PROPOSAL SUMMARY FORM

A. Administrative

1.Title
Proposal for encoding Greek metrical characters in the UCS
2. Requester's name
Thesaurus Linguae Graecae Project (University of California, Irvine)
3. **Requester type**
Expert contribution
4. Submission date:
2002-08-20
5. Requester's reference
6. Completion
This is a complete proposal. Additional information may be provided upon request

B. Technical - General

1. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block:
Name of the existing block:
Greek and Coptic
2. Number of characters in proposal:
8 characters
3 Additional definitions
3. Proposed category
Categories C
4. Proposed Level of Implementation (1, 2 or 3):
Level 1
5a. Character names provided?
Yes.
5b. Character names in accordance with guidelines
Yes.
5c. Character shapes reviewable?
Yes
6a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font for publishing the standard?
TLG Project
6b. Fonts currently available.
A number of Greek Unicode fonts are already available and listed at:
http://www.tlg.uci.edu/help/UnicodeTest.html. Additional symbols for new characters to be added.
6c. Font format
True Type
7a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?
Yes
7b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources)
of proposed characters 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 has been in contact with a great number of experts in the field of Classics including textual criticism, papyrology, epigraphy, numismatics and historical linguistics. Earlier versions of this proposal have been posted online and received extensive comments by members of the profession.

3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters

Scholarly community.

4. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare)

Common. Used in editions of Greek texts and scholarly works.Approximate counts based on the TLG corpus have been included in the proposal when available.

5. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community?

Yes. Characters are present in various editions of Greek texts. General references provided in attached bibliography.

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

Yes.

If YES, is a rationale provided?

Accordance with the Roadmap.

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

Preferably.

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

No.

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

Yes. However, existing characters produce unworkable results.

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

Yes.

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 for encoding Greek metrical characters in the UCS

Additional documentation available at: http://www.tlg.uci.edu/~tlg/Uni.prop.html

Classical Greek metrical system was developed between the 8th and 4th centuries BC and has been preserved on ancient papyri. A standard set of non-combining forms has been developed for the discussion of Greek and Roman meter. These forms are widely used in all aspects of scholarly works pertaining to ancient poetry and music. They are also used to indicate lacunas in metrical texts. All possible non-stacking characters used in the Greek metrical notation are given in the table *Overview of Greek Metrical Notation* below. There are a few other, rarely used symbols which are stacked versions of the characters given below. The majority of characters required for the representation of Greek meter are already present in Unicode Standard 3.2. Eight (8) additional characters are proposed for inclusion.

Bibliography

Maas, P., *Greek Metre*. Tr. Lloyd-Jones, H. (Oxford, 1962)

Parker, L.P.E., "Metre, Greek" in *OCD*[3] (1996) 970

Pauly, A.F. von *et al*. (eds.), *Paulys Realencyclopädie der classischen Altertumwissenschaft*. (Stuttgart, 1856-1972)

Raven, D.S., *Latin Metre: An Introduction* (London, 1965)

West, M.L. "Metrik. IV Griechisch" in *DNP* 8 (2000) 115-122

West, M.L. *Greek Metre* (Oxford, 1982)

Overview of Greek Metrical Notation

	Name	Unicode	Comment
×	Anceps	00D7	
◡	Breve	02D8	
–	Longum	2012 or 2013	
◡‾	Metrical Long Over Short		Similar to 02D8 + 0305
◡_	Metrical Short Over Long		Similar to 02D8 + 0332
◡◡‾	Metrical Long Over Two Shorts		Similar to 02D8 + 0305 + 02D8 + 0305
◡◡_	Metrical Two Shorts Over Long		Similar to 02D8 + 0332 + 02D8 + 0332
ᴏᴏ	Aeolian Basis	Similar to 2218 + 2218	
◡◡	Metrical Two Shorts Joined		Similar to 02D8 + 02D8
◡̶	Breve Combining with Longum	02D8 + 0336	A second glyph variant may be encoded with 2312 + 0323
˰	Catalexis indicator	0020 + 032D	
┊	Frequent Word-End Indicator	250A	
|	Word End Indicator	007C	
‖	Period End Indicator	2016 or 2225	
‖|	Stanza End Indicator	007C + 007C + 007C	
⊗	Poem End Indicator	2297	
ᴴ	Hiatus	<superscript> 0048	The character ⁊ may also be used to represent a hiatus[1] the Unicode of which is 2307.
∫	Dovetail	0283 or possibly 222B	
~	Responsion	007E	
¨	Anaclasis	00A8	
′	Ictus	0301	
α͡α	Bridge	0361	
⏑	Greek Metrical Triseme		
⏔	Greek Metrical Tetraseme		
⏕	Greek Metrical Pentaseme		

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[1] See Raven (1965) 13

Table of Characters Proposed

Number		Name	Unicode	Comment
1a	᷄	Metrical Long Over Short	02D8 + 0305	
2a	᷈	Metrical Short Over Long	02D8 + 0332	
3a	‾‾	Metrical Long Over Two Shorts	02D8 + 0305 + 02D8 + 0305	
4a	᷈ ᷈	Metrical Two Shorts Over Long	02D8 + 0332 + 02D8 + 0332	
5a	⏑⏑	Metrical Two Shorts Joined	02D8 + 02D8	
6a	�	Greek Metrical Triseme		
7a	⌣⌣	Greek Metrical Tetraseme		
8a	⌣⌣⌣	Greek Metrical Pentaseme		

Notes:

Approximations of characters 1-5 may be created using characters in the Unicode Standard; however there are several problems with these representations. For example,

- they are visually inaccurate;
- on occasion a character which is semantically one character may have to be encoded in such a way as to make into two characters (e.g., Long over two Shorts);
- it is necessary to occasionally stack metrical characters. So, for instance, it may be necessary to have Two Shorts over Long stacked over an Anceps. This becomes extremely difficult to effect were the Two Shorts over Long to be encoded as two separate characters.
- Further, in the specific case of the Double Short, to encode it with two Shorts would be visually confusing as the same meter will often contain both Shorts and Double Shorts (e.g. aeolo-chori-ambic and the dactylo-epitric).

Characters 6-8 cannot currently be encoded in Unicode.

b. Ancient Greek Metrical Characters: Additional Definition of Preexisting Unicode Characters

Number		Name	Unicode	Comment
1b	×	Anceps	00D7	
2b	⏑	Breve	02D8	
3b	–	Longum	2012 or 2013	