

DESCRIPTION OF THE IFAO-GREC UNICODE FONT

[update: 2022]

This font is first of all a Greek and Coptic font which contains the most important critical and diacritical signs, and the sigla and symbols used in editing papyrological and epigraphical texts, as well as Greek texts of specialized content such as mathematics, astronomy, magic, music, and poetry.

The font is naturally compatible with other Greek fonts in standard Unicode format (Main Plane 0) and tries to be as compatible as possible with e.g. NewAthenaUnicode in the Private Use Area (PUA) and the new Plane 1 area. But it offers several possibilities that do not exist in other fonts. The font is designed to harmonise with Times New Roman, in both style and dimensions. It includes a bold version.

It was conceived by Jean-Luc Fournet, and the Unicode version is the work of Ralph Hancock. Adam Bülow-Jacobsen helped in various ways.

IFAO-Grec Unicode is issued free of all rights.

Since no font is perfect or complete, please notify Jean-Luc Fournet (jean-luc.fournet@college-de-france.fr) of any errors or omissions so that we can correct them in future versions. If you have problems to install or use this font, please contact Ralph Hancock (hancock@dircon.co.uk).

Below you will find a brief presentation of the possibilities offered by IFAO-Grec Unicode in Greek and Coptic, especially in the PUA. Characters are designated by their Unicode number, e.g. ‘0353’, ‘E504’, or ‘1F00’ [New signs in the 2022 version compared to the previous version are put in red]

The official area, Main Plane 0.

1) 0300-0385: mostly diacritics, both normally spaced and zero-width (combining).

Accents, breathings, iota subscript, diaeresis, macron and/or breve already exist in combination with letters (1F00 sqq. and EAF3 sqq.), but can also be typed separately after the letters as combining marks from this series or the series E501-E50B in the PUA. Note that some combinations which are *a priori* impossible in ‘good’ Greek have been added in the PUA, such as ê ê ê ê ê, etc., ô ô ô ô ô, etc. (E1B0 sqq.).

Note:

- iota subscript φ (0345).
- Dot under a letter α (0323/E54E; see also in the Private Use Area, § 13 : E7B0-E7B3, four underdots diversely positioned to fit the letters according to their shape). For a low dot without a letter, α_{\cdot} , E5CE. For an asterisk without a letter, α_{*} , E5EE. For a dot under a Coptic letter, use E798.
- single or double overline: $\bar{\alpha}$ $\overline{\alpha}$ (0305), $\bar{\alpha}$ $\overline{\alpha}$ (033F); see also the PUA equivalents $\bar{\alpha}$ $\overline{\alpha}$ (E52D), $\bar{\alpha}$ $\overline{\alpha}$ (E52E).

[Some of these signs are found in other shapes at 10175-1018A. Others are found *passim* in the font. Different shapes of crosses are found elsewhere: ✠ (2627), ✠ (2CE9), ✠ (2CE8)].

5) [and] to mark lacuna in overlined words (E6BB-E6BC): e.g., $\overline{\pi\mu\alpha\nu[\beta\kappa]\rho\rho}$; **short brackets** [] that allow to mark the diereses, accents or overlines that come out of a gap (E7A8-E7A9): e.g., $\ddot{[]}$, $\overline{[]}$, $\overline{[]}$.


7) Various ancient forms of breathings and accents (E6F0-E6FD): (e.g. ᾱ, ᾰ). Also: ∪ (E6FE, not combining).

9) Various combining signs covering two or more letters: $\widetilde{\alpha\omega}$ (E716), $\underline{\alpha\epsilon}$ (E717 = 035C), $\widehat{\alpha\epsilon}$ (E719 = 0361), $\alpha\nu\tau$ or $\alpha\ \tau$ (E71A), $\widehat{\alpha\nu\tau}$ or $\widehat{\alpha}\ \widehat{\tau}$ (E71B).

11) Symbols belonging to astronomy and magic: E730-E734 ☐ ☾ ☿ ♀. [Related signs are also found elsewhere, e.g. ☉ ♀ ♂ 𐀀 (2609, 2640-2643)].

[illegible]

– diacritics and editorial signs: diaeresis and simple high or low point: \ddot{Y} , \dot{Y} , \ddot{y} , \dot{y} (E78E-E78F, E796-E797), acute, grave or circumflex ‘accents’ \acute{N} , \grave{N} , \hat{N} (E793-E795), dot under letter $\underset{\cdot}{N}$ (E798), oblique stroke under letter $\underset{\text{N}}{\text{N}}$ (E799), various types of overlining (E790-E792, E79A-E79B): long (\overline{N} ; \overline{MN}), double ($\overline{\overline{N}}$; $\overline{\overline{MN}}$), short (\bar{N}), left or right (\bar{N} , \bar{N}), which lets you make a short line over several letters ($\overline{\overline{MN}}$, $\overline{\overline{MNN}}$).

13) Additional combining underdots (E7B0-E7B3): the normal combining underdot (0323/E54E) may not be ideally positioned under certain characters (especially some capitale letters or large symbols) with some word processors. In these case, you are invited to use one of these four underdots diversely positioned to fit the letters according to their shape: , etc.

1) Acrophonic numbers (10102-10174):

2) Additional sigla (10175-1018A):

Most of these are also found in slightly different shapes in the PUA (E600-E6A7).

5 3 * 2 < - 3 6 U 9 2 N I W V 4 \ 3 7 F 7 1 R V 0 J 0 A 1 G 4 P > 3 5 H H H F E 3
 F 1 1 2 1 F 3 U K 2 4 A < > E 3 / \ 1 4 5 4 3 1 2 5 0

- Papyrological text:

1 δεδ[ω]κε ἀ 1. Βικτόρος 2 ψ ενἀκερ σϣονο 3 ι. Διοσκόρου ἀ 5 κερ 4 ιϛ γ ζ ενδ[ο]ξε υλσλσ
παγαρχοι 5 στοιχαφιζαινἀ.

- Literary text:

Παραπλησίως δὲ τῇ ἐρμηνείᾳ χρῶνται καὶ πάντες Ἀσιανοὶ καὶ μάλιστα Ἴωνες· καὶ πολλὸς ἐντεῦθεν ἀριθμὸς φιλοσόφων τε καὶ ῥητόρων πιστοῦται τὸν λόγον, ὅστις καταλογίζεσθαι βούλοιτ' ἄν. Καὶ πολλὴ γὰρ ἐντεῦθεν συντέλει' ἀνδρῶν σπουδαίων τῷ χορῷ τῆς σοφίας ὡς ἀληθῶς γέγονε· πᾶσαν παιδείαν καὶ φιλοσόφους αἵρέσεις καὶ ῥητορικὰς ἐπιδείξεις φημί· καὶ πολλὸς πόνος καὶ ἴσως οὐκ ἐν καιρῷ πάντας ἀπαριθμεῖσθαι· ἀλλὰ μὴν καὶ τὸ μετρίων μνησθῆναι, δόξειεν ἂν ὡς τοὺς ἄλλους περιφρονούντος.

[J.-L. Fournet (translation : A. Bülow-Jacobsen)]