RESEARCH NOTES: **Alcoholism (Moon semisextile and/or quincunx Neptune)**

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Introduction

The results below were derived using data freely available online from Astrodatabank, and while this database contains well over 40,000 horoscopes, there are also a few caveats. For example, Astrodatabank contains horoscopes with accurate birthtimes (Rodden Rating = AA, A, or B) for only 2 people with Parkinson's born since 1960, and one can be sure that more than that number have suffered from this ailment in the past 60 years. Hence, one always has to contend with the effects of missing data, and such data may be missing for a variety of reasons including privacy laws that now surround many medical records. However, to paraphrase former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, "We often have to do statistics not with the data we want, but with the data have."

The only statistical test that I am using in these studies is the *2-tailed z-test for two proportions*, and I prefer this test both for its simplicity and because it formalizes what most astrologers do anyway – it looks at how often a certain outcome occurs in connection with a particular astrological condition, and it gives us a way to decide if the proportion of successful outcomes to sample size is meaningful or not. Throughout, the size of the sample that refers to those people who have the astrological configuration I'm studying is designated n1, and the size of the sample of those people who lack this configuration is denoted by n2. Also, regarding whatever ailment, vocation, or other condition that I am studying, the number of people from the first sample with this condition is always represented by x1, and the number from the second sample is designated by x2. From this data we compute proportions p1 = x1/n1 and p2 = x2/n2, and our statistical test returns a probability value (p-value) that estimates the likelihood that the observed results are due to chance. In general, if our p-value is 0.05 or less, then it is likely that our results are not due to simple chance. However, when feasible, I also try to perform my test over two different time periods to see to what extent the results may repeat themselves over time. When this is done, though, the power of the test is diminished since the sample size has been decreased. Thus, I take that into account when interpreting the results, and I also consider p1/p2 as a measure of effect size with a ratio at 1.5 or higher being considered meaningful in my eyes. Additionally, the *2-tailed z-test for two proportions* essentially uses a normal distribution to estimate probabilities for a binomial distribution, and if either x1, n1-x1, x2, or n2-x2 is less than 5, then the normal distribution fails to be a sufficiently accurate representation of the corresponding binomial distribution and the results are, therefore, not necessarily valid. In situations like this, categories may be combined to attain numbers large enough for a valid test.

Ideally, those who have a particular aspect within 1 degree of being exact should be the ones who exhibit the strongest influence of that aspect, and those whose planets are furthest away from forming an exact aspect should receive the weakest influence from the two planets being studied. However, because we do not have an infinite amount of data to analyze, our information is sometimes clustered around a particular orb rather than being more evenly distributed. Additionally, an orb of 1 degree may exclude too many records for us to be able to complete our test, and we are also restricted by whatever options Astrodatabank makes available to us. Hence, I often wind up having to use not only different orbs with different aspects, but also sometimes different time periods as I try to determine what is likely meaningful and what isn't.

Results

Alcoholism						
Moon semisextile and/or quincunx Neptune						
Orb = 3 degrees						
Moon not semisextile and/or quincunx Neptune						
Orb = 3 degrees						
Rodden Rating = AA or A or B						
Date Range = 1900 -2000						
Date = November 14, 2022		**1900-2000**				
	Alcoholism	#Successes	#Moon inconjunct Neptune		#Successes	#NOT Moon inconjunct Neptune
	Abuse Alcohol	51	3136		447	42268

2-tail z-test for two proportions	p1	p2	Effect Size = p1/p2
0.003173255	1.63%	1.06%	**1.54**

Date = November 14, 2022		**1900-1950**				
	Alcoholism	#Successes	#Moon inconjunct Neptune		#Successes	#NOT Moon inconjunct Neptune
	Abuse Alcohol	31	1915		296	25685

2-tail z-test for two proportions	p1	p2	Effect Size = p1/p2
0.068821184	1.62%	1.15%	**1.40**

Date = November 14, 2022		**1950-2000**				
	Alcoholism	#Successes	#Moon inconjunct Neptune		#Successes	#NOT Moon inconjunct Neptune
	Abuse Alcohol	20	1272		158	17223

2-tail z-test for two proportions	p1	p2	Effect Size = p1/p2
0.020951967	1.57%	0.92%	**1.71**

Discussion

In the time interval 1900 – 2000, the *2-tail z-test for two proportions* resulted in a p-value that is well below 0.05 as well as an effect size that is greater than 1.5. Hence, the suspicion that natal Moon semisextile or quincunx natal Neptune is linked to alcohol abuse is strongly supported. This result makes sense in that the Moon represents the physical body and its sensations while Neptune represents a drive that helps us heal from pain by erasing the sharp edge of our sensory experience. With these two planets inconjunct (semisextile or quincunx) one another, that indicates a need for adjustment as the drives represented by those planets do not coordinate their functions together without some difficulty. Hence, it is understandable that a situation such as this could lead to using external methods, such as alcohol consumption, to help dull life's pains. When we restrict our original sample to smaller time periods, it is expected that the p-values will likely be larger since smaller sample sizes tend to decrease the power of a statistical test. In the case of 1900-1950, the p-value of 0.0688 is a little above the 0.05 threshold, and the effect size of 1.4 is slightly below 1.5. This result provides some support for alcohol abuse being linked with an inconjunct relationship between the Moon and Neptune, but it is not quite as strong as one would like. However, if one were doing a 1-tail test to evaluate the assumption that p1 > p2 instead of just not being equal, then the resulting p-value would be 0.034 which is less than 0.05. Also, when our test is performed over the time span from 1950-2000, the resulting p-value is 0.02 and the effect size is 1.71. This provides stronger support for our premise than the data from 1900-1950 does. Thus, the result, in my opinion, is that the data currently supports the premise that having one's Moon inconjunct Neptune

increases the likelihood of alcohol abuse, but that this test should also be repeated periodically as more data becomes available to see if this trend continues.