

Introduction to AstroApp Financial Edition

By Bill Meridian

“The dates when companies are incorporated and the dates when stocks are first traded on the NYSE or other exchanges cause them to make tops and bottoms at slightly different dates for seasonal changes.”

-W.D. Gann

Welcome to the financial section of the Astro App website. This module is based upon my book, Planetary Stock Trading. A complete reading of the book is essential to success in this work. The book has 1000 first-trade horoscopes. This database has almost twice that number. Better yet, the database is updated weekly. Following is enough introductory material to get you started. First, the concept of the first trade chart is explained. Second, the concept of the earnings surprise method is explored. Third, the Jupiter method of stock selection is described. Astro App will enable you to utilize these methods. You will also be able to screen the database for aspects, sign placements, etc.

These horoscopes are set up for the date that an issue was listed on a given exchange. The time is that of the opening of trading for the exchange for that day. The New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) and the smaller bourses began trading at 10 AM until September 30, 1985. Starting on that date, trading began at 9:30 AM. Subsequent horoscopes are set for this earlier time. The center for Wall Street action is the Big Apple, so all charts are set for New York City.

A bit of explanation about the history of a company and its shares will be helpful in understanding this concept:

1. First, a business opens its doors. Then, if it has not done so already, it incorporates.
2. If shares are sold to the public, the sale takes place through an underwriter.
3. The underwriter lines up buyers and then sells stock on the initial public offering (IPO) date. This puts a supply of stock in public and institutional hands.
4. About five business days later, the stock opens trading. A major new issue of a leading company may be listed directly on the NYSE, as Readers Digest was on February 15, 1990.

The two dates, IPO and first listing, occur close together. I have found the first trade date to be the more important of the two. Customarily, the chairman or president of the company will go to the floor of the NYSE and make a token, personal purchase of 100 or 1,000 shares to kick off the trading. In the words of a NYSE official, trading begins “almost immediately.” Thus, the choice of the 9:30 or 10:00 AM time for the charts is supported by fact. In addition, as George Bayer wrote in the 1940s, the beginning of trading is akin to the opening of a store. Before it opens, one cannot buy anything. When it opens, the customers can enter. The first purchase takes place some time after the opening. Trading usually begins at the opening, but it can be some time after if the stock is small and lesser-known. Or, the demand may be so great that the market may be ‘locked’ until the orders can be met. This was the case with Facebook. In such cases, we have the time that trading opened plus a second time (11:45) when the price actually began to fluctuate. I

find that both sets of angles are useful. However, the second time is lost for most stocks that began trading many years ago.

The data was gathered from the various exchanges between 1974 and 2013. Data on the NYSE stocks was obtained from the research area of the Exchange. OTC dates are from the National Association of Securities Dealers (NASDAQ). Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy. The data bases were cleaned up before release. No liability is assumed on the part of the authors from the use of this data.

SCANNING

One can scan the databases for chart patterns that fit one's requirements. Hundreds of charts can be scanned instantly. For example, stocks with the Sun in Taurus usually outperform the averages. This module of the program can easily find stock charts with certain planetary positions, aspects, midpoints, etc. For example, when looking ahead to 1993 and 1994, the sequence of eclipses in Taurus-Scorpio and the passage of Jupiter into Scorpio were noted. Any stock that began trading in a certain decade must have natal Pluto in Scorpio. In addition, there was the series of Jupiter-Saturn oppositions in Cancer-Capricorn in 1989-1990. Therefore, in 1994, transiting Jupiter would have to conjoin natal Pluto, trine natal Jupiter, and sextile Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune in the horoscopes of any stock that began trading in 1989-1990. These are all favorable aspects, and the influence of the eclipses was an added kicker.

One can also test stock groups to find the common elements within a group. For example, we could separate a group that has outperformed or underperformed the market over a given time period. The Wall Street Journal prints a daily list of the biggest gainers and losers every day. Barrons does the same for the week and for each quarter. Value Line also has winners and losers for the previous 13 weeks. But the most valuable function is the ability to easily identify charts that are being activated by upcoming transits, stations, or eclipses. This module enables us to scan all the charts to see which ones are being activated by an upcoming event. Select the degree of the January 4, 1992 solar eclipse at 13 Capricorn 51. Remember, this eclipse was also conjunct transiting Uranus. Select conjunctions only and a 4 degree orb applying and separating. The scanner is asked only to look for conjunctions to Jupiter in the trade charts.

THE EARNINGS SURPRISE METHOD

Companies report earnings four times per year. Most are on a calendar year basis. That is, the financial reporting period coincides with the calendar year, beginning on January 1 and ending on December 31. The first quarter ends on March 31, and earnings are usually released in the second or third week in April. The same timing applies to the quarters ending on June 30, September 30, and December 31. The type of fiscal year and reporting dates can be obtained from the company's website, from Yahoo Finance, or from Rightline.com. Academic studies have demonstrated that share prices become more volatile around earnings reporting time.

This is understandable since the reported figures could be a positive or a negative surprise. Services such as IBES collect and aggregate earnings estimates from analysts. Typically, a

report will show how many analysts follow the company, the range of their estimates, the median and the mean. Studies have demonstrated that reported earnings that deviate from the median by more than one standard deviation cause big moves in share prices. Companies that report earnings surprises are listed in Barrons each week in the Market Laboratory section. There is one more notion about earnings releases that needs to be understood. One analysis by Ball and Brown (1968) showed that after annual earnings are announced, share prices move in the same direction as the direction of the released earnings. For 261 companies from 1957 to 1965, share prices of companies with rising year-to-year earnings increased by 7.3 percent in the year before, but rose by 2.4 percent annually in the next quarter. Note that the bulk of the rise occurs before the earnings release. Knowing that stocks make bigger moves around the time of their earnings announcements, I always pay greater attention to the first-trade chart at that time. Generally, an exceptionally well-aspected horoscope leads to a move up in response to the announcement. A poorly aspected chart leads to a downmove. Remember that the report may not be that bad, but it is interpreted by traders as being negative. Sometimes, a company beats its estimate, but the stock falls. In such cases, the traders and investors were expecting the company to exceed the estimates by an even greater margin. The opposite case, in which earnings are down but not down by as much as Wall Street expects, can send the stock up. It is important to remember that the reported earnings must be measured against expectations. The condition of the first-trade chart at the time will show the reaction in the marketplace. A horoscope that is neutrally aspected describes a situation in which there will be little reaction. That is, the announcement was already expected, and the share price has already adjusted to the news.

It is very clear that close aspects to the MC, Sun, Moon, and ascendant carry the greatest weight, and in that order. In applying this rule, one must keep in mind, Johndro's concept of time orb. This means that an exact aspect on a given day will dominate the energy for that day. A conjunction on the MC on the day of an earnings release will exceed all other bearish contacts that occurred last week or that will occur in the following week. Actually parallels and contraparallels are stronger than conjunctions.

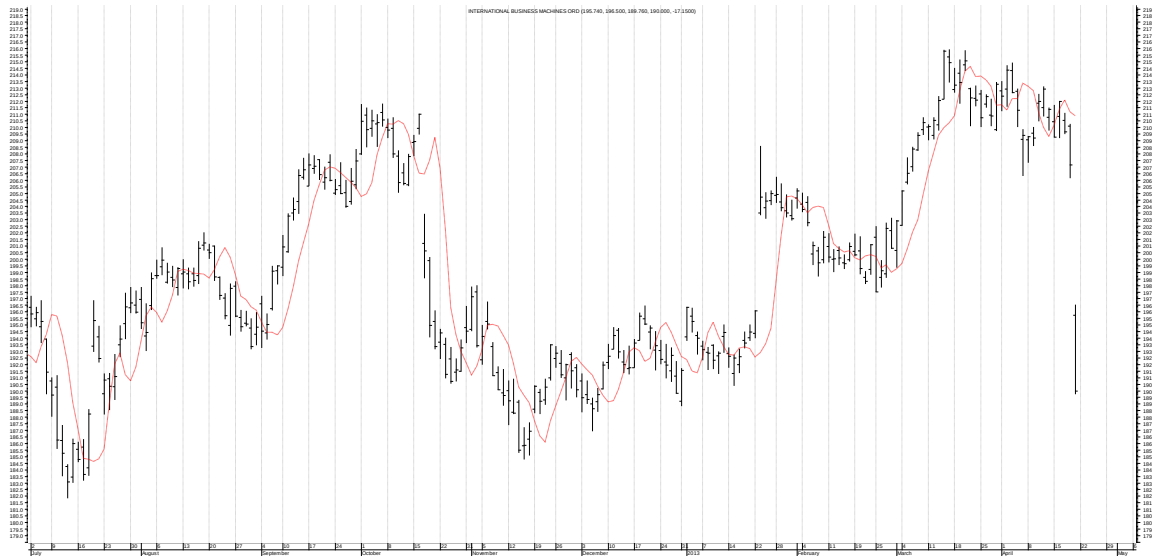
In 1997, Microsoft's earnings were way over estimates and the stock leaped. Transiting Jupiter and Uranus were straddling the midheaven. In fact, the transiting midpoint was almost on the midheaven. If this were the chart of a person who was about to make an announcement, what kind of news would you anticipate? Because this is a mundane entity, I emphasize the MC, Sun, and Moon more than the other bodies.

Here are some recent examples.

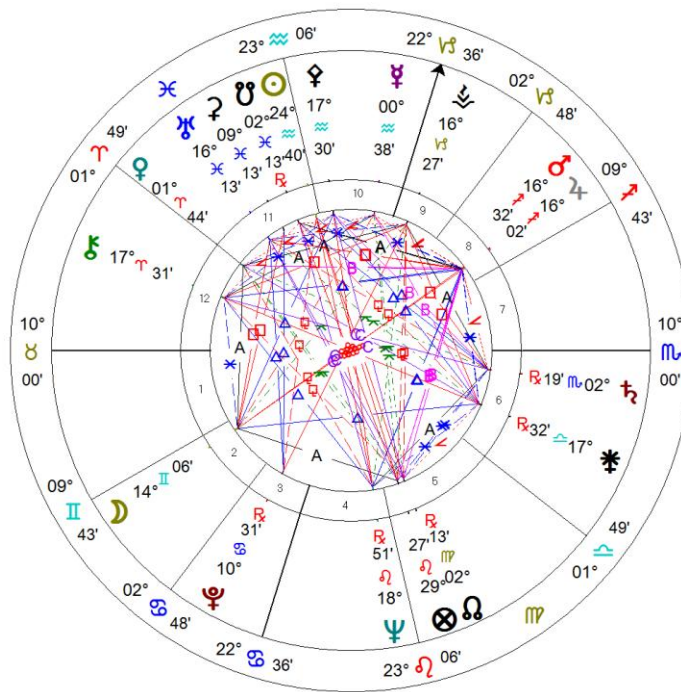
IBM

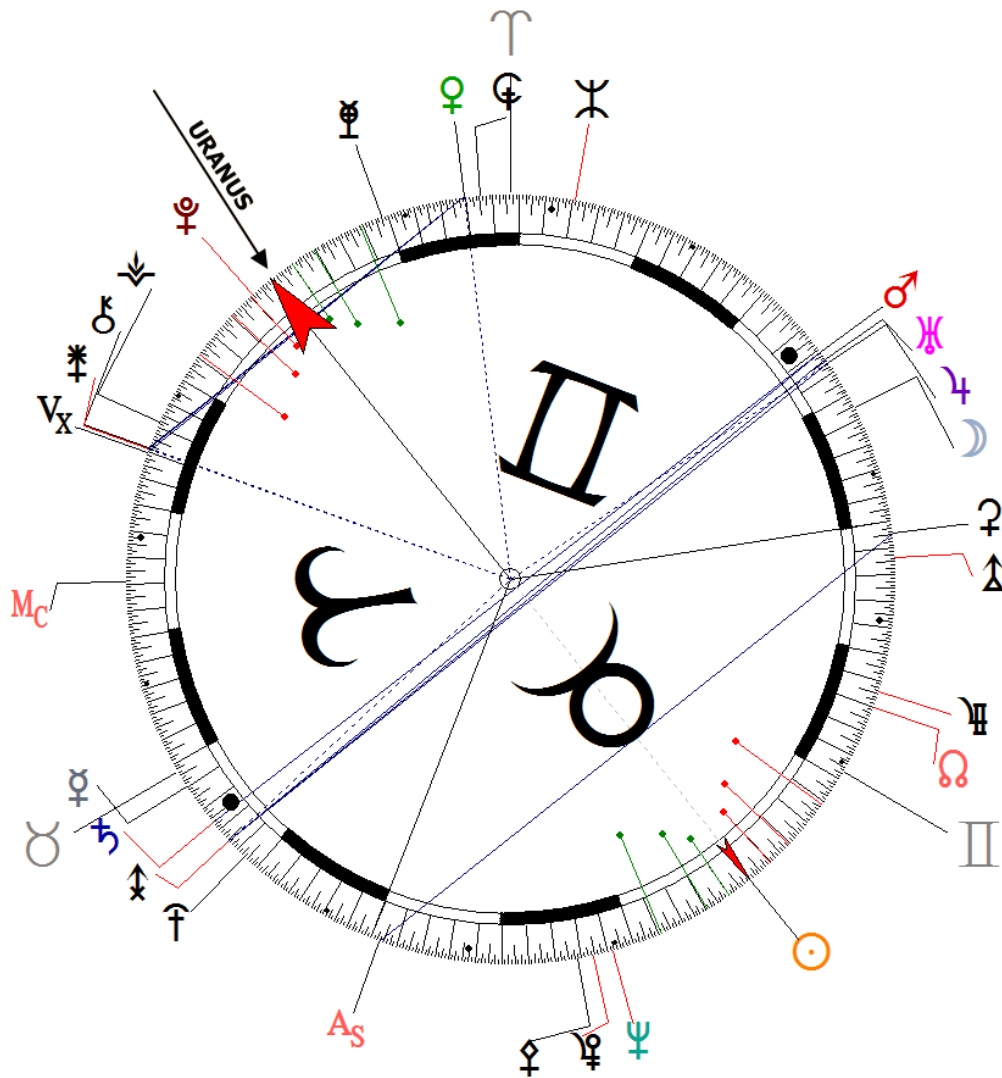
April 20, 2013

On April 19th, 2013, IBM dropped after reporting an earnings disappointment. On the day of the announcement, the stock fell by 8.3%. Transiting Uranus and Saturn were 150 degrees apart in the sky. Uranus was exactly 45 degrees to the natal Sun on that day. Looking at a 90-degree dial, we see that the natal Sun is on the Uranus/Saturn midpoint. This is a most unstable axis and is likely the greatest contributor to the decline.



IBM-IBM
Natal Chart
 Feb 14 1924, Thu
 10:00 am EST +5:00
 NYC
 40°N45' 073°W57'
Geocentric
Tropical
Koch
True Node





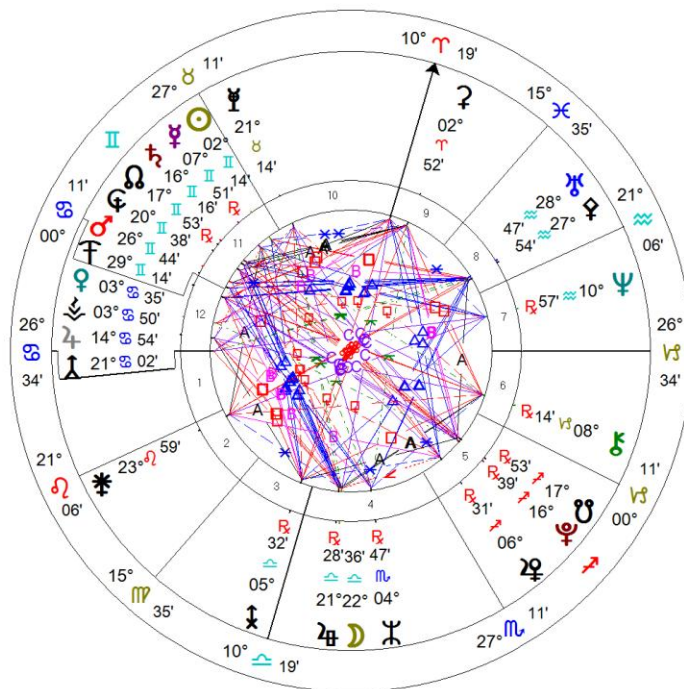
NETFLIX

April 23, 2013

Transiting Jupiter was parallel the progressed Sun on April 21, 2013. After the close on the 22nd, NFLX reported higher earnings than expected. Uranus was only 1 degree short of the 10 Aries MC, bringing in the quincunx from Saturn. In this case, the former aspect, being more exact than the latter, influenced the stock price. This is a good example of Johndro's time orb.



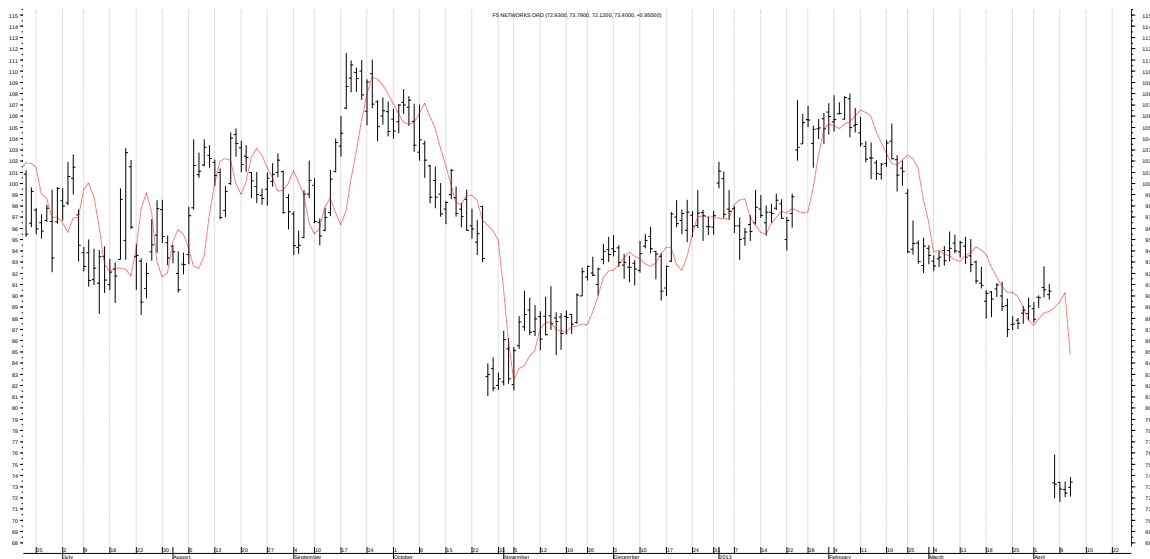
NETFLIX-NFLX
Natal Chart
 May 23 2002, Thu
 9:30 am EDT +4:00
 New York, NY
 40°N42'51" 074°W00'23"
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 Koch
 True Node



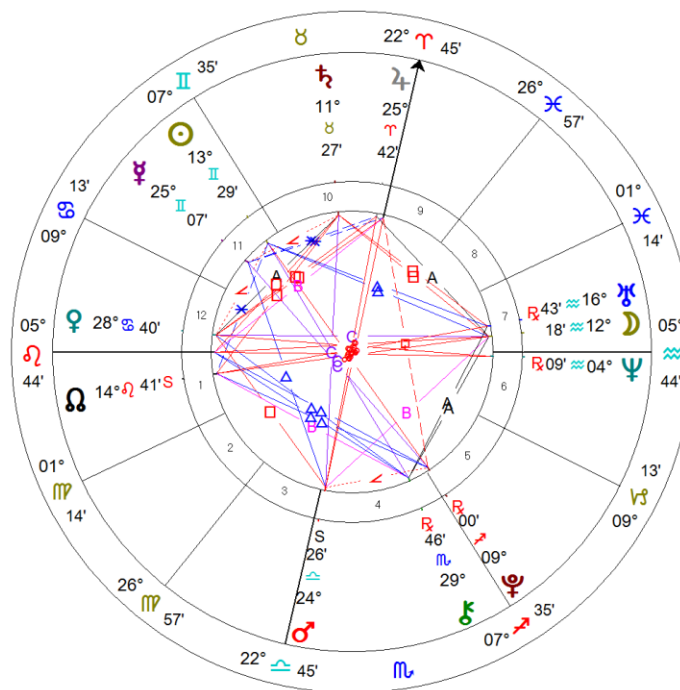
F5 NETWORKS

April 2013

Saturn opposed Saturn and squared the Moon as FFIV reported earnings.



F5 NETWORKS-FFIV
Natal Chart
 Jun 4 1999, Fri
 9:30 am EDT +4:00
 New York, NY
 40°N42'51" 074°W00'23"
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 Koch
 True Node

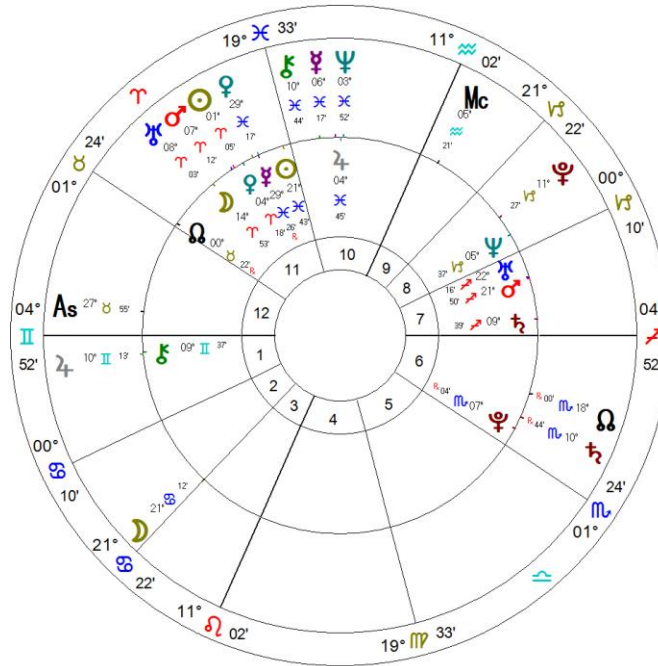


ORACLE

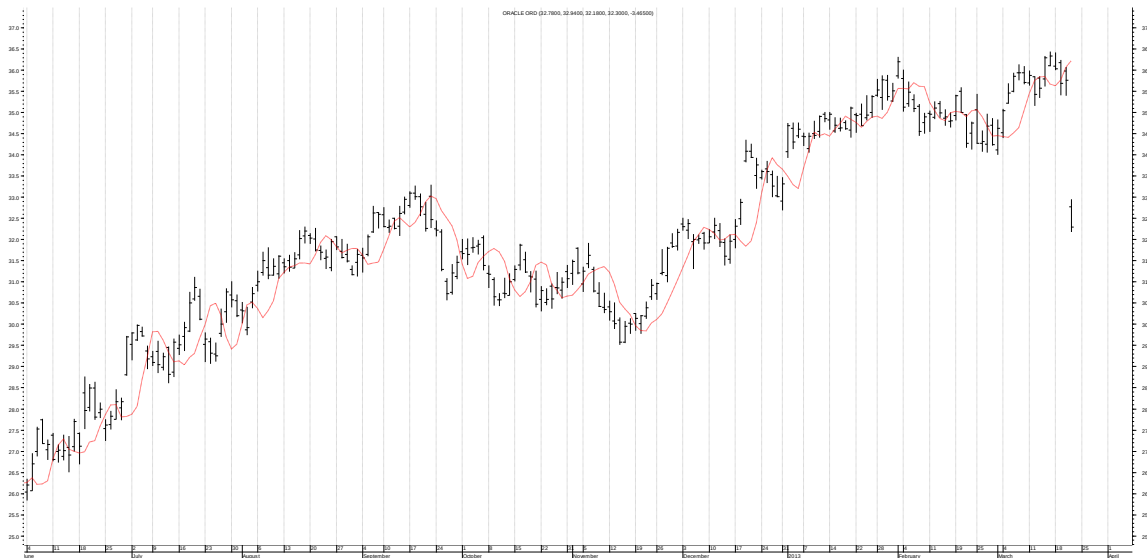
March 21, 2013

ORCL closed trading on March 20th; earnings were announced after the close. The numbers disappointed Wall Street and the share price fell by 9.7%. Saturn, at 11 Scorpio was square to the 11 Aquarius MC. This MC is common to other software stocks like MSFT and INTU, so the whole tech sector sold off. The March 35 put options rose from \$.35 to \$2.67, an almost 7-fold gain.

Inner Wheel
ORACLE SYSTEMS-ORCL
 Natal Chart
 Mar 12 1986, Wed
 9:30 am EST +5:00
 NYC
 40°N45' 073°W57'
*Geocentric
 Tropical
 Koch
 True Node*



Outer Wheel
Transits Mar 21 2013
 Event Chart
 Mar 21 2013, Thu
 9:30 am EDT +4:00
 New York, NEW YORK
 40°N42'51" 074°W00'23"
*Geocentric
 Tropical
 Koch
 True Node*

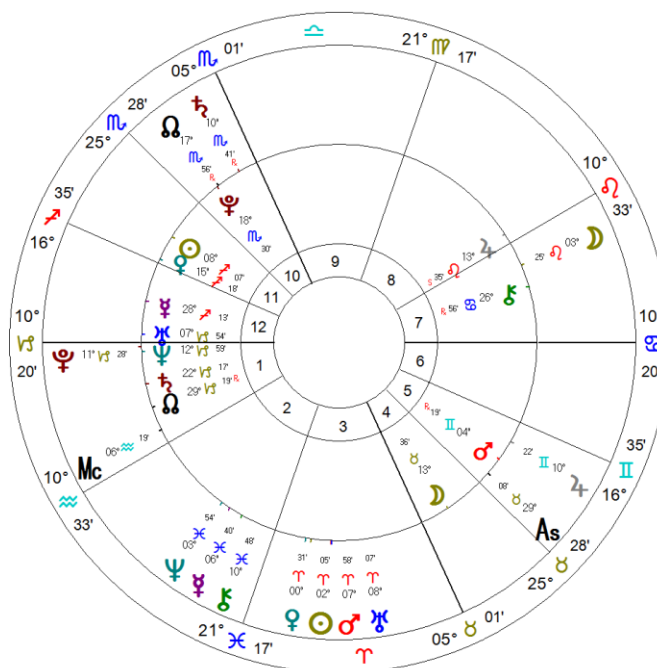


MICRON

On the same day, MU reported earnings. In this case, transiting Uranus was exactly trine the natal Sun. This trine had no orb; it was exact in degrees and in minutes. The close conjunction of transiting Mars to Uranus added to the energy. In addition, Uranus rules the semiconductor industry. The stock rose 10% after earnings were released. Rarely will one find a case in which an orb is exact on the day of the earnings release.

Inner Wheel
MICRON TECH.-MU
 Natal Chart
 Nov 30 1990, Fri
 9:30 am EST +5:00
 NYC
 40°N45' 073°W57'
*Geocentric
 Tropical
 Koch
 True Node*

Outer Wheel
Transits Mar 22 2013
 Event Chart
 Mar 22 2013, Fri
 9:30 am EDT +4:00
 New York, NEW YORK
 40°N42'51" 074°W00'23"
*Geocentric
 Tropical
 Koch
 True Node*



THE JUPITER METHOD

This strategy seeks to buy stocks that have many planets or angles in the sign that Jupiter is about to enter. In determining the number, the Node, MC and the ascendant are included as well as the planets. If one selects 5 points as a minimum, too few stocks may be generated. Thus, the user may have to lower the number to 3 or to 4. Once this list is generated, it is fed into a portfolio reporting system. The performance of the Scorpio group was measured from the day that transiting Jupiter enters Scorpio on November 10, 1993 until the day that it leaves on December 9, 1994. The equally weighted NASDAQ portfolio appreciated by 12.63% versus the NASDAQ OTC Industrials drop of 10.59%. The top performer was 3 Com (COMS) with a 148.3% gain. The Jupiter dragnet also scooped up Gartner Group (GART) with a 132.3% rise. Twenty of the twenty-nine issues outperformed. Jupiter passing over the Scorpio points in the first trade charts did the job. This test was repeated for Jupiter's passage through different signs with the following results. (In the Cancer and Leo tests, the requirement for inclusion on the list was lowered to three, rather than four points. This was done because the four -point screen generated too few stocks. Apparently, few stocks began trading when many planets were in these signs.) The test assumes that one puts an equal amount of funds in each stock, buying on the day of Jupiter's entry into the new sign and selling on the day of the planet's passage into the next sign. This strategy led to the Jupiter portfolios exceeding the benchmark in 10 of 11 years. In the last 3 tests, the S&P 500 was used to screen for stocks.

In analyzing the results, one must realize that the effect of the planets is not mutually exclusive. That is, simply because Jupiter is beneficially contacting the planets in a given chart, this does not immunize the rest of the chart from the negative influences of bearish planets. And, the charts may receive other bullish effects from planets besides Jupiter. In the first case, the Jupiter

effect is mitigated or negated due to the bearish influences. In the second case, the bullish influence is magnified. The Scorpio and Sagittarius portfolios are good examples. The above-average results from the Scorpio group were partly attributable to the favorable aspects from Uranus and Neptune in Capricorn, 60 degrees away. With the Sag stocks, Saturn in Pisces squared planets in Sagittarius, offsetting the positive effects of Jupiter and pushing the portfolio's performance closer to the benchmark. The same can be said for the Cap portfolio. As Saturn crept up into Aries, it began to square Capricorn, thereby offsetting the beneficial effect of Jupiter's transit through that sign. In these latter cases, it requires a bit of fancier footwork and stock-switching to avoid the Saturn square. The important point is that the groups should outperform their respective indices by the time Jupiter exits the sign of transit.

When Jupiter and Uranus were both in Aquarius, there was a double benefit. The point is that these transits usually continue to provide the energy for continued outperformance versus the S&P through the rest of Jupiter's stay in a sign. It is also important to remember that these are raw screens. That is, one then has to separate the wheat from the chaff. We must eliminate those charts that are very afflicted by other factors. If this test is passed, then look at the "internal" astrology. These are the progressions and the directions that are specific to the individual horoscope itself. Then, I look at the industry that the company is in. Being in a group that is out of favor is like running a race with one leg tied to a rock. Better to own a strong stock in a strong group than a strong stock in a weak group. Finally I go to the technical outlook: is the stock giving technical buy signals? And last, I analyze the fundamentals and the corporate chart. Avoid those charts that make difficult aspects to your own. Experience has proven that one will have a difficult time with such stocks.

Jupiter in Gemini has been a huge boost to Gemini stocks like Netflix:

