

Abstract: This paper analyses two passages (Soph. *Phil.* 839-42 and *Tr.* 1010-4, 1018-22, 1031-40), which – according to Roberto Pretagostini’s essay *L’esametro nel drama attico del I° secolo* – represent the only cases of recitative dactylic hexameters in tragedy: the aim is to provide a new interpretation of the semantic use of this metre, taking into consideration the colometric arrangement found in the manuscript tradition.

Keywords: Dactylic hexameter, Tragedy, Sophocles, *Philoctetes*, *Trachiniae*.