

# Hydrocarbon Exploration in a Multiply Overprinted Caledonian Continental Collision Zone in the German Baltic Sea: Current Status

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## Outline



Purpose of Work and This Presentation

Exploration History

Geological Setting

Basin Development

Wells Wells Wells (4 German and 3 Polish offshore, 7 on Rügen...compact)

Results of Seismic Interpretation

Concluding Remarks

## Purpose of Work and This Presentation

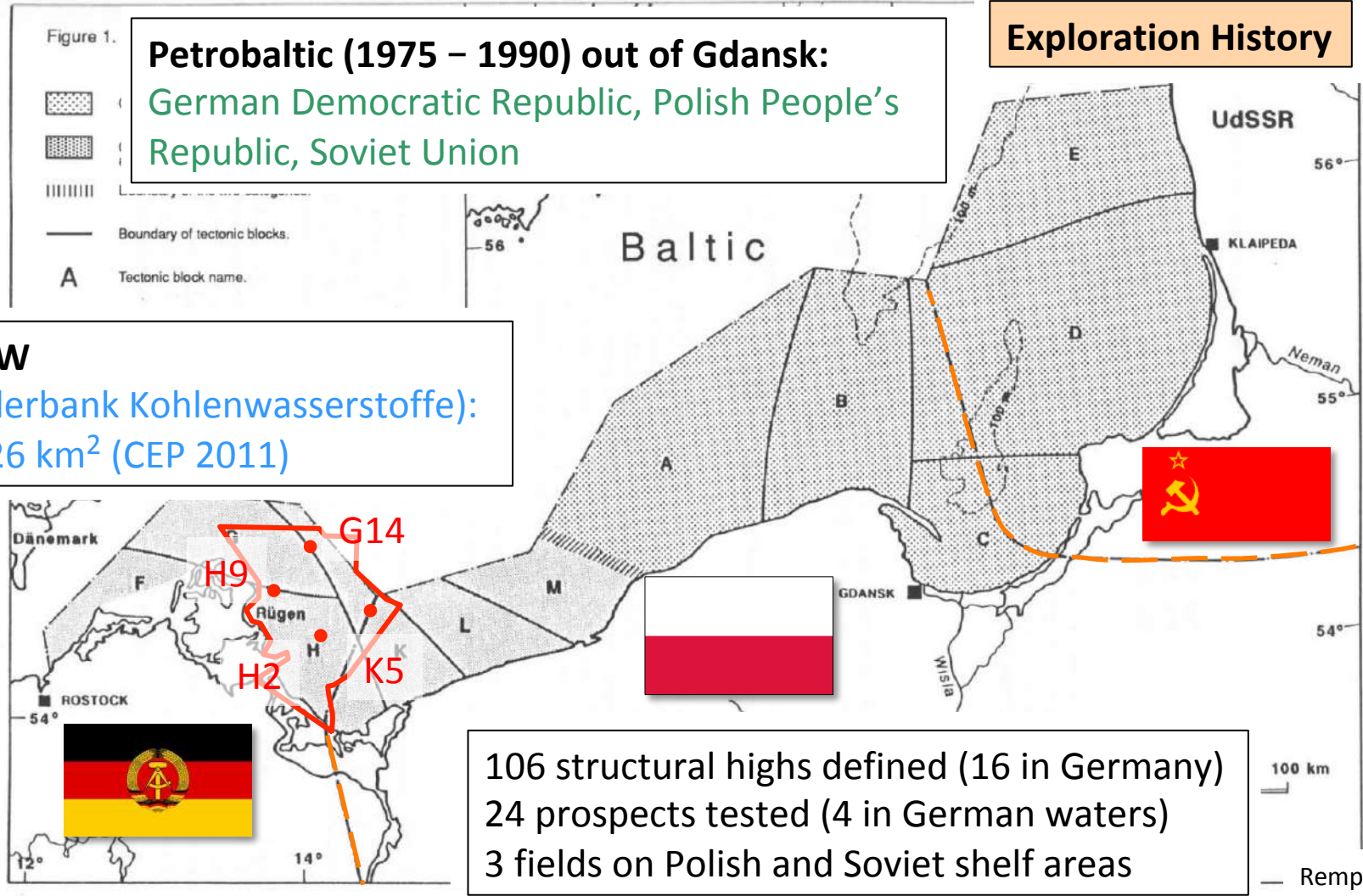


### Work performed:

...to better understand the geology and therefore the prospectivity of the block and the surrounding areas

### This presentation:

...aims to present the current status of hydrocarbon exploration on the German shelf east of Rügen island

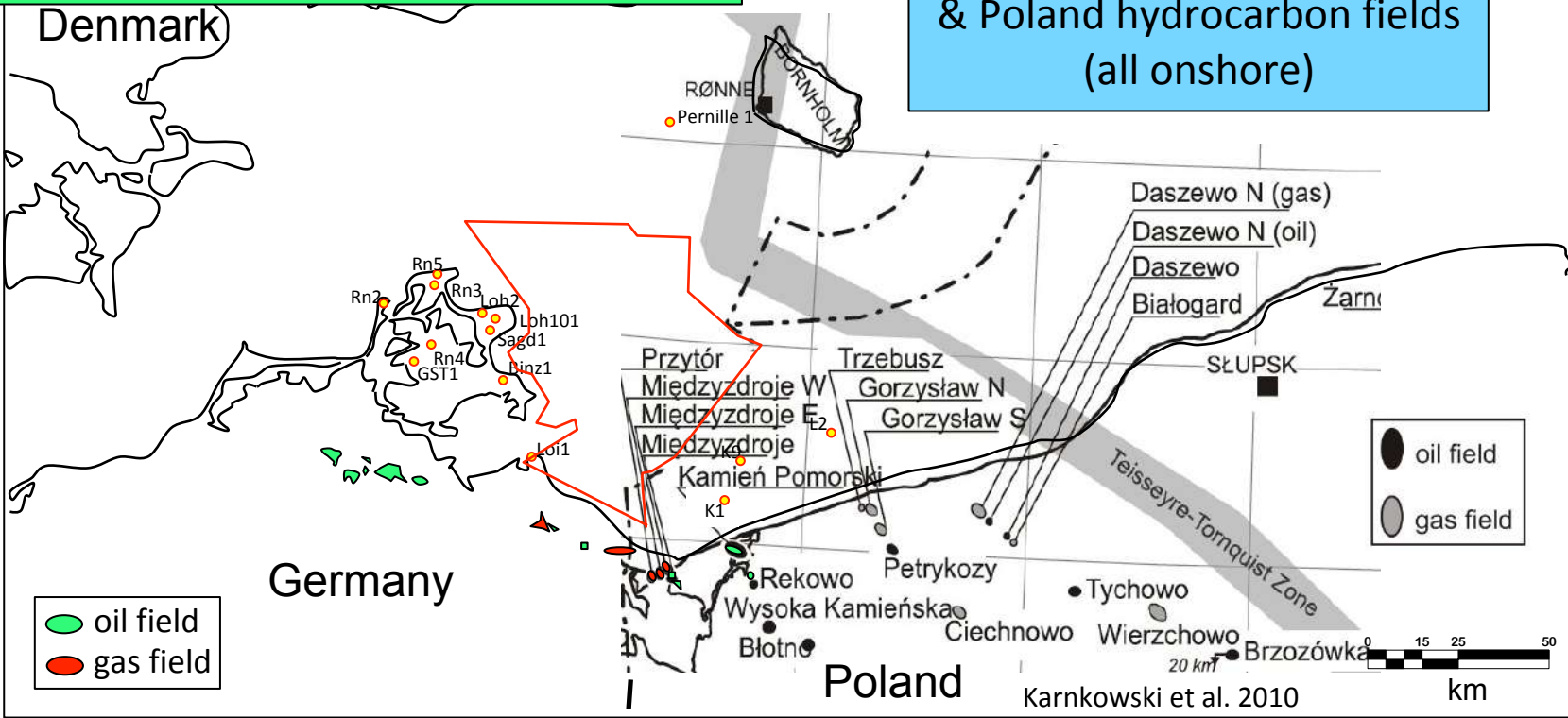


Onshore Pomerania:  
 -4 oil fields in Cambrian sandstones (Baltica)  
 -7 gas fields in Carboniferous sandstones  
 -6 gas fields in Saxonian sandstones  
 -11 oil fields in the Zechstein (Ca2)

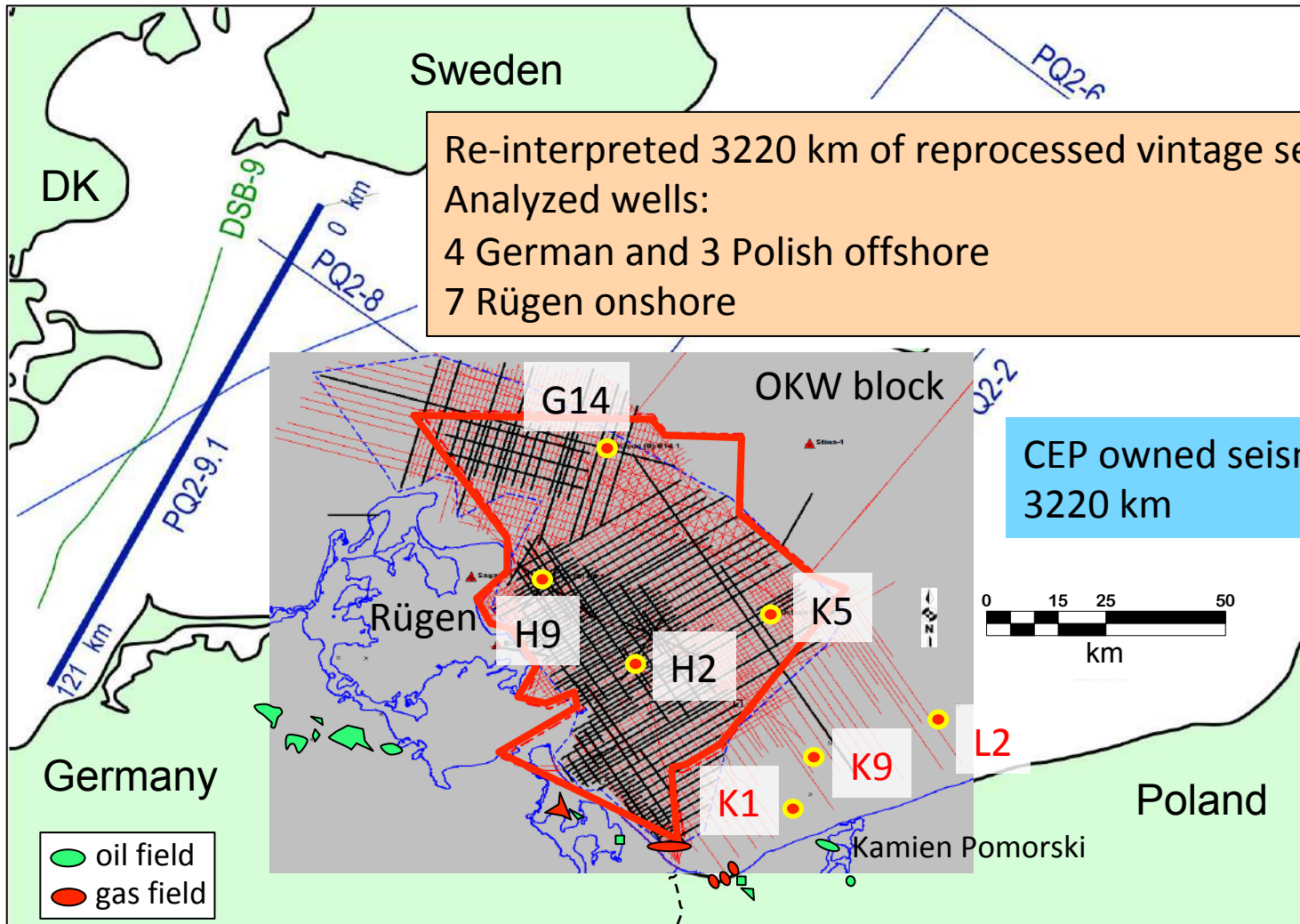
Basemap after  
 Krawczyk et al. (2002)



Northern East Germany  
 & Poland hydrocarbon fields  
 (all onshore)



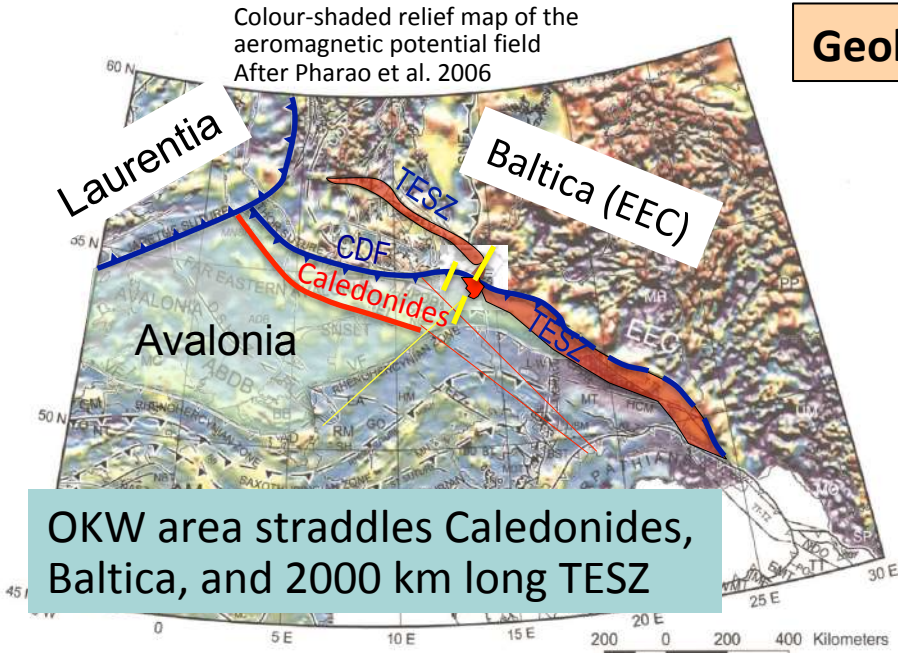
Karnkowski et al. 2010



Re-interpreted 3220 km of reprocessed vintage seismic  
Analyzed wells:  
4 German and 3 Polish offshore  
7 Rügen onshore

CEP owned seismic (black):  
3220 km

Colour-shaded relief map of the aeromagnetic potential field  
After Pharao et al. 2006

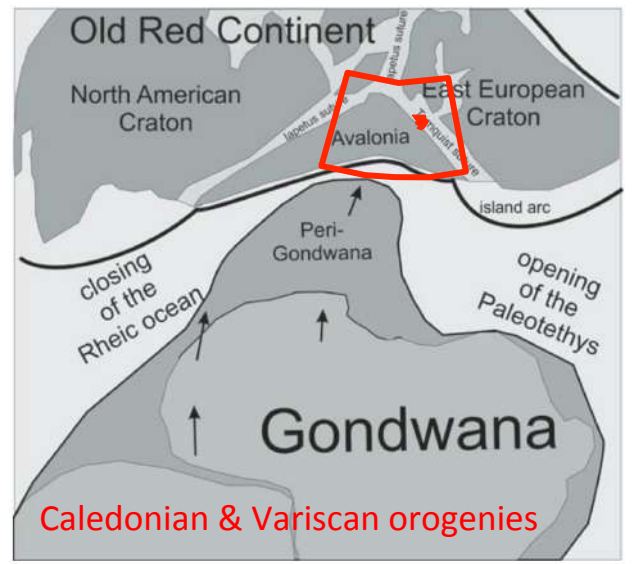


OKW area straddles Caledonides, Baltica, and 2000 km long TESZ

**Geological Setting**

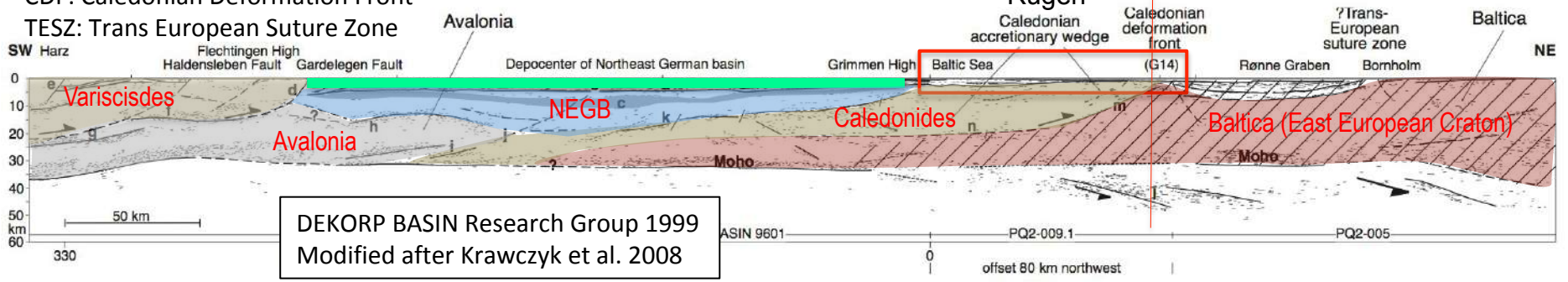
2 Caledonian sutures:  
Tornquist: Upper Ord.  
→ Baltica  
Iapetus: Silurian  
→ Old Red

“N. German – Polish Caledonides”



Kroner et al. 2007

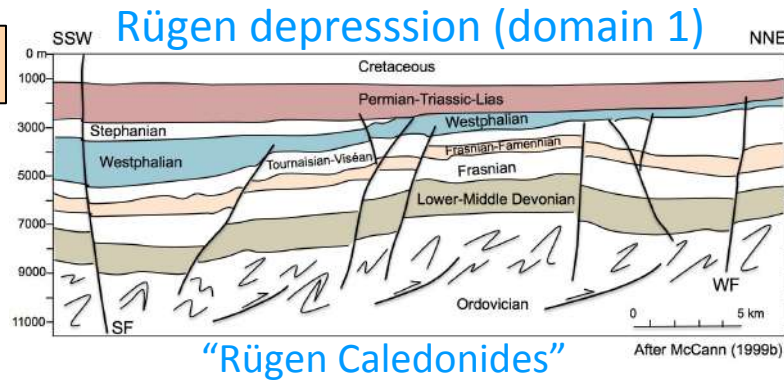
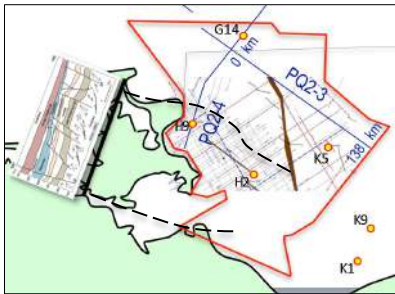
Laurentia + Baltica + Avalonia = Old Red Continent  
CDF: Caledonian Deformation Front  
TESZ: Trans European Suture Zone



DEKORP BASIN Research Group 1999  
Modified after Krawczyk et al. 2008



## Basin Development



**Main Devonian reservoirs:**  
 Middle Devonian marine sandstones (Old Red facies)  
 Upper Devonian shallow marine carbonates

open shelf

deeper marine Frasnian carbonates

continental  
to shallow  
marine

Middle Devonian  
qtz-sandstones

System	Subsystem/ Series	Stage	Age (Ma)
Carboniferous	Mississippian	Tournaisian	recent
Devonian	Upper Res.	Famennian	372,2–358,9
		Frasnian	382,7–372,2
	Middle Res.	Givetian	387,7–382,7
		Eifelian	393,3–387,7
	Lower	Emsian	407,6–393,3
		Pragian	410,8–407,6
		Lochkovian	419,2–410,8
Silurian	Pridoli	no faunal stages defined	older

Subdivision of the Devonian system according to the ICS.<sup>[1]</sup>

convergence:  
compression, uplift

extension:  
rifting,  
subsidence

Variscan basin initiation in the early Devonian: continental deposition (Old Red Sandstone)

## Main Carboniferous reservoirs:

Westphalian continental sandstones

Viséan carbonates (flowed oil in Hiddensee 3 test)

continental:  
molasse sandstones  
(fluvial, lacustrine)

shallow marine:  
carbonates w. minor  
clastic rocks

System	Series (NW Europe)	Stage (NW Europe)	Series (ICS)	Stage (ICS)	Age (Ma)
Permian	Zechstein evaporites seal				younger
Carboniferous	Silesian	Stephanian	Pennsylvanian	Gzhelian	299–303,9
		Westphalian		Kasimovian	303,9–306,5
		Res. Source		Moscovian	306,5–311,7
	Namurian	eroded	Mississippian	Bashkirian	311,7–318,1
				Serpukhovian	318,1–326,4
	Dinantian	Tournaisian	Tournaisian	Visean	326,4–345,3
				Res., Seal; Source	Tournaisian
Devonian					older

Subdivisions of the Carboniferous system in Europe compared with the official ICS-stages.

## Main Zechstein reservoir:

Ca<sub>2</sub> (Stassfurt carbonate)

→ Kamien Pomorski, Lütow

dextrally transtensional

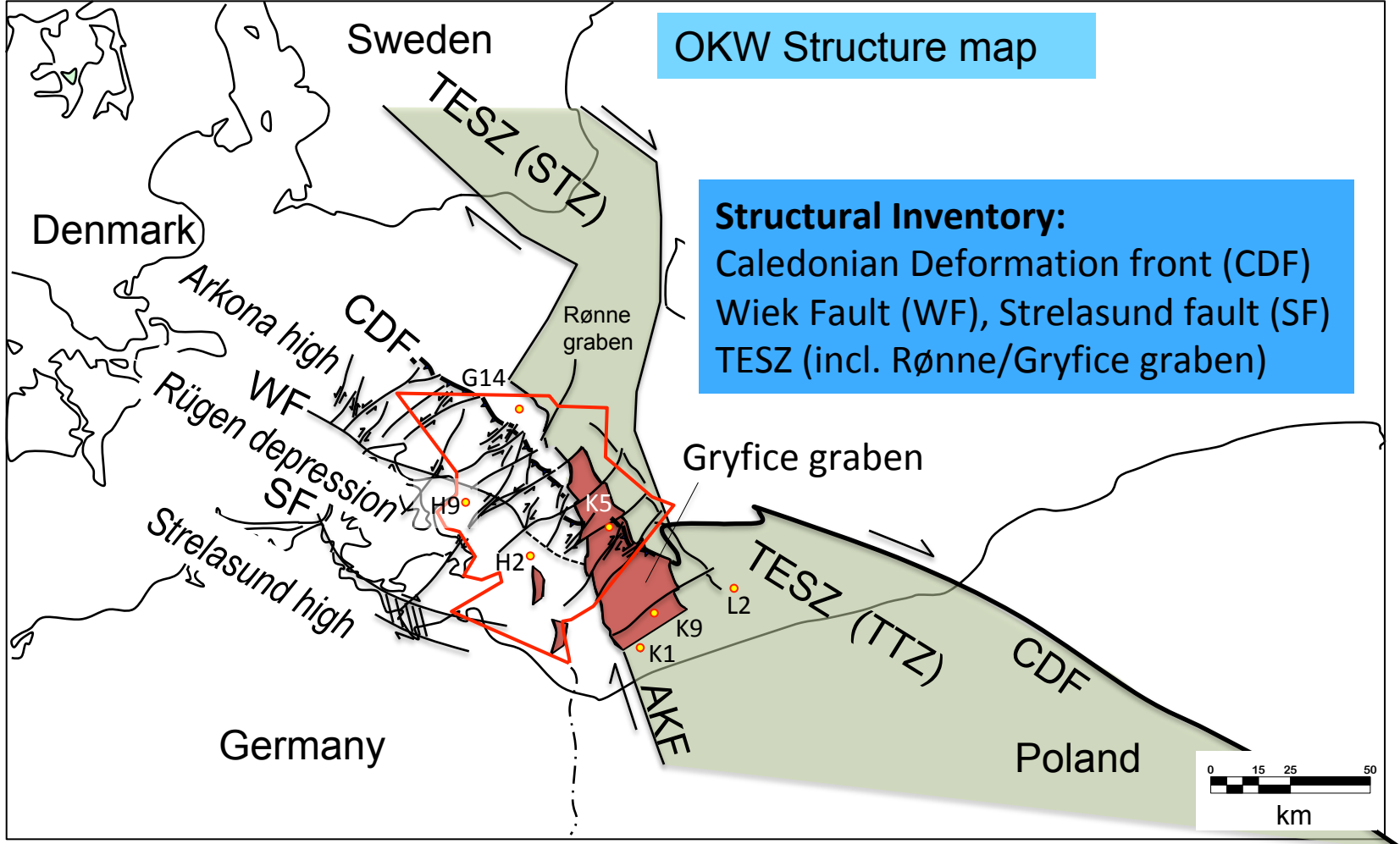
early terminal collision:  
post-Viséan uplift  
("Sudetic discordance")

compression:  
Variscan orogeny



OKW Structure map

**Structural Inventory:**  
Caledonian Deformation front (CDF)  
Wiek Fault (WF), Strelasund fault (SF)  
TESZ (incl. Rønne/Gryfice graben)



## 4 German Offshore Wells (1986-1990): H2, H9, K5...G14

Paleozoic targets

No hydrocarbon shows, only indications

Prognosis vs. reality: huge discrepancies

G14: Triassic on overcooked platform Silurian (starved passive continental margin sequence)

H2: Lower Carboniferous and Upper Devonian (Frasnian Res.) missing

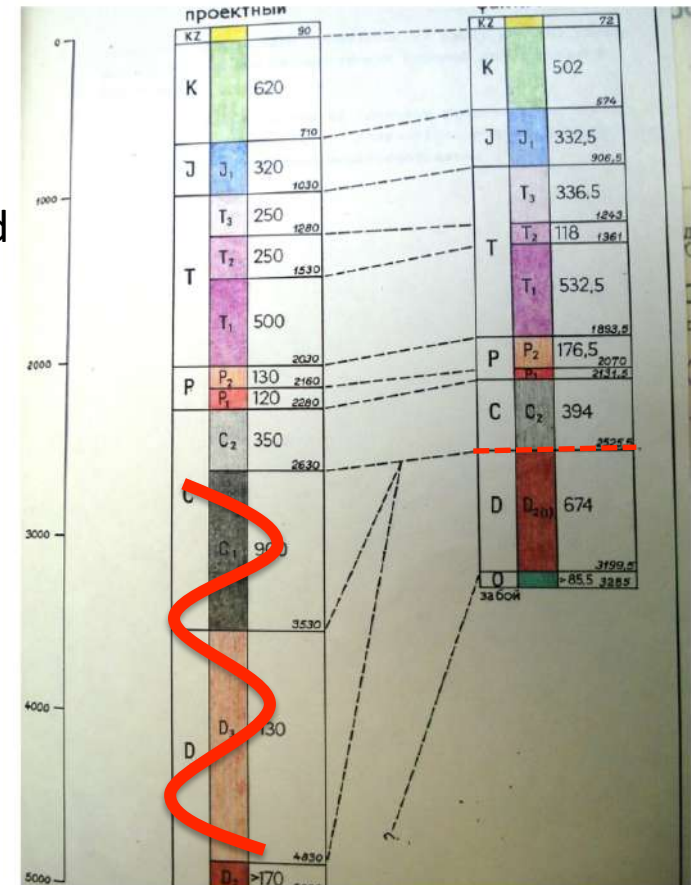
H9: Triassic on Upper Devonian (Frasnian missing)

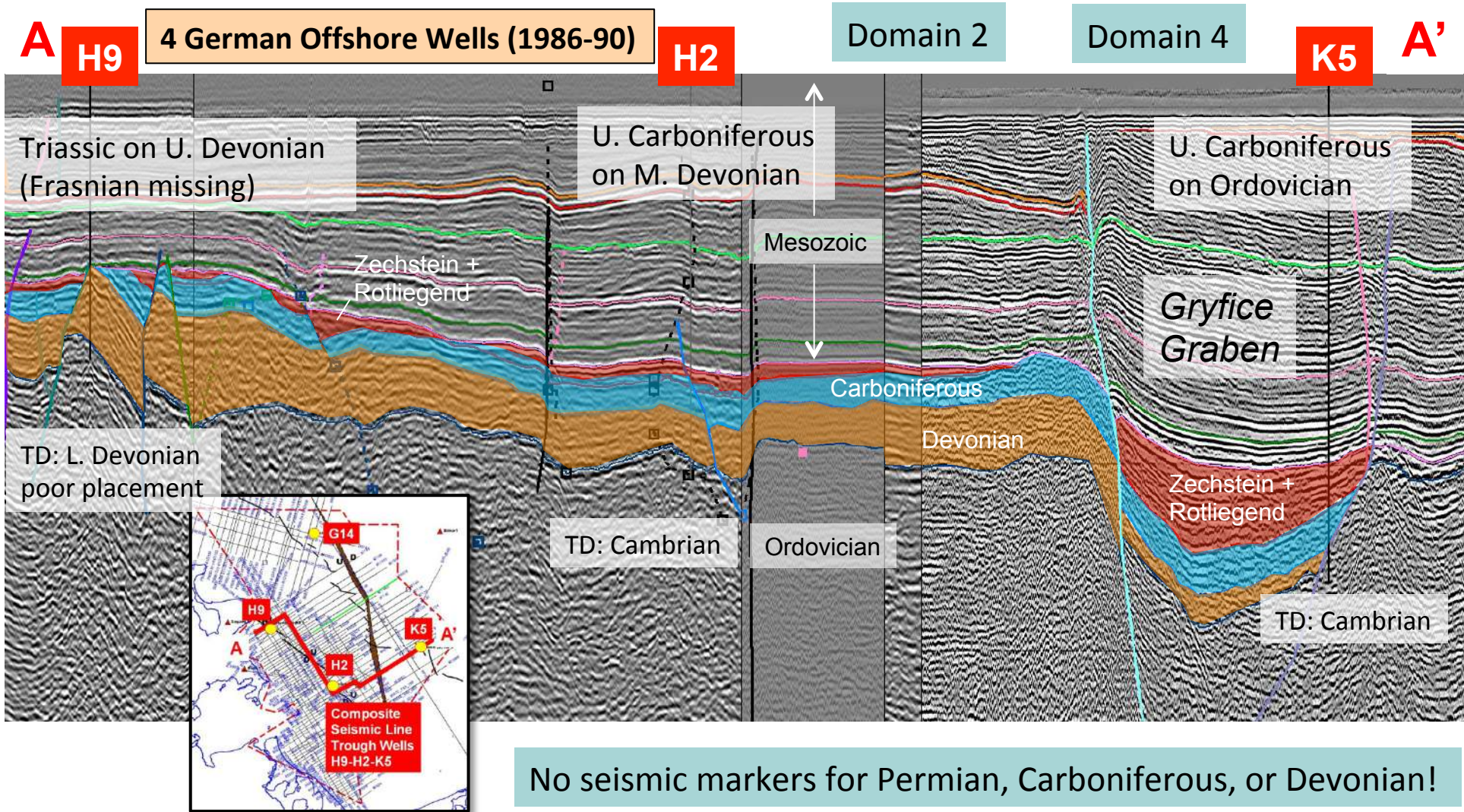
K5: Upper Carboniferous on top of Ordovician

Poor well placements → effects of Variscan orogeny (post-Viséan uplift/erosion of Namurian to Devonian section) not considered in four consecutive wells

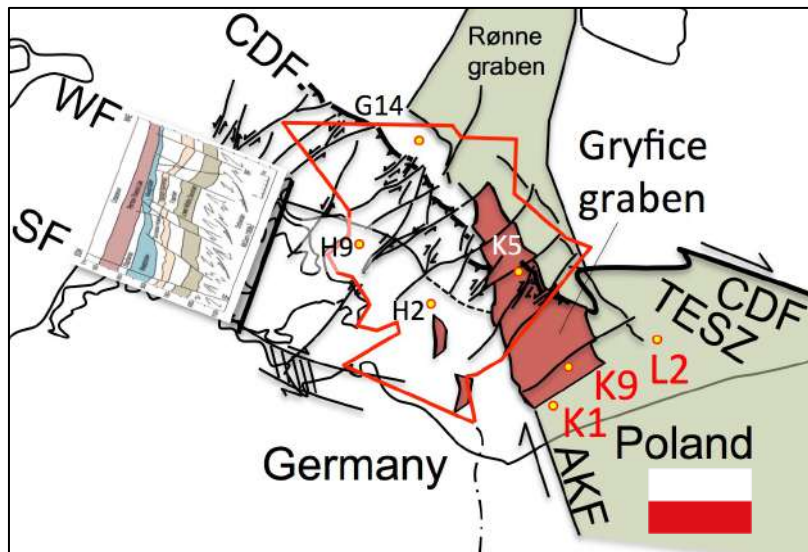
H2 prognosis

H2 log





### 3 Polish Offshore Wells (1986-1989): K1, K9, L2



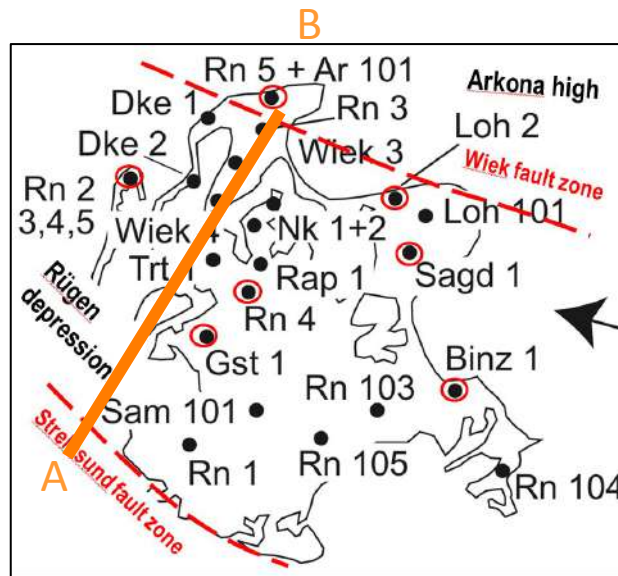
K1 and K9 in similar setting as K5 (Gryfice graben)

Paleozoic targets

No hydrocarbon shows, only indications

Ca2 without reservoir quality (K1, K9)

**7 Rügen Onshore Wells (1964 -1973) ...out of 32 between 1962 and 1986**



7 wells examined (6 within Rügen depression cf. H2 & H9);  
**all drilled on local highs!**

Paleozoic targets

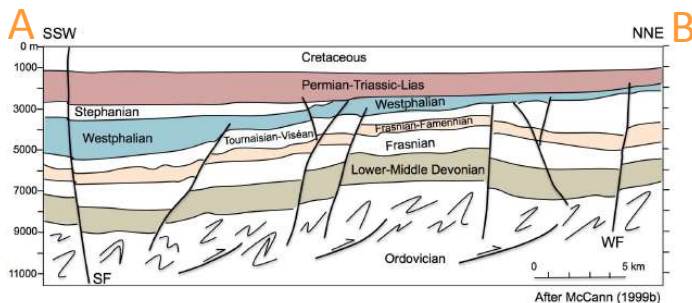
No hydrocarbon shows, only indications

Prognosed stratigraphic section missing: **e.g. 70% of U. Devonian in Binz 1/73**

Rn 5 on Arkona horst: top Ordovician at 720 m (4000 m prognosed)

U. Devonian reefs on local highs (2ndary horsts)  
**→ eroded during Variscan uplift**

Eff. por. of M. Dev. sandstones is entirely depth dependent







**Where do we have production onshore?  
→ Composite Polish onshore gas and/or oil deposit**

**Pre-Permian:**

**Geological Setting:** TESZ; eastern extension of Rügen depression

**Reservoir:** mainly Westphalian sandstones; minor Viséan carb./ss

**Trap:** NNW to NW trending Alpine inversion anticlines against TESZ-related faults

**Seal:** mainly Zechstein salt and anhydrites; lesser intraformational

**Source:** mainly Tournaisian (Lower Carboniferous) shales

Late Alpine uplift vs. early Variscan uplift

**Permian:**

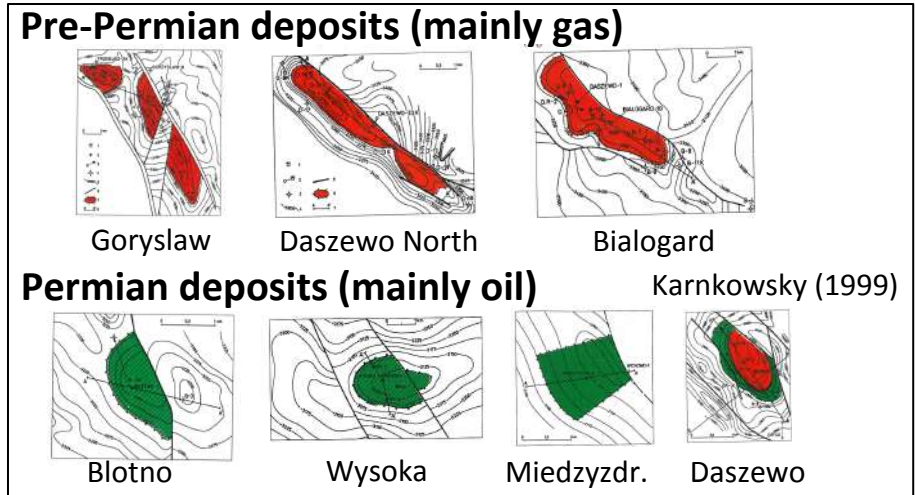
**Geological Setting:** same as above

**Reservoir:** Ca2 (Stassfurt carb.), Rotl. sandstone

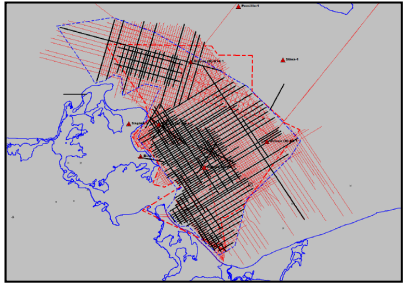
**Trap:** same as above

**Seal:** same as above

**Source:** Ca2, Carboniferous



**Results of Seismic Interpretation**



No Devonian?  
No Carboniferous?

G14

H9

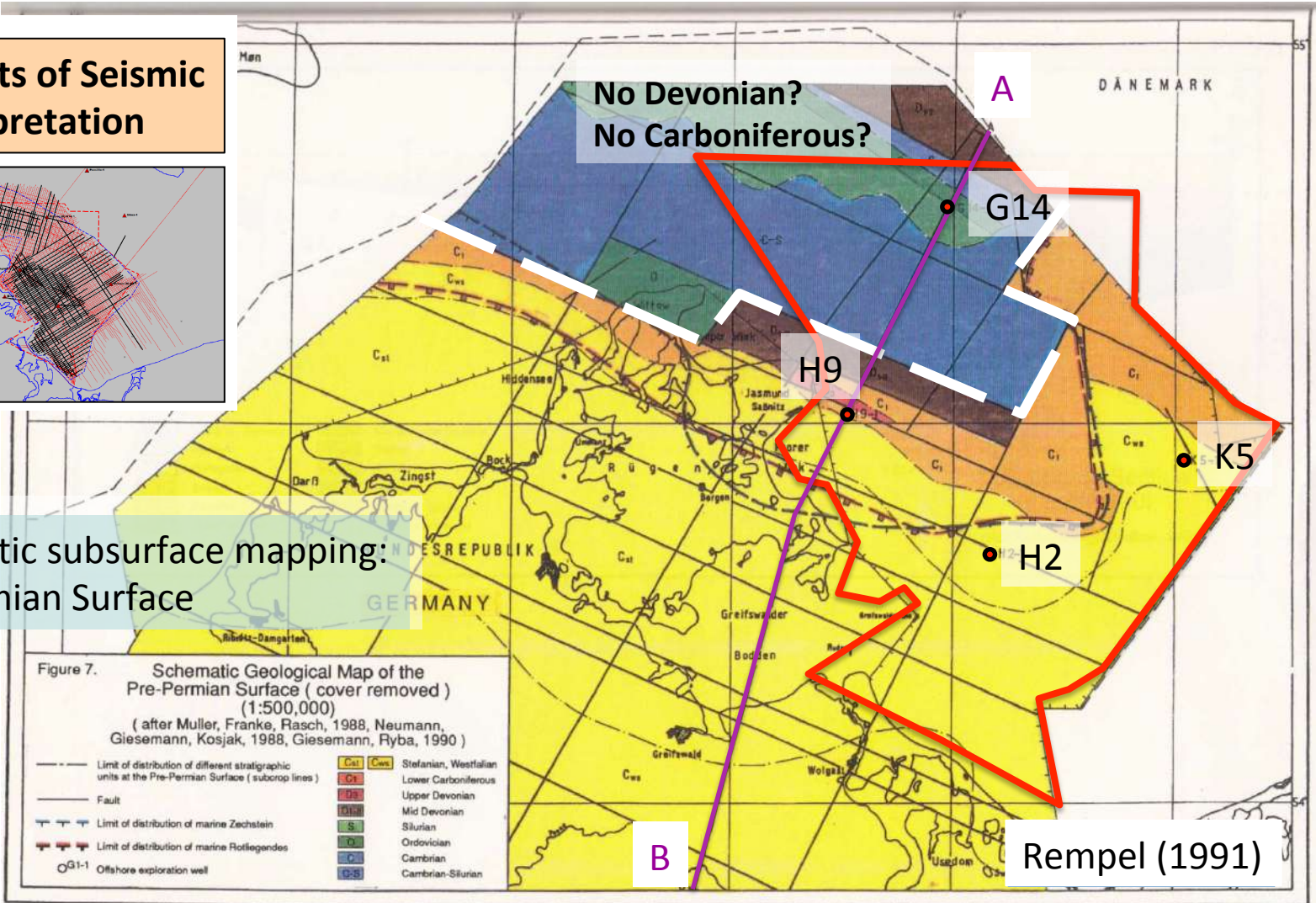
K5

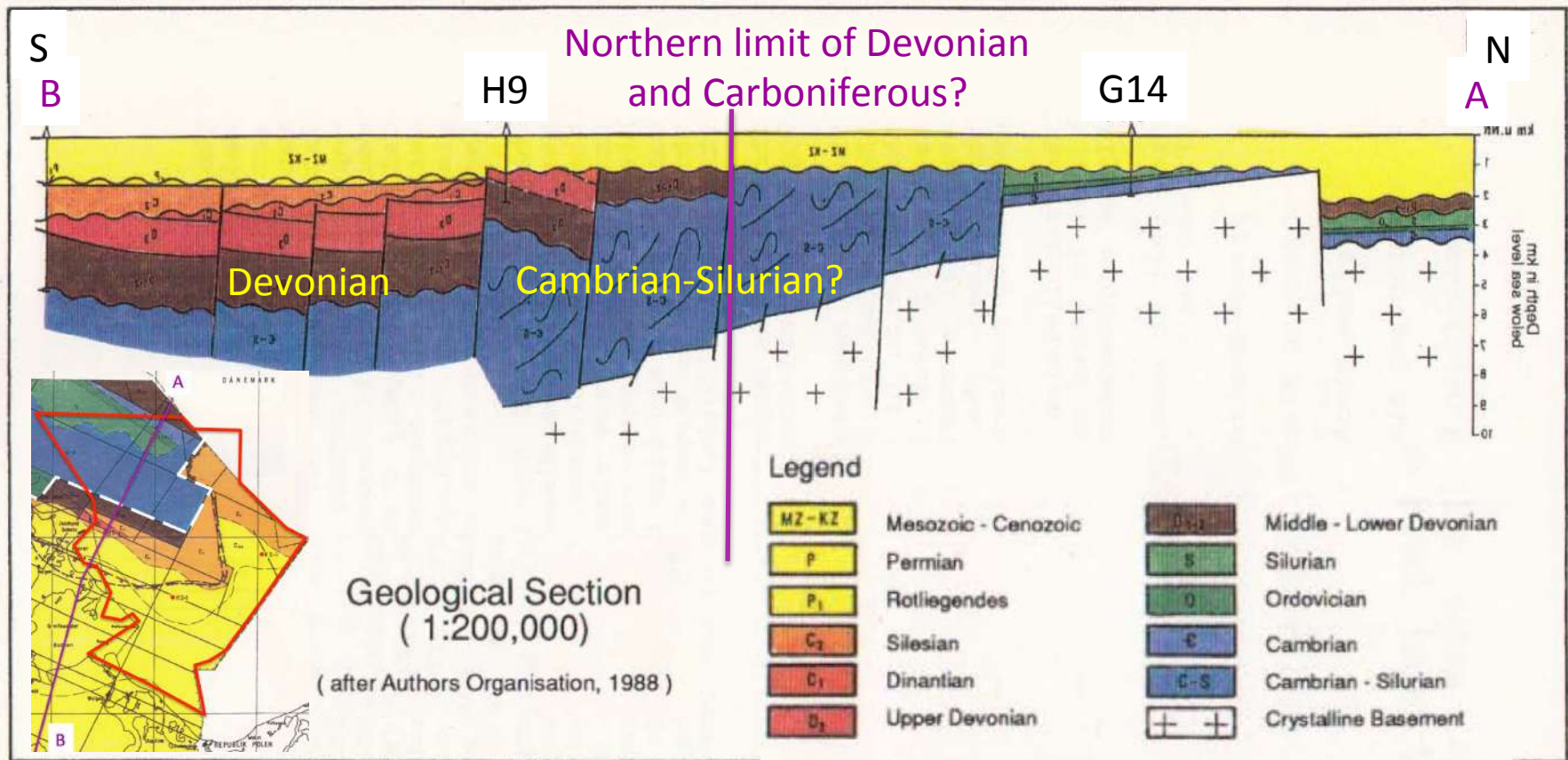
H2

B

Rempel (1991)

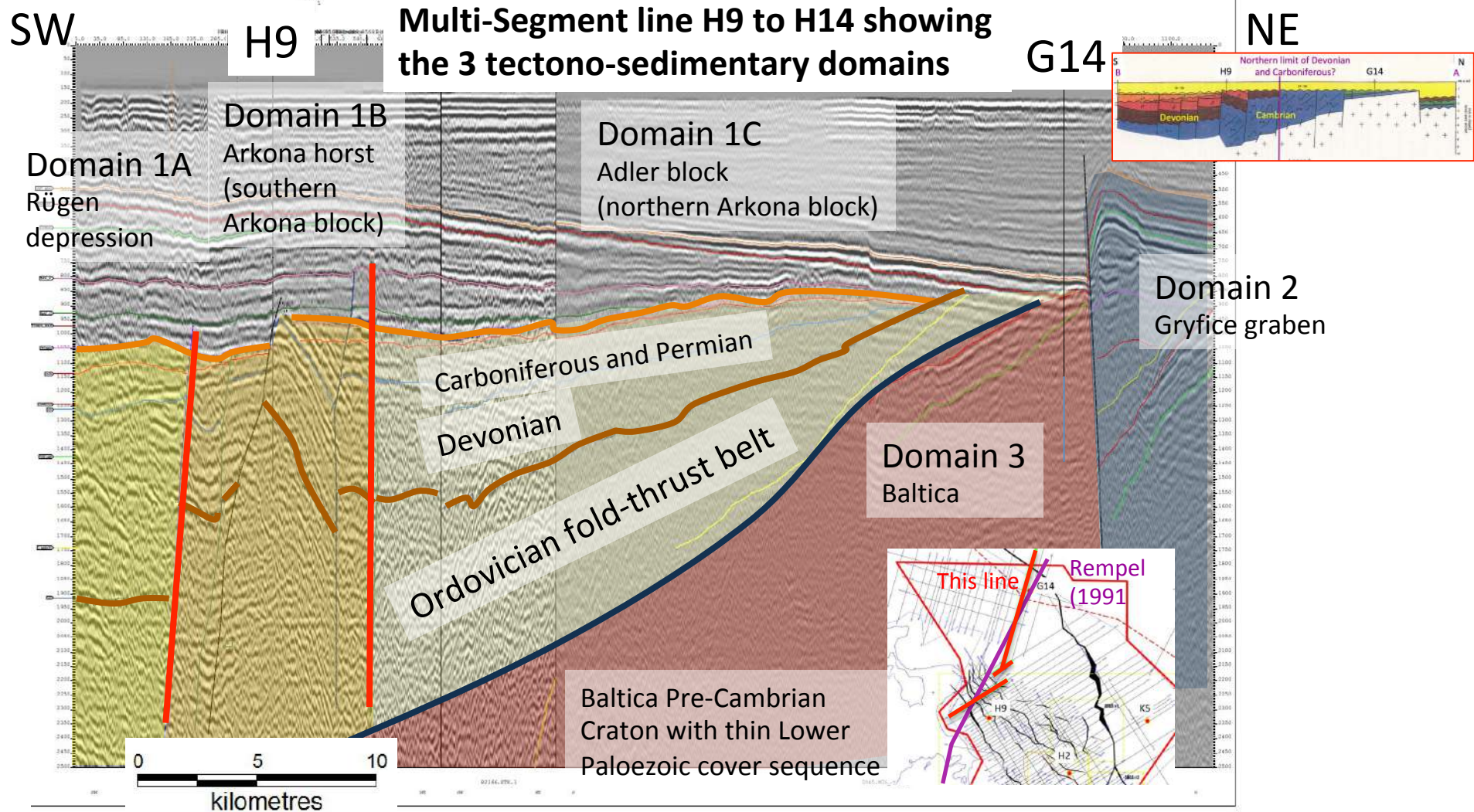
Petrobaltic subsurface mapping:  
Pre-Permian Surface

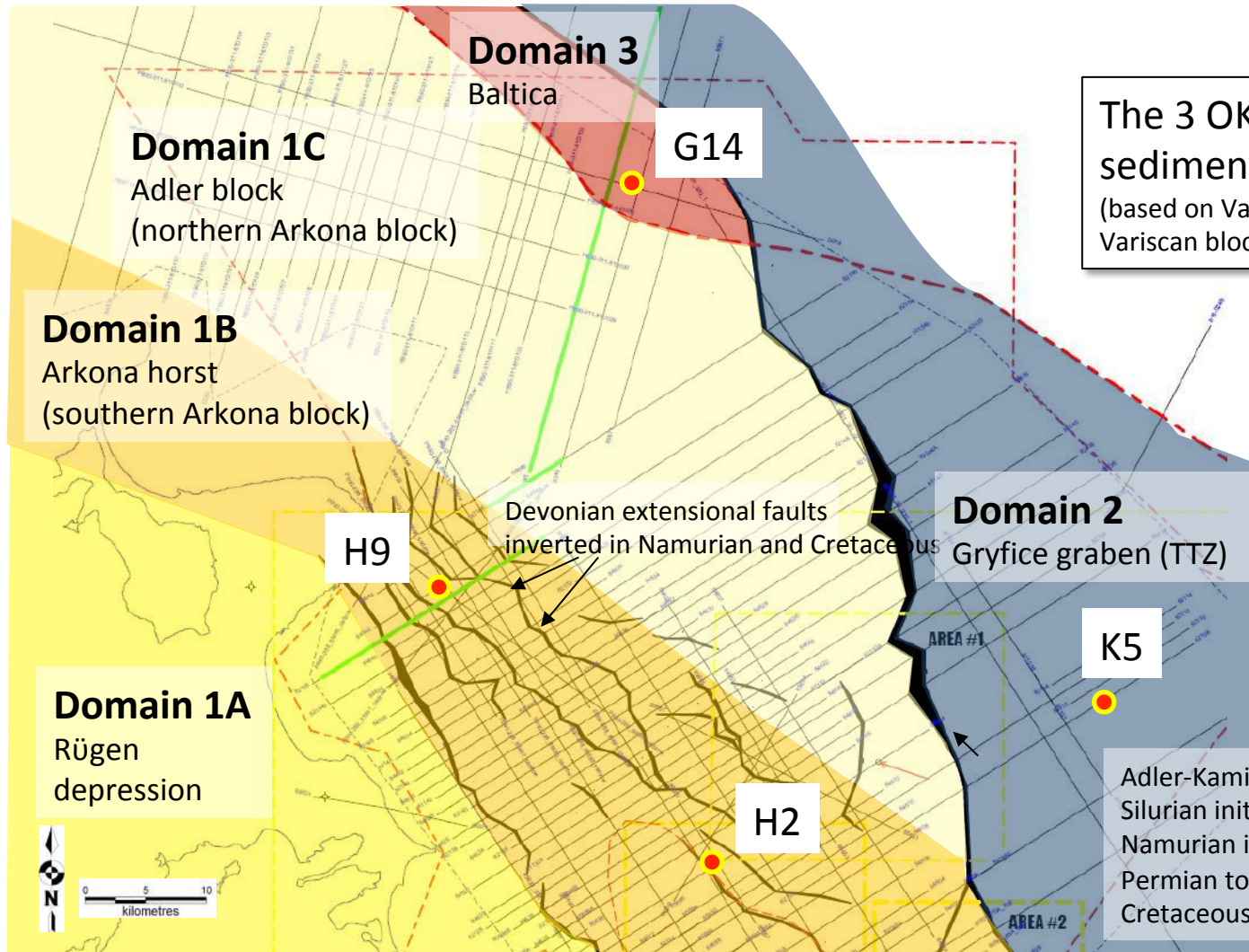




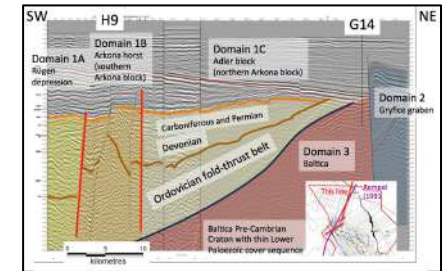
Actual section is side reversed!

Rempel (1991)

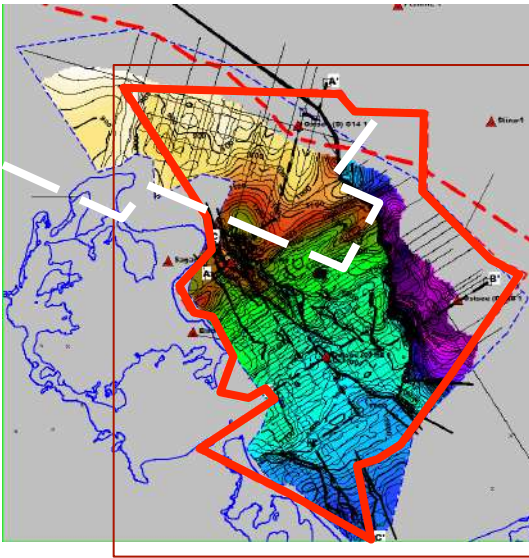




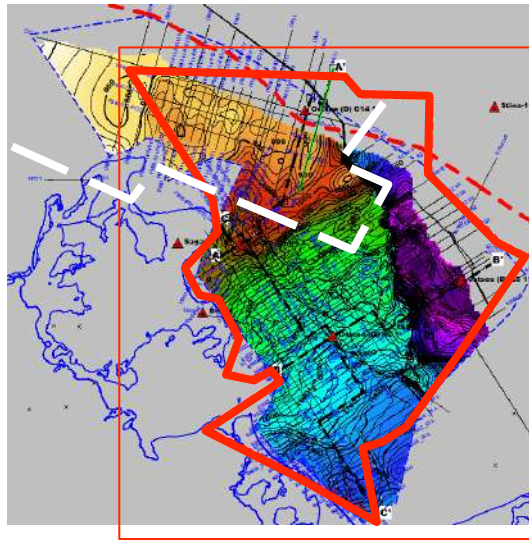
The 3 OKW tectono-sedimentary Domains  
(based on Variscan and post-Variscan block faulting)



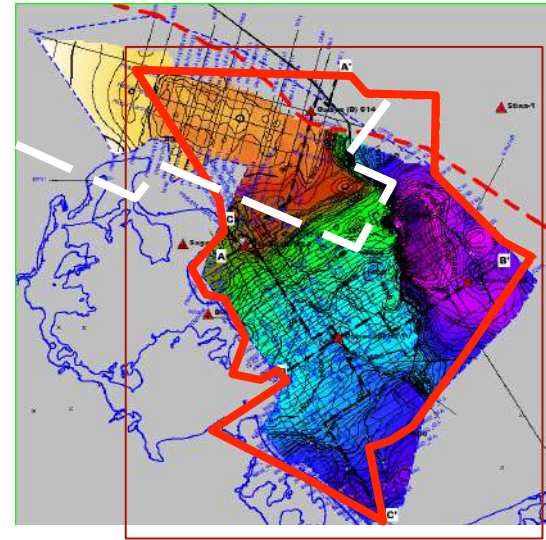
**TIME STRUCTURE MAPS**



**Top Devonian**



**Top Carboniferous**

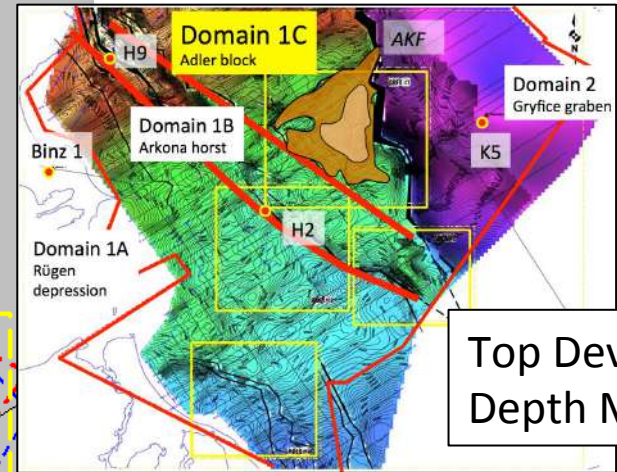
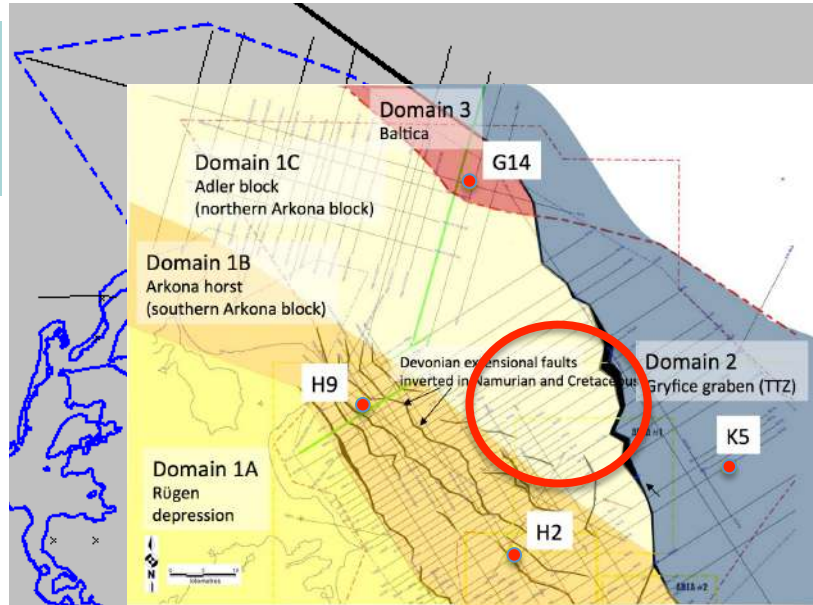


**Top Permian**

Devonian and Carboniferous extend more outboard than mapped by Petrobaltic. The packages are above the 2500 m porosity cutoff (for the M. Devonian)

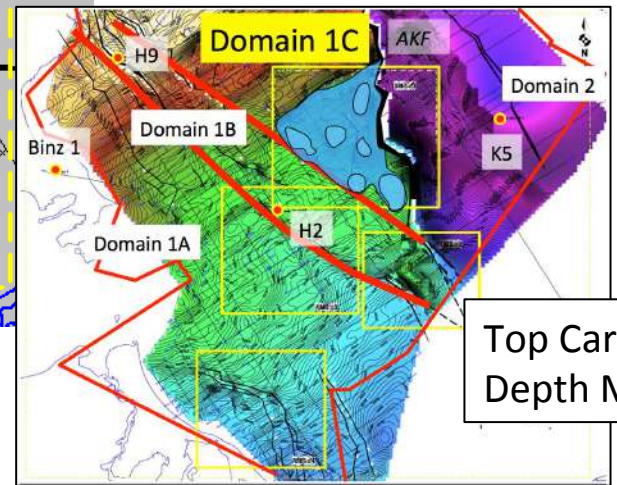
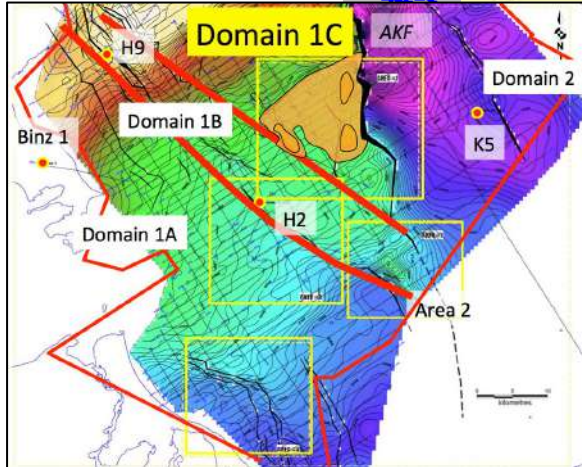


**OKW  
Prospectivity:  
Seismic**



**Top Devonian  
Depth Map**

**Top Permian  
Depth Map**



**Top Carbonif.  
Depth Map**

**SEISMIC BASEMAP W/ BOUNDARY OF ZOOM-IN**

## Concluding Remarks

Devonian and Carboniferous areal extent is much larger than previously mapped  
→ the newly mapped stack contains prospects and leads that need to be tested.

Upper Carboniferous and Zechstein have been identified as the main reservoirs  
Upper Carboniferous has a top seal issue that needs to be resolved  
Zechstein is best developed in the Gryfice graben and has unpredictable reservoir qualities.

Alpine inversion anticlines associated with NNW-trending TTZ-related faults are the main traps – they postdate early migration phases from Lower Paleozoic sources but pre-date late migration as well as Zechstein oil migration.

Prospects may be stacked: several targets can be tested with a single vertical well.

Additional seismic is required for key areas.



## Acknowledgements



Caspar David Friedrich  
*Chalk Cliffs on Rügen (1818)*



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