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Overview of air-sea interactions from the EGEE3/AMMA cruise

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EGEE3 was the French oceanic component of the main phase of the AMMA program. This campaign was coordinated with the German R/V METEOR and the US R/V RONALD H. BROWN, allowing the simultaneous presence of three ships during the SOP1 and SOP2 across the Equatorial Atlantic Basin. Onboard the R/V L'ATALANTE, which occupied the Gulf of Guinea to 10°W, classical oceanographic measurements were performed along cross-equatorial sections while continuous time series of variables related to air-sea interactions were conducted throughout the basin. This extended data set is presented. Unique meteorological and flux time series along the ship trajectory indicate that a strong air-sea contrast exists on either side of the Equator with a large regional tendency between the beginning and the end of the cruise due to the establishment of the cold tongue across the Gulf of Guinea. The northern boundary of this cold tongue was sampled intensively to resolve the sharp temperature discontinuities along the ship trajectory will be presented to characterize the complex flow of the upper ocean in the Gulf of Guinea.