

Finding GeoRef Keywords using the GeoRef Thesaurus

Use the GeoRef Thesaurus to browse and search through the standard set of GeoRef keywords. Using these keywords helps ensure that different authors will generally use the same term for a specific concept and makes it easier for others to find your research if it is indexed in something like GeoRef. The keywords you use may or may not appear in your title and abstract, but those are good places to start when brainstorming for keywords. Once you have a few of those terms in mind, you can search for them in the GeoRef Thesaurus.

1. Go to the GeoRef database:
From the library's webpage, click Find and then Articles and then the link for GeoRef. (<http://www.csa2.com.ezproxy.carleton.edu/htbin/dbrng.cgi?username=carl&access=carl708&cat=georef&adv=1>)
2. Click on the link for the Thesaurus at the bottom of the page.
3. Enter one of the terms that you'd like to search.
4. Once you've found your term, click on that term to see more information such as usage notes or broader, narrower, or related terms.
5. Read the usage notes and make sure the term applies to your concept.
6. Look at any broader, narrower, or related terms. These might more accurately describe your concept. You can click on any of these terms to see more information about them.

GeoRef Thesaurus (English) [Change Databases](#)

sea-level changes

Alphabetical Index Hierarchy Rotated Index

GeoRef Thesaurus (English)

[Clear Marked Terms](#) | [Remember Terms](#)

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- [sea surface water](#)
- [sea water \[+\]](#)
- [sea-floor spreading](#)
- [sea-floor trenches](#)
- [sea-level changes \[+\]](#)
- [sea-surface temperature](#)
- [sea-surface water](#)

sea-level changes [+]

Also search (transgression or regression) OR changes of level. Added to Thesaurus in 1995.

Narrower Terms

- [regression](#)
As of 1998, restricted to use for seas.
- [transgression](#)
As of 1998, restricted to use for seas.

Related Terms

- [beach profiles](#)
Before 1995, also search beaches . Search with shorelines for engineering or geomorphological studies. Indexed with shore features if applicable. Added to Thesaurus in 1995.
- [continental shelf \[+\]](#)
For studies of geological processes taking place on the shelf. Restricted to the modern shelf area. Also search continental margin AND shelf. Indexed with both land and sea geographic terms.

Not finding your keywords? Some tips. . .

- ⇒ Using “Rotated Index” will give you the best chance of finding a term, but you must search for only a single word – so use only one word of a phrase if that’s applicable.
- ⇒ If you’re still not finding that term, try a synonym, or another form of the word. (For example: searching for “tidal” will not find the term “tidalite”)
- ⇒ Try looking at some of the articles that you’ve cited that cover a similar concept. Look the article up in GeoRef and look at the “Descriptors” that are used for that article. Note that not all of the descriptors will be in the thesaurus, but it’s worth looking them up to see if they are applicable to your topic.

Title **Paleovalley fills; trunk vs. tributary**

Author [Kvale, Erik P.](#); [Archer, Allen W](#)

Affiliation Indiana Geological Survey, Bloomington, IN, United States (USA)

Affiliation Kansas State University, Department of Geology, United States (USA)

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Descriptors aggradation bedload Carboniferous Cenozoic clastic rocks conglomerate cores depositional environment drainage patterns Eastern U.S. fluvial environment highstands Illinois Basin incised valleys Indiana lithofacies Lower Pennsylvanian Mississippian mudstone outcrops Paleozoic Pennsylvanian Quaternary regression sandstone [sea-level changes](#) sediment yield sedimentary rocks siltstone southwestern Indiana stream capture United States Upper Mississippian

New Search Using Marked Terms: Use AND to narrow Use OR to broaden

Abstract A late Mississippian-early Pennsylvanian eustatic sea level drop resulted in a complex lowstand drainage network being eroded across the Illinois Basin in the eastern United States. This drainage system was filled during the early