SCRIPTORIUM Part-of-Speech Tagsets for Sahidic Coptic

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1. Preamble

This document details guidelines for part-of-speech tagging Sahidic Coptic according to the SCRIPTORIUM project scheme. The tagging procedure assumes the text has already been normalized to the orthography and morpheme based segmentation described in the SCRIPTORIUM tokenization guidelines, which are closely related to the conventions found in Layton's (2004) grammar. In case of doubt we refer to Layton (2004) as well as Shisha-Halevy (1988).

As in all tagging projects, the aim is to achieve a practicable compromise between linguistic accuracy/usefulness, speed and reliability of human tagging, and performance of automatic tagging software. This means that in many cases concepts that are linguistically distinct are not distinguished since they are difficult to tell apart in practice in many cases, or determining some distinctions is too costly in terms of annotation time. Additionally, the project is using the CMCL lexicon, kindly provided by Prof. Tito Orlandi, which has its own, much more detailed scheme, so that in some cases the categories used here are chosen to be derivable from the CMCL scheme (see http://cmcl.let.uniroma1.it/).

There are two proposed tagsets, a coarse tagset with fewer tags for projects wishing to save annotation time, and a finer tagset with more detailed subcategories for some of the coarse grained tags, which is also expected to yield lower accuracy in automatic tagging. Links to the latest training models are provided from the SCRIPTORIUM website and have been tested and developed using the freely available TreeTagger (Schmid 1994, see http://www.cis.uni-muenchen.de/~schmid/tools/TreeTagger/).

2. Tagsets

The two tagsets described below are compatible with each other in that the fine-grained tagset uses the same overarching categories of the coarse one, but with further categories distinguished. The tag names are built 'hierarchically', so that additional letters in the name of a tag specify a special type of the superordinate category, e.g. all pronoun tags being with P, though not all tags with P are pronouns, as in PREP for prepositions.

In the coarse-grained list below, tags that have multiple fine-grained variants are followed by [*] (this is **not** part of the tag within the course-grained tagset).

Additionally, both tagsets admit certain cases where a single form contains two categories and must therefore be assigned two tags. This results in special underscore separated **portmanteau tags**, which are described in Section 2.3.

2.1 Coarse-Grained Tagset

Tag	Name	Examples
A[*]	Auxiliary tripartite base	ձ[զ], мє[զ], трє[զ],
ADV	Adverb	6 ΒΟλ, ΟΝ, ΠΩΣ
ART	Article	$\pi(\varepsilon)$, $\tau(\varepsilon)$, $n(\varepsilon)$, $2\varepsilon n$, $k\varepsilon$
C[*]	Converter	€, €T€, N€,
CONJ	Conjunction	ΔΥ ω, н , мн , κλ ι, ε ιτ ε ,
COP	Copula	πε/τε/νε
EXIST	Existential/possessive	оүи/ми
FUT	Future	Nλ
IMOD	Inflected modifier	тнр[q], εωω[т],
N[*]	Noun	аөнт, ршие, архн,
NEG	Negation	n, an, ти[сшти]
NUM	Numeral	oya, cnay,
PDEM	Pronoun, demonstrative	πει/πλι, τει/τλι, νει/νλι
PINT	Pronoun, interrogative	oy, nim
PPER[*]	Pronoun, personal	q,c,1,†,n,anoк,an г ,
PPOS[*]	Pronoun, possessive	πεϥ,τετӣ,πογ,πλ,πωι,
PREP	Preposition	єтвє, ¿ӣ, n, ӣмо[q],
PTC	Particle	Δε, Ν σι, χε,
PUNCT	Punctuation	., ·
UNKNOWN	Unknown morph, lacuna	B,OC,,
V[*]	Verb	сшти, сштп, сотп, ϵ ір ϵ , 0, α рі,
VBD	Verboid	наноγ[q], педа[q], педе,

2.2 Fine-Grained Tagset

For descriptions of the added fine-grained tags, marked in cursive type, see the coarse tag descriptions below.

AAOR	ALIM	AOPT
ACAUS	ANEGAOR	APREC
ACOND	ANEGJUS	APST
ACONJ	ANEGOPT	ART
ADV	ANEGPST	CCIRC
AFUTCONJ	ANY	CFOC
AJUS		CPRET

CONJ	NPROP	PREP
COP	NUM	PTC
CREL	PDEM	PUNCT
EXIST	PINT	UNKNOWN
FUT	PPERI	V
IMOD	PPERO	VBD
N	PPERS	VIMP
NEG	PPOS	VSTAT

2.3 Portmanteau tags

In certain cases, one indivisible form corresponds to what normally constitutes two categories. This can happen either because of a phonological merger of two units, or because the formal marker of one category can be 'zero', i.e. have no form at all (usually in the case of 2nd person singular feminine forms). Portmanteau tags currently supported by the SCRIPTORIUM tools are:

tag	example	notes
AOPT_PPERS	ече(саты)	Personal pron. within optative ε_ε. Note that ερε(cωτμ) for 2nd
		pers. sg. fem. is also AOPT_PPERS, but nominal єрє(промє
		сшты) is only AOPT.
ACOND_PPERS	ечфаи(сфти)	Personal pron. within conditional ε_gyan. Note that
		ерам(саты) for 2nd pers. sg. fem. is also ACOND_PPERS,
		but nominal еразан(праме саты) is only ACOND.
ACONJ_PPERS	та(сшти)	Truncated conjunctive 1st person (instead of мтасшти)
ANEGPST_PPERS	ипє(сшти)	Fused negative past 2nd pers. sg. fem. form.
APST_PPERS	ар(сшти)	Fused positive past 2nd pers. sg. fem. form.
CCIRC_PPERS	ере(сшты)	Fused circumstantial 2nd pers. sg. fem. form.
CFOC_PPERS	ере(сшты)	Fused focalized 2nd pers. sg. fem. form.
CPRET_PPERS	иєрє(сшти)	Fused preterit 2nd pers. sg. fem. form.
CREL_PPERS	етере(сшты)	Fused relative 2nd pers. sg. fem. form.
IMOD_PPERO	имиммо	The 2nd pers. sg. fem. form of 'yourself' (not to be confused
		with мынимо(q) etc.)
PREP_PPERO	€РО	Any preposition where a 2nd pers. sg. fem. is realized as zero
		(not to be confused with $epo(q)$ etc.)
V_PPERO	ти(р)	Verb forms with a fused 1st pers. sg. object, e.g. NT 'bring me'
		from eine 'bring', where the presuffixal form NT= is merged with
		the 1st pers. object marker -\tau)

Note that in all cases, coarse grained tags can be substituted for fine grained ones, e.g. CCIRC_PPERS and CFOC_PPERS both become C_PPER. Further combination tags are not ruled out and new ones will therefore be added if they are determined to be necessary.

3. Guidelines

The following guidelines describe the recommended assignment of part of speech tags to segmented morphemes. Fine-grained tags are given in the section describing the corresponding coarse-grained tag. In each example, the area corresponding to the tag under discussion is underlined. Vertical lines ('pipes') are used to segment morphemes for added clarity only.

3.1 Auxiliaries (A)

Auxiliaries include all conjugation bases in the tripartite patterns described in Layton (2004:251-290). These include both negative and positive variants and cover all lexical material preceding the subject noun or pronoun, e.g.:

- (1) <u>a</u>|q|cωτμ̄ (3rd person masculine past tense)
- (2) Δρε cot μ̄ (2nd person feminine past tense, with zero subject)
- (3) พิก|เcorห (negative past tense)

Note that when used with pronominal subjects, the optative and conditional conjugation encompass the subject pronoun, leading to a portmanteau tag like AOPT_PPERS (or A_PPER in the coarse grained tagset):

- (4) εqε/AOPT_PPERS cωτμ̄ (optative and 3rd pers. masc. pronoun)
- (5) equan/ACOND_PPERS cootห์ (conditional and 3rd pers. masc. pronoun)

Fine-Grained Tags

The different individual fine-grained tags cover all distinct conjugation bases, making auxiliaries the largest fine-grained tag group. They are divided as follows:

APST	Auxiliary, past	λ
ANEGPST	Auxiliary, negated past	$ar{M} \Pi(\mathbf{\varepsilon})$
ANY	Auxiliary, 'not yet'	$ar{M}$ пат $(oldsymbol{arepsilon})$
AAOR	Auxiliary, aorist	യുപ്പു എപ്പുള
ANEGAOR	Auxiliary, negated aorist	м ϵ (Р ϵ)
AOPT	Auxiliary, optative	હ[પ]હ, હૃૃૃદ
ANEGOPT	Auxiliary, negated optative	ท _ี ทธ
AJUS	Auxiliary, jussive	мар (ϵ)
ANEGJUS	Auxiliary, negated jussive	ҹ҃пҎ҇ҭҎє
APREC	Auxiliary, precursive ('after')	$ar{n}$ т $\epsilonp(\epsilon)$
ACOND	Auxiliary, conditional	e[q]фан, ерфан
ALIM	Auxiliary, limitative ('until')	\mathfrak{P} ил (\mathfrak{e})
ACONJ	Auxiliary, conjunctive	$\bar{n}(T\epsilon)$
AFUTCONJ	Auxiliary, future conjunctive	au = au = au

ACAUS Auxiliary, causative

трє

3.2 Adverbs (ADV)

Adverbs include indeclinable native Egyptian and Greek lexemes that modify verbs and other phrases as in the following examples.

(6) ΤΑΑΥΣΑΝΕ ΜΜΟΥ <u>ΕΜΑΤΕ</u>/ADV 'I shall glorify him <u>greatly</u>'
 (7) ΠΕΤ <u>ΜΜΑΥ</u>/ADV 'the one (who is) <u>there</u>'
 (8) ΜΠΡΜΟΥ ΚΑΚΦΟ/ADV 'don't die badly'

The first part of 'complex prepositions' is also tagged as an adverb, as in the following examples:

(9) <u>εβολ/ADV</u> εν/PREP 'from, out of' (lit. 'out in')
 (10) <u>ερογη/ADV</u> ει/PREP 'in towards' (lit. 'inside at')

This does not apply to etymologically complex one-word prepositions derived e.g. from nouns for body parts (see the tag PREP for details), nor is the initial ε in words such as $\varepsilon Bo\lambda$ separated from the adverb (see segmentation guidelines).

3.3 Articles (ART)

Articles include definite articles, indefinite articles and article-like words such as $\kappa\epsilon/6\epsilon$ 'other'. The following examples illustrate some variants:

(11) π /ART ρωμε/N 'the man'

(12) τε/ART κληρονομια/N 'the inheritence'

(13) <u>оү</u>/ART номос/N 'a law'

(14) <u>ген/ART гвнуе/N</u> '(some) deeds'

(15) <u>ке</u>/ART поннрос/N 'another wicked one'

Note that possessive pronouns like $\pi \epsilon q$ are not tagged as articles (see PPOS) and relative articles like $\pi | \epsilon \tau$ are segmented to contain a relative converter (see C and CREL).

Articles followed by a noun beginning with 2 and consequently spelled θ or φ e.g. $\theta\varepsilon$ 'the way' are normalized and tokenized as τ and ε before part-of-speech tagging, so that τ etc. can be tagged as an article alone (see segmentation guidelines).

3.4 Converters (C)

The class of converters, which is syntactically heterogeneous, is described in Layton (2004: 319-366). It includes four types of converters which have several realizations depending on their syntactic environment. In the coarse tagset, all converters are tagged as C, allowing for lower error rates in automatic tagging (especially by removing the

distinction between circumstantial and relative conversions, which can be ambiguous). The examples below are for the four fine grained classes:

CCIRC	Converter, circumstantial	$\epsilon, \epsilon[a], \epsilon p \epsilon$
CFOC	Converter, focalizing (a.k.a. 2 nd tenses)	ϵ,ϵ р ϵ,ϵ т $\epsilon,$ $\bar{\mathrm{n}}$ т $[\mathtt{a}],\epsilon$ $\bar{\mathrm{n}}$ т $[\mathtt{a}]$
CPRET	Converter, preterite	не, нере
CREL	Converter, relative	ETE, ET, $\overline{N}T[A]$, ENT $[A]$, ETEPE

Note that a following conjugation base is segmented separately from the converter (cf. segmentation guidelines), e.g.:

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(16) NT/CREL Δ/APST qlcμογ 'which he blessed'
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The converter includes only NT, while a is a separate auxiliary base.

3.5 Conjunctions (CONJ)

Conjunctions are indeclinable words of Greek and Egyptian origin which link phrases and clauses. No distinction is made between subordinating conjunctions which introduce clauses ('because', 'lest') and coordinating conjunctions which connect phrases (e.g. 'and', 'or').

(17) <u>αγω</u> /CONJ αιειβέγ	'and I became thirsty'
(18) єїх ω миос хє/СОЛЈ мипотє/СОЛЈ таєївє	'saying [that:] lest I become
	thirsty'

In the first example, the coordinating conjunction $a\gamma\omega$ 'and' appears. Note that it is still tagged as a conjunction even if the first coordinated phrase is missing. In the second example, two consecutive conjunctions appear: $x\varepsilon$ 'that, saying' introduces the direct speech and the Greek origin whither 'lest' is a conjunction within the direct speech clause. Also note that the word $x\varepsilon$, originally derived from $x\omega$ 'say' is not considered a verb in this usage.

3.6 Copulas (COP)

Copulas are markers in so-called nominal sentences which express predications of the sort A is B. The copula forms are $\pi e/\tau e/\pi e$. The tag COP is given also to copulas following a verbal clause for focalizing emphasis (i.e. 'it <u>is</u> the case that...'), as illustrated below.

(19) ογελειν <u>πε</u> /COP	'he <u>is</u> a doctor'
(20) нечтшве мпдоек пе/СОР	'(it is that) he prayed to God'

In the latter example, it is less obvious that πe is the copula, as its predicate is formally a clause and the form never changes its gender or number (i.e. as $\pi e/\pi e$; this is also referred

to as 'invariable $\pi\epsilon$ '). Though the English translation cannot convey the presence of the copula adequately, these types of cases are still tagged as COP (see Layton 2004:223).

3.7 Existentials (EXIST)

Existentials include the unique lexemes $oy\bar{n}$ and $m\bar{n}$ in both pure existential and possessive forms, positive and negative, illustrated in the following examples.

- (21) <u>ογή/EXIST</u> ογα εψεινε μμοκ '<u>there is</u> one who is like you'
- (22) <u>μν</u>/EXIST εμέλλ είχους επείχους 'there is no servant who is above his master'

The same tag is also used for the indefinite durative present and the fixed phrase $oy\bar{n}$ 60M 'be able' literally 'there is power'.

- (23) ογντα/EXIST N/PPERO μπαγ/ADV μπενειώτ αβραβαμ
 - 'we have Abraham our father', lit. 'exists to us ... of Abraham...'
- (24) <u>μπή/EXIST</u> σομ ητε τε τραφη βωλ εβολ 'scripture <u>cannot</u> be broken'

Note that the possessor pronoun is segmented apart from oynta and tagged as a pronoun, and the accompanying \bar{u}_{MAY} is an adverb.

3.8 Future Marker (FUT)

The future marker NA, derived from the verb 'go' is not considered an independent verb form when introducing a second verb and marking future tense. The following example illustrates the construction.

In rare cases, forms other than wa can be considered for the future marker, e.g. a in:

Contractions of multiple η are usually restored in the normalization, so that a diplomatic sequence like τετημρημέεγε 'you will think' are usually normalized and only then tagged as follows:

(27) TETN/PPERS NA/FUT P/V

3.9 Inflected modifiers (IMOD)

Inflected modifiers are a somewhat heterogeneous class of suffixally inflecting non-verboids, including the quantifier $\tau HP=$ 'all of', the focus particle $ogaa(\tau)=$ 'only' and the reflexive $\bar{u}_{HHHHHHH}$ 'oneself' (see Layton 2004: 118-123 and contrast the tag VBD). The suffix itself is tokenized apart and tagged as PPERO. These items are tokenized apart even within larger phrases, as in the second examples below.

(28) ανοκ <u>εωω</u>/IMOD τ/PPERO
 (1, <u>as for</u> me / me <u>too</u>'
 (29) ε π τηρ/IMOD q
 (in <u>all</u> of it, at all, wholly'

If the suffix is a 2nd pers. sg. fem. realized as zero, a portmanteau tag is assigned:

(30) мынмыо/IMOD_PPERO 'yourself (2nd pers. sg. fem.)'

3.10 Nouns (N)

The tag N is used for all nouns, common and proper, though the fine-grained tagset offers the specific tag NPROP for proper nouns.

(31) πεν ειωτ/Ν 'our father'(32) αντωνιος/NPROP 'Antonius'

Note that verbal infinitives in the durative patterns and elsewhere, though technically and etymologically nominal in nature, are nevertheless tagged as verbs in order to facilitate the retrieval of verbal lexemes across constructions.

(33) † πιστεγε/V επνογτε 'I trust in God'

3.11 Negations (NEG)

The tag NEG is used for independent negative items that are not part of an auxiliary base. The following lexemes are given the tag NEG: N, N, N, N. The former two tags can occur in the same sentence, in which case one NEG tag is used for each. The latter tag negates infinitives and is tokenized separately from the verb and surrounding auxiliaries.

(34) м/NEG qнакληрономеι ймок an/NEG 'he will not inherit you'
 (35) εγφαν тй/NEG сωтй 'if they do not listen'

3.12 Numerals (NUM)

The tag NUM is given to numerals and numerical constituents of complex numerals, as well as suffixed numerals as in the last example below.

(36) <u>†ογ/NUM ν̄οεικ</u> 'five (loaves) of bread'

(37) <u>xογτ</u>/NUM <u>aqτε</u>/NUM 'twenty-four'
 (38) ν̄|ceπ <u>cnaγ</u>/NUM '<u>two</u> times, twice'

Note that the indefinite article oy 'a, one' preceding a noun is tagged as ART, not NUM. Letters being used as numbers are considered NUM (including an alpha preceding a noun for the quantity 'one')

3.13 Demonstrative pronouns (PDEM)

The demonstrative pronouns, both attributive to the noun and substituting for a noun are tagged as PDEM.

(39) η τει/PDEM γε 'in this way'
(40) ται/PDEM τε τ γε 'this is the way'

3.14 Interrogative pronouns (PINT)

This tag is used for the interrogative pronouns of 'what', NIM 'who', TON 'where', AQ 'which', OTHP 'how much'. This is also true when they are used in complex phrases, as in the examples below.

(41) ετβέ/PRΕΡ οΥ/PINΤ 'what for, why?'
 (42) ε/PRΕΡ των/PINΤ 'where to?'

3.15 Personal pronouns (PPER[*])

Personal pronouns generally receive the tag PPER, with three subtypes in the fine-grained subset for subject pronouns (PPERS), object pronouns (PPERO) and independent pronouns (PPERI).

(43) а <u>q</u>/PPERS сютй єро <u>к</u>/PPERO <u>'he</u> heard <u>you'</u> (44) єтвинт с/PPERO <u>'for her'</u>

Note that 'object' pronouns include objects of prepositions and all suffixed pronouns except the subject markers of verboids of the type [νανογ] q, [πεχα] q etc., which are tagged as PPERS.

(45) πεχλ q/PPERS 'he said'

The independent pronouns are reserved for emphatic uses and nominal sentences, including nominal sentence subject forms like $\alpha N \bar{r}$ 'I' and the full forms of the type $\alpha N \bar{r}$ 'I'.

(46) <u>ανοκ/PPERI 2</u> 2000 <u>τ/PPERO αντ/PPERI πε</u>ς 2 μέσαλ $^{\prime}$ I, as for <u>me</u>, I am his servant'

Also note that possessive pronouns like πeq 'his' are not segmented and receive a separate tag, PPOS.

3.16 Possessive pronouns (PPOS)

Much like demonstratives, all possessive pronouns, both attributive and standing in for a noun are tagged as PPOS. The personal suffix at the end of the pronoun is not separated, rather the entire forms, including $\pi \varepsilon q$ 'his', $\pi \alpha$ 'my' and 'the one that belongs to', $\pi \circ \gamma$ 'your (fem.)', $\pi \circ \omega$ 'mine' etc. The following example illustrates these different types of possessives:

(47) τω/PPOS πω/PPOS con τωι/PPOS τε 'the one of my brother is mine'

3.17 Prepositions (PREP)

This tag is used for all prepositions in both independent, prenominal states and presuffixal forms (which are tokenized apart from following suffixes). Note that prepositions that are historically derived from univerbized phrases but are now unsegmentable are tagged as one preposition, but complex prepositions involving a separable adverb are given two tags, ADV and PREP (cf. the tag ADV). Additionally, the *nota relationis* and accusative marker N/MMO is regarded as a preposition. The following examples illustrate these principles.

(48) ετβε/PREP ογ 'for what? why?'

(49) εβολ/ADV εν/PREP 'from, out of' (lit. 'out in')

(50) $\underline{\epsilon x \bar{\nu}}/PREP$ 'upon, on account of' (from 'to head of')

Also note that 2nd pers. sg. fem. objects often lead to portmanteau tags, e.g.:

(51) ммо/PREP_PPERO 'you (2nd pers. sg. fem. accusative)'

If in doubt as to whether a lexicalized combination is considered a single preposition, please refer to the formatted CMCL lexicon supplied with the project's tokenization module. This lexicon will be updated with future versions of the guidelines to accommodate dubious cases as they arise.

3.18 Particles (PTC)

The class of particles contains all indeclinable words that do not belong to one of the other classes, most notably and frequently the apposition marker NO1 'that is...' and a large number of, mostly Greek origin, sentence modifying particles that tend to appear in the second, Wackernagel position as they do in Greek as well (e.g. $\Delta \varepsilon$, $\Gamma \Delta P$).

3.19 Punctuation (PUNCT)

All punctuation marks, including periods at any height in the line, commas (including punctuation added in editions when annotating edited texts) or even question marks, colons etc. if they are used, are all given the uniform tag PUNCT. If decorations are tokenized (tildes, clusters of dots etc.), they may also be tagged as PUNCT, though refer to the tokenization guidelines for recommendations on normalizing text before tagging.

3.20 Unknown, damaged and lost items (UNKNOWN)

The tag UNKNOWN is given to fragmentary word forms damaged or missing beyond the ability to reach a reliable part-of-speech assignment. It is understood in the case of larger lacunae that the string used to encode the visible part of a word may in fact contain several words. In cases where it is clear where word divisions occur, multiple tokens with corresponding UNKNOWN tags are given.

(52) €[...]/UNKNOWN "?

(53) $\underline{\epsilon}[...]/\text{UNKNOWN} \underline{\pi}[...]/\text{UNKNOWN}$ '?'

Generally UNKNOWN tags are given even if the range of possibility is limited, i.e. even if we are certain a damaged morpheme is either an article or a possessive pronoun, an uncertain case is usually tagged as UNKNOWN.

3.21 Verbs (V[*])

The coarse tag V is given to all lexical verb forms that are not conjugation bases, also not including verboids, which receive a separate tag even in the coarse tagset due to their distinct syntax (see the tag VBD). In the fine-grained tagset, normal verb forms (V) are distinguished from stative verb forms (VSTAT) and imperatives (VIMP) as shown in the examples below. Note that verbal infinitives in the durative present are still tagged as verbs, although they are historically nominalized in this position, whereas nominalized infinitives following an article are understood as nouns, as in the last example.

(54) & q cωτμ/V ερο κ 'he heard you'
 (55) † οΒε/VSTAT 'I am thirsty'
 (56) & χι/VIMP c 'say it!'

(57) $\overline{\varrho}$ π π α α σογη/Ν π π νογτε 'in the knowledge of God, the knowing of God'

Also note that in rare cases, object pronouns that are realized as zero will lead to portmanteau tags, e.g.:

(58) τετη/PPERS ητ/V_PPERO 'you bring me'

Since NT= as the presuffixal form of EINE ends in T, the object pronoun -T 'me' is subsequently dropped. However the portmanteau tag reflects the presence of a grammatical object.

3.22 Verboids (VBD)

The category VBD is given to a small class of suffixally inflected predicates described in Layton (2004: 297-304), including the common $\pi e \times e - / \pi e \times e =$ 'say', $\pi e \times e =$ 'be good' etc., but not including possessive existentials of the type ognet- (see the tag EXIST). The personal suffix following a VBD is tagged as its subject, i.e. PPERS (or simply PPER in the coarse tagset).

(59) πεχα/VBD q/PPERS 'he said'(60) ΝαΝΟΥ/VBD c/PPERS 'she/it is good'

4. References

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