Preliminary study on the Pahang River Delta

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A short, preliminary site study of the present-day Pahang River delta indicates that although marine wave regimes are dominant as exhibited by the cuspate-shaped delta, tidal and fluvial influences are substantial as evident from the within-channel bar morphology and bedforms. Further detail studies are necessary to understand the interacting influences of the waves, longshore current drag, tidal surge, and fluvial flows, in order to build a sedimentary model for this rather unique system.

Brief preliminary topographic map and satellite imagery studies indicate that the Pahang River was not static. It has undergone at least two avulsion; the present day delta is in the middle, the one prior to it flowed northeast along the almost abandoned Sungai Pahang Tua, and the earliest traceable one flowed southwest, probably along the abandoned Sungai Miang; together they make up the Pahang Delta System.

The Pahang River Delta System makes a unique yet challenging case study of a tropical/equatorial dominantly wave-dominated delta system, but it calls for strong financial and manpower support for acquiring, among other data, sedimentary cores and shallow seismic investigations.

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