# Postponed Relative Pronouns in Pindar

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## Introduction

#### WHAT IS THAT PRONOUN DOING THERE?

### Typical relative clauses in ancient Greek

Relative pronoun: inflected subordinator followed by the rest of the relative clause

•Head: DP or pronoun, which can be:

1.	external (preposed to the RC) κωφὸς ἀνήρ τις, ὃς Ἡρακλεῖ στόμα μὴ περιβάλλει "a man is mute <b>who</b> does not have Herakles on his lips"	P. 9.87
2.	external (postposed to the RC) οἶσι δὲ Φερσεφόνα ποινὰν παλαιοῦ πένθεος δέξεται, ἐς τὸν ὕπερθεν ἅλιον κείνων ἐνάτῷ ἔτεϊ ἀνδιδοῖ ψυχὰς πάλιν "the ones <b>for whom</b> Persephona receives the payment of her ancient grief, she brin their souls to the sun above on the ninth year"	fr. 133.1–3 ngs back again
3.	internal § ὄσαι τ' εἰσὶν ἐπιχωρίων καλῶν <i>ἕσοδοι</i>   τετόλμακε. "every <i>opportunity</i> there is for local excellence, he has dared to do"	P. 5.116–117

#### 4. null

ἐν δὲ πείρα τέλος | διαφαίνεται ὧν τις ἐξοχώτερος γένηται "in trial the accomplishment appears, **of that in which** one is the best"

N. 3.70-71

### Puzzling relative clauses

- οὐδ' Ἀΐδας ἀκινήταν ἔχε ῥάβδον,
   <u>βρότεα σώμαθ'</u> ų̇̃ κατάγει κοίλαν πρὸς ἄγυιαν
   Ο. 9.33–35
   "nor did Hades keep *his staff* unmoved, with which he leads <u>the mortal bodies</u> down to the hollow city of the dead"
- καὶ τὸ Μηδείας ἕπος ἀγκομίσαι
   ἑβδόμα καὶ σὺν δεκάτα γενεῷ Θήραιον, <u>Αἰήτα τό ποτε ζαμενής</u>
   <u>παῖς ἀπέπνευσ' ἀθανάτου στόματος, δέσποινα Κόλχων</u>.
   P. 4.9–11
   "and to carry out *the word of Medeia*, at the 17<sup>th</sup> generation, *[the word] spoken at Thera*, which <u>Aietas'</u>
   holy child once blew from her immortal mouth, the queen of the Colchians"

In both cases, the relative pronoun appears after material belonging to the relative clause.

Descriptively, I will call them *postponed relative pronouns*.

•What is puzzling about them is that they are rare (12.3%): in run-of-the-mill relative clauses in ancient Greek, the pronoun must be initial in the clause.

## Why are postponed RPs problematic?

Relative pronouns are in the highest position in the clause structure.

No extraction nor raising to object (prolepsis)

Both would imply a movement through Spec, C<sub>h</sub>P, which is impossible since it is already occupied by the RP.

No topicalization over the RP

 Counterexamples imply topicalized phrases pertaining to the matrix clause:

 νέωτα δ' οὐδεἰς ὅστις οὐ δοκεῖ βροτῶν Πλούτω τε κἀγαθοῖσιν ἕξεσθαι φίλος.
 "but for the new year there is no one who does not expect among the mortals to become friend of Wealth and noble men." Semonides fr. 1 9–10 West

Faure 2021: 160 (fig. 1)

(τίς)

 $C_t P$ 

C₊∘ (εί)

 $C_hP$ 

C<sub>h°</sub> (ὄτι

(ὄς)

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## A Pindaric peculiarity?

The postponement of the RP is attested in verse:

#### 1. 7<sup>th</sup>–6<sup>th</sup> c. BCE

<u>πόρνα</u> δ'  $\ddot{o}$  κέ τις δί $\bar{o}$ [ $\omega$ ί]σα κά[ς] πολίας κῦμ' ἄλ[o]ς ἐσβ[ά]λην.

Alcaeus fr. 117b. 26–27 V.

"who makes a gift to a whore, it is as if he had thrown it in the wave of the salted sea."

#### 2. 6<sup>th</sup> c. BCE

ἔρρε, θεοῖσίν τ' ἐχθρὲ καὶ ἀνθρώποισιν ἄπιστε,
<u>Ψυχρὸν</u> ὃς ἐν κόλπῳ ποικίλον εἶχες ὄφιν
"begone, you enemy of the gods and unfaithful to mankind, who kept the <u>cold</u> colorful snake in your lap!"

3. 6<sup>th</sup> c. BCE

#### κληροπαληδόν ὃς ἂν

πρᾶτος λάχῃ ἕκατι Μοιρᾶν

"who has his lot come out first in the drawing of lots, by the will of the Moirai"

Stesichorus fr. 222b

#### 7. 5<sup>th</sup> c. BCE

<u>τὰς</u> δὲ <u>δαιμόνων τύχας</u> | **ὅστις** φέρει κάλλιστ' ἀνὴρ *οὖτος* σοφός "any man who bears with utter nobility the fortunes sent by the gods, this man is wise"

ἶΩ *Ζεῦ*, <u>τὸν Οἴτης ἄτομον</u> ὃ**ς** λειμῶν' ἔχεις "O Zeus, who owns Oite's unbreakable meadow"

6 5<sup>th</sup> c BCF

#### 5. 5<sup>th</sup> c. BCE

4. 5<sup>th</sup> c. BCE

φίλοι, κακῶν μὲν ὄστις ἔμπειρος κυρεῖ, | ἐπίσταται... "Friends, whoever has the experience of evil things, knows..."

A Pindaric peculiarity?

ἢ τὰν μεγαλώνυ]μον Αἴγιναν, <mark>μεγ[ίστ]ου</mark>

Ζην]ὸς [ὃ πλαθεῖσα λ]έχει τέκεν ἥρω

Aeschylus Pers. 598–9

Bacchylides Ep. 9.55–56 "or the renown Aigina, who after approaching the bed of the Great Zeus bore a hero"

Sophocles Trach. 200

Euripides fr. 37

### A Pindaric peculiarity?

It is not attested in Homer nor in prose. Some of the examples adduced in the literature must be explained otherwise:

- Τίνες ἵππους ἐπίστανται κολάζειν ὀρθῶς; πότερον οἵπερ βελτίστους ποιοῦσιν ἢ ἄλλοι; Οἵπερ βελτίστους. — Τί δέ; κύνας οὐχ οἳ βελτίστους ἐπίστανται ποιεῖν, οὗτοι καὶ κολάζειν ὀρθῶς ἐπίστανται; [Plat.] Amat. 137c
   "Who knows how to correctly flatter the horses? The ones who make them better or other people? — The ones [who make them] better. — Now, <u>as for the dogs</u>, the ones who know how to make [them] better, is it not those who know how to flatter them correctly?"
- $\rightarrow$  Topicalization pertaining to the matrix clause, not the relative.
- <u>Άχαιῶν</u> ὅστις ἄριστος [sc. ἐστιν] "whoever is the best <u>among the Achaeans</u>"

Hom. II. 7.50

 $\rightarrow$  Partitive genitives are not a part of the relative per se.

### What is there to explain?

1.

#### What licenses the postponement of the relative pronoun?

2.

#### Why is there variability regarding its position (initial vs. postponed)?



#### The data

AN OVERVIEW

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#### Semantics

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Syntax



#### Prosody

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A LAST RESORT EXPLANATION

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## The data

#### AN OVERVIEW

### The relative pronouns

As in Homer, the simple relative pronouns are the reflexes of **two different PIE roots**, both originally anaphoric-demonstrative pronouns:

- •ὄς, ἅ, ὅ (<\*Hyo-): the classical relative pronoun Cognate with anaphoric ἰν, Sanskrit RP yáḥ, Avestan RP yō, Lat. anaphoric is, etc.
- •ἀ, τό (<\*so-, \*to-): identical with the definite article Cognate with Sanskrit sá, sā, tád, Germanic þar, etc.
- Some forms are a priori ambiguous (ά, οἱ, αἱ), but were counted as reflexes of \*Hyo-. (Endingless masc. ὁ is demonstrably a philological chimaera (Probert 2005), and all instances were counted as reflexes of \*so-.)
- Both ὄς and ὁ can also be used as **demonstrative-anaphoric pronouns** in Pindar.
  - Probert (2015) makes a good case for attributing anaphoric uses of ὄς to a form \**so-s*.
  - Earlier literature (Des Places 1947, Hummel 1993) relies on the "movement of the sentence" to set them apart, but this leads to a fuzzy and subjective classification.
- Stricter criterion: asyndeton secures a relative reading of the pronoun, whereas coordination leads to an anaphoric reading.

### Repartition of forms

Singular		* <i>so</i> -	Init.	Post.	*Hyo-	Init.	Post.	_	Plural		*so-	Init.	Post.	*Hyo-	Init.	Post.
Q	Nom.	ŏ	7	1	ŏς	52	8		ð	Nom.	τοί	5	1	οἵ	9	1
nlu	Acc.	τόν	32	1	ŏν	18	1		6 1 2 -	Acc.	τούς	5	0	οὕς	1	0
Masculun	Gen.	τοῦ	2	0	oὗ	1	0			Gen.	τῶν	1	0	ών	7	0
2	Dat.	τῷ	6	0	ų	3	1	Σ	Dat.	τοῖς	3	0	οἶς	9	4	
U	Nom.	ά			ά	11	1			Nom.	ταί	1	0	αἵ	1	1
nine	Acc.	τάν	17	2	ἄν	6	2	Feminine	Acc.	τάς	0	0	ἄς	3	2	
Feminin	Gen.	τᾶς	6	0	ἇς	2	0		Gen.	τᾶν	1	0	ἇν	0	0	
	Dat.	τą̃	1	0	ά	6	2		Dat.	ταῖς	2	0	αἶς	2	0	
	Nom.	τό	0	0	ŏ				Neuter	Nom.	τά	2	0	ά		
Neuter	Acc.	τό	4	1	ŏ					Acc.	τά	2	0	ά		
Ner	Gen.	τοῦ	1	0	oų	2	0	Neu	Gen.	τῶν	7	1	ών	2	0	
	Dat.	τῷ	1	0	ų	1	0		Dat.	τοῖς	1	0	οἶς	1	0	
I	otal	82	77	5	117	102	15		Т	otal	32	30	2	43	35	8

### The relative pronouns

Other complex relative pronouns are attested in Pindar, all based on the relative root \*Hyo-:

ὄστις: indefinite relative pronoun	initial 18×	postponed 0×
ὄσπερ: specific relative pronoun	initial 7×	postponed 0×
<ul> <li>ὄστε: used when the relative clauses attributes a permanent property to the head noun</li> </ul>	initial 25×	postponed 5×
οἶος / ὑποῖος: relative pronoun of quality	initial 15×	postponed 3×
ὅσ(σ)ος / ὑπόσ(σ)ος: relative pronoun of quantity	initial 21×	postponed 1×
Moreover, other roots are used as adverbial relatives:		
<b>ανίκα</b> : "when"	initial 8×	postponed 1×
<b>ινα</b> : "where"	initial 15×	postponed 3×
ἕνθα / ἕνθεν "where, whither"	initial 11×	postponed 1×

### The relative pronouns

Since relative pronouns are also used as interrogative pronouns, I excluded from the corpus:

- Indirect interrogative clauses
- exclamative clauses
- comparative clauses

#### Other subordinators

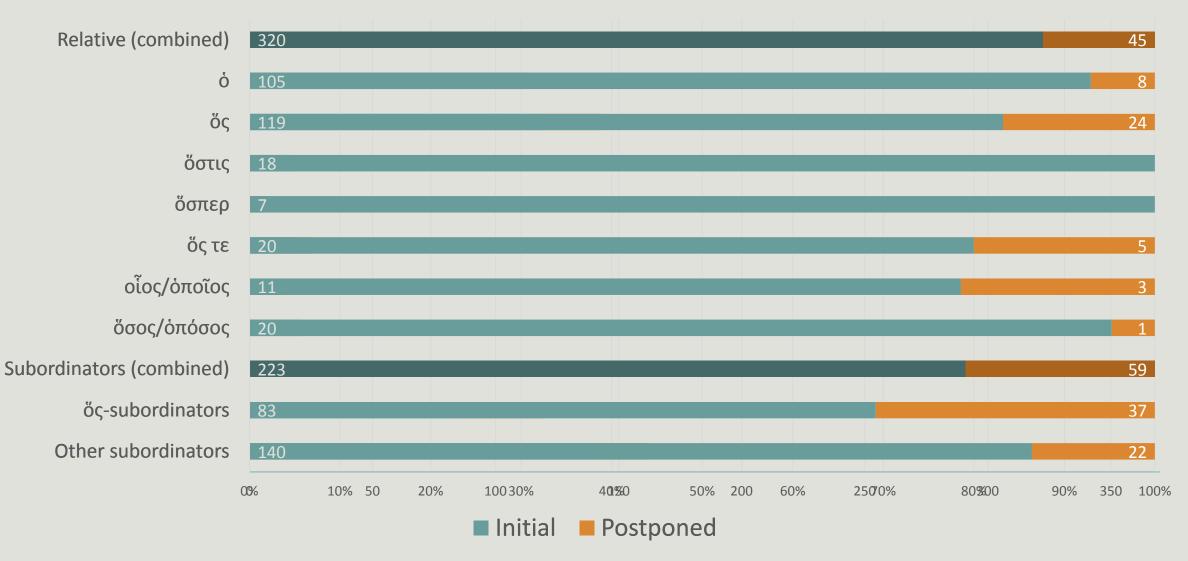
#### $^{\prime\prime}$ Ος-SUBORDINATORS

■ὑπᾶ οπότε / οπόταν ὄτε / ὅταν ■ὄτι ούνεκα / ούνεκεν ὄφρα ■ώς ὄπως -ώσπερ "just as" "ώστε "so as to"

"to the point where" "when, whenever" "when, whenever" "because" "because" "in order that" "how" "how" ■εἰ ■εἴπερ ■ἐπεί ■ἐπειδή ■πρίν ■εὖτε "if"
"if indeed"
"after, when, as soon as; for"
"since"
"before"
"when, after"

OTHER

#### Position of subordinators

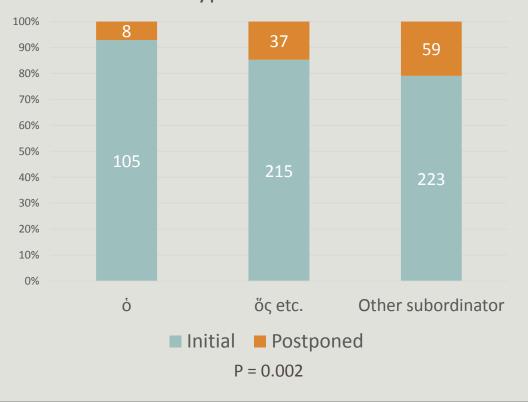


### Subordinator type

The most obvious difference in the rate of postponement is the subordinator:

- •the rate is highest with non-relative subordinators, which is expected since they do not occupy the Spec, C<sub>h</sub>P.
- it is roughly as expected with all relative pronouns based on the root \**Hyo-* (ὄς etc.)
- •the rate is lowest with ò < \*so-: there seems to be a reluctance to postpone this pronoun, even though all examples are metrically secured.

#### Rate of postponement according to the lexical type of the subordinator



### Crosslinguistic similarities

Language	Root	Restriction to poetry	Position	Optional		
Latin	*k <sup>w</sup> is	Yes	Clause-2nd	Yes		
Tokharian	*k <sup>w</sup> is	Yes	Clause-2 <sup>nd</sup> In-situ	Yes		
Oscan	*k <sup>w</sup> is	No	?	Yes		
Hittite	*k <sup>w</sup> is	No	Clause-2 <sup>nd</sup>	Yes		
Vedic	*Нуо-	Mostly	Preverbal In-situ	Yes		



Except in Vedic, the relative pronoun is always a reflex of PIE \*k<sup>w</sup>is, cognate (or identical) with the indefinite pronoun.

• Except in Oscan and Hittite, the postponement of the relative pronoun is a **poetic feature of the language**.

 In Hittite, the current theory is that there is a connection between the semantics of the relative clause and the option of postponing the pronoun.

It has been claimed that in Tokharian and Vedic, the relative pronoun is in situ, or at least does not show wh-movement.

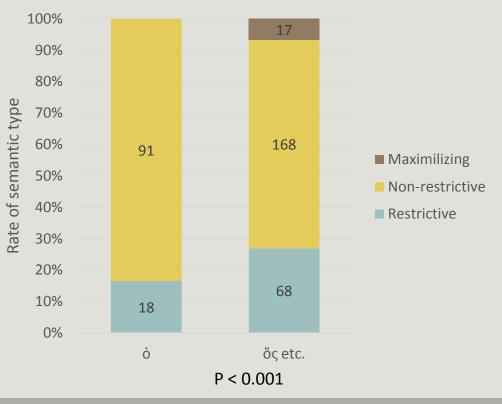


## Semantics

### Typology of relative clauses

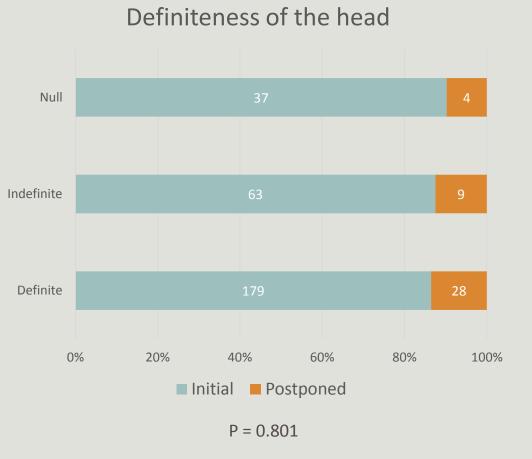
- AG relative clauses can be classified as restrictive, non-restrictive and maximalizing.
- No statistically significant difference between initial and postponed RPs
- Difference in the choice between δ and ὄς:
  - ὄς is more frequent than expected with restrictive RCs
  - ò is more frequent than expected with nonrestrictive RCs and unattested with maximalizing RCs
- This trend is in line with Homeric usage (Monteil 1963, Probert 2015), although Pindar allows for ò to appear in constructions where Homer only uses ὄς.

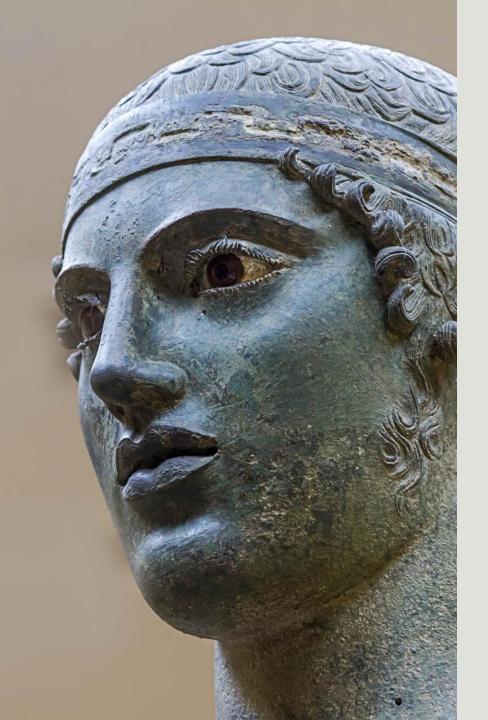
#### Choice of pronoun according to the semantic type of the relative clause



### Definiteness of the head

- The definiteness of the head has been claimed to be the key in the optional postponement of the relative pronoun in Hittite.
- In Pindar, it is not always sure if the head is definite or indefinite:
  - no systematic use of the definite article in his dialect
  - rhetorical stance of the poet (in a mythological allusion, is the audience supposed to know the referent of the NP?)
- The definiteness of the antecedent NP has no influence whatsoever on the postponement of the RP.



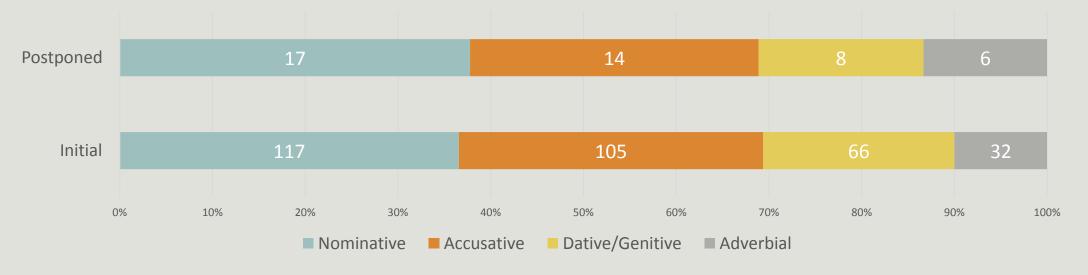


## Syntax

### Case accessibility hierarchy

 subject > direct object > indirect object > oblique > genitive > object of comparison (Keenan and Comrie 1977)

Case accessibility does not play any role whatsoever in the postponement of the relative pronoun.



P = 0.889

### Headedness of the RC

Ancient Greek relative clauses can be:

1. postposed externally-headed | 2. preposed externally-headed | 3. internally-headed | 4. null-head

All those constructions allow for the postponement of the relative pronoun:

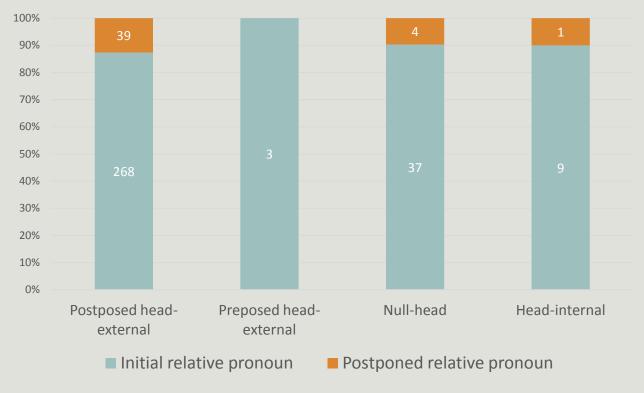
- Κάδμοιο κούραις, <u>ἕπαθον</u> αϊ μεγάλα
   "to the daughters of Cadmos, who <u>suffered</u> a lot"
- <u>τὰς δὲ δαιμόνων τύχας</u> | ὅστις φέρει κάλλιστ' ἀνὴρ οὖτος σοφός Euripides fr. 37 "any man who bears with utter nobility <u>the fortunes sent by the gods</u>, this man is wise"
- <u>ἐμοὶ</u> δ' ὑποίαν ἀρετάν | ἔδωκε Πότμος ἄναξ
   εὐ οἶδ' ὅτι χρόνος ἕρπων πεπρωμέναν τελέσει.
   N. 4.41–43
   "which kind of virtue lord Potmos gave me, I know well, that time passing will achieve it as fated"
- <u>θανεῖν</u> δ' οἶσιν ἀνάγκα [scil. ἐστι], τά κέ τις ἀνώνυμον
   γῆρας ἐν σκότῳ καθήμενος ἕψοι μάταν [...];
   O. 1.82–83
   "for those who must <u>die</u>, why would anyone follow in vain an anonymous old age, sitting in obscurity?"

### Headedness of the RC

 Statistically, no difference is visible in the distribution of initial vs. postponed relative pronouns among those 4 categories.

 The syntax of each type is different, so we would expect a difference in the ratio of postponed vs initial RPs if their position was due to syntax.

#### Syntactic type of the relative clause





### Rel-in-situ?

One possible explanation for postponed relative pronouns would be to allow them to remain in their base position, as has been advocated for other languages (de Vries 2002, 2005; Hindi: Mahajan 2000, Tokharian B: Hearn 2017; Hittite: Sideltsev 2015).

Problems:

It doesn't explain why the pronoun is always second in the relative clause (either after the first word or the first constituent).

It doesn't explain why the negation and sentence clitics are blocked from raising higher than the relative pronoun.

It doesn't explain why it is **optional**.

### Information structure

#### 

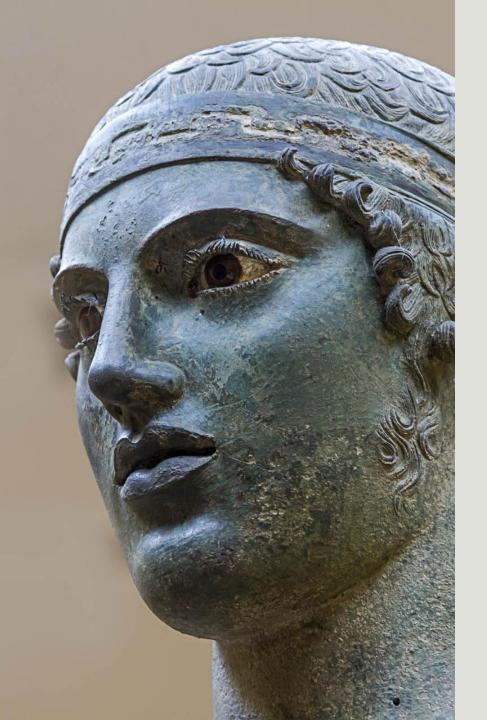
#### 2. FOCUS

ἐν τίν κ' ἐθέλοι, <u>Γίγαντας</u> ὃς ἐδάμασας, εὐτυχῶς | ναίειν N. 7.90–91 "under your protection, you **who** subdued <u>the Giants</u>, would he gladly live"

#### 3. UNCLEAR

ὃς πάχει μάκει τε πεντηκόντορον ναῦν κράτει,

<u>τέλεσεν</u> αν πλαγαί σιδάρου. "[a dragon] which in thickness and length surpassed *a fifty-oar ship*, **that** the blows of a hammer <u>built</u>"



# Prosody

#### A LAST RESORT EXPLANATION

## Contiguity

The element above the relative pronoun is located **immediately before the pronoun** in all 45 instances but one.

 τὸ δὲ παθεῖν εὖ πρῶτον ἀέθλων εὖ δ' ἀκούειν δευτέρα μοῖρ' ἀμφοτέροισι δ' ἀνήρ ὅς ἂν ἐγκύρσῃ καὶ ἕλῃ, στέφανον ὕψιστον δέδεκται.
 P.1.99–100 "success is the best prize; good reputation is the second lot; with both of them, a man who gains and takes them, gets the highest crown"

Furthermore, only 11 occurrences have more than 1 lexical word before the pronoun, and never more than 1 constituent. As a rule, the relative pronoun is second in the relative clause, i.e. it is in the so-called Wackernagel position.

Inter-speaker variation between prosodic word treatment and phonologic word treatment is expected (cf. Huggard 2015 for Hittite, Goldstein 2015 for Greek).

•Hypothesis: the relative pronoun can be postpositive in AG verse.

#### Domain interruption

The postponed relative pronoun can **interrupt a syntactic domain**.

 ματρομάτωρ ἐμὰ Στυμφαλίς, εὐανθὴς Μετώπα,
 § <u>πλάξιππον</u> ἂ Θήβαν ἔτικτεν,
 O. 6.84–85
 "my mother's mother the woman of Stymphale, fair-flowered Metopa, who bore <u>the rider</u> Theba"

#### A case of hyperbaton?

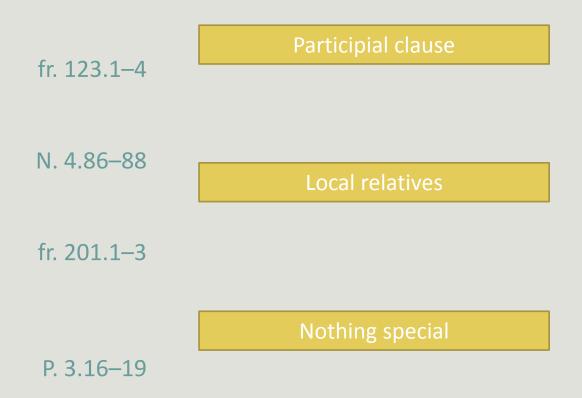
μῆτιν δ' ἀλώπηξ, <u>αἰετοῦ</u> ἅ τ' ἀναπιτναμένα ῥόμβον ἴσχει·
 I. 4.65
 "in wisdom [he is] *a fox*, which forstalls the swoop <u>of the eagle by falling on her back</u>"

•Only 5 cases similar to (2), versus 13 cases similar to (1).

#### Prosodic breaks

Avoidance of line-ends before a postponed relative pronoun: only 4 instances where it is line-initial.

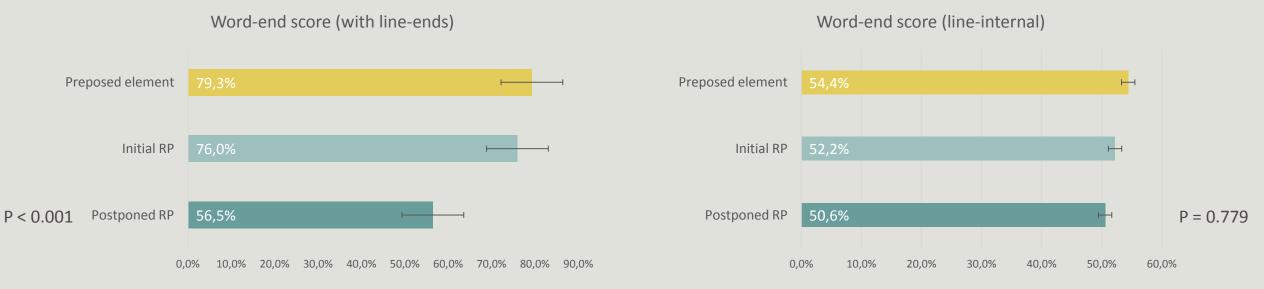
- <u>τὰς δὲ Θεοξένου ἀκτῖνας πρὸς ὄσσων</u> <u>μαρμαρυζοίσας δρακείς</u>
   ὃς μὴ πόθῳ κυμαίνεται, ἐξ ἀδάμαντος ἢ σιδάρου κεχάλκευται μέλαιναν καρδίαν
- γλῶσσαν εὑρέτω κελαδῆτιν, Όρσοτριαίνα **ίν'** ἐν ἀγῶνι βαρυκτύπου θάλησε Κορινθίοις σελίνοις.
- Αἰγυπτίαν Μένδητα, πὰρ κρημνὸν ϑαλάσσας ἔσχατον Νείλου κέρας, <u>αἰγιβάται</u> ὅθι τράγοι γυναιξὶ μίσγονται.
- οὐκ ἔμειν' ἐλθεῖν τράπεζαν νυμφίαν, οὐδὲ παμφώνων ἰαχὰν ὑμεναίων, <u>ἅλικες</u>
   οἶα παρθένοι φιλέοισιν ἑταῖραι ἑσπερίαις ὑποκουρίζεσθ' ἀοιδαῖς'



#### Prosodic breaks

Responsion in the Pindaric stanza allows to detect **prosodic breaks within the line**.

Score for word-ends: 1 for a lexical word-end, 0.5 for a clitic or appositive word-end, divided by the total number of responsions (expressed as a percentage).



Average word-end score difference between first word of the RC and postponed RP: 22.37%.

### Complex relative pronouns ὄστις, ὄσπερ and ὄστε

Contrary to what is attested in other authors, in Pindar relative ὄστις and ὅσπερ are never postponed.

-Statistically significant for ὅστις (undecidable for ὅσπερ).

- Restriction on simplex relative pronouns (including οἶος and ὅσος)? But ὅστε is postponed 5× (20%).
- Possible explanation: ὅστις and ὅσπερ were not analyzable anymore by Pindar's time (at least by some speakers), whereas ὅστε was still felt as ὅς + "epic" τε.

### Clitics and postpositives

When a clitic or postpositive with scope over the relative clause is present, it **never precedes the relative pronoun**.

- χειρῶν ἄωτον Βλεψιάδαις ἐπίνικον, <u>ἕκτος</u> οἶς ≤ἤδη στέφανος περίκειται φυλλοφόρων ἀπ' ἀγώνων.
   O. 8.75–76 "the finest victory of hands for *the Blepsiads*, whom <u>the sixth</u> garland now crowns because of their fights full of leavves"
- οἶα Συρακοσίων ἀρχῷ δαμασθέντες πάθον, <u>ἀκυπόρων ἀπὸ ναῶν ὅ</u> «σφιν ἐν πόντῳ βάλεθ' ἁλικίαν
   P. 1.73–74 "Such were their sufferings once they were vanquished by the leader of the Syracusans, who from their rapid ships flung their youths into the sea"
- καὶ τὸ Μηδείας ἔπος ἀγκομίσαι ἑβδόμα καὶ σὺν δεκάτα γενεῷ Θήραιον, <u>Aἰήτα</u> τό «ποτε ζαμενής παῖς ἀπέπνευσ' ἀθανάτου στόματος, δέσποινα Κόλχων. "and to carry out the word of Medeia, at the 17<sup>th</sup> generation, [the word] spoken at Thera, which <u>Aietas'</u> holy child once blew from her immortal mouth, the queen of the Colchians"

### Clitics and postpositives

- 4. ἐν ἑ̃ καὶ τὸν ἀδείμαντον Ἀλκμήνα τέκεν παῖδα, <u>θρασεῖαι</u> τόν ≠ποτε Γηρυόνα φρῖξαν κύνες
   I. 1.12–13 "in which Alcmena bore *the dauntless son* as well **whom** once Geryon's <u>bold</u> dogs feared"
- 5. τρέω τοι πόλεμον Διὸς Ἐννοσίδαν τε βαρ[ὑ]κτυπον § χθόνα τοί ≈ποτε καὶ στρατὸν ἀθρόον πέμψαν κεραυνῷ τριόδοντί τε ἐς τὸν βαθὺν Τάρταρον "I flee away from the war of Zeus and loud-thundering Earthshaker, who once sent the earth and a compact army, with their lightning and trident, in the depths of the Tartaros"
- Only 5×, and almost always with \*so- (even if \*Hyo- relative pronouns are 7× more frequent overall).
- ■The count is different if we add all instances of ὄστε counted as ὅς ≠τε (5×).

### Problems with a prosodic explanation

#### CLITICS AND NEGATIONS

Why can't a clitic or a negation appear to the left of the relative? There is not enough data to answer this question, but a solution might be that there was an ordered clitic chain (as there is with postpositive particles)

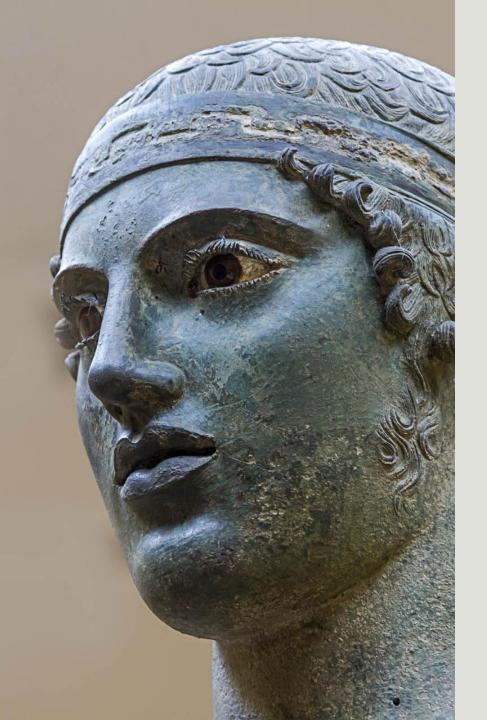
#### OPTIONALITY

Clitics and postpositives are lexically determined: a word is either a full lexical word or a clitic/postpositive.

### A diachronic explanation

In all other IE languages (except Vedic) where postponement of the RP is attested, the RP is a reflex of PIE \**k*<sup>w</sup>is, homophonous with the indefinite (clitic) pronoun.

- In AG, both relative pronouns are identical with anaphoric pronouns. Such pronouns are usually ratified topics, which are treated as postpositive in AG.
- When they acquired a relative function, they might have kept this placement property as an archaism.
- This property then extended to complex pronouns when they became unanalyzable.
- This would explain both the restriction of this postponement to verse and its optionality.



## Conclusion

#### SUMMING UP

### Dead-ends and a possible solution

In Pindar (and other verse authors), the relative pronoun comes sometimes second in the relative clause.

Relative clauses with a postponed pronoun do not differ from regular relative clauses:

- no difference in their semantics
- no difference in their syntax
- The solution to the problem lies in prosody: the ability of the relative pronoun to be treated as a clitic or postpositive word. This explains:
  - why the pronoun is always second in the clause;
  - why it can interrupt syntactic domains;
  - why there is fewer line-ends before the postponed relative pronoun than before the initial relative pronoun.

The optionality is probably a result of diachrony.

## Thank you!

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