Variational Data Assimilation in the Mathematical Model of the Black Sea Dynamics

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Purpose. In order to simulate the sea hydrothermodynamics, the problem of variational assimilation of the sea surface temperature data is solved. The data assimilation permits to adjust the numerical model calculations to the measurement data obtained in the environment under study.

Methods and Results. The mathematical model of hydrothermodynamics of the Black and Azov seas, developed at the Institute of Numerical Mathematics of RAS and written in the sigma coordinate system, is considered. The distinctive feature of the model consists in applying the splitting method to physical processes and spatial coordinates that can significantly simplify the variational data assimilation algorithm. The problem of variational assimilation of the sea surface temperature data is formulated. A cost functional has been introduced; it includes the control function – heat flux at the sea upper boundary and satellite observations of the sea surface temperature. The necessary condition for the functional minimum is reformulated through the optimality system including the direct and adjoint problems, and the control condition. Using the variational assimilation of the satellite-derived observational errors' covariance matrix calculated based on the statistical characteristics of the sea surface temperature observational data. The algorithm implies a sequential solution of the optimality system in the iterative process with the specially selected iterative parameter. The results of numerical solution of this problem are represented by the example of the Black and Azov seas.

Conslusion. The results of numerical modeling with the observational data assimilation and without it are compared; efficiency of the observational data assimilation procedures is shown. Influence of the sea surface temperature assimilation upon the other system parameters is investigated. It is shown that when assimilating the sea surface temperature, only temperature in the upper layers is affected, whereas, provided that the depth is sufficient, the profile in the lower layers remains practically unchanged. The impact on the other system parameters is either minimal or not manifested at all.

Keywords: mathematical model, variational assimilation, numerical algorithm, observations, hydrothermodynamics, sea surface temperature.

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Introduction

For reliable monitoring and forecasting of marine circulation, a data assimilation system should be created. One of its main components should be a physically complete and verified model that can be used to calculate water circulation. At the present stage of research, it is necessary to combine real data from

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observational systems and computational experiments of mathematical models, to increase the accuracy of modeling and prediction of physical processes. In recent years, data assimilation methods have been widely used in Earth sciences, providing the relationship between the two main components that permit monitoring of the environment state. These are observations and models. Such methods were most widely used in meteorology and oceanography, where observations are assimilated into numerical models in order to obtain boundary or initial conditions (or other model parameters) for further modeling and forecast [1–9].

The problems of variational data assimilation are formulated as optimal control problems [10-12]. As is known, when solving minimization problems, it becomes necessary to calculate the initial functional gradient. A major step in this direction was the use of the theory of adjoint equations. The development of this direction is largely based on the work of Academician G. I. Marchuk. In the 70s of 20th century G. Marchuk formulated a fundamental approach to solving the problem of long-term weather forecast, based on the so-called adjoint equations for nonlinear models of hydrothermodynamics of the atmosphere and ocean [13]. Later, in the works of G. Marchuk, the theory of adjoint equations and disturbances algorithms was developed to study various classes of problems in mathematical physics [14]. It turned out to be fruitful for many other areas of science. As a result, more or less general approaches to the study of complex systems and mathematical models appeared [12]. These approaches were the main content of G. Marchuk multiannual research and his scientific school at the Institute of Numerical Mathematics (INM) of RAS in various fields of mathematics and its applications to diffusion problems, models of environmental protection, climate theory and its changes [13-15], mathematical problems of satellite information processing, the theory of tides [16], etc.

Currently, the most universal and promising technology for solving problems of the environment state monitoring and analyzing is the use of adjoint equations, optimal control methods [1, 10, 11] and four-dimensional variational assimilation of observational data [8, 17]. The application of four-dimensional variational assimilation (4D-Var) and the use of more frequent observational data can improve the accuracy of short-term forecast [18]. The principle of four-dimensional variational assimilation usually implies that the forecast model is "ideal" within the assimilation window [19]. Such an approach selects the model trajectory that fits the observational data in the best way. The method of data assimilation 4D-Var has been introduced over the past few years in various centers of numerical weather prediction with significant advantages [20, 21]. However, all numerical models are imperfect, and the next step to solve problems of modeling marine environments and constructing effective assimilation algorithms was to consider bias observation errors, correlations of observation errors and model errors in a weak formulation of four-dimensional variational assimilation [22-24] and construction of covariance matrices of observation errors and their inclusion in the original cost function [5].

The present study examines a mathematical model of the general circulation of the Black and Azov seas with the procedure of variational assimilation of data on sea surface temperature, taking into account the covariance matrix of observation errors. Based on the variational assimilation of observational data, an algorithm for solving the inverse problem of restoring heat fluxes on the sea surface is proposed. The numerical model of the hydrothermodynamics of the Black and Azov seas, the Institute of Numerical Mathematics Ocean Model (INMOM), developed at the INM RAS [25], is adopted as a basis for the numerical implementation of the general sea circulation model. It also includes tidal potential recording in accordance with a special technique described in [26], where variational assimilation of annual average level observation data is used in calculating secondary tidal forces.

In the present paper, in contrast to [10, 26], the covariance matrix of observation errors calculated based on the statistical properties of the observation data for 1982–2017 is introduced into the functional. In addition, the daily average satellite observations of sea surface temperature for 2017 were taken as the assimilated data. When modeling the Black Sea dynamics, the dependence of other modeling parameters on the sea surface temperature assimilation were also studied in the present work.

Mathematical model of the Black Sea dynamics

Mathematical model of the Black Sea dynamics is considered in geographical coordinates. Assume that $\vec{U} = (u, v, w)$ is the velocity vector, ζ is the level function, *T* is temperature, *S* is salinity.

We write in the domain *D* in variables (x, y, z) when $t \in (0, \overline{t})$ system of equations of hydrothermodynamics for functions u, v, ζ, T, S in the Boussinesq and hydrostatics approximation [27], with Lame coefficients for a spherical coordinate system [28]:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -f \\ f & 0 \end{bmatrix} \vec{u} - g \mathbf{grad} \zeta + A_u \vec{u} + (A_k)^2 \vec{u} = \vec{f} - \frac{1}{\rho_0} \mathbf{grad} P_a - \\ & -\frac{g}{\rho_0} \mathbf{grad} \int_0^{\vec{z}} \rho_1(T, S) dz', \\ \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t} - m \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\int_0^H \Theta(z) u dz \right) - m \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\int_0^H \Theta(z) \frac{n}{m} v dz \right) = f_3, \\ & \frac{dT}{dt} + A_T T = f_T, \quad \frac{dS}{dt} + A_S S = f_S, \end{cases}$$
(1)

where $\vec{u} = (u, v);$ $\rho_1(T, S) = \rho_0 \beta_T (T - T^{(0)}) + \rho_0 \beta_S (S - S^{(0)}) + \gamma \rho_0 \beta_{TS} (T, S) + f_P,$ $\vec{f} = (f_1, f_2), \quad f_T, f_S, f_P, \quad \rho_0, \quad T^{(0)}, \quad S^{(0)}, \quad \beta_{TS} (T, S), \quad P_a, \quad f_3 \equiv f_3 (x, y, t) \text{ are prescribed functions, } \beta_T, \beta_S, \gamma = \text{const;} \quad A_{\varphi} \varphi \equiv -\operatorname{div}(\hat{a}_{\varphi} \operatorname{grad} \varphi), \text{ where index } \varphi$ can take values of $u, T, S; g = \text{const} > 0, \quad \Theta(z) \equiv \frac{R-z}{R} \approx 1, \text{ where } R \text{ is Earth radius.}$

For the system (1) in $D \times (0, \bar{t})$ the following boundary and initial conditions are set [28] on the sea surface $\Gamma_s = \Omega$:

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$$\begin{cases} \left(\int_{0}^{H} \Theta \vec{u} dz \right) \vec{n} + \beta_{0} m_{op} \sqrt{gH} \zeta = m_{op} \sqrt{gH} d_{s} \text{ at } \Omega, \partial \\ U_{n}^{(-)} u - v \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} - k_{33} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} A_{k} u = \tau_{x}^{(a)} \rho_{0}, U_{n}^{(-)} v - v \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} - k_{33} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} A_{k} v = \tau_{y}^{(a)} \rho_{0}, \\ A_{k} u = 0, \quad A_{k} v = 0, \\ U_{n}^{(-)} T - v_{T} \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} + \gamma_{T} \left(T - T_{a} \right) = Q_{T} + U_{n}^{(-)} d_{T}, \\ U_{n}^{(-)} S - v_{S} \frac{\partial S}{\partial z} + \gamma_{S} \left(S - S_{a} \right) = Q_{S} + U_{n}^{(-)} d_{S}, \end{cases}$$

$$(2)$$

where $\tau_x^{(a)}$, $\tau_y^{(a)}$, γ_T , γ_S , T_a , S_a , Q_T , Q_S , d_T , d_S are prescribed functions; $U_n = UN$ (N is an external normal vector to the corresponding boundary), $U_n^{(-)} = (|U_n| - U_n)/2, \qquad U_n|_{z=0} = -w|_{z=0}, \text{ and } w = w(u, v) \text{ is introduced by}$ the following formula

$$w(x, y, z, t) = \frac{1}{r} \left(m \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\int_{z}^{H} r u dz' \right) + m \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{n}{m} \int_{z}^{H} r v dz' \right) \right), \quad (x, y, t) \in \Omega \times (0, \overline{t}).$$
(3)

In addition, boundary conditions on the solid side wall $\Gamma_{w,c}$, on the liquid side wall $\Gamma_{w,op}$ and at the bottom Γ_{H} [26] are set.

The initial conditions for u, v, T, S, ζ have the following form:

$$u = u^{0}, v = v^{0}, T = T^{0}, S = S^{0}, \zeta = \zeta^{0}$$
 at $t = 0,$ (4)

where $u^0, v^0, T^0, S^0, \zeta^0$ are prescribed functions.

The problem of large-scale sea dynamics in terms of u, v, ζ, T, S functions is formulated as follows: find u, v, ζ , T, S, satisfying (1) – (4). If the functions u, v, ζ, T, S are found, then the function w is determined by formula (3).

Note that the boundary conditions above can be modified depending on the specific physical problem. Problem (1) - (4) is approximated by the splitting method using the finite difference method [28, 29].

The splitting method and the main features of the numerical model

The main features of the numerical model of the Black Sea dynamics (1) - (4)are the simultaneous use of the splitting method [29, 30] and the transition to a σ coordinate system.

Let a grid $0 = t_0 < t_1 < ... < t_{i-1} < t_i = \overline{t}$, $\Delta t_i = t_i - t_{i-1}$ be introduced in $[0; \overline{t}]$ grid and consider problem (1) – (4) on (t_{i-1}, t_i) , taking in account that the approximate solution vector $\phi_k \equiv (u_k, v_k, \zeta_k, T_k, S_k), \quad k = 1, 2, ..., j-1$, has already been defined at the previous intervals. To approximate the problem, one of the total approximation method schemes [30, 31] is applied. It consists in PHYSICAL OCEANOGRAPHY VOL. 26 ISS. 6 (2019) implementing the following steps (to simplify the notation, the index j for all components of the solutions of subproblems is omitted at these steps).

STEP 1. Problem of the following form is considered

$$T_t + \left(\overline{U}, \operatorname{grad}\right)T - \operatorname{div}\left(\hat{a}_T \cdot \operatorname{grad}T\right) = f_T \text{ in } D \times \left(t_{j-1}, t_j\right)$$
(5)

under the corresponding boundary and initial conditions.

STEP 2. The problem

$$S_t + (\overline{U}, \mathbf{grad})S - \mathbf{div}(\hat{a}_s \cdot \mathbf{grad} S) = f_s \text{ in } D \times (t_{j-1}, t_j)$$
(6)

is solved under the corresponding boundary and initial conditions.

STEP 3. First, the system

$$\begin{cases} \underline{u}_{t}^{(1)} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\ell \\ \ell & 0 \end{bmatrix} \underline{u}^{(1)} - g \operatorname{grad} \zeta = g \operatorname{grad} G - \frac{1}{\rho_{0}} \operatorname{grad} \left(P_{a} + g \int_{0}^{z} \rho_{1} \left(\overline{T}, \overline{S} \right) dz' \right) \\ \operatorname{in} D \times \left(t_{j-1}, t_{j} \right), \\ \zeta_{t} - \operatorname{div} \left(\int_{0}^{H} \Theta \underline{u}^{(1)} dz \right) = f_{3} \operatorname{in} \Omega \times \left(t_{j-1}, t_{j} \right), \\ \underline{u}^{(1)} = \underline{u}_{j-1}, \zeta = \zeta_{j-1} \operatorname{at} t = t_{j-1}, \quad \underline{u}_{j}^{(1)} \equiv \underline{u}^{(1)} \left(t_{j} \right) \operatorname{in} D \end{cases}$$

$$(7)$$

is solved with the corresponding boundary conditions and the function $\zeta_j \equiv \zeta^{(1)}$ is taken as an approximation to ζ at (t_{j-1}, t_j) , then the following problem is solved

$$\begin{cases} \underline{u}_{t}^{(2)} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -f_{1}(\overline{u}) \\ f_{1}(\overline{u}) & 0 \end{bmatrix} \underline{u}^{(2)} = 0 \text{ in } D \times (t_{j-1}, t_{j}), \\ \underline{u}^{(2)} = \underline{u}_{j}^{(1)} \text{ at } t = t_{j-1}, \quad \underline{u}_{j}^{(2)} \equiv \underline{u}^{(2)}(t_{j}) \text{ in } D, \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \underline{u}_{t}^{(3)} + (\overline{U}, \mathbf{grad}) \underline{u}^{(3)} - \mathbf{div} (\hat{a}_{u} \cdot \mathbf{grad}) \underline{u}^{(3)} + (A_{k})^{2} \underline{u}^{(3)} = 0 \text{ in } D \times (t_{j-1}, t_{j}), \\ \underline{u}^{(3)} = \underline{u}^{(2)} \text{ at } t = t_{j-1} \text{ in } D, \end{cases}$$

$$(8)$$

where $u^{(3)} = (u^{(3)}, v^{(3)})$. After solving (9) the vector $u^{(3)} \equiv u_j \equiv (u_j, v_j)$ is taken as an approximation to the exact vector u on $D \times (t_{j-1}, t_j)$ and the approximation $w_j \equiv w(u_j, v_j)$ is calculated to the vertical component of the velocity vector.

Thus, when the steps 1-3 are implemented, after the first step the approximation to T is obtained, after the second – to S, after the third – the approximation to $\underline{u} = (u, v)$, ζ , i.e., the subproblems at these steps are independent of each other and can be solved in parallel.

Another feature of the numerical solution of the complete problem (1) - (4) is the use of the σ -coordinate system. The transition to the σ -system can be carried out at the stage of considering the complete problem before applying suitable splitting schemes and other numerical procedures [29]. However, the transition to PHYSICAL OCEANOGRAPHY VOL. 26 ISS. 6 (2019) 519 σ -systems is also possible after applying splitting schemes, i.e., in the present case, as applied to problem (5) – (9). A number of other approaches to numerically solving problem (5) – (9) are described, for example, in [27, 29].

The problem of variational assimilation of surface temperature data

Assume that an observational data function T_{obs} be given at $\overline{\Omega} \equiv \Omega \cup \partial \Omega$ when $t \in (t_{j-1}, t_j)$, j = 1, 2, ..., J, which in its physical sense is an approximation to the function of the sea surface temperature (SST) on Ω , i.e. to $T|_{z=0}$. The case when T_{obs} is found only on a subset of $\Omega \times (0, \overline{t})$, the support of which is denoted by m_0 , is allowed. Since for numerical experiments, the daily average data was used as T_{obs} , then by the mean-value theorem there is at least one point t_{j_k} , value of T_{obs} , in which it is close to the daily average value for the kth day. Then, knowing the points $\{t_{j_k}\}$, $k = 1, \ldots, K$, for the assimilation procedure, the characteristic function m_0 in the following form can be used

$$m_0 = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } t \in \bigcup_{k=1}^K \left(t_{j_k-1}, t_{j_k} \right), \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Also, by means of $m^{(j)}$ the function, determining the availability of observational data in a given time period (t_{j-1}, t_j) is denoted. It is further assumed that the observational data is given with errors, namely:

$$T_{obs} = m_0 T^t \mid_{z=0} + \xi_{obs},$$

where T' is the exact solution of problem (5) where Q = Q', and $\xi_{obs} \in Y_{obs} = L_2(\Omega \times (0, \overline{t}))$ can be considered as an observation error. It is also assumed that errors ξ_{obs} are random and distributed according to the normal law (Gaussian function) with zero mathematical expectation and a covariance operator $R \cdot = E[(\cdot, \xi_{obs})\xi_{obs}], R : Y_{obs} \rightarrow Y_{obs}$, where *E* is the expected value. It is further assumed that *R* is positive definite and, therefore, reversible.

Assume that the additional unknown (control) is the total flux function $Q = -v_t \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \text{ at } \Gamma_s. \text{ The cost functional of the following form is introduced:}$ $J_{\alpha}(Q) = \frac{\alpha}{2} \int_{0}^{\overline{t}} \int_{\Omega} |Q - Q^{(0)}|^2 d\Omega dt + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{J} J_{0,j},$ $J_{0,j} \equiv \int_{t_{j-1}\Omega}^{t_j} (m_0 T \mid_{z=0} -T_{obs}) R^{-1} (m_0 T \mid_{z=0} -T_{obs}) d\Omega dt,$ (10) where $Q^{(0)} = Q^{(0)}(x, y, t)$ is the prescribed function; $\alpha = \text{const} > 0$ is

where $Q^{(0)} = Q^{(0)}(x, y, t)$ is the prescribed function; $\alpha = \text{const} > 0$ is the regularization parameter.

The problem of variational assimilation is formulated as follows: *find* a solution ϕ and a function Q, such that the functional (10) takes the least value.

As shown in [10], the optimality system that determines the solution of the formulated problem of variational data assimilation, according to the necessary condition grad $J_{\alpha} = 0$, is reduced to the sequential solution of the direct and adjoint equations and an additional expression for control $t \in (t_{j-1}, t_j)$, j = 1, 2, ..., J. The issues of unique and dense solvability of the problem were considered in [10, 32].

Some of the algorithms for solving the problem under consideration by the example of the interval (t_0, t_1) should be formulated. Construction of approximate solutions of the complete numerical model with the simultaneous determination of Q by the variational assimilation procedure can be carried out by the following iterative algorithm: if $Q^{(k)}$ is an already constructed approximation to Q, then after solving the direct problem under $Q \equiv Q^{(k)}$, the corresponding adjoint problem is solved, and then the following approximation $Q^{(k+1)}$ is determined:

$$Q^{(k+1)} = Q^{(k)} - \gamma_k \left(\alpha \left(Q^{(k)} - Q^{(0)} \right) + T^* \right) \quad \text{on} \quad \Omega \times (t_0, t_1)$$
(11)

With the parameter γ_k , which is chosen so that the iterative process considered is convergent [10]. Here T^* is the corresponding adjoint problem solution. After $Q^{(k+1)}$ determination, the solution of direct and adjoint problems is repeated with a new approximation $Q^{(k+1)}$, and then $Q^{(k+2)}$ is calculated, etc. Iterations are repeated until a suitable convergence criterion is met.

Due to the property of dense solvability as $\{\gamma_k\}$ parameters can be selected parameters calculated by the formula for $\alpha \approx +0$ [10]:

$$\gamma_{k} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{t_{0}\Omega}^{t_{1}} (m_{0}T|_{z=0} - T_{\text{obs}}) R^{-1} (m_{0}T|_{z=0} - T_{\text{obs}}) d\Omega dt / \int_{t_{0}\Omega}^{t_{1}} (T_{2}^{*})^{2} |_{z=0} d\Omega dt,$$

which can significantly accelerate the convergence of the iterative process.

The problem above belongs to the class of four-dimensional variational assimilation problems. The splitting method is considered here as a method of approximating the original model, while the problem of variational assimilation itself is solved on the set $D \times (t_0, t_1)$ (or on $D \times (t_{i-1}, t_i)$, j > 1).

Results of the numerical experiments

For numerical experiments, the three-dimensional model of hydrothermodynamics of the Black and Azov seas developed at the INM RAS [25, 26] was used. The model is supplemented by the afore-described of sea surface temperature assimilation block. The parameters of the computational domain and its geographical coordinates were set with the following characteristics: σ -grid of 286 \times 159 \times 27 points (in latitude, longitude and depth, respectively). The first point of the C-grid is a point with coordinates of 27.475°E, 40.93°N. The grid steps along x and y are constant and equal to 0.05° and 0.04° , respectively. Time step $\Delta t = 5$ min. The calculations were carried out with the regularization parameter $\alpha = 10^{-6}$.

As the observational data T_{obs} , the daily average satellite data on the Black Sea surface temperature for 2017 were used [33], which were verified and interpolated to the computational grid of the numerical model [34, 35]. As $Q^{(0)}$ the flux obtained from the reanalysis data of the National Center for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) for 2017 was used. An example of observational data assimilated in numerical experiments is shown in Fig. 1.



Fig. 1. The Black Sea surface temperature (°C), mean daily observations, June 3, 2017

Based on the indicated daily average SST data for 1982–2017 the statistical mean and standard deviation are calculated. These statistical characteristics are used as coefficients in the covariance matrices of observation errors, the inverse of which are included as weight operators in the original cost functional in solving the variational data assimilation problem [36].

By means of the numerical sea hydrothermodynamics model presented, supplemented by the surface temperature assimilation procedure, calculations for the Black and Azov seas were carried out, taking into account the assimilation procedure. The calculation included the sea surface temperature assimilation T_{obs} for up to 3 days. Experiments were carried out for June 2017 (the beginning period is the first day of the month). As an external influence for the dynamics model of the Black and Azov seas, real ERA-Interim data presented by the European Center for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) for 2017 were used.

Below some results of numerical experiments are shown. The results of the calculation using the numerical model of hydrothermodynamics without the assimilation procedure are presented in Fig. 2, *a*, where the average sea surface temperature is shown on the third day of calculation (June 3). The result of a similar calculation with the assimilation procedure is shown in Fig. 2, *b*. A comparison of the results shows that the model somewhat overestimates the SST in the southwestern Black Sea, however, the use of assimilation reduces the discrepancy. In the Azov Sea, the SST values are identical in both cases due to the lack of calculation of observational data in this region during the indicated period.



F i g. 2. SST of the Black and Azov seas (°C), June 3, 2017. a – model calculation without assimilation procedure, b – model calculation using the assimilation procedure

Fig. 3 shows the difference between the SST calculated for this experiment (Fig. 2, *b*) and the observational data (Fig. 1). It can be seen from the comparison that the surface temperature assimilation in the numerical model permits to reduce the model solution deviation from the observational data T_{obs} for the calculation period. The use of variational assimilation algorithms can reduce the indicated deviation in some areas of the Black Sea by up to 2°C.



F i g. 3. Difference between the SST mean value resulted from the model calculation with the SST data assimilation procedure and that obtained from the observation data, June 3, 2017

Influence of the SST assimilation process on other system parameters was also studied in the present work. Fig. 4 shows the difference between salinity at the sea surface during the SST assimilation and without assimilation. Based on PHYSICAL OCEANOGRAPHY VOL. 26 ISS. 6 (2019) 523 the calculation results, it can be concluded that the SST assimilation has a small effect on salinity at the sea surface (the variation doesn't exceed $0.2 \$).



F i g. 4. Difference between the surface salinity (‰) resulted from the model calculation with the SST data assimilation procedure and that obtained without the SST data assimilation procedure, June 3, 2017

Fig. 5 shows the difference between the velocity field on the Black Sea surface, calculated by a numerical model with the SST data assimilation procedure and without including the assimilation procedure. Here, the small effect of the SST assimilation procedure on water circulation on the surface of the Black Sea (up to 7 cm/s) can be noted.



F i g. 5. Difference between the surface circulation velocities (cm/sec) resulted from the model calculation with the SST data assimilation procedure and that obtained without the SST data assimilation procedure, June 3, 2017

The SST assimilation procedure effect on the sea surface level in the numerical experiments was not observed.

Conclusion

The present paper considers the problem of numerical modeling of the hydrothermodynamics of the Black and Azov seas using variational assimilation procedures of average daily observations on the surface temperature of the Black Sea. The results of numerical calculations demonstrated the advantages of the numerical model using data assimilation procedures. One of the features of the developed model is the use of the splitting method, which permits to expand the application of assimilation procedures for the salinity and level function (in the presence of relevant observational data), since the steps are implemented independently. The study shows that the model solution becomes much closer to the observational data when using data assimilation procedures. The data assimilation also permits to take into account anomalies in sea surface temperature, which is not always possible to do when calculating by a numerical model without taking into account observational data.

Numerical calculations showed that the surface temperature assimilation procedure has a weak effect on other components of the complete solution of the problem – salinity, level and velocity functions. However, it is worth noting that the inclusion of tidal forces in the model has a significant effect on the parameters of the system.

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