

## The Origin of the Short-Vowel *EY*-Stems in Homer\*

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Beside the inherited long-vowel inflection of the *eu*-stems in -ῆα, -ῆος, -ῆϊ (< PGk. \**-ēma*, *-ēmos*, *-ēmi*),<sup>1</sup> the *Iliad* and *Odyssey* have an alternative *eu*-stem inflectional pattern based on a short-vowel stem in -ε-: -έα, -έος, -έϊ. This short-vowel type is attested 2x among appellatives, 1x in an ethnic, 21x among proper names, and 412x among patronymic formations, cf.<sup>2</sup>

### Appellatives (2x)<sup>3</sup>

τοκέων O 660, Φ 587

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<sup>1</sup> On the reconstruction of the Proto-Greek paradigm of the *eu*-stems, see Perpillou 1973: 63ff. and, on its Indo-European origins, Schindler 1976: 349ff.

<sup>2</sup> Here and below text citations and manuscript and papyrus sigla from the *Iliad* are given after West 1998–2000. For the *Odyssey*, text citations and sigla are from Ludwig 1891 and Allen 1917–19.

<sup>3</sup> Λ 151 ἰππεῖς is usually cited as a second instance of short-vowel inflection among *eu*-stem appellatives. However, while the motivation for the monosyllabic scansion of the ending here is clear – note the juxtaposition and polyptoton of πεζός and ἰππεύς,

Λ 150–51 πεζοὶ μὲν πεζοὺς ὄλεκον φεύγοντας ἀνάγκη,

ἰππεῖς δ' ἰππῆας – ὑπὸ δέ σφισιν ὤρτο κόνιη

“Foot-soldiers were killing the foot-soldiers who were fleeing perforce, and horsemen horsemen – and dust rose up under them” –,

the reading ἰππεῖς cannot be considered certain. Beside ἰππεῖς in a 1<sup>st</sup> c. A.D. papyrus (688) and the majority of the manuscript transmission, the tradition also offers the *variae lectiones* (= *v.ll.*) ἰππῆες in the 10<sup>th</sup> c. D and the 12–13<sup>th</sup> c. G and ἰππῆς in a 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> c. and a 4<sup>th</sup> c. A.D. papyrus (1197, 60), the 10<sup>th</sup> c. Venetus A (above the line), and the 11<sup>th</sup> c. Y. While ἰππῆες is unmetrical and most simply explained as having been introduced into the text after the normal nom. pl. ἰππῆες at Δ 144, Λ 52, and Λ 529 – on the problematic hiatus shortening and contraction analysis of Hagen 1995/96: 149ff., see Hackstein 2002: 24f. – and the ἰππεῖς given by most of the manuscript tradition and most modern editors is best taken as a *lectio facillior* since it shows the normal late Attic, Ionic and Koine *eu*-stem nom. pl. ending -εῖς, two conside-

**Ethnics (1x)<sup>4</sup>**

Δωριέες τ 177

**Proper names (21x)**

Ἄμαρυγκέα Ψ 630

Ἄτρει B 105

Ἀχιλλεῖ Ψ 792

Ἰφέα Π 417

Θησέα λ 631, A 265<sup>5</sup>

Καινέα A 264

Νηλέα ο 229

Ὀδυσσέα ζ 212, ρ 301

Ὀδυσσεός Δ 491, ω 398 (mss. Ὀδυσσεύς)

Πηλεῖ Ω 61

Πορθεῖ Ξ 115

Πρωτέος δ 365

Τυδέα Ζ 222

Τυδέος Ξ 114

Τυδεῖ Δ 372, Κ 285

Τυφώος Β 783

Τυφωεῖ Β 782

**Patronymics (412x)**

Ἀζειδῆ- Β 513

Αἰγειδῆ- Α 265

Ἄμαρυγκείδῆ- Δ 517.  
Β 622

Ἀτρείδῆ- Α 7, etc. 182x

Καινεῖδῆ- Β 746

Νηλεῖδῆ- Ψ 652

Οινεῖδῆ- Ε 813, Κ 497

Ὀτρυντεῖδῆ- Υ 383, 389

Πηλεῖδῆ- Α 146, etc. 50x

Τυδεῖδῆ- Ε 18, etc. 65x

Φυλεῖδῆ- Β 628, etc. 7x

Ἄτρεός υἱό- Β 23, etc. 12x

Πηλέος υἱό- Α 489, etc. 6x

Τυδέος υἱό- Β 406, etc. 29x

Φυλέος υἱό- Κ 110, 175

Ἀτρείων- Α 387, etc. 5x

Πηλείων- Α 188, etc. 44x

rations have long suggested that the reading ἱππῆς should be taken seriously. Cf. Chantraine 1948: 223 and West 1998–2000 *ad loc.* with reference to Wackernagel 1953–79: 1208ff. In the first place, ἱππῆς appears in two papyri and as a *v.l.* in the Venetus A, and thus has good and old manuscript authority. In the second, contraction over *digamma* hiatus as it appears in -ῆς < -ῆες < PGk. \*-ēues has clear parallels in early Ionic inscriptions – cf., e.g., nom. pl. Βοδης (: Βουδεεύς, ethnic of Βουδεῖα) *SGDI* IV, 55, l.4, Chios, late 5<sup>th</sup>/early 4<sup>th</sup> c. B.C., and, for possible West Ionic evidence, Barrio Vega 1987: 253 – and agrees with what is found in the *Iliad* in τιμηῆς I 605 (Ω: τιμηῆς E [11<sup>th</sup>, after correction] R [12<sup>th</sup>, after correction]) < -ῆ(-φ)εις and τιμηῆντα Σ 475 (no *v.l.*) < -ῆ(-φ)εντα. In view of these considerations, ἱππεῖς cannot be taken as a sure example of the use of the short-vowel stem in an *eu*-stem appellative and has been excluded from this discussion.

<sup>4</sup> The short vowel in the ethnic Δωριέες τ 177 is metrically necessary.

<sup>5</sup> A 265 is absent from most manuscripts. See West 1998–2000 *ad loc.*

A long-standing problem in Homeric linguistics and the one which will occupy this paper is how the short vowel in these forms is best explained.

### *Dialect Origins*

The traditional explanation of the short-vowel *eu*-stems argues that they have their origins in Aeolic, where an inflectional distinction is said to have held between short-vowel proper names and long-vowel appellatives.<sup>6</sup> The evidence usually cited for this distinction stems from the Lesbian poets, cf.

#### **Appellatives<sup>7</sup>**

βασιλῆος A. 387 Voigt  
 βασιλῆες S. 17, 4, S. 161  
 ἱππῶν S. 16, 1  
 μαλοδρόπες S. 105a, 2  
 τοκίων A. 61, 5, A. 72, 13,  
 A. 6, 14, S. 16, 10

#### **Proper Names and Patronymics**

Ἄτρεΐδων A. 70, 6  
 Ἀχίλλεα A. 387  
 Νηρεΐδων A. 42, 11  
 Νηρηΐδες S. 5, 1  
 Νή[ρ]ηος A. 42, 7  
 Πήλεος A. 42, 11

Two facts, however, argue against seeing the short-vowel *eu*-stems as an Aeolic feature in Homeric language. In the first place, the material found in the poets does not unambiguously demonstrate that Lesbian distinguished between short-vowel proper names and long-vowel appellatives. This is clear from the fact (1) that long-vowel inflection was also regular in the poets in proper names – cf. Νή[ρ]ηος and Νηρηΐδες – and (2) that all the short-vowel proper names and patronymics found in the texts are attested already in the *Iliad* and *Odyssey* – i.e. Ἄτρεΐδων and Πήλεος – or have obvious epic models – i.e. Ἀχίλλεα and Νηρεΐδων –, and can continue epicisms just as easily as real Aeolic forms.<sup>8</sup> A second problem is that there is no

<sup>6</sup> See Hoffmann 1891: 544, Bechtel 1921: 67f., Schwyzer 1939: 576, and Peters 1989: 158–9.

<sup>7</sup> Text citations of Sappho and Alcaeus are given after Voigt 1971.

<sup>8</sup> See Debrunner 1923: 36–9 and Hamm 1957: 158–9.

evidence for an inflectional distinction like this in the actual Aeolic dialects. Long-vowel inflection is the rule for both appellatives and proper names in Thessalian<sup>9</sup> and Boeotian<sup>10</sup> inscriptions, and short-vowel forms appear in proper names in Asia Minor Aeolic inscriptions only in the 3<sup>rd</sup> c. B.C. and only after they are first attested in appellatives.<sup>11</sup>

A second approach argues that the short-vowel forms in Homer depend on an innovation in the “Achaean” dialects, where it is alleged the agreement of the *eu*- and *s*-stem nom. sg. -ης and acc. sg. -ην – cf., e.g., for the *eu*-stems, Arcadian *ἠεῤῥῆν IG V, 3, 1.3, Tegea, 4<sup>th</sup> c. B.C., and Cyprian nom. sg. ἡεῤῥῆς ICS 4, 1.5, New Paphos, 4<sup>th</sup> c. B.C., and, for the *s*-stems, Arcadian PN Σακλήν, IG V, 6, 1.19, Tegea, 4<sup>th</sup> c. B.C., and Cyprian ἄτελῆν, ICS 217A, 1.10, Idalium, 5<sup>th</sup> c. B.C. – led to the analogical creation of an alternative *eu*-stem oblique in -ε-: viz. *s*-stem nom. acc. sg. -ης, -ην: obl. -ε-: *eu*-stem nom. acc. sg. -ης, -ην: obl. *x, x* ⇒ -ε-.<sup>12</sup>*

However, an “Achaean” origin for the short-vowel *eu*-stems is also unlikely. In Cyprian and Mycenaean the *eu*-stems regularly preserve inter-vocalic digamma – cf., e.g., nom. pl. <ke-ti-e-we> ICS 217 *passim*, Idalium, 5<sup>th</sup> c. B.C. and gen. sg. <i-je-re-wo> PY Ea 756 –, and the default assumption must be that they have also preserved their inherited long-vowel inflection. In Arcadian, a long-vowel ante-vocalic shortening

<sup>9</sup> Cf., e.g., βασιλειος IG IX, 2, 517, 1.2, Larisa, c. 214 B.C. (= *Buck* 32), Αιολειεσσι *McD* 337, 1.19, Larisa, 2<sup>nd</sup> c. B.C. (= *Buck* 33). Short-vowel forms appear only in Αιολεα *McD* 337, 1.23, Larisa, 2<sup>nd</sup> c. B.C. and in one proper name, Θαμια, and two appellatives, γραφει and κασια, in an unpublished 2<sup>nd</sup> c. B.C. inscription from Histiaeotis, cf. Blümel 1982: 257f. In the case of Αιολεα, the short vowel is presumably to be ascribed to an engraver’s mistake – note Αιολειεσσι in the same inscription –, and in the material from Histiaeotis, the short-vowel forms are likely due to Northwest Greek *Koina* influence.

<sup>10</sup> Cf., e.g., βασιλειος IG VII, 4136, 1.7, 2<sup>nd</sup> c. B.C., Ἀκρηφιετες *DGEEP* 541, 1.1, c. 300 B.C. and Ἀρκηφιετων *SEG* 15: 331, 1.1, early 2<sup>nd</sup> c. B.C.

<sup>11</sup> The earliest short-vowel appellative in Asia Minor Aeolic is βασιλειος IG XII 2, 526 d, 1.25, end of the 4<sup>th</sup> c. B.C., and the earliest short-vowel non-appellative is the ethnic Αιγαεσσι *DGEEP* 644, 1.12, c. 290 B.C. For a useful survey of the Asia Minor Aeolic material, see Hodot 1990: 115ff.

<sup>12</sup> See Wathélet 1970: 276, who suggests this as a possibility.

rule that was operative in the 4<sup>th</sup> c. B.C. has largely obscured the prehistoric inflection of the type,<sup>13</sup> and there is only one dialect that offers anything relevant to the discussion, that of Orchomenos. Although this dialect does in fact seem to have lacked the shortening rule of its neighbors – cf. *νηαταν DGEEP 664, 1.10, c. 369–361 B.C.* and *τα χρηατα DGEEP 665, 1.29, 36, c. 360–50 B.C.* – and to have crossed the inflection of the *eu*- and *s*-stems in a way that would be consistent with a prehistoric analogy of the sort conjectured above – cf. the *eu*-stem *τος Ηραεας DGEEP 665, 1.22, c. 360–50 B.C.* and the *s*-stem *Δ]αισθραση O.4, 1.9 Dubois, 3<sup>rd</sup>–2<sup>nd</sup> (?) c. B.C.* –, two facts make it clear that it is worthless for establishing “Achaean” as a likely source of our forms. In the first place, ante-vocalic shortening is clearly attested in the 4<sup>th</sup> c. for the neighboring city Tegea, and it cannot be excluded with any degree of certainty that this rule was not also operative at Orchomenos.<sup>14</sup> In the second, the continued appearance of long-vowel *eu*-stems in this dialect into the 4<sup>th</sup> c. B.C. – cf., e.g., *Τορθυνηων* and *Μετιδριηων DGEEP 664, 1.67, c. 369–61 B.C.* and *τον Αρηα DGEEP 665, passim, c. 360–50 B.C.* (vs. 1.22 *τος Ηραεας*) – makes it clear that even if it could reasonably be assumed that the short-vowel *eu*-stems at Orchomenos are analogical, this analogy would have been so recent that it could not possibly have had any effect on the epic tradition.

A third approach argues that the short-vowel *eu*-stems have entered the epic tradition from some dialect of Neo-Ionic<sup>15</sup> which, like the East Ionic of Chios or the West Ionic of Eretria and Oropos,<sup>16</sup> analogically remodeled the quantitative meta-

<sup>13</sup> Cf., e.g., *το χρεος DGEEP 657, 1.42f.*, Tegea, c. 324 B.C., and see Dubois 1986: 114f.

<sup>14</sup> See Dubois 1986: 118, who argues that all short-vowel forms in the Arcadian *eu*-stems are to be ascribed to such a rule.

<sup>15</sup> Cf. Bechtel 1921: 149.

<sup>16</sup> For useful surveys of the material, see Miller 1982: 103f. and Crespo 1994: 88.

thesis (= QM) version of the endings -έᾱ, -έως (< PGk. \*-ēma, \*-ēmos) to -έα, -έος,<sup>17</sup> cf., e.g.,

**Chios Proper Names**

Θαργαλεος, Ἄνδρεος *DGEEP* 688 C 1.18, D 1.6,  
c. 475-50 B.C.

Μνησεος, Φιλεος *DGEEP* 691, 1.2, 9, late 5<sup>th</sup>/early  
4<sup>th</sup> c. B.C.

**Appellatives**

βασιλεας *SGDI* 5662, 1.3, late 5<sup>th</sup> c. B.C.

ιερει *SGDI* 5663, 1.3, late 4<sup>th</sup> c. B.C.

**Eretria Proper Names**

Κοινεος, Λιμνεος *IG* XII 9, 245 A, 1.21, 325, early  
3<sup>rd</sup> c. B.C.

Ἄκτεος, Ἄριστεος *ibid.* B, 1.30, 38

**Appellatives**

βασιλεα, βασιλει *IG* XII 9, 212, 1.4f., 3<sup>rd</sup> c. B.C.

**Oropos Appellatives**

ιερεα, ιερεος *IG* XII 11, 235, 1.2f., 13, c. 386-77 B.C.

To evaluate this approach it is necessary to investigate the Homeric evidence for the analogical remodeling of endings affected by QM and to determine whether the distribution of remodeled vs. non-remodeled forms is consistent with the number of short- vs. long-vowel forms in the *eu*-stems.

Since forms with QM tend to be rare in Homer, less frequently attested than their non-QM counterparts and not well

<sup>17</sup> The presence in these dialects of obvious QM reflexes in the *eu*-stems and in forms that have an analogous phonological environment – cf., e.g., for Chios, Ὀρθεως *SEG* 22, 508, 1.59, mid. 4<sup>th</sup> c. B.C. and Λεωνικδεω (< \**l̥āmo*-) *SGDI* 5657, 1.7, late 5<sup>th</sup> c. B.C., for Eretria, Οἰσεως *Durante* 127, late 4<sup>th</sup>/early 5<sup>th</sup> c. B.C., and, for Oropos, νεωκορον (< \**n̥āmo*-) *DGEEP* 811, 386-77 B.C. – makes it unlikely that the short vowel in the forms just noted depends on a rule of ante-vocalic shortening and not QM and remodeling as has been assumed here. For more detailed discussion, see Nussbaum 1998: 63<sup>217</sup>.

embedded formulaically,<sup>18</sup> it is generally agreed that QM was one of the latest Neo-Ionic linguistic developments to have made its way into the epic tradition before active oral composition came to an end.<sup>19</sup> In fact, there is only one word in Homer which is generally held to show QM and remodeling<sup>20</sup> and in which short-vowel forms are at all well attested – Homeric νηῦς ‘ship.’ For the distribution of forms with and without QM in this word, cf.<sup>21, 22</sup>

		+QM	-QM	Total <sup>23</sup>				
pl.	nom.	νέες	νηες	11: 37	sg.	–	–	–
	acc.	νέαες	νηαες	13: 181		νέα	νηα	1: 102
	gen.	νεῶν	νηῶν	40: 79		νεός	νηός	18: 93
	dat.	νεεσσί	νηεσσί	12: 33		–	νηί	0: 69

As this chart makes clear, forms of νηῦς that have QM always co-occur with forms without it, and while the QM variants can be roughly half as frequent as their non-QM counterparts – cf. the gen. and dat. pl. –, in most cases they are either less than a

<sup>18</sup> For a list of forms that show QM in Homer, see Chantraine 1948: 68ff.

<sup>19</sup> See Hoekstra 1969: 31ff.

<sup>20</sup> It should also be noted that it is not absolutely necessary to assume that the short-vowel forms in the paradigm of νηῦς ‘ship’ depend on QM and remodeling. For it is generally assumed that one part of the phonological process of QM consisted in the shortening of long vowels in hiatus before other long vowels. If it were possible to show that ante-vocalic shortening preceded QM in Ionic – and was not just concomitant with it –, then it might be desirable to explain the well-embedded short-vowel forms in νηῦς ‘ship’ by assuming that they have been analogically generalized from the gen. pl. νεῶν where the short vowel was phonologically regular. See Sommer 1977: 282. An approach like this would seem to have support in the fact that the gen. pl. νεῶν is the best attested short-vowel form in the paradigm of this word in Homer and that short-vowel forms are all, apart from the gen. sg. νεός and the *hapax* νέα (Ar.) ι 283, limited to the plural. In any event, however the short-vowel forms of νηῦς are ultimately to be explained, for purposes of the present argument the assumption is that they depend on QM.

<sup>21</sup> The numbers given here differ from those of Hoekstra 1969: 129 in counting repeated lines only once.

<sup>22</sup> In terms of formulaic distribution, the numbers are roughly equal among QM and non-QM forms. In both classes, one half to two-thirds of the forms figure in repeated segments and can be considered formulaic.

<sup>23</sup> In this and the following totals, the *Iliad* and *Odyssey* have been grouped together.

third as common or fail to occur entirely. If the short vowel in the *eu*-stems depends on QM and remodeling in Neo-Ionic, short-vowel forms should therefore be at most about half as frequent as their long-vowel counterparts. In the case of appellatives and non-patronymic proper names, the distribution of QM and non-QM forms is consistent with this figure. Short-vowel forms are in fact slightly less common than might be expected. For reasonably well attested proper names and appellatives, cf.

	+QM	-QM	Total
Proper Names <sup>24</sup>	Ἀχιλλεῖ	Ἀχιλλῆϊ	1: 8
	Νηλέα	Νηλῆα	1: 2
	Ὀδυσσέα	Ὀδυσσῆα	1: 16
	Ὀδυσσέος	Ὀδυσσῆος	2: 60
	Πηλεῖ	Πηλῆϊ	1: 6
Appellatives	τοκέων	τοκῆων	2: 14

In patronymic formations, on the other hand, the distribution disagrees with that found in νηῦς. The short-vowel version of the suffix is alone used in the case of Ἀτρεύς (199: 0) and Τυδεύς (95: 0) and predominates in that of Πηλεῦς (103: 12), while the expected distribution occurs only in patronymics to Νηλεῦς (1: 12). Cf.<sup>25, 26</sup>

-εἶδη-	-εἴων-	-έος υἰό-
Ἀτρείδη- 182x	Ἀτρείων- 5x	Ἀτρέος υἰό- 11x
Τυδείδη- 65x	—	Τυδέος υἰό- 30x

<sup>24</sup> Names that are attested in Homer only a couple of times and that have only short-vowel forms have been excluded. On the use of the short-vowel *eu*-stem proper names in Homer, see Witte 1912: 388ff.

<sup>25</sup> Patronymics that are attested only one or two times have also been excluded.

<sup>26</sup> The short-vowel patronymics are also very well embedded formulaically. See the survey of formulae in the appendix below.



Πηλείδη- 53x	Πηλείων- 44x	Πηλέος υἰό- 6x <sup>27</sup>
Νηλείδη- 1x	–	–
ηϊάδη-	-ήϊο-	υἰό- -ῆος
–	–	–
–	–	–
Πηληϊάδη- 12x	[Πηληϊό-] <sup>28</sup>	–
Νηληϊάδη- 7x	Νηληϊο- 4x	υἰό- Νηληϊος 1x

Given that the number of short- vs. long-vowel forms in the *eu*-stem patronymics is not consistent with what can be considered the upper bound in the distribution of QM vs. non-QM variants in Homer and that there is no principled way to explain why this is the case,<sup>29</sup> it is necessary to conclude that the short vowel

<sup>27</sup> Πηλέος υἰέ and Πηλέος υἰός at Π 21 = Τ 216 = λ 478 #ὦ Ἀχιλεῦ<sub>3</sub> | Πηλέος υἰέ<sub>7</sub> | μέγα φέρτατ' Ἀχαιῶν# and Α 489 #διογενῆς<sub>3</sub> | Πηλέος υἰός<sub>7</sub> | πόδας ὠκύς Ἀχιλλεύς# have been left out of consideration since the transmission alternates between Πηλέος, Πηλέως and Πηληϊος. See West 1998–2000 and Ludwich 1891 *ad loc.* If these lines continue something old – as is likely in the case of #ὦ Ἀχιλεῦ<sub>3</sub> | Πηλέος υἰέ<sub>7</sub> | μέγα φέρτατ' Ἀχαιῶν# since the archaic-looking<sub>7</sub> | μέγα φέρτατ' Ἀχαιῶν# does not appear elsewhere –, Πηλέος υἰέ and Πηλέος υἰός are best seen as late-epic replacements of \*<sub>3</sub> | Πηληϊάδη<sub>7</sub> | and \*<sub>3</sub> | Πηληϊάδης<sub>7</sub> | – cf. #ὦ Νέστορ<sub>3</sub> | Νηληϊάδη<sub>7</sub> | μέγα κύδος Ἀχαιῶν# (K 87+) and #Μηκιστηϊάδης<sub>5</sub> | καὶ ἀπ' ὤμων τεύχε' ἐσύλα# (Z 28) ≈ #Μηκιστέρος υἰός<sub>5</sub> | Ταλαϊονίδαο ἄνακτος# (B 556 = Ψ 678).

<sup>28</sup> Πηληϊο- is attested at Σ 60 = Σ 441 οἴκαδε νοστήσαντα, δόμον Πηληϊον εἴσω. However, as it functions in this instance not as a patronymic but rather as a genitival adjective, it has not been included in the chart of patronymics.

<sup>29</sup> To preserve a Neo-Ionic approach here, it seems that one of two things would have to be argued: First, it could be argued that the frequency of the short-vowel patronymics to Ἀτρεὺς, Πηλεὺς and Τυδεὺς is to be explained by assuming that these forms entered the epic tradition only after QM became an option in Neo-Ionic. But as patronymics constitute an essential element in the designation of the Homeric heroes and as it is unlikely that any significant hero would have been used in epic poetry without a patronymic, this explanation would require the additional assumption that Ἀγαμέμνων, Μενέλαος, Ἀχιλλεύς and Διομήδης have been introduced into the epic tradition only in its late Neo-Ionic phase. Although an approach like this might work in the case of Διομήδης since he is often said to have been introduced into the epic tradition by Homer himself, there is to my knowledge no evidence to support the assumption that Ἀγαμέμνων, Μενέλαος and Ἀχιλλεύς should be seen as late epic figures.

inflection of the *eu*-stems in Homer – at least as it appears in patronymics – cannot be explained as having its origins in Neo-Ionic.

### *A Creation of the Homeric Poetic Language*

Since it cannot represent a feature of any of the dialects that are normally thought to have contributed to the Homeric poetic language, the only remaining approach to the short-vowel *eu*-stems is to argue that they have their origins in a specifically inner-epic innovation.<sup>30</sup> An analysis like this has in fact long

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Second, it could be argued that once the short-vowel *eu*-stems became an option as a result of QM poets largely replaced the long-vowel patronymics with the new formations in -είδη-, -είων- and -έος υίο- because these forms were more flexible in the hexameter than those in -ἠϊάδη-, -ἠίο- and υίο-ἠος. However, an approach like this is also problematic. For if (a) QM is so recent a linguistic development in the epic tradition that it requires the assumption that the poet of the *Iliad* and *Odyssey* or his immediate predecessors still had access to non-QM variants and their associated formulae and if (b) it cannot be made likely that patronymics built to Ἄτρεϋς, Πηλεϋς and (possibly) Τυδεϋς entered the epic tradition only after QM and remodeling in Neo-Ionic, then it is necessary to assume that although the poet(s) of the *Iliad* and *Odyssey* had learned to use the long-vowel patronymics to Ἄτρεϋς, Πηλεϋς and (possibly) Τυδεϋς and their formulae he almost entirely ignored these forms when composing the *Iliad* and *Odyssey* themselves. Given the traditional nature of the Homeric poetic language, this is not of course an attractive assumption. It becomes even more difficult, however, when one tries to explain why the poet has used the long-vowel patronymics to Πηλεϋς and Νηλεϋς – i.e. Πηληϊάδη-, Νηληϊάδη-, Νηληίο-, and υίο- Νηληος – and their formulae in some cases – cf., e.g., 5| Πηληϊάδεω Ἀχιλῆος# and 5| Νηληϊάδαο γέροντος# – but has entirely given them up in the case of Ἄτρεϋς and (possibly) Τυδεϋς. For in the case of the latter forms, it is obviously not possible to argue that the long-vowel patronymics and their formulae were in every instance less useful or desirable than those to Πηλεϋς and Νηλεϋς, and the only way to explain this discrepancy would be to assume that the poet for some reason decided not to use them in these cases or that they simply happen not to occur. Since an argument like this would not constitute a well-motivated explanation, it must also be rejected.

<sup>30</sup> An explanation of these forms as inner-epic innovations has also been recently proposed by M. West (2002: 262ff.), who argues that they have their origins in Ἀτρείδης, a patronymic formation to a lost proper name \*Ἀτρείων or \*Ἀτρείας. However, beyond the fact that there is no positive evidence in favor of this scenario and that the etymology and stem formation of the name

been on the books in the “metrical shortening” analysis proposed by A. Debrunner (1923: 37–8) and codified by P. Chantraine (1948: 105f.). In their view, the short vowel has its origins in the patronymics in *-είδη-* and *-είων-*<sup>31</sup> where it was created by the poets through the mechanical replacement of *-η-* by *-ε-* – viz. *\*-ηίδη-*, *\*-ηίων-* ⇒ *-είδη-*, *-είων-* – in order to generate a useful alternative for metrically inadmissible formations in *\*-ηίδη-* and *\*-ηίων-* like *\*Πηληίδη-* (– υ–) and *\*Πηληίων-* (– υ–υ). Two objections, however, have prevented this explanation from gaining general acceptance:

1.) Since the metrically and morphologically correct Homeric *eu*-stem patronymics must have been not *\*-ηίδη-* and *\*-ηίων-* but rather *-ηιάδη-*,<sup>32</sup> *-ήιο-* and *υίο-* *-ἦος* before the creation of the short-vowel patronymics, the assumption that poets generated *-είδη-* and *-είων-* specifically as alternatives to *\*-ηίδη-* and *\*-ηίων-* is not well motivated.

2.) There is no clear evidence in Homer for a process of “metrical shortening,” and so no reason to believe that epic poets could have created *-είδη-* and *-είων-* from *\*-ηίδη-* and *\*-ηίων-* by mechanically replacing *-η-* by *-ε-*.

While the first objection is correct and represents a minor flaw in Debrunner’s argument, the second is only in part valid and depends on a misconception of what “metrical shortening” in the epics might have involved. In recent years, it has become clear

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*Ἄτρεϋς* are fully unclear, this approach leaves unexplained why *Ἄτρεΐδης* would have been reinterpreted as derived from an *eu*-stem and so have led to the creation of other short-vowel *eu*-stem patronymics.

<sup>31</sup> Debrunner 1923: 37–8 assumes that patronymics in *-έος υίο-* are late creations based on *-είδη-* and *-είων-*. But since *υίο-* ‘son’ is old in Ionic, there is no reason not to assume that once the short-vowel *eu*-stem oblique became an option in the patronymics *-είδη-* and *-είων-* the poets could not have immediately created the patronymic collocation *-έος υίο-*.

<sup>32</sup> Debrunner 1923: 37ff. seems to claim that the suffix *-ιάδη-* is a late analogical creation. Although the precise details of its origin are unclear, the feminine version of this suffix is attested already in Mycenaean, cf. nom. pl. <ka-ra-pa<sub>2</sub>-de> (PY Aa 788+) /karpjades/ (< *\*-ijades*) – see Leukart 1994: 231f. –, and this of course means that it can be as old as the 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium in Greek poetic traditions.

that the better attested counterpart of “metrical shortening,” metrical lengthening, is not to be thought of as a strictly mechanical phenomenon but is better understood as part of a more general process whereby the Homeric poets generated metrically useful forms by analogy. That is, in many cases where the poets seem to have mechanically lengthened a short vowel or to have “stretched” a morpheme to make a word useable in the hexameter, what they have actually done is generated the metrically lengthened or “stretched” form by analogically exploiting cases where a similar word or morpheme had a long vowel or longer variant.<sup>33</sup> For clear instances of this process it is possible to compare the gen. pl. *δυσσάων* (ν 99),<sup>34</sup> which has been analogically “lengthened” from \**δυσσάεων* on the model of *τοκήων* (8x *Il.*, 6x *Od.*) beside *τοκέων* (O 660, Φ 587), and further the masculine *ᾱ*-stem acc. sg. ||*Ἀντιφατήα*# (κ 114), which has been “stretched” from #*Ἀντιφάτην* 3| (ο 242) by analogy to the alternate *eu*-stem accusative sg.’s *-ήν* and *-ῆα*.<sup>35</sup> Now, if “metrical shortening” is similarly understood as an analogical process according to which the Homeric poets could create metrically useful forms by exploiting phonological and morphological variants, it can simply be interpreted as a corollary of the same process that is responsible for metrical lengthening.

“Metrical shortening” as an analogical process is in fact easily established for the Homeric poetic language. Already in his article on the short-vowel *eu*-stem patronymics, Debrunner (1923: 28f.) noted a second likely instance of this phenomenon, the adjective *σκιόεντ-* ‘providing shade, shady.’ This adjective, which appears 11x in the three formulas *νέφεα σκιόεντα* 5x (typically line-end), *οὔρεα σκιόεντα* 2x, and *μέγαρα σκιόεντα* 4x (always line-end), is clearly a \**uent*-stem derived from the common Greek *ᾱ*-stem noun *σκιή* ‘shade, shadow.’ Unlike most

<sup>33</sup> See Wyatt 1969: *passim*.

<sup>34</sup> More specifically, *ἀνέμων* 3| *υυ-υ* 4| *δυσσάων* at ν 99 has likely been created through modification and metrical lengthening from 3| *ἀνέμοιο* 4| *δυσσάεος* || (E 865) and 3| *ζεφύροιο* 4| *δυσσάεος* || (Ψ 200).

<sup>35</sup> See Wackernagel 1916: 160 and further below. On “metrical stretching,” see Nussbaum 1998: 155.

\**uent*-stems in Homer, however, σκίοεντ- has been derived not by adding the suffix *-uent-* directly to the *-η-* of its basis σκίη – cf., e.g., ἠχή ‘noise, roar’ → ἠχίηντ- ‘roaring, echoing’ (A 157, δ 72) – but rather by first replacing this suffix with the thematic vowel. As Debrunner rightly observed, this replacement is to be attributed to the metrical difficulty that versifying the morphologically correct \**uent*-stem \*σκίηντ- (– |υ– –ῡ)<sup>36</sup> would have caused the poets, and the source of the thematic vowel is to be traced to the analogical replacement of *-ᾱ/-ᾰ-* by *-ο-* in the first members of compounds – cf., e.g., ἄελλα ‘gust of wind, blast’ → ἀελλόπος ‘storm-footed’ (Θ 409, Ω 77, 159) and ὕλη ‘wood, forest’ → ὕλοτόμος ‘woodcutter(s)’ (Ψ 114, 123) – and in the general Greek tendency to reinterpret first-member *ο*-stems like these as alternative derivational bases – cf., e.g., ἀήρ ‘(lower) atmosphere, mist’ → ἠεροειδής ‘misty, murky’ (E 770+) ⇒ ἠερόεντ- ‘cloudy’ (Θ 13, O 191, υ 64) and θύος ‘burnt-offering’ → θυοσκόος ‘prophet’ ⇒ θυόεντ- ‘odorous’ (O 153).<sup>37</sup>

Since there is clear evidence in Homer for at least one instance of “metrical shortening” via analogy, an analysis of the basic type proposed by Debrunner and Chantraine cannot be considered objectionable. To make a reasonable case for this approach it is only necessary (1) to identify a more suitable

<sup>36</sup> The poets had only two ways to make \*σκίηντ-, viz. υ– –ῡ, usable in the hexameter. In the first place, they might have preserved the short scansion of word-final short vowels before \*σκίηντ- as they do in the case of, e.g., Σκάμανδρος. However, the neglect of “position lengthening” before #σκ- is rare in Homer and does not constitute a regular prosodic license. See Chantraine 1948: 110. On the other hand, they might have metrically lengthened \*σκίηντ- → \*σκήηντ-, viz. υ– –ῡ → – –ῡ. This strategy, however, would have produced four long vowels in a row and, as most \**uent*-stems like σκίοεντ- have apparently been created to figure specifically at the end of the line – see Witte 1913: 2226f. –, a dreaded spondaic line-end. Since both strategies involved difficulties, the obvious solution has been the creation of the analogical σκίοεντ-.

<sup>37</sup> The phonologically and morphologically regular \**uent*-stem derivative to θύος is apparently θυήεντ- ‘odorous’ (Θ 48, Ψ 148, θ 363), cf., e.g., τελήεντ- ‘perfect’ < \**teles-uent-*. The switch from an *s-* to an *ο*-stem derivational basis in θυόεντ- presumably has its origins in the coincidence of pairs like Hes. ὀ σκότος ‘darkness’ and Pind.+ τὸ σκότος ‘darkness,’ both of which could be interpreted as the derivational basis of the \**uent*-stem (Hes.+) σκοτόεντ- ‘dark.’

motivation for why the poets would have created the short-vowel *eu*-stems and (2) to isolate the analogical model on which they might have done it.

The obvious way to approach the question of motivation is to start by considering what the patronymics to Ἄτρεϋς, Πηλεϋς and Τυδεϋς<sup>38</sup> would have looked like before the creation of the short-vowel formations, and to determine whether there is any metrical or compositional factor in the verse positions they occupied that might have favored their replacement. As noted above, patronymics to Ἄτρεϋς, Τυδεϋς and Πηλεϋς must in the first instance have been made with the long-vowel formations in -ηϊάδη-, -ήϊο- and υἰό- -ήος and have had the shape:<sup>39</sup>

*Ἄτρηϊάδη-	*Ἄτρήϊο-	*υἰό- Ἄτρῆος
Πηληϊάδη-	*Πηλήϊο-	*υἰό- Πηλῆος
*Τυδηϊάδη-	*Τυδήϊο-	*υἰό- Τυδῆος

By their length and metrical shape, these forms must have been – and when they occur in fact are – limited to the following verse positions and segments:<sup>40</sup>

<sup>38</sup> Since the short-vowel patronymics are best attested in the patronymics to Ἄτρεϋς, Τυδεϋς and Πηλεϋς, the operating assumption must be that the forms were first created for these names. Note, however, that it is not absolutely necessary to assume that the short-vowel patronymics were created for all these names at the same time. For instance, if Διομήδης has really been introduced into the epic tradition only in its properly Homeric stage, then the short-vowel patronymics in this case are probably later creations than those to Ἄτρεϋς and Πηλεϋς. But since it is impossible to determine on internal Homeric or linguistic grounds exactly when each of these names has entered the tradition and since all the names considered here have the same metrical shape and so would have offered roughly the same motivation for the creation of the short-vowel patronymics, all three have been included in the discussion.

<sup>39</sup> As a collocation, \*υἰό- Ἄτρῆος would have been usable only with “position lengthening,” viz. \*#– υἰὸς Ἄτρῆος ς like I 539 #– υἰὸς Οἰνῆος ς. It could, however, have figured as part of a construction of the type \*# Ἄτρῆος φίλος υἰὸς ς, cf. O 639 #Κοπρῆος φίλον υἰὸν ς.

<sup>40</sup> Here and in the following discussion the patronymics to Πηλη- are used as a cover symbol to refer to \*Ἄτρη-, Πηλη- and \*Τυδη-.

**Line Beginning**

\*#- Πηληϊάδη-  $\vartheta$ 5|, cf., e.g., Ψ 303 #- Νηληϊάδαο  $\eta$  and Ξ 460 #-  
Τελαμωνιάδη  $\varsigma$ <sup>41</sup>

\*#- υιὸ- Πηλῆος  $\eta$ |, cf., e.g., Δ 403, E 319 #- υιὸς Καπανῆος  $\eta$ |

**Line Beginning to Line Middle**

\*#-  $\omega$ -  $\varsigma$ | Πηληϊάδη-  $\gamma$ |, cf., e.g., K 87+ #-  $\omega$ -  $\varsigma$ | Νηληϊάδη  $\gamma$ |

\*#-  $\omega$ -  $\omega$ -  $\varsigma$ | Πηλῆιο- ||, cf., e.g., Ψ 349 #-  $\omega$ -  $\varsigma$ | Νέστωρ  $\varsigma$ |  
Νηλῆϊος ||

**Line Middle to Line End**

$\varsigma$ | Πηληϊάδη-  $\omega$ - $\omega$ #, cf., e.g., A 1+  $\varsigma$ | Πηληϊάδεω Ἀχιλῆος#

\* $\varsigma$ | Πηλῆιο- || - $\omega$ - $\omega$ #, cf., e.g., M 349 = M 362  $\varsigma$ | Τελαμώνιος ||  
ἄλκιμος υιὸς#

$\gamma$ | Πηληϊάδαο#, cf., e.g., λ 557  $\gamma$ | Πηληϊάδαο# and γ 465  $\gamma$ |  
Νηληϊάδαο#

\* $\gamma$ | Πηλῆιο- - $\omega$ #, cf., e.g., Δ 367  $\gamma$ | Καπανῆϊος υιὸς#

The first thing to note about the line positions occupied by these forms is that nearly all of them either (1) fail to correspond to typical verse and formulaic structures or (2) produce segments that are of limited compositional use:

i.) The line-beginning positions \*#- Πηληϊάδη-  $\vartheta$ 5| and \*#- υιὸ- Πηλῆος  $\eta$ | admit only a single long syllable at the beginning of the line and, since there are a limited number of words and particles that have this shape, are of somewhat restricted utility.

ii.) The line-middle position \*#-  $\omega$ -  $\varsigma$ | Πηληϊάδη-  $\gamma$ | rules out a caesura in the third foot and, since a third-foot caesura is nearly a metrical necessity in the Homeric hexameter,<sup>42</sup> creates a rare and generally avoided line structure.

<sup>41</sup> Since long-vowel patronymics in the three stems under discussion are rare and do not appear in all verse positions where they would have been possible, the patronymics to Καπανεύς and Τελάμων have been included for purposes of illustration. Although these names have a different metrical shape from our three *eu*-stems, they do not differ in their placement in the line.

<sup>42</sup> Only 14 per 1,000 lines in the *Iliad* and 9 per 1,000 in the *Odyssey* lack a third-foot caesura. See West 1982: 36.

iii.) The line-middle to line-end position  $5|$  Πηληϊάδη-  $\omega\text{--}\sigma\#$  produces a formulaic segment that is rare among proper names in all cases but the genitive singular.<sup>43</sup>

iv.) The line-end position  $7|$  Πηληϊάδο# figures in a non-traditional slot for the genitive singular of proper names.<sup>44</sup>

v.) The segments  $*\#-\omega\text{--}\omega\text{--}$   $5|$  Πηλήϊο-  $\|\$ ,  $*5|$  Πηλήϊο-  $\|\text{--}\omega\text{--}\sigma\#$ , and  $*7|$  Πηλήϊο-  $\text{--}\sigma\#$  face the problem that while patronymics in  $-\text{ιο-}$  are adjectives and require a head noun, the names Ἀγαμέμνων, Μενέλαος and Διομήδης cannot be used in the same line with the patronymics  $*\text{Ἀτρήϊο-}$  and  $*\text{Τυδηϊο-}$  and collocations of an  $\eta\text{--}\text{ιο-}$  adjective plus  $\text{νιό-}$  produce segments like  $*5|$  Πηλήϊος  $\|\$  ἄλκιμος νιός# *vel sim.* or  $*7|$  Πηλήϊος νιός# which correspond to formulaic structures that are either rare in the nom. and acc. sg. or that are easily filled with epithet plus proper name formulae, i.e.  $7|$  κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων#,  $7|$  ξανθὸς Μενέλαος# and  $7|$  κρατερὸς Διομήδης#.

The second thing to note is that although one essential function of patronymics in epic is to combine with proper names in the formation of larger formulaic and compositional units,<sup>45</sup> in the case of the four names under consideration only the following proper name plus patronymic formulae would have been possible:

### Line Beginning

$*\#-$ Πηληϊάδης $5 $ Ἀχιλεύς $7 $	$*\#-$ Ἀχιλεύς $3 $ Πηληϊάδης $7 $
$*\#-$ Πηληϊάδη $5 $ Ἀχιλεῦ $7 $	$*\#-$ Ἀχιλεῦ $3 $ Πηληϊάδη $7 $
$*\#-$ Ἀτρηϊάδη- $5 $ Ἀγαμέμνον- $\ \$ <sup>46</sup>	$*\#-$ Τυδηϊάδη- $5 $ Διομήδε- $\ \$
$*\#-$ Ἀτρηϊάδη $5 $ Μενέλαω $\ \$	

<sup>43</sup> On proper name formulae in this position, see Parry 1971: 55f.

<sup>44</sup> On the formulaic difficulties posed by the genitive sg. of proper names in this position, see Parry 1971: 58–9.

<sup>45</sup> These considerations also hold for other formulaic combinations involving the long-vowel patronymics.

<sup>46</sup> The notation  $*\#-$  Ἀτρηϊάδη-  $5|$  Ἀγαμέμνον-  $\|\$  is intended to signify that this segment is inflectible in all metrically suitable case forms.



**Line-Middle**\*<sub>3</sub>| 'Αχιλεύς <sub>5</sub>| Πηλήϊος ||\*<sub>3</sub>| 'Αχιλεῦ <sub>5</sub>| Πηλήϊε ||**Line Middle to Line End****From <sub>3</sub>|**\*<sub>3</sub>| Πηληϊάδης <sub>7</sub>| υυ-υ 'Αχιλεύς#\*<sub>3</sub>| Πηληϊάδη <sub>7</sub>| υυ-υ 'Αχιλεῦ#\*<sub>3</sub>| 'Ατρηϊάδης <sub>7</sub>| υυ- 'Αγαμέμνων#\*<sub>3</sub>| 'Ατρηϊάδη(-) <sub>7</sub>| υυ- 'Αγαμέμνον/  
Μενέλαο-#\*<sub>3</sub>| Τυδηϊάδης <sub>7</sub>| υυ- Διομήδης#\*<sub>3</sub>| Τυδηϊάδη <sub>7</sub>| υυ- Διομήδης#**From <sub>5</sub>|**<sub>5</sub>| Πηληϊάδη- 'Αχιλῆ-#\*<sub>5</sub>| 'Ατρηϊάδης 'Αγαμέμνων#\*<sub>5</sub>| 'Ατρηϊάδη(-) 'Αγαμέμνον/  
Μενέλαο-#\*<sub>5</sub>| Τυδηϊάδης Διομήδης#\*<sub>5</sub>| Τυδηϊάδη Διομήδης#

Of these combinations, all apart from \*<sub>3</sub>| 'Αχιλεύς <sub>7</sub>| Πηλήϊος ||, \*<sub>3</sub>| 'Αχιλεῦ <sub>7</sub>| Πηλήϊε || and the gen. sg. formula <sub>5</sub>| Πηληϊάδεω 'Αχιλῆος# face the same problems as the simple long-vowel patronymics and instead of facilitating composition as such combinations normally do, generate a number of uncommon and difficult-to-versify segments. In view of these facts it should be clear that the original long-vowel patronymics to 'Ατρεύς, Πηλεύς and Τυδεύς constituted a rather inconvenient and uneconomical system, and one which must have greatly restricted the poets' flexibility in versifying 'Αγαμέμνων, Μενέλαος, 'Αχιλεύς and Διομήδης – names of some of the most important heroes of the epic tradition as it is preserved.

Considered against this background, it is easy to see what compositional advantages the short-vowel patronymics in -είδη-, -είων- and -έος υιό- would have provided the poets and why these forms would have been created.<sup>47</sup> In the first place, they

<sup>47</sup> A further question is why long-vowel patronymics have been preserved in the formations to Νηλεύς and Πηλεύς but are missing from those to 'Ατρεύς and Τυδεύς. While Debrunner 1923: 38f., followed by Chantraine

produced word-shapes that were better suited to the demands of the hexameter –  $\text{---}$  and  $\text{---}$  – and that could be used to fill a number of compositionally crucial verse positions, cf.<sup>48</sup>

1948: 106, argues that the presence or absence of a long-vowel patronymic in  $\text{-}\eta\acute{\iota}\alpha\delta\eta\text{-}$  is determined by whether the stem has preserved a patronymic adjective in  $\text{-}\eta\acute{\iota}\omicron\text{-}$  – i.e.  $\text{Νηληϊάδη-}$ :  $\text{Νηληϊο-}$  and  $\text{Πηληϊάδη-}$ :  $\text{Πηληϊο-}$  (1x, but not as a patronymic adjective) –, this cannot be considered the whole story. The presence or absence of a patronymic adjective in  $\text{-}\eta\acute{\iota}\omicron\text{-}$  correlates with whether or not this patronymic is useful in versification – both  $\text{Νέστωρ}$  and  $\text{Ἀχιλεύς}$  are usable in the same line with an  $\eta\acute{\iota}\omicron$ -patronymic whereas  $\text{Ἀγαμέμνων}$ ,  $\text{Μενέλαος}$ , and  $\text{Διομήδης}$  are not –, and since patronymics in  $\text{-}\eta\acute{\iota}\omicron\text{-}$  and  $\text{-}\eta\acute{\iota}\alpha\delta\eta\text{-}$  have different metrical shapes and are usable in different metrical slots, it is unlikely that there is anything more than a descriptive connection between the two formations. The preservation of the long-vowel formations to  $\text{Νηλεὺς}$  and  $\text{Πηλεὺς}$  is probably rather to be explained by virtue of the fact that they were traditional in a number of useful formulae, cf.

#ὦ Νέστορ | Νηληϊάδη | μέγα κύδος Ἀχαιῶν# (6x)      (≈ #ὦ Ἀχιλλεὺ | Πηλεὺς υἱὲ | μέγα φερταὶ  
Ἀχαιῶν# [3x])  
| Νηληϊάδαο γέροντος# (2x)      ≈ | Πηληϊάδεω Ἀχιλῆος# (8x)  
| κλισίην | Νηληϊάδεω ἀφίκοντο# (1x)      ≈ | κλισίην | Πηληϊάδεω ἀφίκοντο# (1x)  
≈ | κλισίην | Πηληϊάδεω ἀφίκωμαί# (1x)  
≈ ἔπος | Πηληϊάδαο φύλαξεν# (1x)  
≈ | κεφαλή | Πηληϊάδαο# (1x).  
| θυγάτηρ | Νηληϊάδαο# (1x)

The high percentage of long-vowel forms in the patronymics to  $\text{Νηλεὺς}$  – cf. also #τοῦ Νηληϊάδαο | (Ψ 303), | Νέστωρ | Νηληϊός || (Ψ 349), Ἀντίλοχος | Νηληϊός || (Ψ 514), #Νέστορ  $\text{---}$  | Νηληϊόν || (K 18), and | Νηληϊῶι || υἱ ἔοικως# (B 20) – is probably to be attributed to the fact that these forms filled a number of convenient metrical slots and that since the names  $\text{Νέστωρ}$  and  $\text{Ἀντίλοχος}$  were less common and more flexible in the hexameter than  $\text{Ἀγαμέμνων}$ ,  $\text{Μενέλαος}$ ,  $\text{Ἀχιλλεύς}$ , and  $\text{Διομήδης}$  the poets had less need of the short-vowel forms.

For the question as to why there are no long-vowel formations attested for  $\text{Ἀτρεὺς}$  and  $\text{Τυδεὺς}$ , there are two possible approaches. First, we might assume that the patronymics to these names became current in the epic tradition only after the short-vowel formations became an option and that the poets simply never created the long-vowel patronymics for these names. On the other hand, we might also assume that since patronymic adjectives in  $\text{-}\eta\acute{\iota}\omicron\text{-}$  were not really useful in these cases and convenient gen. sg. formulae at the penthemimeral caesura could be built with other material, i.e. | Ἀγαμέμνονος || Ἀτρεΐδαο#, | Μενελάου || κυδαλίμοιο# and | Διομήδεος || ἱπποδάμοιο#, the poets simply phased out the long-vowel formations. In any event, since the material of the *Iliad* and *Odyssey* does not as far as I can see provide any clear indication on these matters, a definitive solution as to which of these two approaches is better seems impossible.

<sup>48</sup> Patronymics to the stem  $\text{Πηλε-}$  are again given as a cover symbol for all the patronymics under consideration.

**Line-Initial**

# Πηλείδη- 3|

**Line-Medial**

# -ω Πηλείδη- 7/5|

# -ω Πηλέος υιό- 4|

# -ω Πηλείων- 4|

**Line-Final**

|| Πηλείδαο#

|| Πηλέος υιό-#

|| Πηλείων-#

More specifically, they gave the poets greater flexibility in versifying Ἀγαμέμνων, Μενέλαος, Ἀχιλλεύς and Διομήδης by filling a number of essential metrical and compositional slots that were otherwise absent from the names of these heroes:<sup>49</sup> the segment # Πηλείδη- 3| gave each of these heroes a compositionally useful line-initial form, the segments # -ω Πηλείδη- 7/5|, # -ω Πηλέος υιό- 4| and # -ω Πηλείων- 4| provided Ἀγαμέμνων and Διομήδης with convenient forms for use before the third-foot caesurae and Ἀχιλλεύς and Μενέλαος with forms of different metrical shape here, and the segments || Πηλέος υιό-#, || Πηλείων-# and || Πηλείδαο# created inflectible line-end adonics for Ἀγαμέμνων, Μενέλαος and Διομήδης and helped in inflecting a number of line-end formulae for Ἀχιλλεύς.<sup>50</sup>

<sup>49</sup> For the actual distribution and use of these patronymics, see the appendix below.

<sup>50</sup> While all the patronymics considered here agree in using the formation -είδη- at line-beginning and before the penthemimeral caesura, they partly differ in their preference for -είων- or -έος υιό- at the feminine caesura and line end. In the case of Ἀτρεΰς, both Ἀτρείων- and Ἀτρέος υιό- occur. Since these are used to refer to Ἀγαμέμνων and Μενέλαος respectively, they serve to secondarily differentiate the sons of Ἀτρεΰς. In the case of Τυδεΰς and Πηλέος, -είων- and -έος υιό- are largely distributed by stem: Τυδέος υιό- alone is used for Τυδεΰς, while Πηλείων- is regular for Πηλέος, i.e. Πηλείων- 44x vs. Πηλέος υιό- 6x. Debrunner 1923: 36 has tentatively suggested that the preference for -έος υιό- in the patronymics to Τυδεΰς and -είων- in those to Πηλέος may reflect a dialect feature in the poems. This is an unnecessary assumption. Τυδέος υιό- has been preferred because it supplied the nom. and voc. sg. line-end adonic formulae which were otherwise missing from the name Διομήδης and because all other necessary case forms could be built from this formation. Πηλείων-, on the other hand, has been largely preferred because it supplied a full range of oblique cases for the nom. and voc. sg. adonic formulae || δῖος Ἀχιλλεύς# ≈ || ὠκύς Ἀχιλλεύς# and || φαιδίμ' Ἀχιλλεῦ# ≈ || ἐπιείκελ' Ἀχιλλεῦ#, and provided a metrically useful alternative for forms of Ἀχιλλεύς before the 3<sup>rd</sup> foot caesurae, cf.

# -ω Πηλείδης 5| 7x

# -ω Πηλείδη 5| 3x

# -ω Πηλείωνα 4| 2x

≈ # -ω- 3| Ἀχιλλεύς 5| 15x

≈ # -ω- 3| Ἀχιλλεῦ 5| 1x

≈ # -ω- 3| Ἀχιλλῆα 4| 15x

The motivation for why the poets would have created the short-vowel patronymics is clear and the only remaining matter in the “metrical shortening” analysis is to identify a likely analogical model on which these forms could have been made. The most obvious place to look for such a model is in some point of morphological overlap between *eu*-stems and *s*-stems. The best candidate for such a form is the alternative *eu*-stem nom. and acc. sg. endings -ής and -ήν. These endings have long been recognized as having been part of the repertoire of the early epic tradition,<sup>51</sup> and survive (1) in early epic epigraphic material – cf., e.g., ΦΙΑΙΟΝΕΣ COR 74*k* Wachter 2001 c. 570-560 B.C., ΑΨΙΑΕΣ ETR 1*b* Wachter 2001 c. 480-60 B.C., and ΑΨΙΑΕΣ ΠΑΤΡΟΚ[ΛΟΣ] Pugliese Carratelli 1986: 142 on a recently discovered early 6<sup>th</sup> c. B.C. frieze- or pinax-inscription in Achaean alphabet from South Italy<sup>52</sup> –, (2) in para-epic literary sources – cf., e.g., Ibycus ὀνομάκλυτον Ὀρφην (306 *PMGF* Davies) and Antimachus of Colophon Τύδης τ’ Οἰνεΐδης (*Thebaid*, 6 Matthews) –, and (3) in slightly disguised form in the *Iliad* and *Odyssey* themselves where they appear, e.g., in the nom. sg. proper name Κισσῆς Λ 223 (: Κισσηΐδ- Z 299), which is best equated with the commonly attested proper name Κισσεύς<sup>53</sup> and parsed as a regular *eu*-stem ethnic made to the Macedonian place name Κίσσος,<sup>54</sup> and in the accusative sg.’s Τυδῆ Δ 384, Μηκιστῆ Ο 339, and Ὀδυσῆ τ 136, which are best

# ~ Πηλείωνι ἄ 4x      ≈ # ~ ~ ~ ἄ | Ἀχιλλῆϊ ἄ 19x  
 # ~ Πηλείωνος ἄ 5x      ≈ # ~ ~ ~ ἄ | Ἀχιλλῆος ἄ 12x  
 # ~ Πηλείδω ἄ 4x

# ~ Πηλέος υἱός ἄ 1x and # ~ Πηλέος υἱέ ἄ 5x have obviously been generated to provide Πηλείων- with a convenient nom. and voc. sg. before the feminine caesura.

<sup>51</sup> See, e.g., Wackernagel 1916: 160<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>52</sup> Note further the Attic nominative sg.’s listed at Kretschmer 1894: 19–94.

<sup>53</sup> Cf., e.g., Eur. *Hec.*3, etc. Although Κισσεύς also shows up as a *v.l.* in the 11<sup>th</sup> c. F (before correction) and the 13<sup>th</sup> c. O, this reading is an obvious *lectio facilior* and is best taken as an “improvement” of Κισσῆς (Ω\*) after the well-known post-Homeric form of the name.

<sup>54</sup> See also Wathelet 1988: 679f.

seen as relatively late recitational or transmissional corruptions of properly Homeric \*Τυδῆν, Μηκιστήν and \*Ὀδυσήν.<sup>55</sup>

Starting from these alternative *eu*-stem endings, it is easy to specify the analogical model on which the poets could have created the short-vowel *eu*-stem patronymics. For given that these endings would have been synchronically opaque to any non-“Achaean” epic poet and closely resembled the nom. acc. sg. -ής -ήν of epic *s*-stems like nom. sg. Ζαῖς (M 157, ε 368) and acc. sg. Ζαῖν (μ 313), it is straightforward to suppose that the poets simply reinterpreted them as members of an alternative *s*-stem paradigm, and then used an analogical proportion of the type conjectured above for “Achaean” to generate a metrically convenient short-vowel oblique stem for use in *eu*-stem patronymics: *s*-stem nom. acc. sg. -ής -ήν: obl. -έ-: *eu*-stem nom. acc. sg. -ής -ήν: obl. *x*, *x* ⇒ -έ-.<sup>56</sup> For the use of a similar analogy in Homeric language it is possible to compare the creation of the *s*-stem vocative sg. phrase # Ἄρεξ Ἄρεξ<sub>3</sub> (E 31 = 455) from the apparently “defective” *eu*-stem Ἄρηξ Ἄρηα/Ἄρην (E 909).

### Conclusion

To sum up, in the course of this discussion it has been shown (1) that the origin of the short vowel *eu*-stems in Homer is to be sought in the short-vowel patronymics and (2) that while the vowel here cannot convincingly be explained as having its origins in any of the dialects that are normally held to have

<sup>55</sup> See Rau 2008: 1ff.

<sup>56</sup> Two additional factors have likely contributed to the interpretation suggested here. First, in all Greek dialects apart from Attic and Ionic once they had merged \* $\bar{x}$  < \* $\bar{a}$  and - $\bar{e}$ -, the Homeric *eu*-stem nom. sg. -ής and acc. sg. -ήν would have corresponded in vowel quality only to the nom. and acc. sg. of *s*-stems and would for this reason have been especially liable to remodeling after this class. Second, since most of the dialects that are generally held to have contributed to the epic poetic language have remade the acc. sg. of *s*-stem proper names to -ήν, the alternate *s*-stem acc. sg. -ήν would likely have had additional support in the spoken language(s) of the poets.

contributed to epic language, it is possible to make a strong argument for why the Homeric poets themselves might have created these forms and to identify a fairly straightforward analogical model on which they might have done it. In line with these findings it is best to conclude that the short vowel in the Homeric *eu*-stems is the result of a specifically inner-epic analogical innovation, a “metrical shortening” of the basic type conjectured by Debrunner and Chantraine.

## APPENDIX

### *Conspectus of the Short-Vowel Patronymics at Line End and the Third-Foot Caesurae*

#### Line End

Πηλείωνα# 3x	ς  μεγαθύμου    Πηλείωνος# 2x	η  ἀμύμονα    Πηλείωνα# 6x
Πηλείωνος# 2x	ς  μεγαθύμωι    Πηλείωνι# 1x	η  ποδωκέα    Πηλείωνα# 10x
Πηλείδαο # 1x		η  ποδωκέι    Πηλείωνι# 2x

Ἀτρείωνος# 1x	ς  Ἀγαμέμνονος    Ἀτρείδαο# 13x
Ἀτρείωνι# 1x	
Ἀτρείδαο# 2x	

ς| Μενέλαος η| ἀρήϊος || Ἀτρείος υἱός# 1x

ς| Μενέλαον η| ἀρήϊον || Ἀτρείος υἱόν# 2x (also *v.l.* for || ἀρχόν Ἀχαιῶν# at Δ 195, 205)

Τυδέος υἱός# 8x	ς  μεγαθύμου    Τυδέος υἱός# 2x	η  δαΐφρων   Τυδέος υἱός# 1x
Τυδέος υἱόν# 3x	ς  μεγαθύμου    Τυδέος υἱέ# 2x	η  ἀγαυοῦ    Τυδέος υἱέ# 1x

#### Line Middle at Third-Foot Caesurae

# ~ Πηλείδης ς  7x	# ~ Πηλέος υἱός η  1x
# ~ Πηλείδης ς  3x	# ~ Πηλέος υἱέ η  5x
# ~ Πηλείδην ς  1x	# ~ Πηλείωνα η  2x
	# ~ Πηλείωνι η  4x
	# ~ Πηλείωνος η  5x
	# ~ Πηλείδαο η  4x

- # ~ Ἄτρείδης s| 8x Ἄτρείδης s| Ἀγαμέμνων || 1x  
 # ~ Ἄτρείδην s| 2x Ἄτρείδην s| Ἀγαμέμνονα || 6x  
 # ~ Ἄτρείδη s| 2x Ἄτρείδεω s| Ἀγαμέμνονος || 3x  
 # ~ Ἄτρείδηι s| 1x Ἄτρείδηι s| Ἀγαμέμνονι || 7x  
 # ~ Ἄτρείδεω s| 2x  
 # ~ Ἄτρείδα s| 1x  
 # ~ Ἄτρείδας s| 1x  
 # ~ Ἄτρείδησι s| 1x
- # ~ Ἄτρείδης s| εὐρυκρείων Ἀγαμέμνων# 8x  
 # ~ Ἄτρείδης s| δουρικλειτὸς Μενέλαος# 5x  
 # ~ Ἄτρείδης s| υἱ- γ| ξανθὸς Μενέλαος# 2x  
 # ~ Ἄτρείδην s| Ἀγαμέμνονα || ποιμένα λαῶν# 2x  
 # ~ Ἄτρείδηι s| Ἀγαμέμνονι || ποιμένι λαῶν# 1x  
 # ~ Ἄτρείδαι s| Ἀγαμέμνων || καὶ Μενέλαος# 1x  
 # ~ Ἄτρείδης s| Ἀγαμέμνονι || καὶ Μενέλαωι# 4x
- # ~ Ἄτρείωνα η| 2x (= Ἀγαμέμνων)  
 # ~ Ἄτρείδαο η| 2x  
 # ~ Ἄτρέος υἱὲ η| 1x Ἄτρέος υἱὲ η| δαίφρονος ἵπποδάμοιο# 1x (= Μενέλαος)  
 # ~ Ἄτρέος υἱὸν η| 2x Ἄτρέος υἱὸν η| ἀρηίφιλον Μενέλαον# 1x
- # ~ Τυδείδης s| 7x Τυδείδην s| Διομήδεα || 2x  
 # ~ Τυδείδην s| 2x Τυδείδην s| δουρικλυτὸν || 1x  
 # ~ Τυδείδη s| 1x Τυδείδεω s| Διομήδεος || 1x  
 # ~ Τυδείδεω s| 1x Τυδείδηι s| Διομήδει || 4x  
 # ~ Τυδείδηι s| 3x
- # ~ Τυδείδης s| δουρικλειτὸς Διομήδης# 1x  
 # ~ Τυδείδης s| υἱ- γ| κρατερὸς Διομήδης# 2x
- # ~ Τυδέος υἱὸς η| 1x Τυδέος υἱὲ η| δαίφρονος || 1x  
 # ~ Τυδέος υἱὲ η| 1x  
 # ~ Τυδέος υἱὸν η| 1x  
 # ~ Τυδέος υἱὶ η| 1x
- # ~ Τυδέος υἱὸς η| ὑπέρθυμος Διομήδης# 1x  
 # ~ Τυδέος υἱὲ η| δαίφρονος ἵπποδάμοιο# 1x  
 # ~ Τυδέος υἱὸν η| ὑπέρθυμον Διομήδεα# 1x  
 # ~ Τυδέος υἱὸν η| ὑπερφίαλον Διομήδεα# 1x  
 # ~ Τυδείδαο η| δαίφρονος ἵπποδάμοιο# 1x

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