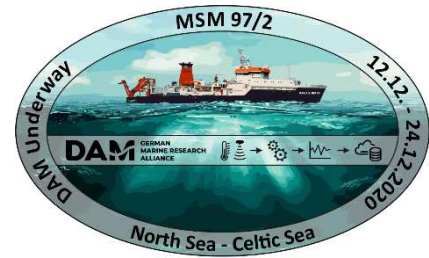


MSM 97/2 (GPF 20-2_062)

2020/12/12 - 2020/12/24, Emden - Emden

Weekly Report 1

2020/12/12 - 2020/12/13



The North Sea is uncommonly quiet for this time of year. After a couple of days in quarantine we are now conducting the first Parasound and multibeam surveys - since Saturday evening without any waves. While in the port, a new mass data storage system was already installed before the cruise, as planned to be used in future to collect, store and transfer all underway data. Currently, we configure the particular devices for each of the different DAM Underway subprojects, enabling proper connection to the DSHIP System, and test the transfer of data to the mass data storage.

Already during these first two days we made considerable progress regarding automatic collection and homogeneous treatment of data. This progress is mainly due to good cooperation on board and substantial technical support by the ship's crew, especially by the system operator.

One aspect of the DAM Underway project is quality control of and the comparison between the different sensors of autonomous through-flow systems. Next to the thermosalinograph we installed a FerryBox and started to collect and process water samples, to be continued during the cruise. The workspace around the FerryBox was equipped with fairy lights, due to the season, evidently without influence on data quality.

We are also going to conduct a sea acceptance test of the sediment echo sounder (Parasound), which was upgraded before the cruise. The test requires larger water depth. In comparison to the North Sea, the weather in the previously designated area south of Ireland does not look good at all, with more than 6 m waves in the Bay of Biscay and the Celtic Sea. We will have to adapt and probably shift to a region north of the Shetland Islands.

Next week during transit we will continue to work on automatic underway data acquisition and transfer and also on data quality in case of the simultaneous deployment of different hydroacoustic devices.

Best greetings on behalf of all cruise participants,

Marius Becker
(Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel)