

# **Why Astrology is Science: Five Good Reasons**

**Tapan Das, Ph.D., P.Eng.**

# An excerpt from *Why Astrology is Science*

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***Stars and planets each have a different influence on our lives depending on their position in their signs and heavenly houses ... all these cosmic forces shape our thoughts, which in turn direct our actions. If we are warned that we are prone to rash actions due to the influence of certain planets, then we can hold a check on our emotion and avoid rash action and catastrophic results. If we know that the position of the planets give a favorable condition, then we can take advantage of it by proper action. This is how astrology can help us without giving specific answers to specific questions.***

# Contents

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- **Introduction**
- **Basics of Astrology**
- **History of Astrology**
- **Astrology is Based on Statistical Analysis**
- **Astrology is Social Science**
- **Astrology is Linked with Alternative Medicine**
- **Astrology is Explained by Cosmic Energy and Biofield**
- **The Basis of Astrology is Similar to Quantum Mechanics**
- **Conclusion**
- **Question and Answer**

# Introduction

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- **Astrology and astronomy are historically one and the same discipline, but they started separating in the 17th century and were completely separated by the 18th century.**
- **Astronomy, astrophysics, and cosmology studies the formation, function, and physics of planets, stars, and galaxies of the universe.**
- **Astrology studies and correlates the impact of celestial events on human life and earthly events.**
- **At least 90% of all Americans under age 30 are said to know their Sun sign.**
- **Science has not dealt with energy force – *prana* or *chi* – in life that makes the difference between a dead body and a living body.**
- **Astrology shows our strengths and weaknesses, what can be done, and how and when.**
- ***Stars incline, they do not compel.***

# Introduction

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**My book gives five good reasons why astrology is science:**

- 1. Astrology is based on statistical analysis.**
- 2. Astrology is social science.**
- 3. Astrology is linked with alternative medicine.**
- 4. Astrology is explained by cosmic energy and biofield.**
- 5. The basis of astrology is similar to quantum mechanics.**

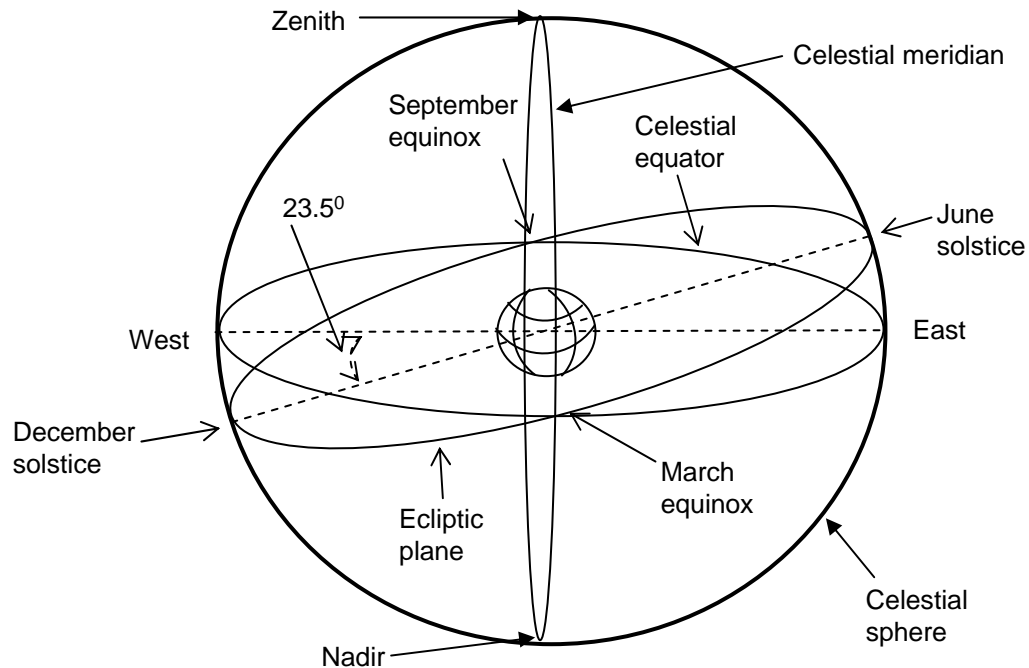
***Courteous Reader, Astrology is one of the most ancient Sciences, held in high esteem of old, by the Wise and the Great. Formerly, no Prince would make War or Peace, nor any General fight in battle, in short, no important affair was undertaken without first consulting an Astrologer.*** —Benjamin Franklin

# Basics of Astrology

# Basics of Astrology

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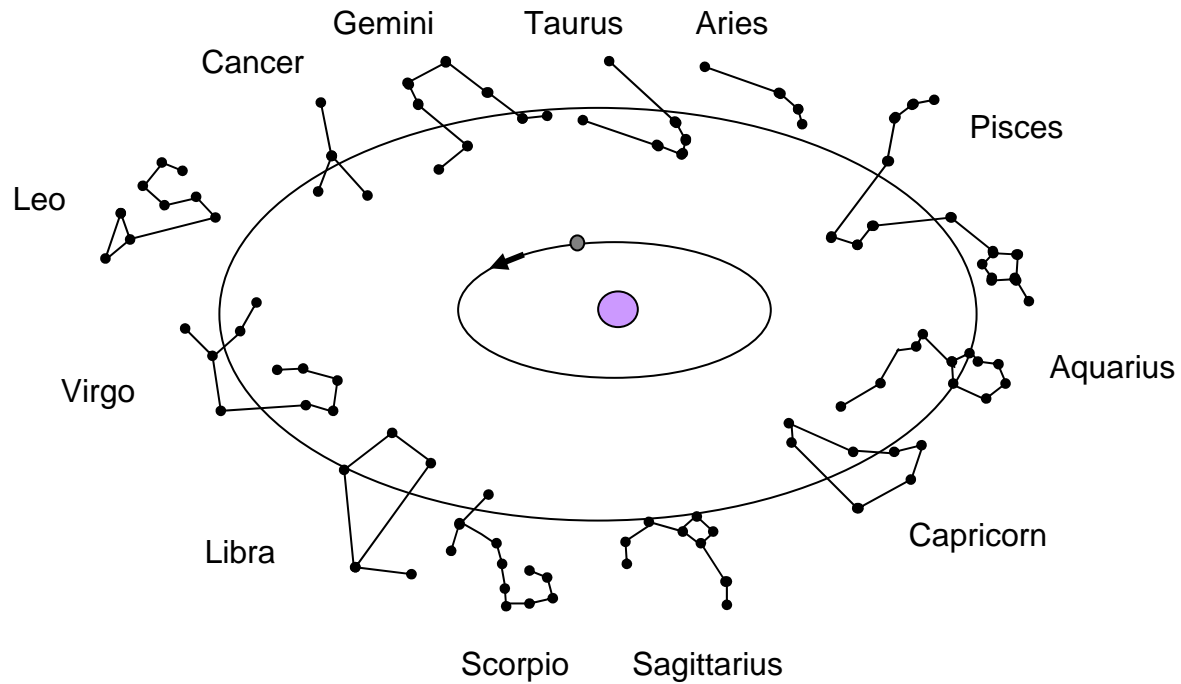
## Ecliptic and celestial equator



# Basics of Astrology

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## Zodiacs on the ecliptic



# Basics of Astrology

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**Three principal elements of astrology:**

- 1. Zodiacs**
- 2. Planets**
- 3. Horoscopes or natal charts**

**Ten planets in astrology are Sun, Moon, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto.**

**Sun sign represents the Zodiac that the Sun was in at the time of a person's birth.**

**Ascendant is the Zodiac that is on the horizon at the time of a person's birth.**

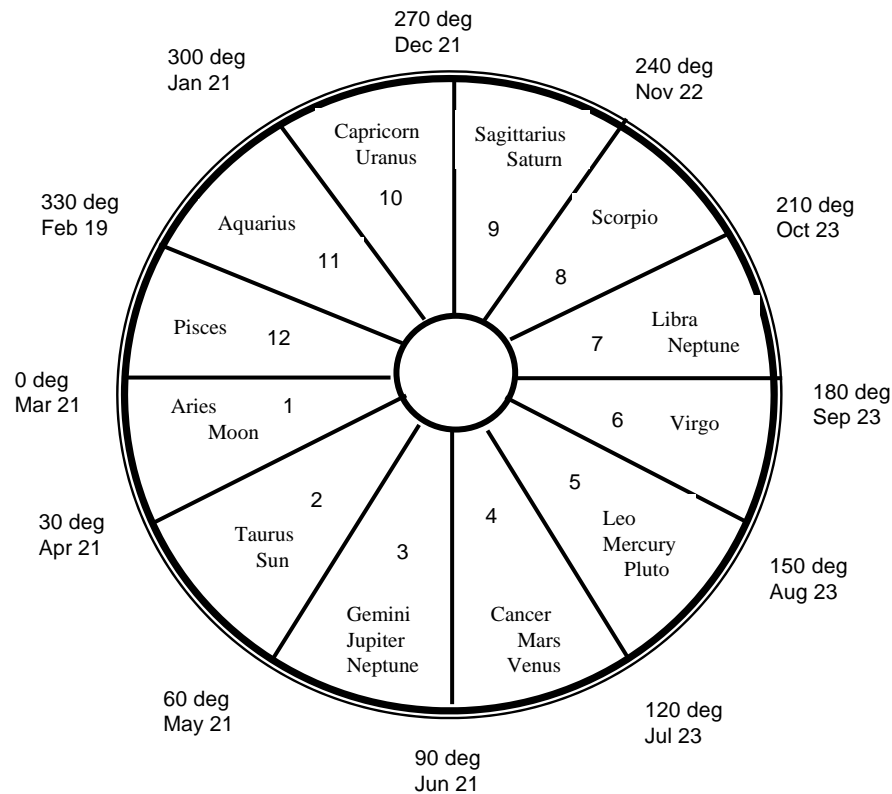
**In order to create a horoscope, we need two things:**

- 1. Ephemeris – table of values showing the position of every planet for every day – past, present, and future.**
- 2. Table of house.**

# Basics of Astrology

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## Horoscope chart

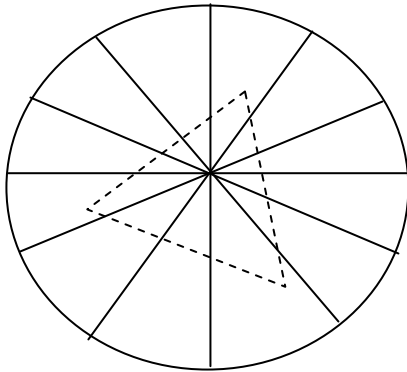


# Basics of Astrology

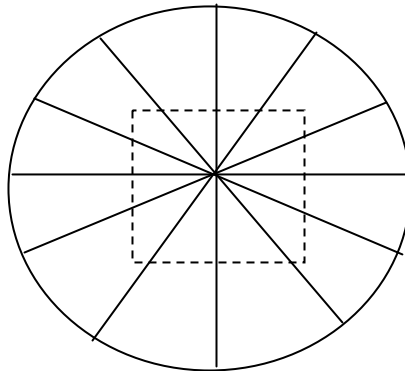
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**Aspect is the relationship between two planets in degrees and minutes. Aspect pattern is a particular combination of aspects forming a special configuration: trine, grand cross, T-square.**

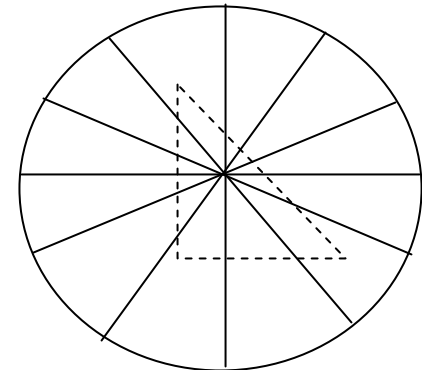
**Trine**



**Grand Cross**



**T-square**



# History of Astrology

# History of Astrology

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**Astrology started five to six thousand years ago. Oldest astrological text is found in the Babylonian period around 1830 BCE.**

**Indian or Vedic astrology dates back four thousand years.**

**Chinese astrology started at the time of Shang dynasty around 1766 BCE.**

**Noted practitioners of astrology:**

**Thales, Pythagoras, Plato, Hippocrates, Ptolemy, Porphyry, Paracelsus, and Nostradamus.**

**Queen Elizabeth 1 commissioned astrologer John Dee for her coronation.**

**Alexander the Great consulted astrologers regularly.**

**William Shakespeare cited astrology in *All's Well That Ends Well* and *King Lear*.**

# History of Astrology

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**President Ronald Reagan consulted astrologers regularly. He removed the licensed astrologers in Sacramento from the category of fortune tellers.**

**President Richard Nixon and Henry Kissinger were believers in astrology.**

**According to *British Astrological Journal*, 40% of Wall Street stock brokerage firms use astrology.**

**Split between astrology and astronomy occurred when Copernicus formulated that the Sun instead of Earth is at the centre of the solar system.**

# **Astrology is Based on Statistical Analysis**

# Astrology is Based on Statistical Analysis

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**Statistical analysis is the technique used to interpret collections of quantitative or numerical data. There are three categories of statistics: descriptive statistics, sampling statistics, and predictive statistics.**

<u>Annual Income</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Interval size</u>
150,000- 200,000	5	50,000
125,000 – 149,999	20	25,000
100,000 – 124,999	50	25,000
80,000 – 99,999	120	20,000
70,000 – 79,999	180	10,000
60,000 – 69,999	220	10,000
50,000 – 59,999	280	10,000
40,000 – 49,999	75	10,000
30,000 – 39,999	40	10,000
20,000 – 29,999	7	10,000
10,000 – 19,999	2	10,000
0 – 9,999	1	10,000

**80% of income between 50,000 – 100,000  
0.075% of income lies above 100,000  
0.125% of income lies below 50,000**

# Astrology is Based on Statistical Analysis

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Example of statistical analysis used in astrology for 1000 people:

## Characteristics of Aries people

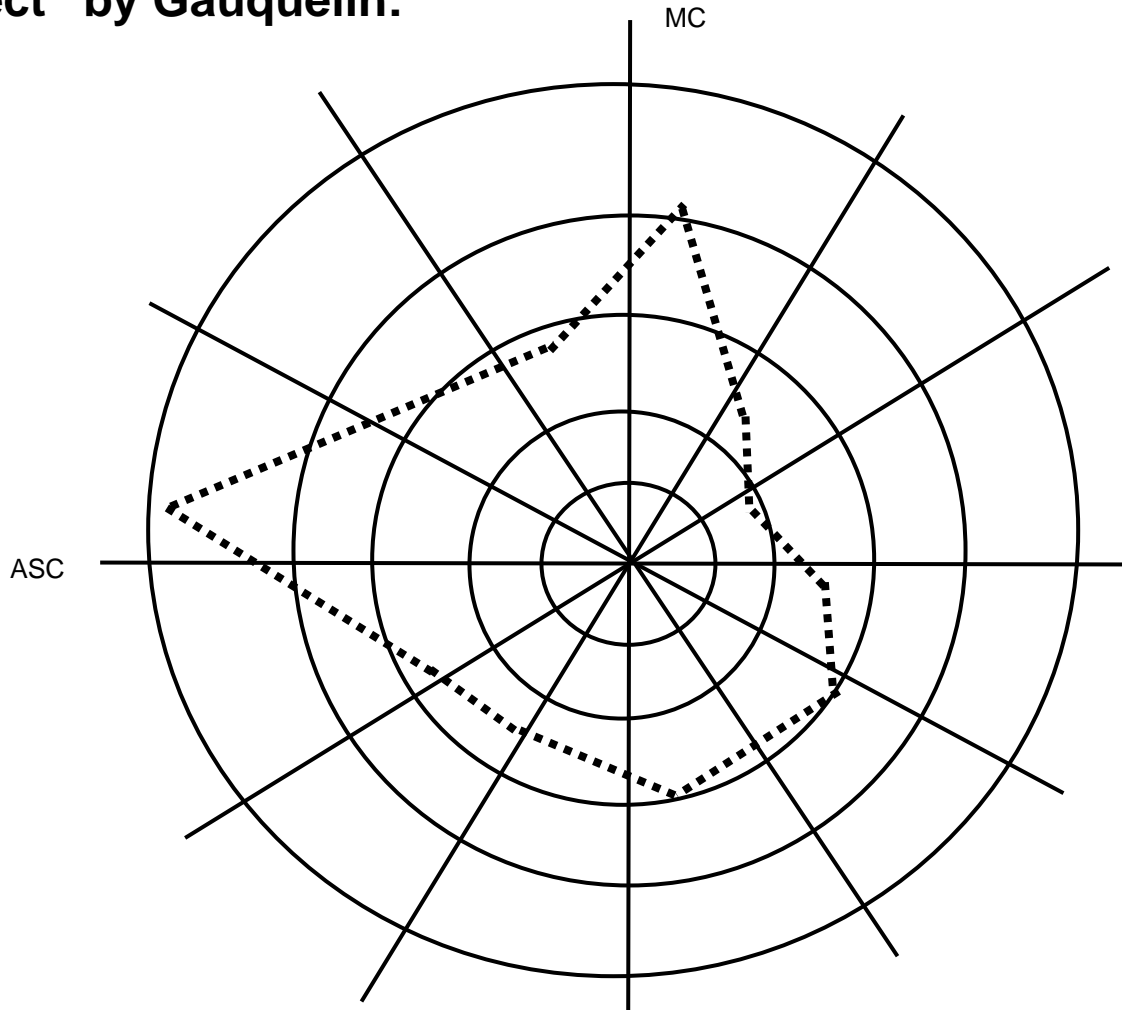
<u>Characteristics</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
Competitiveness	700
Aggressiveness	600
Leadership	500
Dynamism	500
Diplomacy	300
Reliability	250
Quarrelsome	300
Judgment	400
Family life	400
Social life	350

Aries people are competitive, aggressive, and dynamic. They can achieve a lot if they are diplomatic and use judgment. Their competitive spirit may affect their family and social life

# Astrology is Based on Statistical Analysis

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“Mars effect” by Gauquelin:

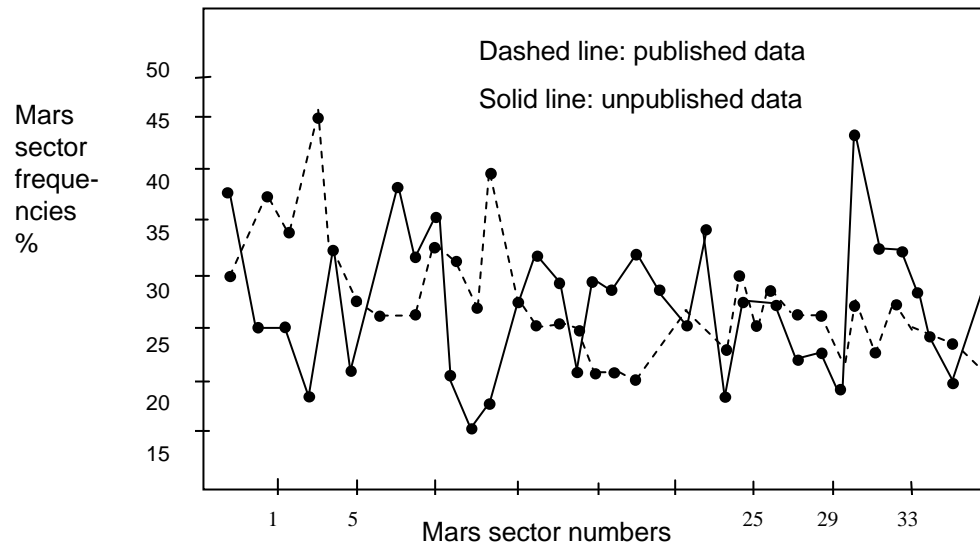


# Astrology is Based on Statistical Analysis

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Eminent psychologists Hans Eysenck and David Nias verified Gaquelin's work and strongly supported it.

Noted psychologist Suitbert Ertel plotted both Gauquelin's published data of eminent sportsmen and unpublished data of less eminent sportsmen and found excellent correlation.



# Astrology is Based on Statistical Analysis

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**Other statistical work on astrology:**

**Scientists Torrey, et al found that individuals developing schizophrenia are more likely to be born during January and April.**

**Scientists Chotai, et al have shown that persons born during February to April are more likely to have novelty seeking trait.**

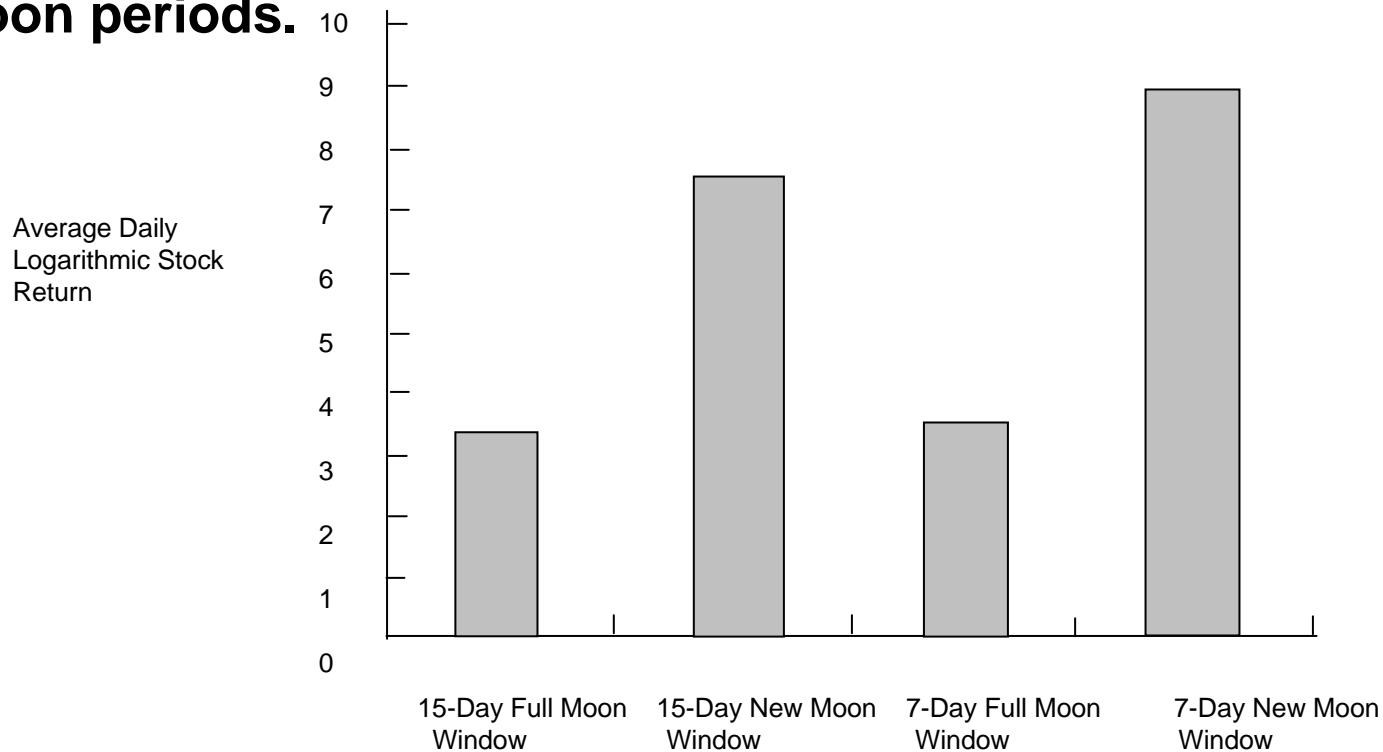
**Scientist Johnston reported that earthquakes appear more likely to occur as planets approach major aspects to each other. Astrologers Hill and Thompson found association of Mars with red hair.**

**Scientist Ridgley found that work place accidents were more frequent when the Sun is in conjunct, opposite or square with the Sun's position in the birth chart.**

# Astrology is Based on Statistical Analysis

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Scientists K.Yuan,, L.Zheng, and Q.Zhu reported that the global stock returns are significantly lower in full Moon periods than new Moon periods.



# **Astrology is Social Science**

# Astrology is Social Science

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**Social science deals with the social life of groups and individuals involving anthropology, economics, education, psychology, political science, and social study.**

**Social sciences are subjective and observational. Similarly, astrology is observational relating the position and motion of celestial objects to human character and situation. Astrology extends the span of social science to celestial objects. Social science like astrology uses statistical analysis. An example of the influence of sports on the character of children.**

<u>Response of 100 parents</u>	<u>Frequency of response</u>
Strong positive influence	35
Some positive influence	40
No influence	15
Slight negative influence	8
Strong negative influence	2

**75% viewed participation in sports having positive influence.**

# Astrology is Social Science

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**Eminent psychologist Carl Jung believed that a lot can be learned about the human psyche through astrology. Jungian psychology associated archetypes with planets.**

***Astrology represents a summation of all psychological knowledge of antiquity. And astrology, if well used, can lead to a deeper self Knowledge and personal growth. – Carl Jung***

**Psychological astrology or astropsychology is a reformulation of astrology within the terms of psychological concepts and practices. Psychological astrology links psyche to cosmos.**

# Astrology is Social Science

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## **Psychological effect of the Moon:**

**Scientist Law found relationship between menstrual cycle and lunar phases.**

**Scientist Lieber reported a disproportionately high number of criminal offenses during the full Moon phase.**

**Danzl found evidence that 80% of nurses and 64% of physicians in the emergency department believe that Moon cycles affect patients.**

**Research work shows correlation between lunar phases, and human feelings and behavior.**

**Characters of a child are caused by three factors: time of birth, environment, and genes.**

# **Astrology is Linked with Alternative Medicine**

# Astrology is linked with alternative medicine

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Alternative medicine has been defined as the preventive or therapeutic health-care practices such as ayurveda, homeopathy, traditional Chinese medicine, acupuncture, yoga, tai chi, reiki, etc.

According to alternative medicine, illness is the result of imbalance of vital energy – prana, chi, ki, etc. – in the body. Treatment is based on herbs, diet, exercise, and massage.

## **Ayurveda:**

Ayurveda, the oldest known alternative medicine, originated in India and recognizes a life force prana flowing through 72,000 subtle channels, called *nadis*.

There are three ayurvedic mind and body types: Vata dosha, Pitta dosha, and Kapha dosha. The balance and unbalance among the three doshas determine the state of our health.

# Astrology is linked with alternative medicine

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**Ayurveda and astrology complement each other. Astrologists would prescribe ayurvedic preparation to reduce or eliminate the malefic effect of the planets. Similarly, ayurvedic doctors would study the horoscope of the patient before deciding on a treatment.**

**According to vedic astrology, the planets (grahas) affect human body. Nine grahas relate to nine different body parts and cause different diseases if the grahas are weak.**

***A physician without the knowledge of astrology has no right to call himself a physician***

**– Hippocrates**

# Astrology is linked with alternative medicine

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**Yoga:** Major branches of yoga include: Hatha Yoga, Karma Yoga, Jnana Yoga, Bhakti yoga, and Raja yoga. Yoga is the exercise recommended by ayurveda. Yoga like astrology recognizes the effect of planets on human body and mind, and alleviates the malefic effect of planets.

**Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM):** TCM is a range of medical practices that originated in China thousands of years ago. It is based on the balance of yang and yin with respect to the flow of chi through the 14 meridians in human body. TCM includes herbal medicine, acupuncture, tai chi, and massage.

Acupuncture is based on the theory that the blocking of the flow of chi through the meridians causes illness and pain. The blocking is cleared by inserting needles in the 365 acupuncture points in the meridians.

Acupressure is the application of pressure on the acupuncture points.

# **Astrology is linked with alternative medicine**

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**Tai chi is the TCM exercise for promoting health and longevity.**

**Five elements in Chinese philosophy are: metal, wood, water, fire, and earth. Five major planets are called by the names of elements:**

**Venus – metal, Jupiter – wood, Mercury – water, Mars – fire, Saturn – earth.**

**Zodiacs in Chinese astrology have a twelve year cycle. Each year of the twelve-year cycle is named after twelve animals. Each animal has a different personality and characteristics. The twelve Zodiacs are as follows: rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, rooster, dog, and pig. The twelve year cycle was built from the motion of Jupiter which goes round the sun once in 11.86 years. While a person may be a dragon because he was born in the year of dragon, he also might be a snake internally and an ox secretly.**

# Astrology is linked with alternative medicine

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<u>Chinese Meridian</u>	<u>Western Planet Ruler</u>
Heart (yin/fire)	Sun
Small intestine (yang/fire)	Mercury/Moon
Lung (yin/metal)	Jupiter
Large intestine (yang/metal)	Mercury/Moon
Stomach (yang/earth)	Moon
Liver (yin/wood)	Jupiter
Gall bladder(yang/wood)	Mars
Kidney (yin/water)	Venus
Urinary bladder(yang/water)	Moon/Saturn
Spleen (yin/earth)	Saturn
Pericardium (yin/water)	None
Triple warmer	None

From astrological perspective, this chart can be used to diagnose the organs affected and use TCM to bolster the organs

# **Astrology is Explained by Cosmic Energy and Biofield**

# **Astrology explained by cosmic energy and biofield**

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**The universe started from a Big Bang approx. 13.7 billion years ago from the confine of an atomic nucleus called singularity. Before this moment, there was no space or time. An incredible explosion at  $>10^{15}$  K created subatomic particles, space and time.**

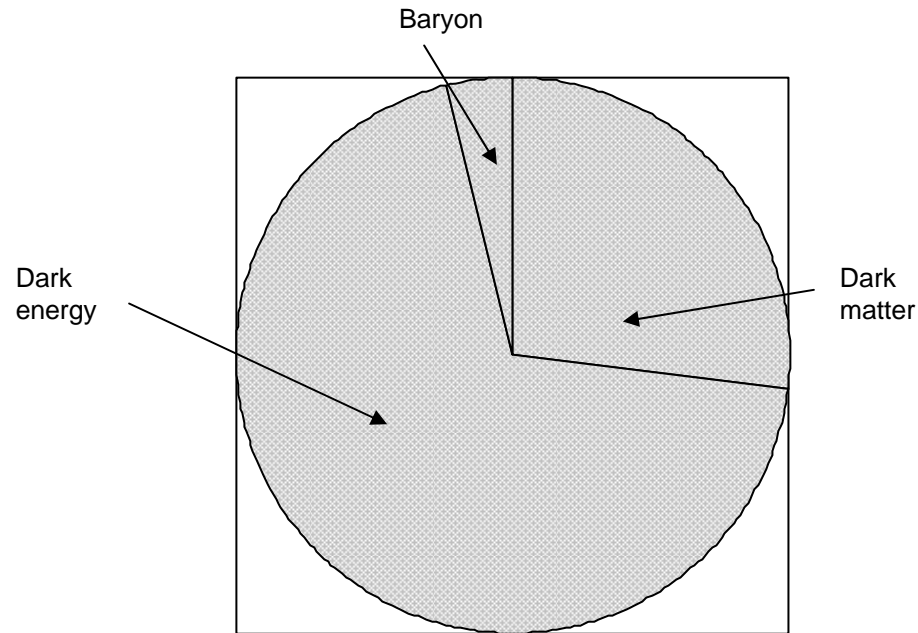
**The size of the universe is estimated to be 78 billion light years, expanding at the rate of 138 miles per second for every 10 million light years as proven by astronomer Edwin Hubble. Recent measurement shows that the universe is expanding at an accelerated rate.**

**There are approx. 100 billion galaxies, including our own Milky Way, in the universe. Milky Way has approx. 200 billion stars including our Sun. The core of the Sun is a thermonuclear furnace causing nuclear fusion converting a small mass in to energy. The life of the Sun is 4.6 billion years and has enough energy to last another 5 billion years.**

# Astrology explained by cosmic energy and biofield

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## Composition of the universe



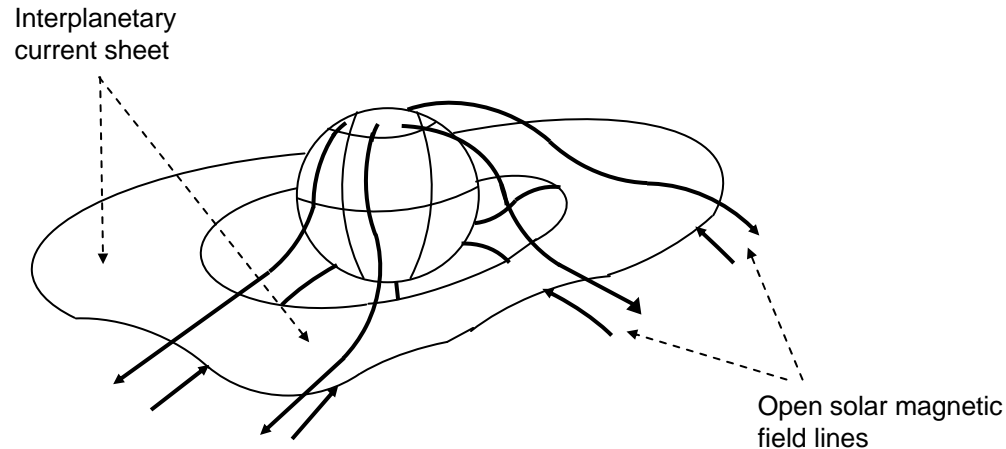
# Astrology explained by cosmic energy and biofield

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The cosmic rays reaching Earth consist of the following: (1) protons of mainly hydrogen and helium from nova and supernova explosions, (2) solar wind from solar activity in the Sun, and (3) unknown elements in dark matter and dark energy.

The Sun's magnetic field reverses every 11 years. Also, the differential rotation of the Sun's latitudes causes the magnetic lines to be twisted.

## Interplanetary magnetic field

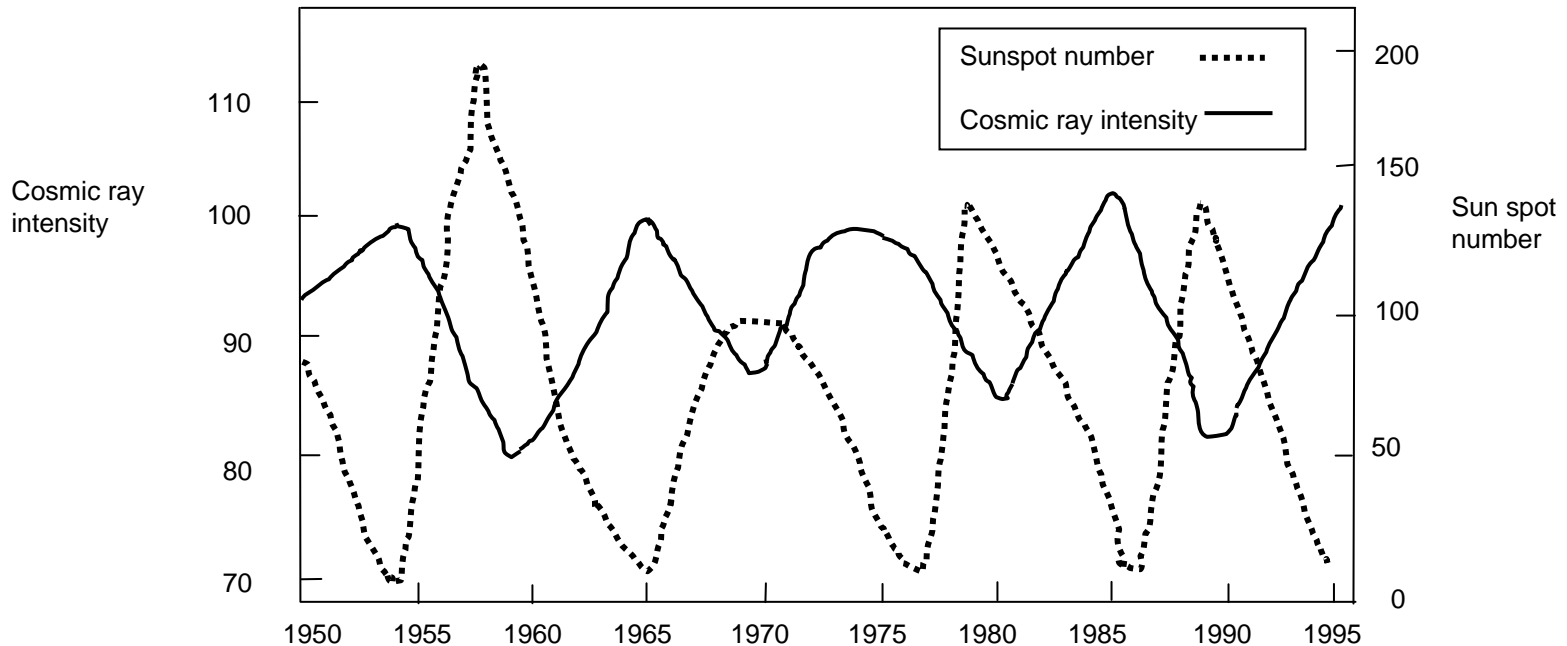


# Astrology explained by cosmic energy and biofield

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Flow of cosmic particles in the solar system:

The solar magnetic field reverses at each maximum solar activity resulting in a 22 years cycle. It is positive when the field is outward from the Sun in the Northern Hemisphere and negative when the field is outward in the Southern Hemisphere. The intensity of the galactic cosmic ray varies inversely with the sunspot number.

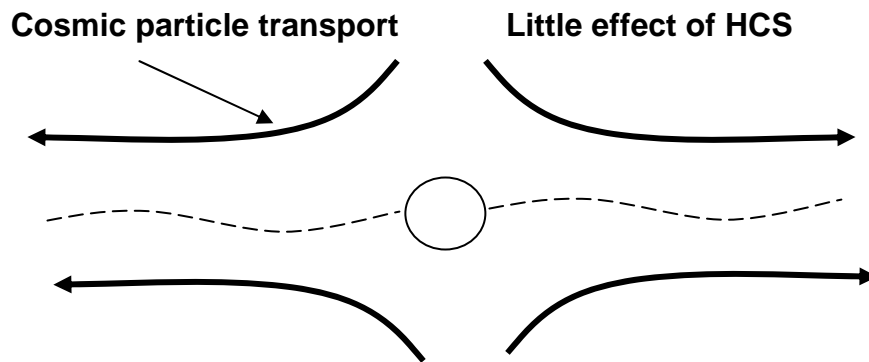


# Astrology explained by cosmic energy and biofield

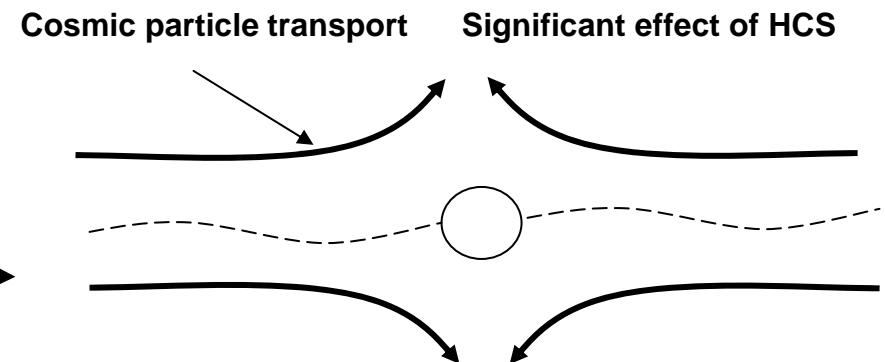
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The oppositely directed open magnetic-field lines along the plane of the Sun's magnetic equator run parallel to each other and are separated by a thin current sheet known as the heliospheric current sheet (HCS). This current sheet is tilted because of the Sun's rotational and magnetic axes.

Solar field outward from the Sun in the Northern Hemisphere



Solar field outward from the Sun in the Southern Hemisphere

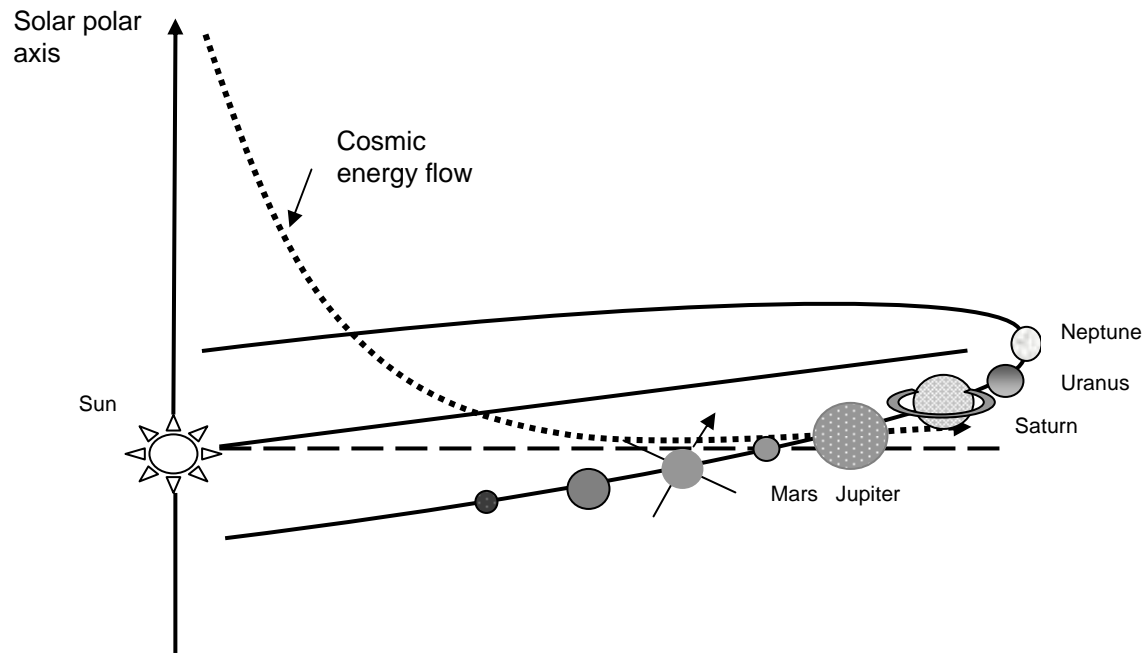


# Astrology explained by cosmic energy and biofield

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## Planets affecting the cosmic energies that reach Earth:

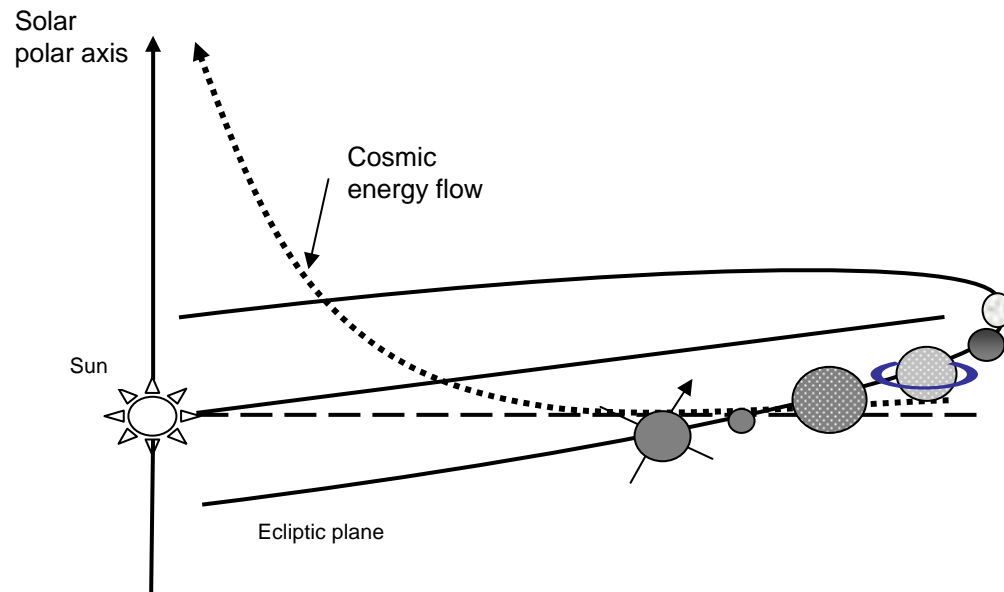
Cosmic energy flow when the solar magnetic field is outward from the Sun in the northern hemisphere



# Astrology explained by cosmic energy and biofield

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Cosmic energy flow when the solar magnetic field is outward from the Sun  
in the southern hemisphere



# **Astrology explained by cosmic energy and biofield**

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**Biophysics applies the theories and methods of physics to biology. One area of research of biophysics is the absorption and emission of light by molecules.**

**Biophoton is a photon of light emitted from a biological system. Biophoton emission is a very low intensity photon emission from living systems.**

**Russian scientist Alexander Gurwitsch reported ultra-weak photon emission from living tissues in the UV range. German physicist Fritz Popp built a light amplifier to detect photon emission.**

**Biophoton emission may be a part of cell-to-cell communication. Organisms with illness and injury send a distress signal by emitting brighter light.**

# **Astrology explained by cosmic energy and biofield**

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**Biofield has been claimed by the alternative medicine practitioners as a field external from the body that strongly affects actions and feelings.**

**Samuel Kirlean created an image of the biofield on a photographic plate.**

**From the wave particle duality of quantum mechanics, emission of biophotons generates electromagnetic field, which may be the biofield.**

**Cosmic energy can affect biophotons and biofield, hence human life positively or negatively. Scientist Mai Takata found that the precipitation of albumin in blood varied with the time of day, the date of the year, sun spot cycle, and eclipses. This was confirmed by scientist Giorgio Piccardi by using oxychloral bismuth.**

# **Astrology explained by cosmic energy and biofield**

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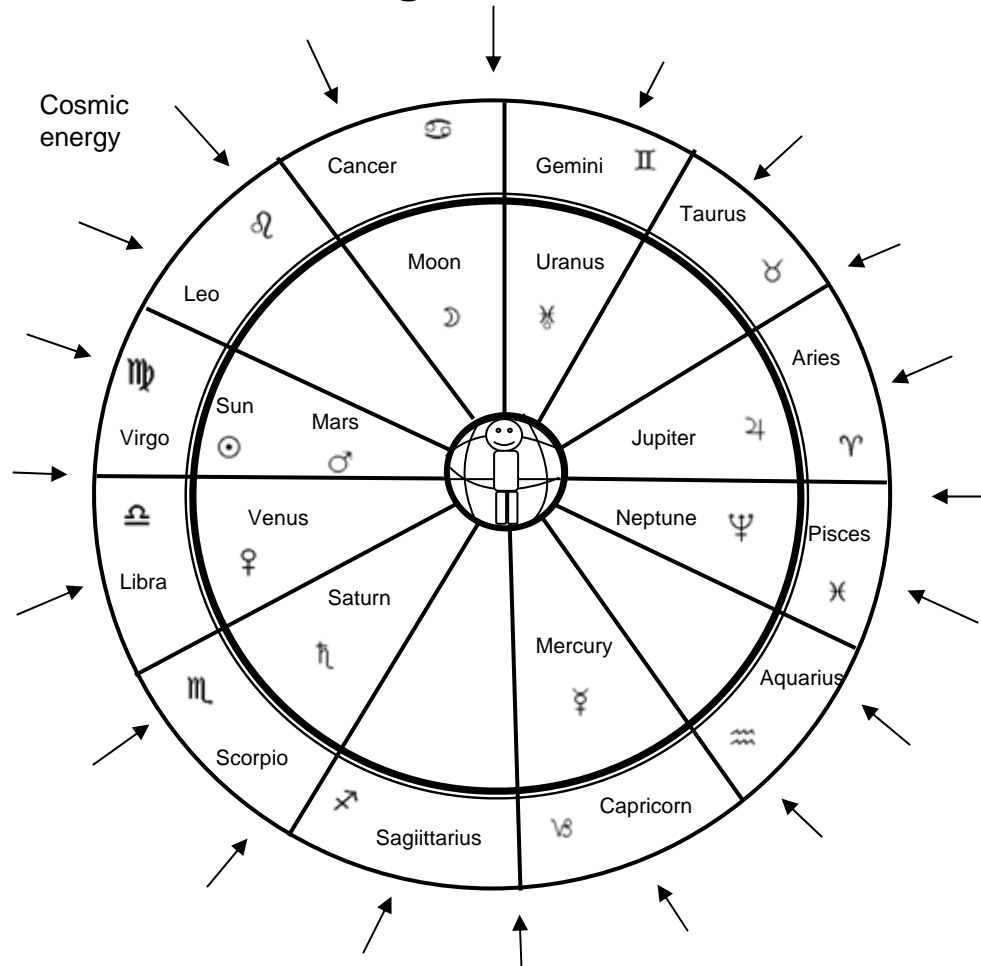
**The cosmic particles and rays reaching Earth are affected by (a) the magnetic field of Sun, Moon, and planets, (2) radiation and solar wind of Sun, (3) the charged ionosphere of planets, (4) magnetosphere of planets, (5) the “dust devils” of Mars, and (6) the shielding effect of Moon.**

**The two factors to consider are as follows: (1) the cosmic energies are controlled by the Sun, Moon, and planets, and (2) cosmic energies affect our biofield, which in turn affect our health and activities.**

***Just a reminder that we know only 4% of cosmic energies.***

# Astrology explained by cosmic energy and biofield

## Hypothetical cosmological model of natal chart



# **The Basis of Astrology is Similar to Quantum Mechanics**

# **The basis of astrology is similar to quantum mechanics**

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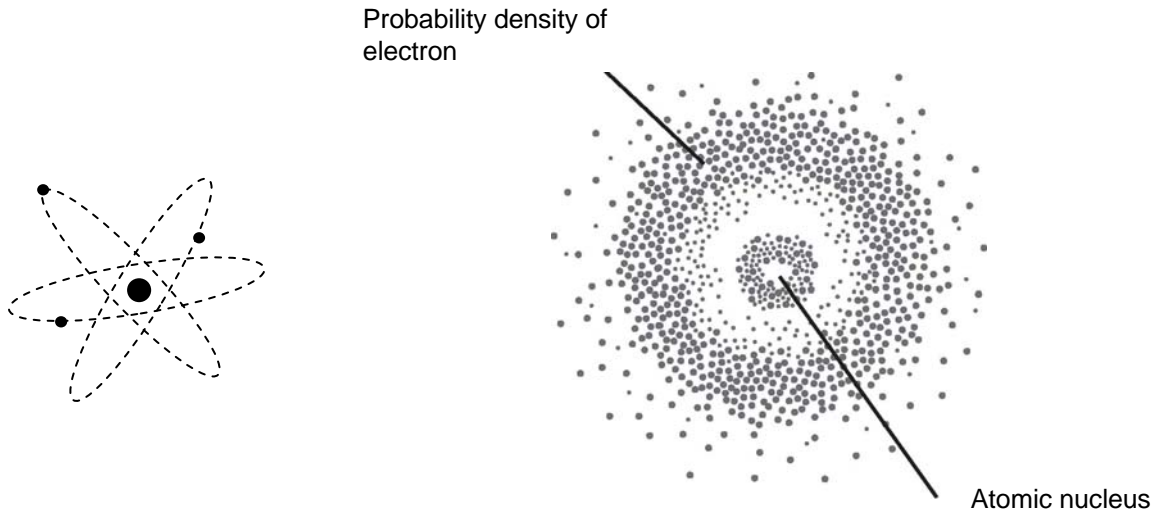
**Classical physics was based on two entities: matter and energy. Classical physics totally failed in explaining the structure of atomic and subatomic particles. This is when quantum mechanics came into the picture. Quantum mechanics is the science of matter and radiation at atomic and subatomic levels, and includes the following attributes:**

**(1) probability, (2) discreteness of energy, (3) wave-particle duality, (4) Schrodinger's equation, (5) uncertainty principle, (6) exclusion principle, and (7) spin of a particle.**

# The basis of astrology is similar to quantum mechanics

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The fundamental principle of quantum mechanics is based on the law of probability, not law of certainty. Looking at a picture of an atom ground state, electron orbiting around the nucleus is out of date. The probability density of electron around the nucleus is the accepted theory.



# The basis of astrology is similar to quantum mechanics

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**Discreteness of energy: electrons exist only at discrete levels.**

**Wave-particle duality: physicist de Broglie proved that the momentum  $p$  of a particle is inversely proportional to its wavelength  $\lambda$  as  $p = h/\lambda$ .**

**Schrodinger's equation: Physicist Schrodinger invented a Differential equation to derive wave functions for electrons. It yields a set of wave function  $\psi$ . The square of  $\psi$  ( $\psi^2$ ) measures the probability of finding the electron at or near a given location.**

**Uncertainty principle: Physicist Heisenberg proposed that the position and momentum of a particle can not be accurately Determined simultaneously. He wrote the uncertainty principle as  $\Delta p \Delta x = h/2\pi$ .**

# The basis of astrology is similar to quantum mechanics

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**Exclusion principle:** Physicist Pauli formulated that no two identical fermions – electrons, protons, and neutrons – may occupy the same quantum state simultaneously.

**Spin of a particle:** Atomic spin is a convenient way of describing the angular spin of a particle.

**Quantum number:** The three quantum numbers that are derived from Schrodinger's equation are the principal (n), angular (l), and magnetic (m) quantum numbers. They represent the size, shape, and orientation in space of the orbitals on an atom.

**Einstein and Bohr debated on quantum mechanics.**

***God does not play dice with the universe – Einstein.***

***Stop telling God how to behave – Bohr***

# **The basis of astrology is similar to quantum mechanics**

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**Einstein and his two assistants B. Podolsky and N. Rosen proposed a thought experiment (known as EPR experiment) where a pair of spin up and spin down electron is considered. If we measure the momentum of one electron, then we instantly know the momentum of the other electron since their net sum is zero even if they are light years apart. But no signal can travel faster than light.**

**Scientists A.Aspect, P.Grainger and G.Roger set up an experiment and found that measuring the polarization of one photon in a created photon pair instantly affected the polarization of another photon measured at a considerable distance. This proved that the influence traveled faster than the speed of light. This is known as the theory of entanglement.**

# The basis of astrology is similar to quantum mechanics

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## **Astrology and quantum mechanics:**

**Like quantum mechanics, astrology is also based on probability, not certainty.**

**The uncertainty principle applies to astrology as well. There is some uncertainty  $\Delta E$  of the energy particles reaching Earth. Similarly there is some uncertainty  $\Delta A$  of the assigned attributes.**

**$\Delta E$ .  $\Delta A$  = astrological error**

**Wave-particle duality applies equally well for the cosmic energies, because the same particles and energies are in astrology as they are in cosmology.**

**The attributes of an electron is contextual, because they depend on the environment and the observing person. The contextual attributes in quantum mechanics apply to astrology well. The effectiveness of astrology prediction depends on the environment and observers.**

# The basis of astrology is similar to quantum mechanics

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No one has claimed to understand quantum mechanics, but it has been successful so far in explaining the behavior of atomic and subatomic particles.

*I think it is safe to say that no one understands quantum mechanics.*  
– Richard Feynman

The same could be said about astrology. Astrology is not certainty but probability. Astrology is based on the data collected thousands of years ago. Since then it has not been updated.

The possibility exists that two independent bodies (planets and humans) can resonate together in unison due to entanglement.

# Conclusion

# Conclusion

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**Astrology studies the effect of celestial bodies on humans and earthly affairs. Astronomy, cosmology, and physics study the celestial bodies and energies in the universe and their interaction between them. There should be no conflict between them.**

**Simply because a phenomenon can not be explained, it does not mean it does not exist. The causes of gravitational force, electron charge, conductivity, magnetism , etc. are not known, but their effects are known. Science calls them property of matters. Similarly, the effect of celestial bodies on humans are known, but the causes are not known.**

**Astrology is based on statistical analysis. Astrology is social science. Astrology is linked with alternative medicine. Astrology is explained by cosmic energies and biofield. The basis of astrology is similar to quantum mechanics. These five good reasons to justify astrology as a science – social science – should convince the readers and scientific community.**

# Conclusion

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**Astrology community should take advantage of the recent upsurge of interest in astrology for the enhancement and improvement of astrology with extensive research work as follows:**

- 1. Data from natal charts should be collected and statistical analysis of the collected data should be carried out. The data should include the following: (a) Sun signs and characters of the clients, (b) methods of astrology prediction, and (c) astrology predictions for the clients and the actual outcomes after follow-ups with the clients.**
- 2. The attributes of the Sun signs and planets should be regularly updated after detailed statistical analyses of the collected data stored in the data bank.**
- 3. The astrology community should work with alternative medicine practitioners for mutual benefit.**
- 4. Astrologers should get feedback from psychologists and social scientists on how the astrology information of the clients matches with their actual behavior and character.**

# Conclusion

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5. Research work in the areas of biofield and biophotons should encouraged with financial support.
6. Astrology community should keep close eyes on the research work on astronomy, cosmology, and atomic physics to explain dark matter and dark energy. The Large Hadron Collider in CERN could produce very important results.

*That we can think of no mechanism for astrology is relevant but unconvincing. No mechanism was known, for example, for continental drift when it was proposed by Wegener. Nevertheless, we see that Wegner was right, and those who objected on the grounds of unavailable mechanism were wrong.*

*– Carl Sagan*

# My Contact

Title of the book: ***Why Astrology is Science: Five Good Reasons*** by Tapan Das, Ph.D.

The book can be purchased from:

[www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com), [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com),  
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