

State Level Awareness Workshop for the state of Kerala on e-Governance Standards & Guidelines, 20th - 21st Jan 2023

C-DAC, TechnoPark, Thiruvananthapuram

Localization and Language Technology Standards

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Outline of the Presentation

- Background and Importance of Localization
- Basics of Indian Language Computing
- Linguistic scenario in India
- Working with English vis-à-vis Indian Languages
- Standards & Guideline for Language Computing
- Availability of tools for Indian languages
- Database and Website search
- Localization Standards and Best Practices
- Localization Guidelines Minimal Set -Recommendations



Background - Importance of Localization

- Most computer systems, software solutions and devices even today are designed and developed keeping English as primary language.
- Digital India aims to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.
- Also, aims to ensure that the Government's services are made available to citizens electronically.
- More than 90% of the population of the country are Non-English speakers.
- Attempt to reach out to these 90% population through localisation of applications, data, reports, code, services, devices...... for Indian Languages





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Basics of Indian Language Computing

All systems can be broken down into three parts

- Inputting
 - First INSCRIPT keyboard standard was published by BIS in 1991 (IS 13194: 1991)
 - Enhanced INSCRIPT keyboard layouts (IS 16350: 2016).
 - Indian Language Support for Mobile Phones as per IS 16333 (Part 3): 2016
 - Phonetic / Transliteration, Typewriter
 - Storage / Processing
 - UNICODE de-facto standard for storage of Multilingual text. Current version is 15.0 releases on 13th Sept 2022.
- Output
 - UNICODE compliant Open Font format Fonts

Applications for Indian Languages should have support throughout the lifecycle of the system – rather than being an after thought.

Enhanced INSCRIPT keyboard layouts (IS 16350: 2016)



- Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), the national standards body of India has published a standard on 'Enhanced Inscript keyboard layouts' (IS 16350: 2016) on 07th June 2016.
- The standard covers code charts, characters and character names for 11 Indian scripts which cover all 22 official languages of India which are identical to ISO/IEC 10646 (Universal Coded Character Set).
- Additionally, this standard gives enhanced versions of the Inscript keyboard layouts and mapping of the code points with the respective keyboard layouts.
- Further, this standard is also referred in published standards IS 16333: 2016 Indian Language Support for Mobile Phone Handsets

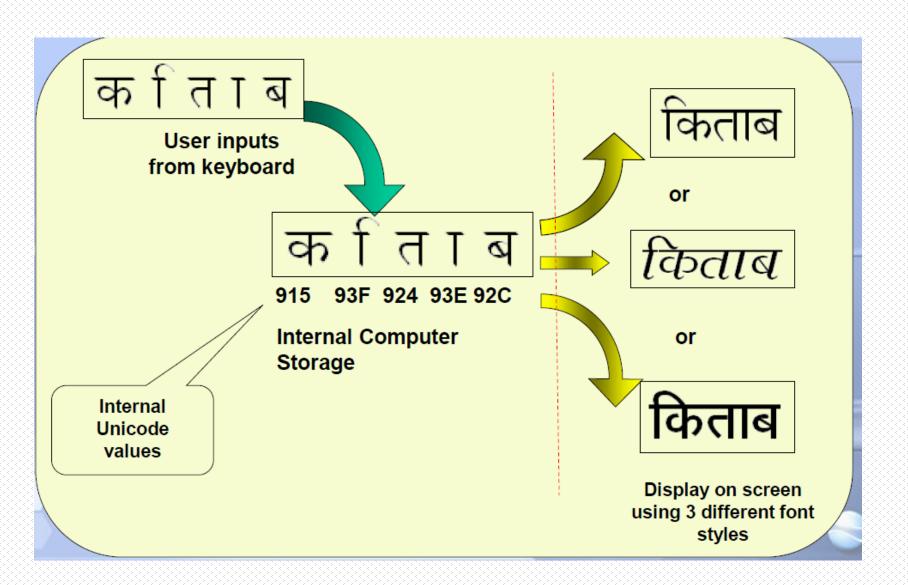
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Indian Language Support for Mobile Phones as per IS 16333 (Part 3): 2016

- Indian Language Support for mobile phones as per IS 16333 (Part 3): 2016 was mandated by MeitY with effect from 1 July 2017 vide order dated 24 October 2016 bringing it under the provisions of "Electronics and Information Technology Goods (Requirements of Compulsory Registration) Order, 2012".
- As per the new mandate, all mobile phones in the country will have to provide text reading support in all Indian languages on their devices.
- The standard mandates mobile phone companies to provide message typing facility in English, Hindi and a regional language of their users choice.



Akshara (Syllable) Formation



Indian Language Nuances and complexities चुडेक



Alternate Spellings

हिंदी : ह + ि + ं + द + ी

हिन्दी : ह + ि + न + ् + द + ी

तसवीर : त + स + व + ी + र

<u>त</u>स्वीर : <u>त</u> + स + ्+ व + ी + र

Alternate forms

अब्र : अ + न + ् + न

<mark>अनुन</mark> : अ + न + ् + ् + न

<mark>अन्</mark> : अ + न + ् + INV (ZWJ) + न

बिट्ट : ब + ि + ट + ् + ् + ् + ट + ु

बिट्टु : ब + ि + ट + ् + ट + ु

र्ठ : र + ् + ठ : ह : र + ् + ् + ् + ठ

दुध : दु 🕂 ् 🕂 INV 🕂 ध 😮 दु : दु 🕂 ् 🕂 ध

डूड∶ड+्+ड : हु∶ड+्+्+्+ड

Reordering

क ति । ब

क ति । ब

(179+219+194+218+202)

किताब

(+ क + त + ा + ब)

Linguistic Scenario in India



One script: many languages

- Devanagari Hindi, Marathi, Konkani, Rajasthani, Sindhi, Nepali, Dogri, Santhali, etc.
- Thus the data in Devanagari (code page) can support all languages using that particular script.
- However tools like synonym Dictionaries, spellcheckers, and search engine crawlers and indexers, etc. are language dependent and require language information along with the data.
- Though the contents would reveal the language used, it would be ideal if a special attribute code to indicate the language is inserted. सोलापुरातील डॉक्टरांना मिळणार एक हजार खोल्यांचा नवीन वसतिगृह.

One language: many scripts

- Konkani is written in Roman, Devanagari, Malayalam and Kannada.
- Sindhi is written in Gurmukhi (Punjabi), Arabi (Perso-Arabic), Devanagari, Gujarati and also Roman.
- Sindhi has adopted the Perso-Arabic script for representing their language. In case of Konkani, Devanagari is used as official script.

| Language | ISO 639 code | Official Language | Family | Script |
|----------|--------------------|--|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Assamese | asm | Assam | Indo-Aryan | Assamese |
| Bengali | ben | Tripura and West Bengal | Indo-Aryan | Bangla |
| Manipuri | mni | Meitei | Tibeto-Burman | Bangla Meitei-Meyek |
| Boro | brx | Assam | Tibeto-Burman | Devanāgarī (modified) |
| Dogri | dgo | Jammu and Kashmir | Indo-Aryan | Devanāgarī (modified) |
| Hindi | hin | Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Bihar, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal | Indo-Aryan | Devanāgarī |
| Konkani | kok | Goa | Indo-Aryan | Devanāgarī Roman (Latin) |
| Maithili | mai | Bihar | Indo-Aryan | Devanāgarī |
| Marathi | mar | Maharashtra | Indo-Aryan | Devanāgarī |
| Nepali | nep | Sikkim | Indo-Aryan | Devanāgarī |



| Language | ISO 639 code | Official Language | Family | Script |
|-----------|--------------------|---|------------|---|
| Sanskrit | san | Pan-Indian | Indo-Aryan | Devanāgarī |
| Gujarati | guj | Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, and Gujarat | Indo-Aryan | Gujarati |
| Punjabi | pan | Punjab | Indo-Aryan | Gurmukhi |
| Kannada | kan | Karnataka | Dravidian | Kannada |
| Malayalam | mal | Kerala and Lakshadweep | Dravidian | Malayalam |
| Santali | sat | Jharkhand | Munda | Ol Ciki |
| Oriya | ori | Orissa | Indo-Aryan | Oriya |
| Kashmiri | kas | | Indo-Aryan | Perso-Arabic Devanāgarī |
| Sindhi | snd | Pan-Indian | Indo-Aryan | Perso-Arabic Devanāgarī Gujarati Roman (Latin) |
| Urdu | urd | Jammu and Kashmir | Indo-Aryan | Perso-Arabic |
| Tamil | tam | Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry | Dravidian | Tamil |
| Telugu | tel | Andhra Pradesh | Dravidian | Telugu |

Working with English



Inputting

- The keys on the keyboard are mapped to ASCII characters.
- One to One mapping between keys and the English characters

Display

- The glyph representing the character pressed is displayed.
- The English font contains the glyphs at the position specified by the ASCII character set.
- One to One mapping between the characters and the glyphs
 Example: Hi = H + I

Storage

The ASCII value of the characters is stored.

Printing

• The glyphs representing the ASCII characters are printed.

Character vs. Glyph

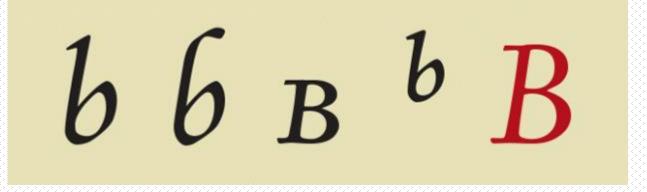


A character is the symbol representing a letter.

A glyph is the specific shape, design, or representation of a character.



Collection of glyphs representing the character "a".



(left) The lowercase "b" character is represented by four glyphs in Jenson italic: the standard b, an alternate, a small cap, and the superscript. (right) The capital "B" is a different character.

Complexity of Indian Languages



- Character Set
 - Consonants (k, kh, g, gh)
 - Vowels (Ae, e, E)
 - Vowel Sign (Matras)
 - Vowel Modifiers (Chandrabindu, anuswar, visarg)
 - Others (Halant, Nukta)
- Shape of a character does not remain constant

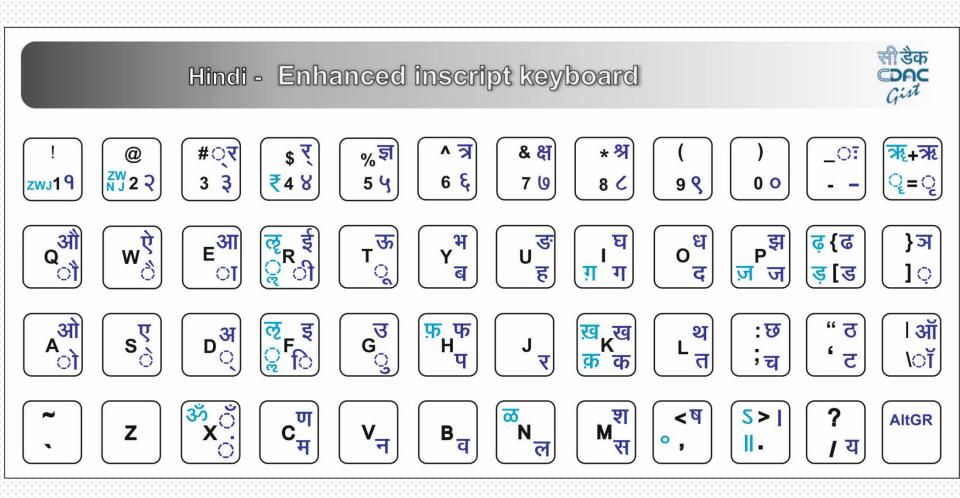
Example: क्या

According to Devnagari Script Rules क + + य + T = क्या

- Here the shape of the ক gets modified.
- Hence no one to one mapping between character and its shape.

Working with Indian Language

Enhanced INSCRIPT keyboard layouts (IS 16350: 2016)



Working with Indian Language

Inputting

- All the combinations of consonants and vowels cannot be mapped to limited set of keyboard keys.
- So a standard set of characters representing all the basic shapes is defined by Bureau of Indian Standards called as Indian Script Code for Information Interchange (ISCII).
- Each character in the set is assigned a unique value.
- One to one mapping between the keys and the ISCII characters possible.

Working with Indian Languages



Display

- The characters that are inputted through keyboard are mapped to glyphs in the font.
- There is many to many mapping between characters entered and the glyphs displayed due to complexity of Indian Languages.
 - e.g. क्या will be entered as क + ् + य + ।
 क + will be represented by single glyph ক
- There might be repositioning of characters before the actual display
 - e.g. किताब will be entered as क + ि + त + ा + ब
 but ि will be displayed before क



Working with Indian Languages

Storage

• The data can be stored in various formats like ISCII, ISFOC, Unicode etc.

Printing

- Printing is also based on storage.
- If the storage is in font code, the font information should be there with the data.
- If the storage is ISCII based, the printer should be enabled to print ISCII else the data should be converted to font code before sending to printer.



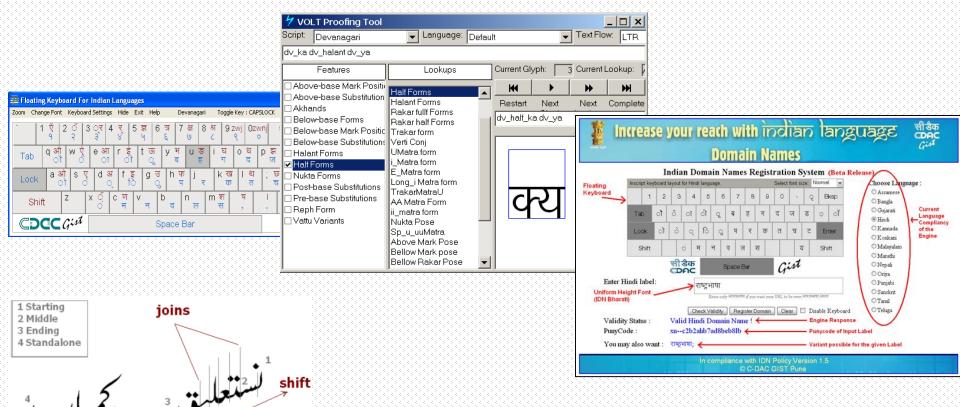
Standard

"a document, established by consensus and approved by a recognized body, that provides, for common and repeated use, rules, guidelines or characteristics for activities or their results, aimed at the achievement of the optimum degree of order in a given context".

Adherence to standards ensures compatibility, safeguarded data, avoids vendor locking, proper exchange of data between various systems, applications, databases, devices, etc.

Indian Language Standards





ISCII, INSCRIPT, PASCII

W3C for IL on Browsers and Mobile devices

Baseline

UNICODE
IDN - ICANN, IANA
Enhanced INSCRIPT



Indian language standards

Storage (UNICODE)

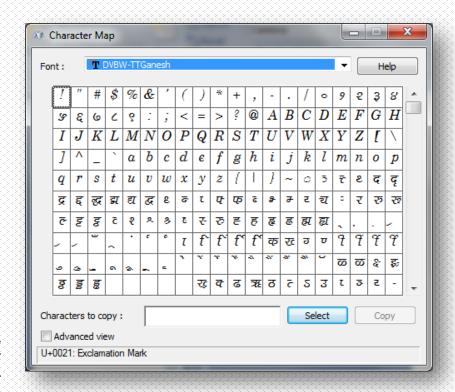
Inputting (INSCRIPT)

Display (Open Font Format)

Pre-Unicode Era



- Displaying multilingual data would require fonts.
- Font is a set of well defined shapes to display symbols (letters, punctuation marks, special characters of the language).
- An 8-bit font can represent upto 256 glyphs by giving unique index (called glyph index) and name to each glyph/shape.



Pre-Unicode Era



न =
$$\bar{r} + I$$

 $\pi = \bar{c} + I$
 $\pi = \bar{c} + I$
 $\pi = \bar{r} + I$
 $\pi = \bar{r} + I$



UNICODE

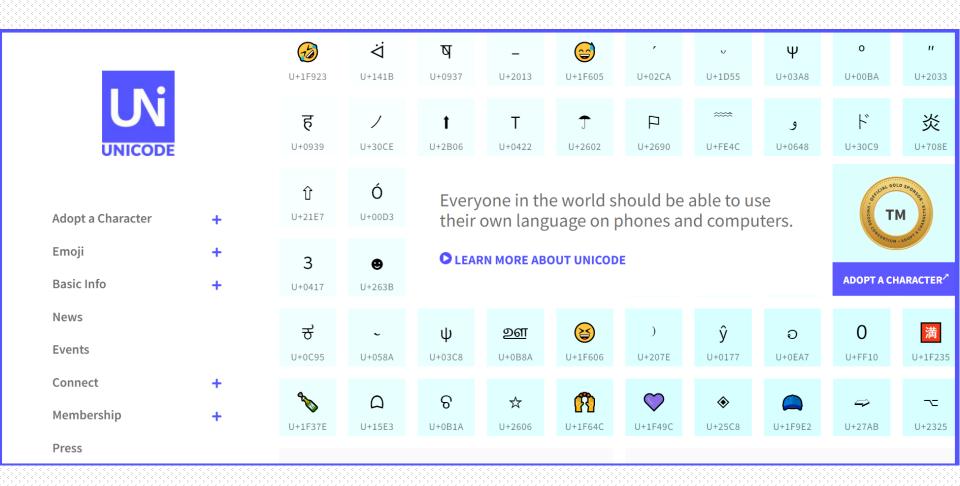
Storage standard

 What ASCII is for English, Unicode is for other languages of the world

• Enables seamless exchange of data – desktops, printers, databases, browsers, devices.

UNICODE





Latest stable version - 15.0

UNICODE



- Unicode consortium defines Unicode as :
- "Unicode is the universal character encoding, maintained by the Unicode consortium. This encoding standard provides the basis for processing, storage and interchange of text data in any language in all modern software and information technology protocols."
- It is the superset of all the languages in the world which also includes punctuation, special characters (shapes), currency symbols, mathematical symbols etc. Using Unicode, more than 65000 different characters can be represented. Unicode comprises of many code charts.
- The Unicode code charts can be referred at: http://www.unicode.org/charts

सी डेक CDAC

UNICODE

- Various editors / applications / development environments / databases / browsers need to understand how to read in the given Unicode data and interpret the same.
- Various encoding schemes to represent Unicode are UTF-8, UTF-16, UTF-32 with a combination of endianness. (Little & Big Endian -two ways of storing multibyte data-types)
- There are normalization rules which are required to be followed for data compatibility between various applications / underlying environment.
- Non adherence to some of these may lead to wrong interpretation of data and will also pose problems in searches as well.



Normalization in Unicode

- The Unicode data requires normalization.
- There are many cases where a character can be entered in more than one ways.
- If application or database does not normalize, searching becomes difficult.

```
रिज़र्व
ज + ़ = 091C+093C
ज़ = 095B
रिज़र्व = र + ि+ ज +.+ र + ्+ व
Also = र + ि+ ज़ + र + ्+ व
```

Character semantics



- The Unicode standard includes an extensive database that specifies a large number of character properties, including:
 - Name
 - Type (e.g., letter, digit, punctuation mark)
 - Decomposition (Å can be formed with U+00C5 or U+0041 & U+030A)
 - Case and case mappings (for cased letters)
 - Numeric value (for digits and numerals)
 - Combining class (for combining characters)
 - Directionality (Left to Right or Right to Left)
 - Line-breaking behavior
 - Cursive joining behavior (in Arabic, a character used at the beginning of a word looks completely different when it is used as the last character of a word)

https://util.unicode.org/UnicodeJsps/character.jsp

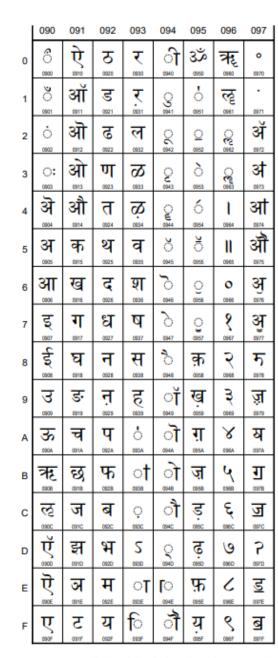


Advantages of UNICODE

- Character based encoding.
- Can be ported on any platform and any OS.
- Can be ported on hand held and mobile devices
- Different scripts have different code page.
- All Indian languages are supported along with all other languages.
- Allows multiple languages in the same data.

0900 Devanagari 097F

UNICODE Devanagari Code Page





Availability of tools



- UNICODE is not vendor specific
- It is Backward compatible
- Major database, OS, browser players support some form UNICODE encoding

- Data Migration services can be provided for egovernance developers
- Office documents such as .doc/.docx, .xls/xlsx, .txt can be converted to UNICODE
- Database migration tools can also be made available.

https://localisation.gov.in/



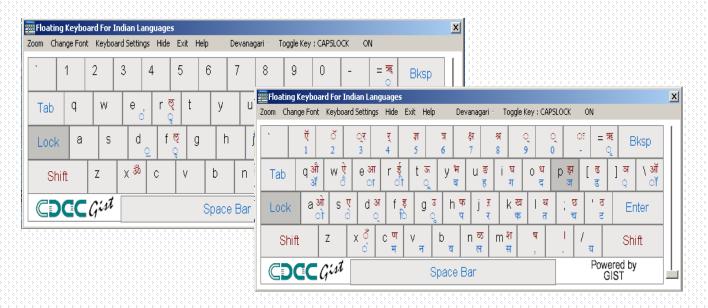
Enhanced INSCRIPT (2.0)

- INSCRIPT is part of BIS ISCII document (IS 13194:1991)
- Enhanced INSCRIPT allows user to type latest UNICODE characters such as Rupee symbol.
- Unlike the phonetic or transliteration mechanism, it does not expect the user to know English to type Indian language and so caters to rural audiences as well.
- Fast typing is possible as consonants are typed by one hand while vowels are typed by left hand



Enhanced INSCRIPT Standardization for Latest Unicode Version

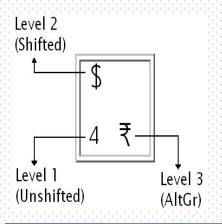
- Study and Research for Keyboards of various languages Normal layer and Extended layer
- Along with teams from Microsoft, Redhat and IBM

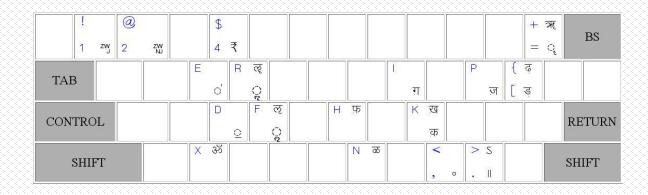


 The Enhanced INSCRIPT keyboard layout provides three layers and this to accommodate all the extra characters and yet make the keyboard as ergonomic and efficient as possible



Standardization of Rupee Symbol Inputting







Made available for free download on

http://tdil-dc.in



ZWJ and ZWNJ

- Two special characters in Unicode
- . ZWJ 200D, ZWNJ 200C



Tools Availability

- UNICODE typing Tool is available for free download from http://ildc.in and http://www.cdac.in
- It has all 22 languages and supports enhanced INSCRIPT layout including the ₹ Symbol
- The keyboard sticker layouts are also available for download from http://ildc.in
- Onscreen Javascript code for websites is made available free of cost to all e-governance developers



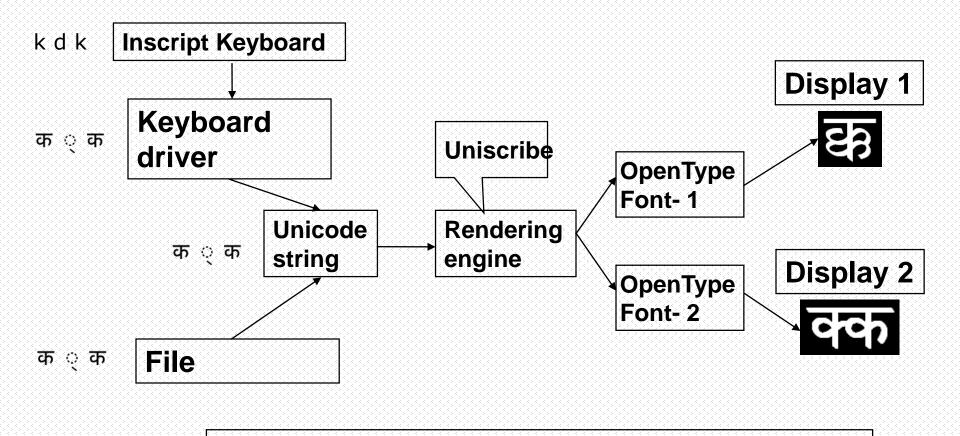
Display: Open Font format -Fonts

- Joint effort by Adobe and Microsoft.
- 16-bit Unicode compliant, more glyphs possible.
- Glyph substitution & positioning logic built into the font
- Storage-to-display conversion is done by the rendering engine
- Data is not stored in glyph codes rather in Unicode
- No issue of data portability
- No need to have a font glyph standard



Unicode and OpenType Fonts

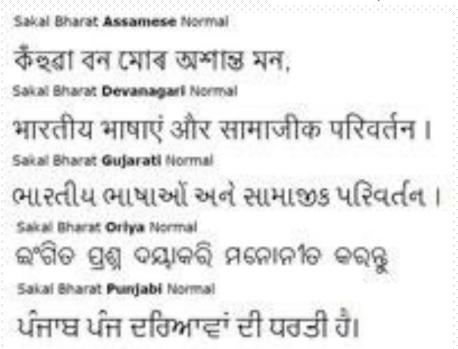
Windows Rendering Mechanism

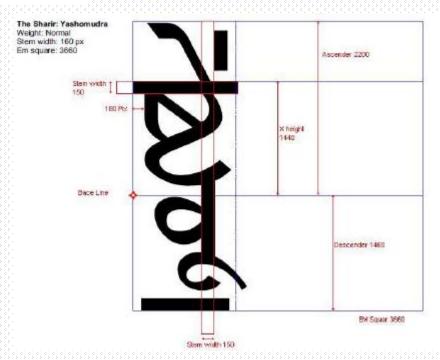


Sakal Bharati font



- A single font which contains all the Indic scripts has been developed by CDAC Pune. This font has got consistent look and feel across various Indian Scripts including English language.
- This font can be downloaded from the url: http://www.tdil-dc.in



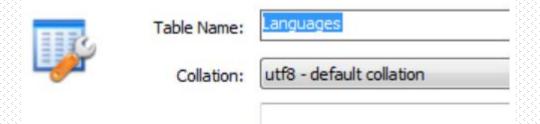


https://github.com/RajyaMarathiVikasSanstha/Yashomudra

Storing data in Databases



You need to set UTF-8 Collation for the Table to store the various languages text characters



INSERT INTO Languages VALUES('English', 'World is beautiful.');

INSERT INTO Languages VALUES('Hindi', 'दुनिया सुंदर है।');

INSERT INTO Languages VALUES('Marathi', 'जग सुंदर आहे.');

INSERT INTO Languages VALUES('Gujarati', 'વિશ્વ સુંદર છે.');

Searching in Databases



- Several words have multiple correct spellings and Alternate representation forms
- E.g.: the word Hindi may be written with a bindi on top of the first syllable or with a half na.

हिंदी हिन्दी

- What should happen in case of using database queries
- So also with the representations of the word vitthal विद्वल विठ्ठल
- •Indian Language numerals are not mapped to English numerals.

Searching in Indian language Websites

- Provide Relevant titles for WebPages
- Main / summarized information of activity to appear in index page
- Images, pdfs, video, audio files should have proper naming convention and names should be appropriate to the contents of the images / pdf.

Use of Search Engine optimization techniques.



Terminology in Translations



Localisation of strings



- Translation v/s Transliteration
- Technical Term v/s common man's Term
- Physical-size of localized equivalent strings
- 3 out of 22 languages are right to left oriented
- Location / Layout
 - Positioning of back-next buttons, scroll bar positions for applications supporting right to left scripts.
 - coexisting along with English (Bi-directional support)



Localization of strings

- Context and Domain specific meanings
 - Example
 - the word 'Bank' (Financial Entity, River bank, to trust on someone/thing, etc.)
 - the word 'Fire' (may very in meaning depending on context) – If it is as a verb (such as fire an event) then it may suggest some action to be undertaken, If noun then the meaning changes completely
 - Multi-Domain expertise as well as context may be required apart from linguistic know-how

Localization of strings



- Technical terminology
 - Differentiating between similar meaning such as cancel, abort, terminate
 - Translation v/s Transliteration (IPR and registered copyrights and trademarks)
 - What should be Localized string for :
 - Windows
 - Mouse
 - FireFox
 - Internet Explorer
 - Double click
 - Dock Windows

Common Locale Data Repository (CLDR)



- The locale is an explicit model and definition of a native-language environment.
- The notion of a locale is explicitly defined and included in the POSIX standard which can be accessed through http://opengroup.org.
- A program's locale defines its code sets, date and time formatting conventions, monetary conventions, decimal formatting conventions, and collation (sort) order.

http://cldr.unicode.org/

Common Locale Data Repository (CLDR)



- The CLDR provides key building blocks for software to support the world's languages.
- Locale-specific patterns for formatting and parsing: dates, times, timezones, numbers and currency values, measurement units.
- **Translations of names:** languages, scripts, countries and regions, currencies, eras, months, weekdays, day periods, time zones, cities, and time units, emoji characters and sequences (and search keywords)
- Language & script information: characters used; plural cases; gender of lists; capitalization; rules for sorting & searching; writing direction; transliteration rules; rules for spelling out numbers; rules for segmenting text into graphemes, words, and sentences; keyboard layouts
- Country information: language usage, currency information, calendar preference, week conventions
- Validity: Definitions, aliases, and validity information for Unicode locales, languages, scripts, regions, and extensions,

Common Locale Data Repository (CLDR)



Who uses using CLDR?

- •Apple (macOS, iOS, watchOS, tvOS, and several applications; Apple Mobile Device Support and iTunes for Windows; ...)
- •Google (Web Search, Chrome, Android, Adwords, Google+, Google Maps, Blogger, Google Analytics, ...)
- •IBM (DB2, Lotus, Websphere, Tivoli, Rational, AIX, i/OS, z/OS,...)
- Microsoft (Windows, Office, Visual Studio, ...)

and many others, including: ABAS Software, Adobe, Amazon (Kindle), Amdocs, Apache, Appian, Argonne National Laboratory, Avaya, Babel (Pocoo library), BAE Systems Geospatial eXploitation Products, BEA, BluePhoenix Solutions, BMC Software, Boost, BroadJump, Business Objects, caris, CERN, CLDR Engine, Debian Linux, Dell, Eclipse, eBay, elixir-cldr, EMC Corporation, ESRI, Firebird RDBMS, FreeBSD, Gentoo Linux, GroundWork Open Source, GTK+, Harman/Becker Automotive Systems GmbH, HP, Hyperion, Inktomi, Innodata Isogen, Informatica, Intel, Interlogics, IONA, IXOS, Jikes, jQuery, Library of Congress, Mathworks, Mozilla, Netezza, OpenOffice, Oracle (Solaris, Java), Lawson Software, Leica Geosystems GIS & Mapping LLC, Mandrake Linux, OCLC, Perl, Progress Software, Python, Qt, QNX, Rogue Wave, SAP, Shutterstock, SIL, SPSS, Software AG, SuSE, Symantec, Teradata (NCR), ToolAware, Trend Micro, Twitter, Virage, webMethods, Wikimedia Foundation (Wikipedia), Wine, WMS Gaming, XyEnterprise, Yahoo!, Yelp

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Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs)

- Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) enable people around the world to use domain names in local languages and scripts.
- IDNs are formed using characters from different scripts, such as Arabic, Chinese, Cyrillic or Devanagari.
- National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) is a not for profit organization who is responsible for .IN Registry, managing and operation of .IN country code domain and .भारत IDN domain

for India

| Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) | Language |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| भारत | .Bharat in Devanagari |
| .ভারত | .Bharat in Bangla |
| భారత్ | .Bharat in Telugu |
| .ભારત | .Bharat in Gujarati |
| بهارت . | .Bharat in Urdu |
| இந்தியா | .Bharat in Tamil |
| . ਭਾਰਤ | .Bharat in Gurumukhi (Punjabi |



Localization Guidelines Minimal Set

Localization Guidelines Minimal Set



- Default Homepage in Local Language
- All Subsequent Web-Pages in Local Language. The subsequent linked pages should be in Local Language. Many of the pages, pdf files linked are in English.
- All Menu titles of the web pages in Local Language.
- All Web-pages should be developed using UTF-8 encoding.
- Lang attributes lang="mr" should be specified (replace "mr" with local language).
- Meta tags should be defined in Local Language. <meta name="keywords" content="HTML,CSS,XML,JavaScript">
- Image ALT/Captions, titles and text should be in Local Language.
- Font for the website should be provided through latest HTML5 Font SRC provisions.
- All Downloads (PDF, DOC, Excel, etc.) should be in Local Language with Unicode compliance.
- All page titles in Local Language.



Localization Guidelines Minimal Set

- Numbers should be in Local Language on all pages, Documents, PDFs, Images, etc.
- Contact us information given in Local Language.
- All user defined alert/error/pop-up messages are in Local Language.
- Feedback form should be available in Local Language.
- Typing facility in Local Language should be given for Interactive website.
- Typing should support Enhanced / INSCRIPT layout.
- Onscreen Floating keyboard should be made available.
- Provision for increasing font size is available.
- In-site search support is available for Local Language.
- Website works on Hand held devices.
- Site map of website is in Local Language.

