## **Bell Ringer**

1. Mr. Hammer plans to go out over the weekend on his new sailboat. First, he must know how fast the wind is blowing to see if it's appropriate to sail. What instrument should he use?

2. A meteorologist observes some cumulonimbus clouds outside. He speculates that there is LOW air pressure. What instrument should he use to determine the air pressure?

# General Meteorology and Forecasting



<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XiAyWYCcAI0</u>
<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mwUREWWRTaU</u>
<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fHxO0UdpoxM</u>

### Air Masses



## Air Masses



#### Air Masses



#### 4 Main types of air masses

Polar latitudes (P)
 Tropical (T)
 Continental (c)
 Maritime (m)

Most weather occurs at the edge of these air pockets, called fronts.

# Synoptic Meteorology – Putting lots of things together (temp, pressure, etc.)

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DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/HPC 12-HR FCST OF FRONTS/ PRESSURE AND WEATHER ISSUED: 0407Z THU SEP 21 2006 VALID: 1200Z THU SEP 21 2006 FORECASTER: ZIEGENFELDER

## Pressure and Wind



### Pressure and Wind



#### **Pressure Gradient Force**

# **Types of Fronts**

<u>Cold Front</u>
 <u>Warm Front</u>
 <u>Stationary Front</u>
 <u>Occluded Front</u>

## **Cold Front**

A transition zone where cold/dry, and stable air, replaces warm/moist, and unstable air. It is depicted by a blue line with triangles pointing towards the direction of movement.

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#### Colder Temperatures

Warmer Temperatures

# Cold Front (Vertical Profile)

Typically lots of bad weather with cold fronts (Thunderstorms/rain/hail)

#### Advancing Cold air

## Cold Front

# Rain / Hail / Lightning









## Warm Front

A transition zone where warm, moist air replaces cold, dry air. Typically, warm fronts only travel at half the speed than that of cold fronts



# Warm Front (Vertical Profile)

#### Warm Front

Warm air ~

Advancing Warm Air Behind Warm Front

Warm Front Map Symbol Cloud Development Due to Frontal Lifting of Warm Moist Air

> Receding Cold Air Ahead of Warm Front

Direction of Frontal Movement Cold air

# **Stationary Front**

A boundary that has essentially no movement, but separates warm, moist air from cold, dry air. It is depicted by an alternating red and blue line containing blue triangles and red semicircles. The triangles point towards the warmer air, while the semicircles point towards the cooler air.

> Cold Air



# Stationary Front



## Occluded front

#### When a warm front gets trapped above two cold air masses.



# Occluded front



## Mapping Exercise

Draw and analyze a surface weather map for pressure and temperature, and draw the fronts that are indicated by these two variables.

Discuss our results.



#### Surface Pressure



#### **Surface Temperature**



# Pressure/Front Map



## **Temperature/Front Map**



#### Synoptic Map

