

horizon of investigation goes well beyond the Classical agora: J. Andreau, for example, investigates the distinctive features of Roman *macella* including the range of commodities sold in such locations; whilst P. Karvonis and J.-J. Malmay look beyond formal demarcated marketplaces to investigate shops in the Delian theatre quarter. Thus a broad range of locations in which market exchange occurred is considered.

One of the highlights of the volume is the contribution of O. Kakavogianni and M. Anetakis on discoveries of a number of deme markets in southern Attica. Although the authors essentially limit themselves to description of the evidence, students of the Athenian economy will instantly recognize the implications of their findings which suggest a more dynamic agrarian sector than the autarkic subsistence regime posited by M.I. Finley and others. These deme markets complement the literary evidence that Attic farmers were not isolated from market exchange (for example Ar. *Ach.* 860–958; Antiphanes fr. 69 K-A; Theophr. *Char.* 4.15).

The most significant essays of the volume are those combining a close reading of textual sources with the physical evidence for locations of sale. For example, E. Lytle's case study of a *telōnion* (customs house) for fish at Ephesus provides a convincing case study in how catches were taxed not only at Ephesus but also across the Aegean world. He explains the joint contributions towards its construction by fishermen and fishmongers, described in a dedicatory inscription, in terms of improving the speed and efficiency with which catches were taxed and then sold from wholesalers to retailers, so that the product might not spoil on its way to the customer. J.-C. Moretti, M. Fincker and V. Chankowski integrate textual and archaeological material in order to determine the function of a circular feature by the Delian shoreline, arguing that the structure was used for the auction of specific commodities such as slaves, meat and fish. Auction as a method of sale, they argue, was limited to certain commodities and was facilitated by specific structures that arrayed bidders around the space of sale where they could view the product in question and shout their bids to an auctioneer. These studies represent welcome advances in our knowledge of the finer details of transactions in ancient markets.

The choice of subject matter is diverse: interspersed among the many descriptive archaeological reports are some rather different studies. For example, E. Nantet examines the meaning of

the term *muriophoros* ('ten-thousander') used for large merchant vessels in several sources, arguing for a larger cargo capacity than has traditionally been thought; and A. Bresson investigates the theories of Plato and Aristotle on the nature of coinage. The result is a somewhat eclectic mix; but with a wealth of material on offer, and with dozens of illustrations (several in colour), buyers will find the modest price tag of €35 very reasonable.

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FAUCHER (T.), MARCELLESI (M.-C.) and PICARD (O.) *Eds Nomisma. La circulation monétaire dans le monde grec antique, Actes du Colloque International, Athènes, 14–17 Avril 2010* (BCH Supplément 53). Athens: École française d'Athènes, 2011. Pp. 492, illus. €50. 9782869582248.  
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Even though monetary circulation is a theme dear to economic historians and numismatists alike, their approach to it often varies. In this publication of the proceedings of an international colloquium, which was co-organized at Athens (on 14–17 April 2010) by the École française d'Athènes and the programme *Nomisma*, with the support of local institutions, the editors bring together hard data in order to explore the limits of interpreting coin distribution patterns, primarily on the basis of hoard evidence. Can hoards be regrouped into categories depending on the coins which they contain, on the regions where they were found or on the periods into which they fall? Moreover, hoarding practices may be embedded, through literary and epigraphic *testimonia*, into political and social practices, which ultimately shaped them.

Twenty six distinguished scholars, primarily from France, Greece and the USA, describe in this collective endeavour, region-by-region, the hoard distribution through the eastern Mediterranean in 23 articles; the vast majority of these focus on hoard and excavation (bronze) coinage evidence, and most illustrate the distribution of hoards in the respective areas through very useful, detailed graphs and maps. Not least, summaries in three languages, French, English and Greek, at the beginning of each article bring this prolific material to a broader audience. The key emerging

themes are: 'international' civic – not royal – coinages, i.e. Athenian (C. Boehringer, J.H. Kroll, C. Flament and K. Konuk) but also Cyzicene (Kroll), Eginetan (Kroll) and Rhodian (E. Apostolou); the distribution patterns of local coinages as revealed by hoards, i.e. Thasian (O. Picard), Thracian (S. Psôma), Epirote/Aitolian/Acarnanian (D. Tsangari), Thespian (C. Grandjean), Cypriot (E. Markou) and Pontic/Paphlagonian/Bithynian (F. de Callataÿ); and, not least, distribution patterns revealed through excavation contexts in south Illyria (G. Gjongecaj), Epirus (Gjongecaj), Macedonia (C. Gatzolis and T. Kourempas), Chalkidike (Gatzolis and P. Tselekas), Thrace (K. Chryssanthaki-Nagle and Psôma), western Asia Minor (A. Meadows, Z. Çizmeli-Öğün and M.-C. Marcellesi), Cos (V.E. Stefanaki and A. Giannikouri) and Egypt (T. Faucher). Epigraphic evidence shows that Delos struck its own bronze coinage on reduced Attic weight and accepted various coinages, initially predominantly Athenian, but, after it became a free port in 167 BC, it opened up to receive other coinages as well (V. Chankowski). Unlike all the other areas listed above, Egypt did not host any foreign issues (Faucher). F. Duyrat concludes (through a study of 321 hoards ranging between the Achaemenid period and the first century BC) that not all was prompted intense hoarding patterns in Syria. Finally, the penetration of Roman silver and bronze coinages into eastern Mediterranean markets dates to the third century BC at Illyria and Epirus, and developed from the second century BC onwards.

The thorough presentation of archaeological (hoard and excavation) numismatic finds by region is by far the uncontested, major contribution of this rich survey. Certain regions have been omitted, i.e. Sicily, Italy, regions of Asia Minor, the Peloponnese and Crete, alongside a number of themes such as the impact of international royal coinages upon local economies; but it is perfectly understandable that it is not possible to cover everything. Even though the articles on iconography address monetary circulation rather superficially, Boehringer's original view of 'immobilized' coin types, i.e. established international issues such as Athenian owls or posthumous royal and confederal issues, highlights a distinct numismatic habit with a significant impact upon the international coin pool of the Classical and Hellenistic periods, yet without actually explaining its causes.

Comparing the initial aims with the results achieved, one realizes that there is progress to be made in order for these accounts to go beyond the plain description of material into a more thorough comprehension of the motors that regulated coin movement through space and time. M. Amandry notes that the two limitations set by the evidence are: (a) hoards are often incomplete and (b) the fragmented nature of excavated coins in relation to the historical topography of ancient sites. Few contributors associate their material with mainstream economic motors: Flament's cogent explanation of the absence of owls from allied territories due to the taxes (in owls) the allies had to pay to Athens, the description by Meadows of the gradual integration of the cities of western Asia Minor into the Chian weight standard and the quest by Çizmeli-Öğün and Marcellesi to determine 'networks of regional exchanges' in western Asia Minor constitute promising attempts to integrate data with economic practices and theory.

The prolific archaeological material brought together in this rich volume promises to enhance our understanding of microeconomic relations within regions, if properly exploited by economic historians, and renders the promotion of programmes such as *Nomisma* absolutely worthwhile.

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BURASELIS (K.) and MEIDANI (K.) *Eds*  
**Αποταμίευση και διαχείριση χρήματος στην  
Ελληνική ιστορία.** Athens: Tachydromiko  
Tamiuterio Ellados, 2011. Pp. 687. €20.  
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It seems that not all consequences of the current financial and banking crisis of the modern Greek state are abysmally depressing: the current crisis has focused modern Greek attention on the history of banking and investment of money in Greek history, as this handsomely edited volume shows. The volume is arranged chronologically in four parts: antiquity (both Greek and Roman), the Byzantine period (the largest section), modern times (17th–19th century) and the 20th century. The chapters on each section are written by specialists in the field and act as excellent introductions to the current state of scholarly debate and the problems with the evidence. Each part is followed by an extensive specialized bibliography.