

HORARY ASTROLOGY

Strength and Aspects

Serial No. 87

C. C. ZAIN

Course 8-B

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THE BROTHERHOOD OF LIGHT



**STRENGTH AND ASPECTS
OF THE PLANETS**

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Serial No. 87

**THE CHURCH OF LIGHT
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Planet	Rule Home	Detri- ment	Exalt- ation	Degree Exalt.	Fall	Dignities	Har- mony	Inhar- mony
☉	♌	♋	♍	19	♌	♌	♌	♌
☽	♌	♋	♍	3	♌	♌	♌	♌
☿	♌	♋	♍	15	♌	♌	♌	♌
♀	♌	♋	♍	27	♌	♌	♌	♌
♁	♌	♋	♍	28	♌	♌	♌	♌
♂	♌	♋	♍	15	♌	♌	♌	♌
♀	♌	♋	♍	21	♌	♌	♌	♌
♁	♌	♋	♍	7	♌	♌	♌	♌
♂	♌	♋	♍	18	♌	♌	♌	♌
♁	♌	♋	♍	3	♌	♌	♌	♌
♁	♌	♋	♍	3	♌	♌	♌	♌

N.B. Saturn is co-ruled of Aquarius, and Jupiter of Pisces.











Pluto is co-ruled of Scorpio, which is its home. Its exaltation, etc., are unknown at the date of this reprint (1937).

House	Very Powerful	Powerful	Feeble	Very Feeble
I.	X.	VII.	IV.	
II.				
III.				
IV.				
V.				
VI.				
VII.				
VIII.				
IX.				
X.				
XI.				
XII.				

VII. Table of Aspects and their Orbs.

Symbol of Aspect	Name of Aspect	Number of ° Apart	Succeed-ent Houses Planets Orbs°	Succeed-ent Houses Orbs°	Angular Houses Planets Orbs°	Angular Houses Orbs°	Cadent Houses Planets Orbs°	Cadent Houses Orbs°
♌	Conjunction	0°	10°	13°	12°	15°	8°	11°
♍	Semi-sextile	30	2	3	3	4	1	2
♎	Sextile	60	6	7	7	8	5	6
♏	Square	90	8	10	10	12	6	8
♐	Trine	120	8	10	10	12	6	8
♑	Incon-junct.	150	2	3	3	4	1	2
♒	Semi-square	45	4	5	5	6	3	4
♓	Sesqui-square	135	4	5	5	6	3	4
♈	Opposit-ion	180	10	13	12	15	8	11
♉	Paral-lel		1	1	1	1	1	1

HOW THE ASPECTS EXPRESS

- I. Conjunction, 0° , expresses through PROMINENCE. 
- II. Semi-Sextile, 30° , expresses through GROWTH. 
- III. Sextile, 60° , expresses through OPPORTUNITY. 
- IV. Square, 90° , expresses through OBSTACLES. 
- V. Trine, 120° , expresses through LUCK. 
- VI. Inconjunct, 150° , expresses through EXPANSION. 
- VII. Semi-Square, 45° , expresses through FRICTION. 
- VIII. Opposition, 180° , expresses through SEPARATION. 
- IX. Sesqui-Square, 135° , expresses through AGITATION. 
- X. Parallel, 0° declination, expresses through INTENSITY. 

STRENGTH AND ASPECTS OF THE PLANETS



THE student of astrology should realize that every horoscope, instead of being merely a combination of mystical symbols, is, in fact, a map of actual vibratory currents which are operating at the time for which it is erected. And he should grasp firmly the truth that most of the actions of human life spring into existence, not as the result of premeditation, but due to habitual reaction to feeling, which in turn is powerfully influenced by the planetary energies which at any given time are added to certain thought-cells of the unconscious mind.

Psychology teaches us that at least 99% of all man's actions are prompted by the unconscious mind. The unconscious mind, as is fully explained in the lessons on Esoteric Psychology, is an organization of thought-elements into thought-cells and thought structures. This organization persists in the same astral substance that carries the vibrations of planetary influence. And not only does a birth-chart map the arrangement and volume of energy of different types possessed by these thought-cells, and therefore the individual's character, but the progressed aspects map the times when groups of these thought-cells acquire sufficient additional planetary energy to attract events of a corresponding nature.

Nor is man the only thing influenced by the stars. Each physical object has an astral counterpart that is

constantly affected by vibrations of astral substance that reach it from celestial bodies. In turn, the astral counterpart profoundly affects the physical. And as thoughts are essentially organizations in astral substance, they too respond to such astral vibratory rates. Currents of astral force not only bring changes to man's physical body, but they stimulate the trend of his thinking, and impress their power upon everything by which he is surrounded.

Every horoscope is a map of such astral currents showing four important factors: (1.) The Tone, or Rate of Vibration, of each stream of planetary force. This depends upon its wave-length and frequency. (2.) The Strength, or Tone Quality, of the current from each planet. This depends upon the nature of the medium, or Sign, the planet occupies. (3.) The Power, or Volume, of energy coming from each planet. This depends chiefly upon the Direction from which the energy reaches that point on the earth for which the chart is erected. (4.) The Aspects, or Harmonies and Discords. These depend upon the angles at which the streams of energy meet each other.

Having such a chart of astral currents, and being aware of the particular thing receiving these vibrations, it is possible to estimate the reactions to their influence. Because these reactions constitute events, this makes accurate prediction possible.

1. **The First Requisite** for judging any horoscope—Natal, Stellar Diagnosis, Mundane, Weather, or Horary—is to know the particular Tone, or rate of vibration, radiated by each of the

planets, and what the observed effects are of these vibrations upon life. Just as colors, musical tones, etc., depend upon wave-lengths in ether and in physical substance, so each planet radiates a given wave-length and frequency in astral substance which we call its Tone. The effect of each planetary Tone is given in lesson No. 47.

2. **The Second Requisite** in judging any horoscope is to know the Tone Quality of each Sign and Planet in the chart. The Nature and Tone Quality of each of the 12 Signs is fully explained in lesson No. 46. The Tone Quality, which most text-books call the Strength, of a planet is determined by the Sign in which the planet is found. As the term Strength has had such long usage, to avoid confusion, it had better be retained.

The zodiacal signs act as sounding boards, or instruments, from which the planetary vibrations reach the earth. Each is a definite section of the astro-magnetic field of force which surrounds the sun. Due to this definite position in a field of force, the tension of the astral substance through which the vibrations of a planet must travel is different in each sign, and varies to a less extent even in the different decanates of the same sign. This property of the astral substance of a sign may make it a favorable sounding board for transmitting the vibrations of one or more of the planets, but quite unfavorable for the transmission of the wave-lengths and frequencies of other planets.

To designate this, when the tension in astral substance in a certain sign favors the full transmission of

the vibrations of a given planet, the planet is said to be Strong in that sign. But when the vibrations of a planet reverberate from the sign only with difficulty, and are distorted by it from their proper tonal effect, the planet is said to be Weak in that sign.

It has experimentally been determined that a planet not only sets up vibrations in the sign it occupies, but also in certain other signs. These special signs are so sympathetically tuned to the planet that they vibrate to it no matter where it is located. They are keyed to the tone of the planet, and respond to its vibrations, much as a musical instrument keyed to a particular tone will respond to that tone when struck on another instrument, even when the other instrument is at a distance.

These signs that persistently transmit the vibrations of a given planet, whether or not the planet is in them, are said to be Ruled by that planet. When the planet is in one of these signs it Rules, it is said to be at HOME.

The sign that a planet rules transmits easily and completely the full nature of the planet when the planet is in it. A planet at home, in a sign it rules, is Very Strong.

The most refined influence exerted by a planet, however, is not when it is at home, but when in another sign which not only permits it to express its energy fully, but which, due to the peculiar quality of its astral substance, lends itself particularly to the expression of the finer and more intense vibrations of the planetary tone. This other sign, which only transmits the planet's vibrations strongly when the planet

is in it, yet which lends itself singularly to the highest expression of the planet's qualities, is called the planet's EXALTATION.

The ancients held that there is also a particular degree in the Sign of Exaltation in which the planet exerts a better influence than in any other degree of the zodiac. This degree is called the DEGREE OF EXALTATION.

The vibratory quality of the signs ruled by a planet is markedly influenced by any modifications in the vibration of the planet. If it sounds from some other sign that does not permit harmonious expression, this discord is also called out in the signs ruled by the planet. That is, the signs ruled by a planet respond to the vibrations that actually reach them, and these vibrations are given a harmonious or a discordant trend, not merely by the aspects of the planet, but also by the sign in which the planet occurs.

Thus it is found experimentally that the sign directly opposite the exaltation of a planet is a sign in which the planet finds most difficulty in expressing the higher and more pleasing side of its nature. In this sign its influence is distorted and Weakest. This sign is called the planet's FALL.

The degree opposite the degree of exaltation is supposed to be the poorest degree in the zodiac for the planet. It is called its DEGREE OF FALL.

When a planet is in the sign opposite its home, or rulership, it exerts its influence poorly and in an in-harmonious manner. This sign, in which the planet is very Weak, is called its DETRIMENT.

There is another sign in which each planet is able

to express itself moderately well, but not with such strength as when at home. This sign, in which the planet is Moderately Strong, is called its **HARMONY**.

In the sign opposite its harmony, a planet exerts an influence which is Moderately Weak. This sign, in which it has a rather poor influence, is called its **INHARMONY**.

By his general knowledge of the nature of each planet and each sign, the student becomes able to determine approximately the strength of a planet in any sign; for as a rule a planet is strong in a sign the nature of which is similar to its own, and weak in a sign having dissimilar characteristics. But as this matter has been ascertained experimentally by others, it is well to memorize the signs in which each planet has its Home, Exaltation, Detriment, Fall, Harmony, and Inharmony. This strength or weakness of a planet in being able to express its own true nature by occupying a sign which forms a favorable or unfavorable sounding board for transmitting its vibrations, is called the planet's **ESSENTIAL DIGNITY**.

Table V gives all the Essential Dignities of the planets, and should be well memorized.

3. The Third Requisite in judging any horoscope is to determine the Power, or Volume, or Quantity of force exerted by each planet in the chart. Each planet always vibrates to one particular tone, or Key; and the Quality, or resonance of that tone depends upon the Sign the planet is in. The Power of the tone, its volume, and thus the amount of its energy

to reach a given point, however, depends upon the direction from which the stream of its energy reaches the point on the earth for which the chart is erected.

The reason the astral energy flowing from a planet does not reach all points on the earth in equal volume is probably due to the amount and density, as well as the movement, of the earth's astral substance it must penetrate. Relative to the sun's position, the astral substance of the earth has areas of different pressure, or density, even as there are regions of different density in the earth's atmosphere caused by the Sun. The trade winds, for instance, are an example of the result of such sun-produced different atmospheric densities.

It is as if the earth were an auditorium into which the vibrations of the planets must penetrate from the outside; and that at regular intervals there were open doors, at other intervals small windows, and at other places thick walls, through which the planetary tones must pass. The twelve sections, or areas of different astral densities about the earth, called Mundane Houses, have been explained fully in lesson No. 47.

As stated, the Quality of the force exerted by a planet depends upon the Sign it is in: its Essential Dignity. But the Power, quantity or amount of energy it exerts either for good or evil depends upon the House of the horoscope it occupies. All the planets pass through all the houses of a horoscope in the space of 24 hours; but they remain days, and some of them many years, in each zodiacal sign. This house position of a planet, because of its short duration, is technically spoken of as its accidental station. Thus the Volume, or lack of it, due to a planet's

position by House, is called its ACCIDENTAL DIGNITY.

This Volume of energy exerted by a planet in each of the 12 Mundane Houses has been determined experimentally. As a general rule, the rule being handed down from ancient times, any planet in an Angular House exerts a Very Powerful influence, any planet in a Succedent House exerts only Average influence by power, and any planet in a Cadent House exerts Very Feeble Power. But experience proves there are exceptions to this rule. Nevertheless, it will be found that an Angular House is always more Powerful than the Succedent, and a Succedent than the Cadent, House of its own quadrant of the heavens.

The Power of a planet in any of the angles is greater than in any of the other houses, without exception; and the nearer the planet is to the Cusp of the angles the more Power it exerts. The most powerful houses for a planet are the 1st and 10th houses. The volume of energy received from a planet in either of these houses is about the same. Next in volume of energy is the 7th house; and the feeblest of the angles is the 4th house, the last half of the 4th being little, if any, more powerful than those succedent houses above the earth. A planet in an Angle may always be considered VERY POWERFUL.

Next in Power are the 11th, 8th, 9th, and 12th, in the order named. A planet in the 8th or 12th is not so fortunate, as a rule, as if in the 9th or 11th, but we are here considering the Volume of force, not its quality. A planet in the 11th, 8th, 9th, or 12th house

of the horoscope may always be considered **MODERATELY POWERFUL**.

The 2nd house is somewhat more powerful than the 3rd, but planets in the 2nd and 3rd houses should always be considered **FEEBLE**.

The 6th house is the feeblest position in the entire chart, the 5th house having little more volume. Planets in the 5th or 6th house of a chart are **VERY FEEBLE**.

Table VI gives the Accidental Dignities of planets when found in the various houses of a horoscope.

4. The Fourth Requisite for judging any horoscope is to determine to what extent each planet's rays are harmonious or discordant, and in what particular way the harmony or discord manifests. In lesson No. 41 it is fully explained how the streams of astral force from the planets converging at definite angles set up vortices, or whirls, of astral substance, and thus affect life. These whirls are produced only when the streams of force converge approximately at certain angles; just as whirlpools in a stream are not produced from water meeting at all angles. And the nature of the whirl produced by streams of planetary force meeting at one angle is different from the whirl produced by planetary streams meeting from other angles. These angles, from which planetary energies meeting are known to produce whirls of a definite character, are called **ASPECTS**.

The aspects that have a proven effect are ten in number, and are mentioned in lesson No. 47. It is found that rays of planetary force converging at half a right angle, a right angle (90°), a right angle and

a half, and twice a right angle produce whirls in astral substance that are decidedly destructive in nature; but that the momentum of the whirl is different in each of these aspects, and consequently the destructive forces operate differently.

It is found that rays of planetary force meeting at a trine (120°), a half trine, and one-fourth of a trine produce whirls in astral substance that are constructive in nature; but the modes of constructive activity differ with each aspect.

It might seem, from a cursory examination of the subject, as planets move north and south of the ecliptic, or path of the sun, that in calculating aspects this celestial latitude should be considered and the angle of the aspect determined upon a spherical basis. To so determine the aspects would make necessary a trigonometrical calculation for all planets not having the same North or South Latitude.

Experience proves, however, that the latitude of a planet—its distance from the ecliptic—need not be considered in calculating aspects. The ecliptic, or path of the sun, is the plane of polarization in the field of force of our solar system; and planetary vibrations tend to travel parallel to the plane of the ecliptic rather than to cut across it diagonally. Therefore, the Zodiacal Degree which a planet occupies always indicates the direction in the heavens from which its vibrations reach a given spot, and all aspects should be calculated from Zodiacal Longitude without regard to celestial latitude. This applies to Progressed Aspects as well as to aspects in a birth-chart.

I. A Conjunction is the aspect formed when two

planets occupy the same sign and approximately the same degree of the zodiac. It is the most potent aspect. The rays of astral energy radiated by the planets in conjunction travel almost identically the same path, each making it easier for the energy of the other fully to manifest. A benefic planet (see lesson No. 47) will always make the planet with which it is in conjunction more fortunate by adding its own harmonious vibrations. A malefic will always make the planet with which it is in conjunction more unfortunate by adding its discordant vibrations. But whether for good or ill, a conjunction always intensifies the influence of both planets, and makes the things signified by each prominent factors in the chart.

Just here, due to the work of The Brotherhood of Light Research Department, I must depart from the customary teaching regarding a planet "Combust." A planet is combust when it is within $8^{\circ} 30'$ of the Sun, and in a Degree of Combustion when within 17° of the Sun. According to some writers, when a planet is combust its influence is burnt up and destroyed, and it is considered a great affliction, the planet being weakened.

It is said, however, that a planet "Cazimi" is greatly strengthened. A planet is cazimi when it is within $17'$ of the Sun's center. As the disc of the Sun occupies approximately half a degree, a planet cazimi sends its rays to the earth along lines quite identical with those of the Sun in so far as the zodiacal degree occupied is concerned, and the result of such overlapping can be conceived to cause a different influence than when the two bodies are slightly farther apart.

But I have never found a planet's influence to be weakened by being in conjunction with the Sun. On the contrary, I have found that a planet in conjunction with the Sun invariably exerts a stronger influence in a birth-chart than when not aspecting the Sun.

When any planet is in conjunction with the Sun I have found it thus becomes a strong factor in molding the life and character of the person then born. As Mercury is never over 28° from the Sun, it is in combust in about one-fourth of all charts, and in a degree of combustion in about two-thirds of them. Venus is never more than 48° from the Sun, and as a consequence is combust in at least one-seventh of all charts, and in a degree of combustion in about one-third of them. I do not think any planet is weakened by being near the Sun, and point to the charts of Theodore Roosevelt (lesson No. 95), Thomas A. Edison (lesson No. 19), Louis Pasteur (lesson No. 5), Ewart Wm. Gladstone and Dr. Alfred Russel Wallace as examples picked at random who have Mercury combust in their birth-charts.

To give numerous convincing examples of charts having the various planets combust and yet exercising undiminished power is an easy matter, yet the limitations of my space prohibit it. So I will merely state the result of my own investigations, and the result of the research work in which thousands of birth-charts have been analyzed in public by students in The Brotherhood of Light class-room. We find that a planet in conjunction with another tends to make the things signified by each more pronounced; and the conjunction of the Sun is no exception to this rule.

Whatever good or evil is signified by the conjunction, either in the birth-chart or by progression, is more the immediate result of the person's own character and actions than that of the compelling force of environment beyond his control. The one word that best expresses the most pronounced influence of a Conjunction is PROMINENCE.

II. A Semi-Sextile is the aspect formed when two planets are approximately 30 zodiacal degrees apart. This is a very feeble benefic aspect. Its constructive whirl manifests as a mildly harmonious cooperation between the things signified by the two planets. It does not bring favors without effort, nor does it signify unusual abilities. It indicates rather those opportunities that are not obvious, but which can be created through initiative, and slowly developed and expanded into something worth while.

It signifies abilities and opportunities that are largely overlooked by less successful people, that nevertheless are present, but require a large amount of energy directed to them to bring them to fruition. Whatever good is signified by the semi-sextile, either in the birth-chart or by progression, requires careful cultivation to bring it out, and is a matter of gradual expansion. The one word that best expresses the most pronounced influence of a Semi-Sextile is GROWTH.

III. A Sextile is the aspect formed when two planets are approximately 60 zodiacal degrees apart. This is a very good aspect. Its constructive energy manifests as adaptation to environment; there being such ability and opportunity as are signified by the

two planets. It does not point to favors forced upon one, but both the ability to acquire the things signified and the opportunity to do so. The sextile aspect does not place fortune, health, fame and love in one's lap without effort; but it denotes a happy co-operation between the abilities of the individual and the opportunities that present themselves, whereby, if he applies himself, he may attain the favors signified by the planets.

Whatever good is signified by the sextile, either in the birth-chart or by progression, requires that opportunities be grasped as they present themselves; for if not quickly utilized they soon will pass and be beyond recall. The one word that best expresses the most pronounced influence of a Sextile is OPPORTUNITY.

IV. A Square is the aspect formed when two planets are approximately 90 zodiacal degrees apart. This is a very bad aspect. The destructive energy of this astral maelstrom acts in a violent manner. Uncontrolled, it manifests in harsh, rash, explosive bursts of energy that tend to tear up and destroy all it contacts. It signifies positive lack of adaptation to environment, and consequent conflict. It brings acute crises, and temporary periods of struggle between the things signified by the two planets.

Because of its abruptness, students sometimes conclude that the square is worse than the opposition. It certainly does often act with more violence, and it frequently leaves nothing of value in its wake. The opposition, on the other hand, usually deprives of one

thing while leaving another. Yet the square, according to my observation, has not the certainty, the power, nor the persistence of the opposition. The two aspects bring about events that are decidedly different, and bring them about in quite different ways.

Whatever evil is signified by the square, either in the birth-chart or by progression, results from incompatibility between the things signified by the two planets stirring up energy that periodically gets beyond control. A square brings acute conflict and violent antagonisms that cause radical changes. Yet it should not be forgotten that any form of energy, if properly controlled, can be used constructively.

Practice is said to make for perfection, and certainly men learn to surmount difficulties by constantly being confronted with the necessity of surmounting them. Thus we find that the great men of the world invariably have squares in their birth-charts. They have plenty of trials and conflicts, but they make each a stepping stone to attainment, learning the technic of overcoming obstructions, and turning the destructive energy into constructive lines. The one word that best expresses the most pronounced influence of a Square is **OBSTACLE**.

V. A Trine is the aspect formed when two planets are approximately 120 degrees apart in the zodiac. This is the Best aspect. A trine signifies not only the abilities and opportunities bestowed by the two planets, but also such favors as come with very little effort. The good that comes through the trines comes easily and spontaneously. The abilities so

signified grow naturally rather than being acquired with difficulty, and the opportunities are forced upon one without being asked for. Because the things denoted by the trines come so easily, they are often unappreciated.

Trines signify good qualities in the character because where they are concerned there is no temptation. But too many trines never produce a strong, virile character; for there are too few obstacles to overcome, and too little struggle necessary. Character is developed through overcoming obstacles, not in permitting others to remove them so the path will be easy. Whatever good is signified by the trine, either in the birth-chart or by progression, comes without commensurate effort. The one word that best expresses the most pronounced influence of a Trine is LUCK.

VI. An Inconjunct is the aspect formed when two planets are approximately 150 degrees apart in the zodiac. The whirl in astral substance so formed is somewhat constructive if between benefic planets, and somewhat destructive if formed between malefic planets. As there are more malefic planets than benefic planets, it is more often somewhat malefic. Its energy manifests in much the same manner as the conjunction, except that it has less force. Its strength, however, is greater than that of the semi-sextile.

The obstacles it brings when evil are not too difficult to surmount, and the opportunities it brings when good require initiative to make much of them. Either in the birth-chart or by progression, the evil denoted by an inconjunct is easily converted into an advantage,

and the good it signifies must be cultivated to prove of value. The aspect itself has the tendency to bring the things denoted by the two planets into some prominence, and to force them apart rather than together. The one word that best expresses the most pronounced influence of an Inconjunct is **EXPANSION**.

VII. A Semi-Square is the aspect formed when two planets are approximately 45 zodiacal degrees apart. This is a moderately bad aspect. The destructive energy manifests as uncertainty and vacillation. It sets up oscillations between the things denoted by the two planets. In human life it causes anxiety, hesitation, worry, criticism and many recurring abrasions, rather than cataclysmic disruptions. The evil it signifies is usually due to the cumulative effect of the little inharmonies in the environment.

Either in the birth-chart or by progression, it tends toward changes. The disharmony it attracts, however, may usually be turned to advantage by overlooking the small annoyances and using them as spurs to greater effort. The one word that best expresses the most pronounced influence of a Semi-Square is **FRICTION**.

VIII. An Opposition is the aspect formed when two planets are approximately 180 zodiacal degrees apart. Though acting in a less cataclysmic manner than the square, because of its persistence and power, this is usually considered the Worst aspect. The energies of the two planets, when so situated, meet each other head-on, and refusing to mingle, boil back along the lines from which they came. The result is

that the qualities of both planets are brought into great prominence, even as much so as in the conjunction. Consequently the greatest abilities that men possess are mapped by the conjunction and the opposition. The opposition confers the quality of each of the two planets in maximum degree; and because of this a majority of the great names in history have oppositions in their birth-charts.

Great men invariably have great opposition to overcome or they would not be considered great. The opposition aspect attracts this. There is a constant antagonism between the things represented by the two planets. This constant struggle for supremacy between the two planets does not act abruptly, nor in acute crises like the square aspect, but develops slowly and unrelentingly. It has an inexorable quality. The issue can not be avoided. A choice must be made between one of the two opposing factors, and this choice involves the necessity of losing one of them.

This disintegrative action proceeds slowly and inflexibly, and invariably tends to separate completely the things denoted by the planets. Either in the birth-chart or by progression, the opposition signifies conditions more immediately forced upon one by environment and apparently beyond control, that makes the choice of one thing a necessity for renouncing another apparently desirable thing. It is a slow inflexible rending asunder. The one word that best expresses the most pronounced influence of an Opposition is SEPARATION.

IX. A Sesqui-Square is the aspect formed when

two planets are approximately 135 zodiacal degrees apart. This is a moderately evil aspect, about equal in strength to the semi-square. The energy set up by this discordant aspect has not the force of the square, nor does it signify circumstances so important or antagonistic. Its action usually is to break up existing conditions rather suddenly, and thus pave the way for effort along somewhat different lines.

It acts in quite sharp and disruptive intervals. It calls for more decision than the semi-square, but is not so persistent and long drawn out. Either in the birth-chart or by progression, it signifies changes, either mental or physical, of a nature indicated by the planets; but these changes usually can be made an asset if accepted gracefully, for they open up new conditions. The word that best expresses the most pronounced influence of a Sesqui-Square is AGITATION.

X. The Parallel is the aspect formed when two planets occupy approximately the same degree of Declination, either both North or both South, or when one is North and the other is South, of the celestial equator. This is the only aspect considered in the Hermetic System of Astrology which is not calculated by degrees in the zodiac. Even as the zodiac is divided by the equinoctial colure into positive and negative polarity, so in a somewhat similar manner the Equator divides our stellar auditorium, the astral substance immediately surrounding the earth, into positive and negative halves.

When two planets are an equal distance from the

equator, either north or south, they set up synchronous vibrations within the earth's astral substance that have an effect somewhat like those produced by a conjunction in the zodiacal signs. That is, they tend to facilitate the manifestation of the full tones of both.

A benefic planet will make any planet with which it is parallel more fortunate, and a malefic planet will make any planet with which it is parallel more unfortunate, with this exception: A planet may be, and often is, in parallel with another planet and at the same time in zodiacal aspect to it. The zodiacal aspect is of ranking importance, and in such cases the parallel but intensifies the influence of the zodiacal aspect, without changing its nature. It simply gives the planets' vibrations greater impetus than usual. Therefore, when a planet is both parallel to, and in zodiacal aspect with, another planet, the influence should be considered as of the nature of the zodiacal aspect.

The influence of a parallel is not so precise nor so well defined as a conjunction. In its manifestation it is slower in development and more easily converted into energy of some other trend. Either in the birth-chart or by progression, the parallel signifies qualities and conditions that develop slowly and that give gradual force to the things signified by the two planets. The one word that best expresses the most pronounced influence of a Parallel is INTENSITY.

The particular kind of a whirl in astral substance produced by each of the 10 aspects is most perfect in its form, and manifests its own peculiar kind of

energy in strongest degree, when the aspect is the exact number of degrees designated for each. A whirl of a given design in water, air, ether, or astral substance, however, is not the product of currents meeting at one single degree of angle, any more than the color red is the product of a single number of vibrations in ether per second. There is a limited range of vibrations all producing what we call red, though of different shades, until they finally merge into another color.

The expression of a given aspect is strongest and clearest when the aspect is perfect, but the aspect will still manifest its peculiar energy, though less distinctly, as the number of degrees recedes from the perfect aspect, until its own distinctive kind of energy shades into that of the next aspect. Between adjacent aspects, however, there is a space in which the planets do not produce distinctive whirls; a space where the tendency to form one kind of whirl is neutralized by the tendency to produce another kind; just as in colors certain rates of vibration produce a shade that makes it difficult to say whether it is red or orange, being a blend of both.

It has been determined experimentally how many degrees removed from the perfect aspect that an aspect manifests its own kind of energy with sufficient distinctness to have an appreciable effect upon life. The number of degrees away from the perfect aspect that a planet manifests even a slightly characteristic quality of the aspect is called its orb of influence, or merely ORB.

One of the most important, and at the same time most difficult, considerations in every judgment from a horoscope is that of Orb of Influence. It may be well enough to say that as a general rule an orb of 5 degrees either way from a planet should be allowed; but students who use the full 5 degrees for the semi-sextiles in feeble houses, and limit the orb of influence to 5 degrees in oppositions from angular houses, will find their judgment sadly at fault. They will never be able to render that fine discrimination that takes the science from the realm of broad generalities and gives to it the nicety and precision that are the marks of expert craftsmanship.

Table VII gives the Orb of Influence of each of the aspects when formed from succedent houses, from angular houses, and from cadent houses. It is the result of more than thirty years experience judging horoscopes and the collaboration of the Research Department of The Brotherhood of Light.

The student need not memorize this table, but should commit the following considerations to memory: Under average circumstances an orb of 2° is right for semi-sextile and inconjunct between planets, and 3° when Sun or Moon is party to the aspect. For semi-square and sesqui-square, allow an orb of 4° for the planets and 5° when Sun or Moon is party to the aspect. For the sextile, allow an orb of 6° between planets, and 7° when Sun or Moon is party to the aspect. For the square and trine, allow an orb of 8° for the planets, and 10° when the Sun or Moon is party to the aspect. For the conjunction

and opposition, allow an orb of 10° between the planets, and 13° when the Sun or Moon is party to the aspect. For the parallel, an orb of 1° is sufficient.

As the volume of a planet's stream of energy reaching a given spot depends upon the house position, the student will find that he must allow a slightly larger orb when one or more of the aspecting planets occupies a powerful house, and an orb slightly less than the average given above when the planets occupy feeble houses.

It should be memorized that for the conjunction, opposition, square or trine, when the planets, one or both, are in angles, 2° should be added to the average orb given; and when neither of the planets is in an angle, and one of them is cadent, particularly if both are below the earth, 2° should be subtracted from the given orb. With the sextile, semi-sextile, semi-square, sesqui-square and inconjunct, when one of the planets occupies an angle, 1° should be added to the average orb given, and when neither of the planets occupies an angle and one of them is in a cadent house, particularly if one be in the 6th, 1° should be subtracted from the average orb.

A very little observation will convince the student that a planet has a wider orb of influence when in a powerful house than when in a feeble one. As a matter of fact, the orbs of influence of the planets are not all the same. Saturn, Jupiter, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto have a slightly wider orb than Mars, Venus and Mercury, and a narrower orb than Sun or Moon, the Sun having greatest. But the distinc-

tion is so fine that what I have said on the matter will answer all practical purposes; too slight shadings of influence when given tending to confusion. When one planet is in a powerful house and the other in one feeble, or when the orb of one planet is different than that of the other, however, it is safe practice to use the orb of the powerful house or planet.

An Aspect Applying.—When the planets are moving to form an aspect, there is a slightly less orb before its influence is noticeable; yet because its full force is yet to be felt, such an aspect is stronger to bring about the conditions signified.

An Aspect Separating.—When the planets are moving from an aspect, there is a slightly larger orb, because the vibrations have already been set in motion and tend to linger; but as the influence is wearing off, such an aspect is much less potent to produce results.

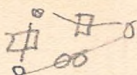
In judging, it is always important to notice whether an aspect is applying or separating, as this indicates whether the thing signified is forming or disintegrating. Although in the thousands of charts used by The Brotherhood of Light Research Department the orb of influence for **PROGRESSED ASPECTS** is limited strictly to 1° , with the stronger aspects the influence of the progressed Sun is commonly somewhat discernible while $1\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ distant, and those of the progressed Moon while $1\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$ distant. It should not be lost sight of that the orb of influence is the outside limit at which an aspect will have a discernible effect. The more exact the aspect the more pronounced its particular kind of force.

Calculating All the Aspects that occur between the planets in any chart is a very simple matter when undertaken in a systematic manner. An example of this is given in lesson No. 88. Always start with the aspects of the Sun, as most important, then those of Mercury, Moon, etc., in the order given in Table II, lesson No. 86. The aspects must always be calculated the shortest distance between the planets, and never in the contrary direction from that usually followed by the planets as they move through the zodiac. Always calculate from the planet that will enable you to count ahead in the natural order of the zodiacal signs, and always count the intercepted signs, as it is the number of signs apart and not the number of houses, that make an aspect.


A. Planets occupying approximately the same degree of any sign are always in aspect. If they are in adjacent signs they are semi-sextile, if 2 signs apart they are sextile, if 3 signs apart they are square, if 4 signs apart they are trine, if 5 signs apart they are inconjunct. Movable signs are always in square or opposition to each other, and taken collectively are known as the Movable Cross. Fixed signs are always in square or opposition to each other, and taken collectively are known as the Fixed Cross. Mutable signs are always in square or opposition to each other, and taken collectively are known as the Mutable Cross. When two planets are in approximately the same degree of any sign of one cross they are conjunction, opposition, or square.

*Cardinal
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When two planets thus are in opposition and a



third planet is square to both, it is called a T-square. Such a combination maps much energy, which if not diverted attracts misfortune.



When two planets in opposition are both square to two other planets in opposition, thus making a complete cross, it is called a Grand Square. This is the most malefic combination that can occur in a chart.



The signs of any one element are always in trine, and when two planets occupy approximately the same degree of different signs of the same element, or triplicity, they are always in trine. When both of two planets which make a trine to each other are also trine to a third planet, so that approximately an equilateral triangle is formed, it is called a Grand Trine. This is the most benefic combination that can occur in a chart.

Conjunctions always occur when planets are adjacent, and parallels when they occupy approximately the same degree of declination. A glance will reveal any of the above aspects and combinations.

B. The only aspects apt to be difficult for the beginner to determine are the semi-square and the sesqui-square. The degree occupied by a planet forming either of these aspects must always be approximately half a sign more than that occupied by the planet counted from. Therefore add 15° to the place of the first planet and notice if any other planet occupies approximately this degree in any other sign, not overlooking the fact that a planet in the last degree of one sign may be approximately in the same degree as a planet in the first degree of another sign.

When a planet is found in such a place, notice if it is in a sign that is either a sign and a half, or four signs and a half, distant. If the former, it is a semi-square. If the latter, it is a sesqui-square. But if it is two signs and a half, three signs and a half, or five signs and a half, distant, it is in a position of little consequence and should be neglected.

