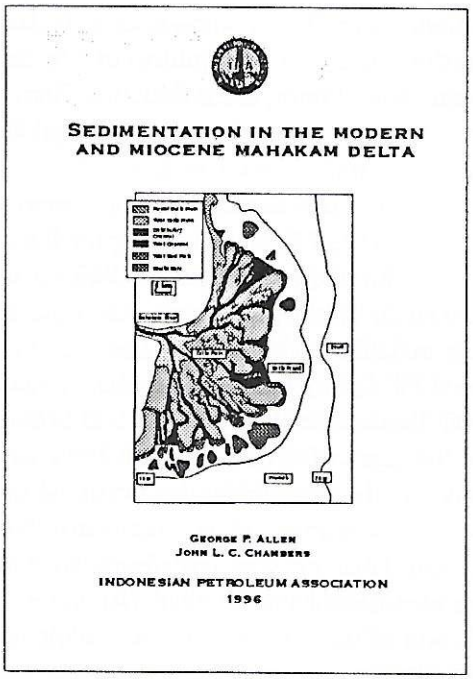
Book Review
SEDIMENTATION IN THE MODERN AND MIOCENE MAHAKAM DELTA

By : George P.Allen and John.L.Chambers (1998), 236 p., Published by IPA (Indonesian Petroleum Association).

Reviewed by Dyah Tribuanawati (PT. Exspan Sumatera)



The cover of the book will immediately impress anybody. It has colorful illustration of the sedimentary environments of the modern Mahakam delta (Allen et al., 1979). The content of the book has even more interesting figures (with some of them are in color) and more importantly, they are very simple, concise, easy to be understood, and perhaps might remove the barriers of language for national geoscientists.

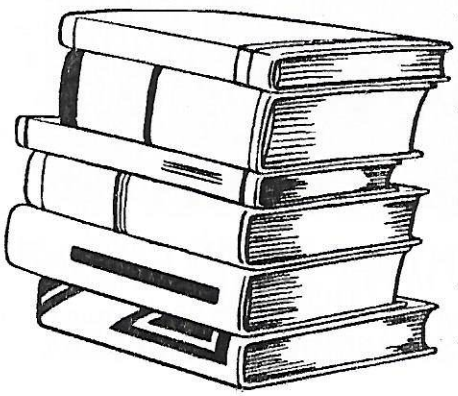
The objective of the book is to describe the sedimentary processes, depositional environment and reservoir geometry of the modern Mahakam delta and the Lower Miocene deltaic succession in onshore Kutei Basin. The book is divided into 5 parts with the first two parts as the major sections.

Part 1 presents a general review of sedimentary processes in deltas and coastal environments. This is in fact a good review for beginners in sedimentology, especially for fluvial to shallow marine environments. As mentioned above, a lot of sketches are included which might be good as well for lecturing, especially the topics on tidal system, ichnofacies, and detail of deltaic system.

Part 2 describes the sedimentary processes, facies and sand geometry in the modern Mahakam delta. This part provides excellent and comprehensive description of the modern system which enable anyone who never been to the Mahakam to fully understand its depositional system. It also contains extensive illustration and photographs of each subdivisions of the delta. At the end, there is a bit discussion of the sequence stratigraphic analysis of the Quaternary succession.

Part 3 discusses the regional geology of the Kutei Basin whereas part 4 describes 1997 field trip objects on the modern Mahakam delta and for outcrop sections in Lower Miocene deltaic deposits near Samarinda city. Part 5 contains their conclusion and discussion on the similarities and differences between the modern and the ancient deltas.

Since the authors have put extensive list of references, this book will assist future research on both the present day Mahakam delta and in the ancient succession in Kutei Basin, as well as being useful guide to some practical aspects of deltaic sedimentology for exploration and production studies. It is recommended to have book as a reference for any geoscientist who deals or will deal with deltaic sandstone reservoirs in general, particularly in Kutei Basin.



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