

Multi-CAST

Cypriot Greek annotation notes

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Multi-CAST

*Multilingual Corpus of
Annotated Spoken Texts*

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1 Notes on the GRAID annotations

This document describes the implementation of the GRAID annotation conventions (Haig & Schnell 2014) in the Multi-CAST Cypriot Greek corpus. It corresponds to version 2101 of the annotations, published in January 2021. Unless a more recent version of this document exists, it also applies to any later versions of the annotations.

1.1 Dependent clauses

There are very few non-finite verb forms in Cypriot Greek. Most dependent clauses are introduced by a modal particle *n(a)*, glossed in GRAID as ⟨nonindic⟩, and contain a finite, subjunctive form of the verb. We have chosen to insert zeroes ⟨0⟩ for S and A in the dependent clauses, because an overt pronoun would be possible in most cases, even though they are generally omitted (this follows the decision of a native speaker). The modal particle is commonly the host for pronominal clitics expressing objects and goals (see Section 1.3 on clitic pronouns below). The following example of a *want*-complement clause illustrates the typical structure, and how it is annotated:

- (1)
- | | | | | | | |
|------|-------------|--------|-----------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| | <i>xelo</i> | | <i>na</i> | <i>=su</i> | <i>po</i> | <i>katiti</i> |
| 0_I | want-1SG | 0_I | that.MOD | =to.you | say-1SG | something |
| ##ds | 0.1:a | v:pred | #cc:p | 0.1:s_ds | nonindic | =pro.2:g |
| | | | | v:pred | other:p | |
- ‘(I) want to say something to you.’ [mc_cypgreek_psarin_0138]

1.2 Verbs of speech

A large number of clauses contain verbs of speech. We have decided to treat them as intransitive, that is, we do not consider their complements (generally, but not exclusively, direct speech) to be syntactically objects. However, we appreciate that this is a controversial decision; we therefore have added an additional tag to the function gloss of the subjects of these verbs: ⟨s_ds⟩, expressing that they may be considered a special category of S. This enables researchers to identify how many of the S-category in the texts are in fact subjects of verbs of speech, and adjust their calculations accordingly (see also (1) above for another example):

- (2)
- | | | |
|-------|-------------|--------------|
| | <i>lali</i> | <i>=tu</i> |
| 0_she | says-3SG | =to.him |
| # | 0.h:s_ds | v:pred |
| | | =pro.h:g #ds |
- ‘(she) tells him, ...’ [mc_cypgreek_psarin_0007]

1.3 Clitic pronouns

Cypriot Greek makes extensive use of clitic pronouns in non-subject functions. The most common are the addressees of verbs of speech (3), benefactives (4), and direct objects (5–6).

- (3)
- | | | | | |
|-------|------------|--------|-------------|------------|
| | <i>pai</i> | | <i>lali</i> | <i>=tu</i> |
| 0_she | goes-3SG | 0_she | says-3SG | =to.him |
| ## | 0.h:s | v:pred | # | 0.h:s_ds |
| | | | v:pred | =pro.h:g |
- ‘(she) goes and tells him.’ [mc_cypgreek_psarin_0115]

(4) *eyemosen =tu to xanappin*
 0_she filled-3SG =to.him the.N vessel
 ## 0.h:a v:pred =pro.h:obl ln np:p
 '(she) fills the vessel for him.' [mc_cypgreek_psarin_0080]

(5) *eshi =ta*
 0_he has-3SG =them
 ##ds 0.h:a v:pred =pro:p
 '(he) has them.' [mc_cypgreek_psarin_0014]

(6) *pu to pornon na =me sikosis nakkon*
 from the.N morning 0_you that.MOD =me raise-2SG little
 ##ds adp ln np:other 0.2:a nonindic =pro.1:p v:pred ln

pornon mana
 morning mother
 np:other np.h:voc
 'Wake me up early in the morning, mother.' [mc_cypgreek_psarin_0036]

1.4 Clitic doubling

When a clitic pronoun expresses a direct object, a co-referential NP may occur after the verb, as in the second part of (7). In these cases we gloss the co-referential NP with the function <:dt_p>.

(7) *xa xa na vuttisi o nil'os epk'axen =to*
 ha ha that.MOD dives-3SG the.M young.man 0_he caught-3SG
 # other other nonindic v:pred ln np.h:s # 0.h:a v:pred

jindo psarin
 =it that fish
 =pro:p ln np:dt_p
 'Haha, the young man dived (and) caught that fish.' [mc_cypgreek_psarin_0041]

1.5 Demonstratives and other nominal expressions

Sometimes an argument is expressed by a demonstrative element; we have glossed these as <pro>, but added the tag <dem_> to tell them apart:

(8) *epien je jinos*
 went-3SG too that.one.M
 ## v:pred other dem_pro.h:s
 'He too went.' [mc_cypgreek_psarin_0076]

(9) *as erti jinos*
 let-3SG come-3SG that.one.M
 ##ds 1v_aux v:pred dem_pro:s
 'Let him come.' [mc_cypgreek_jitros_0026]

We likewise distinguish NPs headed by numerals from other lexical expressions via the addition of ⟨num_⟩ to the form gloss ⟨np⟩:

- (10) *n arpaksi tria*
 0_he that.MOD grabs-3SG three
 #ds 0.h:a nonindic v:pred num_np:p
 ‘(He) grabs three.’ [mc_cypgreek_jitros_0081]

1.6 Predicative expressions of possession and existence

We treat the lexical verb for ‘have’ as transitive, the possessor as A and the possessed as P, as in (11a) and (11b). However, the same verb is also used in existential clauses, where we gloss it as ⟨:predex⟩, and the NP whose existence is predicated as ⟨:s⟩, as in (12):

- (11) a. *e eshi ta dhixtia tu o*
 ah has-3SG the.N.PL nets his the.M
 ##ds other v:pred ln np:p rn_pro.h:poss ln

jiris mu
 father my
 np.h:a rn_pro.1:poss
 ‘Are my father’s nets still there?’ (lit. ‘Does my father have his nets?’)
 b. *eshi =ta*
 0_he has-3SG =them
 ##ds 0.h:a v:pred =pro:p
 ‘(He) has them.’ [mc_cypgreek_psarin_0013-0014]

- (12) *mian foran ishen enan vasilean*
 a.F time has-3SG a.M king
 ## ln np:other other:predex ln np.h:s
 ‘Once upon a time there was a king.’ [mc_cypgreek_jitros_0001]

1.7 Depictive predicates, created or metamorphized entities

With predicates such as ‘turn into’ and ‘make into’, we treat the syntactic function of the resulting state or object as ⟨other⟩:

- (13) *j ekama =ton andran mu*
 and 0_l made-1SG =him husband my
 #ds other 0.1:a v:pred =pro.h:p np.h:other rn_pro.1:poss
 ‘... and (I) made him my husband.’ [mc_cypgreek_psarin_0173]

1.8 Anthropomorphized referents

In the text *minaes*, expressions referring to the titular ‘months’ seem to be anthropomorphized, that is, exhibit human properties. As they are therefore intermediate between human and non-human, we give them the animacy gloss as ⟨.d⟩:

- (14) o *Fervaris*
 the February
 ##ds 1n np.d:other
 ‘How about February?’ [mc_cypgreek_minaes_0150]

References

- Hadjidas, Harris & Vollmer, Maria C. 2015. Multi-CAST Cypriot Greek. In Haig, Geoffrey & Schnell, Stefan (eds.), *Multi-CAST: Multilingual Corpus of Annotated Spoken Texts*. (<http://multicast.aspra.uni-bamberg.de/#cypgreek>) (Accessed 2019-03-08).
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Appendices

A List of corpus-specific GRAID symbols

The following is a list of the non-standard GRAID symbols used in the annotation of the Multi-CAST Cypriot Greek corpus. Please refer to the *GRAID manual* (Haig & Schnell 2014: 54–55) for an inventory of basic GRAID symbols.

Form symbols and specifiers

<dem_pro>	demonstrative pronoun
<num_pro>	numeral noun phrase
<pn_np>	proper name
<imp_v>	imperative verb form
<psv_v>	passive verb form

Function symbols and specifiers

<:s_ds>	subject of a verb of speech
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Other symbols

<nonindic>	indicator of non-indicative sentence form
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B List of abbreviated morphological glosses

1	first person	NOM	nominative
2	second person	PL	plural
3	third person	S	strong form of personal pronouns
ACC	accusative		
F	feminine	SG	singular
GEN	genitive	W	weak form of personal pronouns
IMP	imperative		
M	masculine		
MOD	modal particle	NC	not classified
N	neuter		

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