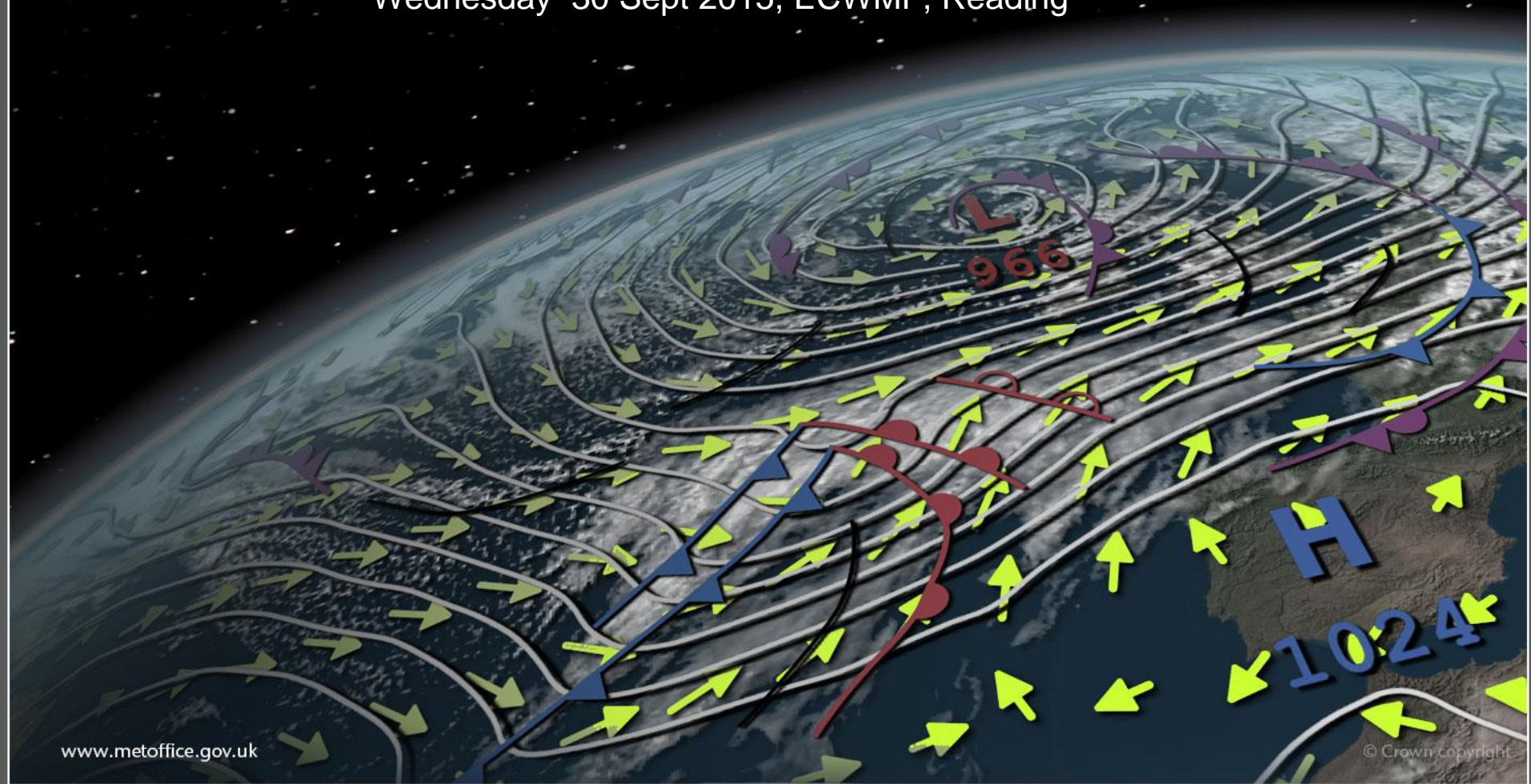




A Personal History of Meteorological Visualization

Chris Little, IT Fellow, Met Office

Wednesday 30 Sept 2015, ECWMF, Reading





Talk Outline

Computer Graphics & Met Office

Timelines:

- Cartography
- Graphing
- Meteorology

Meteorology and Technology

Where are we now?

Future possibilities?



Met Office

Computer Graphics & Met Office



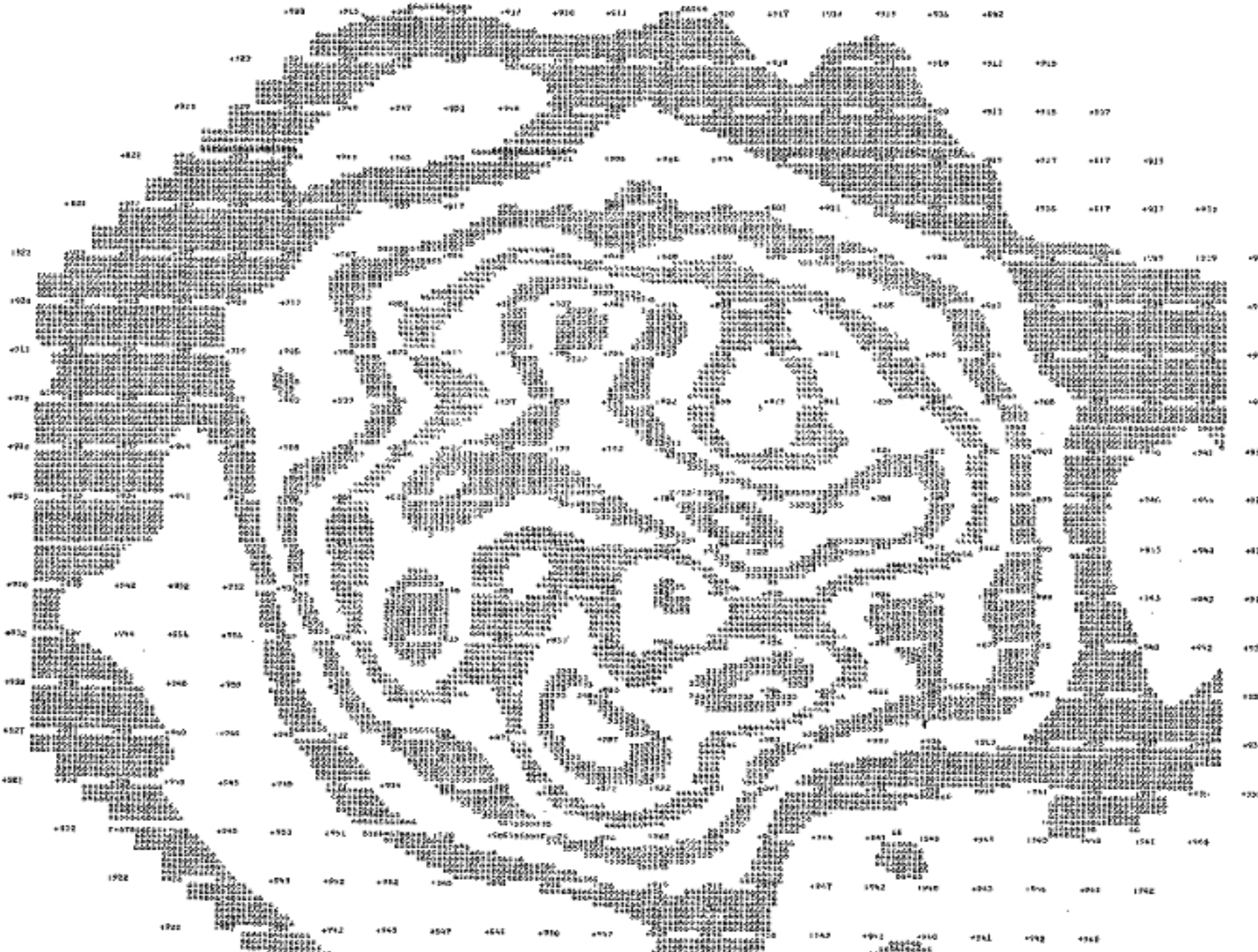
Met Office

Computer Graphics Timeline

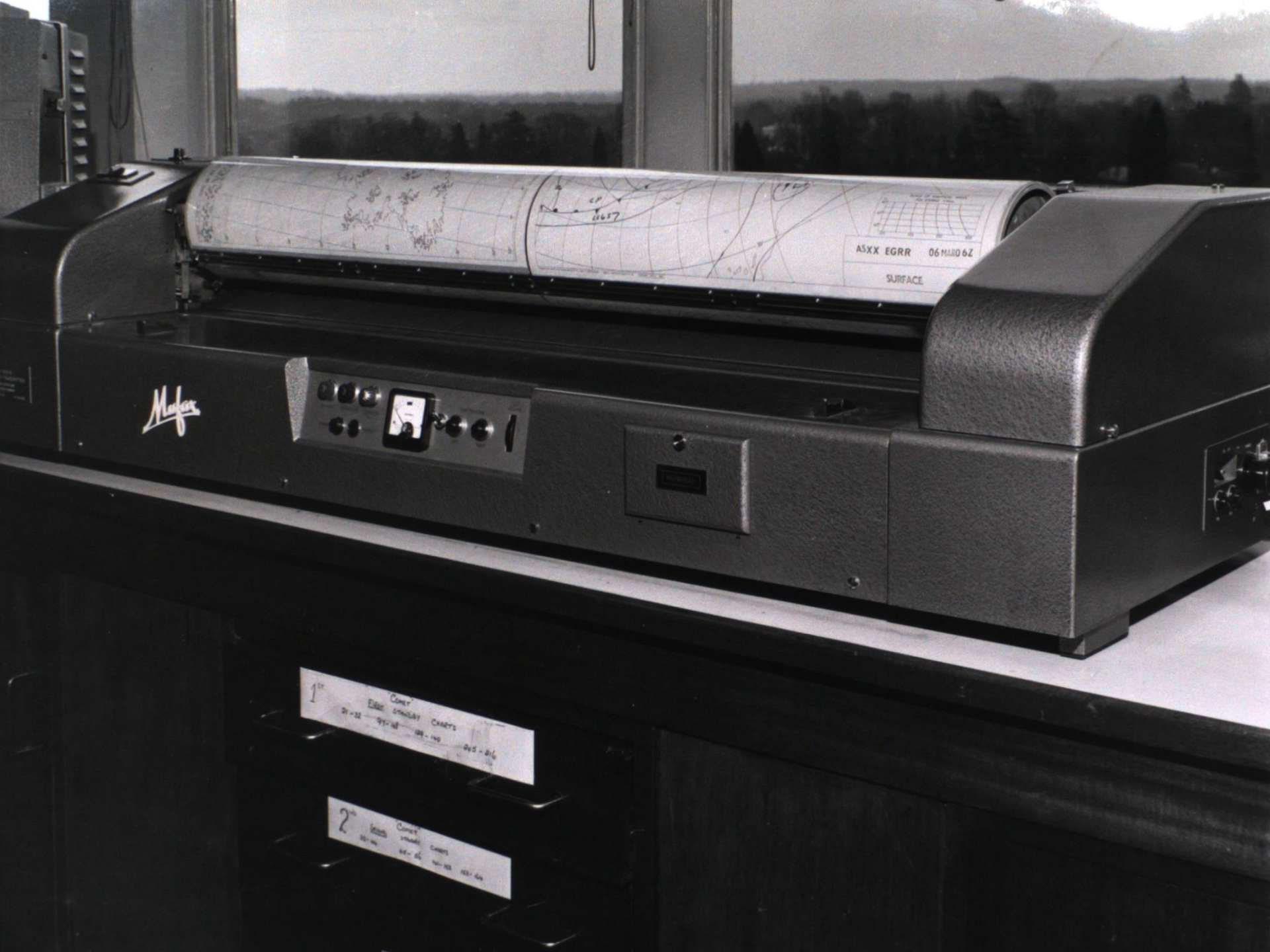
- 1946 ENIAC
- 1949 Whirlwind, Williams Tube, Core
- 1951 Graphics display on Whirlwind
- 1954 Fortran
- 1955 Light pen on SAGE
- 1959 IBM/GM develop CAD system
- 1960 "Computer Graphics" coined
- 1964 IBM 2250, RAND Grafacom input tablet
- 1965 Bresenham Algorithm, Tektronix storage tube
- 1968 E&S head mounted display
- 1969 Bell Unix, Xerox GUI
- 1971 RAMTEK, GINO library
- 1972 C, Intel 8008 chip, Atari/Pong
- 1973 1st SIGGRAPH
- 1975 Cray-1, Microsoft
- 1976 CG standardisation starts
- 1977 SIGGRAPH Core & GKS develop
- 1979 IBM 3279 terminal
- 1980 PHIGS develops
- 1982 SGI, Sun, Adobe, Autodesk founded
- 1982 USA Today Newspaper colour Wx map
- 1985 ISO GKS published
- 1986 TIFF defined, X-Windows
- 1987 GIF defined, ISO CGM published
- 1988 GKS-3D and PHIGS published
- 1989 PHIGS+, Motif1.0, RenderMan
- 1990 MS Windows 3.0
- 1991 WWW, JPEG/MPEG
- 1992 OpenGL released by SGI
- 1993 Mosaic browser
- 1994 Netscape browser
- 1995 Sun Java
- 1997 Macromedia Flash 1.0
- 1998 XML, Google, MPEG-4

Algorithms & software developments skipped









Mapflex

ASXX EGRR 06 MAR 62

SURFACE

1
CONY
ELEC
21-32
91-18
100-140
CHARTS
205-216

2
CONY
ELEC
21-32
91-18
100-140
CHARTS
205-216





Met Office

Mainstream computing >1971

1968 Government permission to buy new computer

1969-08-20 IBM 360/195 Announced

1969-09-04 UKMO issues ITT (IBM360/85, ICL1908A and CDC7600)

1971 IBM 360/195 initial delivery

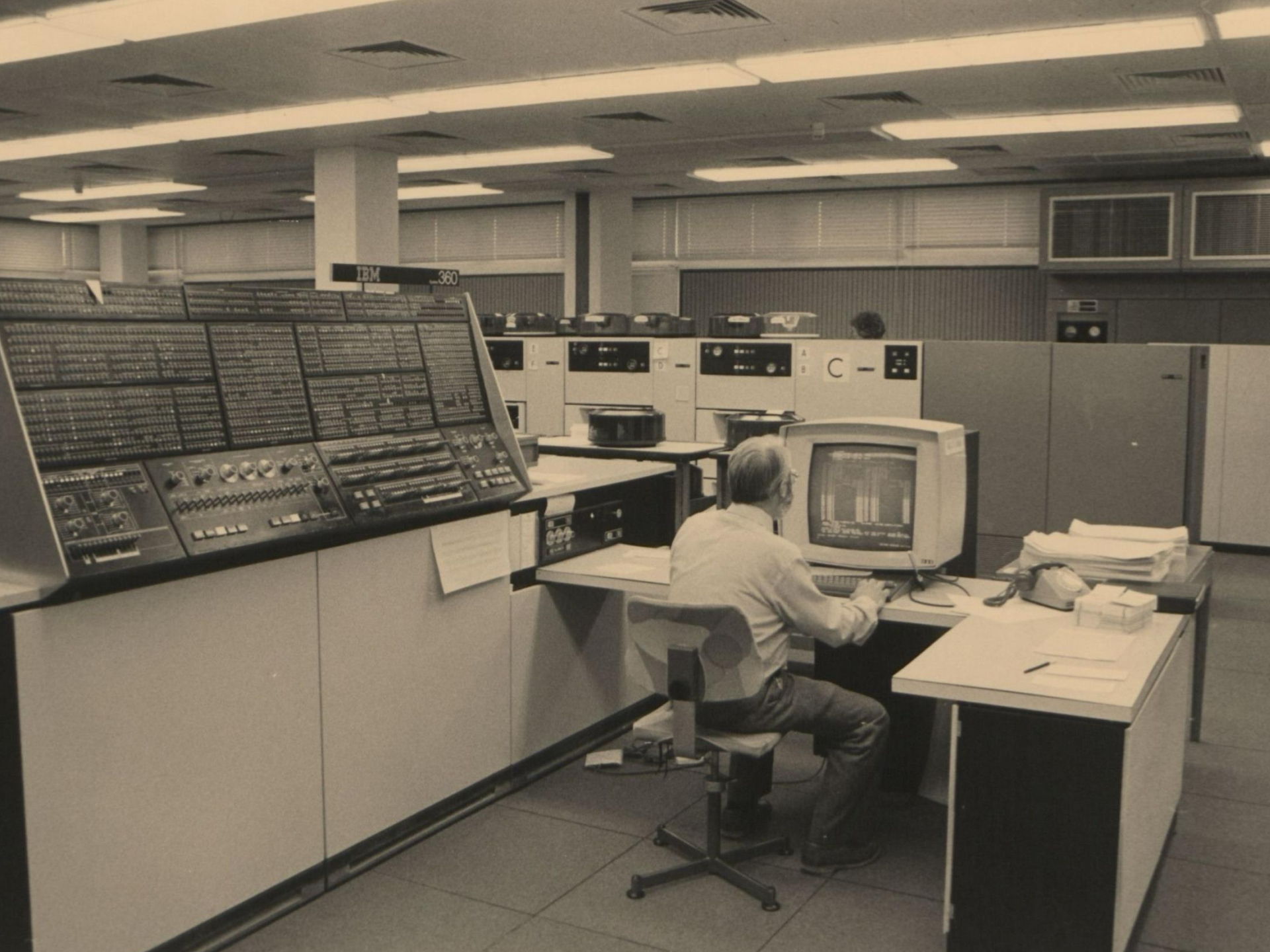
1972-10 Final configuration, upgraded devices within original budget:

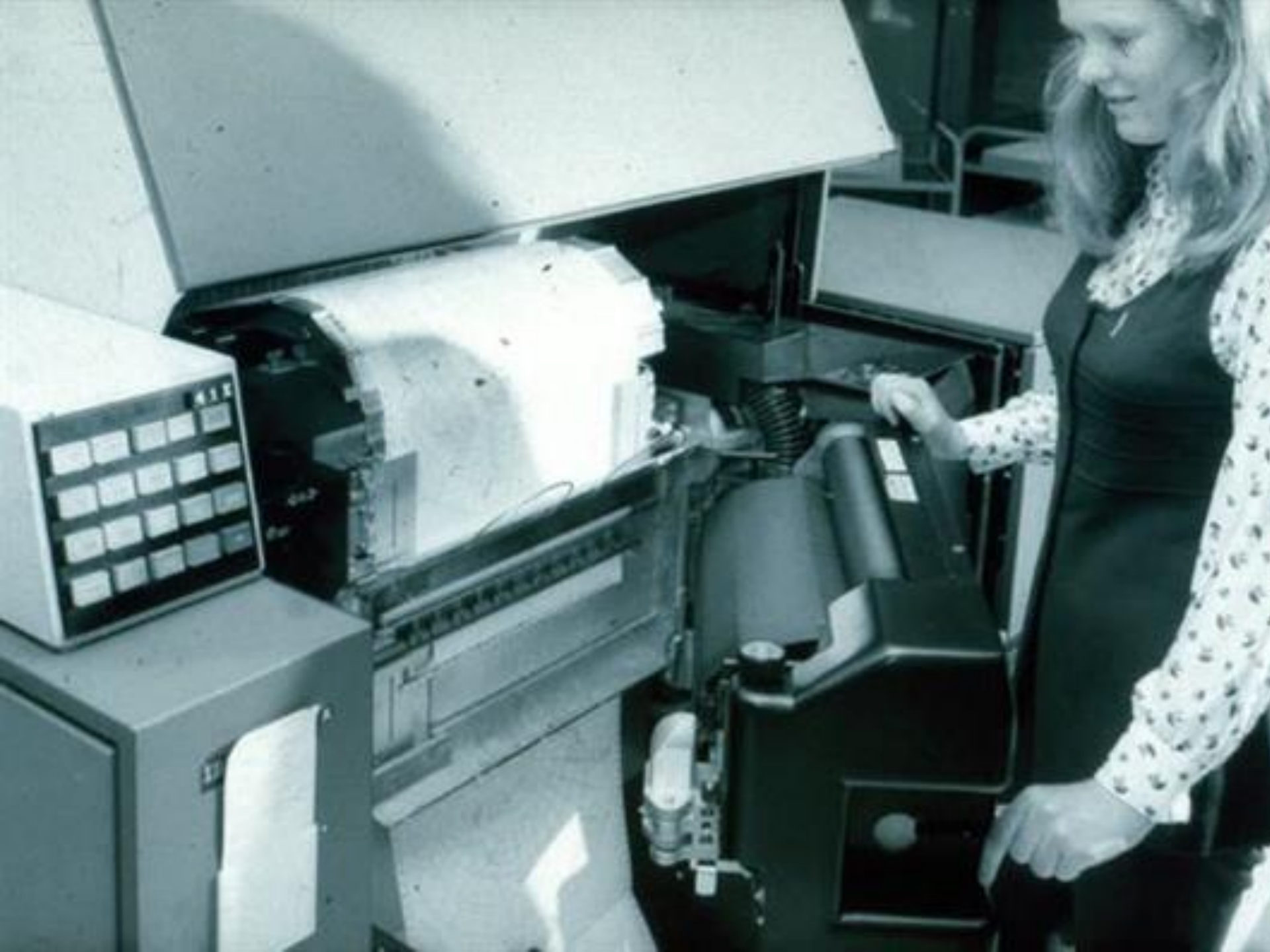
1xIBM2301 Fixed head disk, 6xIBM3330 disk drives, IBM3333 exchangeable disk units, 6xIBM3420 9 trk 800/1600dpi tape drives magnetic tape units, 2xIBM2250 CRT displays, operating consoles.

2x Calcomp microfilm 835 recorders, resolution 2200x3400 (already in use in BoM and DWD) Seem to have upgraded to 1670 (16000x16000)

160col printer requested, IBM only 144col, substituted & interfaced MDS9160

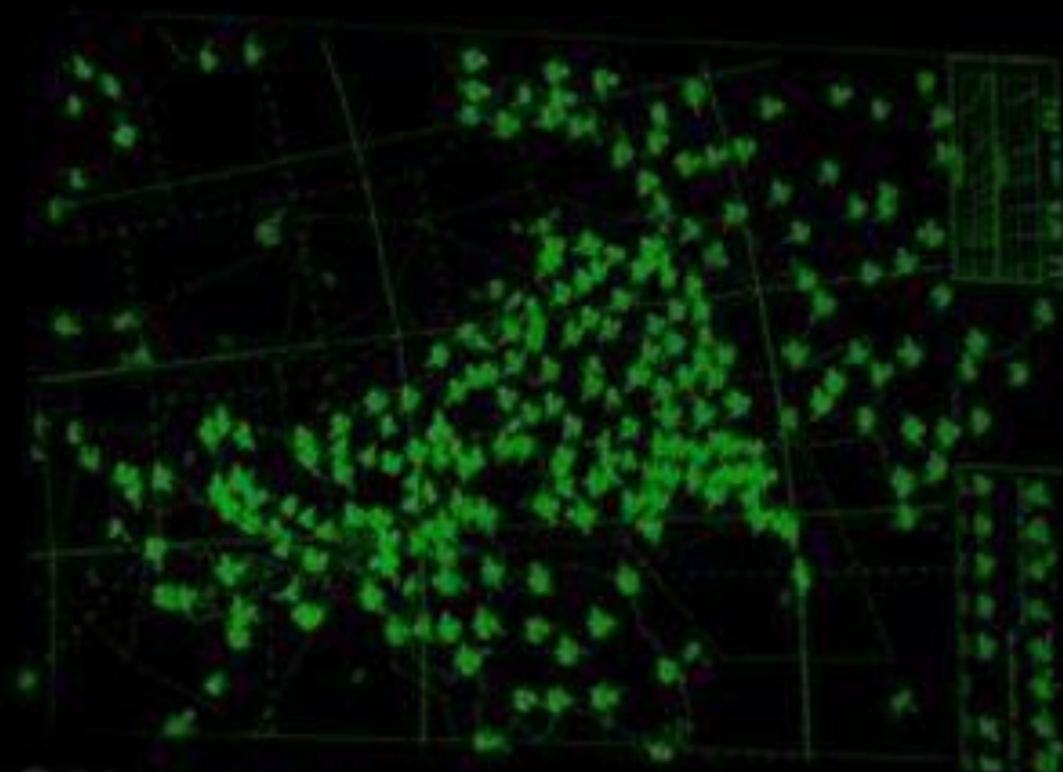
UKMO agrees to ship KDF9 tape drive to Montpellier and back to interface to IBM controllers. UKMO kept 2xKDF9 400dpi drives until tapes transferred.



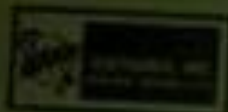








CALCOMP



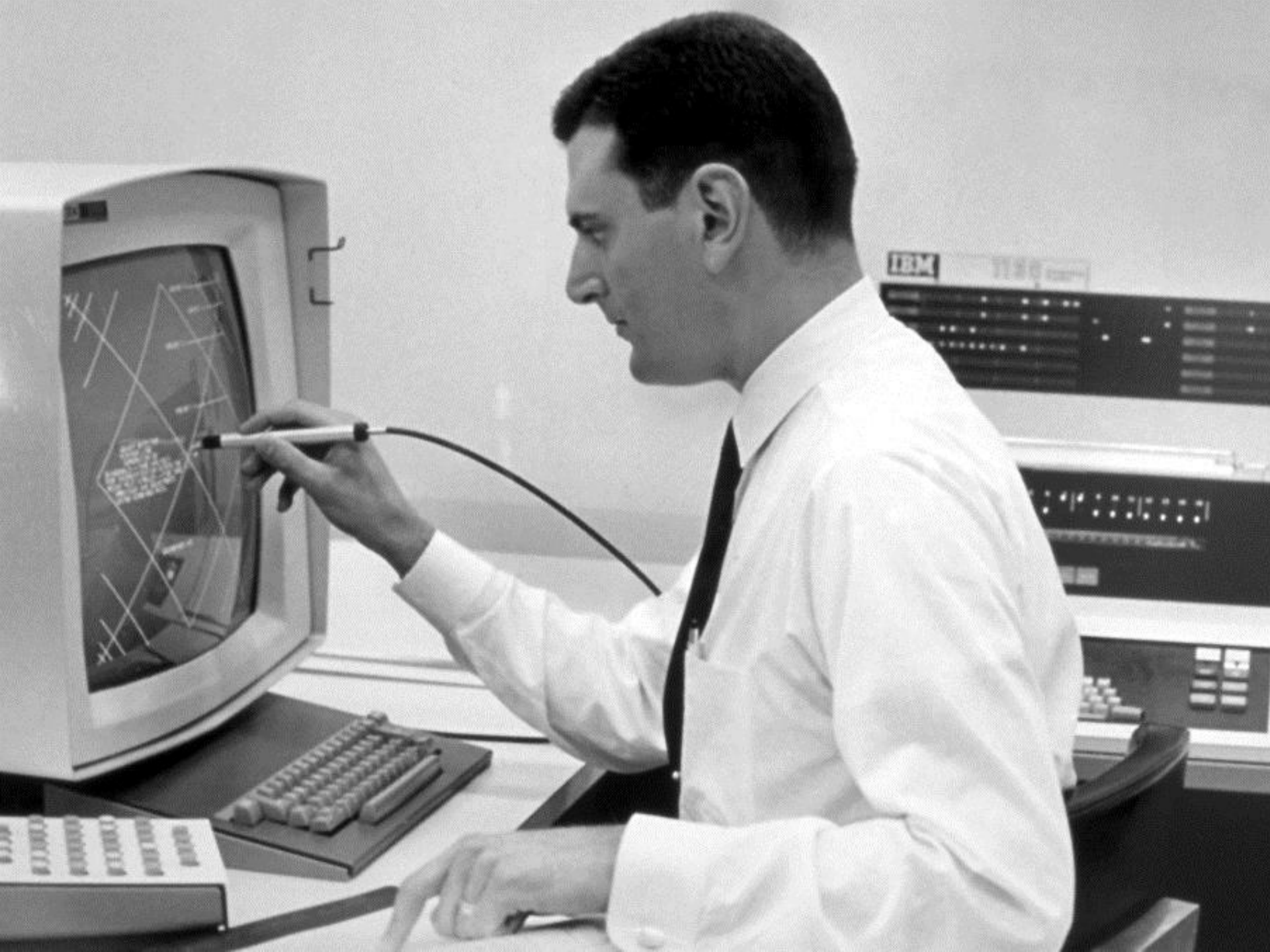
ERASE

TYPE 811
STORAGE
DISPLAY UNIT



RECALL

STOP

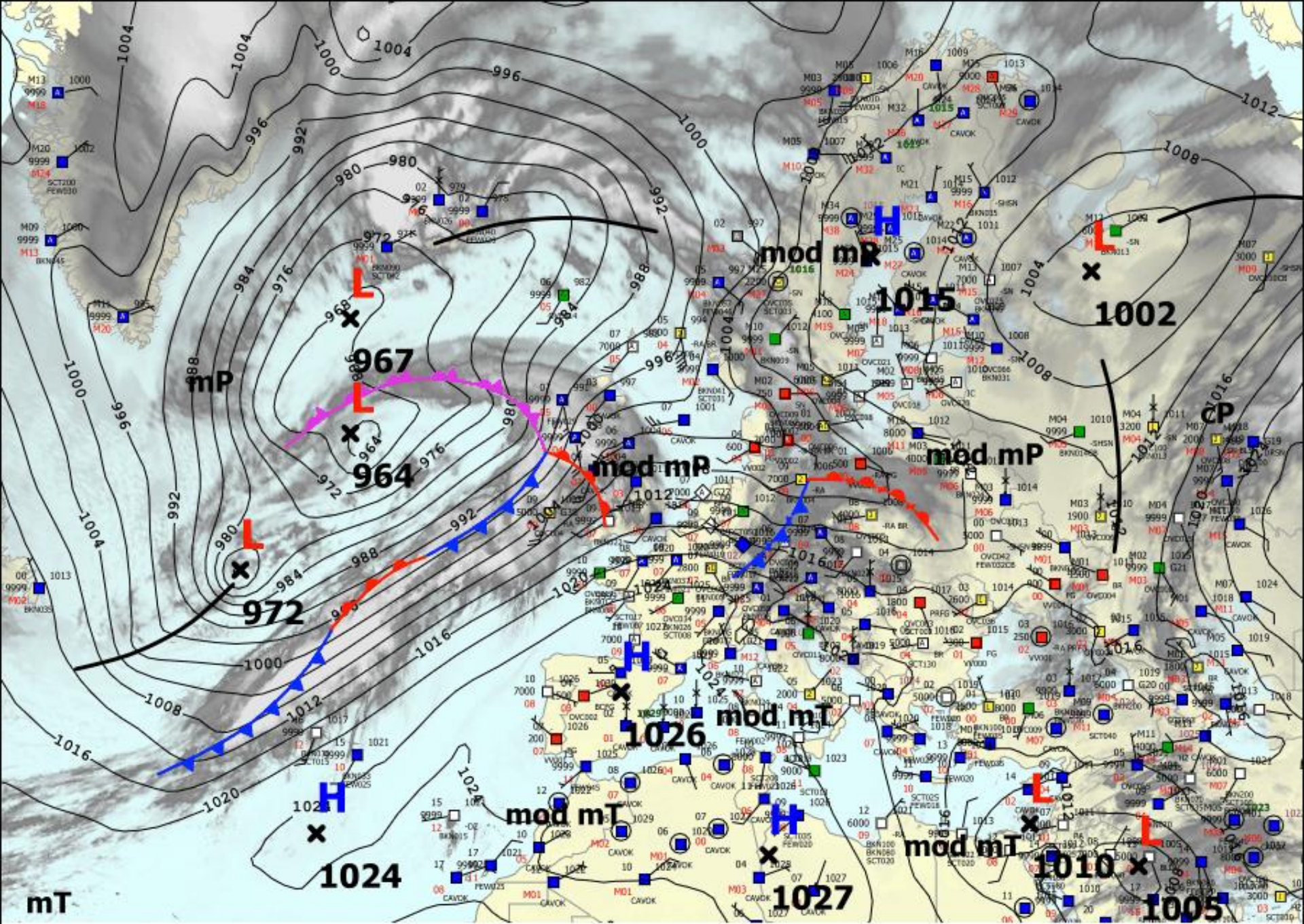










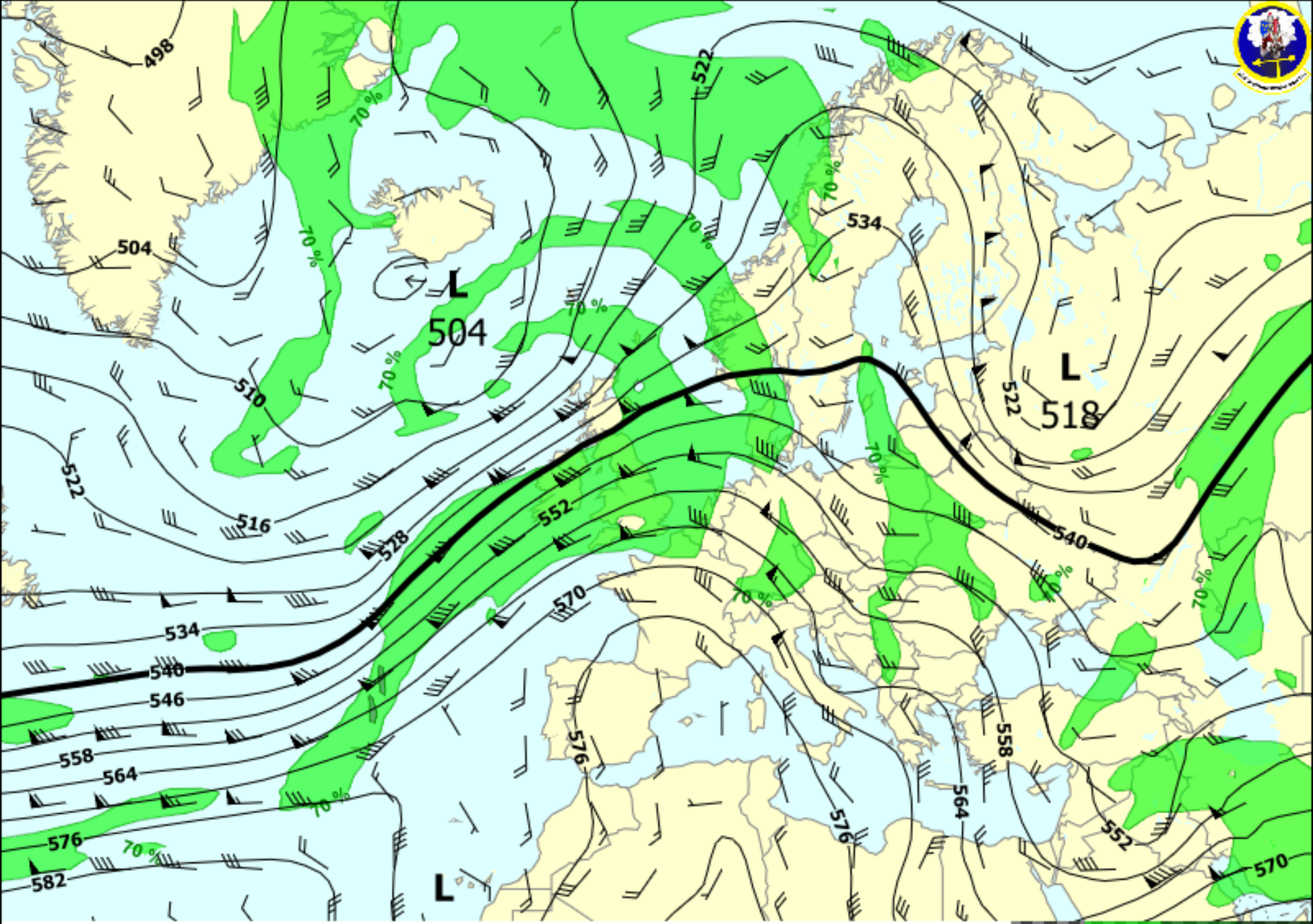


SURFACE ANALYSIS

VT: 15 JAN 00Z POSTED AT: 15/0038Z

- L** - LOW PRESSURE
- H** - HIGH PRESSURE
- - COLD FRONT
- - -** - STATIONARY FRONT
- - -** - WARM FRONT
- - -** - OCCLUDED FRONT



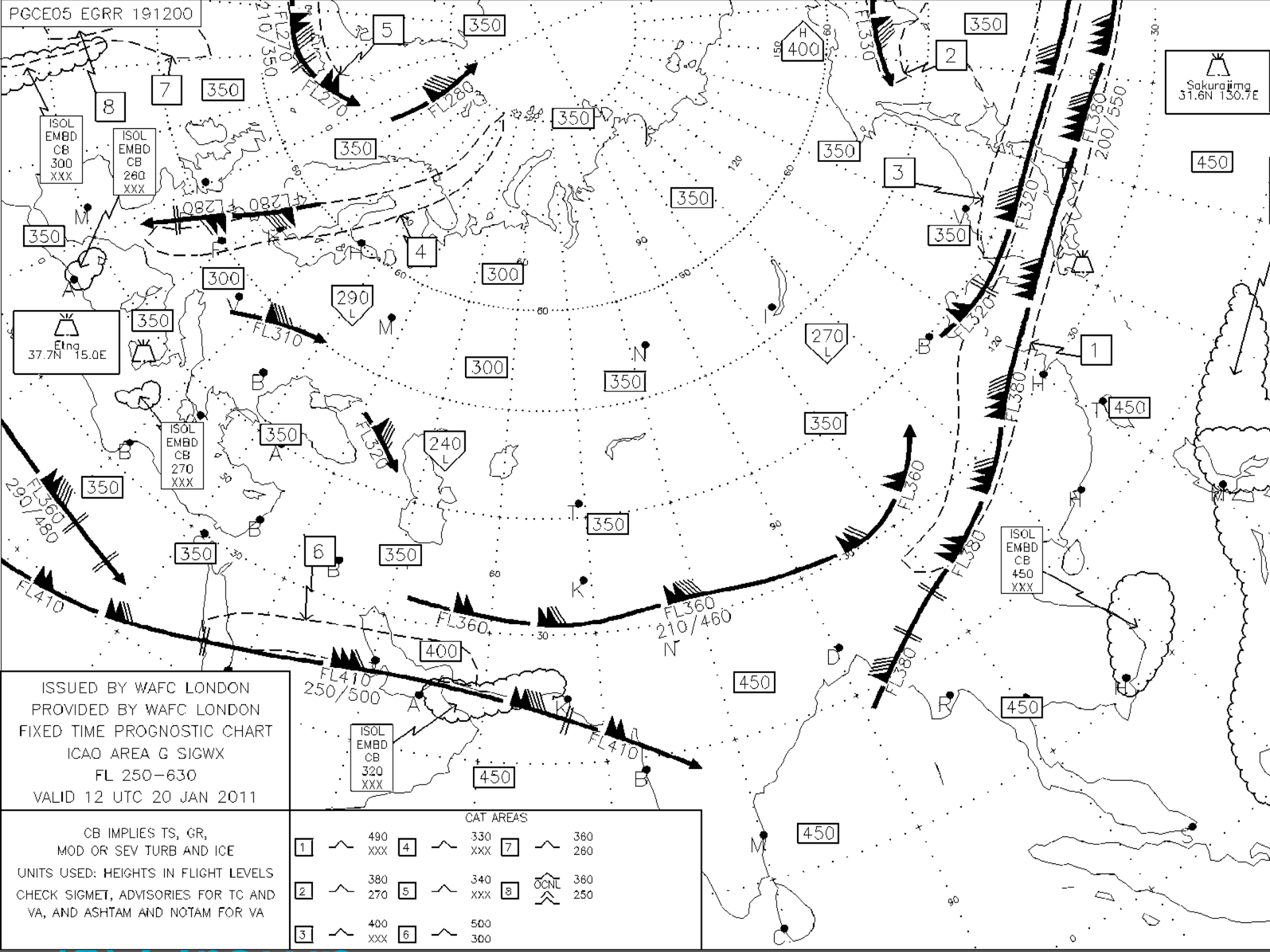


500MB GPH | RH | WINDS VT: SAT 15 JAN 12Z (T+12)

UKMO GLOBAL MODEL 15/00Z



SCALE EVERY 30 METRES



Sakurajima
31.6N 130.7E

ISSUED BY W AFC LONDON
 PROVIDED BY W AFC LONDON
 FIXED TIME PROGNOSTIC CHART
 ICAO AREA G SIGWX
 FL 250-630
 VALID 12 UTC 20 JAN 2011

CB IMPLIES TS, GR,
 MOD OR SEV TURB AND ICE
 UNITS USED: HEIGHTS IN FLIGHT LEVELS
 CHECK SIGMET, ADVISORIES FOR TC AND
 VA, AND ASHTAM AND NOTAM FOR VA

CAT AREAS					
1	490 XXX	4	330 XXX	7	360 280
2	380 270	5	340 XXX	8	OCNL 360 250
3	400 XXX	6	500 300		



Met Office

Timeline: Cartography





ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲁⲓⲛⲁⲓⲛⲁⲓⲛⲁⲓ

ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲁⲓⲛⲁⲓ

ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲁⲓⲛⲁⲓ



ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲁⲓⲛⲁⲓ

ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲁⲓⲛⲁⲓ

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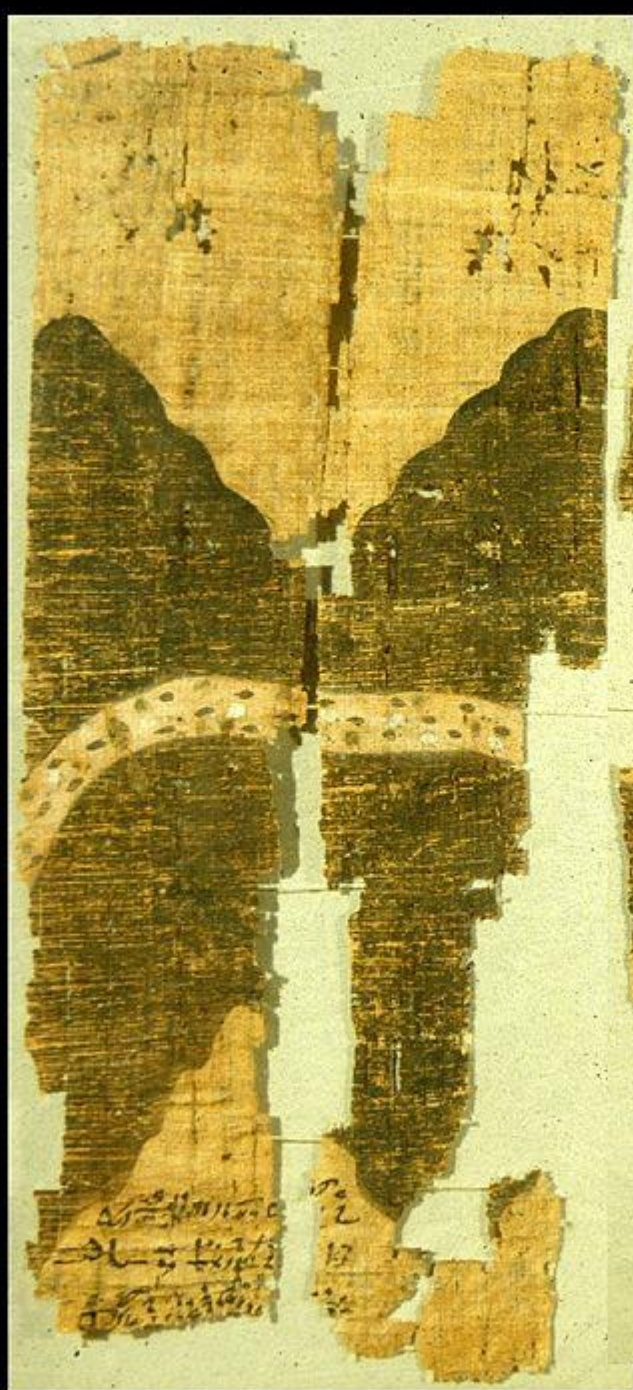
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ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲁⲓⲛⲁⲓ

ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲁⲓⲛⲁⲓ

ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲁⲓⲛⲁⲓ

ⲉⲃⲓⲛⲁⲓⲛⲁⲓ





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Map of the World

Babylonian

About 700-500 BC

Probably from
Sippar, southern
Iraq

British Museum





Met Office

500BCE

Map derived from
Hecatæus's
Periodos Ges

'Journey Round
the World'.

Divided into two
books, "Europe"
and "Asia"

Follows Homeric
idea that the
world is 'round'
surrounded by
ocean





Met Office

T-O Map

8th Century
Spanish copy

Represents the
physical world
described by the
7th-century
Isidore of Seville

Etymologiae
Chapter 14, *de*
terra et partibus





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Aristotle's 3/5
climatic zones

12th-century
manuscript of
Macrobius's
*Commentarii in
Somnium Scipionis*

ca. 1150.

Copenhagen, Det
Kongelige Bibliotek





Met Office

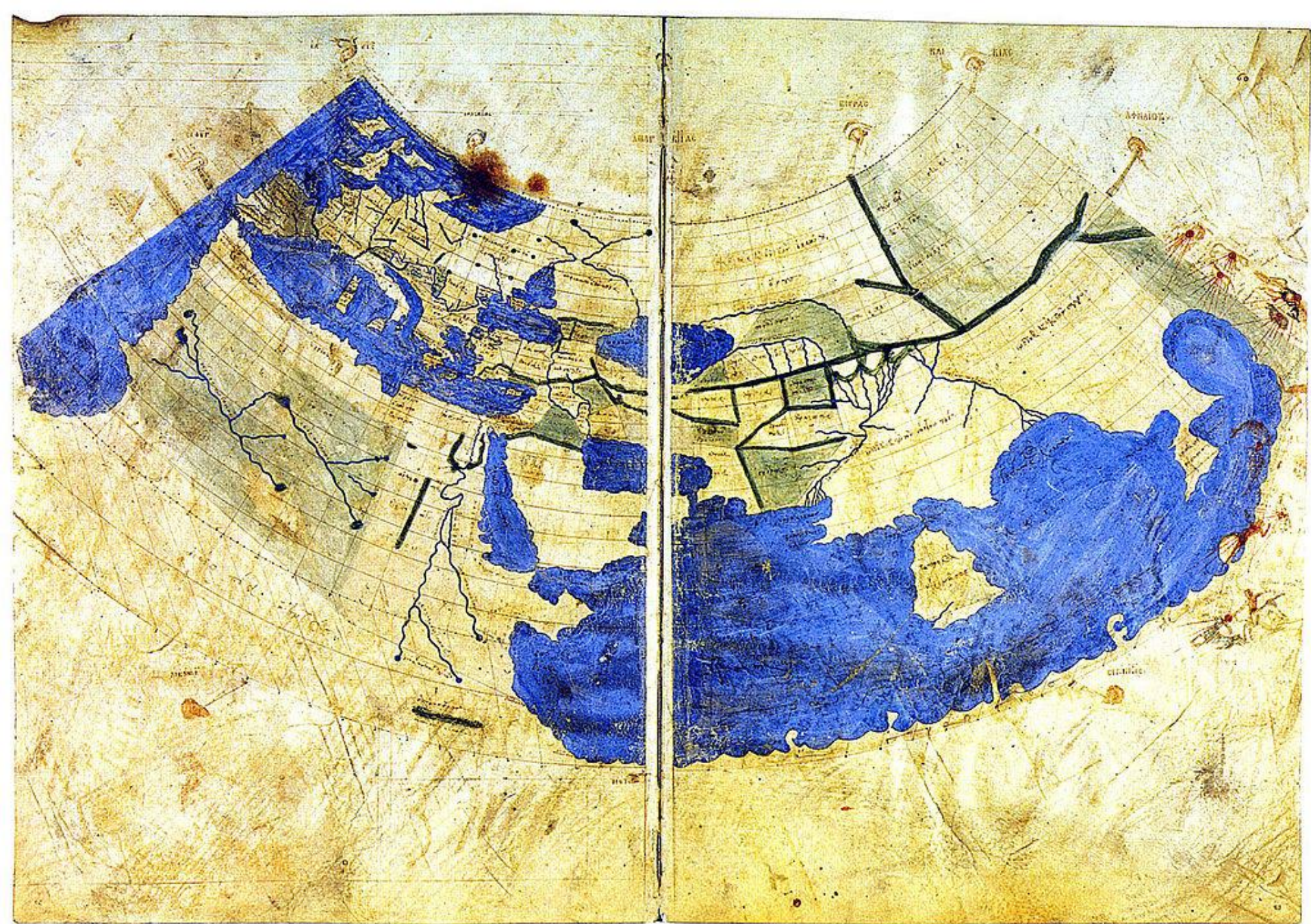
Al-Masudi

947CE

*The Meadows of
Gold and Mines
of Gems*

(مروج الذهب ومعادن
الجواهر, *Muruj
adh-dhahab wa
ma'adin al-
jawhar*)







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Quantitative maps

Ptolemy's Gazetteer

Following Marinus of Tyre, c 150CE

Latitude was measured from the equator in Africa but expressed in terms of hours rather than in degrees of arc:

The equator was set at 12 hours of midsummer daylight, while the Arctic was thought to have 24. Ptolemy specifies 10, then later 7, climatic zones corresponding to length of day.

His Prime Meridian ran through the Fortunate Isles, the westernmost land recorded, in the Canary Islands or Cape Verde.

The maps spanned 180 degrees of longitude from the Fortunate Isles in the Atlantic to China.

Locations based on travellers reports



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Land based Itineraries

E.g. Itinerarium Burdigalense ("Bordeaux Itinerary") is the oldest known Christian itinerarium.

Written by the "Pilgrim of Bordeaux, it recounts the writer's journey to the Holy Land in the years 333 and 334 CE

(By land through northern Italy, Danube valley, Constantinople, Asia Minor and Syria to Jerusalem. Back via Macedonia, Otranto, Rome, and Milan.

Distinguishes each boundary of one Roman province to the next, and distinguished carefully between each change of horses (mutatio) and a stopover place (mansio), and the differences between the simplest cluster of habitations (vicus) and the fortress (castellum) or city (civitas).

Persians also had itineraries



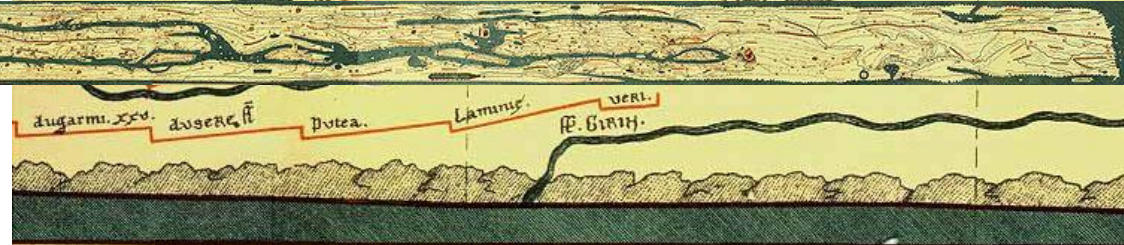
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Roman Illustrated Itinerary

300-400 CE

Copy from 1200 CE

“Peutinger's Tabula”





Met Office

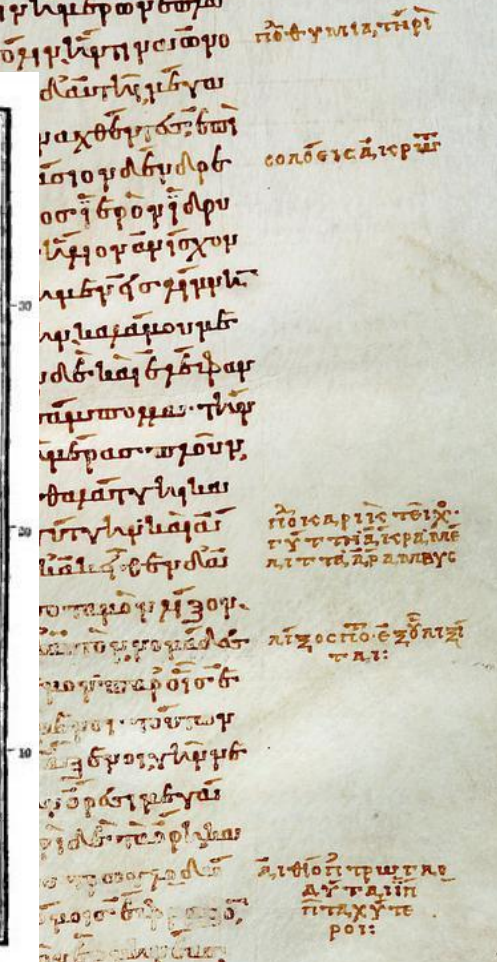
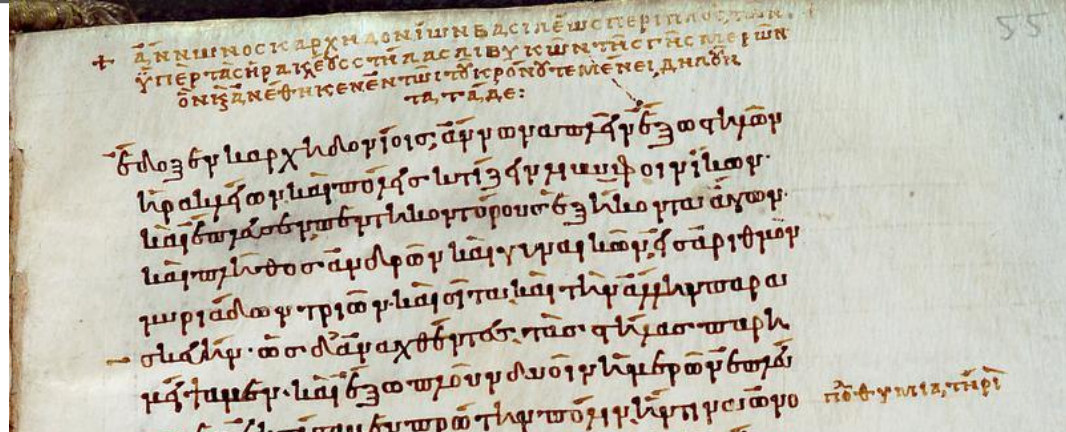
Periplous

Route list along a coast

Hanno's Periplous (600BCE) survives in a single Byzantine manuscript Codex Heidelbergensis 398.

Erythraean Periplous 100 CE, Red Sea to Ganges

Massaliote Periplous, (possibly 600 BCE) coasts of Atlantic Europe,



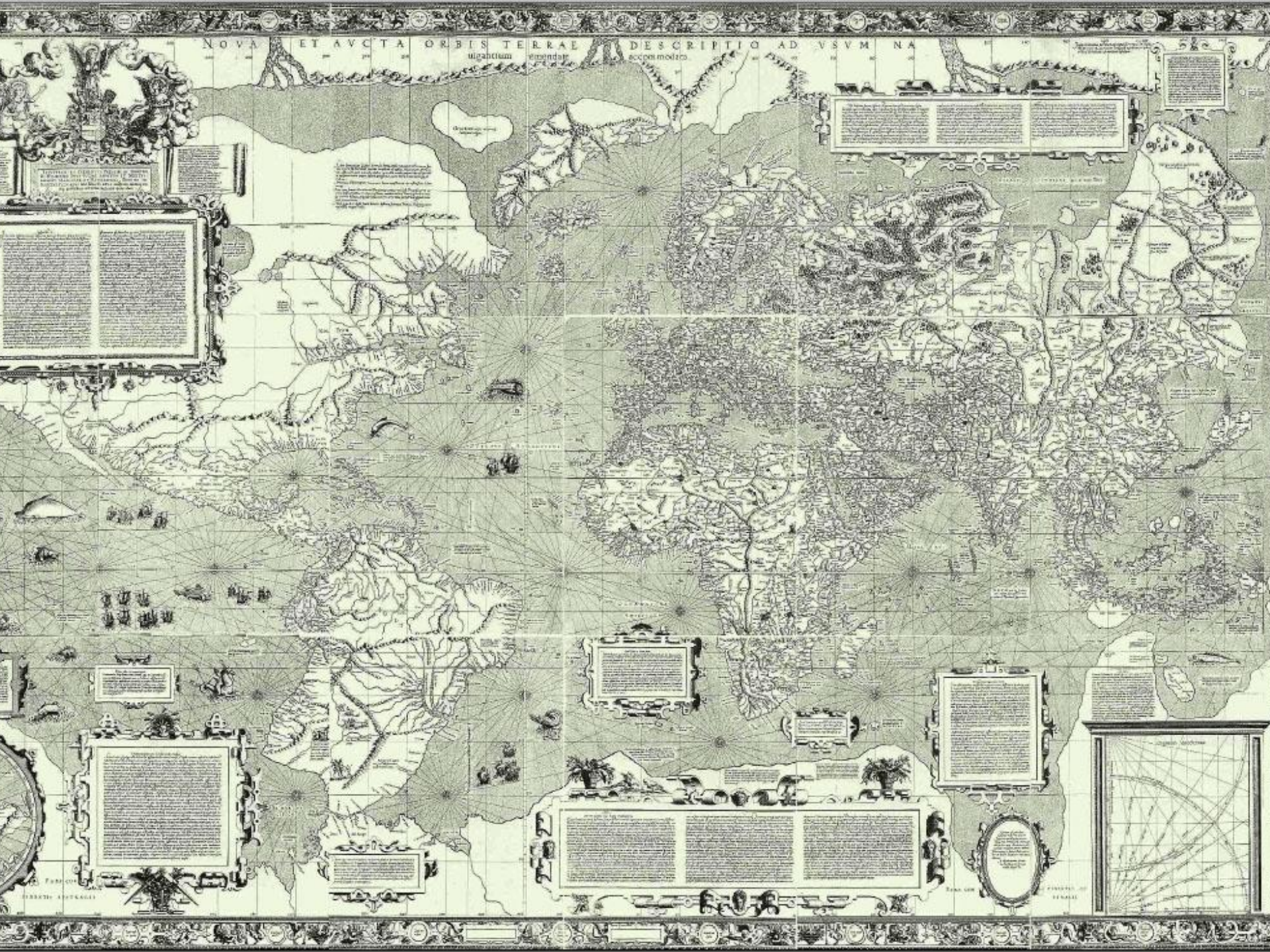


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Portolan: Periplus plus pictures



NOVA ET AVCTA ORBIS TERRAE DESCRIPTIO AD USUM NA
uigantium videntur accepit mox



NOVA ET AVCTA ORBIS TERRAE DESCRIPTIO AD USUM NA
uigantium videntur accepit mox

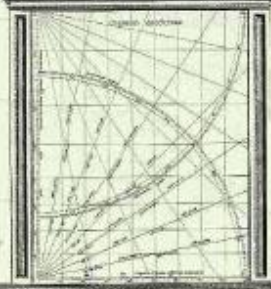
NOVA ET AVCTA ORBIS TERRAE DESCRIPTIO AD USUM NA
uigantium videntur accepit mox

NOVA ET AVCTA ORBIS TERRAE DESCRIPTIO AD USUM NA
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NOVA ET AVCTA ORBIS TERRAE DESCRIPTIO AD USUM NA
uigantium videntur accepit mox

NOVA ET AVCTA ORBIS TERRAE DESCRIPTIO AD USUM NA
uigantium videntur accepit mox

NOVA ET AVCTA ORBIS TERRAE DESCRIPTIO AD USUM NA
uigantium videntur accepit mox



ORBIS TERRE COMPENDIOSA DESCRIPTIO EX PERITISSIMORVM
TIVS ORBIS GEOGRAPHORVM TABVLIS ET NOVISSIMIS OBSERVATIONIBVS DELYNATA



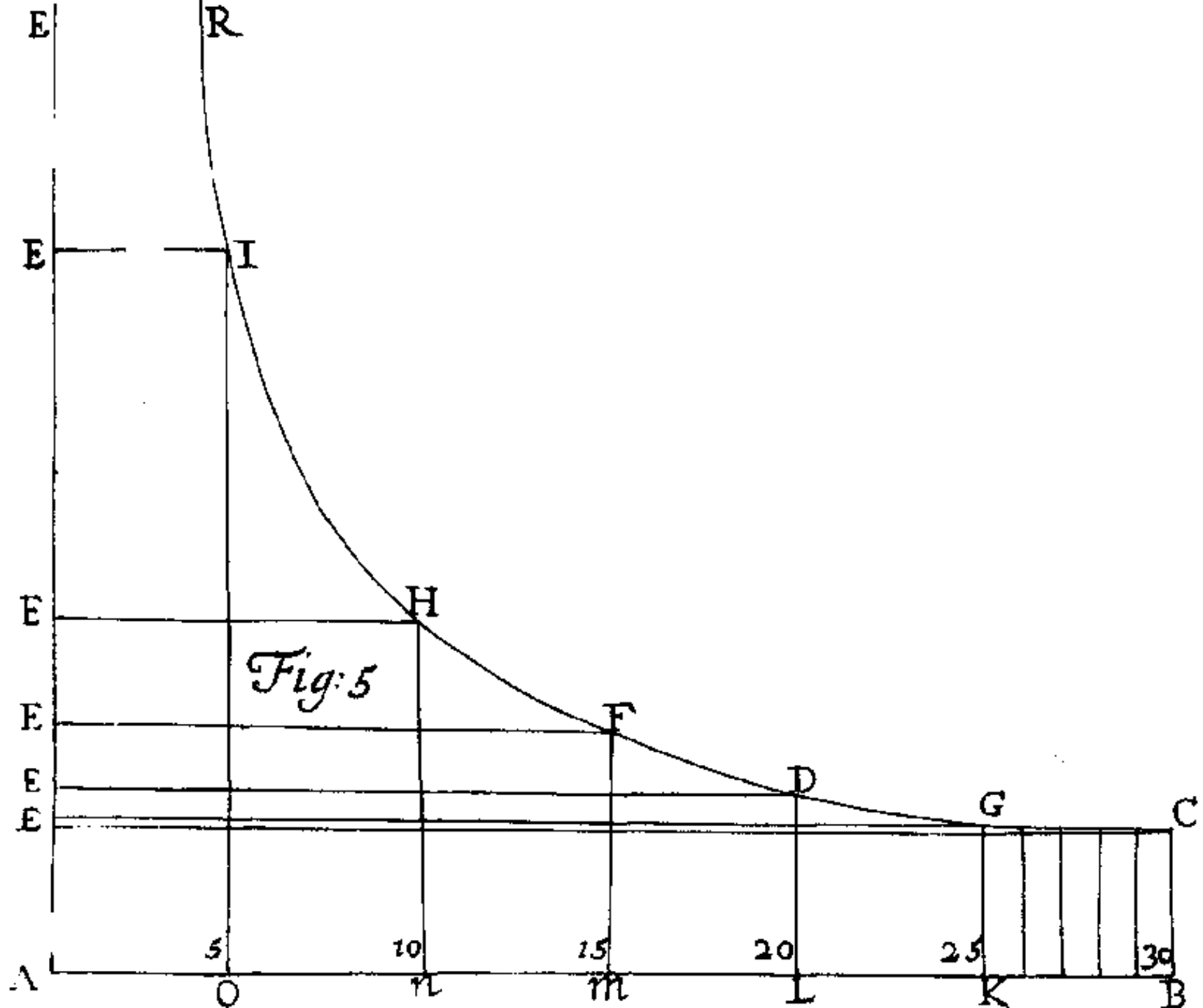




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Halley's Trade Wind Map 1656







Carte des lignes Isothermes par M. A. de Humboldt

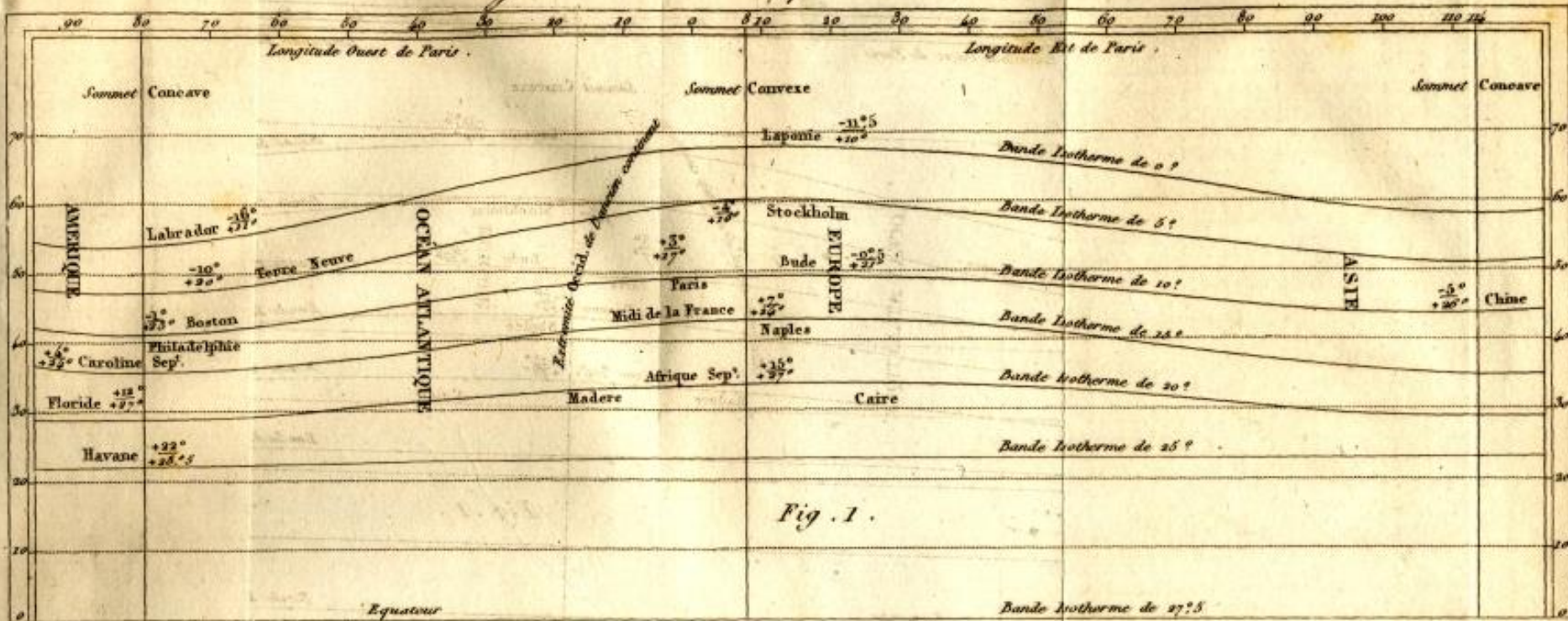
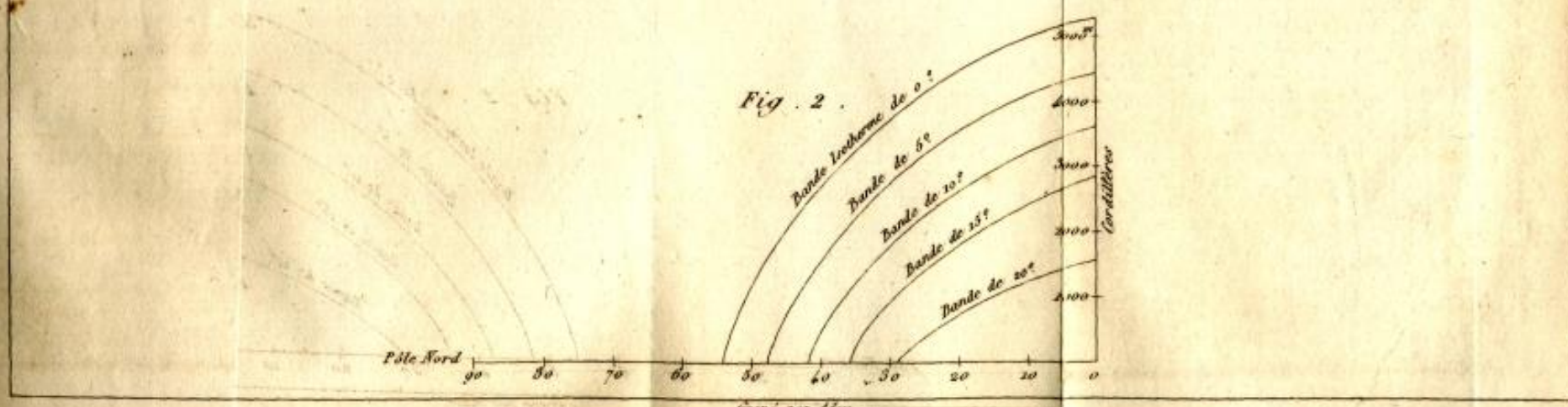
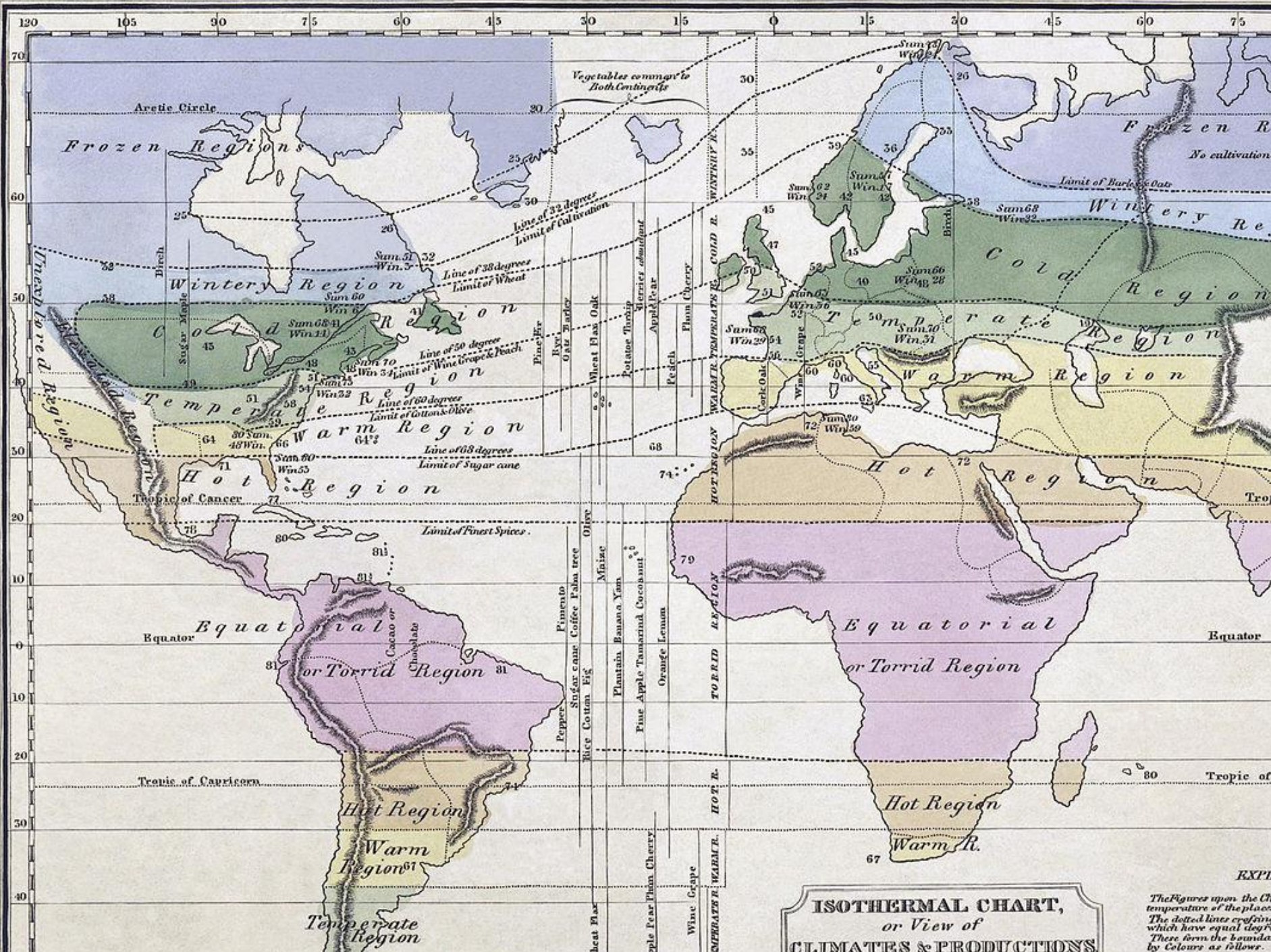


Fig. 1.





**ISOTHERMAL CHART,
 or View of
 CLIMATES & PRODUCTIONS,**

EXPLA
 The Figures upon the Chart
 represent the average
 temperature of the places at
 which they are written.
 The dotted lines signify the
 limits of the places which
 have equal degrees.
 These form the boundaries
 by Colours as follows.
 Red Torrid Region



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Timeline: Graphing

VENUS



MERCUR



SATVRN



SOL



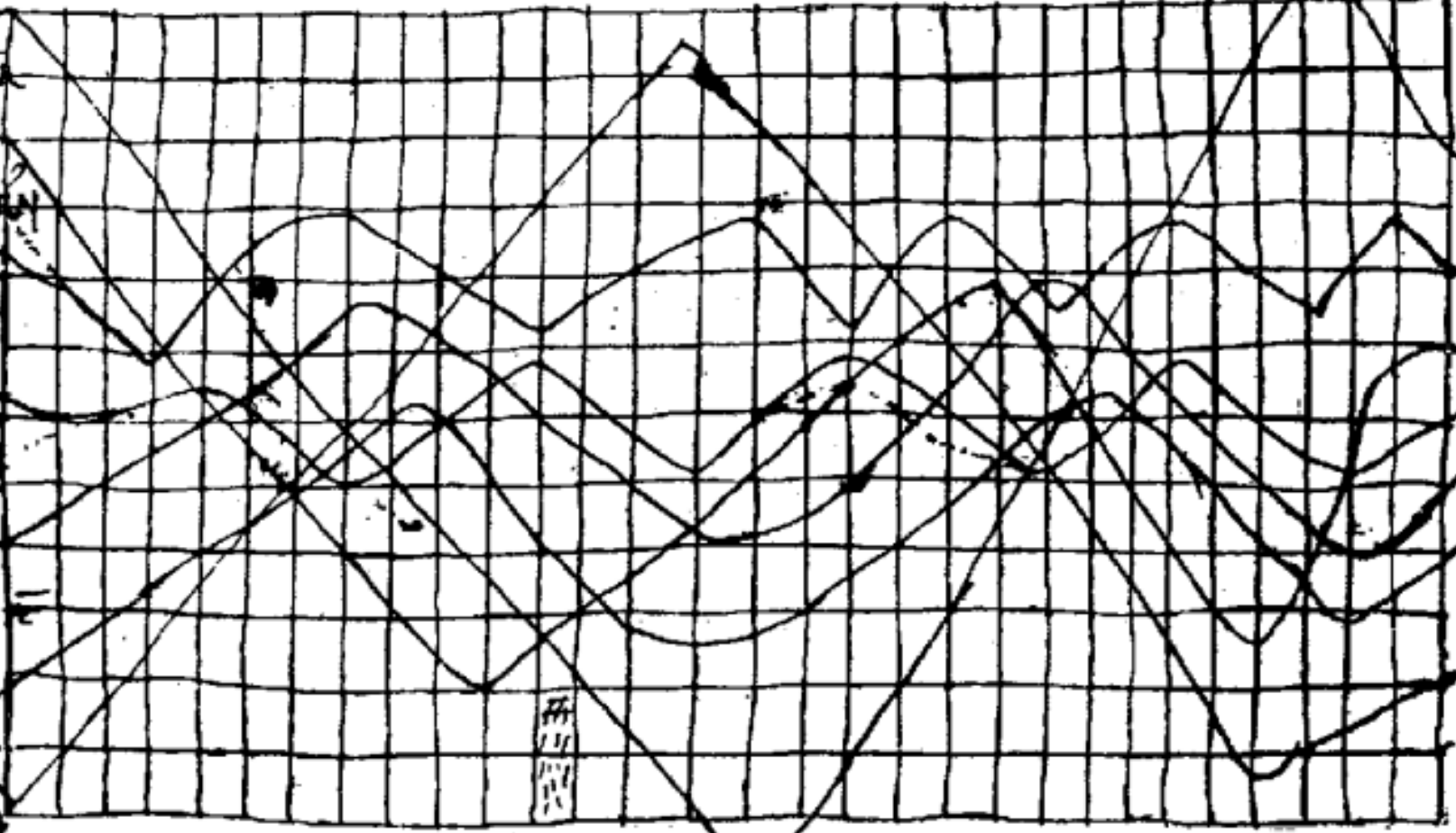
MARS



IUPITER



LUNA

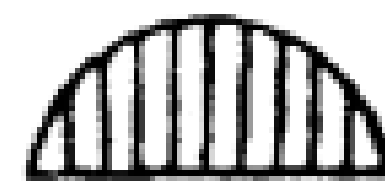


Handwritten text or markings within the grid, possibly a date or reference number.

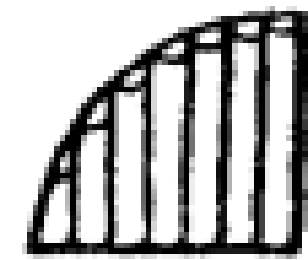
diffōm'is vni formiter variatio reddit vni for
 miter diffōmiter diffōmes. ¶ Latitudo vni
 formi ē dicitur ē illa q̄ inter e- cellus graduum
 e- q̄ distantiaz suat e- dē p̄portioz a. tā m̄ a p̄
 portioe e- q̄tatis. Tā a ut e- cellus graduum
 inter se e- q̄ distantiaz suarent p̄portioz e- q̄ta
 tis ut e- dē antea vni formiter dicitur ut p̄ e-
 ditionibus membrorum secūde dicitur
 Rursum si nulla proportio seruetur tunc nulla
 potest attendi vni formitas in latitudine tali et
 sic non erit vni formiter diffōm'is diffōm'is

¶ Latitudo diffōm'iter diffōm'iter diffōm'is
 ē illa q̄ inter e- cellus graduum e- que distantiaz
 non seruet e- dē proportionem sicut in se
 cunda parte patebit. Notandum tamen est
 q̄ sicut in supradictis dicitur ubi loquitur
 de excessu graduum inter se e- que distantiam
 debet accipi distantia scōm partes latitudinis
 extēnsae et nō intēnsae ut loquuntur d. c. e. dif
 fōm'itōe d. distantia s̄ dū s̄uali n̄ e- sūt graduali

scip. et fiat ad in



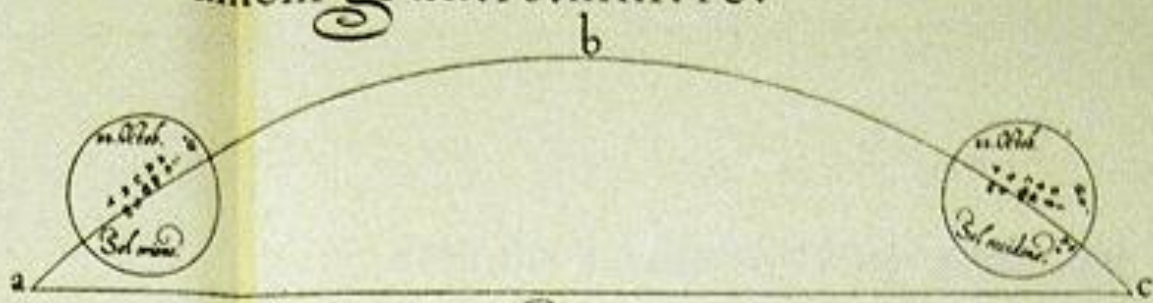
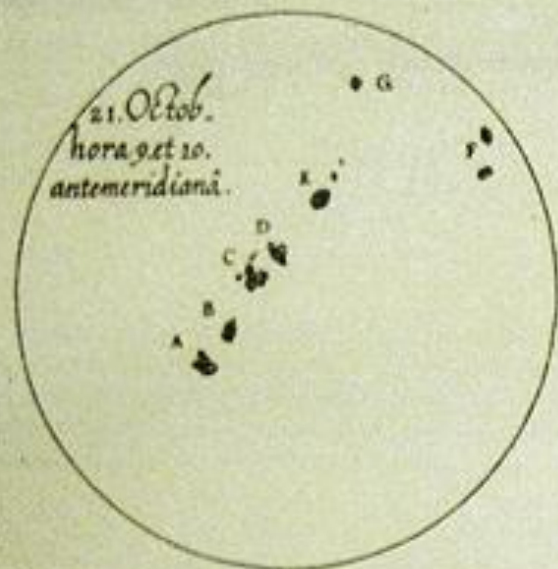
Diffōm'iter diffōm'is



d'f' d'f', d'f' d'f'



MACVLAE IN SOLE APPARENTES, OBSERVATAE
 anno 1611. ad latitudinem grad. 48. min. 40.



a c, horizon. a b c, arcus solis diurnus. Sol oriens ex parte a, maculas exhibet quas vides, occidens vero c, easdem ratione primj motus, non nihil inuertit. Et hanc matutinam vespertinamq; mutationem, omnes maculae quotidie subeunt. Quod semel exhibuisse et monuisse, sufficiat.



Macula M, est haec tenuis visarum maxima, nulliq; prima magnitudinis sideri fixo cedit.

Macula I sunt valde conspicua, propter notabilem pra reliquis magnitudinem.

Figura quae habet annexum signum X, est Orbiter.



ALPES
MONTAGNES

Carte Topographique
de la Région des Alpes et du Massif Central

Échelle de 1:100,000
Dressée par le Service des Cartes et Plans de l'État
à Paris le 15 Mars 1875

Les hauteurs sont indiquées par des courbes de niveau
et des chiffres placés sur les points culminants.
Les distances sont indiquées par des chiffres placés
sur les routes principales.

Les noms des communes sont indiqués par des lettres
noires placées à côté des points correspondants.
Les noms des départements sont indiqués par des lettres
noires placées à l'intérieur des limites correspondantes.

Les noms des rivières sont indiqués par des lettres
noires placées à côté des points correspondants.
Les noms des lacs sont indiqués par des lettres
noires placées à côté des points correspondants.

Les noms des montagnes sont indiqués par des lettres
noires placées à côté des points correspondants.
Les noms des cols sont indiqués par des lettres
noires placées à côté des points correspondants.

Les noms des communes sont indiqués par des lettres
noires placées à côté des points correspondants.
Les noms des départements sont indiqués par des lettres
noires placées à l'intérieur des limites correspondantes.

Les noms des rivières sont indiqués par des lettres
noires placées à côté des points correspondants.
Les noms des lacs sont indiqués par des lettres
noires placées à côté des points correspondants.

Les noms des montagnes sont indiqués par des lettres
noires placées à côté des points correspondants.
Les noms des cols sont indiqués par des lettres
noires placées à côté des points correspondants.

Les noms des communes sont indiqués par des lettres
noires placées à côté des points correspondants.
Les noms des départements sont indiqués par des lettres
noires placées à l'intérieur des limites correspondantes.

MONTAGNE DE BAYONNE

BAYE DE LYON
MER MEDITERRANEE

GULF OF GENOA



Handwritten text on a lined page, possibly a ledger or account book. The page is filled with dense, illegible entries, likely organized in columns and rows. The handwriting is cursive and difficult to decipher. The page is bound in a brown cover, visible on the left and right edges.

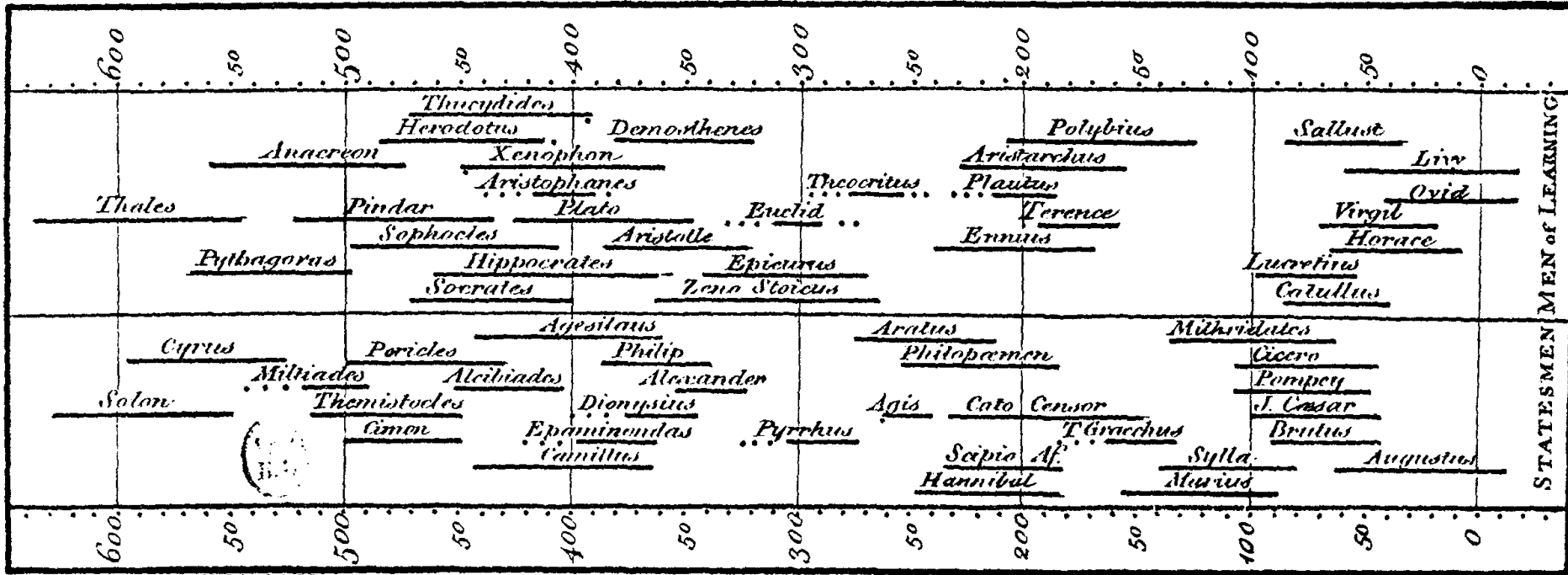


Met Office



Joseph Priestley's Timeline 1765

A Specimens of a Chart of Biography.



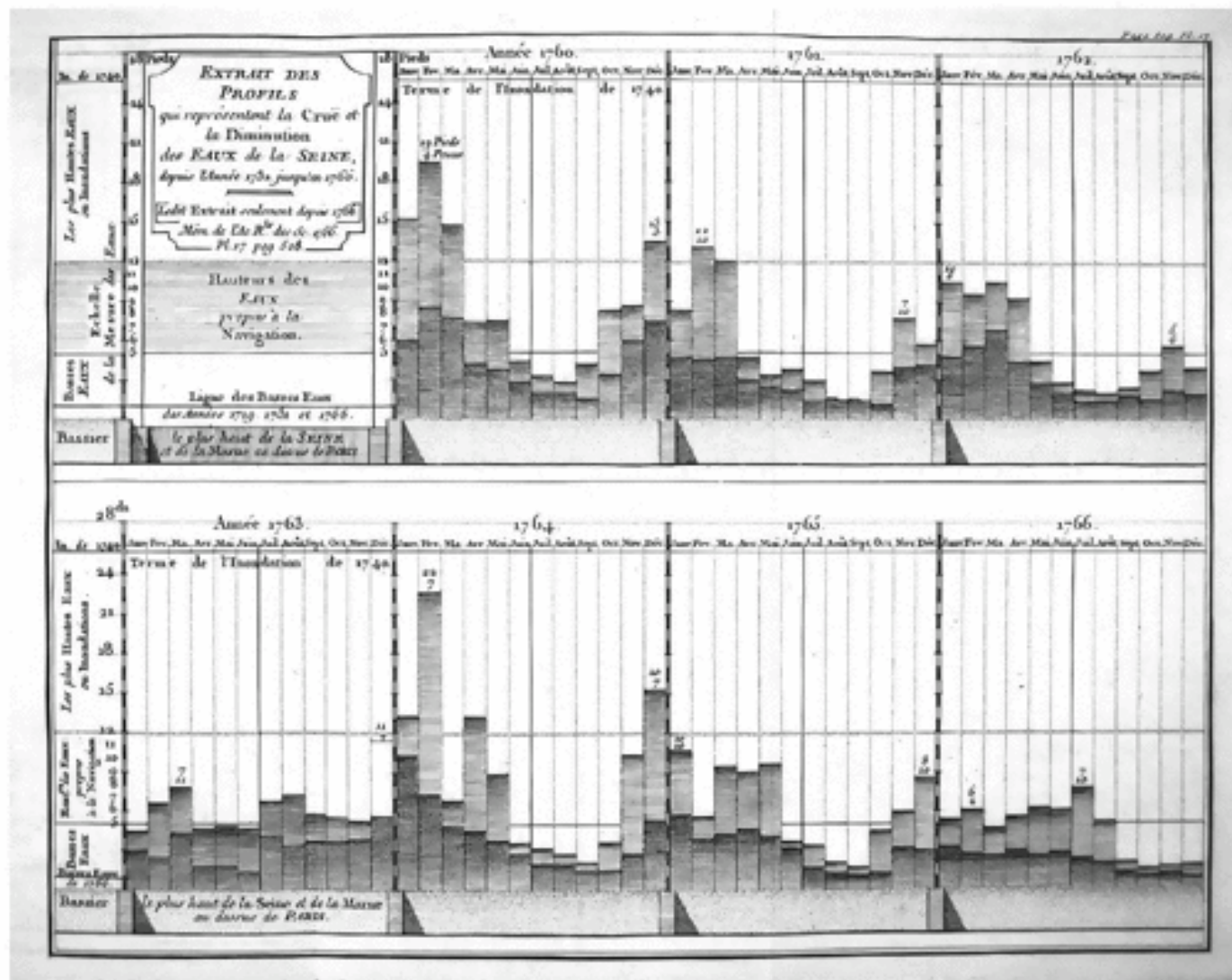
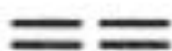
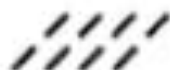


Figure 1. A time-line bar graph, "Extrait des Profils qui representent la Cruë et la Diminution des EAUX de la SEINE," by Philippe Buache, published in 1770, showing month-by-month high and low levels of the Seine, 1760-1766.

J. H. Lambert, 1771



clouds



rain



snow



fog



thunder

Meteorological Society of the Palatinate, 1781–1792



cloudless



overcast



half cloudy



fog



lunar halo



rain



snow



hail

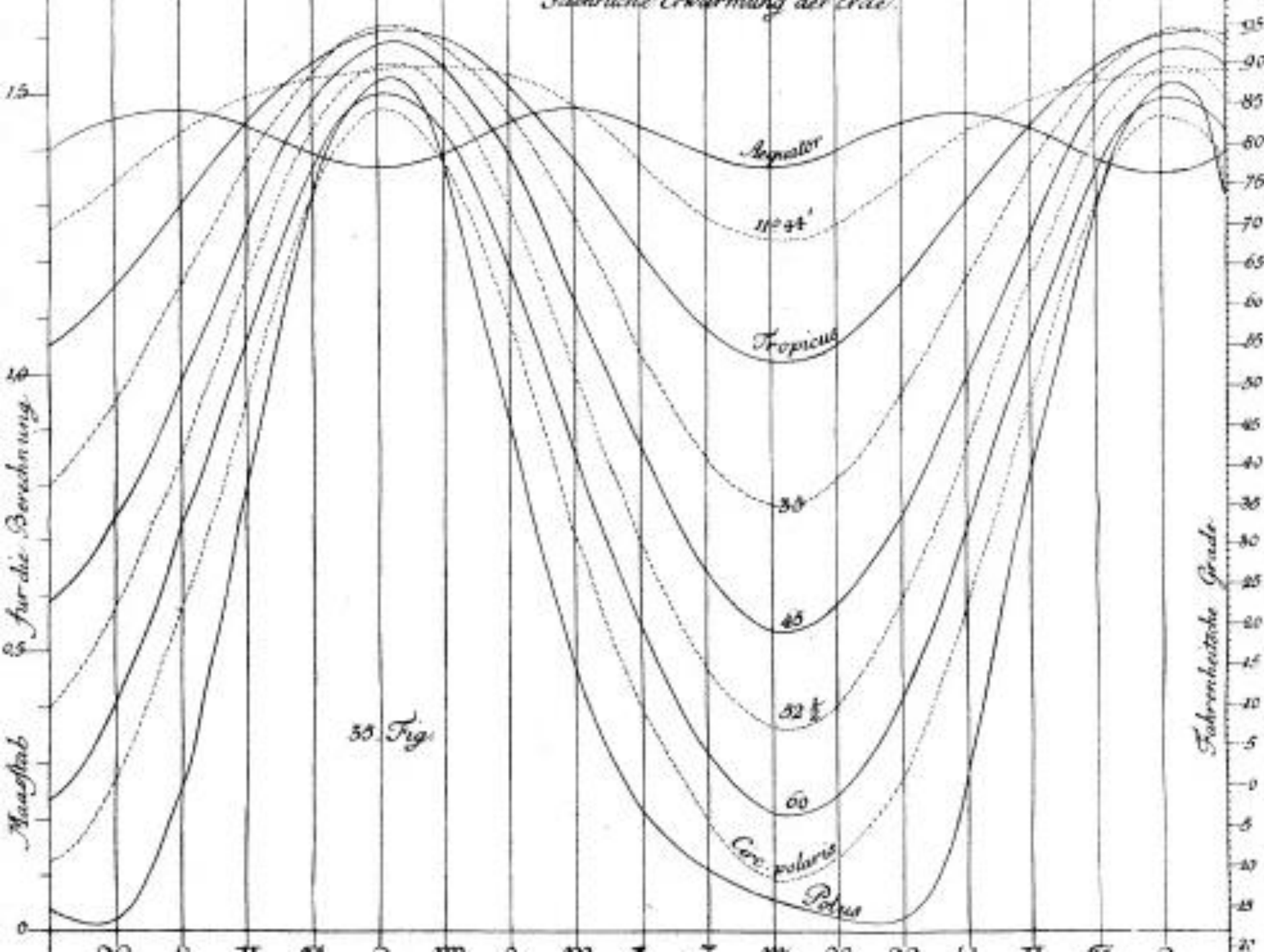


thunderstorm



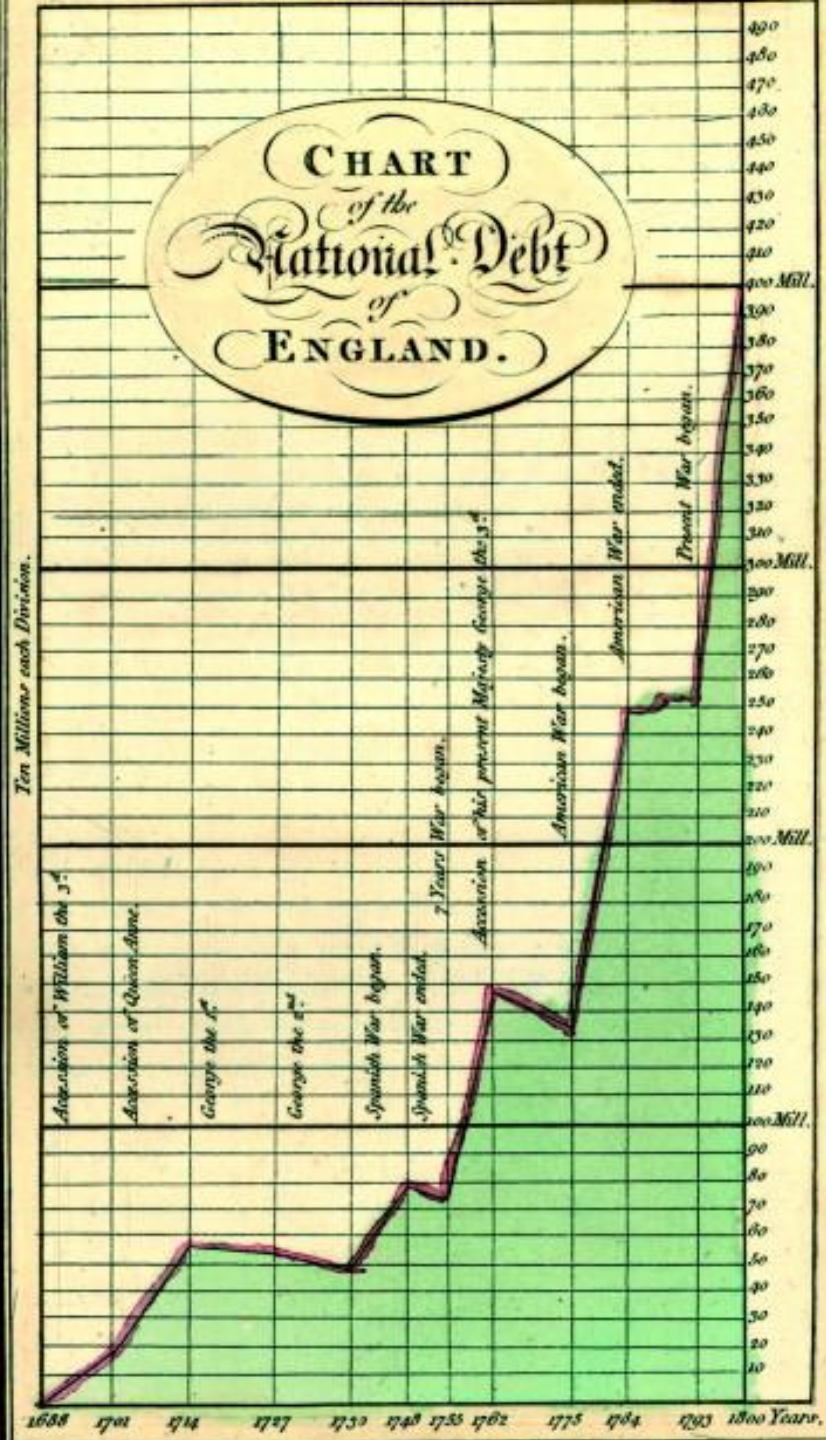
rainbow

Fig. 12.4. Weather glyphs devised by Lambert in 1771 (upper row) and the Meteorological Society of the Palatinate between 1781 and 1792 (lower rows). Compiled from C. Fitzhugh Talman, "Meteorological Symbols," *Monthly Weather Review* 44 (1916): 265.





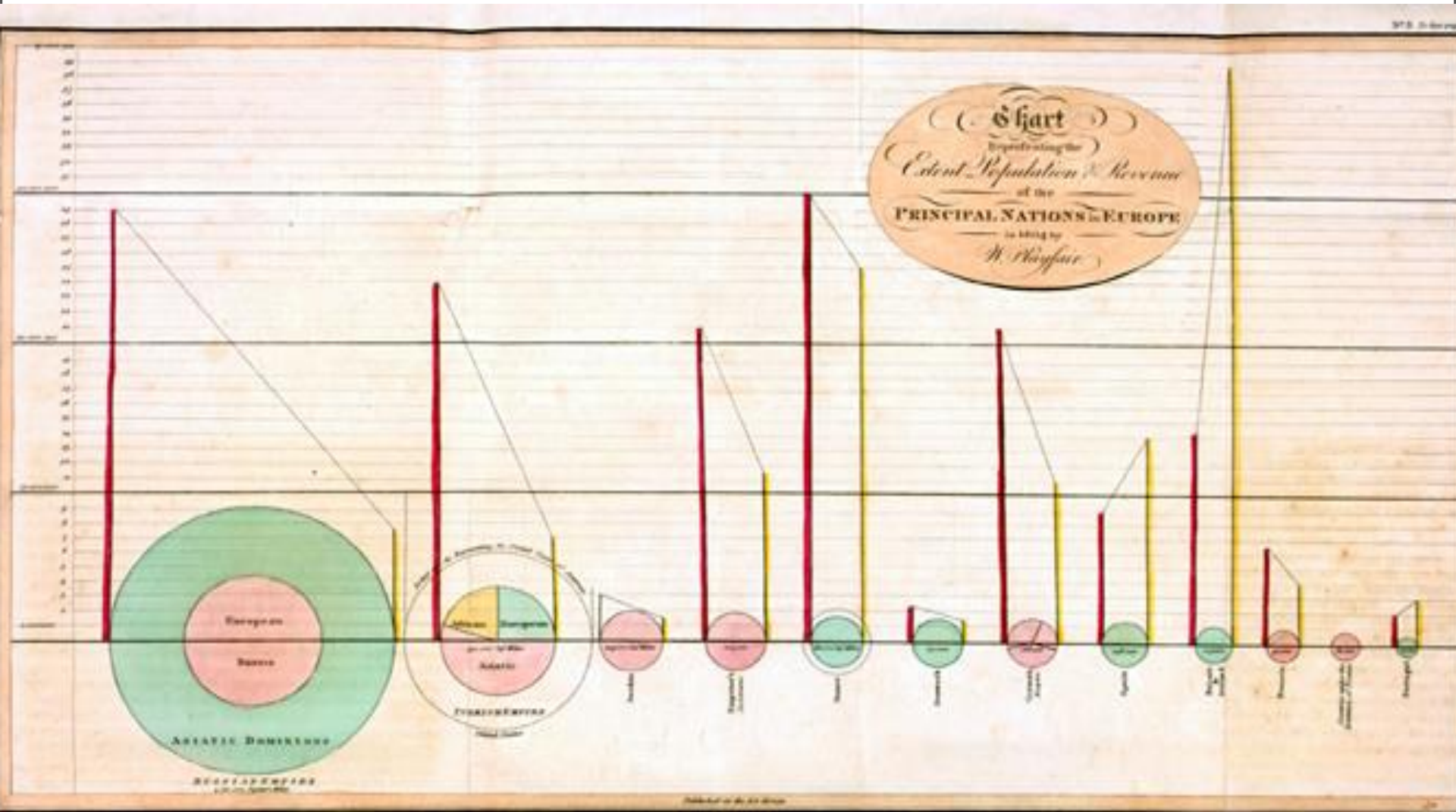
Met Office

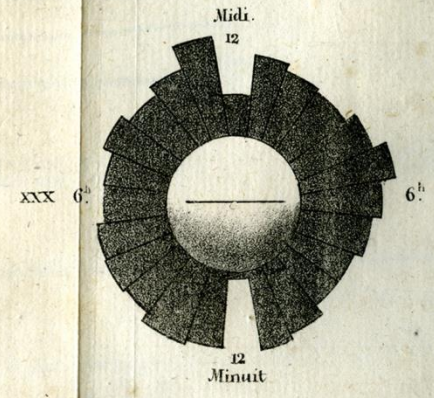
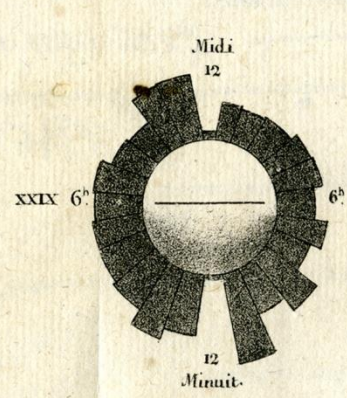
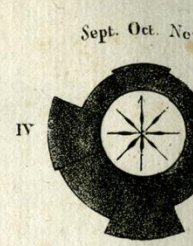
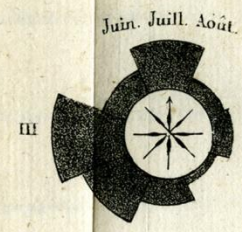
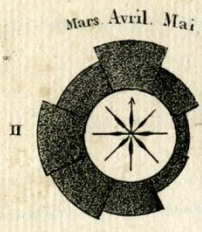
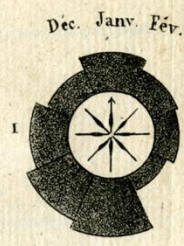
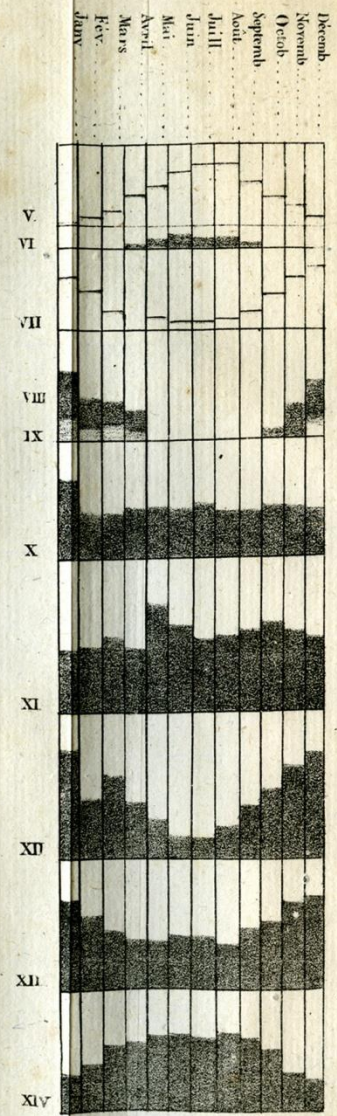
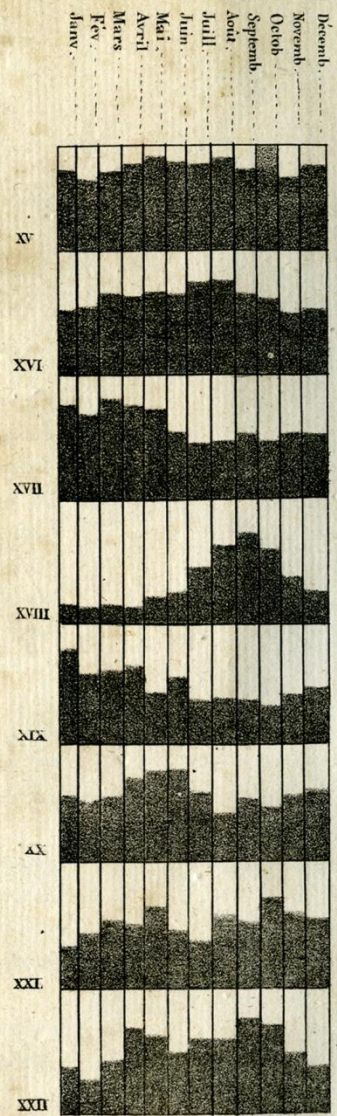
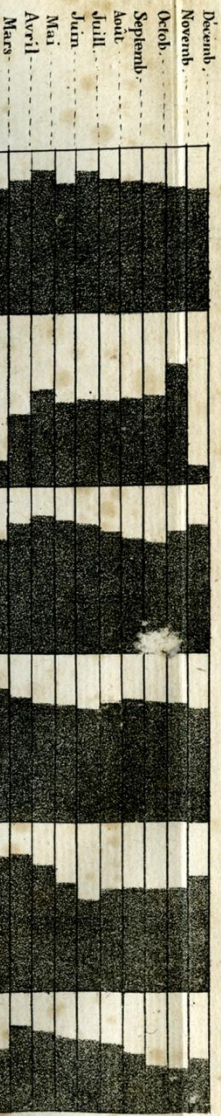


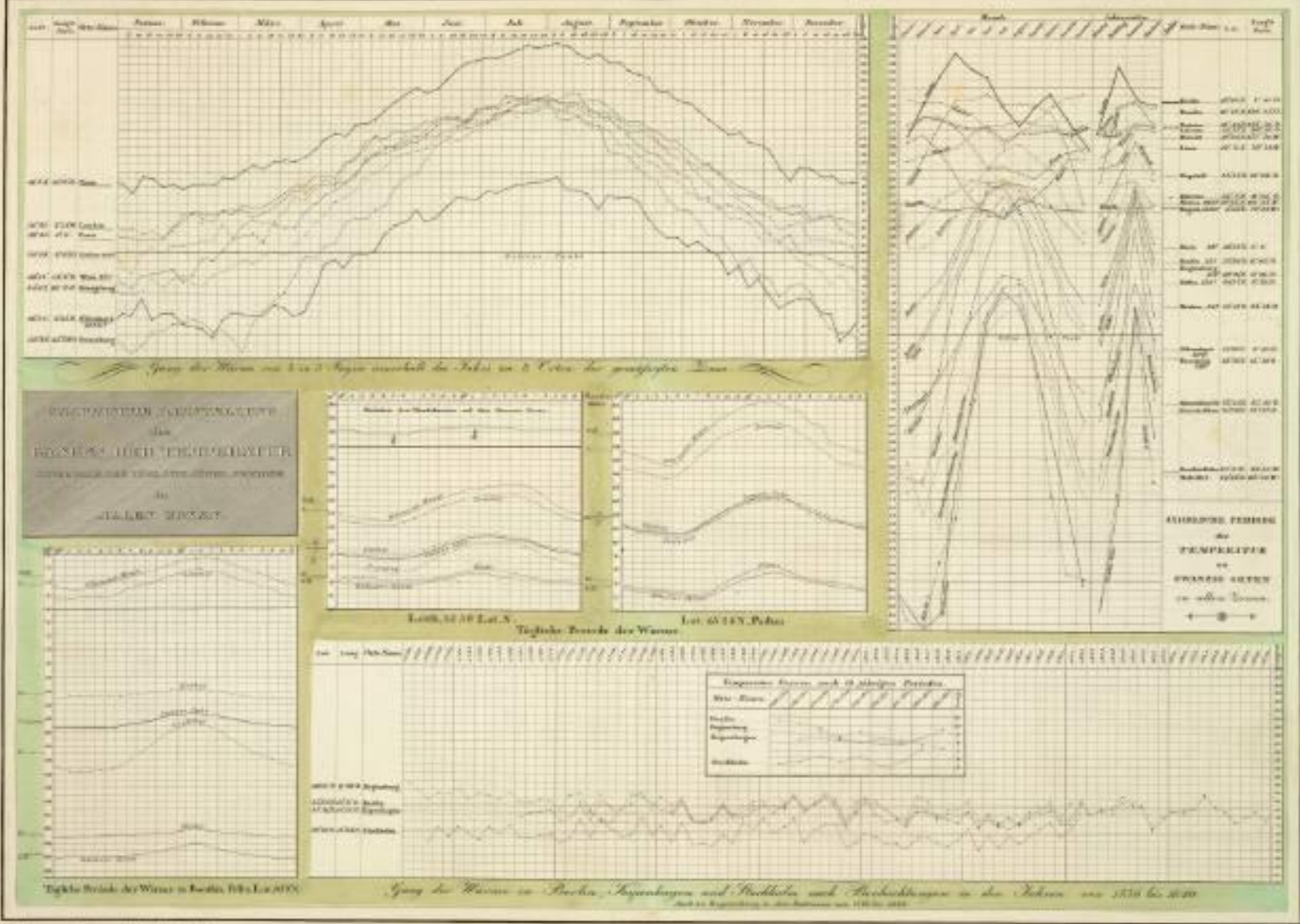


Met Office

William Playfair's Pie charts 1801

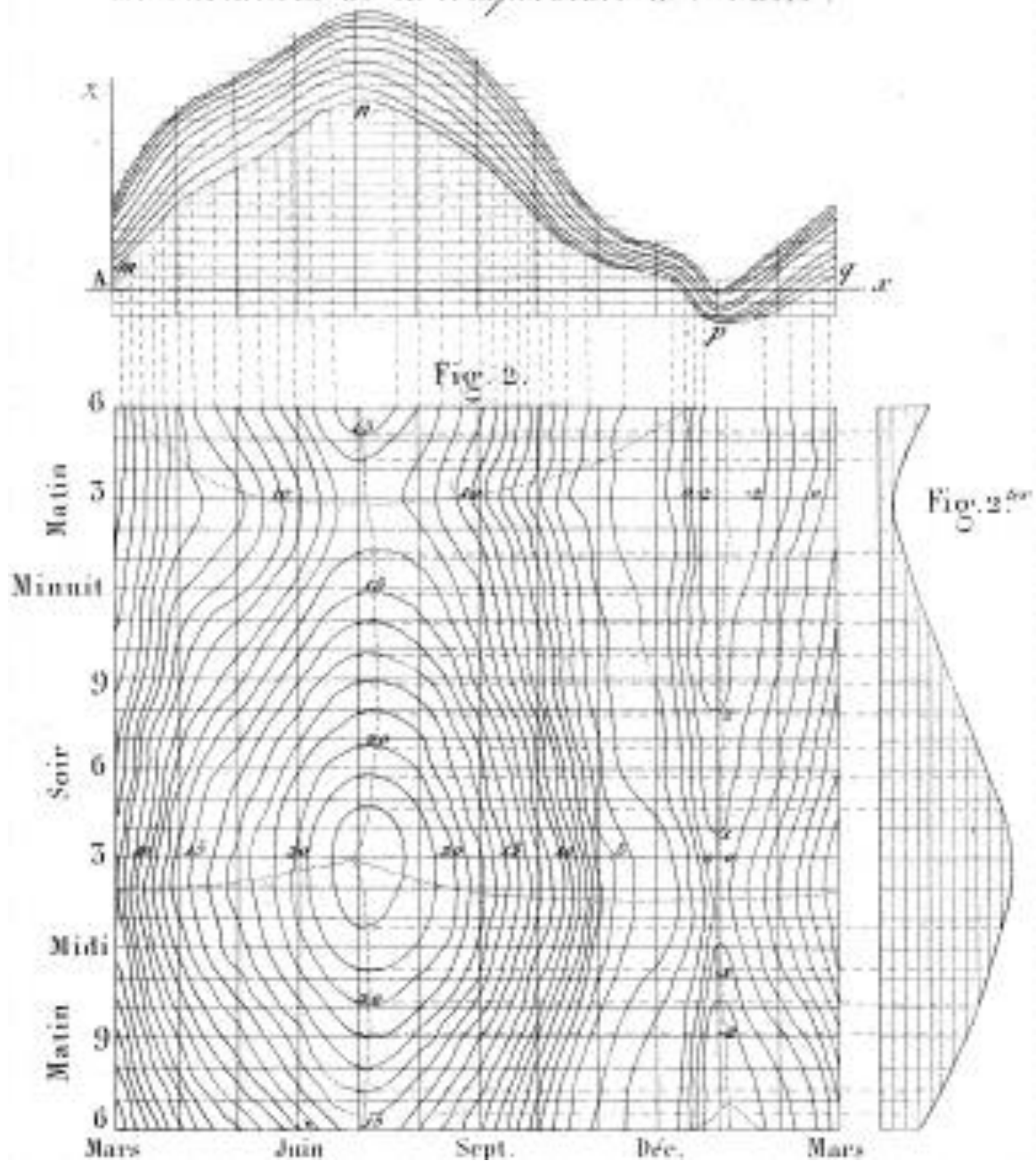


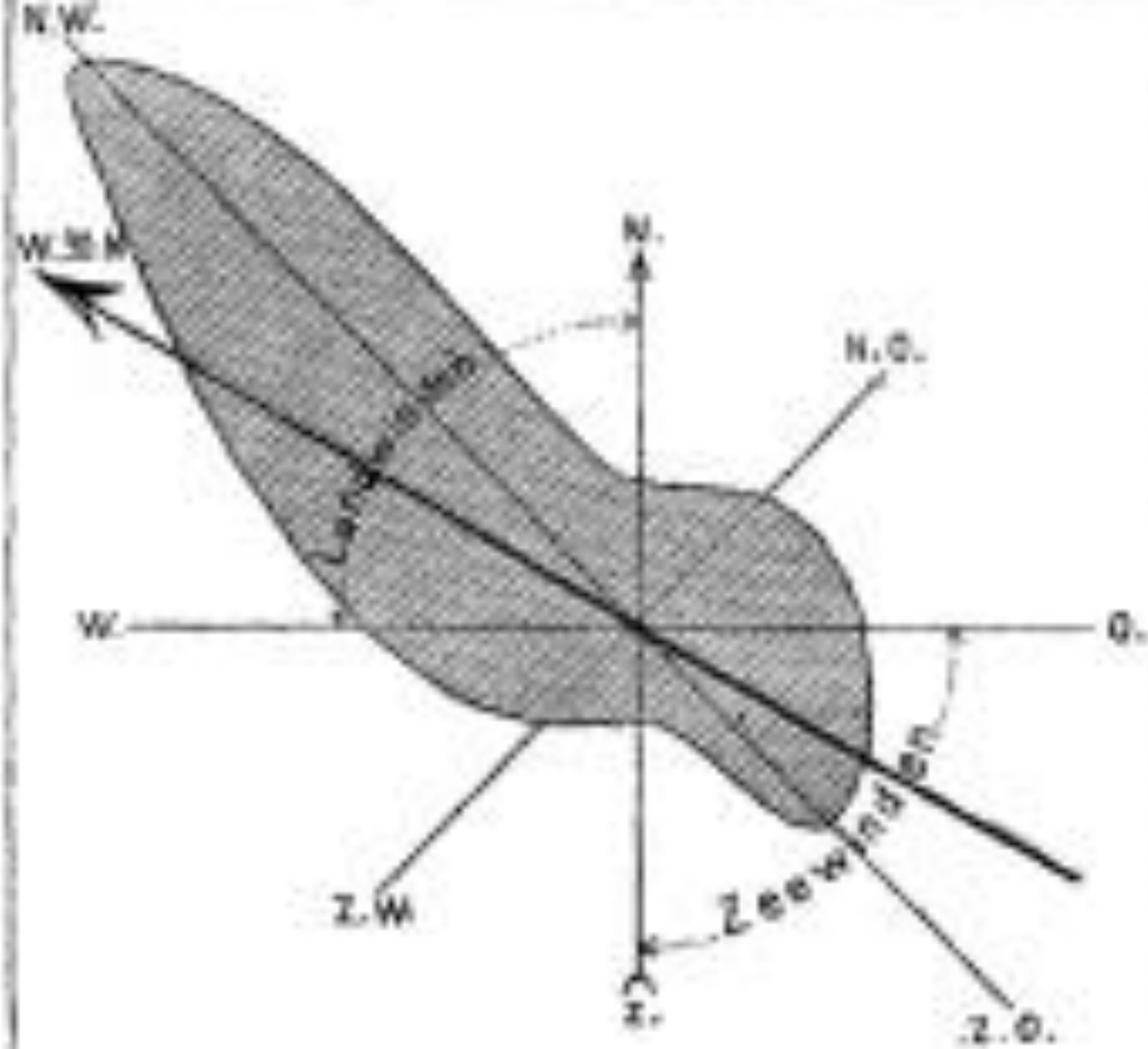




Verlesen in der Geographischen Gesellschaft.

Fig. 2.^o : Plan topographique exprimant les variations de la température à Matle.





Abaque hexagonal donnant sans calcul et sans relèvements la déviation du compas, pour le bateau « Le Triomphe ».

Formules :

$$\delta = A \cdot B \sin \zeta + C \cos \zeta + D \sin 2\zeta + E \cos 2\zeta$$

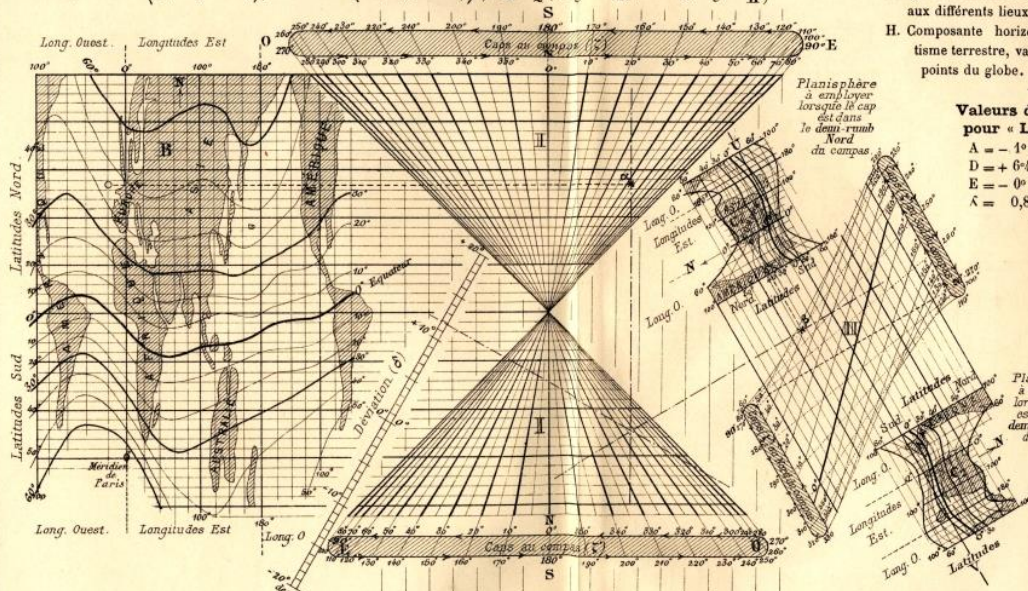
$$B = \arcsin \left(\frac{1}{2} (1 + \frac{1}{2} \sin D) \right); C = \arcsin \left(\frac{1}{2} (1 - \frac{1}{2} \sin D) \right); \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2} (\cot \theta + \frac{P}{H}); \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2} (\cot \theta + \frac{Q}{H})$$

Légende :

δ Angle d'inclinaison magnétique variable aux différents lieux de la terre.
 H. Composante horizontale du magnétisme terrestre, variable aux différents points du globe.

Valeurs des coefficients pour « Le Triomphe » :

A = - 4° 9' c = + 0,106;
 D = + 6° 45' f = - 0,013;
 E = - 0° 5' P = - 0,033;
 λ = 0,84 Q = - 0,020;



Manière de se servir de l'Abaque :

Pour consulter cet abaque, on se sert d'un **indicateur** hexagonal transparent, orienté comme le montre le modèle ci-dessus.

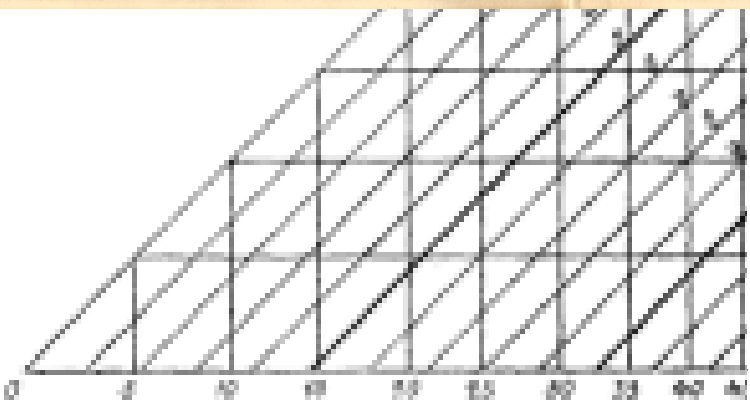
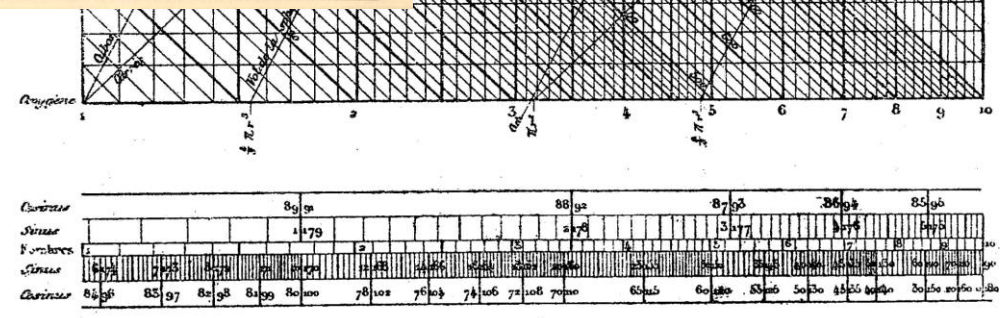
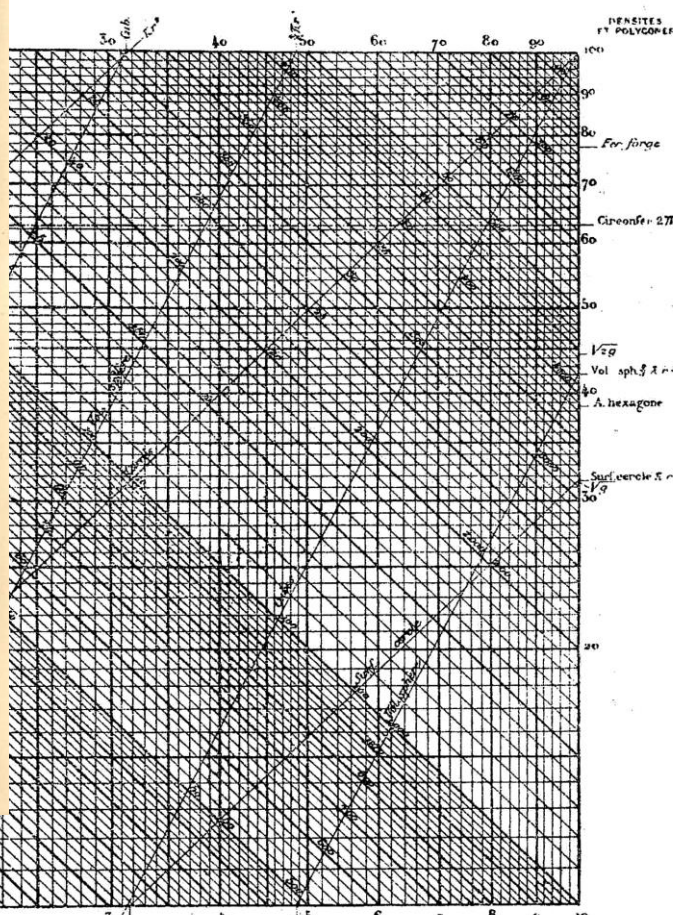
- 1° Prendre, sur la planisphère anamorphosée B, le point situé à la rencontre du **méridien du lieu** avec la courbe ayant pour cote la **latitude**.
 Projeter ce point horizontalement sur la génératrice du cône I répondant au cap ζ' du compas. — Marquer d'une petite croix (∞), au crayon, le point ainsi obtenu.
- 2° Prendre de même — sur la planisphère supérieure C, si le cap est dans le demi-rumb nord du compas — sur la planisphère C₂, si le cap est dans le demi-rumb sud — le point de rencontre du méridien et de la courbe ayant respectivement pour cotes la **longitude** et la **latitude** du lieu.

- 3° Projeter ce point parallèlement à la direction UV (\) sur la génératrice de l'hyperboloïde II répondant au cap ζ' . — Marquer également d'une petite croix (β) le point obtenu.
- 3° Placer le diamètre vertical (1) de l'indicateur sur la croix (∞); amener ensuite, par un glissement vertical, le diamètre 2-2' sur la croix (β). — On lit à ce moment sur le diamètre 3-3' à la rencontre de l'échelle δ qui lui est perpendiculaire, la valeur de la **déviatiion totale** δ .

Sur la planche, à titre d'exemple, on a figuré les croix (∞) et (β), et, en traits tiretés (---), les positions des diamètres de l'indicateur, pour un point situé dans l'Atlantique, par 20° de long. O. et 42° de latitude N., et pour un cap $\zeta' = 41^\circ, 5'$. — On lit, pour la déviation totale : $\delta = 11^\circ, 8'$.

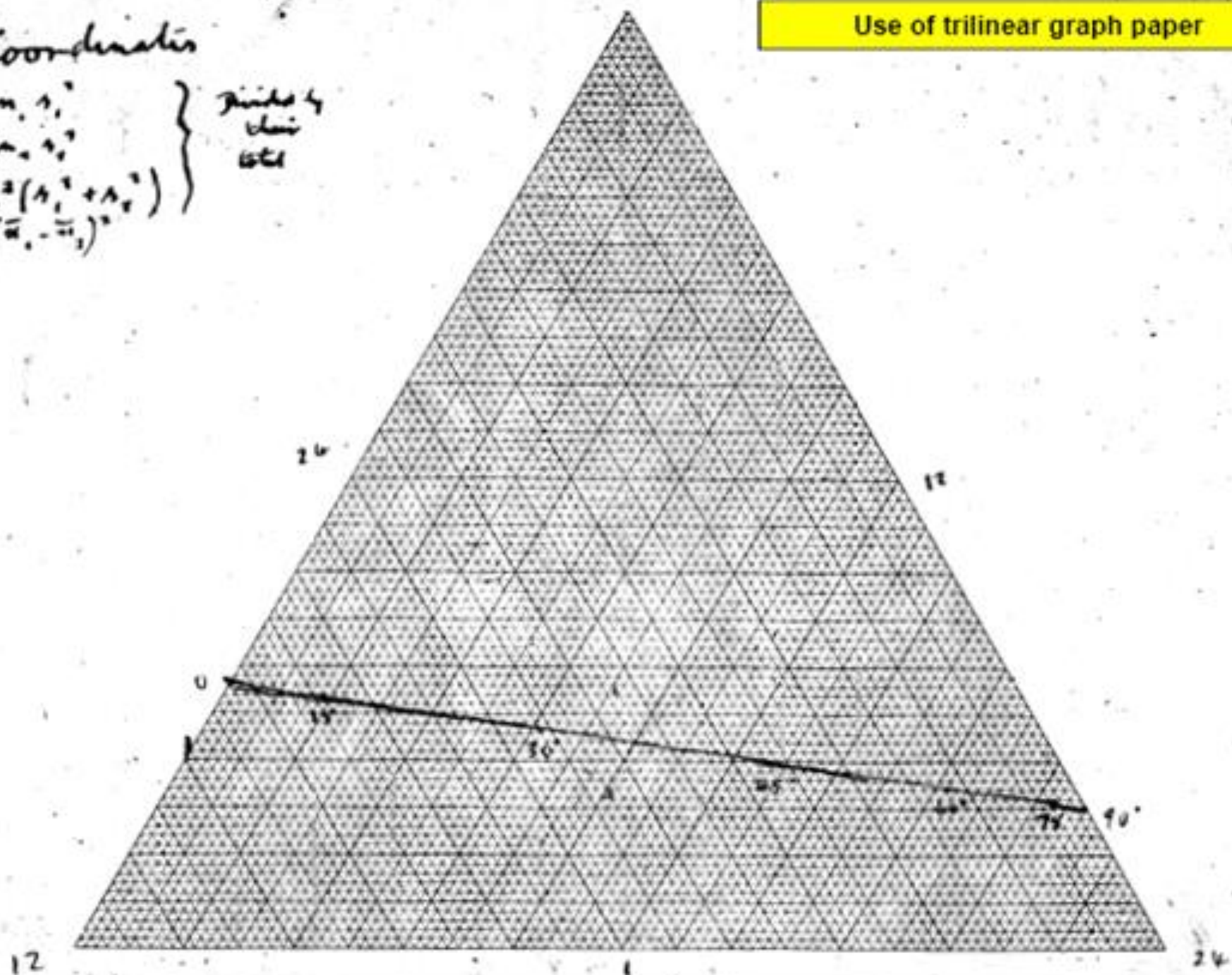
N.-B. — Pour ne pas salir le dessin, il est bon de le recouvrir d'une feuille de toile calque, placée le côté rugueux en dessus, sur laquelle on marque les deux petites croix (∞) et (β). — On efface ces dernières d'un coup de gomme, une fois le résultat obtenu.

	86,94	87,95	88,96	89,97
1	1,79	1,77	1,75	1,73
2	3,58	3,54	3,50	3,46
3	5,37	5,31	5,25	5,19
4	7,16	7,08	7,01	6,94
5	8,95	8,85	8,76	8,67
6	10,74	10,63	10,52	10,41
7	12,53	12,41	12,29	12,17
8	14,32	14,19	14,06	13,93
9	16,11	15,97	15,83	15,69
10	17,90	17,75	17,60	17,45



Coordinates

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} n_1 \vec{a}_1 \\ n_2 \vec{a}_2 \\ d^2 (\vec{a}_1^2 + \vec{a}_2^2) \\ (\vec{a}_1 - \vec{a}_2)^2 \end{array} \right\} \text{finds } \vec{a}_i \text{ etc}$$



12

24

Linien - Diagramme im Kreise:



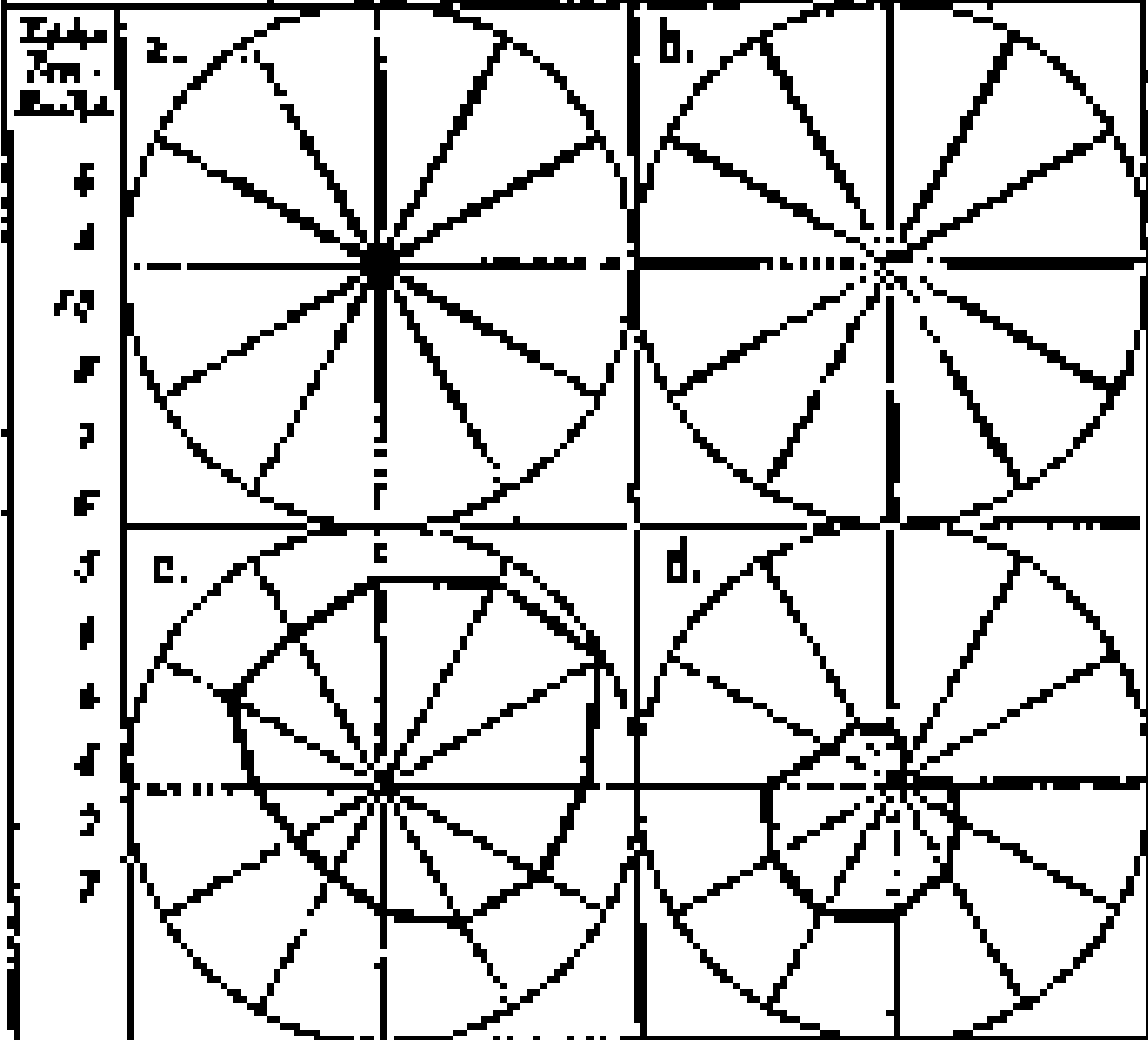
Met Office

Georg von
Mayr

Polar diagrams

Star plots

1877

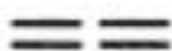




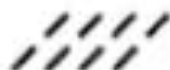
Met Office

Timeline: Meteorology

J. H. Lambert, 1771



clouds



rain



snow



fog



thunder

Meteorological Society of the Palatinate, 1781–1792



cloudless



overcast



half cloudy



fog



lunar halo



rain



snow



hail



thunderstorm

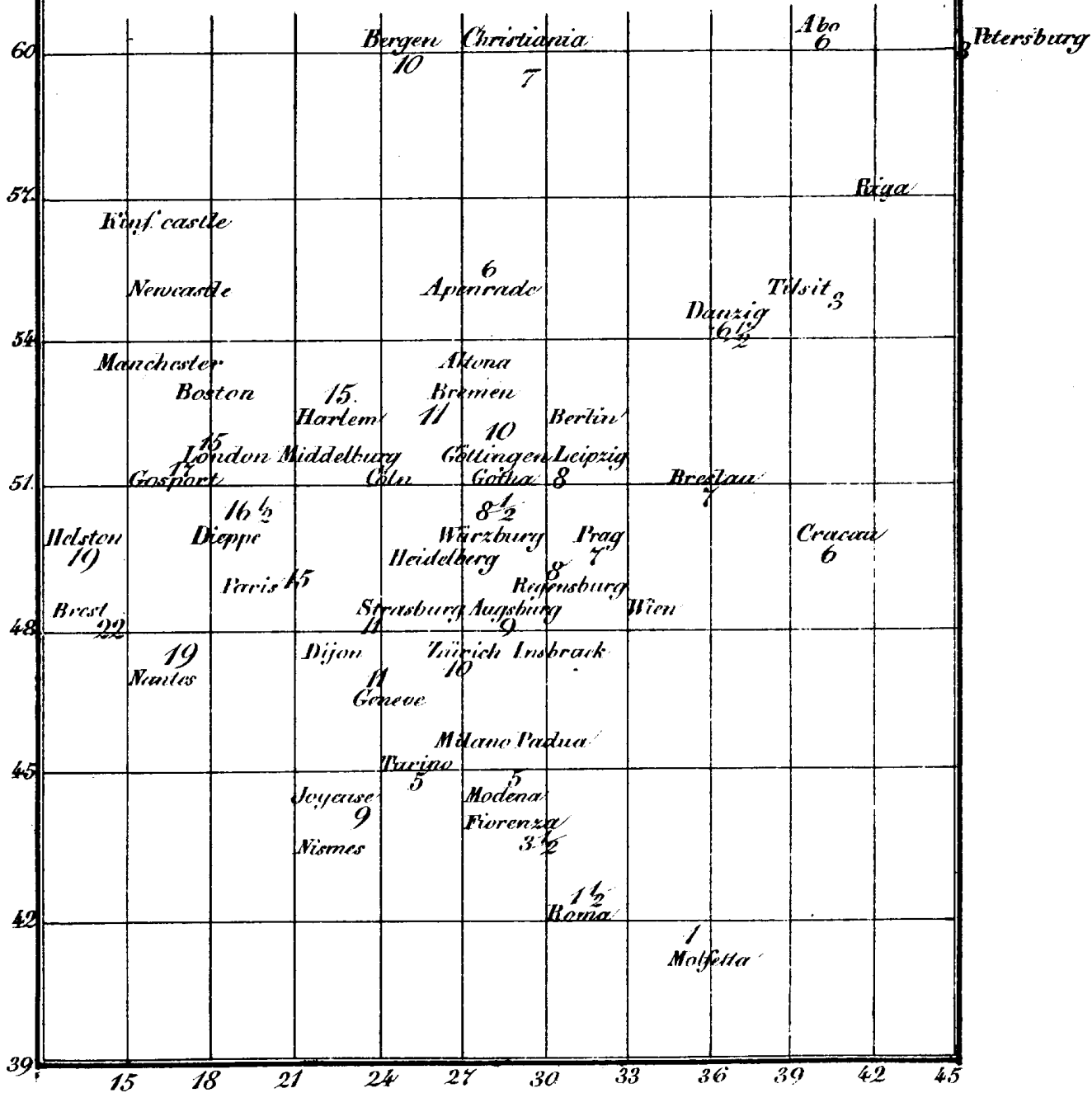


rainbow

Fig. 12.4. Weather glyphs devised by Lambert in 1771 (upper row) and the Meteorological Society of the Palatinate between 1781 and 1792 (lower rows). Compiled from C. Fitzhugh Talman, "Meteorological Symbols," *Monthly Weather Review* 44 (1916): 265.



Tabula geographica, altitudines mercurii die 24 Decembr.
 hora 6. vespertina observatas exhibens.





Met Office

Beaufort's Weather Code

1820-1825 version

- b. Blue sky
- c. Clear, transparent atmosphere
- ci. Cirrus clouds
- cl. Cloudy
- cu. Cumulus clouds
- d. Mist (damp air)
- Dk** Dark weather but atmosphere clear
- f. Foggy
- f: Dense Fog
- g. Gloomy weather
- h. Haze
- m. Mist in valley
- p. Passing cloud



Met Office

1831 Beaufort Wind Force Scale, used by Commander Fitzroy

0	Calm	
1	Light Air	Or just sufficient to give steerage way
2	Light Breeze	Or that in which a man-of-war with all sail set, and clean full would go in smooth water from .1 to 2 knots
3	Gentle Breeze	3 to 4 knots
4	Moderate Breeze	5 to 6 knots
5	Fresh Breeze	Or that to which a well-conditioned man-of-war could just carry in chase, full and by. Royals, etc
6	Strong Breeze	Single-reefed topsails and top-gallant sail
7	Moderate Gale	Double reefed topsails, jib, etc
8	Fresh Gale	Treble-reefed topsails etc
9	Strong Gale	Close-reefed topsails and courses
10	Whole Gale	Or that with which she could scarcely bear close-reefed main-topsail and reefed fore-sail
11	Storm	Or that which would reduce her to storm staysails
12	Hurricane	Or that which no canvas could withstand



Beaufort Wind Speed Scale: Sea

Met Office

Speed	km/hr	knots	Term	Sea
0	Calm	Calm	Calm	Sea like mirror
1	2-5	1-3	Light Air	Ripples with appearance of scales: no foam crest
2	6-11	4-6	Light Breeze	Small wavelets; crests of glassy appearance, not breaking
3	12-18	7-10	Gentle Breeze	Large wavelets; crests begin to break; scattered whitecaps.
4	19-30	11-16	Moderate Breeze	Small waves, becoming longer; numerous whitecaps.
5	31-39	17-21	Fresh Breeze	Moderate waves, taking longer form; many whitecaps; some spray
6	40-50	22-27	Strong Breeze	Larger waves forming; whitecaps everywhere; more spray.
7	51-61	28-33	Near Gale	Sea heaps up; white foam from breaking waves begins to be blown in streaks.
8	62-74	34-40	Gale	Moderately high waves of greater length; edges of crests begin to break into spindrift; foam is blown in well-marked streaks.
9	75-87	41-47	Strong Gale	High waves; sea begins to roll; dense streaks of foam; spray may reduce visibility.
10	88-102	48-55	Storm	Very high waves with overhanging crests; sea takes white appearance as foam is blown in very dense streaks; rolling is heavy and visibility is reduced
11	103-117	56-63	Violent Storm	Exceptionally high waves; sea covered with white foam patches; visibility further reduced.



Met Office

Beaufort Wind Speed Scale: Land

Code	km/hr	knots	Term	Land
0	Calm	Calm	Calm	Smoke rises vertically.
1	2-5	1-3	Light Air	Smoke drifts slowly downwind.
2	6-11	4-6	Light Breeze	Leaves rustle.
3	12-18	7-10	Gentle Breeze	Leaves are in motion.
4	19-30	11-16	Moderate Breeze	Small branches on trees move.
5	31-39	17-21	Fresh Breeze	Small trees sway.
6	40-50	22-27	Strong Breeze	Large branches sway.
7	51-61	28-33	Near Gale	Whole trees in motion.
8	62-74	34-40	Gale	Twigs and small branches break off trees.
9	75-87	41-47	Strong Gale	Large branches break off; slight structural damage.
10	88-102	48-55	Storm	Trees broken; minor structural damage.
11	103-117	56-63	Violent Storm	Widespread damage.
12	108-132	64-71	Hurricane	Violent movement of trees and much destruction.
13	133-148	72-80		
14	149-165	81-89		
15	166-183	90-99		
16	184-200	100-108		
17	201+	109+		



Beaufort's Code evolution

Met Office

Code	1806-1807	1807-1810	1810-1812	1820-1825	1826-1832	
b.	Blue sky	Blue sky	Blue sky	Blue sky	Blue sky, clear or turbid atmosphere	
c.	Clear i.e., definite, sharp horizon Clear, transparent atmosphere	Definite sharp horizon Individual passing clouds	Definite sharp horizon, distant objects clearly visible		Bright objects visible from afar	
ci.				Cirrus clouds		
cl.	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy		
cu.				Cumulus clouds		
d.	Dry, warm air			Mist (damp air)	Drizzle, fine rain	
da.		Damp air	Damp air			
dk	Dark, close air	Dark, gloomy weather		Dark weather	Dark weather but atmosphere clear	
dp.	Damp air					
dr.	Drizzle	Drizzle	Drizzle			
f.	Fine weather	Fine weather	Fine weather	Foggy	Fog	
f:				Dense Fog		
fg.	Foggy	Fog	Fog			
g. weather	Dark, gloomy weather			Dark, gloomy weather	Gloomy weather	Dark, gloomy
ge.		Gloomy weather				
gr.	Greasy sky	Greasy sky	Greasy sky			
h.	Haze	Hazy weather	Haze	Haze	Hail	
hr.	Heavy rain	Heavy rain	Heavy rain			
hsh.	Heavy showers	Heavy showers	Heavy showers			
hsq.	Heavy squalls	Heavy squalls	Heavy squalls			
l.	Lightning	Lightning	Lightning		Lightning	
m.		Mist		Mist in valley	Mist or hazy atmosphere	
o.					Overcast. Entire sky covered by thick clouds.	



Synoptic Charts need common Time

Met Office

Railroad and telegraph companies pushed for a simplified standardized time keeping. Consequently, civil time zones were initially instituted in the:

UK 1847

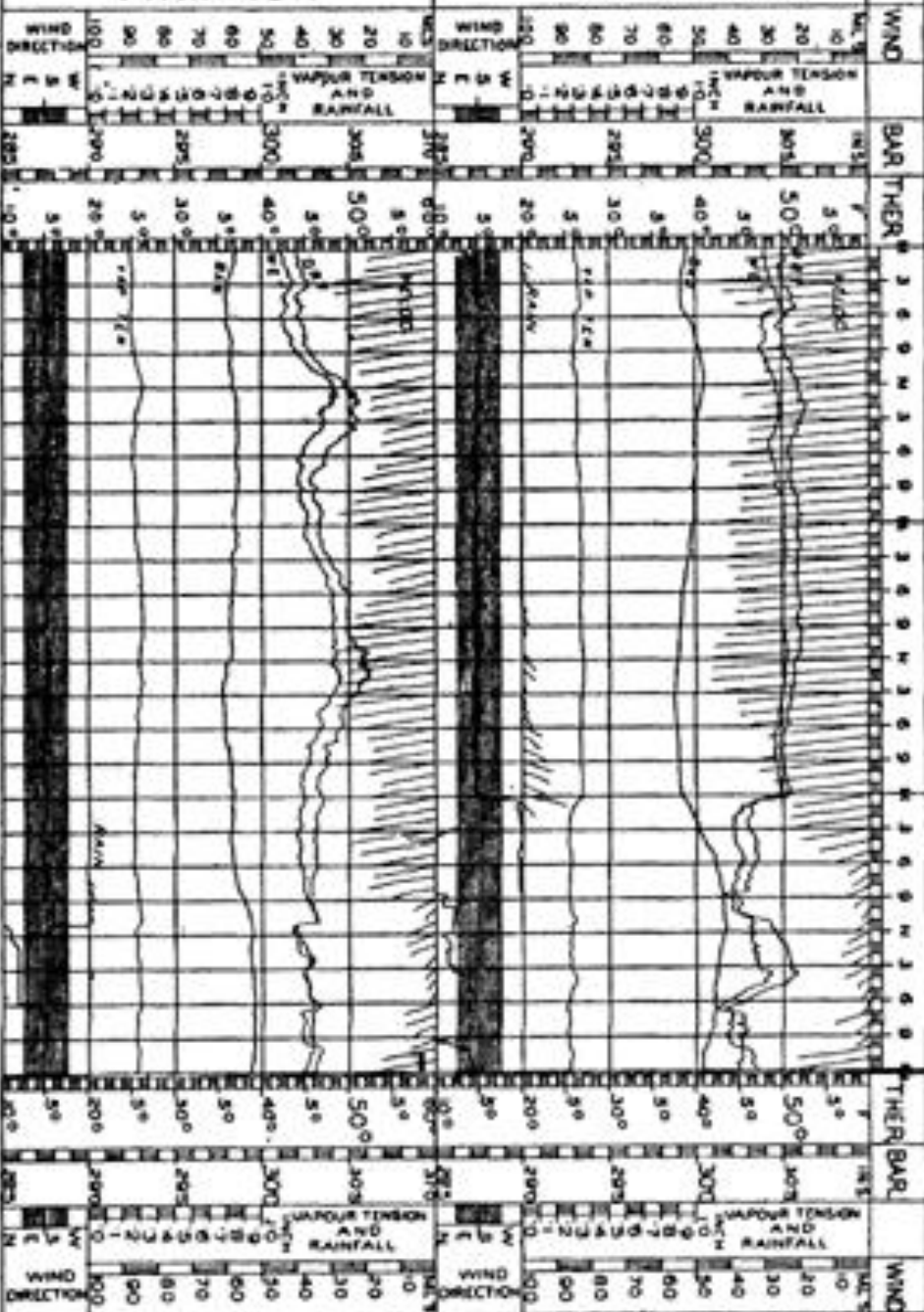
New Zealand 1868

USA and Canada 1883

Worldwide scheme 1884

ARMACH

VALENCIA



26th

27th

28th

J A N U A R Y

LAT. 54° 21' 3" N. || BAR. 2073 Fy. ABOVE M.S.L. || LAT. 51° 54' 36" N. || BAR. 230 Fy. ABOVE M.S.L. || LONG. 6.38.52 W. || || LONG. 10.18.10 W. ||

SYNCHRONOUS WEATHER CHART OF ENGLAND.

16th January 1861, 9 A.M.

*From Reports received by the Meteorological Society
of London, by the Board of Trade, and
by the Trinity House.*

By FRANCIS GALTON, F.R.S.,
and Honorary Secretary to the Royal
Geographical Society of London.



ENGLISH WEATHER DATA,
Feb. 9, 1861, 9h. a.m.,
by FRANCIS GALTON, F.R.S.

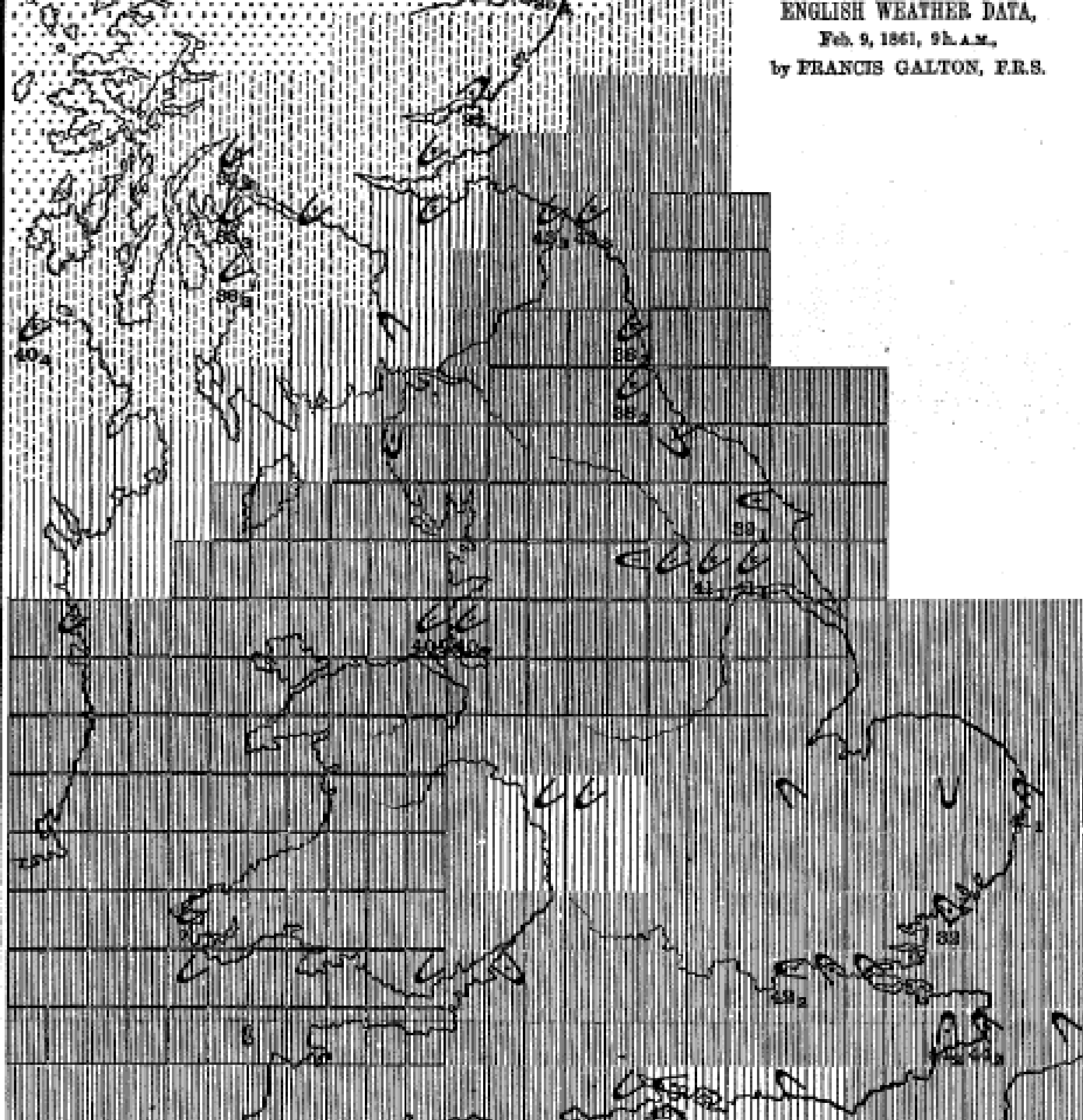
30·0
rise.

29·9
rise.

29·8
rise.

29·7
rise.

29·6
rise.



29·9
rise.

29·8
rise.

29·7
rise.

29·6
rise.

WEATHER MAP OF THE BRITISH ISLES

for
MONDAY, AUG. 6.

3 A.M.



EXPLANATION OF THE SYMBOLS

The outlines apply the indications of the
Barometer
being respectively depressed, equal or elevated
in the evening
of the time of falling, stationary or rising

The arrows show the force & direction of the
Wind



The various indications show the
Weather





Sept. 3rd

WEATHER REPORT.

1860.

At 9 A.M.

	B.	E.	M.	D.	F.	C.	L.
Aberdeen							
Greenock	30.07	55	52	WSW	2	1	6
Berwick							
Copenhagen							
Portsmouth							
Hull	30.06	54	52	W	2	6	0
Liverpool							
Queenstown							
Helder							
Yarmouth	30.06	63	59	NW	2	5	c
London	30.13	58	54	W	2	2	6
Dunkirk	30.15	59	52	WSW	0	1	6
Dover							
Portsmouth	29.96	59	58	SW	3	3	bc
Plymouth	30.06	60	-	NNW	2	0	cc
Penzance	30.11	61	55	WNW	0	1	6
Harwich		57	-	-	-	2	bc
Jersey	30.15	59	56	NNW	2	2	bc
Brest	30.07	52	-	NW	0	9	cc
Bayonne							
Lisbon							

EXPLANATION.

B.—Barometer corrected and reduced to 32° at sea-level (mean). E.—Exposed (but shaded) thermometer.

M.—Moistened bulb (for evaporation and dew point). D.—Direction of wind (true). F.—Fores (0 to 12).

C.—Cloud (1 to 9) proportion. L.—Initial letters: b.—blue sky; c.—clouds (detached); f.—fog; h.—hail;

l.—lightning; m.—misty (hazy); o.—overcast (dull); r.—rain; s.—snow; t.—thunder.

NOTE.—A letter repeated signifies—thus, r r much rain.

October 1st

WEATHER REPORT.

At 9 A.M.

	B.	E.	M.	D.	F.	C.	L.
Aberdeen	30.24	49	48	SW	1	9	m
Greenock	30.33	47	46	NW	1	9	m
Berwick	30.30	52	51	WSW	-	-	-
Copenhagen	30.31	51	-	ENE	4	-	bc
Portsmouth	30.30	48	47	S	2	2	6
Galway	30.33	51	50	W	2	5	c
Hull	30.20	52	51	NNW	2	7	o
Liverpool	30.32	53	51	NNW	2	8	c
Queenstown	30.34	49	48	NE	2	5	6
Helder	30.24	-	-	S	0	-	bc
Yarmouth	30.20	54	53	NW	1	6	o
London	30.20	50	47	NW	1	9	m m
Kew	30.20	49	48	W	0	9	m
Dover	30.26	57	55	NNW	2	2	com
Portsmouth	—	51	50	N	3	6	o
Plymouth	30.24	57	56	NW	1	1	6 m
Penzance	30.30	51	50	NNW	1	5	6
Jersey	30.33	53	52	NE	1	0	m
Brest	30.27	48	-	N	0	9	o
Bayonne	30.24	54	-	SSW	0	9	ot
Lisbon	30.26	62	-	N	2	4	bc

EXPLANATION.

B.—Barometer corrected and reduced to 32° at sea-level (mean). E.—Exposed (but shaded) thermometer.

M.—Moistened bulb (for evaporation and dew point). D.—Direction of wind (true). F.—Fores (0 to 12).

C.—Cloud (1 to 9) proportion. L.—Initial letters: b.—blue sky; c.—clouds (detached); f.—fog; h.—hail;

l.—lightning; m.—misty (hazy); o.—overcast (dull); r.—rain; s.—snow; t.—thunder.

NOTE.—A letter repeated signifies—thus, r r much rain.

WEATHER CHARTS

AND REMARKS FOR

MONDAY 11th MARCH 1872 AT 8 A.M.

BAROMETER

- Isobars show places of equal pressure.
- The falling and rising isobars represent storm or squall.
- Maximum given in circles.



The barometer has now begun to fall over the British Islands but has rather risen over the Continent. It is now over the British Islands, where readings descend to 29.4 at the north of Scotland. It is gradient 0.01 in 10 miles, and to 0.02 at the south (to a gradient of 0.04 at the south).

TEMPERATURE

- Isobars show places of equal temperature.
- The range of temperature given in circles.



Temperature has increased at nearly all our stations but fallen over the Continent. It is now over the British Islands, where readings descend to 40 at the north of Scotland. It is gradient 0.01 in 10 miles, and to 0.02 at the south (to a gradient of 0.04 at the south).

WIND & SEA

- Arrows show direction of wind.
- Force given in circles.
- Force given in squares.
- Force given in triangles.
- Force given in diamonds.
- Force given in stars.



The wind has risen to 5th on nearly all our stations, and is rather fresh at the 5th stations, while in the north and Ireland 4th winds prevail. The sea is moderate in the N, smooth elsewhere.

CLOUD, RAIN & C.

- Number of clouds by mass in circles.
- Direction of rain in squares.
- Force of rain in triangles.
- Force of rain in diamonds.
- Force of rain in stars.



There was rain for the N. of Scotland, but none for the S. of Scotland, which has fallen on the coast and inland, which is common at times. The sky is clear in the British Islands, with some fog in the north-west, but generally clear in the Continent.

WEATHER CHARTS

FOR Wednesday, 1st August, 1900.

I BAROMETER, WIND AND SEA. This Morning.

BAROMETER.—Isobars are drawn for each tenth of an inch.

WIND.—Arrows show Direction and Force, flying with the wind.

Force above 10 → Force 6 to 7 → Calm ○

Force 5 to 10 → Force 1 to 5 →

SEA.—Rough → High →



III BAROMETER and WIND - Yesterday morning



IV Means of DAILY MAXIMUM TEMPERATURES For the two monthly period. July-August (1871-95)



II TEMPERATURE AND WEATHER. This Morning.

TEMPERATURE.—Isobars are drawn for each 10°.

WEATHER.—Shown by Letters of the Beaufort Scale (See P. 10)

(A dotted line separates areas where rain has fallen from those without rain. The fall in past 24 hours when exceeding half an inch is shown thus—0.5)

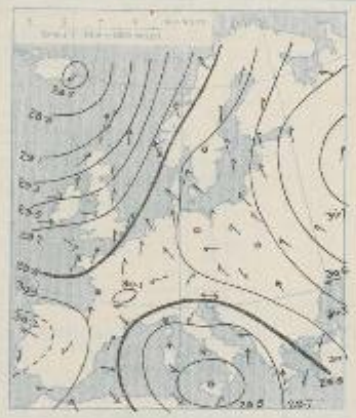


V Means of DAILY TEMPERATURE at 8 a.m. for the Two monthly period. July-August (1871-95)



SUPPLEMENTARY CHARTS OF BAROMETER AND WIND FOR 8 A.M. AND 8 P.M. YESTERDAY

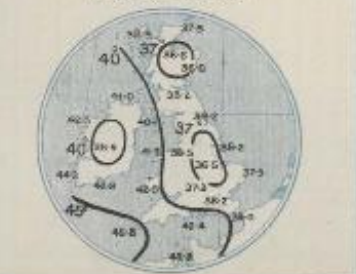
8 A.M. YESTERDAY.



8 P.M. YESTERDAY.

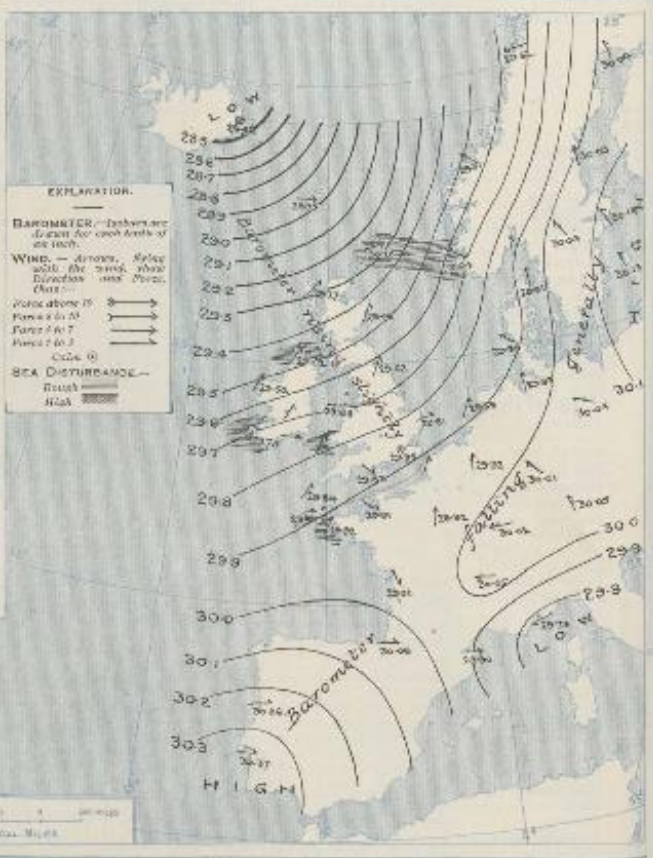


AVERAGES OF TEMPERATURE AT 8 A.M. FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY.
(Derived chiefly from Observations extending over the 35 years—1871-1905.)



Sunday, WEATHER

1. BAROMETER, WIND AND SEA AT 8 A.M. TO-DAY.



EXPLANATION.
BAROMETER.—Isobars are drawn for each tenth of an inch.
WIND.—Arrows, flying with the wind, show Direction and Force.
 Force above 10 \rightarrow
 Force 4 to 7 \rightarrow
 Force 1 to 3 \rightarrow
SEA DISTURBANCE.
 Rough \sim
 High \sim

NOTES ON THE GENERAL SITUATION AT 8 A.M.

Barometrical pressure is now highest, 30.5 in., and upwards, in the south of Portugal; but is also high, 30.1 in., and upward, over the upper part of the Baltic. The lowest readings, 28.8 in., and less, are found in a depression lying off eastern Ireland, and over the extreme northern part of our sea the barometrical gradient for Ireland and Scandinavia is rather steep.

The wind is light to moderate from the Southward in the Channel, but blows into North in Denmark and Sweden and into Southward in part of the west of Norway, with a gale at Christiania. In the northwestern parts of France it is West or North-west. Temperature has changed very irregularly. Over these islands on a whole the thermometer is still rather low, the morning readings being below 40° at all but a few stations in the east and southeast, and slightly below the freezing point in the east and south-east of England. In several parts of Germany and Central France the thermometer is below 20°. The weather varies greatly in different localities. Fog prevails in the east and south-east of England, as well as in the north and east of France, showers are reported at several of our western stations, and snow is falling at Paris. The sea is slight or smooth generally, but is rather rough on our extreme north and northwestern coasts generally, and rough off the southwest of Norway.

- NOTES REFERRING TO INFORMATION GIVEN**
- (a) At the British and Irish Stations the readings of the barometer are not corrected for the difference in The approximate correction is:—For stations North of Malin Head and North Shields + .02 in., but for Scilly and Jersey + .01 in.
 - (b) The Sunshine for London given in this table is recorded on the Tower of the Wesleyan Training is recorded at Littlestone-on-Sea.
 - (c) The information relating to Weather is indicated by the following letters—b, blue sky; bc, sky e, wet air, without rain falling; f, fog; g, gloomy; h, hail; l, lightning; m, misty (hazy); o, t, thunder; u, ugly, threatening; v, visibility, unusual transparency; w, dew; x, hoar frost; z, d.
- * AN ASTERISK is inserted in all places for which information is not usually received.

WIRELESS TELEGRAMS

Received during the 24 hours ended at 8.50 a.m. to-day.

Hour of Observation.	Name of Ship.	Position of Ship		Reading of Barometer.	Wind.		Weather.	Air Temp.	Sea Disturbance.
		Lat.	Long.		Diren.	Force.			
1 a.m.	—	47.32	6.15	29.98	NNW	3	6	51	3
8 a.m.				29.88	WSW	2	6	49	2

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION for the Daily Weather Report forwarded by Book Post, £1 per annum. Single Copies (price 1d.) may be obtained after 3 p.m. on the day of issue at the Meteorological Railway Stations—Victoria, Charing Cross, King's Cross, St. Pancras, Euston.

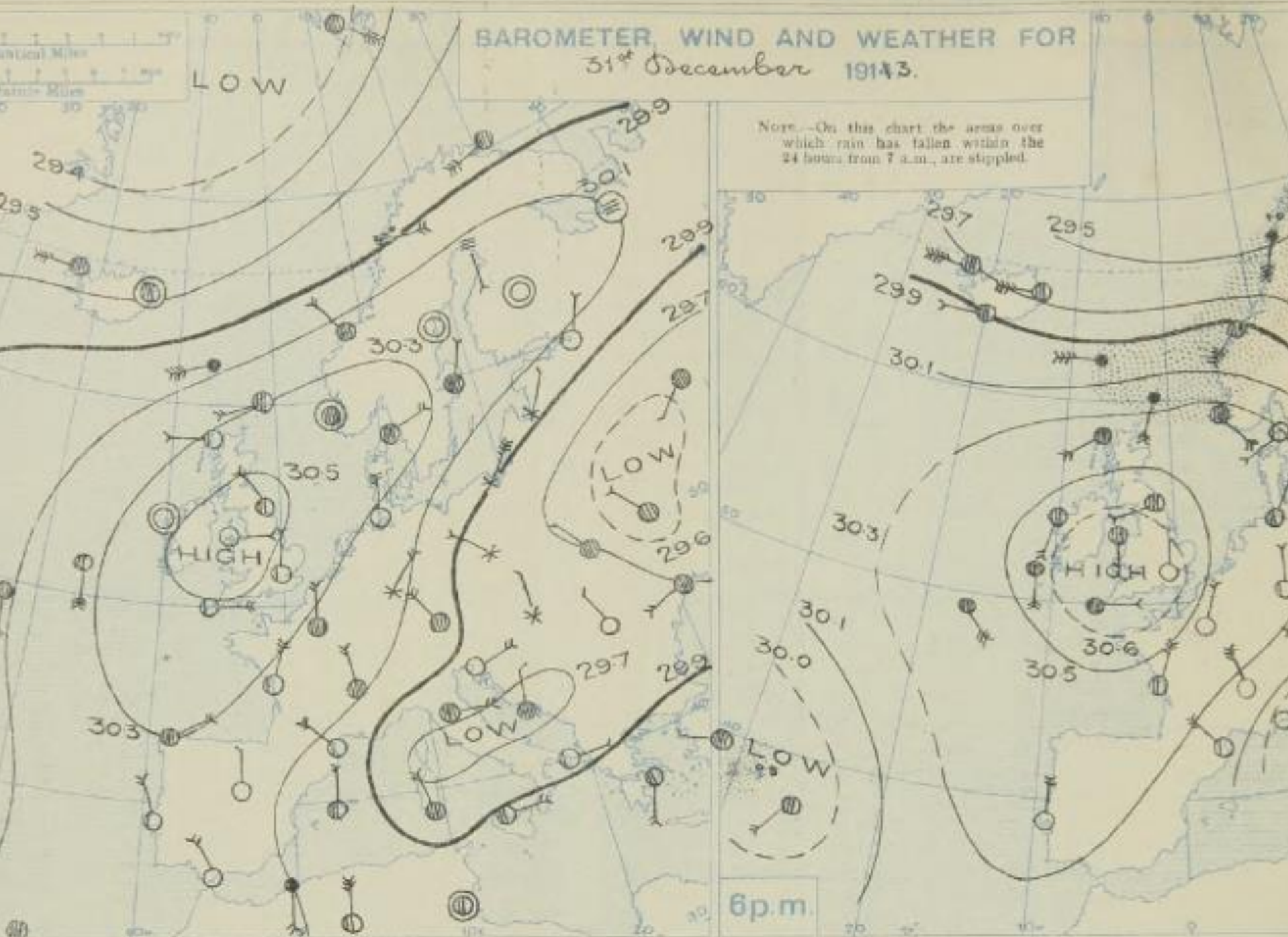
FORECASTS OF WEATHER for one day in advance are drawn up at 11 a.m., and between 7 and 8 p.m. Telegram, on paying at any Post office in the United Kingdom **Sixpence in addition** for information as to the Terms on which Forecasts can be sent daily, for a long or short period, and for a list of the names of the Forecasters.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, 63, VICTORIA STREET, S.W.
WEATHER, LONDON.

EXPLANATION.

- BAROMETER.**—Isobars are drawn for each tenth of an inch.
- WIND.**—Arrows, flying with the wind, show Direction and Force, thus:—
 Force above 10 \rightarrow Force 8 to 10 \rightarrow Force 4 to 7 \rightarrow Force 1 to 3 \rightarrow Calm \odot
- TEMPERATURE.**—Given in degrees Fahrenheit, Isotherms by dotted lines.
- WEATHER.**—Shown by the following Letters and Symbols:— b, clear sky; c, cloudy; o, overcast; f, fog; r, rain falling; h, hail; s, snow; T, thunder; K, thunderstorm.
- SEA DISTURBANCE.**
 Rough \sim High \sim
 Wireless Message.







BAROMETER, WIND AND WEATHER FOR 31st December 1913.



Note.—On this chart the areas over which rain has fallen within the 24 hours from 7 a.m., are stippled.

6 p.m.

SCALE OF SURFACE VISIBILITY.

	{ 0 Very bad	Objects not visible beyond	200 metres (320 yards).
	{ 1 Bad	" " "	500 " (545 yards).
	{ 2 Very poor	" " "	1,000 " (0.6 mile).
	{ 3 Poor	" " "	2,000 " (1.2 miles).
	{ 4 Indifferent } Ordinary {	" " "	4,000 " (2.5 ").
	{ 5 Fair }	" " "	7,000 " (4.3 ").
	{ 6 Good, above ordinary	" " "	12,000 " (7.5 ").
	{ 7 Very good, unusual	" " "	20,000 " (12.4 ").
	{ 8 Exceptionally good	" " "	30,000 " (18.6 ").
	{ 10 Objects visible beyond 30,000 metres (18.6 miles).		

BEAUFORT NOTATION.

b blue sky (not more than a quarter covered).
 bc sky partly cloudy (one half covered).
 c generally cloudy (three quarters covered).
 d drizzle, or fine rain.
 e wet air without rain falling.
 f fog. g gloom.
 h hail. l lightning.
 m mist.
 o overcast sky.
 p passing showers.
 q squalls.
 r rain.

BEAUFORT NOTATION.

rs sleet, i.e., rain and snow together.
 s snow.
 t thunder.
 u ugly, threatening sky.
 v unusual visibility.
 w dew.
 x hoar frost.
 y dry air; humidity less than 60 per cent.
 z dust haze; the turbid atmosphere of dry weather.

Suffixes 0, 1 and 2 attached to Beaufort letters signify intensity, 0=slight, 2=heavy. Underlining is used to express continuity.

WEATHER SYMBOLS.

Clear sky	○	Sky $\frac{1}{2}$ clouded	◐
Sky $\frac{1}{2}$ clouded	◑	Sky $\frac{3}{4}$ clouded	◒
Overcast sky	◔	Rain falling	●
Snow	✕	Hail	▲
Fog	≡	Mist	≡
Thunder	⌚	Thunderstorm	⌚
Lightning	⚡	Gale	✓
Aurora	☀	Solar halo	⊕
Rime	☾	Lunar halo	⊖
Glazed frost	☉	Solar corona	⊙
Glazed roads	☾	Lunar corona	⊖
Snow lying	⊠		

SEA DISTURBANCE.—

Rough ~~~~~ High ~~~~~



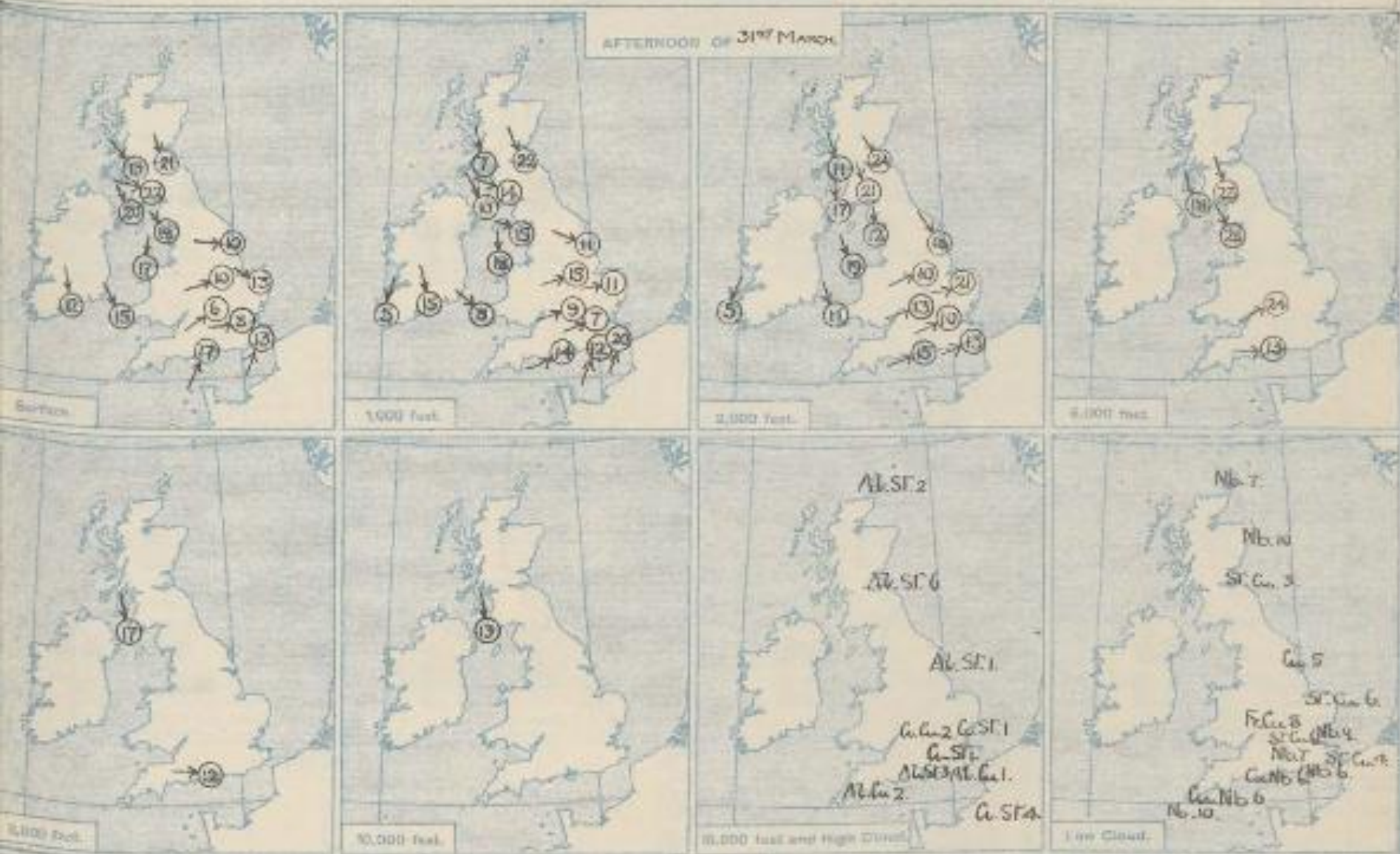
METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, LONDON.

DAILY WEATHER REPORT UPPER AIR SUPPLEMENT.

No. 20,949 C

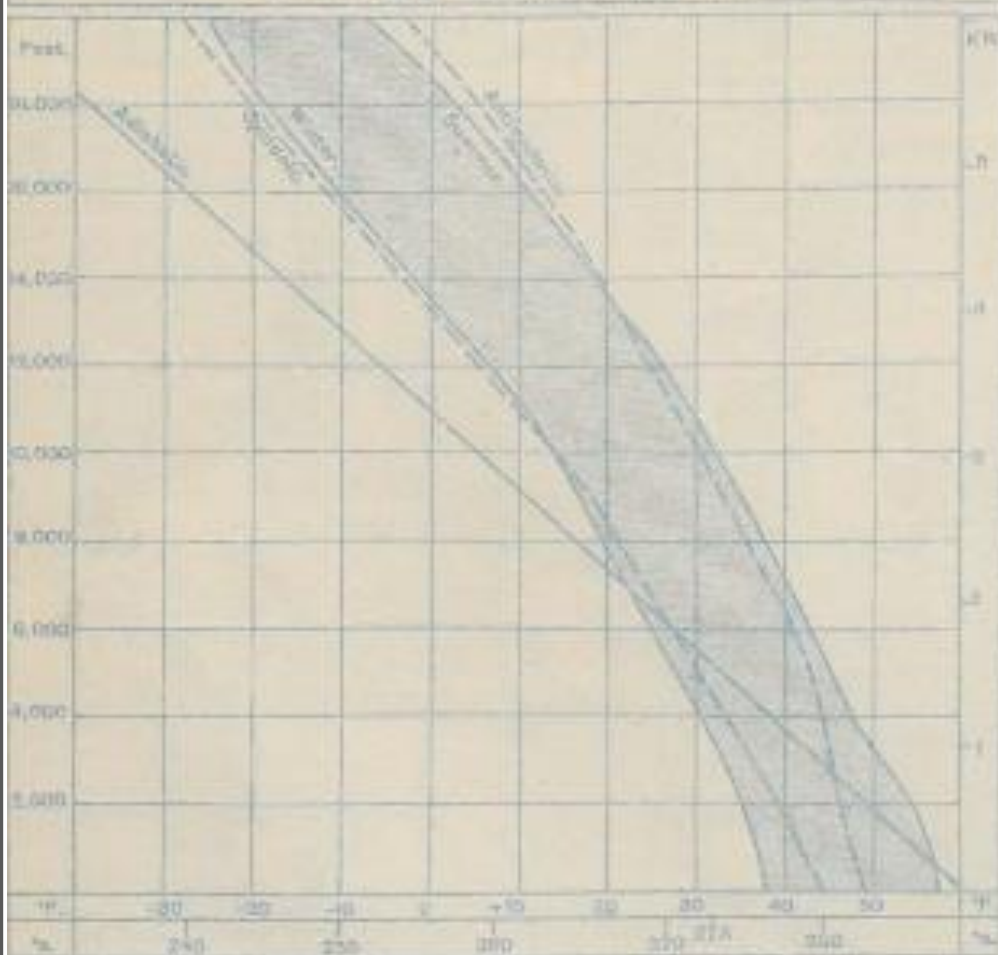
Compiled from Observations at the Office Observatories, and Meteorological Stations of the Air Ministry

DIRECTION AND MEAN VELOCITY IN MILES PER HOUR, OF SURFACE AND UPPER WINDS; CLOUD FORMS AND AMOUNT.





UPPER AIR TEMPERATURES.



NOTES

Upper Air Forecasts for 24 Hours Commencing 15h. on April 1st, 1919

Scotland and NE. England.

Wind from NE, reaching 25-30 mph. at about 2000 feet. A Nely. current will probably be maintained up to at least 10,000 feet.

South-East England.

Winds up to 15 mph. at 2000 feet, ultimately becoming N. or NE. and increasing somewhat.

Ireland and Western England.

Winds from N. or NNE. 15-20 mph. at 2000 feet. A Nly. current will probably be maintained up to at least 10,000 feet.

THE BEAUFORT SCALE OF WIND FORCE.

Beaufort Number.	Admiral Beaufort's General Description of Wind.	Specification for use on Land, based on observations made at Land Stations.	Limits of Mean Velocities Statute Miles per Hour.
0	Calm	Calm ; smoke rises vertically	Less than 1
1	Light air ..	Direction of wind shown by smoke drift	1-3
2	Slight breeze ..	Wind felt on face ; leaves rustle	4-7
3	Gentle breeze ..	Leaves and small twigs in constant motion ; wind extends light flag	8-12
4	Moderate wind ..	Raises dust and loose paper ; small branches are moved	13-18
5	Fresh wind ..	Small trees in leaf begin to sway ; crested wavelets on inland waters	19-24
6	Strong wind ..	Large branches in motion ; whistling heard in telegraph wires	25-31
7	High wind ..	Whole trees in motion ; inconvenience felt when walking against wind	32-38
8	Gale	Breaks twigs off trees ; generally impedes progress	39-46
9	Strong gale ..	Slight structural damage occurs (chimney pots and slates removed)	47-54
10	Whole gale ..	Seldom experienced inland ; trees uprooted	55-63
11	Very rarely experienced ; accompanied by widespread damage	64-75
12	Hurricane	Above 75

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Overcast sky	◔	Rain falling	●
Snow	✱	Sleet	⊖
Fog		Hail	▲
Thunder	⚡	Mist	≡
Lightning	⚡	Thunderstorm	⚡
Aurora	—	Gale	/
Rime	⊖	Solar halo	☉
Glazed frost	⊖	Lunar halo	☾
Glazed roads	⊖	Solar corona	☉
Snow lying	⊖	Lunar corona	☾

Suffixes 0, 1 and 2 attached to Beaufort letters signify intensity, 0 = slight, 2 = heavy. Underlining is used to express continuity.



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Meteorology & Technology



Technology/Meteorology Timeline - 1

Met Office

Pigment	<6000 BCE	
Clay & Stylus	2500 BCE	
Papyrus	1000 BCE	
Parchment & Ink	170 BCE	
Paper	c.105 CE	
Woodblock printing	200 CE	
Movable ceramic type	1040	
Engraving	1430	
Metal type Press	1453	
Etching	1515	
Mezzotint	1642	c.1600 Good global maps
Magic Lantern	1646	
3 Colour printing	1710	
Aquatint	1772	
Printed graph paper	1794	
Lithography	1796	c.1800 Scientific diagrams & graphs



Technology/Meteorology Timeline - 2

Met Office

Carbon paper 1801

1816 Brandes charts for 1783.

1826 Brandes paper & chart at Leipzig

1828 Dove attempts weather maps

Chromolithograph 1837

Daguerrotype 1839

1840 Charts by Espy, Reid & Readfield

1843 Loomis publishes 1836 US storm

Rotary press 1843

Electric/chemical Fax 1846

1847 GMT (railway time)



Technology/Meteorology Timeline - 3

Met Office

Electric/chemical Fax 1846

1849-07 Glaisher's manual Daily Weather Maps

1850-1900 National statistical offices Europe.

1850 Washington DC telegraphic weather maps

1851 First printed Daily Weather Map, London,

Wheatstone's electric telegraph & Lithography

1855 French telegraphic weather maps

1857 3rd International Statistical Congress:
Exhibition, discussion of standard diagrams.

1860 UK Daily Weather Report to newspapers,
6 dys/wk, from 3 commercial telegraph stations.

1861-01 Electric Telegraph Co. Wind & Weather
Map at its offices: 23 disks, with 2 hands
indicating reported weather

1861-09 Publication of Weather Map of the
British Isles by the Daily Weather Map Co Ltd.



Technology/Meteorology Timeline - 4

Met Office

Hectograph (Gelatin)	1869	1869 Issue of the first lithographed Daily Weather Report by the Meteorological Office. 1871 Publication by the Shipping and Mercantile Gazette of Daily Wind Charts of the British Isles. 1872-03 UKMO printed daily weather maps 1872-08 Leipzig Conference, 26 questions and agreement of standardised symbols etc
Offset printing	1875	1875 Times publishes 6pm Weather Map
OHP	1880	
Hot metal typesetting	1884	
Punched card	1884	
Cathode Ray Tube	1885	1885 "Principles of forecasting by means of weather charts", Ralph Abercromby
Mimeograph (Stencil)	1886	
Cinematography	1895	1901 International Statistical Congress recommends sparing use of hieroglyphs and symbols



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Technology/Meteorology Timeline - 5

Photostat/Rectigraph	1907
Screen printing	1910
Trans-atlantic fax	1924
Spirit duplicator	1923
Television	1926
Bar printer	1934
Xerography	1938
Phototypesetting	1949
Inkjet printing	1951
Drum printer	1952
Videotape	1956
Dye-sublimation	1957
Pen plotters	1958
Drum plotter	1959
Line (chain) printer	1959
Film recorder	1959
Mouse & Sketchpad	1962
CCITT Fax machines	1966
Dot matrix printing	1968
Laser printing	1969

1922 Wireless weather manual, MO255, mentions plotting

1936 First TV Weather chart

1936 "Instructions for the preparation of weather maps with tables of the specification and symbols", Form 2459

1949 TV Weather maps with captions and voice-over

1954-01 First live TV forecast

1954 Maj Bedient USAF & Dahlqvist SHMI, develop zebra charts

1966 UK contract microfilm plotter, online or paper tape. Isopleth chart <3 min Flat bed plotter too



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Where are we now?



History of inventing/tailoring technologies

- Operating Systems
- Programming Languages
- Telecoms Protocols
- Telecom computers (message switching)
- ? Data Formats
- Semantics
- Visualisations



Met Office

But also

- Present Weather from Automatic station
- Additional Weather
- State of Ground, frozen or not frozen,
- Etc
- Aviation SigWx symbols too
- Over 400 in total, plus >100 wind arrows

Monochromatic Polychromatic

blue red black

ww	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
00					8	8				
10	=	↔	<						∇	
20	≡	∩	∪	∩	∪	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩
30	≡	≡	≡	≡	≡	≡				
40	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩
50	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩
60	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩
70	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩
80	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩
90	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩

ww	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
00					Δ	S	R	\$	5	
10	∞	∞								∞
20	Δ	S	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩		
30	5									+
40		≡	≡	∩	∩	∩	≡	≡	≡	
50	/0	/1	/2	/3	/4	/5	/6	/7		∩
60	/0	/1	/2	/3	/4	/5	/6	/7		∩
70	/0	/1	/2	/3	/4	/5	/6	/7	∩	∩
80	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩
90	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩



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WMO Weather Symbols

Not changed in 50 years

Some symbols added, but probably hardly used

Nearly all computing devices can display them

Still no consensus on imagery, radar, colour scales, etc

Perhaps not appropriate

OGCMetOceanDWG / WorldWeatherSymbols

Pull Request

Unwatch

Star

2

Fork

5

Code Network Pull Requests 0 Issues 1 Wiki Graphs Settings

A complete set of WMO weather symbols in SVG with full metadata. — [Read more](#)

Clone in Windows ZIP HTTP SSH Git Read-Only git@github.com:OGCMetOceanDWG/WorldWeatherSymbol Read+Write access

branch: master Files Commits Branches 1 Tags

WorldWeatherSymbols / +

37 commits

Merge pull request #11 from tomkralidis/master

iedwards authored 13 days ago latest commit ca6805f31c

CH_CloudHigh	13 days ago	pretty print .svg files (#8) [tomkralidis]
CL_CloudLow	13 days ago	pretty print .svg files (#8) [tomkralidis]
CM_CloudMedium	13 days ago	pretty print .svg files (#8) [tomkralidis]
C_CloudGenus	13 days ago	pretty print .svg files (#8) [tomkralidis]
Ds_ShipDirection	13 days ago	pretty print .svg files (#8) [tomkralidis]
E_StateOfGround	13 days ago	pretty print .svg files (#8) [tomkralidis]
Eprime_StateOfGround	13 days ago	pretty print .svg files (#8) [tomkralidis]
Ft_Fronts	13 days ago	pretty print .svg files (#8) [tomkralidis]
ICAO_SigWx	13 days ago	pretty print .svg files (#8) [tomkralidis]
N_TotalCloudCover	13 days ago	pretty print .svg files (#8) [tomkralidis]



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Future possibilities



Met Office

Future possibilities?

- 5 years: No specialized meteorological visualization software, all done in generic geospatial software with meteorological style sheets?
- 10 years: No specialized geospatial software, all done in generic 'browser'?
- Real 3D displays when?
- Virtual Reality/Augmented Reality/Head-Up Displays make 3D easier?

Consequential suggestions:

1. Codify and expose meteorological styles
2. Expose meteorological symbols and their semantics
 - Try to put into Unicode
3. Move away from existing rigid symbols with artificial 10x10 structure imposed by telegraphic codes
4. 'Abstract' symbols powerful. C.f. SigWx chart



Met Office

Questions & Answers





Met Office

A Bibliography

Imago Mundi: The International Journal for the History of Cartography

Mr. Selden's Map of China, Timothy Brook (New York: Bloomsbury, 2013)

Harrell, J.A.& V.M. Brown, "The world's oldest surviving geological map - 1150 BC Turin papyrus from Egypt", *Journal of Geology* 100 (1992), pp3-18.

http://www.cartographic-images.net/Cartographic_Images/Cartographic_Images.html

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/> , with caution!

Milestones in the history of thematic cartography, statistical graphics, and data visualization, Michael Friendly, (2009-08-24)

<http://www.math.yorku.ca/SCS/Gallery/milestone/milestone.pdf>

<http://www.infovis.info/info.php>

The

Air Apparent: How Meteorologists Learned to Map, Predict, and Dramatize Weather, Mark Monmonier, University of Chicago Press, 15 Nov 2000



Chaldean Influence

Hanno, Circumnavigation of Africa



Scylax of Caryanda in India

Travels of Herodotus

The idea of **SPHERICAL EARTH** AND **THE ZONES**
 Pythagoreans, c.470 - Aristotle
 Eudemos, tropics at 24° (384-322)



Pytheas reaches the latitude of Massilia, records Thule

Alexander the Great



Hippocrates - seven climates (Eudoxus?)

HIPPARCHUS c. 150
 360° system of lat-long, etc
 Determ of longitude
 Conic projection
 Astrolabe



Pei Hsiu, 224-273 { map of Chinese Empire (1st) / principles of cartography

DEVELOPMENT OF Lat.-Long. SYSTEM

IONIAN GEOGRAPHERS

600
 Anaximander 611-546 credited with first map
 DISK-SHAPED EARTH

500
 Hecataeus, Geography

400
 Democritus 450-360
 longitude
 latitude

300
 Dicaearchus 326-296
 Dioptra
 Measurement of mountains
 Geography of Greece
 first parallel

200
ERATOSTHENES 276-196
 measurement of Earth
 Alexandria
 Syene
 50000 stadia

100
 Crates, Globe
 Antichthonas
 Posidonius, measurement of Earth
 Rhodes
 Alexandria
 14000 stadia

Agrippa, Map of the Empire
 Strabo, Geographia - main source-book completed 18 A.D.

Pomponius Mela, Cosmography
 Pnyx of Dionysius, Periegetes

100
MARINUS of Tyre, System of geography - plan chart c. 120
 Geography with 8000 place names
 Atlas of 28 maps
PTOLEMY (c. 90-168)
 Geocentric system of planets
 Projections

200
 Severus tablet of Rome

300
 Solinus, Memorabilia

PEVTINGER TABLES



Met Office

**Clay Tablet map
from Ga-Sur**

~2500 BCE





Met Office

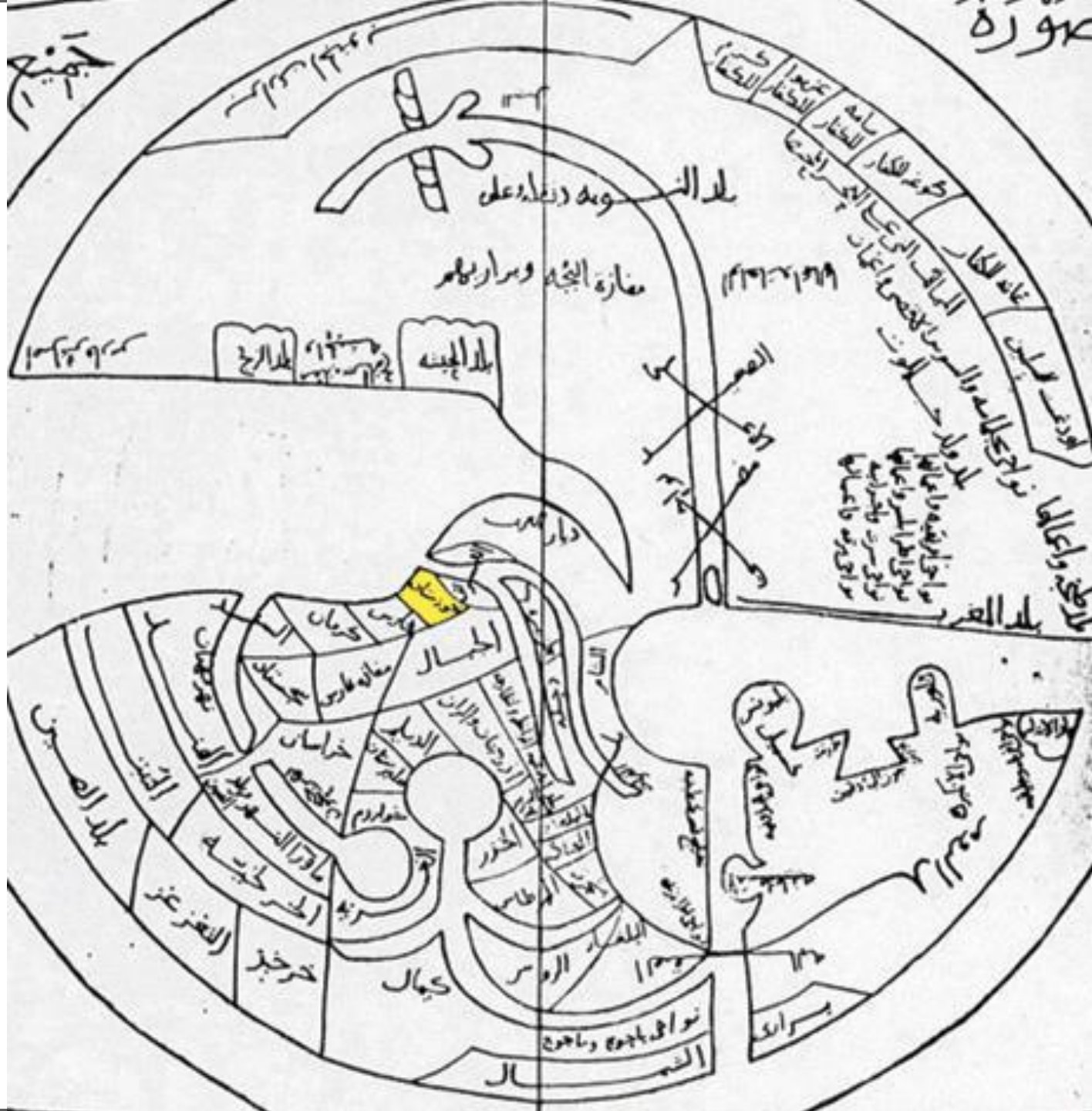
Muhammad
Abū'l-Qāsim
Ibn Ḥawqal

(محمد أبو القاسم
(بن حوقل)

977CE

Ṣūrat al-'Arḍ

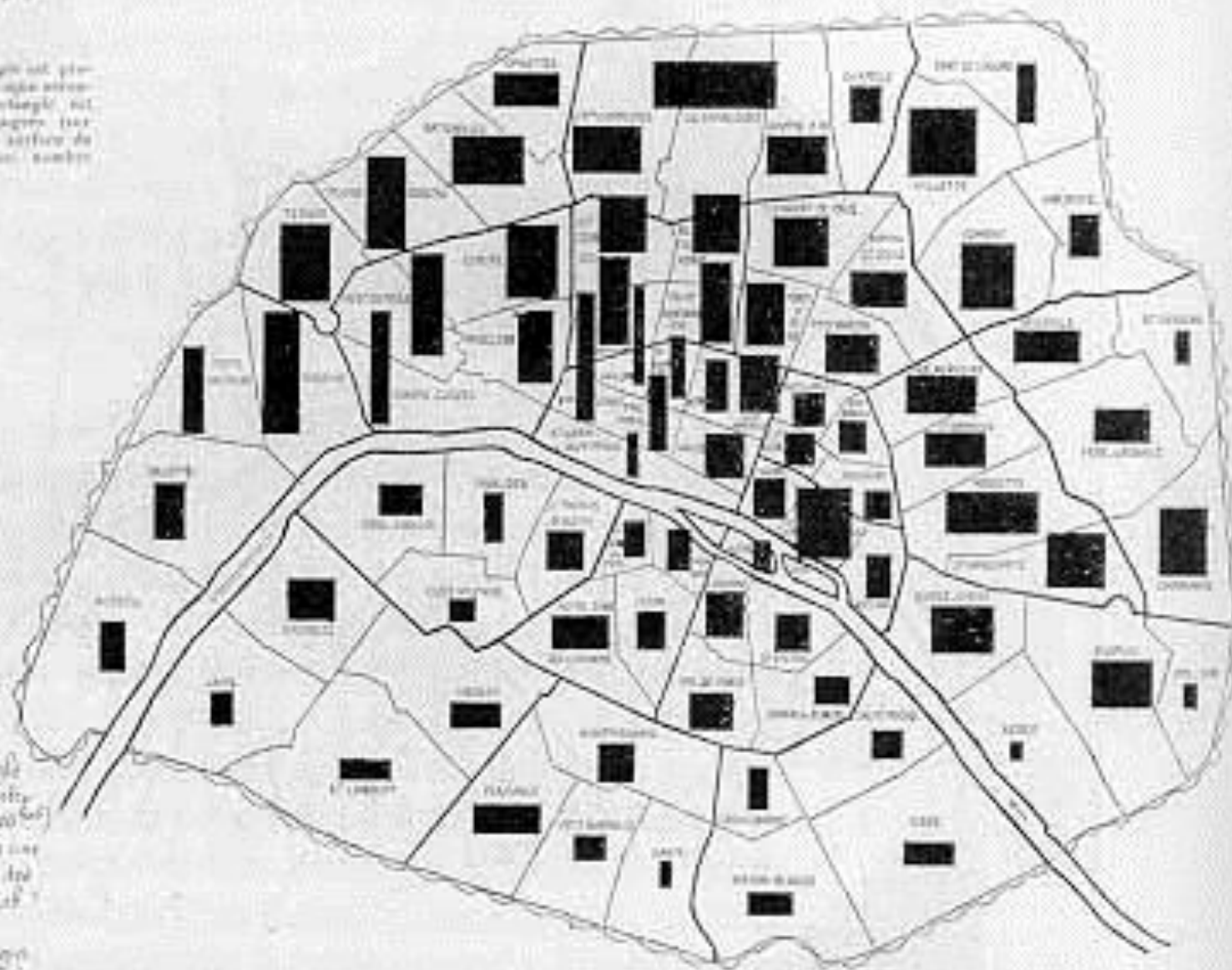
(“صورة الارض”
“The face of
the Earth”)



Les étrangers à Paris en 1891

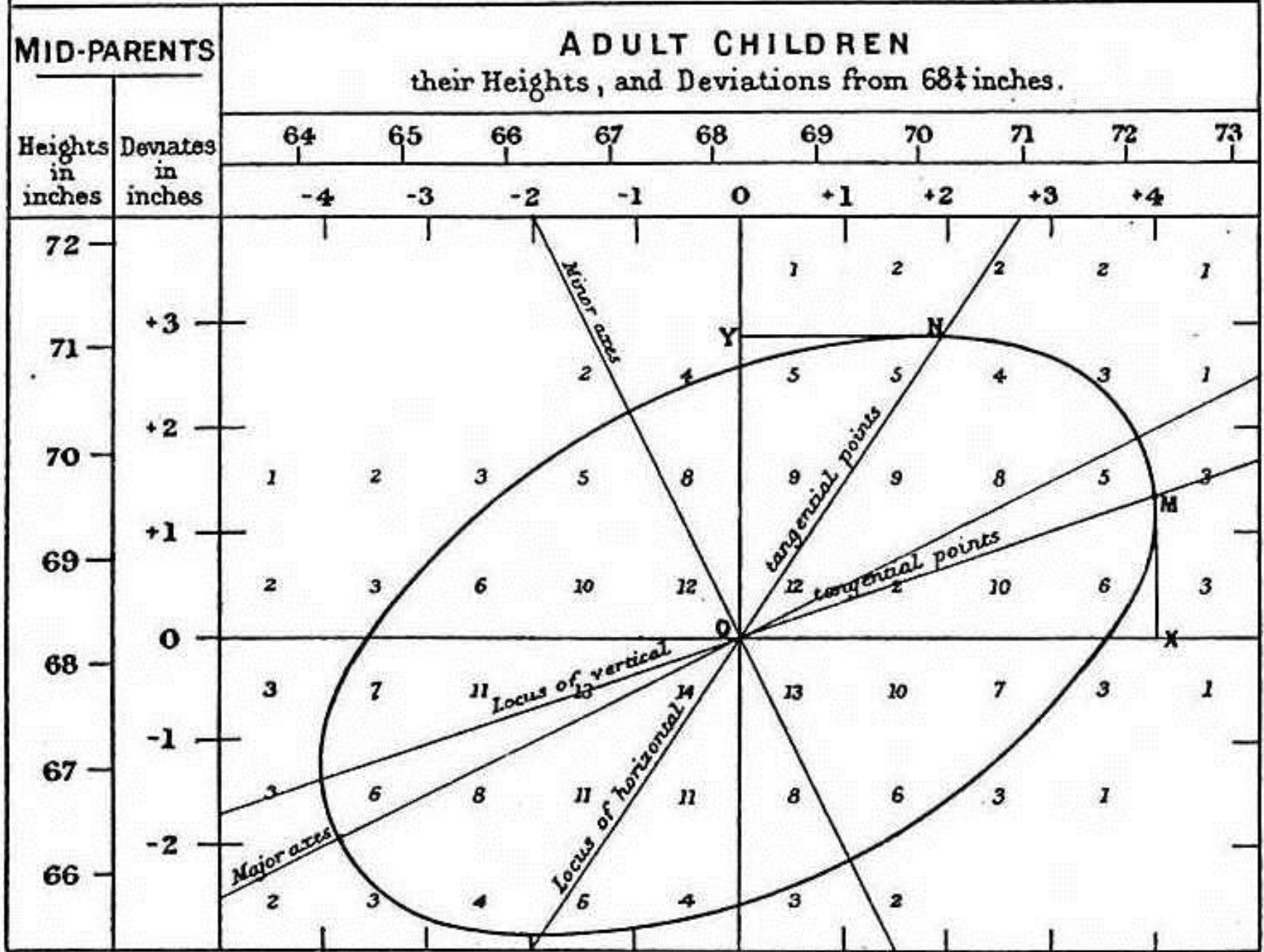
NUMÉRIQUE ABSOLU ET FRÉQUENCE DES
ÉTRANGERS À PARIS (1891)

NOTICE. — La base de chaque rectangle est proportionnelle à la population totale de chaque arrondissement. La hauteur de chaque rectangle est proportionnelle à la fréquence des étrangers (sur 1000 habit. possédant l'étranger). Dans la surface de chaque rectangle est proportionnelle au nombre absolu des étrangers ($\frac{1}{1000} \times P \times F$).



Le rectangle de chaque arrondissement a une hauteur proportionnelle au nombre de cent pour cent de l'étranger sur 1000 habit. possédant l'étranger. La surface de chaque rectangle est proportionnelle au nombre absolu des étrangers ($\frac{1}{1000} \times P \times F$).

DIAGRAM BASED ON TABLE I.
 (all female heights are multiplied by 1'08)





Beaufort's Code evolution

Met Office

Code	1806-1807	1807-1810	1810-1812	1820-1825	1826-1832	
b.	Blue sky	Blue sky	Blue sky	Blue sky	Blue sky, clear or turbid atmosphere	
c.	Clear i.e., definite, sharp horizon Clear, transparent atmosphere			Definite sharp horizon, distant objects clearly visible Individual passing clouds		
ci.				Cirrus clouds		
cl.	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy		
cu.				Cumulus clouds		
d.	Dry, warm air			Mist (damp air) Drizzle, fine rain		
da.		Damp air	Damp air			
dk	Dark, close air	Dark, gloomy weather		Dark weather	Dark weather but atmosphere clear	
dp.	Damp air					
dr.	Drizzle	Drizzle	Drizzle			
f.	Fine weather	Fine weather	Fine weather	Foggy	Fog	
f:				Dense Fog		
fg.	Foggy	Fog	Fog			
g. weather	Dark, gloomy weather			Dark, gloomy weather	Gloomy weather	Dark, gloomy
ge.		Gloomy weather				
gr.	Greasy sky	Greasy sky	Greasy sky			
h.	Haze	Hazy weather	Haze	Haze	Hail	
hr.	Heavy rain	Heavy rain	Heavy rain			
hsh.	Heavy showers	Heavy showers	Heavy showers			
hsq.	Heavy squalls	Heavy squalls	Heavy squalls			
l.	Lightning	Lightning	Lightning		Lightning	
m.		Mist		Mist in valley	Mist or hazy atmosphere	
o.					Overcast. Entire sky covered by thick clouds.	





Met Office

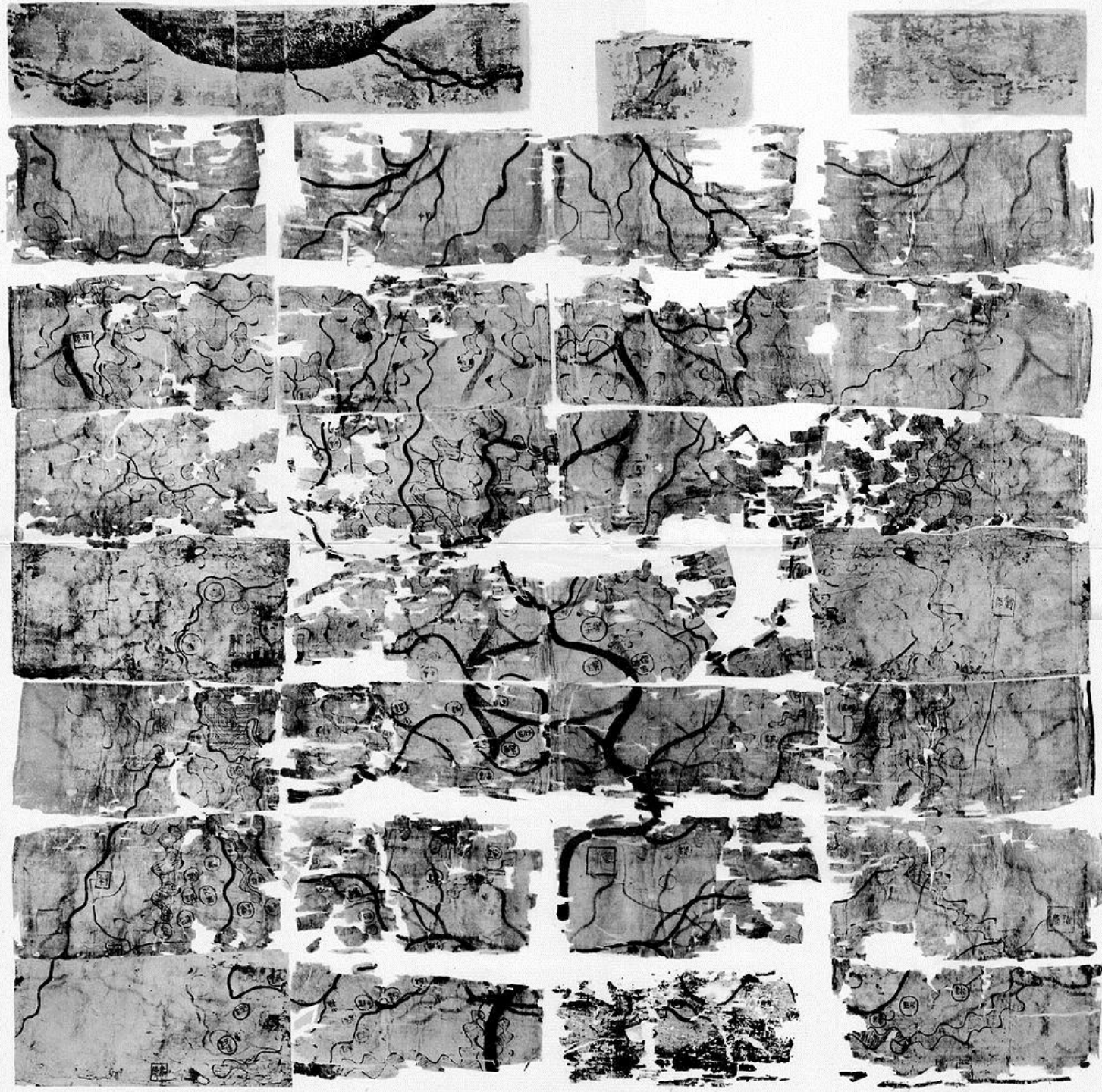
Chinese Silk
map from
Mawangdui
tumulus

~168 BCE

3 maps:
Topography
of Changsha;

Military map
of southern
Changsha;

Prefecture
map.





Met Office

Selden Map of China

東西洋航海圖

(Dōng xīyáng hánghǎi tú)

~1606-1624





Met Office

Da Ming
Hun Yi Tu
map

~1390CE



