

Two Egyptian Eureka Moments

By Nick Kollerstrom, PhD

There are dramatic and eureka-type moments of discovery and insight which have changed our world; and we here look at two related to ancient Egypt. Many years ago I co-authored a book *The Eureka Effect* about these moments - in which my co-author and I affirmed that there were two prime-number aspects of especial relevance that would turn up at these moments: namely, quintiles and septiles.

The late John Addey theorised about what he called 'harmonics' in astrology and he reckoned that what he called the fifth and seventh harmonics, i.e. the quintile and septile aspects were relevant to creativity. He wrote "the charts of creative people very often seem devoid of anything really noteworthy unless the fifth and seventh series of aspects are observed." (*Harmonics in Astrology* 1976, p.123) These aspects are not traditional because they are not 'seen' in the horoscope and one tends to need the computer to find them. Fifth harmonic aspects are the quintiles and bi-quintiles (72° and 144°), while the septiles - i.e. seventh divisions of a circle - are 51° 26' and multiples of that.

There is something rather hidden and irrational about that one-seventh angle, it being a number *not found in Nature*, Mother Nature doesn't use it. We can sense this when dividing a circle by the numbers 1 to ten:

- 360 / 2 = 180° opposition
- 360 / 3 = 120° trine
- 360 / 4 = 90° square
- 360 / 5 = 72° trine
- 360 / 6 = 60° sextile
- 360 / 7 = 51.42857142857142 ...° septile
- 360 / 8 = 45° octile
- 360 / 9 = 40° novile
- 360 / 10 = 36° decile



There is one place where we can 'see' the septile angle! In the three greatest pyramids of Egypt. The Great Pyramid of Khufu as well as the third pyramid of Menkaure at Giza have nearly that average slope angle = 51.4285.... Degrees. The second pyramid of Khafre has the angles at 53.1 degrees - very close. Eternally, throughout history, they have shown us that one-seventh of a circle is significant. Amazing that no one has yet figured out for sure what those huge pyramids were 'for.'

Thus, John Addey reckoned that septiles were connected "with sacred matters, with one's creations and creativity, and with inspiration and one's receptivity thereto. To this we may add that it is evidently connected with the unitive and mystical aspect of things ..." For comparison, the US astrologer Delphine Jay wrote, "I like to refer to the septiles as the consciousness-expanding aspect."⁴

Champollion decodes the Rosetta Stone

The Rosetta Stone was discovered by Napoleon in Egypt; then in 1802 the British managed to grab a hold of it. The Rosetta Stone has now been in the British Museum for two hundred years and is the most visited object there.



That stone was so valuable because it had the *same* text written in three different languages. It turned out to be *the* key to unlocking Egyptian hieroglyphics. Twenty years went by while no-one could read it, then in the end just one man was able to decode it.



For Jean François Champollion (1790-1832), the deciphering of hieroglyphics was his life-long occupation. As he explained in a letter to his brother, "Of all the peoples that I love the most, I will confess that no one equals the Egyptians in my heart" (1806). His great eureka moment arrived

in September 1822, and let's here quote a couple of Egyptian authors:

'Champollion was thirty-two years old and an accomplished linguist specialising in ancient Coptic, Greek and Arabic. After years of wracking his brain over the hieroglyphics, working all day and sometimes even all night by candlelight, the rather frail Frenchman was very close to the end of his quest. In the early morning of September 14, 1822, Champollion started working on his notes, trembling with excitement. In a great moment of enlightenment and epiphany, he understood and could see clearly what others had not: that the hieroglyphic sign language was made up of three systems ... That was it, Champollion broke the ancient code! Ancient Egypt was about to speak to the world again after two millennia of brooding silence. It was close to midday, and the young man could not contain his excitement.' (*Breaking the Mirror of Heaven*, Ahmed Osman and Robert Bauval, 2012, p.102)

Overwhelmed by the power of his discovery, Jean François abandoned his room, and ran through the streets, to reach his brother, who worked nearby at the *Institut de France*. He raced into the room, shouting "Je tiens l'affaire!"—"I've got it!" – and then fainted. He remained bedridden for five days - the excitement had been too much for him.

Both his natal and event chart show strong quintiles and septiles. The natal chart has four quintiles and

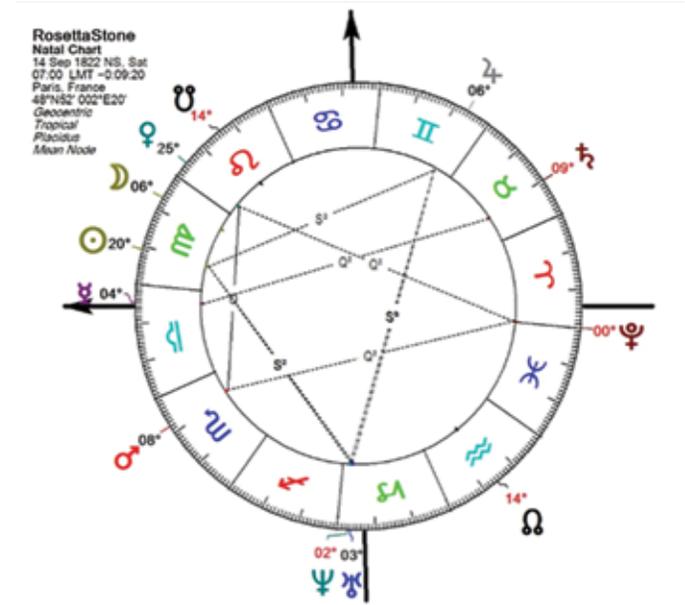


Figure above: The Rosetta Stone decryption moment by Champollion, with septile triangle SU-JU-UR/NE and also a quintile triangle PL-MA-VE.

two septiles while the event chart has an astonishing four quintiles and five septiles.

There was a grand trine in Earth (SA-UR-MO) with the Sun and moon in Earth-signs, appropriate for the finding of such great meaning in a stone. Mercury was rising opposite Pluto setting, where Mercury signifies the discovered word, the found text that had been hidden for long ages that is now resurrected. The stone had long been lost (Pluto). Champollion's Jupiter was transiting that Mercury, and it brought an *understanding* of the 'lost word,' plus also it was in trine to the Jupiter of the discovery-moment.

He had two strong oppositions in his chart (PL-UR and JU-SA) as helped him in the enormous hard work involved, so that he could persist when so many others had given up. Both of them were contacting the discovery chart: his JU-SA opposition was transiting the Mercury of the discovery chart while his PL-UR lay on the nodal axis of the discovery chart, which is said to concern fate and destiny.

The discovery chart Pluto was conjunct his natal Saturn. There was a close Mars-opposition-Saturn at the big moment, which I think shows the exhausting hard work involved in this achievement.

The discovery happened during a close Uranus-Neptune conjunction (NE at 2½ ° and UR at 3½ ° Capricorn) right on Champollion's natal Sun at 1 ½ °! That great conjunction is the focus of the eureka-moment chart, forming a grand trine to the Moon and Saturn, and being in square to a Mercury-Pluto opposition. We would expect Mercury to be important here, with a discovery about writing

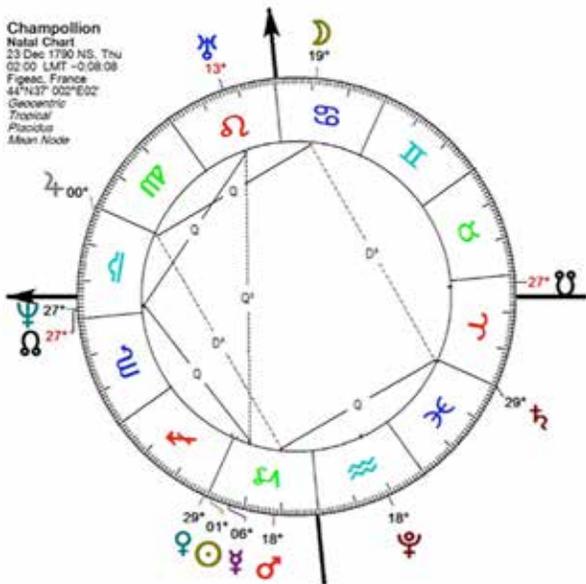


Figure above: Natal chart of Jean-Francoise Champollion (23 Dec 1790 at 2.00 am in Figeac, France) showing a triangle of two quintiles (72° aspect) and a biquintile, NE-UR –ME, including decile aspects (36°).

and language, plus Saturn is important because of the aeons of past time that were opened up by his discovery.

If we look at that Uranus-Neptune conjunction of the discovery chart, both were in septile to Jupiter and in septile to the Sun. So, Mercury was in strong aspects to the three outer planets at this great moment.

Both charts have quintile triangles! Champollion's natal chart has Neptune forming quintiles to UR and Mercury; so those two are in a bi-quintile (I've also here included decile aspects, i.e. tenth harmonic, these are half the size of a quintile). The Rosetta-stone-decryption chart has Pluto (then undiscovered) in biquintile to Venus and Mars, so those two forms a quintile.

Champollion's first announcement of the breakthrough came two weeks later when he read out a paper on the subject before the prestigious *Academie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres*: September 27, 1822. Mercury then stood at 25° Libra, conjunct his ascendant with Neptune rising. Mercury right on his Neptune and ascendant within one degree could not be more appropriate for communicating his great discovery about writing!

Carter Sees the Face of Tutankhamun

Tut-mania gripped the world in the 'roaring twenties' - caused by the opening of one single tomb in the Valley of the Kings, Egypt. Do not all other tombs pale into insignificance beside that of the teenage Tutankhamun?



A solid gold mask weighing over ten kilograms was unbelievably transmitted through thirty-three centuries, not to mention about five thousand other items found crammed into his tomb. Today's US value of the gold

alone of that mask is \$2m. It was all so mysterious - who was his mother, who was his father and why had he died? Why was there so much *stuff* in his tomb; and, most puzzling of all, how come it had not been plundered? Nearly all the other tombs out there had been ransacked. It's been said that the reappearance of his body in 1922 did more for the economic well-being of Egypt than he as king had ever done while alive! That incomparable mask, of solid gold, lapis lazuli, and turquoise was an ultimate expression of youthful, royal majesty, and serene calm.

But also one feels there is something divine about it, very relevant to the aspects which were then present in the sky.

Early next year (2021), all of the Tutankhamen tomb regalia will be on display in a newly refurbished Cairo Museum and it might be worth a visit. Tragically, the young king died at only nineteen years of age in 1323 BCE or thereabouts: the last of the real royals of the glorious 18th Egyptian dynasty. His uncle (probably) was the legendary rebel pharaoh Akhenaten, the one who had decreed, "there is one god" - and tried to get rid of all the old Egyptian deities! Tut was a peacemaker and tried to restore the old ways and calm everyone down after that awful hiatus, but he didn't quite make it.

Soon after Tut's death, the so-called 'Amarna period' associated the 'Heretic pharaoh' Akhenaten was deleted from memory. Its inscriptions and its wonderful art were literally chiselled out from monuments - whereas nowadays there is far more interest in this Amarna period than any other part of Egypt's history! That is not least because of its likely association with the Exodus. Egyptologists were distressed that there was no message in Tut's tomb, not a word in writing, nothing to explain the great mystery.

It was the amnesia brought about over the so-called Amarna period which helped the tomb of Tut to survive: the memory of those Amarna-dynasty pharaohs was wiped out for three thousand years! Whereas now everything has changed; Akhenaten, his wife Nefertiti and Tutankhamen have become

instantly recognizable all around the world, as the global superstars of antiquity.

For Howard Carter (1874 – 1939) the ecstasy of discovery of the long-lost tomb in 1922 turned into ‘two weeks of almost unbearable torment.’ (*The Search for the Gold of Tutankhamen*, Brackman, p72) They re-examined the sealed door of the tomb on November 23rd, then on 26th Carter went through: “the day of days, the most wonderful that I have ever lived through.” In mid-afternoon, he was “dumbstruck with amazement at the ‘wonderful things’ he saw.” Alas! We lack birth-times for both Lord Carnarvon and Carter, but Jupiter was then transiting over Carter’s south node conjunct Lord Carnarvon’s Saturn within one degree. (JU at 6°34’ Scorpio conj. Lord C’s Saturn 5° 45’ Scorpio and Carter’s N.Node at 5°11’ Scorpio).

Lord Carnarvon died soon after, which started the unstoppable ‘curse of the mummy’s tomb’ story. His Saturn contact with Jupiter is here relevant, though we needn’t go into that.

After a couple of years had gone by and Carnarvon had died, Carter finally had the nerve to break through a wall of the tomb, to reveal ... the tomb of the mummy. There were about nine different layers of tombs and masks that had to be opened one by one. On 12th February the lid of the sarcophagus – weighing more than one ton - was lifted up. At around 4 pm – a golden mask of the boy king in all its silent splendour was first seen, after being hidden away for 3,247 years. The world held its breath.

“When at last the linen wrapping was removed, a gasp of astonishment escaped the lips of those watching – the sight was so incredibly gorgeous. There, filling the whole interior of the sarcophagus, blazing out in full glory from the reflection of the lights, was a golden effigy of the boy king, larger life. It was of the most magnificent workmanship, fashioned out of wood that had been gilded, decorated with thin gold plates and inlaid with faience, glass and semiprecious stones. The beauty of the image was unsurpassed.

The face of the Pharaoh’s effigy was, to Howard Carter, the most splendid feature of all. He was astonished by the lustre of the gold, the lifelike impression of the black inlaid eyes and the beauty and delicacy of the crown, which was surmounted by the vulture goddess, Nekhbet, and a sublime image of the divine cobra, so surely

crafted that they looked almost alive ... The young king, depicted as Osiris, seemed to be gazing steadfastly, serenely, as if in confirmation of man’s ancient belief in immortality.”

The Sun was then opposite Neptune, expressing the glamour and mystery of this teenage god-king: Sun-square-Moon-opposite-Neptune where the Sun signified the gold of the death mask. Underneath the glorious mask was a sad young body with all its bones broken: as if some kind of illusion were being given to us, which we’ll never fathom. Neptune in Leo gives a royal aura, with Leo rising although there is no very exact time of the event. Jupiter and Mars were exactly conjunct in Sagittarius, where Mars would represent the boy and Jupiter a sky-god; these two being in the sign of Sagittarius gives an ecclesiastical or religious meaning.

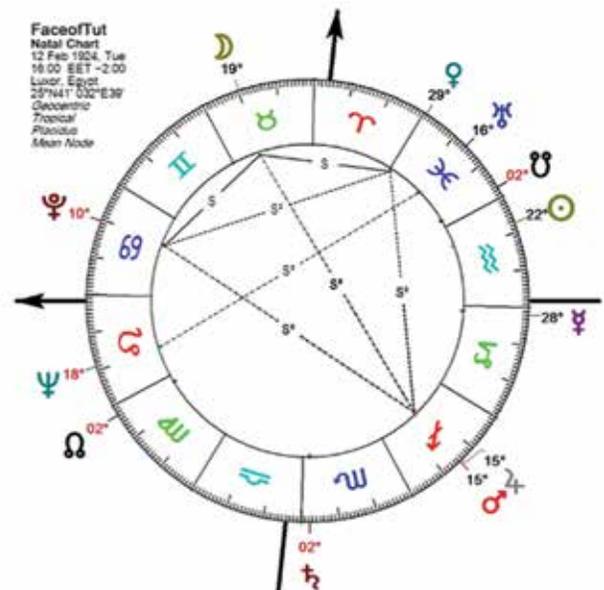


Figure above: The Seven Septiles in the sky when the tomb of Tutankhamen was finally opened, after three thousand years

At that moment, the Moon was transiting Carter’s Sun and the Sun was transiting his natal Moon. Using a noon chart for Carter, he had Moon 21° Aquarius, Sun 18½° Taurus, while the Moon was then at 20½° Taurus and the Sun was 22° Aquarius - appropriate for the golden glory of that moment.

“For ourselves,” Howard Carter recalled, “it was the one supreme and culminating moment – a moment looked forward to ever since it became evident that the chambers discovered, in 1922, must be the tomb of Tutankhamen,” and it was “surpassing anything we could have imagined.” When it was over, as he walked back up the steps into the bright light of day, he found himself musing on the words that were inscribed on the coffin – in hieroglyphics, which he could easily read -

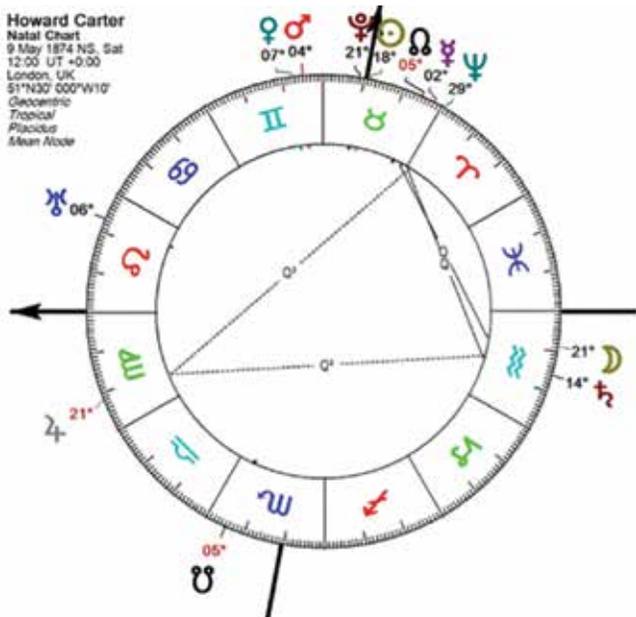
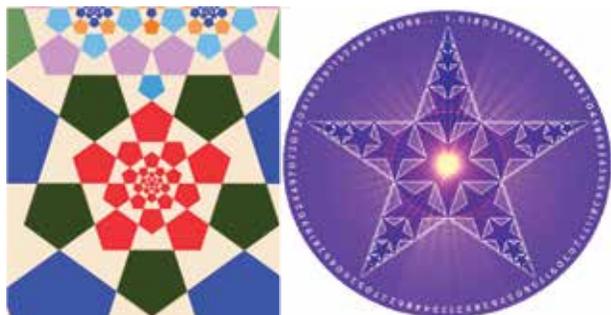


Figure above: Noon chart for Egyptologist Howard Carter, for London, 9 May 1874, showing two quintiles and two bi-quintiles, with a quintile triangle JU-NE-SA

Oh Mother Nût! Spread thy wings over me as the Imperishable Stars.

Quintiles are associated with creativity, with one's art and with what one loves doing, as can remind us of the 'vital and irregular beauty' of the pentagon. A regular pentagram has all its sides in 'golden ratios' to the other sides, which could here be relevant. The four charts we've looked at have around 70% more



Figures above: fractal pentagons & pentagrams

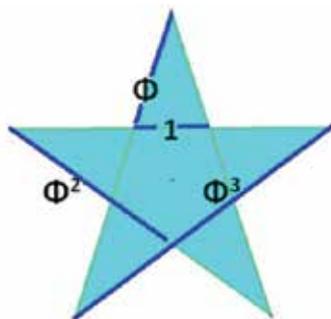


Figure above: golden ratios in the pentagram

quintiles in them than one would expect. It will help to cheer up clients, to highlight this feature of a chart.

By Nick Kollerstrom, PhD exclusively for ISAR

Biography:

Nick Kollerstrom, PhD is a science historian who was affiliated to University College London for fifteen years. He promoted the Green Party while living in Guildford Surrey, for twelve years. For thirty-five years he has produced England's moon-gardening calendar. He recently obtained a grant from the Urania Trust for making the Gauquelin work and data more available for home computers. See www.astrozero.co.uk/astroscience/koll2indx.htm

You may also want to read Nick's book, *The Dark Side of Issac Newton* <https://www.pen-and-sword.co.uk/The-Dark-Side-of-Isaac-Newton-Hard-back/p/15571>

Endnotes:

1. Addey, Harmonics in Astrology 1976, p.123.
2. Orbs: We here using the orbs as advised by John Addey, of $12/n$ where n is 5 then 7 which gives $2^\circ 20'$ for quintiles and $1^\circ 43'$ for septiles. These were the orbs which I and Mike O'Neill used long ago in *The Eureka Effect* (1996) and they give an average or an expected value of 2.2 and 2.4 quintiles and septiles per chart.
3. Addey, *Ibid*.
4. Amarna is the name of the new city that Akhenaten built, dedicated to his new one-god religion, and the Aten was his name for the Prime Creator. The world's shortest-lived religion, it lasted a mere 17 years. Tut was born in Amarna and was originally named Tutenkhaten.
5. Thomas Hoving, *Tutankhamun, The Untold Story* 1978, p.284
6. Howard Carter and A.C.Mace, *The Tomb of Tutankhamun Vol. II* 1927, p.51.
7. The best quintile chart you will ever see is that of Marilyn Monroe (5 quintiles), while the best septile chart you will ever see is that of Lady Di (7 septiles). Queen of Diamonds - Queen of Hearts, both lived through three Jupiter-cycles.