UC Irvine

Unicode Project

Title

A Proposal to Encode Greek Capital Lunate Sigma in UCS

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Author

Thesaurus Linguae Graecae Project

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PROPOSAL SUMMARY FORM

A. Administrative

1.Title:
Proposal to add the Greek Capital Lunate Sigma Symbol to the UCS
2. Requester's name:
Thesaurus Linguae Graecae Project (University of California, Irvine)
3. **Requester type:**
Expert contribution
4. Submission date:
2002-8-21
5. Requester's reference:
6a. Completion
This is a complete proposal.
6b. More information to be provided?
No.

B. Technical - General

1a. New Script? Name?
No.
1b. Addition of character(s) to existing block? Name?
Yes. Greek (proposed position: U+03F9)
2. Number of characters in proposal:
One
3. Proposed category:
A
4. Proposed Level of Implementation:
Level 1 noncombining character
5a. Character name provided?
Yes.
5b. Character name in accordance with guidelines:
Yes.
5c. Character shape reviewable?
Yes
6a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font for publishing the standard?
TLG Project
6b. Fonts currently available.
Glyph exists in a number of existing Greek fonts e.g. Monotype Porson.
6c. Font format:
True Type
7a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?
Yes (see below)
7b. Are published examples of use of proposed character attached?
Yes.
8. Does the proposal address other aspects of character data processing?
No.

C. Technical - Justification

1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before?

No.

2. Has contact been made to members of the user community?

Yes. The TLG Project has been in contact with a great number of experts in the field of Classics including textual criticism, papyrology, epigraphy, numismatics and historical linguistics.

3. Information on the user community for the proposed character:

Scholarly community and individuals interested in Greek literature.

4. The context of use for the proposed character:

Common in extant Greek texts.

5. Is the proposed character in current use by the user community?

Yes. Character is present in various editions of Greek texts and used extensively.

6. After giving due considerations to the principles in *Principles and Procedures document*, must the proposed character be entirely in the BMP?

Yes.

6b. Rationale provided?

Contemporary use, keeping character together with other Greek characters.

7. Should the proposed character be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)?

Small Letter Lunate Sigma is already present in UTS as 03F2. Greek Capital Lunate Sigma Symbol should follow as codepoint 03F9.

8. Can the proposed character be considered a presentation form of an existing character or character sequence?

No.

9. Can the proposed character be encoded using a composed character sequence of either existing characters or other proposed characters?

No.

10. Can the proposed character be considered to be similar (in appearance or function) to an existing character?

Similar but not identical to 0043 LATIN CAPITAL LETTER C

11a. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences?

No.

12. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as control function or similar semantics?

No.

13. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility character(s)?

No.

Proposal[1]

Greek Capital Lunate Sigma is a widely used version of the Greek letter sigma, employed over many centuries and in many contexts (e.g. epigraphical, papyrological, modern typesetting).

Greek Small Lunate Sigma is already present in Unicode Standard 3.2 and has the codepoint 03F2. The lowercase lunate sigma is conventionally written as a distinct character from the uppercase character (see Example 1 below) which is currently not present in the Unicode Standard. In some cases both types of sigma—lunate and non-lunate—may be required in the same text. Examples 2 and 3 below show modern printed editions which employ both types of sigma in the same text.

Therefore the addition of the uppercase character is necessary for the correct and accurate representation of ancient and medieval Greek texts. It is also necessary in order to complement the Greek Small Lunate Sigma which already exists in the Unicode Standard.

Bibliography

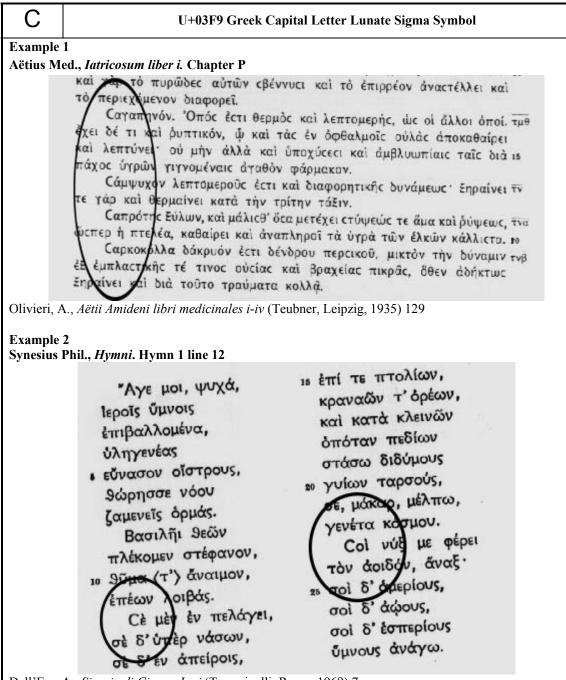Featherstone, J.M., *Theodore Metochites' Poems to "Himself"* (Vienna, 2000)

Haralambous, Y. "Guidelines and Suggested Amendments to the Greek Unicode Tables" presented at *21st International Unicode Conference* (Dublin, 2002)

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Larfeld, W., *Handbuch der griechischen Epigraphik 2.2. Die attischen Inschriften* (Leipzig, 1902)

Liddell, H.G., Scott R. & Jones, H.S., *Greek English Lexicon with a Supplement* 9th ed. (Oxford, 1968)

Smyth, H.W., *Greek Grammar* (Harvard Univ.Press, 1920)

Thesaurus Linguae Graecae (TLG) CD-ROM E (University of California, Irvine, 1999)

Thesaurus Linguae Graecae (TLG) Website, http://www.tlg.uci.edu/ (University of California, Irvine, 2002)

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[1] The following document was created by the *Thesaurus Linguae Graecae Project*® (TLG®) at the University of California, Irvine. The TLG is a digital library containing more than 10,000 Greek literary texts from Homer to the end of Byzantium in AD 1453. It is a major research tool used by thousands of scholars and students of Greek worldwide. The TLG works exclusively from printed modern scholarly editions. In preparation for this proposal, extensive research was conducted to identify and document the use of the Lunate Sigma in Greek text editions.

Greek Capital Letter Lunate Sigma[2]

C	U+03F9 Greek Capital Letter Lunate Sigma Symbol

Example 1
Aëtius Med., *Iatricosum liber i.* **Chapter P**

Olivieri, A., *Aëtii Amideni libri medicinales i-iv* (Teubner, Leipzig, 1935) 129

Example 2
Synesius Phil., *Hymni.* **Hymn 1 line 12**

Dell'Era, A., *Sinesio di Cirene. Inni* (Tumminelli, Rome, 1969) 7

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[2] Approximately 1,500 occurances of this character in the TLG corpus.

Example 3a
Theodorus Metochites, Carmina XIV-XX, Poem 17 line 319

[f. 214v] σφίσι τελευτῶν, οὐδὲ νικηφόρος ἐσθλῶν τύχης
τίς δρόμον ἔσσετ' ἀεθλεύσας ἀπρόσκοπον ἀιεί.
καὶ τάδε δηλοῖ τά τ' ἀμφ' Ἀμάσιδος βασιλῆος
Αἰγύπτοιο, Πολυκράτεός τε τυράννοιο Σάμου·
320 ἱστορέει συνεχοῦς ἔκατ' εὐπραγίης ἀμεγοῦς
σύν τ' ἀνιηρῶν κράσιος, ὅσγε τελεσφόρον ἑάων

Featherstone, J.M., *Theodore Metochites' Poems to "Himself"* (Vienna, 2000) 86

Example 3b
Theodorus Metochites, Carmina XIV-XX, Poem 19 line 44

σουφίαν ἠέ τινα ψυχᾶς ἀρίτιμα κτήματα·
[f. 227] τὰ γὰρ ἔσαν σφέτερ' αὐτοῦ κτήματα καρτ' ἐρατεινὰ
Στίλπωνος τὰ μὲν οὔποτ' ἀφαιρήσοιτό τις αὐτοῦ
4. ὅττι ποτ' ἂν δράσας ἅπαντα κρατερὸς βίηφι.
τῷ ῥὰ μήτε σύ, θυμέ, μάλ' ἀκ' ἀχίζεο τοῖσδε
πρηγμασι τοῖσιν ἐγὼν ἄντησα νῦν ἀργαλέοισιν,
οὐ γὰρ ἀφήρημ' οὔτε ποτ' ἀφαιρήσομ' ἅ γ' ἔασιν,

Featherstone, J.M., *Theodore Metochites' Poems to "Himself"* (Vienna, 2000) 114

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