

Example Text: Homer *Iliad* 2. 360-368

Scan these lines and indicate the main caesura.

ἀλλά, ἄναξ, αὐτός τε εὖ μῆδεο πειθεό τ' ἄλλω.
 Hiatus - second
 Alpha of ἄλλα stays short

Strong main Caesura ('r')

οὐ τοῦ ἀπόβλητον ἐπός εσσέται, ὅττι κεν εἴπω.
 Hiatus → Correction of diphthong - οι

Short vowel lengthened before ν at end of word + before next word starting in a vowel

κρῖν' ἄνδρας κατὰ φῦλα, κατὰ φρήτρας, Ἀγάμεμνον,
 weak main Caesura ('w')

ὡς φρήτρη φρήτρη φινήρηγη, φῦλα δέ φῦλοις.

εἰ δέ κεν ως ἔρξης καὶ τοι πειθῶνται Ἀχαιοί,
 Hiatus → Correction of diphthong - αι

γνώσῃ επειθῆσι θέργεμόνων κάκος στένυ λαῶν,
 Hiatus → Correction

2% of time there's a main caesura in 4th foot, as here

ήδ' ος κέσθλος ἔησι, κατὰ σφέας γάρ μάχεονται.
 Synizesis. We can't have the rhythm κατὰ σφέας

γνώσεαι δέ εἰ καὶ θεσπεσιη πόλιν οὐκ ἀλατάξεις,
 Synizesis. Υπόστη would be another 4th foot main caesura!

Η ἄνδρῶν κάκοτητι καὶ ἀφράδη πολέμοισ.
 Hiatus, no correction

w Hiatus → Correction



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