

**CORRESPONDENCE****Reply**

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I want to thank Dr. Portig for bringing to my attention more evidence which lends support to the proposed circulation patterns. It is gratifying that these two independent hypotheses are so fortuitously mutually supporting. If the proposals are correct, an increasing continentality should become evident in northwest Europe, possibly during the period 1931 to 1960.

Further evidence of the 260-yr cycle may be found in Labrijn's paper<sup>1</sup>, which indicates that the summer-winter temperature difference (*i.e.*, continentality) of the Netherlands has gone through an apparent complete cycle since about 1700.

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<sup>1</sup> Labrijn, A., 1945: The climate of the Netherlands during the last two and a half centuries. *Meded. en Verh., K. Net. Meteor. Inst.*