

VOWELS

acoustic distance between [ō] and [ō̄] by shifting the latter to [ū].<sup>44</sup>

	Pre-5c.	5 c.	4 c.	3 c.	2 c.	B.C. 1 c.	A.D. 1 c.	2 c.	3 c.	Modern Greek
ᾱ	ā									a
ī	ī									i
ū	ū — ū									* i
ē	ē							ē	ī	i
ει	ē			ī						i
ω	ō									o
ου	ō — ū									u
αι	ai							ē		e
αυ	au									** av
ευ	eu									** ev
οι	oi — (?öi)					(?ö)		ū		* i

\* See pp. 68f.    \*\* See pp. 80; 94, n. 8.

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

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

<sup>44</sup> See, however, Bartoněk, p. 114. The fact that, whilst short [u] followed its long partner to [ū], 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.).