



## **Fine sedimentary sources to the Nazaré canyon (Portuguese continental shelf)**

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In the aim of EUROSTRATAFORM and HERMES projects, Nazaré canyon and adjacent continental shelf bottom sediment samples (1st cm) and particulate matter (PM) were collected during four cruises realized in May 2004, July 2005, July 2006 and July 2007. Three main sources of fine material were considered to the Nazaré canyon by Oliveira et al., (2007): PM is introduced in the Nazaré canyon head by littoral drift, by southern minor rivers with no dams discharging directly in the beach, but is also laterally advected, from north and south mid shelf muddy areas, being transported down-canyon in the BNL. In this study we intend to explore the relative importance of these 3 main sources using mineralogical and textural data of PM and bottom sediments in relation to main oceanographic regime.

References: Oliveira, A., Santos, A.I., Rodrigues, A. & Vitorino, J.(2007) . Sedimentary distribution and dynamics on the Nazaré canyon system and adjacent shelf. *Marine Geology* 246:105-122.

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