

To: Unicode Technical Committee
 From: Jeremy March, Peter Kirk, Patrick Rourke, TLG (Maria Pantelia, Nick Nicholas, and Richard Peevers), and Deborah Anderson
 Date: 23 January 2004
 Re: Request to Change Greek Collation Order for SAN

The current Greek order for Greek collation in allkeys.txt has the following order:

1FFC GREEK CAPITAL LETTER OMEGA WITH PROSGEGRAMMENI
 03E1 GREEK SMALL LETTER SAMPI
 03E0 GREEK LETTER SAMPI
 03F8 GREEK SMALL LETTER SHO
 03F7 GREEK CAPITAL LETTER SHO
 03FB GREEK SMALL LETTER SAN
 03FA GREEK CAPITAL LETTER SAN
 03E3 COPTIC SMALL LETTER SHEI
 03E2 COPTIC CAPITAL LETTER SHEI

This is a request to move SAN to its historical position, which is after PI.

In the original proposal for the inclusion of this character by the TLG (<http://www.tlg.uci.edu/final/san.pdf>, L2/02-313R), it stated: “[SAN] derives from the Phoenician script and occupies the position following the letter pi” (p. 3). This is supported by a chart showing the Greek and Phoenician signaries in the book *Homer and the Origin of the Greek Alphabet* (Barry B. Powell, Cambridge, 1991) and in the "Table of Letters" from the definitive study of Greek scripts by L.H. Jeffery's *The Local Scripts of Archaic Greece* (Oxford, 1990).

The letter SAN also occurs after PI in the standard reference work, *A Greek-English Dictionary* (p. 1562, H. Liddell, R. Scott, and revised and augmented by Sir H. Jones, Oxford, 1968), and is repeated in the alphabetical side-bar listing for Liddell and Scott on the Perseus website (www.perseus.tufts.edu). This reflects the modern practice of consistent alphabetization.

SAN's current position, after the letters OMEGA, SAMPI (used as a symbol with numeric value), and letters used for Bactrian (an archaic Iranian language which uses the Greek alphabet), suggests SAN is not a “regular” member of the Greek alphabet. SAN ought to be restored to its original historical position. We therefore would request a change be made so SAN is instead sorted after PI, hence:

...
 1D28 GREEK LETTER SMALL CAPITAL PI
 → **03FB GREEK SMALL LETTER SAN**
 → **03FA GREEK CAPITAL LETTER SAN**
 03DF GREEK SMALL LETTER KOPPA
 03DE GREEK LETTER KOPPA