

N.B.— Sanskrit prosodists classify Vṛttas according to the number of syllables contained in each quarter. Thus they enumerate twenty-six classes of 'Sama-vṛttas', as the number of syllables in each quarter of a regular metre may vary from one to twenty-six. Each of these classes comprehends a great number of possible metres according to the different modes in which long and short syllables may be distributed. For example, in the class where each quarter contains six syllables, each of the six syllables may be either short or long, and thus the number of possible combinations is $2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2$ or $2^6 = 64$, though not even half a dozen are in general use; so in the case of the twenty-six syllabled class, the possible varieties are 2^{26} or 87, 108, 864! But if we consider the cases where the alternate quarters are similar or all dissimilar, the variety of possible metres is almost infinite. Piṅgala, as also the Līlāvati and the last chapter of Vṛtta-ratnākara, give directions for computing the number of possible varieties and for finding their places, or that of any single one, in a regular enumeration of them. The different varieties, however, which have been used by poets are few when compared with the vast multitude of possible metres. But even these are too many to be dealt with in an Appendix like this, and we shall, therefore, only give such kinds as are most frequently employed or require particular notice, in the following order:—

Section A	समवृत्त
Section B	अर्धसमवृत्त
Section C	विषमवृत्त
Section D	जाति &c.

Note—In the following definitions the letters representing the Gaṇas such as म, म, स, &c. as also ल, ग, will often be found to have dropped their vowels for the exigence of metre. e. g. म्रभ्न् stands for म, र, भ, न; so म्त्तो, for म, त् &c. The first line gives the *Definition* of a metre; the second, the *Scheme in Gaṇas* with the *Yati* or *Cæsura*—the pause that may be made in reciting a quarter or verse, and which is usually indicated by the words in the Definition standing in the Instrumental case—denoted in brackets by Arabic figures, and then comes the example; (many of these examples are drawn from the works of Māgha, Bhāravī, Kalidāsa, Daṇḍin &c.).

SECTION A

Metres with 4 Syllables in a quarter

(प्रतिष्ठा)

कन्या

Def.	गमौ चैत् कन्या ।
Sch. G.	ग, म.
Ex.	भास्वत्-कन्या सैका धन्या । यस्याः कूले कृष्णोऽखिलत् ॥

Metres with 5 Syllables in a quarter

(सुप्रतिष्ठा)

पङ्क्ति

Def.	भृगौ गिति पङ्क्तिः ।
Sch. G.	भ, ग, ग.
Ex.	कृष्णसनाथा तर्णकपङ्क्तिः । यामुनकच्छे चारु चचार ॥

Metres with 6 Syllables in a quarter

(गायत्री)

(1) तनुमध्यमा

Def.	त्यौ चैत् तनुमध्यमा ।
Sch. G.	त, य.
Ex.	मूर्तिर्गुरुरात्रोरत्यद्भुतरूपा । आस्तां मम चित्ते नित्यं तनुमध्या ॥

(2) विद्युल्लेखा

[also called वाणी]

Def.	विद्युल्लेखा मो मः ।
Sch. G.	म, म (3. 3).
Ex.	(a) श्रीदीप्ती हीकीर्ती धीनीती गीःप्रीती । एधेते द्वे द्वे ते ये नेमे देवेशे ॥ Kāv. 3. 86.

(b) गोपत्रीणां मुख्या विद्युल्लेखारूपा ।
कालिन्दीतीरे सा रेमे श्रीकृष्णेन ॥

(3) शशिवदना

Def.	शशिवदना न्यौ ।
Sch. G.	न, य.
Ex.	शशिवदनानां व्रजतरुणीनाम् । अधरसुधोर्मिं मधुरिपुरैच्छत् ॥

(4) सोमराजी

Def.	द्विया सोमराजी ।
Sch. G.	य, य (2. 4).
Ex.	हरे सोमराजी-समा ते यशःश्रीः । जगन्मण्डलस्य छिनस्यन्धकारम् ॥