

## APPENDIX I: ANAPESTIC COLOMETRY

The lyric sections of Seneca's tragedies composed in stichic meters (e.g., asclepiads, glycomics, or hendecasyllables) pose no difficulties of colometry, i.e., division into lines: a single metrical unit coincides exactly with a single verse. This is not the case with anapests: ancient writers on metrics recognized several lengths of anapestic verse, from the monometer to the pentameter, and the manuscripts of Seneca exhibit considerable variety in presenting anapestic sections. For example, the two main manuscript families, E and A, often disagree in the placement of monometers, and in a number of passages either E or A offers trimeters where the other arranges the lines as dimeters.

This diversity is not reflected in current texts of the tragedies, since for the past hundred years editors have concurred in regarding the dominant form, the dimeter, as the standard anapestic unit, with monometers normally introduced only at the end of a section or ode. As a consequence, the trimeters transmitted by the manuscripts have been generally discounted as mere scribal errors (with the exception of Ag. 642-44 and 647).<sup>1</sup>

Where the manuscripts disagree in their colometry, scholars have usually supported a preference for one of the alternatives by invoking two recognized principles of Seneca's practice: hiatus and *syllaba brevis in longo* are not found within a verse, and there is a marked tendency for verses and units of sense to coincide.<sup>2</sup> Where the manuscripts agree on a division into dimeters, however, editors have been unwilling to alter the resulting arrangement except on the basis of gross metrical irregularity (e.g., hiatus). As a consequence, modern texts are curiously inconsistent in their colometry, generally maintaining coincidence of sense- and metrical units, but admitting many departures from this pattern for which no artistic motive or benefit can be made out. (Contrast, for example, *Thy.* 793-802 and 803-808.)

The prevailing consensus has recently been challenged by Otto Zwierlein,<sup>3</sup> on the grounds that manuscript colometry is too unreliable to

<sup>1</sup> This view was first expounded by Leo, *Obs.* 98-110; for typical restatements in recent editions see my *Agamemnon*, pp. 369-70; Fantham's *Truades*, pp. 110-13; above, pp. 32-33.

<sup>2</sup> As noted by G. Richter, *Kritische Untersuchungen zu Senecas Tragödien* (Jena, 1899), 32-47.

<sup>3</sup> *Prolegomena*, 182-202.

merit the authority that has been attributed to it. Zwierlein argues instead that coincidence of meter and sense is the most secure criterion of line-arrangement, and that editors ought to preserve this correspondence as consistently as possible, subject only to the need to avoid hiatus and *brevis in longo*. In the numerous places where a unit of sense fills three anapestic metra, Zwierlein's proposal would thus entail printing either a trimeter or a dimeter + monometer.<sup>4</sup> For example, *Thy.* 803-12, which appear in all editions as pure dimeters:

quae causa tuos limite certo  
deiecit equos? numquid aperto  
carcere Ditis victi temptant  
bella Gigantes? numquid Tityos  
pectore fesso renovat veteres  
saucius iras? num reiecto  
latus explicuit monte Typhoeus?  
numquid struitur via Phlegraeos  
alta per hostes et Thessalicum  
Thressa premitur Pelion Ossa?

might be re-arranged as follows:

quae causa tuos limite certo deiecit equos?  
numquid aperto carcere Ditis  
victi temptant bella Gigantes?  
numquid Tityos pectore fesso  
renovat veteres saucius iras?  
num reiecto latus explicuit monte Typhoeus?  
numquid struitur via Phlegraeos alta per hostes  
et Thessalicum Thressa premitur Pelion Ossa?

This passage well illustrates the main attraction of Zwierlein's approach, namely that it gives due prominence to the word-patterning which is frequent in Seneca's anapests as in his iambs; note, e.g., via *Phlegraeos alta per hostes* (= AbaB) and *Thessalicum Thressa*—*Pelion Ossa* (= ab AB). More subjectively, it could also be argued that variety of verse-length does much to reduce the impression of monotony that Senecan anapests often convey when printed as virtually unbroken series of dimeters.

Since it will be some time before a new consensus on this question has emerged, I have thought it best to retain the conventional colometry in the text and to present here my own suggested alternative. I have admitted trimeters where a sense-unit seemed to extend without a break over three metra, and have generally restricted monometers to sense-units filling a single metron (e.g., *quo vertis iter* 791, *ululare libet* 956)

<sup>4</sup> See *Prolegomena*, 195-98 for discussion of cases where an editor might hesitate between these alternatives. [Professor Zwierlein now informs me that he proposes to employ only dimeter + monometer combinations in his forthcoming edition of all the tragedies.]

and phrases serving a clausulating function (e.g., *mergere ponto* 820, *natura tegat* 835).

The traditional line-numbering is appended for ease of reference.

## CHORUS

Quo, terrarum superumque parens, cuius ad ortus noctis opacae decus omne fugit, quo vertis iter medioque diem perdis Olympo? cur, Phoebe, tuos rapis aspectus? nondum serae nuntius horae nocturna vocat lumina Vesper, nondum Hesperiae flexura rotae iubet emeritos solvere currus, nondum in noctem vergente die tertia misit bucina signum; stupet ad subitae tempora cenae nondum fessis bubus arator. quid te aetherto pepulit cursu? quae causa tuos limite certo deiecit equos? numquid aperto carcere Ditis victi temptant bella Gigantes? numquid Tityos pectore fesso renovat veteres saucius iras? num reiecto latus explicuit monte Typhoeus? numquid struitur via Phlegraeos alta per hostes et Thessalicum Thressa premitur Pelion Ossa? Solitae mundi periere vices. nihil occasus, nihil ortus erit. stupet Eeos assueta deo tradere frenos genetrix primae roscida lucis perversa sui limina regni; nescit fessos tingere currus, nec fumantes sudore iubas mergere ponto. ipse insueto novus hospitio Sol Auroram videt occiduum, tenebrasque iubet surgere nondum nocte parata; non succedunt astra, nec ullo micat igne polus, non Luna gravis digerit umbras. Sed quidquid id est, utinam nox sit! trepidant, trepidant pectora magno percussa metu, ne fatali cuncta ruina quassata labent iterumque deos hominesque premat deforme chaos, iterum terras et mare cingens et vaga picti sidera mundi natura tegat. non aeternae facis exortu dux asrorum saecula lucentes clabit aestatis brumaeque notas, non Phoebeis obvia flammis demet nocti Luna timores	789 795 800 805 810 815 820 825 830 835
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vincetque sui fratris habenas,  
 curvo brevius limite currens;  
 ibit in unum congesta sinum turba deorum.  
 hic qui sacris pervius astris  
 secat obliquo tramite zonas,  
 flectens longos signifer annos,  
 lapsa videbit sidera labens;  
 hic qui nondum vere benigno  
 reddit Zephyro vela tepenti,  
 Arias praeceps ibit in undas,  
 per quas pavida vexit Hellen;  
 hic qui nitido Taurus cornu praefert Hyadas,  
 secum Geminus trahet et curvi brachia Cancri;  
 Leo flammiferis aestibus ardens  
 iterum e caelo cadet Hercules;  
 cadet in terras Vingo relictas,  
 iustaeque cadent pondera Librae,  
 secumque trahent Scorpion acrem;  
 et qui nervo tenet Haemonio  
 pinnata senex spicula Chiron  
 rupto perdet spicula nervo;  
 pigram referens hiemem gelidus  
 cadet Agoceros frangetque tuam, quisquis es, urnam;  
 tecum excedent ultima caeli sidera Pisces.  
 monstraque numquam perfusa mari  
 merget condens omnia gurgis;  
 et qui medias dividit Ursas  
 fluminis instar lubricus Anguis  
 magnoque minor iuncta Draconi  
 frigida duro Cynosura gelu,  
 custosque sui tardus plaustrum  
 iam non stabilis ruet Arcetophylax.  
 Nos e tanto visi populo  
 digni, premeret quos evero cardine mundus?  
 in nos aetas ultima venit?  
 o nos dura sorte creatos,  
 seu perdidimus solem miseri, sive expulimus!  
 abeant questus, discede, timor;  
 vitae est avidus quisquid non vult  
 mundo secum pereunte mori.

THYESTES

Pectora longis hebetata malis,  
 iam sollicitas ponite curas.  
 fugiat maeror fugiatque pavor,  
 fugiat trepidi comes exilii  
 tristis egestas,  
 rebusque gravis pudor afflicti.  
 magis unde cadas quam quo refert.  
 magnum, ex alto culmine lapsum  
 stabilem in plano figere gressum;  
 magnum, ingenti strage malorum  
 pressum fracti pondera regni

non inflexa cervice pati,  
 nec degenerem victumque malis  
 rectum impositas ferre ruinas.  
 sed iam saevi nubila fati  
 pelle, ac miseri temporis omnis dimitte notas;  
 redeant vultus ad laeta boni,  
 veterem ex animo mitte Thyesten.  
 Proprium hoc miseros sequitur vitium,  
 nunquam rebus credere laetis;  
 redeat felix fortuna licet,  
 tamen afflictos gaudere piget—  
 quid me revocas festumque vetas celebrare diem,  
 quid flere iubes,  
 nulla surgens dolor ex causa?  
 quid me prohibes flore decenti vincere comam?  
 prohibet, prohibet!  
 Vernae capiti fluxere rosae,  
 pingui madidus crinis anomo  
 inter subitos stetit horrores,  
 imber vultu nolente cadit,  
 venit in medias voces gemitus.  
 maeror lacrimas amat assuetas,  
 flendi miseris dira cupido est;  
 libet infaustos mittere questus,  
 libet et Tyrio saturas ostro rumpere vestes,  
 ululare libet.  
 Mittit luctus signa futuri  
 mens, ante sui praesaga mali;  
 instat nautis fera tempestas,  
 cum sine vento tranquilla tument—  
 quod tibi luctus quosve tumultus fingis, demens?  
 credula praesta pectora fratri;  
 iam, quidquid id est,  
 vel sine causa vel sero times.  
 Nolo infelix, sed vagus intra terror oberrat,  
 subitos fundunt oculi fletus,  
 nec causa subest.  
 dolor an metus est?  
 an habet lacrimas magna voluptas?

840

845

850

855

860

865

870

875

880-81

884

920

925

930

## APPENDIX II: VARIANTS AND CONJECTURES

The following manuscripts only are reported:

- E Florence, Bibl. Laurenziana plut. lat. 37.13 ("codex Etruscus"), s. XI (late)
- P Paris, Bibl. nat. lat. 8260, s. XIII (middle)
- T Paris, Bibl. nat. lat. 8031, s. XV
- C Cambridge, Corpus Christi College 406, s. XIII (first half)
- S El Escorial, Real Bibl. de S. Lorenzo 108 T.III.11, s. XIII (late)
- [For brief discussion of the manuscripts and their affiliations, see pp. 36–38.]

Other symbols:

- A Consensus of PTCS
- δ Consensus of PT
- β Consensus of CS
- recc.* Reading found in later Mss (s. XIV–XV)
- Mss Reading of all manuscripts for which evidence is on record
- Edd. Emendation made in editions before Gronovius
- E<sup>1</sup> Reading of E (or PTCS) before correction
- E<sup>2</sup> Reading of E (or PTCS) after correction by a later hand
- E<sup>c</sup> Reading of E (or PTCS) after correction, when the hand responsible for the correction cannot be specified
- E<sup>v</sup> Reading entered in E (or PTCS) as a marginal or interlinear variant

This list is highly selective, comprising only places where there is some question about the original reading; for fuller accounts of the manuscript variants, see the editions of Giardina and Zwielerlein.

- 3 visas E : vivas A : invisas *Heinsius* 9 qui specu vasto patens
- E : semper accrescens tecur A 10 visceribus *Avantius* : vulneribus
- Mss 15 addi *Gronovius* : adde Mss 18 quaere *Ascensius* : quare
- Mss 23 Furia E : Meg(a)era A (*also* 83, 101) 44 omnis E : omnes
- A 47 facinus *Bentley* : fratris EA 51 alta PT : alia E : atra
- CST<sup>v</sup>recc.* 53 accerse E S : arcesse PTC 58 *deleted by Tarrant*
- 59 ecquando *Baden* : et quando Mss 60 spument aena
- E : spumante aeno A 61 patrios EA : patruos *recc.* 87 mittor
- Mss : mittar *Zwielerlein (in app.)* 94 violata *edd.* : violatae E : violata

- A 99 cor *Mss* : iecur *Bentley* 100 sequor *del. Bentley* 107  
fontis *E* : fontes *A* 116 sacer *Gronovius* : sacras *Mss* 139 aut  
*EA* : at *rec.* : ad *Bothe* 152 lassus *E* : lusus *A* 161 inclusisque  
*Mss* : inclusamque *Heinsius, Bentley* 180–82 iratus *Atreus?* fremere  
iam totus tuis / debebat armis orbis et geminum mare / utrimque  
classes agere, iam flammis agros *E* : iras? at Argos fremere iam totum  
tuis / debebat armis, omnis et geminum mare / innare classis, iam tuis  
flammis agros *A* 204 Satelles *E* : Servus *A* (*throughout the scene*)  
219 puta *A* : puto *E* 227 effuso *E* : infuso *A* 233 saxeo *E* : sacro  
*A* 237 erravi *E* : erravit *A* 238 generis *E* : nostri *A* 240 est  
*Mss* : et *Heinsius* 255 modum *Mss* : modus *Madvig* 267 animus  
*Mss* : animo *Leo* 272 uterque *A* : quod uterque *E* 281 versatur  
*Mss* : servatur *Axelsson* 289 291 292 290 293 *F* : 289 291 292 293 290  
*E* : 289 290 291 292 293 *A* 300 eius *Mss* : aevi *Heinsius* 302  
praecommovebunt *A* : prece commovebo *E* : preces movebunt  
*rec.* : prece commovebunt *L. Müller* 303 ac *Bothe* : hinc *Mss*  
321 meo *A* : meos *E* 325 illis *E* : illi *A* 326 fratri sciens  
*Bentley* : patri sciens *E* : patris cliens *A* 333 occule *A* : occules *E*  
336–38 *deleted by Richter* 344 regem *E, Lactantius Placidus schol.*  
*Stat. Theb.* 4.530 : reges *A* 346 regia *Lactantius* : regiae *Mss* 347  
trabes *A, Lactantius* : fores *E* 361 rabidus *E* : rapidus *A* 388  
*deleted by Leo* metuit *Mss* : metuet *Bentley* 389 *omitted by A,*  
*deleted by Leo* 404–90 *lines spoken by Tantalus in E are given to*  
*Plisthenes in A* 406 tractum *Kapp* : tactum *Mss* 452 scyphus  
*Axelsson* : cibus *Mss* 454 licet *Mss* : libet *Heinsius* 456  
imminentem *Bentley* : eminentem *Mss* 467 iungenda *E* : ducenda  
*A* 469 magna *E* : alta *A* 486 cautus *Madvig* : captus *Mss* 487  
*given to Thyestes by S<sup>r</sup>rec., to Tantalus/Plisthenes by E* *A* 563  
natos tenuere matres *E* : matres t. natos *A* : natis timuere matres  
*Bentley* 571 noctis *E* : nocti *A* 572 *deleted by Tarrant* 580 in  
portu *E* : in totum *A* : intortum *rec.* : inflatum *Tarrant* 585 aeternis  
*EA* : Aetnaeis *rec.* 590 *comma after* secare *recent editions* : *after*  
*velis* (591) *early eds.* 591 speciosa *E PST<sup>1</sup>* : spatiosa *CT<sup>2</sup>* 616 lassis  
*EA* : lapsis *rec.* (7<sup>o</sup>) 624 involvet *O rec.* : involvit *E* : volvet *A*  
650 iacet *E* : patet *A* : latet *Richter* 652 qua *rec.* : quae *E. PT* : -que  
*CS* 658 lassis *EA* : lapsis *rec.* 668 ferales *A* : feralis *E* 672  
loco *A* : ioco *E* 673 tota *Mss* : tuta *Heinsius* : taetra *Bentley* : tecta  
*Richter* 685 revocat *A* : religat *E* : renodat *rec.* 694 ferro parat  
*Tarrant, Zwierlein* (ferrum parat *Koetschau*) : ferro admovet *Mss* (*from*  
690?) : arae admovet (*and* atque *for et*) *Bentley* 731 puerone  
*rec.* : puerisne *A* : querone *E* 732 in *Mss* : iam *Damsté* 736  
impiger *Zwierlein* : piger *Mss* 741 e *Tarrant* : in *Mss* 744 si stat  
*Heinsius* (sistat *E*) : non stat *A* 745 pius *E* : plus *A* 767 candente  
*E* : querente *A* 771 dicam *Mss* : dicas *Heinsius* magis *E* : gemant

- A* 777 ruptum *EA* : raptum *rec.* (C<sup>1</sup>?) 781 tenuere *Mss* : renuere  
*Gronovius* 789–884 *on arrangement of lines see p. 247* 789  
parens *Mss* : potens *Heinsius* 813/14 vices? . . . erit? *M. Müller*  
818 limina *E* : lumina *A* : munera *Garrod* : foedera *Tarrant* 829/30  
percutsa metu / ne fatali etc. *E* : percussa metu ne fatali etc. *A* 833  
cingens *Leo* : et ignes *Mss* 835 aeternae *Mss* : alternae *Heinsius*  
: alterno *Bentley* 843/44 congesta sinum turba deorum / hic  
*E* : congesta sinum turba deorum / hic *A* 864 frangetque  
*Mss* : frangesque *Wakefield* 867 monstraque *Mss* : plaustraque  
*Bentley* 877–81 cardine mundus / in . . . venit? / o . . . creatos /  
seu . . . miseri / sive expulimus! / abeant *A* : cardine . . . aetas /  
ultima . . . dura / sorte . . . perdidimus / solem . . . expulimus! /  
habebant *E* 890/91 pergam . . . suorum *deleted by Leo* 911 o me  
*Avantius* : omne *Mss* 920–69 *given to Thyestes in A* : 920–37,  
942–44, 961–64 *given to Chorus*, 938–41, 945–60, 965–69 *to Thyestes in*  
*E* (*on arrangement of lines see p. 248*) 930–32 pondera . . . inflexa /  
cervice . . . degenerem / victumque . . . impositas  
*A* : pondera . . . pati / nec . . . impositas *E* 945 quid me prohibes  
*Heinsius* : quis me prohibet *Mss* decenti *EA* : recenti *rec.* 956  
rumpere . . . libet *E* : rumpere vestes / ululare libet *A* 1008  
tenebrasque *Schmidt* : te nosque *Mss* 1012–14  
uterque . . . compagibus / et . . . est / avosque . . . sinu *E* : avosque  
nostros, si quis intra Tartara est / uterque iam debuimus; hinc  
compagibus / et hinc revulsis, huc tuam immani sinu *A* 1018 tostas  
*Raphelengius* : totas *EA* (totus *S*) : tortas *Delrio* 1019 exilia  
*Gronovius* : exitia *Mss* 1020 iaces *A* : iacet *E* 1032 scinduntur  
*Tarrant* : servantur *Mss* : vorantur *Axelsson* 1070 di fugistis  
*rec.* : diffugistis *EA* (defugistis *P*) 1081 manumque *CST* : manumque  
*E. P* 1084 hac *Scaliger* : haec *Mss* 1103 quid *Mss* : quin  
*Heinsius* 1105 angit *E* : tangit *A* : te angit *Giardina*

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