Greek (Modern)

Examine the sounds [x], [k], [ç], and [c] in the following data set.
• [x] represents a voiceless velar oral fricative
• [ç] represents a voiceless palatal oral fricative
• [c] represents a voiceless palatal oral stop

(1) Determine which of these four sounds are in contrastive distribution, and which are in complementary distribution.

(2) How many phonemes should we set up for these four sounds in Greek? What are their allophones?

[ kano ] ‘do’           [ kori ] ‘daughter’
[ xano ] ‘lose’         [ xori ] ‘dances’
[ çino ] ‘pour’         [ xrima ] ‘money’
[ cino ] ‘move’         [ krima ] ‘shame’
[ kali ] ‘charms’       [ xufta ] ‘handful’
[ xali ] ‘plight’       [ kufeta ] ‘bonbons’
[ çeli ] ‘eel’          [ oçi ] ‘no’
[ ceri ] ‘candle’       [ oci ] ‘2.82 pounds’
[ çeri ] ‘hand’