

Vol.1, N°3

June 1983

C O N T E N T S

Editorial, by Françoise Gauquelin	3
Letters to the Editor	4
<u>Current events</u>	
Conference report , by Simon Best	6
Good news from research, by Geoffrey Dean	8
<u>Research</u>	
Planetary types and ordinary people , by Willy Blaas	10
Happiness in Marriage (Part II), by Hans Eysenck	15
<u>Methodology</u>	
The Legal Time in France, F.Gauquelin,M.Schneider	20
The Starword Program, by Terence Dwyer	23
<u>Discussion Forum</u>	
The problem of replicating astrological results by Ulrich Mees	27
The practice of astrology, by Bob Dijkstra	30
Book reviews	33
Astrological Conferences	35

ASTRO - PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEMS

a quarterly research journal

Director : Françoise Gauquelin

Editor : Marie Schneider

Volume 1, N° 3

June 1983

EDITORIAL

Several readers wrote us to express their interest in the topics dealt with in the two first issues of A.P.P. We open therefore a heading "Letters to the editor" in which we will publish the letters requiring an answer of general interest. The most often praised topic was the article about legal time in various European countries by specialists living in the studied country.

But one reader also complained, and his complaint deserves attention (see page 5) : yes, it is true that only two articles in each issue are devoted to empirical research, and describe not only positive, but also many negative outcomes. This is the hard law of statistical research : much work for little results.

As our correspondent points out, it is also our conviction that these few results can change the face of contemporary knowledge. But to achieve this, they must be based on proper statistical methods. We think therefore that it is useful to devote one or two articles in each issue to methodological problems, and others to the discussion of the published articles or to psychological reflexions about what opponents and adversaries object, for discovering what their requirements are and learning how to meet them.

This can seem futile to a purely research-oriented mind like our correspondent (and dear friend, at the birth of whom Saturn occupied key sector culmination !) We do not yet know whether many others share his opinion, but we hope to learn it through the mail you send us. Thank you for it.

Françoise Gauquelin

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Dear Françoise,

Your Journal is excellent. I thoroughly enjoyed reading it and hope that someday I may be able to contribute one or more articles. I had almost given up reading astrological magazines because the material was so unscientific, so it is nice to see Astro-Psychological Problems.

Your "The Search for Planetary Keywords" was interesting and helpful, as I think the ISAR group here will be working with your keyword lists for their next project.

Enclosed is my subscription, please begin it with the first issue.

Your book, "Psychology of the Planets", which I have just purchased, is wonderful. It should be the planetary bible of all practising astrologers. But I find, much to my dismay, that most astrologers seem to enjoy attempting to discredit the work of you and your husband rather than being grateful for all your years of labor. I will do what I can to change their minds and plan on sending a positive statement on your book to the Mercury Hour.

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Teresa Weed

ANSWER :

Dear Teresa,

Thank you for your kind letter and subscription.

We quite agree with your dismay about people who are afraid of statistical checkings into astrology. You find them on both sides : those who are against and those who are for the tradition. They don't accept any evolution from what they learned when they were young. I think you will like the articles commenting "You the Jury", a B.B.C. emission about Astrology, which concludes in the same sense as you : things have to change, even in astrology ! What would we say of physicians who would still cure like in the days of the great Hippocrates ? Or of physicists who would believe only in the physics of Aristotle ? And so on...

Astrology too needs to benefit from what really works, and leave the rest out. That is what statistics can tell us.

Dear Françoise,

Thank you for Number 2, well received and well presented.

On the whole, my impression after reading it, is that it contains a good deal of chattering and blah. They may be unavoidable in a discipline which is still in the process of building itself up and must accept the commercial imperatives.

The quarrel (especially page 11, beginning with third paragraph) about the negligence of the astrologers to care for the causes of the events they perceive, seems useless to me. With or without pilot theory, the main thing is first to verify the reality of an anciently perceived phenomenon, the demonstration of which would correspond, according to Paul Couderc (a French astronomer who wrote "L'Astrologie" for the Presses Universitaires de France - Note of the Editor) to the discovery of "a property of countless value". For the moment, the rest is litterature.

Massoins
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Jacques Reverchon

ANSWER :

Dear Jacques,

The quarrel of "You, the Jury" can, as a matter of fact, appear trifling.

But it is so typical of what happens in each confrontation of astronomers and astrologers in the media, that we thought useful to take the time, once, to examine it at leisure in a written text, instead of passively listening to quickly passing arguments.

But you are right : the main thing is to verify the facts.

Françoise Gauquelin

Astro-Psychological Problems, June 1983, Simon Best, pp.6-7.

CONFERENCE REPORT

Simon Best ¹

ABSTRACT

We reproduce here large extracts from the report the author published in CORRELATION 1983, 1 : 2-3, about the third Institute of Psychiatry Conference.

The Third International Astrological Research Conference took place at the Institute of Psychiatry of London, on May 21-22, 1983, the third of a series which has become a focus for researchers around the world. It proved as stimulating as the previous ones, despite the lowered attendance due to late publicity. Still some 50 - 60 delegates, mainly from the U.K. and Europe, attended the two days conference.

It opened with a talk by professor Hans Eysenck on personality measurement and astrology.² Eysenck discussed a number of examples of poorly constructed tests of astrology, and stressed the need for psychological expertise in designing such experiments, pointing out that unitary concepts like sociability, for example, do not necessarily have unitary traits. The criticisms of some of the replications of the Gauquelins' results showed, he said, the need for prior assessment of such studies by independent scientists. Eysenck concluded by drawing attention to the use of indirect versus direct evidence. The Gauquelins' unexpected personality/planetary correlations were more impressive than the profession/planetary ones, he said, and completely disprove the idea of self-selected data bias. Finally, besides expressing the wish that such conferences become an annual event, professor Eysenck suggested a committee might be formed to vet psychological experiments in astrology. This would allow astrologers, as well as psychologists unfamiliar with astrology or the research literature, access to expert advice. Eysenck offered his services, and such a committee is now in the process of being organized.

Beverley Steffert followed with a discussion of some of the results of her PhD work on marital happiness.³ One intriguing result was that significance appeared only when she compared high or low scorers on the "Marital happiness questionnaire" with the normal range, and not high and low with each other. With male subjects, she found Jupiter in Gauquelin sectors 1 and 4 correlated with low EPQ scores, Mars and Uranus correlated with high impulsivity, Saturn with low venturesome scores, and Venus with low Psychoticism. With female subjects, she found Neptune correlated with high empathy, Mars, Jupiter and, strangely, Saturn with high extraversion, Uranus with increased Neuroticism. Her main conclusion was that extreme scorers have more planets in Gauquelin sectors 1 and 4.

Michel Gauquelin discussed his latest findings on astrology and sport. Using 3000 questionnaire replies to a TVS study, he pointed out the need to ask specific questions to obtain useful data for assessing ordinary people. For instance, to the question "Are you good at sports?" there were 25% Yes-answers, 62% No-answers, and the rest undecided. In a tennis club of 800 members, he found that of players from the ordinary to the highest level,

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2/ Will be published as an article in the next issue of Astro-Psychological Problems.

3/ Her results with a matching method were published in A.P.P. 2 (pages 25-30).

over half answered No. This, he pointed out, highlighted how unreliable personal assessment is in indicating genuine ability. Questionnaires need to ask rather about a person's temperament and attitude when involved in sport, beside objective criteria of ability.

Professor Alan Smithers, of Manchester University, provided an overview of the development, debate, and current status of Sun-sign research. He traced his own interest in the area from his first contact through Joe Cooper in 1966, while both were at Bradford University,¹ then summarized the positive and negative results to date, prior knowledge of astrology being a possible explanation of some positive results. Even if due to a prior-knowledge-effect, the findings are important, since they reveal a pervasive factor influencing self-reported personality and the way people answer questionnaires.

Françoise Gauquelin reported on her study of planetary positions at the birth of subjects having answered a projective test. Using six basic line figures, she had collected 400 replies along a continuum from what she supposed to be extreme introversion (minimum added to figure) to extreme extraversion (figure highly embellished). She found that the Moon was significantly placed in the Gauquelin sectors for those producing embellished figures. There was discussion as to whether such a correlation linked the Moon to extraversion or to other traits such as high imagination. However, if the study is replicated - and Françoise Gauquelin is planning a follow-up - such a result would provide the first evidence of Gauquelin-type planetary effects in ordinary people.

On Sunday, Thomas Shanks, from San Diego, California, opened with a discussion of two experiments with children. For the first study, he had placed on cards 30 trait words linked significantly with planets in Gauquelin plus zones, and he asked parents to rate the usual behaviour of their children with them. A total of 44 male and 45 female children, aged 3-12 were rated by 130 parents. Certain social desirability traits emerged as highest rated on both boys and girls, but no significant correlation with planets in Gauquelin plus zones. In his second study, using the Gauquelin database, Shanks looked at aspects between the charts of parents and children, and compared them to a control group of 199 randomizations of the parent/child combinations; he found a number of significant aspects between parent and child, e.g. a sextile between a parent's and child's Asc. Other cross-aspects seemed interesting, and a further replication study is planned.

Olgierd Lewandowski, from the University of Marseilles, reported on his sociological survey of over 1000 astrologers from various countries, half of them taken from the Zurich World Congress in 1980. Since these results are to be published elsewhere shortly, they will not be enumerated here.

Charles Harvey followed, acting as the Devil's Advocate for holistic astrology. Referring to John Addey's idea of 'hierarchies of order', Harvey gave four examples of special moments in time, to argue the case for studying astrology in context.

Brief presentations by five researchers followed. Suzi Harvey described a study in which 17 astrologers had to match 3 charts with 3 brief case histories; Beverley Steffert extended her discussion of astrological predictors of compatibility; Graham Douglas discussed possible long-term cycles in birth-data; Dave Stevens showed the application of the technique of multi-dimensional scaling in astrological trait research; Nick Kollerstrom discussed his and others' experiments on metal ion reactions under specific planetary conjunctions.

An open discussion ended this enjoyable and stimulating conference, which will now become an annual event, and for the organization of which Beverley Steffert and Charles Harvey are to be congratulated.

1/ See his article in CORRELATION 1,1, June 1981.

GOOD NEWS FROM RESEARCHby Geoffrey Dean ¹

Initial results from the latest Vernon Clark experiment promise to settle long-standing questions about which natal technique is best for what, and for whom. In case you don't know, Vernon Clark experiments are named after the U.S. psychologist now deceased who, in 1960, devised a series of matching tests to see if astrological techniques really worked.

Unfortunately his original experiments and the subsequent repeats by others have all involved topics such as cerebral palsy which are not normally addressed by astrologers, and for which the relevant chart factors are either not known or not generally agreed upon. Furthermore they have been subject to severe methodological flaws such as small sample size (see professor Eysenck's critique in A.P.P. Vol.1, N°1, pp.27-29). Consequently the results are of little value.

This drawback is overcome in the latest experiment now underway around the world. It is designed to be as relevant as possible to everyday practice and has many features which make both the results, and participating in it, of interest to A.P.P. readers. For example, unlike previous experiments which required a small number of difficult judgements, this one requires a large number of easy judgements, fulfilling thus better the requirements discussed by professor Eysenck.

It involves two sets of 120 charts. In the first set, the native is either very extraverted or very introverted. In the second set the native is either emotionally very stable or very unstable. The judgements required in each case are : (1) which ? (2) what is your confidence (high/medium/low) that you are right ? The participants are thus allowed to qualify their judgements (something denied in previous experiments) in line with everyday practice.

There are of course many other ways in which people differ and which could have been chosen. These ones were chosen because extraversion and emotional stability are fundamental dimensions of personality (which keeps the psychologists happy - an important point if astrology is to achieve professional recognition), can be readily seen in a chart (which apart from keeping the participants happy is the main point of the exercise), and can be established by independent tests (which ensures that the results will mean something).

To remove any doubt about the correct answers, the natives were selected by testing over 1000 people and rejecting all but the most extreme 10-15%. All natives have birth times.

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Another feature which makes this experiment an improvement over previous ones is the availability of various chart options such as midpoints, asteroids and sidereal charts. This ensures that participants get the kind of charts they want, and allows the experiment to cover as many techniques as possible. The instructions accompanying the charts give full details of the selection procedure, a clear description of the traits to be judged, hints for making judging easy, much relevant information as suggested by astrologers in a pilot trial, and a questionnaire asking for comments and how the experiment might be improved. Participants never had it so good.

How is all this going to be of use? It is of use because it tells us what we would like to know. Thus an analysis of the responses has made it possible to answer questions like what factors are the most reliable, which techniques are best for which kind of astrologer, how effective is intuition, do astrologers really learn from experience or do they merely get set in their ways, and so on. Who as a researcher hasn't asked such questions, and who wouldn't love to know the answers?

Initial results show that participants regard their task as neither too easy nor too hard, that they are confident about their judgements, and that they regard the experiment as the most useful one yet for astrology. Most of them also found it to be great fun. While it is too early to draw detailed conclusions, the results so far are full of surprises and look like being of enormous help to anyone wanting to improve their understanding of astrology and astrologers.

Full details will be published in due course. In the meantime more participants are needed to make the experiment as successful as possible. All participants remain anonymous and ability is unimportant. Beginners are needed just as much as experts. So if you would like to help, and can spare the three or four evenings needed to make 240 chart judgements, please write for a set of charts (state which chart system you would like), instructions and answer sheet as follows :

U.K. and Europe: Patrick Curry MSc, 26 Upper Addison Gardens, London W14 8AJ, England. Tel 01-602-4877.

USA and Canada : Zip Dobyns PhD, 858 Fifth Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90005, USA. Tel 213-487-1000.

Australia and NZ: Geoffrey Dean PhD, Box 466, Subiaco 6008, Western Australia. Tel 09-322-2228.

PLANETARY TYPES AND ORDINARY PERSONS

Willy Blaas ¹

ABSTRACT

A sample of 200 ordinary persons confirmed the hypothesis of an antagonism between the placements of Jupiter and Saturn in the Gauquelin "Plus Zones" of the horoscopes reflected by the scores on the scale "sociability" of the F.P.I. Other results concerning personality, interests and profession, showed agreements with Gauquelin results and/or with traditional astrology.

Studies by H.J.Eysenck (1975), Michel Gauquelin (1978), Michel & Françoise Gauquelin and Sybil Eysenck (1979 & 1981) about the character traits of renowned professionals and the positions of the Moon, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn in the "Plus Zones"² of the horoscope have shown some connection between personality and planetary positions. Among the detected temperaments, Jupiter and Saturn represent antagonistic principles :

- the Jupiter traits correspond to Extraversion (Eysenck, 1975) or to the "Viscerotonic Temperament" (Sheldon, 1942);
- the Saturn traits correspond to Introversion or to the "Cerebrotonic Temperament" (same references).

These results, obtained with the "Character Traits Method" (Gauquelin M.&F., 1973-77), were based on biographies of famous professionals. Some questions have been raised about whether they were valid also with ordinary people (Eysenck, 1982, page 196), for until now no consistent results were obtained with questionnaires submitted to normal subjects (Gauquelin M., 1981; Dean G., 1981).

That is why we attempted, for our Master's degree at the Psychological Institute of Kiel University (Blaas, 1983), to study the antagonism between the Jupiter and the Saturn temperament among ordinary persons.

For this purpose:

A - The standardised personality inventory F.P.I. (published on the model of the Eysenck Personality Inventory by Fahrenberg, Selg and Hampel, 1970) was sent to 475 subjects, together with questions about their date and time of birth and the circumstances of the birth (natural or medically induced), and a form for requesting a birth certificate indicating the hour of birth from the Registry Office. 230 completed questionnaires were sent back.

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2/ - The "Plus Zones" are : House XII + 1/3 of House I and House IX + 1/3 of House X.

B - From the trait lists published by the Gauquelins (1976) as typical for actors (Jupiter), scientists (Saturn), sports champions (Mars) and writers (Moon), and from the tentative traits published for Venus (Gauquelin, 1978), we extracted 78 items with two opposed poles. Item 1 for instance was : A - openness, B - secrecy; and the rating scale on which the subject was asked to place himself was : "A corresponds exactly to me - I am rather like A than like B - I am rather like B than like A - B corresponds exactly to me". Some more items asked about the body-build of the subjects, about physiological reactions, about occupational preferences, and about astrological knowledge. 219 subjects completed also this second questionnaire. But 19 answers could not be used in our analysis, because the birth moment had been medically induced.

Of the 200 usable questionnaires, 38% had been completed by male subjects and 62% by female subjects. Their age ranged from 18 to 83, with a median at 35. 48% had asked their birth certificate from the Registry Office, and 52% relied on family memories of the event. 10% of the subjects knew the position of their Ascendant in the Zodiac.

The shape of the birthtime frequencies (nycthemeral curve) showed a maximum between 6 and 10 a.m., indicating that natural births predominate in this sample. The basis for calculating the "Plus Zones" at the time of our subjects' birth were the tables published in "Spheres of Destiny" (Gauquelin, 1980) corresponding to the Placidus method for evaluating the sectors.

Results :

with our ordinary subjects too Jupiter is opposed to Saturn

A factor analysis of the bipolar items resulted in three exploitable factors : "dominance", "carefulness" and "extraversion"; secondary factors were "sensitivity" and "ambition". But the variables differentiating the three main factors did not separate the Jupiter from the Saturn persons in our sample. With this part of the inquiry, our hypothesis was not confirmed.

It was the study of the F.P.I. scores which revealed a positive result. The subjects born when Jupiter occupied a key sector (or, if no planet occupied a key sector, when Jupiter was in an opposed zone) had significantly higher scores on the scales "sociability" and "extraversion" than the subjects born with Saturn in the same positions (see Tables 1 and 2).

None of the other scales of the F.P.I. (Nervousness, Aggression, Depression, Excitability, Calm, Dominance, Inhibition, Openness, Neuroticism, Masculinity) showed significant results.

		Jupiter	Saturn	
-	fb	12	34	46
	fe	19,32	26,68	
+	fb	30	24	54
	fe	22,68	31,32	
	N	42	58	100

Table 1 :

Scale "sociability" of the FPI

fb = observed frequency

fe = expected frequency

chi square (1) = 8.855

probability = 0.003

very significant result

		Jupiter	Saturn	
-	fb	20	39	59
	fe	24,78	34,22	
+	fb	22	19	41
	fe	17,22	23,78	
	N	42	58	100

Table 2 :

Scale "extraversion" of FPI

fb = observed frequency

fe = expected frequency

chi square (1) = 3.877

probability = 0.049

significant result

Also Venus appears opposed to Saturn

Not only the subjects born with Jupiter in key sectors, but also those with Venus described themselves as sociable ($P = 0.003$) and as extraverted ($P = 0.008$) significantly more often than the subjects with Saturn in key sectors.

The subjects with Mars in key sectors had a tendency to describe themselves as more extraverted than Saturnians ($P = 0.05$) but not as more sociable ($P = 0.16$). This seems in agreement with the remark of H.J. Eysenck (1975) analyzing the typical trait lists of Mars and Jupiter (from Gauquelin 1973 & 1974): he suggested that the Mars traits represent rather the active part and Jupiter traits the sociable part of the personality dimension Extraversion. This should be taken in account in further studies of the extraverted temperament.

Jupiterians wish to be an actor

The questions about professional interests brought one significant result : Jupiterians express more than Saturnians the wish to be an actor ($P = 0.04$); but not the Venusians ($P = 0.63$) despite the fact that they describe themselves as equally sociable and more extraverted. This result being in agreement with previous ones (Gauquelin, 1972, 1974) deserves attention. None of the other questions about professional interests brought significant results.

An analysis of the real professions of the subjects reveals that those with Saturn in key sectors had twice more often than those with Jupiter in key sectors an occupation related to book-keeping and finances. And Jupiterians were teachers twice more often than Saturnians. Lunar subjects had twice more often than expected a social occupation. These tendencies remain the same if we select the subjects with only one planet in "Plus Zones" (only Saturn or only Jupiter or only the Moon).

These results are consistent with the Gauquelin results or with traditional astrology. Saturnians show an inclination towards introverted activities (Gauquelin, 1972, 1974), Jupiterians towards extraverted activities requiring a dominant behaviour, qualities of leadership and a certain ability to put themselves forward (Gauquelin, 1974; Bollen, 1982). Only the result with the Moon is not predicted by the Gauquelin findings, but rather by traditional astrology describing it as an archetype of femininity and soul, i.e. empathy, suited for social activities.

Jupiter and Saturn Aspects to the Ascendant

We wanted to test the traditional saying that the Ascendant is related to the body-build of the native, Jupiter being a principle of expansion and Saturn of concentration. We added therefore to the questionnaire some questions

asking the subjects whether they rated themselves as slender or not particularly slender. Our hypothesis was that persons born under a Saturn-Ascendant square should rate themselves as physically thinner than persons with a Jupiter-Ascendant square. Table 3 gives the result. It is significant at the 0.005 level, which confirms the hypothesis.

As a control, we studied the M.C. in the same way. No result appeared ($P = 0.12$), as we expected. It seems worthwhile to repeat this experiment, in order to see whether the aspects to the Ascendant are related to the body-build.

		Jupiter 90 Grad-AC	Saturn 90 Grad-AC	
1, 2	fb	1	8	9
	fe	4,65	4,35	
3, 4, 5	fb	15	7	22
	fe	11,36	10,64	
N		16	15	31

Table 3 :

Jupiter and Saturn squares to the ASC

Orb = 10°

fb = observed frequency

fe = expected frequency

1 = ratings as slender

2 = ratings as rather slender

3 = ratings as medium

4 = ratings as rather not slender

5 = ratings as not slender

Freeman-Halton Test : $P = 0.005$
(Lienert, 1978; Fillbrandt, 1978)

1/ Good news for the coherency of Willy Blaas's result : the relationship between the Moon and social occupation appears clearly in recent results, to be published in series C, Volume 6, a book of synthesis of our Psychological Monographs (Gauquelin, 1973-77).

Conclusion

The results of this study tend to demonstrate that planetary effects can appear with ordinary people, and not only with celebrities, through self-rating with conventional personality inventories.

However our sample is relatively small and the results need therefore further replications before we can judge them as sufficiently ascertained.

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HAPPINESS IN MARRIAGE**Hans Eysenck¹****ABSTRACT**

In the last issue of this Journal, Part I of Professor Eysenck's article described empirical research about astrological aspects traditionally linked with happiness in marriage. This second part examines a more methodological problem : are the astrological hypotheses, linking sun signs interpretations with the compatibility of married couples, based on sound psychological grounds ? The conclusion will be that astrologers would benefit from a better knowledge of the recent findings in psychology about this problem.

Part 2

Astrological hypotheses concerning prediction of happiness in marriage should be based on relevant psychological knowledge. Usually, unfortunately, astrological prediction is made in ignorance of, and often in contradiction to, what is known psychologically. When this is done, it becomes highly unlikely that astrological predictions can be verified, or have a high degree of acceptability. An example may make this clear.

Traditionally, astrology has held that certain sun signs are compatible or incompatible with each other. The fire and air signs are compatible with each other, and earth and water signs are also compatible with each other, because fire and air are considered as active, positive signs, while earth and water are considered as passive, negative signs. Thus two plus signs or two minus signs go together, but a plus and a minus sign are incompatible (see figure 1).

Obviously this is not all that astrologers have to say on this topic, and a great deal more can be taken into account in making an actual prediction; but this is a reasonably fundamental and widely accepted rule.

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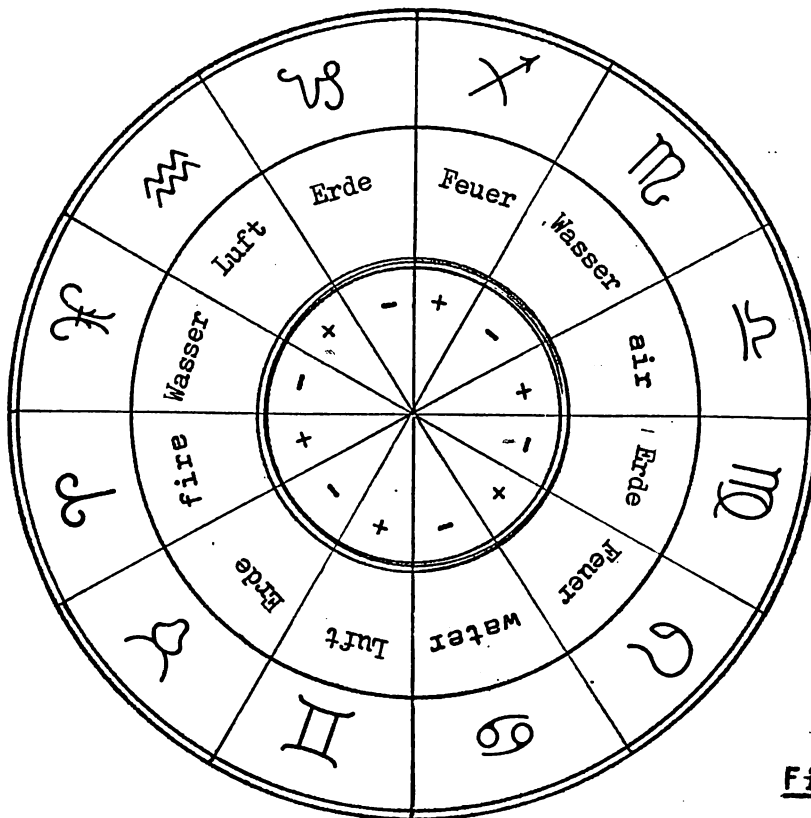


Figure 1: Zodiac signs and elements

The theory of similarity

When we look at the psychological equivalence of the two sets of signs, it is fairly obvious, and has indeed been posited by several astrologers, that the personality associated with active, positive signs is the extravert, and the personality associated with the passive or negative signs is the introvert.

Let me translate the astrological prediction into psychological terms, and then see whether such a prediction is borne out by psychological investigation. What the astrological rule tells us, essentially, is that extraverts will be happier when married to extraverts, introverts when married to introverts. Thus astrologers believe in one of the two major theories of marital compatibility elaborated by psychologists, often called the rule of similarity. This rule simply says that marriages will be happy when "like marries like", and unhappy when "like marries unlike".

The theory of complementariness

There is an alternative theory, namely that of complementariness. This states the opposite: marriages will be most happy when the personalities of the partners are complementary,

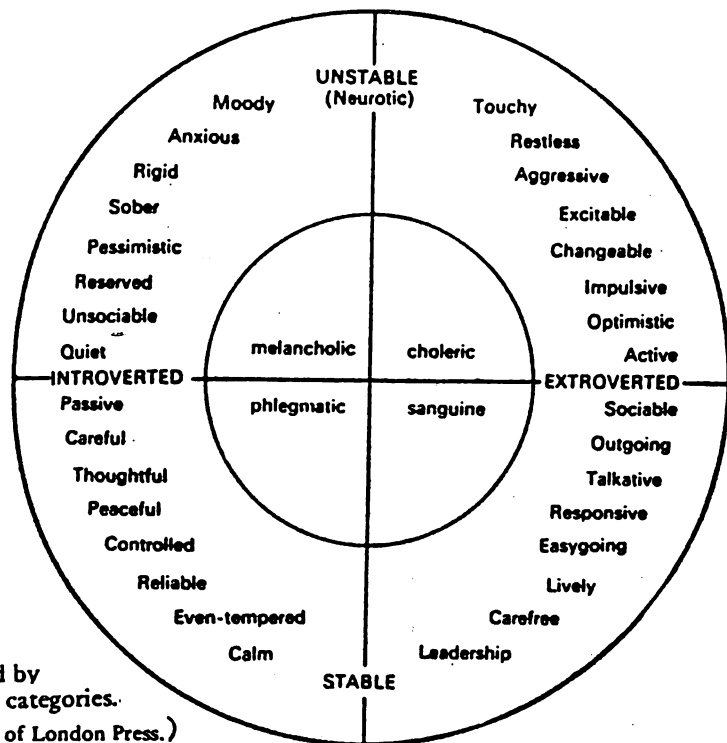


Figure 2:

Two major dimensions of personality revealed by factor analysis compared with the four Greek categories.
(From Eysenck, 1964, 27, by courtesy of University of London Press.)

i.e. if one is extraverted, the other one should be introverted; if one is unstable, the other should be stable. There has been a good deal of work done on these theories, and it seems to me that their truth or otherwise is very relevant to astrological investigations.

If the complementary type of theory of personality were true, then clearly marriages between people whose sun signs are compatible would be more likely to result in failure, whereas marriages between people whose signs are incompatible would be likely to be successful.

Both theories are wrong

The literature, and our own research, is fairly clear on the applicability of the theories of similarity and complementarity. The brief answer is that both theories are wrong.

In the first place there is very little homogamy, i.e. married people do not in general resemble each other as far as personality is concerned. This is quite different from intelligence: for intelligence, there is a considerable degree of homogamy, intelligent men tending to marry intelligent women. But extraverted men do not tend to marry extraverted women

who had high scores on emotionality or neuroticism would be dissatisfied with his marriage, whilst a person who was stable emotionally would be more likely to be satisfied. Exactly the same prediction would be made for his or her partner, simply on the basis of the partner's score on neuroticism.

This hypothesis explains the relative futility of similarity and complementarity hypotheses : similarity between the partners for high neuroticism is bad; similarity for low neuroticism is good. Hence there is no overall correlation between similarity and satisfaction in marriage.

The hypothesis of personality asymmetry

We now come to the asymmetry hypothesis. This is a rather more complex and difficult topic. Essentially, what the hypothesis states is that when the two partners in a marriage differ with respect to such traits as neuroticism, then the direction of the difference is important, i.e. whether it is the male or the female who has the higher score.

It is well substantiated that in the general population women have significantly higher neuroticism scores than males. The hypothesis of asymmetry states that, when there is a difference between partners with respect to a given trait, such as neuroticism, then it is better that the direction of this difference should be in line with the direction of the population difference. In other words, women have higher neuroticism scores in the general population, and if there is a difference between the male and the female partner in the marriage, then it is better if the woman has the higher neuroticism score as compared with the male.

Hence it is not complementariness as such which is important; the direction of the difference between the male and the female decides whether or not the marriage is to be happy or unhappy.

Thus it seems to me that for astrology to be successful, it should collaborate much more closely with psychologists engaged in empirical research on problems related to those which face the astrologer.

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THE LEGAL TIME IN FRANCE
F. Gauquelin, M. Schneider

In order to clarify the problem of the time changes in France, we checked several serious publications and discovered some discrepancies between them. These dubious cases were compared with the time change announcements in the newspapers "Le Figaro" and "L'Oeuvre" for the days in question. This showed that the "Annuaire" published by the "Bureau des Longitudes" in Paris (a publication similar to "The Nautical Almanach") had the most correct list of the summer times in France : only one of its indications differed from the hour changes reported by "Le Figaro". A letter informing the Director of the Bureau des Longitudes of our doubts about that date cleared the problem : after verification, he changed the doubtful date in his subsequent publication of the table "Heures d'été en France, parues au Journal Officiel".

Since then Henri Le Corre published an updated book about the legal time in Europe (1982). His list of the summer times in France was taken from the "Annuaire du Bureau des Longitudes", and therefore was in agreement with ours. But he had added further valuable clarifications about the legal times during the War times in France, with lists of the towns delimitating the regions occupied by the ennemy¹. Such information is useful for helping to decide what the legal time may have been during these troubled periods. We drew it therefore on a map of France, together with some precise dates of occupation which should help to visualize the problem.

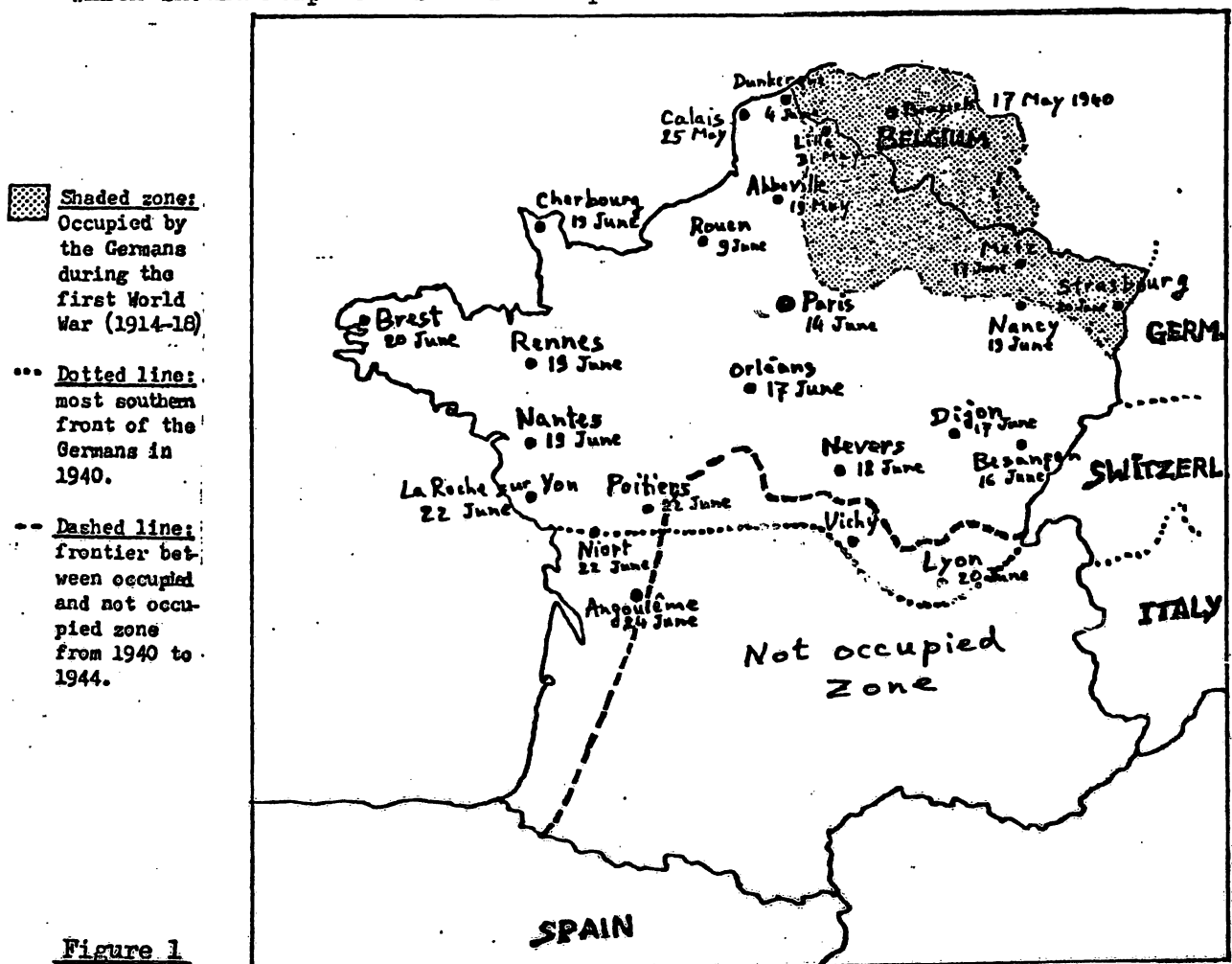


Figure 1

First World War (1914-1918)

The summer times were introduced in France during the first World War in June 1916. But only the North-East of France was occupied (dotted region on the map); so there is only a limited zone where the time changes are uncertain because of moving battle-fronts.

The regions around Metz and Strasbourg, i.e. the provinces Alsace and Lorraine, belong now to France, but were then a part of Germany (since 1871); therefore their legal time was since the 1st April 1893 the Görlitz time (or MET, i.e. GMT + 1 hour). Involved towns, according to Henri Le Corre :

"Thionville, Metz, Vallée de la Moselle, Nord-Est du Plateau Lorrain, Vallée de Schirmek, Ban de la Roche."

The remaining occupied region followed officially the German time from the 30th of April 1916 to the 11th of November 1919, but did so reluctantly, especially in the rural areas.

Second World War (1939-1945)

From May/June 1940 to June/November 1944, half of France was occupied by the Germans. The map indicates the precise dates of invasion in 1940, town per town. The dotted line shows the most advanced front reached by the Germans; date : 22 June 1940. The dashed line shows the division of France in an occupied and a not occupied zone after the "Armistice".

Officially, the towns had to switch over to German time from the day of their occupation to the day of their liberation by the Allied Forces. These dates are: for Paris 14.6.1940 - 25.8.1944²
for Strasbourg 20.6.1940 - 23.11.1944
for Cherbourg 19.6.1940 - 6.6.1944

for instance... For less important areas, they are difficult or impossible to retrace. The big city of Lyon was occupied on the 20th of June 1940, but became free again on the 22nd, when the "Armistice" was signed.

The end of the Second World War was brought about by the Allied landings in Normandy (North-West) on the 6th of June 1944, and in Provence (Marseilles 15.8.1944). A last German offensive, on the 19th of December 1944, does not impede the liberation of Lorraine and Alsace (Strasbourg 23.11.1944).

A comparison with the time zones and changes in Germany, to be published in a future issue of A.P.P. will help to adopt correct times for births occurred during these troubled periods.

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1/ We thank him for allowing us to include them here.

2/ For our American readers, we specify that the dates are given in the European way : Day - Month - Year.

Time changes in FRANCE

- A) Introduction of the Gregorian Calender : 20 December 1582, 24 h.
- B) Republican Calender : 24 November 1893 - 1 January 1806. Then Gregorian Calender.
- C) Local Time : in use until the National Time is adopted.
- D) National Time : Paris Time, i.e. GMT + 09 m. 21 s. from 15 March 1891, 0.h., on.
- E) International Time : Greenwich Time, i.e. GMT + 0, from 11 March 1911, 0 h., on.
MET, i.e. GMT + 1 h., from 25 February 1940, 2 h., on.
- F) Summer Times :

Time zone	Add to GMT	Summertime begins	Summertime ends	Add to GMT
11 March 1911 at 00:00 : <u>GMT</u>	+ 0 h.	14 June 1916 23:00 24 March 1917 23:00 9 March 1918 23:00 1 March 1919 23:00 14 Febr. 1920 23:00 14 March 1921 23:00 25 March 1922 23:00 26 May 1923 23:00 29 March 1924 23:00 4 April 1925 23:00 17 April 1926 23:00 9 April 1927 23:00 14 April 1928 23:00 20 April 1929 23:00 12 April 1930 23:00 18 April 1931 23:00 2 April 1932 23:00 25 March 1933 23:00 7 April 1934 23:00 30 March 1935 23:00 18 April 1936 23:00 3 April 1937 23:00 26 March 1938 23:00 15 April 1939 23:00	1 Oct. 1916 24:00 7 Oct. 1917 24:00 6 Oct. 1918 24:00 5 Oct. 1919 24:00 23 Oct. 1920 24:00 25 Oct. 1921 24:00 7 Oct. 1922 24:00 6 Oct. 1923 24:00 4 Oct. 1924 24:00 3 Oct. 1925 24:00 2 Oct. 1926 24:00 1 Oct. 1927 24:00 6 Oct. 1928 24:00 5 Oct. 1929 24:00 4 Oct. 1930 24:00 3 Oct. 1931 24:00 1 Oct. 1932 24:00 7 Oct. 1933 24:00 6 Oct. 1934 24:00 5 Oct. 1935 24:00 3 Oct. 1936 24:00 2 Oct. 1937 24:00 1 Oct. 1938 24:00 18 Nov. 1939 24:00	+ 1 h.
25 Febr. 1940 at 02:00 : <u>MET</u>	+ 1 h.	4 May 1941 24:00 8 March 1942 24:00 29 March 1943 24:00 3 April 1944 24:00 2 April 1945 24:00 28 March 1976 02:00 3 April 1977 02:00 2 April 1978 02:00 1 April 1979 02:00 6 April 1980 02:00 29 March 1981 02:00 28 March 1982 02:00	6 Oct. 1941 01:00 2 Nov. 1942 03:00 4 Oct. 1943 03:00 8 Oct. 1944 01:00 16 Sept. 1945 03:00 26 Sept. 1976 03:00 25 Sept. 1977 03:00 1 Oct. 1978 03:00 30 Sept. 1979 03:00 28 Sept. 1980 03:00 27 Sept. 1981 03:00 26 Sept. 1982 03:00	+ 2 h.

THE STARWORD PROGRAM

Terence Dwyer ¹

ABSTRACT

In making a program of chart interpretation, the author had to define for his computer exactly how astrology works. This seems an interesting theme of reflection for practising astrologers as well as for researchers into this elusive art, and is described in this first part.

A second part, in our next issue, will show the outcomes of this endeavor.

I have written a computer program, called STARWORD, which accepts input of only the usual birthdata, and 20 minutes later, has finished printing out a complete verbal interpretation of the chart, in words not too removed from the sort of thing an astrologer might write.

There are various ways in which you readers might react to the idea of a computer doing such a job. Probably many of you, particularly if you are beginners, are interested in the mechanics of chart analysis; even if you are not a beginner, you will be particularly interested in considering just what factors should be included in interpretation. Those who set great store by intuition will perhaps be extremely wary of the whole idea that a computer might replace the astrologer: is this the thin edge of a nasty wedge? The more perceptive among you will already have realized the immense value of the computer as a research tool, in that theories can very quickly be tested by processing many charts and analysing the results, statistically or otherwise.

I myself began this program, not as a piece of research, but with the idea of lightening the heavy burden an astrologer faces when he sits down to work out an interpretation - perhaps through an inverted form of laziness. I say "inverted", because it took the best part of two years' fulltime, exhausting work to write this program, at least to the point where it was working pretty well and turning out results which are sufficiently good for me to feel that something has been proved: mainly perhaps the point that computers are capable of making a good job of interpretation; but also a number of points about what should or should not go into chart analysis; so that, in the event, this project involved a great deal of research into what was and what was not valid in delineating personality.

1/ Extract from "The Art of Synthesis", lecture delivered at the A.A. Conference 1982, in Canterbury, by Terence Dwyer, 53 Loughborough Road, Quorn, Loughborough LE12 8DU, U.K.

The point system

Perhaps not the least of the issues this program throws up is that if you want to clarify in your own mind what you know, try teaching it to a computer. Computers being completely lacking in intelligence, they have to be told EVERYTHING in great detail. Although I had to teach my computer astrology, I nearly called this paper "What my computer has taught me about astrology" because of the way I was forced to define in my own mind exactly how astrology works.

In reality some kind of point system is needed to cover everything. For example, the chart might have Moon square Neptune, suggesting, amongst other things, sloppiness in domestic matters; and also Saturn in Virgo in the 4th house, suggesting the opposite. It would be essential that these two conflicting tendencies be brought together, so that the computer could weigh up the final outcome, and write ONE comment covering both.

An example of such a point system is given by Figure 1 & 2: The Gauquelin results at the angles of the chart (as shown on page 52 of "Cosmic Influences on Human Behaviour") form a frequency distribution, with the expected frequencies as the mean value. This distribution was studied 5° by 5° and clockwise, the scores being reduced to a standard average of 15 points per planet and sector. The resulting point system is shown in Figure 2.

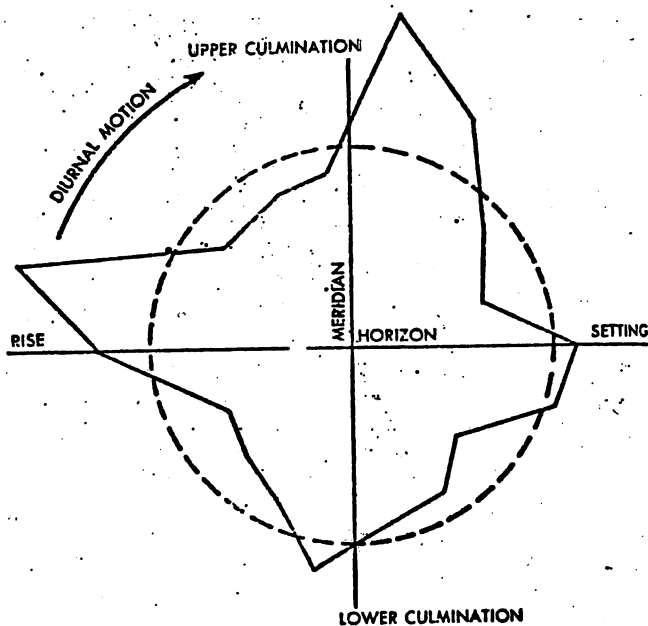


Figure 1 : The Gauquelin angular results
The "ideal" frequency distribution obtained by grouping the results of ten groups of professional celebrities for planetary positions in their diurnal motion. There are four moments of maximal intensity : at both horizons and both meridians.

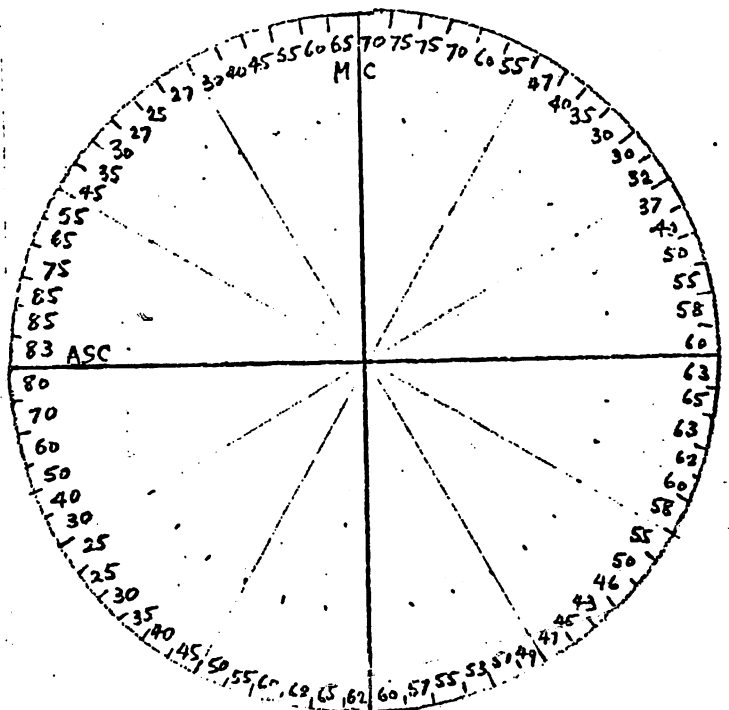


Figure 2 : The resulting point system
Twelve Placidus houses are computed. Each house is then divided into six sectors by equal division of longitude, in which the scores of the Gauquelin data are calculated for a standard average of 15 points per sector, rotated 5° anticlockwise.

Interpreting the chart

I spent a very long time planning the skeleton of the STARWORD program in my mind, but it finally came out like this :

Stage 1 : compute the chart itself (I used an existing program for this part).

Stage 2 : evaluate the strength of each planet, and based on these scores, evaluate the strength of every aspect. Anything else which would be used, e.g. Ascendant sign, would also have to be given a score commensurate with its importance.

Stage 3 : Having first constructed a complete list of all possible human personality traits and other attributes, each chart factor would send scores to those traits which were appropriate to it. This process would include a balancing of opposing scores, e.g. if Saturn in the second house scores 50 points for being mean with money, and Venus trine Jupiter scores 60 for being generous with money, then the result is 10 points worth of generosity.

Stage 4 : When all trait scores have been totted up, a conversion into the printed text gives a readout properly organized into categories with headings, by simply taking the traits in the proper order.

That is the program in a nutshell. All I had to do was make it work. I realized immediately that the computer memory would have to hold a vast amount of information. Quite apart from the program itself, it would need a look-up table, to know which traits were connected with which chart factor. E.g. Venus trine Jupiter does not only mean generous with money, it means possible artistic talent, a loving nature, ability to express love, a wide circle of friends, etc. So for each chart factor, there might be anything from 20 meanings to 100. Sun-sign meanings in particular have quite a lot of things to say, and the average sun-sign interpretation in STARWORD is 67 meanings; rather fewer for the planet-sign interpretations. The other huge memory storage would be the words, phrases and sentences required for the actual text of the printout, bearing in mind that all situations would need to be covered.

The database

The first part of the database which I set up was a complete list of all human traits, tendencies, abilities, properties or whatever, which might be involved in astrological interpretation.

This is not quite the same thing as ALL possible human traits. Astrology has certain favourite topics, such as telling half the world's population that they are artistic, that they are expecting legacies, or that they are interested in philosophy and religion. Or that they are involved with other people's resources, or confinement in institutions such as hospitals, mental homes or prisons. My list of traits had to be astrology-oriented, so as to respond to traditional chart meanings.

I therefore began by combing half-a-dozen standard astrology books for all the typical traits that came out. This list took a lot of revising. I also took the trouble to get the traits into a logical order, ready to be grouped into the categories I wanted in the final readout (character, mentality, career, and so on). I ended up with a list of about 600 traits, 400 of which got made up into pairs of opposites such as : Generous/Mean or Energetic/Lazy. The remaining traits had no opposite; for example, either you are artistic to some degree, or you lack this ability; there is no contrary, positive trait.

The next step was an examination of all chart factors, to see what they mean; or, to put it another way, which of the items on the trait-list they generate, and to what extent. Again I searched through standard astrology books and took every meaning that I could make sense of, especially when all the authors agreed.

This was a long job. In the end, I found that most of the available information was summed up in one book : "The Astrologer's Handbook", by Sackoian & Acker. And after a while, I settled down to relying on it most of the time.

I then created computer datafiles storing all this information under these headings : Planets in Signs, Planets in Houses, retrograde Planets in Signs, retrograde Planets in Houses, Ascendant by Signs, Aspects. The idea was to take each chart factor, one at a time, look up which traits it applied to, and send a score to that trait, depending on the strength of the planet involved, but also on another criterion : the planet was first assessed to see if it were, on balance, well aspected, neutrally aspected or afflicted; and different trait-lists were also prepared depending on this. There was some overlap, e.g. a well-aspected Mars in Cancer would get some of the same meanings as an afflicted one, but there would also be differences.

Conclusion

I am not satisfied with STARWORD, I want to get it better. I think perhaps some parts of the database need revision; probably some important meanings got left out. Another thing that one could tinker with for ever, is the scoring system and how one can correctly balance, say, aspects as a whole as against the scores for signs as a whole. Not to mention a dozen smaller and more subtle points. My system for scoring aspects is probably too crude, requiring some allowance for applying versus separating. I probably should have done something about midpoints... and so on.

But even as it stands, it is valuable. However, there are all sorts of implications in this project, and all sorts of possible lessons which may be drawn; all sorts of questions which it throws up...

(more about them in Part II,
in the next issue of A.P.P.)

REMARKS ABOUT THE PROBLEM OF REPLICATING ASTROLOGICAL RESULTS

Ulrich Mees¹

ABSTRACT

The necessity to obtain repeatedly the same result in the same conditions is a "sine qua non" of the scientific methodology. But is it correct to reject a result after one failure to replicate it? The author explains why this could be misleading through the notion of "sufficient" but not "necessary" factors for the recurrence of a phenomenon.

Professor H.J.Eysenck remarked recently (1982; 1983) on how important it is to replicate a study in the same conditions for verifying if the same results will show up again, before asserting that they are consistent: "Replicating a study is the life blood of science, and until and unless a result is replicated in another study, preferably by some other author, one should be extremely chary of accepting it" (1983, p.20).

This warning is certainly to be taken seriously. However, working in human sciences, and particularly in psychology, has made us cautious regarding theoretically "pure" replication studies. The material on which a psychologist attempts his replications, i.e. the human subjects, is an inconstant working basis and changes continually?

Astrological systems are even more elusive than psychological ones

The astrologers, like the psychologists, have to do with the unpredictability of human subjects. But scientific investigation into astrological hypotheses is confronted to additional difficulties, i.e. the great complexity of each astrological system (3). This complexity is necessary for doing justice to the diversity of the investigated phenomena; but it explains some difficulties in verifying them. When isolated "if...then..." hypotheses are tested, most often no result appears, perhaps because the hypothesis was not valid, but sometimes also because the adopted methodology was too simplistic.

Sometimes however the expected result appears; then the problem is: will it show up again in a replication study? It may not, for the same two reasons: or it was not valid and appeared only by chance in the first investigation; or it was valid, but the adopted methodology is not able to put it in evidence each time a replication is attempted.

"Necessary" and "sufficient" conditions

In the philosophy of science, there is a classical distinction between "necessary" and "sufficient" conditions. Simplifying, we can describe them as follows:

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2/ These changes are investigated in the so-called "longitudinal studies".

3/ There are several systems: tropical, sidereal, geocentric, heliocentric...

- a "necessary" factor is one without which the expected result does not appear;
- a "sufficient" factor is one which explains the result when it appears; but in its absence, the same result can still appear for other reasons;
- a "necessary and sufficient" factor is the only condition able to explain the result (A only produces B, and B only is produced by A, see graph).

1) A $\xrightarrow{\text{-----}}$ B

A is the necessary and sufficient condition for obtaining B.

2) $\begin{array}{l} A_1 \text{ ---} \\ A_2 \text{ ---} \\ A_3 \text{ ---} \\ \vdots \\ A_x \text{ ---} \end{array} \rightarrow B$

$A_1, A_2 \dots A_x$ are all sufficient but not necessary conditions for obtaining B.

3) $\begin{array}{l} A \text{ ---} \\ A_1 \text{ ---} \\ A_2 \text{ ---} \end{array} \rightarrow B$

A is a necessary but not sufficient condition for obtaining B;
 A_1 and A_2 are sufficient but not necessary conditions for obtaining B.

Let us now admit that in astrological systems the "sufficient" conditions predominate. This would imply that, in the first investigation, factor A_1 would produce the significant result B; but in a replication study, it would be factor A_2 .

With married couples, factor A_1 could be for instance a conjunction of the male's Sun with the female's Moon producing factor B, i.e. happiness in marriage; in a replication study, we could find, instead of factor A_1 , factor A_2 , for instance a conjunction of the male's Mars with the female's Venus; as both, factors A_1 and A_2 , are said in classical textbooks to contribute to marital happiness, this does not appear like a real failure to produce an astrologically significant result; but a narrow-minded statistician would dismiss both significant results, arguing that one does not replicate the other.

Another example of the danger of dismissing too lightly a result on the basis of one failure to replicate it, is the SCICOP controversy : the Gauquelins having demonstrated through several positive replications the validity of a Mars-effect with sports-champions (Gauquelin, 1970-71, 1979), members of this group attempted to replicate this effect with an independent sample collected by them, and failed to reproduce the result. Their conclusion that the Gauquelin results are invalidated by this single lack of replication seems rather premature; recently the same authors admitted it more or less in a "Reappraisal" of their first conclusion (Abell, Kurtz & Zelen, 1983).

Let us therefore keep in mind that :

- the confirmation of a result in a replication-study is a "sufficient" argument in favour of its validity or theoretical relevance;
- its non-confirmation, however, is not a "necessary" argument for the falsification of the result.

Clinical versus statistical judgements

These considerations may perhaps help to explain why the "holistic" method of an astrologer can bring success with the matching technique where "reductionist" investigations remain sterile (Eysenck, 1983; Steffert, 1983; Niehenke, 1983) : the astrologer is able to take at once into account all the possible conditions for producing the expected effect, i.e. the two (or more) constellations A₁, A₂, etc. which are sufficient but not necessary conditions for producing B; while the conventional statistical investigation considers only one possible condition A₁ which produces positive results only once in a while.

For the readers who are psychologists, such a debate is not new : it reminds us of lively discussions about the merits of clinical versus statistical judgements in psychology.

Methodological advice

For those who admit the uncertainty of falsifying the expected result on the basis of only one unsuccessful replication, there are however strict methodological rules to follow for avoiding a gullible acceptance of any casual deviation to the mean. As far as possible :

- a) the number of possible conditions should be stated in advance;
- b) their theoretical effect should be predicted precisely.

Of course our confidence in the theoretical relevance of a result increases with the number of replications in which it appears to be significant; its falsification becomes more difficult with the number of successes. But we must remember that a refutation remains possible even after two or more positive replication.

And the reverse is also true : when an expected result fails to appear, it must be rejected after several unsuccessful replications; but one replication only may not be enough to refute its reality. Depending on how many times the positive result had been successfully demonstrated, its falsification may also require various replications.

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<p style="text-align: center;">THE PRACTICE OF ASTROLOGY</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">Bob Dijkstra ¹</p>
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ABSTRACT

Unlike the scientists in "You the Jury" (see A.P.P.1, 4-6 & 2, 4-8), the author does not believe that what astrology needs is a logical scientific demonstration. Like Peter Niehenke (A.P.P.2, 33-37) and Beverley Steffert (A.P.P.2, 25-30), he affirms that intuition has more to do than rational knowledge with the successes in his practice.

Intuition is necessary

The interpretation of a horoscope depends on the way the counselling astrologer understands the human being he has in front of him. Not only his professional knowledge, but also his intuitive feeling, are necessary for good results.

Of course "pure feeling" can mislead the counsellor; but non-scientific factors must play a role. With only scientific methods, the counsellor would not be efficient in his current practice. Even in pure science, some feeling and intuition are useful: nearly all the inventions came out of intuition. So the scientists should not despise the astrologers for using it.

Only to a beginner can astrological interpretation appear as a mechanical process. For a trained astrologer, good interpretation needs more. One can learn what the signs, planets, houses and aspects mean in the horoscope; but the inner relationships have to be sensed intuitively. There is no training for it; it is a gift one has or has not.

A scientist can logically construct his experiments on what he has learned; but the born-astrologer feels within himself the archetypal structure of a given horoscope, he sees issues that he cannot explain, he can be in empathy with his client (or "not in empathy" if the client is "not for him!"); with one little sentence, he can strike the client with awe, without being rationally able to explain why and how he did it.

I call this kind of interpretation with understanding and intuition "an expanded diagnosis". It can be enjoyed when one opens oneself to the "little something" which makes interpretation successful without being described in any formal textbook.

1/

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The good astrologer

The astrological counsellor who wants to work properly needs some technical knowledge, much intuition, and a sense of balance between free will and destiny. He must also be psychologically gifted, if he wants to gain the confidence of his clients. His psychological flair is linked with his intuitive ability. And he needs sensibility beside knowledge. An insufficient sensibility of the astrologer can mean a tragedy for the person who comes to him for advice : an erroneous remark may have unpredictable effects and lead the suffering client to extreme reactions. The astrologer must intuitively sense how far he can go with a prognosis, he must avoid to give more sorrow than necessary. These capabilities cannot be learned rationally.

An example

A married couple came to me for difficulties in their marriage. The difficulties could be seen in their horoscopes, but no final separation was apparent. I interviewed separately each spouse.

The wife complained that she was neglected by her husband, who was a hard worker and very successful at earning money; but this was all he brought into the marriage. She felt sexually neglected and had already begun to seek her pleasure outside their home. She expressed the wish to end the marriage as quickly as possible. But I intuitively sensed that she was less sure of herself than she pretended and had doubts about the decision she should take. Her husband's attitude played also a role : he refused the divorce she required.

The husband's story was different : he felt that his wife spent too much money, drank, and neglected the children. Nevertheless he still loved her, and he feared the consequences a divorce would have for the children. He intended therefore to do all he could for saving the marriage.

What was the right thing to do ? I followed a sudden intuition and advised the husband to accept the wish of his wife. She should go ahead with the divorce proceedings. And he should confirm each day this decision to his wife.

During the next two days, the wife rang up several times and told me that her husband had become very strange : he wanted to get a divorce. I reminded her that she wished it herself. She now denied it : they had children who would suffer from it, and so on...

A conversation of both spouses with me cleared the situation. The real causes of the difficulties could at last be discussed, both partners trying now to understand their errors without constant reproaches. Thus the marriage was saved.

Conclusion

I had not told them what I saw in their horoscope. And the result of my counselling was not what I had advised them to do. But my contribution had helped them for becoming aware of their real needs and wishes.

I can understand the objections against such an intuitive counselling by those who cannot combine "knowing" and "feeling". I believe in the usefulness of my sudden intuitions, and have learned to trust them, without asking where they come from. Just like the clinician who, thanks to his experience of the human nature, "knows" and "feels" at once what the needs of his patients are, without rational proof for it.

Answer to Bob Dijkstra :

We acknowledge the successes in your practice. But are they due to astrological knowledge or to psychological flair? We are inclined to attribute them to the latter, and think the stars have little to do with them...

... except one thing : to endow the astrologer with the right temperament for becoming a good, intuitive counsellor.

Dear reader, what is, in your opinion, the right star (or stars) to be born under for becoming the kind of astrologer Bob Dijkstra advocates? Send us your opinion for letting us know.

In our files are the birthdata of many astrologers, divided in subgroups like: "advocates intuitiveness", "founded a group successfully", "known by his many books", "known for his extensive researches"... What would be the dominant planet, sign or aspect in each subgroup?

If you give us feedback, the list of your suggestions will be published (anonymously, without names) in the next issue of this journal, together with the statistical results of planets, signs and aspects in each subgroup for comparison. Will they coincide? We hope so, and are eager to know your opinion.

Thank you for it,

ms

Marie Schneider

BOOK REVIEWS

SPEKTRUM DER PARAPSYCHOLOGIE (Panorama of parapsychology), by Eberhard Bauer und Walter von Lucadou. Aurum Verlag, Freiburg im Breisgau, GDR, 1983, 255pp.

Professor Hans Bender, to whom this book is dedicated for his 75th anniversary, belongs to the pioneers who have always supported serious research into borderline fields related to psychology, despite the difficulties this courageous position entailed for him. He supported, in particular, research into astrology and was the first to accept Gauquelin research articles in a scientific journal, his now classical "Zeitschrift für Parapsychologie".

In the chapter entitled "The examination of astrology" of this festive book, Prof. Arno Müller describes the present state of astrology-research in his country. Matching tests were performed at the Institut für Grenzgebiete der Psychologie (Institute for borderline psychological fields) founded by Hans Bender. They are not numerous enough to allow definitive conclusions, but gave some encouraging results.

The main steps of the Gauquelin research are then summarized : correlations between professional celebrities and planetary positions at birth; correlations between personality traits and planetary positions; heredity effect related to the geomagnetic field, and so on.

Then professor Müller describes his own research about Sun-Signs, the seasonal birth rhythms, and the demographic and astronomical irregularities of the planetary distributions, which explain apparently significant accumulations of positions in signs.

His conclusion is that, measured against the rather numerous basic elements of the astrological theory, the empirical findings seriously demonstrated up to now appear extremely modest : five only among the ten planets provided some significant results, and the meaning of the axes was corroborated. This is not much for practical interpretations of horoscopes. Nevertheless its overall meaning for the role astrology may play in modern science from now on is revolutionary.

ASTROLOGIA SI, ASTROLOGIA NO (Astrology : Yes or No ?), by Ciro Discepolo and Fausto Passariello. Edizioni C. Caponi, Torino, Italy, 1982, 198pp.

The authors, a specialist in electronics and a physician, dedicate this book to "those who believe too much for making them more critical; and to those who don't believe at all for making them more open" and try to surmount the gap between rationality and irrationality by giving an honest account of modern astrology confronted to research.

One chapter is dedicated to Kepler and Jung, another one to the Vernon Clark and the Gauquelin experiments. Many transcriptions from the works of the cited authors make the account in conformity with its models and gives an interesting picture of the present state of knowledge in Italy about what happens presently in the field of astrological research.

THE ABELL-KURTZ-ZELEN "MARS EFFECT EXPERIMENTS"

A REAPPRAISAL

by George O. Abell, Professor of Astronomy, University of California in Los Angeles,
Paul Kurtz, Professor of Philosophy, New-York State University at Buffalo,
Marvin Zelen, Chairman Department of Biostatistiks at Harvard University,
published in : The Skeptical Inquirer, Spring 1983.

We are presented here with a very special case : high ranking academic notables were induced, through the justified criticisms of their colleagues, to publicly admit that they made errors in their debunking of astrological claims.

We give here the most revealing passages of their important text.

Readers who would like to read the entire text can ask for copies.

About the Zelen test (intended to verify the expected frequencies of the Gauquelins)

1. We neglected to mention specifically that the Mars effect (at least for this sample) was not due to some combination of astronomical and demographic factors, as suggested by the Comité Para (the Gauquelins did make this point in their report preceding ours). In other words, Gauquelin was correct in his prediction that 17 percent of ordinary people would be born with Mars in key sectors. (...)

2. We eliminated the 9 female champions from our discussion, and, in the spirit of "comparing like with like", compared the remaining 294 male champions with the 8,613 male non-champions. (...)

3. We pointed out that removal of even a single champion with Mars in a key sector could change the significance level of the result to one that would not generally be considered significant. This discussion was presented to show the sensitivity of the analyses to a single observation. This sensitivity analysis was objected to by some readers as representing a biased analysis of the data. In retrospect, this should not have been included in the original paper, because one can always reduce the significance of a distribution by removing elements from the sample. Furthermore, we had already removed 9 females, of which 3 had Mars in key sectors. (...)

4. We have been criticized further for dividing the sample of 303 into separate, smaller samples of champions. (...)

About the American Champions Study

We now believe that there are some valid criticisms of our discussion of the U.S. test.

1. First, we ought not to have followed the Gauquelins in suit by playing the game of "post hoc" selection from the data. Our purpose was to demonstrate that one can often obtain any result one wants by such a procedure, but we have likely been misunderstood. In retrospect it would have been better had we merely stated that such "post hoc" selection is inappropriate.

2. The criticism has also been made that in our introductory article, in which we reviewed briefly the earlier work, including the Zelen test, we reiterated the errors mentioned in paragraph 1, 2 and 4 above. We regret repeating our earlier oversights.

3. Most important, much of the debate over the outcome of the study of American athletes could have been avoided, had we obtained in advance a clear understanding with the Gauquelins on exactly what they were predicting and what directories of famous sports champions would be satisfactory according to their hypotheses. (...) Moreover, it would have been far better if we had agreed upon neutral judges to supervise the entire study, so that no party could be accused of bias.