

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution



SOFAR Float Mediterranean Outflow Experiment Data from the Second Year, 1985-1986

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September 1988

Technical Report

Support was provided by the National Science Foundation under
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Physical Oceanography



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August 18, 1988

Abstract

In October, 1984, the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution SOFAR float group began a three-year-long field program to observe the low frequency currents in the Canary Basin. The principal scientific goal was to learn how advection and diffusion by these currents determine the shape and amplitude of the Mediterranean salt tongue. Fourteen floats were launched at a depth of 1100 m in a cluster centered on 32°N , 24°W , and seven other floats were launched incoherently along a north/south line from 24°N to 37°N . At the same time investigators from Scripps Institution of Oceanography and the University of Rhode Island used four other SOFAR floats to tag a Meddy, a submesoscale lens of Mediterranean water.

In October, 1985, seven additional floats were launched, four in three different Meddies, one of which was tracked during year 1. This report describes the second year of the floats launched in 1984 and the first year of the ones launched in 1985. Approximately 41 years of float trajectories were produced during the first two years of the experiment. One of the striking accomplishments is the successful tracking of one Meddy over two full years plus the tracking of two other Meddies during the second year.

1 Introduction to the Experiment

In 1984 we began an experiment to measure features of the general circulation and eddy mixing in the vicinity of the Mediterranean water in the eastern North Atlantic. The purpose of the program is to answer the following specific questions:

- A. What is the thermocline-depth mean flow in the vicinity of the Mediterranean salt tongue? How does this observed mean flow fit with contemporary circulation schemes?
- B. What is the magnitude and isotropy of horizontal eddy diffusion in the eastern basin? What is the advective/diffusive balance of the salt tongue?
- C. What are the horizontal and temporal scales of the mesoscale eddy field? Is there a regional (1000 km scale) variation of first order eddy properties?

The field program which intended to answer these questions was made up of two elements: (i) deployment of a coherent float cluster and additional floats over a wider geographical area (Figure 1), and (ii) deployment of a mooring with four current meters at nominal depths of 500, 1000, 1100 and 3000 meters (Figure 2).

1.1 Float Deployments

A cluster of 14 floats was launched in 1984 near 32°N, 24°W with nearest neighbors at about 20 km initial spacing. While this cluster remains partially intact, it will provide estimates of horizontal eddy scales and dynamic balances. The rate of breakup of this coherent cluster will provide two-particle diffusion estimates. During the second and third years, this cluster will be spread over a wider region and data will be used to estimate regional variations of the first order properties (mean velocity, eddy kinetic energy, spectra, etc.).

MEDITERRANEAN OUTFLOW EXPERIMENT

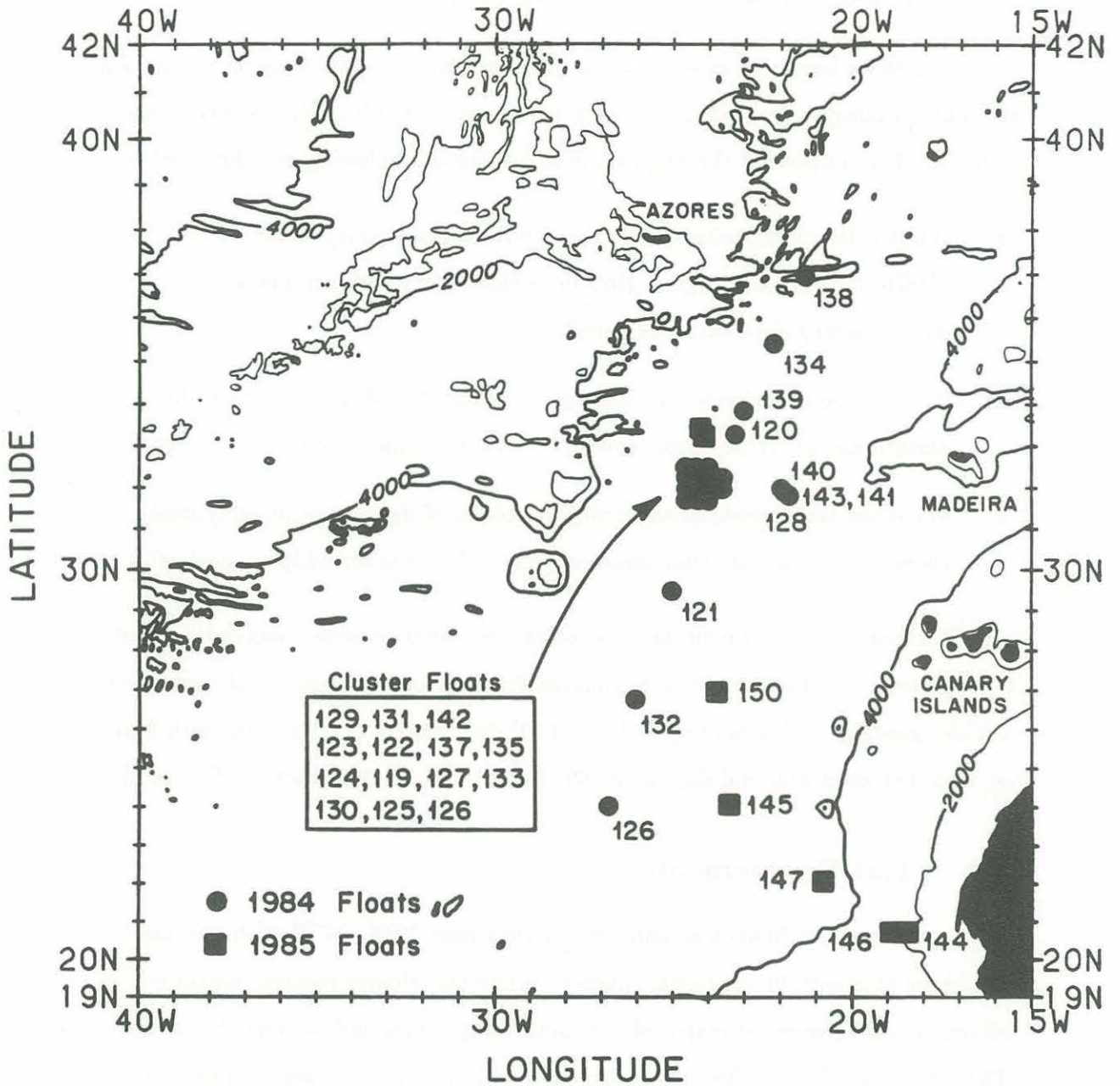


Figure 1: Float launch positions.

MEDITERRANEAN OUTFLOW EXPERIMENT

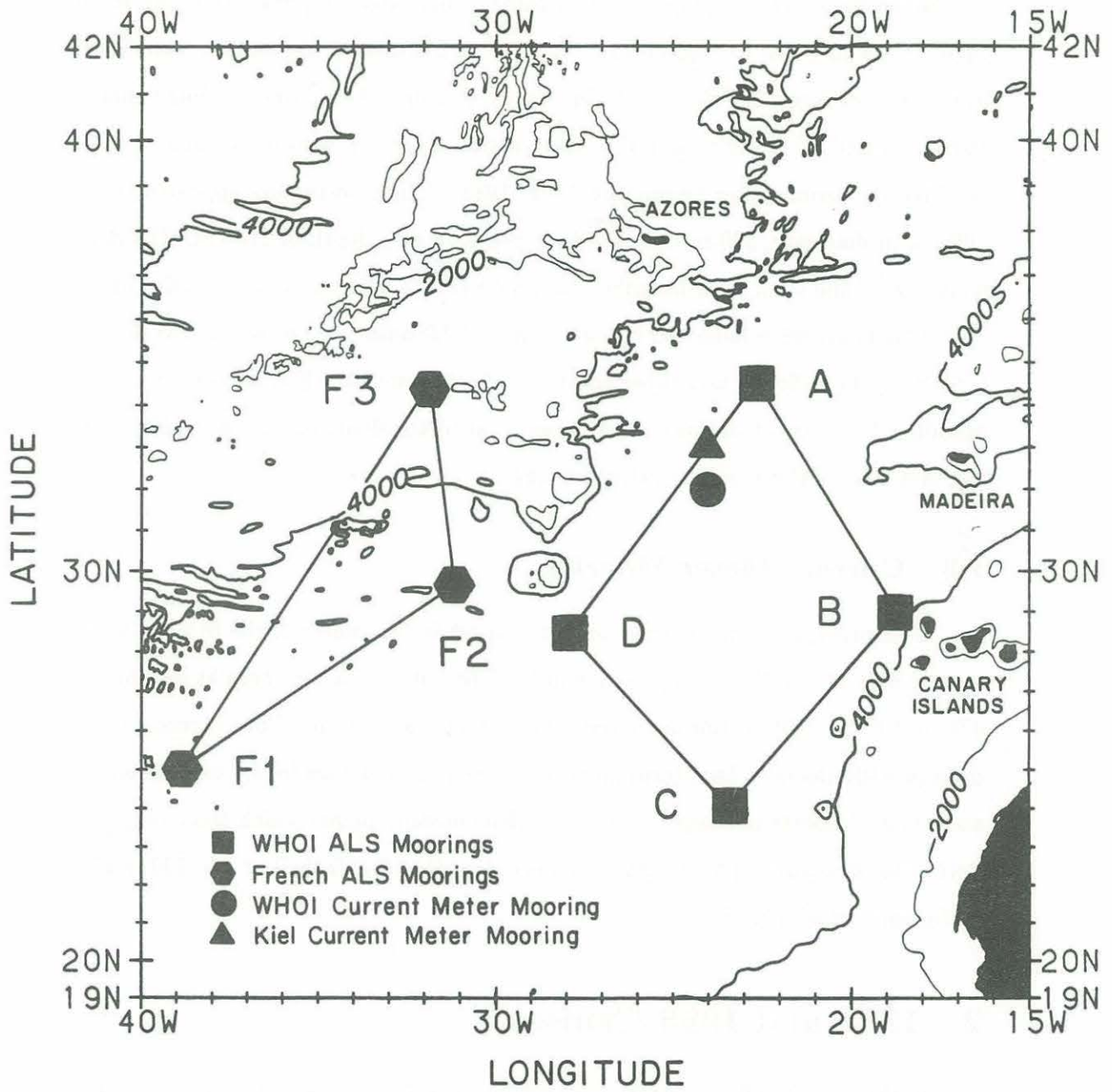


Figure 2: Location of autonomous listening station (ALS) moorings, current meter moorings, and bathymetry in the experimental area.

Seven floats were deployed in 1984 along a line extending from 37°N, 21°W to 24°N, 27°W in order to explore some circulation features in the eastern basin such as the Azores front and the North Equatorial Current. An additional four floats were launched by L. Armi and T. Rossby within a Meddy, a submesoscale eddy of the Mediterranean water (Armi and Zenk, 1984). These eddies are approximately 100 km in diameter, 800 m thick, and are centered at a depth of 1100 m. The data from 1984–1985 have been described in a data report by Price *et al.* (1986). In 1985 four floats were launched in three different Meddies, one of which was being tracked by 1984 floats, and three additional floats were launched outside of Meddies. This report discusses the second year of the floats launched in 1984 and the first year of the floats launched in 1985.

1.2 Current Meter Mooring

A mooring with four current meters was set in the center of the SOFAR float cluster near 32°N, 24°W (Figures 1 and 2). The current meters were at depths of 470 m, 970 m, 1070 m (for some redundancy), and at 2970 m. The current meter data provide the only long term measure of vertical structure in the experiment and are an important complement to the float measurements which show only the horizontal structure. These data have been described by Tarbell *et al.* (1987) and by Schmitz *et al.* (1988).

2 1985 and 1986 Cruises

In the Fall of 1985 we returned to the Canary Basin to retrieve and reset the ALS moorings and to launch additional floats (Tables I and II). We launched four floats (144, 145, 146 and 147) along a line between 21°N, 18°W and 24°N, 24°W, one by chance in a Meddy. On a subsequent cruise, three additional floats were

TABLE I
ALS MOORINGS

ALS SITE	ALS #	LAUNCH DATE yyymmdd	RECOVERY DATE yyymmdd	LATITUDE deg N	LONGITUDE deg W	ALS DEPTH (m)
1984 - 1985						
A	140A	841021	850913	34.490	22.642	1800
B	137A	841013	850920	29.000	18.787	1200
C	138A	841014	850917	24.038	23.406	1000
D	139A	841017	850915	28.434	27.889	1400
F1	F11A	840615	850811	25.020	38.825	1500
F2	F07A	840617	850809	29.660	31.149	1500
F3	F10A	840612	850815	34.390	31.839	1500
1985 - 1986						
A	141A	850913	861005	34.545	22.601	1800
B	144A	850920	861015	29.013	18.738	1200
C	143A	850917	861010	24.107	23.345	1000
D	142A	850915	861008	28.515	27.868	1400
F1	F06A	850811	861001	25.018	38.808	1500
F2	F09A	850809	861003	29.663	31.147	1500
F3	F18A	850815	861004	34.370	31.832	1500

Note:

A-D are WHOI moorings, F1-F3 are moorings maintained by COB, France (Colin de Verdière, personal communication).

TABLE I I

FLOAT FILE STATISTICS FOR 1985 - 1986 TRACKING

FLOAT	NOMINAL DEPTH (m)	START DATE yymmdd	START POSITION		STOP DATE yymmdd	STOP POSITION		NO. DAYS	COMMENTS yymmdd
			LAT. deg N	LONG. deg W		LAT. deg N	LONG. deg W		
120 *	1100	841025	33.073	23.148	851109	31.997	29.064	381	died 851109
121	1100	850918	29.581	24.340	861009	29.655	21.104	387	
123	1100	850922	32.209	26.032	860119	35.802	30.354	120	died 860119
124A	1100	850921	30.554	24.221	860428	31.877	26.504	220	
124B	1100	860722	30.629	29.301	860819	31.077	30.161	29	died 860819
126	1100	850922	24.623	25.514	861009	25.482	26.965	383	
127A *	1100	841023	31.922	24.006	860628	33.823	28.644	614	
127B	1100	860812	34.015	28.334	860907	34.107	28.323	27	
129	1100	850918	29.230	26.427	860923	29.160	30.276	371	
130	1100	850921	31.991	26.188	861009	31.820	25.278	384	
131	1100	850918	29.935	23.654	861009	30.724	23.458	387	
132	1100	850918	26.330	24.040	861009	27.011	23.548	387	
133 *	1100	841021	31.889	23.687	861003	30.741	37.901	713	
135A	1100	850921	30.914	24.670	860320	30.370	26.098	181	
135B	1100	860619	30.148	25.070	861002	31.083	26.439	106	
136	1100	850918	30.678	24.382	861009	29.420	23.192	387	
137	1100	850919	31.119	31.327	861003	32.277	35.670	380	
138	1100	850918	37.556	21.143	860604	38.987	17.240	260	died 860604
139	1100	850922	31.654	20.870	860726	33.822	20.816	308	died 860726
144	1100	850921	20.647	18.509	860108	19.311	17.745	110	died 860108
146	1100	850921	20.681	18.838	851029	20.023	18.556	39	died 851029
147	1100	850921	22.249	20.942	860218	21.576	22.009	151	died 860218
MEDDY FLOATS									
128	1100	850920	27.219	23.939	861007	22.157	22.023	383	
141	1100	850916	28.675	22.954	851204	28.943	24.044	80	died 851204
143	1100	850916	26.983	24.039	851123	26.663	23.059	69	died 851123
145	1100	850917	24.221	23.416	861005	21.721	25.848	384	
148	1100	851112	33.707	24.344	861004	30.737	28.658	327	
149	1000	851112	33.767	24.163	861002	31.204	29.214	325	
150	1000	851030	27.023	23.657	860523	25.350	24.507	206	died 860523

* Retracked from 1984 with available French ALS's.

launched by L. Armi in two Meddies – one float (150) in the Meddy tracked by floats during the first year and two floats (148, 149) in a third, newly discovered Meddy.

In the Fall of 1986 we retrieved and reset the ALS moorings and searched for two of the Meddies using a shipboard hydrophone. We found and measured, with CTD profiles, the Meddy tracked since the Fall 1984. These data were combined with data from three earlier cruises to the Meddy; a detailed description of its movement and changes in physical structure is given by Armi *et al.* (1988a,b). We were unsuccessful in our search for the second Meddy expected to be in the vicinity of floats 148 and 149. We conclude that this Meddy collided with Hyères seamount in July 1986 and the normal Meddy circulation was severely disrupted or destroyed. Floats 148 and 149 which had been looping in the Meddy stopped looping, their depth suddenly increased and their temperature decreased. Our search near these two floats in October 1986 failed to find any salty water indicative of a Meddy. A possibility exists that the Meddy shed the floats during its collision with Hyères seamount but kept moving afterward away from the floats. A more complete discussion of the three tracked Meddies is given by Richardson *et al.* (submitted).

3 Float Data

All floats (except 149 and 150) were ballasted for 1100 m, which is near the salinity maximum and within the sound channel (see Table II). Most of the floats settled slightly deeper than this — typically about 1200 m (Table III) — which is well within the Mediterranean layer. In addition to float position, we obtained temperature and pressure at two-day intervals. From these data we can determine the statistics of isotherm fluctuation, and for the coherent cluster, the horizontal scales of the fluctuations.

TABLE III

1984 - 1986 FLOAT FILE STATISTICS

FLOAT	START DATE [JULIAN]		START POSITION		STOP DATE		STOP POSITION		NO. DAYS	INIT. TEMP.		AVE. TEMP.		INIT. PRES.		AVE. PRES.	
	yymmdd	[JULIAN]	LAT. deg N	LONG. deg W	yymmdd	[JULIAN]	LAT. deg N	LONG. deg W		°C	°C	dbars	dbars	°C	°C	dbars	dbars
119	841022	[5996]	31.981	24.281	850902	[6311]	31.021	28.099	316	7.51	7.85	1207	1134				
120	841025	[5999]	33.073	23.148	851109	[6379]	31.997	29.064	381	8.40	8.22	---	---				
121	841020	[5994]	29.517	24.978	861009	[6713]	29.655	21.104	720	7.35	8.12	1239	1114				
122	841022	[5996]	32.192	24.301	850221	[6118]	32.135	26.836	123	7.62	7.48	---	---				
123	841022	[5996]	32.208	24.583	860119	[6450]	35.802	30.354	455	7.72	8.25	1251	1129				
124A	841021	[5995]	31.971	24.536	860428	[6549]	31.877	26.504	555	8.39	7.74	---	---				
124B	860720	[6632]	30.611	29.240	860821	[6664]	31.108	30.245	33	---	---	---	---				
125	841021	[5995]	31.738	24.257	850513	[6199]	31.374	26.963	205	8.22	8.47	---	---				
126	841018	[5992]	23.913	26.829	861009	[6713]	25.482	26.965	722	---	---	1284	1139				
127A	841023	[5997]	31.922	24.006	860628	[6610]	33.823	28.644	614	8.51	8.03	1158	1101				
127B	860812	[6655]	34.015	28.334	860907	[6681]	34.107	28.323	27	7.48	7.43	1102	1097				
128	841016	[5990]	32.029	22.130	861006	[6710]	22.174	22.068	721	11.62	10.73	1195	1119				
129	841022	[5996]	32.431	24.560	860923	[6697]	29.160	30.276	702	8.39	8.20	1171	1096				
130	841021	[5995]	31.761	24.526	861009	[6713]	31.820	25.278	719	7.57	8.22	1263	1143				
131	841022	[5996]	32.417	24.267	861009	[6713]	30.724	23.458	718	7.99	8.05	1200	1104				
132	841019	[5993]	26.689	26.045	861009	[6713]	27.011	23.548	721	6.75	7.14	1242	1130				
133	841021	[5995]	31.889	23.687	861003	[6707]	30.741	37.901	713	8.62	8.33	1114	1100				
134	841024	[5998]	35.281	22.198	850323	[6148]	35.750	20.507	151	7.99	7.43	---	---				
135A	841021	[5995]	32.173	23.718	860320	[6510]	30.370	26.098	516	7.90	7.63	1234	1220				
135B	860617	[6599]	30.100	24.973	861004	[6708]	31.045	26.449	110	---	---	---	---				
136	841021	[5995]	31.727	23.970	861009	[6713]	29.420	23.192	719	8.27	8.34	1168	1103				
137	841022	[5996]	32.199	24.004	861003	[6707]	32.277	35.670	712	8.30	8.58	1226	1119				
138	841024	[5998]	36.819	21.306	860604	[6586]	38.987	17.240	589	9.96	9.76	1225	1145				
139	841023	[5997]	33.847	22.911	860726	[6638]	33.822	20.816	642	7.99	8.84	1244	1124				
140	841018	[5992]	32.014	21.945	850211	[6108]	30.095	22.134	117	9.64	10.86	---	---				
141	841018	[5992]	31.934	22.152	851203	[6403]	28.908	24.006	412	---	10.03	1168	1018				
142	841022	[5996]	32.405	24.002	850410	[6166]	31.591	26.368	171	8.03	8.28	---	---				
143	841018	[5992]	31.904	22.197	851122	[6392]	26.686	23.084	401	---	8.67	1182	1146				
144	850921	[6330]	20.647	18.509	860108	[6439]	19.311	17.745	110	---	---	---	---				
145	850919	[6328]	24.280	23.391	861004	[6708]	21.824	25.915	381	7.39	7.59	1297	1179				
146	850921	[6330]	20.681	18.838	851029	[6368]	20.023	18.556	39	---	---	---	---				
147	850921	[6330]	22.249	20.942	860218	[6480]	21.576	22.009	151	---	---	---	---				
148	851114	[6384]	33.991	24.254	861003	[6707]	30.699	28.678	324	11.96	9.85	1206	1151				
149	851114	[6384]	33.915	24.172	861001	[6705]	31.187	29.204	322	12.65	11.68	1062	1036				
150	851101	[6371]	26.982	23.523	860522	[6573]	25.338	24.481	203	8.89	8.15	---	---				

* Last four digits of Julian day counter.

TOTAL 40.6 yrs.

The floats were tracked acoustically by signals received at a net of four Autonomous Listening Stations (ALS's) supplemented by three French ALS's which were useful for floats that drifted west of the Meteor seamounts (Figure 2). The ALS's worked normally and the tracking of these floats proceeded smoothly.

4 Data Processing and Float Tracking

A report in preparation by W. B. Owens and T. K. McKee will describe the float tracking process in detail. Some elements of the final processing phase are described briefly here.

The ALS cassette tapes containing times of arrivals and telemetry for each float were processed at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in three phases. The first phase converts the raw data into a time series of possible times of arrival and amplitudes of their correlations for each ten minute interval that the ALS's were in the water. The second phase, float tracking, has three steps: (1) identify and extract the float signals for each ALS; (2) track the floats and estimate the drift of the SOFAR float clock; and (3) create a FLOATER format (McKee, 1986) file for each float containing raw positions and pressure and temperature telemetry. The tracking used a constant sound speed. The third phase consists of editing, interpolating, and smoothing the data to produce final float trajectories and velocity, temperature, and pressure time series.

Trajectory and time series plots were inspected for outliers, and the preliminary FLOATER format files were edited where necessary to eliminate obviously bad positions, temperature, and pressure values. Listings of direction and speed derived from consecutive positions were used to detect unusually high speeds indicative of erroneous positions. First differences between consecutive temperatures and pressures were calculated and inspected for unrealistic values. Radical changes in temperature that were not accompanied by a similar change in

pressure (or vice versa) were presumed to indicate an erroneous value.

Temperature and pressure that drifted outside the range of the sensors was listed as being offscale. Temperature and pressure values that were not associated with a position were deleted.

Trajectories having gaps of greater than ten days were broken into subfiles and labeled A, B, C, etc. Gaps of less than ten days duration in position, temperature, and pressure were linearly interpolated, producing daily values of temperature and pressure from the bi-daily values recorded.

These interpolated series were then smoothed using a five point one-day half-width Gaussian filter. Finally, a cubic spline was fitted to the smoothed positions and east and north components of velocity were calculated to coincide with the positions at 24-hour intervals. Float data from 1984–1985 were merged with those from 1985–1986.

A float file name is up to six characters long and is made up of three parts:

1. A two letter code to indicate the experiment, in this case, EB (for “Eastern Basin”).
2. A one to three digit identifier assigned to the float before its launch.
3. A single letter suffix (A, B, C, ...Z) that was added to the file name if the float record was broken into sections due to gaps in the data. An example is float name EB124B — Experiment Code EB, Float 124, Section B.

The accuracy of the tracking may be judged by comparing the known launch position with the first position calculated by tracking. The differences between these two positions as well as the time difference between launch and the first position have been given by Price *et al.* (1986). The position difference is 5.6 km with an average time delay of nine hours, which is more than adequate accuracy for most purposes. A measure of the precision of the tracks can be obtained from

(a) the variability in the ranges between a float and the ALS's for each position and (b) the point to point variations in the estimates of the float clock drift. Both of these suggest that the precision of the float positions is approximately 2 km.

The floats used in this experiment were very similar in design to the floats deployed in the Gulf Stream Recirculation Experiment (GUSREX) program where they functioned fairly reliably. A defective component in the telemetry circuit discovered after launch caused some failures in temperature and pressure and a shorter than normal life of some floats. At the end of year two there were 15 floats still being tracked (Figure 3, Table II). The final recovery of ALS's is scheduled for June 1988, which will give another 1.5 years of tracking for these floats.

5 Summary Plots

Displacement vectors of the floats from 1984 to 1986 and for the first and second year of the experiment are given in Figures 4a to 4c. Composites of trajectories are shown in Figures 5a to 5c. Similar plots for Meddy floats are given in Figures 6a to 6c and Figures 7a to 7c. The detailed movement of the three Meddies is shown by float 128 in Meddy 1, float 149 in Meddy 2, and float 145 in Meddy 3 (Figure 8). Telemetry from these three floats is given in Figure 9.

Summary plots of float trajectories and progressive vector plots from two current meters for each two-month period during the two years are shown in Appendix A. Individual trajectories and time series plots of T, P and velocity for 19 floats are given in Appendix B, and for seven Meddy floats in Appendix C (see Table II).

The floats and current meters launched in the vicinity of 32°N , 24°W show a relatively swift mean westward flow (see Price *et al.*, 1986). One float went 1320 km westward over the two years. We conclude the float cluster was launched in a rather narrow westward flowing jet ~ 100 km in width. Current meters show

FLOAT LIFETIMES

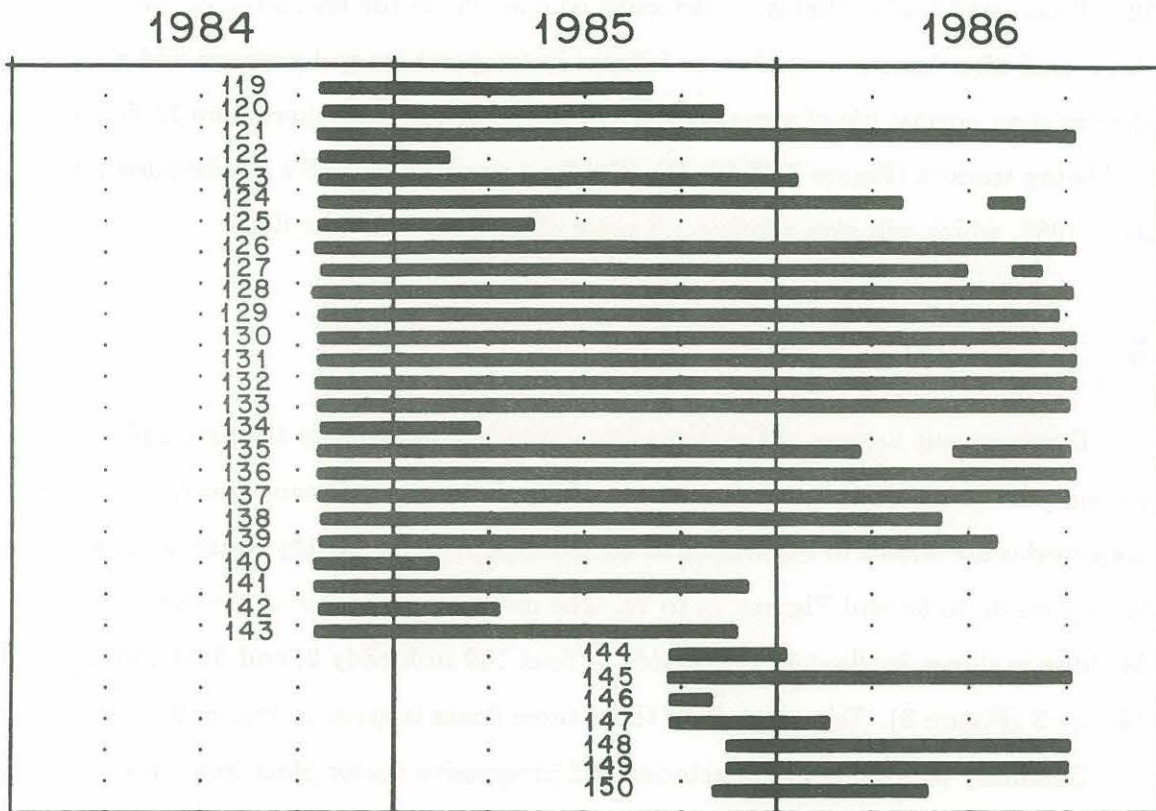


Figure 3: Bar graph showing the time that each float was tracked.

MEDITERRANEAN OUTFLOW FLOATS 1984 – 1986

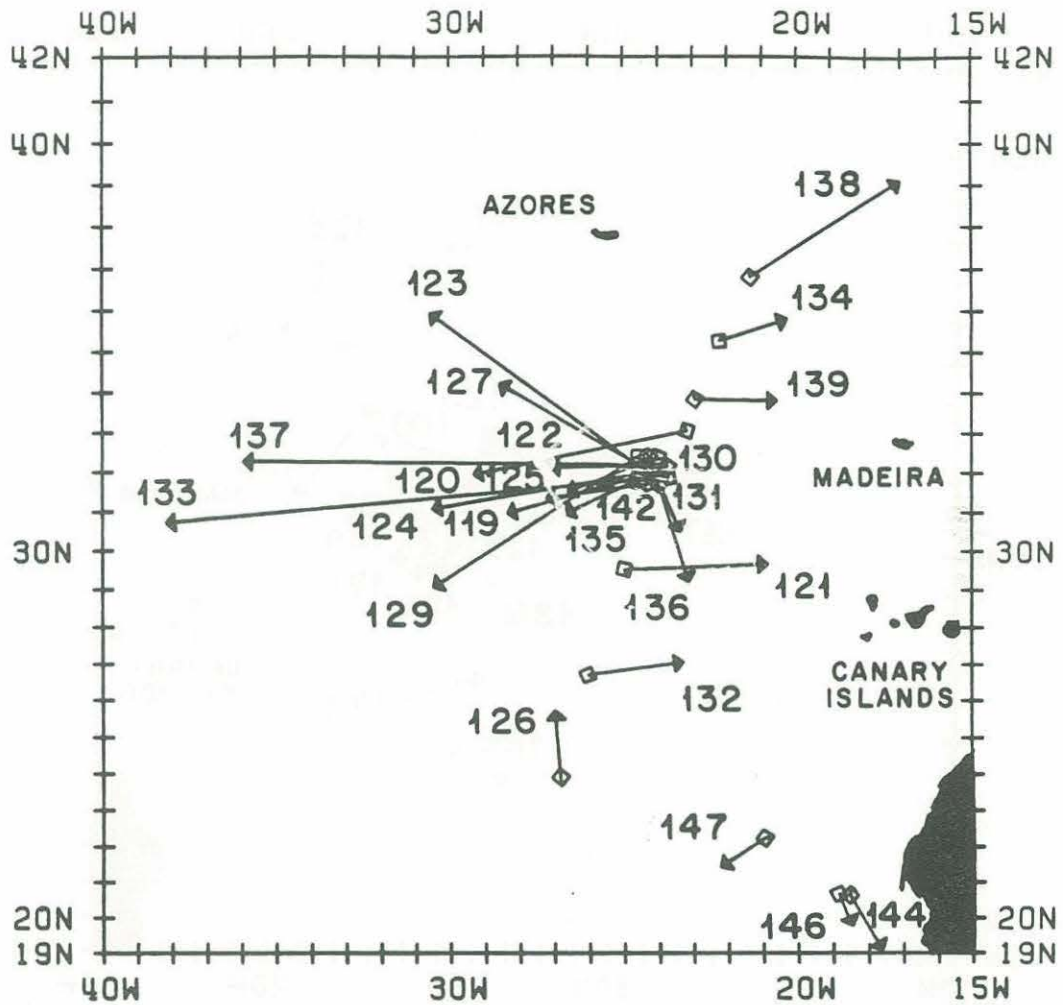


Figure 4a: Displacement vectors from the first to last position of each float (1984–1986).

MEDITERRANEAN OUTFLOW FLOATS 1984 - 1985

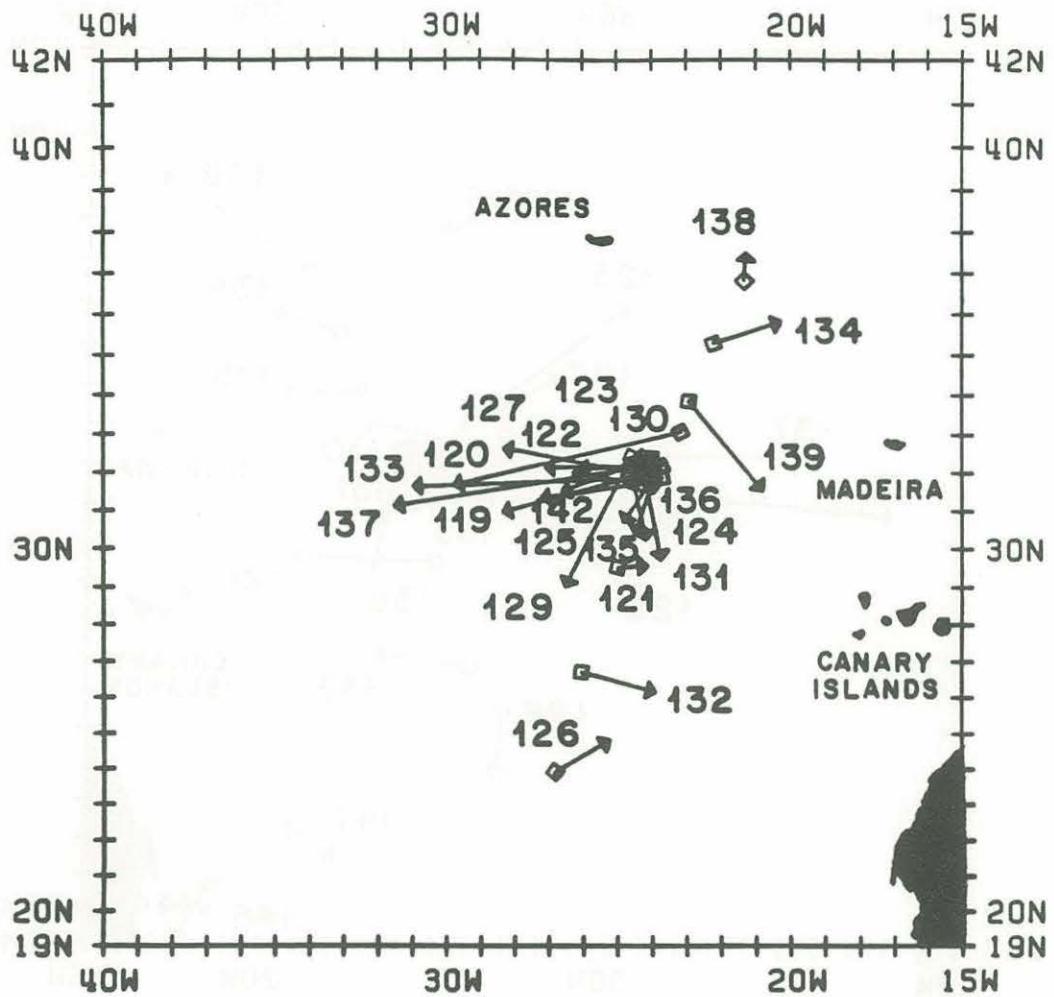


Figure 4b: Displacement vectors from the first to last position of each float (1984-1985).

MEDITERRANEAN OUTFLOW FLOATS 1985 - 1986

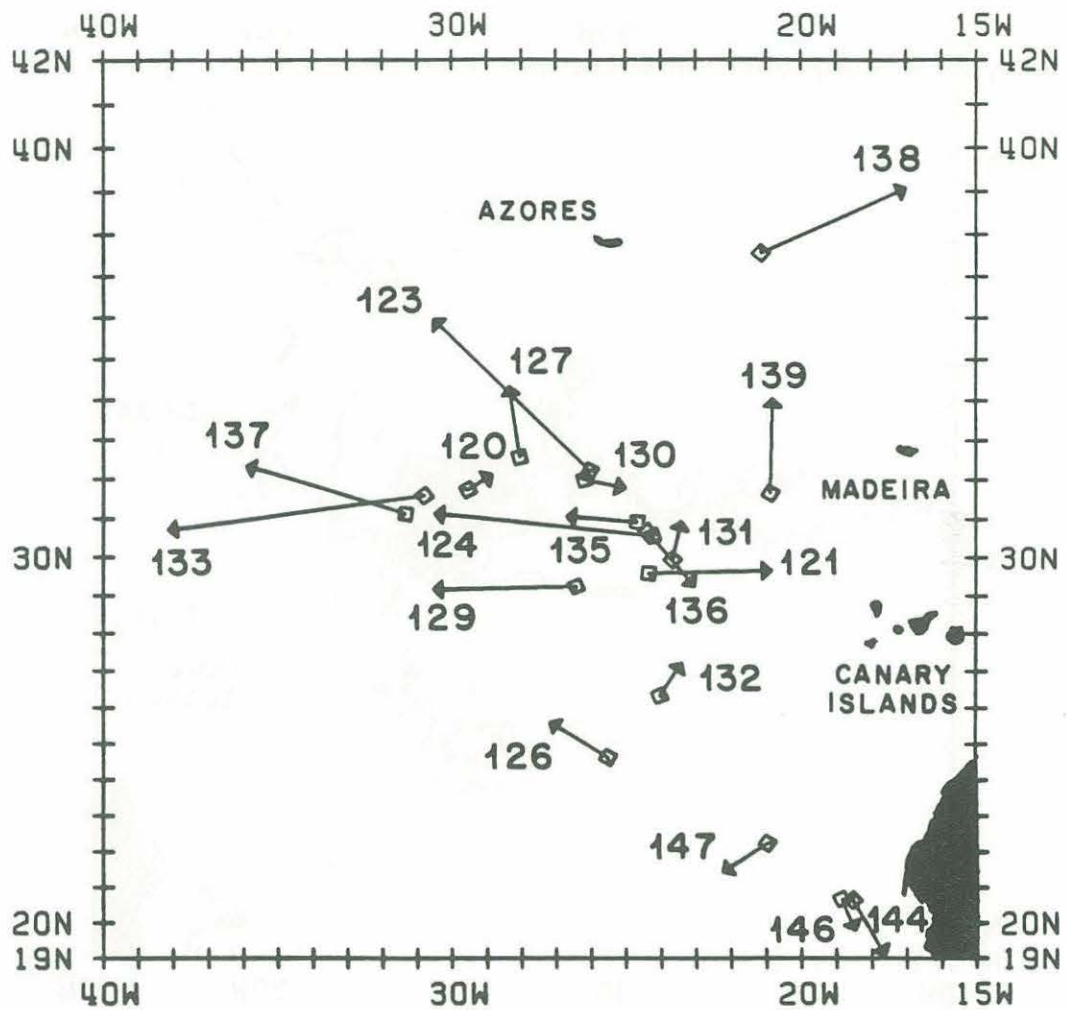


Figure 4c: Displacement vectors from the first to last position of each float (1985-1986).

MEDITERRANEAN OUTFLOW FLOATS 1984 - 1986

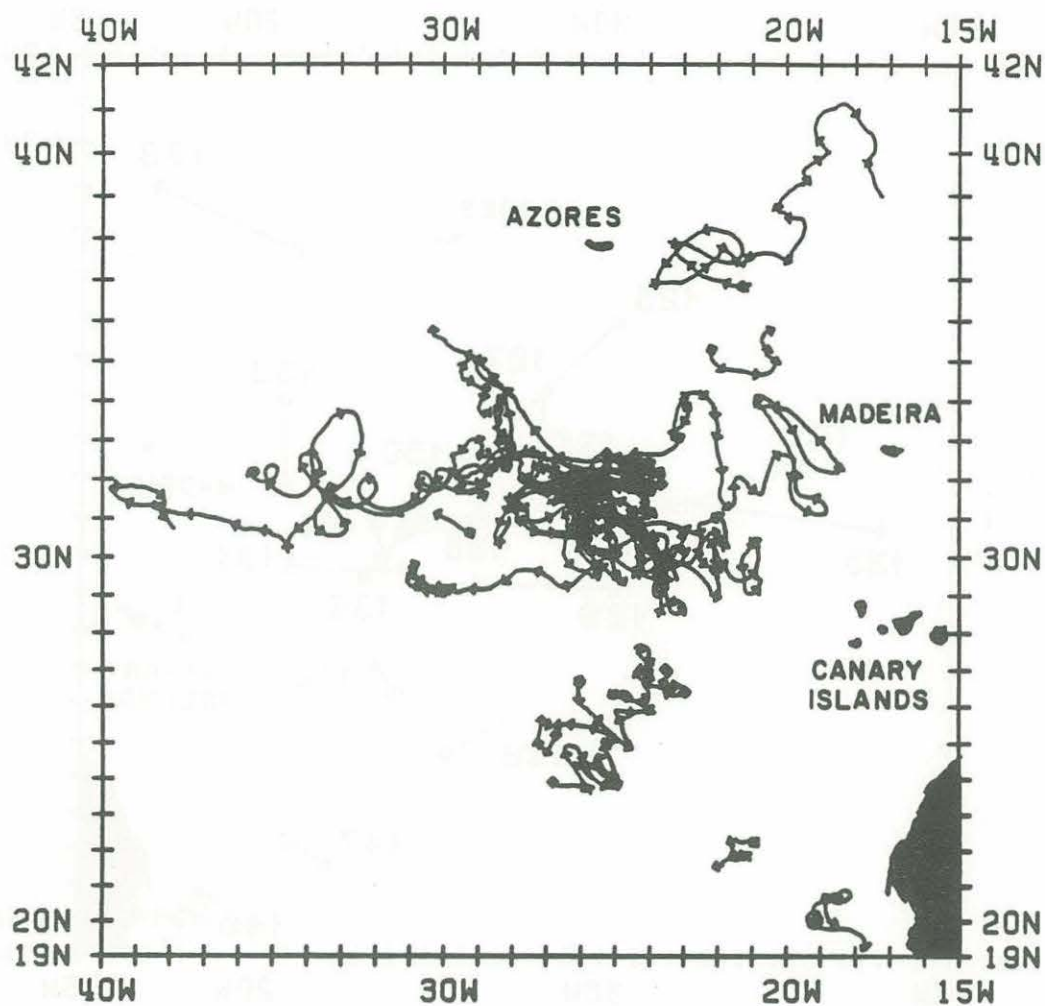


Figure 5a: A composite of 24 float trajectories between 1984-1986. Arrowheads are located at 30-day intervals along the trajectories.

MEDITERRANEAN OUTFLOW FLOATS 1984 - 1985

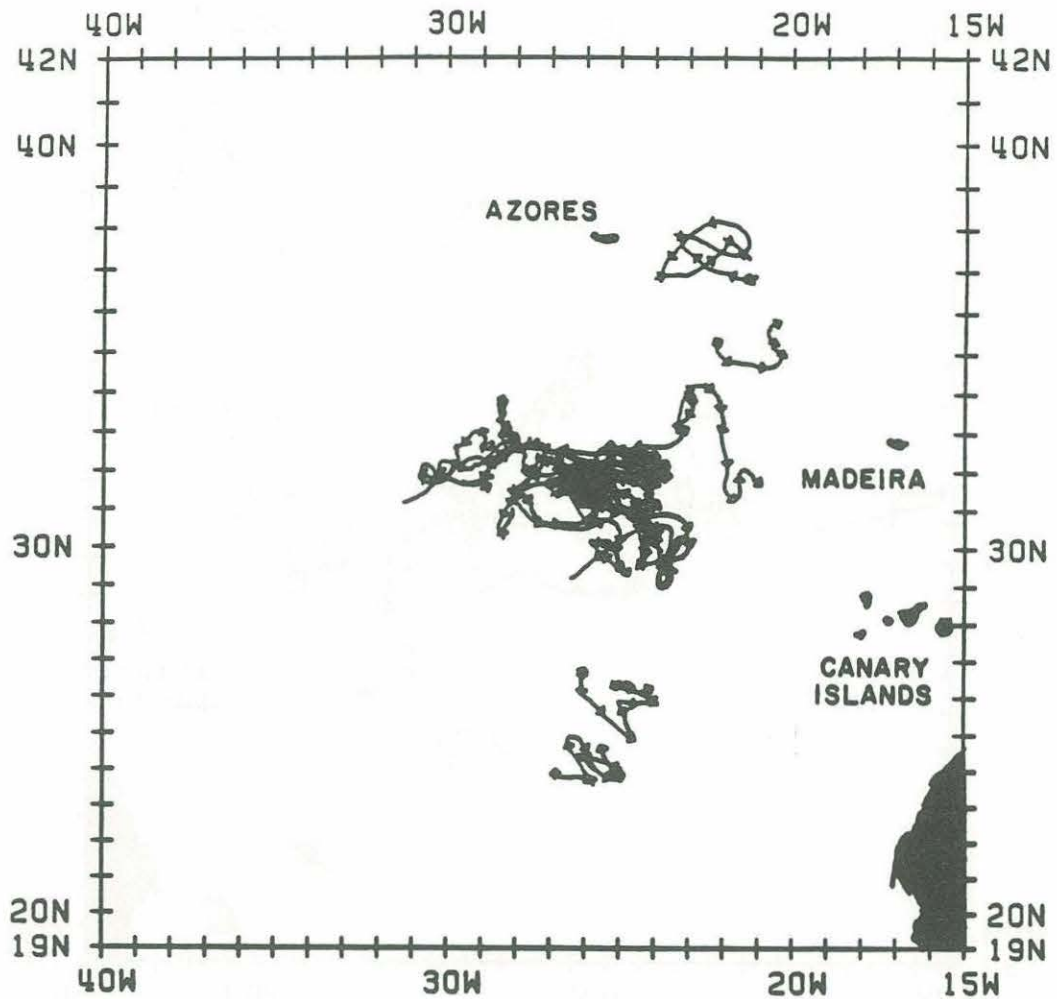


Figure 5b: A composite of 21 float trajectories between 1984-1985. Arrowheads are located at 30-day intervals along the trajectories.

MEDITERRANEAN OUTFLOW FLOATS 1985 - 1986

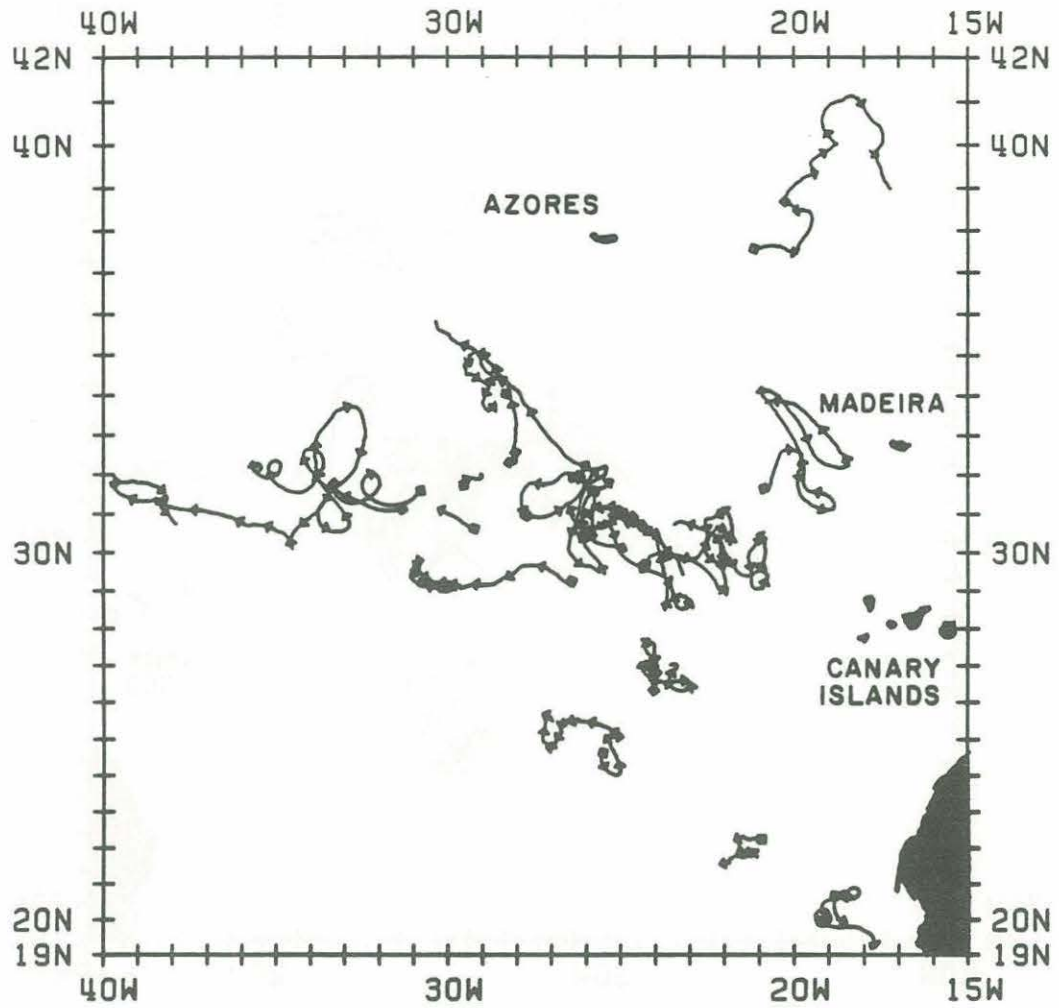


Figure 5c: A composite of 19 float trajectories between 1985-1986. Arrowheads are located at 30-day intervals along the trajectories.

MEDDY FLOATS 1984 - 1986

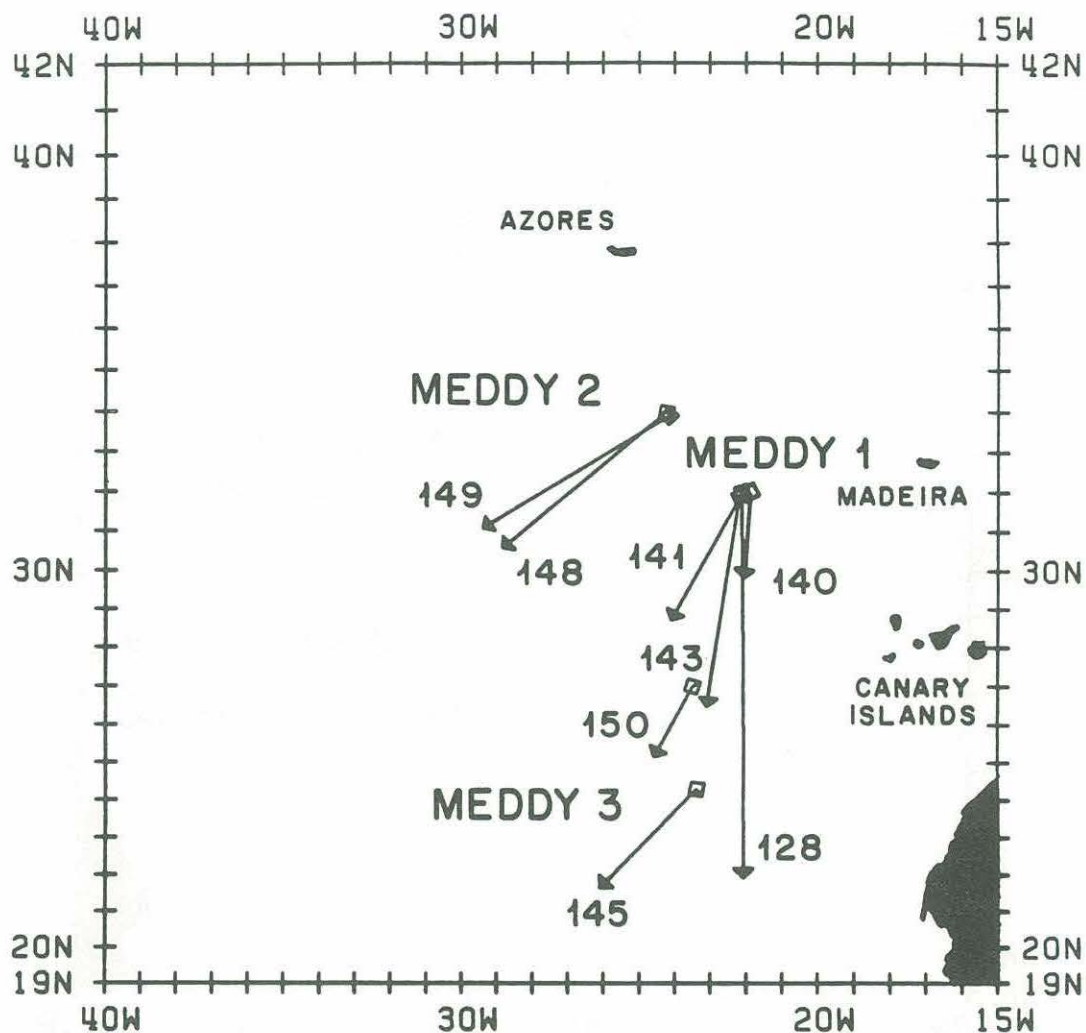


Figure 6a: Displacement vectors for floats launched in Meddies (1984-1986).

MEDDY FLOATS 1984 - 1985

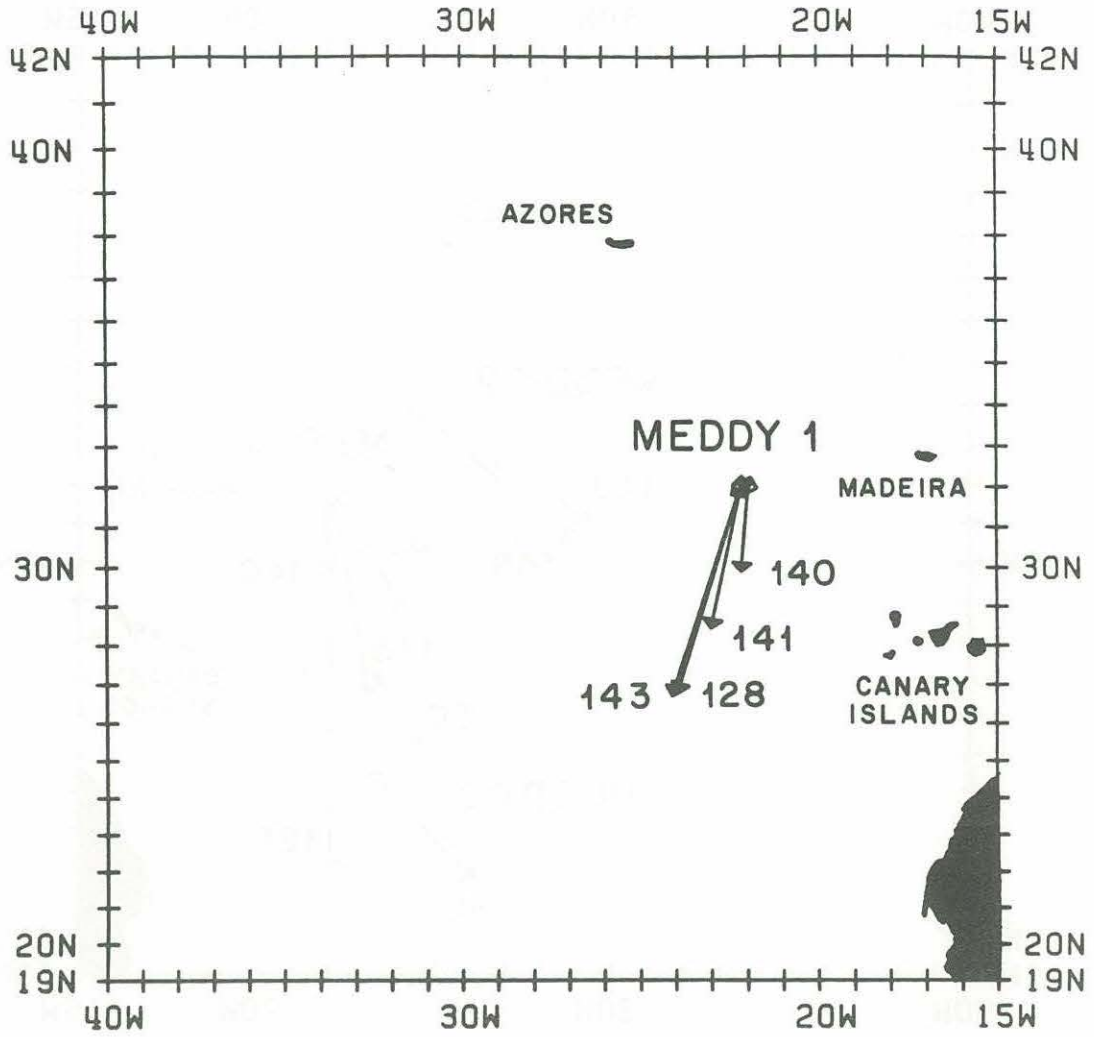


Figure 6b: Displacement vectors for floats launched in Meddies (1984-1985).

MEDDY FLOATS 1985 - 1986

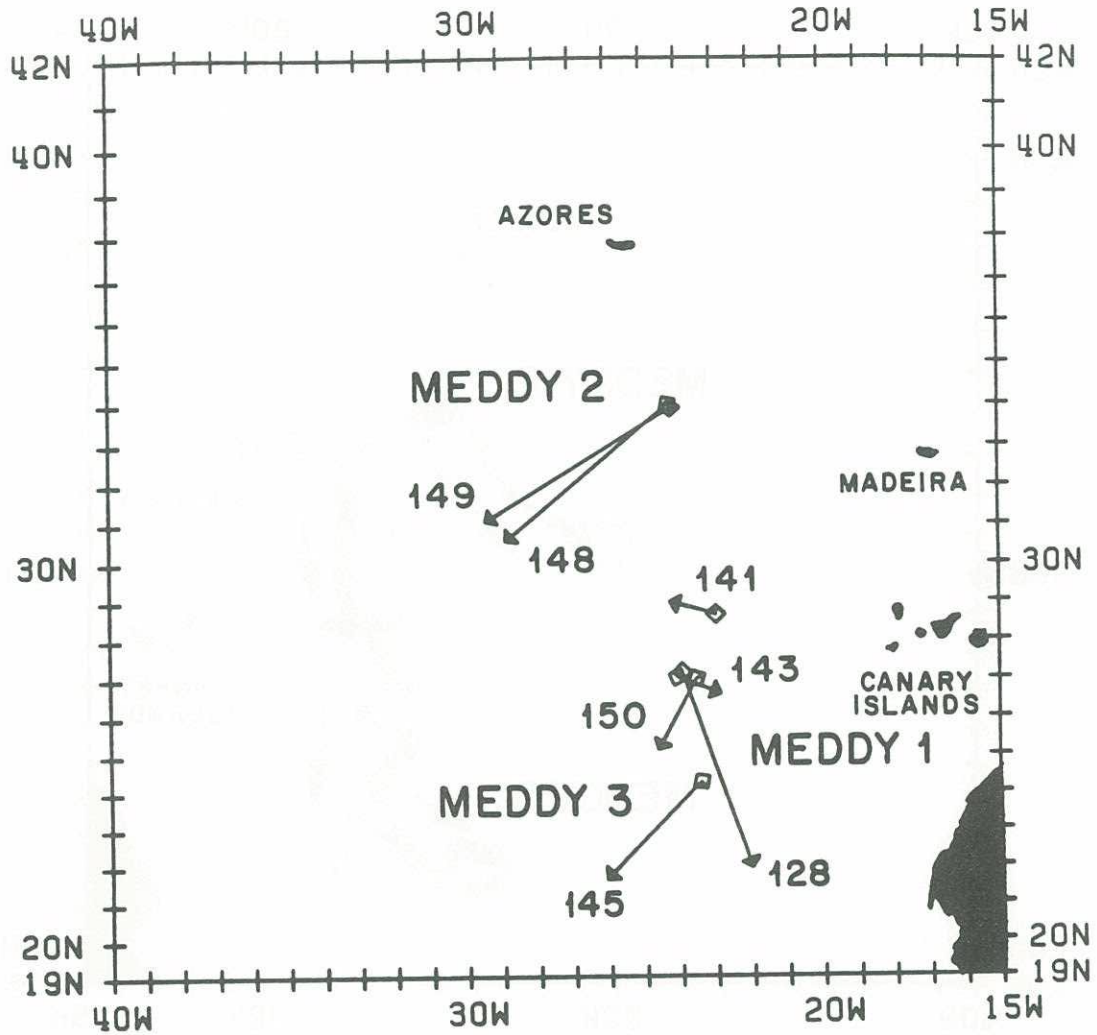


Figure 6c: Displacement vectors for floats launched in Meddies (1985-1986).

MEDDY FLOATS 1984 - 1986

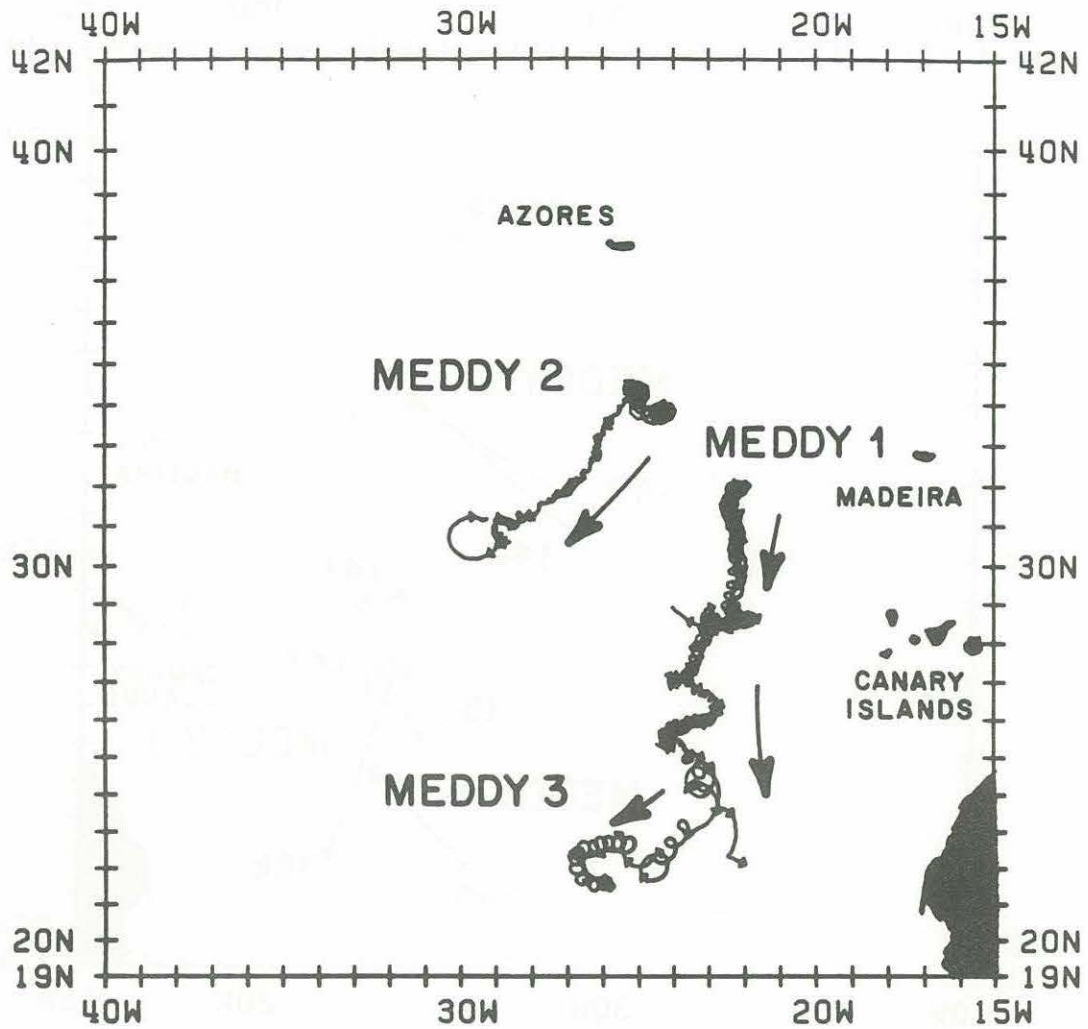


Figure 7a: A composite of eight float trajectories launched in Meddies (1984-1986).

MEDDY FLOATS 1984 - 1985

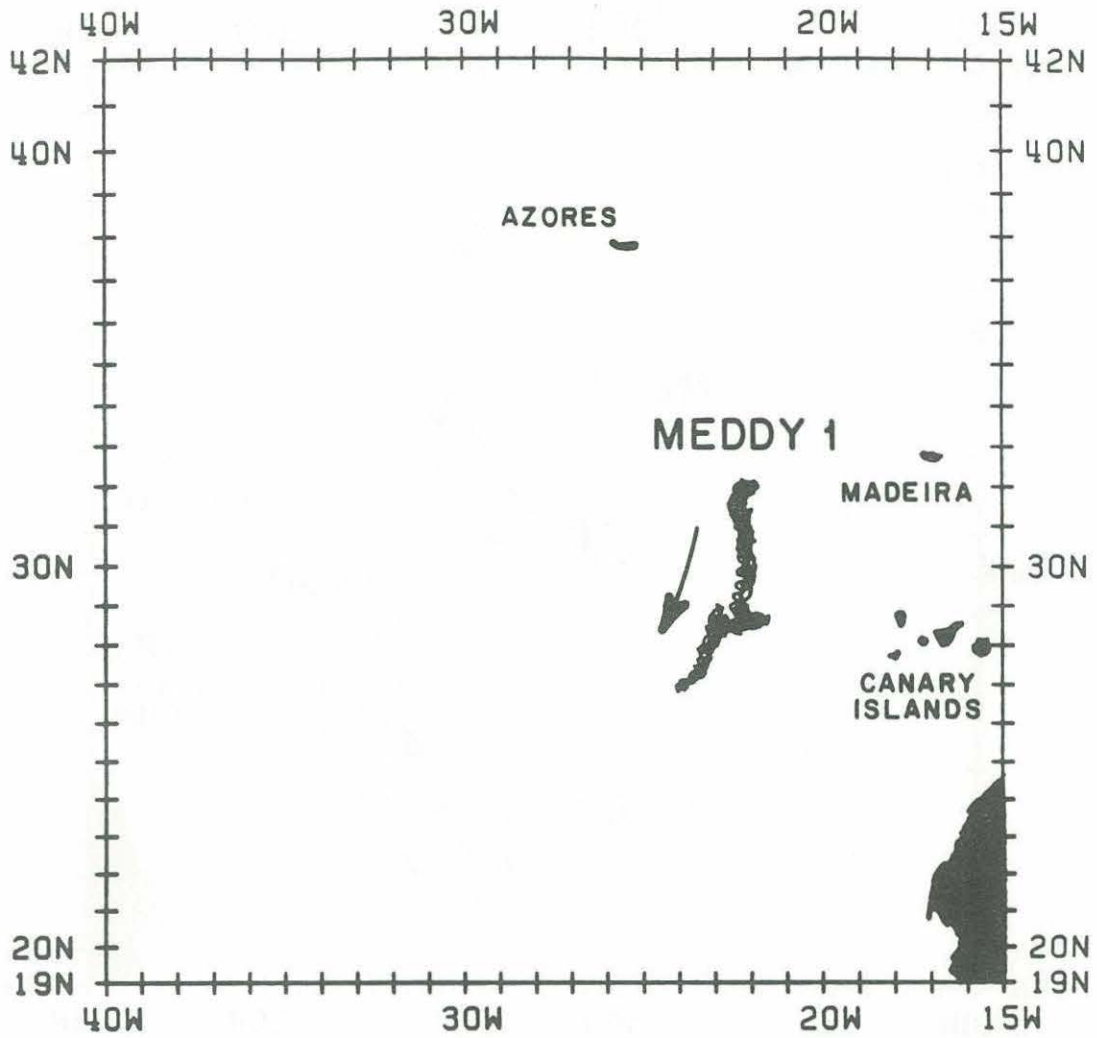


Figure 7b: A composite of four float trajectories launched in Meddies (1984-1985).

MEDDY FLOATS 1985 - 1986

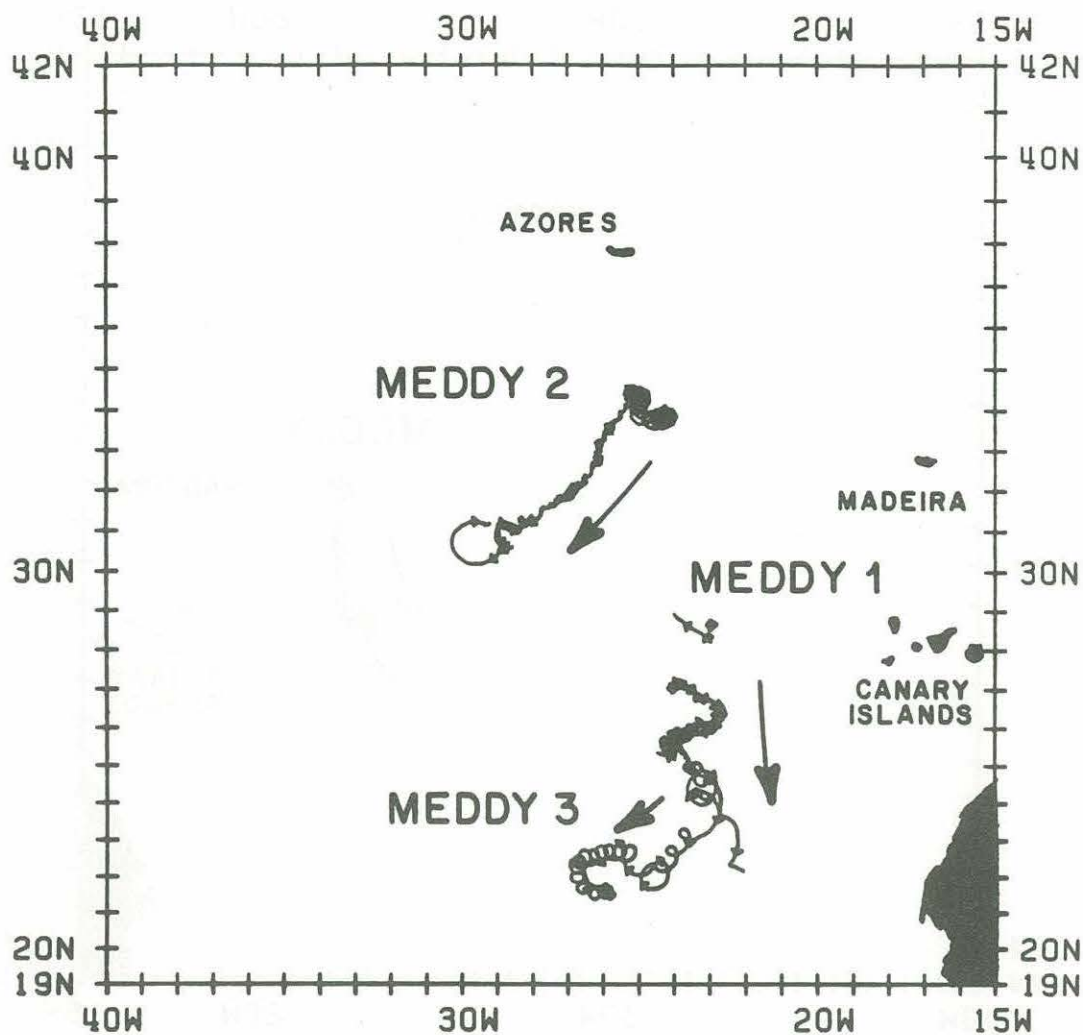


Figure 7c: A composite of seven float trajectories launched in Meddies (1985-1986).

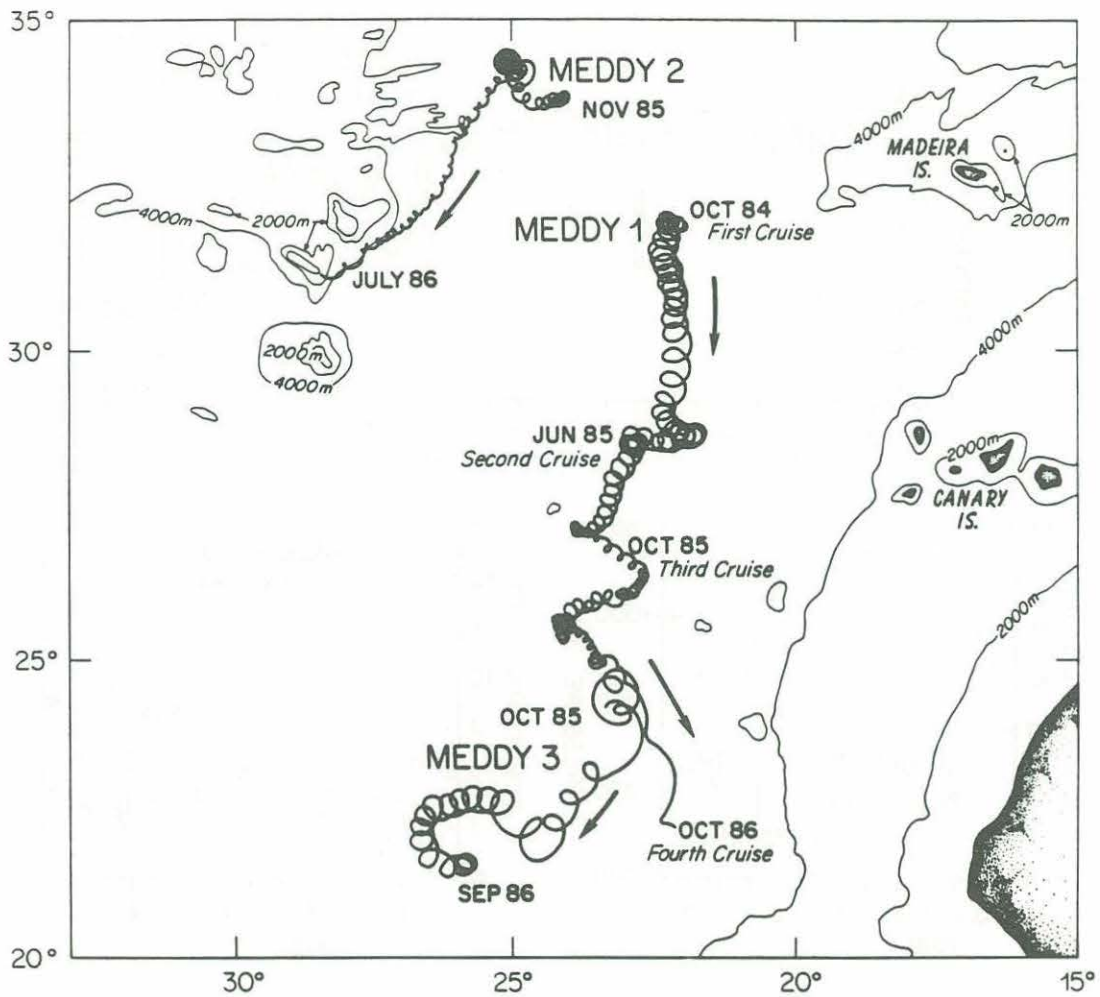


Figure 8: The translation of three Meddies as given by the trajectories of SOFAR floats — float 128 in Meddy 1, float 149 in Meddy 2, and float 145 in Meddy 3. The floats in Meddies 1 and 2 continued to loop up to the end of the tracking in October 1986. Meddy 2 collided with a seamount in July–August 1986 and the two floats (148, 149) stopped looping.

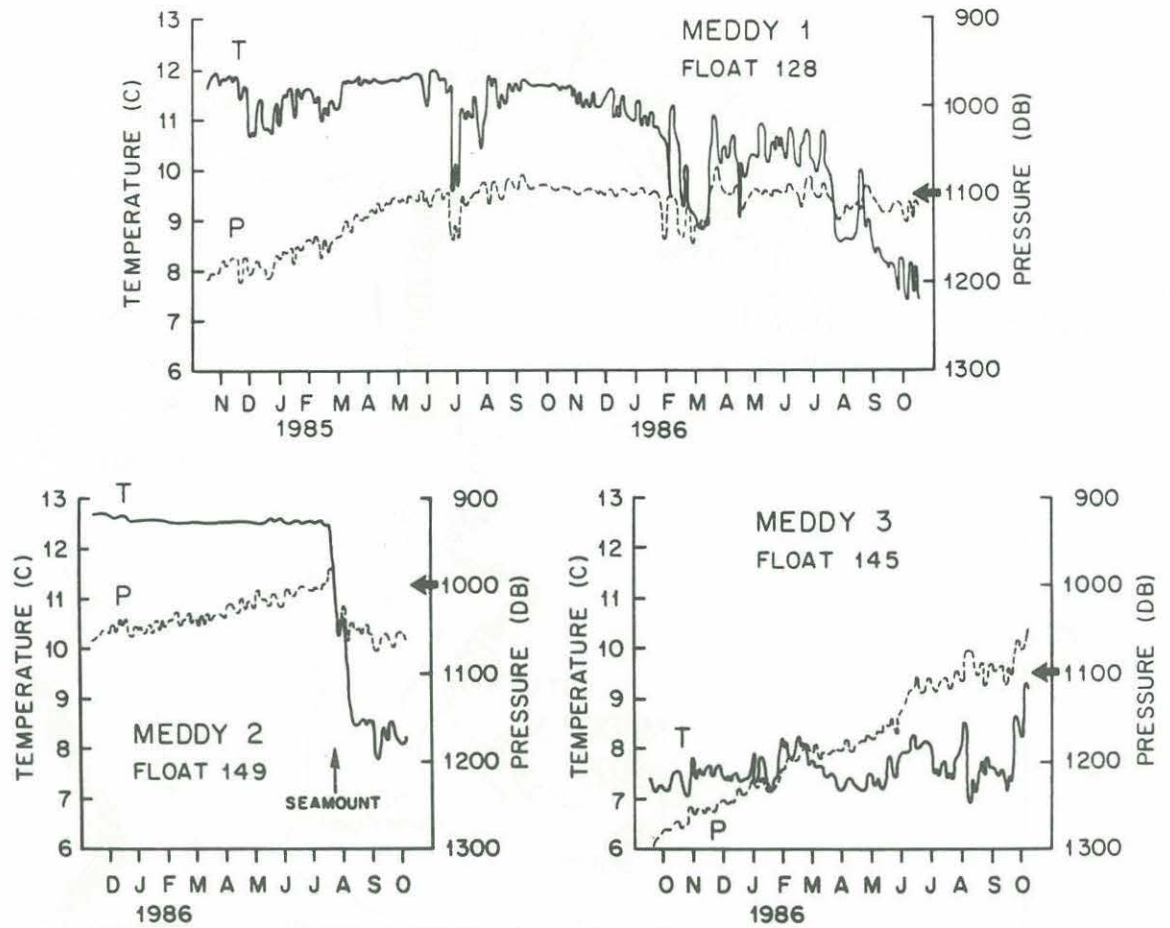


Figure 9: Temperature and pressure series from a float in each Meddy. All three floats initially settled deep and gradually rose toward the target pressure shown by dark arrows. The large drop in temperature measured by float 149 coincides with Meddy 2's collision with Hyères seamount and the float encountering cooler fresher water. The downward spikes in temperature and pressure of float 128 in July 1985 and spring 1986 are inferred to be a result of the float encountering patches or layers of fresher cooler water.

that it was not confined to just the Mediterranean water, and that it was surface intensified (Tarbell *et al.*, 1987). A few floats drifted westward in this region during the two years suggesting the jet was a relatively long-lived feature. Evidence from our current meters located near 32°N and others near 33°N (Zenk and Muller, 1988) suggests the jet may have migrated from 32°N to 33°N during the two years. Away from the jet the mean flow is weak and generally eastward.

The three Meddies moved on average southwestward with a mean velocity of 1.6 cm/sec toward 202° (Figure 8). Meddy 1, tracked for two years, moved 1090 km southward with a mean velocity of 1.8 cm/sec. By October 1986 this Meddy was found to be almost totally decayed as compared to its original structure (see Armi *et al.*, 1988a,b). Meddy 2 drifted 530 km southwestward for 8.5 months with a mean velocity of 2.2 cm/sec and collided with Hyères seamount near 31°N, 29°W. At this time the two floats trapped in this Meddy stopped looping implying a major disruption of this Meddy. Meddy 3 drifted 380 km southwestward for a year with a mean velocity of 1.2 cm/sec. Further tracking in 1986–1988 may give longer trajectories for Meddies 1 and 3.

6 Acknowledgements

This research was made possible with funds provided by the National Science Foundation (OCE82-14066 and OCE86-00055). Principal investigators were J. F. Price and P. L. Richardson.

Floats were purchased from Webb Research Corporation. They were ballasted, prepared for sea and launched by the WHOI float operations group consisting of J. R. Valdes, R. D. Tavares and B. J. Guest. The operations group also maintained, moored and retrieved the ALS's. The floats were tracked by M. E. Zemanovic at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution using a system developed by W. B. Owens. M. A. Lucas typed the manuscript.

7 References

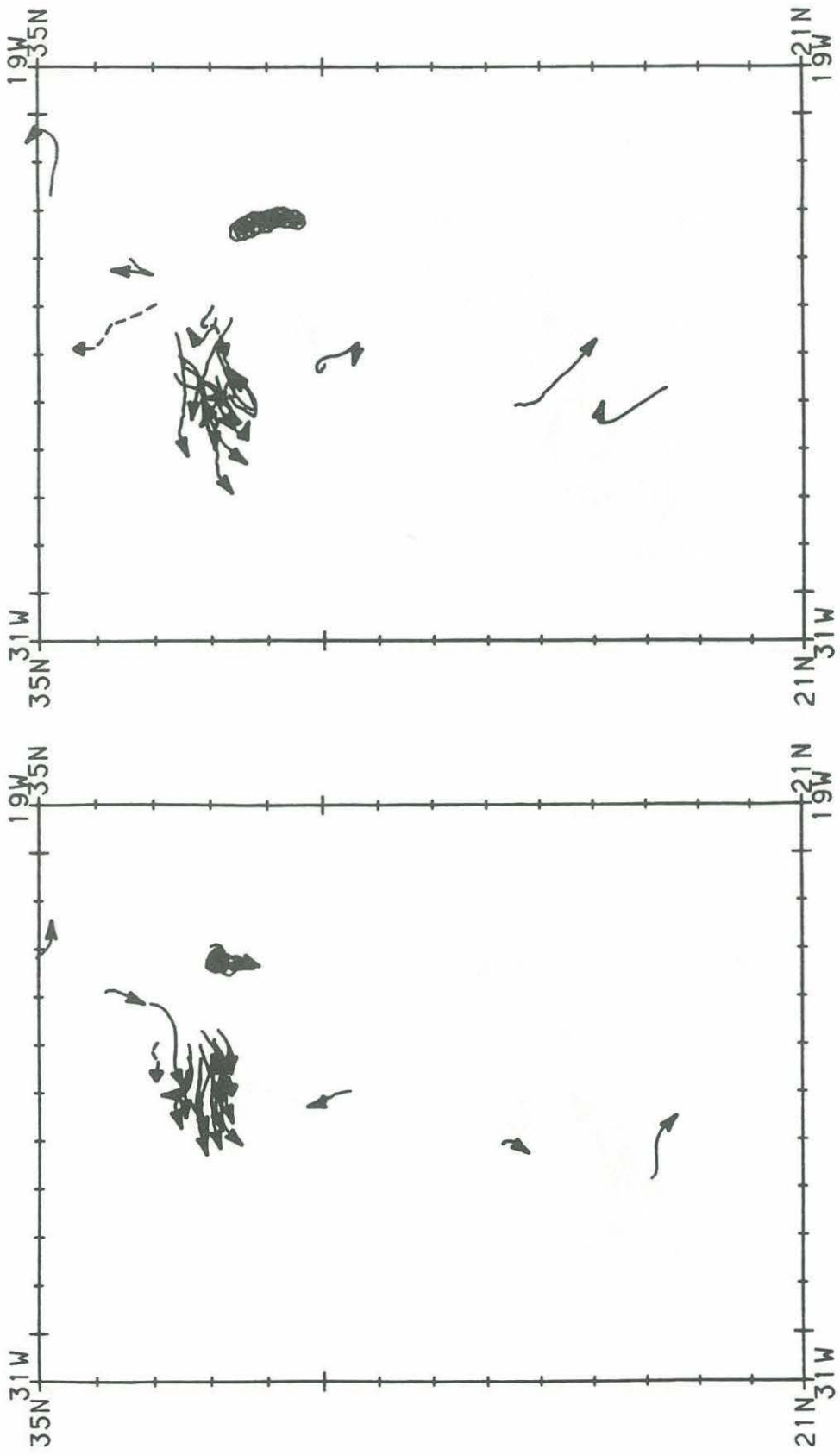
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8 Appendix A — Two Month Composites of Trajectories from October 1984 to September 1986

Twelve plots are presented showing a summary of all float trajectories for each two-month period from October 1984 to September 1986, and two progressive vector plots (dashed arrows) from current meters, one at 33°N, 24°W (Zenk and Muller, 1988), and the other at 32°N, 24°W (Tarbell *et al.*, 1987).

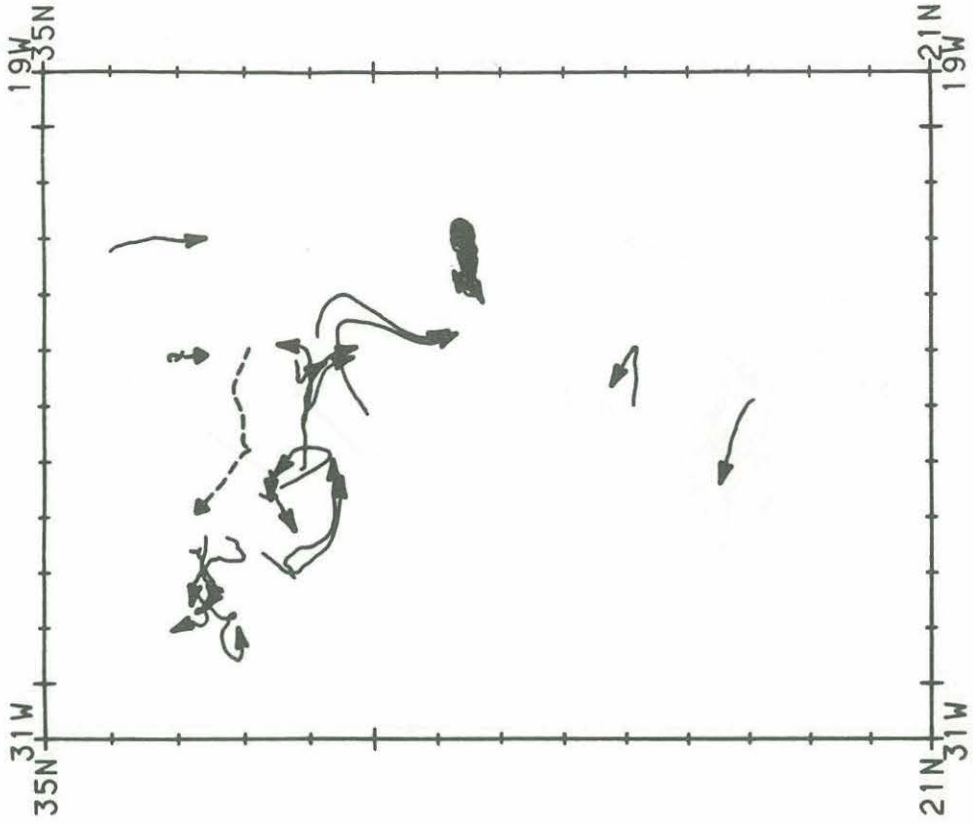
OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 1984



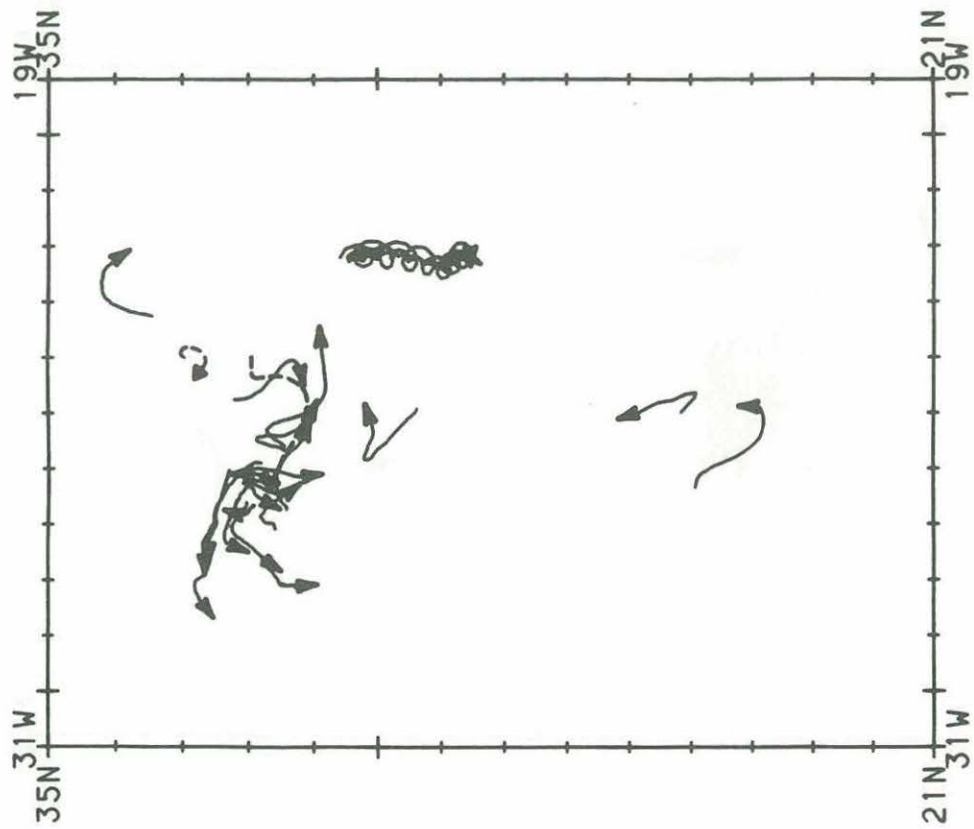
DECEMBER 1984 - JANUARY 1985



APRIL - MAY 1985



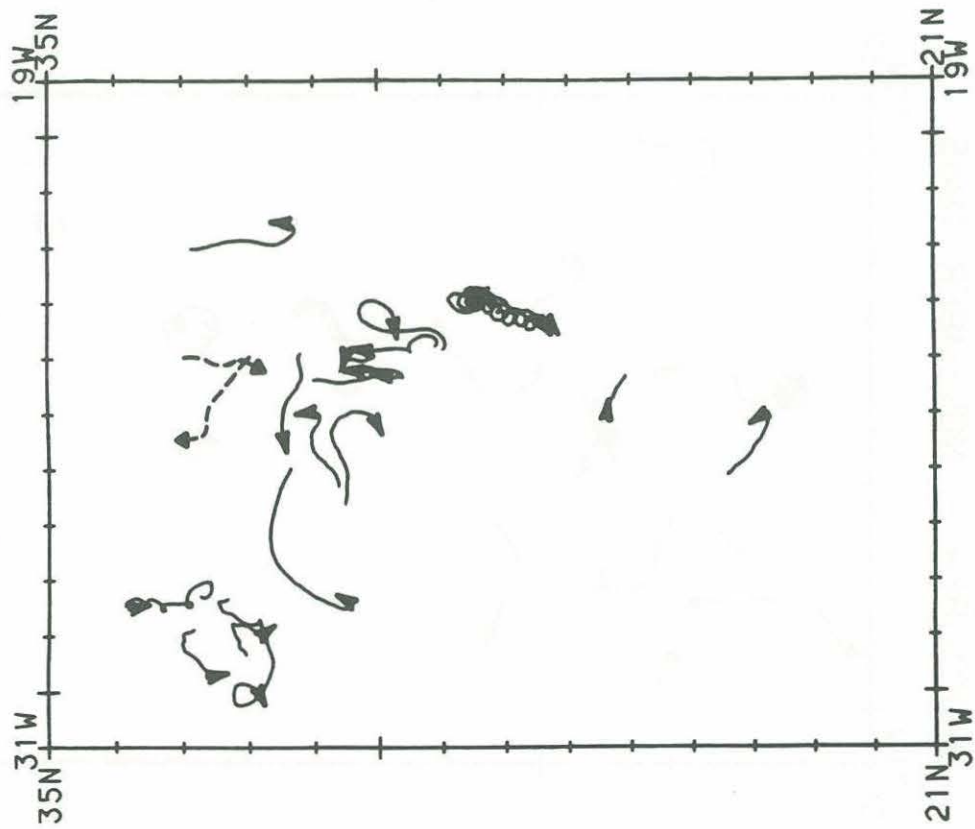
FEBRUARY - MARCH 1985



AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 1985



JUNE - JULY 1985



OCTOBER -- NOVEMBER 1985

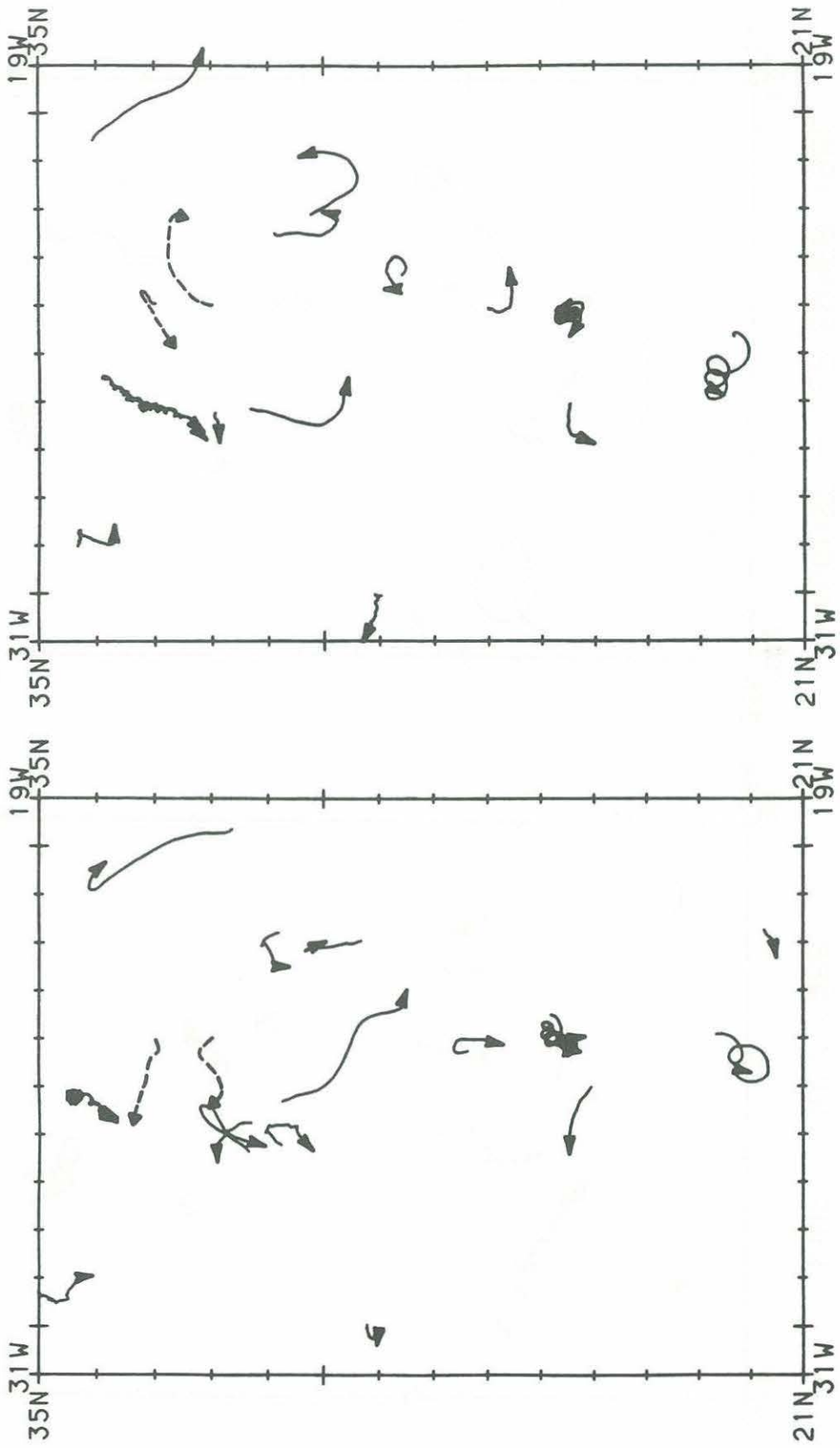


DECEMBER 1985 -- JANUARY 1986

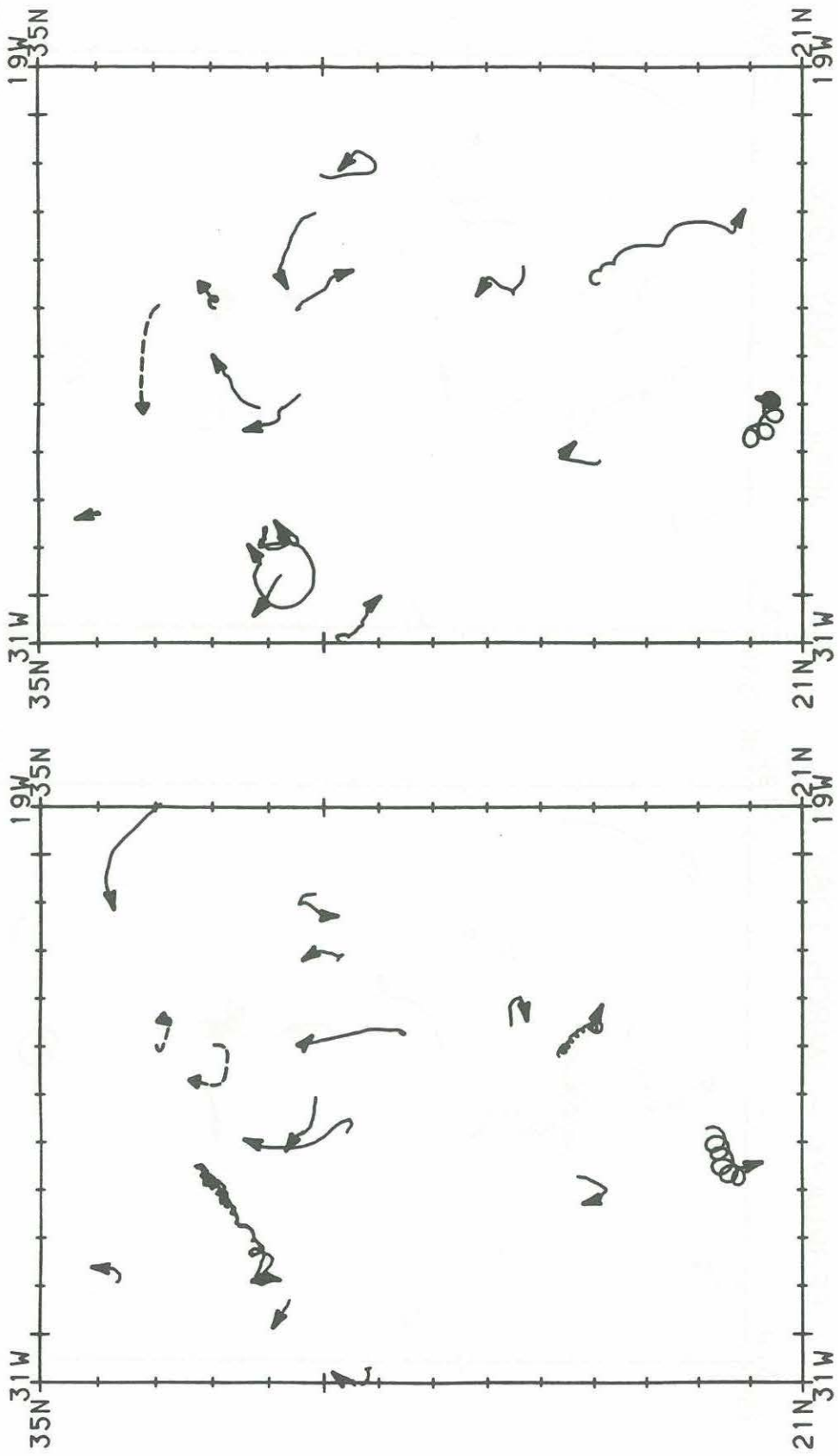


FEBRUARY - MARCH 1986

APRIL - MAY 1986



JUNE - JULY 1986



9 Appendix B — Plots of Individual Floats

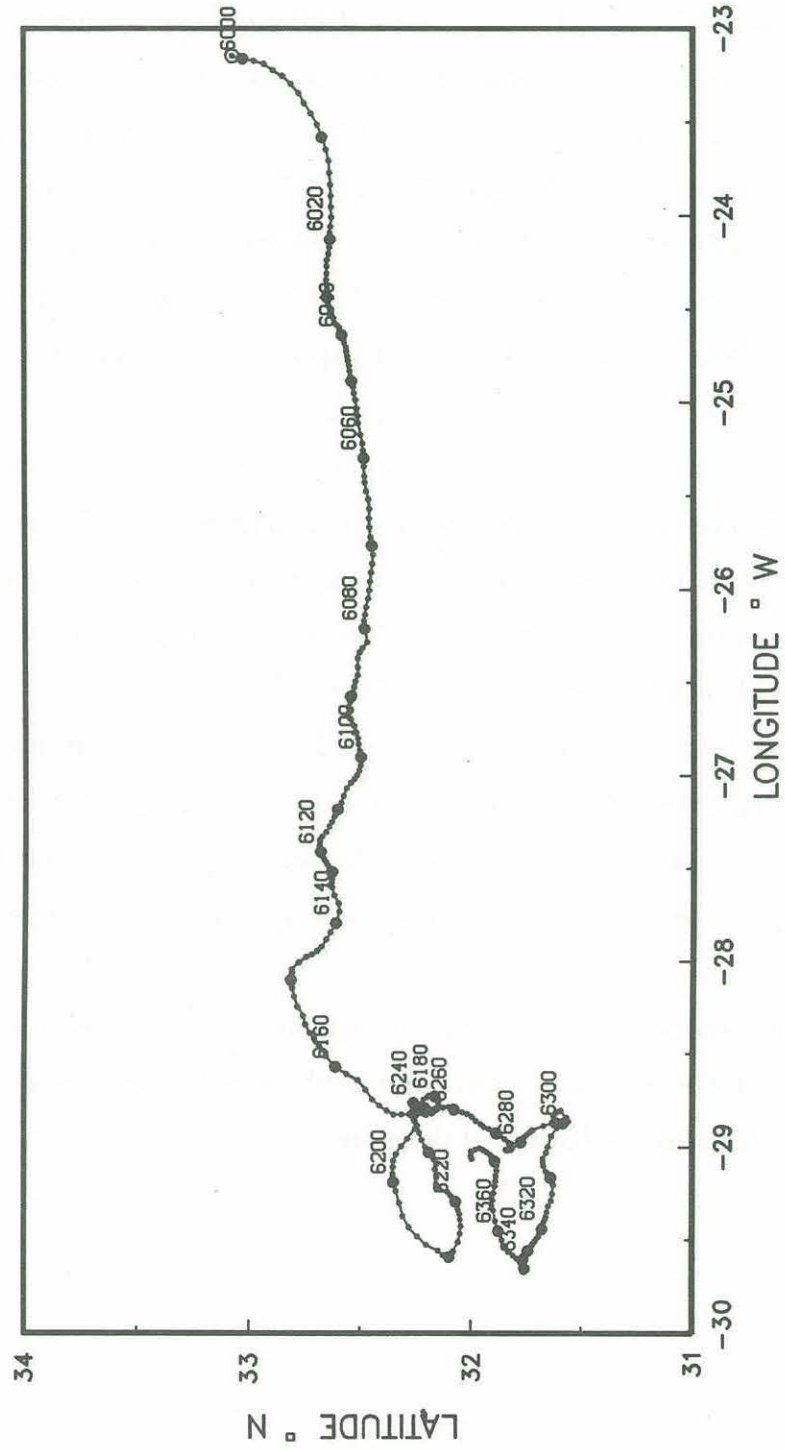
A trajectory plot and time series plots are presented for each float. The order of the time series plots is velocity stick diagram, u and v velocity component overplot, and temperature and pressure overplot. A common scale is used for the time axis, but the y axis varies for each float according to the minima and maxima of the variable plotted. Two hundred days of data are plotted on each page. Float files of lengths greater than 200 days are continued on subsequent pages. The time axis is annotated with the last four digits of the Julian day and with the calendar months. Refer to the conversion chart (Appendix D) to convert Julian day to calendar day. Data points are marked daily.

A trajectory for each float is plotted on a mercator projection. For the longitude axis, negative numbers indicate longitudes west of the Greenwich Meridian. Along the trajectories, open circles denote the first float position, small dots mark the daily positions, large dots the tenth day, and every twentieth day is annotated with the last four digits of the Julian date.

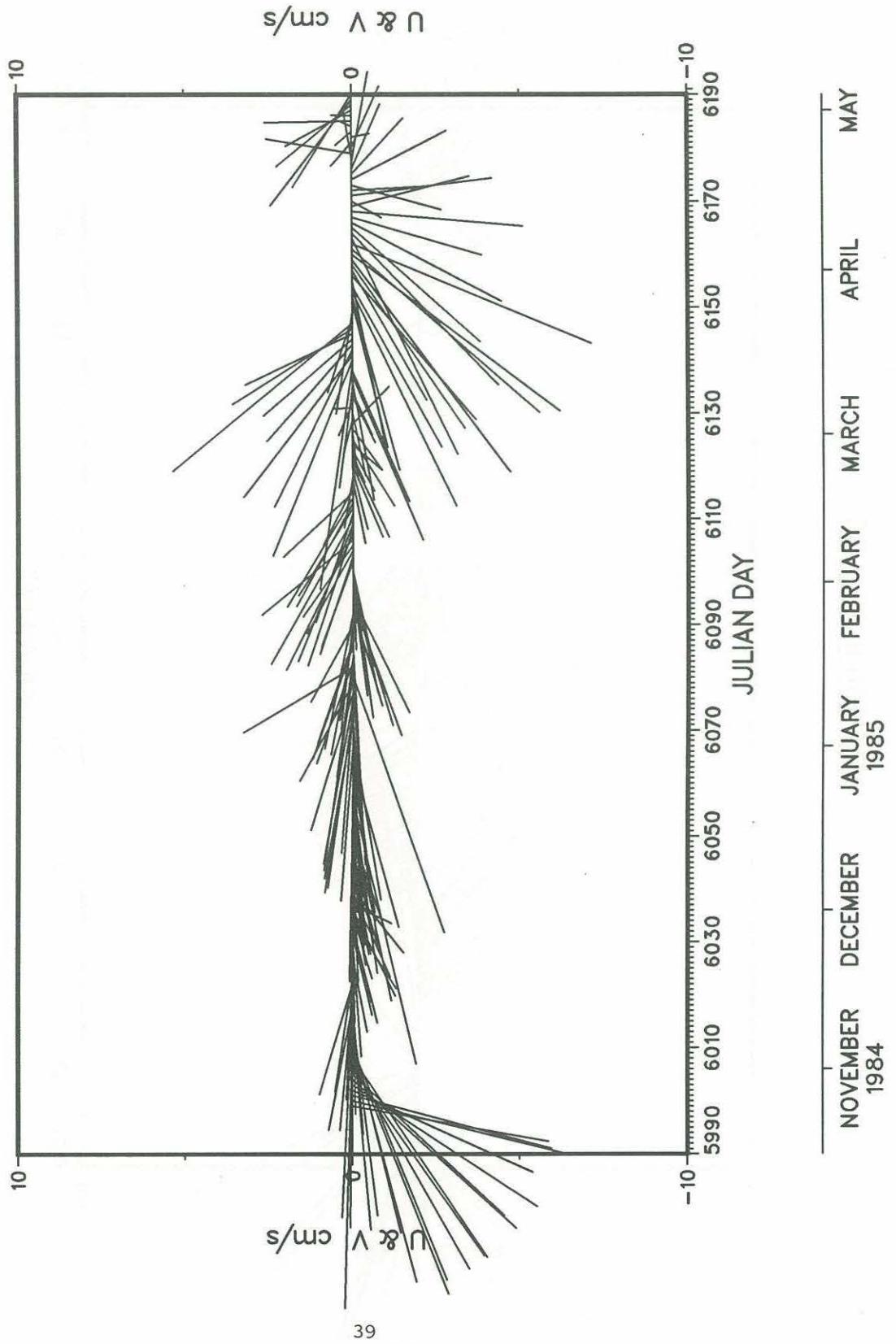
Stick plots show velocity every day. The stick length indicates the speed in cm s^{-1} , and the angle the stick makes with the horizontal axis represents the direction. North is toward the top of the page. The east and north components of velocity can be seen separately in overplots plotted to the same scale as the stick plots.

Temperature and pressure are overplotted, temperature on a centigrade scale marked on the left y axis, pressure in decibars marked on the right y axis with deeper values at the bottom of the scale.

EASTERN BASIN 120

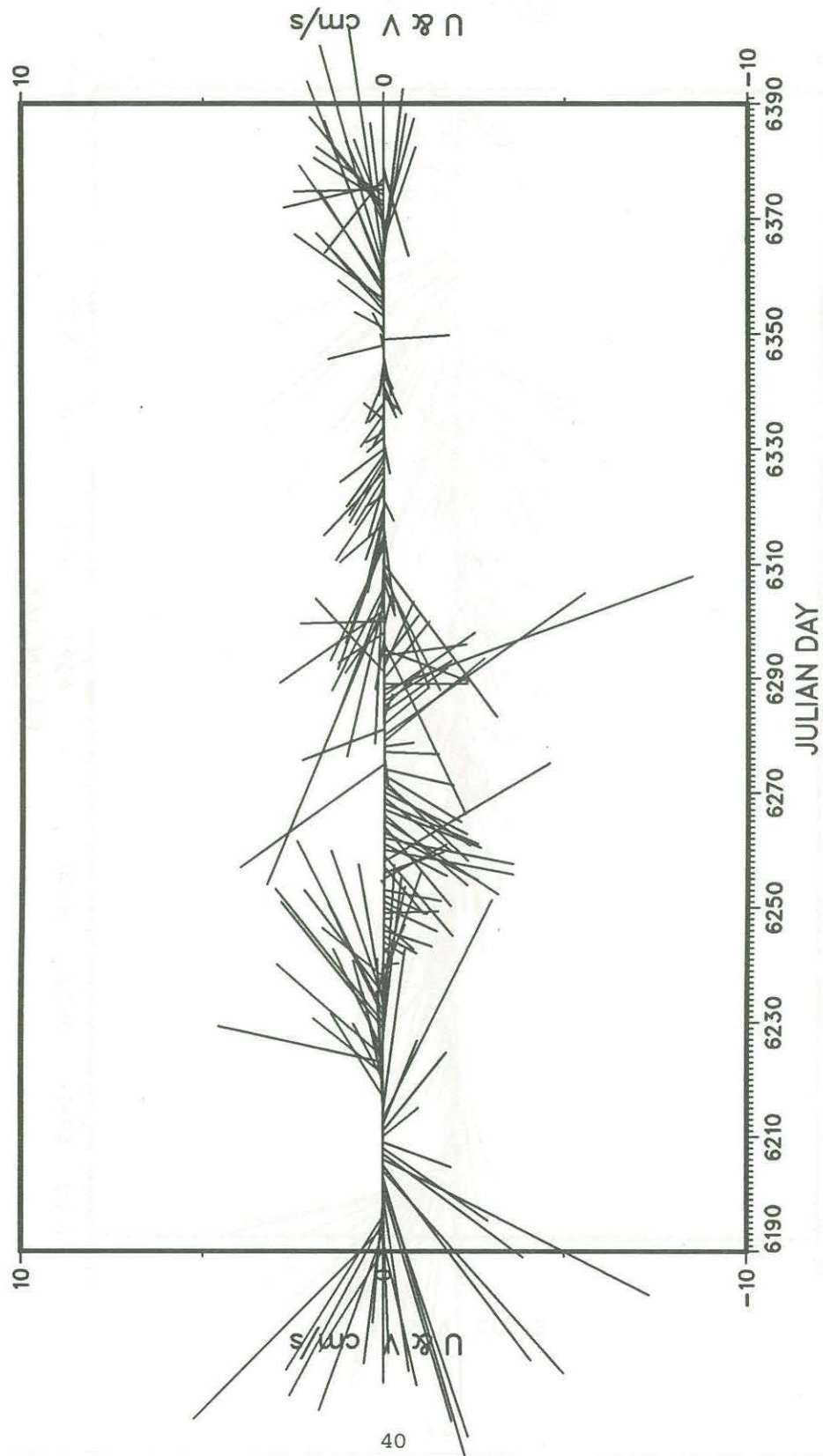


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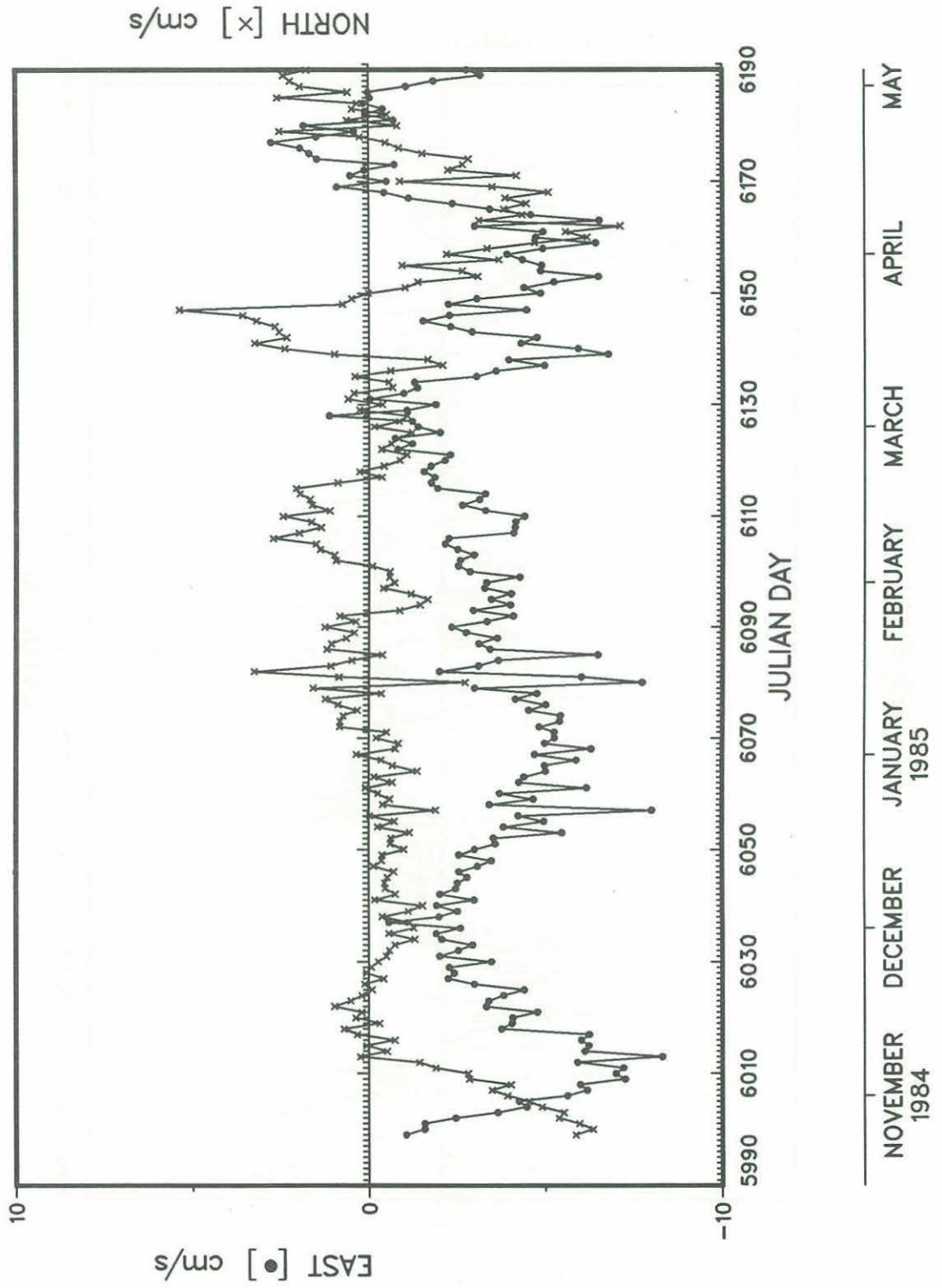
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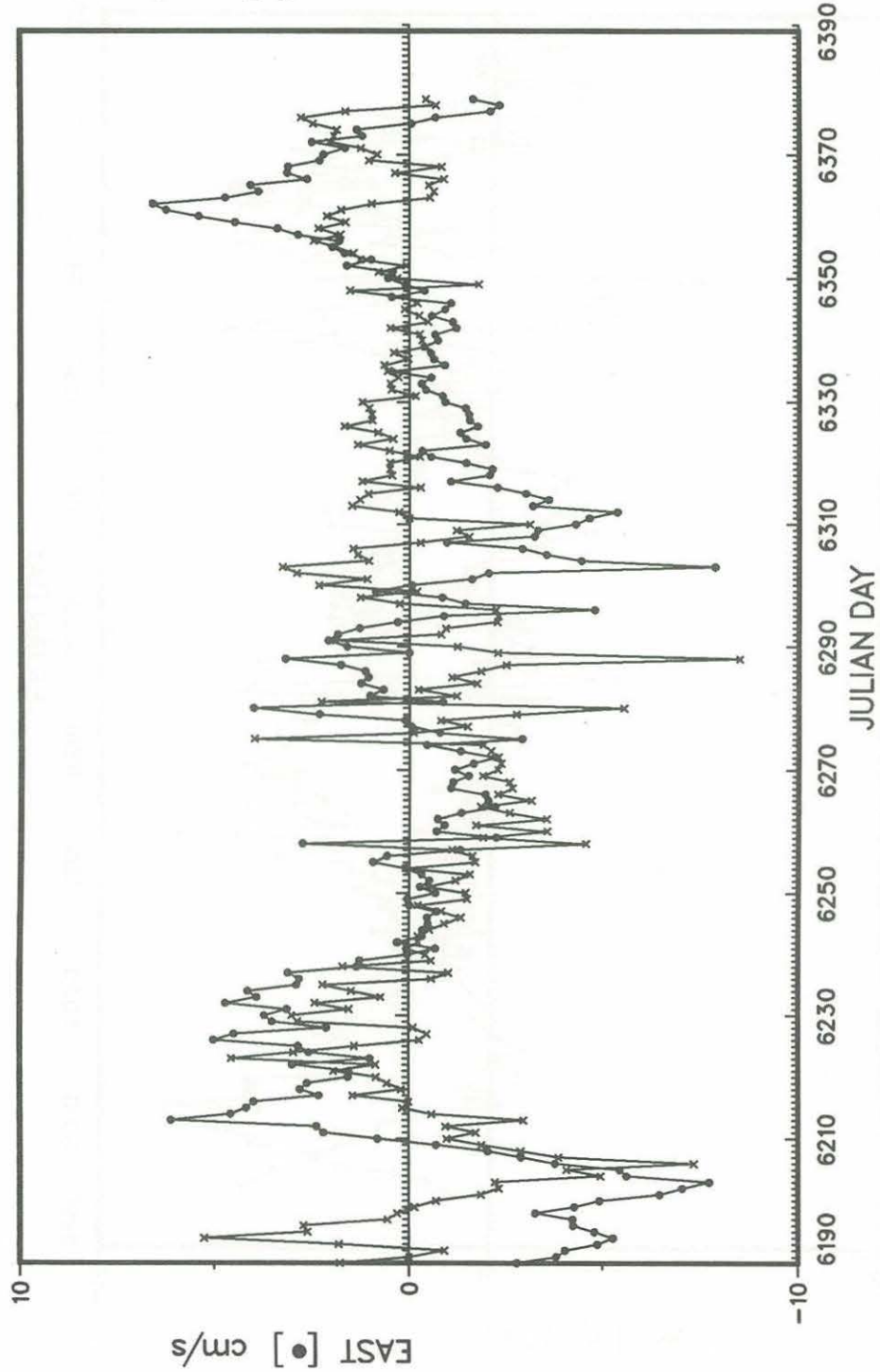


JUNE 1985
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AUGUST
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER

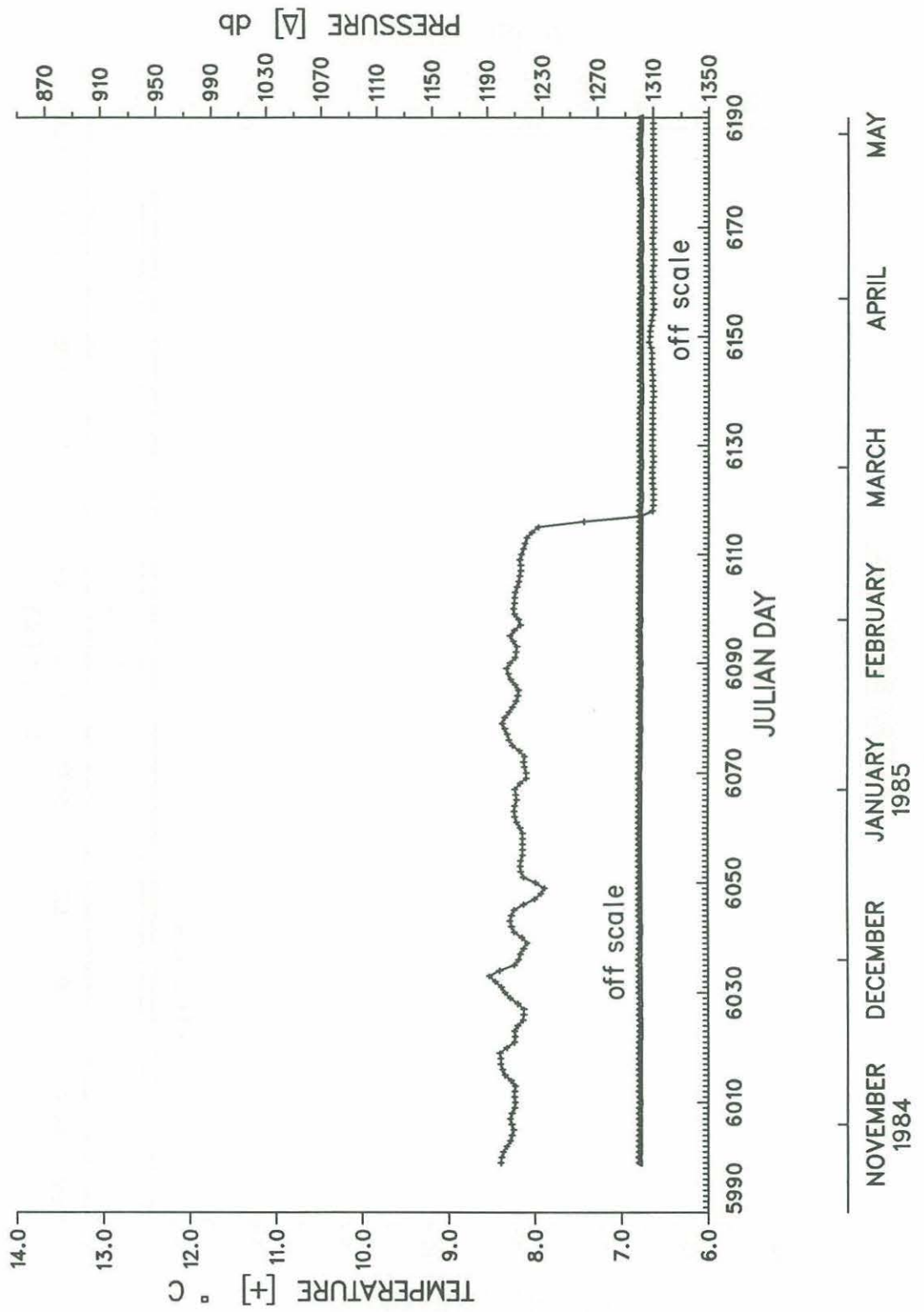
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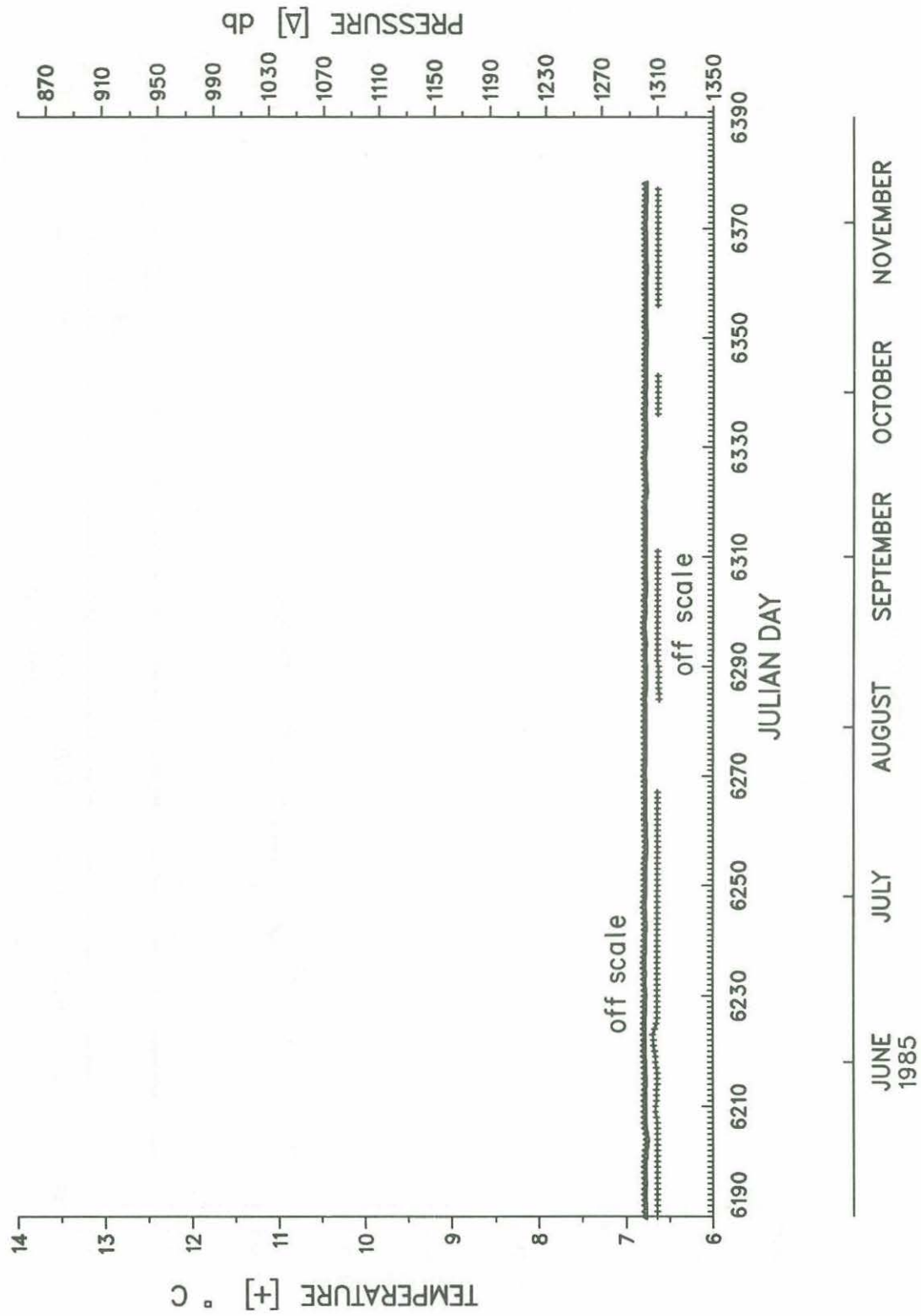
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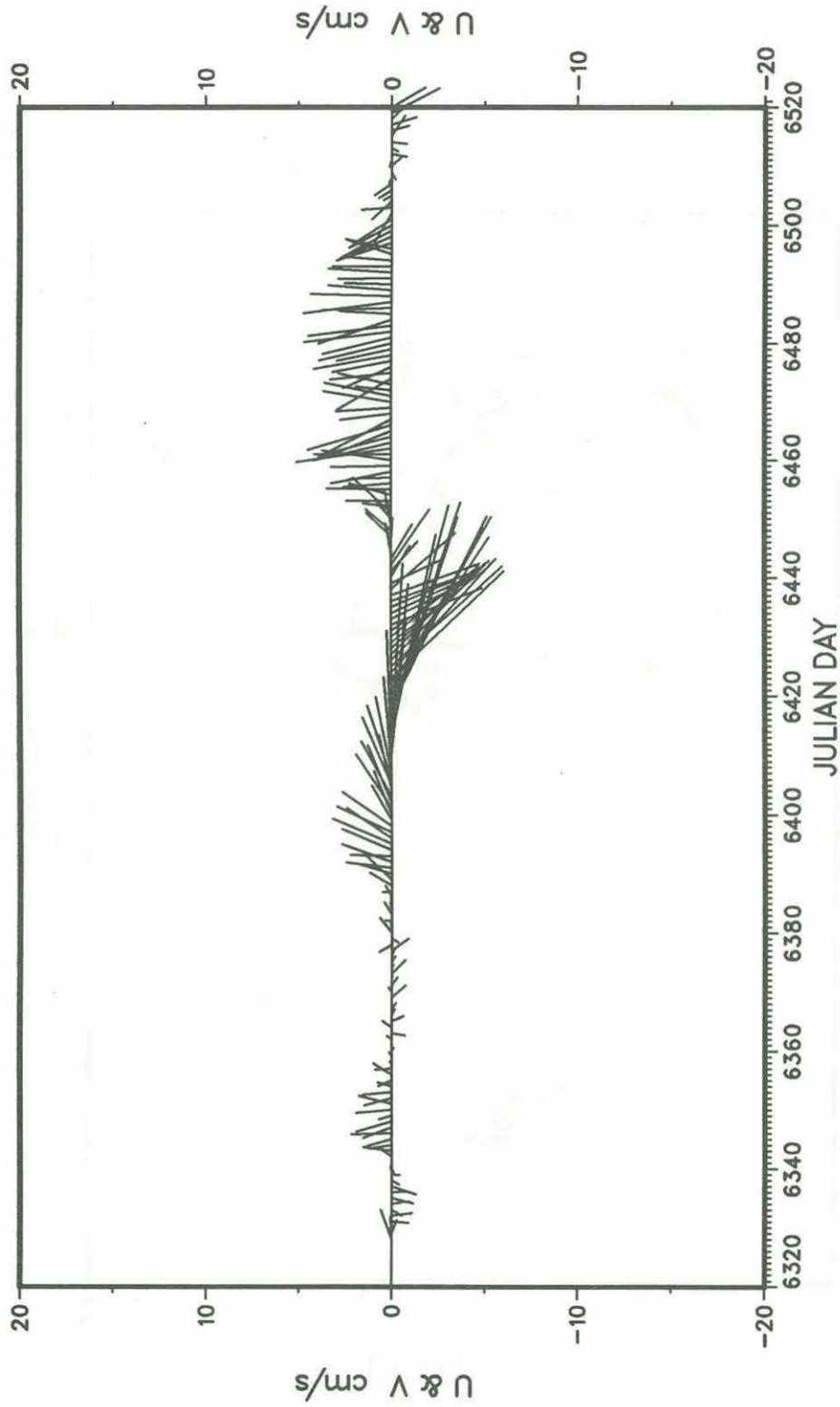
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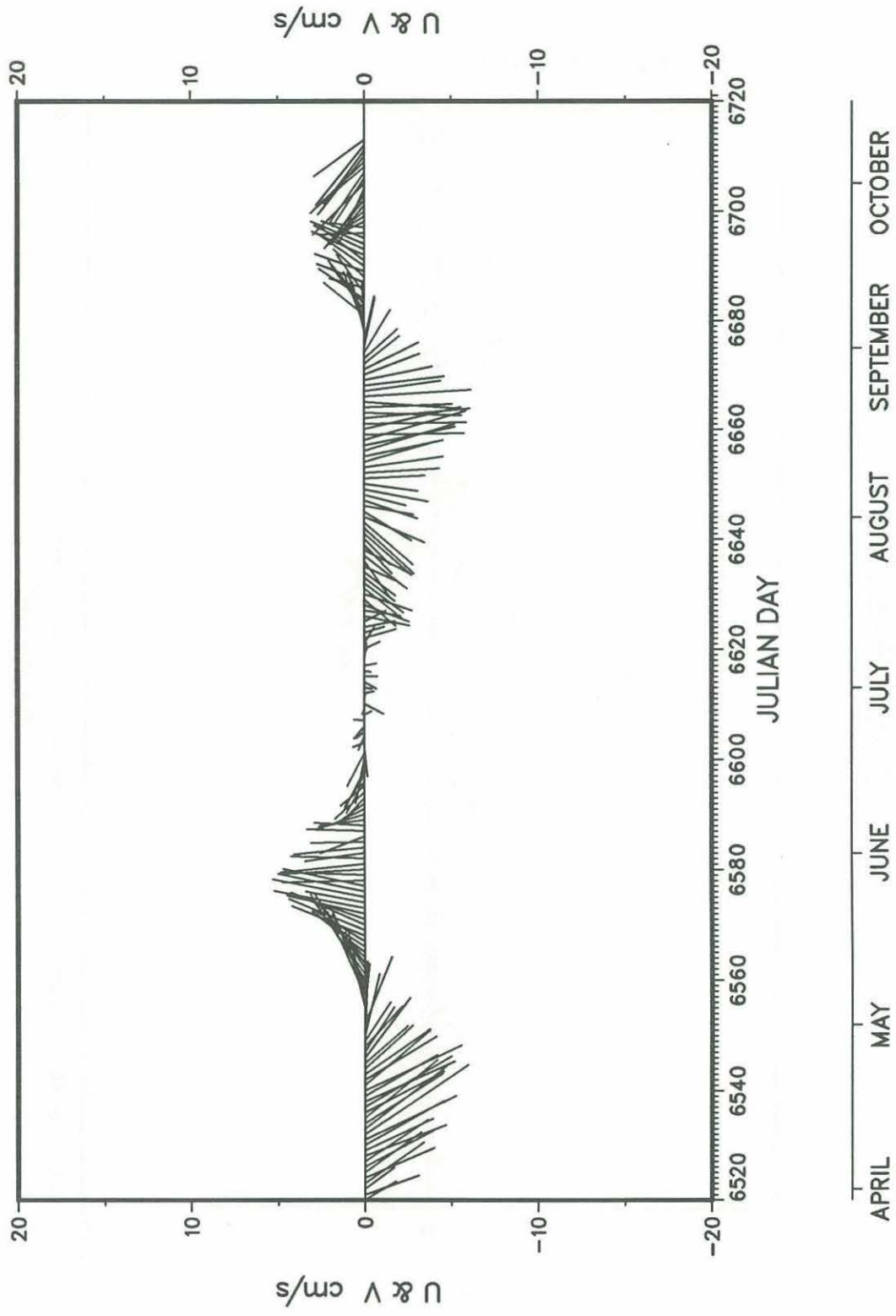


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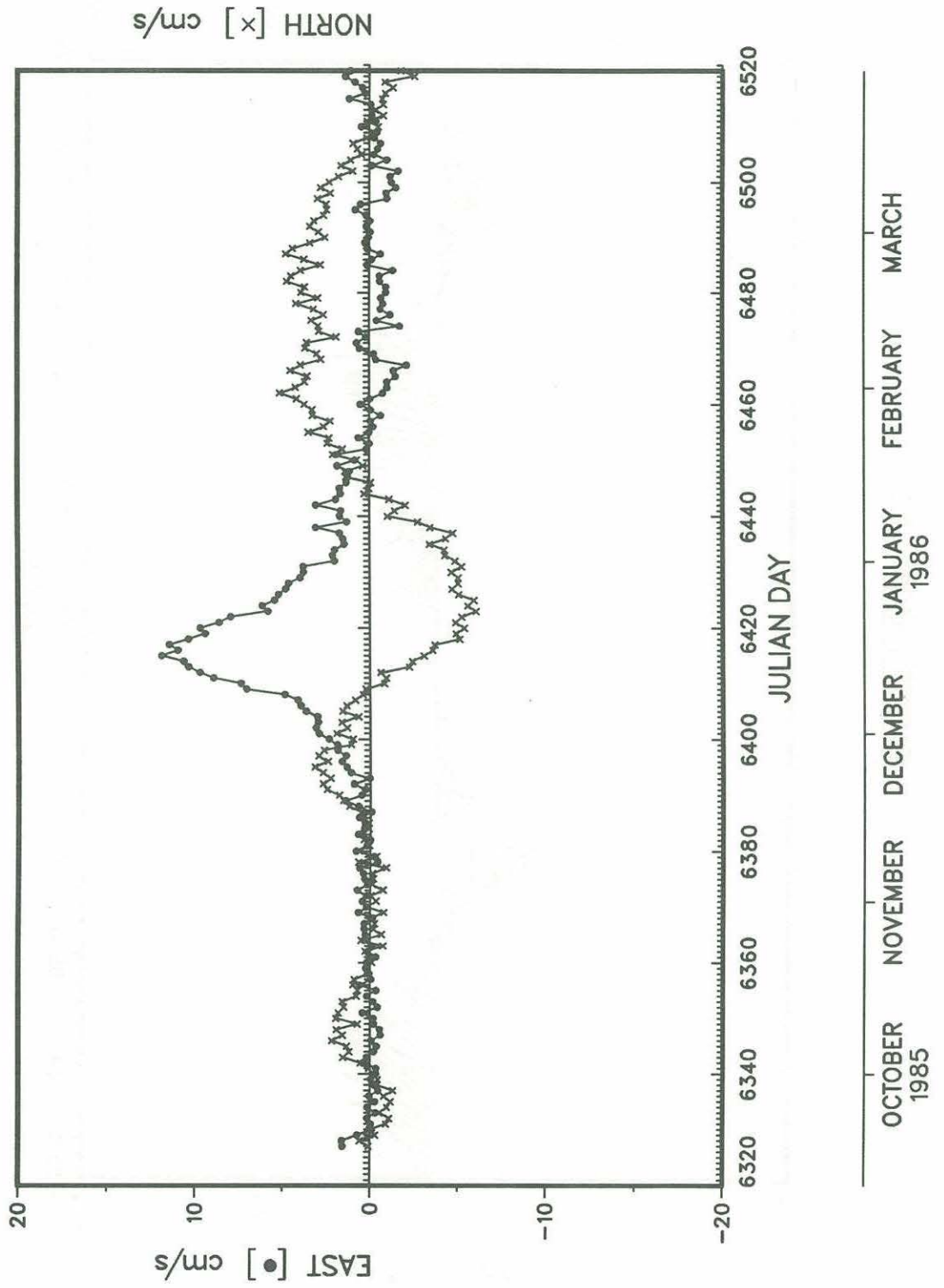


OCTOBER 1985 NOVEMBER DECEMBER JANUARY 1986 FEBRUARY MARCH

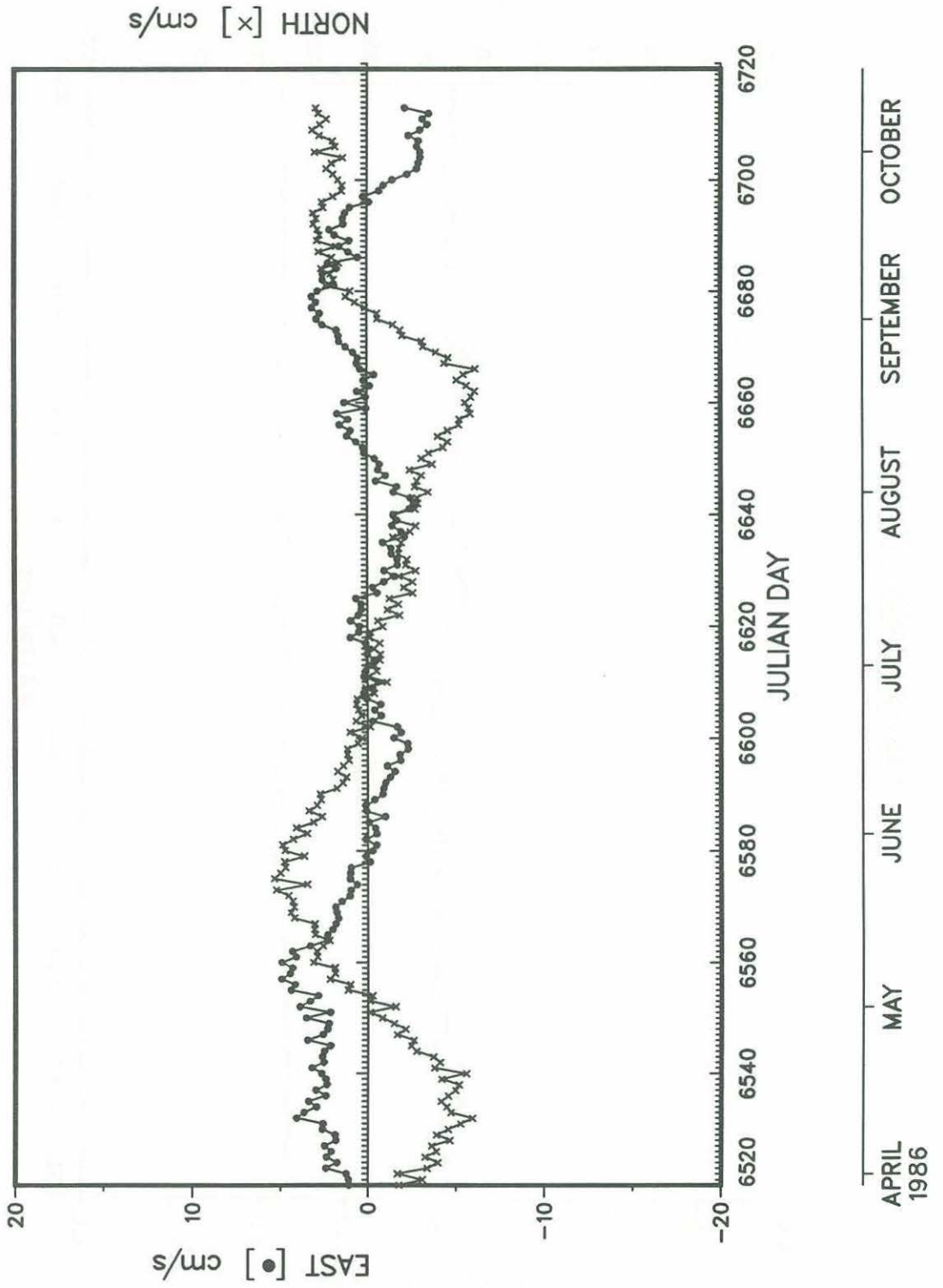
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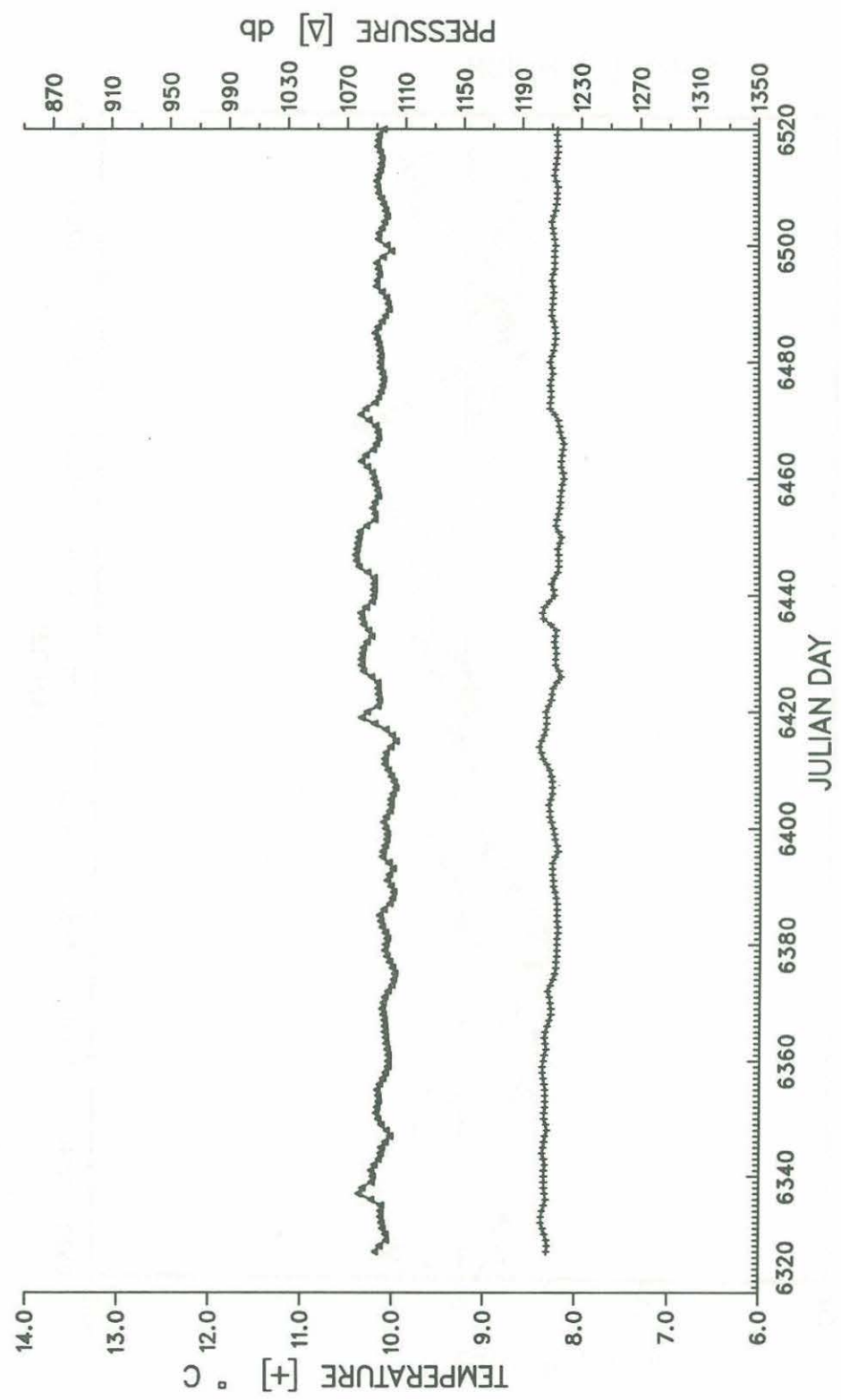
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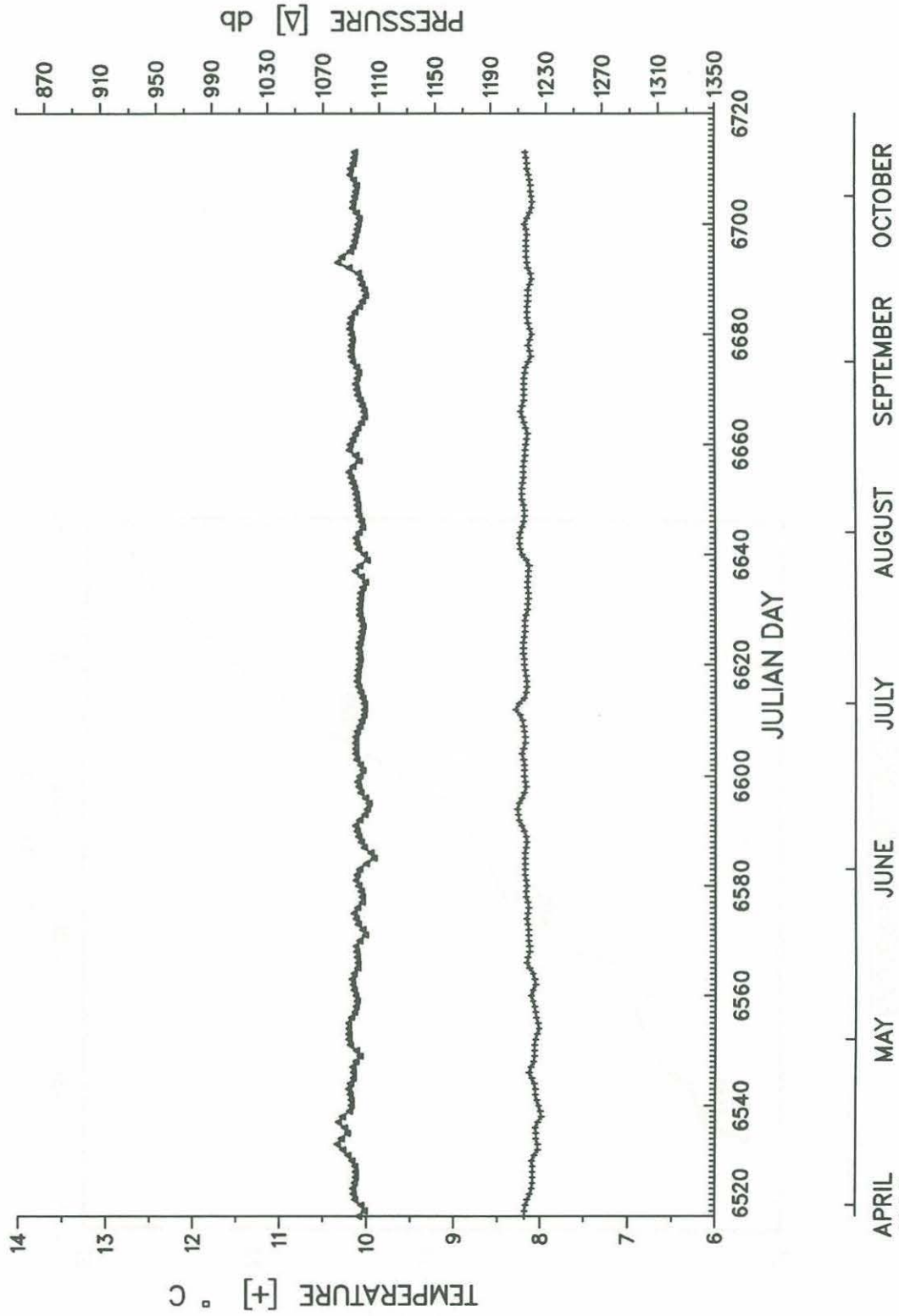


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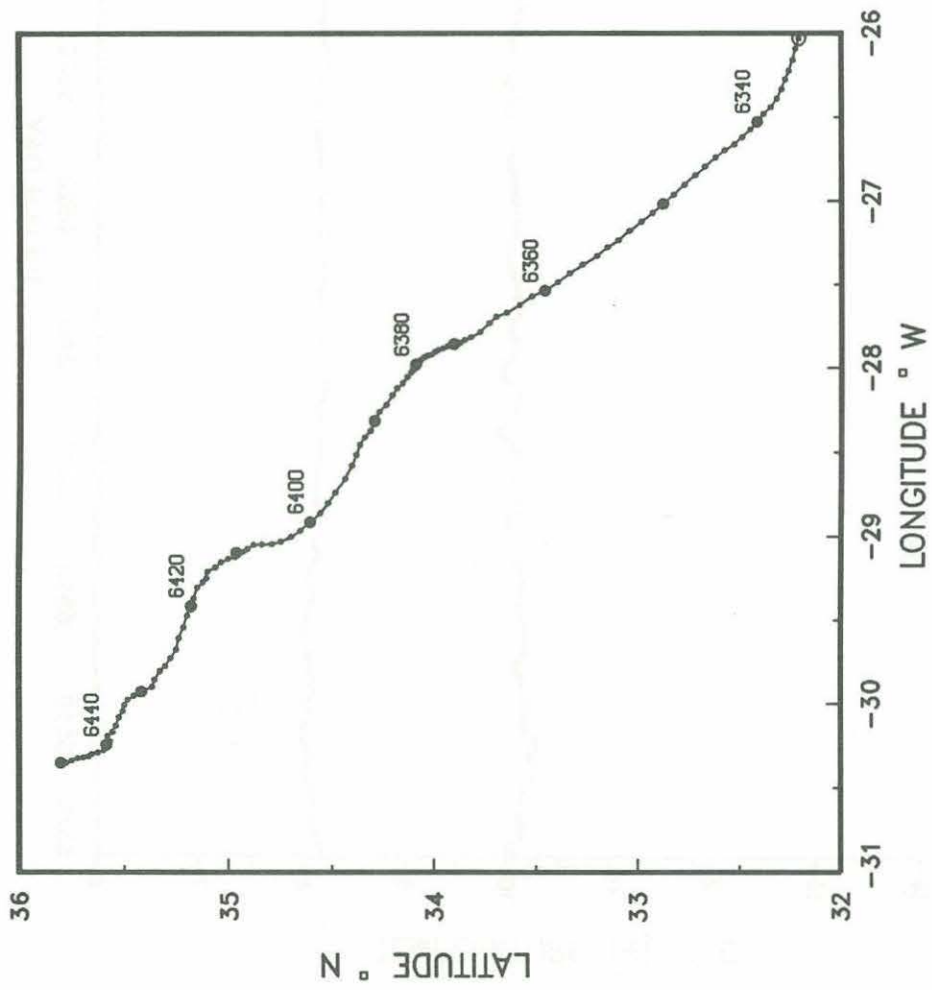


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1985 1986

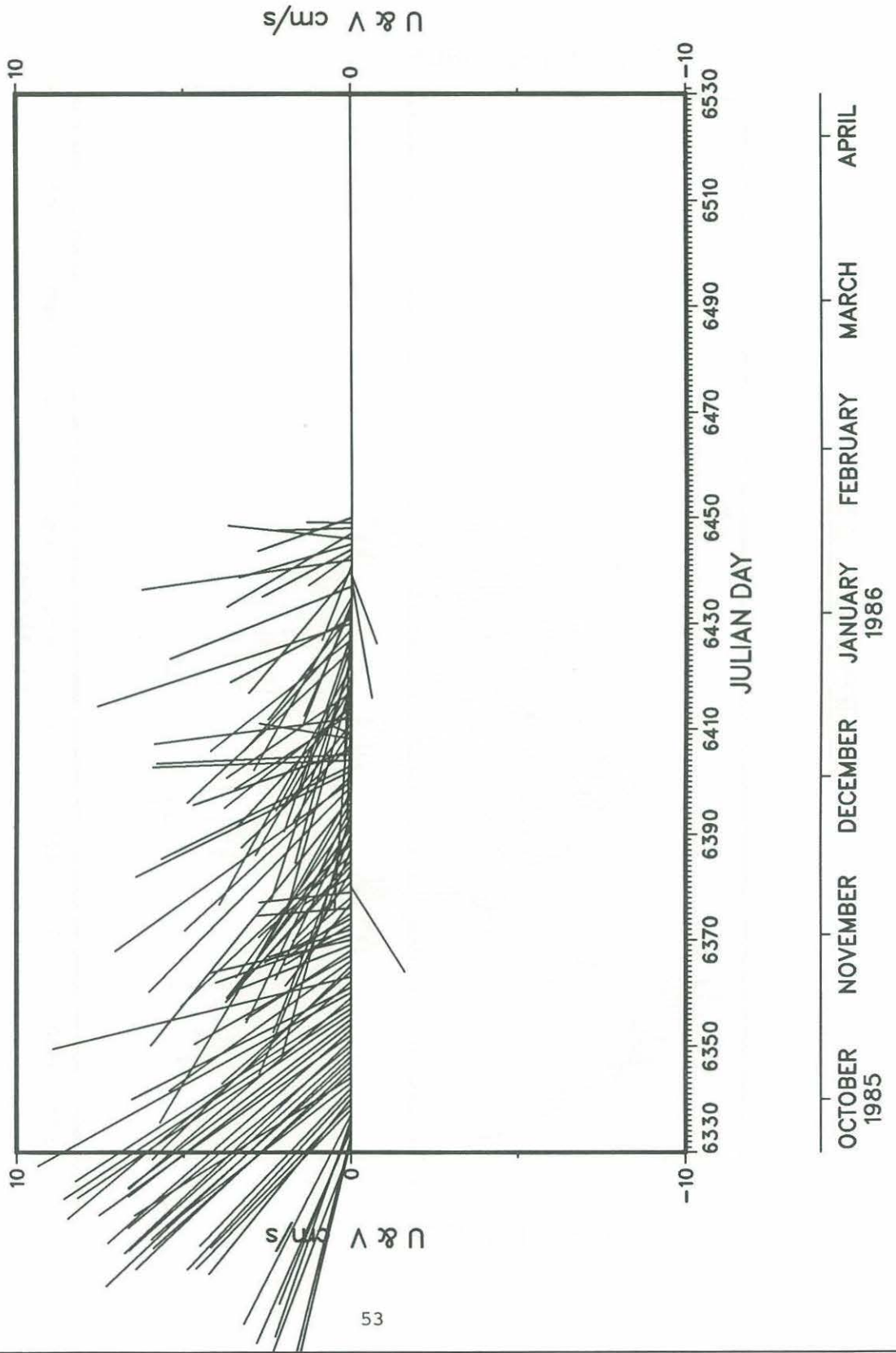
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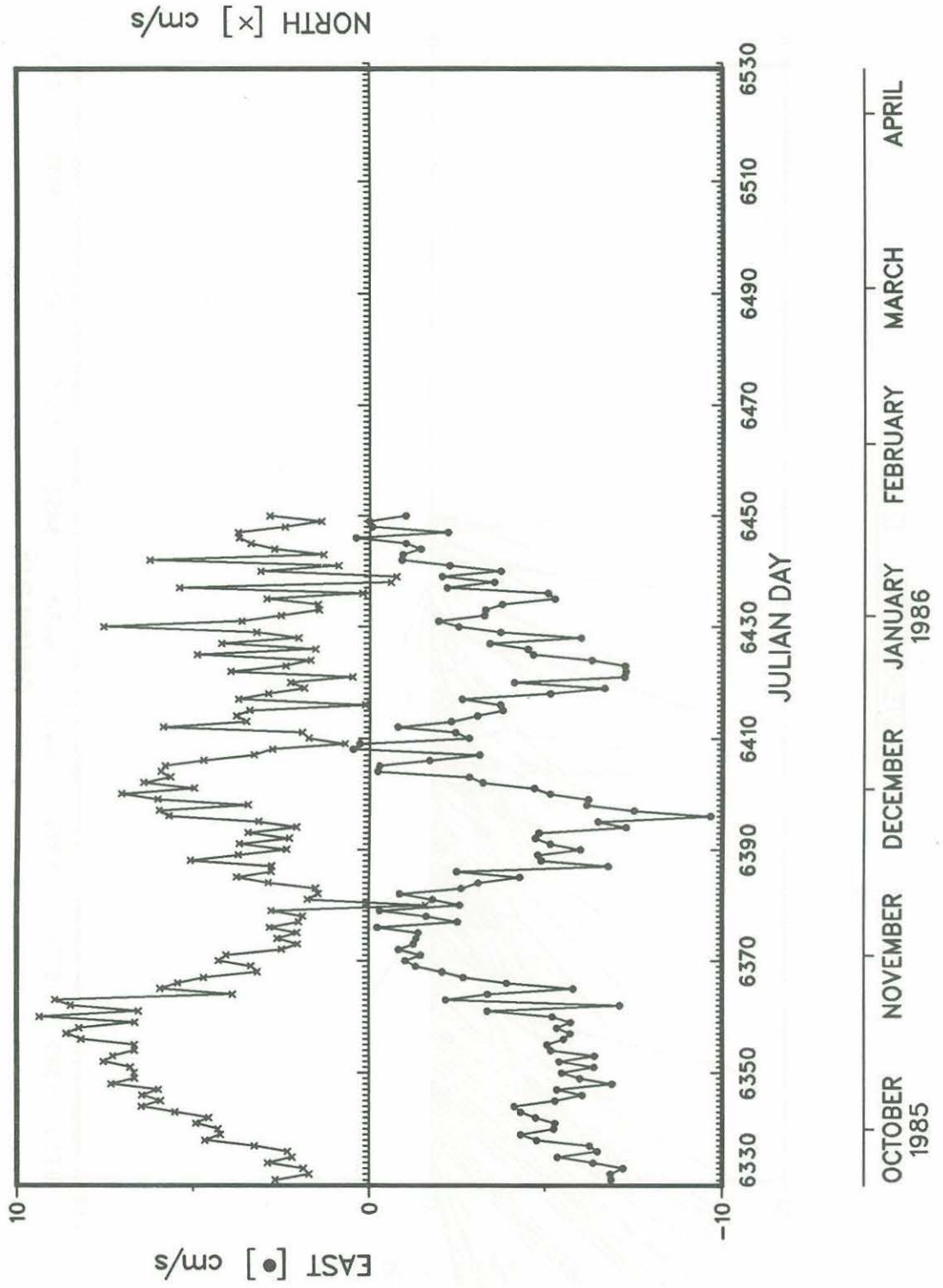
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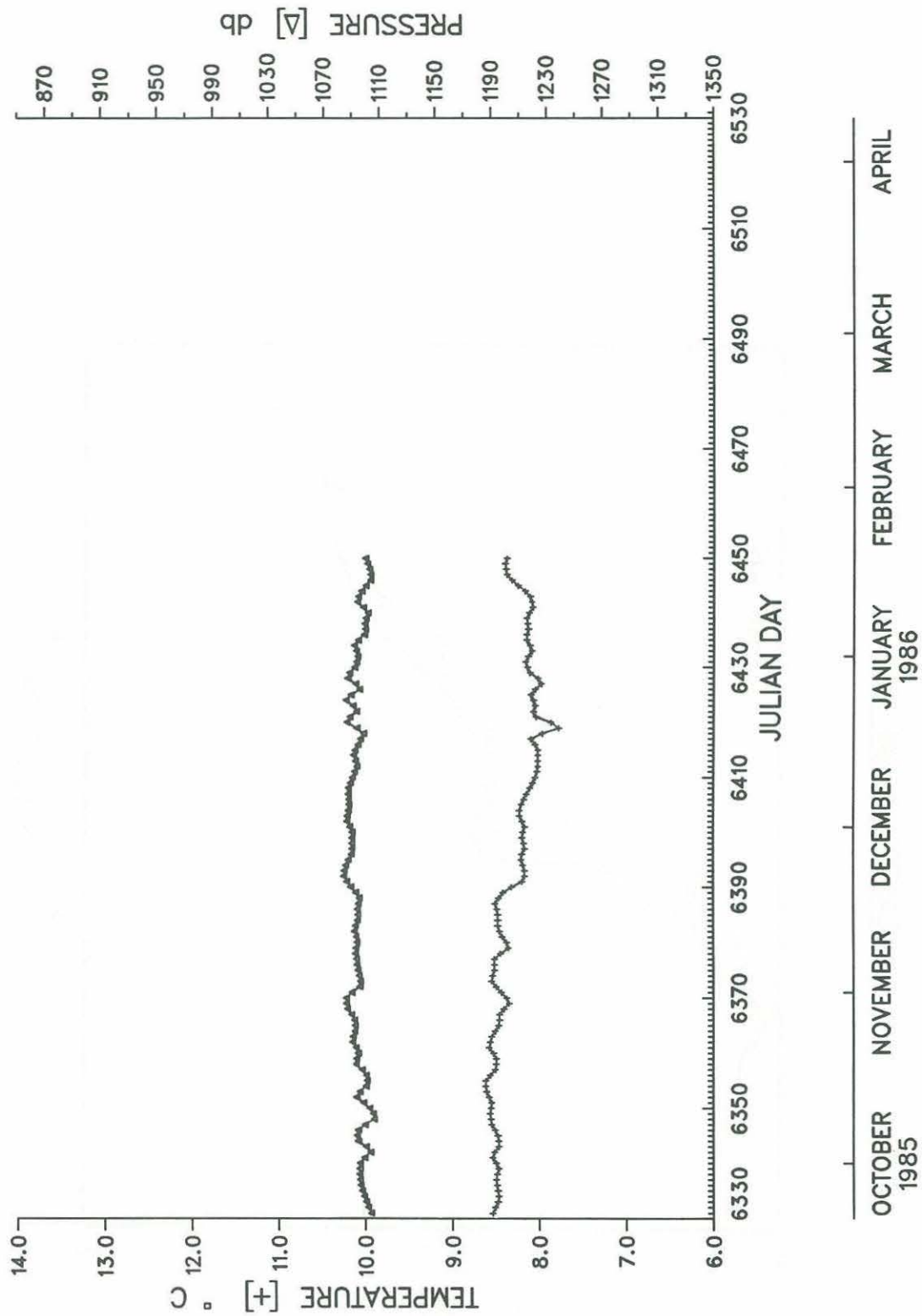
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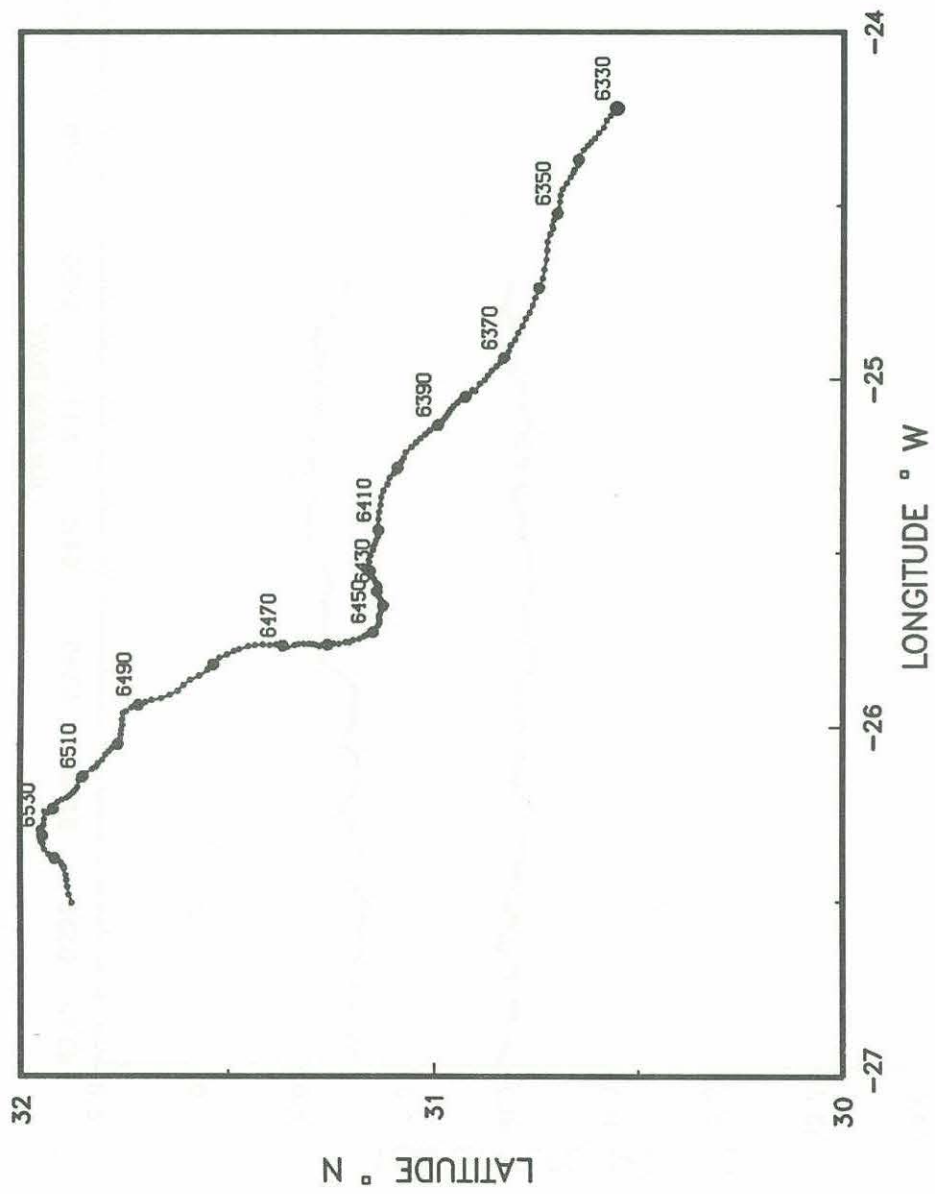
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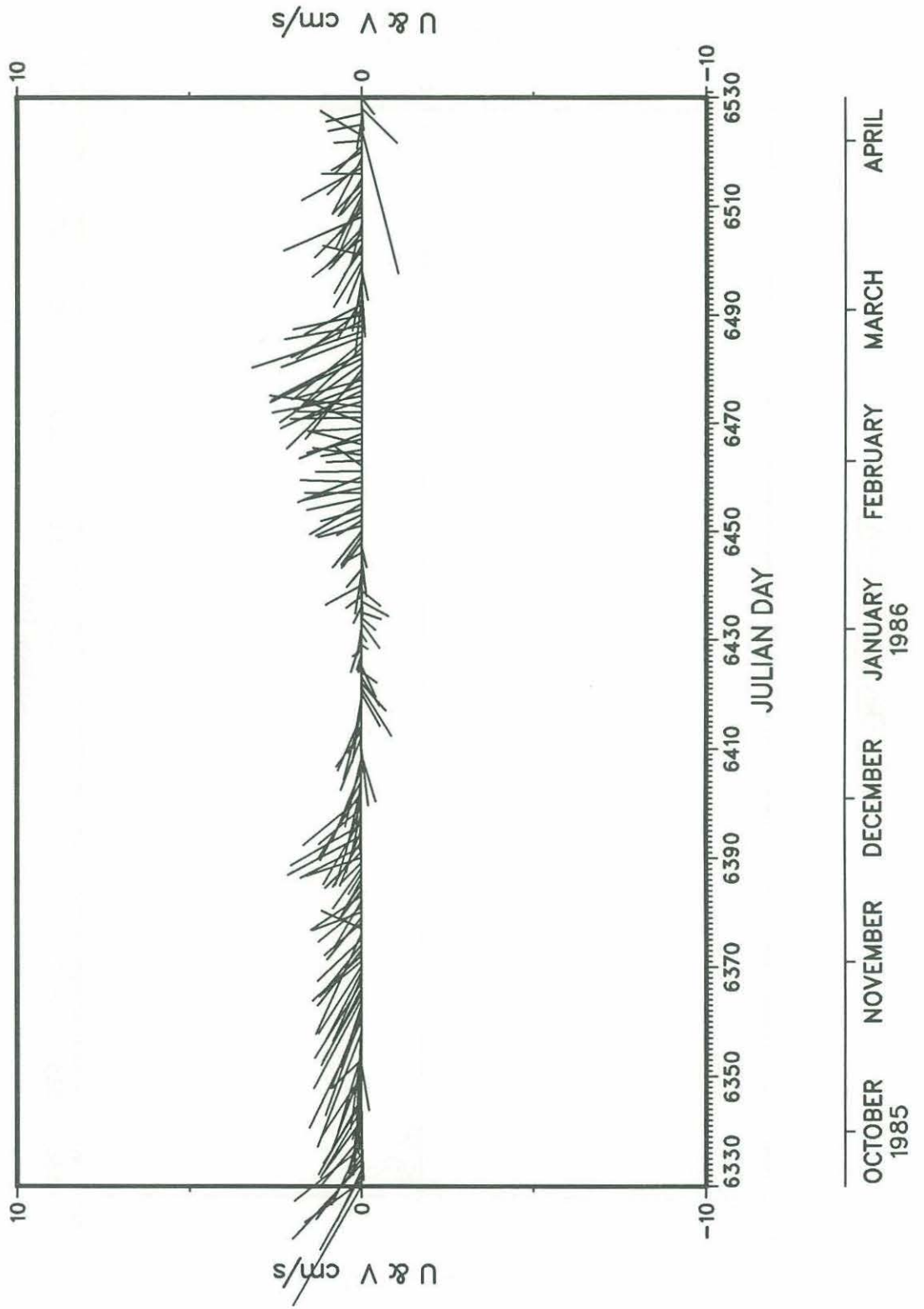
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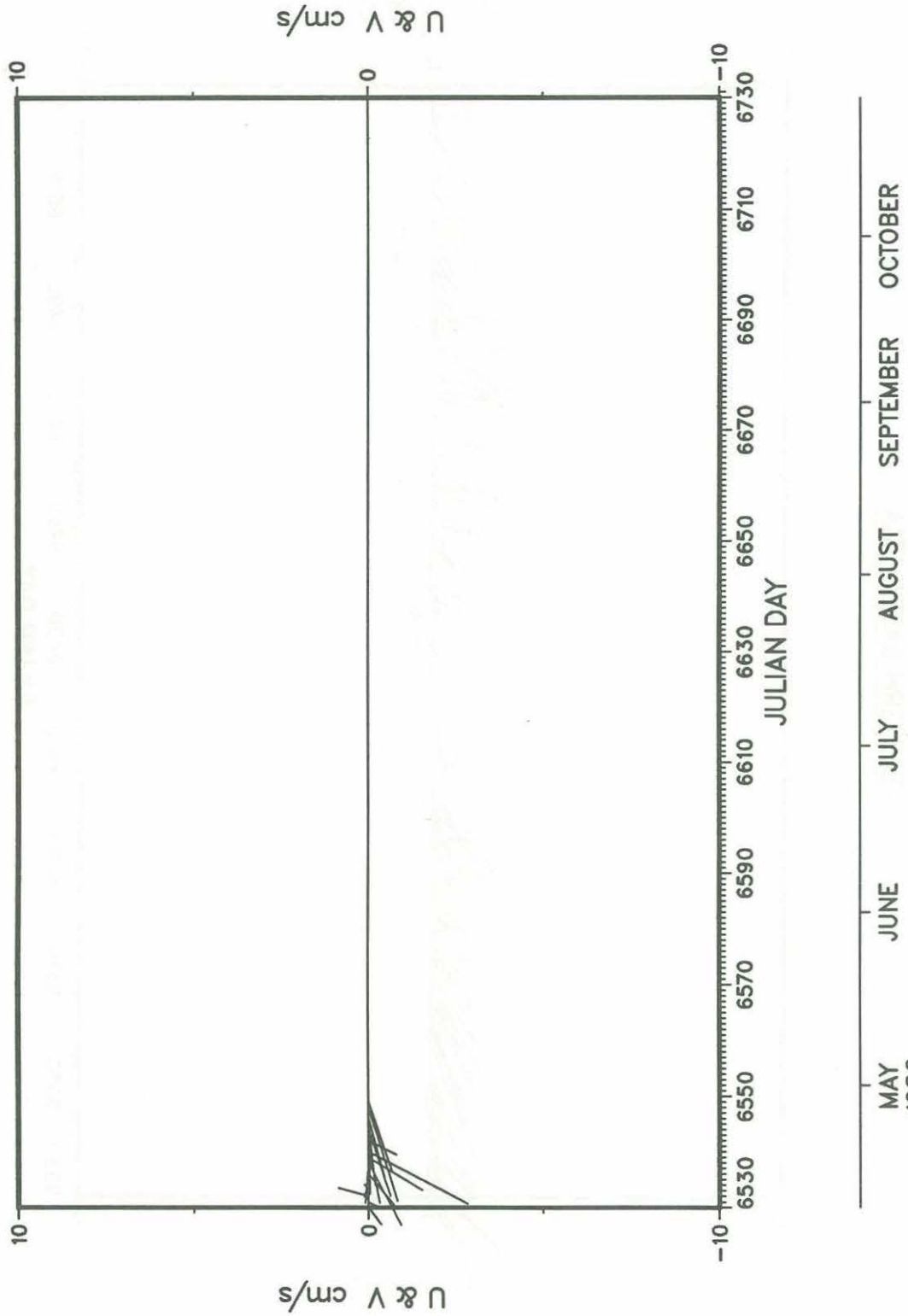
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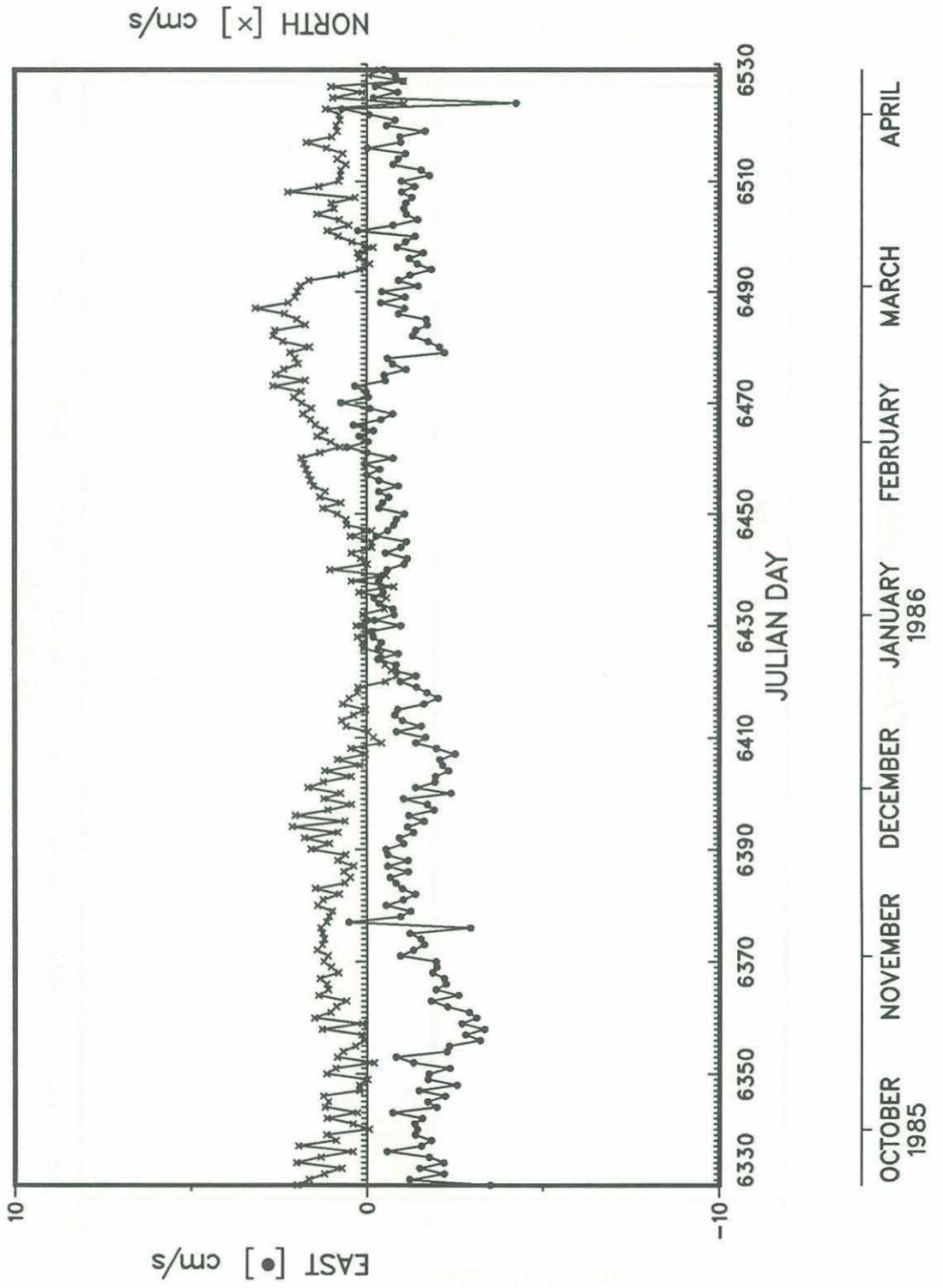
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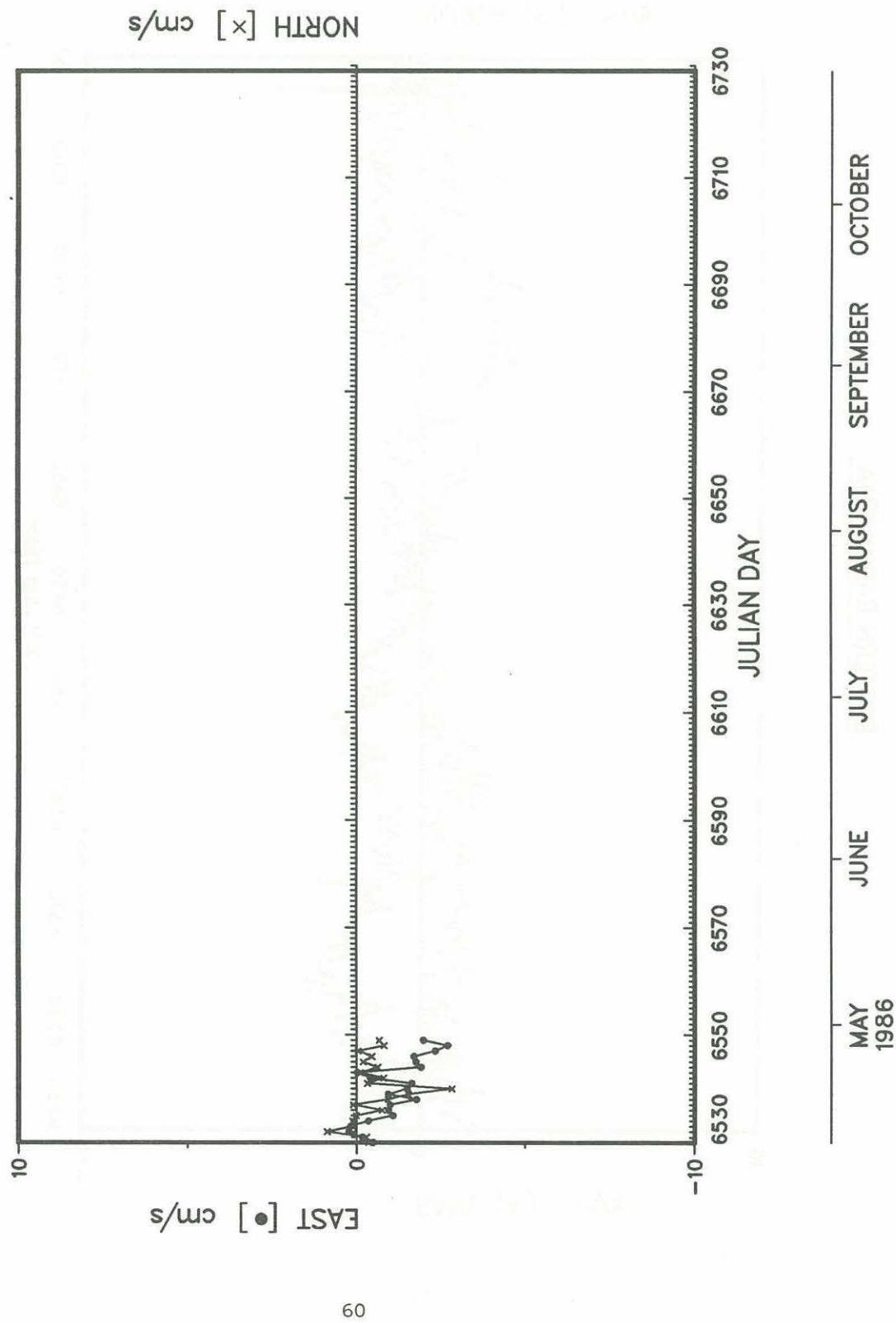
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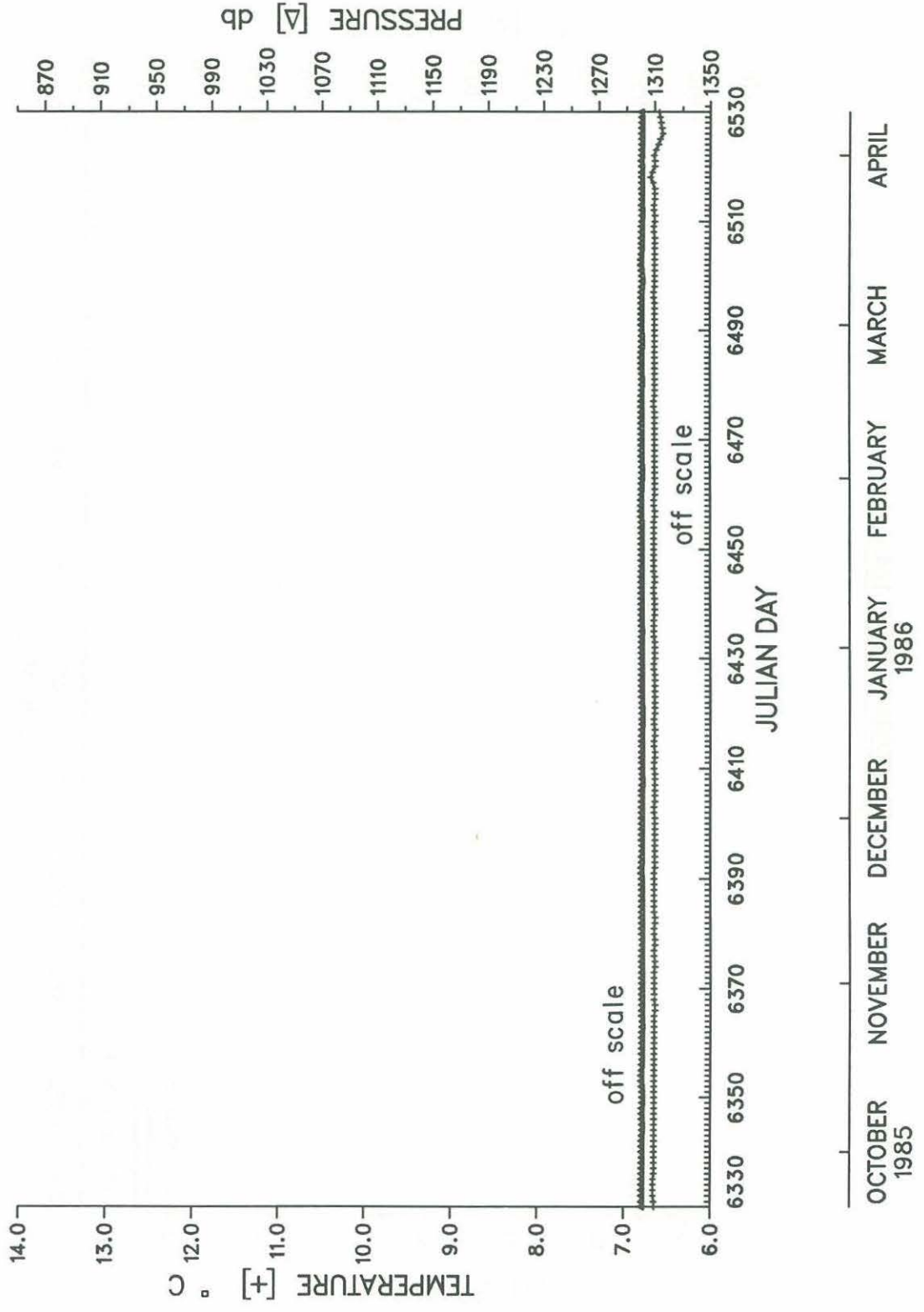
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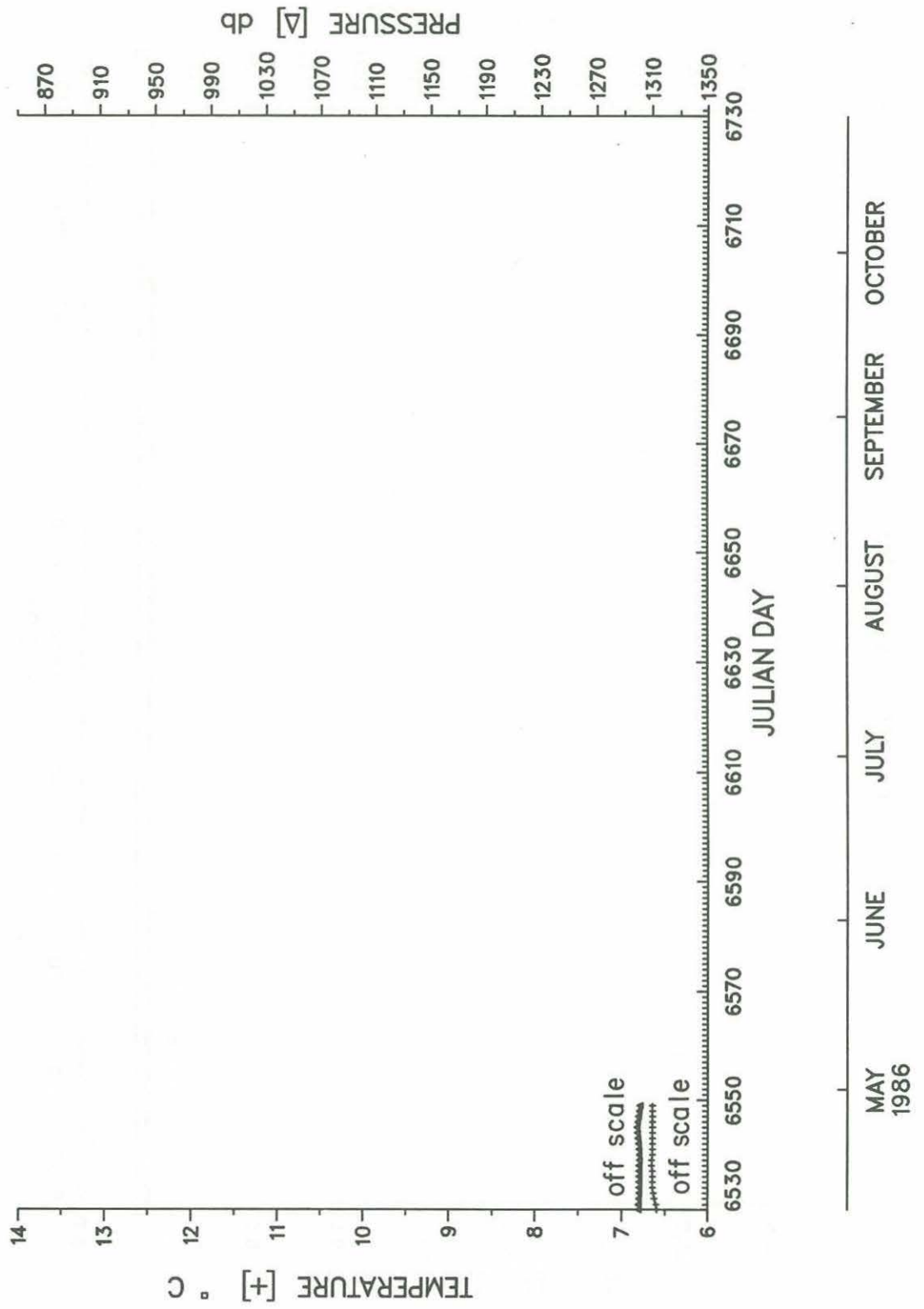
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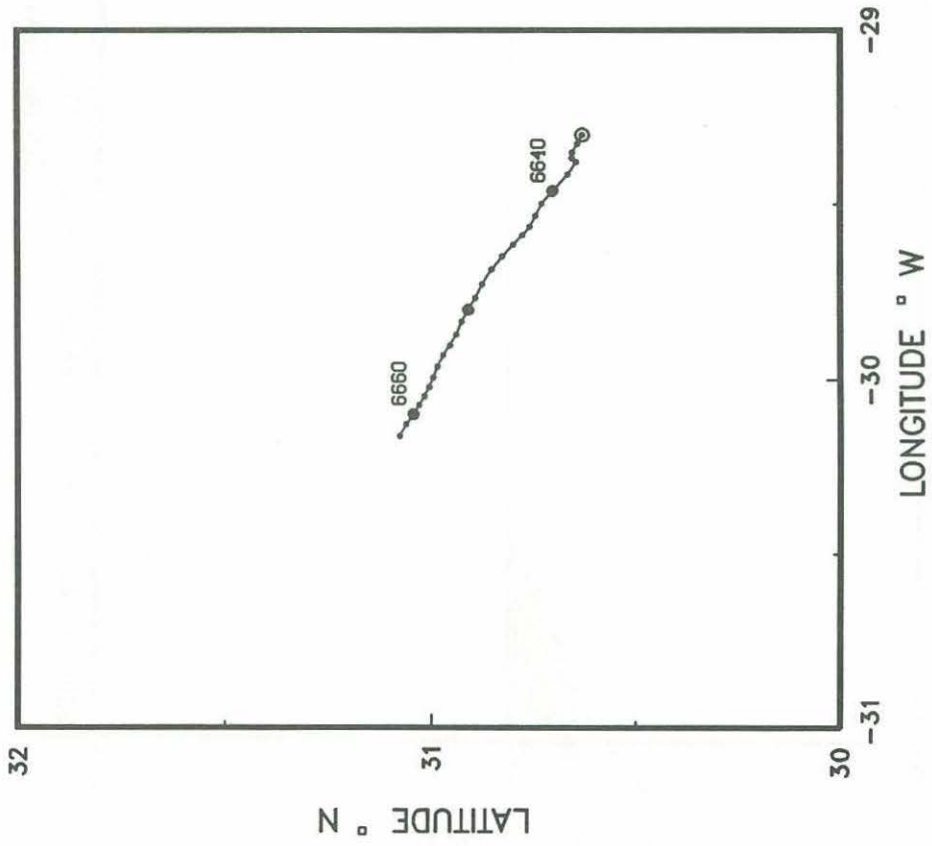
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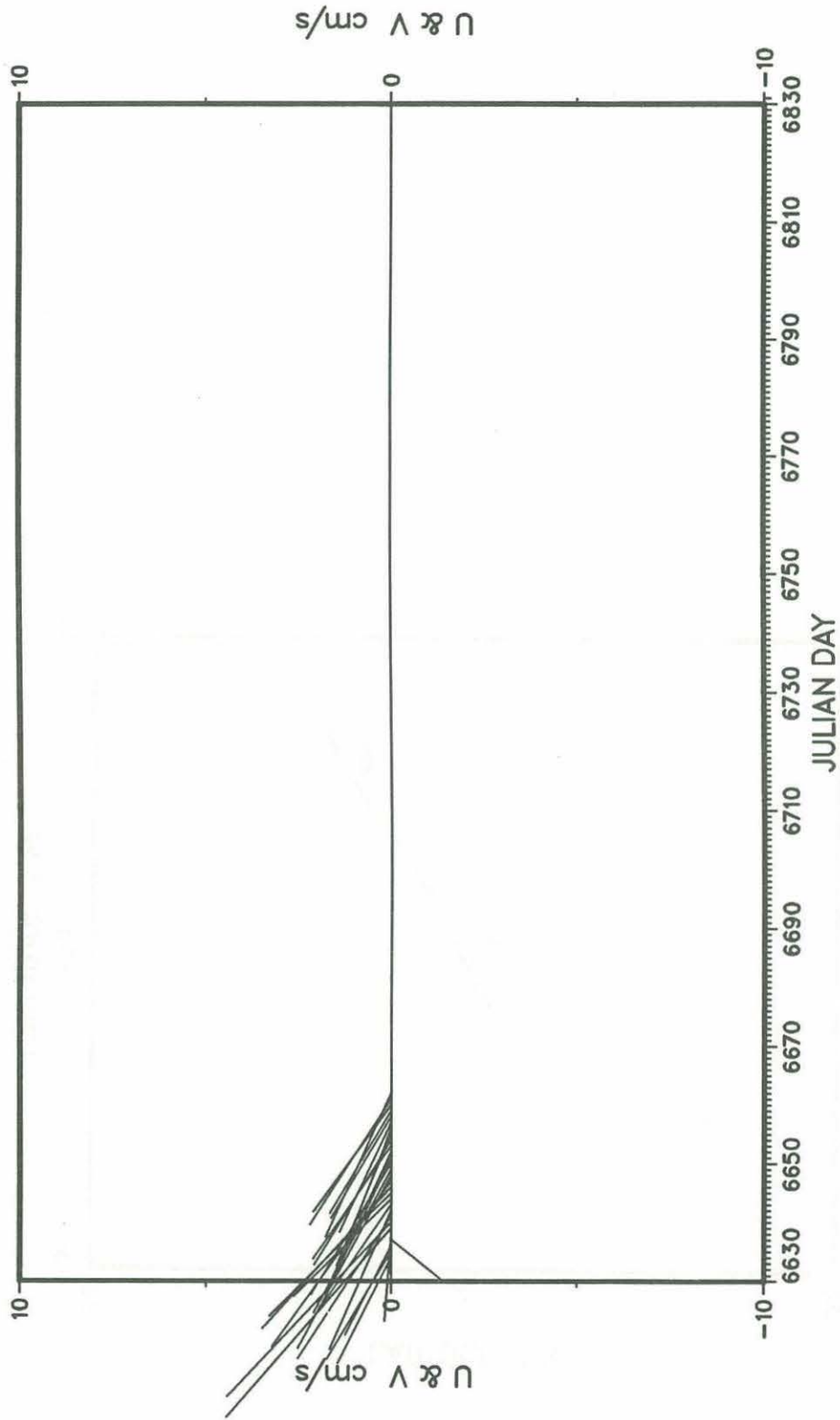
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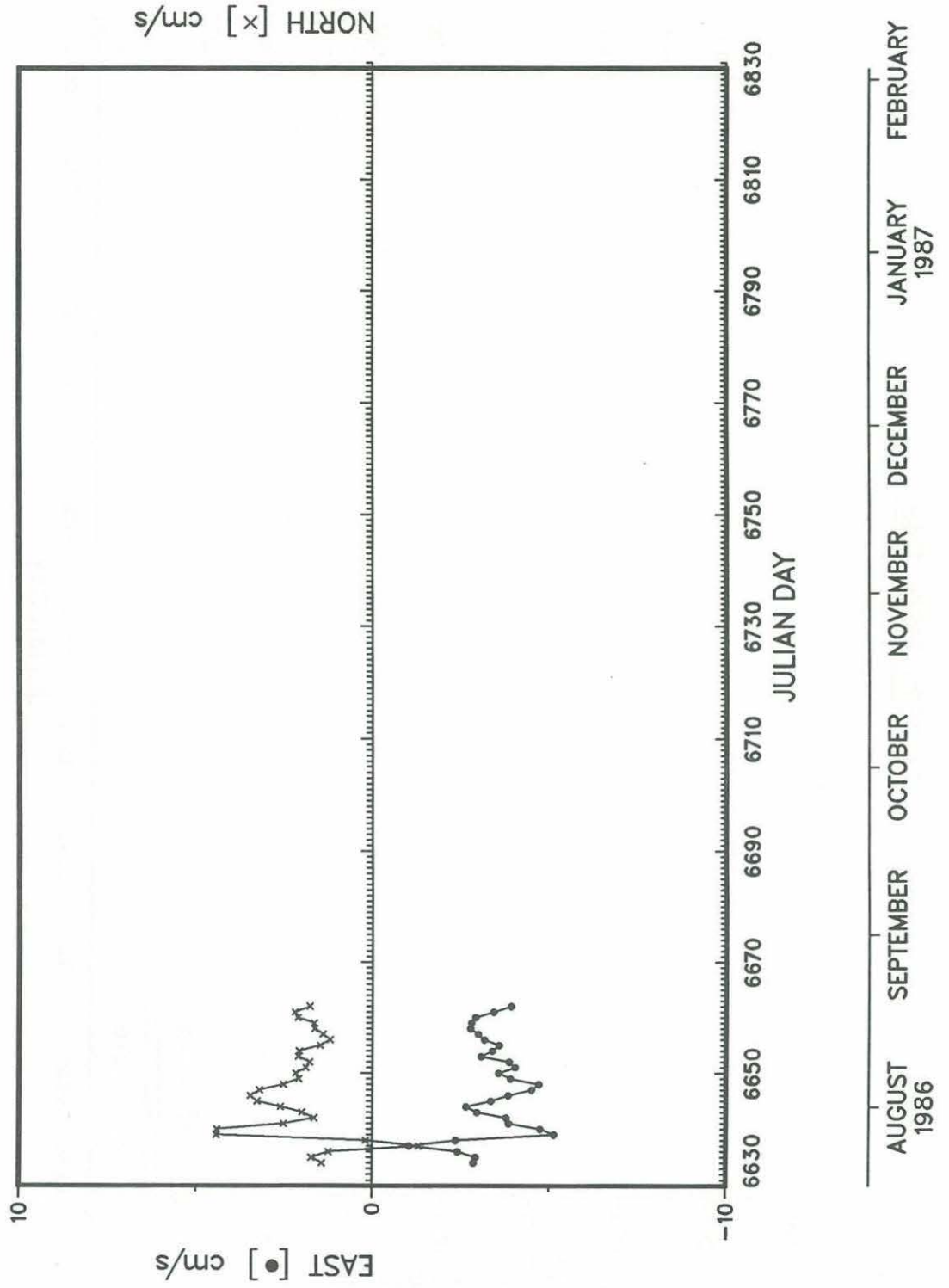
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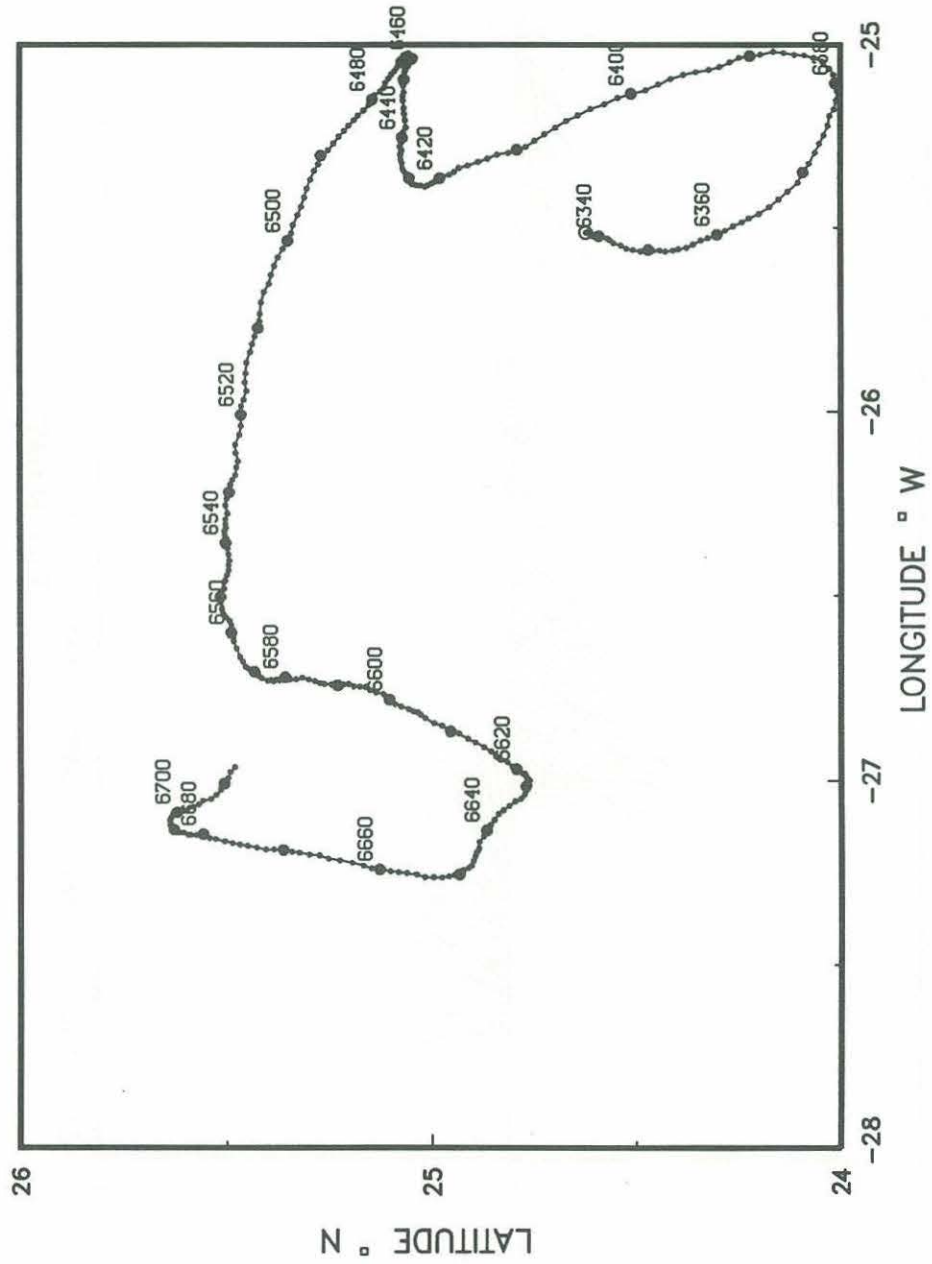
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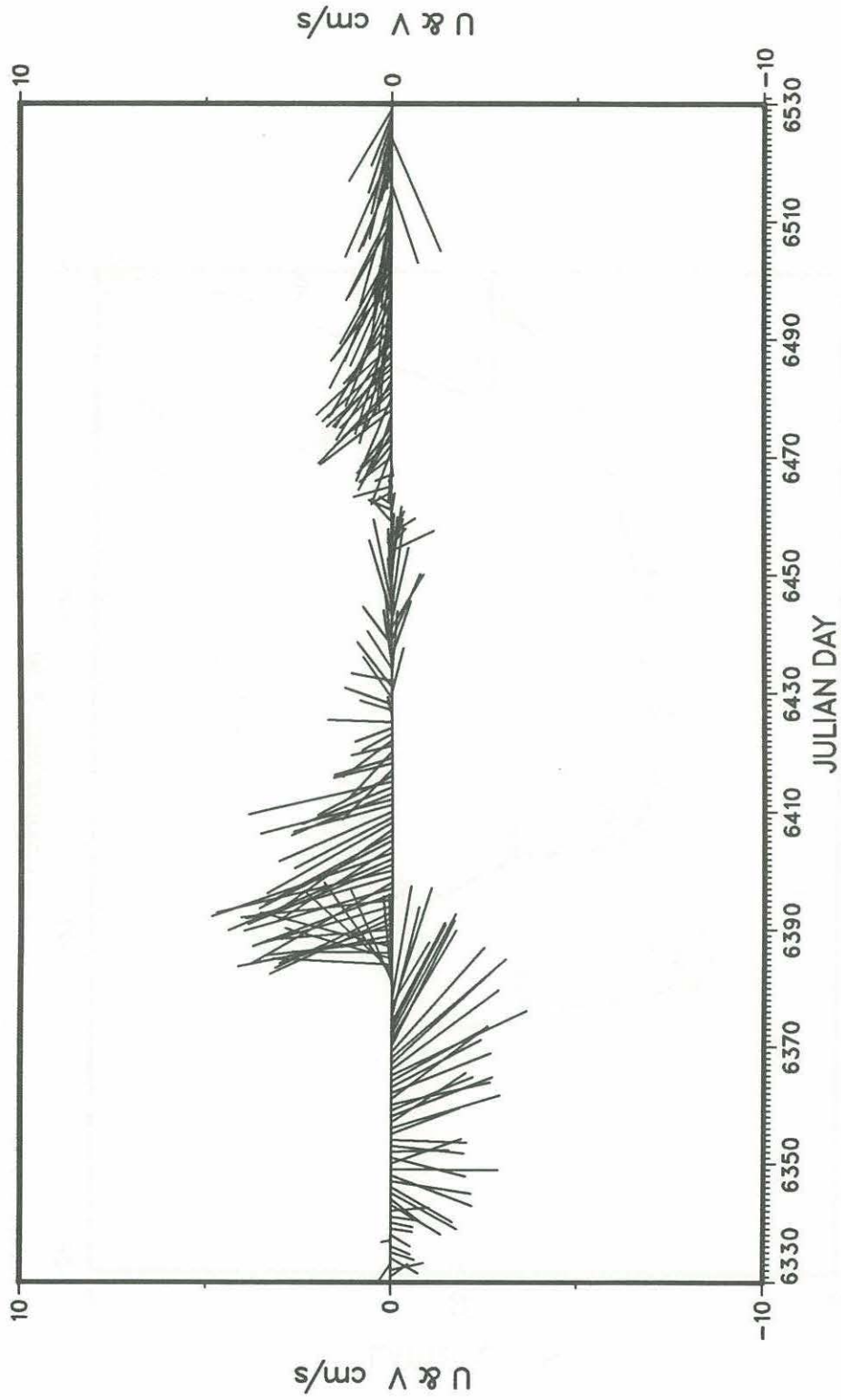
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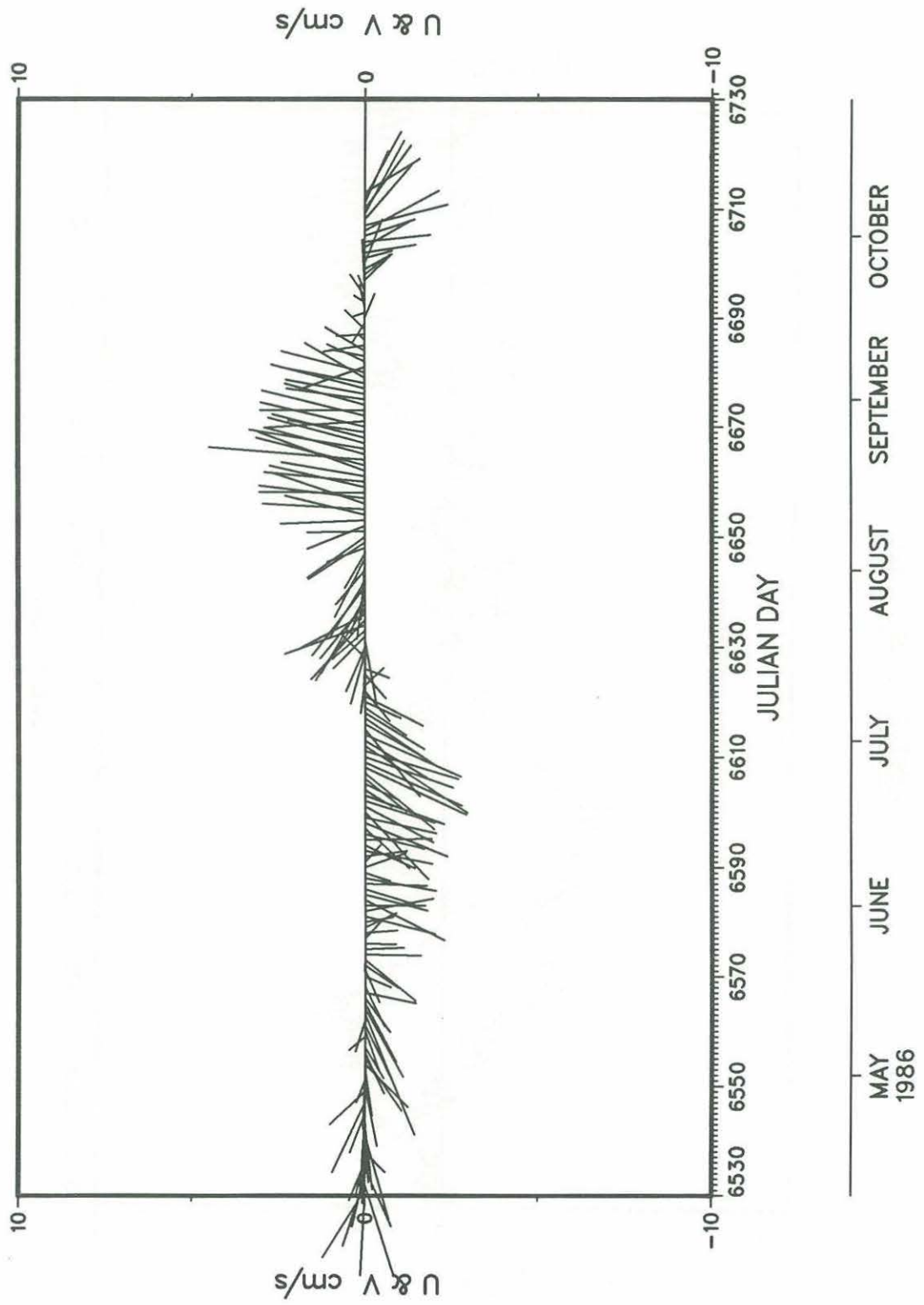
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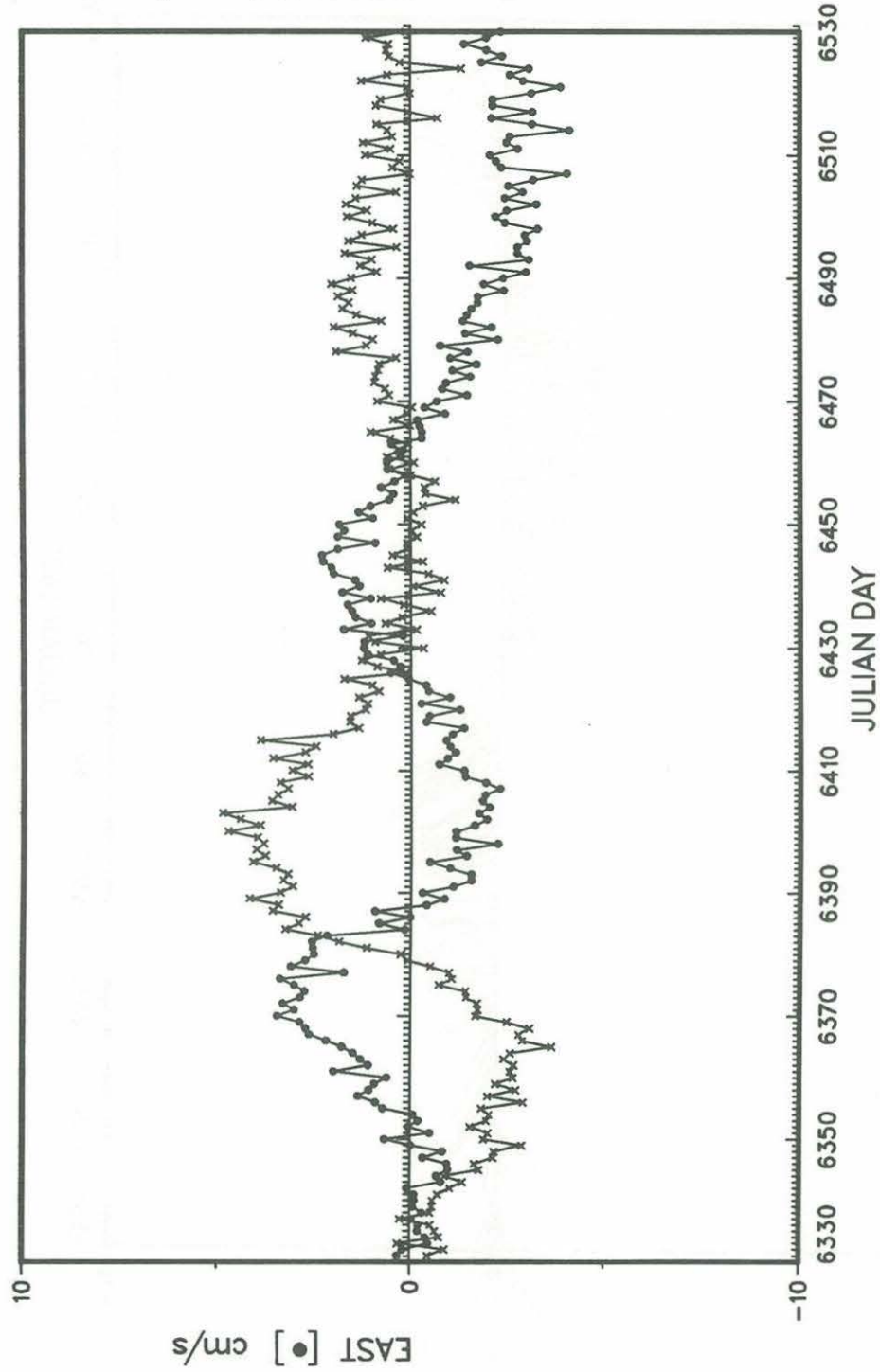
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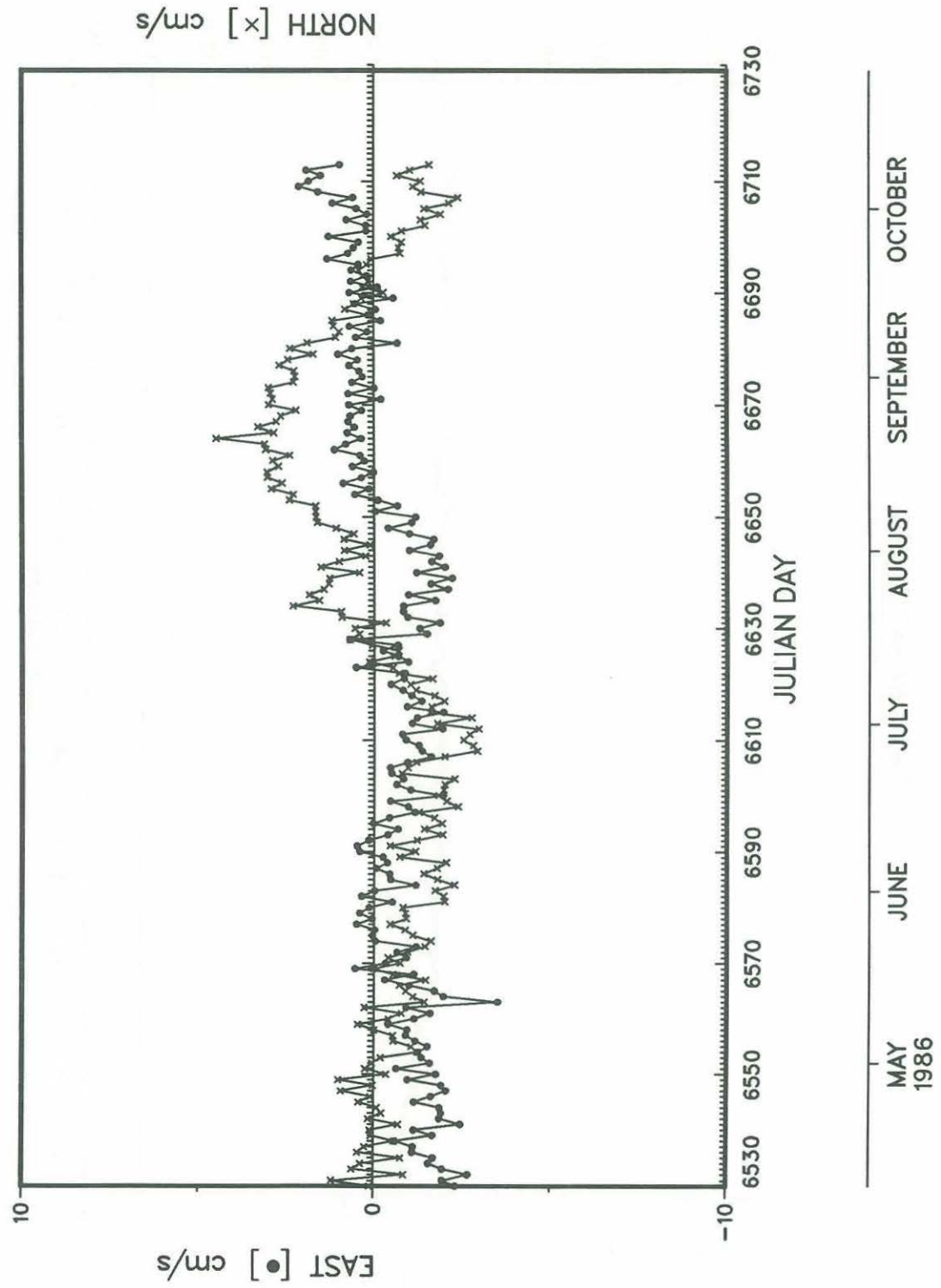
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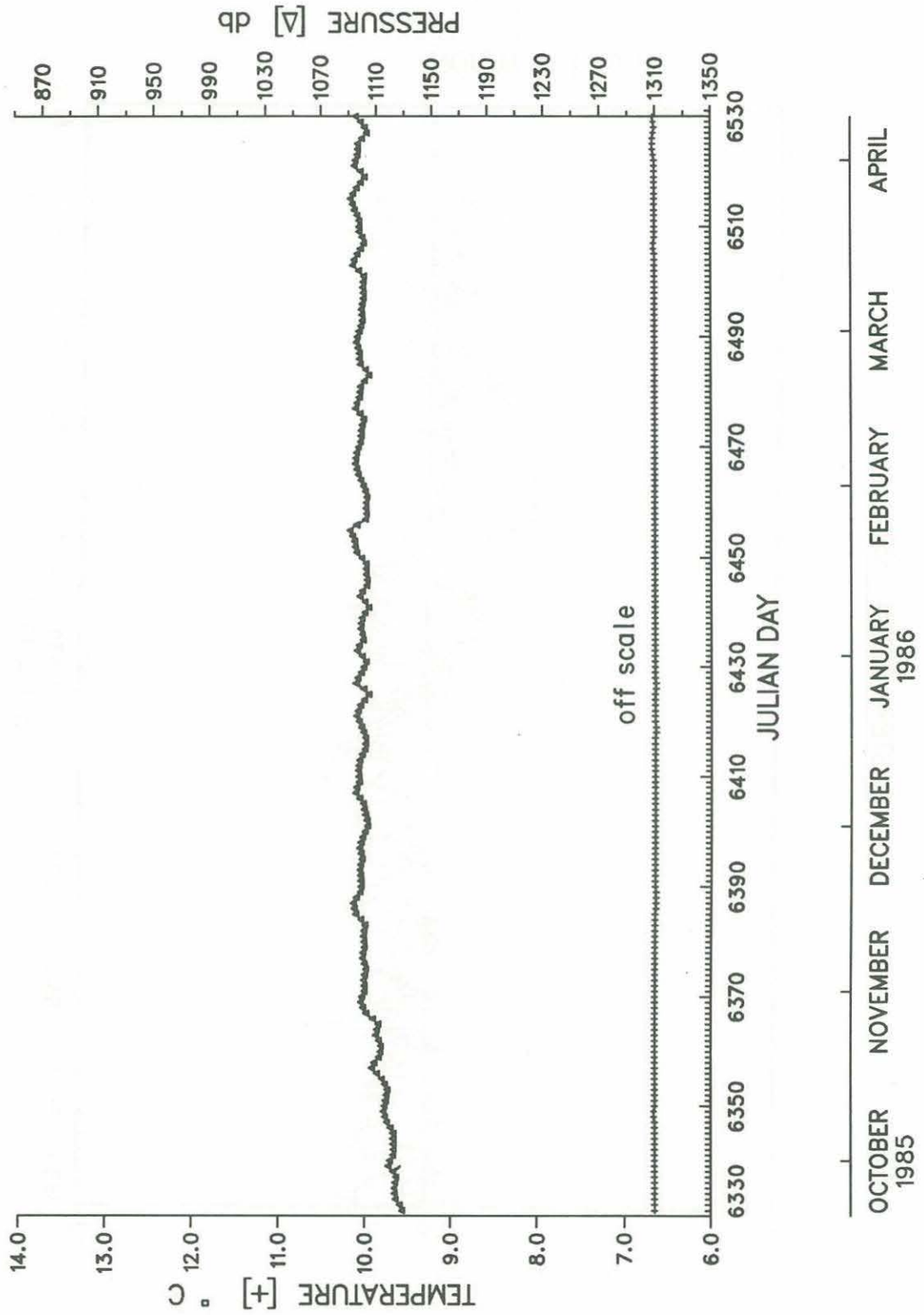
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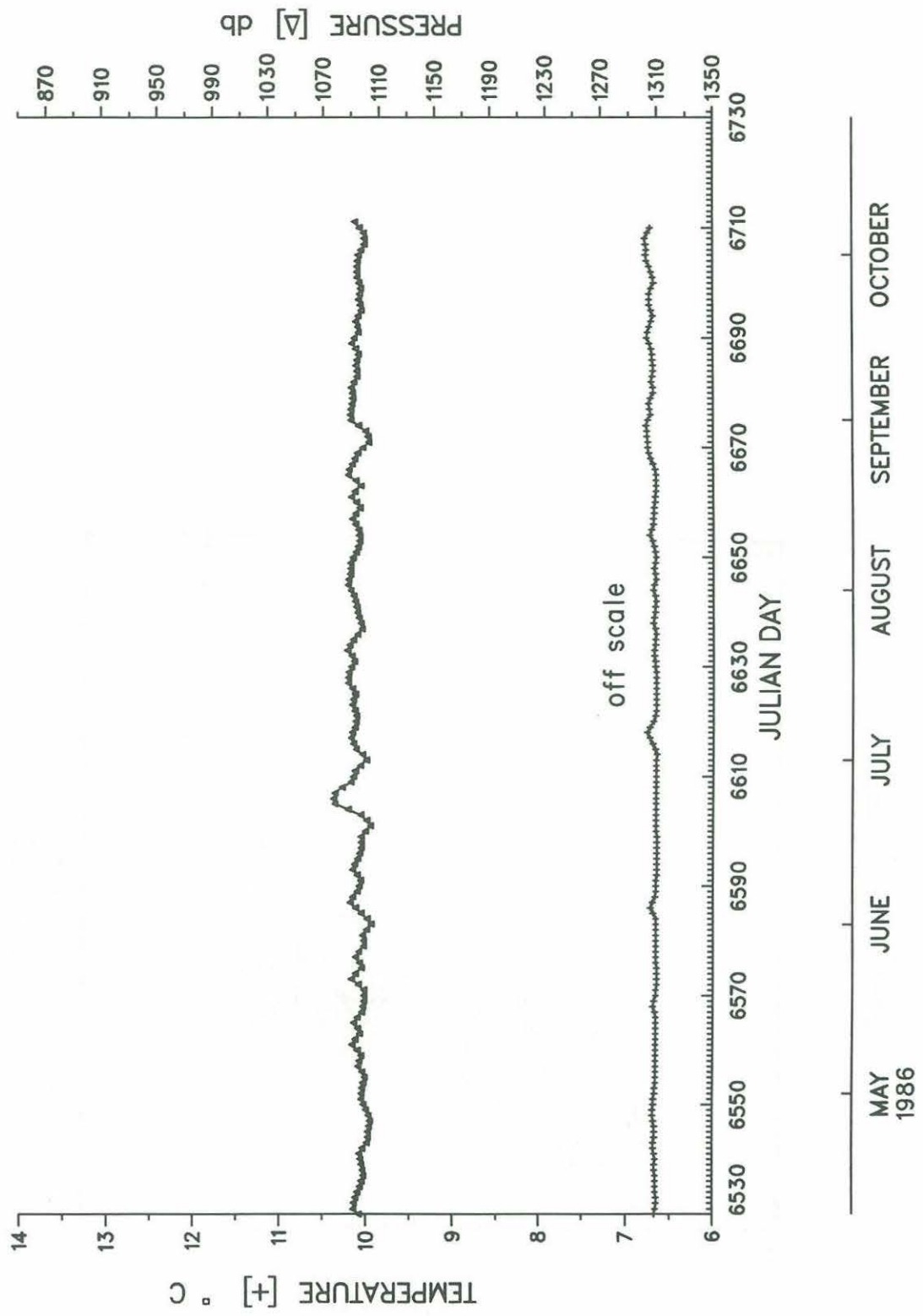
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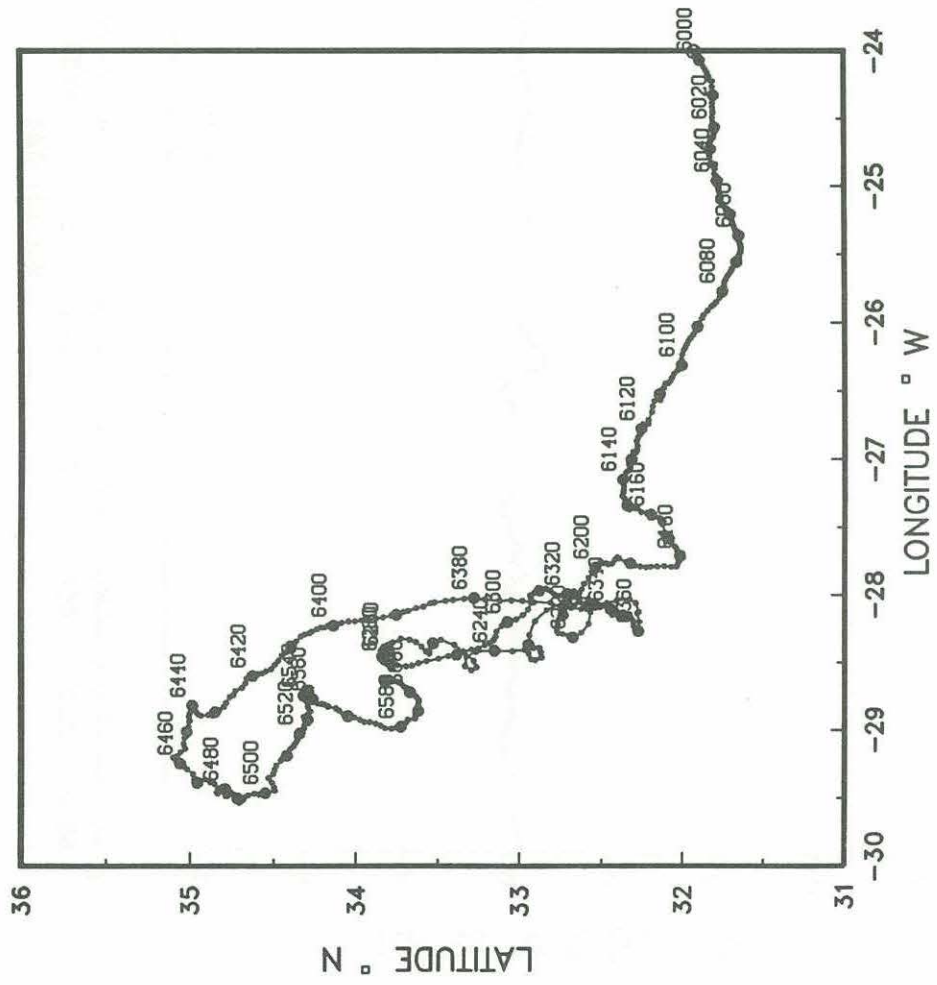
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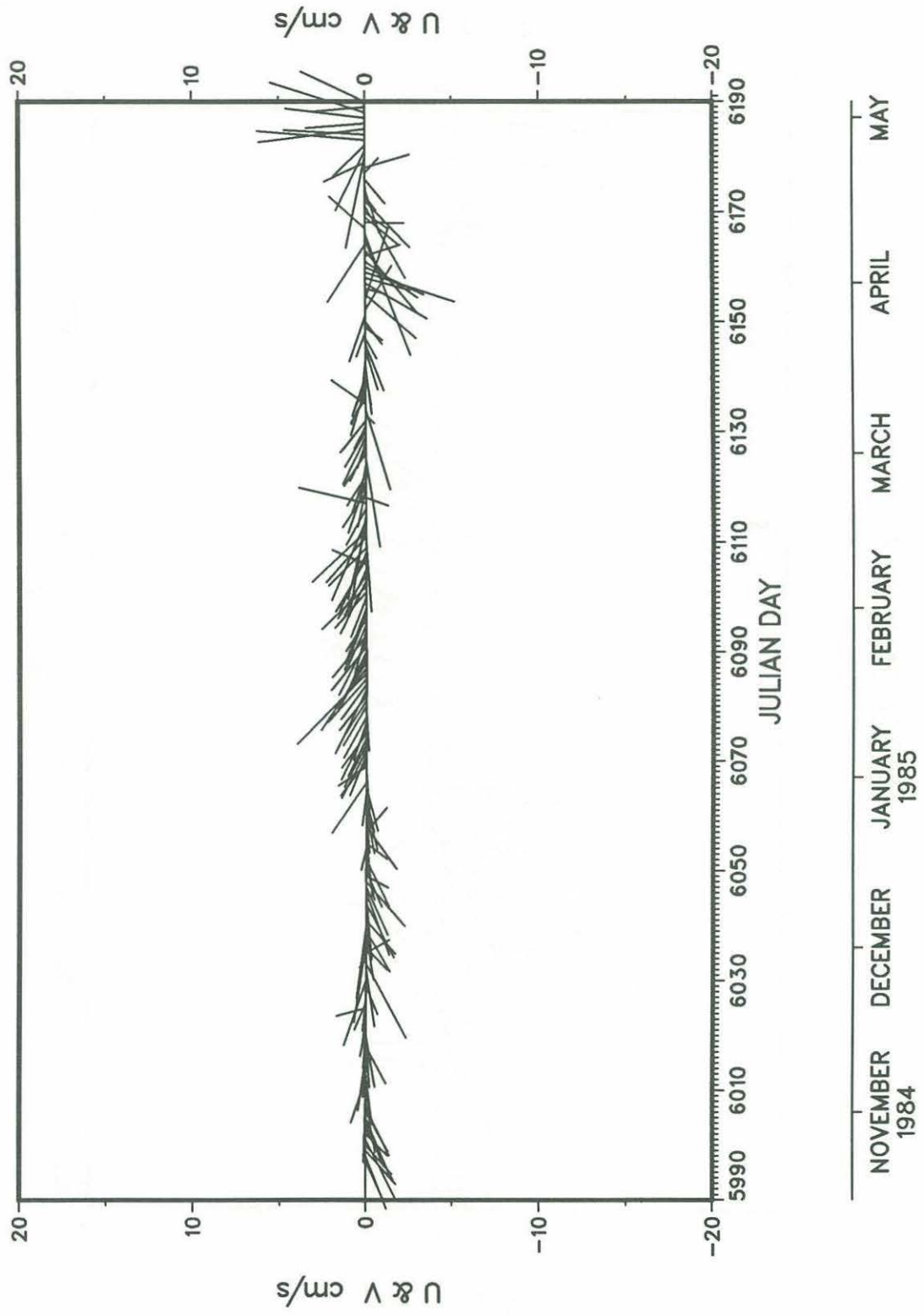
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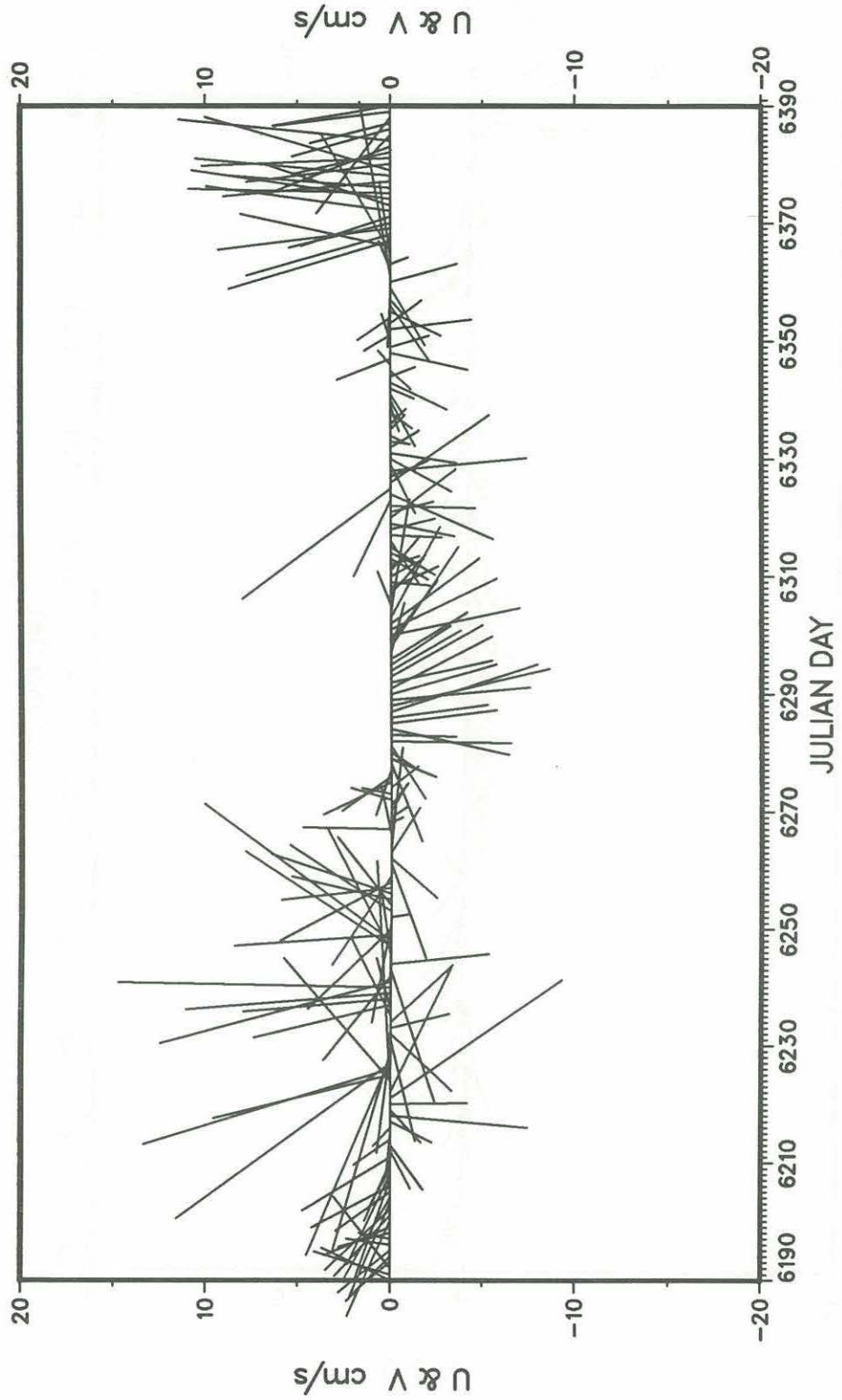
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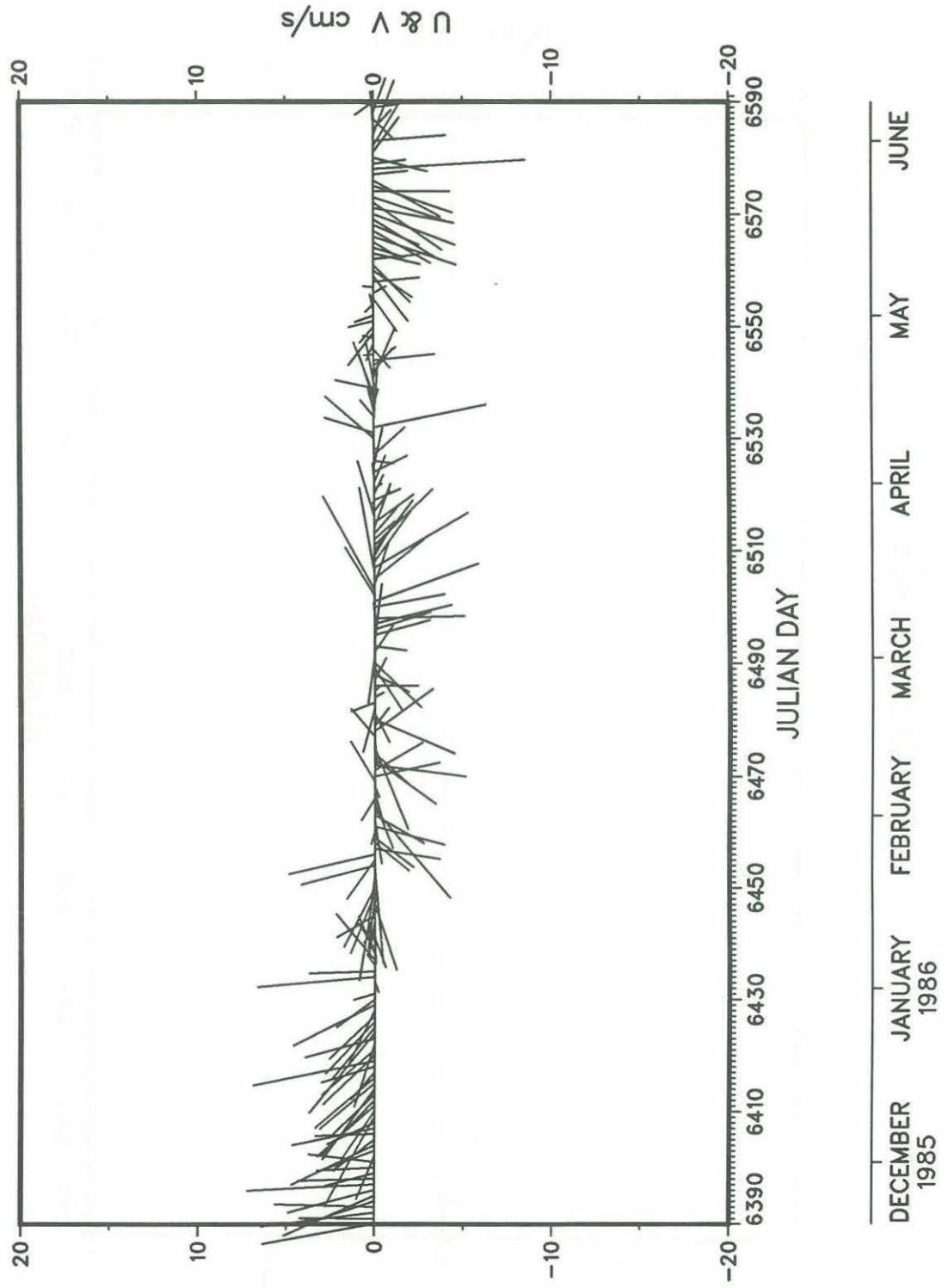


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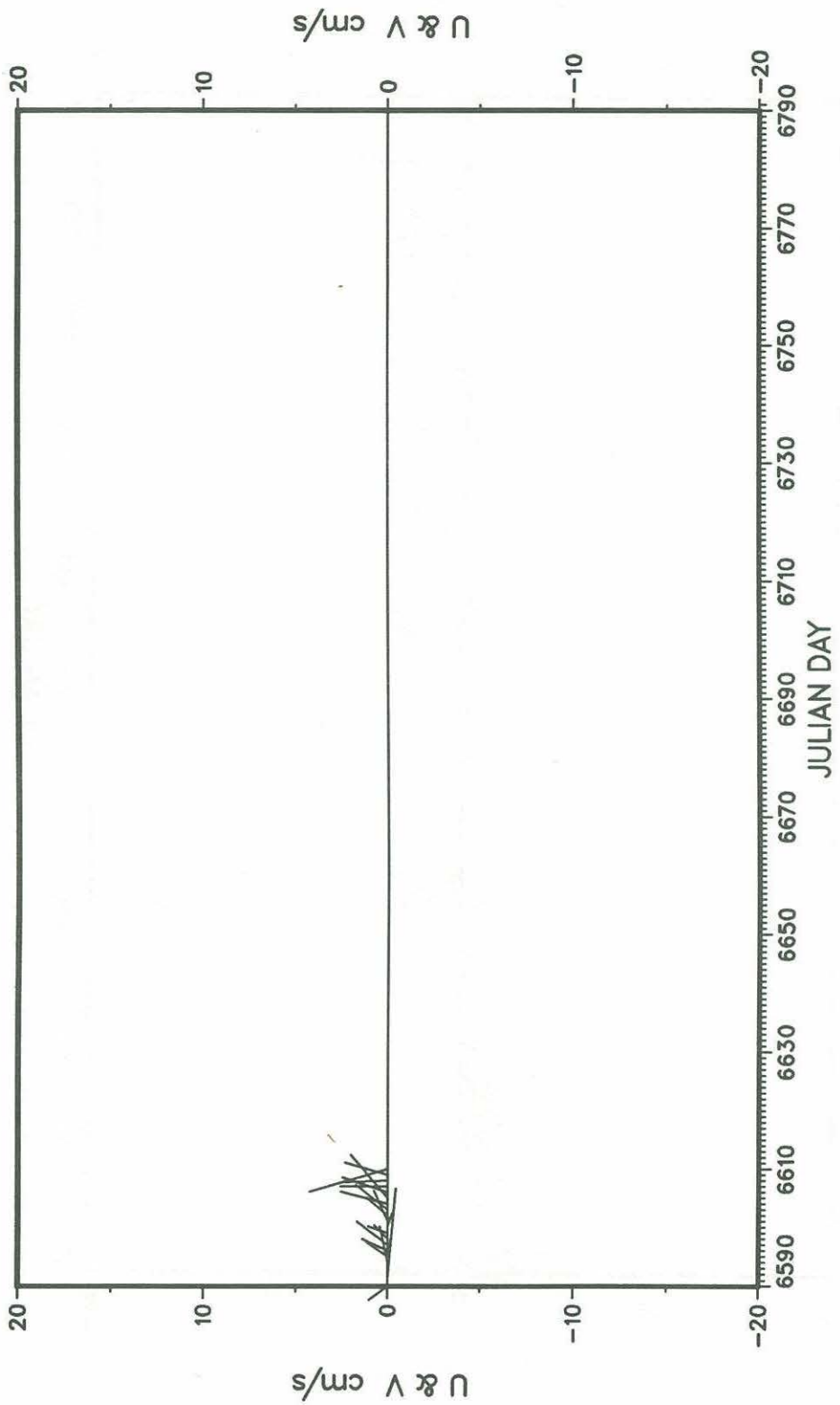


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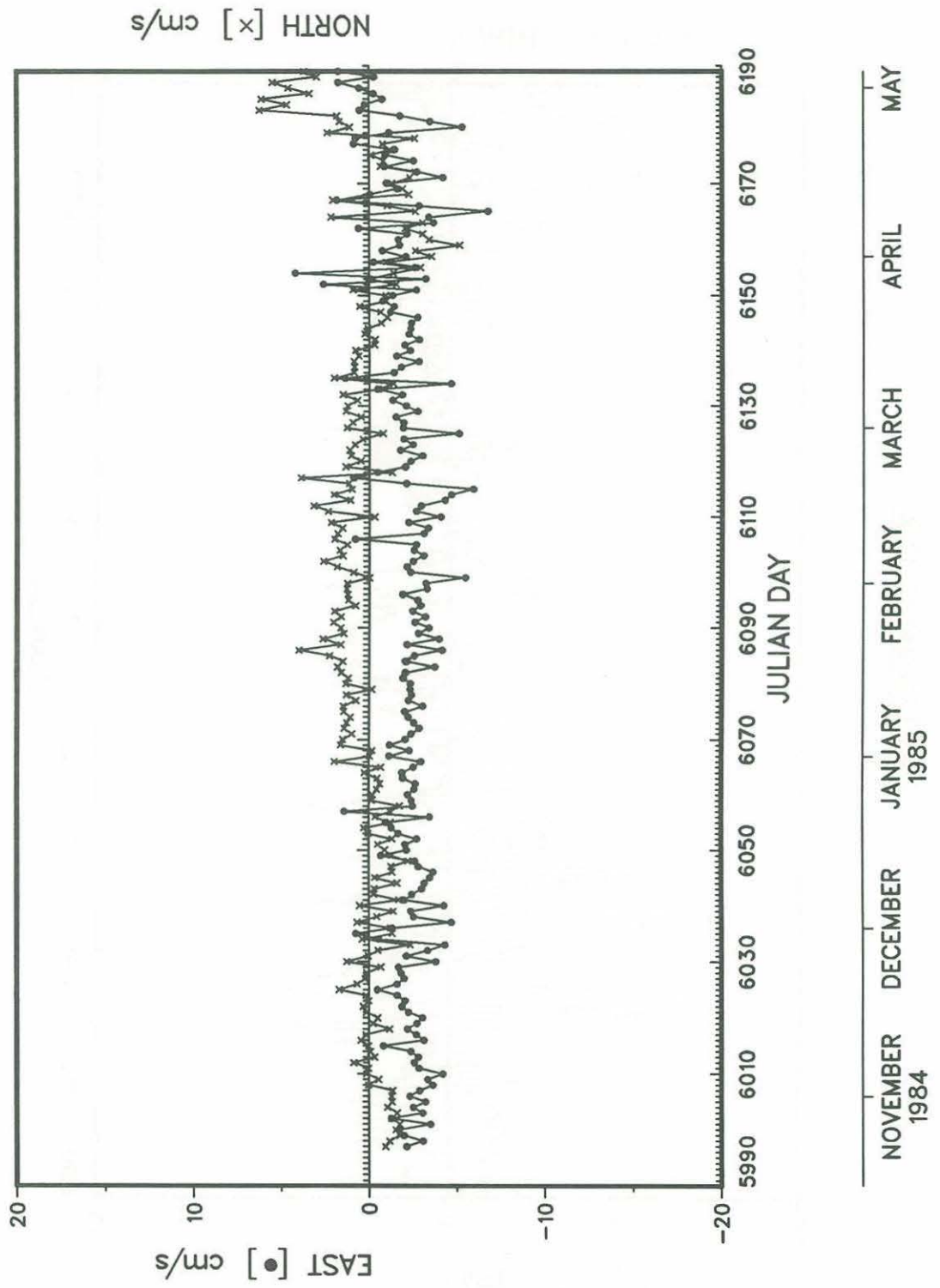


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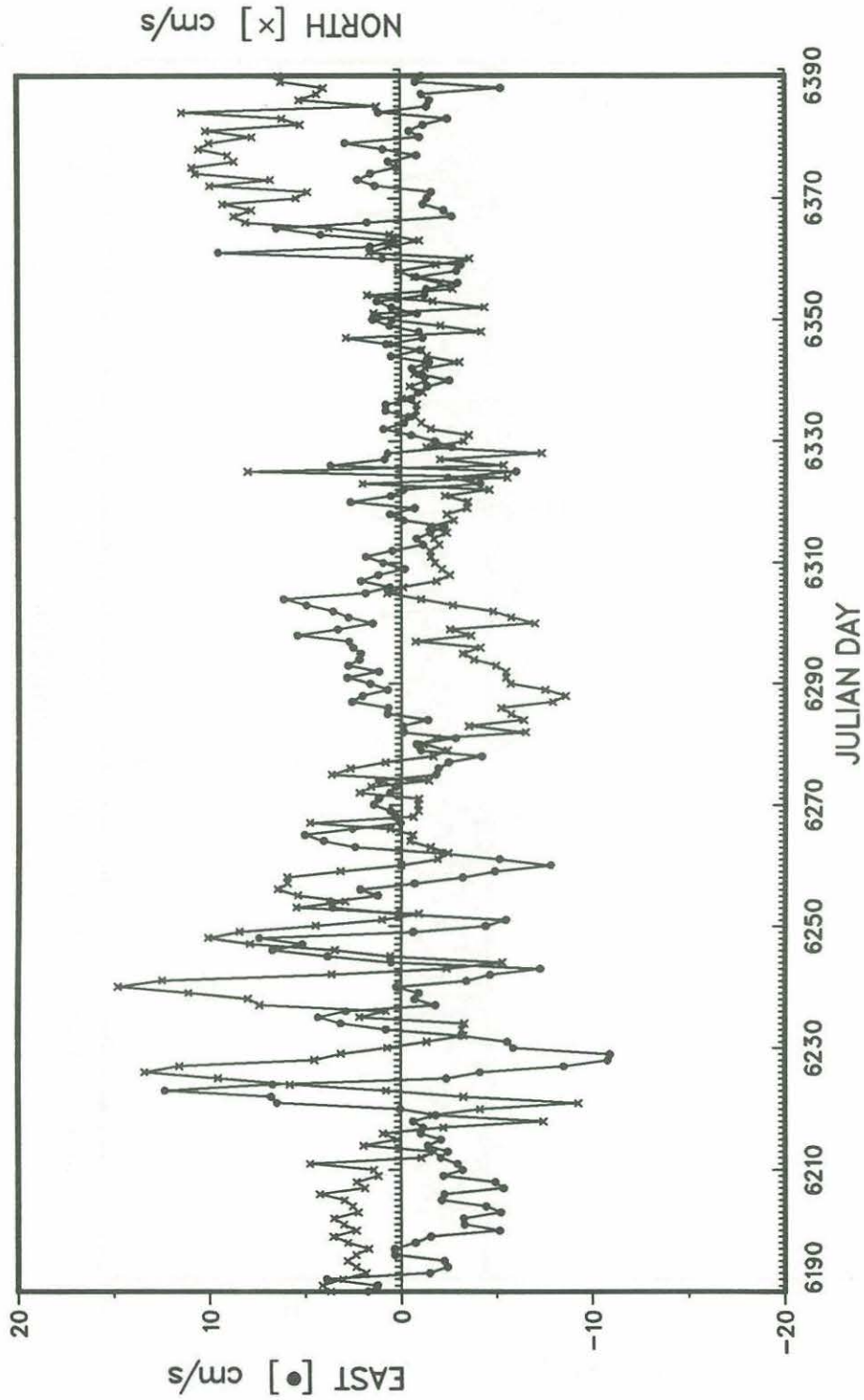


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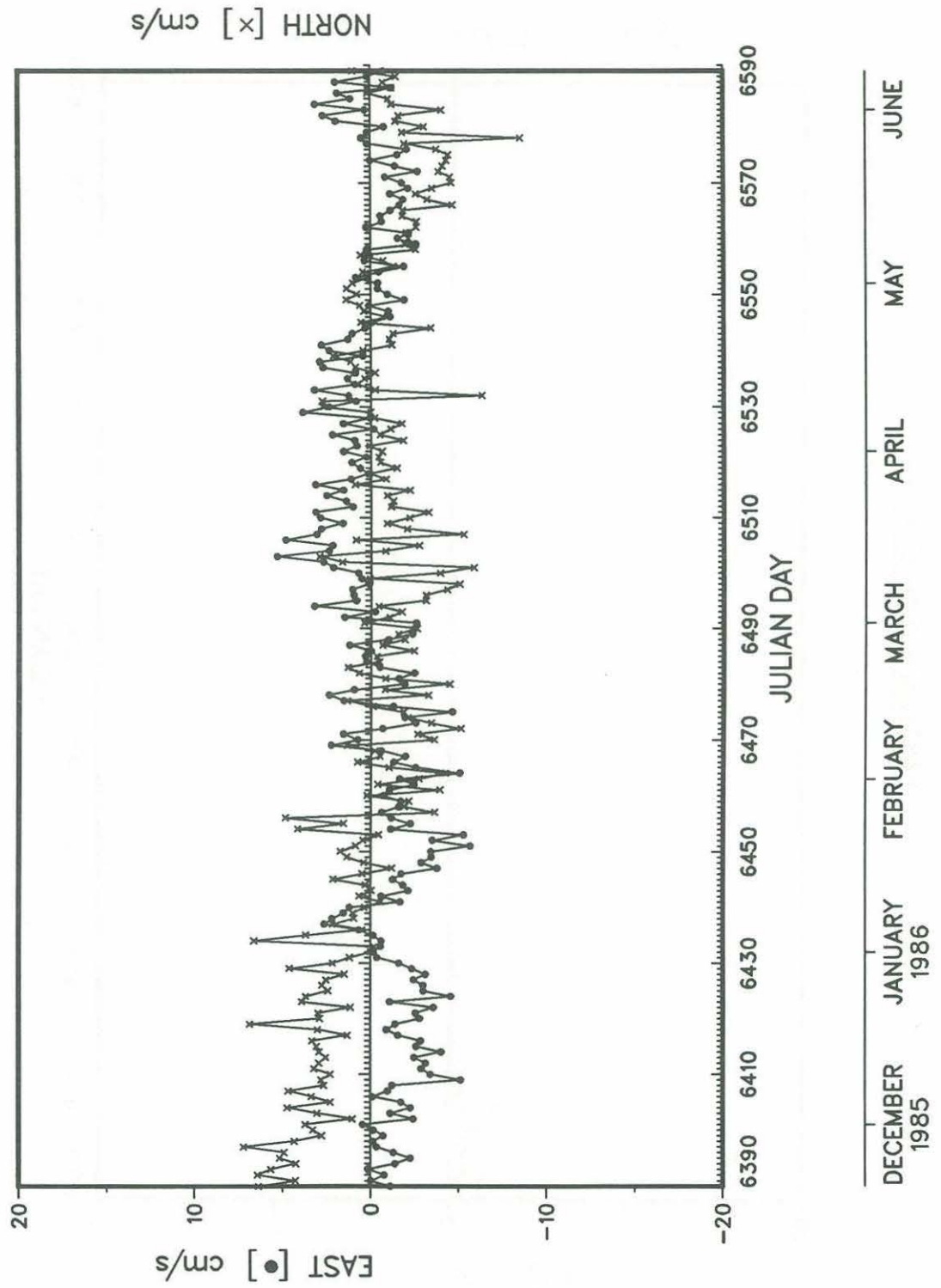
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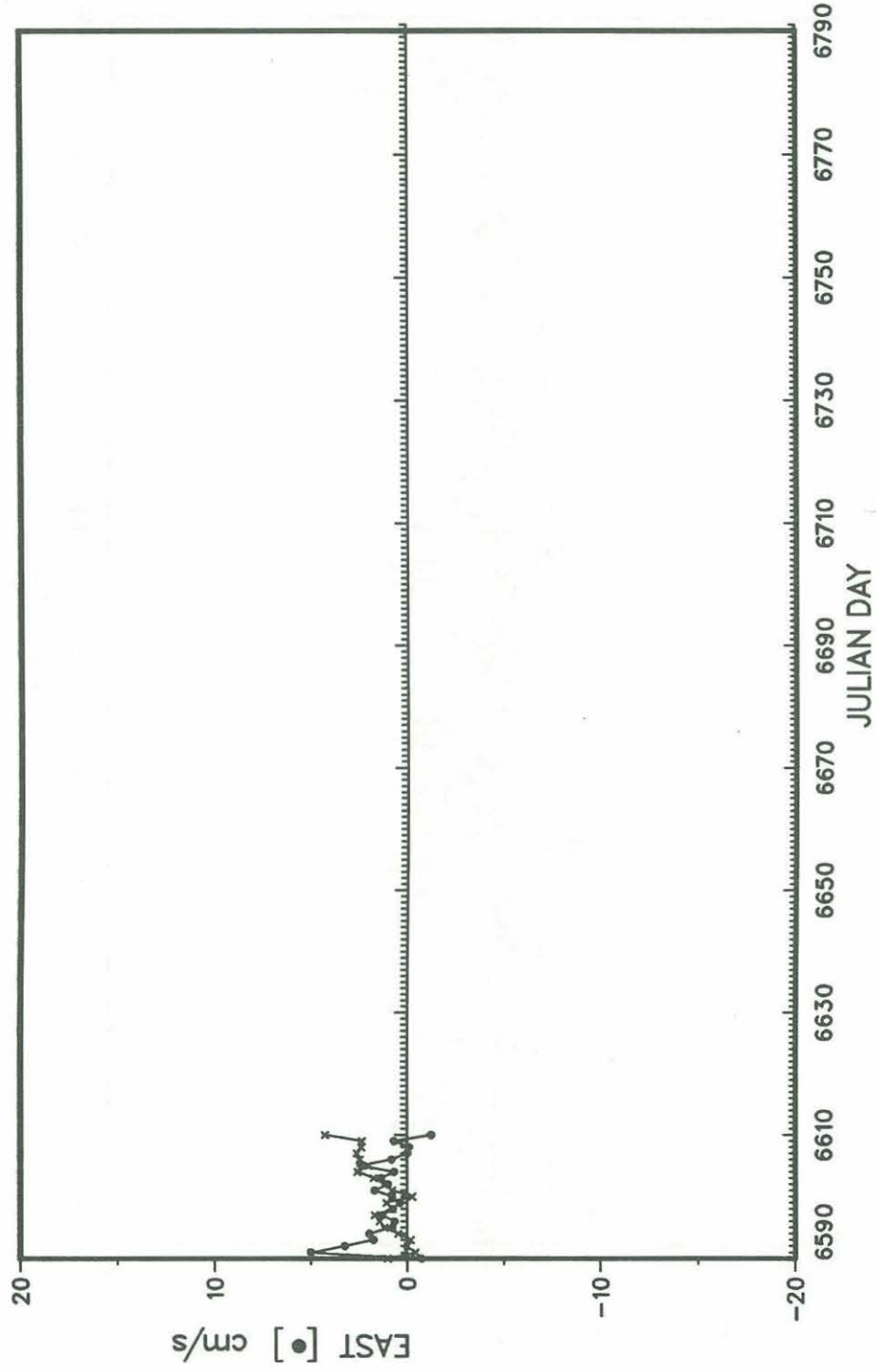
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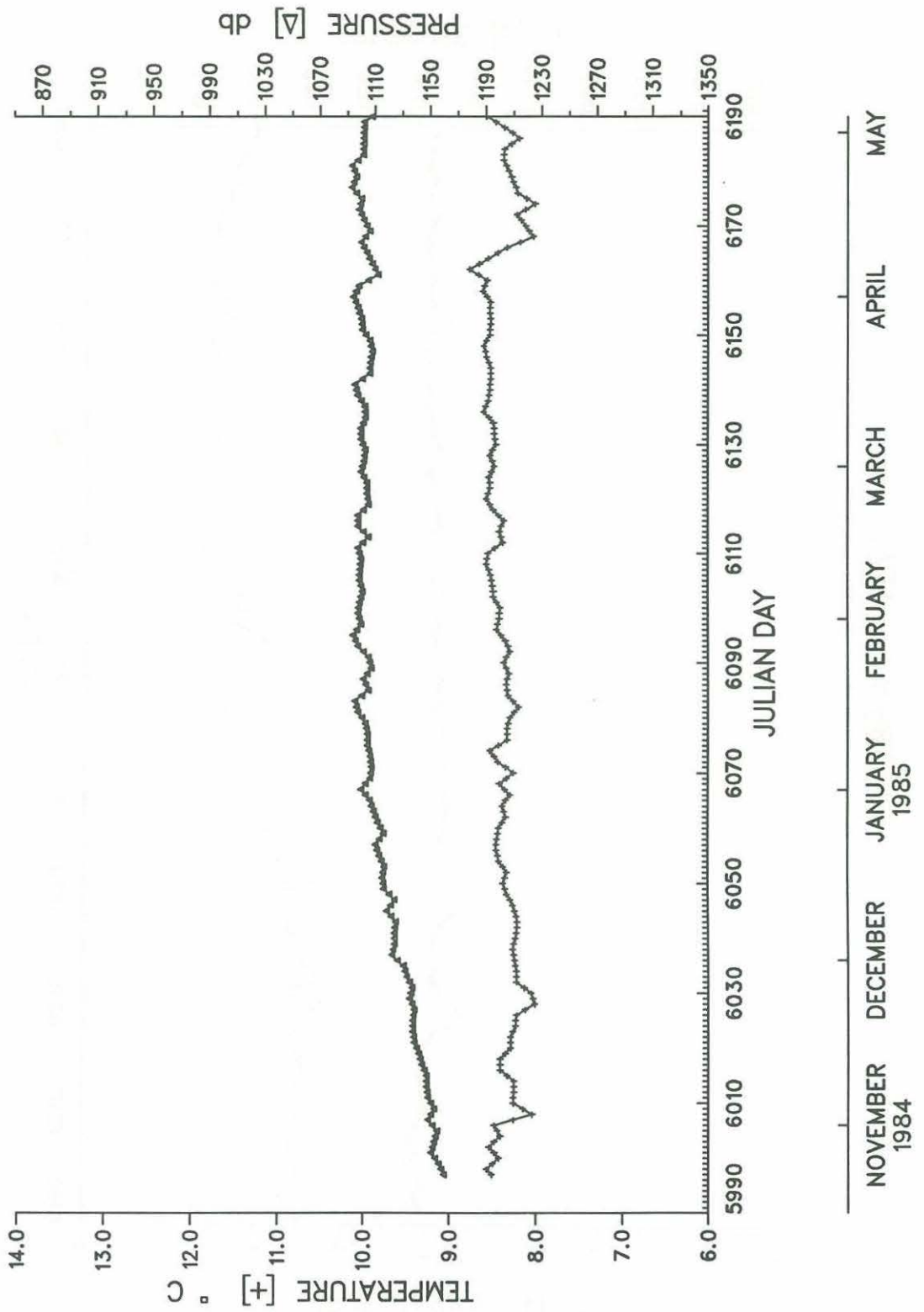
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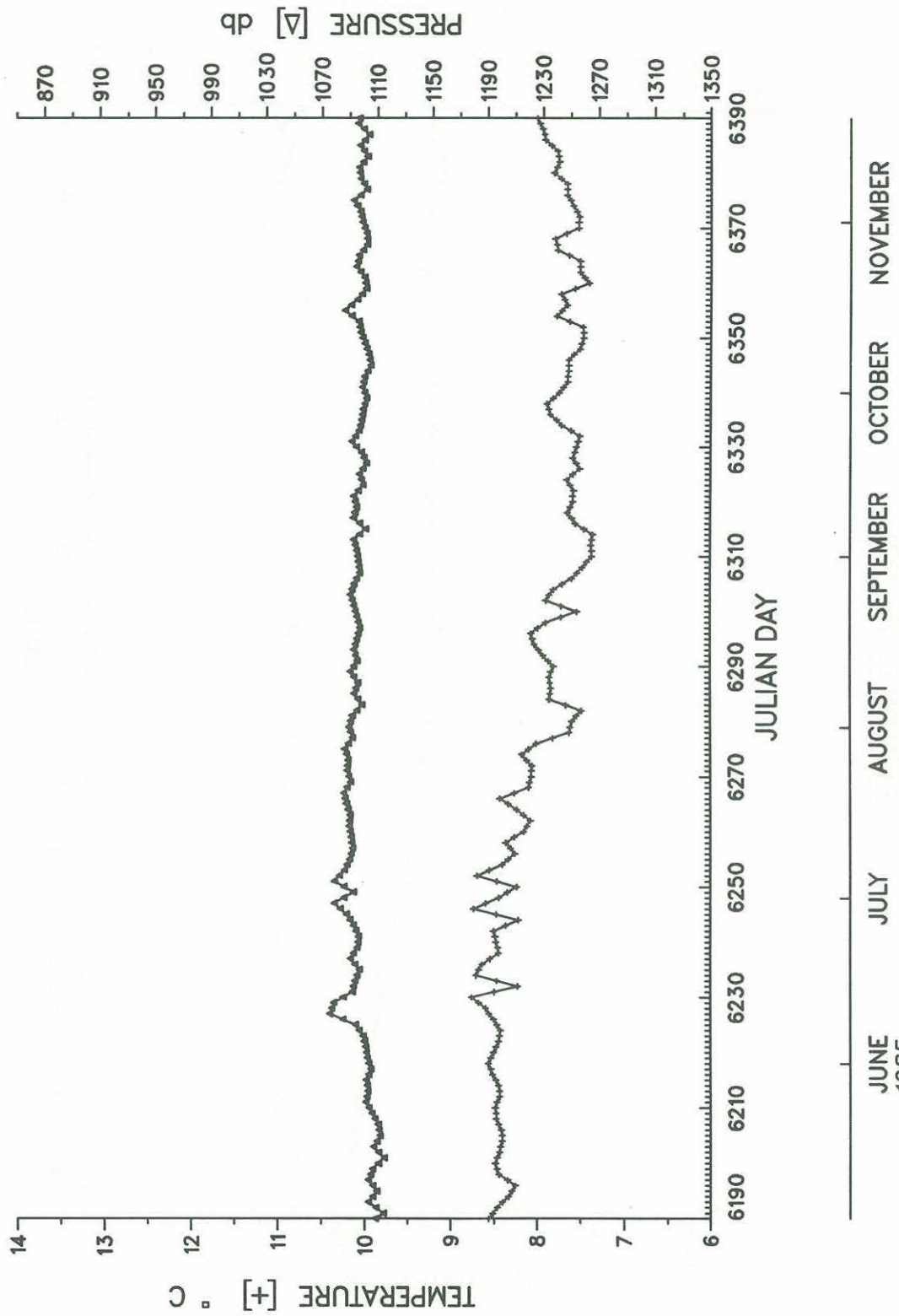
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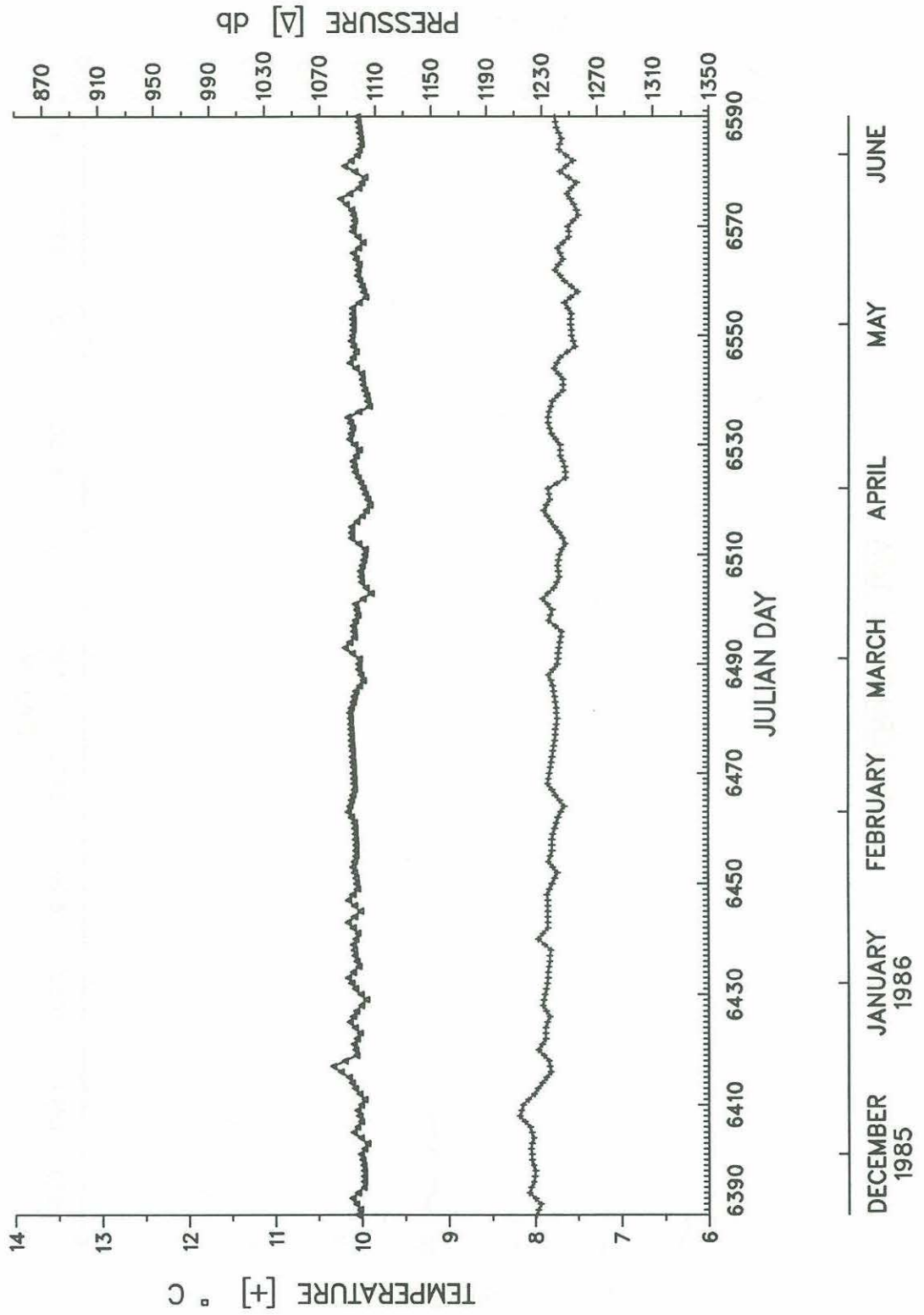
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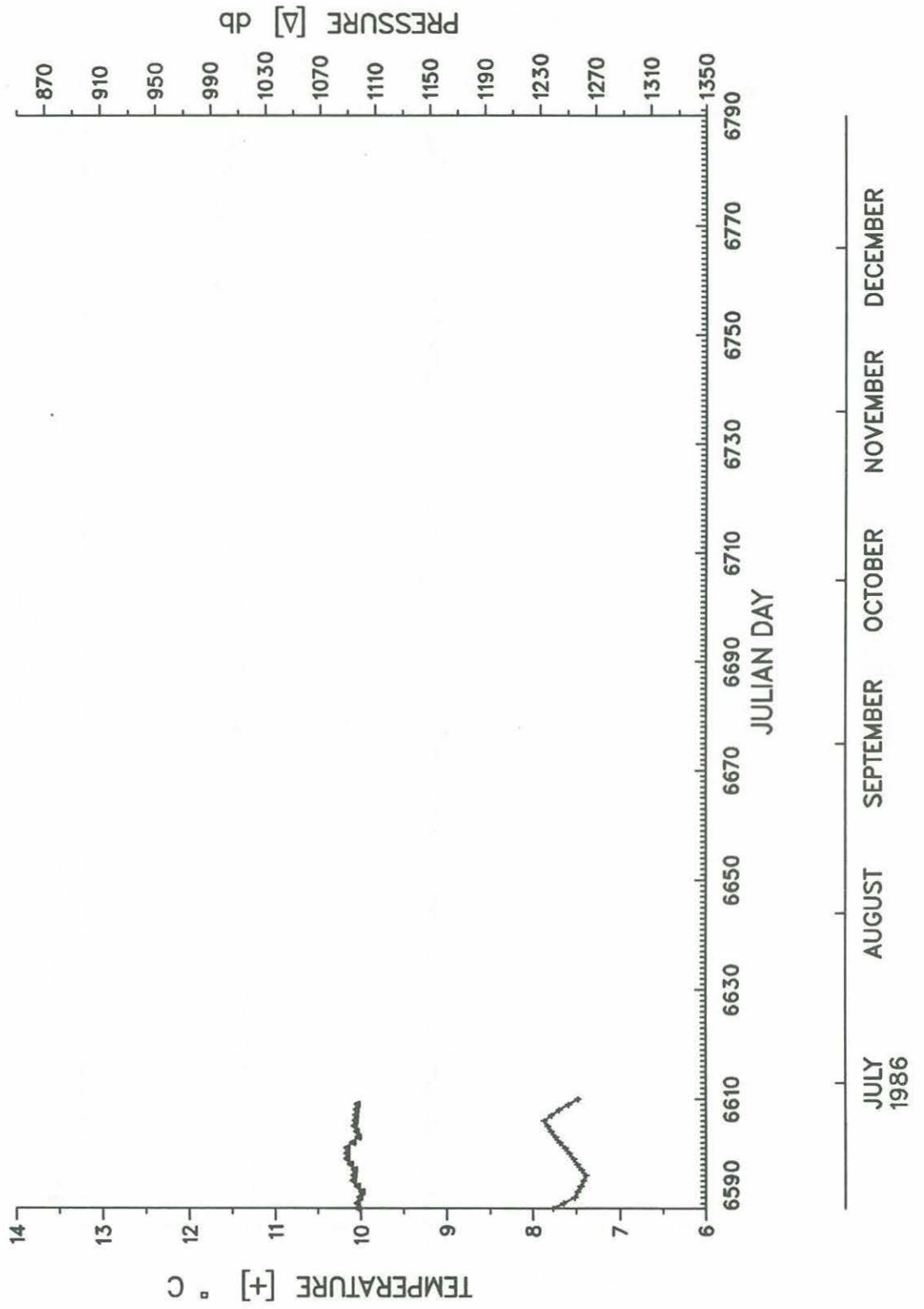
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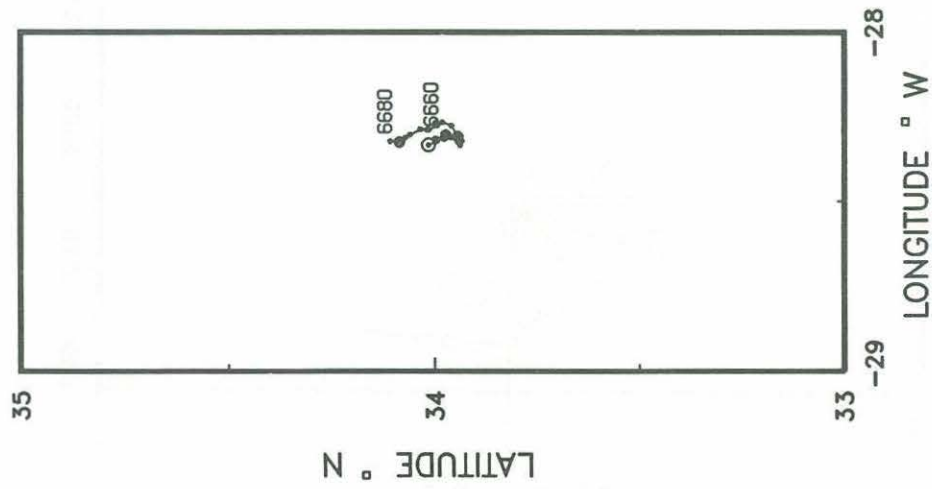
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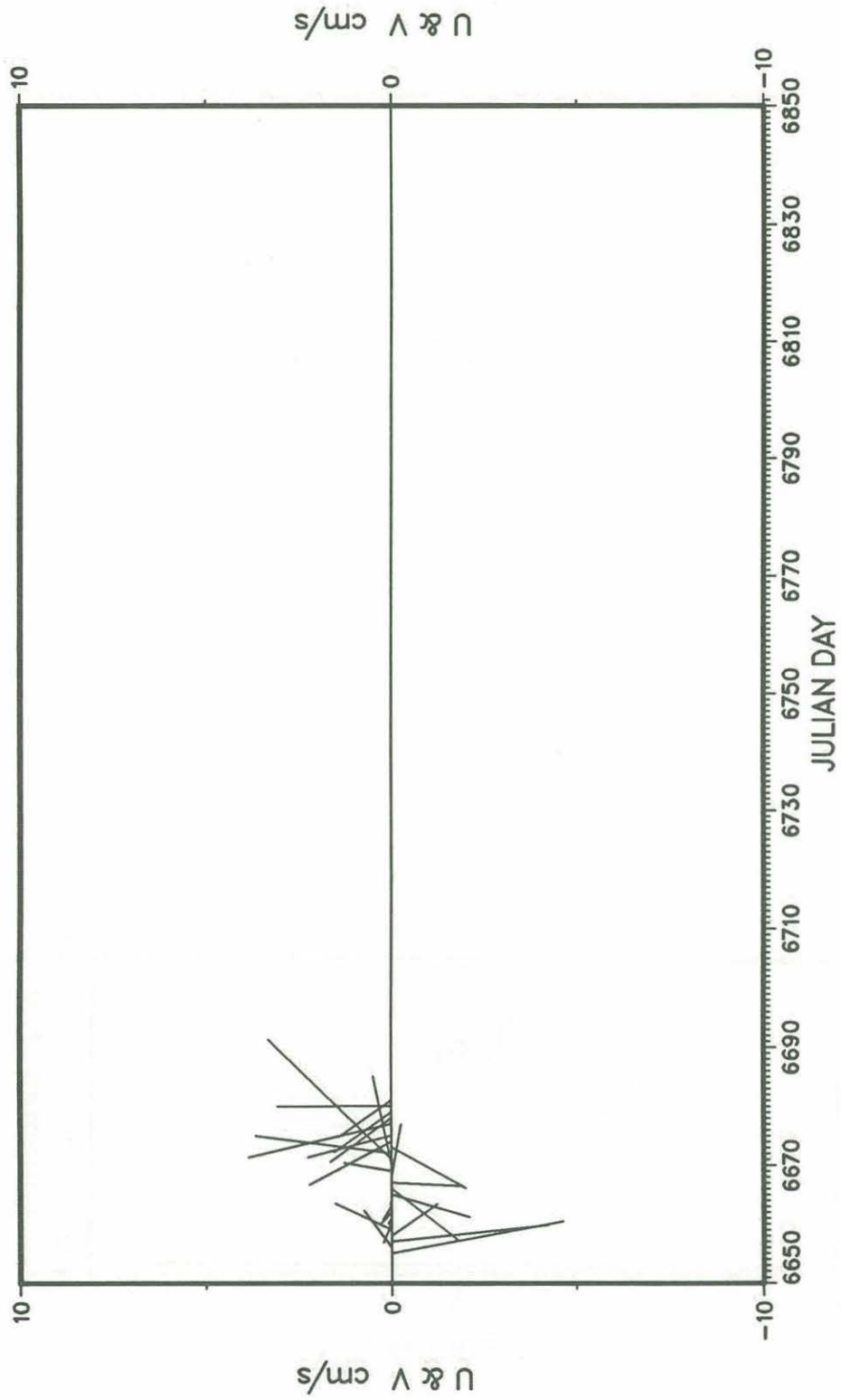
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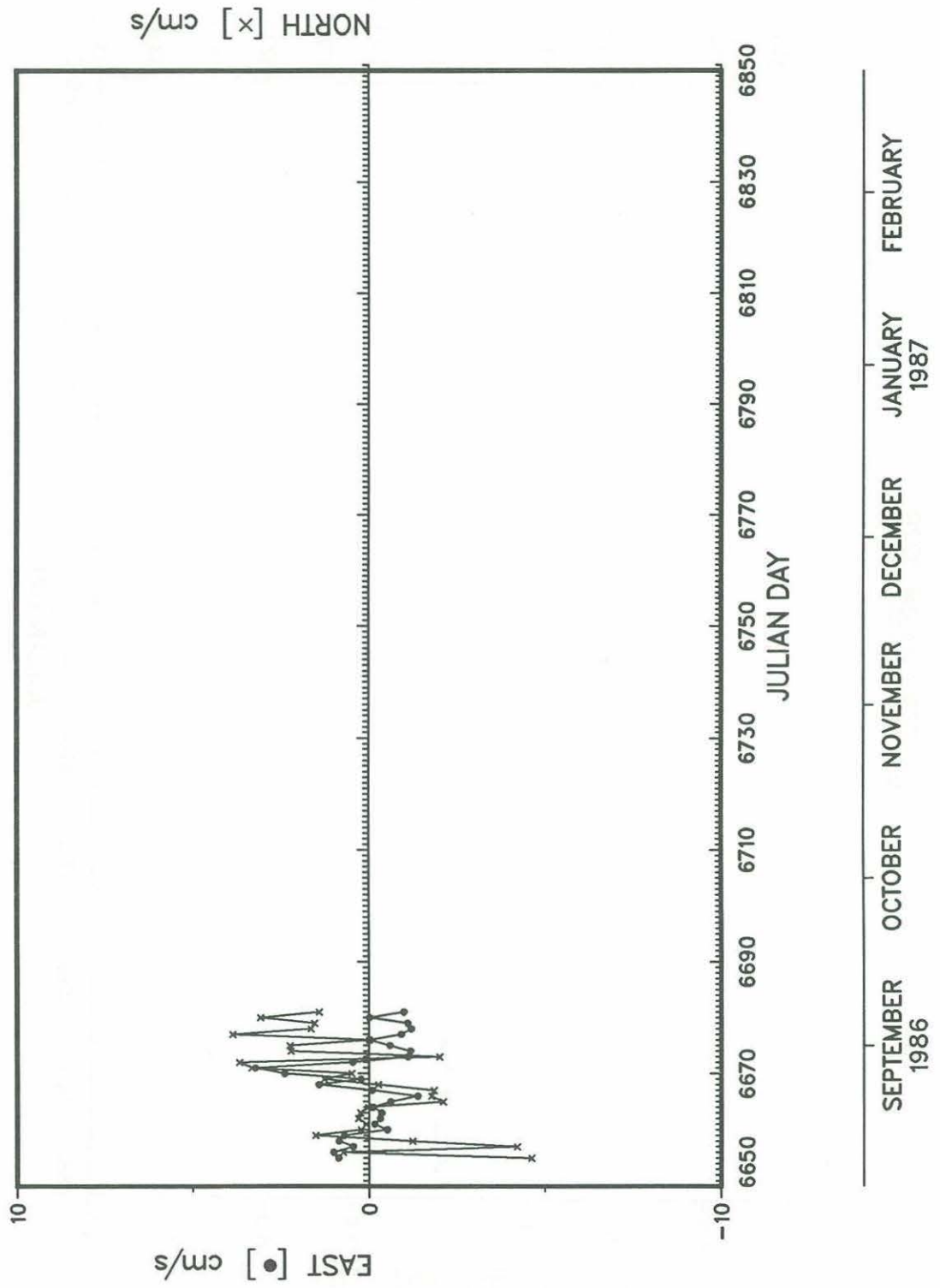


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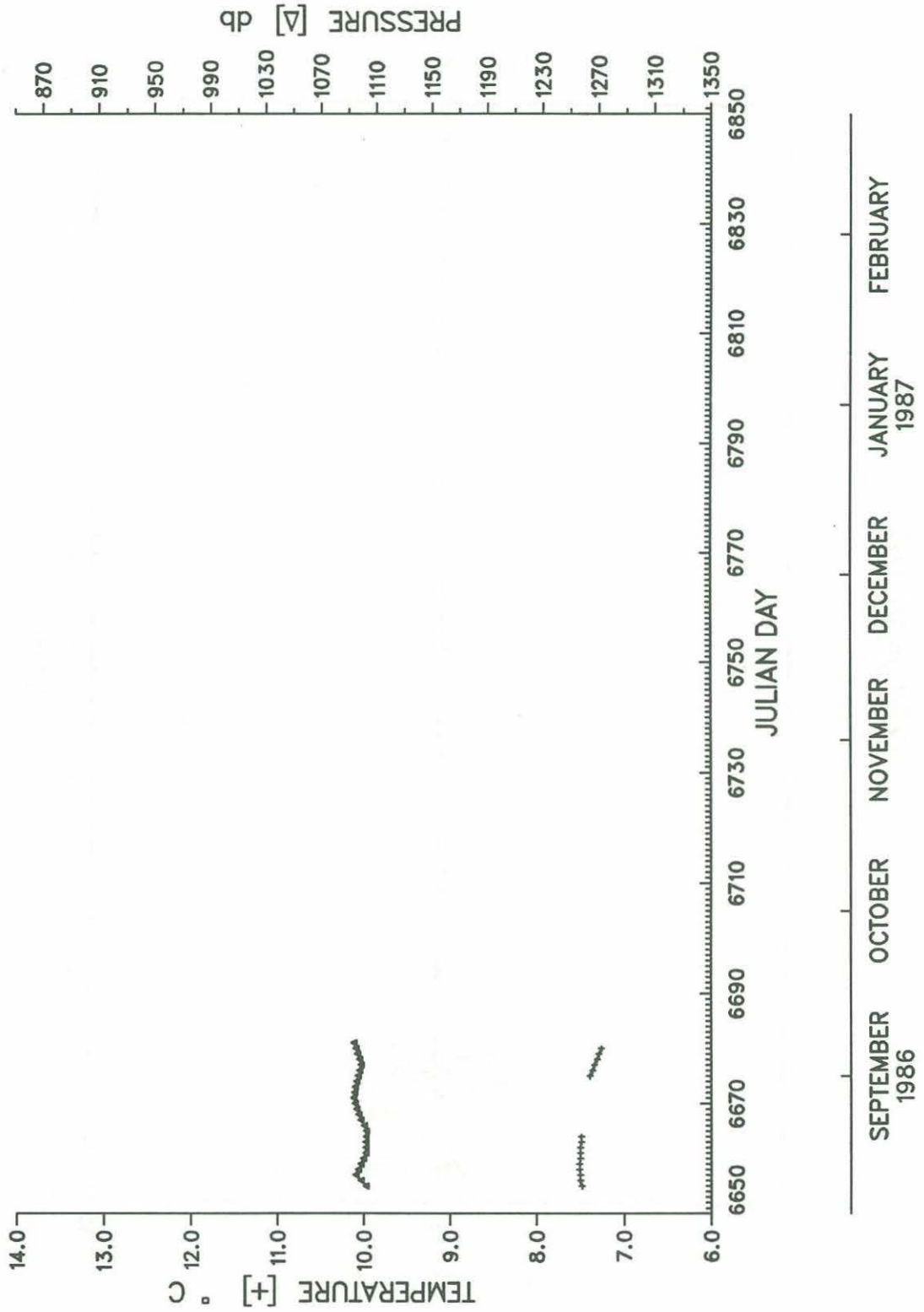


SEPTEMBER 1986 OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER JANUARY 1987 FEBRUARY

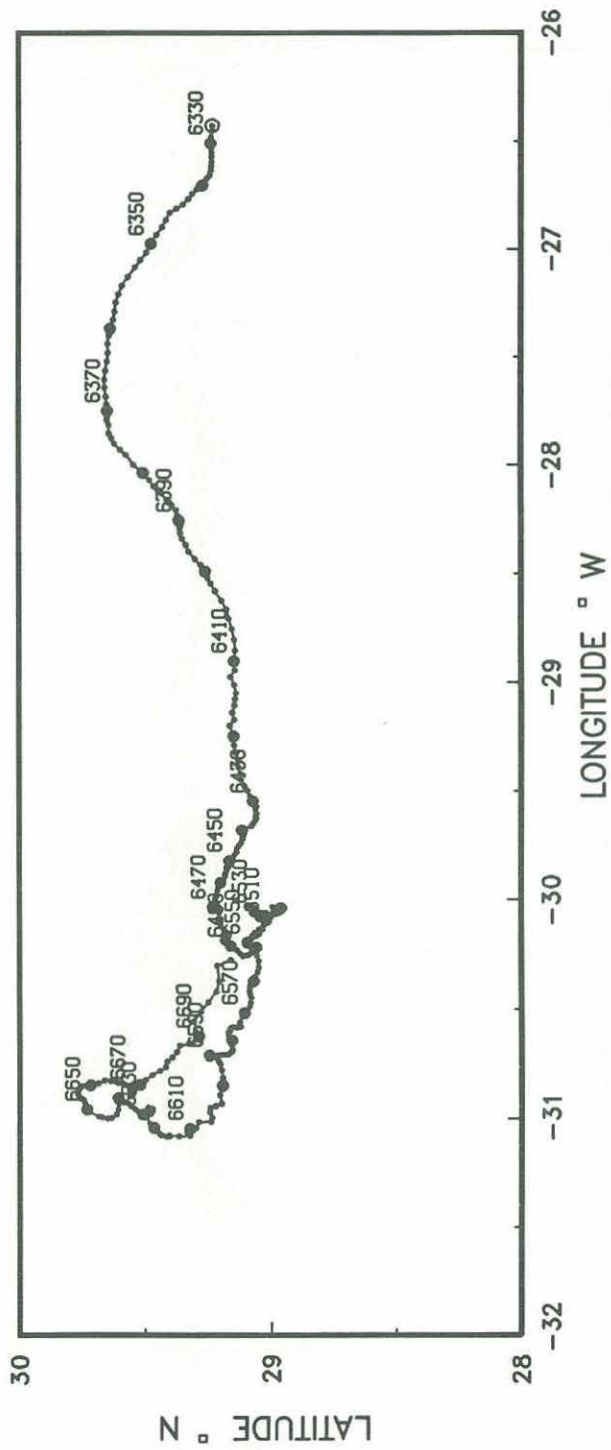
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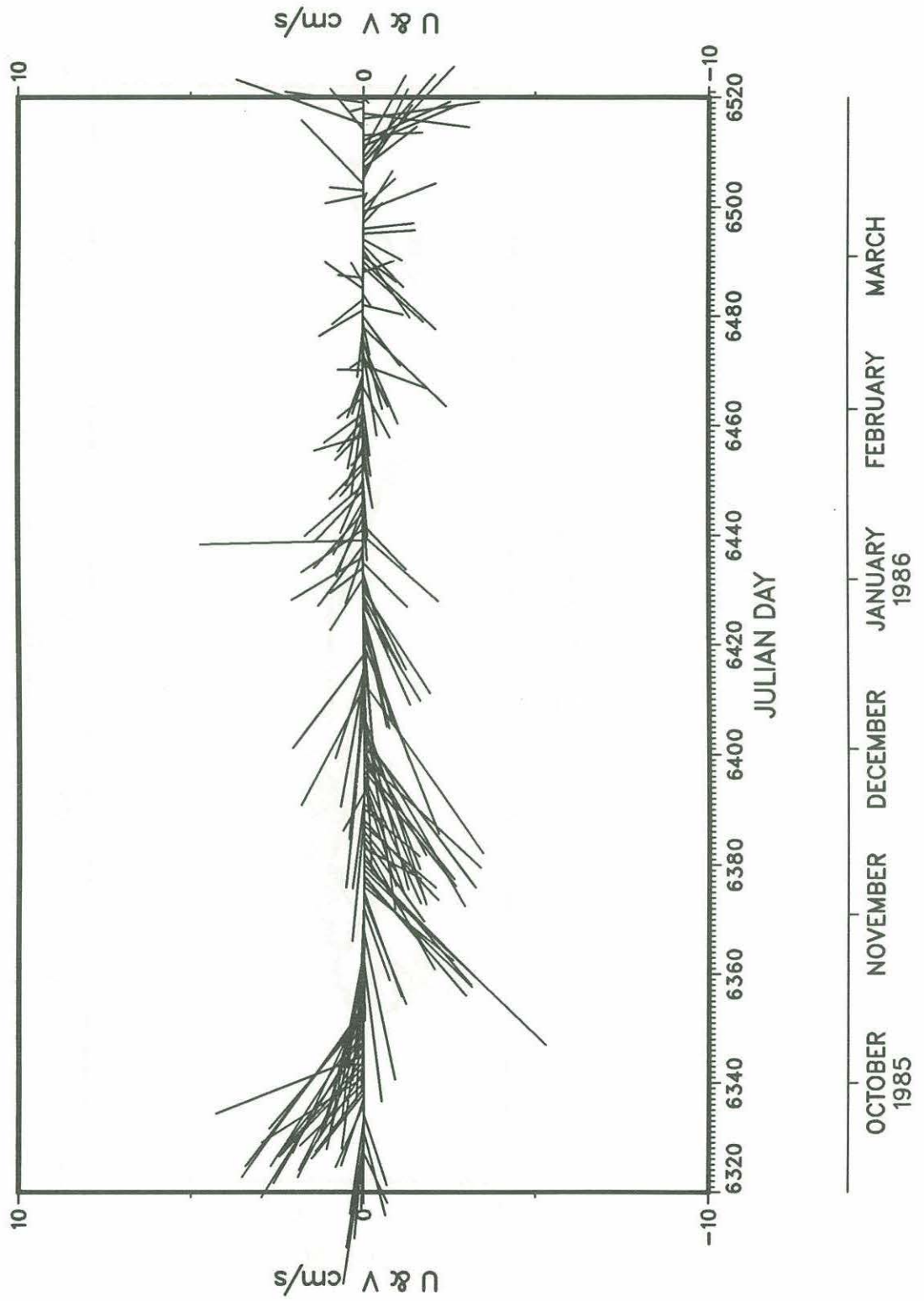
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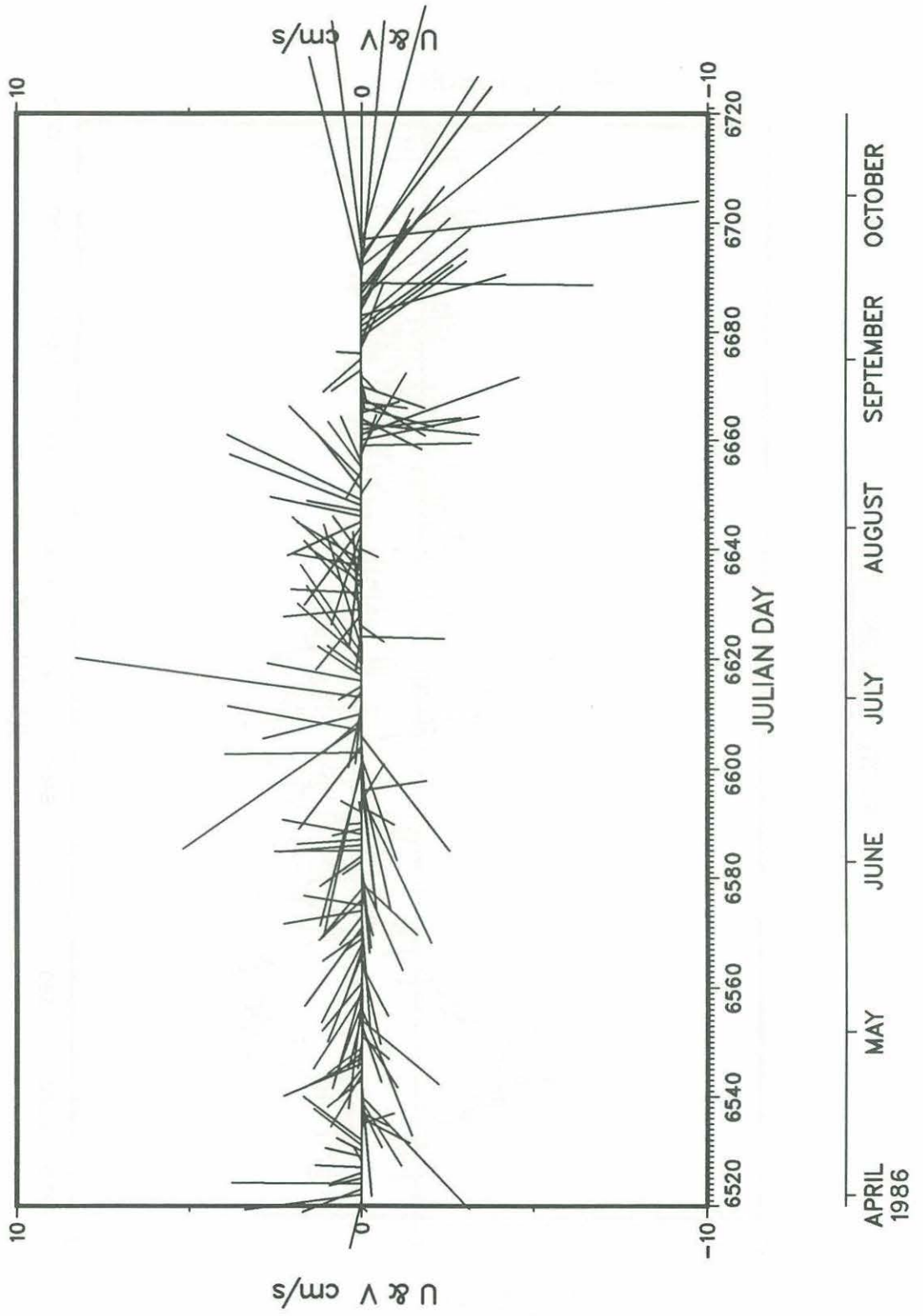
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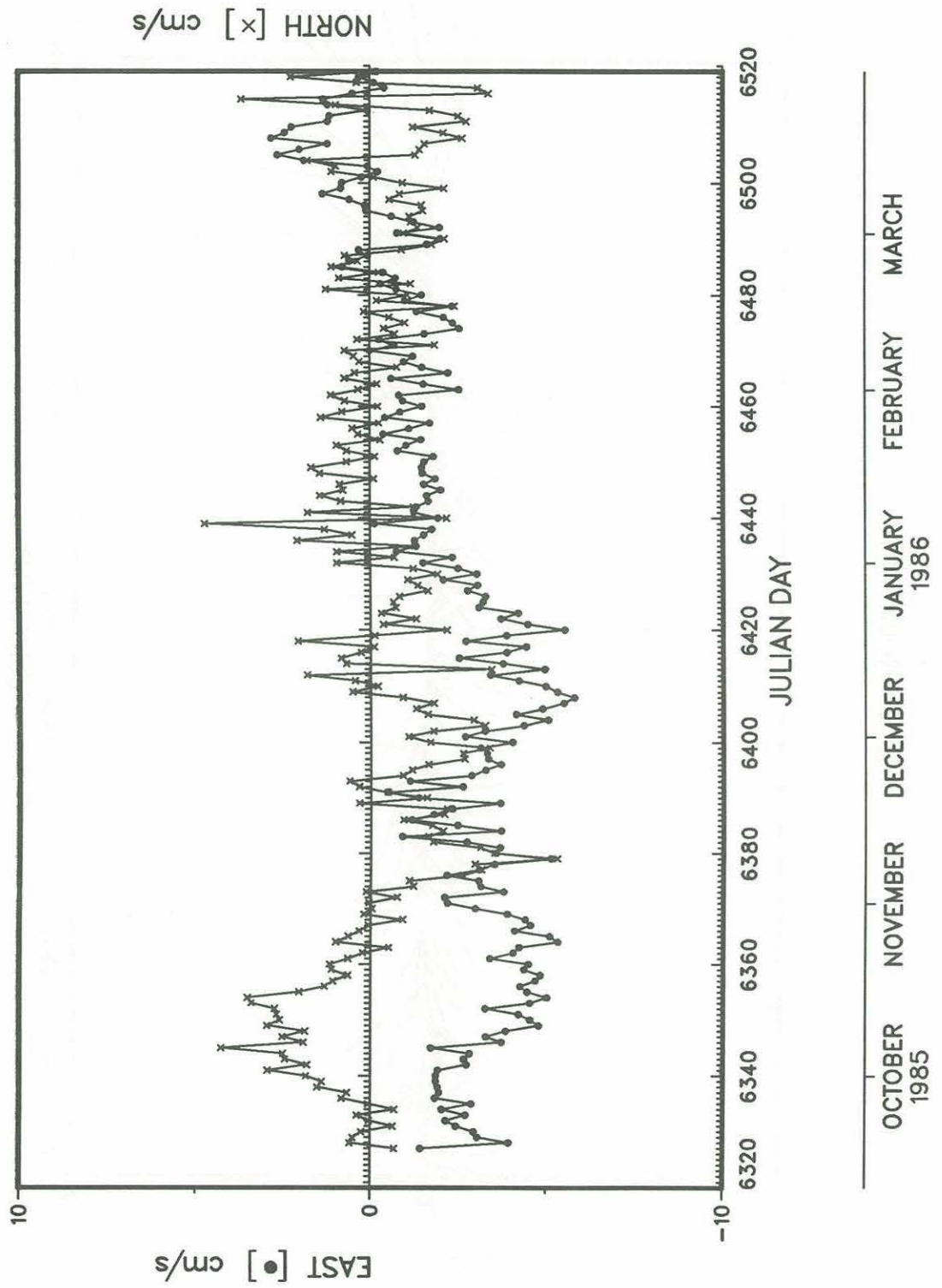
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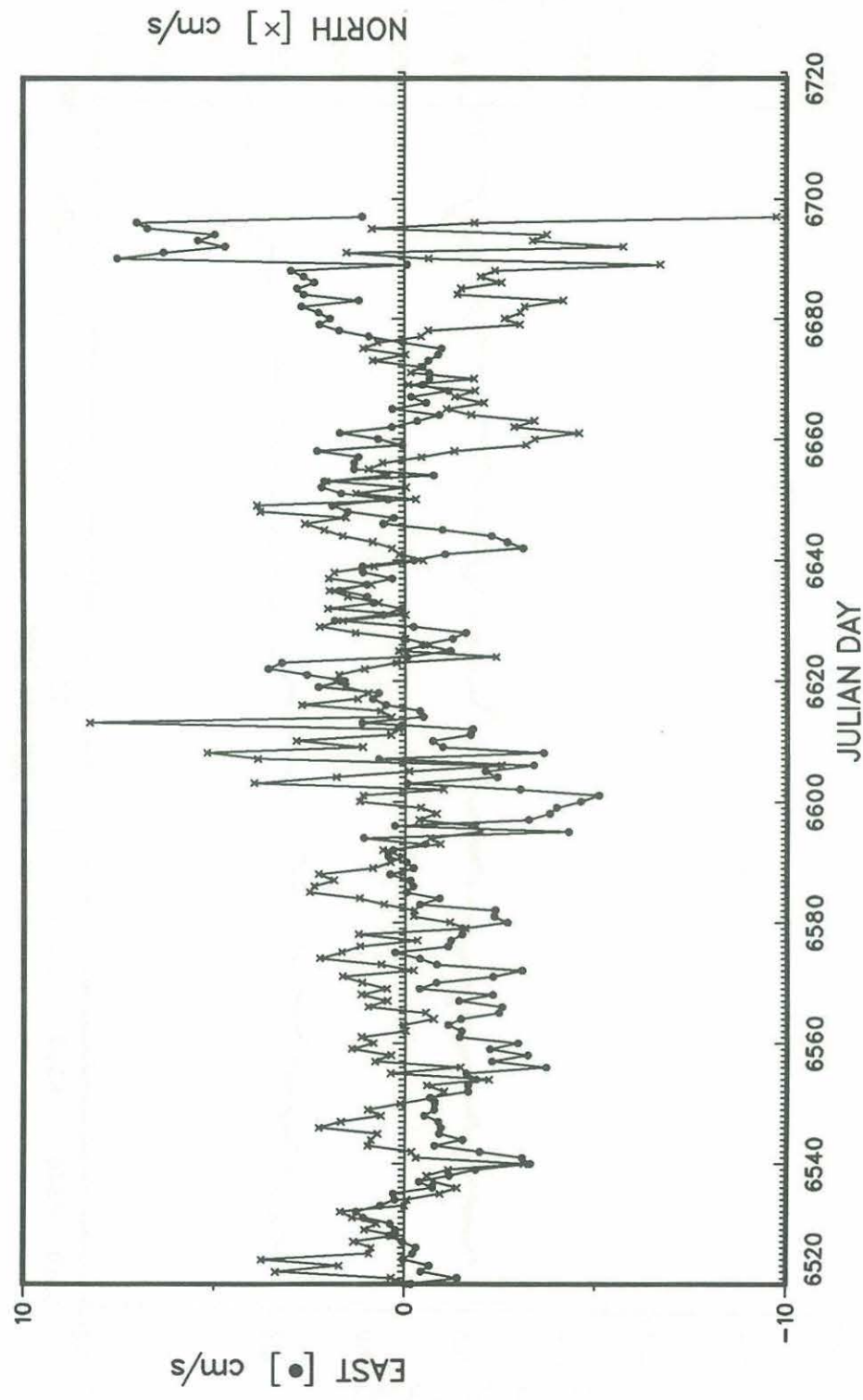
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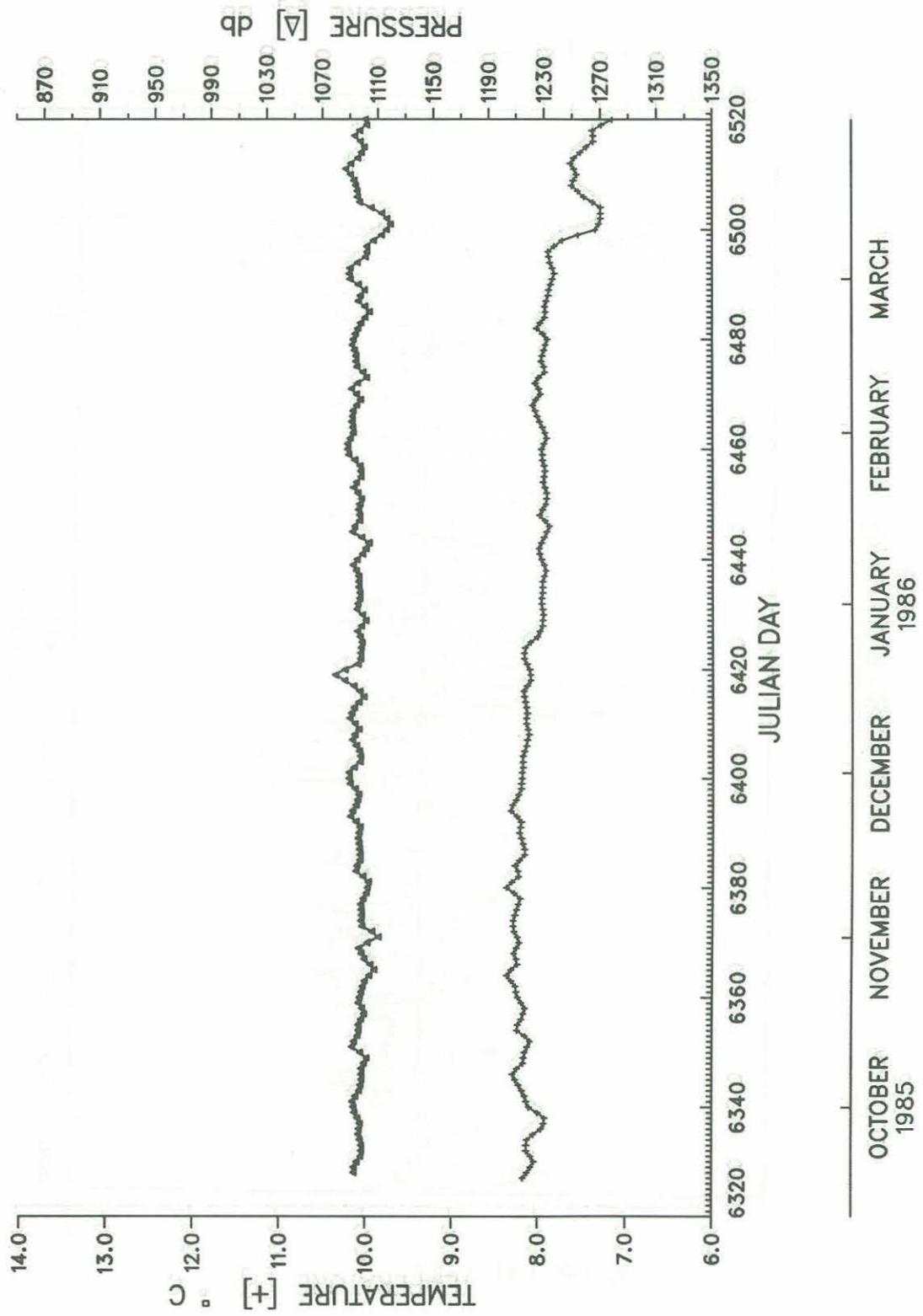


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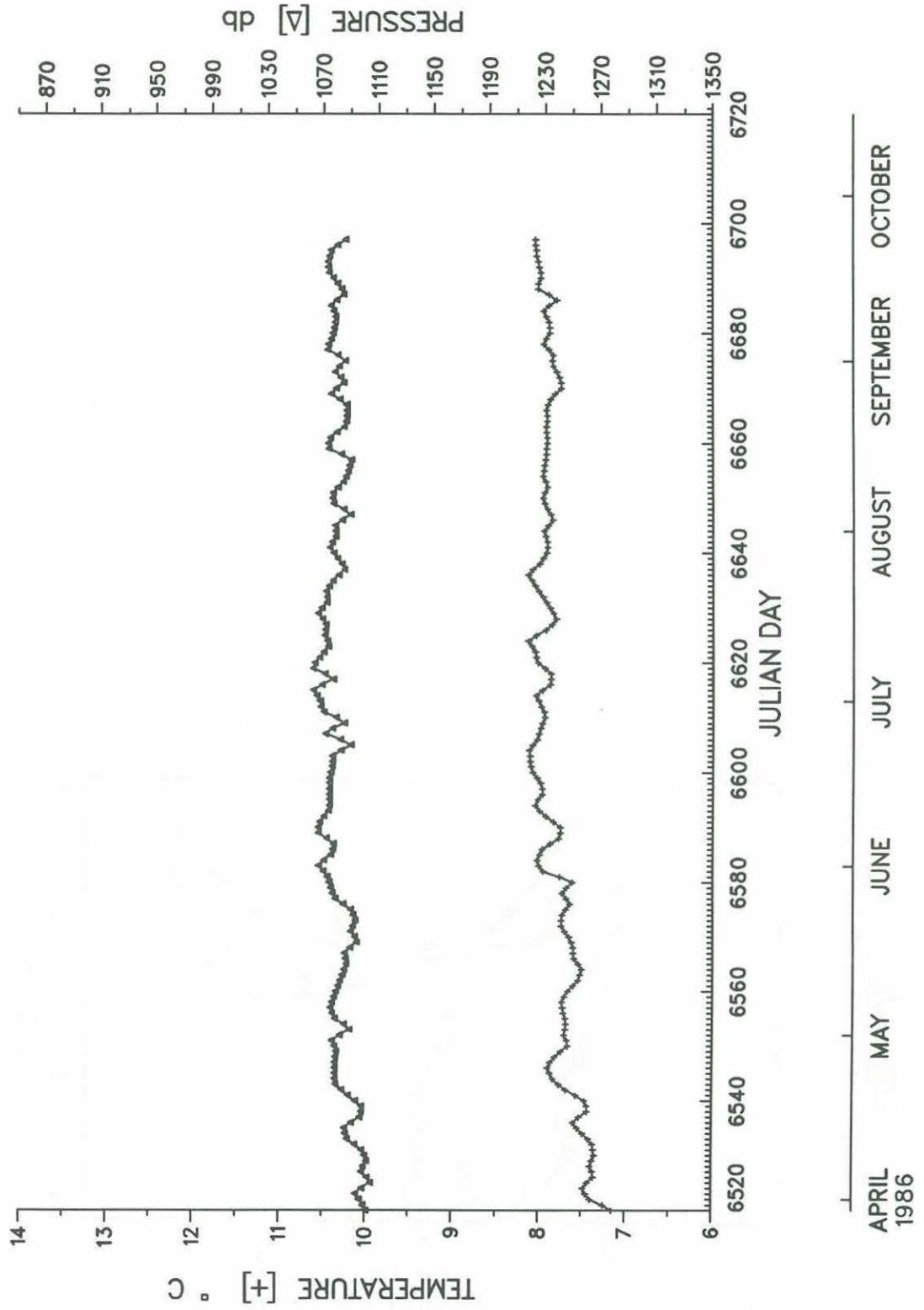


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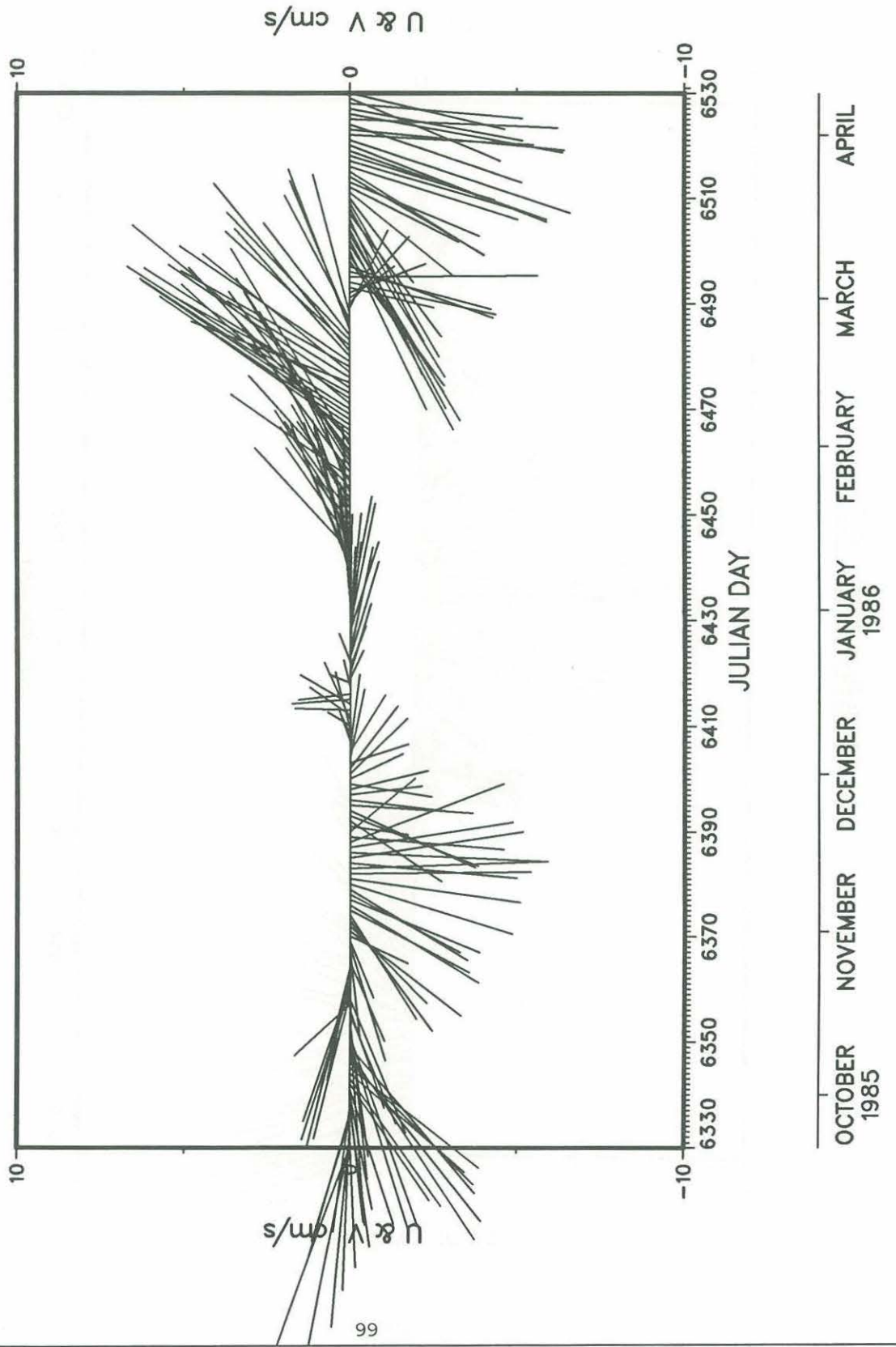
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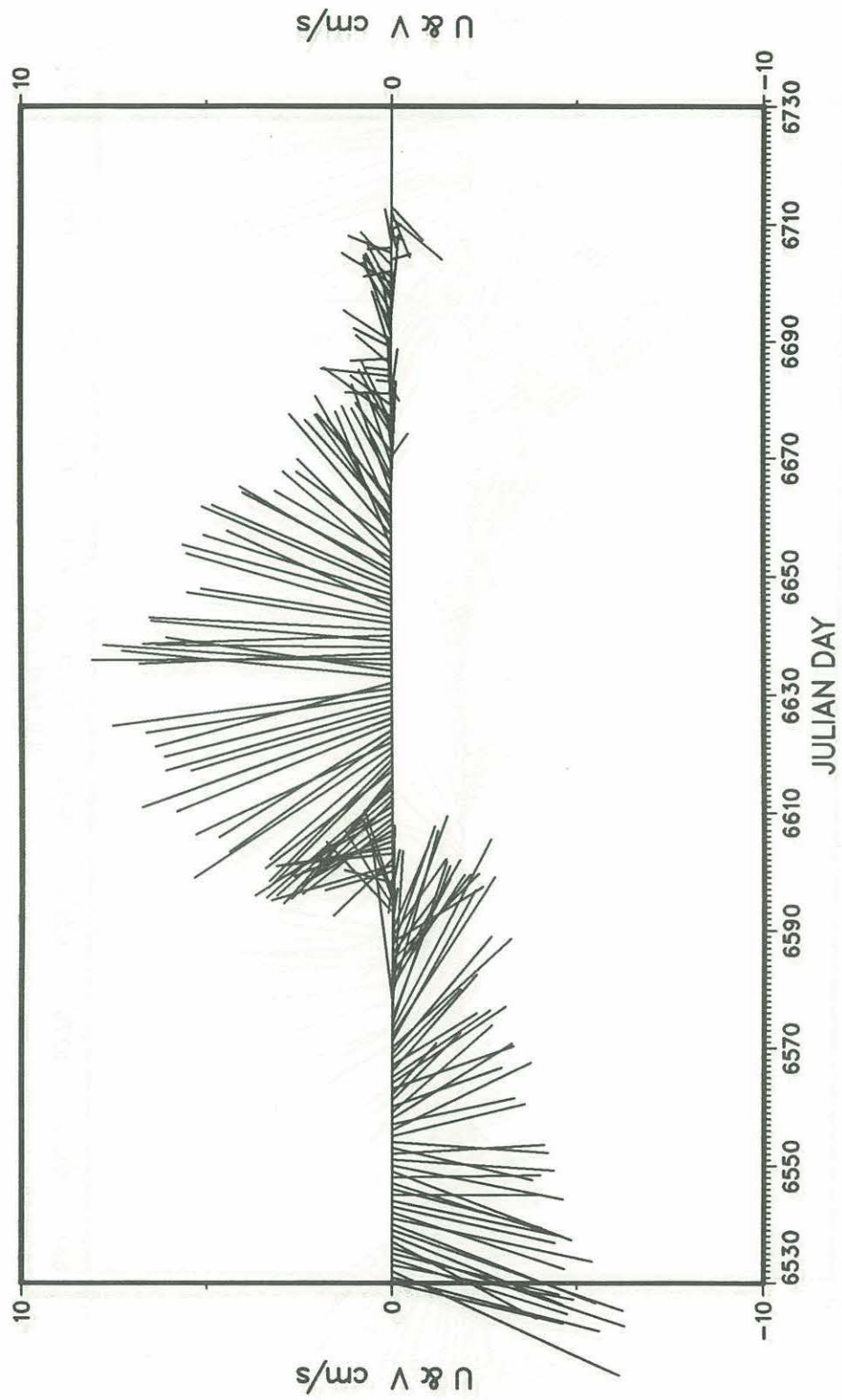
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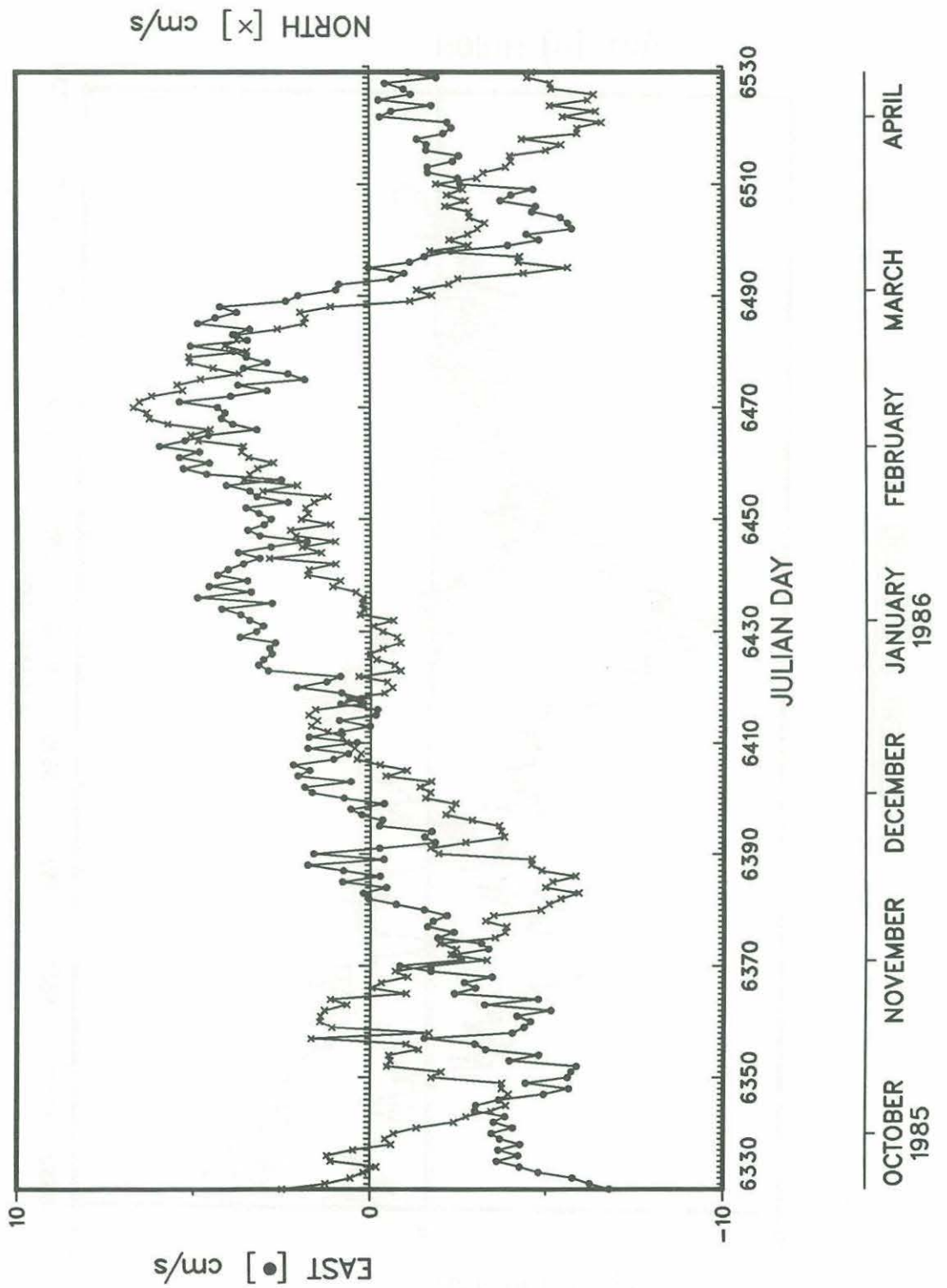


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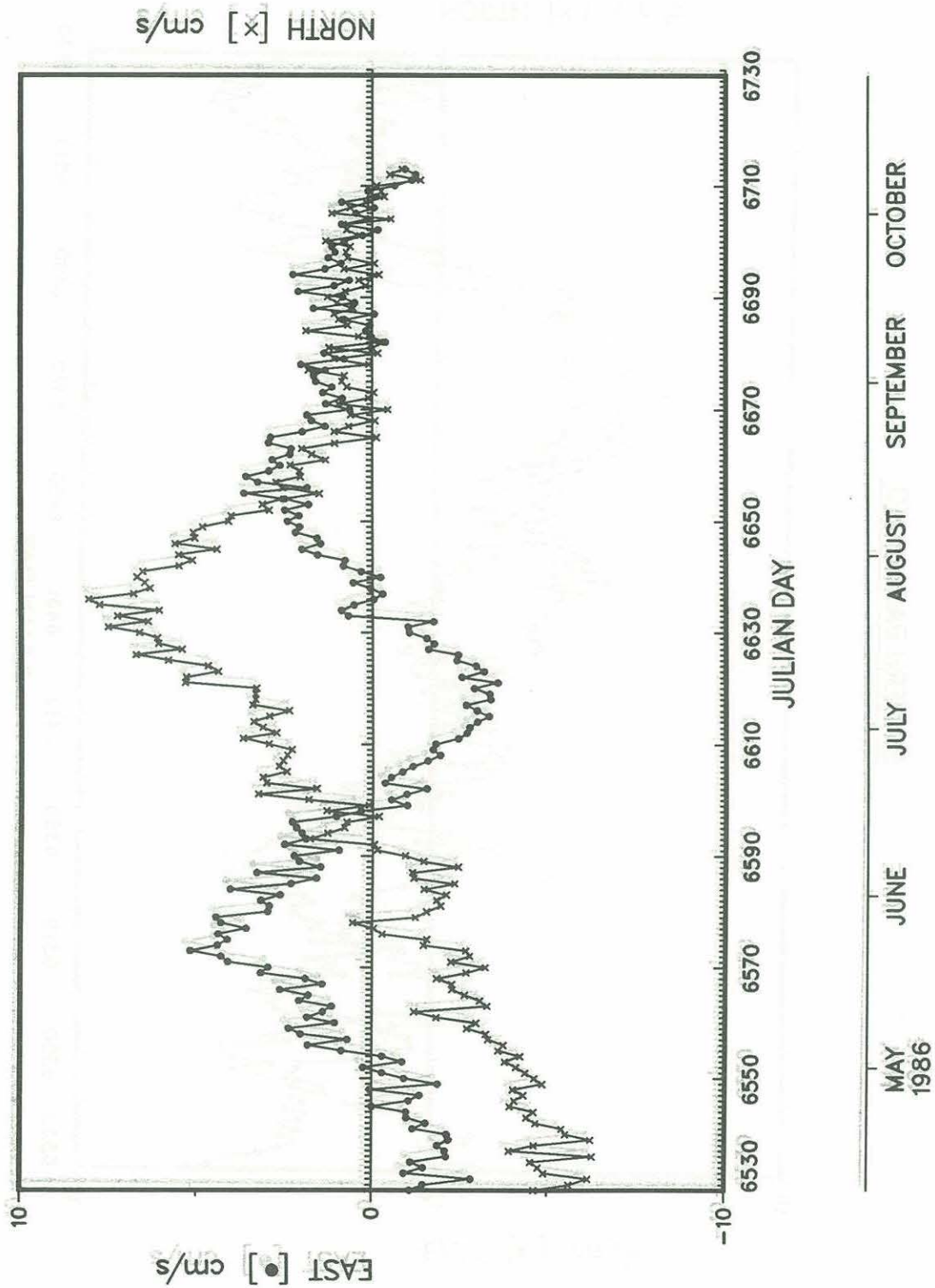


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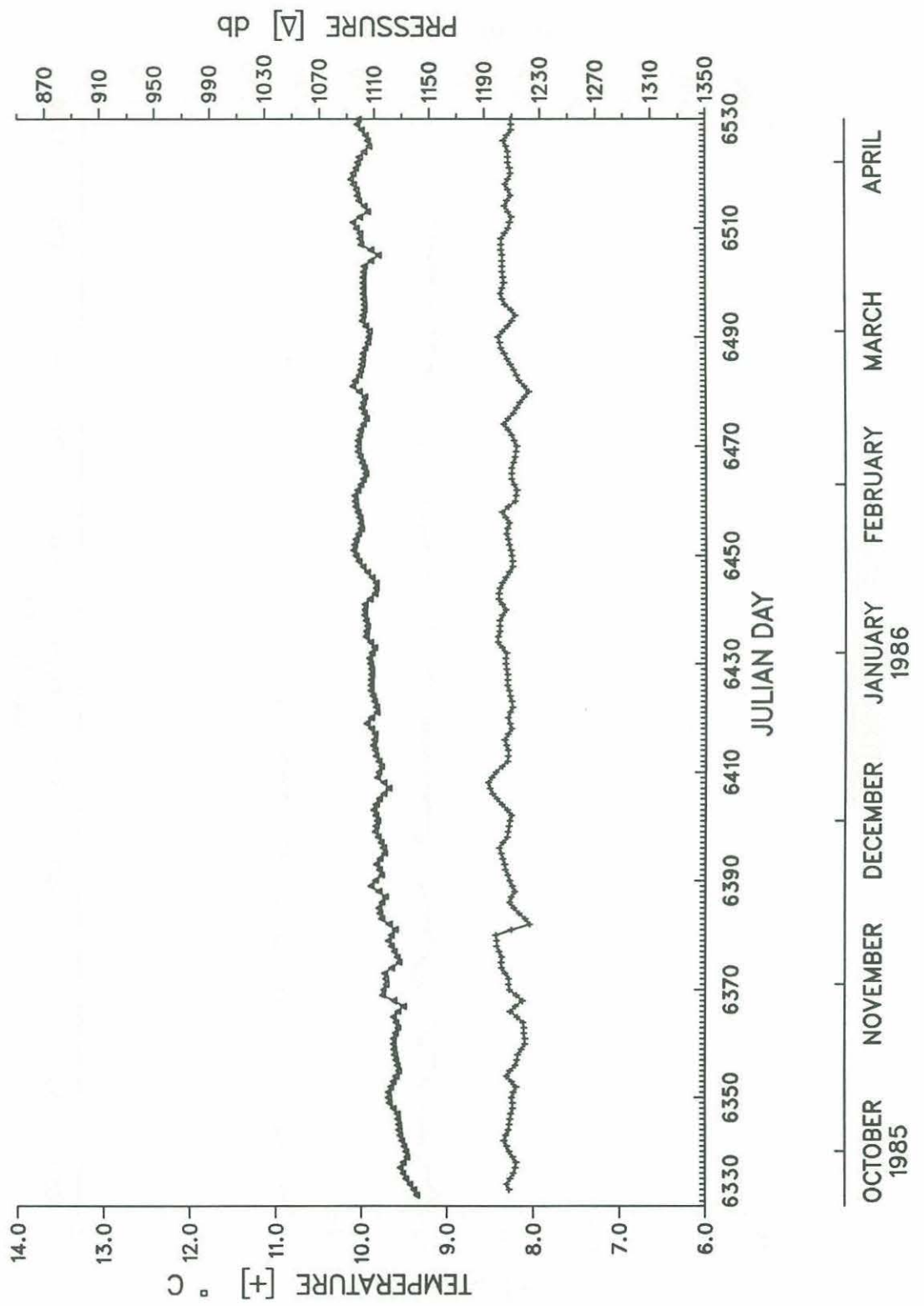
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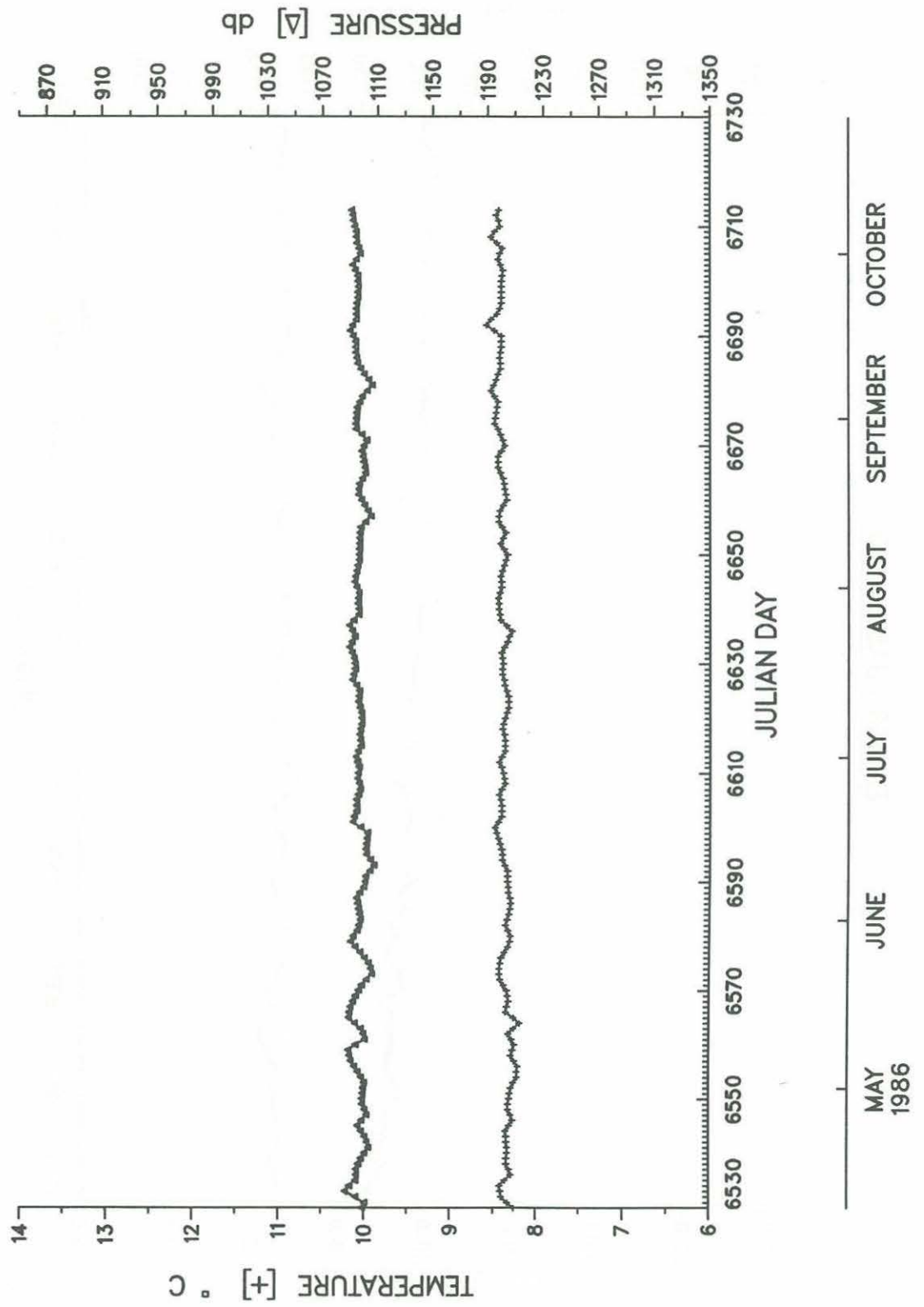
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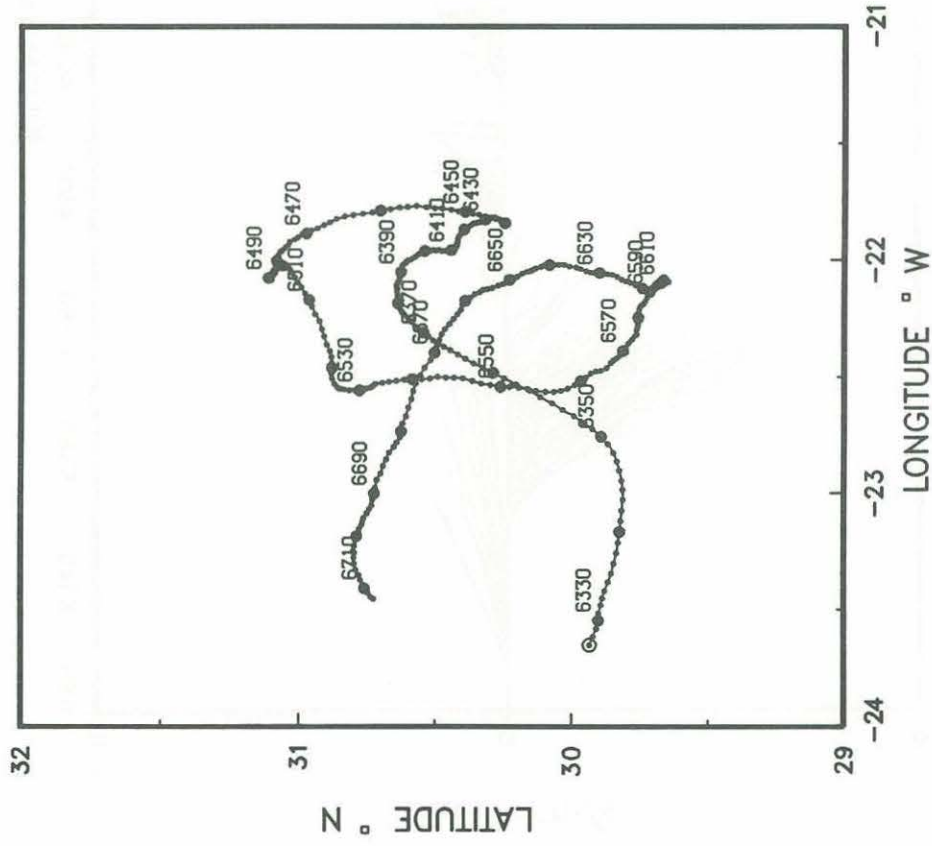
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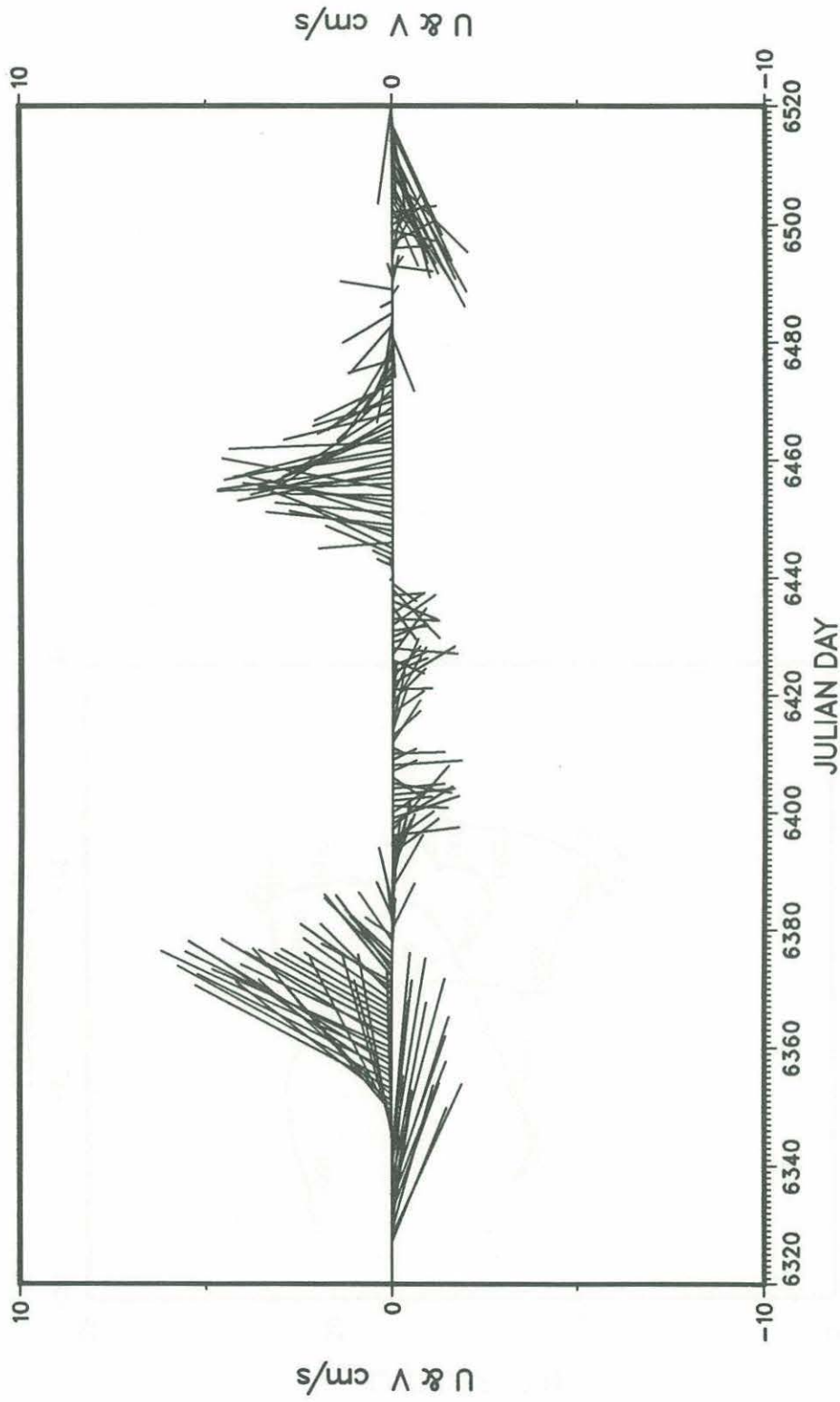
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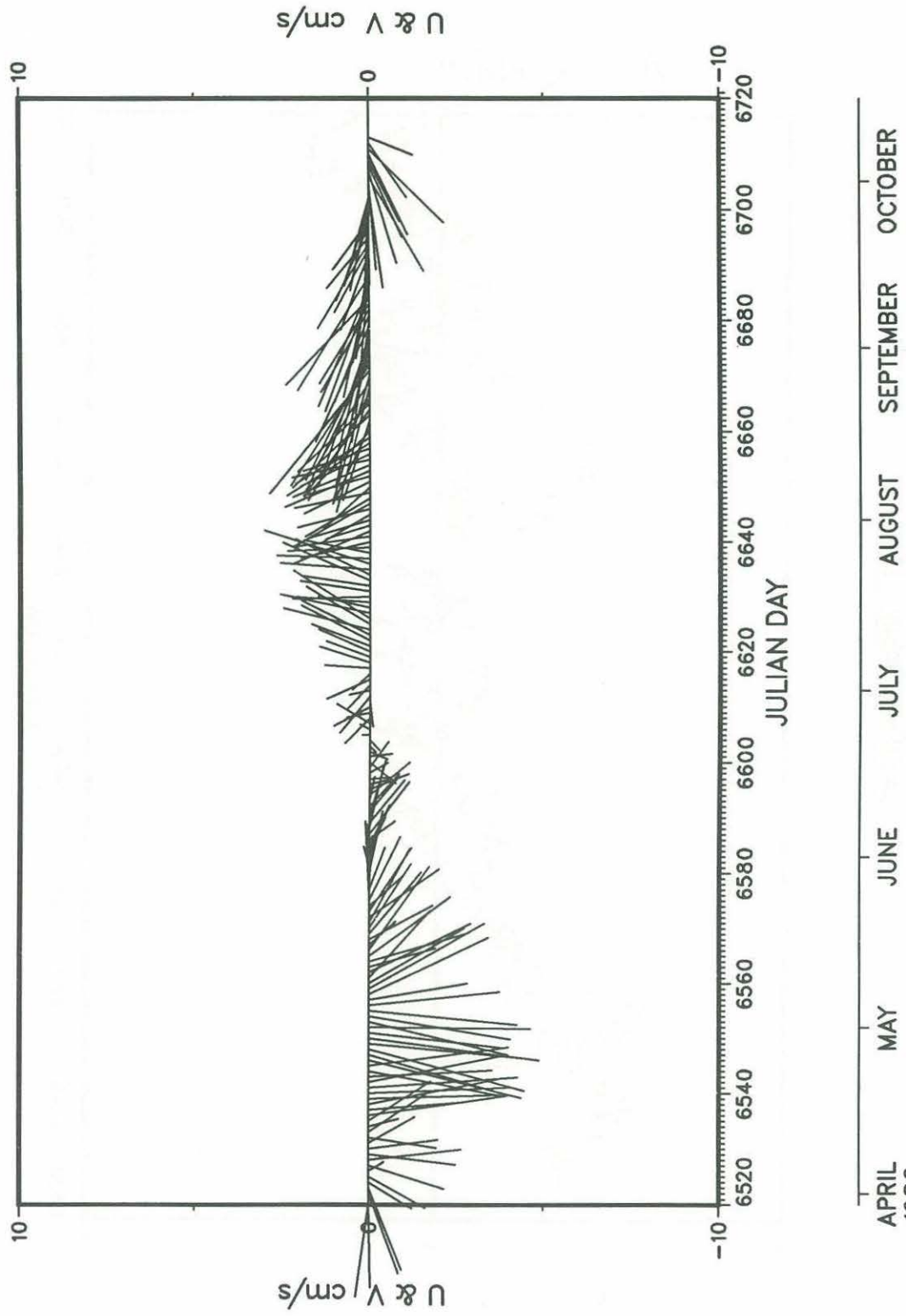


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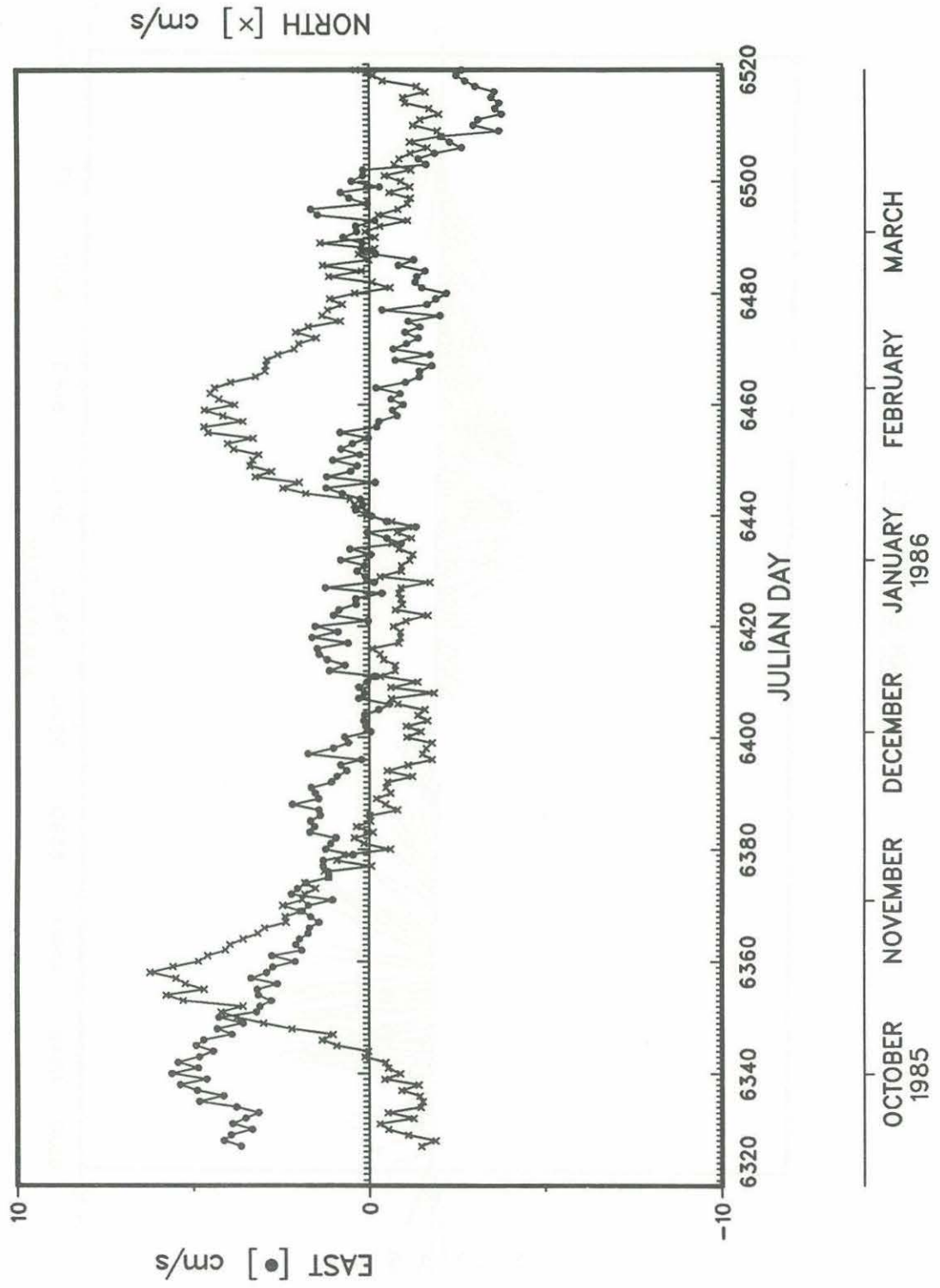


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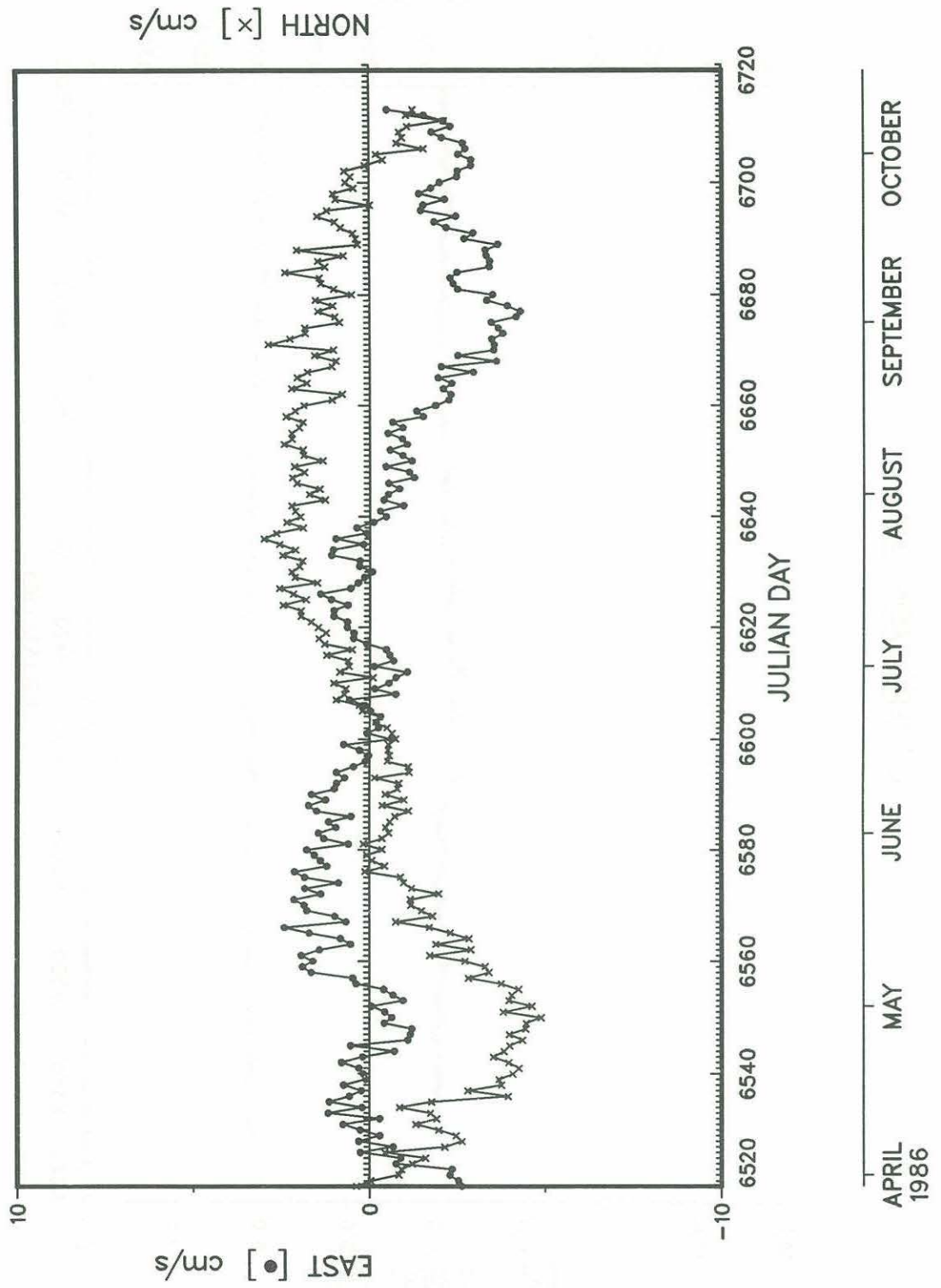
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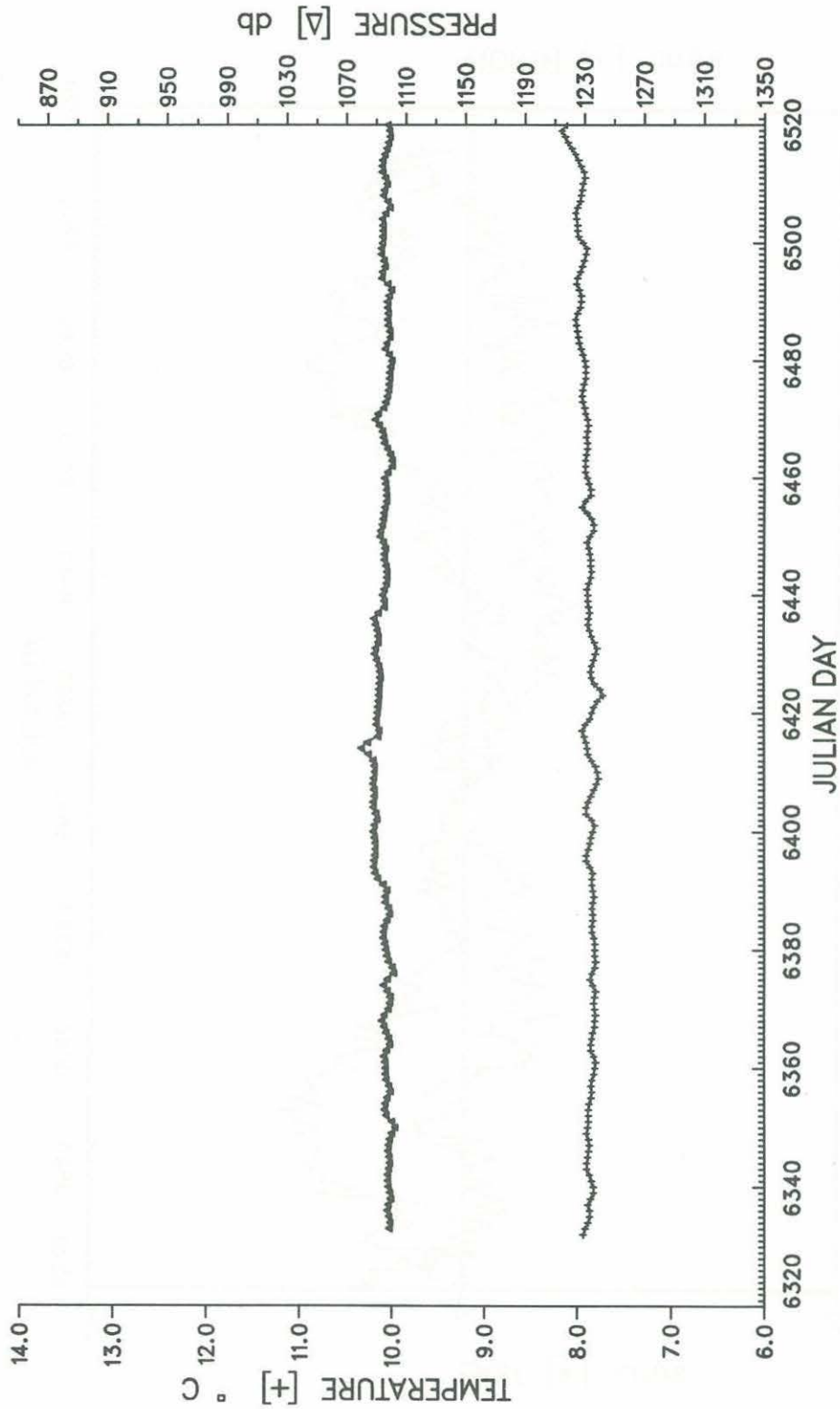
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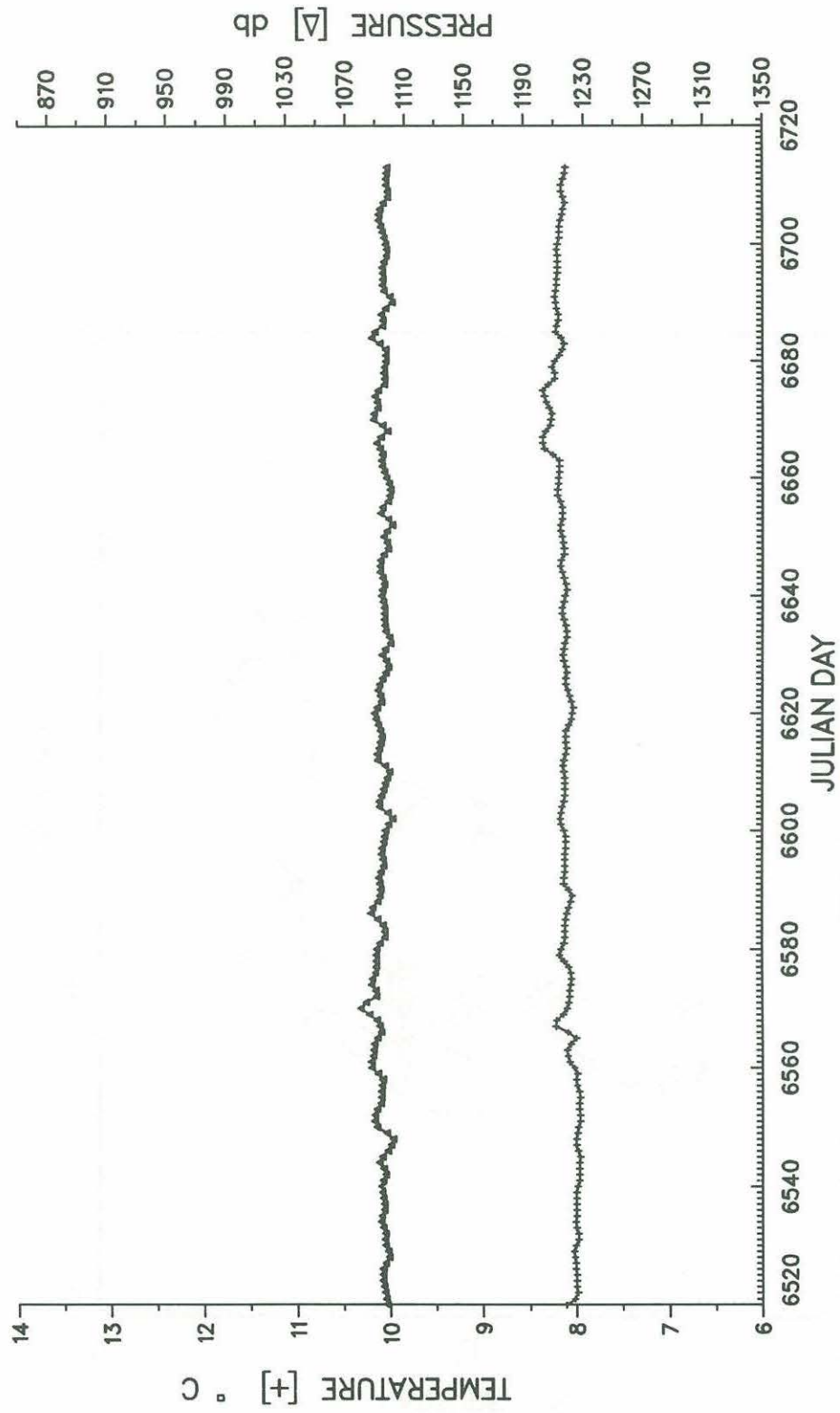
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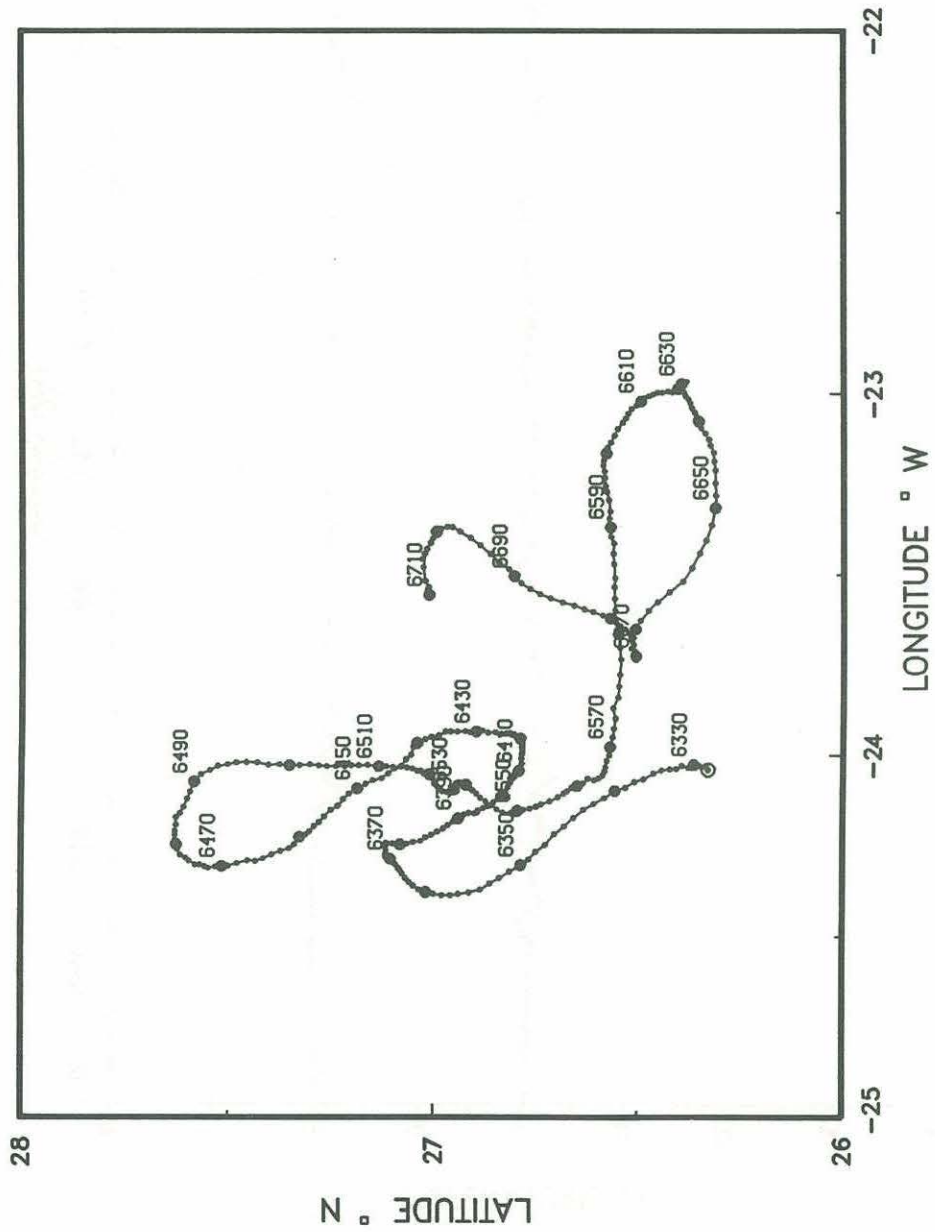


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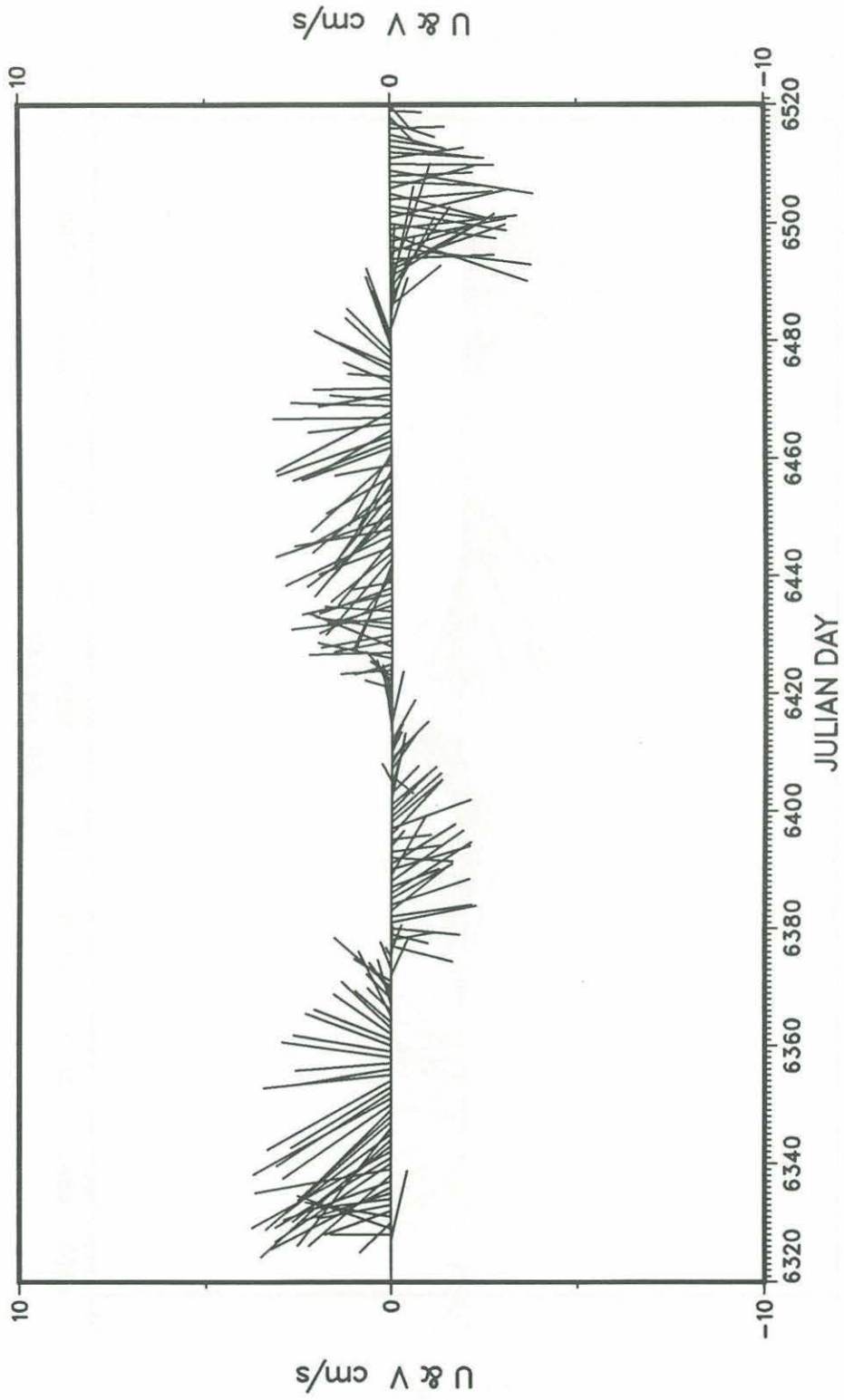


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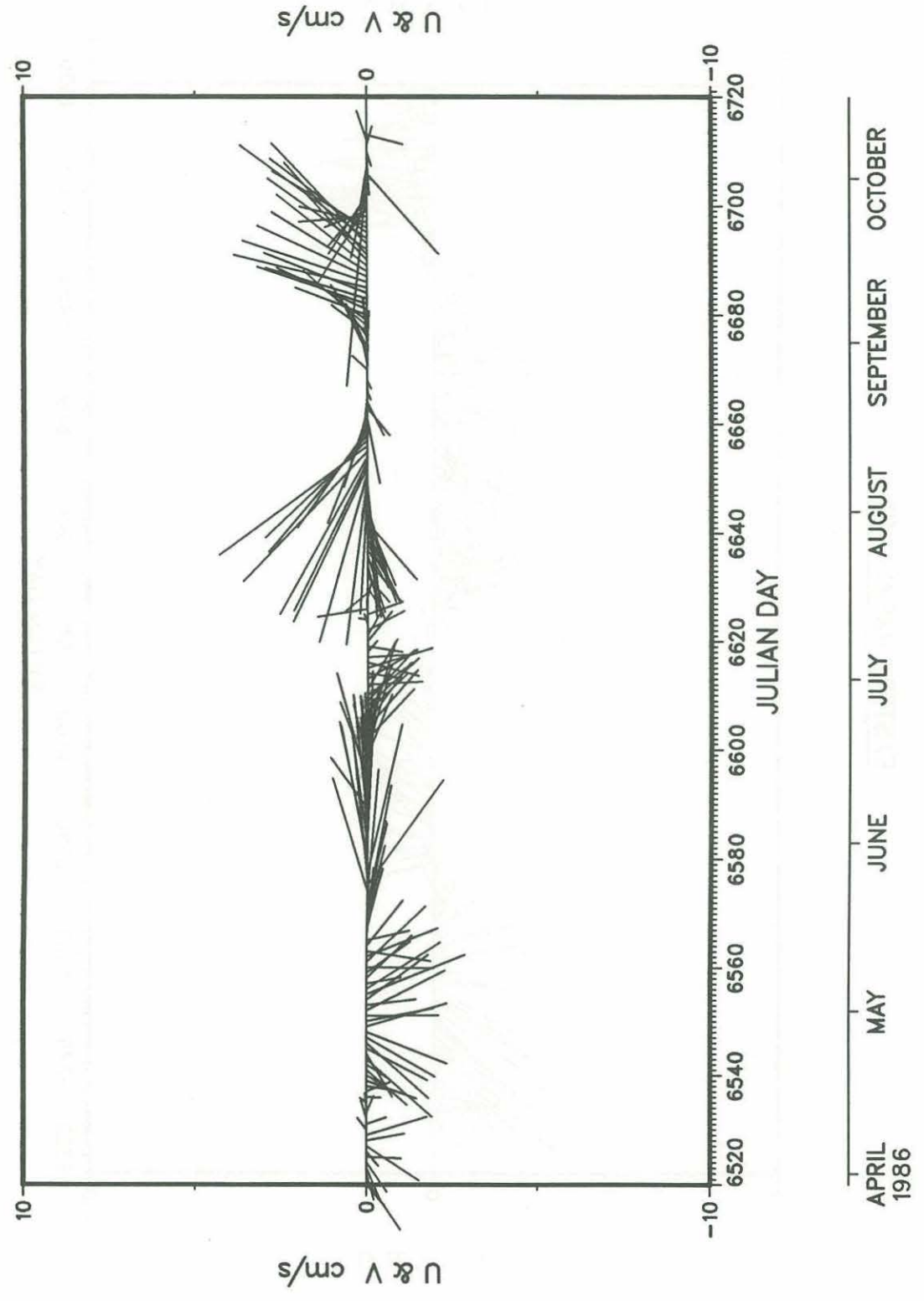


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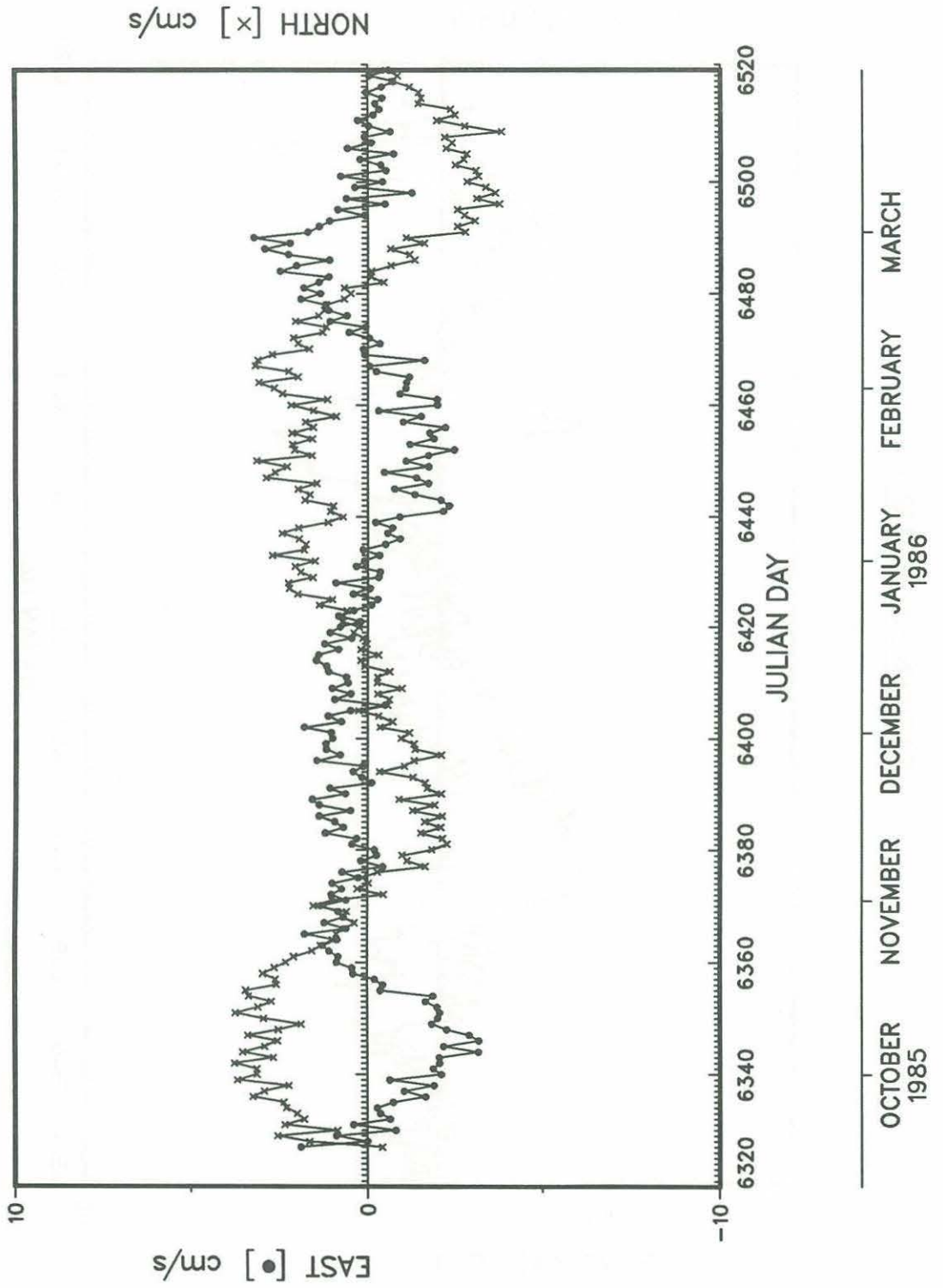


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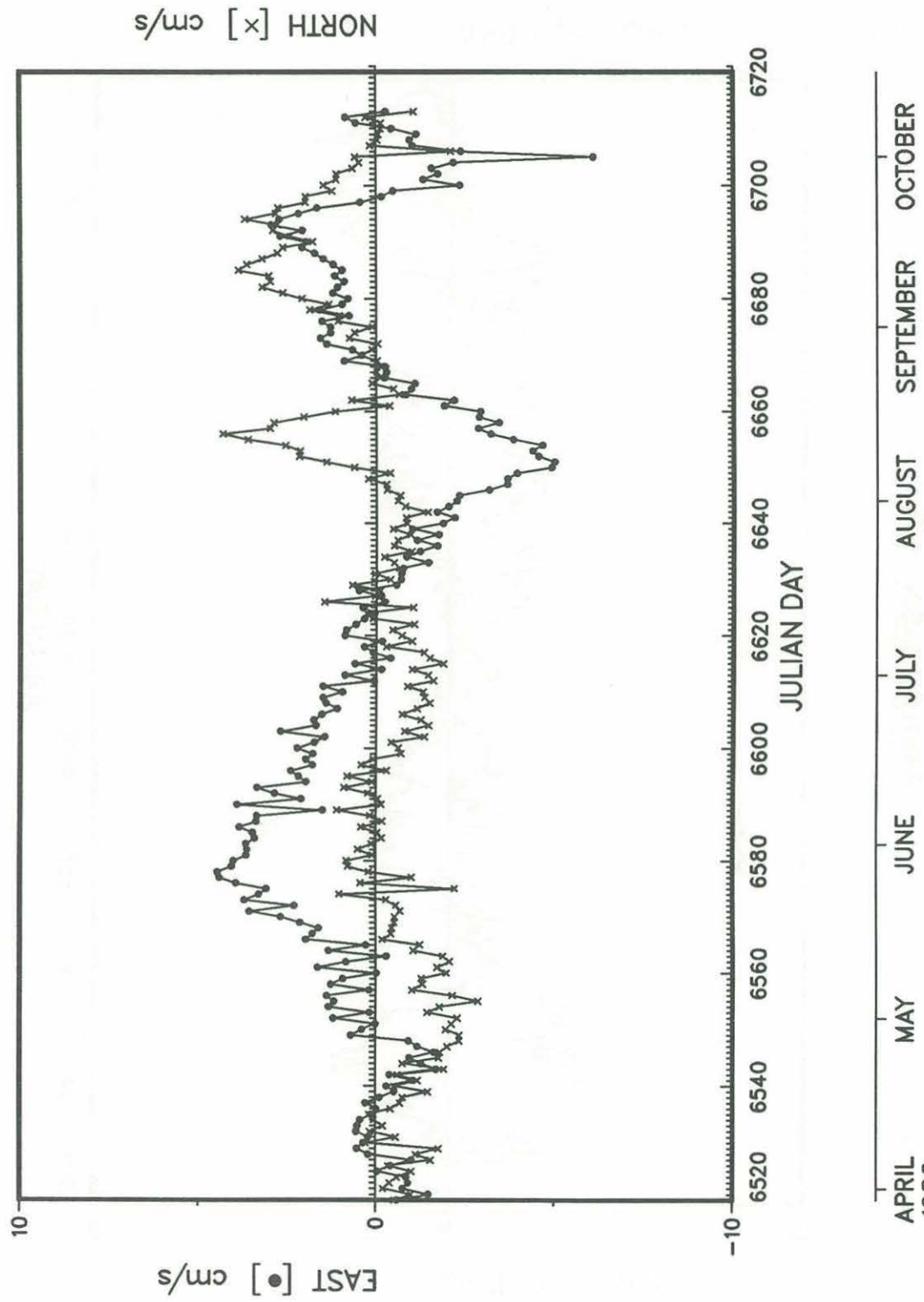
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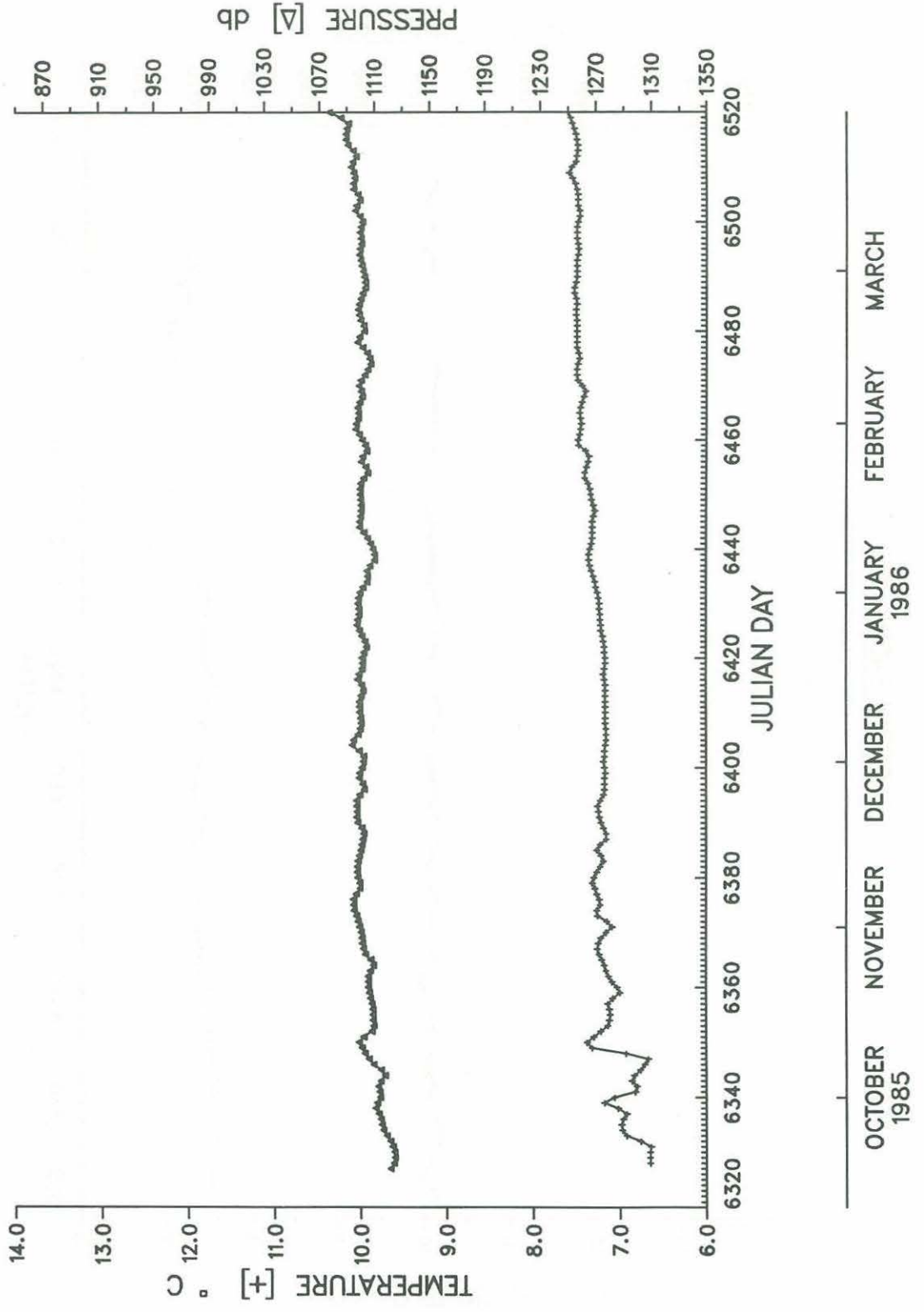
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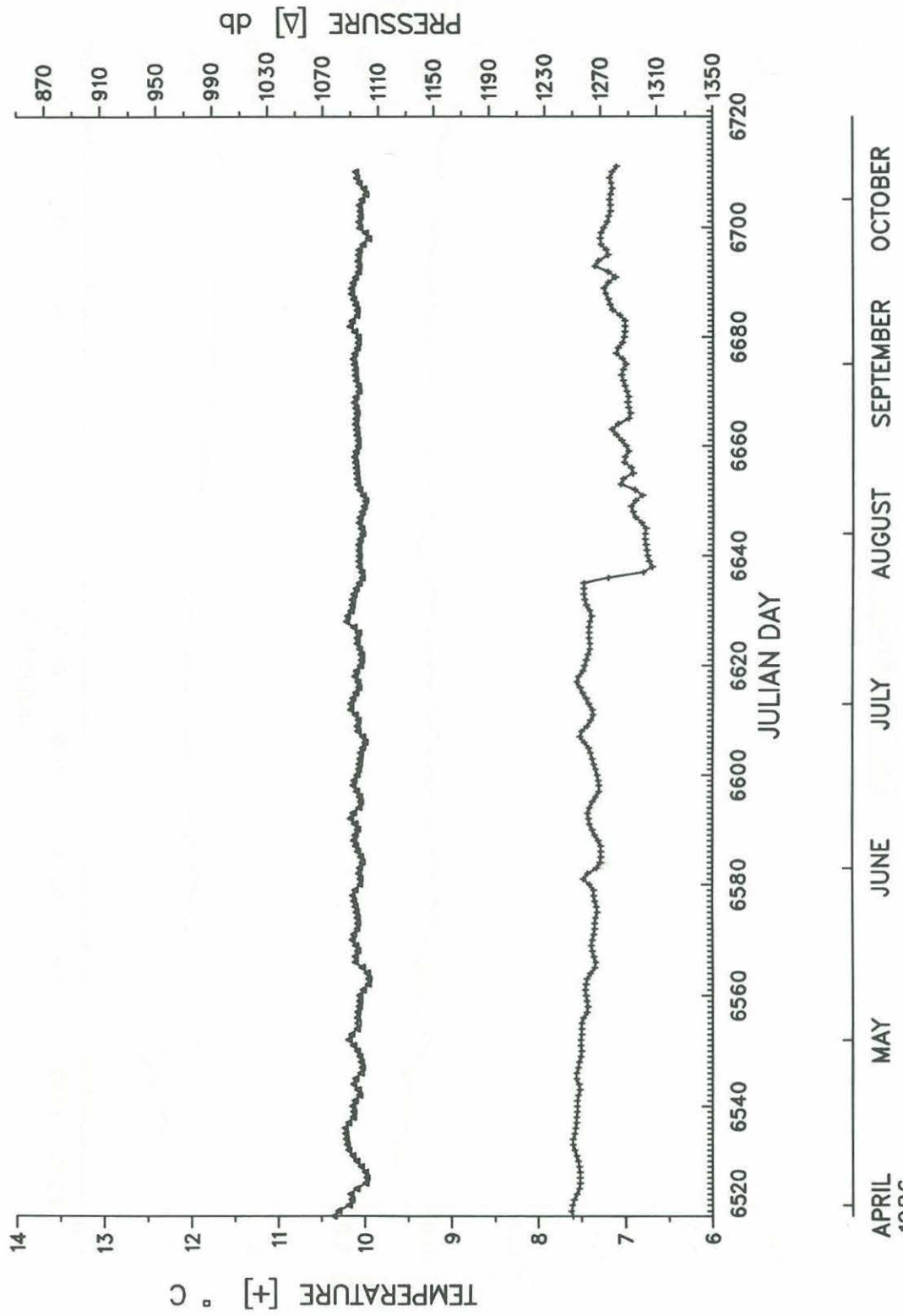
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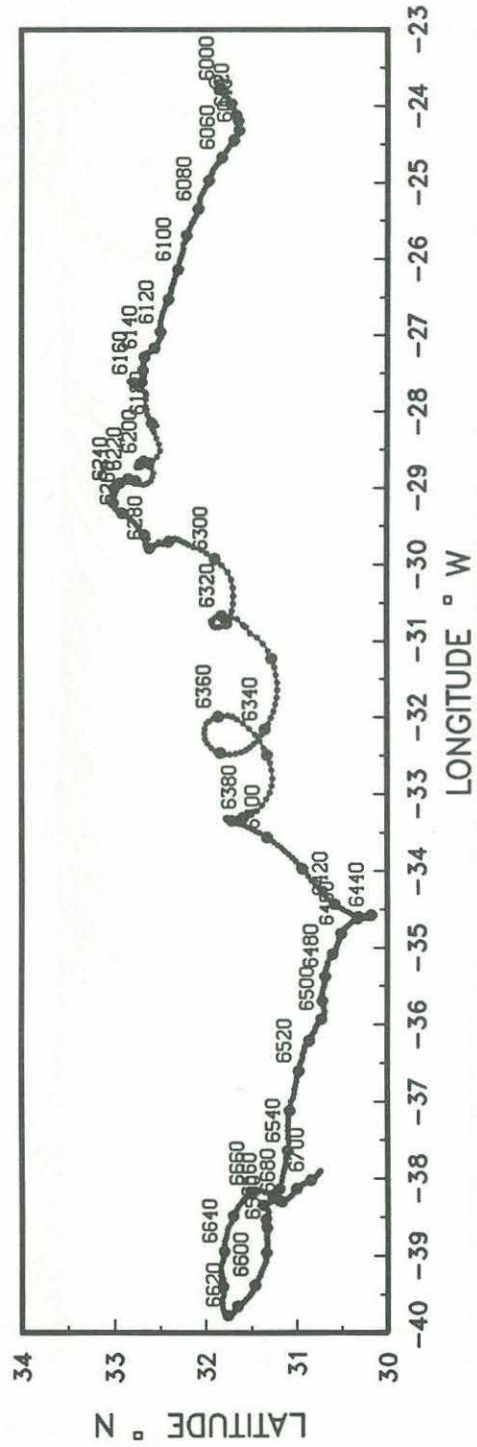
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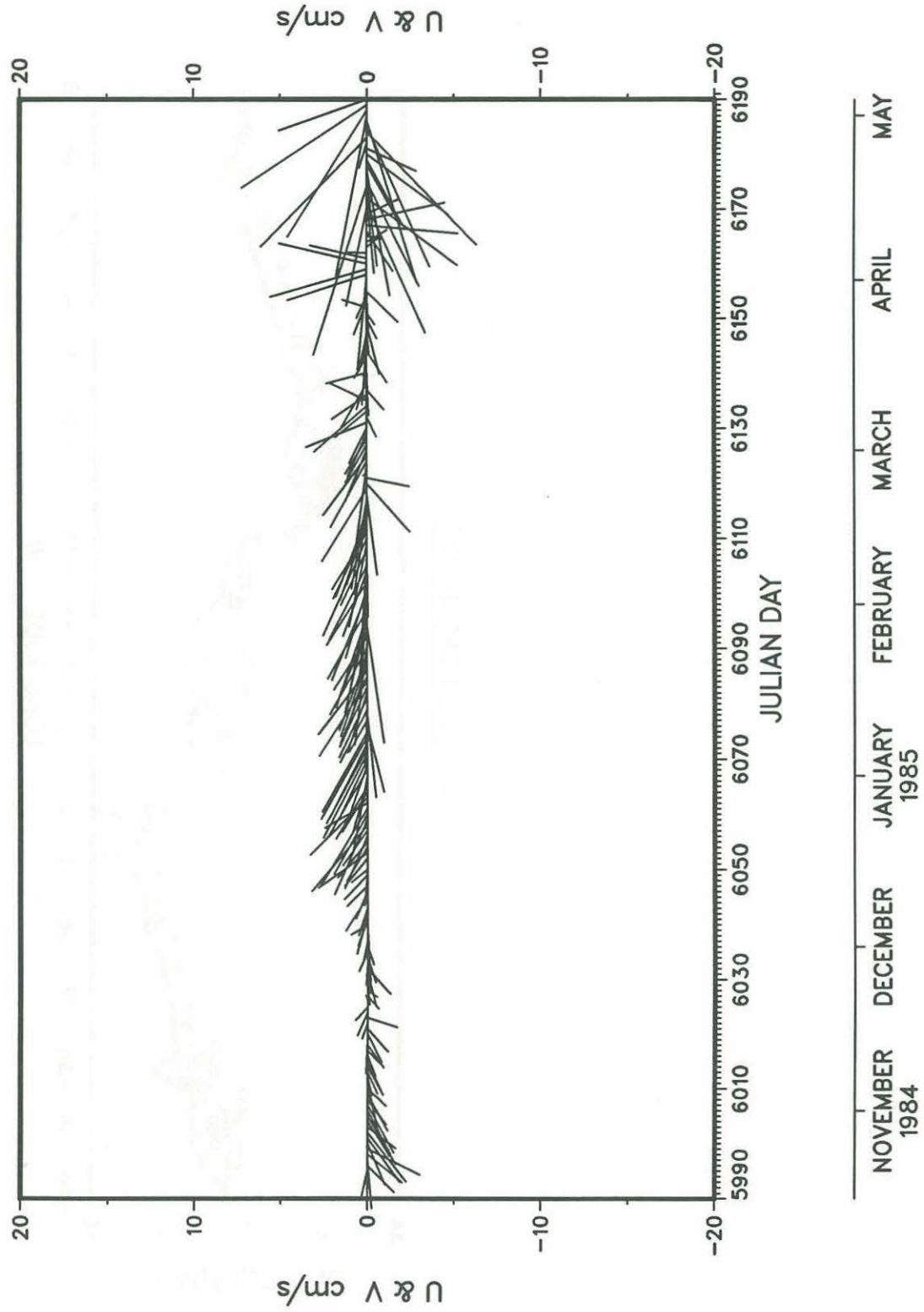
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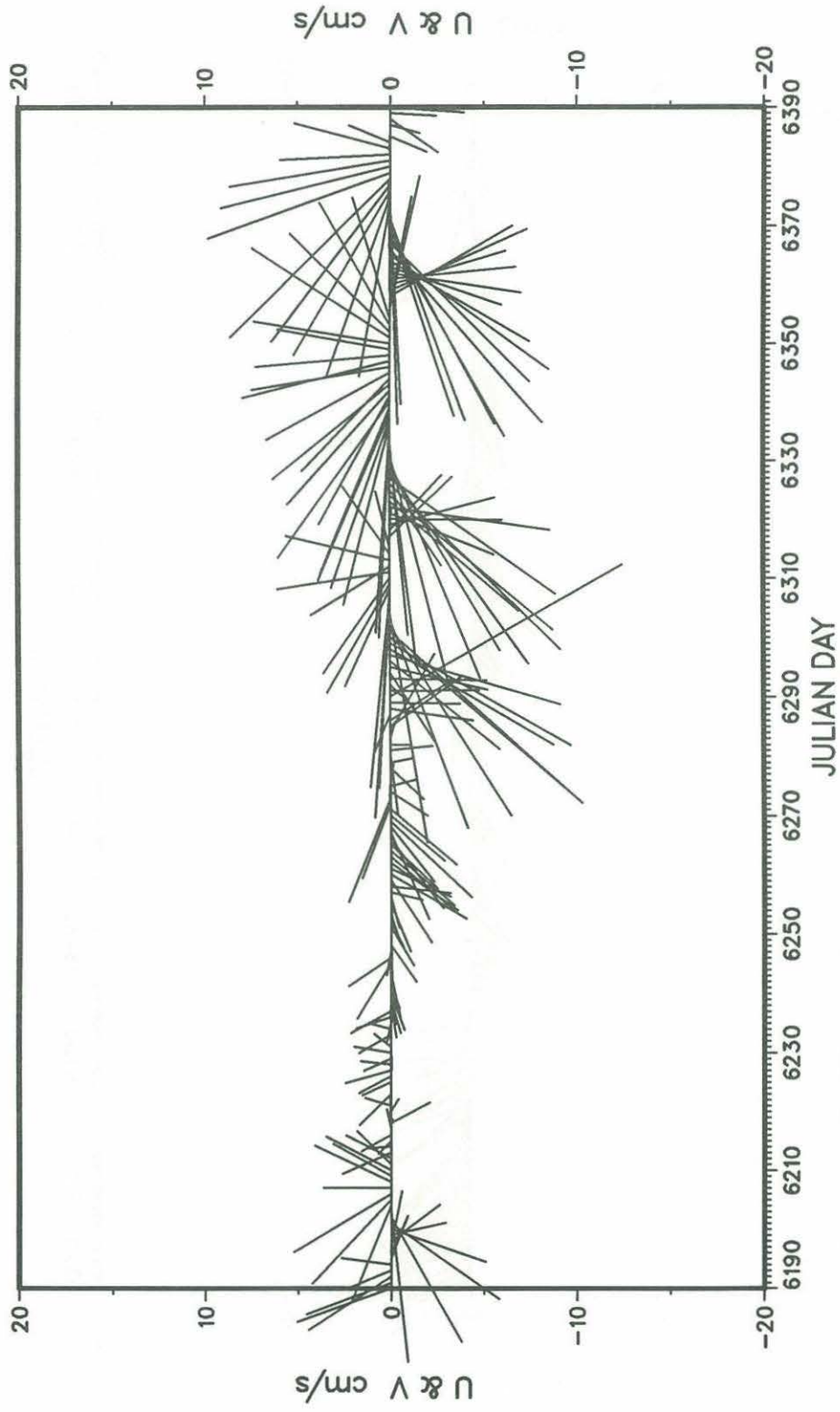
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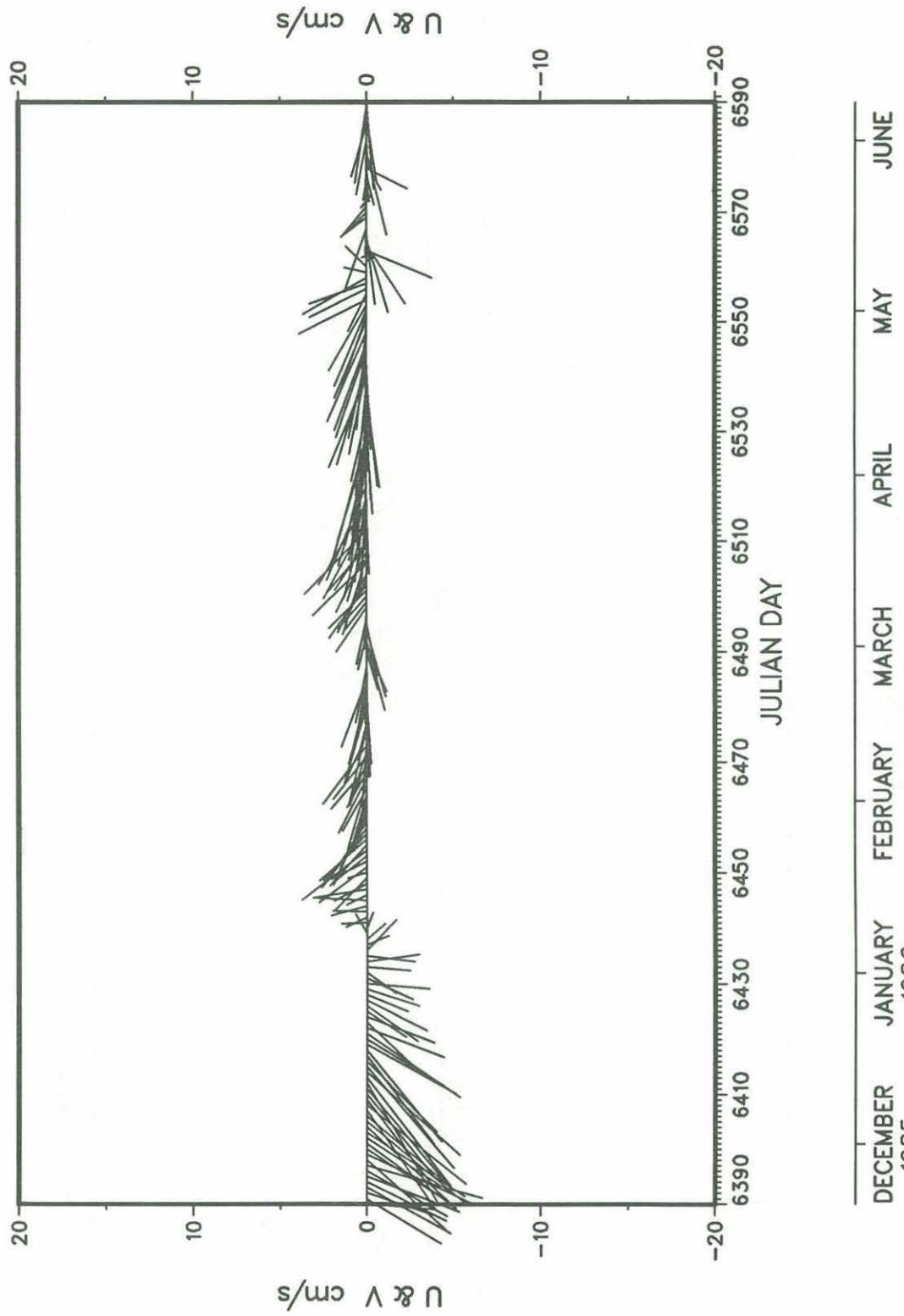
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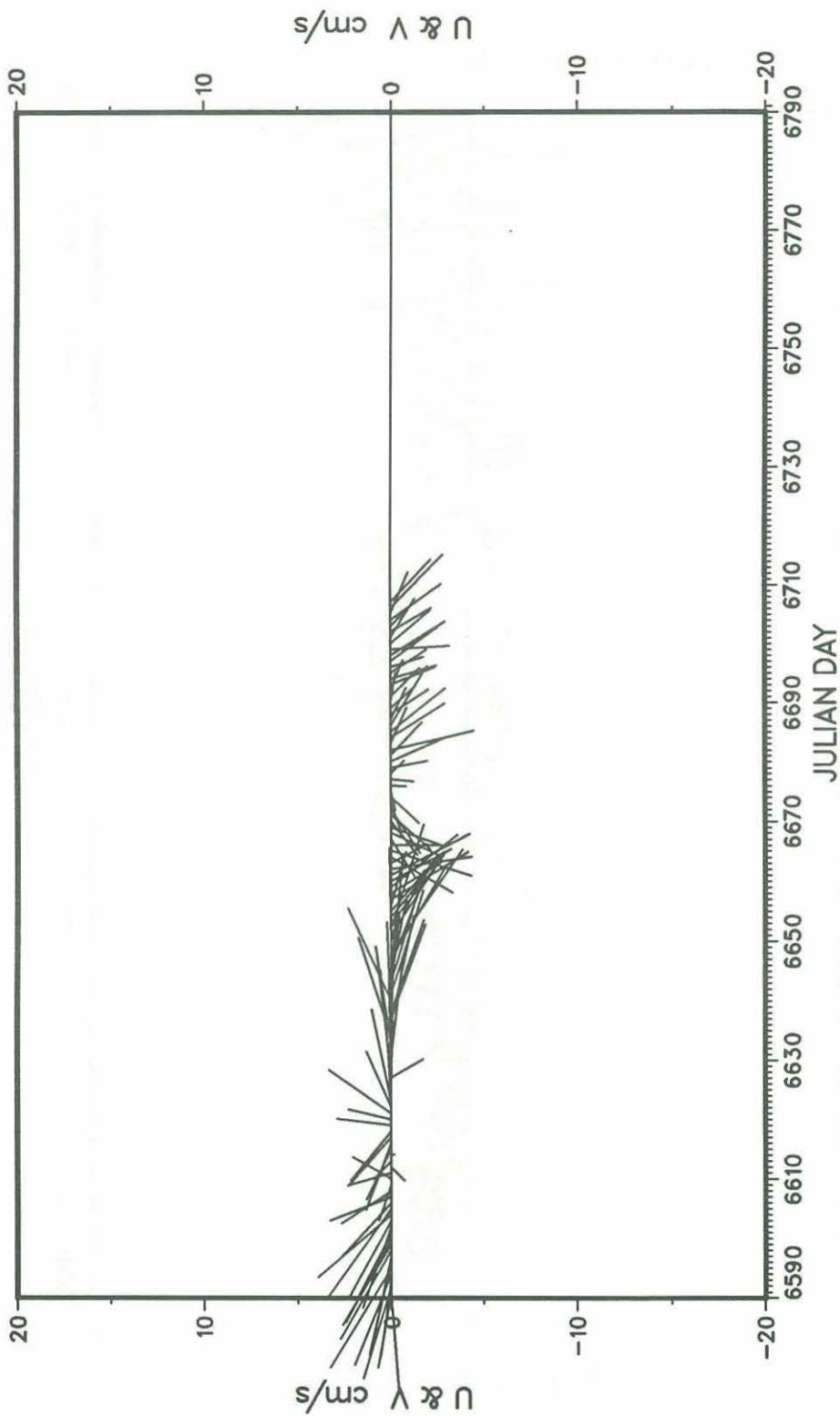
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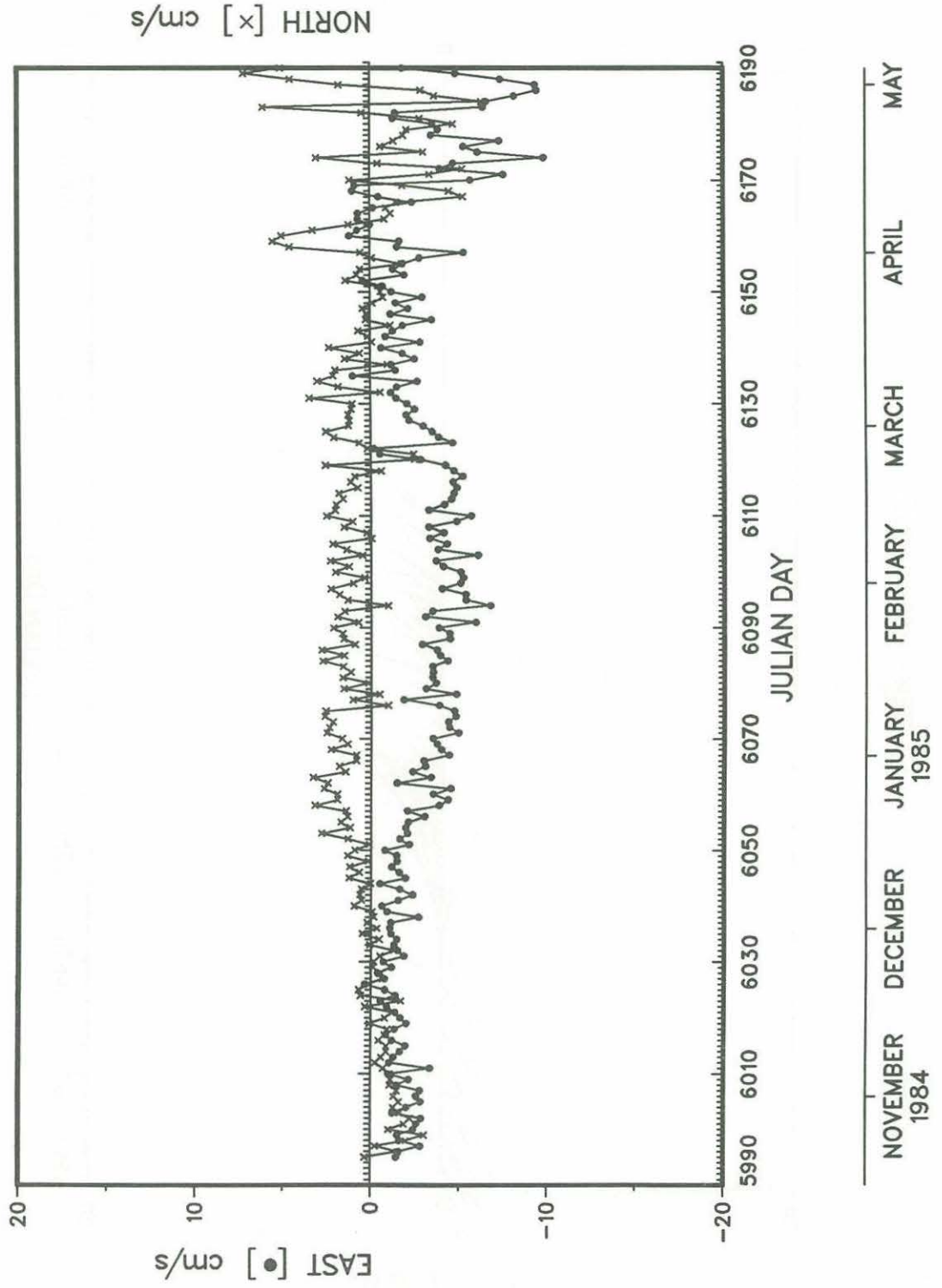


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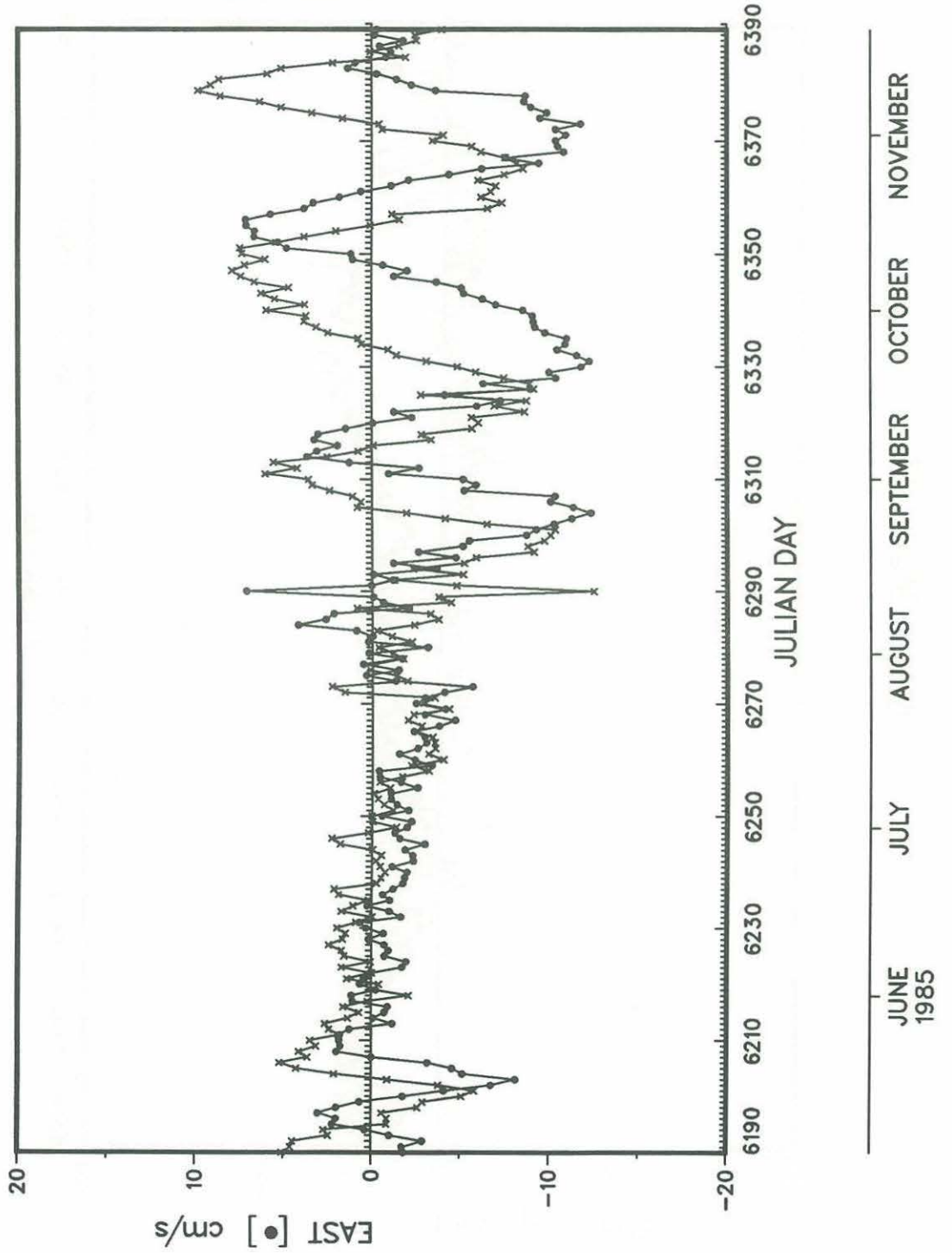


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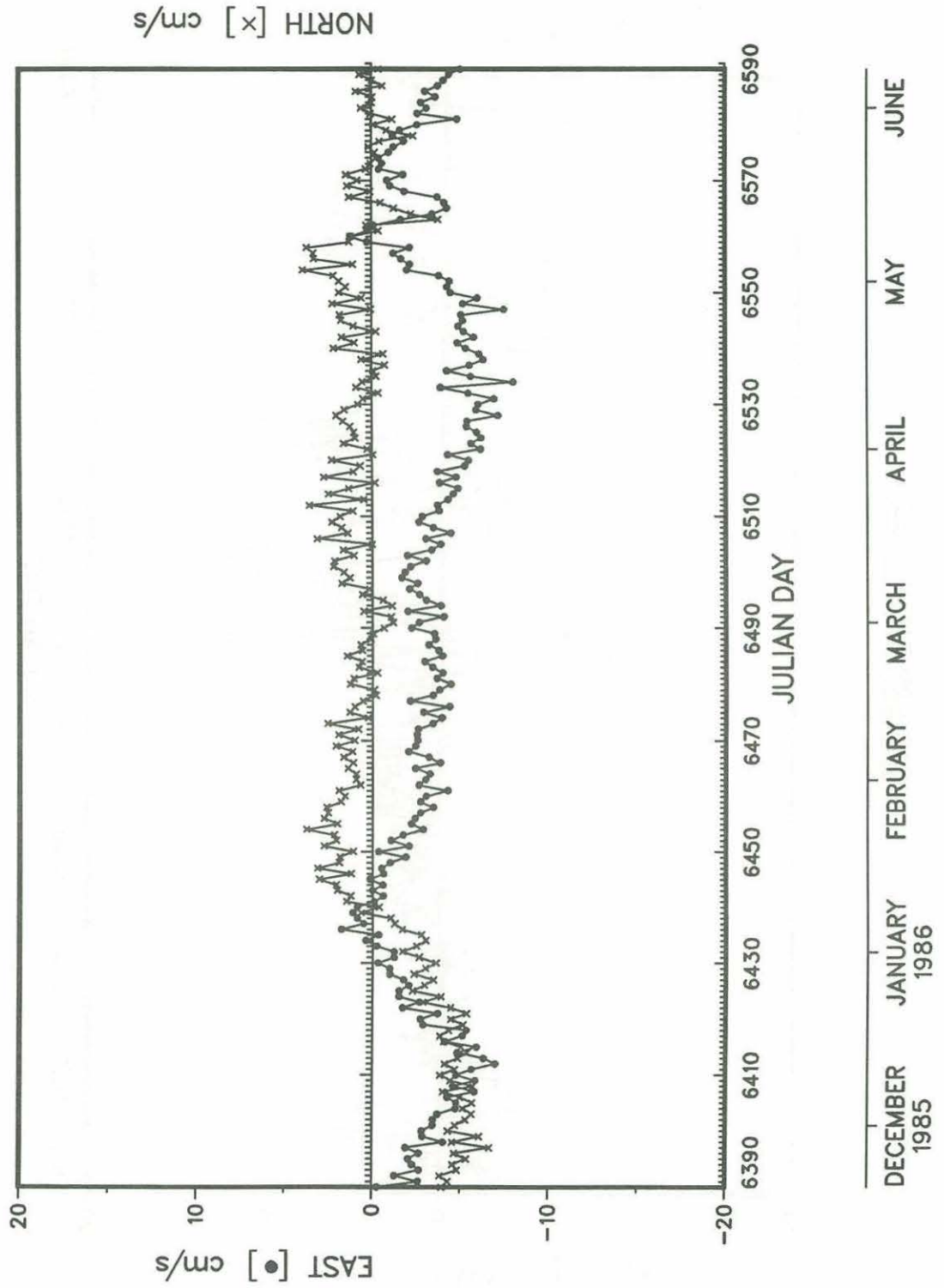
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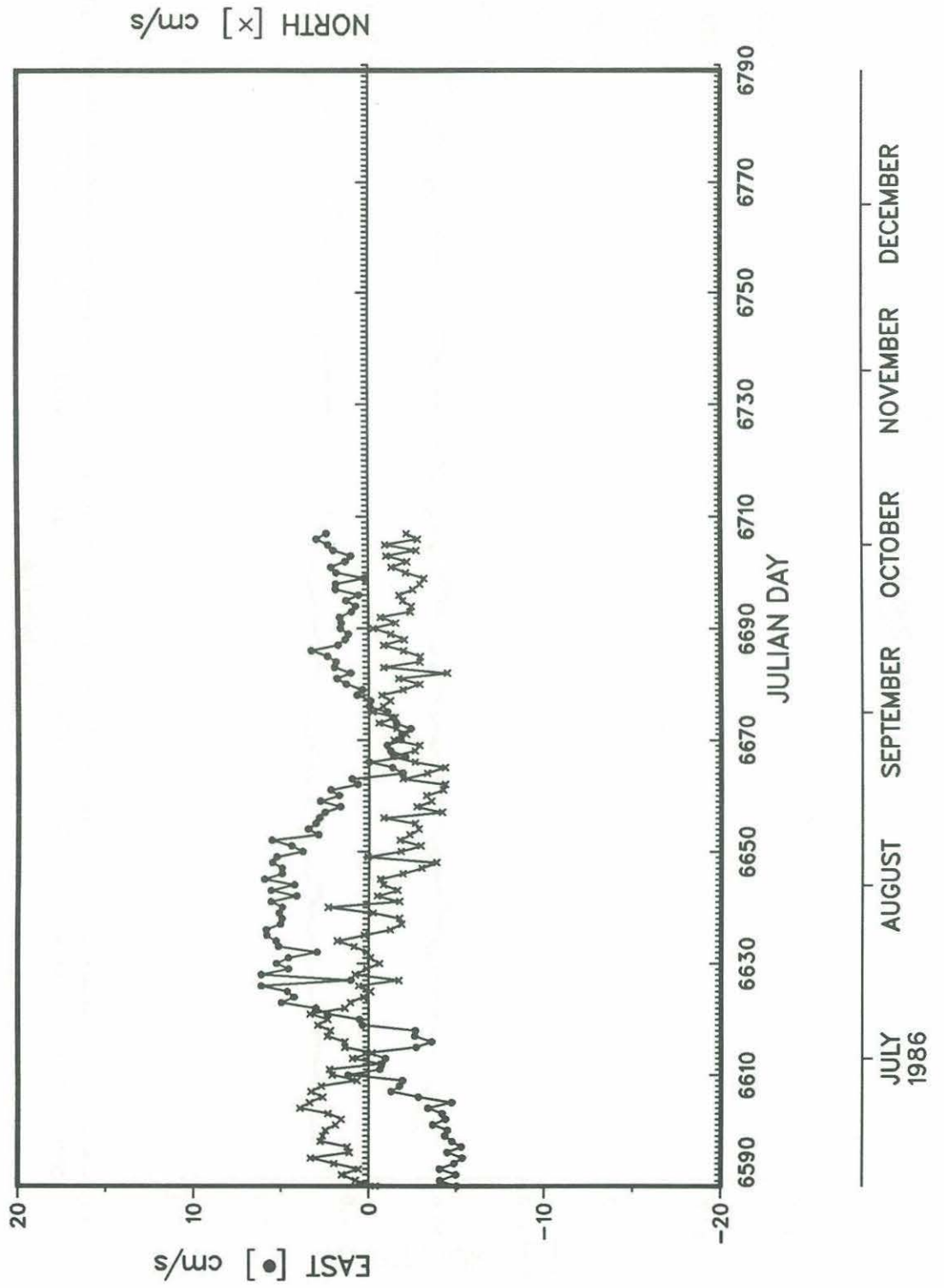
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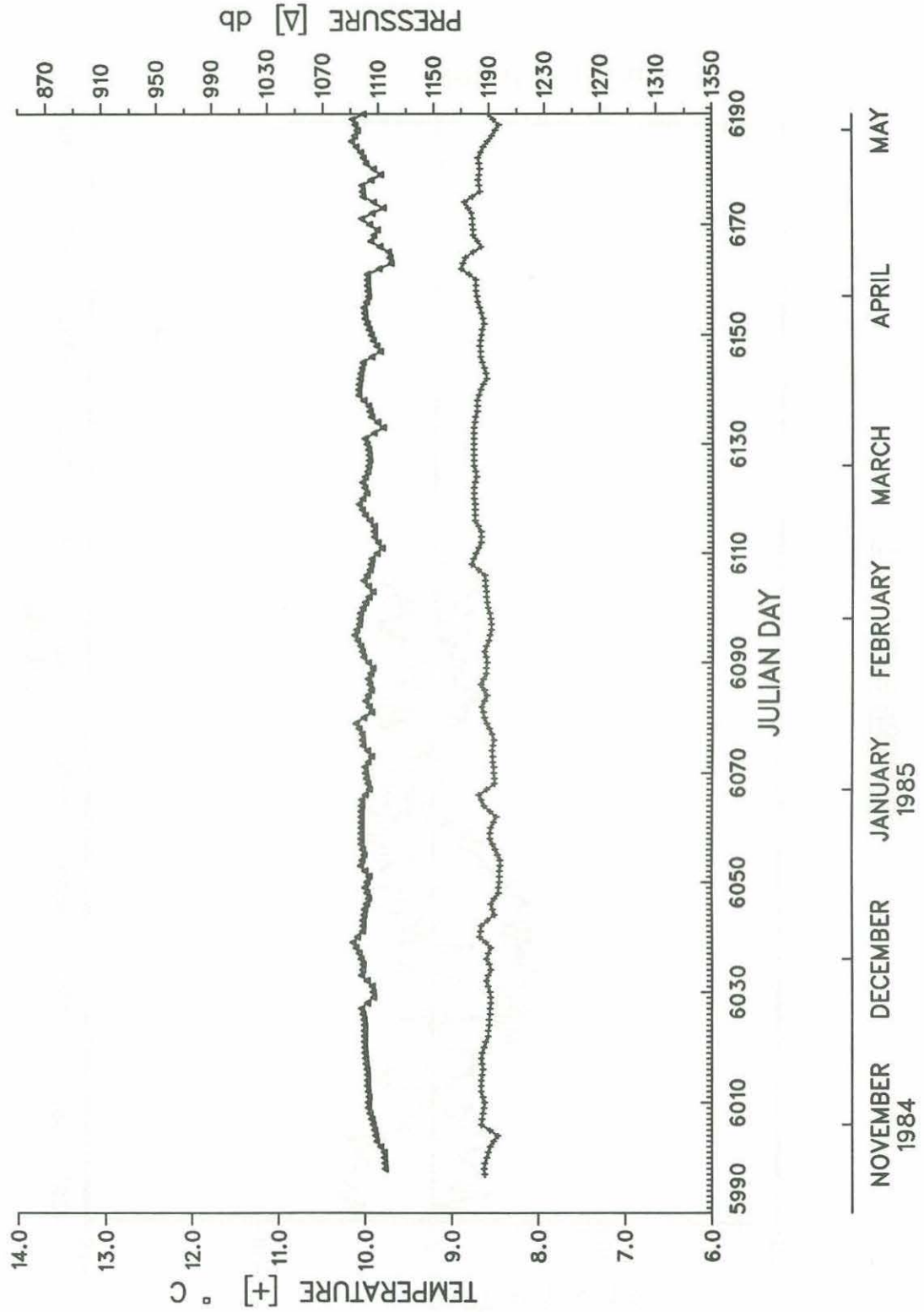
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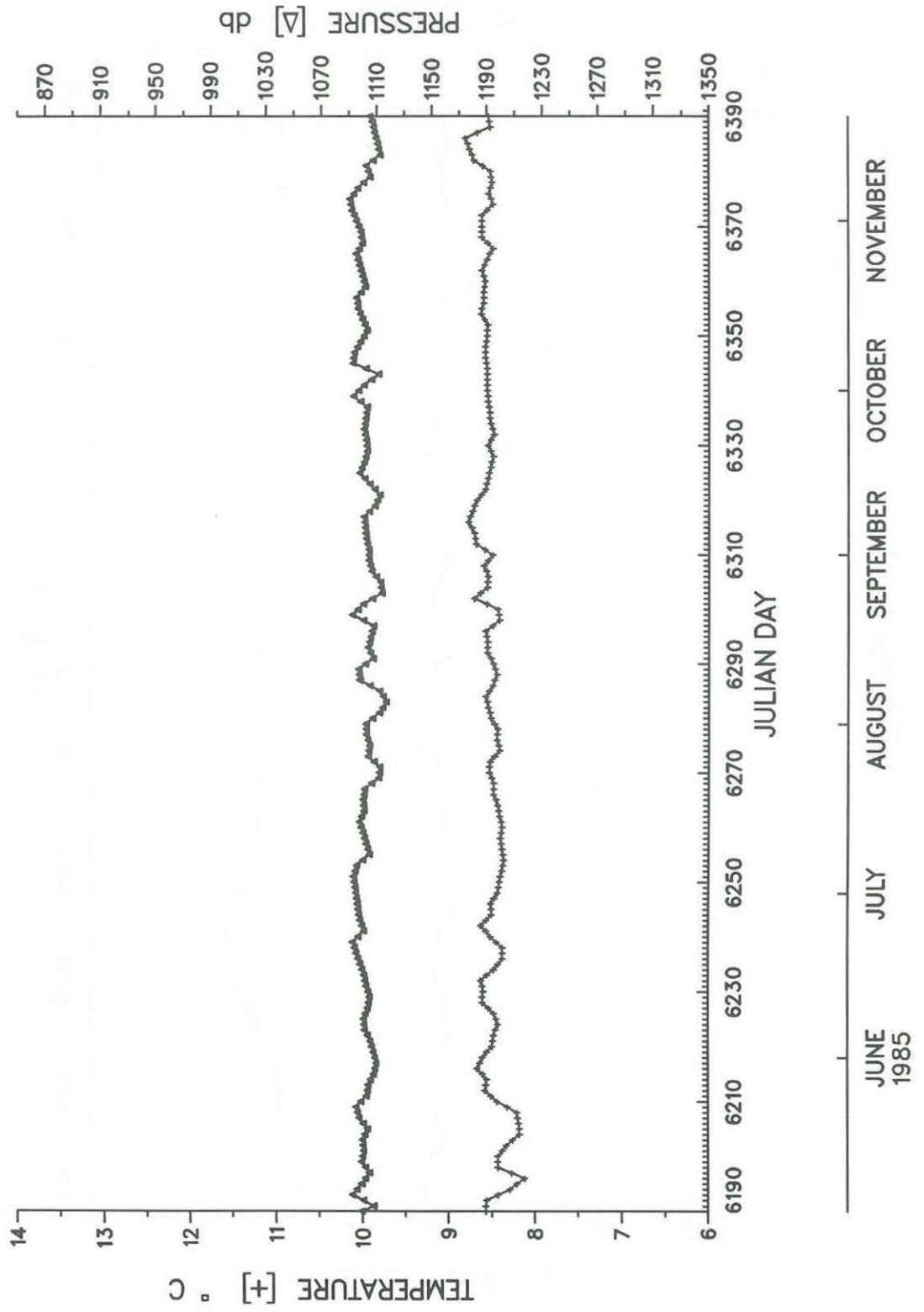
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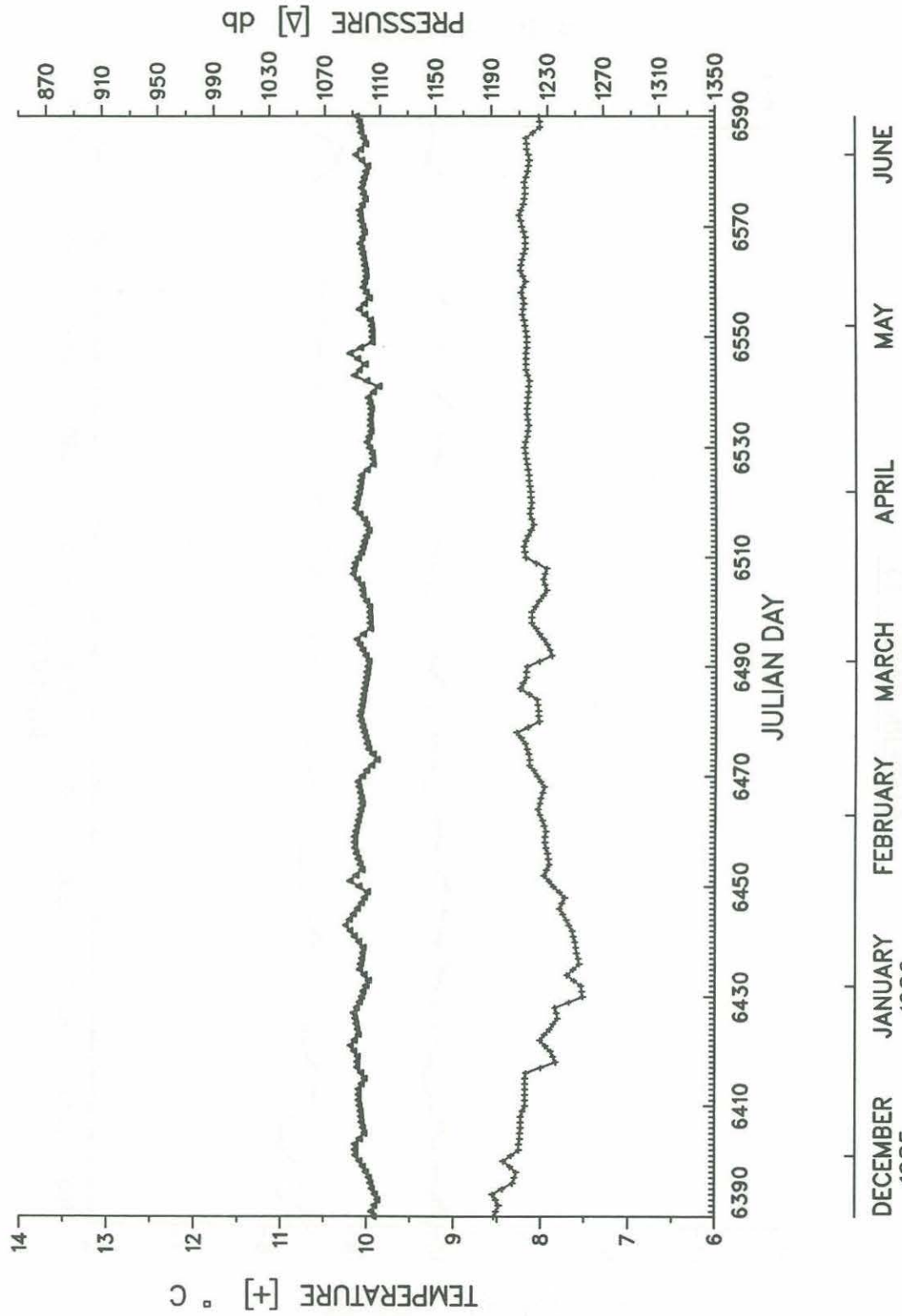
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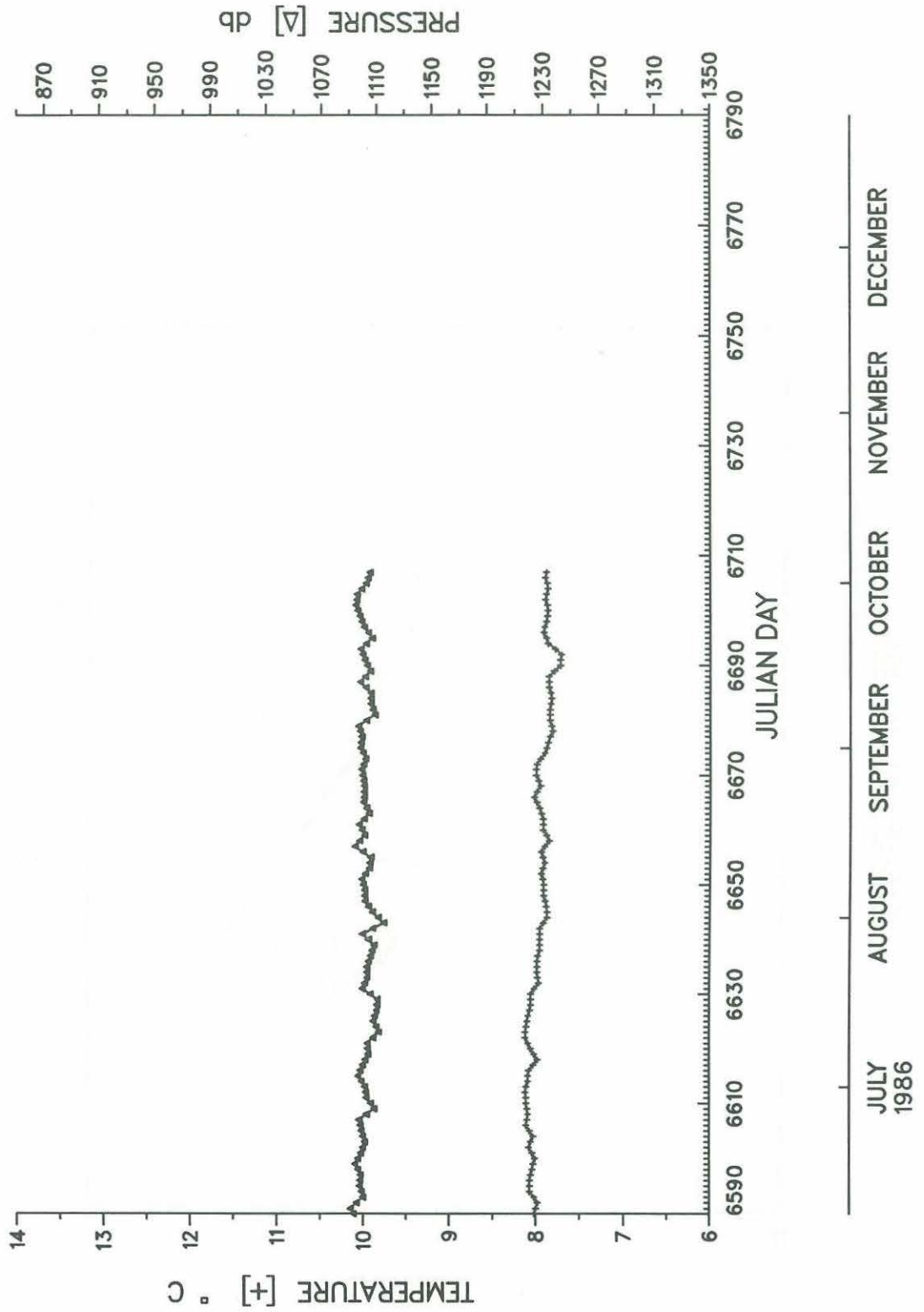
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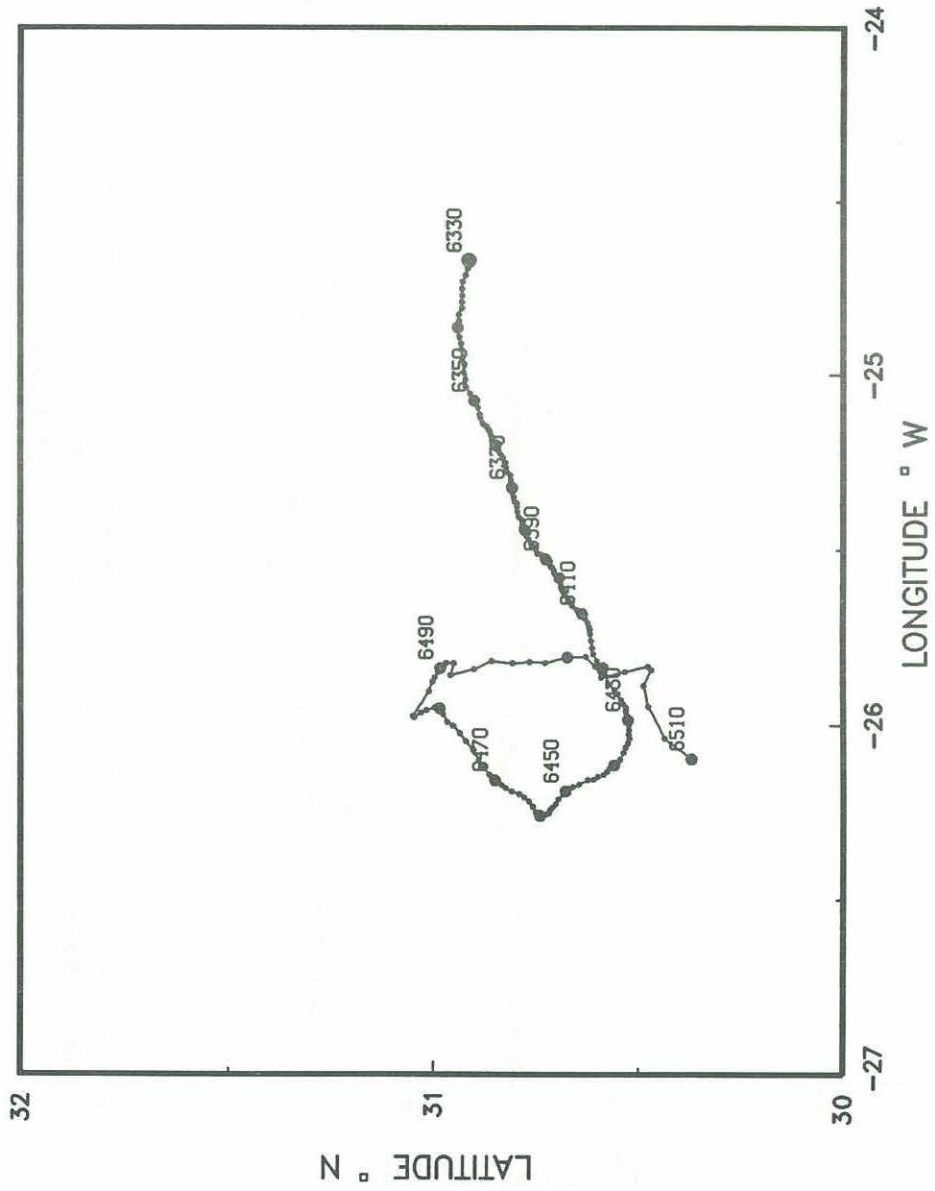
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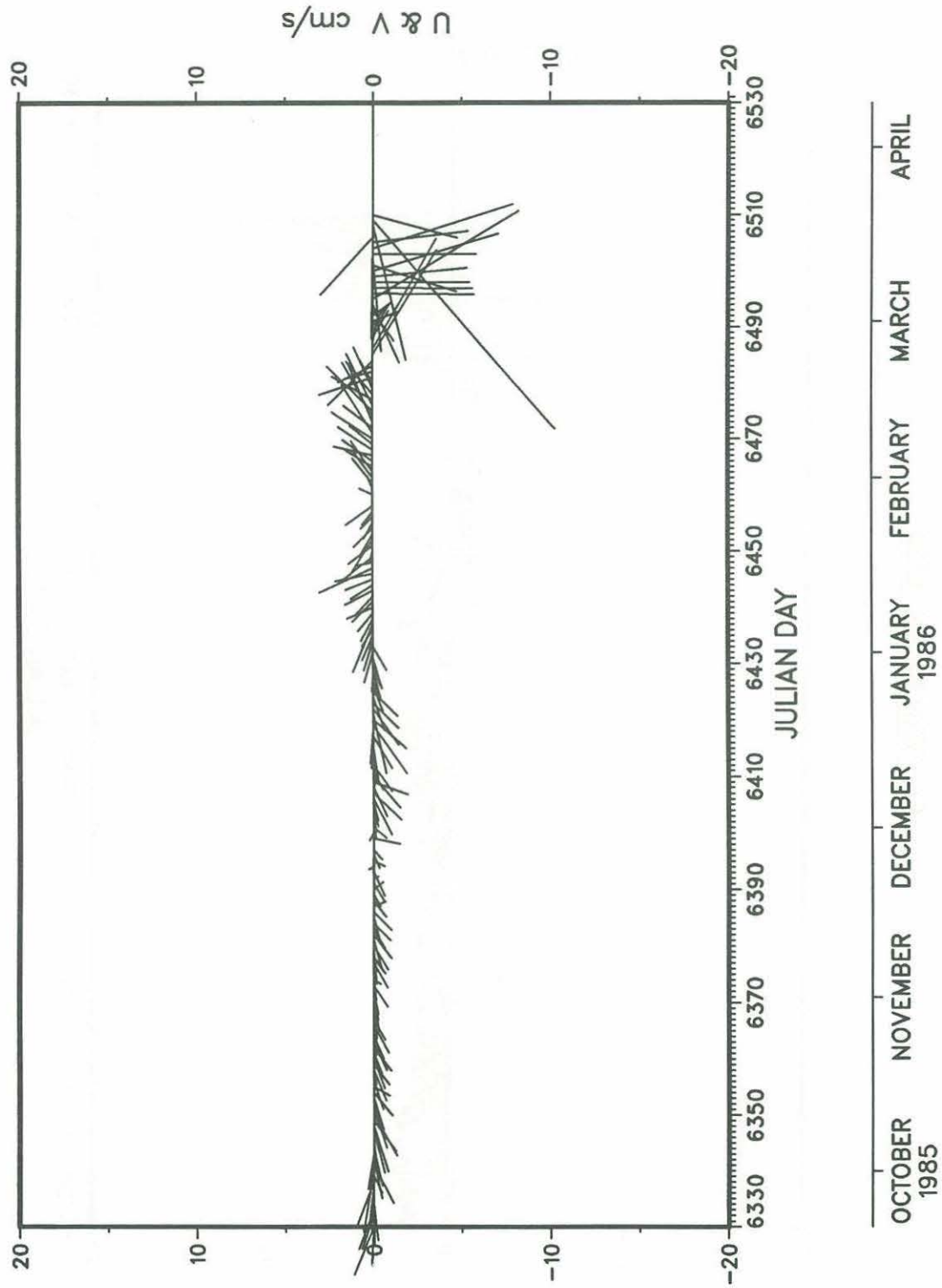
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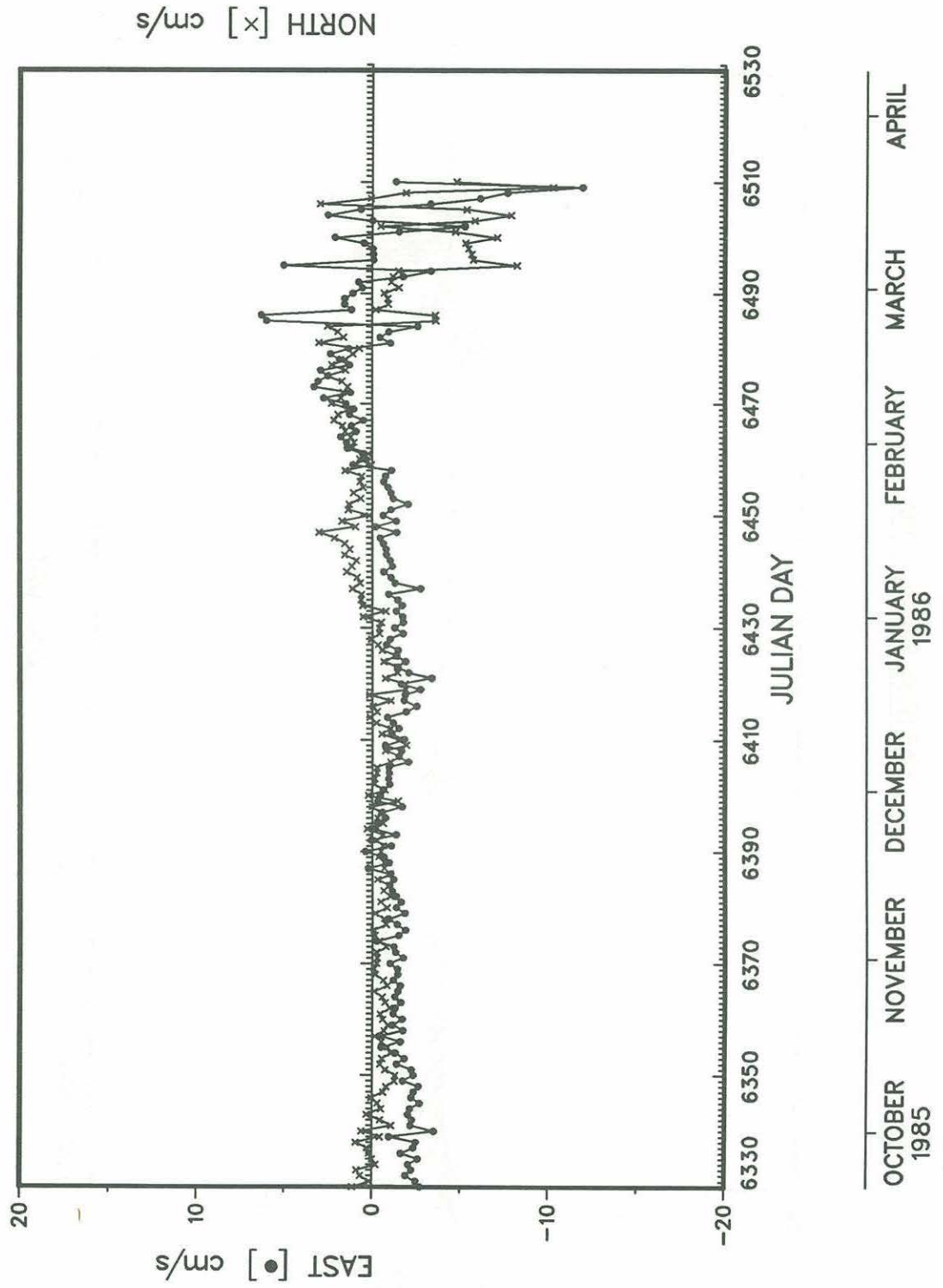
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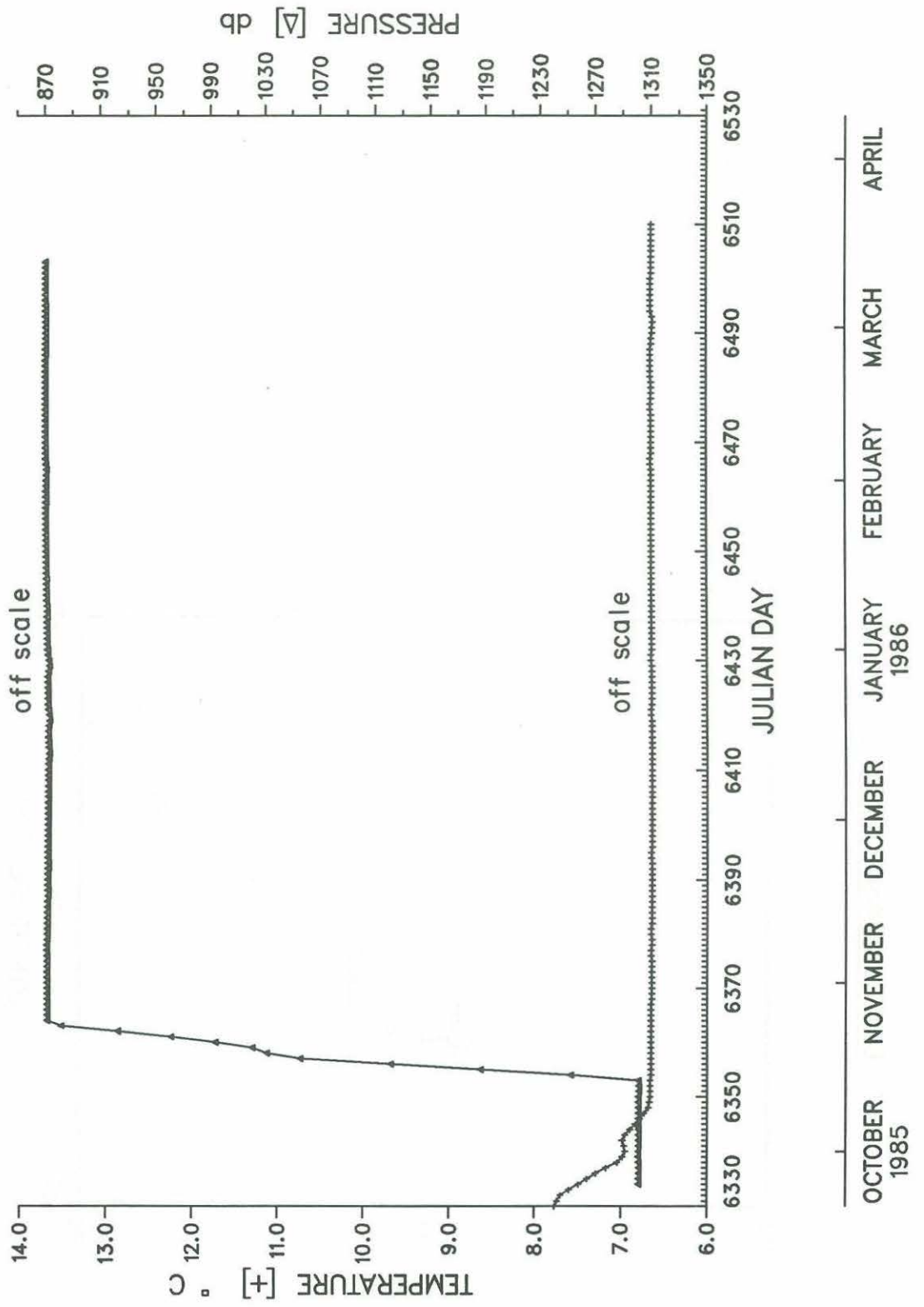
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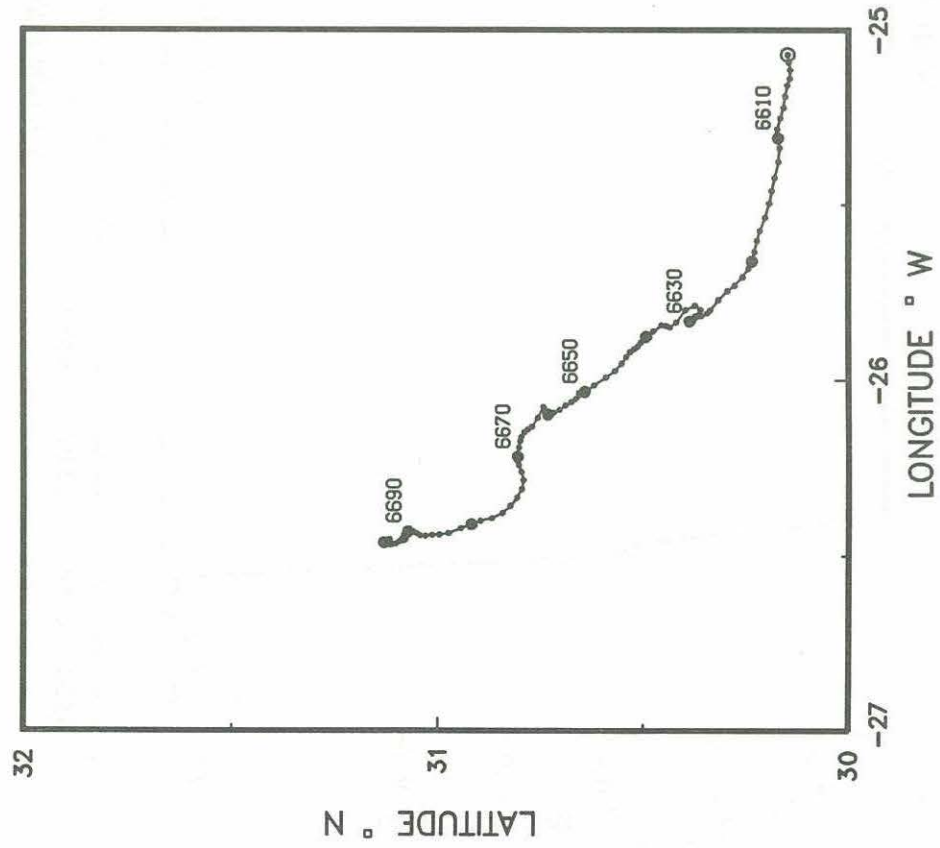
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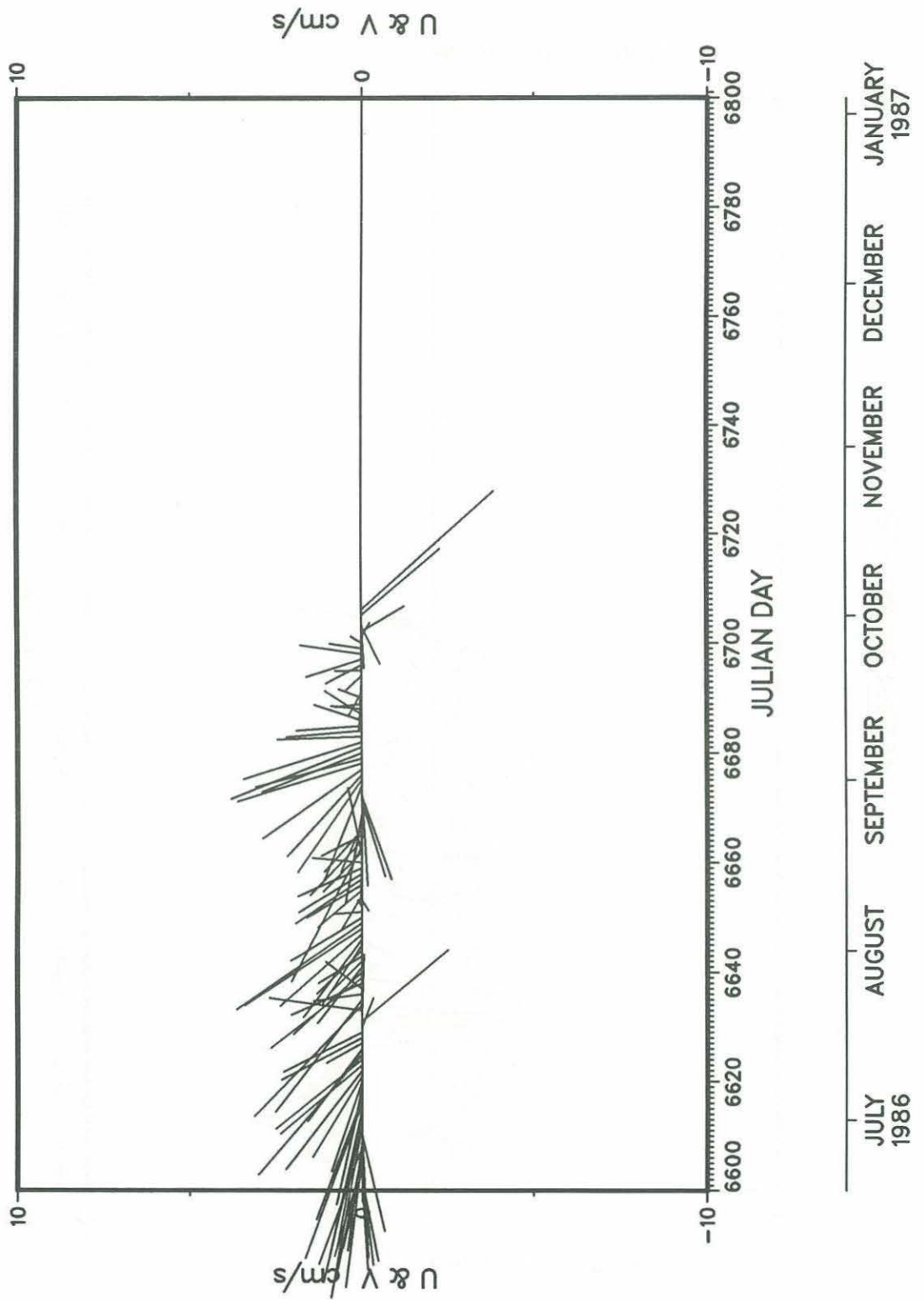
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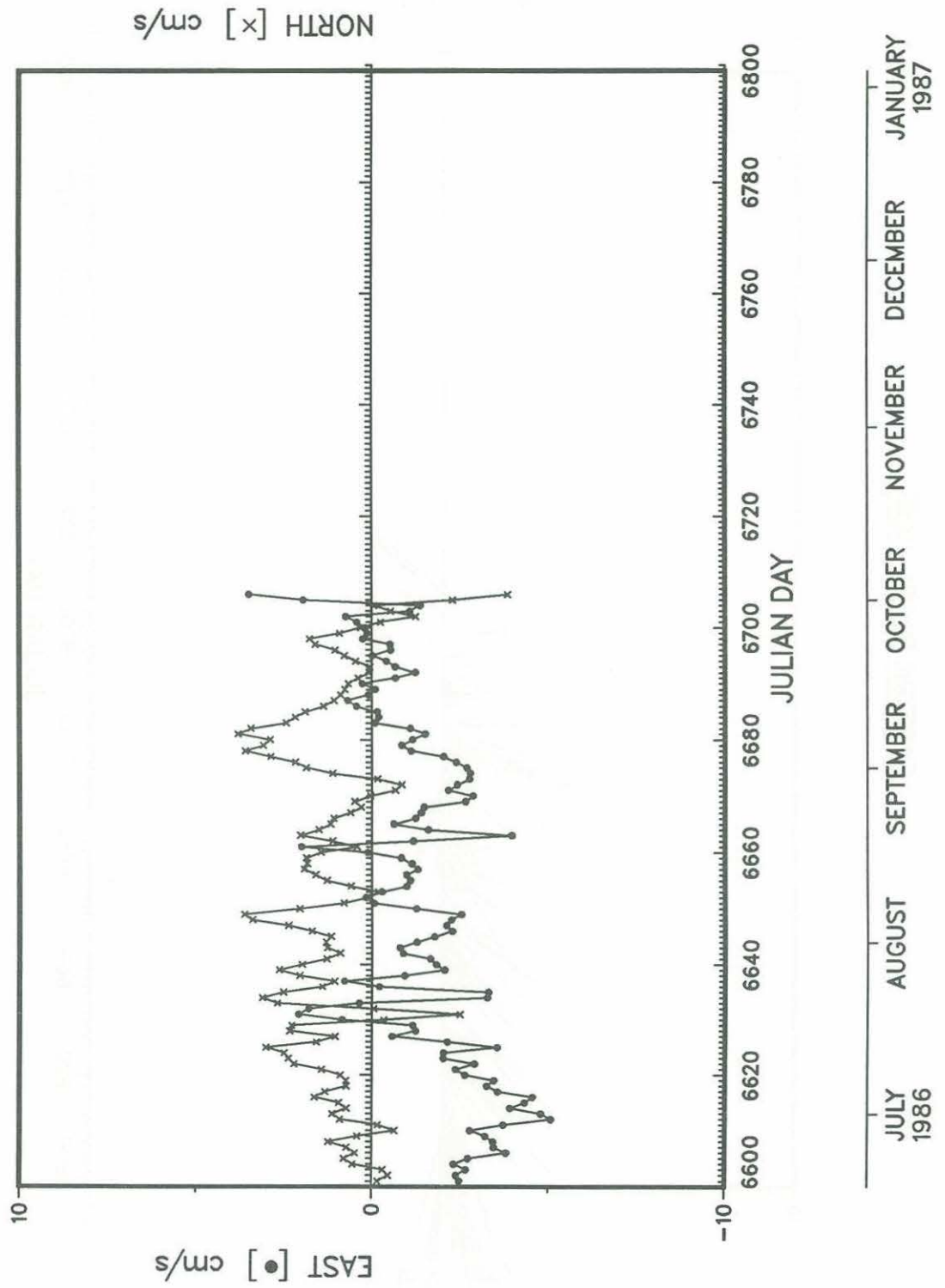
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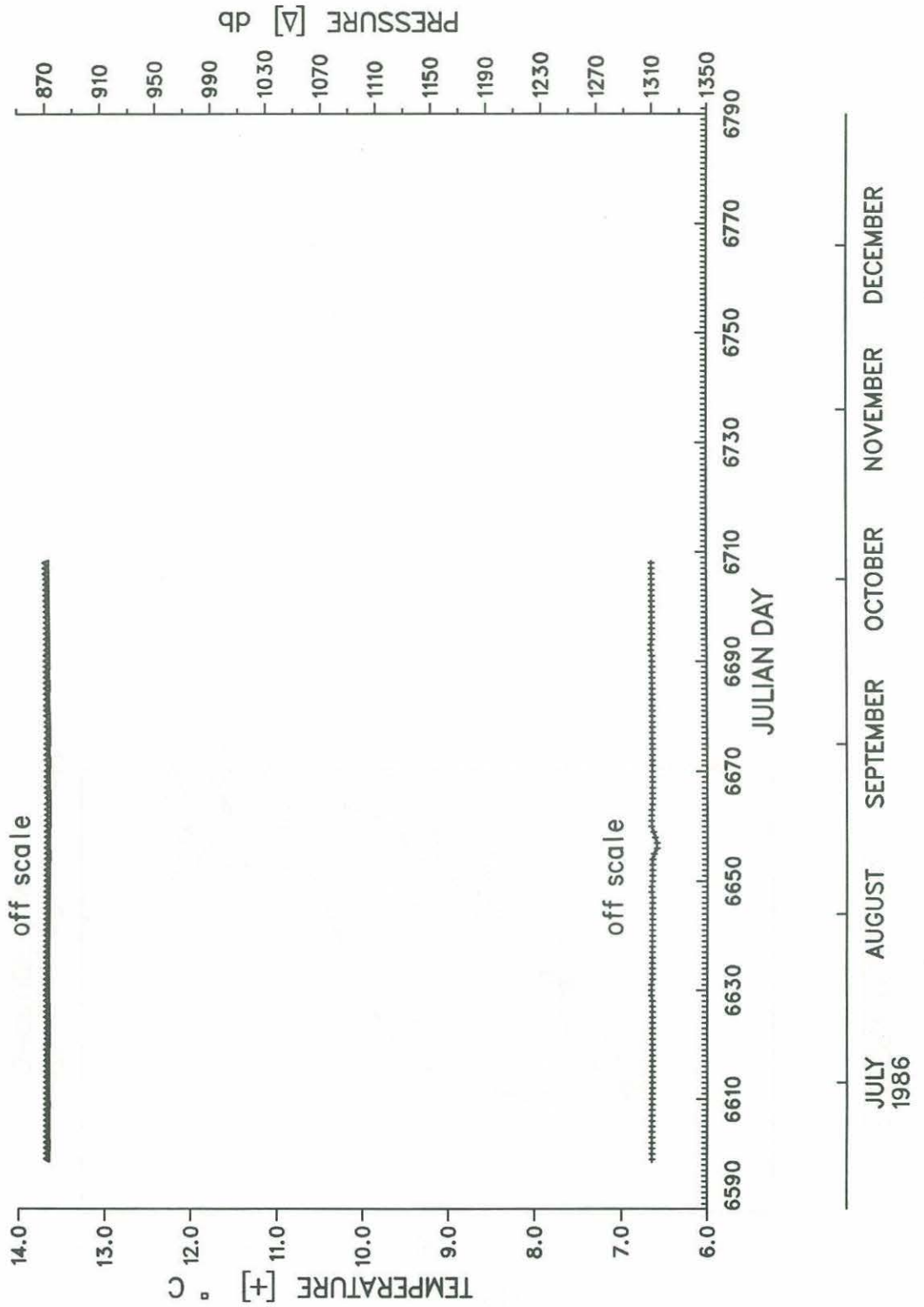
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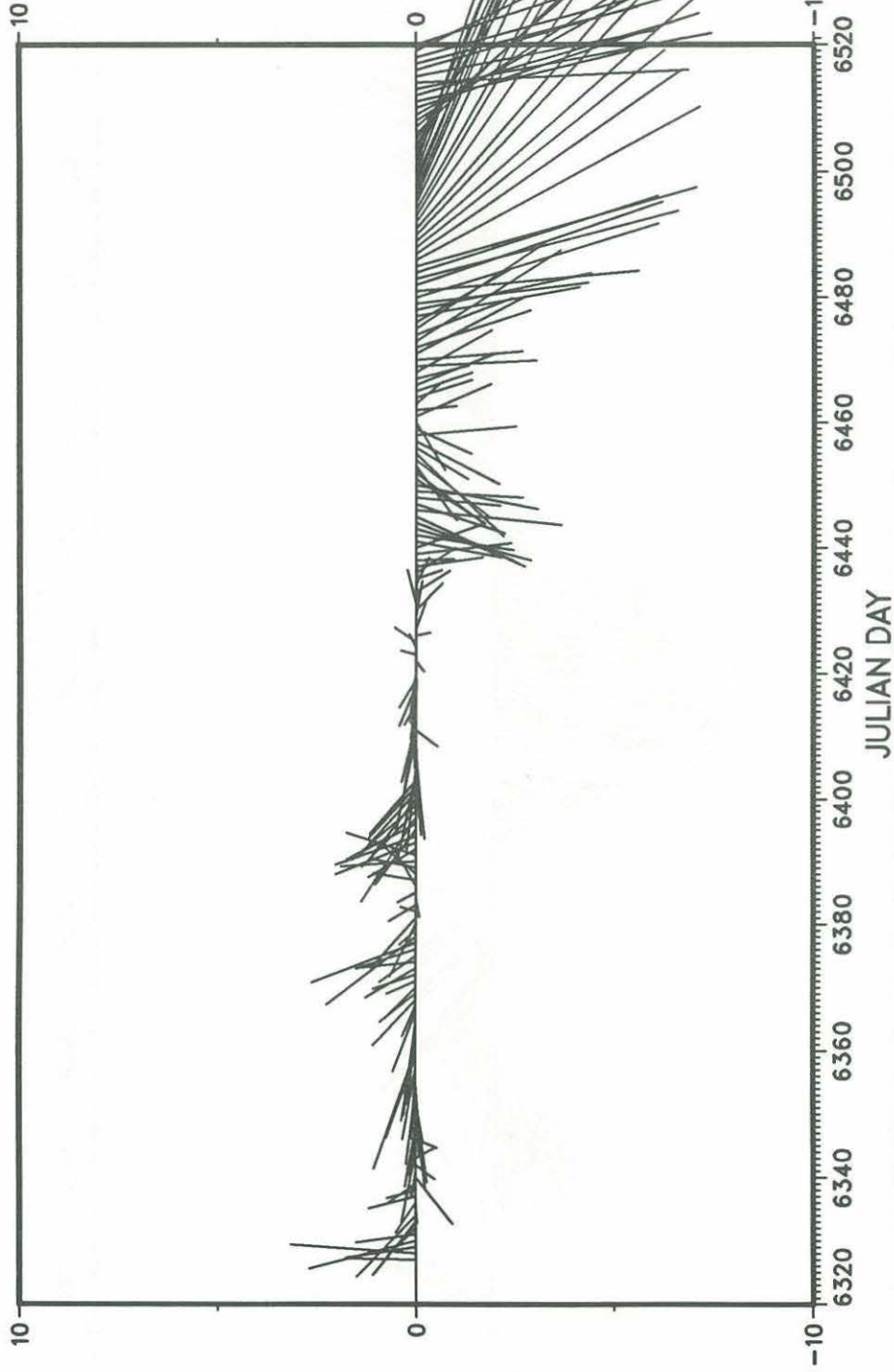
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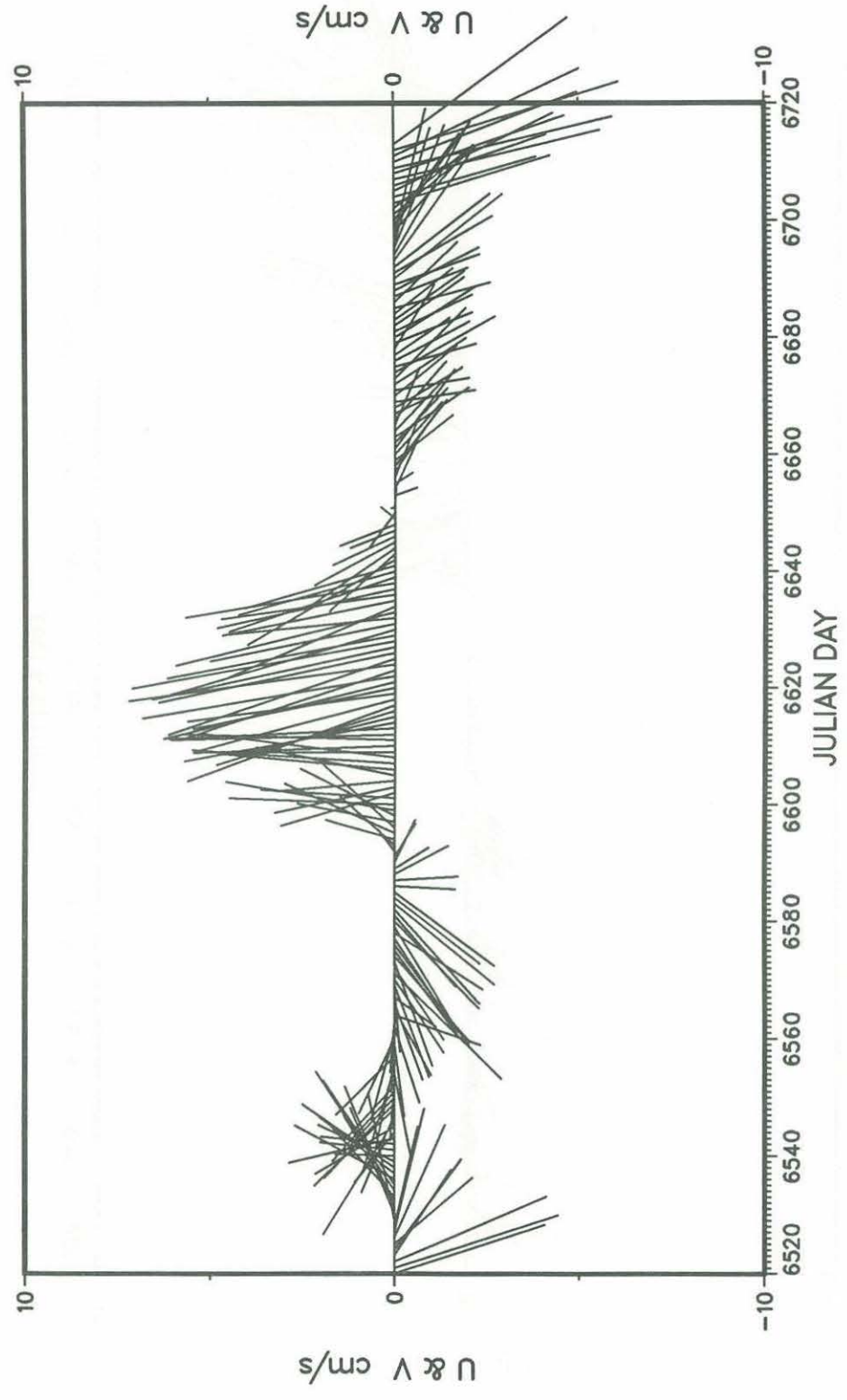


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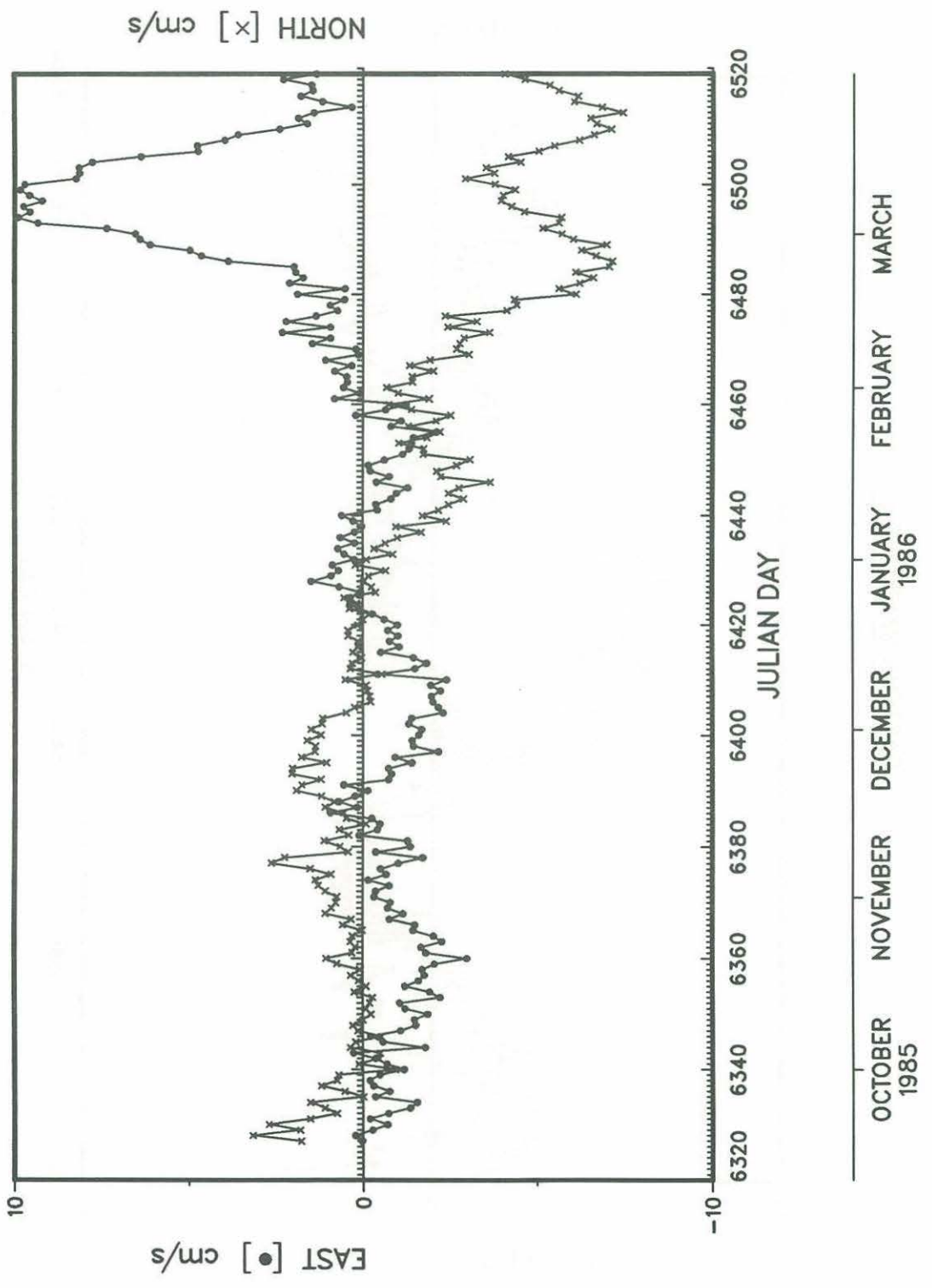
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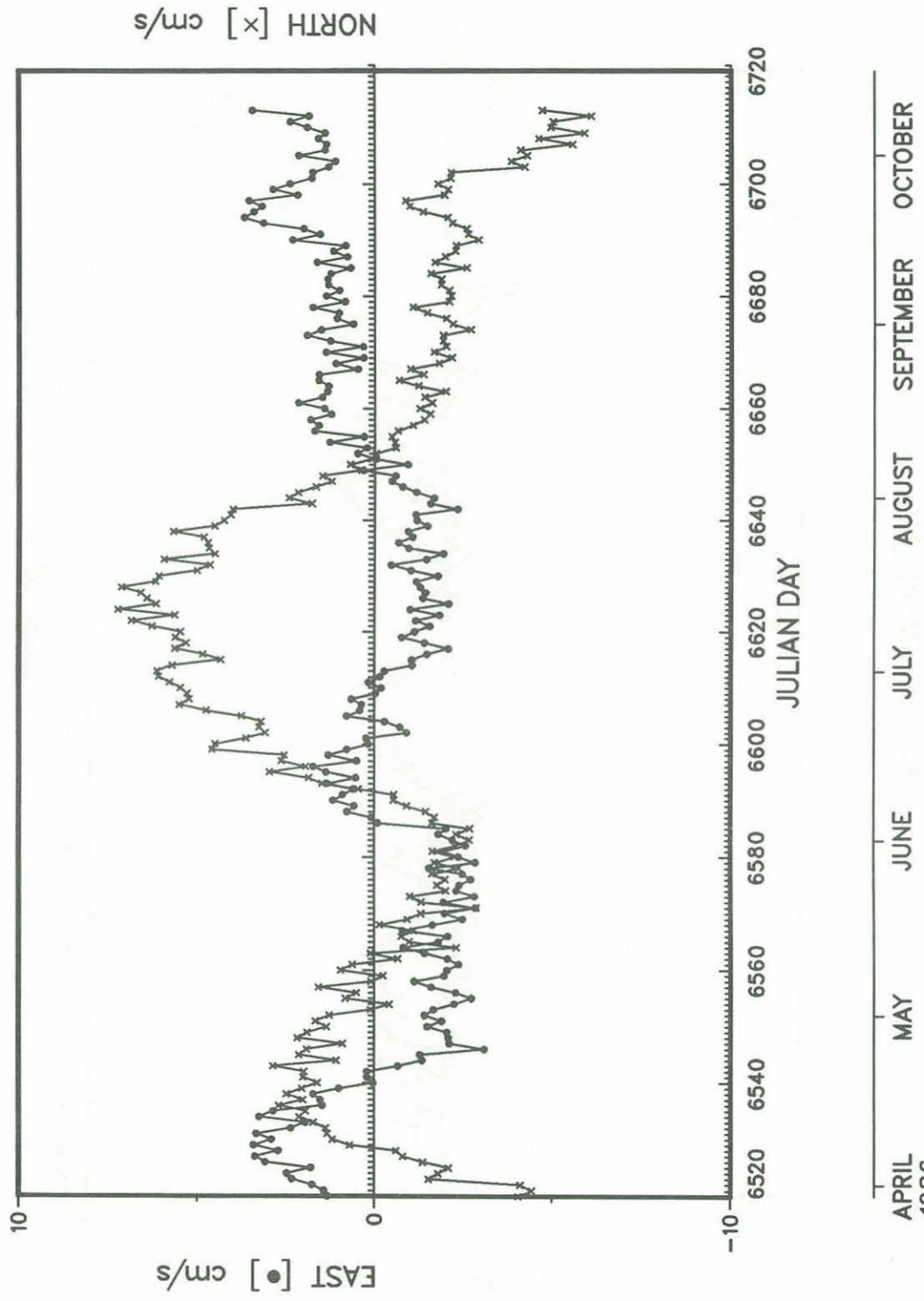


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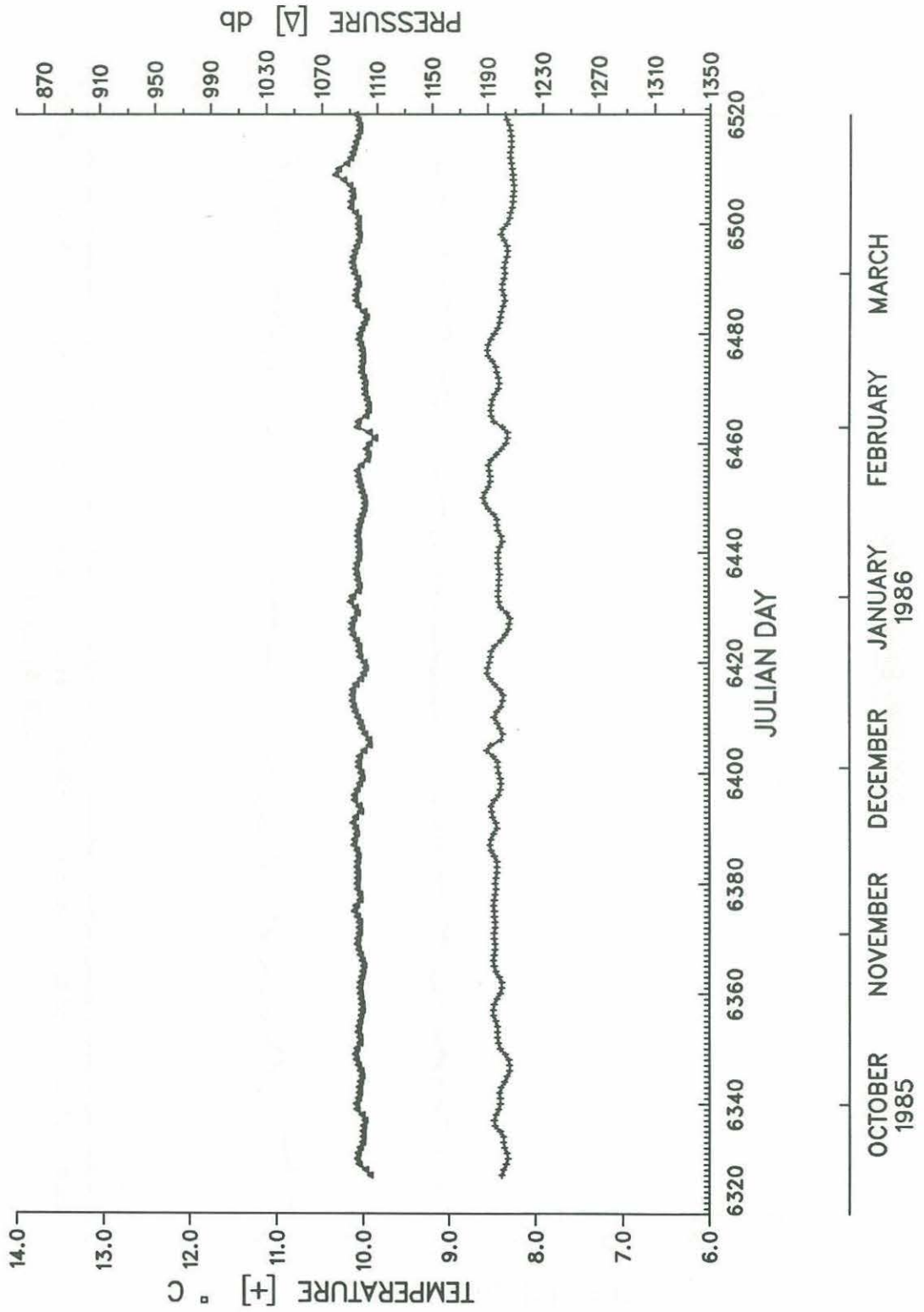
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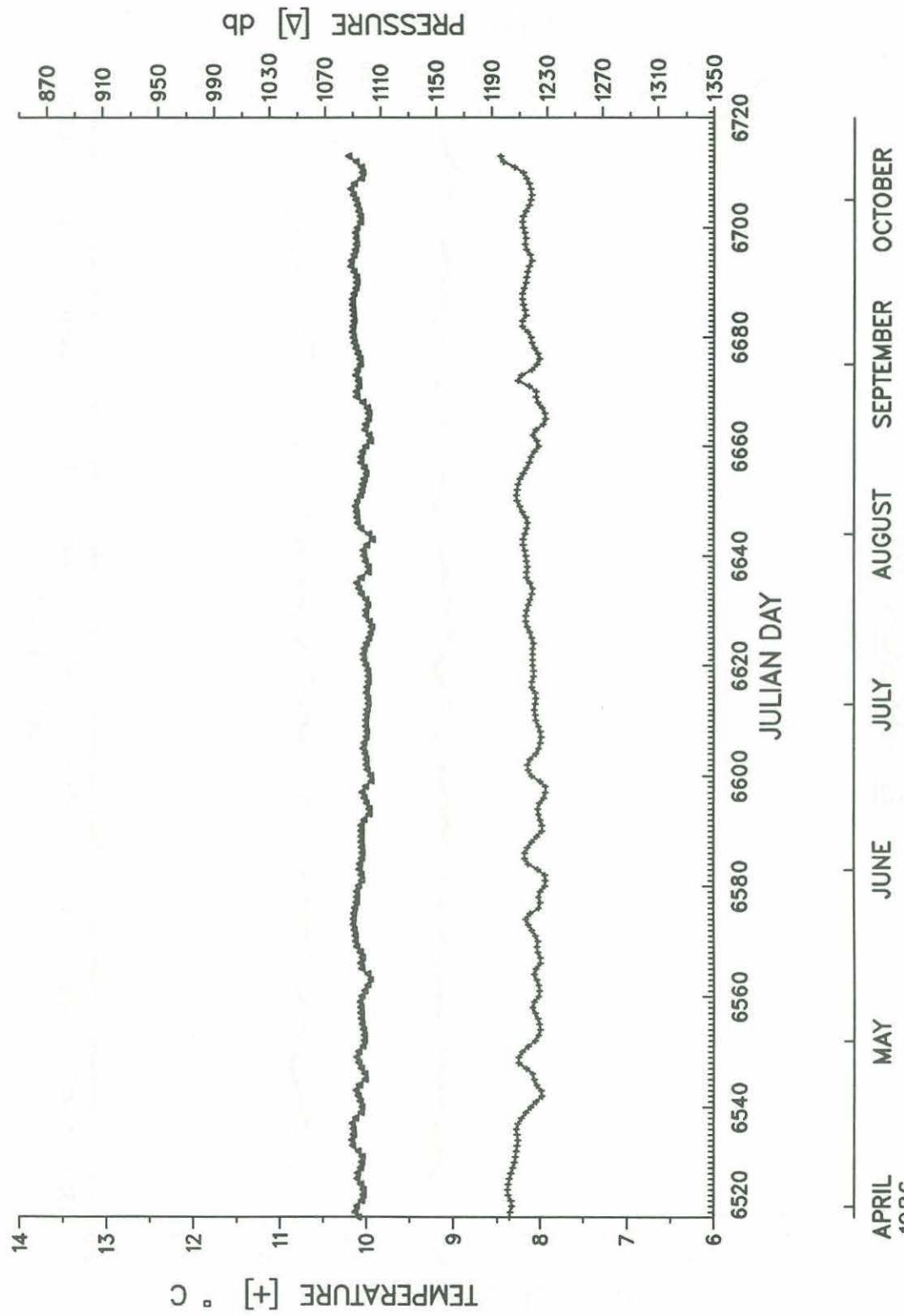
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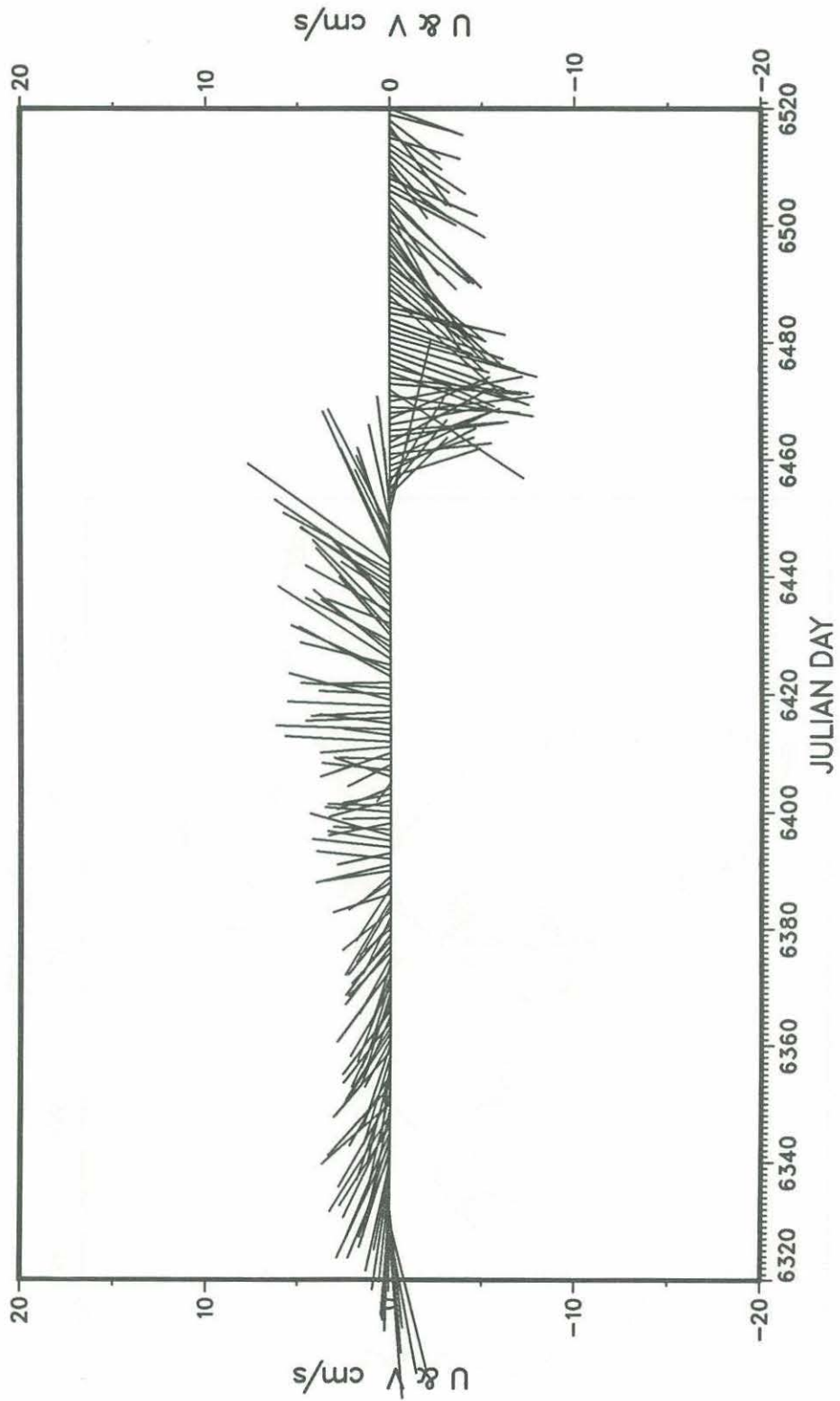
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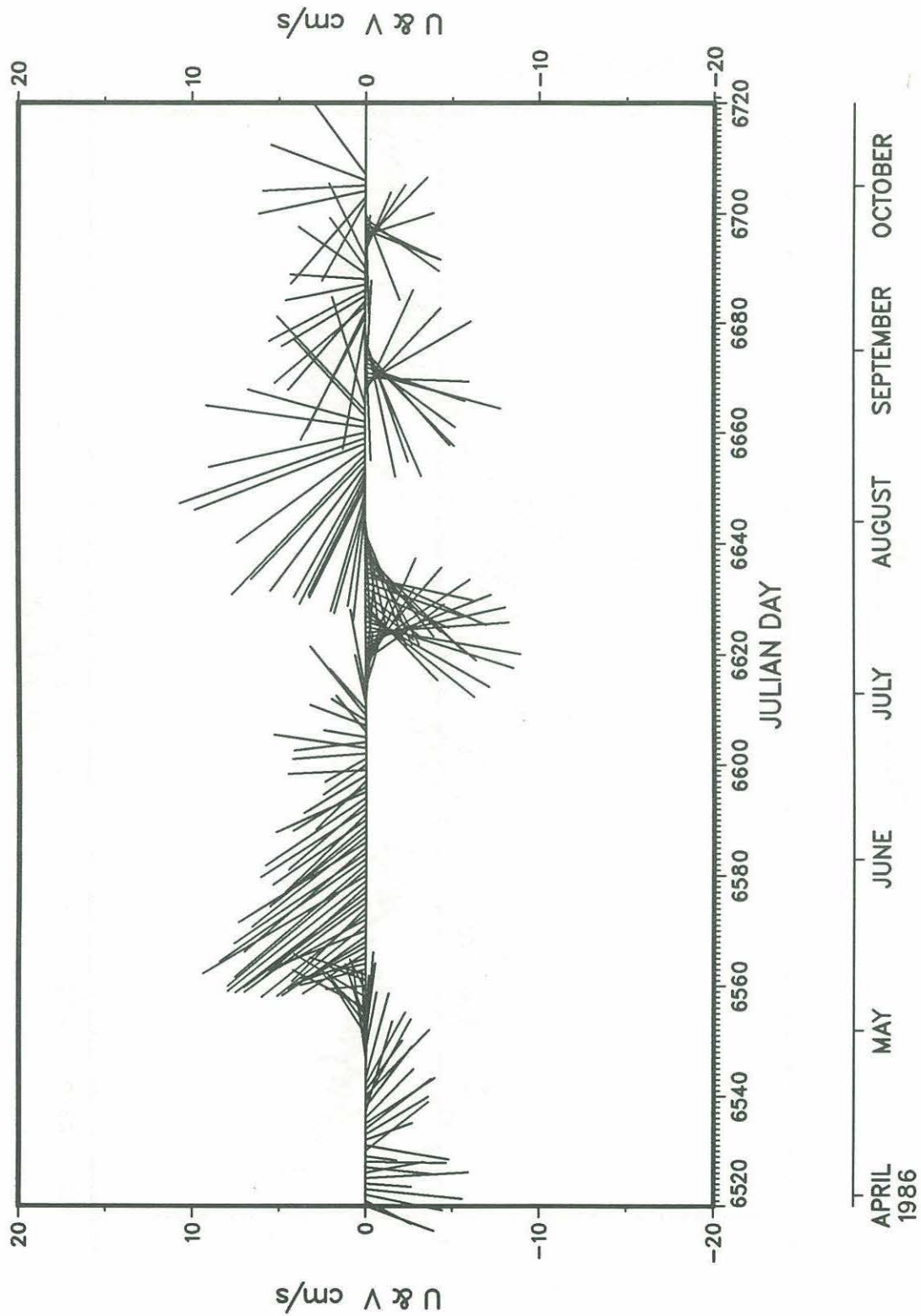
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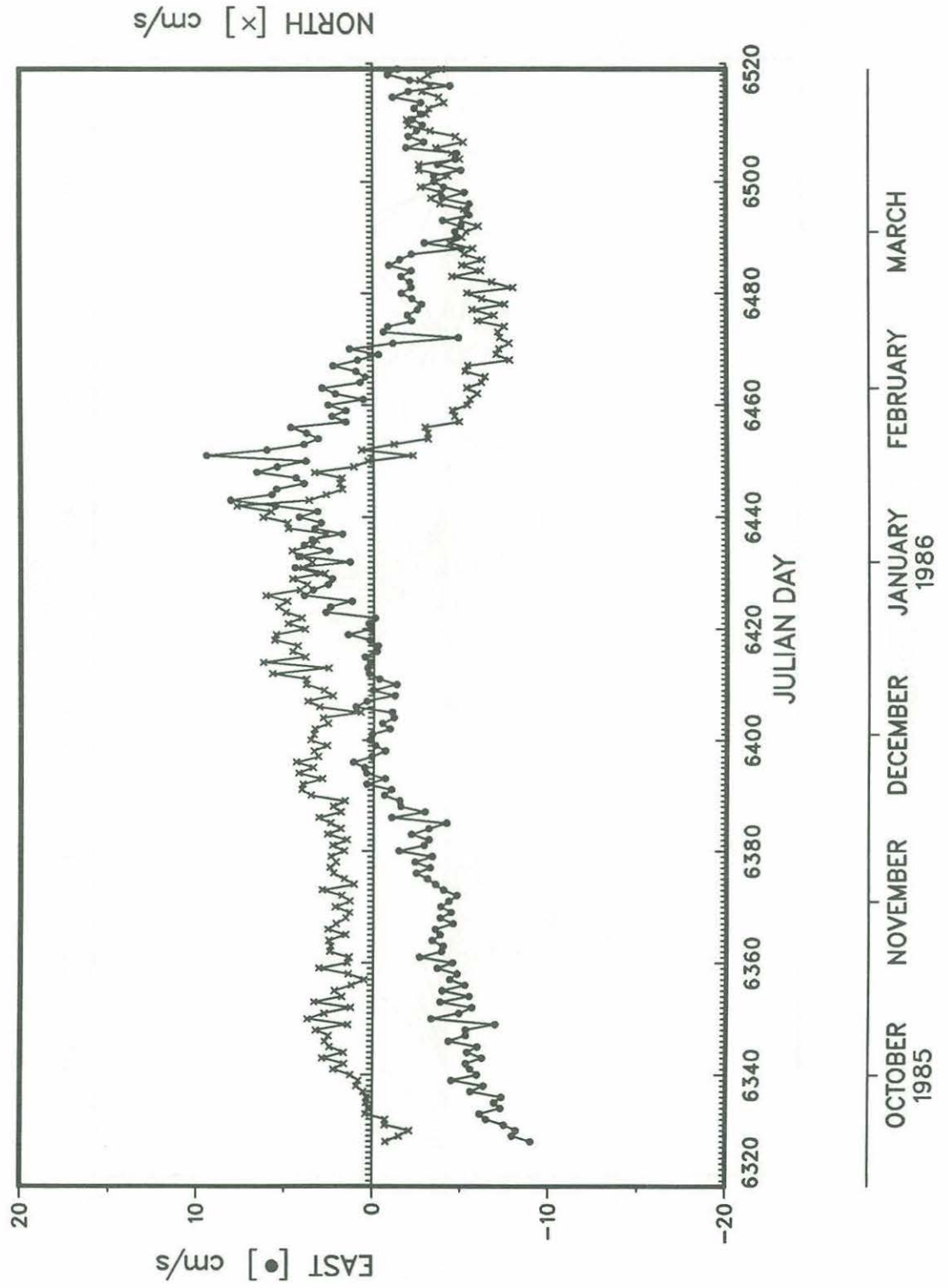
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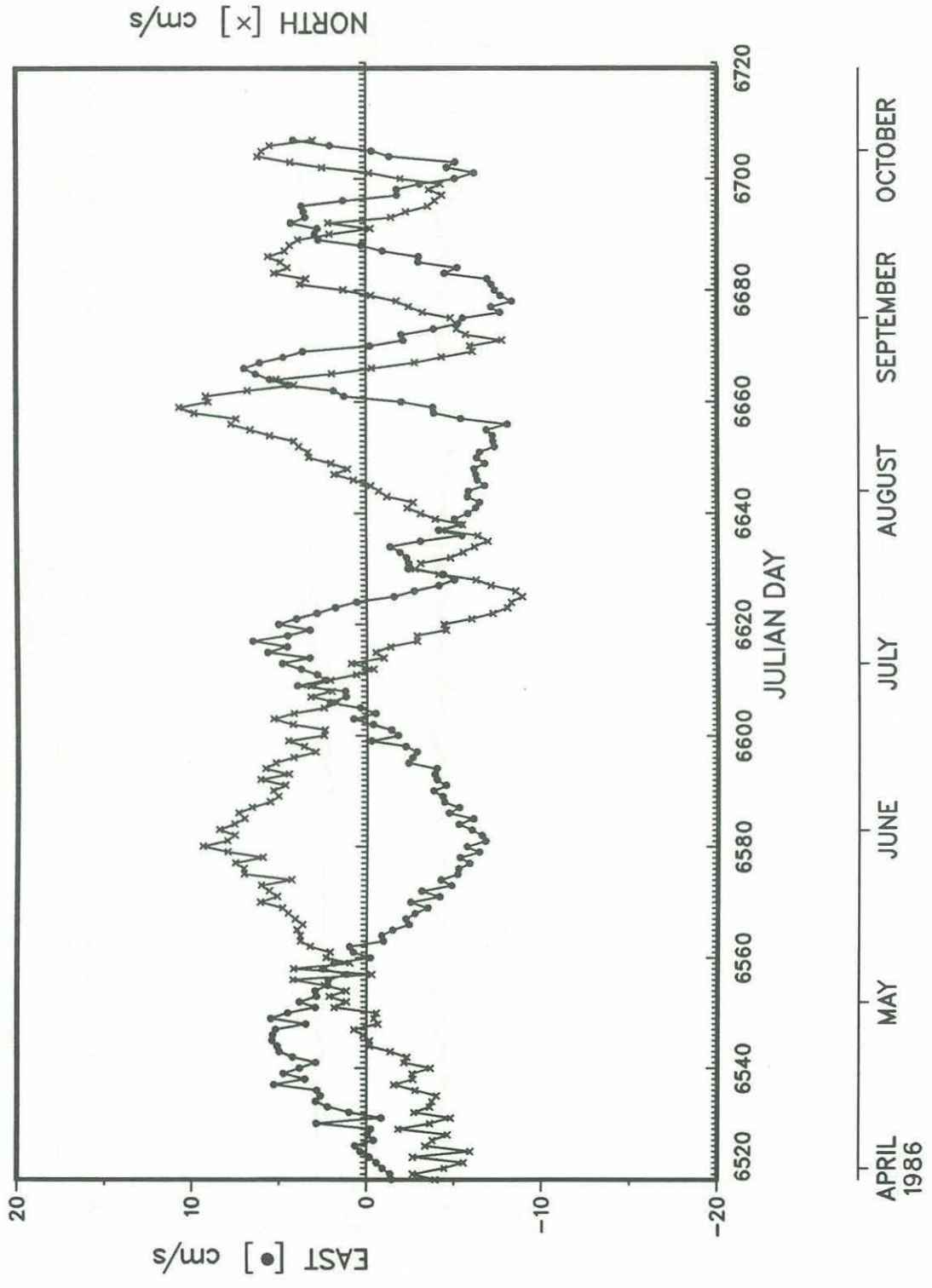
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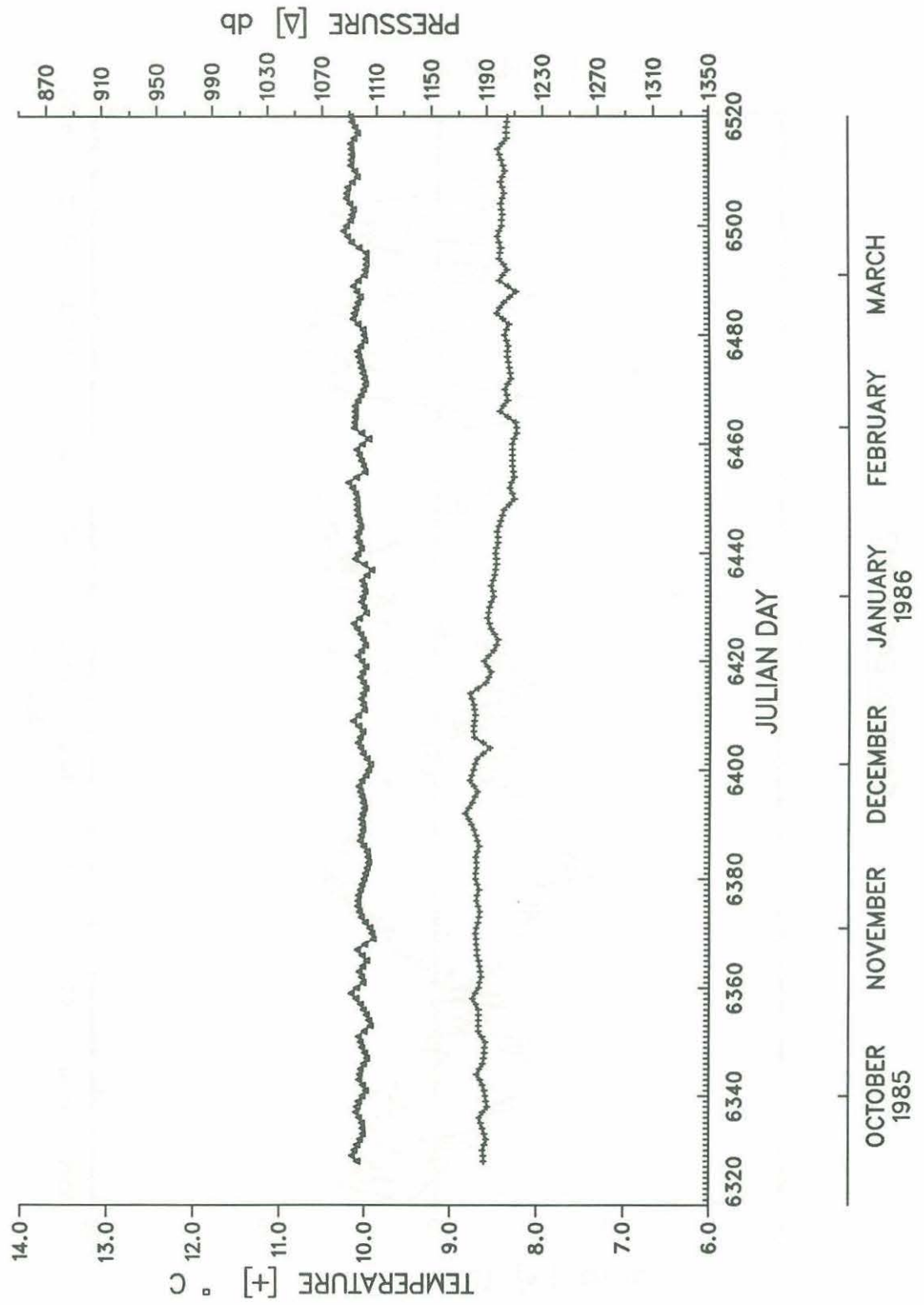
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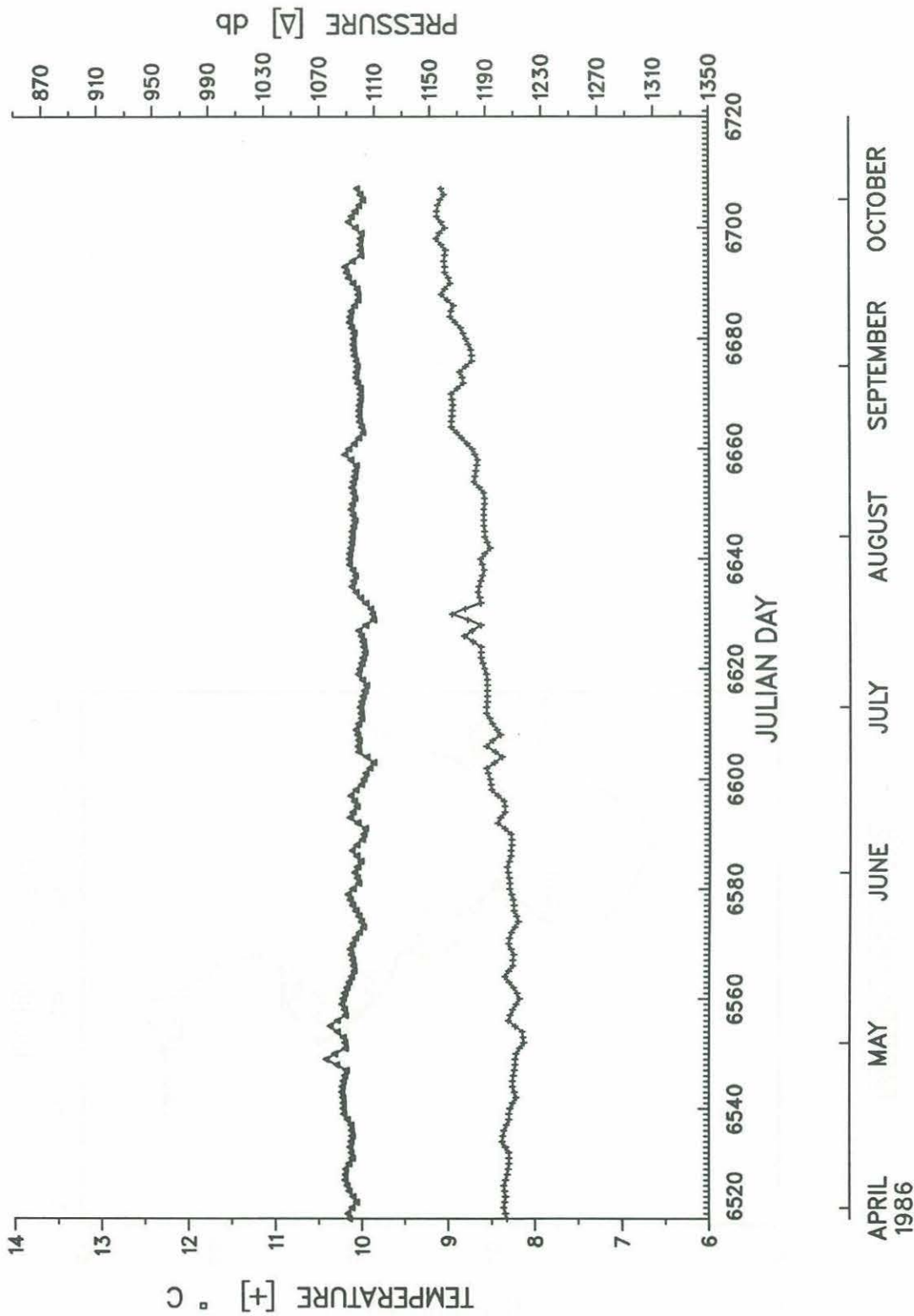
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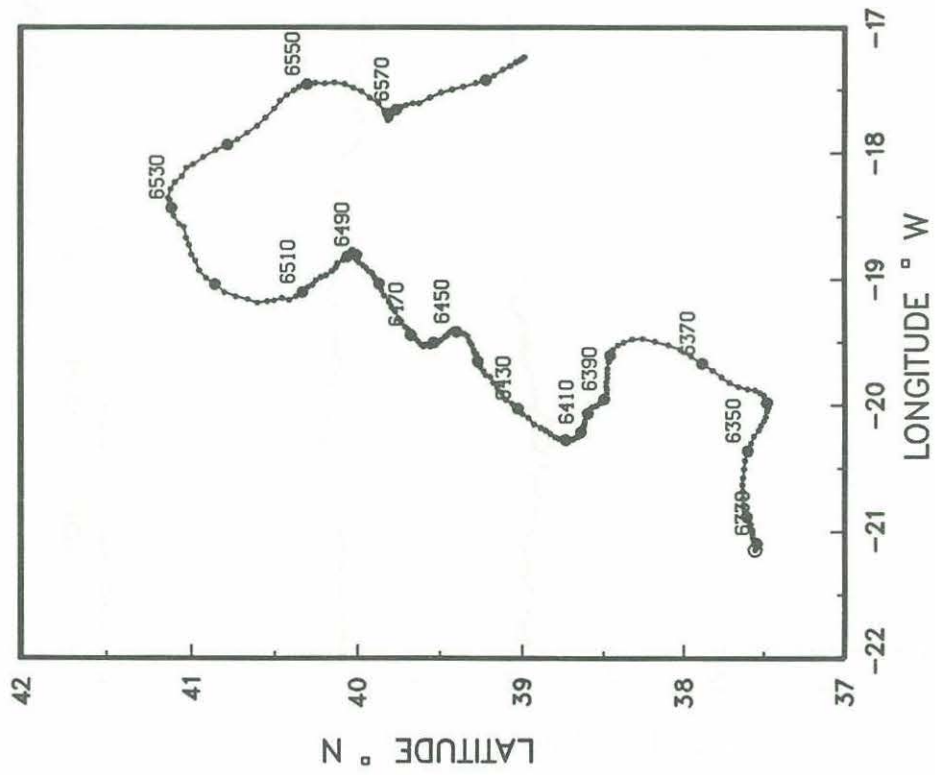
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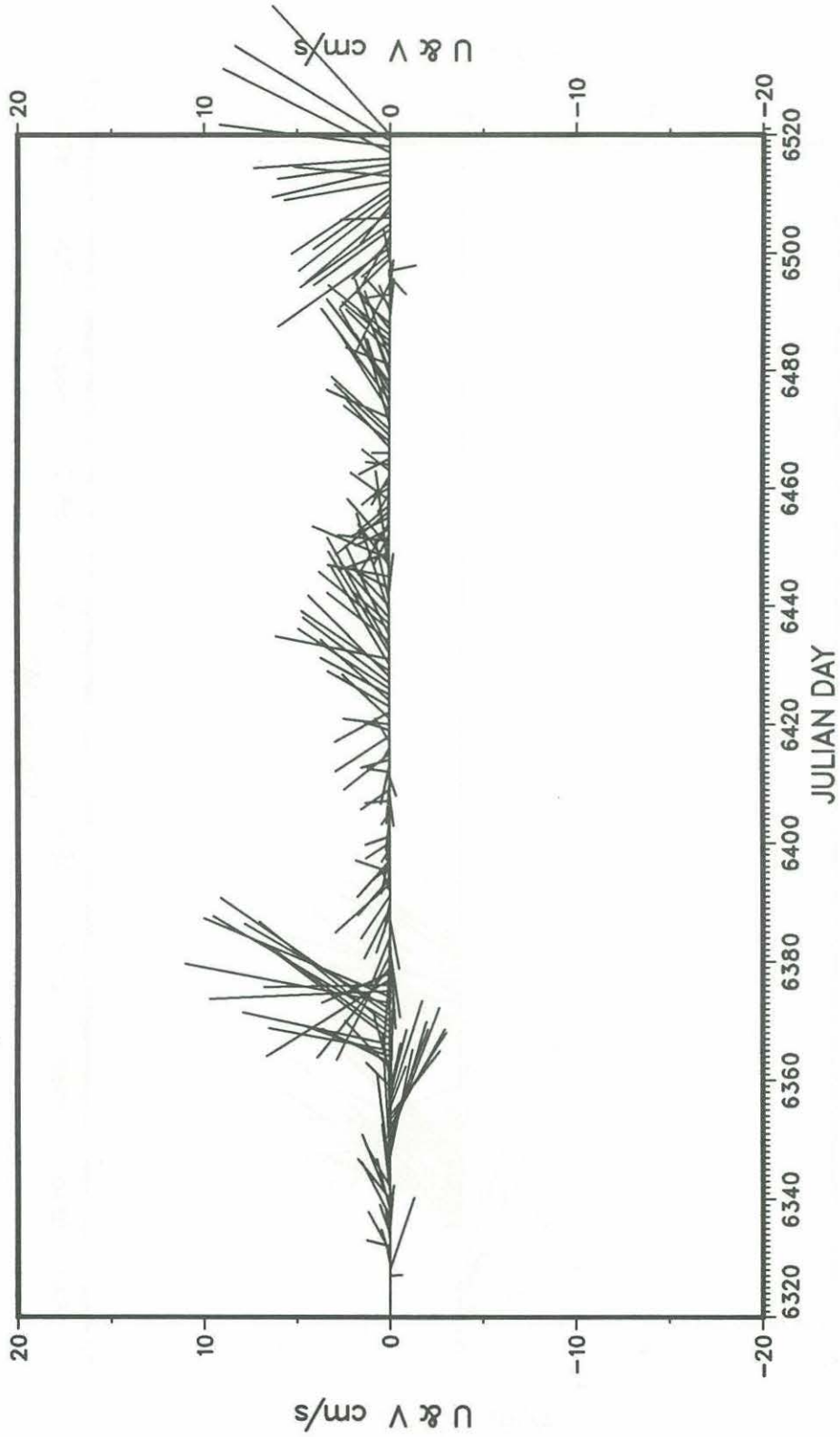
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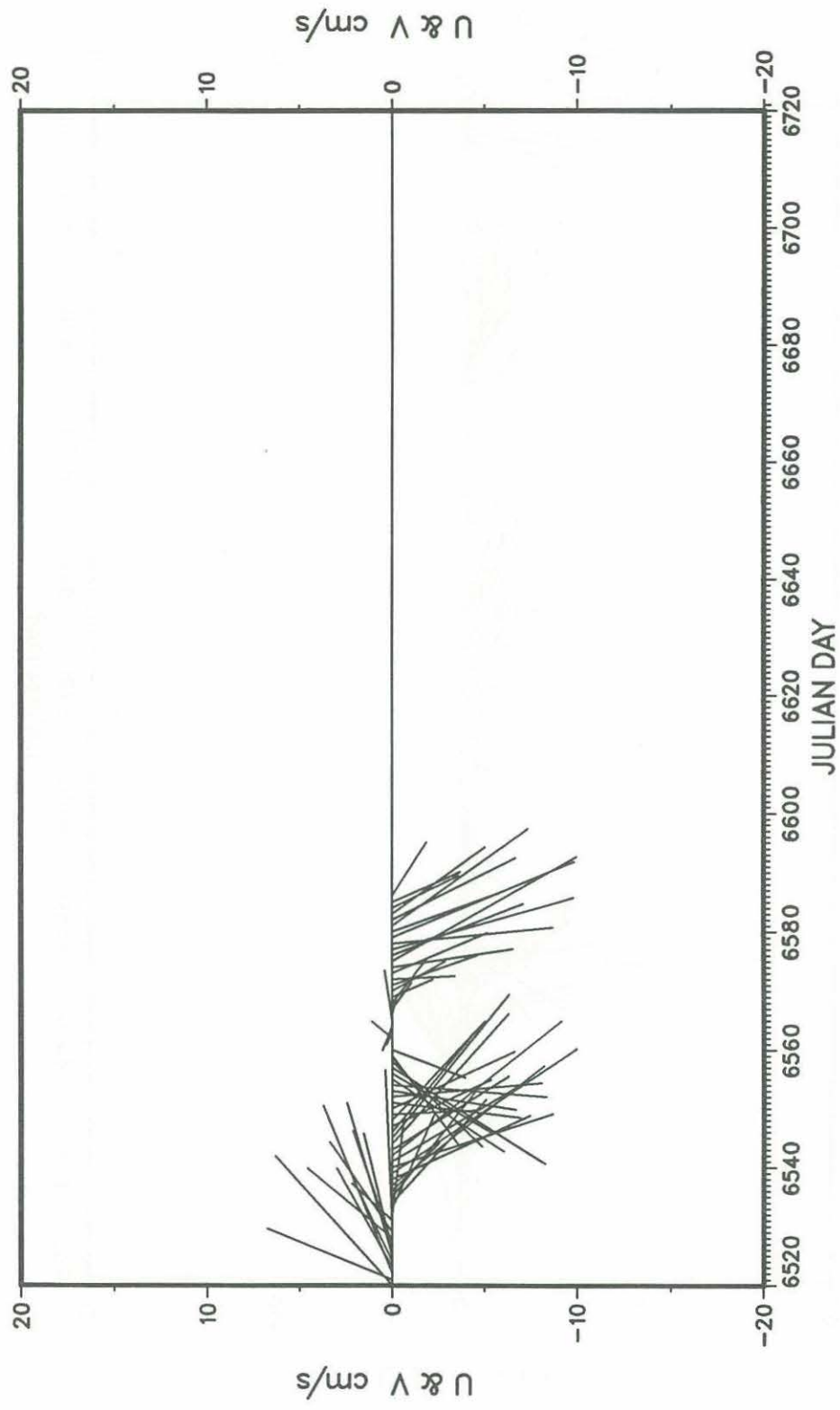


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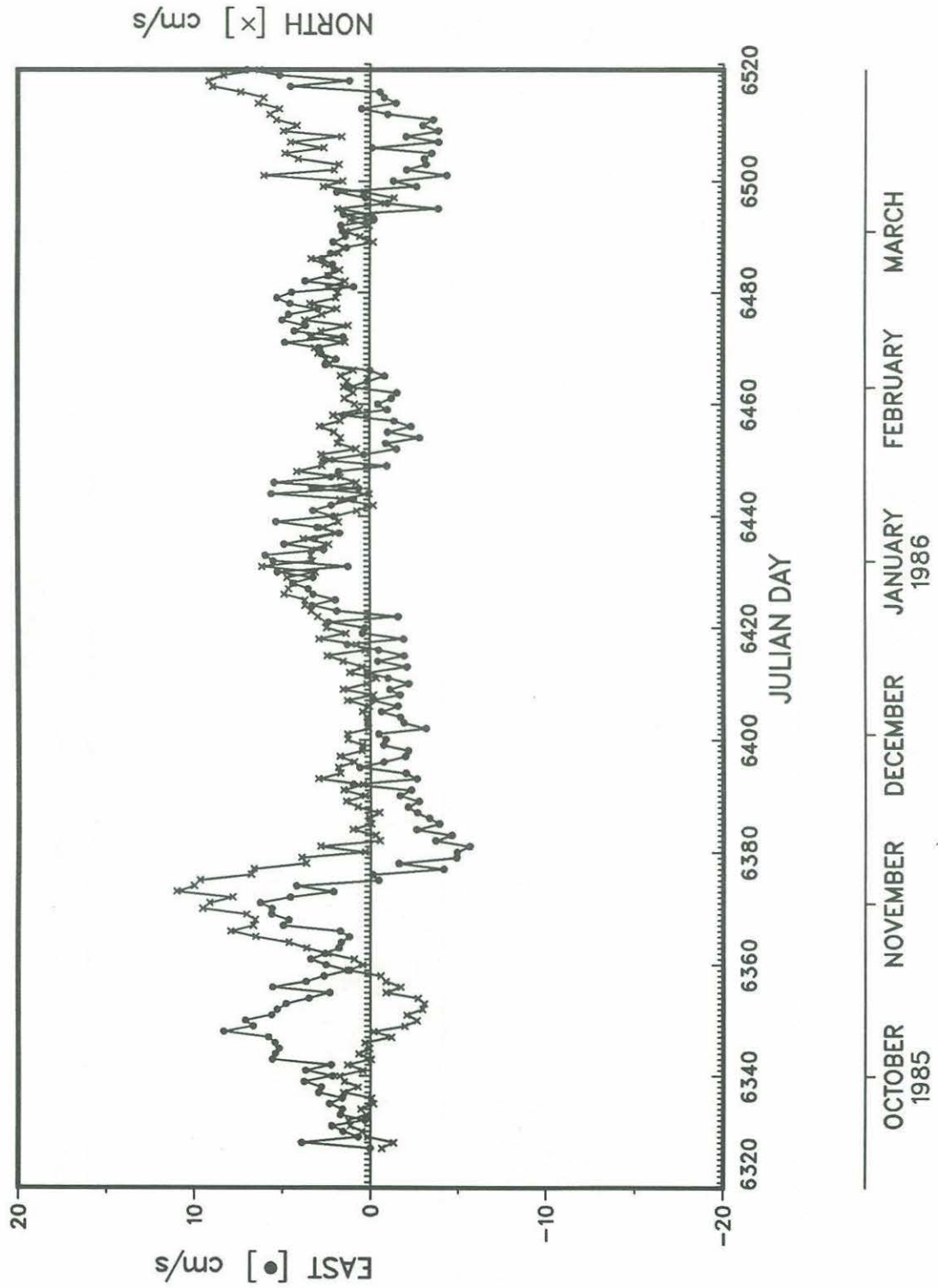
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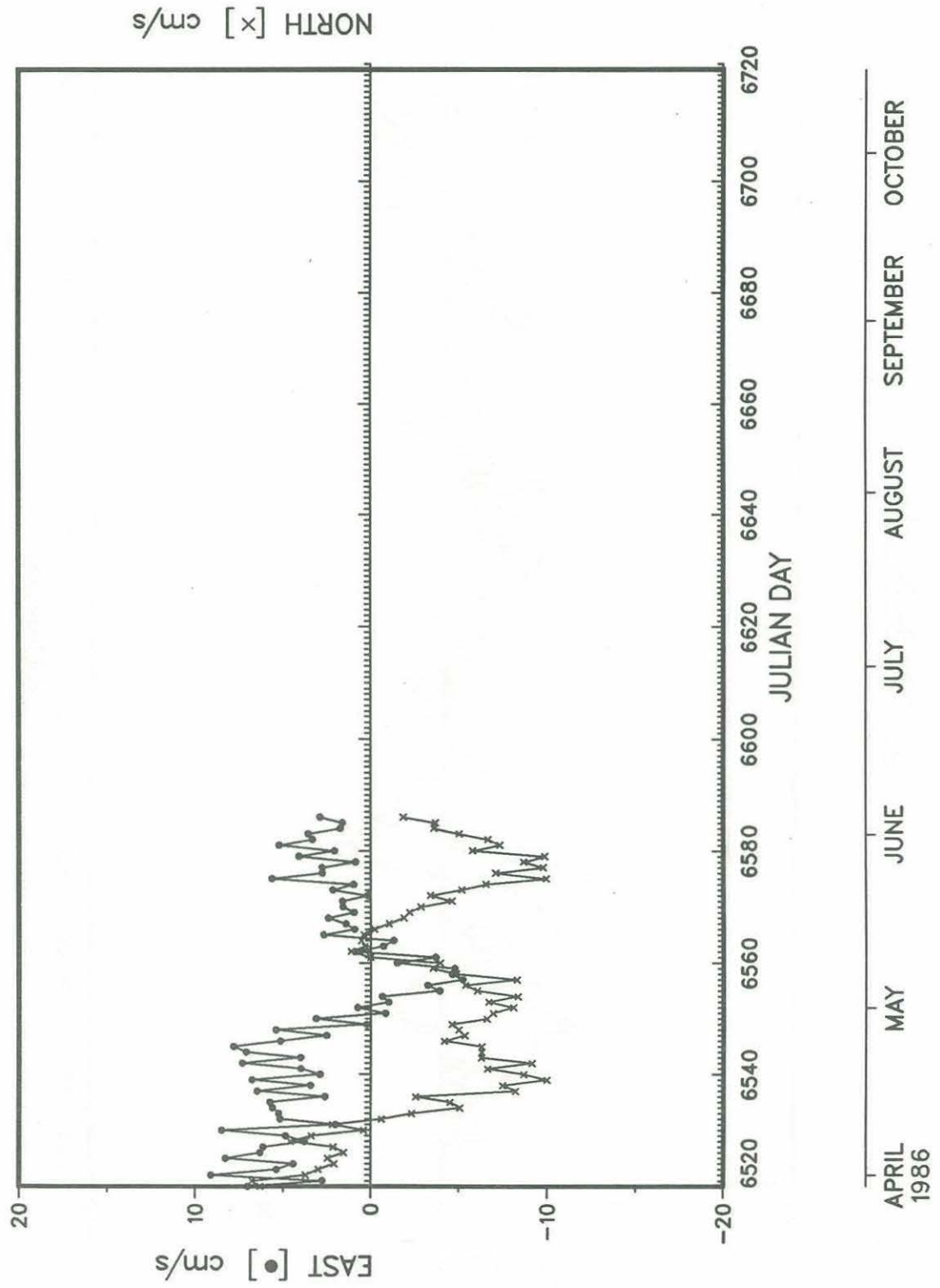


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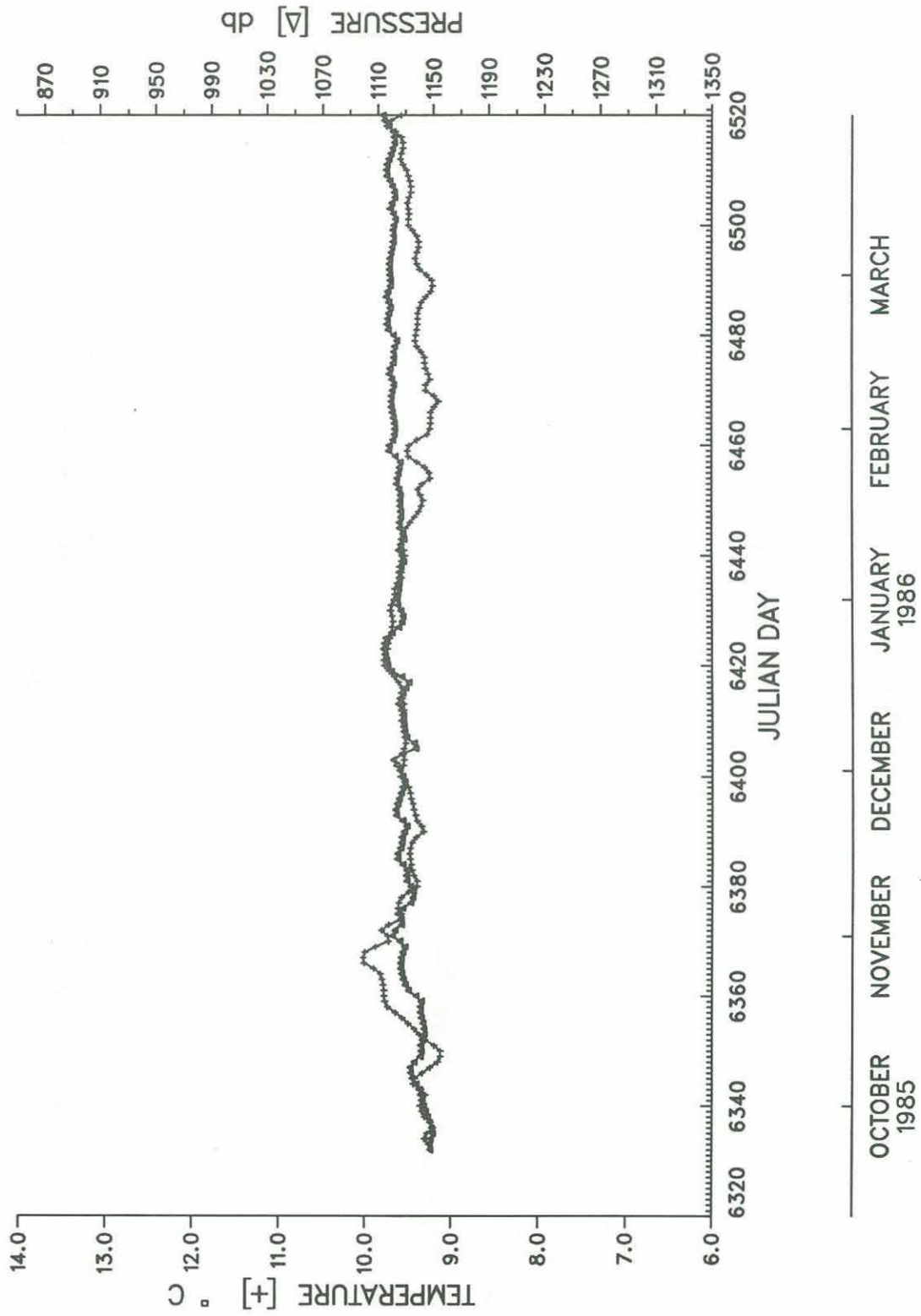
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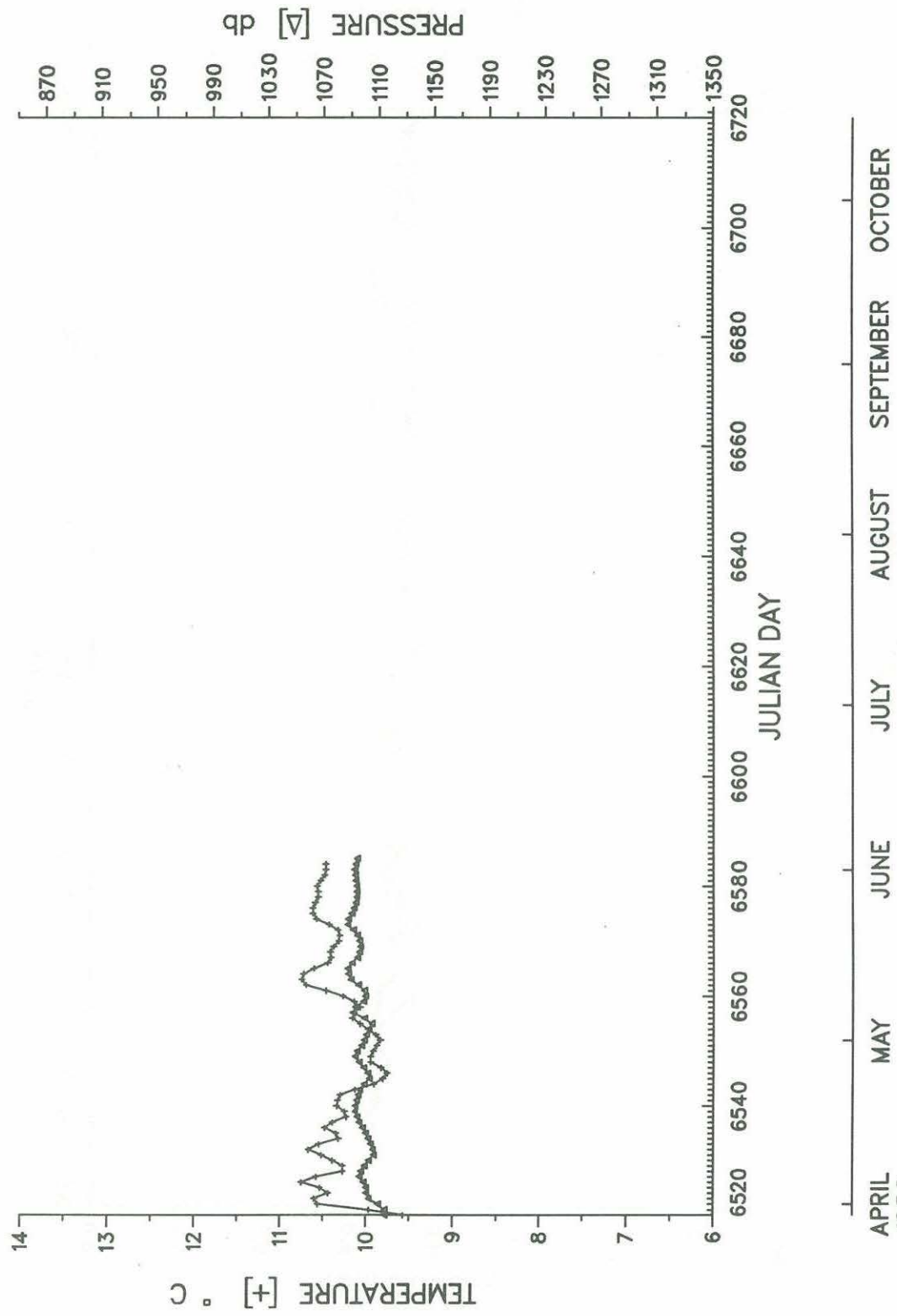
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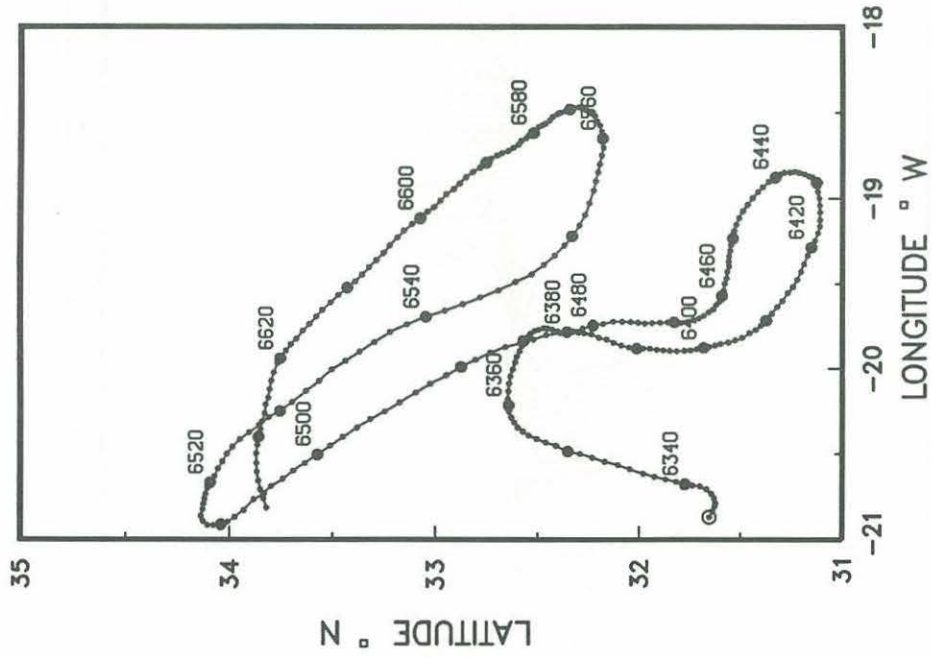
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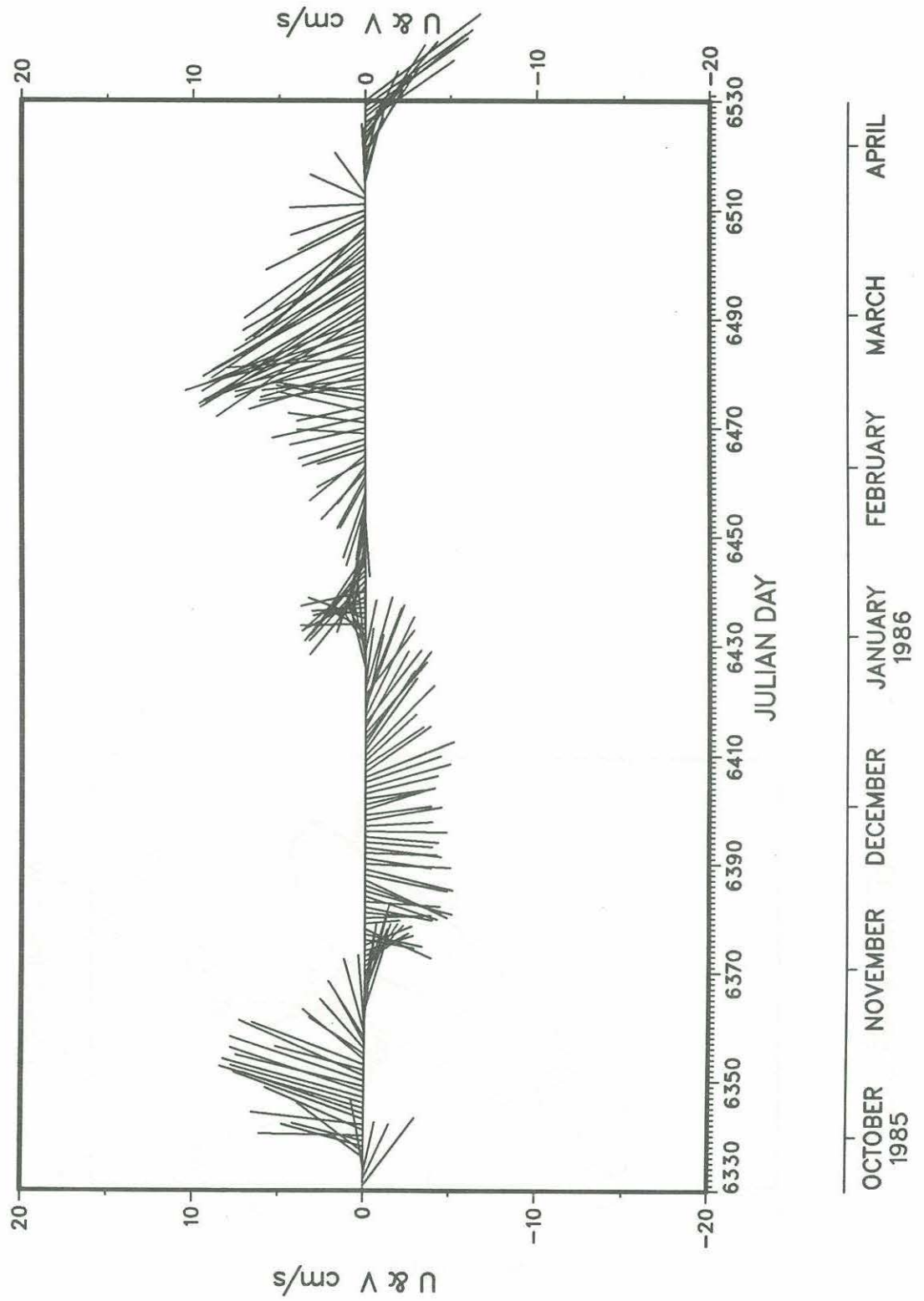
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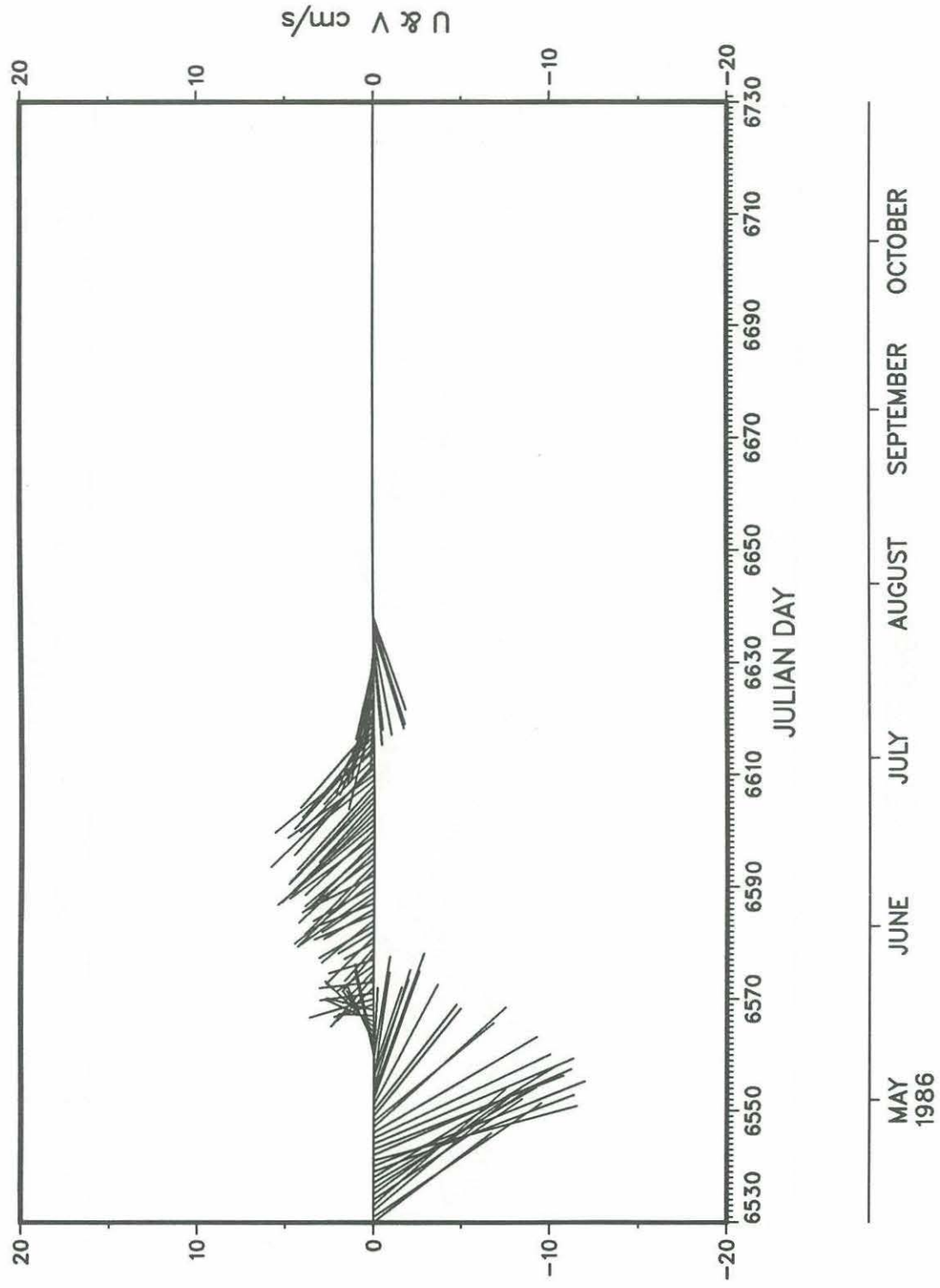
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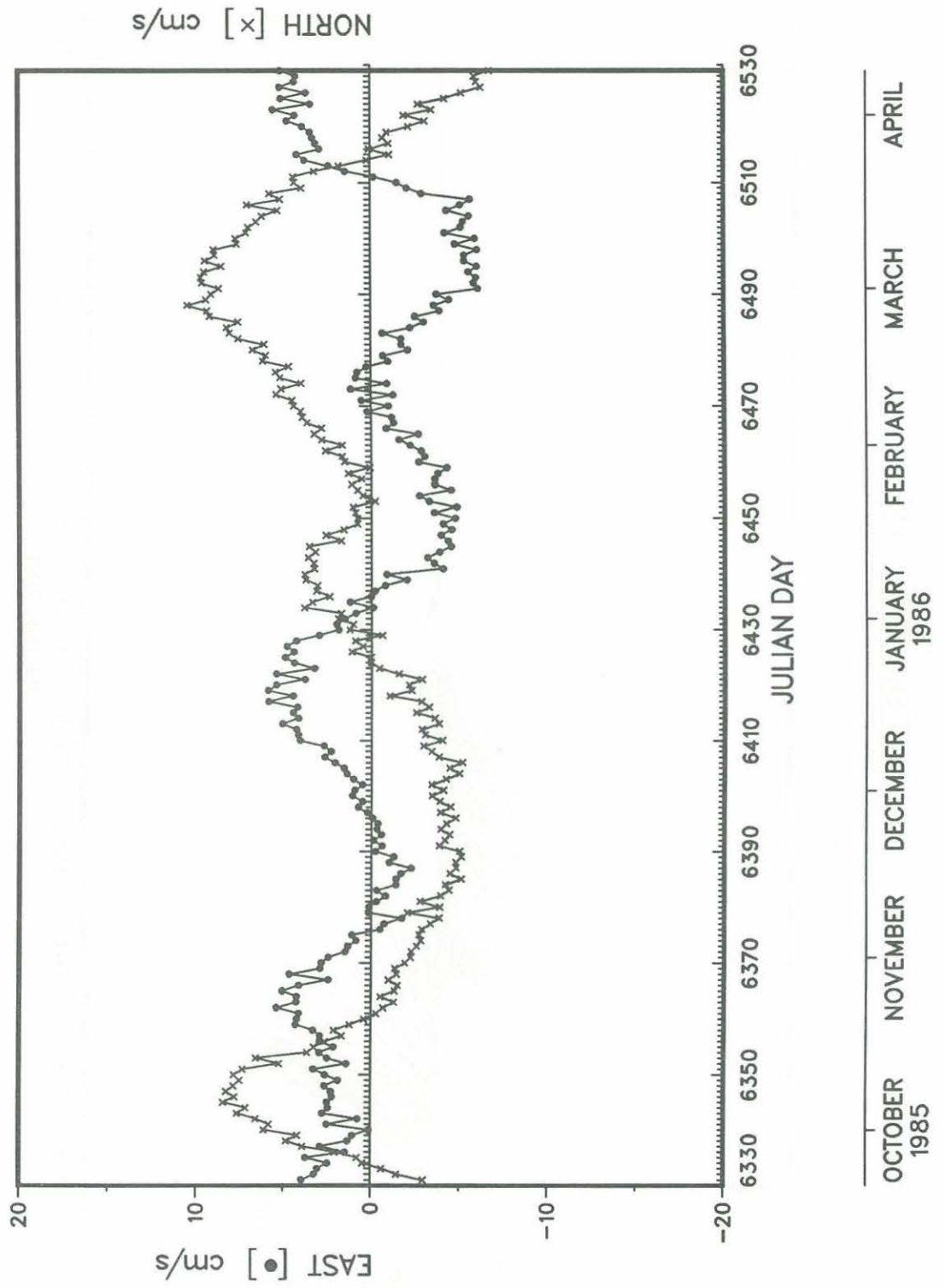
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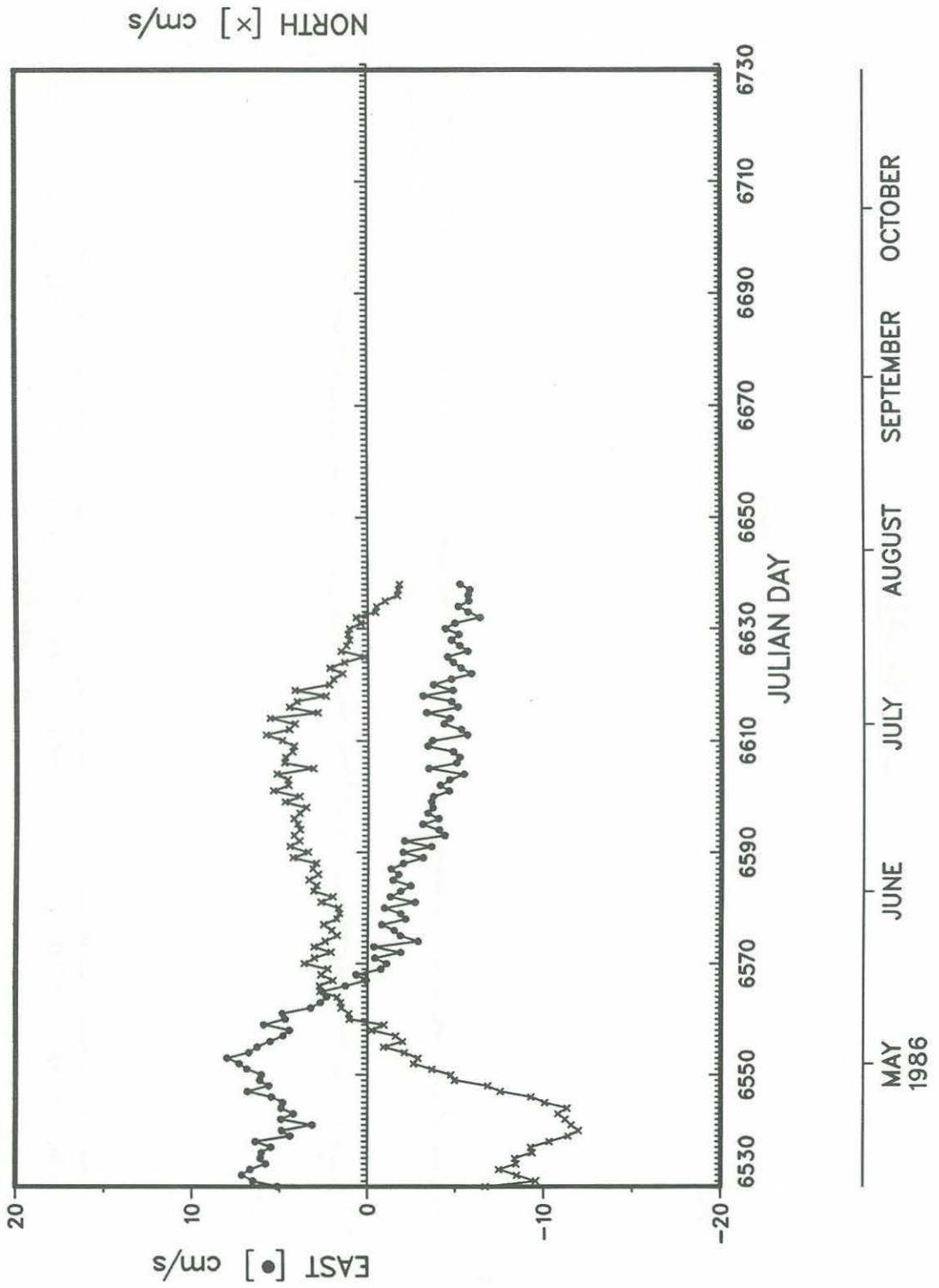
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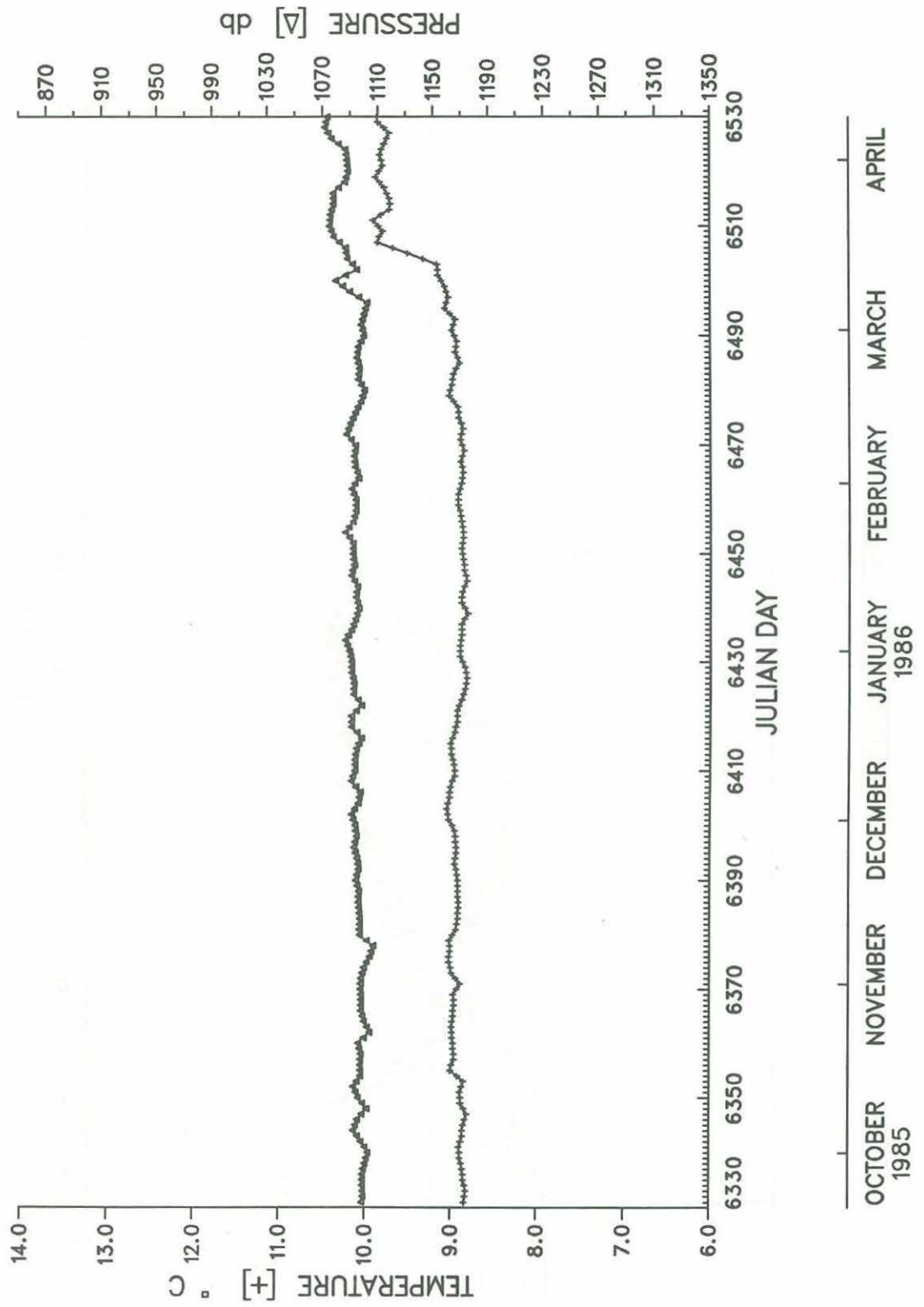
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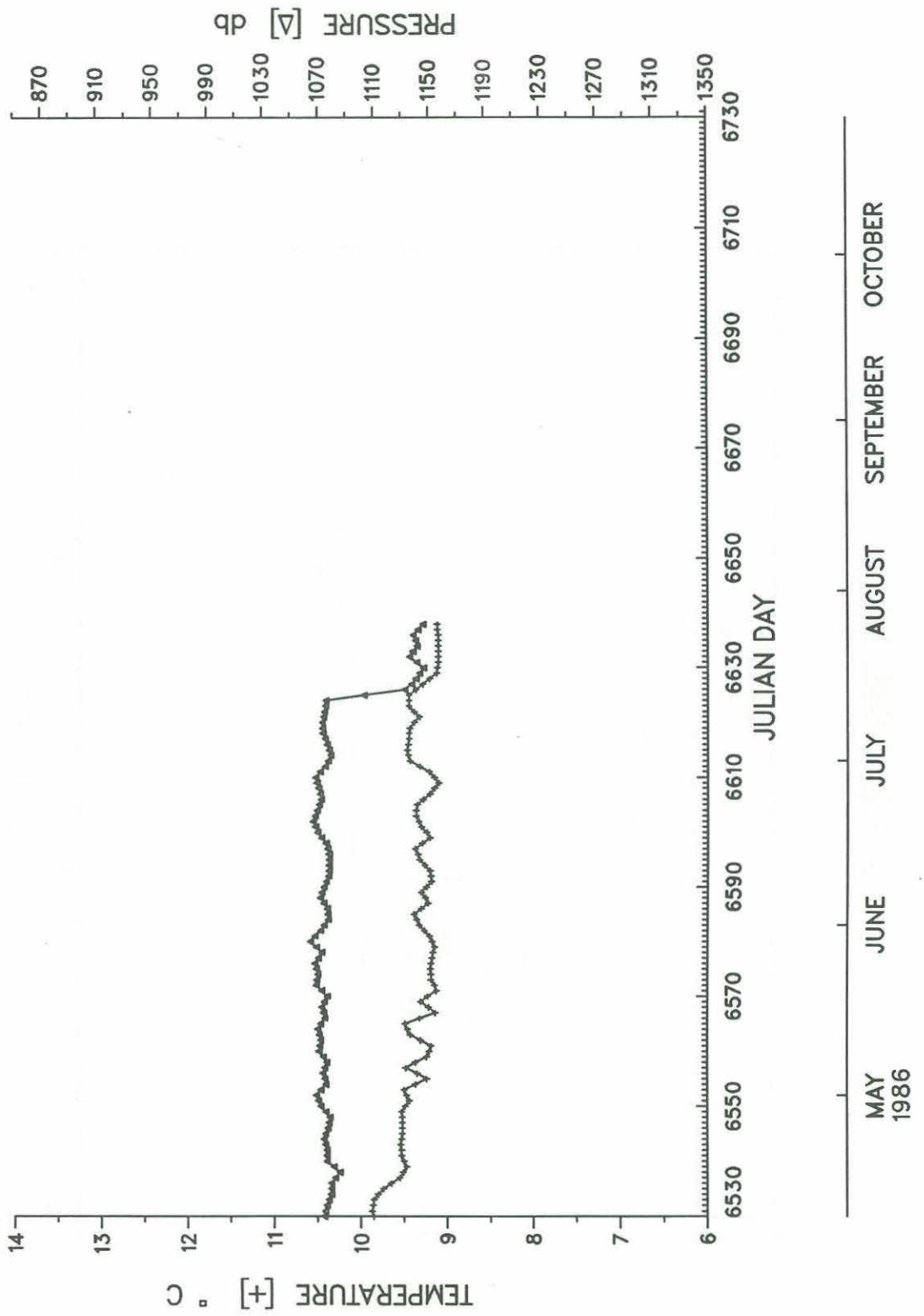
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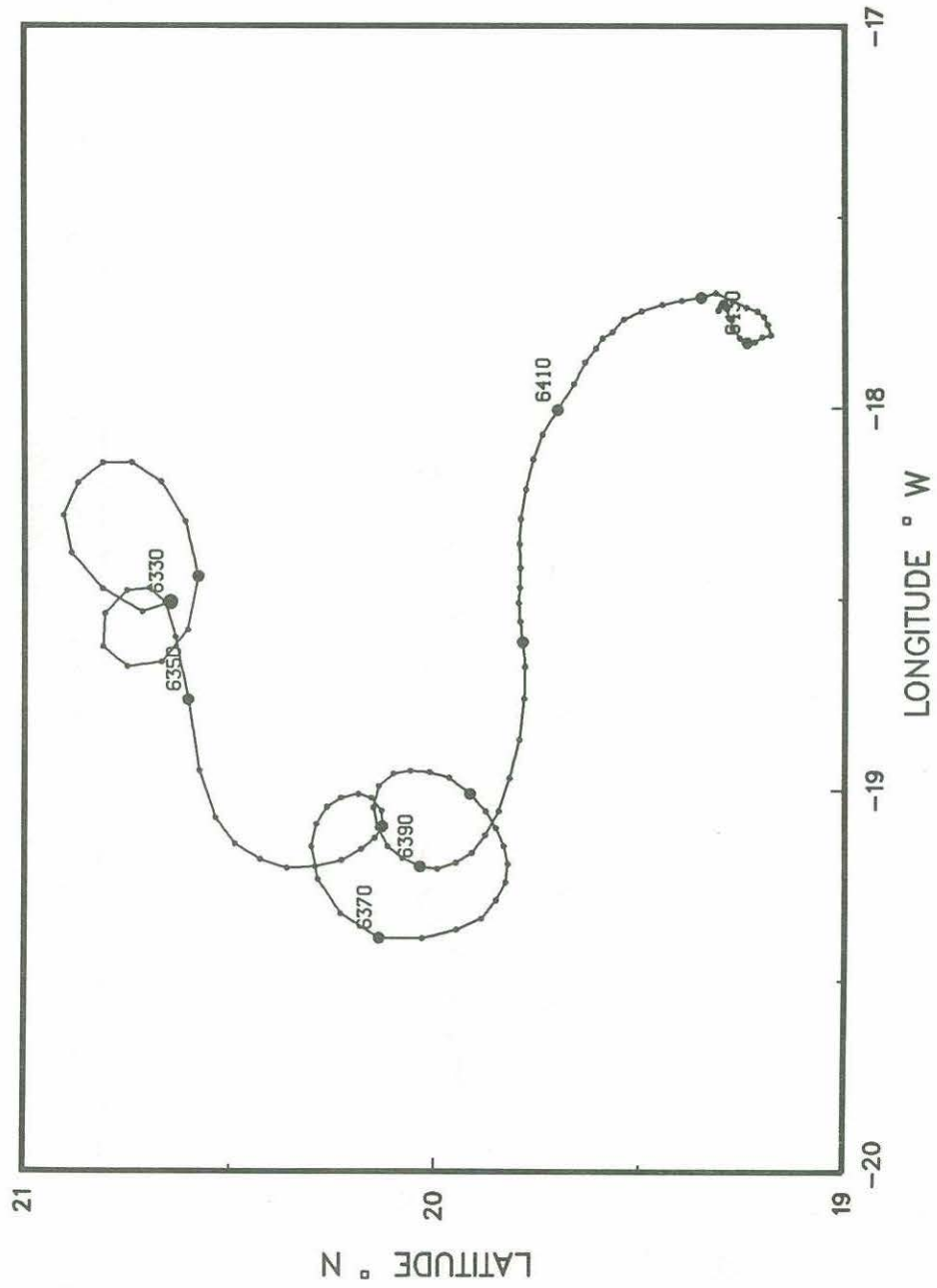
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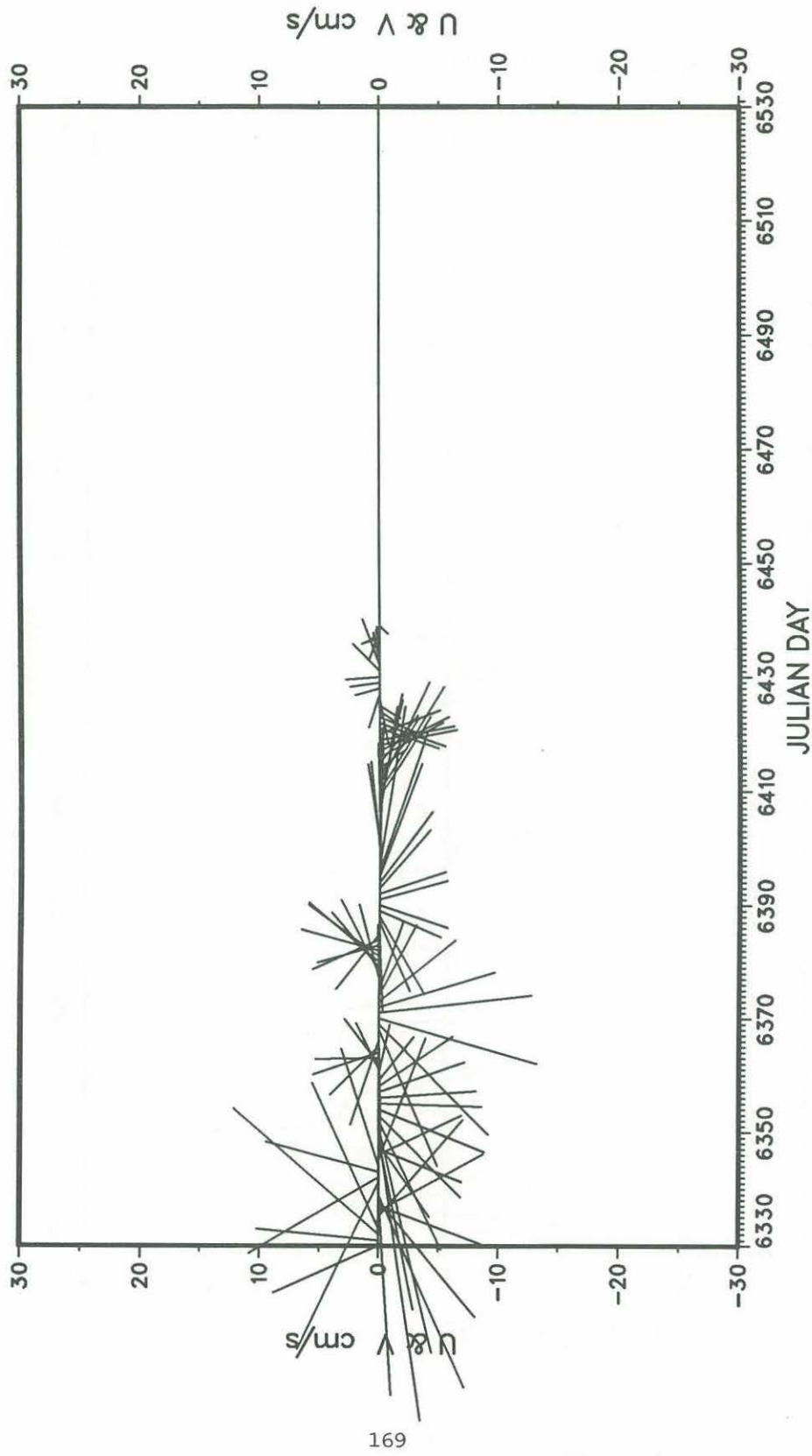
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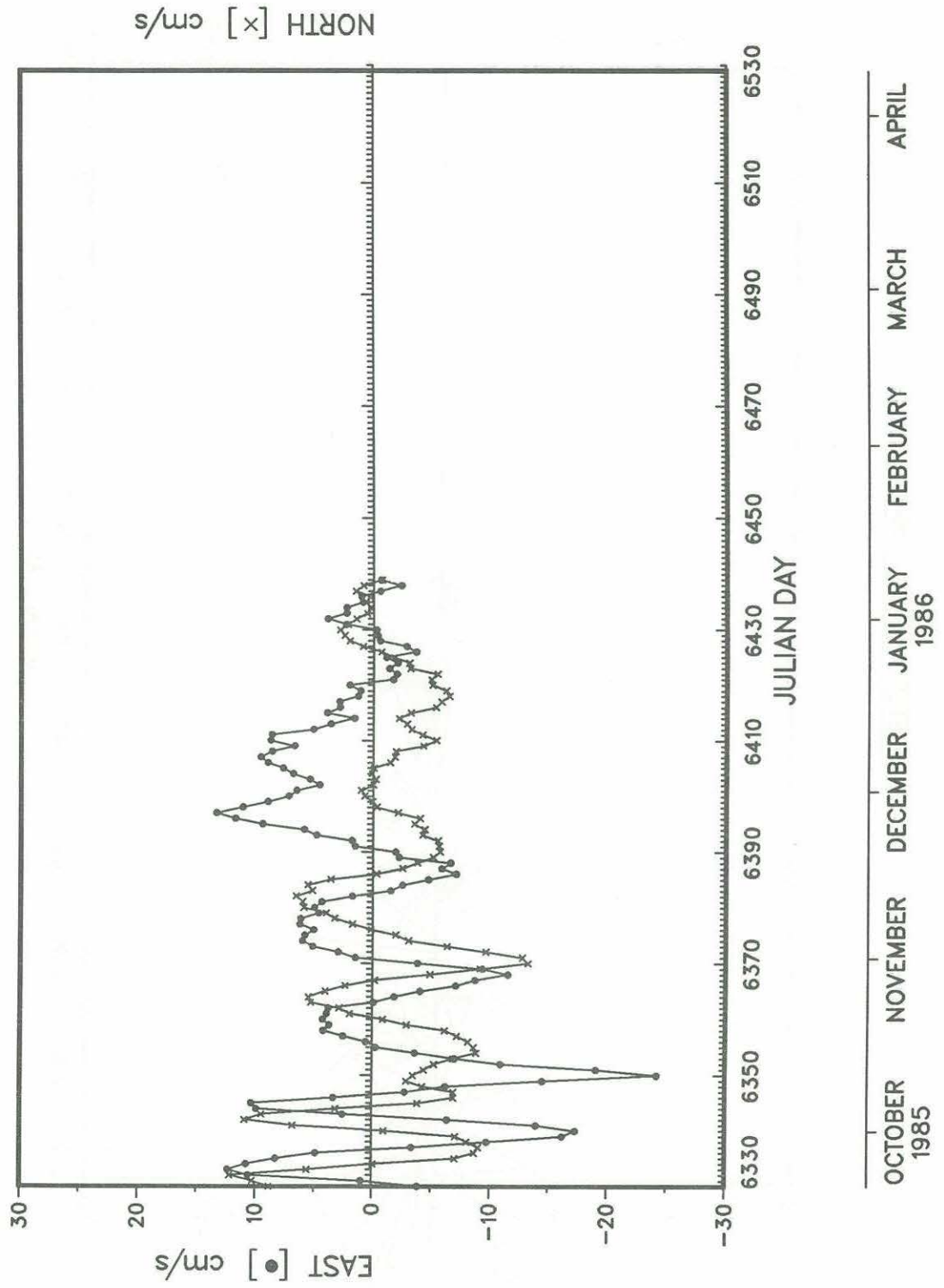
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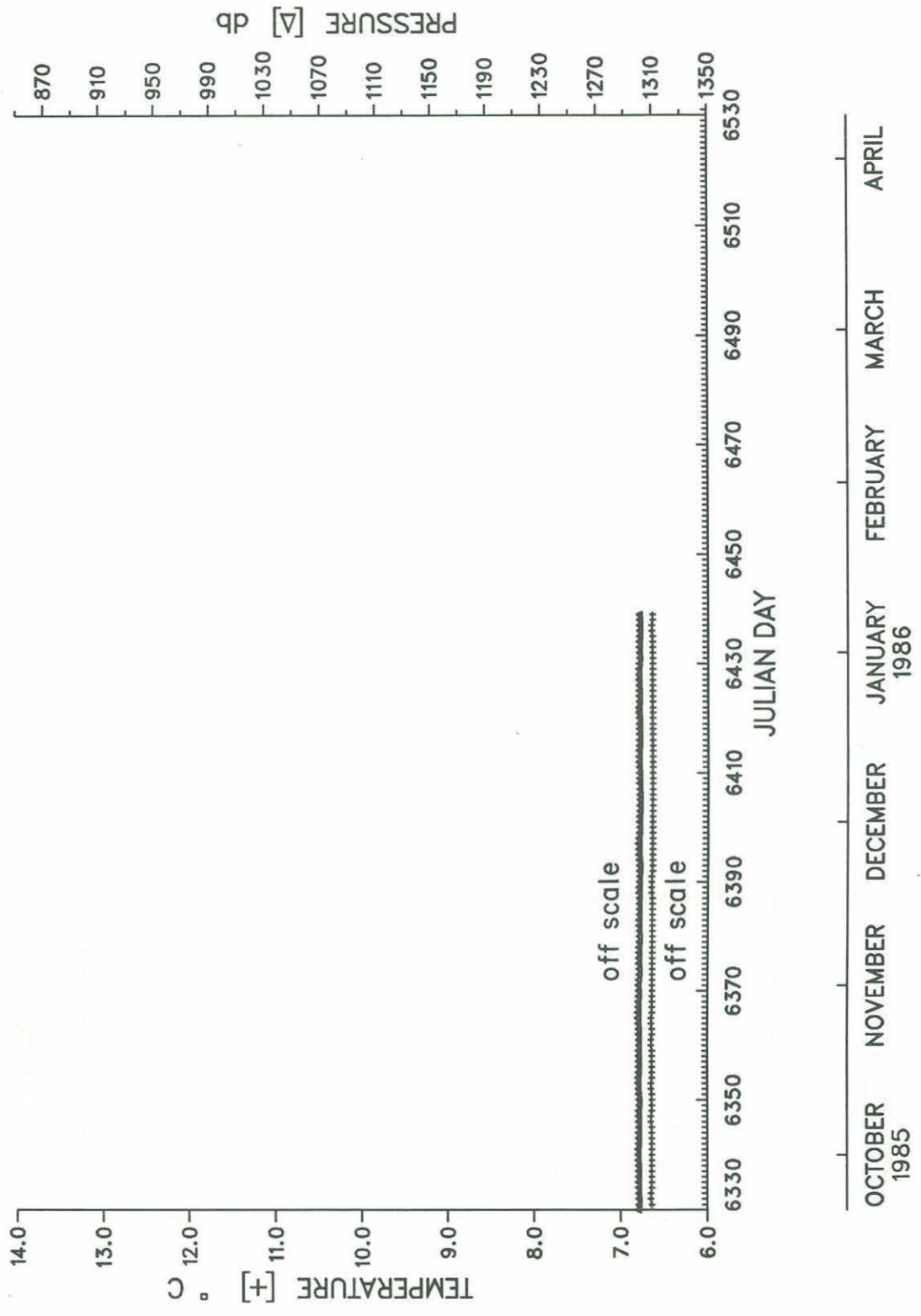
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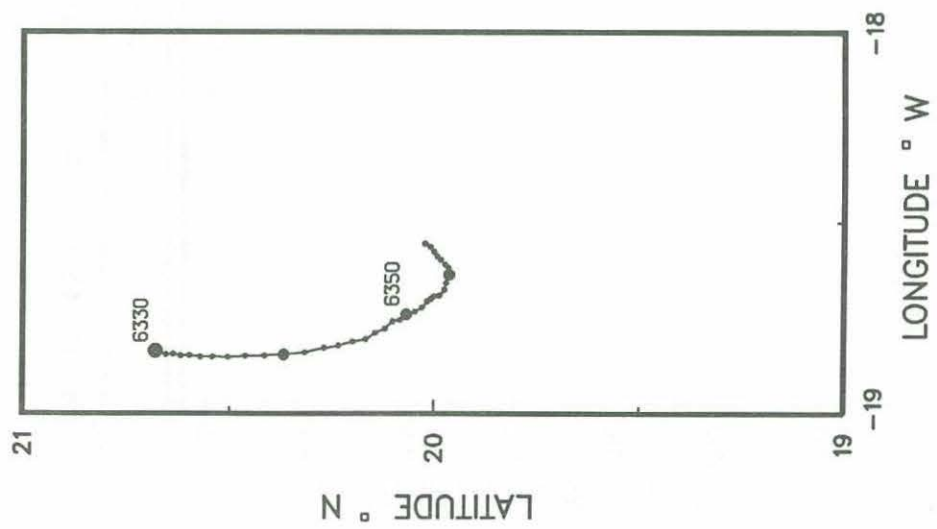
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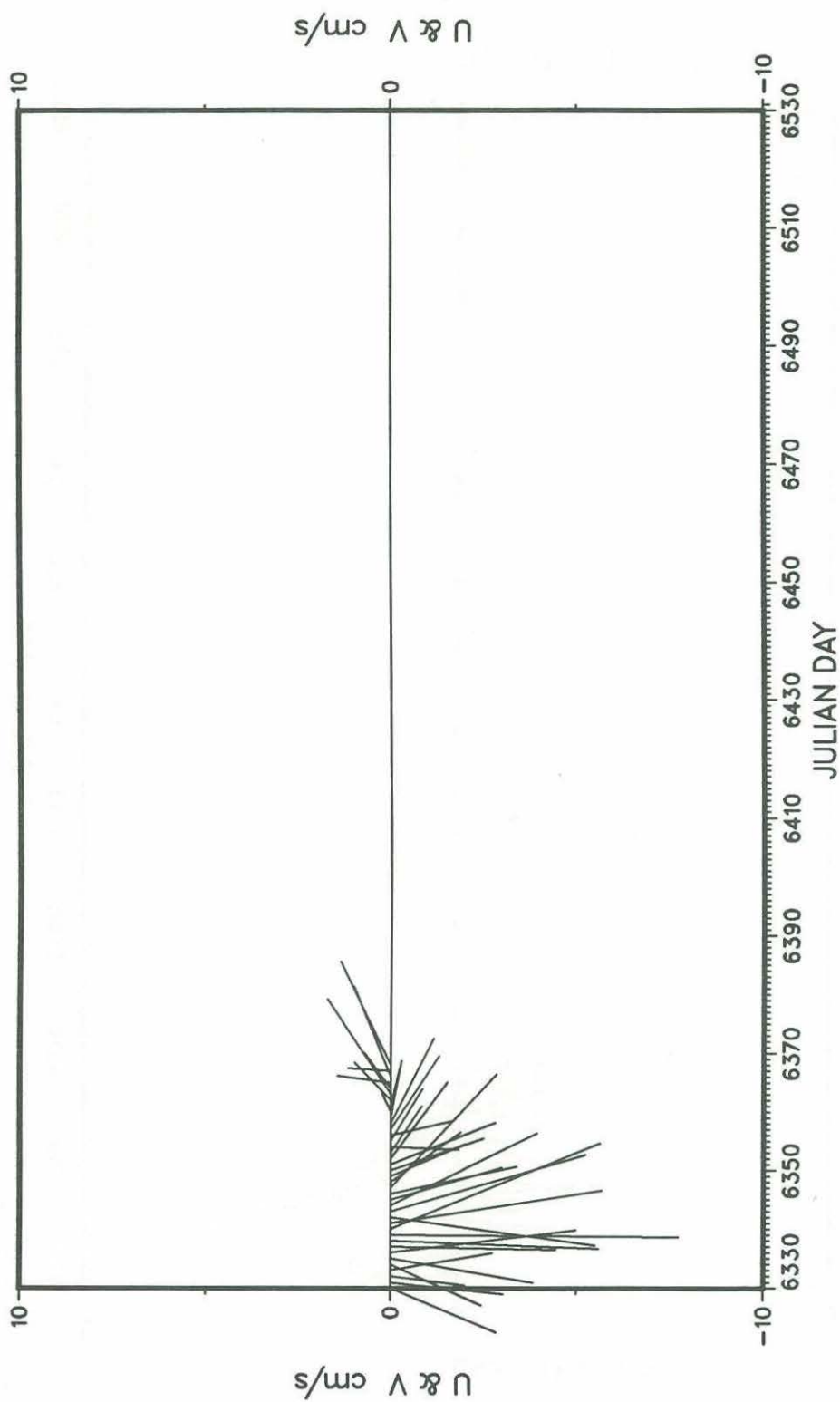
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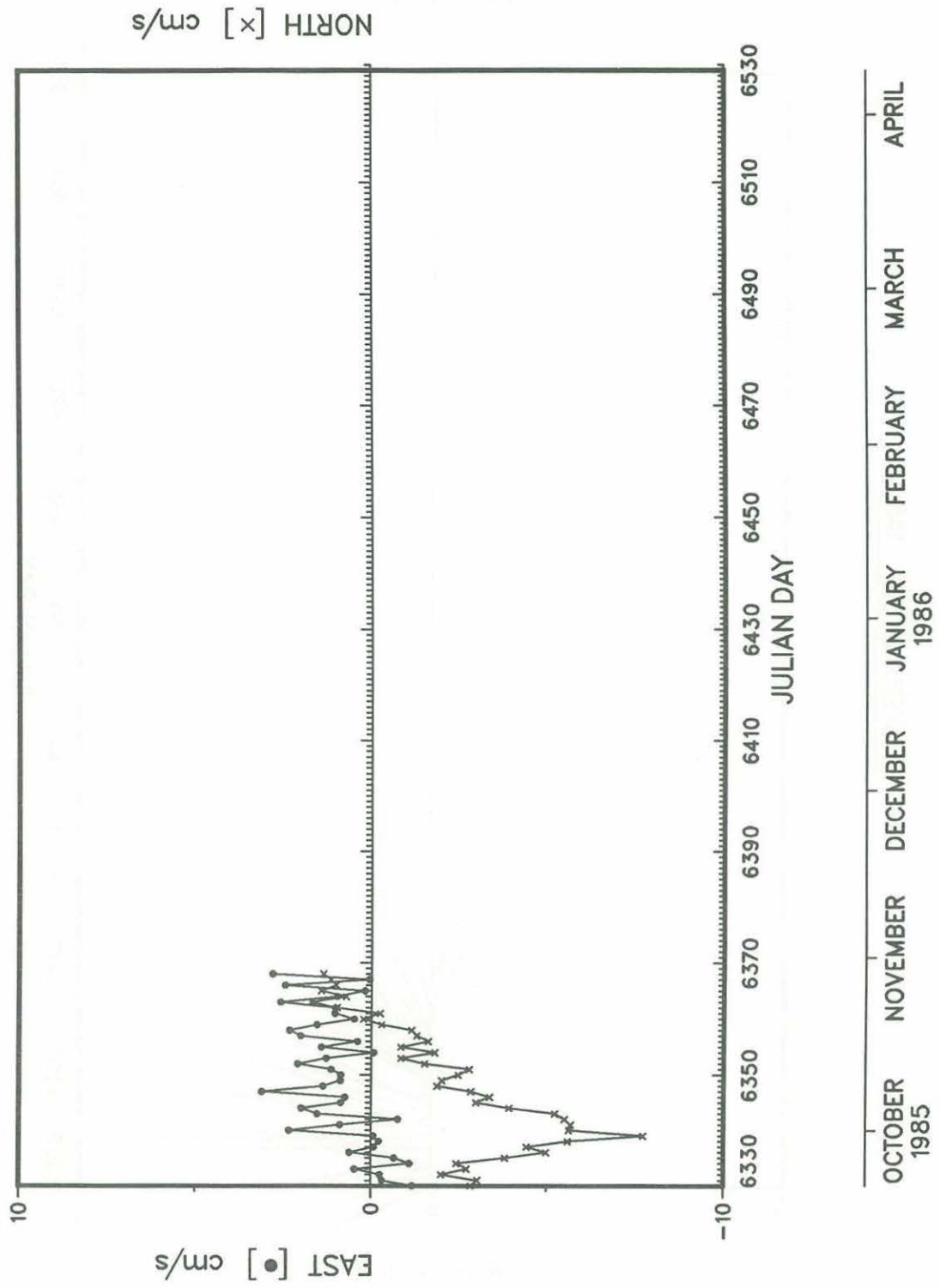
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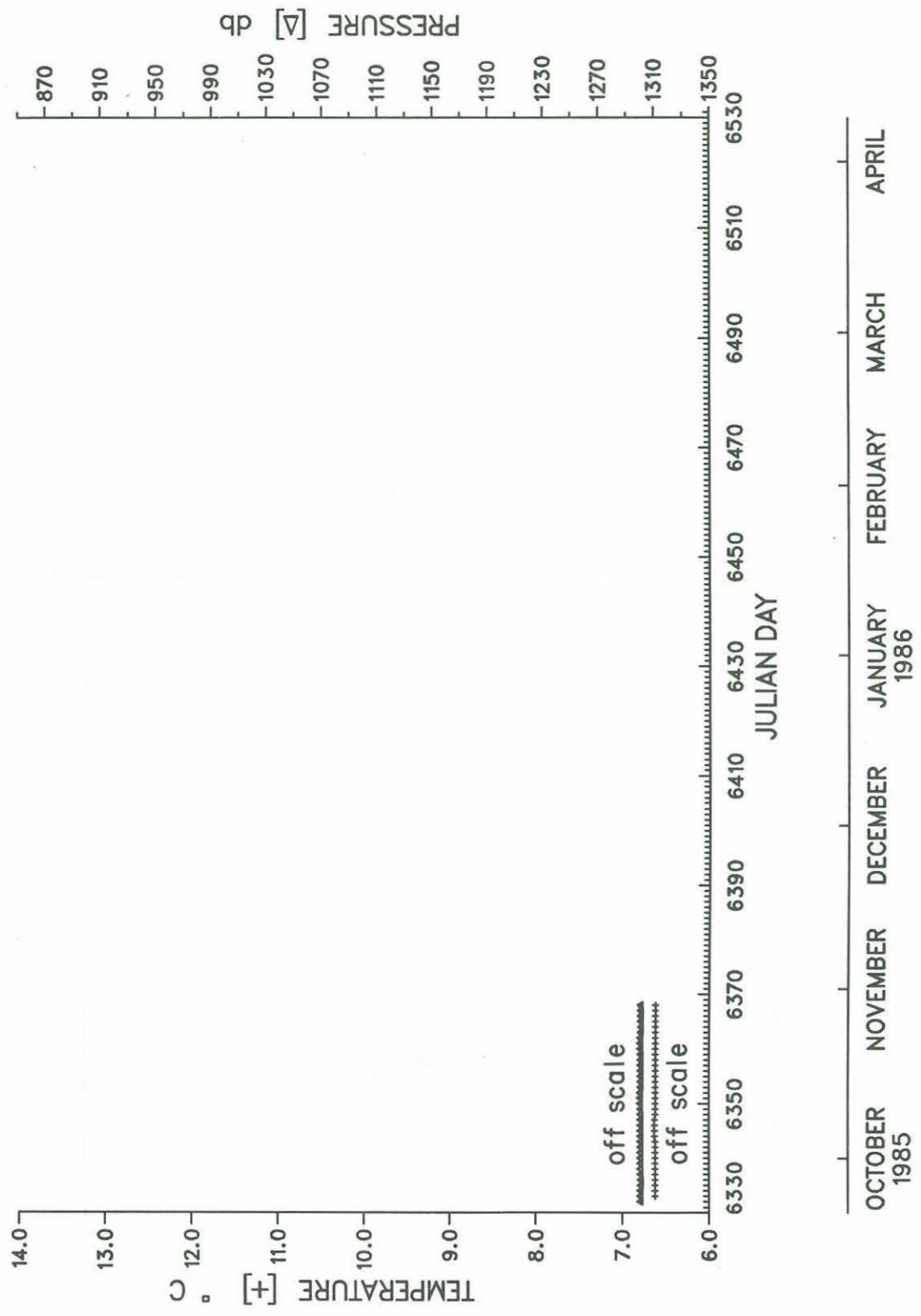
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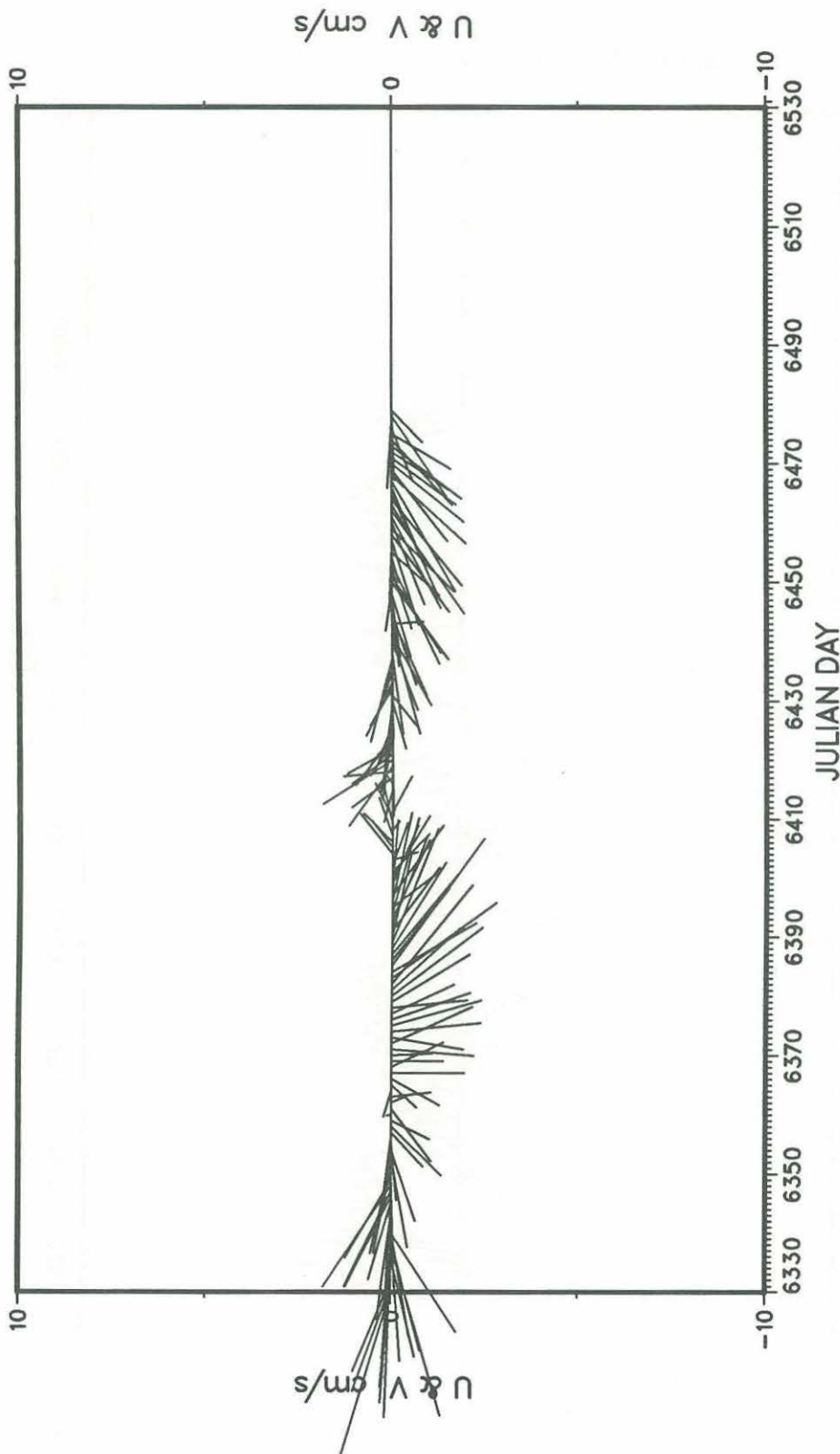
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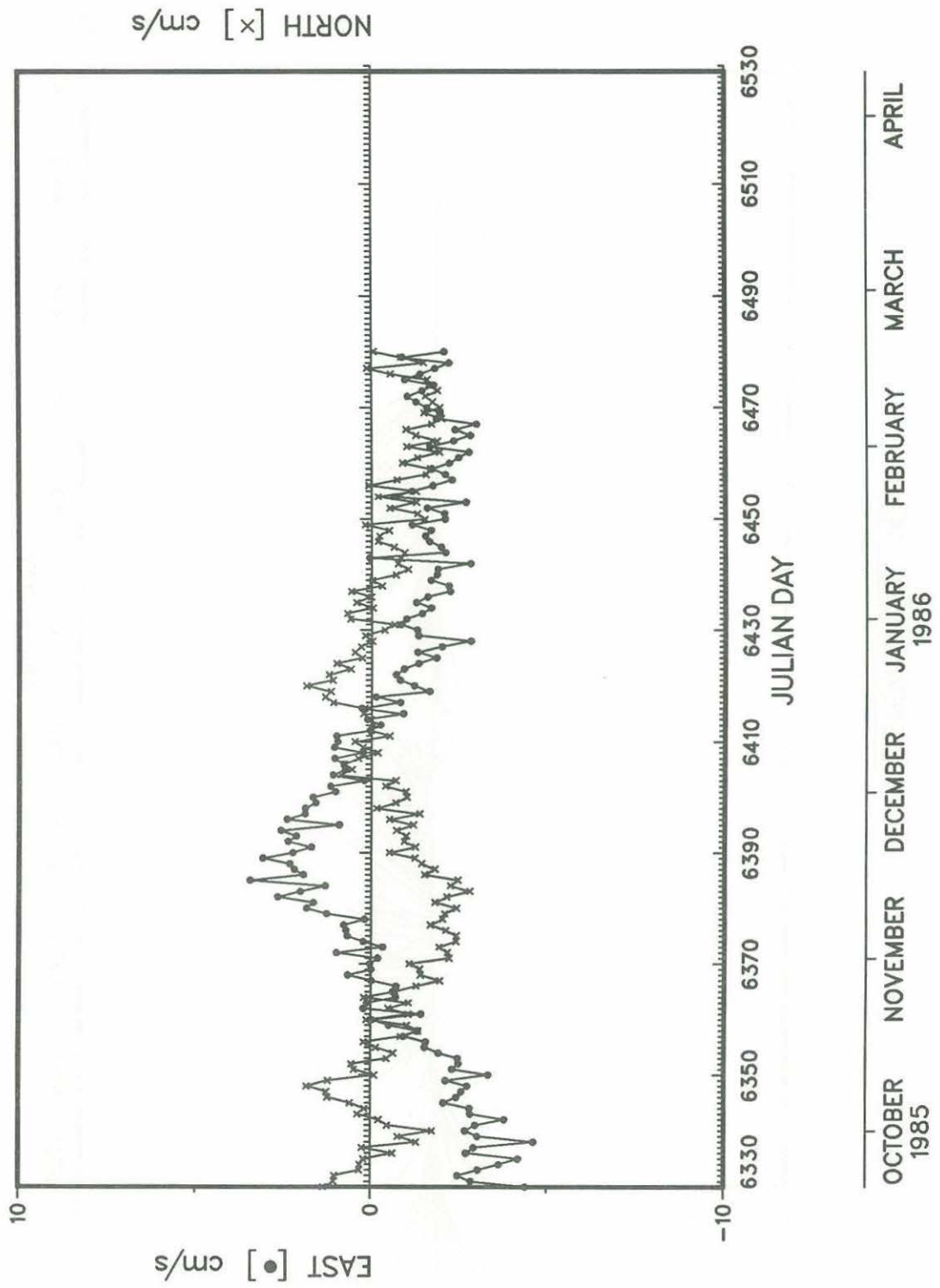


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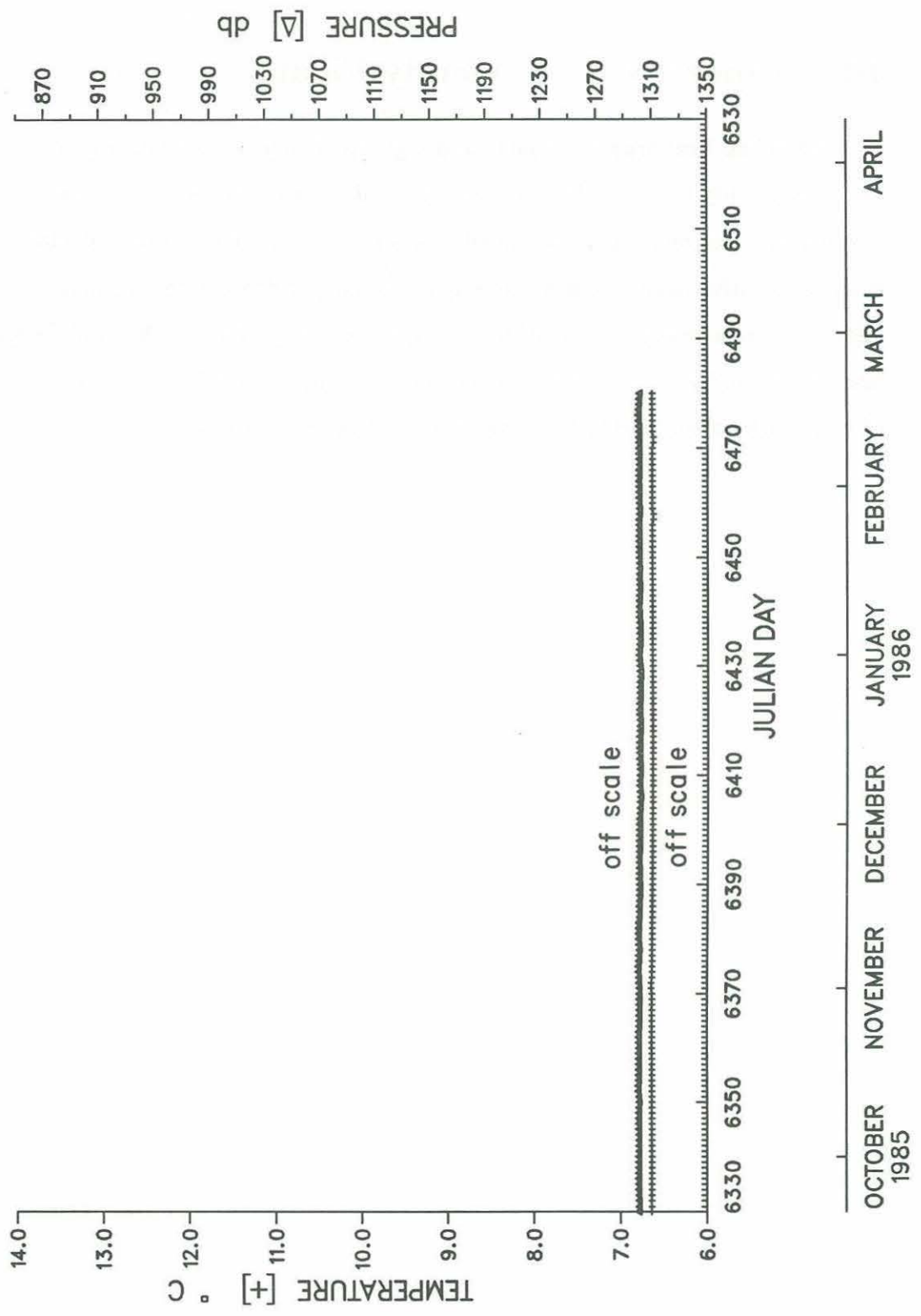


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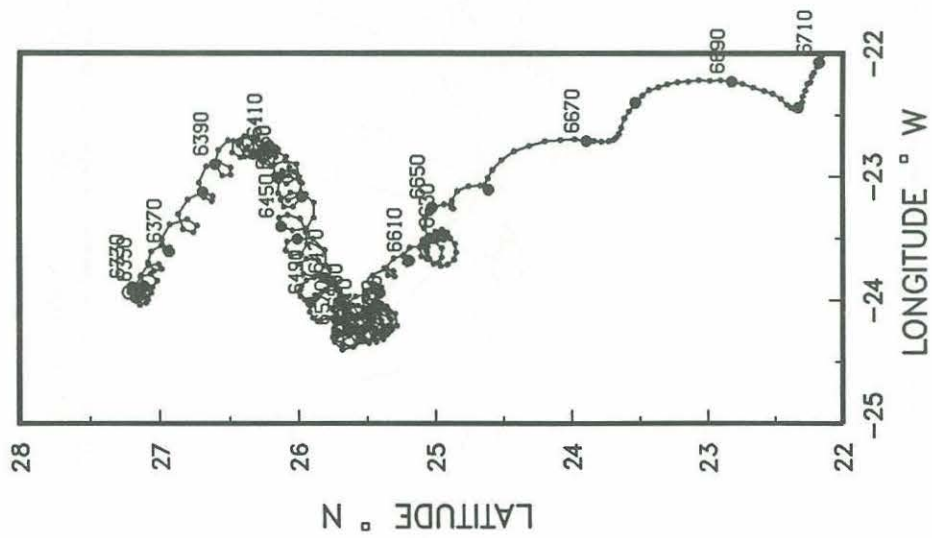
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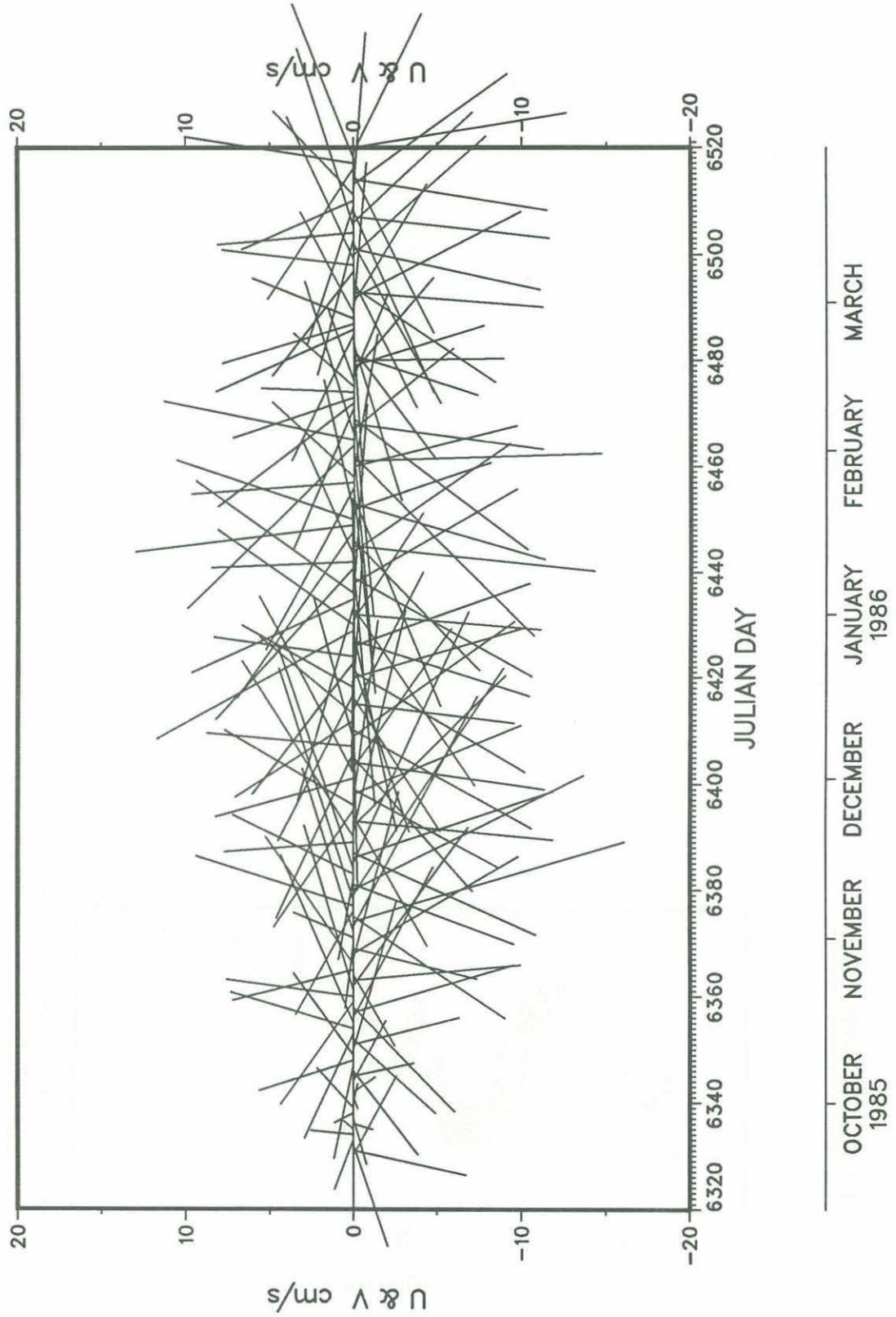
10 Appendix C — Meddy Floats

Individual float trajectory plots and a group of time series plots are presented for seven Meddy floats tracked in 1985 and 1986. These data were processed in parallel with our own data, but smoothing was omitted. Speeds were calculated from consecutive positions and subsampled to one per day before plotting. In addition, displacement vectors of the Meddy floats from 1984 to 1986 and for the first and second years of the experiment are given in Figures 6a to 6c. Composites of trajectories from Meddy floats are given in Figures 7a to 7c.

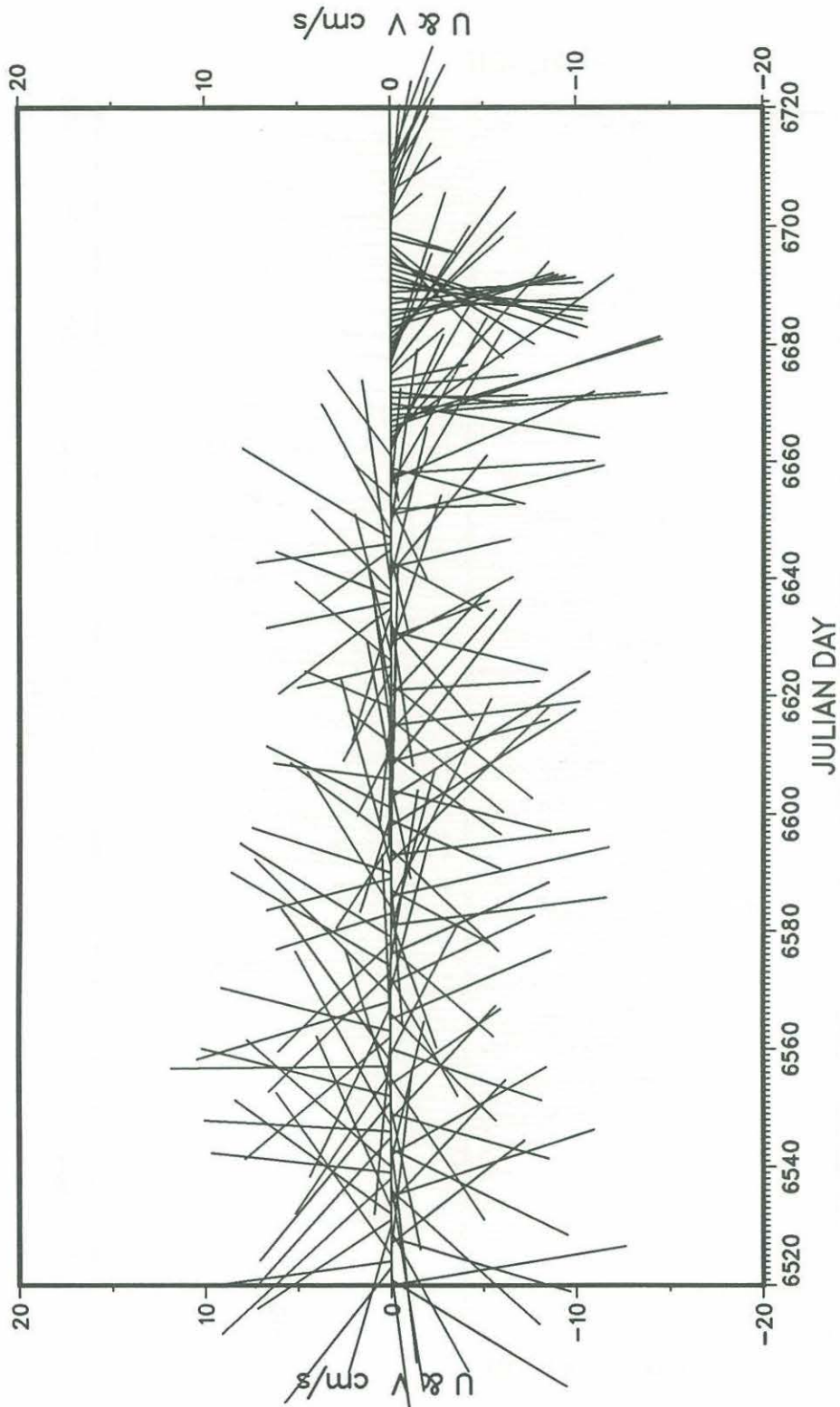
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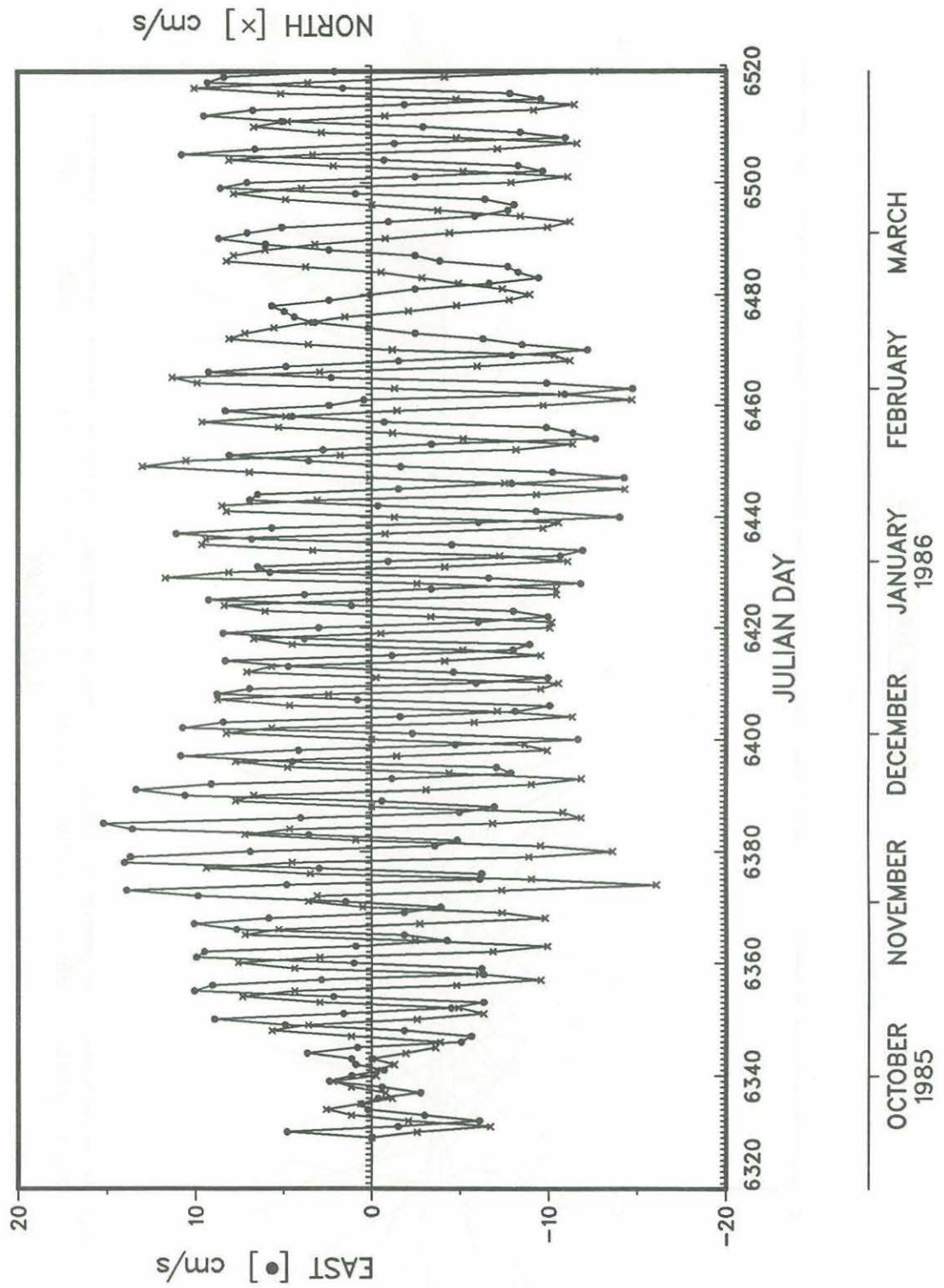


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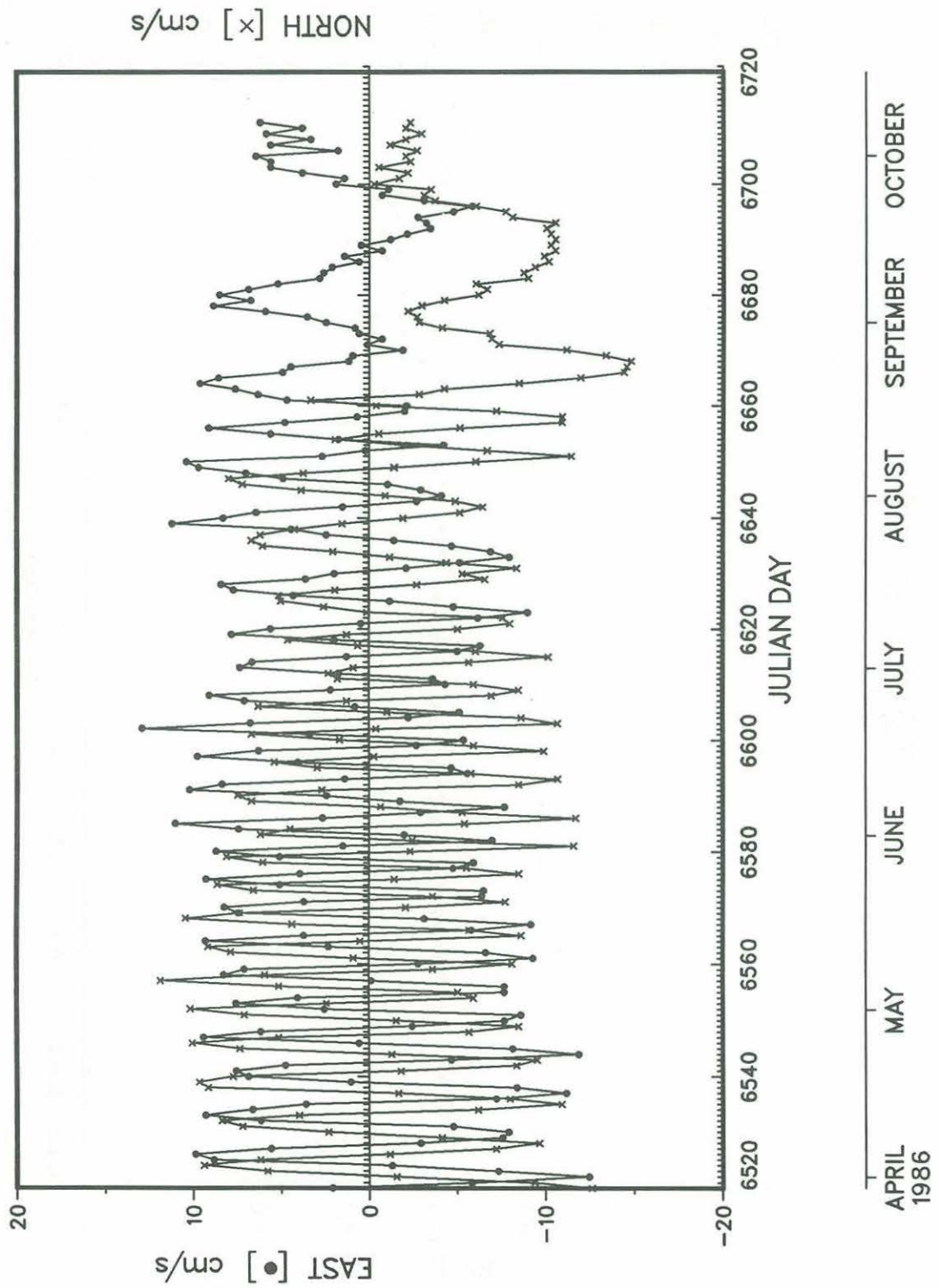


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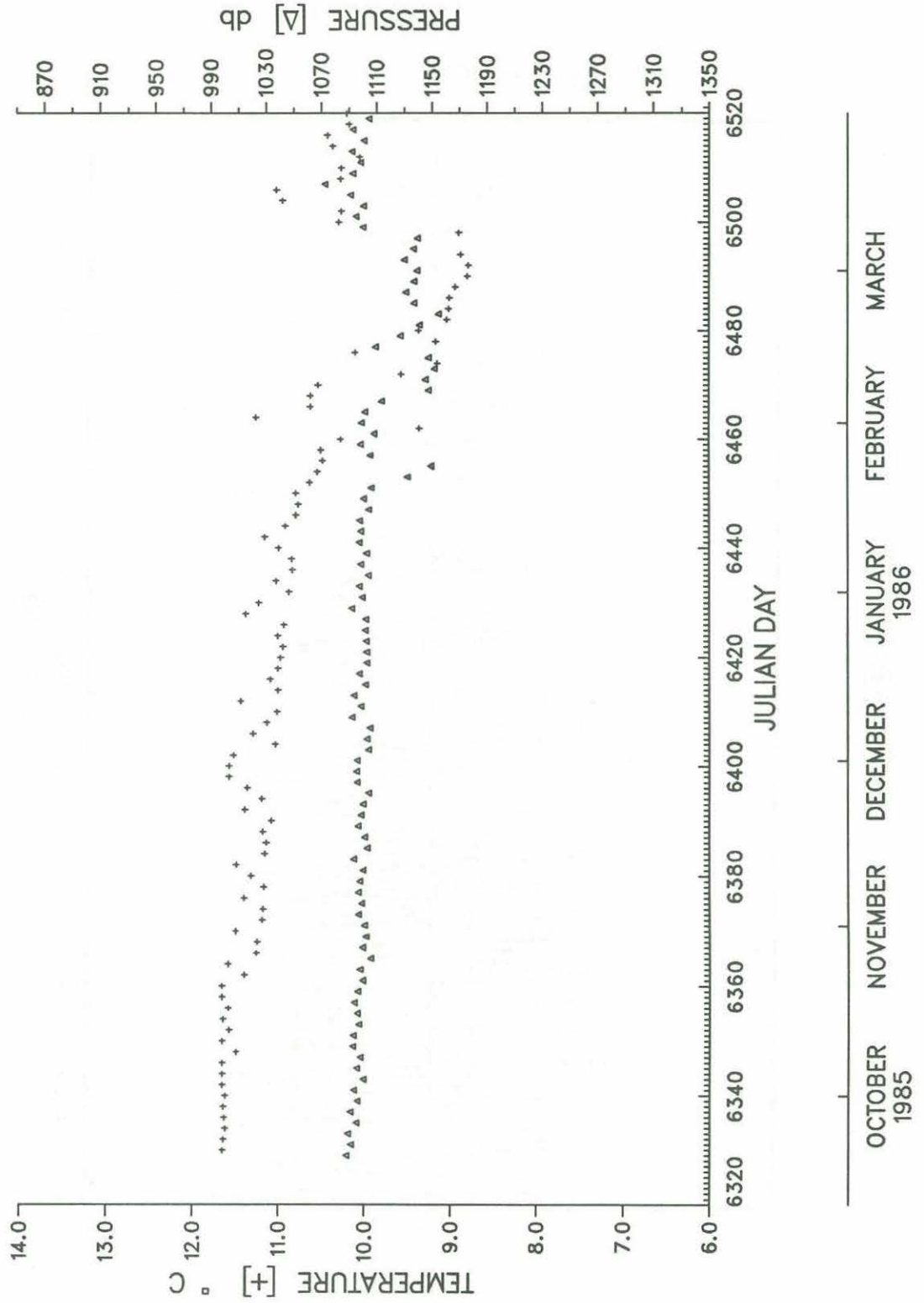
EASTERN BASIN 128



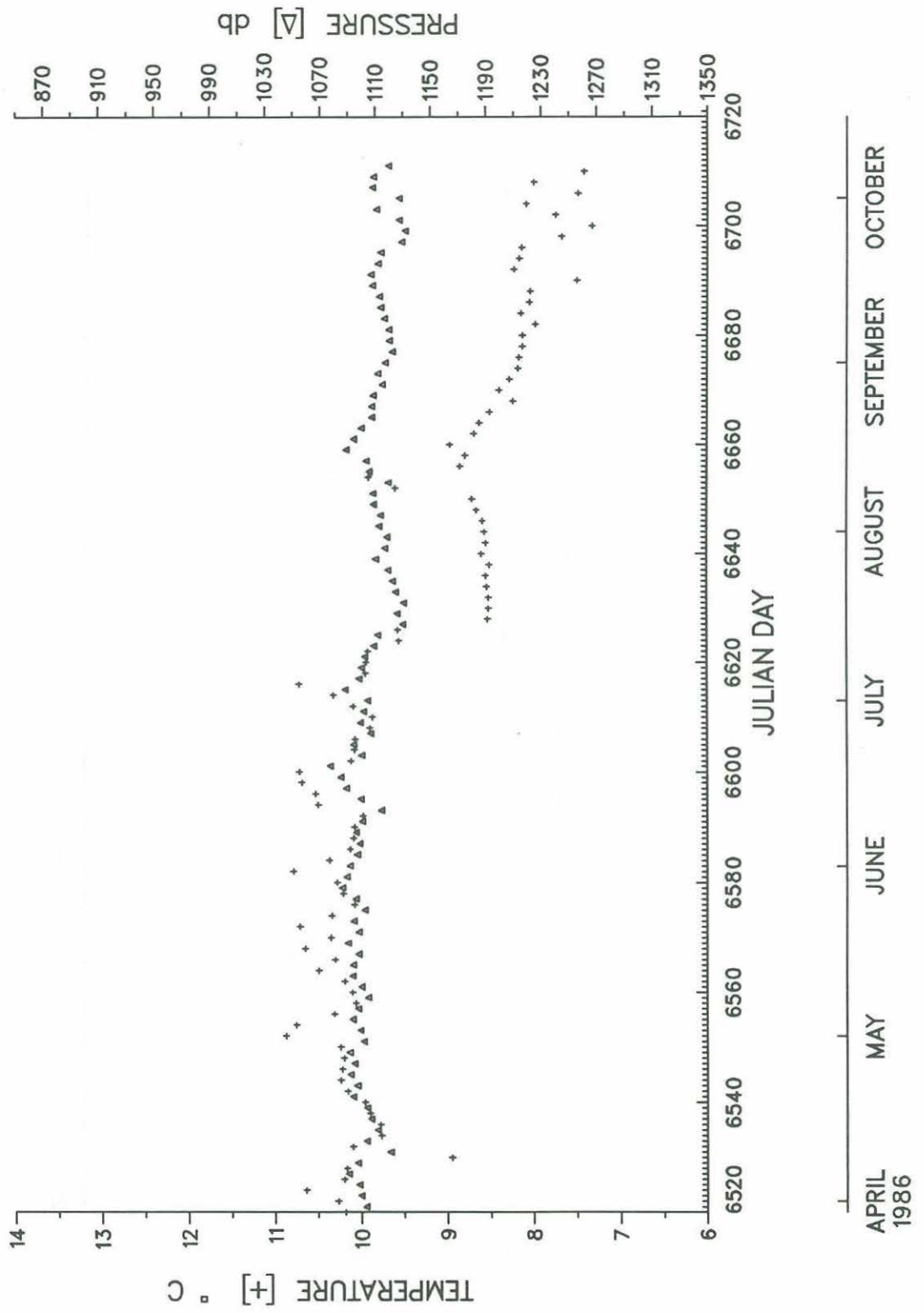
EASTERN BASIN 128



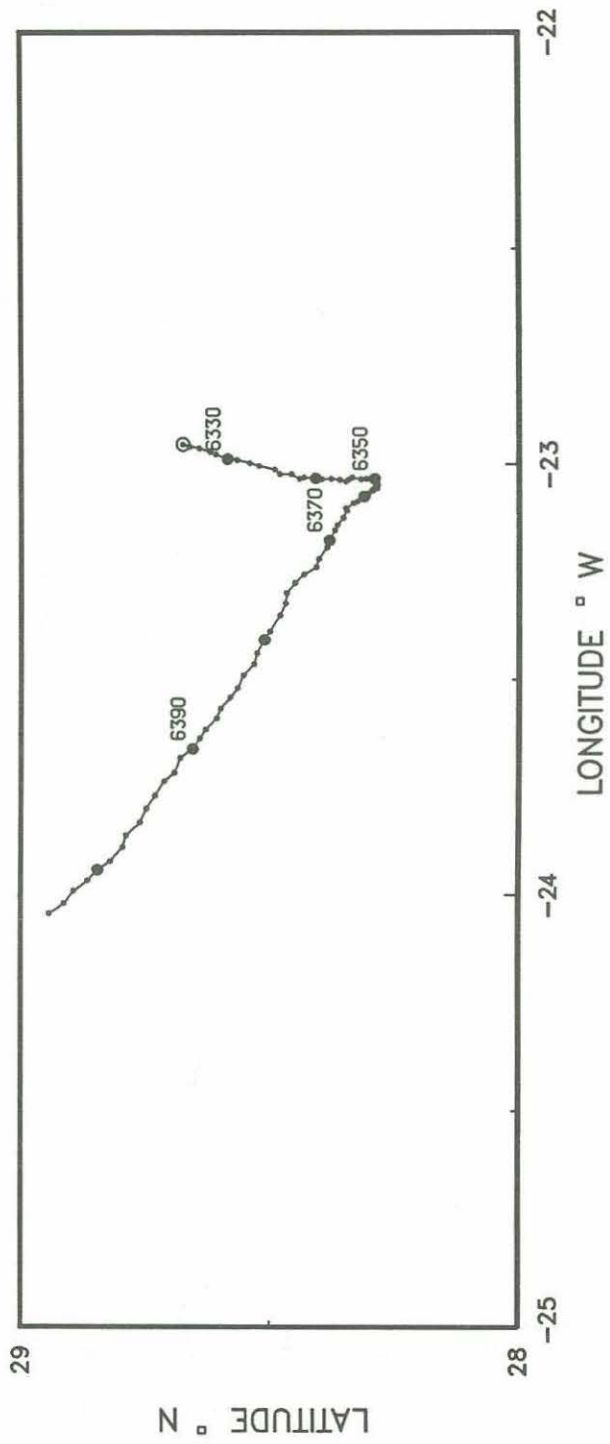
EASTERN BASIN 128



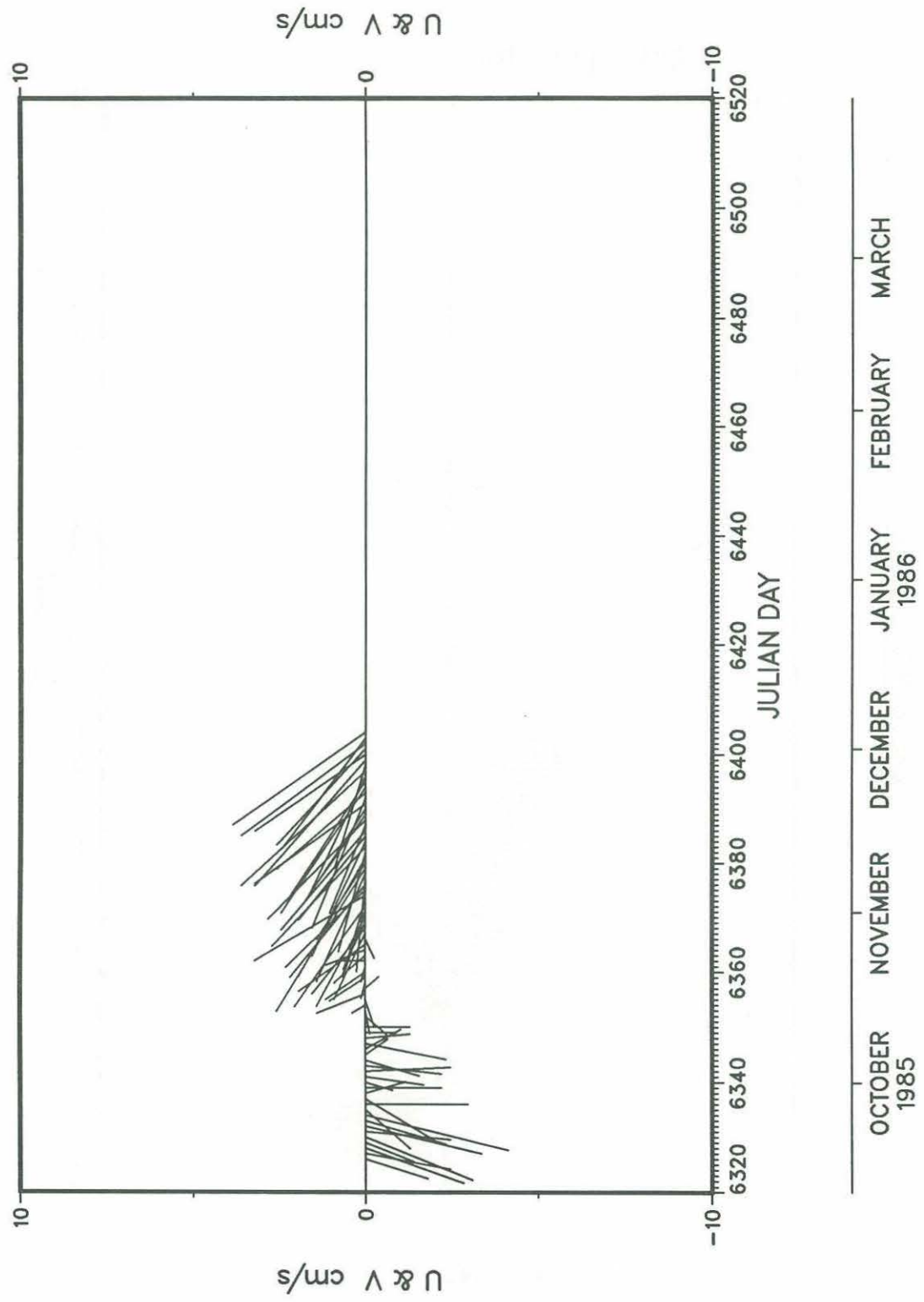
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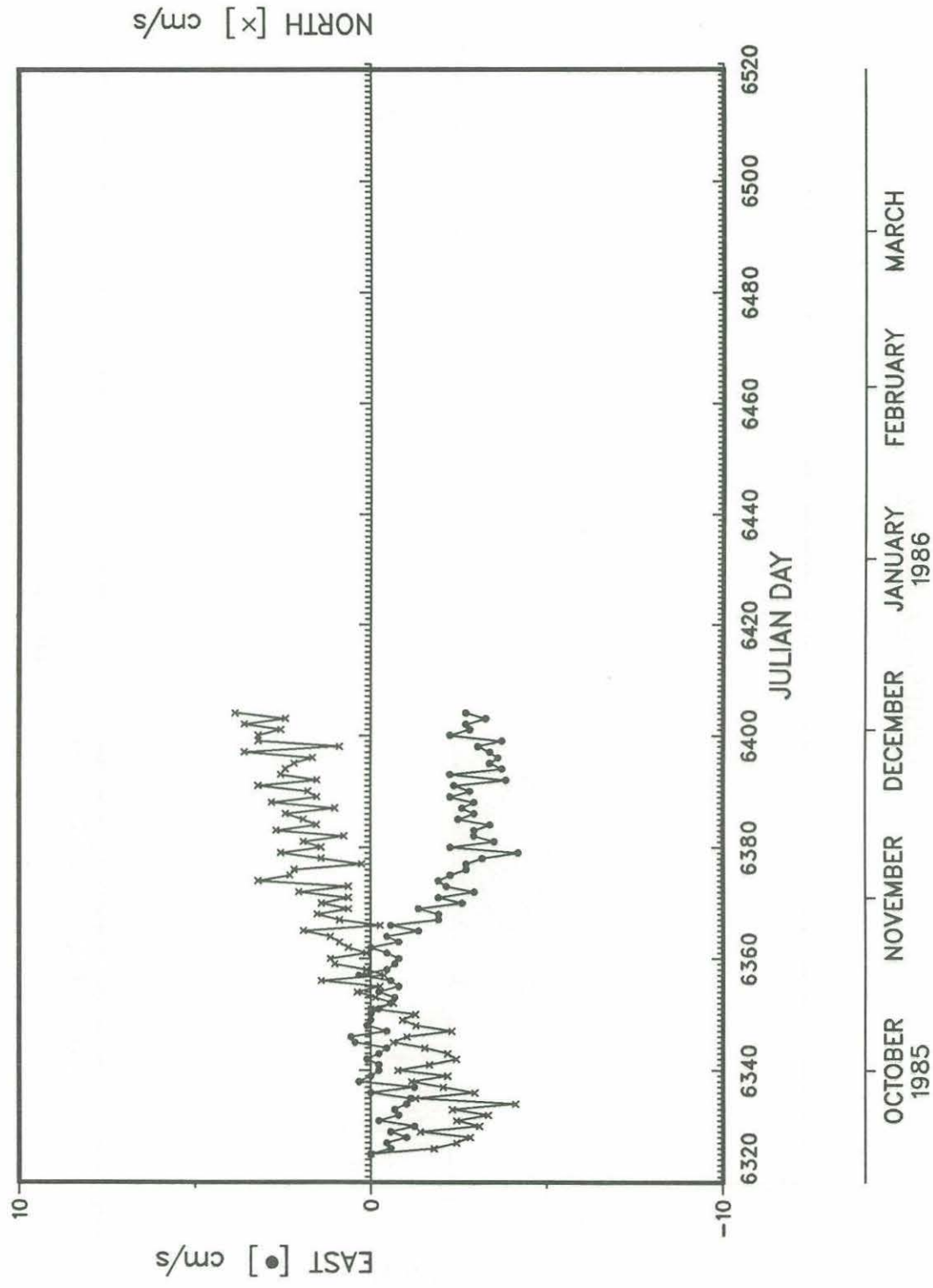
EASTERN BASIN 141



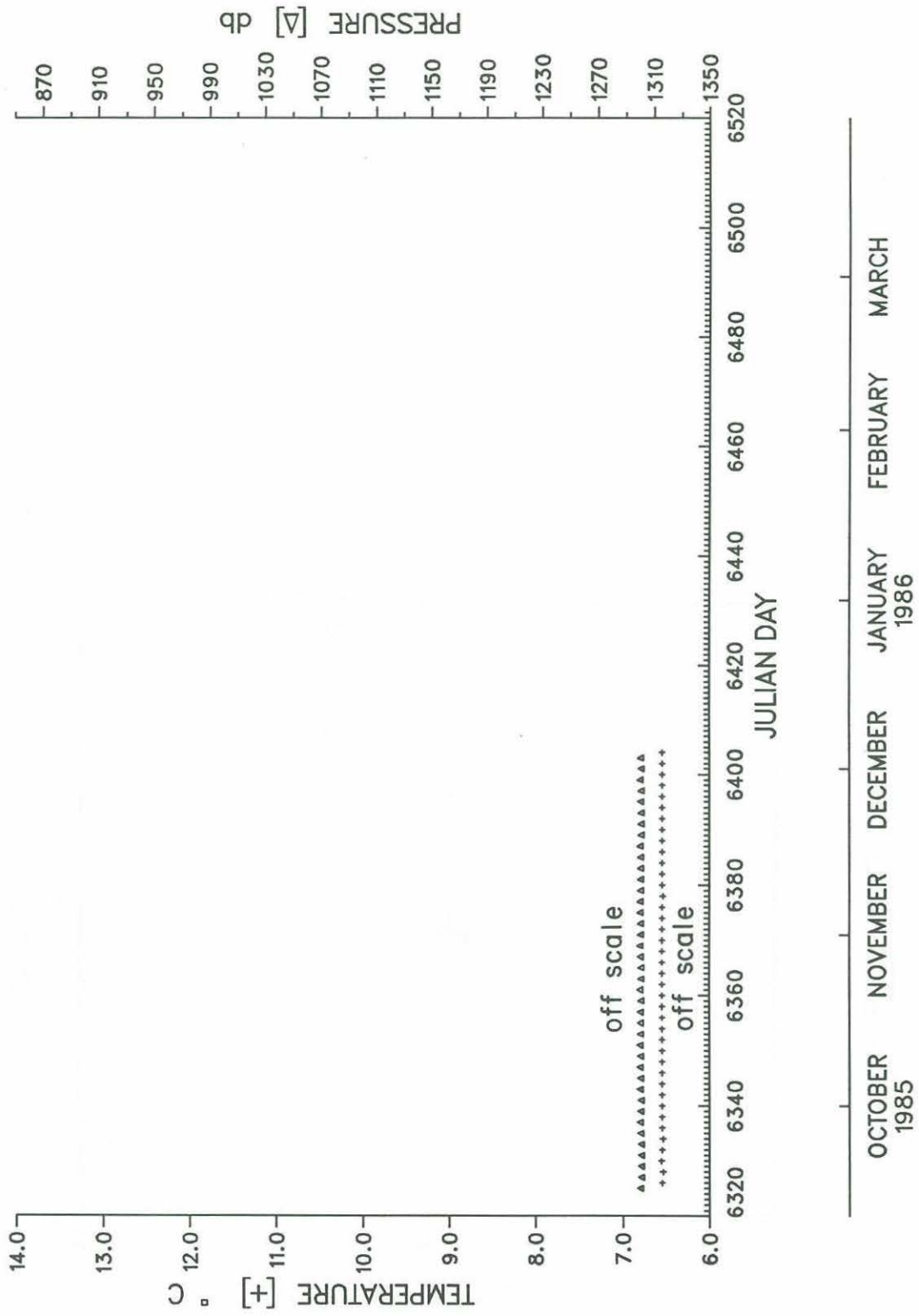
EASTERN BASIN 141



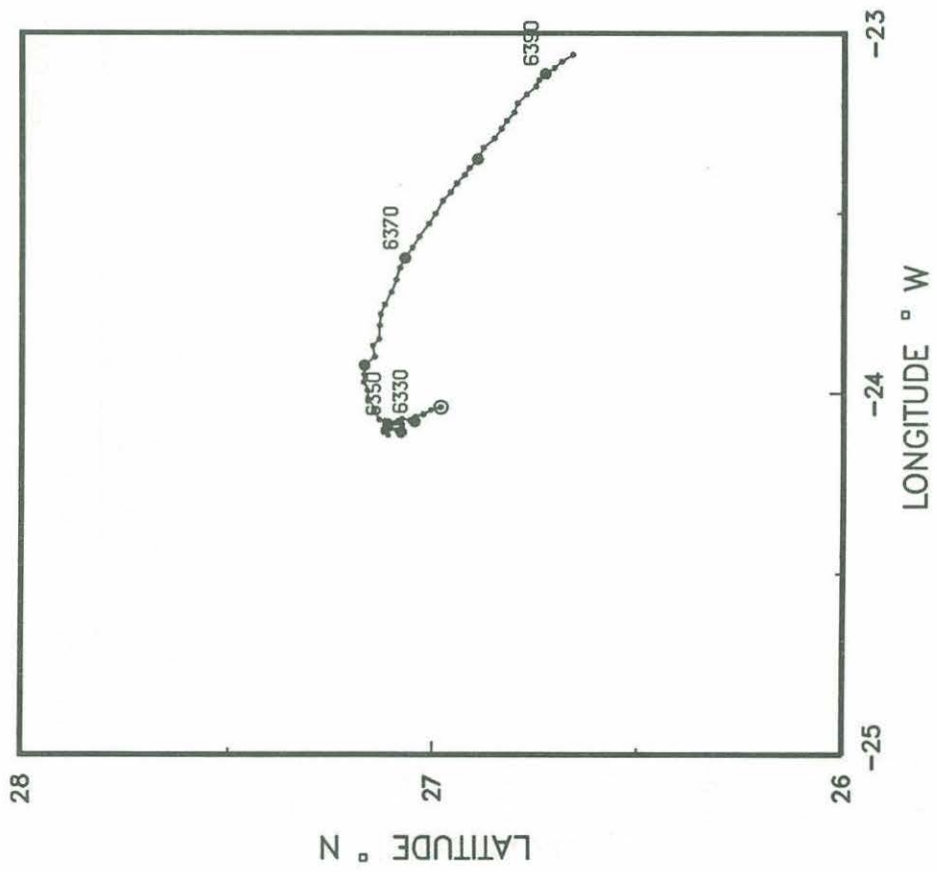
EASTERN BASIN 141



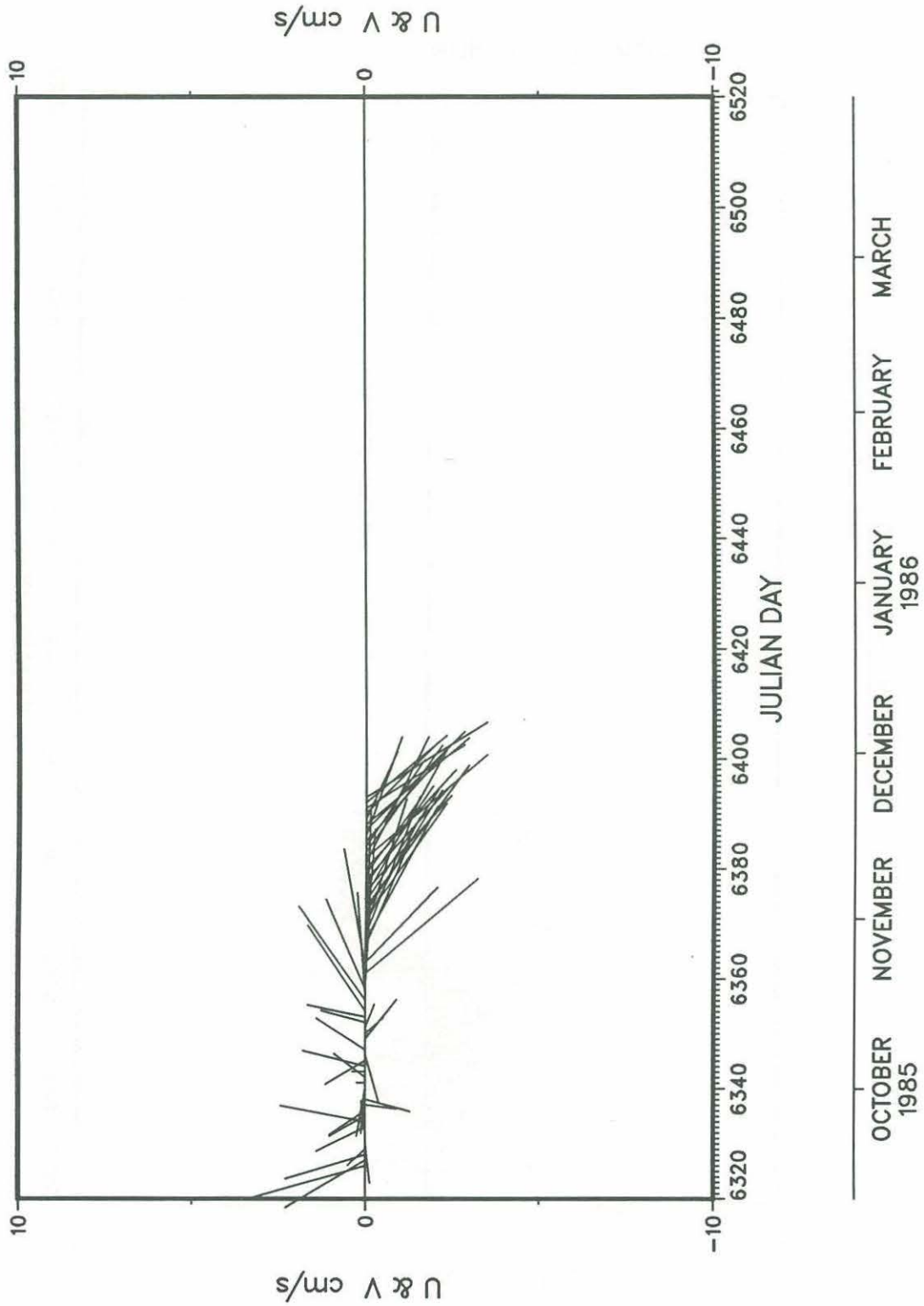
EASTERN BASIN 141



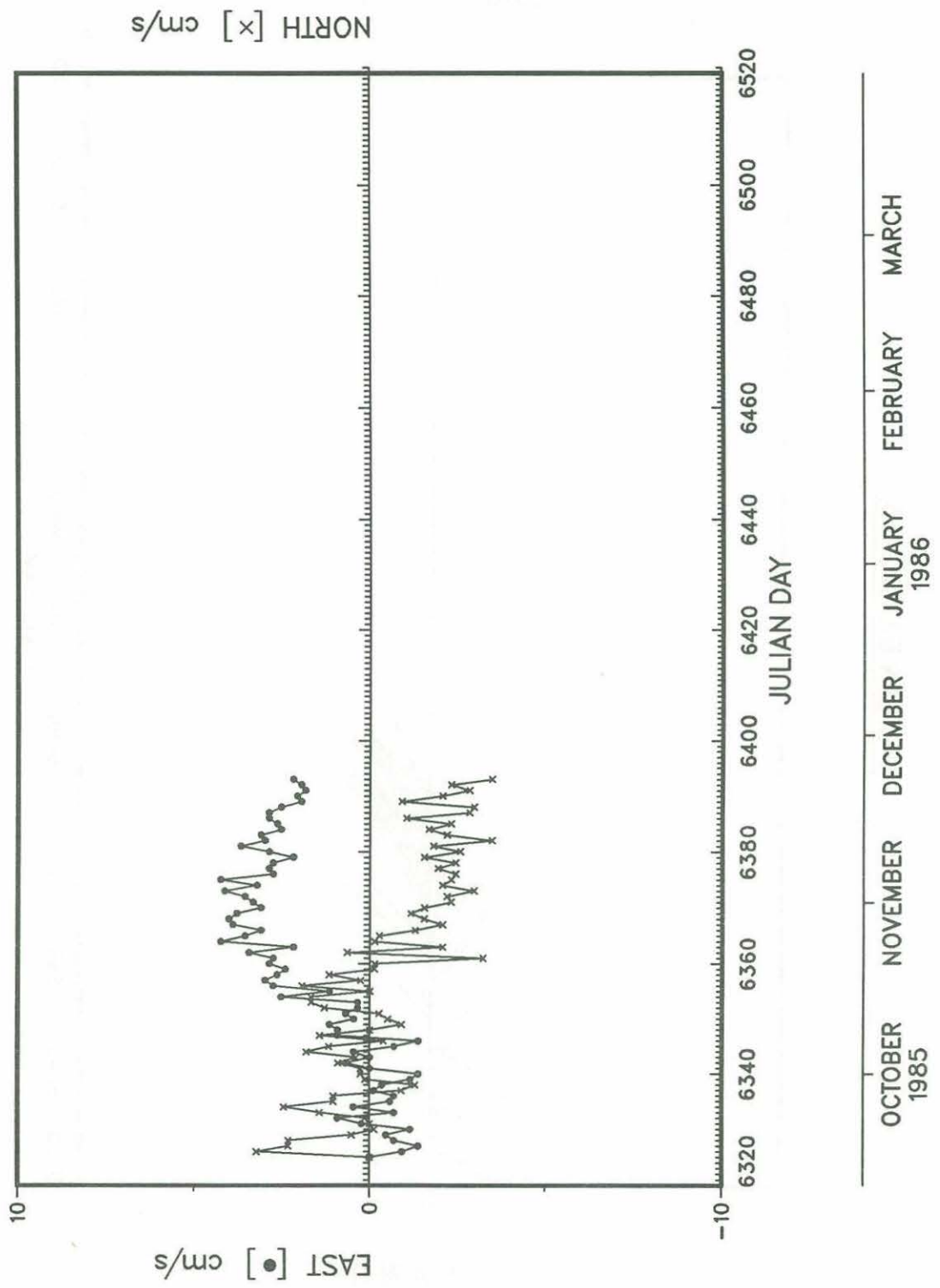
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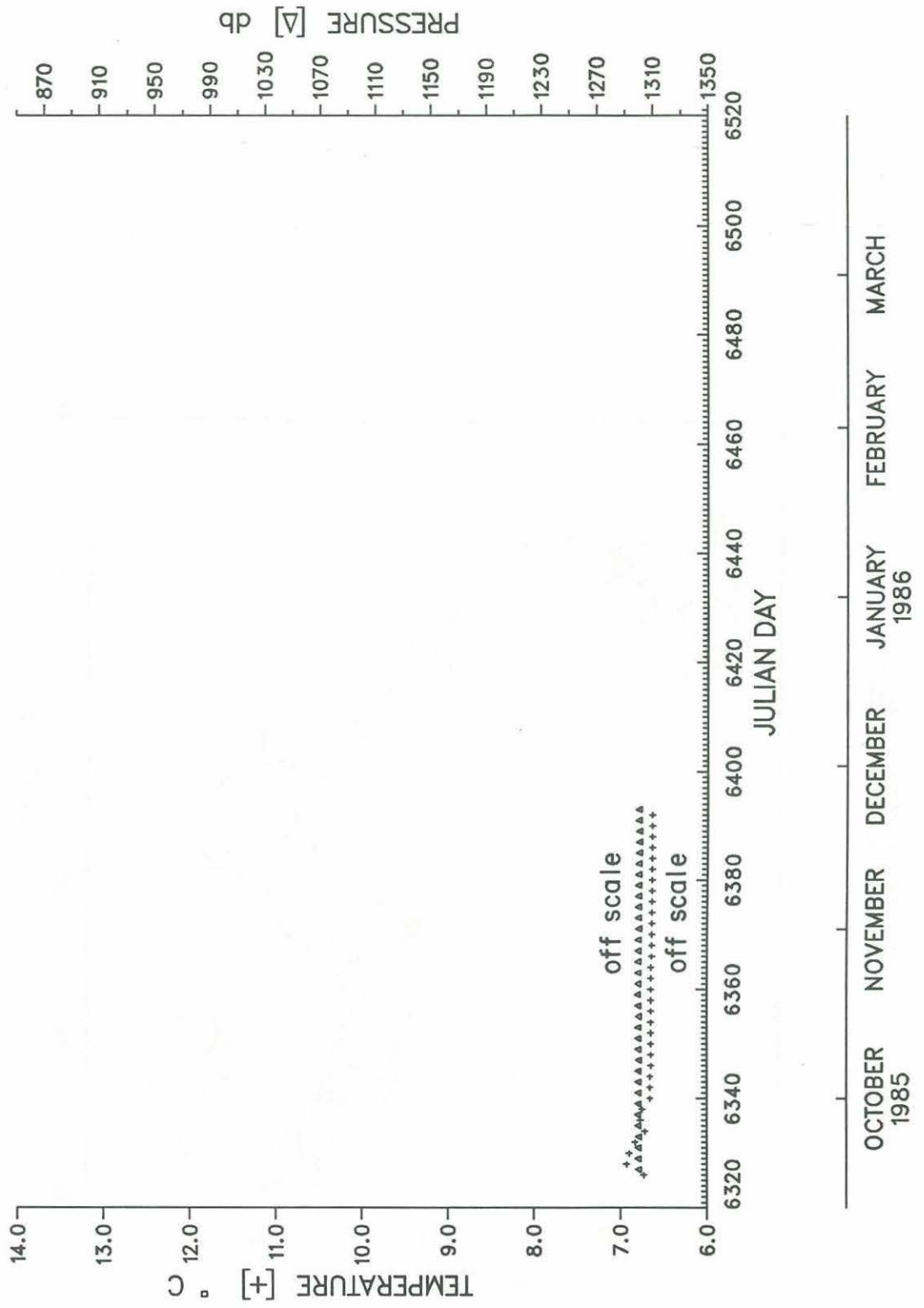
EASTERN BASIN 143



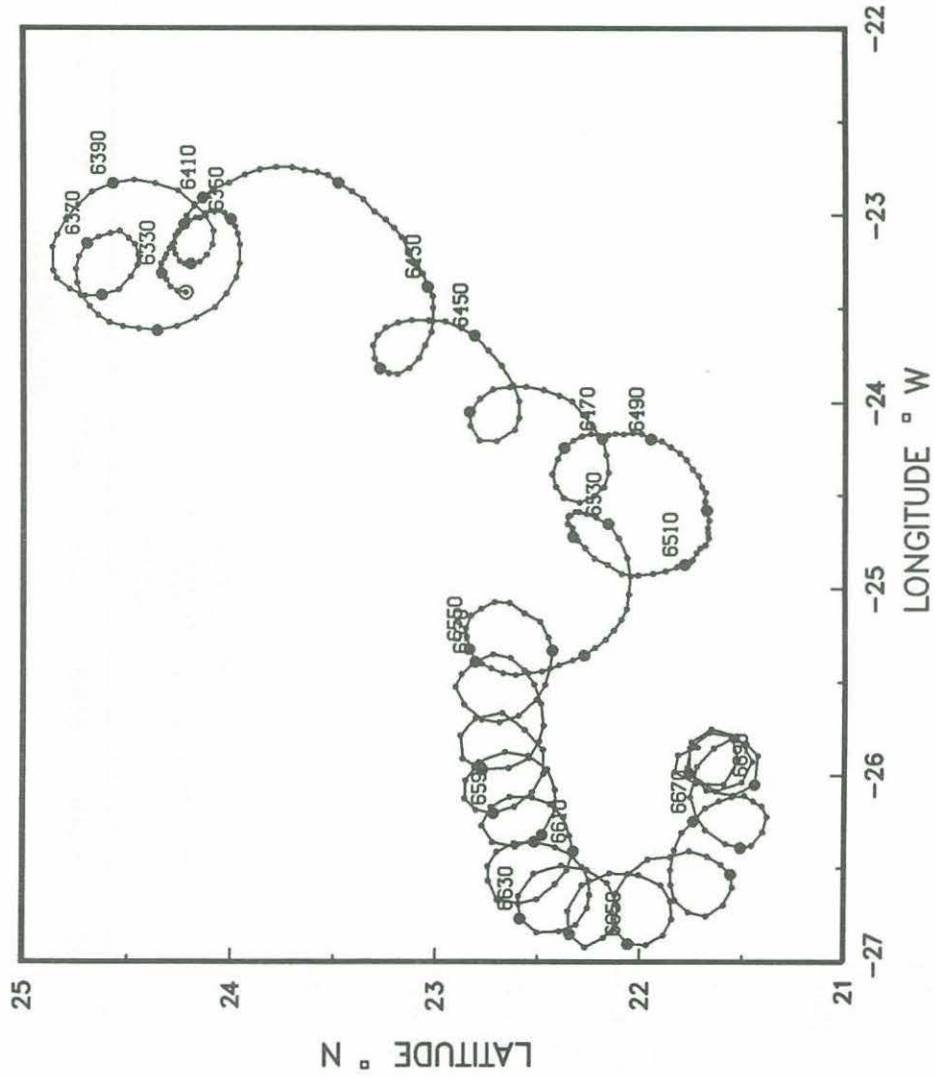
EASTERN BASIN 143



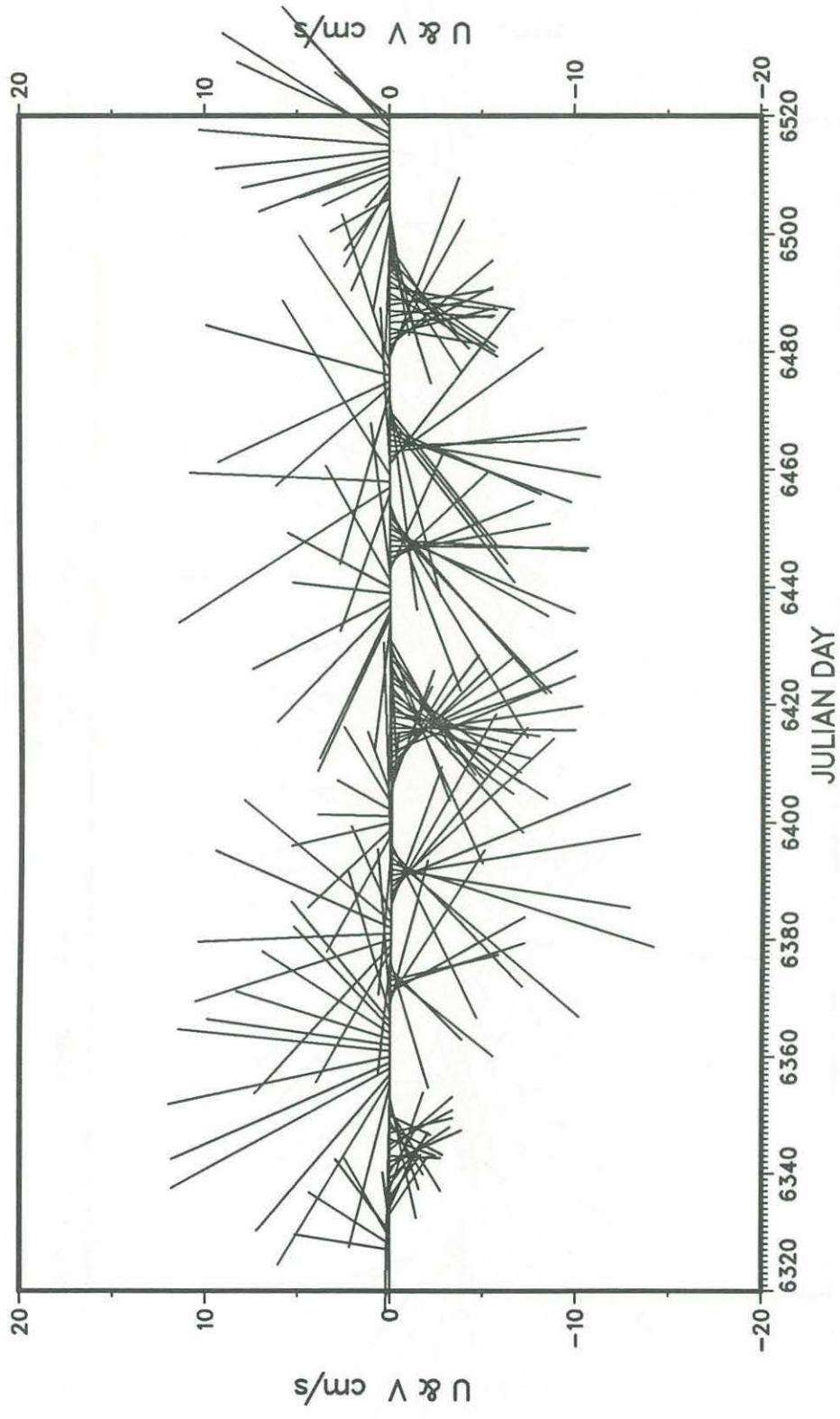
EASTERN BASIN 143



EASTERN BASIN 145

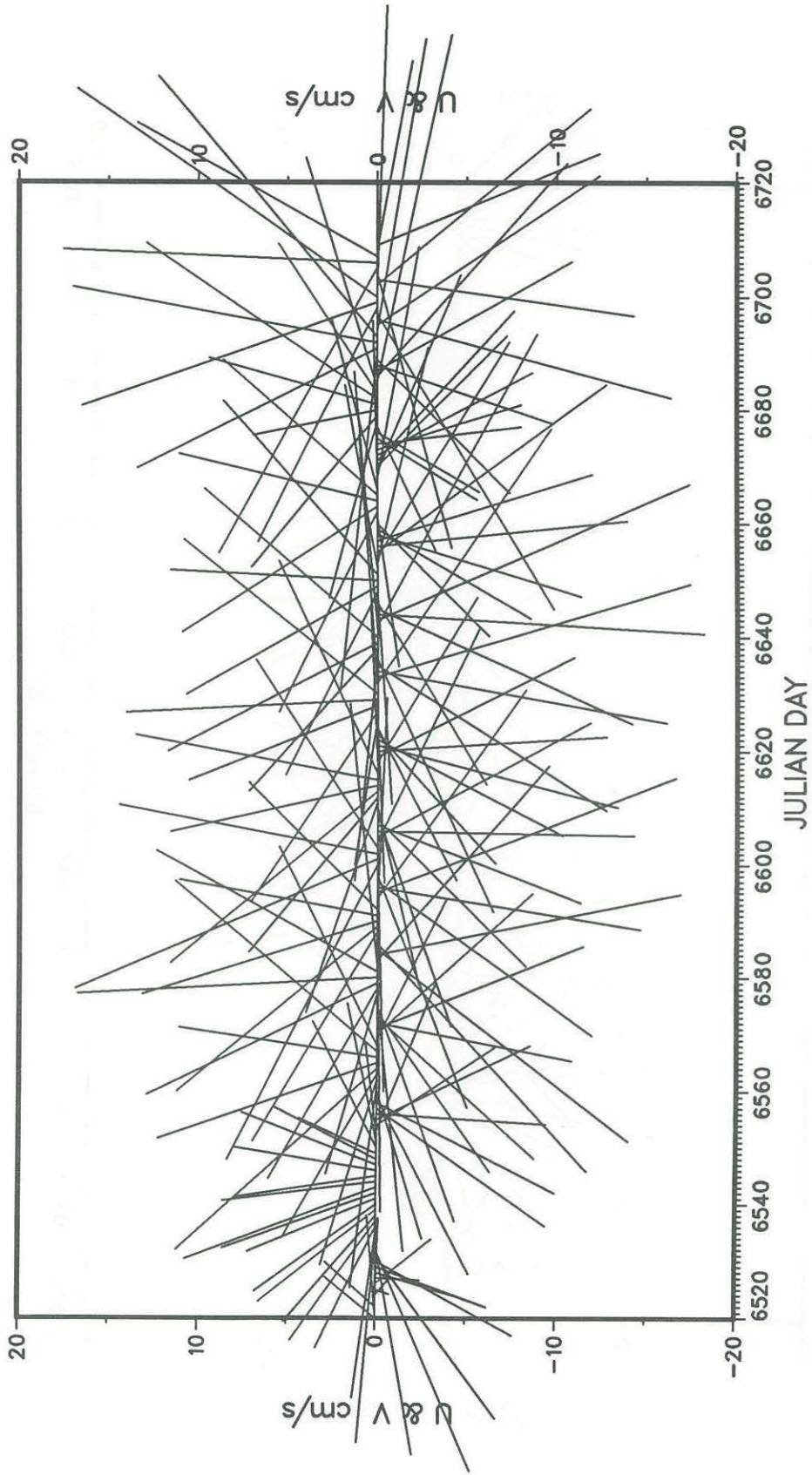


EASTERN BASIN 145

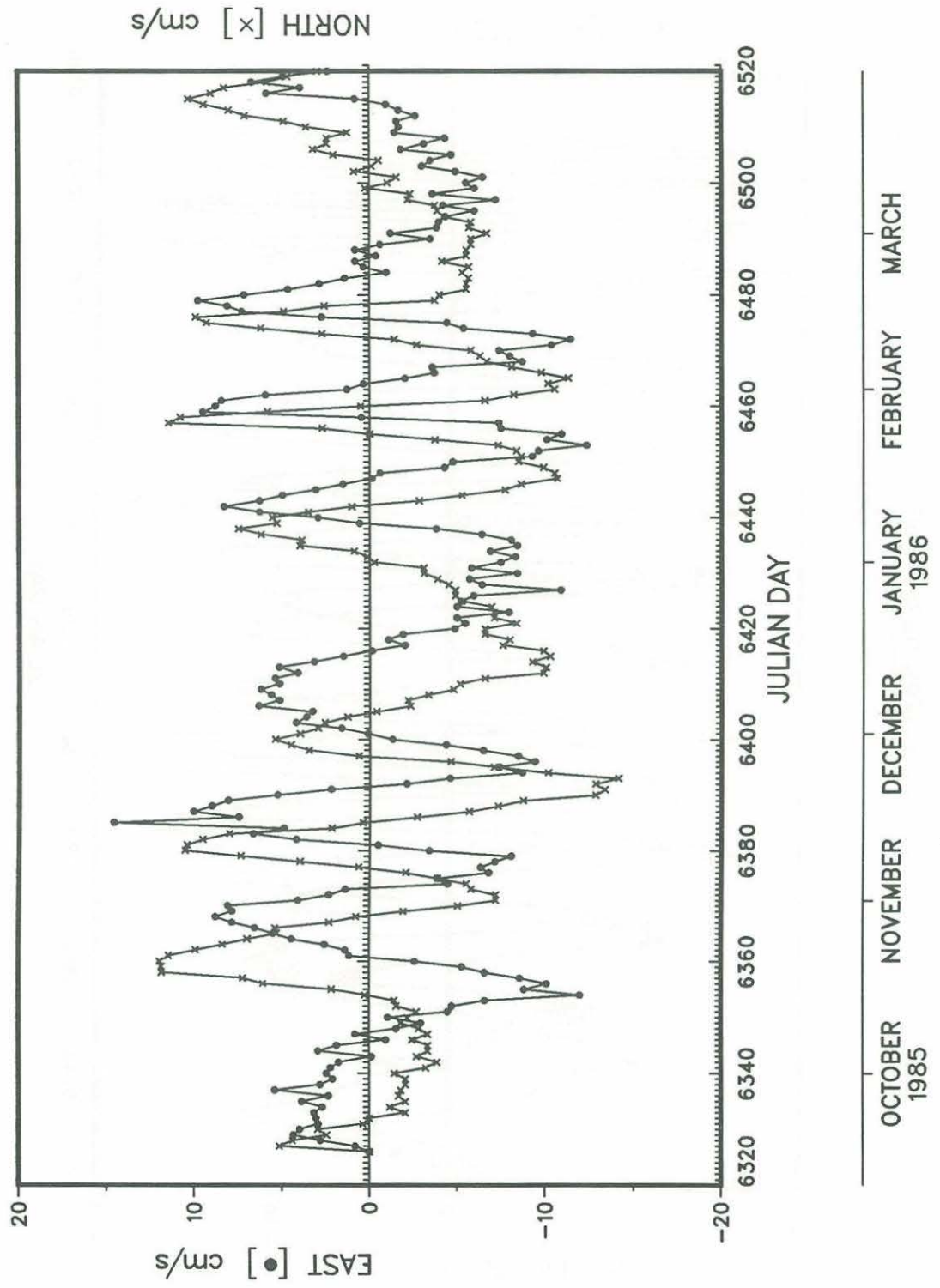


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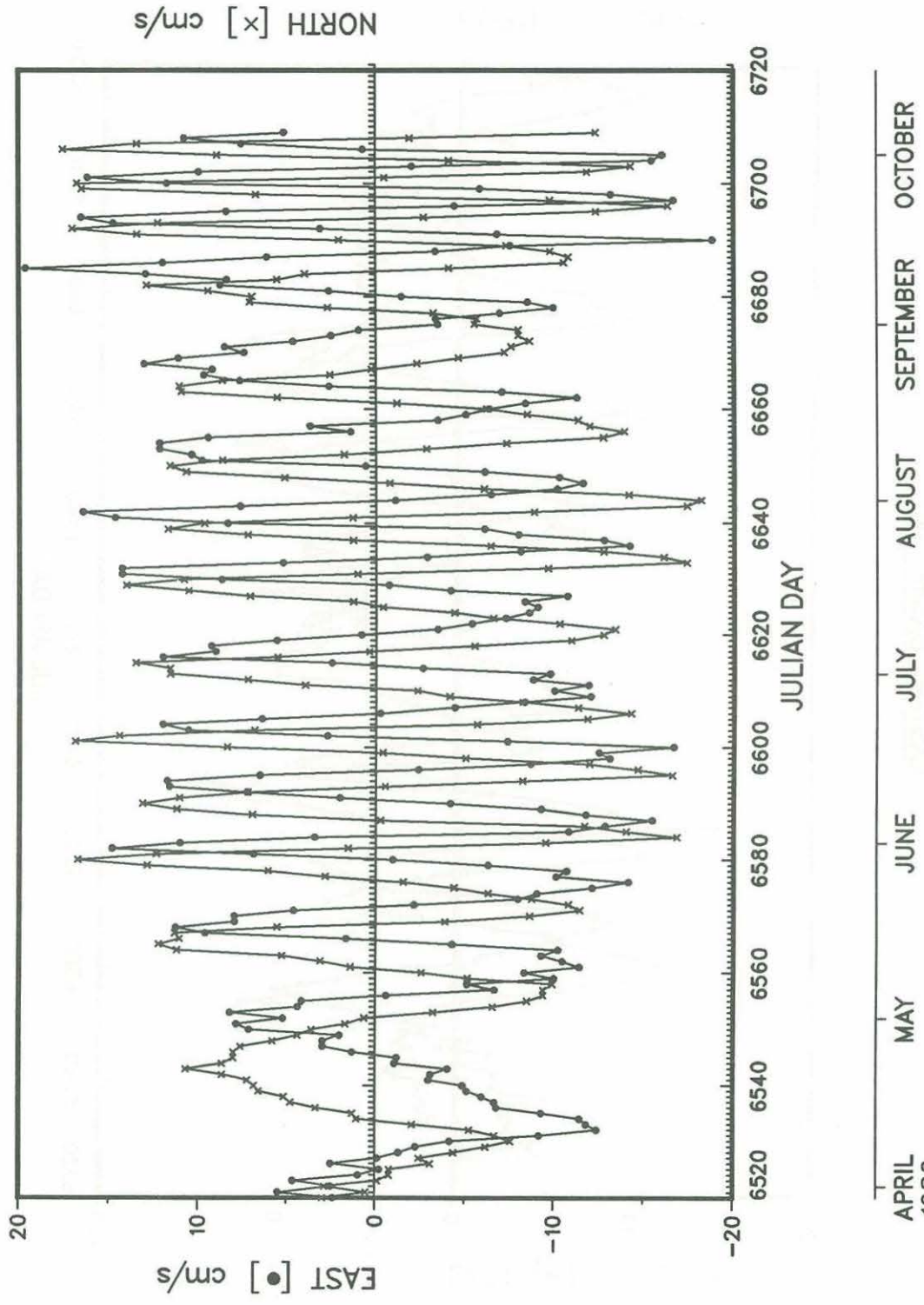
EASTERN BASIN 145



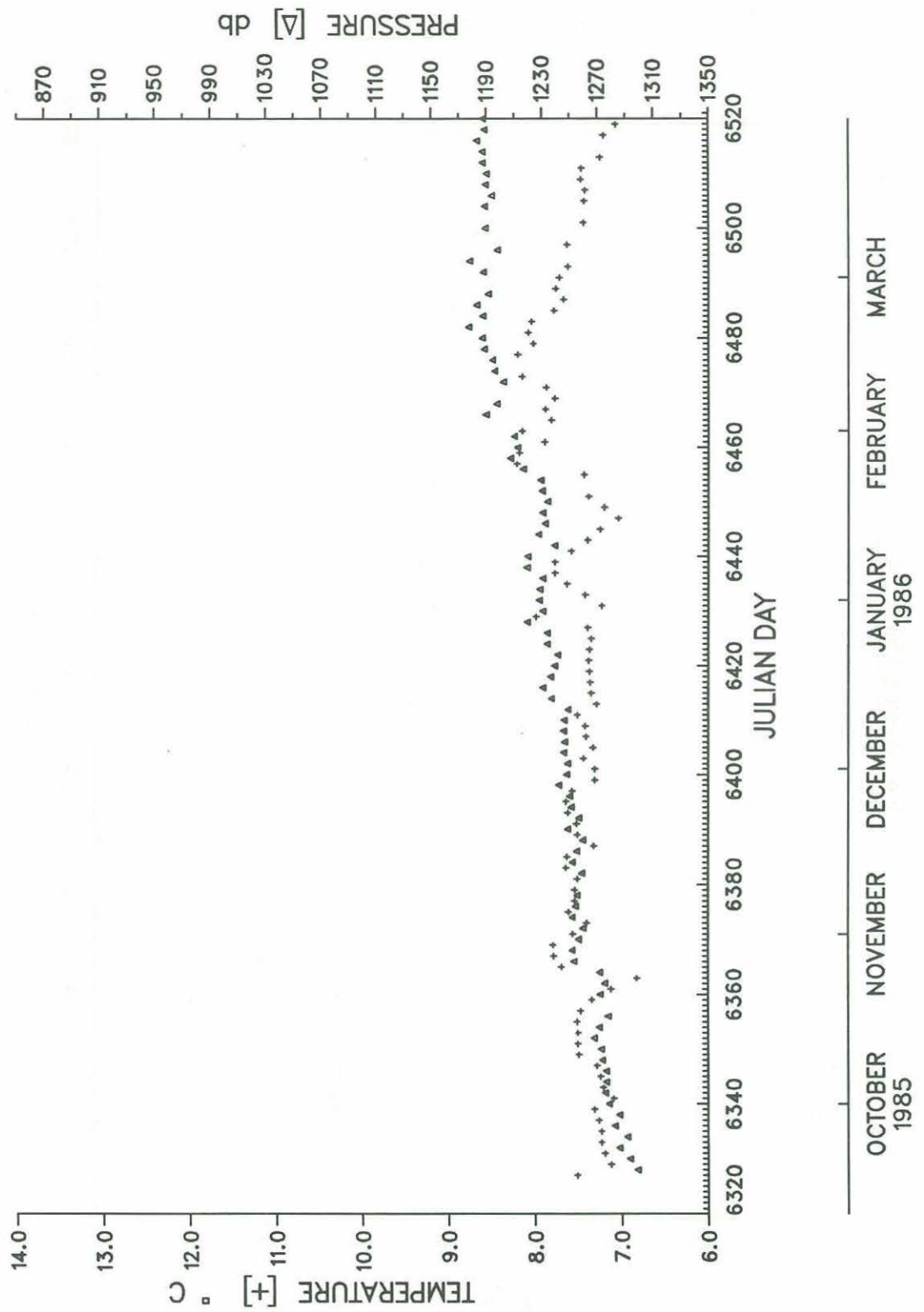
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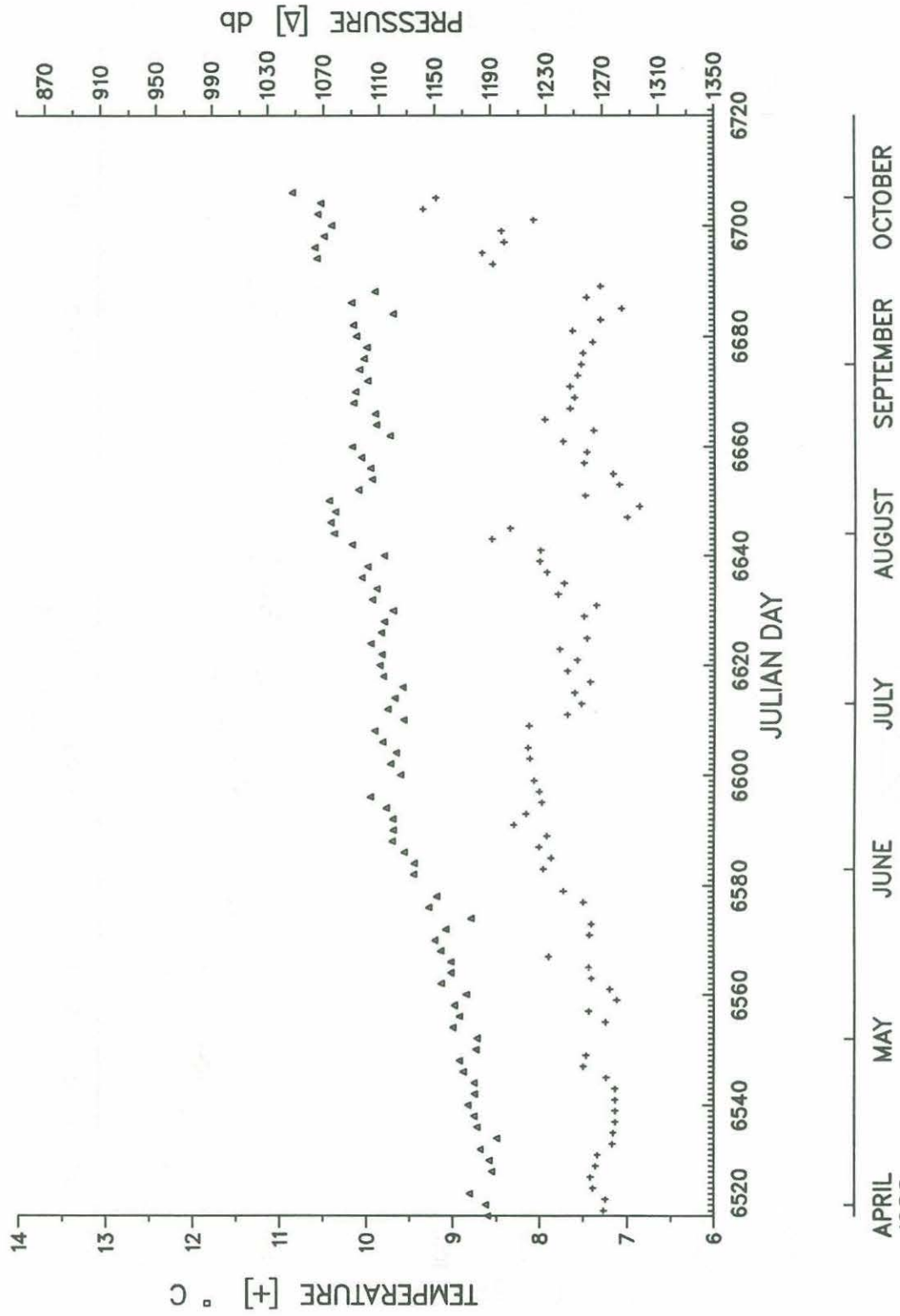
EASTERN BASIN 145



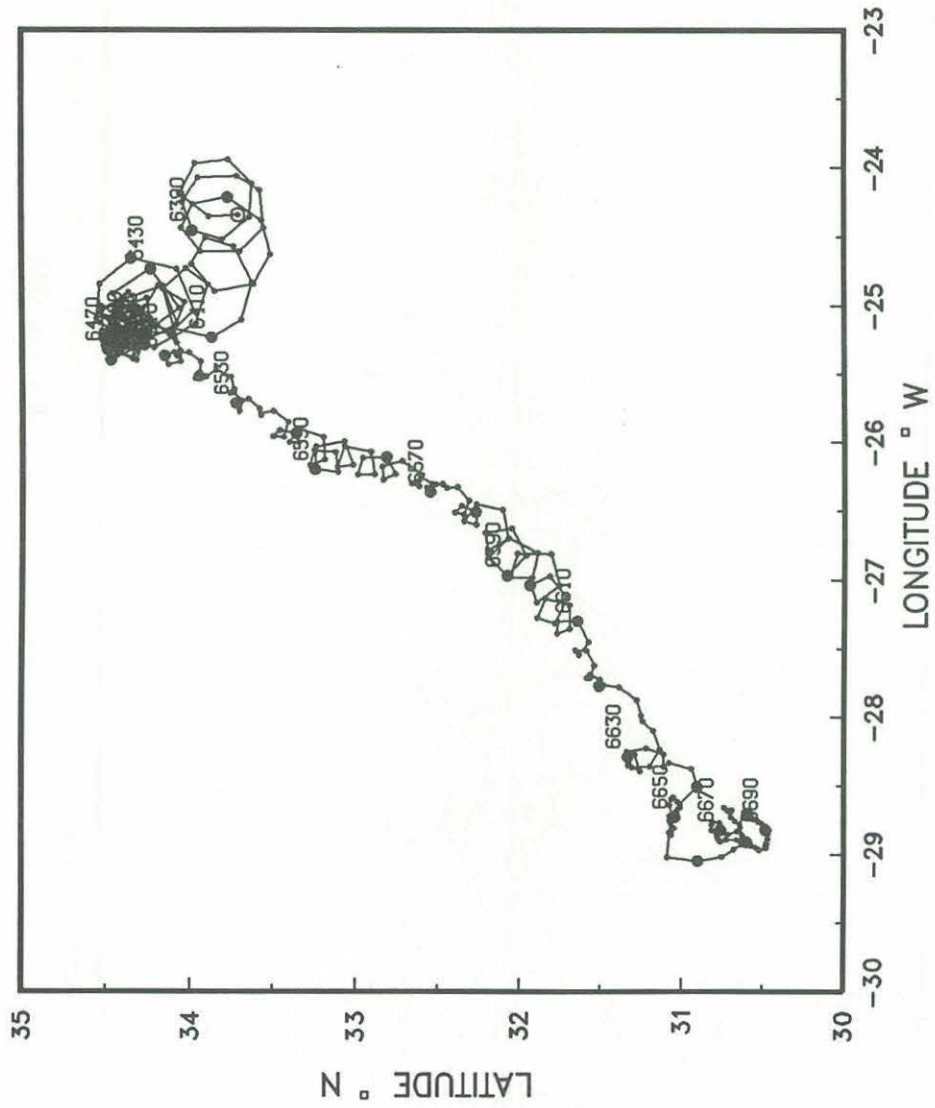
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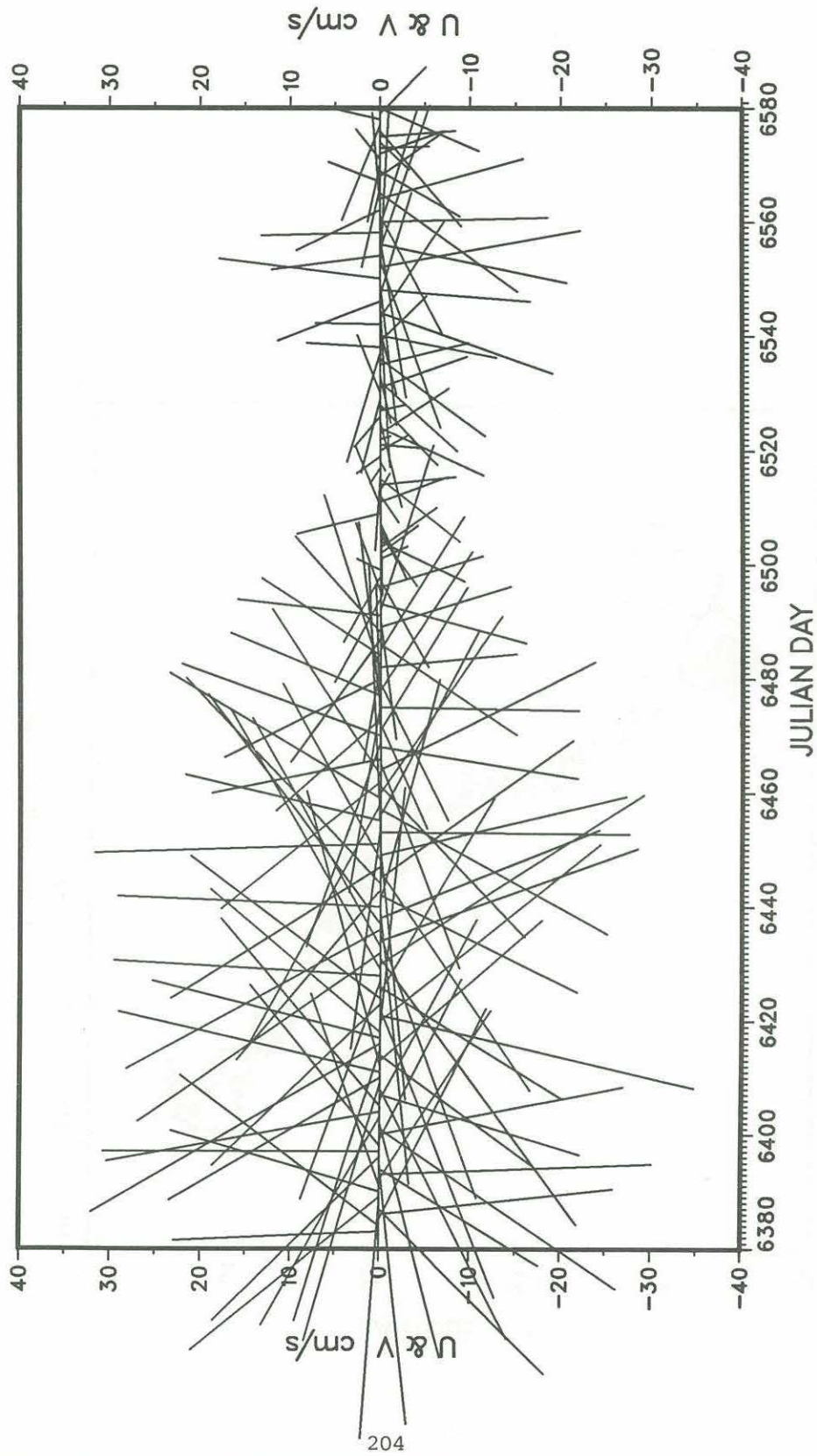
EASTERN BASIN 145



EASTERN BASIN 148

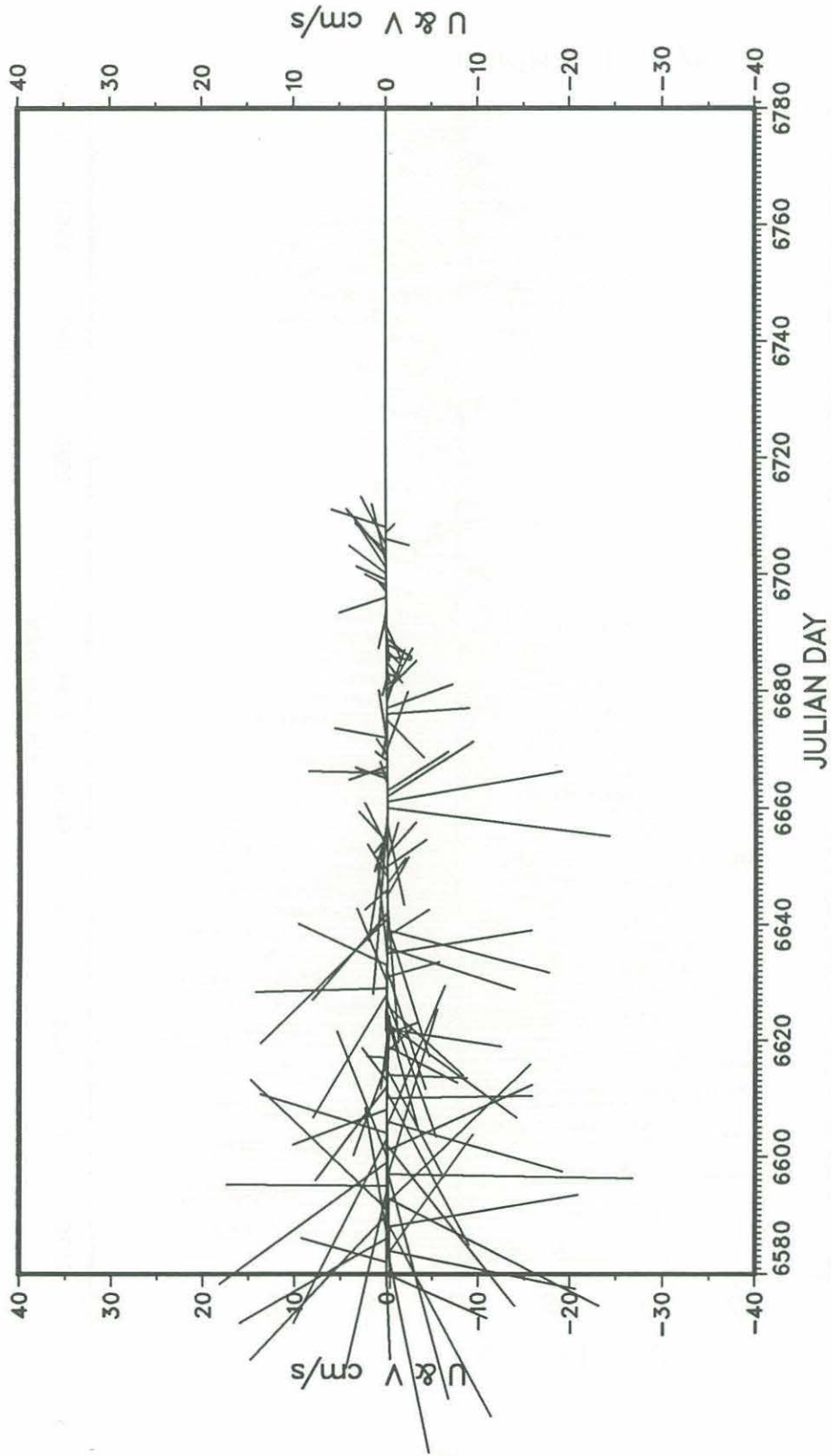


EASTERN BASIN 148



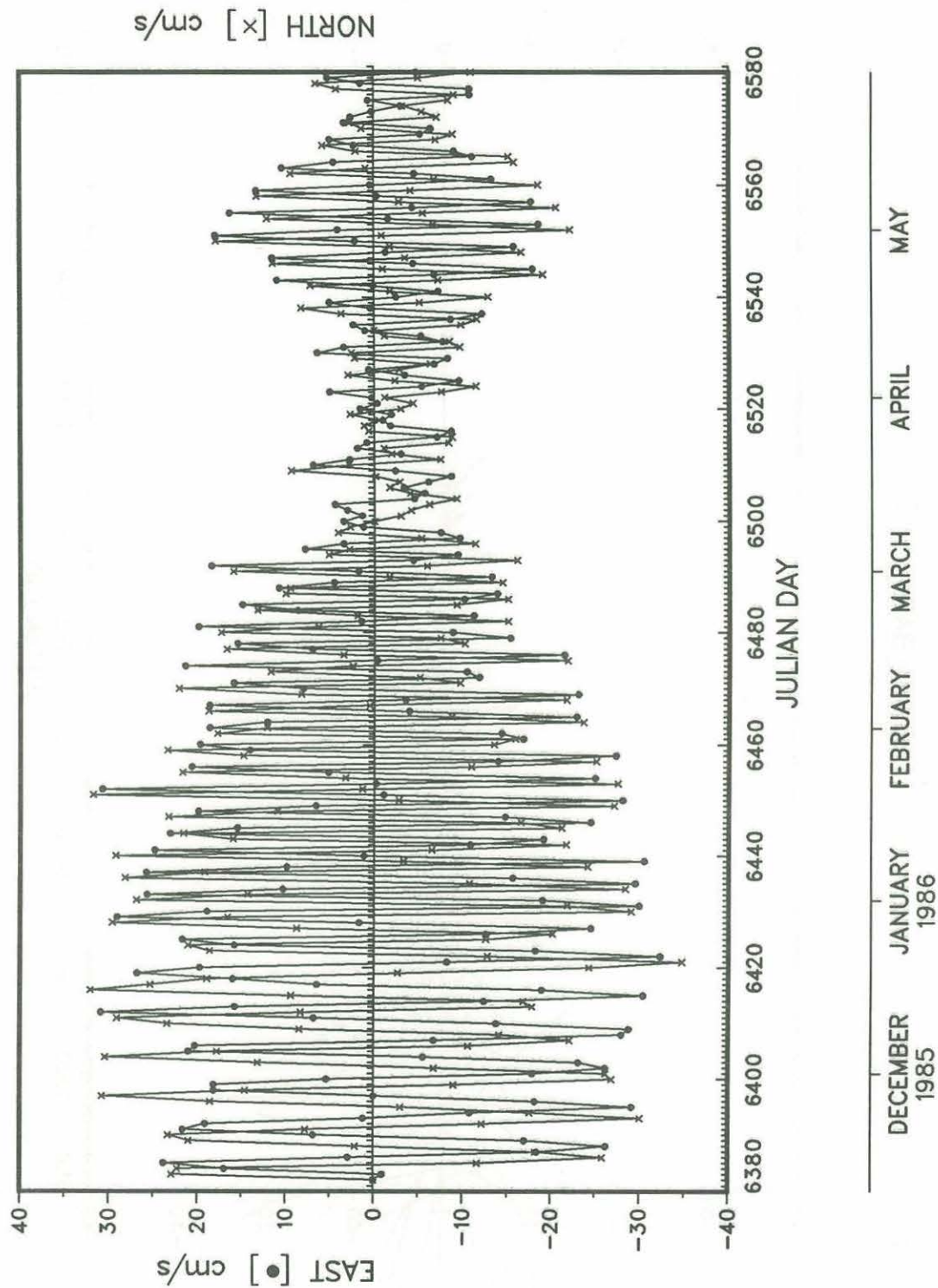
DECEMBER 1985 JANUARY 1986 FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL MAY

EASTERN BASIN 148

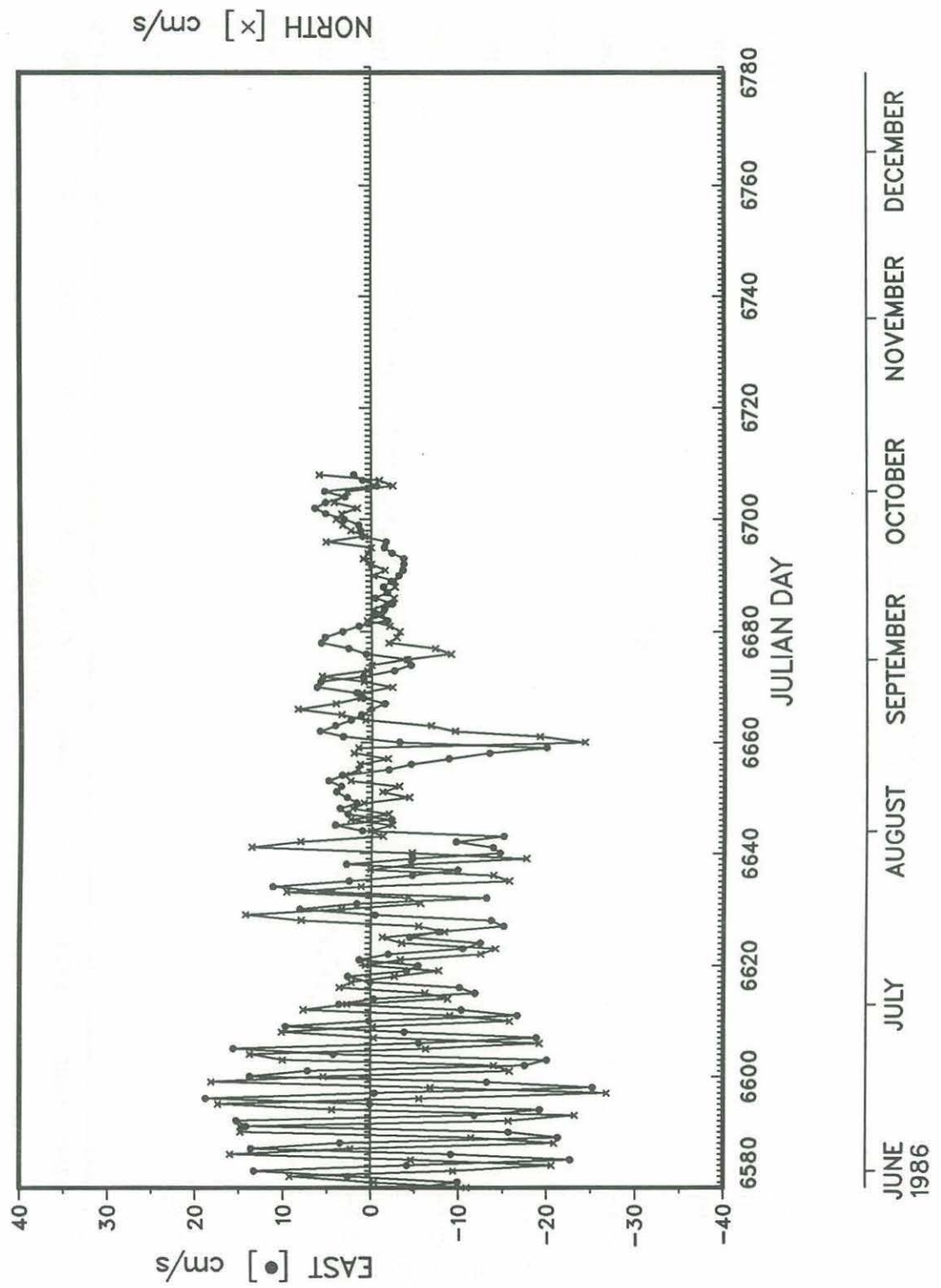


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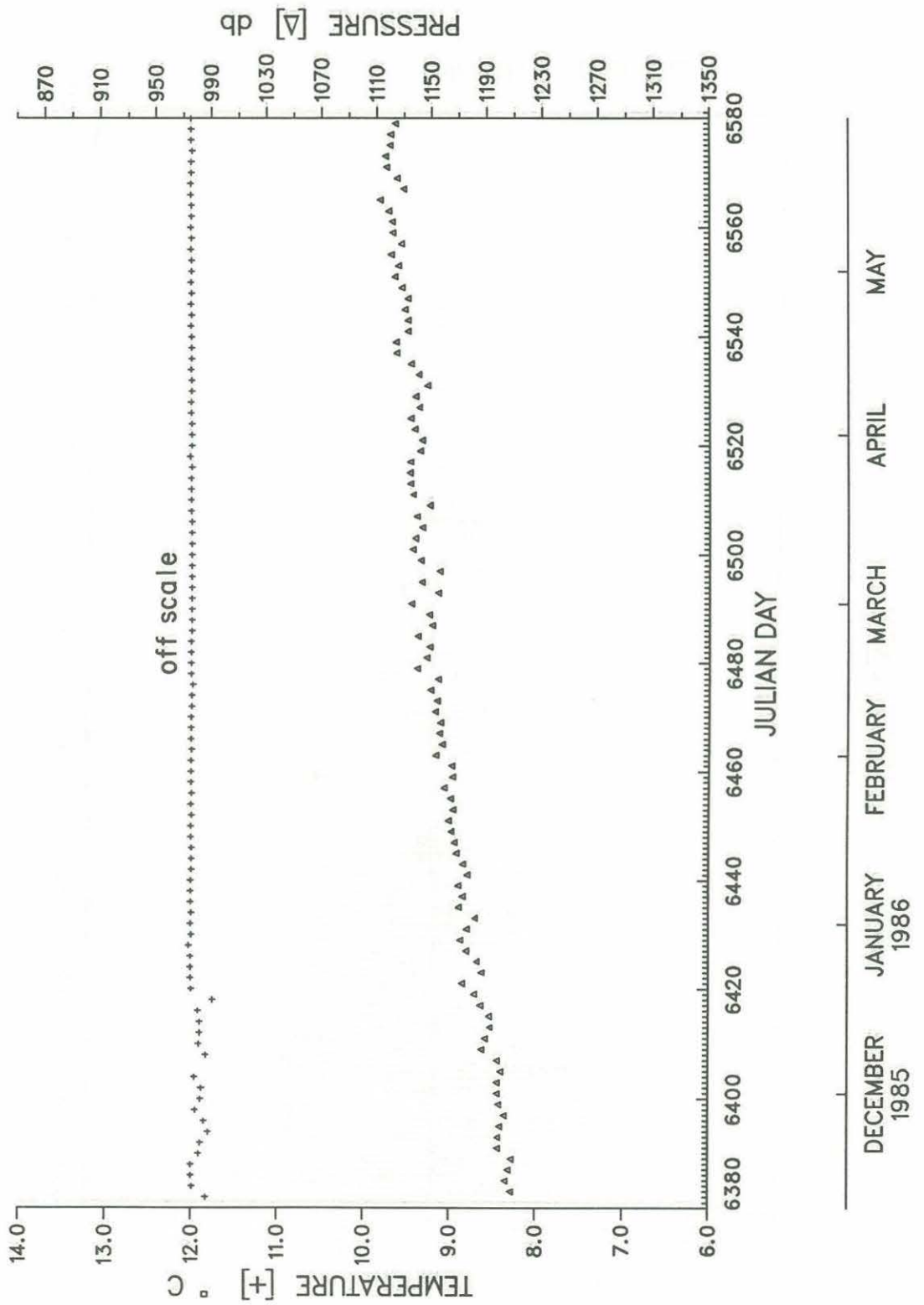
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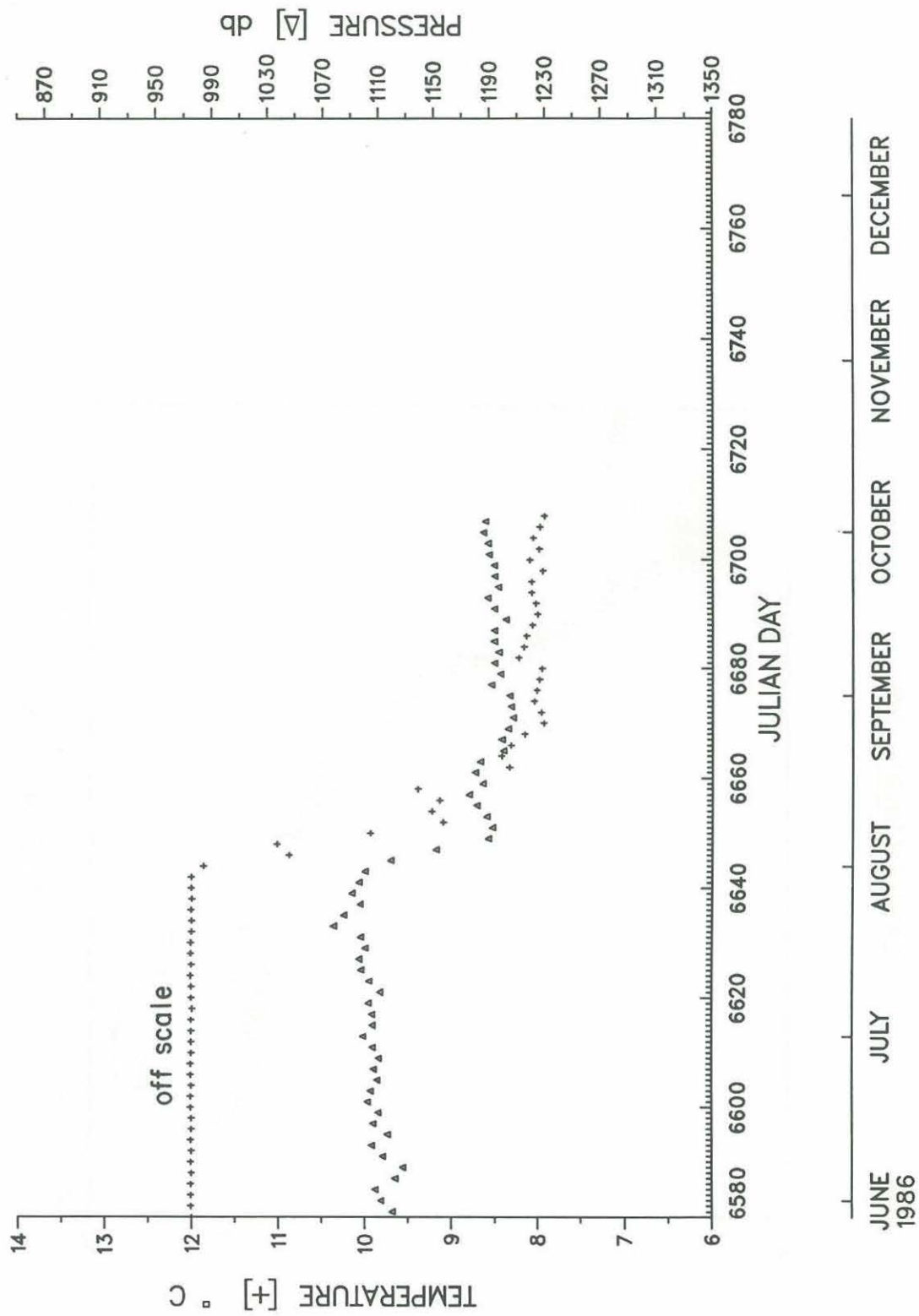
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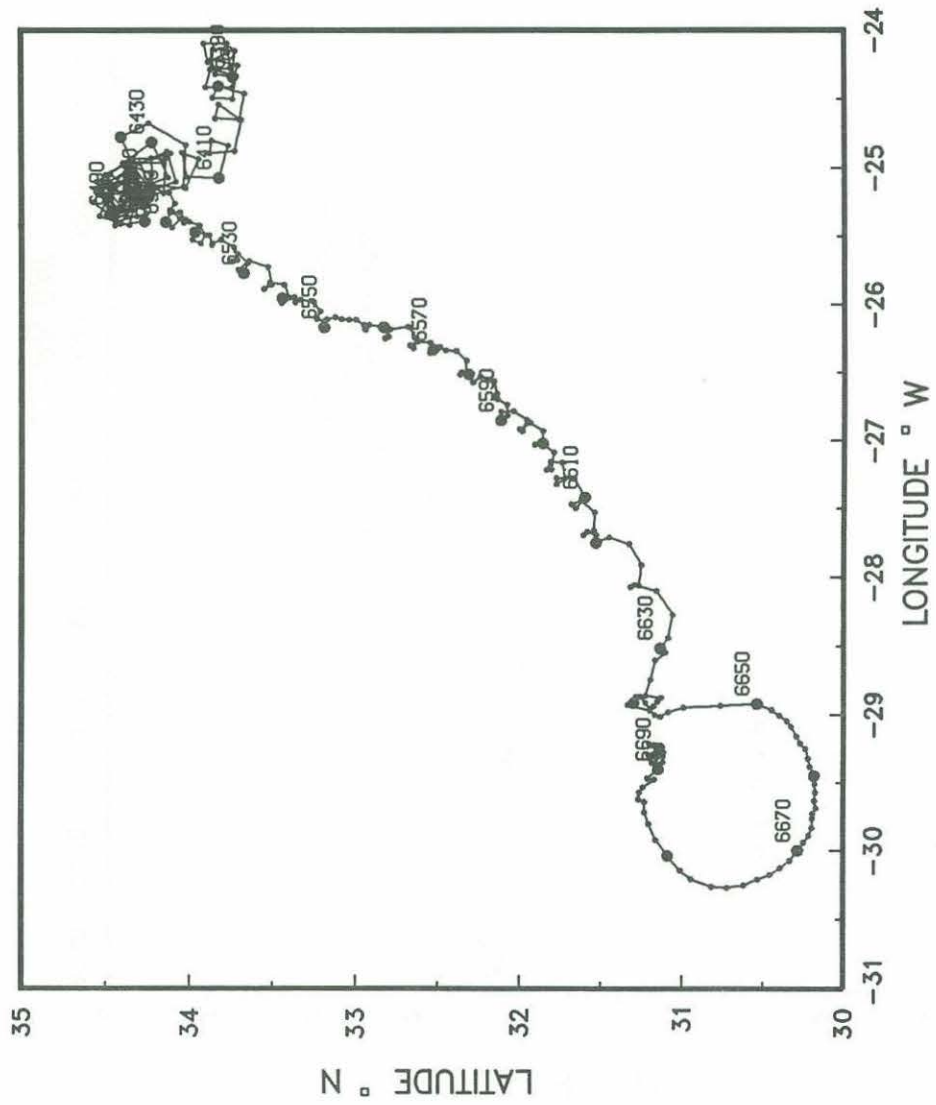
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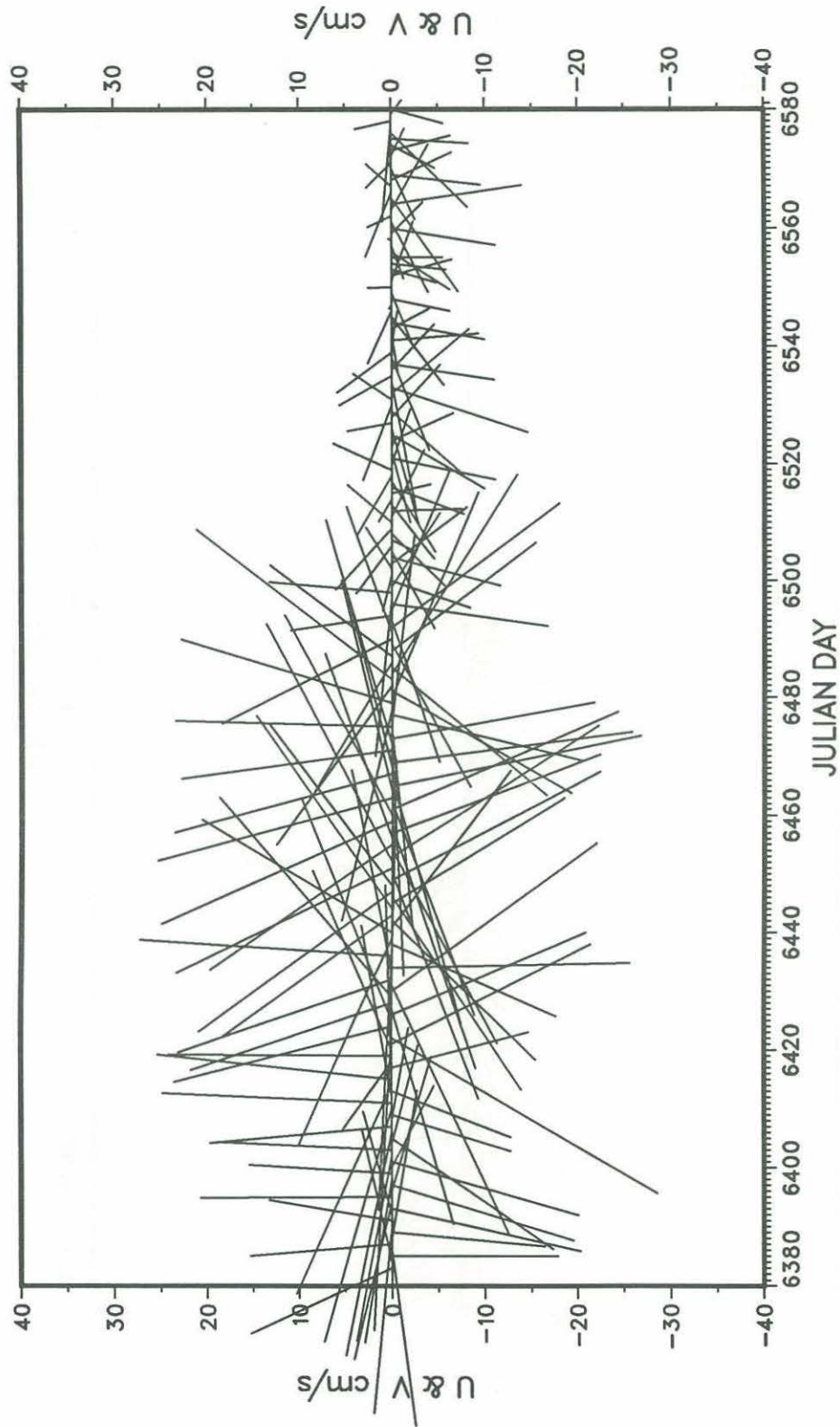
EASTERN BASIN 148



EASTERN BASIN 149



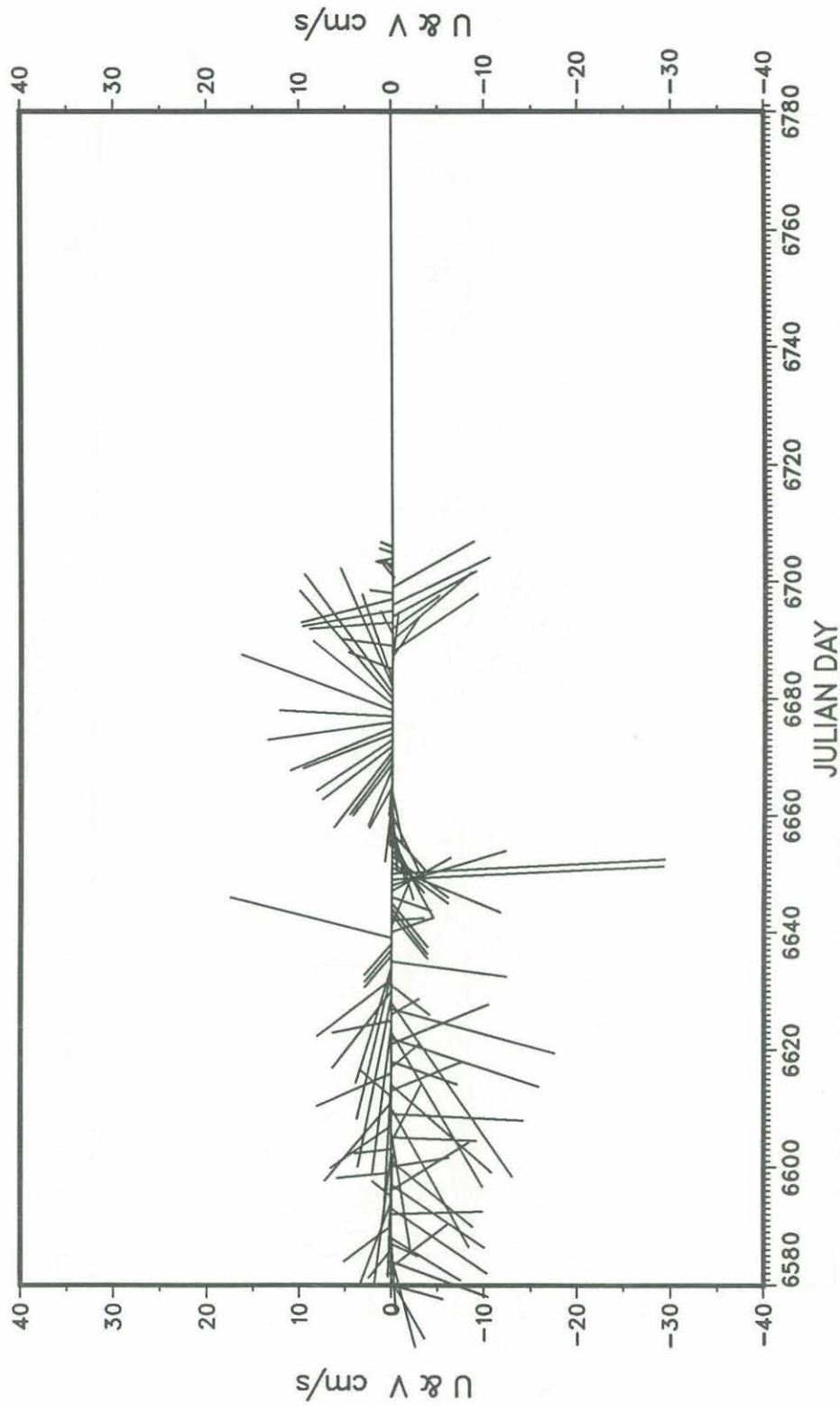
EASTERN BASIN 149



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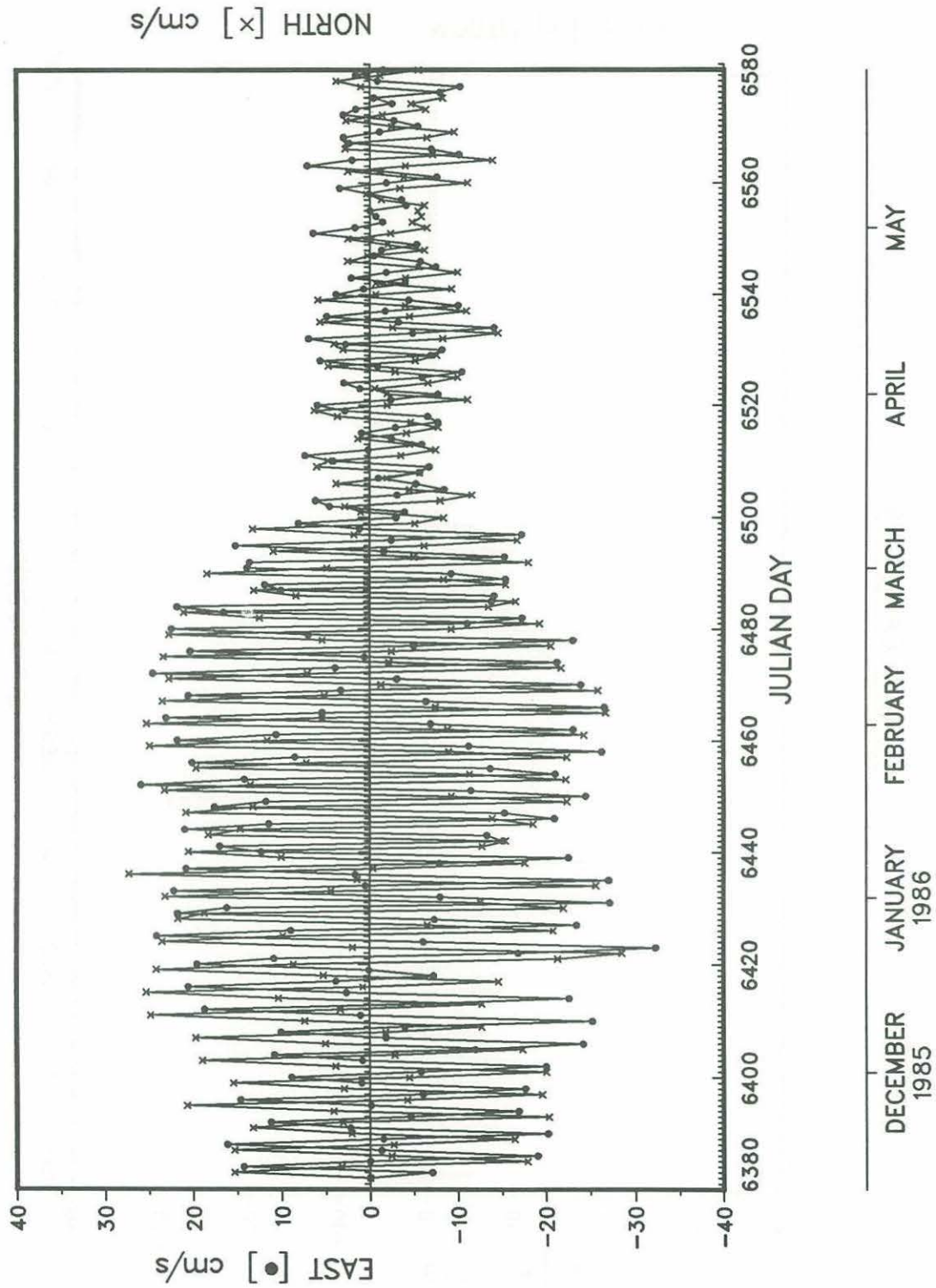
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EASTERN BASIN 149

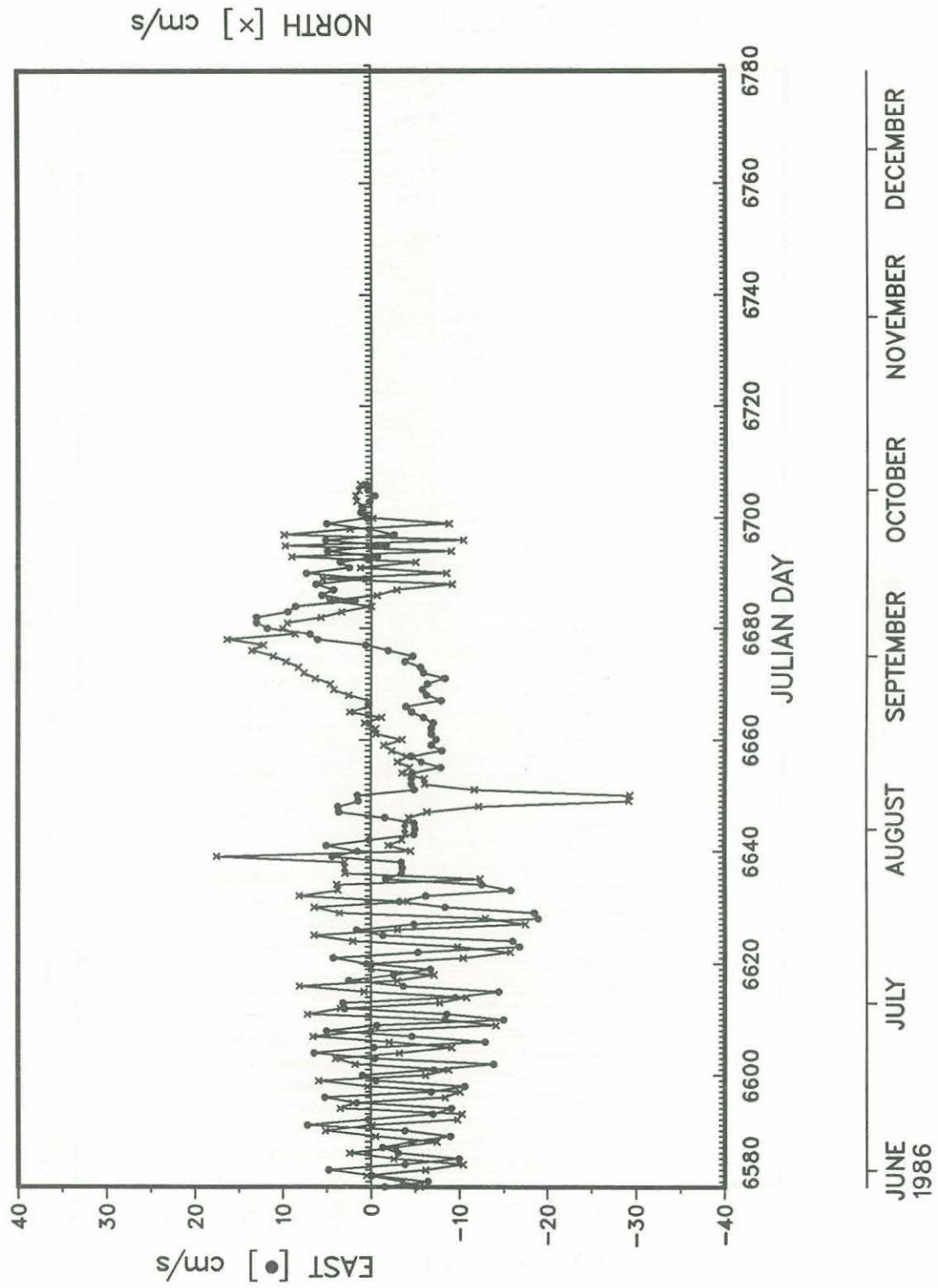


JUNE 1986 JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER

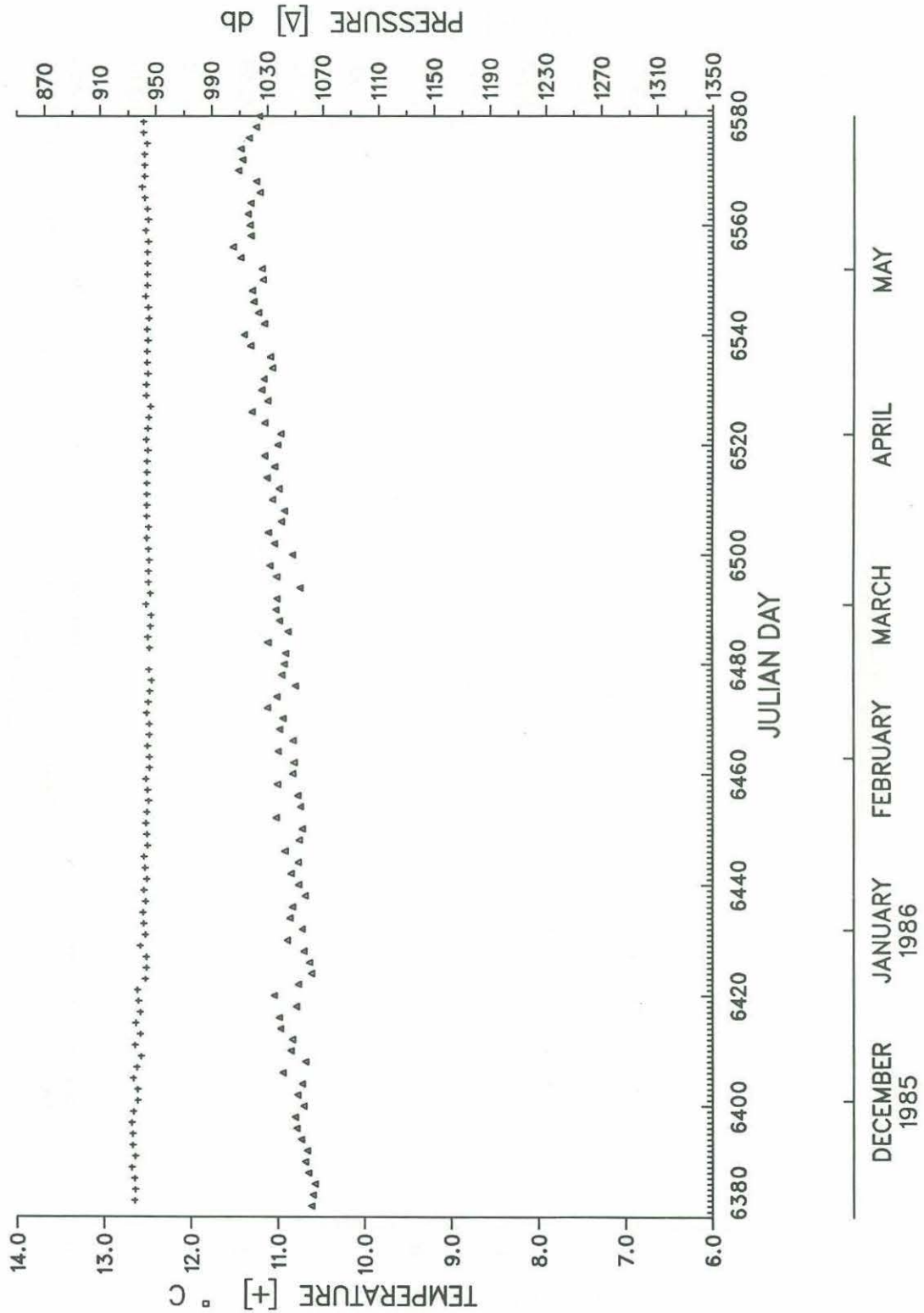
EASTERN BASIN 149



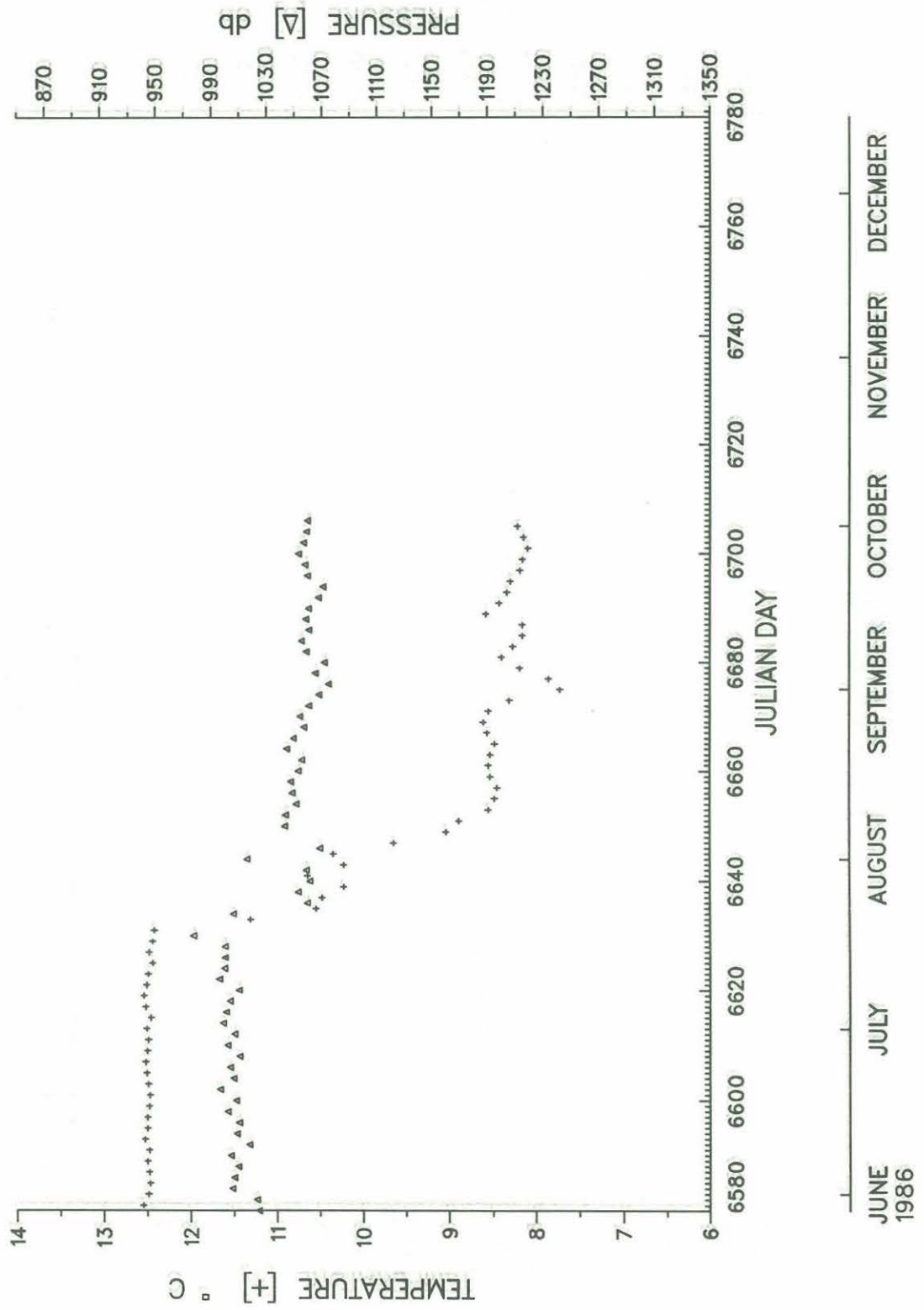
EASTERN BASIN 149



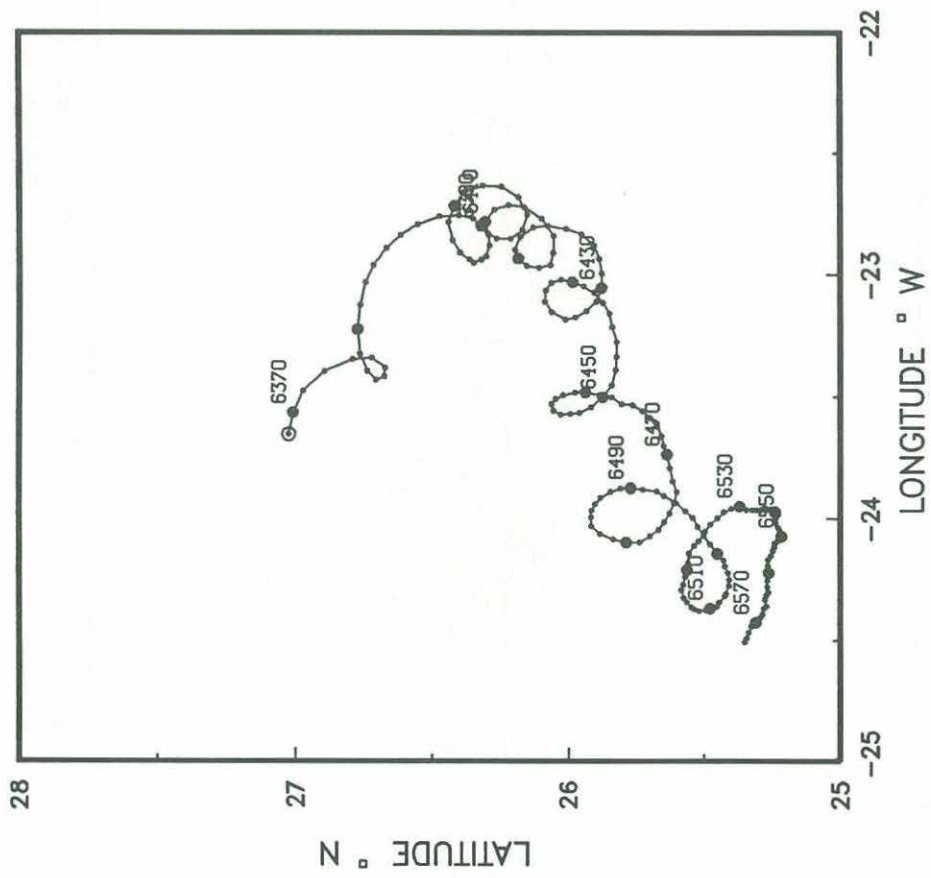
EASTERN BASIN 149



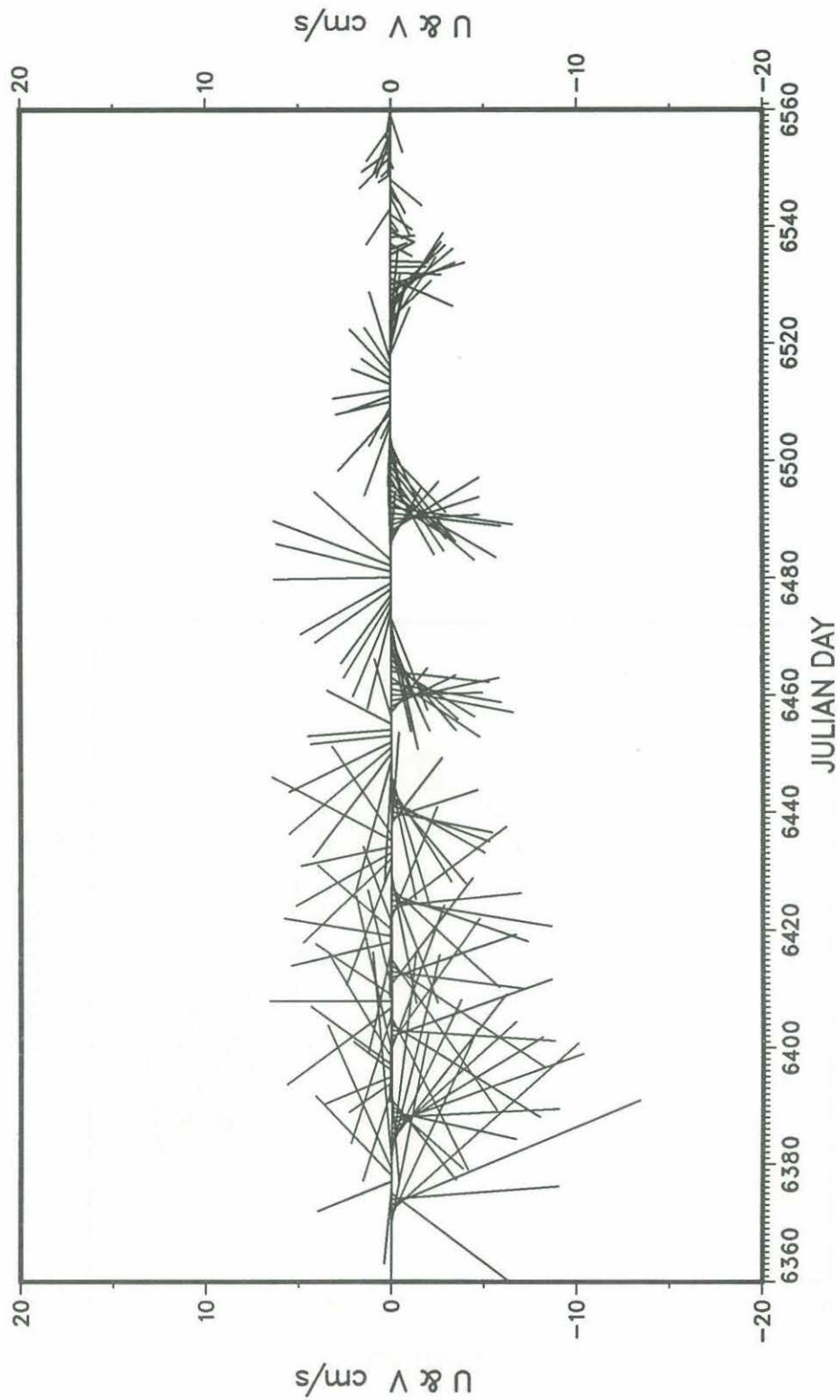
EASTERN BASIN 149



EASTERN BASIN 150

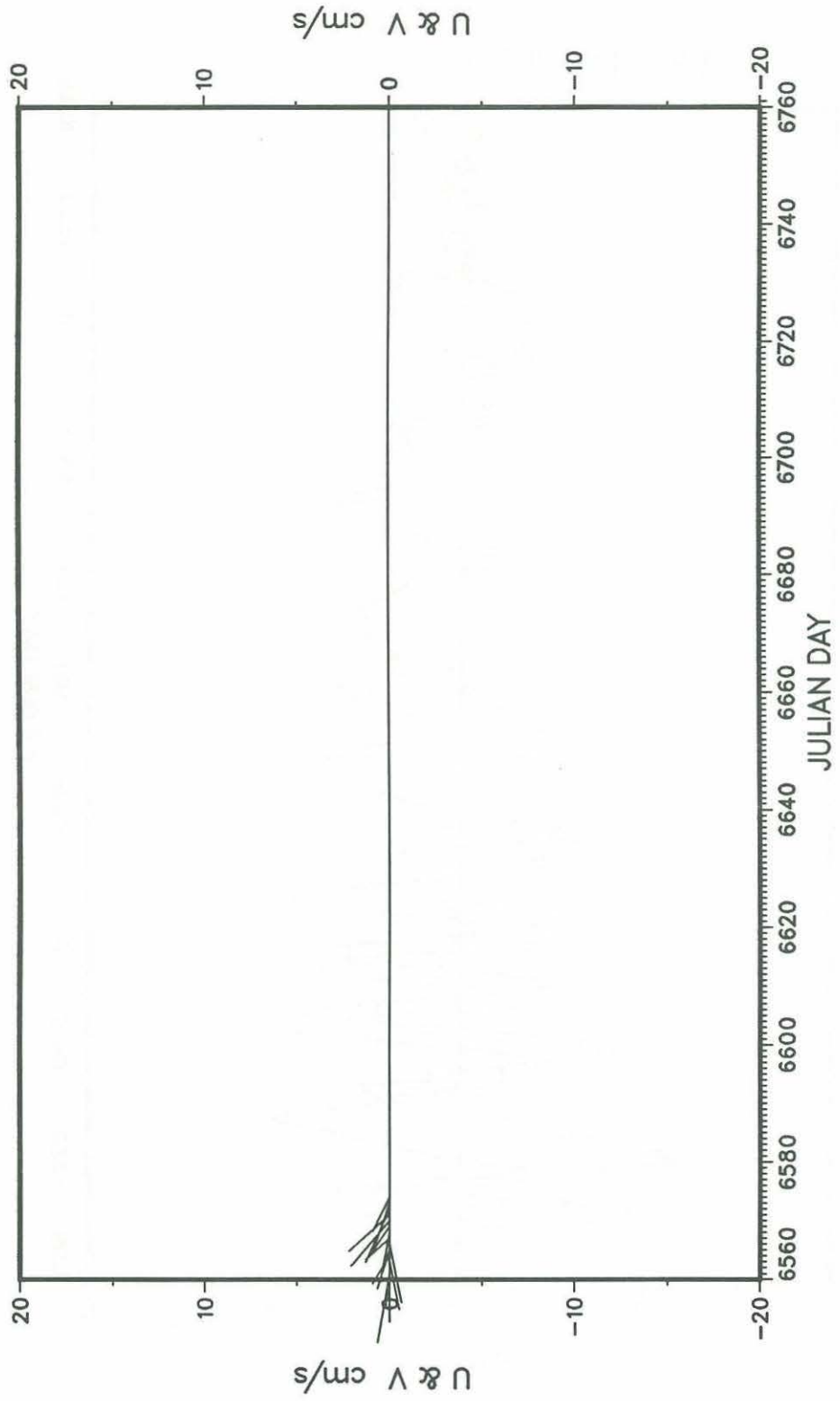


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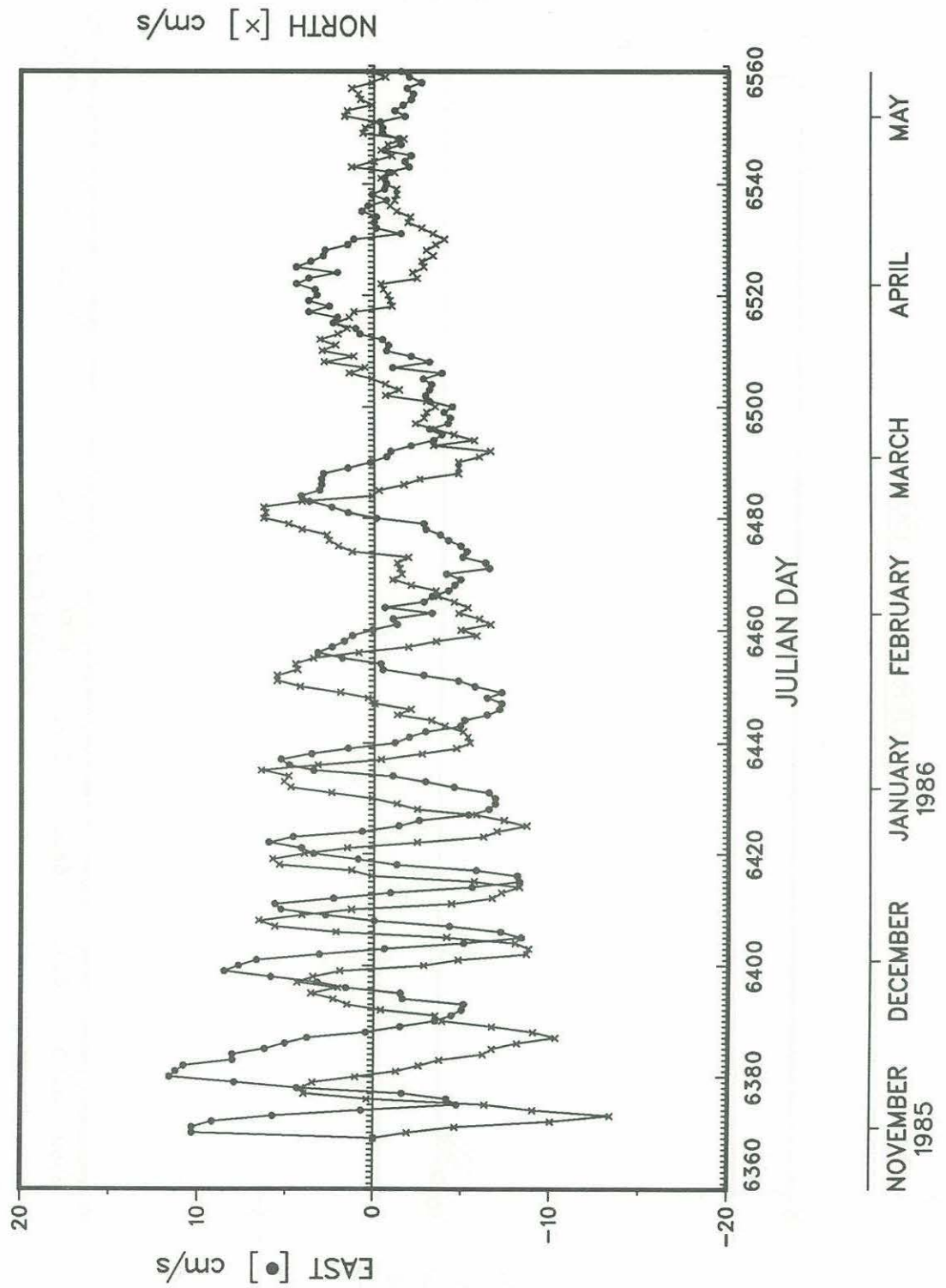


NOVEMBER DECEMBER JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL MAY
1985 1986

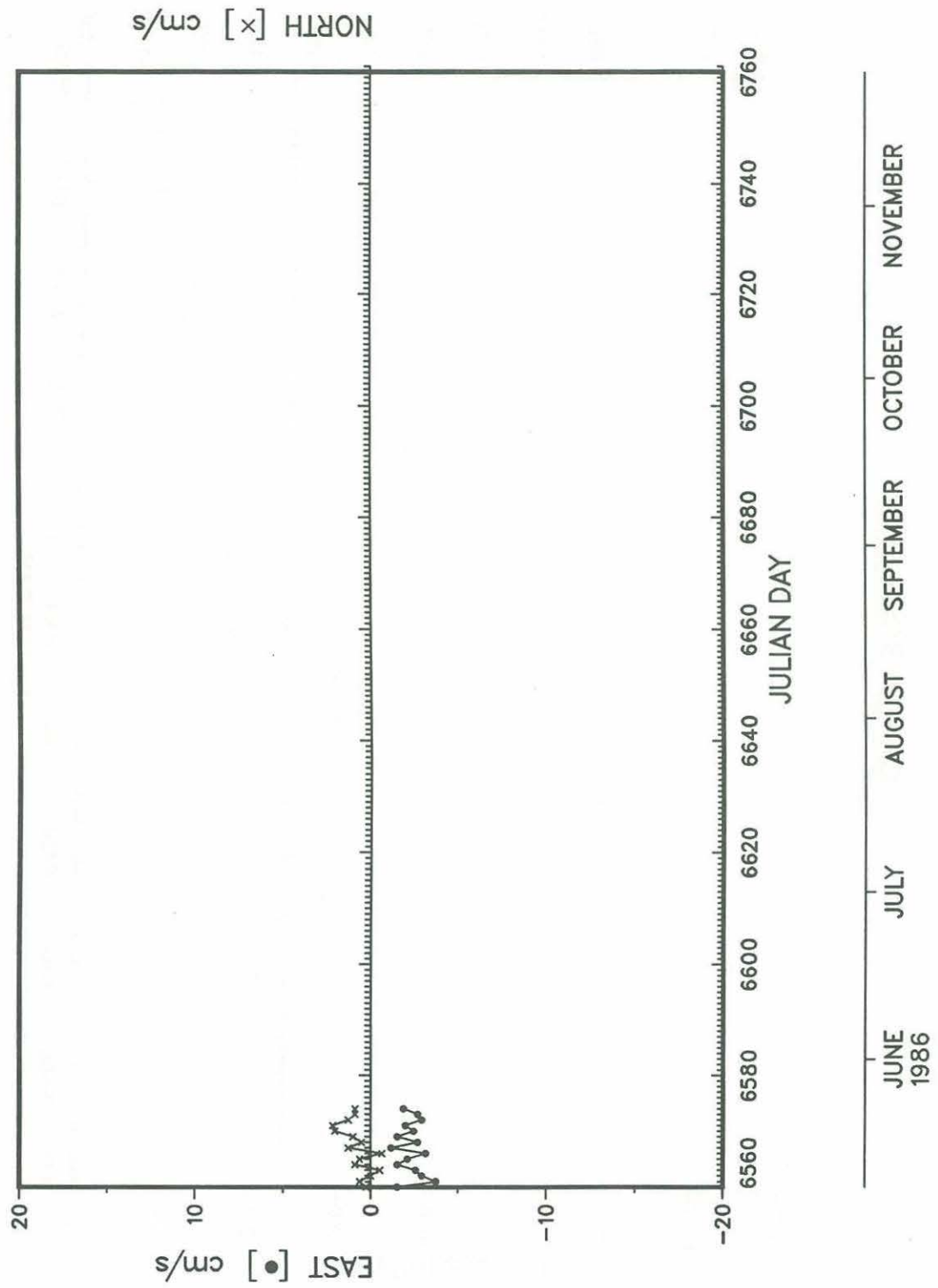
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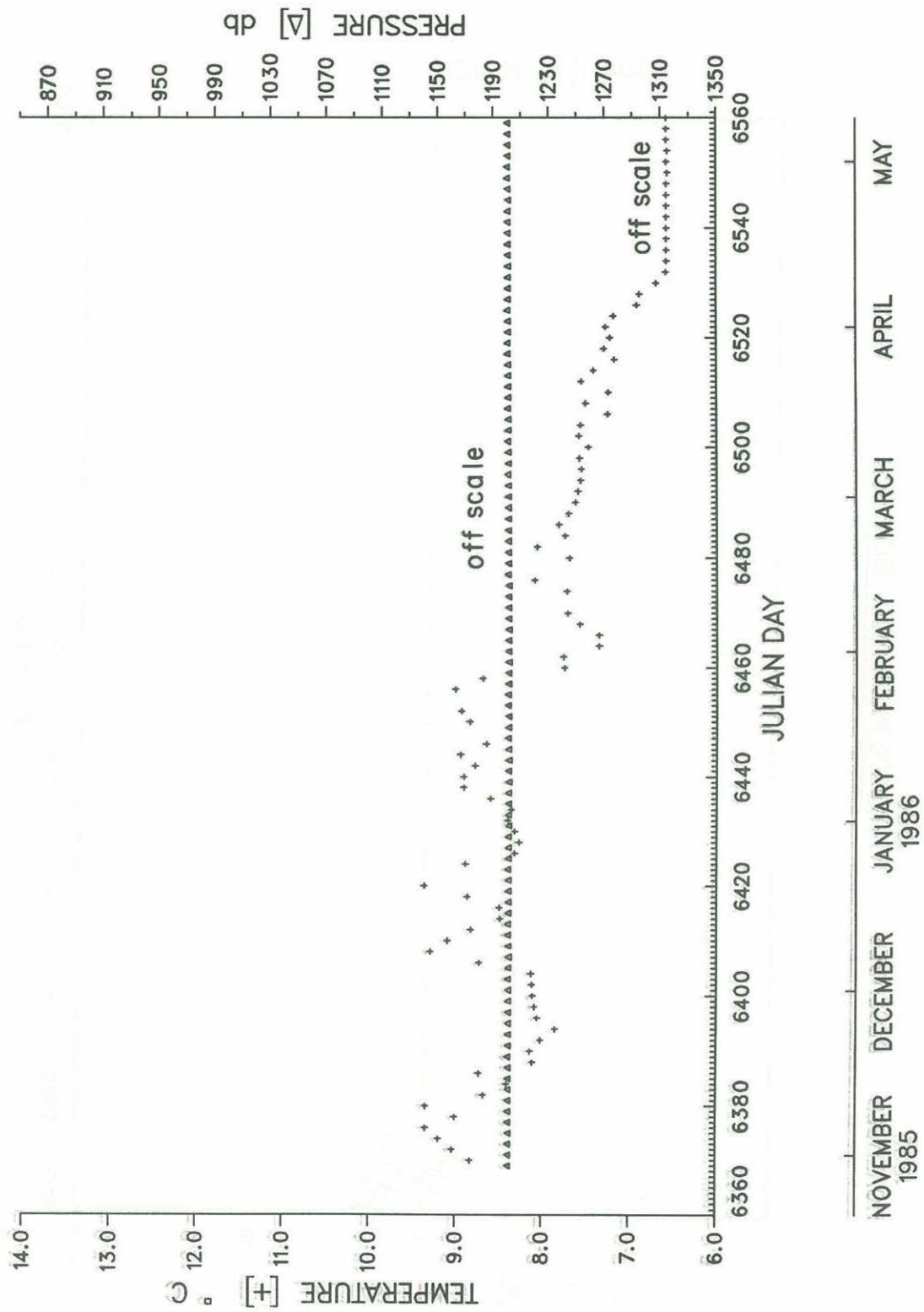
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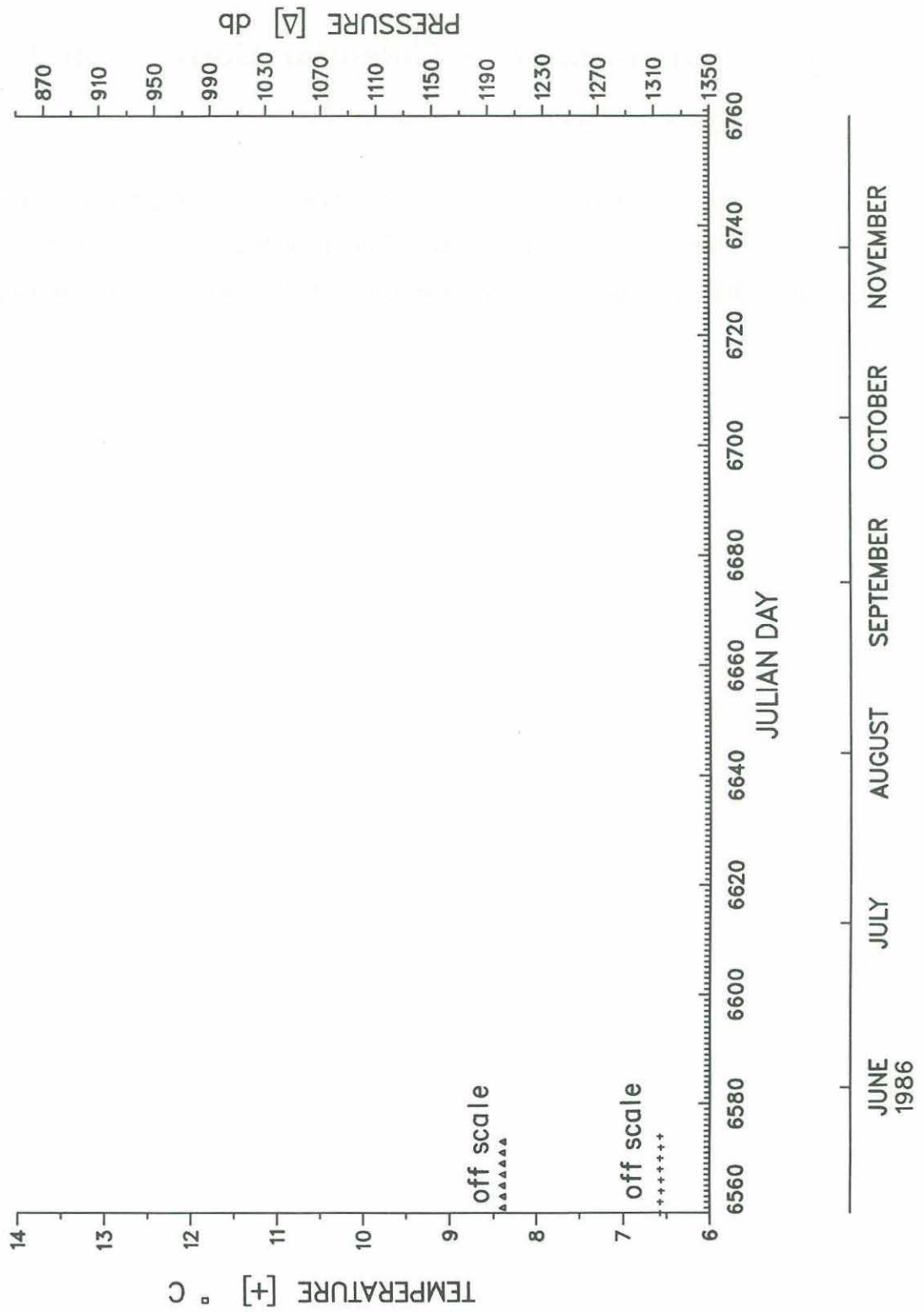
EASTERN BASIN 150



EASTERN BASIN 150



EASTERN BASIN 150



11 Appendix D — Calendar Conversion Tables (1984–1986)

These tables give the year day and truncated Julian day for each calendar date for the years 1984 through 1986. The truncated Julian days range from 5701–6796. To convert to true Julian date, add 2440000.5 to these numbers.

1985

JUL							AUG							SEP						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	182	183	184	185	186	187					213	214	215	244	245	246	247	248	249	250
	6248	6249	6250	6251	6252	6253					6279	6280	6281	6310	6311	6312	6313	6314	6315	6316
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
188	189	190	191	192	193	194	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	251	252	253	254	255	256	257
6254	6255	6256	6257	6258	6259	6260	6282	6283	6284	6285	6286	6287	6288	6317	6318	6319	6320	6321	6322	6323
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
195	196	197	198	199	200	201	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	258	259	260	261	262	263	264
6261	6262	6263	6264	6265	6266	6267	6289	6290	6291	6292	6293	6294	6295	6324	6325	6326	6327	6328	6329	6330
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
202	203	204	205	206	207	208	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	265	266	267	268	269	270	271
6268	6269	6270	6271	6272	6273	6274	6296	6297	6298	6299	6300	6301	6302	6331	6332	6333	6334	6335	6336	6337
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					
209	210	211	212				237	238	239	240	241	242	243	272	273					
6275	6276	6277	6278				6303	6304	6305	6306	6307	6308	6309	6338	6339					

OCT							NOV							DEC						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		274	275	276	277	278						305	306	335	336	337	338	339	340	341
		6340	6341	6342	6343	6344						6371	6372	6401	6402	6403	6404	6405	6406	6407
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
279	280	281	282	283	284	285	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	342	343	344	345	346	347	348
6345	6346	6347	6348	6349	6350	6351	6373	6374	6375	6376	6377	6378	6379	6408	6409	6410	6411	6412	6413	6414
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
286	287	288	289	290	291	292	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	349	350	351	352	353	354	355
6352	6353	6354	6355	6356	6357	6358	6380	6381	6382	6383	6384	6385	6386	6415	6416	6417	6418	6419	6420	6421
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
293	294	295	296	297	298	299	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	356	357	358	359	360	361	362
6359	6360	6361	6362	6363	6364	6365	6387	6388	6389	6390	6391	6392	6393	6422	6423	6424	6425	6426	6427	6428
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				
300	301	302	303	304			328	329	330	331	332	333	334	363	364	365				
6366	6367	6368	6369	6370			6394	6395	6396	6397	6398	6399	6400	6429	6430	6431				

1986

JAN							FEB							MAR						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4							1							1
			1	2	3	4							32							60
			6432	6433	6434	6435							6463							6491
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6436	6437	6438	6439	6440	6441	6442	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	61	62	63	64	65	66	67
							6464	6465	6466	6467	6468	6469	6470	6492	6493	6494	6495	6496	6497	6498
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
6443	6444	6445	6446	6447	6448	6449	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	68	69	70	71	72	73	74
							6471	6472	6473	6474	6475	6476	6477	6499	6500	6501	6502	6503	6504	6505
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
6450	6451	6452	6453	6454	6455	6456	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	75	76	77	78	79	80	81
							6478	6479	6480	6481	6482	6483	6484	6506	6507	6508	6509	6510	6511	6512
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
6457	6458	6459	6460	6461	6462		54	55	56	57	58	59	60	82	83	84	85	86	87	88
							6485	6486	6487	6488	6489	6490	6491	6513	6514	6515	6516	6517	6518	6519
														30	31					
														89	90					
														6520	6521					

APR							MAY							JUN						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4							1							1
			91	92	93	94							121							152
			6522	6523	6524	6525							6552							6583
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
6527	6528	6529	6530	6531	6532	6533	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	159	160	161	162	163	164	165
							6555	6556	6557	6558	6559	6560	6561	6590	6591	6592	6593	6594	6595	6596
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
6534	6535	6536	6537	6538	6539	6540	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	166	167	168	169	170	171	172
							6562	6563	6564	6565	6566	6567	6568	6597	6598	6599	6600	6601	6602	6603
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
6541	6542	6543	6544	6545	6546	6547	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	173	174	175	176	177	178	179
							6569	6570	6571	6572	6573	6574	6575	6604	6605	6606	6607	6608	6609	6610
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					
6548	6549	6550	6551				145	146	147	148	149	150	151	180	181					
							6576	6577	6578	6579	6580	6581	6582	6611	6612					

1986

JUL							AUG							SEP						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2							
		182	183	184	185	186						213	214							
		6613	6614	6615	6616	6617						6644	6645							
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
187	188	189	190	191	192	193	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	250	251	252	253	254	255	256
6618	6619	6620	6621	6622	6623	6624	6646	6647	6648	6649	6650	6651	6652	6681	6682	6683	6684	6685	6686	6687
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
194	195	196	197	198	199	200	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	257	258	259	260	261	262	263
6625	6626	6627	6628	6629	6630	6631	6653	6654	6655	6656	6657	6658	6659	6688	6689	6690	6691	6692	6693	6694
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
201	202	203	204	205	206	207	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	264	265	266	267	268	269	270
6632	6633	6634	6635	6636	6637	6638	6660	6661	6662	6663	6664	6665	6666	6695	6696	6697	6698	6699	6700	6701
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
208	209	210	211	212			236	237	238	239	240	241	242	271	272	273				
6639	6640	6641	6642	6643			6667	6668	6669	6670	6671	6672	6673	6702	6703	6704				

31
243
6674

OCT							NOV							DEC						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4							1							
			274	275	276	277							305							
			6705	6706	6707	6708							6736							
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
278	279	280	281	282	283	284	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	341	342	343	344	345	346	347
6709	6710	6711	6712	6713	6714	6715	6737	6738	6739	6740	6741	6742	6743	6772	6773	6774	6775	6776	6777	6778
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
285	286	287	288	289	290	291	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	348	349	350	351	352	353	354
6716	6717	6718	6719	6720	6721	6722	6744	6745	6746	6747	6748	6749	6750	6779	6780	6781	6782	6783	6784	6785
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
292	293	294	295	296	297	298	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	355	356	357	358	359	360	361
6723	6724	6725	6726	6727	6728	6729	6751	6752	6753	6754	6755	6756	6757	6786	6787	6788	6789	6790	6791	6792
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
299	300	301	302	303	304		327	328	329	330	331	332	333	362	363	364	365			
6730	6731	6732	6733	6734	6735		6758	6759	6760	6761	6762	6763	6764	6793	6794	6795	6796			

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16. Abstract (Limit: 200 words) In October, 1984, the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution SOFAR float group began a three-year-long field program to observe the low frequency currents in the Canary Basin. The principal scientific goal was to learn how advection and diffusion by these currents determine the shape and amplitude of the Mediterranean salt tongue. Fourteen floats were launched at a depth of 1100 m in a cluster centered on 32°N, 24°W, and seven other floats were launched incoherently along a north/south line from 24°N to 37°N. At the same time investigators from Scripps Institution of Oceanography and the University of Rhode Island used four other SOFAR floats to tag a Meddy, a submesoscale lens of Mediterranean water. In October, 1985, seven additional floats were launched, four in three different Meddies, one of which was tracked during year one. This report describes the second year of the floats launched in 1984 and the first year of the ones launched in 1985. Approximately 41 years of float trajectories were produced during the first two years of the experiment. One of the striking accomplishments is the successful tracking of one Meddy over two full years plus the tracking of two other Meddies during the second year.			
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