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 Encode Two Vietnamese Alternate Reading Marks

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Introduction

This paper proposes the encoding of two diacritical marks used in the Chữ Nôm script to indicate alternate readings of Hán characters ($ch\tilde{w}$ Hán). These marks ($d\hat{a}u$) are collectively referred to in Vietnamese as $c\hat{a}$ - $nh\hat{a}y$, from the terms for the two most common marks, $c\hat{a} \uparrow$ (variant: \uparrow) and $nh\hat{a}y \downarrow$.

Chữ Nôm is composed roughly of two types of ideographic characters: characters borrowed directly from Chinese (chữ Hán) and characters created in Vietnam to represent native Vietnamese words (chữ Nôm)¹. Figure 1 provides a convenient overview and further break down of this scheme².

The borrowed characters, *chữ mượn Hán*, were used to write the many words imported from a dialect of Middle Chinese, with original meanings and readings adapted into a Vietnamese standardization of that dialect (called *Hán-Việt* or Sino-Vietnamese, SV). They were also used without modification to represent native words and sounds.

For example:

 \exists sun, SV *nhật* > Vietnamese *nhặt* (pick up, gather, etc.)

¹ This includes words borrowed from Chinese during a very early stage, but which are considered native words, such as 鈽 $b\acute{u}a$, meaning "axe", derived from Chinese 斧 ² Hông, 2014, p 17

白 white, SV bach > Vietnamese trắng (white)

To overcome the inherent ambiguity in such a system, writers resorted to various schemes to distinguish Vietnamese from Sino-Vietnamese usage. Among these schemes, scholars distinguish two main categories³:

- 1. The application of diacritical marks to an original *Hán* character.
- 2. Composition of new characters containing phonetic and or semantic elements.

In the first scheme, diacritics are used to indicate that a borrowed character was being used as a native word, and that a native reading approximated by the Sino Vietnamese reading should be used⁴. In the second, some writers created new characters using phonetic elements to more directly specify the native reading.

To illustrate this difference using the two characters shown above:

- 1. the mark *nháy* was added to \exists to obtain \exists *nhặt*.
- 2. the phonetic element 壯 tráng was added to 白, creating 晃 trắng.

Similar to $nh\acute{a}y$, the mark $c\acute{a}$ was also added to \Box to obtain \Box $nh\ddot{a}t$, meaning "thick, dense".

Additional examples of cá and nháy can be seen in figure 2.

Encoding history and usage

Cá and *nháy* were originally encoded in TCVN 5773-1993, the Vietnamese national standard for Chữ Nôm⁶. In defining them, TCVN 5773-1993 clearly distinguish them as "marks" not "characters". Specifically, TCVN 5773-1993 §5.3 and §5.4 of distinguish the encoding of "Non-combining" character from "Combined (sic) character":

³ Hoang 2004, p. 1. Though as suggested here, sometimes the boundaries are not clear, for example the rare case where *cá* is used as a phonetic, e.g. 魲 *cá* (fish).

⁴ Hồng 2013 pp 511-524, provides a detailed discussion of the different ways these marks were used

⁵ Both examples in Hồng 2013, p. 1335.

⁶ See figures 3 and 4 at the end of the proposal.

- 5.3 Non-combining character: member of the set of Nôm characters (except for \uparrow cá V+A171 and \downarrow nháy V+A02F)
- 5.4 Combining character: a member of an identified subset of the coded character set of this standard, i.e \uparrow cá and \downarrow nháy marks (V+A171 and V+A02F, respectively), intended for combination with non-combining character (sic)⁷

TCVN 5773-1993 calls out these two marks since they are the most productive. In the VNPF digital library alone we have identified close to 400 instances of characters combined with $nh\acute{a}y$ and 160 combined with $c\acute{a}$. We have also identified a small number of other marks. However, it is not yet clear that they are of sufficient productivity to warrant encoding. Further discussion may be found below.

While the non-combining unique characters of TCVN 5773-1993 were largely included in Unicode, for some reason, the *cá-nháy* were left out. It is not clear whether the omission was deliberate or merely an oversight, but it is an omission that needs to be remedied to facilitate the interchange of *chữ Nôm* information among user communities, such as the Facebook group 委班復生漢喃越南 (Ủy Ban Phuc Sinh Hán Nôm Việt Nam).

Compatibility considerations.

Given the lack of the appropriate characters in Unicode, current practice to represent $nh\acute{a}y$ is to type a LESS THAN SIGN, U+003C or the ideograph U+21FE8 following the base letter, while $c\acute{a}$ is represented either by U+4E2A \uparrow or the variant U+4E87 \uparrow . None of these are satisfactory since they lack the properties necessary to support the desired clustering behavior. Mapping will be required to migrate from pseudo TCVN 5733-1993 to full Unicode, once the marks are encoded.

To our knowledge, no characters with glyphs containing *nháy* have been encoded in Unicode. However, a rather large number (64) of glyphs, such as U+2A76A composed with the mark † are already in Unicode. Compatibility decomposition mappings for these can be provided by the VNPF.

Behavior and positioning.

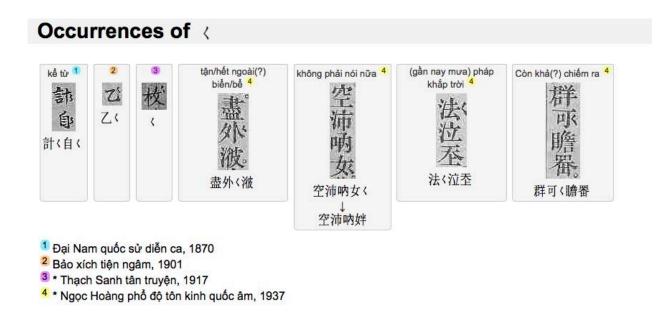
-

⁷ TCVN 5773-1993, p. 3

As with other combining marks, the $c\acute{a}$ - $nh\acute{a}y$ should immediately follow the base character, in almost all cases a Hán Ideograph. In this respect, they are similar to the four IDEOGRAPHIC TONE MARKs encoded at U+302A-U+302D. Both marks are typically attached to the right of the base character, though variations of the $nh\acute{a}y$ can be found above and below the center line of the base ideograph. They can also be integrated more closely into the shape of the base character as seen in the examples below. Font developers may wish to use positioning or ligature tables in their fonts to obtain a more precise appearance.

Shape and Variants

Nháy has two common forms. By far, the most common is that shown in the picture below, which can be found at http://www.chunom.org/pages/21FE8.

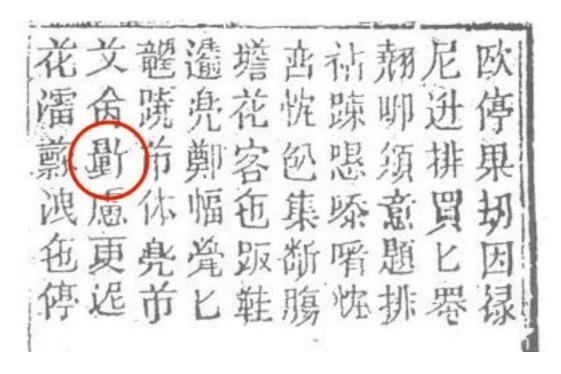


A variant form of $nh\acute{a}y$, typically found in texts from South Vietnam, uses the form seen below, applied to the character $\dot{\Xi}$:



The variants do not normally appear in a single text. If needed, they can be encoded using a variation sequence.

As noted above, $c\acute{a}$ has two forms. The source form is \uparrow , but \uparrow , a cursive rendition of \uparrow , is much more common. Here is an example from the 1872 ed. of the Truyện Ki `àu, in which we see cá \uparrow added to \equiv to mark the reading as *luỡng*.



Our suggestion is to treat as \uparrow as primary, and \uparrow as a variation.

Other marks

Some scholars of Nôm argue for a larger set of marks. 4 are often cited⁸,

- 1. the element ¬ in U+2B86E 剝.
- 2. the two dots on the either side of 力 in the character U+529E 办.
- 3. the element \mathbb{I} (and its variant \mathbb{I}) in the character \mathbb{I} .

-

⁸ See figure 5 below for examples

In most cases, these elements be shown to be abbreviations ($vi\hat{e}t$ $t\acute{a}t$) of more complex characters — in these examples Ξ , \mathfrak{B} , \mathfrak{B} , and Π , respectively. Also the other marks have not yet been proved to be as productive as $c\acute{a}$ and $nh\acute{a}y$. Therefore, they are not included in the current proposal. However, we do suggest leaving space for future additions.

Collation

Almost every dictionary of chữ Nôm sorts entries using the quốc ngữ reading of each character. Where there are collisions or in appendices using stroke-based schemes, secondary orderings are based on total strokes or Kang Xi radical-stroke. In these stroke based orderings, $c\acute{a}$ - $nh\acute{a}y$ are treated as additional strokes. $Nh\acute{a}y$ is assigned 2 strokes and $c\acute{a}$ is assigned 3. This is illustrated in figure 6 below.

Names and Properties

As noted above, the properties of the *cá-nháy* are similar to the IDEOGRAPHIC TONE MARKs, so, ideally they would be placed within the same CJK Symbols and Punctuation block. Unfortunately, there is no longer space there, so an alternative would be to place them in the newer Ideographic Smbols and Punctuation block (16FE0 - 16FFF). The most salient property of the *cá-nháy* is their role as combining marks. The proposed properties reflect this.

16FF0; VIETNAMESE ALTERNATE READING MARK CA; Mc; 6; L;;;; N;;;;

16FF1; VIETNAMESE ALTERNATE READING MARK NHAY; Mc; 6; L;;;; N;;;;

LineBreak.txt

16FF0;CM # Mc VIETNAMESE ALTERNATE READING MARK CA

16FF1;CM # Mc VIETNAMESE ALTERNATE READING MARK NHAY

Representative Glyphs

While there maybe be variations in specific texts, the glyphs used in the Nom Na Tong font are based on the most common shape and should be used in the code charts

16FF0 VIETNAMESE ALTERNATE READING MARK CA

16FF1 VIETNAMESE ALTERNATE READING MARK NHAY

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Figure 1 Structure of Nôm characters (H 'ông 2014, p 17)

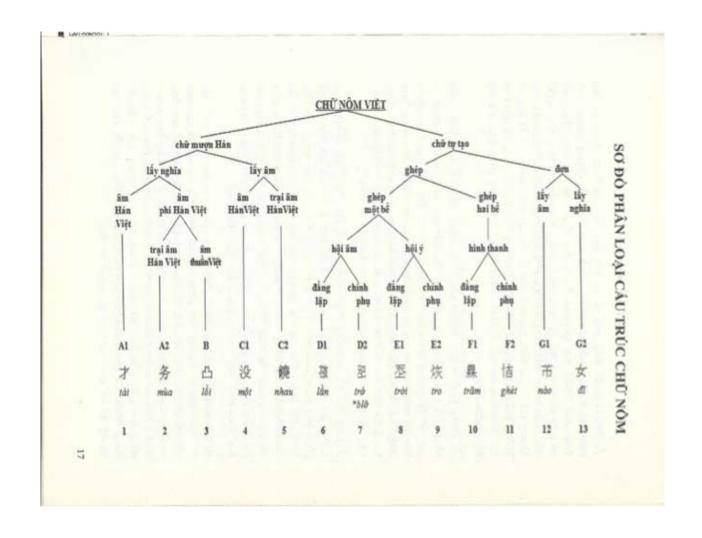


Figure 2. Examples of cá and nháy (Đinh 2014, p. 9)

Dấu Cá 个

Gọi là Dấu Cá 'T vì nó chính là chữ Nho Cá 个, Dấu Cá 'T được viết thêm vào ở bên phải chữ Nho.

Chữ Nôm	Nho	Ký hiệu	Đọc chệch
Cá 釘	Ngư fil	个	
Mối媒个	Môi 娯	个	Đọc chệch
Tiệc 席个	Tịch 席	个	Đọc chệch
Tuổi 歲个	Tuế 歲	个	Đọc chệch
Lỗi 磊个	Lỗi 磊	个	
Ng 女个	Ne女	个	Đọc chệch
Tiếp 接个	Tiếp接	个	
Tốn 損个	Tốn 掴	个	

Dấu nháy «

Dấu Nháy < cũng được viết thêm vào ở bên phải chữ Nho, thường là ký hiệu chính âm.

Chữ Nôm	Nho	Dấu Nháy	Đọc chệch
Góa 寡‹	Qùa 寡		Đọc chệch
Giành 争 c	Tranh 争	C.	Đọc chệch
Mày 眉<	Mi 眉	(Đọc chệch
Moc 木‹	Mộc 木	(:	Đọc chệch
Thà 時(Thì B\$	0	Đọc chệch

Có cả cách tạo chữ Nôm mới bằng cách thêm đầu nháy «vào bên cạnh chữ Nôm.

Chữ Nôm	Nôm	Dấu nháy <	Đọc chệch	
Lân 鳴<	Răn 🕸	(Đọc chệch	
Mành 前c	Manh ##	c c	Đọc chệch	

Figure 3 TCVN 5773-1993 V+A171 $c\acute{a}$

TCVN 5773-1993

Nôm Standard Code Set

Table 1: COLLATING ORDER ACCORDING TO ISO/IEC 10646-1:1993

Code	Nôm	Vietnamese	
V+A158	引	tấc	
V+A159	米	bůn	
V+A15A	쇒	chút	
V+A15B	缩	hoển	
V+A15C	門	mọn	
V+A15D	乳	nhỏ	
V+A15E	剣	xíu	
V+A15F	韵	bé	
V+A160	買	måy	
V+A161	貿	hèn	
V+A162	魣	nghìn	
V+A163	光	ngút ·	
V+A164	内	núi	
V+A165	條	đèo	
V+A166	倍	vọi	į
V+A167	變	mðm	
U+5D97	嶗	lao -	
V+A168	嫩	non	
U+5E12	将	đấy	
V+A169	咿	tranh	
U+5E45	幅	bức	
U+5E4D	帽	thao	
V+A16A	市綿	mền -	
V+A16B	匣	dun	
V+A16C	胯	hè	
V+A16D	应	lụp	
V+A16E	唐	chái	
V+A16F	引	bắn	
V+A170	别能	kirom	
V+A171	个	cá	
V.A172	ኅ	ونسۇي	
V+A173	旷	trut	

Code	Nôm	Vietnamese
V+A174	隋	luðn
V+A175	帶	dırới
V+A176	鄠	lè
V+A177	DET.	xuống
V+A178	置	ba
V+A179	燈	dâng
V+A17A	瘇	trên
V+A17B	杧	mất
V+A17C	明	quên
U+5FC6	忆	hất
V+A17D	仍	nãi
U+5FC7	协	sực
V+A17E	妆	nỡ
V+A17F	夕	tệch
U+5FCF	仟	thin
V+A180	忱	đăm
V+A181	冰	thoải
U+6011	件	bắn
U+6032	怲	biếng
V+A182	体	bỡn
U+6026	怦	bừng
U+601B	怛	đắn
V+A183	仲	lo
U+6029	怩	náy -
V+A184	佣	rùng
V+A185	彻	thít
V+A186	惟	trót
U+6044	佶	ghét
V+A187	协	ghiếc
U+6045	뽄	làu
V+A188	代	lẫy
U+6051	恑	nguây

Code	Nôm	Vietnamese
V+A189	伽	nhờ
V+A18A	例	sệt
V+A18B	俖	bē A
U+6091	捕	bổ
V+A18C	信	cậy
V+A18D	悛	cảy
U+609C	悜	chường
V+A18E	愕	dāi
V+A18F	愧	dại
U+6087	悇	dø
U+608B	悋	lẫn
V+A190	他	ngượng
U+60A7	悧	rırçi
V+A191	校	tấm
V+A192	馁	thoả
U+60CD	惍	căm
V+A193	虎	hổ
U+60CF	惏	làm
V+A194	恋	lòng
V+A195	倈	lười
U+60C0	信	luẩn
V+A196	們	mừng
U+60DD	悄	strong
V+A197	接	thiếp
V+A198	协	ura
V+A199	個	ủa
U+60FC	惼	ben
U+610A	信	bực
V+A19A	榓	buðn
V+A19B	饰	cáu
V+A19C	煄	chuộng
V+A19D	倥	dột ·

[12]

Figure 4. TCVN 5773-1993, V+A02F, *nháy*

Code	Nôm	Vietnamese	Code	Nôm	Vietnamese	Code	Nôm	Vietname
V+A000	麦	g0p	V+A013	極	nghè	V+A030	401-	
V+A001	仁	hai	V+A014	似	vào			bấy
V+A002	弱	kép	V+A015	廖	tám	V+A031	収	ét .
U+4EC9	仉	kě	V+A016	沱	ngắt	V+A032	叮	bớt
V+A003	全	trùm	V+A017	冻	mát	V+A032	以	léo
U+4F29	伩	nho	V+A018	漬	cóng	V+A033	nt:	nhấp đức
V+A004	但	va	V+£.019	出	chěm	U+5403	吃吃	
V+A005	尒	với	V+A01A	劇	phay	V+A035	叨	khật
U+4F4A	彼	bè	U+521F	BI	xẻo	V+A035	旧	ngọt rỉ
V+A006	呼.	hùa	V+A01B	9	đãn	U+5400	旷	xiên
U+4F32	伲	ni	V+A01C	甸	húi	V+A037	哟	ào
U+4F36	伶	rành	U+5256	剖	bō	U+5431	吱	chê
U+4F35	四	tớ	V+A01D	例	xě	V+A038	吐	chiri
V+A007	便	tốp	V+A01E	剧	hớt	U+5438	吸	côp
U+4F85	侅	hời	V+A01F	刻	khía	U+5432	明	dăn
U+4FDA	俚	lái	V+A020	剃	mổ	U+5428	吨	đồn
V+A008	促	văi	V+A021	副	cạo	V÷A039	聘	diğu
V+A009	得	ngài	V+A022	削	gọt	V+A03A	旺	0u
V+A00A	婚	nhố	V+A023	粤	vạc	V+A03B	哼	gáy
V+A00B	念	nộm	V+A024	助	rán	U+5474	哟	gâu
U+5045	偅	chổng	V+A025	励	gắng		III	hoé
V+A00C	葆	mų	V+A026	鹁	khướt	V+A03C	吹	lóc
U+50A6	傦	cőt	V+A027	勏	rặn	V+A03D	吒	mau
V+A00D	偽內	nập	V+A028	毅	vâm	V+A03E	叹	ngát
U+5068	偨	thày	V+A029	舞	lử	U+5418	昨	ngỏ
V+A00E	偽合	cấp	U+532C	匬	tů	V+A03F	师	ngoen
U+50E4	僤	dạn	V+A02A	邂	chục	U+5440	呀	nhá
V+A00F	徐	xúm	V+A02B	則	bói	V+A040	11亿5	nhãng
U+5100	儀	nghi	V+A02C	買	mái	V+A041	旺	nhảm .
V+A010	僇	thợ	V+A02D	尨	chín .	U ₄ 5450	呐	nói
V+A011 .	儒	trði	V+A02F	珍	díra	V+A042	旺	uống
V+A012	頟	đời	V+A02F	<	nháy	U+5427	nei	và .

Figure 5, Additional marks (Vũ, 1994. p 11)

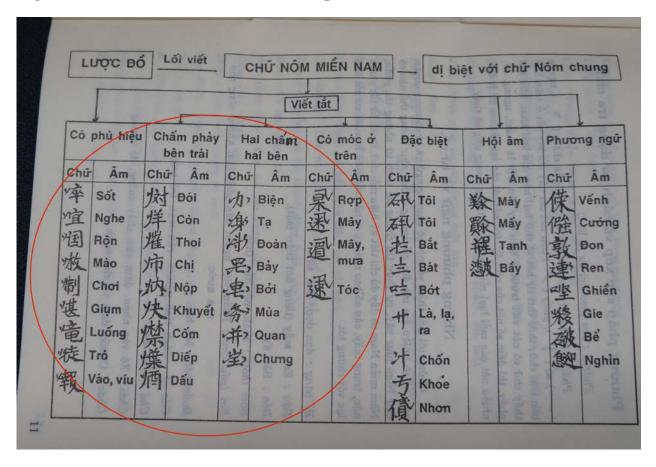


Figure 6. Collation examples (H`ông, 2014, p. 2259)

	ANI SU	4 100	
	殖 sặc	1 110	日 nhật
0	院 vện	Ò .	
	- 14	ď	0 ∏ nhặt
	斗 đầu	u	nhật
	-74 197	ua	nhờn
	斗 đấu	i	1 1 1/
	料 lèo	5 施 th	đăn
	liều	th	den
	liệu	th	i tran
	trĩu 쇲 1.0	th	1 2 4 1 2
	斛 hộc	放 vì	ra 早 chảo
	斜 tà	b yì	ra 旬 tuần
	斟 chăm		
	châm	旁 bà	-6
	chậm		ing
3	⊯ lệch	1	mg H nhặt nhặt làng là hạn
			nàng 3 早 hạn nằng 1 日 1 1 1
	斤 cân	1.7.	时 thì
	斤 cân		thời
	gần	框 vi	- G Kiluya
	khăn	l b vi	iông
	祈 chóc	旗 vi	
	chước	7 旌 tir	у принат
	Ciluoc	/J± til	2259

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.

 $\begin{array}{c} \textbf{Please read Principles and Procedures Document (P \& P) from \underline{.http://std.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/principles.html} \underline{.} \textbf{ for guidelines} \\ \textbf{ and details before filling this form.} \end{array}$

Please ensure you are using the latest Form from http://std.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/summaryform.html.

See also http://std.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/summaryform.html.

A. Administrative

1. Title: Proposal to Encode Two Vie	etnamese Alternate Readin	g Marks			
2. Requester's name: Lee Co	ollins, Ngô Thanh Nhàn				
3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution):	Liason				
4. Submission date:	Liason 4 October 20)17			
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):		No			
Proposed name of script:					
b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing blo	ock:	Yes			
Name of the existing block: Ideograph	ic Smbols and Punctuation b	olock (16FE0 -			
	16FFF)	`			
2. Number of characters in proposal:		2			
3. Proposed category (select one from below - see section 2.2 of P&P	document):				
A-Contemporary B.1-Specialized (small collection)		ection)			
C-Major extinct D-Attested extinct	E-Minor extinct				
F-Archaic Hieroglyphic or Ideographic	G-Obscure or questionable usage sy	vmbols			
4. Is a repertoire including character names provided?		Ýe			
a. If YES, are the names in accordance with the "character names"	ning guidelines"	16			
in Annex L of P&P document?	ing guidennes	Yes			
b. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable f	for review?	Yes			
5. Fonts related:	of review.	105			
a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font to the P	roject Editor of 10646 for publishing	the standard?			
Vietnamese Nôm Prese	rvation Foundation				
b. Identify the party granting a license for use of the font by the	e editors (include address, e-mail, ftp-	site, etc.):			
Vietnamese Nôm Preservation Foun	dation, www.nomfoundation.org				
6. References:					
a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descripti	ive texts etc.) provided?	Yes			
b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newsp	papers, magazines, or other sources)				
of proposed characters attached?	Yes				
7. Special encoding issues:					
Does the proposal address other aspects of character data proce					
presentation, sorting, searching, indexing, transliteration etc. (i	f yes please enclose information)?	Yes			
8. Additional Information:					
Submitters are invited to provide any additional information about Pr	operties of the proposed Character(s)	or Script that will assist			
in correct understanding of and correct linguistic processing of the pr					
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 Unicod	e standard at			
http://www.unicode.org. for such information on other scripts. Also	see Unicode Character Database (

[.] Form number: N4502-F (Original 1994-10-14; Revised 1995-01, 1995-04, 1996-04, 1996-08, 1999-03, 2001-05, 2001-09, 2003-11, 2005-01, 2005-09, 2005-10, 2007-03, 2008-05, 2009-11, 2011-03, 2012-01)

http://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 characte	No					
If YES explain						
2. Has contact been made to members of the						
user groups of the script or characters	Yes					
If YES, with whom?	cholars at Han-Nom institute in Hanoi, users active in Facebook	group Úy Ban				
	Phục Sinh Hán Nôm Việt Nam, etc.					
If YES, available relevant doc						
3. Information on the user community for th						
	nology use, or publishing use) is included?	Yes				
Reference:	Roth scholarly and nonular					
4. The context of use for the proposed chara		Rare				
Reference:						
5. Are the proposed characters in current us	e by the user community?	Yes				
If YES, where? Reference:	See proposal					
6. After giving due considerations to the pri	nciples in the P&P document must the proposed characters be ent	irely				
in the BMP?		No				
If YES, is a rationale provide	ded?					
If YES, reference:						
7. Should the proposed characters be kept to	ogether in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)?	Yes				
8. Can any of the proposed characters be co	nsidered a presentation form of an existing					
character or character sequence?		Yes				
If YES, is a rationale for its	inclusion provided?					
If YES, reference:	Yes, but the proposed characters are combining marks, no	ot stand alone				
	characters					
	coded using a composed character sequence of either	X Y				
existing characters or other proposed		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)	T/				
to, or could be confused with, an exis		Yes				
If YES, is a rationale for its		Yes				
If YES, reference:	See proposal					
11. Does the proposal include use of combine	ning characters and/or use of composite sequences?	Yes				
If YES, is a rationale for such use pro						
If YES, reference:	Yes, see proposal					
Is a list of composite sequences and t	heir corresponding glyph images (graphic symbols) provided?	Yes				
If YES, reference:						
12. Does the proposal contain characters wi						
control function or similar semantics	No					
If YES, describe in detail (i	nclude attachment if necessary)					
13. Does the proposal contain any Ideograp		No				
-	ling unified ideographic characters identified?					
If YES, reference:						