Stacking with Combining Diacritics
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We have seen that, with precomposed code points, there is no stacking problem. However, when we have not had a precomposed code points available, and have had to use combining diacritics, the situation changes. In particular, when using the Courier New font (which is one of our three standard fonts for analysis), there is sometimes a problem.

In each case below, the letter is followed by another letter (or two, in the case of two combining marks. (In each case shown, the letters were simply copied, then the font changed.)

We have three types of outcomes.

1. In some cases, the combining mark is right where it should be.
2. In some cases, the combining mark is to the right, but the following letter is an additional space to the right.
3. But in some cases (indicated by an ←) the combining mark is over or under the following letter. Thus producing something very different from what was intended.

Ariel	Courier New	
aa	a‗a	Latin Small Letter A + Combining Macron Below
ee	e‗e	Latin Small Letter E + Combining Macron Below
g̃g	gg̃ ←	Latin Small Letter G + Combining Tilde
ii	i‗i	Latin Small Letter I + Combining Macron Below
m̦m	m̦m	Latin Small Letter M + Combining Cedilla
n̈n	n̈n	Latin Small Letter N + Combining Diaeresis
o̦o	o̦o	Latin Small Letter O + Combining Cedilla
o̲o	o‗o	Latin Small Letter O + Combining Macron Below
r̃r	rr̃ ←	Latin Small Letter R + Combining Tilde
ɔ̈o	ɔ̈o	Latin Small Letter Open O + Combining Diaeresis
ɔ̲o	ɔ‗o ←	Latin Small Letter Open O + Combining Macron Below
ɛ̈e	ɛ̈e	Latin Small Letter Open E + Combining Diaeresis

ɛ̱e	ɛ ̱ e ←		Latin Small Letter Open E + Combining Macron Below
ɛ̱̈ee	ɛ ¨ ̱ ee ←	Latin Small Letter Open E + Combining Diaeresis + Combining Macron Below	
ɨ̃i	ɨ ĩ ←		Latin Small Letter I with Stroke + Combining Tilde
ʉ̃u	ʉ ũ ←		Latin Small Letter U with Bar + Combining Tilde
ẹ̀e	ẹ è ←		Latin Small Letter E with Dot Below + Combining Grave Accent
ẹ́e	ẹ é ←		Latin Small Letter E with Dot Below + Combining Acute Accent
ọ̀o	ọ ò ←		Latin Small Letter O with Dot Below + Combining Grave Accent
ọ́o	ọ ó ←		Latin Small Letter O with Dot Below + Combining Acute Accent

The ideal solution, of course, would be for the Unicode folks to create new pre-composed code points for these problem cases. But I suspect there is little chance of them doing so before our report is due. So we will have to figure out an alternate approach to recommend.