

WAVES OF THE FUTURE – Introduction to Lifespan Graphing

The graph is a source of phenomenal information that no astrologer should be without. The technique is easy enough for a non astrologer to understand; in fact, when clients see the graph and notice the dates of the turning points, the information flows from them.

The graphs that are displayed here are generally cast for 80 years of life; however, any number of years can be chosen to view.

The obvious picture one sees on the graph is the wavy lines – they represent the turning points in one's life and they are explained fully in this handout with is similar to the handout requested by Kepler College. Once you read through the examples of people in the news and locate the dates on their individual graphs, the idea of simplicity emerges. I think it is important to know where a person is in the cycle of turning points and to also discuss past turning points and the impact on one's life.

LIFESPAN GRAPHS – Information for the intermediate and advanced astrologer on the progressed declinations in graph form.

What is declination? It is a system used to measure the position of the planets in space north or south of the earth's equator at zero degrees

The graph, a depiction of one's natal planets in declination degrees and secondary progression declination degrees, is designed to conveniently view the years from your birth through the lifetime. What follows is a step-by-step introduction on how to examine the graph.

To create a graph, you will need to have a graphic ephemeris included in astrological software. * Solarfire 5 or later version. Other software programs may have this capability as well. Instructions on how to create the graph using SolarFire software can be found at the *Astrolabe website.

Tracking the path of the progressed Moon from birth is primary to the understanding of its cycle. Note the high and low points of the progressing Moon line; the turning points of the progressing Moon creates a cycle. In a normal lifetime, 80 to 100 years, an individual will have 3 or 4 north and south maximum turning points. North maximum turning point is above the zero degree marker on the graph; south maximum turning point is below the zero marker. Knowing where you are in this cycle can help to understand turning points and multi line crossings.

You must become familiar with your software's planet files in order to create a file for the progression of the Moon only over the natal planet declinations, then another file for the progressions of all the planets you wish to view. In time you may add to or change these selections. It is best to keep the number of planets to a minimum to view the lines as they turn and cross over a lifetime.

Step one – A trip around the graph

Begin observations with a graph that includes the natal planet lines in declination and only the Moon as the progressing point. The very clear picture of one's Moon progressing over a lifetime will imprint the value of the graph. (An optional step)

Observing the graph, look at the right margin where you will find the list of planet symbols that represent your birth planets in declination degrees. On the left side, if you have chosen the Moon for progression, you will find only the Moon line as it curves over the years. Or, you may have selected to observe all the progressing planets.

Selection of the number of years for the life of a person is arbitrary. The fewer the amount of years, the easier the graph is to read. If you have selected to view all the progressing planets and the graph is started at the date of birth, then the left and right hand columns of planet symbols will be the same. Begin with 80 years, then increase or decrease the number as you wish.

If you begin your graph for any other age, for example, 21 yrs, the left hand column of planets will begin at the progressed date of 21 yrs on the left but the right side list of planets will remain as the birth planets.

At this point, it is recommended that the reader take a ruler and a red writing tool and carefully highlight the zero degrees line across the graph. The easy reference will be helpful as you begin to explore your graph. ***Notice the steady, across the page, dashed lines that represent the natal planets in the colors that you have chosen within your software. These lines will not change – they are the birth lines. The solid lines that start at the left margin represent the Moon and, when added, the remaining progressing planets which move in various directions.*** The marking of the equator line exercise is helpful to determine when the progressing Moon crosses the equator.

The dates across the top of the graph are the years of life that you have selected. Each set of 10 years begins with zero and ends with 9. Each column, top to bottom, on the graph represents one year of life and shows where the progressing planets are located during that year. In later versions of SolarFire, the dates are automatically shown with a mouse over any part of the graph and the left click will give you a crosshair line as well. A right mouse click brings you the ability to copy the graph in a number of ways, including an email attachment. Other software may have different capabilities.

The boxes of information across the top should give the name of the individual and the birth data. In SolarFire, the next box indicates the type of geocentric progressions in declination you have chosen. In SolarFire, there are three buttons across the top – print, copy or quit. In SolarFire v7, there are indicator arrows found underneath the first line of boxes. Clicking on these buttons with the left/right indication will bring you to a past date for the graph (left) or (right) to a future date. These buttons are helpful when looking at a map for a country or city.

Step two, the progressing Moon over the lifetime:

If you have created a lifetime graph that shows natal declination planets and only the progressing Moon line, a suggested study is to observe the turning points and the times when the Moon crosses the equator. The majority of observers find meaningful events related to these 'hot' areas of the graph. Be sure to record these events, perhaps on the graph or on the reverse side of the paper. The historical information will be beneficial to the individual or for the client. The Moon is most often a triggering influence; therefore the cycle of the progressing Moon in declination is extremely valuable for both turning points and any number of the Moon crossing with natal and progressed planets.

The ratio for movement is the same as for secondary progressions – in longitude. Keep in mind that the idea of the graph is over a lifetime and not an individual day or month marker. Progressions have an influence of a few months and turning points can take 3 to 5 years to experience.

It is good to observe the Moon first as she travels in a cycle to maximum north and south positions. Explore the effects at turning points. Examining enough natal graphs has shown these turning points to be invaluable information for the observer. Turning points are a time where we experience great peak experiences over the course of two, three or four years. Are your turning points significant? When the progressing Moon crosses the equator at zero degrees of declination – was there an event? Since the graph covers a broad length of time, the events can occur within the year of maximum or in 3 to 4 years is a reasonable time to undergo to impact our life events. Crossing the equator line can vary. In most cases the planet line will progress normally, but planets with a retrograde motion may hover near or at the equator or parallel with another planet line.

Note the years of the Moon at maximum north or south. The Moon stays in the area of the turning point for about 3 to 5 years; think of it as a hairpin turn; the Moon slows down and focuses in the area. Emotional or focused events that have been building now begin to manifest. Observations of both turning points indicate major changes in one's life. I have found definite but different experiences relating to each turning point.

Often, changes in one's status changes - marriage, divorce, parenting, career advancements or retirement take place. Can you identify the events at your past turning points? It is helpful to make notes as you reference the graph over and over. Contemplate on the next turning point or multi line crossing – consider the major transits in longitude occurring at this time. Note also the number of planets lines the Moon will cross when near the turning point. *Quite often if the Moon crosses a natal line a year or two before the actual maximum position curve, the event can be repeated or enhanced again when the Moon returns to the same natal line a few years later.*

The length of time between turning points of the Moon traveling from north to south maximum and back again varies anywhere from 24 yrs to 30 years. At first glance, two graphs side-by-side, having the same dates such as the suggested 80 years can look exactly the same. However, the natal Moon placement will be at a different starting point depending on its location in declination degrees. The midheaven and ascendant lines will be in different places depending on the time of birth.

Untimed birth

For an individual or other (business, country, state, etc) with no time of birth available, the graph is very useful because of the broad scope of years it covers. The turning points information is still valid and extremely useful. Create the natal chart for 12pm and note the progressing Moon will be within a 6 month period on either side of 12pm. To grasp this point, create a natal chart using three different times of birth. Note where the Moon falls in each graph. The different times to use are 12:01am, noon of the same day and 11:59pm of the same day. The time spent creating the 3 different graphs will serve you well in understanding the movement of the Moon.

If the birth Moon is placed near a turning point at maximum, it is most likely the time of birth will not change it very much because the Moon slows down as it reaches near maximum north or south. The midheaven and ascendant lines are not included for a graph with no time of birth because they will not be valid.

Out of Bounds – OOB

The Sun's maximum declination north or south is usually 23 degrees and 27 minutes. The minutes can change slightly due to the wobble of the earth.

*Kt Boehrer wrote that when a Moon is out of bounds at birth the emotions may be beyond normal expectations. An astrologer, Carolyn Minsker says this about out of bounds planets, "on out of bounds planets: it's exactly what it implies: vision the Sun's path as our fence, the Moon out of bounds is the wild mustang kicking it down, he's free and on his own terms, the limitations on those inside the fence no longer fetter him. I think this is true of any planet out of bounds." The late Frances McEvoy described the out of bounds Moon as "free of earth's gravity and limitations".

Step three, the progressing planets:

Progressing planet lines (solid lines), when added to the graph, can move up or down or both ways, curve slightly, or remain mostly straight across the graph over a lifetime. These are the progressed natal planets across and over the natal lines. The outer planets, over a normal lifetime, will not move any noticeable distance from the natal position. The faster moving planets present an individual ballet of movement that should capture the attention of the reader.

After the Moon, Mercury moves quickly. During a normal life span, Mercury will move across the graph and at some point Mercury will dip and rise for several years. Venus and Mars, depending on the original declination degree can move either north or south or may recurve and return to the natal position as well. When progressed planets reach a high degree of declination or out of bounds position, they will spend many years at the high degree.

The Sun is the only constant in its travel because it moves through declination degrees at a steady rate of time. The Sun reaches a maximum north or south declination of 23:26 or 23:27 degrees. The Sun can go no further while other planets and the Moon may achieve a higher number of degrees, then they are considered out of bounds.

The Moon cycle is a bit more elaborate. The Moon has a cycle where it can travel to its lowest maximum degree - 18 degrees north or south at the turning points. And, the Moon can travel up to almost 29 degrees north or south at the turning points.

In order to identify an out of bounds planet on the graph both north and south declination, draw a red line across the page at 23:27 degrees. These highlighted degrees are the maximum degrees the Sun will travel. When the progressed Sun is at its maximum position north or south the events in one's life are usually significant - a time of fulfillment is possible.

Any planet that travels beyond 23:27 degrees is considered to be out of bounds (of the Sun)* Boehrer. Since the blocks or squares on the graph are small, you may draw the line halfway between the 23rd and 24th degree. Drawing the red lines will help you focus on these important markers to easily see the planets that are out of bounds natively or by progression. Not everyone will experience an out-of-bounds Moon or planet.

The graph can be used in many ways for either natal or mundane purposes. It is a broad view of one's lifespan on a single piece of paper and clearly draws out the Moon cycles and its turning points which I refer to as 'waves'. Knowing what happened at a past turning point, allows us to consider what the next turning point might bring. The time when a planet will cross the equator has special significance as well. When all the planets are added, any of the lines crossing can and usually represent an event in the life. Many lines crossing during a short period will produce a more intense event for the individual. Check longitude transits that may be occurring during the noted lines crossings and turning points. Three or more lines crossing during the lifetime is a condition that I have labeled a 'traffic jam'. Think of yourself as being at a crossroads or a six corners intersection without a traffic light to guide the flow of traffic. Many lines crossing will create a jumble of planet influences that could be difficult to delineate. More study is needed to understand the impact, but you know the event is important and it will be remembered. Not every graph will have impacting 'traffic jams'.

MOON at NORTH MAXIMUM

The progressing Moon climbs to a north maximum anywhere between 18 and 29 degrees. It can have the effect of building, creating and perhaps improving the earnings cycle; *K. Christino. When maximum is reached, one can be promoted (in general) or in the public eye for whatever reason. Initially you may think of the Moon at north maximum as a 10th house midheaven experience. If one tumbles and falls from grace at this time, the life experiences will have shown the seeds of failure or disrepute in previous years. Family and life events occur here as well.

MOON at SOUTH MAXIMUM

When the Moon is traveling to southern maximum, issues around money and finances must be addressed. According to Christino, its best to be involved in something steady as the southern curve is maneuvered usually with caution, that it can be best to be reserved and limit one's spending or starting new businesses. Many times the individual is recovering from a life change and will redevelop from the inside out.

Family and life events may occur at this turning point also and many times it is a period in one's life where there are endings. Great development of the individual by choice or necessity usually takes place as well. One steps up to a new

phase of life perhaps with less baggage.

While the Moon is at south maximum, the general experience is to shed, conserve, consolidate, reorganize priorities and analyze one's inner life, desires, and expectations. The example of Julia Roberts, a movie star, is positive. She experienced a progressing Moon headed towards south maximum in 2002. She has 2 or 3 years to weather the important turning point at south max. She won an Oscar for a movie performance and she married for a 2nd time, oddly enough at a midnight, well-kept secret ceremony. Will the marriage survive; is she very needing of love and affection at this time? Others have experienced losses and the letting go of things once thought important; turning points, nevertheless. In 2004 Julia gave birth to twins. This is a perfect example of a turning point where she may have experienced a loss of income and where she sheds her former life as an individual and now is mother.

MOON at the EQUATOR

The Moon tends to travel (progress) quickly past the equator but the significance of this zero degree position has proven from my study to be a place of relationship issues. As the progressed Moon crosses this point – you should find people entering or leaving your life for any number of reasons. The experience of the group of local students proved the zero degree to be one depicting loss of relatives yet bringing new people into their lives.

TRAFFIC JAMS – ADDING THE PROGRESSING PLANET LINES

You may have been working with all the planets and the Moon. Now is the time to create a graph with the Moon and all the planets. In SolarFire v.7, the point of the IC is now viewable and I have found it very useful to include this point.

The progressing Moon tends to excite both the natal declination lines as she passes over them and she can become excited when she meets with a progressing planet line or point. If you see a number of lines crossing – 3 or 4 or more in a short span of time – one can easily relate it to a personal event. Many lines crossing reminds me of a 'traffic jam' – which road does one take or why all this, now? Be alert to any multiple lines crossings and also to any sustained parallels.

An example of a sustained parallel is when, by progression, a fast moving planet lines up with a slower moving planet for a significant measure of time, 1 year or more. Example: progressed Mercury parallels natal or progressed Saturn for 4 years. The general delineation would include responsible thinking, depressed thoughts, and ideas around work or career. When the parallel moves apart there can be relief from the effects of Saturn with perhaps a new working structure in place. There are those graphs that have no significant groups of lines crossing and others that have several over the lifespan. You cannot see this phenomenon in any other form of graphing.

MOON AND PLANET RETURNS

Over the many years I worked with the progressed declination graph I discovered that Moon and/or planet returns occur when the progressing planet point returns to the natal declination position.

The Moon returns several times during the lifetime but the inner planets only once therefore the return is worth exploring. Sun, Mercury, Venus and Mars returns have significant stories attached to the event. Not every graph will experience the planet returns. This area of the graph needs to have more study and published results. I have found that Venus returns can indicate motherhood or becoming a grandmother.

With these next simple explanations, you may be able to understand how other lines crossing can be examined. In my experience, the graph is easily understood by most clients. The clients can point to the dates and begin to excitedly relate the events that took place at the turning points of the progressing Moon. A client with some astrological knowledge easily sees the value in the graphs and clients without an astrological background can easily view the turning points.

Progressed Moon Crossing Natal and Progressed Planets/Points

Suggestions for understanding the progressing Moon crossing natal or progressed planets. The nature of the planet does not change.

- **Moon over Sun** – One's vitality and individuality is awakened and enhanced; a new start.
- **Moon over Mercury** – Thinking and feeling, perception. Desire to learn or teach. Short-term travel.
- **Moon over Venus** – A desire to indulge oneself, to feel affectionate; issues with relationships and money, peace and harmony.
- **Moon over Mars** – Aggressive feelings; actions induced by impulsive need. A need to work, to race, to anger.
- **Moon over Jupiter** – A swelling of good feeling. Bombastic or excess. Travel.
- **Moon over Saturn** – Conservative and cautious, practical and dutiful.
- **Moon over Uranus** – Disruptive episodes, feelings run from hot to cold, inventiveness.
- **Moon over Neptune** – Sensations of being in an altered state. Bizarre emotional events.
- **Moon over Pluto** – Powerful emotional episodes. Death and regeneration of anything. Intense feelings and multiple similar encounters.
- **Moon over North Node** – Making connections with others.
- **Moon over Midheaven** – Dealing with authority figures; goals and career events. Status change.
- **Moon over Ascendant** – Relationship issues, physical body concerns.
- **Moon over Equator** – gaining or losing relationships, relocating.

Step four: Understanding More of the Out of Bounds Moon (OOB)

Everyone is born with a Moon that is either within the bounds of the Sun's travel at 23:27 degrees from the equator, or you are born with a Moon that is out of bounds or beyond the 23:27 degrees on the graph, north or south. It is easy to observe where the Moon line begins on the graph. The graph is set up for 30 degrees north or south of the zero marker. If the graph begins with the date of birth, the progressing planets are the natal positions on the left side. Notice the direction the Moon takes right after birth. If the Moon is placed near the north or south maximum degrees, the parents usually are in a turning point in their life together and the child is caught up in their decisions.

As noted earlier, the out of bounds Moon carries an indication of possible nurturing issues and could have some degree of mental, emotional or physical abuse to tag with it according to Boehrer. Turning points for the out of bounds Moon individuals tend to bring more impacting or complex events for the individual. Those who achieve an out of bounds Moon by progression and not birth, have the possibility of experiencing a more normal emotional life except for the times the Moon progresses to the oob position and the wild card, free-falling emotional events can take place. More studies need to be conducted in this area.

Those born when the Moon never travels out-of-bounds of the 23:27 degree marker are usually not subject to the higher degree of emotional drama associated with the out of bounds position or the need to prove oneself. These individuals usually can deal with the changes life brings in moderation, rather than with over reaction and drama. In some cases, the progressing Moon can reach only 18 degrees of declination. In summary, the progressing Moon can reach a maximum in an individual chart anywhere from 18 degrees n/s of the equator to almost 29 degrees n/s of the equator.

Step five:

The natal planet lines are very interesting to observe. There are graphs where planet lines will overlap and may not be clear. If the lines are extremely tight and hard to view, then the number of degrees will have to be plotted manually. The report page in your software should give you a list of your planets in declination degrees. Also, progressed declination degrees can be found when a progressed chart in longitude is cast.

Carolyn Egan © revised July 12, 2009 <http://www.weathersage.com>

References SolarFire Software <http://www.esotech.com.au/> and <http://www.alabe.com>

Kt. Boehrer, author Declination, The Other Dimension, Fortunata Press now out of print.

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