

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 dashes required by the Chicago Manual of Style in the UCS

Source: Karl Pentzlin

Status: Individual Contribution

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

Date: 2010-02-10 (Rev. 2: The decisions of UTC #122 regarding the code points are incorporated.)

Supplemental Punctuation: Dashes

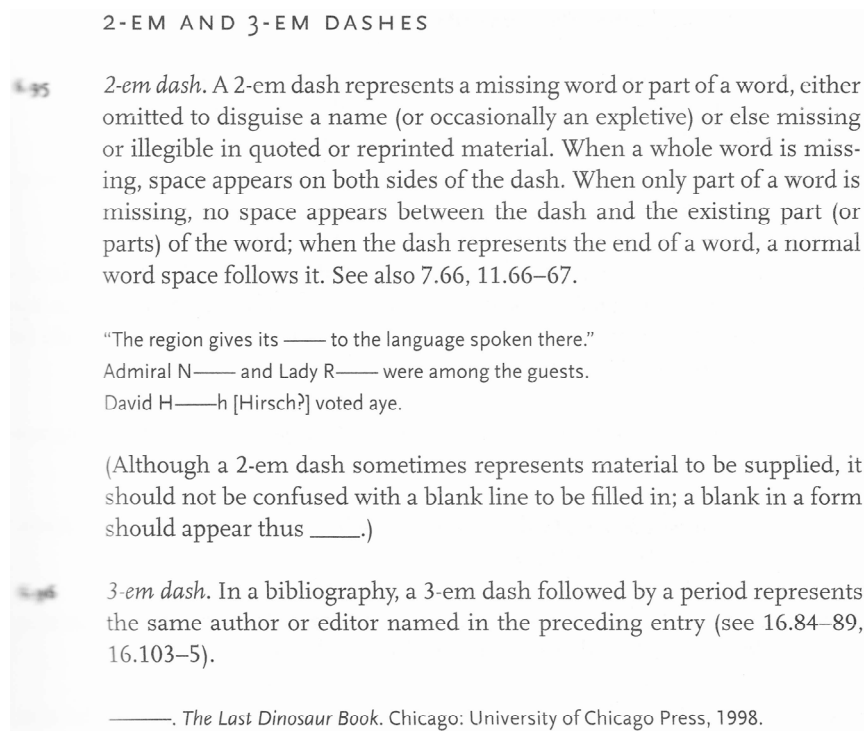
——	U+2E3A	TWO-EM DASH = omission dash → 2014 em dash
————	U+2E3B	THREE-EM DASH

Properties:

2E3A; TWO-EM DASH; Pd; 0; ON; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ;
 2E3B; THREE-EM DASH; Pd; 0; ON; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ;

Background information

The Chicago Manual of Style (15th ed. [2003], ISBN 0-226-10403-6) explains different 2-em and 3-em dashes for different punctuation requirements, as is shown in the following excerpt of p.265 (sections 6.95/6.96):

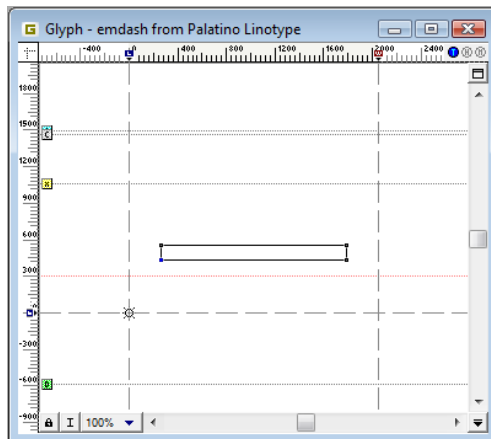


In absence of the characters now proposed, they usually are substituted by sequences of 2 resp. 3 em dashes. However, the character U+2014 EM DASH is not necessarily left-joining and right-joining (as Box Drawing characters, or characters explicitly marked such like e.g. U+0332).

Thus, this trick may work with some fonts like Microsoft's Times New Roman: — — — — —
but it does not work with common fonts like Palatino Linotype: — — — — —
or DejaVu Serif: — — — — — (each: em dash + space + 2x em dash + space + 3x em dash).

This is due to the fact that dashes may intentionally have side bearings, when the font designer considers this adequate for good typography for the primary use of the em dash—like this.

E.g., this screenshot from FontLab shows the em dash in Palatino Linotype:



Thus, sequences of single em dashes cannot be regarded as equivalent to the two dashes proposed here.

Moreover, the two dashes proposed here are not variants of already encoded characters. The most similar character is U+2015 HORIZONTAL BAR. In fact, in most fonts this character is only slightly longer than the em dash (if not of the same length), while the proposed dashes have a specified length quite larger in relation to the em dash (implied by their name).

E.g., em dash + horizontal bar in Microsoft's Times New Roman: — — ; in DejaVu Serif: — —

Also, the alternative name for U+2015 HORIZONTAL BAR: "≡ quotation dash", suggests that the horizontal bar was introduced as a variant of the em dash, which according to the Chicago Manual of Style is also the appropriate character for starting quotations (see p.264, section 6.93). This is in accordance with its usual length similar to the em dash.

It also is to be noted that the two dashes proposed here are no recent inventions.

They are already mentioned in the 4th edition of the "Chicago Manual of Style" from 1906, see:

http://www.archive.org/stream/manualofstylebei00univrich/manualofstylebei00univrich_djvu.txt

Also, they existed in lead type, as it was mentioned on the Unicode mailing list:

<http://www.unicode.org/mail-arch/unicode-ml/y2010-m01/0226.html>

Line breaking behavior

The two-em dash, in its function as an omission dash, usually behaves like the letter sequence which it represents, i.e. it acts like a non-breaking hyphen (see the example "H—h" above). Thus, in LineBreak.TXT, it should have the attribute "GL".

The three-em dash shows nothing special regarding line breaking, thus, in LineBreak.TXT, it should have the attribute BA (like the other dashes except the em dash).

**ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2
PROPOSAL SUMMARY FORM TO ACCOMPANY SUBMISSIONS
FOR ADDITIONS TO THE REPERTOIRE OF ISO/IEC 10646¹**

Please fill all the sections A, B and C below.

Please read Principles and Procedures Document (P & P) from <http://www.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/principles.html> for guidelines and details before filling this form.

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

See also <http://www.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/roadmaps.html> for latest Roadmaps.

A. Administrative

1. Title: *Proposal to encode two dashes required by the Chicago Manual of Style in the UCS*
2. Requester's name: *Karl Pentzlin*
3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution): *Individual contribution*
4. Submission date: *2010-01-27*
5. Requester's reference (if applicable):
6. Choose one of the following:
- This is a complete proposal: ☒ *X*
- (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 block: ☒ *Yes*
- Name of the existing block: *Supplemental Punctuation*
2. Number of characters in proposal: *2*
3. Proposed category (select one from below - see section 2.2 of P&P document):
- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| A-Contemporary ☒ <i>X</i> | 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. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font (ordered preference: True Type, or PostScript format) for publishing the standard? *The author (font released into the Public Domain)*
- If available now, identify source(s) for the font (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.) and indicate the tools used: *<http://www.europatastatut.de/material/longdash.ttf>*
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 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 <http://www.unicode.org/Public/UNIDATA/UCD.html> and associated Unicode Technical Reports for information needed for consideration by the Unicode Technical Committee for inclusion in the Unicode Standard.

¹ Form number: N3152-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)

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.)?	No
If YES, with whom?	
If YES, available relevant documents:	
3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example: size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included?	Yes:
Reference: <i>All typesetters and readers in the USA and several other areas</i>	
4. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare)	common
Reference: <i>see above</i>	
5. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community?	Yes
If YES, where? Reference: <i>see above</i>	
6. After giving due considerations to the principles in the P&P document must the proposed characters be entirely in the BMP?	Yes
If YES, is a rationale provided?	
If YES, reference: <i>To keep them up with other Supplemental Punctuation</i>	
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 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?	No
If YES, is a rationale for such use provided?	
If YES, reference:	
Is a list of composite sequences and their corresponding glyph images (graphic symbols) provided?	
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 character(s)?	No
If YES, is the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic character(s) identified?	
If YES, reference:	