

Greek Symbols

Apostolos Syropoulos
366, 28th October Str.
GR-671 00 Xanthi, HELLAS
E-mail: apostolo@platon.ee.duth.gr

1997/09/21

1 Introduction

There are certain symbols which were in use in ancient Greece and which are of use to scholars even today. These symbols are various forms of qoppa and stigma, and the letter digamma. These special symbols are provided by the `cb` fonts which are now the official fonts for the `greek` option of the `babel` package. Moreover, these fonts provide a few more symbols such as a symbol for Euro, etc. The ‘tao’ symbol although is not a greek symbol, survives mainly for reasons of compatibility. This little package provides access commands for these symbols. The package can be used only in conjunction with the `greek` option of the `babel` package.

2 The Implementation

First comes the identification part.

```
1 <*package>
2 \ProvidesPackage{grsymp}[1997/09/21\space v1.0]
3 \typeout{Package: ‘grsymp’ v1.0\space <1997/09/21> (A. Syropoulos)}
```

Next we check to see if the `babel` package is loaded with at least the `greek` option. In case it isn’t, we opt to produce an error message.

```
4 \@ifpackagewith{babel}{greek}{}{%
5   \PackageError{grsymp}{%
6     ‘greek’ option of the ‘babel’\MessageBreak
7     package hasn’t been loaded}{%
8     The commands provided by this package\MessageBreak
9     are specially designed for greek language\MessageBreak
10    typesetting with the ‘babel’ package. Load\MessageBreak
11    it with at least the ‘greek’ option.}\relax
12 }
```

Now, we proceed with the definitions of the various symbols. Please note that `\ddigamma` is intentionally spelled erroneously, in order to avoid conflicts with the command `\digamma` that is defined by the package `amssymb`. Although the `tao` symbol is not a greek symbol, it is included mainly for reasons of compatibility.

```
13 \DeclareTextCommand{\Digamma}{LGR}{\char"C3\relax}
14 \DeclareTextCommand{\ddigamma}{LGR}{\char"93\relax}
15 \DeclareTextCommand{\tao}{LGR}{\char"01\relax}
16 \DeclareTextCommand{\Qoppa}{LGR}{\char"14\relax}
17 \DeclareTextCommand{\varqoppa}{LGR}{\char"13\relax}
18 \DeclareTextCommand{\Sampi}{LGR}{\char"1A\relax}
19 \DeclareTextCommand{\vardigamma}{LGR}{\char"07\relax}
20 \DeclareTextCommand{\Stigma}{LGR}{\char"08\relax}
21 \DeclareTextCommand{\VarQoppa}{LGR}{\char"15\relax}
22 \DeclareTextCommand{\euro}{LGR}{\char"18\relax}
23 \DeclareTextCommand{\permill}{LGR}{\char"19\relax}
```

Dedication

I would like to dedicate this piece of work to my son

Demetrios-Georgios.