

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 for encoding the Lycian script in the UCS  
**Source:** Michael Everson  
**Status:** Individual Contribution  
**Action:** For consideration by JTC1/SC2/WG2 and UTC  
**Date:** 2005-04-27

Lycian is used to write an ancient Indo-European language of Western Anatolia, which is related to Luwian, Lydian, Hittite, and Palaic. It was used from ca. 500 BCE to about 200 BCE. The term “Lycian” is now used in place of “Lycian A”. A dialect of Lycian, attested in two texts in Anatolia, is called “Lycian B”, or “Milyan”, and dates to the first millennium BCE.

The Lycian script, like Lydian and Carian, is related to the Greek script. It appears on stone inscriptions, coins, and a few other objects.

## Processing

Lycian is an alphabetic script written left-to-right, with frequent use of word-dividers.

## Names

The names used for the characters here are based on their Latin transliterations.

## Bibliography

- Carruba, O. 1978. “La scrittura licia”, in *Annali della scuola normale superiore di Pisa, classe di letter e filosofia*. 3rd series. 8:849-867.
- Faulmann, Carl. 1990 (1880). *Das Buch der Schrift*. Frankfurt am Main: Eichborn. ISBN 3-8218-1720-8
- Melchert, H. Craig. 2004. “Lycian”, in *The Cambridge encyclopedia of the world’s ancient languages*, ed. Roger Woodard, 591-600. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Swiggers, Pierre, & Wolfgang Jenniges. 1996. “The Anatolian alphabets”, in *The World’s Writing Systems*, ed. Peter T. Daniels & William Bright. New York; Oxford: Oxford University Press. ISBN 0-19-507993-0

## Unicode Character Properties

```
10500;LYCIAN LETTER A;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
10501;LYCIAN LETTER E;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
10502;LYCIAN LETTER B;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
10503;LYCIAN LETTER BH;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
10504;LYCIAN LETTER G;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
10505;LYCIAN LETTER D;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
10506;LYCIAN LETTER I;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
10507;LYCIAN LETTER W;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
10508;LYCIAN LETTER Z;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
10509;LYCIAN LETTER TH;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
1050A;LYCIAN LETTER Y;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
1050B;LYCIAN LETTER K;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
1050C;LYCIAN LETTER Q;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
1050D;LYCIAN LETTER L;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
1050E;LYCIAN LETTER M;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
1050F;LYCIAN LETTER N;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
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10510;LYCIAN LETTER MM;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;  
 10511;LYCIAN LETTER NN;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;  
 10512;LYCIAN LETTER U;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;  
 10513;LYCIAN LETTER P;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;  
 10514;LYCIAN LETTER KK;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;  
 10515;LYCIAN LETTER R;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;  
 10516;LYCIAN LETTER S;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;  
 10517;LYCIAN LETTER T;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;  
 10518;LYCIAN LETTER TT;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;  
 10519;LYCIAN LETTER AN;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;  
 1051A;LYCIAN LETTER EN;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;  
 1051B;LYCIAN LETTER H;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;  
 1051C;LYCIAN LETTER X;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;

## Figures

### LYKISCH.

Zeichen	Wert	Zeichen	Wert	Zeichen	Wert
Ⲁ	a	Ⲁ	y	Ⲁ	t
Ⲃ	b	Ⲁ Ⲁ Ⲁ Ⲁ	k	Ⲁ Ⲁ Ⲁ	v
Ⲅ	g	Ⲁ Ⲁ	l	Ⲁ Ⲁ Ⲁ Ⲁ	kh
Ⲇ	d	Ⲁ Ⲁ	m	Ⲁ Ⲁ Ⲁ Ⲁ Ⲁ Ⲁ	
Ⲉ	i	Ⲁ Ⲁ Ⲁ Ⲁ Ⲁ	n	Ⲁ Ⲁ Ⲁ Ⲁ Ⲁ	o
Ⲋ	v	Ⲁ	u	Ⲁ Ⲁ Ⲁ	w
Ⲍ	dz	Ⲁ Ⲁ Ⲁ Ⲁ Ⲁ	p	Ⲁ	th
Ⲏ	e	Ⲁ Ⲁ	r	Ⲁ	ah
Ⲑ	h	Ⲁ Ⲁ	s	Ⲁ	ih

Das vorstehende Alphabet ist entnommen aus J. SAVELSBERG's Beiträgen zur Entzifferung der lykischen Sprachdenkmäler. Die Schreibweise bekannter griechischer Namen weist eine eigene Orthographie auf, z. B. ⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀ *Harpagus*, ⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀ *Apollonidas*, ⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀ *Sidarios*, ⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀ *Hrpyi*, ⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀ *Dauasa*, ⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀⲀ

*Hekatomnas*. Es dürfte diese Schreibart noch aus jener Zeit stammen, die der Fixirung eines Alphabets voranging; wir finden eine ähnliche Orthographie in den iberischen Münzinschriften, deren Zeichen wir hier nach PHILLIPS (über das iberische Alphabet, Stzb. d. k. Akad. d. W. 1870, LXV, II) folgen lassen.

Figure 1. Table of Lycian letters from Faulmann 1990 (1880).



**Table 21.1 The Lycian alphabet**

Character	Transcription
ⲡ	a
ⲓ	e
Ⲕ ⲕ	b (/β/)
ⲗ	β (/kʷ/?)
Ⲙ ⲙ	g (/γ/)
Ⲏ	d (/ð/)
ⲏ	i
Ⲑ	w
ⲑ	z (/tʰ/)
Ⲓ	θ
ⲓ	y
Ⲕ	k (/k</)
ⲕ	q (/k/)
Ⲍ	l
ⲍ	m
Ⲏ	n
ⲏ	ṁ (/m̄/)
Ⲑ	ṅ (/n̄/)
ⲑ	u
Ⲓ	p
ⲓ	(≈ /k</?)
Ⲕ	r
ⲕ	s
Ⲏ	t
ⲏ	τ (/c/)
Ⲑ ⲑ Ⲓ ⲓ	ā
Ⲕ ⲕ Ⲍ ⲍ Ⲏ	ē
ⲏ	h
Ⲑ ⲑ Ⲓ ⲓ	x (/k>/)

**Figure 4.** Table of Lycian letters from Melchert 2004.

**TABLE XX - Row 105: LYCIAN**

	1050	1051
0	𐌲	𐌸
1	𐌳	𐌹
2	𐌴	𐌺
3	𐌵	𐌻
4	𐌶	𐌼
5	𐌷	𐌽
6	𐌸	𐌾
7	𐌹	𐌿
8	𐌺	𐍀
9	𐌻	𐍁
A	𐌼	𐍂
B	𐌽	𐍃
C	𐌾	𐍄
D	𐌿	
E	𐍀	
F	𐍁	

**G = 00**  
**P = 01**



## A. Administrative

### 1. Title

Proposal for encoding the Lycian script in the UCS

### 2. Requester's name

Michael Everson

### 3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution)

Individual contribution.

### 4. Submission date

2005-04-27

### 5. Requester's reference (if applicable)

### 6. Choose one of the following:

#### 6a. This is a complete proposal

No.

#### 6b. More information will be provided later

This is a preliminary proposal.

## B. Technical – General

### 1. Choose one of the following:

#### 1a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters)

Yes.

#### Proposed name of script

Lycian.

#### 1b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block

No.

#### 1b. Name of the existing block

#### 2. Number of characters in proposal

27.

#### 3. Proposed category (see section II, Character Categories)

Category C

#### 4a. Proposed Level of Implementation (1, 2 or 3) (see clause 14, ISO/IEC 10646-1: 2000)

Level 1.

#### 4b. Is a rationale provided for the choice?

Yes.

#### 4c. If YES, reference

Spacing characters are proposed.

#### 5a. Is a repertoire including character names provided?

Yes.

#### 5b. If YES, are the names in accordance with the character naming guidelines in Annex L of ISO/IEC 10646-1: 2000?

Yes.

#### 5c. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable for review?

Yes.

#### 6a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font (ordered preference: True Type, or PostScript format) for publishing the standard?

Michael Everson. TrueType.

#### 6b. If available now, identify source(s) for the font (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.) and indicate the tools used:

Michael Everson, Fontographer.

#### 7a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?

Yes, see bibliography above.

#### 7b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of proposed characters attached?

Yes.

#### 8. 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)?

Yes, see 9 below.

9. 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 Unicode Character Database <http://www.unicode.org/Public/UNIDATA/UnicodeCharacterDatabase.html> and associated Unicode Technical Reports for information needed for consideration by the Unicode Technical Committee for inclusion in the Unicode Standard.

Yes, see Unicode properties above.

## C. Technical – Justification

### 1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before? If YES, explain.

No

**2a. Has contact been made to members of the user community (for example: National Body, user groups of the script or characters, other experts, etc.)?**

Yes.

**2b. If YES, with whom?**

Deborah Anderson, University of California, Berkeley

**2c. 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?**

Scholarly communities researching the Lycian language.

**4a. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare)**

Lycian is fairly rare as these things go.

**4b. Reference**

**5a. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community?**

Yes.

**5b. If YES, where?**

By scholars worldwide.

**6a. After giving due considerations to the principles in Principles and Procedures document (a WG 2 standing document) must the proposed characters be entirely in the BMP?**

No.

**6b. If YES, is a rationale provided?**

**6c. If YES, reference**

**7. Should the proposed characters be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)?**

Yes, they should be encoded in a single block as presented here.

**8a. Can any of the proposed characters be considered a presentation form of an existing character or character sequence?**

No.

**8b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?**

**8c. If YES, reference**

**9a. Can any of the proposed characters be encoded using a composed character sequence of either existing characters or other proposed characters?**

No.

**9b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?**

**9c. If YES, reference**

**10a. Can any of the proposed character(s) be considered to be similar (in appearance or function) to an existing character?**

No.

**10b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?**

**10c. If YES, reference**

**11a. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences (see clauses 4.12 and 4.14 in ISO/IEC 10646-1: 2000)?**

No.

**11b. If YES, is a rationale for such use provided?**

**11c. If YES, reference**

**12a. Is a list of composite sequences and their corresponding glyph images (graphic symbols) provided?**

No.

**12b. If YES, reference**

**13a. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as control function or similar semantics?**

No.

**13b. If YES, describe in detail (include attachment if necessary)**

**14a. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility character(s)?**

No.

**14b. If YES, is the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic character(s) identified?**

**14c. If YES, reference**