Subjunctive Mood Handout (Mounce 31) Dr. Phillip Marshall

1.1 Moods in English

1.1.1 Indicative Mood: the mood of assertion (some call it the mood of "reality," but one can use the indicative mood to assert something false). Also used when assertions are converted into questions.

I will eat mor chikin.

Will you eat mor chikin?

1.1.2 Imperative Mood: the mood of command/projection (speaker projects his/her volition).

Eat mor chikin!

1.1.3 Subjunctive Mood: the mood of possibility/contingency (expressing what may or might be). In uses of the subjunctive mood, the action has not happened, so there is a futuristic element to it.

If you ate mor chikin, you would be happy.

1.2 Subjunctive Mood in Greek:

- 1.2.1 Not indicative, so no absolute time, and no augments! ASPECT is the prominent semantic value of the choice of stem.
- 1.2.2 TWO main tense-stems employed: Present-stem (for the imperfective aspect), and Aorist-stem (for the perfective aspect).
 - 1.2.2.1 Present stems uses no TFs.
 - 1.2.2.2 Aorist stem does use TF:

 $^{^{1}}$ Very rarely there is a Perfect Subjunctive in GNT (10x, all with oĩ $\delta\alpha$; see Mounce 297 under "Advanced Information").

1st Aor A/M S: $-\sigma$ - (not $\sigma\alpha$)

 1^{st} Aor P S: $-\theta$ - (not $\theta\eta$)

- 1.2.3 Connecting vowels (aka "thematic vowels") are the same, only they are lengthened: ω/η (instead of o/ ϵ), with same placement (ω before μ/ν ; η elsewhere). NOTE: Since the Aorist TFs in Subjunctive do not have vowels, they will use the lengthened CVs.
- 1.2.4 Since the Subj. mood has no augments, then the personal endings are PRIMARY (secondary endings occurs with augmented tenses!). Even the Aorist-stem Subj!

1.3 Present-stem Subjunctive

1.3.1 Active forms

	PAS	PAI	PAS of εἰμί
1s	λύω	λύω	$\ddot{\omega}$
2s	λύης	λύεις	ής
3s	λύη	λύει	ή
1p	λύωμεν	λύομεν	ὦμεν
2p	λύητε	λύετε	ήτε
3p	λύωσι(ν)	λύουσι(ν)	ὧσι(ν)

1.3.2 Middle/Passive forms

	PM-PS	PM-PI
1s	λύωμαι	λύομαι
2s	λύη	λύη
3s	λύηται	λύεται
1p	λυώμεθα	λυόμεθα
2p	λύησθε	λύεσθε
3p	λύωνται	λύονται

1.4 Aorist-stem Subjunctive

1.4.1 Active forms

	1stAoAS	2 nd AoAS	1stAoAI	2 nd AoAI
1s	λύσω	λάβω	έλυσα	ἔλαβον
2s	λύσης	λάβης	έ λυσας	ἔλ αβες
3s	λύση	λάβη	κτλ.	κτλ.
1p	λύσωμεν	λάβωμεν		
2p	λύσητε	λάβητε		
3p	λύσωσι(ν)	λάβωσι(ν)		

1.4.2 Middle forms

	1stAoMS	2 nd AoMS	1stAoMI	2 nd AoMI
1s	λύσωμαι	γένωμαι	ἐλ υσάμην	έγενόμην
2s	λύση	γένη	ἐλύσω	ἐγένου
3s	λύσηται	γένηται	κτλ.	κτλ.
1p	λυσώμεθα	γενώμεθα		
2p	λύσησθε	γένησθε		
3p	λύσωνται	γένωνται		

1.4.3 Passive forms

	1stAoPS	2 nd AoPS	1stAoPI	2 nd AoPI
1s	λυθῶ	γραφῶ	ἐλ ύθην	έγράφην
2s	λυθῆς	γραφῆς	ἐ λύθης	έγράφης
3s	λυθῆ	γραφῆ	κτλ.	κτλ.
1p	λυθῶμεν	γραφῶμεν		
2p	λυθῆτε	γραφῆτε		
3p	λυθῶσι(ν)	γραφῶσι(ν)		

1.5 The Subjunctive Mood verb in DEPENDENT/EMBEDDED clauses.

A subjunctive verb can occur as the main verb in an independent clause, or as the verb of a dependent clause—one that is grammatically embedded in a larger clause. We will begin with the uses in dependent clauses first.

1.5.1 Under the scope of the conjunction $iv\alpha$ ('that, in order that'). These types of clauses indicate the purpose or result of the main clause verb.

Any time you see a clause beginning with ĭva, you should expect to see its verb in the subjunctive mood.

ό Ἰησοῦς ἦλθεν ἵνα <u>σωθῶμεν</u> (1stAoPS). Jesus came in order that <u>we might be saved</u>.

The negation of a $\text{iv}\alpha$ clause (as in, $\text{iv}\alpha$ $\mu \hat{\eta}$ + verb) indicates negative purpose/result and can be translated "lest." In such cases, the main verb action is encouraged in order to avoid the $\text{iv}\alpha$ clause verb happening.

Colossians 3:21 Οἱ πατέρες, μὴ ἐρεθίζετε τὰ τέκνα ὑμῶν, <mark>ἴνα μὴ ἀθυμῶσιν</mark>.

Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.

1.5.2 Under the scope of the contingency-particle αν in a clause.

The word ἄv is a particle of contingency that combines with other words to create a sense of contingency in the clause. The conditional particle ἐάν seems to be a crasis of εἰ + ἄν.

- 1.5.2.1 Conditional clauses with ¿áv ('if').
 - 1.5.2.1.1 Two parts of a conditional clause:

Protasis: the "if" part, the condition (usually marked with εἰ or ἐάν) Apodosis: the "then" part, the consequence (usually unmarked)

If you love peanut butter with chocolate, you may be my wife.

1.5.2.1.2 The conditional part/clause of a conditional sentence (protasis) is a dependent clause. It cannot stand on its own grammatically. The apodosis is the independent/main clause and is true/applicable *if the condition in the protasis is met.*

ἐάν ὁ Ἰησοῦς <u>ἔλθη</u> (2ndAoAS), σωθησόμεθα. If Jesus <u>comes/should come</u>, we will be saved.

Matthew 4:9

ταῦτά σοι πάντα δώσω, ἐὰν πεσὼν προσκυνήσης μοι.

All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.

1.5.2.2 Other dependent clauses (usually with some combination of av). Below are other particles in Greek that will introduce clauses taking the subjunctive mood.

ὅταν (ὅτε + ἄν)	whenever	ὅταν ὁ Ἰησοῦς <u>ἔλθη</u> , σωθησόμεθα.	Whenever J. comes, we will be saved.
ὃς ἄν	whoever	ὃς ἄν <u>ἔλθη</u> σώσει ἡμᾶς.	Whoever comes will save us.
ὅπου ἄν	wherever	ὅπου ἄν <u>ἔλθη</u> , σώσει τὸν λαὸς αὐτοῦ.	Wherever he goes, he will save his people.
ἕως	until	ἕως (ἄν) ὁ Ἰησοῦς <u>ἔλθη</u> , οὐ σωθησόμεθα.	Until J. comes, we will not be saved.
ἕως ἄν	until		

1.6 The Subjunctive Mood verb in INDEPENDENT/MAIN clauses.

1.6.1 Hortatory Subjunctive: This is a first-person subjunctive (usually plural) in which the S encourages him/herself (if plural, those with the S) to perform some verb. Translated 'Let me/us do X'.

προσευχώμεθα. Let's pray.

Mark 4:35

διέλθωμεν εἰς τὸ πέραν. Let's go to the other side.

1.6.2 Deliberative Subjunctive: This form is used in the 1st person when the subject poses a question to him/herself (if plural, those with the S) as to the course of action to take. Translated 'Shall I/we do X?' or 'Should I/we do X?'

Matthew 6:31 Μὴ οὖν μεριμνήσητε λέγοντες· τί φάγωμεν; ἤ· τί πίωμεν; ἤ· τί περιβαλώμεθα;

Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'

1.7 Negating the Subjunctive Mood verb

Indicative mood verbs are negated with où; all other moods (including subjunctive) are negated with $\mu\dot{\eta}$.

οὐ μή + Aor Subj is a strengthened negation!

John 11:26 καὶ πᾶς ὁ ζῶν καὶ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμὲ οὐ μὴ ἀποθάνη εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα. πιστεύεις τοῦτο;

and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

- 1.8 Asking YES/NO questions in Greek. (also called "polar" questions)
 - 1.8.1 Neutral questions.

Do you love the man?

άγαπᾶς τὸν ἄνθρωπον;

1.8.2 Questions expecting affirmative response.

You love the man, don't you?

οὐκ ἀγαπᾶς τὸν ἄνθρωπον;

1.8.3 Questions expecting negative response.

You don't love the man, do you? μὴ ἀγαπᾶς τὸν ἄνθρωπον;