

SEABIRD IDENTIFICATION

A PHOTOGRAPHIC GUIDE FOR OBSERVERS AT SEA IN SOUTHERN INDIAN OCEAN

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(1) MNHN BOREA Paris, (2) CEBC UMR7372 CNRS





This photographic guide has been developed with the aim of assisting observers at sea in the correct identification of seabirds. It does this through providing several images for each species, at different stages and different angles both in the air and in the water. This project has been achieved thanks to French observers at sea working in Kerguelen and Crozet waters under the TAAF administration scheme.

Relative abundance of birds is estimated using the following scale:

abundance around fishing boats when specie's season is on

present around the boat every day		observed once a week		occasional once a month		very rare once a year		less than 1 observation per year
9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

updated
28/08/15

DIOMEDEIDAE

	plate	CCAMLR code	French	English	abundance around boat Kerguelen and Crozet
DIOMEDEIDAE					
"large" albatros					
<i>Diomedea exulans</i>	1 / 2	DIX	grand albatros	wandering albatross	8
<i>Diomedea epomophora</i> (1)	3	DIP	albatros royal du sud	southern royal albatross	} 8
<i>Diomedea sanfordi</i> (1)		DIS	albatros royal du nord	northern royal albatross	
(1) distinction is difficult: the two species will be pooled together in this guide					
"medium" albatros					
<i>Thalassarche melanophris</i>	4	DIM	albatros à sourcils noirs	black-browed albatross	9
<i>Thalassarche chrysostoma</i>	5	DIC	albatros à tête grise	grey-headed albatross	7
<i>Thalassarche bulleri</i>	19	DIB	albatros de Buller	Buller's albatross	1
<i>Thalassarche impavida</i>	19	TQW	albatros de Campbell	Campbell albatross	1
<i>Thalassarche eremita</i>	19	DER	albatros des Chatham	Chatham albatross	1
<i>Thalassarche cauta</i> (2)	6	DCU	albatros timide	shy albatross	} 5
<i>Thalassarche steadi</i> (2)		TWD*	albatros à cape blanche	white-capped albatross	
(2) distinction is difficult: the two species will be pooled together in this guide *FAO code					
<i>Thalassarche salvini</i>	7	DSL	albatros de salvin	Salvin's albatross	5
<i>Thalassarche chlororhynchos</i> (3)	8	DCR	albatros à bec jaune Atlantique	atlantic yellow-nosed albatross	2
<i>Thalassarche carteri</i> (3)		THQ*	albatros à bec jaune Indien	indian yellow-nosed albatross	6
(3) distinction is difficult: the two species will be pooled together in this guide * FAO code					
<i>Phoebetria fusca</i>	9	PHU	Albatros fuligineux à dos sombre	sooty albatross	3
<i>Phoebetria palpebrata</i>	9	PHE	Albatros fuligineux à dos clair	light-mantled albatross	6

	plate	CCAMLR code	French	English	abundance around boat Kerguelen and Crozet
PROCELLARIIDAE					
<i>Macronectes halli</i>	10	MAH	Pétrel géant sub-antarctique	northern giant petrel	9
<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	11	MAI	Pétrel géant Antarctique	southern giant petrel	7
<i>Daption capense</i>	12	DAC	damier du Cap	cape petrel	8
<i>Fulmarus glacialisoides</i>	12	FUG	Fulmar Antarctique	southern fulmar	3
<i>Pachyptila sp</i>	13	PWX	prions	prions	6
<i>Halobaena caerulea</i>	13	HBE	pétrel bleu	blue petrel	4
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	14	PRO	pétrel à menton blanc	white-chinned petrel	9
<i>Procellaria cinerea</i>	15	PCI	pétrel gris	grey petrel	8
HYDROBATIDAE					
<i>Fregetta tropica</i>	16	FGQ	pétrel tempête à ventre noir	black-bellied storm petrel	8
<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>	17	OCO	pétrel tempête de Wilson	Wilson's storm petrel	8
STERCORARIIDAE					
<i>Catharacta antarctica</i>	18	CSK	skua subantarctique	brown skua	5

Diomedea exulans

grand albatros (fr), wandering albatross (en)

plumage varies with age (sorted from juv to ad.)



Diomedea exulans

grand albatros (fr), wandering albatross (en)

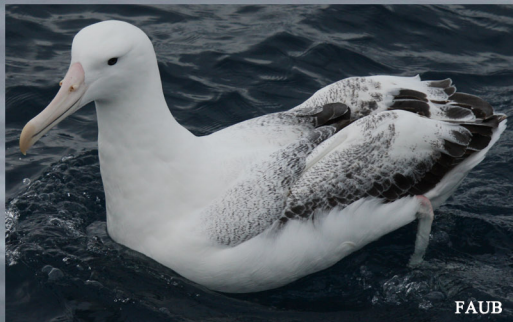
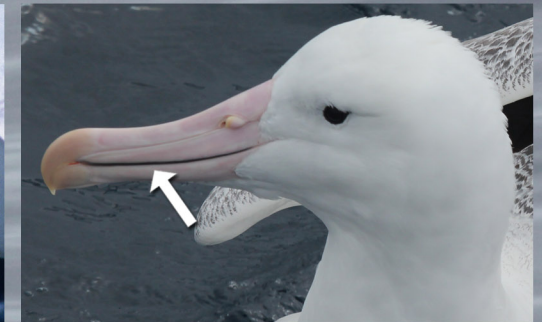
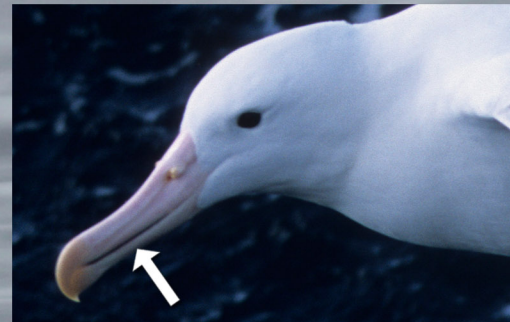
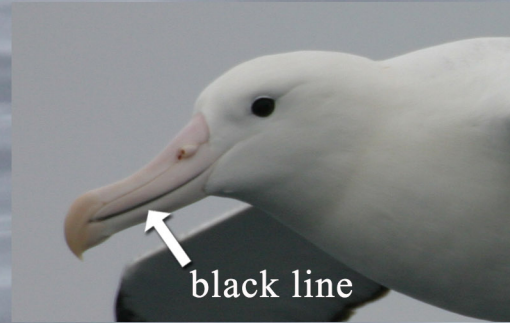
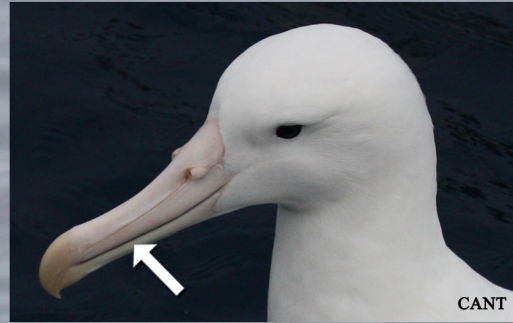
plumage varies with age



Diomedea epomophora / sandfordi

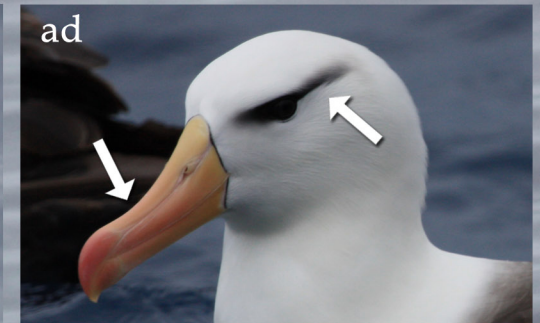
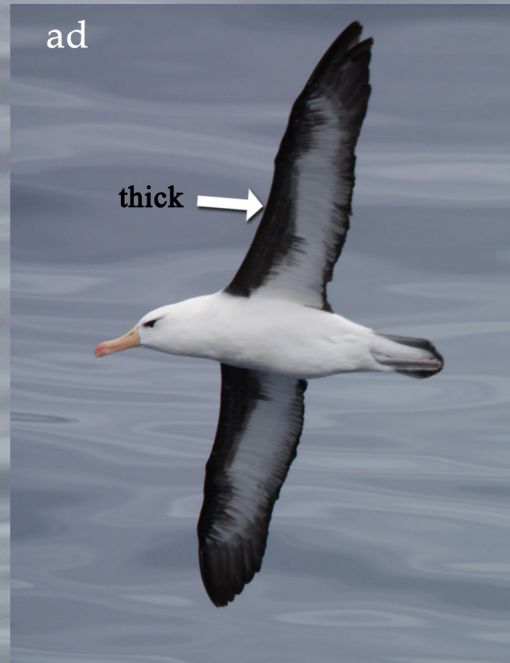
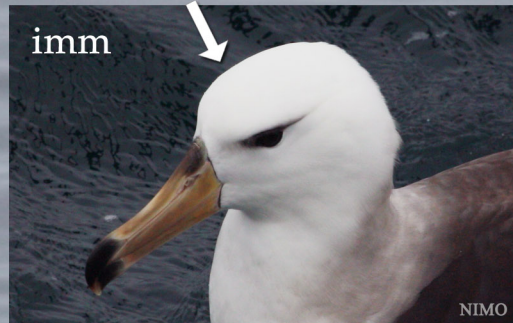
albatros royal (fr), royal albatross (en)

in flight they can be hard to distinguish from exulans if you can't see the black line



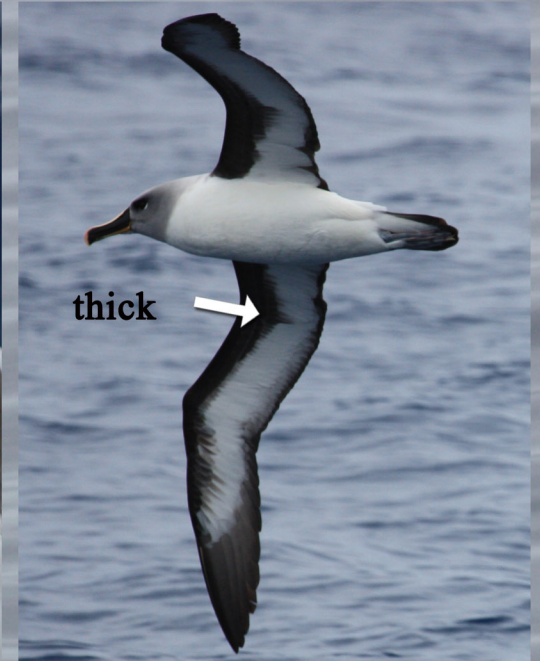
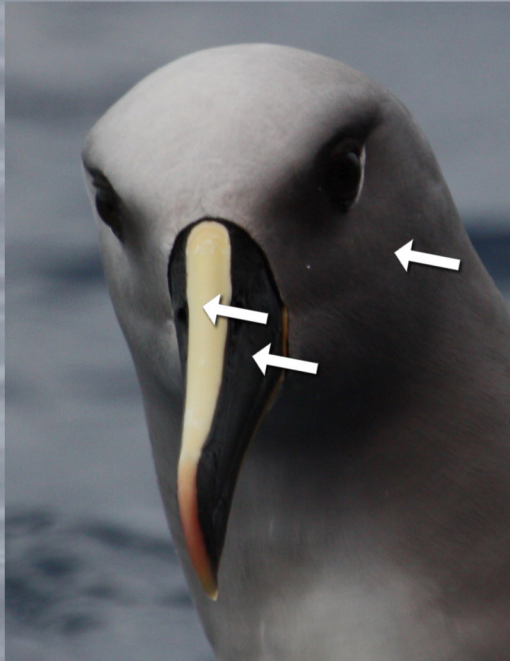
Thalassarche melanophris

albatros à sourcils noirs (fr), black-browed albatross (en)



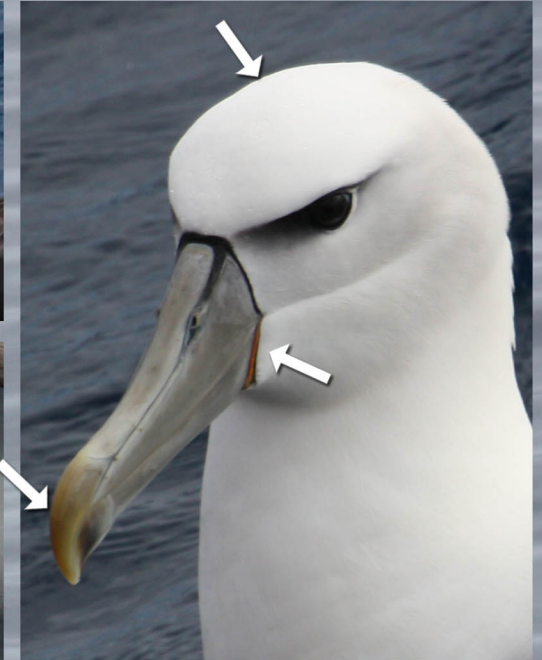
Thalassarche chrysostoma

albatros à tête grise (fr), grey-headed albatross (en)



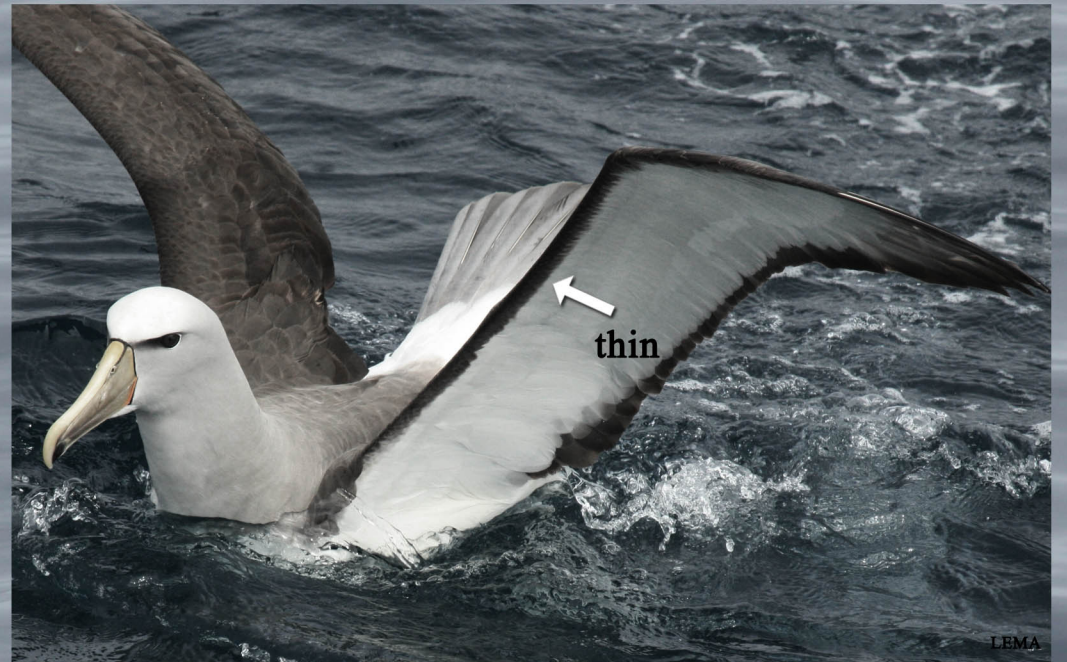
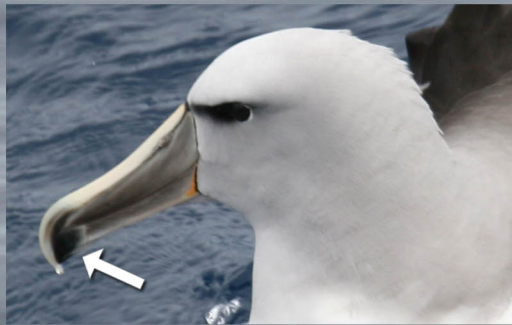
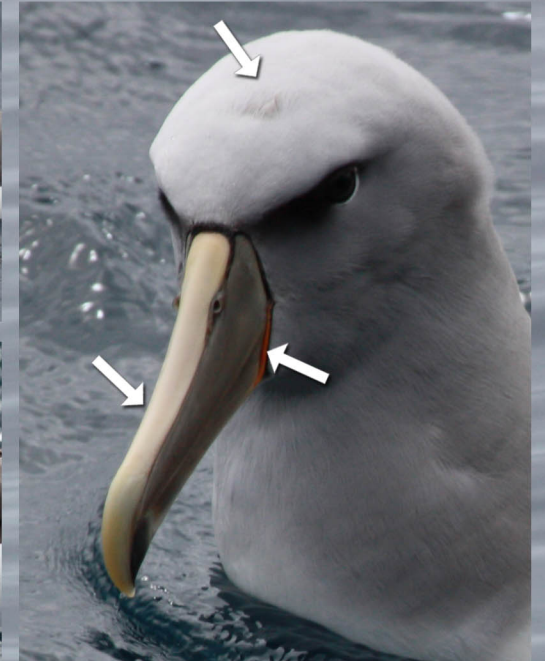
Thalassarche cauta / steady

albatros timide / à cape blanche (fr), shy / white-capped albatross (en)



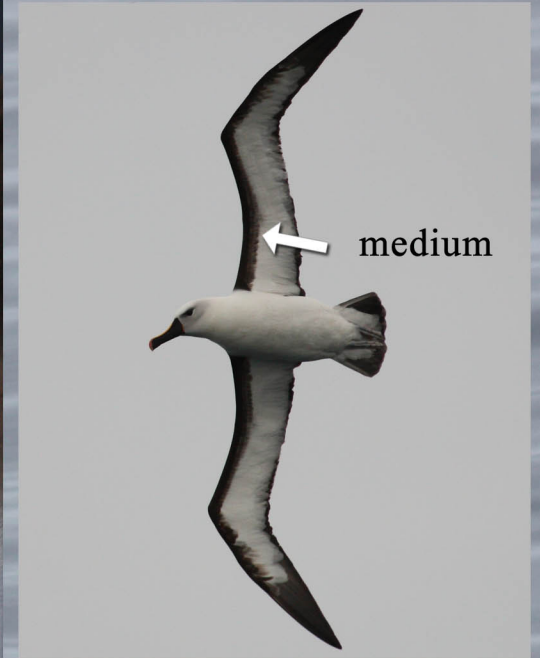
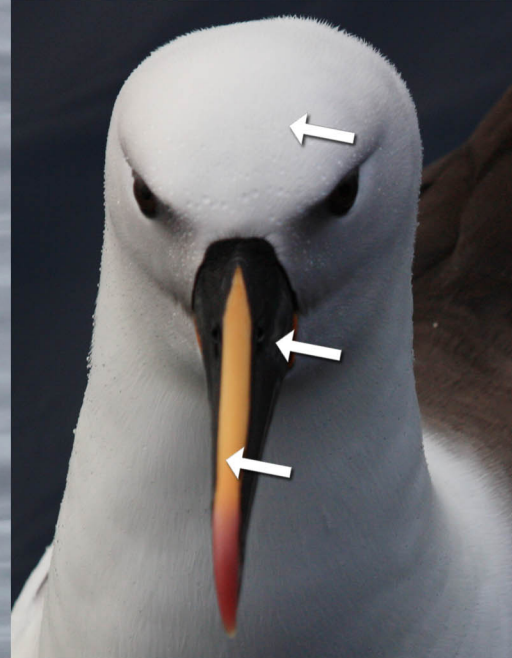
Thalassarche salvini

albatros de salvin (fr), Salvin's albatros (en)



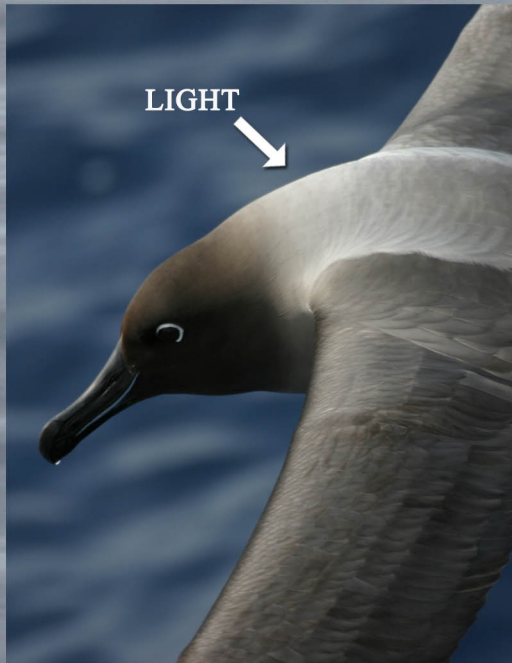
Thalassarche carteri / *chlororhynchos*

albatros à bec jaune (fr), yellow-nosed albatross (en)



Phoebetria palpebrata

albatros fuligineux à dos clair (fr), light-mantled albatross (en)

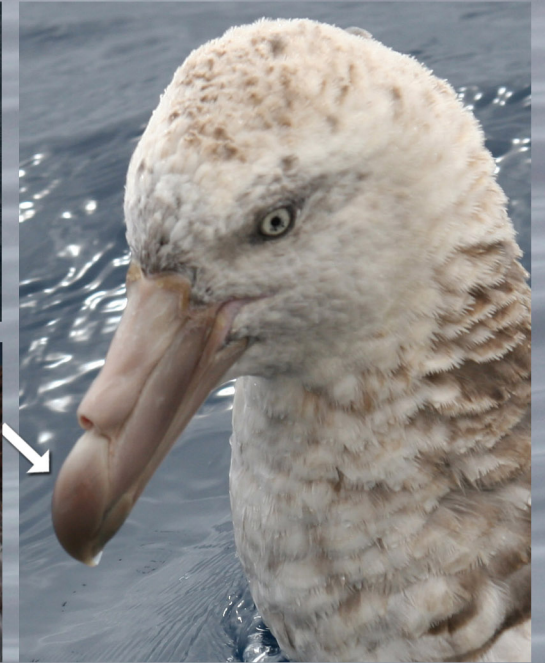
*Phoebetria fusca*

albatros fuligineux à dos sombre (fr), sooty albatross (en)



Macronectes halli

Pétrel géant sub-antarctique (fr), northern giant petrel (en)

tip of the beak brown-red contrasting with the rest of the beak
plummage color is not a reliable criterium

Macronectes giganteus

pétrel géant Antarctique (fr), southern giant petrel (en)

tip of the beak pale greenish, white phase is always *M giganteus* otherwise plumage color is not a reliable criteria

Daption capense

damier du cap (fr) cape petrel (en)



Fulmarus glacialis

fulmar antarctique (fr) southern fulmar (en)

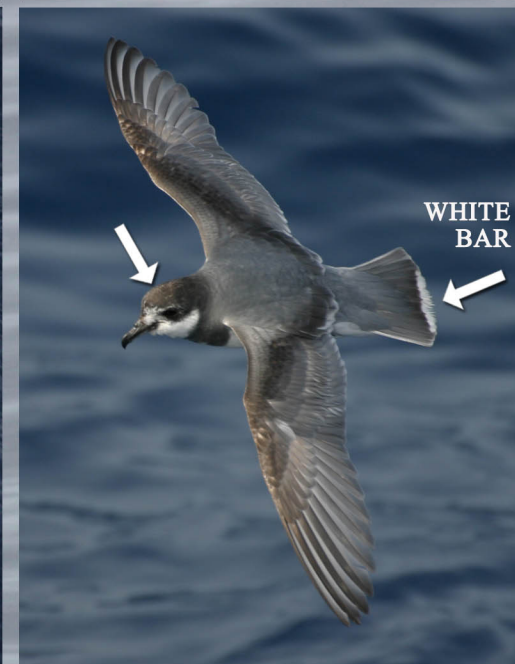


Pachyptila sp

prions (fr) prions (en)



PLATE 13
Halobaena caerulea
pétrel bleu (fr) blue petrel (en)



Procellaria aequinoctialis

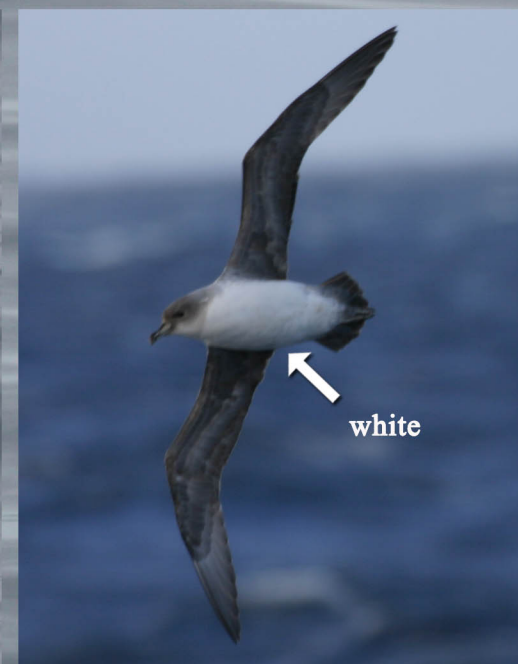
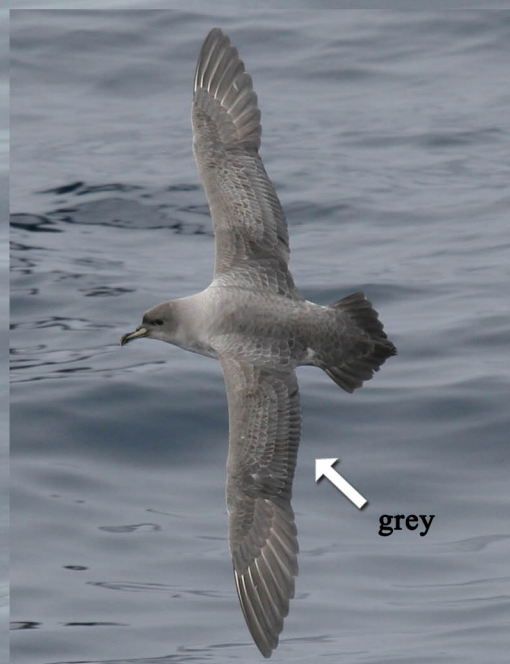
pétrel à menton blanc (fr) white-chinned petrel (en)

dark brown with contrasting clear beak, chin not necessarily white



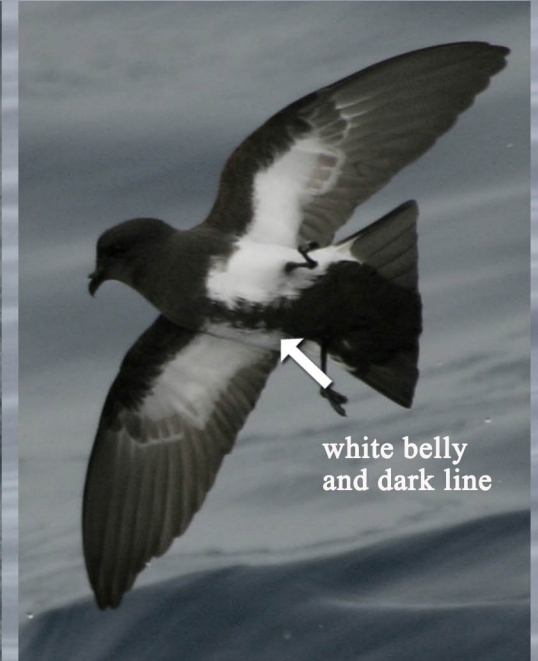
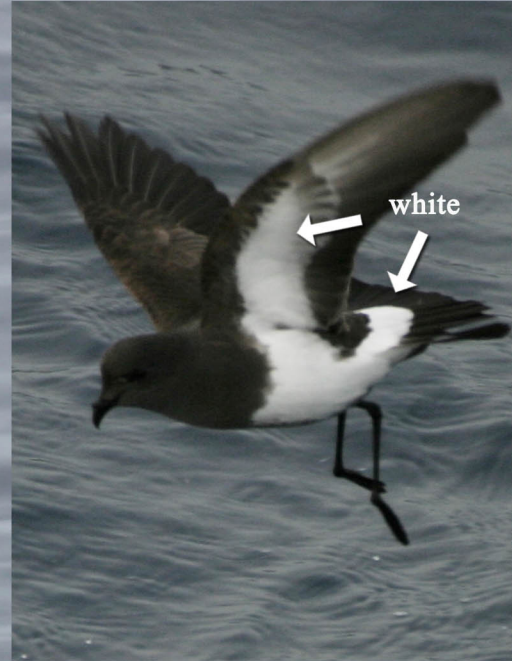
Procellaria cinerea

pétrel gris (fr), grey petrel (en)



Fregetta tropica

pétrel tempête à ventre noir (fr) black-bellied storm petrel



Oceanites oceanicus

pétrel tempête de Wilson (fr), Wilson's storm petrel (en)



Catharacta antarctica

skua subantarctique (fr), brown skua (en)

unmistakable bird, keen on landing on boats to rest



FAUB



FAUB



BERT



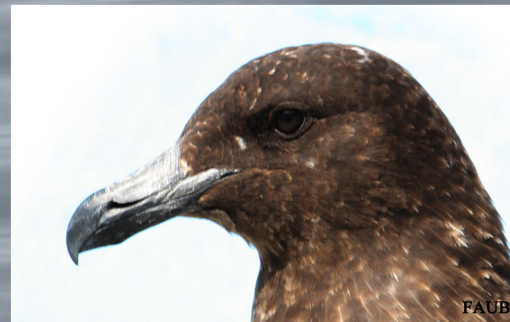
GASP



FAUB



BODI



FAUB



FAUB



FAUB



FAUB



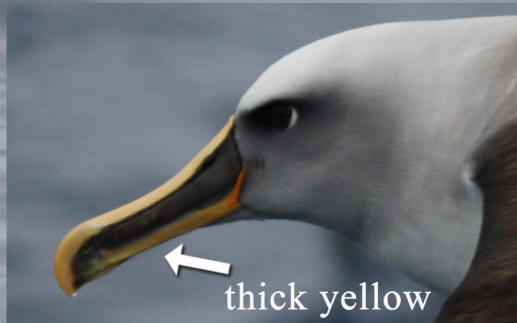
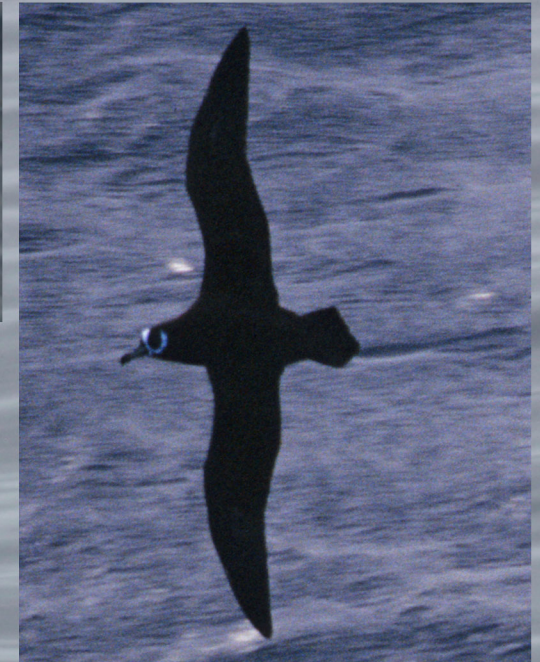
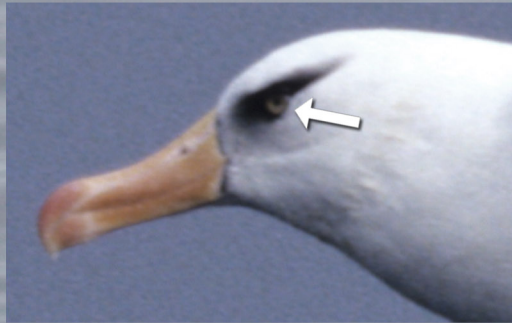
GASP

Thalassarche bulleri

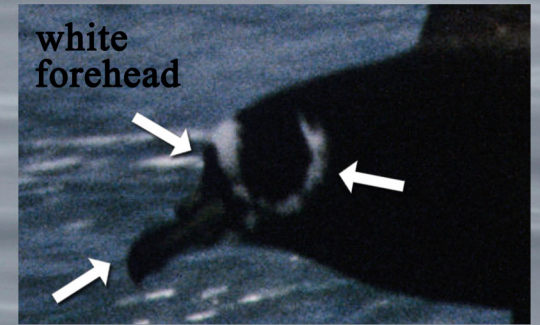
Thalassarche impavida

Pagodroma nivea

Procellaria conspicillata



Thalassarche eremita



black tip

albatross comparison

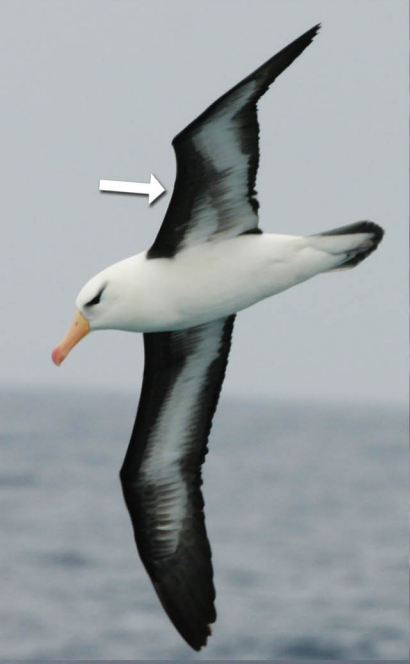
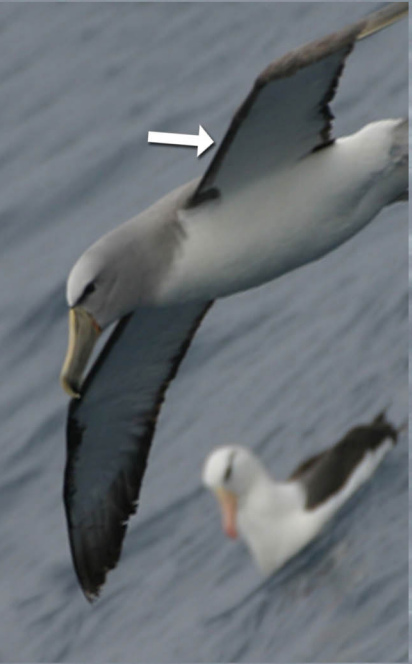
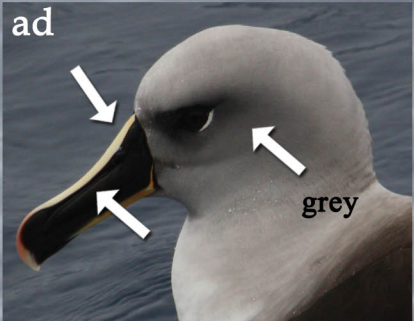
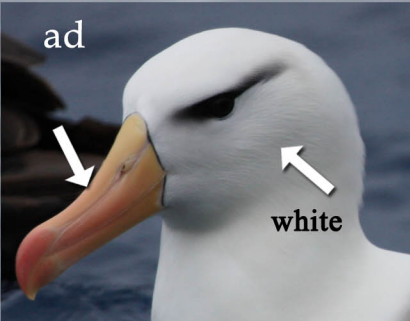
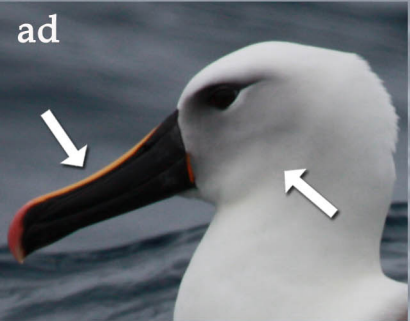
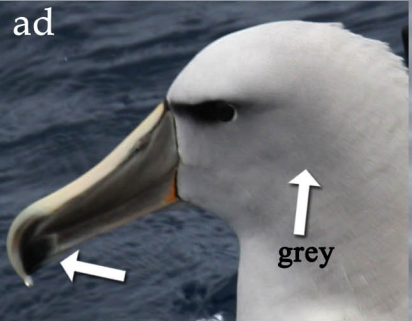
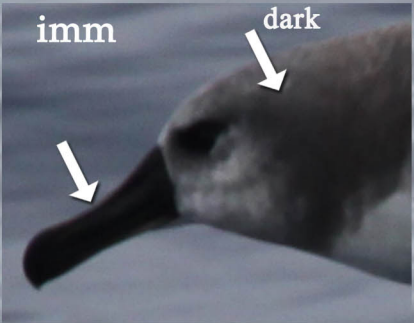
Thalassarche
melanophris

Thalassarche
chrysostoma

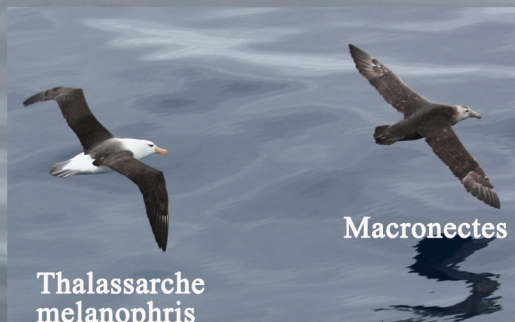
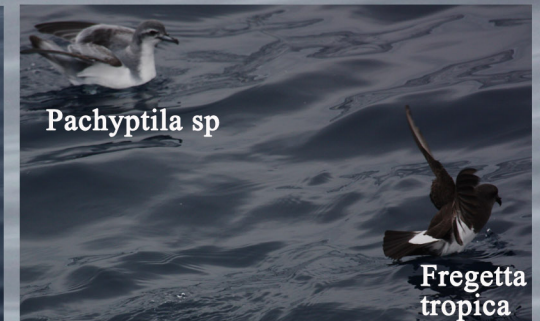
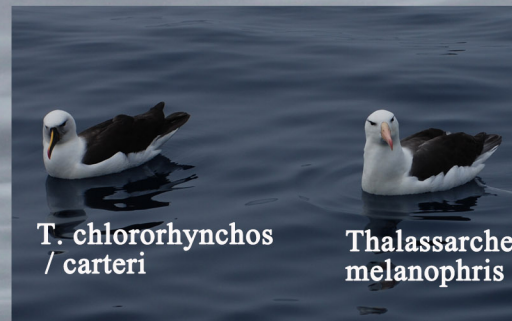
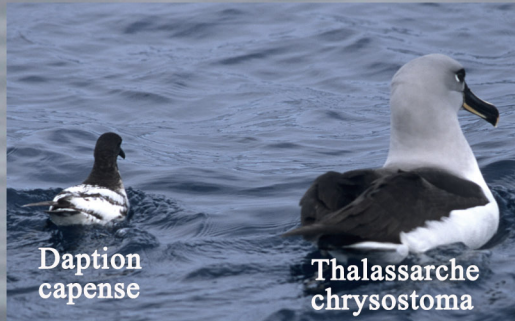
Thalassarche
cauta / steadi

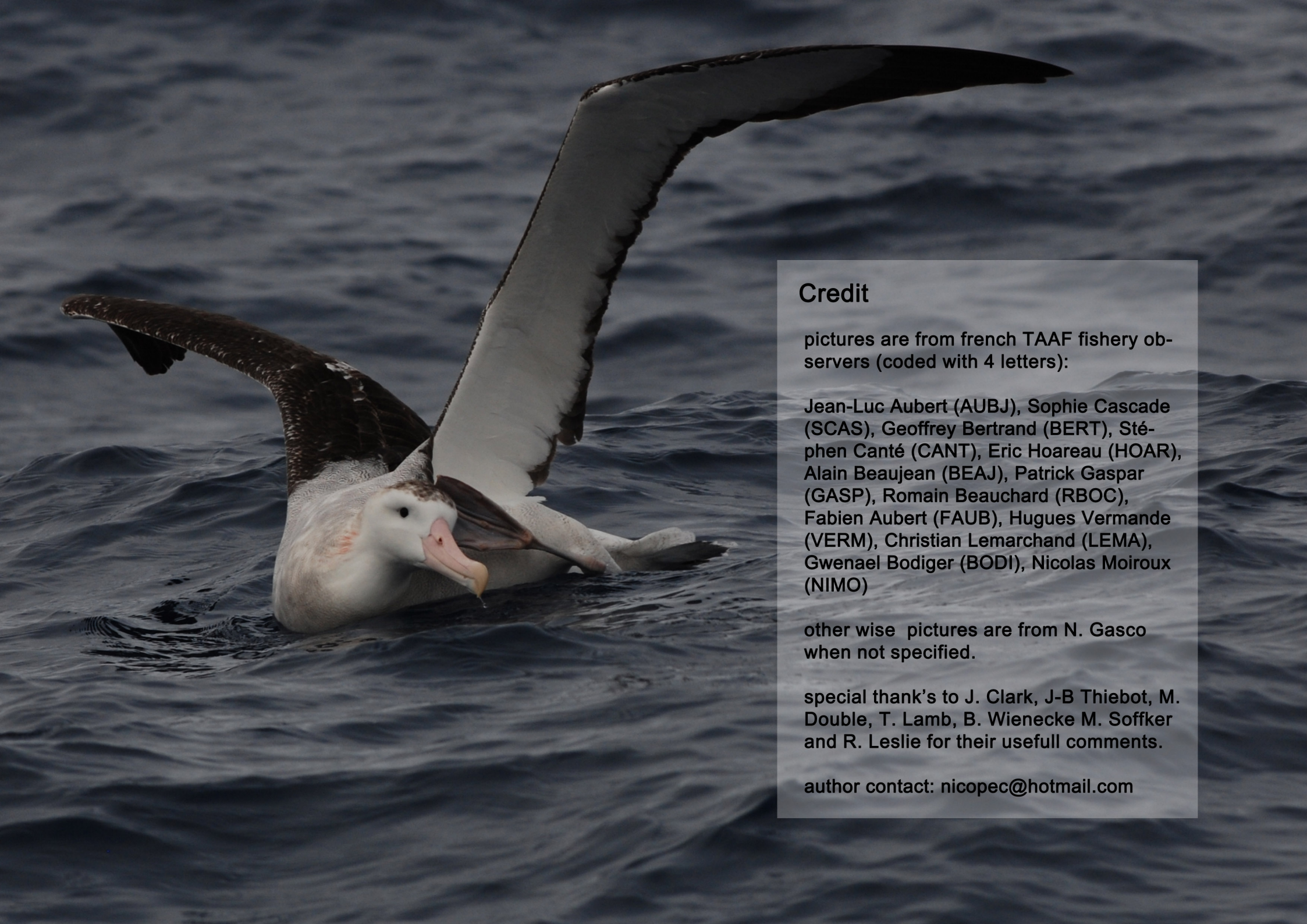
Thalassarche
salvini

Thalassarche
carteri / chlororhynchos



Differences in size





Credit

pictures are from french TAAF fishery observers (coded with 4 letters):

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other wise pictures are from N. Gasco when not specified.

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