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Proposals from the Script Encoding Initiative

Title

Proposal to encode PARAGRAPHUS MARK and PUNCTUS ELEVATUS MARK

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TO: **Unicode Technical Committee**
FROM: **Michael Everson, Deborah Anderson, et al. (SEI/Universal Scripts Project, UC Berkeley)**
SUBJECT: **Proposal to encode PARAGRAPHUS MARK and PUNCTUS ELEVATUS MARK**
DATE: **4 August 2016**

This proposal for PARAGRAPHUS MARK and PUNCTUS ELEVATUS MARK derives largely from the omnibus Medievalist punctuation character proposal, L2/16-125 "Revised Proposal to add Medievalist punctuation characters (WG2 N4726)" by Michael Everson et al. Additional expert feedback and examples are provided in L2/16-219, which answer questions posed in the Script Ad Hoc recommendations in L2/16-156. Selected evidence from L2/16-219 is given below.

1. PARAGRAPHUS MARK

History and function
The beginning of a paragraph, a section, a stanza, or proposition was marked with a symbol such as γ, Γ, Γ, ⸜, or §.

Later this function was replaced by the paraph, where //, ⸿, or ¶ were typical marks. One character is proposed for encoding here, U+2E4D PARAGRAPHUS MARK. Note that U+204B REVERSED PILCROW SIGN was derived from the typographic U+00B6 ¶ PILCROW SIGN (itself a descendant of U+2E3F CAPITULUM), and is not a glyph variant of PARAGRAPHUS MARK.

Glyph Shape
Based on feedback from experts, the preferred shape is the glyph with one bar. Other shapes include a version with two bars and one without a bar. (See further L2/16-125 and L2/16-219 .)

Andrew Dunning (Curator of Medieval Historical Manuscripts, The British Library) reports that scribes used the single- and double-barred versions interchangeably, even in the same manuscript. The character can also be used in the same text alongside the paraph mark, sometimes as an indicator of hierarchy, though in other cases the distinction is only graphic..

The following are samples provided by Peter Stokes (King's College London). The images are taken from a single manuscript from SW England, probably written in the 1080s ("Exon").
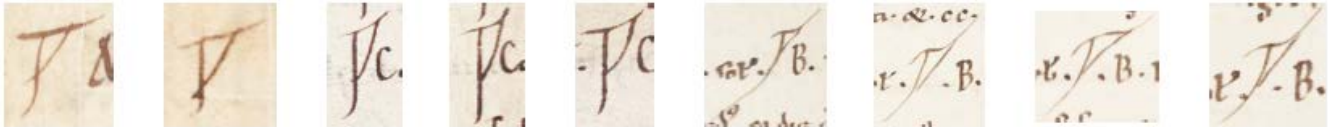
Proposed glyph

Code point
U+2E4D

Suggested annotation

*indicates the beginning of a paragraph, section, stanza, or proposition

→ 00B6 pilcrow sign

→ 204B reversed pilcrow sign

→ 2E0F paragraphos

→ 2E3F capitulum

Properties

2E4D;PARAGRAPHUS MARK;Po;0;ON;;;;;N;;;;;

Other properties should be modelled on U+204B REVERSED PILCROW SIGN.

2. PUNCTUS ELEVATUS MARK

History and function
This was in origin an indicator of positura (ending a section) but which came to be used to indicate a major medial pause "where the sense is complete but the meaning is not" (Parkes p. 306). It is the ancestor of our modern colon.

In the Wycliffe Bible translation, the two-part character is contrasted with a similar sign lacking the lower dot, indicating a lesser pause. Clearly in such a text it is important to be able to make the distinction between the greater and lesser pause in plain text.

Glyph shape
The shape generally preferred by surveyed experts is a sideways reversed middle comma directly above a dot. Other shapes include a comma a sideways reversed middle comma above and slightly to the right of a dot, and a diagonal line rather than a comma above the dot. As mentioned in L2/16-219, glyphs can vary depending upon the scriptoria, the geographical location of where the text was written (as well as its date and the language in which the text was written) and can even vary in the same text.

A sampling of the range of glyphs from an English manuscript of the 11 c (by DigiPal Scribe 2; location: Worcester or York Saec. xi1/4; repository: British Library)

Samples from early prints, provided by Ana Grinberg:
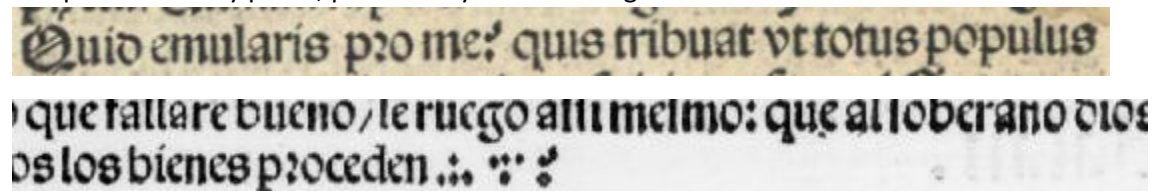
The following is a typeset version of PUNCTUS ELEVATUS MARK:

de eo quod inde invenit:⁄

Source: Henry Cole, ed., *Documents illustrative of English history in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, selected from the records of the Department of the Queen's Remembrancer of the Exchequer* (London: Eyre and Spottiswoode, 1844); https://archive.org/stream/documentsillustr00greauoft#page/230/mode/2up
Thanks to Andrew Dunning for providing this reference.

Proposed glyph

Code point
U+2E4E

Suggested annotation
• indicates a minor medial pause where the sense is complete but the meaning is not

Properties

2E4E;PUNCTUS ELEVATUS MARK;Po;0;ON;;;;;N;;;;;

Other properties should be modelled on U+2E34 RAISED COMMA.

Bibliography

Bourgain, Pascale. 1989. "Qu'est-ce qu'un vers au Moyen Age?" *Bibliothèque de l'école des chartes* 147 (1): 231–82. doi:10.3406/bec.1989.450536.

Burrow, John. 2002. "Hoccleve's Questions: Intonation and Punctuation." *Notes and Queries,* n.s., 49 (2): 184–88. doi:10.1093/nq/49.2.184.

Grotans, Anna A. 2006. *Reading in Medieval St. Gall.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. [see pp. 192–196, 235–239] (Typeset versions are not very good: p. xv, https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=rLF7wRg-At4C&lpg=PA243.)

Kubouchi, Tadao. 1998. "What Is the Point? Manuscript Punctuation as Evidence for Linguistic Change." In English Historical Linguistics and Philology in Japan, edited by Jacek Fisiak and Akio Oizumi, 171–88. Berlin: De Gruyter. doi:10.1515/9783110808773.171.

(Also has another typeset example of a punctus elevatus on p. 172, which is more moderately offset. You might be able to see it at https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=pfKty8gnVPAC&pg=PA172.)

Nakahara, Akihiko. 1997. "L'usage du punctus elevatus dans le ms. Tokyo, Bibl. de l'Univ. Waseda, NE 3691, exemplaire du Mirror de Nicholas Love confectionné dans le second quart du XVe siècle." In

Nicholas Love at Waseda, edited by Shoichi Oguro, Richard Beadle, and Michael G. Sargent, 121–127. Cambridge: Brewer.

Parkes, M. B. 1993. Pause and effect: an introduction to the history of punctuation in the West. Berkeley & Los Angeles: University of California Press. ISBN 0-520-07941-8

Treitler, Leo. 2003. *With Voice and Pen: Coming to Know Medieval Song and How It was Made.* Oxford: Oxford University Press. [see pp. 410–11]

A. Administrative

1. **Title:**   *Proposal to encode PARAGRAPHUS MARK and PUNCTUS ELEVATUS MARK*
2. Requester's name: *Michael Everson, Debbie Anderson, et al.*
3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution):   *Liaison member*
4. Submission date: *2016-08-04*
5. Requester's reference (if applicable):
6. Choose one of the following:
    This is a complete proposal: *x*
    (or) More information will be provided later:

B. Technical – General

1. Choose one of the following:
    a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters):
       Proposed name of script:
    b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block: *yes*
       Name of the existing block: *Supplemental Punctuation*
2. Number of characters in proposal: *2*
3. Proposed category (select one from below - see section 2.2 of P&P document):
    A-Contemporary ⬚   B.1-Specialized (small collection) *x*   B.2-Specialized (large collection) ⬚
    C-Major extinct ⬚   D-Attested extinct ⬚   E-Minor extinct ⬚
    F-Archaic Hieroglyphic or Ideographic ⬚   G-Obscure or questionable usage symbols ⬚
4. Is a repertoire including character names provided?   *yes*
    a. If YES, are the names in accordance with the "character naming guidelines"
       in Annex L of P&P document?   *yes*
    b. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable for review?   *yes*
5. Fonts related:
    a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font to the Project Editor of 10646 for publishing the standard?
    Michael Everson
    b. Identify the party granting a license for use of the font by the editors (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.):
    Michael Everson, Fontographer.
6. References:
    a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?   *(see b)*
    b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources)
    of proposed characters attached?   *yes*
7. Special encoding issues:
    Does the proposal address other aspects of character data processing (if applicable) such as input,
    presentation, sorting, searching, indexing, transliteration etc. (if yes please enclose information)?   *n.a.*

8. Additional Information:
Submitters are invited to provide any additional information about Properties of the proposed Character(s) or Script that will assist in correct understanding of and correct linguistic processing of the proposed character(s) or script. Examples of such properties are: Casing information, Numeric information, Currency information, Display behaviour information such as line breaks, widths etc., Combining behaviour, Spacing behaviour, Directional behaviour, Default Collation behaviour, relevance in Mark Up contexts, Compatibility equivalence and other Unicode normalization related information. See the Unicode standard at http://www.unicode.org for such information on other scripts. Also see Unicode Character Database (http://www.unicode.org/reports/tr44/) and associated Unicode Technical Reports for information needed for consideration by the Unicode Technical Committee for inclusion in the Unicode Standard.

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[1] Form number: N4502-F (Original 1994-10-14; Revised 1995-01, 1995-04, 1996-04, 1996-08, 1999-03, 2001-05, 2001-09, 2003-11, 2005-01, 2005-09, 2005-10, 2007-03, 2008-05, 2009-11, 2011-03, 2012-01)

C. Technical - Justification

1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before? — *yes*
   If YES explain — *Contained in L2/16-125 (WG2 N4726)*
2. Has contact been made to members of the user community (for example: National Body,
   user groups of the script or characters, other experts, etc.)? — *yes*
   If YES, with whom? — *Medievalists, Latinists, and other scholars*
   If YES, available relevant documents: — *(see proposal)*
3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example:
   size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included? — *no*
   Reference:
4. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare) — *Rare (historic)*
   Reference:
5. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community? — *yes*
   If YES, where? Reference: — *(historic texts and modern versions of such texts)*
6. After giving due considerations to the principles in the P&P document must the proposed characters be entirely
   in the BMP? — *n.a.*
   If YES, is a rationale provided?
   If YES, reference:
7. Should the proposed characters be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)? — *n.a.*
8. Can any of the proposed characters be considered a presentation form of an existing
   character or character sequence? — *no*
   If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?
   If YES, reference:
9. Can any of the proposed characters be encoded using a composed character sequence of either
   existing characters or other proposed characters? — *Not really*
   If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?
   If YES, reference:
10. Can any of the proposed character(s) be considered to be similar (in appearance or function)
    to, or could be confused with, an existing character? — *no*
    If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?
    If YES, reference:
11. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences? — *no*
    If YES, is a rationale for such use provided?
    If YES, reference:
    Is a list of composite sequences and their corresponding glyph images (graphic symbols) provided?
    If YES, reference:
12. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as
    control function or similar semantics? — *no*
    If YES, describe in detail (include attachment if necessary)

13. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility characters? — *no*
    If YES, are the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic characters identified?
    If YES, reference: