

# Proposal to encode Vedic Tone Yajurvedic Mid-char Svarita as 1CD4 in the BMP of the UCS.

Unicode Technical Committee document L2/08-214  
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## 1cd4 VEDIC TONE YAJURVEDIC MID-CHAR SVARITA

= Vaidika svarita urasi rekhaa

- zero-advance combining character

[Note to Michael: In the glyph, center the horizontal line at the right side of the dotted circle]

[Note regarding the name: it also occurs in Vājasaneyi Mādhyandina Saṁhitā so it is not appropriate to call it MAITRAYANI SVARITA, though we could call it KASHMIRI or NORTHERN SVARITA]

The VEDIC TONE YAJURVEDIC MID-CHAR SVARITA is used in the *Maitrāyaṇīsaṁhitā* and in northern manuscripts of the Mādhyandina recension of the *Vājasaneyīsaṁhitā* to indicate a dependent svarita, which is a falling tone from high to low. It marks the tone on a vowel that occurs after a high-toned (*udātta*) vowel. In *Maitrāyaṇīsaṁhitā* its occurrence is further limited in being either final or followed by monotone (*ekāśruti*). In manuscripts it is marked in red by a horizontal line at mid-height at the right side of orthographic syllables.

Generally, the following pattern seems to be followed: The MID-CHAR SVARITA barely touches the right side of a single character sign, crossing a right hand vertical bar or right-side character appendage (figure 17c). Where conjunct consonants are stacked horizontally without a right vowel symbol, the MID-CHAR SVARITA extends through the rightmost consonant character (figures 15). It passes only through the rightmost vertical bar of full vowel signs that have two vertical bars (DEVANAGARI VOWEL SIGN AA, DEVANAGARI VOWEL SIGN O, DEVANAGARI VOWEL SIGN AU) (figures 2a, 2d). It passes through the vertical bar of dependent vowel signs that contain a vertical bar at the right side of a consonant sign (DEVANAGARI VOWEL SIGN AA, DEVANAGARI VOWEL SIGN II, DEVANAGARI VOWEL SIGN O, DEVANAGARI VOWEL SIGN AU) (figures 11-13). In vowel signs *o* and *au* written in *pr̥ṣṭhamātrā* notation, it likewise extends through the vowel's vertical bar to the right of the consonant sign (figures 9-10). It does not pass through the consonant sign that precedes a vowel sign with a vertical bar (figures 11-13, 9-10), even the rightmost consonant character in a left-right conjunct (figure 11f) though it may pass through the rightmost vertical bar of a conjunct consonant in addition to passing through the vertical bar of a following vowel (figures 11c, 11e). It does not pass through the vertical bar of a vowel that occurs orthographically at the left of the consonant characters representing the consonants which the vowel phonetically follows. Namely, it does not pass through DEVANAGARI VOWEL SIGN I (figures 4), nor through DEVANAGARI VOWEL SIGN PRISHTHAMATRA E or PRISHTHAMATRA AI (figures 7-8). If the accented vowel is depicted by a dependent vowel sign without a vertical bar at the right of the consonant sign, the horizontal line of the MID-CHAR SVARITA extends between the signs of the consonants preceding and following the accented vowel; it touches the consonantal character to its left and may extend to touch the left side of the character to its right as well (figures 4, 7-8). If DEVANAGARI VOWEL SIGN I or DEVANAGARI VOWEL SIGN PRISHTHAMATRA occurs in the following orthographic syllable, the horizontal line of the MID-CHAR SVARITA does not pass through the vertical bar of the I or PRISHTHAMATRA; it may just touch it as it would a following consonant character (figures 5, 6).

In some Devanāgarī manuscripts, MID-CHAR SVARITA sometimes extends through full vowel signs (DEVANAGARI LETTER A, DEVANAGARI LETTER AA, DEVANAGARI LETTER I, DEVANAGARI LETTER II, ..., DEVANAGARI LETTER AU) (figure 2e), through single consonant characters (figures 17a, 17b), and even through the full orthographic syllable where a single

consonant character is followed by a dependent vowel sign that contains a vertical bar (DEVANAGARI VOWEL SIGN AA, DEVANAGARI VOWEL SIGN II, DEVANAGARI VOWEL SIGN O, DEVANAGARI VOWEL SIGN AU) (figures 18). However, the MID-CHAR SVARITA does not extend through full orthographic syllables where the vowel diacritic appears to the left of the consonant sign (DEVANAGARI VOWEL SIGN I or PRISHTHAMATRA) (figures 7-9), or in left-right conjuncts. Generally, the horizontal line (MID-CHAR SVARITA) falls over the rightmost portion of the orthographic syllable, regardless of conjuncting or the appearance or absence of vowel signs with vertical bars, and extends into the space between the orthographic syllable it accents and the next.

The MID-CHAR SVARITA extends over the left side of a following candra of a spacing candrabindu (figures 16). It may also extend between the two dots of a following visarga; just between the two dots at the right of a character (figure 3c), or across the single consonant character and between the dots of the following visarga (figure 3g). In neither case is the MID-CHAR SVARITA to be understood as a diacritic on the anusvāra or visarga; the accent belongs to the preceding vowel and the character is positioned to the right of the preceding graphic character, not to the right of the visarga or candrabindu.

The horizontal line does get placed lower to avoid colliding with the dot at two thirds height in the DEVANAGARI LETTER NGA (velar nasal *ṅ*), and perhaps is raised to avoid passing through one third height and mid-height horizontal lines in preceding or following consonant signs, but vertical placement does not appear to be essential since the character appears in red in manuscripts and is easily distinguished from the accented characters.

The character here proposed is equivalent to the character proposed by R. K. Joshi and Alka Irani et al in L2/08-042 as character 1CF0 in the table of Vaidika Extensions A on p.9, and named VAIDIKA SVARITA URASI REKHA on p. 11. An example is shown in L2/08-043, p. 33. It was held back from approval by the UTC script subcommittee pending study of its interaction with surrounding characters, which has now been completed and described above. It is shown in Eric Muller's "South Asia Subcommittee: Encoding of Vedic" in the second table in section 3.6 at the following URL:

<http://www.unicode.org/~emuller/southasia/vedic/#yajurvedic-general>

### ***Remarks regarding additional characters and the relation of this to the visarga svarita***

There appears to be a difference between the MID-CHAR SVARITA that extends between the dots of a visarga, and the SVARITA VISARGA. The former is properly a diacritic on the preceding consonant or vowel character, not on the visarga which does not bear any accent in the manuscripts examined. The latter is a diacritic on the visarga and occurs in many manuscripts and texts where the MID-CHAR SVARITA otherwise does not appear.

Witzel's Vājasaneyi manuscript contains several instances of two horizontal lines stacked vertically, one extending to or even through each dot of a visarga (figures 3a, 3b, 3e). It is not clear whether this indicates a distinct tonal contour (drop to a following low tone for instance), is synonymous with a single line between visarga dots (3c, 3d), or indicates that one of the lines marks the echoed vowel on the visarga and hence serves the purpose of the SVARITA VISARGA. The latter is to be doubted, however, since the mark seems to precede rather than follow the visarga.

Witzel's Vājasaneyi manuscript contains a circle with a dot in the middle to indicate long anusvāra versus a spacing candrabindu to indicate short anusvāra (folio 23a, line 3, 23b, lines 1, 4, etc.).

## Printed editions

In Satavalekar's edition of the *Maitrāyaṇīsamhitā*, he utilizes the accent marks common to the *Vājasaneyīsamhitā* rather than the accents native to his manuscripts. However, he includes one short passage in his introduction, *Maitrāyaṇī-samhitāyā mudraṅārthaṁ svaritacihṇāni* "The svarita marks for the purpose of printing the *Maitrāyaṇīsamhitā*" (figure 19a). The same passage is cited by Cardona (1997: lii) (figure 19b). Both utilize a simple horizontal bar or strike-through character that appears more horizontally centered on the character rather than at its right as found in the manuscripts.

## Figures

The references to the right of the figures refer to the files linked from the page

<http://sanskritlibrary.org/VedicUnicode/MidCharSvaritaPage.html>

For transcriptions of the figures in Devanāgarī using Mihail Bayaryn's Chandas font, please see "Devanagari examples of Vedic tone Yajurvedic Mid-char Svarita: A supplement to L2/08-214 'Proposal to encode Vedic Tone Yajurvedic Mid-char Svarita as 1CD4 in the BMP of the UCS,'" located at

<http://sanskritlibrary.org/VedicUnicode/MidCharSvarita/MidCharSvaritaDevanagari.pdf>

### 1. Svarita with following full vowel sign

- a) *námà uktim̐* (VSNepalWitzelf23aCircled.png, line 5, circle 3)
- b) *vidísà ùddísò* (VSNepalWitzelf26bCircled.png, line 1, circle 1)

### 2. Full vowel sign with svarita, as in phrase-initial *agni*

- a) *lloká āṛanyás tè* (VSNepalWitzelf25aCircled.png, line 1, circle 1)
- b) *āindrá ùdānó* (VSNepalWitzelf26bCircled.png, line 1, circle 2)
- c) *ācucyavur* (MSOxfordWitzelf43Circled.png, line 6, circle 3)
- d) *ādityāh* (ZDMG33FacsimileCircled.png, line 3, circle 1)
- e) *stená ísata* (MSBORI18a\_1879f1v2rCircled.png, 1v, line 5, rightmost circle)

### 3. Svarita *k(vowel)ḥ*

- a) *mṛdhàḥ* (VSNepalWitzelf23aCircled.png, line 5, circle 5)
- b) *vīśvátàḥ* (VSNepalWitzelf22bCircled.png, line 2, circle 1)
- c) *ayāsàḥ* (VSNepalWitzelf24bCircled.png, line 2, circle 3)
- d) *vīṣṇòḥ* (VSNepalWitzelf24bCircled.png, line 3, circle 1)
- e) *jyótīḥ* (VSNepalWitzelf26bCircled.png, line 4, circle 4)
- f) *devébhyàḥ* (MSOxfordWitzelf28Circled.png, line 11, circle 2)
- g) *devó vāḥ sa-* (MSBORI18a\_1879-80f2v3rCircled.png, line 2, right side)

### 4. Svarita *ki*

- a) *váhnir asi* (VSNepalWitzelf22bCircled.png, line 3, circle 2)
- b) *bhūyìṣṭhān* (VSNepalWitzelf23aCircled.png, line 5, circle 2)

### 5. *i* following the svarita syllable

- a) *sammrāḍasi* (VSNepalWitzelf22bCircled.png, line 4, circle 2)
- b) *cchādírasi* (VSNepalWitzelf22bCircled.png, line 1, circle 6)

### 6. Svarita vowel followed by a *ṛṣṭhamātrā*

- a) *úpà devān* (VSNepalWitzelf25aCircled.png, line 1, circle 3)
- b) *vāgasyaindrām* (VSNepalWitzelf23aCircled.png, line 1, circle 2)

- c) *sámṛddhyai páyàsi* (ZDMG33MSFacsimileCircled.png, line 3, circle 2)
- d) *dvéṣòbhyò* (VSNepalWitzelf23aCircled.png, line 3, circle 4)
- e) *ādhītau* (MSOxfordWitzelf43Circled.png, line 7, circle 2)

### 7. Svarita ṛṣṭhamātrā ke

- a) *āgnè vvratapās* (VSNepalWitzelf23bCircled.png, line 3, circle 1)
- b) *vísvēṣān* (VSNepalWitzelf23aCircled.png, line 3, circle 2)
- c) *pūṣā tè* (MSBORI18a\_1879-80f1v2rCircled.png, 2r, line 3, circle 2)
- d) *tè mūrdhnā* (MSBORI18a\_1879-80f1v2rCircled.png, 2r, line 4, circle 1)
- e) *préksè* (MSBORI18a\_1879-80f2v3rCircled.png, 2v, line 7, 2nd to last circle)

### 8. Svarita ṛṣṭhamātrā kai

- a) *svāhāgnīm vaiśvānarān* (VSNepalWitzelf26bCircled.png, line 4, circle 1)
- b) *tanūs táyainam* (MSOxfordWitzelf28Circled.png, line 10, circle 1)
- c) *nnírvāpāmyamúṣmai* (MSBORI18a\_1879-80f2v3rCircled.png, 2v, line 9, circle 4)

### 9. Svarita ṛṣṭhamātrā ko

- a) *nābhò si* (VSNepalWitzelf22bCircled.png, line 5, circle 1)
- b) *tvaṁ sòma* (VSNepalWitzelf23aCircled.png, line 3, circle 3)
- c) *apāmp̄erúasyāpò* (VSNepalWitzelf25aCircled.png, right, line 4, uncircled 7th syllable after the new yajus, left of circle 2)

### 10. Svarita ṛṣṭhamātrā kau

- a) *yathāyathān nàu vvratapate* (VSNepalWitzelf23bCircled.png, line 4, circle 1)

### 11. Svarita kā

- a) *prajāyā* (VSNepalWitzelf22bCircled.png, line 1, circle 2)
- b) *pratākkā* (VSNepalWitzelf22bCircled.png, line 5, circle 2)
- c) *iṣé tvā* (MSBORI18a\_1879-80f1v2rCircled.png, 1v, line 4, circle 1)
- d) *hastābhyām* (VSNepalWitzelf25aCircled.png, left, line 3, syllable 9)
- e) *paśūmstrāyethām* (VSNepalWitzelf25aCircled.png, line 5, circle 2)
- f) *bāhūbhyām* (VSNepalWitzelf25aCircled.png, left, line 3, syllable 5)

### 12. Svarita kī

- a) *várṣo várṣiyasi* (VSNepalWitzelf25bCircled.png, line 1, circle 2)
- b) *dévīr* (VSNepalWitzelf25bCircled.png, line 2, circle 3)
- c) *vítīrṣata* (MSOxfordWitzelf31Circled.png, line 12, circle 1)

### 13. Svarita ko

- a) *bhūyāsam júṣtò* (MSOxfordWitzelf31Circled.png, line 6, circle 1)
- b) *ayán nò agnīr* (VSNepalWitzelf23aCircled.png, line 5, circle 4)

### 14. Svarita kau

No examples found.

**15. Svarita syllable with conjunct consonants stacked horizontally and no right vowel symbol.**

- a) *vayámpàri* (VSNepalWitzelf25bCircled.png, line 3, circle 1)
- b) *prāṇám mè* (VSNepalWitzelf27bCircled.png, line 5, circle 1)
- c) *ādītyébhyàs* (MSOxfordWitzelf43Circled.png, line 1, circle 2)

**16. Svarita syllable without a right vowel symbol but with following anusvāra:**

- a) *má hìmsīḥ* (MSOxfordWitzelf28Circled.png, line 5, circle 2)
- b) *má hìmsīś* (MSOxfordWitzelf28Circled.png, line 6, circle 1)

**17. Svarita in single consonant sign.**

- a) *má và stená īśata* (MSBORI18a\_1879-80f1v2rCircled.png, 1v, line 5, second to last circle)
- b) *bahvíryájāmānasya* (MSBORI18a\_1879-80f1v2rCircled.png, 1v, line 6, circle 3)
- c) *gópatau syāta* (MSBORI18a\_1879-80f1v2rCircled.png, 1v, line 6, circle 2)

**18. Svarita extending through orthographic syllable.**

- a) *vísínòr* (MSBORI18a\_1879-80f2v3rCircled.png, 2v, line 8, circle 1)  
[ 'śvínòr Sātavalekar]
- b) *vātāya* (MSBORI18a\_1879-80f2v3rCircled.png, 2v, line 7, circle 3)

**19. Editions**

*om īśé tvā subhūtāyā vāyāvā stha devó vah savitā prārppàyatū śreṣṭhātāmāyā kármānā  
āpyāyadhvamaghnyā devébhyā índrāya bhāgām má và stená īśata māghásāmsō dhruvā  
asmín gópatau syāta vahníryájāmānasya paśūn pāhi ..1..*

- a) MSSatvalekarMssSample.png
- b) Cardona1997.png

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- Witzel, Michael. 1974. "On some unknown systems of marking the vedic accents." Vishvabandhu Commemoration Volume. Vishveshvaranand Indological Journal (VIJ) 12: 472-502.

### ***Manuscript information***

- MSOxfordWitzel is a scan of a photocopy of a manuscript of the *Maitrāyaṇī Saṃhitā*, Kāṇḍa I that dates to 1565 C.E. The photocopy is in the possession of Michael Witzel.
- VSNepalWitzel is an undated palm-leaf manuscript of the first 20 adhyāyas of the *Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā* in early Nāgarī script that probably places it about 1150-1200 C.E.
- ZDMG33MSFacsimile is a scan of the facsimile of page 28 of a manuscript of the *Maitrāyaṇī Saṃhitā* dating to 1590 C.E. belonging to the Haug collection at the Staatsbibliothek in Munich taken from Schröder, Leopold von. "Ueber die Maitrāyaṇī Saṃhitā." *Zeitschrift der deutschen morgenländischen Gesellschaft* 33 (1879): 177-207.