

#### Think Globally, Act Universally

Hat tip to Jim Foley for many of these slides.



### **Globalization Outline**

- > What are the issues
- Bad Examples
- >Why Important
- ➢ Principles
- ≻ How to Do It Tools, Lifecycle
- ≻WWW
- > Resources

#### Some of the Issues

- > Special characters e.g. ä,  $\tilde{n}$ , ø (and sort order)
- Left-to-right versus right-to-left
- Date and time formats
- Numeric and currency formats
- > Weights and measures
- Telephone numbers and addresses
- Names and titles (Mr., Ms., Mme.)
- ID numbers
- Capitalization and punctuation
- Sorting sequences
- Icons, buttons, colors
- Pluralization, grammar, spelling
- > Culture, Etiquette, policies, tone, formality, metaphors

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### **Types of Globalization Issues**

ComprehensibilityUsability

> Desirability

These move from easier to harder





- Look at the menus
- Look at the dialog box
- Incomplete translation !



#### **Bad Examples – We Are the World?**

Name:		
Address:		
[		
City:	State: Zip:	

> What do you mean you don't have a state?

> What do you mean you don't have a zip code?

Some other countries use "postal code"

> Very US-centric – especially if fields are <u>required</u>!



### **Bad Examples – The British Empire?**

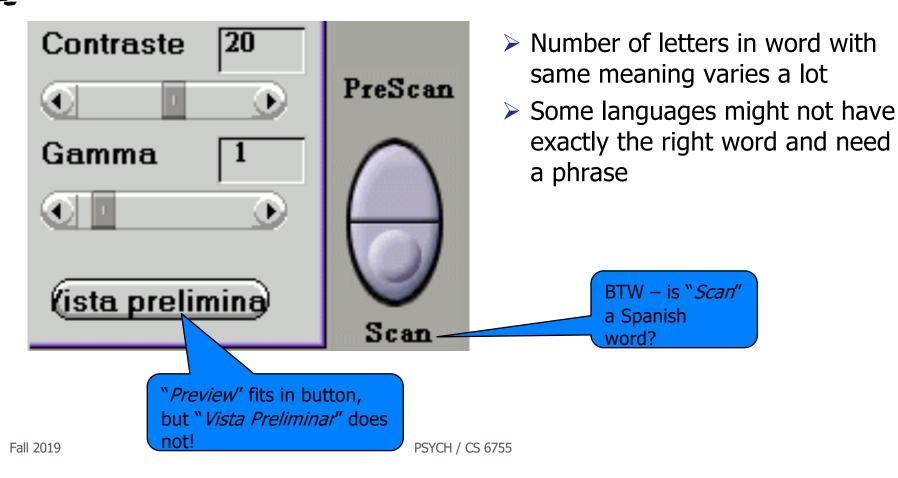
#### Hi Brian,

I was about to write you about how we could <mark>customise</mark> something, but then this spell checker through a fit about my spelling of the word!

Check Spelling				? ×
Unknown: k Cha <u>ng</u> e To: <mark>k</mark>			<u>I</u> gnore	Ignore all
S <u>ugg</u> estions:	customize customs	-	<u>C</u> hange	C <u>h</u> ange all
	customized customizes custodies		<u>S</u> uggest	Add
Options	custom	-	<u>E</u> dit Dic	tionary

- The user swears that this is really how you spell *customize*
- Even within a given language such as English – there are variations
- Canadians/British/Australians spell a lot of words differently than we do
- More US-centricism
- Good Example Microsoft Word recognizes lots of languages, even Catalan

### **Bad Example – If the Shoe Fits?**





### Why Worry About It?

- Public Relations
- Legal Requirements
- Product success => profit, not loss
  - Population
    - US 300,000,000
    - World 6,000,000,000
  - & Growing World-Wide Market
  - Competition



#### Give users chance to express preferences for format for

- \* dates
- ✤ time
- currency
- numbers
- address
- \* phone numbers



#### **Phone, Date, Time Formats**

Country/Region	International Access Code	CCITT/ITU Code	Internal Phone Format
Egypt	00	20	(12) 3456789
Germany	00	49	12345-6789012345678
United States	011	1	(123) 456-7890
China	00	86	(10)65391188

Locale	Common Format	Short Format
ar_EG	۲۲ اغسطس، ۲۰۰۲	TT/-N/TT
de_DE	22. August 2002	22.08.2002
en_US	August 22, 2002	8/22/2002
zh_CN	2002年8月22日	2002-8-22

Locale	Common Format	24 hr clock as default time format?	Time Separator	Leading Zero
ar_EG	۳۱:۳۳:۱۳ م	No	Colon	No
de_DE	23:43:13	Yes	Colon	Yes
en_US	11:43:13 PM	No	Colon	No
zh_CN	23 点 43 分 13 秒	Yes	N/A	No
П				



#### Observe local conventions

Country	United States 💌 🕝	Country	Japan 🔄 🕝
Address Line 1		Postal Code	105-8001
Address Line 2		Prefecture	
City		,	Tokyo 💌
County		Address Line 1	
State	CA 💌	Address Line 2	
Zip Code		Address Line 3	
	,	Alternate Address	

#### Contrast of Generic US and Japanese Address Forms

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#### Color

Color	Western European	Japanese	Chinese	Arabic
	Danger,			
	Aristocracy	Anger,	Joy, Festive	
Red	(France)	Danger	Occasions	
		Nobility,		
	Caution,	Childish,	Honor,	Happiness,
Yellow	Cowardice	Gaiety	Royalty	Prosperity
	Safe, Sour,	Future,	ALCO 12	
	Criminality	Youth,		Fertility,
Green	(France)	Energy		Strength
	Masculinity,			
	Sweet, Calm,			Virture,
Blue	Authority	Villainy		Faith, Truth
		Death,	Death,	
White	Purity, Virtue	Mourning	Mourning	
Black	Dooth Evil			
Black	Death, Evil			
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#### ➢ Be sensitive to

- Sacred colors
- Political movement colors

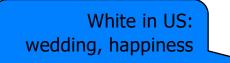


#### **Sacred Colors**

Judeo-Christian: White, blue, gold, scarlet
Islamic: green, light blue
Buddhist: saffron yellow

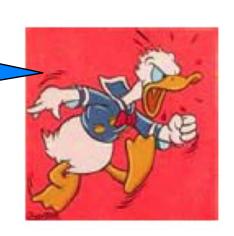
From http://zing.ncsl.nist.gov/hfweb/proceedings/marcus/index.html

#### **Red and White – Meanings?**





Red in US: anger





White in China: funeral, sadness

Red in China: good luck

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#### **Metaphor**

- GUI / Direct Manipulation approach based on analogy to real world objects
- Danger for globalization if objects not same
  - Mailbox icon, telephone
  - File folders don't look the same in China or India or Europe
    - Think bookshelf, books, chapters ...



#### **Symbols**

- > Avoid sports equipment, national monuments, holiday symbols etc. unfamiliar in other cultures
- Careful with animals, religious symbols, national flags, colors, hand gestures, gender or racial stereotypes
- Use ToolTips to explain symbols/icons that could be ambiguous
- Emoticons (such as ③) vary e.g. Japanese (^\_^)



#### **Emoticons**

- Study: East Asians more likely than Westerners to read the expression for 'fear' as 'surprise', and 'disgust' as 'anger.'
- People from different cultural groups observe different parts of the face when interpreting expression.
- East Asian participants tend to focus on eyes, while Western subjects took in the whole face, including the eyes and the mouth."

East West differences in Emoticons				Representatio n of eyes
Emotion	West	East		more
'Happy'	:-)		(^_^)	prominent
'Sad'	:-(		(;_;) or (T_T)	
'Surprise'	:-0		(0.0)	
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Lots of examples, but here's one very interesting one:What does this mean?



https://medium.com/@mroth/why-the-emoji-recycling-symbolis-taking-over-twitter-65ad4b18b04b

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### Hand Gestures – Thumbs Up

## Thumbs up sign in most American and European cultures

going according to plans

Approval

Rude & offensive in Islamic and Asian countries

In Australia

Means OK, but if move up and down => grave insult

https://socialmettle.com/hand-gestures-in-different-cultures





#### Some "Icons" are Local



From http://zing.ncsl.nist.gov/hfweb/proceedings/marcus/index.html

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#### **Local Icons**



http://courses.csail.mit.edu/6.831/archive/2008/lectures/L25-internationalization/L25-internationalization.html



#### **Graphic Design**

MacDonald's (UK)

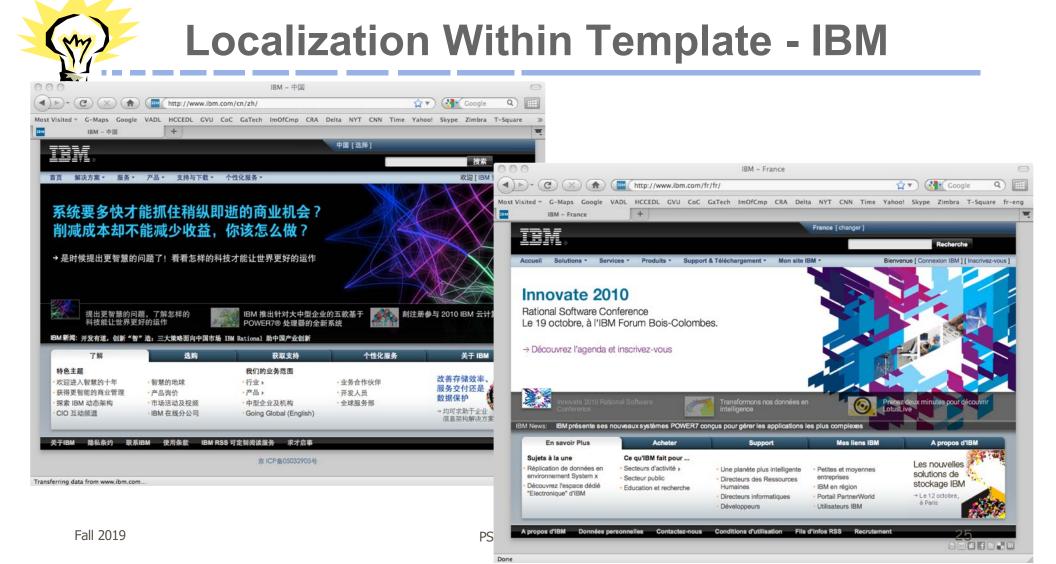
#### MacDonald's (India)



http://www.onextrapixel.com/2010/06/22/building -a-cross-cultural-web-design-for-a-wideraudience/

Food Restaurants Our world Sport About us Careers **Big Tasty with Bacon** 100% beef patty with Big Tasty sauce, fresh onion, square cut lettuce, tomatoes, cheese made with Emmental, streaky bacon all in a sesame topped bun. Also available without bacon. Take a look The Great Shake Up! We've shaken up your 8 Facebook friends. Can you recognise them? Take a look 1

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#### **Siemens**



#### Coca Cola







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#### Sound

# Be careful with sounds – consider possible meanings

- Examples?
- Chevy Nova car



Ring tones:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2cNHQVSygJY



#### **Legal Environments**

Laws differ from country to country

- \* E.g. in some countries it is illegal to directly position your product against the competition
- India being one, I am told

> Privacy!

#### Consider legalities of autonomous cars, and who is liable if they fail?

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#### Culture includes ...

Surface – visible – including simple things like currency, date and time formats, and more complex – dress, family relationships

- Unspoken & unconscious rules
  - Examples?



#### Humor

Is very culturally dependent
May be dependent on language
Doesn't tend to work well cross culturally

#### Language



- Modify keyboard mnemonics to fit target languages
- Translation difficult if program concatenates strings on-the-fly
- Use simple syntax noun-verb-object
- Use consistent terminology simplifies translation
- Watch out for country-specific terminology: elevator-lift, hood-bonnet, toilet-loo

- > Avoid words with multiple meanings
- > Visual puns may not translate
- Avoid difficult noun phrases (e.g. 3 nouns in a row)
- Avoid abbreviations and acronyms
- Avoid slang
- Avoid letters in bitmaps and toolbar icons



- > Avoid overly friendly style
  - May be interpreted as condescending
- > Watch out for gender, racial, national stereotypes
- > If no translation exists, use original word
- Layout should follow left-to-right vs. right-to-left vs. vertical pattern of reading
  - MS Windows 2000/XP localization of Hebrew and Arabic handle right to left – make sure your application is "mirroring aware" so that text is not "flipped"
- > Sorting sequences where do  $\tilde{n}$ ,  $\ddot{a}$ ,  $\ddot{a}$ ,  $\ddot{e}$  etc fit in?
- Translations should be done my native-speaker



Graphic courtesy of the Java Look and Feel Design Guidelines

To anticipate variations in word order, a layout like the following should be used in the original version of the product.



Graphic courtesy of the Java Look and Feel Design Guidelines Now the word order is correct in both French and English.



#### **Right-to-Left Languages**

Menu Scroll bar Input field Title Button ----20 ISSI EZUpdate -الوجة التحكم تعليمات Statut. ملف الخرير أعرض 1 141 6 - .... Moaila نفاز الكم 🖌 🌄 التقال علوان 🔂 لوهة النحكم loon 亜 1-لوحة التحكم IBM Java Plug-in 1.3.1 Whitere Tools اتصالات شبکة مواضح شياً الاتصال New Folder التبديل إلى طريقة عرض الملة الاتمال 200 -3 CA. 2 راجج أيضا جهزة تحكه دوات إدارية Command Prompt بلة المحذوفات التسانى Windows Update 🍓 C () تعليمات ونتم e إضافة أو إزالة ليرام<del>ن</del> يخ والوقت Shortcut to Internet WORK Explorer Po (SP لطابعات الخطوط 1.64 AT&T Network swd 8 Client Ś 12% الكاميرات العرقى ولماسح **IBM Standard** EN الاسكليزية (المطكة المتحدة) 🛐 Software In. FM 6.44 @ 44 in 1 💕 لوحة التحكم IBM Egypt - Microsoft I 🚺

Flip more than just the text





## **Globalizing UI Design Process**

- Start with user analysis identifying user communities and their characteristics
- > What varies which ones are most important?
- Include people internationally in feedback process
  - Requirements determination
  - Usability
  - Beta testing



### **Globalizing UI Design Process**

- Ensure developers are familiar with globalization issues
- Ensure test team can recognize globalization problems
- Planning should specifically identify globalization impacts to avoid surprises and cost-overruns later
- > Some effort produces a more globalized product than no effort



#### **WWW Globalization**

- > Log files can show country of visitors
- Remote usability testing possible
- Language
  - ✤ IP addresses -> correct starting language
  - Language-specific start pages have unique URLs
  - Allow user to specify language typically with flags
  - ✤ User preferences or cookies
- Times what city/country,GMT
- E-commerce conventions vary
  - Payment and delivery options, return policies



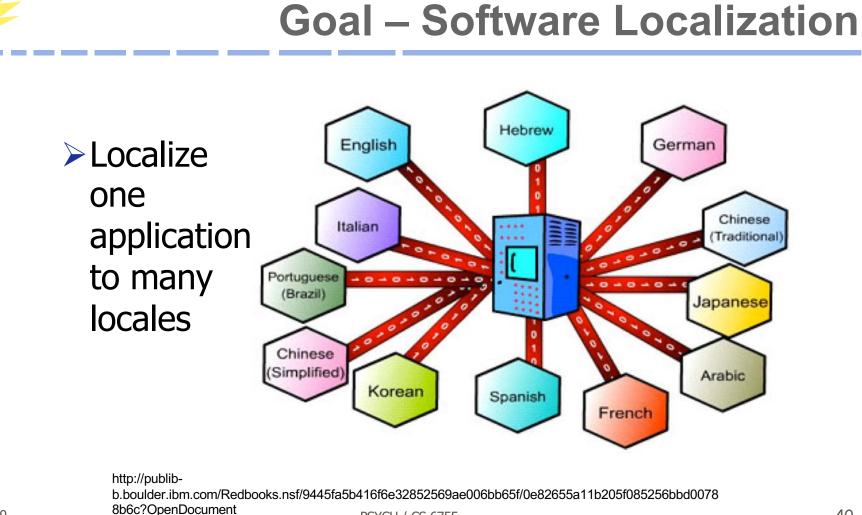
### **Software Tools to Facilitate**

#### ➤MS Windows Locales

- User preference information
  - input language, keyboard layout, sorting order, formats for numbers, dates, currencies, time

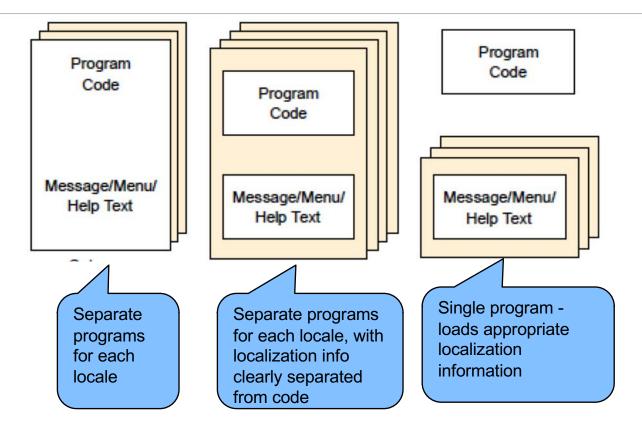
#### Can specify user locale, input locale, and system locale

 Windows User Interface can be displayed in different languages – 90% localized





#### **Three Localization Methods**



### **iPhone SDK Supports**

 "An iPhone application should be internationalized and have a language.lproj directory for each language it supports.
In addition to providing localized versions of your application's custom resources, you can also localize your application icon (Icon.png), default image (Default.png), and Settings icon (Icon-Settings.png) by placing files with the same name in your language-specific project directories.



#### Localizing

- Ensure user interface text is isolated from code put in files
- Store multiple versions of same string if used more than one place
- Avoid text in bitmaps and icons
- > Do not generate text strings on-the-fly
- > Test localized applications on all language variants