PROPOSAL SUMMARY FORM

A. Administrative

1.Title
Proposal for encoding Greek metrical characters in the UCS
2. Requester's name
Thesaurus Linguae Graecae Project (University of California, Irvine)
3. **Requester type**
Expert contribution
4. Submission date:
2002-11-07
5. Requester's reference
6. Completion
This is a complete proposal.

B. Technical - General

1.   This proposal is for a new set of characters?
Yes.
Proposed name of block:
Metrical Characters
2. Number of characters in proposal:
9 characters
3. Proposed category
Category A
4. Proposed Level of Implementation (1, 2 or 3):
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
6b. Fonts currently available.
The majority of these characters are contained in the Private Use Area of the Antiquarium Unicode font.
6c. Font format
True Type
7a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?
Yes
7b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) 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 a great number of experts. Several versions of this proposal have been posted online and received extensive comments by members of the profession.

3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters

Scholarly community in the general area of literature.

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

Common in publications and studies related to ancient and modern poetry, meter, and music.

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

Yes. Characters are present in various scholarly discussions of ancient and modern literary texts. General references provided in attached bibliography.

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

No. Plane 1??

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

Yes.

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?

Yes. However, existing characters produce unworkable results.

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

No.

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?
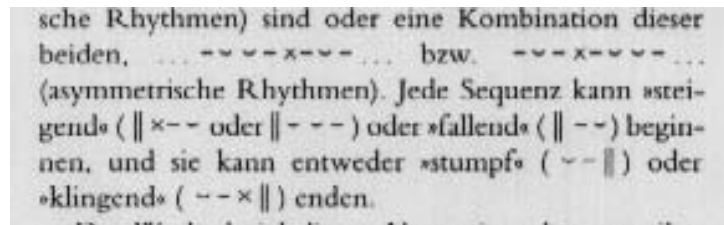
No.

13. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility character(s)?
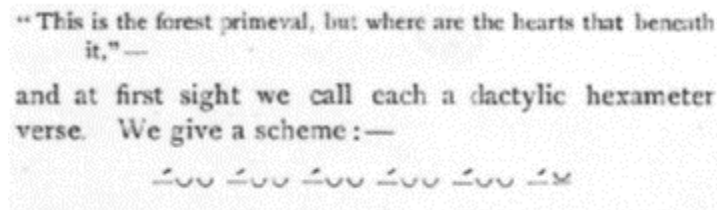
No.

Proposal

The Classical Greek metrical system was developed between the 8th and 4th centuries BC and has been preserved on ancient papyri.

From these origins, a standard set of non-combining forms has been developed for the discussion of not only Greek and Roman meter, but also meter in modern poetry. For example, here we can see an instance of the use of these characters in a discussion of ancient Greek metrics:[1]

And here we can see an instance of the of the use of these characters in a discussion of modern English poetry:[2]

These forms are widely used in all aspects of scholarly works pertaining to ancient and modern poetry and music. They are also used to indicate lacunas in metrical texts. All possible non-stacking characters used in the Greek metrical notation are given in the table *Overview of Greek Metrical Notation* below. There are a few other, rarely used, symbols which are stacked versions of the characters given below. The majority of characters required for the representation of Greek meter are already present in Unicode Standard 3.2. Nine (9) additional characters are proposed for inclusion.

Bibliography

Gummere, F.R., *A Handbook of Poetics* (Boston, 1892)

Maas, P., *Greek Metre*. Tr. Lloyd-Jones, H. (Oxford, 1962)

Parker, L.P.E., "Metre, Greek" in *OCD³* (1996) 970

Pauly, A.F. von *et al.* (eds.), *Paulys Realencyclopädie der classischen Altertumwissenschaft*. (Stuttgart, 1856-1972)

Raven, D.S., *Latin Metre: An Introduction* (London, 1965)

West, M.L. "Metrik. IV Griechisch" in *DNP* 8 (2000) 115-122

West, M.L. *Greek Metre* (Oxford, 1982)

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[1] Der Neue Pauly Volume 8 (2000) 118

[2] Gummere, F.R., *A Handbook of Poetics* (Boston, 1892) 138

Table of New Characters Proposed

Full documentation available at URL: http://www.tlg.uci.edu/Uni.prop.html

		Name	Similar Unicode	Comment
1	˘	Metrical Breve	02D8	
2	᷵	Metrical Long Over Short	02D8 + 0305	
3	ᷓ	Metrical Short Over Long	02D8 + 0332	
4	˘˘	Metrical Long Over Two Shorts	02D8 + 0305 + 02D8 + 0305	
5	ᷓᷓ	Metrical Two Shorts Over Long	02D8 + 0332 + 02D8 + 0332	
6	ᷝ	Metrical Two Shorts Joined	02D8 + 02D8	
7	⏜	Metrical Triseme		
8	⏝	Metrical Tetraseme		
9	⏞	Metrical Pentaseme		

METRICAL CHARACTERS: CODE CHART

xx0

0	‿
1	⏑
2	⏒
3	‿ ‿
4	⏑ ⏑
5	⌣
6	⌐_
7	⌣
8	⊔

METRICAL CHARACTERS: NAME CHART

hex	Name
xx00	METRICAL BREVE
xx01	METRICAL LONG OVER SHORT
xx02	METRICAL SHORT OVER LONG
xx03	METRICAL LONG OVER TWO SHORTS
xx04	METRICAL TWO SHORTS OVER LONG
xx05	METRICAL TWO SHORTS JOINED
xx06	METRICAL TRISEME
xx07	METRICAL TETRASEME
xx08	METRICAL PENTASEME