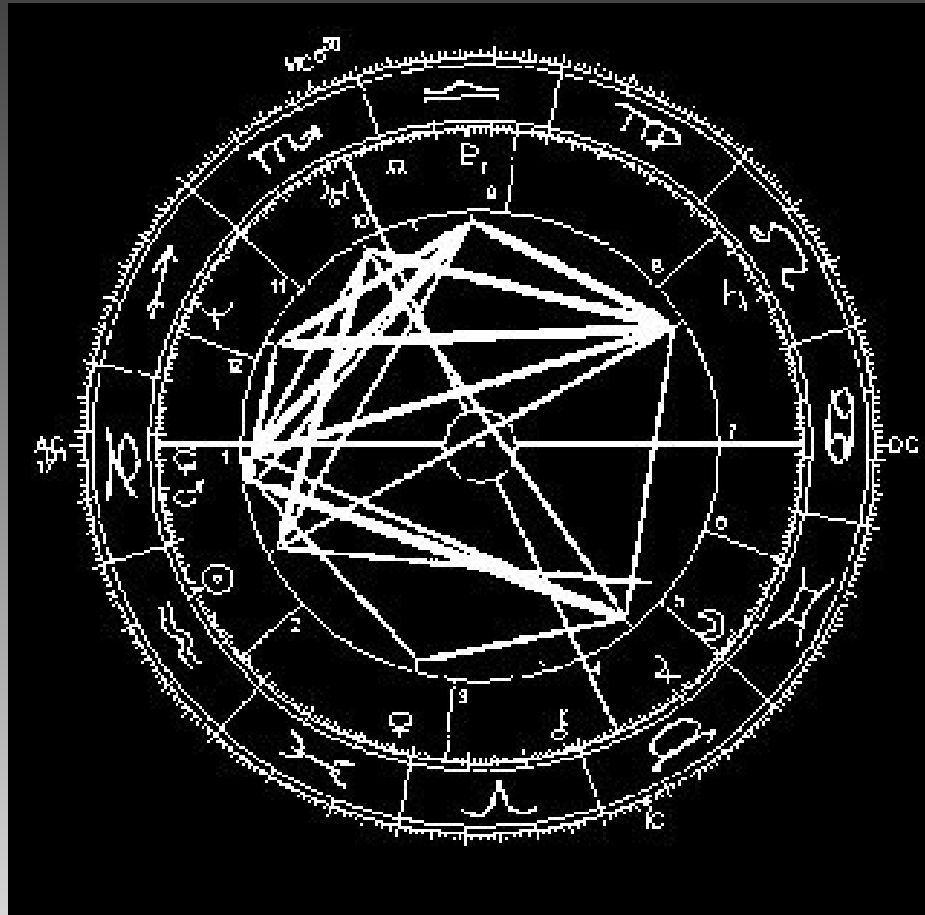


ASTROLOGY 201: How to Interpret a Birth Chart Pt.1



By Holly D'Angelo

ASTRO DIENST
www.astro.com

FC	$m = 24^{\circ} 29'$	2: $\mu = 26^{\circ} 10'$	3: $\alpha = 18^{\circ} 58'$
MC	$\mu = 1^{\circ} 31'$	11: $\alpha = 26^{\circ} 46'$	12: $\mu = 12^{\circ} 56'$

Resources

To learn astrology:

“The Only Way To Learn Astrology” Vol. I, II,III
Marion March and Joan McEvers

To get a free chart:

Astrodienst

<http://www.astro.com/>

About astrology

- Astrology is an ancient art/science that uses astronomical observations for predictions
- Astrology and astronomy have parted ways
- We are using the tropical system for this lecture
- Astrology does not predict an unchangeable future
- It is also connected to other systems such as Qabalah and Tarot...for another lesson

Some points about birth charts

- Like all astrology, a birth chart does not predict an unchangeable future
- The car analogy
- It is possible to have exactly the same chart as another person yet be very different.
- Knowledge of the chart can produce results
- To cast a chart you need to know the city, date and time to the minute
- The play analogy

The Building Blocks of Astrology

- Planets – The Actors
 - Each rules certain signs
- The Signs – The Roles
 - Elements
 - Quality or Cardinality
 - Planetary Rulerships
- The Houses – The Stage
 - Natural rulership of signs in houses
 - Houses grouped by quality and element like signs

Planets

- “Planets” include the Sun, Moon and Pluto, and can potentially include large asteroids
- We use 10 planets in this system
- They can be thought of as 10 different dimensions of human personality
- Planets are said to rule certain signs
- They also have relationships amongst each other which we cover later

Planetary Rulership

Every sign has relationships with certain planets, both flowing and stressful.

The planet(s) which has the best relationship with this sign is said to be in *dignity* or *exaltation*.

Planet with stressful relationships to the sign are in *detriment* or *fall*.

Sun

Keyword: Inner Self

Represents: power urge, ego, personality

Dignity: Leo

Detriment: Aquarius

Exaltation: Aries

Fall: Libra

“Where you find the Sun in the chart is the life and heart of the horoscope; this is where you want to shine.”

Moon



Keyword: Emotions

Represents: domestic, nurturing urge

Dignity: Cancer

Detriment: Capricorn

Exaltation: Taurus

Fall: Scorpio

“Where you find the Moon in the chart is where you tend to experience emotional ups and downs.”

Mercury



Keyword: Reasoning Ability

Represents: intellectual urge, avenue of
expression

Dignity: Gemini, Virgo Detriment: Sagittarius,
Pisces

Exaltation: Aquarius Fall: Leo

*“Where you find Mercury in the chart shows
where and how you communicate best.”*

Venus ♀

Keyword: Affection

Represents: social urge, sense of value

Dignity: Taurus, Libra

Exaltation: Pisces

Detriment: Scorpio, Aries

Fall: Virgo

“Where you find Venus in the chart shows what you really enjoy.”

Mars



Keyword: Energy

Represents: action, aggressive urge, initiative

Dignity: Aries, Scorpio Detriment: Libra, Taurus

Exaltation: Capricorn Fall: Cancer

*Where you find Mars in the chart is where you
expend the greatest energy."*

Jupiter 4

Keyword: Expansion

Represents: benevolence, protective urge

Dignity: Sagittarius

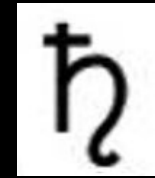
Exaltation: Cancer

Detriment: Gemini

Fall: Capricorn

“Where you find Jupiter in the chart is where you often have good fortune and like to spend your leisure time.”

Saturn



Keyword: The Teacher

Represents: urge for protection and safety

Dignity: Capricorn

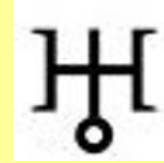
Exaltation: Libra

Detriment: Cancer

Fall: Aries

“Where you find Saturn in the chart is where you feel least secure and tend to overcompensate.”

Uranus



Keyword: The Awakener

Represents: Freedom urge, “divine discontent”

Dignity: Aquarius

Detriment: Leo

Exaltation: Scorpio

Fall: Taurus

“Where you find Uranus in the chart is where you tend to do the unusual.”

Neptune



Keyword: Intuition

Represents: spiritual and escapist urge

Dignity: Pisces

Detriment: Virgo

Exaltation: None

Fall: None

“Where you find Neptune in the chart is where you tend to deceive yourself and/or others; it is also where you tend to seek the ideal.”

Pluto



Keywords: transformation

Represents: destroying or reforming urge; fusion

Dignity: Scorpio

Exaltation: None

Detriment: Taurus

Fall: None

“Where you find Pluto in the chart you'll find complexity; it is where you will have to solve problems alone and unaided.”

Signs

- Based on constellations named long ago
- These constellations are divisions of space circling the earth in the path of the ecliptic
- A sign is 30 degrees: $360/12 = 30$
- They correspond to 12 conditions which the planets pass through
- There are three main things to know about each sign: element, quality and planetary ruler

Elements



Aries, Leo, Sagittarius



Libra, Aquarius, Gemini



Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces



Capricorn, Taurus, Virgo

Qualities

<i>Quality</i>	<i>Fire</i>	<i>Air</i>	<i>Water</i>	<i>Earth</i>
Cardinal	Aries	Libra	Cancer	Capricorn
Fixed	Leo	Aquarius	Scorpio	Taurus
Mutable	Sagittarius	Gemini	Pisces	Virgo

Cardinal Signs are active, initiatory, quick

Fixed Signs are persistent, practical, stubborn

Mutable Signs are adaptable, subtle, intuitive

Aries

March 22 – April 21



Element: Fire

Quality: Cardinal

Dignity: Mars

Detriment: Venus

Principle: Active

Exaltation: Sun

Fall: Saturn

Natural House: 1st

Keyword: Activity – pioneering, executive, domineering, quick-tempered, competitive, violent, impulsive, eager, intolerant, hasty, courageous, independent, arrogant, independent, dynamic, selfish, lacks follow-through, lives in the moment

Taurus

April 22 – May 21



Element: Earth

Quality: Fixed

Dignity: Venus

Detriment: Mars/Pluto

Principle: Passive

Exaltation: Moon

Fall: Uranus

Natural House: 2nd

Keyword: Stability – patient, conservative, self-indulgent, stubborn, domestic, sensual, thorough, slow-moving, argumentative, stable, dependable, possessive, practical, greedy, loyal, artistic, materialistic

Gemini

May 22 – June 21



Element: Air

Quality: Mutable

Dignity: Mercury

Detriment: Jupiter

Principle: Active

Exaltation: None

Fall: None

Natural House: 3rd

Keyword: Versatility - dual, congenial, curious, changeable, ungrateful, adaptable, expressive, quick-witted, scatterbrained, restless, literary, inventive, lacking in concentration, clever, dextrous, scheming

Cancer

June 22 – July 21



Element: Water

Quality: Cardinal

Dignity: Moon

Detriment: Saturn

Principle: Passive

Exaltation: Jupiter

Fall: Mars

Natural House: 4th

Keyword: Devotion – tenacious, intuitive, maternal, brooding, touchy, domestic, sensitive, easily hurt, good memory, helpful, negative, manipulative, sympathetic, patriotic, over-protective, selfish, traditional

Leo

July 22 – August 21



Element: Fire

Quality: Fixed

Dignity: Sun

Detriment: Uranus

Principle: Active

Exaltation: None

Fall: Mercury

Natural House: 5th

Keyword: Magnetism – dramatic, idealistic, vain, status conscious, proud, ambitious, good leader, childish, overbearing, creative, dignified, cruel, fears ridicule, romantic, generous, self-assured, boastful, pretentious, optimistic

Virgo

August 22 – September 21



Element: Earth

Quality: Mutable

Dignity: Mercury

Detriment: Neptune

Principle: Passive

Exaltation: None

Fall: Venus

Natural House: 6th

Keyword: Practicality – industrious, studious, scientific, critical, petty, methodical, discriminating, self-centered, melancholy, fact-finding, exacting, picky, hypochondriac, shy, neat, humane, perfectionist, skeptical

Libra

September 22 – October 21



Element: Air

Quality: Cardinal

Dignity: Venus

Detriment: Mars

Principle: Active

Exaltation: Saturn

Fall: Sun

Natural House: 7th

Keyword: Harmony – cooperative, persuasive, fickle, apathetic, companionable, peace-loving, refined, loves intrigue, peace at any price, judicial, artistic, pouting, diplomatic, sociable, indecisive, suave

Scorpio

October 22 – November 21



Element: Water

Quality: Fixed

Dignity: Mars/Pluto

Detriment: Venus

Principle: Passive

Exaltation: Uranus

Fall: Moon

Natural House: 8th

Keyword: Intensity – motivated, penetrating, vengeful, temperamental, executive, resourceful, secretive, overbearing, violent, determined, scientific, investigative, sarcastic, suspicious, sex-obsessed, passionate, aware

Sagittarius

November 22 – December 21



Element: Fire

Quality: Mutable

Dignity: Jupiter

Detriment: Mercury

Principle: Active

Exaltation: None

Fall: None

Natural House: 9th

Keyword: Visualization – straightforward, philosophical, argumentative, exaggerating, freedom-loving, broadminded, talkative, procrastinating, athletic, generous, optimistic, self-indulgent, blunt, religious, just, scholarly, impatient, likes gambling, pushy, hot-headed, enthusiastic, breezy

Capricorn

December 22- January 21



Element: Earth

Quality: Cardinal

Dignity: Saturn

Detriment: Moon

Principle: Passive

Exaltation: Mars

Fall: Jupiter

Natural House: 10th

Keyword: Ambition – cautious, responsible, egotistic, domineering, scrupulous, conventional, unforgiving, fatalistic, businesslike, perfectionist, heartless, stubborn, traditional, practical, hard-working, brooding, inhibited, economical, status-seeking, serious

Aquarius

January 22 – February 21



Element: Air

Quality: Fixed

Dignity: Uranus

Detriment: Sun

Principle: Active

Exaltation: Mercury

Fall: None

Natural House: 11th

Keyword: Imagination – independent, inventive, unpredictable, temperamental, tolerant, individualistic, progressive, bored by details, cold, opinionated, progressive, artistic, scientific, shy, eccentric, logical, humane, intellectual, radical, impersonal, rebellious, altruistic, likes good causes

Pisces

February 22 – March 21



Element: Water

Quality: Mutable

Dignity: Neptune

Detriment: Mercury

Principle: Passive

Exaltation: Venus

Fall: None

Natural House: 12th

Keyword: Understanding – compassionate, charitable, procrastinating, over-talkative, melancholy, sympathetic, emotional, pessimistic, inhibited, sacrificing, intuitive, timid, impractical, musical, introspective, indolent, feels misunderstood, martyr complex, artistic

Houses

- Houses represent the 12 divisions of the zodiac applied to the hours of the day (relative to your position on earth which the planets move through on a daily basis)
- They are the 12 areas of activity in human life
- Each sign has a natural house
- Houses represent the places or scenes in which the actors (the planets) in their roles (the signs) perform their play

House Element and Quality

<i>Quality</i>	<i>Fire</i>	<i>Air</i>	<i>Water</i>	<i>Earth</i>
Cardinal	1 st	7 th	4 th	10 th
Succedent	5 th	11 th	8 th	2 nd
Cadent	9 th	3 rd	12 th	6 th

Angular Houses have cardinal qualities

Succedant Houses have fixed qualities

Cadent Houses have mutable qualities

House Breakdown

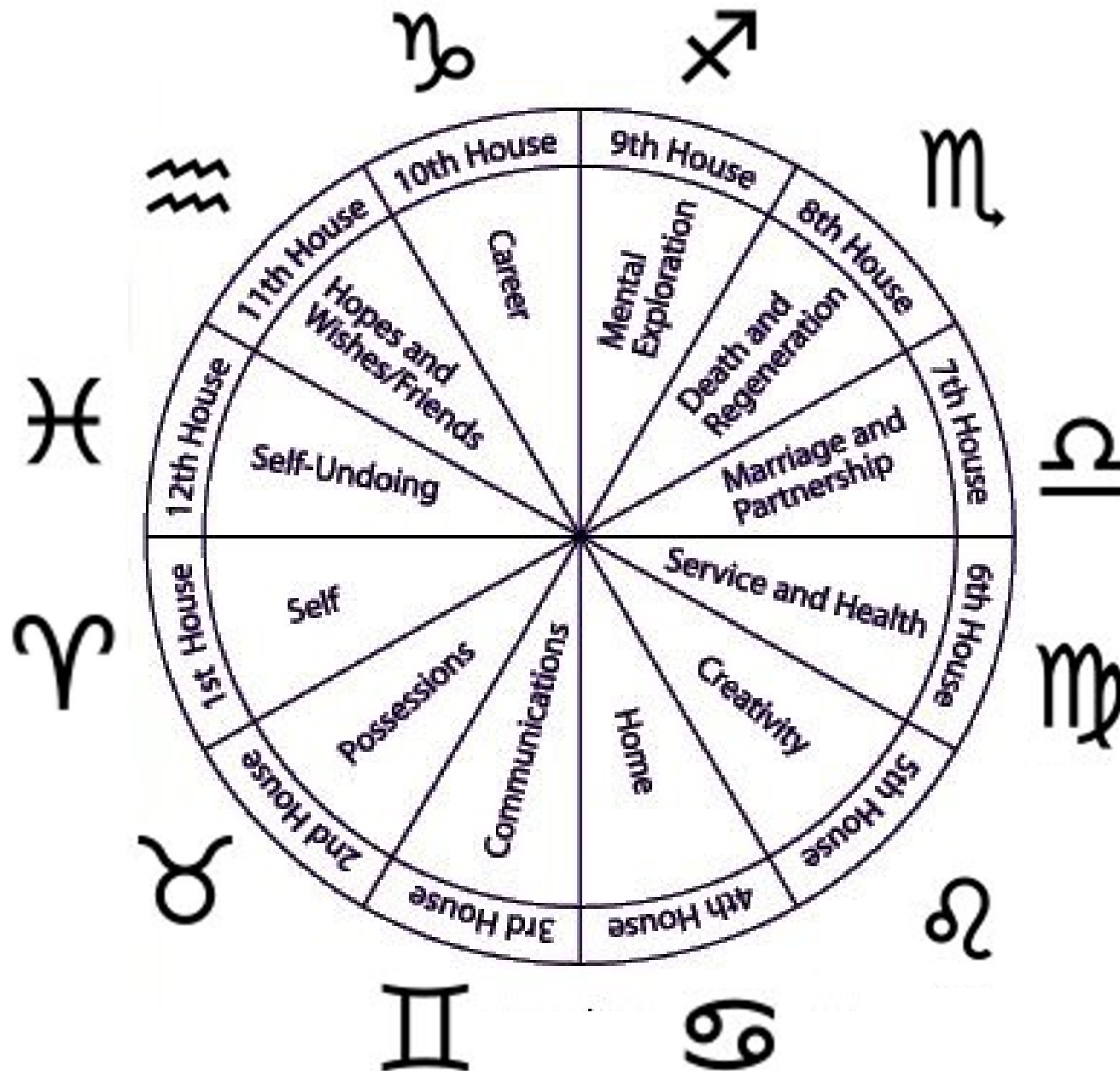


Chart Dividers

- The Equator divides North and South
 - North is home-oriented, ruled by Cancer
 - South is worldly, ruled by Capricorn
- The Meridian divides East and West
 - East is the independent side, ruled by Aries
 - West is relationship oriented, ruled by Libra

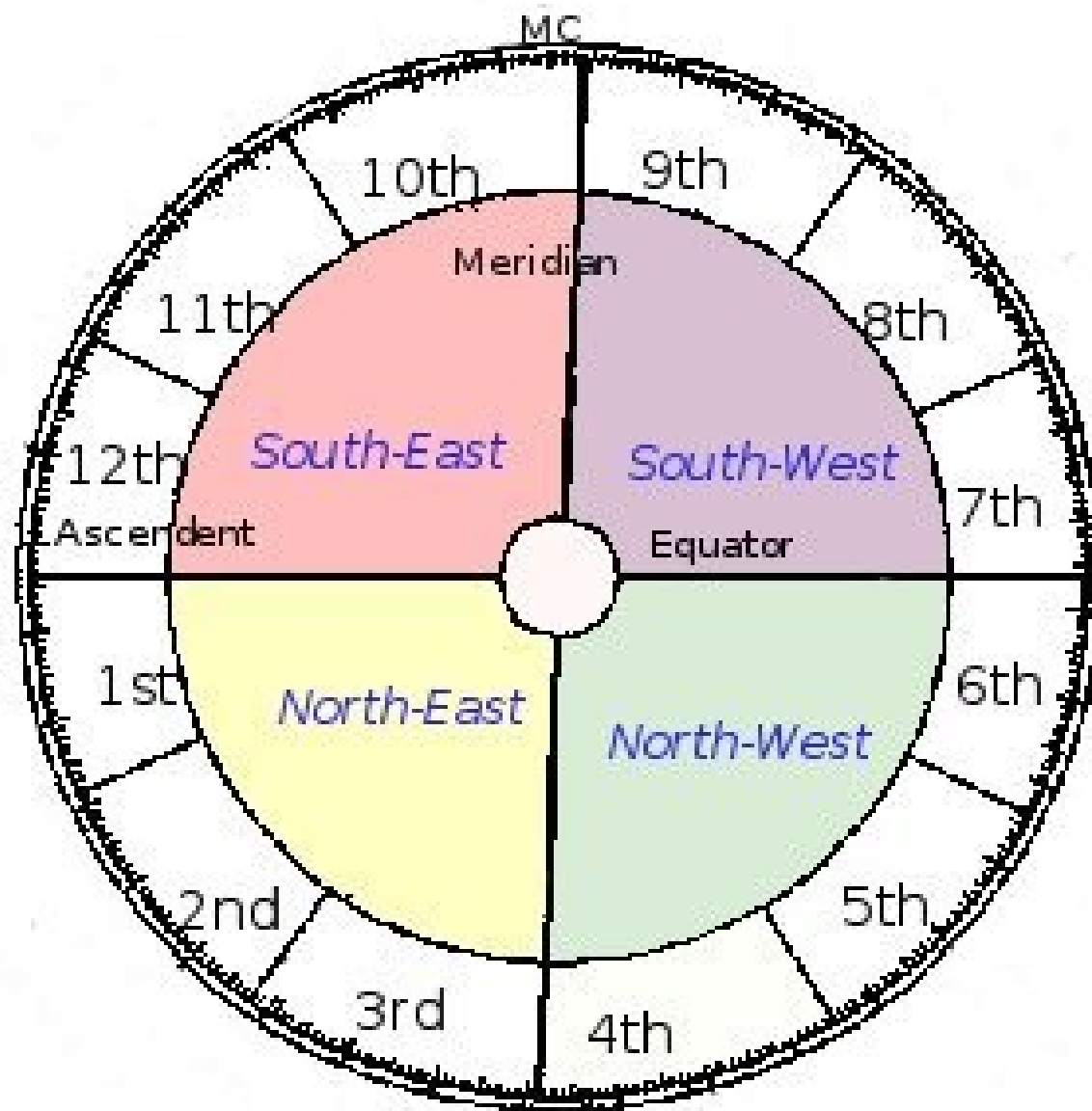
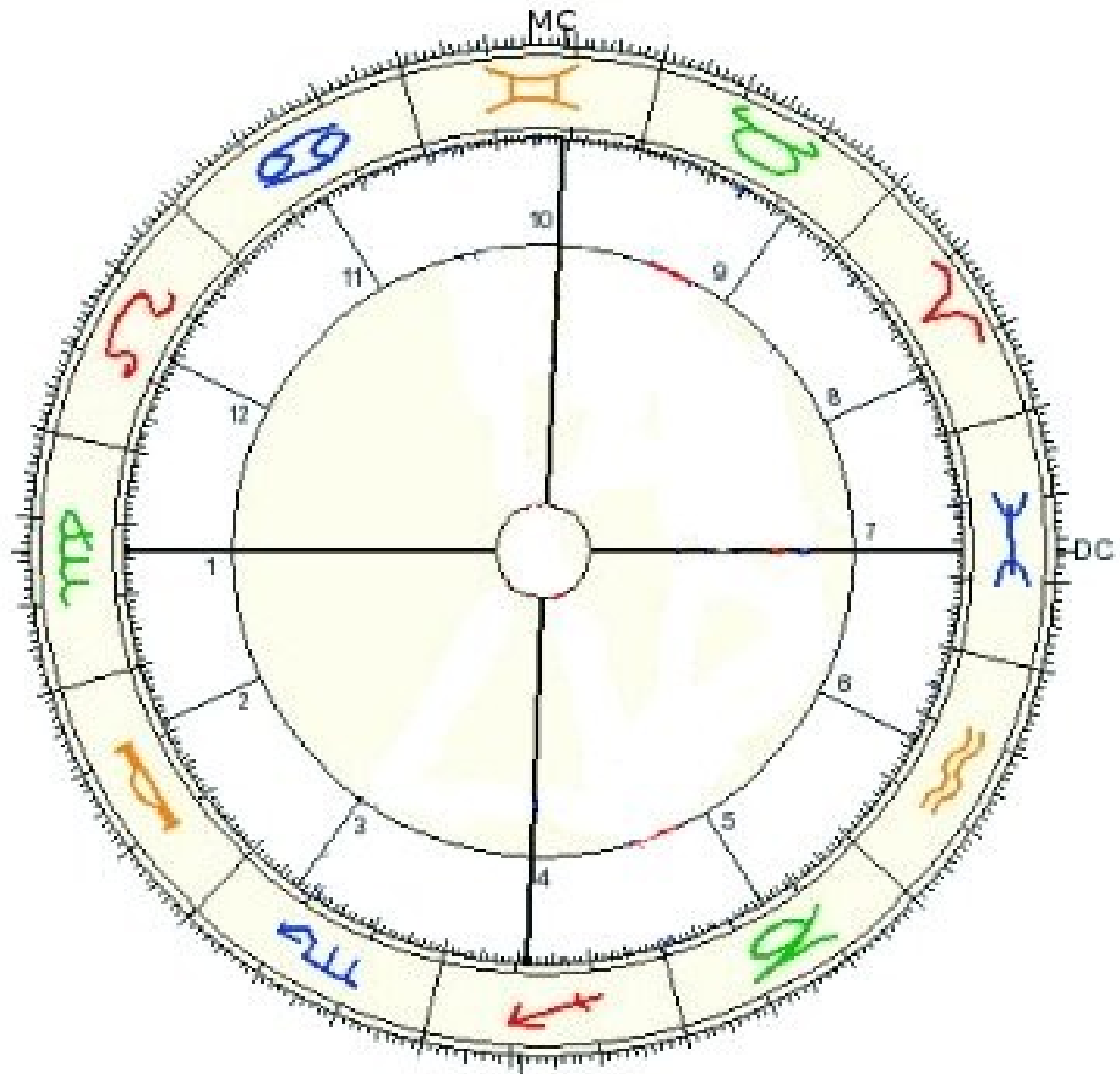


Chart Points

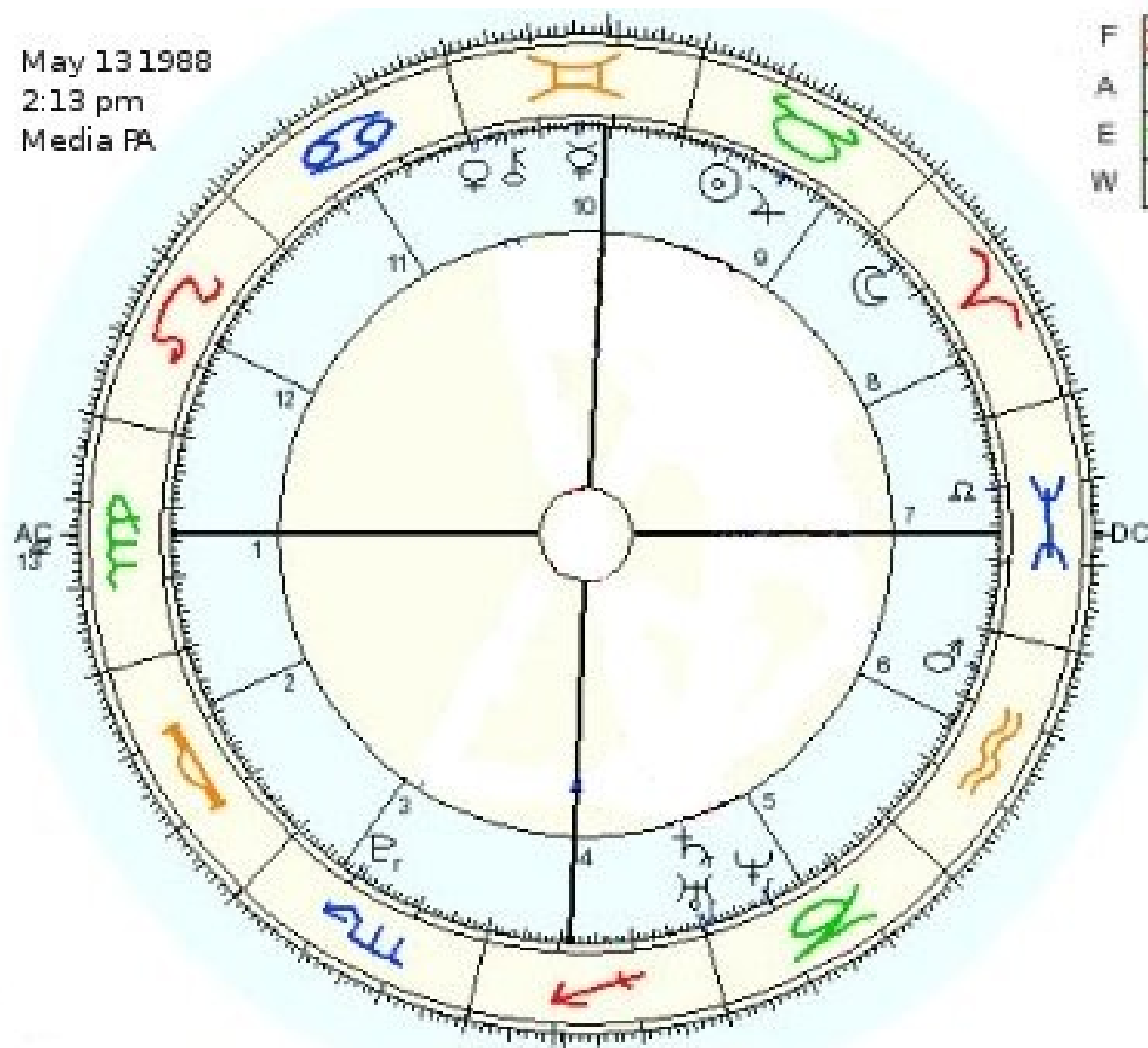
- The First House Cusp
 - The Ascendant shows the self-image and appearance
- The Fourth House Cusp
 - Shows one parent and home life
- The Seventh House Cusp
 - The Descendant which shows marriage
- The Tenth House Cusp
 - The MC, shows career potential and other parent



Analysis Level 1: Overview

- Using the quadrants
- Counting the elements
- Counting the cardinalities
- House emphasis by planets

May 13 1988
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A		♈	♉♊♋♌
E	♍♎♏	♐♑	♒
W		♓	♈

The Overview – What Can We Learn?

- 7 planets to the west, 3 to the east indicates more dependent on others than independent
- 5 planets south, 5 north – not significant
- Elemental breakdown: 1 Fire, 1 Water, 3 Air, 5 Earth so Earth is dominant
- Quality breakdown: 4 Cardinal, 4 Fixed, 2 Mutable so more initiative and stable than changeable

Overview continued

- Check the house qualities: 5 planets are angular, 1 succedant and 4 in cadent houses – this adds more energy and adaptability to the chart
- Overview tells us this personality likes to be involved with others, is generally stable and reliable but also possesses initiative
- What this does is provide a framework for the planetary delineations – for instance “flighty” would not apply to this chart.

Delineation

- ***Delineation*** is the process of defining the role and activity of each planet in a horoscope and its relationships to other planets
- **Start with the sign** the planet is in – what role is the planet in and how happy is it?
- **Then go to the house** – what stage is the planet acting on and how well does it perform?
- **Try to make a sentence** for each planet and check with the overview

Guidelines for delineation

- Start with the Sun, the Moon and the Ascendent to get a basic sketch of the personality
- When delineating the general method going from the 1st house to the 12th but any **method** will do
- No planets in a house simply means there is less emphasis in this region than ***activated*** houses

Sun Delineation

- Sun is in Taurus in the 9th house
- Sun is not in dignity, exaltation, fall or detriment
- Taurus is earthiest of earth signs being fixed
- 9th house represents distant relationships
- Translate this into a sentence
 - The inner self wants to shine by being stable, artistic and easygoing in the house of mental exploration and long-distance

Moon Delineation

- Moon is in Aries in 8th House
- The Moon is feminine, watery and passive, Aries the most fiery fire sign, thus a conflict
- 8th house is the natural house of Scorpio, a sign ruled by Mars, which rules Aries
- Thus: The emotions may tend to be passionate and impulsive, perhaps hard to control in the 8th house, which rules death, surgery and other people's resources

Ascendant Delineation

- Ascendant is in Virgo. The face this person shows to the world is reserved, can be quiet and shy but likes to be helpful as well.
- Add together Sun and Moon to Ascendant: we get a person who has a very stable and art-loving nature with an intense emotional life but a quiet outer bearing that belies this
- Compare this with the overview







Delineating the chart

- Pluto is in Scorpio in the 3rd house
 - The intense urge to reform by communicating
- Mars in Aquarius in the 6th house
 - Energy is put into service but in an individual way
- Mercury in Gemini in the 10th
 - Reasoning ability is versatile, can be used in career
- Venus is in Gemini in the 10th house
 - Affectionate urge expressed in an intellectual and friendly way, creating a popular public image(10th)

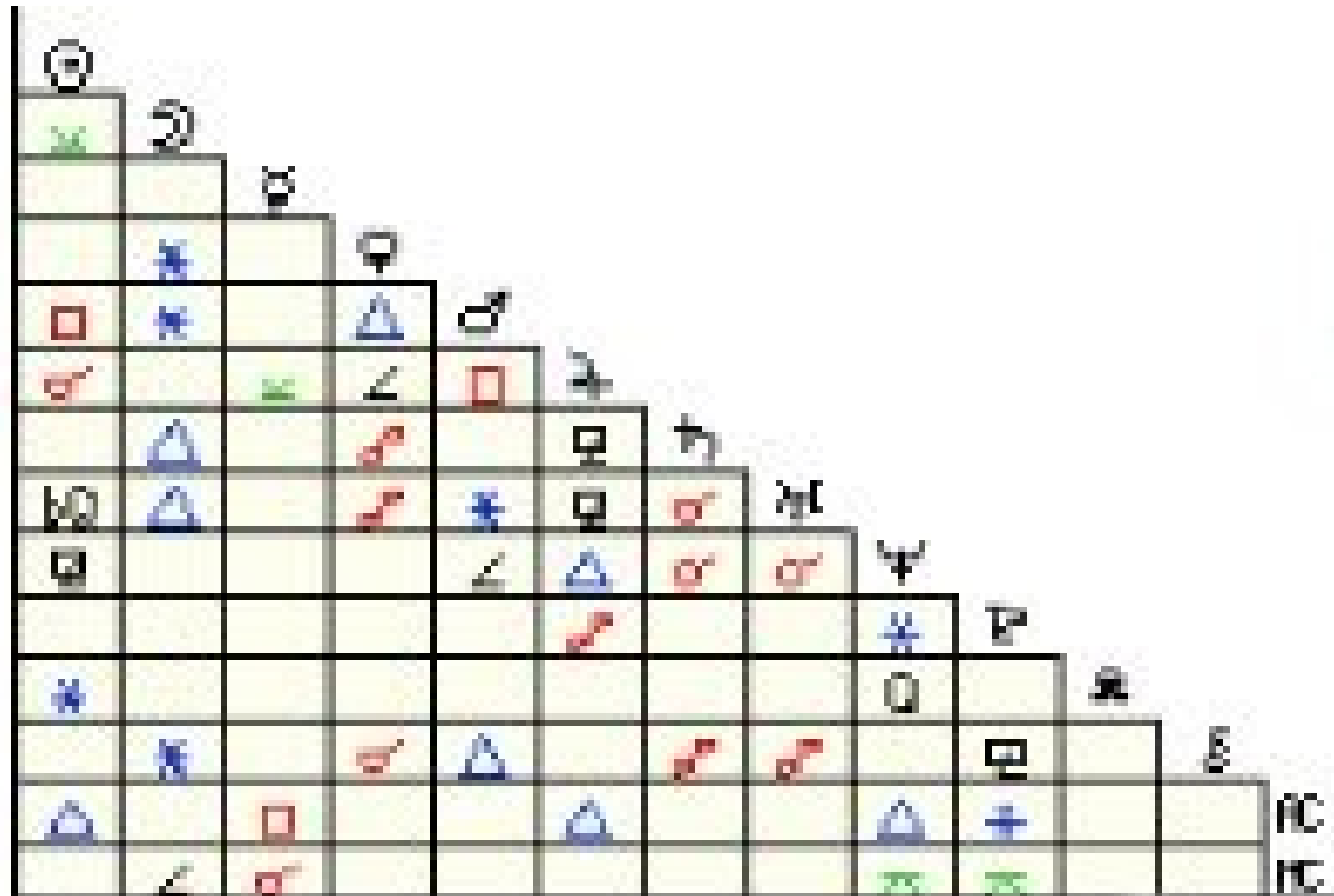
Aspects

- When a planet makes an angle that falls into certain parameters with another planet, this is called an aspect.
- Aspects are relationships between planets
- There are 6 major aspects that we will consider
- Flowing aspects are the conjunct, trine and sextile
- Challenging aspects are the square, inconjunct and opposition

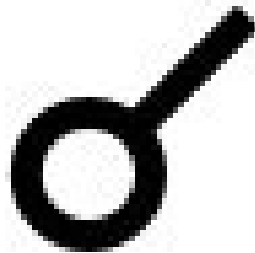
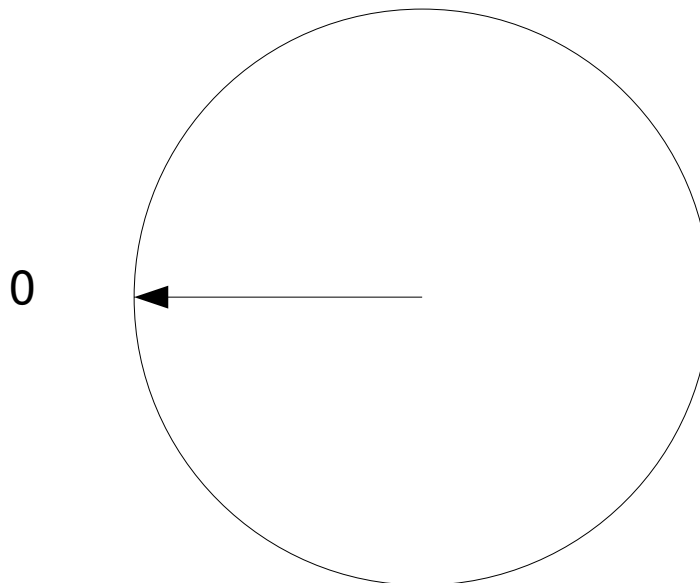
Aspect Chart

Aspect	Symbol	Keyword	Degree
<i>Conjunct</i>		Emphasis	0
<i>Sextile</i>		Opportunity	60
<i>Square</i>		Challenge	90
<i>Trine</i>		Flow	120
<i>Inconjunct</i>		Adjustment	150
<i>Opposition</i>		Awareness	180

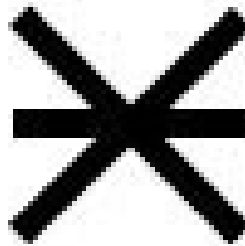
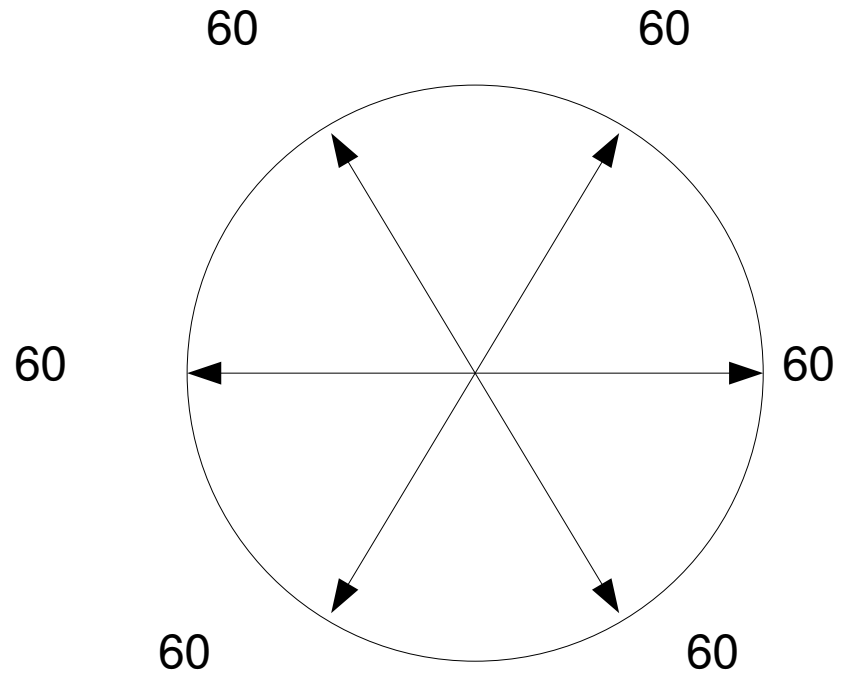
The Aspectarian



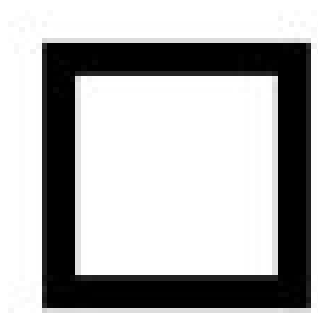
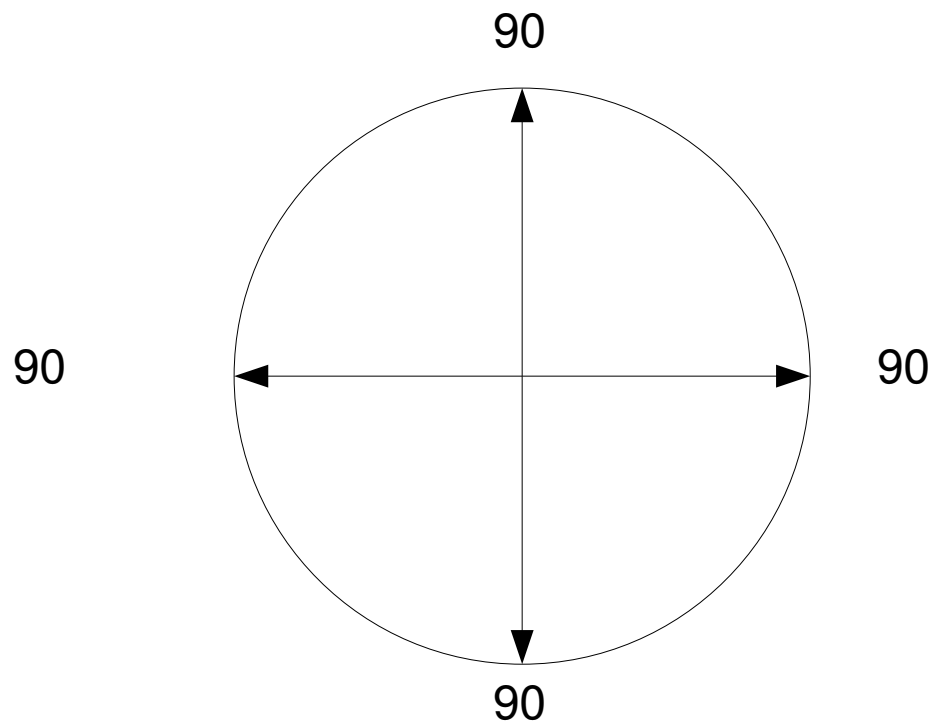
Conjunct



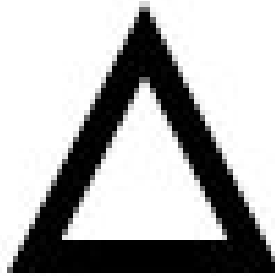
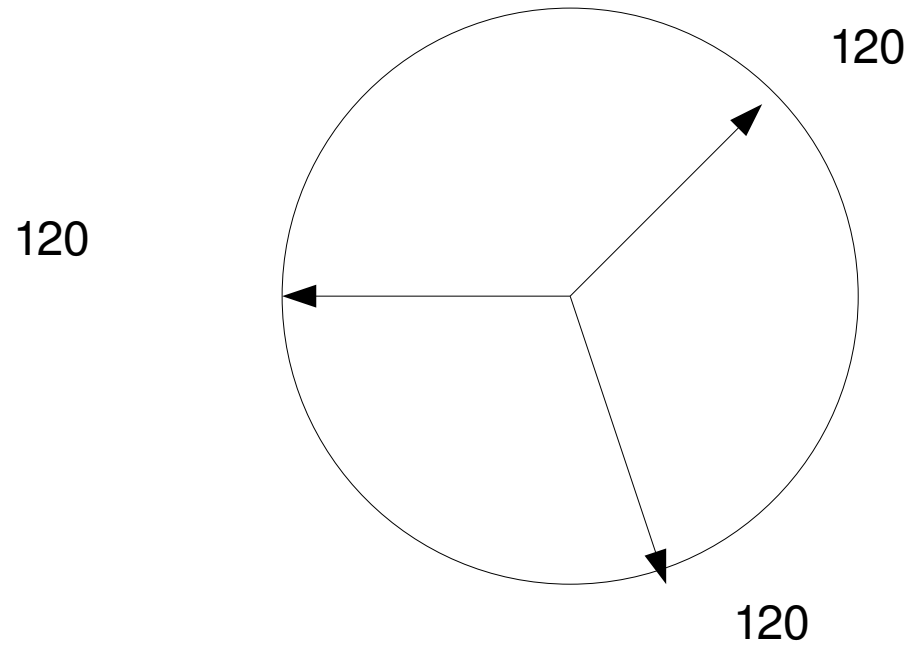
Sextile



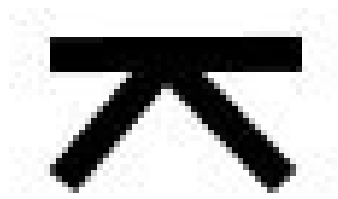
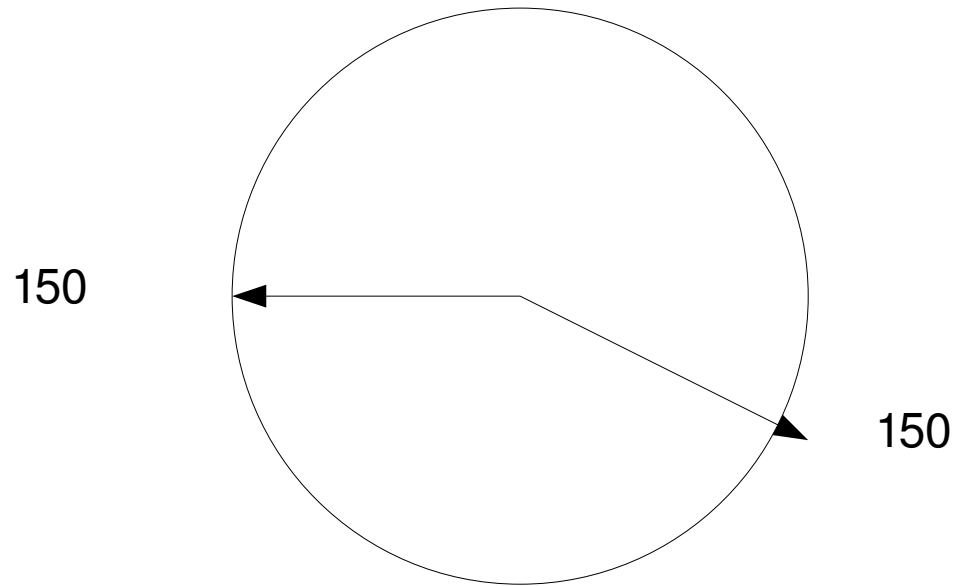
Square



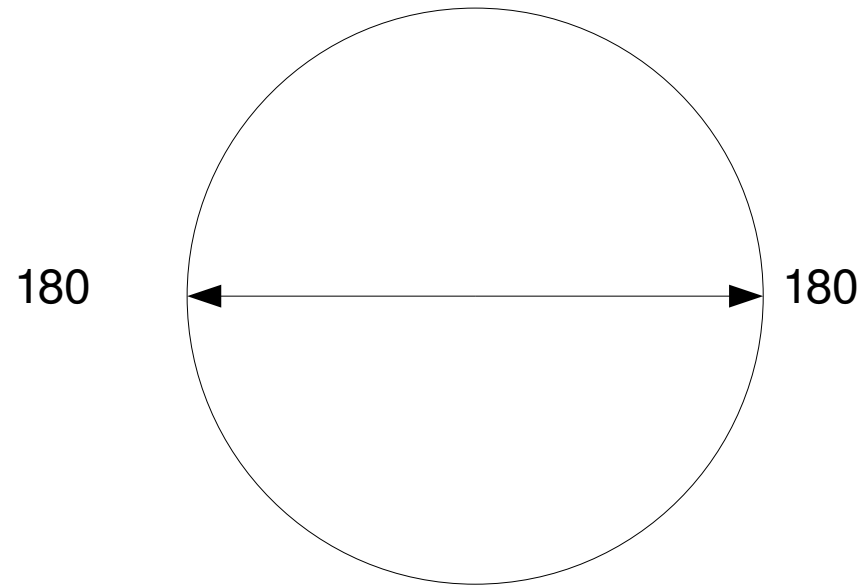
Trine



Inconjunct



Opposition

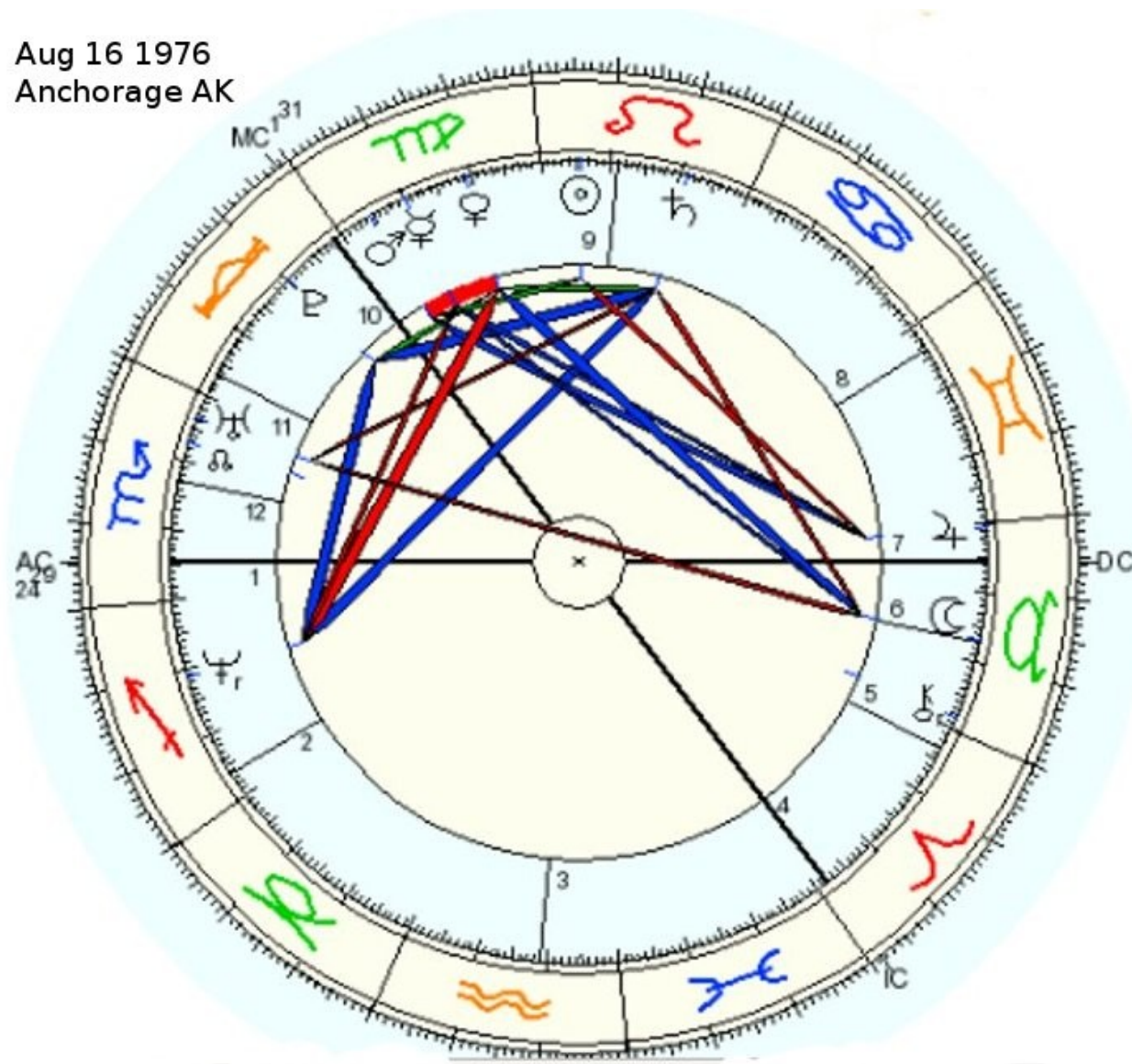


Configurations and Standouts

- Major configurations
 - T-Cross
 - Grand Cross
 - Grand Trine
 - Yod
 - Stellium
- Standouts are any lack of element, quality, aspect or aspects for a specific planet

T-Cross

Aug 16 1976
Anchorage AK



Grand Trine and Grand Cross

Jan 29, 1977
Dover NJ

