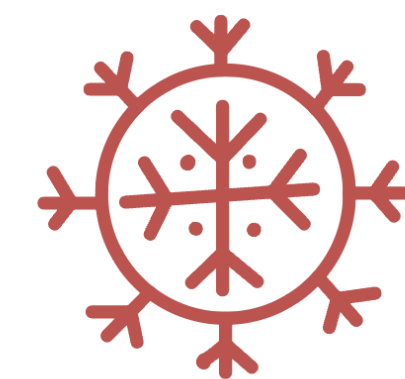


Fundamentals and Advances in Balkan Linguistics

Belgrade University, November 16–18 2023



**THE (RE)CONSTRUCTION
OF ILLYRIAN
FOR THE MOTION PICTURE
ILLYRICUM**



Orsat Ligorio
University of Belgrade

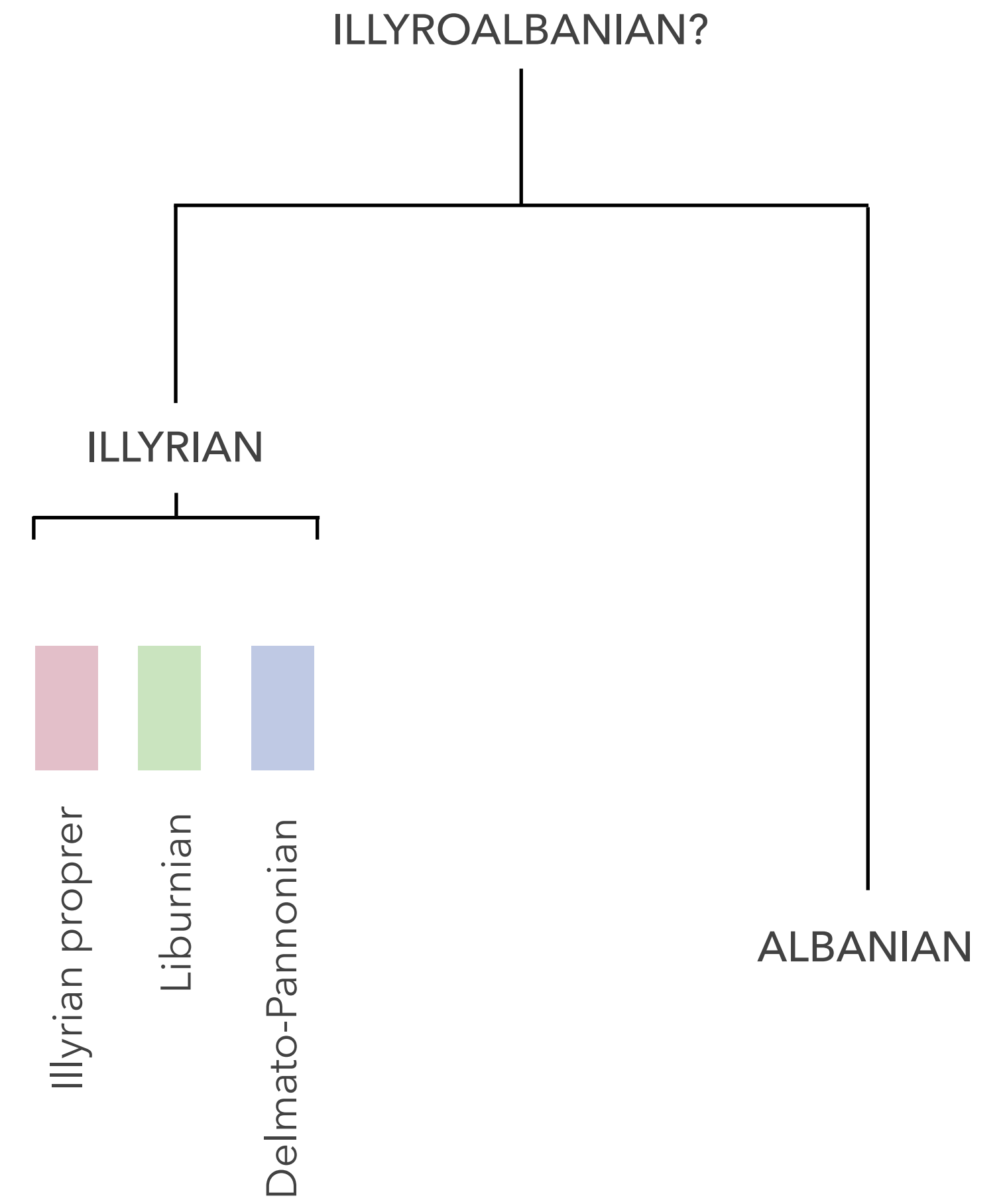
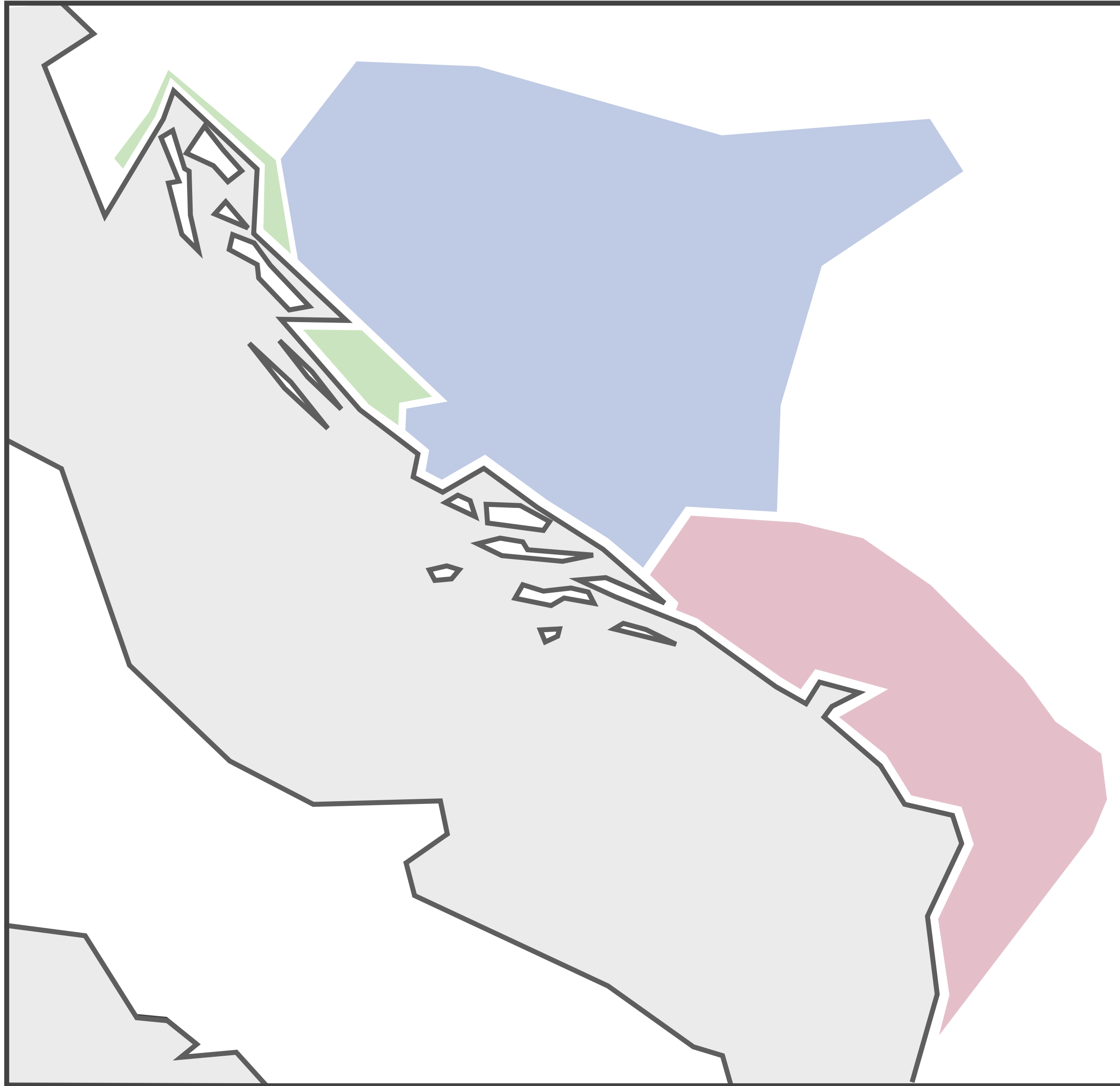


ILLYRICUM

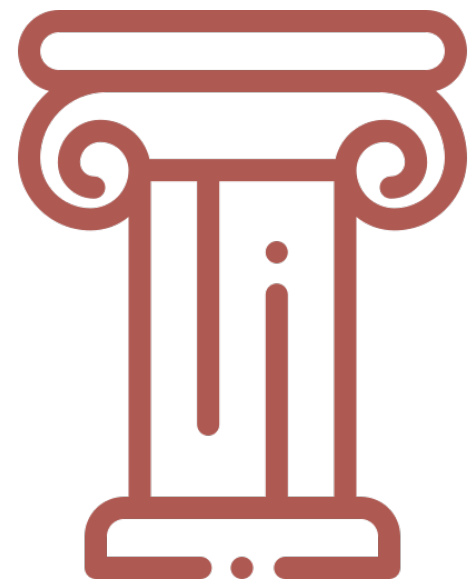


Real Illyrian



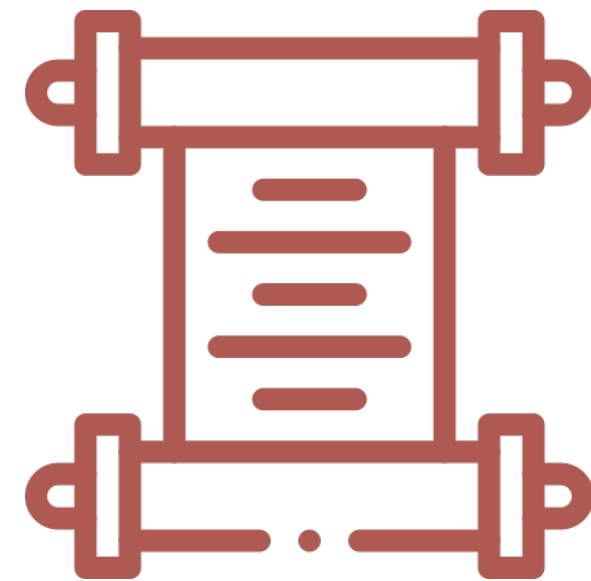


inscriptions



0

glosses



4

Δευάδαι 'satyrs'

ρίνὸς 'mist'

sabaia 'beer'

sybina 'spear'

loanwords



~60

Lat. Barium 'Bar'

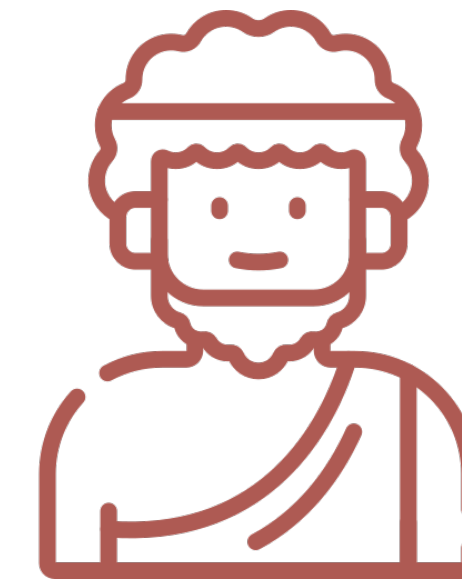
Lat. Risinium 'Risan'

SCr. blavor 'a lizard'

SCr. vatra 'fire'

...

names



+100

Βάρδυλλις

Clevatus

Gentius

Teuta

...





Constructed Illyrian





Illyricum (2022)



Ranko Matasović

📖 Matasović, Ranko et al. Prevođenje na latinski i ilirski za film Illyricum. *Latina et Graeca* 42 (2022): 152–55.

A low-angle shot of a hand reaching up towards a bright sun in a clear blue sky. The sun is a large, glowing orb in the center-left, casting a soft light. The hand is silhouetted against the sky, with fingers spread. The overall mood is hopeful and aspirational.

Aiskami sakam per sakam, Anzotika.



Pretsami me videnija, Anzotika.



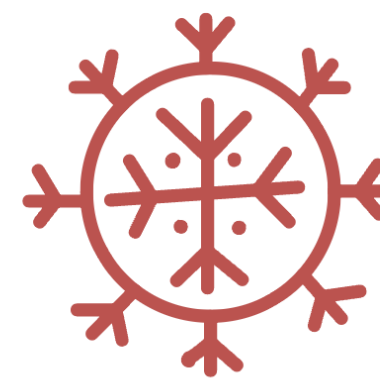
Antros per antros, astos per astos.



Tsi per tsi,
jekaram per jekaram

A close-up shot of a man with dark, curly hair and a mustache. He has a prominent tattoo on his forehead that looks like a series of vertical lines or a stylized face. He also has several jagged, scar-like marks on his cheeks. He is wearing a light-colored, possibly grey, shirt. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting an outdoor setting. The lighting is natural and soft.

Dami toi sakam per sakam, Anzotika.



The Vow of Volsus

Aiskami sakam per sakam, Anzotika.

I ask blood for blood, Anzotica.

Pretsami me videnija, Anzotika.

I beg of you to see me, Anzotica.

Antros per anstros, astos per astos,
tsi per tsi, jekaram per jekaram.

Guts for guts, bones for bones,
an eye for an eye, a liver for a liver.

Dami toi sakam per sakam, Anzotika.

I offer you blood for blood, Anzotica.





Analysis





Alb. *për* 'for'

Lat. *per* 'for'
Ven. *per* 'for'

PIE **per* 'across'

Alb. *gjak* 'blood'

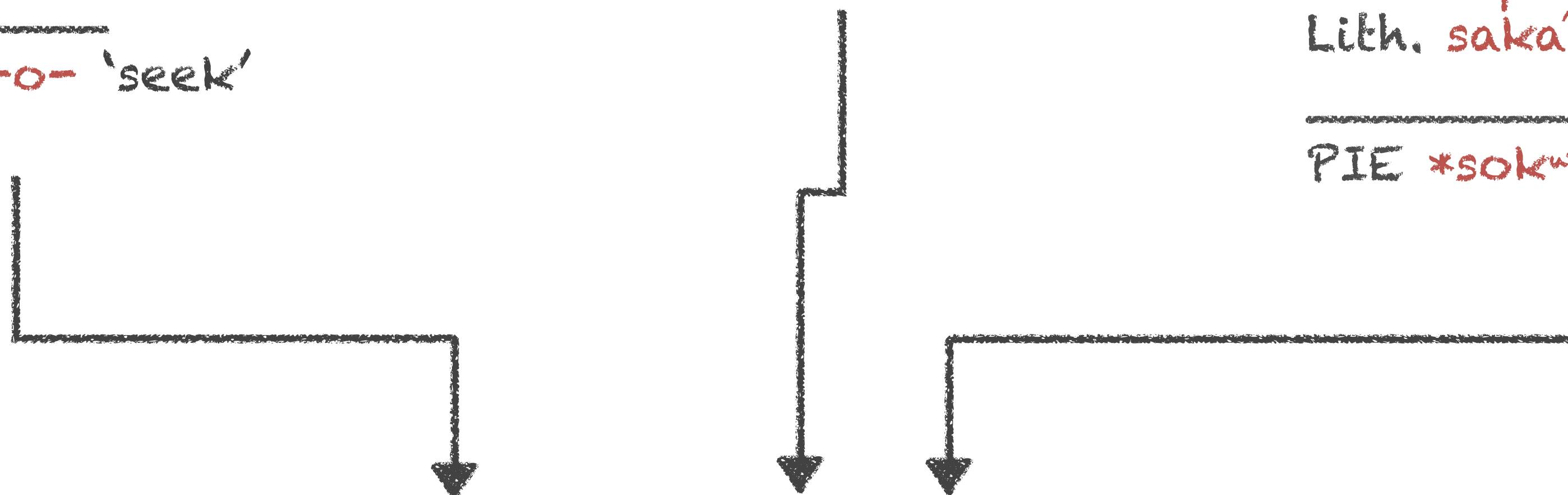
Gk. *hopós* 'juice'
Lith. *sakaĩ* 'resin'

PIE **sok^w-o-* 'juice'

Alb. —

Skt. *icchāti* 'wish for, seek'
OCS *iskati* 'look for, seek'

PIE **h₂is-sk-o-* 'seek'



Aiskami sakam per sakam, Anzotika.
(I ask blood for blood, Anzotica.)



Alb. —

Skt. *prcchāti* 'ask'
OAv. *fərəsā* 'ask'

PIE **prek'-o-* 'ask'

Alb. — (*më* 'me')

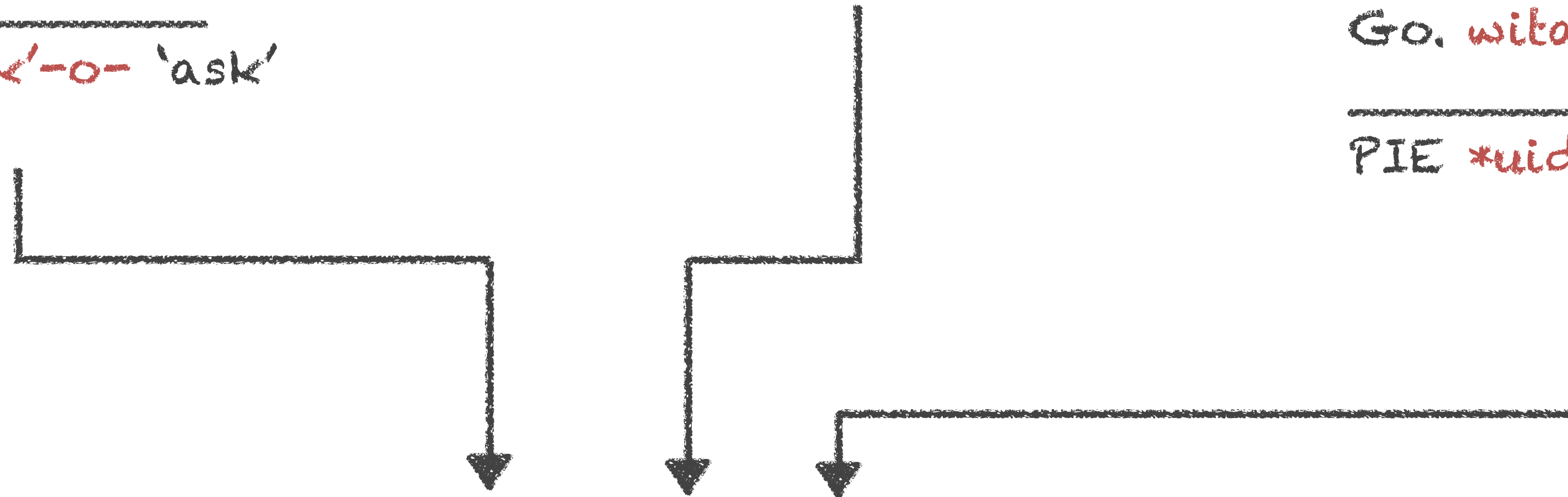
Gk. *emé* / *me* 'me'
Lat. *mē* 'me'

PIE **h₁me* 'me'

Alb. —

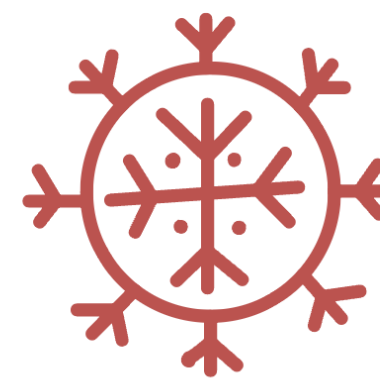
Lat. *videō* 'see'
Go. *witan* 'know'

PIE **uid-* 'see'



Pretsami me videnija, Anzotika.
(I beg of you to see me, Anzotica.)





Alb. —

OCS *gtroba* 'entrails'

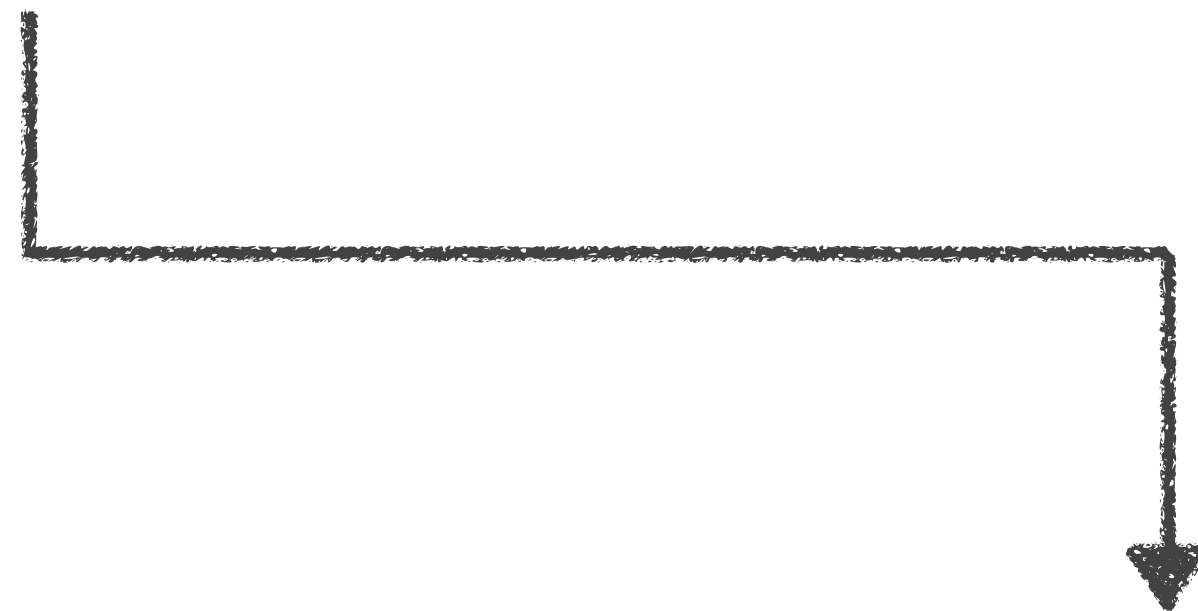
PIE *h₂ontr-o- 'entrails'

Alb. *asht* 'bone'

Skt. *asthi* 'bone'

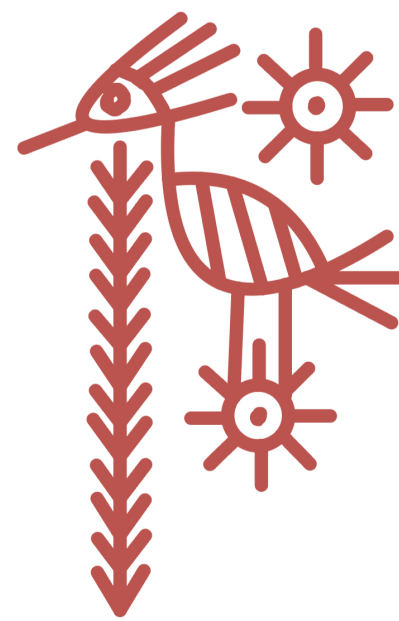
OAv. *ostéon* 'bone'

PIE *h₃esth₁- 'ask'



Antros per antros, astos per astos...
(Guts for guts, bones for bones...)





Alb. *sy* 'eyes'

Gk. *ósse* 'eyes'

OCS *oči* 'eyes'

PIE **h₃ek^wih₁* 'eyes'

Alb. —

Lat. *iecor-* 'liver'

PIE **Hiek^w-or-* 'liver'



...tsi per tsi, jekaram per jekaram.
(...an eye for an eye, a liver for a liver.)





Alb. — (të 'you')

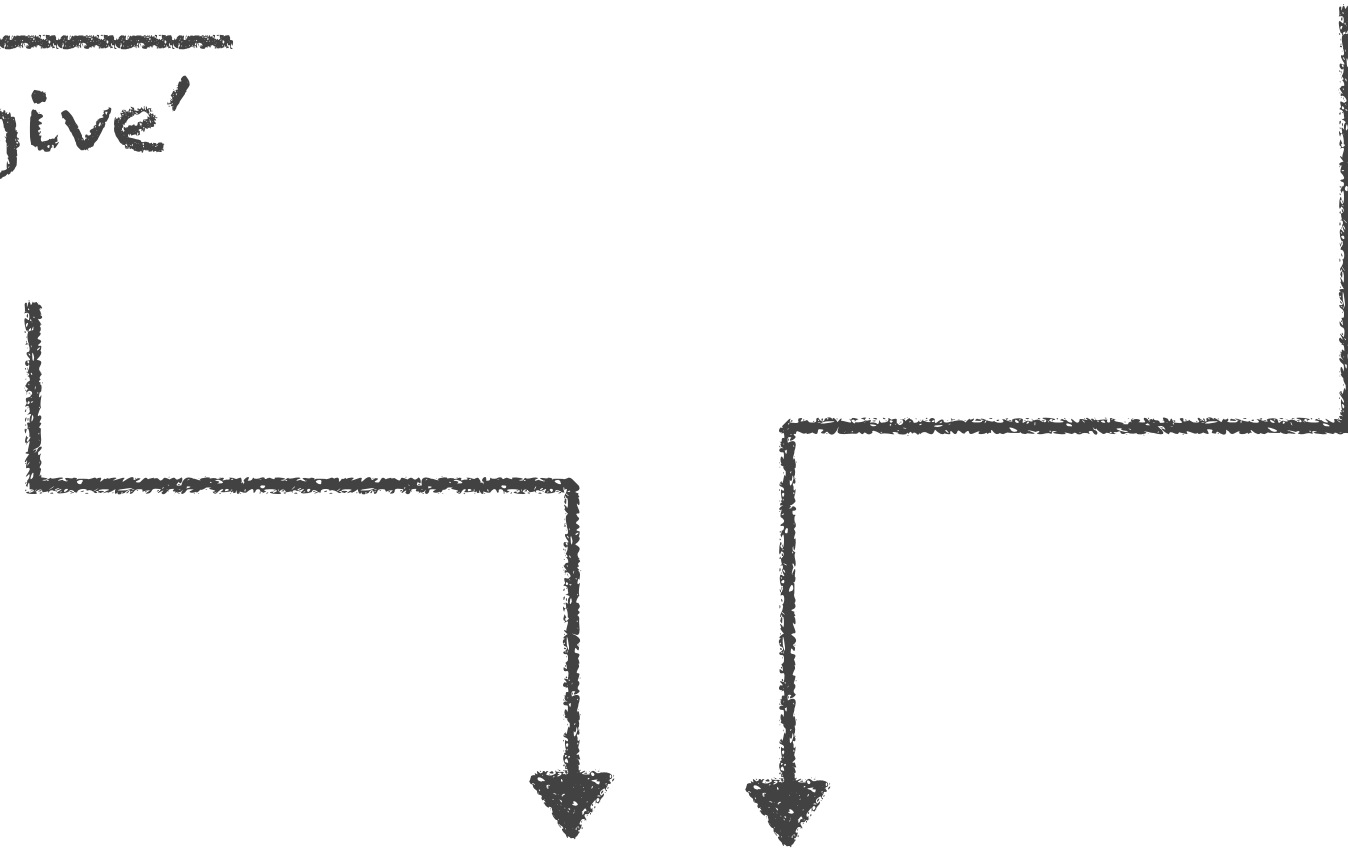
Alb. — (OGh. dham 'give')

Gk. — (toi 'you')

Gk di-do-men 'give'

PIE *tōi 'you'

PIE *dh₃- 'give'



Dami toi sakam per sakam, Anzotika.
(I offer you blood for blood, Anzotica.)





Real VS Constructed



Phonetics

PIE	Real Ill.	Constr. Ill.
*e	e	
*o	a	
*ē	?	n/a
*ō	ō	n/a
*m̥	?	n/a
*n̥	un	n/a
*r̥	?	n/a
*l̥	?	n/a
*i	i	
*u	u	n/a
*h ₁	a	n/a
*h ₂	?	n/a
*h ₃	?	a

PIE	Real Ill.	Constr. Ill.
*m	m	
*n	n	
*r	r	
*l	l	n/a
*j̥	?	n/a
*ɥ̥	v	
*h ₁	?	∅
*h ₂	∅	
*h ₃	∅	
*s	s	
*p	p	
*b	?	n/a
*p ^h	b	n/a

PIE	Real Ill.	Constr. Ill.
*t	t	
*d	d	
*d ^h	d	n/a
*k	k	
*g	?	n/a
*g ^h	?	n/a
*k̥	?	ts
*g̥	s(s)	n/a
*g̥ ^h	?	n/a
*k ^w	k	
*g ^w	?	n/a
*g ^{wh}	?	n/a



PIE *e > Real III. *e: **kleu-* > *Clev-atus*; Constr. III. e: **per* > *per*, **h₁me* > *me*, **Hiek^w-or-* > *jakara-*. AF5953

PIE *o > Real III. *o: **molh₃-nt-* > *Malunt-um*; Constr. III. o: **h₂eis-sk-o-* > *aiska-*, **sok^w-o-* > *saka-*, **prek'-o-* > *pretsa-*, **h₁ontr-o-* > *antro-*, **Hiek^w-or-* > *jakara-*

PIE *ē > Real III. ?; Constr. III. n/a.

PIE *ō > Real III. *ō*: **-ōn-* > *-ōn-*; Constr. III. n/a.

PIE *m̥ > Real III. ?; Constr. III. n/a.

PIE *n̥ > Real. III. un: **-n̥t-* > *-unt-*; Constr. III. n/a.

PIE *r̥ > Real III. ?; Constr. III. n/a.

PIE *l̥ > Real III. ?; Constr. III. n/a.

PIE *i > Real III. i: **tri-* > *Tri-teuta*; Constr. III. i: **uid-* > *vid-*

PIE *u > Real ill. u: **ulk^w-* > *Ulc-inium*; Constr. III. n/a.

PIE *h₁ > Real III. a: **d^hh₁-l-m-* > *Delm-inium*; Constr. III. n/a.

PIE *h₂ > Real III. ?; Constr. III. n/a.

PIE *h₃ > Real. III. ?; Constr. III. a: **d_hh₃-* > *da-*.

PIE *m > Real III. m: **molh₃-nt-* > *Malunt-um*; Constr. III. m: **h₁me* > *me*.

PIE *n > Real III. n: **genh₁-t-* > *Gent-ius*; Constr. III. n: **h₁ontr-o-* > *antro-*.

PIE *r > Real III. r: **tri-* > *Tri-teuta*; Constr. III. r: **per* > *per*, **prek'-o-* > *pretsa-*, **h₁ontr-o-* > *antro-*, **Hiek^w-or-* > *jakara-*.

PIE *l > Real III. l: **ulk^w-* > *Ulc-inium*; Constr. III. n/a.

PIE *j̥ > Real III. ?; Constr. III. n/a.

PIE *u̯ > Real III. v: **kleu̯-* > *Clev-atus*; Constr. III. v: **uid-* > *vid-*

PIE *h₁ > Real III. ?; Constr. III. *∅*: **h₁ontr-o-* > *antro-*.

PIE *h₂ > Real III. *∅*: **h₂onk-* > *Anc-us*; Constr. III. *∅*: **h₂eis-sk-o-* > *aiska-*.

PIE *h₃ > Real III. *∅*: **h₃ri(H)-n-* > *rhin-os* ; Constr. III. *∅*: **h₃esth₁-* > *asta-*.



PIE *s > Real III. s: *sol- > **Sal-ōna**; Constr. III. s: *h₂eis-sk-o- > **aiska-**, *h₃esth₁- > **asta-**.

PIE *p > Real III. p: *stulp- > **Stolp-ōna**; Constr. III. p: *per > **per**, *prek'-o- > **pretsa-**.

PIE *b > Real III. ?; Constr. III. n/a.

PIE *b^h > Real III. b: *b^{hardh}- > **Bard-ulis**; Constr. III. n/a.

PIE *t > Real III. t: *teut- > **Teuta**; Constr. III. t: *h₁ontr-o- > **antro-**, *h₃esth₁- > **asta-**, *tōi > **toi**.

PIE *d > Real III. d: *sh₂-el-d- > **Sald-is**; Constr. III. d: *dh₃- > **da-**.

PIE *d^h > Real III. *b^{hardh}- > **Bard-ulis**; Constr. III. n/a.

PIE *k > Real III. k: *h₂onk- > **Anc-us**; Constr. III. k: *h₂eis-sk-o- > **aiska-**.

PIE *g > Real III. ?; Constr. III. n/a.

PIE *g^h > Real III. ?; Constr. III. n/a.

PIE *k' > Real III. ?; Constr. III. ts: *prek'-o- > **pretsa-**.

PIE *ǵ > Real III. (s)s: *Hreǵ- > **Ris-inium**, *moǵ-h₂- > **Massarum**; Constr. III. n/a.

PIE *ǵ^h > Real III. ?; Constr. III. n/a.

PIE *k^w > Real III. k: *ulk^w- > **Ulc-inium**; Constr. III. k: *sok^w-o- > **saka-**, *Hiek^w-or- > **jakara-**.

PIE *g^w > Real III. ?; Constr. III. n/a.

PIE *g^{wh} > Real III. ?; Constr. III. n/a.



Lexicon

Word	Real Illyrian	Albanian	Constr. Illyrian
seek	—	circō > kërkoj	* h₂eis-sk-o- > aiska-
blood	—	* sok^w-o- > gjak, saka-	
for	—	* per > për, per	
beg	—	* let- > lut	* prek'-o- > pretsa-
me	—	* h₁m- > më, me	
see	—	* sek^w- > shoh	* uid- > vid-
entrails	—	* g^werh₃- > zorrë	* h₁ontr-o- > antro-
bones	—	* h₃ek^wih₁ > sy, tsi	
eyes	—	* h₃esth₁- > asht, asta-	
liver	—	milza > mëlç ₃	* Hiek^w-or- > jakara-
give	—	* dh₃- > dham, da-	
to you	—	* t(u) > të, toi	





Conclusion



Pros

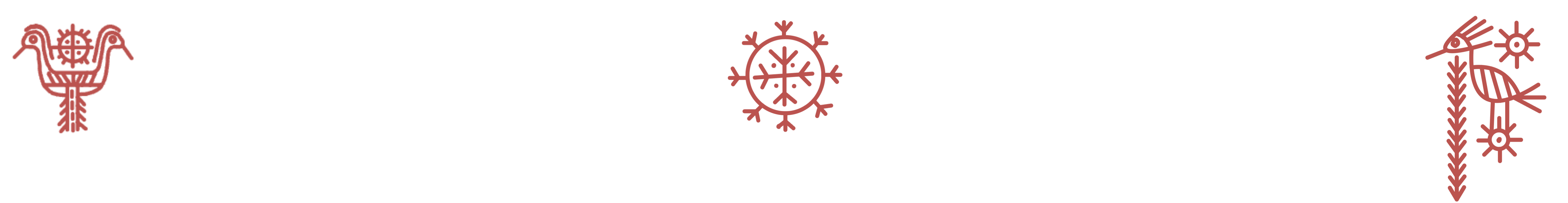
- Matasović's Illyrian is overall very believable and historically accurate
- It is **well informed by Albanian data**
 - 'Ill.' *sakas* 'blood', Alb. *gjak* 'blood' < PIE *sok^wos 'juice', not *kruh₂- 'blood'
 - 'Ill.' 1sg them praes -*ami*, Alb. -*o(n)j* < PIE *-o-mi, not *-o-h₂
- and yet it is **not simply Proto-Albanian**
 - 'Ill.' *me* < PIE *h₁me 'me' (Gk. *me*) VS Alb. *më* < PIE *h₁mēm 'me' (Skt. *mām*)
 - 'Ill.' *vid-* < PIE *uid- 'see' VS Alb. *shoh* 'see' < PIE *sek^w- 'follow' (with eyes)



Cons

- The actors sometimes **mispronounce the constructed forms**
 - Matasović (2022) has *tsi* for PIE $*h_3ek^{wih}_1$ 'eye' but actor says [*dzi*]
- Some constructed reflexes **disagree with actual outcomes**
 - 'Ill.' *dze* < PIE $*ǵe$ 'and' VS Ill. *Ris-inium* 'Risan' < PIE $*Hreǵ-$
 - No evidence for a-aphaeresis $*h_3ek^{wih}_1 > tsi$ 'eye' in real Illyrian (Argaona)
 - No evidence for palatalization $*h_3ek^{wih}_1 > tsi$ 'eye' in real Illyrian (Ulcinium)
- Some constructed forms **derive from unattested grades**
 - 'Ill.' *aiskami* < PIE $*h_2eis-sk-o-$ 'seek', both unattested





The End

Thank you!

