



CRUISE REPORT



R/V Aranda

Cruise 02/2023

Combine spring cruise 18.4.2023 – 28.4.2023

This report is based on preliminary data and is subject to changes.

Objectives of the cruise

The objectives of the cruise were:

- Monitoring of the Gulf of Finland, Northern Baltic Proper, Åland Sea, Archipelago Sea, Bothnian Sea and the Southern part of the Bothnian Bay. Measured variables were temperature, salinity, oxygen, hydrogen sulfide, pH, inorganic (nitrite, nitrate, ammonium, phosphate, dissolved silicate) and total (nitrogen, phosphorus) nutrients, Chlorophyll a and phytoplankton community composition.
- 2) Samples were taken for DNA sequencing and determination of picoplankton communities by flow cytometry.
- 3) Grazing rates of picophytoplankton and heterotrophic bacteria by microzooplankton.
- 4) The stoichiometric ratio between carbon, nitrogen and phosphorus for different size fractions.

Name	On board	Organization			
Kristian Spilling	18-28 April	Syke			
Riikka Mattsson	18-28 April	Syke			
Tanja Kinnunen	18-28 April	Syke			
Antti Räike	18-28 April	Syke			
Niklas Trebs	18-28 April	Syke			
Susanna Hyvärinen	18-28 April	Syke			
Annaliina Skyttä	18-28 April	Syke			
Jere Riikonen	18-28 April	Syke			
Ilkka Lastumäki	18-28 April	Syke			
Lumi Haraguchi	18-28 April	Syke			
Elsa Lescroart	18-28 April	Syke			
Maiju Lehtiniemi	25-28 April	Syke			
Anne-Mari Lehto	25-28 April	Syke			
Siru Tasala	asala 25-28 April Syk				
Kimmo Aaltonen	18-28 April	Syke			
Ossi Kinnunen	Kinnunen 18-28 April Syke				
Sara Karvo	25-28 April	FMI			
Tuomo Roine	18-28 April	FMI			
Heini Jalli	18-28 April	FMI			
Meri Smedberg	18-25 April	FMI			
Pertti Jämsén	25-28 April	FMI			

Table 1The scientific crew

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Sami Rantapusa	25-28 April	FMI
Hedi Kanarik	25-28 April	FMI
Atte Koukonen	18-21 April	film crew
Jasper Mäkinen	18-21 April	film crew
Karl Kirso Vene	25-28 April	FlyDogMarine
Thomas Mollica	18-28 April	Linnaeus Univ.
Elizabeth Sands	18-28 April	Umeå Univ.

Cruise Route

We left Helsinki as planned on Tuesday 18 April, and did the first deployments and sampling stations in the Gulf of Finland (GoF) off Helsinki (Fig 1). We continued to the eastern part of GoF before returning turning around sailing westwards into the northern Baltic Proper. We did several of the Landsort - Lovisa (LL) transect points before moving towards the Åland Sea. There we visited Mariehamn to let off two persons before proceeding north through the Åland Sea into the Bothnian Sea (BS). We sampled the western and mid BS, sailing northwards and moving into the Kvarken region. Here we met an ice cover, but the ice was relatively soft, and we were able to continue as planned into the Bothnian Bay (BB), where we had out northernmost sampling point (BO3, Fig 1). Turning south we sampled the eastern points in BS before going to the Uusikaupunki harbor. We got some additional personnel on board and continued southwards through the Archipelago Sea (AS). At the southernmost AS, close to Utö we did several deployments before continuing to northern Baltic Proper again where we did CTD calibrations. After this, we continued eastwards and took some sampling stations in the GoF. We revisited a few of the stations we had already taken. This was done to follow the change over the week as our first visit was during the start of the spring bloom, but on our second visit we were at the peak of the spring bloom.

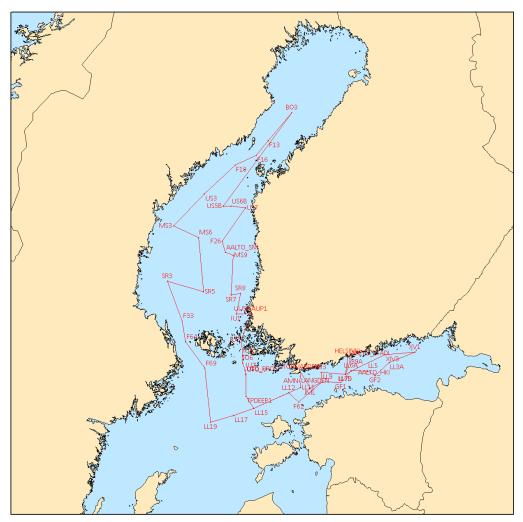


Fig 1. Cruise route, see text for details. The full station list can be found in Annex 2

Observations

The weather at the start of the cruise was calm and sunny, and the spring bloom was only just starting with relatively much nitrate left 4-6 µmol L⁻¹ in the Gulf of Finland (Fig 2), but with a bit more advanced bloom in the easternmost points in GoF. In the northern Baltic Proper the water was clearer with greater Secchi depth (>6 m) and depleted nitrate as expected. In the Bothnian Sea this was also the case, and the bloom in terms of nutrient draw down seems to have been more advanced in the Bothnian Sea compared with the Gulf of Finland which was a bit surprising. In the Bothnian Bay there was still an ice cover and there was very little biological activity with relatively much nitrate available but the primary producers in this sub basis in phosphorus limited. We sampled again in the Gulf of Finland on our way back to Helsinki, and it was clear that the nice calm weather with clear sky had triggered the spring bloom, which was at or close to peak levels during our return in terms of nitrate being close to depleted.

Temperature, salinity, and other hydrographical variables were as expected for the time of the year and more details of vertical profiles and full list of stations can be found in Annex 1-3.

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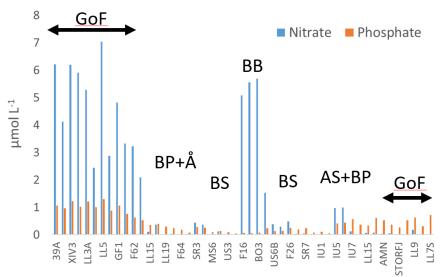


Fig 2. The concentration of nitrate+nitrite (blue) and phosphate (orange) at 5 m depth in all the sampling stations in the order we took them (Fig 1, Annex 2). On top the sub-basin is indicated: Gulf of Finland (GoF), Baltic Proper and Åland Sea (BP+Å), Bothnian Sea (BS), Bothnian Bay (BB), and Archipelago Sea and Boltic Proper (AS+BP). Note that not all sampling station names are mentioned in the x-axis, see Annex 2 for the full list. Preliminary data.

The concentration of dissolved silicate (DSi) was relatively high (> 5µmol L⁻¹) throughout the sampling stations in the surface (Fig 3). The only exception was IU3 in the Archipelago Sea with a concentration of 1.5 µmol DSi L⁻¹. The DSi concentration in the Bothnian Bay was as expected considerably higher than the rest of the sub-basis at >30 µmol L⁻¹ due to the extensive influence of freshwater runoff in this sub-basin.

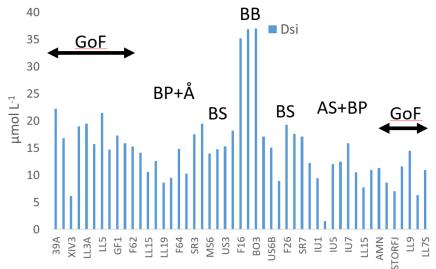


Fig 3. The dissolved silicate at 5 m depth in all the sampling stations in the order we took them (Fig 1, Annex 2). On top the sub-basin is indicated: Gulf of Finland (GoF), Baltic Proper and Åland Sea (BP+Å), Bothnian Sea (BS), Bothnian Bay (BB), and Archipelago Sea and Baltic Proper (AS+BP). Note that not all sampling station names are mentioned in the x-axis, see Annex 2 for the full list. Preliminary data.

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The preliminary chlorophyll a (Chl-a) concentration, based on converted fluorescence measurements are presented in Fig 4. The Chl-a concentration was highest, on average, in the Bothnian Sea (average 5.5 μ g Chl-a L⁻¹ at 5 m depth), with the rest of the sub basins slightly lower at an average 4.0 to 4.5 μ g Chl-a L⁻¹, except for the Bothnian Bay where the Chl-a concentration was clearly lower (0.6 μ g Chl-a L⁻¹). The highest concentration was found in the easternmost Gulf of Finland at ~12 μ g Chl a L⁻¹.

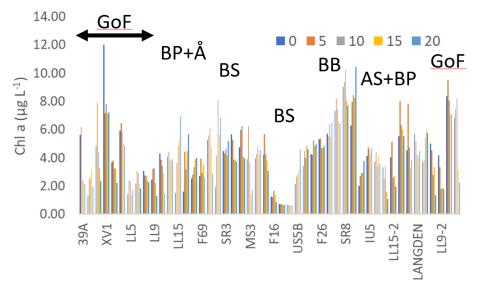


Fig 4. The preliminary Chlorophyll a (Chl a) concentration based on converted fluorescence measuremnets at 0, 5, 10, 15 and 20 m depths (color legend) in all the sampling stations in the order we took them (Fig 1, Annex 2). On top the sub-basin is indicated: Gulf of Finland (GoF), Baltic Proper and Åland Sea (BP+Å), Bothnian Sea (BS), Bothnian Bay (BB), and Archipelago Sea and Baltic Proper (AS+BP). Note that not all sampling station names are mentioned in the x-axis, see Annex 2 for the full list. Preliminary data.

We had a flow cytometer on board and the pico- and microphytoplankton abundance was clearly different in the different sub-basins (Fig 5). The stations in Bothnian Bay but also northern Baltic Proper had the lowest abundance, whereas the highest abundance of picophytoplantkton was found in the Bothnian Sea (Fig 5). The flowcytometer was also used to enumerate heterotrophic bacteria that had the highest abundance in the Archipelago Sea (Fig 6).

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Fig 5. Abundance of pico-and nanophytoplankton in selected stations at 0, 5, 10, 15 and 20 m depth. Large here indicates cells 20-30 μ m, nano size 2 – 20 μ m and pico 0.2 – 2 μ m in size. Chla indicate cells with primarily Chla fluorescence, whereas PC and PE represents cells with primarily phycocyanin and phycoerythrin fluorescence respectively. The x-axis is in cells mL⁻¹. Preliminary data provided by Lumi Haraguchi.

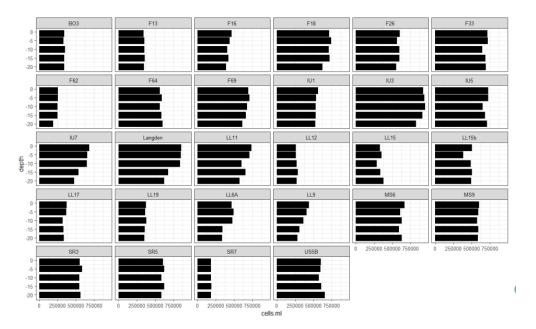


Fig 6. Counts of heterotrophic bacteria at selected stations at 0, 5, 10, 15 and 20 m depth. All abundances in cells mL⁻¹. Preliminary data provided by Lumi Haraguchi.

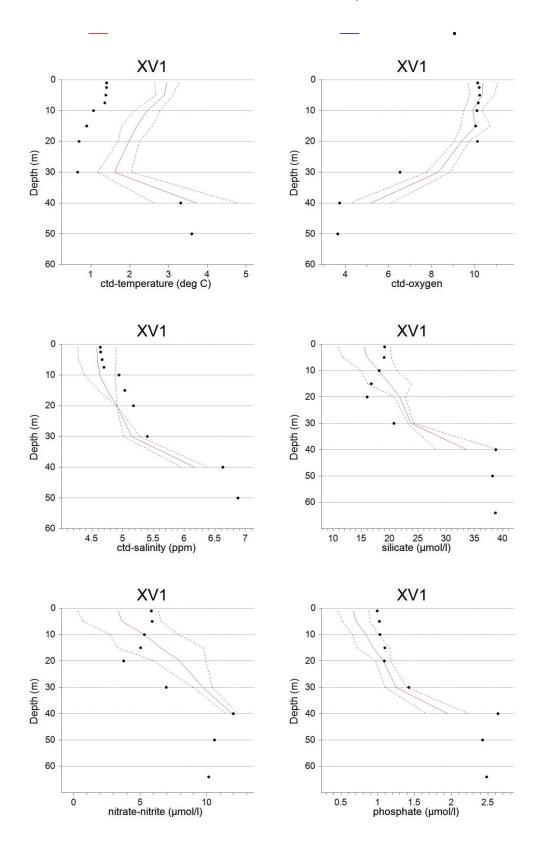
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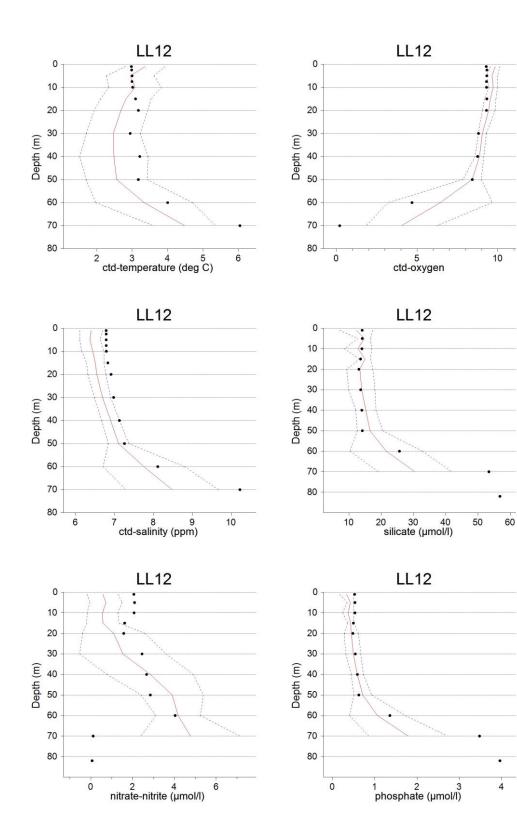
Conclusions

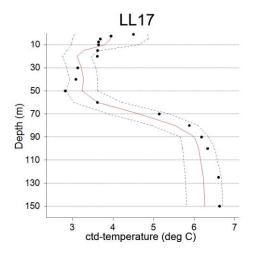
In conclusion, we were sampling during and close to the peak of the spring bloom in the Gulf of Finland, Åland Sea, Archipelago Sea and Bothnian Sea. In the Northern Baltic Proper we were after the peak of the spring bloom, but the spring bloom peak is less pronounced here compared to the Gulf of Finland. In the Bothnian Bay there were still winter conditions with very little biological activity, but this sub basin is also characterized by phosphate limitation of primary producers and very much smaller peak of the spring bloom.

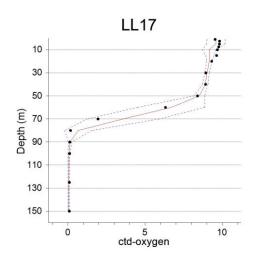
Temperature, salinity, and other hydrographical variables were as expected for the time of the year.

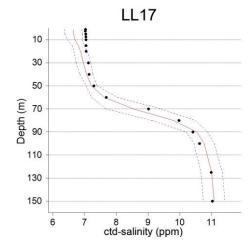
Annex 1. Selected variables at the stations XV1, LL12, LL17, F64, SR5, US5B and BO3. Mean (red solid line) and standard deviation (blue dotted lines) represent the data collected at the same time of season since the year 2000.

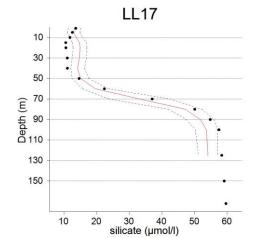


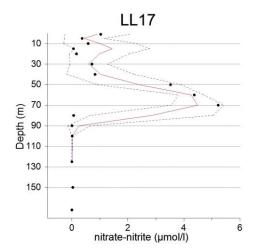


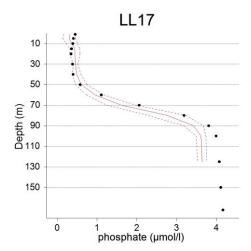


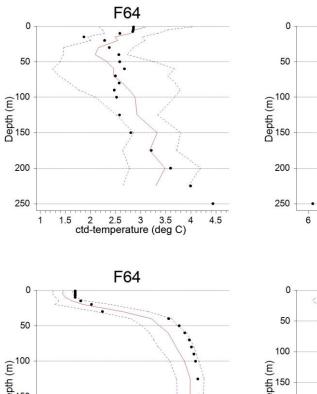


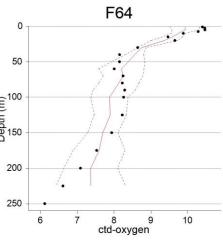


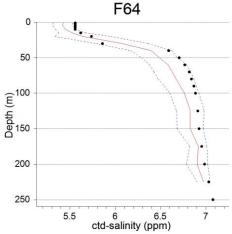


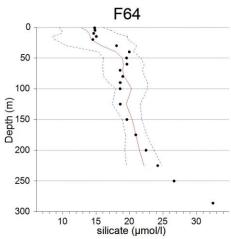


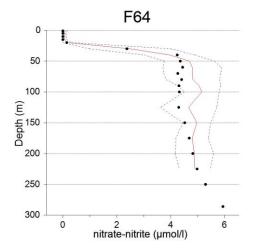


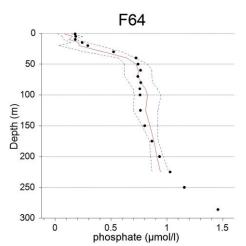


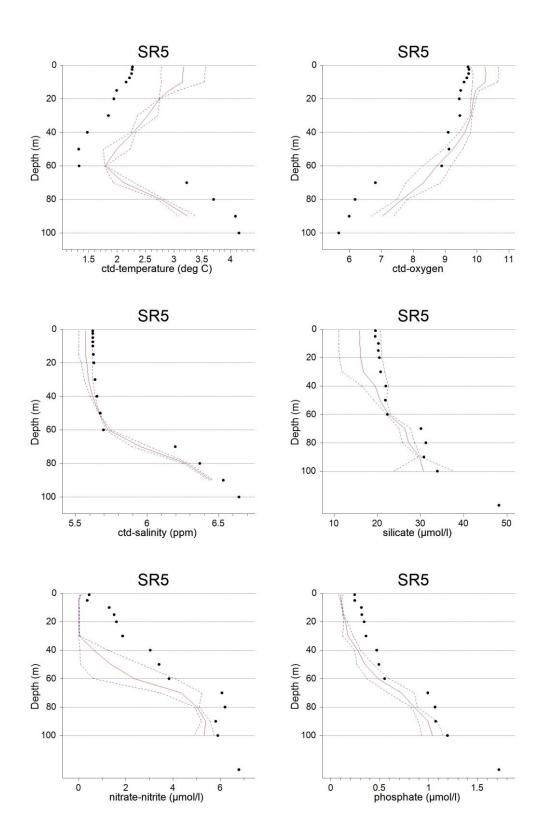


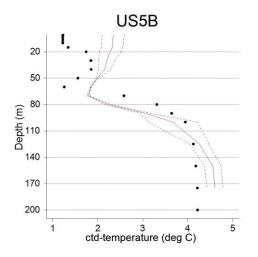


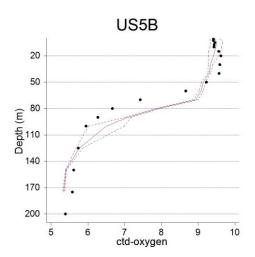














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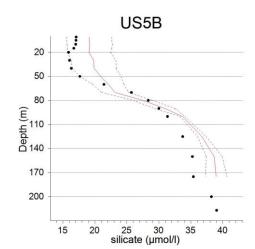
08 Depth (m) 80

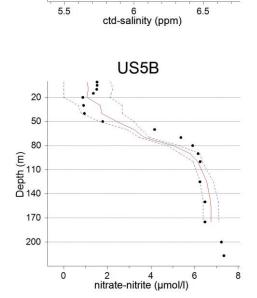
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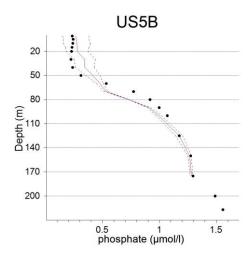
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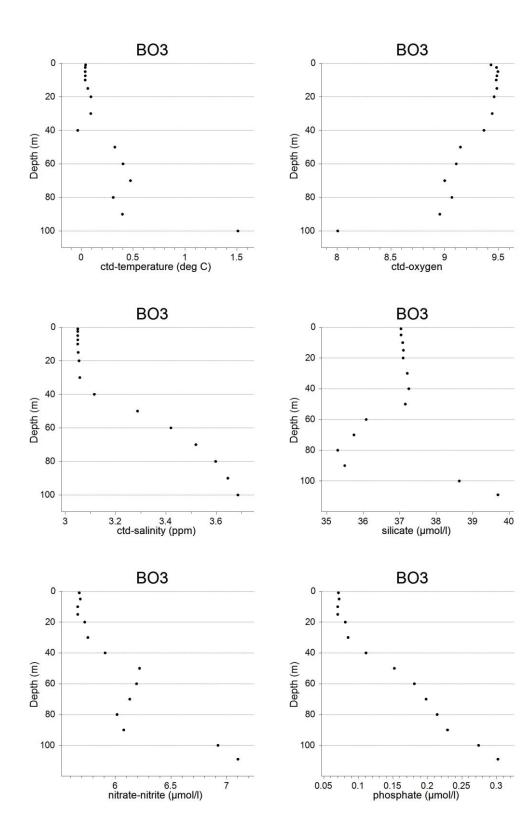
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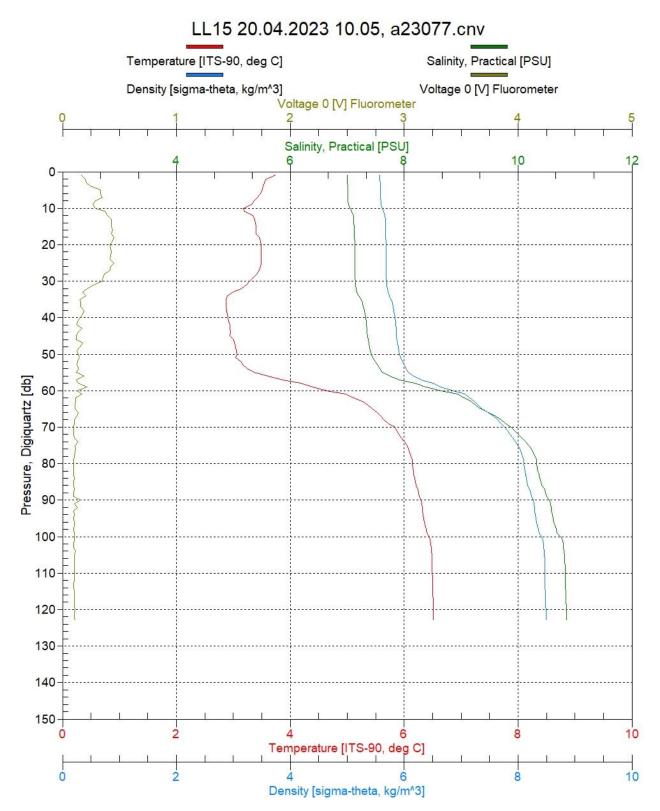


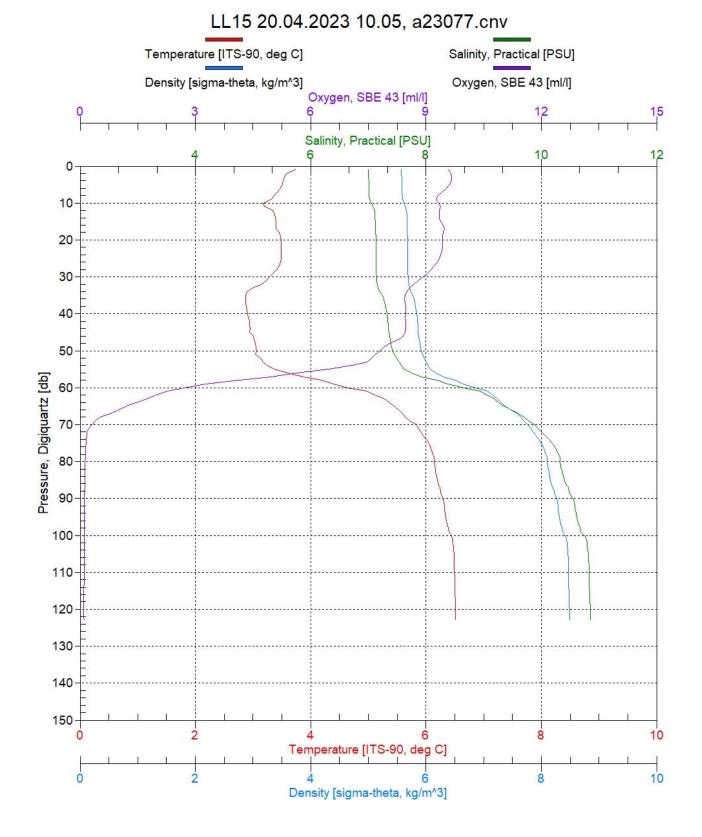


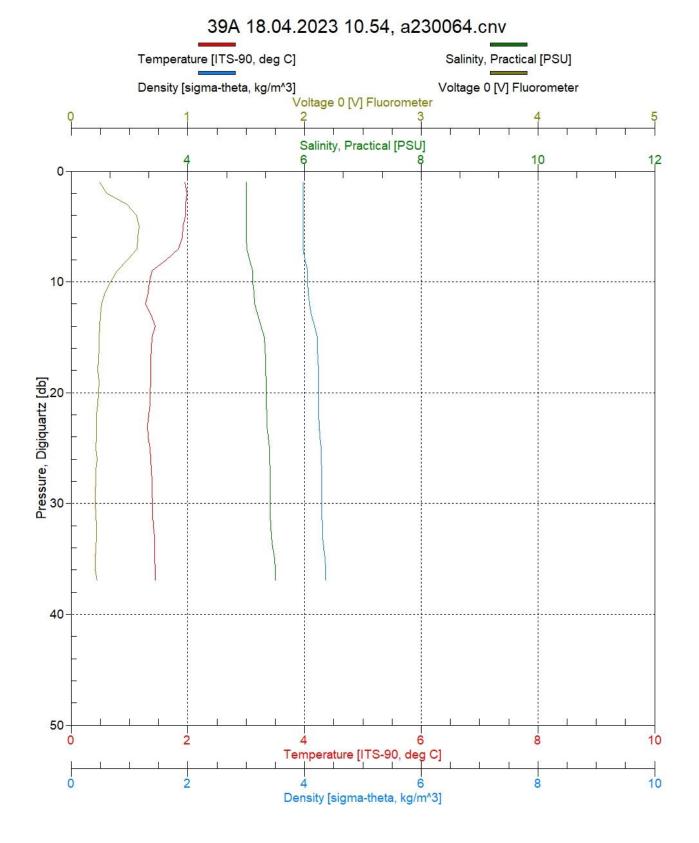
Annex 2. List of sampled stations of the cruise

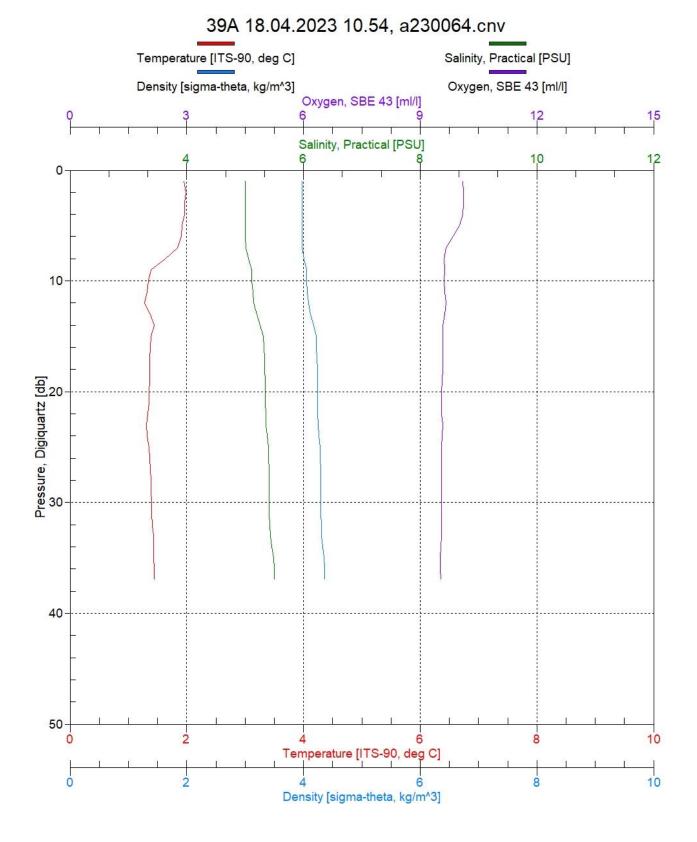
	STATION	latitude	longitude	depth	DATE	time	ctd	рΗ	OX	nu	ph	ZO	be	chl	oil	tox	secc
HELSINKI	HELSINKI	60.16182	24.90155		2023-04-18	08:14											
2023010063	AALTO_STADI	60.12362	24.97333	0	2023-04-18	09:05											
2023010064	39A	60.06683	24.98013	42	2023-04-18	11:10	х	х	Х	Х				х			Х
2023010065	LL7D	59.84642	24.83795	103	2023-04-18	13:47	х	х	х	х	х			х			х
2023010066	AALTO_HKI	59.96517	25.23545	71	2023-04-18	16:52											
2023010067	XIV3	60.20313	26.19268	75	2023-04-18	21:24	х	х	х	х				х			
2023010068	XV1	60.25012	27.24728	65	2023-04-19	02:02	х	х	х	х	х			х			х
2023010069	LL3A	60.06717	26.34663	68	2023-04-19	06:23	х	х	х	х	х			х			х
2023010070	GF2	59.83862	25.85700	85	2023-04-19	10:00	х	х	х	х				х			х
2023010071	LL5	59.91688	25.59705	70	2023-04-19	12:17	х	х	х	х				х			х
2023010072	LL6A	59.91683	25.03022	73	2023-04-19	15:09	x	x	X	x				x			
2023010073	GF1	59.70498	24.68202	84	2023-04-19	18:04	X	x	x	x	х			x			
2023010074	LL9	59.70017	24.03000	66	2023-04-19	21:39	x	x	X	x	x			x			
2023010074	F62	59.33350	23.26350	97	2023-04-20	02:03	x	x	x	x	^			x			
2023010075	LL12	59.48357	22.89687	83	2023-04-20	02:03	x			x	х						v
2023010078	LL12 LL15	59.46337	21.74673	131	2023-04-20	10:17		X	X		X			X			X
							X	X	X	X				X			X
2023010078	LL17	59.03337	21.07958	173	2023-04-20	14:00	х	х	Х	Х	х			х			X
2023010079	LL19	58.88062	20.31078	166	2023-04-20	18:52	х	х	х	х				х			
2023010080	F69	59.78337	19.93003	191	2023-04-21	02:16	х	Х	Х	х				Х			
2023010081	F64	60.18897	19.14250	287	2023-04-21	15:18	х	х	Х	х	х			Х			X
2023010082	F33	60.53315	18.93740	133	2023-04-21	20:13	х	х	х	х				х			
2023010083	SR3	61.18333	18.23003	73	2023-04-22	01:55	х	х	х	х				х			
2023010084	SR5	61.08332	19.57967	125	2023-04-22	06:56	х	х	х	х	х			х			х
2023010085	MS6	61.99570	19.16337	76	2023-04-22	13:42	х	х	х	х				х			х
2023010086	MS3	62.13455	18.16318	88	2023-04-22	18:01	х	х	х	х				х			
2023010087	US3	62.75887	19.19567	176	2023-04-23	00:27	х	х	х	х				х			
2023010088	F18	63.31433	20.27263	102	2023-04-23	06:29	х	х	х	х				х			х
2023010089	F16	63.51877	21.06593	48	2023-04-23	10:22	х	х	х	х	х			х			х
2023010090	F13	63.78410	21.48072	64	2023-04-23	13:29	х	х	х	х				х			х
2023010091	BO3	64.30228	22.33290	110	2023-04-23	18:33	x	X	X	x	х			X			
2023010092	US5B	62.58615	19.96878	218	2023-04-24	07:29	x	x	X	x	x			x			x
2023010093	US6B	62.60022	20.26307	81	2023-04-24	11:09	x	x	X	x	~			x			x
2023010094	US7	62.60018	20.82965	28	2023-04-24	13:46	x	x	x	x				x			x
2023010094	F26	61.98352	20.02305	137	2023-04-24	18:48	x	x	x	x				x			^
2023010095	AALTO SM	61.80125	20.00303		2023-04-24	21:24	X	X	X	X				X			
	_			111													
2023010097	MS9	61.76685	20.53062	101	2023-04-24	23:32	х	х	х	х				х			
2023010098	SR7	61.08355	20.59665	78	2023-04-25	05:19	х	Х	х	х				Х			
2023010099	SR8	61.12648	20.92995	47	2023-04-25	07:25	х	х	х	х				х			Х
2023010100	IU1	60.76685	20.84667	33	2023-04-25	10:48	х	Х	Х	Х				х			X
JUSIKAUP1	UUSIKAUP1	60.79543	21.37987		2023-04-25	13:36											
2023010101	IU3	60.33335	21.11335	48	2023-04-25	20:55	х	х	Х	х		х		х			
2023010102	IU5	60.05818	21.19832	90	2023-04-26	01:18	х	х	х	х				х			
2023010103	IU6	59.93687	21.22097	118	2023-04-26	03:44	х	х	х	х		х		х			
2023010104	IU7	59.81518	21.33667	92	2023-04-26	06:37	х	х	х	х	х			х			x
023010105	UTO_PROF	59.75627	21.36808	78	2023-04-26	12:22	х		х					L			
023010106	UTO_V	59.74023	21.37642	74	2023-04-26	13:04				-							
2023010107	TPDEEP1	59.37835	21.44117	209	2023-04-26	17:29	х	х	х	х							х
2023010108	TPDEEP1	59.37835	21.44115	209	2023-04-26	18:49	X	X	x								
2023010109	TPDEEP1	59.37837	21.44117	209	2023-04-26	22:48	x	X	x								
2023010110	TPDEEP1	59.37838	21.44115	218	2023-04-27	01:27	x										
2023010110	LL15	59.18330	21.74690	131	2023-04-27	04:07	x	х	х	х				х			
20230101112	LL11	59.58352	23.29688	67	2023-04-27	10:39	x	x	x	x				x			x
2023010112	AMN	59.69050	23.25000		2023-04-27	12:42											
				55 57			x	X	X	X	v			X			X
023010114		59.77683	23.26283	57	2023-04-27	14:30	X	X	X	X	Х			X			X
	STORFJARDEN		23.26317	35	2023-04-27	16:28	Х	Х	Х	х				Х			X
2023010116	JML	59.58183	23.62680	80	2023-04-27	19:37	х	х	х	х				х			
2023010117	LL9	59.70015	24.03022	69	2023-04-27	22:05	х	х	Х	х	Х			х			
2023010118	XII3	59.86415	23.98560	38	2023-04-28	00:14	х	х	х	х				х			
0000040440	LL7S	59.85012	24.83005	77	2023-04-28	03:42	х	х	х	х	х			х			х
2023010119	HELSINKI	60.16182	24.90155		2023-04-28	00 00	1		_					1	1		

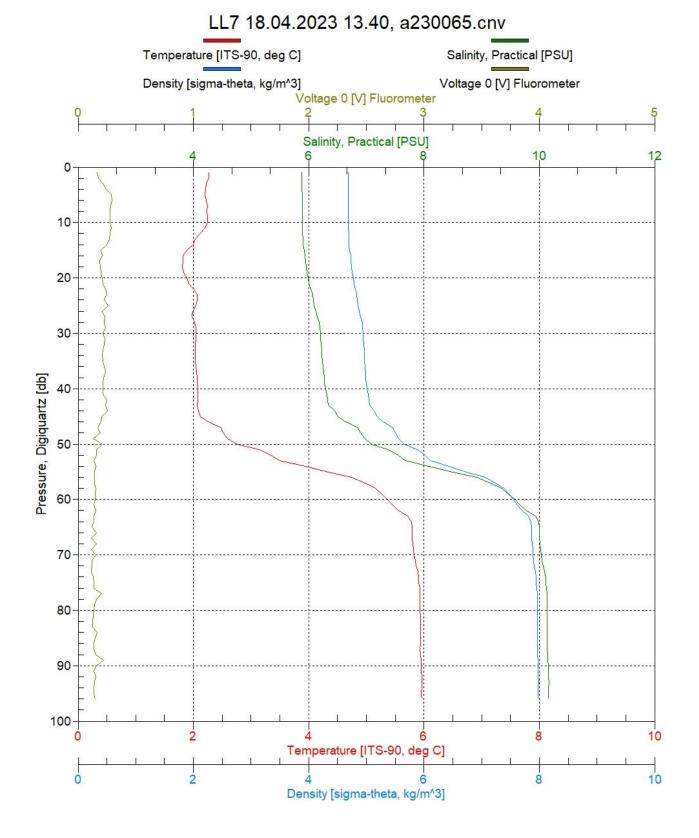
Annex 3. CTD profiles from all stations

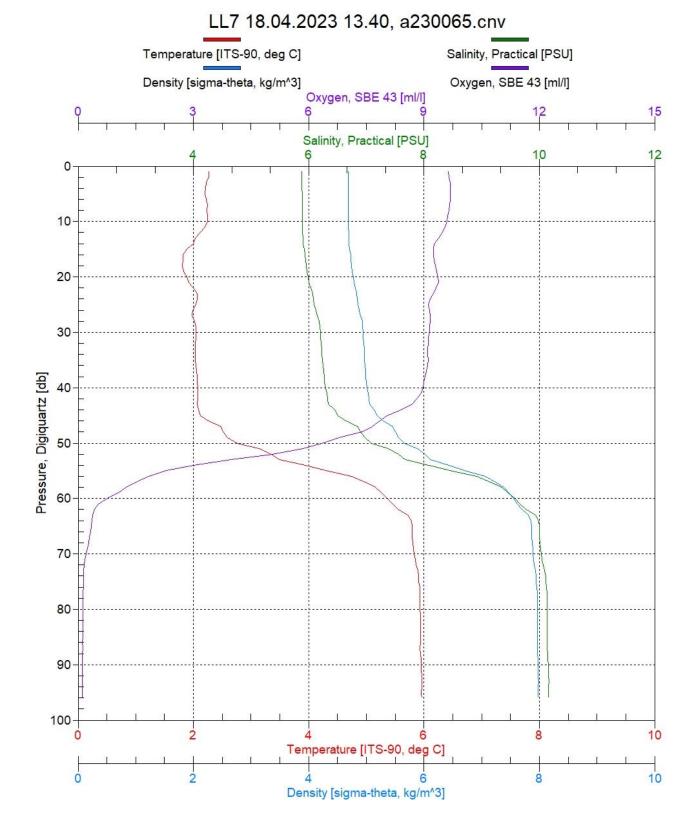


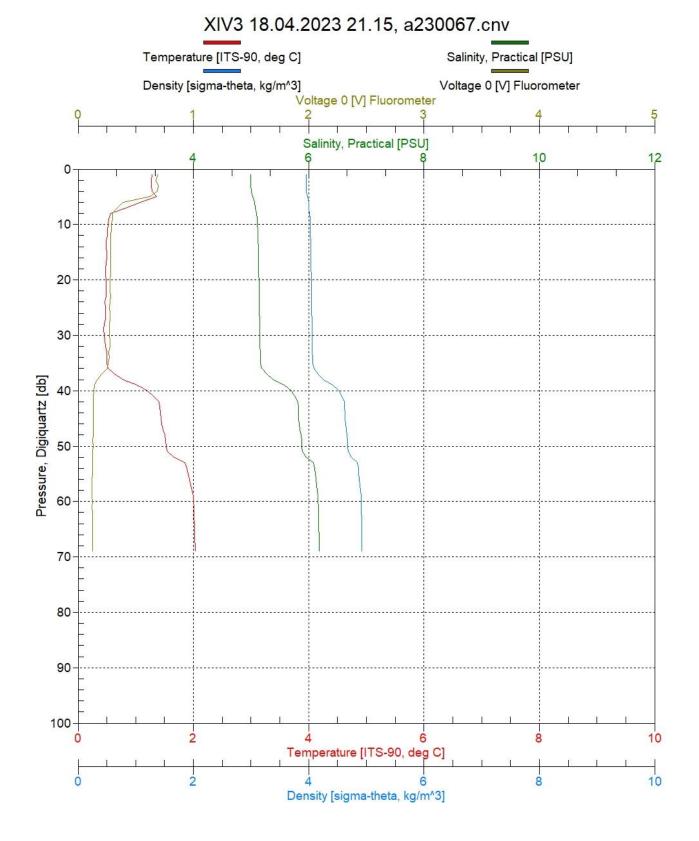


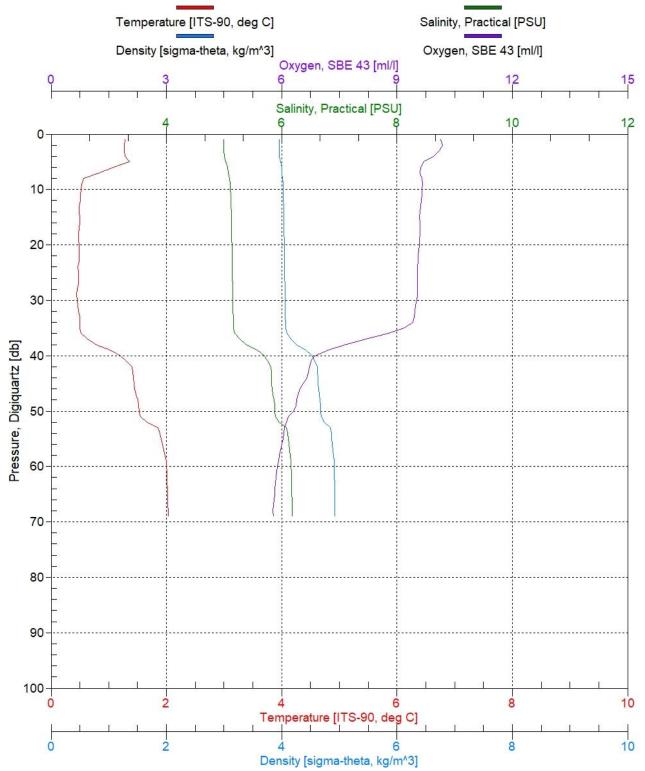




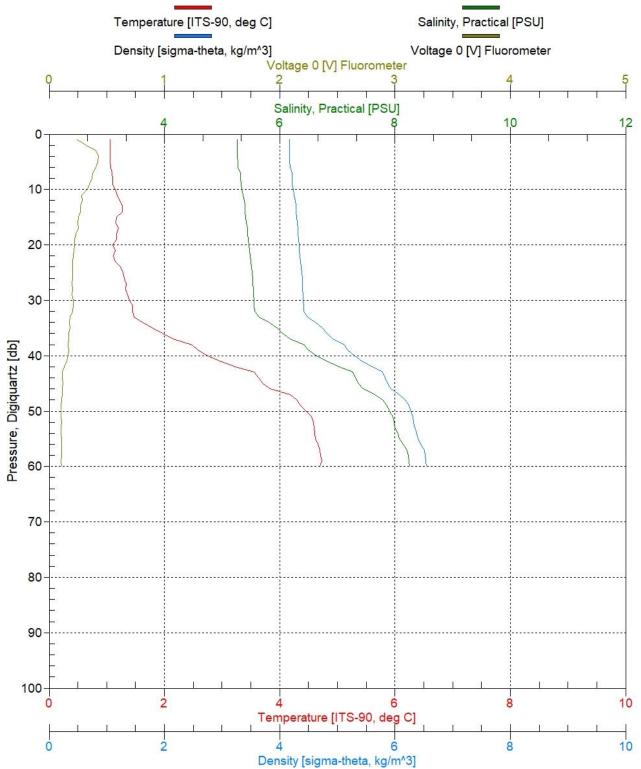




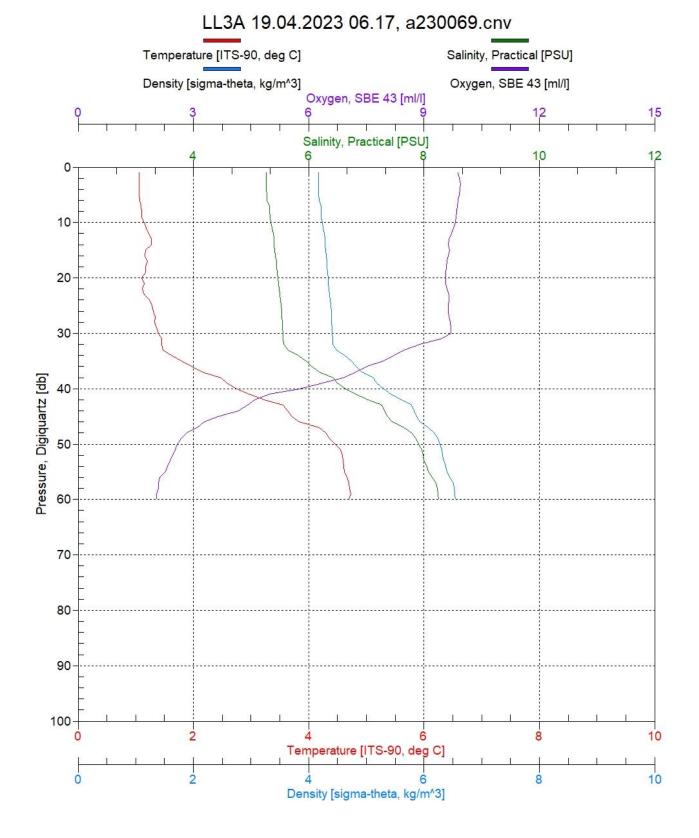


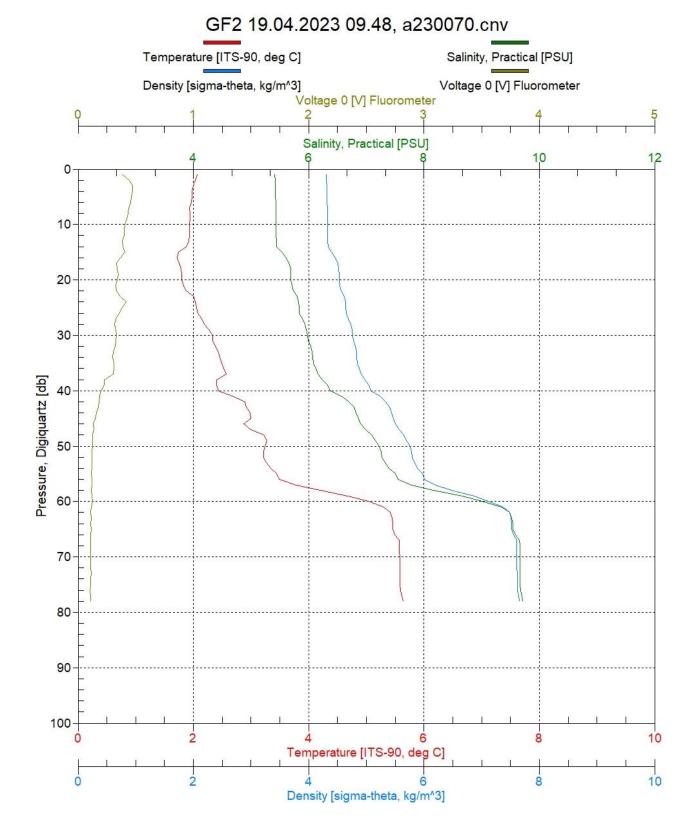


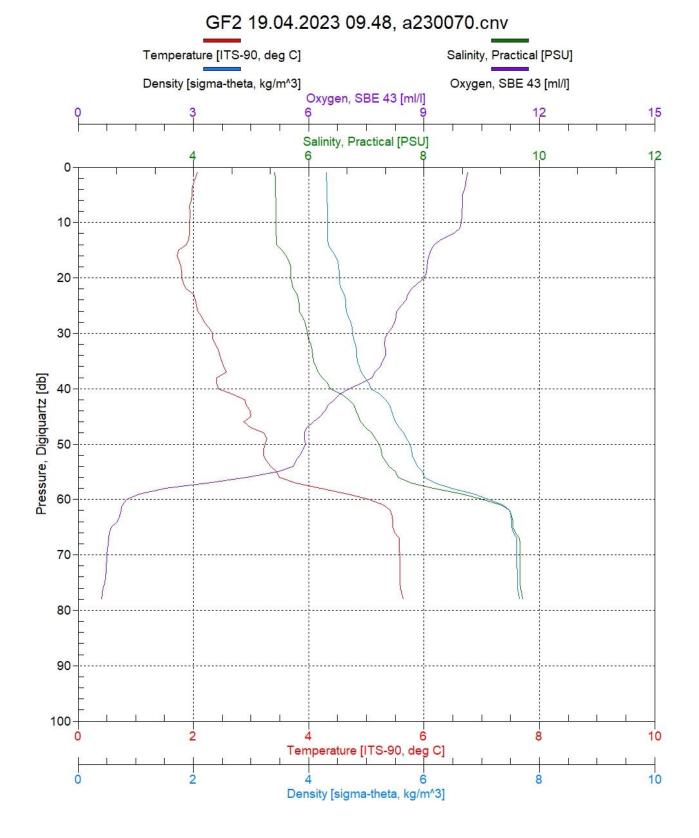
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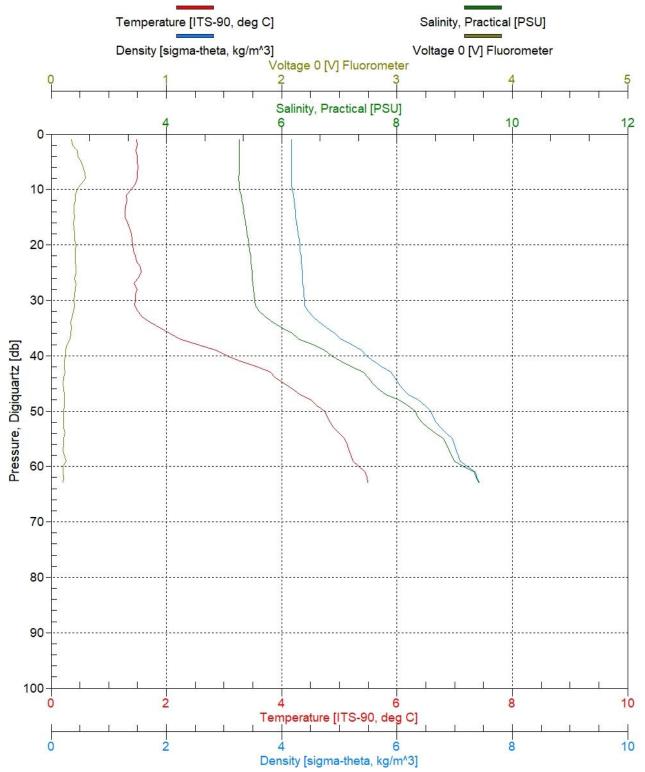


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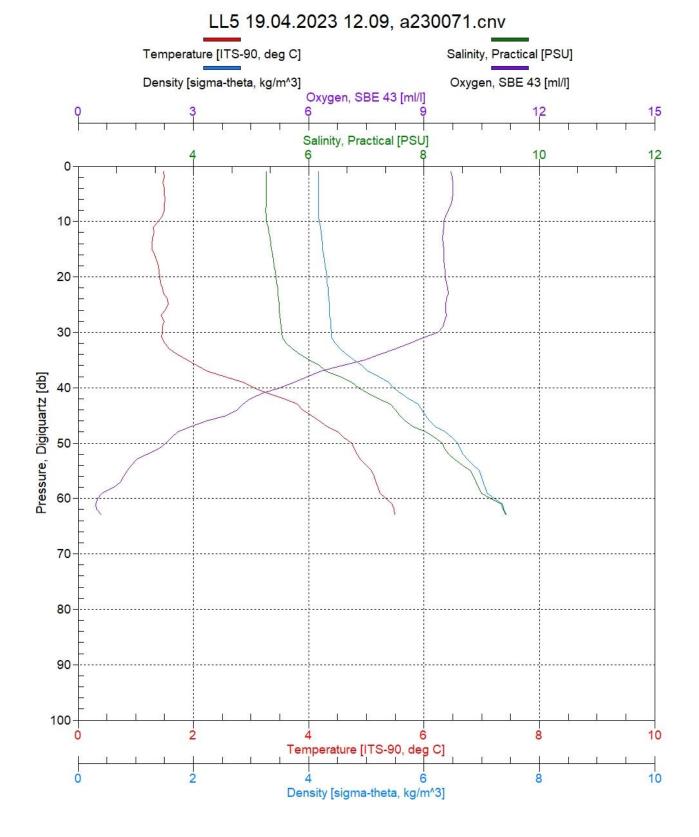


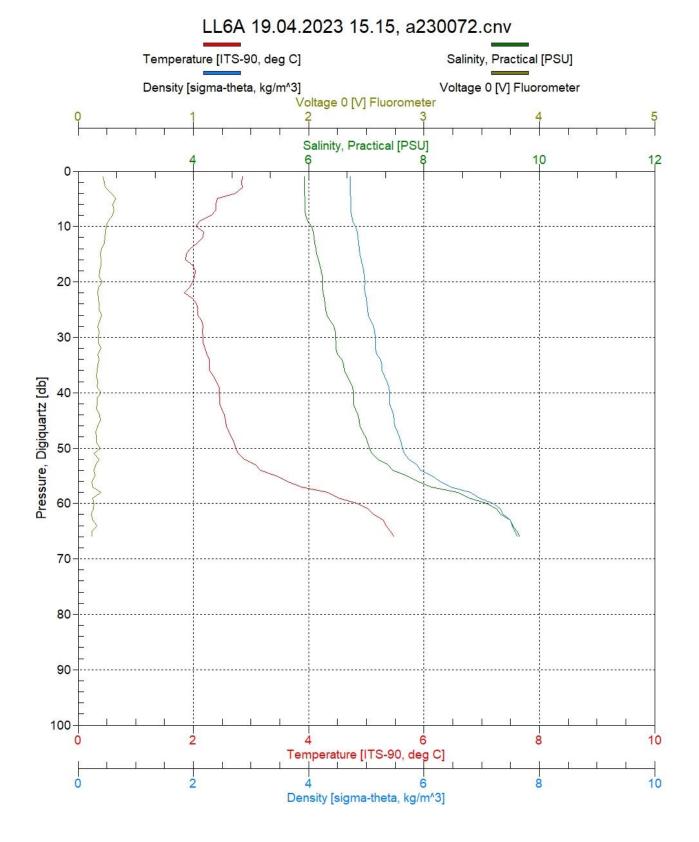


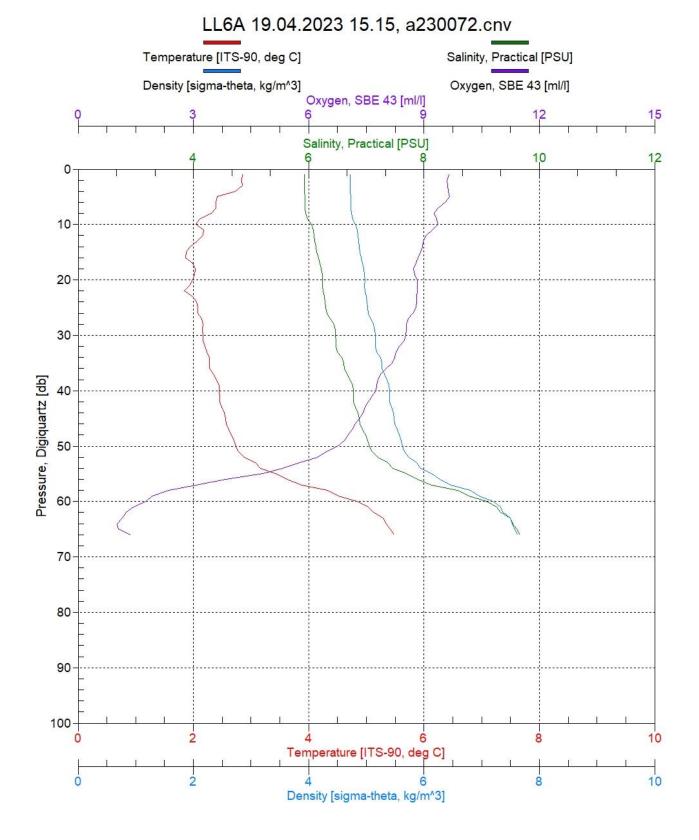


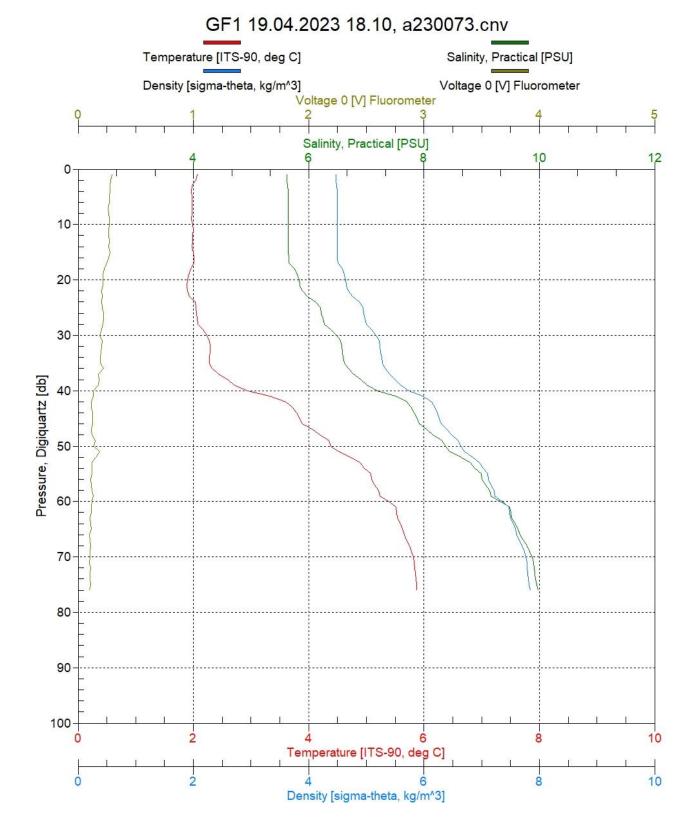


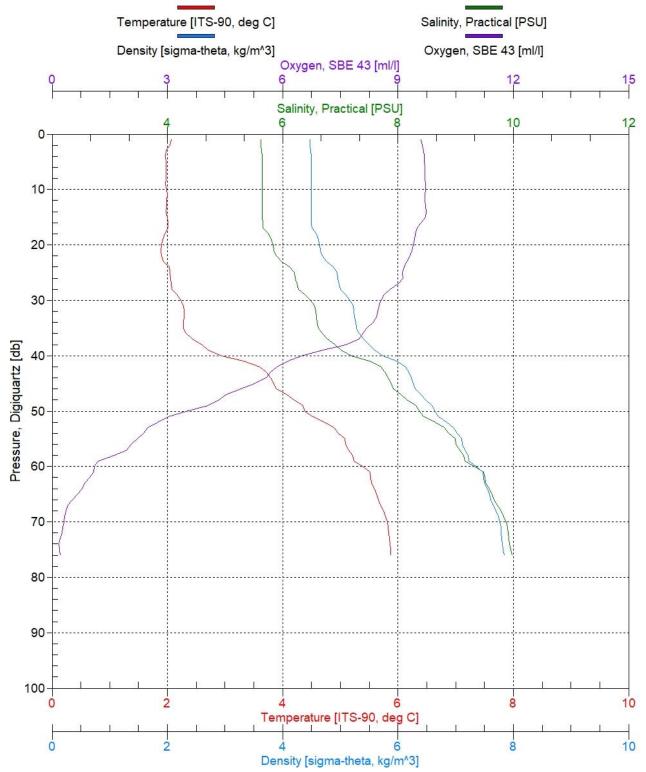
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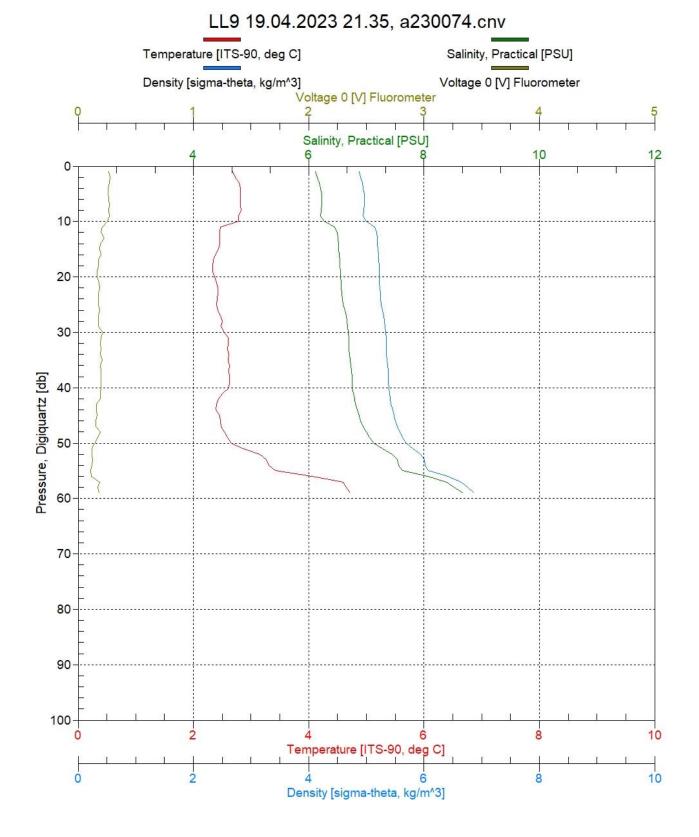


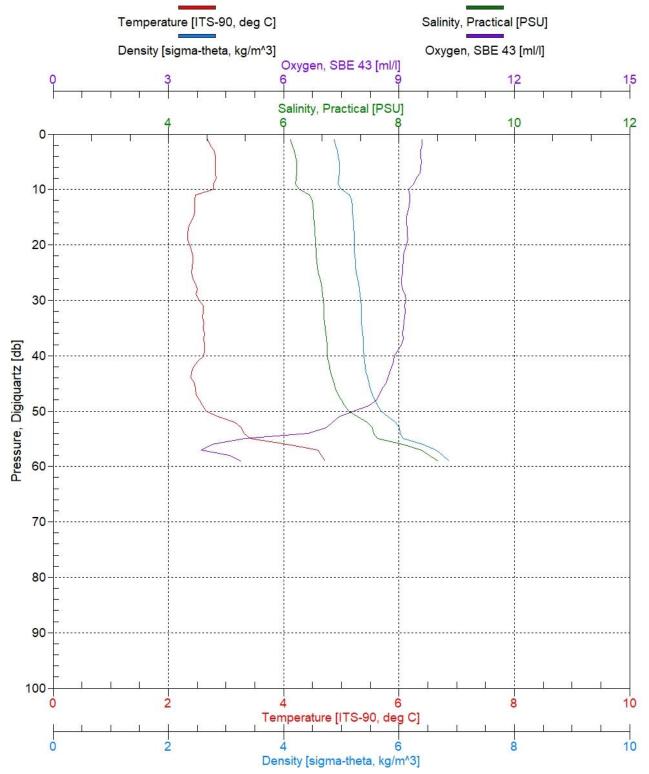




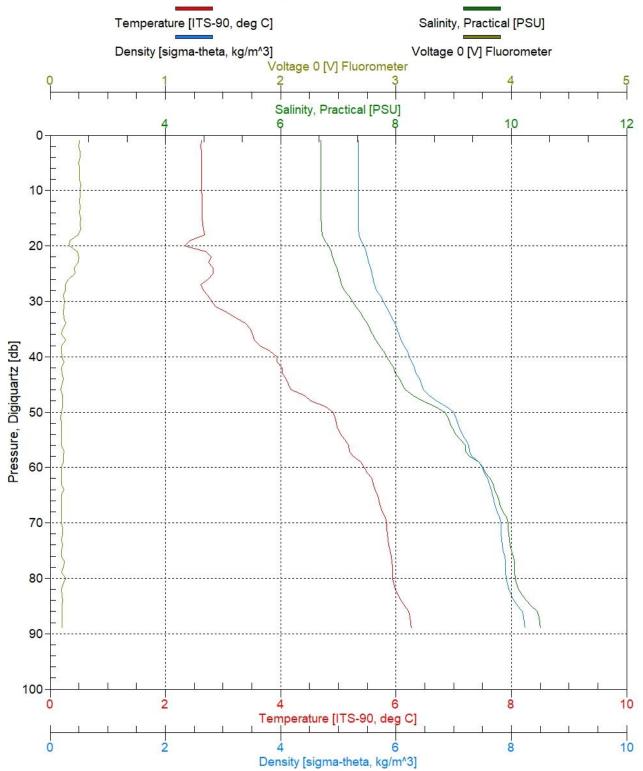


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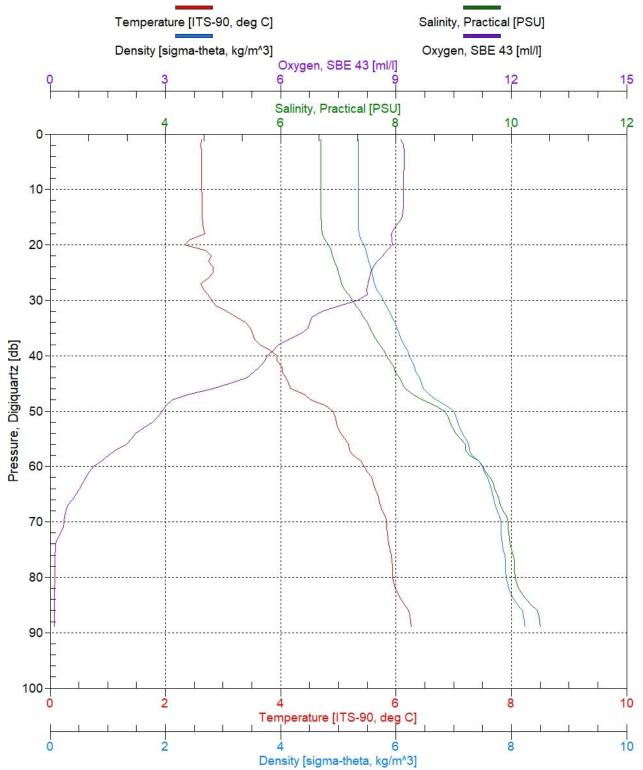




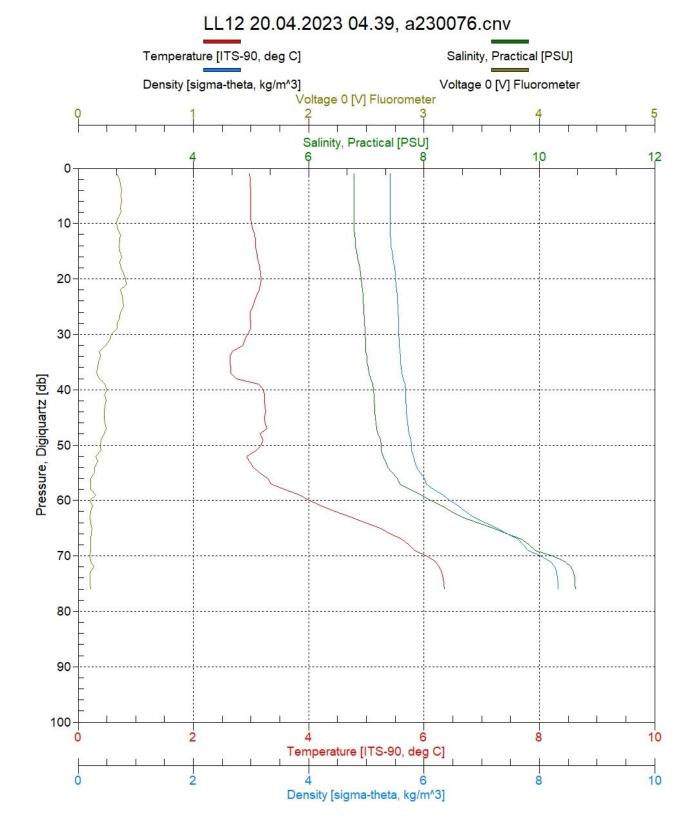
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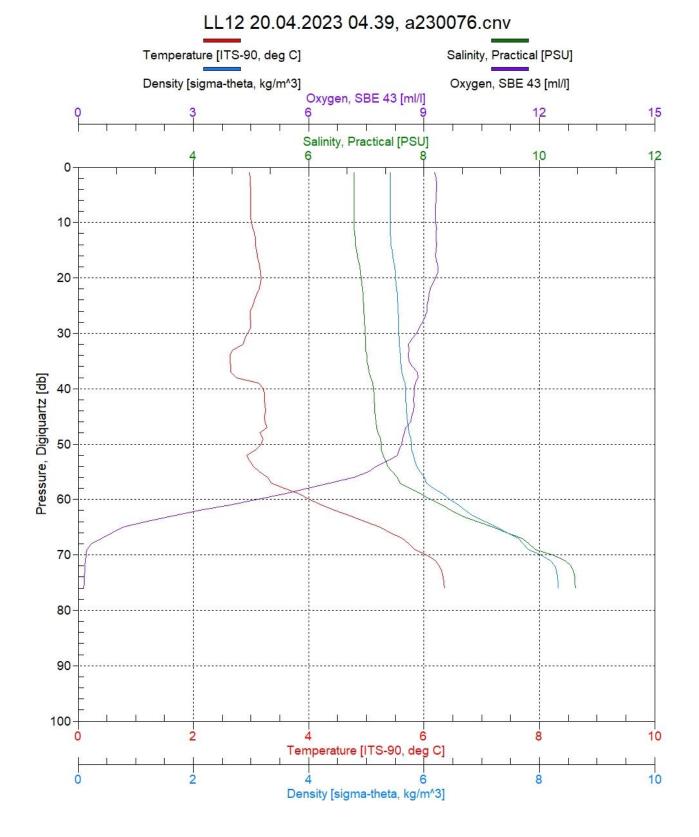


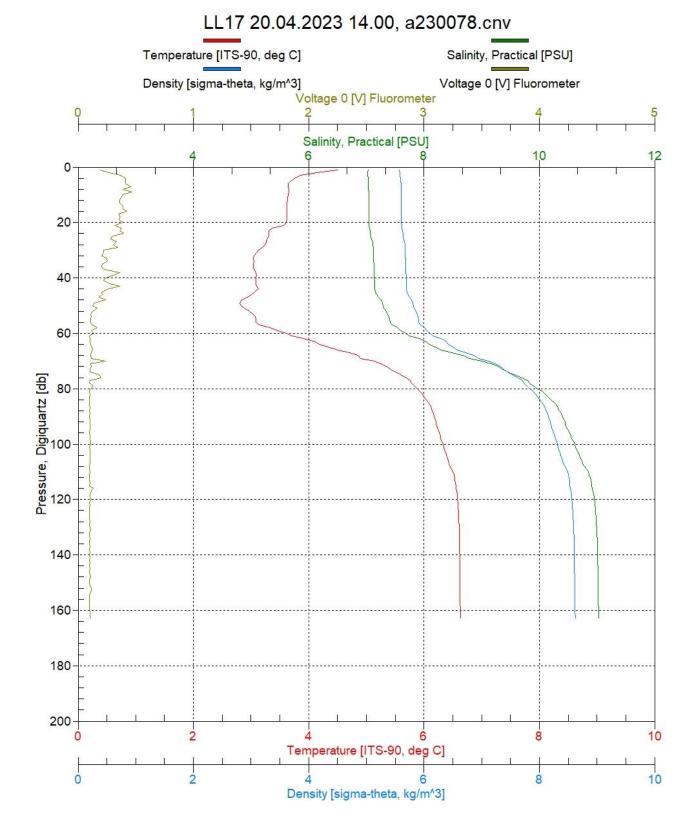
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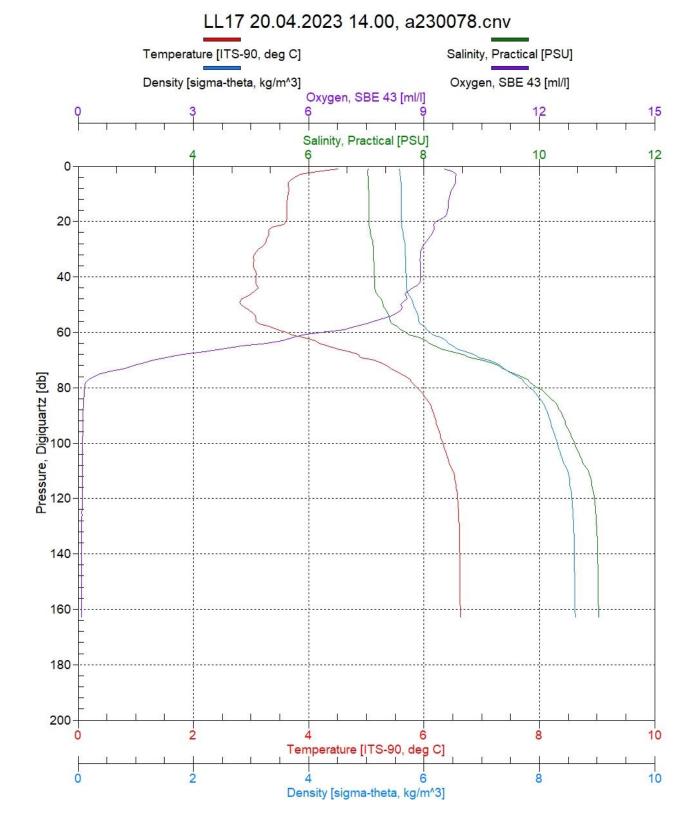


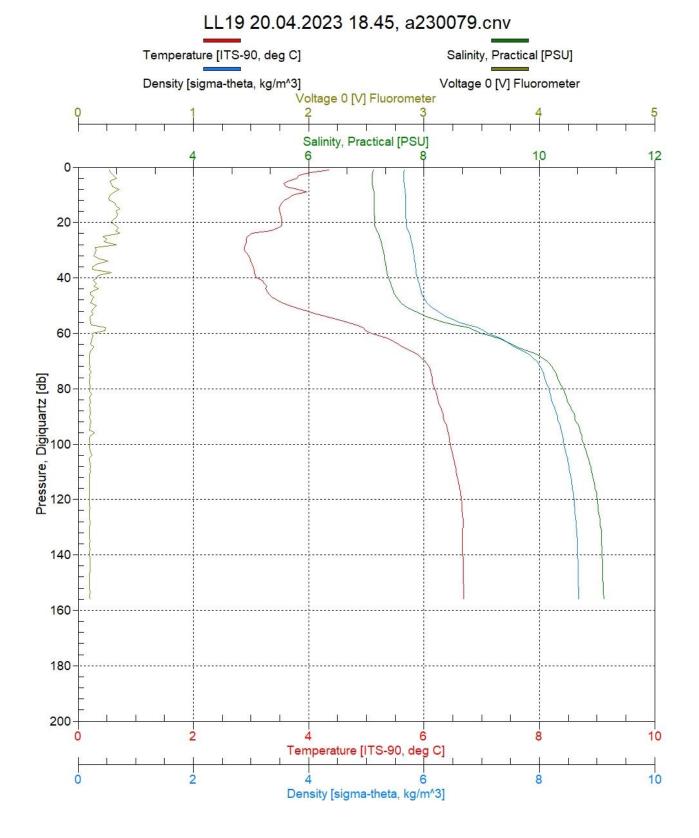
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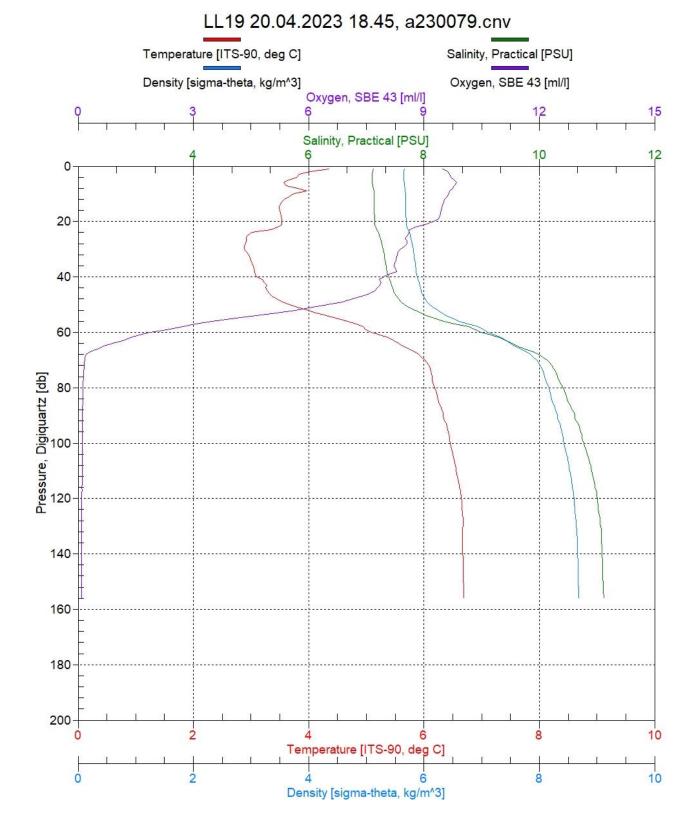


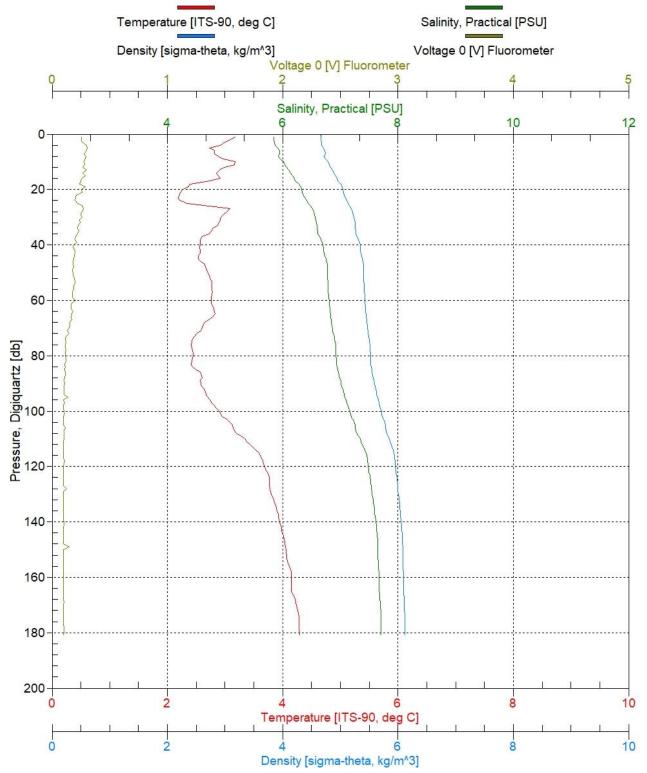




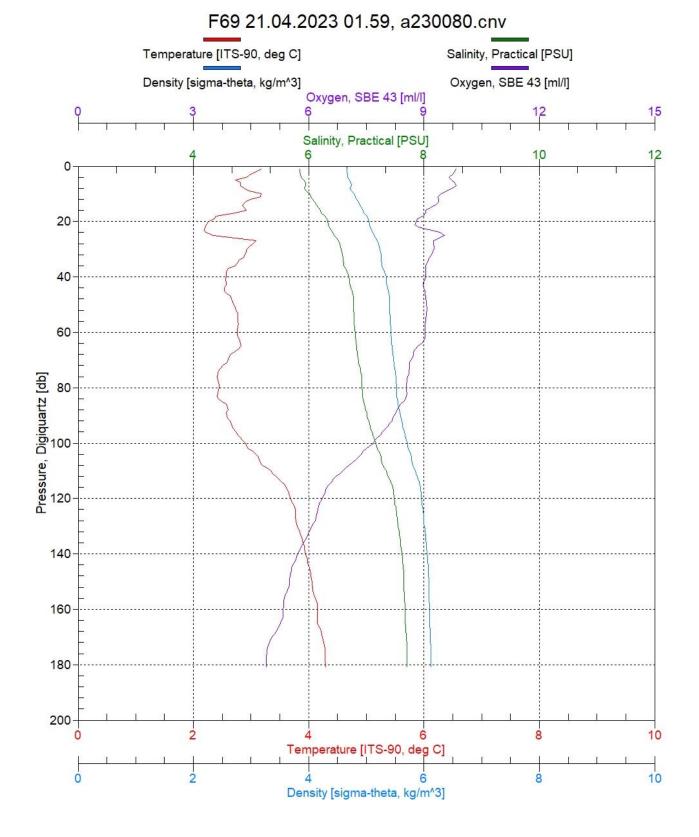


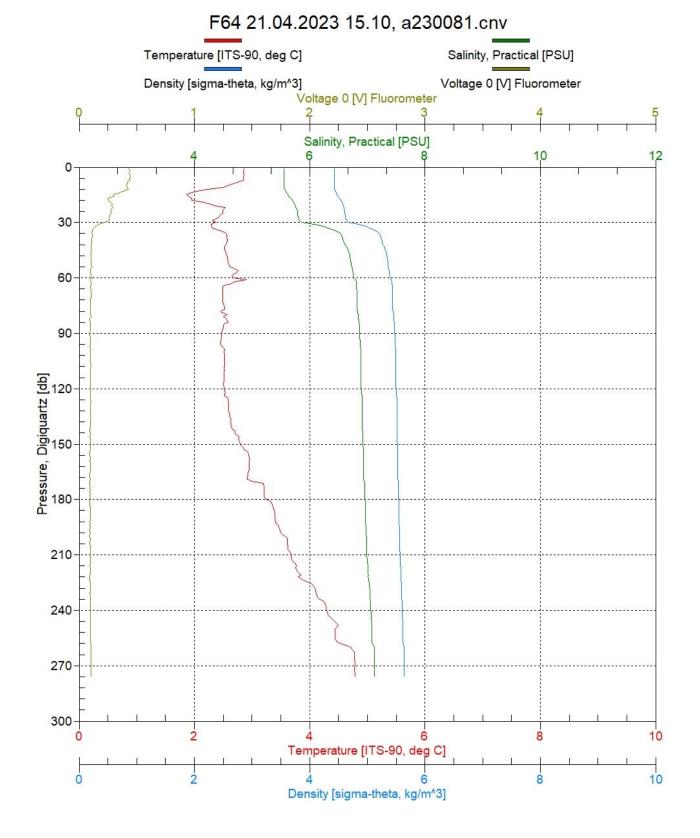


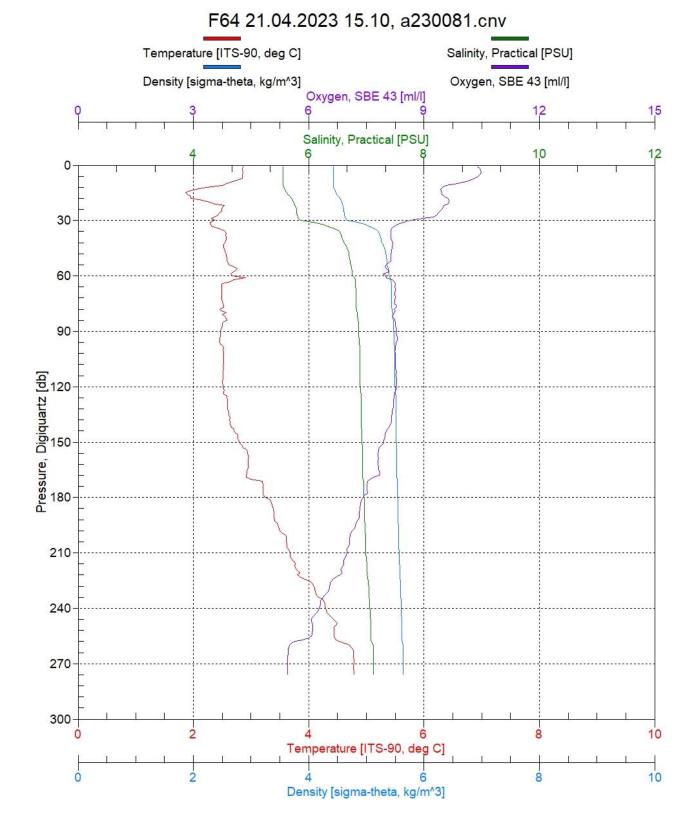


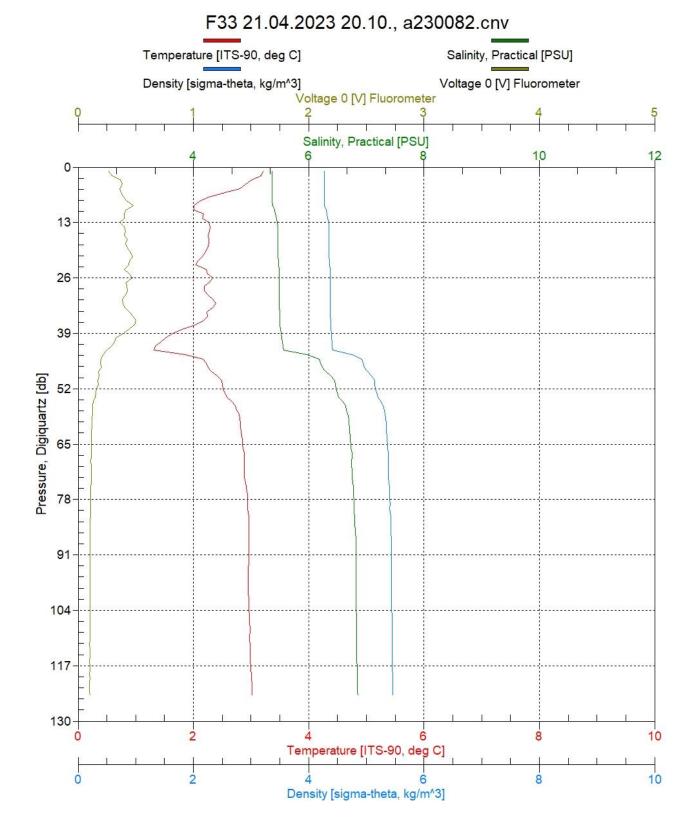


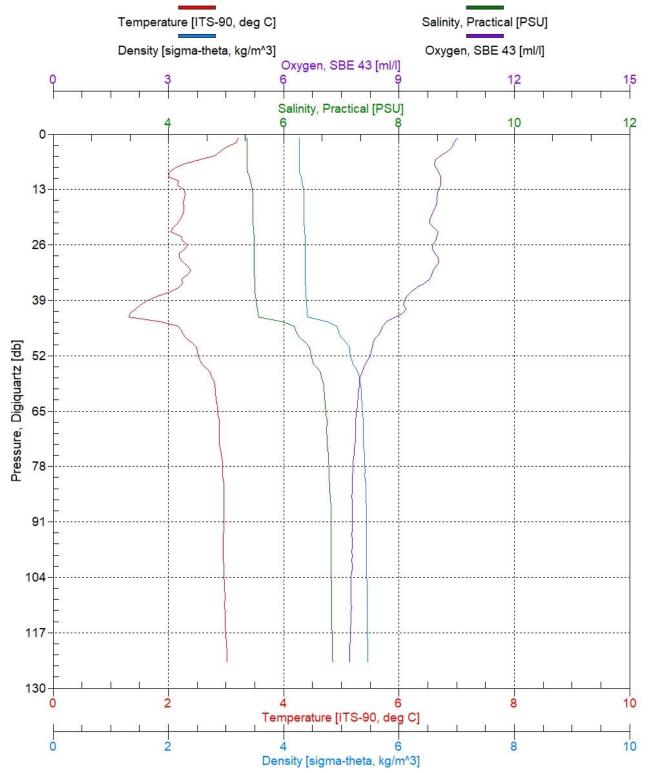
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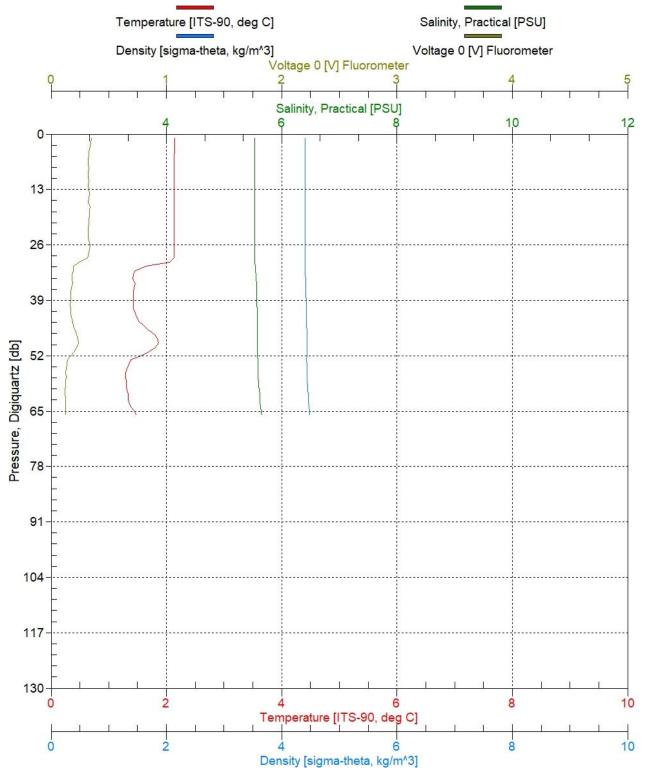




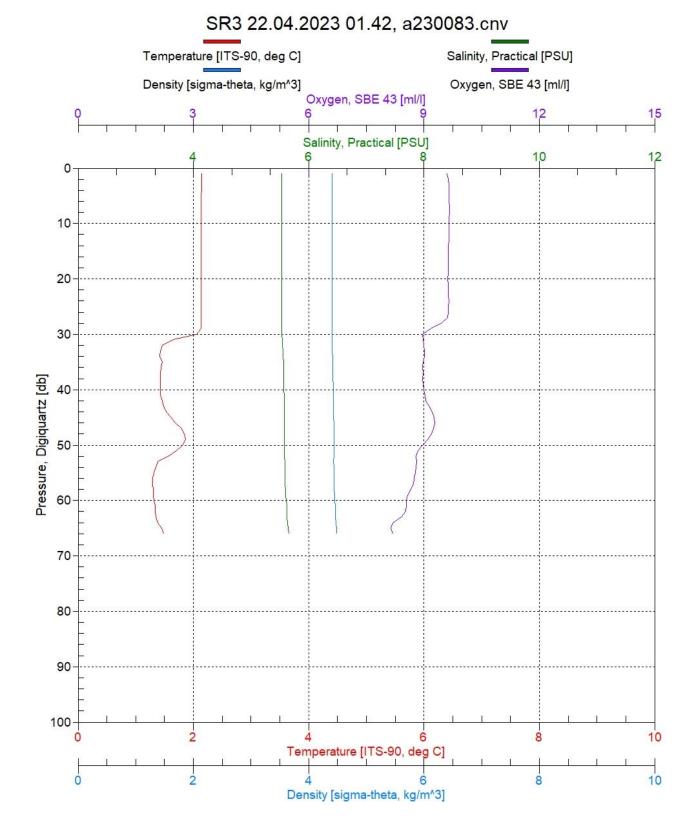


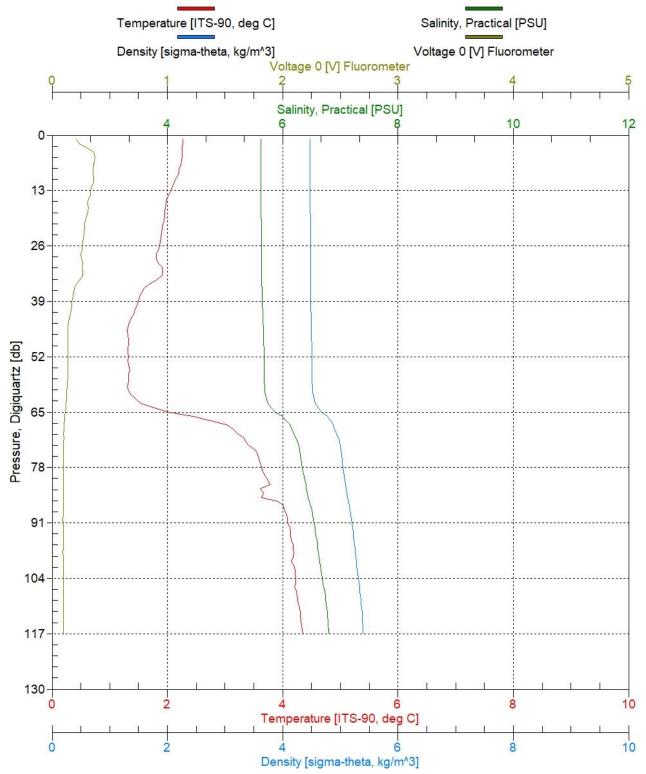


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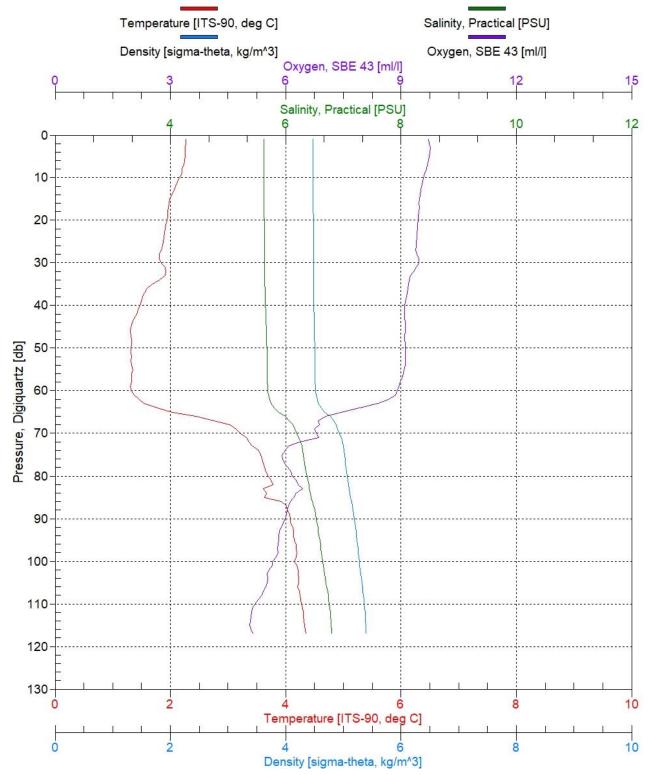


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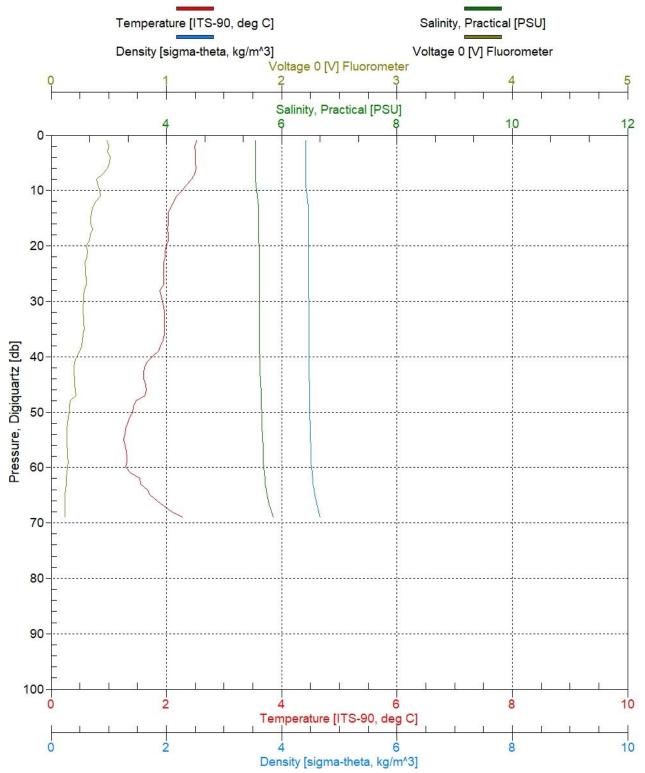




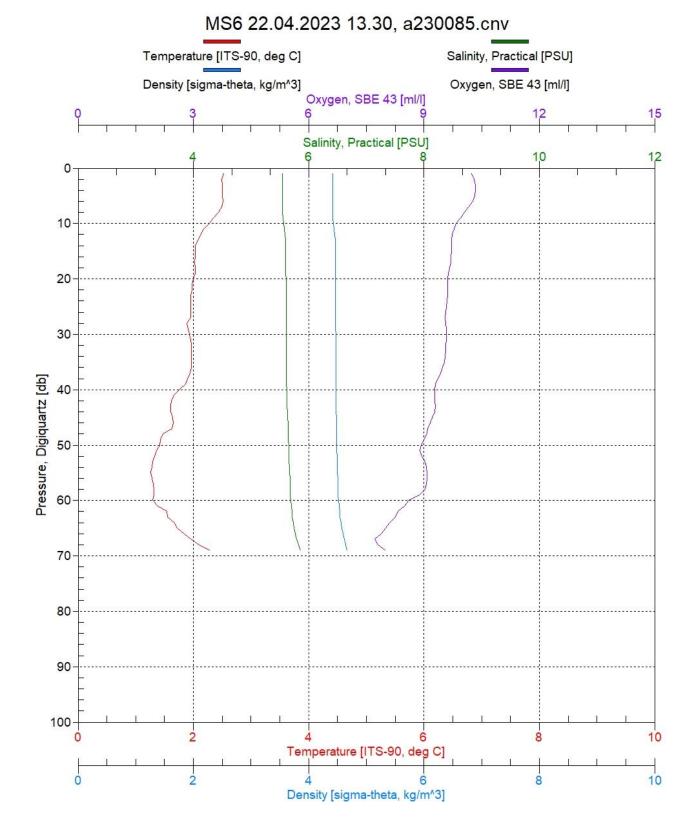
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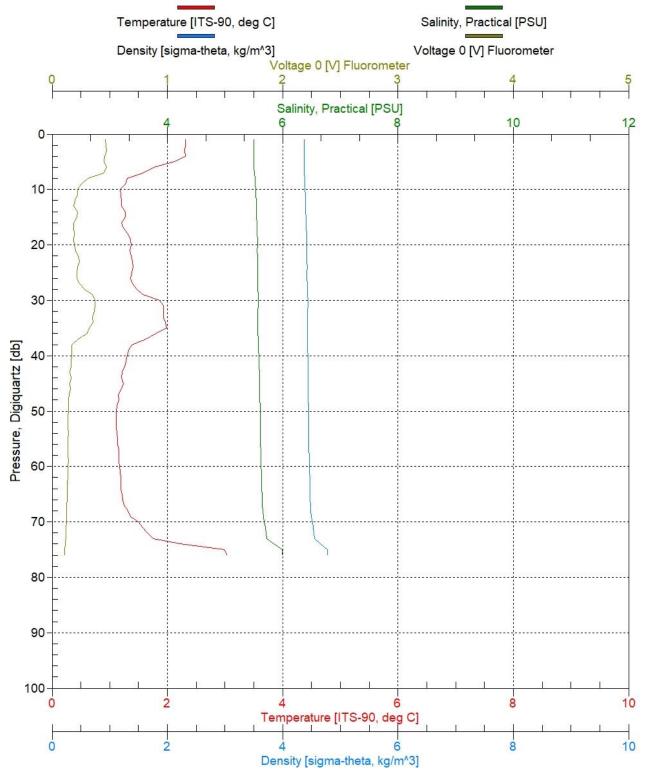


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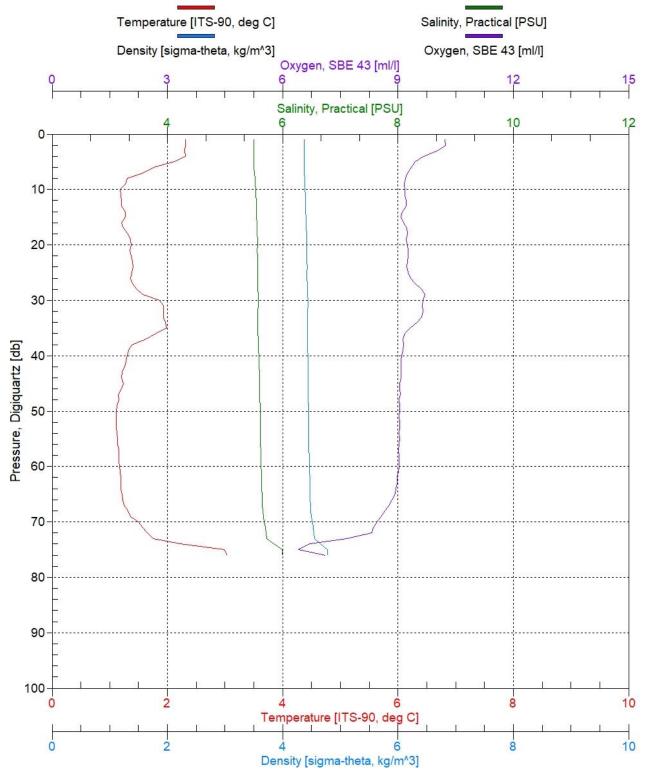


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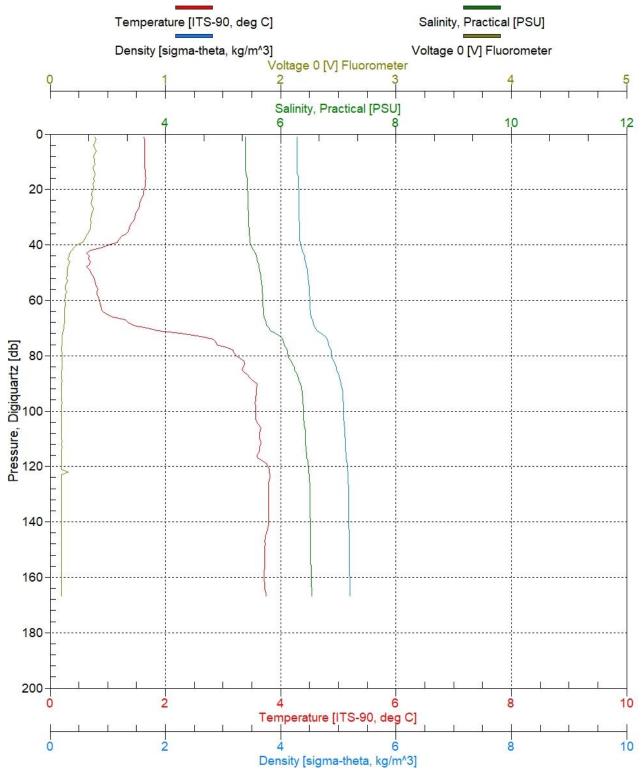




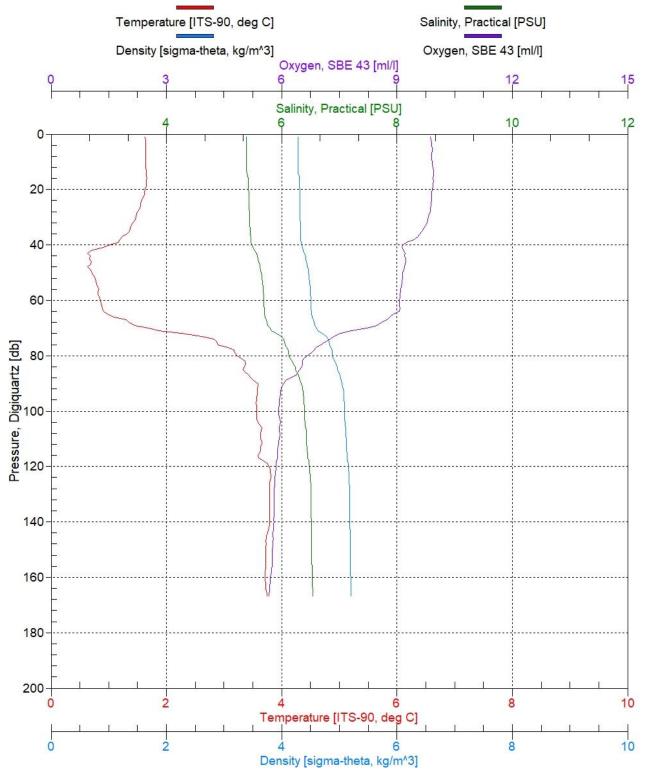
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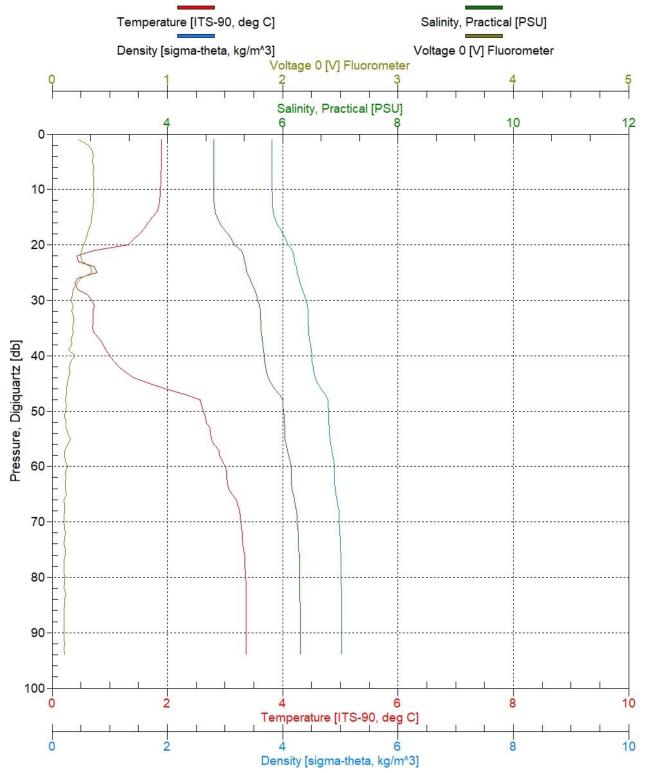
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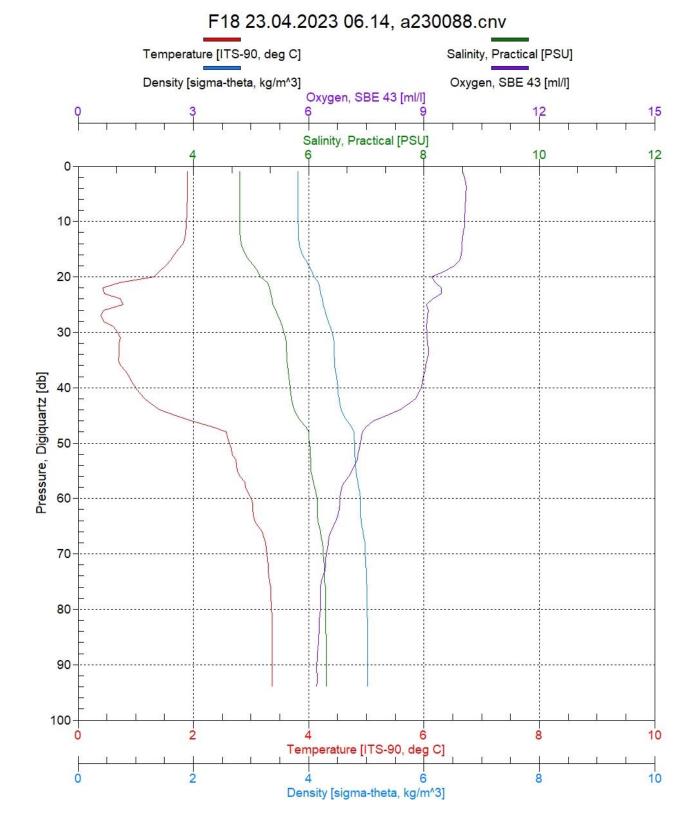
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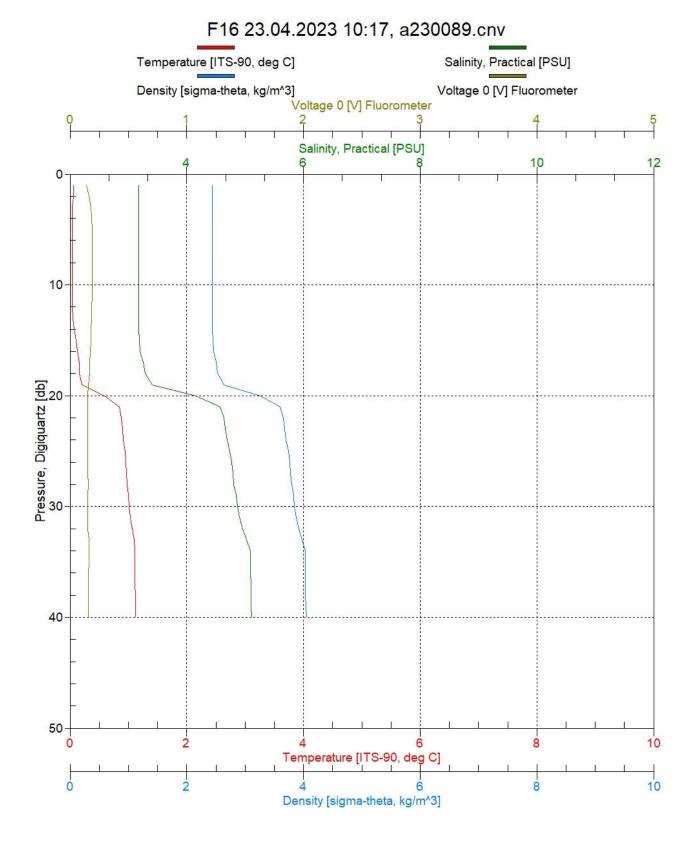


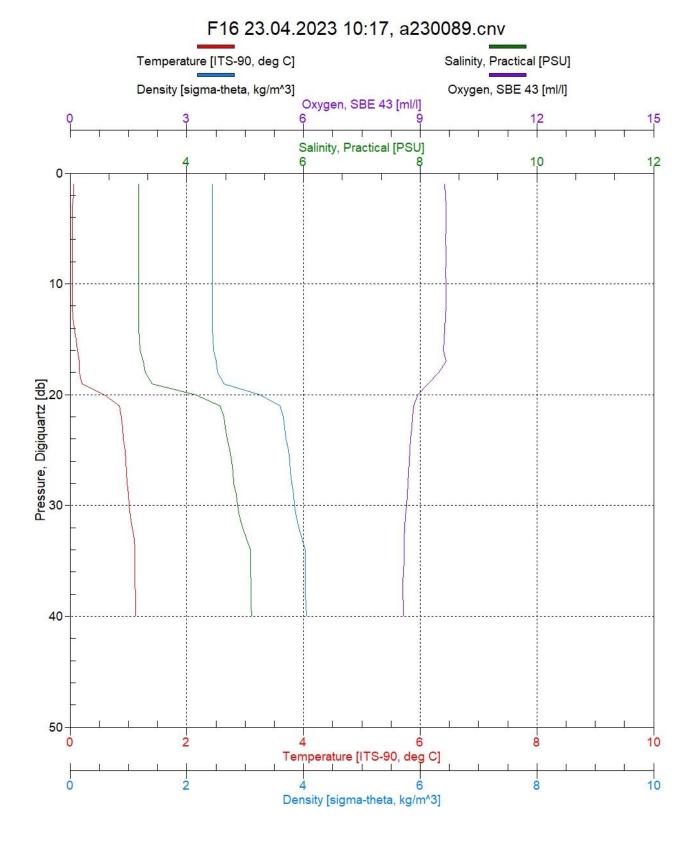
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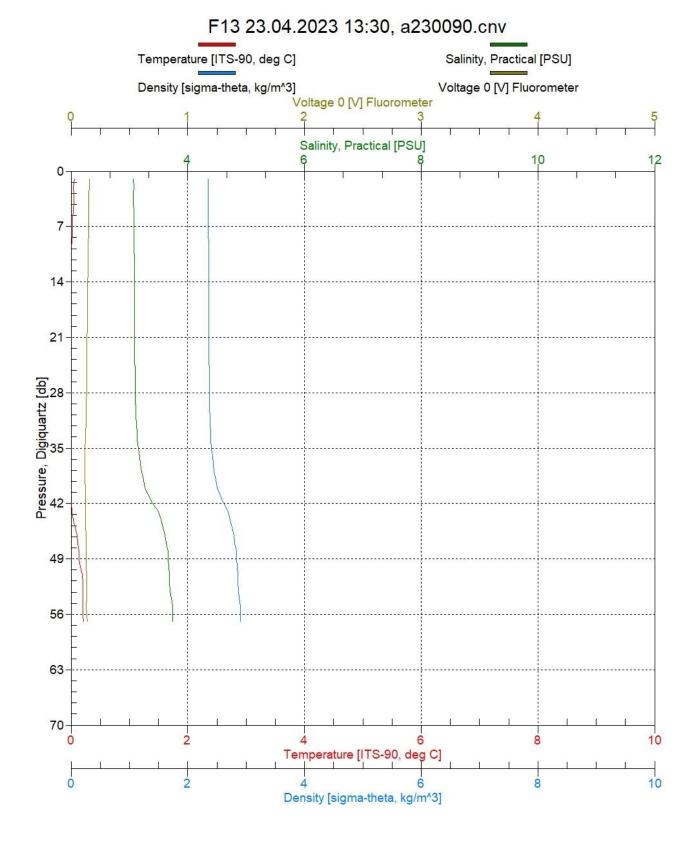


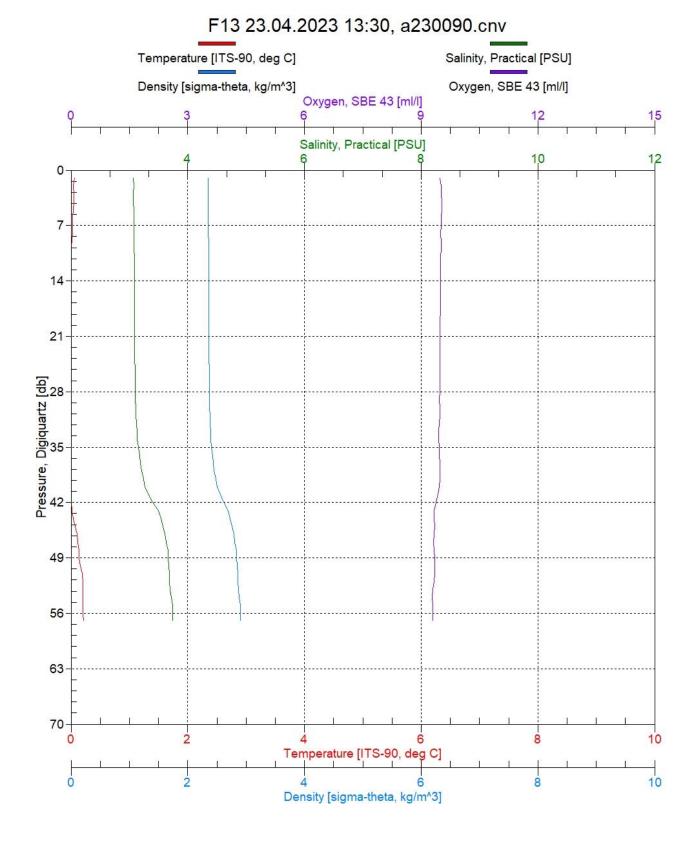
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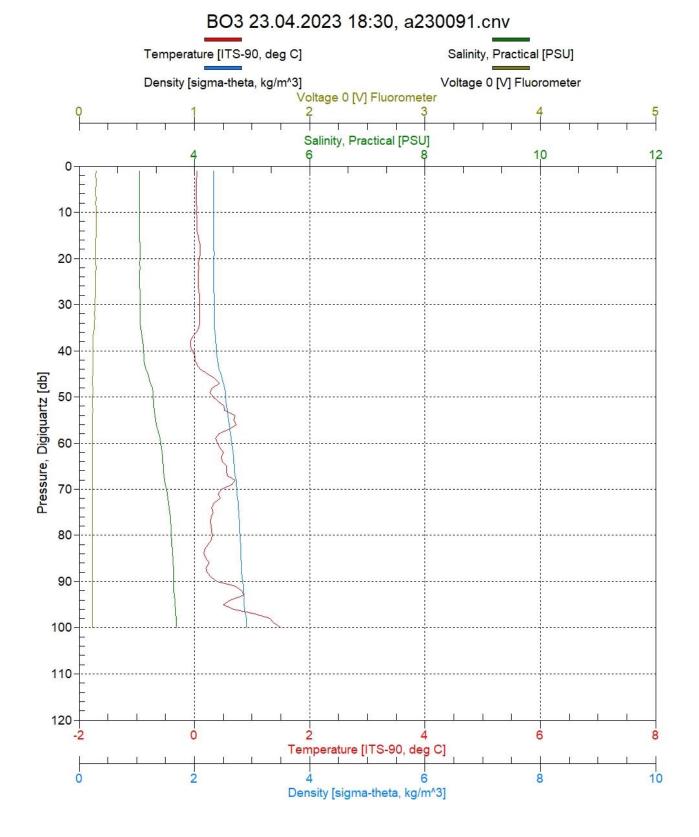


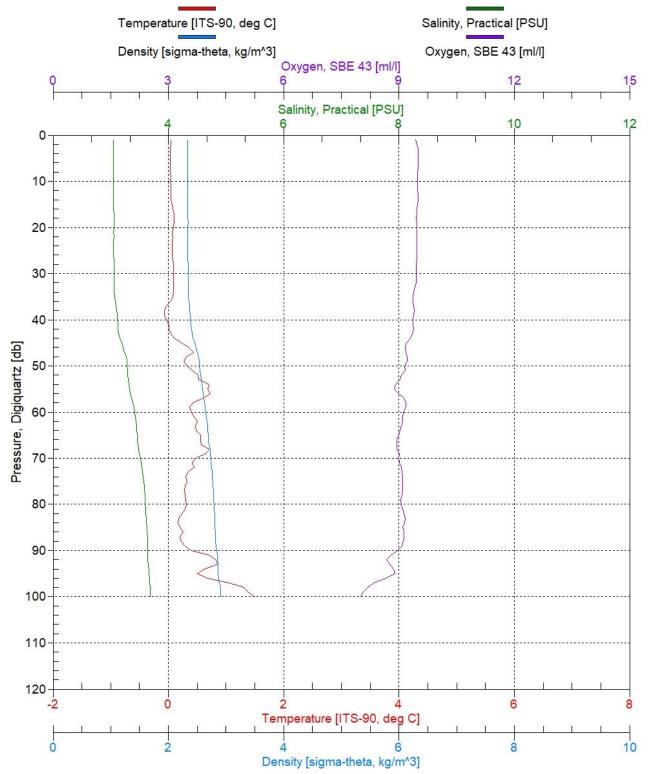




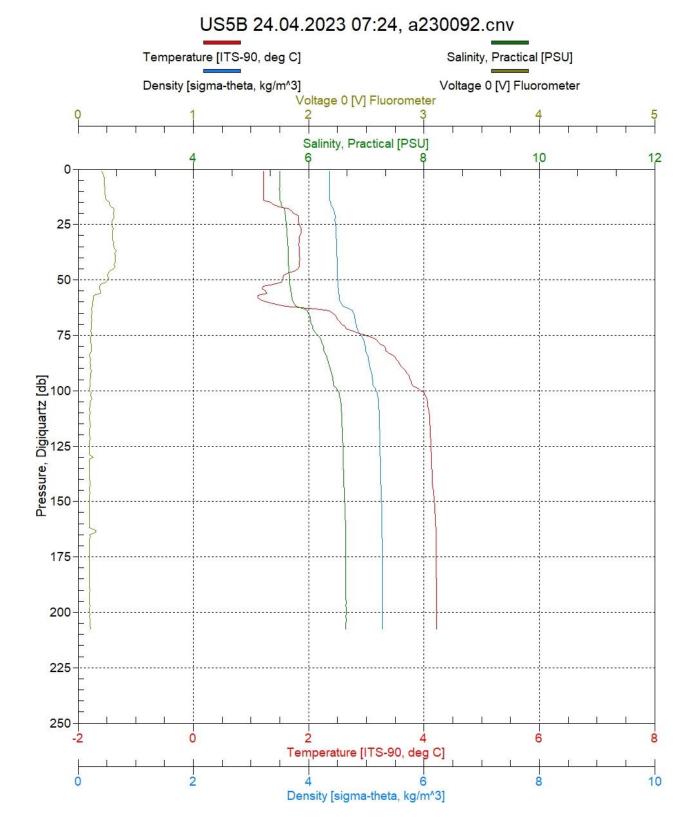


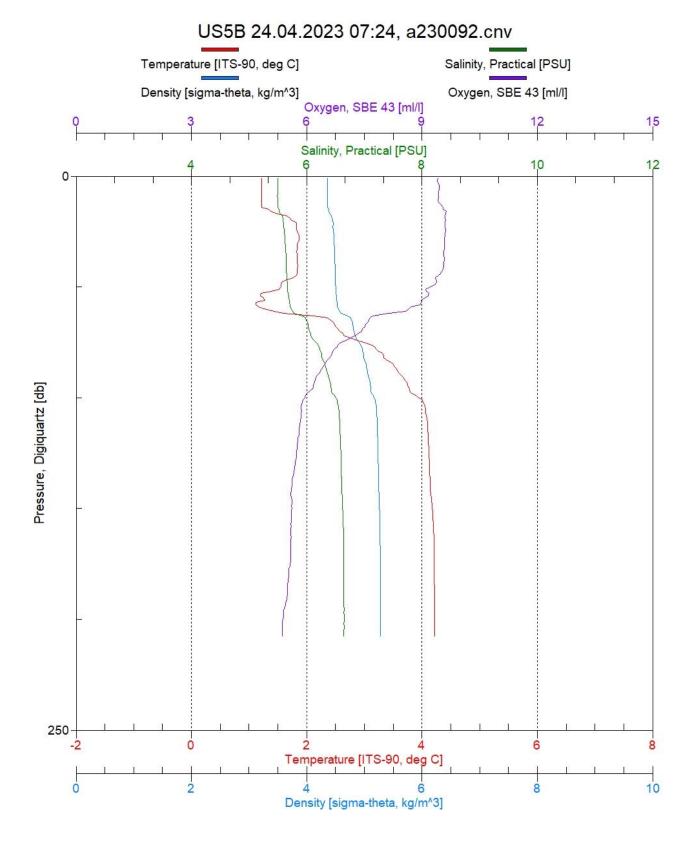


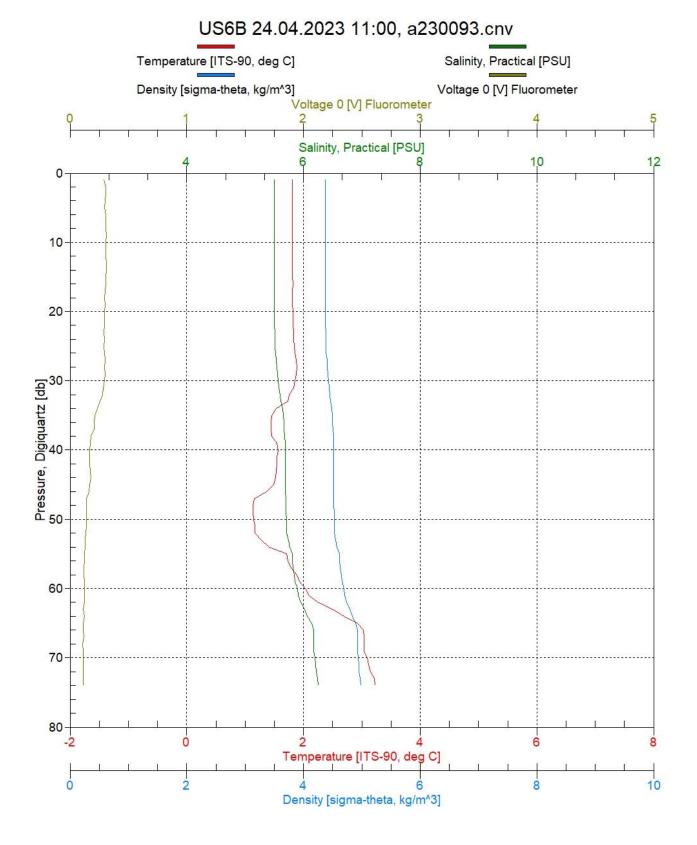


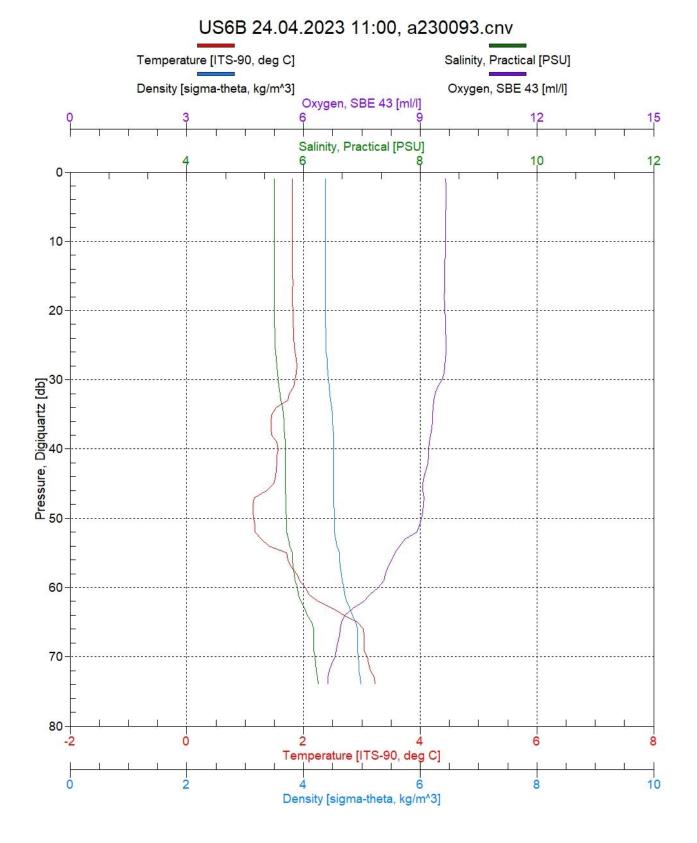


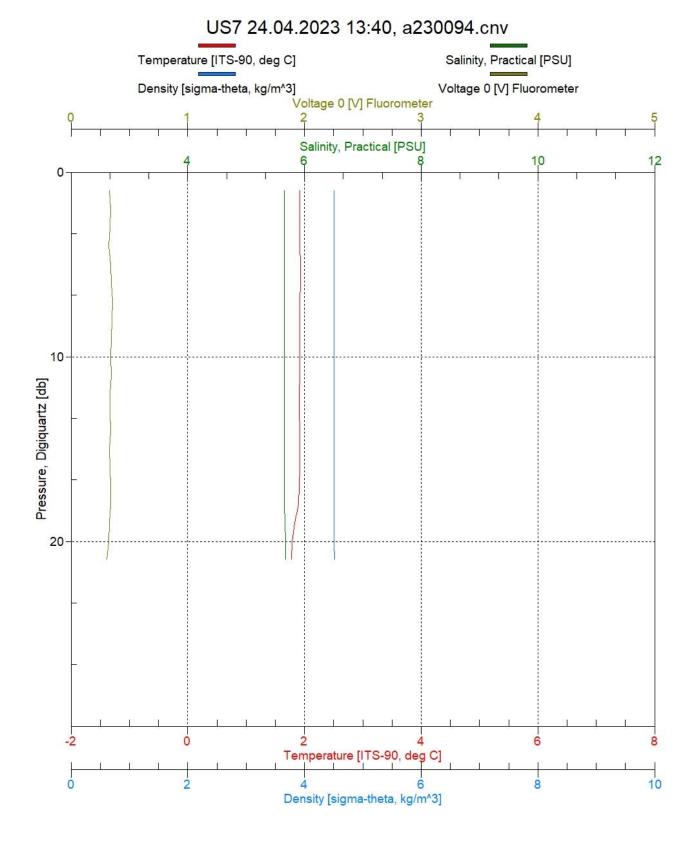
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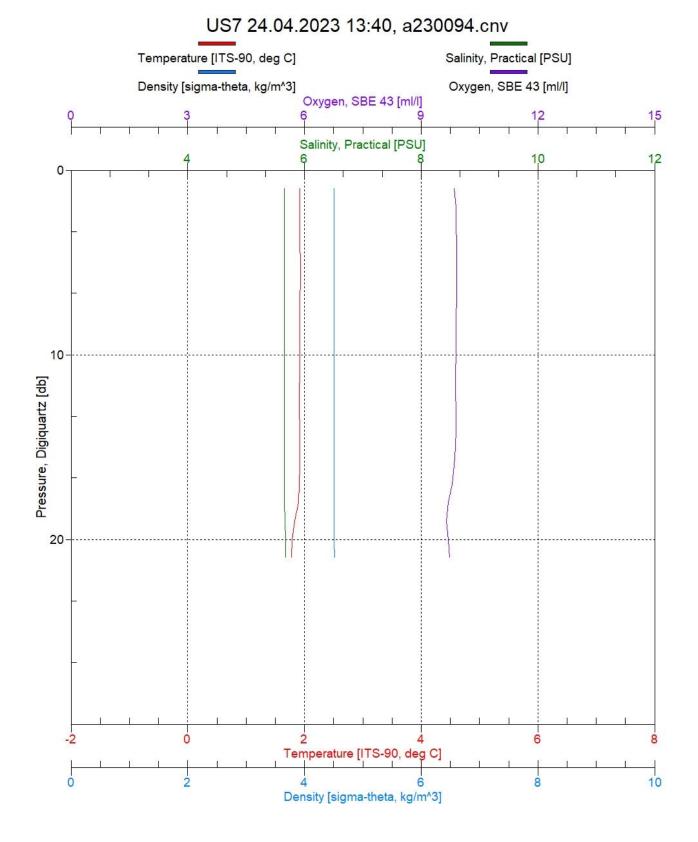


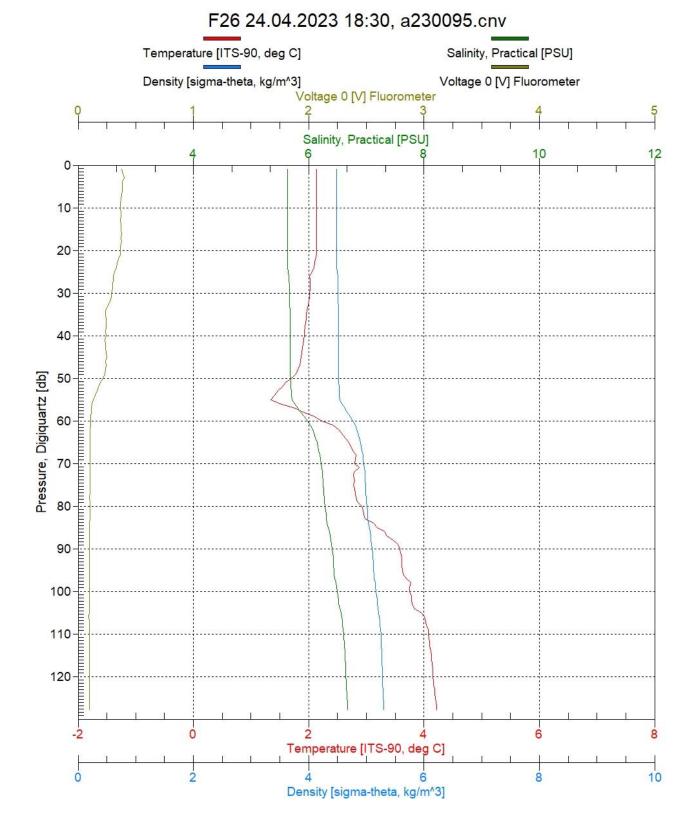


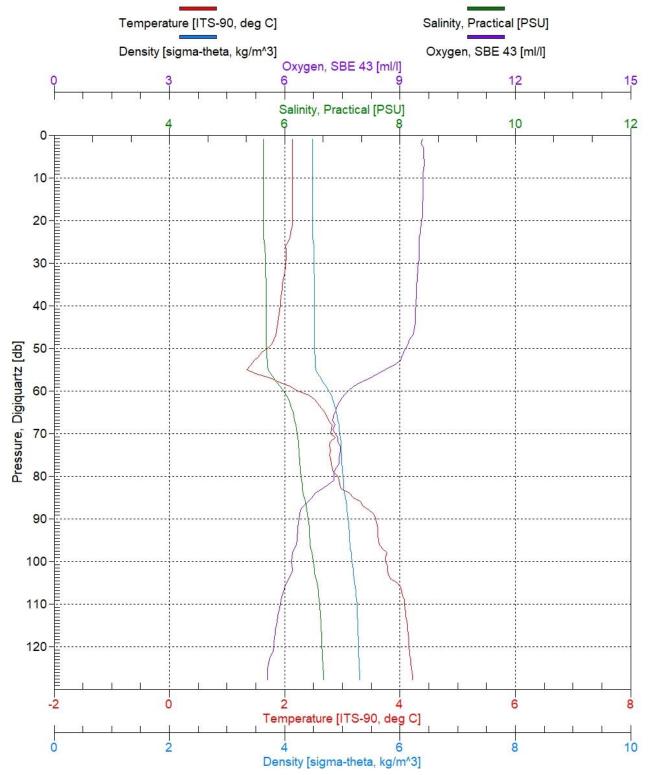




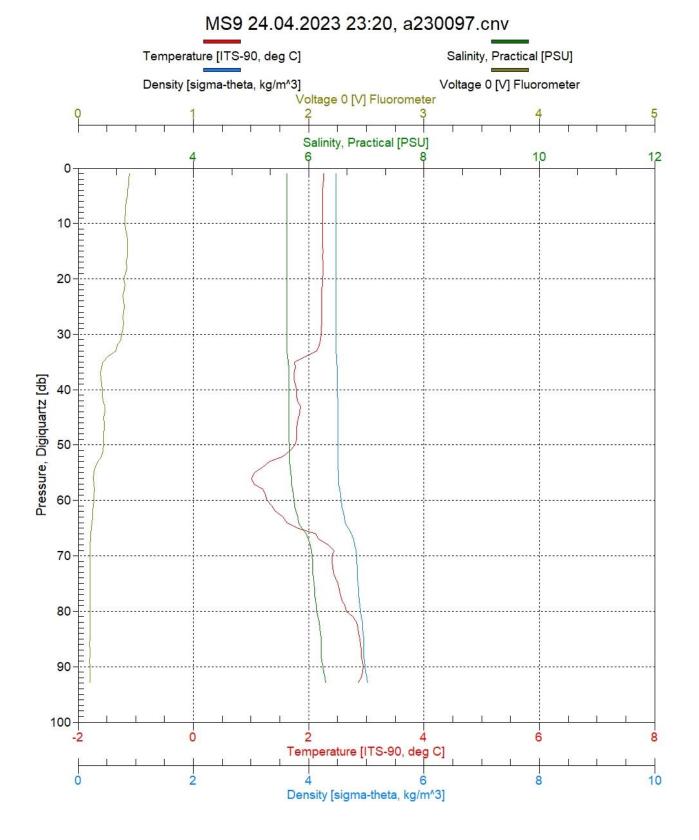


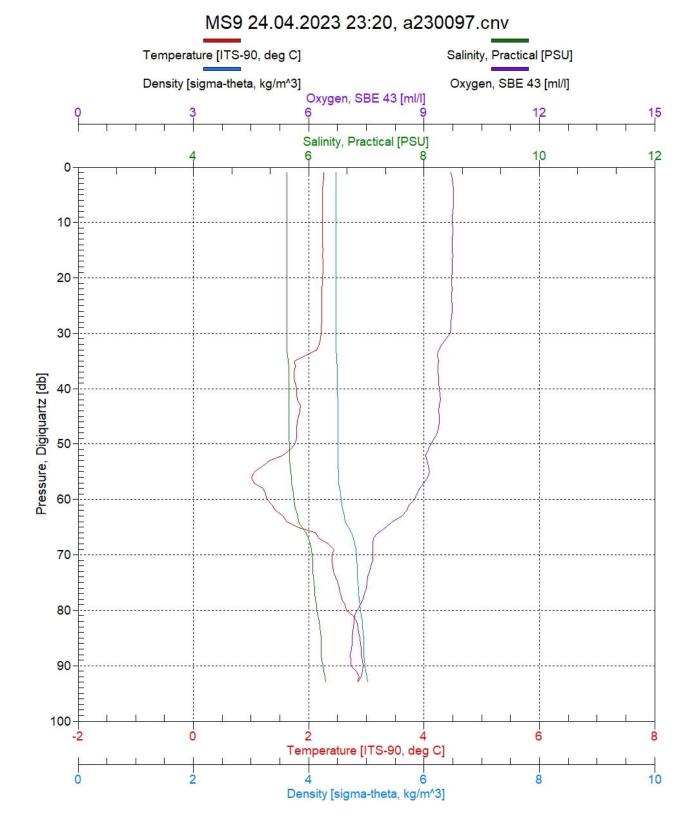


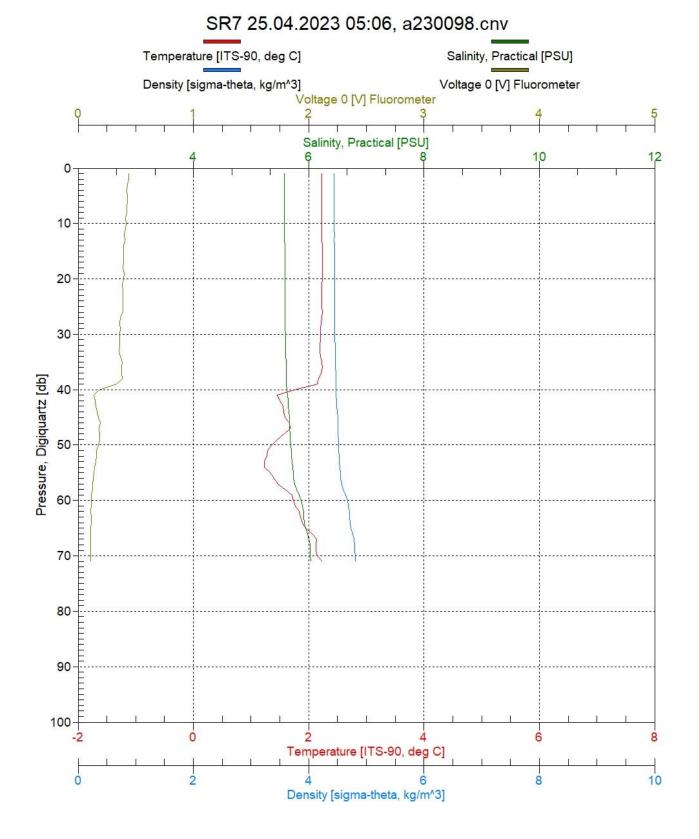


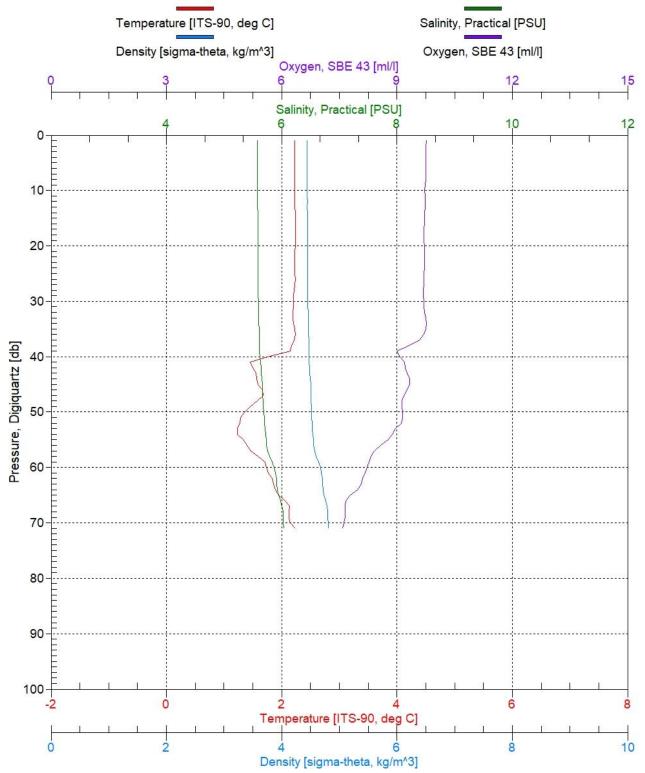


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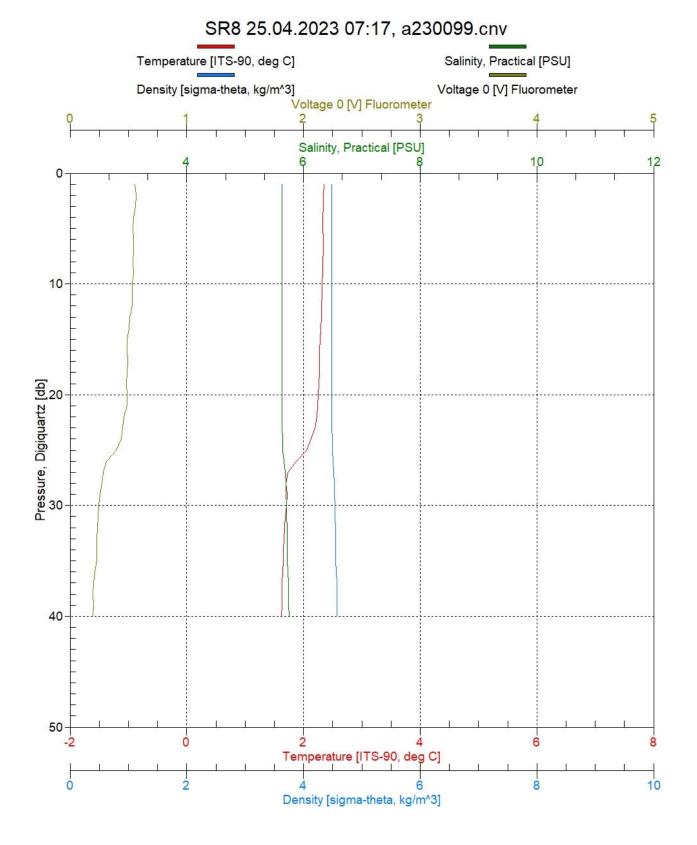


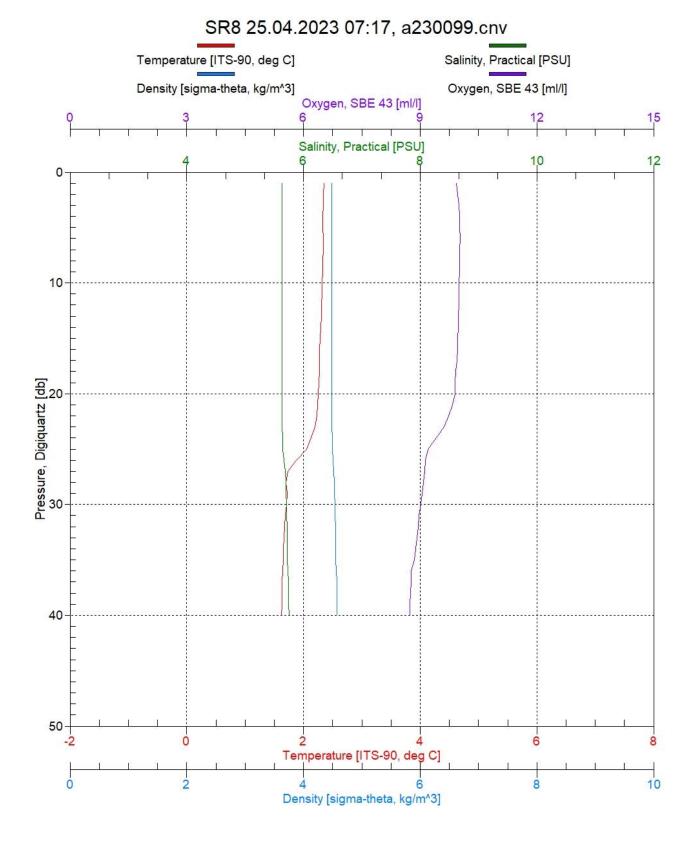


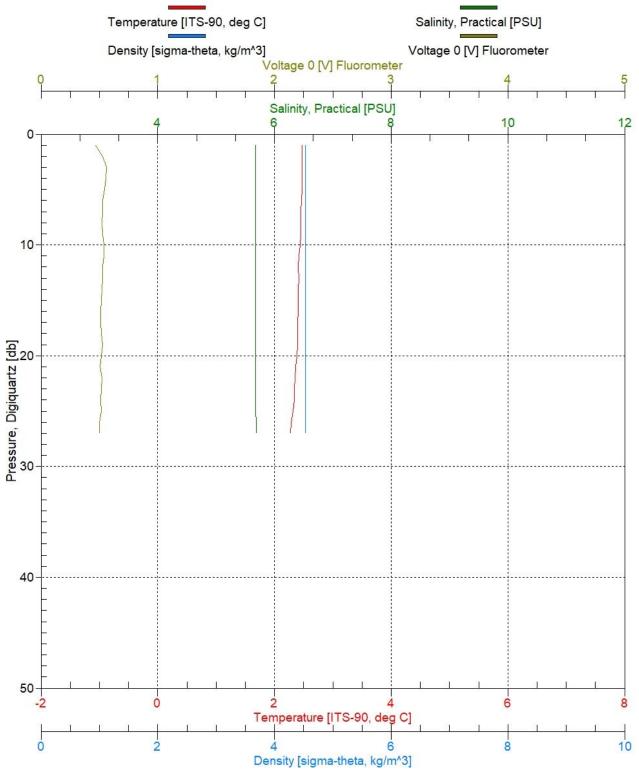




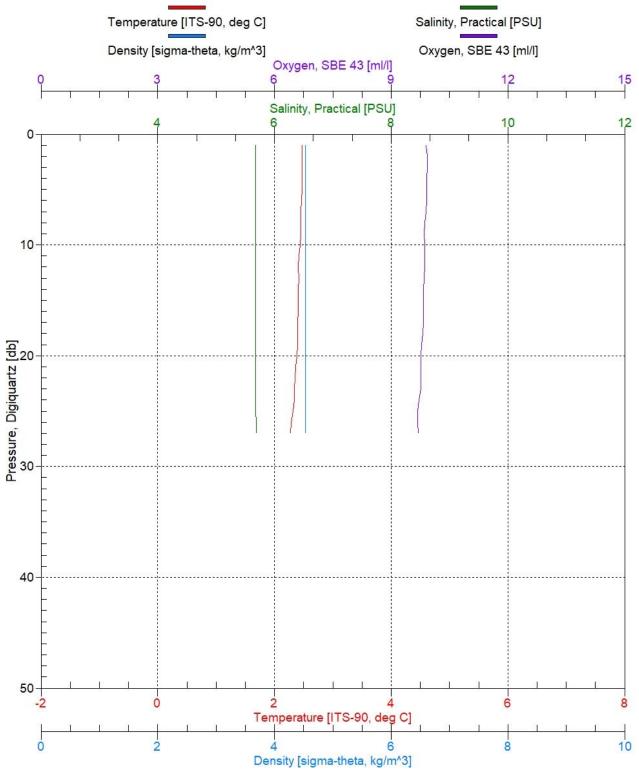
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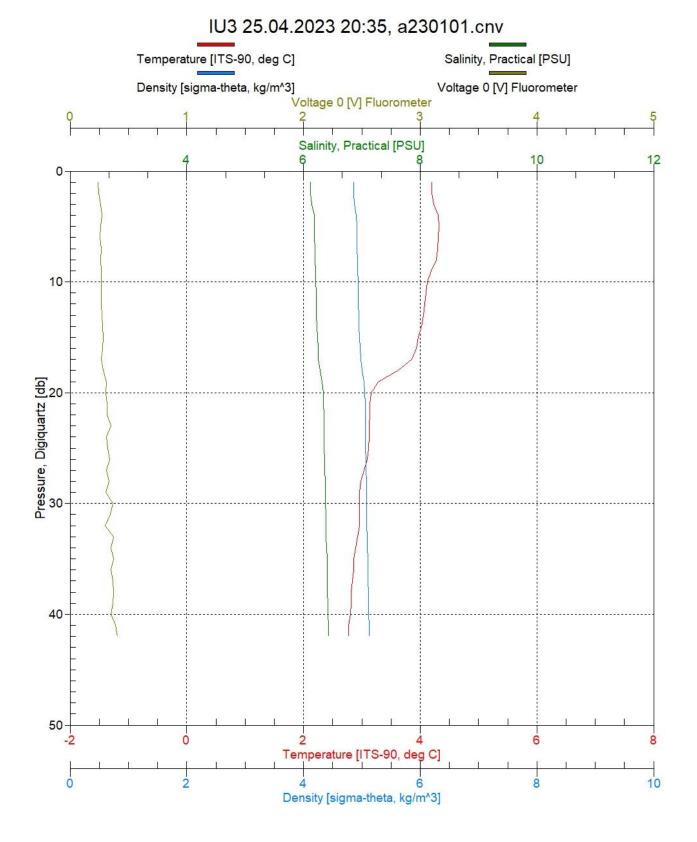


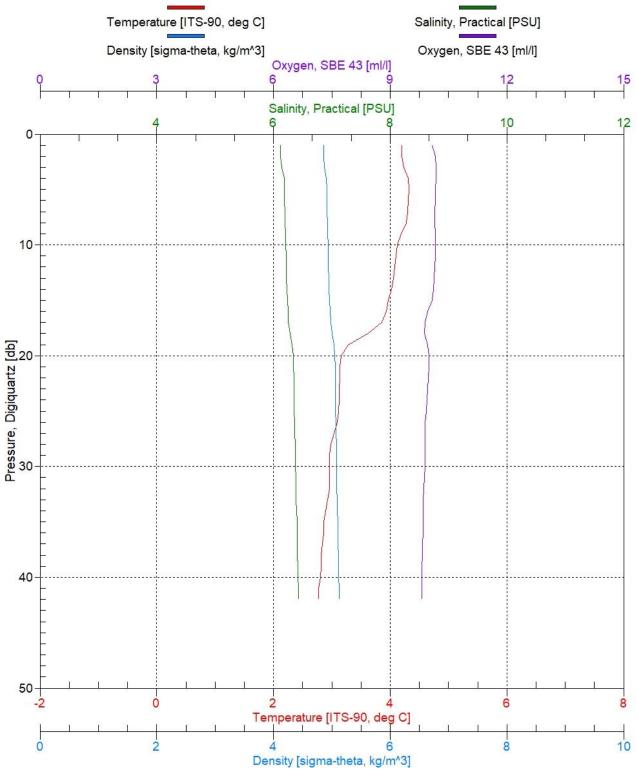


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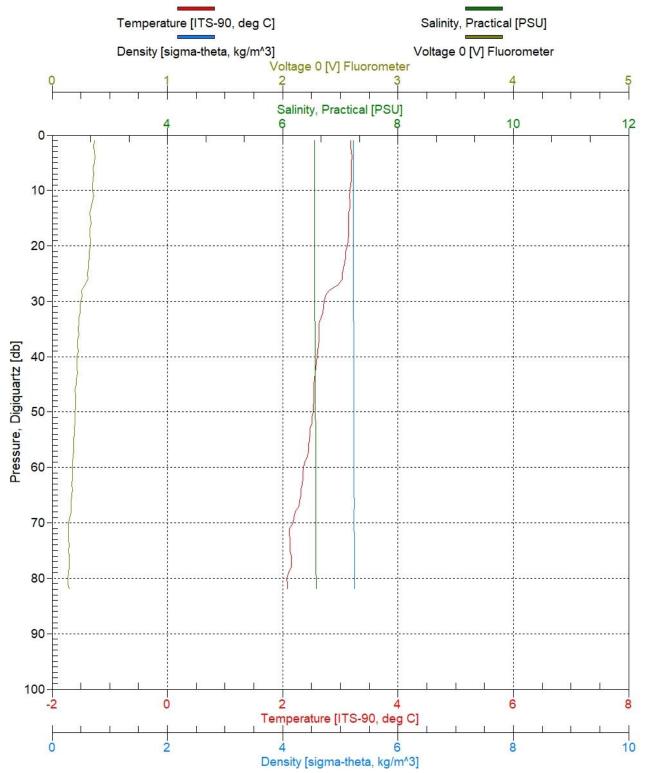


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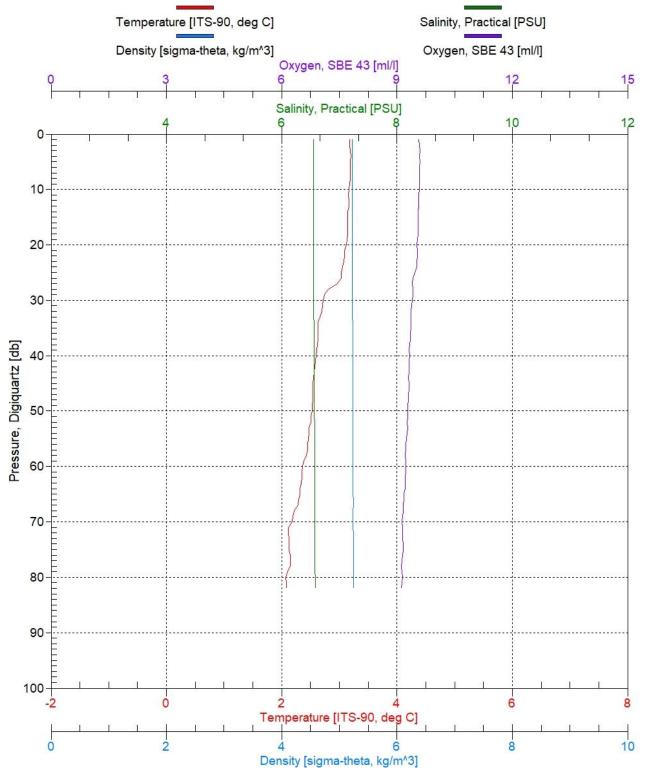




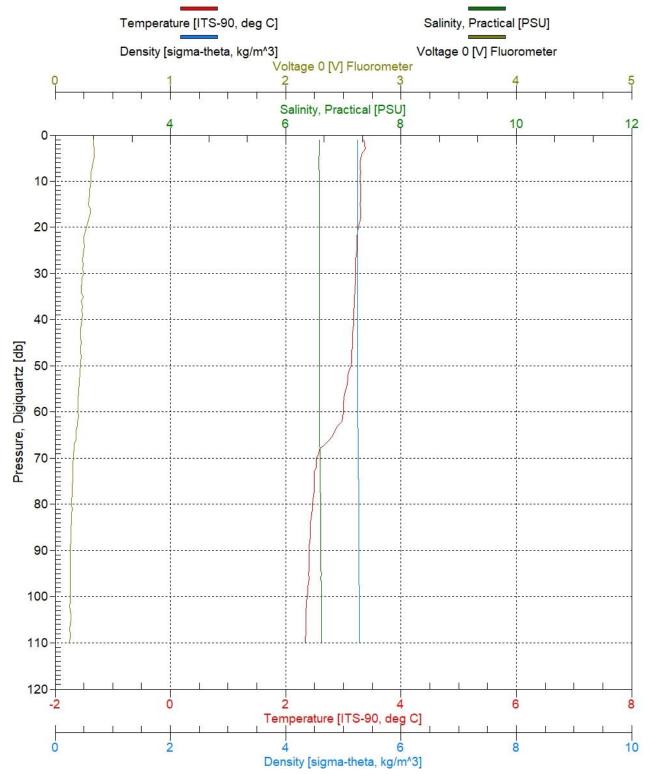
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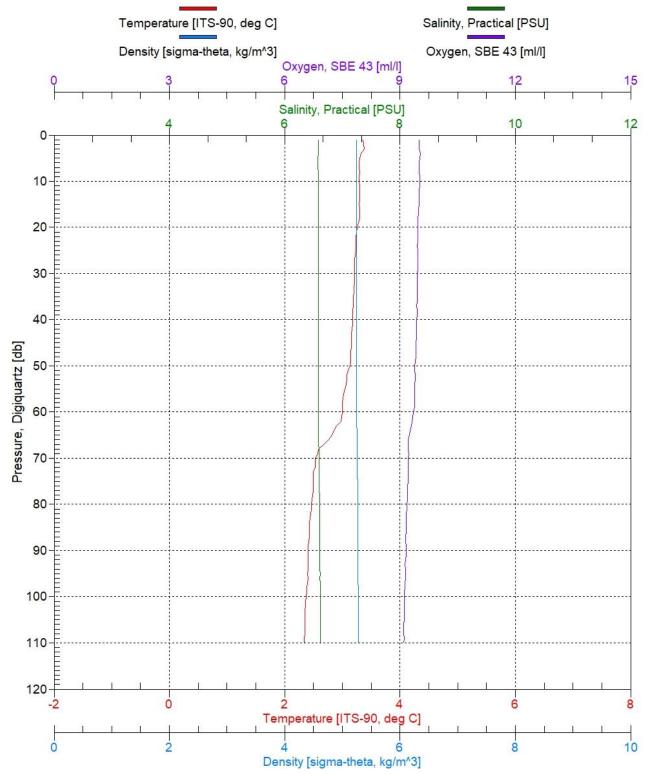
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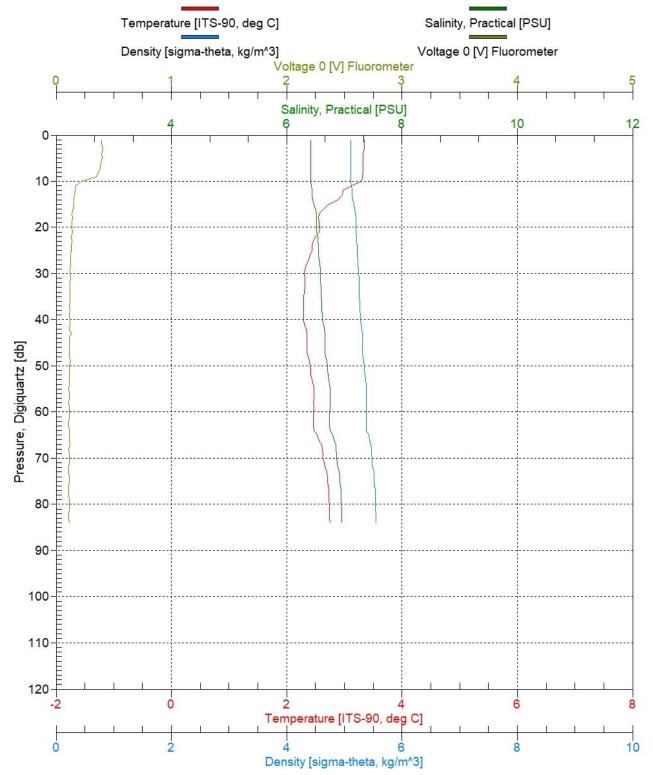
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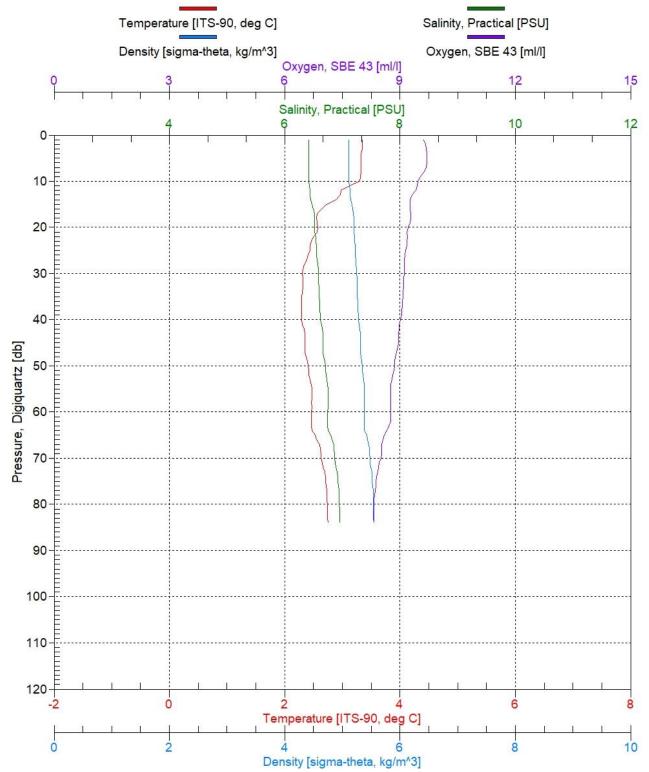
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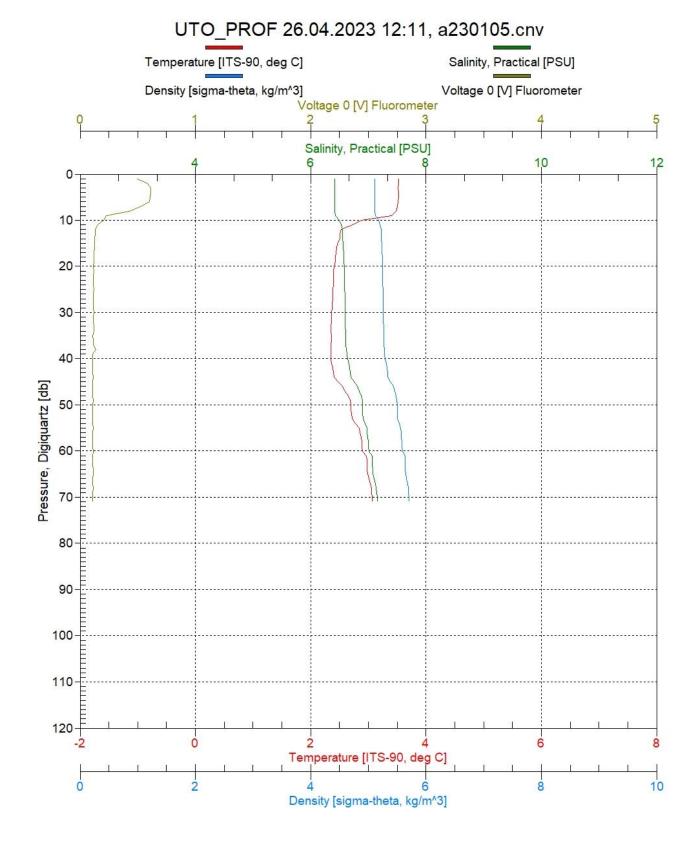
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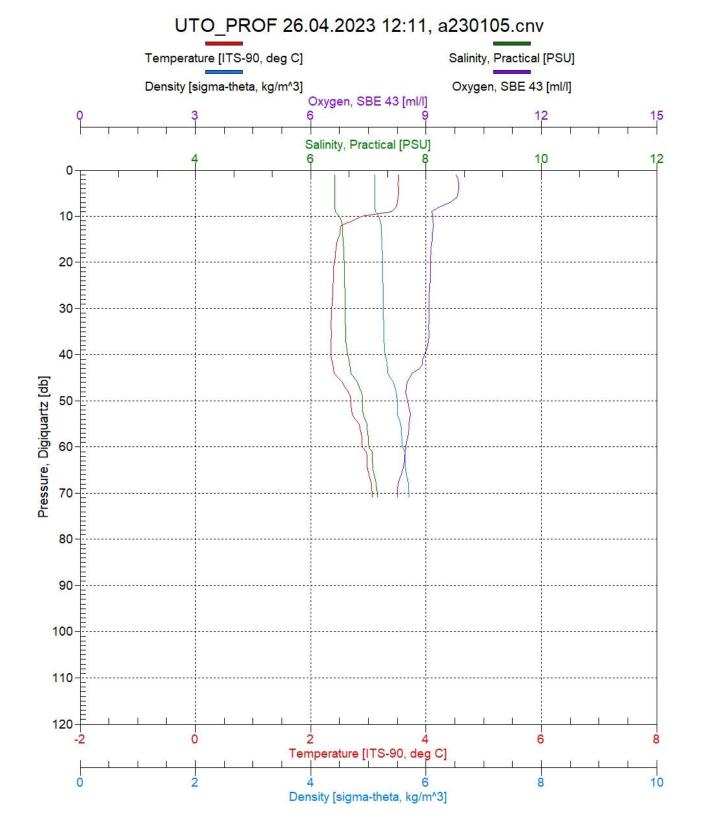


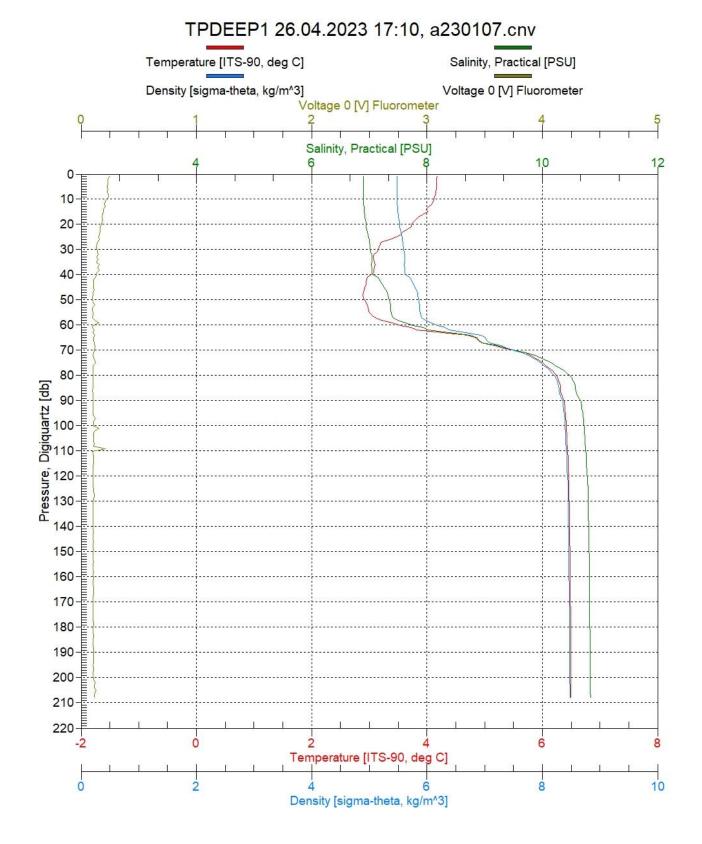
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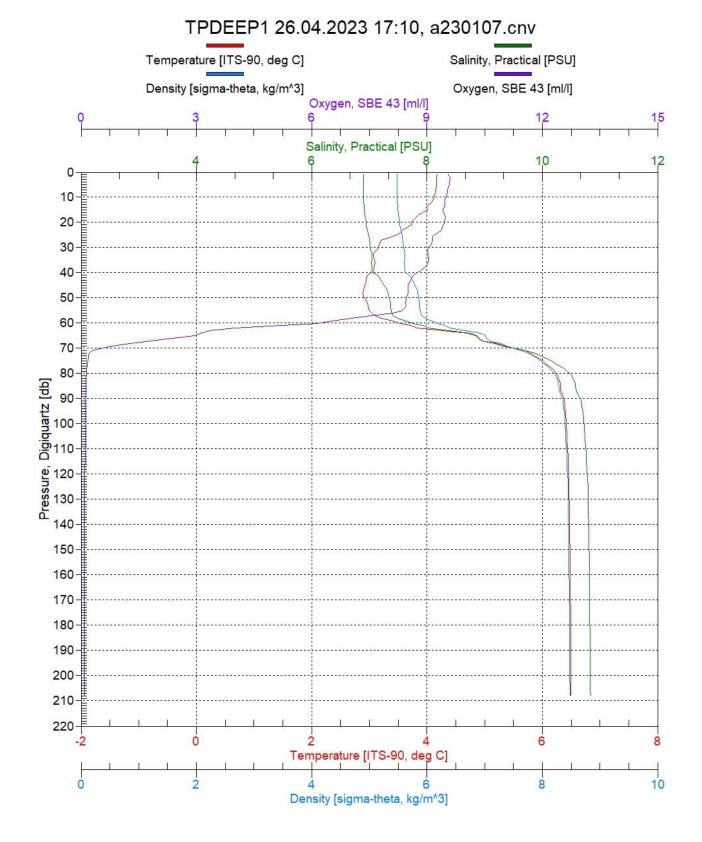


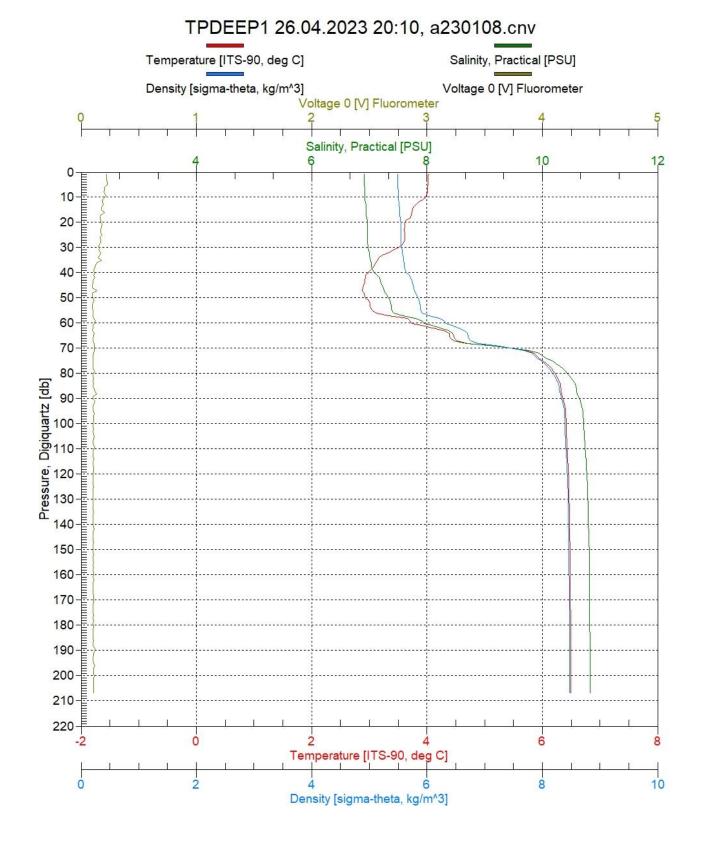
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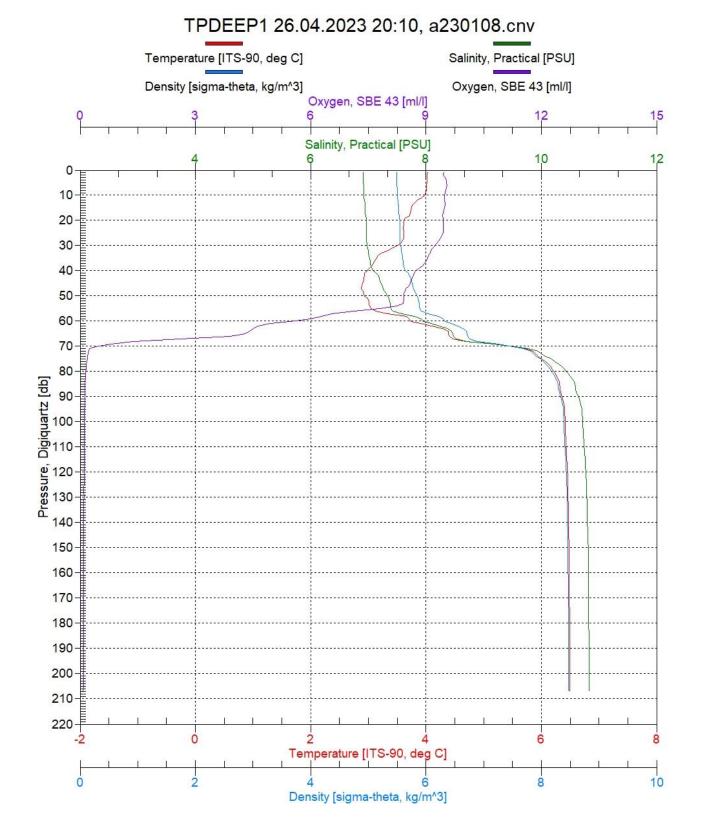


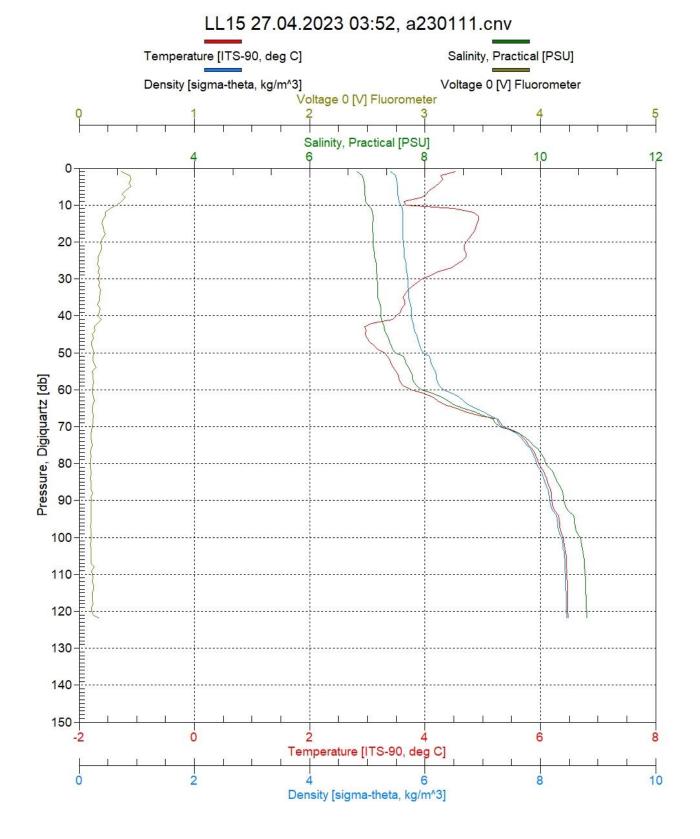


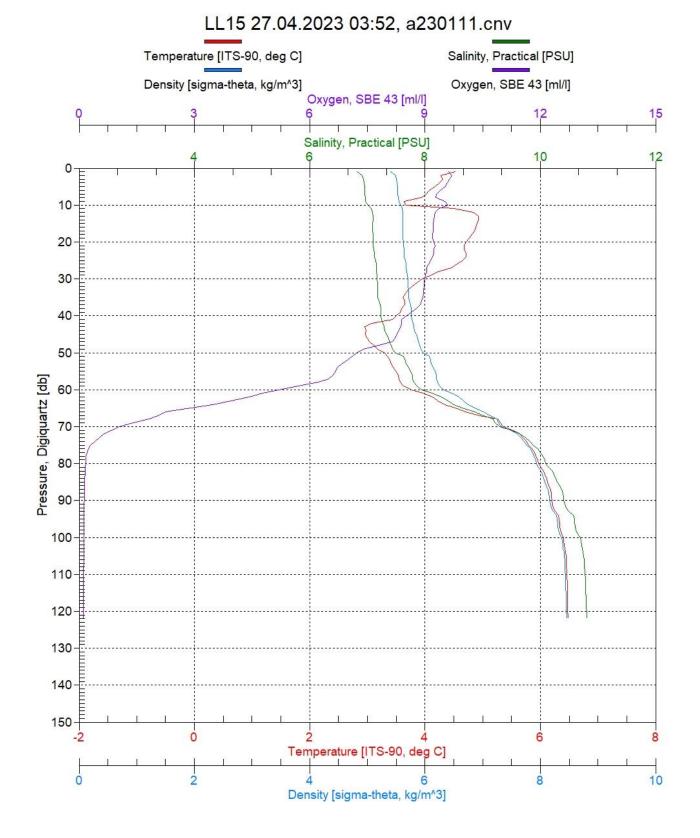


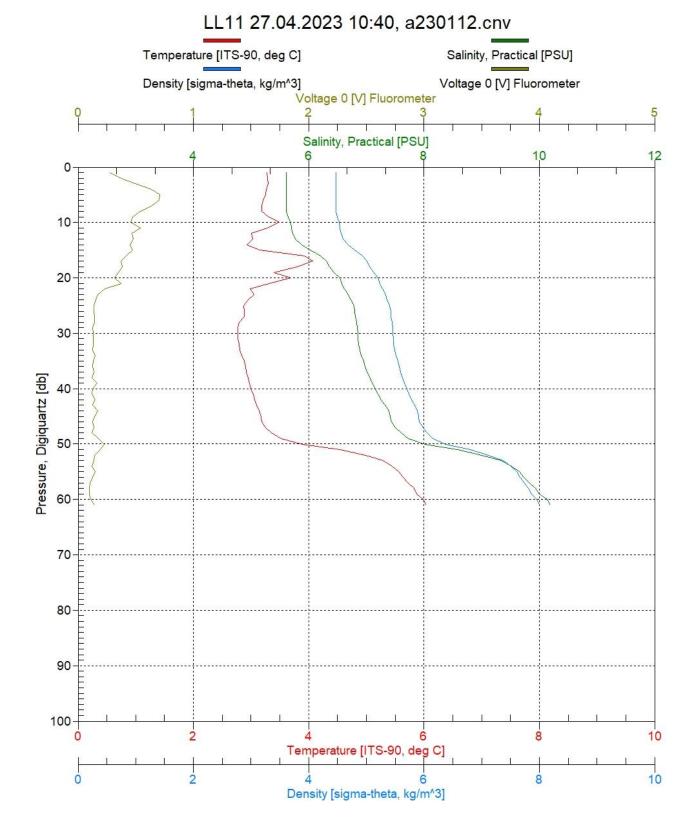


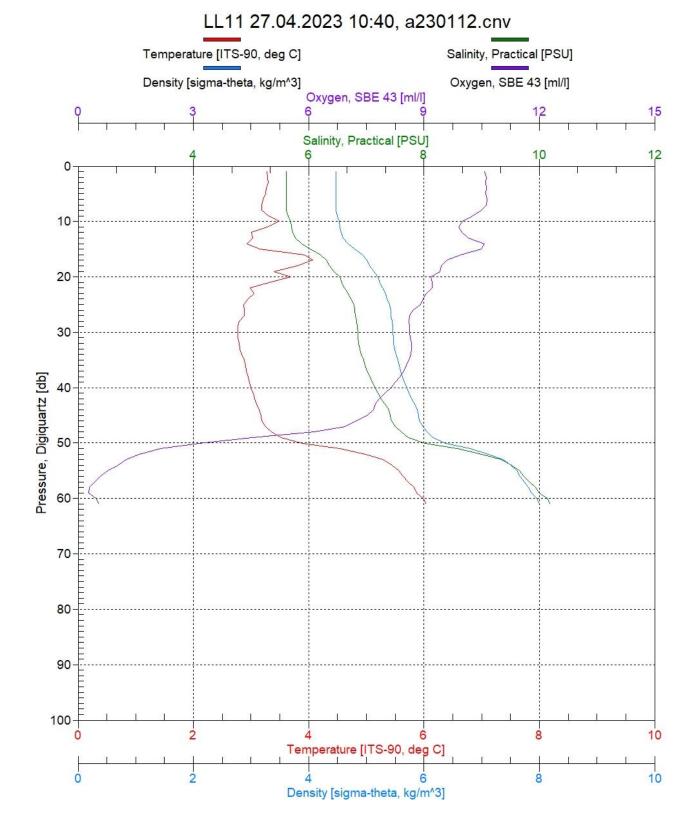


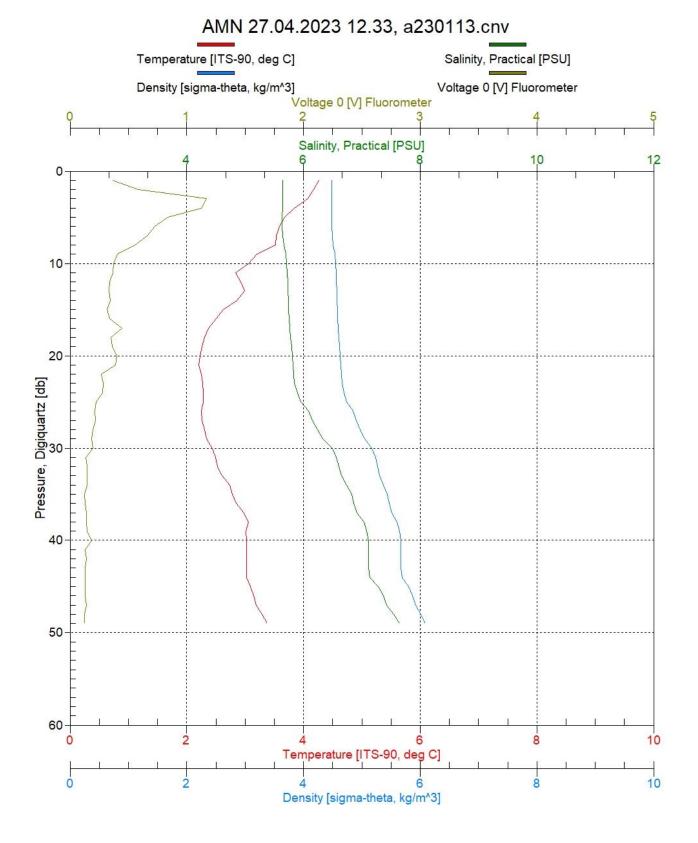


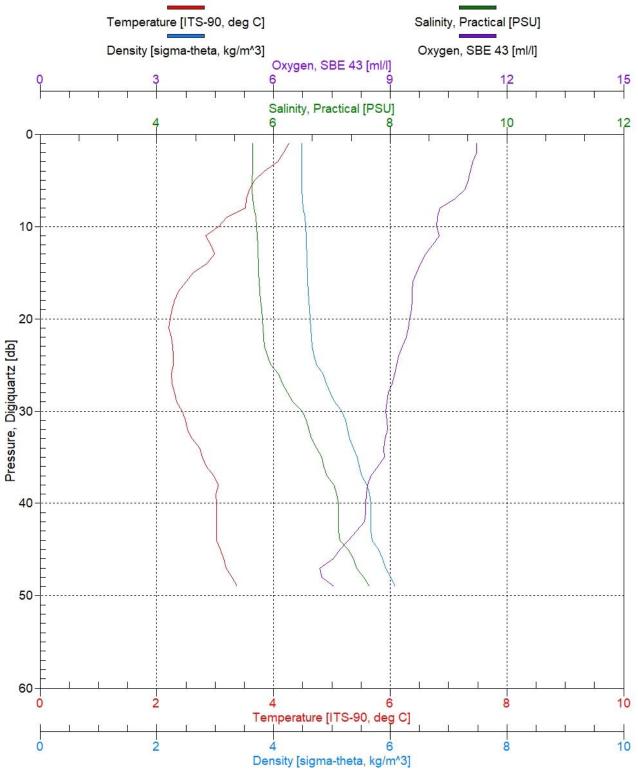




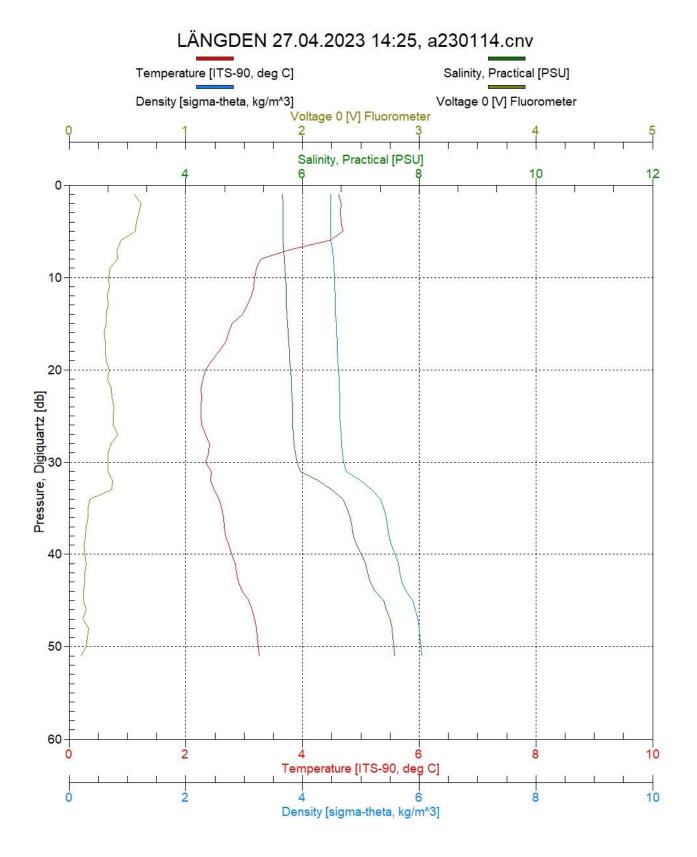


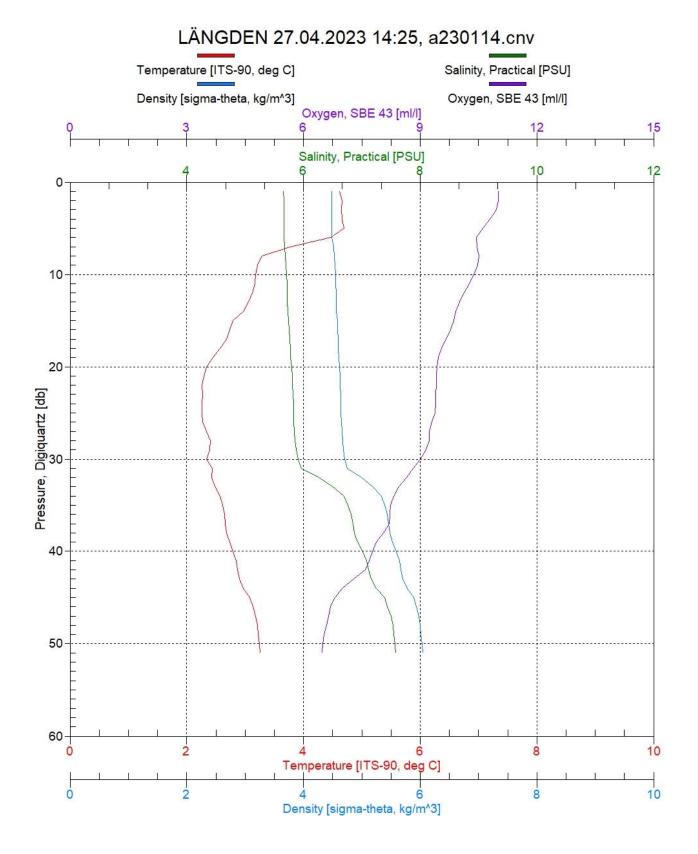


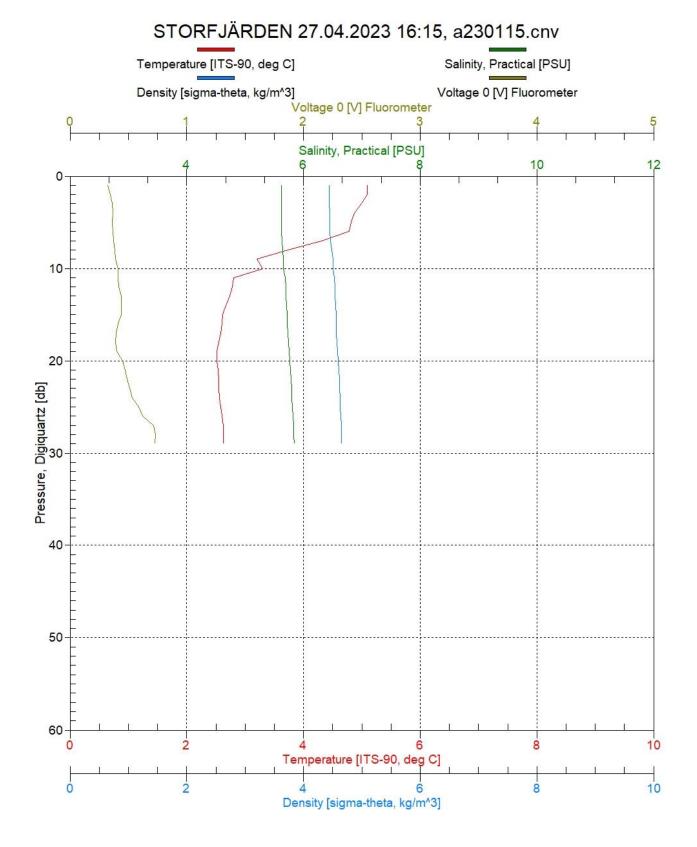


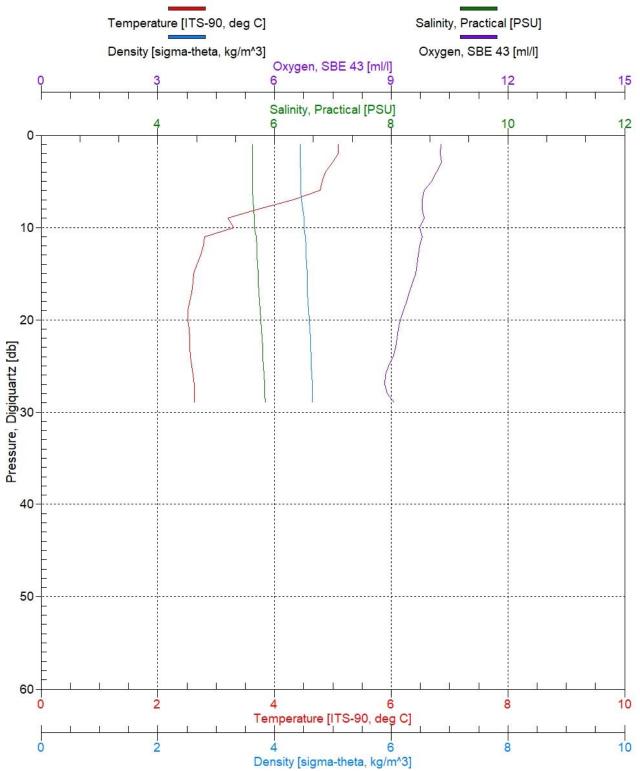


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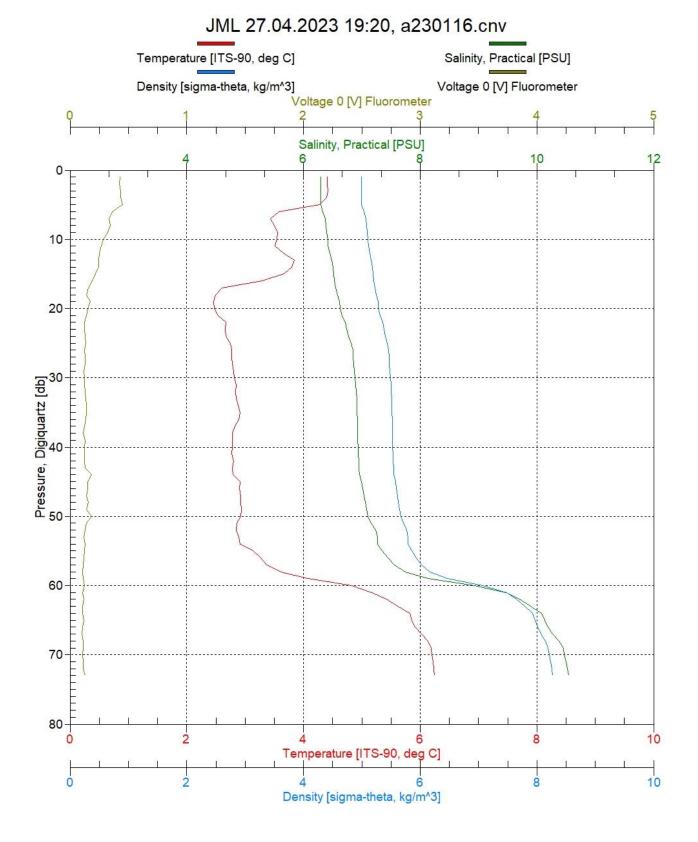


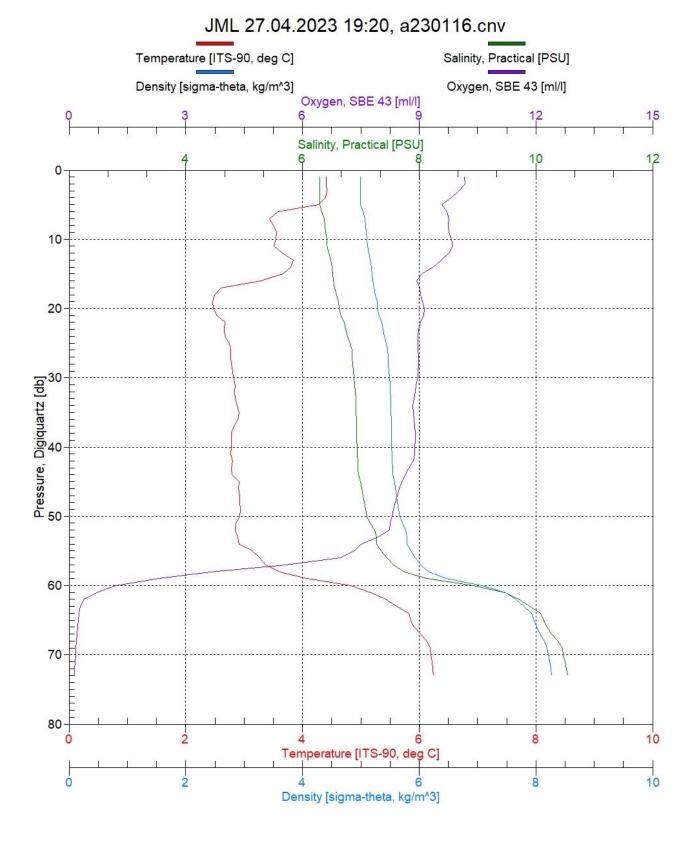


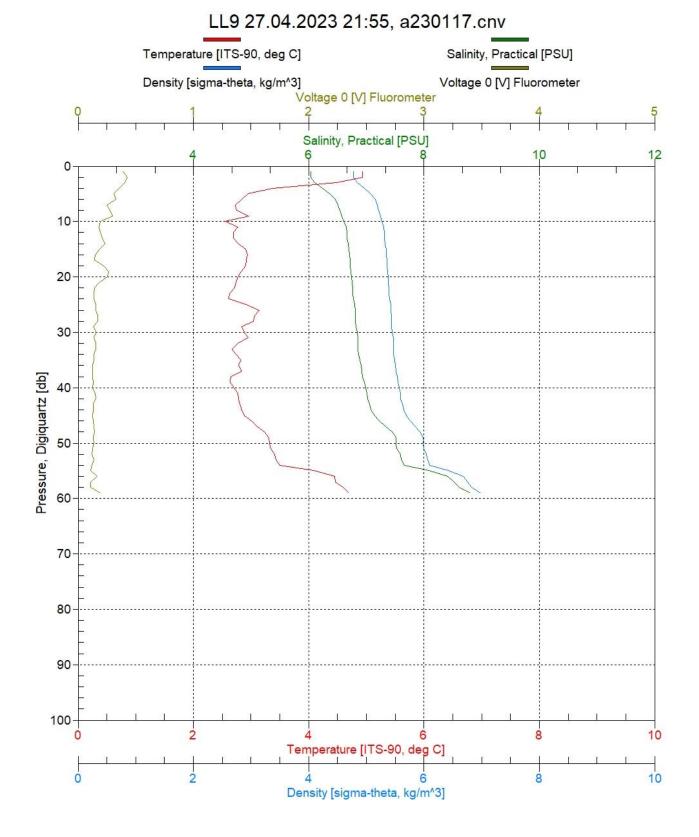


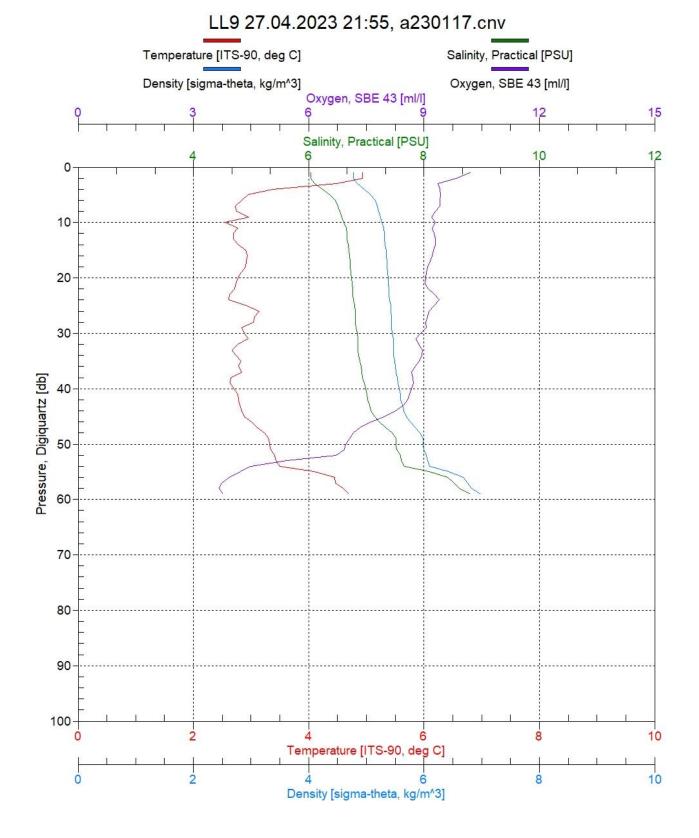


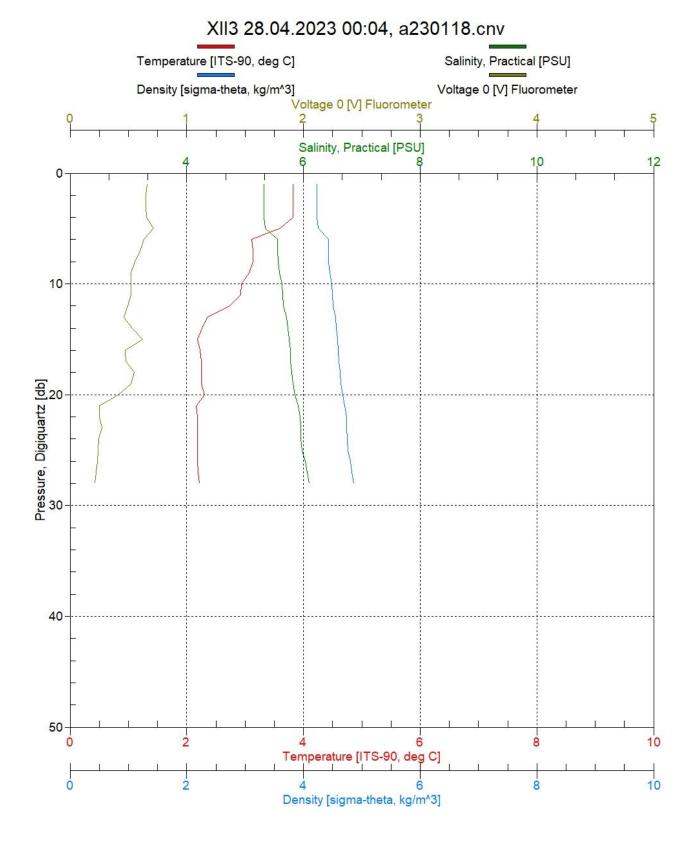
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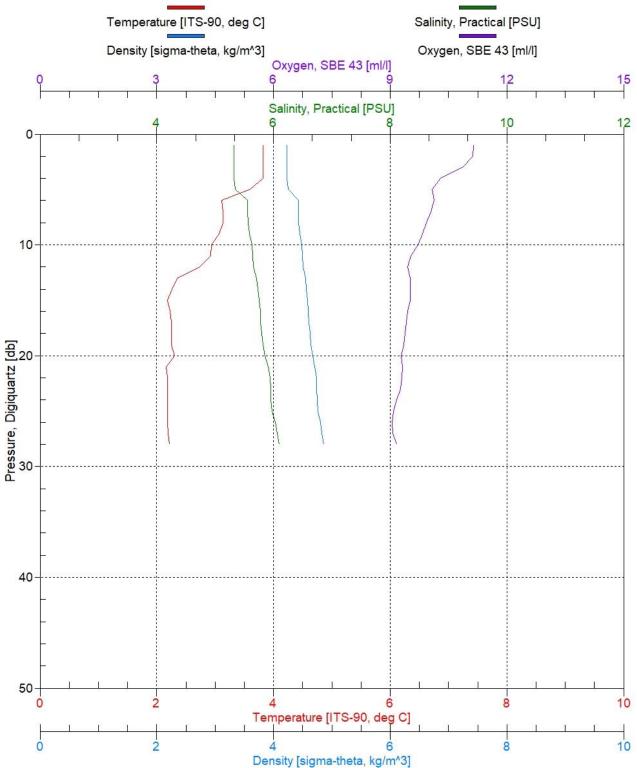




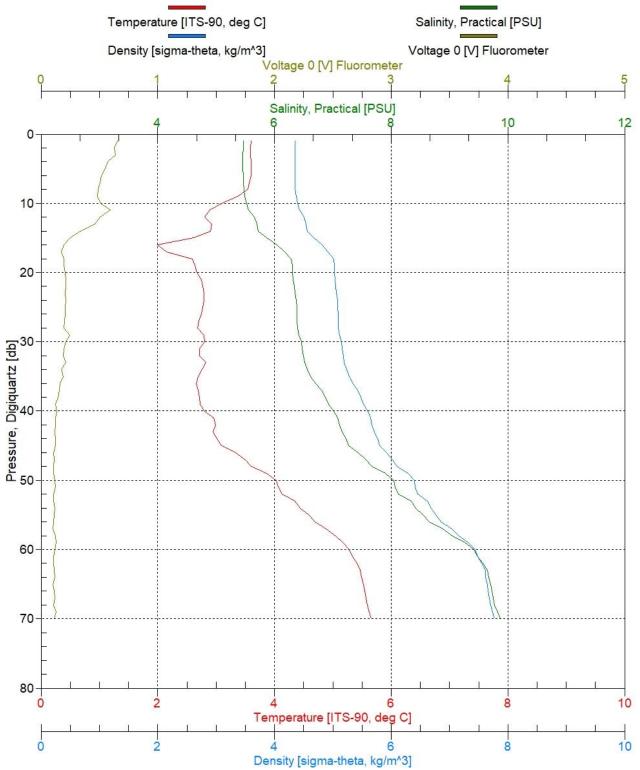




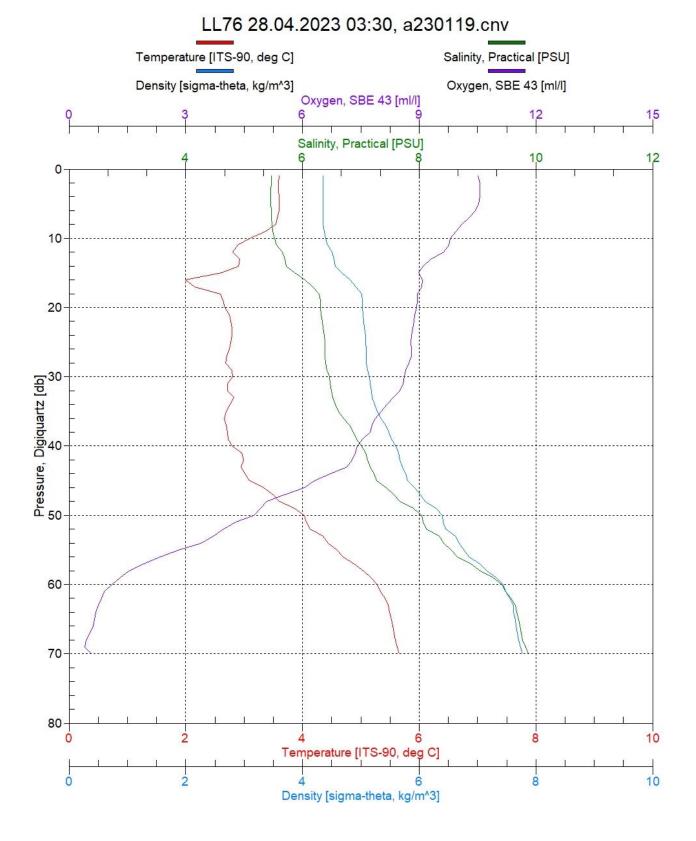




XII3 28.04.2023 00:04, a230118.cnv



LL76 28.04.2023 03:30, a230119.cnv



Annex 4. Cruise photo. Photo by Ilkka Lastumäki

