Bringing together the East and the West: Joining ideas, people, datasets

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1990

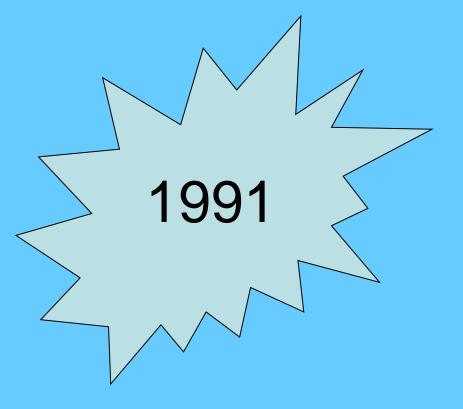
ГОСКОМГИДРОМЕТ = State Committee for Hydrometeorology

Positive side:

- Similar equipment
- Unified measurement methods
- Detailed instructions for personnel

Negative side:

- Raw data classified
- •International cooperation centralised WMO, IUGG, COSPAR...



New possibilities?



August 3-8, 1992 Tallinn

The first meeting of interested people from the East. **Ehrhard Raschke** explains his expectations:

- To describe water and energy cycles in the Baltic Sea catchment area following the examples of other GEWEX regional-scale experiments
- To unite meteorology, hydrology and oceanography
- To collect as much data as possible







May 1994, The First Meeting of the BALTEX Science Steering Group at Geesthacht

BALTEX Secretariat established at GKSS with **Hans-Jörg Isemer** as project scientist

Data centres founded:
Hydrological – Sweden, SMHI
Meteorological – Germany, DWD
Oceanographic metadata – Finland, FIMR



A preliminary list of **data requirements** for atmospheric and hydrological modelling

What was needed first?

Meteorological data and solar radiation Hydrological data – precipitation, snow depth, river runoff, soil moisture Sea level data

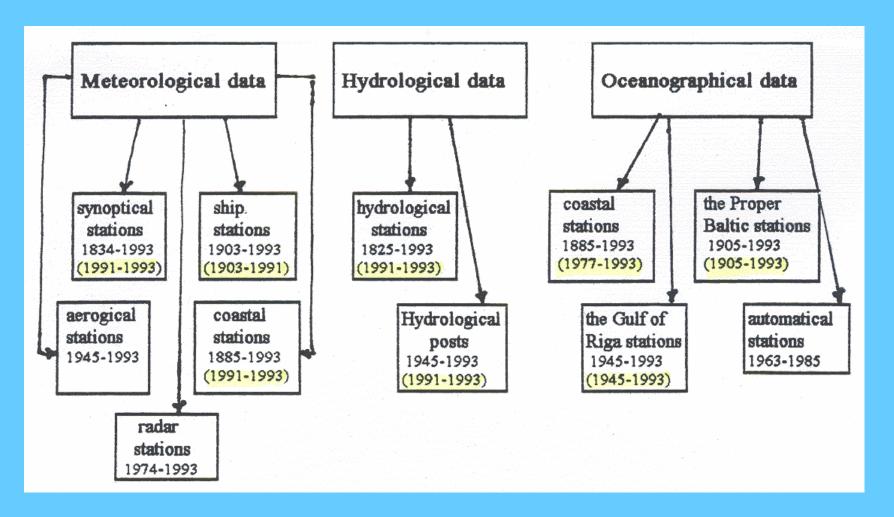
Historical data

- 1986 1987 (key period for reanalysis)
- 1992 1993 (key period)

Real-time and non-real time data

August to October 1995 (PIDCAP)

What do we have?



Latvia: We have all, but only partly in digital form

Formation of the hydrometeorological data base until 1991 in Estonia

- Data were coded in the stations and written on magnetic tapes
- Tapes were sent to Obninsk (ВНИИГМИ-МЦД = Research Institute of Hydrometeorological Information of the USSR World Data Centre)
- Tables were printed at Obninsk and sent back to Tallinn



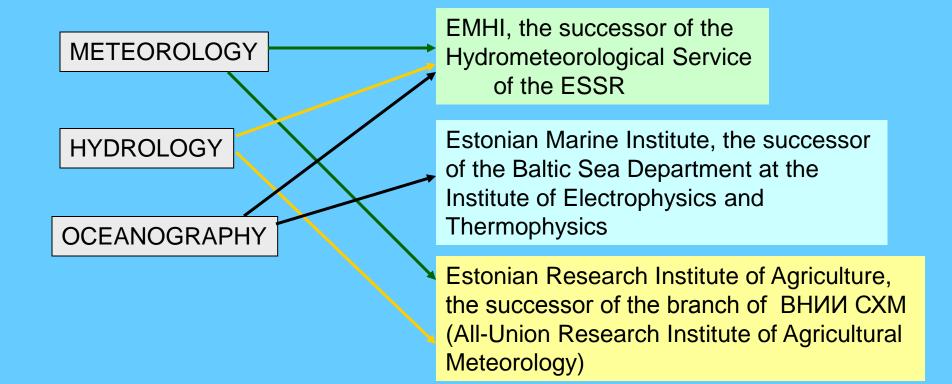
Meteorological archive until 1991

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1992-1993, Estonia

No centralised data processing any more Data collected and stored at different institutions



BALTEX Workshops

• 6-7 June 1994, Vilnius, Lithuania

14-15 November 1994, Minsk, Belarus

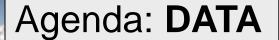
26-27 June 1995, St. Petersburg, Russia

28-30 May 1996, Wroclaw, Poland

• 29-31 October 1996, Tallinn, Estonia

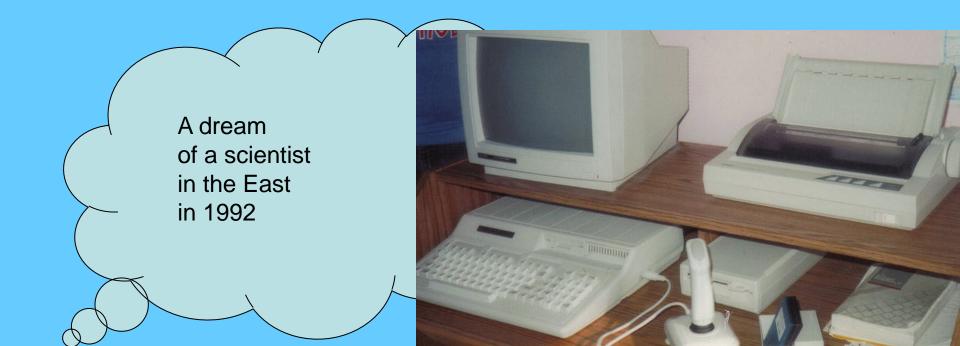
• 21-22 October 1999, Tallinn, Estonia

21-22 July 2000, Jelgava, Latvia



How to accelerate the digitizing?

- Contracts between GKSS and hydrometeorological services of Russia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Belarus and Poland
- Additional salaries to people who digitize data
- PCs and printers to eastern countries



Which instruments are used?

	Former	Poland and	Denmark	Sweden	Finland
	USSR	Germany			
Gauge	Tretjakov	Hellmann	Hellmann	SMHI	H&H-90
					Tretjakov
Wind	yes			yes	yes
shield					
Wetting	By types		By types		
correction			and		
			months		

Example: Manual precipitation measurements

What is the resolution?

Estonia: Every 10 days 3 levels (20-80cm)

Finland: Every 5 days 14 levels (0-400cm)

Germany: 3 times a day 6 levels (2-100cm)

Latvia: Every 3 hours 6 levels (2-40cm)

Lithuania: Every 3 hours 4 levels (5-20cm)

Example: Soil temperature measurements

Which units are used?

Estonia: Hourly and daily totals (MJ/m²)

Finland: Hourly and daily mean values (W/m²)

Sweden: Hourly mean values (W/m²)

Poland: Daily totals (J/cm²)

Latvia & Lithuania: Calculated as a sum of direct and diffuse

radiation on a horizontal surface

Example: Global radiation measurements

By 2002 the data era ended together with the BALTEX Phase I



Phase II 2003 - 2012

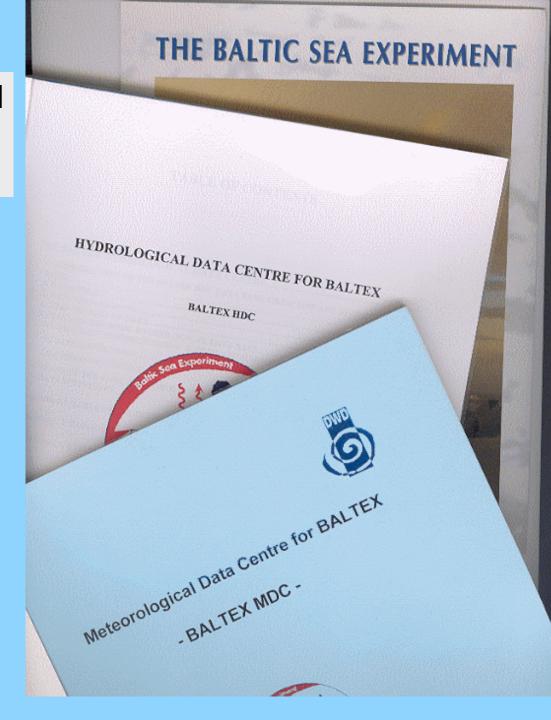
A multi-disciplinary programme for environmental research in the Baltic Sea drainage basin



A European contribution to the Global Energy and Water Cycle Experiment and World Climate Research Programme





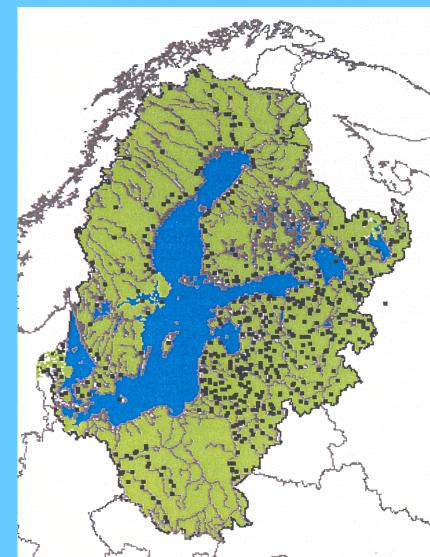


What did the East gain?

- The inventory of measurement routine and equipment was accelerated
- Data processing was intensified
- The foundation to digital data base was laid
- The access to the data stored at the BALTEX data centres was made available
- The BALTEX Study Conferences gave the possibility to young scientists to find contacts in the West

What did the West gain?

- A new look on their own data
- Personal contacts –
 visiting scientists from the East
- BALTEX Study Conferences as a wonderful meeting point
- Data over the whole catchment area



The year 2013

The conditions and activities in West and East are similar:

- Weather services cooperate to give better weather forecast
- Research groups cooperate to apply for money and promote science

The problems are common:

- Automatic weather stations are not always reliable
- Long time series are not always homogeneous
- etc

The End

Thank you!