

Geophysical Research Abstracts,  
Vol. 10, EGU2008-A-10268, 2008  
SRef-ID: 1607-7962/gra/EGU2008-A-10268  
EGU General Assembly 2008  
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## **Database on coastal sea level observations for seas surrounding Russia**

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Historically in Russia and the Former Soviet Union (FSU) sea level observations were carried out at many hundred stations along the coast of 14 seas. For example, in the Eastern Baltics sea level observations were carried out at least at 78 stations. The Russian National Oceanographic Data Centre in Obninsk (RNODC) has been storing coastal sea level data (hourly or fixed time) in electronic form for periods beginning from 1977. Most of the data collected before 1977 (before the wide use of computers) is stored in paper form. Historical time series of monthly and annual mean values of sea level it is possible to get in electronic form for a comparatively small amount of stations of the FSU from the Permanent Service for Mean Sea Level (England). However, time series from these stations are not updated on regular basis except some (GLOSS) stations. Not long ago a relational database on sea level observations was constructed at the server of the State Oceanographic Institute in Moscow (Russia). The aim is to collect historical sea level data (mainly monthly mean values for periods from the beginning of sea level observations at the every station till station closing or till 1977) for seas surrounding Russia (at least for its European part), digitize them and to load to the database together with more recent data from RNODC. Last year historical time series of monthly mean values of sea level as well as extremal (for a month) values were digitized for 44 stations from Baltic, Kaspian, Azov and Black seas. Internet access was made to graphs of time series loaded to the database. The logical scheme of the relational database (data and metadata model; metadata include detailed information on stations, places and tide gauge bench marks) is presented. Variation of sea level trends along the coast of the Gulf of Finland of the Baltic sea is

discussed.