1. 一市民 的建議：

Dear Dr. Lu,

The top part of "异" should be 已 according to the KangXi dictionary and also by etymology of shuowenjiezi. In shuowenjiezi seal script, the form taken at the top is 㠯 (今作已/以).

In PRC, the top part is 巳. In current 華康香港標準宋體 and 華康香港標準楷書 it follows the PRC form. But, technically 异 not a simplified character of 異, but a variant. The meaning of 異 (variant, different) is a 同音假借.

异 is quoted as a HB source (i.e. in Big 5). Thus the design should follow the etymological root of the character and not the PRC form.

Yours,
一市民

2. 參考信息：

5F02
廾 55.3

异 G0-526C 异 HB2-C9DD 异 T2-223D 异 J1-3C5C 异 K2-307A

U+	Big5	華康宋	《常用字字形表》	大五碼	康熙字典	台灣 MOE
5F02	C9DD	异	無	异	异	异

3. 我們的建議：

我們審視字形的原則是：如果《常用字字形表 2000》中無參考、且不能根據部件類推，則參考《康熙字典》。所以我們建議，跟從《康熙字典》，用"已"。