Linotype TypoTechnica Frankfurt 2007



OpenType Status 2007



The OT Promise in 1997: "It just works!"

10 Years of OT Development What is the status now?

- OpenType Features have been defined for many scripts: Latin, Greek, Cyrillic, CJK (Kanji, Kana, Hangul), Arabic, Hebrew Indic Scripts, Thai, Burmese...
- Feature support has been implemented in many applications and OS's to a different extent
- What are the problems, where do they come from?
- What is left to be done?



What does OT support mean?

- a. Basic Unicode support (including the non BMP glyphs)
- b. Basic support for simple scripts (latin, greek, cyrillic)
- c. Support for advanced typographic features
- d. Support for CJK
- e. Support for Middle East scripts
- f. Support for more complex scripts (Indic, Burmese...)



Where do problems come from?

- Insufficient or incomplete implementation
- > Redundant or unclear information in the OT font specification
 - kern vs. gpos
 - Line spacing
 - Names (glyph names, font names)
 - Font styling (family vs. single fonts)
- Font Caching
- Duplicate Fonts
- Different font formats
- Bugs in applications or OS's
- Different behaviour of OTF and TTF



OS's to be investigated:

- Windows XP, Vista, WPF
- Mac OS X Panther 10.3, Tiger 10.4, (Leopard 10.5)
- Linux /Freetype

Applications (Unicode capable only)

- MS Office 2003 Win, 2004 MAC, 2007 Windows
- Adobe CS, CS2, CS3, ME, CJK (Windows, MAC)
- Quark 7 (MAC, Windows)
- ➤ Mellel (MAC OS X), Open Office (Linux)
- Wordpad (Win), TextEdit (Mac OS X)

Non-Unicode Applications not investigated: Office X (MAC), Macromedia Flash, Freehand, Framemaker 7...



Basic Unicode Support

- ➤ A valid OpenType font is a font conforming to the OT Spec
 - OTF (CFF name keyed fonts)
 - OTF (CFF cid keyed fonts)
 - TTF (with/without GSUB/GPOS)
 - TTC (TrueType Collections)
- > All Unicode glyphs should be accessible (incl. non BMP glyphs)
 - Adobe Japan character sets use already Plane 2 glyphs
- Fonts should have a Unicode CMAP Custom Encodings are still possible, but outdated
- Glyph names should not be important Mapping from GID to Unicode using Cmaps



Format	Support	Mac OS X		Windows			Adobe		Quark 7	
							CS2/CS3			
		10.3	10.4	XP	Vista	WPF	Win	Мас	Win	Мас
OTF	Unicode	(√) ⊗	(√) ⊗	√	√	√	✓	√	√	✓
TTF	Unicode	√	✓	√	√	√	✓	✓	√	✓
OTF	Non	✓	✓	√	√	√	√	√		(S)
	ВМР									
TTF	Non	√	✓	√	√	√	✓	√	③	(3)
	ВМР									



Unicode font support in Mac OS X 10.3 and 10.4

- dfonts and MacTT with a Unicode Cmap are ok
 dfonts are not accessible by Adobe applications
- PC TrueType fonts (.ttf) work too
- OTF fonts work correctly with Adobe apps
- OTF fonts with an internal CID structure also work: Apples Hiragino font family is an OTF font family with up to 18000 glyphs. There are even glyphs from higher planes (non BMP) included.



OTF fonts with an internal string array with glyph names are poorly supported in OS X and treated like Type1 fonts:

Carbonized applications acces codepages via internal mappings. This doesn't work always correctly.

For COCOA/AAT the Unicode number is recalculated from the Postscript glyph name, although these fonts have a Unicode **Cmap** !?!

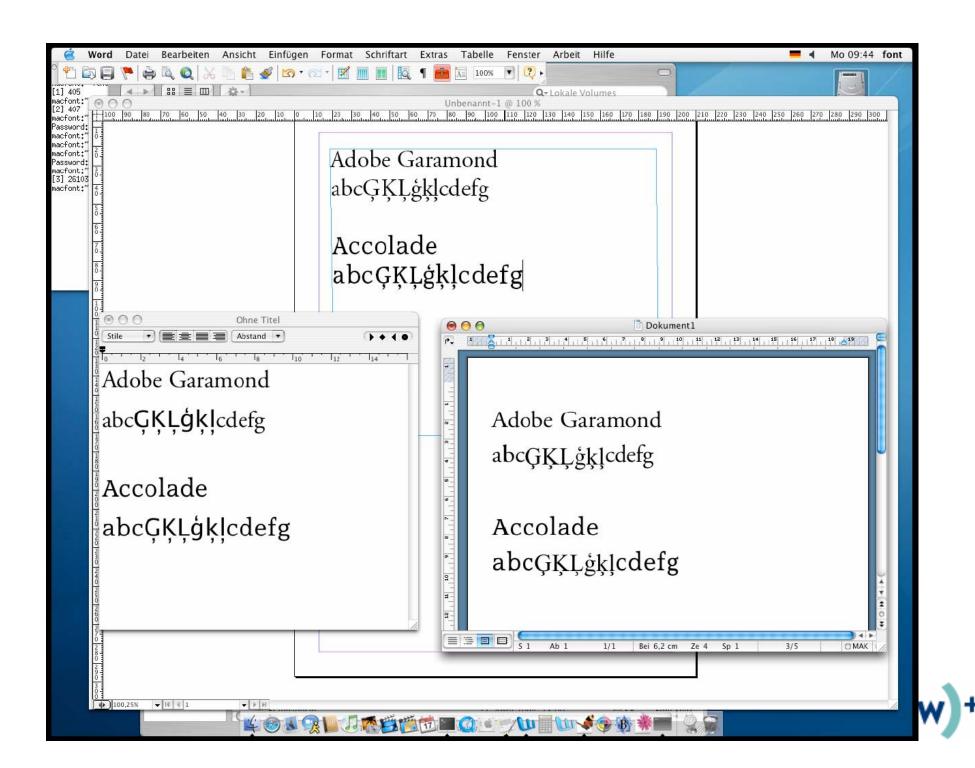
This is a big problem in earlier versions (up to 10.3.9)

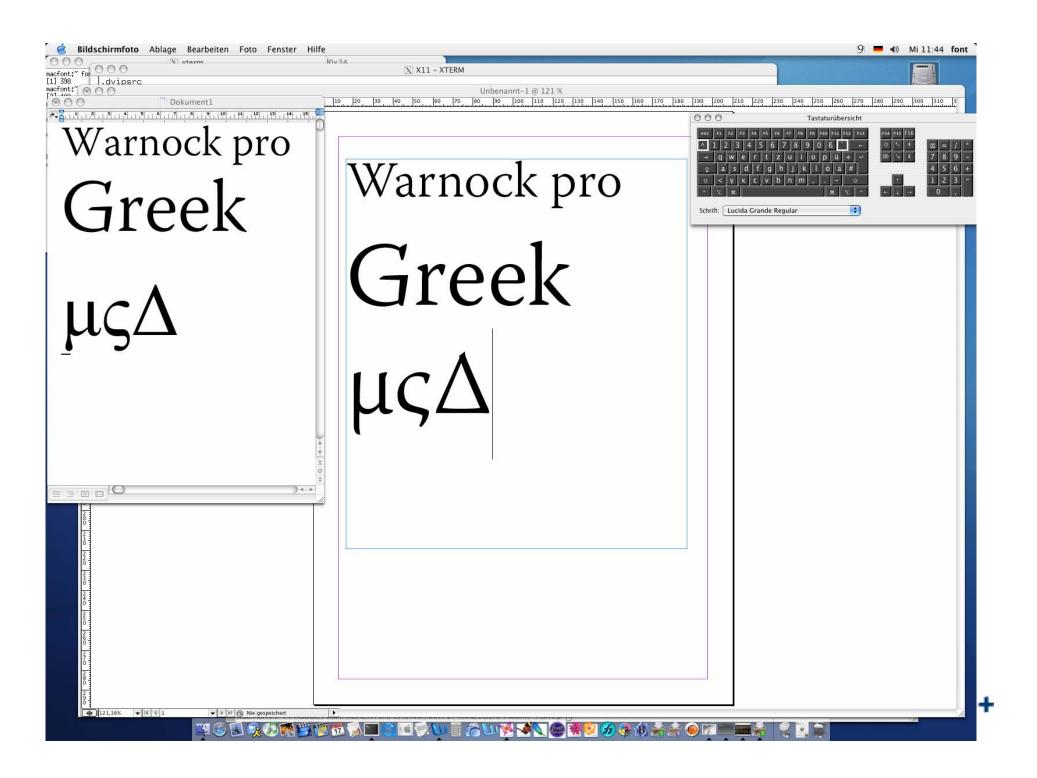
but is still a problem in 10.4 (Tiger).

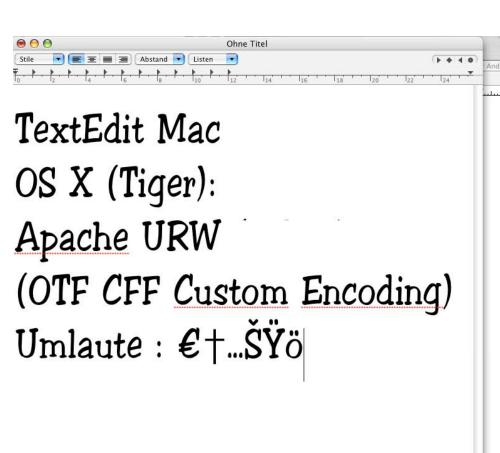
Name problems: Gcedilla – Gcommaccent

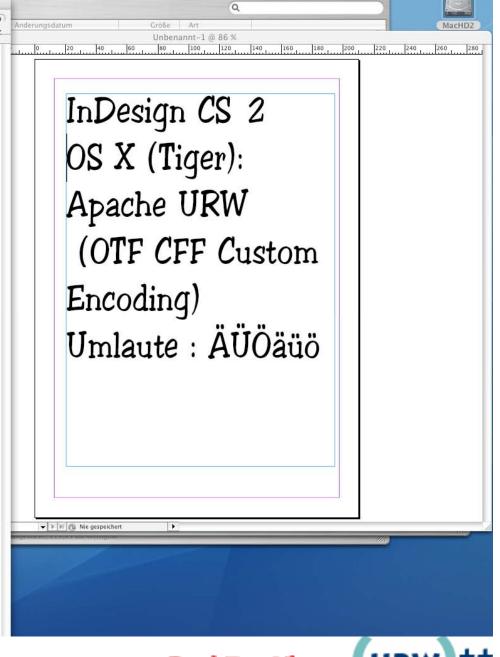
Greek fonts: mu, Delta, sigma1, Omega















Unicode font support in Mac OS X 10.5

- Naming Problems
- Encoding problems with CFF custom encoding

These problems will be fixed in Mac OS X 10.5 according to Peter Lofting



Basic Feature Support: Kerning

- Two ways to include Kerning into OpenType Fonts
 - Classical flat kerning in the KERN table
 - Advanced kerning in the GPOS table
- GPOS and KERN are used in different environments
 - GPOS used with OTF
 - KERN used with TTF
- GPOS and KERN can be different



Test: OpenType Font with WGL4 Charset and about 4000 Kerning Pairs

FontFormat	Kerning	Mac OS X		Windows			Adobe CS2		Quark 7	
	Format	Word 2	2004							
		10.3	10.4	XP	Vista	WPF	Win	Mac	Win	MAC
OTF	GPOS	Only	Only	(✓) ⁽¹⁾	(✓) ⁽¹⁾	?	✓	✓	√ (2)	√ ⁽²⁾
		latin	latin							
OTF	KERN	9	7	\$	9	?	✓	✓	✓	✓
OTF	GPOS	Only	Only	(✓) ⁽¹⁾	(√) ⁽¹⁾	?	✓	✓	✓	√
	+ KERN	latin	latin							
TTF	GPOS	9	7	\$	9	?	\$	✓	√ (2)	√ ⁽²⁾
TTF	KERN	9	7	(√) ⁽¹⁾	(✓) ⁽¹⁾	?	✓	✓	✓	✓
TTF	GPOS	7	7	(✓) ⁽¹⁾	(√) ⁽¹⁾	?	√	✓	√ ⁽²⁾	√ ⁽²⁾
	+ KERN									



Sample Windows XP + Office 2003:

TT with GPOS: Television $\Gamma \varepsilon$ General (no kerning)

OT with KERN: Television Γε General (no kerning)

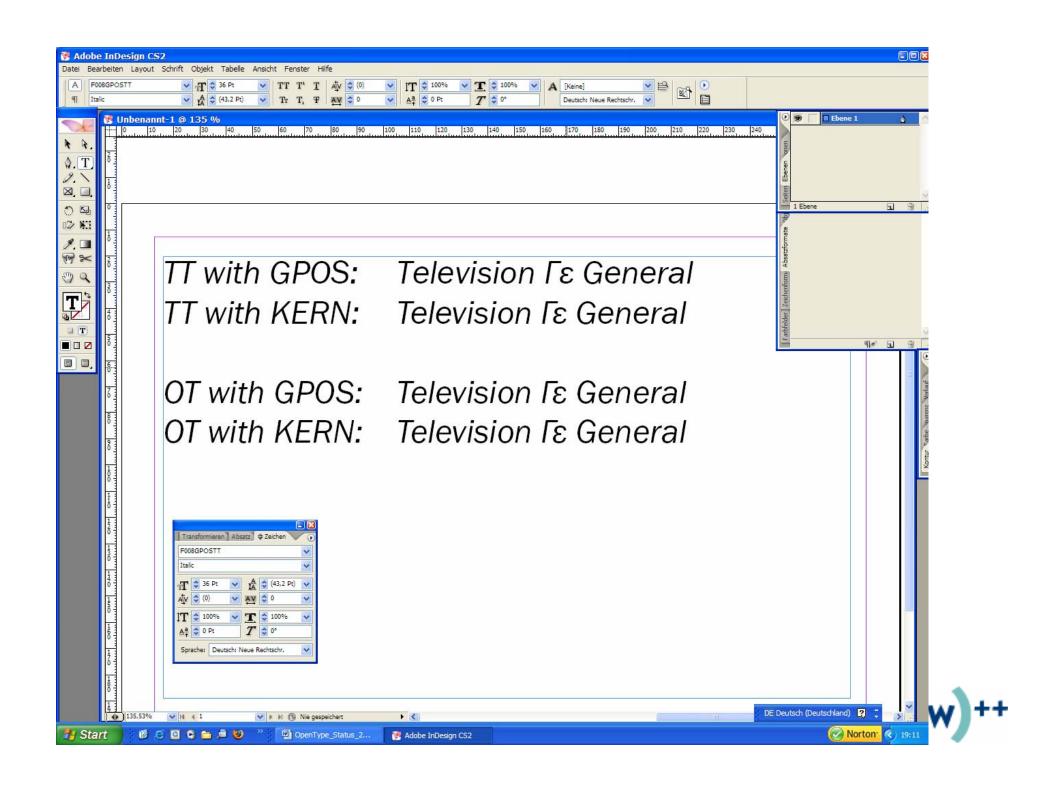
TT with KERN: Television Γε General

1 1

OT with GPOS: Television Γε General

(1) There is no kerning pair for Ge in the font!(This is a bug in the GDI: GetKerningPairsA in XP, Vista)





Freetype/Linux: Supports Kerning, but no GPOS features.

Kerning in OpenOffice:

Windows: Same beaviour as MS Office

Linux: OTF not supported

TTF no kerning



Side remark:

In one of the Vista fonts (Cambria) you can find a kern table with one subtable and about 15000 pairs.

The OT spec however has an entry (unsigned short) for the length of the subtable which clearly is not correct because you need 6 byte for each kerning pair.

At least the specification should be updated that this value is ignored.



Basic: Linespacing

The OTF specification has several (redundant) values for Ascenders and Descenders.

Linespacing is calculated from one set of the following entries

- HHEA Ascender, Descender, LineGap (MAC)
- OS/2 Typo Ascender, Descender, LineGap (Windows)
- OS/2 WinAscent, WinDescent (Clipping)

Problem: No consistent Linespacing

Different Applications are using different values and different algorithms:

```
Word (MAC) BTB = HHEA.Ascender + HHEA.Descender

TextEdit (MAC) BTB = HHEA.Ascender + HHEA.Descender + HHEA.Linegap

Word (Win) BTB = WinAscent + WinDescent
```



Best Recommendation:

HHEA Ascender = OS/2 Typo Ascender = OS/2 WinAscent HHEA Descender = OS/2 Typo Descender = OS/2 WinDescent HHEA LineGap = OS/2 TypeLineGap = 0

Might cause problems in multilingual fonts.

A new bit in the OS/2 Table now indicates which metric should be used:

Bit 7 in FsSelection: DONT_USE_WIN_LINE_METRICS



Basic : Glyph Names

OT fonts sometimes contain glyph names:

- Latin TTF fonts : yes
- OTF name keyed fonts: yes
- TTF CJK fonts : no
- CID keyed OTF fonts: no

Glyph names are not used by the OS. (Except the Mac but that is a bug).

Glyph names are used in PDF's and in printer drivers. Sometimes used to reconstruct the Unicode.

Glyph names are used in the design process, but that is a different issue.



There is a kind of standard from Adobe (AGL, AGLFN).

FontLab is trying to create names automatically from Unicode and features.

Suggestion:

There should be a unique naming convention like: All unicode glyphs should be named: X4E00 -> uni4E00 All variants should be named like uni0040.alt, .swash...

Or

Do not use any names in final fonts.

If the naming convention is unique, its redundant anyway.



Basic: Font Names

The name table just contains too many different entries. Its difficult to supply all necessary names to make a font platform and application compatible.

I am sure this will not be modified but I hope its not getting worse by introducing some new name entries into the name table!

Font handling in WPF:

WPF introduces new name entries:

NameID 21: WWS Family

NameID 22: WWS Subfamily

WWS = Weight, Width and Slope



Name ID

- 1 FontFamily Name (PC 4 members, MAC any number)
- 2 Subfamily Name (PC 4 Styles, MAC any number)
- 4 Font FullName (usually 1 + 2)
 For OTF equal to the PS FontName in CFF
- 6 Postscript Name
- 16 Preferred Family Name (= ID 1 on the MAC)
- 17 Preferred Subfamily Name (= ID 2 on the MAC)
- 18 Compatible FullName (MAC only = old FOND Name)



	nameString	nameID	languageID	encodingID	platformID	#
Macintos	Copyright © 2000, 2001 Adobe Systems Incorporated. All Rights	Θ	0	Θ	1	0
Macintos	Adobe Garamond Pro	1	0	Θ	1	1
Macintosi	Semibold Italic	2	0	Θ	1	2
Macintos	1.007;ADBE;AGaramondPro-SemiboldItalic	3	0	Θ	1	3
Macintos	Adobe Garamond Pro Semibold Italic	4	0	Θ	1	4
Macintos	OTF 1.007;PS 001.000;Core 1.0.30;makeotf.lib1.4.1030	5	0	Θ	1	5
Macintosi	AGaramondPro-SemiboldItalic	6	0	Θ	1	6
Macintos	Adobe Garamond is either a registered trademark or a trademark	7	0	Θ	1	7
Macintos	Robert Slimbach	9	0	Θ	1	8
Macintos	http://www.adobe.com/type	11	0	Θ	1	9
Macintosi	http://www.adobe.com/type/legal.html	14	0	Θ	1	10
Macintos	Adobe Garamond Pro Sb Italic	18	0	Θ	1	11
Microsoft	Copyright © 2000, 2001 Adobe Systems Incorporated. All Rights	Θ	1033	1	3	12
Microsoft	Adobe Garamond Pro	1	1033	1	3	13
Microsoft	Bold Italic	2	1033	1	3	14
Microsoft	1.007;ADBE;AGaramondPro-SemiboldItalic	3	1033	1	3	15
Microsoft	AGaramondPro-SemiboldItalic	4	1033	1	3	16
Microsoft	OTF 1.007;PS 001.000;Core 1.0.30;makeotf.lib1.4.1030	5	1033	1	3	17
Microsoft	AGaramondPro-SemiboldItalic	6	1033	1	3	18
Microsoft	Adobe Garamond is either a registered trademark or a trademark	7	1033	1	3	19
Microsoft	Robert Slimbach		1033	1	3	20
Microsoft	http://www.adobe.com/type	11	1033	1	3	21
Microsoft	http://www.adobe.com/type/legal.html	14	1033	1	3	22
Microsoft	Semibold Italic	17	1033	1	3	23





Type	Name	Value	Comment		
CHAR*	FontName	AGaramondPro-SemiboldItalic	CFF /FontInfo/FontName		
CHAR*	version	001.000	CFF /FontInfo/version		
CHAR*	Notice	Copyright (c) 2000, 2001 Adobe Systems Incorporated. All Right:	CFF /FontInfo/Notice		
CHAR*	FamilyName	Adobe Garamond Pro	CFF /FontInfo/FamilyName		
CHAR*	FullName	Adobe Garamond Pro Semibold Italic	CFF /FontInfo/FullName		
FWORD	FontBBox.left	-593	CFF /FontInfo/FontBBox.left		
FWORD	FontBBox.bottom	-340	CFF /FontInfo/FontBBox.botton		
FWORD	FontBBox.right	1176	CFF /FontInfo/FontBBox.right		
FWORD	FontBBox.top	893	CFF /FontInfo/FontBBox.top		
USHORT	unitsPerEm	1000	CFF /FontInfo/unitsPerEm		
FWORD	isFixedPitch	0	CFF /FontInfo/isFixedPitch		
Fixed	ItalicAngle	-18.500	CFF /FontInfo/ItalicAngle		
FWORD	UnderlinePosition	-100	CFF /FontInfo/UnderlinePositio		
FWORD	Underline Thickness	50	CFF /FontInfo/UnderlineThickne		
SHORT	Encoding	Θ	CFF /FontInfo/Encoding		
SHORT	charset	3	CFF /FontInfo/charset		
USHORT	nGlyphs	504	CFF /FontInfo/nGlyphs		



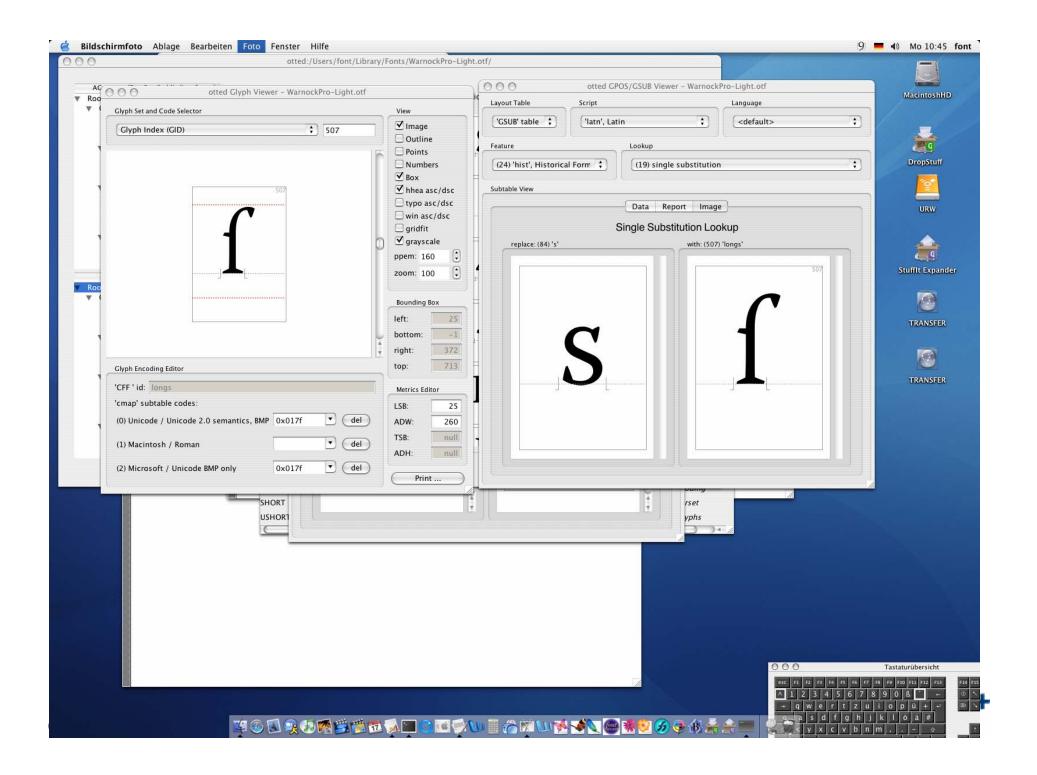
Basic: Encoded vs. unencoded glyphs

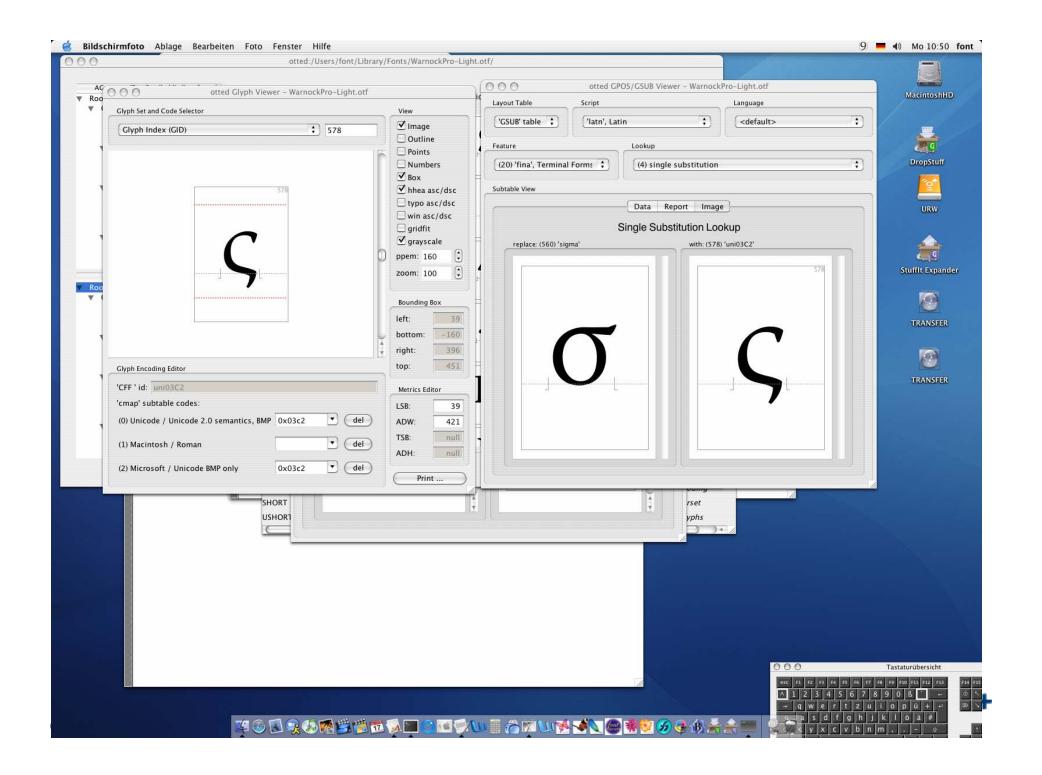
There are several glyphs which are accessed by features but also have unicode entries:

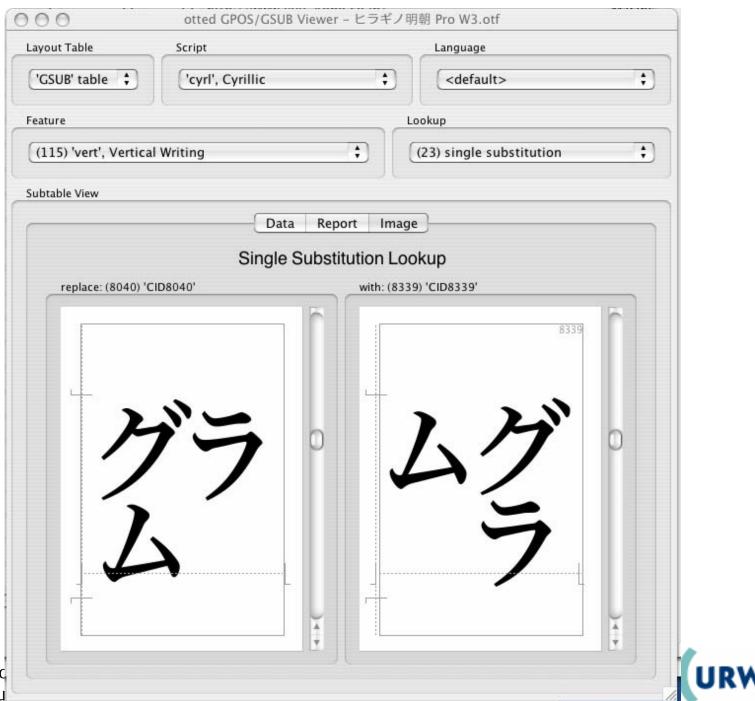
- german long s
- greek final sigma
- mathematical greek signs
- Japanese vertical alternates
- Japanese full width and halfwidth forms
- Arabic presentation forms

Always use the available Unicode even if the glyphs are selected through an OpenType feature.

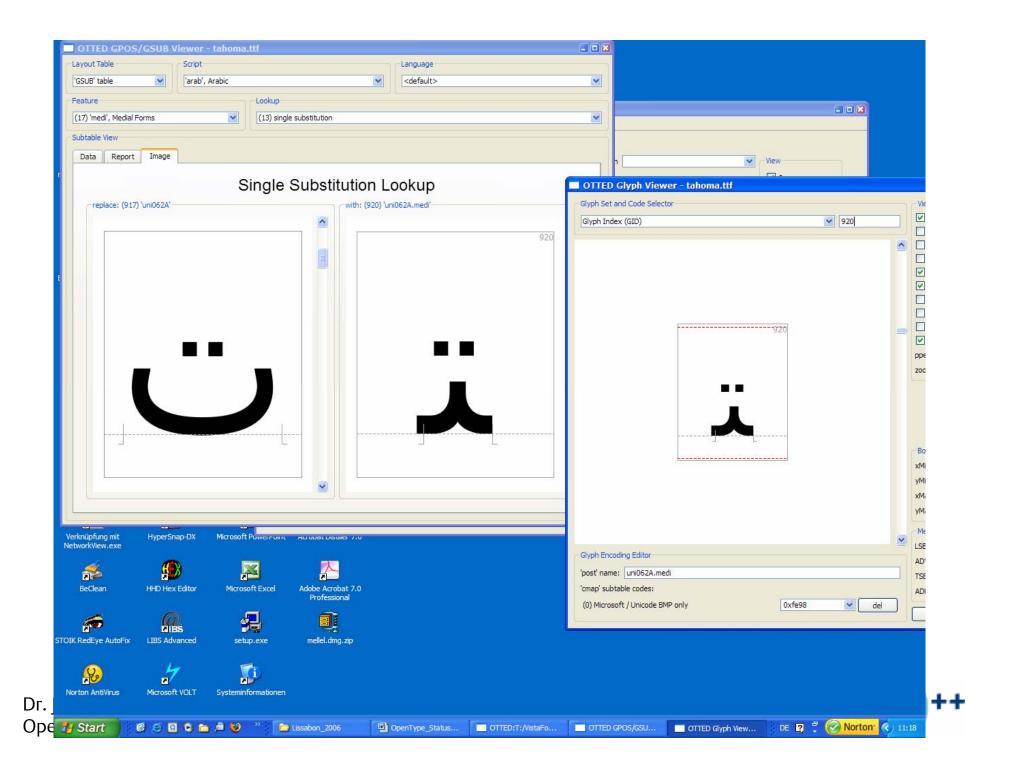








Dr. Jürgen Willrd OpenType Statu



Basic: Font Caching

Installing font updates is very often not successful because of font caching algorithms

- Adobe applications are creating arbitrary numbers of files named AdobeFnt*.lst
- On the MAC OS X there are several files for font caching.

The OS (MAC OS X) or the applications should provide an easy way to clear the font cache.

Now you have to use third party tools or simply search and delete all these files.

Suggestion: Use also the font version number for caching

and clear all internal data if its different!!



Basic: Font Embedding

Font embedding is application dependent.

In MS Office you can embed TTF fonts but no OTF fonts.

For customers it is difficult to understand.

Will this change? (question for MS)



Basic: Symbol Fonts

Symbol Fonts can be encoded:

- In the PUA
- With "faked" Unicodes (for example Latin 1)
- Partly with correct Unicodes
- As featured fonts with an ornament feature for example

In Windows Symbol fonts can be encoded with a CMAP 3,0. This allows a normal keyboard input and PUA Unicodes.

Does this work with OTF?



Basic western OT layout features

GPOS:

- kern, cpsp
- mark, mkmk, mset

Simple GSUB substitutions:

- pnum, lnum, onum, tnum
- liga, dlig, hlig, rlig
- case, smcp,c2sc, c2pc
- sups, sinf, subs, ordn, titl, swsh,
- hist, zero, salt, ss01...ss20

Contextual GSUB features:

- calt, clig, frac, cswh,
- numr, dnom, frac



Basic latin features supported by:

- Adobe InDesign 2, CS, CS2,CS3
- Adobe Illustrator CS, CS2,CS3
- Adope Photoshop CS, CS2 partly
- Mellel 1.9
- Quark 7
- Windows WPF

Not supported in

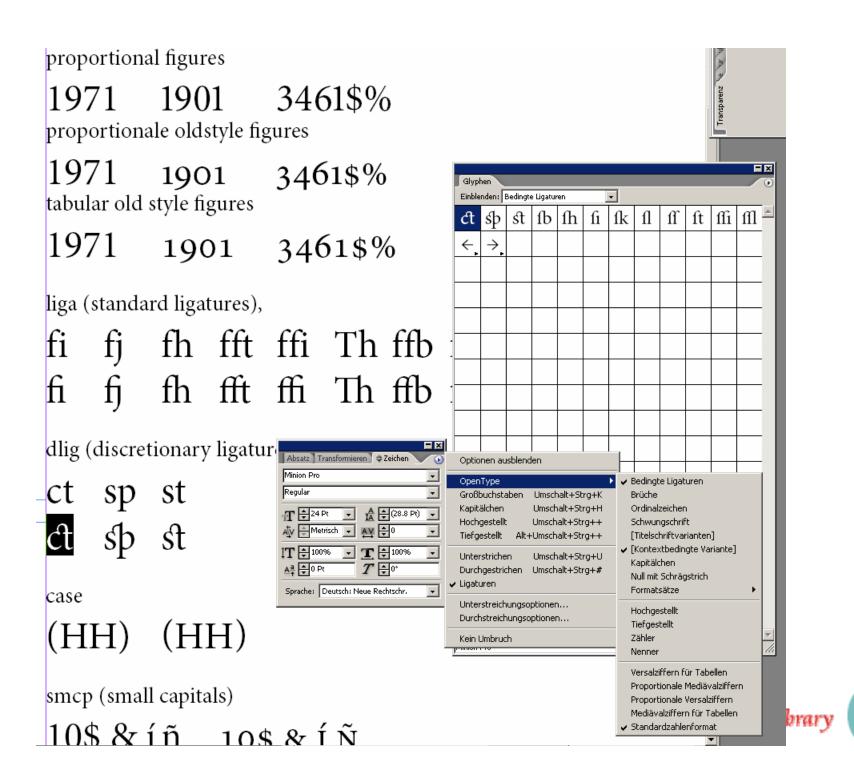
- MS Office (Windows)
- MS Office (Mac)
- Open Office (Linux)

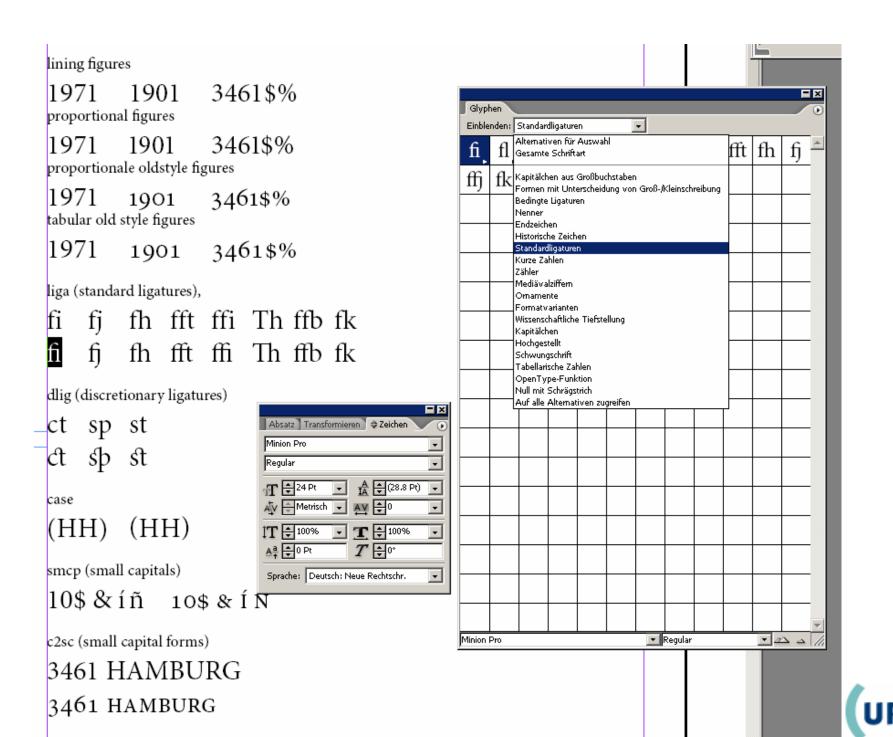


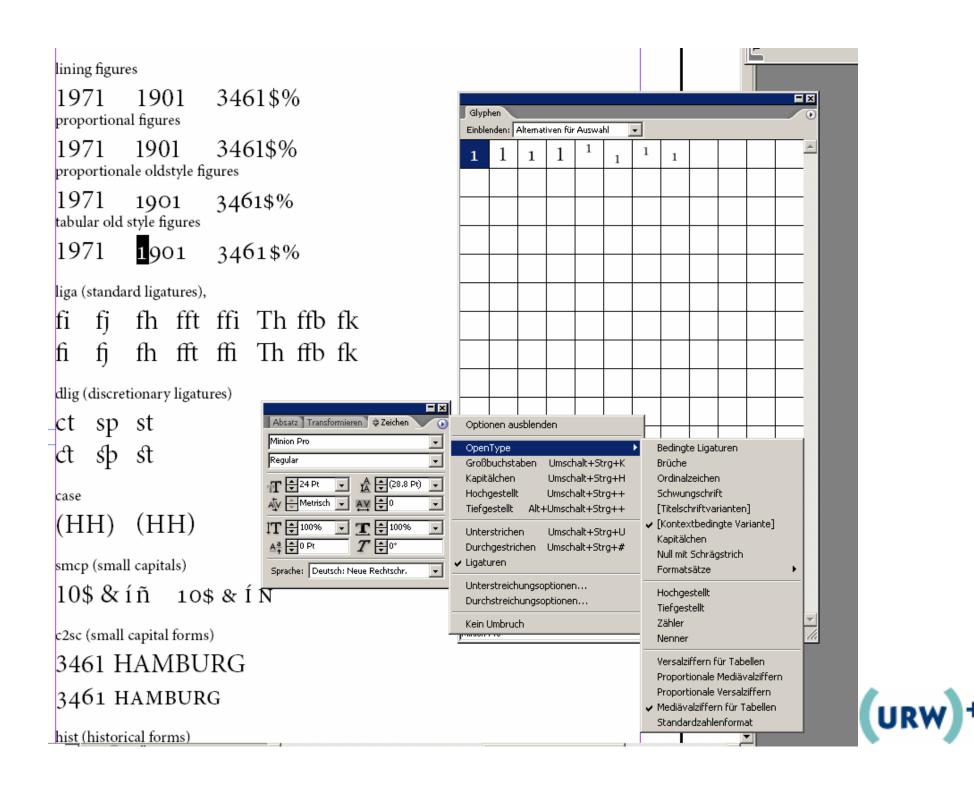
New in Illustrator CS 3:

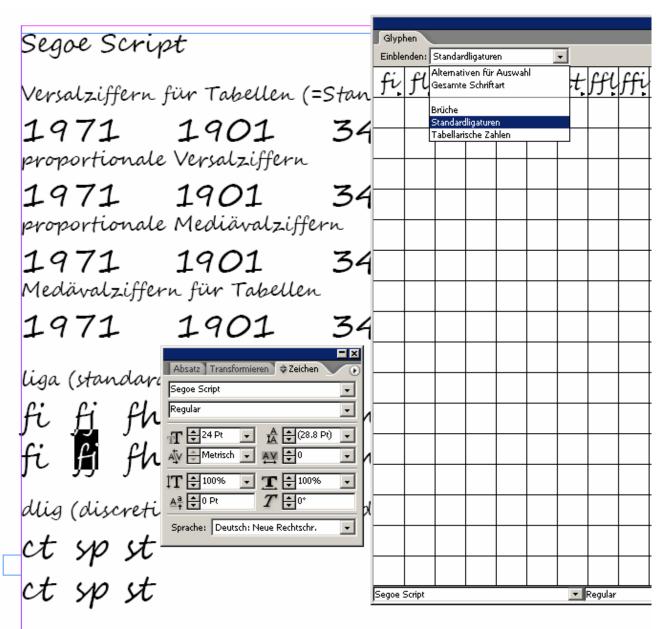
- mark attachment (mark, mkmk)
- positional forms (fina, medi, init, isol) like arabic, useful for script typefaces
- locl
 Evaluates language dependent alternate forms for example for:
 Romanian, Serbian, Turkish
 Arabic vs. Urdu
 [apanese vs. Chinese forms





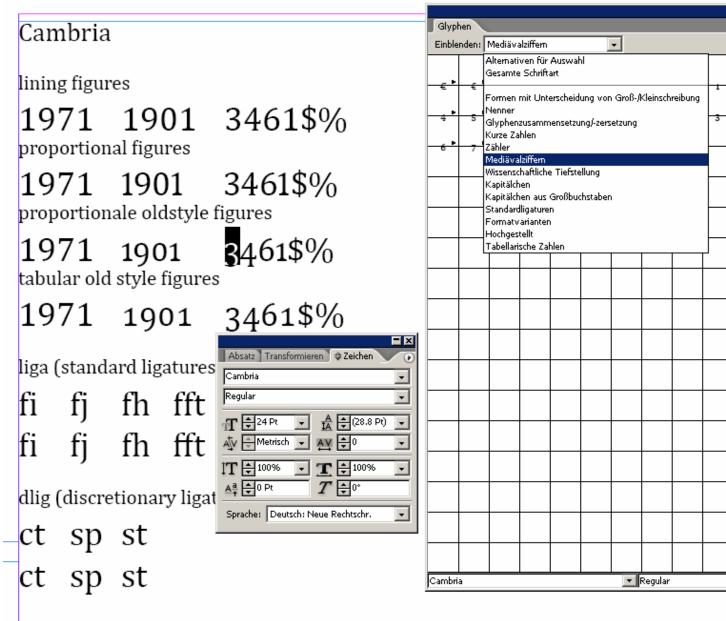






case (Großbuchstaben) (HH) (HH)

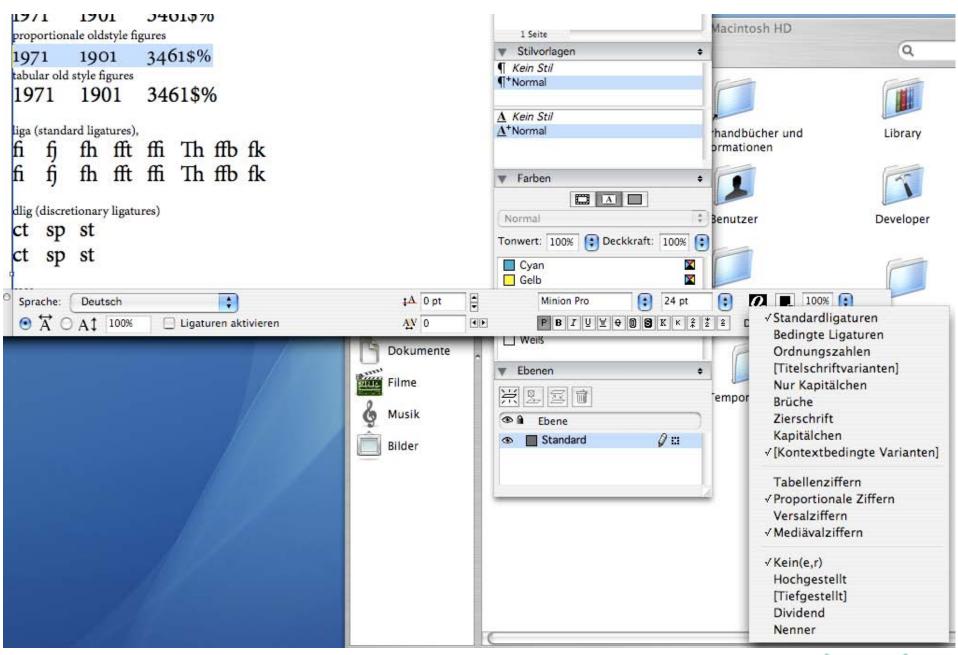




case

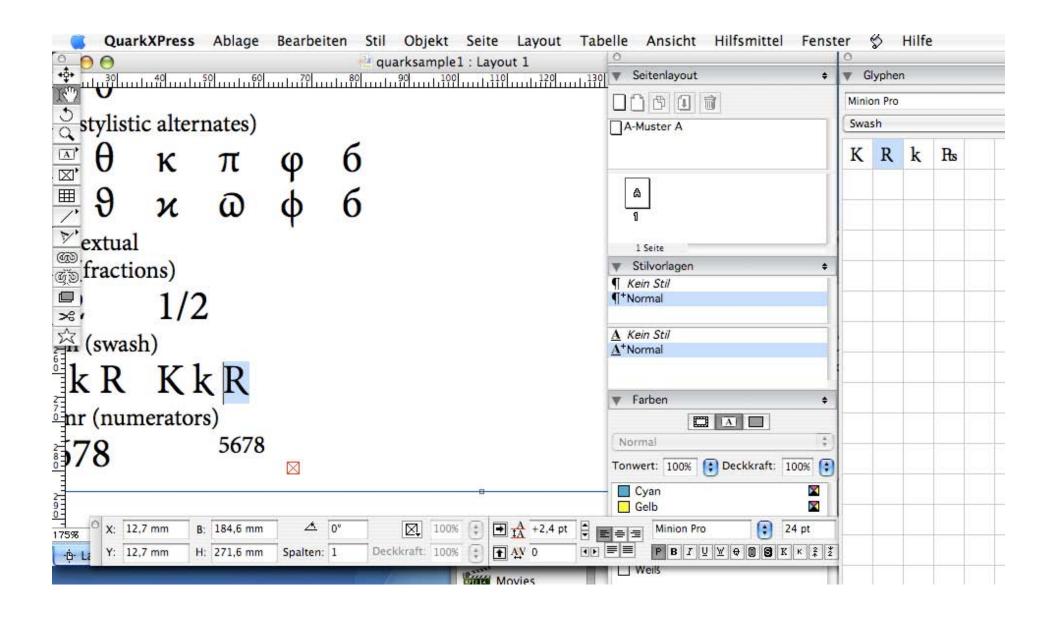
(HH) (HH)



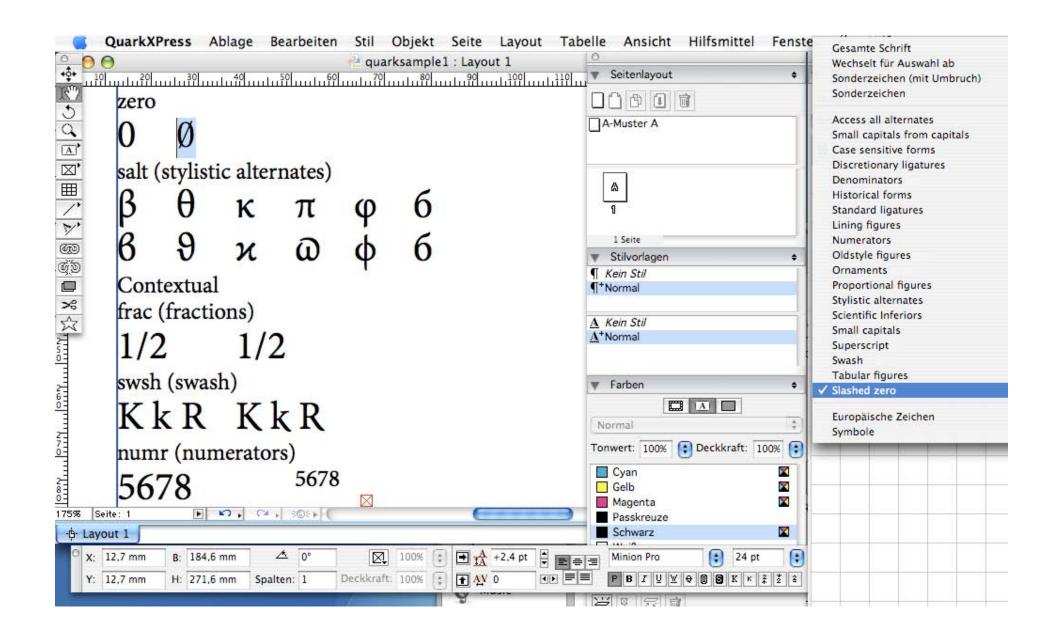


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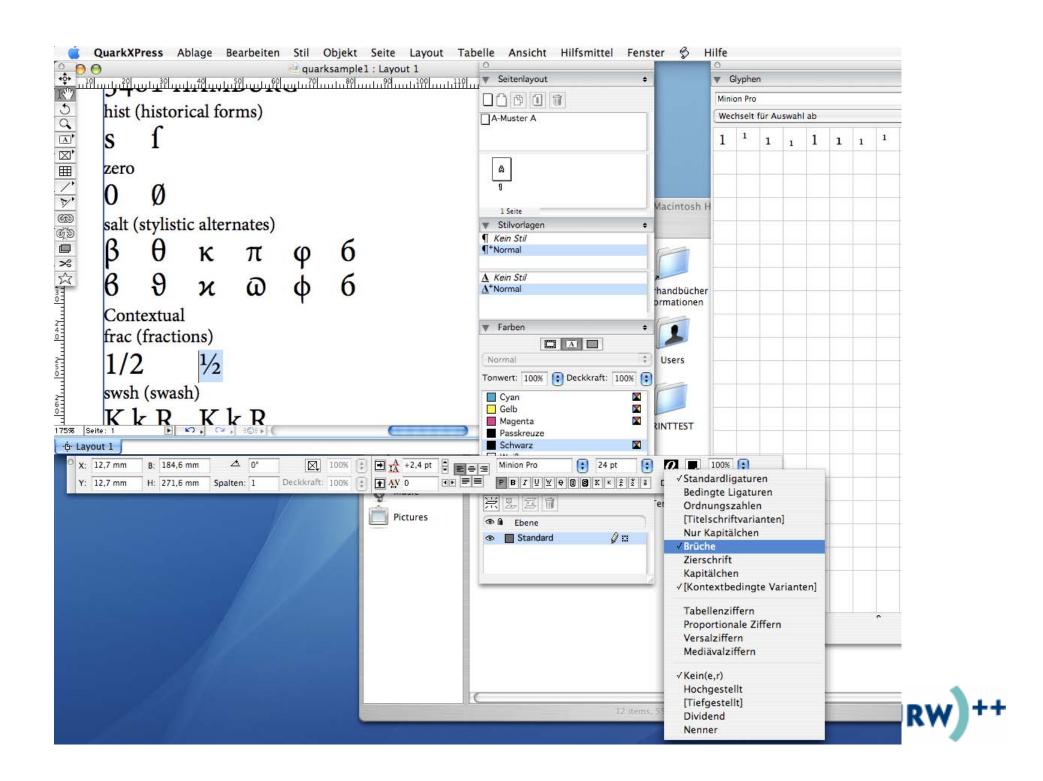












Nonlatin Scripts: CJK layout features

GPOS:

- kern, vkrn, vhal, vpal, halt, palt

GSUB:

- simple latin features for the latin/cyrillic/greek glyphs
- hkna, vkna, hwid, fwid, twid, qwid,
- jp78,jp83,jp90, nalt, nlck, ruby, expt, hojo, tnam
- vert, vrt2
- smpl, trad, salt

Most of these features apply only to Japanese fonts. Chinese fonts usually only have features for vertical writing.



CJK Features supported by:

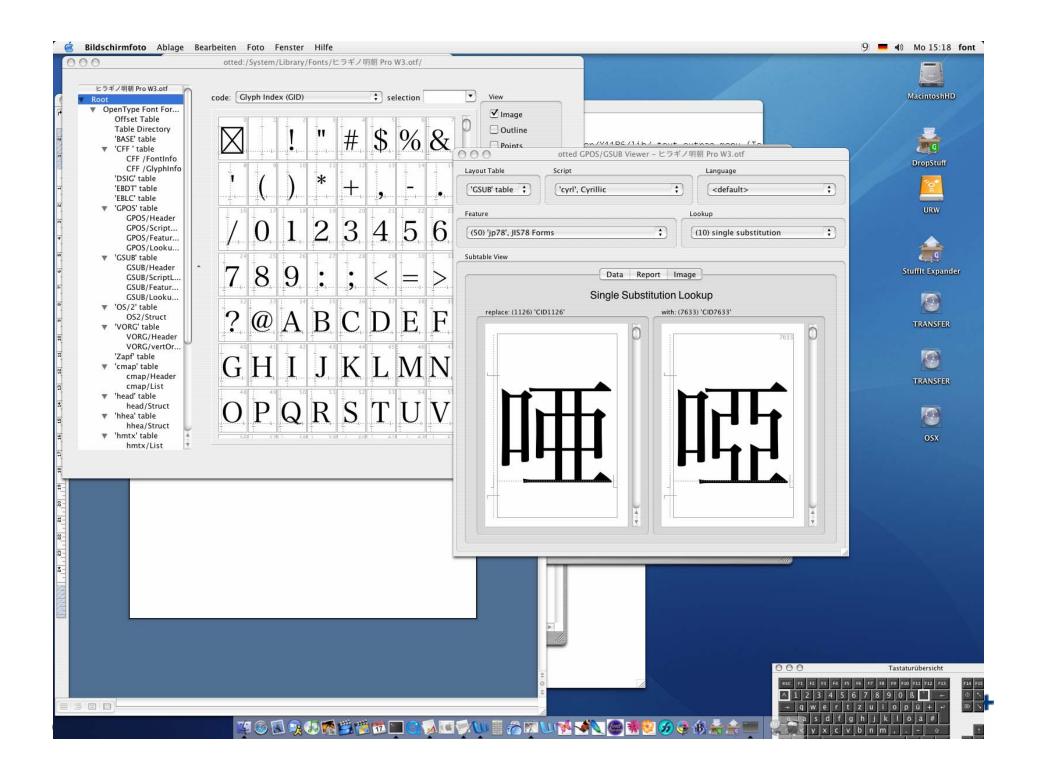
- vert feature by many older applications

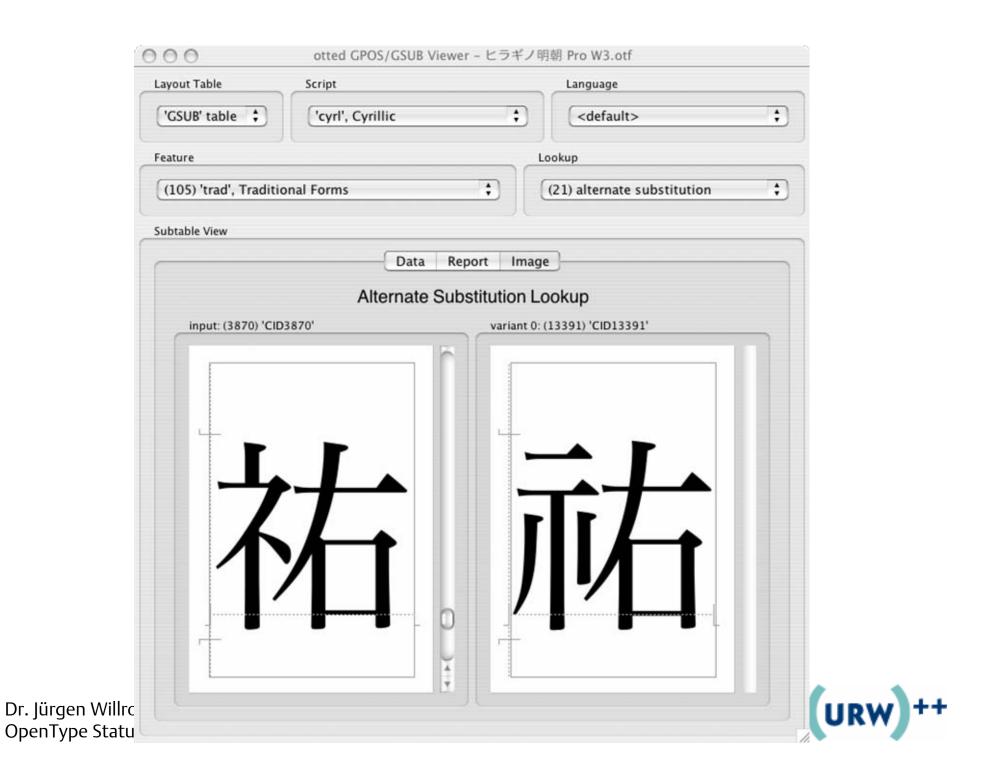
Other features:

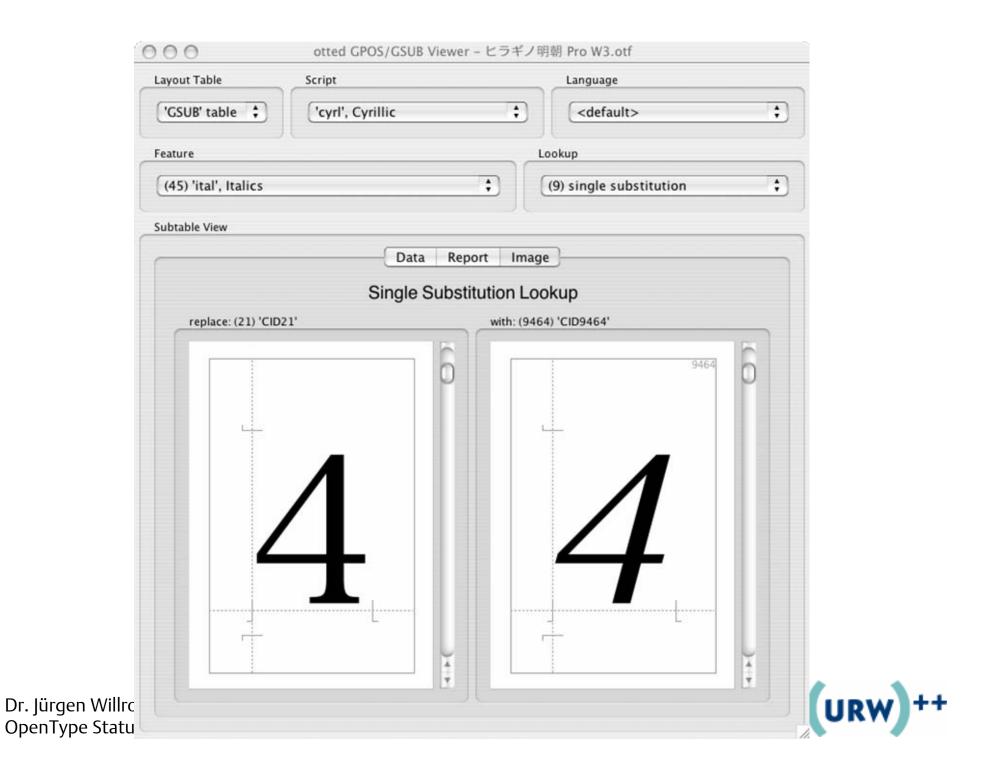
- Adobe InDesign, Illustrator CS (Jap, Chin, Korean version)
- Windows (WPF)?

The MS Meiryo font contains all these features.









Nonlatin Scripts: Arabic layout features

GPOS:

- kern, curs, mkmk, mark

GSUB:

- fina, init, medi, isol
- liga, dlig, rlig, jalt
- ccmp, locl

Supported in:

- Adobe InDesign CS ME
- MS Word (Windows)
- Mellel 1.9 (MAC)
- Windows Vista (WPF)



Verschiedene Lookups aus der Tahoma (Arabisch)

```
aibiL (= Libia)
                  (L isolated)
                  (i final, L initial)
                  (b final, i medial, L initial)
                  (i final, b i medial, L initial)
                  (a final, ibi medial, L initial)
```



The same document on Mac OS X with Office 2004

```
aibiL (= Libia)

J (L isolated)

C (i final, L initial)

C (b final, i medial, L initial)

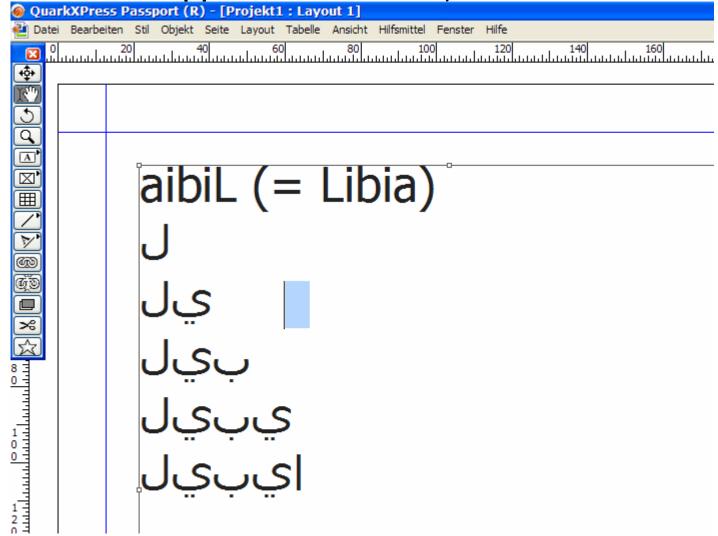
C (i final, b i medial, L initial)

C (a final, ibi medial, L initial)
```



The same in Quark 7:

- No bidirectional support, no features (Needs an Extension)





Nonlatin Scripts: Indic + Southeast Asia

Indic scripts (Devanagari, Gurmurki, Tamil, Mayalayam...) and also southeast Asian scripts like Thai, Burmese, ... are rather complicated and require many more features like:

abvf Above-base Forms

abvm Above-base Mark Positioning

abvs Above-base Substitutions

afrc Alternative Fractions

akhn Akhands

blwf Below-base Forms

blwm Below-base Mark Positioning

blws Below-base Substitutions

....

Already supported in Windows.



All Scripts: locl feature

Nearly all scripts represent different languages and require sometimes localized forms:

- Serbian and Bulgarian forms in the cyrillic script
- Chinese, Japanese and Korean form in CJK
- Urdu forms are different from arabic
- Even a different acute accent for polish language can be Implemented.

Implemented already in many fonts and now supported in InDesign CS 3.



The locl feature should be connected to the selected locale or keyboard!

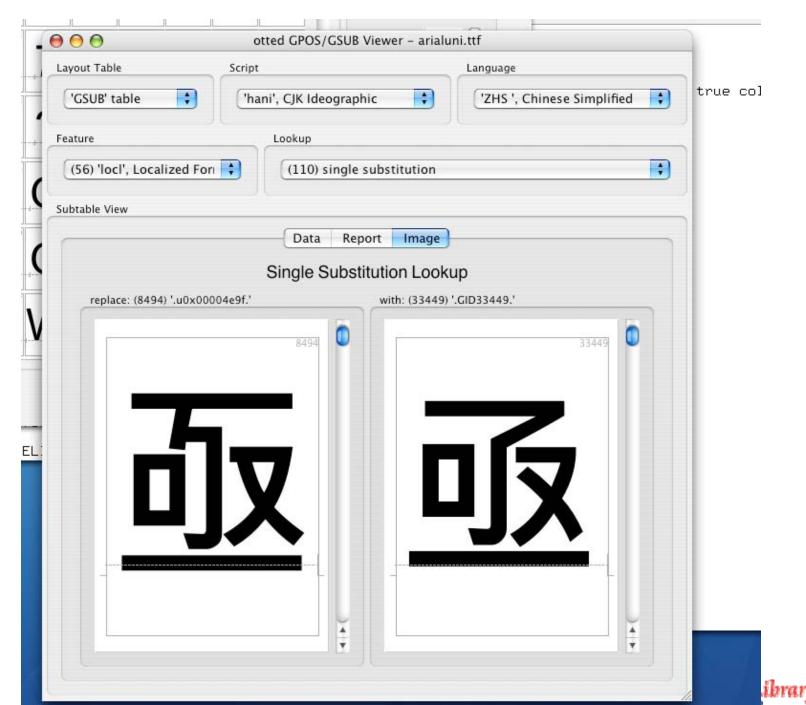
User interface in InDesign CS 3?

Language specific processing is supported in the Uniscribe shaping engine in Windows but not in WPF.

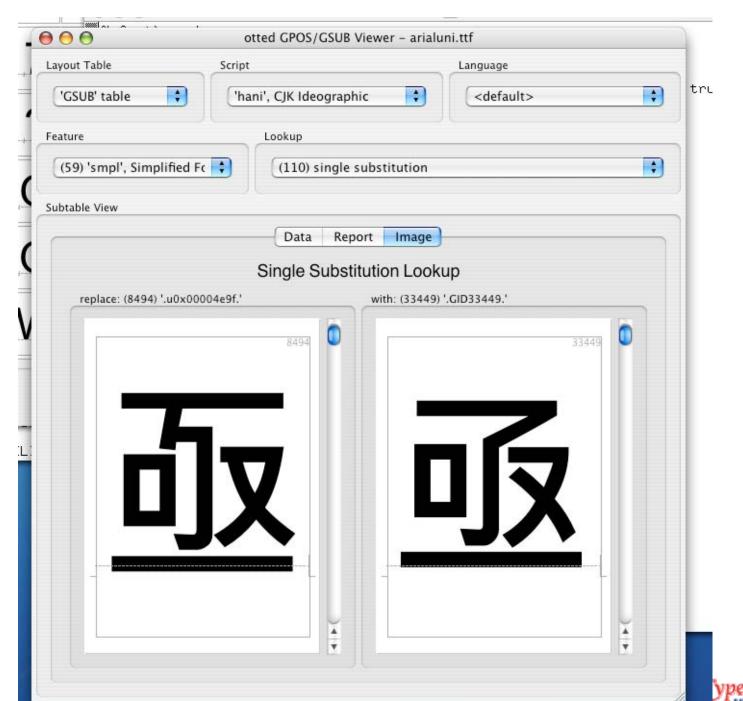
Language specific processing is possible with new API's.

Any application yet?

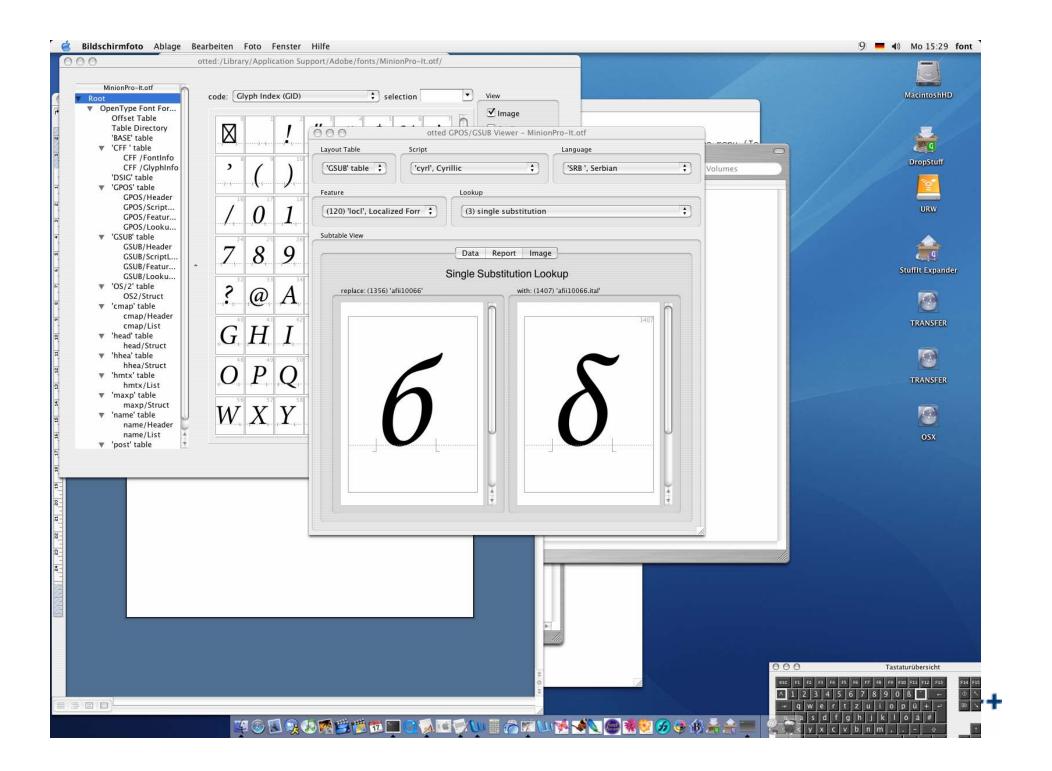












Summary

The implementation and support of OT features into applications, OS´s and fonts has been successfully done for many scripts.

There is room for improvement and of course for further development especially for the integration of more complex scripts.

Font production has become more complicated during the last decade but also more interesting! ©©©



Top 8 Wishlist

- Update the OT Spec
- Use the CMAP for OTF fonts instead of the names (Apple)
- Fix the kerning problems (MS, Apple)
- Remove any dependency on glyph names
- Support GPOS in TTF (MS, Apple)
- Add an easy way to clean the font cache (Adobe, Apple)
- Make the locl feature work (MS, Apple)
- Introduce OTC (OpenType Collection Files)
- Add support for more than 65536 gylphs (MS, Apple, Adobe)

