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At the HYATT REGENCY HOTEL on the Harbor Register today at www.geocosmic.org





RESEARCH, INSIGHTS AND NOTIONS

from the NATIONAL COUNCIL for GEOCOSMIC RESEARCH

GREETINGS ALL!

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the transformed NCGR Research Journal Syzygy!

Diane Ullemeyer-Trimbath and Richard Smoot have both worked tirelessly to see this to completion.

With **Syzygy**, we invite you to play in any form you like and submit them to our Kitchen Table Astrology section. So often good ideas can be tucked in a corner because there is a worry they might not be properly fleshed out or that No longer! We can start with the can work to move these gems of wisdom along, either as a qualitaof help from the NCGR family.

Do you have any questions about

Sysygy is the new platform to encourage and showcase both.

Thank you

with any and all astrological ideas that come along, to write those up they might not cover all the bases. basics then work together to build ways of testing ideas. Together we tive or quantitative study, with lots

research? Send them along and we will post and answer them in upcoming issues.

The National Council of Geocosmic research was founded on two main principles: research and education.

Mj Patterson, (Lt. Ret'd) BA BSc BEd MEd CA NCGR-PAA Research Director

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NCGR Board of Directors: Elected Officers, Directors, Appointed Directors, Staff & Advisory Board

PreviseKitchen Table Astrology

MJ PATTERSON

NCGR Research Director



EVERY ASTROLOGER IS A RESEARCHER

All astrological knowledge exists because a curious astrologer compared a few charts. . .

TAKING CLIENTS

If you take clients, you have experience with the cosmic drama. You see the same symbols and patterns, but each client offers a different expression of those patterns. You may not do it consciously, but over time you notice recurring patterns and you become better able to "predict" for want of a better term, what events may play out. We don't call it research, but rather... Experience

THE COSMIC MAGNET

I don't know if you are anything like me, with my 8th House Sun and Scorpio Moon, but I do notice that the Cosmos tends to send me clients who have one of a cluster of chart patterns. It is a cool thing and I am curious if it is true for others as well.

So... I see it as kind of a Cosmic Data Sort – which means that even though we might not have hundreds of charts, we probably have a fairly cohesive collection.

GETTING PERMISSION

Everything starts and ends with the client. Without the client's permission, you cannot use their data in any kind of comparison work. A great way to get permission is to include a tick-box on the intake form that says: "I agree to the use of my ANONIMIZED data to further astrological research." Here is a link to a typical intake form. (http://halifaxastrologer.com/docs/IntakeForm.pdf)

ORGANIZING THE DATA

The first step to having fun with your charts is to organize them, ideally electronically. A basic starting point would be something like an Excel spreadsheet. Something like:

- Chart number (this would be tied to the name on the chart somewhere else)
- Date of Birth, Place of Birth
- Time of Birth with Rodden Rating (see top of next page)
- A notes field for any stories around the birth

• Hash-tags about this chart: as many categories as you can think of: teacher, soldier, painter, migraines, widow and so on.

NOTICING PATTERNS

I do not need to tell a group of astrologers how to notice patterns! It is fun to give your curiosity permission to see what if any connections exist among your clients' charts.

Do they all have fixed charts? Do most of them have watery Moons?

The best scientific discoveries happen when the discoverer is at play, in the "zone" as it were, maybe even looking for something completely different! While it is perfectly ok to sit and compare paper charts, there are more fun ways!

CRUNCHING THE DATA

There are some great options out there in terms of astrological software to combine organising charts with casting them. Just some of the software I am aware of includes:

Lois Rodden (1928 - 2003)

Lois was not a professional researcher – she was a Canadian Astrologer from Lang, Saskatchewan. And yet, her legacy to astrological research is indelible: "Her work has changed astrology for all time. When she entered the field, there were no standards for data integrity. Every serious astrological writer now checks their work against the data in her https://www.astro.com/astro-databank/Main_Page)

The Rodden Rating System

Lois set up the following categories:

- AA a written record such as a hospital card or birth certificate.
- A a verbal record from someone who is likely to know.
- B a written publication such as a biography.
- C data which cannot be verified.
- DD dirty data more than one published time, conflicting times.
- X no time listed.

Researchers, in or out of astrology, need to keep their data SUPER clear – to avoid the dreaded GIGO (garbage in means garbage out) so PLEASE only use AA data if you can and if you have to slip in a few A charts, at least check around to see if those times have been tested first.

- <u>Jigsaw (https://alabe.com/jigsaw.htm)</u> is designed with research in mind. It lets you troll through your chart data to find common patterns.
- Fast Research (http://www.alphee.com/fast-research/) is a program that uses artificial intelligence to group sets of elements that a set of charts has in common. One great feature of this program is that it will also tell you what is MISSING in common for your test group. (i.e. no water in the chart etc.)

STANDARD ASTRO-SOFTWARE

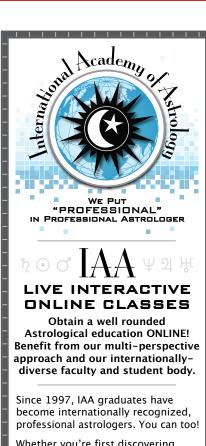
Most standard astrology software has internal tools that help organise your data. The best way to understand how to use your chosen software for research is to contact your software provider. There are many good programs. Here are some of which I am aware:

<u>Mastro Astrology Software</u> (http://www.mastroapp.com/en)

This is the only Canadian software and it does superb work with midpoints.

Sirius (http://www.astrosoftware.com/cpnew/software/sirius/index.html) by Fei and David Cochrane, has the advantage of allowing research in many different types of astrology including classical and Vedic (Jotish). David has lots of videos available on YouTube as well, explaining how to handle different aspects of the research. This software contains the entire AstroDatabank database.

Solar Fire (https://www.alabe. com/solarfireV9.html) This is the one you have all heard of – It also handles Vedic (Jotish) and has a great search engine which



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can even look for things like planetary patterns.

Time Passages (https://www.astrograph.com/astrology-software/) is a program that works on MAC computers so I am unfamiliar with it – but my buddies rave about it!

WHERE TO BEGIN?

Start with your curiosity! What would you like to study? I am a Leo, so don't be too surprised when I tell you I am fascinated by the Progressed Sun! I recently went to Kolkatta to lecture and had my mind blown by some of the Vedic stuff I saw - so of course my present data play is around paying attention in my clients' charts to what happens when the Progressed Sun changes signs by Jotish and by Western...And that is a GREAT way to think of it – DATA PLAY!

DATA VS NOISE

Once you have what looks like something yummy, your best bet is to get into one of the many groups out there who are working with astro data. It's way more fun in a gang (forget your book club!) and you can help each other avoid common pitfalls, such as "data vs noise" For instance, let's say you notice that you have a group of teachers and you get excited because they all have Jupiter in Pisces! -- then you realise they are all the same age! *DOH!*

Keep It Basic

There is no need to get all fancy schmancy about this stuff –

just have fun and follow your interests. Do you like sports? Why not chart the planets' positions when your fave team wins or loses? Prefer gardening? Read the superb piece in kitchen table astrology elsewhere in the issue on growing sprouts by the Moon in Atlantic Canada!

QUALITATIVE OR QUANTITATIVE?

And other cocktail party fancy words! So basically there are two main "pant legs" where research is concerned. The right pant-leg (QUANTITATIVE) is all about lots and lots of data points. They need at LEAST 50 of something before they can study it. Over the years, quite a bit of Math has evolved around this type of research which helps us know whether what we are looking at is noise or data.

QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH

"The systematic empirical investigation of observable phenomena via statistical, mathematical, or computational techniques" ² This is a fancy way of saying you look at lots of stuff and then do some math or draw a graph to see if that stuff is related. Basically most quantitative research is a kind of survey. The curious astrologer grabs a bunch of charts of people who share a characteristic (breast cancer) and looks at them to see what all the charts have in common. Once a few things are spotted, the astrologer says "hmm! I wonder if ALL breast cancer folks share this characteristic?"

And... as dear Sherlock would say – the game is afoot!

If this kind of research appeals to you, there are some really good on-line courses available about data modeling. Try Khan Academy for free top quality videos on the basic math supporting this type of research.

MAIN CHARACTERISTICS

- 1. The data is usually gathered in a structured way.
- 2. You need larger sample sizes (greater than 50).
- 3. The study can be repeated by others.
- 4. It needs a clearly defined research question hypothesis.
- 5. The study is carefully designed before any data is collected.
- 6. The data collected is numerical.

SO...WHICH IS BETTER?

"Although a distinction is commonly drawn between qualitative and quantitative aspects of scientific investigation, it has been argued that the two go hand in hand." ³

QUALITATIVE RESEARCH

This is primarily exploratory research. It helps to develop ideas or hypotheses for potential quantitative research.⁴ It has the following characteristics.

<u>Naturalistic</u> -- refers to studying real-world situations as they unfold naturally; Emergent -- acceptance of adapting inquiry as understanding deepens and/ or situations change.

<u>Purposeful</u> -- cases for study are selected because they are offer useful manifestations of the phenomenon of interest; sampling is aimed at insight, not empirical generalization.

Unlike experimental research, there is considerable variation in how a qualitative research study is organized. You start with a curiosity – not an hypothesis. You can see why it is a fave choice of working astrologers! In general, qualitative researchers attempt to describe and interpret behaviour based primarily on the words of selected individuals.

QUALITATIVE CHECKLIST

According to Maxwell (2009), there are five components in qualitative research designs.

<u>Goals</u> -- the central research problem - Why is your study worth doing?

<u>Conceptual Framework</u> - What theories, beliefs, and prior research findings will guide or inform your research?

Research Questions – What do you specifically want to learn or understand by conducting this study?

Methods - What will you actually do in conducting this study? What approaches and techniques will you use to collect and analyze your data, and how do these constitute an integrated strategy?

<u>Validity</u> - How might your results and conclusions be wrong? What are the plausible alternative interpretations and validity threats to these, and how will you deal with these? Why should we believe your results?

Conclusion - Although Maxwell does not mention a conclusion as one of the components of a qualitative research design, you should formally conclude your study. Briefly reiterate the goals of your study and the ways in which your research addressed them. Discuss the benefits of your study and how stakeholders can use your results. Also, note the limitations of your study and, if appropriate, place them in the context of areas in need of further research.

THE LITERATURE REVIEW

When you do find something that gets you excited, it is helpful to look around to see who else has been studying similar stuff. This is common to all research and is called the literature review. Not only is it fun to see what other folks have been up to, but it is a great way to learn about research methods and approaches you may not have considered. When you write up your findings, you will need this work because this is where you get your citations and where you contextualize your work.

THE DREADED WRITE-UP!

You have your findings!
Now you want to get them
published! This is often where
folks freeze up – which is a
shame as it means lots of great
work does not get shared
around. The main thing to
remember is – you do NOT have
to be perfect and you do NOT
need to know all the answers.
You just need to share your
curiosity in a way that others
can understand and to which
they can respond!

Most publications have style guides for prospective writers. Also they will tell you EXACTLY what they do and do not publish... to there is no point in sending a quantitative paper in for consideration to a qualitative journal and visa versa. This publication has sections for all levels and kinds of research! We have a kitchen table research section, qualitative and quantitative - so your work is warmly welcomed! A great online resource is http:// <u>libquides.usc.edu/writingquide/</u> academicwriting. Syzygy uses APA style guidelines.

IMAGES - DPI AND OTHER STUFF

One of the biggest challenges for a publisher is to display your work in print as beautifully and clearly as an online presentation. The thing is, pictures from the web are 72 dpi (in one inch there are 72 dots) For print quality images, you have to have at LEAST 300 dots in an inch. (300 DPI). Sending internet images for publication

means you will either get no images or they will be too blurry to make any sense. ScienceMag. org has a great PDF on how to improve your images (http://www.sciencemag.org/sites/default/files/Figure_prep_guide.pdf).

PEER REVIEW

Any journal of note will be peer reviewed. This means someone else will take a poke at your work before it gets to publication. Astrology is just now emerging into this process so we are always on the look out for peer reviewers – CONTACT ME (mj@halifaxastrologer.com) if you are interested!!!

The goal of the process is not to discourage the author, but rather to support her/his scholarship through helpful suggestions for improvement. When you get your feedback, try not to take it as a personal

attack. Your peer reviewer is working really hard to get your work to the publisher. If he or she has said stuff, it is because they want it to be the best possible article.

CONCLUSION

I hope this whirlwind tour of the basics of research has whetted your appetite for turning some of the patterns you see into a write up. Please reach to me if you need help to get started. This is an exciting time to be an astrologer! Let's all learn and test and rethink and grow together and nudge Astrology gently into the light!

NOTES:

- 1 http://www.stariq.com/Main/ Articles/P0004540.HTm
- 2 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ Quantitative research

- 3 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ Quantitative research
- 4 http://libguides.usc.edu/ writingguide/qualitative

BIOGRAPHY: Mj Patterson, BA BSc, BEd, MEd, CA-NCGR is a founding Director of the Atlantic Professional Astrologers' Association, http:// atlanticprofessionalastrologers. com/ the ISAR Global Director for Canada and a member of the Astro InvestiGATORS Research group. Specializing in rectification, with clients worldwide, Mi teaches and consults in French, Spanish and English in person, through her online astrology school https:// halifaxastrology.com/ and weekly radio show (ckdu.ca) Mj is also a systems programmer and web designer. She remains always a grateful student of M. Axel Harvey of Montréal.



HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW? EXPERIMENTS WITH LUNAR GARDENING

BY DEBORAH CLAHANE



Astrology is unique among disciplines in that it applies to virtually every aspect of human life.

One of the first concerns was how the heavens related to the success or failure of crops, a matter of survival to our early ancestors, who depicted their celestial observations on stones, cave walls and in impressive murals and other works of art.

From towers called ziggurats Babylonian and Assyrian astronomer/astrologers mapped planetary movements and made predictions on the weather, the harvest, states of war or peace, and the lives of kings. Their precise record keeping showed them to be highly intelligent observers who regarded the celestial and the earthly worlds as a unity. Cuneiform tablets still exist which contain predictions based on the rising and setting of Venus and other planets. 1

Over time a form of natural astrology developed, which advised planting, harvesting, and tending animals in harmony with the cosmos, particularly with the moon's position by phase and zodiac.

Astrology was almost universally accepted up until the time when new scientific discoveries helped usher in the

THE THEORY

The theory on how the moon affects plants is that just as the moon's gravitational pull affects the tides, so it subtly affects the level of moisture in the soil and in plants. Plants, which produce leaves above the ground, are favoured by a waxing moon (from new to full moon) while root crops prefer a waning moon (from full to next new moon.) Another proposed connection is the theory that moonlight can enhance germination. ⁴

'Age of Reason'. References to astrology abound in the Bible and in literature. Pliny the Elder and the poet Virgil were among the earliest writers on the subject, advising on rules for predicting the weather and for planting by the sun and moon.²

With the printing press came almanacs advising on optimum dates for planting, harvesting and activities such as pruning and weeding. Some such as The Old Farmer's Almanac are still printing. Throughout the world there are still many staunch practitioners of lunar gardening, and the lore is replete with tales demonstrating the superior results of doing so. The late Louise Riotte, author of many informative books including Astrological Gardening, Planetary Planting, and Carrots

Love Tomatoes, recounted how she once planted corn in "a sea of mud," followed by rain, because it was the right sign and phase. While her neighbors' corn crops were dismal failures that year, hers managed to produce healthy corn despite the early setbacks. ³

In addition, there are correspondences between plants and zodiac signs. The principle is to plant and harvest in a phase and sign most favorable to the type of plant. Plants which produce leaves above the ground are favoured by a waxing moon (from new to full moon) while root crops prefer a waning moon (from full to next new moon.) Certain signs have an affinity for particular plants. For example, Libra is good for flowers and

Taurus for earth crops. The water signs (Cancer, Scorpio, and Pisces) are considered the most fertile; Taurus and Capricorn are also good for sturdiness. Air and fire are the barren signs; Leo is considered to be the most barren of all (sorry, lions).

The four parts of the plant are believed to be associated with the elements: roots - earth; leafy shoots - water; flowers - air seeds and fruit - fire.

Adherents say that using this method produces stronger, faster growing plants.
Appearance and flavors are said to be improved as well.

There's a wealth of more detailed information, including planting calendars, online. The (Old Farmer's Almanac) ⁵ and http://gardeningbythemoon.com/⁶ are just two sources. Deluxe Moon ⁷ is another very useful site (and phone app) with comprehensive, location specific moon data.

FOLKLORE OR SCIENCE?

Anecdotal evidence is intriguing but doesn't cut it in the "show me the proof" world of modern science. Is there actually proof of celestial influence on plant life?

Throughout history curious minds have sought to find out. Back in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries the great Francis Bacon conducted many experiments planting and observing seeds during different moon phases.

He concluded that sowing immediately after the new

moon produced the healthiest plants.8

A full review of the large amount of research which has been since done is beyond the scope of this article but here are a few examples.

- Dr. Frank Brown and his team at Northwestern University performed meticulous research over a ten-year period. He found that plants absorb more water at the time of the full moon, even in a lab without direct contact from the moon. He also monitored over a million hours of potato oxygenabsorption (proportional to metabolism) and found daily maxima were at the moon's rising and culmination, and waxed and waned with the synodic cycle. He found solar and lunar rhythms to be depressed at the new moon and most active at the full moon. This concurs with the observations of Pliny the Elder remarked on the listlessness of ants during the new moon and their high activity at full moon. (Brown also did a wellknown study which showed that oysters adjusted the opening and closing of their shells according to the moon even when relocated and kept in a dark room far inland from the coast.)9
- After conducting extensive experiments on the electrical fields of corn and trees, Yale professor Dr. Harold Burr said, "Of all the external factors examined, the phase of the moon seems to be the only

- one showing any degree of correlation [with tree growth]."10
- The Agricultural Research Service in lowa found a link between weed germination and exposure to light. They determined that tilling the soil (bringing weeds to the surface) was best done at night by a new moon. Tilling in the dark led to less weed seed germination. 11

Researchers of the biodynamic method of agriculture developed by Anthroposophist Rudolf Steiner conducted thousands of experiments. Lily Kolisko and Maria Thun found that root crops did best when planted a couple of days before the full moon. They also claimed root crops were best planted when the moon was passing through an earth sign and worst in a water sign.¹² Attempts to replicate these results have had mixed results.

In addition to moon phases and location by constellation, Steinerians also look at:

- The points in the moon's elliptical orbit when it is furthest from (apogee) and closest to (perigee) earth.
- Whether the moon is ascending in the sky (good for plant vitality) or descending (better for rooting and harvesting.)
- The daily rotation of the earth on its axis, said to create a rhythm which affects plants: from about 3 am until midday sap rises; from 3 pm until the middle of the night the lower

parts of plants are influenced. 13

 Planetary aspects, particularly between Moon and Saturn.

It is to be noted that the biodynamic method uses the sidereal positions of the planets rather than the tropical zodiac upon which most garden lore has developed.

ELEMENTARY EXPERIMENTS

Curious, I decided to carry out some very basic experiments. Here might be a way to see astrology in action in the natural world. No issues around self-attribution or the Barnum effect to worry about. Plants were plants.

The first project was to observe what would happen when organic fenugreek (a medicinal herb originating in the Mediterranean) seeds were sprouted under varying moon phases and zodiac signs. Would there be any noticeable differences?

As I considered this more observation than official experiment, I did not have a particular hypothesis. Since no soil was involved, the sprouts did not fit into the usual categories of being an above or belowground crop, though closer to the former as they were visible and growing in the air. This should favor the waxing phase.

The procedure was to soak a couple of tablespoons of seeds in water in a Mason jar for about six hours, starting around 8 am. (In the next

round one tablespoon was soaked overnight instead.) They were then drained through a covering of cheesecloth or another type of sieve (e.g. fine screening), and put inside a dark cupboard, at a tilted angle for draining, until they began to sprout. At this point the bottle was moved into a spot with bright indirect light and rinsed and drained about every six hours throughout the growing process.

Room temperature was kept consistent though there was some minor variation in light, depending on weather.

By the fifth day most batches had grown to what looked to be optimum for consumption. Each batch was photographed on that day.

The four batches were:

- 1. Waning moon in Pisces
- 2. Waning moon in Aries
- Waxing new moon in Taurus (two days after the exact NM)
- 4. Full Moon in Scorpio

RESULTS

While all the batches produced sprouts which would be welcome in any salad, there were visible differences. The new moon in Taurus was the clear winner. To my amazement the seeds began sprouting only two hours into the soaking process. Waning Pisces and Aries had not appeared until day three, while full moon Scorpio made its debut on day two. The results are pictured on the next page.

In terms of appearance, Taurus and Scorpio (new and full) both looked full and vigorous; Pisces also looked very healthy while Aries (along with Leo considered a 'death sign' in gardening terms) was the least developed and appealing.

The second round was done as a collaborative venture with several members of our regional astrology group, the Atlantic Professional Astrologers' Association (APAA). This time the four plantings took place at the new and full moons and at the first and last quarter moons (in signs Scorpio, Virgo, Sagittarius, and Pisces). All four of these points cause higher tides, with the quarter moons bringing neap tides, higher than normal but smaller than new and full periods. In theory you'd expect stronger results with the new and full moons.

This time just one tablespoon of sprouts were soaked overnight; the following day counted as day one. Other than this the procedures were the same as in the first experiment. Notes were kept and photographs were taken on the fourth day.

While it was fun sharing notes and photos on-line, there were problems with this joint approach.

For one, the varying locations meant the environment was not constant. But mainly, life got in the way of intentions (a new job, travel, etc.) preventing some participants from completing the cycle.



Waning Aries Moon
Note that there are many undeveloped seeds



Taurus New Moon

Therefore, at the end we had insufficient data to draw definite conclusions.

Nevertheless some observations could be made.

Once again the Taurus-Scorpio new moon had very successful results. But the full moon in Gemini-Sagittarius was disappointing, less healthy looking than the Scorpio full moon of the first round in 2017. The third quarter Pisces moon did well, while the first quarter Virgo was the slowest to produce its first shoots.

Lest you think that sprouts just can't can fail, not so. On July 16/18, with waxing moon in Virgo, I began a batch. Tiny shoots appeared two days later, but over the next few days they barely developed, eventually becoming soggy and bitter

to the taste, and had to be composted. On wondering why, the only potentially negative aspect I could see was an opposition to Neptune in Pisces. For biological correspondences of Moon-Neptune, Ebertin says, "A paralyzed blood circulation, an overbalance or an over accumulation of water in the tissues..."

In contrast, the batch I began on July 12, the day before the Cancer partial solar eclipse, flourished and was perfect for consumption by July 15. The eclipse or the oppositions to Saturn and Pluto in Capricorn did not hamper it. Of note is that on the 13th the moon was at its closest point to the earth in 2018 (a 'super-moon'), which creates exceptionally high tides. This would appear to be beneficial to growing plants.

TOMATOES

Rex Bills (*The Rulership Book*) and Louise Riotte consider tomatoes to be ruled by Mars, Jupiter, and Neptune.¹⁵ I decided to compare new and full moon plantings. Due to space limitations, I sowed just six Big Boy seeds at the April 30/18 Taurus-Scorpio full moon and again at the May 15 new moon.

One week after the seedlings of each batch appeared, the full moon plants were significantly taller and sturdier than the new moon plants (photographic results on next page).

REFLECTIONS

The moon's effect on the growth of plants seems indisputable, especially at its full and new phases. If nothing else planting at the full moon should enhance results. The tropical zodiac

TOMATO EXPERIMENT

VARIETY # & DATE SOWN	FIRST SPROUTS	NUMBER DID NOT GERMINATE	Height	Height at four weeks	Flowered
Big boy - 6 apr 30 fm scorp, taur sun	May 6 - 4 May 8 - 1 Dy 7	1	May 14 1.5 "-2	May 31 1-5" 4-6"	July 14
6 BB May 15 nm taur	May 21 - 1dy 7 May 22 - 1 May 25 - 1 May 27 -1	2 2 died	May 31 ¼"-1.5	Both 1.75	None as of July 21



New Moon plantingTaken a week after sprouts appeared



Full Moon planting

signs also appear to play an important role, though it would be interesting to compare results with sidereal methods.

The simple experiments I've presented have obvious flaws, for instance small sample sizes and analysis methods which could be improved (by weighing results, for instance.) I plan to make such improvements in future.

Another consideration is the possibility of the experimenter subconsciously affecting results, as psychologist Carl Jung noticed. Those with the proverbial green thumbs may tend to get better results.

Certainly much more research is needed to determine which parts of the lore stand up and which don't. In the absence of large scale studies, individuals and small groups can contribute by observing and recording results. I hope that more people will avail themselves of the riches of information available (far more than mentioned here) and do their own experimenting to see what works best for them in their own region of the world.

NOTES AND REFERENCES

Links valid as of July 2018.

- 1. Bobrick, Benson, The Fated Sky: Astrology in History. Simon and Schuster, 2006.
- 2. Bobrick references Pliny the Elder's Natural Astrology.
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15.Riotte.

BIOGRAPHY:

Deborah Clahane is a retired educator, writer, and editor who has studied and worked with astrology for close to four decades. She is a member of the Atlantic Professional Astrologers' Association and is based in Nova Scotia, Canada. She may be reached at dmclahane@gmail.com

EASY MACHINE LEARNING WITH ASTROLOGY

BY RENAY OSHOP

"A year spent in artificial intelligence is enough to make one believe in God."
—Alan Perlis

In the past decade, a computer science technique called *machine learning* has been turning the heads of professionals ranging from linguists to actuaries to medical doctors to rocket scientists -- and for good reason. This very 21st century technology is yielding results that were not dreamed of just a few decades before.

What is machine learning? I am a fan of Wikipedia, so here is its definition: (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Machine_learning) a computer science field that "gives computer systems the ability to 'learn' (i.e., progressively improve performance on a specific task) with data, without being explicitly programmed." It is thus a type of process for generating artificial intelligence.

"By far, the greatest danger of Artificial Intelligence is that people conclude too early that they understand it." —Eliezer Yudkowsky

The math can get hairy. Luckily for you, me, and 98% of the professionals who use machine learning tools, just in the past three years or so, the math no longer needs to be completely understood in order to use the technology (although it helps).

I would like to show you, the

astrologer, how to use these machine learning tools for the betterment of all things, including astrology.

I will be focusing here on the free tools at <u>BigML.com</u> which I have found to be at present the easiest to use with the best looking output. Using less than twenty minutes of your time, this article will show how to use these tools with an engaging astrological data set.

There, a large data set of daily Amazon review misspelling rates was used. Here, we will consider a much smaller, simpler, and more directly people-oriented data set: 27 contemporary celebrity self-defined alcoholics and 27 contemporary celebrities who have a reputation of completely eschewing alcohol. Fairly extreme celebrity examples of each type were typically used.

The birth data are all from AstroDatabank (https://www.astro.com/astro-databank/Main Page). See the appendix to this article for full birth details.

While I have some concern (https://www.ayurastro.com/articles/even-aa-rating-charts-of-people-in-astro-databank-are-highly-I) about the precision of the AstroDatabank birth minutes when taken as a whole, the astrological data we will be using do not include the ascendant, and so perhaps a 1 to



60 minute approximation of birth minute in Astro-databank could be said to not impact too much the features of the very basic birth astronomy data in use.

These features are:

- · Sun degree,
- Moon degree,
- North Lunar Node degree,
- South Lunar Node degree,
- Mercury degree,
- Venus degree,
- Mars degree,
- Jupiter degree,
- Saturn degree,
- Uranus degree,
- Neptune degree,
- Pluto degree,
- · Mercury retrograde true or false,
- Venus retrograde true or false,
- · Mars retrograde true or false,
- Jupiter retrograde true or false,
- Saturn retrograde true or false,
- Uranus retrograde true or false,
- Neptune retrograde true or false,
- Pluto retrograde true or false.

All degrees are Tropical placements out of 360 degrees for that celebrity's birth, computed via right ascensions using astronomy software.

When I ran the procedure but with Sidereal degrees (with Lahiri ayanamsha), the results were also positive, but not quite as clean and clear, and so for this presentation, we are using Tropical degrees.

Now that we have data, let's do some AI.

DOING IT

Set up a free account at <u>BigML.com</u>. Navigate to your dashboard. An introductory project will be shown, titled "BigML Intro Project". That can be fun to explore, but for now, create a new project.

I named mine "Celebrity Alcohol Use". You do not need to fill out the tags or description.

Now, you need to upload your data. Download the celebrity alcohol dataset (https://www.dropbox.com/s/szmsm23dq8n9mss/machine%20 learning%20-%20alcoholics%20 and%20nonalcoholics.csv?dl=0).

Then, click on the first icon on the left that says "Sources" when you mouse over it.

Now click on the icon to the far right that says "Create a source from a local file," and upload your new dataset.

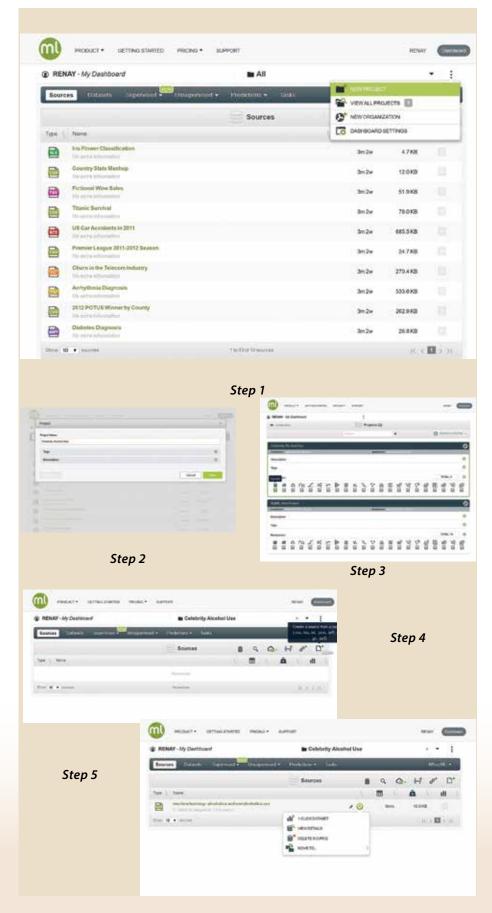
It will take about 10 seconds, but then you can choose the drop down next to the file name and choose "1-click dataset".

Next, click on "Datasets" at the top gray bar.

On the next screen, mouse over "Supervised" in the gray bar at top and drop down and select "OPTIML". A faint box with a "1" will appear six columns to the right of your file name. Click on it.

You will see the following screen. The process will take a good while to complete, so now is a great time to have a nice cup of tea.

After about 15 minutes, you will see the following. These are the best performing *models*, different ways the computer has of understanding the data. Click on the icon to the



right of the top green line, the one that says "View evaluation" when you mouse over it.

Now, you get the most important page, the final results.

This is a very successful handsfree model. What it says is that 4/5 or 80.0% of the alcoholics in the sample test group were predicted accurately, and just as importantly, 5/6 or 83.3% of the non-alcoholics were also predicted accurately.

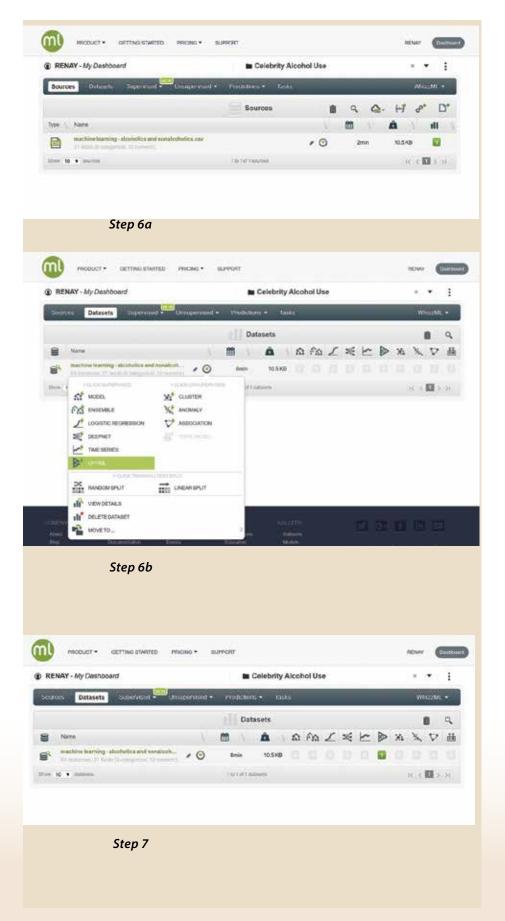
There is a rich body of information on-line to explain the meaning of each of the other numbers.

CONCLUSION

Besides BigML.com, some other platforms of artificial intelligence that are free or have reasonable trials include Weka (https:// www.cs.waikato.ac.nz/ml/index) , Google TensorFlow (https:// www.tensorflow.org/), Amazon Web Services (https://aws.amazon. com/), Mathematica (https://www. wolfram.com/mathematica/), and Rapid Miner. Each has its strengths. There are others even now, and there are bound to be more of such commercial applications of machine learning appearing every month for the foreseeable future.

If you are so inclined, you can even explore the options in a successful BigML model to use it for evaluations of friends and acquaintances or whomever. I would caution you, however, to think greatly of whether this model is ready for prime time. Is it truly capable of being a diagnostic tool? I absolutely think not.

First of all, I would not feel comfortable in using it in *any* way until the same results of high dual



accuracy arrive but by using tens of thousands of test examples.

Second of all, it needs to be said: diagnostics is legally still in the domain of the physician.

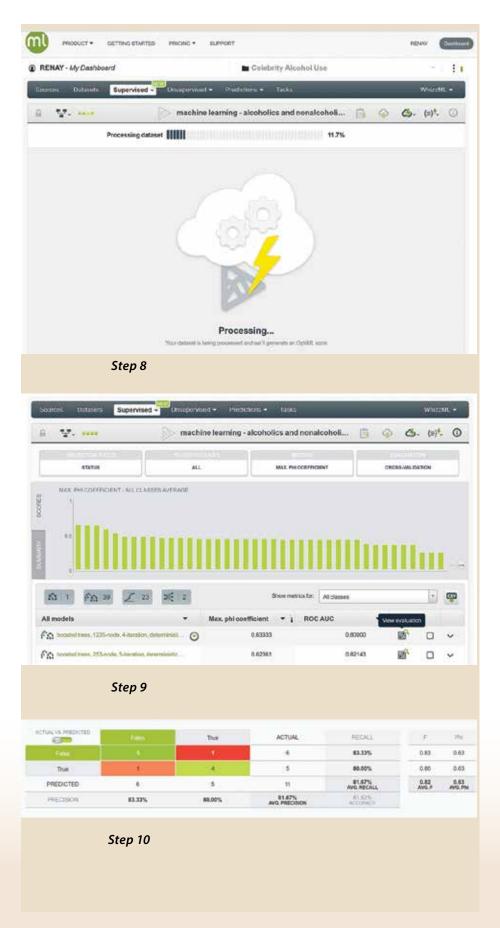
Despite this rudimentary example, now may be the time nonetheless for our field to start having conversations about the ethical use of this technology, just as these types of conversations are happening in other fields.

"With artificial intelligence, we are summoning the demon."
—Elon Musk

Even with great results and the tantalizing prospect of reestablishing astrology as a biomarker like any other, let us not lose our spirit.

Still, I would say: go out there and explore this revolutionary technology. Use your own data, have fun, and don't forget to report back to us your feelings as well as your findings.

BIOGRAPHY: Renay Oshap was a faculty member in research at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, specializing in early computational molecular biology. She subsequently attended Vasant Lad's Ayurvedic Institute, a kind of Hogswart's, which also included 6 months of training in India, and embarked on an international 20 years-andcounting journey to study Jyotisha, following the inspiration of both parents by becoming a professional astrologer. She was also lucky enough to take all of Hart de Fouw's American astrology and palmistry courses. As an astrologer, she still feels like a computational biologist.



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29 Blake Lively AA Aug 25, 1987 5:07 am Tarzana, CA, USA False	28	Alcoholic 5746	AA	Oct 27, 1923	7:00 am		True
	29	Blake Lively	AA	Aug 25, 1987	5:07 am	Tarzana, CA, USA	False

Row #	Name	Rodden Rating	Birth Date	Birth Time	Birth Place	Public History of Alcohol Use
30	Kim Kardashian	AA	Oct 21, 1987	10:46 am	Los Angeles, CA, USA	False
31	Tyra Banks	AA	Dec 4, 1973	19:17 pm	Inglewood, CA, USA	False
32	Gwyneth Paltrow	AA	Sep 27, 1972	17:25 pm	Los Angeles, CA, USA	False
33	Mindy Kaling	AA	Jun 24, 1979	4:10 am	Waltham, MA, USA	False
34	Connie Britton	AA	Mar 6, 1967	15:49 pm	Boston, MA, USA	False
35	John Legend	AA	Dec 28, 1978	8:25 am	Springfield, OH, USA	False
36	John Krasinski	AA	Oct 20, 1979	20:44 pm	Brighton, MA, USA	False
37	Jake Gyllenhaal	AA	Dec 19, 1980	20:08 pm	Los Angeles, CA, USA	False
38	Meryl Streep	AA	Jun 22, 1949	8:05 am	Summit, NJ, USA	False
39	Sigourney Weaver	AA	Oct 8, 1949	18:15 pm	New York, NY, USA	False
40	Vanessa Bayer	AA	Nov 14, 1981	6:50 am	Cleveland, OH, USA	False
41	Kathryn Bigelow	AA	Nov 27, 1951	7:19 am	San Mateo, CA, USA	False
42	Jodie Foster	AA	Nov 19, 1962	8:14 am	Los Angeles, CA, USA	False
43	LeBron James	AA	Dec 30, 1984	16:04 pm	Akron, OH, USA	False
44	George Clooney	AA	May 6, 1961	2:58 am	Lexington, KY, USA	False
45	Conan O'Brien	AA	Apr 18, 1963	13:48 pm	Boston, MA, USA	False
46	Jennifer Law- rence	AA	Aug 15, 1990	15:20 pm	Louisville, KY, USA	False
47	Tom Hanks	AA	Jul 9, 1956	11:17 am	Concord, CA,USA	False
48	Jennifer Annis- ton	AA	Feb 11, 1969	22:22 pm	Los Angeles, CA, USA	False
49	Jimmy Carter	AA	Oct 1, 1924	7:00 am	Plains, GA, USA	False
50	Prince	AA	Jun 7, 1958	18:17 pm	Minneapolis, MN, USA	False
51	Salvador Dali	AA	May 11, 1904	8:45 am	Figueras, Spain	False
52	Barbara Strei- sand	AA	Apr 24, 1942	5:08 am	New York, NY, USA	False
53	Neil Diamond	AA	Jan 24, 19411	23:04 pm	New York, NY, USA	False
54	Emma Watson	AA	Apr 15, 1990	18:00 pm	Paris, France	False
55	Agatha Christie	AA	Sep 15, 1890	14:14 pm	4 pm Torquay, UK False	

ASTRO-ANALYSIS DENGUE - AN ENDEMIC DISEASE?

BY SWARNASIS MUKHERJEE



There is no denying the fact that dengue is typically a mosquito borne disease caused by the dengue virus- Aedes Aegypti. The subject- Medical Astrology has been quite challenging for most of the astrologers and psychoanalyst around the globe. If we go through different astro-medico journals we can have a vivid knowledge of the cause and effects of different sorts of diseases which human beings are easily susceptible to. During the last half of 2017, i.e , just after monsoon, most of the inhabitants of eastern India (especially West Bengal) became prone to Dengue. In spite of Medical aids and proper diagnosis, the disease spreads like anything. During my day to day practice, I came across a few clients who even expressed their unnecessary worry and discomfiture during their interaction, asking that whether Dengue took the shape of an epidemic disease. This actually acted as a stimulus for me to do further studies in Astrological spheres on the said subject.

It was quiet essential to do the correct Root Cause Analysis of the said disease and to present it in the realm of futurology. For this I have made a vis-à-vis

analysis of Medical Science and Astrology in tabular form after collecting concrete data from relevant sources. Let's have a look on the table at the top of the next page.

From this table, dengue is quite evident that since dengue is mainly transmitted by mosquito (Class: Insecta) and is a water borne disease so from the natural zodiac sign – Scorpio as well as North Node and South Node should be consideredsince Scorpio is the breeding ground for mosquito. One might say that Cancer and Pisces are also watery signs – then why only Scorpio? The Answer to the question is very simple-Since Scorpio is the 8th house in Natural Zodiac and 8th house signifies danger –we have given it priority. Moreover, Scorpio is a fixed sign and also the mosquito breeds in stagnant water so it has significance. If in a particular horoscope Scorpio Sign as well as the ascendant gets afflicted by the natural malefic then there will be a possibility that the native will be prone to insect borne diseases. The second row states the symptoms of the disease- characterized by headache, prolonged fever, as well as Lymphadenopathy.

It is quite evident that Mars (muscle), Moon (lymph glands) and Saturn (Prolonged fever) to be taken into account along with the nodes. If the native's Ascendant lord or sub lord (as per K.P system) is connected with 6, 8 as well as 12th houses (Here the term " connected" is very important: Connected means through occupation / through constellation / by aspect) then it will be instrumental in weakening the immune system and the native gets prone to the disease. But at the same time if the Ascendant lord makes strong bonding with 5,11 (Recovery from disease) houses then the native gets totally cured.

Now, for our in depth understanding let's illustrate a horoscope. The Birth details of the native has been stated as follows:

Date of Birth: 17th June 1992 Time of Birth: 17:05 Hrs, Place of Birth: New Delhi, India

The Astro particulars, using the Sidereal zodiac, are as follows:

Ascendant: Scorpio, Ascendant

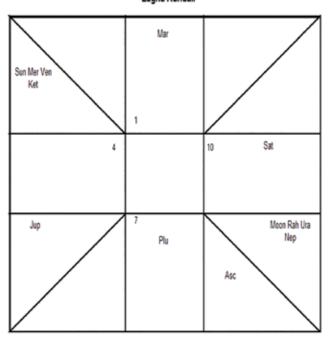
Lord: Mars

Moon Sign : Sagittarius, Moon

Sign Lord: Jupiter

MEDICAL SCIENCE	ASTROLOGY
Caused by viruses that are transmitted by mosquito (Class: Insecta, Genus-Aedes, Species-Aegypti)	Determined from Natural Zodiac (<i>Kaal Purusha RasiChakra</i>)-Scorpio, Element-Water, Planet – North & South Nodes (<i>Rahu & Ketu</i>)
Characterized by Headache, prolonged fever, exhaustion, severe joint and muscle pain, swollen glands (lymphadenopathy), and rash.	For blood, muscle, fever, glands (especially Lymph nodes) Mars and Moon to be considered. For bones and joints & prolonged chronic disease Saturn to be considered.
Requires isolation, hospitalization, rejuvenation of immune system (e.g. –Improvement in Blood Platelet counts)	Sixth (Disease) and Twelfth (Hospitalization), Marak Sthanas (2,7) and 8th house as well as Recovery (1,5, 11) to be considered.

Lagna Kundali



DENGUE VICTIM



Planetary Positions at Birth Time

oig						- /
	04:15:30	Anuradha	Saturn	1		
nini	02:51:34	Mrigsiras	Mars	3	Direct	
nini	21:05:09	Punarvasu	Jupiter	1	Direct	Own House
nini	03:53:53	Mrigsiras	Mars	4	Direct	
s	08:25:13	Ashuini	Ketu	3	Direct	Mooltrikona
	14:11:30	Poons	Venus	1	Direct	
ricom	24:30:55	Dhanishta	Mars	1	Retro	Own House
ittarius	28:29:23	U.Sada	Sun	1	Direct	
ittarius	07:13:47	Moola	Ketu	3	Retro	
nini	07:13:47	Aridra	Rahu	1	Retro	
ittarius	23:10:42	P.Sada	Venus	3	Retro	
ittarius	24:29:45	P.Sada	Venus	4	Retro	
3	26:59:00	Vishakha	Jupiter	3	Retro	
֡	ricom ittarius ittarius rini ittarius	ini 03:53:53 s 08:25:13 14:11:30 14:11:30 24:30:55 ttarius 28:29:23 ttarius 07:13:47 itarius 07:13:47 ttarius 23:10:42 ttarius 24:29:45	nini 03:53:53 Mrigsiras s 08:25:13 Ashuini 14:11:30 Poona ricom 24:30:55 Dhanishta ttarius 28:29:23 U.Sada ttarius 07:13:47 Moola o7:13:47 Aridra ttarius 23:10:42 P.Sada ttarius 24:29:45 P.Sada	inii 03:53:53 Mrigsiras Mars s 08:25:13 Ashninii Ketu 14:11:30 Poona Venus ricom 24:30:55 Dhanishta Mars ttarius 28:29:23 U.Sada Sun ttarius 07:13:47 Moola Ketu rinii 07:13:47 Aridra Rahu ttarius 23:10:42 P.Sada Venus ttarius 24:29:45 P.Sada Venus	inii 03:53:53 Mrigsiras Mars 4 s 08:25:13 Ashaini Ketu 3 14:11:30 Poona Venus 1 titarius 28:29:23 U.Sada Sun 1 titarius 07:13:47 Moola Ketu 3 inii 07:13:47 Aridra Rahu 1 titarius 28:29:45 P.Sada Venus 4	103-53-53 Mrigsiras Mars 4 Direct

Constellation : Sigma-Sagittarii (*Uttarashada*) , Lord : Sun

The chart (East Indian Style) and Planetary position has been shown in the above chart.

The significators and Cuspal Interlinked are placed next to the chart.

The Krishnamurty Paddhati System says that the Ascendant sublord is Saturn (Cause of Prolonged disease) is in the star of Mars and Sub of North Node-Rahu. Through Star lord Saturn is connecting 5,3,1,6,4 houses and through Sub lord Rahu, it is signifying 8th house. If we consider cuspal interlinked (https://www.amazon.com/Kalamsa-Cuspal-Interlinks-Simplified-Enlarged/dp/B0072HZIVK)

theory then we will see that Saturn is also the Sub Lord of 6,7 and 12 houses. Thus Saturn makes strong connection with 6,8 and 12 houses along with Mars (Lagna Lord) and Rahu. Hence it can be inferred from here that the native will be susceptible to Insect borne disease i.e. Dengue. The Period and Sub-Period along with transit should be considered at the same time.

From the Traditional or Vedic System let's see:

- Mars is lord of sixth and ascendant. Ascendant sign is keeta rashi scorpio or the still water and the breeding ground for mosquitoes.
- Moon the significator of water is with Rahu the significator of insects (here mosquitoes).
- Venus as lord of 12th hospitalisation as lord of 7th as maraka is combust and in 8th house.
- Saturn as indicator of all chronic diseases makes a connection with both moon and venus.
- As Saturn is connected to 1,6,12 (Cuspal Interlinked) and 8 house through SubLord.....So Prolonged illness is inevitable.

It has been noted that Saturn's position in Scorpio (Keeta rashi) and aspect of Rahu on it created havoc in the last phase of 2017

A PIE APPROACH: LET'S SEE

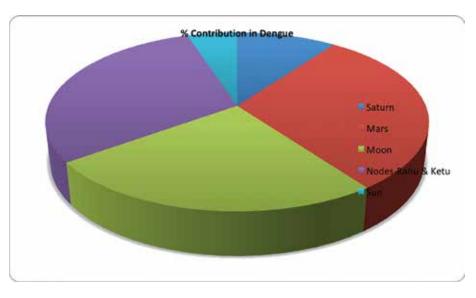
From the pie chart at the top of the next column we can infer that Mars and Nodes has a lion's share in causing this disease, followed by moon and Saturn.

Is Death Inevitable For A Person Diagnosed With Dengue???

The Answer is: NOOOO....!!!!

For Death following are the points to be considered during analysis.

 Lagna sublord should be checked to whether it is connected to Maraka (2,7



Houses) & Badhaka (11-for Movable ASC, 9 – for Fixed & 7 – for Dual Sign

- Aspects of Malefics on Lagna and Lagna Lord can cause Havoc.
- Whether supporting Badhaka i.e 12th house is connected to Lagna Sub lord
- Supporting houses for Longevity i.e 1,3,8,4 & 10 connected or not.
- Dasha- Bhukti-Antara Lord says what????

CONCLUDE FINALLY...

If diagnosed with the disease already seek Medical advice.

Be Smart

Be Alert

Be Focused

Be Educated!

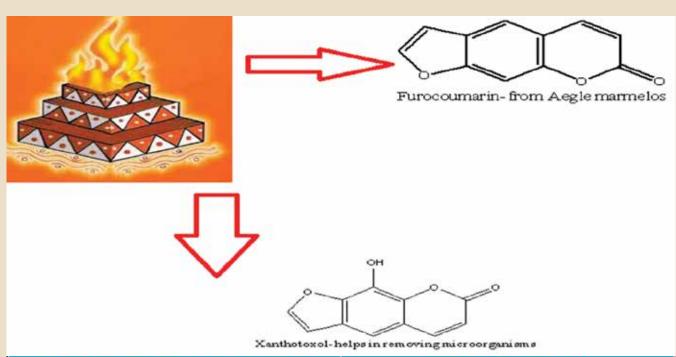
Instill the power of positive thinking within your client. Let's see what we can do from our end to increase the positive aura amongst ourselves. During my study on the said subject I have seen that Meditation especially chakra Healing, Performing Yajnas ,chanting mantras, as well as Vastu rectification plays a major role in eradicating negative vibes from our vicinity.

My revered Guru Sri Gopal Bhattacharya has laid stress on Chakra Meditation several times and its long term positive impacts. We know a famous quote "As is the macrocosm so is the microcosm. As is the human mind so is the cosmic mind". Practicing Meditation and Chanting Hymns in a systematic manner invokes positive aura to a great extent.

Moreover Practising Yajnas (Homas) with different sorts of ingredients remove negative toxins from the environment. A schematic representation has been given followed by the tables on the next page.

The practice of yajnas helps in removing different sorts of microorganisms from the environment. There are various sorts of useful ingredients by which yajnas can be performed.

In forthcoming lecture sessions I will try to focus on some other



INGREDIENTS OF YAJNAS	CONSEQUENCES
Black til, Ghee, Atap Chaul	Removal of micro-organisms from surroundings- O2 gas production
Mango Leaf soaked in raw milk	Rejuvenates our immune system
Leaves from Butea Monosperma (Palash) tree	Relief from all sorts of fever
Leaves of <u>Aegle marmelos</u> (Bael) soaked in Ghee	The bael leaf contains furocoumarins, including xanthotoxol and the methyl ester-all are essential alkaloids and flavonoids-prevention form chronic ailments

Astrological facts with the guidance of my revered Guru Sri Gopal Bhattacharya.

BIOGRAPHY: Swarnasis

Mukherjee Vedic, K.P Astrologer, Faculty of Krishnamurti Institute of Astrology (KIA, Kolkata) Life Member KIA, Kolkata. Swarnasis is a very passionate guy of Astrology who has keen interest in carrying various research oriented works in different spheres of the subject viz, vedic, south indian K.P System etc., under the sole supervision and guidance of his revered Guru Sri Gopal Bhattacharya. His main motto is to spread the light of Jyotish Shastra for the well-being of the masses. Presently, he has engaged himself in nurturing students of Krishnamurti Institute of Astrology, Kolkata, an August

Institution of Astrology in India, with the active support of Founder Principal and Guru Sri Gopal Bhattacharya.

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Postulations

Qualitative Research

HENRI II OF FRANCE AND THE PROBLEM OF RECTIFICATION IN ASTROLOGY

BY ANTHONY LOUIS



In his essay Of Prophecies (1625) Sir Francis Bacon wrote: "When I was in France, I heard from one Dr. Pena, that the Queen Mother, who was given to curious arts, caused the King her husband's nativity to be calculated, under a false name; and the astrologer gave a judgment, that he should be killed in a duel; at which the Queen laughed, thinking her husband to be above challenges and duels: but he was slain upon a course at tilt, the splinters of the staff of Montgomery going in at his beaver." The Queen was, of course, Catherine de' Medici whose lifelong astrologer Luca Gaurico (1476 – 1558) warned in 1552 that King Henri II of France (1519 - 1559) would risk serious injury, leading to blindness or even death, if he were to engage in a duel during his 41st year of life.

Sir Bacon went on to argue that the prophecies of astrologers "have done much mischief" but have attained some credit for various reasons: "First, that men mark when they hit, and never mark when they miss; as they do generally also of [prophetic] dreams. The second is, that probable conjectures, or obscure traditions, many times turn themselves into prophecies; while the nature of man, which coveteth divination, thinks it no peril to foretell that which indeed they do but collect."

In other words, Francis Bacon maintains that astrologers remember their accurate predictions but conveniently forget their mistaken ones, perhaps because "the nature of man" is to want to believe ("covet") that divination is indeed possible. In addition, he argues that most valid predictions are either lucky guesses or reasonable conjectures that could be made even without the aid of astrological mumbo-jumbo. Not surprisingly, Bacon's form of inductive reasoning, which underlies his criticism of astrology, became the foundation for the modern scientific method used to

determine whether something is true. Astrologers might claim credit for the fact that Bacon's visceral reaction against the notoriety of Gaurico's prediction played a significant role in the development of modern science.

Bacon aside, Gaurico's prediction is not without controversy even among astrologers. In 2006 Bulgarian astrologer Rumen Kolev published a booklet¹ about Gaurico and the use primary directions in the chart of Henri II. Contemporary astrologer Kolev showed that Gaurico's original Aries-rising chart for the king, published in 1552 was modified (or "rectified") after both Gaurico and King Henri II were dead, to produce a new Geminirising chart which showed a primary direction of Mars to the Ascendant at the exact time of the king's demise.

In an article² published online in 2009 Deborah Houlding offered a scholarly analysis of Kolev's criticism of the rectification and argued that the rectified chart with Gemini rising had much astrological merit. According to Houlding, "Kolev leads his reader into a sense of dismay with this account of how the astrological reference to the warning of the death in the 41st year of life does not appear in the original commentary of the 1552 publication (by Gauricus), but is tucked to the end of the text in a 1575 reproduction, published 16 years after the king's death."³

Utilizing the method of qualitative research⁴, I would like to re-examine the controversy about the original (Aries rising) versus the rectified (Gemini rising) charts for Henri II to show that Gaurico's 1552 chart for the king's birth was sufficient for him to make his famous prediction without a need for major rectification.

THE PROBLEM OF RECTIFICATION

People who consult astrologers often do not know their exact time of birth. Many predictive techniques in astrology, however, depend on having an precise birth time. Lois Rodden addressed this issue and came up with a system for rating accuracy -- the most accurate (AA) being from an official birth record, the next in level of accuracy being a direct quote from the native or a reliable news source or associate, and so on. Astrologers usually "verify" the accuracy of a birth time by using predictive techniques to check the chart against known events in the person's life. Often

adjusting the birth time by several minutes (or sometimes even hours!) from the stated time produces a "rectified" chart which seems to work better with astrological predictive practices.

A problem with rectification is that it introduces a significant subjective element on the part of the astrologer into the chart. If you browse the horoscopes in Astro-Databank⁵, you quickly come across charts of celebrities for which reputable astrologers offer a variety of opinions about what the rectified chart should be. For example, the listing for spiritualist Helena Blavatsky gives at least five distinct rectified birth times between midnight and sunrise. With so many times to choose from, a clever astrologer could easily explain astrologically just about anything that happened in her life. Furthermore, if the astrologer uses a rectified chart to illustrate key astrological principles, a well-documented birth time may later be uncovered through historical research which renders the "rectified" chart invalid,6 leaving the astrologer with egg on his or her face and adding fuel to the fires of those whose ridicule astrology.

GARTZE'S RECTIFIED CHART FOR HENRI II (1576)

The astrological literature offers two distinct birth charts for King Henri II of France, one commissioned by Catherine de' Medici and published by Gaurico in 1552 with Aries rising and a later rectified chart published long after the king's death by

Johann Gartze in 1576 with Gemini rising.

Catherine's astrologer Luca Gaurico died on 6 March 1558, and her husband Henri perished more than a year later on 10 July 1559. According to Wikipedia, Henry II was fond of hunting and jousting, and he participated in a tournament on 30 June 1559 in honor of the Peace of Cateau-Cambrésis and the marriage of his daughter to King Philip II of Spain. During the jousting match, King Henry "was wounded in the eye by a fragment of the splintered lance of Gabriel Montgomery, captain of the King's Scottish Guard. Despite the efforts of royal surgeon Ambroise Paré, the king died of septicemia on 10 July 1559."7

In 1576, some seventeen years after the king's death in 1559, astrologer Johann Gartze (Garcaeus) of Brandenburg published a new natal chart for King Henri II of France with 03 Gemini 00 rising (the first known appearance of such a chart) which corresponds to a birth time of 7:11:04 LMT (about 104 minutes after sunrise). The sun is about 14 degrees above the horizon, and the outdoors would have been flooded with sunlight.

In 1661 John Gadbury included Gartze's chart of Henri II with 03 Gemini 00 rising in his famous collection of nativities. Gadbury attributed the king's demise to the fact that Mars at 13 Cancer 03 (oblique ascension 76.16) was carried by primary motion to the position of the natal

Ascendant (oblique ascension 35.58) in an arc of 40.18 degrees, which corresponds (using the Ptolemy's measure of one for one year of life8) almost exactly to the day of the king's demise a "fact" which is too good to be true. Traditionally primary directions merely indicated important years in the native's life and only rarely timed events with any precision. The suspiciously exact timing of the rectified chart casts doubt on its validity as a valid birth chart of Henri II.

GAURICO'S ORIGINAL CHART FOR HENRI II (1552)

Henri II was born on the morning of 31 March 1519 (OS) at Saint-Germain-en-Laye, France. In 1533 Pope Clement VII in Rome had arranged for his niece, Catherine de' Medici (born 15 April 1519), to marry Henri, the second son of King Francis I of France. Catherine consulted her family astrologer, Luca Gaurico, about the impending marriage and apparently used the wealth and influence of the de' Medici family to obtain the birth data of the future king of France.

This chart, (Figure 1) which Gaurico published in 1552, is for a birth time of 5:02:19 LMT (25 minutes before sunrise) and gives Henri II an Ascendant of 6 Aries 09 and an MC of 2 Capricorn 39. The Sun lies about 13 degrees below the horizon, technically at "nautical dawn" during which "there is enough illumination for sailors to distinguish the horizon at sea but the sky is too dark to perform outdoor

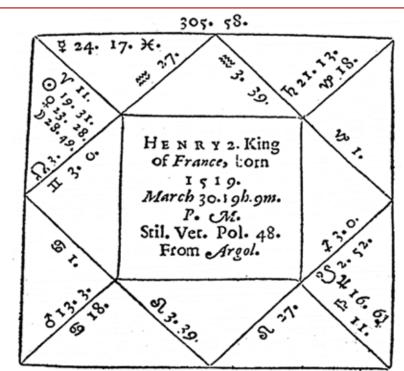


Figure 1 Gadbury & Gartze's rectified chart for Henri II with 3 Gemini rising.

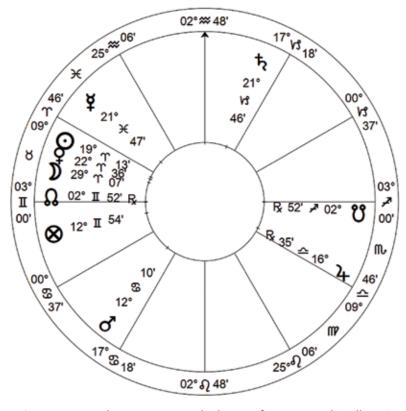


Figure 2 A modern computer calculation of Gartze's and Gadbury's rectified chart for the birth of Henri II of France. (31 March 1519, 07:11:04 LMT, 48N54, 002E05, St Germain en Laye, France)

activities."10 Those present at the birth would recall that it was just beginning to get to get light outside and that the sun had not yet risen. No doubt this is the information which Catherine would have given to Gaurico about Henri's time of birth.11 Based on this data, Gaurico would have cast a horoscope for the future king in 1533 and would have continuously rectified that chart, using events from the king's life over the next 19 years, to arrive at the welltested nativity of Henri II which he published in 1552.

Gaurico's caption beneath the 1552 chart of Henri II says that Henri is likely to live to the age of 69 years, 10 months and 12 days, provided he survives potentially fatal mishaps at ages 56, 63 and 64. Though he does not explain his reasoning, Gaurico appears to have arrived at this figure as follows. Mars rules the 8th house of death and lies at 10 Cancer 10 in Gaurico's chart of Henri's birth. Henri is thus likely to die when 8th ruler Mars arrives at the Ascendant (the body and life of the native) through the primary motion of the heavens. This will occur when an arc of 68 degrees 56 minutes of right ascension (R.A.) has passed over the Midheaven. By Ptolemy's measure of one degree of R.A. as one year of life, the king will die shortly before he turns 69. By Naibod's measure, however, which equates the mean daily motion of the sun (0° 59' 8 " of right ascension) with one year of life, Henri will perish at age 69.9371

(which is 69 years and 342 days, or 10 months and 12 days after he turns 69). The potential mishaps at ages 56, 63 and 64 correspond to the periods when Mars, by primary motion, crosses over the natal positions of the Moon, Venus and the Sun respectively.

There is no mention in the 1552 publication of any risk of injury or death in 1559 at the age of 40. Nonetheless, two years after the publication of his book, Gaurico (in 1554) warned Catherine and/or her husband King Henri II of the risk of serious head injury or blindness if he were to engage in a duel (a type of one-to-one combat) during his 41st year of life (31 March 1559 – 31 March 1560).

There is independent evidence that Gaurico did issue such a warning in 1554 to the king. The French court biographer Pierre de Brantome (1540 – 1614) noted that Gauricus wrote to Catherine in Latin:

"ne circiter unum et quadragesimum aetatis annum vitaret duellum, astra minari vulnus in capite, quod vel coecitatem, vel mortem continuo afferent," 12

which means (my translation)

"the stars warn that in his 41st year, if he does not avoid one-to-one combat, he runs the risk of a head wound that could lead to blindness or even death."

Note that in Medieval Latin "duellum" meant "combat between two contenders" or a duel.¹³

It was well known that Henri was fond of jousting. At his wedding to Catherine (28 October 1533) 14-year-old Prince Henri reported danced and jousted to entertain his equally youthful bride. According to Plantiko, Catherine's astrologer Gaurico predicted in 1533 that Henri's accession to the throne as well as his death would be accompanied by a duel, and in fact at Henri's 1547 accession to the throne a duel did take place.¹⁴

The 1533 prediction that Henri's accession to the throne as well as his death would be accompanied by a duel was based on the Aries-rising chart published by Gaurico in 1552. The astrologer, who was aware of Henri's love of jousting, must have reasoned somewhat as follows:

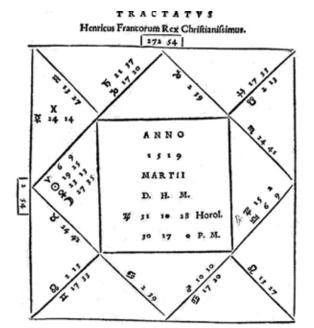
- Henri's accession to the throne is signified by the Capricorn 10th house, ruled by Saturn in Capricorn in the 11th.
- Saturn is the exalted ruler and also the almuten of the 7th house of one-toone combat (jousting and duels); thus, there is an intimate connection between his kingship and dueling.
- The exalted ruler of the 10th (Henri's kingship) is Mars, which is also almuten of the 10th; thus there is an intimate connection between his becoming king and his death because Mars rules the 8th house.

 Both 10th ruler Saturn (kingship) and 8th ruler Mars (death) are connected by square aspect to Jupiter in the 7th (jousting done for sport). Jupiter here rules Pisces in the 12th of large animals like horses.

GAURICO'S WARNING TO THE KING

Can we convincingly show how Gaurico, using standard techniques of medieval astrology, might have been able to warn the king of an impending jousting accident at age 40 from the Aries-rising chart alone? If so, then the rectified Gemini-rising chart would be superfluous.

The most fundamental principle of traditional astrology is that nothing can happen to the native that is not promised in the birth chart. In Gaurico's chart, Henri has Aries rising, with his natal sun in the sign of the Ram, an animal which likes to butt heads (duel) with other rams. Mars rules the Ascendant and disposes the sun, but Mars is in a fallen state and governs the 8th house of death, so that the native's demise is connected. to his fondness for combat. The ruler of the 7th of open adversaries is Venus, which is in her detriment in Aries in the 1st, indicating that problems related to one-to-one combat will directly affect the health and vitality of the native. Impetuous Mars, ruler of his death, squares Jupiter in the 8th of duels, with Jupiter ruling Pisces intercepted in the 12th of hospitalization and self-undoing. Jupiter also rules



I nclitifismus Gallorum Rex Henricus Chriftianifsimus, erit Regum quo rundam Imperator, ante fupremos cineres ad rerum culmina perueniet y fœlicifsimamq; ac viridem fenedtä, vti colligitur ex Sole Venere & Lus na horofcopantibus, & potifsimum, Sole in fuo trono partiliter fupputato. In ciuitatibus Arieti fubijectis maximum fortietur dominium, fi forte fupraterit fuæ artatis annos 56.63.64. ad annos 69. Menfes 10. dies 12 facili ac fœlici tramite perducetur.

Figure 3 Gauricus' chart of Henri II, published in 1552



Figure 4 Gaurico published this horoscope of Henri II of France in 1552, having worked with it for 19 years and presumably having rectified it based on the life of the king from the time Gaurico was first consulted by Catherine de' Medici in 1533. (31 March 1519, 05:02:19 LMT, 48N54, 002E05, St Germain en Laye, France)

the 9th of foreigners (Captain Montgomery, whose lance pierced the king's eye, was a Scottsman). Mars (penetrating wound and infections) squares the Sun in Aries in the 1st house, signifiers of the head. The two luminaries, the sun and Moon, symbolize the eyes and occupy the 1st house.

The following quotes from Raphael's 1920 text on *Medical Astrology* summarize the traditional lore about such configurations:

- "Aries gives a strong sturdy body, plenty of heat and vitality. The head, stomach and kidneys are parts of the body most liable to disorder. The eyes and brain may also become affected. Being inflammatory in nature, there is a danger of feverish disorders, eruptions on the face, and accidents from fire, burns, cuts, etc."
- "Mars afflicting the Sun, and either of them angular, or Mars elevated above the Sun, predisposes to violent and inflammatory complaints, accidents and sudden death."
- "Either luminary in an angle, afflicted by a Square or Opposition of Mars, will cause blindness."

There can be little doubt, then, that the Aries-rising chart supports the possibility that the king could die in an accident involving the splinter of a lance

penetrating his eye and entering his brain, causing inflammation, sepsis and subsequent death.

How would Gaurico have determined the timing of such a potential accident? Typical medieval techniques were to consider primary directions, profections, firdaria, full moons, eclipses, solar and lunar returns, and the 1559 Aries Ingress chart for Paris because Henri II was the king of France. Writing in 1554, Gaurico most likely would have noticed the following.

During the next 5 or 6 years, the most *significant primary* directions (Regiomontanus, Naibod measure, without latitude) would be the fixed star Aldebaran (the right eye of Taurus the Bull) coming to Mercury in January of 1559 and Mars coming to Aldebaran in August of 1559.15 These are troubling directions because Mercury lies in the 12th of confinement and rules the 6th of illness. In addition, Mercury closely conjoins the malefic fixed star Scheat (extreme misfortune and potential loss of life). Lying in Pisces, Mercury is also in its detriment and fall. Robson notes that Mercury with Aldebaran affects the native's health and domestic affairs, and that Mars with Aldebaran indicates danger, liability to accidents, fevers and violent death.16 King Henri II would turn 40 years old in March of 1559 while both these troublesome primary directions were in effect. Having identified the period around age 40 as potentially dangerous for

the king, Gaurico would next have considered other timing techniques.

According to the time-lord method of *firdaria*¹⁷, Henri would be in a Sun/Sun period from 30 March 1558 through 3 September 1559. During this time the significations of his natal sun become quite pronounced. In the Aries-rising chart, the first house Sun is almuten of the Ascendant (health, the body, life force) and rules the cusp of the Regiomontanus 6th house of sickness and bodily ailments. The Sun is in stressful square to both malefics, Mars and Saturn, and is also opposed by Jupiter in the 7th of duels. Jupiter carries significations of the 9th (foreigners) and 12th (confinement, undoing) houses.

The classical method of annual profections advances the natal chart one whole sign for each year of life. A medieval variation of the technique advances the chart one house for each year of life. William Lilly's version of this technique was to direct the chart at a rate of 30 degrees per year. A corollary of this method is that every 12 years, though circumstances may change, the major themes of the birth chart repeat in the native's life. In other words, what happens to King Henri at age 40 should be thematically similar to what happened at ages 4, 16 and 28, and what will happen at ages 52, 64, 76, etc. On Henri's 28th birthday, his father died, making possible Henri's accession to the throne. Themes of death and a

major change in worldly status may be part of this profection year.

If we direct (profect) Henri's chart to his birthday in 1559 at the rate of 30 degrees per year, we get the accompanying chart.

In the profected chart for Henri's 41st year of life (age 40), Leo rises and the Sun rules the Ascendant (body, health). This year, profected Jupiter rules the Sagittarius 6th of bodily ailments and the Pisces 8th of death. What may have troubled Gaurico is that Jupiter opposes the Sun from the 7th of one-to-one combat. Jupiter ruling the 6th (bodily ailments) and opposing the sun and moon in the 1st could signify injuries to the eyes and brain. Profected Mars¹⁸ now rules the 5th of sporting events (jousting tournaments) and squares both the Sun and Jupiter. The profected Moon now carries a 12th house signification (confinement, undoing). This profected chart would have given Gaurico sufficient cause to warn the king about dueling at age 40.

No doubt Gaurico would also have studied the *solar return* for 1559 (see accompanying SR chart).

Henri's solar return (SR) for age 40 has Scorpio rising, making Mars the "lord of the year." Natally, Mars rules the 8th house of death. Return Saturn, a malefic planet which lacks all essential dignity at 21 Taurus, lies on the SR 7th cusp where it opposes the Ascendant, indicating potential risk to the

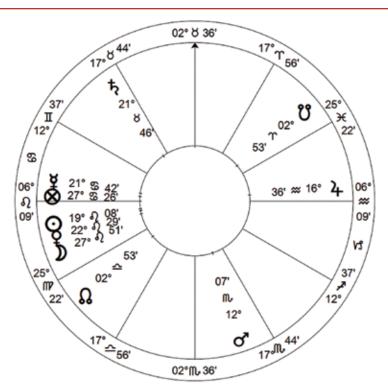


Figure 5 Henri's Aries rising chart profected to age 40 at a rate of one Whole Sign per year.

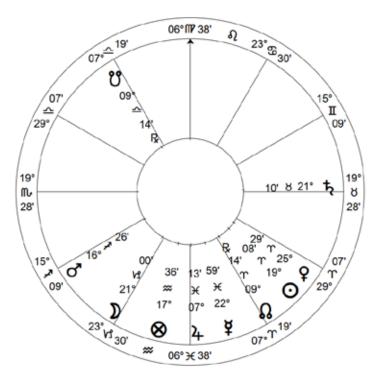


Figure 6 Henri's Solar Return for age 40. (Mars rules the SR Ascendant.)

Data for SR: 30 March 1519, 21:24:32 LMT, 48N54, 002E05,

St Germain en Laye, France.

native's health and problems arising from combat with open adversaries. Benefic Jupiter in Pisces is quite angular on the IC, which normally would be quite favorable, but in the profected chart forage 40 Jupiter rules the 6th of illness and the 8th of death, so a prominent SR Jupiter is troubling.

SR Mercury (at 22 Pisces 59) in detriment and fall has returned almost exactly to its natal positon and is very closely conjunct the malevolent fixed star Scheat, at 23 Pisces 13 in the solar return. SR Ascendant-ruler Mars squares this malefic Mercury/Scheat combination, which is all the more troubling because Mercury rules the 8th house of death in the 1559 solar return.

Rather than belabor the point by reviewing even more predictive techniques, I think there is sufficient evidence in the commonly used medieval methods discussed so far to justify Gaurico's warning to King Henri II of the dangers of one-to-one combat at age 40, during his 41st year of life.

ENDNOTES AND REFERENCES

- 1 Rumen Kolev, "Medieval Astrological Prognosis, Gauricus & Henry II – The Prediction," Bulletin of Research, Vol. 1, Sep 2006, Varna, Bulgaria, https://www. halloran.com/Medieval_Astrological_ Prognosis_Description.pdf
- **2** Deborah Houlding, "Fact or Fiction, Gauricus and the warning of death given to Henry II of France," Feb 2005,

updated and published online July 2009, http://www.skyscript.co.uk/pdf/ henry_II.pdf

- 3 Deborah Houlding, op.cit.
- **4** Wikipedia, "Qualitative Research," https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Qualitative_research
- **5**https://www.astro.com/astrodatabank
- 6 An example of this can be found in my article "The Boy Who Would Be King" in The Mountain Astrologer, Aug-Sep 2012. A historian discovered in the Portuguese National Library an astrological report interpreting the birth chart of King Sebastian of Portugal. The text was written by a physician/astrologer who was asked by the Queen Mother to be present to accurately time the royal birth.
- **7** Henry II of France, https:// en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_II_of_ France
- **8** Ptolemy used one degree on Equator (R.A.) as signifying one year of life. Naibod felt that 0° 59′8 " (the mean daily motion of the sun) was a better measure for 1 year of life.
- **9** By modern computer calculation the king's natal Mars lies at 12 Cancer 10 (not at 13 Cancer 03, as in Gadbury's chart) and by Regiomontanus primary direction (with Naibod's measure) comes to the Ascendant in late November of 1558, about seven months before the king is wounded in the joust. Gaurico had the king's Mars at 10 Cancer 10.
- **10** Wikipedia, "Dawn" at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dawn
- 11 According to astrologer Martin Harvey, the mother of Henri II employed the astrologer Junctinus who cast a chart with a birth time of about 5:24 AM, shortly before sunrise. Thus,

the astrologers of both the mother and wife of Henri believed that he was born in the twilight period before sunrise rather than a couple hours after sunrise as the rectified Gemini rising chart would suggest.

- **12** Rudiger Plantiko, "Lucas Gauricus a Renaissance Astrologer" at http://www.astrotexte.ch/sources/gauricus.html
- **13** "Duellum" at https://en.wiktionary. org/wiki/duellum
- 14 Rudiger Plantiko, "Lucas Gauricus
- a Renaissance Astrologer," op.cit.
- **15** I am using the modern computer generated chart to make these calculations. Gaurico's calculations may have been somewhat different because of the tables and ephemerides which were available in the 1500s.
- **16** Vivian Robson, Fixed Stars and Constellations in Astrology, 1923, p.121.
- **17** See Deborah Houlding, "Firdar" at http://www.skyscript.co.uk/gl/firdar. html
- **18** At age 28, Mars (ruling the 4th of the father) square Venus (ruling the 11th or derived 8th of the father's death) manifested as the death of his father.

BIOGRAPHY: Anthony Louis is resident of Connecticut, Anthony Louis is a retired psychiatrist who has had a lifelong interest in astrology and other forms of divination. He has written several books on astrology and tarot, including Horary Astrology Plain and Simple, Tarot Plain and Simple, and The Art of Forecasting with Solar Returns. He has also published several journal articles and has lectured nationally and internationally on astrology and tarot.

SAROS SERIES 137 AND MAJOR CHANGES IN CHINA

BY MING-HSUN CHANG



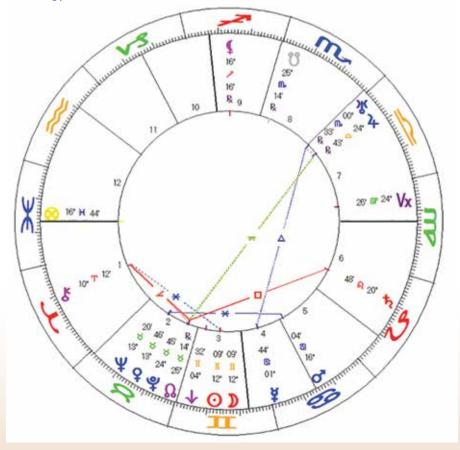
On June 21, 2020, a total solar eclipse will occur through China, Taiwan and the Indian Ocean which happens to coincide with the "New Silk Road" as detailed in the recent "One Belt One Road" policy of China. The stability of Taiwan, the South China Sea and the Indian Ocean areas are always impacted by changes in Chinese policy. Jupiter, Saturn and Pluto will be in conjunction in Capricorn consecutively in 2020, which is believed to be an important sign of change. We cannot help but wonder, does the eclipse imply that China may be the key to that change?

This 2020 solar eclipse belongs to Saros Series 137. If we carefully consider all the eclipses of this Saros Series, i.e. solar total eclipses, annular eclipses and annular-total eclipses, and compared them with significant and transformative events in Chinese history, we will see a good correlation between them. A complete list of this cycle of eclipses is available at https:// eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov/SEsaros/ SEsaros137.html Please note that this Saros cycle will not complete until 28 June 2633.

Before beginning the comparison, we have to consider that all eclipses of the same Saros Series share some things in common one way or another, and the very beginning of the series is just like the radix, or birth chart of the series. This work was first conceptualized by Bernadette Brady in 1992 in her seminal work, *The Eagle and the Lark – a Textbook of Predictive* Astrology.^{II} We can call the first

chart in the series the nativity of Saros Series 137, and from this chart we can see similar features and characteristics of each eclipse in the same series. Below is the initial chart of Saros Series 137.

As with all eclipse series, Saros Series 137 began at the North Pole. This chart (26 May 1389) is set for Beijing as we are looking at its impact on China. The North



Saros Series 137 (26 May 1389)

Node and Pluto are in tight conjunction with a 4 degree square to Saturn. This suggests that the series is linked to the end of a phase, the collapse of old constructions, and the huge pain of upheaval, when any society undertakes great change and transformation.

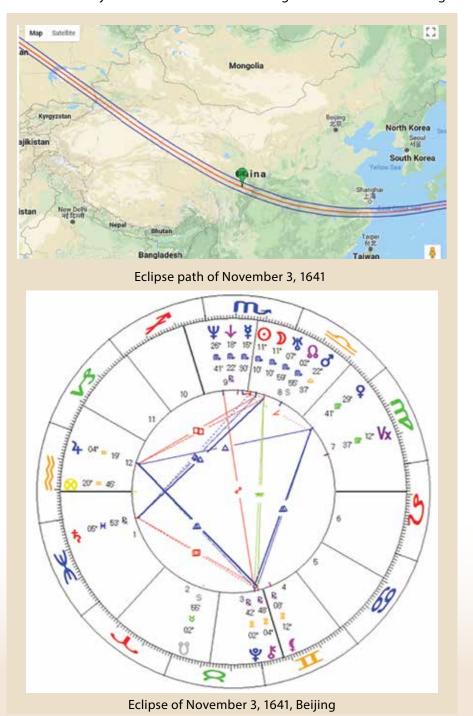
The conjunction of Pluto and the North Node is in Taurus, which also indicates that a stable model of society structured over a long time is undergoing devastating destruction. Venus, the ruler of Taurus, is in close conjunction with Neptune, corresponding perfectly with the sense of nostalgia especially as regards culture and the fine arts.

In ancient China, the perfect social model was described as one where the male farms and the female weaves; senior citizens are always respected by their juniors; fathers are kind and sons are grateful; and brothers and sisters are respectful to each other. In this idealized society, people get old along with the rhythm of four seasons and there is no need for them to leave their countries. They are happy to forget the existence of the emperor. However, when the North Node conjoins with Pluto, and when we add in the impact of the Saros Series 137 eclipse, we can see an indication that peace and tranquility was not likely to continue. The next eclipse in Gemini also foretold how the change came and spread rapidly.

NOV. 3, 1641, LATE MING DYNASTY RULED BY CHONG-ZHEN EMPEROR

This is the first eclipse in Saros Series 137 whose path crosses China, during the Ming Dynasty, which only ruled a smaller area from south of Mongolia and the east of the Tibetan Plateau. The eclipse path went through middle of this territory.

This solar eclipse was in the 8th house. Mercury, Uranus and the North Node were in Scorpio, whereas Pluto was in a wide conjunction with the IC. Mercury and Uranus offer unsettling news and Pluto coming



to the IC speaks to domestic upheaval.

These together are not good news for the emperor.

In this year, a warlord Li, Zicheng sacked Luoyang City (in today's Henan Province), and another warlord Zhang, Xianzhong occupied Xiangyang City (in today's Hubei Province). They became local kings and split the country into two parts, the Shun dynasty and Xi dynasty. At the same time, the Qing army had occupied Jingzhou (in today's Liaoning Province), and was pushing towards Beijing. Three years later, the Ming Dynasty, the last dynasty established by "Han People" was in collapse, and the Qing army also conquered other smaller nations established by the previous two warlords, and forged the Great Qing dynasty.

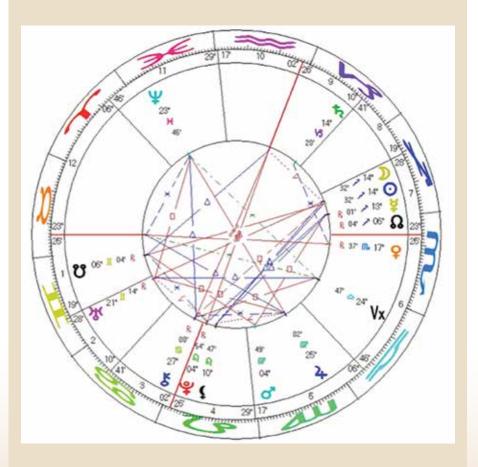
DEC. 6, 1695, THE QING DYNASTY RULED BY EMPEROR KANGXI

In the chart of the 1695 eclipse, Mercury and the North Node are in Sagittarius in the 7th house, and both Sagittarius and the 7th house are related to foreign affairs. In this year, the Emperor Kangxi was confronted with problems from Mongolia, Tibet and East Turkestan, all areas on the path of the eclipse. Mars, the warrior, is also in playing the chart. He squares the nodes to reveal the possibility of war.

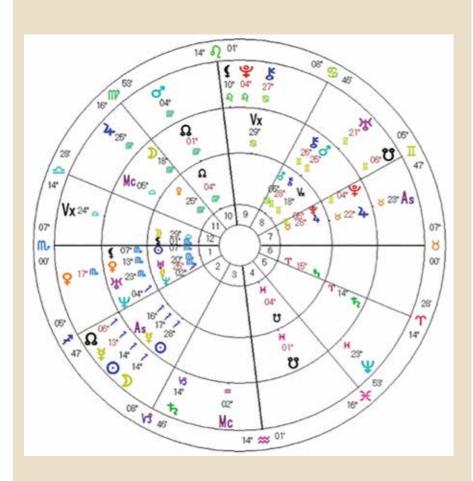
Here we have the chart of the Qing Dynasty and its secondary progressions, as well as the same eclipse chart. At that time, East Turkestan was split



Eclipse path of 1695



Eclipse chart of 1695



Tri-wheel Qing Dynastry in 1644 chart, progressed Dynasty in December 6, 1695, and the eclipse chart for December 6, 1695

into the "Black Mountain Party" and the "White Mountain Party." The defeated White Mountain Party sent people to seek help from Tibetan Dalai Lama, who sent letters seeking help from Galdan, the prince of Mongolia. Galdan then sent an army to East Turkestan and captured the King, restoring the status of White Mountain Party. Galdan spread his power gradually. In 1688, he led an army and annexed some small nations in the north of the Gobi Desert, with the intention to be allied with Russia in the hopes of conquering Eurasia and to restore the glory of the Mongol Empire.

In 1690, the defeated nations ran to the Great Wall to seek help from the Qing Dynasty, but the Galdan also went behind these nations. The Emperor Kangxi went up north to fight back and the two armies were engaged in northern Beijing. Emperor Kangxi won the war and annexed East Mongolia into the bargain. In 1695 and 1697, Galdan was trying to fight back, but the Qing Dynasty won both wars again. These events gave the Qing Dynasty the opportunity to annex Tibet and East Turkestan, changing the relationship between China and Central Asia.

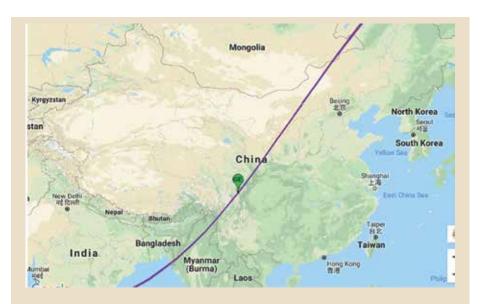
If we compare the natal charts of the Qing Dynasty, the 1690 eclipse chart and the secondary progressions of the Dynasty chart, we can see that the solar eclipse was joined with the ASC of the progressed chart and the progressed Mercury was involved as well. Mercury means alliance, and Sagittarius

means expansion, which together indicates the alliance between Mongolia, Tibet and East Turkestan. These wars were also within the path of the solar eclipse. Just as Bill Meridian points out, "...the economic, military, or ideological practices that are utilized within the path or grouping of paths tend to work best with the shadows of the eclipses [1]."

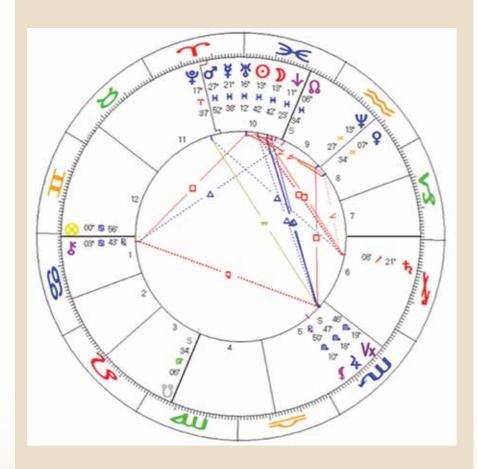
MARCH 4, 1840, THE QING DYNASTY RULED BY DAOGUANG EMPEROR

The 1840 eclipse occurred very close to Uranus, Mercury and Mars in Pisces in the 10th house. These brought forth the crisis about marine, drug and the leadership of the emperor. During the period from Sep. 04, 1839 to Aug. 29, 1842, the England launched First Anglo-Chinese War in order to open the market of selling opium. The war forced the Qing Dynasty to sign "Treaty of Nanking," under which China had to open all commercial ports along the seashore and had Hong Kong ceded. It brought the end of status of cut-off in the past 200 years, and it was the very beginning of the modernization in Chinese society.

The square between Mercury and Saturn meant the restriction from the treaty. Also, the quincunx between Venus and south node as well as Jupiter and Pluto were symbolized of huge financial loss. The trine between Jupiter and Uranus showed a powerful and extensive change in the rulership of the Qing Dynasty. Just as the historian



Eclipse path of March 4, 1840



Saros 137, March 4, 1840, Beijing

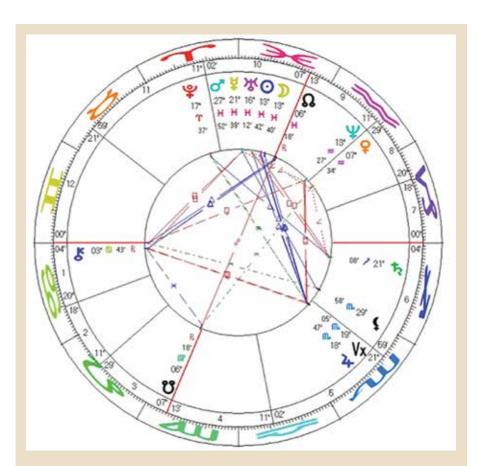
Tang, Degang commented: "Before the war, there was only one change in 1000 years, but after the war, there were 1000 changes a day."

In the tri-wheels with the natal chart, progressed and the eclipse charts (located on this page), the transit of Neptune is in conjunction with its IC, the transit of Pluto is in conjunction with natal Saturn in the sixth house and eclipse Mars opposes natal Venus. Meanwhile, the eclipse Saturn was conjoins the progressed Moon in the second house. Saturn on the Moon, especiallin the second house of resources, is a sure sign of belt tightening and Pluto just intensifies the situation. Values would likely shift and not always for the better.

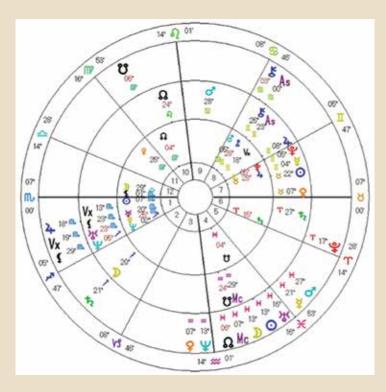
APRIL 06, 1894, QING DYNASTY RULED BY GUANXIU EMPEROR

The 1894 eclipse was conjoins the North Node around the Aries MC, a pioneering indicator where leadership is concerned. This year, the first Sino-Japanese War broke out. Japan became stronger after the Meiji Restoration, and started to show its ambition toward countries nearby. In this war, the Qing Dynasty was defeated again and was forced to sign the "Treaty of Shimonoseki" ceding Taiwan, Peng-Hu and Liaodong Peninsula to Japan plus giving it "Most Favored Nation Treatment" and a huge amount of compensation.

This war led a wave in which intellectuals started to heavily criticize the old governmental system for the first time, eyes



Eclipse chart of March 4, 1840



Tri-wheel Qing Dynastry chart, progressed Dynasty, and the eclipse charts

and minds looked toward Western civilization for new ideas. The most representative activity was the "Hundred Days' Reform" led by Kang, Youwei, and the reform was supported by Emperor Guanxiu himself and some high level officials. However, the reform activity failed soon due to the stubbornness and dogmatism of Kang, Youwei. Despite this failure, the reform still stirred up great waves and intellectuals all over the nation started uniting with each other discussing the future of the nation, including the "Revive China Society" founded by Dr. Sun, Yatsen. In the eclipse chart, the South Node, Mars and the Neptune / Pluto conjunction form a grand trine, which represents the quick spread of the new ideas. However, because the trine is in air, the spread did not get strongly embedded. Actually the so called "Western Civilization" during that period was wrongly recognized due to poor translation, and those intellectuals misunderstood and put their own interpretation on things.

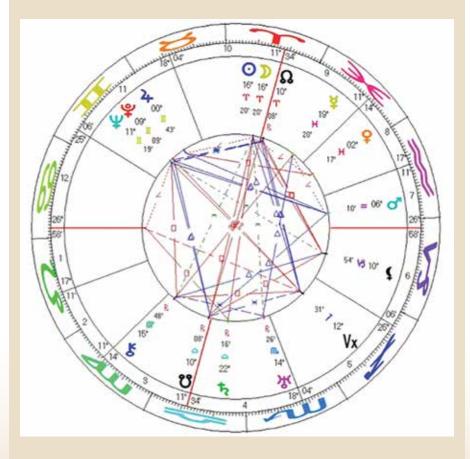
In the 1894 eclipse chart,
Mars opposes the progressed
ASC, Saturn was opposes the
progressed MC, and the eclipse
Jupiter squares progressed Mars,
agitating the already shaken
Empire. The Qing Dynasty finally
collapsed within 20 years.

MAY 09, 1948, THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA

This 1948 eclipse squares Saturn and Pluto. Mercury also squares Mars. In 1945, after



Eclipse path of April 6, 1894

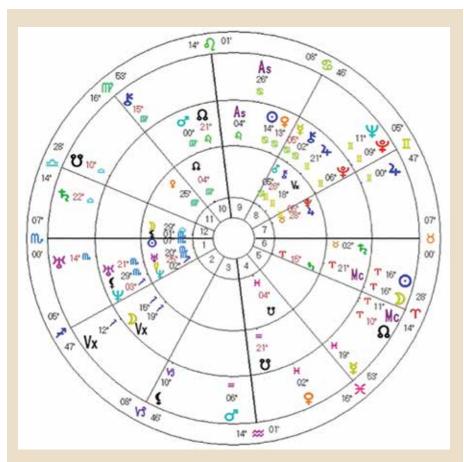


Eclipse chart of April 6, 1894

World War II, while Kuomingtang representing nations of Allies to take over Taiwan from Japan, the Chinese Communist Party was pushing toward the leadership of the nation, and 1948 was the year when Chinese Communist Party changed from the defensive to the offensive. The eclipse is again in the tenth house, foreshadowing a crisis of leadership. In Oct. 01, 1949, People's Republic of China(PRC) was established, and Kuomingtang ran to Taiwan and established its authority with the name of Republic of China(ROC). The eclipse path went through this area exactly. The political situation between China and Taiwan continues to be complicated and controversial. Meanwhile, the Korean Peninsula has been separated since 1948, when the eclipse path also went through the Peninsula.

MAY 20, 1966

The eclipse North Node, Mars and Mercury are all in the 7th, pointing to international activity. After the death of Joseph Stalin in 1953, Nikita Khrushchev became the secretary-general of Soviet Communist Party, and jeopardized its relation with China. These two countries couldn't reach an agreement on the issue of nuclear weapons, so Khrushchev stopped military cooperation with China. Khrushchev also publicly criticized Stalin's management, which was adopted by Mao, Zhe-Dong at that time. Isolated by international society, and "Great Leap Forward Policy" being criticized by the enmity in



Tri-wheel Qing Dynastry in 1644 chart, progressed Dynasty in April 6, 1894, and the eclipse chart for April 6, 1894



Eclipse path of May 9, 1948

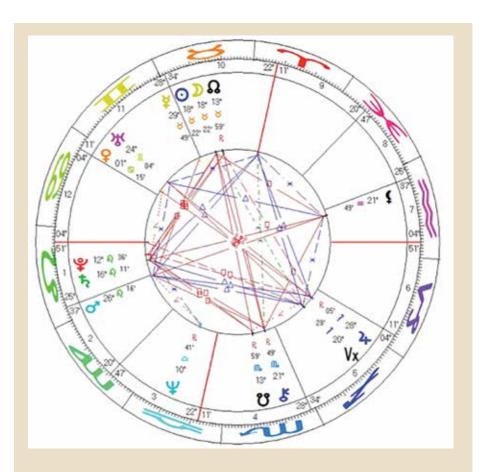
the nation, Mao announced his "May 16 Notification," confirming his standpoint as an extreme nationalist and eliminating his enemies all at once with the "Cultural Revolution." The eclipse occurred four days after this announcement.

Bill Meridian in his book The Predictive Power of Eclipse Paths quoted Charles Jayne, "Events taking place in the 7-10 days before an eclipse work out in an unexpected fashion."iii The eclipse fell in a fixed sign and this revolution did turn out to be a long-term catastrophe. It was planned originally as an action to eliminate Mao's enemies, but turned out to be 10-year reign of destruction. From buildings and antiques to the sense of morals, all symbols of traditional culture were destroyed, which causing deep and lasting impact on the whole of Chinese society.

In the natal chart of the People's Republic of China (PRC), the eclipse falls in the fourth house square the PRC progressed Moon. Progressed Mars opposes the progressed ASC while Uranus and Pluto exactly conjoin progressed Saturn. Mars suggests a cutting away of the foundations of the history. Mercury joins Mars forming an opposition to Neptune close to the MC. All of these reveal that the conflicts and opposition were from the fictional (Neptune) propaganda.

JUN 21, 2020

The 2020 eclipse will happen at the summer solstice, in tight conjunction with the North



Eclipse chart of May 9, 1948



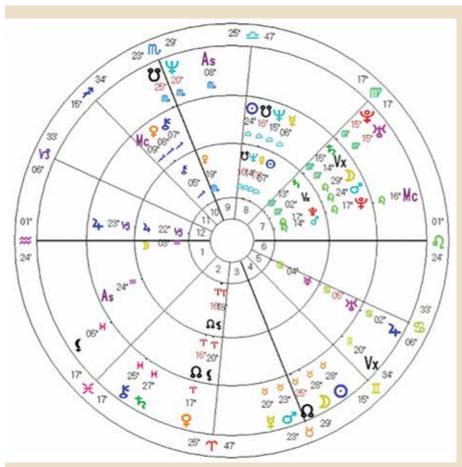
Eclipse path of May 20, 1966

Node straddling the ninth house cusp. International transactions and communications are emphasized. Judging from the path of the eclipse, all of the South China Sea and the Indian Ocean will be included.

In the natal chart of PRC, the eclipse falls in the fifth house forming a quincunx with the natal ASC, natal Moon, progressed Jupiter as well as eclipse Saturn. These may indicate frustrated expansion. The eclipse, North Node and progressed Mercury in Sagittarius are in close opposition, which may also show some sophisticated international disputes. If we put the house ruled by Mercury into the mix, these disputes may be in connection with investment and debt. Jupiter together with Pluto is in the twelfth house. Some hidden issues may explode and bringing upheaval and chaos, perhaps destruction as well.

Progressed Saturn in the eighth house opposing to eclipse Neptune in the second house, and progressed Mars eclipse Mars. These all point to serious financial stakes and a money crisis.

To sum up, Saros Series 137 seems to have close connection with tremendous change of the social models used by China over the millenia. The history also shows that the change often come along with Plutonian destruction and pain. Viewing from the coming eclipse in 2020, we may not expect a big threat to the ruler of China but



Tri-wheel Peoples Republic of China (PRC), progressed PRC in May 20, 1966, and the eclipse chart for May 20, 1966Peoples Republic of China - October 1, 1949 15:00 hours (CCT), Beijing, China



Eclipse path of June 21, 2020

there are indications of a great shakeup to the relationship of China with international society, especially in terms of financial interactions.

NOTES:

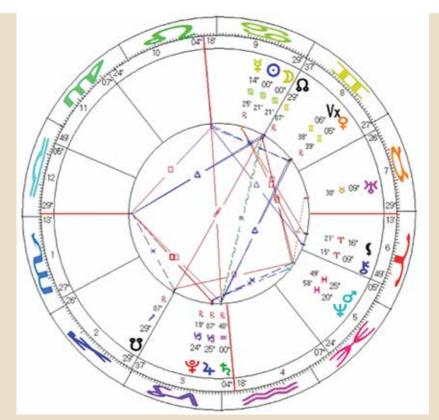
- [1] The Predictive Power of Eclipse Paths by Bill Meridian, Cycles Research Publications, 2010, p.100
- [2] The Predictive Power of Eclipse Paths by Bill Meridian, Cycles Research Publications, 2010, p.9
- *All information and pictures of eclipses are from website: https://eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov/SEcat5/SE-0299--0200.html

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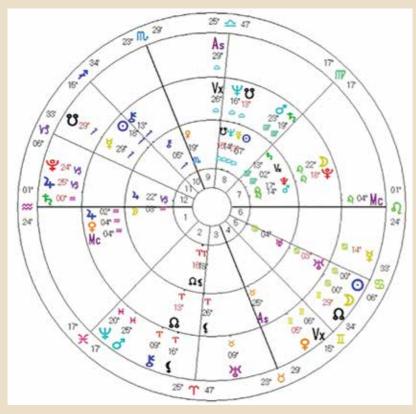
- i https://eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov/ SEsaros/SEsaros137.html
- " Brady, Bernadette. 1992. The Eagle and the Lark a Textbook of Predictive Astrology. Maine, USA: Samuel Weisers. p.219.
- iii Meridian, Bill. 2010. The Predictive Poser of Eclipse Paths, New York, USA: Cycles Research Publications

BIOGRAPHY: Ming-Hsun

Chang, is a teacher, editor and freelancer. She has started her journey in Astrology in 2000. Now she is a member of the NCGR Taiwan chapter. Besides exploring her personal universe with astrology, she also has set her mind on mundane astrology, focusing on the relationship between astrology, history and collective social change. She is an astrological consultant and teacher in Taiwan.



Eclipse chart of June 21, 2020



Tri-wheel Peoples Republic of China (PRC), progressed PRC in June 21, 2020, and the eclipse chart for June 21, 2020

IS THERE A SEASON FOR EARTHQUAKES?

AN ANALYSIS OF A 92-YEAR YEAR DISTRIBUTION OF MAGNITUDE 7+ WORLDWIDE EARTHQUAKES

BY JOHN STEPHAN DELAPP



ABSTRACT

The hypothesis of this paper is to suggest that the way data is categorized and presented can make a significant difference in the conclusions that can be drawn from those data.

INTRODUCTION

Suddenly, without warning and without mercy, chaos, destruction and death. A massive telluric upheaval that we know as an earthquake, has struck. The lucky ones die immediately. Trapped survivors linger in pain, darkness and despair for days until they slowly expire from their injuries and thirst. Rescuers frantically search the rubble as hope fades and the stench of death fills the air.

Of the many so called "acts of god" endured by man, the earthquake is by far the cruelest one of them all. If Gods' Will "be done in earth as it is in heaven" can we not search the heavens

and know what is to come? Can earthquakes be predicted? Is there a season for earthquakes?

A statement by the United States Geological Survey (USGS):

"There is no such thing as "earthquake weather". Statistically, there is approximately an equal distribution of earthquakes in cold weather, hot weather, rainy weather, etc. Very large low-pressure changes associated with major storm systems (typhoons, hurricanes, etc.) are known to trigger episodes of fault slip (slow earthquakes) in the Earth's crust and may also play a role in triggering some damaging earthquakes. However, the numbers are small and are not statistically significant." (Contributed by Dr. Malcolm Johnston) (1)

It was the tragic January 2010 Haitian earthquake that challenged me to investigate this phenomenon. For years I had been observing tropical cyclones and other severe weather and it seemed to me that from time to time earthquakes and hurricanes appeared in the news headlines simultaneously. In the course of my observations, I believe I have learned a few things since then, one of which I would like to share with you now.

STUDY PLAN

The hypothesis of this paper is that the traditional way scientific data is organized and recorded, by calendar month, may obfuscate natural patterns existing in those data.

What I have done is to download from the USGS Earthquake Catalogue the 1,205 magnitude 7.0+ earthquakes that have occurred over the 92-year time span of 1925 thru 2016. I then organized this data according to three treatments: First, I summed the data in the traditional manner of categorizing by Calendar Month, as is the usual method of scientific institutions. Next, I arranged the same data according to the Signs of the

Zodiac, from approximately the 21(st) of one month to approximately the 21(st) of the next month. Lastly, as a control group, I split the Zodiac by categorizing the data from approximately the 5(th) of one month to approximately the 5(th) of the next. I then applied the basic statistical procedures of graphically illustrating the obtained distributions and then analyzing the same by means of the Chi-square Goodness of Fit (2) and Binomial Distribution (3) tests. Specific details of the variables and tests are presented in an appendix.

A WORD ABOUT SIGNIFICANCE LEVELS (P)

The Significance Level (p) that a researcher chooses as the Critical Value upon which to measure the success/failure (i.e. the presence of 'evidence') of a statistical test is the probability of the obtained sample results, assuming the 'null hypothesis" is true. It is the level of chance he/she is willing to take that he or she is correctly rejecting the 'null hypothesis', and that his or her research hypothesis may be correct. Also, the Significance Level is what the audience and other researchers consider when reviewing the test and may thereby decide for themselves if the information is credible, valid or useful.

Significance Levels are expressed as a probability (p), in decimal form ranging from 0.0 (no chance) to 1.0 (certainly chance), which is the possibility that an event occurred by

normal sampling variation or mere 'random chance'.

Significance Levels are not set in stone but are situational, the most common being:

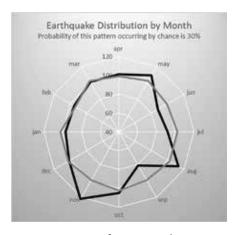
- (p) = .10 which is 10% or1 chance in 10 (moderate significance)
- (p) = .05 which is 5% or1 chance in 20 (most commonly accepted level)
- (p) = .01 which is 1% or 1 chance in 100 (very high significance level)

Significance Levels for quantitative tests in the physical sciences are often quite strict: (p) .05 or (p) .01. Levels for qualitative tests in the social sciences (like astrology) are more relaxed and a (p) of .10 is considered moderately significant.(4)

Since our experiments will be comparisons of frequencies distributed by qualitative/categorical variables, I elect to choose a Critical Value of less than or equal to (p) = .10, a moderate Significance Level, as evidence of astrological influence upon this sample of earthquake activity.

Treatment One: By Calendar Month

Chart One (next column) graphically displays the distribution by Calendar Month of 1,205 M7.0+ earthquakes (EQ's) occurring during the years 1925 thru 2016. The Chisquare Goodness of Fit test returns a probability of (p) = 0.30, indicating that a similar pattern could probably occur



30 times out of 100 random samples, or, another way, a 30% probability that this pattern is the result of random chance, much beyond the commonly accepted Significance Levels. Notice that the black distribution line roughly follows the gray expected averages line, with just two sharp departures for September and November.

Month (#eq)	(p)
Apr (101)	0.44
May (109)	0.27
Jun (88)	0.14
Jul (92)	0.16
Aug (113)	0.15
Sep (81)	0.04
Oct (105)	0.42
Nov (122)	0.01
Dec (101)	0.46
Jan (97)	0.31
Feb (95)	0.45
Mar (101)	0.46

Binomial (p)

Table One (above) is a summary of (one-tailed) probabilities (5) obtained by means of a Binomial Distribution test. As indicated by the graph, the fewer than expected EQ's in September has a Significance

Level of (p) =.04, and the higher than expected EQ's for November has a Significance Level of (p) =.01, both of which are each considered highly significant.

However, one must keep in mind that with an overall Chisquare of a 30% likelihood that this earthquake distribution pattern occurred by random sampling variation, the results from a second series of 12 Binomial tests performed on that same 1,205 EQ data set does increase the chance of obtaining a (p) less than .05 result for at least one of the 12 categories (Signs) tested. This is the so called 'Bonferroni' effect.

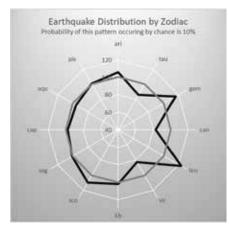
To use a metaphor, that's like taking 12 shots at a *large* target that is *up close*, increasing your chances of a 'Bulls@Eye'.

When viewed in this traditional way, the 'null hypothesis' position maintained by the USGS ("There is no such thing as earthquake weather") seems to be supported.

TREATMENT TWO: BY SIGNS OF THE ZODIAC

A very different and distinct pattern emerges when the same 1,205 EQ's are categorized by the Signs of the Zodiac. This distribution displays both symmetry and cohesiveness.

The Chi-square test returns a probability of (p) = .10, a moderate but still significant result, suggesting that a similar pattern would emerge only 10 times out of 100 random samples, or, only a



10% likelihood of this result occurring by random chance, significantly different than the Monthly categories. Also notice the black distribution line only follows the grey expected averages line for 5 of the 12 Signs with sharp departures of 5 Signs along the rest of the wheel, distinctly different than the Monthly distribution.

ZODIAC (#EQ)	(P)
ARI (106)	0.31
TAU (86)	0.08
GEM (116)	0.06
CAN (83)	0.04
LEO (123)	0.01
VIR (83)	0.04
LIB (102)	0.46
SCO (110)	0.18
SAG (101)	0.50
CAP (98)	0.42
AQU (96)	0.34
PIS (101)	0.50

Furthermore, when each of the 12 categories (Signs) are tested against the Binomial distribution, the Zodiac Signs produce *five* significant departures from the expected average, versus only *two* from the Monthly distribution. The

Binomial summary of Table Two contains *five* results ranging from moderate to highly significant and given the low overall Chi-square of (p).10 for this earthquake pattern of distribution, these results obtain a certain credibility that the Monthly distribution does not.

Revisiting the previous metaphor, the 'Zodiac target' is smaller, farther away, and we still get *five* Bulls@Eyes out of 12 shots.

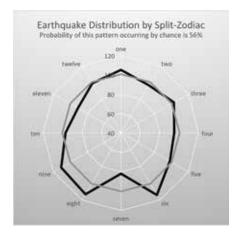
In my opinion, when this sample is categorized by Zodiac Sign, the result does credibly challenge the USGS position that "the numbers are small and are not statistically significant".

TREATMENT THREE: BY SPLIT-ZODIAC

Lastly, we have Chart Three (next page) that graphically demonstrates what happens when we neutralize the assumed influence of the Zodiac in a control group.

Keep in mind that each of the Monthly categories we have observed contain 2/3's of one Sign and 1/3 of the next, potentially skewing a result in favor of the Sign with the larger proportion of days.

If we dilute the influence of the Zodiac more than the 2/3 – 1/3 proportion of the Monthly categories, we get a very different result. When a control group of 12 categories is created by 'splitting' the influence of the Zodiac in half and spreading the distribution



of earthquakes evenly into those neutralized categories, the Chi-square test returns a very high probability value of (p)=.56, meaning 56 out of 100 random samples would produce a pattern like this one, or, that there is a 56% likelihood that this distribution is the result of random chance.

SPLT-ZOD (#EQ)	(P)
ONE (105)	0.34
TWO (97)	0.38
THREE (103)	0.42
FOUR (95)	0.31
FIVE (98)	0.42
SIX (114)	0.09
SEVEN (82)	0.03
EIGHT (113)	0.11
NINE (111)	0.16
TEN (97)	0.38
ELEVEN (91)	0.18
TWELVE (99)	0.46

Finally, with such a high probability of random chance for this distribution (.56), the two significant Binomial results that were obtained (Table Three) are virtually meaningless, completely the result of random sampling variation.

Again, with the metaphor: a huge target well within arms' length reach.

CONCLUSION

In summary, we have three distributions to consider, in the order of their Significance Levels:

- (p) = .10 Signs of the Zodiac (with *five* significant categories)
- (p) = .30 Calendar Months (with *two* significant categories)
- (p) = .56 Split Zodiac Control (with *two* significant categories)

Clearly, the Signs of the Zodiac distribution is the least likely to have occurred by chance and with *five* of the 12 categories (Signs) showing significant (one-tailed) Binomial probabilities (i.e. *five* Bulls@ Eyes), the evidence in this study supports the hypothesis that categorizing by Signs of the Zodiac presents the

clearest picture of this natural phenomena upon which to conduct our investigations.

However, I believe the most significant find in this study is the 'effect' on each distribution as the actual earthquakes are categorized and re-categorized, first as an all Zodiac distribution, then as a Calendar Month (2/3-1/3 Zodiac) distribution, and lastly by splitting the Zodiac in half in order to minimize its influence as much as is possible while maintaining the integrity of the earthquake data occurring in their natural sequence of time.

The probability then jumps from a low 10% for the earthquake pattern by Zodiac Signs to a high of 56% for the non-Zodiac Signs control group (about the same probability as a coin flip), suggesting evidence for the influence of the Signs of the Zodiac on earthquake activity.

So, does this mean that we can forecast earthquakes with Sun

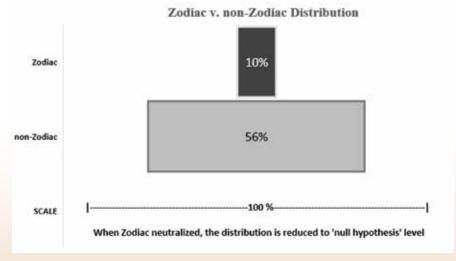


Chart 4

Sign Astrology? No, of course not. What it does mean is that we can know when and where to look in our research of cause and effect. For example, in the 92 years of our sample the faster planets have been around the wheel many times. Pluto and Neptune have not, however, and Uranus only once. Pluto has spent the most time in those Signs showing the greatest significance, so perhaps these slow movers should be the basis of our research.

Oh, and there is one other thing: There does seem to be a season for earthquakes. In this study, the number of significant earthquakes during Cancer and Virgo were 83 but the number jumps 50% to 123 quakes during Leo so the odds of experiencing a significant earthquake during Leo go up considerably.

So, if you have business in a seismologically active part of the world, you might want to skip the trip during Gemini and Leo and go in the months of Cancer or Virgo instead!

That's all I have for now. Thank you for your kind attention.

EPILOGUE: AN EARTHQUAKE PREDICTION

I do believe that earthquakes, or rather, the timing of them, can be predicted with some specificity, as I have had some success with this in the past. As of the date of submission of this paper to NCGR Publications, June 27, 2018, there have been no M7+ earthquakes since the last eclipse cycle of Jan/

Feb 2018. Just on the horizon, I see a number of extreme astronomical events due to occur this summer: A series of eclipses that coincide with the perigee/apogee cycles, and Mars, out of bounds in an extreme southern declination. is aligned with the Lunar Nodes and will be semi-sextile/ square to the forming Saturn/ Uranus trine in Taurus and Capricorn. So, on the basis of that information, I will take an educated guess that at least one, and probably another, M7+ earthquake will occur on any of the following dates, +/- a day or two:

- July 13, 2018
- July 19, 2018
- July 27, 2018
- August 1, 2018
- August 10, 2018
- August 20, 2018

BINOMIAL DISTRIBUTION CALCULATOR (6)

N	K	Р	Q
6	1	.0359	0.964

The probability of exactly 1 (K) out of 6 (n) is p = .179

So, it looks like I have about an 18% chance of a successful prediction. Time will tell.

0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

AUGUST 26, 2018 ADDENDUM TO "IS THERE A SEASON FOR EARTHQUAKES?"

THE RESULTS OF THE "EPILOGUE EARTHQUAKE PREDICTION"

In a June 2018 article (submitted to NCGR on June 27, 2018) on the distribution of earthquakes, I included an "educated guess" that at least one M7+ earthquake would strike during an upcoming July/August Eclipse Cycle and posted a series of dates that I ascertained earthquake activity was most likely to occur.

From the "Epilogue: An Earthquake Prediction"

".... I see a number of extreme astronomical events due to occur this summer: A series of eclipses that coincide with the perigee/apogee cycles, and Mars, out of bounds in an extreme southern declination, is aligned with the Lunar Nodes and will be semi-sextile/square to the forming Saturn/Uranus trine in Taurus and Capricorn. So, on the basis of that information, I will take an educated quess that at least one, and probably another, M7+ earthquake will occur on any of the following dates,

7/13; 7/19; 7/27; 8/1; 8/10; 8/20; +/- a day or two".

(Summer Eclipse Cycle 2018)

This forecast was very successful: First one large earthquake (a M8.2 EQ) and then another (a M7.3 EQ) occurred each within one day of Target Date 8/20.

The average frequency for M8+ EQ's is .002 per day and that of M7+ is .0359. The probability of these independent events jointly occurring within a certain number of trials is obtained by multiplying their respective frequencies:

p(M8+EQ, M7+EQ) = .002 x.0359 = .0000718

A total number of trials is determined in this way:

6 Target Dates +/-2 days = 6 Targets Zones of 5 days each = 30 'Independent Trials'.

The Binomial probability of this joint occurrence is here in Table 5:

(p)= .002, or in other words, about 2 chances in 1,000. (from MS Excel)

Also worthy of note is that these large quakes occurred in the Zodiac Sign of Leo which has been emphasized in the main article.

Finally, there was an exceptional amount of smaller M6+EQ activity that also occurred on the forecast Target Dates. There were multiple EQ's (Hits) on 5 of the 6 Target Dates for a Hit Rate of 83%, and half of those quakes seemed to have been associated with the Eclipses, the other half with exceptionally strong planetary influences in late August. I hope to present in a future article.

Conclusion: While this is just a single test, the evidence strongly supports the presence of potent astrological influences on earthquake activity.

BINOM.DIST Number_s 1 1 1 Trials 1 30 = 30 Probability_s .0000718 1 = 0.0000718 Cumulative false = FALSE = 0.002149519

Table 5

APPENDIX

In order to avoid a boring redundancy, I will include just the specific details of the variables and statistical tests for the Earthquake Distribution by Signs of the Zodiac.

EQ Frequency:

M7+ (1925-2016)

92yrs x 365.25= 33,603 days in Population Space

1205 eq ÷ 33,603 days = (p) 0.03585 M 7+ EQ per day

M8+ (1901-2016) (for addendum)

116yrs x 365.25 = 42,369 days

93 eq ÷ 42,369 days = (p) 0.00219 M8+ EQ per day

<u>Variables for Zodiac / Split</u> Zodiac Control

 $365.25 \div 12 \text{ signs} = 30.4 \text{ days}$ per sign

92yrs x 30.4=2800.25 days per sign

(p) .03585 x 2800.25 days per sign = 100.4 expected

Variables for Calendar Months

30 Day Months

92yrs x 30 =2760 days per month

(p) .03585 x 2760 days per month = 99.0 expected

31 Day Months

92yrs x 31 = 2852 days per month

(p) .03585 x 2852 days per month = 102.3 expected

February Months

92yrs x 28.25 = 2599 days per month

(p) .03585 x 2599 days per month = 93.3 expected

CHI-SQUARE GOODNESS OF FIT

Degrees of Freedom (*Table 6 below*)

Degrees of Freedom (df) is a mathematical concept and a parameter that is applied to the formulas of several different statistical tests in order to determine (p), the critical value used to decide whether or not to reject a null hypothesis. The most common tests that require (df) are: The Chi-square Goodness of Fit and Chi-square Test for Independence distribution, the Student's 't' distribution and ANOVA's 'F' distribution.

The (df) concept is as difficult to explain as it is to understand, but the bottom line is that

(df) is an adjustment, a 'fine tuning', of the sample size of a distribution to compensate for the tendency of a statistical test to under-estimate that distribution's critical value, (p). Note: (n) stands for sample size, (k) stands for categories.

The number of Degrees of Freedom are determined differently for each of the applicable tests employed. For a quantitative distribution, the usual formula for (df) is the sample size minus one: df = (n-1). For qualitative distributions, it is the number of categories minus one: df = (k-1)

In the case of a distribution by 12 astrological signs, each sign is a separate category, and the (df) for the Chisquare Goodness of fit Test is determined in this way: (df) = (k-1) = (12-1) = 11.

Included in the next two columns is a Chi-square Critical Values Table from a typical statistic's textbook. As seen here in Table 7. (7)

TABLE 6: CHI-SQUARE CRITICAL VALUES TABLE W/ DEGREES OF FREEDOM

ZODIAC	OBSERVED	EXPECTED	DIFFERENCE	DIFF ² ÷ EXPECTED	
			DIFF ²		
ARI	106	100.4	5.6	31.36	0.31
TAU	86	100.4	-14.4	207.36	2.07
GEM	116	100.4	15.6	243.36	2.42
CAN	83	100.4	-17.4	302.76	3.02
LEO	123	100.4	22.6	510.76	5.09
VIR	83	100.4	-17.4	302.76	3.02
LIB	102	100.4	1.6	2.56	0.03
SCO	110	100.4	9.6	92.16	0.92
SAG	101	100.4	0.6	0.36	0.00
CAP	98	100.4	-2.4	5.76	0.06
AQU	96	100.4	-4.4	19.36	0.19
PIS	101	100.4	0.6	0.36	0.00
TOTALS	1205	1205		CHI-SQR =	17.12
			DEG OF FREEDOM		11
				(P) =	0.10

Table 7: Chi-square Critical Values Table w/ Degrees of Freedom

Table 4 \(\chi^2\) Critical Values

(Table entry is the point χ^2 with given probability p lying above it.)



12000

25	.25	.20	.15	.70	.05	.025	.02	.01	.005	.0025	.001	.0005
1	1.32	1.64	2.07	2.71	3.84	5.02	5.41	6.63	7.88	- 9.14	10.83	12.12
2	2.77	3.22	3.79	4.61	5.99	7.38	7.82	9.21	10.60	11.98	13.82	15.20
3	4.11	4.64	5.32	6.25	7.81	9.35	9.84	11.34	12.84	14.32	16.27	17.73
4	5.39	5.99	6.74	7.78	9.49	. 11.14	11.67	13.28	14.86	16.42	18.47	20.00
5	6.63	7.29	8.12	9.24	11.07	12.83	13.39	15.09	16.75	18.39	20.51	22.11
6	7.84	8.56	9.45	10.64	12.59	14,45	15.03	16.81	18.55	20.25	22.46	24.10
7	9.04	9.80	10.75	12.02	14.07	16.01	16.62	18.48	20.28	22.04	24.32	26.02
8	10.22	11.03	12.03	13.36	15.51	17.53	18,17	20.09	21,95	23.77	26.12	27.87
9	11.39	12.24	13.29	14.68	16.92	19.02	19.68	21.67	23.59	25.46	27.88	29.67
10	12.55	13,44	14.53	15.99	18.31	20.48	21.16	23.21	25.19	27.11	29.59	31.42
48	13.70	14.63	15.77	1726	19.68	21.92	22.62	24.72	26,76	28.73	31.26	33.14
12	14.85	15.81	16.99	18.55	21.03	23.34	24.05	26.22	28.30	30.32	32.91	34.82
13	15.98	16.98	18.20	19.81	22.36	24.74	25.47	27.69	29.82	31.88	34.53	36.48
14	17.12	18.15	19.41	21.06	23.68	26.12	26.87	29.14	31.32	33.43	36.12	38.11
15	18.25	19.31	20.60	22.31	25.00	27.49	28.26	30.58	32.80	34.95	37.70	39.72
16	19.37	20.47	21.79	23.54	26.30	28.85	29.63	32.00	34.27	36.46	39.25	41.31
17	20.49	21.61	22.98	24.77	27.59	30.19	31.00	33.41	35.72	37.95	40.79	42.88
18	21.60	22.76	24.16	25.99	28.87	31.53	32.35	34.81	37.16	39.42	42.31	44.43
19	22.72	23.90	25.33	27.20	30.14	32.85	33.69	36.19	38.58	40.88	43.82	45.97
20	23.83	25.04	26.50	28.41	31.41	34.17	35.02	37.57	40.00	42.34	45.31	47.50
21	24.93	26.17	27.66	29.62	32.67	35.48	36.34	38.93	41.40	43.78	46.80	49.01
22	26.04	27.30	28.82	18.08	33.92	36.78	37.66	40.29	42.80	45.20	48.27	50.51
23	27.14	28.43	29.98	32.01	35.17	38.08	38.97	41.64	44.18	46.62	49.73	52.00
24	28.24	29.55	31.13	33.20	36.42	39.36	40.27	42.98	45.56	48.03	51.18	53.48
25	29.34	30.68	32.28	34.38	37.65	40.65	41.57	44.31	46.93	49.44	52.62	54.95
26	30.43	31.79	33.43	35.56	38.89	41.92	42.86	45.64	48.29	50.83	54.05	56.41
27	31.53	32.91	34.57	36.74	40.11	43.19	44.14	46.96	49.64	52.22	55.48	57.86
28	32.62	34.03	35.71	37.92	41.34	44.46	45.42	48.28	50.99	53.59	56.89	59.30
29	33.71	35.14	36.85	39.09	42.56	45.72	46.69	49.59	52.34	54.97	58.30	60.73
30	34.80	36.25	37.99	40.26	43.77	46.98	47.96	50.89	53.67	56.33	59.70	62.16
40	45.62	47:27	49.24	51.81	55,76	59.34	60.44	63.69	66.77	69.70	73.40	76.09
50	56.33	58.16	60.35	63.17	6750	71.42	72.61	76.15	79.49	82.66	86.66	89.56
60	66.98	68.97	71.34	74.40	79.08	83.30	84.58	88.38	91.95	95.34	89.61	102.7
80	88.13	90.41	93.11	96.58	101.9	106.6	108.1	112.3	116.3	120.1	124.8	128.3
100	109,1	111.7	114.7	118.5	124.3	129.6	131.1	135.8	140.2	144.3	149.4	153.2

Table 8: Binomial Distribution (One-Tailed) Probabilities

ZODIAC	# DAYS	# EARTH-	FREQUENCY	(P)
		QUAKES		
ARI	2800.25	106	0.0359	0.31
TAU	2800.25	86	0.0359	0.08
GEM	2800.25	116	0.0359	0.06
CAN	2800.25	83	0.0359	0.04
LEO	2800.25	123	0.0359	0.01
VIR	2800.25	83	0.0359	0.04
LIB	2800.25	102	0.0359	0.46
SCO	2800.25	110	0.0359	0.18
SAG	2800.25	101	0.0359	0.50
CAP	2800.25	98	0.0359	0.42
AQU	2800.25	96	0.0359	0.34
PIS	2800.25	101	0.0359	0.50
	33,603	1,205		

Highlighted are the parameters of the Chi-square test of the Earthquake/Zodiac distribution we have examined:

$$(df) = 11$$

Chi-square value = 17.12

$$(p) = .10.$$

Table 8 follows Table 7 in the next columns to show the showing the binomial distribution (one-tailed) probabilities

REFERENCES / RESOURCES

- (1) https://www.usgs.gov/faqs/ there-earthquake-weather?qtnews_science_products=0#qtnews_science_products
- (2) Microsoft Excel Spreadsheet Chi-sqr Test
- (3) http://www.socscistatistics.com/ tests/binomial/Default2.aspx
- e.g. The (one-tailed) probability of exactly, or greater than, 123(k) out of 2800(n) is p = .012783
- (4) https://www.socscistatistics. com/tests/Default.aspx As an example, most of the Tests on this site have Critical Values options of: (p).01; (p).05; and (p).10
- (5) http://www.socscistatistics. com/tests/binomial/Default2.aspx
- (6) ibid
- (7) Voelker, Orton and Adams, Cliffs Quick Review Statistics, Wiley Publications, New York, 2001
- (8) http://www.socscistatistics. com/tests/binomial/Default2.aspx

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BIOGRAPHY: Steve DeLapp

Self-employed entrepreneur since high school, business owner of several transportation related businesses as well as automotive diagnosis and repair. Learned basic astrology through the Rosicrucian Fellowship correspondence course in the mid 1970's, have been an observer and researcher of mundane astrology ever since with particular interest in Tropical Cyclones and Severe storms. Was an active member of NCGR in the 1990's and have given lectures at the Baltimore, Annapolis and Richmond chapters on the subject of the wealth of astrological information in the Judeo-Christian scriptures and

also Dane Rudyhar's theory of Geodetic Equivalents. Have recently retired from business to devote full time to observing/ forecasting Hurricanes and Severe Weather on my website, Astroweather.com, and to also publish the research. sjdelapp@gmail.com Astroweather.com (under development)

CENTAUR ~ KISSED DESTINIES

BY ELIZABETH HAZEL



Chiron's eccentric 51-year orbit is fastest in Libra, where it is closest to Saturn's orbital path. It is slowest in Aries and closest to the orbit of Uranus. It takes about ten years for Chiron to transit the half-way sign pairs Capricorn/Aquarius and Cancer/Leo. What these signs share is Chiron's father, Kronos-Saturn, ruler of Capricorn/Aquarius and in detriment in Cancer/Leo. Saturn's signs of dignity highlight distinctive traits and abilities of Chiron.

Chiron represents the tendency to wander or stumble into things, so it's unsurprising that this happens with Chiron research. The researcher gets a glimmer from a non-astrological topic and then strikes gold when examining related Chiron chart placements or transits. This article initially began with studies about a generational group who turned out to have Chiron in Capricorn and Aquarius. They shared mind-andskill sets and belonged to a fringe subculture group reminiscent of a roaming pack of Centaurs.

AMERICAN CHIRON

Chiron is at 20° Aries in the fourth house of the US Sibley chart. It sextiles Mars [rules 12th and 5th], squares Mercury Rx [7th], and loosely opposes exalted tenth house Saturn [2nd and 3rd]. This

links Chiron to criminals, law enforcement, law-breaking and law-making, the role of wealth and the economy in crime, travel and entertainment. The seventh house rules public enemies and the twelfth house rules hidden enemies and prisons. Seventh house ruler Mercury occupies the eighth house, so the Mercury-Chiron square relates to crime sentencing and capital punishment. The United States is has one of the highest crime rates in the world. Gangs and mobs are similar to raiding Centaur packs.

The Mars-Chiron sextile spills crime into fifth house entertainment with depictions of violence, crime and criminals in American literature and films. Famous crimes and criminals are mythologized for public consumption. Television series commonly center on lawyers and law enforcement groups, criminal enterprises, and hospital and doctor series, a typical Chiron topic. The people any nation or culture transforms into mythic subjects may have a great deal to do with Chiron's location in a nation's radix chart. In the United States, Chiron's Mars and Mercury contacts create a paradox where a nation founded on the rule of law is simultaneously infatuated with its outlaws.

A comparison of the natal placement of Chiron in birth charts of outlaws with prominent leaders of subcultures or cultural movements led to the discovery of interrelated chart markers that consistently appear to produce a person that is herein described as a *Centaur-type* or *Centaur-kissed*. A summary of the markers, the traits and life patterns of Centaur-kissed individuals is outlined below.

CHIRON AND MYTHS

Since its discovery in 1977, Chiron has become stereotyped as "the wounded healer." This is a single facet of an incredibly complex character. Myths about Chiron were written from about 700 BCE until 300 CE. His story expanded and changed during those centuries. His deeds are entwined with that of the Centaurs, who could be uncontrollable and violent. To be fair, some of the violence perpetrated by Centaurs was in retaliation for territorial poaching. Accounts written by the longterm winners of those conflicts depict the Centaurs as primitive thugs. Chiron stood above the fray as a noble being who protected endangered children, and as a wise and impartial judge of disputes, and a lore-master willing to share his knowledge.

Negative Centaur traits can emerge in a chart with a preponderance of specific Centaur-related markers when combined with problematic outer-planet links to Chiron. Much like the historic Centaur tribe, the history of the War on Crime in 1933-34 was written by the longterm winners of that conflict. The automobile bandits of the early 1930s have been mythologized and altered to appeal to public tastes long after the actual events had taken place. A pair of renegade Centaur-types with Chiron-Pluto trines, Bonnie and Clyde conducted a two-year rampage that ended with their deaths in 1934. Their exploits were covered in regional news reports. They were nearly forgotten until the 1967 film Bonnie and Clyde, a glamorized rendering of personalities and events.

The gap between the historical events and mythologized accounts of the Centaurs parallels the gap between the reality and myths concerning the 1930s automobile bandits. Chiron's orbital path between Saturn and Uranus appears to create a storytelling time warp wherein the nature of the protagonists and their deeds are transformed for entertainment and/or used as vehicles to convey a message of contemporary relevance. Bonnie and Clyde resonated with the anti-authoritarian and free love sentiments of the late 1960s.

CHIRON IN SATURN'S SIGNS

Chiron was the son of Kronos/ Saturn. Chiron isn't a part of the dignity system, but it does appear to have an affinity for

THE HANDS THAT CHIRON DEALT 1930S AUTOMOBILE BANDITS & LAWMEN

Name	Date of Birth	Chiron Position
Harry Copeland	October 24, 1896	2ºጤ (♂⊙)
(Dillinger gang)	Muncie, IN	()
John "Red" Hamilton	August 27, 1898	24°M。(♂∀,⊼♂¥Ⅱ)
(Dillinger gang)	Sault St Marie, Ont.	,
Arthur Dock Barker	June 4, 1899	9°≯⅓(৫₭৫⊙)
(Baker-Karpis gang)	Aurora, MO	
Sam Cowley	July 23, 1899	7°⋧℞(৫₩△⊙)
(FBI-Dillinger Squad)	Franklin, ID	
Fred Barker	December 12, 1901	5°ుక (ర ⊅ిలి ¥)
(Barker-Karpis gang)	Aurora, MO	
John Paul Chase	December 26, 1901	6°√3 (♂⊙)
(Nelson associate)	San Francisco, CA	
Harry "Pete" Pierpont	October 13, 1902	9°⅓ (□♀)
(co-leader with Dillinger)	Muncie, IN	
Herman "Ed" Hollis	January 27, 1903	17°്ു (□♂ഏഫ)
(FBI– Dillinger Squad)	Des Moines, IA	
Eliot Ness	April 19, 1903	22°V3 (♂⊅ □ ⊙♈)
(Prohibition law enforcer)	Chicago, IL	
John Dillinger	June 22, 1903	21°№ (X 4,△⊅)
l	Indianapolis, IN	
Melvin Purvis	October 24, 1903	17°V3 (△♀)
(FBI, SAC Chicago)	Timmonsville, SC	
Pretty Boy Floyd	b. February 3, 1904	25°⅓ (¥4)
l	Adairsville, GA	
Homer Van Meter	b. December 3, 1905	3°≈ (♂♂,△斗)
(Dillinger gang)	Fort Wayne, IN	
Alvin Karpis	August 10, 1907	15°≈ ℞(Ժ⊙)
(Barker-Karpis gang)	Montreal, Quebec	
Baby Face Nelson	b. December 6, 1908	19°∞ (△₽邬Ⅱ)
l	Chicago, IL	
Clyde Barrow	b. March 24, 1909	25°≈ (△₽邬Ⅱ)
l	Telico, TX	
Adam Richetti	August 5, 1909	26° ∞ (△P)
(Floyd associate)	Strawn, TX	
Bonnie Parker	b. October 1, 1910	28°≈ (△P)
I	Rowena, TX	
I		

the favored locations of Daddy Dearest. When Chiron is in Saturn's signs of rulership, Capricorn and Aquarius, it becomes colder and quicker thinking with faster reflexes. It can be cynical, harder to fool, and more apt to be vengeful. Leg injuries and limps are common. Prisons and outcasts are attributed to Saturn. Chiron in Saturn's signs gives the possibility of periods of incarceration, isolation, or ostracism. An alternate manifestation is entrapment in a

situation with severe limitations and no easy escape routes.

Natal Chiron in Capricorn and Aguarius promotes access to and practical use of transitional and emerging technologies when transiting Chiron opposes natal Chiron around age 25. The auto bandits born from 1902 to 1910 gained criminal advantages from new automotive and weapons technologies in the 1930s. People born from 1951-1961 with Chiron in Capricorn/Aquarius were in their mid-twenties during the advent of computers in the 1980s. The collective advantages of new technologies are offset by new types of crime. New crimefighting tools tend to be wielded by people in the same age group. Chiron occupied these signs from 2002-2010; this birth-group will experience their Chiron-Chiron oppositions from 2027 to 2035.

Chiron relates to both law-breaking and law-making. John Dillinger was nicknamed "Johnny Law-Maker" during the 1934 Congressional anti-crime bill debates. [1] Chiron's speedy transits of Libra, Saturn's exaltation, highlights judges and landmark trials. The Nuremberg Trials (1945-46) and the OJ Simpson trial (1995) are examples. Aries is Saturn's sign of fall. Chiron's return to its natal position in the US Sibley chart during the 1920s coincided with trials, laws, and legislation that had unusually bad long-term repercussions, like Prohibition (1920) and the Scopes Trial (1925). One of Chiron's key roles was as a judge or arbitrator [2]; this particular Aries return resulted in tactical errors in jurisprudence and legislative judgment.

Chiron has a different relationship with Jupiter, the ruler of Sagittarius and Pisces. Jupiter-Chiron contacts emphasize charisma and leadership skills, but can also foster an attitude of being above the law or an inflated sense of exceptionalism or entitlement; for example, the FBI's radix chart features Jupiter opposition Chiron in Aquarius. [3] Jupiter-Chiron contacts in the auto bandit's charts exacerbated excesses and lawlessness, although other placements reinforced this theme. In extreme cases, the individual may become a deathdealer. The passage from life to death is a powerful Chiron theme linked to Centaur markers. Chiron functions a bridge between human laws and the laws of the cosmos.

MARKS OF THE CENTAUR-KISSED

There are three major Centaur markers in natal charts:

- A prominent Chiron highlighted through aspects, configurations, or accidental dignity
- Planets or axis points in tropical Sagittarius or conjunct Sagittarius stars
- 3. Planets in contact with the stars of Kentaurus in the late degrees of Scorpio. Kentaurus stars can manifest in negative ways when contacted by malefic planets or planets in bad dignity.

Related markers that add to a Centaur theme include:

- Chiron in Saturn's signs of dignity (Capricorn, Aquarius, Libra are more beneficial; Aries, Leo, and Cancer are less favored)
- 2. Planets or axis points in close proximity to the Solstice points
- 3. Contacts to the stars of Pegasus, another unruly sky horse, can manifest as antisocial and violent behaviors. Markab and Scheat, currently at 23 and 29 Pisces, are Mars-Mercury stars linked to impulsiveness, arrogance, daring and rash actions, dangerous situations, serious (sometimes fatal) accidents, and violent deaths
- Mutual antiscion conjunctions between Chiron and crucial house or sign rulers
- Chiron-Node contacts and/ or Pluto-Node conjunctions with major chart contacts, angular positions, or significant antiscion aspects

A preponderance of Centaur markers increases the potential for wanderings and travels, numerous job or career changes, a focus on death or the dead, mysticism and spirituality. Achievements, whether positive or negative, can result in an immortal name.

The Solstices are associated with death, soul travel, and the journey into the afterlife. The Winter Solstice is guarded by Sagittarius the Centaur. Solstice contacts consistently appear in the charts of individuals who exhibit Centaur-type behaviors and career patterns. The auto bandits were death-dealers. War-related deaths

or killing may be a part of the life path. Another manifestation is communication with the dead, or a strong interest in the rituals and trappings of death or soul transmigration.

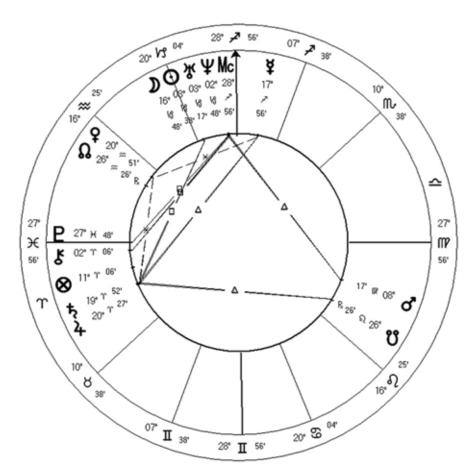
CLARA BARTON – ANGEL OF THE BATTLEFIELD



The quintessential example of the positive Centaur-type is Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross.
[4] She was

born with Chiron in Aries conjunct her Ascendant. Chiron squares a Uranus-Neptune conjunction in Capricorn close to the Midheaven at 28° Sagittarius. Jobs as a school teacher and patent office clerk were followed by her serendipitous 1861 leap into her legendary career as a battle medic. Chiron taught methods for treating battle wounds. [5]

Barton wandered across America and Europe throughout her long career. After the Civil War, she led a group hunting for the burial sites of missing soldiers. They exchanged over 41,000 letters with families inquiring about men who never came home. The founders of the European Red Cross helped her establish the American sister organization in 1881 as Chiron trined her natal Capricorn Moon [6]. Her many accomplishments gave her an immortal name in the collective memory.



Clara Barton
December 25, 1822 NS, 11:40 am LMT, Oxford, MA
Geocentric/Tropical/Placidus, RR: AA

Territorial or boundary disputes are a key feature of Centaur myths. The Kentauroi were overrun by immigrants and invaders. Eventually they were forced to leave their tribal lands and emigrate to different parts of Greece. A Centaur-type individual may feel shunned or excluded from his or her native place. Or the person may refuse to conform to the expectations of a local culture and exist as an outsider on the fringes of society. Either circumstance triggers the search for a place to belong.

Clara Barton's Civil War work involved her in the national conflict over state's rights, a legislative

dispute over boundaries. Barton was also involved in disputes with a school board and in the patent office. In both cases, she was ejected from her territory because she demanded equal pay for equal work. Fierce battles to regain her lost ground were unsuccessful. Barton was ejected from her leading role in the American Red Cross at the end of her life. [7] The Centaur-kissed can be the founders and leaders of beneficial organizations with little support from society. But when these organizations prove useful, the Centaur-types may be over-taken and booted out by individuals with a more socially-acceptable power base. With Chiron in Aries, her territory was lost.

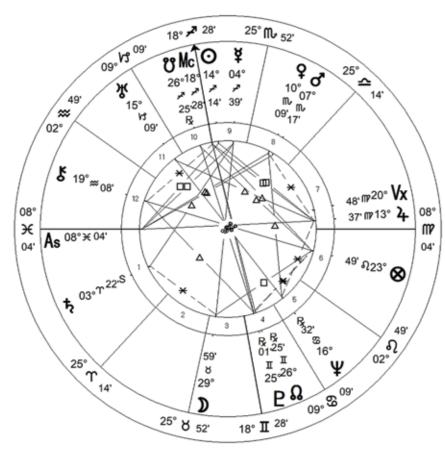
CHIRON'S THUGS



People
with strong
Centaur
markers may
tend to snipe
at others
and verbally
strike
below the
belt when

angered. The charts of the auto bandits of the early 1930s feature prominent contacts with Mars, Uranus, and/or Pluto. These planets escalate Chiron's potential for physical assaults. Anger control may be a long-term issue. Baby Face (Jimmy) Nelson was a particularly vile, murderous Centaur-type. [8] Nelson's Sagittarius Sun squares Jupiter in Virgo, and the Sun has mutual antiscion conjunctions with Uranus in Capricorn. Mars and Venus are conjunct in Scorpio and swap antiscion conjunctions with Chiron. Nelson was four months older than Clyde Barrow. Their charts share a Uranus-Neptune opposition and Saturn in Aries. Saturn's antiscion at 27° Virgo squares Nelson's Pluto-North Node at 25° Gemini conjunct Saiph, the foot-star of Orion. A lunar eclipse at 15° Gemini on December 7, 1908 (the day after his birth) was conjunct Orion's other foot-star, Rigel. The mythic Orion was brutish killing machine. Nelson reflects the emphasis on the Giant's feet—he would "...kill anyone who got in his path." [9]

Outer planet contacts to Chiron can be especially problematic



Baby Face Nelson
December 6, 1908, 12:00 pm CST, Chicago, IL
Tropical/Placidus/RR: X (ToB unknown)

if the individual has issues with alcohol or drug use. In myth, the Centaurs became intoxicated by the mere scent of wine. When Chiron is attached to the Sun. Ascendant, Ascendant ruler, or in the sixth house (significators of the physical body and health) there's an increased risk of dangerous working conditions, exposure to toxic substances, contaminated food or water, or toxic side-effects from medications, along with the more typical hand/leg injuries. The Centaur-kissed may experiment with using drugs as a springboard to wandering through alternate dimensions and realities.

Education may not be acquired through traditional educational institutions. Centaur-kissed people may shun academia and prefer to develop as auto-didactic polymaths, gaining a jumbled myriad of skills and information in diverse areas through personal study and hands-on experience. When Chiron breaks bad, the person can learn all the wrong things.

There may be skills that relate to healing in some way, although it may not be in a traditional or official sense. Skills will tend to be acquired through necessity and hands-on work, like Clara Barton's

nursing skills. The individual may have gifted hands capable of a mix of artistic and mechanical repair skills. The hands may sense and diagnose problems, and bring things "back to life." This may include fixing broken machines or objects, restoring art and furniture, reviving forgotten skills or art forms, or soothing injured animals. These individuals are sometimes capable of "soul surgery," the ability to restore people after devastating traumas.

Fingerprints and forensic DNA evidence are attributes of Chiron, whose name means "skilled with hands." John Dillinger had his fingerprints surgically removed on June 5, 1934 while transiting Pluto at 22° Cancer opposed his natal Chiron. [10] When Dillinger was gainfully employed, he was remarkably skilled at jobs requiring manual dexterity and even invented some useful tools. As Chiron re-entered Gemini in 1934, the FBI finally got breaks in cases using fingerprint identification. [11]

The Centaur-kissed will almost always have a cool head in emergencies. They can save lives through sheer serendipity. Emergency-rescue jobs fit this trait quite well. Connections to Jupiter, Sagittarius, or the solstice points foster a heightened awareness of good and bad luck. The Centaurkissed court and expect good luck and rue the bad luck that comes their way. Good Jupiter-Chiron aspects produce inclusive values and broad-mindedness. Centaur-types may display a bizarre blend of wisdom and off-handed carelessness, or a mix of far- and

short-sightedness. Jupiter contacts can lead to regarding boundaries and laws as inconveniences and irritations that may be ignored.

PUBLIC ENEMY #1 – JOHN DILLINGER



Centaur-type
John Dillinger
was the most
high-profile
automobile
bandit of the
1930s. His
suave style and
charismatic

personality elicited enormous media attention. He was too restless and ambitious for the drab environment of small-town Indiana. At age 19 he stole an automobile. Some months later a bungled mugging led to a prison sentence of ten-to-twenty years.

Dillinger was incarcerated at the Pendleton Reformatory (1924-29) and Indiana State Penitentiary (1929-33). The excessive prison sentence was the source of great bitterness. An old "yegg" (bank robber) at the state prison instructed younger convicts on Herman "Baron" Lamm's techniques for planning and executing bank robberies. [12] Dillinger was paroled on May 10, 1933 and committed a dozen bank robberies between June 21, 1933 and June 30, 1934.

Dillinger's relaxed charm, wit, and upbeat attitude made him an instant "name-brand" criminal celebrity after his capture in Tuscon in January 1934. His escape from the Crown Point, Indiana prison on

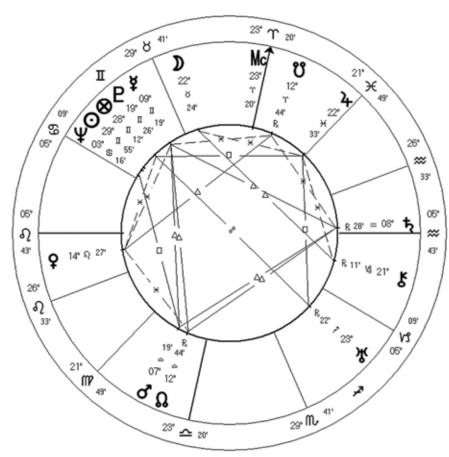
March 3, 1934 was facilitated with a fake wood gun. [13] Journalists lionized Dillinger at the expense of local-yokel law enforcement. Audiences applauded when his image appeared on-screen. This anti-hero underdog was irresistible to a populace whose hard-earned wealth was being destroyed by bank closures and foreclosures. Dillinger-sightings occurred all over the country. He became a key talking point in the Crime Bill negotiations. [14] Journalistic hyperbole was in part responsible for AG Homer Cummings' June 23, 1934 announcement of a \$15,000 reward for Dillinger's capture. [15] Just as Chiron's friend Heracles inflicted (what would become) a fatal blow, Dillinger was done-in by a woman friend.

John Dillinger's natal Gemini Sun is at the solstitial border with the Part of Fortune. He had two distinct sides to his personality and was highly opportunistic about leveraging materials and tools available within his environment (a Fortuna trait). With his Leo Ascendant, Venus rising, Mars in Libra, and tenth house Taurus Moon, Dillinger was lady's man and a dapper dresser. Vaulting over bank counters in the swashbuckling style of Douglas Fairbanks became his signature move. He enjoyed media attention and saved his press clippings. Beneath the charm he was amoral, ruthless, and violent. The airy Grand Trine between Mars, Saturn, and Mercury emphasizes speed, dexterity, cool efficiency, nerves of steel, automatic weapons and fast cars.

Dillinger's sixth house Chiron is conjunct Deneb Okab, the Eagle's tail star. Aquila's stars confer military abilities. This extends to seizing loot or hostages, as Jove sent the Eagle to snatch Ganymede. The sixth house rules policemen, soldiers, tools and weapons. Chiron forms a sextile wedge with Jupiter at 22° Pisces conjunct Markab (a Mars-Mercury star in Pegasus) and trine his Moon at 22° Taurus. The Moon is conjunct Capulus, the Sword of Perseus. This star is associated with weapons, violence and machismo.

Chiron relates to military tactics, hunting-fighting skills, a pack mentality, and a high level of mobility. Chiron in the sixth house aptly describes Dillinger's work environment: a well-equipped group of social outcasts executing military-style raids to seize loot, wandering from state to state seeking new targets. The auto bandits took advantage of law enforcement's jurisdiction limits by crossing state lines to evade capture. Transiting Chiron in Gemini applied square Neptune in Virgo during the summer and autumn of 1934. The state-line advantage dissolved after the passage of the 1934 Crime Bills. Federal law enforcement power was concentrated under J. Edgar Hoover and the FBI. [16] All of the name-brand auto bandits (Bonnie and Clyde, Dillinger, Pretty Boy Floyd, Baby Face Nelson, Fred Barker, and many of their associates) were hunted down and killed by law enforcement posses between May and November, 1934.

Jupiter rules and occupies
Dillinger's ninth house of beliefs,



John Dillinger June 22, 1903, 7:05 am CST, Dayton, OH Geocentric/Tropical/Placidus, RR: A

philosophies, and long journeys. Jupiter's fine dignity promotes the confidence needed for a leadership role but inflates grandiosity. The ninth house generates forecasts and future plans, like carefully planned and executed bank heists. Jupiter forms a T-square with a Pluto-Uranus opposition in the fifth-eleventh house axis. It signifies devastating changes (the long prison term and the destruction he left in his wake) and disrupted relationships. Dillinger had numerous romantic and sexual relationships-a wife, girlfriends, prostitutes, and a prison liaisonbut no children. [17] Centaur-types tend to have a dearth of progeny. Benefic Jupiter in Pisces signifies

the desire and ability to acquire wealth and property, and its sextile to the exalted Moon heightens the urge to accumulate status goods. Dillinger spent lavishly on clothing, cars, and entertainment for himself and his women friends. He enjoyed giving cash to his father and sister. The Piscean loyalty spectrum can range from extreme devotion and clingyness to highly fluid and self-serving alliances. Dillinger displayed both extremes. He was romantic and sentimental toward women and loyal to his friends. When those people were captured or killed, he made one of his phenomenally lucky escapes and disappeared. While he regretted his lost companions (to the extent of

contributing thousands of dollars for their legal fees), he quickly replaced them. The loose square between his juicy Jupiter and Sun-Neptune describes his image as a culture hero, his great escapes, and his balancing act between loyalty and self-preservation.

Saturn Rx is in rulership with accidental dignity. The seventh house signifies marriage as well as enemies and attacks. As the diurnal ruler of air signs, Saturn is happiest in Aquarius. It dominates the airy Grand Trine. The Mercury-Mars trine and Jupiter-Markab conjunction resonate like the overtones of tuning forks. Markab is attributed to Mars-Mercury. Mercury's antiscion [21° Cancer] trines Jupiter while the antiscion of Mars [23º Pisces] conjuncts Jupiter. Fixed stars exude their most characteristic traits when the planets attributed to them are linked and active in the birth chart. The stars of Pegasus give wild rides, risky adventures, and an untenable personality.

Dillinger's fourth quarter Taurus Moon rules the twelfth house of prisons and opposes Saturn's antiscion. Dillinger escaped from prison twice. He assisted with a prison break at the Indiana State Prison on September 26, 1933 as a Sun-Jupiter conjunction at 3° Libra formed a precise trine to Chiron at 3° Gemini. [18] Dillinger's chart is packed with planets in good dignity, showing a notable person with exceptional abilities. Jupiter's central position in two aspect configurations points to this planet as his greatest asset as well as the moral culprit.

NATIVE SONS

John Dillinger's chart contacts to the US Sibley chart are few but powerful. His Chiron squares the US Chiron (20° Aries). Double Saturn-Node exchanges between both charts emphasize his role as a generational law-breaker and law-maker. Doubly-active Neptune boosted Dillinger into a romanticized iconic figure. After his death, nearly a full Saturn cycle passed before the first detailed Dillinger account was published. [19] Another Saturn cycle passed before the FBI's "War on Crime" files were made public in the 1980s. [20]

Saturn edged toward the completion of a third cycle when the film Public Enemies was released in 2015 starring Johnny Depp as Dillinger. Depp's Ascendant (12 Leo) and Neptune (13 Scorpio Rx) have vital contacts with Dillinger's Venus (14 Leo). Cinematic fantasy glamorizes the gritty reality. The exciting car chases and gun battles are almost trite after nearly 90 years of Hollywood crime films. There is a dearth of awareness that the early 1930s crime wave was used to persuade Congress into granting vast powers and jurisdiction to a federal law enforcement agency. The War on Crime didn't target racketeering by crime syndicates and the Mafia, counterfeiting, or other crimes. Only the auto bandits and kidnappers were hunted. Burrough wrote that "More than anything, the War on Crime was a war on the idea of crime, the idea that too many Americans had come to tolerate crime." Yet "everything

the Bureau has achieved since... sprang from the powers it accrued during the War on Crime...[and] introduced Americans to an idea that we take for granted today: that the federal government bears the ultimate responsibility for the nation's law and order." [21]

Crime has escalated every decade since the 1930s, counter-balanced by an expansion of the scope, power, and budgets for law enforcement. Transiting Pluto's square to the US Chiron in Aries is stirring controversies about excesses and power abuses in law enforcement. Overpopulated American penitentiaries incarcerate the world's largest population of prisoners. Many are serving extended terms under the mandatory sentencing laws created in the 1970s and 1980s. [22] Fatalities caused by police shootings have risen sharply. Pluto transited Cancer in the 1930s; now it occupies Capricorn. Both signs square the US natal Chiron. The focus has shifted from reducing violent crimes in the 1930s to controlling the contemporary excesses and corruption of lawmakers and law-enforcement.

News-worthy crimes have shifted from bank robberies and organized crime to mass shootings by a single individuals. John Dillinger's time twin burst into public awareness in October 2017. Las Vegas shooter Stephen Paddock's chart mimics Dillinger's Chiron sextile wedge: sixth house Chiron [20 Capricorn] sextile Mercury-Markab [22 Pisces] sextile Jupiter-Capulus [23 Taurus]. Paddock's Chiron is similarly involved in a cardinal T-square with Sun/Venus in Aries and

Neptune/Saturn in Libra. Jupiter anchors another T-square with the Aquarius Moon and Pluto in Leo. [23] Paddock was born fifty years after Dillinger with Chiron in the same location. Another spooky fact is that Paddock's father was a bank robber who served time in prison. The Los Vegas shooting took place as Chiron retrograded over Paddock's natal Mercury, with Saturn in Sag square these Pisces placements. [24]

JOB HOPPERS AND WANDERERS

Centaurs wander from job to job. The tendency toward intellectual eccentricities and independence can lead to a patch-work career path. They may ascend to leadership roles because of their collected experiences. Being at the right place at the right time provides narrow windows to sneak past gate-keepers and job requirements. A new career phase after mid-life sometimes provides a foundation for a less peripatetic old age. Healing and teaching are common late-life occupations.

Centaur-types can have thievish ways or become victims of thieves. This can extend to plagiarism, career-theft, and idea-theft. They have strong ideas about what is theirs and are fierce defenders. Just as the Kentauroi tribe lost their territory, the Centaur-kissed often lose these battles as Clara Barton did with three separate careers.

As Dillinger demonstrates, Centaurtypes can have complicated issues with loyalty. If the pack-mentality holds sway, the person gravitates toward similarly-inclined people. Horses are social creatures that bond for mutual protection

against predators. Centaur-types find or create social groups for the sense of belonging and as a bulwark against social disapproval. Although they are rarely inclined to be overtly disloyal, loyalty must be earned, not blindly given. It will be given cautiously and withdrawn quickly if sensibilities are offended. This strategy for self-preservation is part of a strong-if-eccentric homegrown moral code. Chiron contacts to Sagittarius, Aquila, Kentaurus and Pegasus produce a gift for tactical thinking. The reality-minded signs Capricorn and Aquarius bring out this side of Chiron, too.

Centaur-markers can result in an immortal name. My father, born in 1931, related that when kids played cops-and-robbers during his childhood, one kid always wanted to Dillinger. This parallels the heroic aura that surrounds the Centaurs. Greek myths abound with Centaurs stories even though the tribe was systematically clobbered and forced to relocate. Native Americans share numerous similarities with the Kentauroi tribe's ways and sad history of dispossession, all later romanticized for entertainment purposes. Humanity cherishes tales of underdogs and people who fight back against impossible odds. The Centaur-kissed frequently end up with the short end of the stick. There's cold comfort that the value and merit of their deeds outlasts their personal failures and disappointments.

THE CENTAUR-KISSED POET



Allen Ginsberg embodies highly evolved, beneficial potentials

of a Centaur-kissed type. His natal chart features a Chiron-Venus-Stella Mira conjunction and numerous Centaur-markers. [25]

Ginsberg had a troubled family life because his mother was schizophrenic. During his college years, he spent eight months in an asylum and endured "corrective therapy" for his homosexuality. [26] He became a de facto leader of packs of fellow non-conformists in the Beat and Hippie movements of the 1950s and 1960s, and served as a bridge between those groups. The Beat movement embraced Eastern religions and spiritual practices. Ginsberg became deeply involved in these practices after spending time in India.

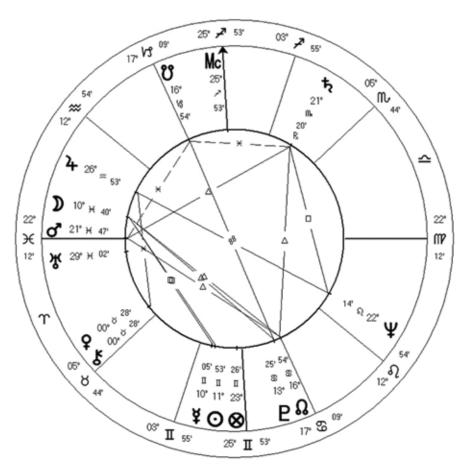
Ginsberg wandered the world and organized historic artsy gatherings. The Chiron-Venus contact manifested through his exceptional ability to befriend diverse people and organize events and efforts for mutual benefits. Conservatives considered him an anti-social threat because of his open homosexuality, support for the legalization of mind-expanding drugs, and for his vociferous protests against the prosecution of Lenny Bruce and the Vietnam War.

Ginsberg's epic poem *Howl* was the subject of landmark trial in 1957 (Chiron in Aquarius). The legal vindication of the poem's literary value paved the way for artists, authors, publishers, and film-makers to be granted First Amendment protections in the US Supreme Court's June 22, 1964 *Tropic of Cancer/Jacobellis* decision. [27] Ginsberg spent the final decades of his life working quietly as a college professor at NYU. He earned his slice of immortality in American culture.

Chiron was renowned for his foresight and divinatory skills. Beliefs and activities that are shocking during one era may become acceptable in a subsequent era. The Centaur-kissed may be a part of a pack, but they can also be ahead of the collective. As the son of time (Kronos) and music (Philyra), Chiron may give the ability to see, hear, and perceive rhythmic echoes of the future. This makes them prone to clashes over social limitations and taboos that they know are ridiculous. It's important to distinguish between contemporary cultural mores that are likely to change in time, and overtly criminal acts like robbery and murder that will always be beyond the pale of social acceptance. Chiron may manifest at either extreme, but its potentials must be ascertained by examining its sign-and-house placement, chart themes, aspects, clues from antiscion aspects and fixed star conjunctions.

CONCLUSION

Chiron has yet to complete one full solar orbit since its discovery. The astrological view of Chiron continues to evolve as research reveals new meanings and applications. The



Allen Ginsberg

June 3, 1926, 1:55 am EDT, Newark, NJ

Geocentric/Tropical/Placidus, RR: AA (Helen Weaver)

generation of astrologers who initially investigated Chiron in astrological charts emphasized its connection to healing, a topic of great importance to the growing New Age movement in 1977. It is unfortunate that Chiron's interpretive usefulness seems to be limited to the "wounded healer" archetype. This legendary Centaur does have a healing facet, but there is much more to explore. The collection of Centaur markers and the ideas about Centaurkissed personalities offer a view of Chiron's wider range of potential traits and a new perspective for integrating Chiron into natal chart interpretations.

END NOTES

- 1] Toland, p 285-294; Gorn, p 123 quotes Washington Times article title "Lawmaker Dillinger" p 22, National Archives, May-June 1934 (no date); Burrough p 345.
- 2] Pseudo-Hyginus (Roman mythographer c 2nd A.D.), Astronomica 2. 38 (trans. Grant):
- "Chiron...surpassed not only the other Centauri, but also men in justice..." Statius (Roman poet c 1st A.D.), Achilleid 2. 96 ff: [Achilles addresses Odysseus]: "(Chiron) implanted deep within my heart the precepts of divine justice, whereby he was wont to give revered laws to the tribes that

dwell on Pelion, and tame his own twy-formed folk [the Kentauroi]."

- 2] FBI radix chart data July 26, 1908, 12:00 pm EST, Washington, DC.
- 3] Clara Barton born December 25, 1821 NS, 11:40 am, LMT, Oxford, MA. RR: AA.
- 4] Homer, Iliad 11. 832 ff (trans. Lattimore, Greek epic c 8th B.C.): [Eurypylos addresses Patroclus in the Trojan War:] "Cut the arrow out of my thigh...and put kind medicines on it, good ones, which they say you have been told of by Achilles, since Chiron, most righteous of the Kentauroi, told him about them."
- 5] ARC founded on May 21, 1881, Danville, MD
- 6] Barton worked until she died on April 12, 1912, Glen Echo, Md, age 91. Biographical info at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clara_Barton; https://www.civilwar.org/learn/biographies/clara-barton; https://www.biography.com/people/clara-barton-9200960
- 7] Baby Face (Jimmy) Nelson, born Lester Joseph Gills, December 6, 1908, Chicago, IL. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baby Face Nelson; https://www.fbi.gov/history/famous-cases/lester-gillis-baby-face-nelson; https://www.biography.com/people/baby-face-nelson-9542636
- 8] Burrough, p 299
- 9] Burrough, p 375. Toland, p 303, gives June 2 3, 1934.
- 10] Toland, p 173, p 203.
- 11] Burrough, p 17. Herman "Baron" Lamm, born 1880, was a Prussian army officer who emigrated to Utah. Believed to be a member of

the Hole-In-The-Wall Gang (with Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid), he developed his robbery system while imprisoned in Utah circa 1917. Lamm's gang was credited with dozens of robberies in the 1920s. Toland, p 30. Lamm was shot and killed on Dec 16, 1930 near Clinton, Indiana. Survivors Walter Dietrich and James Clark taught the Lamm Method to fellow inmates.

- 12] Burrough, pp 236-42
- 13] Burrough, pp 344-45, Gorn p 81.
- 14] Burrough, p 380
- 15] Morgan, pp 75, 113, 141-42, Burrough pp 58-59, p 345. Congress passed a package of anti-crime bills on May 5, 1934, signed by FDR on May 18, 1934. The FBI's bailiwick expanded to include investigating extortion, kidnapping (the Lindbergh Law), and the murder of federal officers. Agents were authorized to carry arms and make arrests.
- 16] Burrough, p 139, prison records note he was caught in bed with a fellow inmate.
- 17] Chiron entered Gemini on June 7, 1933, retrograded back into Taurus on December 22, 1933, and re-entered Gemini on March 23, 1934.
- 18] Toland visited 38 states to gather information and interview people who were involved in the events of 1930-34. His book was published in 1964.
- 19] Burrough, p 553. The FBI War

on Crime files were "released in bits and pieces since the mid-1980s...several hundred thousand pages of internal reports, telegrams, correspondence and witness statements..." Inaccurate information given in Toland's book was revised and corrected in Public Enemies (2005) by Brian Burrough.

- 20] Burrough, pp 544-545
- 21] "...[I]n the 1970s and 1980s, the U.S. Congress and many state legislatures passed laws that force judges to give fixed prison terms to those convicted of specific crimes, most often drug offenses... this heavy-handed response to the nation's drug problem filled prisons with low-level offenders, resulting in over-capacity prison populations and higher costs for taxpayers." https://www.prisonpolicy.org/ scans/famm/Primer.pdf. "Between 1980 and 2010, state incarceration rates for drug crimes multiplied tenfold, while the federal drug prisoner population ballooned by a factor of 20. Every year, taxpayers shell out \$51 billion for drug war spending. Meanwhile, 2.2 million people — or a quarter of the world's prisoners — crowd a system that exacts its harshest toll on the most vulnerable." The Nation's Shame: The Injustice of Mandatory Minimums by Andrea Jones, Rolling Stone Magazine, Oct 7 2014.
- 22] Stephen Paddock, April 9, 1953, 11:05 am CST, Clinton, Iowa
- 23] Las Vegas Country Music Festival Shooting, October 1, 2017, 10:05 pm PDT, Las Vegas NV. Data from NCGR E-News, October 2017.

24] Allen Ginsberg, June 3, 1926, 1:55 am EDT, Newark NJ, RR: AA, data from Helen Weaver. His Centaur-type chart markers include ASC and Mars-Markab trine Saturn-Agena (beta Kentaurus), Uranus conjunct Scheat, MC at 25 Sag, Chiron-Venus conjunct the highly variable star Stella Mira (Cetus), and a Pluto-North Node conjunction. Venus-Chiron's connection to Stella Mira seems to relate to Ginsberg's sporadic public appearances, the historic gatherings he arranged, and his book releases.

25] Edward de Grazia, Girls Lean Back Everywhere: The Law of Obscenity and the Assault on Genius. Random House, 1992, pg 330.

26] de Grazia, pp 330-338. Obscenity laws were a boundaryrelated issue, subjected to a lengthy battle between state versus federal laws because federal laws were ill-defined. This was further complicated because state laws would make national publication or distribution impossible. A shipment of Howl from a British publisher was stopped by customs on Mar 25, 1957. A federal judge had to give permission to destroy the copies. The ACLU agreed to defend the book and its American publisher, Lawrence Ferlinghetti. Federal district Judge Clayton W. Horn held to Justice Brennan's decision in US vs. Roth (handed down 4 months earlier) - "unless the book is entirely lacking in social importance, it cannot be held obscene." The Roth and Howl cases were critical steps toward the Brennan Doctrine that was established after the June 22,

1964 decisions in the Tropic of Cancer and Jacobellis cases. The federal effort to define obscenity was abandoned, thus eliminating the patch-work of state and local obscenity laws. The new legal test for obscenity required prosecutors to prove that a work was "utterly without literary, artistic, scientific, or social value."

WORLD WIDE WEB INFORMATION SITES

John Dillinger: https://www.biography.com/people/john-dillinger-9274804

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ John_Dillinger

Bonnie and Clyde: www.fbi.gov/history/famous-cases/bonnie-and-clyde. FBI wanted posters describe their scars in detail. Bonnie – bullet scars on left little toe, on left knee, burn scar on right leg from hip to knee, walks with knees buckled. Clyde – bullet scars on both legs just above knees.

The FBI: http://archives.fbi.gov/ archives/news/stories/2006/march/ fbiname 022406

https://www.fbi.gov/history/briefhistory

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Penguin Books, 2005.

Elliot J. Gorn. *Dillinger's Wild Ride:* The Year That Made America's Public Enemy Number One. Oxford University Press, 2009. Edward de Grazia, *Girls Lean Back Everywhere: The Law of Obscenity and the Assault on Genius*. Random House, 1992. Ginsberg's early years, the Howl trial, and the Brennan Doctrine, pp 330-338.

Jeffrey S. King. *The Rise and Fall of the Dillinger Gang*. Cumberland House Publications, 2005.

Ted Morgan. *REDS: McCarthyism in Twentieth-Century America*. Random House, NY, 2003. Founding and development of the FBI, Chapters 3 and 4, pp 54 – 142.

John Toland. *The Dillinger Days*. Random House, 1963.

John Treherne. *The Strange History of Bonnie and Clyde*. Cooper Square Press, 1984, 2000 (pb).

BIOGRAPHY: Elizabeth Hazel

is an astrologer, tarotist, author and lecturer. She has been on the board of SMARRT, the Ann Arbor chapter of NCGR, since 2010. Liz lectures and writes extensively on classical astrology techniques, tarotattributions, and ancient forms of spirituality. Her published works include Tarot Decoded, The Whispering Tarot deck and book, Geomantic Divination, and Little Book of Fixed Stars. She provides consultation services and resides in Toledo, Ohio. Contact ehazel@bex.net

CAN ADOLESCENT BEHAVIOR BE INFLUENCED BY LUNAR PHASE?

BY ALEX TRENOWETH



ABSTRACT

This is an investigation on the possible relationship between adolescent behaviour and lunar phase. The data used in this investigation is from a school in the UK whose behaviour policy stipulates that teachers record incidents of poor behaviour on an educational application. Over the course of two separate academic years, the total number of reported incidents was 9943 which a much larger sample than J. Wilde's report on a similar topic in 2008. On casual analysis by the researcher, the data showed that pupil behaviour was worse at the new moon rather than the full moon, as would be expected by communal reinforcement. Further analysis showed that poor behaviour peaked when the new moon was at higher celestial latitudes, rather than low latitude moons when eclipses happen and when astrologers might expect poor behaviour. There is no gender divide which might be expected by astrologers. This is also in clear direct contradiction to the results of studies on human behaviour, with about half of the studies consulted that there is no significant correlation between

lunar phases and accidents, suicides and crime rates. Studies on sleep cycles show that humans experience a loss of sleep during the full moon and therefore sleep better during the new moon phase. It is hypothesized that adolescents, who experience a disturbed sleep pattern are better rested during the new moon and therefore have more energy to misbehave. Teachers may also have more energy to record poor behaviour during the new moon. The implications of these findings could be used to improve school behaviour strategies in the education of adolescents by targeting times when intervention is most needed. The results suggest there is a need for further study over a longer term of time.

INTRODUCTION AND RATIONALE FOR THIS RESEARCH

The researcher has been a teacher of adolescent pupils (ages 11-18 years of age) for sixteen years. In her role in educational management there was responsibility for drawing up reports based on records kept on pupils noting poor behaviour. There had been many casual comments from teachers (and others) assuming that pupils tend

to behave in a more rowdy manner during the full moon phase. These assumptions seemed to be based on communal reinforcement about the full moon. Is there an element of truth to cultural mythology? The researcher wanted to investigate the findings of other studies on accidents, suicides and crimes based on phases of the moon.

Casual observation, based on cursory examination of data entries made by teachers reporting poor behaviour, seemed to indicate there may be a contradiction between cultural assumptions about the full moon and reality. The researcher, being an astrologer, wished to organize the data in such a way as to investigate if there could be a correlation between phases of the moon and an increase/decrease in poor behaviour.

More complete preliminary data (which was calculated by a designated information and technology specialist who had no interests in astrology) also seemed to show that poor behaviour peaked at the new moon, which was again in complete contradiction to the assumptions made about human behaviour and

the full moon. What could account for this contradiction? And could there be a difference in the number of incident sheets recorded by gender?

The researcher was aware that the circadian cycles of sleep were different to those of an adult. There needed to be further research on whether or not an adolescent was likely to experience sleeping disruptions during the different phases of the moon.

Finally, the researcher wanted to investigate whether different latitudes of the moon could show a correlation with times of poor behaviour. As the moon moves above and below the ecliptic, perhaps different celestial latitudes of the moon could account for the contradiction.

Cycles of the moon, including latitude, are predictable and therefore such correlations could be useful in organizing behaviour management strategies in secondary schools.

METHODOLOGY

Data was collected from an educational application called Capita SIMS. All members of staff, irrespective of position, can access this for information stored on all pupils (date of birth, parental contacts, academic progress, attendance, behaviour, achievements, ethnic and religious origins, timetables, etc.). The potential database for this project was massive (over 20,000 entries) and so, to make it more manageable, it was reduced to a single academic year (September 2012 - July 2013) of 8,000 entries. A second academic year (September

2009 - July 2010) was added as a means of comparison, as this gave a different cohort of children in the school. The effects would be compared by percentage and then further results would be assessed through investigating the latitude of the moon.

The effects of a high latitude moon was also considered: high node versus low node, i.e. whether syzygy (the generic name for Full and New moons) was near or far from the nodal axis, => large or small lunar latitude. So this investigation has focused on two different lunar-monthly cycles: Moon phase of 29.5 days (synodic month) and the draconic (nodical) cycle of 27.2 days (NB this is not the same as the sidereal orbit-period, despite their period being quite similar). The celestial latitude of the moon goes up to five or six degrees north and south of the ecliptic each month, then reaches zero latitude when it crosses over the ecliptic. That happens twice a month, and the moon is then conjunct its node, the two nodes North and South node: for the purpose of this study the researcher made no distinction between them, just as the researcher would have made no distinction between north and south celestial latitude. Lunar latitude is totally separate from lunar phase, except that twice yearly they come together in the 'eclipse seasons' when eclipses can happen.

The school has a clear behaviour policy with guidelines on what constitutes poor behaviour and how such behaviour should be

recorded on the SIMS application. There is no analysis on whether or not the incident sheets are recorded in line with school policy. It is assumed that if the school is using the data, then it must be in line with their own policy.

This data is used by the school to produce reports in order to offer a bespoke education to all pupils, which is in line with UK government regulations. From the reports, intervention strategies are decided. This can often mean pupils with no academic or behavioural concerns are ignored. For the preliminary research, the reports used were calculated and distributed by a designated information and technology professional each half term. For the behaviour reports, there was a distinction made between the different types of behaviour, the age, gender of the pupil and the date the behaviour entry was made by members of staff. The graphs produced were generated by the school but were available to me (and others) as a member of the leadership team. The strength of this data was that personal bias was removed.

The latitude of the moon had to be added to the data by the astrologer after the preliminary reports had been separated by lunar phases. Again, there is no personal bias in this.

For the data for this project, I created my own data reports for the purpose of examining the number of behaviour sheets recorded for male and female pupils on the new, first quarter, full and last quarter moons. For each date Solar and Junar celestial



longitudes were obtained, and the sun-moon angle found: such that New moon was zero and Full moon, 180° Roughly each lunar quarter lasted one week, but exactly it was 90° of sun-moon angle. The syzygy positions (Full and New Moon) were centred on these 90° sectors. The figure above shows this. Thus the Full Moon quadrant spanned 135° to 225° of Sun-Moon angle. One could choose to use a smaller arc e.g. 60° in some future study.

There was no consideration of age or type of behaviour. Only gender and date of issue for the reports were taken into consideration. The numbers of incident sheets were then divided according to dates and then calculated to determine at which of the moon phases the behaviour occurred. A noon time was arbitrarily taken, for those days on which the demarcation-points fell.

To investigate whether gender could show a correlation between behaviour and lunar phases, the behaviour of boys (who have far higher incidents of poor behaviour overall) and girls was separated.

At the time of data collection, the astrologer was in a position of management in charge of monitoring the behaviour data of one academic year group. Because of this position, the astrologer had access to and an interest in the data outside of astrological interests. It was only after the astrologer had left the post that it was realized that there might be enough information to analyse whether or not the phases of the moon had an effect on behaviour.

It must be noted the data from this school is completely anonymised.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Astrologers tend to see the full moon as a time of high energy. For example Molly Hall, who is called an "astrology expert" on astrology. about.com writes: of the new moon: "When the Moon is new, the Luminaries -- the Sun and Moon -- are aligned in the same Zodiac sign. That makes it a charged time with concentrated energies of that sign. A New Moon is a symbolic point of attention, and a symbolic portal for new beginnings."

Whilst it would be erroneous to expect every astrologer to interpret new and full moons in the same manner, one would be hard pressed to find an astrologer who doesn't attribute any significance to the major lunations. This researcher's experience with regards to the effects on the lunar phases and behaviour, is that it demonstrates communal reinforcement, i.e. schoolteachers will discuss such effects. In fact it was a casual remark from a fellow teacher about pupil behaviour and the full moon that triggered off this research project.

The literature on lunar effect research is divided. Outside of

astrology, the full moon has long been linked to crime, suicide, mental illness, disasters, accidents, birth rates, fertility, among other things such as lycanthropy. Attempts to prove or disprove the lunar effect are ample but the results of the research is divided.

In comparing the number of behaviour reports, one obvious influencing factor between the genders in adolescence could relate to the menstrual cycle. A 1986 study found that among 826 female volunteers, aged between 16 and 25 years (with a normal menstrual cycle), "a large proportion of menstruations occurred around the new moon (28.3%), while at other times during the lunar month the proportion of menstruations occurring ranged between 8.5-12.6%; the difference was significant (p<0.01)."

Further, this has not stopped organisations using the cycles of the moon to prevent crime. For example, in 2007 several police departments in the U.K. even added officers on full-moon nights in an effort to cope with presumed higher crime rates. The article does not indicate if this has been effective in crime prevention.

However, not all studies have concluded that the phases of the moon have nothing to do with tragic events here on earth. A.L Lieber's (1978) study on aggressive behaviour in Dade County Florida gathered data from police files on aggravated assaults, medical examiner reports on suicides and fatal accidents and hospital

records on psychiatry referrals from emergency room visits all showed lunar correlations with variance on lunar phase. Homicide and aggravated assault clustered around the new and full lunations. Correlations between the suicide curve with both fatal traffic accidents and aggravated assault suggests a component of self-destruction.

Other studies have shown similar results by taking into account that fatal accidents were more likely to occur when there is a new or full moon and the accident happens at the weekend. It would seem other variables occurring only at the weekend of the new and full moons affected the outcome of the study.

Owen et al (1998) concluded that: "No significant relationship was found between total violence and aggression or level of violence and aggression and any phase of the moon." Further, other studies (Little et al, 1987; Durm et al, 1986) have failed to demonstrate any relationship between lunar phase and disruptive behaviour in mental hospitals.

It would seem that it would be very difficult indeed to find a reliable and/or significant correlation between the phases of the moon and adolescent behaviour. Could perigees and apogees of the moon have an effect on human behaviour?

A study conducted in Canada in 1973 found that females were significantly (p<.05) more likely to self-inflict injuries by poisoning during the first quarter cycle of the moon and less likely to do so at the third quarter of the lunar cycle. The study also found that males did not show lunar periodicity (p<.025). However, overall the study found that "a significant correlation between periods in which a large number of self-inflicted injuries occurred and the apogees and perigees of the moon, was found (p<.005)."

However, a 1985 investigation on a lunar-aggression hypothesis and the number of aggressive penalties awarded over the course of a season for an ice hockey team was found: "Interpersonal aggression was found to be unrelated to either the synodic or anomalistic cycles, a result consistent with recent reviews of lunar research."

One reason the moon has less of a clear effect on human behaviour could be the fact that 21st century humans are more unaware of the cycles of the moon with our roofed homes and artificial lighting compared to 150 years ago when both of these factors would have been absent. But even without physical observation, could there still be a lunar effect on humans?

A possible answer to this question seems to be dependent on the effects of sleep deprivation. Röösli et al. (2006), found that people slept a mean of 19 minutes less on nights with a full moon compared with a new moon. More recent studies by Cajochen, et al. (2013), have shown that the phase of the moon affects the human sleep cycle. "We have evidence that the distance to the nearest full-moon phase significantly influences human sleep and evening melatonin levels when measured under strictly controlled laboratory conditions, where factors such as light and personal moon perception can be excluded."

So could this fact alter the effects of the lunar phases on adolescent sleeping patterns? And in turn, could this be the key in explaining the differences in behaviour during the different phases of the moon?

Award-winning sleep expert Mary Carskadon has found that the sleeping patterns in adolescence varies greatly, causing sleep deprivation. She indicates that "the effects of inadequate sleep are more than mere annoyances: they affect our mood and how we perform at school, work, and home and behind the wheel. Lost sleep also accumulates over time; the more "sleep debt" an individual incurs, the greater the negative consequences," (Carskadon and Dement, 1981; Wolfson and Carskadon, 1998).

Twenty minutes may not seem like a lot of lost sleeping time but this is particularly important to adolescent behaviour as that age group already suffers from a disturbed circadian cycle. A survey by Wolfson and Carskadon of 3,120 high school students across four public high schools self-reported that their total sleep time increased by up to one hour at the weekends but decreased by 40-50 minutes during the school week. Whilst this survey did not take into account the phases of the moon, it demonstrates how the sensitive circadian cycle is prone to disturbances. And thus could be affected by the light of the full moon according to Röösli, et al.

It would appear that more sleep may mean that pupils have more energy to get into trouble. It could also mean that teachers have more energy to record poor behaviour.

RESULTS

<u>Data</u>: 7944 school punishments from an East London Secondary School

6081 from boys only 1863 from girls only

<u>Collected by</u>: Ms A. Trenoweth, Head of Year

<u>Administered</u>: over the period: September 2012-July 2013 (190 academic school days)

<u>Weekday pattern</u>: Fewer detentions given on Fridays

<u>The investigation</u>: Can adolescent behaviour be influenced by lunar phase?

Method: The data was divided arbitrarily into four segments each of more or less two thousand (A, B, C & D) for analysis. This was done for convenience of analysing the data and has no particular significance. As explained, lunar quarters were measured by Sun-Moon angle, centred on the Full and New moons, 0-180°. The diagram shows the eight sectors of the circle which are implied by such a fourfold division.

Three axes or dimensions were investigated: (1) Full moon versus New (2) boy-girl (3) high node versus low node (i.e. whether syzygy was near or far from the node axis, as would give a large or small lunar latitude). There was no time of day information for when the events happened, so the Sun-Moon angle is only accurate within

Total number of discipline cases over one academic year vs lunar phase

Lunar phase	А	В	С	D	Totals
New Moon	575	533	545	568	2221
1st Quarter	451	430	514	495	1890
Full moon	483	478	473	477	1911
3rd quarter	487	560	467	408	1922
NM/FM difference	19%	34%	15%	19%	16%
totals	1996	2001	1999	1948	7944

several degrees. All the data was sorted by Sun-moon angle 0-360° and thereby grouped into the four sectors.

<u>Results</u> - total number of Discipline cases over one academic year, vs lunar phase (*Table on top of next column*)

Because I am not predicting anything in advance, I thought a chi-square test was inappropriate for this set of data.

<u>Summary</u>: New Moon quarters scored more than Full Moon quarters. They also scored 16% more than the rest of the month combined.

II. Waxing versus waning Moon: referring to the diagram, the 'waxing Moon' is the two-week period 0-180°, then the 'waning' period follows on after 180-360°. During the waxing period the Moon is seen to be growing in the sky then while waning it decays. No difference was found in the data.

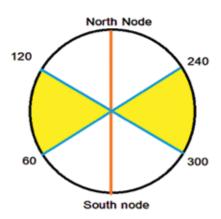
III. <u>Boys only</u> – 77% of data was male.

Selecting only the dates when punishment or discipline was administered to boys, and again arbitrarily grouping them into four parts for data-analysis, then grouping by Sun-Moon angle:

Lunar Quarter

Moon phase	А	В	С	D	TOTAL
NM Quarter	473	409	415	410	1707
1st Quarter	366	330	386	377	1459
Full Moon	377	330	346	361	1414
3rd Quarter	399	436	346	320	1501
NM/FM Diff.	25%	14%	20%	14%	
Totals:	1615	1505	1493	1468	6081

=>34% overall



There was a slightly smaller difference found for girls, but overall this gender effect was not significant.

IV. Moon furthest from ecliptic, in celestial latitude (This happens when the Moon is at 90° to the lunar node axis). Twice yearly, as explained earlier, syzygy will coincide with the lunar node axis at

from the node axis, i.e. from either of the lunar nodes. Thereby we select about one-third of the data. For this selection-process the Sunnode angle was measured.

This extra-large effect is for that one-third of the year when New moons happen 'at high latitude' i.e. far from the ecliptic. It is a counterintuitive result – one could expect the low-latitude New moons (when eclipses happen) to be more influential.

This node effect would really need testing over maybe a ten-year period. The present result is here offered as being suggestive and worthy of further study.

The earlier 2009 sample (*graph at top of next column*) was smaller due to a smaller school, just 1300 cases.

This was the second data-set analysed, and it therefore tests the hypothesis which became evident in the 2011-2012 data set. We may perform a significance test upon it, which gives chi-square of 4 for

the New moon and 12 for the Full moon, quarters, suggesting a significant result.

Sun-Node Angle (in degrees)

Moon phase	Α	В	С	D
New Moon	188	201	122	221
1st Quarter	161	135	86	137
Full Moon	99	109	204	133
3rd Quarter	100	132	161	119
Totals	548	577	673	610
NM/FM diff.	90%	84%	-40%	66%

the 'eclipse seasons.' Around these months of the year, New Moons will occur close the ecliptic, i.e. they will be of low celestial latitude. Three months later, they will be far from it. The eclipse seasons were then falling in May and November

We selected for a large lunar latitude at syzygy (Full & New Moon), such that the angle between Sun and nodal axis was greater than 60°. Twice each year, the Sun moves 60° – 120° away

DISCUSSION

The results for 2012-2013 are counter-intuitive to popular belief and previous studies that focused on the full moon. There is an indication that pupils are more likely to be in trouble at the new moon rather than at any other

	Total
New Moon quarter	370
1st Quarter	330
Full Moon	259
3rd Q	340

Totals: 1299, NM/FM difference 43%

time of the lunar cycle. Further, at the higher latitude (the moon furthest away from the earth), this effect is liable to be stronger: suggesting higher latitude new moons being more influential than others. This pattern was replicated from the 2009 data (although the total number of entries were fewer owing to lower enrolment).

The results are also in contradiction to when astrologers might expect poor behaviour (during eclipses). As yet, this study showed no significant differences in the results when the genders are separated. Again, this would be a surprise to astrologers who would expect girls to be more affected by lunar phases than boys.

These cycles are predictable and if teachers are open to them, strategic interventions can be put into place to cope with the fallout of behaviour. What isn't clear about the results is whether or not it is the pupils who are in trouble or if it is the teachers who are more sensitive to pupil behaviour.

The studies on sleep here indicate that the circadian cycles of humans are more likely to be affected with less sleep at the full moon than at the new moon. Simply put, adolescents are better rested at the New Moon. Could this simply

mean that adolescent pupils and teachers simply have more energy cause trouble (the pupils) and respond to poor behaviour (the teachers)?

Further studies could investigate the types of behaviour exhibited and the consequences of the behaviours to gain a fuller picture.

It is also clear from the research of Mary Carskadon that adolescents are more affected by a lack of sleep than adults. Again, more research needs to be done to determine the effects of a lack of sleep according to age.

It would also be fascinating to investigate religious observations such as Ramadan (and others) to see if there is an impact on children of a specific demographic. There is also scope to investigate whether or not poverty has an effect on the circadian cycle and therefore on behaviour.

The lack of behaviour reports filed on Fridays could be down to the fact that the school operated its whole school detentions on this day. Perhaps teachers did not file reports because they knew pupils would be in detention on that day. However, ignoring poor behaviour was certainly not a part of the behaviour policy. Further, it could be possible that teachers did not record poor behaviour until after the weekend (although this would not affect the actual day the behaviour occurred on).

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Remarkably, this type of research into the effects of the lunar phases on pupil behaviour has hardly been carried out hitherto. The results could suggest that the new moon is when pupils have more energy. Such information could be used productively to enhance pupil learning by capitalising on their peak energy levels which so clearly need to be utilised and channelled appropriately.

More research is also needed with the circadian cycles of adolescence: is there a difference between the circadian patterns of key stage three pupils (11-14 years) and key stage 4 pupils (15-16 years)? If so, can the schools adjust timetables accordingly to benefit the pupils?

Working with the natural cycles of the lunar phases seems such an easy win in education. For this to work, educators would have to be willing to draw their own conclusions about these effects, which have so long been relegated to folklore.

ENDNOTES

¹Wilde, J. (2008). The relationship between the lunar cycle and adolescent misbehavior: Fact or fiction? Michigan Academy of Science Arts & Letters. Retrieved from https://www.thefreelibrary.com/

BIOGRAPHY Alex Trenoweth,

MA (CAA), DFAstrolS, CIA Agent 144 is an astrological researcher and professional schoolteacher in London UK. In 2015, she was awarded "International Astrologer of the Year" by the Krishnamurti Institute of Astrology (KIA) for her groundbreaking and innovative research on Astrology and Education based on her book "Growing Pains" (The Wessex Astrologer). Since then she has spoken at astrology conferences around the world and has contributed to major magazines and publications such as Dell Horoscope, The Career Astrologer (OPA), The ISAR Journal, The Journal of Research for AFA (Grant Trust) and Kindred Spirit.

From 2016, Alex has worked tirelessly in her role as Secretary General and Vice Principal of KIA to bring Western and Vedic Astrologers together for the Institute of Vedic Culture Conference in Kolkata India in 2018 which aimed to promote better understanding, scholarship and, most importantly, friendship between astrologers of different cultures. In 2018, KIA awarded her with an honourary PhD for her research on "Adolescent Behaviour and Lunar Phase" as well as an award for Outstanding Service to Astrology.

ATTITUDES TOWARDS ASTROLOGY IN CONTEMPORARY EGYPT

BY MAAYAN MEDZINI & GEORGE RICHARDS





INTRODUCTION

Astrology has a long history of practice in Egypt, despite opposition from religious authorities. Recent research has shown that astrology newspaper columns are popular among Egyptians, and that other nonmainstream traditional practices (specifically dream-divination and mulid celebrations) are popular across social divides in contemporary Egypt. This paper explores whether the popularity of astrology in mass media in Egypt correlates to favourable attitudes towards astrology in general among contemporary Egyptians, and the impact of religious beliefs and higher education on Egyptians' attitudes towards astrology. After a review of the literature on the popularity of astrology newspaper items in Egypt and its relationship to attitudes towards astrology in general;

attitudes towards other non-mainstream traditional practices in Egypt; and the relationship of Islam to astrology, this paper summarises the findings of a questionnaire issued online to a small number of urban, mainly university-graduate, Muslim, Egyptians. This paper will show that astrology remains popular in urban Egypt in the media and across educational and religious divisions.

LITERATURE REVIEW

HISTORY OF ASTROLOGY IN EGYPT

The history of astrology in Egypt stretches from at least its pinnacle in the work of Claudius Ptolemy, an Egyptian from Alexandria in the Roman period, to the modern era. Following the advent of Christianity as the majority religion in Egypt in late Antiquity, astrology declined in prominence, chiefly as a result of criticism by religious theorists; but. according to Kocku von Stuckrad, it

nevertheless remained in practice.² Islam succeeded to the position of majority religion in Egypt from the seventh century AD. The relationship of Islam to astrology is complex: a traditional reading of the Islamic canonical texts casts doubt on the legitimacy of astrology, summed up by this Koranic verse: 'Say: "No one on in the heavens or on earth has knowledge of what is hidden except God"'.3 Nonetheless, astrology was studied and practised widely in the Islamic world, including by religious scholars, and influenced the development of European astrology.4 In Egypt specifically, despite official religious opposition and popular Egyptian sayings warning against it - such as 'Do not give any money to the astrologer for this' and 'The astrologers have lied even if they have told the truth' (a popular proverb commonly mistaken for a saying (hadith) of the Prophet
Mohammed), astrology has
been practised throughout
Egypt's Islamic history,
during the Fatimid,
Mamluk, and Ottoman
periods, and in the
nineteenth and twentieth
centuries, at various
levels of Egyptian society,
including the
urban ruling class and the
rural peasantry.⁵

Favourite item	Peasants	Peasants	Non-peasants	Non-peasants
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Political topics	45	22	81	42
National news	44	21	65	34
International news	11	5	29	15
Rural items	9	4	27	14
Cultural items	7	3	39	20
Accidents	42	20	61	32
Sports	16	8	28	15
Astrology	27	13	25	13
Obituaries	25	12	26	14

Table 1: Respondents' favourite newspaper items (from El Menoufi, 'Occupational status', p. 263)

ATTITUDES TOWARDS ASTROLOGY IN THE MEDIA

Similar to its historical position, astrology in contemporary Egypt is non-mainstream but commonplace. The Egyptian Islamic religious establishment, Al-Azhar and Dar Al-Ifta', formally opposes astrology.⁶ Nonetheless, astrology is widely available in mass media: astrology items are published in most Egyptian newspapers, and books by the popular Egyptian astrologer, Nevine Al-Shala, are available in book-shops.⁷

A detailed analysis of the position of astrology in mass media in contemporary Egyptian society can be found in the results of Kamal El Menoufi's 1981 study of mass media consumption in Egypt in general.8 El Menoufi collected data in a number of villages in rural Egypt, including by survey questionnaire, and established that astrology items, together with obituaries, were 'the only categories [of newspaper item] that attract roughly the same percentage of [interest from] both groups' ('peasants'

and 'non-peasants') – 13% of both peasant and non-peasant respondents considered astrology items to be their favourite newspaper items.⁹

To contextualise El Menoufi's findings with trends towards astrology items in newspapers worldwide, Nick Allum noted that 'just under half of Americans read their horoscope at least occasionally in 1999 (National Science Board, 2000) and 44 percent of British citizens in 1996 and there is little reason to think that the numbers have declined since then'.10 These data are useful context, but they consider the frequency of reading astrology newspaper items, not their popularity (as in El Menoufi's study). The survey reported in this paper expands on El Menoufi's findings with a complementary study of attitudes towards astrology items in mass media in urban Egypt, and considers frequency of reading astrology items as a

comparison to Allum's findings.

Relationship between popularity of astrology items in the media and attitudes towards astrology in general

The popularity of astrology items in mass media raises the question of its correlation to attitudes towards astrology more generally. In Egypt, the question is particularly pressing: El Menoufi's data on astrology newspaper columns are the only scholarly study of astrology in contemporary Egypt. This lacuna in the scholarship is not uncommon in the Islamic world. As Nicholas Campion pointed out in his chapter on Islam in Astrology and cosmology in the world's religions:

"...there is a lack of scholarly studies of the modern world regarding the continuity of popular astrological traditions. Scholarly treatments of modern vernacular cosmology are rare, with exceptions in the

study of the legacy of Arabic astrology in Madagascar and an ethnography of Bedouin in the Negev."¹¹

This paper seeks to redress this situation, at least in part, in respect of contemporary Egypt.

The question of whether the popularity of astrology newspaper columns reflects attitudes towards astrology more generally has been examined in other contexts, outside Egypt. Allum noted:

It is one thing to read an astrology column for amusement or entertainment, but quite another to believe that astrological predictions about events or personality will come true. [...] One does not need to believe something is true to be entertained by reading it.¹²

Allum concluded that 'for most people, reading a horoscope is a leisure activity and not one of central importance either'. Likewise, James Davidson noted his own fondness for reading a weekly astrology newspaper column derived from his curiosity about celestial movements, not a belief in astrology.

I don't believe in astrology but I am rather fond of it. In the first place I like to be reminded that things are happening in the solar system. If Neil Spencer didn't tell me in the Observer that Mercury is 'retrograde' [...] I would have no idea that Mercury was doing anything at all [...].¹⁴

Other explanations for astrology newspaper column readership have been proposed by Theodor W. Adorno: these include a belief in astrology; the dependency needs of readers (as a way of explaining their existence in an opaque system); and a substitute for sexual satisfaction of a passive nature.15 Determining the relationship between the popularity of astrology newspaper columns and attitudes towards astrology in general is therefore critical to interpreting the broader implications of El Menoufi's (and this study's) findings on astrology readership in Egypt.

Relationship between education and attitudes towards astrology

El Menoufi's research found that there was no distinction between class (peasant and nonpeasant) regarding the popularity of astrology newspaper items among rural Egyptians: this was in contrast to divergent attitudes between the two groups towards other newspaper items. Without assuming a positive correlation between the popularity of newspaper items and favourable attitudes towards astrology, El Menoufi's findings raise questions about the relationship between class and education and contemporary Egyptian attitudes towards astrology.

In this context, it is important to take account of research on the relationship between class and education and other non-

mainstream traditional practices in contemporary Egypt. Amira Mittermaier's study of dreamdivination (a non-mainstream traditional practice similar in its cultural positioning in Egypt to astrology) noted the popularity of dream-divination among 'well off, highly educated' people.¹⁶ Mittermaier's findings complemented Michael Gilsenan's earlier research on the role of dreams among 'illiterate Egyptian peasant women', and showed that dream-divination was popular across educational divisions.17 Likewise, Joska Samuli Schielke's study of mulid festivals (celebrating legendary Islamic figures) noted their popularity across educational and class boundaries, despite opposition from religious authorities and the perception that 'there are absolutely no educated middle classes at mulids except as distanced spectators'.18 Mittermaier and Schielke found that, contrary to commonlyheld pre-conceptions about Egyptian society, education (and class) did not preclude Egyptians from holding positive attitudes towards (or even being involved in) the nonmainstream traditional practices of dream-divination and mulids in contemporary Egypt. More generally, Allum has tested and upheld (in a survey of European respondents) his 'immunisation' hypothesis: 'the more knowledgeable a person is [including graduation from higher education], the less scientific they believe

that astrology is'.¹⁹ However, even assuming that Allum's hypothesis applies to Egypt, a belief that astrology is unscientific need not equate with an unfavourable attitude towards astrology. In this context, this research explores the impact of education on attitudes towards astrology in contemporary Egypt.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RELIGION AND ATTITUDES TOWARDS ASTROLOGY

The correlation of an active belief in religion to perceptions of astrology is an important area of study. T. L. Brink, in his study in Chicago, and Robert Wuthnow, in his study in San Francisco, both considered whether a belief in astrology was incompatible with, or a surrogate for, a belief in religion.²⁰ Brink's research poses some problems: the format (twelve detailed questions on Catholic doctrine, two direct 'belief' questions on astrology and reincarnation) and the context in which the survey was distributed (a compulsory religion class in a Catholic school) might be expected to distort results in favour of a belief in Catholicism, and away from non-mainstream beliefs. Bearing these limitations in mind (which potentially understate beliefs in astrology), Brink nonetheless found that a belief in Catholicism was not incompatible with a belief in astrology: 'subjects who expressed belief in astrology had only slightly lower adherence to most parts of

Catholic doctrine, and were even slightly more adherent on a few points'.21 Wuthnow found that, controlling for the social marginality of respondents (which he considered a cause for interest in astrology), 'there is a negative relation between interest in astrology and church attendance'.22 In contrast to Wuthnow's findings, Allum, in a study of Europeans, found that Catholics were more likely to consider astrology to be scientific and therefore 'to be credulous of astrology'.23 These varied conclusions on the relationship between Christianity and astrology provide a broad context to this paper's comparable study of the relationship between religion and astrology in contemporary Egypt.

METHODOLOGY

I distributed a questionnaire online to a sample of 37 Egyptians. My target population comprised urban, educated Egyptians, with a preference for university-graduates, and a proportionate representation of male and female respondents and Muslim and non-Muslims. broadly reflecting Egyptian demographics. The target group and the means of datacollection did not raise any specific ethical issues. Within the sample group, there was an even distribution between male and female respondents, and almost all respondents were aged 20-29 or 30-39. The significant majority of

respondents were Muslim; other respondents were Christian (two) or atheist / agnostic / non-religious (four). With three exceptions, all respondents were university graduates; I did not want to exclude nongraduates, as some analysis was not predicated on a class of university graduates. The high numbers of Muslim and university-graduate respondents allowed for a meaningful sample to address questions about the relationship between astrology and both religion and education.

The sample was not a true random sample: a wide class of potential respondents was selected by a community gatekeeper, of which the respondents constituted a sub-set. Judith Bell has noted that, 'as long as the make-up of the sample is clearly stated and the limitations of the data are recognised', an opportunity sample (such as this) is generally acceptable.24 The use of a community gatekeeper to assist with participant recruitment was essential: I am not Egyptian and do not live in Egypt, and was distributing the survey online. Monique Hennink et al. noted that using a community gatekeeper is a 'common strategy' with clear benefits; in this case, the community gatekeeper was a university-graduate Muslim Egyptian with a wide social network.²⁵ The community gatekeeper selected the set of potential respondents to whom the survey was distributed on

the basis that they satisfied the criteria of the target population (described above) and contacted the respondents prior to distribution of the survey in order to build a level of trust, and to provide assurances that the responses would be anonymous. The benefit of using a community gatekeeper was demonstrated by the high response rate: the survey was distributed to 45 people, with a response rate of 82%. I also collaborated with the community gatekeeper in testing the questionnaire through a pilot; as described below, the pilot was critically important in refining the choice of questions.

The questionnaire approach to explore perspectives on astrology is well-established in the academic literature.²⁶ In my case, a questionnaire (distributed online) was an effective way to reach respondents overseas in Egypt. The questionnaire also reflected the methodology of previous researchers in the field. Bell noted the importance of triangulating research with previous work in the field as a means of cross-checking and, as appropriate, challenging or supporting previous findings.27 With this in mind, my questionnaire consciously reflected El Menoufi's survey question on the popularity of astrology items in newspapers, and the format of Wuthnow's question on occasional church

attendance (once a week), allowing my research to draw meaningful comparisons with El Menoufi's and Wuthnow's findings.²⁸

More generally, my questionnaire was formulated to minimise potential distortion of results. In particular, the question 'Do you believe in astrology?' posed potential problems. In the context of other non-mainstream beliefs, Tony Walter and Helen Waterhouse found respondents struggled with 'belief' questions relating to reincarnation for example, if they had not had personal experience of reincarnation - and preferred 'Do you find the idea of reincarnation attractive?'.29 Likewise, Walter had previously found similar problems with yes-don't know-no questions about other afterlife beliefs.30 In her study on witchcraft, Jeanne Favret-Saada found that a direct yes-no question about 'belief' in witchcraft tended to trigger a negative response, potentially obscuring the respondent's more complex views and therefore distorting results.31 This was confirmed in my pilot, where I tested two formulations: 'Do you believe in astrology' and 'How do you consider astrology (favourably or unfavourably)?'. Responses to the pilot 'belief' question were uniformly negative, whereas responses to the 'consider' question varied.32 In light of the problems with yesdon't know-no questions about

non-mainstream beliefs, and the results of my pilot, I used the 'consider' formulation in my questionnaire. A copy of the questionnaire is appended at Annex 1at the end of this article.

The 'insider / outsider problem' is prominent in academic discourse on research into astrology.33 Fiona Bowie has noted that most anthropologists studying religion are 'outsiders' (or etic) to their subject, and the risk that a researcher's overly-etic position will be reflected in the researcher's questions, potentially distorting results, has been noted by Liz Greene.34 My own position in the context of this research was etic - I am not an Egyptian. To address the risk of distortion noted by Greene, I conducted a substantive review of the relevant literature: the importance of a literature review is wellestablished for academic research, demonstrating that the researcher has, in Bell's words, 'understood the main theories in the subject area and how they have been applied and developed, as well as the main criticisms that have been made of work on the topic'.35 I also collaborated with the community gatekeeper in the pilot to minimise the extent that my etic position was reflected in the formulation of the questionnaire.36

	Total	University
		Graduate
N	37	34
Is an astrology article (such as a horoscope)		
your favourite kind of article in a newspaper,	4	3
a magazine or online?		
As percentage of N	11%	9%

Table 2: Popularity of astrology media items in urban Egypt

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Attitudes towards astrology in the media

El Menoufi's study of mass media in rural Egypt identified that astrology newspaper items were the most popular newspaper items among 13% of both peasant and nonpeasant respondents. The present study sought to expand on El Menoufi's findings by triangulating his data with new findings for contemporary urban Egyptians. Whereas El Menoufi's survey addressed newspaper columns only, this survey addressed mass media more broadly, including online articles and magazines, as

well as newspapers, to reflect changes in media consumption habits. Instead of El Menoufi's peasant / non-peasant distinction (which is difficult to apply in an urban setting), this study used university graduates as a comparator to El Menoufi's non-peasants.

These results demonstrate a striking resemblance to El Menoufi's findings. 11% of all respondents (urban Egyptians) considered astrology items to be their favourite items to read in the media; El Menoufi's finding for rural Egyptians was 13%. Comparing urban university-graduates to rural non-peasants, the deviation increases slightly, indicating

an inverse correlation between university education and the popularity of astrology items; this is contrary to El Menoufi's findings, which found no difference between peasant and non-peasant respondents. Whether the deviation between these results and El Menoufi's findings reflects changing attitudes to astrology over time (the two studies are 35 years apart) or measurable differences in attitudes between urban and rural Egyptians; or, as seems most likely given the small sample size, whether the analysis was skewed by outlier results (only four of all respondents, and three university-graduate respondents, considered astrology items their favourite media items), further research is required to determine.

Relationship between popularity of astrology items in the media and attitudes towards astrology in general

The results in Table 2 on the popularity of astrology items among contemporary urban

Table 3: Reading habits and attitudes towards astrology

	Attitude towards astrology	Attitude towards astrology	
Frequency of reading astrology items	of Total	Favourable	Unfavourable
Regularly (more often than once a month) $(n = 6)$	16%	83%	17%
Occasionally (no more often than once a month) (n = 16)	43%	38%	63%
Almost never (n = 14)	38%	50%	50%
Never (n = 1)	3%	100%	0%

Note: total may exceed 100% due to rounding.

Egyptians, and El Menoufi's similar results in Table 1, raise an important question: does a preference for astrology items in mass media equate with a favourable attitude towards astrology in general?

All those respondents for whom astrology media items were their favourite media items (see Table 2) had a favourable attitude towards astrology, but this only comprises three respondents and is too small a sample from which draw a firm conclusion on the correlation between the popularity of astrology media items and attitudes towards astrology. More robust data concern the relationship between the frequency of reading astrology media items (separate to any indication of preference) and attitudes towards astrology.

These results suggest that reading astrology items is popular among this small sample of Egyptians: 59% of respondents read astrology items at least occasionally. This is noticeably higher than the figures for the frequency of reading astrology newspaper items reported by Allum for America (just under 50%) and Britain (44%).³⁷ These results suggest a positive correlation between the non-marginal (regular) reading of astrology items and a favourable attitude towards astrology; but an inverse correlation between the marginal (occasional) reading of astrology items and a favourable attitude towards astrology. Put simply, and noting the risk of

outliers skewing the analysis in such a small sample, the results suggest that, for urban Egyptians, occasional readers of astrology items in fact tend to have an unfavourable attitude towards astrology; whereas the attitude towards astrology of a respondent who almost never read astrology items is as likely to be favourable as unfavourable.

These results therefore suggest that high readership levels of astrology media items in Egypt do not equate with a favourable attitude towards astrology Egyptians with unfavourable attitudes towards astrology continue to read astrology items.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EDUCATION AND ATTITUDES TOWARDS ASTROLOGY

The survey results also demonstrate the favourable attitude of university graduate respondents towards astrology.

These results lend support to the picture painted by Mittermaier and Schielke of non-mainstream traditional practices in Egyptian society: that, contrary to

Table 4: University education and attitudes towards astrology

	University
	Graduate
N	34
Favourable attitude towards astrology	53%
Unfavourable attitude towards astrology	47%

in general. This supports the arguments of Allum and Adorno, and the anecdotal evidence put forward by Davidson, that reading astrology items need not reflect a favourable attitude towards astrology in general. Allum, Adorno and Davidson have put forward competing explanations for why astrology attracts readers who nonetheless do not believe in astrology – amusement, sexuality, and curiosity in celestial movement.38 Further research will be required to explore why contemporary

common preconceptions in contemporary Egypt, educated Egyptians do participate in dream-divination and mulid celebrations.³⁹ Similarly, these results show that universitygraduate respondents tended to have a favourable attitude towards astrology. Like dreamdivination and mulids, astrology is also popular among welleducated Egyptians. This survey did ask whether respondents had ever participated in a mulid: only two respondents had done so, both of whom had unfavourable attitudes

Table 5: Islam and attitudes towards astrology

		Religiously
	All Muslims	Active Muslim
N	31	20
Unfavourable attitudes towards astrology	56%	65%
Consider astrology contrary to Islam	10%	5%

towards astrology, but the number of respondents was too small to draw any meaningful conclusions. Further research is therefore needed to determine any correlation of attitudes towards different non-mainstream traditional practices.

Further research is also required to determine whether Allum's 'immunisation' hypothesis applies in Egypt but and whether a belief that astrology is unscientific positively correlates to an unfavourable attitude towards astrology in general.

Relationship between religion and attitudes towards astrology

The survey results also addressed the relationship between attitudes towards astrology and more active beliefs in Islam. 'Religiously-active' is defined here as comprising respondents who visited a mosque at least once a week, and/or who prayed at least once a day.

From the results of this survey, religiously-active Muslim respondents were more likely to have an unfavourable attitude towards astrology than all Muslims. This is broadly consistent with

Wuthnow's finding that 'there is a negative relation between interest in astrology and church attendance'.40 On first inspection, this appears to reflect the Egyptian Islamic establishment's opposition to astrology: the more religiouslyactive a respondent, the more likely to adhere to Islamic establishment doctrine. However, the proportion of respondents who considered astrology to be contrary to Islam was in fact lower among religiously-active Muslim respondents than all Muslim respondents. Albeit with a small sample size, the results to this survey suggest an inverse relationship between Muslim respondents' religious activity and the view that astrology is contrary to Islam: further research, if supporting these results, could raise the question of whether this positive correlation between religious activity and unfavourable attitudes towards astrology is in fact a function of those religious beliefs at all.

Previous research has shown that holding religious beliefs (even when formally opposed to astrology) is not incompatible with also holding favourable attitudes towards astrology.

Brink and Allum each concluded that it is possible to adhere to both religious doctrine (in those cases, Catholicism) and beliefs in astrology: Brink found that 'subjects who expressed belief in astrology had only slightly lower adherence to most parts of Catholic doctrine, and were even slightly more adherent on a few points' (emphasis added), and Allum concluded that Catholics were in fact more likely 'to be credulous of astrology' than non-Catholics.41 Far from precluding favourable attitudes towards astrology, religious beliefs may in fact be positively correlated to favourable attitudes towards astrology.

In the case of this study, if unfavourable attitudes towards astrology among religiouslyactive Muslim respondents were driven by their adherence to Islamic doctrine, one would expect religious activity to correlate positively to the view that astrology is contrary to Islam (as Islamic doctrine holds). This is not the case. To elucidate these results, further research is required to determine whether religiouslyactive Muslim respondents' unfavourable attitudes towards astrology were driven by something other than Islamic doctrine (for example, a general scepticism of other world-views; or some factor unconnected to respondents' religious beliefs); whether a respondent's 'religious activity' (or the criteria used here for categorising respondents as religiouslyactive) is not, in fact, directly related to a respondent's adherence to doctrine; or whether the sample was skewed by outlier results (only three of all Muslim respondents, and only one religiously-active Muslim respondent, considered astrology contrary to Islam).

CONCLUSION

This study has examined the attitudes of contemporary Egyptians towards astrology. The results of a survey of a small population of urban Egyptians showed that, while readership levels of astrology in the media did not correlate with a favourable attitude to astrology, respondents were still more likely to read their horoscope at least occasionally than an American or a Briton: and around 10% of respondents considered astrology items to be their favourite items in the media. Moreover, the results showed that, as demonstrated in other studies of the popularity of nonmainstream traditional practices among Egyptians, astrology was popular among welleducated respondents: urban university graduates tended to have a favourable attitude towards astrology. Similarly, despite the difficult relationship between astrology and Islamic doctrine and the religious establishment in Egypt, the survey suggested that faith in Islam does not preclude a favourable attitude towards astrology; indeed, it is unclear whether the inverse relationship shown in the results between

religious activity and favourable attitudes to astrology is a function of religious beliefs at all, the product of outliers skewing results in the survey's small sample size, or due to some other factor. As a small snapshot of attitudes today in the land of Claudius Ptolemy, this study points towards the popularity of astrology among urban Egyptians, in media consumption habits, among the well-educated, and among Muslims.

ANNEX 1 QUESTIONNAIRE

This is a questionnaire regarding perceptions of astrology in contemporary Egypt.

Note: your identity will remain anonymous.

Thank you for agreeing to participate in this project.

- 1. Do you give your consent to this *questionnaire* – *with your identity* anonymised – being used in academic research by George Richards? Yes No
- 2. Are you an Egyptian citizen? Yes No
- 3. Are you male or female? Male Female

4. How old are you? 20-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60+ Cairo Alexandria **Rural Egypt**

5. Where is your home? Another city in Egypt A city outside Egypt

6. Have you graduated from university? Yes

No

7. What is your religion? Islam Christianity Other: __

8. Do you pray at least once a day? Yes

No

9. Do you visit your place of worship (e.g., mosque or church) at least once a week?

Yes No

10. Do you know what your star-sign is?

Yes

No

11. Do you think your star-sign reflects your character?

Yes

No

12. How often do you read an astrology item (for example, a horoscope) in a newspaper, magazine or online?

Never

Almost never

Occasionally – no more often than once a month

Regularly – more often than once a month

13. Is an astrology item (such as a horoscope) your favourite kind of item in a newspaper, magazine or online?

Yes

No

14. Overall, how do you consider astrology?FavourablyUnfavourably

15. Do you consider a belief in astrology to be contrary to your religion?

Yes

No

16. Are you a practising astrologer? Yes

No

17. Have you ever participated in a mulid festival?

Yes No

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- ⁴⁰ Wuthnow, 'Astrology and marginality', p. 167. Wuthnow controlled for social marginality, which he considered a key driver of interest in astrology. As noted above, Wuthnow defined church attendance as visiting church once

a week; the definition of religiously active Muslim in this study reflects this by comprising respondents who visited mosque once a week, and/or who pray once a day.

⁴¹ Brink, 'Inconsistency of belief', p. 83; Allum, 'What makes some people think astrology is scientific?', p. 358.

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Maayan Medzini is a professional astrologer residing in Israel, and a student in the MA program for Cultural Astronomy and Astrology at the University of Wales, Trinity Saint David. Before and during the long road of astrology studies, Maayan worked as an online marketer for many years. When the astrology virus hit her, Maayan studied for many years varied branches of astrology (esoteric, medieval, ancient and modern). She now consults clients and teaches astrology, as well as raising her children, enjoying sky-watching when possible, or just the sunset at the beach. Maayan can be reached at maayanmed@ gmail.com, her English website

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Particularities

Quantitative Research



THE CASE FOR INCLUDING FRONT AND BACK PTOLEMAIC ASPECTS IN RESEARCH PROJECTS

BY ALPHEE LAVOIE, Astrologer, NCGR Level IV

Data Collection by Gokhan Yukselen • Edited by Diane Sabel

INTRODUCTION

I have always believed that Ptolemy's five main aspects are the best way of making astrological evaluations. There are trines and sextiles which are benefic while the oppositions and squares are malefic. Then there is the conjunction that can go either way depending on the planets involved. Now if the minor aspects are included then that changes the picture quite a bit. The semisquares, sesquiquadrates, and quincunxes, also known as the inconjuncts, are said to be more malefic while the semi-sextiles are benefic.

The vast majority of Astrologers view Ptolemy's aspects as five different aspects. But when we take a closer look there are actually eight different aspects. The angular opening between the conjunction is 0° degrees, between the opposition it's 180°, the sextile is 60° and 300°, between the square it's

90° and 270° degrees and the trine is 120° and 240° degrees. Astrologers do not differentiate between a trine being 120° and 240°. They do not differentiate between the two different openings in the sextiles and the squares.

If you total up the five Ptolemy aspects with the one degree orb for a 10 year period, 26.8 % were sextiles, 25.4 % were squares, 21.8 % were trines, 16.2 % were conjunctions, and 9.8 % were oppositions. If you are working with a client or looking at your own chart over 56.7% of the time you have good news and 43.3% of the time not so favorable news.

ABSTRACT

For this initial research project, we will evaluate the validity of using all eight of the mathematical aspects that can be made using Ptolemy's methods.

METHODOLOGY

In early 80s I started writing astrological software and doing research with astrology and the stock market. With the help of stock traders from all over the world that were using my Market Trader Titanium software, we discovered that Ptolemy's aspects react differently in the stock market than astrologers would expect. We find that in the stock market the trine reacts differently for the 120° and the 240° angular opening. So do the squares with the 90° and 270° opening and the sextiles at 60 and 300 degrees. Most of the time one opening of the aspect shows that the market will go down while the other opening shows it to go up. We started calling these aspects the "front" and "back". In the trine the 120° is the front aspect and the 240° is the back aspect. In the square the 90° is the front aspect and 270° is the back one. In a sextile

the 60° is a front aspect and the 300° the back one. And of course the conjunctions and the oppositions don't have front or back aspects because they only have one angular opening.

RESULTS

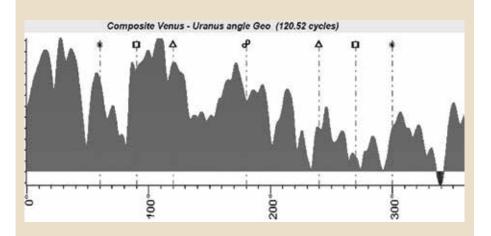
In the first composite graph we calculate the angular openings between Venus /Uranus using the Dow Jones for 133 years to see what the market did. We can clearly see that the market went up a lot more at the 90° and went down a lot on the 270. If you would have bought and sold every time that Venus/ Uranus were at 90° apart you would have made a 129% profit. But if you bought it when Venus/ Uranus were 270° apart you would have lost 46.5% of your money.

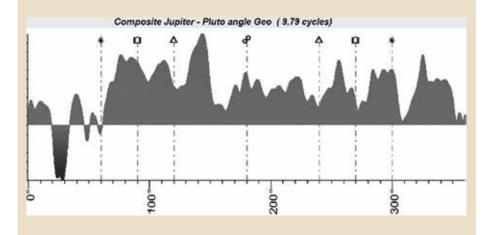
In the Composite Jupiter-Pluto graph had you bought and sold the Dow stocks when Jupiter was 60° to Pluto you would have lost 150% of your money. But if you bought it when Jupiter was 300° from Pluto you would have made a 44.3% percent profit.

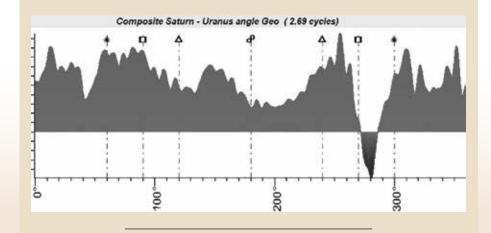
The Composite Saturn-Uranus graph we see that the Dow went down a lot more when Saturn Uranus was 270° apart than when it was 90° apart.

ASTROLOGY AND THE STOCK MARKET

Ptolemy's aspects react differently in the stock market than astrologers would expect







From the research we did on marriage the findings showed a high chi-square and high probability with the Ptolemy transiting planets in aspect to the seventh house ruler, planets in the seventh house, the ascendant ruler and planets in the first house. I wanted to see how many of these aspects were the front or the back aspects. The front aspect total was 959 and the back aspect total was 822. Of course that didn't tell me much.

I decided that the best way to prove my theory was to test the front and back aspects by sending the data through my AIR Software Research Program. The software has a module that uses neural net mathematics where you can take a set of data and set aside 20% as a control group. Then you set the criteria that you want to analyze. After the program reaches all the criteria with a high chi-square and probability, the neural net mathematics analyzes the strength of each criteria that met the chi-square and probability and compares it with the 20% control group. Neural Net will create an artificial intelligence model by using the value of the chi-square and probability for each criteria. It then compares these values to the 20% control group and assigns each criteria a numerical value. For the final step we take any data and send it through the artificial intelligence model

HIGH CHI-SQUARE AND HIGH PROBABILITY SHOWN WITH PTOLEMY TRANSITING PLANETS

Testing both front and back Ptolemaic aspects in comparison to control group, shows data comparison with original research findings.

In the first test I used the data from 1657 earthquakes that had a +7 or higher rating on the Richter scale. This data was collected by the Astroinvestigators Data Manager 'Gator' Gokhan Yukselen. I analyzed front and back aspects and the following graph shows the correlation results. The longer the bar graph is the higher the correlation for each earthquakes. As you can see below, the results from using front and back are pretty outstanding.

ABE_1906_7.0	Not Don't Know	Yes
ABE_1906_7.1	Mot Gon't Know	'es
UTSU_1906_7.0	Hat Don't Know	Yes
G&R_1906_8.0	Not Don't Know	Ves
G&R_1906_7.5	Don't Know	Yes
ABE_1906_7.2	Hot Don't Know	/es
B&D_1906_7.1	Net Gon't Know	Yes
G&R_1906_7.2	Hot Don't Know	Yes
G&R_1906_7.2	Haz Don't Know	Yes
ABE_1906_7.2	Fix Don't Know	Yes
G&R_1906_7.2	Not Don't Know	Yes
P&S_1906_7.2	HE Don't Know	Vet
ABE_1906_7.0	Hot Don't Know	Yes
ABE_1907_7.3	Har Don't Know	Yes
G&R_1907_7.5	N:= Don't Know	/es

Then I used the same method described above to analyze the correlation using 20% of the data as a control group but this time I did not differentiate between the front and the back aspects. I used the five Ptolemy aspects as astrologers use them, using both the 120° and the 240° as a trine. I did the same with the squares and the sextiles. The top graph on page 79 shows the resulting correlations. As you can see the result is not good at all.

EHB AFEQ_1962_7.3	9100	on"t Know	Yes
EHB ADEQ_1962_6.9	Feet.	Don't Know	Yes
EHB AFEQ_1962_6.7	Plot:	Don't Know	Yes
EHB AFEQ_1962_6.9) Est	Don"t Know	Yes
EHB ADEQM_1962_7.5	Mat	Don"t Know	Yes
EHB ADEQ_1962_6.6	7600	Don"t Know	Yes
EHB ADEQ_1962_6.5	740	Don't Know	Yes
EHB ADEQ_1962_6.6	Hat	Don't Know	Yes
EHB ADEQ_1962_6.7	hot	Don't Know	Yes
EHB ADEQ_1962_6.8	No	Don't Know	Yes
EHB ADEQ_1962_7.2	rios.	Don"t Know	Yes
EHB ADEQ_1962_6.8	9400	Don't Know	Yes
EHB AFEQ_1962_6.7	reac	Don't Know	Yes
EHB ADEQ_1962_6.7	0400	Don"t Know	Yes
EHB ADEQ_1962_7.2	7400 C	Don"t Know	Yes

And finally I ran a correlation test again using the same method described above but this time I used both the front and the back aspects and also the trine, sextile and square as regular aspects. So for the trines I used 120° in 240° as one. I did the same with the sextile and the square. As you can see the graph below yielded even better results.

EHB DEQ_1965_5.5	Mod	Bon't Know	Ye
EHB DEQ_1965_5.6	NAt'	Don't Know	Ye
EHB DEQ_1965_5.6	Not	Don't Know	Yes
EHB DEQ_1965_5.5	900	Don't Know	Ye
EHB DEQ_1965_5.8	Nes	Don't Know	Yes
EHB DEQ_1965_5.6	1000	Don't Know	Ye
EHB DEQ_1965_5.5	Mot	Don't Know	Yes
EHB DEQ_1965_7.5	Med	Don't Know	'e:
EHB DEQ_1965_6.5	Wat:	Don't Know	Yes
EHB DEQ_1965_5.7	Mot.	Don't Know	Ye
EHB DEQ_1965_6.3	Not:	Don't Know	Ye:
EHB LEQ_1965_5.8	Not	Don't Know	Ye
EHB LEQ_1965_5.6	Nos	Don't Know	Ye
EHB DEQ_1965_5.7	Mot.	Don't Know	Ye:
EHB DEQ_1965_6.8	Not	Don't Know	Ye

and it will yield a graph showing how well the data compares with the original research findings.

CONCLUSION

Clearly there has been a long standing correlation between stock market movement and aspects when you divide the front and back aspects into their own categories. This initial study on earthquakes shows the same result. Researchers should consider using the front and back openings for the sextile, square and trine in their work. This could technique could probably work just as well for the minor aspects.

BIOGRAPHY: Alphee Lavoie C.A., NCGR Level IV, earned his reputation as a MASTER ASTROLOGER. His company, AIR Software, sells astrology software worldwide. Their Market Trader astrology software is used in over 32 countries by thousands of individual traders and financial institutions. For 12 years Alphee and his astrologer wife, Carol, had their own weekly radio shows on astrology. He has been interviewed by many magazines across the world. Respected for his extensive knowledge in all branches of astrology, Alphee lectures all over the world for UAC, NCGR, ISAR, AFA, SOTA, NORWAC, Noel Tyl's conferences, AFund, Astro-Economics, AstroRama, and many other organizations. Alphee is the founder of the astroinvestigator research group know as Alphee and the Gators. The Gators has done in-depth research using Al. www. alphee.com Alphee@comcast.net

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USING EXPERT SYSTEMS IN ASTROLOGICAL RESEARCH – A CASE STUDY

BY VINCENT GODBOUT



THE COMBINED FACTORS

To develop our expert system, I first created the interpretations for 5148 combined factors. that is, interpretations of all the planets both in signs and in aspects. To generate these interpretations, I thoroughly analyzed and collected the interpretations for planets in signs and for planets in aspects found in 25 famous and respected "classical" authors (American, French, British, German). The goal was to gather all these keywords and organize them into lists for each combined factor by "intersecting" the semantic fields of each planet in sign with each planet in aspect.

Here is an example of a list of keywords for a specific combined factor found in the chart of Bill Clinton:

₽≏60°P: love, passion, feeling, libido, love affair, affection, warmth, sex appeal, seduction, charm, beauty, attraction, romanticism, art, pleasure, sensuality, vivacity.

To find the mixed interpretation of this combination, the expert system looks for personality traits representing exhaustively all what is found in common between Venus Libra and Venus sextile Pluto either by identity or by analogy between their respective semantic fields. This work was done with the help of a tool, the Semantic Proximity Estimator that is explained on YouTube: [https://youtu. be/bAjNyAxEmD0]. This is an analysis of words ascribed to a given individual, through say, a biography written about them, articles and so on, statistically compared with semantic results given by the Mastro system.

Here is another example of a list of keywords for a specific combined factors found in the chart of the Dalai Lama XIV:

DMR60°4: maternal instinct, generosity, goodness, kindness, dedication, service, thoughtfulness, care, protection, caring, simplicity, social sense, organization, trade unionism, gain, acquisition, health, morality, loquacity, business.

In the expert system, I have also included, in the form of keywords, the totality of Ebertin's 858 midpoints interpretations of COSI also taking into account the contributions of other authors.

The keywords used by the expert system in the interpretations are also the building blocks for our synthesis algorithm.

THE SYNTHESIS TREE

To generate the synthesis of a chart in the form of a tree of keywords, the system computes and classifies hundreds of keywords associated with an astrological chart. The analysis compiles all these keywords and sorts the primary ones using a probabilistic algorithm.

A primary keyword gets a high score if it is repeated often in a chart. The repeated presence principle is rather simple; it's like saying: 8 Reds in a row in the roulette game is a lot more improbable than a mix of 4 Reds and 4 Blacks. Thus it is more "meaningful"...

In addition to this principle of repetition, we must also take into account the frequencies in the whole dictionary of keywords; we have to do this because these frequencies affect the probability of occurrence of any word in a specific chart. This is a refinement of the "1, 2, 3 rule" of Donna Cunningham. For instance: if you have the

word "will" repeated 4 times in a chart, it is not as meaningful as having the word "compassion" repeated 4 times; the latter case is more improbable on a random scale because the word "compassion" is much less frequent than "will" in any astrological corpus (reflecting what is found in real life as well).

Consequently, the scores are just obtained from the probability of getting a signature of a certain size. The bigger the number of factors composing the signature of a trait, the smaller the probability of its occurrence. The fact that we take the co-logarithm of the probability transforms it into a more "understandable" and intuitive number. So the rarity of getting a "repeated message" in a signature is a measure of significance. The scores don't mean anything "special" and are mainly used to put the concepts in decreasing order of importance. Furthermore, they help to avoid cherry picking because they give you a measure to help you decide if a configuration is rare enough to be really noticeable, unique and significant.

In summary, the higher the score of a primary keyword is, the more its repeated presence in a chart is unlikely, and is therefore significant.

As for the secondary keywords, they are grouped under the primary keywords according to an analogy criterion. I think this the first time that an astrological software (mastro) has used an analogical dictionary (thesaurus) to analyze and synthesize information.

Finally, this treatment produces a synthesis in the form of a tree of keywords with two levels: the primary keywords that express the main meaning and the secondary keywords which, thanks to the embedded thesaurus, contextualize the primary ones.

THE SIGNATURES

If you click on a keyword in the tree, that keyword and its astrological signature will be displayed. The signature of a keyword is a set of astrological factors that include that keyword in their interpretations. For example:

Romanticism: $(\Theta \& 90^{\circ} \Psi)$ $(\Psi M 90^{\circ} P)$ $(\Psi = \Theta/P)$.

If you click on the signature of a given keyword, the window "Factors and associated keywords" pops up, displaying all the factors of the signature with all their keywords including the given one highlighted in red.



EDUCATION AND

CERTIFICATION

There are on-line courses which are geared towards the NCGR-PAA Certification Program, but testing is not required. You may take these classes simply to enjoy, enhance and deepen your knowledge.

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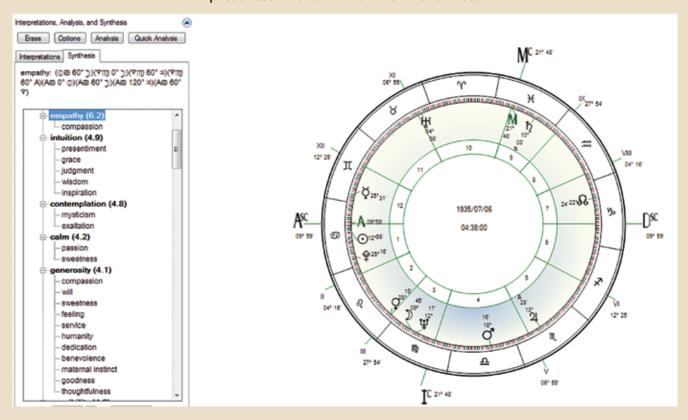
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DALAI LAMA XIV

As an example of synthesis, here we have the Dalai Lama XIV with his highest scoring keywords presented in the form of the 2-level tree.



DALAI LAMA XIV (HIGHEST SCORING KEYWORDS)

```
EMPATHY 6.2 (as 60° 1)(w 0° 1)(w 0° 1)(w 0° 3)(w 0° 3)
```

THE FORECAST CURVES

The Forecast Curves allow us to locate at a glance the most important moments in a time interval chosen by the user. Those moments are identified by observing the highest peaks of different curves.

To create all the curves, the numerical scores of about 60 different keywords are calculated for several consecutive transit charts and represented as a graph in time. Each point of a curve summarizes the complete analysis of a transit chart in a specific theme expressed by a keyword.

The keywords of the Forecast Curves represent about 60 themes on which we often have to pronounce ourselves as astrologers. For example: love, friendship, ambition, art, conflict, crisis, travel, effort, failure, illusion, inspiration, joy, etc.

We can always get the astrological signature of any keyword for any moment. It is also always possible to return to the transit chart for a specific moment by choosing the "See transit chart for this date" option.

To optimize the efficiency of the curves, we explored all possible orbs from 0° to 2° in increments of 1/1000. Our optimization criterion was simply to achieve as many successes as possible. The best results were obtained with an orb value of 1.32° for the aspects and 0.35° for the midpoints. Our Forecast Curves are therefore calculated by default with these two orb values.

It is crucial to understand the importance of locating a transit in its temporal context over a

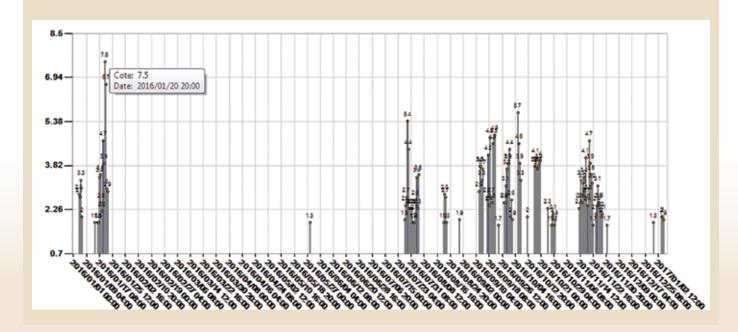
long period of time and not to be satisfied with a short term reading. Not only are the Forecast Curves a useful predictive tool for the consultant who wants to have a year-long overview for his client but they are also a wonderful research tool since all the days where "nothing happens" form a sort of control group.

Also in retrospect, and therefore useful for astrological researchers if we are considering a known event, the Forecast Curves allow us to see objectively if we could have predicted it at the right time by looking backward and exploring the full year around the event.

This approach gives us the possibility to consider and manage "false positives" which is extremely important and often neglected.

CELINE DION'S MOURNING 20 JANUARY 2016 (FROM JAN 2014 TO SEPT 2016)

Here is a striking example. In 2016, Céline Dion lost her husband René on January 14 and her brother Daniel on January 16. Below, is her curve for "Mourning" with the highest peak on January 20 2016.



There are simple rules for assessing the importance of a peak. Experimentation on a few hundred cases showed that the events tend to occur between 4 days before a peak (application) and 3 days after (separation).

Another simple empirical rule is to consider that if a peak is not in the top 5 in a year, it does not mean much, since 5 x (3+4) days out of 365 days represent roughly 10% chance of a forecast success by pure chance.

WEIGHTS, SCORES AND THE RARITY PRINCIPLE

Why go through all this trouble with a complex probability calculation to assign scores to keywords? Why not simply count the number of times a word appears in a chart and use that as a score? Why not classify words according to this simple criterion of raw frequencies?

Because experience shows that it doesn't work.

In this expert system, all astrological factors are considered of equal weight and the orb function can only take values 0-1, (i.e. in orb or not). Thus, the system does not use arbitrary weights. I think this choice is a necessary compromise because weight allocation is an extremely complex and difficult problem that only experimental research and multiple regression analysis can resolve in a satisfactory way. But this is quite impossible at the present time for a complete system of interpretation: multiple regression requires thousands of cases for each characteristic for which we want to find a weighted signature.

In this approach, the final weighting and the scoring of words is rather based on the rarity principle. I thought of defining significance by the criterion of rarity a very long time ago; I wrote an article about it in the 1980's in the journal Consideration. I was then probably influenced by the basic idea of "repeated messages": I thought that this fundamental notion deserved to be quantified and that maybe the best way to do this was to use the probabilities. The final weighting of a natal or event signature is therefore based on the model of drawing balls at random: thus, a signature is considered as a random draw of balls in a bag and its rarity depends, of course, on its size and also of what is in the bag.

Considering probabilistic rarity as a criterion of significance is a very simple and fruitful new principle that has the merit of functioning not only for natal chart with our synthesis trees but also for event charts as summarized by our Forecast Curves. For having tested hundreds of curves based on raw frequencies versus probabilistic scores, one can say there is no common measure between the the latter approach and the former one in terms of number of successes.

Another problem with arbitrarily assigned weights is that they cannot combine arithmetically. Since Mastro's scores are based on the probabilities assigned to each signature, the scores being the co-logarithms of probabilities, they can be combined additively as this corresponds to multiplying almost independent astrological event probabilities.

ORBS

In overall findings, natal portraits give closer descriptions when midpoints (orbs 2° in the 4th harmonic and 1.5° in the 8th harmonic) are included. For natal aspects, I have better results with the rather high orbs used by the "old astrologers" as opposed to the modern ones. For several years, I was personally using smaller orbs according to modern astrologers, which had the advantage of simplifying the reasoning but this simplification is no longer necessary with an expert system.

PROGRESSIONS AND DIRECTIONS

I have experimented extensively with secondary progressions and solar arc directions with the Forecast Curves and have concluded that the results are less interesting than with straight transits. This is not a theoretical point of view: it is based on experience. In the current version of Mastro Expert, we have the connection of progressions and directions with signatures and their scores. In the next version, we will have the Forecast Curves of those as well. The difficulty for us

will be to eventually mix them and model a combination of two or more techniques, always respecting the probabilistic rules of the expert system.

RESEARCH

For research purposes, there is a feature in Mastro called "Animation" that allows us to transfer data into Excel. I like working in Excel because it is versatile and adaptable to a wide variety of situations: I can define all the macros I need for each of my different projects rather than being limited to a predefined format, which does not favor originality and creativity in research. Whether this way of working in Excel is user friendly or not will depend on the person you're talking to...

FALSE VERDICTS

"False verdicts" could happen and possibly be due to the expert system but it's important to emphasize that a "false verdict" could also be attributed to faulty data or to the limitations of astrology itself. Maybe the habit of working "after the fact" gives us the illusion that astrology works much better than it actually does. The expert system only accounts rationally and coherently for what is there in a chart taking into account the principle of rarity as well as the frequencies of the words in the astrological corpus from which the interpretations are derived.

FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

Artificial intelligence can make us "lazy" if we don't discipline ourselves to continue as usual, adding only at the end the viewpoint of the expert system as if it were a partner or a consultant. However, we must not forget that the "stupid machine" has at least two advantages over us: a larger memory and a faster speed of calculation.

For the student, in addition to his verdict, the system allows him to learn because it provides its complete documentation. In fact, it seems to me that Mastro's expert system offers a sound educational tool for honing interpretive skill.

Finally, some astrologers are disturbed by the claim that a part of the interpretation work could be done by a machine. But

remember that we already use the computer to calculate a chart. Why not also use it for a kind of "semantic calculation"?

For my part, I think that despite its limitations, this "robot" highlights the deep wisdom and extraordinary beauty of astrology in clearly distinguishing it from clairvoyance.

For further information, you can watch this 7min 52s video:

[https://www.youtube.com/
watch?v=tlC4OhWW8So]

To explore detailed examples, you can visit our website:
[https://mastroapp.com/en]

REFERENCES

No planets in houses which are not consensual enough.

"Georges Antarès, Catherine Aubier, André Barbault, Charles E. O. Carter, Paul Colombet, Ronald C. Davison, Reinhold Ebertin, Michael Erlewine, Stevens Forrest, Henri Gouchon, Robert Hand, Huguette Hirsig, Werner Hirsig, Margaret Hone, Michael Munkasey, Karen Ober Savalan, Julia et Derek Parker, Wolfgang Reinicke, Claire Santagostini etc.

"Keywords for midpoints are optionally included.

ivIn mathematics, the base-b cologarithm,[1] sometimes shortened to colog,[1] of a number is the base-b logarithm of the reciprocal of the number. It is equal to the negative base-b logarithm of the number.

^vCosmobiologists themselves may not have grasped the importance of the midpoint transits because Ebertin did not have the computer tools to fully realize that.

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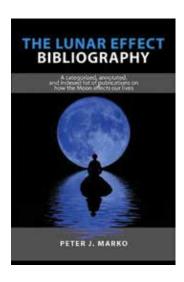
an astrologer, mathematician, statistician and computer systems expert who, with colleague and collaborator Francois Rouleau, introduced the Mastro Expert astrological software program to help astrologers interpret astrological charts.

PostscriptNews, Reviews, and Kudos

BOOK REVIEWS & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

THE LUNAR EFFECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

BY PETER MARKO



A categorized, annotated and indexed list of publications on how the Moon affects our lives.

Paperback, \$30.00 USD. Available on Amazon. com https://www. amazon.com/Lunar-Effect-Bibliographycategorizedpublications/ dp/1973853426

"This book is a comprehensive list of Englishlanguage publications on the so-called "lunar effect" on humans. The material incorporates an annotated bibliography of wide-ranging sources between 1871 and 2017. Each work is listed by author, and includes the abstract or a descriptive summary." This is referenced from the books back cover.



The first thing that impressed me, right out of the gate, is pages 5 and 6 where there is a detailed and well annotated description of exactly what is meant by the "Lunar Effect". Then, on page 8, Peter details some of the potential pitfalls and drawbacks of studying this topic. Fantastic! That is exactly what any credible researcher needs to do. No data set is completely clean, neither is any methodology. The best researchers detail the gaps and this makes it safe to use their results, as we know what to watch out for.

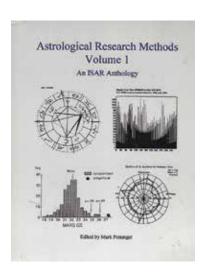
Chapter three meticulously covers the various sources of literature, starting with primary sources (peer reviewed research and or scientific experiments) and ending with Other Sources. I love the Meta work, like the most active publications and a longitudinal tracking of research on the topic.

There is both a book index and an exhaustive general index. In short, if you are working on lunar research, this is an invaluable support to your literature review.

Reviewed by Mj Patterson

ASTROLOGICAL RESEARCH METHODS - VOL. 1 AN ISAR ANTHOLOGY

EDITED BY MARK POTTENGER WITH FORWARD BY FRANCOIS GAUQUELIN



467 pages, published 1995, 8.5x11 Book \$15.00 USD + shipping. Digital PDF \$20.00 USD Available in the ISAR website store http:// bit.ly/2LEQzne

This is the book astrology has needed and does need. Rich in articles and methods, this anthology combines

the efforts of twenty-one astrology researchers and practitioners in discussing all the facets of research and astrological research. All too often in astrology we accept what we are taught as valid and accepted. Astrological research continues to be needed to validate, test, or discover techniques that will assist astrologers with their clients and astrology as a body of knowledge.

This book goes beyond our need to prove astrology to critics by laying out the foundations of conducting astrology research in detail. Authors such as, Francoise Gauquelin, Mark Pottenger, Nickolas Kollerstrom, Mark Urban-Luran, J. Lee Leman, Raymond Merriman, Glenn Perry, and many others have contributed to this book. The book is organized into three areas including: The Nature of Research; Research Design, Data Collection and Analysis; and Special Topics and Future Studies and gives the reader valuable insight on "how to do research" and the issues involved in conducting astrological research.

Within this book, there are many resources to aid the would-be astrological researcher. The fifteen-page bibliography and thirty-page index are a treasure

Write for Syzygy!

We are already accepting submissions for the 2019-2020 Journal. Please send your research ideas to NCGR's Publications Director at ncgrpublications@gmail.com.

<u>Share your talent!</u> We are also looking for peer reviewers and copy editors. Even if you have already put your name forward, please send it again to NCGR's Publications Director at ncgrpublications@gmail.com.

Remember that our peer reviewers are basically peer coaches. You have to be willing to really spend time with your author to help them get to a publishable state. The deadline for submission for 2019 is July,1 2019.

PLEASE do not wait until then to submit all of your artwork and tables -- that needs to come in as soon as possible and it all needs to be 300 dots per inch. Your biography, picture, and contact information are also needed with your art - again at 300 dots per inch. We are excited to work with you - please let us know how we can help.



Non-English work is very much welcomed -- please allow plenty of time for us to work together to translate your material.

trove of information to explore. It is unique that each author has their own full biography. It is clear that the authors and editorial team who put this book together in 1995 wanted to set a basis for astrologers to conduct research to improve astrology as it is practiced today to augment and expand upon the knowledge from the past.

Regardless of the "type" of astrologer you are, you can benefit from this book.

Reviewed by Richard Smoot

NCGR RESEARCH JOURNAL THE PEER REVIEW PROCESS JOIN OUR TEAM!

BY MJ PATTERSON

accepts our article for publication. The feedback

positive

Many fields outside of science use peer review to ensure quality. Philosophy journals, for example, make publication decisions based on the reviews of other philosophers, and the same is true of scholarly journals on topics as diverse as law, art, and ethics. [1]

So is the case with this 8th edition of the NCGR Research Journal. Yet, it takes both you and us to make a team. What is important to NCGR is that you, the author, can be able to put your best self forward with good, solid, and well-written articles that will inform and educate your readers. NCGR wants to promote well-researched and reasoned articles that inform and educate the astrological community and add to astrology's body of knowledge.

Reviewers play a pivotal role in scholarly publishing. The peer review system exists to validate academic work, helps to improve the quality of published research, and increases networking possibilities within research communities. Despite criticisms, peer review is still the only widely accepted method for research validation and has continued successfully with relatively minor changes for some 350 years. [2]

When an author submits an article, The NCGR Research Journal reviewers and editors will strive to make your article the best it can be. Can you imagine that as an author you have at your disposal a volunteer staff of other professional astrologers who have many years of experience working with you to point out areas where your article may be improved, edited, and polished? Can you imagine not having them? You have these resources when the NCGR Research Journal from professionals can be invaluable.

Then, of course, is the presentation. This NCGR Research Journal design was needed to draw attention of the reader that astrological research is interesting, educational, useful, and fun. We want you to succeed.



The process used in producing this new and innovate Journal was a long, admittedly longer procedure and execution than anticipated. This effort was accomplished so that you, the reader, can benefit from the research presented and develop your own analysis and conclusions.

I'm indebted to Bernadette Brady, Jackie Slevin, Richard Smoot, and Diane Ullemeyer-Trimbath who have donated their time, talent, and experience to this project.

[1] https://undsci.berkeley.edu/article/ howscienceworks 16

[2] https://www.elsevier.com/reviewers/what-ispeer-review

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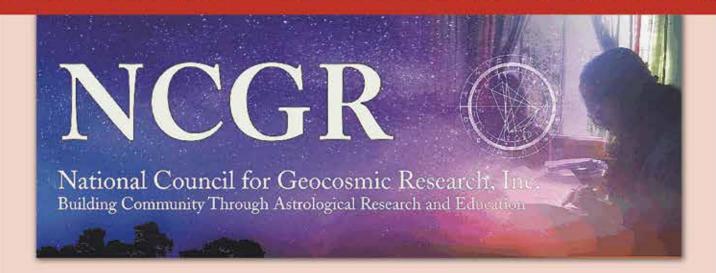
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