

珠江口盆地下中新早期的 的水下潮汐三角洲

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提要 珠江口盆地第一次大规模海侵,发生在晚渐新世末期的陆架沉降过程中,使长期处于封闭状态的陆相陷湖盆,逐渐向半封闭的海盆转化。由于盆地与广海之间的通道较狭窄,造成了半封闭浅海内较强烈的潮汐作用,潮汐砂体十分发育,其中下中新统沉积早期(下珠江组)的水下潮汐三角洲砂体是在盆地水域不断扩大背景下,在涨潮流与退潮流的频繁作用下,于潮汐通道附近的三角区域内建造起来的。水下潮汐三角洲主要由潮汐砂坝(砂脊)构造,为多套向上变粗的韵律层,其结构、构造有别于河砂和海滩砂。本文论述了水下潮汐三角洲发生、发展与消亡的兴衰史,并对其沉积特征进行了描述。

主题词 岩相古地理 潮汐三角洲砂体 潮汐作用

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珠江口盆地是新生代发育起来的大型断拗盆地,地处南中国海北部大陆架,面积约15万平方公里。目前,已在盆地内部勘探井50余孔,揭露了数千米沉积岩层,其中海相和海陆过渡相地层十分发育,主要集中在第三系和第四系地层中,沉积类型丰富多彩。大量资料证实,盆地内的碎屑岩储集层十分发育,其中下珠江组与珠海组砂岩含量普遍较高,达50—80%,甚至在远离主要物源区的盆地南部,砂岩含量非但未减少,反而有增加变粗的趋势。盆地砂岩分布的上述状况究竟是什么因素造成的呢?本文将就此问题进行沉积相方面的解释。

一 潮汐作用

潮汐是海洋环境中一种常见的自然现象。不论是在现代还是在古代,潮汐作用都是搬运碎屑物质的重要地质营力之一,特别是在半封闭浅海和海湾中,随着波浪作用的减弱,潮汐的搬运能力就显得更加突出。强有力的潮汐流可将陆源碎屑物质作较长距离的搬运,甚至将其带到广海中。潮汐主流经过的地区,砂的含量将增高,尤其是潮汐通道(海峡)两侧的喇叭口范围,常形成水下潮汐三角洲砂体。但开口较狭窄的半封闭海中,常不会出现强烈的潮汐作用,例如现代地中海的潮汐作用就较弱。

水下潮汐三角洲与河流潮汐三角洲或河口湾潮控三角洲不同,前者的潮汐砂体常发育在远离河口区的潮汐出入口附近,是靠涨潮流与退潮流的往复作用营造而成,例如我国琼洲海峡附近的潮汐砂体。后两者的潮汐砂体主要发育在河口附近,是河流与潮汐流双重作用的产物,例如我国现代

长江口的河流潮汐三角洲和钱塘江口潮控三角洲的砂体。水下潮汐三角洲砂体的形态和发育状况,与自然地理面貌、潮差大小、潮汐流强度及物源供给丰度等因素有关。本文论及的水下潮汐三角洲发育在珠江口盆地南部下中新统早期(下珠江组)地层中,与发育于泻湖与障壁岛之间的潮汐三角洲极为相似,但其沉积规模相当可观,因为珠江口盆地在下中新统沉积早期已是一个面积超过10万平方公里的陆表海,它不但有着充足的物源供给,而且适于建造水下潮汐三角洲的自然古地理环境延续时间也较长。

二 海侵与水下潮汐三角洲建造

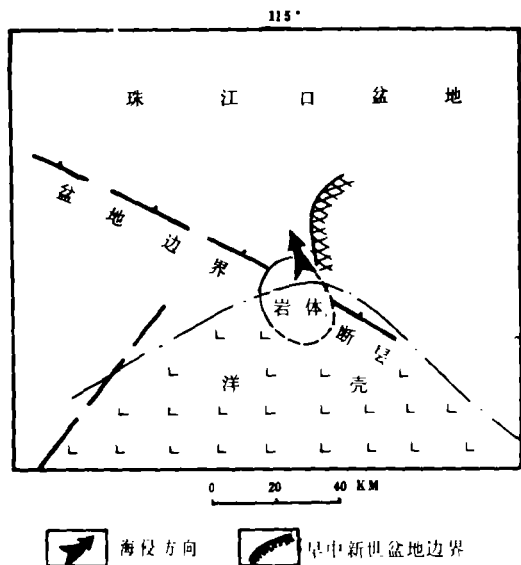
大量实际资料证实,珠江口盆地在早第三纪晚期经历了一次大规模构造运动,从而逐渐结束了断陷湖盆的历史,开始向拗陷期转化。珠江口盆地第一次大规模海侵就发生在剥蚀夷平后期的盆地沉降过程之中,主要海侵通道在现今盆地珠Ⅱ拗陷南端与广海(洋壳)之间的狭长地带,并由一条北西向边界基底断裂构成“通道”的西侧边界。此断裂发生在早第三纪盆地断陷期,后又不断地活动,控制了断层下降盘珠海组与珠江组的沉积,而断层的上盘直到中中新世韩江组才最后沉没在水下;该断裂从陆壳一直延伸到洋壳边缘,长约140公里,陆壳与洋壳之间发育着一个椭圆形火成岩体(燕山期花岗岩)。由于南海形成时间较晚(多数人认为中渐新一早中新世)和火成岩体的屏障作用,故大规模海侵未发生在珠海组沉积以前,伴随着区域构造运动后期陆架区的整体下沉,火成岩体的屏障作用逐步消失,最终导致了广海与珠江口盆的水域连为一体,于是发生了大规模海侵。显然,盆地南部北西向边界基底断裂,是沟通盆地与广海之间的重要通道。盆地珠海组地层中发现较多海相生物化石及丰富的海绿石,支持了以上结论。地震资料进一步证实珠Ⅱ南拗陷具备发生海侵的古地理条件(同时不排除盆地其它方向上也有开口的可能)。虽然“通道”范围沉积较薄,特别是火成岩体顶部缺失珠海组和部分下珠江组沉积,但并不能就此说明盆地开启较晚,因为活跃的水动力条件(潮汐流往复冲刷)使火成岩体顶部在较长时间内未接受沉积是正常的现象,例如英吉利海峡的大部分和芬地湾的一部分都没有沉积物,后者潮差可达70英尺。地层沉积厚度较薄常是强水动力条件的表现。虽然笔者现在还不了解海峡部位的岩性,但推测该处可能是极粗相带(潮沟沉积)。鉴于珠江口盆地南部(T_3 构造层以下)漏斗形沉积区与北凸的洋壳相交于火成岩体,预示海峡的宽度不太大,根据地震资料推断,海峡的最宽部分为50公里,最窄部分仅有30公里,与火成岩体的宽度大致相同(图1)。

下中新世早期,珠江口盆地北部及西北部是连绵起伏的侵蚀山地,其与盆地交界处常为陡峭的山崖,地表高差较大。发源于北部山地之中的众多水系向南注入珠江口盆地,其中古珠江水系最为发育。应用地震资料,笔者发现了古珠江水系的主要入海口,即在珠Ⅰ拗陷西北角(距现代珠江口东南约90公里)发现一个长约25公里,宽1—25公里并向南开启的喇叭口。该喇叭口两侧为凸出的基底老山,其间显示出一个大型河谷地貌。地震横剖面中的不连续反射显然与河道的沉积有关,因为附近钻井剖面中见大套辫状河河流相砂、砾岩,是目前盆地内最粗岩相,其含砂(砾)量占地层厚度80%以上,预示该喇叭口是古珠江水系的主要入海口。地层含砂百分比等值线图进一步证实古珠江水系不但是注入盆地的最大水系,而且是盆地物源的主要供给者。除北部、西北部山系以外,盆地其它方向上基本为低丘陵地貌所环绕,仅正南方向有水道与广海相通,因而呈现出一个半

封闭海的古地理概貌^①。这种古地貌特征将促成盆地内较强烈的潮汐作用,使之成为潮控浅海(潮汐海),同时使海水盐度处于不正常状态中。珠江口盆地地下中新统早期地层中发育的潮汐砂体及广盐性生物群、膏盐沉积证实了上述的推论。

从第一次大规模海侵到下珠江组沉积末期,珠江口盆地沉积了大套海陆过渡相地层(本文将潮汐海与大型泻湖相类比),其中珠海组为充填式沉积,主要为冲积物和潮汐水道沉积,潮汐三角洲尚不发育。到下珠江组沉积时期,随着盆地水域的不断扩大,出现了广泛的被覆式沉积。潮汐砂体在每次水体逐渐变浅和潮汐作用逐渐增强的沉积环境中形成。由于盆地不断振荡性下沉,使地层中出现多套向上变粗的韵律层,因而提高了该套地层的对比精度。本文解剖下珠江组上部的一套时间单元地层(厚 120—250m),以证实潮汐作用和各类潮汐体的存在。

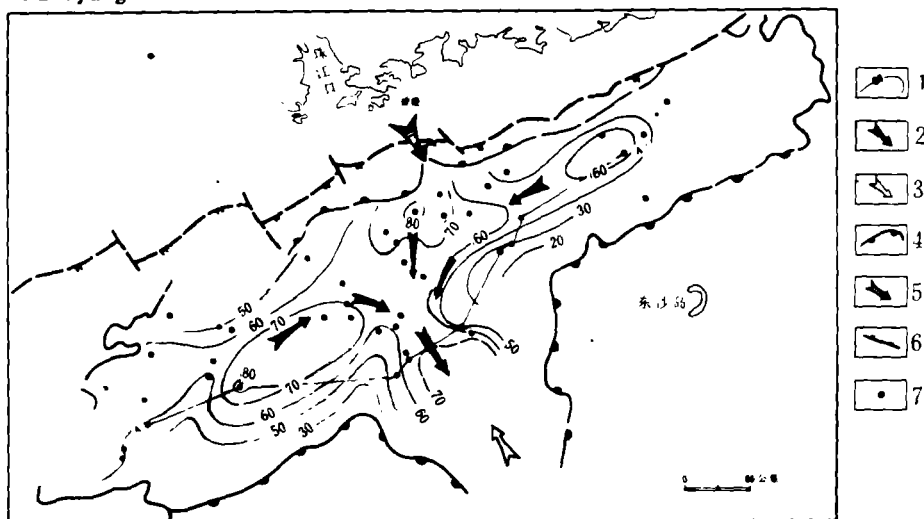
图 2 是该套时间单元地层含砂(砾)百分比等值线图,图中揭示全盆地范围内地层含砂量普遍



注:岩体指火成岩体
海侵方向 早中新世盆地边界

图 1. 珠江口盆地南部基底结构图
(据石油部研究院李 年等)

Fig.1 Structural map of the south basement in Zhujiangkou Basin



1. 地层含砂百分含量等值线 2. 退潮流主流线 3. 涨潮流方向 4. 沉积边界 5. 主次要物源方向 6. 边界断层 7. 井位
图 2 珠江口盆地地下珠江组上部地层含砂百分比等值线及潮汐平面水动力状况分析图

Fig.2 Pay sand percentage isopleth of upper of low Zhujiang member in Zhujiangkou Basin and analytical map of tidal plane hydrodynamic state

①钱光华等 1982 地震地层学在珠江口盆地的应用

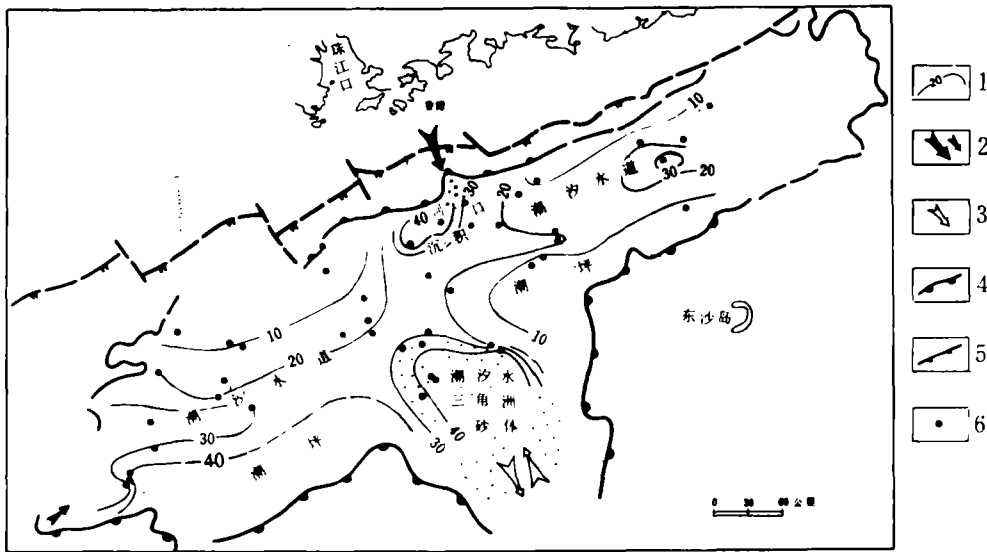
较高,一般含量为60%,最高可达82%(古珠江河口区),其分布规律是沿盆地轴线含量增高;另外沿古珠江物源沉积方向上形成又一砂岩高含量带。两者在盆地中央十字相交,相交范围的砂岩含量降低。这种砂岩分布规律可证明潮汐作用的存在,因为只有较强烈的潮汐作用,才可能将盆地边缘所提供的陆源碎屑实行如此规模的再分配。可以想象,退潮流是途经盆地轴线带向盆地中央汇集,并汇同古珠江水流向南过潮汐通道(海峡)进入广海,这一平面上的水动力状况与砂岩高含量带的出现位置正好吻合。前文已述,古珠江水系向南注入珠江口盆地,一般来说,其能量应随着进入水体距离和水深的加大而递减,使得沉积物作由粗变细的分异。然而,强烈的潮汐作用改变了正常的分异顺序,出现了从河口区到潮汐通道粗—细—粗的分布格局,即河口范围岩性最粗(砂、砾岩占地层厚度80%左右),河口区与水下潮汐三角洲之间岩性变细(中、细砂岩占地层厚度50%左右),到水下潮汐三角洲沉积区,岩性又逐渐变粗(中、粗砂岩占地层厚度60%以上),潮汐通道内的岩性可能会变得更粗。因古珠江水流的喷射方向与潮汐流入盆地的方向大致相同,又因河流能量逐渐变弱和退潮流能量由弱变强,所以河口与水下潮汐三角洲之间形成较低能区,致使砂岩含量降低。而潮汐流在退出盆地之前,遇到了喇叭口形地貌,一方面其流速因不断收水而递增,使岩性向南逐渐变粗;另一方面潮汐流所携带的大量碎屑颗粒不断在喇叭口形区域内卸载,富集成水下潮汐三角洲砂体。而当盆地下沉水变深时,潮汐三角洲地区才会接受泥质沉积。

三 水下潮汐三角洲沉积特征

下珠江组沉积晚期,是潮汐砂体发育的极盛期。在盆地轴线带上沉积的主要是潮汐水道砂体,靠近障壁岛内缘是潮坪沉积的有利部位,水下潮汐三角洲则发育在潮汐通道面朝盆地一侧的三角区域内,叠加面积约1万平方公里,其平面总貌为三角形,故称之为三角洲。水下潮汐三角洲区沉积厚度远大于盆地其它地区,砂岩含量一般占地层厚度65%,目前揭露的最高含量达70%,多由中、粗砂岩构成;其砂体呈厚层状,单层最大厚度可达60米,本文称之为潮汐砂坝(砂脊)。连井剖面中,潮汐砂坝砂的分布较为稳定,向翼部变薄的规律,使之单层砂体几何形态与地层含砂百分比等值线图形态极为相似,其轴线都与潮汐流入盆地的方向平行,说明是潮汐流往复作用下的产物(图3、图4)。

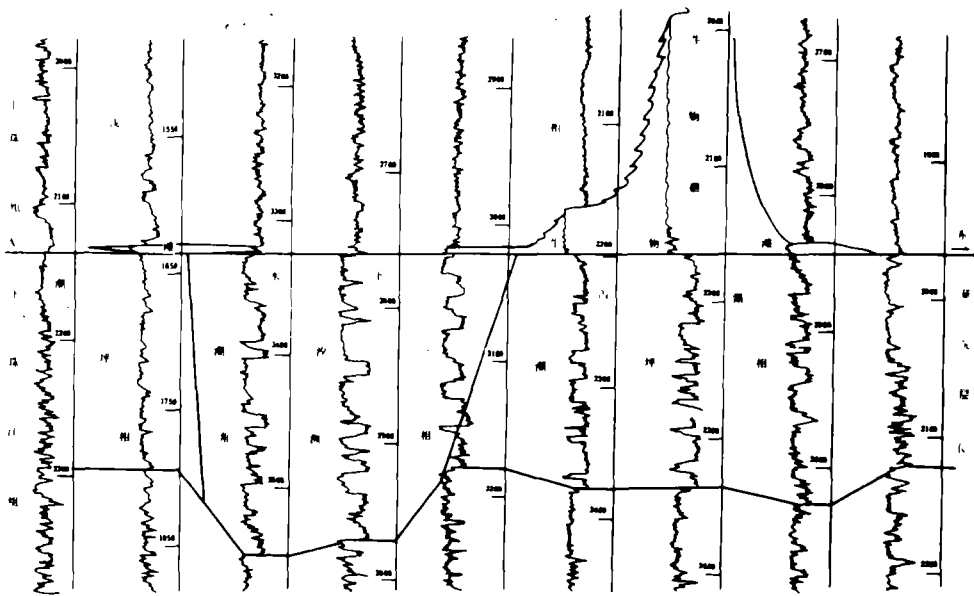
潮汐砂坝可分为核部和翼部,核部砂岩不但粗且单层厚度大,翼部砂层变薄并与泥质岩频繁互层。平浅的高能环境,使潮汐砂坝砂体不但粒度较粗且较为纯净,如砂坝中段几乎都是由少含泥质成分的中砂、细—中砂和粗—中砂构成。堆积的不均匀性,使潮汐砂坝顶部时常出露水面,形成潮汐岛地貌,故在砂坝核部见大量褐色氧化铁质并不奇怪,它们是暴露的标志。但丰富的海相生物化石碎片(棘皮、苔藓、有孔虫等)及大量介壳出现在砂坝砂体内,说明它们是在水下沉积的。动荡的水动力条件及沉积速率较大,使化石作分散状埋藏,因此潮汐砂坝砂的分选性远不如海滩砂、潮坪砂和部分河砂,分选性一般为中—差。

图5是水下潮汐三角洲综合岩相剖面,它大体上揭示了潮汐砂坝核部的一系列沉积特征,对识别潮汐三角洲砂体十分重要。剖面中,潮汐砂坝由众多逆粒序小层叠置而成,电测曲线为上、下陡中间锯齿状形态,这可能与潮汐流能量经常周期性变化或主流线的迁移有关。潮汐砂坝砂岩中普遍见波状层理、脉状层理和低角度斜层理(倾角一般 10° 左右),砂层顶部常见搅混构造。波状层理和脉状层理是常见的潮汐层理;低角度斜层理可能是潮汐砂坝上的潮渠水道造成的;搅混构造



1. 碎屑岩区砂岩等值线 2. 主要物源及次要物源 3. 潮汐出入方向 4. 沉积边界 5. 边界断层 6. 井层
 图 3. 珠江口盆地下珠江组顶部岩相图(单层砂体分布趋势)

Fig.3 Lithofacies palaeogeographic map of upper of low Zhujiang member in Zhujiangkou Basin



注：剖面位置见图 2

图 4. 水下潮汐三角洲横剖面图
 (珠江口盆地中新统(下珠江组晚期)岩相剖面图)

Fig.4 Cross section of subaqueous tidal delta

与潮汐岛边缘的垮塌有关,其分选性极差,为含泥含砾粗一中砂岩。

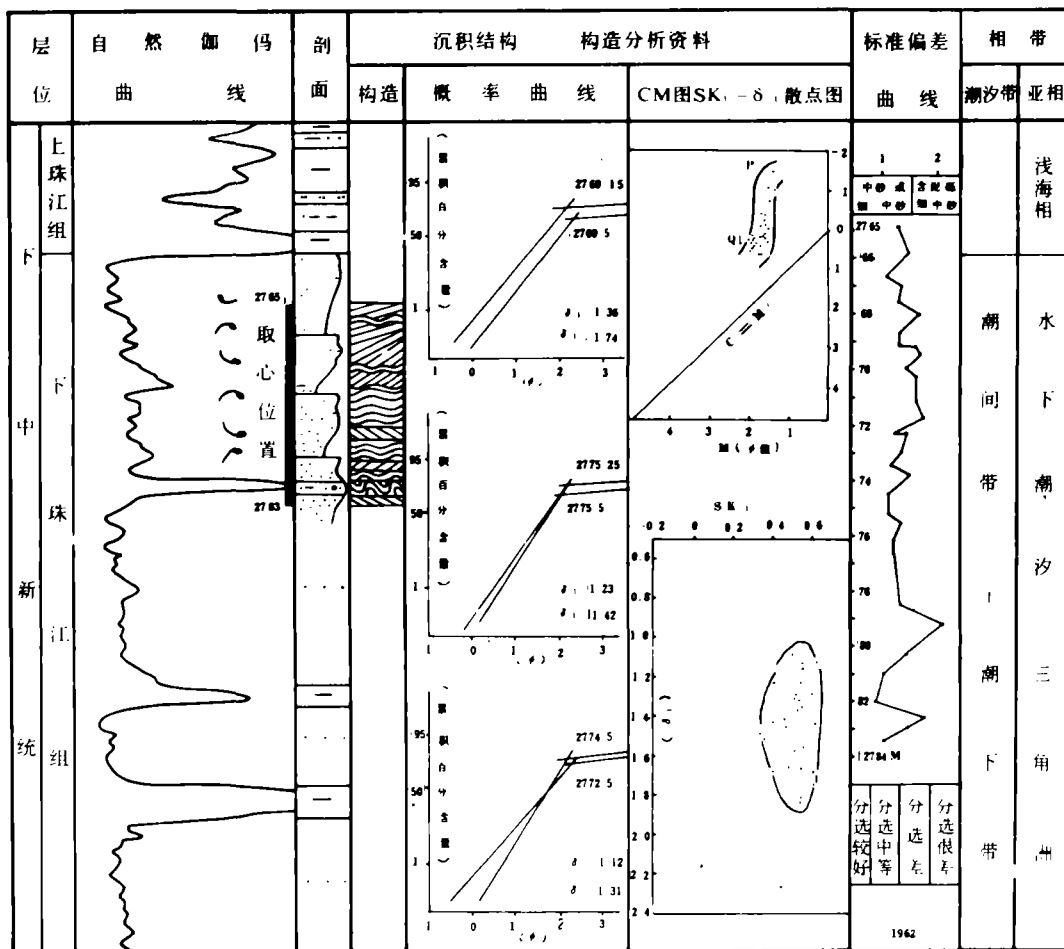


图5 水下潮汐为三角洲综合岩相剖面

Fig. 5 Synthetic lithofacies profile of subaqueous tidal delta

潮汐砂坝砂为成熟度较高的长石石英砂岩。所有样品中, 少见岩屑成分, 其石英含量一般为70%, 最高可达78%。而地处主要物源区附近井的砂岩薄片, 岩屑平均含量超过5%, 石英平均含量仅60%, 此外, 潮汐砂坝砂岩中的稳定重矿物含量也较物源区高2—4倍。以上资料说明, 潮汐砂坝砂主要是经长途搬运后沉积下来的。如果从古珠江口区到潮汐三角洲中段, 搬运距离至少100公里。

同河流一样, 潮汐流也是一种牵流, CM图形态与河流的“S”型可对比。但潮汐流的流动面积往往十分宽广, 流速的变化也较有规律, 即进入盆地时能量随距离增大而递减, 退出盆地时能量随距离加大而递增, 加之潮汐流的间歇性, 因此潮汐砂坝砂与河砂和海滩砂除在沉积结构、构造上有差别外, 粒度结构参数也有着明显的差别。标准偏差与偏度离散图可将潮汐砂坝砂与河

砂和海滩砂加以区分(图5), 其 SK_1 值在 0.35—0.65 之间, 表现为极正偏态, 分选中一差。而费里德曼的现代河砂和海滩砂的 SK_1 值却主要集中在 0.4—0.3 之间, 即有正偏、负偏又有近对称型, 就是缺少极正偏态部分。CM 图中, 潮汐砂坝砂缺失典型河砂之中的滚动和均匀悬浮部分, 概率曲线中同样缺失滚动组分, 而悬浮组分的分选性极差。以上几种图的粒度分布, 可能与潮汐砂坝砂的粒度分带性即该部位缺少更粗和更细的粒级有关。粒度粗偏可能是潮汐砂坝砂的结构特征。

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SUBAQUEOUS TIDAL DELTA OF ZHUJIANG BASIN IN THE EARLY LOWER MIOCENE

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Abstract

Tidal action was extremely strong in semi-enclosed epicirc sea connecting with wide sea, the epicirc sea was named Tidal Sea. Near the narrow tidal passageway, there was a fine environment to create subaqueous tidal delta. Because zhujiangkou Basin was provided with above natural geographic condition during early deposition in the lower Miocene, a large suite of subaqueous tidal delta sand body was developed. It became one of the most important sedimentary face in that period.

In Zhujiangkou Basin, the first widely transgression took place in the late of the South China Sea formed. The transgression passageway was a long and narrow area between the south of the basin and wide sea, the west boundary of "passageway" was formed by a NW trend boundary fundamental fault. The fault was a long growth fault with 140km, and was occurred during the basin rifted in Eocene. Its south part was an oval igneous body (granitic intrusion in the Yanshan movement) and cut off the edge of the north convex oceanic crust. Because of the defence action of igneous body, the transgression had not taken place in Eocene. The strong tectogenesis in the late Oligocene ended sealed state of the basin before. As the whole of shelf area subsiding in the late of tectonic movement, the projecting igneous body gradually sank under water and the basin finally integrated with wide sea. Analysing the passageway of transgression the authors considered that it showed a funnelshaped and the narrowest part is about 30 km and equate to that of igneous body.

The strong tidal action altered normal sedimentary differentiation of the basin and sandstones were commonly developed during the period. The sandstone was charactered "divagated sand", the thickness was more than 65 percent of that of stratum in the south of the basin (inside of the strait) where was far from main source

area, and was considered as developed area of subaqueous tidal delta.

Tidal delta of Zhujiangkou Basin covered the superposed distribution area of about 10000 km², the thickness was about several hundred meters. Single layer sandbody often occurred with lens-shaped, the thickest part was about 60m. Here, and was called as tidal sandstone bar in this paper. In the cross section, the tidal delta consisted of multiseriate reversed rhythmic sand which changed from fine to coarse upward by superposition. The sandstones were cleaner, lower argillaceous content, and middle to poorly sorted. It reflected the high energy environment and fast buried history when tidal flowed in or out basin. Nonsequence current bedding, veined bedding and cross-stratification were common stratification in tidal sand bar. Slump (mix) structure developed at top of sand bed, and indicated that the structure sometimes emerged water surface and formed littoral island land form in the late of tidal sand bar. The collapse in the edge was the reason of causing mixed and disorderly accumulation.

The tidal delta sandstone was high mature degree, and was feldspathic quartz sandstone without debris. The most steady heavy mineral content was twice to four times as much as that in source area. It showed that the sandstone was deposited after long distance moving, and further proved the inference that material source of the northern palaeo Zhujiang enriches nearby the tidal passageway by both moving of river and tidal race.

Tidal race was also a kind of tractive current the same as river, but the tidal race was an estuarine flow which flow area was wide and flow rate altered regularly, that is, the rate decreased when flowed in the basin, and the rate increased when flowed out the basin. It caused obvious zonal phenomenon of different grained sands. The river was often limited in a narrow channel, its deposition characteristic was changeable flow rate and widely dispersed area of grained-degree. Therefore, grain-size structural parameters of both appeared obviously difference. In the declination and standard deviation ($\sigma_1 - SK_1$) divergent map of grain sample, the dots of sand of tidal sand bar were within an elliptic area, SK_1 value was 0.35—0.65, and showed very positive skew, σ_1 was 1.0—1.85. But SK_1 of Feilideman modern river and other fossil river sands were mainly -0.4—0.3 and showed positive skew, approximately symmetry and negative skew, no very positive skew. In CM map, the sands of tidal sand bar were short of rolling and homogeneous suspended components which were common in the river sand. This was possibly concerned with lacking very coarse and very fine grain sand in the sample (mainly middle sand, less fine-middle sand and coarse-middle). It was also short of rolling component in the curve of probability distribution.

The subaqueous tidal delta of Zhujiangkou Basin was formed in specific natural palaeogeographic environment. As the second large-scale transgression came (sea level elevated on a global scale), the most of barrier island in the south of Zhujiangkou Basin subsided under the water one after another, the ancient land form of semi-enclosed sea gradually disappeared, and tidal delta also disappeared from developing. Subsequently, the sand body of tidal sand bar was covered with a large suite of neritic facies sandy mudstone.