



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

The Greek suffix $-\theta-$ and the Caland System

Andrea Santamaria

Dipartimento di Filologia Classica e Italianistica

Deadjectival verb formation in Indo-European: Historical and theoretical perspectives (Wien, 10-11/03/2023)

Setting the scene : puzzling morphology

Verbs:

Presents in -θω (e.g., πλήθω)
Presents in -έθω (e.g., φλεγέθω)
Presents in -ύ-θω (e.g., βαρύθω)
Presents in -νύ-θω (e.g., μινύθω)
Denominatives (e.g., βρίθω)
Isolated participles (e.g., φαέθων)
Thematic aorists in -θ- (e.g., ἔσχεθον)
Passives in -θη- (e.g., -εβάθην)

Adjectives:

Stems in -θ-ύ- (e.g., βαθύς)
Stems in -θής (e.g., βαθής)
Later formations in -θαλέος, -θρας

Nouns:

Neuter *s-stems* in -θος (e.g., μέγεθος)
Feminines in -θη (e.g., λήθη)
Masculine *nomina agentis* (e.g., τένθης)
Later formations in -θμός, -θρον etc.
Others (rare *o-* and *u-*stems, e.g., ψᾶμαθος)

Adverbs:

Forms in -θα (e.g., μίνυνθα)
Forms in -θά (e.g., δηθά)
Forms in -θε(ν) (e.g., πρόσθεν)
Forms in -θεν (e.g., τηλόθεν)

Issue 1: *Wurzeldeterminativ oder Wurzelerweiterung?*

1) Stem forming: Homeric pairs, e.g., φλέγω ‘burn, burn up’ vs. φλεγέθω ‘blaze, flare up’

2) Root extension: Later formations, e.g., διώκω ‘pursue, chase’ : διωκάθω ‘id.’

→ From a Greek perspective, a shift may be reconstructed in diachrony

Issue 2: how many θ-suffixes?

1. Nouns

μέγε-θος/μέγα-θος

< *-d^h-e/os

2. Verbs

πλή-θω

< *-d^h-ō

3. Cvi-constructions

μάθον

< NOUN + *d^heh₁-

4. Adjectives

βα-θύς

< *-d^h-ú-

5. Adverbs

μίνυν-θα

< *-d^hn or -d^h-h₂



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< $*-d^h-\acute{u}-$

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μίνυν-θα

< $*-d^hn$ or $-d^h-h_2$

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Semantic interpretation 1: -θ- as marked for either aspect or actionality

Chantraine 1925 (followed by Prévot 1935 for passives)

«Le grec emploie le verbe en -θω quand l'achèvement de l'action est envisagé. La nuance est voisine de celle du verbe déterminé en slave. [...] On peut dire sans inconvénient que le suffixe -θω fournit des présents terminatifs»

LIV

«Terminativ» (with specific reference to Chantraine)



Semantic interpretation 2: -θ- as marked for diathesis

Benveniste 1935

L'affixe **-dh-* exprime l'état, spécialement l'état achevé; les racines auxquelles il s'attache montrent une valeur neutre ou intransitive, que celle-ci leur soit conférée par l'élargissement ou qu'elle y soit seulement renforcée par l'addition de **-dh-*. [...]
Aussi, dans les présents en *-θω*, la notion de «déterminé» perd-elle de son importance à côté du fait essentiel que *ces présents sont tout intransitifs et de valeur nettement moyenne*.

Rothstein-Dowden 2022

The predominance of intransitive usage amongst these verbs is immediately striking, while the evidence for perfective semantics is slender. Of the various semantic subtypes, the most common are perhaps statives to property-concept oriented roots.



Partial compromises

Chantraine 1958

«Ce suffixe [i.e. -θε/o-] que l'on observe dans le système nominal et dans le système verbal semble avoir comporté originellement une valeur d'état et une valeur déterminée, c'est-à-dire que l'aboutissement de l'action est envisagé».

Magni 2008

«Il morfema -θ-, dopo una circoscritta fase produttiva nel manipolo dei presenti omerici, attraversa la costellazione di funzioni e significati che si irradia dalla nozione centrale di incoativo [i.e. reflexive, ingressive, inceptive, resultative and passive]. [...] L'elemento -θ- sviluppa infatti la capacità di codificare quelle proprietà azionali e aspettuali, che Chantraine sussume nell'etichetta di *déterminé*».



A *Third Way*? Property-concept adjectives and the Caland System

- Risch (1974) includes the suffix -θος among Caland formants
- Nussbaum (1976) argues that a suffix **-d^ho-* (deriving deadjectival nouns in Greek) was a «marginal» Caland suffix
- Rau (2009) argues that some verbs in -θ- are part of the Caland System
- The presence of these forms was widely confirmed (de Lamberterie 1990; Meißner 2006; Rothstein-Dowden 2022)



Preliminary observations: Caland behavior in θ -roots

Type 1 : - θ - is fossilized

ἐρεύθω 'be red/redden'

e.g., Ved. *aru-ṛá-* 'reddish', *rav-í-* 'sun',
Lat. *ru-tilus* 'red'

Type 2 : - θ - is synchronically transparent

πλήθω
'be/become full'

Av. *frāda-* 'thrive', Lat. *plēbs* 'crowd, multitude'; Ved. *pūryate*
'become full'; Gr. πλήρης 'full', Arm. *lir* 'multitude, fullness', Lat.
plērus 'most' etc.

Type 3 : - θ - is a Greek innovation

βρίθω 'be strong'

βριάω 'make/be strong',
βριαρός/βριερός 'strong'

The oldest group: Caland roots in -θ-

μέγεθος ‘greatness’

Gr. μέγας ‘big, great’; μεγαλύνω ‘make great’; μέγαρον ‘large room’;
Skt. *máhas-* ‘size, greatness’; *mahimán-* ‘id.’

πλήθω ‘be/become full’

Previously shown

φλεγέθω ‘blaze/burn up’

Lat. *flagrō* ‘be ablaze’, ?Skt. *bhárghas-* ‘radiance, splendor’, Gr.
φλεγυρός ‘burning’, φλογερός ‘blazing’

θαλέθω ‘bloom, thrive’

Arm. *dalar* ‘green’, Alb. *dol(l)α*, Gr. θάλος ‘scion’, θαλερός ‘stout,
blooming’

The oldest group: Caland roots in -θ- (uncertain)

?φαέθω ‘shine’

Ved. *bhās-* ‘light’, Lat. °*bar* ‘id.’; Ved. *bhiṣ* ‘spell, remedy’, Av. °*biš-* ‘remedy’

?λήθω ‘be hidden’

Olc. *lómr* ‘loon’; OCS *lajǫ* ‘am hidden’; Gr. ἀλανές· ἀληθές

?γήθω ‘rejoice, be joyful’

Gr. ἀγανός ‘mild, gentle’, ἀγαυρός ‘proud’, γαίω ‘rejoice’, γάνυμαι ‘be glad’, Lat. *gaudeō* ‘rejoice’, *gavisus* ‘rejoiced’, Mlr. *gūaire* ‘noble’

?μινύθω (secondary) ‘become smaller/lessen’

Lat. *minimus* ‘smallest’, Osc. **menvum** ‘lessen’, Goth. *mins* ‘less’, *minniza* ‘smaller’

OCS *mbǫbjb* ‘id.’, Gr. Comp. μείων ‘lesser’, Gr. μινυρός ‘complaining in a low tone’



Further evidence: βρίθω and βαρύθω, a well-known Caland root

**g^uṛh₂-*

Skt. *gariman-* ‘weight, heaviness’, *gariṣṭha-* (gramm. only)

**g^uṛh₂-i-*

Gr. ὄβριμος ‘strong’, βριαρός ‘strong’, Skt. *grīṣmá-* ‘summer’

**g^uṛh₂-u-*

Skt. *gurú-* ‘heavy, hard’, *gurvī-* ‘id.’, Av. *gouru*^o ‘id.’, Lat. *brūtus* ‘heavy, brute’



A 'Caland' solution to an old problem?

***g^heh₂d^h-**¹ 'eintauchen' - IEW 465

LIV (206)

Kausativ ***g^hoh₂d^h-éie-** air. *-bádi* 'taucht etw. unter, ertränkt';
mkymr. *bawd* 'ertränkt; ertrinkt'²

(M. K.)



¹ Verbal nur kelt.; vgl. gr. *βήσσα*, dor. *βᾶσσα* f. 'Talsenke', dazu wohl auch ved. *gādhá-* 'Furt'. In ähnlicher Bedeutung stehen daneben ***g^heh₂b^h-** (s.d.) und nominal ***g^hemb^h-** sowie ***g^hend^h-**, vgl. LAMBERTERIE 138-43.

² Verbalnomen *bodi*.

De Lamberterie
(1990: 143)

1) ***g^hwā-bh-/g^hwǎ-bh-**
germ. **kwōb-/kwab-*

***g^hwā-dh-/g^hwǎ-dh-**
celt. *bād-*
véd. *gā(d)h-* ?

gr. *βᾶφ-* (?)
2) ***g^hwem-bh-/g^hwm̥-bh-**
gr. *βᾶφ-* (?)
véd. *gambh-/gab-*
av. *jaṣ-/jaṣ-*

gr. **βᾶθ-/βᾶθ-* (?)
***g^hwem-dh-/g^hwm̥-dh-**
gr. *βενθ-/βᾶθ-* (?)

3) ***g^hwu-bh-**
av. *guf-*, tokh. A *kup-*

***g^hwu-dh-**
gr. *βυθ-, γυθ-*

The roots $*g^ueh_2b^h$ - 'niederdrücken' and $*g^ueh_2d^h$ - 'eintauchen'

βάπτω 'dip'

βαφή 'dipping'

βαθύς 'deep/high'

βάθος 'depth/height'

βένθος 'depth'

βῆσσα 'valley'

?βύπτειν· βαπτίζειν

?βυθός 'depth', βυθμός· άντρον, πυθμήν

→ Not necessarily the same as $*g^uem$ -/ $*g^ueh_2$ - 'go'!



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Comp. βαθίων, Sup. βάθιστος

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βένθος ‘depth’

βησσα ‘valley’

Toch. B *kwänt*- ?‘sink’

Skt. *gādhá*- ‘abyss, ford’

?βυθός ‘depth’, βυθμός· άντρον, πυθμήν

The roots $*g^ueh_2b^h$ - ‘niederdrücken’ and $*g^ueh_2d^h$ - ‘eintauchen’

βάπτω ‘dip’

βαφή ‘dipping’

gámbhan- ‘depth’

gambhīrá- ‘deep, inexhaustible’

gabhīrá- ‘id.’

Av. *jafra*- ‘deep’

?βύπτειν· βαπτίζειν

?Av. *gufra*- ‘deep’

?Toch. A *k_upār* ‘id.’

Problem: Does *gambhīrá*- require a set $*g^uemb^h h_x$ -? (Nikolaev 2019)



Causative alternation and the Caland System

Adjective	Causative	Anticausative
Hittite <i>šalli</i> 'great, pre-eminent'	<i>šallanu-zi</i> 'raise, exalt, magnify [tr.]'	<i>šallēšš-zi</i> 'become large, increase in power'
Latin <i>gravis</i> 'heavy'	<i>gravō</i> 'make heavy'	<i>gravēscō</i> 'become heavy'

After Rau (2009)

KUB 30.10 obv. 6 *ammel* DINGIR-YA *kwit=mu=z(a)* AMA-YA *ḫāšta* / *nu=mu ammel* DINGIR-YA *šallanuš*
 'Mein Gott, was das betrifft, dass meine Mutter mich gebar: du, mein Gott, zogst mich groß' (Trad. Elisabeth Rieken)

KBo 32.14 rev. 50-51 [UL] AN.ZA.GàR *nu antuwaḫḫaš apāš* DUMU-aš *atti=šši kuiš menaḫḫanta* L.-K.R-aš *n=aš šallēšta* / [*n=aš e*] *lašna āraš n=ašta namma attaš=šan anda UL aušzi*

'This is not a tower, but a human being. It is that son who is hostile toward his father. He *grew up* and reached *elaššar*, and no longer looks at his father'. (Trad. CHD)



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After Rau (2009)

Ov. Met. VIII 204-206 *moneo, ne, si demissior ibis, / unda gravet pennas, si celsior, ignis adurat: / inter utrumque vola*

'I [i.e., Daedalus] warn you [i.e., Icarus], as if you go too low, the water may **wait your wings**; if you go too high, the fire may burn them. Fly between the two.'

Verg. Georg. II 426-429 *Poma quoque, ut primum truncos sensere valentis / et vires habuere suas, ad sidera raptim / vi propria nituntur opisque haud indiga nostrae. / nec minus interea fetu nemus omne gravescit*

'Fruit trees, too, so soon as they feel their stems firm, and come to their strength, swiftly push forth skyward with inborn force, needing no help from us. No less, meanwhile, does every wood **grow heavy with fruit**'



Causative alternation with Caland roots in Greek

II XI 393-395 τοῦ δὲ γυναικὸς μὲν τ' ἀμφίδρυφοί εἰσι παρειαί, / παῖδες
δ' ὀρφανικοί· ὃ δέ θ' αἵματι γαῖαν ἐρεύθων / πύθεται, οἰωνοὶ δὲ περὶ
πλέες ἢ γυναῖκες

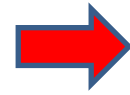
'torn then with wailing are the cheeks of his wife, and his children
fatherless, while he, *reddening the earth* with his blood, rots away,
more birds around him than women'

Sapph. fr. 105a V. οἶον τὸ γλυκύμαλον **ἐρεύθεται** ἄκρω ἐπ' ὕσδω

'As the sweet-apple *reddens* on the bough-top'



What happens with θω-verbs?



Causative	Anticausative
πίμπλημι	πλήθω
βαρύνω	βαρύθω
φλέγω (Hom.+) [intr. Pi.+]	φλεγέθω (Hom.+) [tr. 1x]

II. XXI 22-24 ὡς δ' ὑπὸ δελφῖνος μεγακήτεος ἰχθύες ἄλλοι / φεύγοντες **πιμπλάσι**
μυχούς λιμένος εὐόρμου, / δειδιότες· μάλα γάρ τε κατεσθίει ὄν κε λάβησιν·

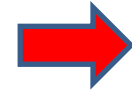
‘And as before a monstrous dolphin other fishes flee and *fill* the recesses of some harbor or fair anchorage in their terror, for greedily does he devour any he catches’

II. XXI 218-220 **πλήθει** γὰρ δὴ μοι νεκύων ἐρατεινὰ ῥέεθρα, / οὐδέ τί πη δύναμαι
προχέειν ῥόον εἰς ἄλα δῖαν / στεινόμενος νεκύεσσι, σὺ δὲ κτείνεις αἰδήλως

‘*For full* are my lovely streams with the dead, nor can I in any way pour my waters out into the bright sea, being choked with the dead, while you ever slay ruthlessly’.



What happens with θω-verbs?



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πίμπλημι	πλήθω
βαρύνω	βαρύθω
φλέγω (Hom.+) [intr. Pi.+]	φλεγέθω (Hom.+) [tr. 1x]

// **XI 583-584** καί μιν βάλε μηρὸν ὀϊστῶ / δεξιόν· ἐκλάσθη δὲ δόναξ, **ἐβάρυνε** δὲ μηρόν

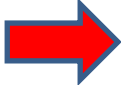
‘and struck him with an arrow on the right thigh; and the reed of the arrow broke, and *made his thigh heavy*’.

// **XVI 517-519** ἔλκος μὲν γὰρ ἔχω τόδε καρτερόν, ἀμφὶ δέ μοι χεὶρ / ὀξειίης ὀδύνησιν ἐλήλαται, οὐδέ μοι αἷμα / τερσηῆναι δύναται, **βαρύθει** δέ μοι ὤμος ὑπ’ αὐτοῦ·

‘For I have this terrible wound and my arm is shot through with sharp pangs, nor can the blood be dried; and my shoulder is become heavy with that’



What happens with θω-verbs?

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πίμπλημι	πλήθω
βαρύνω	βαρύθω
 φλέγω (Hom.+) [intr. Pi.+]	φλεγέθω (Hom.+) [tr. 1x]

II. II 455 Ἦϋτε πῦρ ἀΐδηλον **ἐπιφλέγει** ἄσπετον ὕλην

‘Just as a consuming fire *makes* a boundless forest blaze’

II. XVIII 210-211 ἅμα δ’ ἠελίῳ καταδύντι / πυρσοί τε **φλεγέθουσιν**
ἐπήτριμοι

‘and then at sunset flame out the beacon fires one after another’



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πίμπλημι	πλήθω
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φλέγω (Hom.+) [intr. Pi.+]	φλεγέθω (Hom.+) [tr. 1x]

→ **Key-point 1:** With verbs in -θ-, the alternation was marked by stems (i.e., by suffixes), not by endings

→ **Key-point 2:** Verbs in -θ- describe either states or spontaneous and internally caused change of state



Inherited types of opposition (after Rau 2009: 157-160)

- 1) R(é)-e/o- [stative/inchoative] : R(é)-e/o- [factitive] (voice opposition)
→ e.g., Skt. *svádate* 'become tasty' vs. *svádati* 'make tasty'

- 2) R(é)-e/o- [stative/inchoative] : R(é[?]/z)-n- [factitive]
→ e.g., Skt. *pávate* 'be/become clean' vs. *punáti* 'make clean'

- 3) R(é)-e/o- [stative/inchoative] : R(o)-éie/o- [factitive]
→ e.g., Skt. *rócate* 'shine' vs. *rocáyati* 'make light'

Inherited types of opposition

1) R(é)-e/o- [stative/inchoative] : R(é)-e/o- [factitive]

R(é)-dh-e/o- [stative/inchoative] : R(é)-e/o- [factitive]

→ **φλεγέθω** ‘blaze, flare up’ vs. **φλέγω** ‘burn, burn up’;

→ **φθινύθω** ‘destroy, be destroyed, die’ vs. **φθίνω** ‘destroy, be destroyed, kill’



Inherited types of opposition (after Rau 2009: 157-160)

1) R(é)-e/o- [stative/inchoative] : R(é)-e/o- [factitive]

2) R(é)-e/o- [stative/inchoative] : R(z)-n- [factitive]

**R(é)-d^h-e/o- [stative/inchoative] : R(é/z)-n-
[factitive]**

(After further derivations) τηλεθάω ‘be luxuriant’ vs. θάλλω ‘(make) grow; πελάθω ‘draw near’ vs. πιλνάω ‘bring near’; βαρύθω ‘be weighted down’ vs. βαρύνω ‘oppress’



Empirical statements from Bozzone (2016)

- Root aorists, in Vedic, often feature ‘Caland’ verbs.
- Caland roots, in Vedic, tend to show ‘isolated’ participles built on the aorist stems



Do roots derived with -θ- show root aorist?

πλήθω: ἐπλήμην

βένθος (if related to
*g^hem-/g^heh₂-): βάν

φθινύθω: ἔφθιτο

ἠερέθομαι: *h₁e-h₂u(e)r- (ptc. ἀπουράμενοι)

πελάθω: πλῆτο

λήθω: λῆτο· ἐπελάθετο



Homeric isolated participles

- ἐρέχθων, ἐρέχθομενος
- φαέθων (also PN Φαέθων)
- τηλεθάων and θαλέθων
- ?Ἄρέθουσα (cf. ἀρέσκω and ἀρέθω)
- Compare also the ptc. αἶθουσα 'portico, veranda'
(also PNs Αἶθουσα and Διαίθουσα)



The productivity of θω-verbs: 5th-3rd century evidence

→ Deverbals and denominals attested from the 5th century onwards, without connection to Caland roots (and often with uncertain etymology)

εἴκω (Hom.+): εἰκάθω (8x in Sophocles, 4x in Apollonius Rhodius)

Moeris Attic. ε 26.1 εικάθοιμεν Ἀττικοί· εἴκομεν Ἕλληνες

Semantics of εικάθω

Soph. El. 1011-1014 καὶ τὰ μὲν λελεγμένα / ἄρρητ' ἐγὼ σοι κάτελῆ φυλάξομαι, / αὐτὴ δὲ νοῦν σχέσ ἀλλὰ τῷ χρόνῳ ποτέ, / σθένουσα μηδὲν τοῖς κρατοῦσιν **εἰκαθεῖν**
'I will guard your words unspoken and unrealised, and do you in the end at least acquire the sense *to yield* to those in power when you have no strength!

Soph. OC 1326-1329 οἷ σ' ἀντὶ παίδων τῶνδε καὶ ψυχῆς, πάτερ, / ἰκετεύομεν
ξύμπαντες ἐξαιτούμενοι / μῆνιν βαρεῖαν **εἰκαθεῖν** ὀρμωμένῳ / τῷδ' ἀνδρὶ τούμοῦ
πρὸς κασιγνήτου τίσιν

'We all now beseech you in supplication, by your daughters and by your life, father, to renounce your grievous anger in favour of myself, as I set out to take vengeance on my brother'

II. XXV 100 ἧ δ' ἄρα παρ Διὶ πατρὶ καθέζετο, **εἶξε** δ' Ἀθήνη·

'Then she sat down beside father Zeus, and Athene *gave place*'.

ἀμυνάθω and ἀλκαθεῖν

ἀμυνάθω (1x in Aeschylus, 1x in Sophocles, 3x in Euripides, 1x in Aristophanes, glossed as βοηθήσατε and ἀμύνειν, βοηθεῖν)

Aesch. Eum. 437-438 λέξας δὲ χώραν καὶ γένος καὶ συμφορὰς / τὰς σὰς, ἔπειτα τῶνδ' **ἀμυναθοῦ** ψόγον

'Tell me your country, your family and your misfortunes, and then *rebut* the charge these accusers have brought'

Aesch. Agam. 1380-1381 οὕτω δ' ἔπραξα καὶ τὰδ' οὐκ ἀρνήσομαι / ὡς μήτε φεύγειν μήτ' **ἀμύνεσθαι** μόρον.

'I did it this way—I won't deny it—so that he could neither escape death nor *defend* himself'.

Aesch. Agam. 100-103 τοτὲ δ' ἐκ θυσιῶν ἅς ἀναφαίνεις / ἐλπίς **ἀμύνει** φροντίδ' ἀπληστον / 'while at another, because of the sacrifices, gentle Hope manifests herself, and *wards off* our insatiable worries'



ἀμῦνάθω and ἀλκαθεῖν

Soph. OC 1014-1015 ὁ ξεῖνος, ὤναξ, χρηστός· αἱ δὲ συμφοραὶ / αὐτοῦ πανώλεις, ἄξια δ' **ἀμυναθεῖν**
'My lord, the stranger is a good man! His fortune has been ruinous, but is such that we should *defend* him'

Soph OC 428-430 οἷ γε τὸν φύσαντ' ἐμὲ / οὕτως ἀτίμως πατρίδος ἐξωθούμενον / οὐκ ἔσχον οὐδ' **ἤμυναν**
'when I, their father, was so shamefully extruded from the land they did not prevent it or *defend* me'

Eur. Andr. 1079-1080 ἄκουσον, εἰ καὶ σοῖς φίλοις **ἀμυναθεῖν** / χρήζεις, τὸ πραχθέν, σὸν κατορθώσας δέμας

'If you wish to assist yourself and your kin, stand and listen to what has happened'.

Eur. Supp. 377-378 **ἄμυνε** ματρί, πόλις, **ἄμυνε**, Παλλάδος, / νόμους βροτῶν μὴ μαιίνειν
'O city of Pallas, *protect, protect* a mother: see that the laws of mortals are not defiled!'



ἀμῦνάθω and ἀλκαθεῖν

ἀλκαθεῖν 'assist' : ἀλκή 'strenght, help' (Hom.+) →
Phot. *Lex.* 976 Ἄλκάθω καὶ ἀλκάθειν· Σοφοκλῆς καὶ
Αἰσχύλος. σημαίνει δὲ τὸ βοηθεῖν.

! Hsch. ἤλκάζοντο· ἤμύνοντο (ἀλκάζω is post-
Classical)

(Any relation with Ἄλκάθοος?)



Two observations

- All Classical innovations could have been aorists (presents were posited by grammarians)
- Morphologically, they show analogy on zero-graded aorists from *set* roots ($*Ch_2-d^h-$), e.g., μάθον (Hom.+) and ἔλαθον (Hom.+)



θω-presents from grammarians

Et. Gen. = Et. Mag. = Et. Sym. etc.

Ἄγειρέ[[σ]]θω· ἐκ τοῦ ἀγείρω, τὸ συναθροίζω, γίνεται ἀγειρέ[[σ]]θω καὶ οὐχὶ ἀγειρά[[σ]]θω, ἐπειδὴ τὰ εἰς ω λήγοντα ῥήματα βαρύτερα, εἰ μὲν μακρᾶ παραλήγονται, διὰ τοῦ αθω ποιοῦσι τὴν παραλήγουσαν, οἷον κίω **κιάθω**, εἴκω **εϊκάθω**, ἀμύ[νω] **ἀμυνάθω**, εἴργω **εἴργάθω**, εἰ δὲ βραχεῖα παραλήγονται, διὰ τοῦ εθω ποιοῦσι τὴν παραλήγουσαν, οἷον φλέγω **φλεγέθω**, νέμω **νεμέθω**, ὅθεν τὸ **ἀγειρέθω** καὶ **ἀείρω ἀειρέθω** γενόμενον κατὰ παραγωγήν. **ἀγερέθω**
ἀπέβαλε τὸ ι



Hdn. *De prosodia catholica* 3.1.440.9 Lentz

Τὰ διὰ τοῦ εθω βαρύνεται, **σχέθω**, **ἔθω**, ἐρέθω, ἀερέθω, **φαέθω**, **φλεγέθω**, **σπερέθω**, **νεμέθω**, **βρεμέθω**, **ἀρέθω**, **χρεμέθω**, **τελέθω**, **ἐγερέθω**, **ἐμέθω**, **ἀγερέθω**. τὸ δὲ τηλεθῶ τὸ εἰς ὕψος θέω περισπᾶται.

Theognost. *Can.* 852

Τὰ διὰ τοῦ εθω ῥήματα, δισύλλαβά τε καὶ ὑπὲρ δύο συλλαβὰς, διὰ τοῦ ε ψιλοῦ γράφεται, καὶ βαρύνεται· οἶον, **σπέθω**· **σχέθω**· **μέθω**· **ἔθω**· **κενέθω**· **ἀρέθω**· **κερέθω**· **φαέθω**· **τελέθω**· **ἐγερέθω**· **νεμέθω**· **φλεγέθω**· τὸ τηλεθῶ περισπώμενον σεσημείωται, τὴν τρίτην ἀπὸ τέλους ἔχον φύσει μακράν· καὶ τὸ αἶθω ἐπὶ τοῦ καίω, διὰ τῆς αἰ διφθόγγου γραφόμενον.



Productivity of -θ- in late Antiquity

1) Analogy on Caland-like adjectives?

◇ **ἀρέθω** ?‘be/make good’: connected with Ἄρέθουσα? (see ἀρείων , ἄριστος)

◇ **κενέθω** vs. κενός ‘empty’ (also κεινός, κενεός and κενευτός), κενόω ‘make empty’ (Hom.+) < *κενφος, *κενεφος < **ken-u-*



Productivity of -θ- in late Antiquity

1) Analogy on Caland-like adjectives?

2) Deverbal on both transitive and intransitive presents

◇ **βρεμέθω** (4x between the 4th and the 6th century AD, **participle only**) vs. βρέμω 'roar' (Hom.+)

Apollin. Theol. Metaphrasis 2.77.48 ἐν πόντῳ βρεμέθοντι τεαί 'Yours roar in the sea'

Jo.Gaz. Ekphrasis 2.145 βροντὴ δὲ βρεμέθουσα 'The thunder roars'

◇ **έμέθω** (Gramm. only) vs. έμέω 'vomit' (Hom.+)
e.g., αἷμ' έμέων 'vomiting blood' (Il. XV 511); αἷμ' άπέμεσεν (Il. XIV 437)



Productivity of -θ- in late Antiquity

1) Analogy on Caland-like adjectives?

2) Deverbal on both transitive and intransitive presents

3) Analogy on the type **ἀγείρω : ἀγερέθω**

◇ **σπερέθω** (also Hsch. ἔσπερέθοντο· ἔσπερον· ἔσπειρον) vs. σπείρω
'saw, engender' (Hom.+)

◇ **ἐγερέθω** (Gramm. only) vs. ἐγείρω 'awaken, raise, stir up' (Hom.+)

◇ **κερέθω** (Gramm. only) vs. κείρω 'cut, crop, destroy, ravage' (Hom.+)

! From *Etymologica* : ἀγερέθω ἀπέβαλε τὸ ι



Reconstructing a (later) -εθ-: pros and cons

Homeric forms

θαλέθω : θάλος (Hom.+) < * $\nu d^h e h_2 l-$

τελέθω : τέλος (Hom.+) < * $\nu t e l h_2-$ or/and * $\nu k^u e l-$

φαέθων : φάος (Hom.+) < * $\nu b^h e h_2-$

νεμέθω : ?νέμος (Hom.+) < * $\nu n e m-$

φλεγέθω : φλέγος (Hsch.) < * $\nu b^h l e g-$

μέγεθος (μέγαθος in Hdt.) : ? < * $\nu m e g h_2-$

Reconstructing a (later) -εθ-: pros and cons

Possible later derivations

χρεμέθω : χρεμετίζω (Hom.+)
 $< *v g^h rem-$

έμέθω : έμέω (Hom.+)
 $< *v \underset{\eta}{\mu} em h_1-$

βρεμέθω : έριβρεμέτης, ύψιβρεμέτης (Hom.+)

άρέθω : ?άρέσκω
 $< *v h_2 er h_1-$



Reconstructing a (later) -εθ-: pros and cons

Derivatives in -ερο- to Caland s-stems

κρατερός 'strong' : κράτος 'strength' (Hom.+)

θαλερός 'blooming' : θάλος 'scion' (Hom.+)



Nominals in -θ-

➤ Nouns in -θος (s-stems)

➤ Nouns in -θη

➤ Nouns in -θος (o-stems)

➤ The noun πληθύς

➤ Adjectives in -θής

Nominals in -θ-

➤ **Nouns in -θος (s-stems)**

➤ ~~Nouns in -θη~~

➤ ~~Nouns in -θος (o-stems)~~

➤ ~~The noun πληθύς~~

➤ **Adjectives in -θής**

The s-stem neuters in -θε/οσ-

“In Greek, the first element of a complex s-stem suffix is in itself always a Caland suffix. In other words, it appears likely that **one Caland suffix was extended by another one**. [...] The reason for this additive way of forming complex suffixes is not clear. It has been observed that in some cases the s-stem noun and the present stem of the verb share the same marker [...]. However, in the majority of cases such a link cannot be established”. (Meißner 2006: 51-52).

→ -θε/οσ- as a productive ‘complex’ Caland suffix? Compare -ιλο-, -υλο-, -ινο-, -υνο- etc.

βένθος vs. βαθύς

?τέλθος vs. τελέθω

ἔσθος (and ἔσθής) vs. ἔσθέω

πληθος vs. πλήθω

μέγεθος vs. ?



s-stem adjectives in -θ-ής

- ο άγχι-βαθής (Hom.+) ← ?βαθύς (βάθος and Pass. έβάθην are late)
- ο αίθής (Crat.+) ← αίθός (o-stem), αίθω (No Passive)
- ο πολυ-γηθής (Hom.+) ← γηθέω, aor. γήθησα (γῆθος is late)
- ο ά-ληθής (Hom.+) ← λήθη or λήθω (λήθος is late)
- ο ύπερ-μεγάθης (Hdt.+) ← μέγαθος
- ο πυρι-φλεγέθης (Hr.+) ← φλεγέθω (cf. Pass. φλεχθειή Hes.+))
- ο έπι-βριθής (Aesch.) ← έπιβρίθω (βριθός is late)
- ο παμ-πληθής (Xen.+) ← πληθος



Re-derived forms in -θ-: the emergence of new derivational paradigms?

-θεσ- (later or back-formed)	-θής	-ρ(ο)-	-σύνη	Factitives	Other
αἶθος	αἰθής	αἶθρος ἰθαρός αἶθρη			αἶθαλος αἶθινος
(πλῆθος : old?)	-πληθής			πληθύνω	πληθύς, -ύος
βάθος	-βαθής	βάθρον		βαθύνω	βαθμός
λάθος	-ληθής	λάθρη λαθραῖος	λαῖθοςύνα	ἐκληθάνω	λαῖθι-
γῆθος	-γηθής		γηθοσύνη		γηθαλέος
βρῖθος	-βριθής		βριθοσύνη		
(μέγαθος : old)	-μεγάθης			μεγεθύνω	



To sum up

- 1) Strong correlation between Greek forms in -θ- and the Caland System, featuring the early occurrences of the suffix in Greek
- 2) At an early stage, a 'complex' Caland -θε/οσ- was employed for deriving neuter abstract nouns
- 3) During the Classical and post-Classical periods, -θ- was likely a root extension for shaping thematic aorists and presents
- 4) Early forms in -θ- later became the center of new derivational paradigms making use of Caland-associative morphology





ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

**Vielen Dank für eure
Aufmerksamkeit!**

andrea.santamaria3@unibo.it

www.unibo.it