

## Notes on the function gsw\_sigma3(SA,CT)

Potential density anomaly is defined by Eqn. (3.6.1) of IOC *et al.* (2010), namely

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma^\Theta(S_A, t, p, p_r) &= \rho^\Theta(S_A, t, p, p_r) - 1000 \text{ kg m}^{-3} \\ &= \hat{\rho}(S_A, \Theta, p_r) - 1000 \text{ kg m}^{-3}.\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

This function, **gsw\_sigma3(SA,CT)**, evaluates the potential density anomaly of seawater as a function of Absolute Salinity and Conservative Temperature, and with respect to a reference pressure  $p_r$  of 3000 dbar using the 75-term expression,  $\hat{v}(S_A, \Theta, p)$  of the GSW function **gsw\_specvol(SA,CT,p)**. This 75-term polynomial expression for specific volume is discussed in Roquet *et al.* (2015) and in appendix A.30 and appendix K of the TEOS-10 Manual (IOC *et al.* (2010)).

### References

- IOC, SCOR and IAPSO, 2010: *The international thermodynamic equation of seawater – 2010: Calculation and use of thermodynamic properties*. Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, Manuals and Guides No. 56, UNESCO (English), 196 pp. Available from <http://www.TEOS-10.org>
- Roquet, F., G. Madec, T. J. McDougall and P. M. Barker, 2015: Accurate polynomial expressions for the density and specific volume of seawater using the TEOS-10 standard. *Ocean Modelling*, 90, pp. 29-43. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ocemod.2015.04.002>

Here follows section 3.6 of the TEOS-10 manual (IOC *et al.* (2010)).

### 3.6 Potential density anomaly

Potential density anomaly,  $\sigma^\theta$  or  $\sigma^\Theta$ , is simply potential density minus 1000 kg m<sup>-3</sup>,

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma^\theta(S_A, t, p, p_r) &= \sigma^\Theta(S_A, t, p, p_r) = \rho^\theta(S_A, t, p, p_r) - 1000 \text{ kg m}^{-3} \\ &= \rho^\Theta(S_A, t, p, p_r) - 1000 \text{ kg m}^{-3} \\ &= g_p^{-1}(S_A, \theta[S_A, t, p, p_r], p_r) - 1000 \text{ kg m}^{-3}.\end{aligned}\tag{3.6.1}$$

Note that it is equally correct to label potential density anomaly as  $\sigma^\theta$  or  $\sigma^\Theta$  because both  $\theta$  and  $\Theta$  are constant during the isentropic and isohaline pressure change from  $p$  to  $p_r$ .