How to internationalize your code

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Hello.

Hallo.

привет.

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أهلا وسهلا

I18n

- Dos and don'ts

Internationalisation
i18n

- Read The Friendly Manual

- MediaWiki internationalization guide

- https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/i18n

- Updated frequently!

Internationalised

MyExtension.i18n.php:
```php
$messages['en'] = array(
  'sum' => 'Enter the sum:',

$messages['nl'] = array(
  'sum' => 'Voer het totaal in:',
```

MyExtension.php:
```php
echo wfMessage( 'sum' );
```

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Localisatio**n**
L10n

- The translations in i18n files can be edited by hand, but in practice it is done through https://translatewiki.net

Translated but not localised

```
MyExtension.i18n.php:
$messages['en'] = array(
  'date' => 'Date: $1',

$messages['ja'] = array(
  'date' => ' 日付 : $1',
```

```
MyExtension.php:
$date = "$month/$day/$year";
echo wfMessage( 'date', $date );
// en: Date: 11/10/2012
// ja: 日付 : 11/10/2012
```

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Localised

```
MyExtension.i18n.php:
$messages['en'] = array(
 'date' => 'Date: $1',

$messages['ja'] = array(
 'date' => ' 日付 : $1',
```

```
MyExtension.php:
$date = dateFormat( $day, $month, $year );
echo wfMessage( 'date', $date );
// en: Date: 11/10/2012
// ja: 日付 : 2012-11-10
```

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I18n

- Do i18n now.

I18n

- It doesn't just help speakers of other languages – it helps uncover bugs early

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L10n

- Give the translators time to translate and to report bugs
- Translators always find bugs, and you want to hear them

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i18n

- Give yourself time to fix issues

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i18n

- Dogfood!
- Switch your MediaWiki installation to your language

i18n

- Switch your browser and OS to a different language, too

- You will be surprised.
  If they don't work well, report bugs :)

i18n

- Don't be too smart with fixing existing non-English messages

- Just fix English and qqq

i18n

- Never say "It's only for the English Wikipedia"

Bad

```
'preference-enable' =>
'Enable only in the
[[Project:Main namespace|main
namespace]])',
```

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Good

```
'preference-enable' =>
'Enable(only in the
[[{{MediaWiki:Mainnamespacepa
gelink}}|main namespace]]',
    'mainnamespacepagelink' =>
'Project:Main namespace',
```

NO LEGO

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i18n

- Do not concatenate messages to create sentences!

Bad

MyExtension.i18n.php:
```
'deleted' => 'The page was deleted by',
'on' => 'on',
```

MyExtension.php:
```
$pageDeleted = wfMessage( 'deleted' );
$on = wfMessage( 'on' );
$logMsg = "$pageDeleted $user $on
$date.";
```

Good

```
MyExtension.i18n.php:
'deleted' => 'The page was deleted by $1
on $2.',

MyExtension.php:
$logMsg = wfMessage( 'deleted',
$user, $date );
```

i18n

- Don't assume the size of anything, like table headers, input boxes, etc.

i18n

- Avoid "right"/"left". Write relatively to other elements.

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L10n

- Avoid jargon, like "comps", "nav", "CTA", etc.

- If you really need it, you must document it.

L10n

- Message documentation

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Message documentation

- In MediaWiki, qqq is a pseudo-language code for storing documentation.

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Message documentation

- Always write qqq documentation.

L10n

- Having a glossary is awesome.
  - Good examples: Wikibase (Wikidata), FlaggedRevisions

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L10n

- It's safe to assume that MediaWiki documentation will mostly be read at translatewiki.net, so...

Message documentation

- Screenshots are great! Put them on Wikimedia Commons

Message documentation

- Use the template {{msg-wikia|
MESSAGE}} to link to other
messages

Message documentation

- What is this message?
- Table header? Tooltip? Form label? Button? Something else?

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Message documentation

- Part of speech!

- "Open"?
  - The file is open
  - Open the file
  - You cannot open this file

Message documentation

- Adjectives!
  - Say what they describe: "green" can be masculine or feminine

Message documentation

- Verbs!
  - Say whether it's imperative ("do it!"), infinitive ("to do it") or something else

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User feedback

- [[Translating:Wikia]]
- [[User:Timothy_Quievryn]]
  - all on translatewiki.net

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Code review

- When committing code that has any i18n/L10n changes, invite experts to review

- Who are they at Wikia?

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Messaging framework
Internationalisation

- Make as flexible a string localisation framework without making it really hard on translators

- Works in PHP and JS

- Plural, gender, grammar

- Date/time, numbers, URLs, ...

String example:

{{**GENDER:$1**|He|She| They}} bought {{**PLURAL: $2**|**0**=no boat|one boat|**$2** boats|**12**=a dozen boats}} and got {{**PLURAL:$3**| **0**=no|only one dollar|**$3** USD}} discount.

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Major changes

- Message class (around a while, but not popular at Wikia yet, I've heard)

  - wfMessage()

  - ->params(), numParams(), rawParams()

  - ->inLanguage(), inContentLanguage()

  - ->plain(), text(), escaped(), parse(), parseAsBlock()

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Major changes

- JavaScript i18n framework

- i18n friendly logging (BC can be a $%*@#!!!)

- Get rid of globals using [I]ContextSource object

  - $this->getOutput() / getRequest(), getLanguage()

  - $this->msg() instead of wfMessage()

Bugs, features, patches, talk

- http://bugzilla.wikimedia.org

- https://gerrit.wikimedia.org

- irc: #mediawiki-i18n at freenode.net

Q&A

- siebrand@wikimedia.org
- irc: #mediawiki-i18n at freenode.net

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