

Ivan MAROVIĆ

THE COINAGE OF ROMANOS III ARGYROS  
IN THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM IN SPLIT  
CATALOGUE

NOVAC ROMANA III ARGYROSA U ARHEOLOŠKOM MUZEJU U SPLITU  
KATALOG

UDK: 737.1 : 904 (497.5 ) "654"

Izvorni znanstveni članak

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Ivan Marovi}

HR, 21000 SPLIT

Star-evi}eva 24D

This is a catalogue of 59 *histameno*i of the Byzantine emperor Romanos III Argyros in the Numismatic Cabinet of the Archaeological museum in Split. It should be attached to the author's article published in the VAHD 87-89/1994-1996, p. 305-334.

The provenance of these coins is mostly unknown. There is a hoard from Klobuk near Ljubuški containing 23 *histameno*i. Single pieces are registered in Zagvozd, Čaporice, Dugopolje and the surroundings of Narona. The author draws attention to the number of dots in loros - 8 or 6 or 5 or 4 or even 3 dots, that is a unique example so far. The diameter of these coins ranges from 23.5 - 25 mm, and their weight ranges from 4.31 - 4.40 gr. The dies of the coins are marked with the letters A-Z/A-O/O and the die analyze show 39 different dies.

*Ovo je katalog 59 primjeraka histamena bizantskog cara Romana III Argyrosa koji se čuvaju u Numizmatičkom kabinetu u Arheološkom muzeju u Splitu. On je dio autorovog članka objavljenog u VAHD 87-89/1994-96, str. 305-334.*

*Podaci o nalazištima novca su dosta skromni: jedna je ostava od 23 komada iz Klobuka kod Ljubuškoga, a pojedinačni nalazi su iz Zagvozda, Čaporica, Dugopolja i okolice Narone. U obradi novca autor je upozorio na broj točaka u lorosu i tako ga prikazao počevši od onih primjeraka gdje se u lorosu javlja osam ili šest ili pet ili četiri ili čak tri točke, što bi zasad bio jedinstveni primjerak. Glede veličine i težine može se kazati da je u splitskom fundusu najveći broj onih novaca kojima je promjer između 23,5 do 25 mm, dok im je težina većinom između 4,31 do 4,40 gr. Glede žigova za izradu ovih novaca, koje je autor označio slovima A-Z/A-O/O, može se pretpostaviti da se radi o 39 međusobno različitih kalupa.*

Cat. no.	Weight	Diameter	Obverse	Reverse
Inv. no.	Die Type	Axis		
1 273	4,18 R	24 180	<p>1. Hoard Klobuk <i>A loros with 7 dots.</i></p> <p>+lhSXISRǒX RǒXN!NTIh9</p> <p>Christ (beared) with a crossed nimbus, clothed in stola and kolobion, blessing with the r. hand, the Gospels in the l. hand, seated frontally in a throne with a back. A double border.</p> <p>X closer to K.</p> <p><i>A loros with 6 dots.</i></p>	<p>2CǒbOHl - ❖ - Rǒ9!Zǒ</p> <p>The Virgin Mary with nimbus standing r., clothed in a stola and maphorion, crowning Romanos III (bearded) standing front, dressed in a sakkos and loros; r. hand on his chest, l. hand holding a globe surmounted by a cross. M2 above in the centre.</p> <p>❖</p> <p>The figure of the Virgin Mary (further BVM) is slim. A covered.</p> <p>’ —</p> <p>❖</p> <p>The figure of BVM is closer to those with 5 or 4 dots in the loros.</p> <p>’ —</p> <p>As above</p>
2 272	4,32 S	24 180	X like K.	<p>’ —</p> <p>❖</p> <p>The figure of BVM is closer to those with 5 or 4 dots in the loros.</p>
3 270	4,07 S	23 180	X like K.	<p>’ —</p> <p>As above</p>

1 The number of the notes refers to the numbers in the catalogue. - Since in the cited literature the abbreviation symbols are not always given (abbreviations or ligatures), attention will be drawn first to the number of dots in the loros, and afterwards to the other characteristics (axis, abbreviations, etc.).  
BNP 43/CP/07.

2 DOC 1 b. 10; the representation of the Virgin Mary is close to those with 5 or 4 dots in the loros.

Cat. no.	Weight	Diameter	Obverse	Reverse
Inv. no.	Die Type	Axis		
4 277	4,32 U	23 6	! Π	’ — 9 ! 6
5 278	4,34 V	24 180	A covered.	’ ⊗ ⋮ ρ ρ ! A cross above a globe. The figure of the BVM is slim as on no. 1.
6 271	4,31 S	23 180		’ — ⋮ Slim figure of the BVM.
			<i>A loros with 5 dots.</i>	
7 259	4,34 K	24,5 180	κ ϛ	’ — ⋮ ρ ρ ! Stocky figure of the BVM.
8 263	4,36 O	25 210	A covered.	’ — ⋮ ρ ρ
9 260	4,08 M	24 210	9	’ — ⋮ ρ ρ
			<i>A loros with 4 dots.</i>	
10 266	4,26 R	23,5 210	The legend is fairly worn.	’ ⋮ Poorly carved letters.


7 Delonga no. 41.

DOC 1 c. 2-4.

8-9 DOC 1 c. 1 and 5.

10 Delonga no. 46.

:Mirnik no. 14-17. :DOC 1 d. 9, 14, 15.

Cat. no.	Weight	Diameter	Obverse	Reverse
Inv. no.	Die Type	Axis		
11 268	4,28 Q	25 180	ϑ Deeply carved graffiti A.	⋮ ⋮ Dot on the lower edge of the loros.
12 261	4,31 D	24 180	ϑ	-- Without ' 6 ϑ Dot as in no 11(ϑ).
13 258	4,30 K?	24 210	ϑ Only one dot instead of \ along the back of the throne.	⋮ ⋮ ϑ ϑ !
14 265	4,29 P	24,5 180		-- Without ' A ϑ ϑ A dot the loros as for no. 11.
15 262	4,31 N	24 180	X like 7  Graffiti across Christ's face.	-- Without ' ⋮ Graffiti between the beads and the rim.
16 275	4,29 Q	24 180		— Without ' ⋮ ϑ ϑ

11 Graffiti was very deeply incised on the obverse.

Mirnik no. 18-25.

DOC I d. 8 and 12.

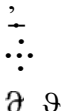
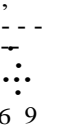

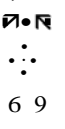
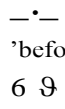
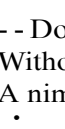

13 Delonga nos. 39, 43, 44.

DOC I d. 3, 9, 14.

14 DOC I d. 8, 12.

16 Delonga nos. 39, 45.

DOC I d. 11, 16.

Cat. no.	Weight	Diameter	Obverse	Reverse
Inv. no.	Die Type	Axis		
17 279	4,32 Z	24 180	A 9	 Graffiti between the feet.
18 274	4,27 T	24 210	Letters mostly unclear.	 6 9
19 267	4,33 L	24 180	A	 9
20 257	4,31 L	24,5 180	X= H or N 9	 6 9 !
21 276	4,27 E?	24 210	9	 'before 2 (on the left). 6 9 !
22 269	4,35 D	24 210	Unclear, illegible legend.	 A dot in a circle. Without'. A nimbus of small beads.  A dot on the far edge of the loros.

17 Delonga no. 44.

18 Two different abbreviation signs.

19 DOC 1 d. 11, 16.

21 DOC 1 d. 2, 5, 6.



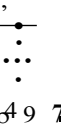
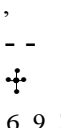
22 The nimbus of the Virgin Mary is composed of tiny beads. There is a dot at the end of the loros (.).

Cat. no.	Weight	Diameter	Obverse	Reverse
Inv. no.	Die Type	Axis		
23 264	4,32 K	23 180	Unclear, illegible legend.  2. Provenience Zagvozd <i>A loros with 5 dots.</i>	— W i t h - o i u t'.
24 2311	3,97 N/N	24 180	N in place of R. 4 graffiti. 9	’ — • ••• • Perhaps a transitional type. The figure of theBVM is similar 6-8 dots in the loros.
25 2794	3,96 C/C	24 180	3. Provenience Čaporice <i>A loros with 4 dots.</i>	’ ••• • 6 9
26 870	3,79 M/M	23 210	7 9  5. Round Narona	’ — p 9 7 
27 869	4,35 L/L	23 210	9	W i t h - e u t'.
				••• 6 9 !

24 Delonga no. 41.

DOC 1 c. 1. - The figure of the Virgin Mary is similar in the lower section with those where the loros has from 6 to 8 points.

25 DOC 1 d. 11, 16.

Cat. no.	Weight	Diameter	Obverse	Reverse
Inv. no.	Die Type	Axis		
UNKNOWN PROVENIENCE				
<i>A loros with 8 dots.</i>				
28 283	4,38 Y	25 180	Overstruck.	 6 Slim figure of the BVM.
<i>A loros with 6 dots.</i>				
29 305	4,23 A/A	23 210	Blurred letters.	 Figure as above.
30 281	4,31 X	23 180	Legend shallowly stamped.	 
<i>A loros with 5 dots.</i>				
31 256	3,58 K	22 210	Wavy surface, clipped to the beads.	 The figure of the BVM in a variant between those have 5 or 6 dots in the loros.

- 28 Delonga no. 40.  
DOC 1 c. 3.  
29 DOC 1 c. 6.  
30 DOC 1 c. 9.  
31 Delonga no. 46.  
DOC 1 c. 1.

Cat. no.	Weight	Diameter	Obverse	Reverse
Inv. no.	Die Type	Axis		
32 2695	4,42 E?	23,5 210	H like N.	<p>• in place of '   --   ⋮   6 9 !    The figure of the BVM is more similar to those with 4 dots in the loros.</p>
33 285	4,37 B/B	24 180	Three to four circles, dislocated during minting.	<p>Without '   ☛•☛   ⋮   6 9</p> <p><i>A loros with 4 dots.</i></p>
34 248	4,32 B	25/23 180	A dot (•) at the base of the loros.	<p>Without '   --   ⋮</p>
35 280	4,34 L	24 180	9	<p>Without '   --   ⋮   6 9 !    Loros as above.   The BVM has ⋮ on the left shoulder.</p>
36 310	4,44 E/E	23,5 180	N in the form ☛, twice.	<p>Without '   --   ⋮   Stocky figure of the BVM.</p>

32 DOC 1 c. 1.

34 A dot on the edge of the loros (•). The former inventory number A 653 is visible. It is not always possible to identify these coins according to DeLonga, DOC, or BNP, as the presence or absence of an apostrophe after ...HQ is not noted in these works, and nor is the form of abbreviation (ligature) -- or --'. The AMS nos. 34-44, cf. Mirnik nos. 18-25.



Cat. no.	Weight	Diameter	Obverse	Reverse
Inv. no.	Die Type	Axis		
37 286	4,21 P/P	24,5 210		<p>Without '.</p> <p>--</p> <p>⋮</p> <p>A dot (•) outside the loros.</p> <p>6 9 7 θ</p> <p>Two different Σ letters.</p>
38 790	4,01 H/H	25 180	<b>A</b>	<p>,</p> <p>--</p> <p>⋮</p> <p>6 9 ! 6</p> <p>The figure of the BVM somewhat less stocky.</p>
39 324	4,29 I	23 210		<p>,</p> <p>--</p> <p>⋮</p> <p>θ 9</p>
40 311	4,33 F/F	23/22,5 210	No\ on the edges of the arm rests. Clipped?	<p>,</p> <p>--</p> <p>⋮</p> <p>θ</p>
41 792	4,33 I/I	24 180	The armrests have one dot each in place of three ••	<p>,</p> <p>--</p> <p>⋮</p> <p>ρ<sup>1</sup> θ!</p>
42 254	4,32 H	24 180	9 Perforated	<p>,</p> <p>[-]-</p> <p>[M] 2</p> <p>⋮</p> <p>θ 9</p>

38 A dot outside the loros.

39 As above.

Cat. no.	Weight	Diameter	Obverse	Reverse
Inv. no.	Die Type	Axis		
43 247	4,31 A	24 210	9	’ - - ⋮ θ θ
44 309	4,28 D/D	23 180	Demaged by bending.	’ -●- ⋮ ⋮ ρθ e
45 769	4,33 Z	24 180		Without ’. - ⋮
46 253	4,34 G	24 180	R like n. Hemispherical ends of the arm rests.	Without ’. -●- ⋮ θ θ
47 250	4,28 D	24 180		’ + ⋮ As above.
48 308	4,34 C/C	23,5 210		’ + ⋮ ρ θ̄
49 249	4,22 C	24 180	R like n.	’ -●- ⋮ Letters as above.








43-44 As no. 41





45 DOC 1 d. 11, 16.

46-47 DOC 1 d. 11, 16.

48 DOC 1 d. 2, 5, 6.

49-55 DOC 1 d. 11, 16.

Cat. no.	Weight	Diameter	Obverse	Reverse
Inv. no.	Die Type	Axis		
50 312	4,37 G/G	24 180		 <p>Letters as cat.no.48.</p>
51 306	4,27 C/C	24 180		 <p>"-"</p>
52 282	4,11 Q	23 180		 <p>"-"</p>
53 255	4,08 I	23,5 180		 <p>"-"</p>
54 284	4,00 Q	24 180		 <p>"-"</p>
55 251	3,79 E	25 180	A Dislocated during minting, wavy.	 <p>"-"</p>
56 793	4,09 K/K	24 210	π	<p>Without '.</p>  <p>6 9 0</p>

Cat. no.	Weight	Diameter	Obverse	Reverse
Inv. no.	Die Type	Axis		
57 307	3,79 C/C	24,5 180	<b>A</b> 	Without ' .  ⋮ 6 9
58 252	4,30 F	24 210	Legend damaged.  <i>A loros with 3 dots.</i>	Without ' .  ⋮
59 791	4,19 H/H	24 180	 Legend damaged by pressure.	' + ⋮

57 DOC 1 d. 11, 16.

58 DOC 1 d. 2, 5, 6.

59 To date unique. Not noted in Delonga, Mirnik. DOC, BNP, BMC.