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Is the present -day rate of sea level rise unprecedented compared to the last 300 years?

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We use all available tide gauge records since 1700 to make a global sea level reconstruction and analyse the evolution of sea level trend and changes in low/high frequency variability. There is a good agreement between the rate of present day sea level rise (3.2 mm/yr) calculated from satellite altimetry and the rate of sea level rise from our tide gauge based reconstruction (3.1 mm/yr) for the overlapping time period (1993-2009). However, variability is satellite altimetry time series is higher than in monthly mean data from reconstruction.
We discuss the changes in the rates of tide gauge sea level over the past 308 years, answering the questions: (1) about how representative tide gauge records in global scale and (2) how bias our reconstruction due to sampling issues.