

## Greek diacritics with standard accent macros

`lgrxenc.def` is a comprehensive font encoding definition file. LICR macros are defined for all non-ASCII characters. Diacritics can be input using an extension of the standard macro commands with composite diacritics input as backslash followed by the LGR transliteration.<sup>1</sup>

The example in `greek-usage.pdf`:

Τί φής; Ἰδὼν ἐνθῆδε παῖδ' ἐλευθέραν τὰς πλησίον Νύμφας στεφανοῦσαν, Σώστρατε, ἔρῳν ἀπῆλθες εὐθύς;

can be input as

```
T\`i f\`hic? \<Id\`wn \>enj\`ede pa\~id''
\>eleuj\`eran t\`ac plhs\`ion N\`umfac stefano\~usan,
S\`wstrate, \>er\~wn \`ap\~hljec e\>uj\`uc?
```

Improvements:

- Accents can be placed on any character:<sup>2</sup> ῃ ῥ ῖ ῡ ΰ ῥ ῖ ῡ ΰ

- Kerning is preserved
- |                  | roman | italic       | cbleipzig    |
|------------------|-------|--------------|--------------|
| accent macro:    | αὐτός | <i>αὐτός</i> | <i>aútós</i> |
| transliteration: | αὐτός | <i>aútós</i> | <i>aútós</i> |

Like in any font encoding, kerning only works with pre-composed glyphs:  $\text{A}\tilde{\text{Y}}\text{A} \neq \text{A}\tilde{\text{Y}}\text{A}$ ,  $\text{A}\tilde{\text{V}}\text{A} \neq \text{A}\tilde{\text{V}}\text{A}$ .

- Compatible with `hyperref` (see `greekhyperref.pdf`).
- Following Greek typesetting convention, diacritics (except the dialytika) are placed to the left of capital letters and dropped by `\MakeUppercase`:

άντροπος  $\mapsto$  ANTPOΠOΣ, ἄντροπος  $\mapsto$  ANTPOΠOΣ,  
Αχιλλέας  $\mapsto$  AXIΛΛEΑΣ, Ἀχιλλεύς  $\mapsto$  AXIΛΛEΥΣ.

The dialytika is printed even in cases where it's not needed in lowercase:

άλος  $\mapsto$  AŦΛOΣ, ἄλος  $\mapsto$  AŦΛOΣ, μάλινά  $\mapsto$  MAŦINA,  
κέικ,  $\mapsto$  KEŦIK, ἄπνία  $\mapsto$  AŦPINIA.

Composite diacritics can be specified as backslash + LGR transliteration or combined accent macros, e.g.  $\tilde{\alpha}$  can be written as

`\~>a`, `\>~a`, `\~\>\{a\}`, or `\~\>a`.

However, braces in composite accents (`\~\>\{a\}`, `\~\>\{a\}`, or `\~\>\{a\}`) lead to errors.

`\MakeUppercase` works with most input variants but fails with a tilde in a document which does **not** define the `greek` or `polutonikogreek` language (where the tilde is an active character denoting a `\nobreakspace`). Combining “symbol macros” (`\>\~`) or reversing the order (`\~>`) is safe:  $\tilde{\alpha} \mapsto \text{A}$ .

Accent macros can start with `\a` instead of `\` when the short form is redefined, e.g. inside a *tabbing* environment. This also works for the new-defined *Dasia* and *Psili* shortcuts (`\a<` and `\a>`):

Τί φής; Τί φής;  
Ἰδὼν ἐνθῆδε παῖδ

<sup>1</sup>This makes it easy to follow the advice in *teubner-doc*: “typeset your paper with the regular accent vowel ligatures and [...] substitute them in the final revision with the accented vowel macros only in those instances where the lack of kerning is disturbing”.

<sup>2</sup>In *babel-greek* versions < 1.4, *Babel's polutonikogreek* option re-defined `\~` (even for Latin with `\textlatin`). This document reverted the *babel* definition in the preamble to make the tilde/perispomeni-accent work as usual in both, English (νῖῶ niṓ) and Greek .