THE GAUQUELIN CHARACTER TRAITS –NEW STUDIES

The relationship between planet and character-trait could be observed without any need to take account of the professions.
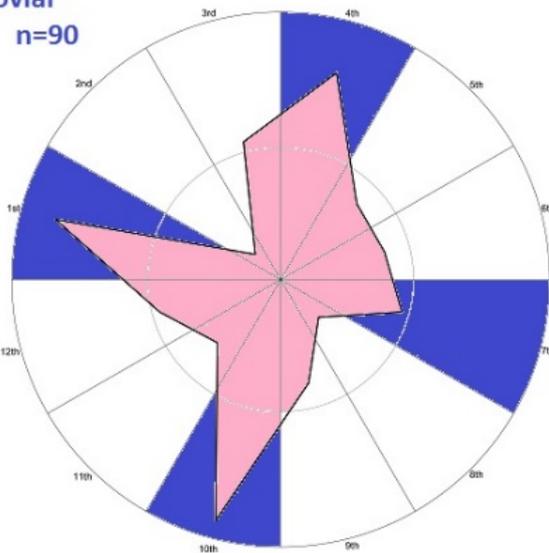
Michel Gauquelin, 1983[1]

Each time statistically significant results showed up, they were maximal in those so-called "cadent houses". Present day traditionalists are shocked by these statistical results in Cadent instead of Angular houses.

Francoise Gauquelin, 1992[2]

Here is surely the simplest astrological effect we've ever seen: it's the trait 'Jovial', plotted by the Jupiter day. There were various different professional groups, for which the two Gauquelins extracted such trait-terms from their biographies. Their published data-volumes – which are quite hard to get hold of, by the way[3] – give lists of names underneath each trait. Other volumes of theirs gave the birth-data for those names, and these have all been posted up onto the CURA website[4], which is a great help.

Figure 1: Jupiter positions in the diurnal circle for 90 persons with the traits *joviale* and *joyeux* in their biographies

I've logged in all of the birth data published by the Gauquelins for some thirty-five character-traits, and put it onto a Gauquelin-research page.[5] So you can check everything I'm writing here from that database, if you have a suitable program. Those character-traits were selected as allegedly-belonging to the several planets, in the view of the Gauquelins.[6]

A Fourfold Effect

Four times each day, does Jupiter arrive in one of the Key-Sectors, the 'cadent' houses in the Placidus system. During those times, people were *twice as likely to be born* who would later be described in their biographies as 'Jovial.' Actually I here combined the two French words *joyeux* and *joviale.* This is good news and it *cheers us up*: Jupiter is jovial! Here is the same data, but using an 18-fold division of the circle, of Jupiter's day.

I was inspired to do this work partly because I knew John Addey, the 'harmonics' theorist of the last century (1920-1982), and let's have a couple of quotes from him. On the subject of Mars, John – the great Pythagoean theorist, author of the classic *Harmonics in Astrology* – wrote that what he called 'the pure 4th harmonic qualities (active, energetic etc)' gave a distribution where

> …there is no longer any tendency for there to be stronger peaks after the rise and upper culmination; all four angles are more or less equal in strength.[7]

the trait 'Jovial'
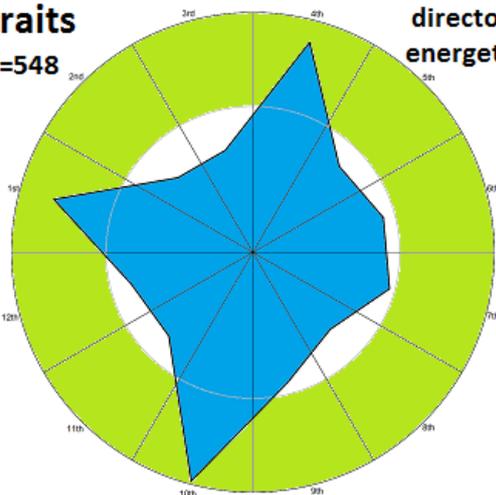n=90
in Jupiter's daily path
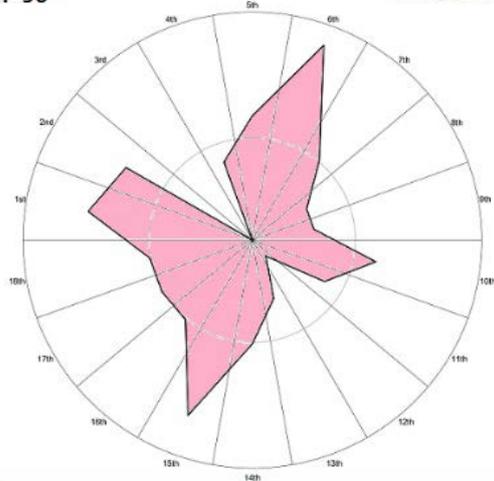
That is so crucial and no-one else on the great 20th-century debates on the subject ever realised this: it's a *fourfold effect.* Then, concerning the trait 'energetic' he wrote:

> The word ENERGETIC was attributed to 187 different people (94 champions, 34 scientists, 42 actors, 17 writers).[8]

He is here alluding to the several professions for which the Gauquelins scored traits, and has added them up.[9] I confirmed these numbers, and that did much to reassure me that I was on the right track.

Jupiter traits
n=548
Jovial, proud, authority, director, energetic

I think of the Jupiter traits as *pride and joy.* Five of the top-scoring ones are *Jovial, proud, authority, director, and energetic* – and together they show overall a 78% excess. By that we mean, that the four cadent houses had Jupiter in them (for 584 lots of birth-data, that is all the people who had these traits) - 78% more than did the eight other houses.

Readers familiar with the Gauquelin work, will apprehend that two things are here looking very different. Firstly the effect is symmetrically fourfold, and does not merely peak in the two 'Gauquelin sectors,' and secondly it is *several times larger* than any effect which the Gauquelins ever reported for professional groups.

By top-scoring traits we here allude to the group of 35 traits that I have evaluated. It would be possible to log in a couple of hundred of them from the data-books. It's hard work, and it all has to be carefully cross-checked, but let's hope somebody does it.

Initially, when I was asking various people about these traits, they would doubt whether 'authority' was really a Jovian trait, and suspect it was saturnine. I guess the idea of being

'authoritative' did not go with their image of Jupiter as Mr Nice Guy? But this trait scores negative for Saturn at -26%, i.e. it's in deficit: Saturn in the cadent houses at birth *impedes its appearance* in future biographies. As to why Jupiter should be 'authoritative,' we could here quote Michel:

Zeus no preside-t-il pas aux autres dieux, du haut de son Olympe?[10]
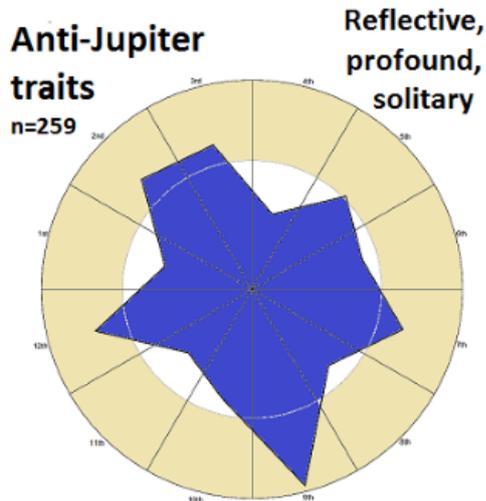
The three lowest-scoring Jupiter traits turned out to be *reflective, profound* and *solitary*. One notes the extravert character of Jupiter here, that these introvert traits were scoring lowest (a 25% deficit of the four sectors, compared to the other eight). The evident working here of anti-Jupiter traits strongly indicates that the Gauquelins were not cheating - in case anyone were to suspect such a thing.

Concerning the graph here shown, John Addey would have said that this is still a fourfold effect, just as significantly as for the positive traits, but rotated around and so peaking at a different part of the diurnal circle. If perchance some new harmonic science should come to exist in the future, then maybe this would be important.

Moving onto Saturn, here are some top-scoring traits. Let's give per trait its number of citations in the professional biographies, then the number of times Saturn scored in one of the cadent house at the time of birth, and then the % excess which that implies. The *six top-scoring traits* come out as:

Top scoring Saturn character-traits

Silent 46, 21, +68%[11]

Cold 64, 29, +65%

Severe 65, 28, +51%

Noble 79, 33, +43%

Solitary 106 , 42, +31%

Profound 77, 30, +27%.

All your life you've read of planetary traits which authors have dreamed up or imagined or copied off others, but here is something which has not (I suggest) happened before: that a list of planetary traits emerges objectively from a data-set without anyone selecting them. We feel Old Father Time in this wonderful (and scary) list of traits, and the Grim Reaper - but also maybe, the Wise Counsellor?

And likewise for the Moon, remembering that the Gauquelins found imaginative writers and dreamy poets to be influenced by Selene's Sphere[12]: the top five lunar traits, with numbers as before, are:

Top lunar traits

Tranquil 58, 31, +129%

Pure	45,	24,	+128%
Imaginative	85,	40,	+77%
Dreamer	71,	31,	+55%
Fantasy	78,	34,	+54%

These are beautiful traits, for Selene's sphere. 'Reflective' turned out not to be a lunar trait, contrary to what I'd initially surmised: yes physically the Moon is reflective - but this does not come through as a character-trait! We're looking at a traditionally feminine planet here, while the biographies here used are mainly male.

The fire-energy of Mars is direct and unsubtle - its three top-scoring traits (with numbers as before) are:

Top Mars-traits			
Combative	110,	56,	+107%
Vitality	63,	32,	+106%
Energetic	185,	92,	+97%

What we might call anti-Mars traits are those which scored most negatively in the Mars-sectors. Here are eight of the lowest-scoring grouped together, and together they display a 25% *deficit* in the four sectors. *Minima* appear here in the four cadent houses, using these gentle and dreamy traits – which appear somewhat lunar, do they not? The Red Planet, in its daily sojourn, has tended to inhibit these traits from appearing, many years later in biographies.

ANTI-MARS TRAITS
N=632

Pure, tranquil, loved, severe, silent, dreamer, reflective, gentle

'Silent' and 'severe' were negative-Mars, but positive for Saturn, while 'pure,' 'tranquil' and 'dreamer' were also negative Mars, but Moon-positive. Traits are responding to more than one of the heavenly spheres.
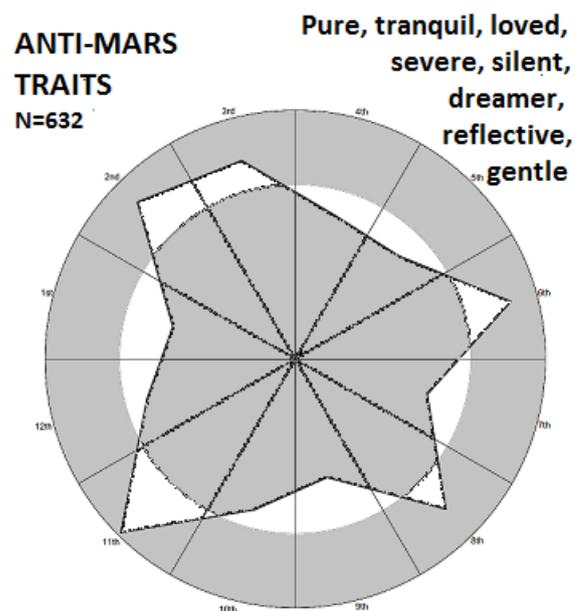
Morning and Evening star

For half a century, on two continents, the great debate seethed concerning the Gauquelin research - and we're here talking about the greatest astro-research program ever undertaken – but it never found a thing for Venus. Venus just refused to show up. Could it be that it was too near the Sun, people surmised? The key – it dawned on me one day - was to separate the two sides of Venus, as Morning and Evening Star. These had two different names in antiquity, *Lucifer* and *Hesperus.*

They can usually be separated by subtracting the zodiac longitudes of Sun and Venus: if {Sun – Venus} is negative, it's the Evening Star. That doesn't work however if 0° Aries is in-between them. The two spheres are always less than forty degrees apart. Suppose the Sun is in Pisces and Venus is in Aries, then subtracting the two will give around three hundred

degrees, as a positive value, while clearly Venus is the Evening Star, so it's the other way round.

That may sound complicated, but it's very simple if you just look at a chart. Click your program so that only the Sun and Venus come up, and you will at once see by inspection what is happening.

A modern computer program eg Solar fire will produce solar and Venus longitudes for the several thousand lines of birth-data, plus it will also generate house positions for any planet, which is how the above tables were made. Thereby all of the data was split into two, according to whether Venus was Oriental or Occidental.

We should add here, that normally a diurnal Venus-distribution will be very asymmetric, showing a large bulge in the bottom-left corner, i.e. the first and second houses, because natural births peak before dawn and Venus is generally close to the sun.[13]

Traits here plotted around the Evening-Star Venus-day, with citation-counts are: charming (108), passionate (95), enthusiastic (73), elegant (48), noble (35), dreamer (34), gracious (33) fantasy (33) and silent (24), totalling 488. Venus as the Evening Star expresses traditional qualities, as shown for these nine traits (n=488) – here depicted with both 12- and 36-fold divisions of the circle. It's fun looking at a 36-fold division of the circle, but one might not (I suggest) wish to do numerical or statistical analysis using it.

These are I suggest very credible Venus-traits, and this is the first time ever they have shown up in the diurnal circle. The net excess here in the four houses is 60%.
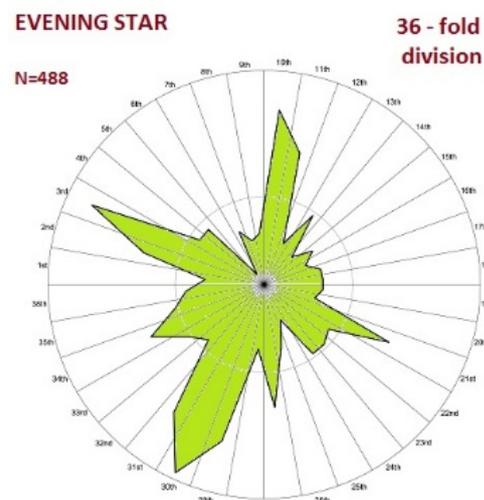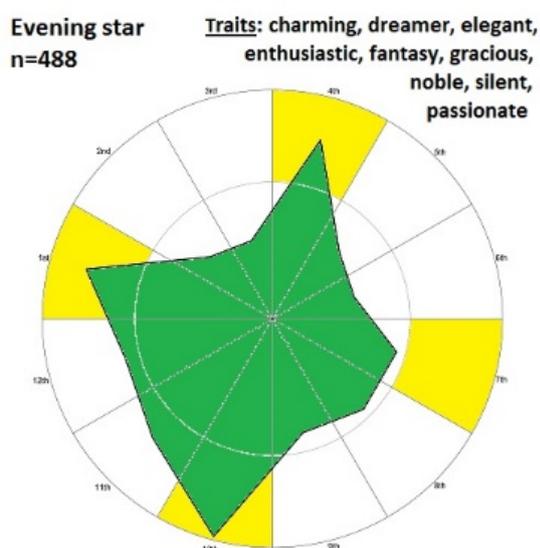
Here for comparison are the *ten top traits* for the Morning-Star, with numbers as before. Do they seem different from the earlier Evening Star traits?

Top-scoring Venusian traits as Morning Star

Loved   70, 32   +68%

Vitality   31, 14,   +64%

Severe	36, 15,	**+42%**
Profound	30, 12,	**+33%**
Proud	34, 13,	**+23%**
Pure	27, 10,	**+17%**
Authority	66, 24,	**+14%**
Director	45 16,	**+10%**
Fantasy	45 16	**+10%**
Tranquil	31 11	**+10%**

I combined two French trait-words *amoureux* and *aimé* into the one English word 'loved' – here seen as top of the list! The numbers are of course smaller, as we've split the data in half, so one cannot go too much by individual-trait percentages. We sense an inverse-correlation with the more traditional Evening-star traits: *charming, passionate, friendly, ardent, seductive, enthusiastic, gracious, gentle, dreamer* – these are all *in deficit*, that means they have been *inhibited by* the Morning Star.

Is the Morning Star bossy? Could there be a contrast between the stern and dominant Morning Star (think: Meryl Streep in *The Devil wears Prada*) and a sweet and gentle Evening Star? Is there a 'missing archetype' here, an antithesis to the Aphrodite-image we may have of the Evening Star? At her bold appearance in the morning sky before dawn, she would put the stars to flight (then the whole mythos of *Lucifer* vanished, turning into the Christian archfiend, but let's not go into that …). For the Mayans of central America, who had a Venus-based calendar, the appearance of the Morning Star was the time for blood-letting rituals and going to war. Is the Morning Star more strident and connected to decisive action?
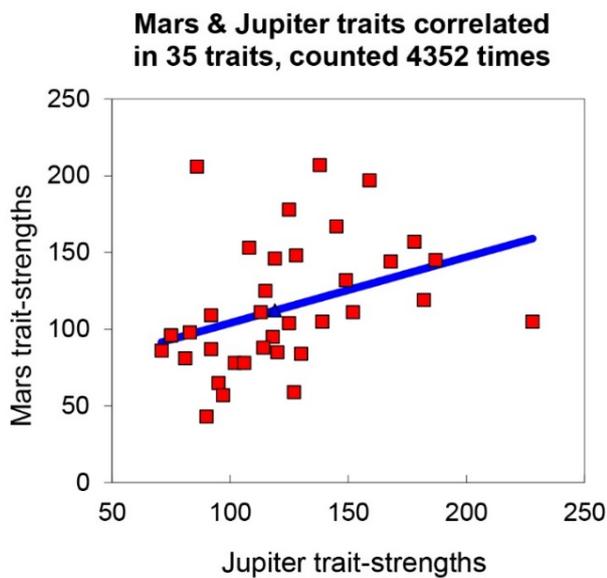
Do astrologers need to start using these two opposite polarities of Venus? To help answer that, let us contrast the scores for some traits, Morning versus Evening Star, giving the excess or deficit only to the nearest ten percent as the numbers per trait are rather small.

	Evening	Morning		Evening	Morning
Graceful, (grace de la)	**+90%**	**-30%**	**Silent**	**+70%**	**-50%**
Dreamer	**+60%**	**-40%**	**Elegant**	**+40%**	**-20%**
Deep, profound	**-20%**	**+30%**	**Director**	**-30%**	**+10%**
Passionate	**+20%**	**-10%**	**Proud**	**-10%**	**+20%**

The evening Star is *graceful, silent, dreamy* and *elegant* while the Morning Star is none of these things - quite the opposite! She's got work to do …[14]


Correlations

Let's plot the same figures we've here been using, i.e. percentage excesses and deficits per each trait in the four key sectors, but now using all thirty-five traits. For example, in the top-left hand corner there is the trait 'vitality' which scores around two hundred percent as a Mars trait but is quite low, only 86%, for Jupiter. Overall we see a positive correlation between Mars and Jupiter. In other words, over all the trait-citations they co-vary. Why should that be? Presumably, they are both extravert and outgoing, while Jupiter and Saturn traits in contrast correlate negatively.

If we sort the list by the Mars- strength per trait, then plot that for the Moon, there

Mars & Jupiter traits correlated in 35 traits, counted 4352 times

appears a strong *inverse correlation*. Does this show the Mars-trait of *aggression*, with the more pushy, aggressive and fiery Martial traits scoring negative with the gentle, dreamy Moon? Astral philosophers may want to mull over this question.

INVERSE RELATION OF LUNAR AND MARTIAL TRAITS
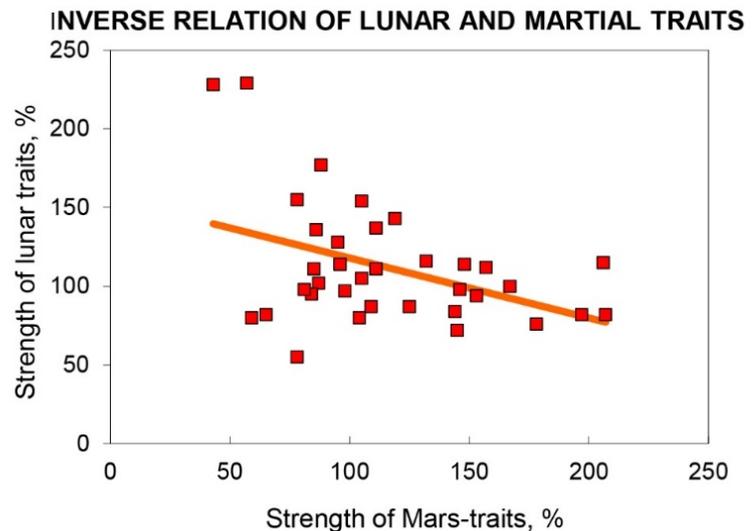
Introvert versus extravert

In 1974 Gauquelin met Hans Eysenck, Britain's best-known psychologist, and suggested that his questionnaire for measuring introversion-extraversion could be relevant to the personality-trait work that he, Michel, was doing. A few years later, pro-astrology results were reported in academic psychology journals, based on the concept of introversion-extraversion:

> Gauquelin, M& F. and Eysenck, S. B. G. (1979) 'Personality and position of the planets at birth: An empirical study *British Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology*, Vol:18: pp.71-75.

> Gauquelin, M& F. and Eysenck, S. B. G. (1981) 'Eysenck's personality analysis and position of the planets at birth: A replication on American subjects' *Personality and Individual Differences,* Vol 2(4) pp.346-350.

In the 1979 paper the Gauquelin character-traits were used, and one person (Sybil Eysenck, wife of Hans) rated them as being either introvert or extravert. In the present study, four people, me and three others, graded traits on a five-point scale, such that +2 was definitely extravert and -2 was definitely introvert, and the zero score meant the trait was neither

introvert or extravert. A score of 1 meant, maybe or perhaps extravert and likewise '-1' maybe introvert. Here are scores for the first few traits, with the average value taken:

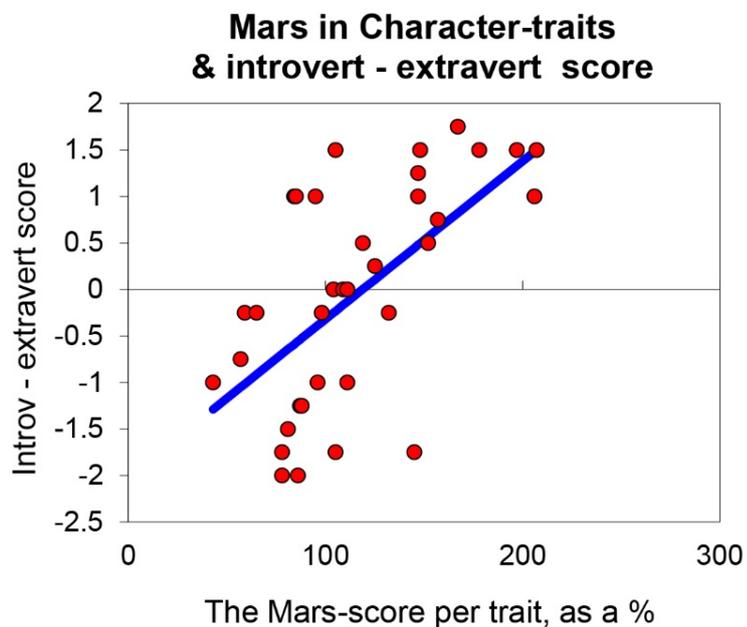Average trait scores for Introversion-extraversion, from four estimates

Active   1, 1, 1, 2 => 1.25

Ardent   0, 0, 2, 0 => 0.5

Authority 0, 0, 1, 2 => 0.75

Charming 2, 1, 0, 1 => 1

Cold   -2,-1,-2,-2 => -1.75

Combative 0, 2, 2, 2 => 1.5

We see much disagreement here between the several judges, and yet one may have some confidence in the averaged-out values. As a quantitative measure, it is inevitably going to be a fuzzy concept. But this procedure may be preferable to that used in the published papers by Sybil Eysenck and the Gauquelins, where just one person made a summary yes/no judgement.[15]

Let's take Mars-strengths for all the character-traits. We saw that the top three scoring Mars-traits were *combative* at 207%, *vitality* 206% and *energetic* 197%,[16] while the bottom three-scoring ('anti-Mars' traits) are *loved* at only 59%, *tranquil* at 57% and *pure* at 43%. These figures indicate how often Mars was in cadent houses, at time of birth, compared to the other houses, as a percentage, and does so for the group of people who had this trait in their biographies. OK so far?

We now plot one against the other:

Mars in Character-traits & introvert - extravert score

Thus, we can here see those three top-scoring Mars-traits in the graph, on the top, right-hand side, around the 200% mark. Clearly, the strong Mars-traits are highly extravert while weak Mars-traits score as introvert. This is the strongest and clearest astrology-effect I have ever seen. As regards its statistical significance – which matters here because there are a lot more traits in the Gauquelin volumes, so the effect can be replicated – the correlation coefficient gives a significance level of one in twenty thousand.[17]

The Eysenck-Gauquelin paper found Mars and Jupiter to be extravert and Saturn to be introvert. Those are totally traditional results, but the point here is that these results have emerged from the data, no-one has selected

them.

Looking at the Saturn graph, its line is going in the other direction because it shows an *introvert* character – thus for example, we can see the two strongest traits scoring around 160, which are *silent* 168% and *cold* 165%, and they score way down on the vertical scale, around -2, i.e. very introvert. Turning to the Jupiter-graph, the top-scoring trait we see is *jovial* at 228%. That's where we started off…

Conclusion

We have seen how, from the work of the Gauquelins, a new vocabulary can emerge for describing the eternal, divine archetypes that are so to speak behind astrology. I've here tried to show how, from their work we get a vindication of the *qualitative being* of the planets. A strongly fourfold effect appears, one which highlights the 'cadent' houses. The effects are large, in contrast with the Gauquelin professional-group effects of the last century that were only around ten percent magnitude. From them we begin to sense an active cosmos – or *Kosmos* to use the Greek word – which is deeply affecting the human psyche, in a rhythmical manner. In the words of Mr Ray Grasse,

> I would argue that the ground-breaking research of French statistician Michel Gauquelin provides us with compelling evidence for the existence of meaning in our world.[18]

It is a very new thing, that the relevant data-sets are becoming available for home computer programs to inspect in this 21st century: in the great debates that went on in earlier decades, the protagonists did not in general have this ability.

Let us look forward to the day when psychology students start to demand modules whereby they can inspect and check over these results. Academics may try to resist this because they well realise, there is nothing else in modern psychology so interesting as these effects! Much remains to be done to ascertain how these very 'elitist' results – which seem only to

show up for very eminent people, for whom biographies were written – relate to ordinary folk.

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[1] Gauquelin *The Truth about Astrology*, 1983, p.63

[2] Gauquelin, Francoise, *Astro-Psychological Problems,* September 1992 p.21.

[3] These have been scanned in by the UK Astrological Association's librarian. and will hopefully soon go up online. I managed to obtain one of the four volumes from a French bookshop, 'The Mars Temperament and Sports Champions' Paris 1973. They don't come up on Amazon.

[4] http://cura.free.fr/gauq/17archg.html

[5] http://newalchemypress.com/gauquelin/research11.php Click on opening of second paragraph to download Excel file.

[6] See, eg, Francoise Gauquelin, *Psychology of the Planets* ACS 1982.

[7] Addey, John *A New Study of Astrology,* 1996, Ch8 (Addey died in '82).

[8] Ibid, p.118.

[9] For traits they took from actors, see http://newalchemypress.com/gauquelin/research6.php, section 'Character trait data Volumes.'

[10] M.G., Les *Hommes et les Astres*, 1955, p.225: 'Zeus, does he not preside over others from the top of his Mount Olympus?'

[11] If Saturn scored 21 in Cadent, it then scores 46 - 21 = 25 in all the others, that's 12.5 on average for angular and succedent. So, the Cadent houses have 21/12.5 = 68% excess.

[12] See http://newalchemypress.com/gauquelin/research8.php

[13] See http://newalchemypress.com/gauquelin/research2.php

[14] Other traits that have not been used, together with their numbers of citations in the four volumes, which might throw some more light on this interesting question, are: self-willed 207, lively 163, faithful 146, gay 136, verve 135, always smiling 125, great-hearted 100, lyrical 83, funny, fantasist (fantastique + fantasist) 75, violent 74, laughing 67, poetic 63, naïve 62, moral courage 60, picturesque 50, romantic 45, young 39, exuberant 30, scandalous 27, beauty 26, enjoys life 26 and happy 25.

[15] For the traits that were here selected, see Michel Gauquelin, *The Truth about Astrology,* 1983, p.77.

[16] Earlier, we described that value of 207% as a +107% excess, I hope that isn't confusing.

[17] The correlation coefficient is 0.61, and an online p-value calculator was used, for a sample size of 35, a one-tailed test.

[18] Ray Grasse, *The Waking Dream, Unlocking the symbolic language of our lives,* 1996, p.266