

# Argo-España

*Parte de la estrategia global de observación del océano*



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**Report on Delayed Mode for Argo float WMO  
6900230**

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**ARGO ESPAÑA - IEO / 17 - 27**

**Delayed Mode Quality Control for Argo float  
WMO 6900230**

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# 1 Introduction

The Delayed Mode Quality Control (DMQC) has been developed for float WMO 6900230 and delivered on 16/05/2017 to ifremer. No anomalous profiles were detected during its initial analysis in any of the measured variables in the 73 profiles carried out.

Transmission system	ARGOS
Transmission ID	40823 02412
Platform Model	APEX SBE APF8
Platform ID	
Sensors	
Sensores s/n	
Data Centre (Format Version)	IF (2.2)
Project Name	ARGO SPAIN
Data Centre (Format Version)	IF (2.2)
Project Name	ARGO SPAIN
Float Owner	
PI Name	Gregorio PARRILLA
Parking Depth (dbar)	
Profile depth (dbar)	2025
Number of Profiles	73
Status	Inactive
Deployment Date	13-Sep-2003 00:00:00
Deployment Position	Lat 44.83 Lon -9.00
Last Surfacing Date	12-Sep-2005 14:18:12
Deployed Position	Lat 42.34 Lon -10.06
Age (years)	2.0
Voltage (v)	13.2
Sensors	CTD-PRES,CTD-TEMP,CTD-CNDC

Table 1. Technical information of the float.

Several checks were performed: Pressure values were studied to avoid possible TNDP anomalies. The Thermal Mass Error was also calculated in order to avoid possible errors due to the temperature gradients. The Owens and Wong Objective Mapping Analysis (2003) was applied to achieve an optimum calibration of the salinity.

## 2 Salinity correction from the OW method

Owens and Wong Objective Mapping Analysis (2003):

This calibration model assumes that salinity measurements drifts slowly over time. To correct possible salinity drifts, the model makes use of adjacent profiles (a time series) to estimate a time-varying multiplicative correction term "r" by fitting to the estimated climatological potential conductivities on theta surfaces. The inclusion of contemporary high quality calibrated hydrographic data with regional temperature - salinity relationships (by using nearby historical hydrographic data) helps to determine whether a measured trend is due to sensor drift or due to natural variability.

After manual evaluation and inspection, a potential drift of the salinity signal was detected from the profile number 47 to profile number 73 roughly (figure 7). Although the signal is within the error threshold (0.02 PSU roughly), Owens and Wong calibration has been developed with a break point adjustment = 2 for the stretch 47 to 73. In order to make sure Owens and Wong calibration is correct, a comparison with CTD data was performed taking in account different theta levels (figure 9). The first three profiles seem to be close to error thresholds, so it has been declared as unadjustable. As this happens just at the beginning of the signal, we may be faced with a wash-out case.

According to Argo Quality Control Manual:

PSAL ADJUSTED = PSAL (original value), PSAL ADJUSTED ERROR = Uncertainty provided by PI, PSAL ADJUSTED QC = 1, 2 or 3.

The following parameters has been set up for the Owens and Wong Objective Mapping Analysis method:

Config_max_casts	67
use_pv	0
scale_long_large	2
scale_lat_large	2
scale_long_small	1
scale_lat_small	1
scale_phi_small	0
scale_phi_large	0
scale_age	10
p_delta	250
p_exclude	200

Table 2. Owens and Wong Objective Mapping Analysis method parameters .

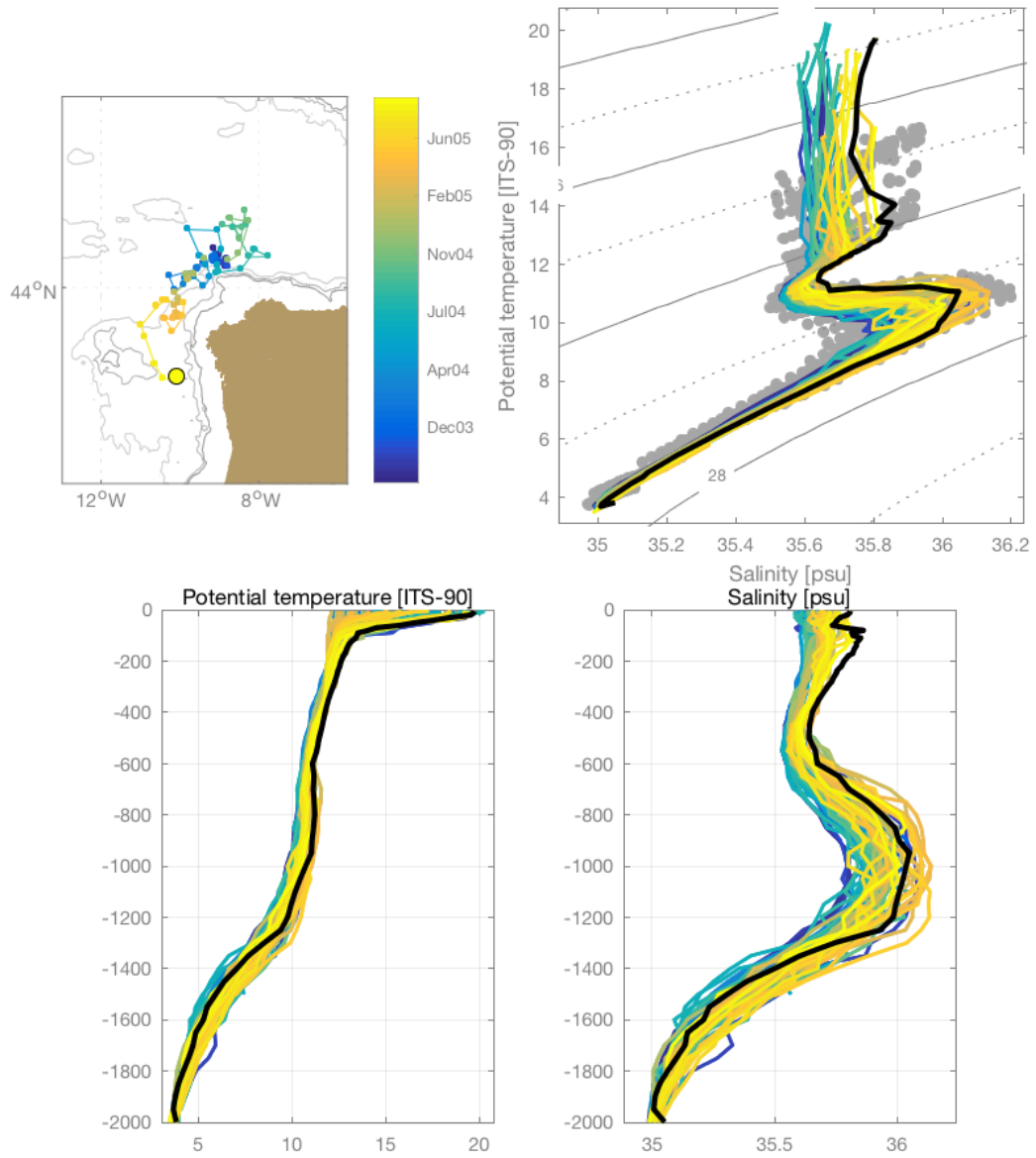


Figure 1: Argo float trajectory (a). T-S Diagram (b). Potential Temperature profiles (c). Salinity profiles (d).

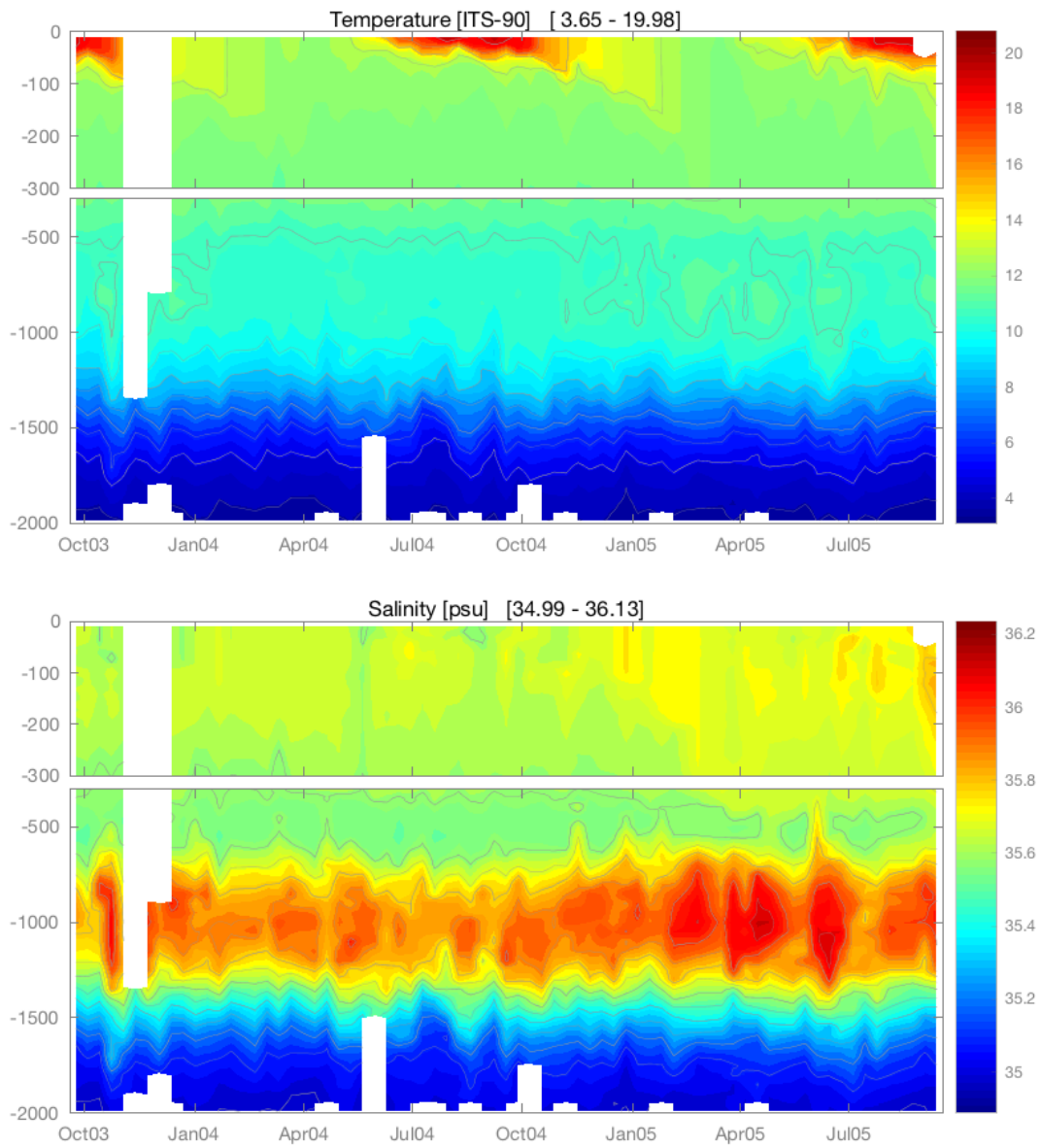


Figure 2: Potential temperature and salinity sections.

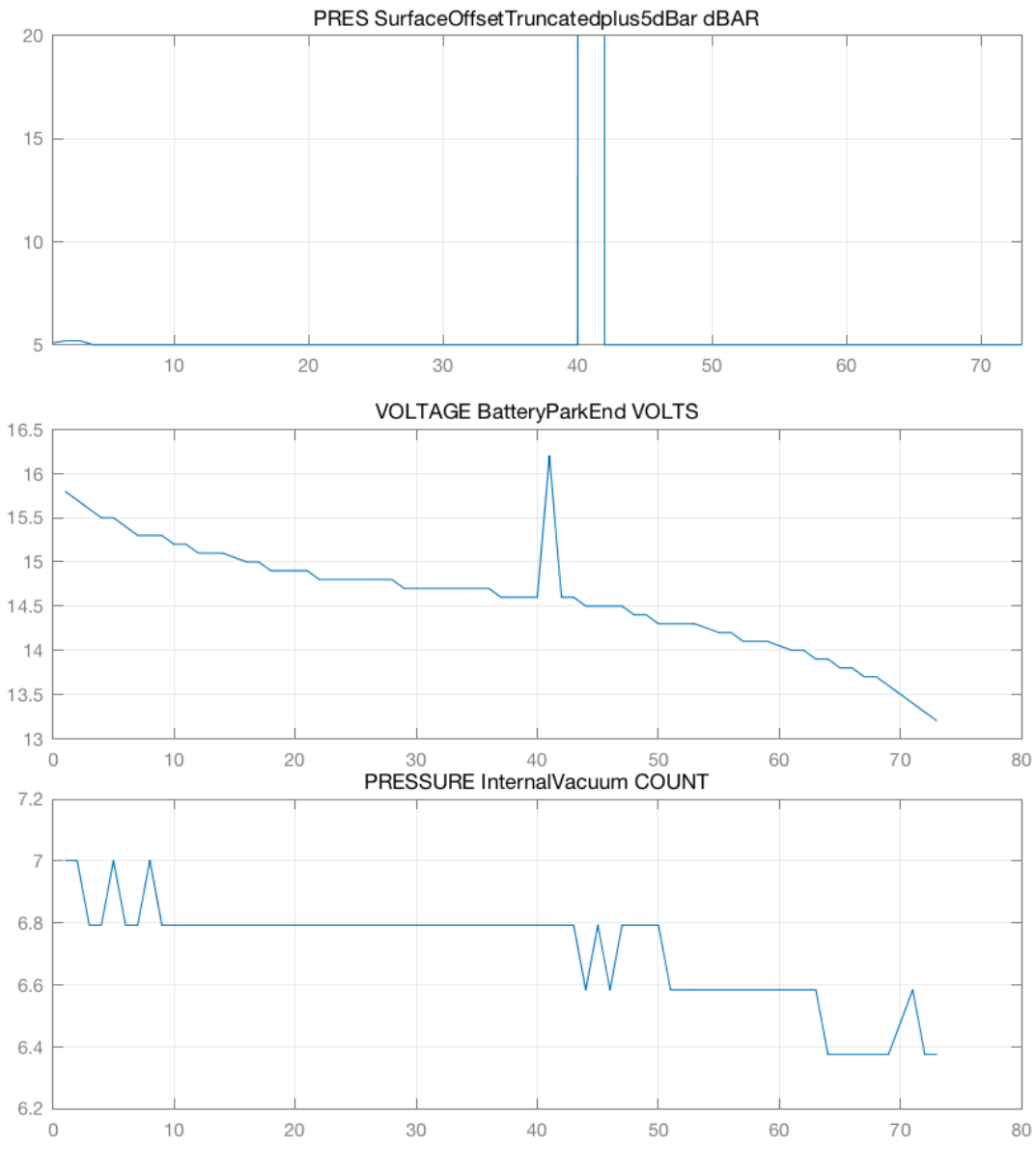


Figure 3: Pressure record (a). Voltage record (b).

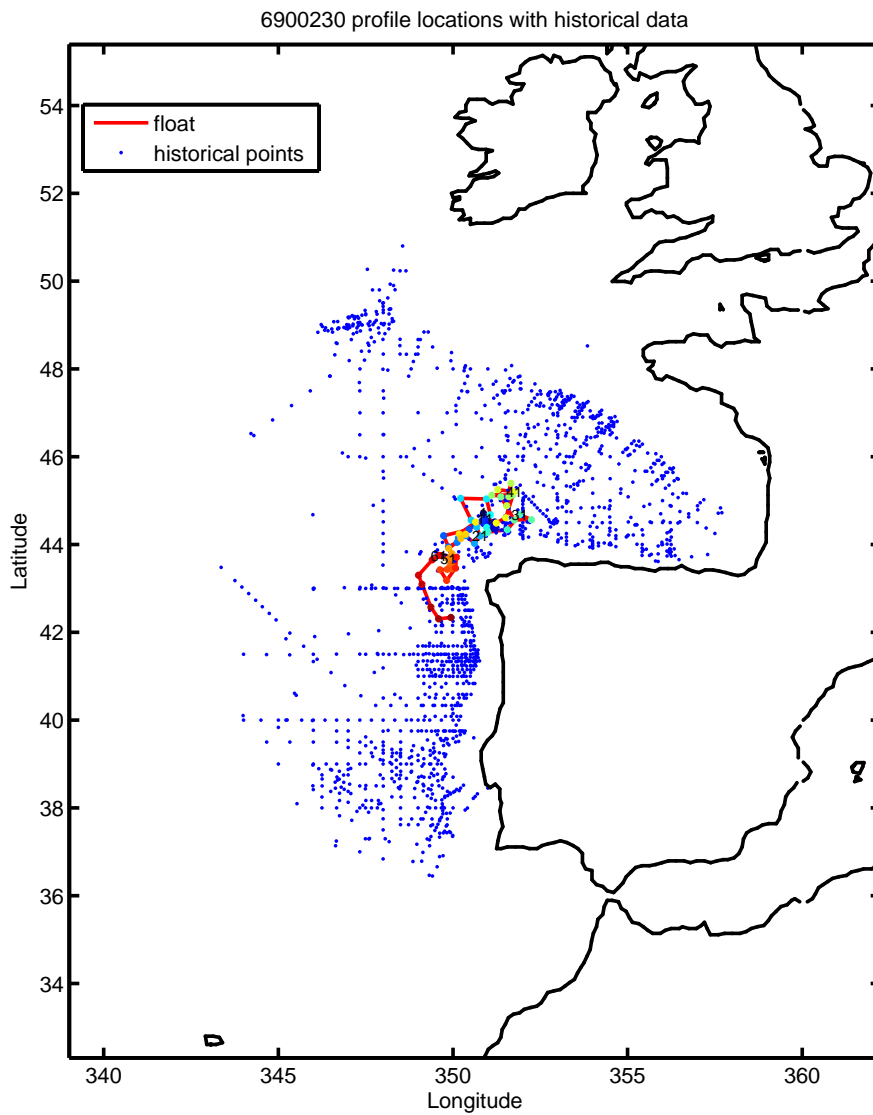
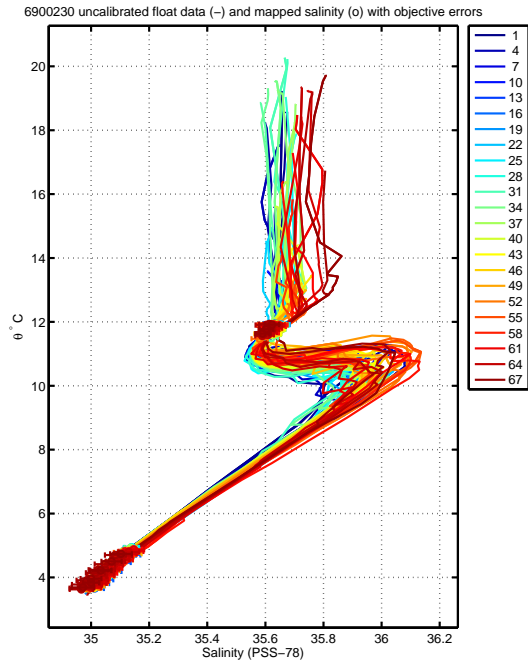
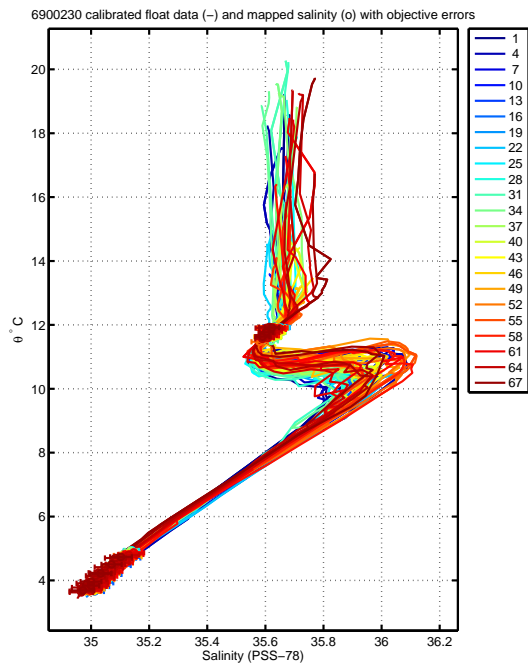


Figure 4: Historical points around the current ARGO float trajectory. These historical points are used by Owens and Wong Objective Mapping Analysis to make a model for an ARGO float data calibration.



(a) T-S Diagram



(b) T-S Diagram after a potential calibration

Figure 5: Both graphs show T-S diagrams before and after a potential calibration. This is useful to identify water masses, to detect some possible offsets or to identify some anomalous profiles.

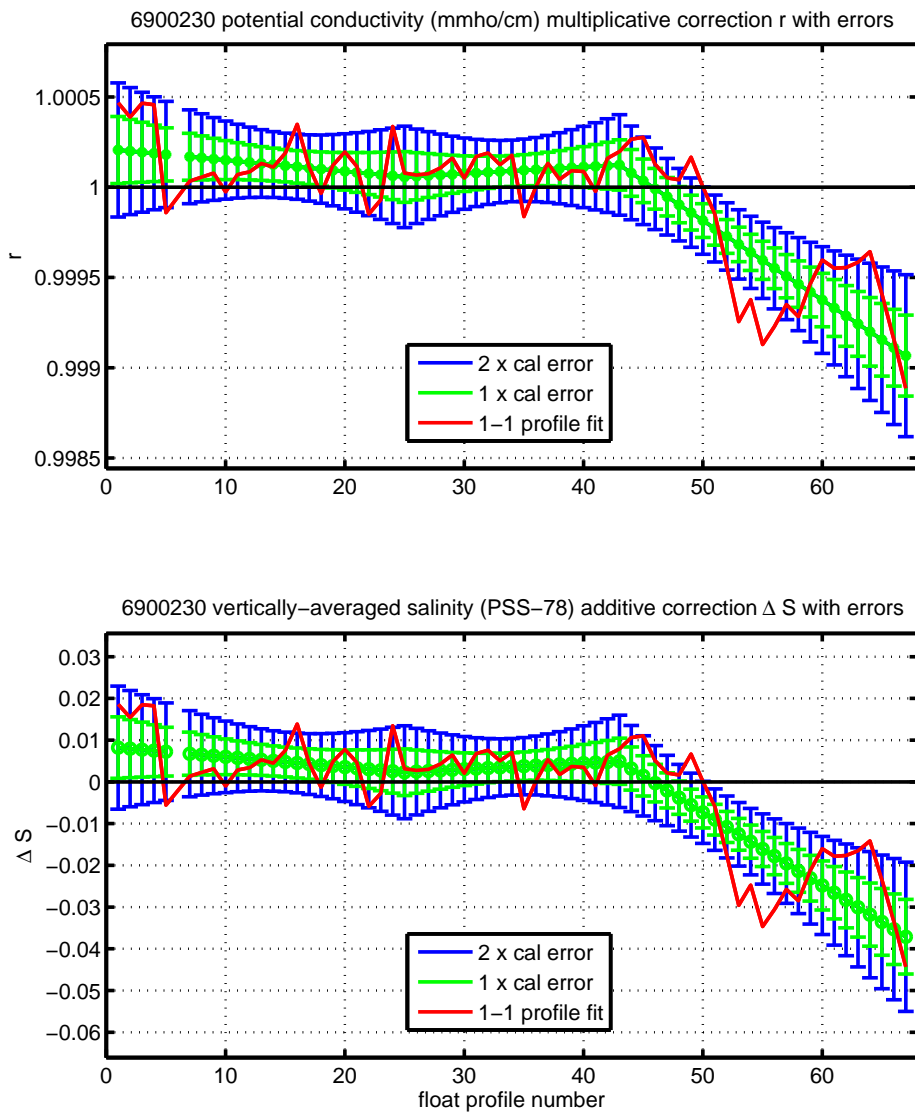


Figure 6: Salinity variation between each profile. Owens and Wong Objective Mapping Analysis builds its model based in a programmed number of break points.

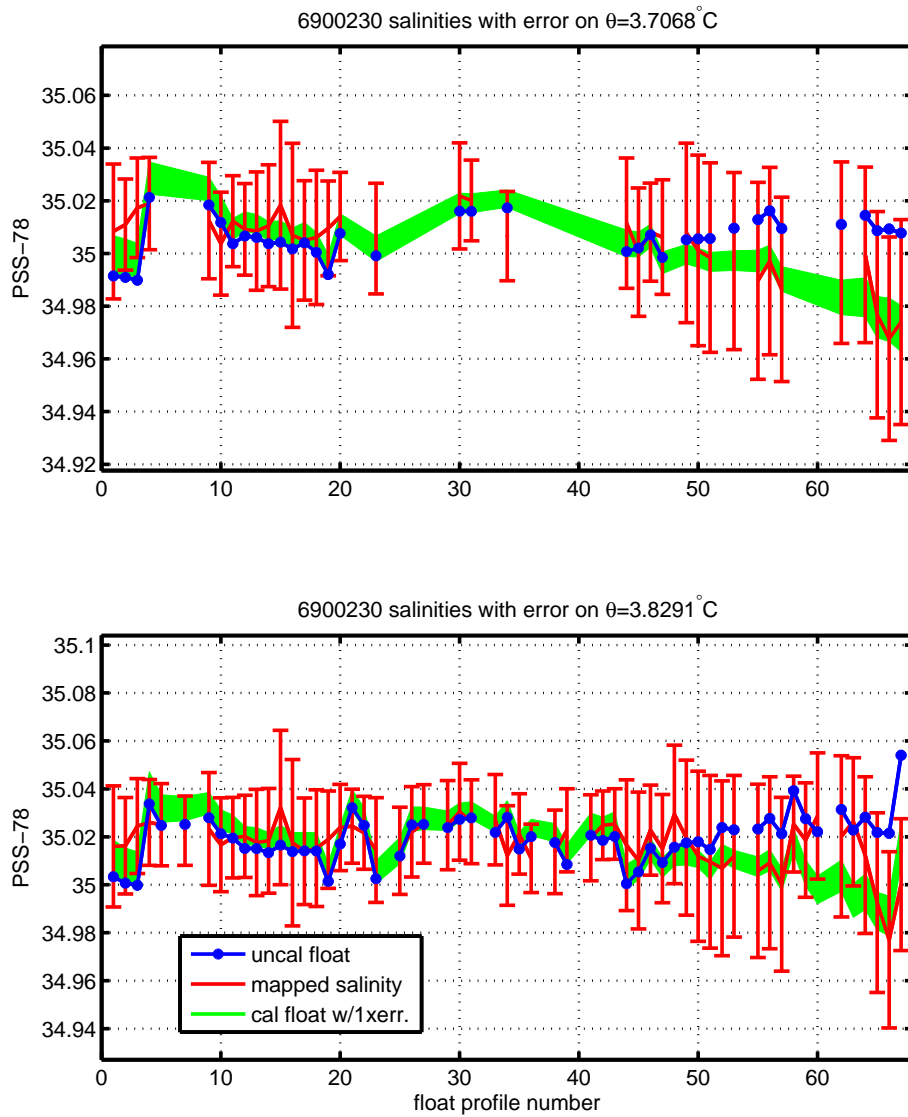
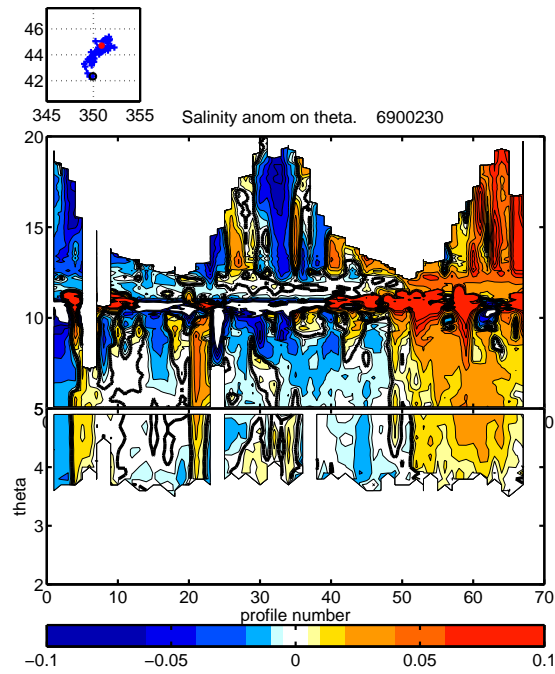
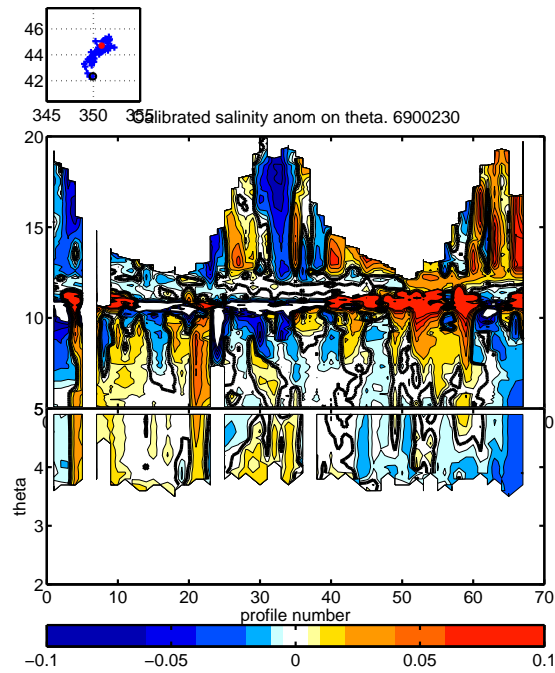


Figure 7: This figure gives a rough idea how uncalibrated (blue line) and calibrated (green line) signals fit each other. Bear in mind that mapped salinity depends on the historical hydrographic points of the area (Figure 1). The less historical points, the less approximated is the model.



(a) Original salinity variation



(b) Calibrated salinity variation

Figure 8: Brians King plots. Both show the salinity variation for an each level of theta per profile. A colored scale indicates the salinity variation (white color indicates no variation). Comparing both uncalibrated and calibrated plots, significant salinity variations can be identified.

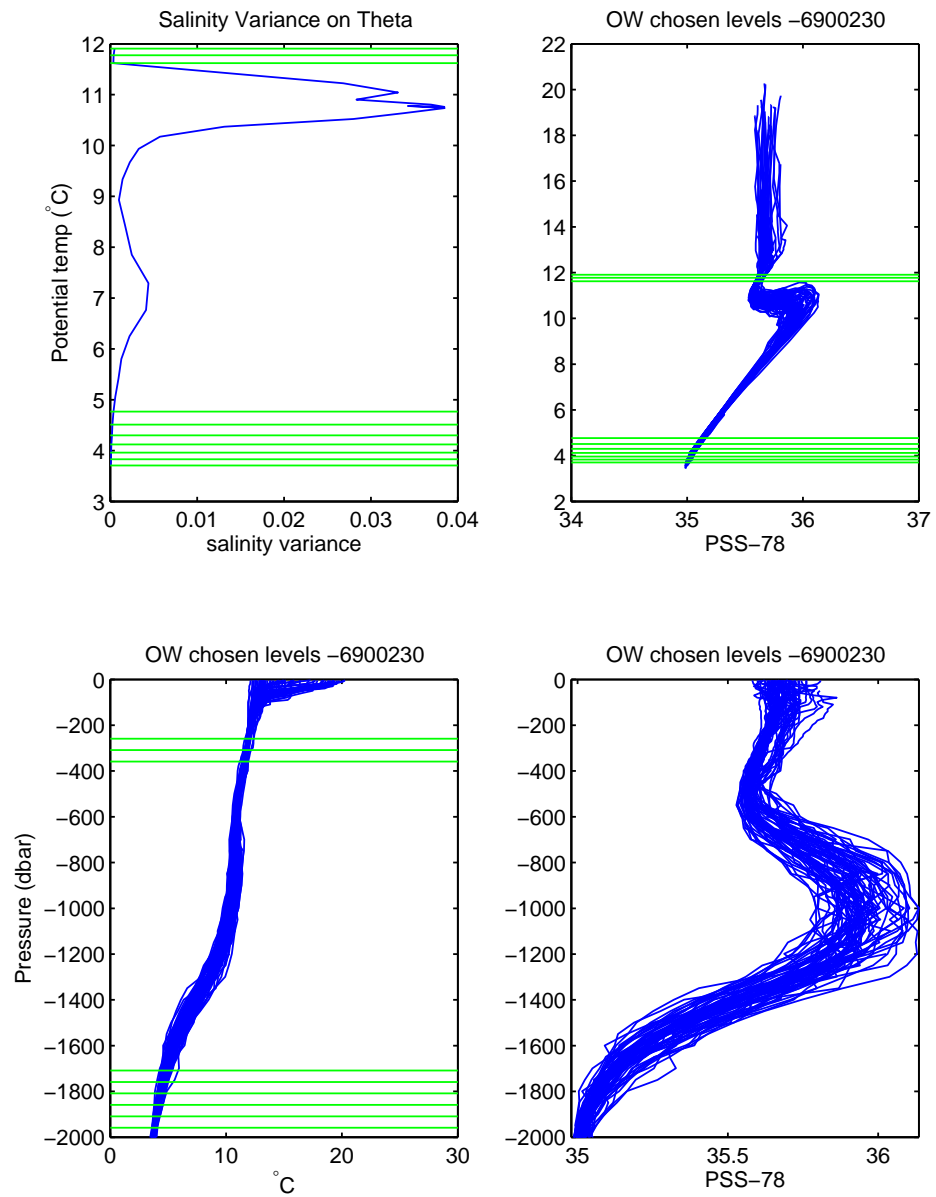


Figure 9: Theta levels are chosen by Owens and Wong Objective Mapping Analysis. The model identifies automatically the theta levels where the salinity variations are smaller.