Understanding the Occurrence of Point-Bar Deposits versus Vertically Accreted Channel-Fills

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Abstract

Inclined Heterolithic Stratification, or IHS, was introduced in the late 1980's to link descriptions related to the internal architecture of different subtidal deposits (Thomas et al., 1989). IHS has been observed in many depositional environments, from rivers, to shelf turbidites. It has garnered the most use when describing deposits from tidally influenced rivers and in estuary settings. This has led to a strong association of IHS deposits to point-bar settings. In mud-dominated tidal settings, however, IHS is commonly preserved within vertically aggraded, non-abandonment phase channel fills.