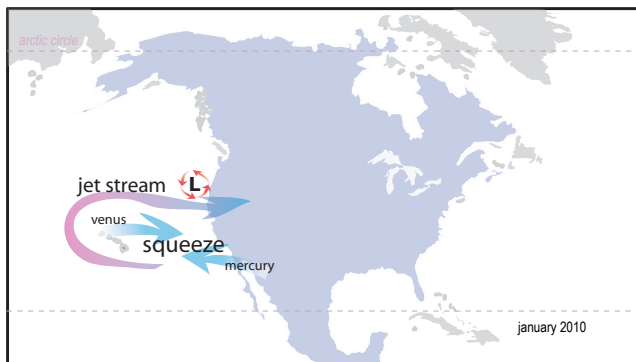


4



In January 2010 there was a planetary squeeze pattern between Mercury and Venus just off of the coast of California. As Mercury reached retrograde hard station over Baja it squeezed west against Venus moving east near Hawaii. A circular jets stream current arose from the position of Mercury and extended in the tropics west to Hawaii. A return current at mid latitudes issued from Hawaii and moved into the West Coast bringing rains to California on December 30th. The circular current delivered a series of wet storms to the coast while the squeeze continued until the second week of January when Mercury moving west moved past Venus. No sooner did it move past Venus than it reversed motion and began moving to the east. This created a strong tandem motion along with Venus as they together moved across the coast. This pattern is a slingshot pattern and often brings unusual weather in the longitude where it occurs. In this case storms continued into the coast for much of the month. In all, the slingshot brought seven storms into the coast until Mercury followed Venus into the Rockies and out of the eastern Pacific. With this double exit the storm jet from the Pacific quieted down. As the two planets continued east together, the tandem motion was coincident with a series of crippling storms across the Midwest and the East Coast. Eventually Mercury moved out ahead of Venus as winter turned to spring.