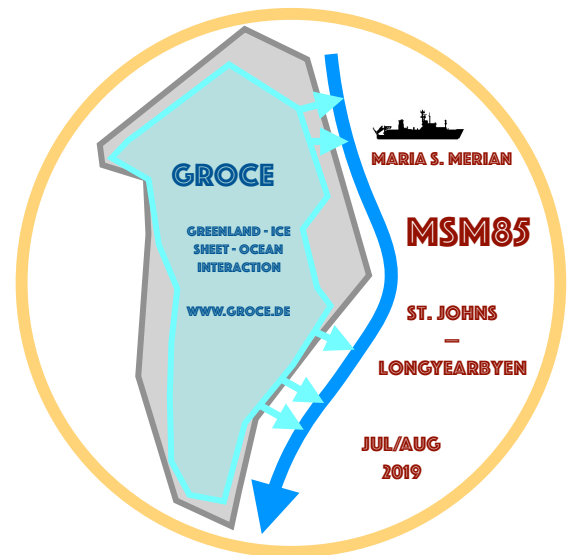


# MSM 85

St. John's – Longyearbyen

July 23 to August 13, 2019



## Weekly Report No. 3

(August 5 to 11, 2019)

During the past week on board the Maria S. Merian we were able to perform and sample three more CTD sections across the East Greenland Current. In spite of the partially occurring ice, it was still possible to measure on all three sections directly at the coast and across the entire shelf. However, due to the prevailing ice conditions, we had to change our original plan to make a CTD section across the shelf at 77° 30' N. Instead we have used the time for an additional section at 73° N.



Water sampling after at the rosette in the hangar of Maria S. Merian.

During our work along the third section, some on board were particularly lucky: At the ice edge, they were able to observe and photograph a polar bear from the distance. In the morning of August 10 we finished this section and continued to the last working area of this cruise. The last of three ARGO floats was deployed during this one-day transit to the north. These floats are autonomous devices, which drift at a given depth for 10 days and then dive down to 2000 m. From there they rise toward the sea surface and measure the temperature and salinity of the water column. At the surface, the data are sent to a satellite together with the position and for further processing on land. The floats deployed on our cruise for the Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency are part of an international network of more than 3000 instruments.

On Monday the 12th of August we will make the last CTD stations and finish the scientific work of this cruise. After a one-day transit we will arrive in Longyearbyen on August 13, where our cruise ends. Many thanks to Captain Ralf Schmidt and the whole crew for the friendly and professional support during this cruise.

Best wishes to all friends, families and colleagues on shore,

Christian Mertens and the scientific party of MSM85

Institut für Umweltphysik, Universität Bremen



© J. Kirchner