

Greek ordering

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Aims and methods

This study looks at a number of problems related to Greek ordering. It aims to derive the standard praxis from a representative samples culled from Greek dictionaries. To make comparison easier we have concentrated on a number of terms that bring one or more of the relevant problems into focus. An outline of the historical background of Greek lexicography will be added in an enlarged version of this study.

- Ordering of diacritical marks. Directionality on level 2
- Word-by-word versus letter-by-letter: What is preferred?
- Uppercase vs. lowercase on level 3. Clear rules?
- Treatment of the final sigma ς in relation to the normal (closed) σ

The lemmata (dictionary entries) selected for this exercise and the respective sorting issues are:

- ᾠσσα vs. ᾠσσα and ᾠττα vs. ᾠττα¹ – treatment of breathing and accent mark combinations
- ᾠδης / ᾠδης,² ᾠδω and ᾠδιος – treatment of *iota adscriptum* and/or *iota subscriptum* in combination with upper-/lowercase distinction³
- ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦα⁴ – treatment of breathing and accent marks and *iota subscriptum*
- εἰμί vs. εἰμι – treatment of breathing and accent marks
- πρῶ vs. πρῶ⁵ – treatment of *iota adscriptum* and *iota subscriptum* in series
- δόλιος vs. Δολίος and δόλων vs. Δόλων – treatment of upper-/lowercase pairs (connected, in the first example, with a difference of accent position)
- τίς vs. τίς⁶ – treatment of accented and unaccented (toneless) lemmata
- νομός vs. νόμος, τομός vs. τόμος, τροπός vs. τρόπος, φορός vs. φόρος – ordering of identical base letter sequences with different accent patterns
- πρὸς, προσ- – treatment of preposition and prepositional prefix ending in σ in alphabetical sequence

Other lemmata are quoted if deemed appropriate.

Comma-delimited lists are to be read as ordered lists which reflect the sequence of the dictionary in question.

The dictionaries taken into account may be grouped as follows:

- *Stephanus* has to be considered as a lexicographical monument. The compilation of this thesaurus during the years 1560–1572 by Henri Estienne (Paris) marks the beginning of Greek lexicography in Western Europe. In 1831, the thesaurus was enlarged and reedited under the direction of the publisher A.F. Didot in Paris. The entire lexicographic tradition in the field of Classical Greek linguistic and literary studies has been based on *Stephanus*, in the first place *LSJ* (its most recent supplement volume is *LSJRevSuppl*), for the time being the reference work par excellence in Classics, and the other major dictionaries: *Bailly* is the most important French dictionary, frequently referred to also in Spain and Italy. Representative works of German scholarship are *Pape* and, particularly for didactic use in school today, *Benseler*, *Gemoll97*, and *Menge*. *Bauer* is the reference dictionary in New Testament studies all over the world. In the Russian philological tradition, a work of great concern is *Dvoreckij*.

¹ The $\sigma\sigma$ and $\tau\tau$ versions are dialectal variants.

² These are but an upper-/lowercase pair.

³ The short diphthong $\alpha\iota$ is, however, ordered as such: ᾠθως, αἰ... The same is valid for the variant ᾠδης.

⁴ Homographs of different meanings are generally unified in this list. An example is ἦ, signifying both an interjection and »or«.

⁵ These are variant graphic representations of one lemma.

⁶ $\tau\acute{\iota}$ / $\tau\iota$ are ignored. The grave accent is, in case of toneless words quoted in isolation, indicates that the word in question behaves as clitic but may carry the accent in top of a clitic sequence.

- Two long-term lexicographical projects are currently running: *Lfgre* is being elaborated by the team of the Thesaurus Linguae Graecae as a specialized dictionary, published beforehand while the compilation of a new thesaurus as a successor of *Stephanus* has been postponed. *DGE* is conceived as a new comprehensive dictionary based upon a thorough revision of the semantic structure of the lemmata.
- Modern Greek lexicography using polytonic notation must be represented first by the Athens Academy Dictionary (*LexAkad*) which, however, did not proceed beyond the letter gamma yet. *Georgopapadaku*, an important monolingual dictionary, appeared in 1980 for the last time in polytonic orthography. *Tsukanas*, *Pring*, *Chorikov/Malev* are examples of major Greek, English and Russian bilingual dictionaries, the German works *Wendt* and *UnivWb* have been published by Langenscheidt and consequently are widely used both in German speaking countries and in Greece.

In the following examination of the lemma groups established above, a particular dictionary is quoted only in case it provides for significant evidence. Many dictionaries discard proper names altogether so that upper-/lowercase pairs cannot be found. *Stephanus* puts the initial letter of any lemma in uppercase. Furthermore, didactical dictionaries tend to present individual inflected forms as separate lemmata while works designed primarily for expert use list inflected forms in a header of the lemma article labelled by the quotation form exclusively.

Classical Greek

ἄσσα vs. ἄσσα and ἄττα vs. ἄττα

- *Stephanus* No data available: non-didactical dictionary.⁷
- *LSJ* ἄσπρος, ἄσσα II. ἄσσα, ἄσσαριαῖος, ..., ἄτρωτος, ἄττα (A) II. ἄττα, ἄττα (B), ἄτταβυγᾶς
- *LSJRevSuppl* ἀσπρόχρους, ἄσσα, ἄσσκονικτεῖ, ἄσσον, Ἀσσύριος
- *LSJItalian* ἄσσα, ἄσσα, ..., ἄττα, ἄττα
- *Bailly* ἄσπρις, ἄσσα, ἄσσα, Ἀσσα, Ἀσσάκανοι
- *Pape* ἄσσα, ἄσσα, ..., ἄττα, ἄττα
- *Benseler* ἄσσα, ἄσσα, ..., ἄττα, ἄττα
- *Gemoll97* ἄσσα, ἄσσα and ἄττα, ἄττα, ἄττα
- *Menge* ἄσσα, ἄσσα, Ἀσσᾶ, ..., ἄττα, ἄττα, ἄττα
- *Dvoreckij* ἀ-σπουδί, ἄσσα, ἄσσα, Ἀσσάρακος, ..., ἄτρωτος, ἄττα, ἄττα, ἄτταγᾶς
- *DGE* ἀπρόχρους, ἄσσα ο ἄσσα, Ἀσσα, Ἀσσαγέτης, ..., ἄτρωτος, ἄττα, ἄττα, Ἀττα, Ἀττάβας

Commentary: Most dictionaries sort the pronominal forms ἄσσα, ἄσσα / ἄττα, ἄττα according to an apparently graphical hierarchy of the breathing marks (*spiritus lenis* before *spiritus asper*), but put the noun ἄττα »father« after the pronominal forms. The reverse ordering of the pronouns is observed as well: This is a morphological hierarchy of pronoun types, ἄσσα being an indefinite relative pronoun (always accented), ἄσσα a clitic indefinite pronoun. The former type is considered as »stronger«. This criterium could have been applied by the other dictionaries, too, when they sort the morphologically weaker form before the stronger one.

Ἀιδης / ἄδης, ἄδω

- *Stephanus* Ἀδερῖτος, Ἀδης, Ἀδῆς, Ἀδης [scr. Ἀιδης], Ἀδῆσαι, Ἀδηςίδες, Ἀδηφάγῳ, ..., Ἀδυτος, Ἀδω, Ἀιδω, Ἀδώμητος
- *LSJ* ἀδήριτος, Ἀιδης (or ἄδης), ἀδήσω, ..., ἄδυτος, ἄδω, ἀδώμητος, ἀδών
- *LSJRevSuppl* ἀδήμων, ἀδῆς, Ἀιδης or ἄδης, Ἀδηφάγῳ
- *LSJItalian* ἀ-δήριτος, ἄδης (ο Ἀιδης), ἀδήσειε, ..., ἄ-δυτος, ἄδω, ἀδών, Ἀδων
- *Bailly* ἀδερῖτος, ἄδης, ἀδήσω, ἀδηφάγῳ, ..., ἀδύφωνος, ἄδω, ἀ-δώμητος
- *Pape* ἀ-δήριτος, Ἀιδης, ἀδήσειεν, ..., ἄ-δυτος, ἄδω, ἀ-δώμητος, ἀδών
- *Benseler* ἀ-δήριτος, Ἀιδης (ἄδης), ἀδηφάγῳ, ..., ἄδυτος, ἄδω, ἀδών
- *Gemoll97* ἀ-δήριτος, Ἀιδης, ἀδήσειε, ..., ἄ-δυτος, ἄδω, ἀδών
- *Menge* ἀ-δήριτος, Ἀιδης, ἀδήσειε, ..., ἄ-δυτον, ἄδω, ἀδωνιάζω

⁷ The lemma sequence Ἀτρώτως, Ἀττα, Ἀτταβυγᾶς (and 46 other personal names with Ἀττα- as first composition member) contains ἄττα »father«.

- *Bauer* ἄδημονέω, ἄδης, ἀδιάκριτος, ..., ἄδυσβάστακτος, ἄδω, ἀεί
- *Dvoreckij* ἀδηρίτως, ἄδης или Ἄιδης, ἀδήσω, ..., ἄδυτος, ἄδω, Ἄδων

- *Lfgre* No data available for historico-phonological reasons.⁸
- *DGE* ἀδήριτος, Ἄιδης, ἄδης, ..., ἄδυτος, ἄδω, ἀδώμητος

Commentary: The long diphthong written Αι,⁹ αἰ is treated in all the dictionaries as equivalent to a simple α vowel letter. The uppercase notation of the proper name Ἄιδης is always part of the same lemma, the internal order of these entries depending of the dictionary's conventions in handling proper names (e.g. in *Dvoreckij*), or, in case the dictionary does not exhibit proper names at all, reflects an ad-hoc decision of the lexicographer (as in *LSJ*). In the lemma sequences quoted, the breathing marks do not determine the order in any way.

ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦα, ἦαται

- *Stephanus* ἦ, ἦ οὐ, ἦτε, ἦκεν, ἦτι, ἦπου, ἦε, ἦ, ἦτερ, ἦ, ἦπου, ἦ, ἦι, ἦαρ, ἦβαιός, ἦβάσκω
- *LSJ* ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦα, ἦαρινός
- *LSJRevSuppl* ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦβαδόν
- *LSJItalian* ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦα, ἦα
- *Bailly* ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦα, ἦβα, ἦβαιός, ἦβάσκω
- *Pape* ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦα, ἦα
- *Benseler* ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦα
- *Gemoll97* ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦα, ἦαται
- *Menge* ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦα
- *Bauer* ἦ, ἦ, ἦγεμονεύω
- *Dvoreckij* ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦα, ἦα, ἦαται, ἦβαῶ, ἦβαιόν
- *Lfgre* ἦ, ἦ, ἦ, ἦαρινός
- *DGE* Volume not available yet.

Commentary: There are only two dictionaries which seem to apply a graphical hierarchy of diacritics including *iota subscriptum* (*LSJItalian*, *Dvoreckij*), i.e. conformant to the EOR-practice. Most of the others treat *iota subscriptum* as the highest-priority distinction on level 2 in line with the current draft on the Unicode Ordering Algorithm. It must be kept in mind, however, that even in these dictionaries and in others exhibiting a rather unsystematic order from the graphical point of view, the principle the editors adhered to is that of the functional load of the parts of speech. »Weaker« parts of speech sort before »stronger« parts: so e.g. in *Menge* the lemma sequence consists of the following: feminine article, interjection, conjunction, inflected form of the copula or of the verb of existence, inflected form of the narrative tag verb »to tell«, inflected form of the verb »to go«. This is not an absolute ranking, although it represents a kind of common sense in philology. The new *Lfgre* as well follows this practice.

εἰμί vs. εἶμι

- *Stephanus* Εἰμείρομαι, Εἰμί, Εἶμι, Εἰμῖν
- *LSJ* εἰμί, εἶμι
- *LSJRevSuppl* εἰματιστής, εἰμί, εἶμι
- *LSJItalian* εἰμί, εἶμι
- *Bailly* εἰμές, εἰμί, εἶμι, εἰν
- *Benseler* εἰμί, εἶμι
- *Gemoll97* εἰμί, εἶμι
- *Menge* εἰμί, εἶμι
- *Dvoreckij* εἰμί, εἶμι

⁸ In epic language, the long diphthong in Ἄιδης has not developed yet; consequently the spelling is Αἶδης. The verb ἄδω appears in the form ἀείδω only.

⁹ *Stephanus* in fact prints an uppercase letter with *iota subscriptum*.

- *Lfgre* εἶμα, εἰμί, εἶμι, εἰνάετες
- *DGE* Volume not available yet.

Commentary: There is no dictionary that demonstrates a different sorting of the two verbal forms. In this case again the functional load principle overlies the accent and breathing mark hierarchy, because εἶμι is copula and verbum substantivum, εἶμι the verb »to walk«, in classical Greek being used exclusively as future tense.

πρώ vs. πρωῒ

- *Stephanus* Πρω, Πρώ, Πρωαίτερος, Πρώανα, ..., Πρωθώ, Πρωῖ
- *LSJ* πρῶ (or πρῶ), πρῶή, πρῶην, πρωθ-ευρετής, πρῶί
- *LSJRevSuppl* πρωθύπνιον, πρῶί, πρῶϊζός
- *LSJItalian* πρῶ, πρῶαν, πρῶζός, πρῶην, πρωθ-ήβης, πρῶί
- *Bailly* Πρυτανῖτις, πρῶ, πρωαίτερον, πρῶαν, πρῶην, ..., πρωθ-ύστερος, πρῶί, πρῶία
- *Benseler* πρῶ, πρῶην, πρωθήβης, πρῶί
- *Gemoll97* πρῶ, πρῶην, πρωθ-ήβης, πρῶί
- *Menge* πρῶ, πρωαίτατος, πρῶην, πρωθ-ήβης, πρῶί
- *Bauer* πρύμνα, πρῶί, πρῶία
- *Lfgre* Volume not available yet.
- *DGE* Volume not available yet.

Commentary: Again, these examples show that long diphthong notation with *iota subscriptum* or *iota adscriptum* has no effect on sorting. In contrast, the sequence of long vowel and another vowel (often graphically emphasized by diaeresis) is subject to normal letter-by-letter ordering.

δόλιος vs. Δολίος and δόλων vs. Δόλων

- *Stephanus* Δόλιος, Δολίος,¹⁰ ..., Δόλων, Δόλων¹¹
- *Bailly* δόλιος, Δολίος, ..., δόλων, Δόλων
- *Benseler* δόλιος, Δολίος, ..., δόλων, Δόλων
- *Gemoll97* δόλιος, Δολίος, ..., Δόλων, δόλων
- *Menge* Δολίος, δόλιος, ..., Δόλων, δόλων
- *Dvoreckij* δόλων, Δόλων
- *Lfgre* δόλιος, Δολίος
- *DGE* Volume not available yet.

Commentary: Those dictionaries which comprise proper names, show individual preferences to sort the proper name before or after the appellative noun, the majority presenting the lowercased noun first. A lexical explanation in the context of a didactical dictionary may account for the apparently inconsistent treatment in *Gemoll97*: In the second sequence, δόλων is a rare word the pupil will not meet frequently in the texts, whereas the name of the Homeric hero claims the pupil's attention. One should not, however, overestimate this issue; a simple error in *Gemoll97* is at least as probable as such a sophisticated reasoning.

τίς vs. τις

- *Stephanus* Τίς, Τίς
- *LSJ* τις (τι), (τίς, τί)
- *LSJItalian* TIS
- *Bailly* τίς, τις
- *Benseler* τίς, τις
- *Gemoll97* τίς, τις
- *Menge* τίς, τις
- *Dvoreckij* τίς, τις

¹⁰ This is the proper name: Δολίος, ὁ, Dolius, Penelopæ servus ap. Hom. Od. Δ, 735.

¹¹ This is the proper name: Δόλων, ὄνος, ὁ, Dolo, Eumedis filius, [...].

- *Lfgre* Volume not available yet.
- *DGE* Volume not available yet.

Commentary: Only *LSJ* depart from the convention settled by *Stephanus* when they put the unaccented lemma (often marked by *varia*) before the corresponding accented one. *LSJItalian* establishes a generic or »archi-« lemma, printing ΤΙΣ in uppercase letters as a sort of cover symbols. With τίς vs. τις three principles take effect: the functional load principle, the principle of morphological value (interrogative pronoun [historically] primary, indefinite pronoun secondary) and the accent mark hierarchy.

νομός vs. νόμος, τομός vs. τόμος, τρόπος vs. φόρος

- *Stephanus* Νομός, Νόμος – Τομός, Τόμος – Τρόπος, Τρόπος – Φόρος, Φόρος
- *LSJ* νομός, νόμος – τομός, τόμος – τρόπος, τρόπος – φόρος, φόρος
- *Bailly* νομός, νόμος – τομός, τόμος – τρόπος, τρόπος – φόρος, φόρος
- *Pape* νομός, νόμος – τομός, τόμος – τρόπος, τρόπος – φόρος, φόρος
- *Benseler* νομός, νόμος – τόμος, τομός – τρόπος, τρόπος – φόρος, φόρος
- *Gemoll97* νόμος, νομός – τομός, τόμος – τρόπος, τρόπος – φόρος, φόρος

Commentary: In most of the dictionaries consulted here, the ratio which determines the order of νομός, νόμος, – τομός, τόμος, etc. is »accentological«, not morphological. According to the doctrine of the Alexandrian grammarians a barytone word is weaker than an oxytone word. In terms of letter-by-letter ordering, the same result is achieved by a level 2 sorting with »forward« directionality. However, whereas *Stephanus* and *LSJ* show an absolutely consistent treatment of these words, the other dictionaries deviate in a few cases. On the other hand, *Benseler* seems to favor the reverse order, but nevertheless has νομός, νόμος. In a didactical dictionary, priority of the oxytone noun may be justified by the frequency of occurrence in the texts (for the learner, νόμος, τόμος, etc. are more important than νομός, τομός, etc.). *Gemoll97* as well tends to sort oxytone nouns first. There are no morphological or semantic explanations for the inconsistencies in both *Benseler* and *Gemoll97*.¹²

πρός, προσ-

- *Stephanus* Πρός, Προσάββατον, Προσαγάζομαι
- *LSJ* πρόσ, προσάββατον, προσάγᾱλλω, προσάγᾱμαι
- *LSJRevSuppl* πρόσ, προσάγιος, προσᾱγόρευσις
- *LSJItalian* πρόσ, προσάββατον, προσαγανακτέω
- *Bailly* πρόσ, προ-σάββατος, προσ-αγγάλλω, προσ-αγανακτέω
- *Benseler* πρόσ, προ-σάββατον, προσ-αγγέλλω, προσαγόρευσις, προσαγορευτέος
- *Gemoll97* πρόσ, προ-σάββατον, προσ-αγγέλλω, προσαγόρευσις
- *Menge* πρόσ, προ-σάββατον, προσ-αγγέλλω, προσαγόρευσις
- *Lfgre* Volume not available yet.
- *DGE* Volume not available yet.

Commentary: There is no special treatment of final sigma in any of the dictionaries. Part of the works introduce morphological separators in order to indicate the segmentation of prepositional prefix and nominal or verbal lexeme: These separators do not interfere in sorting.

¹² In the lexicon of Classical Greek, there are of course further examples of different accent patterns applied to the same base letter sequence. Since these pairs of nouns, at least with regard to the philological and paleographical evidence, do not show different semantics, current lexicography from *Stephanus* onwards makes up one single lemma, presenting the other accent pattern either immediately in the leading line of the dictionary article or discussing it in a note in the end of the article (often semantic distinctions are claimed by ancient grammarians, without the manuscript tradition being in line with those definitions). In the first case, the order of the two forms may imply the lexicographer's sorting preference, but more probably the attestation frequency and/or historico-linguistic arguments determine which accent pattern characterizes the dictionary entry. The practice of the dictionaries varies considerably and is at any rate irrelevant to a hierarchy of accent and breathing marks. Examples: ἄγροικος : ἀγροῖκος, γέλοιος : γελοῖος, ἔρημος : ἐρῆμος, ἔτοιμος : ἐτοῖμος, ὅμοιος : ὁμοῖος, μόχθηρος : μοχθηρός, πόνηρος : πονηρός, μῶρος : μωρός.

Modern Greek

Ἄιδης / ἄδης

- *LexAkad* ἀδημοσίευτος, Ἄιδης, ἀδηφάγία
- *Dēmētrakos* ἀδηρίτως, Ἄιδης, ἀδηφάγεω
- *Georgopapadaku* ἀδήριτος, Ἄδης, ἀδηφάγία
- *Pring* ἀδήν, ἄδης, ἀδηφάγος

Commentary: In polytonic dictionaries of Modern Greek, Ἄιδης / ἄδης behave as observed above in the classical dictionaries. In works from the second half of our century, however, *iota subscriptum* is generally omitted.

ἦ, ἡ, ῆ, ῆα, ἦαται

- *LexAkad* Volume not available yet.
- *Dēmētrakos* ἦ, ἡ, ῆ, ῆ, ῆ, ῆ, ῆ, ῆ, ῆ, ῆ, ῆ, ῆα, ῆα
- *Georgopapadaku* ἦ, ῆ, ῆβη
- *Tsukanas* ἦ, ῆ, ῆ, ῆβη
- *Pring* ἦ, ῆ, ῆβη
- *Chorikov/Malev* ἦ, ῆ, ῆ, ῆ, ῆβη
- *Wendt* η-, ῆ, ῆ, ῆ, ῆβη
- *UnivWb* ῆ, ῆ

Commentary: The lemma sequence exhibited by *Dēmētrakos* is rather confusing and in fact unsystematic. Otherwise the functional load principle is valid, the morphologically weakest lexeme coming first (ῆ feminine article), the others following according to their functional value. Only *Georgopapadaku* appears to follow a graphical hierarchy of diacritics.

πρός, προσ-

- *LexAkad* Volume not available yet.
- *Tsukanas* πρὸς, προσαγόρευσις, προσάγω
- *Wendt* πρὸς, προσ-, προσαγόρευση, προσάγω

Commentary: The evidence is the same as with the classical dictionaries.

εἰς, εἶς

- *LexAkad* Volume not available yet.
- *Tsukanas* εἰς, εἶς
- *Wendt* εἰς, εἶς-, εἶς

Commentary: This is another example where considerations of both functional load and breathing mark hierarchy determine the order.

κοῦφος, κουφός

- *LexAkad* Volume not available yet.
- *Tsukanas* κοῦφος, κουφός
- *Wendt* κοῦφος, κουφός

Commentary: This is a Modern Greek example substituting for the νομός / νόμος, τομός / τόμος etc. pairs in Classical Greek. But here the word accented on the first syllable is invariably sorted before.

πενία, πενιά

- *LexAkad* Volume not available yet.
- *Tsukanas* πενιᾶ, πενία

Commentary: In contrast with the former word pair, the word accented on the final syllable comes first. This is an inconsistency in *Tsukanas*.

Conclusions

The idea to differentiate between σ and ς is contrary to all available evidence, both for Modern and for Classical Greek. They are just two glyph variants.¹³ Whether they are distinguished on level 2 or level 3 is purely a matter of personal taste. The evidence offers no clue one way or the other. However, as most »modified« forms are distinguished on level 2, this is in our eyes the logical position to go for.

Both vowel + *iota adscriptum* and vowel + *iota subscriptum* are treated as equivalent to their base letters on level 1. The η -examples demonstrate that in most cases it is treated as the highest-priority distinction on level 2 in line with the practice of the tables of the current draft of the Unicode Ordering Algorithm,¹⁴ though we find two examples in line with the EOR-practice.¹⁵ Stringency within a draft should thus be given priority in our view.

All evidence points to a clear preference for »forward« directionality on level 2.

As far as we can infer from the material a graphical hierarchy of diacritics, the following general statements are to be made:

Simple diacritics appear before combinations of that diacritic with other diacritics.

The »most important« diacritics are breathing marks which determine groups of diacritics.¹⁶ This is in line with the treatment in both the European Ordering Rules and the tables of the Unicode Ordering Algorithm. As combinations between breathing mark and acute / grave are frequent indeed in polytonic Greek, this is of no small importance for producing a culturally acceptable ordering sequence.

From this point of view, the relative order does not seem to follow a consistent practice, though some preferences can be established: *spiritus lenis* comes usually (but not always) before *spiritus asper*. The acute usually precedes the grave.¹⁷

In cases where we are unable to justify the order by a specific hierarchy of diacritics, we recognize that different, non-(ortho)graphical principles govern the ordering ratio. This is in the first place the functional load principle, which establishes a hierarchy of the parts of speech. »Weaker« parts of speech (e.g. articles, interjections) precede »stronger« parts of speech.

Additionally, the handling of accented and unaccented lemmata often depends of the morphological value. The unaccented form, normally showing clitic behavior, may be regarded as »weaker« and so precede the »stronger«, accented form, but the dictionaries also provide examples for the reverse reasoning, when the unaccented form is treated as a derivation from the accented form.

All such considerations cannot be applied in textdata processing without the word meaning being determined by a parser. Since polytonic Greek data *can* be sorted by an algorithm relying on diacritical marks, however, we certainly are allowed to postpone a thorough study of these non-graphical principles.

There is no unanimous practice as to the ordering on level 2, where we find both »backward« and »forward« directionality ($\nu\omicron\mu\acute{o}\varsigma$ vs. $\nu\omicron\mu\omicron\varsigma$). Here the word typology of ancient grammarians according to the accent patterns influences lexicography.

A clear preference of upper- vs. lower case cannot be deduced from the evidence, though the majority of examples points to »small before capital«.

Spaces and hyphens (the latter being morphological separators introduced by modern philology only) are consistently ignored. In other words, all dictionaries use letter-by-letter ordering.

¹³ It may be interesting that the »beta code« of the renowned database project Thesaurus Linguae Graecae (University of California, Irvine) does not differentiate between σ and ς in its transcription, though very exact in every other respect. Both are rendered as »s«.

¹⁴ The *iota subscriptum* U0345 has class 220, whereas accents above the letters have class 230 (thanks to Ken Whistler for this information).

¹⁵ These are in *Menge* and *LSJItalian*. These dictionaries are likewise the most consistent with respect to ordering.

¹⁶ The one exception is sometimes the *iota adscriptum* (qv).

¹⁷ This is in line with current practice in both the EOR and the Unicode Ordering Algorithm, but at variance with statements from EAOT.

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