

# The Soaring Meteorology Course of the Ludwig-Maximilians Universität at Coburg-Steinrücken

Richard Heinrich, Dieter Heimann, Heinz Lösslein,  
Günter Müller, Matthias Brehm  
... many many others ...

Sabine Rieß, Hilbert Wendt, Maximilian Dollner, Maximilian Rose  
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Flugsportgruppe DLR, Oberpfaffenhofen

Institut für Physik der Atmosphäre, DLR, Oberpfaffenhofen



# The Course

- “The Event” during the study of Meteorology at the University of Munich
- Scheduled for Bachelor students in context with courses on synoptic meteorology
- Training in:
  - Analysis of weather charts
  - Weather observations
  - Aerological measurements with radiosonde and pilot balloons
  - Preparation and presentation of soaring forecasts
  - additional measurements like aerosol measurements
- 10 days during end of July / beginning of August



Photo: Sabine Rieß



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# How it started

- In the 1980's Aeronautical measurement course organized by Carl Freytag, Barbara Hennemuth, Manfred Reinhardt at DFLVR Oberpfaffenhofen
- 1986 first course at Coburg-Steinrücken airfield organized by Ritschie Heinrich, Dieter Heimann, Günther Müller, Heinz Lösslein, Matthias Brehm

## **SPASS**

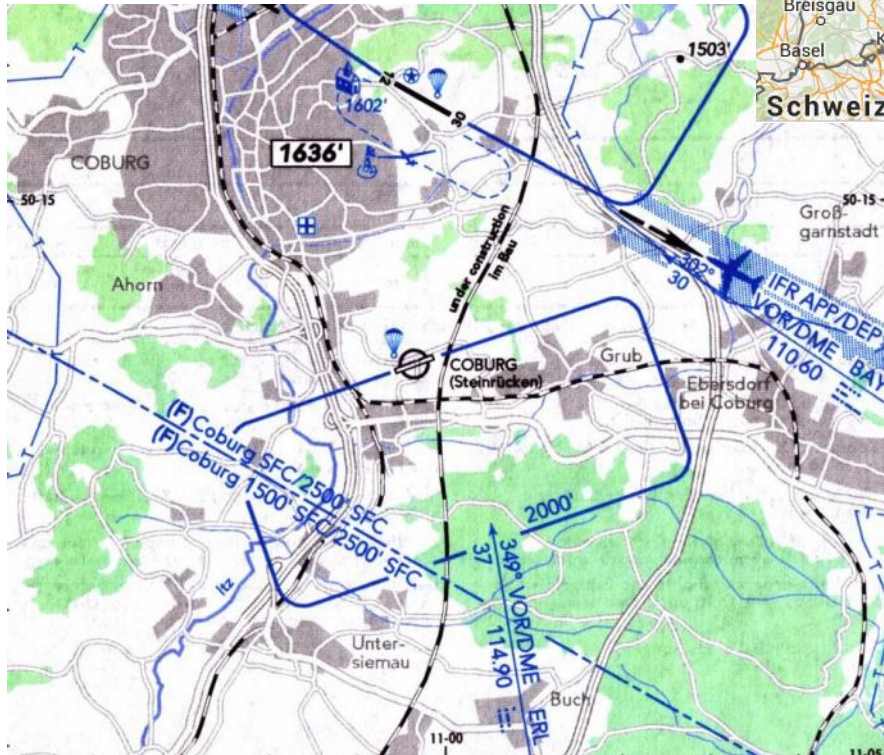
Segelflugmeteorologisches Praktikum  
auf Steinrücken im Sommer 1986

- since then every 2 years for 10 days during end of July / beginning of August



# The Course

- Coburg-Steinrücken, EDQY airfield in northern Bavaria
- 700 m grass runway
- aircraft towing for gliders



# The Course

- 20 Students divided in 4 groups
- about 10 supervisors
- about 20 pilots from
  - Flugsportgruppe Messerschmitt Manching
  - Flugsportgruppe DLR Oberpfaffenhofen
- performing
  - soaring flights with students
  - aero-towing of gliders
  - measurements of temperature and humidity profile
  - acrobatic glider flights



Photo: Sabine Rieß



# The Course

➤ Day 1: arrival

➤ Day 2-5:

Training of students in 4 rotating groups:

- Weather observations and pilot balloons
- Temp analysis and gliding forecast
- Synoptic analysis and weather forecasts
- Logistics: preparation of meals, cleaning, ..

➤ Day 6: day off

“Gala Dinner” prepared by supervisors

➤ Day 7-10: Training of students in 4 rotating groups with reduced support by supervisors

➤ Day 11: cleaning of airfield and departure

Time (lcl)	Activity
6:00	Begin of observations sun-rise temp-flight
7:30	Breakfast
8:00 – 11:00	Group activity temp-flights
11:00 – 12:00	Briefing, forecasts
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch
13:00 – 18:00	Group work temp-flights
18:00	De-briefing, forecasts
19:00 – ...	Dinner, leisure



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# Observation and Pilot Balloon Group

➤ Hourly observations of the weather situation

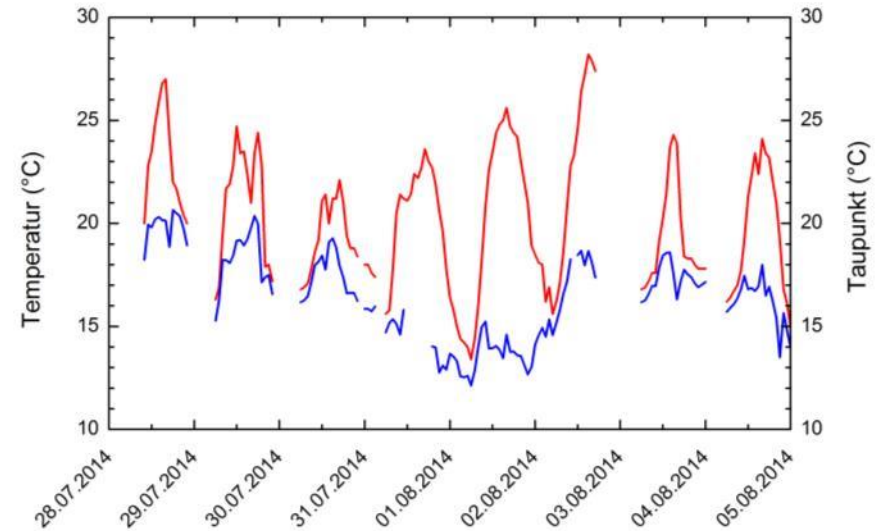


## Wetterbeobachtung

Beobachter: \_\_\_\_\_

Datum: 21.08.09  
 Ort: Colony Sta. Mitten  
 Blatt: \_\_\_\_\_

Zeit [MESZ]	TL [°C]	TF [°C]	TD [°C]	rF [%]	dd [°]	ff [ms <sup>-2</sup> ]	p(Stat) [hPa]	p(NN) [hPa]	Sicht [km]	N [1/8]	CL	CM	CH	Namens- kürzel
6 <sup>00</sup>	4,8	4,6	4,4	100	210	0,9	974,82		10	2	St	Ac	-	MG
7 <sup>00</sup>	7,1	6,7	8,3	100	210	1,3	974,44		30	6	St	Ac	-	Sonne
8 <sup>00</sup>	10,2	9,2	8,3	90	224	2,2	974,54		30	6	St	Ac	-	MS
9 <sup>00</sup>	10,3	10,3	8,6	85	225	5	974,78		30	2	Ca	-	-	CS
10 <sup>00</sup>	14,2	11,2	8,7	82	236	5,5	974,84		30	5	Ca	-	-	CS
11 <sup>00</sup>	14,6	11,2	8,4	73	225	6,3	974,85		30	4	Ca	-	-	BS
12 <sup>00</sup>	15,8	12,2	9,4	67	261	9,4	974,47		30	6	Ca/Sc	-	-	FM
13 <sup>00</sup>	16,8	11,6	7,7	65	265	6,5	974,19		30	6	Ca/Sc	St	-	MS
14 <sup>20</sup>	15,5	10,2	5,2	60	303	7,8	974,11		30	7	Ca/Sc	St	-	BS
15 <sup>00</sup>	15,4	10,4	5,8	66	272	6,0	974,23		30	7	Ca/Sc	Ac/Sc	-	BS
16 <sup>00</sup>	15,4	11,0	7,2	67	255	3,5	974,36		15	7	St/Sc	Ac/Sc	-	MS
17 <sup>00</sup>	10,5	10,5	3,6	95	270	5,2	975,02		15	8	Ca	St	-	?
18 <sup>00</sup>	17,0	13,0		97	216	2,7	975,21		20	8	St	Ac/Sc	-	-



# Observation and Pilot Balloon Group

- Measurement of wind profiles by tracking of balloon with two theodolites



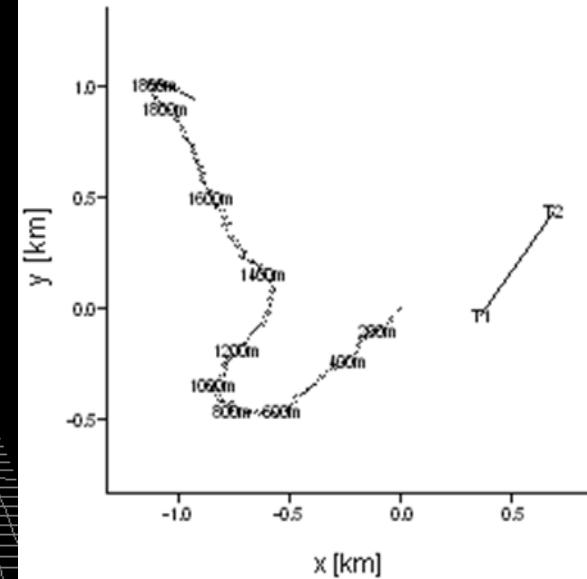
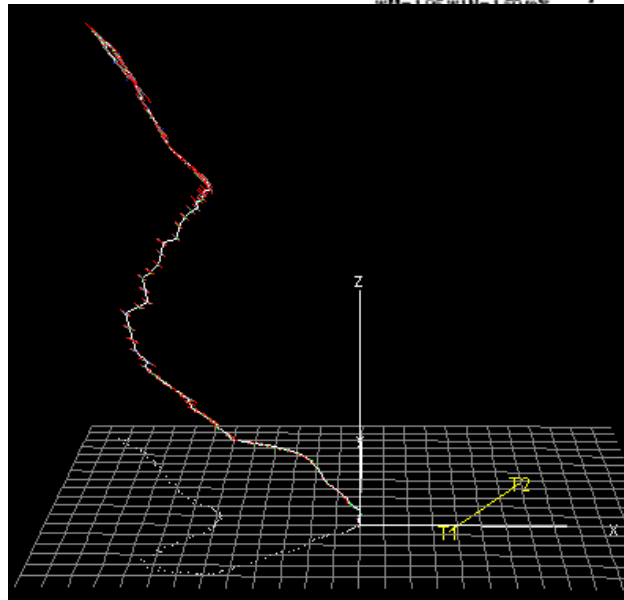
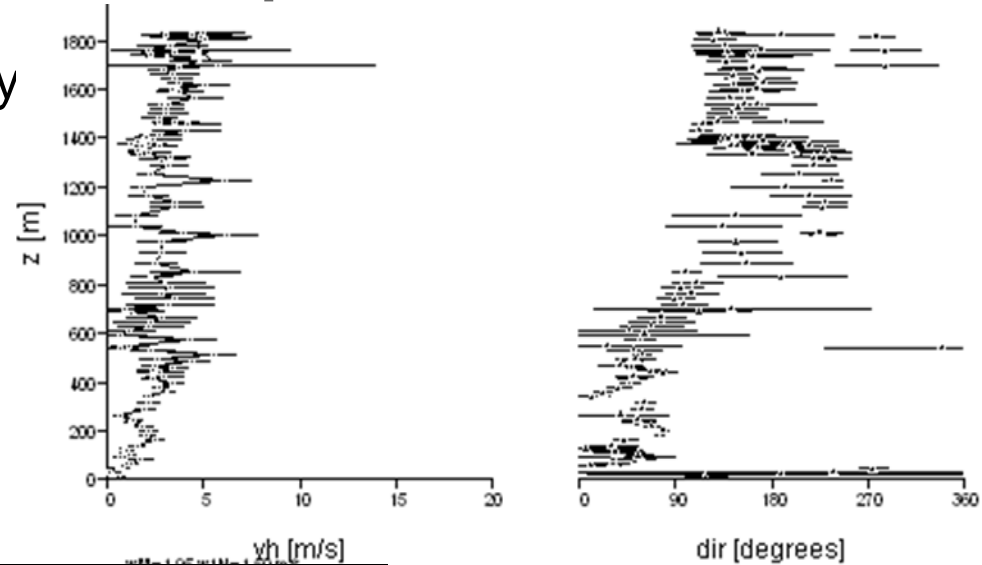
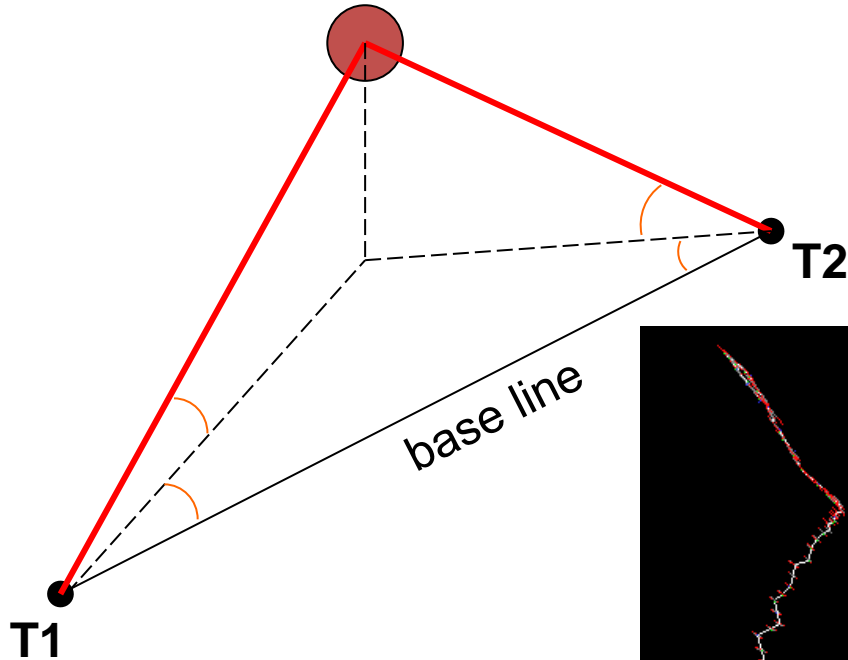
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# Observation and Pilot Balloon Group

➤ Measurement of wind profiles by tracking of balloon with two theodolites



# Observation and Pilot Balloon Group

- Launch of radio sonde, daily at 12 UTC  
Vaisala RS92 (RS80)



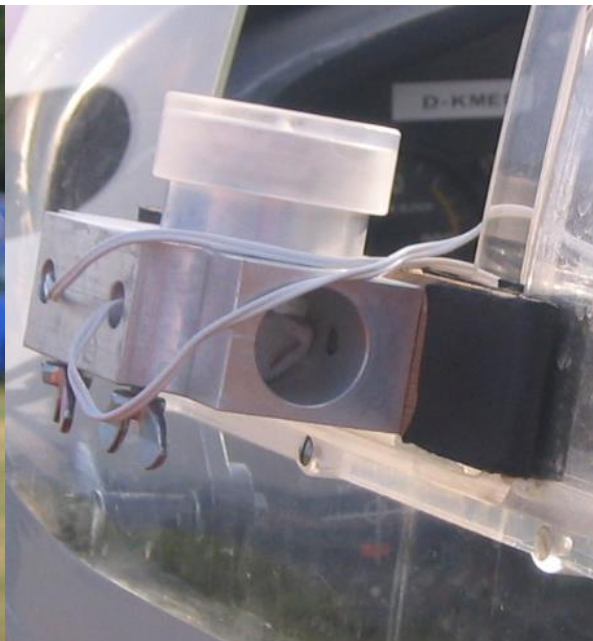
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# Temp Analysis and Soaring Condition Forecast

- Measurement of temperature and humidity profiles with aircraft
  - ground (360 m MSL) up to 3000 m (10000 ft, 700 hPa)  
maximum height for VFR flights (~ ceiling of ASK 16)
  - about 4 times per day
  - psychrometer (dry and wet-bulb electronic temperature sensor) and pressure sensor, manuell recording every 10 hPa
  - automatic recording (after 2009)



# Temp Analysis and Soaring Condition Forecast

➤ Temp flights with ASK-16 and DA-20



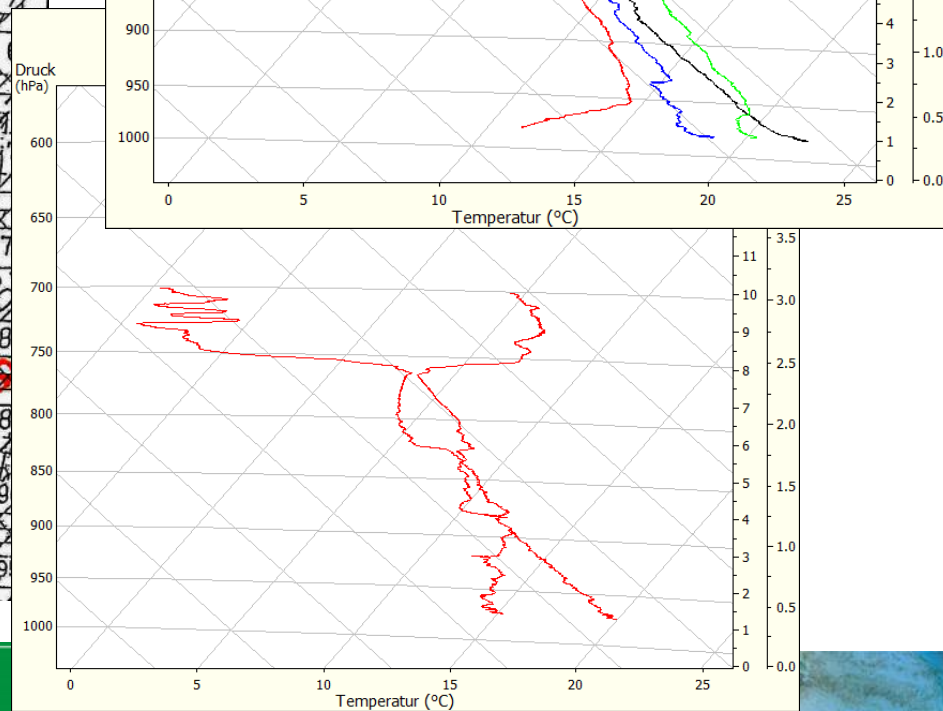
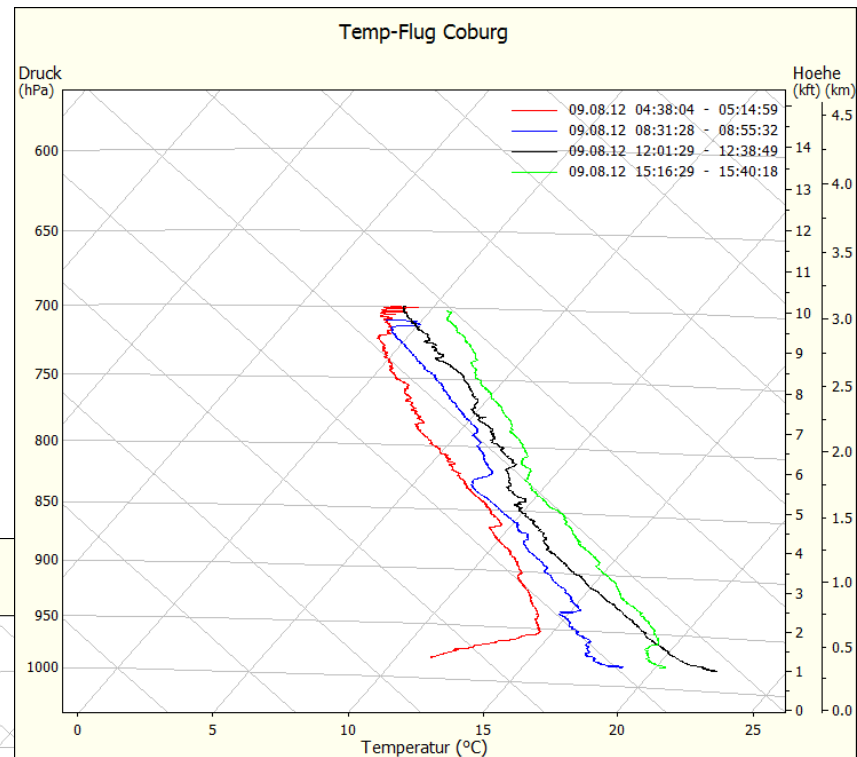
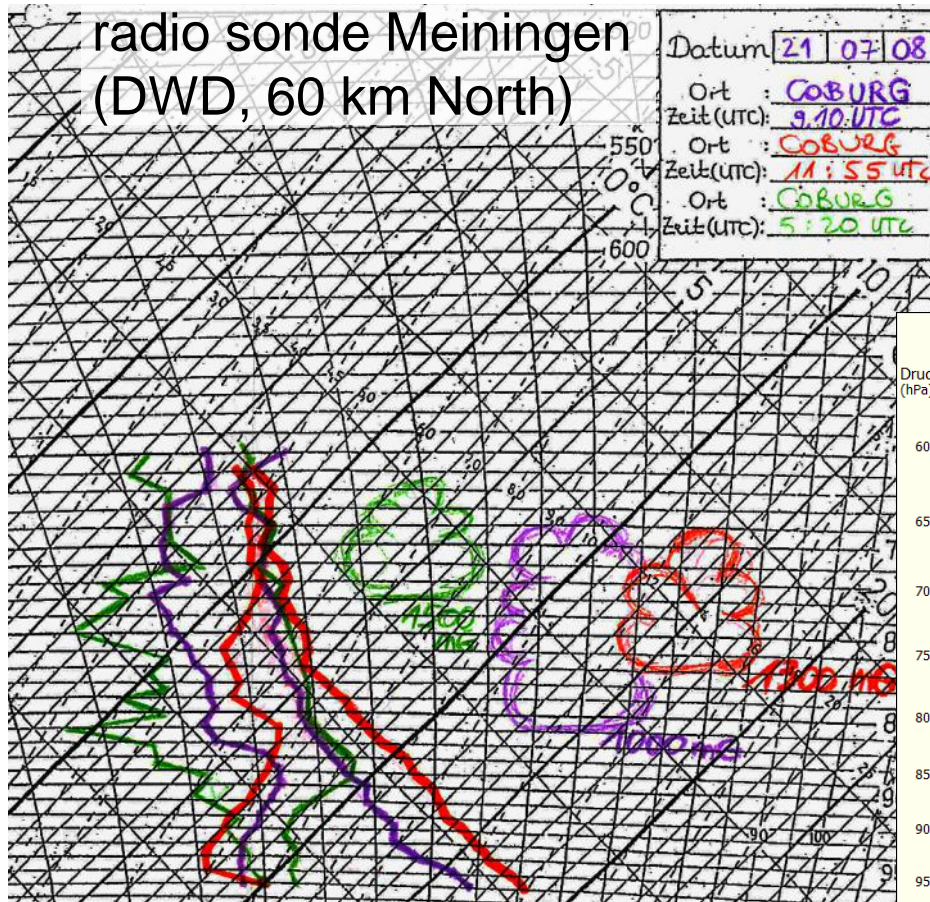
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# Temp Analysis and Soaring Condition Forecast

- Analysis of profiles (manually), supervised by Ritschie Heinrich
- Temp-flights, radio sonde Coburg, radio sonde Meiningen (DWD, 60 km North)

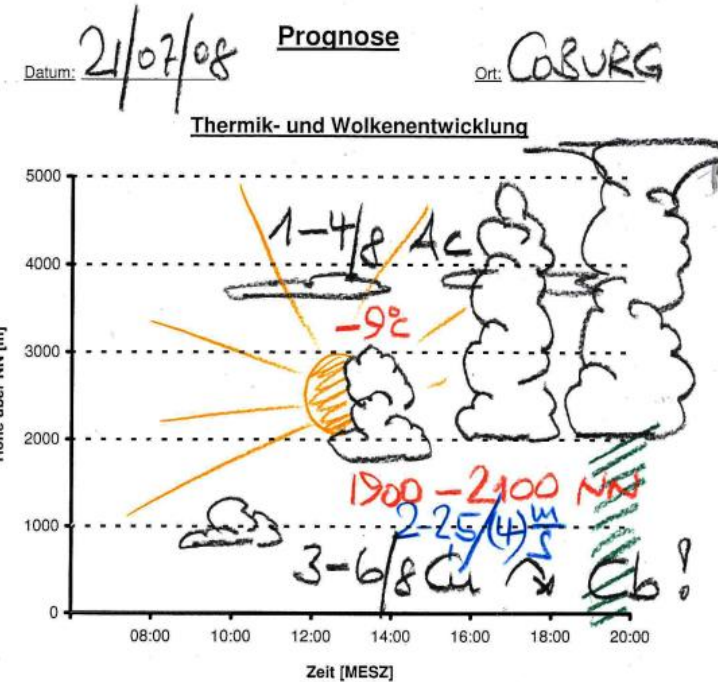
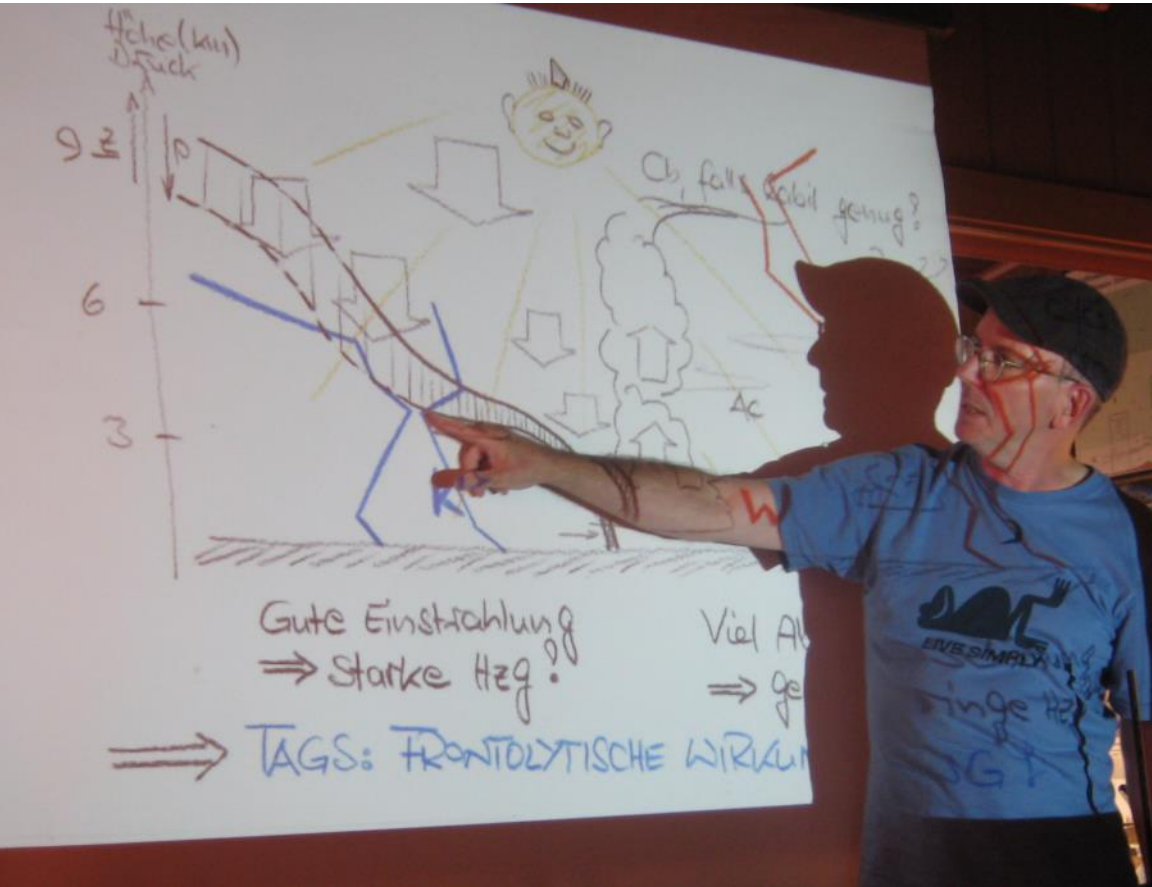


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# Temp Analysis and Soaring Condition Forecast

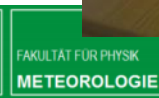
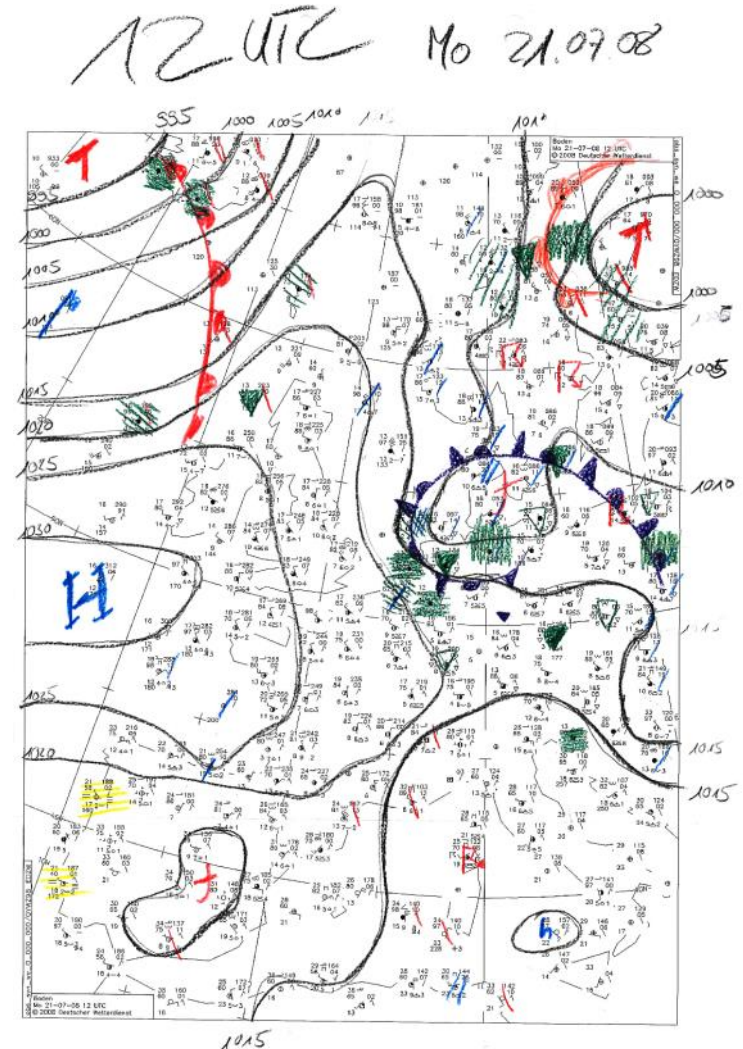
## ➤ Analysis and Forecast



Temperatur [°C]		14		17-18	
Taupunkt [°C]		8		5-4	
Wind [ms <sup>-1</sup> ]	Boden:				
	1000 m:				
	1500 m:				
	2000 m:				
Sicht		20-40		40-60	
Niederschlag					☑
Besondere Ereignisse		ABENDS ZUNEHM. SCHAUER		VON NW	
Zeit [MESZ]	08:00	10:00	12:00	14:00	16:00 18:00 20:00

# Synoptic Analysis and Weather Forecasts

➤ Analysis of surface charts and DWD forecasts



# Synoptic Analysis and Weather Forecasts

➤ Analysis of surface charts and DWD forecasts



Forecast for ➔

	Fr	Sa	So	Mo	Di	Mi	Do	Fr	Sa	So	
Fr											
Sa	Forecast from ←	20 ↗ 1011	19 ↗ 1012	13 → 1019	16 ↗ 1022	19 ↗ 1023	24 ↘ 1020	28 ↘ 1017	28 ↘ 1015		
So			22 ↘ 1012	15 → 1017	17 ↘ 1022	20 ↘ 1023	23 ↘ 1017	26 ↘ 1014	27 ↘ 1015	23 ↘ 1016	
Mo				17 ↘ 1016	17 ↘ 1020	22 ↘ 1024	25 ↘ 1020	25 ↘ 1015	25 ↘ 1013	23 ↘ 1015	
Di					17 ↘ 1021						
Mi							21 ↘ 1025	23 ↘ 1020	25 ↘ 1017	26 ↘ 1014	24 ↘ 1016
Do								23 ↘ 1020	27 ↘ 1013	28 ↘ 1011	28 ↘ 1015
Fr								26 ↘ 1014	26 ↘ 1012	28 ↘ 1015	
Sa									30 ↘ 1012	30 ↘ 1012	



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# Support and Logistics Group

- Preparing breakfast, lunch and dinner in small kitchen for 50 persons



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# Flying Experience for Students



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# Flying Experience for Students



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