

ON THE ELISION IN OPPIAN

The present paper is concerned with the case of the elision in the text of Oppianos¹, which as far as I know has not yet been studied in detail².

1. HALIEUTICA

In the 3501 hexameters of Oppian's Halieutica³ 1426 verses suffer elision; as can be seen in the following table 1172 of these lines contain one elision, there are also 234 lines with two and 20 lines with three elisions; that means that one elision corresponds to 2.06 lines, a rate which comes very close to Aratus' Phaenomena and Theocritus' Idylls⁴.

1. I use the term Oppianos following Keydell's article in RE XVIII. 1 698-708 for Oppian of Anabazus the poet of the Halieutica and for Oppian of Apameia who wrote the Cynegetica.

2. The only work which, as far as I know, deals with the elision in Hellenistic epic poetry is F. Beneke's dissertation *Beiträge zur Metrik der Alexandriner*, Teil I-II (Berlin, 1883-1884), which I utilized in this paper; Beneke's dissertation deals with the main Hellenistic epic poets but it does not extend to bucolic and late epic poetry; furthermore there is not a complete study of the elision in the Homeric poems, although useful material for the elision in Homer can be found in P. Chantraine, *Grammaire Homérique*, tome I (Paris, 1958), 85ff, La Roche, Über den Hiatus und die Elision in der Cäsur des dritten Fusses und der bukolischen Diaeresis bei Homer, *Zeitschrift für österreichischen Gymnasien*, 1860, X Heft, 769-779, R. Janko, *The Iliad: A Commentary*, vol. IV (Cambridge, 1992), 33, 144, 193, passim.

3. I follow the edition of A.W. Mair, *Oppian, Colluthus, Tryphiodorus* (London, 1928 (1963)) in Loeb Classical Library, the latest edition of Oppian's Halieutica; without a good critical text I was obliged to take into account a considerable number of variant readings in the editions of J. G. Schneider, *Oppiani Cynegetica et Halieutica* (Lipsiae, 1813) and F. S. Lehrs, *Oppiani et Nicandri quae Supersunt* (Paris, 1886).

4. In Aratus 1 elision corresponds to 2.05 verses, in Theocritus' Idylls (excluding XXVIII - XXX, written in sapphic metres) the rate is 1: 2.01, in Apollonius Rhodius 1:1.79, in Callimachus' hexameter hymns 1:2.20, in Moschus 1: 1.94, in Bion 1:2.80, in Aratus 1:2.05, in Nicander's Theriaca 1:2.37 and Alexipharmaca 1:2.86.



			Lines	Lines elided	lines with:		
					1 elis. . .	2 elis. . .	3 elis.
Book	I	797	311 (39.02)	258	45	8	
Book	II	688	275 (39.27)	231	40	4	
Book	III	648	280 (43.20)	226	52	2	
Book	IV	688	275 (39.97)	231	42	2	
Book	V	680	285 (41.91)	226	55	4	
Total			3501	1426	1172	234	20

Regarding the 234 hexameters which contain two elided words we might notice that Oppian does not allow the elision of both a noun and a verb in the same line¹; when two or three elisions occur in consecutive words in the hexameter they usually recall epic clausulae and often cause effects of alliteration and assonance².

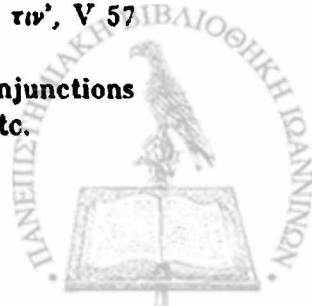
As far as the elided vowels (or diphong) is concerned, as can be seen in the following table, we might notice that Oppian follows the main trends of the Hellenistic epic poetry, modelled on the Homeric elided vowels³.

	- α	- ε	- ι	ο	αι	Total
Verbs	5	1	11	16	27	60
Nouns	28	-	1	-	-	29
Adjectives	6	1	-	-	-	7
Pronouns	40	8	-	1	-	49
Prepositions	44	-	60	53	-	157
Adverbs	53	54	16	-	-	123
Particles	136	1139	-	-	-	1275
Total	312	1203	88	70	27	1700

1. Callimachus has in his hymns only one example of elision of both a noun and a verb in the same line, I 93, while Aratus and Nicander avoid it completely; on the contrary Apollonius seems to be fond of this type of elision, e.g. I 562, 785, 1252, II 25, III 810, IV 157, 504.

2. See for example, I 458 ἀλλ' ὁπότε', II 620 δ' ἄλλοτ' ἐπ', III 436 εὐτ' ἄν τιν', V 57 οἷδ' οὐτ', 657 δ' ἄρ' ἀνδρῶν, etc.

3. Under the heading particles I include also the subordinating conjunctions which suffer elision in the Halieutica such as ὅτ', ὁπότε', ὥστε', ἵν', ὅφρ', etc.



The vowel $-ε$ dominates the elided words in the Halieutica mainly due to the great number of $δε$ and the other particles; the only elided diphong is $-αι$ which is confined to verbal forms. The poet of the Halieutica avoids the elision of $-ι$ in the third declension singular while there is only one example of elision in dative plural in $-ι$ ¹; elision before the augment of a verb is not very frequent, and when it is used is confined usually to $δε$ or $τε$ and rarely to other particles or adverbs². We might also notice some cases among verbs and nouns where the word capable of $-ν$ *ἐφελκυστικόν* is cut off, thus the poet to avoid hiatus elides the word³.

For the sake of clarity I have arranged the position of the elided vowels and the diphong $αι$ in the following table:

		-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	Total
Book	I	57	29	74	39	5	12	7	3	58	14	-	3	43	20	8	-	372
Book	II	41	15	73	27	7	15	4	10	45	16	-	1	37	21	11	-	323
Book	III	44	18	79	30	6	16	4	9	47	14	-	2	43	13	11	-	336
Book	IV	45	16	59	21	1	10	4	9	38	19	-	8	49	29	13	-	321
Book	V	60	27	79	22	3	11	3	11	42	17	1	2	38	18	14	-	348
Total		247	105	364	139	22	64	22	42	230	80	1	16	210	101	57	-	1700

The elision in arsis covers the 41.1% and in thesis the 58.9% of the elided words⁴; the largest number of the elided vowels occurs

1. On the elision in third declension dative singular and plural, cf. P. Maas, *Greek Metre* (translated by H. Lloyd - Jones), (Oxford, 1962), & 121 and K. Lehrs, *Quaestiones Epicae* (Königsberg, 1837), 47ff.

2. I have counted 28 cases of elision before syllabic and 11 cases before temporal augment; the elided vowel is $-ε$ with only a few exceptions, e.g. *ἐνθ'* I 274, IV 514, *ἀλλ'* II 630 IV 304, *τόσσ'* V 675; Lehrs, *Oppian...* in order to avoid elision before an augment emends the text in two places II 606 *πρὶν ἔμαρσαν*, V 394 *δ' οὐν ἔπλετο*. It seems that the question of *Abliederung der Wörter* (on which see H. Fraenkel, *Noten zu den Argonautika des Apollonios* (München, 1968), 649ff.) does not occur in the Halieutica, since apart from $δε$ and $τε$ the few other cases are common elided expressions in poetry; on the other hand there are only a few omissions of the syllabic augment for a preceding vowel, i.e. to avoid elision in the Halieutica, cf. A.W. James, *The Omission of the Augment in the Halieutica of Oppian*, *Hermes*, XCIX (1966), 123.

3. On the use of the $-ν$ *ἐφελκυστικόν* in the Halieutica of Oppian, cf. F. Isler, *Quaestiones Metricae* (Gryphiae, 1908), 46.

4. In the 56.33% of the hexameters which contain two elisions in the Halieutica, one elision occurs in arsis the other in thesis; there are also 29.26% where both elisions occur in thesis and in the remaining 14.41% both elisions appear in arsis; it is obvious that these combinations of the elisions in the hexameter are conditioned and governed by conventions of rhythm and style.



in the first dactyl, in the arsis of the fifth and second foot and in the second short of the third foot, positions which are the most frequent in epic poetry. Elision in the sixth foot and at the first short of the fourth foot is restricted¹; elision at the masculine caesura is avoided in the *Haliutica*², whereas at the feminine caesura it is frequent and it is confined mostly to particles but sometimes also to pronouns and adverbs³; when a disyllable is elided at the feminine caesura there is usually an unelided masculine caesura which predominates in the hexameter; Oppian also allows elision at the feminine caesura in trisyllabic words³; it is remarkable that we find a comparatively large number of verbal forms elided at the bucolic diaeresis, a place where generally elision is not very frequent in the *Haliutica*⁵. Elision at both caesurae or at caesura and diaeresis is completely avoided. The elision in dactyls covers 73.70% and in spondee the remaining 26.30% of the elided hexameters.

1. The only case of elision at the first short of the fourth foot occurs in the participle *λελοιπότε* V 58; it is true that elision at this place in the hexameter is usually avoided; among Hellenistic epic poets Aratus and Nicander have eight and five examples respectively, Apollonius has only six such cases (among 3270 elisions), Callimachus in his hymns only one (IV 215); in all the above cases the elided word is a particle or a preposition.

2. Apart from *δέ* (elided ten times) the remaining twelve cases are covered by *τε* (I 76, 401, 425, II 671, V 151), *εἴτ'* (II 629, III 160, 611, IV 151), *ἐγὼγ'* I 756, *στάζονο'* V 280 and *τέχεσσ'* I 728; it is well known that elision at the masculine caesura, with the exception of the elided *δ'*, is restricted in epic poetry; among Hellenistic epic poets Callimachus in his hexameter hymns uses it thrice, cf. Beneke *op. cit.* I 11, 25f.; Apollonius Rhodius also has three such examples II 763, 1108, IV 1598; in Aratus it occurs twice, Phaen. 284, 613, and in Nicander once, Ther. 407 (v. l.).

3. The particle *δέ* once more dominates the elision in the feminine caesura with 28 cases; we have too the elision of *πότ' οὐποτ'*, *ἔτ'*, the pronoun *τινα* and a number of adverbs, cf. p. 116, n. 2 below.

4. cf. H. IV 248 *αὐτίχ'*, I 148 *οὐποθ'*; the rule that only disyllables may be elided at the feminine caesura, cf. Gow-Page, *The Garland of Philip*, xliii n. 3, is frequently violated by Apollonius I 364, 974, II 1061, III 570, IV 206, etc, and Nicander, Ther. 632 (v. l.), 654; on the contrary Callimachus seems to follow this rule in his hymns.

5. There are five verbs elided at the bucolic diaeresis; here Oppian is following Apollonius (24 of the 253 elided verbs occur in this place in the hexameter of the *Argonautica*); the remaining twelve cases of elision in this place in the *Haliutica* are covered by *δέ* (ten times), *οὐδ'* I 485 and the adjective *ἐπηγεφ'* IV 387. Verbal forms are very rarely elided in this place in the Homeric hexameter, cf. La Roche *op. cit.*, 769.



In the following table we can see the parts of speech which suffer elision in the Halieutica:

		Verbs	Nouns	Adject.	Pronouns	Praepos.	Adverbs	Particl.	Total
Book	I	13	4	2	15	29	15	294	372
Book	II	11	2	2	14	30	11	253	323
Book	III	7	8	-	4	35	28	254	336
Book	IV	16	7	3	7	35	31	222	321
Book	V	13	8	-	9	28	38	252	348
Total		60	29	7	49	157	123	1275	1700

ELISION OF δὲ

The elision of δὲ in the Halieutica possesses, as in every aspect of Greek literature, the largest number of the elided words; I have found 734 cases of δ', which covers 43.38% of the elided words in the poem¹; it is also remarkable that δ' outnumbers δὲ in the Halieutica². As can be seen in the following table the most frequent places for the elision of δὲ are in the arsis and at the end of the first foot, the favoured position of elided δὲ in Homer³; when δὲ is used in elision, it is frequently combined with various other elided particles such as ἤτοι⁴, ὀνότ', ὄτ', ἄρ', οὐποτ', οὐτ', οὐδ', ὥστ', or adverbs e.g. ἤντε, εὐτε, αὐτε; most of these elided phrases are very common in epic poetry from Homer onwards.

The elided δὲ can be placed as follows in the hexameter of the Halieutica:

		-	v	v	-	v	v	-	v	v	-	v	v	-	v	v	-	-	Total
Book	I	24	13	43	16	1	9	2	-	16	8	-	2	7	3	2	-	-	146
Book	II	15	2	36	13	2	10	2	4	22	9	-	-	9	5	6	-	-	135
Book	III	25	3	46	10	1	13	2	7	19	9	-	1	18	4	4	-	-	162
Book	IV	26	5	29	11	-	6	3	8	9	18	-	6	19	7	4	-	-	151
Book	V	21	8	31	11	-	7	1	9	17	14	-	1	14	3	3	-	-	140
Total		111	31	185	61	4	45	10	28	83	58	-	10	67	22	19	-	-	734

1. The respective percentage in Apollonius Rhodius is 42.43%, in Callimachus' hexameter hymns 39.61%, in Theocritus' Idylls (excluding XXVIII-XXX) 32.6%, in Moschus 45.4%, in Bion 50.5%, in Aratus 40.39%, in Nicander's Theriaca 46.78% and Alexipharmaca 46.43%.

2. I have counted 735 cases of δ' while δὲ occurs 538 times in the Halieutica.

3. On the place of the elided δὲ in the Homeric hexameter, cf. Grégoire A., Notes sur la place occupée par les particules γε et δὲ dans la versification homérique, *Serta Leodensia* (Liege et Paris, 1930), 159-176.

4. The phrase δ' ἤτοι is very common in the Halieutica; for the use of δ' ἤτοι



VERBS

The verbal forms which suffer elision in the *Halieutica* can be seen in the table on p. 111.

Verbal forms constitute 6.20% of the elided words (I take no account of the elided δ') in the *Halieutica*¹; they are freely elided in the fifth foot of the hexameter not only because they are rhythmically acceptable at this place but also because there is a general tendency in Oppian to employ verbal forms in the second part of the hexameter. As far as the elided vowels are concerned there are some noticeable points; the diphong $-αι$ dominates the elision of verbs in the *Halieutica* (27 cases) with the elided word occupying the first short of the first or fifth dactyl²; less frequently we have $-ο$ (16 times), $-ι$ (11 times)³ and $-α$ (5 times) while there is only one case of elision in $-ε$ ⁴; the elided verbs are usually found in thesis (45 times) and less frequently in arsis (15 times).

Elision at the feminine caesura is totally avoided while there is only one example of elision at the masculine caesura V 280 $στάζουσ'$, a form not elided elsewhere in Greek literature; the elided

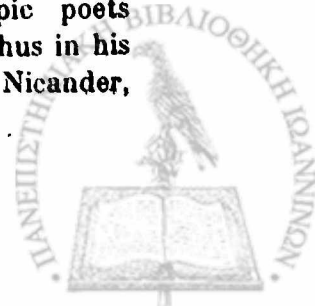
and its difference with $δή τοι$ in epic poetry, cf. W. Bühler, *Die Europa des Moschos* (Wiesbaden, 1960), 228f.

1. The respective percentage in Apollonius Rhodius is 13.40%, in Theocritus 17.45%, in Moschus 12.50%, in Aratus 7.93%, in Nicander's *Theriaca* 4.23% while in the *Alexipharmaca* I have found only two verbs; in Callimachus it is very rare and we find only a score of elided verbs, cf. G.R. McLennan, *Callimachus: Hymn to Zeus* (Rome, 1977), 129.

2. The diphong $-αι$, with the exception of Apollonius, is very rarely elided in the other Hellenistic epic poets; in Callimachus' hymns is elided only once IV 152 and scarcely ever in the other poets; the same seems to apply also to the epigrammatists, cf. Gow-Page, *Hellenistic Epigrams*, II 4075 note.

3. The frequency of the elided $-ι$ is remarkably high in the *Halieutica* and probably it is connected with the limitation of the $ἐφελκυστικόν -ν$ in the poem; the elision of $-ι$ is very rare from Homer onwards and it is confined usually to $ἐστί$, cf. Beneke, *op. cit.* II 42; I have found no examples in Callimachus, while the two cases in Theocritus 16.107 $ῖοιμ'$, 25.38 $ἐξέλτοιμ'$ are disputable; there is one example in Moschus 4.50 $ραλούς'$, one in Aratus, Phaen. 832 $ὀπείκωσ'$ and four in Apollonius Rhodius III 357, 1003 $κλείουσ'$, II 296 $μετακλείουσ'$, IV 1599 $ἐπικλείουσ'$.

4. The elision of a third singular indicative in $-ε$ is usually avoided in Greek drama, cf. Maas *loc. cit.* but utilized in epic poetry; among Hellenistic epic poets Apollonius makes an abundant use of it, while it is avoided by Callimachus in his hymns, II 43 $ἐλαχ'$, III 208 $ἐμμορ'$, Aratus, Phaen. 832 $ὀπείκωσ'$ and Nicander, Ther. 822, 829 $οἶδ'$.



participle λελοιπότ' V 58, also not attested elsewhere, is found at the first short of the fourth foot, and is probably connected with stylistic conventions. Half of the elided verbs in the *Halieutica* are coupled with another elided word, mainly a particle.

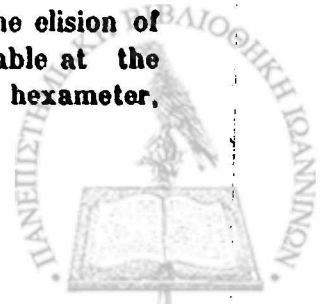
NOUNS

Twenty nine substantives suffer elision and they are distributed as follows in the five books of the *Halieutica*:

-	υ	υ	- υ υ - υ υ - υ υ -	υ	υ - -
χεῖρ'	ῥνί'	ἄγκιστρ'	τέκεσσ'	χεῖρ'	τεύχε'
V 88	V 83	IV 442	I 728	III 584	V 353
κρᾶθ'	κέρυκ'	δελφῖν'		τέκν'	δείματ'
III 23	V 233	III 290		I 749	I 736
	οὔνομ'			ἀσπαλιῇ'	IV 575
	I 776			IV 46	οἶδαθ'
	ὄμματ'			ὑμνητῆρ'	V 309
	II 110			III 7	ἔθνε'
	γούνατ'				IV 562
	III 300				ἄστε'
	ἄμματ'				IV 204
	III 317				φάρμακ'
	κύματ'				IV 662
	III 478				οὔνομ'
	δήγματ'				V 475
	III 608				
	IV 444				
	πέλασματ'				
	II 127				
	ἰδρᾶτ'				
	V 184				
	δέρματ'				
	V 193				

The elided nouns when they have the form of a dactyl are found in thesis, at the first short of the first or fifth foot; when they have the form of a trochaeus they are found in arsis, and there is one example of elision in the masculine caesura; the elided vowel is always -α with the exception of the dative plural τέκεσσ' I 728¹.

1. The elided vowel is usually -α in nouns; I have found no exception to this rule among Hellenistic epic poets, cf. also Beneke, *op. cit.* II 25. The elision of τέκεσσ' has no parallel in Greek literature; its position is also remarkable at the masculine caesura, a place where elision of nouns is very rare in the hexameter, e.g. AR. IV 1958, Nic. Ther. 407 (v. l.).



The elided nouns when associated with adjectives usually give the shape (υ) υ - υ υ - υ or υ υ - υ occupying the fourth and fifth foot in the hexameter, e.g. I 736 ἄσπετ' δείματ', IV 575 ἀνεμόλια δείματ', V 353 ἐοικότα τεύχε', etc; these metrical forms are most probably due to the rhythm and to the technique of composition of the hexameter and are modelled on Homeric patterns¹.

ADJECTIVES

Oppian avoids the elision of adjectives; among the 1700 elisions in the Halieutica there are only seven elided adjectives²: IV 11 σχέ-τλι', elided in the first foot, I 605 φίλτατ', 760 νηίδ', II 374 πολλ', 562 ἔν', IV 235 μί' found in the fourth dactyl and IV 387 ἐπηρεφέ' elided at the bucolic diaeresis³.

PRONOUNS

The number of the elided pronouns is comparatively small in the Halieutica⁴; the forty nine pronouns which suffer elision can be seen in the table on p. 114.

The elided vowel is usually -ο or -α; there is also one case of elided -ο (I 594 τοῦτ'); the elision of pronouns is avoided at the bucolic diaeresis but we find four examples of the relative τιν' at the feminine caesura⁵. The elision of personal pronouns is avoided in the Halieutica with only one exception, V 340 μ'.

1. For such Homeric metrical shapes used in elision cf. J.B. Hainsworth, A Note in Elision in Homer, *BICS*, 14-15 (1967-68), 17-21.

2. I do not count adverbial or pronominal adjectives; in fact the number of elided adjectives in poetry is small, cf. Beneke, *op. cit.* II, 5, 12, 18, 25.

3. The only forms which are not elided elsewhere are νηίδ' and ἐπηρεφέ'; both adjectives are very rarely found in Greek literature; the adjective σχέτλι' found here in the phrase σχέτλι' Ἐρωσ occurs elsewhere only in Theog. 1231 (s.s.), A.R. IV 445 (s.s.) and A.P. 179. 2 (Appendix).

4. This is 5.06% of the elided words in the poem; the respective number varies among the main Hellenistic epic poets; Apollonius seems to favour the elision of pronouns with 13% (excluding δ') following Homer; Theocritus has 13.52% in his Idylls (not counting Id. XXVIII-XXX), Moschus 6.2%, Aratus 5.65%, whereas Callimachus with only thirteen elisions in his hexameter hymns and Nicander with ten seem to avoid the elision of pronouns.

5. The employment of the relative τινά is interesting in the Halieutica; it appears 24 times in elision, a use which seems to be peculiar to this poem, while we find only once the unelided τινά IV 617; it is the only elided pronoun in the third book, and it is used in anaphora in III 451f. οὔτ' τιν' ἀνδρῶν / οὔτ' τιν' εἰναλλων, V 532 οὔ τιν' δῖόμηναι... οὐδὲ τιν' ἄτην; the interrogative τίς is used only once in the Halieutica, II 305.



-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-
αἰδ'	μ'	δγ'	τοῦτ'	τόδ'	τίν'	ἐγωγ'	τίν'	δσ'	δσσ'	πᾶσ'	τίν'	τίν'			
I 326	V 340	I 267	I 594	II 493	II 37	I 756	I 165	I 96	I 106	II 58	III 455	I 45			
πάντ'	τίν'	δσ'		οὐτίν'	IV 188		II 232	605		πάντ'	οὐτίν'	197			
II 547	V 532	I 426		I 756	390		537	IV 521		II 416	II 625	722			
τόσσ'	627	762		τίν'			III 436	639		611		III 451			
V 675		οἴγ'		II 651				τίν'		IV 494		IV 359			
οἴδ'		I 303						II 305		δστ'		V 25			
V 573		τιν'								IV 275		76			
		II 645										199			
		150										532			
		538													
		III 452													

PREPOSITIONS

The elision of prepositions is frequent in the Halieutica of Oppian¹ and they occupy the following places in the hexameter:

-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	-
ἀμφ'	ἀπ'	κατ'	ἀν'	ἀμφ'	ἐπ'	ἀπ'										
1	2	2	1	1	2	2										
	ἐπ'	ὕπ'	ἀπ'		κατ'	ἐπ'										
	10	1	6		1	6										
	μετ'		(ἀφ')		ὕπ'	κατ'										
	1		1		5	2										
	(μεθ')		δι'			ὕπ'										
	1		1			2										
	παρ'		ἐπ'			καθ'										
	1		38			2										
	ὕπ'		(ἐφ')													
	6		2													
	(ὕφ')		κατ'													
	2		4													
			μετ'													
			21													
			παρ'													
			7													
			ὕπ'													
			24													
			(ὕφ')													
			2													

All the prepositions used in the Halieutica, with the exception of ἀντί, can be found in elision²; they are always elided in thesis except ἀμφί which is elided in the arsis of the first and fifth foot; the most common place of the elided prepositions in the Halieutica is at the second short of the third or the first foot³; Oppian com-

1. I have found 157 prepositions which suffer elision i.e. 16.23% of the elided words of the poem (excluding δ'); this is closer to Apollonius Rhodius 16.87% and Theocritus 16.20%; among the other Hellenistic epic poets Callimachus in his hymns has 22.88%, Nicander 19.53%, Aratus 14.80%, Moschus 19.70%.

2. ἀντί is also not elided in Aratus, Nicander, Moschus; its elision in epic poetry is usually restricted, e. g. in Homer it is elided five times, in Hesiod four, in Apollonius Rhodius only once, in Callimachus six times, in Theocritus and Nonnus twice respectively.

3. These are the most common places in elision of prepositions in Hellenistic epic poetry; it is perhaps worth noting here that these places in the hexameter differ considerably from Homer, cf. Beneke *op. cit.* I 10, II 7; the difference is due



pletely avoids the elision of a preposition in the fourth foot of the hexameter and at the caesura (masculine or feminine).

ADVERBS

12.82% of the elided words in the Halieutica are adverbs; as can be seen in the following table the elided adverbs occupy all places in the hexameter with the exception of the fourth foot. Both the elided adverbs and their place in the hexameter follow the epic tradition, primarily Homeric patterns¹. Elision at the masculine caesura and at the bucolic diaeresis is avoided while there are two cases of elision at the feminine caesura²; the elided vowel is usually -α or -ε and less frequently -ι. Adverbs with the form of a dactyl are elided only at the first short of the first and fifth foot³ and with the form of a trochaeus in the arsis of all dactyls and more frequently in the thesis of the first or second foot⁴; finally, when the adverb has the form of υ υ it is elided at the second short of the first or third dactyl.

Elision of an adverb before augmented verbs is avoided in the Halieutica⁵.

not only to stylistic reasons but also to the different function of the prepositions in Hellenistic poetry, cf. B. Laum, *Das Alexandrinische Akzentuationssystem* (Paderborn, 1928), 179ff.

1. For instance the adverb *εἰκόκ'* used twice in Oppian II 163, V 610 (v. l.) and *εἰσόχ'* IV 254 is elided elsewhere only in A.R. 2.857 (same sedes) and in Arist. Resp. 473b 22; the adverb *αἰνὰ* elided in the Halieutica V 556 in the phrase *αἰν' ἀχέουσα* is an imitation of Nicander frg. 108.3. (Gow-Scholfield); the form *μέσφ'* Hal. V 586, a Homeric unicum Θ 508, is rarely elided outside epic poetry.

2. Hal. III 231 *δ' αὐτίκ' ἀολλέες*, IV 248 *αὐτίκ' ἀνέλκεται*; the adverb is frequently elided in this place in Homer's Odyssey, usually in the phrase *αὐτίκ' ἀμειβετο* λ 180, 215, μ 115, etc.

3. The only exception is the adverb *αὐτίκ'* which is elided in all permissible positions in the hexameter.

4. We have also the form υ - υ in the adverb *ἔπειτα* which is elided in the arsis of the second foot III 229, 524, IV 288, V 1, 118, the usual place in elision for this word in the hexameter of Homer and Apollonius, cf. Beneke, *op. cit.* II 8, 16, 22.

5. The only exception is I 274, IV 514 *ἐνθ' ἐγένοντο*, a phrase which does not occur elsewhere in Greek literature.



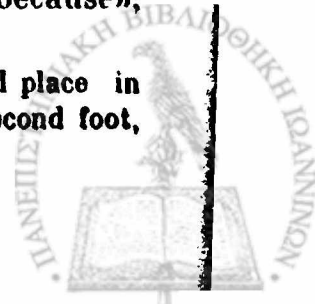
PARTICLES

Finally the elision of particles in the *Haliutica* can be seen in the following table:

	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ υ	-	υ	υ	-
ἀλλ'	70			12		2				1		28			
ἀρ'		1	2		2	2							4	3	
γ'	1	2	22	1		1			1					4	
ἐπ'	7		1	1		2						2			
ἐθ'	1			1											
ἥδ'				3					1			12			
ἡύτ'		3			1								8		
ἡύθ'		1											1		
ἦν'									2						
κ'			1	2								5			
μηδ'	2			1		2									
μητ'						1									
(ὁπότ')			8												
ὅτ'		10	3		1			1	5					2	
(ὅθ')		1							2						
οὐδ'	16	1	2	18		1			4		1	34			
οὐποτ'					1			1					2		
οὐποθ'								1							
οὕτ'	4		4	2		1			4				5		
οὕθ'				1									5		
ὅφρ'	2														
ποτ'		1	2					3						2	
ρ'	4														
τ'	3	2	64	16		1	4	1	5	12		15	8		
(θ')		1	8	3			1			6		5	2		
τοῦνεν'		1													
ὅστ'	1		2										4		
ὅσθ'													1		

The elided vowel is usually -ε and less frequently -α; the only particles in the *Haliutica* which are always elided in the same position in the hexameter are *ὅφρα* and *ἵνα*, found in the arsis of the first and second foot respectively; there are a number of other particles with iambic form which are usually elided in the arsis but can be found also in the thesis¹. The conjunction *ὅτ'* meaning «that», «because»,

1. For instance *ἀλλὰ* is found in the arsis of the first foot, its usual place in the hexameter, but also twice (I 265, II 271) in the thesis of the second foot,



«when» is frequently found in the *Halieutica*¹;

As far as the elision of monosyllables is concerned, apart from δέ, 'ρα and τε, we might notice the frequency of the elided γε at the second short of the first foot.

2. CYNEGETICA

The poem of the *Cynegetica* consists of 2144 hexameters in four books²; as can be seen in the following table 769 of these hexameters suffer elision; 638 lines contain one elision, there are also 117 with two, 13 with three and one verse (*Cyn.* II 50) with four elisions; that makes a sum of 915 elisions, i.e. 1 elision in every 2.34 hexameters, a rate which comes closer to Callimachus' hexameter hymns and Aratus' *Phaenomena* and is higher than that of Oppian's *Halieutica*³.

Lines			Lines				lines with:			
			elided				1 elis.	2 elis.	3 elis.	4 elis.
Book	I	538	168 (31.04%)				146	20	2	-
Book	II	628	231 (36.78%)				193	35	3	1
Book	III	525	189 (36.00%)				158	27	4	-
Book	IV	453	180 (39.73%)				141	35	4	-
Total		2144	769				638	117	13	1

As far as the hexameters with a double or a triple elision the poet of the *Cynegetica* following Oppian⁴ does not allow the elision

a place rarely found elsewhere for the elided ἀλλά; the particle ἡδέ is elided mainly in the arsis of the fifth foot, a place which is common in Nicander, cf. Beneke *op. cit.*, II 40, and also once (I 261) in the thesis of the third foot.

1. In Homer the elided vowel of this word is believed to be -ε not -ι, cf. D. B. Monro, *A Grammar of the Homeric Dialect* Oxford (1882), & 270, a view which seems to be shared by Oppian; I think that A. W. James, *Index in Halieutica Oppiani Cilicis et in Cynegetica Poetae Apamensis* (Hildesheim, 1970), s.v. *δοι*, wrongly considers that the elided conjunction in H. 1. 578 and C. 1. 161 is *δοι*, cf. Maas, *loc. cit.* for *δοι* not elided in Greek language.

2. I follow the text of P. Boudreaux, *Oppien d'Apamée, La Chasse* (Paris, 1908) and I also consulted Mair's edition in Loeb; it is perhaps worth noting that the differences between the two editions regarding elision are only a few, except for some cases of elided δ' and τ'. I give here the list of the elisions which are adopted by Mair but rejected by Boudreaux: C. I 532 ἐλύσανθ' (ἐλύσατον), 534, μέγ' (μάλα), II 8 αὐχέν' (αὐχένα), III 67 τ' ἔμπαλιν (τᾶμπαλιν), 398 τότε ἐμήσατο (τότε μήσατο).

3. cf. p. 105 n. 4 above.

4. cf. p. 106 above.



of both a noun and a verb or an adjective in the same line. We might observe a high number of elided clausulae in the *Cynegetica*¹: elision before the augment of a verb, with the exception of δ' , is usually avoided⁵;

The vowels which are elided in the *Cynegetica* correspond to the Homeric elided vowels, $-a$, $-e$, $-i$, $-o$ and they are distributed as follows in the hexameter:

	- α	- ε	- ι	- ο	- αι	Total
Verbs	2	3	6	5	10	26
Nouns	6	-	-	-	-	6
Adjectives	3	1	2	-	-	6
Pronouns	14	23	-	1	-	38
Prepositions	20	-	48	37	-	105
Adverbs	44	32	6	-	-	82
Particles	64	583	-	-	-	652
Total	153	647	62	43	10	915

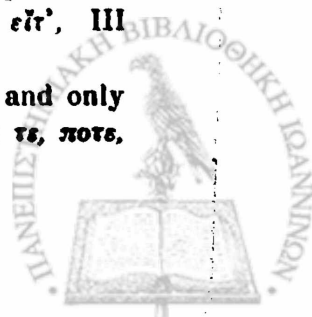
The position of the elided words in the *Cynegetica* can be seen in the following table:

		-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	-	Total
Book	I	28	9	50	16	-	1	3	6	33	9	2	7	6	14	8	-	-	192
Book	II	39	17	75	29	5	5	8	5	39	18	3	6	11	13	3	-	-	276
Book	III	33	21	64	18	6	1	3	9	30	14	-	9	6	7	3	-	-	224
Book	IV	31	18	52	17	3	4	5	3	31	14	1	8	16	12	8	-	-	223
Total		131	65	241	80	14	11	19	23	133	55	6	30	39	46	22	-	-	915

1. I have found that 45 out of the 117 hexameters with double elision contain elision in consecutive words, some of them with noticeable stylistic effects of assonance and alliteration; most of these elided groups are very common in Greek literature; there are some clausulae modelled on Homeric phrasing, e.g. C. II 466 $\alpha\upsilon\tau\iota\chi' \acute{\alpha}\rho'$ (Hom. Φ 378, \omicron 93, etc., A.R. I 656), C. III 101 $\delta' \acute{\alpha}\rho' \epsilon\pi\epsilon\iota\tau'$ (Hom. T 282), etc; furthermore some of them are not found elsewhere in Greek literature, e.g. C. II 256 $\tau\omega\delta' \alpha\upsilon\tau\iota\chi'$, III 453 $\tau\eta\lambda\acute{o}\theta' \acute{\alpha}\pi'$, etc.

The particular type of anaphora of the same word repeated in two consecutive lines in the hexameter, sometimes in the same sedes, is commonly practiced also in elision by the poet of the *Cynegetica* e.g. II 264f. $\delta' \alpha\iota\theta'$, 562f. $\epsilon\iota\tau'$, III 464f. $\delta\sigma'$, IV 14f. $\pi\alpha\upsilon\tau'$, etc..

2. I have found twenty-eight examples of elision before a syllabic, and only five before a temporal augment; apart from the particles $\delta\epsilon$ ($\omicron\upsilon\delta\acute{\epsilon}$, $\tau\acute{o}\delta\epsilon$) $\tau\epsilon$, $\pi\omicron\tau\epsilon$,



The largest number of elided words occurs in the first foot and at the second short of the third foot; elision in the sixth foot of the hexameter is not allowed¹: the poet of the *Cynegetica* almost completely avoids elision at the end of the second foot and at the first short of the fourth foot²; elision at the caesura (masculine or feminine) or at the bucolic diaeresis is allowed³; elision at both the caesura and the diaeresis of the hexameter is totally avoided, while there is one example of elision at both caesurae⁴.

Lastly we might notice here that elision in arsis covers 35.27% of the elided words whilst the remaining 64.73% occurs in thesis⁵.

The parts of speech which suffer elision in the *Cynegetica* are distributed as follows:

		Verbs	Nouns	Adject.	Pronouns	Praepos.	Adverbs	Particl.	Total
Book	I	8	3	2	8	28	16	127	192
Book	II	6	1	2	10	32	26	199	276
Book	III	7	1	2	8	17	24	165	224
Book	IV	5	1	-	12	28	16	161	223
Total		26	6	6	38	105	82	652	915

The elision of adjectives, nouns and verbs is limited; the poet of the *Cynegetica* seems to be closer here to Callimachus than to Apollonius and to other Hellenistic epic poets.

and the adverbs *μάλα*, *μέγα*, *αὐτίκα*, *ῥίμφα* there is no other word elided before an augment in the *Cynegetica*.

1. Elision in the sixth foot of the hexameter is severely restricted in epic poetry, cf. Maas, *loc. cit.*; the few exceptions are found in the Anthology *A.P.* 12.73.2 (Call.), cf. Gow-Page, *Hellenistic Epigrams*, II, 158f., in Theocritus *Id.* 13.67, 16.107 and scarcely to late epic poets.

2. The six cases which are elided in this place are confined to *δ'* I 42, II 60, 119, 368, and to prepositions *ἐπ'* I 134 and *μέθ'* IV 377.

3. Usually it is confined to the particles *δ'* and *τ'* but there are also some examples of elided adverbs and pronouns, while in the masculine caesura we find a large number of elided verbs, cf. p. 123 below. When the elision at the feminine caesura occurs in disyllables the elided vowel is *-a* and there is always a masculine caesura which dominates in the hexameter; the poet of the *Cynegetica* does not allow trisyllables elided in this place in the hexameter.

4. Cyn. IV 125 *εἰς μέσας, δοιοὶ δ' ἄρ' ἐπ' ἀκροτάτοις κορύμβοις*, the-clausula *δ' ἄρ' ἐπ'* is a common Homeric phrase used always at the beginning of the hexameter, *B* 18, *Ψ* 125, 293, *ε* 151, *ω* 178, etc.

5. In hexameters with two elisions, in 61 cases one elision occupies the arsis the other the thesis; in 48 cases both elisions appear in thesis while there are also 8 cases where both elisions occur in arsis; for the respective case in the *Haliutica*, cf. p. 107 above.



ELISION OF δέ

We might begin our analysis with the δ' which is the most common of the elided words in the *Cynegetica*, as everywhere in Greek literature; 45.95% of the elided words in the poem is occupied by δ'.

As can be seen in the following table the majority of the elided δέ are found in the end of the first foot and in the arsis of the first and fourth foot²; on the other hand the poet of the *Cynegetica* avoids the elision of δέ in the arsis of the third foot and at the first short of the fourth foot³.

		-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	-	Total
Book	I	10	1	29	5	-	1	-	3	6	7	1	3	1	3	2	-	-	72
Book	II	12	8	51	14	1	3	1	2	9	15	3	2	6	2	-	-	-	129
Book	III	12	7	39	10	-	1	-	2	7	11	-	7	3	2	1	-	-	102
Book	IV	22	4	30	8	2	3	3	-	11	13	-	5	9	6	1	-	-	117
Total		56	20	149	37	3	8	4	7	33	46	4	17	19	13	4	-	-	420

VERBS

Twenty six verbal forms suffer elision in the *Cynegetica* and they are distributed as follows in the hexameter:

-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-
φέρβει'	φέρβοντ'	αἶοντ'	περιστέλλοι'	θαρήσσει'	τίκτουσ'	τελέθουσ'	ἐμμεν'											
II 75	IV 48	I 164	I 100	III 396	I 357	I 200	I 469											
ἔει'	οἶδ'	θέλουσ'	περιστέλλοιθ'				ἴστα'											
II 117	IV 36	I 319				I 405	II 53											
κεύθει'		ἀθλεύοντ'				ἀγκλίνουσ'	ἐπιδείει'											
III 173		II 110				II 95	III 306											
		ἔσπονθ'				πέλουσ'	IV 28	ἐππέρπει'										
		III 193				δέουσ'	III 427											
		ἔθικ'				IV 208	ἐρχομ'											
		III 447					I 80											
		ἀμφιέσαντ'																
		III 507																
		μαστεύσαντ'																
		IV 358																
		μυκίσαι'																
		II 50																

1. Cf. p. 109 n. 1 above.

2. These are the favoured positions of δ' in Hellenistic epic poetry and in the poetry of Theognis and Solon, cf. N. A. Greenberg, *The Hexameter in Iliad I, Theognis and Solon, QUCC*, 49 (1985) 67; by contrast the largest number of elided δ' in Homer occur after the initial syllable in the verse.

3. Similarly δ' is avoided in this places in the hymns of Callimachus and in Nicander cf. Beneke *op. cit.*, II 37.



The elided verbs are found more frequently in arsis than in thesis: eight verbs are elided at the masculine¹ and one at the feminine caesura. The elided diphong -αι dominates the elision of verbs, and here the poet of the Cynegetica seems to follow Oppian eliding -αι usually in the first short of the first and fifth foot²; with the number of the -ι verbs which suffer elision in the Cynegetica it is instructive to see the increased role of the elimination of the -ν ἐφελ-κυστικὸν in late epic poetry, cf. Isler, *loc. cit.* The two participles which suffer elision in the Cynegetica occur in arsis and the elided vowel is -α; finally the elided dual μαστεύσαντ' in IV 358 is a rare exception in the elision of verbs.

NOUNS

The elision of substantives is avoided by the poet of the Cynegetica; I have found only six such substantives³, the elided vowel being always -α; their position in the hexameter is also remarkable: two of these nouns are elided at the masculine caesura (I 271 γένεθλ', II 414 αἰθῆρ'), one at the feminine caesura (III 424 τέρματ') while the remaining three nouns (I 16 δῆνε', 215 ἀσπίδ', IV 137 αἰθέρ') are elided at the first short of the fifth foot, a place where the elision of nouns usually takes place.

ADJECTIVES

The elision of adjectives is usually avoided by the poet of the Cynegetica; there are only six elided epithets: I 191 ἀελλοπόδεσσ', 307 στικτοπόδεσσ', II 465 χαυλιόδοντ' elided in the arsis, and II 410 ὄβριμ', III 43, 363 μέγ' elided in the thesis of the first foot; the second of these adjectives is an *hapax legomenon*, whereas ἀελλοπόδεσσ' and χαυλιόδοντ' apart from being rare in poetry are not eli-

1. This frequency of elision of verbs at the masculine caesura is a rare exception in epic poetry; in the Halieutica only one verb is elided in this place in the hexameter, cf. p. 110 above; I have found five such elisions in Apollonius, I 269, 562 (the triple elision of this line creates a noticeable stylistic effect, πηδάλι' ἀμφιέπesc', ὄφρ') 827, II 763, 1108, two in Aratus, Phaen. 284, 1113, one in Callimachus' hymns VI 65, none in Nicander and Moschus while it is frequent in Theocritus, *Id.* 2. 137, 8. 13, 18.21, 25. 38, 89, etc.

2. cf. p. 110, above.

3. In the Halieutica twenty nouns, 3.11% suffer elision (I take no account of elided δέ), in Apollonius Rhodius the respective percentage is 7.85%, in Nicander 7.80%, in Theocritus 5.31%, in Aratus 5.07%; the Cynegetica seem to be closer to Callimachus' hymns (only seven nouns in 250 elisions).



ded elsewhere; elision of -ε in the vocative singular in adjectives is also restricted in epic poetry¹; thus the poet of the *Cynegetica* has chosen some rare and noticeable adjectives to practice elision on.

PRONOUNS

The elision of pronouns is very common in the *Cynegetica*, compared with other Hellenistic epic poems²; the elided pronouns are found as follows in the hexameter:

-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-
ἦτ'	ὄγ'	ὄγ'	πάντ'	τοῖδ'	οὕτιν'	πάντ'				τοῦτ'	πάντ'	τοιοῦδ'	ὄγ'		
1	2	11	2	2	1	1				1	4	1	2		
δοθ'	τοῖδ'			τοῖδ'	τιν'	δοσ'									
1	1			1	1	3									
πάντ'	τοιοῦδ'					τοῖδ'									
1	1					1									

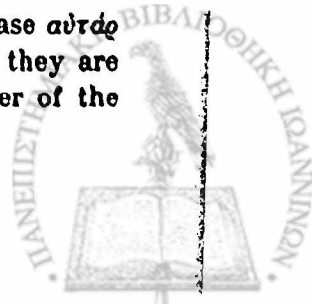
The elided pronouns occur usually in thesis³; the only pronoun which is always elided in the same place in the hexameter is *δοσ'*, (after the second short of the third foot); *ὄγ'* is the most frequent pronoun used in elision by the poet of the *Cynegetica*, elided in the thesis of the first or fifth foot⁴; there is no elision at the masculine caesura while the two examples of elision at the feminine caesura IV 228 *οὕτιν'*, II 171 *τιν'* echoes the *Haliutica*, where the form *τιν'* is elided frequently in this place, cf. p.113 above. The elision of personal pronouns is completely avoided.

1. In the *Argonautica* of Apollonius only the form *σχέτλιε* IV 445 is elided, cf. p. 113 n. 3; in Nicander, we have in Ther. 3 the vocative *φιλ'*; this type of elision does not occur in Callimachus' hymns and in Aratus, whereas we have some such forms in Theocritus, e.g. *Id.* 2. 164, 15.80 *πότνι'*, 14.8 *ὦγαθ'*, 22.62 *δαιμόνι'*, etc. The adjective *ὄβριμος* is elided in vocative elsewhere only once in Homer, T 408 *ὄβριμι' Ἀχιλλεύ*.

2. Thirty-eight pronouns of the elided words in the poem, which corresponds to 7.71 %, cf. p. 113, n. 4 above.

3. The only exceptions are the adjectival pronoun *πάντ'* elided also in the arsis of the second (twice) and of the fifth (thrice) foot and the relative pronoun *ἦτε* and *δοθε* elided in the arsis of the first foot.

4. It is found twice in the phrase *ὡς ὄγ'*, and eleven times in the phrase *αὐτὸς ὄγ'*, both phrases were first used in poetry by Hellenistic epic poets and they are usually elided in these places in the hexameter; the unstable character of the pronouns *ὄγε* and *δοθε* does not allow reliable conclusions.



PREPOSITIONS

Elided prepositions are used extensively in the poem¹ and they are distributed as follows in the four books of the Cynegetica:

-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-
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It seems that the poet of the Cynegetica completely avoids the elision of prepositions in tmesis and in anastrophe but he frequently allows the elision of a preposition between a noun and its adjective²; among the prepositions used in the Cynegetica *ἀντι* is the only one not elided, cf. p. 115, n. 2 above; all the prepositions are elided in thesis, with the exception of *ἀμφι* elided in the arsis of the second (I 368), fourth (II 163) and fifth foot (III 426); the most frequent place for elision of a preposition in the Cynegetica is at the second short of the first or third foot.

1. I have counted 105 elided prepositions in the Cynegetica i.e. 21.01% of the elided words in the poem (without counting *δ'*); this proportion is closer to Nicander and Callimachus' hymns, cf. p. 115, n. 1 above.

2. See for example I 44, 374, 495, II 198, III 125, 306, IV 162, 443, etc.



Elision of a preposition at the feminine caesura, at the bucolic diaeresis and at the first short of the third foot is restricted in the *Cynegetica* as in the rest of Hellenistic and late epic poetry.

ADVERBS

Eighty two elisions of adverbs occur in the *Cynegetica*, i.e. 16.56%¹ of the elided words in the poem and their position in the hexameter can be seen in the table on p. 127.

The elided vowel is usually -α (44 cases), and less frequently -ε (32 cases) or -ι (6 cases); the adverbs which suffer elision in the *Cynegetica* have the form of a dactyl -υ υ, trochaeus -υ, or υ υ²; their position in the hexameter is usually in the thesis of the first or fifth foot, the usual places for elided adverbs in the hexameter.

Elision at the masculine caesura and at the bucolic diaeresis is restricted, while there are few examples of elided adverbs at the feminine caesura. Elision of an adverb before the augment of a verb is allowed³.

PARTICLES

Finally, the position of the elided particles in the *Cynegetica* can be seen in the table on p. 128. The elided vowel is -α (64 cases) or -ε (168 cases); as far as their position in the hexameter is concerned we might notice a large number of elided particles at the second short of the third foot, a place where elision of particles is usually avoided in the hexameter. Elision at the masculine or feminine caesura, apart from τ', is restricted⁴. With the exception of ἀλλὰ and ὁπότε, elided always in the arsis and at the second short of the first foot respectively (except ἀλλ' in II 50), particles with the form of a dactyl or spondee are

1. The corresponding percentage in the *Halieutica* is 12.82%, in Apollonius Rhodius 16.56%, in Callimachus' hymns 15.93%, in Theocritus 9.92%, in Moschus 6.33%, in Aratus 11.58%, in Nicander's *Theriaca* 3.94% and Alexipharmaca 9.32%.

2. We also have three examples of the adverb *ἐπειτ'* II 364, III 101, IV 205 elided in the arsis of the second foot.

3. I have found six such cases I 198, 262, 520, II 128, III 419, 447, cf. and p. 116 above.

4. There are only two exceptions of particles elided at the feminine caesura I 135 δὲ and IV 125 ἄρ'.



usually found in the arsis, while with the form $\upsilon\upsilon$ are always found in the thesis.

Elided monosyllable particles, with the exception of $\delta\epsilon$ and $\tau\epsilon$ are not commonly found in the text of the Cynegetica.

	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-	υ	υ	-
$\alpha\lambda\lambda'$	38													1		
$\alpha\rho'$		8	4			1		1	2		1			2	1	
γ'			1	1												
$\epsilon\pi'$	2															
$\eta\delta'$	3			2					3		1	2				
κ'		1														
$\mu\eta\delta'$	3								1							
$\acute{\alpha}\eta\eta\acute{\omicron}\tau'$		2			1									1		
($\acute{\alpha}\eta\acute{\omicron}\tau'$)			7													
$\acute{\omicron}\tau'$		3	1						4					1		
($\acute{\omicron}\theta'$)								1	1							
$\omicron\upsilon\delta'$	12		2	2		1			3				4			
$\omicron\upsilon\tau'$	1								2							
$\eta\omicron\tau'$		1	2													
$\eta\omicron\theta'$						1		1								
ρ'	4			1												
τ'	2	10	29	12	1		2	4	8	5	2	4	1	2		
(θ')		4	2							1	1		2			
$\tau\omicron\lambda\tau'$									2							

