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Towards a relative chronology of changes from Proto-Indo-European to Latin

Despite the fact that the research on the relative chronology of changes has been one of the main issues of Indo-European linguistics, a comprehensive account of the complete relative chronology has never been fully established for Latin or the other oldest Indo-European languages (cf. an outline by de Vaan 2008: 4-10 on Latin). Additionally, various studies on the subject usually concentrate only on sound changes leaving the interaction with morphological changes aside (cf. Maniet 1985, Parker 1986, Schrijver 2006, Kümmel 2007: 376-378, Weiss 2020: 207-209) while it is known that no language undergoes only sound changes in its history. Moreover, various competing hypotheses exist alongside each other as far as their starting point, i.e. the reconstruction of the proto-language, is concerned and the exact order of changes which occurred in the development of the respective Indo-European languages.

The purpose of the present paper is presentation and discussion of the relative chronology of both phonological and morphological changes which are assumed to have occurred from the reconstructed Proto-Indo-European language in its development into Proto-Italo-Celtic, Proto-Italic, Proto-Latino-Faliscan and Archaic Latin

Although the approach is traditional it is also comprehensive in the sense that it includes a large number of lexemes on which the relative chronology of changes is based rather than just *Paradebeispielen* which are mostly used in works dedicated to Latin historical phonology and morphology (cf. the criticism of Eichner 1992 on the "handbook approach"). It also includes various approaches to the reconstruction of Proto-Indo-European and the concurrent development of Latin from such starting points since such possibilities are not infinite and can be quite easily tested and compared. Finally, the assumed relative chronology is confirmed on a large number of examples with the use of the computational replication of changes (Sims-Williams 2018).

In the paper I will discuss the problems concerning the establishment of the chronology of the changes, the interaction of the phonological and morphological changes, the competing views towards the reconstruction of the proto-language and its development to Latin as well as problems with the computational replication of changes (especially replication of analogical changes).

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