“So, what did you do for Thanksgiving, Christmas and the New Year?”

I spent all three on the R/V Mirai as the first Japanese cruise of the international program the Years of the Maritime Continent. The YMC is aimed at improving knowledge and the predictive capability of the maintenance and propagation of the Madden Julian Oscillation over the Maritime Continent. This will be a first look at data from the cruise with a focus on the ocean response to changing atmospheric conditions. The ultimate goal is to establish the controls on SST, the feedbacks to the MJO, and what is needed in climate models to capture the relevant processes.