

GROSSWETTERLAGEN

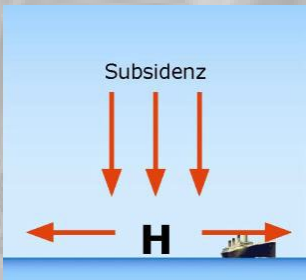
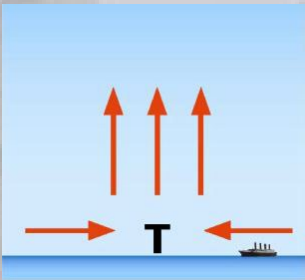
‘Grosswetterlage’ has been adopted in the English language as a German terminus technicus *
It can be defined as ‘typical weather situation, lasting for a few days at least’

Classification by space-time-scale  with consequences for the  airmass characteristics

Wind direction
respectively
each

N-	E-	S-	W-
NE-	SE-	SW-	NW-
cyclonic		anti-cyclonic	

General Weather Situation
is a site-specific designation, i.e.



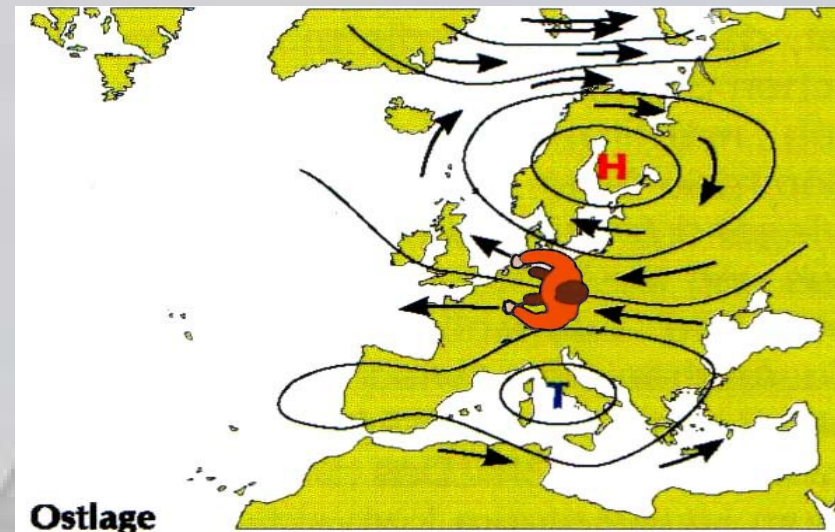
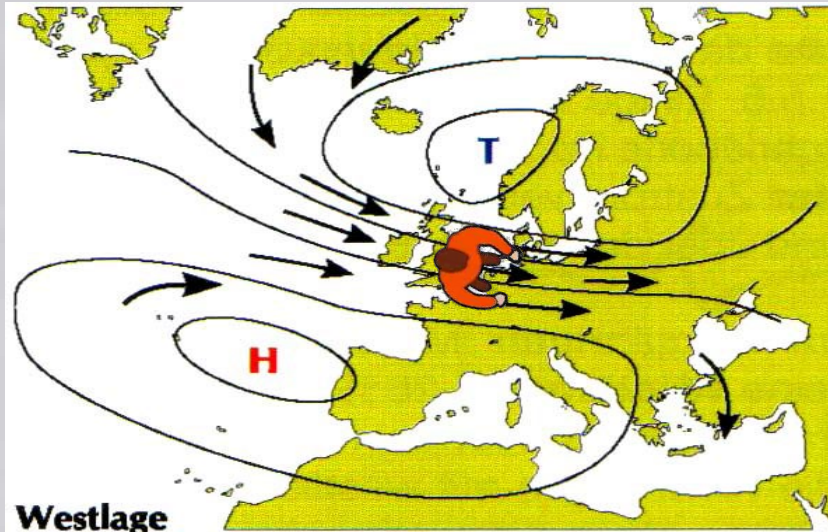
SWz for Berlin can be @same time
NWz for Hamburg and
NEz for Copenhagen

Surface convergence
clouds forming
PROB-RR ~> 50%

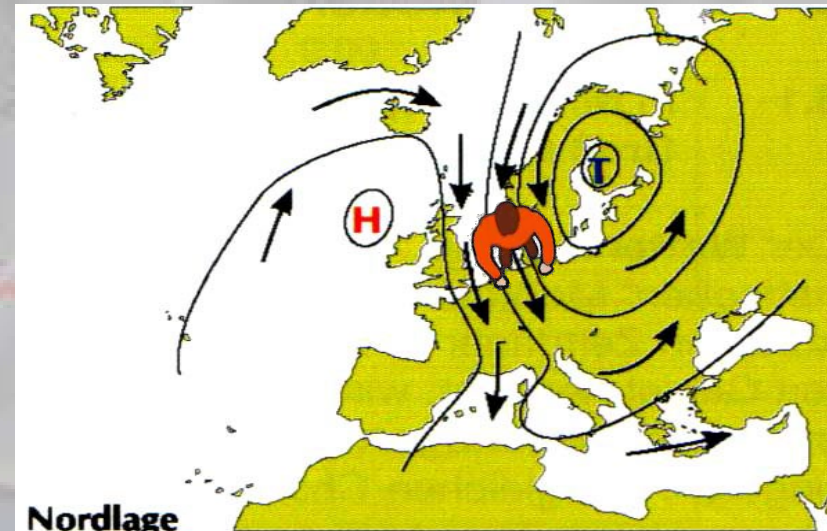
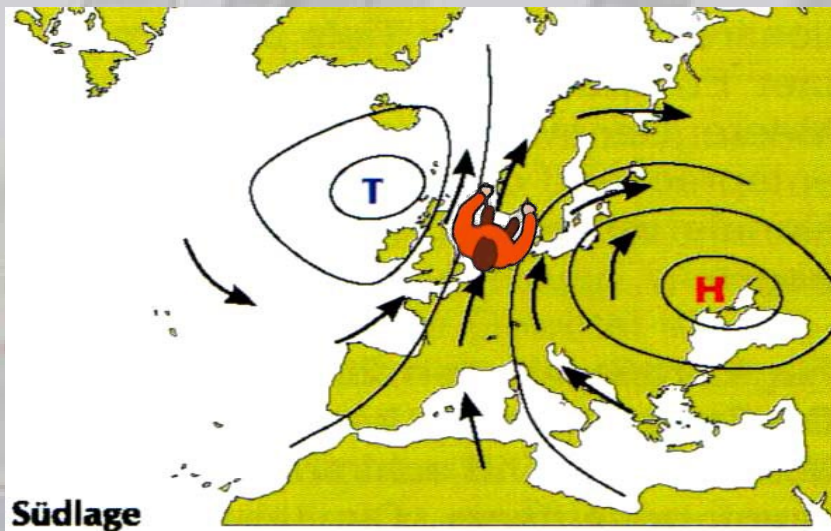
Surface divergence
clouds dissolving
PROB-RR ~< 50%

and	TME	Low	Central Europe	TBI	Low	British Isles
	HME	High	Central Europe	HNF	High	Northsea Scandinavia

GROSSWETTERLAGEN (BUYS BALLOT'S LAW)



Wind from behind – Low to the left, High to the right



AIRMASS CHARACTERISTICS



Polar Maritime Air Mass

From: Greenland / Arctic Sea
Wet, cold air brings cold showery weather.

Returning Polar Maritime

From: Greenland / Arctic via North Atlantic
Moist, mild and unstable air bringing cloud and rain showers.

Tropical Maritime Air Mass

From: Atlantic
Warm, moist air brings cloud, rain and mild weather.

Arctic Maritime Air Mass

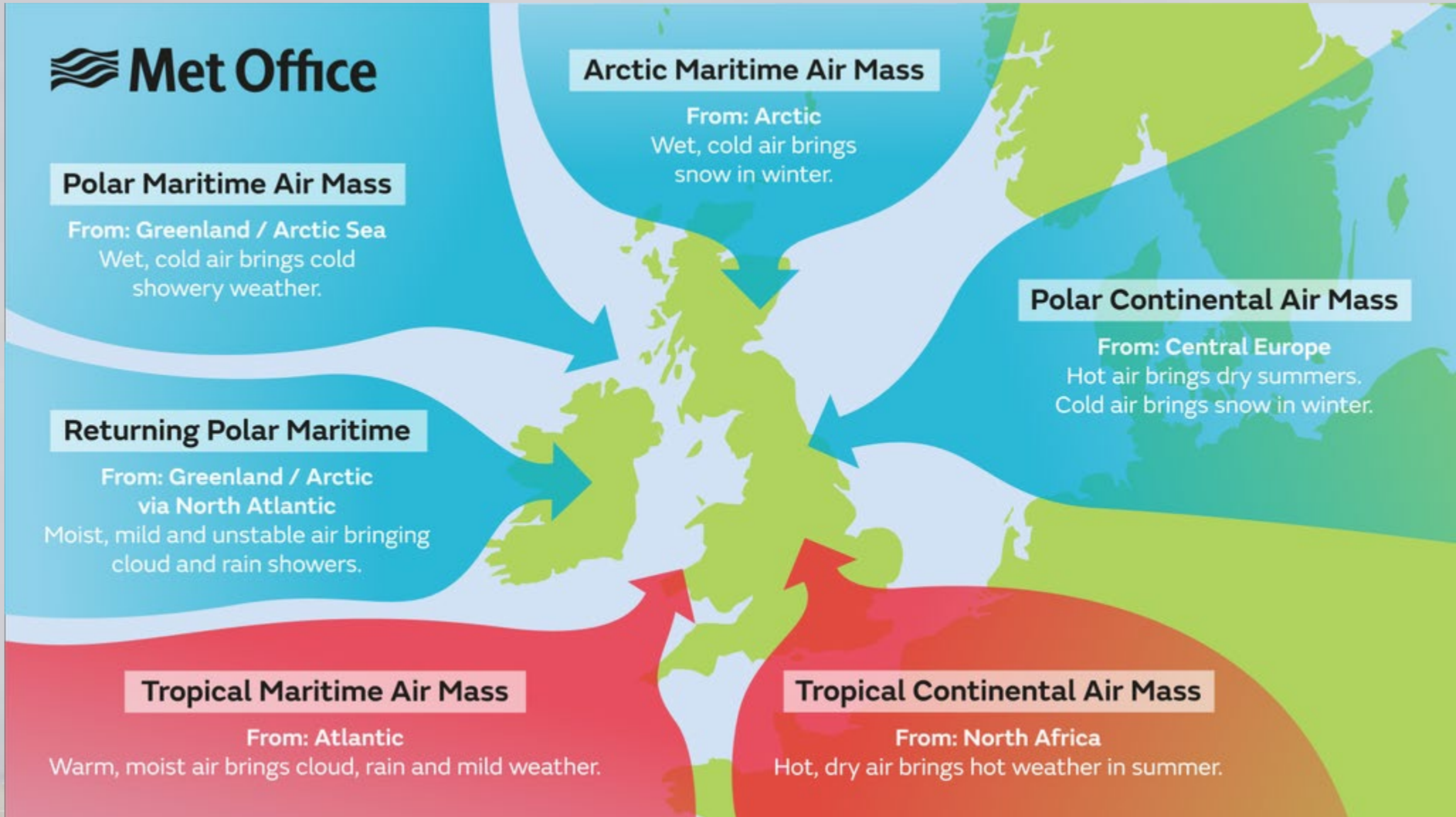
From: Arctic
Wet, cold air brings snow in winter.

Polar Continental Air Mass

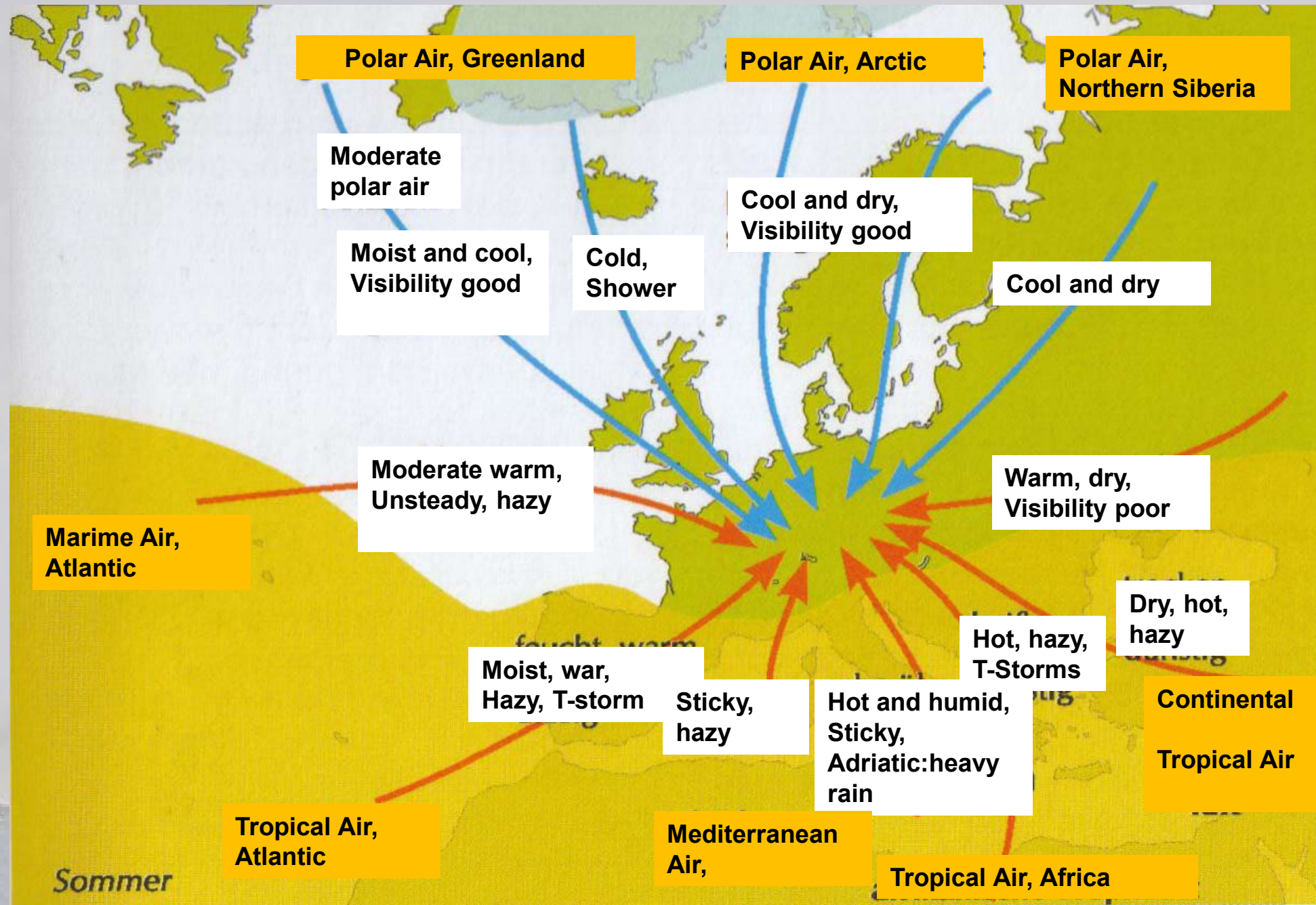
From: Central Europe
Hot air brings dry summers.
Cold air brings snow in winter.

Tropical Continental Air Mass

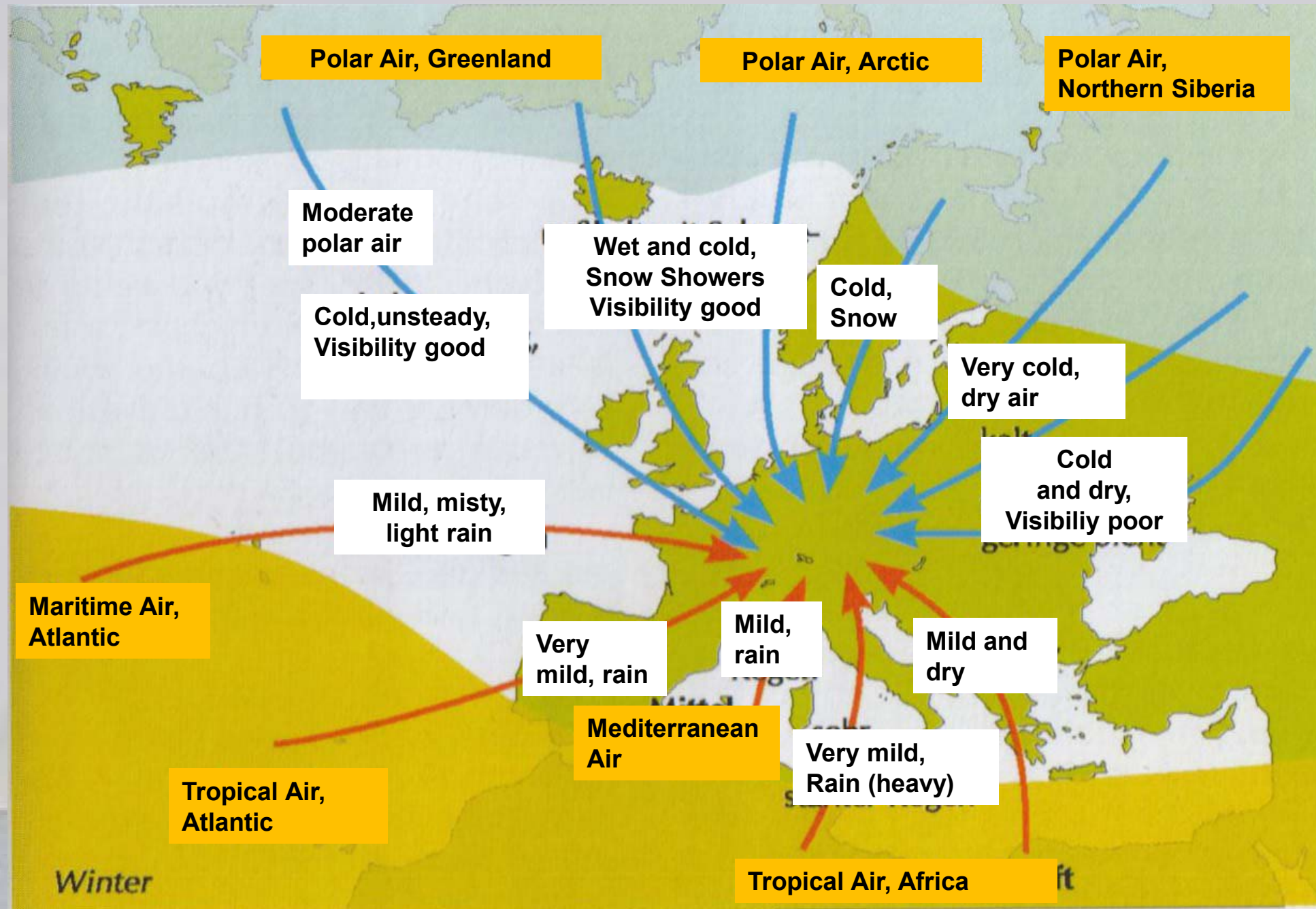
From: North Africa
Hot, dry air brings hot weather in summer.

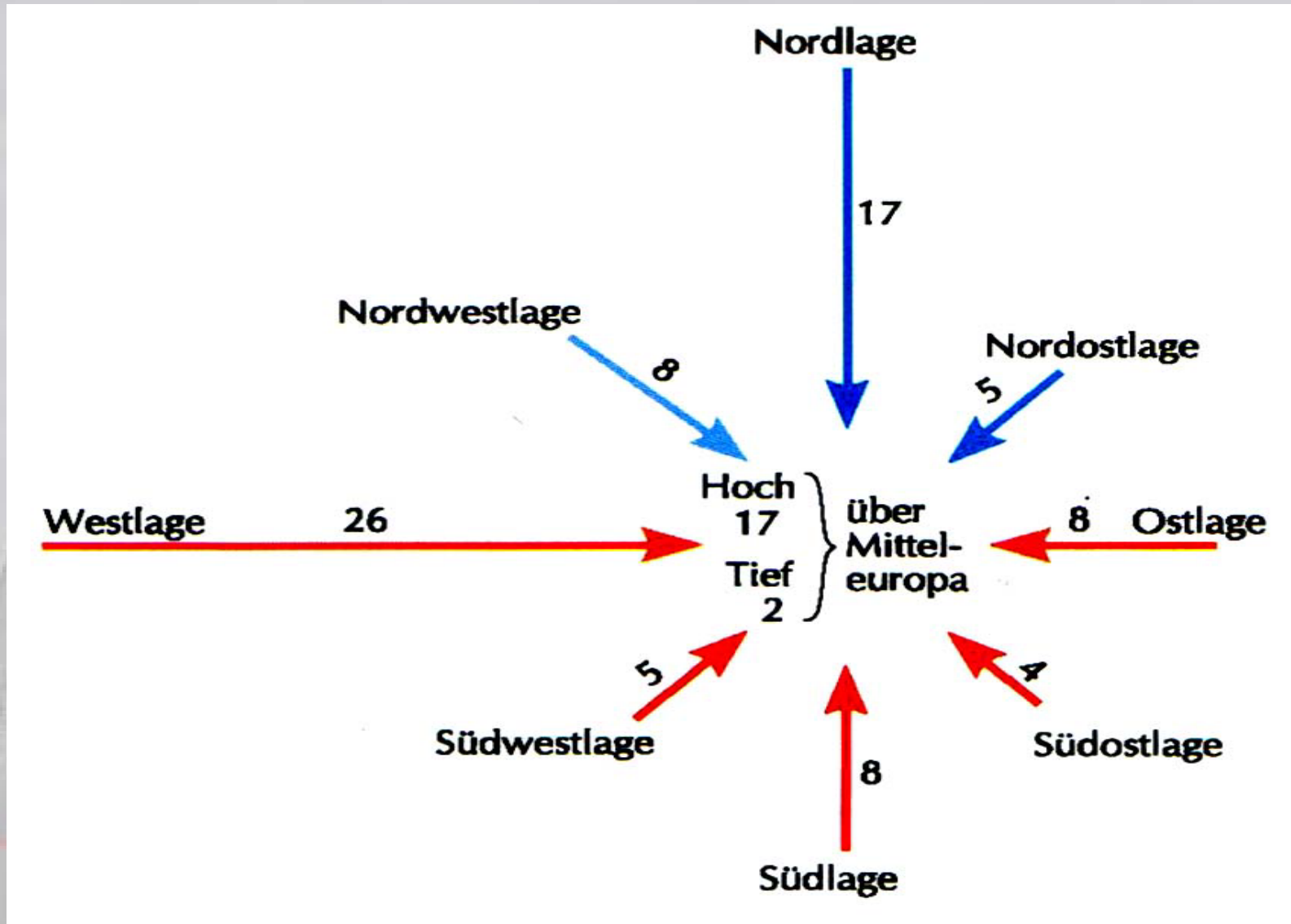


AIRMASS CHARACTERISTICS SUMMER

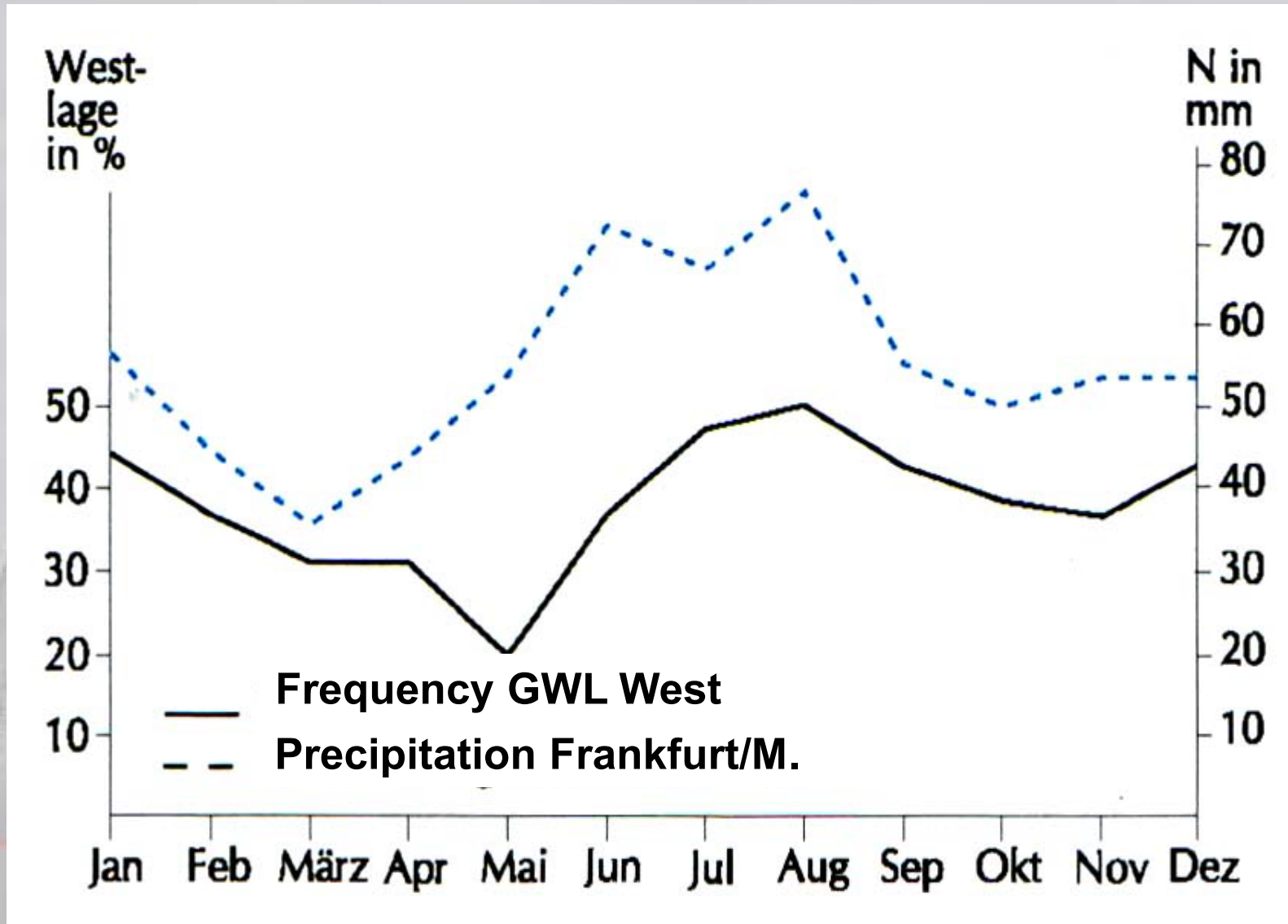


AIRMASS CHARACTERISTICS WINTER





Frequency distribution / % Grosswetterlagen Europe



Annual variation of GWL West and Precipitation in Frankfurt

OTHER TYPICAL WEATHER SITUATIONS

Omega Situation

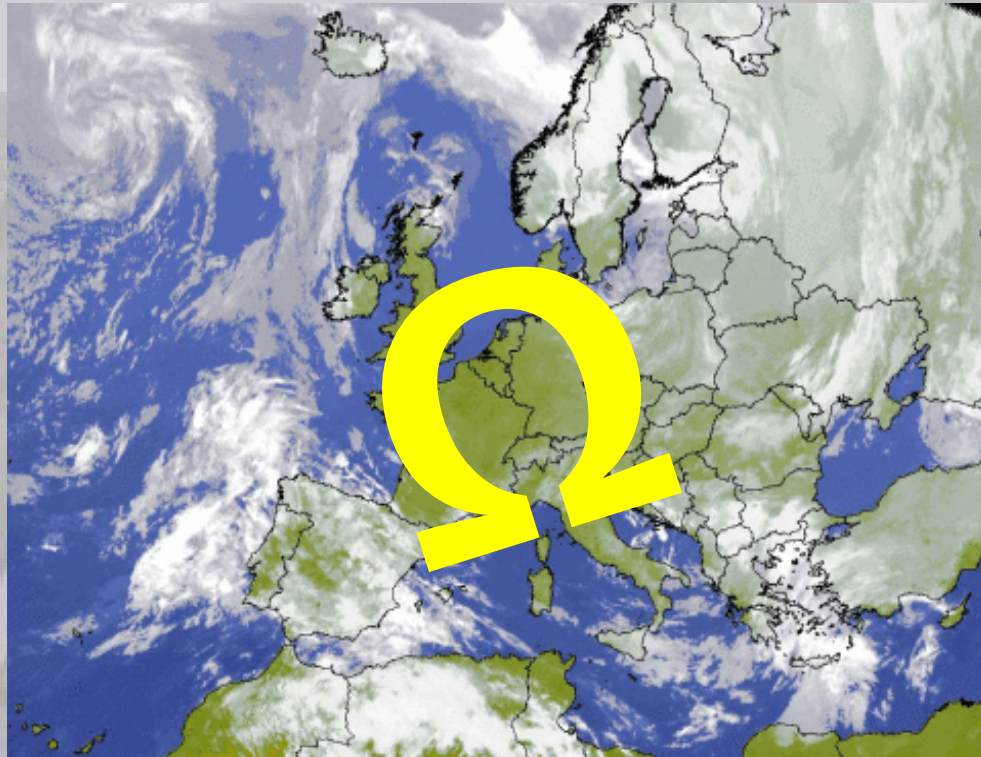
- **Blocking Anticyclone, warm core, stable (high geopotential in the upper air)**
- **Stabilisation due to warm air advection from the west into the ridge**
- **High pressure weather with risk of draught (summer) or extreme cold (winter)**
- **In the vicinity of lows risk of heavy precipitation or snowfall**
- **Typical duration a week or longer**



OTHER TYPICAL WEATHER SITUATIONS

Omega Situation

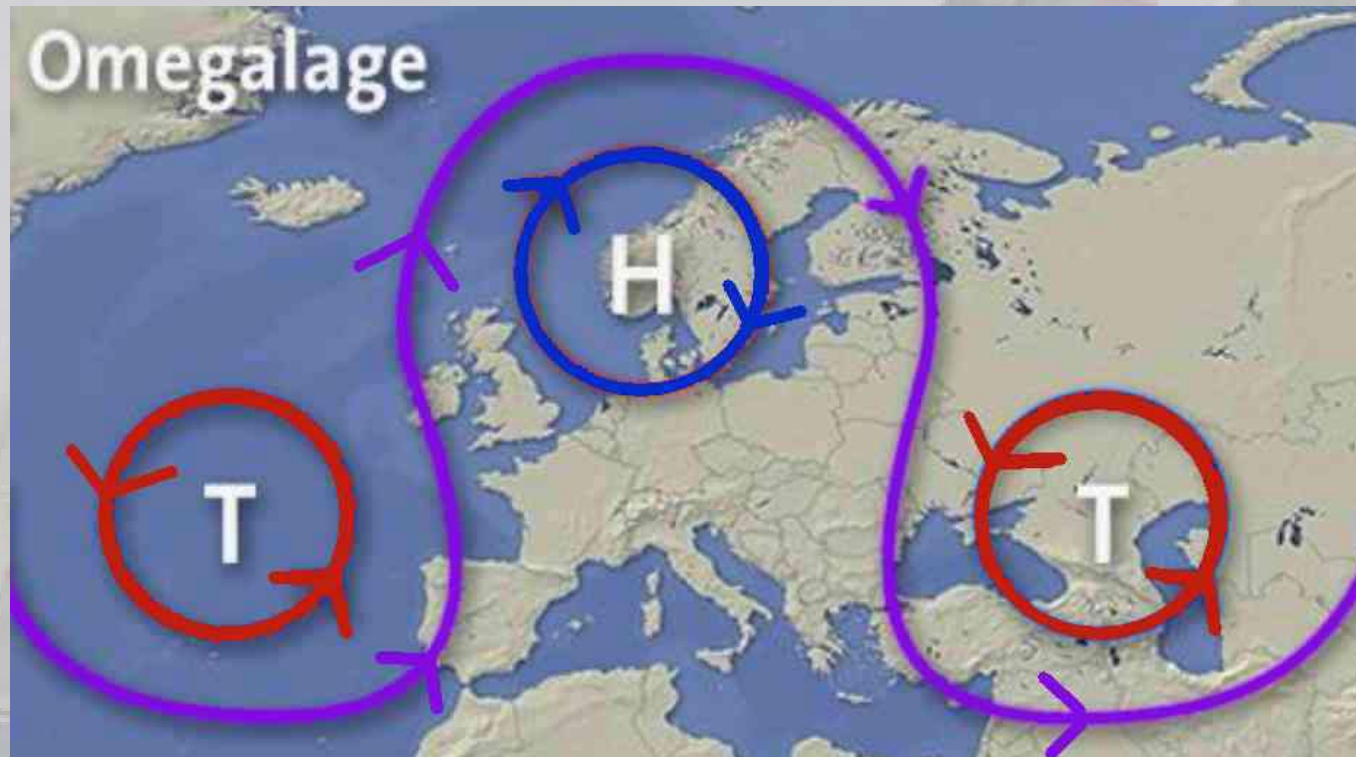
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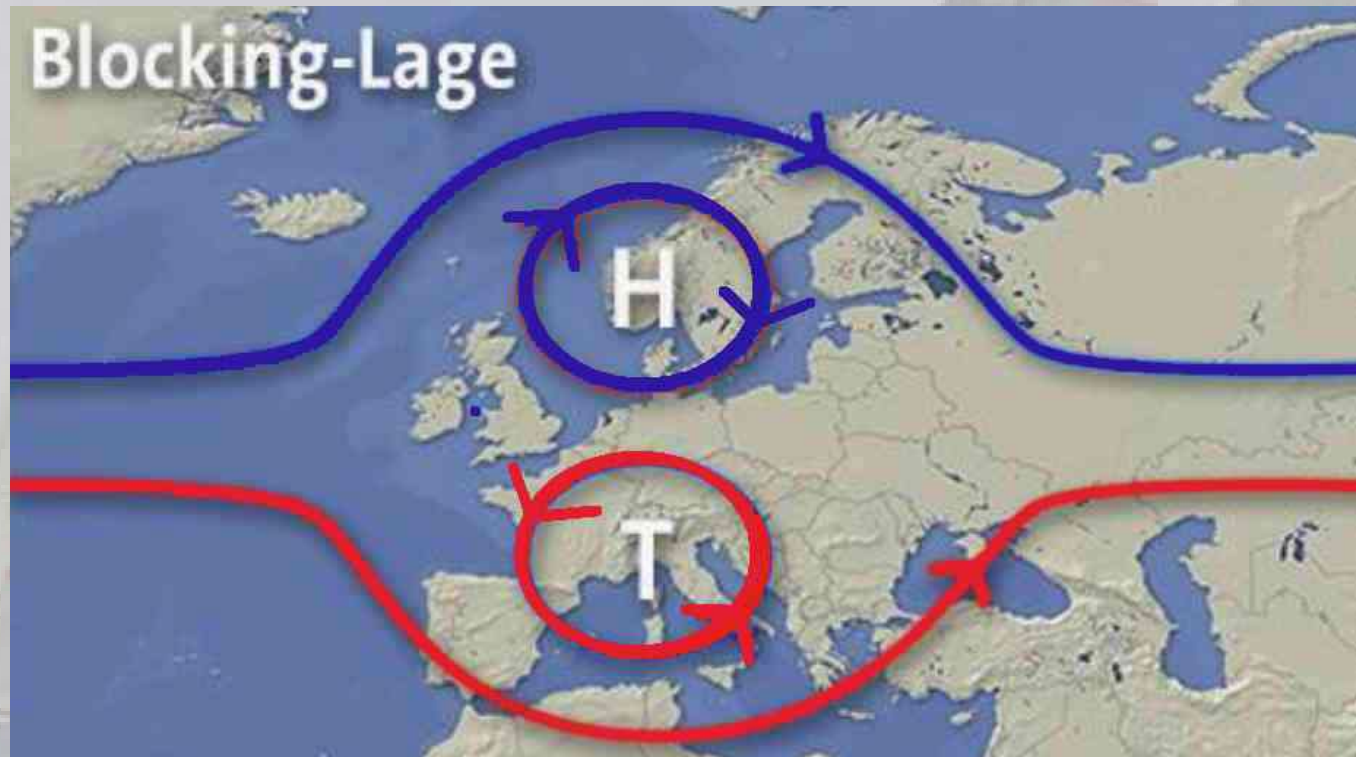
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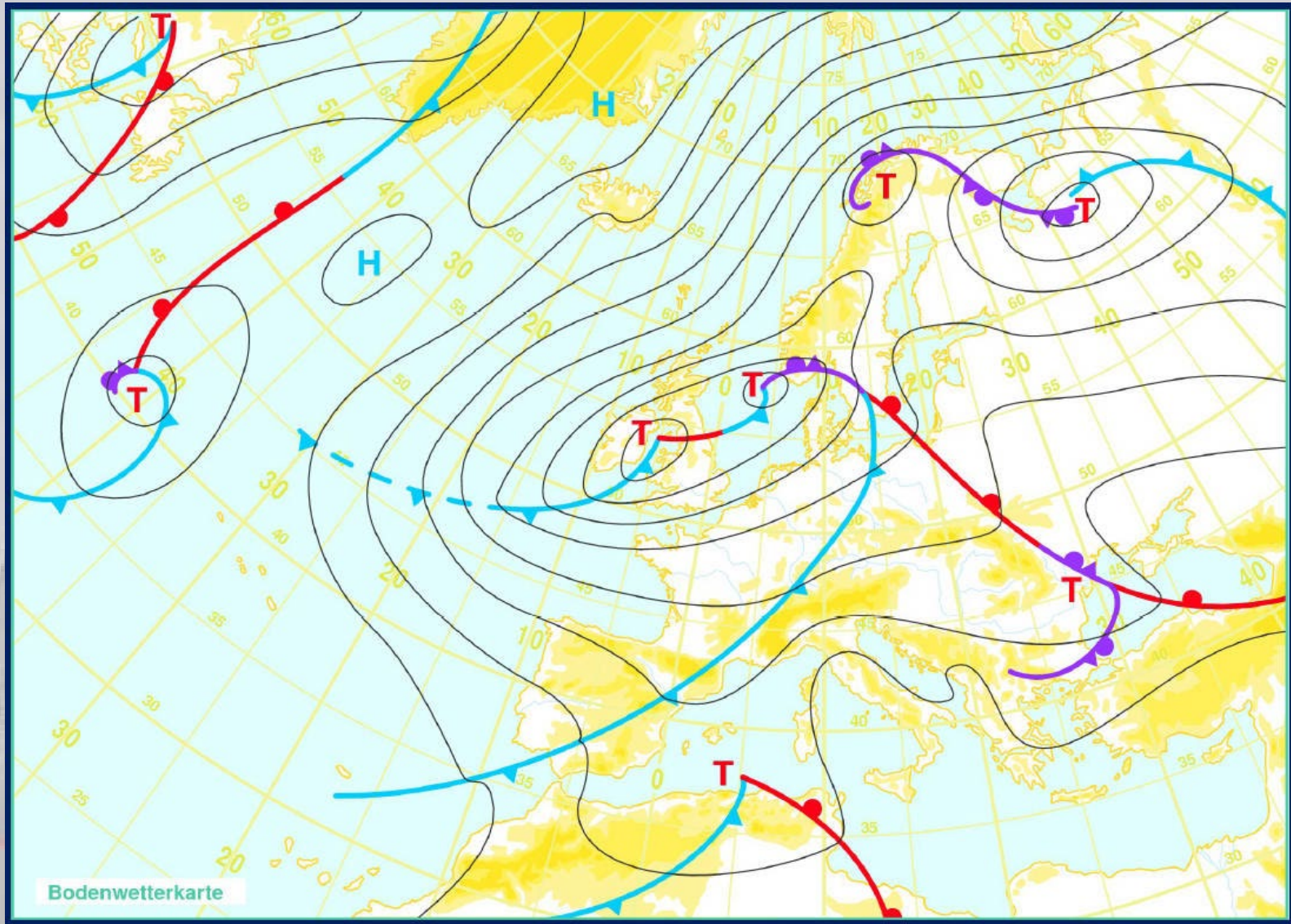


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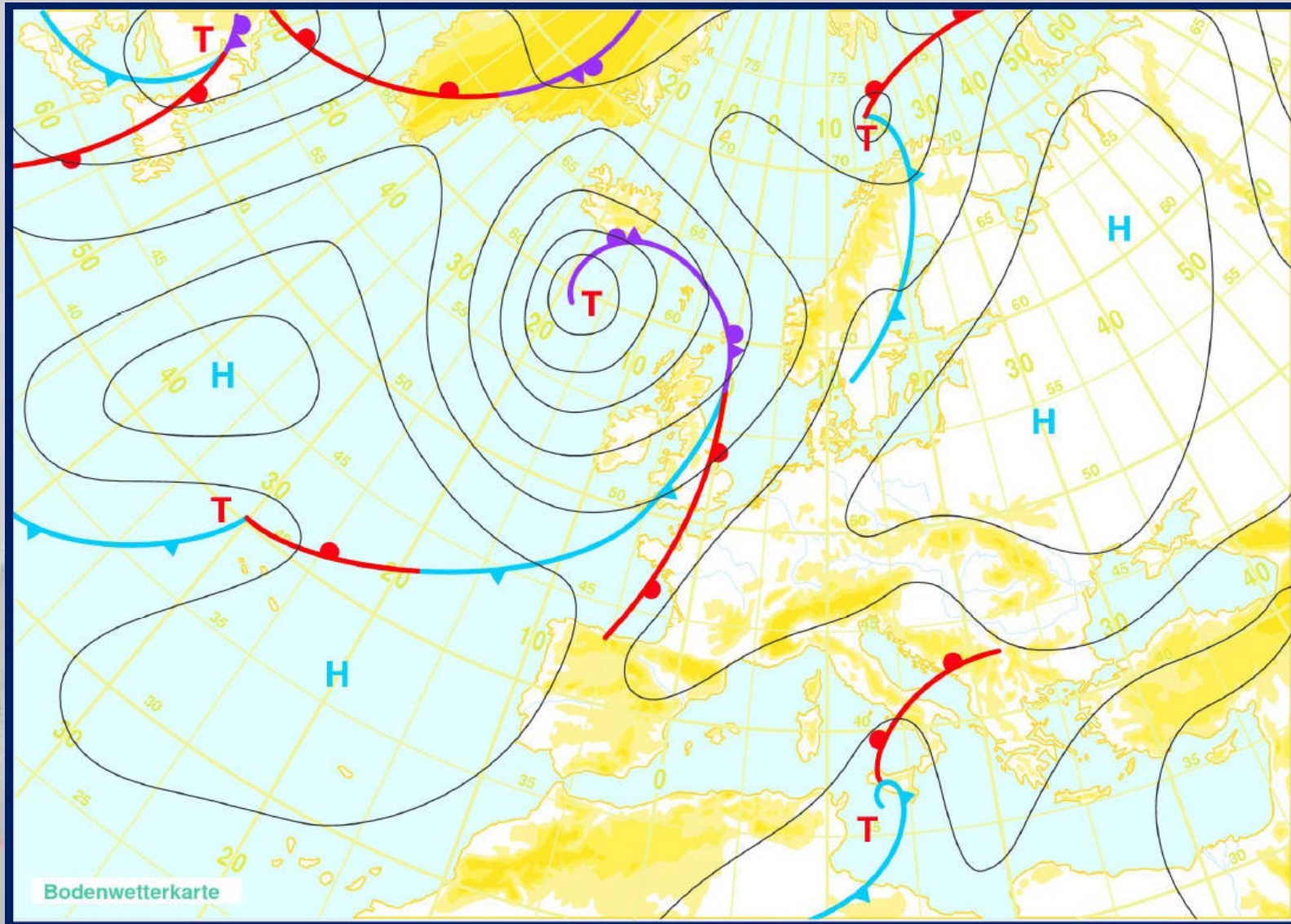
Blocking situation or High-over-Low

- Grosswetterlage East
- Splitting of jetstream into a northern and southern branch
- Instead of the Iceland Low there is a High
- Instead of the Azores High there is a Low
- Climatological highest probability in spring

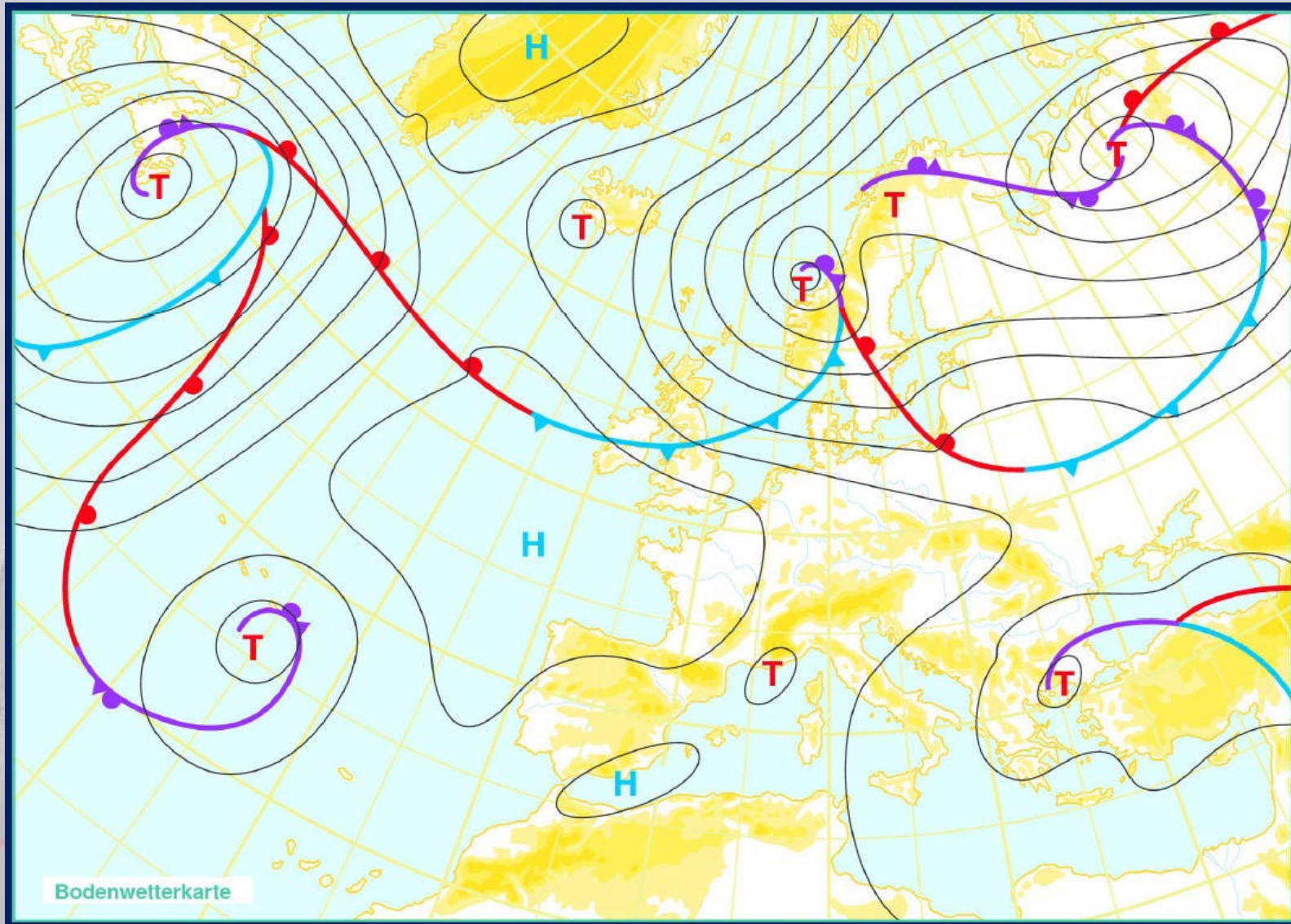




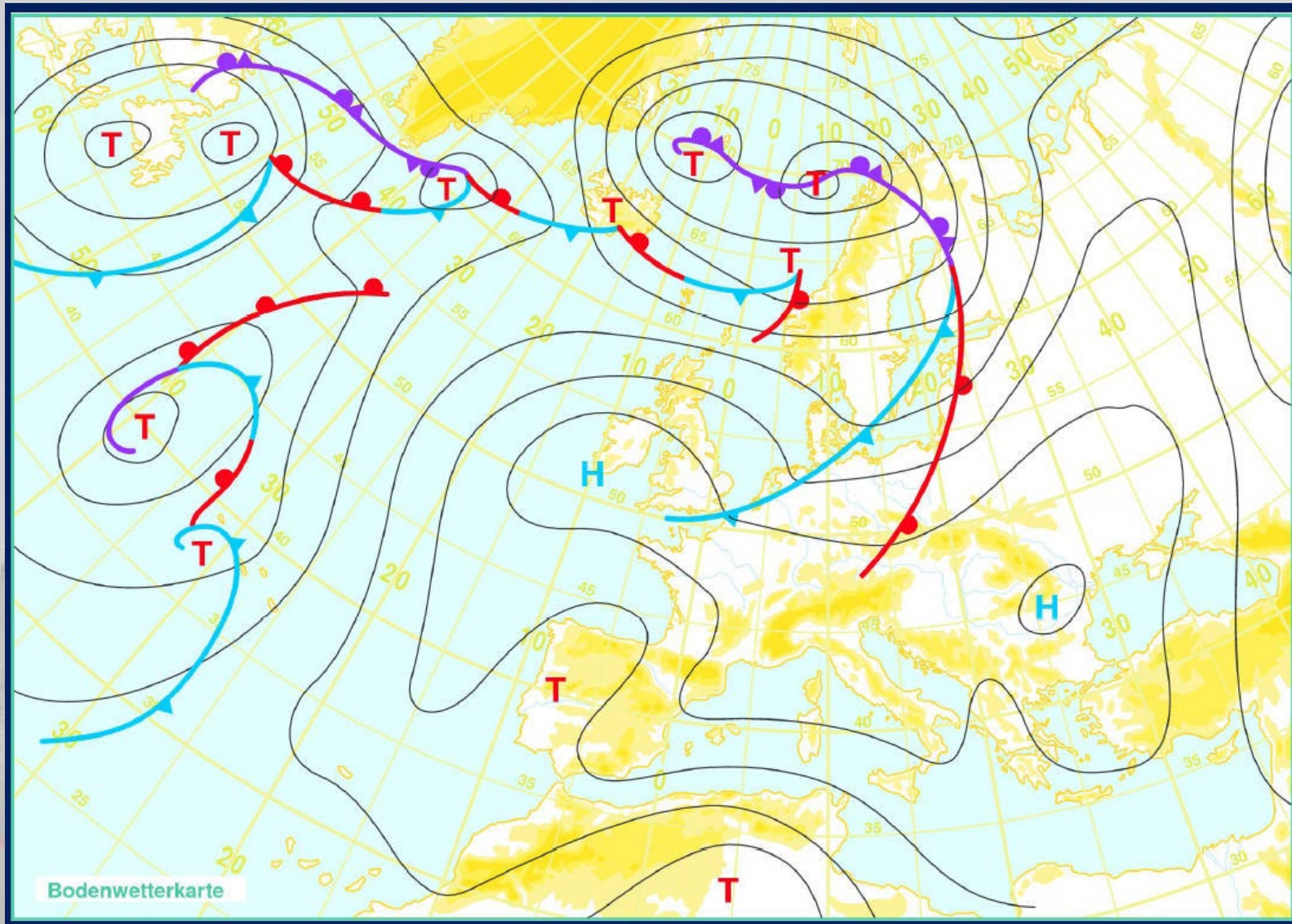
Southwest cyclonic



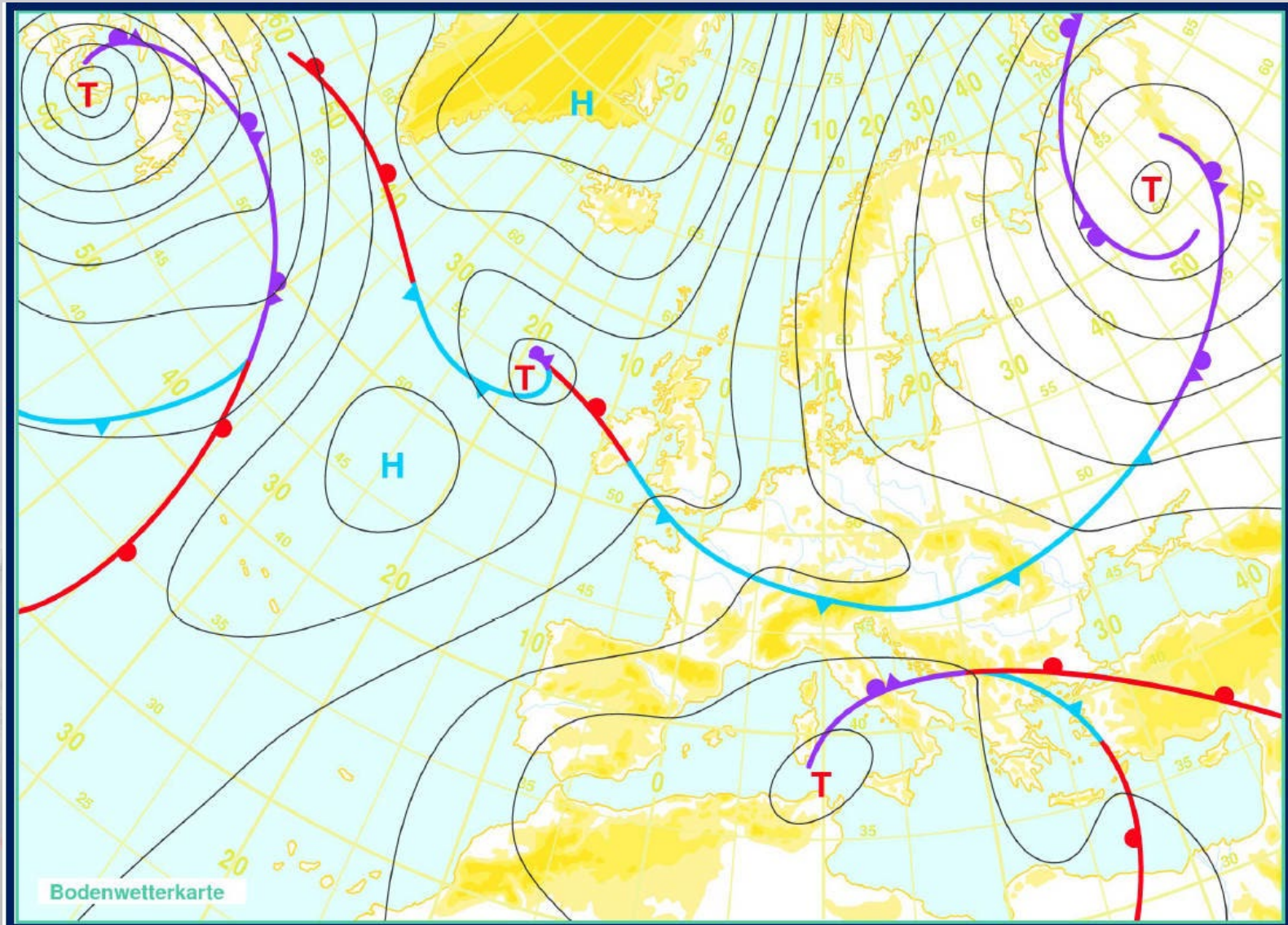
Southwest anticyclonic



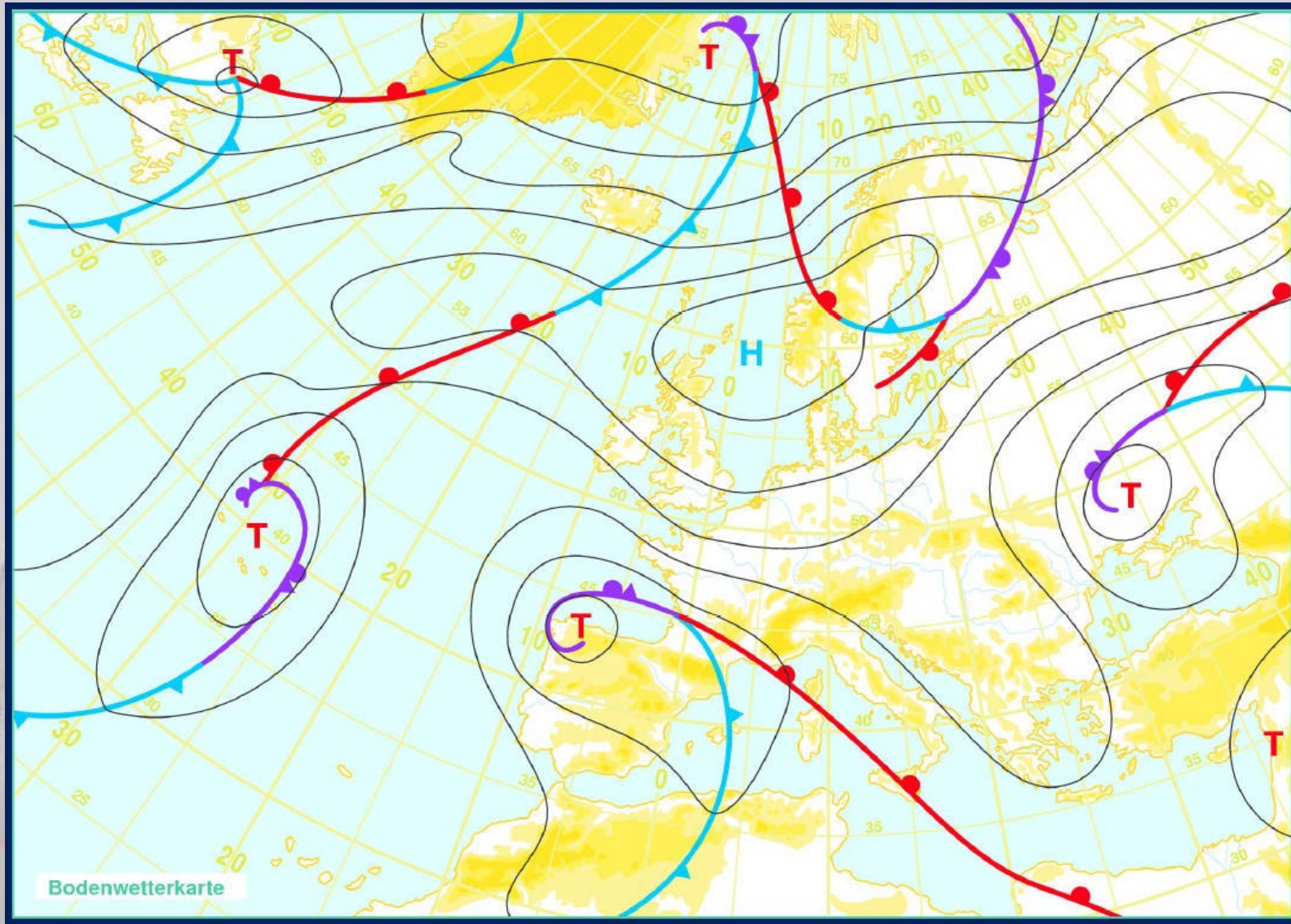
West cyclonic



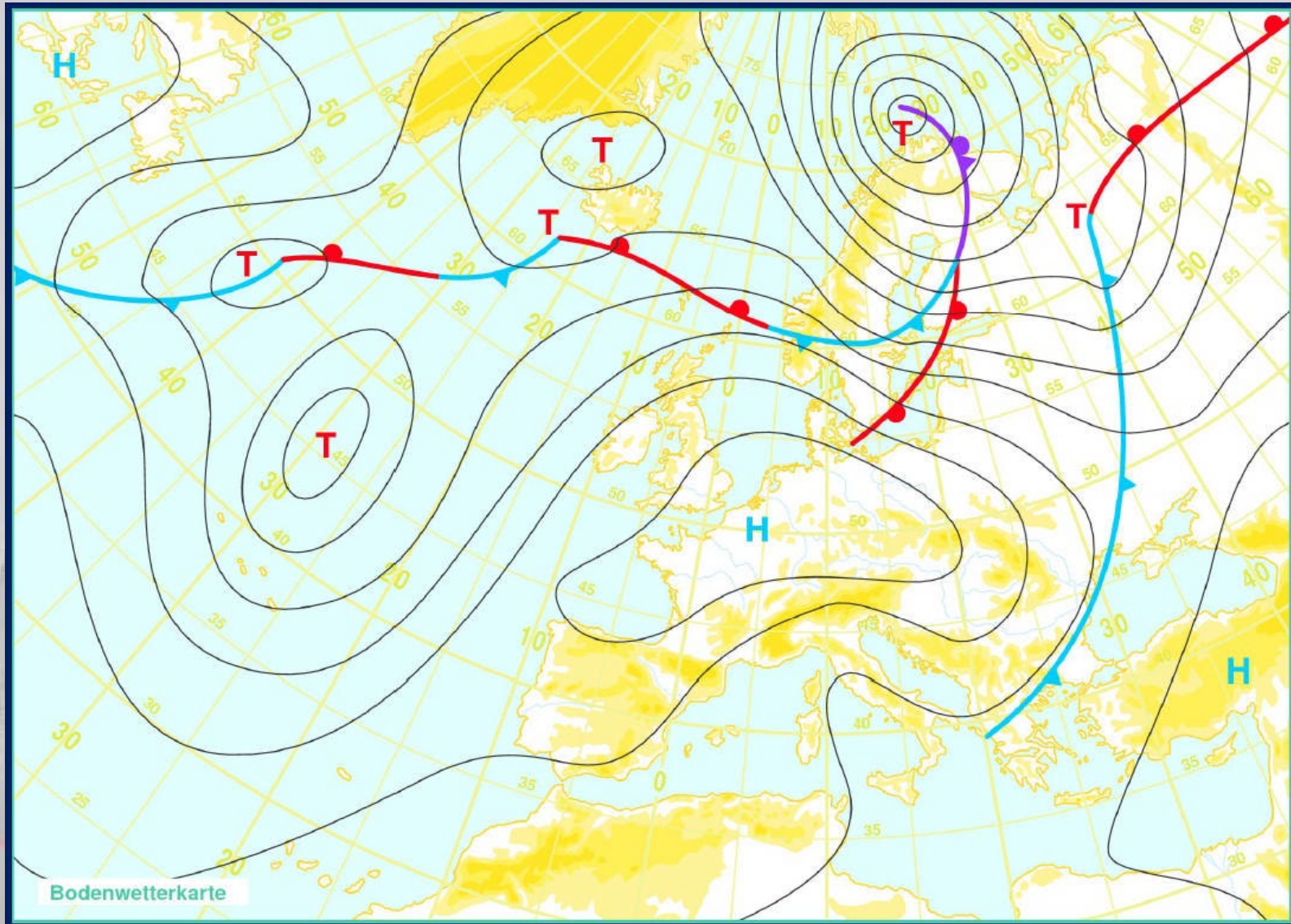
Northwest anticyclonic



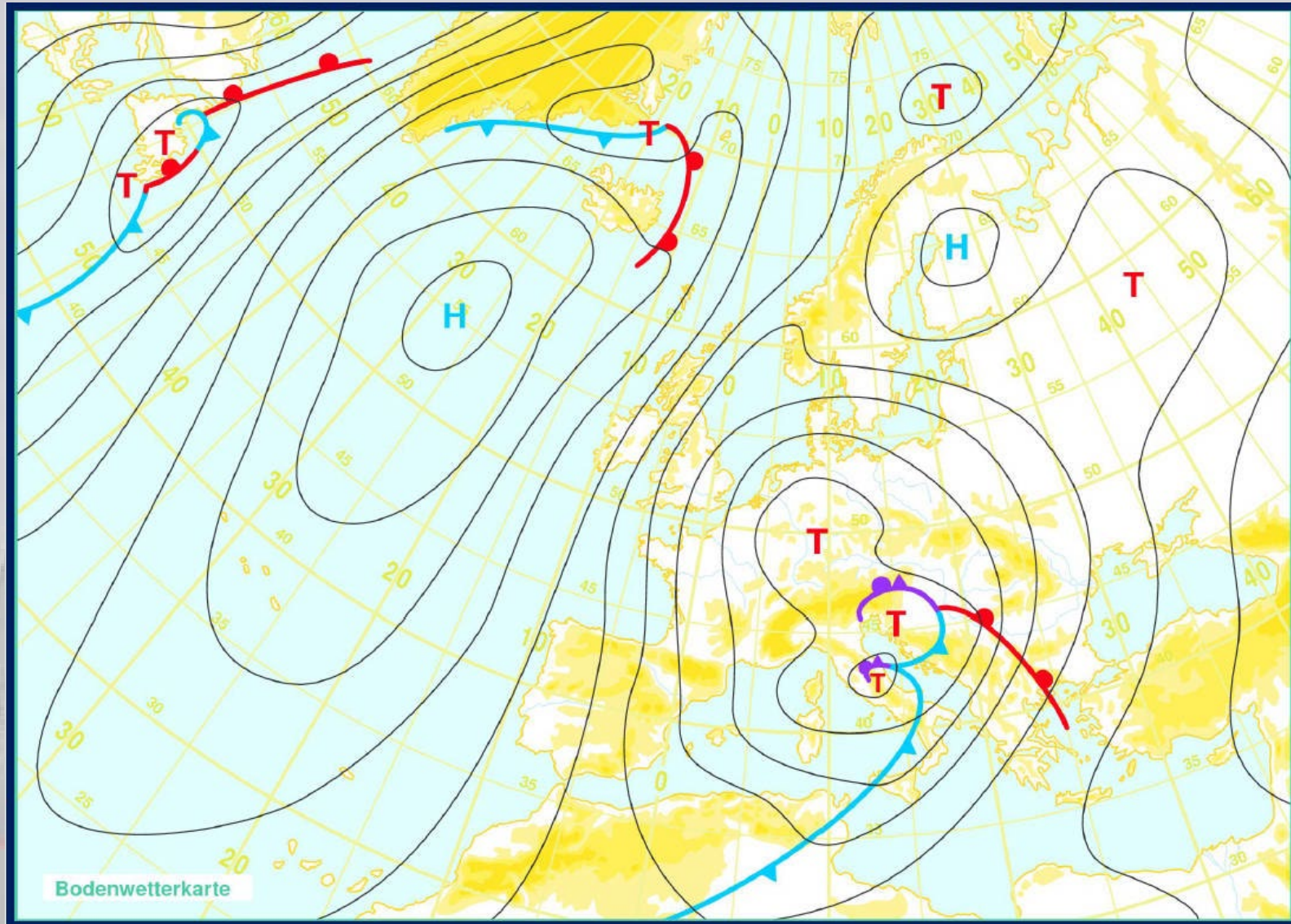
North cyclonic



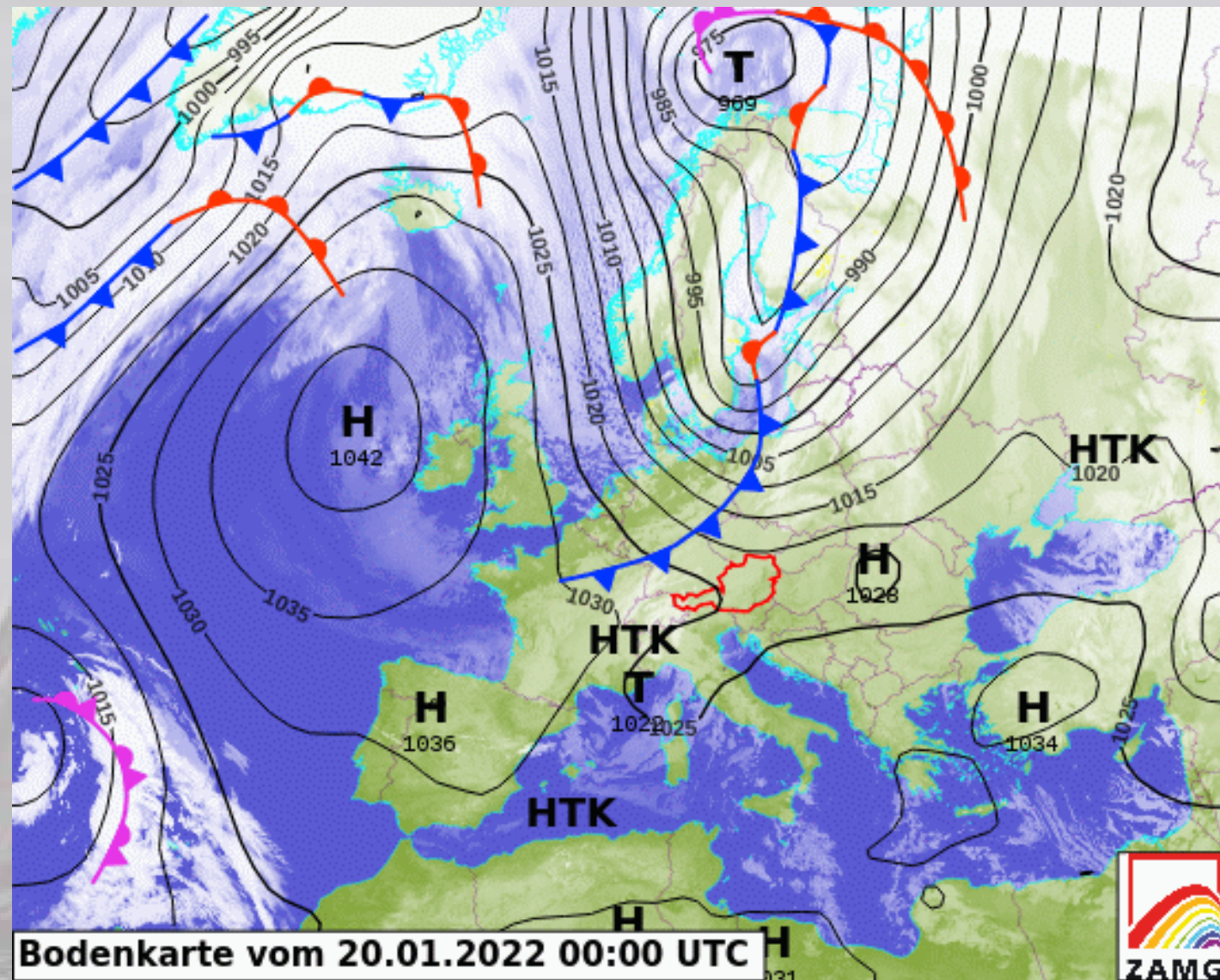
High Fenno-Scandia anticyclonic

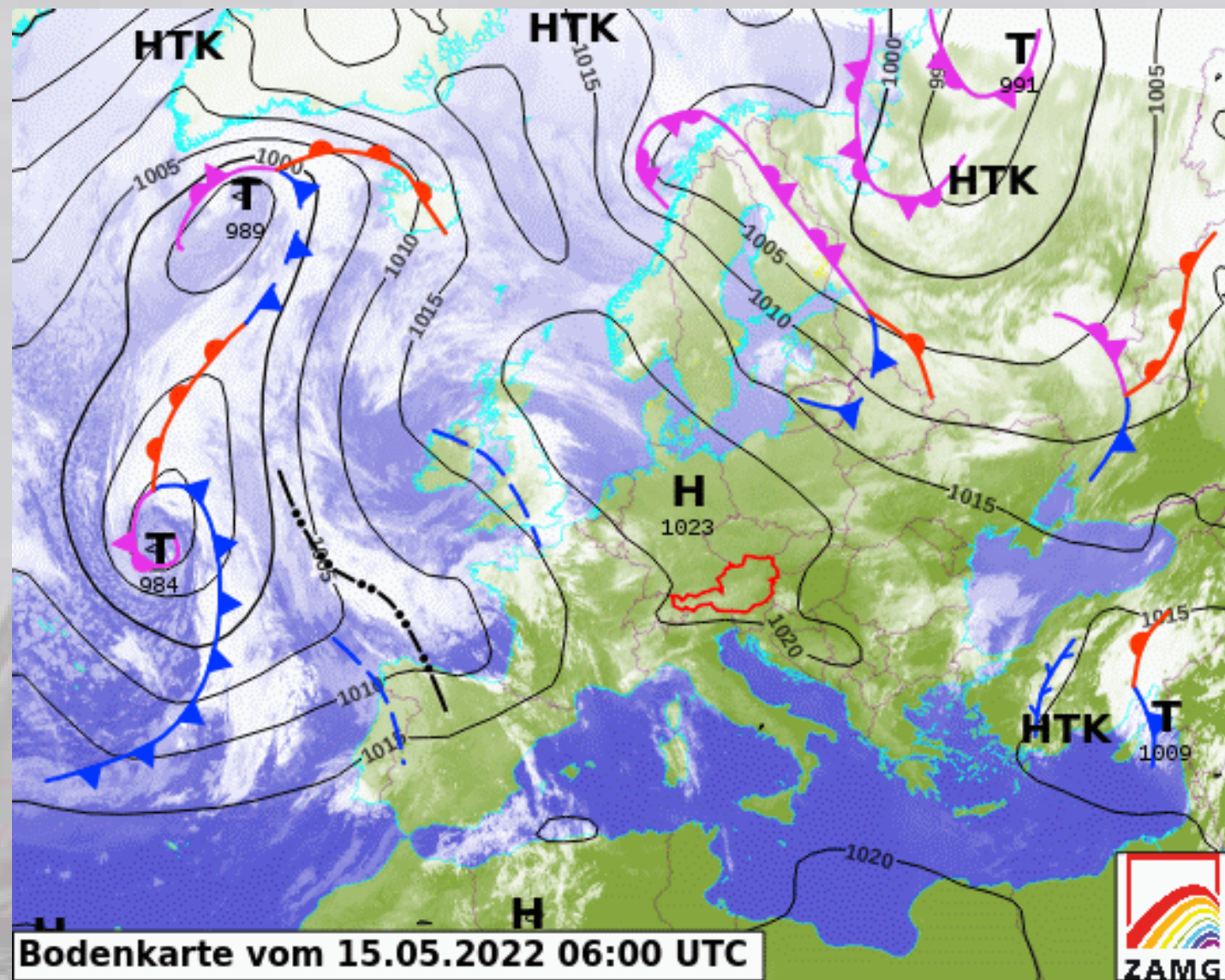


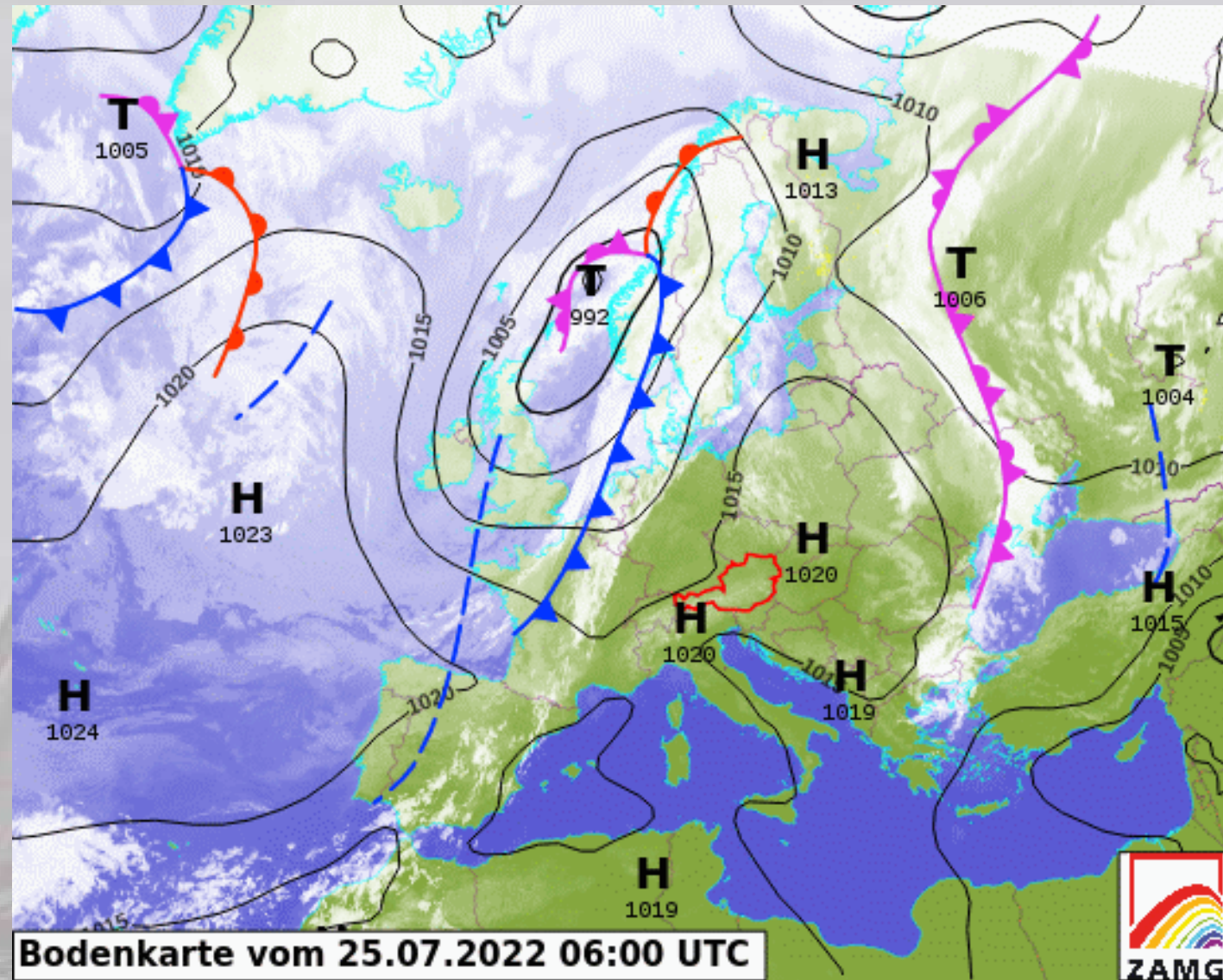
High Central Europe



Low Central Europe







Grosswetterlagen Forecast Tree

15-day NCEP Ensembles

00 UTC Forecast from 06 May 2011

Day	Number of Ensemble Members																					Most Representative GWL Sequence			
	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21				
6 May	SEA																					01	SEA	01	
7 May	SEA																					02	SEA	02	
8 May	SA			HFA																		03	HFA	03	
9 May	SA			HFA																		04	HFA	04	
10 May	SA		-	HFA																		05	HFA	05	
11 May	HFZ											HFA				-		WW				06	HFZ	06	
12 May	HFZ											BM				-		WW				07	HFZ	07	
13 May	SZ		HFZ						TRW			BM				WZ			WW		08	HFZ	08		
14 May	SZ			TRW						-			BM		WZ			WW		09	TRW	09			
15 May	SZ			TRW						SWA		BM		-		WZ		WW		10	TRW	10			
16 May	SZ			TRW						SWA			-									11	TRW	11	
17 May	SZ				TRW						SWA			-									12	SZ	12
18 May	SZ				TRW						SWA			SWZ		NWA		-				13	SZ	13	
19 May	SZ				TRW				SA		SWA			-									14	SZ	14
20 May	SZ						TRW			SA			SWA		-							15	SZ	15	

Surface Sequence Movie

Mid-Troposphere Sequence Movie

Scientific / Meteorological Content Dr. Paul James, FEZE-B / DWD Graphics SynopVis

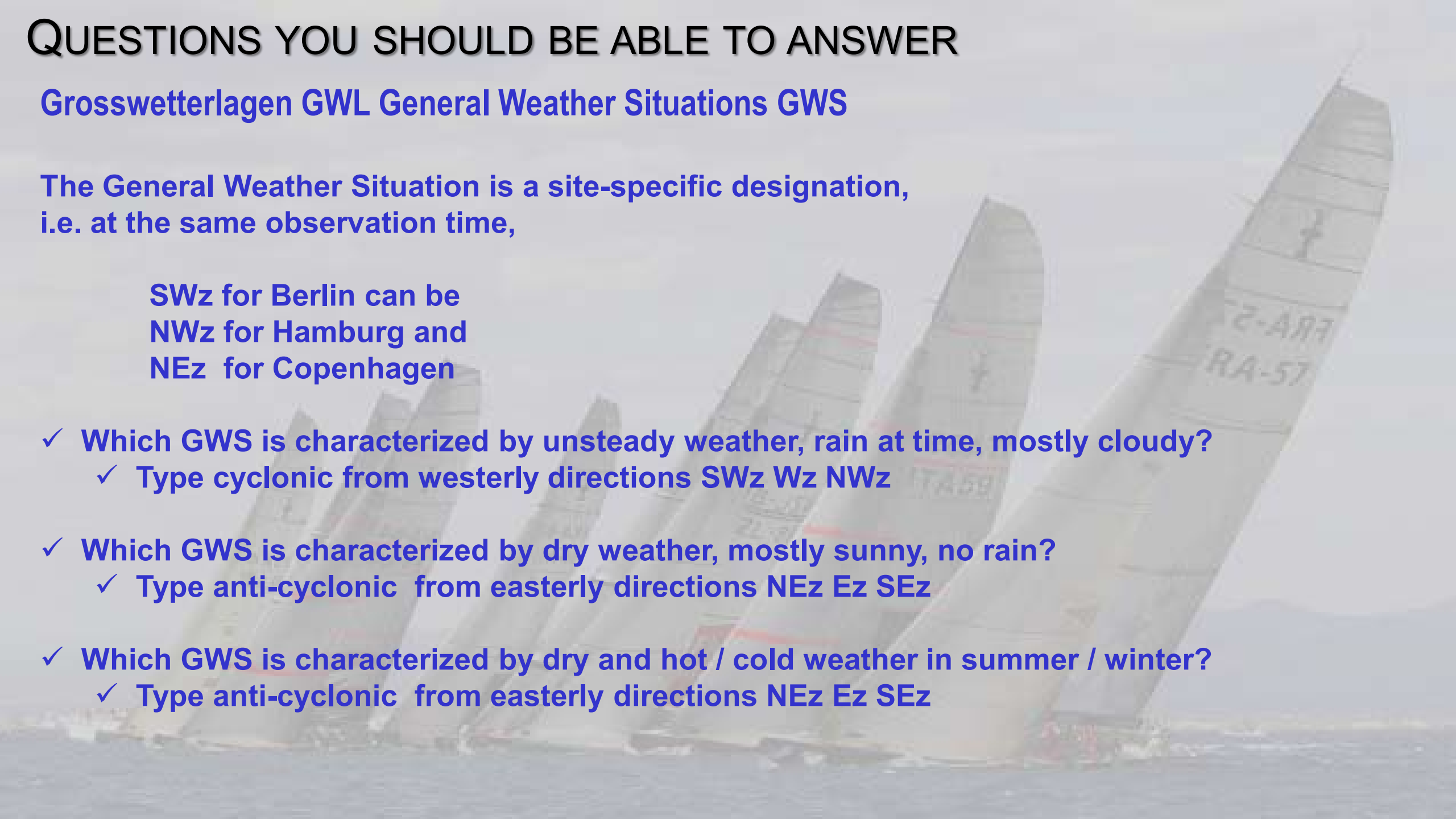
QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO ANSWER

Grosswetterlagen GWL General Weather Situations GWS

The General Weather Situation is a site-specific designation,
i.e. at the same observation time,

SWz for Berlin can be
NWz for Hamburg and
NEz for Copenhagen

- ✓ Which GWS is characterized by unsteady weather, rain at time, mostly cloudy?
 - ✓ Type cyclonic from westerly directions SWz Wz NWz
- ✓ Which GWS is characterized by dry weather, mostly sunny, no rain?
 - ✓ Type anti-cyclonic from easterly directions NEz Ez SEz
- ✓ Which GWS is characterized by dry and hot / cold weather in summer / winter?
 - ✓ Type anti-cyclonic from easterly directions NEz Ez SEz



QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO ANSWER

Grosswetterlagen GWL General Weather Situations GWS

- ✓ Which GWS is characterized by mild weather in winter?
 - ✓ Type cyclonic from westerly directions SWz
- ✓ Which GWS is characterized by mild weather in winter?
 - ✓ Type cyclonic from westerly directions SWz Wz NWz
- ✓ Which GWS is characterized by stormy weather, high PROBability Thunderstorm in summer?
 - ✓ Type cyclonic from westerly directions SWz Wz NWz

