Reply on RC1
Michael J. Whitehouse et al.

Author comment on "A database of marine macronutrient, temperature and salinity measurements made around the highly productive island of South Georgia, the Scotia Sea and the Antarctic Peninsula between 1980 and 2009" by Michael J. Whitehouse et al., Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-2022-244-AC1, 2022

We were most gratified to read the very positive comments on our paper from both Reviewers. Below we set out our explicit responses to all of their comments.

The Reviewer #1 strongly agrees with the publication of our dataset but feels we could extract more descriptive information from the compiled data. The Reviewer identifies the temporal and spatial constraints on creating climatological maps – although the data cover a 30-year period they also comprise multiple, regional datasets that cover >50 degrees of longitude and >20 degrees of latitude and do not lend themselves to climatological mapping. As far as describing subsets of the data (e.g., South Georgia during the summer months), a number of analyses such as these have been published previously in the scientific literature. Our main aim of making these data available to the scientific community is to inspire fresh interpretations and integration with other datasets. So, while we understand this Referee’s request for further data description, we have been guided by the second Reviewer in this matter - please see further details under RC2 comments below.