**Table 3**. The piece-wise construction of the best Generalized Additive Model with each new variable improving the Deviance Information Criterion (DIC) value. Variables acronyms are: Type=Type of set; Ch=Chlorophyll; SSH=Sea Surface Height; Ni=Nitrate; O2=Oxygen; Φ=Spatial effect.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Variables** | **DIC** |
| Type | 4736.22 |
| Type + Month | 4774.15 |
| Type + Month + Chl | 4772.38 |
| Type + Month + Chl + Ni | 4738.43 |
| Type + Month + Chl + Ni + O2 | 4727.04 |
| Type + Month + Chl + Ni + O2 + SSH | 4645.29 |
| Type + Month + Chl + Ni + O2 + SSH + Φ | 4151.06 |