

## Silver fractions of the “Kugelreiter” tetradrachms

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### Izvleček

Avtor je zbral vso razpoložljivo dokumentacijo o malih noriških srebrnikih tipa “jezdec s trirogeljno čelado”. Razlikovati je mogoče dve skupini, ki se tipološko ločita po upodobitvi na zadnji strani novcev. Na zadnji strani novcev prve skupine je upodobljen jezdec, na novcih druge rozeta. Novci prve skupine so značilni predvsem za območje jugovzhodne Avstrije (Koroška), novci druge skupine pa za območje Furlanije, Posočja in jugozahodne avstrijske Koroške. Kovanje teh drobižnih novcev, ki ustrezajo četrtinki drahme, postavljamo v sredino 2. st. pr. Kr.

**Ključne besede:** noriški mali srebrniki, 2. st. pr. Kr., Furlanija, Posočje, Koroška (Avstrija)

### Abstract

The author has collected all the available documentation about the small Norican silver coins of the so-called Kugelreiter type. Two groups can be distinguished by the images on the reverse of the coins: on the reverse of the coins of the first group a rider is depicted, while a rosette is depicted on those of the second. The coins of the first group are characteristic primarily for the Carinthian region of southeastern Austria, and the coins of the second group for the region of Friuli, the Soča area and southwestern Carinthia. The minting of these small coins, which correspond to a quarter-drachm, can be placed in the middle of the 2nd century BC.

**Keywords:** small Norican silver, 2<sup>nd</sup> cent. BC, Friuli, Posočje / the Soča area, Kärnten / Carinthia

The Celtic tribes in the area of the southeastern Alps minted and used small change in addition to the tetradrachms.<sup>1</sup> The small silver coins match almost every single type of tetradrachms of this group of coinage. Thus, fractions, equalling quarter-drachms,<sup>2</sup> are documented also for the tetradrachms of the “Kugelreiter” type.

Already Göbl has stated that at the beginning small silver coins of the original “Kugelreiter” type tetradrachms (head/rider) were minted; at a later stage they were replaced by small silver coins showing a head on the obverse (also corresponding to

the “Kugelreiter” type head) and a three-line cross on the reverse.<sup>3</sup> The obverses and reverses of the first group correspond to the characteristic images on the tetradrachms, whereas only obverses of the second group correspond to the tetradrachms.

Göbl, in his fundamental monograph on Norican coinage, could document four specimens (two of each group) of small silver coins of the “Kugelreiter” type (our nos. 4, 5, 23 and 24).<sup>4</sup> Today we are able to present evidence for 26 coins of this group, the majority of them (21 specimens) with known provenance.

<sup>1</sup> See Göbl 1973, 40 ff.

<sup>2</sup> Göbl 1973, 41; Pink 1958, 142; cp. Kos 1977, 70.

<sup>3</sup> Göbl 1992, 14.

<sup>4</sup> Göbl 1973, Taf. 44: B1–2, C1–3.

## FIRST GROUP

## Head/rider

**1. Gracarca (Kärnten, Austria)***Private collection.*

0.884 g; 6h

*Comment:* The specimen was minted with the same obverse and reverse dies as no. 2.**ad 1** – Modern copy of coin no. 1  
*Burgmuseum, Deutschlandsberg, Austria*

1.02 g; 1h

**2. Thörl-Maglern / Straßfried (Kärnten, Austria)***Private collection.*

0.70 g; 1h

*Comment:* The specimen was minted with the same obverse and reverse dies as no. 1.**3. Gracarca (Kärnten, Austria)**

Dembski 1999, 633, no. 10.

*Private collection Herbert Ban (Klagenfurt).*

0.77 g; 7h

*Comment:* The specimen was minted with the same reverse die as no. 4.**4. Unknown site**

Pink 1958, 130–144, 131, Fig. 52: 15.

Göbl 1973, 138, Pl. 44: B2.

Dembski 1998, 89 no. 819 (citing the wrong inv. no. 724).

*Kunsthistorisches Museum, Wien, inv. no. GR 768.*<sup>5</sup>

0.78 g

*Comment:* The specimen was minted with the same reverse die as no. 3.**5. Freudenberg (Kärnten, Austria)**

Colbert de Beaulieu 1956, 254, Pl. XV: iv.

Göbl 1973, 138, no. B1.

*Lost.*<sup>5</sup> I am grateful to Klaus Vondrovec (Vienna Coin Cabinet), who kindly sent me photos of coins nos. 4 and 22.



0.70 g

**6. Mallnitzer Tauern (Kärnten, Austria)**

(Opferplatz des Südsattels – koord. 341544/209750)

Dembski 2012, 10, Nr. 1.

*Private collection.*

0.64 g; 2h

*Comment:* The same obverse die could have been used for minting coins nos. 6 and 7.**7. Dornach (Kärnten, Austria)***Private collection Herbert Ban (Klagenfurt).*

0.80 g; 12h

*Comment:* The same obverse die could have been used for minting coins nos. 6 and 7. The specimen was minted with the same reverse die as no. 8.**8. South Styria (Steiermark, Austria)**

(From an unpublished hoard. A clay pot contained Roman Republican denarii, denarii of Tiberius, Norican tetradrachms of the NEMET type, Norican small silver coins, and two silver fibulae.)

Berndt, Bernhard 1998, 61.

Bernhard 2002, 46 Abb. 66.

*Burgmuseum, Deutschlandsberg (Austria).*

0.77 g

*Comment:* The specimen was minted with the same reverse die as no. 7.**9. Unknown site**

Fritz Rudolf Künker GmbH&amp;Co. KG, Auction 226 (11. 3. 2013), no. 78.



0.81g; 12h

**10. Unknown provenance**

Fritz Rudolf Künker GmbH&amp;Co. KG, Auction 226 (11. 3. 2013), no. 79.



0.76 g

*Comment:* The specimen was minted with the same obverse die as nos. 11 and 25.

### 11. Aquileia (Italy)

Vitri 1986, no. 5.

*Museo Archaeologico Aquileia, inv. no. 29481.*

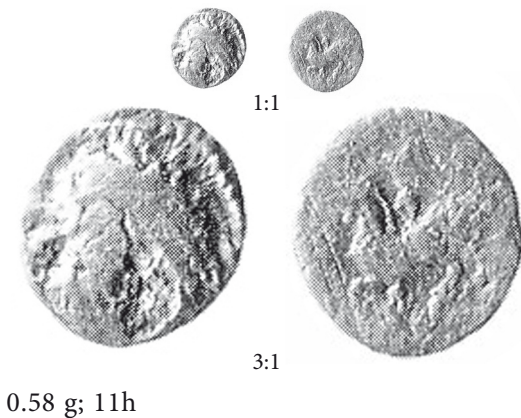


*Comment:* The specimen was minted with the same obverse die as nos. 10 and 25.

### 12. Neubau (Oberösterreich, Austria)

Prokisch 2011, 35, cat. no. A.539, 50.

*Schlossmuseum Linz.*



**Obverses**  
(*Fig. 1*)

Twelve specimens of the first group (head/rider) show heads with only the upper part of the laurel wreath (oriented upwards) between two lines of dots.

Both coins from Gracarca and Straßfried (nos. 1 and 2; *Fig. 1*) were minted with the same obverse and reverse dies, and evidently show the charac-

teristics of the early group (B1a) of tetradrachms of the “Kugelreiter” type.<sup>6</sup>

The obverse of the Gracarca specimen (no. 3; *Fig. 1*) shows dots under the neck, which is distinctive only for the tetradrachms of groups “Kugelreiter” A1 and B1, and never appears in group C2. The forms of nose and eye, as well as mouth, presented with two dots, further imply that the production of the die was influenced by the earliest tetradrachms of the “Kugelreiter” type (A1c group). Its high weight of 0.77 g also complies with the weight of the earliest tetradrachms of over 12 g.<sup>7</sup>

Dots under the neck appear also on the Freudenberg specimen (no. 5), which, however, was not minted with the same obverse die as Gracarca specimen. The obverse of the Vienna specimen (unknown find site) (no. 4) is too much worn out to illustrate all characteristics and to allow any die comparison. Göbl, on the contrary, stated that both specimens from Freudenberg and from Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna had been minted with the same obverse and reverse dies. He classified them as a fraction of tetradrachms of the groups “Kugelreiter” A1 and B1.<sup>8</sup>

For the representation on the obverse of coin no. 6 from Mallnitzer Tauern, no parallels in the group of tetradrachms of the “Kugelreiter” type can be found. In spite of the wear on the obverse die of specimen no. 7, it seems that the same obverse die could have been used for the minting of coins nos. 6 and 7.

The obverse die of a coin from an unspecified site in southern Styria (no. 8) was relatively worn at the time of minting and does not allow a detailed study.

The specimen from Aquileia (no. 11) shows only an embossment on the obverse. Since the coin on the reverse does not show traces of wear, it is most probable that the obverse die was worn when used for the minting of this specimen. The coin no. 10 of unknown provenance was minted with the same obverse die.

The characteristics of the obverse of coin no. 9 (*Fig. 1*; of unknown provenance) are to a great extent similar to that of the tetradrachm minted with the obverse die C1a.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Göbl 1989, Taf. 2: 1–4.

<sup>7</sup> Göbl 1989, 33.

<sup>8</sup> Göbl 1973, 41.

<sup>9</sup> Göbl 1973, Taf. 4.





1

2

TKN B1a

Cat. no. / Kat. št.: 1 Gracarca (4:1); 2 Straßfried (4:1). – Tetradrachm / tetradrahma **TKN B1a** (enlarged / povečano).



3

TKN A1c

Cat. no. / Kat. št.: 3 Gracarca (4:1). – Tetradrachm / tetradrahma **TKN A1c** (enlarged / povečano).



9

TKN C1a

Cat. no. / Kat. št.: 9 Unknown provenance / neznan izvor (4:1).  
Tetradrachm / tetradrahma **TKN C1a** (Zuglio: Kos 2010, 90 no. 14; enlarged / povečano).

Fig. 1 / Sl. 1: **First group**, Obverses / **Prva skupina**, sprednja stran



1

2

TKN B1a

Cat. no. / Kat. št.: 1 Gracarca (4:1); 2 Straßfried (4:1). – Tetradrachm / tetradrahma **TKN B1a** (enlarged / povečano).



6

TKN A1d

Cat. no. / Kat. št.: 6 Mallnitzer Tauern (4:1). – Tetradrachm / tetradrahma **TKN A1d** (enlarged / povečano).



3

4

5

TKN A1b

Cat. no. / Kat. št.: 3 Gracarca (4:1); 4 Unknown provenance / neznan izvor (4:1);  
5 Freudenberg (4:1). – Tetradrachm / tetradrahma **TKN A1b** (Haimburg no. 14; enlarged / povečano).

Fig. 2 / Sl. 2: **First group, Reverses / Prva skupina, zadnja stran**

Fig. 3 / Sl. 3: **First group, Reverses / Prva skupina, zadnja stran** →

**Reverses**

(Figs. 2; 3)

On the coins of the first group a rider appears with a specific type of helmet that is typical of tetradrachms of the "Kugelreiter" type.

The reverse image on the coin from Mallnitzer Tauern (no. 6; Fig. 2) seems to be the nearest in terms of the position of the horse's legs and head to the reverse die 6 of the tetradrachm group A1d.<sup>10</sup>

Gracarca (no. 3) and Vienna specimen of unknown provenance (no. 4) were minted with the same reverse die. According to Göbl, the specimen from Freudenberg (no. 5) would have also been minted with the same reverse die (Fig. 2), which, however, is not apparent. The image on the latter coin indeed shows strong similarity but the helmet seems to be of a different form.

The comparison of the figure on the reverses shows a great similarity – the shape of the horse's muzzle, the position of the front legs of the horse,

the front legs' joint in the shape of a ball (the so called "Kugelgelenk"), the helmet form – with the tetradrachms of the "Kugelreiter" group A1b.<sup>11</sup>

Coins from south Styria (no. 8) and from Dornach (no. 7) evidently show the use of the same reverse die. A comparison of the reverses of both coins with the reverse of the coin from Aquileia (no. 11) would imply the use of the same reverse die (Fig. 3). However, small details, such as the horse's right leg, indicate the use of two different reverse dies.

Different (typical) position of the front legs of the horse, the form of the rider, as well as the shape of the horse's muzzle, clearly indicates their placing in the later group C2a of the "Kugelreiter" tetradrachms. For the minting of this group of small silver coins at the time being the use of four reverse dies is documented.

Coins nos. 9 and 10 (Fig. 3) of unknown provenance, minted with two different reverse dies, show the same characteristics as the group above, but a particular similarity to the tetradrachm from Zuglio.

<sup>10</sup> Göbl 1973, Taf. 1: 7.

<sup>11</sup> See, for instance, Göbl 1989, Pl. 1, nos. 11 and 14.



Cat. no. / Kat. št.: 8 South Styria / južna Štajerska (4:1); 7 Dornach (4:1); 11 Aquileia (4:1).  
Tetradrachm / tetradrahma TKN C2a (Most na Soči; inv. no. / št. LJ 15475; enlarged / povečano).



Cat. no. / Kat. št.: 10 Unknown provenance / neznan izvor (4:1); 9 unknown provenance / neznan izvor (4:1).  
Tetradrachm / tetradrahma TKN C1a (Zuglio; Kos 2010, 89 no. 13; enlarged / povečano).



## SECOND GROUP

## Head/three-line cross

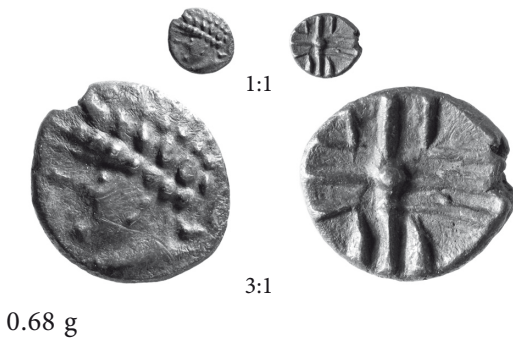
**13. Unknown provenance**

Fritz Rudolf Künker GmbH&Co. KG, Auction  
226 (11. 3. 2013), no. 80.

**14. Kobarid (Slovenia)**

(loc. **Skrinjca**; part of a small hoard consisting  
of 36 coins: 8 victoriatii, 1 triens, 25 Republican  
asses, 2 small Celtic silver coins)

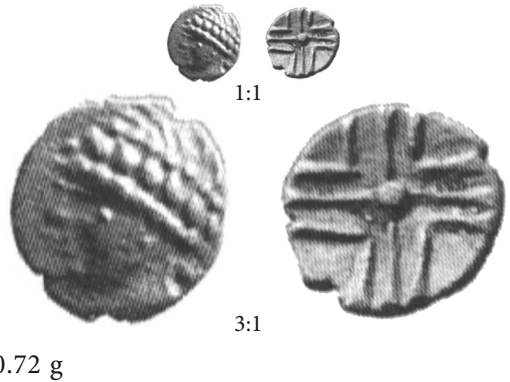
Maggi, Žbona Trkman 2007, 70 n. 69, 74 Fig. 11.  
Kos, Žbona Trkman 2009, 271–282.  
Goriški muzej, Nova Gorica, inv. no. N2316.



*Comment:* The coin was minted with the same  
obverse die as no. 15.

**15. Mallnitzer Tauern (Kärnten, Austria)**  
**(Opferplatz des Südsattels)**

Dembski 2012, 10, Nr. 2.  
*Private collection.*

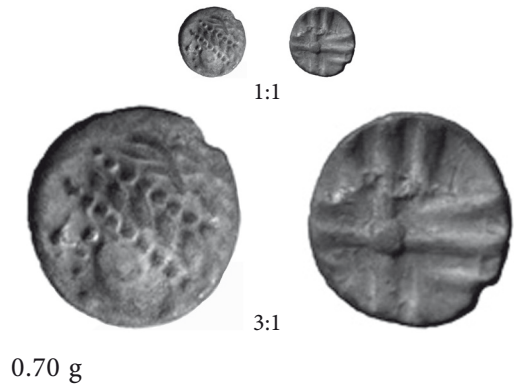


*Comment:* The coin was minted with the same  
obverse die as no. 14.

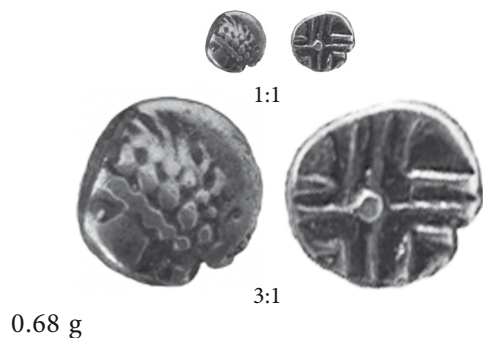
**16. Monte Barda – Roba (near Cividale, Italy)**  
**(excavations in 2003)**

Vitri 2007, 157.

*Museo Archeologico Nazionale, Cividale, inv.  
no. CIV 44312.*

**17. Dornach (Kärnten, Austria)**

*Private collection Herbert Ban (Klagenfurt).*

**18. Mallnitzer Tauern (Kärnten, Austria)**

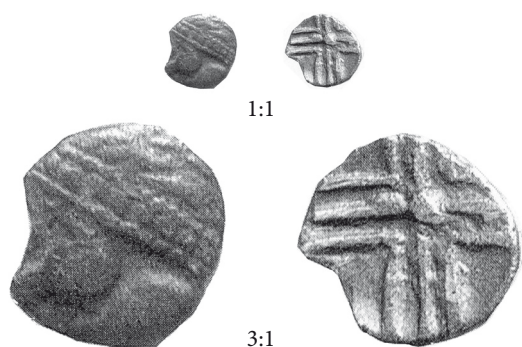
**(West saddle, excavations in 1998)**

Dembski 2001, 36, cat. no. 1.

Lippert, Dembski 2000, 261, Abb. 14: 2.

*Private collection.*

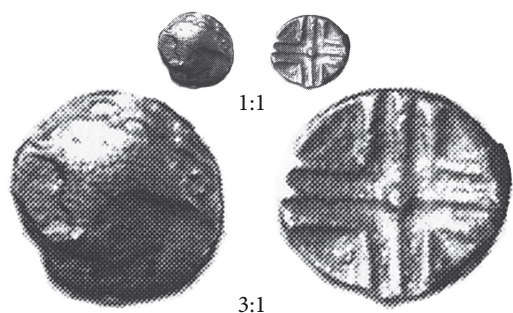




0.62 g

**19. Mallnitzer Tauern (Kärnten, Austria)**  
(Westattel, excavations in 1998)

Dembski 2001, 36, cat. no. 2.

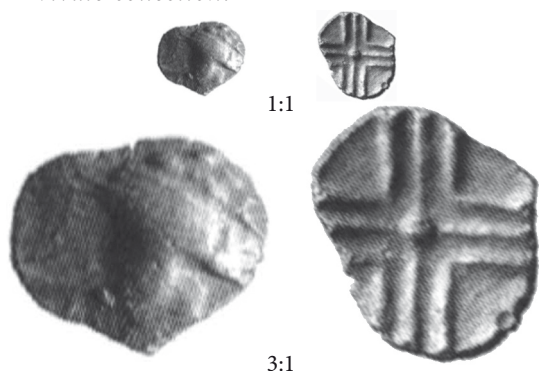
*Private collection.*

0.72 g

*Comment:* The specimen was minted with the same obverse (nos. 20 and 21) and reverse dies as no. 20.

**20. Mallnitzer Tauern (Kärnten, Austria)**  
(Opferplatz des Südsattels)

Dembski 2012, 10, Nr. 3.

*Private collection.*

0.77 g

*Comment:* The specimen was minted with the same obverse (nos. 19 and 21) and reverse dies as no. 19.

**21. Gracarca (Kärnten, Austria)**

*Private collection Herbert Ban (Klagenfurt).*

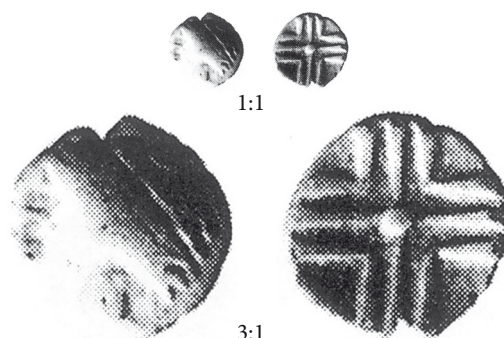
0.69 g

*Comment:* The specimen was minted with the same obverse dies as nos. 19 and 20.

**22. Monte Altare (near Treviso, Italy)**

Gambacurta, Gorini 2005, 174, cat. no. 2.

Bernardelli et al. 1995, 431.

*Museo del Cenedese di Vittorio Veneto.*

0.58 g

**23. Gurina (Kärnten, Austria)**

(the excavations of Hoernes in 1886/1887)

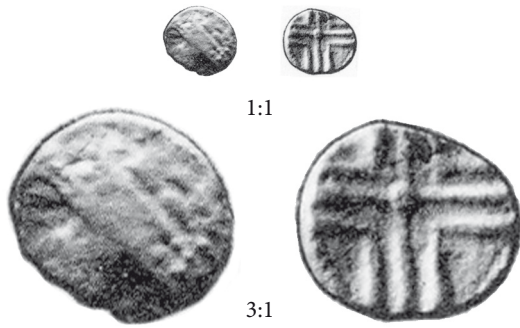
Pink 1958, 130–144; 131, Abb. 52: 3.

Paulsen 1933, 70 and 154 cat. no. 642, Taf. 27, Nr. 642.

Göbl 1973, 138, Pl. 44: C 1 (citing a wrong inventory number and wrong weight data).

Dembski 1998, 89 no. 820 (inv. no. 39.262, Gurina, excavations of Hoernes in 1886/1887).

*Kunsthistorisches Museum, Wien, inv. no. 39262 (originally kept in the Naturhistorisches Museum in Vienna).*



0.38 g

**24. Unknown site**

Göbl 1973, 138, Pl. 44: C3.

Paris, Bibliothèque nationale, Cabinet des Médailles,  
inv.no. 9965.<sup>12</sup>



0.68 g

**25. Mallnitzer Tauern (Kärnten, Austria)**  
("Südsattel, Grabung 1998")

Lippert, Dembski 2000, 261 Abb. 14: 3.

Dembski 2001, 37, cat. no. 9.



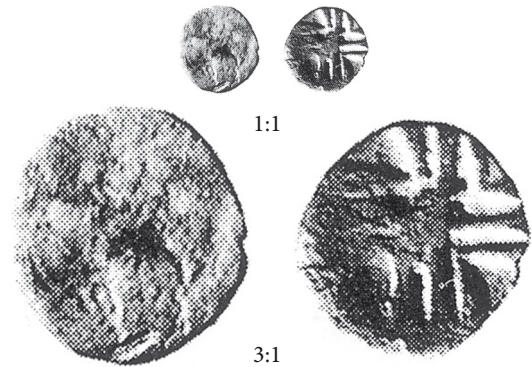
0.57 g

**26. Monte Altare (Italy)**

Bernardelli et al. 1995, 431.

Gambacurta, Gorini 2005, 174, cat. no. 3.

Museo del Cenedese di Vittorio Veneto.



0.57 g

**Obverses**

(Fig. 4)

The same obverse characteristics as on first group (heads with only the upper part of the laurel wreath (oriented upwards) between two lines of dots) are shown by ten specimens of the second group ((head/three-line cross) (nos. 13–22). Two specimens of the second group (nos. 23 and 24), however, show only the lower part of the laurel wreath (oriented downwards).

Heads on the obverses from Kobarid (no. 14; Fig. 4) and in particular from Monte Barda (no. 16; Fig. 4) present some of the same characteristics (expressive nose, large dots to denote eye and mouth) as the specimen from Gracarca (no. 3). However, the dots under the neck do not seem to appear. The influence of a specific group of tetradrachms of the "Kugelreiter" type cannot easily be established, but it seems that the "Kugelreiter" type tetradrachms of group C2a (Fig. 4) most probably affected their minting.

Both specimens found at Mallnitzer Tauern (nos. 19 and 20) were most probably minted with the same obverse die,<sup>13</sup> and the same obverse die was applied also for minting the coin from Gracarca (no. 21).

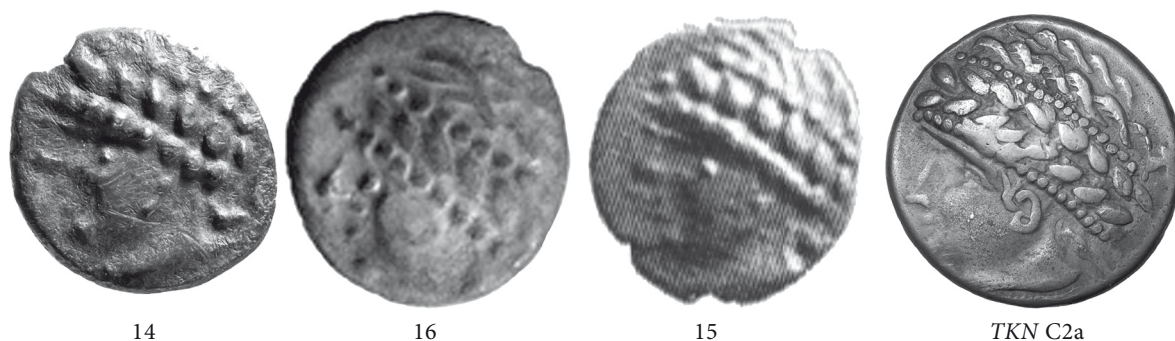
On the Paris specimen from an unknown site (no. 24), as well as on the Gurina specimen (no. 23), only the lower part of the laurel wreath (oriented downwards) is depicted.<sup>14</sup> Göbl argued that both

*Comment:* The specimen was minted with the same obverse die as nos. 10 and 11.

<sup>12</sup> The photo was generously provided by Michel Amandry (Cabinet des Médailles, Paris).

<sup>13</sup> Surmised also by Dembski 2001, 36.

<sup>14</sup> This was noticed already by Mackensen 1975, 254.



Cat. no. / Kat. št.: **14** Kobarid (4:1); **16** Monte Barda (4:1); **15** Mallnitzer Tauern (4:1).  
Tetradrachm / tetradrahma **TKN C2a** (Most na Soči; inv. no. / št. LJ 6661; enlarged / povečano).

Fig. 4 / Sl. 4: **Second group**, Obverses / **Druga skupina**, sprednja stran

specimens had been minted with the same obverse die.<sup>15</sup> I am convinced, however, that the obverse of the Gurina specimen is too worn to allow an exact die comparison. He assumed that the head on this obverse is analogous to the depictions of the latest obverse images on the tetradrachms of the "Kugelreiter" type group C2.<sup>16</sup>

The specimens of the first group of unknown provenance (no. 10) and from Aquileia (no. 11) show only an embossment on the obverse. Since neither coins show traces of wear on the reverse, it is most probable that the obverse die became worn when used for the minting of both specimens. It seems that the same obverse die was used to mint a silver coin with the depiction of a three-line cross on the reverse, found at Mallnitzer Tauern (no. 25).<sup>17</sup> If the conjecture is correct, this would imply the simultaneous minting of quarter-drachms of the "Kugelreiter" type of both groups (rider and cross on the reverse). It would also provide evidence for a rather long duration of the minting of these coins during which the considerable attrition of the obverse die could have taken place.

The specimen from Monte Altare (no. 26) shows an entirely flat obverse that could hardly be the effect of a heavy attrition of the coin. Therefore, this specimen cannot be placed in this group of

coins with full certainty, although it was published as a coin of the "Kugelreiter" type.<sup>18</sup>

The only die-linkage between coins of the first (head/rider) and the second group (head/cross) that could possibly be established is the use of the obverse die for the minting of coins nos. 11 and 25.

### Reverses

On the reverses of the second group a three-line cross with only a dot in the centre of the coin is always depicted,<sup>19</sup> never showing further dots at the junctures of other cross lines. This type of cross is obviously the earliest one and marks the beginning of the later use and evolution of this reverse type.<sup>20</sup>

The coins from Mallnitzer Tauern (nos. 19 and 20) were minted with the same reverse die.

Most probably the same reverse die was used for minting the specimens from Monte Altare (no. 22) and Gurina (no. 23). It seems that all specimens of this group were minted with a different reverse die.

The prototype for the three-line cross type should allegedly be sought in the small silver coins of Massalia.<sup>21</sup> Based on this, Gorini dates the small silver Norican coins with the cross on the reverse to the last decade of the 2<sup>nd</sup> cent. BC.<sup>22</sup> Dembski,

<sup>15</sup> Göbl 1973, 42.

<sup>16</sup> Göbl 1973, 41–42.

<sup>17</sup> Dembski 2001, p. 36, cat. no. 2 ("stempelident?"); id. 2000, p. 261, Abb. 14: 2.

<sup>18</sup> Gambacurta, Gorini 2005, 174 ("tipo Kugelreiter").

<sup>19</sup> Göbl 1973, pl. 47, type I Af. Bannert, Piccottini 1972, Typentafel A.

<sup>20</sup> See also Göbl 1973, 42.

<sup>21</sup> Nash 1987, 63. With her agrees Gorini 2001, 125–127.

<sup>22</sup> Gorini 2001, 127.



on the contrary, has suggested that the depiction of the cross on the coinage of the Norici had been influenced by the small coins of the Tectosages.<sup>23</sup>

### METROLOGY

The average weight of the ten quarter-drachms of the first group (the untypical weights of the Aquileia specimen and the worn specimen from Neubau are not taken into account) is 0.76 g, which corresponds to the tetradrachms weighing in average 12.16 g, i.e. to the very early tetradrachms of the “Kugelreiter” type, as represented in the Haimburg hoard. There is no distinction between the weights of coins of the first group showing earlier reverse types and those showing later reverse types.

The average weight of the twelve coins of the second group (the fragmented specimen from Gurina and worn specimen from Monte Altare were not taken into account) is 0.67 g and would correspond to the tetradrachms weighing 10.85 g. The average weight of the tetradrachms of the “Kugelreiter” group C2a in the hoard of Enemonzo is 11.51 g.<sup>24</sup>

The 10% lower average weight of the second group of quarter-drachms could indicate their minting at a stage later than the minting of the first group.

### AREA OF DISTRIBUTION

The distribution map of coins of both groups indicates the appearance of the earlier group (head/rider) mostly in southern Austria, while the specimens of the second group ((head/three-line cross) are typical of the northeastern part of Italy, western Slovenia and western Carinthia (Austria). The earlier group corresponds to the distribution area of the “Kugelreiter” tetradrachms of groups A1 and B1, whereas the second group is typical of the distribution area of the later group C2 of the “Kugelreiter” tetradrachms.<sup>25</sup> The specimen of the first group from Aquileia also fits in the distribution area of tetradrachms of group C2 of the “Kugelreiter” type, since its reverse shows characteristics of this group of tetradrachms. The specimen of the second group from Gurina must have drifted into circulation through trade along

the old road connecting Zuglio and Oberdrauburg over Plöckenpass / Passo di Monte Croce Carnico. In the same way both specimens from the Mallnitz Alps must also have reached this pass (*Fig. 5*).

### CHRONOLOGY

The earliest tetradrachms of the “Kugelreiter” type (groups A and B) were minted as early as in the last decades of the first half of the second century BC, while the coins of group C2 must have been minted in the early second half of the second century BC.<sup>26</sup> Gorini, however, has dated the coins of his phase A (groups A and B), as appearing in the Haimburg hoard, to 180–160 BC, and coins of his phase B and C (group C2), as represented in the Enemonzo hoard, to the period 160–120/115 BC.<sup>27</sup> As I have argued elsewhere, the span of six decades for minting the tetradrachms of the “Kugelreiter” type is far too long to correspond with the conclusion that the composition of the Haimburg, Enemonzo, and Most na Soči hoards indicates a short-term minting of coins and their rapid hoarding soon afterwards.<sup>28</sup> In my opinion, absolute chronological dating is too speculative and unrealistic. On the basis of the Enemonzo hoard (buried c. 130/125 BC),<sup>29</sup> – and this hoard represents the only available solid and reliable basis for establishing the absolute chronology of the minting of coins of this type – the minting of tetradrachms of groups C2a and C2b can reliably be dated to the early second half of the second century BC, while the minting of the earlier tetradrachms of groups A and B would have taken place at the end of the first half of the second century BC.

Since the quarter-drachms of the “Kugelreiter” type were doubtless minted simultaneously with tetradrachms, their coinage should be dated to the same period. This dating is confirmed by the Kobarid hoard from the beginning of the second half of the second century BC (comprising specimen no. 14).<sup>30</sup> Since the circumstances of the discovery of the hoard from south Styria (comprising no. 8) are not quite clear, neither its composition could be established with certainty, nor could its importance for the duration of the quarter-drachms of

<sup>23</sup> Already Göbl 1973, 44 speaks about “Tectosagenkreuz”. Dembski 2001, 37.

<sup>24</sup> Gorini 2005, 69.

<sup>25</sup> See Kos 2010, 97 Fig. 3.

<sup>26</sup> Kos 2010, 73–102.

<sup>27</sup> Gorini 2005, 61, 63, 80.

<sup>28</sup> Kos 2010, 73–102.

<sup>29</sup> Gorini 2005, 48.

<sup>30</sup> Kos, Žbona Trkman 2009, 276.

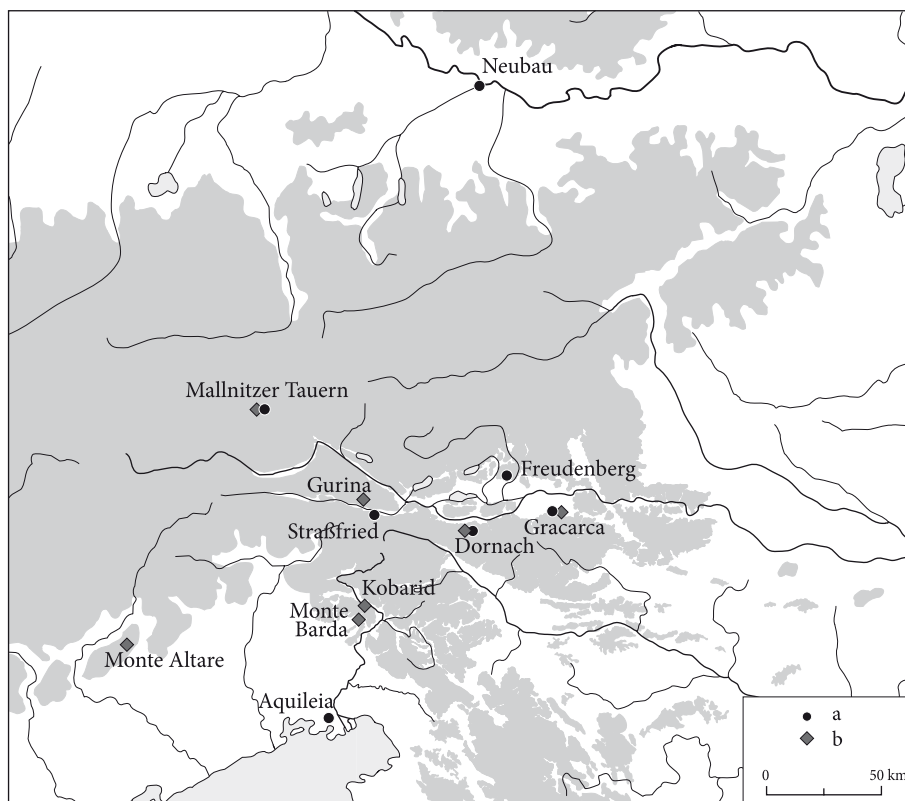


Fig. 5: Distribution map of quarter-drachms of the “Kugelreiter” type.

a – head/rider (unlocated site: cat. no. 8 = South Styria); b – head/cross.

Sl. 5: Razprostranjenost malih srebrnikov tipa “jezdec s trirogeljno čelado”.

a – glava/jezdec (nelocirano najdišče: kat. št. 8 = južna Štajerska, Avstrija); b – glava/križ.

the “Kugelreiter” type in circulation be evaluated securely. In any case, the minting of the quarter-drachms must have also been of short duration, similar to that of the tetradrachms.

## CONCLUSION

Two groups of the quarter-drachms of the “Kugelreiter” type are documented. The first group shows a head on the obverse and a rider on the reverse and was – as is implied by the higher average weight – minted slightly earlier than the second group. Their minting and circulation seem to be typical of the area of south Carinthia and southwestern Styria in modern Austria. The second group shows a head on

the obverse and a three-line cross with one dot in its centre. The average weight of this group is 10% lower in comparison with the former group, which could indicate a somewhat later minting of this group. The latter type of quarter-drachms is chiefly characteristic for the area of northeastern Italy, western Slovenia and western Carinthia in Austria.

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## Mali srebrniki tipa “jezdec s trirogeljno čelado”

### Povzetek

Dokumentirani je bilo mogoče 26 malih srebrnikov tipa “Kugelreiter”, od katerih so za 21 primerkov znani najdiščni podatki, kar je še posebej pomembno. Razlikovati je mogoče dva tipa teh novcev, ki imajo na zadnji strani tipično upodobitev jezdeca s trirogeljno čelado, kakršna je upodobljena tudi na velikih srebrnikih tega tipa. Prva skupina ima na zadnji strani upodobljenega jezdeca, na novcih druge skupine pa je upodobljena rozeta. Novci prve (starejše) skupine se koncentrirajo predvsem na območju jugovzhodne Avstrije (Koroške), novci druge (mlajše) skupine pa so razprostranjeni predvsem na območju Furlanije, Posočja in jugozahodne avstrijske Koroške. Novci

predstavljajo četrtninski del drahme oziroma šestnajstinski del velikega srebrnika in so bili kot drobiž nedvomno kovani istočasno s tetradrahmami. Njihovo kovanje moramo zato časovno postaviti v konec 1. polovice oziroma začetek druge polovice 2. stoletja pr. Kr.

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