(from ancient to 'modern')

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1. Vowels & diphthongs *
            (i) /_I/ [I], /C_IV/ [C_IV] C_iV, /_V_jV/ [V_IjV] V_iV, /_J^*_jV/ [_J^*_jV] *_iV^2
            (\bar{\imath}) /iː/ [ii(C/V), _{\circ}i] <sup>1</sup>
            (\breve{e})/\epsilon/[\epsilon, E]
            (\bar{e}) / ex / [ee(C/V), _{e}]^{-1}
            (ă) /e/ [e]
            (\bar{a}) /a! / [aa(C/V), a]^{-1}
        (\breve{o})/2/[2, \sigma]
            (\bar{o}) /oː/ [oo(C/V), _oo] 1
        (ŭ) /ʊ/ [ʊ], /CʊV/ [CʊV] CuV <sup>3</sup>
            (\bar{u}) / u : / [u u (C/V), u]^{-1}
           (\breve{y})/Y/[Y]^4
            (\bar{y})/y!/[yy(C/V), y]^{-1}, 4
ei |\epsilon_i| [\epsilon_i, \epsilon_i]^5
ei (e\bar{i})/\epsilon i!/[\epsilon i, \epsilon i]
eu /ευ/ [ευ, ¸ευ] <sup>5</sup>
ae (x) /ge/ [ge] 5
au /eu/ [eu] 5
oe (œ) /oe/ [oe] <sup>5</sup>
ou /ɔʊ/ [ɔʊ, ⴰσʊ] <sup>5</sup>
ui /ʊɪ/ [ʊɪ] <sup>5</sup>
  * Examples for the main Latin vocalic elements:
vīdĭt /ˈwiːdɪt/ [ˈwiidɪt] 'he/she saw' – vĭdĕt /ˈwɪdɛt/ [ˈwɪdɛt] 'he/she sees'
vēnīt /ˈweɪnɪt/ [ˈweenɪt] 'he/she came' – vĕnīt /ˈwɛnɪt/ [ˈwɛnɪt] 'he/she comes'
mālum /maːlum/ maalu] 'apple' – malum /malum/ [melu] 'bad'
populum/ ['poopulum/ ['poopulum/ populum/ populu
fūrŏr /ˈfuɪrɔr/ [ˈfuurσr] 'I steal' – fŭrŏr /ˈfurɔr/ [ˈfurσr] 'rage'.
Further useful examples:
lēgĕm /ˈleːqɛm/ [ˈleeqɛ̃] 'law' – lĕgĭt /ˈlɛqɪt/ [ˈlɛqɪt] 'he/she reads'
vēlum /weelum/ [we:lu] 'veil' - pilum /pilum/ [pilu] 'hair' - vīnum /wi:num/
           [ˈwiinʊ̃] 'wine'
vĭttăm /ˈwɪttem/ [ˈwɪttee] 'peak' – sectăm /ˈsektem/ [ˈsektee] 'sect'
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fig 1. Classical Latin vowels.

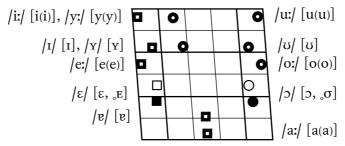


fig 2.1. Classical Latin diphthongs.

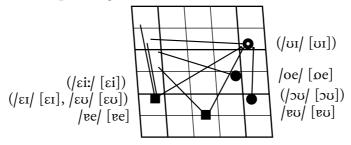


fig 2.2. Classical Latin diphthongs: colloquial variants.

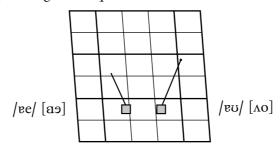
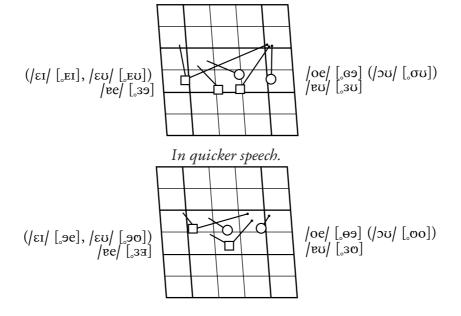


fig 2.3. Classical Latin diphthongs in unstressed syllables (including quicker speech variants).



sōlẽm /ˈsoːlɛm/ [ˈsoolẽ] 'sun' – nữcẽm /ˈnʊkɛm/ [ˈnʊkẽ] 'nut' – lūcẽm /ˈluːkɛm/ [ˈluukẽ] '(a) light'

rŭptŭm /ˈrʊptʊm/ [ˈrʊptʊ̃] 'broken' – cŏctŭm /ˈkɔktʊm/ [ˈkɔktʊ̃] 'cooked' cŭrsŭm /ˈkʊɾsʊm/ [ˈkʊɾsʊ̃] 'course' – cŏrsŭm /ˈkɔɾsʊm/ [ˈkɔɾsʊ̃] 'Corsican'

And: praedăm/prædăm /'preedem/ ['preedē] 'prey' coenăm/cœnăm /'kɔenem/ ['koenē] 'supper' aurum /'eurum/ ['euru] 'gold'.

fig 3. Classical Latin nasalized vowels.

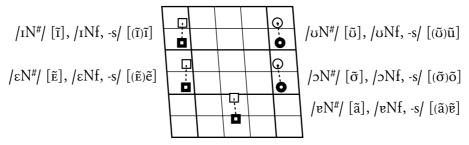
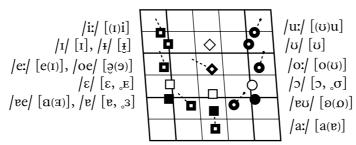


fig 4. Rural/popular Latin vowels & diphthongs (with no /y:, y/, but with / $\frac{1}{2}$ / [ $\frac{1}{2}$ ]).



- ¹ There is a phonetic difference in length between stressed ([¹]) and unstressed long vowels ([。]): ārā (abl.) /ˈaːɾaː/ [ˈaaɾa], cf āră (nom.) /ˈaːɾe/ [ˈaaɾe].
- <sup>2</sup> Audio, peius (pejus), etiam, iam (jam) /ˈeʊdɪoː, ˈpɛɪjʊs, ˈɛtɪem, ˈjem/ [ˈeʊdɪo, ˈpɛɪ-jʊs, ˈɛtɪe, ˈjee]. For metrical reasons, certain dictionaries and grammars, unfortunately, mark as 'long' the *short vowels* that precede *iV*, which –in reality– are /ˈVɪjV/ [ˈVɪjV], eg 'pēĭŭs'.
- $^3$  Puer, puella /'puer, pu'elle/ ['puer, pu'elle]. But quV, nguV are /kw, ngw/ [&, ηĝ, &, -ĝ] (fig 6).
- <sup>4</sup> Rounded, generally used in Greek loans, and appear in the vocogram boxes just to the right of those of /iː, ɪ/ [ii, ɪ].
- <sup>5</sup> There occur various vowel sequences, which are true phonetic diphthongs, even if phonemically we prefer to consider them simply as sequences, just like consonant sequences.

In cases like aes, aeris we have /ˈɐes, ˈɐerɪs/ [ˈɐes, ˈɐerɪs] (æs, æris, short diphthongs), while aer, aeris (often indicated as aër, aëris), are, instead, /ˈaːeɪr, ˈaːeɪɪs/ [ˈaaer, ˈaaeɪɪs] (long diphthongs), from Greek ἀήρ. Also: poena /ˈpoenɐ/ [ˈpoenɐ] (short diphthongs), but poema, poematis (or poëma, poëmatis) /pɔˈeːmɐ, pɔˈeːmɐtɪs/ [pʊˈeːmɐ, poˈeːmɐtɪs] (hiatuses) from Greek ποίημα. We also have cases like aunculus /ɐˈunku-lus/ [ɐˈunku-lus/ [ɐˈunku-lus/ [ɐˈwunkulus]).

fig 4 includes the possible alternative  $/\frac{1}{2}$ / phoneme, which could occur, before /m, p, b, f/ or after /w/, in words like optimus, manipulus, libet, pontifex, virtus.

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2. Consonants (here shown in alphabetical order, but see fig 5)
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/b/ [b] <sup>6</sup>
b
c, k /k/ [k] <sup>7</sup>
ch /kh/ [kh] <sup>7</sup>
d
      /d/ [d] <sup>6</sup>
      /f/ [f]
      /q/[q, q], /qN/[\eta N, \eta N] gn, gm^8, and ngu+V/nqw/[\eta \hat{q}, \eta \hat{q}]^{13}
      /h/ [h/fi] <sup>9</sup>
      /1/ [1], /1V/ [1V] IV, /1#/ [1#] I#, /1C/ [1C] IC, /11/ [11] II 10
      /m/[m], /Vm^{\#}/[V\tilde{V}, V] -Vm(W, V-), /N(W)C/[N=C]m(W)C^{-11}
m
      /n/[n], /VnC/[VN\equiv C] VnC, but /Vnf, -s/[VVf], Vf, -s Vnf, Vns^{12}
      /p/ [p] <sup>7</sup>
p
ph /ph/ [ph] <sup>7</sup>
qu /kw/ [\xi, \xi], and ngu+V/gw/ [\eta\hat{g}, \eta\hat{g}] <sup>13</sup>
      /r/[r], rh/r(h) \sim (h) r/^{14}
      /s/ [s], [z] + /b, d, g/; b, d, g, but not before /m, n; r; l/ m, n, r, l 15, 16
      /t/ [t], tiV /tiV/ [tiV] <sup>7</sup>
t
      /th/ [th] <sup>7</sup>
      /w/ [w]
ν
      /ks/ [ks] 17
Х
      |z|[z]^{18}, 19
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fig 5. Classical Latin consonants, with taxophones, & popular/rural variants between ().

	bilabial	labiodental	dental	dentovelar	alveolar	alveovelar	prepalatal	palatal	postpalatal	prevelar	velar	prevelolabial	velolabial	laryngael
Nasal Stop Constrictive Approximant Tap Lateral	т р b (ф ß)	[ŋ] f	[l]	) [ <del>{</del> - <del>{</del> }]	n (z) r 1	[1]-( <sub>1</sub> )	[t]]	[ɲ]	(Î) (c Î) (b)	[ŋ] [k g] (ɣ)	[ŋ] k g (ɣ)	[ţ ĝ]	[& ĝ] w	[?] h[h]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>/b, d/ become /p, t/ [p, t] when followed by voiceless consonants: urbs, obtu-

sus, adpatruus /'urps, op'tu:sus, et'petruus/ ['urps, op'tu:sus, et'petruus], except for insistence. Of course, we have x /ks/ [ks], ie 'cs', as in rex /'rɛks/ ['rɛks]. In sentences, ab, sub, ad assimilate to following consonants, according to usual word formation rules (nowadays, crystalized in the current spelling of Latin texts).

This produces geminates, in fluente speech, with the possibility to keep their place of articulation before other stops or nasals. However, voicing is lost before voiceless consonants: ad portas /ep'portass, et'p-/ [ep'portas], ad quem /ek'kwem, et'kwem/ [ek'kee], sub monte /sum'monte, sub'm-/ [sum'monte], sub die /sud'die:, sub'd-/ [sud'die], sub fine morbi /suf'fixne 'morbi:/ [suf'fiine 'morbi].

<sup>7</sup> 'Aspirated' voiceless stop, actually the sequence /kh/ [kh], mainly in Greek loans, as a phonostyleme (for  $\varphi$ ,  $\vartheta$ ,  $\chi$ ). Of two adjoining 'aspirated' stops, the first one loses its 'aspiration': *phthisis* /phthisis/ [pthisis].

\* In clear and precise pronunciation, /gN/ (ie /g/ + nasal) can be [gN]. The highly controversial matter about [ŋn] and [gn], for gn, is simply a tiny realization difference for /gn/. In fact, even in word-initial position in a phrase, we have [ŋn]: tibi gnarigabo /tɪbɪgnaːrɪˈgaːboː, tɪbiː-/ [ˌtɪbɪŋnarɪˈgaabo, ˌtɪbi-]. In addition, any form with gn- are mainly archaic: nosco /ˈnoːskoː/ [ˈnoosko] (+ gnosco) –including the name Gnaeus /gˈnvɛʊs/ [gˈnveʊs] – or, in any case, with variants in n-: (g)naritas /(g)ˈnaːrɪtaːs/ [(g)ˈnaarɪtaːs], thus also [ˌtɪbɪnarɪˈgaabo, ˌtɪbi-]. We equally have tegmen /ˈtɛgmɛn/ [ˈtɛŋmɛn], or [ˈtɛgmɛn] for insistence (more systematically so in rural and popular speech). For ngu see g and qu.

9 Rather weak, even in preclassical age, and not rarely voiced; between vowels, by then = |0|: nihil |'niːl/ ['niit, 'nɪfiɪt], mihi |'mɪiː, 'miː/ ['mɪi, 'mii].

Thus, velarized alveolar lateral, /l/ [ł], before a pause or a consonant. But /ll/ [łl] and /liː, lɪ, lj/ [li(i), lɪ, lj]: famulus /ˈfemulus/ [ˈfemulus], simulare /sɪmuˈlaɪːɛ/ [ˌsɪ-muˈlaare] (vs familia /feˈmɪlɪɐ/ [feˈmɪlɪɐ], similis /ˈsɪmɪlɪs/ [ˈsɪmɪlɪs]) where, by assimilation, the vowels which preceded [ł] had become back ones. Up to the end of the preclassical age, [ł] also occurred before non-front vowels (including /e, aː/).

<sup>11</sup> Word-finally, either before a pause or a vowel beginning a following word, m simply nasalizes the vowels,  $[\tilde{\imath}, \tilde{\epsilon}, \tilde{\nu}, \tilde{\sigma}, \tilde{\nu}]$ , by lengthening them into narrow closing diphthongs if stressed,  $['\tilde{\imath}\tilde{\imath}, '\tilde{\epsilon}\tilde{\epsilon}, '\tilde{\nu}\tilde{\nu}, '\tilde{\sigma}\tilde{\sigma}, '\tilde{\nu}\tilde{u}]$ . Let observe: pulchrum est  $['pv^{\dagger}khr\tilde{\nu}st]$ , pulchra es  $['pv^{\dagger}khr\tilde{\nu}st]$ .

When final before a consonant, m behaves as /n(f)C/: [m] + /p, b, m/; [n] + /t, d, n/; [n] + /k, g; kw, gw/ ( $[k, \hat{g}; k, \hat{g}]$ ). But, m is dropped, while nasalizing a preceding vowel, when followed by /j, w, h/ (even [r]) by emphasis). When followed by /f, s/, before /r, 1/r, it is either dropped nasalizing the vowel, or completely assimilated. Let us just consider a couple of exaples:  $cum\ grano\ salis$ ,  $cum\ libro\ /kun'gra:no: 'selis; kul'libro:, kum'libro:/ [kun'graano 'selis; kul'libro, kul'libro].$ 

Word-internal m is kept, becoming homorganic to a following consonant: quamquam /ˈkwenkwem/ [ˈkeŋke], omnis /ˈɔnnɪs/ [ˈɔnnɪs]. In our phonemic transcriptions, we simplify a bit, using /Vm/ for nasal(ized) vowels, [ $\tilde{V}$ ]. The same is done for /kw, gw/ [k, k; k].

<sup>12</sup> Alveolar before a vowel, but homorganic to a following consonant, except for *nf* and *ns*, where nasalization (as in the preceding case) and lengthening occur,

in stressed syllables: confero, constant, constantis, mens, mentis /ˈkɔnfεɾoː, ˈkɔnstɐns, kɔnsˈtɐntɪs, ˈmɛns, ˈmɛntɪs/ [ˈkỡδfeɾo, ˈkỡδstɐ̃s, kõsˈtɐntɪs, ˈmɛẽs, ˈmɛntɪs].

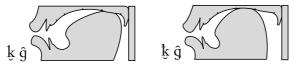
(Traditionally, for metrical reasons –by forcing things, given the very limited written possibilities—this fact is shown as '/V:/', but also keeping n: \*cōnfĕrō, \*cōnstāns, \*cōnstāntĭs, \*mēns, mĕntĭs. This lets people think we may have \*[ˈkoomferoː, ˈkoonstaans, koonsˈtɐntɪs, ˈmeens, ˈmɛntɪs], where excessively long vowels, in unstressed syllables, are clearly surprising, at least in everyday language.

In word-final position, in phrases with *in*, *non*, we find that n/n/ assimilates not only to stops and nasals, but also to /j, w/ [pj, nw] (including /ni(:), nɪ, nj/ [ni(i), nɪ, nj], word-internally, in popular and rural speech). However, it does not assimilate before /r, l/, as —on the contrary—it does in word-internal position. Anyway, in popular and rural speech, such assimilations were frequent, if not normal, even before word-internal /r, l/.

Before a vowel, n remains /n/[n], although it is not resyllabified with it, when stress is present: in agrum /n regrom /[n] (not /[n]).

<sup>13</sup> Labio-(pre)velar stops (cf 6): voiceless, qui /ˈkwiː/ [ˈkiː], or voiced, languor /ˈlen-gwɔr/ [ˈleŋĝσɾ]; /gw/ [ĝ] occurs only between /n/ and vowels different from /u/. However, in rural and popular speech, /kw, gw/ [k, k; g, ĝ] were practically replaced by /k, g/ [k, g] (including [k, g], and even [c, t], before front vowels, in addition to /gm/ [gm, gm]).

fig 6. Velolabial & prevelolabial stops [k, ĝ; k, ĝ] /kw, gw/.



- <sup>14</sup> Generally, alveolar tap, [r], both in stressed and unstressed syllables, with the possibility of either 'aspiration' [rh], or 'preaspiration' [hr], for rh,  $\dot{\rho}$ , in Greek loans, as a phonostyleme.
- <sup>15</sup> Disgregatio, Lesbos /disgreˈgaːtioː, ˈlɛsbɔs/ [ˌdizgreˈgaatio, ˈlɛzbos]; but disiungo (disju-), asma /dɪsˈjungoː, ˈaːsmɐ/ [dɪsˈjungo, ˈaasmɐ].
- <sup>16</sup> Obviously, sc is always /sk/ [sk, sk]: scio /'sk1o:/ ['sk1o]. In rural speech, /s/ before any /C/ tended to become [ş, ş; z, z].
- <sup>17</sup> The change from /ks/ to /gz/ for exV- / $\epsilon$ ksV-/ [ $\epsilon$ ksV-] decidedly belongs to periods after the classical age, while the change of (initial) x- /ks  $\rightarrow$  s/ happened even later than in classical age, thus, it is equally a non-neutral peculiarity.
- <sup>18</sup> It generally occurs in Greek loans, as a phonostyleme (for  $\zeta$ ). Since, in addition to [z], it also had further possible variants, [zz] and [dz] (not [dz], stopstrictive), it is hardly surprising that in verse it could 'lengthen syllables'.
- <sup>18</sup> In addition to what already indicated above, in *popular* and *rural* speech, any voiceless simple consonants, between any voiced phones (either vocoids, or contoids), tended to become lenis, [C], or half-voiced, [C]. Furthermore, again popular and rural speech, between vowels, often had the continuous contoids shown between () in the table of consonants, includig [z] for /r/ and [‡] for /l/ [‡].

Let us observe that /ph, th, kh/ [ph, th, kh, kh/ are phono-stylemes for Greek loans with original  $\phi$ ,  $\vartheta$ ,  $\chi$ /ph, th, kh/ [ph, th, kh/. In popular or rural speech they were replaced by plain /p, t, k/ [p, t, k, k, c].

Furthermore, [?] could freely occur before vowels in word-initial position, after pause or in stressed syllable, especially for emphasis. Let us add that words like *suavis*, *suesco* and *Suetonius* were generally treated differently in current language and in verse. In fact, /#swV-/ [swV-] were often changed into [svV-] for metrical reasons.

# 3. Length & stress

Length is phonemic both for the vowels, as already seen, and for the consonants, also combined together, especially for the vowels with different timbres: venit /ˈwenɪt/ [ˈwenɪt] 'he/she/it comes' vs venit /ˈwenɪt/ [ˈwenɪt] 'he/she/it came', populum /ˈpopulum/ [ˈpopulū] 'people' vs populum /ˈpopulum/ [ˈpopulū] 'populū] 'populū, malum /ˈmelum/ [ˈmelū] 'bad' vs malum /ˈmaːlum/ [ˈmaːlū] 'apple'; male /ˈmele/ [ˈmele] 'badly' vs malle /ˈmelle/ [ˈmele] 'to prefer', sumus /ˈsumus/ [ˈsumus] 'we are' vs summus /ˈsummus/ [ˈsummus] 'supreme'.

The short vowels, either stressed or not, are as shown in the vocogram (let us notice a tiny timbre change for  $['\epsilon, '\circ] \rightarrow [_{\epsilon}E, _{\circ}\sigma]$ ). In stressed syllables, either free or checked, the long vowels are phonetically narrow monotimbric diphthongs, /'V:/ ['VV] ['VVC]: stella /'steelle | (even if directly followed by vowels: aer /'a:e:r/ ['aaer]).

However, in everyday spoken language, unstressed /v:/ (either in free or checked syllables) are realized as short vocoids, [v]: stella /'ste:lla:/ [s'teella]. But, let us notice very carefully that they keep their original timbres, [i, e, a, o, u; y].

In classical Latin, *stress* depends on the length of the *penultimate syllable* of a word, according the length of its vowel. If the vowel is *short and either in a free syllable, or followed by another vowel*, stress is shifted to the preceding vowel, ie the antepenultimate (or third last, or last but two): *cupido* 'wishful' (dat./abl.) /ˈkupɪdoː/ [ˈkupɪdo] and *cupido* 'desire' (nom.) /kuˈpiːdoː/ [kuˈpiido]; *democratia* (nom.) 'democracy' (δη-μοκρατία) /deːmɔˈkrɐtɪɐ/ [ˌdemoˈkrɐtɪɐ], and *viginti* '20' /wiːˈgɪntiː/ [wiˈɡɪnti].

Thus, when the penultimate vowel is long 'by nature', as in *cupido* [kuˈpiːdo], or 'by position' (ie 'by convention'!), as in *viginti* [wiˈgɪnti], it carries (intensive) stress (not a pitch one any longer, as it possibly was in archaic Latin).

Of course, the artistic metrical reading, accompanied by string music, is quite another thing in comparison with *true* language. In fact, it is artificially done in its rather unnatural way, which has its 'deserving' counterpart in the unnaturalness of singing, especially opera singing.

Let us notice well that iV- (as already seen above) has a consonantic function, j/[j]. Thus, we have iugum (or, better, jugum) [jugug] /[jugum/] (certainly not \*/[uu]0 gum/). Come to think of it, as the use of u/[u]0 and v/[u]1 have already been commonly distinguished, it would be better to also systematically use j, instead of i, in iV- and ViV/[jV]0, VjV/[jV]1 (the famous letters of Petrus Ramus, Pierre de La Ramée, 1515-1572). The provided examples should be carefully considered.

Here are some special cases of seeming 'irregular' stress patterns. So we have the *dropping of a final vowel*: educ(e) /eːduːk/ [eˈduuk], *illic*(e) /ɪlˈliːk/ [ɪɫˈliik], addic(e) /edˈdiːk/ [edˈdiik], adhuc(e) /edˈhuːk/ [edˈhuuk, edˈh-].

We can also find the *contraction* of some phonemes into just one: *Mercuri(i)* /mɛrˈkuriː/ [merˈkuri] (different from the vocative *Mercuri* /ˈmɛrkuriː/ [ˈmɛrkuri]), *Valeri(i)* /vɐˈlɛriː/ [vɐˈlɛri] (voc. *Valeri* /ˈvɐlɛriː/ [ˈvɐleri]), *consili(i)* /kɔnˈsɪliː/ [kõˈsɪli], *imperi(i)* /imˈpɛɾiː/ [imˈpɛɾi], *irritat* (from *irrita(v)it*]) /ɪrriːˈtaːt/ [ˌɪrriˈtaat], different from *irritat* (present) /ɪrˈriːtɐt/ [ɪrˈriitɐt], *disturbat* (from *disturba(v)it*) /dɪsturˈbaːt/ [ˌdɪsturˈbaɪ], different from *disturbat* (present) /dɪsˈturbɐt/ [dɪsˈturbɐt], *munit* (from *muni(v)it*]) /muːˈniːt/ [muˈniit], different from *munit* (present) /ˈmuːnɪt/ [ˈmuunɪt].

We also find cases of *oscillation*, depending on whether composition or dropping are more or less evident (including the very origin of certain names) as in: *satin* /se'tɪn ~ 'setɪn/ [se'tɪn ~ 'setɪn] (from *satisne* /se'tɪsne/ [se'tɪsne]), *sicin* /si:ˈkɪn ~ 'si:kɪn/ [si'kɪn ~ 'siikɪn] (from *sicine* /si:ˈkɪnɛ ~ 'siikɪne/ [si'kɪne ~ 'siikɪne]), *viden* /wɪ'dɛn, -e:n ~ 'wɪ-dɛn, -e:n/ [wɪ'dɛn, -een ~ 'wɪden, -en] (from *videsne* /wɪ'dɛsnɛ, -e:s-/ [wɪ'dɛsnɛ, -ees-]), *tanton* (from *tantone* /ten'toːne/ [ten'toone]) /ten'toːn ~ 'tentoːn/ [ten'toon ~ 'tenton], *nostra(ti)s* /nɔs'tra:s ~ 'nɔstra:s/ [nos'traas ~ 'nɔstras], *deinde* /'dɛɪndɛ ~ dɛ'ɪndɛ/ ['dɛɪndɛ ~ de'ɪndɛ/

Names: Camillus /keˈmɪllus ~ ˈkemɪllus/ [keˈmɪllus ~ ˈkemɪllus], Cethegus /ke'the:gus ~ ˈkɛthe:gus/ [keˈtheegus ~ ˈkɛthegus], Maecenas (from Maecena(ti)s] /mee'ke:na:s, meeke:ˈna:s/ [maəˈkeenas, ˌmeekeˈnaas], &c.

Also Greek words and names oscillate, if they maintain thier original forms: satrapen /ˈsɐtrɐpeːn, sɐˈtrɐpeːn/ [ˈsɐtrɐpen, sɐˈtrɐpen], Acarnan /ɐˈkɐɾnaːn, ɐkɐɾˈnaːn/ [ɐ-ˈkɐɾnan, ˌɐkɐɾˈnaan], Cleopatra /klɛˈɔpɐtɾɐ, klɛɔˈpɐtɾɐ/ [kleˈɔpɐtɾɐ, klɛoˈpɐtɾɐ]. Notice that the 'normal' syllabication for clusters of a consonant followed by /r, l/, is /#CC/, while with /m, n/, we have /C#C/. However, for metrical reasons, things could be forced to also produce /C#r, C#l/.

Furthermore, we have to consider the effect of the enclitics -ce, -ne, -ve, -que, -dem, -met, -nam, -te, -cum, and quidem, which attract stress to the preceding syllable (with possible oscillations): musaque / musekwe, musekwe/ [muuseke, museke], which is not at all confused with musaque (abl.) /musekwe/ [museake] not even when stress coincides.

In addition, utraque /ˈuːtrɐkwɛ, uːˈtrɐkwɛ/ [ˈuutrɐke, uˈtrɐke], equally different from utraque /uːˈtɾɑːkwɛ/ [uˈtɾɑake], illene /ˈɪllene, ɪlˈlene, ɪlˈlene, ɪlˈlene], loquive tacereve /ˈlɔkwiwɛ tɐˈkeːɾɛwɛ, lɔˈkwiːwɛ tɐkeːˈɾɛwɛ/ [ˈlɔkiˌwe tɐˈkeeɾewe, loˈkiwe ˌtɐ-keˈɾɛwe], egomet /ˈegɔmɛt, ɛˈgɔmɛt/ [ˈegomet, ɛˈgɔmet], tu quidem /ˈtuː ˈkwɪdɛm, ˈtuːkwɪdɛm/ [ˈtuː ˈkɪdɛ̃, ˈtuːˌkɪdɛ̃].

The following words are felt to be unitary words (thus, with /\\$\$\frac{1}{3}\$, alicubi, sicubi, necubi, equidem, identidem, utinam, utiquem, undique, itaque 'therefore'.

But we have: itaque 'and so' (ie et ita) / I'tekwe, 'Itekwe/ [I'teke, 'Iteke], and pone 'behind' / 'poine, poine/ ['poone, po'ne] (but pone! – imperative – / 'poine/ ['poone]).

Compound verbs with -do, -fit have two stress possibilities (although the 'regular' one is less favored): circumdo /kırkum'do:, -'do; kırkum'd-/ [ˌkırkun'doo, -'do; kırkundo, -\sigma], satisdo /setis'do:, -'do; se'tisd-/ [ˌsetiz'doo, -'do; se'tizdo, -\sigma] (also satis do),

pessumdo /pessum'do:, -'do; pessumd-'/ [pessum'doo, -o; pes'sundo, -o] (also pessum do, pessum do), arefit /arefit, 'arefit/ [arefit, 'aarefit], madefit /medefit; 'medefit/ [medefit, 'medefit].

Concerning verbs with-facit, we only have are facit /ereˈfekɪt/ [ˌereˈfekɪt], made facit /medeˈfekɪt/ [ˌmedeˈfekɪt]. In fact, their 'normalized' forms would have been: \*are ficit /arˈrefɪkɪt/ [aˈrefɪkɪt], \*made ficit /meˈdefɪkɪt/ [meˈdefɪkɪt].

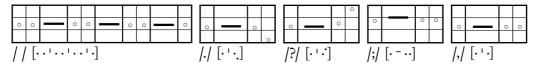
There are further possible oscillations, in sentences, in cases like: apud me /'epud 'me:, e'pudme:/ ['epud 'mee, e'pudme, 'epum 'mee, e'pumme], pater mi /'peter 'mi:, pe'termi:/ ['peter 'mii, pe'termi], morem gerit /'morem 'gerit, moremgerit/ ['moorem 'gerit, moremgerit], operam dare /'perem 'dere, pe'remdere/ ['perem 'dere, ope'remdere].

Many of us, at school, will have carefully 'learned' unicuique suum as \*/u:niku'ikwε 'svum/ 'may all get their due', while its true realization is /u:nikuikwε 'svum/
['unikuike 'svū], with the diphthong ui /'vi/ ['vi]. Let us add an observation about
exiguitas, which has to be pronounced /εksi'guitas/ ['eksi'guitas], not \*/εk'sigwitas/
[ek'siĝitas]; in fact, /gw/ [ĝ] only occurs after /n/ [ŋ].

#### 4. Intonation

The following intonation patterns are based on reliable deductions, going backwards, from Romance results to the original language, and favoring nearby territorial realities. Let us complete this concise outline of Classical Latin pronunciation, by also providing possible intonation patterns. They can safely be accepted as plausible and utilizable, with no real problems, nor strained interpretations.

fig 7. Classical Latin intonation patterns.



### 5. Text

Here is the Aesopian fable, in Latin. Let us pay particular attention to: circumdabat /kɪrˈkundebet/.

Olim inter se Aquilo et Sol uter fortior esset certabant, cum viatorem quendam paenula amictum procedentem conspexerunt; atque ipsorum fortiorem existimandum esse consenserunt, qui efficeret ut viator ille paenulam deponeret.

Aquilo autem vehementissime furere coepit; sed, quo fortiores flatus emittebat, eo artius viator se circumdabat paenula; tandem, viribus destitutus, propositum suum omisit. Tum Sol caelum clarissima luce illustravit; mox vero viator, calore victus, paenulam exuit. Itaque Aquilo, quamvis invite, confessus est solem esse fortiorem.

Tibi placuit fabula? Libetne eam repetere?

# Academic Italian pronunciation

-ct'silm' | 'lct'se' | 'lct'sil' | 'lct'si

'akwilo- l'arutem-1; 'veemen'tissime- 'furere-. l'tfe:pit-.] 'sed:- kwofor'tsjores- 'flattusperinti-ebat-- leo'aritsjus- vi'artor- setfirikum:dabat- 'perinti-.] 'tandem- l'viribus | desti-turtus-- l'oritor- l'arutem-. l'urter- l'arutem- l'sole-: 'tferlum- l'ala'rissima 'lurtfe-] illus'trarvit-. | 'moks- l'vero-] vi'artor- l'arlore - vikrtus-- | k'perintlam-. k'egrzwit-. | 'irtakwe-- l'arkwilo-: l'kwamvis im-virte-- | kom'fessus-- l'esrt-. | kom'fessus--

¿'ti·bi 'pla:kwit· ¿'fa:bula·| ¿li'bɛtne ¡Eamre'pɛ:tere·||].

# Classical pronunciation

| 'oolī' | 'later'see' | 'voiter' | 'oter' 'fortior' | 'esset' | ker'taabent | 'kendi' | 'kendi' | 'jeenula e'miktum' | proke'de' | 'jeenula e'miktum' | proke'de' | 'jeek'seerunt | 'tetke' | p'soorū | fortioorē | ek | sisti'mendū | 'lesse | kõse'seerunt | 'kii | 'jeffikeret | 'utwi'aator | 'lille | len de'pooneret | |

'e-igilo- i'sute-i'; 'weemen'tissime- 'furere- i'koepit- i'set- koaforti'oores- 'flaatus- e-igilo- i'sekir'kundebet- 'peenula- i'sekir'kundebet- 'peenula- i'wiribus adestituutus- i'ood- i'kula'rissima 'luuke- i'kula'rissima 'luuke- i'kula- i'tuutus- i'risood- i'keelug- ikla'rissima 'luuke- i'klus- 'risood- i'keelug- ikla'rissima 'luuke- i'e-igilo- i'weero- iii'ato- i'keelug- iikeenule- i'seksuit- i'risoole- iikeelug- i'kegilo- i'ikegilo- i'kegilo- i'ke

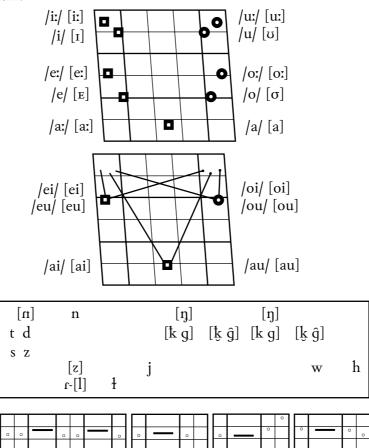
6. Old Latin, or Archaic Latin (Italic, IE), had five vowels, both short and long, which were phonetically nasalized before /NC,  $N^{\#}$ /, their timbres remaining unaffected and the nasal being preserved, even before constrictives, with [ $n \equiv C$ ]. It also had six diphthongs and length opposition for the consonants.

There were no Greek phonostylemes yet, but there was z /VzV/ [VzV], which later became r /r/ [r, r], or Vs# /Vh/ [Vh], eg flozis ['r40zih] (later floris); also, gn /r9n/ [r9n]. The phoneme /r1/ was [r1] before pauses, or consonants (including heterosyllabic /r1/r1/), or before back r2 (including /r3, a:/), but [r1] before tautosyllabic /r3/r4.

fig 8. Old/Archaic Latin.

m p b

φβ



/?/ [. ' · · ]

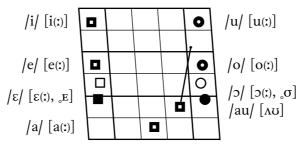
/;/ [. ' · · ]

7. Vulgar Latin, or Empire Latin (Italic, IE), in its neutral form stemming from the central area of Italy, had seven short vowels and only one traditional diphthong, /au/ [Au]; all vowels were phonemically short, being phonetically lengthened in stressed free syllables. Consonant gemination was distinctive.

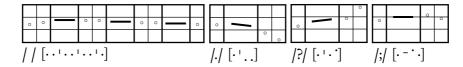
Many words had different stress-patterns from those they had in Classical Latin, eg filiolum /fr'liolum/  $\rightarrow$  /fr'ljɔlum/ (and unstressed e, u/o followed by a vowel became /j, w/, as well), integrum /'integrum/  $\rightarrow$  /in'tegrum/, decadit /'de:kadit/  $\rightarrow$  /de:kadit/. It had /VnC/ [ $\tilde{V}$ n=C]), but /VN/ [ $\tilde{V}$ ] + /f, s/, and /V\*/ [V] (for vowel + final -m, where vowel timbres were unaffected); h had gone to 'zero' by this stage, even in ch, th, rh (while ph had become /f/).

Also notice: f, v, z, gn/f, v, z,  $gn/[\varphi, \beta, z, gn]$ . In central Italy, /n, t, d, s, r, l, k, g/+/j, i, e, e/e developed to [n, t, d, s, r, t] (without absorbing the [j]) by gradual adjustments, like [t, d, t], [t, d, t], [t, d, t], [t, d, t], [t, d, t].

fig 9. Vulgar/Emperial Latin.



m	[n]	n		$[{\rm t}]$	ŋ	[ŋ]	[ŋ]	
р b ф ß	t d			[ţ d]	[c ]]	[k g]	k g	
φВ	s [z]			[ş]	•			
		r-1	[1]	[ç-ţ]	J			W



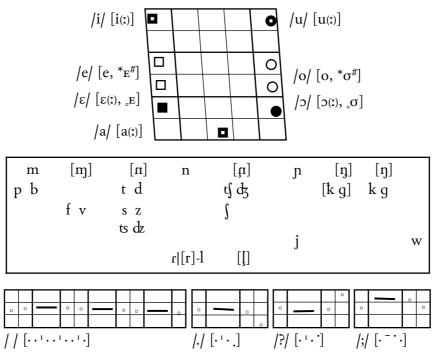
8. *Italian Academic Latin* (Italic, IE) came to have only five vowels in stressed position, /i,  $\varepsilon$ , a,  $\sigma$ , u/, eg even habēre or Rōma became /aˈbɛre, ˈrɔma/ [aˈbɛre, ˈrɔma] (in spite of Italian avere [aˈvere], Roma [ˈroːma]). Similarly to Italian, in unstressed syllables only /e, o/ [e, o] occurred, with intermediate timbres, [E,  $\sigma$ ], as a result of vowel adjustments of either half-opening (for final unstressed /e|, o|/) or half-closing (for de-stressed / $\varepsilon$ ,  $\sigma$ ), which is typical of neutral Italian pronunciation.

Length and the various vowel sequences also correspond to those found in neutral Italian, although with ae, oe /'e, e, e/. It preserves CC, [n = C], but /mC/ [mC]; it rigorously has VsV /VzV/; z is /dz/, and tiV (with unstressed i) is /tsjV/, eg  $\bar{o}tium$  [' $ts:tsjum_*$ ] (the example shows both self-gemination, shared by /tz/, /tz/, tsizem pictures, and /tz/, tsizem, and audible release, even for /tz/, as can be seen). For tz, tz/, before front vowels, we have /tz/, tz/: tz

Let us observe that the transcription given in § 5, accurately and clearly follows what we have just said, in spite of cases like *habēre* and *Rōma* seen above. Unfortunately, however, Italian speakers, even university Latin teachers, too often, pronounce Latin not exactly as it should be, according to what we have just said. In fact, they mortify its pronunciation with regional habits, both for the phonemes and intonation (including, often, stress and intonation patterns).

On the other hand, instead of (or in addition to) regional 'deviations', too many Italian speakers also introduce, more or less frequently, even 'neutral Italian deviations', which are clearly contrary to the cryterion accurately established above. Of course, it might be surprising to actually say [aˈbɛːre, ˈrɔːma], but Italian Academic Latin *is* another language, clearly different from both Classical Latin (cf § 1-5) and its most direct 'offspring', *ie* the current Italian language.

fig 10. Italian Academic Latin.



9. Church Latin or International Latin (Italic, IE), is similar to Italian Academic Latin, and in fact it should be pronounced exactly like it. However, in Vatican City, it is used by both Italian and foreign clergy. So, it undergoes several different interferences, not only by regional Italian accents, but also by different languages and their several regional accents, also including many different habits in speaking more or less different Academic Latins for each foreign language. Thus, the ideally expected 'pure' pronunciation is very rarely heard, as for Italian Academic Latin, too, as just seen.

fig 11 shows a more 'international' version of the vowel situation, especially as far as the e, o vowels are concerned, with less different timbres. Of course, the consonants should be realized as shown, for Italian Academic Latin, given in fig 10, but, in reality, more or less systematically, the following (and other) 'deviations' certainly occur, unfortunately.

As for the *vowels*, of course, the exact timbres for *i*, *e* (including *ae*, *oe*), *a*, *o*, *u*, correspond to those used in the different languages, with more or less different results. Thus, Romance and Slavic languages usually have (excepting greater and even worse differences): |i| [i, i],  $|\varepsilon|$  [E,  $\varepsilon$ , e], |a| [a,  $\varepsilon$ , A], |a| [ $\sigma$ ,  $\sigma$ , o], |a| [u,  $\sigma$ ]. G(erm.) generally has |a| [i(:), i],  $|\varepsilon|$  [E(:),  $\varepsilon$ (:), e(:)], |a| [a(:), A(:), Q(:)] (even D(:)]), |a| [ $\sigma$ (:),  $\sigma$ (:), o(:)], |a| [u(:),  $\sigma$ ] (adding oe [ $\sigma$ :,  $\sigma$ ] G.).

Not surprinsingly, English can have the strangest possible realizations: /i/ [ii, ii, ii, ii, a9, a9, v9], / $\epsilon$ / [E,  $\epsilon$ , e, EI; ii, ii], /a/ [a(x), a(x), v,  $\lambda$ ; æ, EI], / $\epsilon$ / [a(x), a(x), b; a, a9, 30], /u/ [uu, vu, v; v,  $\lambda$ , jvu, juu].

As for the *consonants*, let start with c before front vowels (including ae, oe): [tʃ, tʃ] I., R(oum.), [s, s] F., P., C(atal.), also [ $\theta$ ] S(pan)., [ts] G. & Sl., [s] E.; ch: [k], including E., but [x] G. & Slav; g: before front vowels (including ae, oe): [dʒ, dʒ] I., R. (& E.), [ʒ, ʒ, ʒ, dʒ, dʒ] F., P., C., [x,  $\chi$ , h] S., [g, g] G., Slav; gn: [n(n)] I., [n] C., [gn, n] P., F. [gn] R., E., [ $\chi$ n] S., [gn] Slav, [gn,  $\eta$ n] G.; h: [ $\emptyset$ ] 'zero' I., R., S., P., F., C., [x, h] Slav, [h] G., [h,  $\emptyset$ ] E.; j/i: [j] I., R., Slav, G., [ʒ, ʒ, ʒ] F., P., [dʒ] E., [j, j] Slav, G., [x,  $\chi$ ] S.; qu: [kw] I., E., [kw, k] P., S., [k] C., [kw, kv] R., [k, kw, cu] F., [kv] Slav, G.; sc before front vowels (including ae, oe): [ʃ( $\int$ )] I., [stʃ] R., [s,  $\int$ ] P., [s] F., E., [s, s, s $\theta$ ] S., [sts] Slav, G.; ti + unstressed vowel: [tsj] I., [tsj, sj] R., [sj] P., F., C., [sj,  $\theta$ j] S., [tsi] G., [ $\int$ i] E.; v: [v] I., R., P., F., [ $\rho$ , b] S., C., Slav, G., [v, w] E.; v: [kstʃ, kstʃ] I., R., [ks] C., E., [ksts] Slav, G., [gz, ks] F., [s, s $\theta$ ] S., [s,  $\int$ ,  $\int$ ] P.

Of course, also intonation patterns vary a lot, as even stress patterns, although trying to follow 'known' instructions.

fig 11. Church/International Latin.

