MA-RAIN

Application for shiptime with RV METEOR or RV M.S.MERIAN

Abstract

The proposed research cruise is directly connected with the research project RAIN (*Regional Archives for Integrated iNvestigations*) which is funded by the BMBF in the framework of the SPACES program (*Science Partnerships for the Assessment of Complex Earth System Processes*). The overreaching goal of this project is to expand the current state of knowledge on the drivers and dynamics of South African Late Quaternary climate change by directly comparing marine and terrestrial proxy-records. Whereas sufficient sample material for these analyses was retrieved from the western South African coast during expedition M57-1, suitable marine cores from the southeast African coast are so far not available. The aim of the proposed research cruise is to close this gap. However, the prevailing regional ocean circulation system (Agulhas current) favors the erosion rather than the accumulation of sediment. Holocene sediments in sufficient thickness are therefore restricted to local valley fills and small-scale sediment bodies. Recent geomorphological studies of the shelf and continental slope areas conducted by our South African co-proponents proofed the existence of such sediment bodies.

The proposed working areas

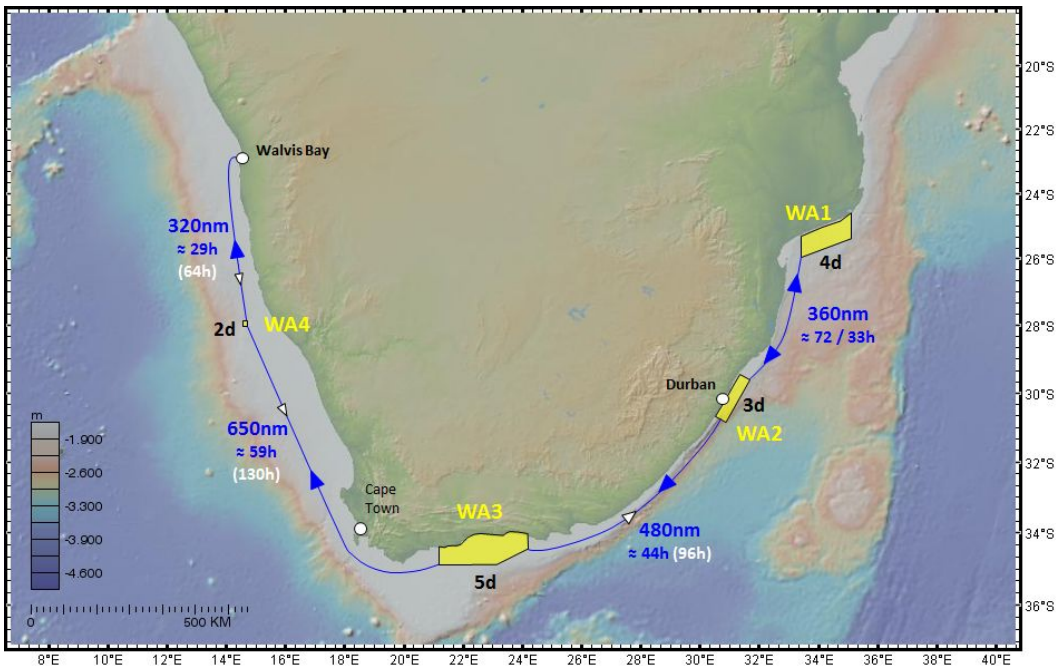

Fig. 5 Working areas and transits

(blue line – transits, blue numbers – distance in nautical miles and transit time when 11 nm/h is assumed, white numbers – transit time when traveling direction would be opposed (5 nm/h), black numbers – time/days for surveying and sampling with the four working areas).