

position auch als Nicht-*s*-Stamm verwendet wurde. Diese doppelte Erscheinung von *φάος* als *s*- bzw. als *o*-Stamm läßt sich sehr gut veranschaulichen durch die Dublette a) *φασσ-φόρος* (Lyr. Adesp. in PLit. Lond. 51.5) bzw. *φασσ-φόρος* (Call. Dian. 204) und b) *φανο-φόροι· Αἰολεῖς ἰέρειαι* Hsch. mit Umdeutung zum *o*-Stamm wie in *ἀπο-φώ-λιος*<sup>34</sup>).

Korr.-Zusatz: Nachträglich werde ich aufmerksam auf folgende Verse von Philetas (fr. 10, Coll. Alex. ed Powell, Oxford 1925, p. 92):

Οὐ μέ τις ἐξ ὀρέων ἀποφώλιος ἀγροιώτης  
αἰρήσει κλήθρη, αἰρόμενος μακέλην·  
ἀλλ' ἐπέων εἰδὼς κόσμον καὶ πολλὰ μογήσας  
μύθων παντοίων οἶμον ἐπιστάμενος.

Hier könnte man zwar die Paraphrase *ἀπαίδεντος, ἀδίδακτος* (Ableitung von *φωλεύς*) einsetzen. Ein Vergleich mit ξ 212 und der Stelle aus Nikander führt aber zu dem Schluß, daß Philetas *ἀποφώλιος* ebenfalls von *φάος* abgeleitet haben dürfte. *ἀποφώλιος ἀγροιώτης* sollte etwa mit 'unerleuchteter Bauerntölpel' wiedergegeben werden (zur Form *ἀπόφωλος* neben *ἀποφώλιος* vgl. Man. 4.316).

### The Etymology of *σχερός* and *ἐπισχερώ*: a Homeric Misunderstanding

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The words *σχερός* and *ἐπισχερώ* have never been brought into connexion with each other, and at first sight there is no obvious link: semantically they are very different, and both are usually thought to have reasonable etymologies. Firstly, *σχερός* is attested in the Hesychian gloss *σχερός· ἀκτὴ, αἰγιαλός* (cf. *σχερόν· κύμα ἐτοῖμον*, *ibid.*, which I do not understand), the varia lectio *σχεράς* 'shingle' at Φ 319, and the compound *πολυσχεράς* 'shingly' in Euphorion, fr. 25.

The consensus of scholarly opinion, represented by Frisk<sup>1</sup>) and Chantraine<sup>2</sup>), is to accept Hiersche's derivation of this by a second-

<sup>34</sup>) Diesen Hinweis verdanke ich Herrn Prof. Strunk.

<sup>1</sup>) H. Frisk, *Griechisches Etymologisches Wörterbuch*, Heidelberg 1960–70, s. v.

<sup>2</sup>) P. Chantraine, *Dictionnaire étymologique de la langue grecque*, Paris 1968–, s. v.

ary aspiration from \**σκερός*, cf. OE *score*, MHG *schore* from the root \*(s)*ker-* in *κείρω*. The secondary aspiration is very difficult to explain. Hiersche suggests that the original form is seen with metathesis in *ξερόν* at ε 402:

ῥόχθει γὰρ μέγα κύμα ποτὶ ξερόν ἡπείροιο<sup>3)</sup>.

This is certainly a far better link than that with *ξηρός*, by "metrical shortening" the like of which is unparalleled<sup>4)</sup>. However, if *σχερός* is original, the aspiration would disappear in metathesis to produce the same result *ξερός*, cf. *ἔξω* beside *ἔχω*. It might therefore be better to jettison the link with OE *score*. It is tempting instead to suggest a connexion (somehow!) with ἡ *χέρσος* 'dry land', which is cognate with Sanskrit *hárṣate* 'become stiff, bristle', Latin *horreō*, Avestan *zarštva* 'stone': but in this case we must suppose the existence of an otherwise unattested prothetic *s* in this root, and that the *s* at the end of the root did not always belong to it as firmly as appears from the new 'cognates'. This etymology raises as many problems as Hiersche's.

What has all this to do with *ἐπισχερώ*, 'in turn'? Apart from the three examples in the *Iliad* to be scrutinised shortly, the form is attested in Simonides (fr. 155.5), Theocritus (*Id.* 14.69) and Apollonius of Rhodes (I 528, IV 451). There is also *ἐνσχερώ* (Ap. Rhod. I 912) and *ἐν σχερῶι* in Pindar, *Nem.* I 69, XI 39, *Is.* VI 62. None of these instances has any connexion with 'shore'. Lastly, there is the gloss *ισχερώ· ἑξῆς* in Hesychius. Chantraine<sup>5)</sup>, following Schwyzler<sup>6)</sup>, sees this as Cypriot from \**ἰνσχερώ*: if correct, this will prove the antiquity of the form. However, a more likely if more prosaic explanation is that it is derived from *ἐπισχερώ* by false division: indeed *ἐπ' ἰσχερώ* is given in some Homeric mss.

The etymology of *ἐπισχερώ* is thought to be — \**seǵh-*, with the zero grade of the root seen in *ἔσχον* and a suffix in *-ερός*. Thus Schwyzler<sup>7)</sup> deems it the instrumental of a lost noun \**σχερόν*

<sup>3)</sup> *Zeitschr. für Phon. Sprachw. und Kommunikationsforschung* 17 (1964) 515ff.

<sup>4)</sup> Pace Chantraine op. cit. s. v. It is certain that the long vowel in *ξηρός* was original, cf. Skt. *kṣārā-*, *kṣāyati* 'burns'. For *ξερός* a better cognate is Latin *serescunt* 'dry' (Lucil. I 306), cf. *serēnus*, OHG *serawēn*, MHG *serben* 'dry' < \**ksēro-* or \**k<sup>h</sup>sēro-*, perhaps — \**g<sup>h</sup>sēro-* by assimilation Pokorny, *Indogermanisches Etymologisches Wörterbuch* p. 625).

<sup>5)</sup> s. v. *σχερός*.

<sup>6)</sup> *Griechische Grammatik* II 469.

<sup>7)</sup> loc. cit.

'continuum'. Chantraine<sup>8)</sup> compares ἐξῆς, ἐφεξῆς and Doric ἐξαν and ἐπεχές. The suffix is harder to parallel: the accentuation is against an analogy with comparative adverbs, such as ἐκαστέρω, as well as the sense.

However, the Homeric use of the word suggests new lines of enquiry. The remarkable fact is that in two cases ἐπισχερώ is juxtaposed with ἀκτή, and the only other case is highly ambiguous:

Σ 68–9 ἀκτὴν εἰσανέβαινον ἐπισχερώ, ἔνθα θαμειαὶ  
Μυρμιδόνων εἶροντο νέες ταχὺν ἀμφ' Ἀχιλῆα

Ψ 125–6 καὶ δ' ὁ ἄρ' ἐπ' ἀκτῆς (sc. φητρύς) βάλλον ἐπισχερώ, ἔνθ' ἄρ'  
Ἀχιλλεύς  
φράσσατο Πατρόκλῳ μέγα ἡρόιον ἠδέ οἱ αὐτῶι.

Λ 666–8 . . . εἰς ὃ κε δὴ νῆες θοαὶ ἄγχι θαλάσσης  
Ἀργείων ἀέκητι πυρὸς δηλοῖο θέρωνται,  
αὐτοὶ τε κτεινόμεθ' ἐπισχερώ· οὐ γὰρ ἐμὴ ἱς . . .

The association with ἀκτή in the first two cases suggests that there was some relationship between ἐπισχερώ and σχερός. In all three contexts ἐπὶ σχερῶι 'on the shore' would give excellent sense: although in the first two it might be thought somewhat pleonastic, it is syntactically acceptable. It looks very much as if one of the words we have been examining is derived, by a misunderstanding of these or similar passages, from the other. The question is, which? And when?

On the evidence available a certain conclusion seems out of reach. If σχερός was original, we can argue that at some stage in the tradition a dative σχερῶι has been corrupted to the accepted reading, and this is supported by Pindar's ἐν σχερῶι. But it is equally likely that at some stage the texts read *ΕΠΙΣΧΕΡΟ*, where O could represent either -οῦ or -ώ; for this compare βῶν at *H* 238 for βούν and Chantraine's discussion of Homeric orthography<sup>9)</sup>. To me a genitive seems more probable at Ψ 125; ἐπὶ χέρσου occurs once in the *Iliad*, seven times in the *Odyssey*, mostly in formulae. Σ 68 is the most difficult case of the three for this view, as the common use of ἐπὶ with the genitive in the sense of 'onto' appears with verbs of motion in the simplex, rather than with a compound as here. Thus I suspect that here ἐπισχερώ did mean 'in turn', at least in this passage if not elsewhere in the mind of the poet: but the two

<sup>8)</sup> loc. cit.

<sup>9)</sup> *Grammaire homérique*, 2nd. ed. Paris 1973, Ch. 1.

collocations with *ἀκτὴ* suggest that the misunderstanding did not predate the constitution of our present text by very much.

I find this a more satisfying derivation than the reverse, but on no very strong grounds; perhaps it is of significance that no alternative meaning 'on the shore' is ever offered by the scholiasts, and that is such an obscure word: had the development been from *ἐπισχερώ* to *σχερός*, we might have expected to find the latter form somewhere in the considerable bulk of learned Hellenistic poetry, apart from a single derivative in Euphorion.

Another argument may be drawn from the likelihood that *σχερός* is attested very early, while *ἐπισχερώ* and *ἐν σχερῶι* are not found with certainty until Simonides and Pindar. This too is an *argumentum ex silentio* and thus doubtful. There is a place-name at Pylos *o-pi-ke-ri-jo, o-pi-ke-ri-jo-de* (An 615.8, 724.3) which has been interpreted by Chadwick<sup>10</sup>) as */Opiskerion/*. The context is eminently appropriate to a coastal town at An 724.3–4:

*o-pi-ke-ri-jo-de ki-ti-ta o-pe-ro-ta e-re-e VIR 1*

(At An 615.8 the context is lost, but may also be a list of rowers.) For the formation compare */opihala/* 'coastal regions' (An 657.1) and *τὰ ἐπιθαλάσσια*: and also perhaps Homer's *Σχερλή*. It is even possible that a compound *\*ἐπισχερός* underlies *ἐπισχερώ* in Homer, although one would expect it to have had a suffix in *-ιος* as in Mycenaean. A further weak indication of the antiquity of *σχερός* may be the form *ξερόν* in the Odyssey, discussed above.

While these arguments are not conclusive, they do suggest that the adverb originated by a misunderstanding in the early epic tradition, particularly if the form *ἐπεχές* along with *ἴσχω* was known to the poet. On balance this seems more plausible than the reverse process.

<sup>10</sup>) M. Ventris and J. Chadwick, *Documents in Mycenaean Greek*, 2nd. ed. Cambridge 1973, pp. 187–188 and glossary s. v. I am indebted to Dr. Chadwick for drawing my attention to these forms. I now find that the link between *σχερός* and *ἐπισχερώ* was first made in the last century by Doederlin (cf. Mooney on Ap. Rhod. I 220).