**Notes for Azhagi Keyboard for Greek** (Draft: 2017/06/27)

*Azhagi is very easy to learn, use and demonstrate, but difficult to explain in text, which is why this document is so long. I’m sorry about that.  
Please read the Azhagi Introduction document first. That explains the basics. I am trying to make the various layouts as consistent as possible, so that users can switch languages easily.  
This Greek keyboard mapping is a first draft. It is rough and ready. If you find any bugs, please say so.   
It is also experimental: if any design decisions are wrong, they can be changed. Comments and suggestions would be gratefully received. Alec McAllister, t.a.mcallister@leeds.ac.uk*

This keyboard layout can type all the characters for Modern and Ancient Greek specified in Unicode ranges "U400 Greek and Coptic" and “U1F00 Greek Extended”. If any other characters are needed, I will try to add them.

Deprecated characters, such as the Greek Extended duplicates of characters already encoded in the basic Greek and Coptic Range (0370–03FF), are intentionally omitted, and should not be used.

Most archaic and local variants are omitted, but can be added, if need be.

I will also try to add characters for dialects and non-Greek languages (e.g. Coptic), but that is not an urgent priority at present.

**Design Principles**

* Characters and signs are mapped according to what they LOOK like, not what they sound like.
* No changes are made unless the user presses the Compose key, which is currently # . Unless that key is pressed IMMEDIATELY afterwards, the user gets exactly what is typed, without alteration.

**How to Use Azhagi**

If possible, make sure that you are using the standard United Kingdom keyboard, not any other version. This is not strictly necessary, but makes things simpler.

1. Start your word processor or other program.
2. Start Azhagi.
3. In Azhagi, click **Settings** ... **Keyboard** ... **UK**.[[1]](#footnote-1)
4. Press the hotkey shortcut for your chosen language.
5. Start typing.

**Keys for Accent- and Stress-marks in the Azhagi Latin&IPA layout**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Diacritical Mark** | **Key** | **Example** | **Result** |
| **Acute / ὀξεῖα / oxeîa** | **/** | ω**/**# | ώ |
| **Grave / βαρεῖα / bareîa / varia** | **\** | η**\**# | ὴ |
| **Circumflex / tilde / περισπωμένη/ Perispomeni** | **~** | α**^**# | ᾶ |
| **Breve** | **(** | α**(**# | ᾰ |
| **Μacron** | **\_** | υ**\_**# | ῡ |
| **Umlaut / diaeresis / two dots above** | **..** | ι**..**# | ϊ |
| **Rough Breathing** | **{** | ρ**{**# | ῥ |
| **Smooth Breathing** | **}** | ρ**}**# | ῤ |
| **Iota Subscript** | **{** | α**{**## | ᾳ |
| **Altenative Form ("Anything else")** | **`** | σ**`**# μ**`**# φ**`**# ξ**`**# κ**`**#  ;**`**# | ϲ ϻ ϝ ϡ ϟ ϙ [[2]](#footnote-2) |

There is also an Azhagi keyboard that uses the BetaCode layout for Greek. It is a simple clone of the original BetaCode layout, and does not use the shortcuts listed above.

1. **Remember this step, or you will get odd results!** Future versions of Azhagi will remember this setting, which is a bit of temporary magic to prevent confusion if you normally use more than one layout, or use a computer with a different default, e.g. the EL, RU or US keyboards. Some laptops use the US default, even in the UK. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Because it looks like the Q painted on that key. That is a necessary compromise, but if you can thinnk of a better location, please say so. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)