PROPOSAL SUMMARY FORM

A. Administrative

1.Title
Proposal to encode New Testament editorial characters in the UCS
2. Requester's name
Thesaurus Linguae Graecae Project (University of California, Irvine)
3. **Requester type**
Expert contribution
4. Submission date:
2003-02-28   **rev 2003-05-20**
5. Requester's reference
6. Completion
This is a complete proposal.

B. Technical - General

1b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block:
Name of the existing block:
General Punctuation
2. Number of characters in proposal:
13
3. Proposed category
Category B.1
4. Proposed Level of Implementation:
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 and David Perry
6b. Fonts currently available.
Proposed characters are included in the LaserGreek® font distributed by Linguists Software.
6c. Font format
True Type
7a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?
Yes
7b. Are published examples of use 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 experts in the field of Biblical Studies. We have consulted with members of the Institut für Neutestamentliche Textforschung at the University of Muenster, Westfalia, Germany, especially, Luc Herren, Editor of the forthcoming digital version of the Nestle-Aland edition of the New Testament and Dr. Klaus Wachtel. The proposal has also been reviewed by Dr. James Adair, General Editor of *TC: A Journal of Biblical Textual Criticism*, and Dr. Tim Feeney, organizer of the Greek New Testament Project.

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

Scholarly community and readers of the Greek text of the New Testament.

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

These characters are used in the Nestle-Aland edition and critical apparatus of the New Testament and other secondary sources about it or derived from it.

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

Yes. Characters are present in the Nestle-Aland (UBS) edition and used extensively by scholars in the field. A new digital version of the Nestle-Aland edition is currently under preparation. General references provided in attached bibliography.

6. After giving due consideration 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)?

Characters should be kept together in the General Punctuation section.

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?

No.

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

Yes. Left Omission Bracket is similar to <superscript> 25A1 which has different properties.

Upper-Half Right Angle Substitution Marker is similar but not identical to <superscript> 231C and <superscript> 250C.

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

The Greek text of the New Testament exists in a large number of manuscripts with many textual variants. The most widely used critical edition of the New Testament is the Nestle-Aland edition published by the United Bible Societies (UBS), currently in its 27th revised edition. In order to represent and discuss the various textual variants in the New Testament, Nestle introduced a set of editorial characters.[1]

A digital version of the Nestle-Aland edition which makes use of these symbols is currently under preparation by the Institut für Neutestamentliche Textforschung at the University of Münster, Germany. In addition, these editorial characters are regularly used in a number of journals and other publications[2] and have, thus, become the recognized method of annotating the New Testament. LaserGreek, one of the most popular and widely used set of Greek fonts (distributed by Linguists Software) already includes these sigla in its repertoire.

Approximately half of the editorial NT characters can currently be encoded in the Unicode Standard. The thirteen characters included in this proposal need to be added.

Character Properties and Bidirectional Properties

The character properties are given in the table below. All the characters should be mirrored when used in right-to-left scripts (although this would not affect character 7 and 12 since they are symmetrical).

Bibliography

Aland, K. et al. (eds.), *Novum Testamentum Graece*, 27th edn. (Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1993)

Aland, K., *Synopsis Quattuor Evangeliorum,* 15th ed. (Stuttgart, 1997)

Aland, K. and Aland, B., *The Text of the New Testament: An Introduction to the Critical Editions and to the Theory and Practice of Modern Textual Criticism*, 2nd ed. (Leiden: Brill, 1989),

David M., and Van Groningen B.A., *Papyrological Primer*, 4th ed. (Leiden: Brill, 1965).

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[1] Nestle, Nestle, Aland (1993) 49*

[2] E.g. *New Testament Studies*, *Journal of Biblical Literature*, *Novum Testamentum*, etc.

Modern New Testament Editorial Characters

Table of Characters Proposed

For illustrations and documentation, see: http://www.tlg.uci.edu/Uni.prop.html

Number	Character	Name	Unicode	Properties	Comment
Modern New Testament Editorial Sigla					
1	⌐	Upper-Half Right Angle Substitution Marker		Po	Similar to \<superscript\> 231C and \<superscript\> 250C
2	⌐	Upper-Half Right Angle Dotted Substitution Marker		Po	
3	⌐	Left Upper-Half Substitution Bracket		Ps	
4	⌐	Right Upper-Half Substitution Bracket		Pe	
5	⌐	Left Upper-Half Dotted Substitution Bracket		Ps	
6	⌐	Right Upper-Half Dotted Substitution Bracket		Pe	
7	⊤	T-Like Raised Interpolation Marker		Po	
8	⊤	T-Like Raised Dotted Interpolation Marker		Po	
9	⌐	Upper-Half Dotted Transposition Marker		Po	
10	⌐	Left Upper-Half Transposition Bracket		Ps	
11	⌐	Right Upper-Half Transposition Bracket		Pe	
12	⬚	Left Raised Omission Bracket		Ps	Similar to \<superscript\> 25A1 Used as an opening bracket, paired with the Right Raised Omission Bracket
13	⟍	Right Raised Omission Bracket		Pe	Used as a closing bracket, paired with the Left Raised Omission Bracket

Note: Currently these characters are used only in Greek texts. However, there is no reason to restrict their use to Left-Right scripts. For Right-Left scripts the characters 1-6, 8-11 and 13 should be reversed.

TABLE xx00-xx0C: GENERAL PUNCTUATION

205

0	⌐
1	⌐·
2	⟨
3	⟩
4	⟨·
5	·⟩
6	⊤
7	⊤·
8	∫·
9	∫
A	⌒
B	◻
C	╲

TABLE xx00-xx0C: GENERAL PUNCTUATION

hex	Name
xx00	UPPER-HALF RIGHT ANGLE SUBSTITUTION MARKER
xx01	UPPER-HALF RIGHT ANGLE DOTTED SUBSTITUTION MARKER
xx02	LEFT UPPER-HALF SUBSTITUTION BRACKET
xx03	RIGHT UPPER-HALF SUBSTITUTION BRACKET
xx04	LEFT UPPER-HALF DOTTED SUBSTITUTION BRACKET
xx05	RIGHT UPPER-HALF DOTTED SUBSTITUTION BRACKET
xx06	T-LIKE RAISED INTERPOLATION MARKER
xx07	T-LIKE RAISED DOTTED INTERPOLATION MARKER
xx08	UPPER-HALF DOTTED TRANSPOSITION MARKER
xx09	LEFT UPPER-HALF TRANSPOSITION BRACKET
xx0A	RIGHT UPPER-HALF TRANSPOSITION BRACKET
xx0B	LEFT RAISED OMISSION BRACKET
xx0C	RIGHT RAISED OMISSION BRACKET