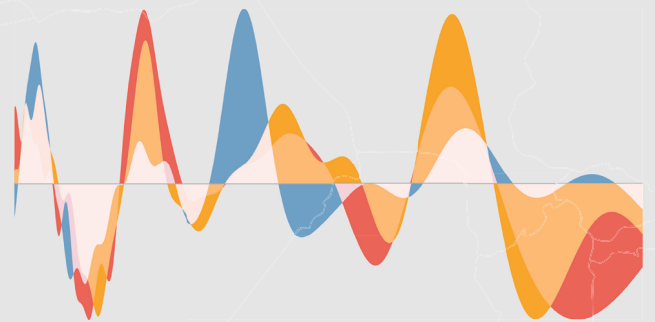


Weights and Balances of Bronze Age Europe

by Nicola Ialongo



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Weight & Value

Edited by Lorenz Rahmstorf
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Weights and Balances of Bronze Age Europe

by

NICOLA IALONGO

GEORG OLMS VERLAG BADEN-BADEN

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Cover:

Back cover (top): Bone balance beam: Marolles-sur-Seine, La Croix de la Mission, France (cat. no. 7).

Photo by Vincent Riquier.

Back cover (bottom, left): Bronze parallelepiped weight: Barbuise-Courtavant, Grèves de Frécul, France (cat. no. 116).

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Back cover (bottom, right): *Kannelurensteine*: Hitzacker, Germany (cat. no. 445, 463, 473). Photo by Heiko Marx.

Back cover (bottom, down): 3D reconstruction of a chipped weight (fig. 4.3). Image by Nicola Ialongo.

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Preface by the editor of the series

“The results of researching the weights and balances develop to major implications for understanding trade, connectivity and socio-economic systems in Bronze Age Europe and beyond” and “the conclusions – based on an impressive and comprehensive analysis of the evidence at a continental and millennial scale – highlight a very different perspective from the previous regional/typological approaches.” These comments by one of the peer reviewers of the present volume, whom I thank for their very valuable help in further improving the study, characterize very well the content of the present volume.

I would like to thank Nicola Ialongo not only for this monography on Bronze Age weights and balances from Europe (without Greece) but also for his general contribution to the success of the WEIGHTANDVALUE-Project. He developed the methodological approaches further and demonstrated the metrological configuration of scrap metal from the Bronze Age. His contributions were the most valuable in the project and will still make an impact on prehistoric research in the future to come.

In the past two or three years, several fundamental publications have already appeared that deal with early weights, scales and weight systems. This is volume 3 (2022) in this series by Enrico Ascalone (Bronze Age Weights from Mesopotamia, Iran & Greater Indus Valley. *Weight & Value* 3. Kiel/Hamburg 2022; Open Access: <https://www.nomos-shop.de>), the publication (2022) of the habilitation thesis by the author of this preface

(L. Rahmstorf, *Studien zu Gewichtsmetrologie und Kulturkontakt im 3. Jahrtausend v. Chr. Universitätsforschungen zur prähistorischen Archäologie* 379. Bonn 2022; Open Access: <https://www.habelt.de/bookshop>) and the PhD-publication (2023) by Thibaud Poigt (*De poids et de mesure. Les instruments de pesée en Europe occidentale durant les âges des Métaux (XIVe-IIIe s. a.C.). Conception, usages et utilisateurs. DAN 8. Pessac 2023*; Open Access: <https://directory.doabooks.org/handle/20.500.12854/112643>). The later publication has a similar focus as this study but both were independently written and are using a slightly different approach. Both together offer new and up-to-date discussions of the current archaeological data.

Heiko Marx was responsible for the layout of this book. All figures were designed by Nicola Ialongo himself. Sandra Busch-Hellwig corrected the text on short notice. I would like to thank also all colleagues and institutions who gave Nicola access to the finds.

The next volume in this series by the editor of this series will deal with silver objects in the Copper and Bronze Age in Europe, the Mediterranean and West Asia and their potential metrological structure. In another volume in the making by L. Rahmstorf and N. Ialongo the important early weights from the Diyala excavations in central Mesopotamia will be published.

Göttingen, October 2024,

Lorenz Rahmstorf

Contents

1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1. Setting the stage	1
1.2. Typology: unremarkable objects	2
1.3. Geographical distribution: a gradual spread	3
1.4. Weights in context: a technology for everyone	5
1.5. Metrological structure: a market for everyone	6
1.6. Concluding remarks	7
2 TYPOLOGY, CHRONOLOGY, AND GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION	9
2.1. A note on the selection of the sample	9
2.2. The identification of prehistoric balance weights: methodological challenges	9
2.2.1. Form and function	9
2.2.2. Pebble-weights and the indeterminacy problem	11
2.3. Typology and orders of magnitude	11
2.4. Diachronic spread of weighing technology	16
2.4.1. Phase 1 (c. 2300-1700 BCE)	17
2.4.2. Phase 2 (c. 1700-1400/1350 BCE)	18
2.4.3. Phase 3 (c. 1400/1350-1150/1100 BCE)	19
2.4.4. Phase 4 (c. 1150/1100-800 BCE)	20
2.4.5. Phase 5 (c. 800-625 BCE)	21
2.4.6. Diachronic spread: summary	22
2.5. Chapter highlights	22
3 THE CONTEXTS OF WEIGHING: TRACING WEIGHTS AND BALANCES BACK TO THEIR USERS	25
3.1. Introduction	25
3.2. Weighing technology and commercial agency	25
3.3. General quantification	26
3.4. Settlements	27
3.4.1. Aeolian Islands (Italy, sites no. 3, 5-6)	27
3.4.2. Coppa Nevigata (Italy, site no. 21)	31
3.4.3. Terramare (Italy, sites no. 29-50)	32
3.4.4. Monte Croce-Guardia (Italy, site no. 27)	32
3.4.5. Monte S. Antonio (Italy, site no. 16)	32
3.4.6. Other contexts	35
3.4.7. General observations on settlement contexts	35
3.4.8. Weighing sets from settlements	37
3.5. Burials	37
3.5.1. Association analysis	37
3.5.2. General observations on burial contexts	41
3.5.3. Weighing sets from burials	41
3.6. Hoards, caves, votive depositions, and potential shipwreck	44
3.6.1. General observations	44
3.6.2. Weighing sets from hoards/shipwrecks	46
3.7. Concluding remarks	46
4 BRONZE AGE WEIGHT METROLOGY AND THE MAKING OF A CONTINENTAL MARKET	47
4.1. Introduction	47
4.2. The quest for the unit	47
4.2.1. A unit is not a number	47
4.2.2. The many units of Bronze Age Mesopotamia	48
4.2.3. The indeterminacy of Bronze Age units	48
4.2.4. The 'right' unit	50
4.2.5. Units and power	51
4.2.6. Units and networks	52
4.2.7. A model for Bronze Age weight units: recap	52

4.3. Methods	53
4.3.1. Premise	53
4.3.2. Reconstruction of chipped weights	53
4.3.3. Cosine Quantogram Analysis	53
4.3.4. Subsampling	54
4.3.4.1. Shekel-range vs Mina-range	54
4.3.4.2. CQA can test multiples, but not fractions	54
4.3.4.3. CQA is biased for measurement that are many times bigger than the target quantum	54
4.3.4.4. Measurement error is inversely proportional to size	55
4.3.4.5. Subsampling ranges	55
4.3.5. Monte Carlo test for statistical significance	55
4.4. Results	55
4.4.1. The shekel	55
4.4.2. The mina	57
4.4.3. Towards the Iron Age: The balance weights of Phase 5 (c. 750-600 BCE)	60
4.4.4. The weight units of pre-literate Bronze Age Europe	63
4.5. The origin of European weight systems	64
4.5.1. The myth of the 'imported unit'	64
4.5.2. One, No One and One Hundred Thousand units	66
4.5.3. How did weight units 'move'?	66
4.6. Weight systems and market integration	68
4.6.1. Premise: The relational nature of weight units and the problem of markets	68
4.6.2. Weight-regulated money in Mesopotamia	68
4.6.3. Weight-regulated money in Europe	70
4.6.4. Weight systems, money, and the formation of an integrated market in Bronze Age Europe	71
4.7. Chapter highlights	72
5 TYPOLOGICAL CATALOGUE OF WEIGHING DEVICES	73
5.1. Balance beams	74
5.2. Parallelepiped	79
5.3. Cube	91
5.4. Truncated pyramid	92
5.5. Disc	93
5.6. Cone	102
5.7. Double Cone	102
5.8. Octahedron	102
5.9. Cylinder	103
5.10. Sphere	105
5.11. Truncated Cone	108
5.12. Sphendonoid	109
5.13. Kannelurensteine	112
5.14. Piriform	131
5.15. Other hanging weights	136
BIBLIOGRAPHY	139
PLATES	151

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