# Miscellaneous historical and para-IPA modifier letters

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This proposal, officially supported by the International Phonetic Association after evaluation by the IPA Alphabets, Charts and Fonts Committee (Nicolaides 2024), follows on L2/20-252 and L2/20-253, which requested modifier (superscript) variants of nearly all letters of the modern IPA alphabet that were as yet unsupported by Unicode. Those two proposals included a few retired and para-IPA letters, but consideration of historical and para-IPA modifiers was largely deferred until the IPA could more fully discuss the desired scope of such encoding through the newly established Alphabet, Charts and Fonts Committee. Several sub-proposals from that discussion have now been submitted. This is the last planned part of that request, covering the miscellaneous remainder of useful IPA modifier letters.

By 'para-IPA,' we mean symbols that are commonly used within IPA notation but that are not themselves part of the IPA alphabet. An example is Americanist small-capital  $\langle D \rangle$ , which has long been used for the alveolar tap in the American English pronunciation of the words *latter* and *ladder* (both ['læD,]) by phoneticians who distinguish taps from flaps and who do not wish to transcribe the English tap with the IPA symbol for the alveolar flap  $\langle r \rangle$  (e.g. Spanish *pero* ['pero] 'but').

Besides  $\langle D \rangle$ , the final letters for which we request superscript variants are:

- The unofficial retroflex frictives  $\langle j \rangle$  and  $\langle z \rangle$ , the palatalized fricatives  $\langle j \rangle$  and  $\langle z \rangle$  that were retired in 1989, and their affricate ligatures  $\langle t d z \rangle$  and  $\langle t d d \rangle$ , used i.a. in the transcription of Slavic languages (e.g. John Laver, *Principles of Phonetics*, CUP, 1994).
- The unofficial central approximants < j>, <u> and <w>, which are the semivowel equivalents of the central vowels [i] and exolabial/endolabial [u] (e.g. Martin Ball & Joan Rahilly, The symbolization of central approximants in the IPA, JIPA 41 (2), 2011, p. 231–237; *Phonetics: The Science of Speech*, 2014).
- <\\$\overline\$, the rounded partner of <\\$\overline\$ whose superscript <\\$\`> is already encoded at U+1DA7. <\\$\overline\$ and <\\$\overline\$ are used for close reduced vowels (e.g. The Routledge Dictionary of Pronunciation for Current English, 2017), or for near-close central vowels (e.g. Warren Maguire, Language and Dialect Contact in Ireland, Edinburgh University Press, 2020).</li>
- The Czech fricative trill  $\langle r \rangle$ , retired in 1989, where the superscript can be used to transcribe a fricative trilled release [d<sup>r</sup>].
- The Japanese nasal coda  $\langle \eta \rangle$ , retired in 1989, where the superscript can be used to transcribe an underspecified nasal coda [V<sup>n</sup>] that verges on being a nasal vowel.

The labiodental plosives <φ φ> from 20th-century Bantuist literature (e.g. Clement Doke, *The Southern Bantu Languages*, OUP, 1954), and continuing into the 21st century (Ladefoged & Maddieson, *The Sounds of the World's Languages*, Blackwell, 1996; Wolfgang Kehrein, *Phonological Representation and Phonetic Phasing*, De Gruyter, 2002), where the superscripts can be used to transcribe the epenthetic plosives of [m<sup>φ</sup>f] and [m<sup>φ</sup>v].

The Unicode character properties of modifier  $\langle \Psi \rangle$  refer to the baseline letters  $\langle \Psi \rangle$  and  $\langle W \rangle$ , which aren't yet encoded and are therefore requested here. They are illustrated in the figures.

The ICPLA is considering adding the labiodental plosives  $\varphi \phi$ , the fricative trill r, and the central approximants j w to ExtIPA (Martin Ball, p.c. 2024), so modifiers may prove useful there as well.

On naming: A reviewer of a draft of this proposal asked about the name of  $\langle \Psi \rangle$  as modifier 'barred turned h,' and why that shouldn't apply instead to a hypothetical modifier turned  $\hbar$ . In an upcoming proposal on barred and slashed letters, we will propose that, going forward, 'stroke' be restricted to short strokes that cross a single ascender or descender, consistent with U+0127 LATIN SMALL LETTER H WITH STROKE  $\langle \hbar \rangle$ , and that 'barred' be used for letters with a longer stroke that crosses the body of the letter, as in U+AB30 LATIN SMALL LETTER BARRED ALPHA  $\langle a \rangle$ . Thus in that upcoming proposal we will request  $\langle h \rangle$  as 'barred h,' and the letters  $\langle \Psi \rangle$  and  $\langle W \rangle$  are requested here as 'barred turned h' and 'barred w.' If a turned  $\hbar$  is ever needed, it would be 'turned h with stroke,' consistent with the name of U+0127 LATIN SMALL LETTER H WITH STROKE.

# Characters

## **Barred letters**

- ψ 1DF3E latin small letter barred turned h.
- w 1DF3F latin small letter barred w.

## Modifier phonetic letters

- <sup>4</sup> 1DFD8 modifier letter small barred turned h
- <sup>j</sup> 1DFD9 modifier letter small J with stroke
- \* 1DFDA MODIFIER LETTER SMALL UPSILON WITH STROKE
- ✤ 1DFDB MODIFIER LETTER SMALL BARRED W
- $\eta$  ~~ 1DFDC modifier letter small N with long right leg.
- r 1DFDD modifier letter small r with long leg
- <sup>d</sup> 1DFDE MODIFIER LETTER SMALL DB DIGRAPH
- <sup>q</sup> 1DFDF MODIFIER LETTER SMALL QP DIGRAPH
- d 1DFE0 modifier letter small dezh digraph with curl
- な 1DFE1 modifier letter small dezh digraph with retroflex hook
- ∫ 1DFE2 MODIFIER LETTER SMALL ESH WITH CURL
- $\int$  1DFE3 modifier letter small esh with retroflex hook

- f 1DFE4 modifier letter small tesh digraph with curl
- <sup>ff</sup> 1DFE5 modifier letter small tesh digraph with retroflex hook
- <sup>3</sup> 1DFE6 MODIFIER LETTER SMALL EZH WITH CURL
- 3 1DFE7 MODIFIER LETTER SMALL EZH WITH RETROFLEX HOOK

Modifier small capitals (subheading together with subsequent 2 characters)

<sup>d</sup> 1DFE8 modifier letter small capital d

# Properties

Cross-referenced code points in red are proposed here, or are provisionally assigned, and may change.

1DF3E;LATIN SMALL LETTER BARRED TURNED H;Ll;0;L;;;;N;;;; 1DF3F;LATIN SMALL LETTER BARRED W;Ll;0;L;;;;N;;;; 1DFD8;MODIFIER LETTER SMALL BARRED TURNED H;Lm;0;L;<super> 1DF3E;;;;N;;;; 1DFD9;MODIFIER LETTER SMALL J WITH STROKE;Lm;0;L;<super> 0249;;;N;;;; 1DFDA;MODIFIER LETTER SMALL UPSILON WITH STROKE;Lm;0;L;<super> 1D7F;;;N;;;; 1DFDB;MODIFIER LETTER SMALL BARRED W;Lm;0;L;<super> 1DF3F;;;N;;;; 1DFDC;MODIFIER LETTER SMALL N WITH LONG RIGHT LEG;Lm;0;L;<super> 019E;;;N;;;; 1DFDD;MODIFIER LETTER SMALL R WITH LONG LEG;Lm;0;L;<super> 027C;;;N;;;; 1DFDE;MODIFIER LETTER SMALL DB DIGRAPH;Lm;0;L;<super> 0238;;;N;;;; 1DFDF;MODIFIER LETTER SMALL QP DIGRAPH;Lm;0;L;<super> 0239;;;N;;;;; 1DFE1;MODIFIER LETTER SMALL DEZH DIGRAPH WITH CURL;Lm;0;L;<super> 1DF2B;;;N;;;;;

## 1DF19;;;;N;;;;;

1DFE2;MODIFIER LETTER SMALL ESH WITH CURL;Lm;0;L;<super> 0286;;;;N;;;; 1DFE3;MODIFIER LETTER SMALL ESH WITH RETROFLEX HOOK;Lm;0;L;<super> 1D98;;;;N;;;; 1DFE4;MODIFIER LETTER SMALL TESH DIGRAPH WITH CURL;Lm;0;L;<super> 1DF2C;;;;N;;;; 1DFE5;MODIFIER LETTER SMALL TESH DIGRAPH WITH RETROFLEX HOOK;Lm;0;L;<super>

1DF1C;;;;N;;;;;

1DFE6;MODIFIER LETTER SMALL EZH WITH CURL;Lm;0;L;<super> 0293;;;;N;;;; 1DFE7;MODIFIER LETTER SMALL EZH WITH RETROFLEX HOOK;Lm;0;L;<super> 1D9A;;;;N;;;; 1DFE8;MODIFIER LETTER SMALL CAPITAL D;Lm;0;L;<super> 1D05;;;;N;;;;

# DoNotEmit data

For historical reasons, IPA letters with retroflex hook are not canonically equivalent to the letter plus the retroflex hook diacritic. They should thus be listed in DoNotEmit.txt.

- 1078A 0322; 1DFE1; Precomposed\_Form # MODIFIER LETTER SMALL DEZH DIGRAPH, COMBINING RETROFLEX HOOK BELOW; MODIFIER LETTER SMALL DEZH DIGRAPH WITH RETROFLEX HOOK
- 1DB4 0322; 1DFE3; Precomposed\_Form # MODIFIER LETTER SMALL ESH, COMBINING RETROFLEX HOOK BELOW; MODIFIER LETTER SMALL ESH WITH RETROFLEX HOOK
- 107AE 0322; 1DFE5; Precomposed\_Form # MODIFIER LETTER SMALL TESH DIGRAPH, COMBINING RETROFLEX HOOK BELOW; MODIFIER LETTER SMALL TESH DIGRAPH WITH RETROFLEX HOOK
- 1DBE 0322; 1DFE7; Precomposed\_Form # MODIFIER LETTER SMALL EZH, COMBINING RETROFLEX HOOK BELOW; MODIFIER LETTER SMALL EZH WITH RETROFLEX HOOK

# References

Martin Ball & Joan Rahilly (2013) Phonetics: The Science of Speech. Routledge.

Eliel Lagercrantz (1939) *Lappischer Wortschatz*, vol. 1–2. Suomalaisugrilainen seura, series 'Lexica Societatis Fenno-ugricae' (no 6), Helsinki.

- Katerina Nicolaides (2024) 'Unicode support for historical and para-IPA letters.' Letter submitted to the Unicode Technical Committee, 01 January 2024. L2/24-049.
- Gabriel Nissim (1981) *Le bamileke-ghomálá' (parler de Bandjoun, Cameroun)*. Société d'études linguistiques et anthropologiques de France.

# Chart

Greyed out cells are assigned (medium grey) or proposed elsewhere (light grey).

## Latin Extended-G

## 1DF00

### **1DFFF**

|   | 1DF0         | 1DF1      | 1DF2 | 1DF3 | 1DF4 | 1DF5 | 1DF6 | 1DF7 | 1DF8 | 1DF9 | 1DFA | 1DFB | 1DFC | 1DFD | 1DFE | 1DFF |
|---|--------------|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 0 | fŋ           | К         | đţ   | G    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | ಧ್ಯ  | J    |
| 1 | 9            | ŀ         | đţ   | ¥.   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | ф    | n    |
| 2 | Ð            | dz        | tł   | ħ    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | ſ    | t    |
| 3 | k            | ł         | tł   | ф    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | Ş    | ψ    |
| 4 | Ł            | ŋ         | tθ   | q,   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | ťſ   | ω    |
| 5 | ß            | ત્ર       | rd   | Ŗ    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | ជ្   | ď    |
| 6 | K            | ſ         | ł    | Ŕ    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 3    | h    |
| 7 | ũ            | t∫        | n    | ŗ    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | z    | ŋ    |
| 8 | J            | 3₀        | r    | tş   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | Ħ    | D    | ş    |
| 9 | f            | दे        | S    | y    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | j    | Α    | z    |
| A | <b>_</b> _ v | • • • • • | ť    | Ş    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | ¥    | E    | ć    |
| В | ₹            | ę         | ರ್ಶ  | ß    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | ₩    | 1    | ƙ    |
| С | ŧ            | ţ         | tſ   | θ    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | η    | l    | β    |
| D | J            | G,        | đ    | XP   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | r    | પ    | ď    |
| E | 2            | S         | dz   | Ħ    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | d    | પ    | f    |
| F | 6            | dð        | ð    | ₩    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | ф    | ď    | f    |

## Figures

A.P.I. ou w, centrale nor arrondie fermée ÷ A.P.I. j, semi-consonne palatale У, ŵ, A.P.I. labio-palatale ч, 4, transcrite habituellement semi-consonne pré-dorsale. Ψ, 2.33. Le phonème / ५/ Son identité phonologique est apparue dans les oppositions cf. 2.30 cf. 2.31 cf. 2.32 Il se réalise semi-consonne pré-dorsale, étirée, mi-ouverte.

Figure 1. Nissim (1981: 15, 67). Contrast of the para-IPA approximant  $\langle \psi \rangle$ , for a central semivowel, with *w*, *j*, *y*.

|            | front unr. | front r. | central unr. | central r.       | back unr. | back r. |
|------------|------------|----------|--------------|------------------|-----------|---------|
| Vowel      | i          | v        | i            | ų                | w         | u       |
| Semi-vowel | i          | ,<br>u   | i            | ( <del>W</del> ) | щ         | w       |

Figure 2. Ball & Rahilly (2013: 88).  $\langle w \rangle$  as the implicit IPA symbol for a central [w], and the semivowel equivalent of an exolabial [u]. It is difficult to typeset with a overstriking diacritic due to the width of the letter w.

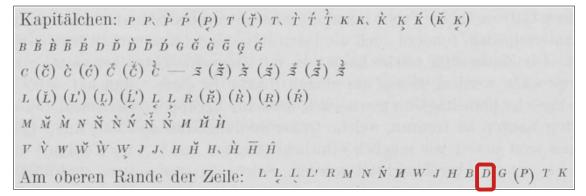


Figure 3. Lagercrantz (1939: 1236). Modifier small-cap  $\langle ^{\text{D}} \rangle$  with other baseline and modifier *Kapitälchen* (small capitals).

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|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2<br>PROPOSAL SUMMARY FORM TO ACCOMPANY SUBMISSIONS<br>FOR ADDITIONS TO THE REPERTOIRE OF ISO/IEC 10646 <sup>1</sup> .<br>Please fill all the sections A, B and C below.<br>Please read Principles and Procedures Document (P & P) from <u>http://std.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/principles.html</u> for guidelines<br>and details before filling this form. |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Please ensure you are using the latest Form from <u>http://std.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/summaryform.html</u> .<br>See also <u>http://std.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/roadmaps.html</u> for latest <i>Roadmaps</i> .   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A. Administrative  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Title: Miscellaneous historic   | al and para-IPA modifier letters                      |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. Requester's name:   | Kirk Miller   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution)<br>4. Submission date:   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. Requester's reference (if applicable):  | 2024 June 6   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6. Choose one of the following:  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| This is a complete proposal:   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| (or) More information will be provided later:  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| B. Technical – General   | 1   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Choose one of the following:  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters):<br>Proposed name of script:  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing   | block:  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Name of the existing block:  | Latin Extended-G                                      |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. Number of characters in proposal:   | 19  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. Proposed category (select one from below - see section 2.2 of P&  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A-Contemporary <b>x</b> B.1-Specialized (small collection)   | B.2-Specialized (large collection)                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| C-Major extinct D-Attested extinct   | G-Obscure or questionable usage symbols               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| F-Archaic Hieroglyphic or Ideographic<br>4. Is a repertoire including character names provided?  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. If YES, are the names in accordance with the "character r<br>in Annex L of P&P document?  | naming guidelines"                                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suital  | ole for review? yes                                   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. Fonts related:  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font to the   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kirk Mi  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b. Identify the party granting a license for use of the font by<br>SIL (Gentium  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6. References:   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, desc   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from nev   | vspapers, magazines, or other                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| sources) of proposed characters attached?  | 1105  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7. Special encoding issues:  | <u>yes</u>  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Does the proposal address other aspects of character data p  | rocessing (if applicable) such as input,              |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| presentation, sorting, searching, indexing, transliteration e  | tc. (if yes please enclose information)? <u>yes</u>   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8. Additional Information:   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Submitters are invited to provide any additional information abou  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| will assist in correct understanding of and correct linguistic proce<br>such properties are: Casing information, Numeric information, Cu   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| line breaks, widths etc., Combining behaviour, Spacing behaviour,  | , Directional behaviour, Default Collation behaviour, |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| relevance in Mark Up contexts, Compatibility equivalence and oth   | er Unicode normalization related information. See the |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unicode standard at <u>http://www.unicode.org</u> for such information on other scripts. Also see Unicode Character Database (<br><u>http://www.unicode.org/reports/tr44/</u> ) and associated Unicode Technical Reports for information needed for consideration  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| by the Unicode Technical Committee for inclusion in the Unicode  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**<sup>1</sup>** 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)

#### C. Technical - Justification

| c. reclinical - 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.)?   | yes       |
| If YES, with whom? The International Phonetic Organization   |           |
| If YES, available relevant documents: (see letter of support)  |           |
| 3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example:                           |           |
| size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included?                          |           |
| Reference:   |           |
| 4. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare)                          | phonetic  |
| Reference:   |           |
| 5. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community?                                     | yes       |
| If YES, where? Reference:  |           |
| 6. After giving due considerations to the principles in the P&P document must the proposed characters be | entirely  |
| in the BMP?  | no        |
| If YES, is a rationale provided?   |           |
| If YES, reference:   |           |
| 7. Should the proposed characters be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)?  | no        |
| 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, or could be confused with, 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 characters?                                  | <u>no</u> |
| If YES, are the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic characters identified?                      |           |
| If YES, reference:   |           |
|  |           |