

# *The Profections according Vettius Valens*

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## *A graphic method to analyze them*

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*The Four Elements*

Vettius Valens says in his Anthology, translated by Robert Schmidt and edited by Robert Hand, Book IV, page 24:

“ For often I myself took stars to be in certain *zoidia* according to the time-description of the events, and in others according to appearances, and specially whenever they should be in the beginning or end of *zoidia*; similarly also because one fails both in stations and at nightfall. To make a judgment, then, it is necessary to know exactly in what *zoidia* and degrees they are, and especially the *Horoskopos*

Let the beginning of the exegesis be from here. After determining the current year of the nativity, we knock out as many twelves as we can; and after delivering over the remainder from a star that is capable of taking over, we will come to know the year which it hands over to a certain star. That which has been said is concise in apprehension, but diverse in judgment. All the stars, then, and the *Horoskopos* and Sun and Moon hand over to each other and reciprocally take over from each other.

In order that we make the introduction clearer, let it be the case, as an illustration that the Sun and Hermes are in Aquarius; the Moon in Scorpio; Kronos in Cancer; Zeus in Libra, Aphrodite in Capricorn; Ares, the *Horoskopos* in Virgo. We seek the 35<sup>th</sup> year.

Take away two twelves, which are 24. 11 are remaining. We reckon, then, from what sort of star coming first there are 11 years. We find them: 11 years from the *Horoskopos* and Ares to Kronos in Cancer, and again from the Moon to Ares, and from Aphrodite to the Moon. All these handings over are active in the 35<sup>th</sup> year. And according to the power of effect which each of the stars has, it will produce good or foul in the handings over, which we will indicate in a forthcoming account.”

At a first sight we can hardly realize what Valens is saying. But, using “whole signs” and casting the chart with the supplied data (given by Valens), and casting another one for the 35<sup>th</sup> year besides the first chart, we will learn that the Ascendant falls in the 11th house. At this moment we begin to understand the author’s reasoning.

He is doing nothing but profecting the houses for the year he wants to study, the same technique used in Medieval astrology as one of the most effective way to predict annual events.

The difference is that in Medieval astrology, with much property, the counting of the first year of life starts in the very degree of the Ascendant and the first year is extended up to thirty degrees later. The second year of life begins thirty degrees after the first one, i.e., thirty degrees after the degree of the Ascendant; the third year is reached according with the thirty degree after the second one, and so on.

Bellow we will present a figure showing the way profections change year after year.

In the example supplied by Valens, though, in accordance with the Medieval method, there is a mistake, since the 35<sup>th</sup> year would fall in the 12<sup>th</sup> sign and not in the 11<sup>th</sup>.

Valens counting was presumably based on the idea that the native was 35 not complete years, so he was 34 years old, as a matter of fact.

Valens’s concepts are very useful and suggested me a diagram that, once designed, turns the astrologer’s job easier.

Any technique that facilitates our reasoning, directing the mind for a safe track, is very welcome.

The objective of this article is exactly that: to supply in a simple way the lines, given by Valens, to analyze the profections taking into account the planet’s positions on determined house in the native chart, substituted for others, which take place in the profected chart. The technique of Valens is a delineation of the annual profection and considers the annual events only. To foretell about each month Valens uses a totally different technique, which we can’t compare with the Medieval one.

To explain his method to that point is not our target, though.

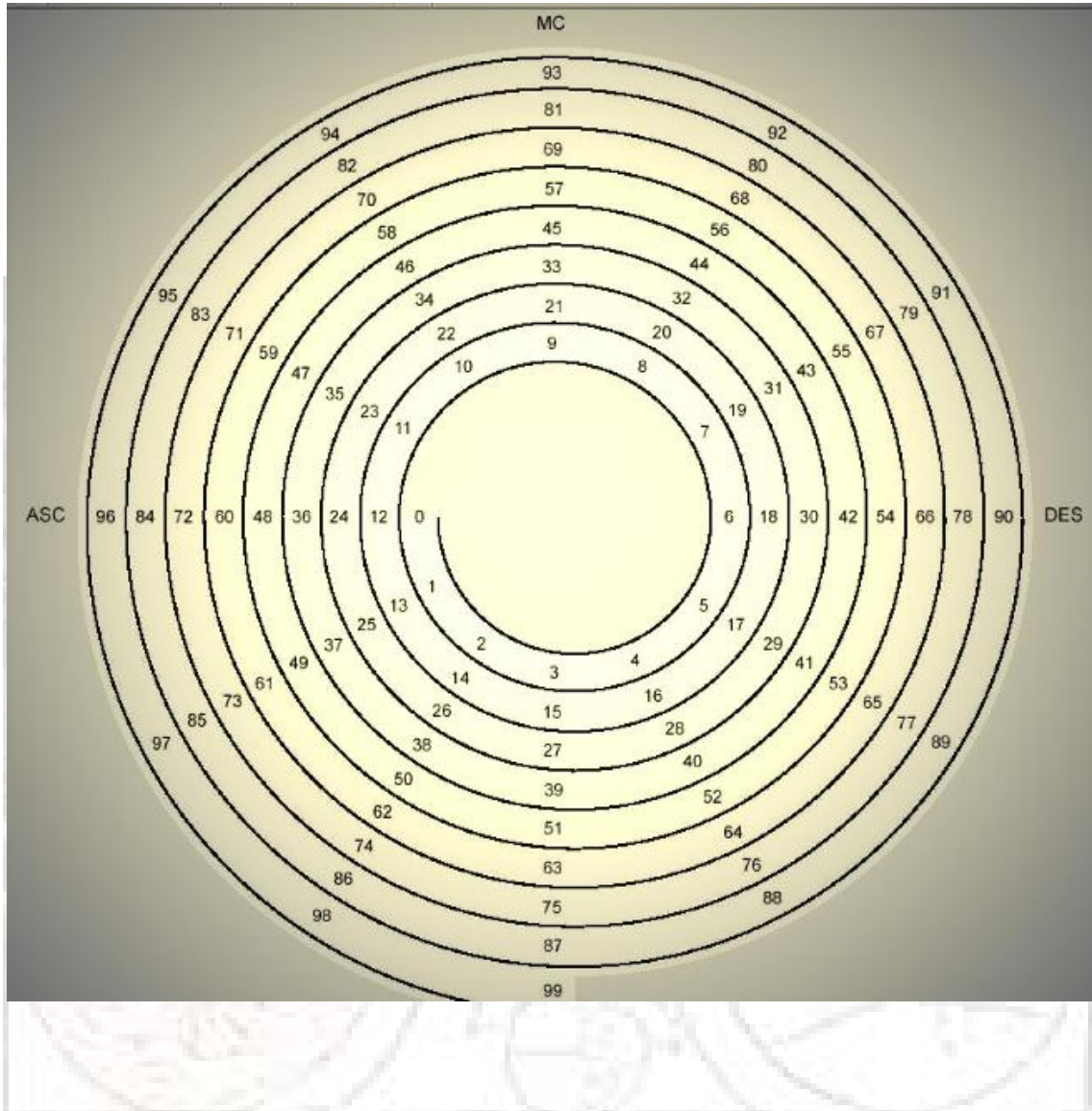
Continuing, we will follow the idea of planets “handing over” to others that are “taking over”( meaning taking over). The planets handing over are like kings giving the throne to the successor, with the prerogative of remaining as prime ministers. The crown is loaded with the quality of the giver.

The emphasis is on the planet that “hands over”. That is understandable, since it’s a tradition to take into account first of all the mundane and celestial nature of a planet in the nativity.

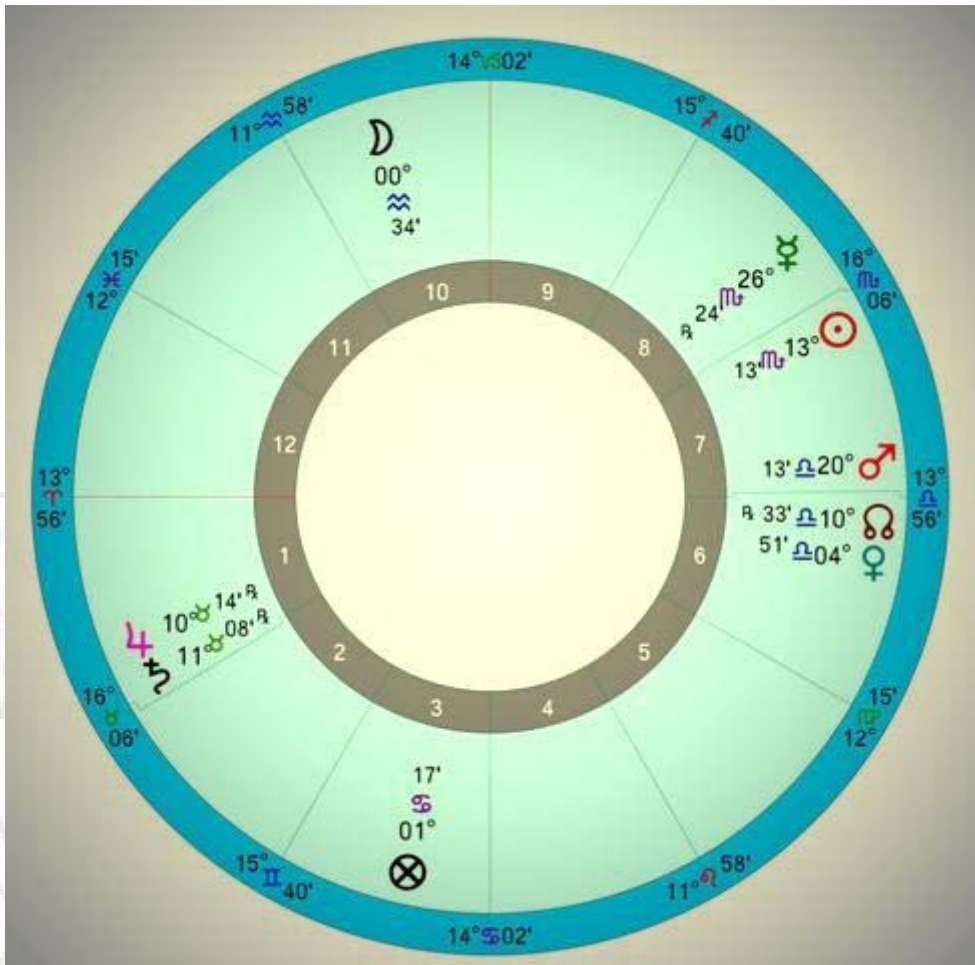
Valens used “whole signs” and I’ll use them as well, even because I have affinity with that kind of division of houses, and I believe that, if we want a trustworthy result in our

prediction, independent of the division of houses we chose, it's necessary to pay attention to the division by entire signs.

The reader can see now a graphic showing the profected house for each year of life:



Now we will see a male natal chart which we will work with:



Profecting the chart for the 67th years of age, we can see that Scorpio, the sign of the 8th house will be the Ascendant.

The profected chart for the chosen year is:



As we see I placed the planets **in the same houses** where they were in the **radical chart**. Valens did the same.

At a first sight we think that is nonsense, but it's the way we have to do in order to remembering all the significators, when we are dealing with profections.

In fact, the planets placed in the exterior of the chart, are configured for the houses in which they had been placed, and that came from the natal position of them.

It remains still to remember their zodiacal position as well as the mundane one.

Valens differentiates between the planet that "hands over" i.e. that delivers and that one that receives, which is "taking over".

The planets placed outside the wheel in red are the planets “handing over”, delivering its respective meaning and the meaning of the house they were in the nativity chart. The delivered meaning is dropped to the profected houses and signs.

You will see below that I wrote inside of the chart the name of the planets in blue, to stress the ones which are “taking over”, that is which are **receiving the power**. They are the same planets in the same signs they occupied in the natal chart. In that way Valens makes a link between houses and signs profected and the radical ones. It becomes easier to the astrologer take a look at the scheme to catch the significators that must be taken into account.



If we use profections as elements of prediction for the 67th year of the native life and we want to know about the financial condition of the year we will emphasize the second house and the Lot of Fortune.

I have to say that frequently the ruler of the second house and the Lot of Fortune are not the financial significator of the native and therefore our prediction will not be accurate, since we did not analyze the natal chart properly.

However, the objective of this article is only to describe a practical project to deal with profections, linking natal and annual significators.

The planets will be considered independently of the degrees they occupy in the sign. We will use "whole signs", that is, independently of degrees, the planets will be considered in all Ptolemaic aspects by sign.

Then, what kind of things can we predict through the delineation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> house, its ruler and the Lot of Fortune?

We can see that in the nativity's figure the 2<sup>nd</sup> house is occupied by Jupiter and Saturn which, in the present year, are handing over to Jupiter, the ruler of Sagittarius, sign in the profected 2<sup>nd</sup> house. In principle it seems positive, since Jupiter is a beneficial planet. However, first of all, let's take a look at the condition of Jupiter and Saturn in the configuration.

We see that both are in conjunction in Taurus, the 7<sup>th</sup> house sign of the profection. So the 2<sup>nd</sup> house and the 7<sup>th</sup> house are linked in the present year. The 7<sup>th</sup> house is related to partnerships, marriages and open enemies.

The 7<sup>th</sup> house planets, Jupiter and Saturn, are "taking over" from Mars and Venus. Venus is in its domicile, but Mars is in a bad celestial state.

We can conclude that partners are responsible for finances in the year, promising high and downs in that matter. The best possibilities are given by Jupiter "handing over" and "taking over", namely in the 2<sup>nd</sup> house and in the 7<sup>th</sup> house and the worse because of Saturn "handing over" and Mars "taking over" respectively in the 2<sup>nd</sup> house and in the 7<sup>th</sup> house.

If we look closer we come across the following fact: Venus and Mars that are planets in the 7<sup>th</sup> radical house are now in the 12<sup>th</sup> house.

That is a house related to limitations in general, it's a malefic house. And the really bad news is that Mars is the ruler of the profected Ascendant.

We conclude then, that our native will have more limitations and sufferings than happiness in his financial life.

It remains to investigate the Lot of Fortune, to verify if it adds something new, confirming or not our previous assumptions.

We see that the Lot of Fortune is handing over to the Moon.

In the natal chart the Moon occupies the 11<sup>th</sup> house, a profitable place that is related to hopes and friends. Valens says to take into account the significators that are transferring its position and its natal configuration, but to take also that ones that are "taking over", receiving.



The Fortune is giving its place to the Moon and the Moon is, as one of the luminaries, a benefic: that is an indication of something useful occurring in the 4<sup>th</sup> house, related to immovable properties. We can say that some gain will be possible coming from real state. Friends might be involved on it in a positive way, since the Moon is in the natal 11<sup>th</sup> house. But the Moon is not exactly perfect in the nativity: it is peregrine, out of sect, and is disposed by Saturn, the MC ruler, a malefic with no dignity, occupying the natal 2<sup>nd</sup> house. They both are in mutual reception but they have nothing to give to each other. So, we can say that the goodness and the gain are lessened because of the zodiacal position of the Moon witnessed by a malefic.

In the profection the Moon is “handing over”, from the 11th house, to Mercury, the ruler of the profected 11th house. Mercury occupies the 8<sup>th</sup> house in the nativity chart, and is ruling the present 8<sup>th</sup> house, as well.

We see therefore that the Lot of Fortune drives our reasoning to link the houses 4<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. We can assume that the native will get some fruits from death, inheritances and money of partners, with emphasis in real estate, affecting positively his own self, since Mercury is directly linked to the Ascendant but, again, the goodness will be lessened because Mercury is retrograde in the nativity.

### *The first house and the Ascendant*

If we do not begin by the Ascendant our delineation is empty of meaningfulness, this is an important fact to point out. In natal or annual charts the native is the axle where all the facts in his life will circulate around.

The profected Ascendant falling in a certain natal house has a lot of signification and is the dimension of all the other facts, mundane houses and aspects of the life.

Let us observe the annual Ascendant in the study case. It occupies the natal 8<sup>th</sup> house.

We know that the 8<sup>th</sup> house is related with death and partner's money. What can happen here if we look at the planets in the external side of the chart? We will see that Sun and Mercury are giving room to Mars, Scorpio's ruler. On the other hand, where is Mars in the present year?

It's with Venus, lord of the 7<sup>th</sup> house, in the 12<sup>th</sup> house. Mars is in its detriment and now it is in a malefic house. The Ascendant, the native, is not in a good position, just the opposite, he will be suffering because partnerships and marriage.

Mars is handing over to the Sun and Mercury, planets in the natal 8<sup>th</sup> house. We can think about death and inheritance (in this case problems and arguments are possible since Mars rules the native 8<sup>th</sup> house) or even problems with money in the partner's hands. The 8<sup>th</sup> house referred to loss, as well, so we can say that there are indications



of losses and the native will not be in a comfortable position this year. Moreover, Mars rules also the 6<sup>th</sup> house, and the fact that Mars is in the 12<sup>th</sup> house tell us about illnesses. Health problems and body weakness must occur.

Given the fact that Venus is in the 12<sup>th</sup> house, in the same house of Mars, mitigates the problem, since Venus is a benefic in a good celestial state.

Venus is an important planet to judge relationship and marriage. Its position in the 12<sup>th</sup> house confirms some limitations and suffering in marriage matters, though.

## *Conclusion*

All the houses must be examined in such a way, in accordance with its meaning in the natal and in the profected chart and all the planets must be related to their configurations in each aspect studied (handing over or “taking over”).

It remains to say that Valens stands for the accomplishment of the profection departing from the Moon, when we want to learn about subjects of the body and from the Sun, to learn about reputation and brightness. Basically, at least these three charts must be erected if we want to follow Valens and even Bonatti. For learning about love, the release is from Eros, and if the matter is ailments the profection departs from the Lot of Necessity.

In the above chart the delineation was made according to Medieval sources with the difference that I introduced a scheme inspired by the study of Valen’s works.

I profected only the Ascendant and the partial conclusion of the study is that the year promises limitations and losses, weak health, problems in the native marriage and partnership and opportunities related to inheritances and real state.

Excused to say that such analysis has only a didactic purpose, since it didn’t take enough care of the natal delineation.

The graphical demonstration represents a project to analyze with property the profection of the year.

*Clélia Romano, DMA*