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Baltic Sea Ice Regional Indices and their relationship with atmospheric circulation patterns and maritime navigation

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The Baltic navigation and urban activities of the coastal communities around the Baltic Sea depended always very much on the ice conditions in the sea. The sea ice occurs different in form and amount, depending on the sea area and the winter season. The aim of the work was the investigation of influence of atmospheric circulation patterns on sea ice condition of Baltic Sea (by the sea ice regional indices). The atmospheric circulation patterns were represented by the German Weather Service's – Grosswetterlagen. The relationship between the ice severity indices and icebreakers activities (number of cases, in which the Swedish and Finnish icebreakers assisted the ships) were investigated. The work was done under the Seaman project (Norwegian Financial Mechanism)