Digital collaboration

with machine-readable sign language text
in the SignWriting script

presented by Stephen E Slevinski Jr
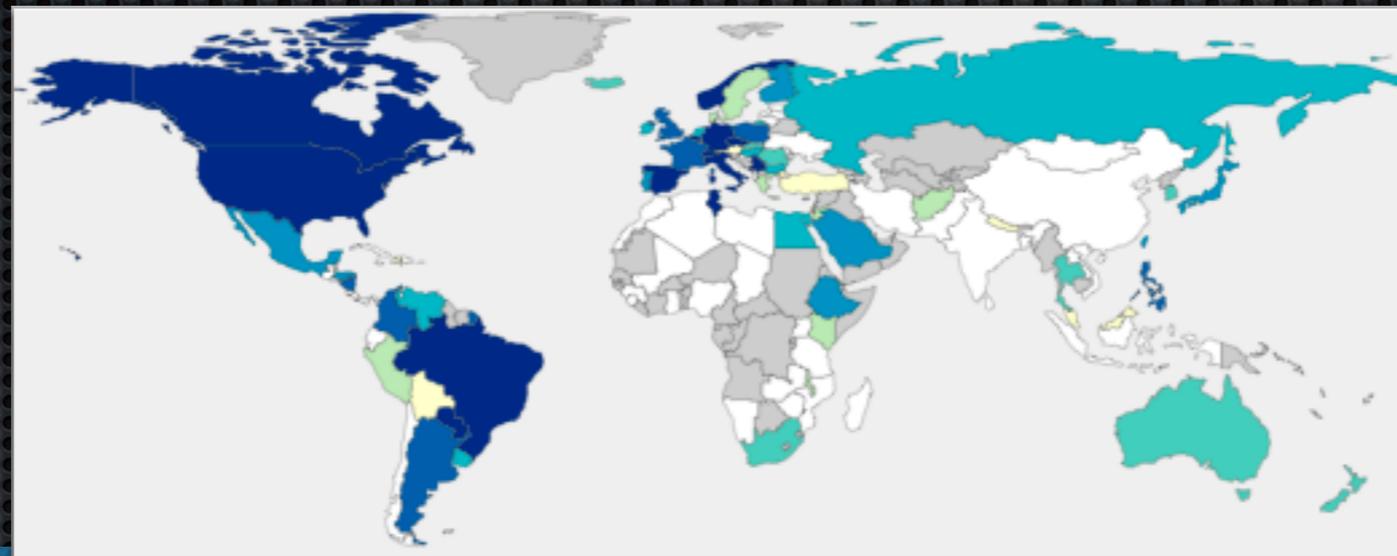
in association with the Center for Sutton Movement Writing

SignWriting Symposium 2014 Day 4, time marker 25:55

http://www.signwriting.org/symposium/presentation0031.html

Digital Collaboration
in the SignWriting Script

The diversity of SignPuddle Online

http://signbank.org/signpuddle3.0/en/world/

- 1 million signs

- 65 sign languages

- 2 years of stability

SignWriting open data around the world.

Imagine a world in which every single human being can freely share in the sum of all knowledge.

Presentation Outline

1. Wikimedia

2. Sign Language Reality
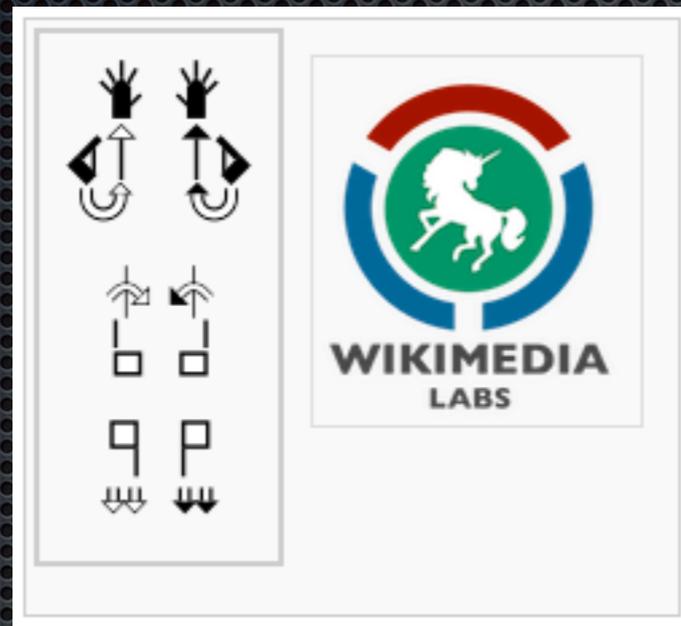
3. Standards Process

4. Collaboration

5. State of the Art

Wikimedia

Wikimedia is a global movement whose mission is to bring free educational content to the world.
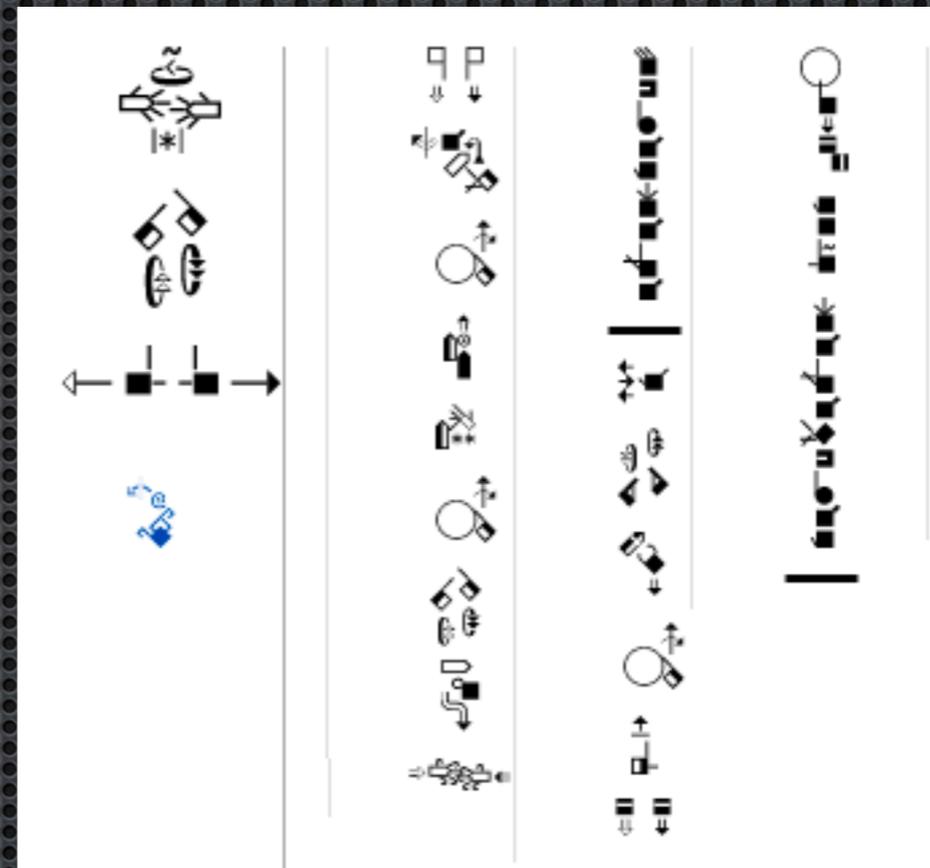
Wikimedia

Wikimedia Labs

Wikimedia

Wikimedia Incubator

http://incubator.wikimedia.org/wiki/Wp/ase

https://incubator.wikimedia.org/wiki/User:Slevinski/SignWriting/Tech

The sign language reality

* Coexists with spoken language throughout time

  * Egypt and Ancient Greece

  * Martha's Vineyard

* Sign language is superior in many situations

  * Deaf communication

  * Infant communication

  * Spatial description

  * Places where sound is not reliable

Completeness of SignWriting

- Grammatically correct

- Digital collaboration

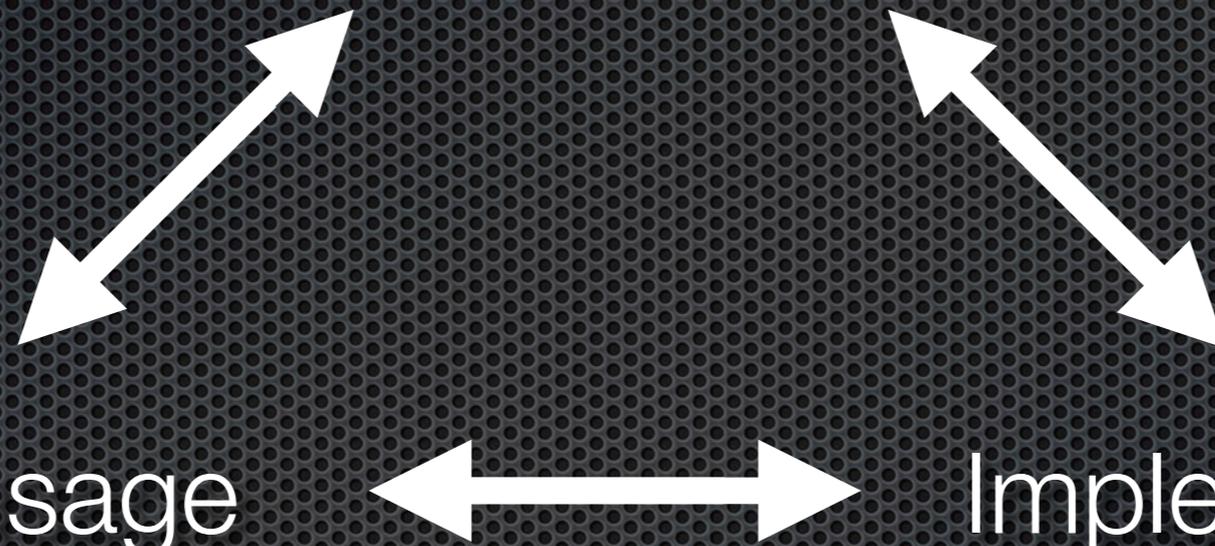- International community

- Handwriting styles

Working together

- Sharing experience and perspectives

- Building on the works of others

- Documenting the results

The standards process

Specification

Real world usage ⟷ Implementations

A long digression into how standards are made…
Dive into HTML5 by Mark Pilgrim
http://diveintohtml5.info/past.html

The standards process

Implementations and specifications have to do a delicate dance together. You don't want implementations to happen before the specification is finished, because people start depending on the details of implementations and that constrains the specification. However, you also don't want the specification to be finished before there are implementations and author experience with those implementations, because you need the feedback. There is unavoidable tension here, but we just have to muddle on through.

Mozilla Developer

http://lists.w3.org/Archives/Public/public-html/2010Jan/0107.html

SignWriting's Standings

- 40 years of history

- 30 years of computer encoding

- 7 years of iterative development

- Heuristic model that is compact and tractable

- 2 years of stability

Collaboration

- Text, not video

- Individual signs

- Content

- Tools

SignWriting Today

- ASCII encoding - Formal SignWriting

- SVG fonts

- CSS integration

- Regular expression searching

- Available on Wikimedia Incubator

SignWriting Tomorrow

- Editors for desktop and mobile

- TrueType Font

- Standards Integration

Written sign language: universally available

SignWriting Symposium
2014

Imagine a world in which every sign language user can freely share in the sum of all knowledge.

July 21st - 24th

40 Presentations from 12 Countries

http://www.signwriting.org/symposium/2014