The Planets in 2006

The Distinctive Planetary Events of 2006

These events give 2006 its unique character:

- A *Major Lunar Standstill*. During 2006 the Moon reaches its 18-year dcclination peak. Every month, the Moon is Out of Bounds for about ten days (whenever it is in the high-declination signs Gemini, Cancer, Sagittarius or Capricorn). In 2006, the Moon is OOB for a third of the year. This was the case in 2005 and it will continue into 2007. Expect emotional swings.
- *Extreme-declination New and Full Moons near the solstices* (something that happens in years on or near a Major Standstill). The most dramatic in 2006 is the Dec 20 New Moon, which occurs 16 minutes after the Moon reaches maximum South declination, and 34 hours before the Winter Solstice (when the Sun, too, is at maximum South declination). This is reminiscent of the Dec 26, 2004 Full Moon, which happened a little further from the solar and lunar maximum declinations, yet coincided with the Indian Ocean tsunami. (In that case, the Sun and Moon were at maximum but opposite declinations.)
- *Eclipses near the equinoxes* (also resulting from the Major Standstill). The Sep 22, 2006 solar eclipse occurs within 16 hours of the fall equinox, and just 40' from the Cardinal Axis.
- Several major aspects: The second two passes of the *Jupiter-Saturn square* that started in late 2005. Also, the first pass of a *Saturn-Neptune opposition* that continues into 2007. Lesser aspects from both Jupiter and Saturn to Uranus, Neptune and Pluto. (All the difficult aspects between these planets move out of orb by Nov 1, and remain so through the end of the year.)
- *Jupiter's ingress into its own sign, Sagittarius*, on Nov 24. In a dramatic and sudden shift of the element balance from Water to Fire, not only Jupiter, but also the Sun, Mercury, Venus and Mars move from a stellium in Scorpio to one in Sagittarius during the period Oct 2-Dec 8. This, plus the ending of all the major hard aspects in Nov, contributes to a definite change of mood at the end of the year.
- *Pluto's first conjunction to the Galactic Center since the mid-18th century*.
- *The middle year of a ten-year series of exact Neptune-Pluto septiles*.
- *The first Neptune-Pluto parallel since 1918*. This is exact on Jan 28 and it remains within orb all year. From mid-Jan through Apr it is dramatically reinforced by declination stations of Jupiter and Venus on the same degree. All this happens near 16°S20', which, according to the work of Leigh Westin, is a critical declination degree.
- The Nov 8 *Transit of Mercury* across the Sun -- an event that happens only about thirteen times a century. This one is at 16°Sc20', within orb of 15°Sc00', one of the Fixed arms of the Cardinal Axis.
- *A spectacular conjunction of Mercury, Mars and Jupiter* on Dec 10-11 -- in latitude and declination as well as longitude. Visible Dec 11 at dawn with all three planets within a 1° circle, this is the closest triple conjunction of naked-eye-planets during the period 1980-2050.
- *Venus retrograde, and its Jan 13 inferior conjunction with the Sun* -- the first since the Jun 8, 2004 inferior conjunction (which was also a Transit of Venus).

To learn the details, read on!

Please note: To make these tables usable for people around the globe, the times are given in 24-hour Universal Time (or occasionally, in its near-equivalent, Greenwich Mean Time). To convert to U.S. Eastern Standard Time, subtract 5 hours, for Eastern Daylight Time, subtract 4 hours; for Pacific Standard Time, subtract 8 hours, for Pacific Daylight Time, subtract 7 hours, etc.

Longitudes of the Planets

Ingresses

The signs of the outer planets give each year its own distinctive profile of elements and modes. 2006 continues the balance started in late 2005, with Saturn remaining in Leo until Sep, 2007, Pluto in Sagittarius until 2008, Uranus in Pisces until 2010, and Neptune in Aquarius until 2011.

Then, on Nov 24, 2006, Jupiter's entrance into Sagittarius shifts the balance decisively toward Mutability and Fire, and adds one planet in dignity. At last being in its ruling sign, Jupiter can work fully in accordance with its nature. Hopefully this will have a favorable impact on legal matters, religion, philosophy, philanthropy and our shared sense of optimism.

Element, Mode and Dignity Balance

Emphasis in Elements: With Uranus in Pisces all year and Jupiter in Scorpio until November, the element balance for most of 2006 is skewed toward Water. After Jupiter enters Sagittarius on Nov 24, and the Sun, Mercury, Venus and Mars soon follow suit, the predominant element becomes very much Fire. Here are the periods that have 5 or more planets in a given element:

- *Counting just the Sun and planets,* there will be **5 planets in Water** Apr 14-15, Jul 19-31, Oct 23, and Nov 17-21. **6 planets in Water** Oct 24-Nov 16.

  Counting the Moon also, there will be **6 planets in Water** Apr 14-15, Jul 22-24, Oct 23, Nov 18-21. **7 planets in Water** Oct 24-25, Oct 31-Nov 1, Nov 8-10.

- *Counting just the Sun and planets,* there will be **5 planets in Fire** Aug 12-22, Nov 24-Dec 5, Dec 22-26. **6 planets in Fire** Dec 6-7 and Dec 11-21. **7 planets in Fire** Dec 8-10.

  Counting the Moon also, there will be **6 planets in Fire** Aug 12-13, Aug 21-22. **7 planets in Fire** Dec 18-19. **8 planets in Fire** Dec 8-9.

- *Counting the Sun, planets and Moon,* there will be **5 planets in Air** Sep 30-Oct 1.

Missing Elements: None of the five outermost planets is in an Earth sign during 2006. This makes Earth the least-emphasized element during 2006 as well as during the next few years, and it creates some total voids in Earth during the following periods in 2006:

- *Counting just the Sun and planets*, there will be ***voids*** **in Earth** during the periods Mar 5-19, May 21-28, Jun 24-Jul 21 and Sep 30-Dec 10.

  Counting the Moon also, these **Earth voids become complete** Mar 5-11, Mar 15-19, May 21-23, May 26-28, Jun 24-29, Jul 2-8, Jul 11-17, Jul 20-21, Oct 2-7, Oct 10-16, Oct 19-26, Oct 29-Nov 3, Nov 6-12, Nov 16-22, Nov 25-Dec 1 and Dec 4-9.

Emphasis in Modes: Of the four outer planets, two are in Fixed signs and two in Mutable signs for the entire year. Therefore, as long as Jupiter is in Scorpio, the overall emphasis is in Fixed signs. After Nov 24, when Jupiter enters Sagittarius, the overall balance tilts toward Mutable.

- *Counting just the Sun and planets*, there will be **6 planets in Fixed signs** Aug 12-22, Oct 23, Nov 17-21. **7 planets in Fixed signs** Oct 24-Nov 16.

  Counting the Moon also, there will be **7 planets in Fixed signs**, Aug 14-15, Aug 21-22, Oct 23, Nov 18-20. **8 planets in Fixed signs** Oct 29-30, Nov 4-5, Nov 11-12.

- *Counting just the Sun and planets*, there will be **6 planets in Mutable signs** Sep 6-8, Dec 6-8, Dec 11-22. **7 planets in Mutable signs** Dec 8-11.

  Counting the Moon also, there will be **7 planets in Mutable signs**, Sep 6-8, Dec 6, Dec 13-15, Dec 20-21.

Missing Modes: In short supply all year, Cardinality is totally missing during these periods:

- *Counting just the Sun and planets*, there are **voids in Cardinality** on Mar 5-19, Aug 12-Sep 7, Oct 24-Dec 10.

  Counting the Moon also, the **Cardinal voids become complete** Mar 5-6, Mar 10-14, Mar 17-19, Aug 14-17, Aug 21-25, Aug 28-Sep 1, Sep 4-7, Oct 24-26, Oct 29-Nov 1, Nov 4-7, Nov 11-15, Nov 18-22, Nov 25-28, Dec 2-5, Dec 8-10.

Dignities and Debilities: In the tables of planetary and lunar ingresses below, signs are highlighted in yellow when a planet is in its ruling sign or exaltation, and in gray when the planet is in its detriment or fall. The tables show:

- **Periods of Highest Dignity**: During 2006 there are at most only **2 planets in dignity** (rulership or exaltation) at any one time (Apr 6-19, May 29-Jun 2, Oct 23, and Nov 24-Dec 5). Adding the Moon, there are **3 planets in dignity** on May 29-30 and Dec 2-3.

- **Periods of Highest Debility**: Since Saturn is in detriment in Leo all year, there is always at least one planet in debility (detriment or fall) during 2006. Not counting the Moon, there are **4 planets in debility** on Feb 9-16 and Sep 23-29. Adding the Moon, there are **5 planets in debility** Sep 25-26 and Sep 29.

Table 1: 2006 Planetary Ingresses

	☉	☿	♀	♂	♃	♄	♅	♆	♇		F	E	A	W		C	F	M
Jan 1	♑	♐	♒	♉	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		3	2	2	2		1	5	3
1	♑	♐	>♑	♉	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		3	3	1	2		2	4	3
3	♑	>♑	♑	♉	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		2	4	1	2		3	4	2
20	>♒	♑	♑	♉	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		2	3	2	2		2	5	2
22	♒	>♒	♑	♉	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		2	2	3	2		1	6	2
Feb 9	♒	>♓	♑	♉	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		2	2	2	3		1	5	3
17	♒	♓	♑	>♊	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		2	1	3	3		1	4	4
18	>♓	♓	♑	♊	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		2	1	2	4		1	3	5
Mar 5	♓	♓	>♒	♊	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		2	0	3	4		0	4	5
20	>♈	♓	♒	♊	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		3	0	3	3		1	4	4
Apr 6	♈	♓	>♓	♊	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		3	0	2	4		1	3	5
14	♈	♓	♓	>♋	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		3	0	1	5		2	3	4
16	♈	>♈	♓	♋	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		4	0	1	4		3	3	3
20	>♉	♈	♓	♋	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		3	1	1	4		2	4	3
May 3	♉	♈	>♈	♋	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		4	1	1	3		3	4	2
5	♉	>♉	♈	♋	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		3	2	1	3		2	5	2
19	♉	>♊	♈	♋	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		3	1	2	3		2	4	3
21	>♊	♊	♈	♋	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		3	0	3	3		2	3	4
29	♊	♊	>♉	♋	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		2	1	3	3		1	4	4
Jun 3	♊	>♋	♉	>♌	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		3	1	2	3		1	5	3
21	>♋	♋	♉	♌	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		3	1	1	4		2	5	2
24	♋	♋	>♊	♌	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		3	0	2	4		2	4	3
28	♋	>♌	♊	♌	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		4	0	2	3		1	5	3
Jul 10	♋	>♋	♊	♌	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		3	0	2	4		2	4	3
19	♋	♋	>♋	♌	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		3	0	1	5		3	4	2
22	>♌	♋	♋	>♍	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		2	1	1	5		2	4	3
Aug 11	♌	>♌	♋	♍	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		4	1	1	3		1	5	3
12	♌	♌	>♌	♍	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		5	1	1	2		0	6	3
23	>♍	♌	♌	♍	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		4	2	1	2		0	5	4
27	♍	>♍	♌	♍	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		3	3	1	2		0	4	5
Sep 6	♍	♍	>♍	♍	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		2	4	1	2		0	3	6
8	♍	♍	♍	>♎	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		2	3	2	2		1	3	5
12	♍	>♎	♍	♎	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		2	2	3	2		2	3	4
23	>♎	♎	♍	♎	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		2	1	4	2		3	3	3
30	♎	♎	>♎	♎	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		2	0	5	2		4	3	2
Oct 2	♎	>♏	♎	♎	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		2	0	4	3		3	4	2
23	>♏	♏	♎	>♏	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		2	0	2	5		1	6	2
24	♏	♏	>♏	♏	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		2	0	1	6		0	7	2
Nov 17	♏	♏	>♐	♏	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		3	0	1	5		0	6	3
22	>♐	♏	♐	♏	♏	♌	♓	♒	♐		4	0	1	4		0	5	4
24	♐	♏	♐	♏	>♐	♌	♓	♒	♐		5	0	1	3		0	4	5
Dec 6	♐	♏	♐	>♐	♐	♌	♓	♒	♐		6	0	1	2		0	3	6
8	♐	>♐	♐	♐	♐	♌	♓	♒	♐		7	0	1	1		0	2	7
11	♐	♐	>♑	♐	♐	♌	♓	♒	♐		6	1	1	1		1	2	6
22	>♑	♐	♑	♐	♐	♌	♓	♒	♐		5	2	1	1		2	2	5
27	♑	>♑	♑	♐	♐	♌	♓	♒	♐		4	3	1	1		3	2	4

Table 2: 2006 Lunar Ingresses and Void of Course Times

Ingress			Void of Course	
Jan 1	12:14	♒	Jan 3	11:44
3	12:44	♓	Jan 5	12:11
5	14:45	♈	Jan 7	14:35
7	19:09	♉	Jan 9	18:57
10	01:59	♊	Jan 12	01:47
12	10:50	♋	Jan 14	09:49
14	21:31	♌	Jan 17	00:36
17	09:48	♍	Jan 19	22:13
19	22:48	♎	Jan 22	08:54
22	10:27	♏	Jan 23	21:54
24	18:37	♐	Jan 26	15:25
26	22:29	♑	Jan 28	07:57
28	23:08	♒	Jan 30	16:01
30	22:32	♓	Feb 1	16:07
Feb 1	22:46	♈	Feb 3	18:33
4	01:32	♉	Feb 5	21:00
6	07:32	♊	Feb 8	15:04
8	16:33	♋	Feb 10	20:54
11	03:44	♌	Feb 13	11:49
13	16:13	♍	Feb 16	03:21
16	05:08	♎	Feb 18	17:00
18	17:11	♏	Feb 20	10:03
21	02:36	♐	Feb 23	02:06
23	08:15	♑	Feb 25	00:58
25	10:13	♒	Feb 27	04:26
27	09:55	♓	Mar 1	04:14
Mar1	09:19	♈	Mar 3	07:43
3	10:23	♉	Mar 5	08:40
5	14:38	♊	Mar 7	16:10
7	22:38	♋	Mar 9	20:42
10	09:42	♌	Mar 12	15:39
12	22:23	♍	Mar 15	04:33
15	11:12	♎	Mar 17	16:32
17	22:58	♏	Mar 20	07:55
20	08:42	♐	Mar 22	09:48
22	15:35	♑	Mar 23	23:31
24	19:20	♒	Mar 26	15:19
26	20:32	♓	Mar 28	15:20
28	20:30	♈	Mar 30	15:42
30	21:01	♉	Apr 1	15:52
Apr1	23:50	♊	Apr 4	02:25
4	06:14	♋	Apr 5	17:20
6	16:25	♌	Apr 8	23:03
9	04:58	♍	Apr 11	14:59
11	17:46	♎	Apr 14	01:00
14	05:08	♏	Apr 16	12:20
16	14:18	♐	Apr 18	18:41
18	21:12	♑	Apr 20	05:27
21	01:55	♒	Apr 22	23:03
23	04:43	♓	Apr 25	00:36
25	06:11	♈	Apr 27	01:45
27	07:26	♉	Apr 29	01:32
29	09:58	♊	May 1	11:14

Ingress			Void of Course	
May1	15:18	♋	May 3	18:36
4	00:18	♌	May 6	05:02
6	12:20	♍	May 8	17:49
9	01:09	♎	May 11	05:15
11	12:23	♏	May 13	06:52
13	20:55	♐	May 15	20:16
16	02:58	♑	May 18	02:11
18	07:19	♒	May 20	09:21
20	10:38	♓	May 22	06:46
22	13:23	♈	May 24	09:17
24	16:00	♉	May 26	10:39
26	19:19	♊	May 28	23:24
29	00:34	♋	May 31	04:42
31	08:52	♌	Jun 2	17:35
Jun 2	20:17	♍	Jun 5	00:30
5	09:08	♎	Jun 7	12:16
7	20:40	♏	Jun 9	10:11
10	05:04	♐	Jun 12	02:35
12	10:18	♑	Jun 13	16:51
14	13:31	♒	Jun 16	08:24
16	16:05	♓	Jun 18	14:09
18	18:53	♈	Jun 20	21:21
20	22:23	♉	Jun 23	00:45
23	02:49	♊	Jun 25	00:03
25	08:48	♋	Jun 27	16:03
27	17:08	♌	Jun 29	18:24
30	04:15	♍	Jul 2	06:59
Jul 2	17:05	♎	Jul 4	19:18
5	05:12	♏	Jul 6	19:55
7	14:12	♐	Jul 9	10:32
9	19:24	♑	Jul 11	20:59
11	21:45	♒	Jul 13	14:24
13	22:59	♓	Jul 15	19:57
16	00:39	♈	Jul 18	01:34
18	03:44	♉	Jul 20	05:48
20	08:38	♊	Jul 22	15:18
22	15:28	♋	Jul 24	09:08
25	00:25	♌	Jul 27	00:33
27	11:36	♍	Jul 29	13:06
30	00:27	♎	Aug 1	01:55
Aug1	13:07	♏	Aug 3	09:08
3	23:11	♐	Aug 5	19:23
6	05:19	♑	Aug 8	01:44
8	07:46	♒	Aug 9	22:59
10	08:10	♓	Aug 12	07:18
12	08:22	♈	Aug 14	00:14
14	10:00	♉	Aug 16	01:51
16	14:07	♊	Aug 18	12:31
18	21:03	♋	Aug 20	07:07
21	06:33	♌	Aug 23	06:23
23	18:07	♍	Aug 25	19:01
26	07:01	♎	Aug 28	08:02
28	19:55	♏	Aug 30	20:42
31	06:59	♐	Sep 2	07:50

Ingress			Void of Course	
Sep 2	14:33	♑	Sep 4	14:24
4	18:14	♒	Sep 6	09:30
6	18:56	♓	Sep 8	09:02
8	18:23	♈	Sep 10	08:53
10	18:30	♉	Sep 12	20:58
12	21:00	♊	Sep 14	16:01
15	02:54	♋	Sep 17	00:32
17	12:15	♌	Sep 19	12:17
20	00:07	♍	Sep 22	11:46
22	13:06	♎	Sep 24	14:11
25	01:53	♏	Sep 27	05:33
27	13:15	♐	Sep 29	20:46
29	22:00	♑	Oct 2	03:16
Oct 2	03:23	♒	Oct 3	20:14
4	05:32	♓	Oct 5	20:34
6	05:32	♈	Oct 7	20:06
8	05:04	♉	Oct 9	17:08
10	06:06	♊	Oct 12	00:23
12	10:22	♋	Oct 14	06:27
14	18:38	♌	Oct 16	21:01
17	06:15	♍	Oct 19	08:19
19	19:19	♎	Oct 22	05:58
22	07:53	♏	Oct 24	06:57
24	18:53	♐	Oct 26	18:03
27	03:46	♑	Oct 29	01:31
29	10:15	♒	Oct 31	05:32
31	14:09	♓	Nov 2	07:55
Nov 2	15:45	♈	Nov 4	08:05
4	16:04	♉	Nov 6	10:18
6	16:46	♊	Nov 8	11:16
8	19:46	♋	Nov 10	20:59
11	02:35	♌	Nov 13	08:29
13	13:19	♍	Nov 15	22:42
16	02:14	♎	Nov 18	05:42
18	14:46	♏	Nov 20	23:54
21	01:14	♐	Nov 23	01:20
23	09:24	♑	Nov 25	01:44
25	15:40	♒	Nov 27	13:00
27	20:20	♓	Nov 29	16:30
29	23:29	♈	Dec 1	18:41
Dec 2	01:26	♉	Dec 4	00:32
4	03:05	♊	Dec 5	23:12
6	06:00	♋	Dec 8	05:52
8	11:53	♌	Dec 10	20:36
10	21:31	♍	Dec 13	02:33
13	10:00	♎	Dec 15	15:34
15	22:41	♏	Dec 17	23:32
18	09:09	♐	Dec 20	14:01
20	16:38	♑	Dec 21	16:06
22	21:48	♒	Dec 24	20:10
25	01:42	♓	Dec 27	03:05
27	05:03	♈	Dec 29	02:55
29	08:08	♉	Dec 31	02:37
31	11:16	♊		

Table 3: 2006 Planetary Longitudes at a Glance

Date	☉	☿	♀	♂	♃	♄	♅	♆	♇	Mean ☊
Jan 1	10♑	26♐	00♒R	11♉	13♏	10♌R	08♓	16♒	25♐	09♈R
Feb 1	12♒	16♒	16♑R	22♉	17♏	08♌R	09♓	17♒	26♐	07♈R
Feb 3			16♑SD							
Mar 1	10♓	27♓	27♑	06♊	19♏	05♌R	11♓	18♒	27♐	06♈R
Mar 2		27♓SR								
Mar 4					19♏SR					
Mar 25		13♓SD								
Mar 29									27♐SR	
Apr 1	11♈	15♓	25♒	23♊	18♏R	04♌R	12♓	19♒	27♐R	04♈R
Apr 5						04♌SD				
May 1	10♉	22♈	27♓	10♋	14♏R	05♌	14♓	20♒	26♐R	03♈R
May 22								20♒SR		
Jun 1	10♊	25♊	03♉	28♋	11♏R	07♌	15♓	20♒R	26♐R	01♈R
Jun 19							15♓SR			
Jul 1	09♋	01♌	08♊	17♌	09♏R	10♌	15♓R	19♒R	25♐R	29♓R
Jul 4		01♌SR								
Jul 6					09♏SD					
Jul 29		21♋SD								
Aug 1	09♌	22♋	16♋	06♍	10♏	14♌	14♓R	19♒R	24♐R	28♓R
Sep 1	08♍	08♍	23♌	25♍	13♏	18♌	13♓R	18♒R	24♐R	26♓R
Sep 4									24♐SD	
Oct 1	08♎	28♎	01♎	15♎	18♏	21♌	12♓R	17♒R	24♐	25♓R
Oct 28		25♏SR								
Oct 29								17♒SD		
Nov 1	08♏	24♏R	10♏	06♏	25♏	24♌	11♓R	17♒	25♐	23♓R
Nov 18		09♏SD								
Nov 20										
Dec 1	09♐	20♐	17♐	26♏	02♐	25♌	11♓	17♒	26♐	21♓R
Dec 6						25♌SR	11♓SD			
Jan 1	10♑	07♑	26♑	18♐	08♐	24♌R	12♓	18♒	27♐	20♓R

Planetary Stations

When any planet nears a retrograde or direct station, its motion slows to the pace of the slowest-moving planets, so that its effect becomes much more important and long-lasting than it would ordinarily be. The degree at which the planet comes to a full stop becomes a sensitive point that, when aspected later on, can be as significant as the degree of a major aspect or eclipse. Besides showing when and where the stations occur, the following table shows when planets enter their retrograde arc or "shadow." Many astrologers find that the effects of a retrograde period spill over into the whole period when a planet is traversing its retrograde arc.

Table 4: Current Retrograde Cycles, Planet by Planet

Feb 16 06	15:00	13°Pi11' D	**Mercury enters retrograde arc**
Mar 2 06	20:30	26°Pi54' R	**Mercury turns Retrograde**
Mar 25 06	13:43	13°Pi11' D	**Mercury turns Direct** conjunct Uranus
Apr 14 06	00:56	26°Pi54' D	**Mercury exits retrograde arc**
Jun 17 06	18:44	21°Cn05' D	**Mercury enters retrograde arc**
Jul 4 06	19:34	01°Le22' R	**Mercury turns Retrograde**
Jul 29 06	00:40	21°Cn05' D	**Mercury turns Direct**
Aug 12 06	03:49	01°Le22' D	**Mercury exits retrograde arc**
Oct 9 06	00:58	09°Sc05' D	**Mercury enters retrograde arc**
Oct 28 06	19:17	25°Sc04' R	**Mercury turns Retrograde** conjunct Jupiter
Nov 18 06	00:26	09°Sc05' D	**Mercury turns Direct**
Dec 4 06	20:02	25°Sc04' D	**Mercury exits retrograde arc**

Nov 22 05	19:33	16°Cp01' D	**Venus enters retrograde arc**
Dec 24 05	09:37	01°Aq28' R	**Venus turns Retrograde**
Feb 3 06	09:19	16°Cp01' D	**Venus turns Direct**
Mar 7 06	04:23	01°Aq28' D	**Venus exits retrograde arc**

Aug 12 05	04:09	08°Ta14' D	**Mars enters retrograde arc**
Oct 1 05	22:04	23°Ta22' R	**Mars turns Retrograde**
Dec 10 05	04:04	08°Ta14' D	**Mars turns Direct**
Feb 3 06	22:59	23°Ta22' D	**Mars exits retrograde arc**

Dec 7 05	22:16	08°Sc59' D	**Jupiter enters retrograde arc**
Mar 4 06	18:03	18°Sc52' R	**Jupiter turns Retrograde**
Jul 6 06	07:19	08°Sc59' D	**Jupiter turns Direct**
Oct 2 06	21:47	18°Sc52' D	**Jupiter exits retrograde arc**

Aug 19 05	21:24	04°Le23' D	**Saturn enters retrograde arc**
Nov 22 05	09:01	11°Le19' R	**Saturn turns Retrograde**
Apr 5 06	12:55	04°Le23' D	**Saturn turns Direct**
Jul 10 06	11:45	11°Le19' D	**Saturn exits retrograde arc**
Sep 2 06	14:40	18°Le09' D	**Saturn enters retrograde arc**
Dec 6 06	04:07	25°Le04' R	**Saturn turns Retrograde**
Apr 19 07	21:25	18°Le09' D	**Saturn turns Direct**
Jul 25 07	07:08	25°Le04' D	**Saturn exits retrograde arc**

Feb 26 05	22:25	06°Pi51' D	**Uranus enters retrograde arc**
Jun 14 05	22:38	10°Pi46' R	**Uranus turns Retrograde**
Nov 16 05	00:09	06°Pi51' D	**Uranus turns Direct**
Mar 2 06	06:57	10°Pi46' D	**Uranus exits retrograde arc**
Mar 3 06	03:50	10°Pi49' D	**Uranus enters retrograde arc**

Jun 19 06	07:41	14°Pi44' R	**Uranus turns Retrograde**
Nov 20 06	06:09	10°Pi49' D	**Uranus turns Direct**
Mar 6 07	13:32	14°Pi44' D	**Uranus exits retrograde arc**

Jan 28 05	00:13	14°Aq49' D	**Neptune enters retrograde arc**
May 19 05	23:36	17°Aq36' R	**Neptune turns Retrograde**
Oct 26 05	23:25	14°Aq49' D	**Neptune turns Direct**
Feb 14 06	12:51	17°Aq36' D	**Neptune exits retrograde arc**
Jan 30 06	14:18	17°Aq02' D	**Neptune enters retrograde arc**
May 22 06	13:06	19°Aq49' R	**Neptune turns Retrograde**
Oct 29 06	07:57	17°Aq02' D	**Neptune turns Direct**
Feb 17 07	00:44	19°Aq49' D	**Neptune exits retrograde arc**

Dec 10 05	08:09	24°Sg05' D	**Pluto enters retrograde arc**
Mar 29 06	12:41	26°Sg45' R	**Pluto turns Retrograde**
Sep 4 06	23:21	24°Sg05' D	**Pluto turns Direct**
Dec 24 06	11:05	26°Sg45' D	**Pluto exits retrograde arc**

Lunar Cycles

Heightened Lunations

The most familiar lunar cycle is the 29.53-day *synodic month* that lasts from one New Moon (conjunction with the Sun) to the next. This creates the lunar phases shown in the table below. The Moon's synodic cycle intertwines with several other lunar cycles of slightly differing length, creating "beats" that emphasize different New and Full Moons each year. These other cycles are:

- A 27.21-day *draconic month* in which the Moon goes from one transit of its mean North Node to the next. This determines which of the year's New and Full Moons are eclipses.
- A 27.32-day *sidereal month* (its passage from 0° Aries to 0° Aries, virtually the same time period in the sidereal and tropical zodiacs when measured over only a month). When combined with the draconic cycle, the sidereal cycle determines when the Moon reaches zero and maximum declination each month, and also the height of each declination maximum.
- A 27.55-day *anomalistic month* that goes from one lunar perigee (closest distance to Earth) to the next. This creates Supermoons.

Supermoons. Richard Nolle has coined the term Supermoon to mean a New or Full Moon that occurs when the Moon is at least 90 percent of its perigee, or mean closest approach to Earth. The closer the Moon is to Earth, the greater is its gravitational force. Tides near a New or Full Moon are always higher than at other times of the month, and when the New or Full Moon is also at perigee, the tidal effect is greater. While this is a gravitational effect, it's possible that perigee Moons, like eclipses, assume increased importance at the symbolic level also. To the observer, a Full Moon at perigee can appear 30 percent larger than a Full Moon at apogee, when it is at its farthest from Earth.

Supermoons occur at the New Moons of Jan 29, Feb 28 and Mar 29, and the Full Moons of Sep 7 and Oct 7. The Mar 29 Supermoon is also a solar eclipse, and the Sep 7 Supermoon is a lunar eclipse.

Zero-Declination Lunations. A New or Full Moon can also be emphasized by occurring when the Moon is near zero or maximum declination. The day of zero lunar declination is important because, as is the case with the Sun at the equinoxes, it means then the Moon will be spending equal time above and below the horizon, no matter where the observer is on Earth.

During 2006 the Nodes are as close to 0° declination as they get during their 18.6-year passage around the zodiac. Therefore, all four of the year's eclipses take place within a day and a half of a 0° declination Moon. The closest pass occurs at the Sep 22 solar eclipse, which reaches maximum totality only 11 minutes after the Moon is at 0° declination. This eclipse comes only 16 hours before the fall equinox, when the Sun is also at 0° declination.

Maximum-Declination Lunations. The Jun 11 and Dec 5 Full Moons and the Jun 25 and Dec 20 New Moons occur within a day and a half of when the Moon is at its maximum north or south declination. This is particularly notable because in 2006 the Moon's declinations are at their 18.6-year high. By far the closest pass is on Dec 20, when the New Moon occurs only 16 minutes before the Moon is at maximum south. (More about the Moon's super-high declinations on pages 50-53, which discuss the 2006 Major Lunar Standstill.)

Table 5: 2006 Lunar Phases and Eclipses

Jan 6	18:56	**1st Quarter** Sun at 16°Cp19', Moon at 16°Ar19'
Jan 14	09:48	**Full Moon** Sun at 24°Cp05', Moon at 24°Cn05'
Jan 22	15:12	**1st Quarter** Sun at 02°Aq27', Moon at 02°Sc27'
Jan 29	14:14	**New Moon, Supermoon** Sun and Moon at 09°Aq32'. Perigee Jan 30 at 7:51. Mercury at 11°Aq26'.
Feb 5	06:29	**1st Quarter** Sun at 16°Aq19', Moon at 16°Ta19'
Feb 13	04:44	**Full Moon** Sun at 24°Aq20', Moon at 24°Le20'
Feb 21	07:16	**1st Quarter** Sun at 02°Pi31', Moon at 02°Sg31'
Feb 28	00:30	**New Moon, Supermoon** Sun and Moon at 09°Pi16'. Uranus at 10°Pi38'.
Mar 6	20:16	**1st Quarter** Sun at 16°Pi07', Moon at 16°Ge07'
Mar 14	23:35	**Full Moon** Sun at 24°Pi15', Moon at 24°Vi15'. Moon at 0°S declination Mar 15 at 12:47.
	23:47	**Lunar Eclipse** Appulse, max. w. Moon at 24°Vi20. Saros 113, starts new Metonic series, repeats 3/14/2025
Mar 22	19:10	**1st Quarter** Sun at 02°Ar01', Moon at 02°Cp01'
Mar 29	10:15	**New Moon, Supermoon** Sun and Moon at 08Ar35. Perigee Mar 28 at 7:07. Moon at 0°N declin. Mar 28 at 21:46.
	10:11	**Solar Eclipse** Total, max. w. Moon at 08°Ar32'. Saros 139 (8 North), Metonic repeat of 3/29/87 eclipse at 8°Ar18'
Apr 5	12:01	**1st Quarter** Sun at 15°Ar34', Moon at 15°Cn34'
Apr 13	16:39	**Full Moon** Sun at 23°Ar37', Moon at 23°Li37'. Moon occults Spica Apr 13 at 17 hrs.
Apr 21	03:27	**1st Quarter** Sun at 00°Ta54', Moon at 00°Aq54'
Apr 27	19:44	**New Moon** Sun and Moon at 07°Ta24'
May 5	05:13	**1st Quarter** Sun at 14°Ta35', Moon at 14°Le35'
May 13	06:50	**Full Moon** Sun at 22°Ta23', Moon at 22°Sc23'. Moon occults Antares May 14 at 15 hrs.
May 20	09:20	**3rd Quarter** Sun at 29°Ta14', Moon at 29°Aq14'
May 27	05:25	**New Moon** Sun and Moon at 05°Ge48'
Jun 3	23:05	**1st Quarter** Sun at 13°Ge13', Moon at 13°Vi13'
Jun 11	18:03	**Full Moon** Sun at 20°Ge41', Moon at 20°Sg41'. Moon at max. S. declin. Jun 12 at 10:34.
Jun 18	14:08	**3rd Quarter** Sun at 27°Ge12', Moon at 27°Pi12'
Jun 25	16:05	**New Moon** Sun and Moon at 03°Cn58'. Moon at max. N. declin. Jun 25 at 8:41.
Jul 3	16:36	**1st Quarter** Sun at 11°Cn37', Moon at 1°Li37'
Jul 11	03:01	**Full Moon** Sun at 18°Cn42', Moon at 18°Cp42'
Jul 17	19:12	**3rd Quarter** Sun at 25°Cn04', Moon at 25°Ar04'
Jul 25	04:31	**New Moon** Sun and Moon at 02°Le07'
Aug 2	08:44	**1st Quarter** Sun at 09°Le56', Moon at 09°Sc56'
Aug 9	10:53	**Full Moon** Sun at 16°Le44', Moon at 16°Aq44'
Aug 16	01:51	**3rd Quarter** Sun at 23°Le05', Moon at 23°Ta05'
Aug 23	19:09	**New Moon** Sun and Moon at 00°Vi31'
Aug 31	22:55	**1st Quarter** Sun at 08°Vi23', Moon at 08°Sg23'

Sep 7	18:42	**Full Moon, Supermoon** Sun at 15°Vi00', Moon at 15°Pi00'. Perigee Sep 8 at 3:13. Moon at 0°N dec. Sep 8 at 17:08. Moon occults Uranus Sep 7 at 15 hrs.
	18:51	**Lunar Eclipse** Partial, max. with Moon at 15°Pi06'. Saros 118, starts new Metonic series, repeats 9/7/2025
Sep 14	11:16	**3rd Quarter** Sun at 21°Vi30', Moon at 21°Ge30'
Sep 22	11:45	**New Moon** Sun and Moon at 29°Vi20'. Moon at 0°S dec. Sep 22 at 11:29.
	11:40	**Solar Eclipse** Annular, max. Moon at 29°Vi18'. Saros 144 (8 South), Metonic repeat of 9/23/87 eclipse at 29Vi34
Sep 30	11:02	**1st Quarter** Sun at 07°Li09', Moon at 07°Cp09'
Oct 7	03:12	**Full Moon, Supermoon** Sun at 13°Li43', Moon at 13°Ar43'. Perigee Oct 6 at 14:20. Moon at 0°N dec. Oct 6 at 4:17.
Oct 14	00:26	**3rd Quarter** Sun at 20°Li31', Moon at 20°Cn31'
Oct 22	05:13	**New Moon** Sun and Moon at 28°Li40'. Mars at 29°Li00'.
Oct 29	21:24	**1st Quarter** Sun at 06°Sc19', Moon at 06°Aq19'
Nov 5	12:58	**Full Moon** Sun at 12°Sc58', Moon at 12°Ta58'
Nov 12	17:45	**3rd Quarter** Sun at 20°Sc12', Moon at 20°Le12'
Nov 20	22:17	**New Moon** Sun and Moon at 28°Sc27'. Jupiter at 29°Sc16'.
Nov 28	06:28	**1st Quarter** Sun at 05°Sg53', Moon at 05°Pi53'
Dec 5	00:25	**Full Moon** Sun at 12°Sg43', Moon at 12°Ge43'. Moon at max. N. declin. (28°N24') Dec 6 at 3:39.
Dec 12	14:32	**3rd Quarter** Sun at 20°Sg25', Moon at 20°Vi25'
Dec 20	13:59	**New Moon** Sun and Moon at 28°Sg32'. Moon at max. S. declin. (28°S23') Dec 20 at 13:43. Solstice Dec 22 at 0:22.
Dec 27	14:47	**1st Quarter** Sun at 05°Cp42', Moon at 05°Ar42'

Eclipses

There are charts and maps of the four 2006 eclipses on pages 14-18. In summary, the 2006 cclipses are as follows:

- **Mar 14: Lunar Appulse** at **24° Virgo-Pisces**. The first of 8 eclipses in a new Virgo-Pisces sign polarity that ends in Feb 2008. Moon at 0 declination 13 hours later on Mar 15. All of eclipse visible in Greenland, Europe, and Africa.
- **Mar 29: Total Solar Eclipse** at **9° Aries**. The last of a series of 6 eclipses in the Aries-Libra sign polarity that began in Apr 2004. Considered a Supermoon, with the perigee coming 27 hours earlier on Mar 28. Also, the Moon was at 0 declination 12 hours earlier on Mar 28. Path of totality over Ghana, Nigeria, Niger, Libya, northwest Egypt, Turkey, Georgia, Kazakhstan and Mongolia.
- **Sep 7: Lunar Partial Eclipse** at **15° Pisces-Virgo**. Supermoon, with the perigee coming 8 hours later on Sep 8. Moon at 0 declination 23 hours later on Sep 8. Moon occults Uranus 4 hours prior to eclipse. All of eclipse visible in eastern Africa, central Asia, India, and western Australia.
- **Sep 22: Solar Annular Eclipse** at **29° Virgo**, very close to 0° declination and the 0° Libra arm of the Cardinal Axis. Fall equinox occurs 16 hours later on Sep 23. Eclipse occurs same day as Jupiter parallel Pluto, and 2 days before Jupiter squares Neptune and the Moon occults Spica. Of the 700-odd solar eclipses from 1700 to 2050, this is the 56th longest. The path of totality starts in Guyana, Surinam and French Guiana, and then falls entirely over the Atlantic ocean. Appears as partial in eastern South America and western Africa.

Metonic Repeats. While many eclipses repeat at 19-year intervals on or near the same degree, some do not. Both the Mar 29 and Sep 29, 2006 solar eclipses occur in Metonic series that started in 1968 and were repeated in 1987. The next and final eclipses in these series occur in 2025. Both 2006 lunar eclipses start new Metonic series. Their next repeat is in 2025.

Chart 1
New Moon (Supermoon) Jan 29
Natal Chart
Jan 29 2006
14:14:37 UT +0:00
Washington, DC
38°N53'42" 077°W02'12"
Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
Mean Node

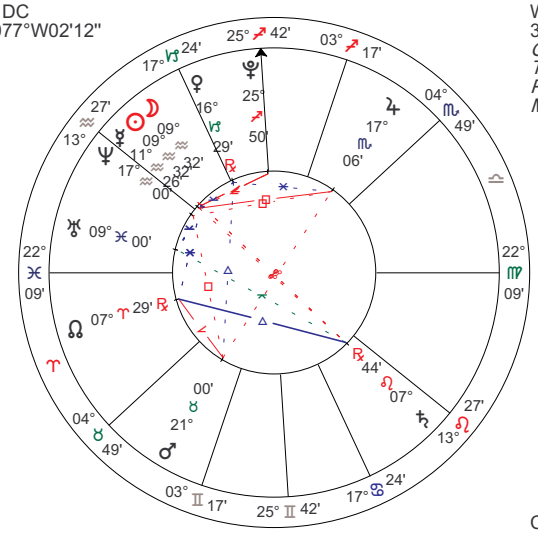

Chart 2
New Moon (Supermoon) Feb 28
Natal Chart
Feb 28 2006
00:30:46 UT +0:00
Washington, DC
38°N53'42" 077°W02'12"
Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
Mean Node

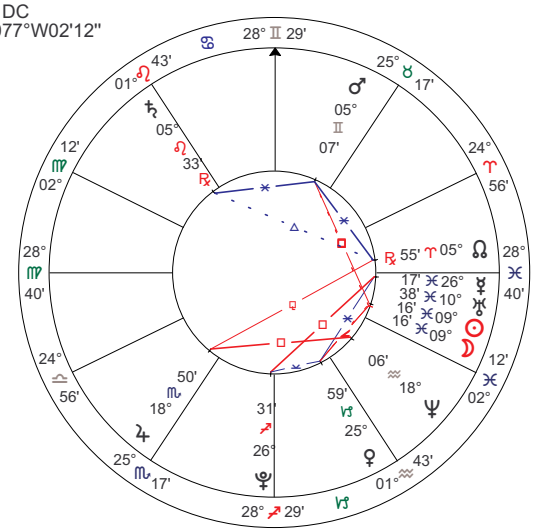

Chart 3
New Moon (Eclipse, Supermoon) Mar 29
Natal Chart
Mar 29 2006
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Washington, DC
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Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
Mean Node

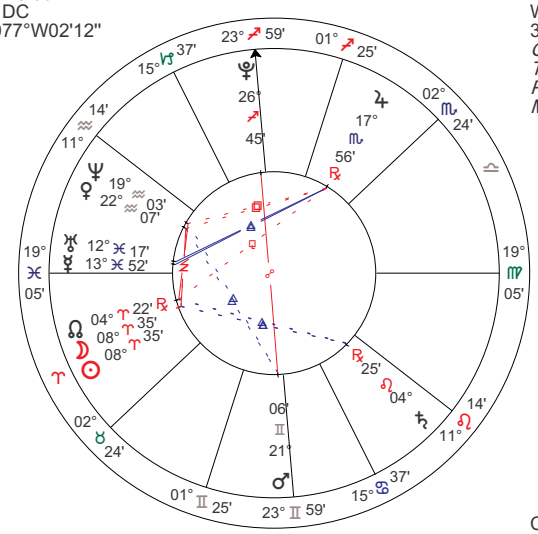

Chart 4
New Moon Apr 27
Natal Chart
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Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
Mean Node

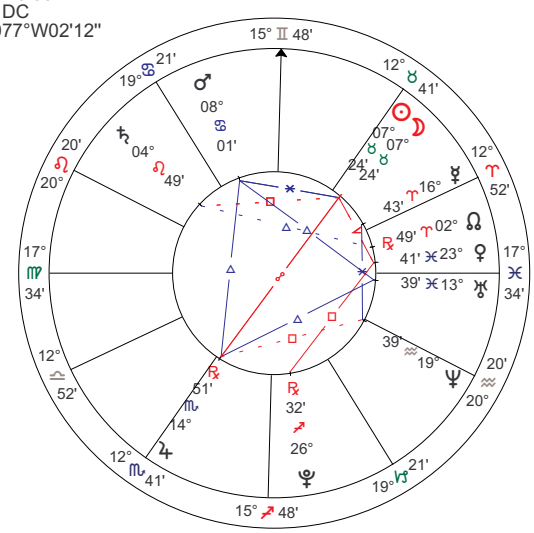

Chart 5
New Moon May 27
Natal Chart
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Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
Mean Node

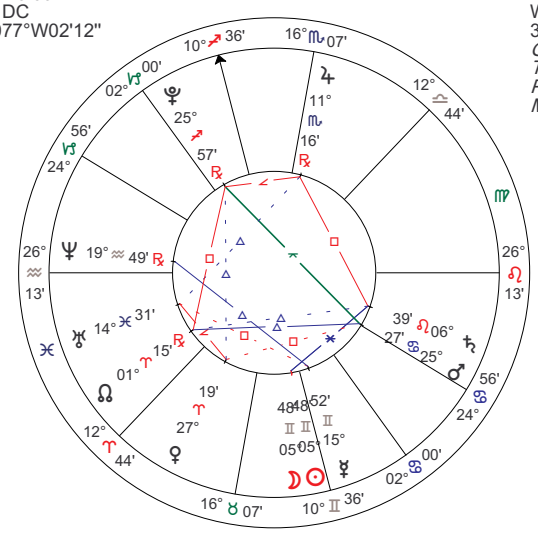

Chart 6
New Moon (Max. N. Dec.) Jun 25
Natal Chart
Jun 25 2006
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Washington, DC
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Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
Mean Node

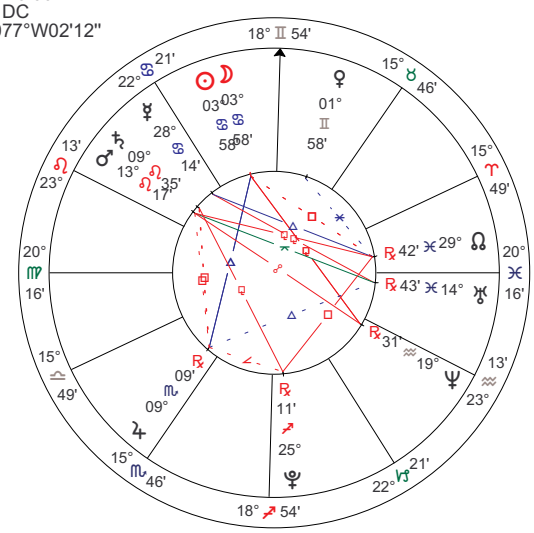

Chart 1
New Moon Jul 25
Natal Chart
Jul 25 2006
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Washington, DC
38°N53'42" 077°W02'12"
Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
Mean Node

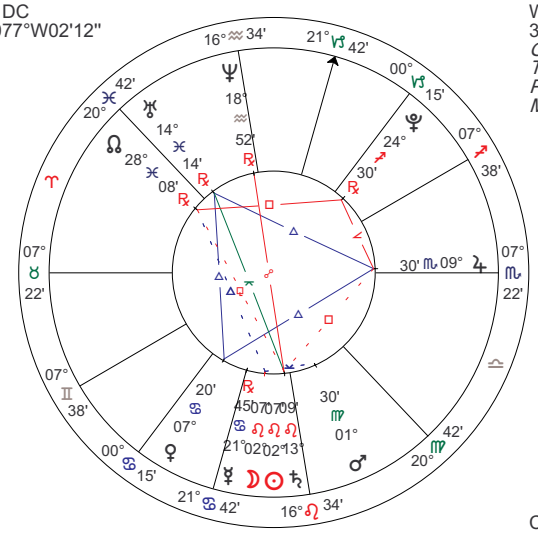

Chart 2
New Moon Aug 23
Natal Chart
Aug 23 2006
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Washington, DC
38°N53'42" 077°W02'12"
Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
Mean Node

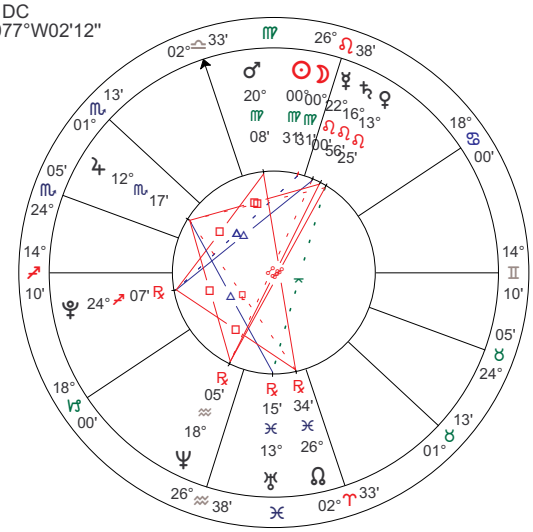

Chart 3
New Moon (Eclipse) Sep 22
Natal Chart
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Washington, DC
38°N53'42" 077°W02'12"
Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
Mean Node

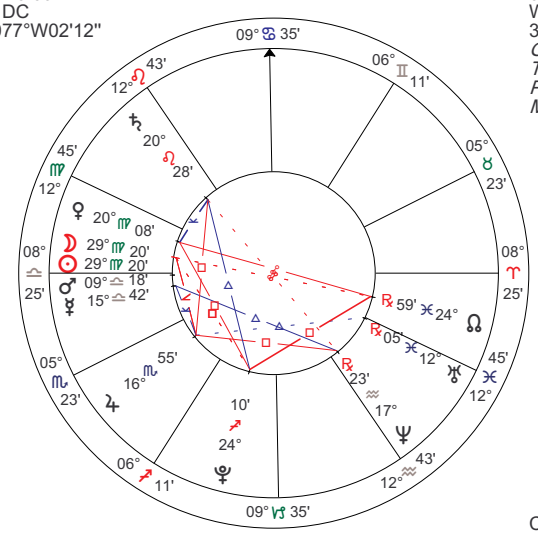

Chart 4
New Moon Oct 22
Natal Chart
Oct 22 2006
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Washington, DC
38°N53'42" 077°W02'12"
Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
Mean Node

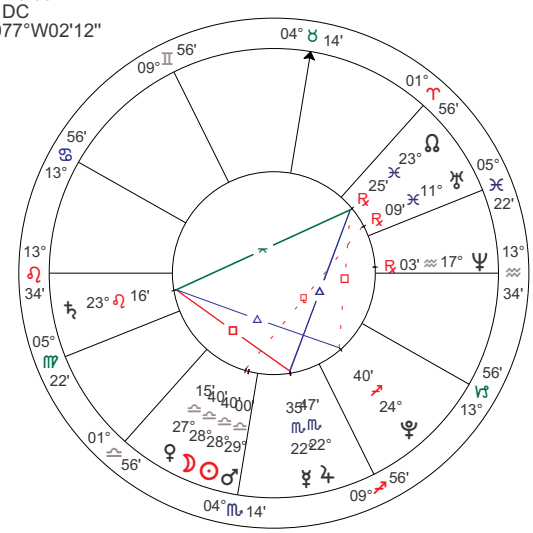

Chart 5
New Moon Nov 20
Natal Chart
Nov 20 2006
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Washington, DC
38°N53'42" 077°W02'12"
Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
Mean Node

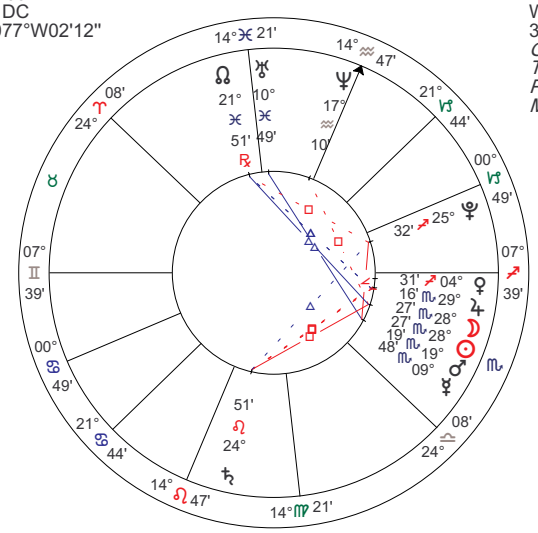

Chart 6
New Moon (Max. S. Dec.) Dec 20
Natal Chart
Dec 20 2006
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Washington, DC
38°N53'42" 077°W02'12"
Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
Mean Node

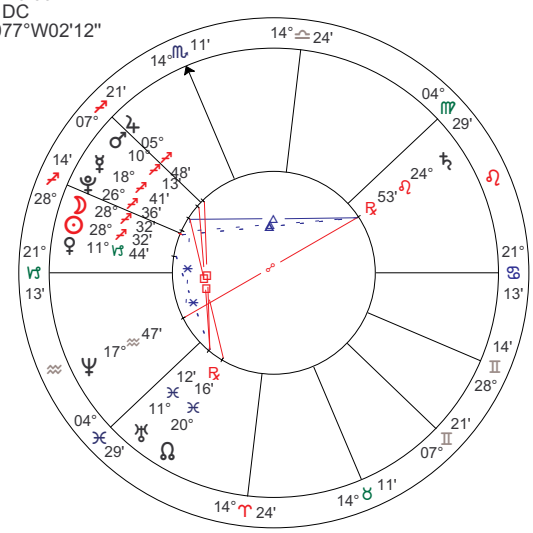

Chart 1
Lunar Appulse Eclipse
Natal Chart
Mar 14 2006
23:47 UT +0:00
Washington, DC
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Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
Mean Node

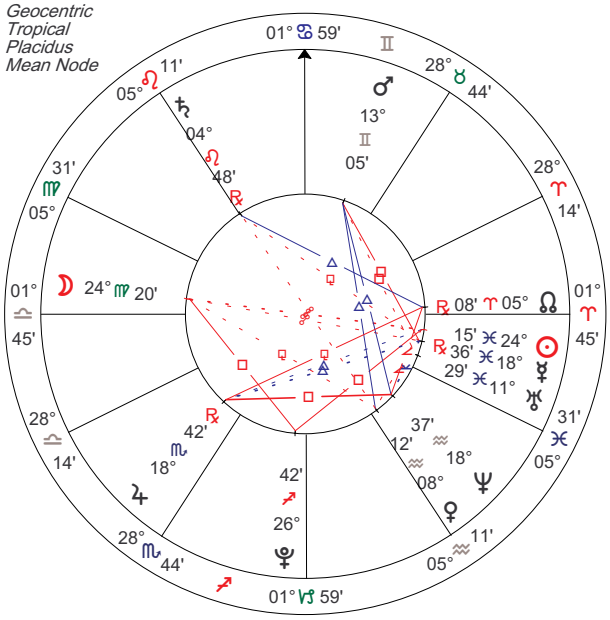

Chart 2
Solar Total Eclipse
Natal Chart
Mar 29 2006
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Washington, DC
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Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
Mean Node

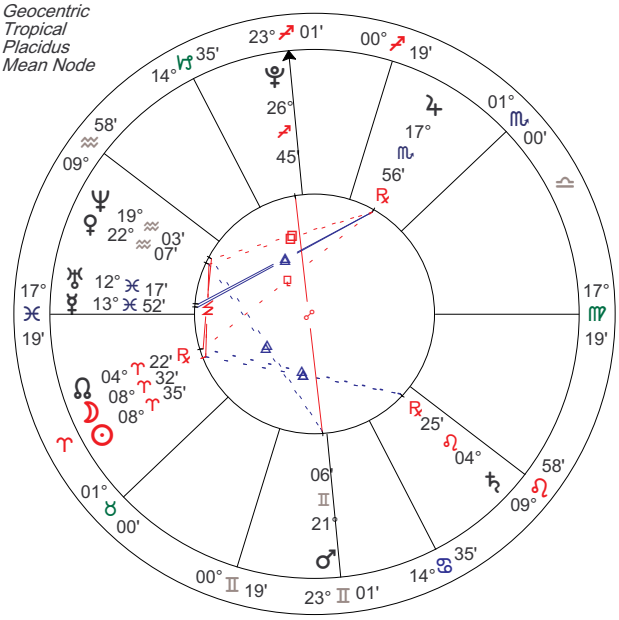

Chart 3
Lunar Partial Eclipse
Natal Chart
Sep 7 2006
18:51 UT +0:00
Washington, DC
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Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
Mean Node

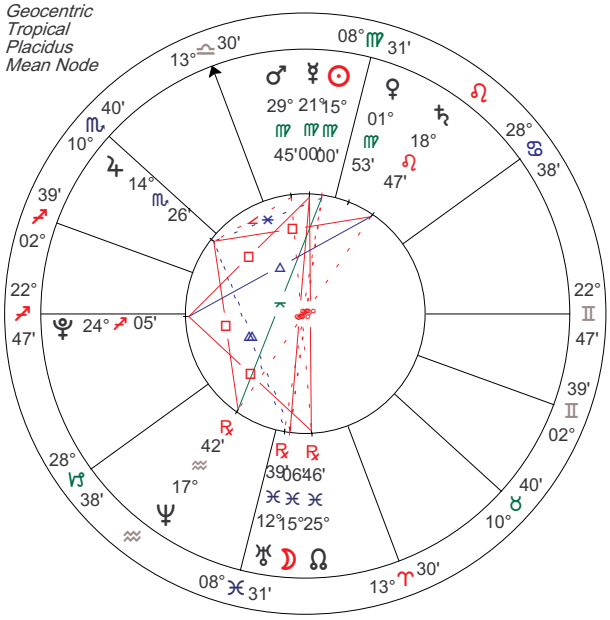

Chart 4
Solar Annular Eclipse
Natal Chart
Sep 22 2006
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Washington, DC
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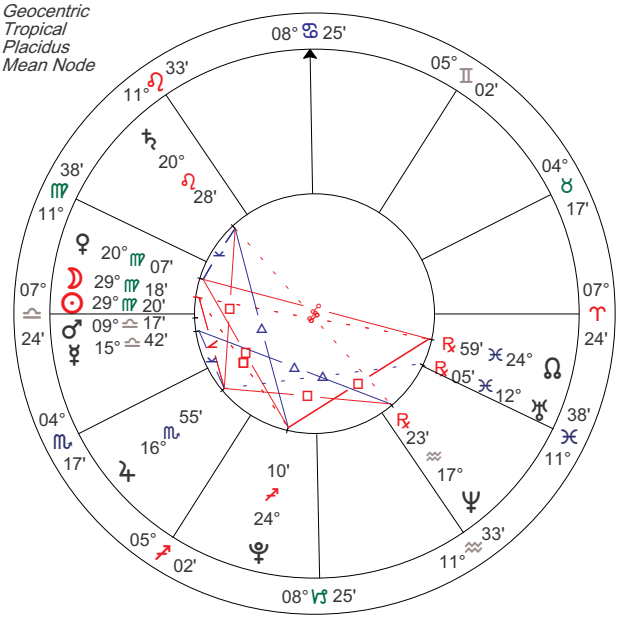
Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
Mean Node

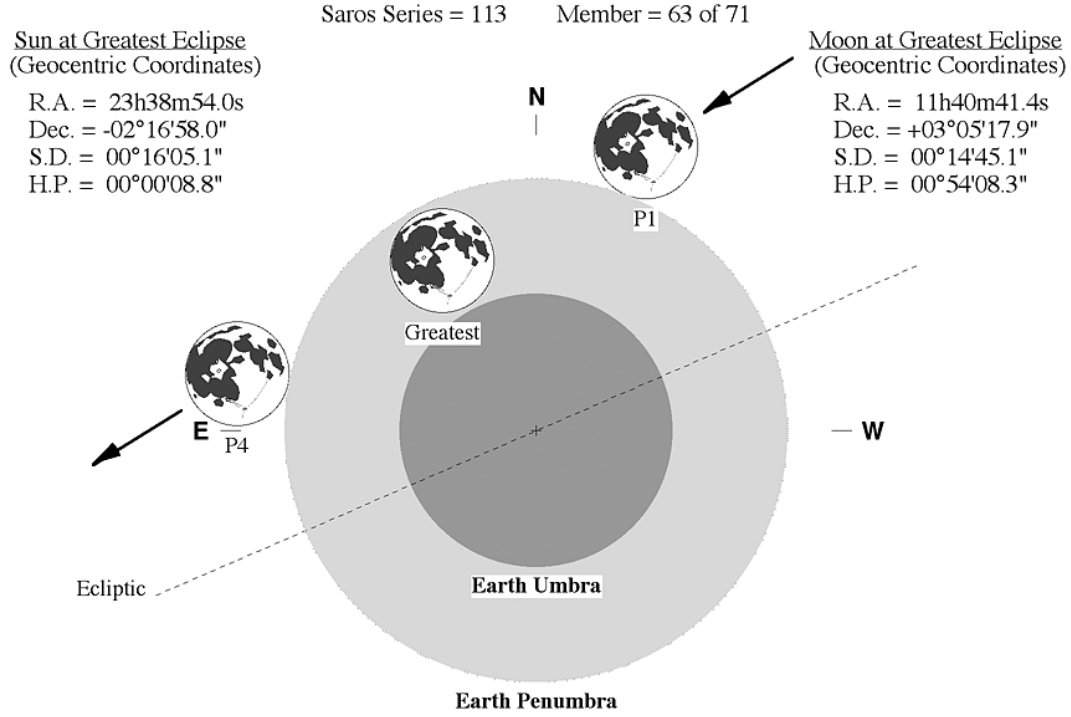


Penumbral Lunar Eclipse of 2006 Mar 14

Geocentric Conjunction = 22:40:12.4 UT J.D. = 2453809.44459
Greatest Eclipse = 23:47:31.6 UT J.D. = 2453809.49134

Penumbral Magnitude = 1.0565 P. Radius = 1.1948° Gamma = 1.0210
Umbral Magnitude = -0.0557 U. Radius = 0.6479° Axis = 0.9211°

Saros Series = 113 Member = 63 of 71

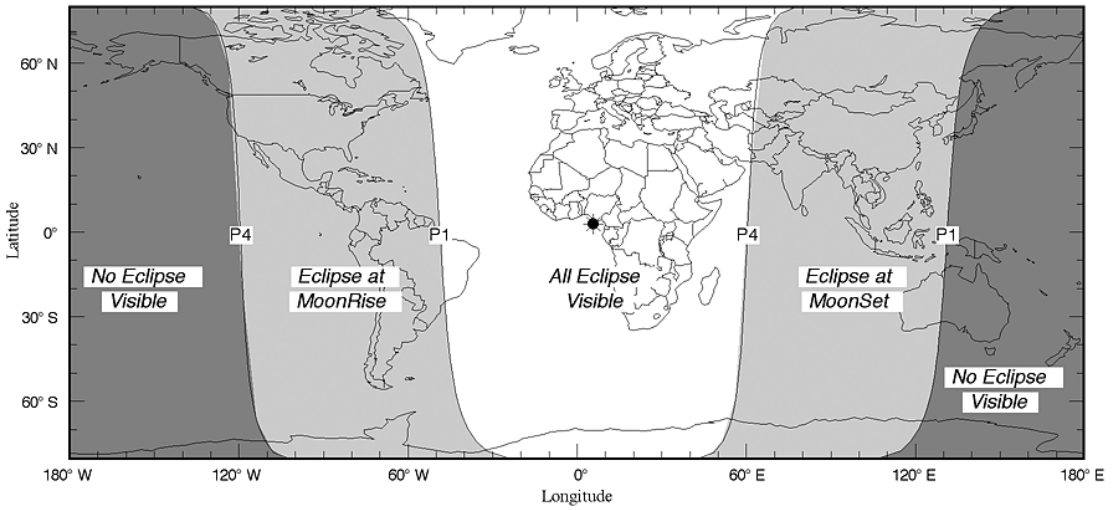


Eclipse Semi-Durations
Penumbral = 02h26m00s

Eclipse Contacts
P1 = 21:21:32 UT
P4 = 02:13:32 UT

Eph. = Newcomb/ILE
ΔT = 64.9 s

F. Espenak, NASA's GSFC - 2005 Apr
http://sunearth.gsfc.nasa.gov/eclipse/eclipse.html



During this penumbral eclipse, the Moon stays entirely within the lighter portion of the Earth's shadow and is never touched by the central and darkest portion. This penumbral eclipse is unusual in that it is also total, meaning that the Moon is completely covered by the shadow.

Total Solar Eclipse of 2006 Mar 29

Geocentric Conjunction = 10:33:17.4 UT J.D. = 2453823.939784
Greatest Eclipse = 10:11:17.7 UT J.D. = 2453823.924510

Eclipse Magnitude = 1.0515 Gamma = 0.3843

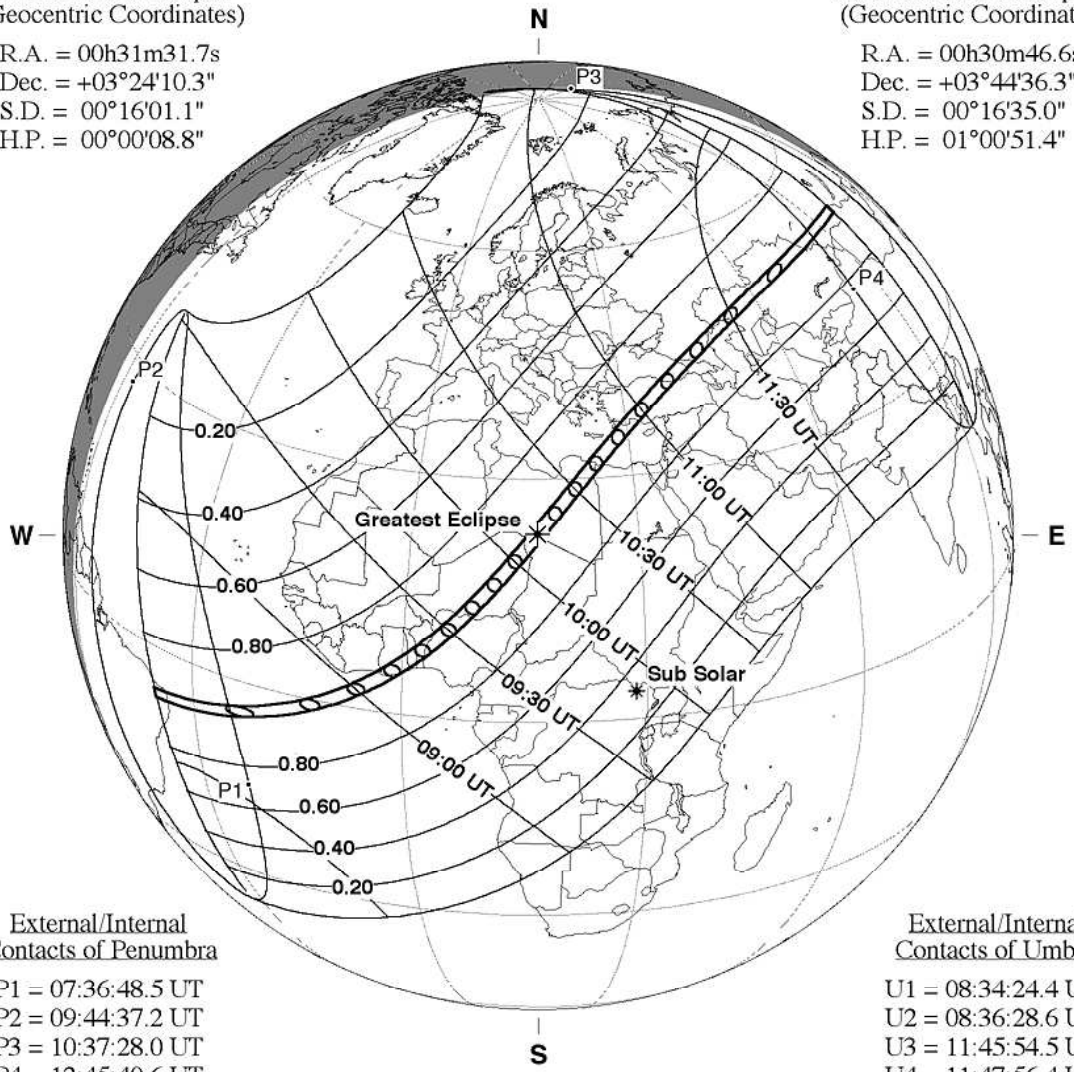
Saros Series = 139 Member = 29 of 71

Sun at Greatest Eclipse
(Geocentric Coordinates)

R.A. = 00h31m31.7s
Dec. = +03°24'10.3"
S.D. = 00°16'01.1"
H.P. = 00°00'08.8"

Moon at Greatest Eclipse
(Geocentric Coordinates)

R.A. = 00h30m46.6s
Dec. = +03°44'36.3"
S.D. = 00°16'35.0"
H.P. = 01°00'51.4"



External/Internal Contacts of Penumbra

P1 = 07:36:48.5 UT
P2 = 09:44:37.2 UT
P3 = 10:37:28.0 UT
P4 = 12:45:40.6 UT

External/Internal Contacts of Umbra

U1 = 08:34:24.4 UT
U2 = 08:36:28.6 UT
U3 = 11:45:54.5 UT
U4 = 11:47:56.4 UT

Local Circumstances at Greatest Eclipse

Lat. = 23°09.1'N Sun Alt. = 67.3°
Long. = 016°44.9'E Sun Azm. = 148.6°
Path Width = 183.5 km Duration = 04m06.7s

Ephemeris & Constants

Eph. = DE200/LE200
ΔT = 64.9 s
k1 = 0.2725076
k2 = 0.2722810
Δb = 0.0" Δl = 0.0"

Geocentric Libration
(Optical + Physical)

l = 2.18°
b = -0.52°
c = -21.71°
Brown Lun. No. = 1030

0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000
Kilometers

F. Espenak, NASA's GSFC - 2005 Apr

sunearth.gsfc.nasa.gov/eclipse/eclipse.html

Partial Lunar Eclipse of 2006 Sep 07

Geocentric Conjunction = 18:00:02.2 UT J.D. = 2453986.25003
Greatest Eclipse = 18:51:21.1 UT J.D. = 2453986.28566

Penumbral Magnitude = 1.1579 P. Radius = 1.3139° Gamma = -0.9261
Umbral Magnitude = 0.1897 U. Radius = 0.7742° Axis = 0.9472°

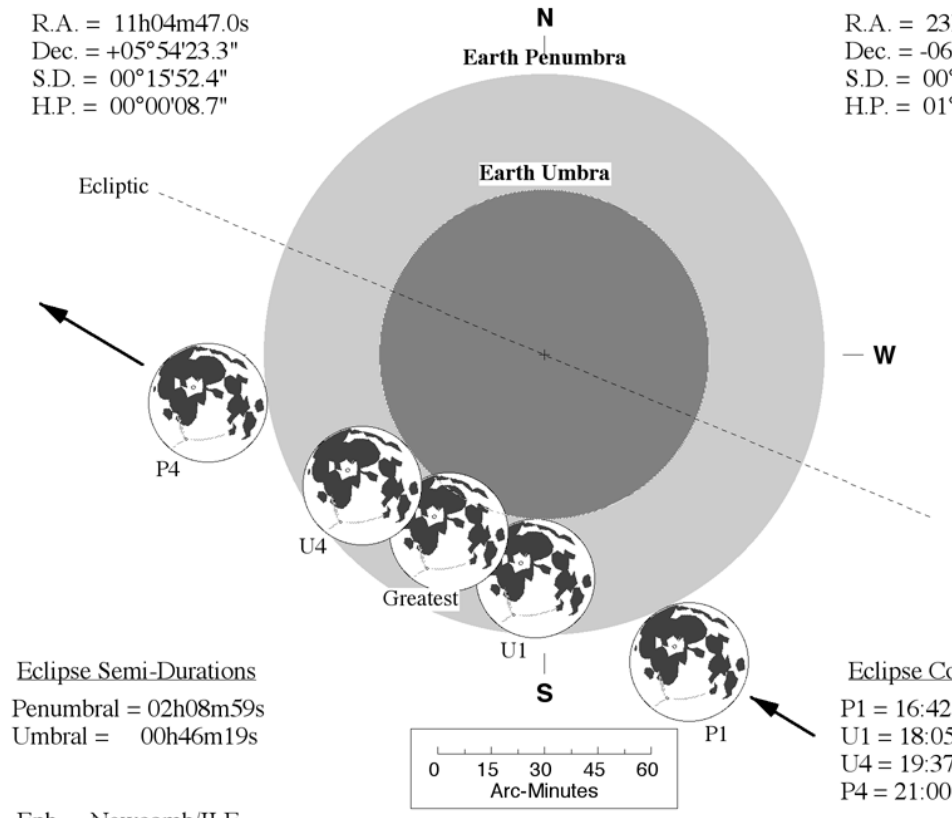
Saros Series = 118 Member = 51 of 74

Sun at Greatest Eclipse
(Geocentric Coordinates)

R.A. = 11h04m47.0s
Dec. = +05°54'23.3"
S.D. = 00°15'52.4"
H.P. = 00°00'08.7"

Moon at Greatest Eclipse
(Geocentric Coordinates)

R.A. = 23h06m35.5s
Dec. = -06°44'25.7"
S.D. = 00°16'43.3"
H.P. = 01°01'22.3"



Eclipse Semi-Durations

Penumbral = 02h08m59s
Umbral = 00h46m19s

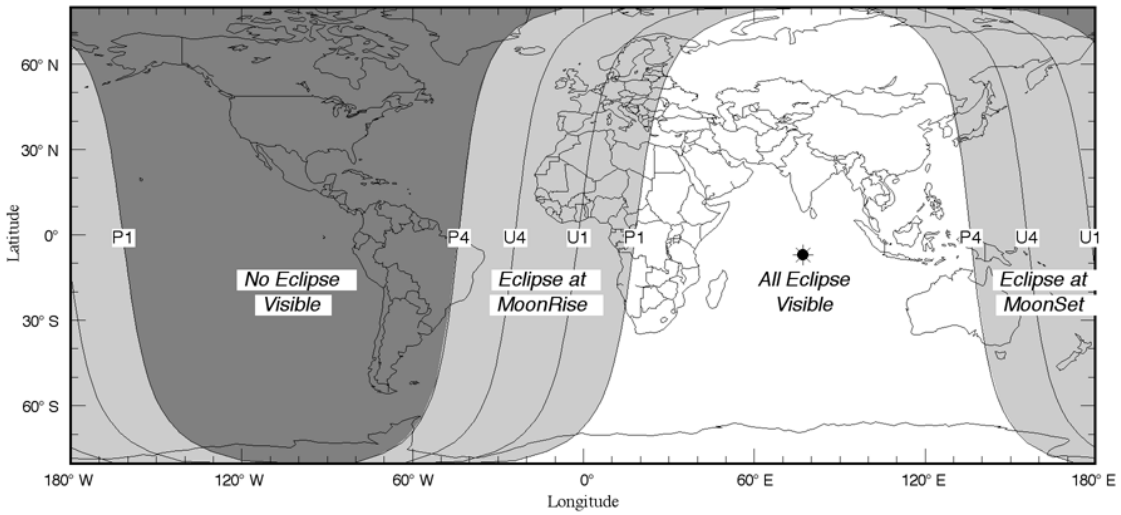
Eclipse Contacts

P1 = 16:42:23 UT
U1 = 18:05:03 UT
U4 = 19:37:41 UT
P4 = 21:00:20 UT

Eph. = Newcomb/ILE
ΔT = 65.0 s

F. Espenak, NASA's GSFC - 2005 Apr

http://sunearth.gsfc.nasa.gov/eclipse/eclipse.html



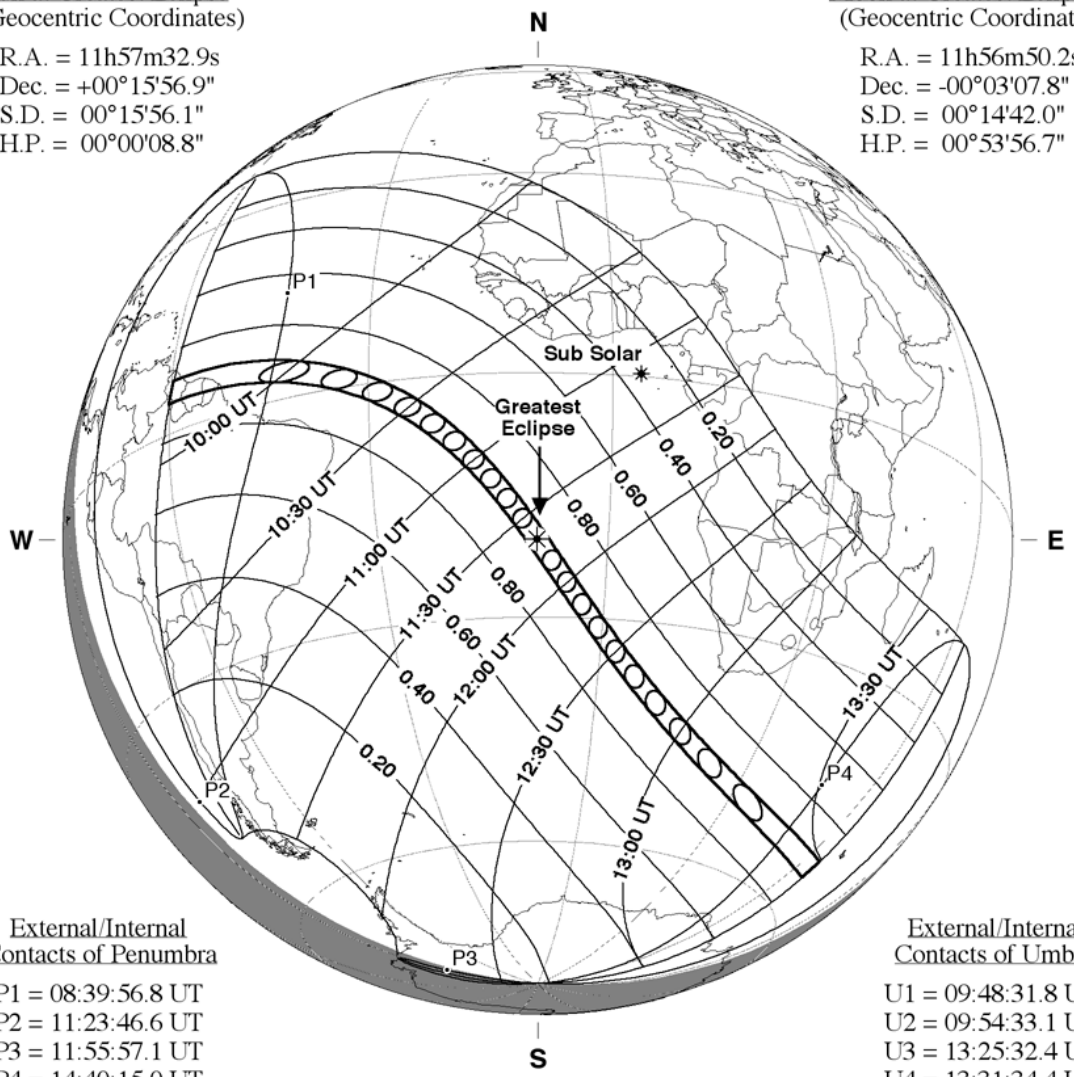
The Sep 7 lunar eclipse is considered partial because the umbra, the darkest part of Earth's shadow, appears to take a bite out of the Moon but never covers it fully.

Annular Solar Eclipse of 2006 Sep 22

Geocentric Conjunction = 12:07:10.7 UT J.D. = 2454001.004984
Greatest Eclipse = 11:40:11.3 UT J.D. = 2454000.986242

Eclipse Magnitude = 0.9352 Gamma = -0.4062

Saros Series = 144 Member = 16 of 70



Sun at Greatest Eclipse
(Geocentric Coordinates)

R.A. = 11h57m32.9s
Dec. = +00°15'56.9"
S.D. = 00°15'56.1"
H.P. = 00°00'08.8"

Moon at Greatest Eclipse
(Geocentric Coordinates)

R.A. = 11h56m50.2s
Dec. = -00°03'07.8"
S.D. = 00°14'42.0"
H.P. = 00°53'56.7"

External/Internal Contacts of Penumbra

P1 = 08:39:56.8 UT
P2 = 11:23:46.6 UT
P3 = 11:55:57.1 UT
P4 = 14:40:15.0 UT

External/Internal Contacts of Umbra

U1 = 09:48:31.8 UT
U2 = 09:54:33.1 UT
U3 = 13:25:32.4 UT
U4 = 13:31:34.4 UT

Local Circumstances at Greatest Eclipse

Lat. = 20°38.8'S Sun Alt. = 65.9°
Long. = 009°04.6'W Sun Azm. = 31.2°
Path Width = 261.0 km Duration = 07m09.3s

Ephemeris & Constants

Eph. = DE200/LE200
ΔT = 65.0 s
k1 = 0.2725076
k2 = 0.2722810
Δb = 0.0" Δl = 0.0"

Geocentric Libration
(Optical + Physical)

l = -0.08°
b = 0.48°
c = 21.89°
Brown Lun. No. = 1036

0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000
Kilometers

F. Espenak, NASA's GSFC - 2005 Apr

sunearth.gsfc.nasa.gov/eclipse/eclipse.html

The Sep 22 solar eclipse is annular, meaning that the Moon appears centered on the Sun, but is far enough from the Earth that the Sun is partially visible as a ring around the Moon's dark disc.

Lunar Occultations

Like solar eclipses, lunar occultations occur when the Moon is conjunct a planet or star not only in longitude but also in latitude, so that at certain localities on earth, the other body is completely obscured. An occultation is obviously more important than a simple aspect from the Moon. However, occultations gain their real importance when they repeat month after month, as they often do, giving extended emphasis to the body that is occulted.

Starting in March and continuing through the end of 2006, Uranus is occulted ten times, Mars twice, and Venus and Saturn once. The repeated occultations of Uranus highlight Uranus even though the only major aspect involving Uranus is a trine from Jupiter on May 5 and Aug 29.

Table 6: 2006 Lunar Occultations of Planets

Date	Conj. time	Conj. at	Moon occults
Mar 27	16:05	12°Pi11'	Uranus
Apr 24	03:05	13°Pi30'	Uranus
Apr 24	13:54	20°Pi04'	Venus
Jun 17	16:58	14°Pi44'	Uranus
Jul 14	22:49	14°Pi28'	Uranus
Jul 27	17:48	03°Vi05'	Mars
Aug 11	06:06	13°Pi43'	Uranus
Aug 25	13:12	21°Vi15'	Mars
Sep 7	15:00	12°Pi40'	Uranus (within 4 hrs of lunar eclipse near perigee)
Oct 5	00:19	11°Pi38'	Uranus
Nov 1	08:30	10°Pi57'	Uranus
Nov 28	14:59	10°Pi50'	Uranus
Dec 10	11:46	25°Le03'	Saturn
Dec 25	21:10	11°Pi21'	Uranus

Table 7: 2006 Lunar Occultations of Stars

Date	Hour	Moon occults
Jan 21	22h	Spica (23°Li55' in 2006)
Jan 25	12h	Antares (09°Sg50' in 2006)
Feb 18	5h	Spica
Feb 21	21h	Antares
Mar17	11hr	Spica
Mar 21	3h	Antares
Apr 13	17h	Spica (within 1 hour of full Moon)
Apr 17	9h	Antares
May 11	0h	Spica
May 14	15h	Antares (day after full Moon)
Jun 7	9h	Spica
Jun 10	23h	Antares
Jul 4	17h	Spica
Jul 8	8h	Antares
Aug 1	1h	Spica
Aug 4	18h	Antares
Aug 28	8h	Spica
Sep 1	2h	Antares
Sep 24	14h	Spica
Sep 28	8h	Antares
Oct 25	14h	Antares
Nov 18	3h	Spica
Dec 15	11h	Spica
Dec 19	4h	Antares

As it did for all of 2005, the Moon continues to occult Antares almost every month during 2006. Along with Regulus, Aldebaran and Fomalhaut, Antares is one of the four so-called Royal Stars, used by the ancient Sumerians to mark the equinoxes and solstices. A red first-magnitude star in the heart of the Scorpion, Antares has a name generally considered to mean "similar to," or "the rival of" Mars. However, it is not purely Mars-like. Most sources give it additional Mercury or Jupiter qualities. Fixed stars are said to heighten a chart's potential for good or evil. In times when most fixed stars had malefic reputations, Antares was associated with rashness, imprudence and violent death. However, in her modern fixed-star delineations for *Solar Fire*, Bernadette Brady says that Antares prominently placed in a chart can bring great success as long as one maintains balance and does not lapse into excess or obsession.

During every month of 2006 except October, the Moon also occults Spica, which it started doing in Sep, 2005. Spica is a brilliant white double star very close to the ecliptic in the constellation Virgo, where it represents the sheaf of wheat in the hand of the goddess. According to Bernadette Brady, "Spica represents the gift of this goddess. Once this gift used to be knowledge of cultivation. Now Spica represents the goddess' gift of new knowledge and gives a potential for brilliance to any chart it touches." Traditionally given the nature of Mars and Venus, Spica is associated with success and a love of the arts and sciences.

Major Aspects

While the Jupiter-Saturn cycle is not the longest planetary cycle, it has a primary importance as the traditional timer of economic and political trends. In 2006 we will witness a major milestone in this cycle, the second and final passes of the waxing Jupiter-Saturn square that began in late 2005:

- **Jupiter square Saturn**, within 1° orb Jun 16-29, Oct 18-Nov 1; exact on Jun 22 (**9Sc-Le**) and Oct 25 (**24Sc-Le**)

This Jupiter-Saturn aspect sets the basic framework for the other major aspects of 2006, bringing the trans-human energies of Uranus, Neptune and Pluto down into the social sphere. Being roughly in square most of the year, Saturn and Jupiter make reciprocal aspects to each of the outer planets in 2006. These are timed so that when relating to these planets, the Jupiter-Saturn themes of contraction-expansion, pessimism-optimism, etc. will alternate throughout the year. This could add to the instability of the Moon's going to its 18.6-year declination extremes every month during 2006 (see pages 50-53).

- **Jupiter trine Uranus**
  in orb Apr 29-May 11, Aug 23-Sep 3
  exact on May 5 (**14Sc-Pi**) and Aug 29 (**13Sc-Pi**)
- **Jupiter square Neptune**
  in orb Jan 15-Mar 28, Sep 19-29
  exact on Jan 28 (**17Sc-Aq**),
  Mar 16 (**19Sc-Aq**) and Sep 24 (**17Sc-Aq**)
- **Jupiter semisquare Pluto**
  in orb May 19-Jun 22, Jul 3-Aug 5
  exact on May 31 and Jul 25 (both **11Sc-25Sg**)
- **Saturn quincunx Uranus**
  in orb Jan 11-27, Jul 25-Aug 7
  exact on Jan 19 (**9Le-Pi**) and Aug 1 (**14Le-Pi**)
- **Saturn opposition Neptune**
  (the year's major aspect)
  in orb Aug 24-Sep 7
  exact on Aug 31 (**18Le-Aq**)
- **Saturn sesquare Pluto**
  in orb Jan 1-10, Jun 22-Jul 7
  exact on Jan 1 and Jun 30 (both **10Le-25Sg**)

Starting in October, the hard Jupiter-Pluto and Saturn-Pluto aspects soften into:

- **Saturn trine Pluto**
  in orb Oct 31-Dec 6 at **24-25 Le-Sg**,
  exact on Aug 6 07 at 27 Le-Sg
- **Jupiter semisextile Pluto**
  in orb Oct 26-Nov 6
  exact on Nov 1 (**25Sc-Sg**)

Uranus makes no major aspects during 2006. However, providing a subtle undertone to the whole mix of major aspects is

- **Neptune septile Pluto**, within 1° orb Oct 19 2005-Apr 3 2006 and Oct 20 2006-Apr 5 2007; exact Feb 19 (**18Aq-26Sg**) and Dec 1 (**17Aq-26Sg**)
- **Pluto conjunct Galactic Center**, within 1°orb Jan 29-May 1, and from Nov 30; exact Dec 27 (**27Sg**)

The table on the next page will give you an idea of how all the above aspects weave together in time, and this will be followed by details on each major 2006 aspect. On page 41 there is a table showing when Mars will trigger the energies of the slower-moving planets during the year. On page 44 we've also noted some aspects from faster-moving planets that are important because a) they become slow-moving through retrogradation, or b) they reinforce other aspects by occurring on related degrees around the same time. Finally, on page 45 we'll discuss the notable stelliums that occur in 2006, in which five or more planets bunch up within a 20-degree arc, and will note when you can view some of the conjunctions in the sky.

Table 8: 2006 Outer-Planet Aspects at a Glance

	♄&♇	♄&♇ to Uranus		♄&♇ to Neptune		♄&♇ to Pluto				Neptune & Pluto	
	♄□♇	♄△♅	♇☍♅	♄□♆	♇☌♆	♄∠♆	♇□♆	♄⚺♆	♇△♆	♆ spt ♆	♆☌GC
2005	E 12/12	E 11/22	E 9/14			E 12/1	E 9/9				
	X 12/17	X 11/27	X 9/21			X 12/7	C			E 10/19	
	L 12/21	L 12/2	L 9/29			L 12/14	C			X 11/30	
Jan 06							X 1/1			C	
							L 1/10			C	
			E 1/11							C	
			C	E 1/15						C	
			X 1/19	C						C	
			L 1/27	C						C	
				X 1/28						C	E 1/29
				C						C	C
Feb 06				C						X 2/19	C
Mar 06				X 3/16						C	C
				L 3/28						C	C
Apr 06										L 4/3	C
		E 4/29									C
May 06		X 5/5									C
		L 5/11									C
						E 5/19					C
						X 5/31					L 5/31
Jun 06	E 6/16					C					
	X 6/22					L 6/22	E 6/22				
	L 6/29						C				
							X 6/30				
Jul 06						E 7/3	C				
						C	L 7/7				
			E 7/25			X 7/25					
Aug 06			X 8/1			C					
			C			L 8/5					
			L 8/7								
		E 8/23									
		C			E 8/24						
		X 8/29			C						
		C			X 8/31						
Sep 06		L 9/3			C						
					L 9/7						
				E 9/19							
				X 9/24							
				L 9/29							
Oct 06	E 10/18										
	C									E 10/20	
	X 10/25									C	
	C							E 10/26		C	
	C							C	E 10/31	C	
Nov 06	L 11/1							X 11/1	C	C	
								L 11/6	C	C	
									C	C	E 11/30
Dec 06									C	X 12/1	C
									L 12/6	C	C
										C	X 12/27
2007										C	L 1/25
			E 4/21							X 2/22	
			L 5/27							L 4/5	

E = Entering 1° orb X = Exact L = Leaving 1° orb

In connection with the year's major aspects, you will find two kinds of tables below:

- **Tables showing the current aspect** with detailed dates, times and degrees of each pass. Not all aspects in a series are equally world-shaking. Some aspects are extended in time by planets going stationary, or are reinforced by other planets making aspects around the same time on the same or related degrees. These stations and reinforcing factors--which show up in graphic ephemerides as tangles of lines--are noted in the tables. In parentheses, we have also included important events (like lunations and eclipses) that happen around the same time on unrelated degrees. You will also find the heliocentric aspect between the planetary pair (which usually occurs around the middle of a multi-pass geocentric aspect series) and any related parallels or contraparallels in declination.

- **Tables showing the current aspect in its historical context.** In both mundane and personal astrology the meaning of a current aspect can become clearer if you look back at what happened during its previous manifestations. To help you do this, we've listed dates of similar aspects in previous cycles of the planetary pair. We've also given fuller data on the conjunctions so you can get a better idea of the meaning of the whole cycle by pondering the conjunction degree or casting the conjunction chart. We've supplied the date and the Universal Time so you can cast the chart for whatever locality you wish.

  In each cycle listed below, we've highlighted the aspect that corresponds to the aspect being made during 2006. In doing this, we follow writers like Dane Rudhyar, Michael Meyer, Charles Harvey, Robert Hand, Dietrech Pessin et al. in distinguishing between waxing aspects (those occurring between the conjunction and the opposition) and waning aspects (those occurring between the opposition and the next conjunction). Like a Moon phase, an aspect between two planets can be seen as a phase in a cycle. Starting at the seed moment (the conjunction) the cycle develops through the waxing sextile, square, trine, etc. to its flowering, its most fully realized external manifestation, at the opposition. From the opposition back through the waning sextile, square, trine, etc. come stages of assimilation and dissemination, preparing for the birth of a new issue or cycle at the next conjunction. This way of viewing aspects is especially fruitful when dealing with historical events.

Jupiter square Saturn

The two furthest planets to be visible to the naked eye, Jupiter and Saturn have traditionally been significators of the established social order beyond the personal realms signified by the inner planets. From ancient times, the Jupiter-Saturn cycle has thus been considered a prime timer of national, international and economic trends.

During 2006 we will experience the second and third passes of the Jupiter-square-Saturn series that began in Dec 2005. This Jupiter-Saturn square is the waxing square that follows the Jupiter-Saturn conjunction of May 28, 2000. Occurring in Taurus just after the breakup of a six-planet stellium in Taurus, this was the last of a Great Conjunction series in Earth signs, and it sets a Taurean theme for the whole cycle.

The seed moment of a new cycle, the May, 2000 Jupiter-Saturn conjunction occurred during the election campaign that led to George W. Bush becoming President of the U.S. The first testing of the trend that was set in motion at the conjunction came with the first hard aspect -- the Jupiter-Saturn semisquare of October 13, 2002 and March 27 and July 9, 2003. These dates bracket the official stage of the war in Iraq. The square of 2005-06 marks another crisis point, when trends started at the conjunction are again being put to the test. At the close of 2005 questions about the

Iraq War became ever more urgent, as did issues of greed and corruption in government and corporations. It looks as if these issues will come to a head in 2006.

Jupiter square Saturn, Dec 2005-Nov 2006

Pass 1: Dec 12-21, 2005

Dec 12 05	19:43	09°Sc55' D	10°Le55' R	**Jupiter square Saturn** enters 1° orb
Dec 17 05	05:15	**10°Sc45' D**	**10°Le45' R**	**Jupiter square Saturn**
Dec 21 05	14:11	11°Sc32' D	10°Le32' R	**Jupiter square Saturn** leaves 1° orb

Feb 28 06	08:18	09°Sc01' H	09°Le01' H	(Helio Jupiter square Saturn)

Pass 2: Jun 16-29
Near summer solstice and reinforced by Mars conjunct Saturn and Mars parallel Saturn

Jun 16	10:17	09°Sc34' R	08°Le34' D	**Jupiter square Saturn** enters 1° orb
Jun 18	06:04	08°Le46' D	08°Le46' D	Mars conjunct Saturn
Jun 19	07:40	09°Le25' D	09°Sc25' R	Mars square Jupiter
(Jun 21	12:26			(Summer Solstice)
Jun 22	00:28	18°N42'		Mars parallel Saturn
Jun 22	18:45	**09°Sc15' R**	**09°Le15' D**	**Jupiter square Saturn**
Jun 29	18:19	09°Sc03' R	10°Le03' D	**Jupiter square Saturn** leaves 1° orb

Pass 3: Oct 18-Nov 1
Reinforced by Mercury and Moon; leaves orb as Jupiter semisextiles Pluto

Sep 15	19:36	15°S44'	15°N44'	(Jupiter contraparallel Saturn)
Oct 18	06:42	21°Sc58' D	22°Le58' D	**Jupiter square Saturn** enters 1° orb
Oct 22	05:13	28°Li40' D	28°Li40' D	(New Moon)
Oct 22	15:36	22°Sc53' D	22°Sc53' D	Mercury conjunct Jupiter
Oct 23	10:13	23°Sc22' D	23°Le22' D	Mercury square Saturn
Oct 24	05:42	23°Sc13' D	23°Sc13' D	Moon conjunct Jupiter
Oct 24	06:55	23°Sc50' D	23°Sc50' D	Moon conjunct Mercury
Oct 25	14hr			(Moon occults Antares)
Oct 25	17:23	**23°Sc32' D**	**23°Le32' D**	**Jupiter square Saturn**
Oct 28	19:17	25°Sc04' R		Mercury stations retrograde
Oct 30	12:07	24°Sc52' R	24°Sg52' D	Mercury semisextile Pluto
Oct 31	02:13	24°Sc41' R	24°Sc41' D	Mercury conjunct Jupiter
Nov 1	04:11	24°Sc55' D	24°Sg55' D	Jupiter semisextile Pluto
Nov 1	10:26	24°Sc59' D	23°Le59' D	**Jupiter square Saturn** leaves 1° orb
Nov 1	15:21	23°Sc59' R	23°Le59' D	Mercury square Saturn

The 20-Year Jupiter-Saturn Cycle

Cnj	**Nov 28 1901**	**16:28**	**14°Cp00'**
Sqr	Jul 1905-May 1906		
Opp	Nov 1910-Oct 1911		
Sqr	Mar 1916-Jan 1917		
Cnj	**Sep 10 1921**	**04:13**	**26°Vi36'**
Sqr	Apr 1926-Feb 1927		
Opp	Jul 1930-Jun 1931		
Sqr	Nov 1935-Sep 1936		
Cnj	**Aug 8 1940 (to Feb 1941)**	**01:27**	**14°Ta27'**
Sqr	Dec 1945-Nov 1946		
Opp	Apr 1951-Feb 1952		
Sqr	Aug 1955-Jun 1956		
Cnj	**Feb 19 1961**	**00:02**	**25°Cp12'**
Sqr	Jul 1965		
Opp	Dec 1969-Oct 1971		
Sqr	Jun 1975-Mar 1976		
Cnj	**Dec 31 1980 (to Jul 81)**	**21:27**	**09°Li30'**

Sqr	Apr 1986		
Opp	Sep 1989-May 1991		
Sqr	Nov 1995		
Cnj	**May 28 2000**	**16:03**	**22°Ta43'**
Sqr	Dec 2005-Oct 2006		
Opp	May 2010-Mar 2011		
Sqr	Aug 2015-May 2016		
Cnj	**Dec 21 2020**	**18:20**	**00°Aq29'**

Jupiter trine Uranus

Jupiter's 2006 aspect to Uranus is a trine, which brings an air of flow and ease in welcome contrast to the blockages of the semi- and sesquares that Jupiter and Saturn make to Pluto around the same time. Hopefully, Jupiter-Uranus will live up to its reputation as the "thank the Lord" combination, bringing, when needed, sudden luck and last-minute deliverance from difficulty.

Jupiter trine Uranus, Nov 2005-Sep 2006

Pass 1: Nov 22-Dec 2, 2005

Sep 21 05	05:49	08°Le00'	08°Pi00'	Saturn quincunx Uranus
Nov 22 05	11:08	05°Sc52' D	06°Pi52' D	**Jupiter trine Uranus** enters 1° orb
Nov 27 05	11:56	**06°Sc54'**	**06°Pi54'**	**Jupiter trine Uranus**
Dec 2 05	18:08	07°Sc58' D	06°Pi58' D	**Jupiter trine Uranus** leaves 1° orb

Pass 2: Apr 29-May 11

Mar 26	08:26	11°Sc00' H	11°Pi00' H	(Helio Jupiter trine Uranus)
Apr 29	01:05	14°Sc42' R	13°Pi42' D	**Jupiter trine Uranus** enters 1° orb
May 5	06:36	11°Le25' H	11°Pi25' H	(Helio Saturn quincunx Uranus)
May 5	03:48	**13°Sc55' R**	**13°Pi55' D**	**Jupiter trine Uranus**
May 11	10:33	13°Sc08' R	14°Pi08' D	**Jupiter trine Uranus** leaves 1° orb

Pass 3: Aug 23-Sep 3

Aug 1	04:21	14°Le02' D	14°Pi02' R	Saturn quincunx Uranus
Aug 23	14:42	12°Sc15' D	13°Pi15' R	**Jupiter trine Uranus** enters 1° orb
Aug 29	09:12	**13°Sc02' D**	**13°Pi02' R**	**Jupiter trine Uranus**
Sep 3	18:55	13°Sc49' D	12°Pi49' R	**Jupiter trine Uranus** leaves 1° orb

The 13-Year Jupiter-Uranus Cycle

Cnj	**Oct 20 1900**	**08:13**	**10°Sg06'**
Sqr	Jul 1903-Feb 1904		
Tri	Jul 1904-Mar 1905		
Opp	Aug 1906-May 1907		
Tri	Aug 1909		
Sqr	Oct 1910		
Cnj	**Mar 4 1914**	**03:24**	**09°Aq32'**
Sqr	Jun 1917		
Tri	Jul 1918		
Opp	Sep 1920-May 1921		
Tri	Dec 1922-Sep 1923		
Sqr	Feb 1924-Oct 1924		
Cnj	**Jul 15 1927 (to Jan 1928)**	**21:49**	**03°Ar24'**
Sqr	Sep 1930-May 1931		
Tri	Oct 1931-Jul 1932		
Opp	Oct 1934		
Tri	Dec 1936		
Sqr	Jan 1938		

Cnj	**May 8 1941**	**00:21**	**25°Ta38'**
Sqr	Sep 1944		
Tri	Nov 1945-Jul 1946		
Opp	Feb 1948-Nov 1948		
Tri	Apr 1950-Jan 1951		
Sqr	May 1951-Feb 1952		
Cnj	**Oct 7 1954 (to May 1955)**	**10:02**	**27°Cn23'**
Sqr	Nov 1958		
Tri	Jan 1960		
Opp	Mar 1962-Dec 1962		
Tri	May 1964		
Sqr	Jun 1965		
Cnj	**Dec 11 1968 (to Jul 1969)**	**15:00**	**03°Li39'**
Sqr	Jan 1973		
Tri	Feb 1974		
Opp	Apr 1976		
Tri	Jun 1978		
Sqr	Jul 1979		
Cnj	**Feb 18 1983 (to Sep 1983)**	**22:44**	**08°Sg52'**
Sqr	Jun 1986-Feb 1987		
Tri	Jun 1987-Mar 1988		
Opp	Aug 1989-May 1990		
Tri	Nov 1991-Jul 1992		
Sqr	Sep 1993		
Cnj	**Feb 16 1997**	**02:22**	**05°Aq56'**
Sqr	May 2000		
Tri	Jun 2001		
Opp	Aug 2003		
Tri	Nov 2005-Aug 2006		
Sqr	Jan 2007-Oct 2007		
Cnj	**Jun 8 2010 (to Jan 2011)**	**11:27**	**00°Ar18'**

Saturn quincunx Uranus

By 2006 the Saturn-Uranus sesquare of 2004-05 has morphed into a quincunx, changing the nature of the relationship from an outright crisis to an uneasy and unstable truce. Each of the two Saturn-Uranus quincunxes in 2006 is followed by a Jupiter-Uranus trine, creating a sense of alternating tension and release.

The Saturn-Uranus quincunx of 2006 is a stage in the Saturn-Uranus cycle that began with the conjunction of Feb 13, 1988. The conjunction coincided with the announcement by scientists that a greenhouse effect caused by pollution was leading to global warming. In 1992, the year of the Saturn-Uranus semisextile, the largest group of world leaders in history met for an Earth Summit conference in Rio de Janeiro. (While a semisextile is usually considered a minor aspect, this one, due to retrogradation, made six passes during the years 1992-95.) Saturn and Uranus have a great deal to do with careful, realistic scientific reasoning and with scientific breakthroughs. If the Saturn-Uranus cycle is consistent in timing events having to do with our current ecological crisis, we can look forward to the next Saturn-Uranus aspect, the opposition in 2010, to see how this drama plays out.

Saturn quincunx Uranus, Sep 2005-May 2007

Pass 1: Sep 14-29, 2005

Sep 14 05	01:12	07°Le16' D	08°Pi16' R	**Saturn quincunx Uranus** enters 1° orb
Sep 21 05	05:49	**08°Le00' D**	**08°Pi00' R**	**Saturn quincunx Uranus** (at equinox)
Sep 29 05	00:32	08°Le44' D	07°Pi44' R	**Saturn quincunx Uranus** leaves 1° orb

Pass 2: Jan 11-27

Jan 11	19:18	09°Le09' R	08°Pi09' D	**Saturn quincunx Uranus** enters 1° orb
Jan 19	21:00	**08°Le31' R**	**08°Pi31' D**	**Saturn quincunx Uranus**
Jan 27	12:31	07°Le54' R	08°Pi54' D	**Saturn quincunx Uranus** leaves 1° orb

May 5	03:48	13°Sc55' R	13°Pi55' D	(Jupiter trine Uranus)
May 5	06:36	11°Le25' H	11°Pi25' H	(Helio Saturn quincunx Uranus)

Pass 3: Jul 25-Aug 7
Reinforced by Venus

Jul 25	18:33	13°Le13' D	14°Pi13' R	**Saturn quincunx Uranus** enters 1° orb
Jul 30	13:22	13°Cn50' D	13°Le50' D	Venus semisextile Saturn
Jul 30	18:19	14°Cn05' D	14°Pi05' R	Venus trine Uranus
Aug 1	01hr			(Moon occults Spica)
Aug 1	04:21	**14°Le02' D**	**14°Pi02' R**	**Saturn quincunx Uranus** (Saturn near Cardinal Axis)
Aug 7	10:22	14°Le50' D	13°Pi50' R	**Saturn quincunx Uranus** leaves 1° orb
Aug 29	09:12	13°Sc02' D	13°Pi02' R	Jupiter trine Uranus

Pass 4: Apr 21-May 27, 2007
Comes within orb, never exact

Apr 21 07	05:05	18°Le09' D	17°Pi09' D	**Saturn quincunx Uranus** enters 1° orb
May27 07	20:03	19°Le24' D	18°Pi24' D	**Saturn quincunx Uranus** leaves 1° orb

The 45-Year Saturn-Uranus Cycle

Cnj	**Jan 6 1897 (to Sep 1897)**	**07:06**	**27°Sc40'**
Sqr	Jun 1909-Apr 1910		
Qnx	Aug 1915-Jul 1916		
Opp	Oct 1918-Jun 1920		
Qnx	Dec 1921-Aug 1923		
Sqr	Feb 1930-Oct 1931		
Cnj	**May 3 1942**	**13:20**	**29°Ta20'**
Sqr	Dec 1951-Oct 1952		
Qnx	Mar 1960-Jan 1962		
Opp	Apr 1965-Jan 1967		
Qnx	May 1969-Mar 1970		
Sqr	Oct 1975-Apr 1977		
Cnj	**Feb 13 1988 (to Oct 1988)**	**00:59**	**29°Sg55'**
Sqr	Jul 1999-May 2000		
Qnx	Sep 2005-Aug 2006		
Opp	Nov 2008-Jul 2010		
Qnx	Nov 2012-Oct 2013		
Sqr	Feb 2021-Dec 2021		
Cnj	**Jun 28 2032**	**12:03**	**28°Ge01'**

Jupiter square Neptune

Normally, Jupiter aspects are over with quite quickly. However, in 2006 Jupiter goes retrograde between the first two passes of the Jupiter-Neptune square, and so this aspect stays continuously within orb for more than two months. Around the same time, from Jan 8 to May 25, Jupiter stations in declination parallel Neptune (and also Pluto). Plus, all three Jupiter-Neptune passes in longitude are reinforced by other aspects happening around the same time on related degrees.

This suggests that Jupiter-Neptune issues will be paramount in 2006. It would be well to beware of false optimism, pie-in-the-sky schemes, speculation, and the other kinds of foolish risk-taking

that a Jupiter-Neptune square can symbolize. Jupiter-Neptune will be especially seductive in a year when people are being asked to deal with the enormous problems posed by the Saturn aspects. The final Jupiter-Neptune square comes right after the first Saturn-Neptune opposition, but Saturn-Neptune gets the last word as it makes its final two passes in 2007.

Jupiter square Neptune, Jan-Sep 2006

Pass 1: Jan 15-31

In orb 72 days; reinforced by Venus and Moon; stationing Jupiter-Neptune parallel

Jan 8	15:35	15°S07'	16°S07'	(Jupiter parallel Neptune enters 1° orb; in orb until May 25)
Jan 14	09:48	24°Cn05' D	24°Cp05' D	(Full Moon)
Jan 15	19:38	15°Sc29' D	16°Aq29' D	**Jupiter square Neptune** enters 1° orb; in orb until Mar 28)
Jan 27	18:02	16°Cp56' R	16°Aq56' D	Venus semisextile Neptune
Jan 27	19:24	16°Cp55' R	16°Sc55' D	Venus sextile Jupiter
Jan 28	01:31	**16°Sc56' D**	**16°Aq56' D**	**Jupiter square Neptune** (Neptune near Cardinal Axis)
Jan 28	02:04	16°Cp50' D	16°Cp50' R	Moon conjunct Venus
Jan 31	12:47	15°S52'	15°S52'	(Jupiter parallel Neptune)

Pass 2: Mar 4-28

In orb 72 days; reinforced by stationing Jupiter-Neptune parallel

Mar 4	18:03	18°Sc52' R		Jupiter stations Retrograde (direct Jul 6)
Mar 16	07:00	**18°Sc39' R**	**18°Aq39' D**	**Jupiter square Neptune**
Mar 17	11hr			(Moon occults Spica)
Mar 20	18:26			(Spring Equinox)
Mar 28	06:38	18°Sc01' R	19°Aq01' D	**Jupiter square Neptune** leaves 1° orb; in orb since Jan 15)
Apr 25	02:39	15°S06'	15°S06'	(Jupiter parallel Neptune)
May 22	13:06	19°Aq49' R		Neptune stations Retrograde (direct Oct 29)
May 25	00:52	14°S03'	15°S03'	(Jupiter parallel Neptune leaves 1° orb; in orb since Jan 8)

Jun 27	19:08	18°Sc09' H	18°Aq09' H	(Helio Jupiter square Neptune)

Pass 3: Sep 19-29

Reinforced by Mercury and Moon; also by Jupiter parallel Neptune

Aug 23	03:26	14°S36'	15°S36'	(Jupiter parallel Neptune enters 1° orb)
Sep 16	22:55	15°S48'	15°S48'	(Jupiter parallel Neptune; contraparallel Saturn Sep 15)
Sep 19	19:39	16°Sc26' D	17°Aq26' R	**Jupiter square Neptune** enters 1° orb
Sep 22	11:39	29°Vi20' D	29°Vi20' D	(Solar Eclipse on same day as Jupiter parallel Pluto)
Sep 23	04:03			(Fall Equinox)
Sep 23	09:10	17°Li05' D	17°Sc05' D	Mercury semisextile Jupiter (Jupiter near Nov 8 Transit of Mercury degree at 16°Sc20')
Sep 23	13:43	17°Li22' D	17°Aq22' R	Mercury trine Neptune
Sep 24	01:59	18°Li09' D	18°Li09' D	Moon conjunct Mercury
Sep 24	14hr			(Moon occults Spica)
Sep 24	20:30	**17°Sc21' D**	**17°Aq21' R**	**Jupiter square Neptune**
Sep 26	13:05	17°Sc40' D	17°Sc40' D	Moon conjunct Jupiter
Sep 29	18:39	18°Sc16' D	17°Aq16' R	**Jupiter square Neptune** leaves 1° orb
Oct 7	07:25	16°S54'	15°S54'	(Jupiter parallel Neptune leaves 1° orb)

The 13-Year Jupiter-Neptune Cycle

Cnj	**Jun 1 1894**	**11:33**	**13°Ge10'**
Sqr	Sep 1897		
Opp	Jan 1901		
Sqr	Mar 1904		
Cnj	**May 22 1907**	**11:47**	**10°Cn50'**
Sqr	Oct 1910		
Opp	Jan 1914		
Sqr	Jul 1916-Feb 1917		

Cnj	**Sep 24 1919 (to Apr 1920)**	**02:00**	**10°Le49'**
Sqr	Jan 1923-Oct 1923		
Opp	Apr 1926-Jan 1927		
Sqr	Jun 1929		
Cnj	**Sep 19 1932**	**04:41**	**08°Vi25'**
Sqr	Jan 1936-Sep 1936		
Opp	Apr 1939		
Sqr	May 1942		
Cnj	**Sep 22 1945**	**08:59**	**05°Li54'**
Sqr	Jan 1949		
Opp	Mar 1952		
Sqr	Sep 1954-May 1955		
Cnj	**Sep 24 1958**	**16:11**	**03°Sc18'**
Sqr	Jan 1962		
Opp	Jun 1964-Feb 1965		
Sqr	Sep 1967-Apr 1968		
Cnj	**Feb 1 1971 (to Sep 1971)**	**06:50**	**02°Sg47'**
Sqr	Apr 1974-		
Opp	Jun 1977		
Sqr	Sep 1980		
Cnj	**Jan 19 1984**	**17:23**	**00°Cp01'**
Sqr	Apr 1987		
Opp	Oct 1989-Jun 1990		
Sqr	Sep 17 1993		
Cnj	**Jan 9 1997**	**11:39**	**27°Cp09'**
Sqr	Jul 1999-Mar 2000		
Opp	Sep 11 2002-Jun 2003		
Sqr	Jan 2006-Sep 2006		
Cnj	**May 27 2009 (to Dec 09)**	**20:12**	**26°Aq29'**

Saturn opposition Neptune

At the end of August, Saturn makes the first of three oppositions to Neptune, the last two of which will occur during the first half of 2007. Like Jupiter-Neptune, Saturn-Neptune can have difficulty distinguishing illusion from reality, but this results from irrational fears rather than unfounded optimism. Either way, this can play havoc with the economy and financial markets as well as with governmental policy decisions.

Judging from trends already apparent, this Saturn-Neptune opposition may mean even greater numbers of poor, sick and depressed people in the world. While it can signify suffering, however, Saturn-Neptune can also mean asceticism, voluntary simplicity and taking care of others. Moreover, it can facilitate the slow, methodical work and painstaking effort that eventually leads to success. If we can put aside irrational fears and concentrate on the real tasks in front of us, we may find that, as with all astrological symbols, the solution to our difficulties lies ready at hand, embedded in the problem. While a crumbling of belief in the established order can be painful and unsettling, it opens the way for the construction of a new and more life-affirming way of viewing the world.

In looking at events on the Saturn-Neptune timeline, it is interesting to note that the Watergate break-in which led to the impeachment of President Nixon occurred in 1972 during the last Saturn-Neptune opposition phase. This was also a time when the Vietnam War was increasingly perceived as a quagmire -- a factor, that along with the fall of a President, helped bring about an erosion of trust and a crumbling of ideals. Related to this, the preceding Saturn-Neptune conjunction of 1953 coincided with another erosion of American ideals as the McCarthy witch

hunts got under way. Interestingly, memories of McCarthy hearings have just been revived by the recently-released movie *Good Night and Good Luck*, the producers of which very likely saw its resemblance to trends going on today.

Another Saturn-Neptune theme is capitalism, individualism and elitism (Saturn) vs. socialism and the welfare of the masses (Neptune). At the Saturn-Neptune conjunction of 1809, Charles Fourier proposed the idea of communes; during the 1846 conjunction Marx and Engels formulated the ideas that led to the publication of the Communist Manifesto in 1848; at the 1882 conjunction trade unions began taking off in Europe, and the German Empire instituted health insurance and welfare programs; at the 1917 conjunction the Russian Revolution led to the forming of the USSR; and at the 1952-53 conjunction Stalin died, Krushchev began de-Stalinization, and Soviet competition with the West became a major world theme.

The present Saturn-Neptune cycle began at the conjunction in 1989, when the USSR collapsed, the Berlin Wall fell, and (with the exception of China and Cuba) Communist states the world over were overturned in the greatest eruption of revolutions since 1848.

The Saturn-Neptune cycle still times major developments in Russia and China, two nations that have tried to institutionalize (Saturn) ideals promoting the welfare of the masses (Neptune). For example, during the Saturn-Neptune square of 1998-99, there were major political and economic upsets in Russia, with the ruble being devalued, Boris Yeltsin sacking the entire cabinet, and three prime ministers being dismissed in 14 months. In China, dissidents attempted to form an opposition party, and were imprisoned.

However, new themes also emerged at the 1989 Saturn-Neptune conjunction. The splintering of the USSR into multiple nations began a whole new international ballgame, in which the US began to run unchecked as the sole Great Power in the world. The upcoming 2006-07 opposition promises to bring a vivid awareness of where this trend has led us, possibly in the form of a backlash and/or trend reversal.

Also with the 1989 conjunction, the struggle between Capitalism and Communism mutated into a struggle between globalism, multi-national corporations and free trade on the one hand, and the welfare of laborers on the other. With much recent publicity about the miseries and inequalities caused by the emerging global economic system, anti-globalist sentiment is beginning to become institutionalized through the election of anti-globalist, anti-US candidates in South America and elsewhere. With the upcoming Saturn-Neptune opposition, we will likely see some kind of culmination of this trend.

Also related to the formation of a global economy, at the 1998-99 Saturn-Neptune square, Europe combined its national currencies into the Euro. Since then, the varied economies have had difficulty running in step with each other, and during the 2006-07 Saturn-Neptune opposition we may see individual nations rethinking this attempt at an international collectivization of monetary systems.

In US politics, the Saturn-Neptune drama is also playing out in a contest between the Republican idealogy of individual initiative and prerogative vs. the Democratic idealogy of the common good. Also, on the religious front all over the world, there is an idealogical contest not only between Christianity and Islam, but also within both religions between a Saturnian fundamentalist, orthodox adherence to traditional forms and a Neptunian belief in the unity of all faiths. The upcoming Saturn-Neptune opposition is likely to bring these and similar matters to a head in 2006-07.

Saturn opposition Neptune, Aug 2006-Jul 2007

Pass 1: Aug 24-Sep 7

Aug 24	18:22	17°Le03' D	18°Aq03' R	**Saturn opposition Neptune** enters 1° orb
Aug 31	09:53	**17°Le53' D**	**17°Aq53' R**	**Saturn opposition Neptune**
Sep 7	06:08	18°Le43' D	17°Aq43' R	**Saturn opposition Neptune** leaves 1° orb
Sep 14	13:00	15°N47'	15°S47'	(Saturn contraparallel Neptune)

Dec 2	07:14	19°Le06' H	19°Aq06' H	(Helio Saturn opposition Neptune)

Pass 2: Feb 19-Mar 9, 2007

Feb 1 07	14:55	15°N16'	15°S16'	(Saturn contraparallel Neptune)
Feb 19 07	17:47	20°Le55' R	19°Aq55' D	**Saturn opposition Neptune** enters 1° orb
Feb 28 07	12:01	**20°Le15' R**	**20°Aq15' D**	**Saturn opposition Neptune**
Mar 9 07	23:56	19°Le35' R	20°Aq35' D	**Saturn opposition Neptune** leaves 1° orb

Pass 3: Jun 16-Jul 3, 2007

Jun 16 07	09:14	20°Le54' D	21°Aq54' R	**Saturn opposition Neptune** enters 1° orb
Jun 25 07	15:52	**21°Le47' D**	**21°Aq47' R**	**Saturn opposition Neptune**
Jul 3 07	23:26	22°Le38' D	21°Aq38' R	**Saturn opposition Neptune** leaves 1° orb
Jul 1707	18:52	14°N39'	14°S39'	(Saturn contraparallel Neptune)

The 36-Year Saturn-Neptune Cycle

Cnj	**Aug 1 1917**	**05:20**	**04°Le45'**
Sqr	Jan 1926-Nov 1926		
Opp	Mar 1936-Jan 1937		
Sqr	Jul 1944-Apr 1945		
Cnj	**Nov 21 1952 (to Jul 1953)**	**13:17**	**22°Li47'**
Sqr	Feb 1963 JFK assassinated		
Opp	Jun 1971-Apr 1972 Watergate		
Sqr	Sep 1979-Jun 22 1980		
Cnj	**Mar 3 1989 (to Nov 1989)**	**10:44**	**11°Cp55'**
Sqr	Jun 1998-Apr 1999		
Opp	Aug 2006-Jun 2007		
Sqr	Nov 2015-Sep 2016		
Cnj	**Feb 20 2026**	**16:51**	**00°Ar45'**

Jupiter semisquare and semisextile Pluto

Jupiter's unusually long-lasting parallel to Pluto from Jan 3-May 5 (see pages 59-60) is followed almost immediately by a Jupiter-Pluto semisquare from May 19-Jun 22, 2006. This is the second pass of the Jupiter-Pluto semisquare that began in Dec 2005. The third and final Jupiter-Pluto semisquare occurs from Jul 3-Aug 5, 2006. Another burst of Jupiter-Pluto energy occurs from Aug 30-Oct 12 as Jupiter once again is parallel Pluto. While not as long-lasting as the Jan 3-May 5 parallel, the second Jupiter-Pluto parallel is emphasized because it becomes exact just 20 hours before before the fall equinox, and 3 hours before a solar eclipse.

From Oct 6-Nov 26, the Jupiter-Pluto energy reasserts itself in mellower semisextile form. This is the only pass of this final Jupiter-Pluto aspect in longitude before the Jupiter-Pluto conjunction in Dec 2007. While the semisextile is inherently less stressful, this aspect is reinforced by Mercury aspects around the time when the Jupiter-Pluto semisextile becomes exact.

While Jupiter-Pluto can be read as "fortunate developments" and "changes for the better," its more problematical aspects can accompany fanatic adherence to beliefs, a thirst for power, and exploitation of the masses while leading and organizing them. Jupiter-Pluto can signify not only demagogues who are already at the top of the social order, but also the leaders of uprisings who want to unseat them. With the semisquare, the Jupiter-Pluto impulse to gain power and create change (either for good or ill) may well become overinflated (always a danger with Jupiter) and obsessive (a Pluto danger). It can lead to waste, runaway spending, speculation and other kinds of imprudent risk-taking that can affect both the economy and international policy. Whatever crises this semisquare provokes are likely to be due to overreaching, as an undue thirst for power leads to unscrupulous behavior. The result is often a total loss of wealth or reputation.

Given the current situation in Washington, these textbook meanings of a negative Jupiter-Pluto combination would seem to have particular relevance during the coming year. It's also interesting to note that Andre Barbault connects the 12-year Jupiter-Pluto cycle with the development of international terrorism. Not so surprising when you consider the less positive meanings of a Jupiter-Pluto combination. Let's hope that the Jupiter-Pluto sextile at the end of the year will bring out Jupiter-Pluto's dynamically constructive side, and its talent for repairing and restoring.

Jupiter semisquare Pluto, Dec 2005-Aug 2006

Pass 1: Dec 1-14, 2005

Dec 1 05	18:40	07°Sc46' D	23°Sg46' D	**Jupiter semisquare Pluto** enters 1° orb
Dec 7 05		**09°Sc00'**	**24°Sg 00'**	**Jupiter semisquare Pluto**
Dec14 05	12:01	10°Sc14' D	24°Sg14' D	**Jupiter semisquare Pluto** leaves 1° orb

Jan 3	03:55	14°S53'	15°S53'	(Jupiter parallel Pluto enters 1° orb)
Feb 1	16:58	15°S54'	15°S54'	(Jupiter parallel Pluto)
Mar 11	01:23	09°Sc50' H	24°Sg50' H	(Helio Jupiter semisquare Pluto)
Apr 3	08:56	15°S47'	15°S47'	(Jupiter parallel Pluto)
May 5	18:21	14°S43'	15°S43'	(Jupiter parallel Pluto leaves 1° orb)

Pass 2: May 19-Jun 22

May 19	15:29	12°Sc07' R	26°Sg07' R	**Jupiter semisquare Pluto** enters 1° orb
May 31	08:44	**10°Sc51' R**	**25°Sg51' R**	**Jupiter semisquare Pluto**
May 31		25°Sg51' R	26°Sg51'	Pluto conj. Galactic Center leaves 1° orb (in orb since Jan 29)
Jun 22	01:01	09°Sc17' R	25°Sg17' R	**Jupiter semisquare Pluto** leaves 1° orb

Pass 3: Jul 3-Aug 5

Jul 3	14:56	08°Sc59' R	24°Sg59' R	**Jupiter semisquare Pluto** enters 1° orb
Jul 25	04:49	**09°Sc30' D**	**24°Sg30' R**	**Jupiter semisquare Pluto**
Aug 5	13:36	10°Sc19' D	24°Sg19' R	**Jupiter semisquare Pluto** leaves 1° orb

Aug 30	21:15	14°S57'	15°S57'	(Jupiter parallel Pluto enters 1° orb)
Sep 15	19:36	15°S44'	15°N44'	(Jupiter contraparallel Saturn)
Sep 22	08:15	16°S05'	16°S05'	(Jupiter parallel Pluto)
Oct 12	18:40	17°S12'	16°S12'	(Jupiter parallel Pluto leaves 1° orb)

Jupiter semisextile Pluto, Oct-Nov 2006

Only Pass: Oct 26-Nov 6

Occurs as final Jupiter-Saturn square leaves orb. Reinforced by Moon, Mercury and Saturn.

Oct 18	06:42	21°Sc58' D	22°Le58' D	Jupiter square Saturn enters 1° orb
Oct 22	05:13	28°Li40' D	28°Li40' D	(New Moon)
Oct 22	15:36	22°Sc53' D	22°Sc53' D	Mercury conjunct Jupiter
Oct 23	10:13	23°Sc22' D	23°Le22' D	Mercury square Saturn
Oct 24	05:42	23°Sc13' D	23°Sc13' D	Moon conjunct Jupiter

Oct 24	06:55	23°Sc50' D	23°Sc50' D	Moon conjunct Mercury
Oct 25	14hr			(Moon occults Antares)
Oct 25	17:23	23°Sc32' D	23°Le32' D	Jupiter square Saturn
Oct 26	15:29	24°Sc46' D	24°Sg46' D	Mercury semisextile Pluto
Oct 26	18:02	24°Sg46' D	24°Sg46' D	Moon conjunct Pluto
Oct 26	20:46	21°S53'		(Mercury stations in declination, heads North)
Oct 26	21:03	23°Sc47' D	24°Sg47' D	**Jupiter semisextile Pluto** enters 1° orb
Oct 28	19:17	25°Sc04' R		Mercury stations retrograde
Oct 30	12:07	24°Sc52' R	24°Sg52' D	Mercury semisextile Pluto
Oct 31	02:13	24°Sc41' R	24°Sc41' D	Mercury conjunct Jupiter
Nov 1	04:11	**24°Sc55' D**	**24°Sg55' D**	**Jupiter semisextile Pluto**
Nov 1	10:26	24°Sc59' D	23°Le59' D	Jupiter square Saturn leaves 1° orb
Nov 1	15:21	23°Sc59' R	23°Le59' D	Mercury square Saturn
Nov 5	12:58	12°Ta58' D	12°Sc58' D	(Full Moon)
Nov 6	10:56	26°Sc04' D	25°Sg04' D	**Jupiter semisextile Pluto** leaves 1° orb

The 12-Year Jupiter-Pluto Cycle

Cnj	**May 18 1894**	**17:25**	**09°Ge59'**
SSx	Jun 1895		
SSq	Aug 1895		
Sqr	Aug 1897		
Opp	Nov 1900		
Sqr	May 1903-Jan 1904		
SSq	Mar 1905		
SSx	Jun 1905		
Cnj	**Jun 26 1906**	**18:12**	**22°Ge31'**
SSx	Jul 1907		
SSq	Oct 1907-May 1908		
Sqr	Sep 1909		
Opp	Dec 1912		
Sqr	Feb 1916		
SSq	May 1917		
SSx	Jul 1917-Mar 1918		
Cnj	**Aug 10 1918**	**20:02**	**06°Cn03'**
SSx	Sep 7 1919		
SSq	Jul 25 1920		
Sqr	Nov 12 1921 Jun 20 1922		
Opp	Feb 9 1925 Oct 15 1925		
Sqr	Mar 31 1928		
SSq	Jun 23 1929		
SSx	May 2 1930		
Cnj	**May 27 1931**	**03:12**	**19°Cn16'**
SSx	Nov 20 1931 Jun 29 1932		
SSq	Sep 18 1932		
Sqr	Feb 5 1934 Sep 21 1934		
Opp	Apr 23 1937 Dec 18 1937		
Sqr	May 20 1940		
SSq	Sep 11 1941 Apr 16 1942		
SSx	Jun 30 1942		
Cnj	**Aug 1 1943**	**08:09**	**06°Le53'**
SSx	Sep 1944		
SSq	Dec 1944-Jul 1945		
Sqr	Nov 1946		
Sqq	Mar 1948-Nov 1948		
Opp	Feb 1950		
Sqq	May 1951-Jan 1952		
Sqr	Mar 1953		

SSq	Jun 1954		
SSx	Sep 1954-May 1955		
Cnj	**Nov 2 1955 (to Jun 1956)**	**23:28**	**28°Le25'**
SSx	Dec 1956-Aug 1957		
SSq	Oct 1957		
Sqr	Nov 1959		
Sqq	Feb 1961		
Opp	May 1962-Jan 1963		
Sqq	Mar 1964		
Sqr	Jun 21 1965		
SSq	Jun 1967		
SSx	Aug 1967		
Cnj	**Oct 13 1968**	**05:12**	**23°Vi40'**
SSx	Nov 1969		
SSq	Oct 1970		
Sqr	Feb 1972-Oct 1972		
Sqq	Feb 1974		
Opp	Apr 1975		
Sqq	Jul 1976-Mar 1977		
Sqr	Jun 22 1978		
SSq	Oct 1979-Jun 1980		
SSx	Sep 1980		
Cnj	**Nov 2 1981**	**08:27**	**24°Li53'**
SSx	Dec 21 1982		
SSq	Nov 1983		
Sqr	Feb 1985		
Sqq	May 1986-Feb 1987		
Opp	Apr 27 1988		
Sqq	Jul 1989-Mar 1990		
Sqr	Jul 1991		
SSq	Nov 1992-Jul 1993		
SSx	Oct 1993		
Cnj	**Dec 2 1994**	**07:29**	**28°Sc26'**
SSx	Jan 1996		
SSq	Apr 1996-Nov 1996		
Sqr	Mar 10 1998		
Sqq	May 1999-Jan 2000		
Opp	Sep 2000-May 2001		
Sqq	Aug 2002		
Sqr	Aug 2004		
SSq	Dec 2005-Jul 2006		
SSx	Nov 2006		
Cnj	**Dec 11 2007**	**19:35**	**28°Sg24'**

Saturn sesquare and trine Pluto

The very first day of 2006 witnesses the second pass of the Saturn-Pluto sesquare that began in Sep 2005. The third and final pass occurs on Jun 30, so that the Saturn-Pluto sesquare perfectly demarcates the first half of 2006.

Interwoven with this is Jupiter semisquare Pluto, which takes over on May 31 and Jul 25 just as the influence of each Saturn sesquare Pluto aspect is fading. The interweaving of these opposite influences on Pluto is thus a major drama during the first 7 months of the year. This drama has a final reprise in Sep when first Saturn, and then Jupiter, forms a parallel to Pluto.

Like the other Saturn-Pluto hard aspects, Saturn square Pluto signifies restricted development, and the blocking of necessary change. This damming-up of Pluto's inexorable drive for change inevitably seeks an outlet. This is probably why textbooks often link this combination with violence, a cold-hearted cruelty, the application of force, and mass murder. Saturn-Pluto can mean fanatical adherence to principles, accompanied by toughness, endurance, record efforts, and martyrdom. It can also mean achievements brought about by the masses.

Looking at historical cycles, note that it was only days after the Aug 11, 1947 Saturn-Pluto conjunction that India and Pakistan gained their independence. Just afterward there was appalling bloodshed and violence. A year later, in 1948, Israel declared itself a nation, an act followed by the outbreak of war with her Arab neighbors. Right at the Oct 7, 1973 Saturn-Pluto square came the Yom Kippur War, and a month later the Arab oil embargo doubled the price of oil, and was followed by an economic recession.

The Saturn-Pluto conjunction of Nov 8, 1982 was the seed moment of the current Saturn-Pluto cycle. It found expression in the Nov 1982 start of the Israel-Lebanon war, which continued into the next year and threatened the Mideast oil supply. The first big crisis aspect, the waxing square, came on Mar 3, 1993--only six days after the first World Trade Center bombing on Feb 26, 1993. The Saturn-Pluto opposition, (said to be the most public manifestation of the cycle, the fruit born from the initial seeding at the conjunction), coincided with the complete destruction of the World Trade Center on Sep 11, 2001.

Now we are in the waning half of the Saturn-Pluto cycle, the phase of assimilation and dissemination. In reaction to the 9/11 event, the US launched a "War on Terror" that promises to last for decades. Now, four years after the opposition, we are in the waning sesquare, dealing with the consequences of 9/11 and related events, and assimilating their effects. With the sesquare that started in Sep, 2005 there has been increasing debate about terrorism and our response to it, and during the final passes in 2006 there should be more provocations in regard to this issue. If we don't get it right during 2006, the Saturn-Pluto square in 2009-10 will undoubtedly raise the issues again in a form that we cannot ignore. Each major Saturn-Pluto aspect in the coming years will provide yet another chance to learn to deal with this issue in a more constructive way. If we can at some point "get" the Saturn-Pluto message, perhaps we can avoid living with widespread world terrorism all the way until the next conjunction in 2020.

In *Mundane Astrology,* Charles Harvey connects the Saturn-Pluto cycle with emerging nations and "deep cultural transformations, purgations and 'resurrections'" (pp. 183-84). This seems to be a process that humankind must go through in order to achieve a new, more equitable world order. The symbolism of Saturn and Pluto suggests that the key to riding this phase out successfully is to recognize the changes that are trying to emerge and to channel and assist this process a disciplined manner.

Fortunately, the Jupiter-Pluto symbolism, with its positive message of leadership for restoration and repair, is also active this year. Also, let us be thankful that in October the hard Saturn-Pluto and Jupiter-Pluto aspects of the earlier part of the year mutate into a trine and semisextile. This should provide some breathing space, and stimulate the emergence of the more positive sides of these planetary pairs. Besides meaning blockage of the forces for change, Saturn-Pluto can signify intense, channeled self-discipline leading to mental or spiritual development. And besides signifying a scarcity of resources, it can give a strong impetus for their conservation. A constructive Saturn-Pluto energy can also bring about a deep cleansing that strips away the superfluous and clears the decks for construction and growth.

Saturn sesquare Pluto, Aug 2005-Jul 2006

Pass 1: Aug 31-Sep 20, 2005

Aug31 05	23:02	05°Le50' D	21°Sg50' R	**Saturn sesquare Pluto** enters 1° orb
Sep 9 05	23:55	**06°Le50' D**	**21°Sg50' D**	**Saturn sesquare Pluto**
Sep20 05	07:28	07°Le55' D	21°Sg55' D	**Saturn sesquare Pluto** leaves 1° orb

Pass 2: Dec 21, 2005-Jan 10, 2006

Dec 21 05	21:58	10°Le31' R	24°Sg31' D	**Saturn sesquare Pluto** enters 1° orb
Jan 1	07:52	**09°Le54' R**	**24°Sg54' D**	**Saturn sesquare Pluto**
Jan 10	17:37	09°Le14' R	25°Sg14' D	**Saturn sesquare Pluto** leaves 1° orb

Pass 3: Jun 22-Jul 7

Mar 24	23:04	09°Le55' H	24°Sg55' H	(Helio Saturn sesquare Pluto)
Jun 22	20:48	09°Le16' D	25°Sg16' R	**Saturn sesquare Pluto** enters 1° orb
Jun 30	01:38	**10°Le05' D**	**25°Sg05' R**	**Saturn sesquare Pluto**
Jul 7	01:53	10°Le54' D	24°Sg54' R	**Saturn sesquare Pluto** leaves 1° orb

Sep 8	06:26	16°N00'	16°S00'	(Sat contraparallel Pluto)

Saturn trine Pluto, Nov 2006-May 2008

Near pass: Oct 31-Dec 6, 2006

Oct 31	00:26	23°Le53' D	24°Sg53' D	Saturn trine Pluto enters 1° orb, never exact
Dec 6	02:54	25°Le04' R	26°Sg04' D	leaves 1° orb

Only exact pass: Jul 30-Aug 13, 2007

Jul 30 07	08:18	25°Le41' D	26°Sg41' R	Saturn trine Pluto enters 1° orb
Aug 6 07	10:35	**26°Le34' D**	**26°Sg34' R**	**Saturn trine Pluto exact**
Aug 13 07	13:58	27°Le28' D	26°Sg28' R	Saturn trine Pluto leaves 1° orb

Near pass: Apr 10-May 12, 2008

Apr 10 08	06:54	02°Vi08' R	01°Cp08' R	Saturn trine Pluto enters 1° orb
May12 08	06:56	01°Vi45' D	00°Cp45' R	Saturn trine Pluto leaves 1° orb

The 33- to 38-Year Saturn-Pluto Cycle

Cnj	**Oct 4 1914 (to May 1915)**	**18:35**	**02°Cn14'**
SSq	Sep 1918		
Sqr	Oct 1922		
Tri	Jan 1925-Oct 1925		
Sqq	Dec 1926-Sep 1927		
Opp	Feb 1931-Dec 1931		
Sqq	May 1935-Feb 1936		
Tri	Mar 1937-Jan 1938		
Sqr	Mar 1940		
SSq	Jul 1943-Apr 1944		
Cnj	**Aug 11 1947**	**01:21**	**13°Le07'**
SSq	Oct 1951		
Sqr	Dec 1955-Oct 1956		
Tri	Feb 1959-Dec 1959		
Sqq	Jan 1961-Nov 1961		
Opp	Apr 1965-Feb 1966		
Sqq	Jul 1969-Apr 1970		
Tri	May 1971-Mar 1972		
Sqr	Sep 1973-May 1974		
SSq	Jul 1978		

Cnj	**Nov 8 1982**	**00:44**	**27°Li36'**
SSq	Jan 1988		
Sqr	Mar 1993-Jan 1994		
Tri	Apr 1996-Feb 1997		
Sqq	Jun 1997-Apr 1998		
Opp	Aug 2001-May 2002		
Sqq	Sep 2005-Jun 2006		
Tri	Aug 2007		
Sqr	Nov 2009-Aug 2010		
SSq	Nov 2014- Aug 2015		
Cnj	**Jan 12 2020**	**16:56**	**22°Cp47'**

Neptune septile Pluto

Underlying all of the aforementioned aspects, there is the subtle undertone of the 492-year Neptune-Pluto cycle, which mirrors shifts in the collective unconscious over many centuries. These changes take place out of conscious awareness, becoming apparent only long after the fact when we look back and realize how radically different things are than they were many years ago.

Neptune septile Pluto 2005-07

Oct 19 05	08:19	14°Aq50' R	22°Sg24' D	**Neptune septile Pluto** enters 1° orb (leaves Apr 3 06)
Nov 30 05	17:41	**15°Aq09' D**	**23°Sg44' D**	**Neptune septile Pluto**

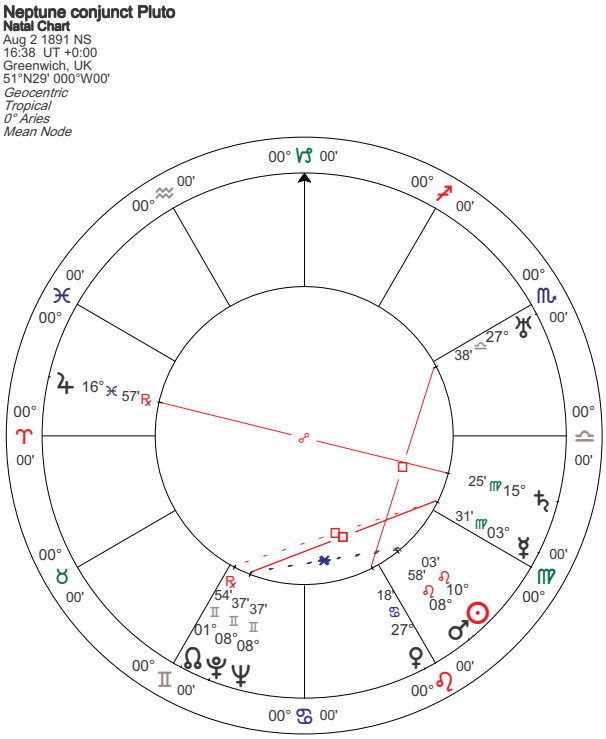
Jan 28	22:54	15°S54'	15°S54'	(Neptune parallel Pluto; in 1° orb until Jan 8 07)
Feb 19	18:00	**17°Aq48' D**	**26°Sg22' D**	**Neptune septile Pluto**
Apr 3	12:54	19°Aq11' D	26°Sg45' R	**Neptune septile Pluto** leaves 1° orb
Oct 20	15:40	17°Aq03' R	24°Sg37' D	**Neptune septile Pluto** enters 1° orb; leaves orb Apr 5 07)
Dec 1	22:20	**17°Aq21' D**	**25°Sg55' D**	**Neptune septile Pluto**

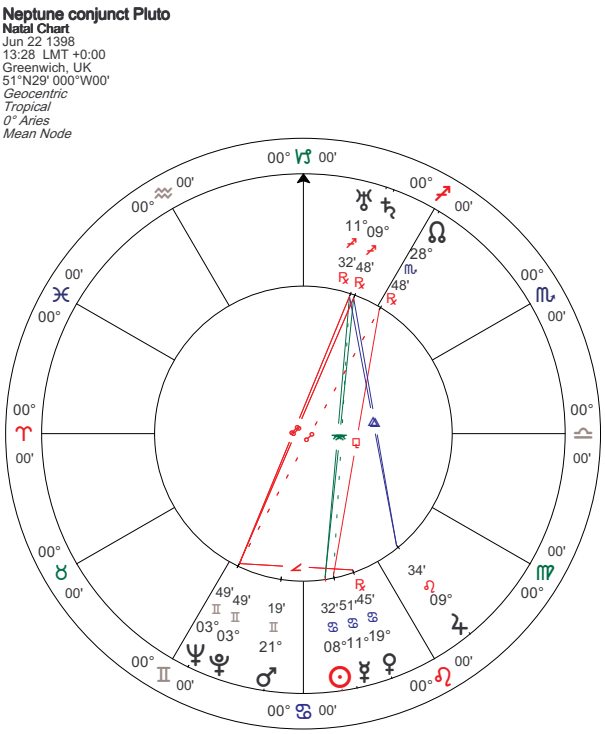
Jan 8 07	06:49	15°S32'	16°S32'	(Neptune parallel Pluto leaves 1° orb)
Feb 22 07	05:22	**20°Aq01' D**	**28°Sg35' D**	**Neptune septile Pluto**
Apr 5 07	20:38	21°Aq23' D	28°Sg58' R	**Neptune septile Pluto** leaves 1° orb

Currently the Neptune-Pluto cycle is in a waxing septile phase. The Neptune-Pluto "long sextile," which lasted through much of the 20th century and accompanied its huge creative leaps, had its last exact occurrence in 1986. Since Dec 25, 2001, Neptune and Pluto have been making exact septiles (51°25'43") twice a year, and they will continue to do so until Feb 7, 2011. What would ordinarily be a minor aspect becomes significant when it occurs between such slow-movers in a regular twice-a-year rhythm over an entire decade.

During 2006, the two exact septiles occur on Feb 15 and Nov 30. The year 2006 is significant because it marks the center point of the 10-year septile series. Also during 2006 this Neptune-Pluto interaction will be reinforced by the first Neptune-Pluto parallel in 88 years (discussed further on pages 59-60).

Typically, Neptune-Pluto septile series alternate with sextile series. Following the Neptune-Pluto conjunction of 1891-92 there was a 3-year series of exact Neptune-Pluto septiles from Dec 16, 1937 to Sep 20, 1940 (a period that also witnessed an exact heliocentric Neptune-Pluto septile on Mar 30, 1939 -- an aspect that during the current septile series comes close, but does not become exact). Then from Jan 22, 1950 to Jun 8, 1986 came the 36-year "long sextile" series of exact sextiles. After the current 2001-2011 septiles comes a closing 6 years of sextiles from Jul 25, 2026 to Feb 29, 2032. Then, Neptune-Pluto sextiles and septiles cease until 2337.





The pattern has similarities to the previous Neptune-Pluto cycle, which started with the Neptune-Pluto conjunction in 1398-99. Like the 1891-92 conjunction, this took place in Gemini. The first septile series following 1398 took place in the 4 years from 1445-49 (with an exact heliocentric septile in during this period in 1447). This was followed by the 23-year "long sextile" from 1460-83. Then came 29 years of septiles from 1496-1525 (with an exact heliocentric septile in 1500). Finally there was a closing 4-year sextile series from 1536-40.

As there is in 2006, there was a Neptune-Pluto parallel in 1512 during the second septile series of the Renaissance. This was at 16°S47', close to the degree of the 2006 parallel.

The 492-Year Neptune-Pluto Cycle (Waxing Semisextile, Septile and Sextile Phases)

Cnj	**Jun 22 1398 (to Mar 1399)**	**13:28**	**03°Ge49'**
SSx	Sep 1423-Jul 1424 OS		
Pll	Aug 1424-Apr 1425		
Spt	Dec 1445-Aug 1449		
Sxt	Feb 1460--May 1483		
Spt	Oct 1496-Feb 1525		
Sxt	Jun 1536-Mar 1540 OS		

Cnj	**Aug 2 1891 (to Apr 1892)**	**16:38**	**08°Ge37'**
SSx	Sep 1916-Aug 1917		
Spt	Dec 1937-Sep 1940		
Sxt	Jan 1950-Oct 1956		
Sxt	Nov 1956-Oct 1961 within 1° orb only		
Sxt	Oct 1971-Aug 1976 within 1° orb only		
Sxt	Oct 1976-Jun 1986		
Spt	Dec 2001-Feb 2011		
Sxt	Jul 2026-Feb 2032		

The septile phase in 1496-1525 is analogous to the one we are living through now. As it started, Columbus had just opened a new chapter of European expansion in the New World. On the religious front, it began with the deaths of Savonarola and Torquemada in 1498, and

encompassed the height of Martin Luther's career of religious reform (he posted his 95 Theses in 1517). It also coincided with the establishment of Shi'ite Islam as the state religion of Persia in 1512. In art, there was a shift around 1500 from Early to High Renaissance art styles, and, around 1519, a trend toward Mannerism -- a style that replaced the classical balance of the earlier Renaissance with elongated figures, strained gestures, and intense, often strident, color expressive of the turbulent spirit of the age. Similarly, the fresh new Modern Art movement of the 20th century has evolved into the Postmodern style of the early 21st.

To get at the meaning of the septile, remember that it is 360 degrees divided by 7 -- an irrational number that works out to approximately (but not exactly) 51°25'43". The septile and its multiples, the bi- and tri-septile, form the 7th-harmonic aspect family. Proponents of harmonic theory such as John Addey and Charles Harvey connect the 7th harmonic with sacred matters, creativity and inspiration, saying that it has a Neptunian feel. The core idea is input from beyond the everyday human dimension. In discussing political events, Charles Harvey connects the number 7 with "that stage in a cycle when something of the larger meaning and guiding vision of the basic cycle becomes apparent," so that world events tend to take on a fated quality. (Michael Baigent, Nicholas Campion and Charles Harvey, *Mundane Astrology*, 2nd ed. 1992, p. 158.)

Michael Meyer has a darker view of the septile, emphasizing that it represents "the compulsive and irrational elements of existence." For this reason he also says that the septile has a fated quality. In his words, "A waxing septile, which occurs after the opening of a new cycle of relationship, represents the action of karma and the enduring pressure of ancient patterns." During a waxing septile we are challenged to "neutralize the failures and unfinished business of the past cycle, which can return to haunt the present." (See the CyberWorld Chaldea site, wysiwyg://58/http://www.khaldea.com/articles/ct3.shtml.) One can only look at the 1937-40 Neptune-Pluto septile, which saw the rise of Hitler and fascism that led to the outbreak of World War II in 1941. This originated from a failure to address the imbalances and inequities following World War I, just as World War I originated from the system of individual, self-interested nation-states that developed during the previous Neptune-Pluto cycle. The current Neptune-Pluto septile gives us another chance. Already it has shown a return to the fascistic tendencies of the 1937-40 era, but one hopes that this is only one last desperate stand before a major change in the way the world is organized.

Let us remember that the current Neptune-Pluto cycle started in 1891 with a conjunction in Gemini, signaling that human evolution in the following 500 years would come through the development of transportation and communication. Unmistakably, our lives and sense of reality have been profoundly altered by automobile and air travel, the telephone, radio and television, and most recently by computers and the information revolution. What many writers overlook, however, is that fundamentally Gemini rules the stage when the human first recognizes that there are other beings in the world besides oneself, and goes out to meet them and begin a dialogue. The fact that Gemini is associated with siblings and neighbors has a huge significance in human history, as circumstances force us to face the issues of human brotherhood and the neighborhood of Planet Earth.

Will we survive the turbulence of this era? If we do, the rewards will be great. In *Astrological Timing: The Transition to the New Age*, Dane Rudhyar connects the Neptune-Pluto cycle with 500-year waves of humanity's increasing organization from lesser to greater social units. In our decade when this increasing organization seems to be taking the form of a menacing rise in governmental and corporate power, it is good to remember that among the visionary vanguard of thinkers and artists, the watchwords today are holism, systems and ecology. While the established order is taking bumbling steps toward this goal, making a last-ditch, life-denying

attempt to impose world unity by propaganda and coercion, the vanguard offers a new and life-affirming way of viewing the world as an interconnected whole in which the survival of every individual part depends on the well-being of all. Historically, artists and thinkers have foreshadowed the world that is coming into being, and if this is true in the 21st century as it has been in the past, we can expect this trend toward cooperation to gradually take on concrete form in the coming years and work its way into the established institutions of society.

Pluto conjunct the Galactic Center

The Galactic Center is the nucleus of our Milky Way galaxy, the gravitational center around which our solar system, and countless others within the galaxy, revolve. As such, it is like a galactic-level Sun. Just as the Sun governs our personal basic life energy and purpose, the Galactic Center is thought to do this on a higher level, relating to the higher purpose for mankind. Charles Harvey suggests that the Galactic Center "will be the directing source for new levels of inspiration and insight for man. These new ideas will be modulated and flow into our solar system level as planets, and particularly the outer ones, line up or form hard aspects or mid-points to the GC, which we might visualize as a sort of higher level 'mission control.'" (*Mundane Astrology*, 2nd ed., 1992, p. 336.)

As seen from Earth in the tropical zodiac, the Galactic Center currently lies at 26°Sg51' -- a degree that will be conjoined by Pluto during much of 2006 and 2007. Pluto is conjunct this position exactly on Dec 27, 2006, Jul 21, 2007, and Oct 23, 2007, but it lies within a 1-degree orb of this from Jan 29-May 31, 2006 Nov 30, 2006-Jan 25 2007, and Jun 11-Nov 26, 2007. Such a conjunction has not been seen since the last passages of Pluto through this key part of the heavens around 1757-58 and 1509-10.

Table 9: 2006-07 Conjunctions to the Galactic Center (26°Sg51')

Jan 1 2006	19:09	Mercury (E 1/1, L 1/2)	**Jan 12 2007**	13:46	Mars (E 1/11, L 1/13)
Jan 29-May 31		**Pluto within 1° orb, never exact**	**Jul 21 2007**	18:42	**Pluto (E 6/11)**
Dec 8 2006	17:19	Venus (E 12/7, L 12/9)	**Oct 23 2007**	11:36	**Pluto (L 11/26)**
Dec 18 2006	22:08	Sun (E 12/17, L 12/19)	**Dec 4 2007**	23:45	Jupiter (E 11/30, L 12/9)
Dec 25 2006	20:32	Mercury (E 12/25, L 12/26)	**Dec 18 2007**	14:55	Mercury (E 12/17, L 12/19)
Dec 27 2006	04:02	**Pluto (E 11/30, L 1/25/07)**	**Dec 19 2007**	03:52	Sun (E 12/18, L 12/20)

Charles Harvey notes that the Foundation for the Study of Cycles has detected an increase in stock market activity in years when planets line up with the Galactic Center. Also that Theodor Landscheidt, noticing Neptune's 1982 conjunction with the GC fifteen years prior to that event, used this observation to successfully predict the recession and widespread economic uncertainty of that year.

Harvey also finds that the degree of the GC appears connected with breakthroughs in air travel -- notably in the chart of the Wright brothers' first flight and in the natal charts of rocket pioneer Wernher von Braun and the astronaut Neil Armstrong.

The GC shows up on the political level as well. In the U.S. chart of Jul 4, 1776, there is a Mars-Neptune square that creates a T-square with the GC. Harvey also cites Barry Lynes' giving the 1917 chart for Russia an IC conjunct the GC square its Asc. This area of the heavens may be a sensitive point to watch for developments in both Russia and the U.S. (*Mundane Astrology*, pp. 336-37.)

The Triggering Influence of Mars

Table 10: 2006 Mars Trigger Dates

Jan 15	09:25	15°Ta26' D	15°Sc26' D	**Mars opposition Jupiter**
Jan 18	13:52	16°Ta35' D	16°Aq35' D	**Mars square Neptune**
Feb 9	23:35	26°Ta09' D	26°Sg09' D	**Mars quincunx Pluto**
Feb 28	18:20	05°Ge30' D	05°Le30' R	**Mars sextile Saturn**
Mar 11	16:48	11°Ge18' D	11°Pi18' D	**Mars square Uranus**
Mar 24	09:04	18°Ge16' D	18°Sc16' R	**Mars quincunx Jupiter**
Mar 25	13:52	18°Ge56' D	18°Aq56' D	**Mars trine Neptune**
Mar 26	12:41	19°Ge28' D	04°Le28' R	**Mars semisquare Saturn**
Apr 8	08:22	26°Ge44' D	26°Sg44' R	**Mars opposition Pluto**
Apr 16	04:48	01°Cn15' D	16°Sc15' R	**Mars sesquare Jupiter**
Apr 21	21:55	04°Cn34' D	19°Aq34' D	**Mars sesquare Neptune**
Apr 22	00:22	04°Cn37' D	04°Le37' D	**Mars semisextile Saturn**
May 7	09:12	13°Cn38' D	13°Sc38' R	**Mars trine Jupiter**
May 8	00:37	14°Cn01' D	14°Pi01' D	**Mars trine Uranus**
May 17	18:45	19°Cn49' D	19°Aq49' D	**Mars quincunx Neptune**
May 28	00:18	25°Cn56' D	25°Sg56' R	**Mars quincunx Pluto**
Jun 3	03:43	29°Cn37' D	14°Pi37' D	**Mars sesquare Uranus**
Jun 18	06:04	**08°Le46' D**	**08°Le46' D**	**Mars conjunct Saturn**
Jun 19	07:40	09°Le25' D	09°Sc25' R	**Mars square Jupiter**
Jun 20	19:21	10°Le19' D	25°Sg19' R	**Mars sesquare Pluto**
Jun 27	23:32	14°Le42' D	14°Pi42' R	**Mars quincunx Uranus**
Jul 5	12:46	19°Le20' D	19°Aq20' R	**Mars opposition Neptune**
Jul 14	07:07	24°Le44' D	24°Sg44' R	**Mars trine Pluto**
Aug 8	17:20	10°Vi36' D	10°Sc36' D	**Mars sextile Jupiter**
Aug 13	12:51	13°Vi38' D	13°Pi38' R	**Mars opposition Uranus**
Aug 17	11:36	16°Vi08' D	16°Le08' D	**Mars semisextile Saturn**
Aug 20	16:26	18°Vi10' D	18°Aq10' R	**Mars quincunx Neptune**
Aug 29	23:28	24°Vi05' D	24°Sg05' R	**Mars square Pluto**
Sep 7	03:15	29°Vi20' D	14°Sc20' D	**Mars semisquare Jupiter**
Sep 12	04:51	02°Li36' D	17°Aq36' R	**Mars sesquare Neptune**
Sep 15	09:28	04°Li40' D	19°Le40' D	**Mars semisquare Saturn**
Sep 26	12:26	11°Li56' D	11°Pi56' R	**Mars quincunx Uranus**
Oct 4	12:22	17°Li12' D	17°Aq12' R	**Mars trine Neptune**
Oct 8	18:32	20°Li01' D	20°Sc01' D	**Mars semisextile Jupiter**
Oct 12	10:38	22°Li28' D	22°Le28' D	**Mars sextile Saturn**
Oct 15	12:21	24°Li31' D	24°Sg31' D	**Mars sextile Pluto**
Oct 18	02:49	26°Li15' D	11°Pi15' R	**Mars sesquare Uranus**
Oct 23	06:45	**29°Li43' D**	**29°Li43' D**	**Mars conjunct Sun**
Nov 7	13:41	10°Sc06' D	25°Sg06' D	**Mars semisquare Pluto**
Nov 8	16:23	10°Sc52' D	10°Pi52' R	**Mars trine Uranus**
Nov 17	19:00	17°Sc08' D	17°Aq08' D	**Mars square Neptune**
Nov 29	02:59	25°Sc01' D	25°Le01' D	**Mars square Saturn**
Nov 30	07:38	25°Sc52' D	25°Sg52' D	**Mars semisextile Pluto**
Dec 11	16:10	**03°Sg52' D**	**03°Sg52' D**	**Mars conjunct Jupiter**
Dec 22	00:17	11°Sg14' D	11°Pi14' D	**Mars square Uranus**
Dec 31	13:04	18°Sg06' D	18°Aq06' D	**Mars sextile Neptune**

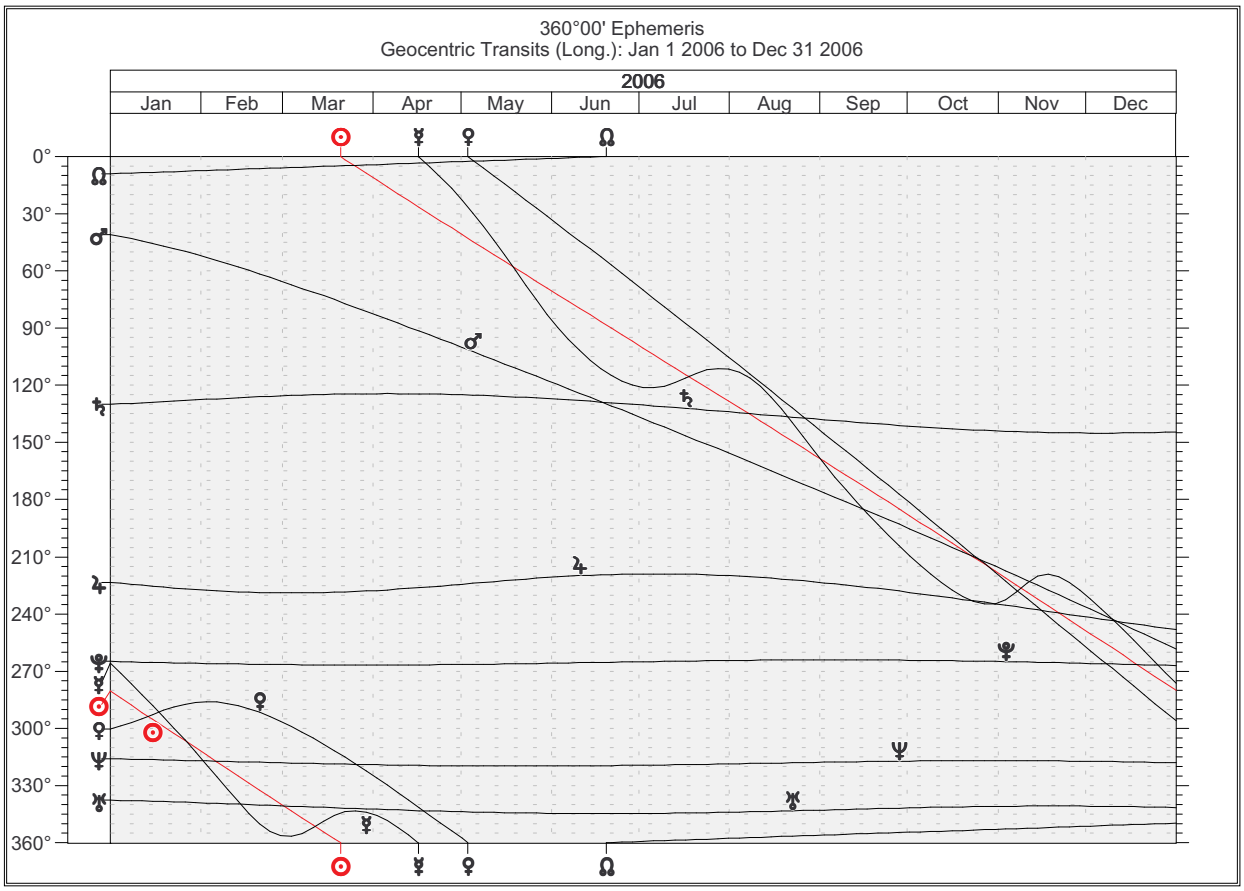
Highlighted are the important conjunctions that Mars makes in 2006: to Saturn on Jun 18, to the Sun on Oct 23, and to Jupiter on Dec 11 (spectacularly reinforced, as you will see on page 45).

Mars makes no stations during 2006, so all its aspects pass quickly. However, note the highlighted dates, when Mars makes more than one aspect to the planets beyond it during the same or consecutive days. Through a kind of "translation of light," this ties together all the planets involved and puts special emphasis on their degrees. Days of multiple related aspects can be high in energy and have a potential to produce dramatic news events and market moves.

Important Aspects from the Faster-Moving Planets

Occasionally aspects from planets that move even faster than Mars can assume major importance. This can happen when three or more planets "gang up" on related degrees within a day or so of each other, creating what we are calling here a "reinforced" aspect. A reinforced aspect can also happen when one of these points goes retrograde and stays within orb of an aspect for a far longer period than it usually would.

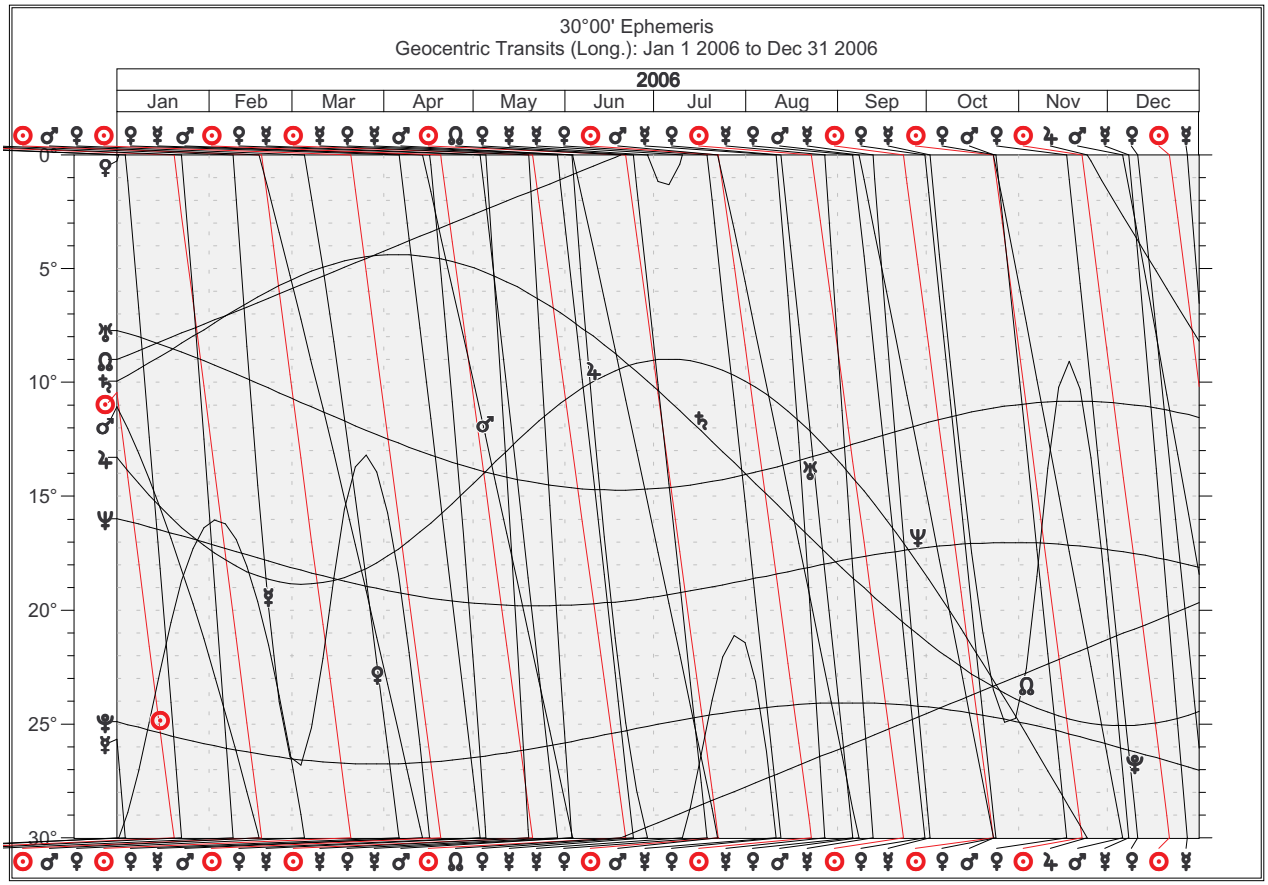
Graphic ephemerides (like the three for 2006 that are shown below) are a great help in spotting reinforced aspects. What we look for is (a) tangles or knots where three or more lines intersect, and (b) planet lines that interrupt their usually downward and direct course to flatten out as they become stationary within a degree or so of another line. When we see such tangles and stationing aspects, we investigate them in more detail using Solar Fire's transit listings to see exactly when and where in the zodiac they occur. Graphic ephemerides are also a big help in spotting refranating aspects -- aspects that stay within orb for a considerable period, but, because of retrogradation, do not become exact. In the 30° graph below, you will see Saturn's refranating trine to Pluto from Oct 31 to Dec 6.



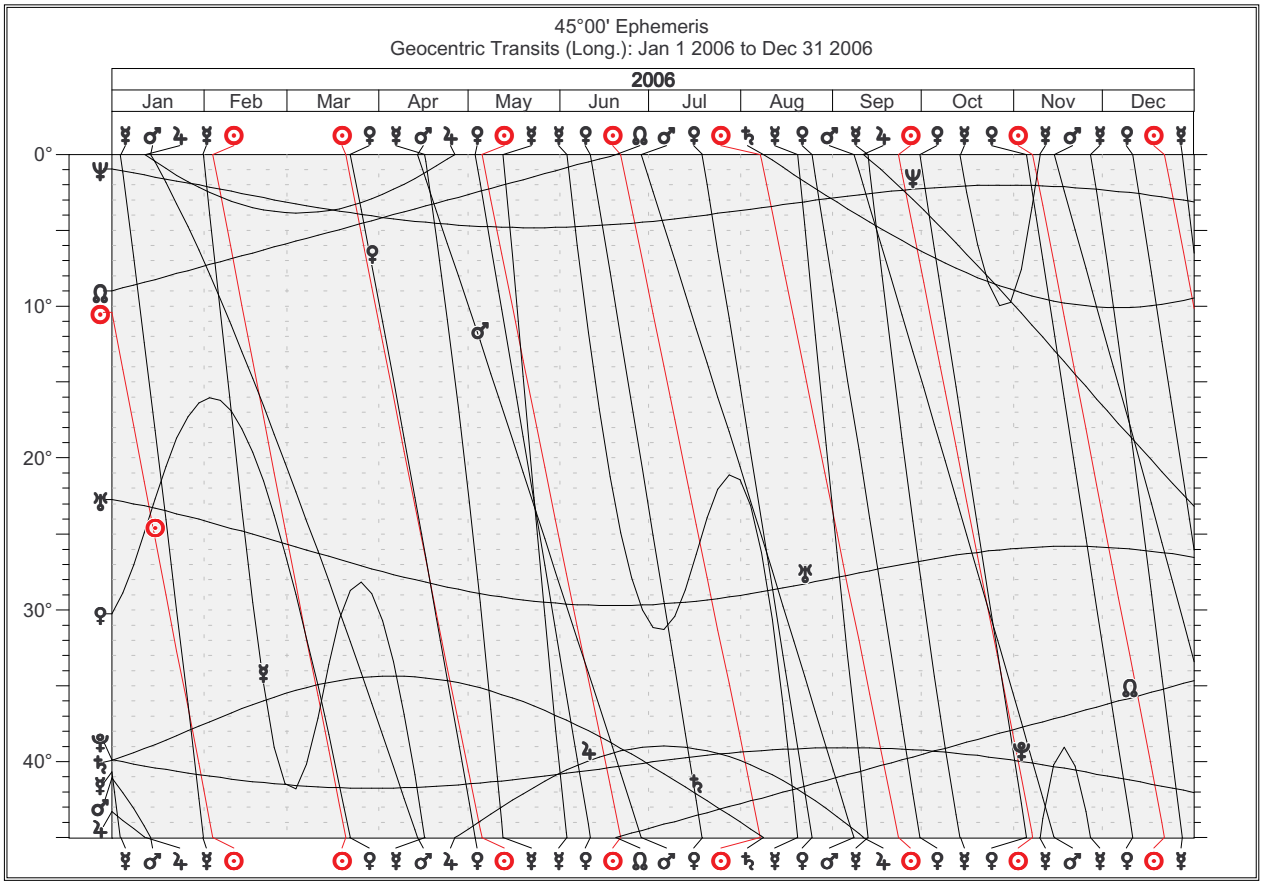
In the 360°-modulus graphic ephemeris above, all the lines that cross or touch indicate conjunctions. Note Mercury's direct station conjunct Uranus in late March, Mercury's retrograde station conjunct Jupiter in late October shortly after a triple Mars-Sun-Venus conjunction, and Mars's conjunction with Saturn in June.

For those new to graphic ephemerides: **On the side scale of this 360°degree graph, Aries occupies the first 30 degrees, Taurus the second, etc., down to Pisces, which ends at 360°. When a planet leaves Pisces and enters Aries, its line goes off the bottom of the the graph and reappears at the top. The faster a planet travels, the steeper the downward slope of its line. When a planet goes retrograde, its line turns upward.**

Below we graph the same time period in 30° and 45° moduli to bring out other aspects besides conjunctions. A 30° graph folds the zodiac into twelve 30° segments, one on top of each other, so that a crossing line can indicate any aspect that is a multiple of 30 degrees. A 45° graph folds the zodiac into eight 45° segments to show all aspects that are multiples of 45 degrees. (These graphs were drawn by Solar Fire 6.)



The 30°-modulus graph above shows conjunctions, semisextiles, squares, trines, quincunxes and oppositions.



The above 45° graph shows conjunctions, squares, oppositions, semisquares and sesquares.

Some reinforced aspects make an already-important outer-planet aspect even more so. These we will list further on in connection with the major outer-planet aspects. The other reinforced aspects we will list below. In the following listings of events happening close in time on related degrees, we've also put in parentheses important events (like lunations, occultations and parallels) that occur around the same time on unrelated degrees.

Nov 4 05-Apr 15 06		**4-11 Le/Ar**		**Saturn trine Mean North Node, in orb over 5 months**
Nov 4 05	19:19	11°Le01' D	12°Ar01' R	Saturn trine N Node enters 1° orb
Nov 18 05	12:38	**11°Le18' D**	**11°Ar18' R**	Saturn trine N Node
Nov 22 05	09:01	11°Le19' R		Saturn stations Retrograde
Feb 7	09:14	**07°Le01' R**	**07°Ar01' R**	Saturn trine N Node
Mar 27	23:33	**04°Le27' R**	**04°Ar27' R**	Saturn trine N Node
Apr 5	12:55	04°Le23' D		Staturn stations Direct
Apr 15	10:52	04°Le28' D	03°Ar28' R	Saturn trine N Node leaves 1° orb

Feb 26-Mar 6		**26 Pi/Sg**		**Mercury stations square Pluto, in orb 9 days, amplified by Moon**
Feb 26	14:29	25°Pi30' D	26°Sg30' D	Mercury square Pluto enters 1° orb
Feb 28	00:30	09°Pi16' D	09°Pi16' D	(New Moon conjunct Uranus)
Feb 28	15:25	**26°Pi32' D**	**26°Sg32' D**	Mercury square Pluto
Mar 1	04:02	26°Pi42' D	26°Pi42' D	Moon conjunct Mercury
Mar 2	20:30	26°Pi54' R		Mercury stations Retrograde
Mar 4	21:06	**26°Pi35' R**	**26°Sg35' D**	Mercury square Pluto
Mar 5	01:04	01°N40'		(Mercury stations in declination, turns South)
Mar 6	23:59	25°Pi37' R	26°Sg37' D	Mercury square Pluto leaves 1° orb

May 23-24		**23Ar/Cn, 8 Ge**		**Venus square Mars, amplified by Mercury and Moon**
May 23	13:25	08°Ge04' D	23°Ar04' D	Mercury semisquare Venus
May 23	16:30	08°Ge20' D	23°Cn20' D	Mercury semisquare Mars
May 23	21:59	**23°Ar28' D**	**23°Cn28' D**	Venus square Mars
May 24	05:35	23°Ar50' D	23°Ar50' D	Moon conjunct Venus

Jul 31-Aug 9		**21-28 Cn/ 5-12 Vi**		**Venus semisquare Mars, amplified by near Mercury square Mars; both within 2° of semisquare to Mars for 10 days**
Jul 29	00:40	21°Cn05' D		Mercury stations direct
Jul 31	08:27	21°Cn21' D	05°Vi21' D	Mercury semisquare Mars enters 1° orb, never exact
Aug 7	17:49	25°Cn59' D	09°Vi59' D	Mercury semisquare Mars leaves 1° orb
Aug 8	02:08	24°Cn12' D	10°Vi12' D	Venus semisquare Mars enters 1° orb
Aug 9	10:53	16°Aq44' D	16°Le44' D	(Full Moon near Cardinal Axis)
Aug 9	18:54	**26°Cn16' D**	**11°Vi16' D**	Venus semisquare Mars
Aug 11	11:37	28°Cn20' D	12°Vi20' D	Venus semisquare Mars leaves 1° orb

Oct 22-27		**27 Li-4 Sc**		**Sun-Venus-Mars conjunction, amplified by the Moon**
Oct 22	02:03	27°Li05' D	27°Li05' D	Moon conjunct Venus
Oct 22	05:13	28°Li40' D	28°Li40' D	New Moon
Oct 22	05:57	29°Li02' D	29°Li02' D	Moon conjunct Mars
Oct 23	06:45	**29°Li43' D**	**29°Li43' D**	Sun conjunct Mars
Oct 25	06:10	**01°Sc03' D**	**01°Sc03' D**	Venus conjunct Mars
Oct 27	17:50	**04°Sc10' D**	**04°Sc10' D**	Sun conjunct Venus (superior conjunction)

Dec 10-11		**2-3 Sg**		**Mercury-Mars-Jupiter conjunction, also close in latitude**
Dec 10	02:26	**02°Sg45' D**	**02°Sg45' D**	Mercury conjunct Mars
Dec 10	16:57	**03°Sg39' D**	**03°Sg39' D**	Mercury conjunct Jupiter
Dec 11	16:10	**03cSg52' D**	**03°Sg52' D**	Mars conjunct Jupiter

Planetary Clusters

Though they may not not necessarily be in aspect, having five or more planets clustered into a stellium also contributes to the planetary energy of certain periods. While 2006 is by no means a record cluster year, it does show a moderate increase over the relatively low-cluster years of 2001-2005: During 2006 there are five instances of five planets clustering within a 20° arc:

Table 11: 2006 Planetary Clusters within 20 Degrees

Start Date	Start Time (UT)	End Date	End Time (UT)	Duration (d h m)	Beginning of 20-deg. Arc at Start	Zodiacal order at Start	Beginning of 20-deg. Arc at End	Zodiacal order at End
Aug 21	23:48	**Aug 24**	1:42	2 01 54	8♌46	☽☿♄☿☉	13♌45	☿♄☿☉☽
Oct 30	18:52	**Nov 16**	17:09	16 22 17	4♏48	♂☉☿♃☿	9♏13	☿♂☉♃☿
Nov 19	8:26	**Nov 21**	0:59	1 16 33	8♏55	☽☿♂☉♃	9♏51	☿♂☉♃☽
Nov 19	16:19	**Nov 21**	20:08	2 03 49	12♏57	☽♂☉♃☿	19♏57	♂☉♃☿☽
Dec 18	22:06	**Dec 20**	17:13	1 19 07	6♐51	☽♂☿♀☉	10♐19	♂☿♀☉☽

The most notable clusters of 2006 occur in November and take place in Scorpio and early Sagittarius:

- **Oct 30-Nov 16:** This cluster involves the Sun, Mercury, Venus, Mars and Jupiter running between 4° and 29° Scorpio. Lasting 16 days, it is the longest-lasting, most important cluster of the year. Unusually, it does not depend upon the Moon to create the cluster.

  (There has not been a 16-day cluster since that of Apr 30-May 19, 2000, which lasted almost 19 days. It will not be surpassed until the 17-day cluster that starts on Dec 30, 2019. However, all these pale when compared with the length and number of clusters in the years 1990 and 1993-94.)

- **Nov 19-21:** Technically, this cluster breaks down into two clusters as Mercury retrogrades out of the first cluster and then the whole group catches up with Venus. For practical purposes, it is really one cluster composed of the Sun, Moon, Mercury, Venus, Mars, and Jupiter which are all running between 12 Scorpio and 10 Sagittarius. When this is treated as a single cluster, the duration is 2 days 11 hours 42 minutes.

Visible Planetary Groupings

Around **Jun 17** shortly after sunset, the Jun 18 Mars-Saturn conjunction will be visible in the northwest, with Mercury (soon to reach its Jun 20 greatest elongation) visible lower in the sky to viewers in some latitudes.

Before sunrise on **Aug 16** an extremely close conjunction of Venus with Saturn may be visible to lucky viewers who look very low on the northeast horizon. At the time of the conjunction, Venus will be north of Saturn by less than 5 minutes of arc. Mercury will be nearby (following its Aug 10 near-conjunction with Venus), but will be too close to the Sun to be visible.

On **Oct 25 and 28** Mercury conjoins Jupiter. Because Mercury will have reached its greatest eastern elongation on Oct 17, the Mercury-Jupiter conjunction should be visible to most viewers just after sunset. Mercury should be apparent to lower-latitudes viewers for most of the month. Look for it and its conjunction with Jupiter low on the southwest horizon in the evening twilight.

The grand finale comes just before sunrise on **Dec 10**, when lucky observers will see a spectacular conjunction of Mercury, Jupiter and Mars, all fitting within 1° circle. This is the closest grouping of three naked-eye planets (in both longitude and latitude) during the period 1980-2050. (See table at the bottom of page 44.)

Major Midpoints

It's easy to overlook transiting midpoints, but the midpoints of the outer planets stay in one place for extended periods and can have long-lasting and important effects. The effect is magnified when a midpoint goes stationary. Here, on the first of every month during 2006, are the positions of the midpoints formed between Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto. Also shown are their direct and retrograde stations. Retrograde periods are highlighted.

Table 12: 2006 Outer-Planet Midpoints at a Glance

Date	♄/♃	♄/♅	♄/♆	♄/♇	♃/♅	♃/♆	♃/♇	♅/♆	♅/♇	♆/♇
Jan 1	26♏37	10♑31	29♐38	04♐06	23♉49	12♉57	17♎24	26♒51	01♒18	20♑26
Feb 1	27♏26	13♑14	02♑12	06♐37	23♉20	12♉19	16♎43	28♒07	02♒31	21♑30
Feb 6	27♏27 R									
Mar 1	27♏10	14♑46	03♑29	07♐41	23♉05	11♉49	16♎00	29♒25	03♒37	22♑20
Mar 2					23♉05 D					
Mar 8				07♐44 R						
Mar 15			03♑39 R							
Mar 19						11♉42 D				
Mar 22		15♑08 R								
Apr 1	26♏04	15♑04	03♑25	07♐15	23♉24	11♉45	15♎34	00♓46	04♒35	22♑56
Apr 8							15♎33 D			
Apr 26										23♑06 R
May 1	24♏42	14♑07	02♑04	05♐28	24♉22	12♉19	15♎43	01♓44	05♒08	23♑05
May 21									05♒14 R	
Jun 1	23♏56	12♑41	00♑17	03♐19	25♉50	13♉26	16♎27	02♓12	05♒13	22♑49
Jun 3	23♏55 D									
Jun 8								02♓13 R		
Jul 1	24♏36	11♑51	29♐13	02♐02	27♉26	14♉48	17♎37	02♓03	04♒52	22♑14
Jul 12		11♑47 D								
Jul 13				01♐54 D						
Jul 14			29♐06 D							
Aug 1	26♏59	12♑00	29♐19	02♐10	29♉02	16♉21	19♎12	01♓22	04♒13	21♑32
Sep 1	00♎40	13♑10	00♑38	03♐44	00♊26	17♏54	21♎01	00♓24	03♒30	20♑58
Oct 1	04♎56	15♑08	02♑52	06♐22	01♊34	19♏18	22♎49	29♒31	03♒01	20♑45
Oct 1										20♑45 D
Oct 21									02♒54 D	
Nov 1	09♎25	17♑55	05♑57	09♐54	02♊27	20♏29	24♎26	29♒00	02♒56	20♑58
Nov 11								28♒58 D		
Dec 1	13♎17	21♑11	09♑25	13♐42	02♊57	21♏11	25♎28	29♒06	03♒22	21♑36
Dec 19					03♊02 R					
Dec 21						21♏20 R				
Dec 26							25♎45 R			
Jan 1	16♎20	24♑52	13♑09	17♐37	03♊00	21♏17	25♎45	29♒50	04♒17	22♑34

Also usually overlooked, aspects to the very slow-moving midpoints can have important effects. The table below shows the conjunctions, squares, oppositions, semisquares and sesquares formed between the outer planets and the midpoints of outer planets. On the 90-degree dial these would appear as one planet at the midpoint of two others. Also shown here are the aspects between pairs of midpoints. On the dial you would see these as a symmetrical grouping of four planets around a common axis -- in other words, a "planetary picture." You can find keywords for for interpreting 3- and 4-planet combinations in Reinhold Ebertin, *The Combination of Stellar Influences,* and Alfred Witte and Hermann Lefeldt*, Rules for Planetary-Pictures.*

Table 13: 2006 Hard Aspects between Outer Planets and Outer-Planet Midpoints

Date when Exact	Time (UT)	Point 1 Position	Point 2 Position	Point 1	Aspect	Point 2
Jan 1	07:52	09°Le54' R	24°Sg54' D	**Sat**	sesquare	**Plu**
Jan 28	01:31	16°Sc56' D	16°Aq56' D	**Jup**	square	**Nep**
Jan 28	01:31	16°Sc56' D	01°Cp56' D	**Jup**	semisquare	**Jup/Nep**
Jan 28	01:31	16°Aq56' D	01°Cp56' D	**Nep**	semisquare	**Jup/Nep**
Jan 28	01:31	27°Vi24' D	12°Ta24' R	**Jup/Sat**	sesquare	**Sat/Nep**
Jan 28	01:31	12°Cp56' D	27°Aq56' D	**Jup/Ura**	semisquare	**Ura/Nep**
Jan 28	01:31	06°Sg22' D	21°Cp22' D	**Jup/Plu**	semisquare	**Nep/Plu**
Mar 15	15:46	26°Sg42' D	11°Ta42' R	**Plu**	sesquare	**Sat/Nep**
Mar 16	03:34	26°Sg42' D	26°Vi42' R	**Plu**	square	**Jup/Sat**
Mar 16	07:00	18°Sc39' R	18°Aq39' D	**Jup**	square	**Nep**
Mar 16	07:00	18°Sc39' R	03°Cp39' R	**Jup**	semisquare	**Jup/Nep**
Mar 16	07:00	18°Aq39' D	03°Cp39' R	**Nep**	semisquare	**Jup/Nep**
Mar 16	07:00	26°Vi42' R	11°Ta42' R	**Jup/Sat**	sesquare	**Sat/Nep**
Mar 16	07:00	15°Cp07' D	00°Pi07' D	**Jup/Ura**	semisquare	**Ura/Nep**
Mar 16	07:00	07°Sg41' R	22°Cp41' D	**Jup/Plu**	semisquare	**Nep/Plu**
Mar 27	03:12	04°Le27' R	04°Aq27' D	**Sat**	opposition	**Ura/Plu**
Mar 27	20:39	15°Li36' R	00°Pi36' D	**Sat/Plu**	sesquare	**Ura/Nep**
Apr 1	00:42	26°Sg45' R	11°Ta45' D	**Plu**	sesquare	**Sat/Nep**
May 5	10:57	05°Le10' D	05°Aq10' D	**Sat**	opposition	**Ura/Plu**
May 14	10:58	12°Sc45' R	12°Ta45' D	**Jup**	opposition	**Sat/Nep**
May 31	08:44	10°Sc51' R	25°Sg51' R	**Jup**	semisquare	**Plu**
Jun 20	11:14	17°Li10' D	02°Pi10' R	**Sat/Plu**	sesquare	**Ura/Nep**
Jun 22	18:45	09°Sc15' R	09°Le15' D	**Jup**	square	**Sat**
Jun 22	18:45	09°Sc15' R	24°Vi15' D	**Jup**	semisquare	**Jup/Sat**
Jun 22	18:45	09°Le15' D	24°Vi15' D	**Sat**	semisquare	**Jup/Sat**
Jun 22	18:45	11°Cp59' R	26°Ta59' D	**Jup/Ura**	sesquare	**Sat/Ura**
Jun 22	18:45	29°Sg25' R	14°Ta25' D	**Jup/Nep**	sesquare	**Sat/Nep**
Jun 22	18:45	02°Sg16' R	17°Li16' D	**Jup/Plu**	semisquare	**Sat/Plu**
Jun 29	17:02	02°Sg04' R	02°Pi04' R	**Jup/Plu**	square	**Ura/Nep**
Jun 30	01:38	10°Le05' D	25°Sg05' R	**Sat**	sesquare	**Plu**
Jul 6	15:19	24°Sg55' R	24°Vi55' D	**Plu**	square	**Jup/Sat**
Jul 8	07:57	01°Sg56' R	01°Pi56' R	**Jup/Plu**	square	**Ura/Nep**
Jul 25	04:49	09°Sc30' D	24°Sg30' R	**Jup**	semisquare	**Plu**

Aug 3	23:05	14°Le24' D	29°Sg24' D	**Sat**	sesquare	**Jup/Nep**
Aug 31	09:53	17°Le53' D	17°Aq53' R	**Sat**	opposition	**Nep**
Aug 31	09:53	00°Li36' D	00°Cp36' D	**Jup/Sat**	square	**Jup/Nep**
Aug 31	09:53	00°Ge25' D	00°Pi25' R	**Sat/Ura**	square	**Ura/Nep**
Aug 31	09:53	20°Li59' D	20°Cp59' R	**Sat/Plu**	square	**Nep/Plu**
Sep 14	12:43	17°Aq33' R	02°Li33' D	**Nep**	sesquare	**Jup/Sat**
Sep 24	20:30	17°Sc21' D	17°Aq21' R	**Jup**	square	**Nep**
Sep 24	20:30	17°Sc21' D	02°Cp21' D	**Jup**	semisquare	**Jup/Nep**
Sep 24	20:30	17°Aq21' R	02°Cp21' D	**Nep**	semisquare	**Jup/Nep**
Sep 24	20:30	04°Li02' D	19°Sc02' D	**Jup/Sat**	semisquare	**Sat/Nep**
Sep 24	20:30	14°Cp40' D	29°Aq40' R	**Jup/Ura**	semisquare	**Ura/Nep**
Sep 24	20:30	05°Sg46' D	20°Cp46' R	**Jup/Plu**	semisquare	**Nep/Plu**
Oct 6	07:56	19°Sc32' D	19°Sc32' D	**Jup**	conjunct	**Sat/Nep**
Oct 25	17:23	23°Sc32' D	23°Le32' D	**Jup**	square	**Sat**
Oct 25	17:23	23°Sc32' D	08°Li32' D	**Jup**	semisquare	**Jup/Sat**
Oct 25	17:23	23°Le32' D	08°Li32' D	**Sat**	semisquare	**Jup/Sat**
Oct 25	17:23	17°Cp18' D	02°Ge18' D	**Jup/Ura**	sesquare	**Sat/Ura**
Oct 25	17:23	05°Cp17' D	20°Sc17' D	**Jup/Nep**	semisquare	**Sat/Nep**
Oct 25	17:23	09°Sg08' D	24°Li08' D	**Jup/Plu**	semisquare	**Sat/Plu**
Nov 8	19:24	10°Pi52' R	10°Sg52' D	**Ura**	square	**Jup/Plu**
Nov 19	15:07	28°Sc59' D	28°Aq59' D	**Jup**	square	**Ura/Nep**
Dec 5	18:29	21°Cp44' D	21°Cp44' D	**Jup/Ura**	conjunct	**Nep/Plu**
Dec 6	09:31	25°Le04' R	10°Cp04' D	**Sat**	sesquare	**Jup/Nep**
Dec 7	18:00	03°Sg00' D	03°Ge00' D	**Jup**	opposition	**Sat/Ura**
Dec 9	14:49	14°Li14' D	29°Aq14' D	**Jup/Sat**	sesquare	**Ura/Nep**
Dec 28	09:35	07°Sg27' D	22°Cp27' D	**Jup**	semisquare	**Nep/Plu**

In the above table you can see that at the exact moment when two single points form a conjunction, square or opposition (lines highlighted in gold), a whole series of related midpoint aspects is formed (lines highlighted in aqua).

The Cardinal Axis

The Cardinal Axis is composed of 0° of the Cardinal signs, where the Sun is at the solstices and equinoxes, and 15° of the Fixed signs, which lie midway between these points. Uranian astrologers consider these eight key points in the Earth's yearly journey around the Sun to signify general conditions in the world. Besides having great importance in political astrology, the 0° Cardinal and 15° Fixed degrees show an individual's connection with the world at large.

By the start of 2006, Neptune will have moved completely off the Cardinal Axis, and none of the other outer planets (Uranus or Pluto) will take its place there during the year. However, as befits a year of major lunar standstill (see pages 50-53), the mean North Node reaches 0° Aries on Jun 19, 2006 at 21:21 UT. Related to this, the Sep 22, 2006 solar eclipse occurs at 29°Virgo 20', just 40 arc-minutes from 0° Libra.

Also, various faster-moving planets and outer-planet midpoints conjoin the Cardinal Axis during 2006, as shown below.

Table 14: 2006 Major Transits to the Cardinal Axis

Jan 3	21:25	Mer	00°Cp D		**Jun 3**	11:21	Mer	00°Cn D		**Sep 8**	04:18	Mar	00°Li D
Jan 4	18:40	Jup/Nep	00°Cp D		**Jun 6**	22:54	Jup/Nep	00°Cp R		**Sep 11**	08:19	Jup	15°Sc D
Jan 12	06:06	Jup	15°Sc D		**Jun 11**	08:00	Ven	15°Ta D		**Sep 12**	21:09	Mer	00°Li D
Jan 14	03:55	Mar	15°Ta D		**Jun 28**	11:19	Mar	15°Le D		**Sep 30**	10:01	Ven	00°Li D
Jan 31	15:26	Mer	15°Aq D		**Jul 4**	23:56	Sat/Nep	15°Ta D		**Oct 14**	00:39	Mer	15°Sc D
Mar 22	05:42	Ven	15°Aq D		**Jul 19**	02:41	Ven	00°Cn D		**Nov 5**	09:07	Ven	15°Sc D
Apr 14	00:58	Mar	00°Cn D		**Aug 8**	16:06	Sat	15°Le D		**Nov 9**	22:03	Mer	15°Sc R
Apr 16	12:19	Mer	00°Ar D		**Aug 20**	03:58	Jup/Nep	00°Cp D		**Nov 14**	16:44	Mar	15°Sc D
Apr 26	15:56	Jup	15°Sc R		**Aug 20**	04:53	Mer	15°Le D		**Nov 27**	02:00	Mer	15°Sc D
May 3	10:24	Ven	00°Ar D		**Aug 25**	02:09	Ven	15°Le D		**Dec 11**	05:33	Ven	00°Cp D
May 12	21:41	Mer	15°Ta D		**Aug 26**	20:58	Jup/Sat	00°Li D		**Dec 27**	20:54	Mer	00°Cp D

The highlighted areas show when two planets or midpoints load the Cardinal Axis by transiting it on the same or next day. Except for the Aug 25-26 transits, these nearly simultaneous Cardinal Axis transits involve Mercury, Jupiter and Neptune. This involvement with the Cardinal Axis gives added world expression to the Jupiter-Neptune square that becomes exact on Jan 28, Mar 16 and Sep 24, 2006 close to the Cardinal Axis in the degree range from 16° to 18° of the Fixed signs. Jupiter-Neptune-Mercury meanings include inspiration and imagination, but also the raising of hopes, speculation, excessive verbiage, untruth and scandal.

During 2006 the Cardinal Axis is also stimulated by two relatively important aspects involving one planet that is within a degree of the Cardinal Axis:

- **May 5**: Jupiter at 14 Scorpio trine Uranus
- **Aug 1**: Saturn at 14 Leo quincunx Uranus.

Also relating to the Cardinal Axis is the Jan 28, 2006 parallel between Neptune and Pluto. The first Neptune-Pluto parallel since 1918, this stays in orb throughout 2006. From Jan through Apr it is reinforced by parallels from Venus, Jupiter, the Sun, Moon and Mercury. All this happens near 16°20' South declination -- a declination that relates to the Cardinal Axis because it is the declination of the Sun when the Sun is at 15° of Scorpio or Aquarius.

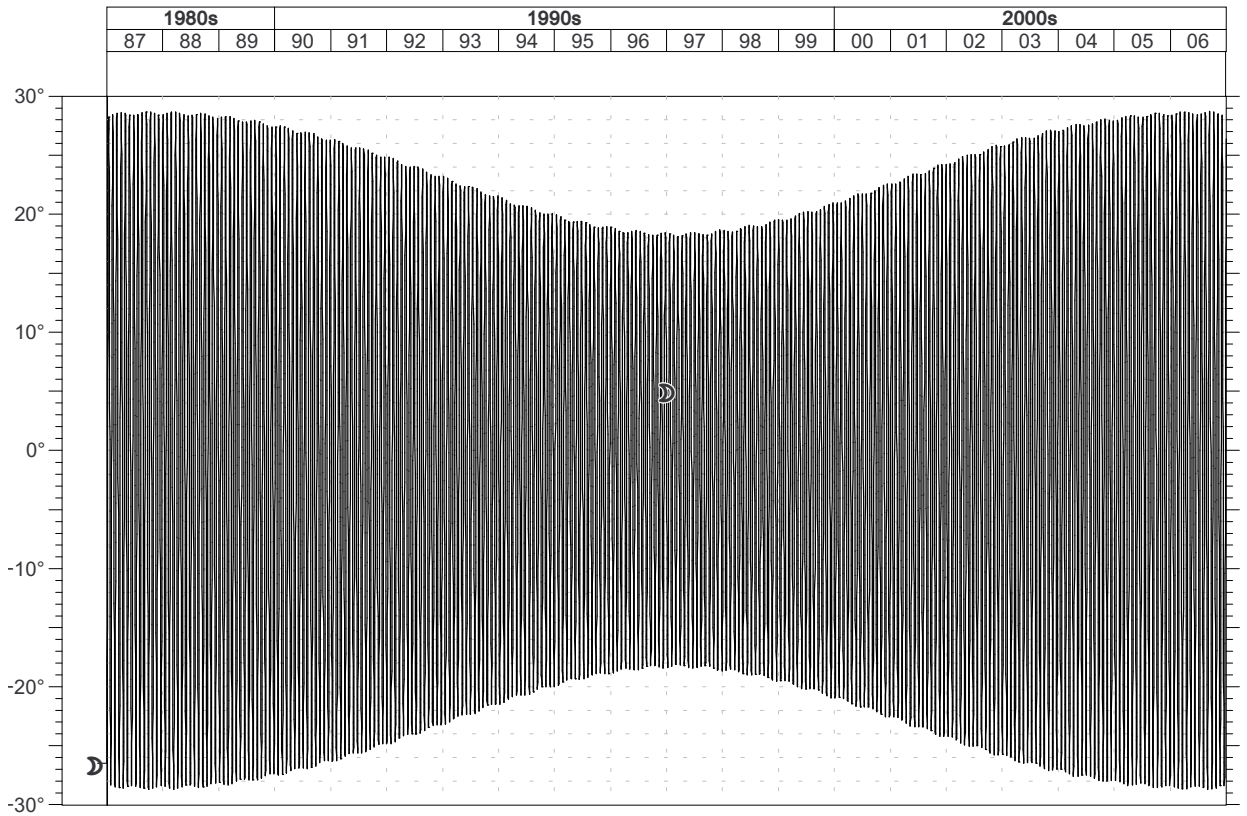
Major Declination Events

2006 is a year of pivotal declination activity on two counts. During 2006 we reach the peak of the 18.6-year lunar standstill cycle, in which the Moon attains its greatest possible north and south declinations and is Out of Bounds for a nearly third of each month.

Also, on Jan 24, 2006, Neptune forms its first parallel with Pluto since 1918. Both planets stay within a degree of 16° South declination all year. Adding to the power of this Neptune-Pluto parallel, in the period from Jan 12 through Apr 25 Jupiter and Venus make declination stations on this degree and the whole mix is reinforced by further parallels from Mercury and the Sun.

The 2006 Lunar Standstill

If you habitually view the night skies, you may have noticed the Moon's wild gyrations in the past few years -- the way it is unusually far south in the sky during one part of the month, and then unusually far north two weeks later. This is because we have been getting ever closer to a Major Standstill -- the point in the Moon's 18.6-year nodal cycle when the North Node reaches 0° Aries and the Moon reaches its maximum possible north and south declinations each month. With the mean North Node making its exact pass over 0° Aries on Jun 19 2006 at 21:21 UT, the year 2006 marks the official peak of this 18.6-year lunar declination cycle.



Variation in monthly maximum Moon declinations over an 18.6 declination cycle, showing Major Standstills in 1987 and 2006. At the center is the Minor Standstill of 1997, when the Moon's maximum monthly declinations were at their lowest.

Eclipses Near the Equinoxes. Although the peak declinations in 2006 are only slightly higher than the ones in 2005 and 2007, the North Node's reaching 0 Aries in 2006 means that the 2006 eclipses occur near the spring and fall equinoxes. Indeed, the Sep 22, 2006 solar eclipse will be at 29 Virgo 20, just 40 arc minutes and less than a day shy of the Sun's Libra ingress.

Extreme-Declination New and Full Moons at the Solstices. Having the Moon reach extra-high declinations also takes on particular significance around the summer and winter solstices. In any year, the solstice months have the New and Full Moons at the most extreme declinations of the year. In years near a Major Standstill, this effect is dramatic.

During 2006, the summer solstice New and Full Moons take place within less than a day of the Moon's monthly maximum north and south declinations. The winter solstice Full Moon on Dec 5 takes place a bit further off, 27 hours after the Moon is at maximum north declination. (In fact this Node cycle's highest-declination December Full Moon took place in December, 2005.)

However, the Dec 20, 2006 New Moon is another story, happening only 6 minutes of time after the Moon's maximum south declination. It also occurs within a day and a half of the winter solstice, when the Sun is at its maximum south declination for the year. While the two bodies are not lined up exactly in an eclipse, their being both at their extreme south declinations at the time of their conjunction reinforces their gravitational effect. (One recalls the Dec 26, 2004 Full Moon, which occurred less than an hour after the Moon's maximum declination that month, on the day of the Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami. In that case -- a Full Moon -- one body was at extreme north declination while the other was near extreme south.)

Extended Out of Bounds Periods. The table below shows that the Moon will reach its 18-year maximum declinations on Mar 22 and Apr 4, 2006, and then again on Sep 15 and 29 (these dates are highlighted in aqua in the table). However, the Moon's monthly maximum declinations will stay within 19 arc minutes of these peaks throughout the entire year.

Perhaps the most astrologically important effect of the lunar standstill is the sheer amount of time the Moon will be spending Out of Bounds. Since mid-2001, the Moon has been going Out-of-Bounds -- beyond 23°26', the maximum declination of the Sun -- twice a month. During all of 2006, at the peak of the cycle, and also in the surrounding years 2005 and 2007, the Moon goes OOB each month for a total of ten days -- virtually a third of the year. In the table of 2006 lunar declinations below, these Out-of-Bounds periods are highlighted in gold.

The Significance of an Out of Bounds Moon. On the personal level, Kt Boehrer observes that people born with an Out of Bounds Moon seem to experience a higher than average amount of insecurity, both mental and physical. Perhaps as a result of this, they often become overachievers. Keywords for OOB placements include "beyond normal expectations" and non-compliance with normal expected patterns. Frances McEvoy notes also a love of freedom and solitude, and a reluctance to be fenced in. (*Geocosmic Magazine*, Spring, 1998, pp. 39-41 and 44.) (You can quickly figure whether a person has an OOB Moon by looking at the table of OOB years on page 53. If the Moon was in Gemini or Cancer, Sagittarius or Capricorn -- the signs surrounding the solstices -- there is a high probability that it will be OOB.)

On a wider level, having the Moon Out of Bounds seems to contribute to mass excitability and instability. On the physical level it may contribute to earthquakes and floods.

Table 15: 2006 Lunar Declination Cycles

Date	Time	Declin.	
Jan 1	19:42	23°S 26'	Goes In Bounds
Jan 5	17:10	**00°N 00'**	0 Declination heading North
Jan 9	22:16	**23°N 26'**	Goes Out of Bounds
Jan 12	13:18	**28°N 25'**	Turns South
Jan 15	06:31	**23°N 26'**	Goes In Bounds
Jan 20	01:07	00°S 00'	0 Declination heading South
Jan 24	14:11	23°S 26'	Goes Out of Bounds
Jan 27	00:16	28°S 29'	Turns North
Jan 29	06:15	23°S 26'	Goes In Bounds
Feb 2	00:23	**00°N 00'**	0 Declination heading North
Feb 6	02:26	**23°N 26'**	Goes Out of Bounds
Feb 8	18:21	**28°N 33'**	Turns South
Feb 11	13:05	**23°N 26'**	Goes In Bounds
Feb 16	06:50	00°S 00'	0 Declination heading South
Feb 20	20:46	23°S 26'	Goes Out of Bounds
Feb 23	09:39	28°S 39'	Turns North
Feb 25	17:48	23°S 26'	Goes In Bounds
Mar 1	10:35	**00°N 00'**	0 Declination heading North
Mar 5	08:43	**23°N 26'**	Goes Out of Bounds
Mar 8	00:07	**28°N 42'**	Turns South
Mar 10	19:29	**23°N 26'**	Goes In Bounds
Mar 15	12:47	00°S 00'	0 Declination heading South
Mar 20	02:13	23°S 26'	Goes Out of Bounds
Mar 22	16:57	28°S 44'	Turns North
Mar 25	03:33	23°S 26'	Goes In Bounds
Mar 28	21:46	**00°N 00'**	0 Declination heading North
Apr 1	18:01	**23°N 26'**	Goes Out of Bounds
Apr 4	07:39	**28°N 43'**	Turns South
Apr 7	02:17	**23°N 26'**	Goes In Bounds
Apr 11	19:22	00°S 00'	0 Declination heading South
Apr 16	08:10	23°S 26'	Goes Out of Bounds
Apr 18	22:30	28°S 40'	Turns North
Apr 21	10:07	23°S 26'	Goes In Bounds
Apr 25	07:25	**00°N 00'**	0 Declination heading North
Apr 29	04:32	**23°N 26'**	Goes Out of Bounds
May 1	16:28	**28°N 37'**	Turns South
May 4	09:14	**23°N 26'**	Goes In Bounds
May 9	02:28	00°S 00'	0 Declination heading South
May 13	15:11	23°S 26'	Goes Out of Bounds
May 16	03:53	28°S 32'	Turns North
May 18	14:30	23°S 26'	Goes In Bounds
May 22	14:13	**00°N 00'**	0 Declination heading North
May 26	13:52	**23°N 26'**	Goes Out of Bounds
May 29	01:13	**28°N 30'**	Turns South
May 31	16:21	**23°N 26'**	Goes In Bounds
Jun 5	09:42	00°S 00'	0 Declination heading South
Jun 9	23:02	23°S 26'	Goes Out of Bounds
Jun 12	10:34	28°S 27'	Turns North
Jun 14	19:25	23°S 26'	Goes In Bounds
Jun 18	18:59	**00°N 00'**	0 Declination heading North
Jun 22	20:48	**23°N 26'**	Goes Out of Bounds
Jun 25	08:41	**28°N 27'**	Turns South
Jun 27	23:40	**23°N 26'**	Goes In Bounds

Date	Time	Declin.	
Jul 2	16:40	00°S 00'	0 Declination heading South
Jul 7	07:19	23°S 26'	Goes Out of Bounds
Jul 9	18:55	28°S 29'	Turns North
Jul 12	02:58	23°S 26'	Goes In Bounds
Jul 15	23:58	**00°N 00'**	0 Declination heading North
Jul 20	01:21	**23°N 26'**	Goes Out of Bounds
Jul 22	14:37	**28°N 31'**	Turns South
Jul 25	06:24	**23°N 26'**	Goes In Bounds
Jul 29	23:13	00°S 00'	0 Declination heading South
Aug 3	14:52	23°S 26'	Goes Out of Bounds
Aug 6	04:16	28°S 36'	Turns North
Aug 8	13:04	23°S 26'	Goes In Bounds
Aug 12	07:13	**00°N 00'**	0 Declination heading North
Aug 16	05:57	**23°N 26'**	Goes Out of Bounds
Aug 18	19:45	**28°N 39'**	Turns South
Aug 21	13:01	**23°N 26'**	Goes In Bounds
Aug 26	05:25	00°S 00'	0 Declination heading South
Aug 30	21:32	23°S 26'	Goes Out of Bounds
Sep 2	13:14	28°S 42'	Turns North
Sep 4	23:59	23°S 26'	Goes In Bounds
Sep 8	17:08	**00°N 00'**	0 Declination heading North
Sep 12	12:18	**23°N 26'**	Goes Out of Bounds
Sep 15	01:29	**28°N 44'**	Turns South
Sep 17	18:56	**23°N 26'**	Goes In Bounds
Sep 22	11:29	00°S 00'	0 Declination heading South
Sep 27	03:40	23°S 26'	Goes Out of Bounds
Sep 29	20:36	28°S 43'	Turns North
Oct 2	09:07	23°S 26'	Goes In Bounds
Oct 6	04:17	**00°N 00'**	0 Declination heading North
Oct 9	22:01	**23°N 26'**	Goes Out of Bounds
Oct 12	08:56	**28°N 41'**	Turns South
Oct 15	01:05	**23°N 26'**	Goes In Bounds
Oct 19	17:40	00°S 00'	0 Declination heading South
Oct 24	09:45	23°S 26'	Goes Out of Bounds
Oct 27	02:10	28°S 36'	Turns North
Oct 29	15:25	23°S 26'	Goes In Bounds
Nov 2	14:17	**00°N 00'**	0 Declination heading North
Nov 6	09:15	**23°N 26'**	Goes Out of Bounds
Nov 8	18:04	**28°N 32'**	Turns South
Nov 11	07:35	**23°N 26'**	Goes In Bounds
Nov 16	00:06	00°S 00'	0 Declination heading South
Nov 20	16:35	23°S 26'	Goes Out of Bounds
Nov 23	07:16	28°S 27'	Turns North
Nov 25	19:29	23°S 26'	Goes In Bounds
Nov 29	21:20	**00°N 00'**	0 Declination heading North
Dec 3	19:30	**23°N 26'**	Goes Out of Bounds
Dec 6	03:39	**28°N 24'**	Turns South
Dec 8	15:21	**23°N 26'**	Goes In Bounds
Dec 13	06:53	00°S 00'	0 Declination heading South
Dec 17	23:50	23°S 26'	Goes Out of Bounds
Dec 20	13:43	28°S 23'	Turns North
Dec 23	00:36	23°S 26'	Goes In Bounds
Dec 27	01:59	**00°N 00'**	0 Declination heading North
Dec 31	02:36	**23°N 26'**	Goes Out of Bounds

Historical Correlations. For clues to the wider cultural significance of super-high lunar declinations, let's look at recent occurrences of the standstill cycle. In each 18.6-year cycle there is a major standstill when the the Moon reaches a maximum declination of 28°44' north or south, and then, midway between, a minor standstill, when it reaches a monthly maximum of only 18°09' or 18°10'. Recent dates of minor and major standstills, and periods when the Moon goes out of bounds every month, are shown below:

Table 16: Lunar Standstill Periods, 1920-2020

Minor Standstills (maximum monthly declinations reach 18°09' or 18°10')	**Major Standstills** (maximum monthly declinations reach 28°44')	**Out of Bounds Years** (maximum monthly declinations exceed 23°26')
1922	1931-32	1927-37
1941	1950	1945-55
1959	1969	1964-74
1978	1987	1982-92
1997	2006	2001-11

Looking at the years when the Moon went Out of Bounds, you can see that these are historical periods of great and far-reaching change -- the Roaring Twenties lurching into the Great Depression; the post WWII boom, the cultural ferment of the late 60s and early 70s, and the Information Technology revolution in the 80s and early 90s. In the years surrounding a major standstill, energies seem intensified, situations destabilized, and history seems to move at a quickened pace.

In the years of exact standstill there seem to be especially pivotal historical events: In **1931-32**, the Japanese invasion of Manchuria (which is said to have led to Pearl Harbor), famines and bank failures, worldwide depression, marches of the hungry and unemployed, and the election of FDR; in **1950**, the start of the Korean War, Truman's ordering the development of the H-bomb, the start of investigations by the House Un-American Activities Committee (interestingly, recalled just last year in George Clooney's movie *Good Night and Good Luck*), and the introduction of the Schuman Plan, which eventually led to the European Common Market; in **1969**, the My Lai massacre and protests against the Vietnam War, Nixon elected President, man's first landing on the Moon, and the Woodstock festival; and in **1987**, Gorbachev's drastic reforms in Russia, the Iran-Contra hearings, an October stock-market collapse. That year also witnessed the winding-down of the Iran-Iraq war, of Russian fighting in Afghanistan, and of car bombings in Beirut. (For all this and more, see Ken Gillman's list in "Stations of the Moon" in *Geocosmic Magazine*, Spring, 1998.) In *Valliere's Natural Cycles Almanac 2006* (available from Astrolabe) Jim Valliere connects most of these years with various stock market crashes, panics and depressions.

As said above, Major Standstill declinations stay about the same for a 3-year period. Not until after 2007 will there be a noticeable difference in the Moon's monthly maximums. After that, the extreme lunar energies will increasingly damp down as we approach 2011, the year when the Moon ceases to go Out of Bounds and we head toward the Minor Standstill or lunar declination minimum in 2015.

Planetary Declinations

Zero and Out of Bounds Declinations. In the table of planetary declination cycles below, 0° declinations are highlighted in aqua, and Out of Bounds periods are highlighted in gold. From this table you will see that only the faster-moving planets, Mercury through Mars, travel Out of Bounds and cross the 0° declination line during 2006. Saturn remains north all year, and Jupiter, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto all remain south. None of these slower-moving planets goes Out of Bounds during 2006.

Table 17: 2006 Planetary Declination Cycles

Date	Time	Declination	
Sun			
Mar 20	18:26	00°N 00'	0 Declination heading North (Spring Equinox)
Jun 21	12:26	23°S 26'	Turns North (Summer Solstice)
Sep 23	04:03	00°S 00'	0 Declination heading South (Fall Equinox)
Dec 22	00:22	23°N 26'	Turns South (Winter Solstice)
Mercury			
Jan 1	00:00	23°S 32'	In South declination traveling South, Out of Bounds since 12/31/05 at 10:34.
Jan 9	05:49	24°S 15'	Turns North
Jan 17	16:37	23°S 26'	Goes In Bounds heading North
Feb 26	13:12	00°N 00'	0 Declination heading North
Mar 5	01:04	01°N 40'	Turns South
Mar 11	18:46	00°S 00'	0 Declination heading South
Mar 31	05:24	06°S 34'	Turns North
Apr 21	01:10	00°N 00'	0 Declination heading North
May 25	03:47	23°N 26'	Goes Out of Bounds
Jun 4	06:05	25°N 33'	Turns South
Jun 16	09:00	23°N 26'	Goes In Bounds
Jul 15	02:26	16°N 03'	Turns North
Aug 9	23:05	19°N 42'	Turns South
Sep 13	21:56	00°S 00'	0 Declination heading South
Oct 26	20:46	21°S 53'	Turns North
Nov 19	08:25	12°S 21'	Turns South
Dec 21	02:33	23°S 26'	Goes Out of Bounds
Jan 1 07	00:00	24°S 44'	In South declination traveling South
Jan 1 07	00:02	24°S 45'	Turns North
Jan 11 07	9:30	23°S 26'	Goes In Bounds
Venus			
Jan 1	00:00	17°S 49'	In South declination traveling North
Jan 26	18:58	15°S 20'	Turns South
Feb 26	03:18	16°S 19'	Turns North
May 6	11:54	00°N 00'	0 Declination heading North
Jul 23	05:54	22°N 49'	Turns South
Oct 3	01:07	00°S 00'	0 Declination heading South
Dec 3	02:06	23°S 26'	Goes Out of Bounds
Dec 14	04:34	24°S 12'	Turns North
Dec 25	06:23	23°S 26'	Goes In Bounds
Jan 1 07	00:00	22°S 15'	In South declination traveling North

Mars

Jan 1	00:00	16°N 37'	In North declination traveling North
Mar 5	21:19	23°N 26'	Goes Out of Bounds parallel Moon
Apr 12	09:20	25°N 06'	Turns South
May 18	00:24	23°N 26'	Goes In Bounds
Sep 10	19:54	00°S 00'	0 Declination heading South
Jan 1 07	00:00	23°S 14'	In South declination traveling South

Jupiter

Jan 1	00:00	14°S 47'	In South declination traveling South
Mar 1	12:56	16°S 14'	Turns North
Jul 1	22:39	13°S 25'	Turns South
Jan 1 07	00:00	20°S 59'	In South declination traveling South

Saturn

Jan 1	00:00	18°N 22'	In North declination traveling North
Apr 6	02:38	19°N 53'	Turns South
Nov 30	22:04	14°N 12'	Turns North
Jan 1 07	00:00	14°N 30'	In North declination traveling North

Uranus

Jan 1	00:00	09°S 22'	In South declination traveling North
Jun 17	09:42	06°S 44'	Turns South
Nov 18	09:30	08°S 14'	Turns North
Jan 1 07	00:00	07°S 56'	In South declination traveling North

Neptune

Jan 1	00:00	16°S 12'	In South declination traveling North
May 20		15°S 03'	Turns South
Oct 29		15°S 56'	Turns North
Jan 1 07	00:00	15°S 37'	In South declination traveling North

Pluto

Jan 1	00:00	15°S 53'	In South declination traveling South
Jan 25		15°S 54'	Turns North
Jun 4		15°S 42'	Turns South
Jan 1 07	00:00	16°S 32'	In South declination traveling South

Parallels and Contraparallels. When two planets are parallel in declination, it means that they spend an equal amount of time above the horizon -- in other words, the length of their "day" is the same. When they are contraparallel, the day-length of one planet is equal to the other's "night" (the time that a planet spends below the horizon in each 24-hour period). In other words, parallels and contraparallels indicate that two planets are linked because they are marching to the same diurnal rhythm.

Below are the parallels and contraparallels made by all the planets except the Moon during 2006. Because Neptune and Pluto are at the center of the action this year, they are highlighted in gold. To show periods of higher declination activity, we have also highlighted dates when there are two or more declination events happening in a 24-hour period.

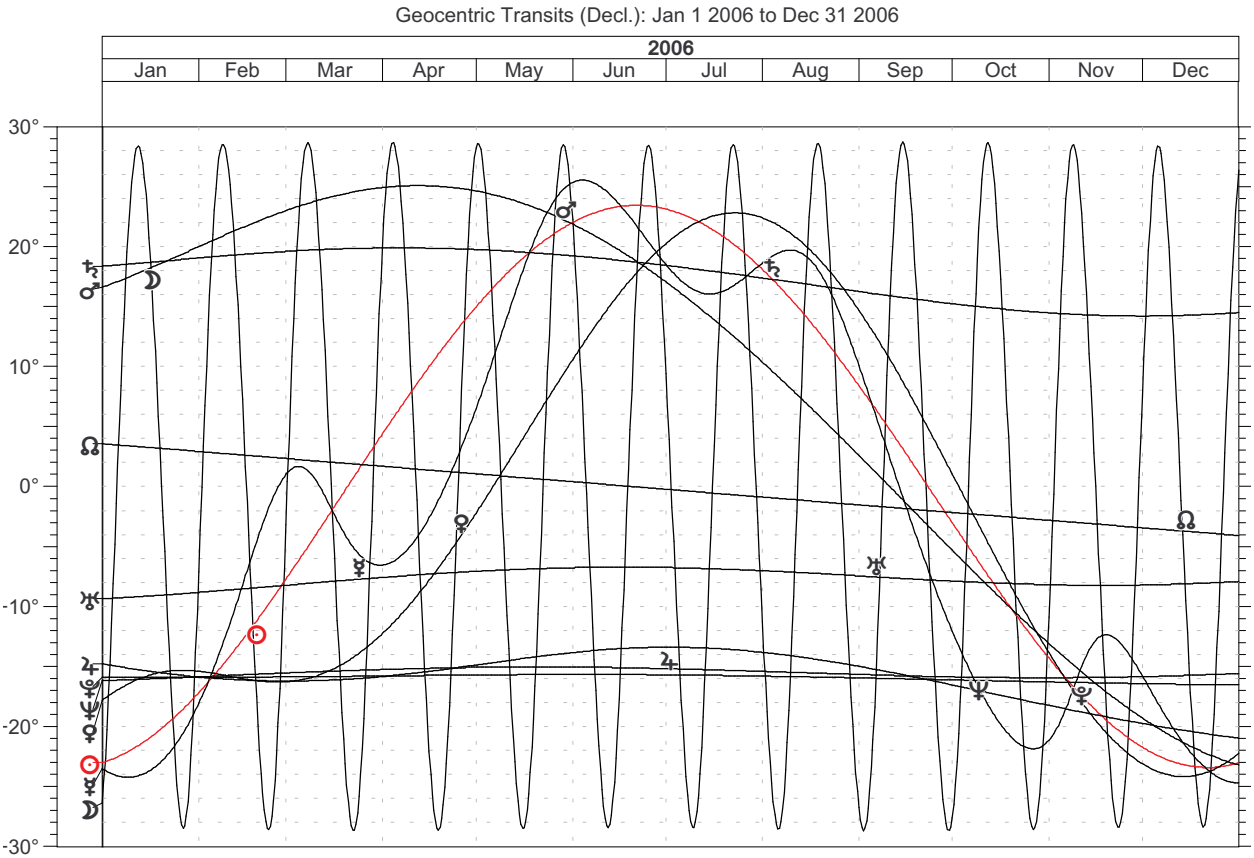
To make the relationships clearer, we have also included a graph of 2006 declinations.

Table 18: 2006 Parallels and Contraparallels in Declination, Excluding the Moon

Date	Time (UT)	Point 1 declin.	Point 2 declin.	Pt 1 Sign	Pt 2 Sign	
Jan 5	11:34	-17°02'	+17°02'	Cp	Ta	Venus contraparallel Mars
Jan 12	13:31	-16°05'	-16°05'	Cp	Aq	Venus parallel Neptune
Jan 14	08:18	-15°54'	-15°54'	Cp	Sg	Venus parallel Pluto
Jan 19	08:15	-15°31'	-15°31'	Cp	Sc	Venus parallel Jupiter
Jan 21	21:29	+18°49'	+18°49'	Ta	Le	Mars parallel Saturn
Jan 24	15:05	-19°08'	+19°08'	Aq	Ta	Sun contraparallel Mars
Jan 25	13:47	-18°54'	+18°54'	Aq	Le	Sun contraparallel Saturn
Jan 28	22:54	-15°54'	-15°54'	Aq	Sg	Neptune parallel Pluto
Jan 28	23:21	-19°39'	+19°39'	Aq	Ta	Mercury contraparallel Mars
Jan 30	06:09	-19°01'	+19°01'	Aq	Le	Mercury contraparallel Saturn
Jan 31	12:47	-15°52'	-15°52'	Sc	Aq	Jupiter parallel Neptune
Feb 1	16:58	-15°54'	-15°54'	Sc	Sg	Jupiter parallel Pluto
Feb 3	23:14	-16°20'	-16°20'	Aq	Aq	Sun parallel Mercury
Feb 4	13:31	-15°58'	-15°58'	Aq	Sc	Mercury parallel Jupiter
Feb 4	15:54	-15°54'	-15°54'	Aq	Sg	Mercury parallel Pluto
Feb 4	18:38	-15°50'	-15°50'	Aq	Aq	Mercury parallel Neptune
Feb 5	04:09	-15°59'	-15°59'	Aq	Sc	Sun parallel Jupiter
Feb 5	04:37	-15°33'	-15°33'	Aq	Cp	Mercury parallel Venus
Feb 5	10:18	-15°54'	-15°54'	Aq	Sg	Sun parallel Pluto
Feb 5	16:54	-15°49'	-15°49'	Aq	Aq	Sun parallel Neptune
Feb 6	09:07	-15°36'	-15°36'	Aq	Cp	Sun parallel Venus
Feb 9	17:44	-15°46'	-15°46'	Cp	Aq	Venus parallel Neptune
Feb 12	05:55	-15°54'	-15°54'	Cp	Sg	Venus parallel Pluto
Feb 14	14:53	-08°33'	-08°33'	Pi	Pi	Mercury parallel Uranus
Feb 19	00:09	-16°11'	-16°11'	Cp	Sc	Venus parallel Jupiter
Feb 27	13:18	-08°16'	-08°16'	Pi	Pi	Sun parallel Uranus
Mar 3	08:37	-16°13'	-16°13'	Cp	Sc	Venus parallel Jupiter
Mar 10	03:43	-15°51'	-15°51'	Aq	Sg	Venus parallel Pluto
Mar 14	15:16	-15°25'	-15°25'	Aq	Aq	Venus parallel Neptune
Mar 15	18:30	-01°58'	-01°58'	Pi	Pi	Sun parallel Mercury
Apr 3	08:56	-15°47'	-15°47'	Sc	Sg	Jupiter parallel Pluto
Apr 5	09:50	+06°06'	-06°06'	Ar	Pi	Sun contraparallel Mercury
Apr 8	23:19	+07°26'	-07°26'	Ar	Pi	Sun contraparallel Uranus
Apr 12	20:35	+08°52'	-08°52'	Ar	Pi	Sun contraparallel Venus
Apr 17	13:48	-07°17'	-07°17'	Pi	Pi	Venus parallel Uranus
Apr 25	02:39	-15°06'	-15°06'	Sc	Aq	Jupiter parallel Neptune
Apr 27	02:31	+03°46'	-03°46'	Ar	Pi	Mercury contraparallel Venus
Apr 30	18:47	+14°54'	-14°54'	Ta	Sc	Sun contraparallel Jupiter
May 1	09:04	+15°05'	-15°05'	Ta	Aq	Sun contraparallel Neptune
May 1	19:05	+07°04'	-07°04'	Ar	Pi	Mercury contraparallel Uranus
May 3	12:37	+15°43'	-15°43'	Ta	Sg	Sun contraparallel Pluto
May 11	11:43	+14°31'	-14°31'	Ta	Sc	Mercury contraparallel Jupiter
May 12	04:36	+15°03'	-15°03'	Ta	Aq	Mercury contraparallel Neptune
May 13	00:54	+15°43'	-15°43'	Ta	Sg	Mercury contraparallel Pluto
May 18	04:14	+19°31'	+19°31'	Ta	Le	Sun parallel Saturn
May 18	05:35	+19°30'	+19°30'	Ta	Le	Mercury parallel Saturn
May 18	06:17	+19°32'	+19°32'	Ta	Ta	Sun parallel Mercury
May 22	20:37	+06°50'	-06°50'	Ar	Pi	Venus contraparallel Uranus
May 23	21:06	+22°50'	+22°50'	Ge	Cn	Mercury parallel Mars
May 31	13:00	+21°56'	+21°56'	Ge	Cn	Sun parallel Mars
Jun 9	02:14	+13°39'	-13°39'	Ta	Sc	Venus contraparallel Jupiter
Jun 13	03:10	+15°06'	-15°06'	Ta	Aq	Venus contraparallel Neptune
Jun 14	21:31	+15°42'	-15°42'	Ta	Sg	Venus contraparallel Pluto
Jun 16	15:00	+23°21'	+23°21'	Ge	Cn	Sun parallel Mercury
Jun 22	00:28	+18°42'	+18°42'	Le	Le	Mars parallel Saturn

Jun 23	15:50	+18°25'	+18°25'	Ta	Le	**Venus parallel Mars**
Jun 24	10:40	+18°38'	+18°38'	Ge	Le	**Venus parallel Saturn**
Jun 27	21:06	+19°31'	+19°31'	Cn	Ge	**Mercury parallel Venus**
Jul 1	06:15	+18°25'	+18°25'	Le	Le	**Mercury parallel Saturn**
Jul 7	17:35	+15°44'	-15°44'	Le	Sg	**Mars contraparallel Pluto**
Jul 10	02:33	+15°15'	-15°15'	Le	Aq	**Mars contraparallel Neptune**
Jul 11	12:03	+22°05'	+22°05'	Cn	Ge	**Sun parallel Venus**
Jul 18	03:23	+13°32'	-13°32'	Le	Sc	**Mars contraparallel Jupiter**
Jul 26	23:38	+17°34'	+17°34'	Cn	Le	**Mercury parallel Saturn**
Jul 30	20:22	+18°23'	+18°23'	Le	Cn	**Sun parallel Mercury**
Aug 4	05:25	+17°16'	+17°16'	Le	Le	**Sun parallel Saturn**
Aug 9	09:11	+15°51'	-15°51'	Le	Sg	**Sun contraparallel Pluto**
Aug 10	13:27	+15°30'	-15°30'	Le	Aq	**Sun contraparallel Neptune**
Aug 14	00:46	+07°11'	-07°11'	Vi	Pi	**Mars contraparallel Uranus**
Aug 14	15:26	+14°16'	-14°16'	Le	Sc	**Sun contraparallel Jupiter**
Aug 22	01:15	+16°37'	+16°37'	Le	Le	**Mercury parallel Saturn**
Aug 23	08:56	+15°55'	-15°55'	Le	Sg	**Mercury contraparallel Pluto**
Aug 23	21:18	+15°37'	-15°37'	Le	Aq	**Mercury contraparallel Neptune**
Aug 25	09:34	+14°42'	-14°42'	Le	Sc	**Mercury contraparallel Jupiter**
Aug 27	04:50	+16°26'	+16°26'	Le	Le	**Venus parallel Saturn**
Aug 28	14:30	+15°56'	-15°56'	Le	Sg	**Venus contraparallel Pluto**
Aug 29	09:04	+15°40'	-15°40'	Le	Aq	**Venus contraparallel Neptune**
Aug 31	06:00	+14°58'	-14°58'	Le	Sc	**Venus contraparallel Jupiter**
Sep 3	11:59	+07°30'	-07°30'	Vi	Pi	**Sun contraparallel Uranus**
Sep 4	08:20	+07°31'	-07°31'	Vi	Pi	**Mercury contraparallel Uranus**
Sep 5	03:13	+06°54'	+06°54'	Vi	Vi	**Sun parallel Mercury**
Sep 8	06:26	+16°00'	-16°00'	Le	Sg	**Saturn contraparallel Pluto**
Sep 13	03:07	+00°37'	-00°37'	Li	Li	**Mercury contraparallel Mars**
Sep 14	13:00	+15°47'	-15°47'	Le	Aq	**Saturn contraparallel Neptune**
Sep 15	12:43	-01°15'	-01°15'	Li	Li	**Mercury parallel Mars**
Sep 15	19:36	-15°44'	+15°44'	Sc	Le	**Jupiter contraparallel Saturn**
Sep 16	22:55	-15°48'	-15°48'	Sc	Aq	**Jupiter parallel Neptune**
Sep 17	00:42	+02°23'	-02°23'	Vi	Li	**Sun contraparallel Mercury**
Sep 17	06:35	+07°42'	-07°42'	Vi	Pi	**Venus contraparallel Uranus**
Sep 18	04:03	+01°57'	-01°57'	Vi	Li	**Sun contraparallel Mars**
Sep 21	12:12	-05°42'	+05°42'	Li	Vi	**Mercury contraparallel Venus**
Sep 22	08:15	-16°05'	-16°05'	Sc	Sg	**Jupiter parallel Pluto**
Sep 24	11:58	-07°48'	-07°48'	Li	Pi	**Mercury parallel Uranus**
Sep 25	07:51	+03°50'	-03°50'	Vi	Li	**Venus contraparallel Mars**
Sep 28	17:11	-02°10'	+02°10'	Li	Vi	**Sun contraparallel Venus**
Oct 6	03:25	-15°05'	+15°05'	Sc	Le	**Mercury contraparallel Saturn**
Oct 7	15:29	-15°54'	-15°54'	Sc	Aq	**Mercury parallel Neptune**
Oct 8	04:12	-16°10'	-16°10'	Sc	Sg	**Mercury parallel Pluto**
Oct 9	21:40	-17°02'	-17°02'	Sc	Sc	**Mercury parallel Jupiter**
Oct 11	08:56	-08°01'	-08°01'	Li	Pi	**Mars parallel Uranus**
Oct 14	02:27	-08°03'	-08°03'	Li	Pi	**Sun parallel Uranus**
Oct 19	09:10	-08°06'	-08°06'	Li	Pi	**Venus parallel Uranus**
Oct 19	22:15	-10°11'	-10°11'	Li	Li	**Sun parallel Mars**
Oct 28	04:55	-12°12'	-12°12'	Sc	Sc	**Venus parallel Mars**
Nov 1	11:55	-14°28'	+14°28'	Sc	Le	**Sun contraparallel Saturn**
Nov 2	09:35	-14°27'	+14°27'	Sc	Le	**Venus contraparallel Saturn**
Nov 5	10:45	-15°42'	-15°42'	Sc	Sc	**Sun parallel Venus**
Nov 6	00:47	-15°56'	-15°56'	Sc	Aq	**Venus parallel Neptune**
Nov 6	05:11	-15°56'	-15°56'	Sc	Aq	**Sun parallel Neptune**
Nov 6	09:45	-18°33'	-18°33'	Sc	Sc	**Mercury parallel Jupiter**
Nov 6	14:05	-14°23'	+14°23'	Sc	Le	**Mars contraparallel Saturn**
Nov 7	01:43	-16°20'	-16°20'	Sc	Sg	**Venus parallel Pluto**
Nov 7	14:16	-16°21'	-16°21'	Sc	Sg	**Sun parallel Pluto**
Nov 8	17:03	-16°58'	-16°58'	Sc	Sc	**Mercury parallel Venus**

Nov 9	00:15	-16°45'	-16°45'	Sc	Sc	**Sun parallel Mercury**
Nov 9	13:50	-16°21'	-16°21'	Sc	Sg	**Mercury parallel Pluto**
Nov 10	04:26	-15°56'	-15°56'	Sc	Aq	**Mercury parallel Neptune**
Nov 11	00:04	-15°22'	-15°22'	Sc	Sc	**Mercury parallel Mars**
Nov 12	16:32	-14°19'	+14°19'	Sc	Le	**Mercury contraparallel Saturn**
Nov 13	13:16	-15°55'	-15°55'	Sc	Aq	**Mars parallel Neptune**
Nov 14	07:53	-18°57'	-18°57'	Sc	Sc	**Venus parallel Jupiter**
Nov 15	17:58	-16°23'	-16°23'	Sc	Sg	**Mars parallel Pluto**
Nov 18	00:54	-19°09'	-19°09'	Sc	Sc	**Sun parallel Jupiter**
Nov 27	06:02	-14°13'	+14°13'	Sc	Le	**Mercury contraparallel Saturn**
Dec 1	02:29	-15°51'	-15°51'	Sc	Aq	**Mercury parallel Neptune**
Dec 2	10:41	-16°27'	-16°27'	Sc	Sg	**Mercury parallel Pluto**
Dec 4	15:16	-19°56'	-19°56'	Sc	Sg	**Mars parallel Jupiter**
Dec 11	01:15	-20°12'	-20°12'	Sg	Sg	**Mercury parallel Jupiter**
Dec 14	01:48	-21°21'	-21°21'	Sg	Sg	**Mercury parallel Mars**
Dec 21	03:10	-23°26'	-23°26'	Sg	Sg	**Sun parallel Mercury**
Dec 22	14:02	-23°45'	-23°45'	Sg	Cp	**Mercury parallel Venus**
Dec 25	13:41	-23°23'	-23°23'	Cp	Cp	**Sun parallel Venus**
Dec 28	09:23	-22°57'	-22°57'	Cp	Sg	**Venus parallel Mars**
Dec 30	17:43	-23°08'	-23°08'	Cp	Sg	**Sun parallel Mars**



Note the Sun's declination line, which is at its furthest South in mid-December and its furthest North in mid-June. When other bodies go beyond these maximum declinations of the Sun, they are Out of Bounds.

Also note the Neptune-Pluto parallel near 16° South all year. This graph makes some reinforced parallels clear. Especially note Feb 4-5, when Mercury and the Sun trigger the ongoing parallel between Neptune, Pluto and the stationing Jupiter and Venus; the Mars-Saturn-Venus parallel on Jun 22-24; Jupiter again parallel Neptune and Pluto on Sep 16 and 22, and the Sun-Mercury-Venus parallel on Dec 21-25.

The Neptune-Pluto Parallel. As mentioned above, the first Neptune-Pluto parallel in 88 years occurs on Jan 28 at 15°S52', and these two slow-movers stay within a 1° orb of parallel all year through the beginning of 2007.

The Pileup at 16° South. Besides being rare, this parallel is momentous in several ways. The first has to do with the sheer number of other planets that make parallels to Neptune and Pluto at the same time, particularly from mid-Jan through Apr. As you can see from the above graph, during that period both Jupiter and Venus make declination stations right on the Neptune-Pluto parallel. The climax comes on Feb 4-5, when parallels from Mercury and the Sun add to the whole mix. This planetary tangle ends on Apr 25, when Jupiter crosses the Neptune line heading north, reinforced by a simultaneous parallel from the Moon.

From Apr 25 until Sep 16, all planets except the Moon stay north of Neptune and Pluto, making only contraparallels to them. However, the parallels to Neptune and Pluto resume on Sep 16 when Jupiter, once again heading south, crosses the Neptune line and other planets (including Mars this time) follow suit, but not in such a concentrated manner as in the spring.

Adding to the symbolism, Saturn, which has stayed out of the Neptune-Pluto parallel picture thus far, makes a contraparallel to Pluto on Sep 8, to Neptune on Sep 14, and Jupiter on Sep 15, the day before Jupiter parallels Neptune.

A Power Point in Declination. The other extraordinary thing about the 2006 Neptune-Pluto parallel is that it takes place on or near 16°20', which declination expert Leigh Westin considers a power point in declination. This is because 16°20' North or South is the declination of the Sun when it is on the Cardinal Axis at 15 degrees of the Fixed signs. (The other highly significant points in declination are 0°, where the Sun is at the equinoxes, and 23°26' North and South, where the Sun is at the solstices and therefore where planets are said to go Out of Bounds.)

Adding further to the significance of this Neptune-Pluto parallel is the fact that another relatively rare event, the Nov 8, 2006 Transit of Mercury (see pages 62-63), occurs with both Mercury and the Sun near 16° South, putting a dramatic added emphasis on this degree.

Neptune-Pluto Parallels in History. Neptune and Pluto were last in parallel in 1917-18, and contraparallel in 1967-68 -- both obvious turning points in history. In 2006 it is reasonable to expect more of the same.

To gain some perspective, below we present an 800-year table of Neptune-Pluto parallels and contraparallels. As you can see, these aspects are relatively rare, and their pattern is complex. To clarify the pattern, we have used gold highlighting to mark any parallel or contraparallel that, as in 2006, falls within the 15°-17° range. We have also highlighted any additional similarities between the 2006 parallel and those in other years. We find that the only event that resembles 2006 in all respects was the Neptune-Pluto parallel of 1512. Like the one in 2006, it is a single-pass parallel falling within the 15°-17° degree range in South declination. Also as in 2006, Neptune was in Aquarius and Pluto was in Sagittarius, and these planets were in the midst of a series of septiles.

To help us see if there are any long-range Neptune-Pluto declination patterns, we've used aqua highlights to point out periods when Neptune and Pluto made a mix of parallels and contraparallels as they both hovered around 0° declination. From the alternation of aqua and gold highlights we see that there does indeed seem to be a repeating 500-year pattern. Just as 2006 resembles 1512, we see that 1917-18 resembles 1424-25 and 1967-68 resembles 1475-77. Knowing this and considering the events that took place from the Renaissance through the 19th century can gives us a better sense of where we're heading long-term.

Table 19: Neptune-Pluto Parallels and Contraparallels 1400-2200

Years	No. of Pas-ses	Declination Range	Neptune Sign & Direction	Pluto Sign & Direction	Parallel or Contraparallel
1424-25	3	19°46'-20°01'	Leo, N	Cn/Ge, N	Parallel
1475-77	5	16°47'-17°38'	Sc, S	Vi, N	Contraparallel
1512	1	17°23'	Aq, S	Sg, S	Parallel
1563-64	5	19°38'-20°24'	Ge, N	Pi, S	Contraparallel
1613-17	8	00°10'-02°06'	Vi/ Li, N	Ta, S	Contraparallel
1617	1	00°00'	Li, N	Ta, N	Parallel
1618	2	00°26'-00°30'	Li, S	Ta, N	Contraparallel
1671-72	3	19°20'-19°29'	Aq, S	Cn, N	Contraparallel
1721-22	3	16°50'-17°45'	Ta, N	Vi, N	Parallel
1758-59	3	15°55'-16°21'	Leo, N	Sg, S	Contraparallel
1808-09	5	19°09'-19°52'	Sg, S	Pi, S	Parallel
1862	1	00°07'	Ar, S	Ta, S	Parallel
1862	2	00°02'-00°03'	Ar, N	Ta, S	Contraparallel
1862-63	2	00°14'-00°25'	Ar, S	Ta, S	Parallel
1863-64	3	00°06'-00°11'	Ar, N	Ta, S	Contraparallel
1917-18	3	18°50'-19°03'	Leo, N	Cn, N	Parallel
1967-68	3	16°50'-17°40'	Sc, S	Vi, N	Contraparallel
2006	1	15°54	Aq, S	Sg, S	Parallel
2053-54	3	18°45'-19°30'	Ge, N	Pi, S	Contraparallel
2104-08	8	00°03'-01°51'	Vi, N	Ta, S	Contraparallel
2108	1	00°21'	Li, N	Ta, N	Parallel
2108-09	3	00°09'-00°39'	Li, S	Ta, N	Contraparallel
2164-65	3	18°21'-18°27'	Aq, S	Cn, N	Contraparallel

Mercury and Venus Cycles

Mercury and Venus are known as the inferior planets because, unlike the other planets, they orbit between the Earth and the Sun. Because of this, they have two kinds of conjunctions with the Sun. When they are traveling on the Sun's far side, they make a superior conjunction, and when they are traveling on the near side, between the Sun and the Earth, they make an inferior conjunction. At the inferior conjunction, Mercury and Venus are always traveling retrograde when seen from Earth.

Viewed from Earth, Mercury can never be seen to be more than about 28 degrees from the Sun, and Venus is never seen more than about 46 degrees away. When Mercury and Venus appear at their maximum distance from the Sun in longitude, they are at their maximum or greatest elongation. While their maximum elongation is seldom if ever given in astrological ephemerides, astrologers might wish to take note of it, because this is as close as either planet can get to a square.

Table 20: Current Mercury Cycles

Nov 24 05	15:44	02°Sg28' R	**Inferior conjunction**
Dec 4 05	02:25	24°Sc44' D	**Mercury direct** retrograde 11/14/05
Dec 12 05	16:25	29°Sc47' D	**Maximum elongation**
Jan 26	21:30	06°Aq48' D	**Superior conjunction**
Feb 24	01:32	23°Pi22' D	**Maximum elongation**
Mar 2	20:30	26°Pi54' R	**Mercury retrograde** direct 3/25/06
Mar 12	02:41	21°Pi23' R	**Inferior conjunction**
Mar 25	13:43	13°Pi11' D	**Mercury direct** retrograde 3/2/06
Apr 8	14:46	20°Pi56' D	**Maximum elongation**
May 18	20:01	27°Ta44' D	**Superior conjunction**
Jun 20	22:16	24°Cn22' D	**Maximum elongation**
Jul 4	19:34	01°Le22' R	**Mercury retrograde** direct 7/29/06
Jul 18	07:07	25°Cn32' R	**Inferior conjunction**
Jul 29	00:40	21°Cn05' D	**Mercury direct** retrograde 7/4/06
Aug 7	05:29	25°Cn28' D	**Maximum elongation**
Sep 1	04:51	08°Vi38' D	**Superior conjunction**
Oct 17	00:35	18°Sc10' D	**Maximum elongation**
Oct 28	19:17	25°Sc04' R	**Mercury retrograde** direct 11/18/06
Nov 8	21:31	16°Sc20' R	**Inferior conjunction, Transit of Mercury across Sun**
Nov 18	00:26	09°Sc05' D	**Mercury direct** retrograde 10/28/06
Nov 25	14:36	13°Sc25' D	**Maximum elongation**
Jan 7 07	06:03	16°Cp33' D	**Superior conjunction**
Feb 7 07	16:02	06°Pi43' D	**Maximum elongation**
Feb 14 07	04:38	10°Pi13' R	**Mercury retrograde** direct 3/8/07

Table 21: Current Venus Cycles

Jan 13	23:58	23°Cp40' R	**Inferior conjunction** (next inf. conj. 8/18/07)
Feb 3	09:19	16°Cp01' D	**Venus direct** retrograde 12/24/05
Mar 25	17:42	18°Aq26' D	**Maximum elongation**
Oct 27	17:50	04°Sc10' D	**Superior conjunction**
Jun 9 07	08:37	03°Le30' D	**Maximum elongation**
Jul 27 07	17:28	02°Vi57' R	**Venus retrograde** direct 9/8/07

The 2006 Transit of Mercury

One of the notable events of 2006 is the Nov 8 transit of Mercury across the face of the Sun, an event similar to an eclipse, but much rarer. Transits of Mercury happen only about 13 times each century. The last happened in 2003, and the next happens in 2016.

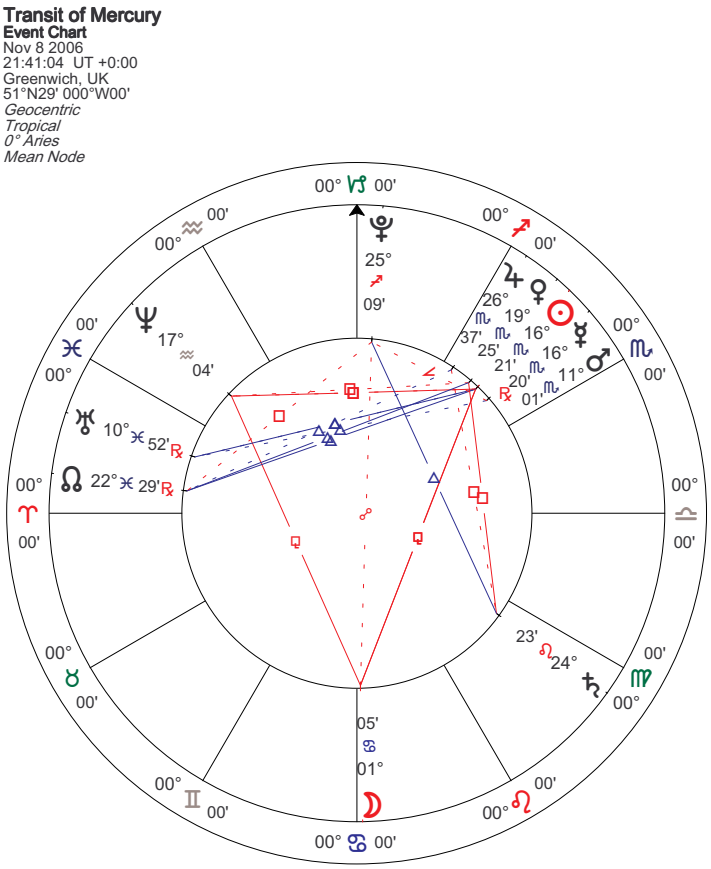
Transits of Mercury 1901-2040

1907 Nov 14	**1937** May 11	**1960** Nov 7	**1993** Nov 6	**2016** May 9
1914 Nov 7	**1940** Nov 11	**1970** May 9	**1999** Nov 15	**2019** Nov 11
1924 May 8	**1953** Nov 14	**1973** Nov 10	**2003** May 7	**2032** Nov 13
1927 Nov 10	**1957** May 6	**1986** Nov 13	**2006** Nov 8	**2039** Nov 7

Data from Fred Espenak, http://sunearth.gsfc.nasa.gov/eclipse/transit/transit.html

Transits of Mercury and Venus always happen at their inferior conjunction, when they lie between the Sun and the Earth and are traveling retrograde. The Nov 8 inferior conjunction (when the longitude of the center of Mercury's disc is due south of the center of the Sun) takes place at 21:31 UT at 16°Sc20'. The time of greatest transit (the midway point between Mercury's first and last contacts with the Sun's edge) is 21:41:04 UT.

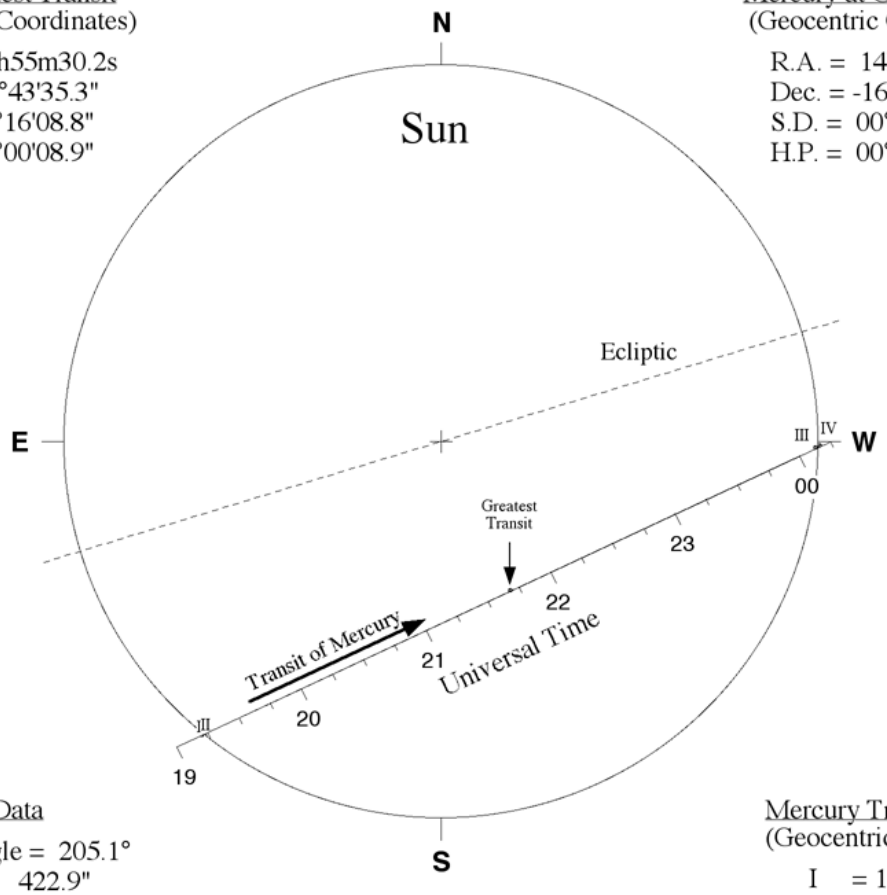
During a Transit, Mercury is, within a few minutes of arc, conjunct the Sun simultaneously in longitude, latitude and declination. In the 2006 Transit, the Sun will be at 16°S43' declination and Mercury at 16°S50'. This is very close to the declination "power point," 16°20' North or South, that is a declination equivalent of the Sun being at a 15° Fixed arm of the Cardinal Axis. It is also very close to the declination of the great Neptune-Pluto parallel of 2006 (see page 59).



The chart for the 2006 Transit of Mercury shows Sun-Mercury and Neptune symmetrically configured with the Moon, and all within 2 degrees of the Cardinal axis. Also, Saturn is applying to its trine with Pluto and square with Jupiter.

Transit of Mercury: 2006 Nov 08

Greatest Transit = 21:41:04.2 UT J.D. = 2454048.403521



Geocentric Data

Position Angle = 205.1°
Separation = 422.9"
Duration = 04h58m

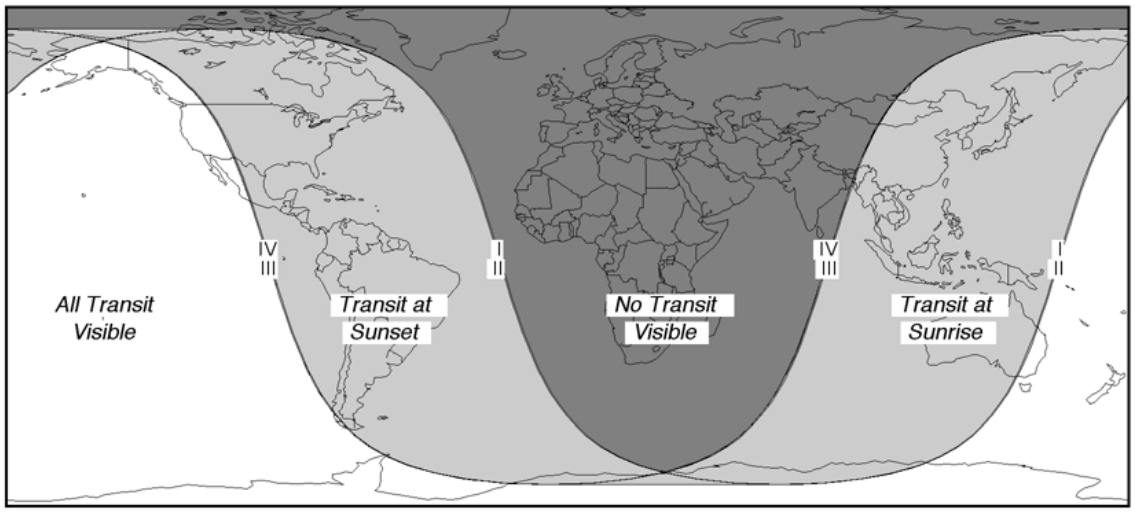
Ephemeris Data

Eph. = VSOP87
ΔT = 65.0 s

Mercury Transit Contacts
(Geocentric Coordinates)

I = 19:12:04 UT
II = 19:13:57 UT
Greatest = 21:41:04 UT
III = 00:08:16 UT
IV = 00:10:08 UT

F. Espenak, NASA/GSFC - 2005 Apr
http://sunearth.gsfc.nasa.gov/eclipse/transit/transit.html



Acknowledgments

To the *Solar Fire 6* computer program for most calculations; to the *AstroAnalyst* computer program for perigees and stations in declination; to Neil Michelsen et al., *Tables of Planetary Phenomena*, 2nd ed. (San Diego, CA: ACS Publications, 1995) for dates of planetary clusters and other astronomical information in handy form; to *Observer's Handbook 2006* (Toronto: Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, 2005) for occultation and other data; and to Fred Espenak for eclipse, occultation and Transit of Mercury calculations, explanations and diagrams at the http://sunearth.gsfc.nasa.gov/eclipse/ site.