

Table 1 Seasonal variation in the mean values (Mean  $\pm$ SD) of different abiotic variables of the sediments at the four different sites

	Veraval	Sutrapada	Dhamlej	Kodinar
Sediment temperature ( °C)				
Winter	29.33 $\pm$ 0.45	28.46 $\pm$ 0.83	28.60 $\pm$ 0.72	28.00 $\pm$ 0.81
Summer	33.35 $\pm$ 1.04	33.60 $\pm$ 1.08	33.62 $\pm$ 0.65	33.66 $\pm$ 1.15
Monsoon	31.10 $\pm$ 1.13	29.70 $\pm$ 0.56	30.3 $\pm$ 0.84	29.6 $\pm$ 0.98
Sediment pH				
Winter	7.76 $\pm$ 0.15	8.05 $\pm$ 0.15	7.96 $\pm$ 0.05	8.06 $\pm$ 0.20
Summer	8.25 $\pm$ 0.17	8.32 $\pm$ 0.22	8.32 $\pm$ 0.09	8.35 $\pm$ 0.17
Monsoon	7.50 $\pm$ 0.14	7.50 $\pm$ 0.15	7.75 $\pm$ 0.21	7.55 $\pm$ 0.35
Sediment salinity (%)				
Winter	38.66 $\pm$ 0.57	37.09 $\pm$ 1.07	39.75 $\pm$ 1.08	36.66 $\pm$ 2.08
Summer	39.75 $\pm$ 1.07	39.00 $\pm$ 0.81	40.00 $\pm$ 1.82	38.75 $\pm$ 1.5
Monsoon	35.00 $\pm$ 1.41	32.5 $\pm$ 0.70	34.0 $\pm$ 1.41	32.5 $\pm$ 0.85