

Title: IPA Chart in Doulos SIL: Diacritics

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Description: Doulos SIL is a serif font from SIL International (formerly the Summer Institute of Linguistics). It is widely used and is required in mss submitted to some journals (though it is not required for our Journal). Our use of it in our chart is in accord with SIL's Open Font License. The following are observations about the symbols in this font, compared to IPA Kiel:

- The laminal diacritic is square and small, and therefore tends to be confused with the voiceless diacritic. We recommend that this diacritic be made extra-large so that its shape is clearly a square, not a circle. (In IPA Kiel, this diacritic is correctly a rectangle.)
- A problem for all fonts, due to the design of symbols introduced in 1989, is that the distinctions between the dental click and the minor group, and between the lateral click and the major group, are small at best. They are especially similar in Doulos. At the time of the Kiel convention, it was suggested that the grouping symbols be thicker than the click symbols. In the 2005 chart, the grouping symbols were in bold, and that is true of the 2015 charts as well.
- The exact tone contour shown in the rising-falling tone letter is different from IPA Kiel's.
- Some of the diacritics are bigger in Doulos than in IPA Kiel: the stress diacritics, upstep and downstep arrows, the linguolabial diacritic. Others are bigger in IPA Kiel: retracted, syllabic, the four diacritics made with the tack ("tiny T") symbol, mid-centralized.
- The distinction in symbol shapes between the symbols for the voiced velar fricative (Latin small letter gamma, 0263) and the close-mid back unrounded vowel (ram's horns, 0264) is clearer in Doulos than in IPA Kiel.