

Schneider, T., H. Weber, J. Franke, and S. Brönnimann (2013) The Storm Surge Event of the Netherlands in 1953. In: Brönnimann, S. and O. Martius (Eds.) *Weather extremes during the past 140 years*. Geographica Bernensia G89, p. 35-43, DOI: 10.4480/GB2013.G89.04



### **Abstract**

A disastrous storm surge hit the coast of the Netherlands on 31 January and 1 February 1953. We examine the meteorological situation during this event using the Twentieth Century Reanalysis (20CR) data set. We find a strong pressure gradient between Ireland and northern Germany accompanied by strong north-westerly winds over the North Sea. Storm driven sea level rise combined with spring tide contributed to this extreme event. The state of the atmosphere in 20CR during this extreme event is in good agreement with historical observational data.