## US Presidential Elections: Charting a Quantitative Method for Prediction

#### J. Lee Lehman, PhD

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#36 Learning with Lee Series http://www.leelehman.com

#### The Problem

- Oftentimes, political prediction is little more than a veiled attempt to provide astrological evidence for one's own voting choice.
- Alternatively, it is often a process only studied in election years, with the gap in between providing no insight to the process.

#### The Goal

- To discuss Quantitative Models for Prediction
- To discuss the positive and negative ramifications of a quantitative model
- To discuss both natal and mundane methods for prediction
- To apply these ideas to the 2016 election

### Using Candidates' Natal Charts

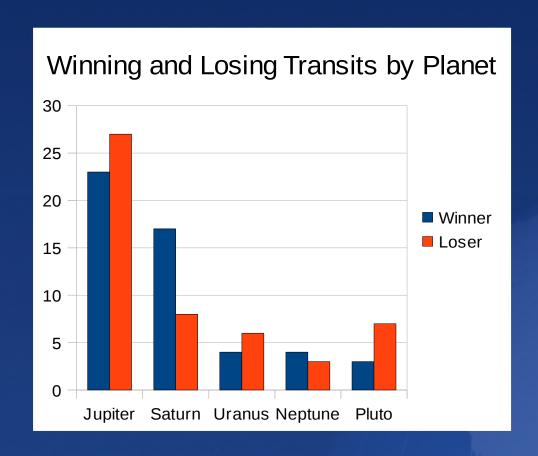
#### The Dataset

- There are seventeen elections in which we have data for both candidates which is B or better.
- This year, 2016, is not one of them

### Is this enough data?

- There's never enough data!The existing data can at least be used to show trends.
- What is unknown is whether it's good enough for predictions.

#### Accidental Malefics?



- Here we see that Jupiter and Pluto aspects are more likely for losers
- Saturn transits are more likely for winners.

Clinton's aspects: Ur tr Sa par 28 Oct | Ju cn Ne 2 Nov | Sa sx Pl 5 Nov Trump's aspects: Ju sx Pl 26 Oct | Ur cnj Moon and SN partile 28 Oct

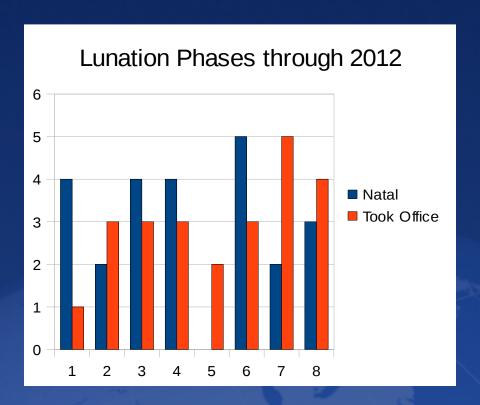
### Lunation Cycle

#### Clinton:

- Natal 4<sup>th</sup> phase
- 2012 7<sup>th</sup> phase (if birthtime after 4 am

#### Trump:

- Natal 4<sup>th</sup> phase
- 2012 8<sup>th</sup> phase



#### Mundane Models

# Quantitative Models for Prediction

- Since I began observing astrologers predicting elections in 1976, there seemed to be a high correlation between the predicted winner and who the astrologer planned to vote for.
- This strongly suggested that many of us are too passionately involved in our politics to dispassionately predict this outcome

#### This Model

- Derived from work on sports prediction by Bernadette Brady and me
- Is a completely quantitative, points-driven model
- Uses the open-field style prediction of Bonatti and Ramesey, with the Challenger being 1<sup>st</sup> house
- Presumes the party in the White House is the Holder, and the other party the Challenger

# The Electional Astrology Problem

- What is the "time" and "location" of a national election?
- A political election is thus both an "election" or event (in the astrological sense) and a mundane event
- Being a mundane event, there are various mundane events that could be considered predictive as well

#### Choice of Predictive Events

- Because this is a national process, all charts are calculated for Washington DC.
- Three "electional" dates have been tested
  - Election day
  - Electoral College
  - Inauguration
- A series of typical mundane events have been studied as well

#### A "Statistical" Model

- Technically, this is not statistical in the sense of being a subset of data: this is based on all USA contested presidential elections after the first one, because in the first one, there was no Holder.
- But being "statistical" in nature, outcomes predicted by the model will not always be correct.

### Generic Rules by Event

- Holder is the 7<sup>th</sup> house; Challenger is the 1<sup>st</sup>
- Superior planets are considered intrinsically stronger than inferior ones (and the Sun is considered inferior)
- The last and next aspects of the Moon are assigned to the two sides
- Malefics in dignity and debility act the reverse of Benefics

### Generic Rules by Event

- This model supports both positive and negative points
- House placement of a significator can add to, or subtract from the points
- If the score is tied, the Holder wins
- The magnitude of the point difference has no relationship to the closeness of the election.

# Summary of Predictive Methods (as of 2012)

- Mars-Jupiter conjunction: 55% correct\*
- Mars-Saturn conjunction: 58% correct
- Sunrise Election Day: 67% correct
- Midnight Election Day: 66% correct
- Prior Solar Eclipse: 49% correct\*
- Prior Lunation: 67% correct
- Prior Libra Ingress: 36% correct (contrary)
- Electoral College (noon): 60% correct
- Inauguration Day (noon): 51% correct\*
- Prior Syzygy (New Moons only): 68% correct

#### Superior Conjunctions

- These are based solely on the degree in which the conjunction occurs – there is no chart calculated and judged.
- The theory behind this methodology is that one component of the classical delineation of aspects was to consider which of the two aspecting planets was stronger – which was assessed by dignity.

### Superior Conjunctions

- Thus, Mars is stronger in the Earth and Water signs (nocturnal sect), whereas either Jupiter or Saturn is stronger in the Fire and Air signs.
- This system uses one pointing system common in the Medieval period – ignoring the negative points introduced by debility.

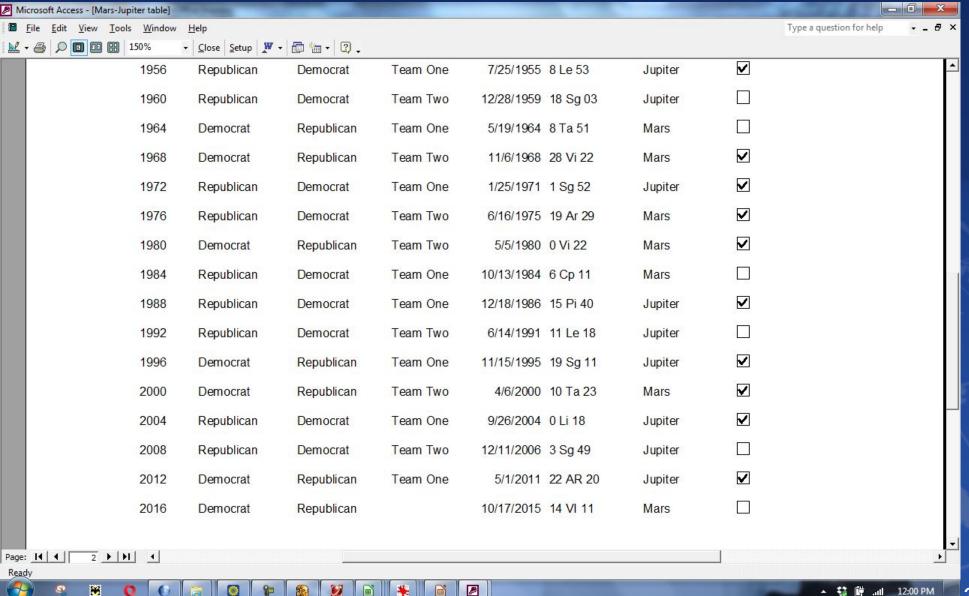
### Superior Conjunctions

- In the original hypothesis, the theory was that Mars, being inherently disruptive, would favor the Challenger over the Holder.
- This assumption appears to be correct.

# Mars-Jupiter conjunction: 55% correct

*Model:* When Mars has more dignity (i.e., in the Water and Earth signs, then the Challenger prevails. When Jupiter has more dignity (in the Air and Fire signs), then the Holder prevails.

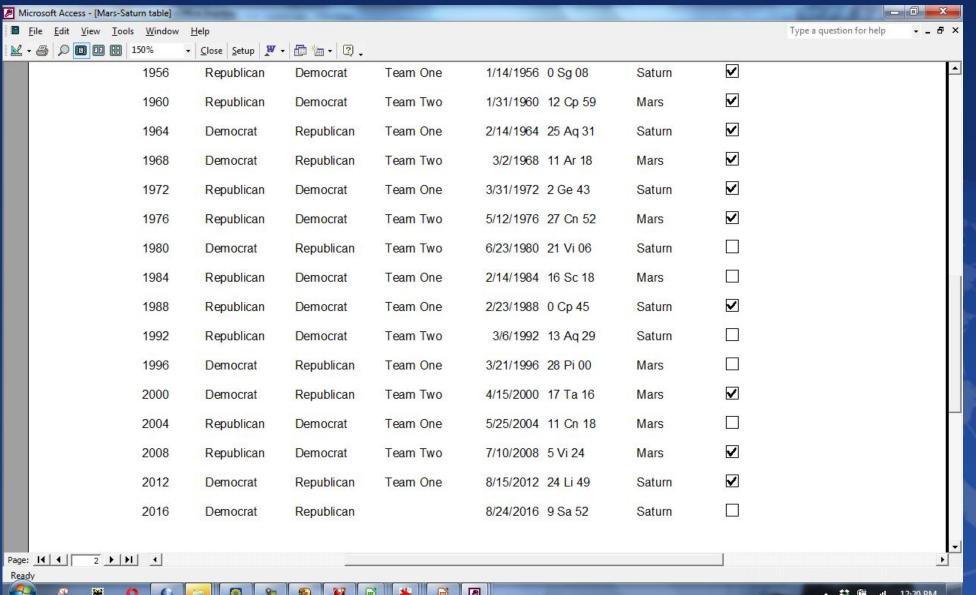
#### Ma calls Challenger; Ju the Holder



# Mars-Saturn conjunction: 57% correct

*Model:* When Mars has more dignity (i.e., in the Water and Earth signs, then the Challenger prevails. When Saturn has more dignity (in the Air and Fire signs), then the Holder prevails.

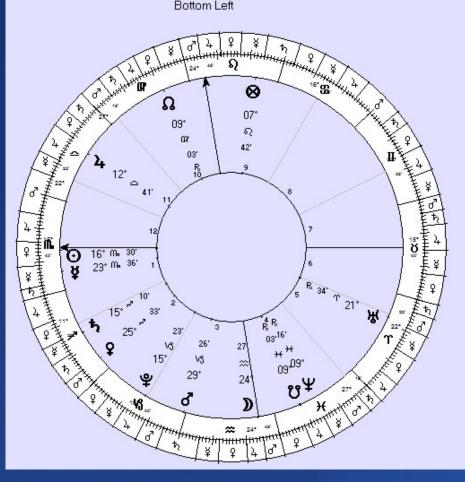
#### Ma calls Challenger; Sa the Holder

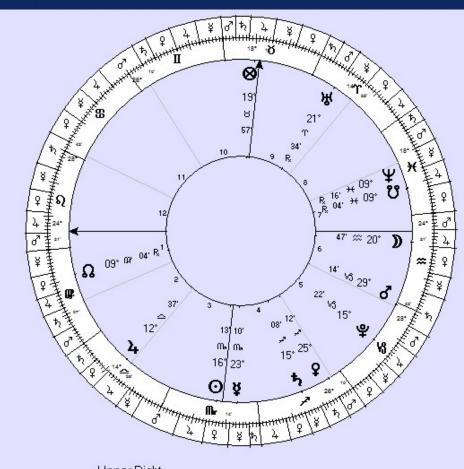


Mean Node Regiomontanus Tropical Geocentric 38°N53'42" 077°W02'12" washington, do 6:44 am EST +5:00 Nov 8 2016, Tue **Natal Chart** 

2016 dawn:

**Bottom Left** 





Upper Right 2016 Midnight

**Natal Chart** 

Nov 8 2016, Tue 0:00 am EST +5:00 washington, dc 38°N53'42'' 077°W02'12'' Geocentric Tropical Regiomontanus

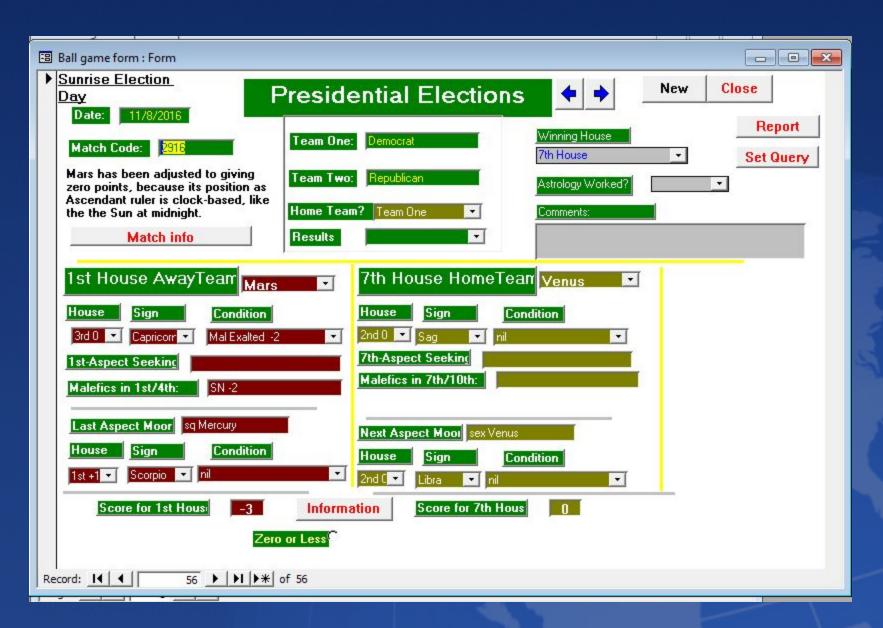
Mean Node

# Sunrise Election Day: 67% correct

1992 Democrat
1996 Democrat
2000 Republican
2004 Republican
2008 Democrat
2012 Republican

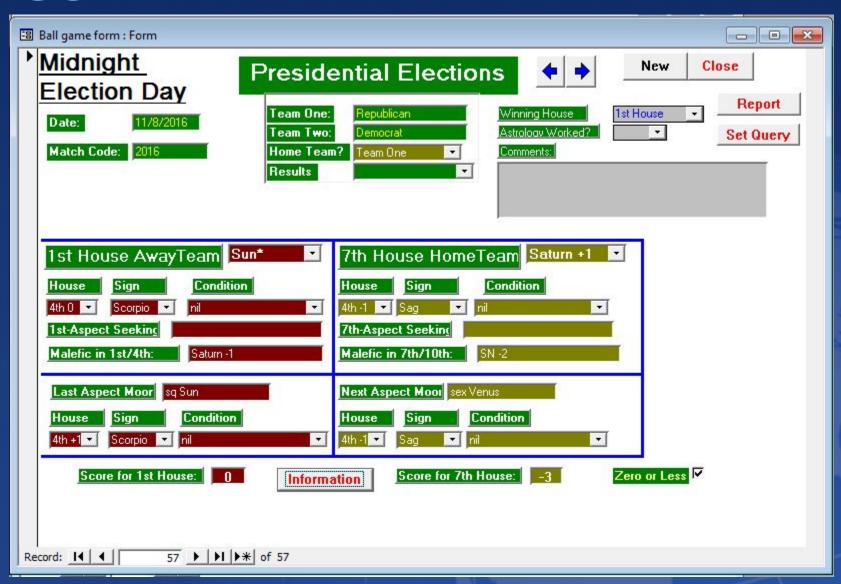
Yes
Yes
Yes
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Yes
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Yes
No

### Sunrise Election Day: 67% correct

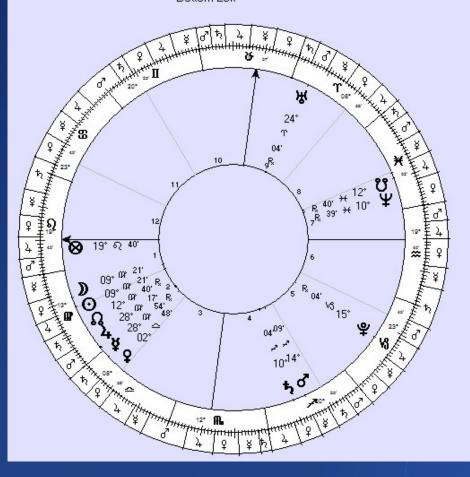


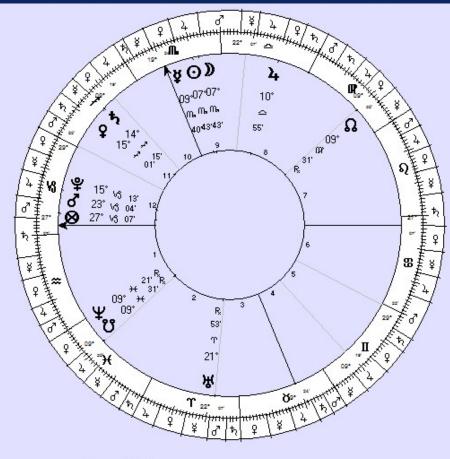
# Midnight Election Day: 66% correct

# Midnight Election Day: 66% correct



Mean Nade
Regiamontanus
Tropical
Geocentric
38°N53'42" 077°W02'12"
washington, dc
5:03:02 am EDT +4:00
Sep 1 2016, Thu
Event Chart
Solar Annular Eclipse (NM)
Bottom Left





Upper Right

#### New Moon Oct 30 2016

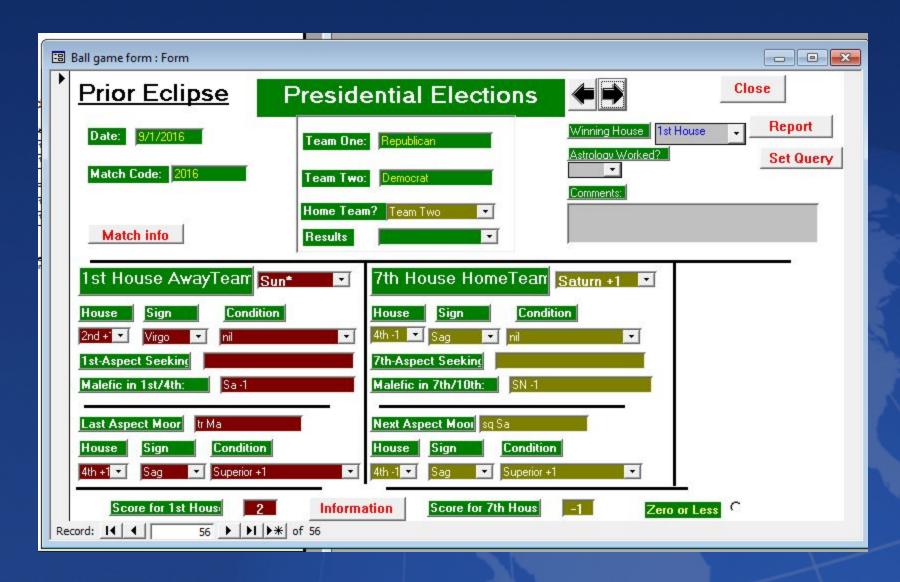
#### **Event Chart**

Oct 30 2016, Sun 1:38:06 pm EDT +4:00 washington, dc 38°N53'42" 077°W02'12" Geacentric Trapical Regiomantanus

Mean Node

## Prior Solar Eclipse: 49% correct

## Prior Solar Eclipse: 49% correct



#### Prior Lunation: 67% correct

#### Prior Lunation: 67% correct

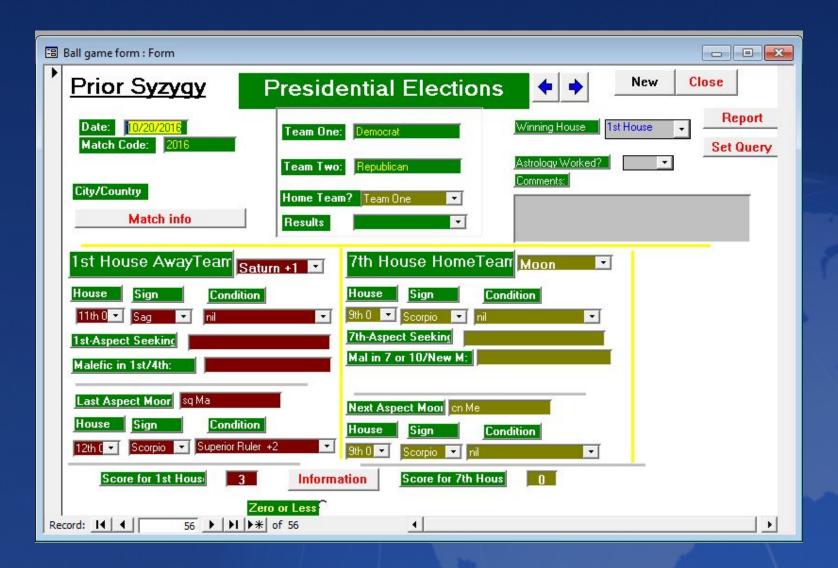
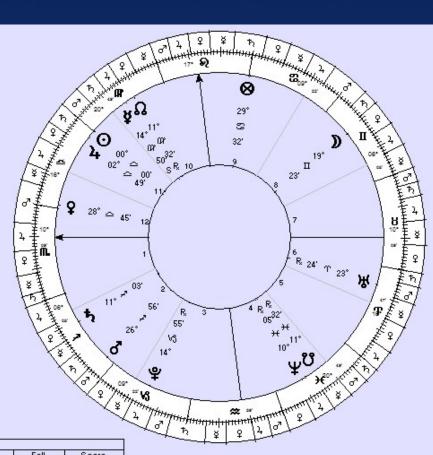


Chart 1 Libra 2016 Natal Chart Sep 22 2016, Thu 10°21°04 am EDT +4°00 WASHINGTON, do 38°N53°42" 077°W02'12" Geocentric Tropical Regiomortanus

Mean Node

	MOON ASPECTS					
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D	×	Me	1°43' A			
D	00	8	7°33' A			
D	0	8	10*36' A			



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)	10°ස36	+14°07'
Θ	00°T00	+58'42"
¥	15°T09	+03'39"
Q	01° <del>)</del> €14	+01°13'
ď	03°\გ03	+38'21"
4	27° <del>) (</del> 10	+12'57"
ħ	18°V <del>§</del> 56	+03'41"
ж	06°₽₽35	-02'10"
Ψ	19°≏54	-01'31"
·	15° ₹04	-00'07"
Ω	18°₩27	-03'10"
8	18°≏27	-03'10"
As	19°≈50	+286°27'
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8	00°Ⅱ27	+299°36'

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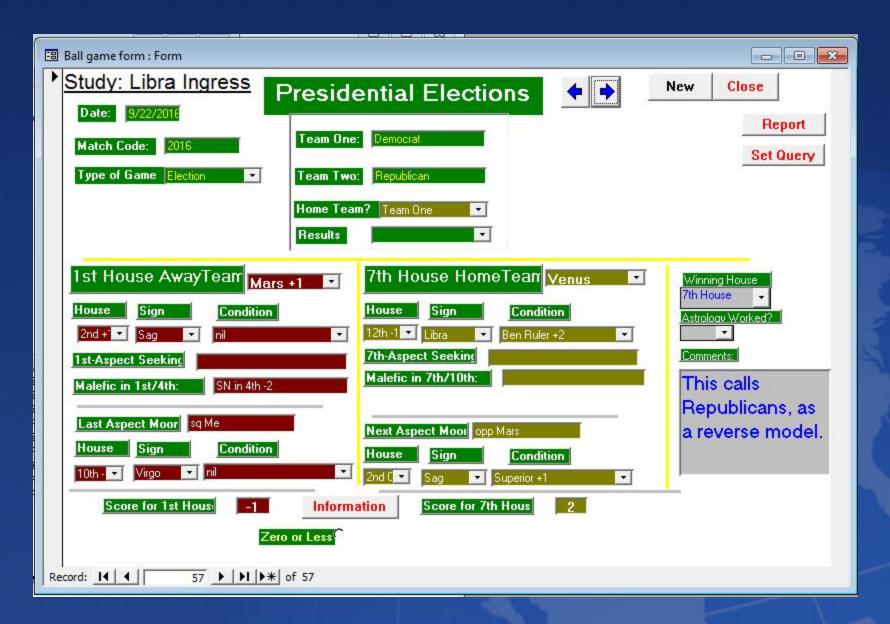
NEAREST ECLIPSES (NM/FM)						
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D ••	Feb 10 2017	8:32 pm	22°ඩ28	Appulse	S114	
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# Prior Libra Ingress: 36% correct (contrary)

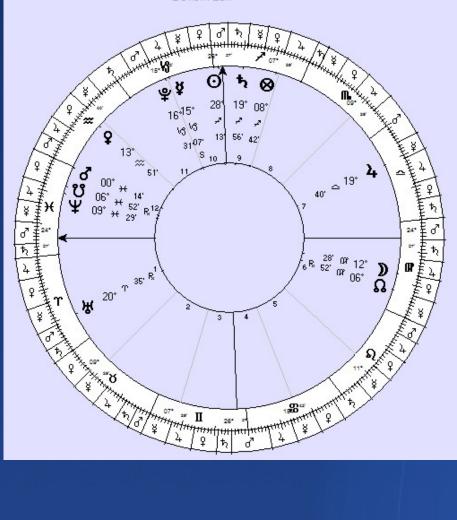
## Libra Ingress: 36% correct (rev\_

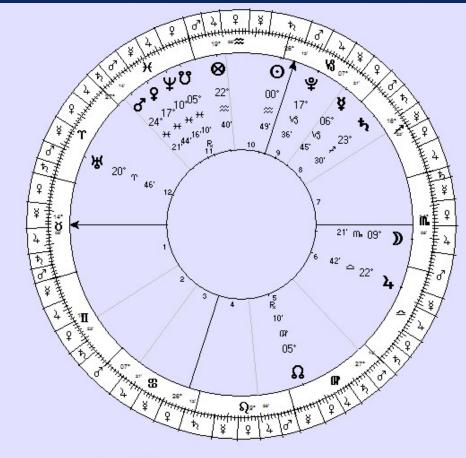


Mean Node Regiomontanus Tropical Geocentric 38°N53'42" 077°W02'12" washington, do 12:00:01 pm EST +5:00 Dec 19 2016, Mon **Natal Chart** 

2016 Elec Col:

**Bottom Left** 





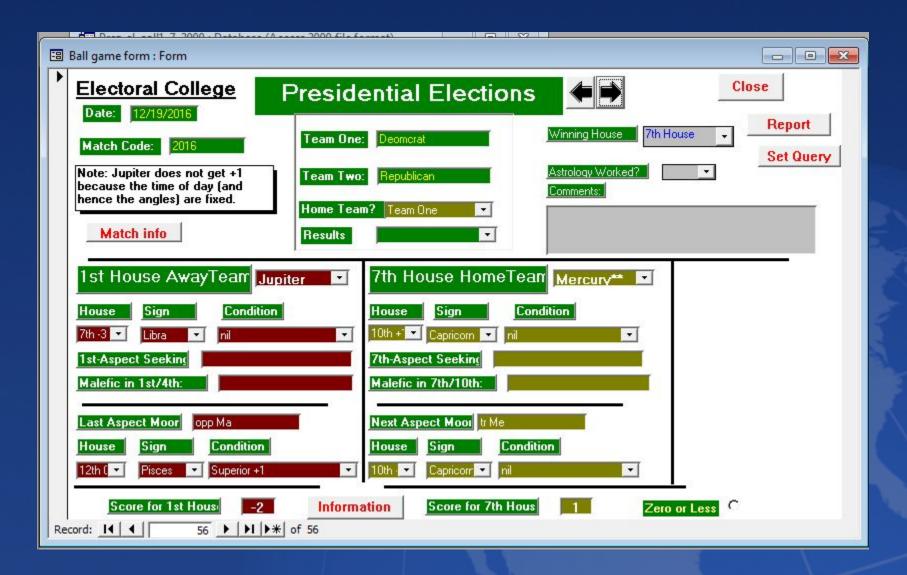
Upper Right 2016

#### **Natal Chart**

Jan 20 2017, Fri 12:00:01 pm EST +5:00 washington, do 38°N53'42" 077°W02'12" Geocentric Tropical Regiomontanus Mean Node

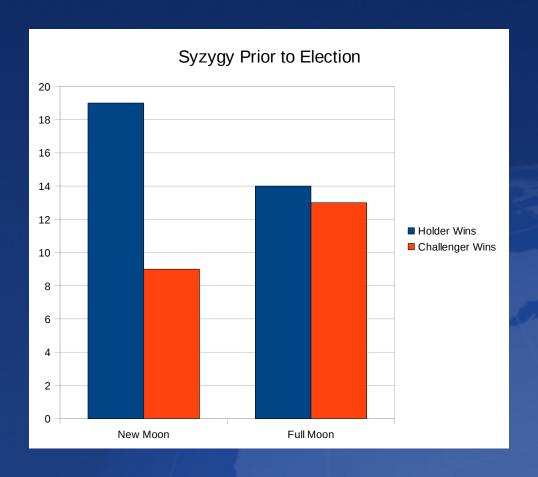
# Electoral College (noon): 58% correct

### Electoral College: 67% correct



# Inauguration Day (noon): 51% correct

## Prior Syzygy Type



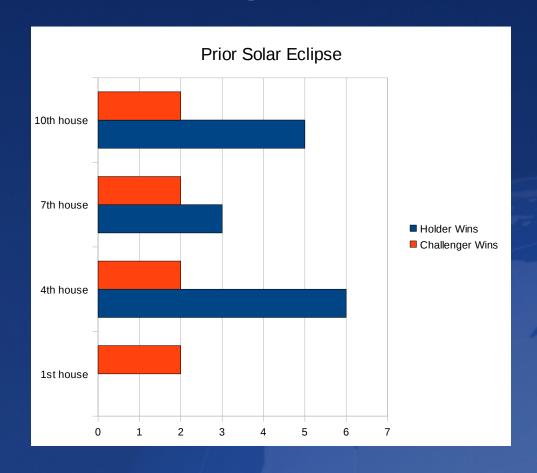
2016: New Moon. Predicts Holder

2012: Full Moon. Result: no prediction.

2008: New Moon. Predicted Holder. Incorrect

2004: Full Moon. Result: no prediction.

### Prior Solar Eclipse (2012)



2016: eclipse in 1<sup>st</sup> house. Prediction: Challenger (?) 2012: eclipse in 7<sup>th</sup> house. Prediction: no prediction.

2008: eclipse in 1<sup>st</sup> house. Prediction: challenger. ☑

2004: eclipse in 4<sup>th</sup> house. Prediction: holder. ☑

#### Improving Predictive Value

- Since there are multiple possible predictive events that each seem to hold as being better than average, this makes a meta-analysis possible.
- In this case, by examining multiple "successful" factors together, we can derive a more confident prediction

#### ... and the presidential winner is

	Α	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	1	J
1	Projected Winner based on Multiple Factors								2	
2		Lunation	Sunrise	Midnight	Libra rev.	Electoral	Ma-Sa	# Correct	Syzygy	Revised
3		67%	67%	66%	64%	60%	58%	2	68%	
4	1912	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5	n/a	2
5	1916	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	4	Yes	100
6	1920	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	5	n/a	5
7	1924	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	5	Yes	6
8	1928	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	5	n/a	5
9	1932	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	2	No	2
10	1936	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	5	n/a	5
11	1940	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	5	Yes	6
12	1944	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	4	n/a	4
13	1948	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	3	Yes	3
14	1952	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	2	n/a	2
15	1956	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6	Yes	7
16	1960	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	3	n/a	3
17	1964	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	3	n/a	3
18	1968	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	3	n/a	3
19	1972	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	4	Yes	5
20	1976	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	3	No	3
21	1980	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	3	n/a	3
22	1984	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	5	Yes	6
23	1988	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	4	n/a	4
24	1992	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	3	No	3
25	1996	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	4	n/a	4
26	2000	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	3	No	3
27	2004	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	4	n/a	4
28	2008	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	2	No	2
29	2012	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	4	n/a	4
30	2016	Rep	Dem	Rep	Rep	Dem	Dem	3	Dem	4

the Democrats, by a score of 4-3.

#### What about Congress?

- The same model can be used for predicting congressional elections, except for two points, namely --
  - The Holder is the Holder of each house of Congress. So in 2008, the Democrats are the Holders of both House and Senate, so this same model predicts that the Democrats will hold Congress
  - The model must be run every two years instead of every four to predict the off-year results.