Supporting Information for

XBT data collected along the Southern Ocean "chokepoint" between New Zealand and Antarctica, 1994-2023

Giuseppe Aulicino^{*,1,2}, Antonino Ian Ferola¹, Laura Fortunato¹, Giorgio Budillon^{1,3}, Pasquale Castagno^{3,4}, Pierpaolo Falco^{3,5}, Giannetta Fusco^{1,3}, Naomi Krauzig⁵, Giancarlo Spezie^{1,3}, Enrico Zambianchi^{1,3}, Yuri Cotroneo^{*,1,3}

¹ Dipartimento di Scienze e Tecnologie, Università degli Studi di Napoli "Parthenope", Napoli, 80143, Italy

² Istituto di Scienze Polari, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Bologna, 40129, Italy

³ Consorzio Nazionale Interuniversitario per le Scienze del Mare (CoNISMa), Roma, 00196, Italy

⁴ Dipartimento di Scienze Matematiche e Informatiche, Scienze Fisiche e Scienze della Terra, Università degli Studi di Messina, 98122, Italy

⁵ Dipartimento di Scienze della Vita e dell'Ambiente, Università Politecnica delle Marche, Ancona, 60131, Italy

* *Correspondence to:* Giuseppe Aulicino (giuseppe.aulicino@uniparthenope.it); Yuri Cotroneo (yuri.cotroneo@uniparthenope.it)

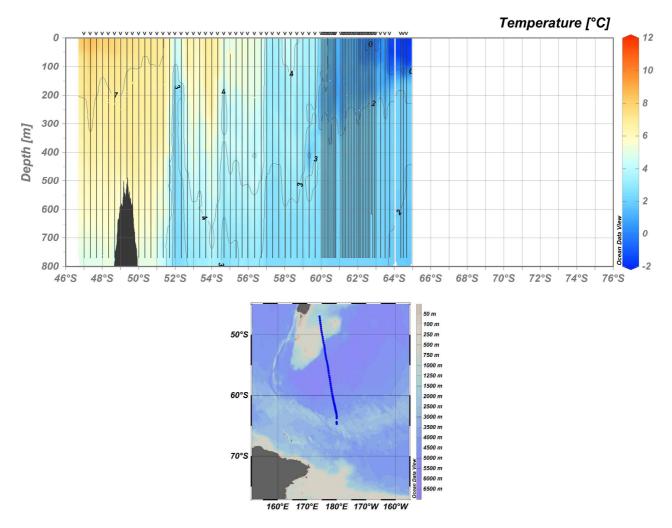
Contents of this file

S1-S36. XBT temperature vertical sections for all the available PNRA expeditions

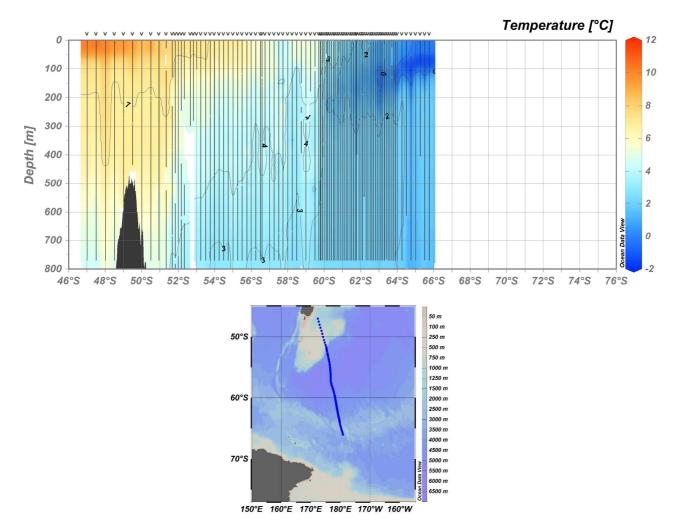
S37. Python XBT data visualisation code example

S38. Temperature vertical profiles of the XBT good data (QF=1) collected during the PNRA_XXXVIII expedition realized through the Python code in S37

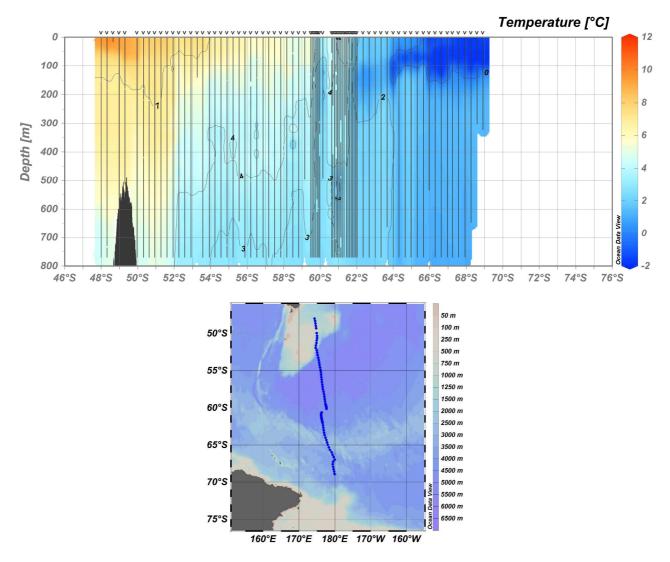
S39. Temperature latitudinal section of the XBT good data (QF=1) collected during the PNRA_XXXVIII expedition realized through the Python code in S37



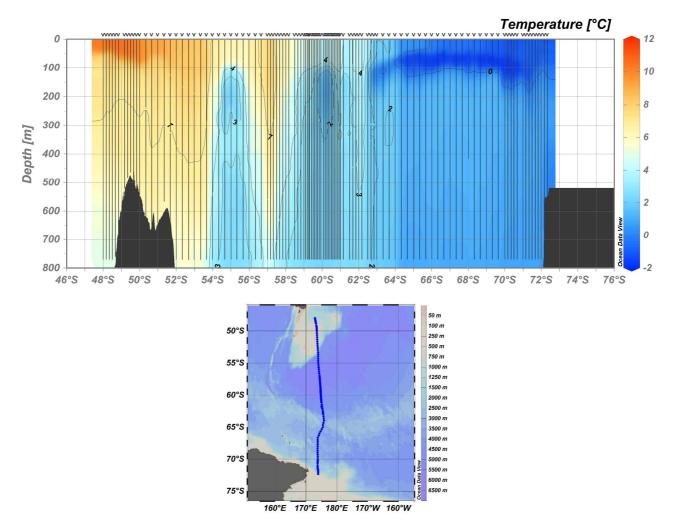
S1. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the first leg of the PNRA_X cruise conducted from 03 November 1994 to 06 November 1994 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



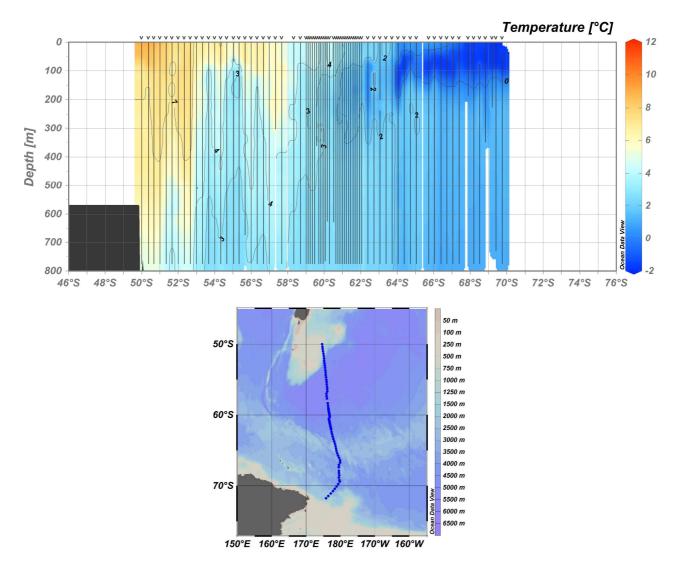
S2. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the second leg of the PNRA_X cruise conducted from 28 December 1994 to 01 January 1995 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



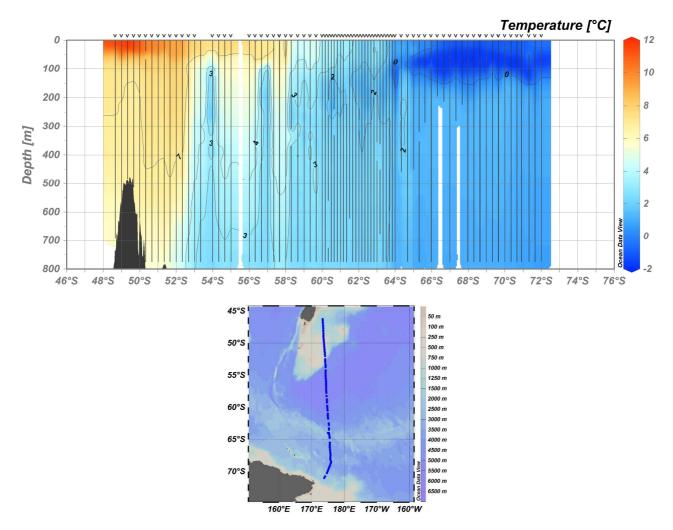
S3. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the third leg of the PNRA_X cruise conducted from 06 January 1995 to 11 January 1995 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



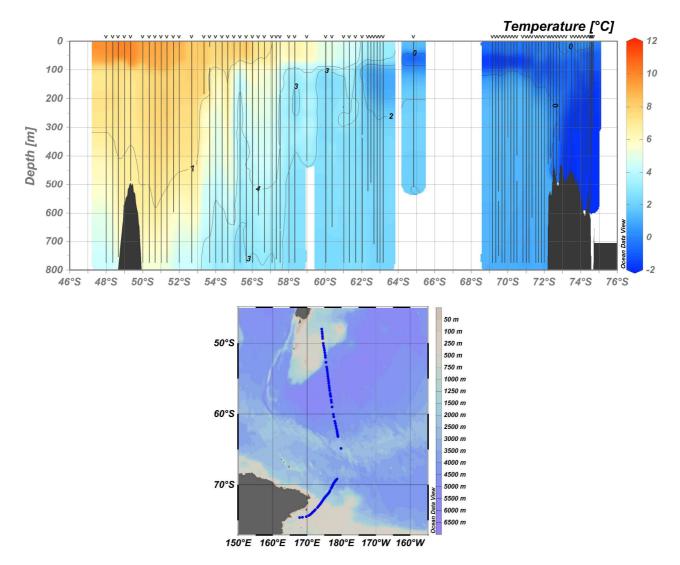
S4. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the forth leg of the PNRA_X cruise conducted from 26 February 1995 to 02 March 1995 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



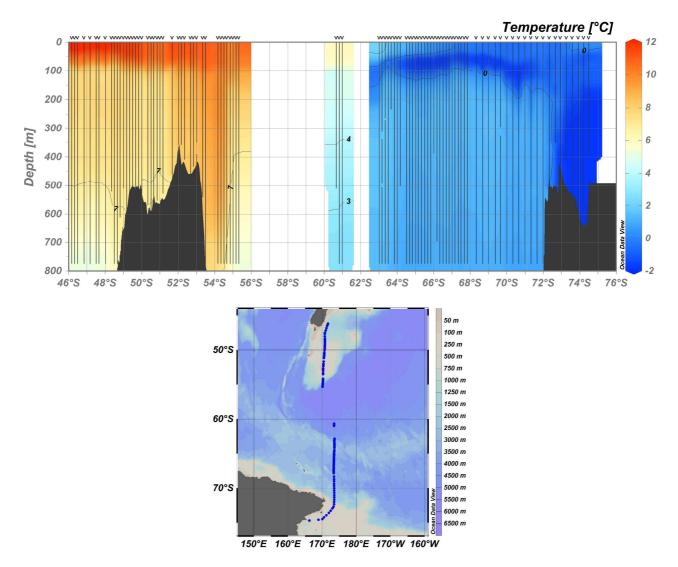
S5. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the first leg of the PNRA_XI cruise conducted from 07 January 1996 to 11 January 1996 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



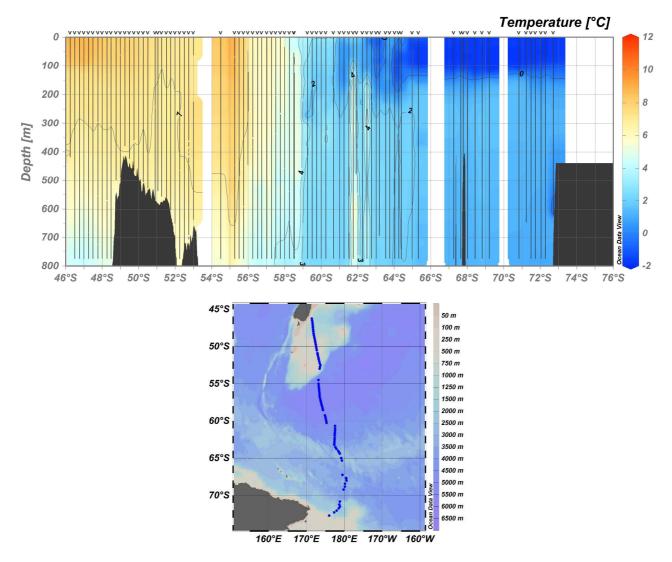
S6. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the second leg of the PNRA_XI cruise conducted from 13 February 1996 to 18 February 1996 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



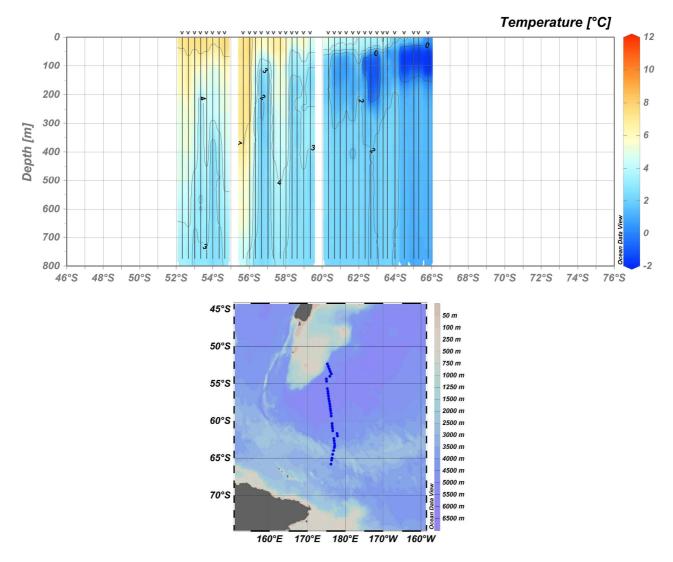
S7. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the first leg of the PNRA_XII cruise conducted from 26 January 1997 to 30 January 1997 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



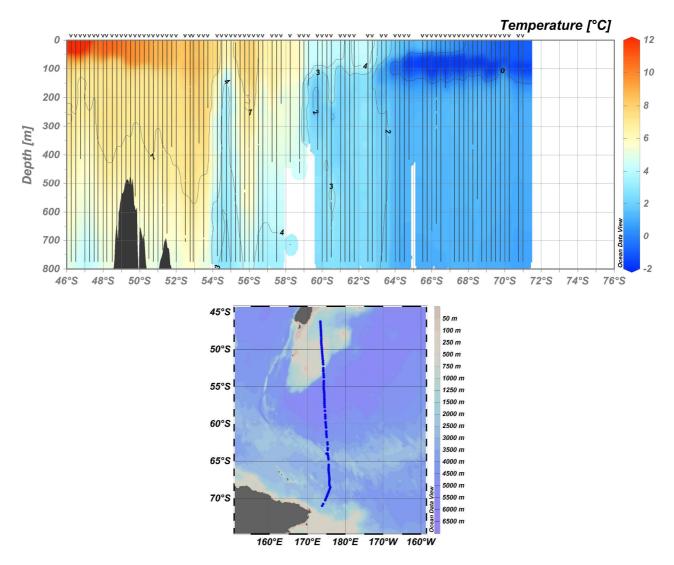
S8. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the second leg of the PNRA_XII cruise conducted from 14 February 1997 to 19 February 1997 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



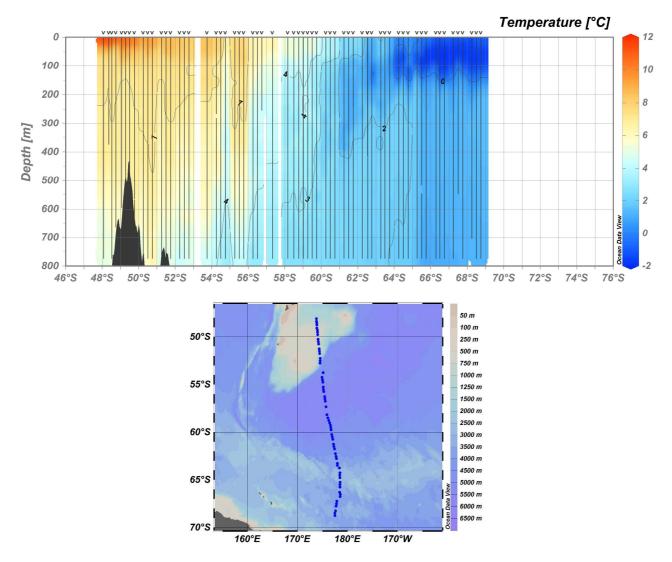
S9. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the first leg of the PNRA_XIII cruise conducted from 23 November 1997 to 28 November 1997 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



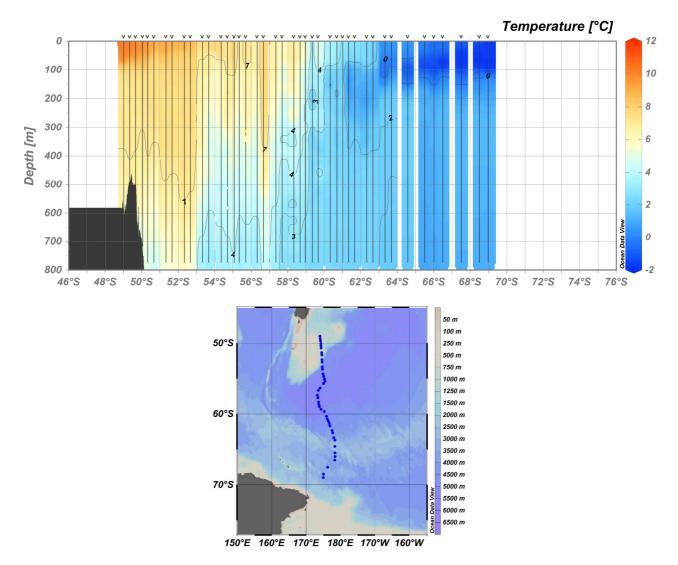
S10. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the second leg of the PNRA_XIII cruise conducted from 09 January 1998 to 12 January 1998 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



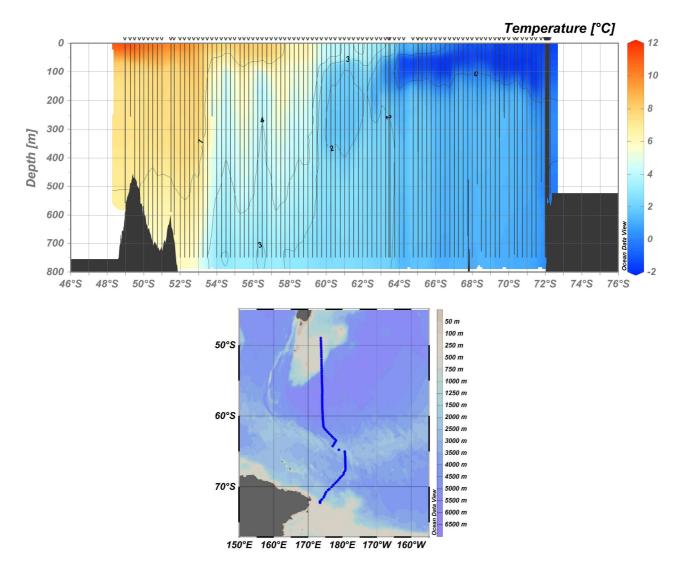
S11. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the third leg of the PNRA_XIII cruise conducted from 28 February 1998 to 06 March 1998 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



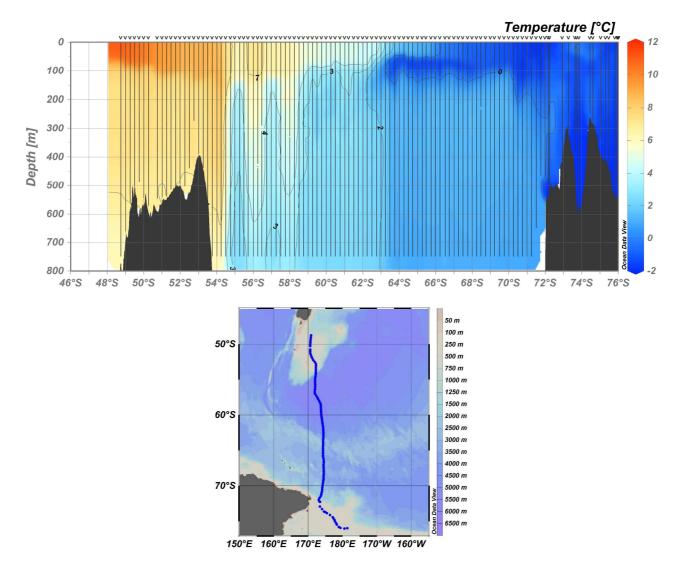
S12. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XIV cruise conducted from 05 January 1999 to 11 January 1999 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



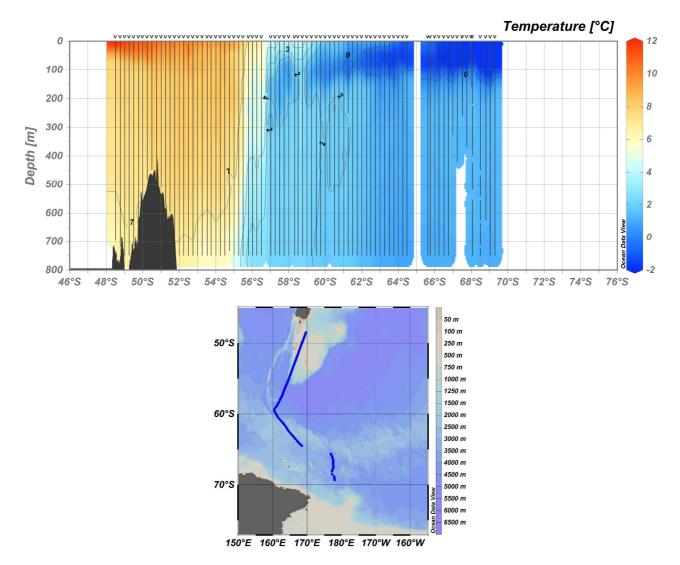
S13. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XV cruise conducted from 07 January 2000 to 12 January 2000 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



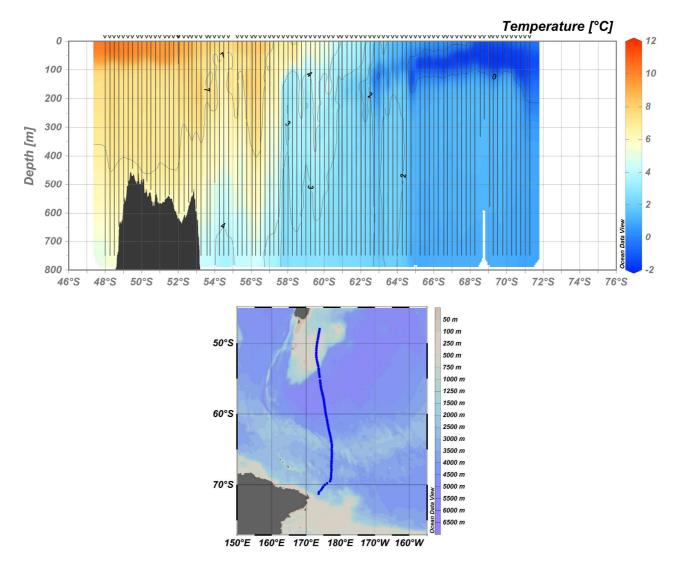
S14. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the first leg of the PNRA_XVI cruise conducted from 06 January 2001 to 10 January 2001 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



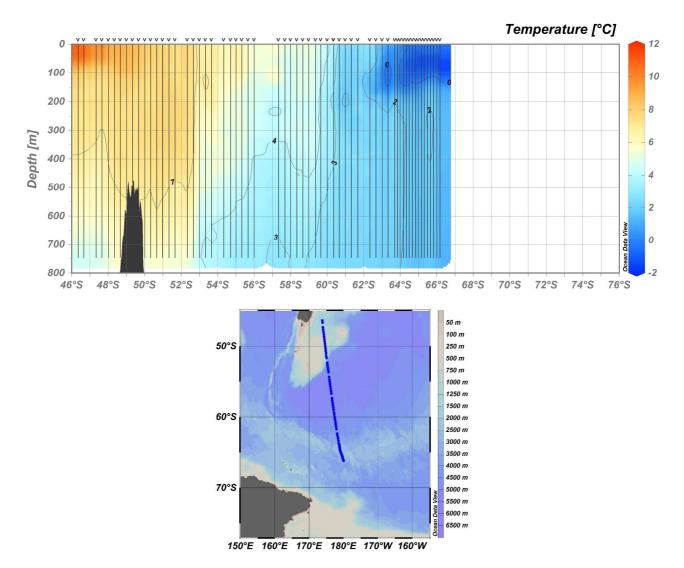
S15. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the second leg of the PNRA_XVI cruise conducted from 21 February 2001 to 26 February 2001 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



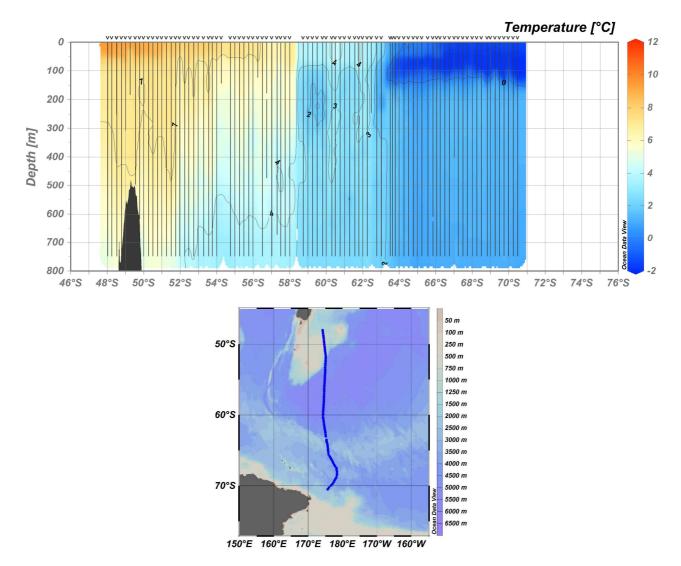
S16. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XVII cruise conducted from 24 December 2001 to 28 December 2001 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



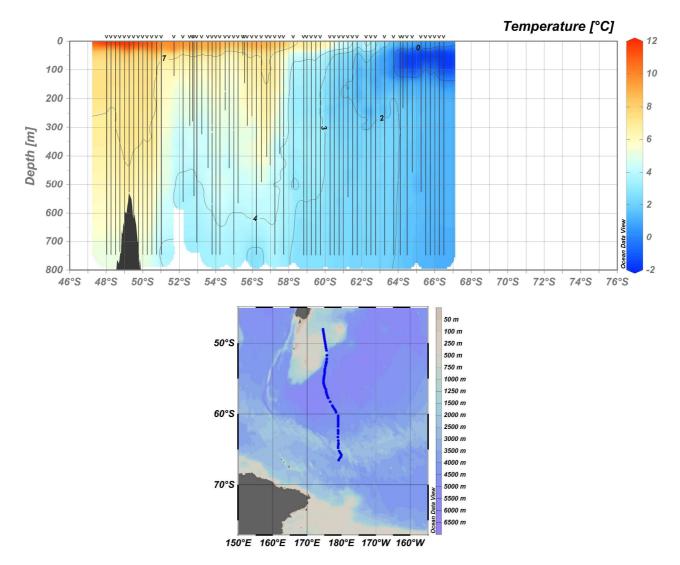
S17. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XVIII cruise conducted from 06 January 2003 to 11 January 2003 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



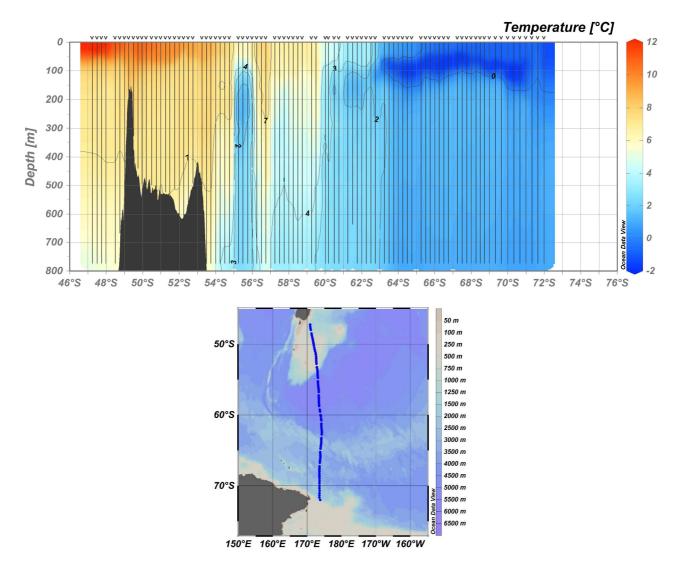
S18. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XIX cruise conducted from 24 December 2003 to 28 December 2003 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



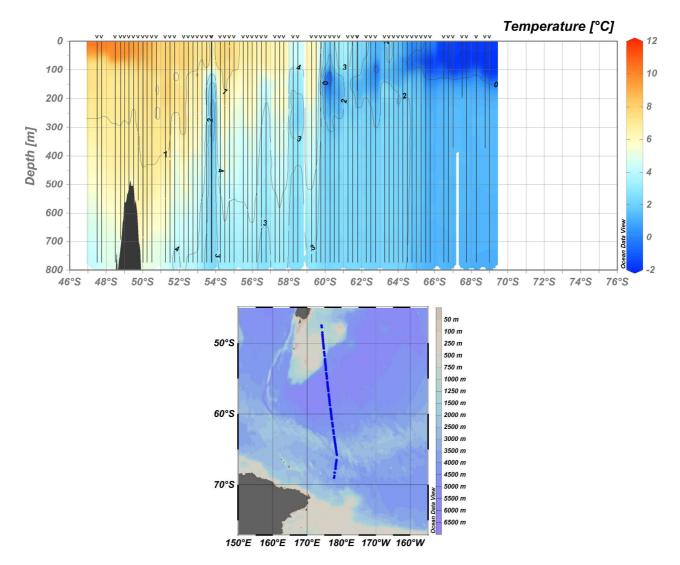
S19. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XX cruise conducted from 01 January 2005 to 06 January 2005 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



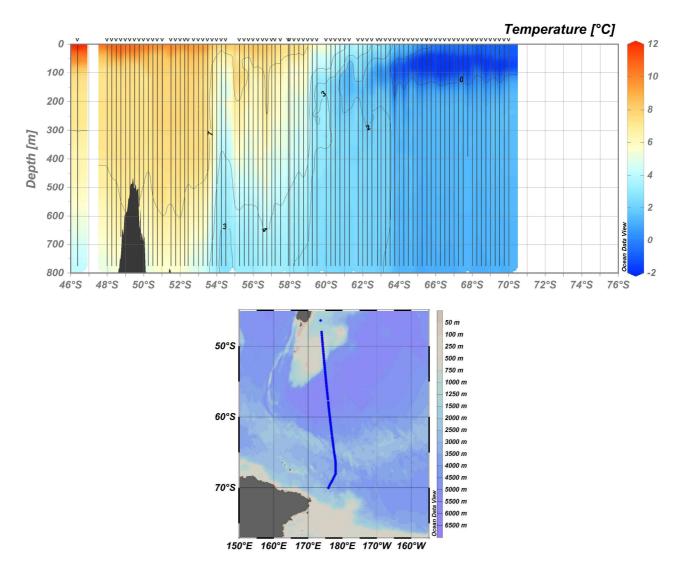
S20. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XXI cruise conducted from 01 January 2006 to 04 January 2006 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



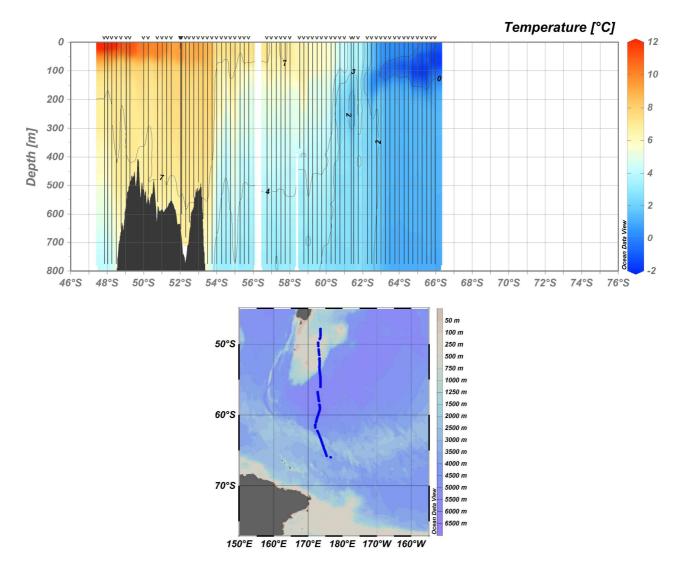
S21. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XXII cruise conducted from 05 February 2007 to 10 February 2007 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



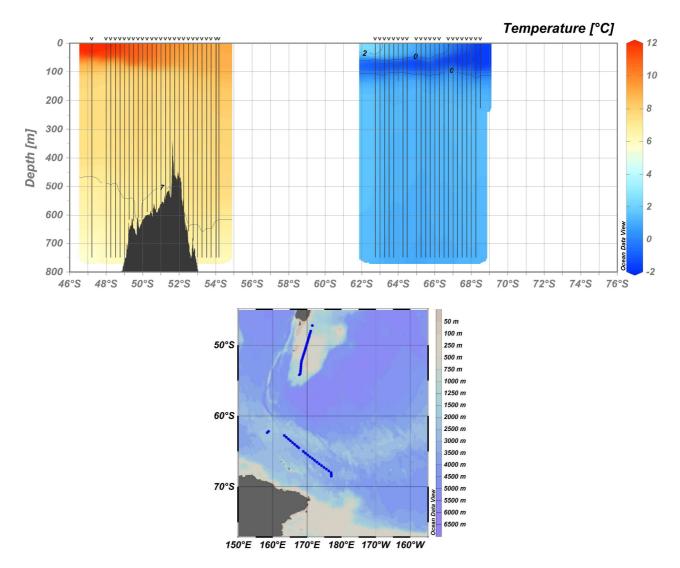
S22. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XXIII cruise conducted from 16 January 2008 to 21 January 2008 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



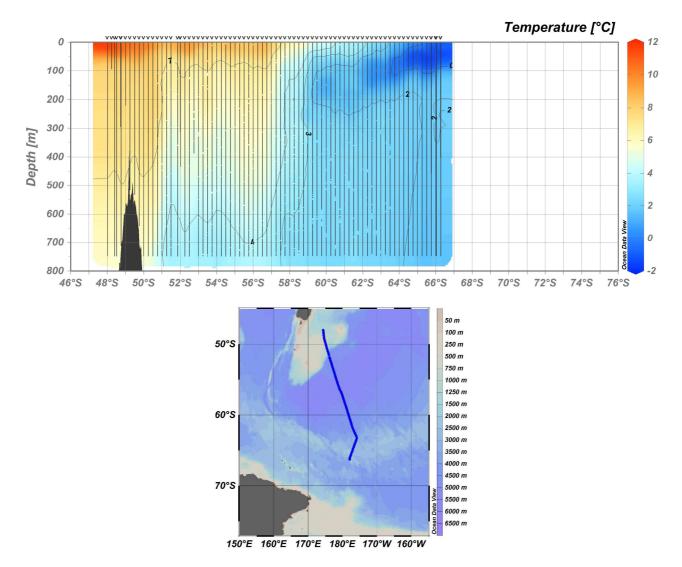
S23. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XXV cruise conducted from 25 January 2010 to 29 January 2010 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



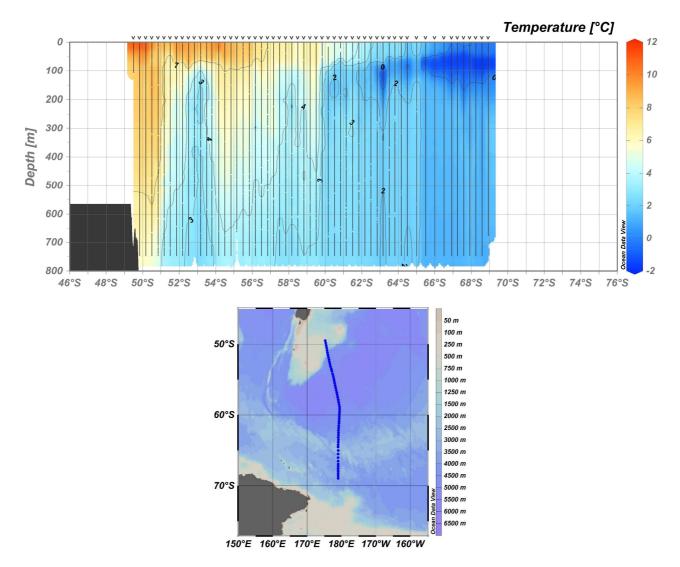
S24. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XXVII cruise conducted from 13 January 2012 to 19 January 2012 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



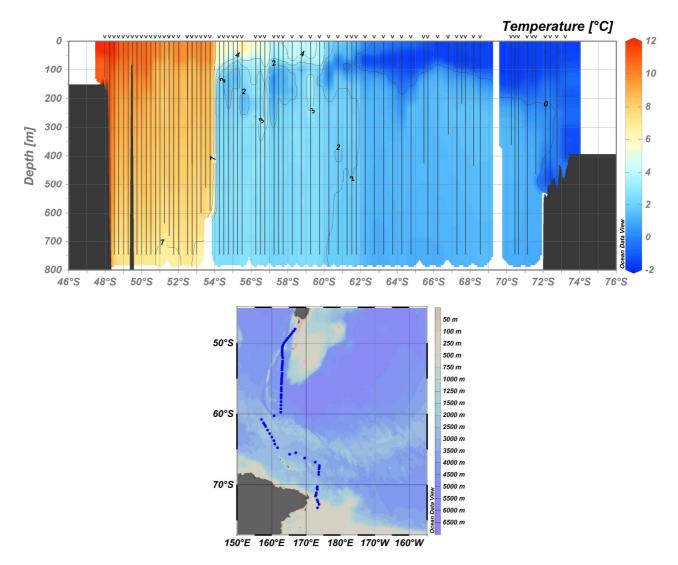
S25. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XXVIII cruise conducted from 24 January 2013 to 06 February 2013 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



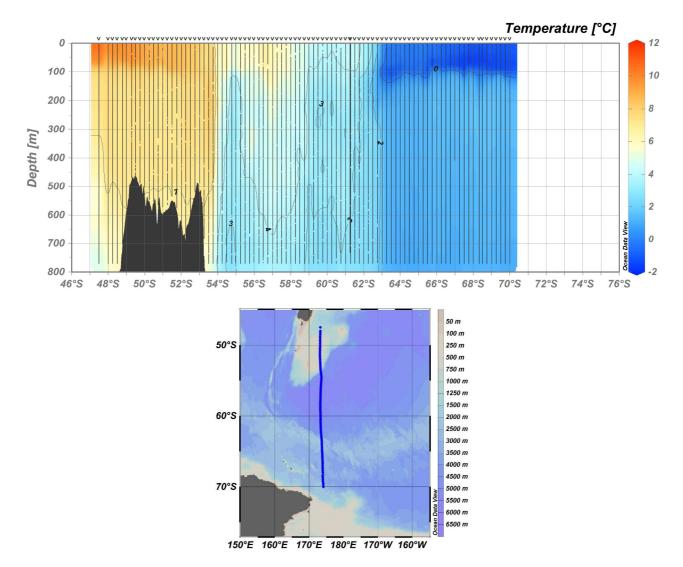
S26. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XXIX cruise conducted from 30 December 2013 to 03 January 2014 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



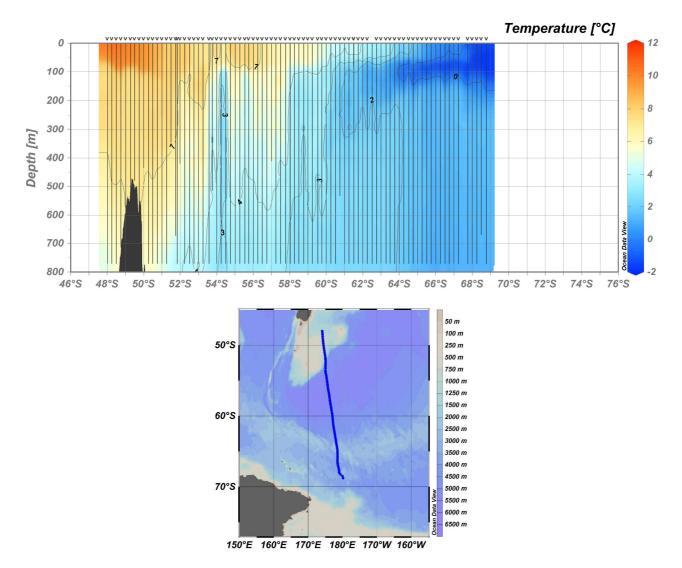
S27. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XXIX cruise conducted from 14 February 2014 to 18 February 2014 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



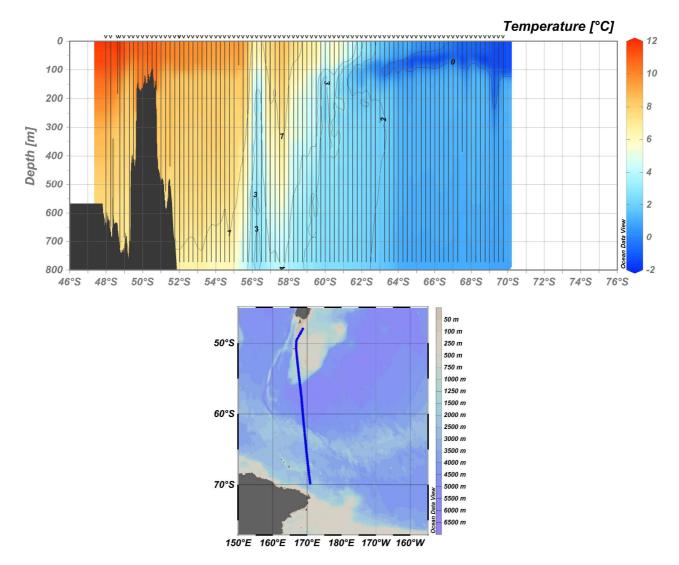
S28. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XXX cruise conducted from 02 January 2015 to 07 January 2015 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



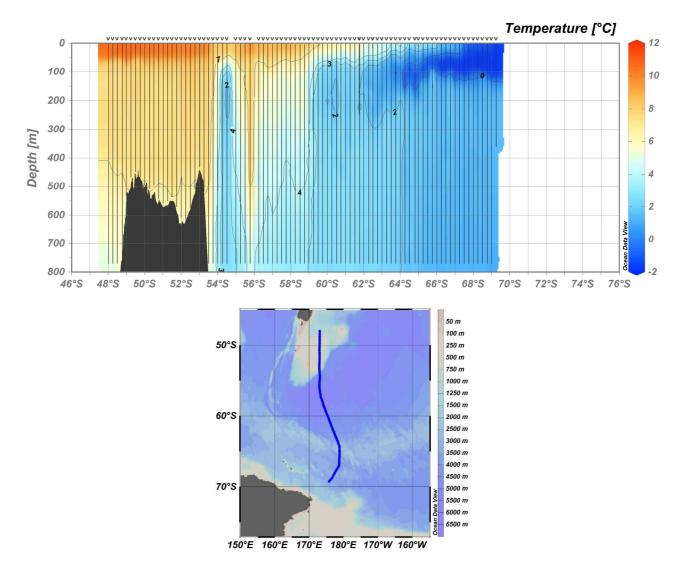
S29. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XXXI cruise conducted from 16 January 2016 to 21 January 2016 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



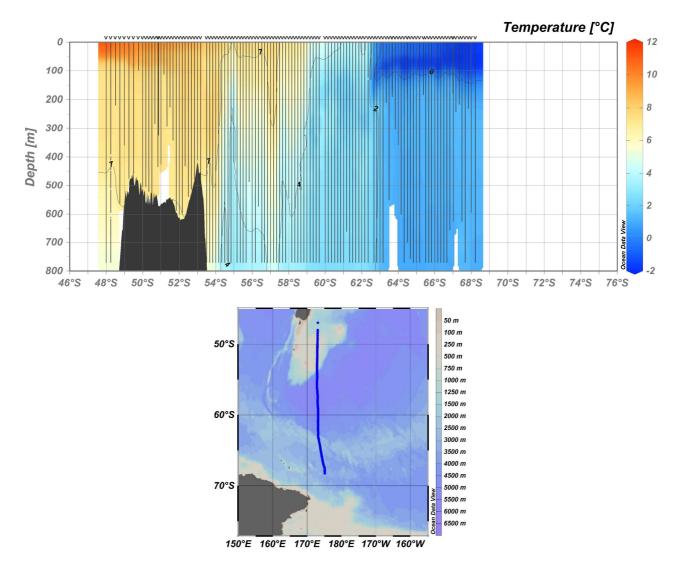
S30. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XXXII cruise conducted from 31 December 2016 to 05 January 2017 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



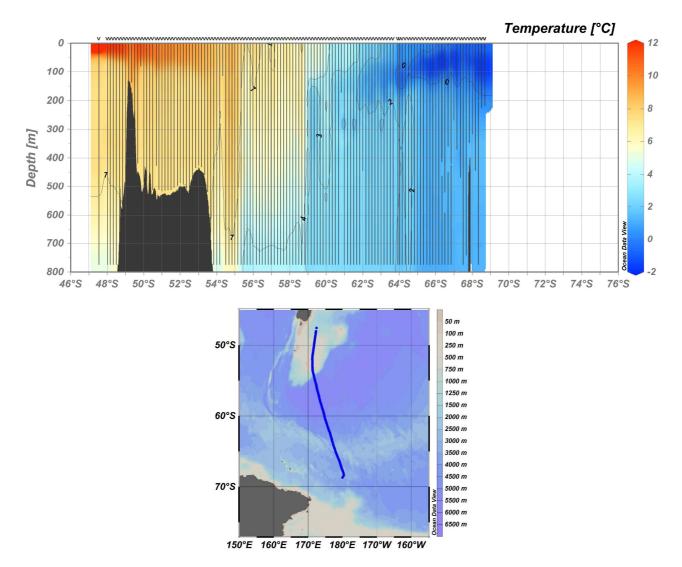
S31. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XXXIV cruise conducted from 08 February 2019 to 12 February 2019 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



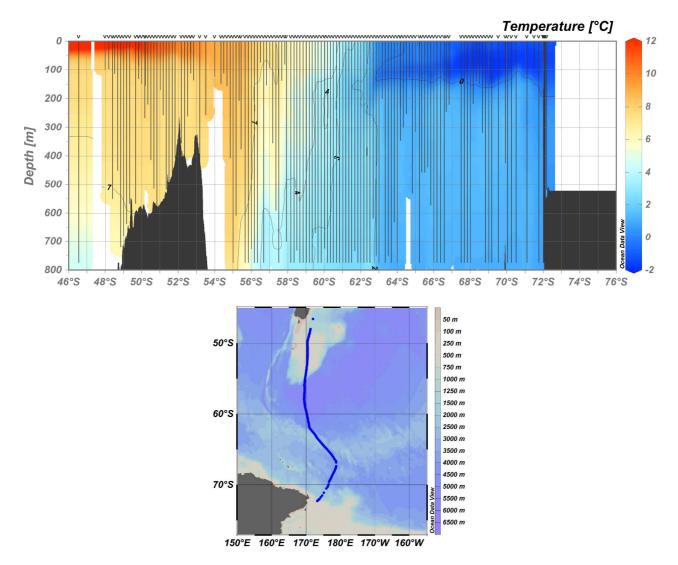
S32. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XXXV cruise conducted from 07 January 2020 to 12 January 2020 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



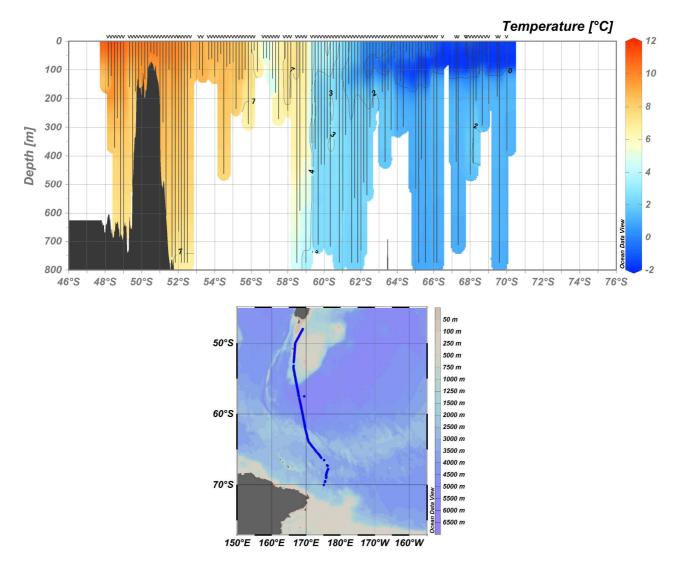
S33. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XXXVI cruise conducted from 25 December 2020 to 02 January 2021 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



S34. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XXXVII cruise conducted from 08 January 2022 to 13 January 2022 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



S35. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XXXVIII cruise conducted from 06 January 2023 to 12 January 2023 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.



S36. Temperature vertical section from XBT data collected during the PNRA_XXXIX cruise conducted from 07 January 2024 to 12 January 2024 along the New Zealand–Antarctica "chokepoint" - PX36 transect. Zonal interpolation is based on a spatial weighting model that incorporates three adjacent temperature profiles, considering a maximum influence range of 60 km along the zonal direction and 20 m along depth. The dark grey mask represents the bathymetry. The map of XBT casts positions is displayed below the section. Plots were realized using Ocean Data View software.

S37. Python code for visualizing XBT data through a scatter plot of vertical temperature profiles and a latitudinal temperature section, as illustrated in S38 and S39

import pandas as pd import numpy as np from scipy.interpolate import griddata import matplotlib.pyplot as plt import os # Define the file path

file_path = r'The relative file path to the .txt file, indicating its location in the file system. For example, it could be an absolute path like: C:\Users\User\Documents\example.txt'

Remove lines starting with '//' from the file

with open(file_path, 'r', encoding='latin-1') as file:

lines = file.readlines()

filtered_lines = [line for line in lines if not line.startswith('//')]

Save filtered lines to a temporary file

temp_file_path = r'The relative path to the directory where the temporary file should be saved.'

with open(temp_file_path, 'w') as temp_file:

temp_file.writelines(filtered_lines)

Read the cleaned file into a DataFrame

df = pd.read_csv(temp_file_path, sep='\t', skiprows=0)

os.remove(temp_file_path) # Remove the temporary file

Add column names to the DataFrame

```
df.columns = [
```

'Cruise', 'Station', 'Type', 'mon/day/yr', 'hh:mm',

'Longitude [degrees_east]', 'Latitude [degrees_north]',

'Bot. Depth [m]', 'Elapsed Time [s]',

'Depth 1 [m]', 'Depth 2 [m]', 'Depth 3 [m]',

'Temperature 1 [°C]', 'Temperature 2 [°C]', 'QF'

```
]
```

Filter the good Data, where QF < 2 (Quality Filter)

 $df_filtered = df[df['QF'] = 1]$

--- SCATTER PLOT: Depth vs Temperature ---

plt.scatter(

```
df_filtered['Temperature 2 [°C]'], df_filtered['Depth 3 [m]'],
```

color='black', s=10

) # Scatter plot with black dots

plt.gca().invert_yaxis() # Invert y-axis for depth

plt.xlim(-2, 12) # Temperature limits

plt.xticks(range(-2, 13, 2)) # Tick every 2 degrees

plt.ylim(800, 0) # Depth limits

plt.yticks(range(0, 801, 100)) # Tick every 100 meters

Add axis labels and title

plt.xlabel('Temperature [°C]', fontweight='bold')

plt.ylabel('Depth [m]', fontweight='bold')

plt.title('Depth vs Temperature, fontweight='bold')

Add grid

plt.grid(which='both', linestyle='--', linewidth=0.5, alpha=0.7)

plt.show()

plt.close()

--- INTERPOLATION AND CONTOUR PLOT ---

Extract necessary columns: latitude, depth, and temperature

lat = df_filtered['Latitude [degrees_north]']

depth = df_filtered['Depth 3 [m]']

temp = df_filtered['Temperature 2 [°C]']

Generate a grid for interpolation

Create a latitude grid with 400 points between the minimum and maximum latitude

lat_grid = np.linspace(np.nanmin(lat), np.nanmax(lat), 400)

Create a depth grid with 400 points between the minimum and maximum depth

depth_grid = np.linspace(np.nanmin(depth), np.nanmax(depth), 400)

Create a meshgrid for latitude and depth (grid points for interpolation)

lat_grid, depth_grid = np.meshgrid(lat_grid, depth_grid)

```
# Combine data into a single array for processing and filter out rows containing NaNs
data = np.array([lat, depth, temp]).T # Combine latitude, depth, and temperature into a single array
valid_data = data[~np.isnan(data).any(axis=1)] # Remove rows with any NaN values
lat, depth, temp = valid_data[:, 0], valid_data[:, 1], valid_data[:, 2] # Separate the cleaned data
# Perform linear interpolation of the temperature data on the generated grid
temp_grid = griddata(
  (lat, depth), # Original data points (latitude and depth)
              # Corresponding temperature values
  temp.
  (lat_grid, depth_grid), # Interpolation grid
  method='linear' # Use linear interpolation
)
# Plot the interpolated data as a contour plot
plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6))
contour = plt.contourf(
  lat_grid, depth_grid, temp_grid,
```

```
levels=100, cmap="turbo", vmin=-2, vmax=12 # Set color range from -2 to 12°C
```

)

Add a colorbar to the plot

```
cbar = plt.colorbar(contour, label="Temperature [°C]", ticks=np.arange(-2, 13, 2))
```

cbar.set_label("Temperature [°C]", fontweight='bold') # Add a bold label for the colorbar

Add specific contour lines on top of the filled contours

contour_levels = [0, 2, 3, 4, 7] # Contour levels of interest

contour_lines = plt.contour(

lat_grid, depth_grid, temp_grid,

levels=contour_levels, colors='black', linewidths=1 # Black contour lines

)

plt.clabel(contour_lines, fmt='%1.0f', colors='black', fontsize=7) # Add labels to contour lines

Set axis labels and title

plt.xlabel("Latitude [Degrees South]", fontweight='bold') # Label for latitude

plt.ylabel("Depth [m]", fontweight='bold') # Label for depth

plt.title(

"Temperature Latitudinal Section",

```
fontweight='bold', fontsize=16, pad=20 # Bold title with padding
```

)

Customize the depth axis (y-axis)

plt.gca().invert_yaxis() # Invert depth axis to show 0 at the top

plt.ylim(800, 0) # Set depth limits from 800 to 0

plt.yticks(np.arange(0, 801, 100)) # Tick labels every 100 meters

Customize the latitude axis (x-axis)

plt.gca().invert_xaxis() # Invert latitude axis for correct orientation

plt.xlim(-46, -76) # Set latitude limits from -46 to -76 degrees south

plt.xticks(np.arange(-76, -45, 2)) # Tick labels every 2 degrees

Customize plot margins and ticks

plt.tick_params(axis='both', which='major', length=7, width=2) # Major tick appearance

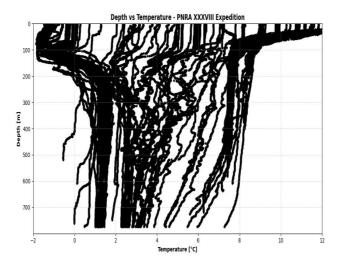
plt.tick_params(axis='both', which='minor', length=4, width=1.5) # Minor tick appearance

Add a grid to the plot

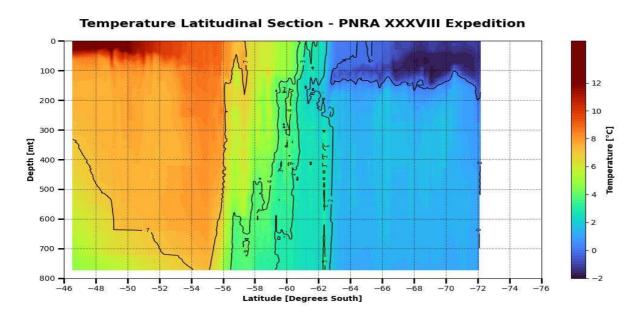
plt.grid(True, linestyle='--', linewidth=0.7, color='black', alpha=0.5) # Dashed black grid with transparency

Show the plot

plt.show()



S38. Temperature vertical profiles of the XBT good data (QF=1) collected during the PNRA_XXXVIII expedition realized through the Python code in S37



S39. Temperature latitudinal section of the XBT good data (QF=1) collected during the PNRA_XXXVIII expedition realized through the Python code in S37