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978-1-107-10383-2 - Oscan in Southern Italy and Sicily: Evaluating Language Contact in a Fragmentary Corpus

Katherine McDonald

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## OSCAN IN SOUTHERN ITALY AND SICILY

In pre-Roman Italy and Sicily, dozens of languages and writing systems competed and interacted, and bilingualism was the norm. Using frameworks from epigraphy, archaeology and the sociolinguistics of language contact, this book explores the relationship between Greek and Oscan, two of the most widely spoken languages in the south of the peninsula. Dr McDonald undertakes a new analysis of the entire corpus of South Oscan texts written in Lucania, Bruttium and Messana, including dedications, curse tablets, laws, funerary texts and graffiti. She demonstrates that genre and domain are critical to understanding where and when Greek was used within Oscan-speaking communities, and how ancient bilinguals exploited the social meaning of their languages in their writing. This book also offers a cutting-edge example of how to build the fullest possible picture of bilingualism in fragmentary languages across the ancient world.

KATHERINE MCDONALD is Research Fellow in Classics at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, and an affiliated post-doctoral researcher on the project 'Greek in Italy', funded by the Arts & Humanities Research Council. Her current research interests include the Italic languages, ancient bilingualism, personal names and gender linguistics.

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Soprintendenza Speciale per i Beni Archeologici di Napoli e Pompei

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This book is dedicated to my family, who always believed I could do anything, and to Patrick Clibbens, for his undiminished patience and love.



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## CONVENTIONS

The following conventions apply to the forms given in the text. ‘Native’ alphabets include Central Oscan, Umbrian, Etruscan, etc.

**Fonts**

tanginúd	epigraphically attested form, ‘native’ alphabet
<i>tanginom</i>	epigraphically attested form, Latin alphabet
τανγινυδ	epigraphically attested form, Greek or South Oscan alphabet

**Single letters**

/f/	phoneme
[f]	phone, allophone of phoneme
* <i>f</i>	unattested or reconstructed form
<F>	epigraphic form
* <F>	unattested epigraphic form
<φ>	epigraphic form (Greek letter)

**Transcriptions of inscriptions<sup>1</sup>**

πακ(ισ)	abbreviated form, expanded form supplied
λεκ(?)	abbreviated form, expanded form cannot be supplied
[2–3] <sub>10μ</sub>	damaged text, space for 2–3 letters
[-?]	damaged text, unknown number of letters

<sup>1</sup> These transcription conventions are based on those used by Michael Crawford in his *Imagines Italicae* edition: see Crawford 2011b. See also the conventions recommended by Cooley 2012: 352–5.

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## Conventions

[γ]αφισ	damaged text, missing letter(s) supplied by editor
α	partially visible letter(s), identifiable in context
τ{αν}αγγινουδ	letter(s) inscribed in error, removed by editor
<κ>λοπουστ	letter(s) left un-inscribed in error, and supplied by the editor; or inscribed as different letter in error, and corrected by the editor
σαλαφσ. φαλε	word divider in the form of a dot or point (where no word dividers are used, the transcription will divide the words with spaces only)
πολε'ν'τα	ancient correction or addition to the text
αφαματετ	letters in ligature
[vac]	small vacat
vacat	vacat of whole line length

## ABBREVIATIONS

### Linguistic abbreviations

#### *Verb forms*

PRES.	present
PERF.	perfect
IMPERF.	imperfect
AOR.	aoist
FUT.	future
IMP. I	imperative I
IMP. II	imperative II
INDIC.	indicative
SUBJ.	subjunctive
OPT.	optative
ACT.	active
PASS.	passive
MID.	middle
PART.	participle
GDV.	gerundive

#### *Noun forms*

NOM.	nominative
ACC.	accusative
GEN.	genitive
DAT.	dative
ABL.	ablative
LOC.	locative

#### *Other*

ADV.	adverb
ADJ.	adjective
SING.	singular
PL.	plural

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## List of abbreviations

**Collections of inscriptions**

Bresson	= Bresson 2002.
Capialbi	V. Capialbi, 1845, <i>Inscriptionum Vibonensium specimen</i> , Naples.
CEG	P. A. Hansen, 1983/1989, <i>Carmina Epigraphica Graeca</i> , Berlin; New York.
CIG	<i>Corpus Inscriptionum Graecarum</i> , 1828–77, Berlin.
CIL	<i>Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum</i> , 1868 onwards, Berlin.
DTA	<i>IG</i> volume 3, part 3, 1897, Berlin. Appendix: ‘ <i>Defixionum Tabellae</i> ’.
DT Audollent	= A. Audollent, 1904, <i>Defixionum tabellae quotquot innotuerunt tam in Graecis orientis quam in totius occidentis partibus, praeter Atticas in corpore inscriptionum Atticarum editas</i> , Paris.
Dubois GG I	= L. Dubois, 1995, <i>Inscriptions grecques dialectales de Grande Grèce</i> , Geneva.
Dubois GG II	= L. Dubois, 2002, <i>Inscriptions grecques dialectales de Grande Grèce. Tome II</i> , Geneva.
Dubois S I	= L. Dubois, 1989, <i>Inscriptions grecques dialectales de Sicile</i> , Geneva.
Dubois S II	= L. Dubois, 2008, <i>Inscriptions grecques dialectales de Sicile. Tome II</i> , Geneva.
DVA	= Lazzarini 1976.
ET	= Rix 1991, <i>Etruskische Texte: editio minor</i> , Tübingen.
FD III	Fouilles de Delphes, 1929 onwards, Paris. Tome III, <i>Épigraphie</i> .
GDI	H. Gollitz, F. Bechtel, <i>et al.</i> , 1884–1915, <i>Sammlung der griechischen Dialekt-Inschriften</i> , Göttingen.
HN	= Rutter 2001.
ID	F. Durrbach (ed.), 1923–37, <i>Inscriptions de Délos</i> , Paris.

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<i>IG</i>	<i>Inscriptiones Graecae</i> , 1873 onwards, Berlin.
<i>ILLRP</i>	A. Degrassi, 1965, <i>Inscriptiones Latinae liberae rei publicae</i> I–II, Florence. 2nd edition.
<i>Imagines</i>	= Crawford 2011b.
Kropp	= A. Kropp, 2008, <i>Defixiones: ein aktuelles Corpus lateinischer Fluchtafeln</i> , Speyer.
<i>LSAG</i>	= L. H. Jeffery, 1990, <i>The Local Scripts of Archaic Greece: A Study of the Origin of the Greek Alphabet and its Development from the Eighth to the Fifth Centuries BC</i> , Oxford.
<i>LGPN</i>	P. M. Fraser and E. Matthews, 1987 onwards, <i>A Lexicon of Greek Personal Names</i> , Oxford.
NGCT	= D. R. Jordan, 2000, ‘New Greek Curse Tablets (1985–2000)’, <i>Greek, Roman and Byzantine Studies</i> 41 (2000): 5–46.
Pocc.	= P. Poccetti, 1979, <i>Nuovi documenti italici: a complemento del Manuale di E. Vetter</i> , Pisa.
<i>RV</i>	= Lejeune 1990.
<i>SEG</i>	<i>Supplementum Epigraphicum Graecum</i> , 1923 onwards, Leiden.
SGD	= Jordan 1985.
<i>ST</i>	= Rix 2002.

Other abbreviations follow the conventions of the third edition of the *Oxford Classical Dictionary*.

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