## VOWELS

acoustic distance between  $[\bar{\varrho}]$  and  $[\bar{\varrho}]$  by shifting the latter to  $[\bar{u}].^{44}$ 

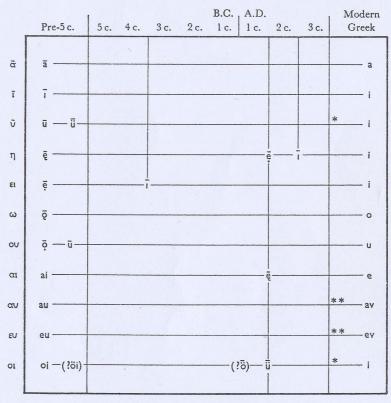


Fig. 3. Approximate chronological development of Attic long vowels and 'short' diphthongs (excluding pre-vocalic position).

The clear recommendation, therefore, is to pronounce ov in all cases as a long close back vowel [ū], i.e. as accented ov in modern Greek, or as e.g. in English pool or French rouge.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> See, however, Bartoněk, p. 114. The fact that, whilst short [u] followed its long partner to [ü], short [o] did not shift to [u], would be explained by the fact that in the short vowel-system there was no contrast of open and close mid vowels. [u] in fact remained a gap in the system (see p. 62) until in late Greek the distinction between long and short vowels was abolished (cf. pp. 93 f.).