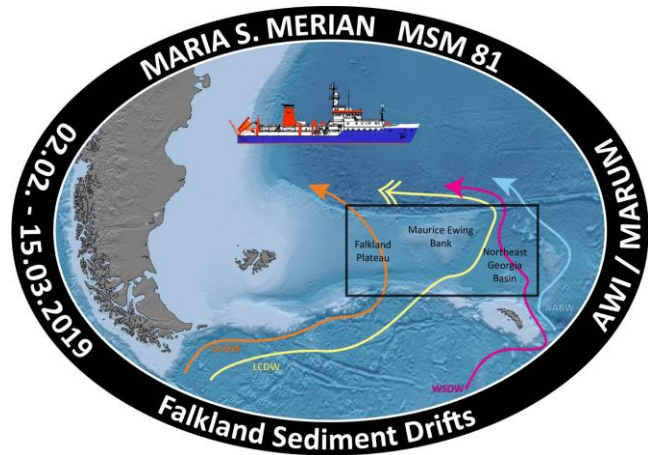


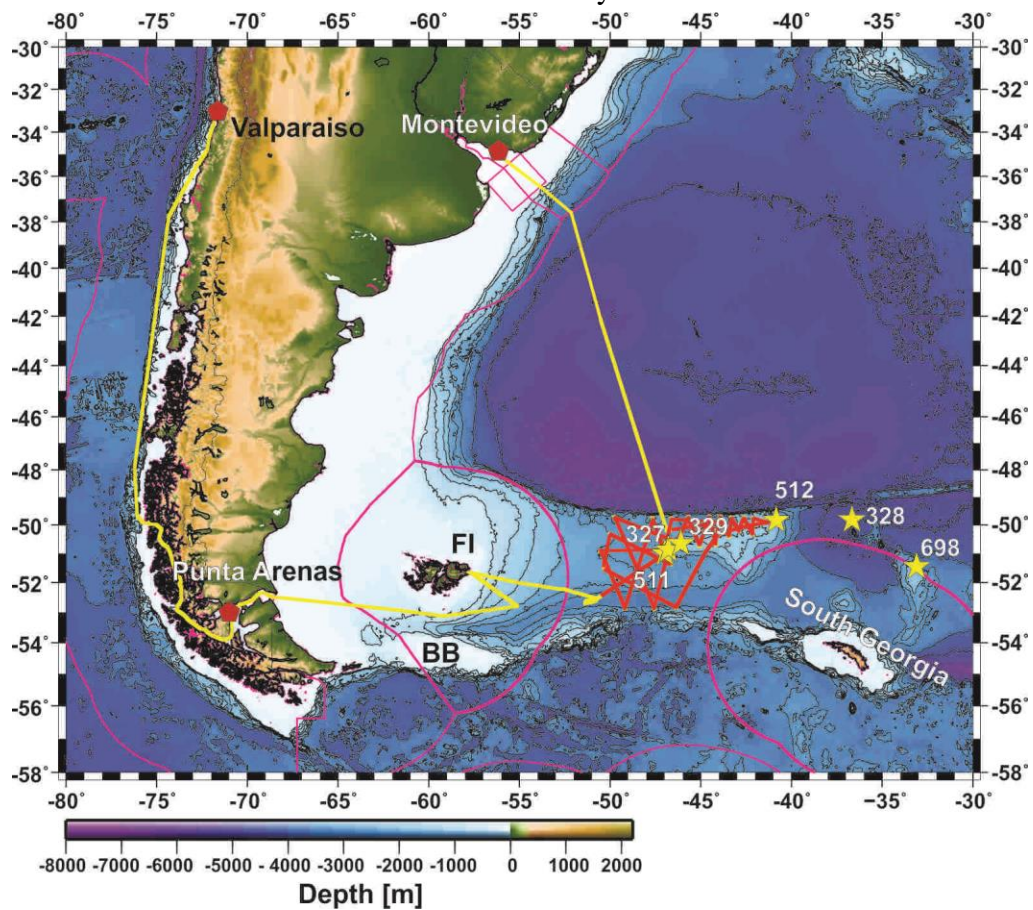
**Expedition MSM 81
Valparaiso - Montevideo**

**Weekly report No 6
11 March – 15 March 2019**



Our cruise to the Falkland Plateau will be over soon. Sunday late afternoon we finished the seismic profiling in that area and started our transit to Montevideo.

On Thursday evening we also stopped the bathymetric recordings. With this the scientific programme of cruise MSM81 has found its end. Now we continue with disassembling and maintaining the gear, cleaning up, further



preparations for the following cruise. Our experiment has been extremely successful. We collected about 5200 km of high resolution high quality seismic reflection data, where up to now only few reconnaissance surveys have been undertaken. These seismic data are supplemented ideally by Parasound and bathymetric data. This way we have collected material to answer the raised questions about origin and development of this plateau and its role as an obstacle for the deep circulation in late Cretaceous times and the Tertiary.

This successful cruise was only made possible by the extraordinary support of Captain Schmidt and his crew.

On deck we got excellent help during deployment, securing and retrieval of our equipment, the engineers ran the compressors for us, and the boys on the bridge always kept us on course. On top of this the kitchen and service spoiled us with excellent food



and made our life on board extremely comfortable. We want to thank them all.

Last but not least both scientific teams prepared the cruise extremely well and operated and maintained the equipment here on board successfully. Thanks to them as well.

Cheerful greeting from all participants.

Southwestern Atlantic, March 15 2019, 34° 51.72' S / 56° 9.45' W

Gabriele Uenzelmann-Neben

<https://www.awi.de/en/science/geosciences/geophysics/research-focus/gateways-of-the-southern-ocean.html> under *Effect of opening of Drake Passage on circulation in the South Atlantic*, scroll to *Variations in pathways and intensities of deep and bottom water*

<https://www.awi.de/forschung/geowissenschaften/geophysik/expeditionen.html>