

# R/V SONNE

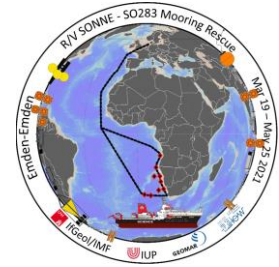
## SO 283 "Mooring Rescue"

Emden - Emden, 19.03. - 25.05.2021

### 2. Weekly Report

22. - 28.03.2021

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## Course south!

The weather conditions mean well with us. Whenever there would have been storm or heavy swell on our route, we usually passed the area before it really started. In the 10 days we are now at sea, the external conditions have been really good and most of the time we could see the sun setting on the horizon in the evening. On the entry into the English Channel we could enjoy the White Cliffs of Dover for a short time and then quickly left the coast of Brittany, the Bay of Biscay and the waters of Madeira and the Canary Islands behind us. On Friday we have already crossed the Tropic of Cancer and in the course of Saturday evening we have reached the westernmost point of our cruise at the latitude of Cape Verde. Here we face locally wind force 7 and waves up to 3 m height, which, however, does not affect RV Sonne very much - the ship lies really impressively calmly in the water. The course is called further south and the weather forecast looks very promising for the next days. Accordingly, the work on deck has changed significantly: While we started in Emden in the morning frost, the work under the subtropical sun is now full of contrasts.



The White Cliffs of Dover at the entrance of the English Channel (© Universität Hamburg/Knut Heinatz)

In addition, the Chief has obviously adjusted the engines perfectly and we have been traveling fast on our long cruise so far. On the one hand, this gives us some breathing space for the actual work in the South Atlantic, but on top of that, it also gives us the opportunity to test the equipment and instruments on the way and to practice the station procedures. Thus, we were able to run a test station with CTD and net deployments on our route, fine-tune our equipment and instruments, and consolidate the workflows in the individual laboratories.

However, the main focus of the work continues to be the preparations for the mooring operations. Wherever you look, somewhere there is always unpacking and assembling, calibrating and testing, checking and bolting together. It is very impressive what is being unloaded from the containers. Some of the equipment is very impressive and gives reason to hope for an outstanding data set in the near future.



An impressive number of prepared current meters and temperature sensors for the TRR moorings in the South Atlantic (© Universität Hamburg/Niko Lahajnar)

All in all, we are still full of anticipation for the work in the mooring areas. And the different working groups have now also gotten to know each other so well that we have been able to elect the persons of trust for the scientific party. Bita Sabbaghzadeh from the IOW was elected as the confidant for the female participants, and Sebastian Beier, also from the IOW, represents the male participants.

We continue to feel very comfortable on board and follow with interest the situation development in Germany. At the moment, R/V SONNE is certainly not the worst place to live and work. Everyone is well and greets those at home!

At Sea, 28.03.2021

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