PROPOSAL SUMMARY FORM

L2/02-313

A. Administrative

1.Title:
Proposal to encode the Archaic Greek Letter San in 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:
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:
Greek and Coptic
2. Number of characters in proposal:
Two
3. Proposed category:
C
4. Proposed Level of Implementation:
Level 1
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.
A number of Greek Unicode fonts are already available and listed at:
http://www.tlg.uci.edu/help/UnicodeTest.html.
6c. Font format:
True Type
7a. Are references provided?
Yes.
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. Kevin Clinton, Cornell University and Epigraphy Project; Stephen Tracy, Ohio State University and American School of Classical Studies in Athens, Greece.

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

Scholarly community (especially epigraphical studies)

4. The context of use for the proposed character:

Greek inscriptions

5. Is the proposed character in current use by the user community?

Yes. Character is present in various editions of Greek inscriptions.

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

Yes.

If YES, is a rationale provided?

Accordance with the Roadmap.

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

Yes. It should be placed together with archaic Greek letters.

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?

Yes. Greek Capital Letter Mu 039C

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 to encode Archaic Letter San in the UTS

San is an archaic letter attested in early inscriptions. It derives from the Phoenician script and occupies the position following the letter *pi* (see Example 1). Several but not all Greek cities used it.[1] It was used in the Doric dialect of Crete and Corinth but not in the Ionic. Greek cities which used San did not simultaneously use Sigma. By the second half of the fifth century BC. San was replaced by Sigma (except in Crete where it appears to have been used after the fifth century, or as an emblem on the coins of Sikyon and as a brand for a breed of horses called 'samphorae' (see Aristophanes, *Eq*. 603, Example 2 below).

San looks similar to the later letter *mu* (different from archaic mu which has a shorter leg) but represents a sibilant, which later became a Sigma. In modern texts and in the absense of font representation, the convention has been to use sigma in representing the archaic San. However, epigraphers worldwide who deal with archaic materials need it. Since all other archaic Greek letters are already represented in Unicode, San is a reasonable addition to the existing archaic set.

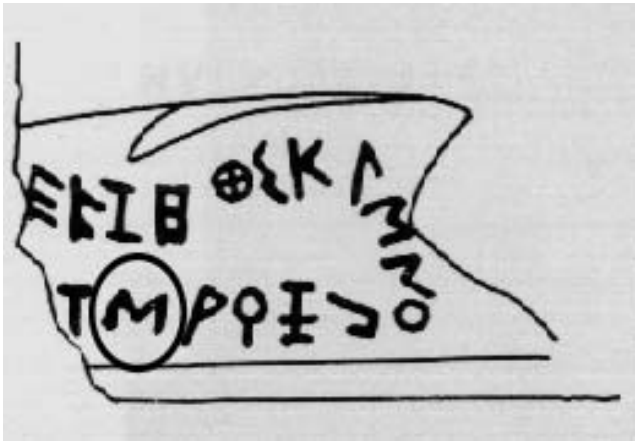
Note: San should not be confused with Sampi which is already represented in Unicode as 03E0 and 0301. Sampi represents a compound sibilant later spelt by *xi* or double *sigma*. For the variants and discussion see Jeffery, pp. 38-39. Sampi eventually was abandoned in favor of xi or double sigma but it survives in the Milesian numeral system, which goes back to the sixth century. It follows omega in this system, representing 900.

[1] Jeffery (1990) 33

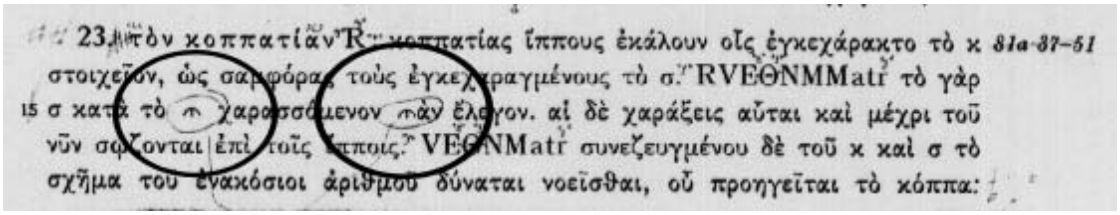
Archaic Greek Letter San

Sign	Similar Unicode	Beta Code	Count
M	039C	#711	4 instances, 3 authors

Example 1
L.H Jeffery, *The Local Scripts of Archaic Greece* (Oxford 1990) Plate 20



Example 2
Scholia in Aristophanem, *Scholia in nubes (scholia vetera)* verse 23



Holwerda, D., *Prolegomena de comoedia. Scholia in Acharnenses, Equites, Nubes* (Bouma, Groningen, 1977) 13