

Sievers Types

Concepts

Anacrusis One or two extrametrical, unstressed syllables appearing before the first lift of a verse of type A or D; in other words, an exception to the rule that these types begin with a lift

Expanded verse Mostly used of Sievers type D and its subtypes, which are expanded if their full lifts are separated by a dip of one or occasionally two unstressed syllables; such verses are labelled D*₁ and D*₂ (pronounce “expanded D₁”, “expanded D₂”)

Heavy verse A verse with one or two half-lifts in addition to two full lifts

Hypermetric verse A verse with more than two full lifts, and thus more than two feet

Light verse A verse with only one full lift

Normal verse A verse with two full lifts

Sievers types A classification of verse types using alphabetical identifiers from A (for the most common type) to E (the least common type)