

SUBORDINATE CLAUSES WITH SUBJUNCTIVE AND OPTATIVE MOODS

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

Four Greek Moods

Each conjugated verb has person-number-tense-**mood**-voice

Indicative – normal declarative statements

Imperative – commands (*later*)

Subjunctive – assumption or possibility; unreal statements

- Often with ἄν

Optative – wish or potentiality

- Sometimes with ἄν

Subjunctive

Three tenses representing aspect

- Present = action in progress/on-going
- Aorist = simple completed action
- Perfect = completed action with results that continue into the present

In the first three books of Xenophon's *Hellenika*

- 61 present subjunctives
- 60 aorist subjunctives
- 1 perfect subjunctives

Formation of Subjunctive

Lengthen the theme vowel; no augments in aorist

Use primary endings:

- 3rd sg act = -ει > -η
- 3rd sg M/P = -εται > -ηται
- 3rd pl act = -ουσι(ν) > -ωσι(ν)
- 3rd pl M/P = -ονται > -ωνται

λύω; λείπω > ἔλιπον [3PP]

	Pres Ind	Pres Subj	Weak Aor Subj	Strong Aor Subj
3rd sg act	λύει	λύη	λύση	λίπη
3rd sg MP	λύεται	λύηται	λύσηται	λίπηται
3rd pl act	λύουσι(ν)	λύωσι(ν)	λύσωσι(ν)	λίπωσι(ν)
3rd pl MP	λύονται	λύωνται	λύσωνται	λίπωνται

Common Uses of the Subjunctive in Subordinate Clauses

Usually negated by μή; often accompanied by ἄν.

**Some conditional sentences

**Purpose clauses with ἵνα, ὅπως, ὡς [“in order that”]

- Also other clauses that imply purpose
- Usually after a main verb in pres, fut, or perf [i.e. “primary sequence”]

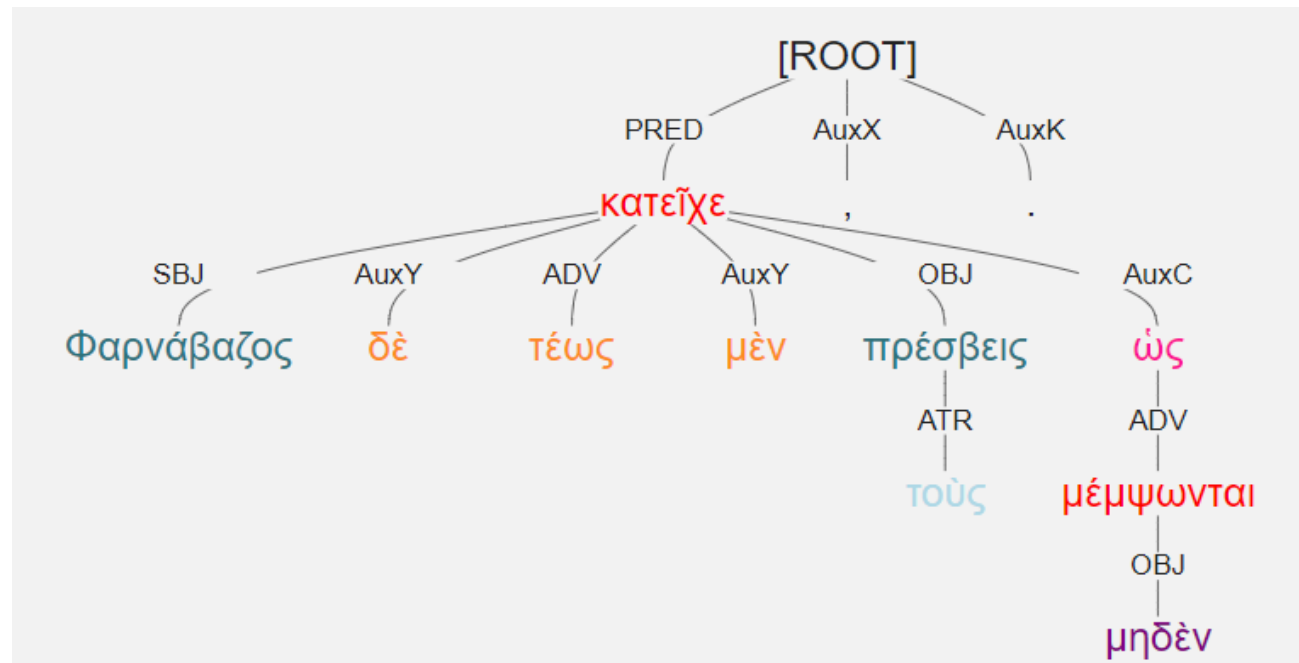
Some fear clauses (referring to the future)

Some indefinite relative or temporal clauses

Φαρνάβαζος δὲ τέως μὲν κατεῖχε τοὺς πρέσβεις, ὥς
μηδὲν μέμψωνται. [1.4.6]

Pharabazos detained the envoys for a while, so that they could not find any fault.

Negative purpose clause with ὥς + μή.

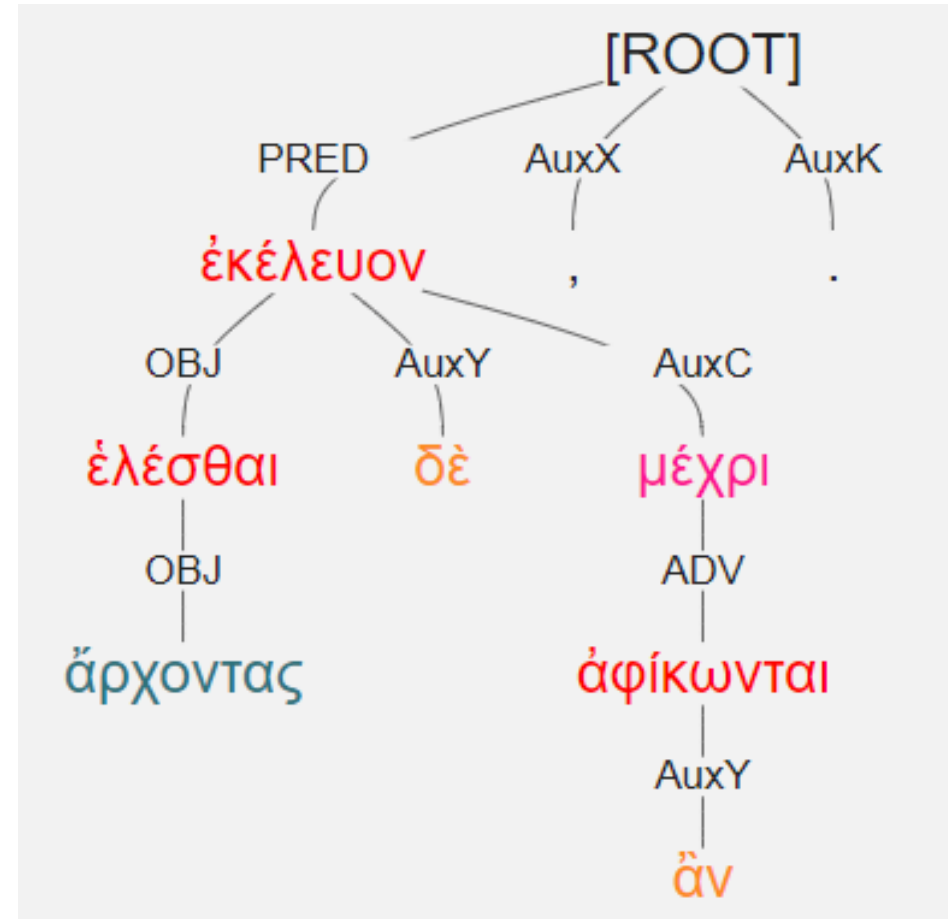


ἐλέσθαι δὲ ἐκέλευον ἄρχοντας, μέχρι ἂν ἀφίκωνται.
[1.1.27]

*They were ordering them to seize
the archons until they should
arrive.*

- *Whenever that may be.*

Indefinite temporal clause with
μέχρι + ἂν



Optative

Three common tenses = present, aorist, future

- Perfect and future perfect are rare

In the first three books of Xenophon's *Hellenika*

- 189 present optatives
- 35 future optatives
- 79 aorist optatives
- 5 perfect optatives
- 0 future perfect optatives

Formation of Optative

Iota is the mark of the optative; no augments in aorist!

Use secondary endings

- 3rd sg act = -ε(ν) > -οι
- 3rd sg M/P = -ετο > -οιτο
- 3rd pl act = -ον > -οιεν
- 3rd pl M/P = -οντο > -οιντο

λύω; λείπω > ἔλιπον [3PP]

	Impf Ind	Pres Opt	Fut Opt	Weak Aor Opt	Strg Aor Opt
3rd sg act	ἔλυε	λύοι	λύσοι	λύσαι/λύσειε(ν)	λίποι
3rd sg MP	ἐλύετο	λύοιτο	λύσοιτο	λύσαιτο	λίποιτο
3rd pl act	ἔλυον	λύοιεν	λύσοιεν	λύσαιε(ν)/λύσεια(ν)	λίποιεν
3rd pl MP	ἐλύοντο	λύοιντο	λύσοιντο	λύσαιντο	λίποιντο

Most Common Uses of the Optative in Subordinate Clauses

Usually negated by μή and often accompanied by ἄν.

Indirect statements and questions [Especially when the verb introducing the clause is in a past tense; i.e., secondary sequence]

- Indicative used for primary sequence

In purpose clauses with ἵνα, ὅπως, ὡς [usually in secondary sequence]

Any conditionals or clauses indicating potentiality

Less Common Uses of the Optative in Subordinate Clauses

Causal clauses that allege a cause rather than stating a fact (indic)

- ὅτι, ἐπεὶ, ὅτε, etc.
- Especially in 2° sequence

Relative clauses referring to past habitual action

Temporal clauses referring to the future

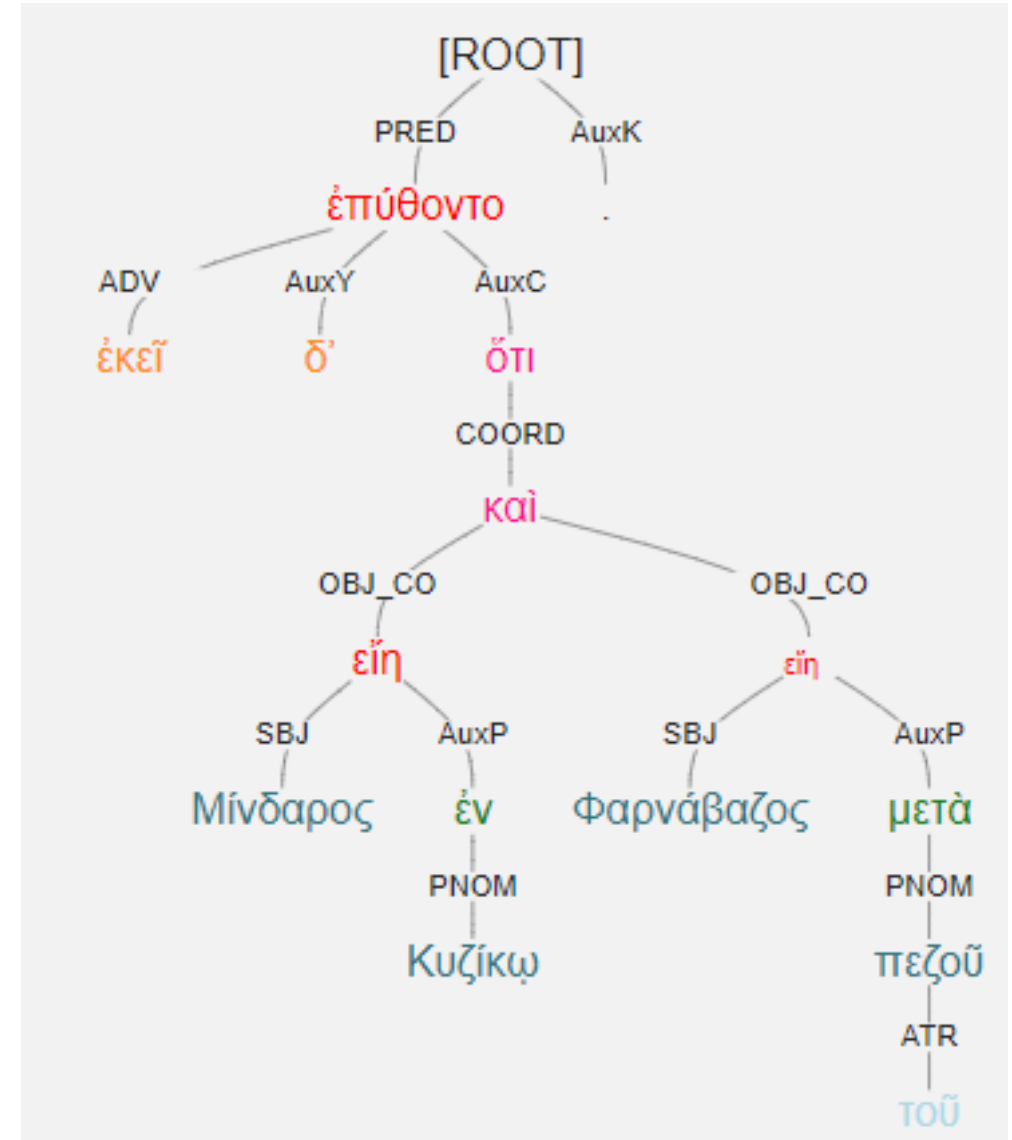
Some fear clauses

Subordinate clause of a subordinate clause

ἐκεῖ δ' ἐπύθοντο ὅτι
Μίνδαρος ἐν Κυζίκῳ εἶη καὶ
Φαρνάβαζος μετὰ τοῦ
πεζοῦ. [1.1.14]

There they learned that Mindaros was in Kyzikos and Pharnabazos was with the infantry.

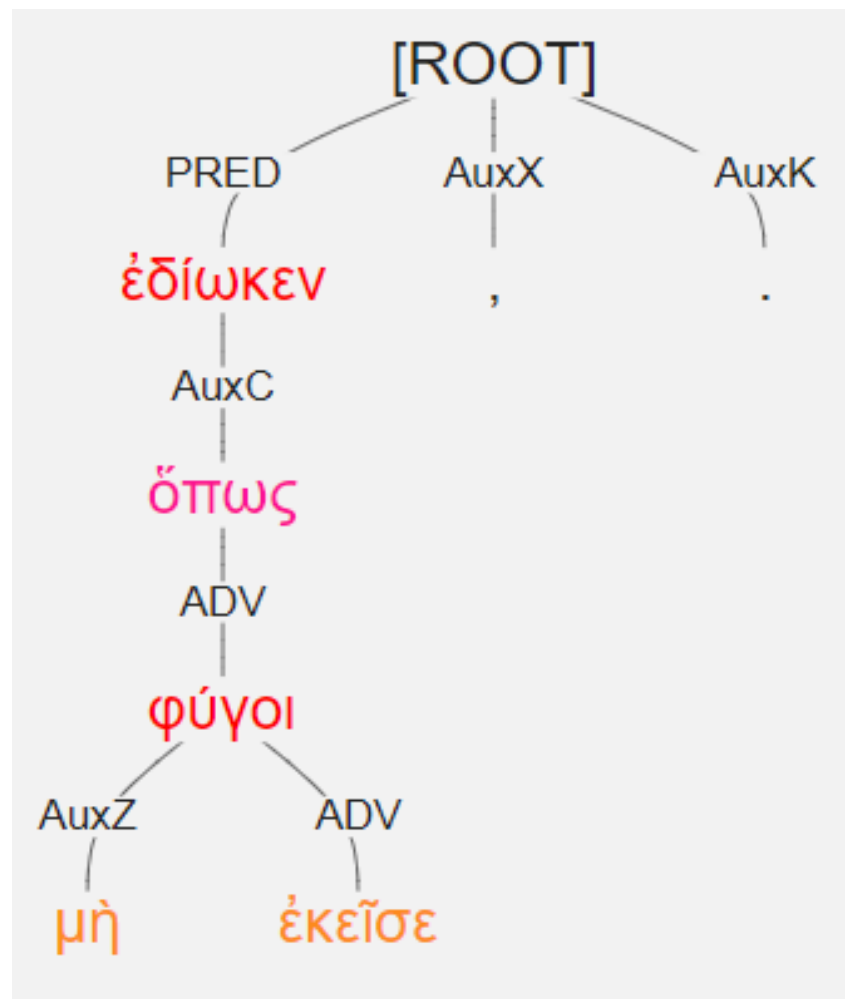
Indirect statement with ὅτι after a main verb in the past tense.



ἔδίωκεν, ὅπως μὴ ἐκεῖσε φύγοι. [1.6.15]

He was pursuing him so that he could not flee to that place.

Negative purpose clause after a verb in the past tense, with ὅπως + μὴ.

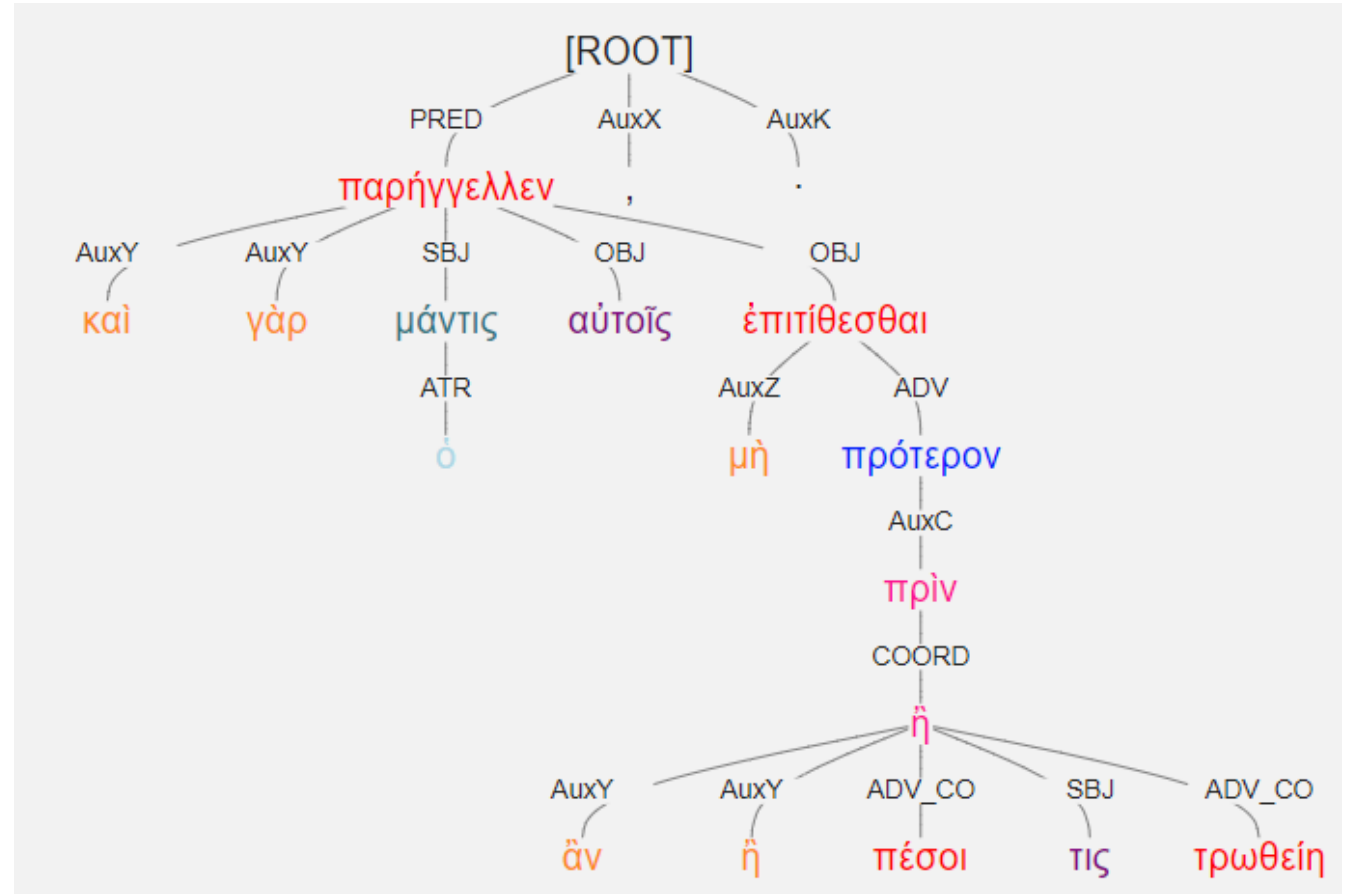


καὶ γὰρ ὁ μάντις παρήγγελλεν αὐτοῖς μὴ πρότερον ἐπιτίθεσθαι, πρὶν ἂν ἢ πέσοι τις ἢ τρωθεῖη. [2.4.18]

For the seer told them not to attack before someone was either killed or wounded.

Temporal clause referring to the future.

τις + ἂν indicates indefinite.



Review of Conditional Sentences

If ... then statements

The “then” clause is independent.

- It called is the apodosis.
- “Then” is often unexpressed.

The “if” clause is dependent.

- *It is called the protasis.*
- εἰ or εἰάν (εἰ+άν) = **AuxC**
 - It hangs on the verb of the apodosis
- Verb of the protasis hangs on the εἰ and is labeled **ADV**

Conditional Sentences

Type	Protasis	Apodosis	Translation
Present Simple	εἰ + pr/pf indic	pr/pf indic	do/do
Past Simple	εἰ + impf/aor/pp indic	impf/aor/pp indic	did/did
Present Unreal	εἰ + impf indic	impf indic + ἄν	were/would
Past Unreal	εἰ + impf/aor indic	aor/impf indic + ἄν	had been/would have been

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Past Unreal	εἰ + impf/aor indic	aor/impf indic + ἄν	had been/would have been
Present General	εἰάν + subj	pres indic	if ever do, do
Past General	εἰ + optative	impf indic [aor]	if ever did, did

Present General

[έάν + subj > pres indic]

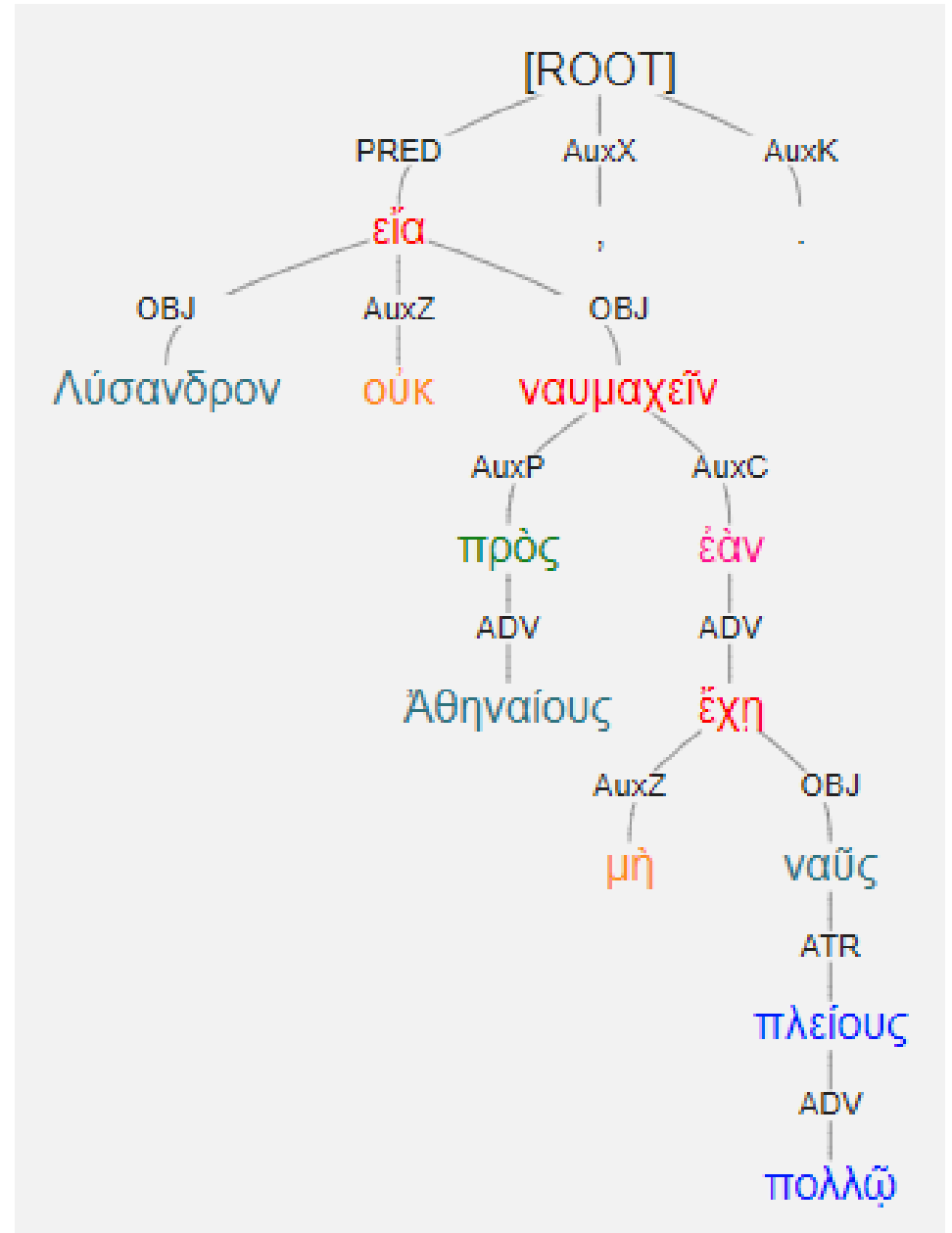
Λύσανδρον οὐκ εἶα ναυμαχεῖν
πρὸς Ἀθηναίους, έάν μή πολλῶ
πλείους ναῦς ἔχη. [2.1.14]

*He was not allowing Lysander to
sail out to fight the Athenians if
he did not have many more ships.*

- “Until he had many more ships”

έάν + μή + pres. subj.

- Infinitive ναυμαχεῖν stands for
finite present indic verb



Past General

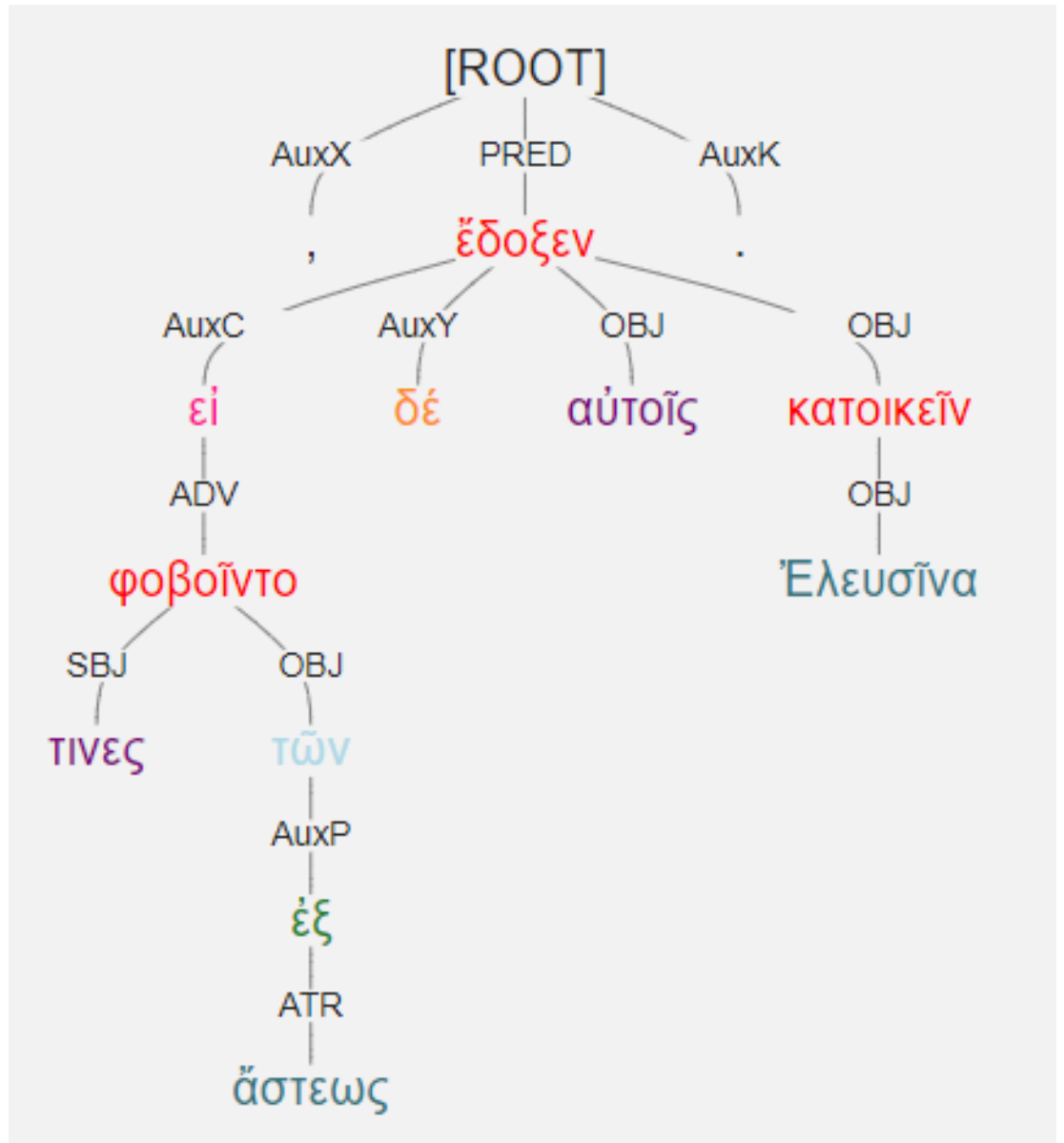
[εἰ + optative > imperf indic]

εἰ δέ τινες φοβοῖντο τῶν ἐξ
ἄστεως, ἔδοξεν αὐτοῖς
Ἐλευσίνα κατοικεῖν. [2.4.38]

*If anyone was afraid of the men
from the town, it seemed best to
them to inhabit Eleusis.*

εἰ + pres MP opt [middle sense]

- Apodosis = aor instead of impf = one-time act



Conditional Sentences

Type	Protasis	Apodosis	Translation
Present Simple	εἰ + pr/pf indic	pr/pf indic	do/do
Past Simple	εἰ + impf/aor/pp indic	impf/aor/pp indic	did/did
Present Unreal	εἰ + impf indic	impf indic + ἄν	were/would
Past Unreal	εἰ + impf/aor indic	aor/impf indic + ἄν	had been/would have been
Present General	εἰάν + subj	pres indic	if ever do, do
Past General	εἰ + optative	impf indic [aor]	if ever did, did
Future More Vivid	εἰάν + subj	fut indic	do/will do
Future Less Vivid	εἰ + optative	optative + ἄν	should/would

Future More Vivid

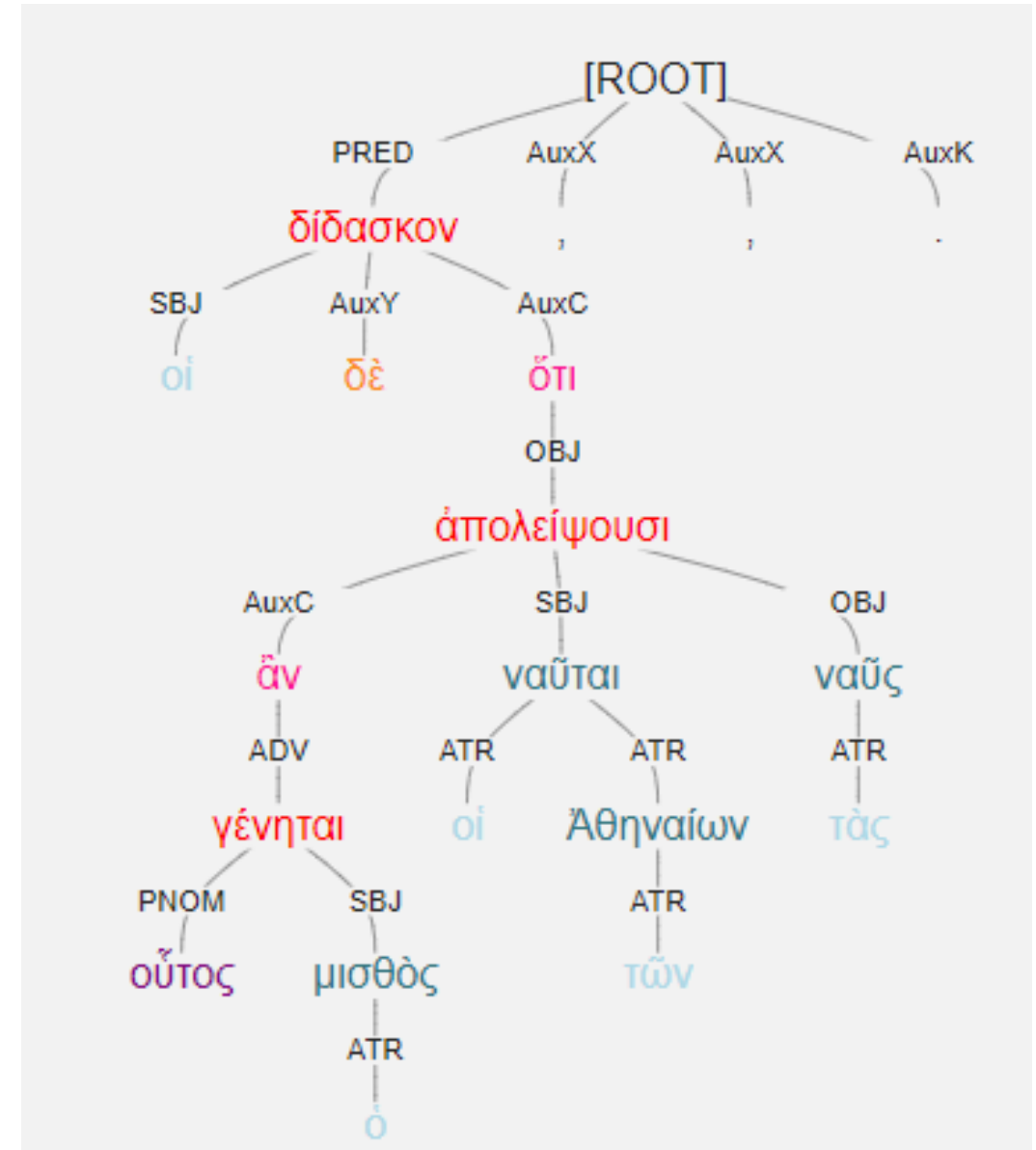
[ἐάν/ἄν + subj > fut indic]

οἱ δὲ δίδασκον ὅτι, ἄν οὗτος ὁ
μισθὸς γένηται, οἱ τῶν
Ἀθηναίων ναῦται ἀπολείψουσι
τὰς ναῦς. [1.5.4]

*They were instructing him that, if
this is the rate of pay, then the
Athenian sailors will abandon
their ships.*

ἄν [ἐάν] + aor subj [dep]

- Apodosis = fut indic



Future Less Vivid

[εἰ + optative > optative + ἄν]

ἔγνω δὲ ὅτι εἰ μὴ ἵππικὸν ἰκανὸν
κτῆσαιτο, οὐ δυνήσοιτο κατὰ τὰ
πεδία στρατεύεσθαι. [3.4.15]

*He recognized that, if he should not
possess sufficient cavalry, he would
not be able to make war in the plains.*

εἰ + μὴ + aor opt

- Apodosis = fut opt [dep]

