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## **OCEANOGRAPHIC VARIATIONS IN PHANGNGA BAY, THAILAND UNDER MONSOONAL EFFECTS**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Phangnga Bay is located in the central part of the Andaman Sea coast of Thailand which is influenced by the southwest monsoon (May-October) and northeast monsoon (November-April). We have investigated oceanographic parameters including current patterns, salinity gradients, water mixing, and meteorological data. The investigation was implemented 1984-1985. Four periods were studied; (a) pre-southwest monsoon, (b) southwest monsoon, (c) pre-northeast monsoon, and (d) northeast monsoon. The results show that the oceanographic variations are profoundly influenced by the interaction of the runoff, tidal current as well as topography of the Bay, especially in the upper part of the bay where high variabilities of salinity gradients and mixing were found during prevailing southwest monsoon.