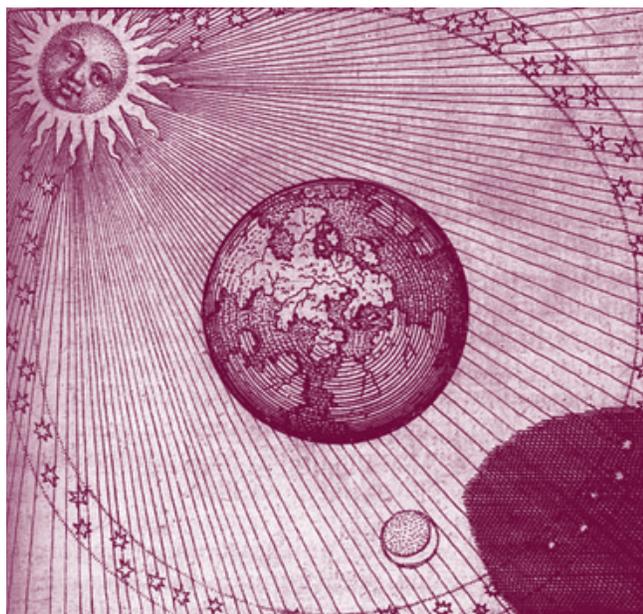


Cosmodynes— An Astrological Tool

HAVE YOU EVER LOOKED at an astrological chart and wondered which planets were the strongest? Have you ever gazed at a wheel wanting a quick thumbnail sketch of just what this person was all about? Or what about the case where you have two charts displayed together in a bi-wheel, have you ever thought about having a quick way to gauge the compatibility between them? Well, as the saying goes, if you see a need, fill it. The author decided to do just that, to elaborate on a little known existing technique that can respond to these needs. The technique is called *cosmodynes*.

Cosmodynes, also called *astrodynes*, are an astrological measure of strength and harmony. The original techniques were developed in 1946 by Elbert Benjamine (aka C.C. Zain) of the Church of Light in Los Angeles and W.M.A. Drake. The methods used to calculate astrodynes have been published in several books (see references at end of article).

Cosmodynes are units of astrological power. Just as electric power is measured in watts and physical energy is measured in joules or ergs, astrologers use cosmodynes to measure astrological power. Each planet, sign, and house in any astrological chart has power associated with it. Cosmodynes quantify that power and give you numbers that can be related to the cosmodyne numbers of the other planets, signs, and houses. From a listing of these cosmodynes you can very quickly tell which planets, signs, and houses in your chart are more powerful and which are relatively weak.



Michael Maier, *Atalanta fugiens*, Oppenheim, 1618, Stadtbibliothek Mainz

The amount of power a planet has is determined by the house the planet resides in and the aspects the planet makes or receives. The Church of Light uses only the following ten aspects in their determination of planetary power: conjunction, semi-sextile, semi-square, sextile, square, trine, sesquiquadrate (135°), inconjunct (150°), opposition and the parallel of declination. The orb for the aspect varies depending on which planets are involved, from which houses the aspects originate, and what aspect is being considered. Complete details on the calculations for planetary power can be found in the referenced sources at the end of this article.

These calculations are not easy to do by hand and they are very time consuming. The author's first cosmodyne calculations took 8 or 9 hours to complete. Now, these calculations can be done by computer programs.

Cosmodynes can be either harmonious or discordant. All planets, signs, and houses have a harmony or discord component as well as a cosmodyne (or power) component. In other words, there is always a harmony or discord associated with the power of each planet, sign, or house.

Harmodynes measure the amount of harmony a planet, sign, or house has, while discordynes measure the amount of discord or inharmony. This is important information when reading a chart because you need to know how the energies of planets, signs, and houses are likely to work out. To the extent those energies are expressed harmoniously or inharmoniously will determine the degree to which they bring positive results or negative results, respectively.

The harmony or discord of a planet is determined by three factors: 1) the nature of the planet itself; 2) the nature of each of its aspects; and 3) its essential dignity, including mutual reception. House position does not affect harmony or discord, it only affects power. We shall not go into further detail here on how harmodynes and discordynes for the signs and houses are calculated. All this information is found in the cited references. The writer is mainly interested here in explaining how cosmodynes can be used, as well as presenting a new technique that he has not seen in any of the reference works up until this time and thinks the reader may find useful.

With the above basic background in place, let us consider some further points regarding cosmodynes. The planet with the most cosmodynes is the ruler of the chart, since it depicts the strongest energy potential. Why is power so important? According to Benjamine and Doane, the strongest planets in a chart indicate those energies that can be most easily cultivated into specific abilities. You can see that if this is true, it has powerful and immediate benefits for those who do vocational astrology.

What about harmony and discord? What practical use can be made of this distinction? Again, according to Benjamine and Doane, the most harmonious planets indicate the areas and activities through which the individual can most readily experience good fortune. Similarly, the most harmonious houses identify environments or areas of life where the person will find it easier to practice his vocation and the harmony or discord he may expect from that area. What about the signs? The signs give a picture of the natural, instinctive motivations (likes and dislikes, attitudes and reactions)

Love's Horoscope

O soul! be still, be strong, have hope;
The stars within thy horoscope
Will answer to thy sovereign will
When thou canst bid thy mind be still.

The Power that framed each heavenly world,
And on their course the planets hurled,
Is thine to use. Be still and know
The mighty God ordained it so—
That every star in heaven above
Is subject to the Law of Love.

Blame not the heavens for thine ill,
It lies within thine unused will.
Within thy soul is power to know
Dominion o'er the starlit show.

Then listen deep and thou wilt hear
God's wondrous footsteps drawing near,
And feel again thy heart grow strong.
O soul! be still, oh, tarry long,
In silence brooding o'er the deep,
Where God's strong angels vigil keep,
And hear them say, "Let Faith and Hope
Work out for thee Love's Horoscope."

—Henry Victor Morgan

and enable one to judge whether or not a vocation, among other things, will bring personal satisfaction.

To give an example from Doane's book *Astrology—30 Years Research*, research has shown that in order for a person to be successful as a writer, that person should have a strong Mercury (the planet of communication and writing), a strong third house (the house of writing) and a strong 9th house (the house of publishing). Remember, strength in a chart is shown by the number of cosmodynes assigned to a planet, sign or house. In our example, it would also be helpful if Mercury and the 3rd and 9th houses had as many harmodynes (units of harmony) as possible. This, of course, would tend to make all efforts and actions work out along positive rather than negative lines. That is, there would be less resistance

from the environment. Going with the flow is easier than trying to go against it, right? Ms. Doane and the Church of Light have identified what they call birth-chart constants that need to appear in order for the things signified by them to work out along various lines. You can learn about these constants in the cited publications.

Now that we have a better idea of what we are considering (the power and harmony or discord of each planet, sign, or house in a chart), it might be instructive to look at some of the meanings of these cosmodynes in a natal horoscope. The writer will use his own chart here because he knows himself much better than he knows any other person. No doubt the first chart you will apply this concept to will be your own. Here is the writer's birth data from his birth certificate: 22 Sep 1949, 10:43 AM CST, 95W23, 29N45 (27 Scorpio 10 rising).

This data generates the following cosmodynes:

PLANET	POWER	%	HAR/DIS
MOON	61.68	13.9	-6.16
SUN	60.26	13.6	1.58
URANUS	41.88	9.4	-5.92
MC	39.06	8.8	0.74
ASC	36.63	8.3	5.65
MERCURY	36.15	8.1	2.88
PLUTO	33.85	7.6	1.94
NEPTUNE	30.32	6.8	1.43
JUPITER	28.75	6.5	7.62
VENUS	26.03	5.9	1.90
SATURN	25.05	5.6	7.17
MARS	23.98	5.4	-6.34

SIGN	POWER	%	HAR/DIS
VIRGO	142.44	21.7	10.92
LIBRA	141.16	21.5	-0.91
SCORPIO	91.58	13.9	5.35
SAGITTARIUS	87.96	13.4	-3.62
CAPRICORN	57.30	8.7	-7.46
AQUARIUS	35.02	5.3	9.42
PISCES	26.03	4.0	1.90
ARIES	18.08	2.7	1.44
TAURUS	16.73	2.5	0.31
GEMINI	14.77	2.2	2.26
CANCER	14.38	2.2	3.81
LEO	11.99	1.8	-3.17

HOUSE	POWER	%	HAR/DIS
10	204.12	31.0	4.76
9	87.96	13.4	-3.62
11	79.48	12.1	5.25
8	75.37	11.5	-6.02
1	51.09	7.8	-4.55
2	49.39	7.5	13.23
12	40.49	6.2	0.80
3	16.73	2.5	0.31
4	14.77	2.2	2.26
7	13.02	2.0	0.95
6	13.02	2.0	0.95
5	11.99	1.8	-3.17

By the way, you can also use cosmodynes to determine the power and harmony of your elements, quadruplicities, house combinations, angles, etc. The author's are given to suggest a range of numbers you might reasonably expect to see:

SIGNS	POWER	HAR/DIS
FIRE	114.33	-2.97
EARTH	203.49	22.24
AIR	175.97	0.84
WATER	163.65	0.15
CARDINAL	245.46	-2.12
FIXED	222.31	3.94
COMMON	189.66	18.43

HOUSES	POWER	HAR/DIS
PRIVATE	151.71	18.89
FRIENDSHIP	52.79	0.99
COMMUNITY	446.93	0.37
VITALITY	151.04	-224
SUCCESS	266.53	22.24
RELATIONSHIP	109.23	0.84
INTUITION	130.63	0.15

A positive number under Har/Dis indicates harmony and a negative number represents discord. The forgoing numbers are only valid for the chart to which they refer. Cosmodyne calculations for an individual chart cannot be compared with another's calculations, at least not by using the techniques described above. However *mutual*

cosmodynes can be generated whereby two people's charts can be compared using these principles.

Referring to the above information, which planets are strongest? Which are most harmonious? How about the signs and the houses? Attempt a quick delineation based on what the cosmodynes tell you. Take a moment and do some thinking.

Now the writer will tell you a few things about himself so that you get a better idea of the ways in which you can possibly use cosmodynes.

Let's look at the houses first. Where do you think the writer puts most of his energy? That's right, into working (career—10th house). In fact, that's all he ever seems to do! The reason for this is that his 10th house has much greater power than any other house. Now, where do you suppose he puts little energy, what area of his life gets very little attention? That's correct, the 5th house of fun and amusements. He rarely goes out for entertainment since the work he does is so much fun that it is almost not work at all. Do you see how

he channels things into the 10th house because it has all the power? You can imagine what other areas of life are important to him. Philosophy and outlook on life (9th house), doing things to help better the world (11th), ideas and attitudes toward death and dying (8th house). Well, you get the idea.

Now what about the signs? Can you tell why the writer tends to be an analytical fuss-budget? Yes, it's because his Virgo has more power than any other sign. But he can also be indecisive and tends to look for analogies when he thinks about things. Sound like Libra to you? Well, Libra is his second strongest sign. And why is he so intense, so unwilling to let go of things, so fanatical about the things he loves? Well, Scorpio is the 3rd strongest sign.

Perhaps you're thinking, Well, of course he's a Virgo, his Sun and Saturn are there and Virgo is on

WRITER	FIRST WIFE	Power	HARMONY
SUN	SUN	1.55	1.55
SUN	MERCURY	0.79	-0.79
SUN	VENUS	7.23	9.04
SUN	MARS	0.02	-0.03
SUN	JUPITER	4.12	-2.06
SUN	SATURN	5.12	-2.56
SUN	PLUTO	0.03	-0.03
SUN	MOON	0.61	-0.61
SUN	ASC	3.48	3.48

	WRITER		FIRST WIFE	
	POWER	HARMONY	POWER	HARMONY
SUN	28.64 (11)	7.22 (4)	28.64 (11)	7.22 (4)
MERCURY	33.48 (7)	-3.73 (8)	33.48 (7)	-3.73 (7)
VENUS	35.74 (6)	28.65 (2)	35.74 (6)	28.65 (1)
MARS	38.38 (3)	-6.33 (11)	38.38 (3)	-6.33 (8)
JUPITER	51.40 (2)	12.71 (1)	51.40 (2)	12.71 (2)
SATURN	32.87 (8)	-17.60 (5)	32.87 (8)	-17.60 (11)
URANUS	36.48 (4)	-10.87 (7)	36.48 (4)	-10.87 (10)
NEPTUNE	32.43 (1)	2.14 (10)	32.43 (1)	2.14 (5)
PLUTO	35.99 (5)	-3.59 (6)	35.99 (5)	-3.59 (6)
MOON	63.67 (9)	-8.59 (9)	63.67 (9)	-8.59 (9)
ASC	28.94 (10)	8.74 (3)	28.94 (10)	8.74 (3)
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TOTALS	417.92	8.75	417.92	8.75

MUTUAL RECEPTIONS	
WRITER	FIRST WIFE
SUN	MOON - add 5 points harmony to each planet
MOON	VENUS - add 5 points harmony to each planet

the MC. And of course, he's going to be Libran with all three mental planets in that sign. And yes, his scorpionic tendencies will always be there because he has Scorpio rising. All that is true, but sometimes a chart isn't as clear-cut to read as this one and that's where cosmodynes can really come in handy. Try it for yourself.

Now what about the planets? Well, as you can see, the Moon, the Sun and Uranus are the writer's strongest planets. This suggests that his natural aptitudes lie in those things ruled by these planets. What does this suggest to you? Do you see aptitude here for electronics, circuit design, astrology,

PLANETS ASPECTING EACH OTHER WITHIN 1 DEGREE

WRITER	FIRST WIFE	Power	HARMONY
SUN	VENUS	7.23	9.04
MERCURY	MERCURY	6.45	6.45
MERCURY	NEPTUNE	13.00	0.00
VENUS	SATURN	0.81	0.60
VENUS	MOON	14.54	3.64
MARS	SATURN	4.55	1.14
MARS	MOON	20.68	-16.46
JUPITER	SUN	14.48	7.24
URANUS	MERCURY	4.68	-4.68
URANUS	PLUTO	9.09	-3.56
NEPTUNE	URANUS	7.59	-7.59
MOON	JUPITER	5.31	-2.66

IMPORTANT FACTORS IN SYNASTRY (10 TOTAL)

WRITER	FIRST WIFE	Power	HARMONY
SUN	VENUS	7.12	9.04
SUN	MOON	0.61	-0.61
MERCURY	MERCURY	6.45	6.45
VENUS	MAR	19.00	0.00
VENUS	MOON	14.54	3.64
MARS	VENUS	0.90	0.00
MOON	VENUS	4.66	5.83
ASC	ASC	7.64	7.64

computer programming, umpiring, softball team manager, adult continuing education teacher of electronics, bridge, horary astrology and computers, mailman, grocery store clerk, wanting to be a policeman when he was younger? You get the idea.

The use of cosmodynes has real potential in the area of relationships and compatibility assessment. If cosmodynes can point to the real strength and

between the planets in one chart and how they affect the planets in another chart. Below is an excerpt of a sample listing of the dual cosmodynes between the writer and his first wife.

The first table (previous page) shows how the writer's Sun is affected (aspected) by his first wife's planets and what sort of power and harmony (or lack thereof) his Sun has because of her. This comparison is made with all the planets, but only the Sun is shown here in the interest of saving space.

The tables showing planetary comparisons (previous page and top right) is not really the meat of

the issue, although the information seen there can be quite interesting. The really interesting section is the summary where all the planets are listed, including the very important Ascendant. To tell the truth, the writer has not found much meaning in the power total. The harmony total is the one we are concerned with. This harmony total (+8.75) suggests that the writer and his first wife had pretty good harmony. For the

record, they got along relatively well. They are friends to this day even though they have both moved on. They simply got married when they were very young and were not mature enough at the time to make it through all the difficulties that every marriage poses.

Contrast that +8.75 harmony with the writer and

	WRITER		SECOND WIFE	
	POWER	HARMONY	POWER	HARMONY
SUN	43.46 (5)	-13.35 (10)	52.12 (1)	-25.03 (10)
MERCURY	51.86 (3)	10.10 (2)	46.40 (2)	-3.79 (9)
VENUS	16.01 (10)	9.37 (3)	37.72 (6)	6.48 (4)
MARS	10.98 (11)	-4.20 (7)	29.11 (10)	3.07 (5)
JUPITER	26.93 (8)	10.26 (1)	29.47 (9)	11.17 (1)
SATURN	21.84 (9)	4.16 (4)	45.22 (3)	-31.53 (11)
URANUS	71.13 (1)	-2.35 (6)	41.60 (4)	-2.50 (7)
NEPTUNE	27.16 (7)	-7.69 (8)	26.82 (11)	1.68 (6)
PLUTO	50.77 (4)	-1.06 (5)	35.64 (7)	-2.85 (8)
MOON	57.01 (2)	-21.83 (11)	35.21 (8)	9.71 (2)
ASC	42.18 (6)	-8.50 (9)	40.02 (5)	8.49 (3)
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TOTALS	419.33	-25.09	419.33	-25.09

harmony or discord in an individual chart, then why can't they show the strength and harmony and discord between two people? The writer set out to explore this area, having found nothing about it in the general literature. What he came up with is a technique he calls *dual cosmodynes*. The technique tries to gauge the strength and harmony or discord

	WRITER'S FATHER		WRITER'S MOTHER	
	POWER	HARMONY	POWER	HARMONY
SUN	77.41 (2)	6.22 (10)	116.43 (1)	16.35 (3)
MERCURY	71.65 (3)	-12.22 (2)	78.29 (2)	7.50 (6)
VENUS	66.26 (4)	12.31 (3)	25.57 (10)	13.15 (4)
MARS	18.61 (11)	3.88 (7)	63.45 (3)	8.15 (5)
JUPITER	93.91 (1)	52.40 (1)	21.93 (11)	16.90 (2)
SATURN	33.08 (9)	3.13 (4)	46.10 (5)	19.44 (1)
URANUS	41.16 (6)	-24.19 (6)	28.59 (8)	-1.29 (8)
NEPTUNE	41.26 (5)	4.04 (8)	26.33 (9)	-4.74 (9)
PLUTO	39.62 (8)	5.13 (5)	43.64 (7)	-8.45 (10)
MOON	40.89 (7)	9.25 (11)	48.13 (4)	-13.49 (11)
ASC	19.87 (10)	-2.91 (9)	45.23 (6)	3.49 (7)
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TOTALS	543.71	57.03	419.33	57.03

tive harmony for Venus and 49 years between them, there must have been quite a bit of love there as well as growth. And the writer's experience with them confirms that assessment.

This brief introduction gives you an idea of what cosmodynes are and how they might be very useful in helping you determine a couple's compatibility or lack thereof. Of course, no one technique, however promising or powerful,

his second wife's harmony (actually discord) of -25.09 (previous page).

They fought like cats and dogs, over everything. In the writer's experience these numbers mean something. Perhaps they don't mean everything (and that is why the other sections are included below the summary), but they seem to tell at least part of the story of the writer's life.

Just to share with you one more example before you go off and try all your charts and see the results, the writer's parents were married for 49 years before his mother passed away in 1995. Above is a summary of the dual cosmodynes between both parents. What do you think? Not bad for 49 years, eh? A +57.03 (harmony) confirms the writer's own experience of his parent's relationship.

One other item of possible interest. The above summary table also indicates which energies in one person are most likely to be set off positively or negatively by the energies in the other person. In other words, it would appear that the writer's father's Uranian energies tended to come out negatively because of his wife's presence. Likewise, it appears that her affection (Venus), self-expression (Sun) and sense of security (Saturn) find positive expression because of her husband's influence. The writer remembers his mother once telling him that when she married she didn't know whether or not she loved his father, but she absolutely knew she could grow with him. Well, with all that posi-

can give *all* the answers to every situation, but cosmodynes and dual cosmodynes can be very useful tools in our individual toolboxes to help us unravel the mystery and message of the stars.

For a final twist, the writer's initial investigation into composite chart cosmodynes does *not* show that cosmodynes calculated for a composite chart give much indication of compatibility, one way or the other. However more study needs to be done in this area before accepting that statement as gospel.

□

—Allen Edwall

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Ken Stone's *Delineation with Astrodynes* gives perhaps more interpretation of the various astrodynes than any of the other books mentioned.

If you have access to the internet, you can download a copy of the writer's cosmodyne program for yourself (it does all of the calculations!). Web address is:

http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/allen_edwall

Look for the files called ASTROWIN.ZIP or MATCHMKR.ZIP. Download the file and try cosmodynes for yourself.