

## THE BABEL POLUTONIKOGREEK KEYBOARD:

Colin McLarty

November 2005

There is a LaTeX package betababel allowing Babel to use the betacode transcription if you prefer. The standard Babel transcription is:

A B Γ Δ E Z H Θ I K Λ M N Ξ O Π P Σ T Υ Φ X Ψ Ω  
A B G D E Z H J I K L M N X O P R S T U F Q Y W

α β γ δ ε ζ η θ ι κ λ μ ν ξ ο π ρ σ τ υ φ χ ψ ω  
a b g d e z h j i k l m n x o p r s t u f q y w

Σωκράτης· κατέβην χθὲς εἰς Πειραιᾶ μετὰ Γλαύκωνος τοῦ Ἄριστωνος προσευζόμενός τε τῇ θεῷ καὶ ἅμα τὴν ἑορτὴν βουλόμενος θεάσασθαι τίνα τρόπον ποιήσουσιν ἅτε νῦν πρῶτον ἄγοντες. καλὲ μὲν οὖν μοι καὶ ἡ τῶν ἐπιχωρίων πομπὴ ἔδοξεν εἶναι, οὐ μέντοι ἦττον ἐφαίνετο πρέπειν ἦν οἱ Θράκες ἔπεμπον.

## ARCHAIC CHARACTERS

`\stigma`   `\qoppa`   `\sampi`   `\ddigamma`  
Ϻ                    Ϡ                    ϡ                    Ϝ

`\vardiagamma`   `\Digamma`  
ϝ                    Ϟ

## USING POLUTONIKOGREEK

To get polytonic Greek in a document, with English as the default language, place a line in the preamble

```
\usepackage[polutonikogreek,english]{babel}
```

For short passages it is useful to define a new command:

```
\newcommand{\grk}[1]{\selectlanguage{polutonikogreek}  
#1\selectlanguage{english}}
```

Switch into Greek and back to English in the document by

```
\selectlanguage{polutonikogreek}
```

```
\selectlanguage{english}
```

or by the new command `\grk{}`.

Accents are gotten by `~`, `'`, `'`. So, `\grk{~a, 'a, 'a}` prints  $\tilde{\alpha}$ ,  $\acute{\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha$ . Breathings are `<` and `>`, so `<a, >a` give  $\acute{\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha$ . Iota subscript is `|` so `w|` gives  $\omega$ . Diaeresis is `"`. Diacriticals combine, as for example `\grk{o<~ios, >a'"idia}` gives  $\acute{\omicron}\acute{\iota}\omicron\varsigma, \acute{\alpha}\acute{\iota}\delta\iota\alpha$ .

Punctuation marks `\grk{; , . ?}` print as the Greek marks  $\cdot$ ,  $\cdot$ ,  $\cdot$ ; respectively.

Babel uses `s` for both the usual lower case sigma  $\sigma$ , and the terminal form  $\varsigma$ . So `\grk{p'osos}` prints as  $\pi\acute{o}\sigma\sigma$ . Lowercase

“c” always produces the terminal sigma. To get sigma in the form  $\sigma$  alone or at the end of a word use the English letter v. It has no effect but to prevent sigma from taking the terminal form. So `\grk{sv, p'ososv}` prints as  $\sigma, \pi\acute{o}\sigma\sigma$ .

The alternative commands `\textgreek{}` and `\greektext` give Greek fonts but cause trouble with circumflex compounds. They use `\~` for the circumflex. So `\textgreek{Ze\~us}` prints  $Z\epsilon\tilde{\upsilon}\varsigma$ . But the compound `\textgreek{o<\~ios}` prints junk  $o\tilde{\iota}o\varsigma$ . The character `@` gives circumflex with rough breathing, so `\textgreek{o@ios}` prints  $o\tilde{\iota}'o\varsigma$ . Ascii codes give other circumflex compounds, so for example `\textgreek{\char146}` prints  $\tilde{\alpha}$ , and `\textgreek{\char247}` prints  $\tilde{\upsilon}$ .