



八字算命

Paper 3 - The Basic Disposition

The Life Calculation by the Eight Characters

or

Traditional Chinese Chronobiology / Chrono-psychology

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The Basic Disposition

The *basic disposition* is not only the center of the Bazi System but also the eponym of the technique, named *Eight Characters* 八字 (bazi) itself.

It is called this because the *basic disposition* consists of four pairs of Chinese characters. Each pair represents a defined space of time such as the year, month, day and double-hour, each consisting of one heavenly stem and one earthly branch. Each pair is one of the 60 combinations of Heavenly Stems/Earthly Branches, abbreviated as “HsEb. “

The HsEb pairs of year, month and day are taken out of the Traditional Chinese Calendar Wannianli 萬年曆 “*10,000 Years Calendar*”. The HsEb-pair for the double-hour is usually derived from a table.

Graph 1 depicts a sample Bazi, or *Eight Characters*, of Louis Armstrong.

Graph 1

- a) **Bazi Sample of Louis Armstrong (1901-1971), born in New Orleans**
Full Version (Cyphers, Chinese characters, pronunciation, phenomenological meaning in the five phases, Zodiac relationship of Eb)

Components	Pillar of Hour	Pillar of Day	Pillar of Month	Pillar of Year
Date of Birth	2 pm (22:00)	4	August	1901
Heavenly Stems	-T 乙 (yi) <i>Yin-Wood</i>	+T 甲 (jia) <i>Yang-Wood</i>	-T 乙 (yi) <i>Yin-Wood</i>	-M 辛 (xin) <i>Yin-Metal</i>
Earthly Branches	W- 亥 (hai) <i>Water-Yin</i> Rabbit	T+ 寅 (yin) <i>Wood-Yang</i> Tiger	E2- 未 (wei) <i>2nd Earth-Yin, F</i> Sheep	E- 丑 (chou) <i>Earth-Yin, W</i> Ox

- b) **Bazi Sample of Louis Armstrong (1901-1971), born in New Orleans**
Chinese Version (Chinese characters, Zodiac relationship of Eb)

Components	Pillar of Hour	Pillar of Day	Pillar of Month	Pillar of Year
Date of Birth	2 pm (22:00)	4	August	1901
Heavenly Stems	乙	甲	乙	辛
Earthly Branches	亥 Rabbit	寅 Tiger	未 Sheep	丑 Ox

c) Bazi Sample of Louis Armstrong (1901-1971), born in New Orleans
Version of Chinese Pronunciation (pronunciation, phenomenological meaning in the five phases, Zodiac relationship of Eb)

Components	Pillar of Hour	Pillar of Day	Pillar of Month	Pillar of Year
Date of Birth	2 pm (22:00)	4	August	1901
Heavenly Stems	(yi) <i>Yin-Wood</i>	(jia) <i>Yang-Wood</i>	(yi) <i>Yin-Wood</i>	(xin) <i>Yin-Metal</i>
Earthly Branches	(hai) <i>Water-Yin</i> Rabbit	(yin) <i>Wood-Yang</i> Tiger	(wei) <i>2nd Earth-Yin, F</i> <i>Earth of Fire</i> Sheep	(chou) <i>Earth-Yin, W</i> <i>Earth of Water</i> Ox

d) Bazi Sample of Louis Armstrong (1901-1971), born in New Orleans
Chinese Version (Chinese characters, phenomenological meaning in the five phases)

Components	Pillar of Hour	Pillar of Day	Pillar of Month	Pillar of Year
Date of Birth	2 pm (22:00)	4	August	1901
Heavenly Stems	乙 <i>Yin-Wood</i>	甲 <i>Yang-Wood</i>	乙 <i>Yin-Wood</i>	辛 <i>Yin-Metal</i>
Earthly Branches	亥 <i>Water-Yin</i>	寅 <i>Wood-Yang</i>	未 <i>2nd Earth-Yin,</i> <i>Earth of Fire</i>	丑 <i>Earth-Yin,</i> <i>Earth of Water</i>

[LISTEN below to Manfred Kubny explain Graphs 1-3.]

The graph shows us the eight characters of the famous jazz musician Louis Armstrong born on August 4th, 1901 at 2 pm (22:00), arranged by (starting at right) Year, month, day and double-hour. Remember, the four

HsEb combinations of a chart are also called the four pillars. By this arrangement of data the chart shows us the four HsEb-combinations written vertically so it seems that the four pillars are carrying the life of a person.

In fact, the eight characters show us the person and its life in the most possible abstract way and they are comparable to a program line of software in the IT industry.

Inside this data there are hidden functions and interactions of information expressed by the five elements divided into yin and yang versions and represented by the 10 Hs and 12 Eb.

They are only readable and interpretable by experts of the technique. All further data of a chart are derived from these eight characters of the basic disposition.

The chart composed by the eight characters is historically the later version of a basic disposition and arranged by *Xu Ziping* 徐子平 (fl. 960) who compiled the technique Bazi Suanming from fragments of preceding techniques, which were similar to Bazi Suanming, as mentioned previously.

To review this important historical change, again see Graphs 2 and 3. The current Bazi system is called “the new school” which consists of eight characters and has to be distinguished from the “old school”, which

consisted only of six characters or three pillars (each for year, month and day, while the double-hour was missing). The old school was not as developed as the “new school” of the *eight characters* or the *four pillars*

Graph 2

The Old School by Li Xuzhong (8. Cent. AD)

Components	Pillar of Hour	Pillar of Day	Pillar of Month	Pillar of Year
Date of Birth	Still			
Heavenly Stems	not	Hs	Hs	Self
Earthly Branches	existing!	Eb	Eb	Eb

Graph 3

The New School by Xu Ziping (10. Cent. AD)

Components	Pillar of Hour	Pillar of Day	Pillar of Month	Pillar of Year
Date of Birth				
Heavenly Stems	Hs	Self	Hs	Hs
Earthly Branches	Eb	Eb	Eb	Eb

In the Graph 4 the two segments of the Bazi chart are visibly added, one of them **red** colored and the other **green** colored:

Graph 4

a) The position of the Self in a Bazi Chart Popular Terminology

Components	Pillar of Hour	Pillar of Day	Pillar of Month	Pillar of Year
Date of Birth				
Heavenly Stems	Hs	Self	Hs	Hs
Earthly Branches	Eb	Eb	Eb of the Month	Eb

[LISTEN below to Manfred Kubny explain Graph 4.]

b)

The position of the Self in a Bazi Chart Traditional Terminology

Components	Pillar of Hour	Pillar of Day	Pillar of Month	Pillar of Year
Date of Birth				
Heavenly Stems	Hs	日主 (rizhu) Day Master	Hs	Hs
Earthly Branches	Eb	Eb	月令 (yueling) Commander of the Month	Eb

The red one is the Hs of the day, which is also called “*Day Master*” 日主 (rizhu), also can be translated as “*Day Dominant*”. It is representative of the “Psychological I” or the “Self” of a person and is the focus of the

whole personality. Another term for that item is called “*Spirit of Origin*” 元神 (yuanshen).

The green one is the Eb of the month, which is also called “*Commander of Month*” 月令 (yueling). It is the representative of the calendar month and the current climate (including all thermic attitudes such as coldness, heat, summer heat, dryness, humidity and wind) at birth and therefore also when the first breath was taken by the person.

The *Day Master* (red) and the *Commander of Month* (green) are the most prominent positions in the basic disposition of a Bazi chart. While the *Day Master* is the point of the chart to which all other items of the chart are focused and concerned to, the *Commander of Month* is that item in the chart which gives all other aspects including the *Day Master* an energetical worth of Qi. Therefore, some aspects in the basic disposition are full of Qi and some aspects are lacking Qi.

The *Day Master* 日主 (rizhu) is also called *Spirit of Origin* 元神 (yuanshen) because it is showing the basic identity of a person inside the system of the Five Phases and Yin and Yang. The eight characters are mirroring the famous world conception of the Chinese of *Yin* 陰 (yin) and *Yang* 陽 (yang) or *heaven* 天 (tian) and *earth* 地 (di). That design is a copy of creation which is simply called a *Heaven-and-Earth* 天地 (tiandi). Also, the idea that “*The human being is a little Heaven-and-*

Earth.” 人是小天地 (Ren shi xiao tiandi.) is derived from that basic conception.

Furthermore, it is possible to enlarge the basic disposition by more data expressed by the so called “*Hidden Heavenly Stems*” (HHs) 藏天干 (cang tiangan). That creates a basic disposition, which is larger than the eight characters, and also fits the Chinese ontological world conception of the “*Three Entities*” or the “*Three Potentials*” 三才 (sancai) by expressing three different layers in the basic disposition. By that theory, the world which the human beings know, consists of heaven, earth and the human being. Herein, human beings are the representatives of the entire animated world.

Graph 5 shows the conception of the so called *three fates* 三命 (sanming) which is directly mirroring the conception of the three entities concerned to the human life. While the fate or *life/fate by heaven* 天命 (tianming), and the fate or *life/fate by earth* 地命 (diming), are determining aspects which guide to the appearance and natural heritage of the human being and can't be changed, the *life/fate by human* 人命 (renming) is representing the possibility of each human person to create its own fate and life by its own decision. That also includes a strong mandate for improvement inside Bazi Suanming.

Graph 5

八字算命 (bazi suanming)		The Basic Disposition due to the concept of the „three entities“ 三才 (sancai)
„Three Entities“ 三才 (sancai)	Their Function in Bazi Suanming	
Heaven 十天干 (shi tiangan) „10 Heavenly Stems“ Pure Yang	„[Personalities characteristics and] Life [conditions determined] by heaven“ 天命 (tianming)	
十二地支 (dizhi) „12 Earth Branches“ Pure Yin	„[Personalities characteristics and] Life [conditions determined] by Earth“ 地命 (diming)	
藏干 (zanggan) Hidden Heavenly Stems „Mixed Yin and Yang“	„[Personalities characteristics and] Life [conditions initiated] by human behavior“ 人命 (renming)	

[LISTEN below to Manfred Kubny explain Graph 5.]

We can see clearly by that that Bazi Suanming is not a fatalistic technique but gives people a chance first to understand the natural predisposition in order to improve their own life and fate.

That basic Chinese concept of the world is also a guideline for the basic design of a Bazi Chart which provokes an extension (Hidden Heavenly Stems) of the Bazi chart. The reason for that extension of active agents in numbers inside the Bazi chart is that Bazi is a reproduction of the natural human environment and is hypothetically generating all phenomena which can happen in the natural human environment. One

striking phenomenon is the growth of plants on earth. That is controlled and can happen by the yearly climate, represented by the four seasons and provoked by the sun. Therefore, inside the Earth there has to be an agent which is initiated by heaven. While the heaven releases the Hs, the activity provoked on earth is already stored in the earth and its potentiality is expressed by the hidden heavenly stems.

Graph 6 revisits the chart of Louis Armstrong with the added row of Hidden Heavenly Stems. That graph already contains all information in order to describe the behavior and living condition of the individual person.

Graph 6

Bazi Sample of Louis Armstrong (1901-1971), born in New Orleans Professional Version (Cyphers by Dr. Manfred, Chinese characters)

Components	Pillar of Hour	Pillar of Day	Pillar of Month	Pillar of Year
Date of Birth	2 pm (22:00)	4.	August	1901
Heavenly Stems	-T 乙	+T 甲	-T 乙	-M 辛
Heavenly Stems	W- 亥	T+ 寅	E2- 未	E- 丑
Hidden Heavenly Stems	+H 甲 +W 壬	+E 戊 +F 丙 +T 甲	-F 丁 -T 乙 -E 己	-W 癸 -M 辛 -E 丑

[LISTEN below to Manfred Kubny explain Graph 6.]

For a professional Chinese Fortune Teller this data is already sufficient to start an analysis and a prognosis about the life of that person without having seen or spoken with him. However, for consultation the supportive dialogue with the client is absolutely necessary.

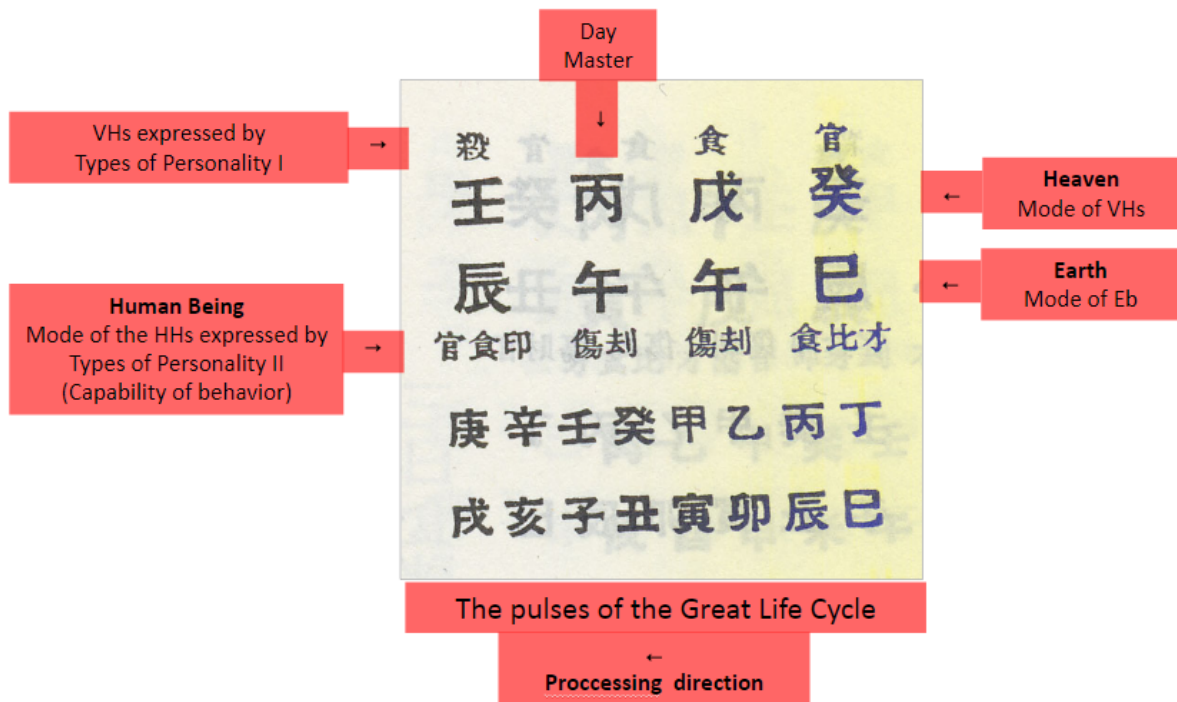
The *Basic Disposition* of the eight characters is always called by honorable expressions like “Precious Creation” 貴造 (guizao) in order to outline its eminent meaning and also to express deep respect concerning human life.

In Graph 7 we see again the same design of a bazi chart taken out of the famous Bazi classic Ditiansui Chanwei 滴天髓闡微 “Finest Explanation of the Leaking Essence of Heaven”.

Graph 7

Chinese Chronopsychology
八字算命 (bazi suanming)

Classic Chinese Graph of the
Basic Disposition and the Great Life Cycle



[LISTEN below to Manfred Kubny explain Graph 7.]

The *Basic Disposition* of the eight characters contains numerous, at first glance, invisible realms which are derived out of them, and are the instruments to evaluate and interpret a Bazi chart and its numerous aspects. We will discuss each of these realms in further papers.

Conclusion - Wrapping It Up

This paper introduced the basic disposition as the center of the Bazi system with its four pairs (HsEb) of Chinese characters in four pillars: The top row is of Heavenly stems (Hs) representing heaven and the next row is of Earthly branches (Eb) representing earth. The basic disposition is extended by the addition of the Hidden Heavenly Stems in the next row, representing the human being.

To learn more about Bazi Suanming and its applications for self-understanding, health, healing and destiny, I invite you to visit our [Chinese Fate Science Institute](#).

To delve deeper into Bazi Suanming, I offer a 15 part [Bazi Suanming Counsellor Course](#) containing over 80 modules of information. This course leads you to become competent in the interpretation and analysis of a Bazi chart.



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