**Summary of cruise AX181214 between Zarate and Durban**

The AX181214 line was conducted aboard the M.V. Sunshine Ave. I boarded the ship in Zarate on the 28th of November 2014 after which myself and Luis Yurquina set up and tested the equipment prior to the following day’s departure. The drops for the voyage began at 52° 24.35’W at 19:20 on the 1st of December 2014 just before entering water deeper than 200m. The drops concluded at 19° 20.91’ E at 12:48 on the 9th of December 2014 in water shallower than 200m. The most of the voyage took place between -35° 05.00’ and -35° 06.00 only veering slightly more to the south toward the end of the voyage.

A total of 241 XBTs were deployed during the voyage.

The ship worked well for XBT deployments. The aft deck is approximately 12m above the water mark, but despite this height, there were few problematic probes. Unfortunately the placement of the ships accommodation section toward the front section of the vessel requires the ship rider to occupy the rope locker for the duration of the sampling. This is a loud and disruptive environment in which to work and sleep.

The crew were interested and helpful during the cruise and were willing to lend a hand whenever necessary.

Philip Massie

Physical Oceanographer