



Plate 1: Winter Thermal Barrier (TB_w) in units of equivalent units of ice thickness (i.e., how much ice can be melted by enthalpy content of the thermocline). White areas exceed the standard range of the parameter within the polar gyre (they are "off scale"); 1000 m depth contour is given to indicate approximate location of shelf-slope break; dashed line shows approximate northern limit of polar gyre.