

Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set
International Organization for Standardization
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Title: Feedback on L2/23-118 (Proposal for superscript katakana letters for Ryukyuan languages)
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Kojitani-San submitted [a document](#) to request to encode 8 superscript Katakana letters for Ryukyuan languages. After reviewing the document, I have several questions before we encode them in UCS and Unicode.

1) In the references, there are only two online documents, and all the pieces of evidence are cited from the same document, which was just released in the last year. We can't confirm if these superscript Katakana letters have been stable for the usages as the author mentioned based on current materials, because the release time is too short to date.

2) As [the second document](#) of the references show, that committee tried to cover more phonologies of Ryukyuan dialects in Okinawa Prefecture, Japan, and tried to make the orthographies systematic and unique. We need to know if other new Katakana letters or other characters will be added to this systematic and unique orthography. If other new Katakana letters and other characters will be needed to add to this orthography, who will submit the document to WG2 and UTC, and which information system will support them?

3) The superscript letters are totally the new things for Japanese (even East Asian) typography, we can't confirm it is still suitable for the current font production process and final typesetting effects. The current pieces of evidence don't provide any example or principle for the vertical layout, and the author has not mentioned anything about UAX #50 yet.

4) The current evidence didn't provide any example for running text, slogan and signboard, that means it is not easy for the reviewers to fantasy about the final effects of the real world now.

5) In the second document of the references, there are other symbols used in the orthographies.

	゚	゚	゚	゚
	U+02BC	U+02C0	U+02F3	U+02DC
国頭語	Y	Y		
沖縄語	Y	Y	Y	Y
宮古語			Y	
八重山語			Y	Y
与那国語		Y		

If these four symbols are also the important part of the orthographies, we need to add the `Script_Extensions` values as Kana for the encoded characters mentioned in the above table, or re-encode them as the combining marks like U+3099 and U+309A. On the other hand, the information for UAX #50 for them is also needed.

6) I once knew there are other orthographies for Ryukyuan languages. We need to know how to handle the differences among different orthographies for the same languages or dialects.

7) Okinawa Prefecture is a part of Japan, so is this orthography allowed by the local legal system in Japan? If it is released by the local department officially, the submission should be submitted by Japan National Body or Okinawa Prefecture local government as the governmental requirements.

All in all, the current document is still questionable, which is not suitable to accept them at this stage for my opinion.

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