

UC Irvine

Unicode Project

Title

A proposal to encode the Greek Lunate Sigma in UCS

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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.

Proposal¹

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.

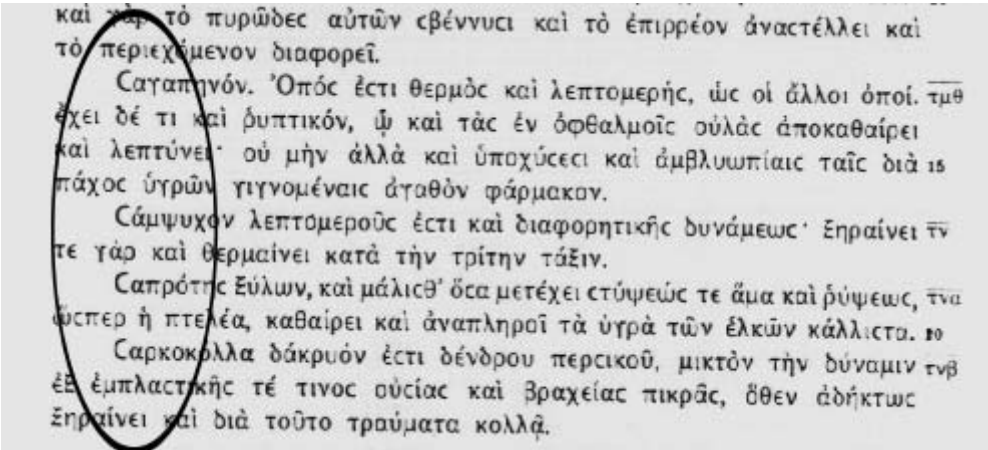
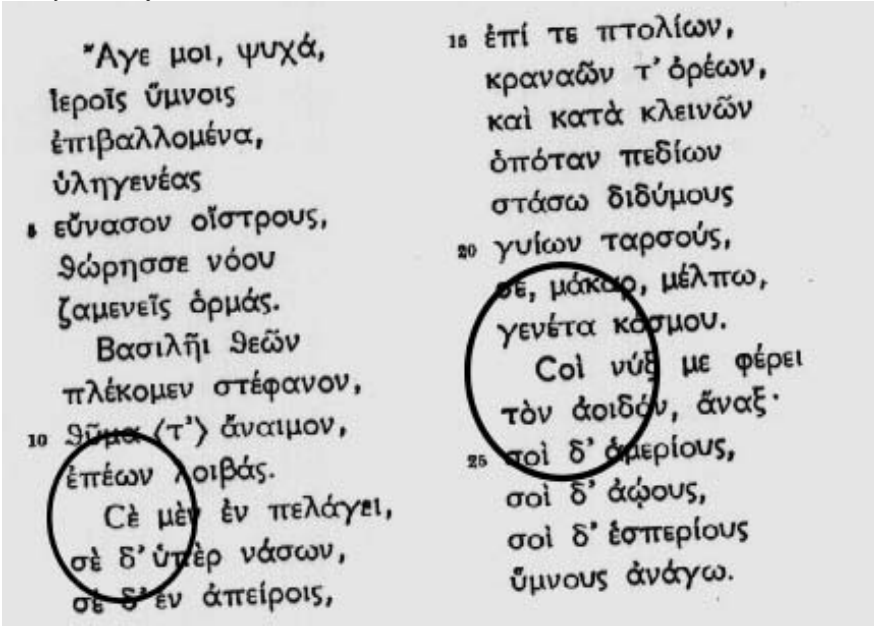
Therefore the addition of the uppercase character is necessary for the correct and accurate representation of ancient and medieval Greek texts. It is also necessary in order to complement the Greek Small Lunate Sigma which already exists in the Unicode Standard.

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)
- Jeffery, L.H., *The Local Scripts of Archaic Greece* (Oxford, 1961)
- 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)

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 Sigma²

C	U+03F9 Greek Capital Letter Lunate Sigma Symbol
<p>Example 1 Aëtius Med., <i>Iatricosum liber i. Chapter P</i></p>  <p>καὶ τὸ πυρῶδες αὐτῶν εβέννυσι καὶ τὸ ἐπιρρέον ἀναστέλλει καὶ τὸ περιεχόμενον διαφορεῖ. Σαγαπηρόν. Ὅπως ἐστὶ θερμὸς καὶ λεπτομερής, ὡς οἱ ἄλλοι ὀποῖ. τμθ ἔχει δέ τι καὶ ῥυπτικόν, ψ καὶ τὰς ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖς σὺλὰς ἀποκαθαίρει καὶ λεπτύνει· οὐ μὴν ἀλλὰ καὶ ὑποχύσει καὶ ἀμβλυωπίας ταῖς διὰ τὸ πάχος ὑγρῶν γιγνομέναις ἀγαθὸν φάρμακον. Σάμψυχον λεπτομεροῦς ἐστὶ καὶ διαφορητικῆς δυνάμεως· ἐπραίνει τὴν τε γὰρ καὶ θερμαίνει κατὰ τὴν τρίτην τάξιν. Σαπρότης Ξύλων, καὶ μάλιςθ' ὅσα μετέχει στυψιῶς τε ἅμα καὶ ῥύψεως, τὰ ὡσπερ ἡ πτελέα, καθαίρει καὶ ἀναπληροῖ τὰ ὑγρά τῶν ἐλκῶν κάλλιστα. 10 Σαρκοκόλλα δάκρυόν ἐστὶ δένδρου περσικοῦ, μικτὸν τὴν δύναμιν τῆς ἐβ̣ ἐμπλαστικῆς τέτινος οὐσίας καὶ βραχείας πικρᾶς, ὅθεν ἀδήκτως ἐπραίνει καὶ διὰ τοῦτο τραύματα κολλᾷ.</p> <p>Olivieri, A., <i>Aëtii Amideni libri medicinales i-iv</i> (Teubner, Leipzig, 1935) 129</p> <p>Example 2 Synesius Phil., <i>Hymni. Hymn 1 line 12</i></p>  <p>* Ἄγε μοι, ψυχά, ἱεροῖς ὕμνοις ἐπιβαλλομένα, ὕληγενέας 1 εὐνασον οἴστρους, θώρησσε νόου ζαμενεῖς ὀρμάς. Βασιλῆι θεῶν πλέκομεν στέφανον, 10 θῦμα (τ') ἀναιμον, ἐπέων λοιβάς. Σε μὲν ἐν πελάγει, σε δ' ὑπὲρ νάσων, σε δ' ἐν ἀπείροις, 15 ἐπὶ τε πτολίων, κραναῶν τ' ὄρέων, καὶ κατὰ κλεινῶν ὀπότεν πεδίων στάσω διδύμους 20 γυίων ταρσούς, σε, μάκαρ, μέλπω, γενέτα κόσμου. Σοὶ νῦν με φέρει τὸν ἀοιδόν, ἀναξ· 25 σοὶ δ' ὀμπερίους, σοὶ δ' ἀφούς, σοὶ δ' ἑσπερίους ὕμνους ἀνάγω.</p> <p>Dell'Era, A., <i>Sinesio di Cirene. Inni</i> (Tumminelli, Rome, 1969) 7</p>	

² Approximately 1,500 occurrences of this character in the TLG corpus.

Example 3a

Theodorus Metochites, Carmina XIV-XX, Poem 17 line 319

[f. 214v] σφισί τελευτών, οὐδέ νικηφόρος ἑσθλῶν τύχης
τίς δρόμον ἔσσειτ' ἀεθλεύσας ἀπρόσκοπον αἰεὶ.
καὶ τάδε δηλοῖ τά τ' ἀμφ' Ἀμάσιδος βασιλῆος
Αἰγύπτιοι, Πολυκράτεός τε τυράννοιο Σάμου.
320 ἱστορέει συνεχούς ἕκατ' εὐπραγίης ἀμειγυῖς
σύν τ' ἀνιερῶν κράσιος, ὅσγε τελεσφόσον ἑάων

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

Example 3b

Theodorus Metochites, Carmina XIV-XX, Poem 19 line 44

σουφίαν ἢε τινα ψυχᾶς ἀρίτιμα κτήματα·
[f. 227r] τὰ γὰρ ἔσαν σφέτερ' αὐτοῦ κτήματα καρτ' ἐρατεινὰ
40 **Κτίλωνος** τὰ μὲν οὐποτ' ἀφαιρήσοιτό τις αὐτοῦ
ὅττι ποτ' ἂν δράσας ἅπαντα κρατερὸς βίηφι.
τῷ ρὰ μήτε σύ, θυμέ, μάλ' ἀκ' ἀχίζεο τοῖσδε
πρηγῆμασι τοῖσιν ἐγὼν ἄντησα νῦν ἀργαλέοισιν,
οὐ γὰρ ἀφήρημ' οὔτε ποτ' ἀφαιρήσοιμ' ἄ γ' ἔασιν,

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