Declinations

In addition to the major planetary aspects, Donald Bradley’s Book, Stock Market Prediction, states that the Bradley Siderograph is also based on “the arithmetic combination of the declinations of the planets Mars and Venus.”

**What is a Planet’s Declination?**

Declination refers to the angular distance of a planet north and south relative to the celestial equator, which is in the same plane as Earth’s equator. Therefore, if you are standing on Earth’s equator, if the planet appears in the north it will have a positive declination, and if it appears in the south it will have a negative declination.

Planets move back and forth between positive and negative declination as they orbit around the Sun. Donald Bradley elected to only incorporate the declination of the two planets between the Earth and the Sun, which are Mars and Venus.

In addition to considering pure movements in a planet’s declination north and south, the following three points in a planet’s declination are of particular importance:

- **Maximum Declination** — When a planet reaches its highest point north
- **Cross 0 (Zero)** — When a planet’s declination is zero and it is crossing from south to north or vice versa
- **Minimum Declination** — When a planet reaches its lowest point south

**How the Bradley Siderograph Incorporates the Declinations of Venus and Mars**

According to Donald Bradley, “The value of the declination factor is half the algebraic sum of the given declinations of Venus and Mars — northern declination considered positive and southern declination, negative.” It is also important to remember that Donald Bradley used a multiplier when computing the value of declinations for the overall Bradley Siderograph.

With respect to this multiplier, Donald Bradley mentioned that the the long terms and declinations factors “may be given considerably more weight by multiplying it by 3, 4, or 5 times, depending on experimentation.” Therefore, in computing the Bradley Siderograph, one adds together (1) the sum of all the planetary aspects of the Middle Terms and (2) the Declinations and Long Terms Factors increased by a multiplier, such as 3X, 4X, or 5X.
Donald Bradley’s Comments on the Declination of Various Planets

- **Declination of Saturn:** “The 14.8-year rhythm in livestock prices correlates strikingly with Saturn’s declination cycle, as do wholesale prices of food seasons.”
- **Declinations of Other Planets:** In his book Stock Market Prediction, Donald Bradley wrote, “inclusion of other declination or orbital values is being considered as interesting improvements or refinements in the formula, although omission of them in the interim does not seem to seriously detract from the system’s now high degree of accuracy as an indicator of mass psychology. Additions and adjustments will doubtless be forthcoming as the outcome of further research.”

The Declination of Mercury and Microsoft’s Stock Price

Some securities appear to move up and down in relation to the declination of a certain planet over time. An excellent example of this relationship is reflected in the declination of Mercury and the stock price of Microsoft. Since the turn of the millennium Microsoft’s stock price has had a strong correlation with either (1) the declination of the planet Mercury or (2) the inverse of Mercury’s declination. Click on the graph below for an analysis of the strength of this relationship over the last decade.

![Graph showing correlation between Microsoft stock price and Mercury declination](image-url)
Why are Planetary Declinations Important and who Uses Them?

Declinations are one of the most popular Astro tools, which is evidenced by the large number of references to declinations in the work of W.D. Gann, George Bayer, and many others. See below for a few relevant excerpts.

W.D. Gann’s Tunnel Thru the Air

In 1994 Bonnie Lee Hill presented a well-known Lecture on Gann’s book, Tunnel Thru the Air. See below for excerpts from this lecture.

- “There are many hidden references to declination in this book… You will find references to declination cycles throughout Gann’s books. We will look at a few of Gann’s examples.”
- With respect to “Robert’s Cotton Campaign,” Bonnie Lee Hill noted a repeated pattern in the trading that related to declinations.
- “Today we will concentrate on the declination of the Moon – 0 South, 0 North, maximum South, and maximum North.”
- Bonnie Lee Hill Stated, “As we look through Gann’s trades, we will find that he bought cotton when the Moon was at 0 South declination (in a bull market). Cotton switches from a bear market to a bull market. Then Robert sells cotton when the Moon is at 0 South declination.”
- Based on her study of daily cotton charts from 1/1/1990 through 10/1/1994, Bonnie Lee Hill found that “in a bull market, the moon at 0 South declination marked a bottom 80% of the time.”

Patrick Mikula – Gann’s Scientific Methods Unveiled – Volume 1

- Although Gann used the declination of the planets, the evidence in ‘How to Make Profits Trading in Commodities’ indicates that the moon was William Gann’s main focus for this astrological method.”
- “RULE 1: When the moon reaches zero degrees declination, determine if there is some other astrological event occurring on this same day. When this situation occurs, it may cause a change in trend. This situation will often mark the top or bottom of minor swings.”

Patrick Mikula – Gann’s Scientific Methods Unveiled – Volume 2

- “By a close study of Gann’s astrology it can be determined that Gann correlated price with declination.”
- “Later in this chapter I will show a replica of an actual Gann chart which proves Gann correlated price with declination.”
• “The declinations which Gann plotted are for the Sun, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune…the declinations of Uranus and Neptune were discontinued at the end of 1939. For the three year period, 1938 to 1941, Gann plotted geocentric Venus and Mercury. Geocentric Pluto was plotted for 1941.”

**George Bayer – Preview of Markets**

• “Each time the effect is different, but the effect once established does repeat well. Each planet, of course has its own effect again at such crossings. For example, Saturn crossing southward over Sun in Declination has always one effect upon wheat, but quite a different effect compared to Mercury or Venus doing it. The slower moving planets have more weight than the flighty ones. While Mercury and Venus cause the so-called ‘jiggles,’ Saturn and Jupiter cause trends.”

**George Bayer — Stock and Commodity Traders’ Handbook of Trend Determination**

• “In the course of time, I have gone through most of the important ancient works of Confucius, Buddha, Mohammed, and other religious works. The gist of them is; They knew all about the movements of Mercury in longitude, declination and latitude, and they also knew its effects upon mankind…so far as I have been able to find out, they knew much more than we shall ever know.”

• “I stated before about repeating cycles, which the Ancients suggest to use. Soon, you will recognize that anyone not using planetary lines will never find the cycles of repetition. After you have plotted, let us say, the declination of Mercury or of Venus…the picture becomes an entirely different one in ‘Time,’ that is, from one cycle to the other. After you have made a chart of declination a few years back, it is suggested that you compare the movement of Wheat or some other commodity, during each cycle. Pick out the zero positions wherever they occur.”

**Larry Pesavento – Astro Cycles – The Trader’s Viewpoint**

• “Lunar Phases – I have listed the lunar phases in order of importance to the short term timing of stocks and commodities: (1) Maximum or ‘0’ Declination.” Note that Pesavento mentioned lunar declinations as the most important in his list of lunar trading strategies.

• “Once the market has shown a tendency to turn on a certain phenomenon (i.e., apogee or maximum declination) it remains that way for at least one or two lunar cycles.”

**Larry Pesavento – Harmonic Vibrations**

• At the end of this book Larry Pesavento mentioned that he “found a signal that worked incredibly well…That is the good news! The bad news is that you will have to find it yourself. I will give you some hints: Lunar Declinations and Mercury aspects!”