

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.¹

The example in `greek-usage.pdf`:

Τί φής; Ἴδὼν ἐνθέδε παῖδ' ἐλευθέραν τὰς πλησίον Νύμφας στεφανοῦσαν, Σώστρατε, ἐρῶν 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:² $\acute{\alpha}$ $\grave{\alpha}$ $\tilde{\alpha}$ \circ ̂ ̃ ̄ ̅ ̆ ̇ ̈

- 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: $\text{A}\acute{\text{Y}}\text{A} \neq \text{A}\tilde{\text{Y}}\text{A}$, $\text{A}\text{V}\text{A} \neq \text{A}\text{A}$.

- Compatible with `hyperref` (see `greekhyperref.pdf`).
- Following Greek typesetting convention, diacritics (except the dialytika) are placed to the left of capital letters and 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 AΨΛOΣ, ἄλος \mapsto AΨΛOΣ, μάινα \mapsto MAΨNA,
κέικ, \mapsto KEΨK, ἄσπνια \mapsto AΨΠNIA.

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;
Ἴδὼν ἐνθέδε παῖδ

¹This makes it easy to follow the advise 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”.

²In `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 ($\text{v}\tilde{\text{o}} \text{ni}\tilde{\text{o}}$) and Greek .