

## **ELECTROFACIES AND SEDIMENTARY STRUCTURE ANALYSIS FOR THE DETERMINATING COAL DEPOSITIONAL IN PIT J, SANGATTA COALFIELD USING GEOPHYSICAL WELL LOGS**

**IRFAN MARWANZA & CHAIRUL NAS**

Mining Department, University of Trisakti, Jakarta, Indonesia

### **ABSTRACT**

The identification of various deposition environments is indicated by all components of the deposition system and the location of the coal seams in the deposition environment based on the study of sedimentary environments, among others, supported by data from outcrop profiles (sedimentary structures), drilling, and geophysical logs.

The research location in Upper Kutai Basin, which occupies the location of coal mining concession of PT Kaltim Prima Coal, precisely PIT J, with Balikpapan formation as a coal bearing formation. Some of coal observed are SE seam, NM seam and Sangatta seam.

Electrolysis analysis results, this logging result is dominated by funneling and bell shape. This form is interpreted as a precipitation environment in the form of delta plain. The results of the lithological analysis (sedimentary structure) consisting of sandstone and rock / limestone constellations are characteristic of fluvial environmental up to upper delta plain.

Based on research results, it can be interpreted depositional environment of coal in the area of research is the fluvio deltaic.

**KEYWORDS:** Coal, Pit J, Electrofacies, Geophysical Logs, Fluvio Deltaic

### **INTRODUCTION**

The sedimentary environment is the settling of sediment materials along with the physical, chemical, and biological conditions that characterize the occurrence of certain precipitation mechanisms (Gould, 1972). The interpretation of the sedimentary environment can be determined from the analysis of electrofacies and the analysis of sedimentary structures formed.

The research was conducted at the location of coal mining concession of PT Kaltim Prima Coal. The research area is located at PIT J. PT Kaltim Prima Coal is located in Sangatta sub-district, East Kutai Regency, East Kalimantan Province.

Research is done in the Kutai basin, the rock formations found in the study area are Pulaubalag Formation and Balikpapan Formation, but the research is only focused on Balikpapan Formation. The coal deposits found in Balikpapan Formation (Middle to the late Miocene). Coal Seam in Balikpapan Formation are BE Seam, NM Seam and Sangatta Seam.



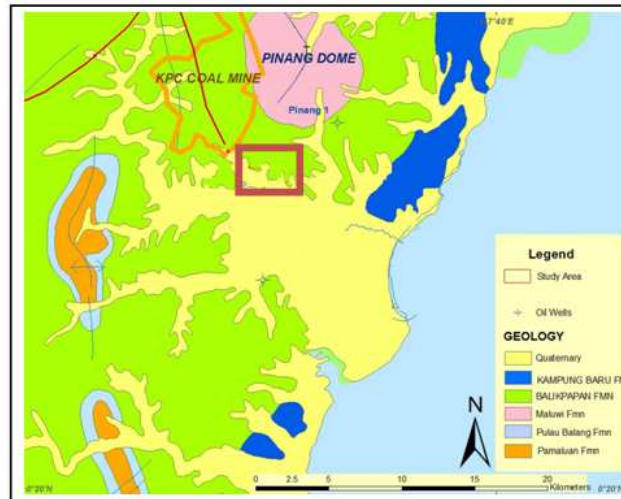


Figure 2: Surface Geology, Study Area (from Sukardi and Sikumbang, 1995)

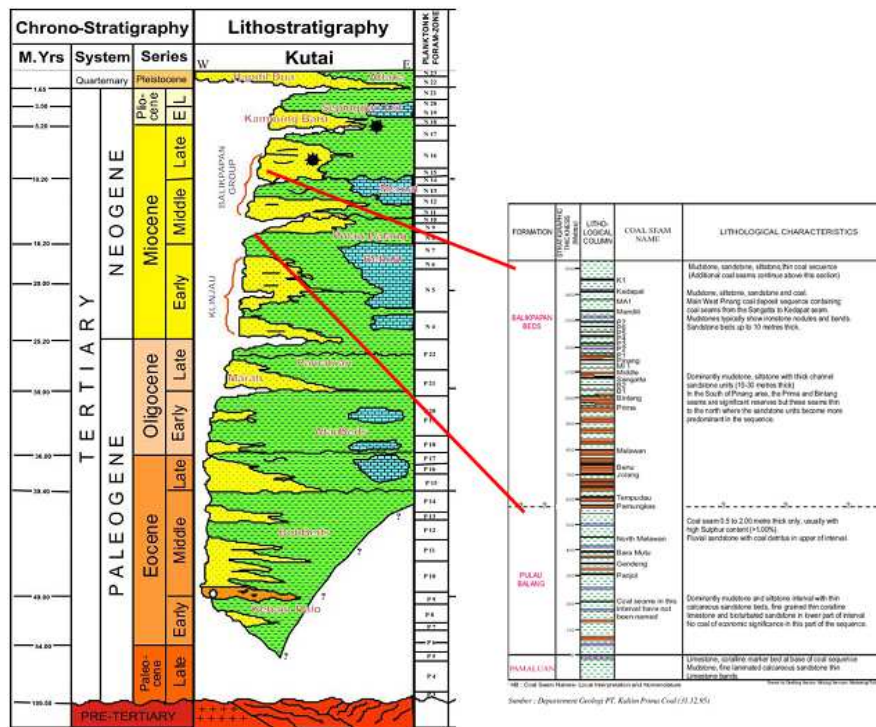


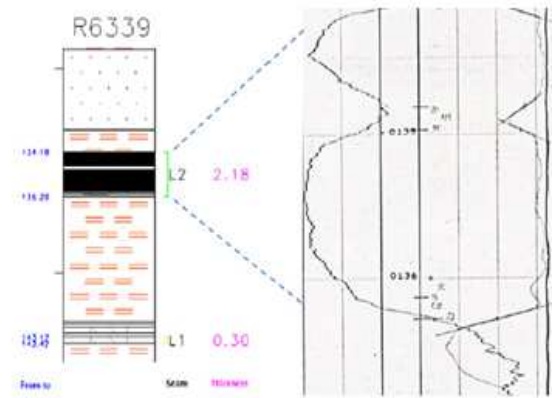
Figure 3: Stratigraphic Coloum Kutai Basin (Courtney etc., 1991) vs. Balikpapan Formation

### Coal Stratigraphy

The target is the coal measures within the Balikpapan Formation. This was intersected in the drilled holes in and this area. The following table shows the coal seam thicknesses, as determined from downhole geophysical logs of the research area.

The wireline logs including Gamma Ray, Density, Sonic, and Resistivity, were used in combination to determine the coal bed depths and thicknesses, reliably.

An example is shown below:

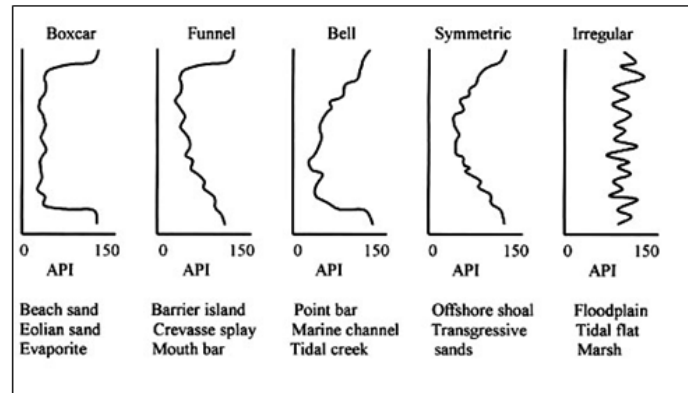


**Figure 4: Coal Identification Using Gamma Ray, Resistivity and Density Logs**

Based on the observation of outcrops in the study area, the coal deposit unit is in claystone. The coal seams are insertions in claystone unit that is a member of the Balikpapan Formation, Middle Miocene - Late Miocene (15 million - 5 million years ago). The main rock types of land cover (overburden) is siltstone, mudstone, and sandstone. Partially carbonaceous mudstone, usually directly adjacent to coal seam. Sandstone is not found in a state of continuous laterally, but in the form lenses in a variety of sizes. The sequence layer interbedded siltstone and mudstone, siltstone, or sandstone is a form of bedding that is common, while sandstone and mudstone in a state that has a more massive development of poor bedding. Siltstone found as inserts in a thin claystone layer. coal is found as inserts in claystone unit, with common characteristics of black, scratch black, shiny bright - dull, cleats are filled with clay and mineral pyrite. The coals in the study area has tectonic deformation such as folding and faulting. As a result of the process of folding causes the coal seam has a gentle to steep slope, even a very strong part of the folded sloping layers upright. Faulting caused by tectonic activity makes deployment the coal seams are difficult to be correlated. Based on data derived from coal outcrop and data core drilling totaling 15 drill holes spread in the area of research Pit J, known in the area of research there are five major coal seam, namely Seam JR, BE Seam, Seam E2, ML Seam and Seam L1. The general direction of coal seam in the study area between  $N 120^{\circ} E$  to  $N 175^{\circ} E$ , with dip ranges from  $10-20^{\circ}$  with a slope direction toward the southwest.

### **Electrofacies**

According to Walker and James, (1992) without the data core rock, facies determination of the subsurface is not exactly so in this study is suspected by a log curve shape because it has similarities with the succession of changes in grain size. GR curve has a wide variety of forms including, boxcar, blocky, bell, symmetric, irregular, and funnel shaped



**Figure 5: Environmental Interpretations of Gamma Log Patterns (Adapted from Cant, 1992)**

The image above is a log result that forms a pattern which will be used as the basis to determine the parasikuen set. (Adapted from Cant, 1992)

### **Cylindrical**

This form of log is a form with a relatively stable GR character. The phase of seawater that occurs stable and parasikuen set formed is aggradasi. This form is associated with sediment fluvial channel, braided channel, estuarine.

### **Funnel**

Shows the dominance that changes for example from shale to sand (stretching upwards). The phase of sea water that occurs in the form of regression and parasikuen set that is formed is progradasi. The deposition environment includes the estuarine shelf, the delta front.

### **Bell**

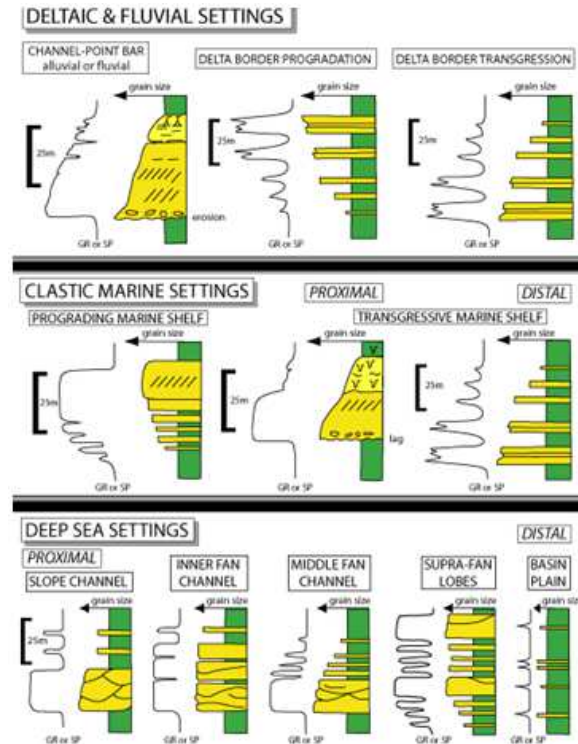
Indicates changes in the dominance of large grains eg from sandstones to shale or an aspect of upward refinement. The phase of sea water that occurs in the form of transgression and parasikuen set that is formed is regional retrogradasi with the dominance of meandering, tidal channel, fluvial point bar.

### **Symmetrical**

The characteristic shape of the GR curve shows a decrease in shale levels followed by a rebound. This character also indicates a rapid change in the layer. The changes that occur are recorded in this character is the existence of synergistic and rapid progression and retrogradation.

### **Serrated**

The shape of the curve in this type shows the agadasi of shale and silt. The phase of sea water that occurs in the form of constant and parasikuen set formed is aggradasi. The shape of this curve represents a varying deposition area such as fluvial floodplain, alluvial plain, shelf.



**Figure 6: Gamma Ray Log Shapes and Depositional Settings (Adapted from Rider)**

The interpretation of the sedimentary environment can also be determined from the sedimentary structure formed. The sedimentary structure is widely used in solving several geological problems, since these structures are formed at the settling point and time, so this structure is a very useful criterion for the interpretation of deposition environments. The occurrence of these sedimentary structures is caused by precipitation mechanisms and certain precipitation conditions and environments.

## DATA SET AND METHODOLOGY

The data sets for this study are made up of well-logs and core description of drill holes. Data from wells used in this study include gamma ray, effective porosity and resistivity logs from two drill holes named by the research as C20568A and C20568A. Interpretation of well-logs and well log correlation were achieved using Schlumberger's PETREL version software. The gamma ray logs of the four wells were first placed at an equal depth in order to facilitate correlation. Matching of similar lithologies was then carried out from well to well using the top and bottom horizons as controls. Similar features in terms of gamma ray signatures and resistivity were marked. The resistivity log was used in conjunction with the gamma ray to determine lithology and depositional environment.

## RESULTS AND INTERPRETATION

### Log Facies and Depositional Environments

Elektrofacies analysis reflect variations in a succession of large grain size. A succession of large grain size showed changes in energy deposition. Each depositional environments produce different patterns of energy deposition. Depositional environment can not be interpreted only by a physical aspect of the rock. Therefore, to analyze the

depositional environment should be reviewed regarding sedimentary structures, grain size (grain size), the content of fossils, minerals, runs, vertical and lateral relations, the geometry and distribution of the rock.

Figure 7 and 8 is the result of the analysis of depositional environment by following the pattern based on the log with depositional environment according to Horne, 1978.

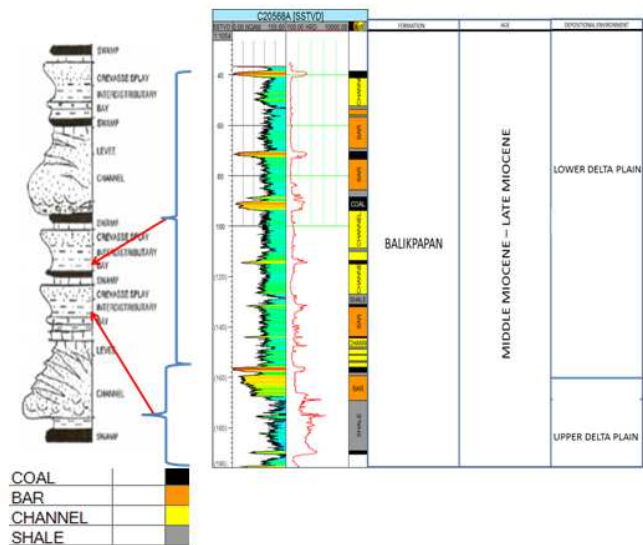


Figure 7: Electrofacies Model from Logging Analysis (Drill Hole C20568A)

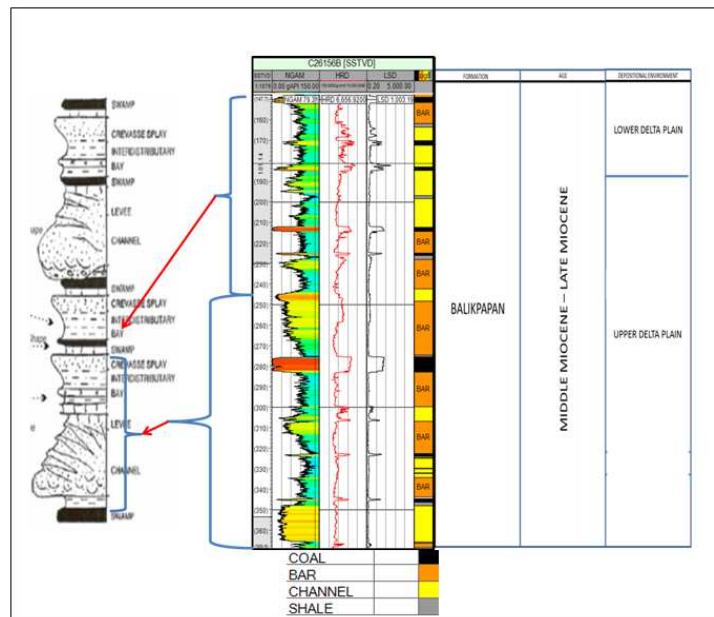


Figure 8: Electrofacies Model from Logging Analysis (Drill Hole C26156B)

Based on the elektrofacies analysis, the results of this logging is dominated by the shape of the funnel and the bell shape is interpreted as depositional environment in the form of lower – upper delta plain.

- **Funnel-Shaped Successions**

The gamma ray log trend of drill hole C20568A and C20568A (Fig.7 and Fig.8), which occur between depths of 196 - 360 m, is serrated and funnel-shaped. According to Selley (1998), the environments of shallowing-upward and coarsening successions is divided into three categories namely; Regressive barrier bars, prograding marine shelf fans and prograding delta or crevasse splays. The first two environments are commonly deposited with glauconite, shell debris, carbonaceous detritus and mica (Selley, 1998).

- **Bell-Shaped Successions**

The bell-shaped gamma ray logs in the drill hole C20568A (Fig.8), where found, have thicknesses less than 70 m. They occur in the lower portion of sands of The bell-shaped successions are usually indicative of a transgressive sand, tidal channel or deep tidal channel and fluvial or deltaic channel. Tidal channels commonly contain glauconite and shell debris (Nelson and James, 2000).

According to Horne, 1987 can be estimated that the depositional environment is the Upper Delta Plain – Fluvial

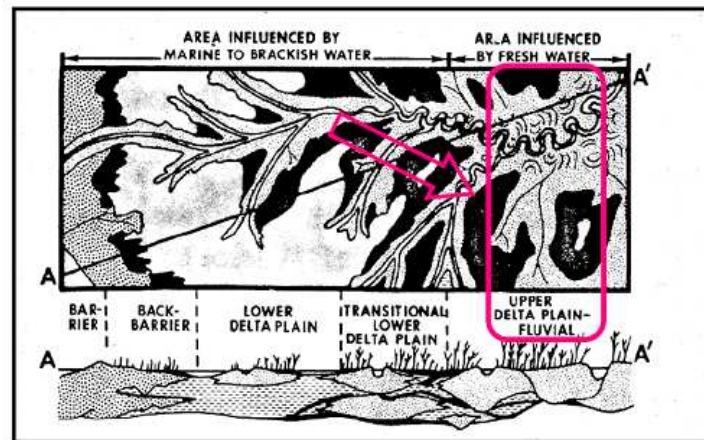


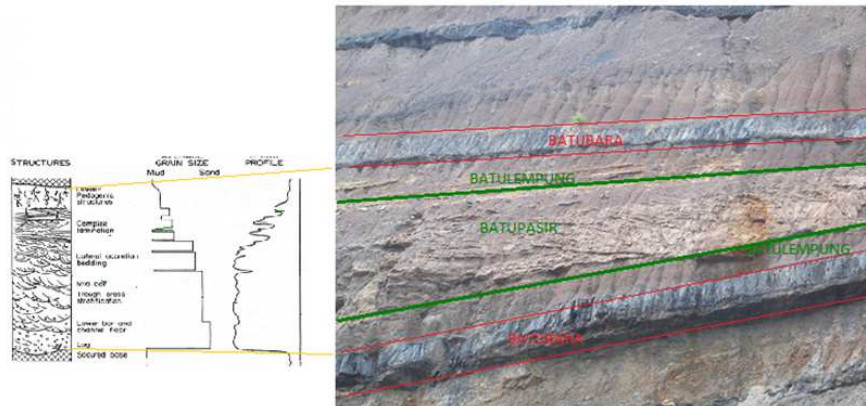
Figure 9: Environmental Deposition Research Areas According to Horne, 1987

### Environmental Interpretation Based on Structural Analysis of Sediments

Although determining the depositional environment of coal using a model of depositional environments Horne, (1987) have been used by some researchers to interpret depositional environment of coal in other areas, but this method is only an interpretation, so it needs to be supported by other data to support this method of analysis. One of the supporting data to determine the depositional environment is based on the characteristics of the coal carrier rock lithology or sedimentary structures within a stratigraphic sequence.

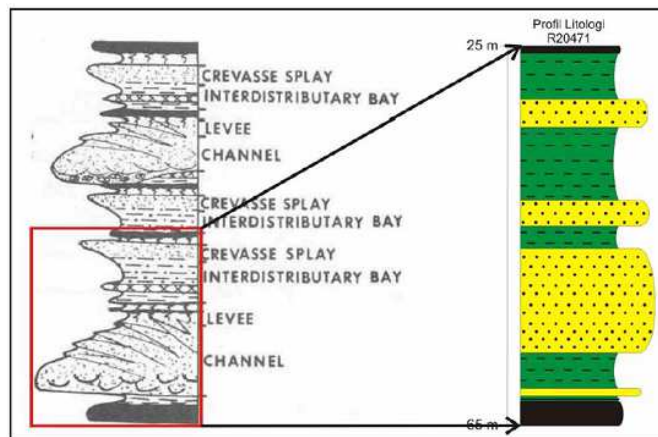
At a location outcrops of coal seams encountered lateral accretion structure. Lateral accretion is an indicator of meandering channel, it can also be an indicator of the braided channel. Distribution of continuous coal seam laterally, but in a few locations in the lateral continuity of truncated channel. Another thing is shown by the presence of sandstone fining upwards (fining upward) and the appearance of thick coal can reach more than 3 meters in the area of research.





**Figure 10: Lateral Accretion of Sedimentary Structures in PIT J, Sangatta Coal Field which is the Identifier of Fluvial Sediment**

Based on lithological profile of one of the wells drilling (R20471), which shows the lithology of proportionality constituent, can support the interpretation of the depositional environment of coal. Based on the lithology in the area of research above, consisting of sandstone and siltstone / mudstone, that are characteristic of fluvial environment until the upper delta plain.



**Figure 11: Proportionality Model of the Delta Plain Environment (Horne, 1987) with Lithology Wellbore Profile R20471**

Based on the two (2) models of depositional environment of coal above, it can be interpreted depositional environment of coal in the area of research is in the range of Fluvio Deltaik environment. The existence of different depositional environment of coal in the same area likely influenced by the geological conditions of the area. Changes in the environment of the lower delta plain, upper delta plain and fluvial episodes may be caused due to tidal sea water alternately or tectonic processes such as appointment or a decrease in the area.

## CONCLUSIONS

The PIT J Sangatta coal field is located in the northern part of the Kutai Basin. The combination of core description data from the cored well and gamma ray log responses were useful in generating a series of log faces. The log faces were used to describe the reservoir section in the uncored, but logged wells in the field.

Two log faces were recognized in the study area. The facies represents palaeo depositional environments of interdistributary bay, levee, crevasse splay, and channel. The crevasse splays belong to parts of a ditch system which is characteristic of the Balikpapan Formation. Lateral accretion is an indicator of meandering channel, it can also be an indicator of the braided channel.

Based on this research, some conclusions:

- The results of the data analysis of well logs and sedimentary structures, lithology authors showed PIT J Coal Fields Sangatta, Balikpapan Formation consists of shale, sandstone, siltstone (siltstone) and coal.
- The results of the data analysis of well logs and sedimentary structures, coal depositional environment - Balikpapan Formation is fluvio deltaic.

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