

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|  | <b>Page</b> |
|--|-------------|
| <b>Acknowledgement</b>                             | iii         |
| <b>Abstract in English</b>                         | v           |
| <b>Abstract in Thai</b>                            | vii         |
| <b>List of tables</b>                              | xiii        |
| <b>List of illustrations</b>                       | xiv         |
| <br>   |             |
| <b>Chapter 1. Introduction</b>                     | 1           |
| <b>1.1 General</b>                                 | 1           |
| <b>1.2 Objectives of the Study</b>                 | 2           |
| <b>1.3 Scope of the Study and Thesis Framework</b> | 3           |
| 1.3.1 Scope of the Study                           | 3           |
| 1.3.2 Thesis Framework                             | 3           |
| <b>1.4 The Study Area</b>                          | 4           |
| 1.4.1 Location of the Study Area                   | 4           |
| 1.4.2 Exploration History                          | 7           |
| 1.4.3 The Previous Works and Literature Review     | 8           |
| <b>1.5 General Coastal Geology</b>                 | 11          |
| 1.5.1 Pre-Quaternary Geology                       | 11          |
| 1.5.2 Quaternary Geology                           | 12          |

|                   |  |           |
|-------------------|--|-----------|
| 1.6               | Significant Problems   | 14        |
| 1.7               | Data Sets  | 14        |
| <b>Chapter 2.</b> | <b>Seismic Reflection Theory and Seismic Stratigraphic Concept</b> | <b>17</b> |
| 2.1               | Introduction   | 17        |
| 2.2               | Theory of Seismic Reflection                                       | 18        |
| 2.2.1             | Elastic Property of Media  | 18        |
| 2.2.2             | Seismic Waves and Velocity   | 18        |
| 2.2.3             | Acoustic Impedance and Reflection Coefficient                      | 20        |
| 2.2.4             | Wave Propagation   | 23        |
| 2.2.5             | Energy Loss Mechanisms   | 26        |
| 2.3               | Continuous Reflection Profiling                                    | 29        |
| 2.3.1             | Geometry of the System   | 29        |
| 2.3.2             | Resolution of Seismic Profile                                      | 30        |
| 2.3.3             | Assumption for the Measurement                                     | 33        |
| 2.3.4             | Instrumentation of Seismic Reflection System                       | 34        |
| 2.3.4.1           | Seismic Sources  | 34        |
| 2.3.4.2           | Receiver   | 36        |
| 2.3.4.3           | Recorder   | 38        |
| 2.4               | Seismic Stratigraphic Concept                                      | 38        |
| 2.4.1             | Seismic Stratigraphic Approaches                                   | 38        |
| 2.4.2             | Fundamental of Seismic Stratigraphic Interpretation                | 40        |

|                   |  |           |
|-------------------|--|-----------|
| 2.4.3             | Seismic Facies Parameters  | 42        |
| 2.4.4             | Basic Considerations for Seismic Interpretation                  | 46        |
| 2.4.5             | Techniques for Seismic Stratigraphic Interpretation              | 47        |
| 2.4.5.1           | Seismic Sequence Analysis  | 48        |
| 2.4.5.2           | Seismic Facies Analysis  | 49        |
| 2.4.5.3           | Analysis of Relative Changes of Sealevel                         | 51        |
| 2.4.6             | Application of the Concept to the Quaternary Sequences           | 55        |
| <b>Chapter 3.</b> | <b>Seismic Stratigraphic Interpretation</b>                      | <b>57</b> |
| 3.1               | Seismic Sequence Determination                                   | 58        |
| 3.2               | Seismic Facies Recognition                                       | 66        |
| 3.3               | Relative Sealevel Change History                                 | 92        |
| 3.4               | Drilling Results   | 97        |
| <b>Chapter 4.</b> | <b>Reconstruction of Past Geological Models</b>                  | <b>98</b> |
| 4.1               | Lithofacies Classification                                       | 99        |
| 4.1.1             | Terrestrial Lithofacies  | 100       |
| 4.1.1.1           | Regolith/Weathered Bedrock                                       | 101       |
| 4.1.1.2           | Piedmont Fan Deposits  | 102       |
| 4.1.2             | Estuarine Lithofacies  | 103       |
| 4.1.3             | Marine Lithofacies   | 104       |
| 4.3               | Quaternary Stratigraphic Development and Tentative Geochronology | 104       |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| <b>4.3 Lithofacies and Their Concentration of Heavy Minerals</b>                            | 112 |
| <b>Chapter 5. Conclusions and Discussions</b>   | 119 |
| <b>5.2 Conclusions</b>  | 119 |
| <b>5.1 Discussions</b>  | 123 |
| <b>References</b>   | 126 |
| <b>Appendices</b>   |     |
| Appendix A Photos of Onboard Geophysical Equipment Used in the Gulf of Thailand Project     | 138 |
| Appendix B Drilling Results of the Area 1   | 147 |
| Appendix C Selected Seismic Profiles near the Drillsites                                    | 160 |
| Appendix D Seismic Sections with Drilling Results Showing Corundum Deposits in Sub-area 1-E | 199 |
| <b>Curriculum Vitae</b>   | 202 |

## LIST OF TABLES

| <b>Table</b> |   | <b>Page</b> |
|--------------|---|-------------|
| 1.1          | List of number of geophysical survey lines of Area 1 of the Gulf of Thailand Project  | 9           |
| 1.2          | Drilling statistics of Area 1 of the Gulf of Thailand Project   | 9           |
| 1.3          | Lithofacies in eastern Thailand   | 15          |
| 2.1          | Acoustic velocity in different lithology  | 21          |
| 2.2          | List of equipment employed in geophysical surveys in the Gulf of Thailand Project   | 35          |
| 2.3          | General parameter settings for high resolution seismic reflection profiling system in the Gulf of Thailand Project                | 37          |
| 2.4          | Seismic reflection parameters used in seismic stratigraphy, and their geological significance                                     | 43          |
| 2.5          | Geologic interpretation of seismic facies parameters  | 52          |
| 4.1          | Lithofacies making up the main depositional elements of the study area  | 100         |
| 4.2          | Showing three major stratigraphic sequences with age estimates and relationships between lithology/lithofacies and seismic facies | 106         |
| 4.3          | Summary of the seven main lithofacies likely favorable for concentration of heavy minerals and construction aggregates            | 114         |

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

| Figure |  | Page |
|--------|--|------|
| 1.1    | Map showing the Gulf of Thailand Project's areas   | 5    |
| 1.2    | Map showing general geology of the eastern Thailand and sub-areas of the Project Area 1  | 6    |
| 1.3    | Plate-tectonic map of Southeast Asia   | 10   |
| 1.4    | Map of gemstone localities and zone of blue-green-yellow sapphires, blue-green sapphires-ruby, and ruby of eastern Thailand          | 13   |
| 2.1    | Frequency spectra of various acoustic methods  | 24   |
| 2.2    | Diagram showing radius of the first Fresnel zone defining the area involved in the reflection process                                | 25   |
| 2.3    | Graph showing the radius of the Fresnel zone as a function of the frequency of the acoustic source and depth to a reflecting horizon | 25   |
| 2.4    | Short-path and long-path multiples   | 28   |
| 2.5    | Basic elements and geometry of a continuous seismic reflection profiling system  | 31   |
| 2.6    | Diagram showing basic concepts of depositional sequences   | 41   |
| 2.7    | Diagram showing coastal margin stratigraphy and termination patterns related to seismic stratigraphic concept                        | 45   |

|      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| 2.8  | Seismic stratigraphic reflection terminations within an idealized seismic sequence                 | 50 |
| 2.9  | Diagram showing various external forms of some seismic facies units                                | 53 |
| 2.10 | Diagram showing various seismic reflection patterns  | 56 |
| 3.1  | Map showing locations of selected seismic profiles and drillholes for the study                    | 59 |
| 3.2  | Typical seismic section in the northern part of the sub-area 1-A (near the coast)                  | 61 |
| 3.3  | Typical seismic section the southernmost part of the sub-area 1-C (showing 2 major unconformities) | 62 |
| 3.4  | Typical seismic section in the middle part of the sub-area 1-E (near bedrock)                      | 63 |
| 3.5  | Map showing locations of highlighted seismic sections for discussion                               | 68 |
| 3.6a | Uninterpreted seismic section in the southern part of the sub-area 1-A                             | 69 |
| 3.6b | Interpreted seismic section in the southern part of the sub-area 1-A                               | 70 |
| 3.7a | Uninterpreted seismic section in the southern part of the sub-area 1-C                             | 71 |
| 3.7b | Interpreted seismic section in the southern part of the sub-area 1-C                               | 72 |
| 3.8a | Uninterpreted seismic section in the southern part of the sub-area 1-E                             | 73 |
| 3.8b | Interpreted seismic section in the southern part of the sub-area 1-E                               | 74 |

|       |  |    |
|-------|--|----|
| 3.9a  | Uninterpreted seismic section in the middle part of the sub-area 1-A   | 75 |
| 3.9b  | Interpreted seismic section in the middle part of the sub-area 1-A     | 76 |
| 3.10a | Uninterpreted seismic section in the middle part of the sub-area 1-C   | 77 |
| 3.10b | Interpreted seismic section in the middle part of the sub-area 1-C     | 78 |
| 3.11a | Uninterpreted seismic section in the middle part of the sub-area 1-E   | 79 |
| 3.11b | Interpreted seismic section in the middle part of the sub-area 1-E     | 80 |
| 3.12a | Uninterpreted seismic section in the northern part of the sub-area 1-A | 81 |
| 3.12b | Interpreted seismic section in the northern part of the sub-area 1-A   | 82 |
| 3.13a | Uninterpreted seismic section in the northern part of the sub-area 1-C | 83 |
| 3.13b | Interpreted seismic section in the northern part of the sub-area 1-C   | 84 |
| 3.14a | Uninterpreted seismic section in the northern part of the sub-area 1-E | 85 |
| 3.14b | Interpreted seismic section in the northern part of the sub-area 1-E   | 86 |
| 3.15  | Seismic section showing acoustically opaque zone                       | 90 |
| 3.16  | Eustatic sealevel curve models   | 93 |
| 3.17  | Glacio-eustatic sealevel curves for the late Quaternary period         | 94 |



|     |   |     |
|-----|---|-----|
| 4.1 | Illustration of an exemplified mode of formation of estuarine sedimentation in a fluvial channel system drowned as sea level rose | 103 |
| 4.2 | Idealized Quaternary stratigraphic development in the Area 1  | 107 |
| 4.3 | Distribution of barriers beaches and estuarine deposits in Rayong and Chanthaburi provinces                                       | 109 |
| 4.4 | Seismic facies favorable for deposits of offshore placer minerals   | 116 |
| 4.5 | Map showing distribution of dominant chaotic seismic facies within the sequence B   | 118 |