

RV METEOR M207

04.01.-11.02.2025
Belém – Mindelo



2. Weekly Report 06.01. - 12.01.2025

The journey south from Belém was not just a transit to the M207 working area. Instead of continuing south past Recife as originally planned, we made a short stopover outside of the port of Recife so that a diving operation could take place. During the previous research cruise, a defect had occurred in the moon pool that needed to be repaired and as the water off Belém is turbid, the repair needed to take place off Recife. The requested diver came on board in the morning of January 9, 2025 and had the crew explain the necessary repair work to him. As the crew had already prepared this operation very well in advance, the work progressed very quickly and we were able to continue our transit to the working area in the afternoon, after we had also taken some fresh provisions on board.



Fig. 1: Top left: The diver gets ready for action. Bottom left: The diving operation begins. Right: Taking up provisions. Photos: David Menzel.

Consequently, we were able to start the work program of M207 shortly afterwards, as the first station is also only about 16 hours away from Recife. We immediately started recovering the first two moorings of the mooring array along 11°S. After becoming slightly impatient with one of the two moorings because it did not surface immediately, we were fortunately able to recover both moorings quickly. The data yield was very good, only one instrument had a water ingress, all the other instruments have been recording data for about 1.5 years.

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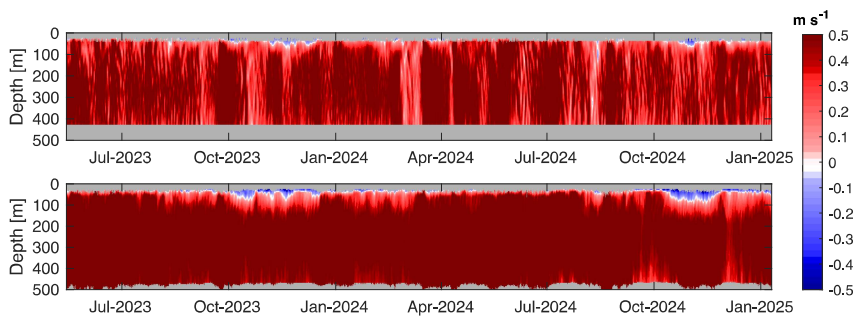
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sensor type	T	C	P	U,V	O ₂	other
mooring	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
KPO 1260	100	100	100	100	-	-
KPO 1261	84	84	100	100	-	-
KPO 1262					-	-
KPO 1263					-	-
all moorings						

Fig. 2: Top: Table showing the data yield for the moorings that were already recovered. Bottom: Currents along the coast in the upper 500m from the two ADCPs (Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler).



Right after the mooring work, we started with the first CTD stations, where the instruments were immediately calibrated so that we could deploy the moorings again on January 11, 2025. The deployments also went smoothly and the weather was merciful in that it was a little cloudy.



Abb. 3: Mooring work aboard Meteor M207. Fotos: David Menzel.

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The mooring recoveries on the previous day had to be carried out in the blazing sun, fortunately there were many helping hands so that a lot of swapping could be done. On January 12, 2025, we recorded the two deeper moorings of the 11°S array and are still calibrating the instruments so that they can be deployed again tomorrow.

Despite the exhausting days, the morale is good and the team is working very well together.

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Rebecca Hummels on behalf of the team of M207
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