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# Proposed Draft Unicode Technical Report #50

# UNICODE PROPERTIES FOR VERTICAL TEXT LAYOUT

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#### Summary

The layout of Japanese text follows different conventions than the layout of Western texts. Many of the requirements are described in the W3C Working Group Note "Requirements for Japanese Text Layout" [JLREQ]. This report describes two Unicode character properties which can be used to implement those requirements.

#### Status

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Please submit corrigenda and other comments with the online reporting form [Feedback]. Related information that is useful in understanding this document is found in <u>References</u>. For the latest version of the Unicode Standard see [Unicode]. For a list of current Unicode Technical Reports see [<u>Reports</u>]. For more information about versions of the Unicode Standard, see [<u>Versions</u>].

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# 1 Introduction

The JLREQ document uses terms such as "Japanese" and "Western", and focuses on Japanese typography with Western text elements thrown in.

It is our belief that Japanese and Chinese typography have enough commonality that the goal of the properties should be to handle both cases. It seems that Chinese typography is both somewhat simpler (for one thing, it does not use Hiragana and Katakana) and less codified. We expect that it is possible to handle Chinese by simply "downscaling" what is done for Japanese. However, we do not have enough information to explain this downscaling. The same goes for Korean written using the CJK ideographs. As for Korean written using Hangul – including the occasional CJK ideographs seen today –, we think it follows essentially the Western typographic methods and is therefore out of scope. Any information that would clarify the situation of the CJK locales besides Japan is very welcome.

As for the "Western" part, we similarly believe that it extends to other parts of the world as well and should really be interpreted in that way.

One difficulty for this document that needs a resolution is whether to use the same terms as JLREQ – in particular "Western" – and to gloss that we really mean something broader, or to use terms that are more easily understood at the cost of a disconnect with the JLREQ terminology.

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The layout of Japanese text follows different convention than the layout of Western texts. Many of the requirements are described in the W3C Working Group Note "Requirements for Japanese Text Layout" [*JLREQ*]. In particular, this note explains the spacing of characters in lines: character occurences are classified, with classes such as cl-07, commas and cl-19, ideographic, and

tables indexed by the classes of adjacent occurrences determine the actual spacing between those occurrences.

This report describes two Unicode character properties which can be use to implement those requirements.

The first property, East Asian Class, is a classification of the characters which eventually contributes to the determination of inter-character spacing, both in unjustified and in justified lines. For example:

#### Figure 1. Spacing of Characters

[Figure similar to the bottom part of Figure 64 in JLREQ]

In the first line, the character U+3001 、 IDEOGRAPHIC COMMA is classified as cl-07, commas and the following ideograph is classified as cl-19, ideographic. This particular combination results in an 1/2 em space introduced by layout between the two characters. Similarly, the classification of the middle dot and the characters surrounding them in the last line cause a 1/4 em space around the middle dot. Furthermore, those spaces can shrink or expand as needed for justification.

The second property, East Asian Orientation, determines the orientation of the characters in vertical lines, which can differ from their orientation in horizontal lines. For example:

#### Figure 2. Orientation of Characters

# [Figure similar to Figure 25 in JLREQ, also showing the same text in horizontal lines]

The character U+306E  $\sigma$  HIRAGANA LETTER NO stays upright in vertical lines, while the character U+0065 e LATIN SMALL LETTER E goes sideways in vertical lines.

The scope of application for the properties and algorithms described here is limited to the texts which are typeset according to Japanese rules. A Japanese word in the context of a English document would not obey the same spacing rules that it would obey in a Japanese document. Also, the issue of character orientation in vertical lines is entirely different when the text is set following, for example, English rules, and the algorithm described here is not relevant to that situation.

The title of this TR is obviously not well aligned with the scope and content. It is too broad given the paragraph above. It is also too narrow as the East Asian Class is not just for vertical text. The motivation for the inclusion of East Asian Class is that it is closely related to East Asian Orientation; one can effectively validate the proposed assignments for East Asian Orientation only in the context of the assignments of the East Asian Class property.

The properties and algorithms presented in this report are informative. The

intent is to provide a reasonable determination of the spacing and orientation of characters in Japanese texts, which can be used in the absence of other information, but can be overridden by the context, such as markup in a document or preferences in a layout application. This determination is based on the most common use of a character, but in no way implies that that character is used only in that way.

For more information on the conformance implications, see [Unicode], section 3.5, Properties, in particular the definition (D35) of an informative property.

# 2 Grapheme Clusters

As in all matters of typography, the interesting unit of text is not the character, but something of the order of a grapheme cluster: it does not make sense to use a base character upright and a combining mark attached to it sideways.

It is expected that the client of the two properties defined here will select a notion of grapheme cluster, and is interested in obtaining a class and orientation for the clusters.

A possible choice for the notion of grapheme cluster is either that of legacy grapheme cluster or that of extended grapheme cluster, as defined in [UAX29].

The spacing class and orientation for a grapheme cluster as a whole are then determined by taking the spacing class and orientation of the first character in the cluster, with the following exceptions:

- if the cluster contains an enclosing combining mark (general category Me), then the whole cluster has spacing class cl-19.3 symbol, and orientation U.
- if the cluster is made of U+0020 SPACE and some combining mark(s), then the whole cluster has spacing class cl-27, western and orientation S.
- if the cluster is made of U+3000 IDEOGRAPHIC SPACE and some combining mark(s), then the whole cluster has spacing class cl-19.3 symbol, and orientation U.

# 3 Plain Text and Markup

The properties and algorithms defined here are directly applicable to plain text. As a consequence, some classes listed in JLREQ do not appear here. For example, the JLREQ class cl-28 warichu opening brackets applies to occurrences of characters which are used to bracket a warichu construct (a form of inline parenthetical); however, there is no way in plain text to express a warichu construct.

When the properties and algorithms are used in rich text, it is acceptable to resolve occurrences of characters to classes not listed here. It is also acceptable to support markup that override the algorithms presented here.

# 4 The East Asian Class Property

#### 4.1 Presentation

The JLREQ document describes how character classes affect the spacing of character within lines, and its Appendix A seems to provide the classification of the characters. However, the situation is a bit more complicated.

First, Appendix A does not directly provide a method to classify the character occurrences, but rather provides the lists of classes in which an occurrence can be classified. For example, the character U+0041 A LATIN CAPITAL LETTER A appears in the list *cl-27, Western characters*, in the list *cl-25, unit symbols*, and in the list *cl-19 ideographic character*. The whole document just assumes that character occurrences have been somehow classified and is silent on how that is done.

Second, JLREQ ignores the existence and the common use in desktop computing of the fullwidth characters. The character U+FF21 A FULLWIDTH LATIN CAPITAL LETTER A is not listed anywhere in appendix A, yet in practice, it is used contrastively with U+0041 A LATIN CAPITAL LETTER A to distinguish occurrences which should be classified as *cl-19 ideographic character* rather than *cl-27*, *Western characters*.

Third, JLREQ restricts itself to the ISO/IEC 10646 [ISO 10646] collections 285 Basic Japanese and 286 Japanese Non Ideographics extension; of course, a solution that covers all of Unicode is needed.

To fill those gaps, this report defines a character property, and an algorithm using that property to classify character occurrences.

#### 4.2 Property Values

The property values are a subset of the classes defined in JLREQ, where a few classes have been split to facilitate implementation.

Will need to come up with short names and long names, and respect whatever constraints apply to those names.

#### Table 1. Property Values for the East Asian Class Property

cl-01.1 opening bracket, corner

- cl-01.2 opening bracket, round
- cl-01.3 opening bracket, other
- cl-02.1 closing bracket, corner
- cl-02.2 closing bracket, round
- cl-02.3 closing bracket, other
- cl-03 hyphen
- cl-04 dividing punctuation mark
- cl-05 middle dot
- cl-06 full-width stop
- cl-07 comma
- cl-08 inseparable character

- cl-09 iteration mark
- cl-10 prolonged sound mark
- cl-11.1 small hiragana
- cl-11.2 small katakana
- cl-12 prefixed abbreviation
- cl-13 postfixed abbreviation
- cl-14 full-width ideographic space
- cl-15 hiragana
- cl-16 katakana
- cl-19.1 ideographic character
- cl-19.2 fullwidth number
- cl-19.3 symbol
- cl-19.4 hangul
- cl-26 western word space
- cl-27 western character

The split of cl-01, opening bracket and cl-02, closing bracket is purely on a graphical basis. The purpose of the split is that it is sometimes desirable to use slightly different amounts of space depending on the shape of the bracket. The split of cl-19, ideographic serves a similar purpose.

Do we need a class for fixed width Western spaces? if we make them cl-27, they will get non-zero aki (space introduced by layout) next to ideographs or in math formulas.

## 4.3 Guidelines for Assigning Property Values

## 4.3.1 Graphic Characters

If a character is routinely considered as an integral part of the Japanese writing system, it is assigned to one of the classes cl-01..cl-19. This is the case for characters in ISO/IEC 10646 collections *285 Basic Japanese* and *286 Japanese Non Ideographics extension*, except that Basic Latin characters are replaced by their companion character from the Halwidth and Fullwidth forms block. It is also the case for characters outside those collections; for example, JLREQ includes U+2032 ' PRIME and U+2033 " DOUBLE PRIME in class cl-13; it is only natural to treat U+2034 "' TRIPLE PRIME and U+2057 "" QUADRUPLE PRIME in the same way.

There are two approaches for characters which are more symbolic than alphabetic. In approach "A", all symbolic characters are assigned to cl-19.3, symbols and have orientation U. In approach "B", arrows, math symbols, box drawing characters, and bracket pieces are assigned to cl-27 western, and have orientation S; the remaining symbolic characters are cl-19.3, symbols and have orientation U. A possibility to reconcile both approaches is to have a specific class and orientation for the characters which differ; this would let users of the properties resolve those values to either class/orientation combination.

Reviewers are encouraged to express a preference for one of the approaces, or for the combined approach.

Remaining characters are classified in cl-26 or cl-27.

#### 4.3.2 Private-Use Code Points

The largest use of PUA code points in Japanese texts is for idegraphs, therefore PUA code points are assigned the class cl-19.1.

#### 4.3.3 Reserved Code Points

Generally, reserved code points should be assigned the class most likely for their intended future assignment, to maximize forward compatibility. For the ideographic block of the SMP, planes 2 and 3, the class is cl-19.1. For the blocks of symbols, the class is cl-19.3. Other reserved code points are classified cl-27.

#### 4.3.4 Other Code Points

The property is not relevant to format, control, surrogate and noncharacter code points.

#### 4.4 Using the Property

Because of the restriction of our algorithm to plain text, and given that actual usage of fullwidth characters, it turns out that one can simply use the property value of a character as the class to assign to all occurrences of that character. In other words, the algorithm is a simple lookup of the property value.

There is actually one character for which a contextual determination would be useful and reliable: U+00AE <sup>®</sup> REGISTERED SIGN, which can occur both following terms in kanji/kana and following terms in Latin. An occurrence of <sup>®</sup> should be assigned the same class as the character it follows. Others? Enough to warrant the complexity of contextual rules?

There are other cases where the character is used routinely in both Japanese and Western contexts: the quotes are a good example. While contextual determination would be useful, it's probably the case that it's not going to be reliable.

# 5 The East Asian Orientation Property

## 5.1 Presentation

In vertical texts, most characters are presented either upright or sideways.

A few characters have a different appearance altogether. This is for example the case for square katakana symbols, which have two or more component kanas arranged so that that they form two lines; the two lines are stacked horizontally in horizontal text, and vertically in vertical text. A complete chart showing representative glyphs for both orientations is provided below.

#### 5.2 Property Values

The possible property values are given in table 2.

#### Table 2. Property Values for the East Asian Orientation Property

- U characters which are displayed upright
- S characters which are displayed sideways
- SB brackets which are displayed sideways
- T characters which are not just upright or sideways, but require a different glyph

The property value SB is meant to ensure some level of compatibility with existing fonts.

The SB property is conceptually a subclass of S. It captures the common practice in fonts to actually handle those characters as if they were transformed.

#### 5.3 Relationship to the EAC Property

Characters with an East Asian Class cl-27 all have the orientation S.

Characters with the East Asian Class cl-11 all have orientation U.

Characters with the East Asian Classes cl-01 or cl-02 are exactly those with orientation SB.

Characters with the East Asian Class cl-19 all have orientation U.

#### 5.4 Glyphs Changes for Vertical Orientation

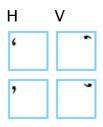
Table 3 provides representative glyphs for the horizontal and vertical appearance of characters with the property value T.

Add glyphs for all the entries: 301F, 332C, FF61, FF64, 1F200, 1F201, halfwidth small kanas. Some glyphs (2018, 2019) may not be correct.

#### Table 3. Glyph Changes for Vertical Orientation

character U+2018 LEFT SINGLE QUOTATION MARK

U+2019 RIGHT SINGLE QUOTATION MARK



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U+31FB KATAKANA LETTER SMALL RA
U+31FC KATAKANA LETTER SMALL RI
U+31FD KATAKANA LETTER SMALL RU
U+31FE KATAKANA LETTER SMALL RE
U+31FF KATAKANA LETTER SMALL RO
U+3300 SQUARE APAATO
U+3301 SQUARE ARUHUA
U+3302 SQUARE ANPEA
U+3303 SQUARE AARU
U+3304 SQUARE ININGU
U+3305 SQUARE INTI
U+3306 SQUARE UON
U+3307 SQUARE ESUKUUDO
U+3308 SQUARE EEKAA
U+3309 SQUARE ONSU
U+330A SQUARE OOMU



character U+330B SQUARE KAIRI	H V カイ リカ
U+330C SQUARE KARATTO	リ イ カラ ッカ ット トラ
U+330D SQUARE KARORII	カロリカリー
U+330E SQUARE GARON	ガロ ンガ ン ロ
U+330F SQUARE GANMA	ガン マガ マ ン
U+3310 SQUARE GIGA	ギ ギ ガガ
U+3311 SQUARE GINII	ギニーギ
U+3312 SQUARE KYURII	キュ リキ リー ーュ
U+3313 SQUARE GIRUDAA	ギル ダギ ダー ール
U+3314 SQUARE KIRO	キ キ ロロ
U+3315 SQUARE KIROGURAMU	キロ グキ グシム エロ
U+3316 SQUARE KIROMEETORU	차
U+3317 SQUARE KIROWATTO	キロフキフット
U+3318 SQUARE GURAMU	グラ ムグ ム ラ
U+3319 SQUARE GURAMUTON	ゲラム トグ トン ンム
U+331A SQUARE KURUZEIRO	クル ゼク ゼ们 ゴル
U+331B SQUARE KUROONE	クロ   ク ーネ ネロ
U+331C SQUARE KEESU	ケースケス
U+331D SQUARE KORUNA	コル ナコ ナ ル

character U+331E SQUARE KOOPO	H V コー ポコ ポ 1
U+331F SQUARE SAIKURU	ホート レイ クサ クル ルイ
U+3320 SQUARE SANTIIMU	サンチサチ
U+3321 SQUARE SIRINGU	シリ ンシ ング グリ
U+3322 SQUARE SENTI	センチセチセン
U+3323 SQUARE SENTO	セントセト
U+3324 SQUARE DAASU	ダースダス
U+3325 SQUARE DESI	デデジシ
U+3326 SQUARE DORU	ドルド
U+3327 SQUARE TON	トット
U+3328 SQUARE NANO	ナノノナ
U+3329 SQUARE NOTTO	ノッ トノ ト ッ
U+332A SQUARE HAITU	ハイッハリップ
U+332B SQUARE PAASENTO	パー セパ セント トー
U+332C SQUARE PAATU U+332D SQUARE BAARERU	バーレバ
U+332E SQUARE PIASUTORU	レル ル1 ピア そピ
U+332F SQUARE PIKURU	ストル ルア ピク ルピ
U+3330 SQUARE PIKO	ル ク ピピ
U+3331 SQUARE BIRU	ゴゴゴビルル

character U+3332 SQUARE HUARADDO	H V ファ ラフ ラッド ドア
U+3333 SQUARE HUIITO	フィーフィーフィート
U+3334 SQUARE BUSSYERU	ブッ シブ
U+3335 SQUARE HURAN	フランフ
U+3336 SQUARE HEKUTAARU	ヘク タヘ タール ルク
U+3337 SQUARE PESO	$^{\sim}$ $^{\sim}$
U+3338 SQUARE PENIHI	ペニヒペニ
U+3339 SQUARE HERUTU	ヘル ツヘ ツ ル
U+333A SQUARE PENSU	ペン スペン
U+333B SQUARE PEEZI	ペー ジペ ジ ー
U+333C SQUARE BEETA	ベー タベ タ ー
U+333D SQUARE POINTO	ポイ ンポ ント トイ
U+333E SQUARE BORUTO	ボル トボ ト ル
U+333F SQUARE HON	ホンン
U+3340 SQUARE PONDO	ポン ドポ ド ン
U+3341 SQUARE HOORU	ホー ルホ ル 1
U+3342 SQUARE HOON	ホー ンホ ン 1
U+3343 SQUARE MAIKURO	マイ クマ クロ ロイ
U+3344 SQUARE MAIRU	マイ ルマ ル イ

character U+3345 SQUARE MAHHA	H V マッ ハマ
U+3346 SQUARE MARUKU	ハ ッ マル クマ
U+3347 SQUARE MANSYON	ク レ マン シマ ション シン
U+3348 SQUARE MIKURON	ミク ロミ ロン ンク
U+3349 SQUARE MIRI	ミリリミ
U+334A SQUARE MIRIBAARU	ミリ ベミ バール ルリ
U+334B SQUARE MEGA	メガガ
U+334C SQUARE MEGATON	メガ トメ トン ンガ
U+334D SQUARE MEETORU	メートメトルル
U+334E SQUARE YAADO	ヤードヤ
U+334F SQUARE YAARU	ヤールヤルヤ
U+3350 SQUARE YUAN	ユアンユアン
U+3351 SQUARE RITTORU	リットリトル ルッ
U+3352 SQUARE RIRA	リリフラ
U+3353 SQUARE RUPII	ルピール
U+3354 SQUARE RUUBURU	ルー ブル ブル ル1
U+3355 SQUARE REMU	
U+3356 SQUARE RENTOGEN	レントレ
U+3357 SQUARE WATTO	ワットワト

character U+337B SQUARE ERA NAME HEISEI

U+337C SQUARE ERA NAME SYOUWA

U+337D SQUARE ERA NAME TAISYOU

U+337E SQUARE ERA NAME MEIZI

U+337F SQUARE CORPORATION

U+FF61 HALFWIDTH IDEOGRAPHIC FULL STOP U+FF64 HALFWIDTH IDEOGRAPHIC COMMA U+FF67 HALFWIDTH KATAKANA LETTER SMALL A U+FF68 HALFWIDTH KATAKANA LETTER SMALL I U+FF69 HALFWIDTH KATAKANA LETTER SMALL U U+FF6A HALFWIDTH KATAKANA LETTER SMALL E U+FF6B HALFWIDTH KATAKANA LETTER SMALL O U+FF6C HALFWIDTH KATAKANA LETTER SMALL YA U+FF6D HALFWIDTH KATAKANA LETTER SMALL YU U+FF6E HALFWIDTH KATAKANA LETTER SMALL YU U+FF6F HALFWIDTH KATAKANA LETTER SMALL YU U+FF6F HALFWIDTH KATAKANA LETTER SMALL YU U+FF6F HALFWIDTH KATAKANA LETTER SMALL YU U+1F200 SQUARE HIRAGANA HOKA U+1F201 SQUARE KATAKAN KOKO

# 6 Data File

The data file, in UCD syntax: <u>ealayout-a.txt</u> for proposal "A", and <u>ealayout-b.txt</u> for proposal "B".

To help during the review, the following data files are available as well:

- <u>bycp-a.html</u> and <u>bycp-b.html</u>, ordered by code point, with character names and block names.
- <u>byclass-a.html</u> and <u>byclass-b.html</u>, grouped by class.
- <u>byorientation-a.html</u> and <u>byorientation-b.html</u>, grouped by orientation.
- <u>diff.html</u> lists the characters which are treated differently under the two proposals.

U+2016 || DOUBLE VERTICAL LINE; JRLEQ classifies this character as cl-19 ideographic; typically, this is a clue that it is upright; also, JIS 0213:2000 does not give a vertical variant. On the other hand, it seems that 'vert' often presents



it sideways. Which is right? Could it be that font vendors have been influenced by U+30A0 = KATAKANA-HIRAGANA DOUBLE HYPHEN?

# Acknowledgments

Thanks to the reviewers: Julie Allen, Ken Lunde, Nat McCully, Ken Whistler, Taro Yamamoto.

# References

[JLREQ]	Requirements for Japanese Text layout, W3C Working Group
	Note 4 June 2009
[Errata]	Updates and Errata
	http://www.unicode.org/errata
[Feedback]	http://www.unicode.org/reporting.html
	For reporting errors and requesting information online.
[ISO 10646]	International Organization for Standardization. Information
	Technology—Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set
	(UCS). (ISO/IEC 10646:2011).
	For availability, see: <u>http://www/iso.org</u>
[Reports]	Unicode Technical Reports
	http://www.unicode.org/reports/
	For information on the status and development process for
	technical reports, and for a list of technical reports.
[UAX29]	UAX #29: Unicode Text Segmentation
	http://www.unicode.org/reports/tr29/
[Unicode]	The Unicode Standard, Version 6.1.0, defined by: The
	Unicode Standard, Version 6.1.0 (Mountain View, CA: The
	Unicode Consortium, 2012. ISBN 978-1-936213-02-3)
_	http://www.unicode.org/versions/Unicode6.1.0
[Versions]	Versions of the Unicode Standard
	http://www.unicode.org/versions/
	For details on the precise contents of each version of the
	Unicode Standard, and how to cite them.

# Modifications

This section indicates the changes introduced by each revision.

## Revision 2

- Clarification of the status of the properties (end of section 1)
- Clarification of the handling of grapheme clusters
- Removed the "comments" column in table 3.
- Hangul characters: new class cl-19.4, hangul, orientation U
- Yijing Hexagram symbosl are now cl-19-3, symbols, orientation U.
- Small forms variants are treated like their fullwidth counterparts.

- Superscripts and subscript characters are now cl-27, western, orientation S
- Small kana: orientation U; class split in cl-11.1, smallHiragana and cl-11.2, smallKatakana
- U+3030 ~ WAVY DASH has orientation T.
- The two alternatives for math, etc. are described.

#### **Revision 1**

• First working draft.

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