Huge thanks to Noki for taking the time to explain all the PAL text mechanics to me, to Dobby for his vids containing all the Spanish and German text which saved a ton of time, and to Neb for his work on the Japanese and English transcripts:)

If we have a textbox that is l lines long and contains n characters, how long does it take to scroll through and close it?

## **Character Mechanics**

Assuming fast text and textbox mashing are both frame perfect:

- 1) The first 2 characters in a textbox appear in 1QF.
- 2) The 3rd and 4th characters in a textbox take 1F = 4QF to appear each.
- 3) The 5th character takes 3QF to appear.
- 4) The first 2 characters of lines 2 and 3 take 1QF to appear. They both appear on the same QF, not one after the other.
- 5) Every other character takes 2QF to appear.

Japanese uses another set of mechanics (presumably to account for the wider characters). Unlike the above these were derived manually, going frame by frame on TAS text.

## Character Mechanics for Japanese

Assuming fast text and textbox mashing are both frame perfect:

- 1) The first character in a textbox appear in 1QF.
- 2) The 2nd character takes 10QF to appear.
- 3) The 3rd character takes 8QF to appear.
- 4) The 4th character takes 4QF to appear.
- 5) The first 2 characters of lines 2 and 3 take 1QF to appear. They both appear on the same QF, not one after the other.
- 6) Every other character takes 3QF to appear.

## Closing the box

The textbox can be closed once 2 conditions are met:

- 1) The last character of the last line has appeared
- 2) The blue band behind the last line of text has fully appeared.

Every blue band has a timer which starts at the line number (1, 2 or 3) and counts down by 0.04 every QF. Once it goes below -0.109 the line is considered to have fully appeared.

However, the timer cannot go below 1 while the last character of the previous line hasn't appeared.

This mechanic comes into play on the last line of text. Because of it it is not always possible to close a textbox once the last character has appeared.

## Methodology

We can time how long it takes for every line but the last one to appear using a formula derived from the rules outlined in the "Mechanics" paragraph. For the last line, we also need to compute how long it takes for the blue band to appear, compare this number to how long it takes for the characters of the line to appear, and keep the biggest.

Finally, note that a textbox can only be closed at the beginning of a frame. This means that in-game, mashing perfectly through the same textbox twice can lead to different results.

For instance, a textbox that is 3QF long and starts on Frame 1, QF 1 will

end on Frame 1, QF 3. So it can be closed at the beginning of Frame 2. But if it starts on QF3 instead, then it can only be closed starting on Frame 3. The average timeloss due to this is 1.5QF.