L2/26-058

Universal Coded Character Set
International Organization for Standardization
Organisation Internationale de Normalisation
Международная Организация по Стандартизации

Doc Type:	Working Group Document
Title:	Updated proposal to encode Rma script to UCS
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Status:	Individual Contribution to WG2 & UTC
Action:	For consideration by WG2 & UTC
Date:	2025–11–22

0 Executive summary

This proposal is a revised version of:

- L2/22–130, “Preliminary proposal to encode Rma script to UCS” (Version 2)
- L2/25–129, “Proposal to encode Rma script to UCS”

and it incorporates comments made by the SEW and other experts in:

- Notes on 2025-02-14 SEW meeting
- Notes on 2025-03-07 SEW meeting

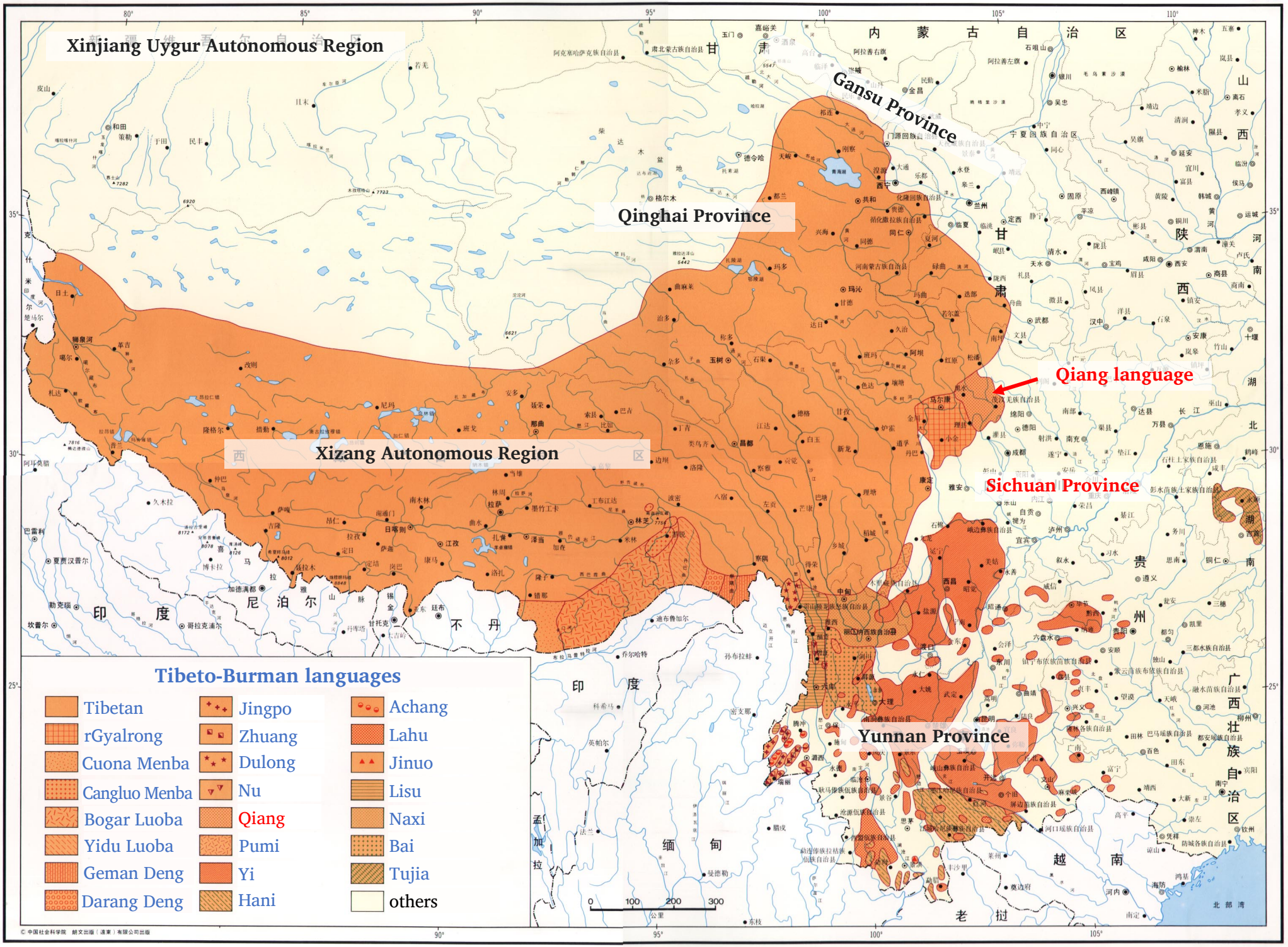
to propose adding 69 Rma characters in order to support the Rma script.

1 Introduction

The Rma script ([Rma], *rrmea lehhrr*, 尔玛文) is an alphabetic script with some features of Abugida, written by the Qiang people of Sichuan Province, PRC, to record the Qiang language.

The Qiang people have a long history. More than 3,000 years ago, the activities of the Qiang people were recorded in the oracle bones of the Shang dynasty (商朝), and they were mainly distributed in the northwestern and central plains of China. Today, the Qiang people are mainly distributed in the Mao County (茂县), Wenchuan County (汶川县), Li County (理县), Heishui County (黑水县) and Songpan County (松潘县) in Aba Tibetan and Qiang Autonomous Prefecture (阿坝藏族羌族自治州), Sichuan Province, China, with a total population of about 313,000 according to 2021 statistics.

The Qiang language is a Tibetan-Burman language with approximately 150,000 Qiang and Tibetan speakers (see the figure in the next page). The language is divided into two dialects, the Northern Qiang dialect (ISO 639-3: cng) and the Southern Qiang dialect (ISO 639-3: qxs), with five subdialects in the Northern and seven in the Southern. The Northern dialect is basically interlingual, while the Southern dialect is basically non-interlingual.


Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region
Gansu Province
Qinghai Province
Qiang language
Xizang Autonomous Region
Sichuan Province
Yunnan Province
Tibeto-Burman languages
Tibetan
rGyalrong
Cuona Menba
Cangluo Menba
Bogar Luoba
Yidu Luoba
Geman Deng
Darang Deng
Jingpo
Zhuang
Dulong
Nu
Qiang
Pumi
Yi
Hani
Achang
Lahu
Jinuo
Lisu
Naxi
Bai
Tujia
others
0 100 200 300
公里

In 1990, at the request of the Qiang people, the Sichuan provincial government created the Qiang written with Latin script (Sun, 2012), also known as Latin Qiang. Note the distinction between the Qiang language and the Qiangic branch, which is a language branch under the Tibetan-Burmese languages including the languages such as Qiang, rGyalrongic and Pumi.

The Rma script is a newly developed script. Its name derives from the endonym of the Qiang people (/ʐ̩me/, *rrmea*), and it is developed by Wei Jiuqiao and Wan Xing (万幸, [illegible]) in 2016. The glyph shapes for the letters were originally derived from the patterns of goat's horn [1] and cloud commonly used by the Qiang people. A textbook was published in 2018 [**Fig. 2**, Wei and Wang], indicating its stability in recording the Qugu Qiang.

Since 2019, the Qiang people living in Beichuan Qiang Autonomous County (北川羌族自治县), Mianyang City (绵阳市), Sichuan Province have been using the Rma script to write their language in Qiang cultural transmission and daily life. A number of running texts are shown in the accompanying illustrations following the main text.

2 Script details

2.1 Encoding model

The Rma script has some characteristics of the Abugida, such as the fact that the grapheme corresponding to a consonant always serves as the base character, while the grapheme corresponding to some vowels serves as the combining mark, and requires other graphemes in order to co-represent a single vowel phoneme. This phenomenon can be compared with the Tibetan script, in which the grapheme corresponding to a vowel needs to be combined with TIBETAN LETTER A (u0F68) when recording individual vowel phonemes.

However, Rma script cannot be fully categorized as Abugida because, first, the grapheme corresponding to a consonant does not carry an inherited vowel, but rather denotes a purely consonant phoneme. Although the names of the graphemes corresponding to these consonants contain the /a/ phoneme, in the vast majority of cases (*i.e.*, where the syllable does not contain a zero initial, or in the syllable with zero initial, where the final is not /a/, such as /au/, /an/), the grapheme corresponding to /a/ phoneme cannot be omitted. Second, the grapheme corresponding to some vowels serves as the base characters, and some other combining marks can be added above and below it. Note that in this case the grapheme cannot yet be called an "independent vowel", since the independent vowel in Brahmi model already restricts the syllable to contain a zero initial, whereas in the Rma script such a grapheme can follow a grapheme corresponding to a consonant to form a syllable.

Therefore, this document treats the Rma script as an alphabet, unlike the various previous versions which treated as an Abugida. This requires abandoning the concept of "dependent vowel" and "independent vowel" in favor of simple nomenclature, and the function of each letter is described in detail in the following sections of this document.

[1] (From L2/22–130) The Qiang people refer to azaleas as "the flower of goat's horn". The devastating Wenchuan earthquake occurred on 12 May 2008. The area where the earthquake struck is home to the Qiang people. The song *The Flower of Goat's Horn Blossoms Again*, written by Freeking Chen and Liang Tianshan and sung by Sara Liu, pays tribute to the victims.

2.2 Consonant letters and vowel carrier

There are 47 consonant letters and 1 vowel carrier:

BA	LA	XA	SSA
PA	RLA	XXA	ZHA
BBA	GA	GVA	CHA
MA	KA	KVA	DHA
FA	GGA	GVVA	SHA
WA	NGA	VHA	RRA
WFA	HA	VA	ZHJA
DA	HHA	VVA	CHQA
TA	JA	ZA	DHJA
DDA	QA	CA	SHXA
NA	JJA	ZZA	RRYA
LHA	YA	SA	AGVEI

Vowel carrier. The AGVEI behaves as a vowel carrier in syllables with zero initial, like the TIBETAN LETTER A (u0F68), instead of recording the glottal stop. The appendix also mentions that, in addition to serving as a vowel carrier in syllables with zero initial, The AGVEI is used to indicate long vowels in phonologies where there is contrast between long and short vowels, or to be involved in indicating the tones in phonologies where syllables have different tones.

Letter gvva, letters zhja to rrya. These six characters do not appear in L2/22–130, but were added as a result of an investigation into the use of Rma for recording Taoping Qiang. Unlike the standard phonology of Qugu Qiang, Taoping Qiang produces contrast between palatals and postalveolar consonants, and the double-consonant initial /χɢ/ was retained in it without evolving into /ʁ/, so the writers chose to add a stroke under the letter GVA, the letters ZHA to RRA to record these unique phonemes in Taoping Qiang. **Fig.1** does not contain these letters because it shows the alphabet for standard phonology of Qugu Qiang.

2.3 Vowel letters and vowel marks

There are 5 vowel letters and 3 vowel marks (presented with dotted circle):

AMEGV	EAMEAGV	EGED	YU
AEMAEGV	UGUD	I	O

The vowel letters and vowel marks are pronounced slightly differently when recording different phonology. For example, in the phonology contrasting /a/ and /ɑ/, AEMAEGV and AMEGV record /a/ and /ɑ/, respectively, otherwise /æ/ and /a/, respectively. See the appendix for detail.

For the graphemes recording vowels, a grapheme will be analyzed as a mark when it is zero-width, or as a base character when it is not zero-width. For syllables consisting only of the vowel, the AMEGV, AEMAEGV, EAMEAGV, UGUD and EGED need to follow the AGVEI. Also note that UGUD and EGED have a tendency to touch the preceding base character in their strokes, but it is also acceptable not to make the stroke touch. See the appendix for detail.

Confusable pairs. Note that the following three pairs of strings are easily confused: ⟨ı I, ɹ UGUD⟩ ∼ ⟨u DA⟩, ⟨ı I, ˥ EGED⟩ ∼ ⟨ɲ XA⟩, and ⟨ꞁ YU, ˥ EGED⟩ ∼ ⟨ɲ YA⟩. The first pair and third pair are invalid Rma syllables and thus will not appear in correct Rma text; the second pair may appear in Rma text but is rarely used, occurring only in ⟨ʂ LA, ı I, ˥ EGED, ɹ UGUD⟩, while the consonant cluster ⟨ʂ LA, ɲ XA⟩ is invalid in Qiang language and therefore will not cause confusion either.

2.4 Nasalization indicator and rhotacization indicator

There are 1 nasalization indicator and 1 rhotacization indicator:

◌̧ ENN	ɼ ER

Although the nasalization indicator ◌̧ ENN will add some width to the grapheme that it modifies, it still needs to be analyzed as a mark because, for example, for the string ⟨ı I, ◌̧ ENN, ◌̇ AMEGV⟩ (ı̧̇), that records /ĩa/ in Qugu Qiang, if ◌̧ ENN were not to be analyzed as a mark, the vowel ◌̇ AMEGV would be assumed to modify the nasalization indicator ◌̧ ENN, which is unacceptable.

2.5 Tone marks

There are 2 tone marks:

◌̄ TONE HIGH	◌̠ TONE LOW

2.6 Syllable structure

The Rma script has a dual-layer structure consisting of linguistic syllables and orthographic syllables. Each linguistic syllable corresponds to a phonetic syllable and is composed of one or more orthographic syllables.

The aforementioned letters are classified into the following seven categories: **C** for the consonants and the vowel carrier, **Vm** for the vowel marks, **Vl** for the vowel letters, **Th** for the high tone, **N** for the nasalization indicator, **Tl** for the low tone, and **R** for the rhotacization indicator.

```
C (48 characters) := [BA..RRYA AGVEI]
Vm (3 characters) := [AMEGV AEMAEGV EAMEAGV]
Vl (5 characters) := [UGUD EGED I YU O]
Th (1 character) := [HIGH]
N (1 character) := [ENN]
Tl (1 character) := [LOW]
R (1 character) := [ER]
```

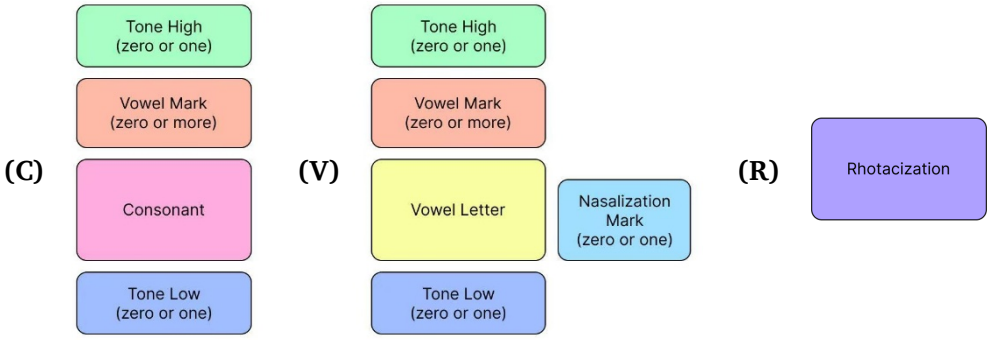
All orthographic syllable structures can be categorized into three types:

C-type. This type follows the regular expression **C Tl? Vm* Th?**, beginning with a required consonant, followed by an optional low tone , then an optional sequence of vowel marks, and finally an optional high tone.

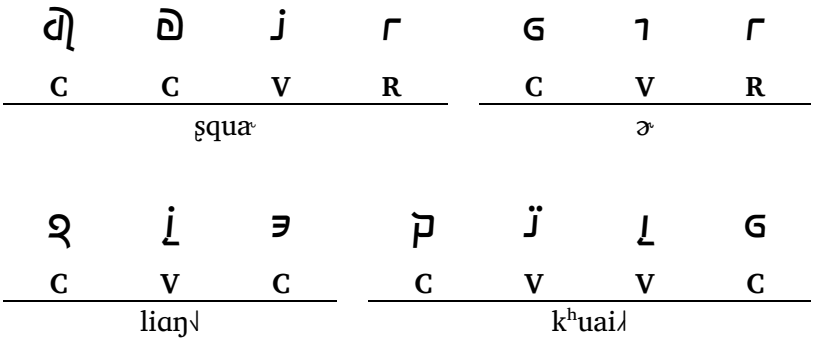
V-type. This type follows the regular expression **Vl N? Tl? Vm* Th?**, beginning with a required vowel letter, followed by an optional nasalization indicator, then an optional low

tone, then an optional sequence of vowel marks and an optional high tone. N connects to the preceding ꠰ I, ꠳ UGUD, or ꠸ YU to the right in its glyph form, and additional vowels and tones can be added above or below the vowel letter with the N. Linguistically, N is indeed used solely to modify the glide, not the nucleus. Since we set N as ccc=204, which is smaller than other vowels and tones, N follows immediately after Vl in the character sequence. However, typographically, it appears to be analyzed as modifying the entire Vl Tl Vm Th.

R-type. This type follows the regular expression R, that is to say, the regular expression is simply the single character ꠇ ER.



A linguistic syllable follows the regular expression **(C|V)+ R?**, beginning with several **C** or **V**, followed by an optional **R** at the end. Generally speaking, a linguistic Qiang syllable contains no more than two **C** as the initial and no more than three **V** as the nucleus. For examples:



2.7 Symbol

There is 1 symbol, which is also the origin of the letter ꠖ RRA and the letter ꠢ MA.

ꠖꠢ SYMBOL RRMEA

This symbol is used to record the endonym of the Qiang people, instead of using spelling forms, such as ⟨ꠖ RRA, ꠢ MA, ◌̀ EAMEAGV⟩ (/ʐ̩me/, *rrmea*) in Mao county and Wenchuan county. Since the endonym of Qiang people is pronounced differently in different regions (*e.g.* /rma/ in Heishui county, /χmɑ/ in Li county, /mɑ/ in Longxi town), this symbol is pronounced differently in different regions.

2.8 Punctuation and digits

There are 8 Rma-specific punctuation:

- FULL STOP
- COMMA
- EXCLAMATION MARK
- QUESTION MARK
- LEFT DOUBLE QUOTATION MARK
- RIGHT DOUBLE QUOTATION MARK
- LEFT SINGLE QUOTATION MARK
- RIGHT SINGLE QUOTATION MARK

It has been confirmed that the Rma comma is different from the ASCII comma, rather than design variants of the same symbol. When Rma script and Latin script occur together, it is recognized that the comma used by both should not be confused.

The following punctuation are used for the Rma script:

- : COLON (u003A)
- ; SEMICOLON (u003B)
- … HORIZONTAL ELLIPSIS (u2026)
- - HYPHEN-MINUS (u002D)
- — EM DASH (u2014)
- (LEFT PARENTHESIS (u0028)
-) RIGHT PARENTHESIS (u0029)
- 《 LEFT DOUBLE ANGLE BRACKET (u300A)
- 》 RIGHT DOUBLE ANGLE BRACKET (u300B)
- 〈 LEFT SINGLE ANGLE BRACKET (u3008)
- 〉 RIGHT SINGLE ANGLE BRACKET (u3009)

After discussion, CJK brackets were recommended by the community over guillemets.

There is no Rma-specific digit. The European digits are used in Rma running texts.

2.9 Collation

In Rma script, the order of syllables is first based on the order of initials (the zero initial, i.e., the filler, comes first), with consonant clusters following the initial consonants; within the same consonants, the order of finals is based on the order of vowels. The high tone mark and the low tone mark are ignored first, and when the initial and final of the syllable are the same, then the ignored strings are considered.

Therefore, the order of Rma syllables can be handled as a purely character order, that is:

TONE HIGH < TONE LOW < ENN < AGVEI < ER <
AMEGV < AEMAEGV < EAMEAGV < UGUD < EGED < I < YU < O <
BA < PA < BBA < MA < FA < WA < WFA < DA < TA <
DDA < NA < LHA < LA < RLA < GA < KA< GGA < NGA <
HA < HHA < JA < QA < JJA < YA < XA < XXA < GVA <
KVA < GVVA < VHA < VA < VVA < ZA < CA < ZZA < SA <
SSA < ZHA < CHA < DHA < SHA < RRA < ZHJA < CHQA <
DHJA < SHXA < RRYA

3 Proposal

The proposed repertoire is shown as below.

Codepoint	Glyph	Character Name
U+XX00		RMA LETTER BA
U+XX01		RMA LETTER PA
U+XX02		RMA LETTER BBA
U+XX03		RMA LETTER MA
U+XX04		RMA LETTER FA
U+XX05		RMA LETTER WA
U+XX06		RMA LETTER WFA
U+XX07		RMA LETTER DA
U+XX08		RMA LETTER TA
U+XX09		RMA LETTER DDA
U+XX0A		RMA LETTER NA
U+XX0B		RMA LETTER LHA
U+XX0C		RMA LETTER LA
U+XX0D		RMA LETTER RHA
U+XX0E		RMA LETTER GA
U+XX0F		RMA LETTER KA
U+XX10		RMA LETTER GGA
U+XX11		RMA LETTER NGA

U+XX12	𐬀	RMA LETTER HA
U+XX13	𐬁	RMA LETTER HHA
U+XX14	𐬂	RMA LETTER JA
U+XX15	𐬃	RMA LETTER QA
U+XX16	𐬄	RMA LETTER JJA
U+XX17	𐬅	RMA LETTER YA
U+XX18	𐬆	RMA LETTER XA
U+XX19	𐬇	RMA LETTER XXA
U+XX1A	𐬈	RMA LETTER GVA
U+XX1B	𐬉	RMA LETTER KVA
U+XX1C	𐬊	RMA LETTER GVVA
U+XX1D	𐬋	RMA LETTER VHA
U+XX1E	𐬌	RMA LETTER VA
U+XX1F	𐬍	RMA LETTER VVA
U+XX20	𐬎	RMA LETTER ZA
U+XX21	𐬏	RMA LETTER CA
U+XX22	𐬐	RMA LETTER ZZA
U+XX23	𐬑	RMA LETTER SA
U+XX24	𐬒	RMA LETTER SSA
U+XX25	𐬓	RMA LETTER ZHA
U+XX26	𐬔	RMA LETTER CHA
U+XX27	𐬕	RMA LETTER DHA

U+XX28		RMA LETTER SHA
U+XX29		RMA LETTER RRA
U+XX2A		RMA LETTER ZHJA
U+XX2B		RMA LETTER CHQA
U+XX2C		RMA LETTER DHJA
U+XX2D		RMA LETTER SHXA
U+XX2E		RMA LETTER RRYA
U+XX2F		RMA LETTER AGVEI
U+XX30		RMA MARK AMEGV
U+XX31		RMA MARK AEMAEGV
U+XX32		RMA MARK EAMEAGV
U+XX33		RMA LETTER UGUD
U+XX34		RMA LETTER EGED
U+XX35		RMA LETTER I
U+XX36		RMA LETTER YU
U+XX37		RMA LETTER O
U+XX38		RMA MARK ENN
U+XX39		RMA LETTER ER
U+XX3A		RMA MARK TONE HIGH
U+XX3B		RMA MARK TONE LOW
. . .		⟨reserved⟩
U+XX47		RMA SYMBOL RRMEA

U+XX48	؞	RMA FULL STOP
U+XX49	،	RMA COMMA
U+XX4A	؟̀	RMA EXCLAMATION MARK
U+XX4B	؟	RMA QUESTION MARK
U+XX4C	״	RMA LEFT DOUBLE QUOTATION MARK
U+XX4D	״	RMA RIGHT LOW DOUBLE QUOTATION MARK
U+XX4E	׳	RMA LEFT SINGLE QUOTATION MARK
U+XX4F	׳	RMA RIGHT LOW SINGLE QUOTATION MARK

The information in `NamesList.txt` is as follows.

```
@@          XX00       Rma        XX4F
@           Consonants
XX00        RMA LETTER BA
XX01        RMA LETTER PA
XX02        RMA LETTER BBA
XX03        RMA LETTER MA
XX04        RMA LETTER FA
XX05        RMA LETTER WA
XX06        RMA LETTER WFA
XX07        RMA LETTER DA
XX08        RMA LETTER TA
XX09        RMA LETTER DDA
XX0A        RMA LETTER NA
XX0B        RMA LETTER LHA
XX0C        RMA LETTER LA
XX0D        RMA LETTER RLA
XX0E        RMA LETTER GA
XX0F        RMA LETTER KA
XX10        RMA LETTER GGA
XX11        RMA LETTER NGA
XX12        RMA LETTER HA
XX13        RMA LETTER HHA
XX14        RMA LETTER JA
XX15        RMA LETTER QA
XX16        RMA LETTER JJA
XX17        RMA LETTER YA
XX18        RMA LETTER XA
XX19        RMA LETTER XXA
XX1A        RMA LETTER GVA
XX1B        RMA LETTER KVA
XX1C        RMA LETTER GVVA
XX1D        RMA LETTER VHA
XX1E        RMA LETTER VA
XX1F        RMA LETTER VVA
XX20        RMA LETTER ZA
```

```
XX21       RMA LETTER CA
XX22       RMA LETTER ZZA
XX23       RMA LETTER SA
XX24       RMA LETTER SSA
XX25       RMA LETTER ZHA
XX26       RMA LETTER CHA
XX27       RMA LETTER DHA
XX28       RMA LETTER SHA
XX29       RMA LETTER RRA
XX2A       RMA LETTER ZHJA
XX2B       RMA LETTER CHQA
XX2C       RMA LETTER DHJA
XX2D       RMA LETTER SHXA
XX2E       RMA LETTER RRYA
XX2F       RMA LETTER AGVEI
@          Vowels
XX30       RMA MARK AMEGV
XX31       RMA MARK AEMAEGV
XX32       RMA MARK EAMEAGV
XX33       RMA LETTER UGUD
XX34       RMA LETTER EGED
XX35       RMA LETTER I
XX36       RMA LETTER YU
XX37       RMA LETTER O
XX38       RMA MARK ENN
XX39       RMA LETTER ER
@          Tones
XX3A       RMA MARK TONE HIGH
XX3B       RMA MARK TONE LOW
@          Symbol
XX47       RMA SYMBOL RRMEA
@          Punctuation
XX48       RMA FULL STOP
XX49       RMA COMMA
XX4A       RMA EXCLAMATION MARK
XX4B       RMA QUESTION MARK
XX4C       RMA LEFT DOUBLE QUOTATION MARK
XX4D       RMA RIGHT LOW DOUBLE QUOTATION MARK
XX4E       RMA LEFT SINGLE QUOTATION MARK
XX4F       RMA RIGHT LOW SINGLE QUOTATION MARK
```

The information in `UnicodeData.txt` is as follows.

```
XX00;RMA LETTER BA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX01;RMA LETTER PA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX02;RMA LETTER BBA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX03;RMA LETTER MA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX04;RMA LETTER FA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX05;RMA LETTER WA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX06;RMA LETTER WFA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX07;RMA LETTER DA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX08;RMA LETTER TA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX09;RMA LETTER DDA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX0A;RMA LETTER NA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX0B;RMA LETTER LHA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX0C;RMA LETTER LA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX0D;RMA LETTER RLA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX0E;RMA LETTER GA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX0F;RMA LETTER KA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX10;RMA LETTER GGA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX11;RMA LETTER NGA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX12;RMA LETTER HA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX13;RMA LETTER HHA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
```

```
XX14;RMA LETTER JA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX15;RMA LETTER QA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX16;RMA LETTER JJA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX17;RMA LETTER YA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX18;RMA LETTER XA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX19;RMA LETTER XXA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX1A;RMA LETTER GVA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX1B;RMA LETTER KVA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX1C;RMA LETTER GVVA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX1D;RMA LETTER VHA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX1E;RMA LETTER VA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX1F;RMA LETTER VVA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX20;RMA LETTER ZA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX21;RMA LETTER CA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX22;RMA LETTER ZZA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX23;RMA LETTER SA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX24;RMA LETTER SSA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX25;RMA LETTER ZHA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX26;RMA LETTER CHA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX27;RMA LETTER DHA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX28;RMA LETTER SHA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX29;RMA LETTER RRA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX2A;RMA LETTER ZHJA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX2B;RMA LETTER CHQA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX2C;RMA LETTER DHJA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX2D;RMA LETTER SHXA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX2E;RMA LETTER RRYA;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX2F;RMA LETTER AGVEI;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX30;RMA MARK AMEGV;Mn;230;NSM;;;;;N;;;;;
XX31;RMA MARK AEMAEGV;Mn;230;NSM;;;;;N;;;;;
XX32;RMA MARK EAMEAGV;Mn;230;NSM;;;;;N;;;;;
XX33;RMA LETTER UGUD;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX34;RMA LETTER EGED;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX35;RMA LETTER I;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX36;RMA LETTER YU;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX37;RMA LETTER O;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX38;RMA MARK ENN;Mc;204;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX39;RMA LETTER ER;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX3A;RMA MARK TONE HIGH;Mn;230;NSM;;;;;N;;;;;
XX3B;RMA MARK TONE LOW;Mn;220;NSM;;;;;N;;;;;
XX47;RMA SYMBOL RRMEA;So;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
XX48;RMA FULL STOP;Po;0;ON;;;;;N;;;;;
XX49;RMA COMMA;Po;0;ON;;;;;N;;;;;
XX4A;RMA EXCLAMATION MARK;Po;0;ON;;;;;N;;;;;
XX4B;RMA QUESTION MARK;Po;0;ON;;;;;N;;;;;
XX4C;RMA LEFT DOUBLE QUOTATION MARK;Ps;0;ON;;;;;N;;;;;
XX4D;RMA RIGHT LOW DOUBLE QUOTATION MARK;Pe;0;ON;;;;;N;;;;;
XX4E;RMA LEFT SINGLE QUOTATION MARK;Ps;0;ON;;;;;N;;;;;
XX4F;RMA RIGHT LOW SINGLE QUOTATION MARK;Pe;0;ON;;;;;N;;;;;
```

The information in `EastAsianWidth.txt` is as follows.

```
XX00..XX2F   ; N              # Lo [48] RMA LETTER BA..RMA LETTER AGVEI
XX30..XX32   ; N              # Mn  [3]  RMA MARK AMEGV..RMA MARK EAMEAGV
XX33..XX37   ; N              # Lo  [5]  RMA LETTER UGUD..RMA LETTER O
XX38         ; N              # Mc       RMA NASALIZATION MARK
XX39         ; N              # Lo       RMA RHOTACIZATION MARK
XX47         ; N              # So       RMA SYMBOL RRMEA
XX48..XX4B   ; N              # Po  [4]  RMA FULL STOP..RMA QUESTION MARK
XX4C         ; N              # Ps       RMA LEFT DOUBLE QUOTATION MARK
XX4D         ; N              # Pe       RMA RIGHT LOW DOUBLE QUOTATION MARK
XX4E         ; N              # Ps       RMA LEFT SINGLE QUOTATION MARK
XX4F         ; N              # Pe       RMA RIGHT LOW SINGLE QUOTATION MARK
```

The information in `LineBreak.txt` is as follows.

```
XX00..XX2F   ; AL             # Lo [48] RMA LETTER BA..RMA LETTER AGVEI
XX30..XX32   ; CM             # Mn  [3]  RMA MARK AMEGV..RMA MARK EAMEAGV
XX33..XX37   ; CM             # Lo  [5]  RMA LETTER UGUD..RMA LETTER O
XX38         ; CM             # Mc       RMA NASALIZATION MARK
XX39         ; AL             # Lo       RMA RHOTACIZATION MARK
XX3A..XX3B   ; CM             # Mn  [2]  RMA TONE HIGH..RMA TONE LOW
XX47         ; AL             # So       RMA SYMBOL RRMEA
XX48..XX4B   ; CL             # Po  [4]  RMA FULL STOP..RMA QUESTION MARK
XX4C         ; OP             # Ps       RMA LEFT DOUBLE QUOTATION MARK
XX4D         ; CL             # Pe       RMA RIGHT LOW DOUBLE QUOTATION MARK
XX4E         ; OP             # Ps       RMA LEFT SINGLE QUOTATION MARK
XX4F         ; CL             # Pe       RMA RIGHT LOW SINGLE QUOTATION MARK
```

The information in `PropList.txt` is as follows.

```
XX4C         ; Quotation_Mark         # Ps        RMA LEFT DOUBLE QUOTATION MARK
XX4D         ; Quotation_Mark         # Pe        RMA RIGHT LOW DOUBLE QUOTATION MARK
XX4E         ; Quotation_Mark         # Ps        RMA LEFT SINGLE QUOTATION MARK
XX4F         ; Quotation_Mark         # Pe        RMA RIGHT LOW SINGLE QUOTATION MARK

XX48..XX4B   ; Terminal_Punctuation   # Po [4]    RMA FULL STOP..RMA QUESTION MARK
XX48..XX4B   ; Sentence_Terminal      # Po [4]    RMA FULL STOP..RMA QUESTION MARK
```

The information in `VerticalOrientation.txt` is shown as below.

```
XX00..XX2F   ; R              # Lo [48] RMA LETTER BA..RMA LETTER AGVEI
XX30..XX32   ; R              # Mn  [3]  RMA MARK AMEGV..RMA MARK EAMEAGV
XX33..XX37   ; R              # Lo  [5]  RMA LETTER UGUD..RMA LETTER O
XX38         ; R              # Mc       RMA NASALIZATION MARK
XX39         ; R              # Lo       RMA RHOTACIZATION MARK
XX3A..XX3B   ; R              # Mn  [2]  RMA TONE HIGH..RMA TONE LOW
XX47         ; R              # So       RMA SYMBOL RRMEA
XX48..XX4B   ; R              # Po  [4]  RMA FULL STOP..RMA QUESTION MARK
XX4C         ; R              # Ps       RMA LEFT DOUBLE QUOTATION MARK
XX4D         ; R              # Pe       RMA RIGHT LOW DOUBLE QUOTATION MARK
XX4E         ; R              # Ps       RMA LEFT SINGLE QUOTATION MARK
XX4F         ; R              # Pe       RMA RIGHT LOW SINGLE QUOTATION MARK
```

The Rma script is a newly proposed script for ISO 15924. The suggested code is `Rmea`.

```
Script=Rmea
```

The information in `ScriptExtensions.txt` is shown as below.

```
3008 ; Bopo Hang Hani Hira Kana Mong Tibt Yiii Rmea #Ps LEFT ANGLE BRACKET
3009 ; Bopo Hang Hani Hira Kana Mong Tibt Yiii Rmea #Pe RIGHT ANGLE BRACKET
300A ; Bopo Hang Hani Hira Kana Lisu Mong Tibt Yiii Rmea #Ps LEFT DOUBLE ANGLE BRACKET
300B ; Bopo Hang Hani Hira Kana Lisu Mong Tibt Yiii Rmea #Pe RIGHT DOUBLE ANGLE BRACKET
```

Acknowledgement

We would like to express our gratitude to our friends who provided us with relevant photos for the purpose of writing this document, and to the experts who helped us review the text.

We would also like to express our sincerest condolences and profound respect to Professor Sun Hongkai (孙宏开) and Professor Huang Bufan (黄布凡), who recently passed away. their invaluable contribution to the study of the Qiangic branch of the Tibetan-Burmese language family has enabled us to advance our research to a new level.

Reference

孙宏开 / Sun Hongkai. (2012). “论藏缅语族中的羌语支语言” / “On the Qiangic Branch of the Tibeto-Burman Language Group”, in: 戴庆厦 / Dai Qingxia (ed.), 中国少数民族语言文字研究（一） / *Studies on Ethnic Languages in China* (Volume 1). 北京 / Beijing: 民族出版社 / Ethnic Publishing House.

中国社会科学院语言研究所, 中国社会科学院民族学与人类学研究所, 香港城市大学语言资讯科学研究中心. (2012). 中国语言地图集 / *Language Atlas of China*. 北京 / Beijing: 商务印书馆 / The Commercial Press.

魏久喬 / Wei Jiuqiao, 王玉琴 / Wang Yuqin (2018). 跟玉琴學羌語 / *Learning Qiang Language with Yuqin*. 臺北 / Taipei: 華人一家文化企業社.

〈rrmea.cn/vvaqi〉.

〈weijiuqiao.github.io/qiang_script/〉.

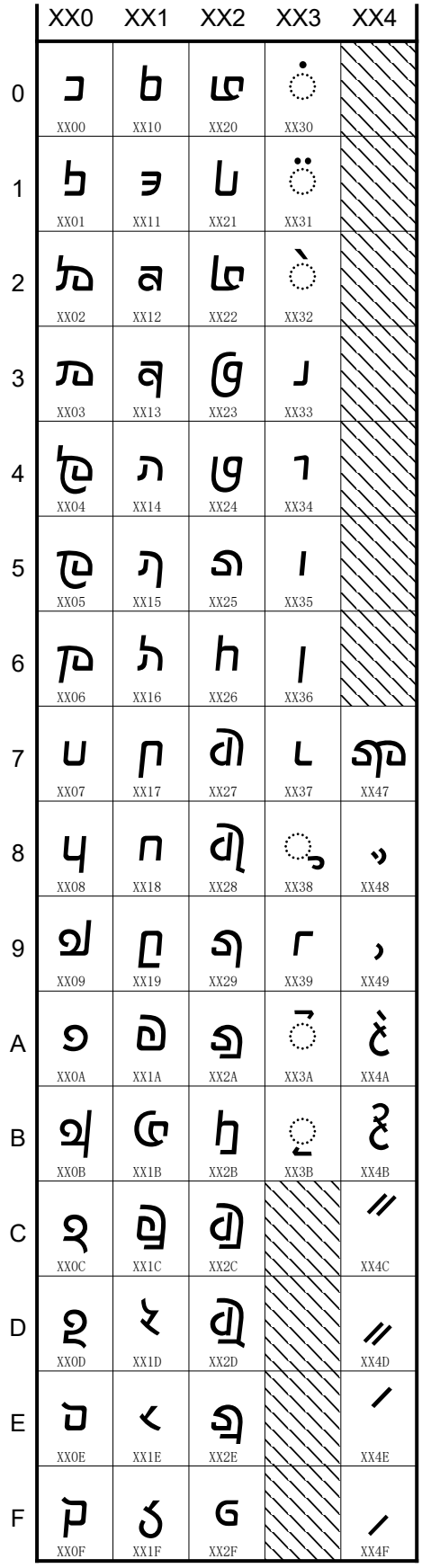
The appendix cites more references because it dives into the various Qiang phonologies. The references cited in appendix are not cited again in this document.

Appendix 1 Phonology of Qiang language

This appendix, modified from the proposal “Feedback on preliminary proposal to encode Rma script to UCS” by Kushim Jiang, previously presented the phonologies of Qugu Qiang, Luobozhai Qiang, Taoping Qiang, and Baishui Qiang, illustrating how the Rma script records their initials, finals, and tones. In addition, it previously gave a comparison of Rma Qiang and Latin Qiang when recording Qugu Qiang.

The content of this section has now been moved to:
weijiuqiao.github.io/qiang_script/qiang-phonology.pdf,
which also maintains the latest version of this section.

XX00 **Rma** **XX4F**



Consonants

XX00 RMA LETTER BA
XX01 RMA LETTER PA
XX02 RMA LETTER BBA
XX03 RMA LETTER MA
XX04 RMA LETTER FA
XX05 RMA LETTER WA
XX06 RMA LETTER WFA
XX07 RMA LETTER DA
XX08 RMA LETTER TA
XX09 RMA LETTER DDA
XX0A RMA LETTER NA
XX0B RMA LETTER LHA
XX0C RMA LETTER LA
XX0D RMA LETTER RLA
XX0E RMA LETTER GA
XX0F RMA LETTER KA
XX10 RMA LETTER GGA
XX11 RMA LETTER NGA
XX12 RMA LETTER HA
XX13 RMA LETTER HHA
XX14 RMA LETTER JA
XX15 RMA LETTER QA
XX16 RMA LETTER JJA
XX17 RMA LETTER YA
XX18 RMA LETTER XA
XX19 RMA LETTER 161A
XX1A RMA LETTER GVA
XX1B RMA LETTER KVA
XX1C RMA LETTER GVVA
XX1D RMA LETTER VHA
XX1E RMA LETTER VA
XX1F RMA LETTER VVA
XX20 RMA LETTER ZA
XX21 RMA LETTER CA
XX22 RMA LETTER ZZA
XX23 RMA LETTER SA
XX24 RMA LETTER SSA
XX25 RMA LETTER ZHA
XX26 RMA LETTER CHA
XX27 RMA LETTER DHA
XX28 RMA LETTER SHA
XX29 RMA LETTER RRA
XX2A RMA LETTER ZHJA
XX2B RMA LETTER CHQA
XX2C RMA LETTER DHJA
XX2D RMA LETTER SHXA
XX2E RMA LETTER RRYA
XX2F RMA LETTER AGVEI

Vowels

XX30 RMA MARK AMEGV
XX31 RMA MARK AEMAEGV
XX32 RMA MARK EAMEAGV
XX33 RMA LETTER UGUD
XX34 RMA LETTER EGED
XX35 RMA LETTER I
XX36 RMA LETTER YU
XX37 RMA LETTER O
XX38 RMA MARK ENN
XX39 RMA LETTER ER

Tones

XX3A RMA MARK TONE HIGH
XX3B RMA MARK TONE LOW

Symbol

XX47 RMA SYMBOL RRMEA

Punctuation

XX48 RMA FULL STOP
XX49 RMA COMMA
XX4A RMA EXCLAMATION MARK
XX4B RMA QUESTION MARK
XX4C RMA LEFT DOUBLE QUOTATION MARK
XX4D RMA RIGHT LOW DOUBLE QUOTATION MARK
XX4E RMA LEFT SINGLE QUOTATION MARK
XX4F RMA RIGHT LOW SINGLE QUOTATION MARK

Figures

Fig. 1 Rma alphabet
The alphabet uses a different font than this proposal.
Note the handwritten variants of letter *a* ◌̇ (the last letter on line 5) and *ae* ◌̈ (the last letter on line 7) shown on the alphabet.

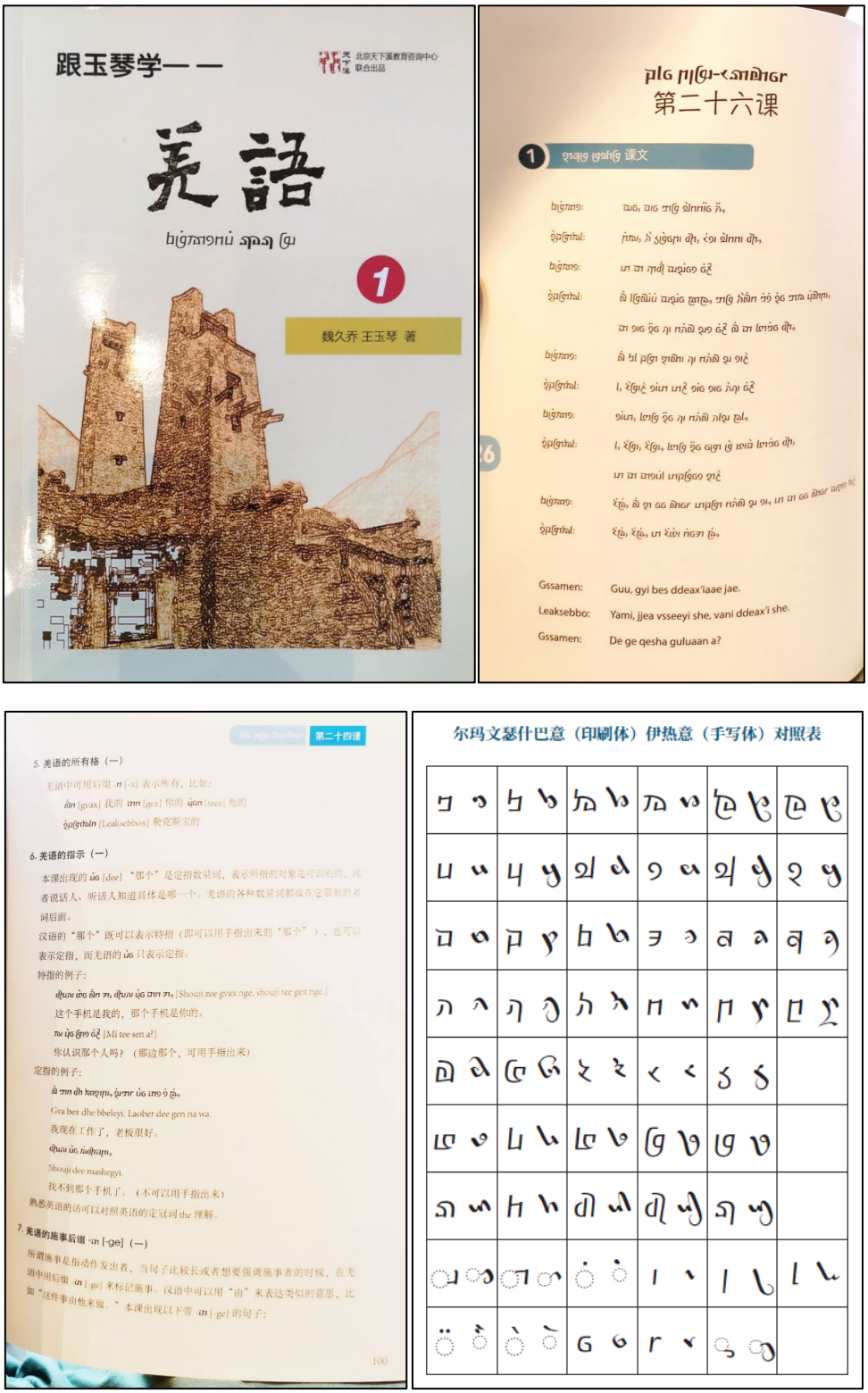


Fig. 2 The Qiang language textbook with Rma script
From left to right, top to bottom:
Fig. 2(a), 2(b) and 2(c), the cover page and inner pages of the textbook, copied from the article describing the textbook on the WeChat Public Account; Fig. 2(d), printed and handwritten forms of the Rma letters shown in the textbook, cited in L2/22–130.

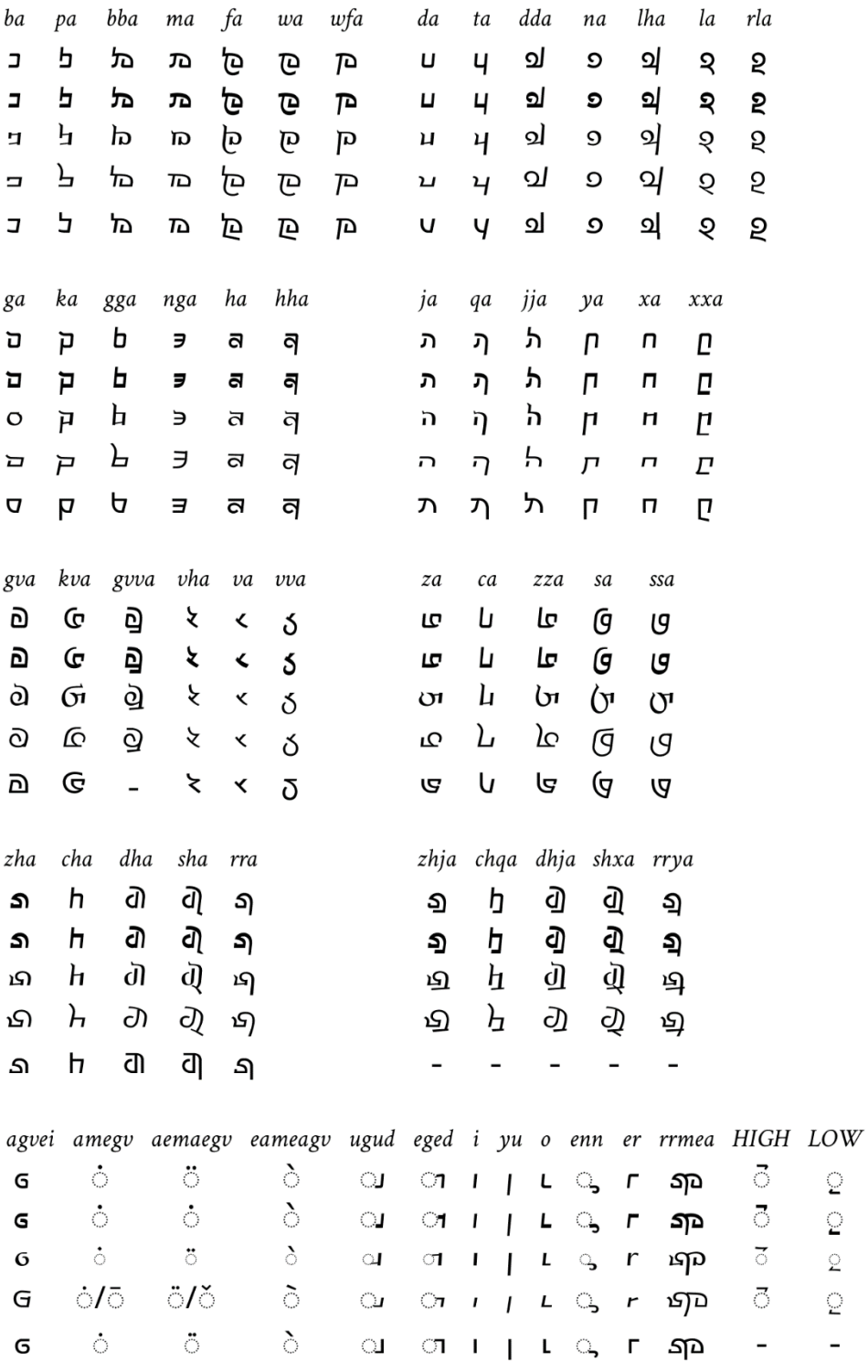


Fig. 3 Glyph comparison of five Rma typefaces
Note that the dotted circle in ugud and eged indicated that they need to follow the vowel carrier when recording the vowel.

Fig. 4 Rma script used in Luobozhai, Wenchuan (汶川县萝卜寨村)
From left to right, top to bottom:
Fig. 4(a), Luobozhai children learning to write Rma script;
Fig. 4(b), Signboard of B&B guesthouse in Luobozhai, showing *gveerxīxi*;
Fig. 4(c) and 4(d), front and back of a leaflet describing Luobozhai,
showing *vvuazigver*.

Fig. 5 Rma script used in Wenchuan Happy Ranch (汶川开心牧场) in Weizhou, Wenchuan

From left to right, top to bottom:

Fig. 5(a), road sign showing the 3rd camp in Wenchuan Happy Ranch;

Fig. 5(b), hats as cultural and creative products; Fig. 5(c), road sign as Fig. 5(a);

Fig. 5(d), ticket for Wenchuan Happy Ranch. All figures show *kuazaxivilibī*.

Fig. 6 Rma script used in Beichuan (北川羌族自治县)
From left to right, top to bottom:
Fig. 6(a), Beichuan Salang Association holds New Year activities at Gao'an village, showing *juda rrmea suagea salengw xea rrmuzus*;
Fig. 6(b), poster outside the venue for a wedding;
Fig. 6(c), poster in the venue for a wedding;
Fig. 6(d), Beichuan Salang Association holds mid-year gathering events;
Fig. 6(e) and 6(f), events held by Beichuan Salang Association cited in L2/22–130.

Fig. 7 Rma script used in the movie playing on the screens in Chengdu (成都) subway

Fig. 8 Rma script used in a traditional sports event in Weizhou town (威州镇), Wenchuan county

Fig. 9 Rma script used in various scenarios
From left to right, top to bottom:
Fig. 9(a), a poster for a singer group, showing *rrmea shebi*;
Fig. 9(b), a wedding invitation from Mao county;
Fig. 9(c), a leaflet for student activities created by students;
Fig. 9(d), Comments written in Rma script on government documents.

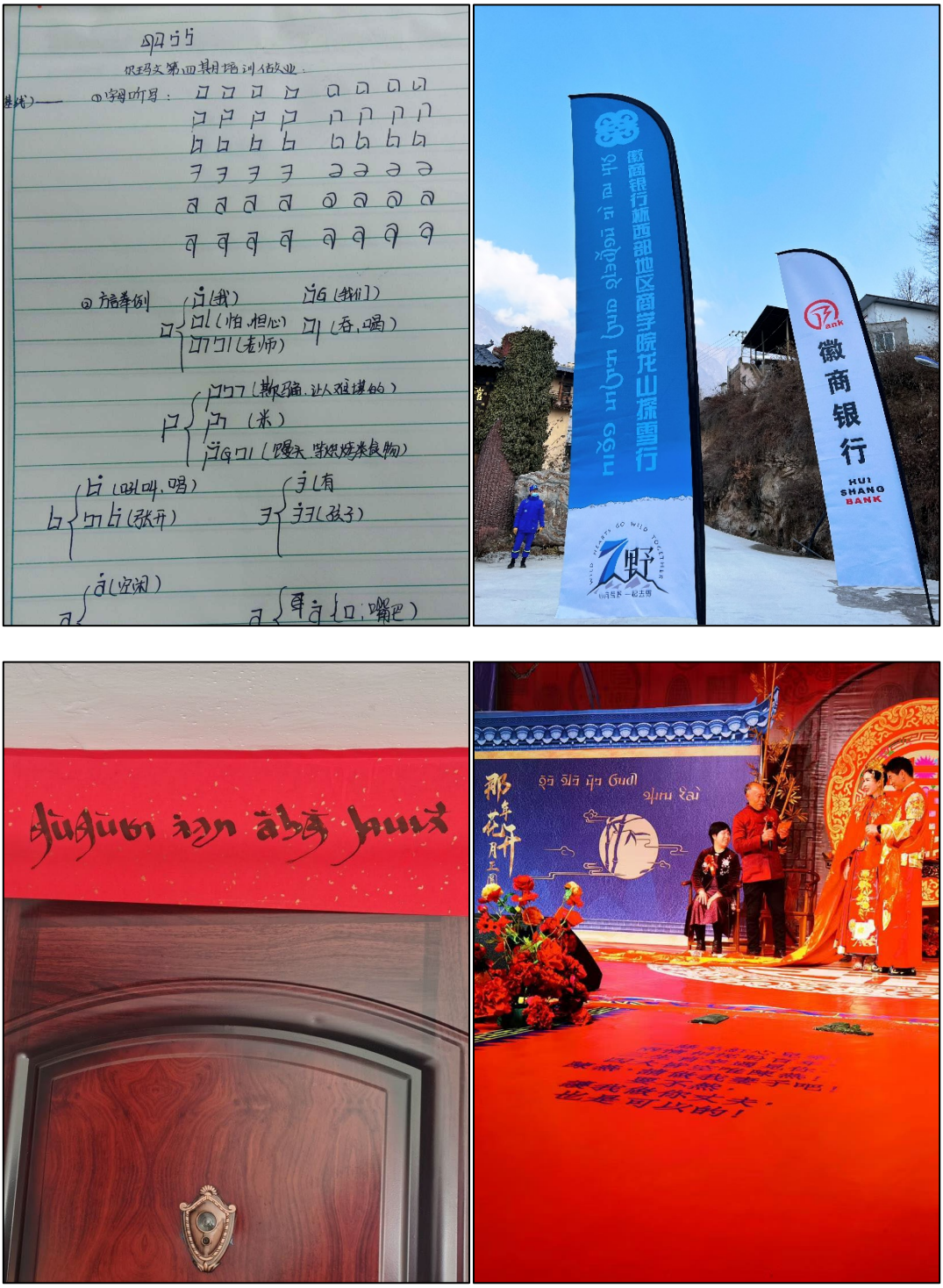


Fig. 10 Rma script used in various scenarios
From left to right, top to bottom:
Fig. 10(a), homework of a Qiang student;
Fig. 10(b), posters for events organized by Huishang Bank;
Fig. 10(c), a festival red paper in Rma script;
Fig. 10(d), wedding celebration of Qiang compatriots, cited in L2/22–130.

Fig. 11 A WeChat Public Account "Qiang Language Online"
From left to right, top to bottom:
Fig. 11(a), classics *Rrmea Shebi Bbugi*; Fig. 11(b), folk song *Ddovsusha*;
Fig. 11(c), Story of Wangqiaenzong; Fig. 11(d), a poster for Teachers' Day.

北川羌族自治县文学艺术界联合会

关于支持尔玛文纳入 Unicode 国际编码体系的函

Unicode 联盟及相关技术机构：

尔玛文 [illegible] 作为羌族文化的重要组成部分，是我县开展文艺创作、民族文化记录与传播的重要工具。由于目前缺乏统一的计算机编码标准，尔玛文在数字化处理、文化传播中遇到技术障碍。

为更好地推动民族文化的传承与发展，恳请支持将尔玛文纳入 Unicode 国际编码体系，这将极大促进羌族文化的数字化保护与传播。为此，恳请贵方支持将尔玛文纳入 Unicode 国际编码体系为谢！

北川羌族自治县文联

2025 年 11 月 10 日

Fig. 12 An official document issued by the Federation of Literary and Art Circles of Beichuan Qiang Autonomous County on November 10, 2025

The document states that the Rma script is an integral part of Qiang culture, serving as a vital tool for literary and artistic creation in Beichuan County, as well as for the documentation and dissemination of ethnic culture. However, due to the current lack of a formal character set, the Rma script faces technical barriers in digital processing and cultural transmission. In order to promote the inheritance and development of ethnic culture more effectively, the department is supporting the creation of a character set for the Rma script, which will significantly advance the digital preservation and dissemination of Qiang culture.

Summary Form

ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2
PROPOSAL SUMMARY FORM TO ACCOMPANY SUBMISSIONS
FOR ADDITIONS TO THE REPERTOIRE OF ISO/IEC 10646

Please fill all the sections A, B and C below. Please read Principles and Procedures Document (P&P) from unicode.org/wg2/principles.html for guidelines and details before filling this form.
Please ensure you are using the latest Form from unicode.org/wg2/summaryform.html. See also unicode.org/roadmaps for latest *Roadmaps*.

A. Administrative

1. **Title:** ***Proposal to encode Rma script to UCS***
2. Requester's name: *Eiso CHAN, Kushim JIANG, WEI Jiuqiao, Nathaniel SIMS*
3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution): *Individual contribution*
4. Submission date: *November 22, 2025*
5. Requester's reference (if applicable):
6. Choose one of the following:
   This is a complete proposal: *yes*
   (or) More information will be provided later:

B. Technical – General

1. Choose one of the following:
   a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters): *yes*
      Proposed name of script: *Rma*
   b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block: *no*
      Name of the existing block:
2. Number of characters in proposal: *69*
3. Proposed category (select one from below - see section 2.2 of P&P document):
   A-Contemporary *X* B.1-Specialized (small collection) B.2-Specialized (large collection)
   C-Major extinct D-Attested extinct E-Minor extinct
   F-Archaic Hieroglyphic or Ideographic G-Obscure or questionable usage symbols
4. Is a repertoire including character names provided? *yes*
   a. If YES, are the names in accordance with the "character naming guidelines" in Annex L of P&P document? *yes*
   b. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable for review? *yes*
5. Fonts related:
   a. Who will provide the appropriate font to the Project Editor of 10646 for publishing the standard? *WEI Jiuqiao*
   b. Identify the party granting a license for use of the font by the editors (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.): *WEI Jiuqiao, weijiuqiao@gmail.com*
6. References:
   a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided? *yes*
   b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of proposed characters attached? *yes*
7. Special encoding issues:
   Does the proposal address other aspects of character data processing (if applicable) such as input, presentation, sorting, searching, indexing, transliteration etc. (if yes please enclose information)? *no*

8. Additional Information:
Submitters are invited to provide any additional information about Properties of the proposed Character(s) or Script that will assist in correct understanding of and correct linguistic processing of the proposed character(s) or script. Examples of such properties are: Casing information, Numeric information, Currency information, Display behavior information such as line breaks, widths etc., Combining behavior, Spacing behavior, Directional behavior, Default Collation behavior, relevance in Mark Up contexts, Compatibility equivalence and other Unicode normalization related information. See the Unicode standard at www.unicode.org for such information on other scripts. Also see Unicode Character Database (www.unicode.org/reports/tr44) and associated Unicode Technical Reports for information needed for consideration by the Unicode Technical Committee for inclusion in the Unicode Standard.

C. Technical - Justification

1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before? *no*
   If YES, explain:
2. Has contact been made to members of the user community (for example: National Body, user groups of the script or characters, other experts, etc.)? *yes*
   If YES, with whom? *Qiang people lived in Sichuan Province, PRC; the Rma script developers*
   If YES, available relevant documents: *this document and L2/22-130*
3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example: size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included? *yes*
   Reference: *WEI Jiuqiao, WANG Yuqin. Learning Qiang Language with Yuqin. (Wei & Wang, 2018)*
4. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare) *common*
   Reference:
5. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community? *yes*
   If YES, where? Reference: *Beichuan Qiang Autonomous County, Mianyang City, Sichuan Province, PRC. (中华人民共和国四川省绵阳市北川羌族自治县)*
6. After giving due considerations to the principles in the P&P document must the proposed characters be entirely in the BMP? *no*
   If YES, is a rationale provided?
   If YES, reference:
7. Should the proposed characters be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)? *yes*
8. Can any of the proposed characters be considered a presentation form of an existing character or character sequence? *no*
   If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?
   If YES, reference:
9. Can any of the proposed characters be encoded using a composed character sequence of either existing characters or other proposed characters? *no*
   If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?
   If YES, reference:
10. Can any of the proposed character(s) be considered to be similar (in appearance or function) to, or could be confused with, an existing character? *no*
    If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?
    If YES, reference:
11. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences? *yes*
    If YES, is a rationale for such use provided? *yes*
    If YES, reference: *Combining characters are an inherent part of the writing system.*
    Is a list of composite sequences and their corresponding glyph images (graphic symbols) provided? *no*
    If YES, reference:
12. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as control function or similar semantics? *no*
    If YES, describe in detail (include attachment if necessary):
13. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility characters? *no*
    If YES, are the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic characters identified?
    If YES, reference: