

Definition and classification of estuaries
Review of Hydrodynamics
Arnoldo Valle-Levinson

What is an estuary?

Classical views and more flexible definitions of “estuaries.”

Classification based

- on geomorphology;

- on water balance;

- on water stratification;

- on stratification-circulation diagram – Hansen-Rattray approach

Discussion of advantages and disadvantages of using classifications of estuaries and how comprehensive they are.

General review of hydrodynamics.

Review of conservation equations: conservation of mass, momentum, heat and salt, setting the stage for nomenclature to be used throughout.