## **Difference Plots**

The idea of these plots was to show seasonal variation of nitrate and temperature for the OMEX region. Cruise VLD137 was chosen to represent summer conditions and a combination of cruises (M27\_1 and CD84 - both January 1994) were chosen to represent winter conditions.

## Method

The data sets were assembled and plotted so that the area of each plot was identical (-11.2 to -13.8 degrees longitude along the *x* axis and 0 to 4900 m depth along the *y* axis). The interpolation grid used was 10x30. The coarseness of the *x* axis resolution ensured that the large gaps in the data would be filled by interpolation with minimum distortion of the contours. Both plots (summer and winter) were then written as regular grids so that they could be manipulated in Uniras. The two grids were then subtracted (winter-summer) for both temperature and nitrate to give a plot showing the difference between summer 1993 and winter 1994 conditions.



