Comic trimeters in *Clouds*

The basic meter of dramatic dialogue is iambic trimeter; that is, 3 metra of 2 iambs each (where X = long or short):

οἱ δ’ οἴκεται ῥέγκουσιν, ἀλλ’ οὐκ ἀν πρὸ τοῦ (5)  
X X X X X X

Syllables are long (1) with a long vowel or diphthong; (2) with double consonants (long ‘by position’) -- that includes ζ, ξ, and ψ.

Most lines show some ‘resolution’:
Essentially any syllable can be ‘resolved’ into two shorts; long syllable or X resolves most often; rare in the first and last feet.

Lines 2–4 illustrate fairly radical resolution -- even short syllables resolve.

圬 Ζεῦ βασιλεῦ, τὸ χρῆμα τῶν νυκτῶν ὅσον  
X X X X X X

ἀπέραντον, οὐδέποθ’ ἡμέρα γενήσεται  
X X X X X X

καὶ μὴν πάλαι γ’ ἀλεκτρύνονς ἥκουσ’ ἕγω.  
X X X X

A line I have stumbled over (pun intended) is 225:

ἀ-εροβατῶ καὶ περιφρονῶ τὸν ἥλιον  
X X X X X X