



SunoikisisDC Summer 2024

Session 9

# Treebanking and annotation to study reception of ancient language and text

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# Julia Balbilla poem 1

Ἰουλίας Βαλ<β>ίλλης·  
ὅτε ἤκουσε τοῦ Μέμνο<νο>ς  
ὁ Σεβαστὸς Ἀδριανός.

Μέμνονα πυνθανόμαν Αἰγύπτιον, ἀλίω αὖγαι  
αἰθόμενον, φώνην Θηβαί<κ>ω ἔπυ λίθω.  
Ἀδρίανον δ' ἐσίδων, τὸν παμβασίληα, πρὶν αὖγας  
ἀελίω χαίρην εἶπέ <φ>οι ὡς δύνατον.  
Τίταν δ' ὅττ' ἐλάων λεύκοισι δι' αἴθερος ἵπποις  
ἐνὶ σκίαι ὥράων δεύτερον ἤχε μέτρον,  
ὡς χάλκοιο τύπεντ[ο]ς ἴη Μέμνων πάλιν αὖδαν  
ὀξύτονον· χαίρω[ν κ]αὶ τρίτον ἄχον ἴη.  
κοίρανος Ἀδρίανο[ς] τότε ἄ]λις δ' ἀσπάσσατο καῦτος  
Μέμνονα, κὰν [στά]λαι κάλλι[π]εν ὀψ[ι]γόνους  
γρόππατα σαμαίνου[ν]τά τ' ὅσ' εὖϊδε κῶσσ' ἐσάκουσε,  
δῆλον παῖσι δ' ἔγε[ν]τ' ὥς <φ>ε φίλισι θεοί.

# Julia Balbilla poem 2

ὅτε σὺν τῇ Σεβαστῇ Σαβεΐνῃ-  
ι ἐγενόμην παρὰ τῷ Μέμνονι.  
Αὔως καὶ γεράρω, Μέμνον, παῖ Τιθώνοιο,  
Θηβάας θάσσω ἀντα Δίος πόλιος,  
ἢ Ἀμένωθ, βασίλευ Αἰγύπτιε, τὼς ἐνέποισιν  
ἴρηες μύθων τῶν παλάων ἱδριες,  
χαῖρε, καὶ αὐδάσαις πρόφρων ἀσπάσδε[ο κ]αὐτ[αν]  
τὰν σέμναν ἄλοχον κοιράνω Ἀδριάνω.  
γλῶσσαν μὲν τοι τμᾶξε [κ]αὶ ὥατα βάρβαρος ἄνηρ,  
Καμβύσαις ἄθεος· τῷ ῥα λύγρω θαγάτῳ  
δῶκέν τοι ποίναν τῷτῳ ἄκ[ρω] ἄορι πλάγεις  
τῷ νήλας Ἄπιν κάκτανε τὸν θεῖον.  
ἀλλ' ἔγω οὐ δοκίμωμι σέθεν τόδ' ὄλεσθ' ἂν ἄγαλμα,  
ψύχαν δ' ἀθανάταν λοίπρον ἔσωσα νόω.

εὐσέβεις γὰρ ἔμοι γένεται πάπποι τ' ἐγένοντο,  
Βάλβιλλός τ' ὁ σόφος κ' Ἀντίοχος βασίλευς,  
Βάλβιλλος γενέταις μᾶτρος βασιλῆϊδος ἄμματος,  
τῷ πάτερος δὲ πάτηρ Ἀντίοχος βασίλευς·  
κῆνων ἐκ γενέας κᾶγω λόχον αἶμα τὸ κᾶλον,  
Βαλβίλλας δ' ἔμεθεν γρόπτα τάδ' εὐσέβεις.

# Julia Balbilla poem 3

ὅτε τῇ πρώτῃ ἡμέρᾳ οὐκ ἄ-  
κούσαμεν τοῦ Μένονος.

χθίσδον μὲν Μένων σίγαις ἀπε[δέξατ' ἀκ]οίτα[ν](?),  
ὥς πάλιν ἄ κάλα τυῖδε Σάβιννα μό[λοι].  
τέρπει γάρ σ' ἐράτα μόρφα βασιλήϊδος ἄμματος,  
ἐλθοίσαι δ' [α]ὔται θήϊον ἄχον ἴη,  
μὴ καί τοι βασίλευς κοτέσῃ, τό νυ δᾶρον ἀτά[ρβης]  
τὰν σέμναν κατέχες κουριδίαν ἄλοχον.  
κῶ Μένων τρέσσαις μεγάλῳ μένος Ἄδρι[άνοιο]  
ἐξαπίνας αὖδασ', ἃ δ' οἴοισ' ἐχάρη.

# Julia Balbilla poem 4

ἔκλυον αὐδήσαντος ἔγω 'πυ λίθω Βάλβιλλα  
φώνα<ς> τᾶς θεΐας Μέμνονος ἢ Φαμένωθ.  
ἦλθον ὕμῳι δ' ἐράται βασιλήϊδι τυϊδε Σαβίννα,  
ῥας δὲ πρώτας ἄλιος ἦχε δρόμος.  
κοιράνω{ι} Ἀδριάνω πέμπτῳ δεκότη δ' ἐνιαύτῳ,  
<φῶτ>α δ' ἔχεσκε<ν> Ἄθυρ εἴκοσι / καὶ πέσυρα.



- Encoding texts in EpiDoc
- Dialect analysis, text emendation
- Epigraphic + archaeological metadata
- Encoding/analysing metre
- Prosopography/genealogy, religion
- Image annotation
- Translation alignment
- Morphosyntactic annotation / syntax analysis
- Reception of archaic poetry in imperial literature



# **Treebanking & comparing syntax**

## **Case study: Julia Balbilla**

Marja Vierros, University of Helsinki

SunoikisisDC Digital Classics and Byzantine Studies: Session 9  
Monday June 10, 2024



## Outline today

- Very short intro to treebanking *aka* linguistic annotation
- Very short intro to PapyGreek platform for annotating papyri (and inscriptions)
- Demonstration of treebanking Balbilla's poem 1
  - For a full tutorial of treebanking, see the [Sunoikisis Session 9](#) page (exercise), or
  - Other tutorial listed in <https://wiki.digitalclassicist.org/Treebanking>
  - Remember to read the guidelines, too!
- Comparing syntactic structures of Balbilla to Sappho (only preliminary, non-machine-facilitated glimpse)



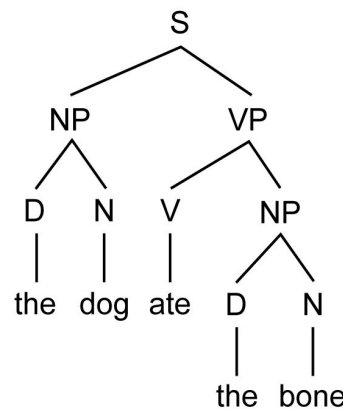


# What is linguistic annotation?

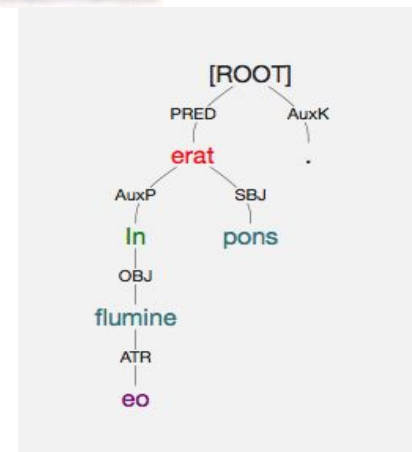
- many different types of linguistic information can be added to a (digital) text
  - WORD LEVEL
    - lemma annotation (lemma = basic form of a word, the 'dictionary entry')
    - morphological annotation (inflectional morphology like case, number, gender etc.)
    - POS annotation (word classes i.e. parts-of-speech)
  - SYNTACTIC ANNOTATION
    - different grammar formalisms: most important here: *dependency* and *constituent* structures
  - SEMANTIC ANNOTATION
    - Semantic classes based on meanings of words (or phrases or sentences), e.g. concrete / abstract nouns; animate / inanimate etc.
    - Annotating concepts (e.g. people, places, organizations, products or topics)

# What is a treebank?

- tree structure (tree diagram) is a graphical way of representing a **hierarchical** structure, e.g. the syntax of a sentence
- Treebank = parsed text corpus that annotates syntactic (or semantic) sentence structure
  - Usually includes lemmatization and morphological annotation



*Constituency tree*

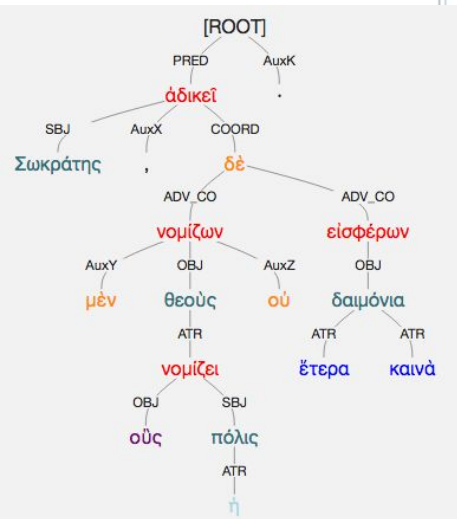


*Dependency tree*

# Treebanks of Ancient Greek and Latin (=Dependency Trees)

- The “Index Thomisticus Treebank” (inspired by the Prague Dependency Treebank)
- The “Perseus family” (AGLDT, Pedalion, Gorman Trees, PapyGreek ...)
- PROIEL = Pragmatic Resources in Old Indo-European Languages
- **Universal Dependencies** (UD)

# Underlying XML of a dependency tree (AGDT)



ἀδικοῖ Σωκράτης οὐς μὲν ἢ πόλις νομίζει θεοὺς  
οὐ νομίζων, ἕτερα δὲ καινὰ δαιμόνια εἰσφέρων.

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<sentence id="3"
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```
document_id="http://perseids.org/cts5/ne  
subdoc="1.1.1-1.1.20"  
span="">
```

POSTAG: all  
morphological  
information

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<word id="1" form="ἀδικοῖ" lemma="ἀδικέω" postag="v3spia---" relation="PRED" head="0"/>
```

```
<word id="2" form="Σωκράτης" lemma="Σωκράτης" postag="n-s---mn-" relation="SBJ" head="1"/>
```

```
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```

```
<word id="4" form="μὲν" lemma="μὲν" postag="d-----" relation="AuxY" head="10"/>
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```
<word id="5" form="ἢ" lemma="ὅ" postag="l-s---fn-" relation="SBJ" head="6"/>
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<word id="6" form="πόλις" lemma="πόλις" postag="n-s---ma-" relation="OBJ" head="7"/>
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```
<word id="7" form="νομίζει" lemma="νομίζω" postag="v-sppam--" relation="ATR" head="8"/>
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<word id="8" form="θεοὺς" lemma="θεός" postag="n-p---ma-" relation="OBJ" head="10"/>
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```
<word id="9" form="οὐ" lemma="οὐ" postag="d-----" relation="AuxZ" head="10"/>
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<word id="11" form="," lemma="punc1" postag="u-----" relation="AuxX" head="1"/>
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<word id="13" form="δὲ" lemma="δέ" postag="d-----" relation="COORD" head="1"/>
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<word id="16" form="εἰσφέρων" lemma="εἰσφέρω" postag="v-sppamn-" relation="ADV_CO" head="13"/>
```

```
<word id="17" form="." lemma="punc1" postag="u-----" relation="AuxK" head="0"/>
```

```
</sentence>
```

RELATION:  
syntactic  
role

HEAD:  
which word  
is governing  
this one

# postag

- nine place string including the morphological information

ἀδικεῖ

postag="v3spia---"

1: verb  
2: 3<sup>rd</sup> person  
3: singular  
4: present  
5: indicative  
6: active  
7: -  
8: -  
9: -

πόλις

postag="n-s---fn-"

1: part-of-speech  
2: person  
3: number  
4: tense  
5: mood  
6: voice  
7: gender  
8: case  
9: degree

1: noun  
2: -  
3: singular  
4: -  
5: -  
6: -  
7: feminine  
8: nominative  
9: -



European Research Council  
Established by the European Commission

<https://papygreek.com/>

# PapyGreek



A platform for the linguistic study of Greek papyri,  
including a **grammar**, **annotated texts**, and a **search tool**.

PapyGreek Treebanks Texts People Grammar Search

Table of contents

- A Grammar of Documentary Greek Papyri
- Abbreviations and help
- 1 Phonology
- 2 Nominal categories and morphology
- 3 Verbal categories and morphology
- 4 Syntax
- 5 Word order
- Bibliography

Published this version

How to cite

Vierros, Marja, Sonja Dahlgren, Erik Hemriksson, Polina Yordanova, and Sari Kock, eds. 2023. Digital Grammar of Greek Documentary Papyri. Helsinki: University of Helsinki. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.XXXX> (available online at <https://papygreek.com/grammar>, Accessed on 2023-08-01).

Changes possible, so access date important; stable versions?

Vierros et al. (2023)

Note: this is a pre-release version of the grammar. [Click out](#) to see the current release.

A Grammar of Documentary Greek Papyri

Parent chapter: 1 Number: 0

Save Delete New chapter

Welcome!

Welcome to the Digital Grammar of Greek Documentary Papyri. This is a work produced by the team of the PapyGreek project at the University of Helsinki. This project has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (grant agreement No 755481).

About the Grammar and the corpus

The manual treebank annotation in PapyGreek corpus mostly follows Celano (2014c) for the morphological and syntactic layer (the advanced syntactic/semantic layer is not present). Some special practices, differences and deviations can be found in [this document](#). The most notable differences are:

- numerals are all marked as numeral (instead of adjectives)
- pronouns are all marked as pronouns (instead of adjectives)

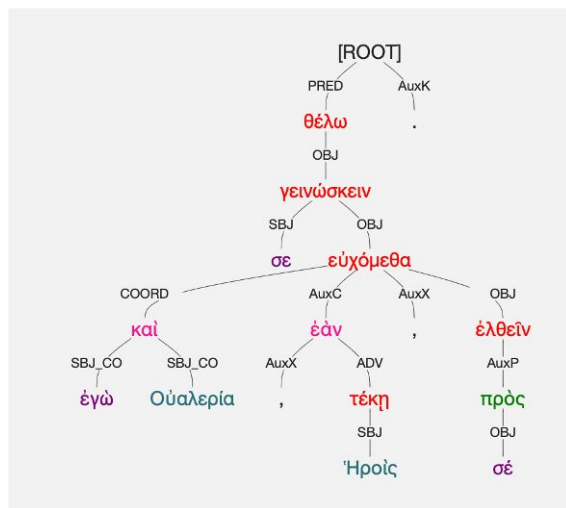
About the queries and trees

- layer differences, origiel
- saved searches
- Embedded trees

How to cite

Vierros, Marja, Sonja Dahlgren, Erik Hemriksson, Polina Yordanova, and Sari Kock, eds. 2023. Digital Grammar of Greek Documentary Papyri. Helsinki: University of Helsinki. <https://papygreek.com/grammar>.

Grammar not public yet



PapyGreek Treebanks 3.0:  
<https://zenodo.org/records/8428823>



Whole corpus of papyri for phonology and morphology; treebanked corpus for syntax

# PapyGreek platform for treebanking papyri (and inscriptions)

- Greek Documentary Papyri all there (synchronized with Papyri.info)
- TEI EpiDoc XML preprocessed to get annotatable texts
  - Papyri and inscriptions are fragmentary, contain markup, and cannot be annotated as is
- -> works also for inscriptions (although some differences in markup)
- Arethusa annotation tool implemented within PapyGreek
  - Arethusa originally exists in Perseids' page (Tufts University):  
<https://sosol.perseids.org/sosol/>

Demo on Julia Balbilla's inscribed poems to follow





## Julia Balbilla's poem 1 (beginning)

Ἰουλίας Βαλ<β>ίλλης·  
ὅτε ἤκουσε τοῦ Μέμνο<νο>ς  
ὁ Σεβαστὸς Ἀδριανός.

Μέμνονα πυνθανόμαν Αἰγύπτιον, ἀλίω αὖγαι  
αἰθόμενον, φώνην Θηβαῖ<κ>ω 'πυ λίθω.  
Ἀδρίανον δ' ἐσίδων, τὸν παμβασίληα, πρὶν αὖγας  
ἀελίω χαίρην εἶπέ <φ>οι ὥς δύνατον.

[Composed] by Julia Balbilla,  
When the august Hadrian  
heard Memnon.

I've heard tell that Memnon the Egyptian, warmed  
by the sun's rays,  
utters a loud sound from the Theban stone.  
Seeing Hadrian, the greatest of kings, and before  
greeting  
the sun's rays, he (Memnon) addressed him as  
well as he could.

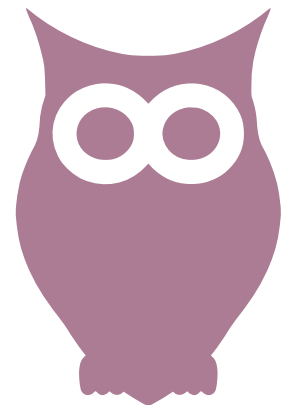
Transl. Patricia A. Rosenmeyer

# Introducing GLAUx

Alek Keersmaekers  
University of Leuven

# The GLAUx corpus

- The **G**reek **L**anguage **A**utomated
- 26M tokens, literary Ancient Greek (with the papyri: 32M)
- Ranging from Homer to the Bible to mathematical texts to narrative texts to ...
- 8th century BC – 3rd/4th century AD
- Automatic annotation:
  - Lemmas
  - Morphology
  - Syntax
  - Future: Semantics
- <https://glaux.be/>, <https://github.com/alekkeersmaekers/glaux>



# GLAUX annotation

- ‘Trained’ on manually annotated treebanks: AGDT, PROIEL, Gorman, Pedalion, Harrington, Yordanova (1,5M words) → about 5% of GLAUX
- Machine learning (AI) to predict annotations automatically
- Lemmas: ~99% accurate
- Morphology: ~97% accurate
- Syntax: ~80% accurate