

COORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS IN ANCIENT GREEK

Prof. Vanessa Gorman
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
vgorman1@unl.edu

Conjunctions

○ Coordinating

- Words that join words, phrases, or clauses of equal value
- “And,” “or,” “but,” “yet,” “either... or,” “neither... nor,” *etc.*

○ Subordinating

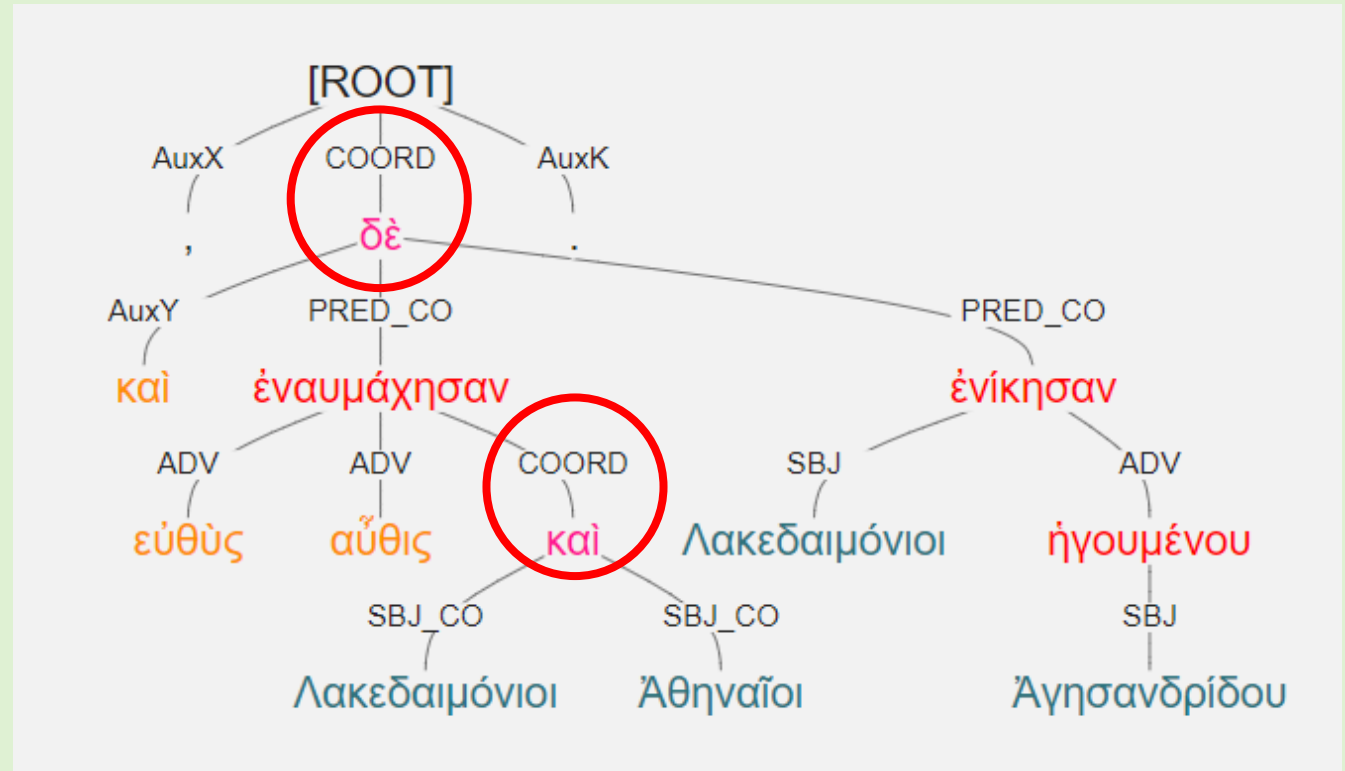
- Words that introduce clauses that are **dependent** upon the main/independent clause
- Since, that, after, before, if, as, when, *etc.*
- Note: subordinating conjunctions do not include “who” or “what,” because these relative pronouns/adjectives introduce a peculiar kind of subordinate clause, called a relative clause. We will deal with them separately.

Coordinating Conjunctions in Greek

- καί or τε [enclitic] or τε καί, etc. (“and”)
- τε ... καί or τε ... τε ... τε, or καί ... καί, or virtually any combination
- ἀλλά (“and” usually used to join parallel clauses or sentences)
- δέ (“and” usually used to join parallel clauses or sentences)
- μέν ... δέ (implies a contrast: “on the one hand...on the other...”)
 - οἱ μὲν ..., οἱ δέ... (“Some people.... other people...”)
- οὐδέ (“and not” or “not even”); οὐδέ ... οὐδέ... (“neither ... nor...”)
 - οὔτε ... οὔτε ... (“neither ... nor...”)

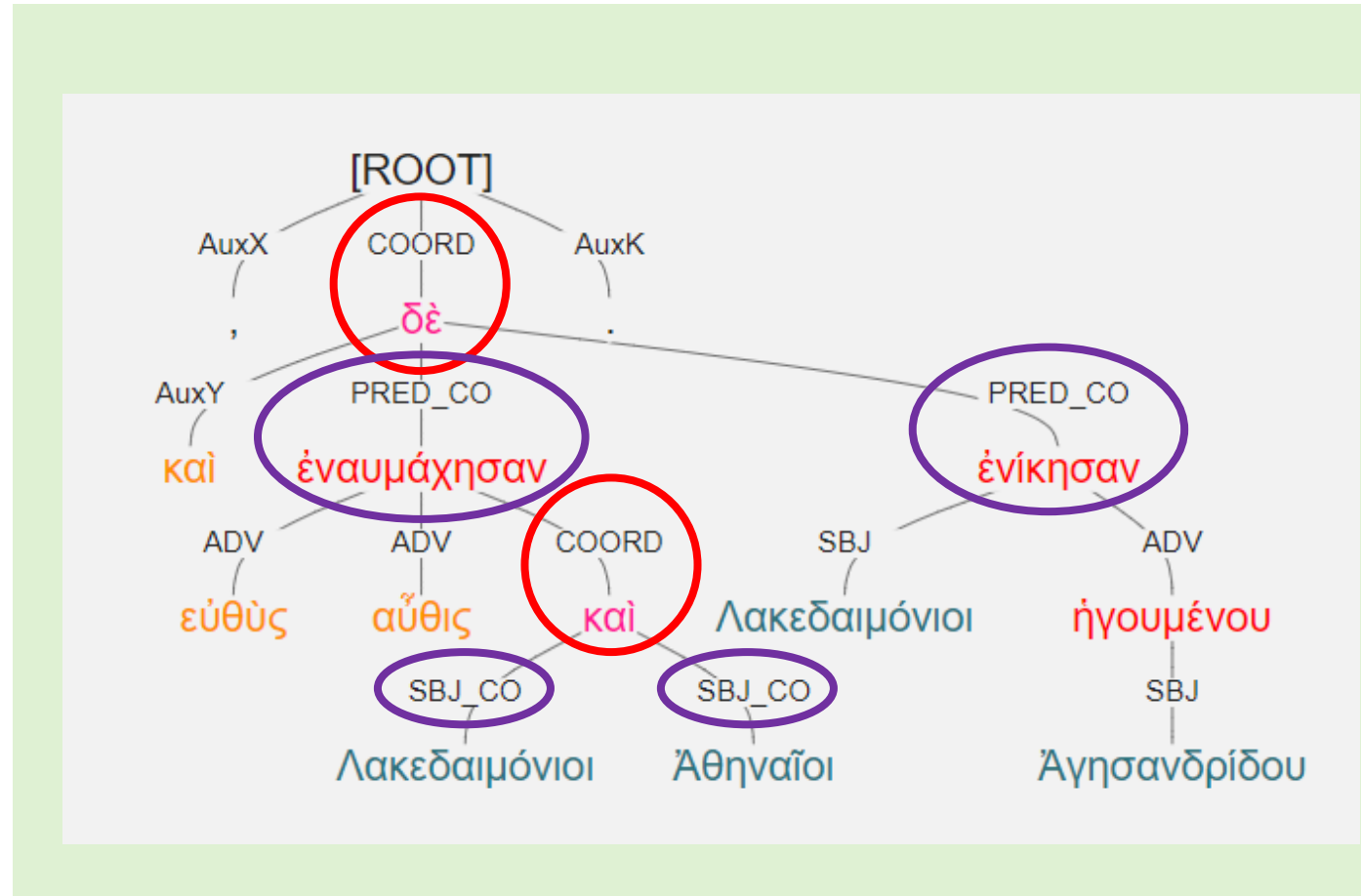
Things to note

- In trees, the solo or final coordinator is labelled:
 - Part of Speech = Conjunction
 - Relation = “COORD”



Things to note

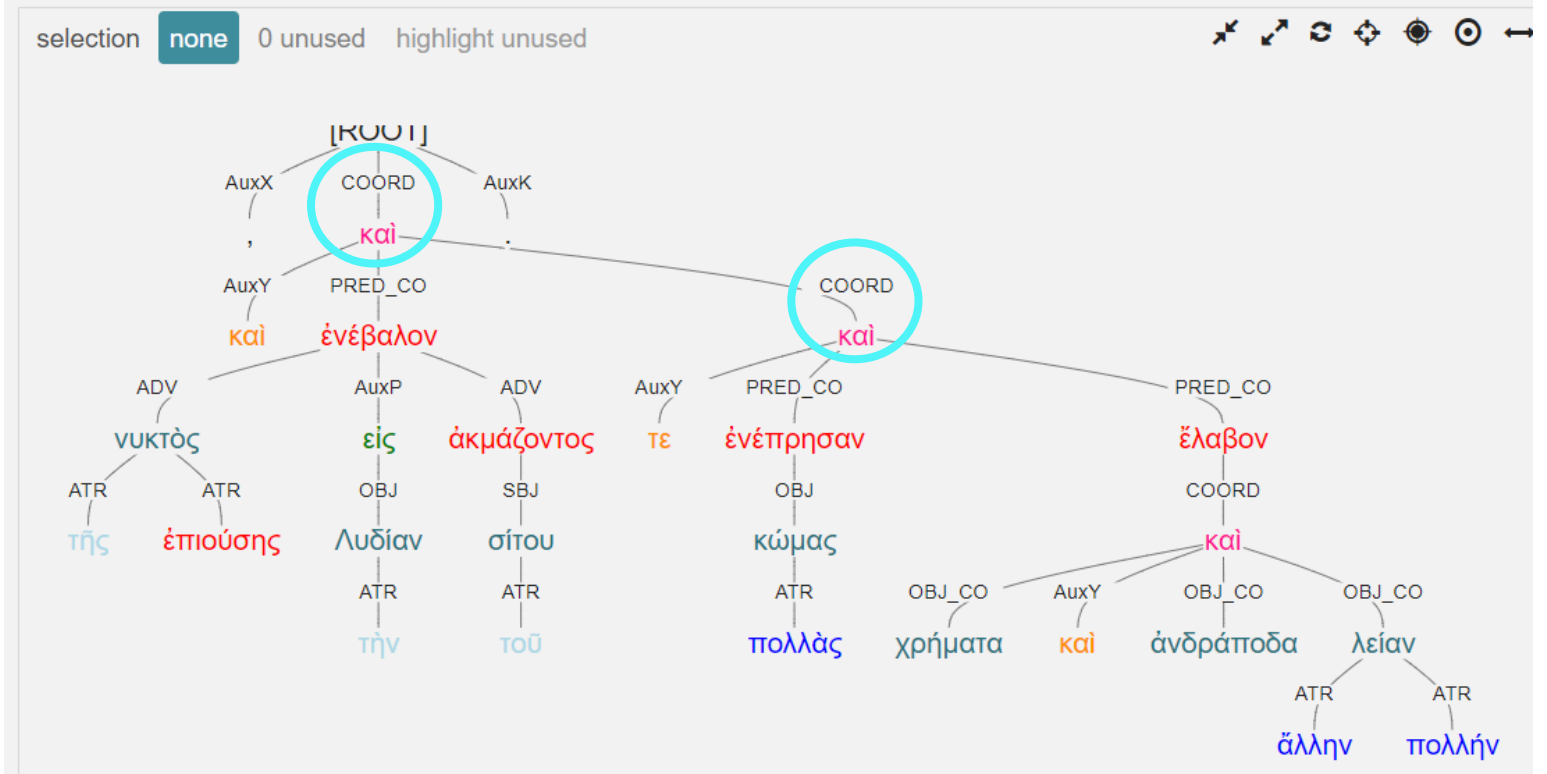
- In trees, the solo or final coordinator is labelled:
 - Part of Speech = Conjunction
 - Relation = “COORD”
- The elements being coordinated are labeled with the suffix “CO”



Things to note

- Coordination may be nested

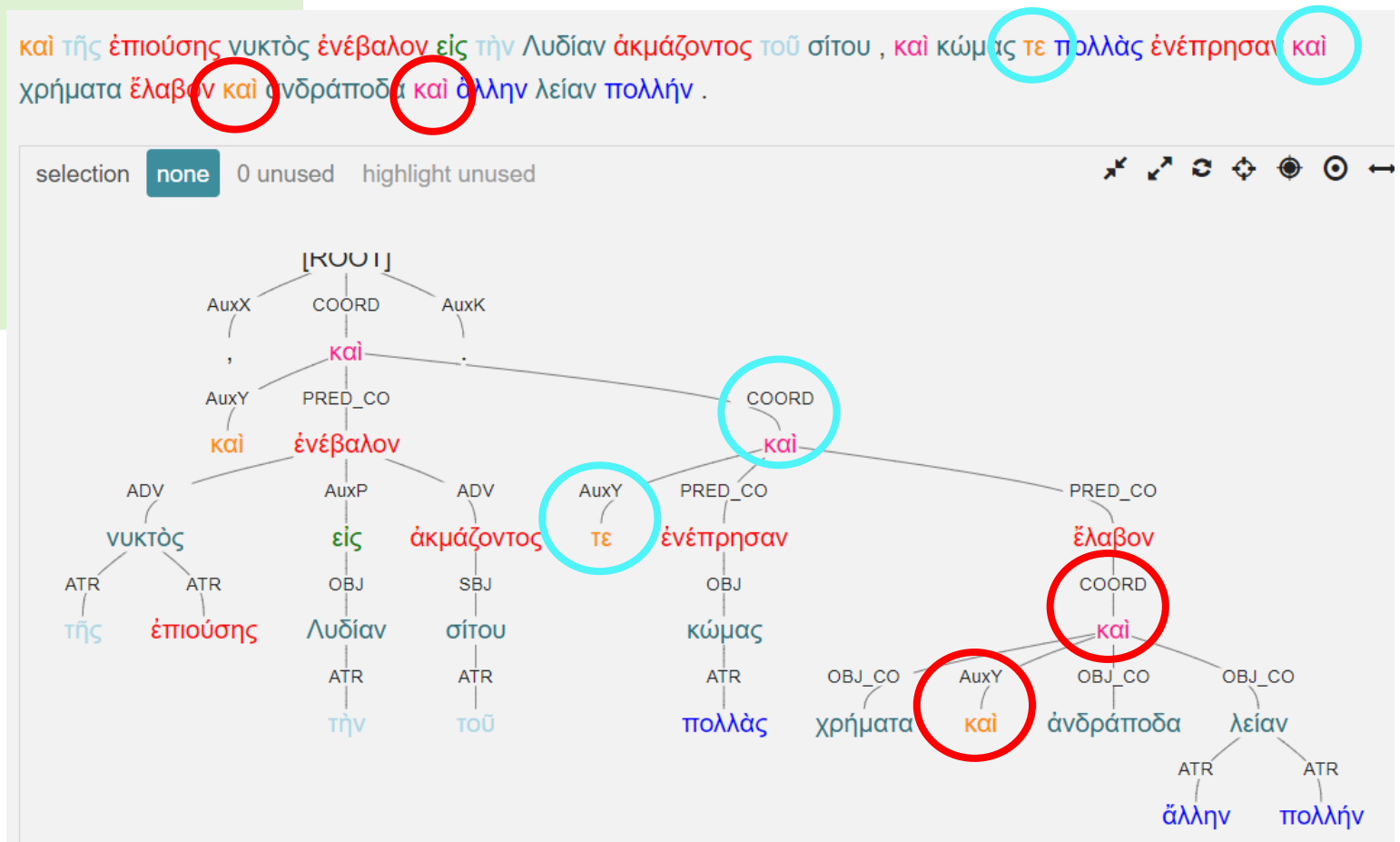
καὶ τῆς ἐπιούσης νυκτὸς ἐνέβαλον εἰς τὴν Λυδίαν ἀκμάζοντος τοῦ σίτου, καὶ κώμας τε πολλὰς ἐνέπρησαν καὶ χρήματα ἔλαβον καὶ ἀνδράποδα καὶ ἄλλην λείαν πολλήν .



Things to note

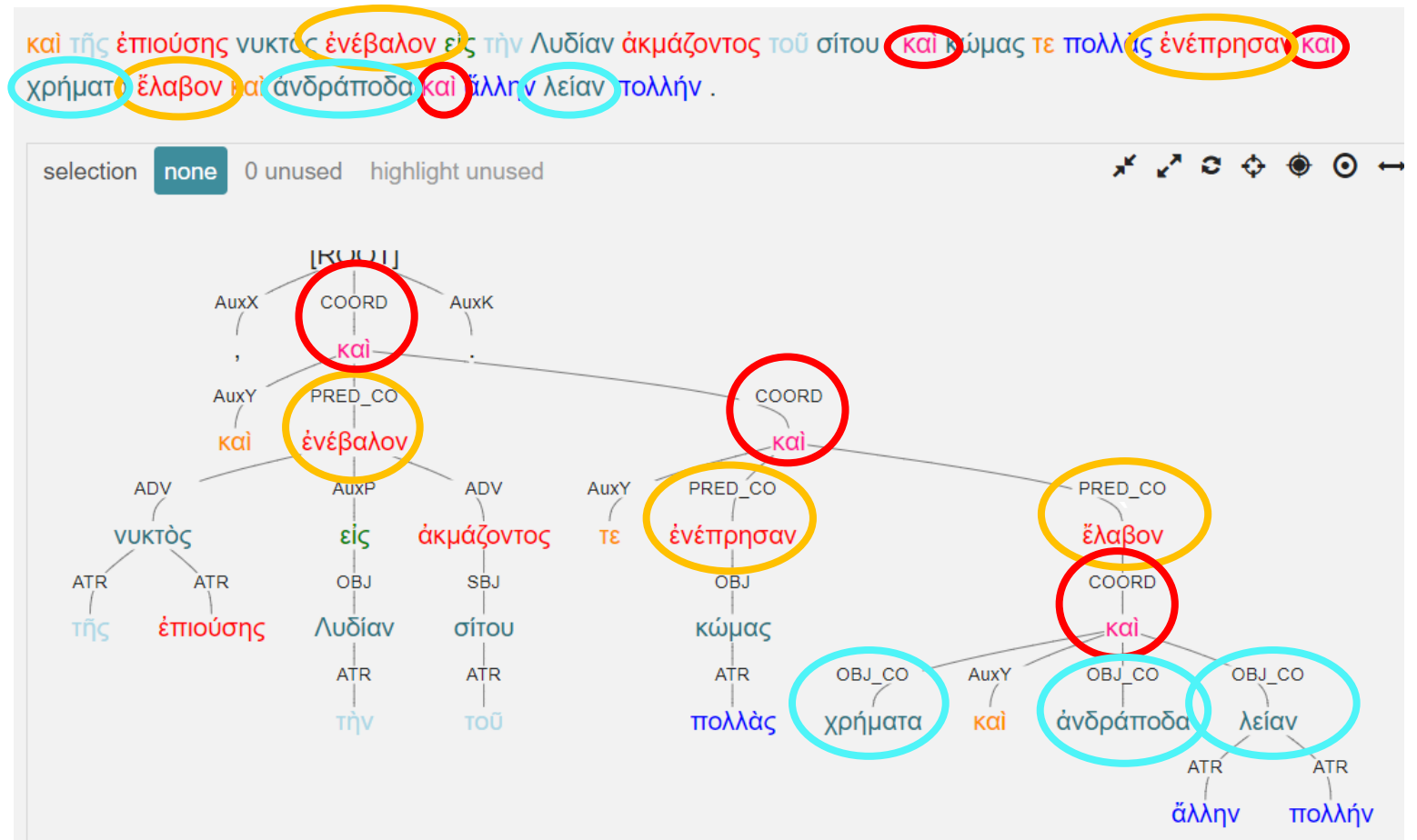
○ In trees, earlier coordinators in a series hang on the final coordinator and are labelled:

- Postag = ADV
- Relation = AuxY



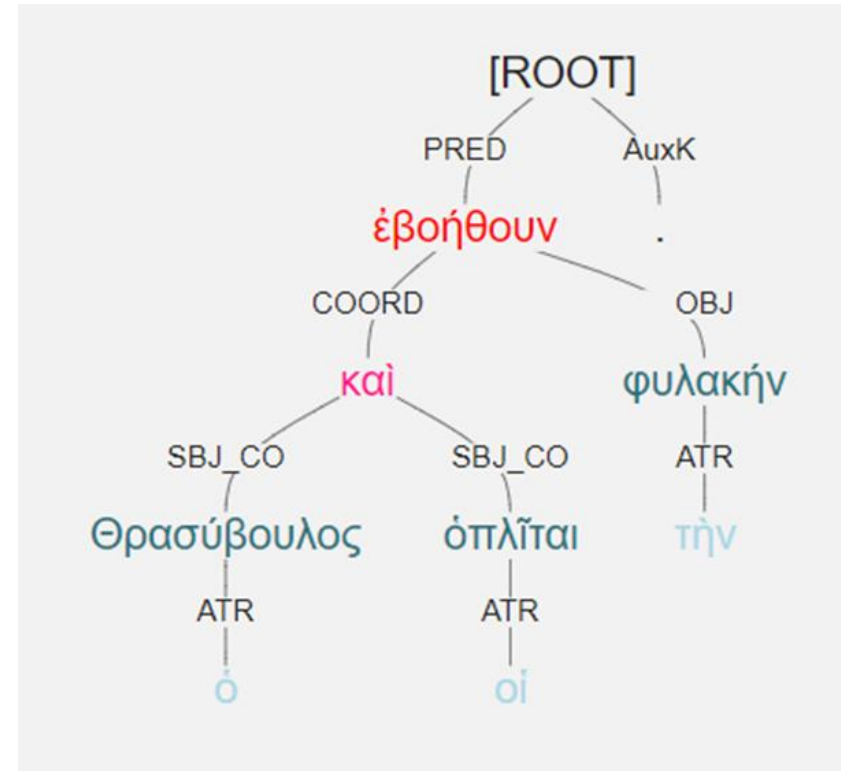
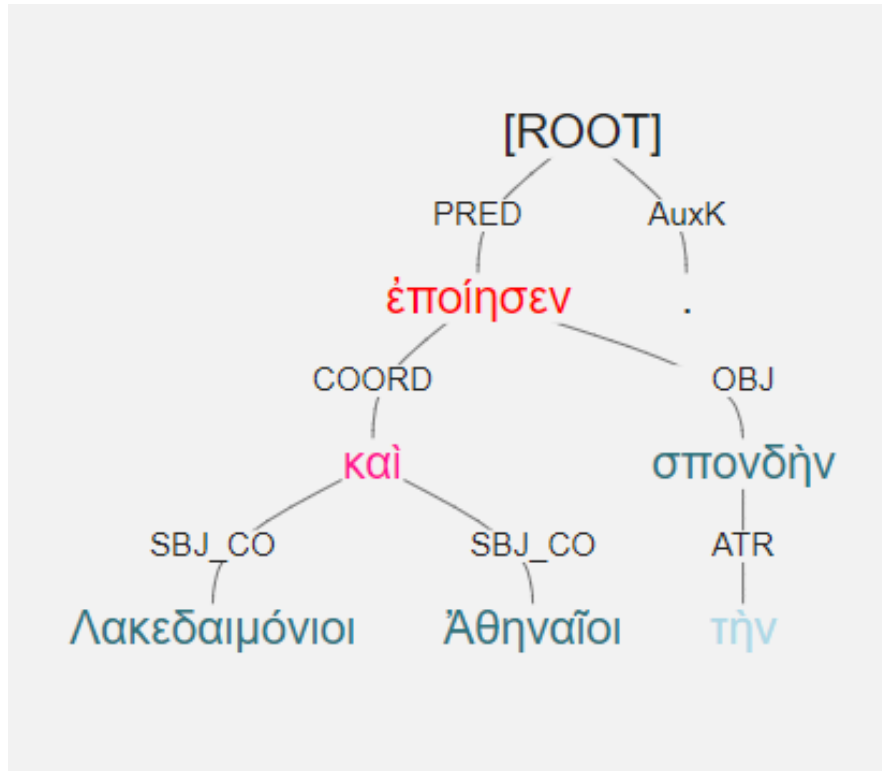
Things to note

- Coordinators are used between parallel relation elements
- Two substantives, two ATR, two ADVs, two PREDs, etc.
- You cannot coordinate an ADV and a PRED, for example.

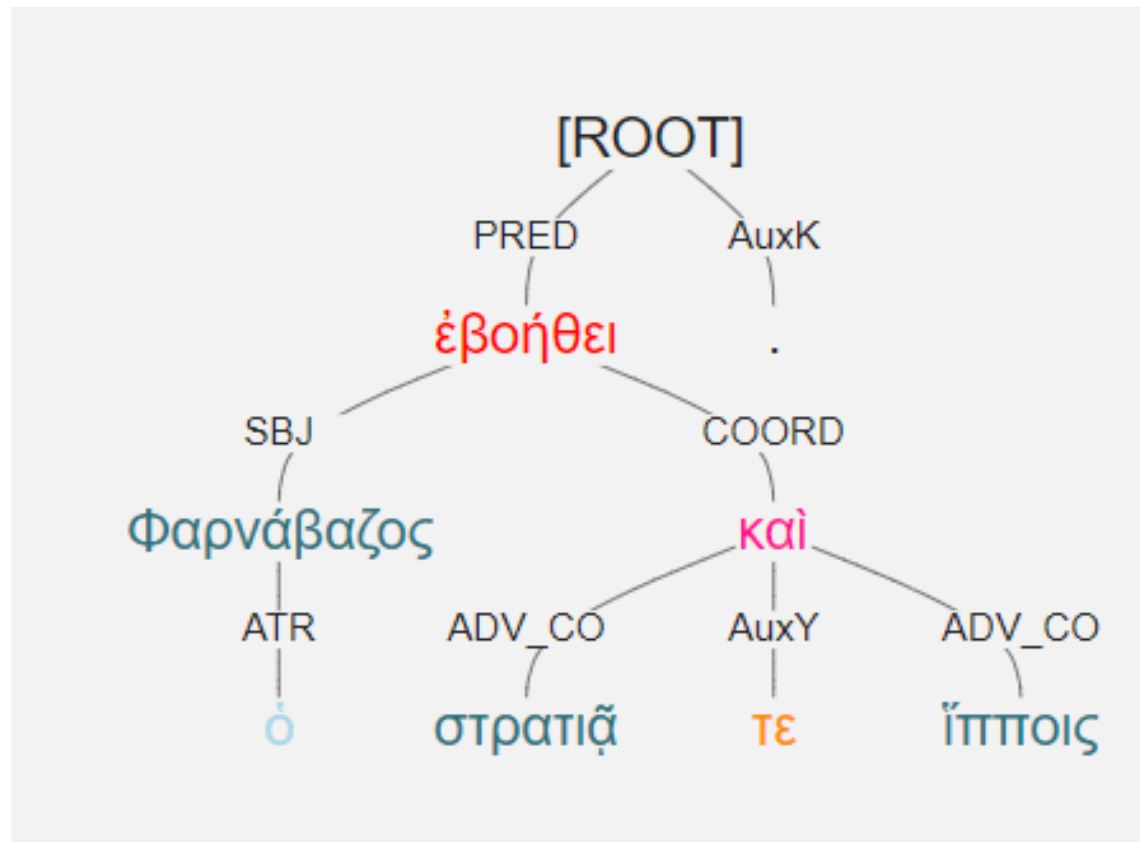


Λακεδαιμόνιοι καὶ Ἀθηναῖοι τὴν σπονδὴν ἐποίησεν.

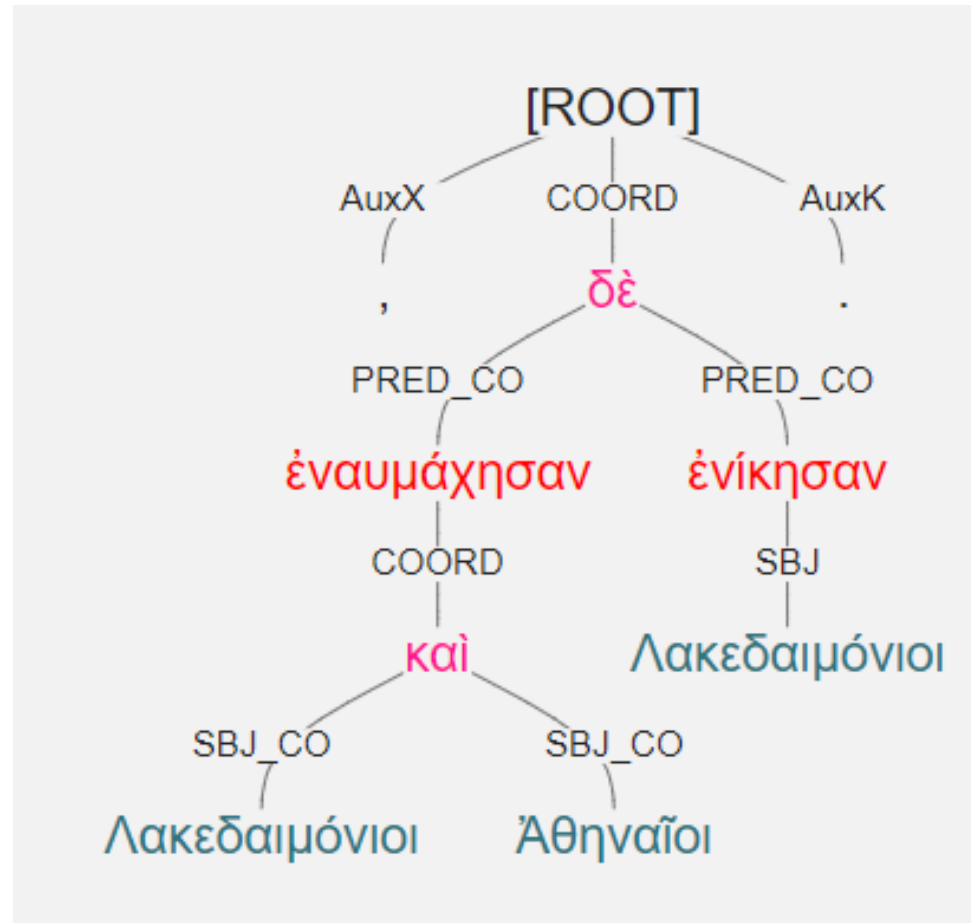
ὁ Θρασύβουλος καὶ οἱ ὀπλίται ἐβοήθουν τὴν φυλακὴν.



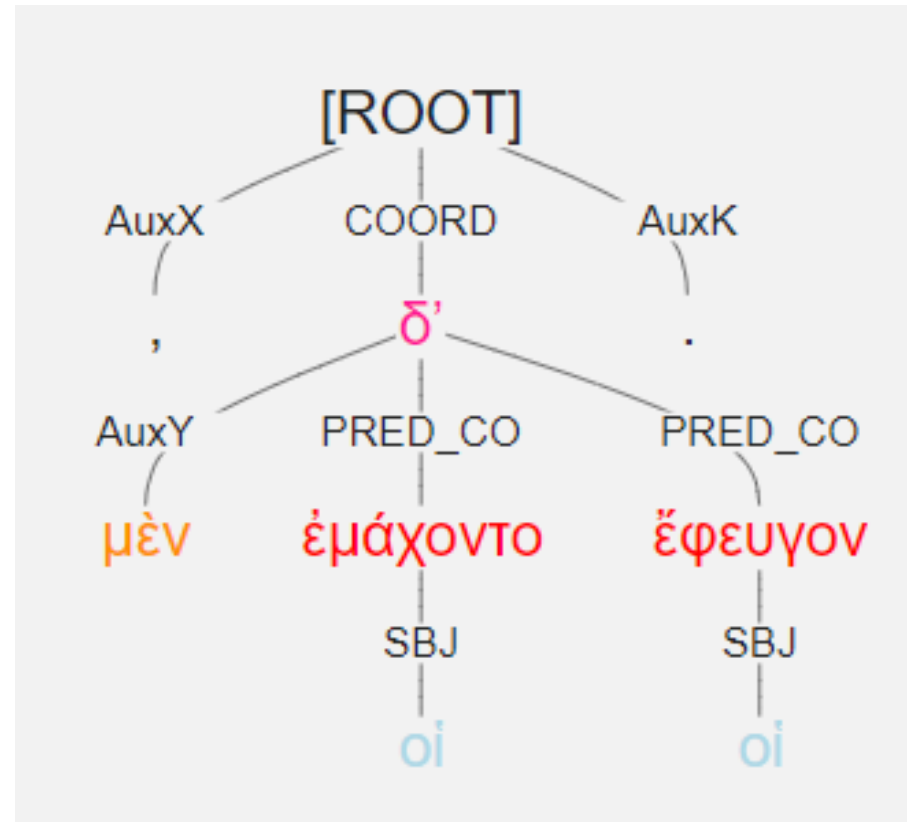
ὁ Φαρνάβαζος ἐβοήθει στρατιᾶ τε καὶ ἵπποις.



ἐναυμάχησαν Λακεδαιμόνιοι καὶ Ἀθηναῖοι,
ἐνίκησαν δὲ Λακεδαιμόνιοι.



οἱ μὲν ἐμάχοντο, οἱ δ' ἔφευγον.



οὔτε ἐναυμάχησε τῇ θαλάσῃ οὔτε ἐμαχέσατο
τῇ γῆ, ἀλλ' ἔμεινε τῷ στρατοπέδῳ.

