ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2/WG2 N2608R2

L2/03-230R2

2003-09-04

Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set International Organization for Standardization Organisation Internationale de Normalisation Международная организация по стандартизации

Doc Type: Working Group Document

Title: Proposal to add Georgian and other characters to the BMP of the UCS

Source: NSAI/ICTSCC/SC4 (Ireland) and GSDIT (Georgia)

Status: Member Body Contribution

Action: For consideration by JTC1/SC2/WG2 and UTC

Date: 2003-09-04

This document requests additional characters to be added to the UCS and contains the proposal summary form. It corrects errors in N2608 published on 2003-08-13 and revises code positions proposed in the N2608R published on 2003-08-24.

A. Administrative

1. Title

Proposal to add Georgian and other characters to the BMP of the UCS.

2. Requester's name

NSAI/ICTSCC/SC4 (Ireland) and GSDIT (Georgia)

3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution)

Member body contribution.

4. Submission date

2003-09-04

5. Requester's reference (if applicable)

N1962 (1999-02-26), L2/03-087 (2003-03-03)

6. Choose one of the following:

6a. This is a complete proposal

Yes.

6b. More information will be provided later

No.

B. Technical – General

1. Choose one of the following:

1a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters)

NO

Proposed name of script

1b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block

Yes.

1b. Name of the existing block

Georgian, Phonetic Extensions, Cyrillic, and a new block, Georgian Supplement.

2. Number of characters in proposal

(43) 3 + 1 + 1 + 38

3. Proposed category (see section II, Character Categories)

Category B.1.

4a. Proposed Level of Implementation (1, 2 or 3) (see clause 14, ISO/IEC 10646-1: 2000)

All these characters are spacing alphabetic characters and can be used at level 1.

4b. Is a rationale provided for the choice?

Nο

4c. If YES, reference

5a. Is a repertoire including character names provided?

Yes.

5b. If YES, are the names in accordance with the character naming guidelines in Annex L of ISO/IEC 10646-1: 2000?

5c. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable for review?

Yes.

6a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font (ordered preference: True Type, or PostScript format) for publishing the standard?

The late Anton Dumbadze via the Georgian State Department of Information Technology and Michael Everson. Anton was killed in a car accident in November 1998. His beautiful glyphs should be used in both ISO/IEC 10646 and the Unicode Standard.

6b. If available now, identify source(s) for the font (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.) and indicate the tools used: Michael Everson, Fontographer.

7a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?

Yes, see bibliography below.

7b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of proposed characters attached?

Yes

8. 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)?

Yes, see below.

9. 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 behaviour information such as line breaks, widths etc., Combining behaviour, Spacing behaviour, Directional behaviour, Default Collation behaviour, relevance in Mark Up contexts, Compatibility equivalence and other Unicode normalization related information. See the Unicode standard at http://www.unicode.org for such information on other scripts. Also see Unicode Character Database http://www.unicode.org/Public/UNIDATA/UnicodeCharacterDatabase.html and associated Unicode Technical Reports for information needed for consideration by the Unicode Technical Committee for inclusion in the Unicode Standard.

Yes, see Unicode properties below.

C. Technical – Justification

1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before? If YES, explain.

Yes, N1962 and a number of documents submitted to UTC, including L2/03-087.

2a. 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.

2b. If YES, with whom?

David Tarkhan-Mouravi and Irakli Baramidze (Georgian State Department of Information Technology), Irakli Garibashvili (Georgian State Library), Jost Gippert (TITUS Projekt)

2c. If YES, available relevant documents

L2/03-087

3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example: size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included?

Scholarly, ecclesiastical, and library communities. Georgian specialists inside and outside Georgia, including members of the Georgian Academy of Sciences and library associations in Georgia. There is a resurgence of ecclesiastical use of Nuskhuri in Georgia.

4a. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare)

Originally used to write Georgian, particularly in ecclesiastical and historical documents.

4b. Reference

See below.

5a. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community?

Yes.

5b. If YES, where?

By scholars, ecclesiastical researchers, and librarians.

6a. After giving due considerations to the principles in Principles and Procedures document (a WG 2 standing document) must the proposed characters be entirely in the BMP?

Yes

6b. If YES, is a rationale provided?

Yes.

6c. If YES, reference

Accordance with the Roadmap, and casing relationship of Khutsuri Nuskhuri with Khutsuri Asomtavruli.

7. Should the proposed characters be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)?

Yes, they should be encoded in a single block as presented here.

8a. Can any of the proposed characters be considered a presentation form of an existing character or character sequence?

No.

8b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?

8c. If YES, reference

9a. Can any of the proposed characters be encoded using a composed character sequence of either existing characters or other proposed characters?

No.

9b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?

9c. If YES, reference

10a. Can any of the proposed character(s) be considered to be similar (in appearance or function) to an existing character?

No.

10b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?

10c. If YES, reference

11a. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences (see clauses 4.12 and 4.14 in ISO/IEC 10646-1: 2000)?

No.

11b. If YES, is a rationale for such use provided?

11c. If YES, reference

12a. Is a list of composite sequences and their corresponding glyph images (graphic symbols) provided?

Nο

12b. If YES, reference

13a. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as control function or similar semantics?

13b. If YES, describe in detail (include attachment if necessary)

14a. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility character(s)?

No.

14b. If YES, is the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic character(s) identified?

14c. If YES, reference

D. Proposal

The Nuskhuri case-form of the Khutsuri script needs to be added to the UCS. Although the UCS currently treats the Nuskhuri and Mkhedruli scripts as "font variants" of an underlying "lower case" of the "Georgian" script, this is incorrect, and Nuskhuri should be disunified from Mkhedruli.

There are two related scripts in use in Georgia: Mkhedruli, which is caseless, and is used for ordinary Georgian text of all kinds, and Khutsuri, which is obsolete but for ecclesiastical purposes, and is largely unknown and unrecognizable to most Georgians. Khutsuri has two case forms: the older Asomtavruli or "monumental" writing is used as an uppercase form of the Nuskhuri miniscule.

Georgian is *not* a single "tricameral" script as some have suggested, though in Unicode and ISO/IEC 10646 the word is used to subsume the two related scripts. The Mkhedruli script is caseless, and the Khutsuri script is casing. It is accidental that the Unicode Standard and ISO/IEC 10646 subsume the two under the name of "the Georgian script". Because "Georgian" is the script name used in the character names, we propose the preservation of this anomoly, so Mkhedruli = GEORGIAN LETTER, Asomtavruli = GEORGIAN CAPITAL LETTER, and Nuskhuri = GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER. We do however propose that the correct case-mapping behaviour be implemented, as can be seen below in the section on Unicode properties.

Monumental Asomtavruli (Figures 1, 3) was originally carved in stone, like monumental Greek or Latin. It is analogous to Greek and Latin capitals. A cursive variety of this script, called Nuskhuri (Figures 2, 3), was derived from Asomtavruli in handwritten manuscripts. This is analogous to Greek and Latin

minuscules. Just as with Greek and Latin, Asomtavruli and Nuskhuri letters came to be used together as a regularly casing pair.

Mkhedruli, however, is caseless, and no casing behaviour is expected or permitted by Georgian users. The *mtavruli* titling style of Mkhedruli (Figure 4) is not case; it is a style analogous to small caps or bold or italic. In this style, the distinction between letters with ascenders and descenders is not maintained, but all letters appear with an equal height standing on the baseline (example: ქართული ენა vs. ძბრთული ენა vs. ძბრთული ენა). *Mtavruli*-style letters are never used as "capitals"; a word is always entirely presented in *mtavruli* or not. *Mtavruli*-style is used in titles, newspaper headlines, and other kinds of headings. It might be suggested that non-plain text SMALL CAPS coding be used to represent Mkhedruli in *mtavruli*-style. (There is no other such small caps category that could be applied to Mkhedruli.)

Manuscripts exist in which the three scripts are used on the same page (see Figure 5 below). Computer representation of these manuscripts should be able to encode them as plain text. If Nuskhuri enjoyed truly marginal use, possibly the unification might stand; but two facts mitigate against this: the historical origin of Nuskhuri and Mkhedruli, and the resurgence at the present time of Nuskhuri as lower-case Khutsuri in ecclesiastical contexts in Georgia. It should be noted that Nuskhuri was used much more widely than Asomtavruli was, though Asomtavruli has already been encoded in the UCS. Irakli Garibashvili has informed us that that *most* documents in Georgian were written in Nuskhuri until the 19th century CE, and that currently "the church is publishing more (than several years ago) documents in Nuskhuri ('for internal use')." Garibashvili has also pointed out that in documents with Asomtavruli capitals with Nuskhuri text, Asomtavruli capitals are always found at the beginning of a paragraph but for sentences within a paragraph they may be optional. (This is also not dissimilar to what one finds in ecclesiastical Latin and Greek from certain periods.) The user inputs what is required.

L2/03-087 is an additional request from the Georgian State Department of Information Technology for disunification of Nuskhuri from Mkhedruli is proposed. This document contains the letter, dated January 2001, from Ilia II, the Catholicos Patriarch of all Georgia, which indicates clearly that Georgians do not consider Nuskhuri to be a font variant of Mkhedruli. It indicates that the two scripts do not stand in one-to-one relationship to each other insofar as they are used differently in terms of orthography. A Nuskhuri text may contain abbreviations which make no sense in Mkhedruli, as well as ligatures which do not exist in Mkhedruli. The Patriarch's letter indicates that the Georgian Orthodox Church is the primary user group for this script, and that the Georgian Church – in addition to Jost Gippert – consider it important to be able to represent a single text with all three scripts in plain text.

Georgian users working on ecclesiastical texts in Asomtavruli and Nuskhuri expect casing behaviour no different from that of Latin and Greek. Currently the Unicode Standard does not provide this functionality because Asomtavruli and Mkhedruli do not stand in a casing relationship with one another (as they should not).

The Unicode Standard states:

The Unicode Standard regards Glagolitic as a separate script from Cyrillic, not as a font change from Cyrillic. This position is taken primarily because Glagolitic appears unrecognizably different from Cyrillic, and secondarily because Glagolitic has not grown to match the expansion of Cyrillic.

This is exactly the same situation with Nuskhuri. It is unrecognizably different from Mkhedruli, and it has not grown to match the expansion of Mkhedruli – a number of new letters have been added to Mkhedruli (and not all of them are yet encoded in the Unicode Standard) and, while it is possible to devise Nuskhuri letterforms for them, this is entirely artificial and may even be considered incorrect by Georgians. (It is true that there was an early 20th-century attempt to use Asomtavruli as capitals with Mkhedruli. This was promulgated by Prof. A. G. Shanidze; it was not popularly accepted, though it has been found in works by him and in works on the Georgian script by others honouring him (e.g.

Cლექსანდრელი 1970). It is an anomaly, and does not affect the true casing relation of Asomtavruli and Nuskhuri in the Khutsuri script.)

Character names should follow existing practice. For instance, Mkhedruli letters are named GEORGIAN LETTER AN and Asomtavruli Khutsuri letters are named GEORGIAN CAPITAL LETTER AN; Nuskhuri Khutsuri letters should be named GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER AN, and so on.

Three Mkhedruli characters need to be added to the UCS. 10F9 ϱ Georgian letter turned gan is used in transcriptions of some East Caucasian languages to indicate the voiced uvular stop (IPA [G]); it is used in transcriptions of Tabasaran to indicate the voiced velar fricative (IPA [γ]). 10FA ϱ Georgian letter ain (a name coined to reflect the letter's own derivation from arabic letter ain) is used in transcriptions of Bats. 10FC 6 modifier letter georgian nar is widely used to indicate nasalization of a preceding vowel in many standard linguistic transcriptions of Caucasian languages. Glyphs and proposed code positions:

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10F9 Q GEORGIAN LETTER TURNED GAN (Figs. 8, 9)

10FA Q GEORGIAN LETTER AIN (Fig. 6)

6

MODIFIER LETTER GEORGIAN NAR (Figs. 7, 9)
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One Latin character needs to be added to the UCS. It is also necessary to add 1D77 g LATIN SMALL LETTER TURNED G as this is used in Latin transliteration of the GEORGIAN LETTER TURNED GAN.

1D77 **8** LATIN SMALL LETTER TURNED G (Fig. 8)

One Cyrillic character needs to be added to the UCS. It is also necessary to add 1D78 "MODIFIER LETTER CYRILLIC EN: the nasal $[\tilde{a}]$ is variously transcribed as a^n , 5^6 , and a^n in Latin, Georgian, and Cyrillic Caucasian linguistic texts (207F SUPERSCRIPT LATIN SMALL LETTER N is already encoded). Glyph and proposed code position:

1D78 H MODIFIER LETTER CYRILLIC EN (Fig. 7)

Unicode Character Properties

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10F9; GEORGIAN LETTER TURNED GAN; Lo; 0; L;;;;; N;;;;
10FA; GEORGIAN LETTER AIN; Lo; 0; L;;;;; N;;;;
10FC; MODIFIER LETTER GEORGIAN NAR; Lo; 0; L;;;;; N;;;;
1D77; LATIN SMALL LETTER TURNED G; L1; 0; L; ;; ;; N; ;; ;
1D78; MODIFIER LETTER SMALL CYRILLIC EN; Lm; 0; L; < super> 041D;;;; N;;;;
2D00; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER AN; L1; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D01; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER BAN; Ll; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D02; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER GAN; Ll; 0; L;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D03; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER DON; L1; 0; L;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D04; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER EN; Ll; 0; L;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D05; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER VIN; L1; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D06; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER ZEN; L1; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D07; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER TAN; Ll; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D08; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER IN; L1; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D09; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER KAN; Ll; 0; L;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D0A; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER LAS; Ll; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D0B; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER MAN; Ll; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2DOC; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER NAR; L1; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D0D; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER ON; L1; 0; L;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2DOE; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER PAR; L1; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2DOF; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER ZHAR; Ll; 0; L;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D10; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER RAE; Ll; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
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2D11; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER SAN; Ll; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D12; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER TAR; Ll; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D13; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER UN; L1; 0; L; ;; ;; N; ; Khutsuri; ;;
2D14; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER PHAR; Ll; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D15; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER KHAR; Ll; 0; L;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D16; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER GHAN; Ll; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D17; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER QAR; Ll; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D18; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER SHIN; L1; 0; L;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D19; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER CHIN; Ll; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D1A; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER CAN; L1; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D1B; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER JIL; L1; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D1C; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER CIL; Ll; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D1D; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER CHAR; Ll; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D1E; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER XAN; Ll; 0; L;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D1F; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER JHAN; Ll; 0; L; ;; ;; N; ; Khutsuri; ;;
2D20; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER HAE; Ll; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D21; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER HE; Ll; 0; L; ;; ;; N; ; Khutsuri; ;;
2D22; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER HIE; Ll; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D23; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER WE; Ll; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D24; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER HAR; Ll; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
2D25; GEORGIAN SMALL LETTER HOE; Ll; 0; L;;;;; N;; Khutsuri;;;
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In addition, add Lowercase mappings from Georgian capital letters (10A0-10C5) to Georgian small letters (2D00-2D25), and add Uppercase and titlecase mappings for Georgian small letters (2D00-2D25) to Georgian capital letters (10A0-10C5).

In **ScriptNames.txt**, add the script Khutsuri, and make the following specific annotation in order to make clear the name versus script identity anomaly built into Georgian in ISO/IEC 10646 and the Unicode Standard:

The term "Georgian" in the Unicode Standard refers to two distinct but related scripts. The older Khutsuri script is composed of characters named "Georgian capital letters" also known as "Asomtavruli", and of "Georgian small letters" also known as "Nuskhuri". The script used for ordinary modern Georgian is called "Mkhedruli" and is composed of "Georgian letters" in the Unicode Standard.

Normative casemapping must be backrevved into **UnicodeData.txt** for Asomtavruli, despite its removal by explicit decision of the UTC for Unicode 3.0. (Note that the removal set the stage for the separate encoding of Nuskhuri, by removing the mappings to what is now only to be caseless Mkhedruli, so this backrevving makes very good sense.) In **CaseFolding.txt**, the Georgian capital letters should fold to the Georgian small letters.

Bibliography

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Marr, N. & M. Brière. 1931. *La langue géorgienne*. Paris: Firmin-Didot et C^{ie}.

Имнайшвили, Давид Силибистрович (= ത്ര. രിട്ടെറ്റുറ്റെ). 1977. Историко-сравнительный анализ фонетики нахских языков. Тбилиси: Мецниереба.

Кадагидзе, Давит, & Нико Кадагидзе. 1984. *Цова-тушинско-грузинско-русский словарь*. Тбилиси: Мецниереба.

Магометов, Александр Амарович (= ალ. მაჰომეტოვი). 1965. *Табасаранский язык: исследование и тексты* (= ტაპასარანუმი ენა: გამოკვლევა და ტექსტები). Тбилиси: Мецниереба.

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Figures

Figure 1. Sample of Asomtavruli-only text, from Marr & Brière 1931.

- s 11. ժորհժո սըսաԾա Ծա ափարա՝ ։ կարևա որսևժո որևընորև ատ տող.

Figure 2. Sample of Nuskhuri-only text, from Marr & Brière 1931.

ծուժա իդոդնա հաժդու ըստ ըստ ցոնա Թժմես որաորն հարդու ցգնու ծառորդեն հարրդութ ցցնու որարին նորա ցգնու որասանըս ըստա ցճու դոյարըս փորդունաևան հղենս. Ծար հու իդոդնո անհացման ժաժոր իդոդն եւորև Ծա ժաժորդորդն իդոդն տանա, հաերդանի իդոդննա, որասանալ իդոդն ժապորդորդյա տանա, Մորցաս ժատ իդոդնաս. Ծա նալ ցգետրարներց իդոդն որանալ Եղրանս, անաժոր եւորինուն երրդն դամաարմարցեն հետն.

Figure 3. Sample of Nuskhuri text with Asomtavruli capitals, from Haarmann 1990.

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	2. 00009(0)	, 030	∀ ეოლ	ოიო	ეხა	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	21

Figure 4. Sample of Mkhedruli text in plain and *mtavruli* style, from ლომთათიძე 1976.

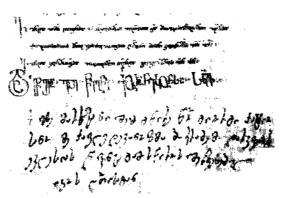


Figure 5. Sample of Nuskhuri, Asomtavruli, and Mkhedruli on one page in a manuscript. From a scan on the TITUS Projekt web site.

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Figure 6. Sample Bats text showing MODIFIER LETTER INTENSIVE PHARYNGEALIZATION used with Georgian and Latin scripts, as well as GEORGIAN LETTER AIN, in Kagarugase & Kagarugase 1984. This dictionary, the only Bats dictionary published to date, was reproduced from a handwritten manuscript. The first two words read ἐτὸς ωρος ος αnd hτalwir-d-ar.

І.Чече	нская		2. И	нгушская	I	2.Бацбийская		
Латин- скыя	Ская Грузин-	Лит. чеч.	Латин- ская	Грузин- ская	Лит. ингуш.	ľ	Грузинская	
а	ა	a	а	J	a	a	ა	
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Figure 7. Sample of Latin and Georgian transcriptions of Chechen, Ingush, and Bats, with Cyrillic orthogrpahy for Chechen and Ingush, showing 207F SUPERSCRIPT LATIN SMALL LETTER N, MODIFIER LETTER SMALL CYRILLIC EN, and MODIFIER LETTER GEORGIAN NAR, in Имнайшвили 1977.

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Figure 8. Transcription of Tabasaran in Latin and Georgian transcription and Cyrillic orthography, showing Q GEORGIAN LETTER INVERTED GAN, "MODIFIER LETTER PALATALIZATION, © MODIFIER LETTER INTENSIVITY, © MODIFIER LETTER LABIALIZATION, "MODIFIER LETTER TURNED COMMA and "MODIFIER LETTER APOSTROPHE, in Marometob 1965.

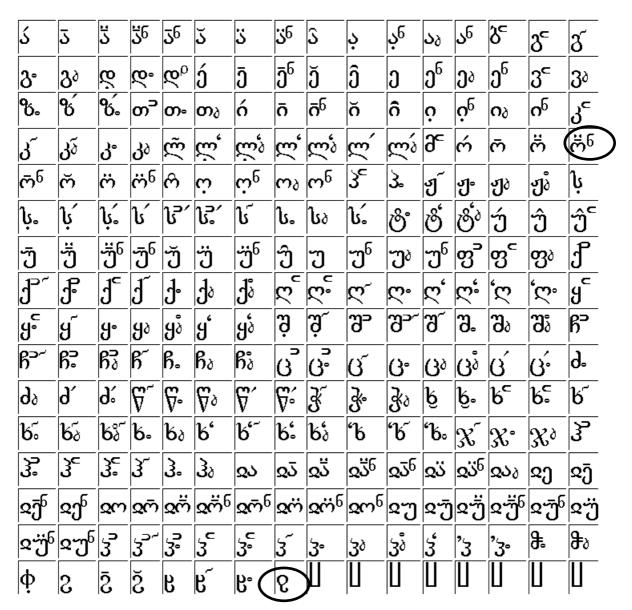


Figure 9. A complete set of Georgian letters with their diacritical marks, as used in linguistic transcriptions, provided by Jost Gippert. A RING for instance appears to sit on the baseline, the midline (encode two characters?), and a COMBINING RING appears also to be used. Note the distinction in rows 8 and 15 between ^C, ^D, ', and '. (It is expected that a number of these diacritical marks and modifier letters will form the subject of a subsequent proposal.)

GEORGIAN · GEORGIAN SUPPLEMENT · PHONETIC EXTENSIONS

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GEORGIAN · GEORGIAN SUPPLEMENT · PHONETIC EXTENSIONS · CYRILLIC

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