



**SACROSS**

# M133

(15.12.2016 – 13.01.2017)

1. weekly report 18. Dec. 2016



Thursday December 15<sup>th</sup> we left Cape Town at 10:00am. This marked the beginning of the expedition SACROSS which is at the same time the second training at sea school „My Science Cruise“.



*RV METEOR leaving Cape Town. (Foto: Thomas Wunderlich)*

The scientific program includes a cross basin survey along 34°S, with mostly underway measurements. We are mostly interested in currents and temperatures of the upper 800m and temperature and salinity measurements covering the upper 400m. In addition we constantly log the surface conditions of temperature, salinity, oxygen and CO<sub>2</sub>. Moreover we sample the plankton abundance and types of the upper record 700m using a towed multinet system.

We are an international team of scientists from Germany, France, Netherlands, England, South Africa, Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina and cover the range from (two) high school seniors to Master and PhD students. We are 15 female and 8 male scientists and six of us reside in the Southern Hemisphere spread around the South Atlantic Ocean.

Our goal is to learn from each other and more about the physical, chemical and biological oceanography of the South Atlantic as well as the political dimension of the human, country and ocean interactions.

**DFG**

**marum**

**CAU**  
Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel

**GEOMAR**  
Helmholtz-Zentrum für Ozeanforschung Kiel

After leaving port we participated in the mandatory safety drill and shortly after that the first measurements began.



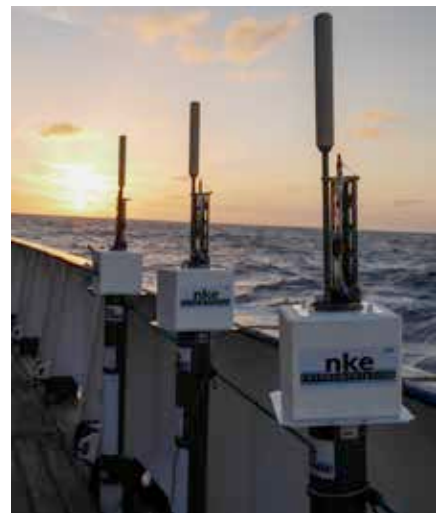
*Safety First! Safely drill during perfect summer weather.*

Southwest of Cape Good Hope we surveyed an ocean eddy. The eddy was shed from the Agulhas Current and contained Indian Ocean water. These eddies can survive many months. In collaboration with our French partners we deployed three profiling Argo floats in the center of the eddy. This will allow us to track its path and evolution for the coming months.

The summer of the Southern hemisphere is presenting itself with plenty of sun and no storms yet. The companionship on board is splendid, the food very tasty and the collaboration with the captain and his crew outstanding.

With best wishes from 34° South and 10° West,  
Martin Visbeck and the Crew of the M133 expedition.

More information can be found in the blog:  
<http://www.oceanblogs.org/mysciencecruise>



*Argo profiling floats on deck shortly before deployment into the Agulhas eddy.*