

Microalgae diversity in varying habitat characteristics in Pasuruan and Sidoarjo coastal areas, East Java, Indonesia

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Abstract. Mahmudi M, Arsad S, Lusiana ED, Musa M, Fitrianesia F, Ramadhan SF, Arif AR, Savitri FR, Dewinta AA, Ongkosongo AD. 2023. Microalgae diversity in varying habitat characteristics in Pasuruan and Sidoarjo coastal areas, East Java, Indonesia. *Biodiversitas* 24: 4418-4426. Microalgae are microscopic eukaryotic organisms which live in various types of habitats. The purpose of this study was to identify the types and the abundance of microalgae in several sub-habitats, including sediments, mangroves, water columns, and artificial substrates; and to analyze the environmental factors that affect the abundance of microalgae. The research was conducted in several sites in the coastal areas in Pasuruan and Sidoarjo, East Java, Indonesia. A quantitative descriptive method was applied with data collection used a purposive sampling method. Samples were collected using net for planktonic microalgae and using sampling plot for epiphytic and benthic microalgae. The microalgae were grouped using NMDS (non-metric multidimensional scaling) and the relationships between microalgae abundance and water quality parameters were analyzed using CCA (canonical correspondence analysis). The results show that Bacillariophyceae, Cyanophyceae, and Chlorophyceae classes were found in all study sites, but Trebouxiophyceae and Dinophyceae were only found in Pasuruan Beach. The highest abundance of microalgae was found in sediment habitat in Wughoyo Beach, Sidoarjo with 706,605 ind. cm⁻². The diversity, the evenness, and the dominance index in both coastal areas ranged from 1.43-2.61; 0.71-0.96; and 0.06-0.27, respectively. Similarity analysis using the NMDS showed that there was no similarity among the three sites, suggesting each site had high microalgal variation. The CCA analysis showed that Bacillariophyceae were found in all sites, indicating its high adaptability. The results of this analysis imply that particular habitat has a unique microalgae diversity, thus preserving diverse habitat types is important.

Keywords: Benthic, biodiversity, diatoms, phycology, planktonic, tropical waters

INTRODUCTION

Microalgae are eukaryotic microorganisms that can be found in various aquatic habitats with sufficient sunlight (Sari et al. 2019a; Liao et al. 2020). As cosmopolitan organism, microalgae can live in freshwater, brackish water, and marine water. They usually live on the water surface, water columns, and the bottom of the waters and various substrates, ranging from hard to smooth substrates, artificial substrates, and mangroves (Zakiah et al. 2020; Arsad et al. 2022). Some microalgae are sedentary by attaching to the rocks and either sensitive or tolerance to water pollution (Tang 2022). Benthic microalgae which live in sediment including epipellic diatoms (Vernanda et al. 2022).

Microalgae play an important role in aquatic ecosystem as the primary producers and serve as the main link in the food chain (Sari et al. 2019b; Nava and Leoni 2021). The ability to do photosynthesis makes microalgae as the primary supplier of dissolved oxygen in the water. Furthermore, microalgae can be used as a bioindicator to assess the environmental health status (O'Neill 2022). This

organism also contains pigments which can benefit human, such as being utilized for natural feed, bio-chemical industries, biofuel, and cosmetics (Rizwan et al. 2018). Also, some species of microalgae with a high content of protein, carbohydrates, and lipids have great potential to be developed for additional food supplement, owing to their high concentrations of nutrients and phytochemicals. Moreover, various studies showed that microalgae can also be developed for cosmetics purpose because of their bioactive components. The active compounds extracted from microalgae, including chlorophyll, canthaxanthin, cryptoxanthin, phycocyanin, lycopene and vitamin E, can be explored to improve the structure and appearance of facial skin in humans (Mourella et al. 2017).

The abundance and distribution of microalgae are highly affected by the environmental conditions including the biotic and abiotic components of the waters (Lauritano et al. 2020; Firmaningrum et al. 2021). The environmental status of water quality can be determined by calculating the diversity index, evenness index, and dominance index of microalgae (Arsad et al. 2019).

Indonesia is a tropical maritime country with abundant sunlight, making it have a great diversity of microalgae. Several studies on microalgae have been conducted in various marine areas in Indonesia. In East Java, several studies on microalgae have been carried out in Sempu Island and Siwil Beach Pacitan (Arsad et al. 2022), Probolinggo and Situbondo (unpublished data), Trenggalek and Sendangbiru (south coast), Banyuwangi and Situbondo (north coast of East Java), and Pasongsongan and Pamekasan Madura (north and south coast) (Zakiyah et al. 2020). In addition, Nafisyah et al. (2018) carried out research in mangrove sediments in Probolinggo and found Cryptic occurrence of *Chattonella marina* var. *marina*. Other studies on marine microalgae have been carried out in several regions in Indonesia such as in Tanjung Benoa Bali (Suteja et al. 2021), West Coast South of Celebes (Tambaru et al. 2021; Tambaru 2022), Simeulue Island (Purbani et al. 2021), and Tambrauw sea West Papua (Purbani et al. 2019).

Various studies on microalgae in East Java Indonesia have been carried out. However, there is limited understanding on how environmental conditions and habitat characteristics affect the diversity of epiphytic, benthic, and planktonic microalgae in the coastal ecosystem. Therefore, this study aimed to identify the diversity and abundance of microalgae in the beaches in Pasuruan and Sidoarjo, East Java in varying habitats (i.e., sediment, mangroves, water columns, and artificial substrates), and to analyze environmental factors that affect the abundance of microalgae on these substrates. In doing so, we collect data on environmental factors and microalgae to measure their abundance, relative abundance, diversity index, evenness index, and dominance index. We expected that the results of this study might be useful to reveal the biodiversity and composition of microalgae based on their habitats, and to understand the relationship between microalgae and environmental conditions.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study area and period

The research was carried out from May to June 2022. This research was conducted in two regencies, i.e. Pasuruan and Sidoarjo, located in East Java, Indonesia (Figure 1). The sampling sites were Penunggul Beach ($7^{\circ}42'10.8''\text{S}$ $113^{\circ}05'24.9''\text{E}$), Watuprapat Beach ($7^{\circ}40'13.51''\text{S}$ $113^{\circ}3'55.82''\text{E}$), and Pasir Panjang Beach ($7^{\circ}39'9.34''\text{S}$ $113^{\circ}2'28.62''\text{E}$) for the Pasuruan area; and Lusi Island ($7^{\circ}34'24.1''\text{S}$ $112^{\circ}52'49.7''\text{E}$), Ketingan Beach, ($7^{\circ}48'01.2''\text{S}$ $112^{\circ}832'73.9''\text{E}$) and Wughoyo Beach ($7^{\circ}24'40.8''\text{S}$ $112^{\circ}49'26.6''\text{E}$) for the Sidoarjo area. The three sampling sites in each regency were selected to represent varying aquatic environments. The characteristics of the research location in Pasuruan Regency, especially Penunggul Beach, are tourist areas that have mangrove forest and muddy sediment types. Watuprapat Beach is close to residential area and fishing port; it has only a small extent of mangroves; the water colour is cloudy green; and the type of bottom substrate is sandy sediment. Pasir Panjang Beach is adjacent to residential area, there is no mangroves, and it has rocky sediment types. On the other side, the study sites in Sidoarjo Regency also have its own characteristics. Lusi Island is an artificial island that is located at the mouth of a river, has a dense mangrove vegetation, and has a type of muddy sediment. Lusi Island is an artificial island formed by the mud sediments of Lapindo dredging and has an extensive mangrove forest with 94 ha (Rahmadani and Kuntjoro 2020). Ketingan Beach is also located at the end of a river mouth, has a large extent of mangrove area, and has a type of muddy sediment. Wughoyo Beach is a coastal area dominated by ponds, close to settlements, has dense mangrove forests, and has a type of muddy sediment.

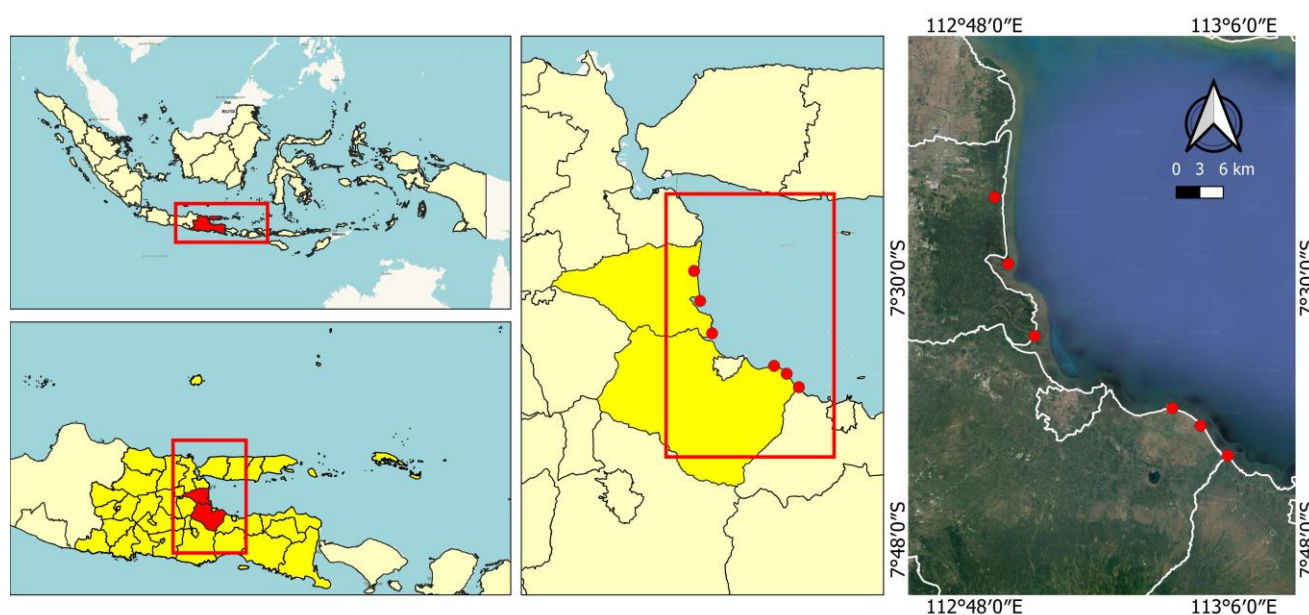


Figure 1. Research location map of microalgae diversity in Sidoarjo and Pasuruan, East Java, Indonesia

Sampling of microalgae in the water column and sediment was carried out at all locations. However, samples of microalgae in mangroves were only carried out on all sites in Sidoarjo and Penunggul Beach, Pasuruan. In addition, samples of microalgae on artificial substrates were also only carried out at Penunggul Beach. Samples from artificial substrates were taken from bridge foundations made of wood and concrete, which functions as a barrier between land and water. This location is the only area which has mangrove vegetation and artificial substrate in the Pasuruan coastal area.

Data collection procedure

Collection of samples

The research used a quantitative descriptive approach with data collection used a purposive sampling technique by collecting data directly at the research location. In terms of sampling, the strategy for selecting sampling sites should be integrated into the overall logic of any study (Campbell et al. 2020). Sampling epiphytic microalgae were conducted at low tide (6 am local time). At high tide, beginning at 7 am local time, water quality measurements and water column sampling were also done. Sampling was carried out twice, with three sampling points at each site. Samples of microalgae were taken from various habitats and analyzed *ex-situ*. However, the water quality parameters were measured both *in-situ* (temperature, transparency, current, depth, DO, pH, salinity) and *ex situ* (nitrate, orthophosphate, chlorophyll-a).

Sampling of microalgae in sediments was taken within a 5x5 cm² plot to a depth of 1 cm using a spoon and stored in a 100 mL bottle (Nindarwi et al. 2019). Sampling microalgae from mangrove roots was done within a 5x5 cm² plot using a sharp knife and stored in a 100 mL plastic bottle (Wahyudi et al. 2017). Sampling of microalgae in the water columns was carried out by filtering 25 liters of water using a plankton net with a mesh size of 150 microns at each sampling site (Triawan and Arisandi 2020). The samples were then put into a 100 mL bottle and preserved with Lugol's with a concentration of 1%, as much as 2 drops, or approximately 0.1 mL. Samples were then transported to the Hydrobiology Laboratory, Universitas Brawijaya, Malang for further analysis.

Identification and calculation of microalgae

Microalgae were observed using a light microscope (Olympus CX21) with a magnification of x100 and x400. The calculation of microalgae abundance in sediments, mangroves, and artificial substrates followed the formula from APHA (2005). Meanwhile, the calculation of the abundance of microalgae in the water column used the APHA (1989). The relative abundance of microalgae was calculated (Salahi et al. 2017) as well as diversity index (Sournia 1978), evenness index (Sournia 1978) and dominance index (Ludwig and Reynold 1988).

Measurement of water quality parameters

Water quality as supporting parameters was measured in the sampling locations. The observed variables were temperature (Thermometer Hg), current velocity (Current Meter Tatonas Tipe TH-02.), pH (pH meter Krisbow Tipe

KW 06-744), transparency (Secchi disc, Fadliyah et al. 2021), salinity (Refractometer Atago Tipe PAL-06S), and dissolved oxygen (DO Meter Lutron DO-5509). In addition, the analysis of chlorophyll-a, nitrate, and orthophosphate used Spectrophotometer Genesys 10 UV-Vis.

Data analysis

The data obtained were processed using Microsoft Excel 2016 and analyzed using non-metric multidimensional scaling (NMDS) and Canonical Correspondence Analysis (CCA) to investigate the correlation between water quality parameters with microalgae abundance using PAST 4.10 software.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Types and abundance of microalgae in Sidoarjo and Pasuruan beaches

Composition and type of microalgae

The composition of microalgae from all habitats in Pasuruan consisted of five (5) classes of microalgae, namely Bacillariophyceae (20 genera), Cyanophyceae (2 genera), Chlorophyceae (8 genera), Dinophyceae (1 genus), and Trebouxiophyceae (2 genera). Microalgae composition in Penunggul Beach was higher in term of genera than that in Watuprapat and Pasir Panjang Beach. The composition of microalgae found in Penunggul Beach was Bacillariophyceae (18 genera), Cyanophyceae (2 genera), Chlorophyceae (8 genera), Dinophyceae (1 genus), and Trebouxiophyceae (2 genera), while in Watuprapat Beach was Bacillariophyceae (17 genera), Cyanophyceae (2 genera), and Chlorophyceae (5 genera), and in Pasir Panjang Beach was Bacillariophyceae (14 genera), Cyanophyceae (2 genera), Chlorophyceae (4 genera), and Dinophyceae (1 genus). In percentage, the composition of genera of microalgae in Penunggul Beach was 40%, Watuprapat Beach was 30%, and Pasir Panjang Beach was 30%.

On the other site, the composition of microalgae from all habitats in Sidoarjo consisted of three (3) classes of microalgae, including Bacillariophyceae (24 genera), Cyanophyceae (4 genera) and Chlorophyceae (4 genera). The number of genera found in Wughoyo Beach was higher than that in Lusi Island and Ketingan Beach. The overgrown mangrove trees and the environmental parameters including water quality allows the condition of the surrounding waters to be better maintained and have a high nutrient content.

The types of microalgae found both in Pasuruan and Sidoarjo indicated that Bacillariophyceae class is more common than other classes such as Cyanophyceae, Chlorophyceae, Dinophyceae, and Trebouxiophyceae. The Bacillariophyceae is a group of algae which are often found in all types of aquatic environments both as plankton and periphyton (Roshith 2018). These organisms easily adapt and tolerate to environmental changes (Marella et al. 2020) and make the best possible use of nutrients for their growth (Jin and Agusti 2018; Arsad et al. 2022). Diatoms have a strong cell wall structure in silica, making it survive in extreme conditions and have high reproductive capacity

(Kale and Karthick 2015). Additionally, diatoms can attach to the substrate in the form of a gelatinous stalk so that they can adapt to strong to slow currents (Li et al. 2018).

Microalgae found in Pasuruan and Sidoarjo coastal areas consisted of *Achanantes*, *Actinastrum*, *Amphipora*, *Amphora*, *Aulacoseira*, *Bacillaria*, *Bacullaria*, *Biddulphia*, *Chaetoceros*, *Chlorocoum*, *Cladophora*, *Clasterioopsis*, *Cocconeis*, *Coelastrum*, *Cycotella*, *Diploneis*, *Eucampia*, *Fragilaria*, *Gleocytis*, *Grammatophora*, *Gyrosigma*, *Hemialus*, *Hyalotheca*, *Isthmia*, *Lauderia*, *Leptocylindrus*, *Lyngbya*, *Melosira*, *Mougeotia*, *Navicula*, *Nitzschia*, *Oedogonium*, *Oscillatoria*, *Peridinium*, *Phormidium*, *Pinnularia*, *Pleurosigma*, *Rhizosolenia*, *Scenedesmus*, *Skeletonema*, *Spirulina*, *Synedra*, *Tetrahedron*, *Thalassionema*, *Triceratium*, and *Ulotrix*.

Microalgae abundance

The highest microalgae abundance was found in the sediment of both Penunggul Beach (Pasuruan) and Wughoyo Beach (Sidoarjo) with 69,590 ind. cm⁻² and 706,605 ind. cm⁻², respectively (Table 1). Muddy substrate in the sediment has a finer particle size, making it has a higher organic matter since small particles have a higher ability to trap organic matter than large particles (Sitindoan et al. 2020). The abundance of benthic microalgae can be affected by the type of sediment and the quality of the water (Beni et al. 2020). The lowest abundance of microalgae in Pasuruan was found in Pasir Panjang in the habitat of water column with 4,701 ind. cm⁻². On the other hand, the lowest abundance in Sidoarjo coast was found in Lusi Island (8,441 ind. cm⁻²).

The abundance of microalgae is influenced by the characteristics of each habitat. Microalgae that live in the water column are strongly influenced by factors such as currents, tides, and temperature. Furthermore, the substrate influences the types of microalgae that live on the bottom of the water (Sitindoan 2020). Meanwhile, microalgae found in mangrove roots can be influenced by soil texture, soil pH, and salinity (Kasang et al. 2016). The low abundance of microalgae can be caused by the season, when during the rainy season, nutrient contents are low, resulting in low abundance of microalgae (Gurning et al. 2020).

The most abundance genus found was *Isthmia* with relative abundance of 9.6-16.5%, followed by *Nitzschia* (7.9-24.2%), *Rhizosolenia* (9.1-16.8%), and *Chaetoceros* (3.3-15.3%). *Isthmia* has a high level of resistance to organic matter making this genus can optimally utilize organic matter in the water under any conditions in its

environment (Rasmiati et al. 2017). The domination of *Nitzschia* is because it has a high tolerance and adaptability to a broad range of conditions even in polluted environments (Siregar et al. 2014). *Rhizosolenia* genus can tolerate a broad range of environmental changes such as temperature, salinity, and pH to live in various environmental conditions (Lim et al. 2017). Furthermore, *Chaetoceros* can be found in almost all waters and serve as fish feed, and due to its fast growth, this genus is reported to be tolerant on the high temperatures around 33-35°C and a salinity range at above 20 ppt (Minggat et al. 2021).

Biological index

The analysis results showed that the diversity index of microalgae in Pasuruan and Sidoarjo beaches ranged from 1.43 to 2.61. The highest index was in the sediment habitat of Penunggul Beach Pasuruan (2.61), while the lowest was in Lusi Island Sidoarjo (1.43). The diversity index ranging from 1 to 3 indicates moderate diversity, suggesting the moderate distribution of individuals and community stability. Diversity index of higher than 3 indicates that the condition of an area experiences low ecological pressure, high species diversity, high individual distribution, and community stability (Singh and Saxena 2015).

The evenness index of microalgae in Pasuruan and Sidoarjo beaches ranged between 0.71 and 0.96. The highest value was in Penunggul Beach Pasuruan with 0.96, while the lowest was in Wughoyo Beach Sidoarjo with 0.71. The evenness index between 0.5 and 1 indicates a balance state, suggesting no competition for space, nutrients and other resources (Rösch et al. 2019; Sumiarsih et al. 2020). The evenness index closes to 1 show that the distribution of individuals across species is even (Ulfah et al. 2019). Conversely, the evenness index close to 0 implies an uneven distribution of individuals across species or a dominance of certain species groups, possibly due to environmental pressure (Arsad et al. 2021). Based on the results, the evenness index obtained in Sidoarjo and Pasuruan beaches presented a balanced evenness value.

The dominance index of microalgae in Pasuruan and Sidoarjo beaches ranged from 0.06 to 0.27. The highest dominance index was in Lusi Island Sidoarjo with 0.27, while the lowest index was in Penunggul Beach Pasuruan with 0.06. The dominance index closes to 1 means a domination of particular species (Sanz et al. 2017), while the dominance index closes to 0 signifies there is no dominance species (Sandeep 2019). Thus, the results of this study indicate that there is no single dominant species both in Pasuruan and Sidoarjo coastal areas.

Table 1. Microalgae abundance in various habitats of several beaches in Pasuruan and Sidoarjo, East Java, Indonesia

| Habitat | Pasuruan Beach | | | Sidoarjo Beach | | |
|---|-----------------|------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| | Penunggul Beach | Watuprapat Beach | Pasir Panjang Beach | Lusi Island | Ketingan Beach | Wughoyo Beach |
| Water column (mg. L ⁻¹) | 6,726 | 5,010 | 4,701 | 8,441 | 25,118 | 58,226 |
| Sediment (ind. cm ⁻²) | 69,590 | 65,472 | 48,589 | 370,597 | 511,424 | 706,605 |
| Mangrove roots (ind. cm ⁻²) | 36,236 | - | - | 224,829 | 321,184 | 649,781 |
| Artificial substrate (ind. cm ⁻²) | 32,633 | - | - | - | - | - |

Water quality analysis

Tides affect the distribution of microalgae communities due to changes in salinity, habitat conditions, and the distribution of nutrients (Lee et al. 2020). Temperature plays an important role in the life of microalgae because it can affect the composition, abundance, and the distribution of microalgae (Lauritano et al. 2020). The optimal temperature range for the growth and reproduction of microalgae is 20-30°C (Selviana et al. 2021). The results of this study indicate that most of the studied sites in Pasuruan show optimal temperature, while sites in Sidoarjo have temperature exceeding the optimum limit (Table 2).

Depth is one aspect that can affect the transparency of the waters, eventually affecting the intensity of sunlight penetrating the waters. The greater the depth, the smaller the amount of light intensity that penetrates the water's column, which might cause the number of microalgae lower (Siregar et al. 2014). Transparency has an important role for the growth and the development of microalgae because sunlight is used by microalgae to carry out photosynthesis (Xie et al. 2022). The optimum depth for phytoplankton to carry out photosynthesis in the water ranges from 5-20 m (Renny et al. 2016). Transparency value of >45 cm is considered good for the survival of aquatic organisms such as microalgae (Gurning et al. 2020).

According to Zhang et al. (2015), mangroves can reduce current strength and wave energy due to their root system and stems. Large currents can cause microalgae to be carried away (Bhushan et al. 2020). Slow currents are a suitable habitat for microalgae (Dayana et al. 2022). Currents that are too strong above 0.5 m. s⁻¹ can disrupt the ecological balance of the waters that have been formed (Ravindran 2016). This is because currents contribute to benthic microalgae's spread and horizontal migration (Rizadha 2018).

The optimal salinity range for microalgae is 25-34 ppt (Aulia et al. 2021). The level of salinity can be affected by the layers of waters (Sohrabi et al. 2017). Also, the density of seawater, which has high salinity is heavier than that of freshwater (Arora et al. 2017). Thus, the deeper the waters, the higher the salinity of the waters. Salinity has a role in the ability of microalgae to maintain osmotic pressure

between the protoplasm of cells and water in the surrounding waters (Mohrholz et al. 2015).

Dissolved oxygen (DO) is influenced by organic matter. The higher the organic matter, the lower the dissolved oxygen content in the waters (Dayana et al. 2022). DO concentration in waters is also affected by the presence of waste such as plastic, leaves, and branches (Paris et al. 2022). The optimal DO value for the growth of microalgae in waters according to Patty (2013) is ≥ 5 ppm.

The pH value can affect the presence of microalgae. Absorption of free CO₂ and bicarbonate by microalgae causes a decrease in dissolved CO₂ concentration and increases pH. The optimal pH range for biota life in the waters, especially microalgae is around 6-8 (Zhu 2015).

Phosphorus compounds bound in sediments can undergo decomposition by bacteria or through abiotic processes to form dissolved phosphate, which diffuse back to the water column (Patty et al. 2015). Orthophosphate is used for the formation of microalgae cells. According to Schilling et al. (2018), orthophosphate concentration is higher in the deep zone or water close to land. According to Hawrot-Paw et al. (2019), orthophosphate becomes a limiting factor for microalgae and can affect the level of productivity in water. Optimum orthophosphate for microalgae, according to Sidabutar et al. (2016), ranges from 0.09-1.08 mg. L⁻¹.

Nitrate as a nutrient has an important role in the growth of organisms, including in microalgae, to be processed in photosynthesis and is needed in the metabolic processes for their survival (Mahmudi et al. 2020). According to Rizqina et al. (2017), normal nitrate levels in seawater range from 0.01-50 µg. L⁻¹ or equivalent to 0.00014-0.7 mg. L⁻¹. Chlorophyll-a has an important role in the process of photosynthesis of microalgae and can be used as an indicator to determine the level of primary productivity in waters (Hughes et al. 2018). The low concentration of chlorophyll-a on the coast results in a lack of supply of N and P nutrients (Suryoputro et al. 2023). Related to chlorophyll content in water, according to Gunawan et al. (2019), water is categorized as high supply of N and P nutrients waters if it has a chlorophyll-a value of >30 mg. m⁻³.

Table 2. Water quality parameters in several beaches in Pasuruan and Sidoarjo, East Java, Indonesia

| Parameter | Pasuruan | | | Sidoarjo | | | References |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|---|
| | Penunggul Beach | Watuprapat Beach | Pasir Panjang Beach | Lusi Island | Ketingan Beach | Wughoyo Beach | |
| Temp. (°C) | 30.5-32 | 30-32.4 | 28.5-33.8 | 26.4-30.4 | 32.1-34.6 | 34.9-41.6 | 20-30 °C (Selviana et al. 2021) |
| Depth (cm) | 94-130 | 90-120 | 104-118 | 51-95 | 49-73 | 65-95 | - |
| Transparency (cm) | 27.5-38 | 27-38 | 24-35 | 23-34.5 | 24.5-42.5 | 17.5-45 | >45 cm (Gurning et al. 2020) |
| Current (m. s ⁻¹) | 0.03-0.05 | 0.06-0.07 | 0.06-0.7 | 0.01-0.03 | 0.02-0.05 | 0.05-0.08 | >0.5 m s ⁻¹ [strong] (Rizadha 2018) |
| Salinity (ppt) | 29-31 | 27-32 | 31-33 | 0-1 | 16-17 | 16-30 | 25-34 ppt (Aulia et al. 2021) |
| DO (ppm) | 6.6-8.3 | 7.1-8.2 | 7.9-8.7 | 7.6-10.8 | 7-8.3 | 7.6-8.9 | >5 ppm (Patty 2013). |
| pH | 6.6-7.2 | 7-7.5 | 7-7.7 | 8-8.2 | 7-7.8 | 7.8-9 | 6-8 (Zhu 2015) |
| Orthophosphate (mg. L ⁻¹) | 0.04-0.07 | 0.03-0.05 | 0.02-0.04 | 0.12-0.21 | 0.10-0.18 | 0.03-0.10 | 0.015 mg. L ⁻¹ (Rizqina et al. 2017) |
| Nitrate (mg. L ⁻¹) | 0.32-0.77 | 0.20-0.50 | 0.21-0.40 | 0.61-0.97 | 0.33-0.67 | 0.24-0.54 | 0.00014-0.7 mg. L ⁻¹ (Rizqina et al. 2017) |
| Chlorophyll-a (mg. m ⁻³) | 10.3 - 20.3 | 5.1-13.7 | 1.6-8.9 | 1.6-6.4 | 6.1-27.7 | 25.6-66.9 | > 15 mg. m ⁻³ (Gunawan et al. 2019) |

Figure 3. Results of Canonical Correspondence Analysis (CCA) to investigate the relationship between water quality parameters and microalgae group

According to Ameilda et al. (2016), Bacillariophyceae can tolerate changes in the environment; therefore, the types and numbers of this class dominate the waters. Cyanophyceae is found in waters with high concentrations of nitrate, chlorophyll-a, and orthophosphate (Nasution et al. 2019). Cyanophyceae can grow on rocks and warm waters rich in organic matter. The dominance of phytoplankton from Cyanophyceae is caused by the influence of eutrophic water conditions with high nutrient concentrations. This is in line with the principal component analysis results, which show that Cyanophyceae is affected by orthophosphate and nitrate concentrations (Rahman et al. 2016). Furthermore, Chlorophyta such as Trebouxiophyceae and Chlorophyceae tend to have a positive correlation with nitrate concentration and depth. This is in accordance with a study by Simmonds et al. (2015), which found that phytoplankton in Chlorophyceae, which receives sunlight radiation will passively migrate vertically based on the time of day from morning to evening and night. At noon, the concentration of phytoplankton is higher in areas slightly below the water surface because there is turbulence which can lead to higher levels of nutrients.

In conclusion, the current study depicted that Bacillariophyceae class dominated the microalgae found in all areas in both Pasuruan and Sidoarjo. Furthermore, the highest microalgae abundance was found in the sediment of both Penunggul Beach Pasuruan and Wughoyo Beach Sidoarjo. However, the lowest abundance of microalgae found in the water column in Pasir Panjang Pasuruan and Lusi Island Sidoarjo. Moreover, NMDS and CCA analysis shows that Bacillariophyceae and Cyanophyceae classes are evenly distributed in each study site and have a good association with all parameters consecutively. In general, this study provided the database of microalgae from several habitats in Pasuruan and Sidoarjo as well as linking their relationship to environmental condition. Future research recommends isolating the microalgae and conducting biomolecular studies, especially for the diatoms that could be potentially new to science.

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