It is not necessary to implement the complete Sagittal microtonal notation system. The Spartan set is sufficient to notate 13-limit just intonation (JI), 1/12-tones, 50 common equal divisions of the octave (EDOs), and their related linear temperaments.

The eight pairs of single-shaft accidentals above are sufficient to provide these capabilities when used alone, and to the left of the standard double-flat, flat, sharp and large double-sharp (accidentalDoubleFlat, accidentalFlat, accidentalSharp, accSagittalLargeDoubleSharp). This is called “mixed Sagittal.”

As an alternative, the following group (the multi-shaft Spartans) provides a complete set of stand-alone accidentals to replace each of the above combinations of a single-shaft Sagittal with a standard accidental. This is called “pure Sagittal.” The standard natural (accidentalNatural) is used alone in both mixed and pure variants, but only to cancel a previous accidental.

Sagittal accidentals are not intended to be combined with one another, inasmuch as symbols representing useful combinations and powers of primes are already provided. An accidental can often be used to represent alternative commas that differ by 2 cents or less. In such cases the intended comma ratio may be determined by the note to which it is applied, or by the musical context. Alternatively, diacritics (from the Herculean and subsequent extensions) may be added to distinguish these commas. Commas which require diacritics for exact representation are preceded by a tilde “~” in the glyph descriptions.

Sagittal extensions following Spartan allow notation of JI ratios with primes beyond 13, and more combinations of lower primes, as well as finer tone-fractions, degrees of larger EDOs, and more complex temperaments, all with single Sagittal accidentals. The same choice of mixed versus pure is available with each extension. See <http://sagittal.org> for more information.