

Results and prospects of seismological observations in the central part of the Baikal rift

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Abstract This article reports the results of detailed seismological observations in the Central Baikal region conducted by the local network of seismological stations of the Buryat Division of the Geophysical Survey of the Russian Academy of Sciences. The local network was created in the 1990s. A crucial feature of the network is the combination of seismic monitoring both in the passive mode (the study of natural seismicity) and in the active mode, with a controlled vibration source of seismic waves. The study area covers the Lake Baikal region and adjacent territories characterized by high seismic activity. Here occurred several catastrophic earthquakes including the strongest one during the period of instrumental observations – the Middle Baikal'1959 earthquake. Recently here occurred the Kudarinsky earthquake on December 9, 2020 with $m_b=5.4$. For more than twenty years the network of observations has been expanding, the equipment has been upgrading. A significant amount of seismological material has been accumulated. Broadband data was processed by the receiver function method. The Moho and the lithosphere-asthenosphere boundaries for stations of the network are determined. Shear seismic wave attenuation characteristics are obtained and the possibility of energy classification of Baikal earthquakes by coda-waves total oscillations is shown.

Keywords seismicity, Baikal rift, deep structure, method of receiver functions, attenuation of seismic waves.

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